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Advances in Detection Technology for Authentication of Vegetable Oils: A Comprehensive Review

Shivangi Srivastava, Vinay Kumar Pandey, Kunal Singh, Aamir Hussain Dar, Kshirod Kumar Dash, Rafeeya Shams, Ayaz Mukarram Shaikh, Kovács Béla

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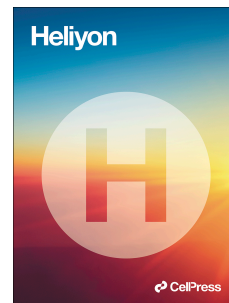
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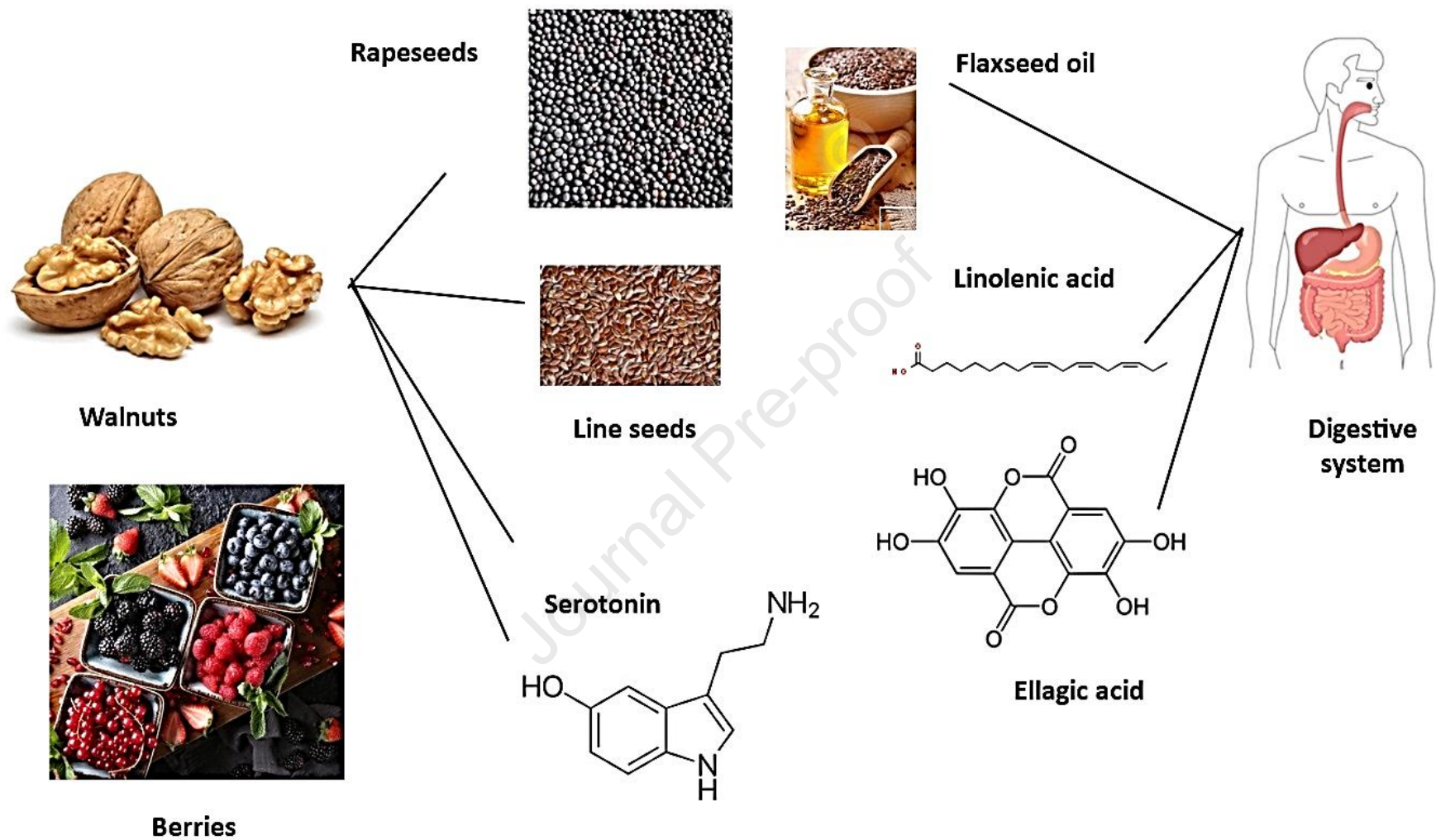
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Graphical abstract

1 **Advances in Detection Technology for Authentication of Vegetable Oils: A Comprehensive**  
2 **Review**

3 Shivangi Srivastava<sup>1</sup>, Vinay Kumar Pandey<sup>2</sup>, Kunal Singh<sup>3</sup>, Aamir Hussain Dar<sup>4\*</sup>, Kshirod  
4 Kumar Dash<sup>5\*</sup>, Rafeeya Shams<sup>6</sup>, Ayaz Mukarram Shaikh<sup>7</sup>, Kovács Béla<sup>7\*</sup>

5  
6 <sup>1</sup>Department of Food Technology, Harcourt Butler Technical University, Nawabganj,  
7 Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, India

8 <sup>2</sup>Research & Development Cell, Biotechnology Department, Manav Rachna International Institute  
9 of Research and Studies (Deemed to Be University) Faridabad 121004 Haryana, India

10 <sup>3</sup>Institute of Bioscience and Technology, Shri Ramswaroop Memorial University, Lucknow Deva  
11 Road Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh, India

12 <sup>4</sup>Department of Food Technology, Islamic University of Science and Technology, Kashmir, India

13 <sup>5</sup>Department of Food Processing Technology, Ghani Khan Choudhury Institute of Engineering  
14 and Technology, Malda, West Bengal, India

15 <sup>6</sup>Department of Food Technology and Nutrition, Lovely Professional University, Phagwara,  
16 Punjab, India.

17 <sup>7</sup>Faculty of Agriculture, Food Science and Environmental Management Institute of Food Science,  
18 University of Debrecen, Debrecen 4032, Hungary

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19  
20 **Corresponding author**

21 Aamir Hussain Dar Email: [daraamirft@gmail.com](mailto:daraamirft@gmail.com)

22 Kshirod Kumar Dash Email: [kshirod@tezu.ernet.in](mailto:kshirod@tezu.ernet.in)

23 Kovacs Béla Email: [kovacsb@agr.unideb.hu](mailto:kovacsb@agr.unideb.hu)

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**Abstract**

Biomarkers are specific indicators that can be used to authenticate vegetable oils by reflecting unique characteristics such as variety or geographical origin. Biomarkers can originate from the primary components of the vegetable oil itself or from contaminants and trace substances linked to processing methods or adulterants. The review highlights the key findings in the identification of novel biomarkers for vegetable oil authentication. Various analytical techniques have proven effective in distinguishing unique biomarkers associated with specific vegetable oil varieties or geographical origins. The use of biomarkers of vegetable oils and associated contaminants or trace substances offers a comprehensive approach to authentication. However, the identification of novel biomarkers holds immense potential for enhancing food safety, preventing fraud, and safeguarding consumer health in the vegetable oil industry. The ongoing research and advancements in biomarker identification represent a promising avenue for addressing authenticity concerns in vegetable oils.

**Keywords** - Analytical techniques; chromatography; mass spectrometry; DNA-based methods; origin determination

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## 62        **1. Introduction**

63        The rising rates of adulteration, mislabelling, and food fraud in recent years have made the  
64        authentication of vegetable oils a crucial problem. As consumers' nutritional habits and health  
65        consciousness have grown, so too has the need for vegetable oils. As a result, dishonest business  
66        practices have turned their attention to the vegetable oil sector, bringing inferior or fake goods into  
67        the supply chain [1]. The creation and application of efficient techniques for the quality assurance  
68        and certification of vegetable oils are urgently needed in order to address this problem. Finding  
69        innovative biomarkers that can be used as trustworthy indications to confirm the provenance,  
70        calibre, and purity of vegetable oils is one possible strategy. Biomarkers are particular molecules  
71        or substances that can be used to determine the authenticity or quality of a biological sample.  
72        Examples of these samples include vegetable oil [2]. These biomarkers can come from a variety  
73        of sources, such as the main ingredients of the vegetable oil itself, pollutants, or traces of  
74        compounds connected to certain processing techniques or adulterants.

75        The food industry is highly concerned about lipid peroxidation as a result of the growing trend of  
76        substituting monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fatty acids—which are regarded as healthier by  
77        consumers—for hydrogenated oils containing saturated fatty acids. However, these fatty acids are  
78        far more prone to oxidation than SFAs. Furthermore, deep-frying or cooking temperatures can  
79        cause oils high in MUFAs and PUFAs to produce RCCs, which start as ALEs and offer major  
80        health hazards. While it is highly recommended to consume oils high in MUFAs and PUFAs, these  
81        oils must first be "protected" before being used in cooking [3]. Certain oils, like olive oil, are  
82        naturally protected by their high endogenous antioxidant content (polyphenols and tocopherols),  
83        while other oils, like soybean, sunflower, and peanut oils, require the addition of exogenous  
84        antioxidants during production to increase their resistance to oxidation because of the refining  
85        process.

86        Advanced analytical techniques like nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), mass spectrometry,  
87        chromatography, and DNA-based technologies are used to identify biomarkers for the  
88        authentication of vegetable oils. These methods make it possible to identify and measure individual  
89        molecules or chemical signatures that are exclusive to a given type of vegetable oil or region of  
90        origin [4]. The wide range of vegetable oil varieties on the market presents a significant obstacle  
91        in the search for biomarkers for vegetable oil verification. Many different types of plants, such as  
92        olive, soybean, sunflower, coconut, and palm, can be used to make vegetable oils. Since every type

93 of oil has a unique chemical profile and composition, it is crucial to find certain biomarkers that  
94 can distinguish between various types of vegetable oils [5].

95 Molecular markers that reflect a typical food state or condition are known as novel biomarkers,  
96 and they enable more accurate product discrimination [6]. Biomarkers are heavily utilized in the  
97 field of nutrition and health research for a variety of reasons. These include biomarkers for nutrient  
98 status and dietary intake, biomarkers for measuring the biological effects of certain food  
99 ingredients, and biomarkers for evaluating the impact of diet on health.

100 Moreover, a great deal of validation and cross-validation research is needed to create strong and  
101 trustworthy biomarker detection techniques. To determine the specificity and sensitivity of the  
102 discovered biomarkers, a vast number of samples from various sources and geographical locations  
103 are analysed in these investigations. To guarantee the stability and repeatability of the discovered  
104 biomarkers, other aspects including shelf life, processing techniques, and storage conditions must  
105 be taken into account. There are many significant uses for the discovery of new biomarkers for  
106 vegetable oil authenticity [7]. First off, quality control procedures and rules can be enforced by  
107 regulatory bodies and food testing facilities using these biomarkers, which will stop the sale and  
108 distribution of fake or contaminated vegetable oils. Second, they can help with the labelling and  
109 traceability of products made with vegetable oil, which will boost customer confidence and  
110 guarantee supply chain transparency. In conclusion, a vital area of study that has attracted a lot of  
111 attention lately is the identification of novel biomarkers for the verification of vegetable oils. The  
112 need for precise and trustworthy techniques to identify adulteration and guarantee product quality  
113 is growing as the market for vegetable oils continues to expand. The creation and verification of  
114 biomarkers for vegetable oil authenticity have enormous promise for improving food safety,  
115 stopping fraud, and eventually protecting the health of consumers. This review objectives are to  
116 examine how biomarkers function in the authentication of vegetable oils, outline the sources of  
117 biomarkers, such as primary components and contaminants, and highlight current developments  
118 in the identification of new biomarkers for authentication. Also to clarify how well different  
119 analytical methods distinguish distinct biomarkers linked to particular types of vegetable oil or  
120 regions of origin. It also emphasises the all-encompassing way that biomarkers provide for  
121 vegetable oil authentication, which includes both inherent qualities and extrinsic elements like  
122 pollutants and processing techniques. In addition, the analysis seeks to highlight how innovative  
123 biomarkers in the vegetable oil sector may improve food safety, fight fraud, and protect consumer

124 health. The purpose is to provide light on the continued investigations and developments in  
125 biomarker identification as a possible solution to the authenticity issues with vegetable oils.

## 126 **2. Techniques for vegetable oil authentication**

127 Vegetable oil authentication techniques employ a range of analytical techniques to identify and  
128 measure particular chemical profiles or biomarkers that are indicative of the oil's provenance,  
129 authenticity, and quality. These methods are crucial for protecting the purity of products containing  
130 vegetable oil and averting food fraud and adulteration. To improve the precision and dependability  
131 of vegetable oil authentication, these methods can be applied singly or in combination. To  
132 guarantee these techniques' resilience and suitability for use in real-world scenarios, a significant  
133 number of genuine samples from various sources and geographical areas must be used for  
134 validation and cross-validation. For the analysis of vegetable oil products to be consistent and  
135 trustworthy, it is also essential to build reference databases and standardized processes for  
136 vegetable oil authenticity [8]. The flow diagram of study selection for the review is presented in  
137 Figure (1). Biomarker and its identification purpose in vegetable oil composition is presented in  
138 Table (1).

### 139 **2.1 DNA Barcoding**

140 Based on an organism's DNA sequence, DNA barcoding is a potent tool for organism  
141 authentication and identification. It entails the amplification and examination of particular  
142 genomic areas known as DNA barcodes, which differ throughout species but are highly conserved  
143 within a given taxonomic group. In addition to being widely used in the fields of biodiversity and  
144 species identification, DNA barcoding is now being used more and more to verify the authenticity  
145 of food items, such as vegetable oils [9]. The application of DNA barcoding for the certification  
146 of vegetable oil requires the selection of particular DNA target regions. Target region selection is  
147 influenced by a number of variables, including taxonomic coverage, sequence variability,  
148 reference database accessibility, and practical concerns. The internal transcribed spacer (ITS)  
149 region of the ribosomal DNA gene and the trnL-trnF intergenic spacer region of the chloroplast  
150 genome are the most often employed target regions for vegetable oil authenticity [10]. There are  
151 various steps in the DNA barcoding process: DNA Extraction, PCR amplification, DNA  
152 sequencing, Sequence Analysis and Identification, Database Creation and Validation are the steps  
153 that are involved in DNA barcoding process. Extracting DNA from the sample of vegetable oil is  
154 the first step. There are various techniques for extracting DNA; these include commercial kits,

155 miniaturised fast techniques, and CTAB-based techniques. Ensuring that the extracted DNA is of  
156 superior quality and devoid of impurities that may impede further analysis is imperative [11]. The  
157 target DNA region of interest is precisely amplified using the polymerase chain reaction (PCR).  
158 The purpose of PCR primers is to bind to conserved areas that surround the target region.  
159 Following amplified DNA fragmentation, sequencing can begin [12]. The PCR products are  
160 delivered to next-generation sequencing platforms or conventional Sanger sequencing for DNA  
161 sequencing. The extracted DNA sequences are compared and matched with reference sequences  
162 found in DNA databases like GenBank and the Barcode of Life Data Systems (BOLD) [13]. Using  
163 a variety of bioinformatics techniques, the acquired DNA sequences are examined and contrasted  
164 with reference sequences. There are various techniques available for sequence comparison, such  
165 as BLAST (Basic Local Alignment Search Tool). The degree of identity or similarity to well-  
166 known DNA sequences permits the species of vegetable oil to be identified and validates its  
167 legitimacy [14]. By adding verified reference sequences from verified vegetable oil samples of  
168 recognised species, a comprehensive DNA barcode library tailored to vegetable oils can be created.  
169 Vegetable oil authenticity can be made more accurate and dependable by adding new species and  
170 varieties to the database, which is constantly being updated. There are various benefits of using  
171 DNA barcoding for the verification of vegetable oil. It offers a high-throughput, quick, and precise  
172 way to determine the botanical source of vegetable oils, independent of their forms or processing  
173 techniques. Additionally, it can identify genetically modified organisms (GMOs) or other  
174 adulterants in the vegetable oil supply chain, protecting the safety and integrity of the final product  
175 [15]. However, using DNA barcoding for vegetable oil authenticity presents a number of  
176 difficulties. One of the difficulties is the existence of deteriorated or low-quality DNA in the oil  
177 samples, which could have an impact on the dependability and performance of DNA amplification  
178 and sequencing. Furthermore, in order for DNA barcoding to correctly identify the vegetable oil  
179 species, access to thorough and carefully curated reference libraries is necessary. Therefore, in  
180 order to enhance the coverage of vegetable oil species, ongoing efforts are required to grow and  
181 enhance these databases [16]. In conclusion, DNA barcoding is a practical technique for  
182 confirming the legitimacy of vegetable oils. By concentrating on certain DNA regions, it enables  
183 the identification of various vegetable oil species, the detection of adulteration, and the verification  
184 of a product's provenance. To ensure that DNA barcoding for vegetable oil authenticity is accurate  
185 and reliable, reference databases and standardised procedures must be established and used [17].

## 186 **2.2 Mass Spectrometry**

187 Vegetable oil quality control and verification have been shown to be much aided by the  
188 sophisticated analytical method known as mass spectrometry (MS). It makes it possible to identify  
189 and measure particular molecules or biomarkers, which in turn makes it possible to determine the  
190 oil's overall quality, adulteration, and botanical origin. Vegetable oil authentication frequently uses  
191 a number of mass spectrometry (MS)-based methods, including as direct infusion techniques,  
192 liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC-MS), and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry  
193 (GC-MS) [18].

### 194 **2.2.1 Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS)**

195 Vegetable oil volatile and semi-volatile chemical analysis is a common application for GC-MS.  
196 This method separates volatile chemicals according to their partitioning capabilities by first  
197 subjecting the oil sample to gas chromatographic separation. The mass-to-charge ratios of these  
198 molecules are then ascertained by ionising and fragmenting them inside the mass spectrometer.  
199 Using GC-MS, a variety of volatile chemicals found in vegetable oils, including triglycerides,  
200 sterols, tocopherols, and volatile fragrance compounds, can be identified and quantified. These  
201 chemicals' distinctive profiles can be utilised as biomarkers to identify adulteration or verify the  
202 identity and distinction of different vegetable oil kinds [19].

203 In GC, the sample is vaporized and injected into a gas chromatography column. A stationary phase  
204 that is packed into the column divides the sample components according to variations in their  
205 polarity, volatility, and other physicochemical characteristics. The sample is carried through the  
206 column by the mobile phase, which is usually an inert gas such as helium. After separation, the  
207 individual sample components enter the mass spectrometer. Here, the ion source—which may be  
208 chemical ionisation (CI) or electron impact (EI)—ionizes them. EI entails bombarding the  
209 molecule with high-energy electrons, which breaks it up into charged fragments. In CI, ions are  
210 produced through a reaction with reagent gas. The ions are accelerated through an electric field  
211 and separated according to their mass-to-charge ratio ( $m/z$ ) by a mass analyzer, usually a  
212 quadrupole or time-of-flight (TOF) analyzer [6]. By counting the ions that reach it, the detector  
213 generates a mass spectrum. Uses: GCMS is extensively used in environmental analysis to detect  
214 and quantify pollutants, such as pesticides, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and polycyclic  
215 aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), in air, water, soil, and food samples. It is employed in the  
216 investigation of pollution sources, environmental monitoring, and the evaluation of remediation

217 strategies' efficacy. GCMS plays a crucial role in forensic analysis for the identification of drugs,  
218 explosives, arson residue, and toxic substances. It can offer vital proof in toxicological tests and  
219 criminal investigations. GCMS is utilized in pharmaceutical analysis for drug discovery, quality  
220 control, and pharmaceutical research [10]. It can evaluate drug metabolic pathways, identify the  
221 active ingredients in medications, find contaminants, and assess the stability of drug formulations.  
222 GCMS is employed in the analysis of food and beverage samples to detect contaminants, residues,  
223 additives, and flavors. It aids in ensuring food safety, figuring out nutritional value, and assessing  
224 the calibre and legitimacy of food items. GCMS is widely used in the petrochemical industry for  
225 the analysis of hydrocarbons, pollutants, and additives in crude oil, gasoline, and other petroleum  
226 products. It helps with refining process optimisation, contamination source identification, and fuel  
227 quality monitoring. GCMS is utilized in the analysis of natural products, such as essential oils,  
228 herbal extracts, and flavors. It facilitates the identification and measurement of the chemical  
229 components included in these goods, allowing for formulation development, stability testing, and  
230 quality control. These are only a handful of the many uses for GCMS that exist. The method is  
231 very adaptable and useful in many scientific fields, such as chemistry, medicine, environmental  
232 science, and more [5].

### 233 **2.2.2 Liquid Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS)**

234 Mass spectrometry and liquid chromatography are combined in LC-MS to identify and quantify  
235 chemicals. Liquid chromatography separates compounds based on their interaction with a  
236 stationary phase. It works especially well for analysing polar and non-volatile substances found in  
237 vegetable oils. Many different molecules, such as polar lipids, phospholipids, diacylglycerols  
238 (DAGs), triacylglycerols (TAGs), free fatty acids, sterols, and other minor components, can be  
239 identified and quantified using LC-MS. These substances may function as further biomarkers for  
240 vegetable oil authenticity [17].

241 Another potent analytical method that combines the concepts of mass spectrometry with liquid  
242 chromatography is called Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry, or LCMS. A liquid solvent  
243 is used to dissolve the sample before it is put into a liquid chromatography column. The stationary  
244 phase in the column—a polymer or bonded silica material, for example—separates the sample's  
245 constituent parts according to variations in their polarity, sizes, and other physicochemical  
246 characteristics. The material is passed through the column by a liquid mobile phase. The separate  
247 components of the sample are then introduced into the mass spectrometer. In LCMS, many

248 ionisation methods are used, such as air pressure chemical ionisation (APCI) and electrospray  
249 ionisation (ESI). In ESI, the sample solution produces charged droplets, but in APCI, the sample  
250 reacts with ions produced during a corona discharge. A mass analyzer, such as a quadrupole or a  
251 time-of-flight (TOF) analyzer, separates the ions created in the ion source according to their mass-  
252 to-charge ratio ( $m/z$ ), much like in GCMS. The ions are accelerated through an electric field. By  
253 counting the ions that reach it, the detector generates a mass spectrum. To detect and measure the  
254 proteins and metabolites present in biological samples, LCMS is frequently employed in  
255 proteomics and metabolomics research. It helps with understanding illness mechanisms, finding  
256 biomarkers, and researching biological processes. To determine the concentration of medications  
257 and their metabolites in biological fluids like blood or urine, pharmacokinetic investigations use  
258 LCMS. Drug dosing and treatment regimen optimisation are aided by its ability to ascertain drug  
259 absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion (ADME) characteristics. In environmental  
260 analysis, LCMS is used to identify and measure a variety of contaminants, such as endocrine  
261 disruptors, pesticides, herbicides, medicines, and personal care items. It supports the monitoring  
262 of environmental pollution and the evaluation of its effects on ecosystems and public health. When  
263 analysing food samples to find and measure pollutants, additives, residues, and poisons, LCMS is  
264 an essential tool. It is employed in the process of identifying and verifying the existence of  
265 mycotoxins, allergies, veterinary medications, and other hazardous materials in food items. When  
266 it comes to forensic analysis, LCMS is used to find and identify drugs, illegal substances, and their  
267 metabolites in biological samples like urine or blood. It helps with post-mortems, toxicology  
268 testing, and criminal investigations. Plant extracts, herbal remedies, and nutritional supplements  
269 are examples of natural items that are screened and profiled using LCMS. It supports these items'  
270 standardisation, purity evaluation, and quality control by assisting in determining their chemical  
271 makeup. These are only a handful of the many uses for LCMS that exist. The method is very  
272 adaptable and useful in many scientific domains, such as forensics, food science, environmental  
273 science, and medicines.

### 274 **2.2.3 Direct Infusion Mass Spectrometry**

275 Vegetable oil samples are directly injected into the mass spectrometer in direct infusion mass  
276 spectrometry, bypassing any preliminary chromatographic separation. With this method, vegetable  
277 oils may be quickly and efficiently analysed in large quantities, yielding insightful data on the  
278 abundances and profiles of individual compounds. To ionise the substances contained in the oil,

279 direct infusion mass spectrometry can be used with various ionisation methods like air pressure  
280 chemical ionisation (APCI) or electrospray ionisation (ESI). This makes it possible to identify and  
281 measure a large variety of lipid and non-lipid components, giving important information about the  
282 make-up and legitimacy of the vegetable oil [16]. Vegetable oil authentication can benefit from  
283 various advantages provided by mass spectrometry techniques. Even at trace levels, they offer  
284 excellent specificity, sensitivity, and accuracy in the identification and measurement of substances.  
285 These approaches are flexible and can be applied to the examination of many kinds of vegetable  
286 oils, regardless of how they are processed or formulated. Furthermore, MS-based methods can aid  
287 in the detection of pollutants, adulterants, or chemicals associated to processing, which helps in  
288 the evaluation of vegetable oils' overall quality and safety. However, access to extensive reference  
289 databases and the creation of analytical techniques tailored to particular oil types and markers are  
290 necessary for the successful application of mass spectrometry for vegetable oil verification [19].  
291 To verify the quality and dependability of the results, the data from the MS analysis must also be  
292 evaluated and confirmed using the proper statistical methods and reference samples from verified  
293 vegetable oils. To sum up, mass spectrometry methods including GC-MS, LC-MS, and direct  
294 infusion MS provide useful instruments for vegetable oil quality control and authenticity. These  
295 approaches evaluate the source, purity, and general quality of vegetable oils by identifying and  
296 quantifying particular biomarkers or molecules. This allows for the detection of adulteration and  
297 ensures consumer safety and confidence [20].

298

299

### 300 ***2.3 Near-Infrared Spectroscopy (NIRS)***

301 Vegetable oil authentication has been made easier with the use of near-infrared spectroscopy  
302 (NIRS), a quick and non-destructive analytical method that has gained favour recently. It makes  
303 use of the way molecules in the oil interact with near-infrared light to create a distinct spectral  
304 fingerprint, which is subsequently examined to reveal details about the oil's composition and  
305 quality. Numerous benefits come with NIRS, including speed, ease of use, affordability, and the  
306 capacity to analyse a big number of samples without requiring a lot of sample preparation [21].  
307 The basis of the NIRS method is the idea that certain oil molecules absorb near-infrared light in  
308 particular ways, giving rise to distinct absorption wavelengths. These absorption bands enable for  
309 the identification and measurement of particular substances since they correlate to different

310 chemical bonds and functional groups found in the oil. A cuvette or other appropriate container is  
311 filled with a representative sample of vegetable oil in order to conduct NIRS analysis. After that,  
312 the sample is exposed to near-infrared light. The transmitted or reflected light is then measured  
313 using a spectrometer that has a detector that can identify near-infrared wavelengths. Following  
314 that, chemometric models and statistical methods are applied to the spectral data in order to  
315 estimate the vegetable oil's composition, botanical origin, and quality factors [19].

316 NIRS can be used to evaluate a number of chemical components and quality factors of vegetable  
317 oils. These consist of the content of free fatty acids, moisture content, triglyceride profile, oxidative  
318 stability, and the presence of contaminants or adulterants. The purity and authenticity of the  
319 vegetable oil can be ascertained by comparing the NIRS data with a calibration model that has  
320 already been designed and constructed using real samples with known characteristics. An essential  
321 component of NIRS analysis is the creation of trustworthy calibration models [20]. By comparing  
322 spectral data with reference data acquired using traditional analytical techniques like gas  
323 chromatography (GC) or high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), the models are  
324 constructed. In order to evaluate the predictive power of the model, the calibration procedure  
325 entails choosing suitable spectral regions, preprocessing the data, choosing regression  
326 mathematical algorithms, and performing cross-validation. To guarantee the calibration models'  
327 accuracy and dependability, they must be updated and validated on a regular basis using a set of  
328 reference samples [21]. When it comes to vegetable oil verification, NIRS has many benefits. Its  
329 quick analysis makes real-time quality control possible throughout the production, processing, and  
330 distribution stages. It minimises the amount of sample preparation needed, which cuts down on  
331 sample handling time and expenses. Furthermore, because NIRS is non-destructive, the vegetable  
332 oil sample can be reused or subjected to additional examination. Additionally, it works well for  
333 examining intricate oil blends or combinations, making it easier to find adulterants or evaluate the  
334 consistency of the product. Nevertheless, NIRS is not without its limitations [22]. To guarantee  
335 precise predictions, a comprehensive reference database and a well-built calibration model are  
336 necessary. Particle size, moisture content, and homogeneity are examples of sample variables that  
337 can interfere with NIRS analysis accuracy and necessitate careful sample preparation and control.  
338 Furthermore, the detection and measurement of substances with substantial near-infrared  
339 absorbance is the only application for NIRS. To sum up, NIRS is a useful method for vegetable  
340 oil authenticity and quality assurance. It is a desirable instrument for routine examination in the

341 food sector due to its speed, ease of use, and affordability. NIRS allows for the detection of  
342 adulteration, evaluation of quality characteristics, and identification of the oil's botanical origin by  
343 utilising the distinctive infrared spectral signatures of vegetable oils [23].

#### 344 ***2.4 High-Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) and Contaminants***

345 Vegetable oil quality control and verification are frequently carried out using high-performance  
346 liquid chromatography (HPLC), a potent analytical method. HPLC makes it possible to identify,  
347 separate, and quantify certain compounds or groups of compounds found in the oil. It works  
348 especially well for analysing non-volatile substances such as fatty acids, sterols, pigments,  
349 antioxidants, and other trace elements [20]. A liquid mobile phase is used in the HPLC process to  
350 move the oil sample through a packed column. A stationary phase in the column interacts with the  
351 oil sample's constituents in a targeted manner. Different components are separated as the mobile  
352 phase passes through the column according to how well they bind to the stationary phase.  
353 Controlling a number of variables, such as the temperature, pressure, flow rate, and composition  
354 of the mobile phase, results in the separation [24].

355 The foundation of HPLC is the idea of differential interaction between the oil's constituents and  
356 the stationary phase. A number of variables, including polarity, charge, molecule size, and the  
357 existence of particular functional groups, may influence this interaction. Various kinds of columns  
358 with certain stationary phases (such as reversed-phase, normal-phase, and ion-exchange) are  
359 selected according to the physicochemical characteristics of the analyte and the target molecules.  
360 Depending on the kind of analysis, a representative sample of vegetable oils is created by either  
361 injecting the oil directly or dissolving it in an appropriate solvent. Following the injection of the  
362 sample, it is combined with the mobile phase and run through the column in the HPLC apparatus.  
363 Various detectors, such as UV-Vis absorbance detectors, diode array detectors, fluorescence  
364 detectors, or mass spectrometry, are typically used to detect the separated chemicals [25].

365 Vegetable oils can be verified and a variety of parameters can be found using HPLC. Several  
366 substances that are frequently examined include: HPLC can separate and quantify individual fatty  
367 acids present in the vegetable oil, providing information about the fatty acid composition and  
368 profile. This information can be used to differentiate different oil types, authenticate the oil's  
369 botanical origin, and detect potential adulteration [5]. Sterols, present in vegetable oils, can be  
370 analysed by HPLC to identify specific sterol profiles and determine the oil's authenticity. Sterol  
371 analysis can reveal the presence of adulterants or non-authentic sources in the oil sample [20].

372 HPLC allows for the separation and identification of pigments in vegetable oils, such as  
373 carotenoids and chlorophylls. Pigment profiles can vary between different oil sources, providing  
374 information about the oil's origin or possible adulteration [9]. HPLC can be employed to identify  
375 and quantify natural antioxidants, including tocopherols and phenolic compounds, in vegetable  
376 oils. Antioxidant content is an essential quality parameter that can affect the oil's stability,  
377 freshness, and nutritional value [2]. The types biomarkers for gastrointestinal cancer is presented  
378 in Table (2), and gastrointestinal biomarkers of microbiota with test site and detection methods is  
379 presented in Table (3).

380 Pesticides, mycotoxins, and heavy metals are examples of contaminants or unwanted materials  
381 that can be found and measured in vegetable oils using HPLC. These pollutants can be discovered,  
382 enabling quality evaluation and guaranteeing consumer safety, by using appropriate detectors and  
383 setting analytical methodologies. Vegetable oils can be analysed with flexibility using a variety of  
384 detection techniques and column types available in HPLC. This versatility enables the  
385 development of specialised procedures to address certain quality characteristics or concerns about  
386 adulteration [17]. Calibration curves with established reference standards are created, and sample  
387 findings are compared to these standards to guarantee correct results. Furthermore, appropriate  
388 sample preparation methods, like extraction or filtration, are used to get rid of any contaminants  
389 that can interfere with the analysis. To sum up, HPLC is a flexible method for the examination and  
390 verification of vegetable oils. The evaluation of fatty acid profiles, sterol composition, pigment  
391 content, antioxidant levels, and the presence of pollutants is made possible by its capacity to  
392 separate and quantify specific compounds or classes of compounds. HPLC helps ensure consumer  
393 confidence and product integrity by contributing to the authenticity and quality control of  
394 vegetable oils by providing information about the oil's composition [1].

### 395 ***2.5 Gas Chromatography (GC)***

396 Vegetable oil quality control and authenticity are frequently carried out using gas chromatography  
397 (GC). It works particularly well for analysing volatile and semi-volatile substances found in oil.  
398 With the use of GC, individual compounds or classes of compounds can be separated, identified,  
399 and quantified, yielding important details regarding the composition, legitimacy, and purity of the  
400 oil. In a gas chromatograph (GC), which has a separation column, an injector, a carrier gas system,  
401 and a detector, the sample is vaporised and injected [3]. Usually, a stationary phase that interacts  
402 with the sample components is coated on the separation column. The vaporised sample is

403 transported through the column at a regulated flow rate by the carrier gas, such as nitrogen or  
404 helium. Following injection, the components of the sample are separated according to how  
405 differently they interact with the stationary phase. Stronger interactions between compounds and  
406 the stationary phase will cause slower migration and longer retention durations. On the other hand,  
407 substances that exhibit weaker interactions will elute more quickly and have shorter retention  
408 periods [9].

409 After being separated, the individual chemicals are found using an appropriate detector, most  
410 frequently a mass spectrometer (MS) or a flame ionisation detector (FID). The capacity of organic  
411 compounds to ionise in a hydrogen flame is the basis for the FID's detection of them, whereas the  
412 mass-to-charge ratio of the ionised molecules gives the MS additional structural information.  
413 Vegetable oils contain a wide range of substances that can be analysed using GC, including  
414 hydrocarbons, fatty acids, triglycerides, sterols, tocopherols, volatile fragrance compounds, and  
415 other minor components [20]. The authenticity, quality, and purity of the vegetable oil can be  
416 evaluated by quantifying these components and comparing them to accepted standards or criteria.  
417 Depending on the target substances and the type of analysis, GC can be utilised in a variety of  
418 modes, including chiral chromatography, normal phase, and reversed-phase chromatography. The  
419 precise needs of the study determine the column to be used as well as the operational circumstances  
420 (temperature, carrier gas flow rate, and column dimensions [11]).

421 Calibration curves are usually built using reference standards with known concentrations of  
422 compounds to improve accuracy and dependability. The concentration of each component or class  
423 of compounds is then ascertained by comparing the sample results with the calibration curves.  
424 Additionally, to get rid of interfering molecules or make some compounds easier to detect, sample  
425 preparation methods like solvent extraction or derivatization may be used [14]. To sum up, gas  
426 chromatography (GC) is a flexible method for vegetable oil verification and quality assurance. The  
427 evaluation of important elements and indicators that characterise the content and quality of the oil  
428 is made possible by its capacity to separate, identify, and quantify volatile and semi-volatile  
429 chemicals. GC analysis supports consumer confidence and safety by helping to ensure the  
430 authenticity, purity, and overall integrity of vegetable oils [4].

### 431 ***2.6 Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry (IRMS)***

432 Vegetable oil authenticity is accomplished through the use of a specialised technology called  
433 isotope ratio mass spectrometry (IRMS). It uses variations in the stable isotope ratios of elements

434 including oxygen ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ), hydrogen ( $\delta^2\text{H}$ ), and carbon ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ ) to ascertain the origin, location, and  
435 legitimacy of the oils. The idea behind Integrated Root Mean Square Distribution (IRMS) stems  
436 from the observation that the isotopic composition of plants used to produce vegetable oils varies  
437 depending on growth conditions, environmental factors, and photosynthetic routes. Subtle  
438 differences exist in the abundances of isotopes of an element with varying neutron counts. A mass  
439 spectrometer can be used to quantify and analyse these changes in order to distinguish between  
440 different sources of vegetable oils [3].

441 The oil sample must go through a number of preparation stages in order to apply IRMS for  
442 vegetable oil authentication. The intrinsic isotopic fingerprints of the lipids are first preserved  
443 during the extraction process. After that, the samples are transformed into gaseous or volatile states  
444 so that they may be put into the mass spectrometer for isotope analysis. Fatty acid methyl esters  
445 (FAMES) or other volatile forms that may be examined using gas chromatography-isotope ratio  
446 mass spectrometry (GC-IRMS) or liquid chromatography-isotope ratio mass spectrometry (LC-  
447 IRMS) are typically produced from the extracted lipids [16]. In GC-IRMS, a mass spectrometer is  
448 used to determine the isotope ratios and gas chromatography is used to separate the FAMES. Non-  
449 volatile components in LC-IRMS are separated and isolated using liquid chromatography before  
450 being added to the mass spectrometer for isotopic analysis. The vegetable oil sample's isotopic  
451 composition is represented by a  $\delta$  value, which is the sample's isotopic ratio's divergence from a  
452 reference standard. Parts per thousand (‰) is the standard unit of reporting for the  $\delta$  value. The  
453 geographical origin of the oil can be determined or probable adulteration can be detected by  
454 comparing the  $\delta$  values of the oil sample with reference values from reliable sources [7]. Analysis  
455 of the carbon isotope ratio ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ ) is frequently used for vegetable oil verification. Based on the  
456 kind of photosynthetic pathway used by the plant during growth, it aids in oil differentiation. Plants  
457 that follow the C4 pathway, including maize and sugarcane, have different isotopic compositions  
458 than C3 plants, such soybean and olive. The kind of plant the vegetable oil came from can be  
459 identified by testing the  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  readings of the oil. To get further details, other isotopes like oxygen  
460 ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ) and hydrogen ( $\delta^2\text{H}$ ) can also be examined. For example, the composition of oxygen  
461 isotopes can reveal the location of the water source used by plants during their growth [19]. The  
462 climate and environmental elements in the plant's growth zone may be reflected in the hydrogen  
463 isotope ratio. When it comes to vegetable oil authenticity, IRMS has many benefits. It offers a  
464 straightforward and impartial way to ascertain the oil's provenance and place of origin. The method

465 is extremely sensitive and precise, able to detect even minute variations in isotope ratios.  
466 Moreover, IRMS can be used with a variety of oils, regardless of how or what form they are  
467 processed. Still, there are a few difficulties with IRMS analysis. Accurately doing isotope analysis  
468 calls for specific tools and training. Establishing and maintaining appropriate quality control and  
469 calibration protocols is necessary to guarantee the accuracy and dependability of the outcomes.  
470 Creating extensive reference databases with isotopic values for real vegetable oil samples from  
471 various locations is also crucial [18].

472 To sum up, Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry (IRMS) is an effective method for confirming the  
473 provenance and authenticity of vegetable oils. Through the analysis of carbon, hydrogen, and  
474 oxygen stable isotope ratios, IRMS offers important insights into the oil's provenance, authenticity,  
475 and possible adulteration. By boosting consumer confidence and facilitating efficient quality  
476 control procedures, IRMS helps to ensure the integrity and quality of vegetable oils [8].

## 477 ***2.7 Immunological Methods***

478 Vegetable oil authenticity has shown to benefit greatly from the application of immunological  
479 techniques, commonly referred to as immunoassays. These techniques rely on the application of  
480 particular antibodies that have the ability to attach to target molecules or chemicals in the oil  
481 sample in a selective manner. Immunological techniques are advantageous for both laboratory and  
482 field-based applications due to their high specificity, sensitivity, and ease of use [20]. Various  
483 immunological techniques can be applied for the verification of vegetable oil. Below is a  
484 description of some of the methods that are frequently used:

485

### 486 ***2.7.1 Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)***

487 An extensively utilised immunological technique for examining a variety of analytes, such as  
488 particular substances or impurities in vegetable oils, is ELISA. An antibody specific to the target  
489 analyte, which is immobilised on a solid support like a microplate, is used in ELISA. If the target  
490 analyte is present, it will bind to the immobilised antibody when the vegetable oil sample is added  
491 to the well containing the immobilised antibody. Next, a substrate that generates a detectable signal  
492 when the enzyme is present is added, along with a secondary antibody that has been conjugated to  
493 an enzyme and binds to the target analyte. The signal that emerges is proportionate to the target  
494 analyte's concentration in the sample of vegetable oil [21].

### 495 ***2.7.2 Lateral Flow Devices (LFDs)***

496 LFDs are quick and portable immunological techniques that can be applied for on-site  
497 examination. They are sometimes referred to as immunochromatographic assays or strip tests.  
498 These straightforward and easy-to-use instruments comprise a membrane strip with certain  
499 antibodies immobilised at several test lines along with a control line [20]. The vegetable oil sample  
500 is placed to the sample pad and moves along the strip due to capillary action in order to conduct  
501 the test. A noticeable coloured band will form on the test line if the target analyte is present in the  
502 sample because it will bind to the associated antibody. The control line is used to confirm that the  
503 test is operating as intended. A reader's assistance or visual evaluation of the band intensity can  
504 yield a semi-quantitative or qualitative outcome [9].

### 505 **2.7.3 Immunoaffinity Chromatography (IAC)**

506 IAC is the process of selectively capturing and concentrating target analytes from a complex  
507 mixture, such vegetable oil, using antibodies that have been immobilised on a solid substrate, like  
508 a column. After the vegetable oil sample is run through the IAC column, some of the components  
509 are washed away and the target analyte binds to the immobilised antibody. After being collected,  
510 the analyte can be eluted and subjected to additional analysis or quantification via mass  
511 spectrometry or HPLC. The creation and selection of antibodies are essential to the efficacy of  
512 immunological techniques. Animal immunisations can yield antibodies, or monoclonal antibodies  
513 can be produced by recombinant DNA technology. The appropriateness of antibodies for target  
514 analyte detection in vegetable oils is determined by their specificity and affinity [21].

515 There are various benefits of using immunological techniques for the verification of vegetable oil.  
516 Because of their extreme specificity, they may identify target molecules or contaminants even in  
517 intricate matrices. These techniques are sensitive enough to pick up analytes even in very small  
518 quantities. Furthermore, immunological techniques don't require a lot of sample preparation and  
519 are quick and easy to use. Nevertheless, immunological approaches have certain drawbacks. False-  
520 positive or false-negative results may arise from matrix interferences or cross-reactivity with  
521 related chemicals [22]. Antibody selectivity and specificity should so be thoroughly assessed and  
522 verified. The accuracy and dependability of immunological approaches can also be impacted by  
523 matrix effects and sample complexity, necessitating appropriate sample preparation and validation  
524 techniques. To sum up, immunological techniques, such ELISA, LFDs, and IAC, offer excellent  
525 specificity and sensitivity for the identification of target molecules or contaminants in vegetable  
526 oil samples, making them valuable tools for the authenticity of vegetable oils. They can be

527 modified for on-site testing or laboratory-based analysis, and they are comparatively easy to  
528 operate. The use of immunological techniques aids in quality control procedures that guarantee the  
529 reliability and security of vegetable oil products [19]. The different types of biomarkers and their  
530 functionality are presented in Figure (2).

### 531 **2.8 Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Spectroscopy**

532 Vegetable oils are identified and characterised using the potent analytical method known as nuclear  
533 magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy. It offers useful details regarding the molecular makeup,  
534 composition, and characteristics of the oil, making it possible to determine important constituents,  
535 spot adulteration, and evaluate quality standards. The basis of nuclear magnetic resonance, which  
536 describes how atomic nuclei interact with a magnetic field, is how NMR spectroscopy operates  
537 [20]. A sample having spin-bearing nuclei, like carbon ( $^{13}\text{C}$ ) or hydrogen ( $^1\text{H}$ ), will align either  
538 with or against the external magnetic field. The nuclei can change from one spin state to another  
539 by exposing them to electromagnetic radiation in the form of radiofrequency pulses at a particular  
540 energy. To learn more about the sample, the energy absorption or emission that results is found  
541 and quantified [21].

542 Vegetable oil samples are placed in an NMR spectrometer, which produces a high magnetic field  
543 and emits radiofrequency pulses, in order to use NMR spectroscopy for vegetable oil verification.  
544 The distinct frequencies at which the nuclei in the oil, like  $^1\text{H}$  or  $^{13}\text{C}$ , vibrate are determined by  
545 their chemical interactions and surroundings. Valuable molecular information can be gained by  
546 measuring the intensities of the frequencies, also known as chemical shifts [21].

547 The types and amounts of fatty acids found in vegetable oils can be inferred from their NMR  
548 spectra. The spectrum can be used to identify and quantify the unique chemical shifts and  
549 multiplets that are displayed by various fatty acids. This makes it possible to determine the fatty  
550 acid profile and aids in distinguishing between various oils or sources of oils [17].

551 Vegetable oil rancidity and oxidative degradation indicators can be found using NMR  
552 spectroscopy. Spectral patterns or peak intensities can be utilised to identify chemical changes  
553 brought on by oxidation, such as the hydroperoxides or triglycerides breaking down. This makes  
554 it possible to evaluate the freshness and quality of the oil [4,8].

555 Vegetable oils can have impurities or adulterants that can be found and identified via NMR  
556 spectroscopy. Differences or inconsistencies between the NMR spectra of probable adulterants and  
557 authentic samples can be seen, suggesting the possibility of adulteration or non-authentic

558 components [7]. Proteomics as a promising biomarker in food authentication and its functionality  
559 is presented in Figure (3).

560 It has been demonstrated that NMR spectroscopy may be used to identify the botanical and  
561 geographic origins of vegetable oils. Different plant species, growing environments, and  
562 environmental factors can produce distinctive NMR spectrum patterns that can be used to identify  
563 the source of the oil or potential adulteration [9].

564 Vegetable oil crystallisation properties and solid fat content can also be examined using NMR  
565 spectroscopy. These factors can impact the stability and sensory qualities of vegetable oil products,  
566 making them significant for a range of food applications. Proficiency in spectral interpretation,  
567 coupled with access to calibration models and reference databases tailored to vegetable oil  
568 authenticity, are prerequisites for analysing NMR spectra. For the purpose of authentication, NMR  
569 spectra are frequently analysed and compared using sophisticated data processing techniques  
570 including chemometric analysis and pattern recognition algorithms [22]. NMR spectroscopy has  
571 several benefits when it comes to the verification of vegetable oils. Because it is non-invasive and  
572 non-destructive, the oil sample can be reused or subjected to more study. NMR allows for the  
573 simultaneous provision of quantitative and qualitative data about several components, facilitating  
574 thorough analysis. NMR spectra can also be obtained rather quickly, which makes them  
575 appropriate for use in quality control and research applications. Nevertheless, NMR spectroscopy  
576 has certain drawbacks. Accurate operation and interpretation of the spectra necessitates specialised  
577 equipment and skilled staff [19]. In order to get accurate results, NMR spectrometers can be  
578 expensive and may need sample preparation methods like homogenization or solvent extraction.  
579 Furthermore, the use of NMR spectroscopy is typically restricted to low analyte concentrations,  
580 necessitating the use of concentration procedures for trace or minor components. To sum up, NMR  
581 spectroscopy is an effective method for characterising and authenticating vegetable oils. It offers  
582 important details regarding the oil's molecular makeup, fatty acid profile, degree of oxidation, and  
583 place of origin [8].

### 584 ***2.9 Electrophoresis Techniques***

585 Vegetable oil authentication is a common use for electrophoresis methods including gel  
586 electrophoresis and capillary electrophoresis (CE). These methods are predicated on the analysis  
587 and separation of molecules according to their size, charge, or other physical characteristics.

588 Vegetable oil authentication can benefit from electrophoresis techniques in a number of ways,  
589 including high resolution, adaptability, and simultaneous analysis of several components [18].

### 590 **2.9.1 Capillary Electrophoresis (CE)**

591 A potent method for separating charged molecules according to their electrophoretic mobility in  
592 an electric field is capillary electrophoresis. The separation column in CE is a capillary that is filled  
593 with a buffer solution. When the sample is inserted into the capillary, an electric field is generated,  
594 which causes the charged molecules to move according to their charge-to-size ratio through the  
595 capillary. It is possible to separate and quantify different molecules because of how they move in  
596 the electric field. Vegetable oils contain a variety of constituents that can be analysed using CE,  
597 including as phenolic compounds, triglycerides, sterols, antioxidants, and fatty acids. Assessing  
598 the authenticity, quality, and possibility of adulteration of vegetable oil samples can be done by  
599 comparing their electrophoretic profiles with those of unknown samples [17].

### 600 **2.9.2 Gel Electrophoresis**

601 Another popular electrophoretic method for analysing compounds in vegetable oils is gel  
602 electrophoresis. With this technique, molecules are separated according to size using an electric  
603 field and a gel matrix, such as agarose or polyacrylamide gel. Depending on the particular needs  
604 of the analysis, there are various ways to do gel electrophoresis, such as sodium dodecyl sulfate-  
605 polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) and polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE).  
606 Proteins in vegetable oils can be separated and identified using gel electrophoresis. Applying the  
607 oil sample to the gel and then electrophoresizing it will yield protein profiles [21]. It is possible to  
608 identify certain protein markers that are indicative of various vegetable oil variations or adulterants  
609 by comparing protein profiles with established references. Electrophoresis techniques can be used  
610 to separate and identify components as well as offer extra information by combining them with  
611 other detection methods. To see the separated components, gel electrophoresis can be followed by  
612 staining techniques like silver or Coomassie Brilliant Blue. To improve sensitivity and detect  
613 specific targets, electrophoresis can also be used in conjunction with fluorescent or  
614 chemiluminescent detection techniques [17].

615 Standardised procedures and suitable reference materials must be developed in order to guarantee  
616 the precision and dependability of electrophoresis-based methods for vegetable oil authenticity.  
617 An extensive collection of vegetable oil samples with well-established features found in reference  
618 databases are essential for accurate electrophoretic profile analysis and interpretation. There are

619 various benefits to using electrophoresis techniques for the authentication of vegetable oil. They  
620 make it possible to evaluate several elements at once and offer thorough details about the  
621 composition of the oil [13]. Comparing electrophoresis procedures to other analytical techniques,  
622 they are also more affordable and straightforward. When employing electrophoresis for vegetable  
623 oil verification, there are a few restrictions to take into account. The selection of separation  
624 parameters, such as pH, voltage, temperature, and buffer composition, has a significant impact on  
625 the analysis. To get precise and consistent results, these conditions must be optimised.  
626 Furthermore, the resolution and interpretation of electrophoretic profiles might be impacted by  
627 matrix effects and sample preparation, necessitating the use of suitable sample preparation  
628 methods and validation processes [18]. To sum up, electrophoresis methods like gel and capillary  
629 electrophoresis offer useful instruments for vegetable oil quality assurance and certification. These  
630 techniques help determine the validity and quality of oil by enabling the separation and  
631 identification of constituents including proteins, fatty acids, and other charged compounds.  
632 Techniques for electrophoresis provide efficient quality control measures for vegetable oil  
633 products and work in tandem with other analytical approaches [19].

#### 634 **2.10 *Electronic Nose (E-Nose) and Electronic Tongue (E-Tongue)***

635 Emerging analytical methods for vegetable oil quality monitoring and authenticity include  
636 Electronic Tongue (E-Tongue) and Electronic Nose (E-Nose). These methods, which are based on  
637 arrays of sensors that replicate human taste and smell receptors, allow for the recognition and  
638 distinction of intricate flavour and odour profiles connected to various vegetable oil types or  
639 adulterants.

##### 640 **2.10.1 *Electronic Nose (E-Nose)***

641 An E-Nose is a device that analyses and finds the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) released by  
642 a sample using a variety of non-specific gas sensors. These sensors react differently to many kinds  
643 of molecules according on their size, charge, and other physicochemical characteristics. A  
644 distinctive "fingerprint" of the sample is subsequently produced by applying multivariate analytic  
645 techniques to the pattern of sensor responses. These fingerprints can be used to identify adulterants  
646 in the oil or to authenticate it by comparing them to reference profiles from known vegetable oil  
647 samples. E-noses have proven to be an effective tool for analysing volatile substances found in  
648 vegetable oils, such as oxidation products, volatile pollutants, and fragrance molecules. They can  
649 offer details regarding the oil's purity, freshness, and possible adulteration. E-Noses are

650 appropriate for industrial applications since they can quickly and non-destructively analyse large  
651 batches of samples [19].

### 652 **2.10.2 Electronic Tongue (E-Tongue)**

653 With a variety of sensors that react to various aspects of taste, an E-Tongue is a gadget that  
654 simulates human gustatory perception. Certain ions, pH, electrical conductivity, and other  
655 physicochemical characteristics linked to taste can all be detected by these sensors. The sample's  
656 taste profile is then produced by combining the sensor responses. To evaluate the flavour profiles  
657 of vegetable oil samples and find differences or adulteration, multivariate analysis techniques are  
658 used [23].

659 E-tongues have been utilised to evaluate the bitter, sour, sweet, and astringent tastes of vegetable  
660 oils. They can offer details regarding the oil's sensory qualities, legitimacy, and possible  
661 adulteration. E-Tongues, akin to E-Noses, provide quick and non-invasive analysis, making them  
662 valuable for extensive quality control in the food sector. For the purpose of authenticating  
663 vegetable oil, both E-Noses and E-Tongues have various benefits. Their quick, impartial, and  
664 objective analysis lessens the differences in human perception. These methods enable high-  
665 throughput analysis by analysing multiple samples at once. Additionally portable and appropriate  
666 for on-site testing, E-Noses and E-Tongues provide for real-time quality monitoring at various  
667 manufacturing or distribution phases [22]. There are a few restrictions to take into account, though.  
668 E-Noses and E-Tongues are limited in their ability to offer extensive chemical information since  
669 they analyse general odours or taste profiles rather than particular chemicals. Furthermore,  
670 environmental variables like temperature, humidity, and sample matrix might affect the sensors'  
671 performance, therefore accurate calibration and validation are required. Vegetable oil profile  
672 reference libraries or databases are necessary for precise authenticity and adulteration detection.  
673 In conclusion, promising methods for the authentication and quality control of vegetable oils are  
674 provided by Electronic Tongue (E-Tongue) and Electronic Nose (E-Nose) procedures. These  
675 methods can reveal details about the oil's quality, authenticity, and possible adulteration by  
676 analysing taste or odour profiles. In the vegetable oil sector, e-noses and e-tongues provide  
677 effective quality control procedures, increased consumer confidence, and improved product  
678 integrity [13].

## 679 **2.11 Microscopy Techniques**

680 Microscopy, particularly optical microscopy and microscopy in conjunction with cutting-edge  
681 imaging methods, is an invaluable instrument for vegetable oil quality assurance and verification.  
682 It makes it possible to visually inspect and characterise a variety of tiny elements, such as  
683 adulterants, pollutants, or cellular structures, which can reveal crucial information about the oil's  
684 quality, validity, and botanical provenance.

### 685 **2.11.1 *Optical Microscopy***

686 Using visible light and magnifying lenses, optical microscopy allows for the observation and  
687 analysis of samples. It offers the capacity to view the overall structure and look of vegetable oil  
688 samples, including their colour, transparency, and particle or sediment content. Additionally, the  
689 presence of organic and inorganic impurities, such as dust, foreign materials, or pieces of insects,  
690 can be detected by optical microscopy and may be a sign of incorrect processing or adulteration.  
691 A specialised method called polarised light microscopy (PLM) can be used to investigate materials  
692 that are birefringent, including crystals or specific fat crystals found in vegetable oils. The  
693 distinctive Maltese crosses or interference patterns exhibited by these materials can be seen by  
694 PLM employing polarizers and analyzers, which helps determine the oil's botanical provenance or  
695 processing parameters [20].

### 696 **2.11.2 *Microscopy Combined with Imaging Techniques***

697 Cutting-edge microscopy methods, like confocal laser scanning microscopy (CLSM) and scanning  
698 electron microscopy (SEM), can reveal specific details regarding the composition and  
699 microstructural characteristics of vegetable oils. High-resolution imaging of the oil's surface  
700 structure is made possible by SEM, which makes it possible to identify and characterise different  
701 types of particles, pollutants, or crystal formations. Additionally, it can offer details regarding the  
702 morphological characteristics of the oil, including droplet size, aggregation, and emulsion presence  
703 [22]. Through the use of laser scanning technology and fluorescence microscopy, CLSM produces  
704 high-resolution optical sectioning images of samples. It can be used to see particular elements or  
705 parts of the oil, including lipid granules or pigments, giving information on quality standards and  
706 potential adulteration. Combining microscopy techniques with certain probes or staining  
707 techniques can improve the visibility and identification of vegetable oil constituents [21]. For  
708 example, certain proteins, lipid droplets, or other particular substances present in the oil can be  
709 identified and distinguished using certain staining methods or fluorescence-based probes. The use  
710 of microscopy techniques in vegetable oil verification has many benefits. They offer clear visual

711 data, making it possible to examine both large and small characteristics that can reveal information  
712 about the oil's quality, validity, or adulterant content. These methods are widely accessible,  
713 reasonably easy to use, and suitable for a variety of sample sizes and types. When employing  
714 microscopy for the verification of vegetable oil, there are a few restrictions to take into account  
715 [19]. The qualitative character of microscopy techniques necessitates the use of skilled analysts  
716 for proper interpretation; factors that may hinder the observation and identification of microscopic  
717 features include the complexity of the sample, the presence of substances that interfere with the  
718 image, or the long sample preparation required. In conclusion, microscopy methods—such as  
719 optical microscopy and microscopy in conjunction with cutting-edge imaging technologies—offer  
720 important new information for vegetable oil quality assurance and verification. These methods  
721 help with the evaluation of quality criteria, the identification of contaminants, and the detection of  
722 adulterants by enabling the visualisation and characterisation of both macroscopic and microscopic  
723 aspects. Microscopy enhances consumer confidence and supports efficient quality control methods  
724 by contributing to the overall integrity and safety assessment of vegetable oil products [16,25].

### 725 **3. Combination techniques for vegetable oil authentication**

#### 726 **3.1 DNA based method that target nuclear or mitochondrial marker**

727 The intricacy of fraudulent techniques makes it difficult to conduct studies on the authenticity and  
728 traceability of extra virgin olive oil. Numerous chemical and biological procedures have been  
729 established to ascertain the authenticity of olive oil; however, due to their high specificity,  
730 sensitivity, and dependability, non-conventional methods based on DNA analysis have garnered  
731 interest in recent years. Since genetics plays a major role in determining a species' distinctive  
732 identity, DNA analyses have a very high discriminating capacity [26]. Genetic variations in  
733 populations or species are referred to as polymorphisms. Molecular markers are useful techniques  
734 for identifying the authenticity of olive oil since they offer information on genetic differences.  
735 Since the variety or plant species from which the oil was extracted can be identified by the  
736 application of genetic markers in the study of the remaining oil DNA, a number of DNA-based  
737 methods for authenticating olive oil have recently been developed [27].

738 Due to their excellent specificity, sensitivity, and accuracy in identifying the botanical origin of  
739 plant oils as well as the varietal origin of vegetable oils, unconventional techniques based on DNA  
740 analysis have drawn attention [28]. Since DNA-based approaches only rely on the analysis of  
741 DNA, they provide an alternative, complementary approach that overcomes the shortcomings of

742 conventional methods, such as the denaturation of proteins. Numerous biomolecular techniques  
743 have been developed to use DNA markers for vegetable oil authenticity. Molecular markers are  
744 thought to be useful instruments for establishing the authenticity of vegetable oil since they offer  
745 details on polymorphisms within DNA regions. Genetic differences known as polymorphisms can  
746 be found in the genomes of other organelles, such as chloroplasts, as well as in the nuclear,  
747 ribosomal, or mitochondrial genomes.

748 Since analysis of the residual oil DNA using molecular markers can identify the variety or the  
749 species from which it was extracted, regardless of the environmental conditions during olive fruit's  
750 growth, several techniques based on DNA have been developed to authenticate vegetable oil.  
751 Numerous research used molecular markers, such as SNPs, to identify the varietal origin of  
752 vegetable oil [17]. The database of olive molecular markers was enhanced and the analytical  
753 targets expanded with the latest developments in vegetable oil genome and transcript sequencing.  
754 By focusing on analytes that can be species-specific in terms of nucleotide sequence and DNA  
755 length, DNA-based techniques can detect if vegetable oil has been tampered with to make oil from  
756 another plant. Analysing species-specific DNA fragments or polymorphisms, or the genetic  
757 differences between or within species, is a common procedure in DNA-based analytical methods.  
758 The ability to distinguish between very unrelated creatures, as in the cases of food allergies and  
759 genetically modified organisms (GMOs), is a feature of species-specific DNA fragments. The  
760 ability to distinguish between closely related species or varieties using molecular markers is a  
761 feature of polymorphism detection [29].

762 Using universal primers, the desired DNA target is amplified in a PCR assay for food verification  
763 purposes, producing an amplified DNA fragment that can be measured for length. Every plant  
764 species has a species-specific PCR product length because of insertions or deletions. The number  
765 of PCR products produced for food mixes including many species will match the number of species  
766 in the mixture. Thus, the identification of the mixture including species would result from the  
767 length of the PCR product being analysed using conventional gel electrophoresis [3]. More  
768 advanced analytical tools can be utilised for validation, or if a better resolution is required because  
769 of the possibility of nearly identical length amplicons [25].

### 770 ***3.2 DNA metabarcoding for vegetable oil authentication***

771 Seafood species authentication has made extensive use of DNA barcoding that targets the  
772 cytochrome c oxidase subunit I (COI) gene, a relatively conserved area with sufficient diversity

773 among species [30]. An developing method that gets beyond the limitations of Sanger sequencing  
774 is DNA metabarcoding, which combines DNA barcoding using next-generation sequencing (NGS)  
775 to detect numerous species in complex and processed meals. Using pieces as tiny as 150 bp of  
776 mitochondrial 16S rDNA, bivalve species from the Mytilidae (mussels), Pectinidae (scallops), and  
777 Ostreidae (oysters) families were effectively identified in food items by DNA metabarcoding [33].  
778 An examination of mammalian and poultry species found in food and pet food also proved that  
779 DNA metabarcoding employing 16S rDNA is feasible.

780 Short, consistent DNA sequences are used to distinguish across species, which is the basis for the  
781 use of DNA barcoding in food verification. Targeting certain genomic regions, like mitochondrial  
782 DNA (mtDNA) or chloroplast DNA (cpDNA), which show enough variation between species  
783 while preserving conserved areas within the same species, is the goal of the technique [34]. The  
784 capacity of DNA barcoding to identify adulteration and substitution in intricate food matrices is  
785 one of its main benefits [35]. Even in processed or highly fragmented food, the approach can  
786 distinguish between closely related species or identify the presence of non-declared substances.  
787 For example, DNA barcoding can reveal fraudulent activities by detecting the real species present  
788 in the sample when premium and costly vegetable oil species are exchanged with less expensive  
789 ones. In a similar vein, it can identify allergens that could endanger customers' health. Moreover,  
790 DNA barcoding can help identify certain cultivars or geographic origins, offering important details  
791 on product quality, cultural heritage, and adherence to geographical indication laws [36]. Global  
792 interest in the application of DNA barcoding to stop food fraud has grown significantly.  
793 Stakeholders in the industry, governments, and regulatory bodies understand its potential to uphold  
794 market integrity, safeguard consumer rights, and guarantee food authenticity. A number of nations  
795 and international organisations have launched campaigns and enacted laws in an effort to  
796 encourage the use of DNA barcoding as a common method for food verification in recent years.  
797 These include the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) guidelines on DNA-based  
798 technologies for food authenticity testing, the EU Agri-Food Fraud Network (FFN), and the US  
799 Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) GenomeTrakr programme. DNA barcoding has several  
800 advantages, but it is not without drawbacks. For broader adoption and successful implementation,  
801 issues with sample preparation, DNA extraction, database completeness, and the availability of  
802 appropriate reference materials must be resolved. Furthermore, to improve the precision,  
803 effectiveness, and dependability of DNA barcoding in food fraud detection, continual

804 developments in DNA sequencing technology, bioinformatics tools, and reference databases are  
805 essential.

### 806 **3.3 Real time PCR technique for vegetable oil authentication**

807 It is possible that the presence of PCR inhibitors will significantly reduce the amount of amplifiable  
808 DNA fragments that can be obtained. The tiny amount of retrieved DNA presents another  
809 challenge in the particular situation of vegetable oils. Using hydrolyzed fluorescent probes, real-  
810 time PCR was used to amp up all of the extracts in order to validate the qualitative PCR results  
811 and obtain an estimate of the amount of DNA. The ISO 21570-recommended primers and probes  
812 were used for the assays. Utilising the oligonucleotide primers Lectin-F/Lectin-R and probe  
813 Lectin-TMP, the lectin gene was employed as the reference gene. Target DNA PCR amplicons  
814 can be sequenced or subjected to high-resolution capillary electrophoresis or agarose gel  
815 electrophoresis analysis. The detection limit of capillary electrophoresis for DNA fragments is  
816 substantially lower. Compared to agarose gel electrophoresis, it is more automated and capable of  
817 differentiating DNA sequences that differ by a small number of nucleotides in length [37,38].  
818 Quantitative real-time PCR and high-resolution melting analysis (HRM) are two methods that are  
819 becoming more and more popular because they provide the benefit of simultaneous PCR  
820 amplification and genotyping. Another method is Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS), which  
821 lowers the cost of analysis and reveals DNA fragments from multiple species at the same time by  
822 providing massive amounts of parallel short-read data per run [39].

### 823 **3.4 Taqman Real Time PCR Assay**

824 A very sensitive and fast quantitative analysis technique is urgently needed for the timely detection  
825 of tainted and inferior oils in vegetable oils. Because of its distinct and priceless flavour, beef  
826 tallow was widely used in baked goods and hot pot flavouring. The TaqMan real-time quantitative  
827 polymerase chain reaction method was developed for the cytochrome b gene (Cyt b) in  
828 mitochondrial DNA to identify beef tallow quantitatively [40]. As little as 0.1% and 0.004 ng of  
829 beef tallow DNA, respectively, can be found in tallow mixtures using the TaqMan qPCR. A  
830 normalised  $\Delta Cq$  technique based on Cyt b and 18S rDNA was developed for the quantitative  
831 analysis of oils, and it was very accurate and precise when tested on simulated oil samples.  
832 Real-time fluorescence quantified polymerase chain reactions (RT-PCR) studies on the detection  
833 of vegetable oils are becoming more and more prevalent both domestically and internationally.  
834 The shape of the amplification and the technique of DNA extraction are crucial factors in the

835 successful identification of vegetable oils using qPCR. Vegetable oil was identified using high  
836 resolution melting (HRM) based on RT-PCR, showing that HRM is a practical and affordable way  
837 to find adulterated vegetable oil.

838 The dye technique (using dyes like SYBR Green I and Eva Green) and the probe-based method  
839 (using probes like TaqMan probe) are the two main RT-PCR procedures. With the dye method,  
840 RT-PCR has a relatively high detection limit and a low specificity. Target DNA molecules can be  
841 amplified with specificity, efficiency, and sensitivity using the TaqMan real-time PCR (TaqMan  
842 qPCR)-based probe [41]. The TaqMan qPCR quantification approach, which is based on the  
843 normalised  $\Delta C_q$ , has been widely utilised to determine and measure meat items and dairy products  
844 due to its high accuracy and low deviation [42]. It is anticipated that this method will be utilised  
845 for the quantitative identification of beef tallow.

### 846 **3.5 Genetic Sequencing**

847 The creation of trustworthy and precise techniques for vegetable oil verification is required by the  
848 numerous instances of adulteration and fraud. In order to genetically identify various species,  
849 subspecies, or cultivars, DNA-based techniques examine the remaining DNA that was extracted  
850 from vegetable oil and employ molecular markers, which function as indicators that represent  
851 unique genetic profiles. The most recent markers for vegetable oil authenticity, such as single  
852 nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) and microsatellites or Simple Sequence Repeats (SSR), are  
853 taken from the DNA and examined. The article also discusses other analysis techniques like qPCR  
854 and digital PCR, with a focus on the High-Resolution Melting (HRM) post-polymerase chain  
855 reaction method. HRM allows for the fast and accurate identification of genetic variants in DNA  
856 regions of interest without the need for sequencing, and it can distinguish between cultivars that  
857 are very similar but differ by a single nucleotide in a particular locus. Genetic or molecular  
858 markers, which are distinct DNA sequences with known physical locations on chromosomes and  
859 can be used to identify individuals or species, are sequences of DNA that are unique to each  
860 organism. "Simple sequence repeats" and "single nucleotide polymorphisms" are two frequent  
861 genetic markers that have been employed for the identification of olive cultivars and the  
862 traceability of vegetable oil [43]. When examining genetic links in olive trees, RAPD, AFLP, and  
863 ISSR are advantageous primarily because the PCR primer building process does not necessitate  
864 prior knowledge of the genome sequence. The most recent research have employed single

865 nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) and simple sequence repeats (SSRs) as genetic markers for  
866 vegetable oil verification [44].

867 An growing number of papers have addressed the appropriateness of DNA markers in giving  
868 unambiguous identification for food verification and traceability. Molecular markers have been  
869 used as diagnostic tools even in complicated dietary matrices like vegetable oils. Recent  
870 developments have led to the specific identification of many plant oils as possible adulterants of  
871 olive oil. Further advancements in DNA analysis have been spurred by worries regarding the  
872 presence of genetically modified organisms in oilseed crops, which are the source of vegetable oil  
873 production. With relation to olive oil specifically, the application of genetic markers has given rise  
874 to analytical instruments that evaluate the veracity of cultivar identification as separate indicators  
875 from variations in the environment [45].

### 876 **3.6 Proteomics**

877 Vegetable oil authenticity is crucial for business and health reasons alike. In order to distinguish  
878 between cooking oil and edible oil, a new technique known as matrix-assisted laser  
879 desorption/ionization imaging mass spectrometry (MALDI-MSI) was created. With this  
880 technology, oil authenticity might be quickly determined by eye inspection without the need for  
881 intricate computational analysis. Using a scan range of  $m/z$  280–1860, vegetable oil was analysed  
882 in positive ionisation mode. Several diagnostic ions that may be used to identify various kinds of  
883 edible oil were found. For the quantification of the main vegetable oil components, such as  
884 triglycerides, diglycerides, and monoglycerides, the approach demonstrated good analytical  
885 performance [46]. Vegetable oil's chemical composition has been characterised using a range of  
886 analytical techniques. Low-polarity oil components, such as volatiles, monoglycerides, fatty acid  
887 esters, cyclic, and epoxy compounds, were frequently measured using gas chromatography (GC)  
888 coupled to mass spectrometry [47]. In recent years, matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization  
889 mass spectrometry (MALDI MS) has been developed as a helpful tool to get around some of the  
890 drawbacks of these traditional methods. It allows for the quick detection of oil samples without  
891 the time-consuming sample pre-treatment and chromatographic separation, as well as the  
892 characterization of a wide range of oil ingredients with a diversity of structural characteristics and  
893 polarity.

### 894 **3.7 Metabolomics**

895 Many different kinds of naturally occurring chemicals are produced by edible plants and are  
896 essential to their growth and development. Primary metabolites, secondary metabolites, and  
897 hormones are the three categories into which low molecular weight phytochemicals are divided  
898 [48]. Their presence and concentration are essential for the proper development of plants. The  
899 systematic investigation of metabolites and their interactions is made possible by metabolomics.  
900 The metabolomics approach was discovered to be a crucial method for food verification more  
901 recently [49]. Hazelnut oil might be identified in virgin olive oils by using indicators such as  
902 filbertone and 4, 40-dimethylsterols. For the purpose of identifying sunflower or soybean oil in  
903 olive oil, a marker known as delta 7-stigmastenol was employed [50].

### 904 *3.8 Combined techniques of Raman, Near-Infrared-Infrared (NIR) and fluorescence* 905 *spectroscopy*

906 Edible vegetable blend oils are made up of two or more vegetable oils and are commonly used as  
907 a source of dietary fats. Because distinct vegetable oils have different nutritional qualities, blended  
908 oils provide a more comprehensive nutrient profile than single vegetable oils. Raman spectroscopy  
909 is a method that shows great promise because it can enable non-contact detection and does away  
910 with the necessity for sample pre-treatment and other special preparation techniques [51]. Surface  
911 enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS) is a potent vibrational spectroscopy method that amplifies  
912 electromagnetic fields produced by stimulating localised surface plasmons to enable highly  
913 sensitive structural identification of low concentration analytes. an innovative liquid interfacial  
914 plasmonic platform that enables quick self-assembly and self-healing, enabling liquid-phase SERS  
915 investigation of both water- and oil-soluble compounds that is both highly sensitive and  
916 quantitative. In order to achieve the automated classification and identification of naturally and  
917 artificially dyed edible bird's nests, two-dimensional correlation surface-enhanced Raman  
918 spectroscopy (2DC-SERS) was utilised for the quick quantitative detection of nitrite and  
919 nitrosamine in both natural and artificially dyed edible bird's nest samples [52]. As a result, the  
920 advancement of Raman spectroscopy for the quick and precise identification of vegetable blended  
921 oils may have a big impact on supporting consumer wellness and guaranteeing the veracity of  
922 labelling.

923 NIR spectroscopy is a quick, non-invasive, and sensitive method that operates in the 12,500–4000  
924  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  wavenumber range. It has been extensively used for both qualitative and quantitative  
925 investigation of food and agricultural goods. Hydrogen-containing groups in organic molecules,

926 such as O-H, N-H, C-H, and S-H chemical bonds, are the primary targets of NIR spectroscopy.  
927 NIR spectra are difficult to understand due to the wide, frequently overlapping bands brought on  
928 by combination vibrations and molecular overtones. Therefore, in order to obtain meaningful  
929 chemical information, chemometric approaches are required. The NIR spectra of complex  
930 substances are challenging to employ directly for quantitative investigation because of the poor  
931 absorption and spectral overlap. Typically, chemometrics are used to create a calibration model  
932 that includes pertinent relationships between the chemical contents of samples and the overlapping  
933 spectra. Common multivariate calibration techniques like partial least squares (PLS), support  
934 vector regression (SVR), artificial neural networks (ANN), and extreme learning machines (ELM)  
935 have been used extensively in conjunction with NIR spectroscopy as a viable and efficient  
936 substitute for adulteration detection or quantitative analysis of complex samples in a variety of  
937 industries, including food, medicine, agriculture, and particularly the vegetable oil sector [53].  
938 The benefits of fluorescence (FS) spectroscopy include sensitive, practical, and effective detection.  
939 One type of cold luminescence in photoluminescence is called "fluorescence." It functions  
940 according to the idea that excited atoms or molecules revert to their ground state when a material  
941 absorbs electromagnetic energy. Radiation from electromagnetic sources is the energy emitted  
942 during this shift in energy from a higher to a lower energy level. The FS spectrum is the  
943 relationship between the FS energy and the appropriate wavelength. A substance's composition  
944 can be ascertained based on its FS intensity [54]. When examining oil blends, the FS spectra can  
945 overlap since edible oils contain a variety of common fluorophores. To enhance prediction  
946 performance, chemometric methods must once more be used to extract and optimise the FS spectra  
947 [25]. FS spectroscopy, which has a lower detection limit than other spectroscopic methods, is an  
948 effective instrument for measuring individual components of oil in blends of edible oils. PLS in  
949 conjunction with synchronous fluorescence spectroscopy (SyFS) was used to measure the amount  
950 of vegetable oils in *Eucommia ulmoides* seed oil. To create quantitative models, they chose the  
951 300–500 nm excitation spectral range. The vegetable oils had LODs as low as 0.48%. In order to  
952 quickly gather extensive FS data, an excitation-emission matrix (EEM) was gathered. The Quasi-  
953 Monte Carlo (QMC) integral was then used to calculate the three oils' concentrations and recovery  
954 rates. For the trace study of edible oil blends, the low LOD of FS spectroscopy was crucial, as it  
955 was in previous investigations employing this analytical method.

### 956 *3.9 Chromatographic techniques with mass spectrometry*

957 For many years, gas chromatography (GC) has been a reliable method for analysing a wide range  
958 of vegetable oil constituents. However, coelution of components in one-dimensional (1D) GC  
959 analysis can be problematic as it might restrict accurate identification and quantification of  
960 individual analytes. Using multidimensional gas chromatography (MDGC), the sample is  
961 separated in two or more independent processes. By raising peak capacity, ideally resolving  
962 coelution issues, eliminating underlying matrix or interfering compounds, and identifying  
963 compounds present at low abundance by cryofocusing enhancement, the approach can improve  
964 separation performance [55]. Comprehensive two-dimensional gas chromatography (GCGC) and  
965 traditional heart-cut (H/C) MDGC are two variations of MDGC. The peak's height is increased by  
966 a compression zone formed between the two dimensions by a cryogenic modulator [56].

### 967 **3.10 Gas chromatographic and High performance liquid chromatography**

968  
969 GC and the mass spectrometry (MS) detector are frequently combined. This detector's main benefit  
970 is that it makes it possible to identify substances using mass-to-charge ( $m/z$ ) ratios and the relative  
971 abundances of molecular and fragment ions that result from electron ionisation (EI), which  
972 typically occurs at 70 eV [57]. MS makes it possible to analyze each component that came out of  
973 the gas chromatograph independently. Each component could be identified with certainty thanks  
974 to the mass spectra and chromatographic peaks. The mass spectrum for each peak in an unknown  
975 combination can help to narrow down the potential identities of each component. Therefore, if  
976 there is no supporting identification, the compound identification that is provided by evaluating  
977 the MS spectrum and comparing it with a commercial MS library like NIST or Wiley is only  
978 regarded provisional.

979 Vegetable oil authenticity has been constantly changing to fit circumstances that were essentially  
980 dictated by an international market trend. Analytical methods have been created or adjusted to  
981 provide tenable answers to the cunning adulterations that occur every now and then. Newer  
982 technical approaches, primarily based on high-performance liquid chromatography, have  
983 essentially supplanted classical tests [58]. The technique known combine is a popular and  
984 commonly used method for separating and identifying the constituents of a mixture. This method  
985 can also be used to identify lipid peroxides with varying molecular weights, polarities, and/or  
986 volatility. The methods most commonly employed to identify contamination and adulteration have  
987 been the determination of trans-fatty acid and sterolic content, in conjunction with sterol-

988 dehydration products. Complex new adulterations, such as mixing hazelnut oil with olive oil, will  
989 be a difficulty in the new millennium, but databases and mathematical algorithms are helping to  
990 generate promising suggestions for their detection. Fatty acids, triglycerols, sterols, tocopherols,  
991 and hydrocarbons have all been quantified using high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)  
992 analyses [59].

993 Some biomarkers are well recognized and applied in the authentication of vegetable oils to ensure  
994 their purity and safety. Owing to their antioxidant qualities, phenolic compounds are important  
995 indicators of the oxidative stability and health-promoting qualities of vegetable oils. Essential  
996 biomarkers that indicate the content and purity of vegetable oils are glycerol esters, which are  
997 created during the esterification process in oil production. Capsaicin, a bioactive molecule present  
998 in chili peppers, is another significant biomarker exploited in the authenticity of oils generated  
999 from chili peppers or containing chili extracts.

1000

#### 1001 **4. Limitation and future scope**

1002 Future implications of the discovery and use of novel biomarkers for vegetable oil verification are  
1003 substantial. To increase the variety of biomarkers and boost their sensitivity and specificity, more  
1004 investigation is required. This involves looking at cutting-edge tools like genomics, proteomics,  
1005 and metabolomics in an effort to find more biomarkers that can help verify vegetable oils.  
1006 Furthermore, the development of artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms and improvements in data  
1007 analysis techniques will facilitate the standardisation and automation of biomarker-based  
1008 authentication procedures. Large-scale screening of vegetable oil sample will be facilitated by this,  
1009 allowing for faster and more accurate analysis. Furthermore, combining several biomarkers and  
1010 methodologies into multi-dimensional approaches may improve the precision and dependability  
1011 of vegetable oil authenticity. A comprehensive and holistic approach can be obtained by  
1012 combining multiple biomarkers, including fatty acids, volatile chemicals, stable isotopes, and  
1013 DNA markers, thereby reinforcing the authenticity assessment of vegetable oils. In conclusion, the  
1014 field of finding novel biomarkers for vegetable oil authentication is lively and has a lot of promise.  
1015 Biomarker-based authentication techniques will be used more frequently as science and  
1016 technology develop, offering a strong and dependable way to guarantee the safety, authenticity,  
1017 and quality of vegetable oil products.

## 1018 **5. Conclusion**

1019 Rapid advancements in food safety, product integrity, and stopping dishonest practices in the  
1020 vegetable oil business can be achieved through the development of novel biomarkers for the  
1021 authentication of vegetable oils. By employing sophisticated analytical techniques like mass  
1022 spectrometry, NMR spectroscopy, chromatography, and DNA-based approaches, scientists have  
1023 made significant strides towards identifying particular biomarkers that are capable of  
1024 differentiating between various vegetable oil varieties, identifying their origin, and spotting  
1025 adulteration. To guarantee their dependability and practicality, strong biomarker-based  
1026 authentication techniques must be developed and validated. Accurate biomarker identification and  
1027 quantification need the establishment of standardised techniques, reference databases, and  
1028 calibration models. Additionally, in order to put these strategies into practice and enforce quality  
1029 control standards throughout the vegetable oil supply chain, cooperation between researchers,  
1030 regulatory agencies, and industry stakeholders is essential.

1031

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1037 Shivangi Srivastava, Vinay Kumar Pandey Methodology, Software, Validation, Formal analysis,  
1038 Investigation, Data Curation, Writing - Original Draft, Writing - Review & Editing; Kunal Singh:  
1039 Resources, Visualization, Project administration, Funding acquisition; Aamir Hussain Dar,  
1040 Kshirod Kumar Dash: Conceptualization, Methodology, Software, Validation, Formal analysis,  
1041 Investigation, Resources, Data Curation, Writing - Original Draft, Writing - Review & Editing,  
1042 Visualization, Supervision, Project administration, Funding acquisition; Rafeeya Shams:  
1043 Methodology, Investigation, Data Curation, Writing - Original Draft, Writing - Review & Editing;  
1044 Ayaz Mukarram Shaikh, Kovács Béla: Resources, Visualization, Project administration, Funding  
1045 acquisition

1046

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1278 **Table 1: Biomarker and its identification purpose in vegetable oil composition**

Biomarker	Purpose of Identification	Importance	Reference
Fatty Acid Composition	Distinguishing different vegetable oil sources	High	[12]
Sterol Composition	Determining the presence of adulterants or contaminants	Medium	[22]
Triacylglycerol Structure	Authenticating specific vegetable oil varieties	Medium	[34]

Wax Ester Content	Discriminating between refined and unrefined oils or different vegetable oils	Low	[37]
Tocopherol Content	Determining the freshness and quality of vegetable oils	Low	[51]
Pigment Content	Authenticating specific vegetable oil varieties or detecting adulterants	Low	[16]

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**Table 2:Types of Biomarkers for gastrointestinal cancer**

Type of biomarker	Example	Gastrointestinal tumor type	References
Histologic staging	Dysplasia and cancer staging	All gastrointestinal cancers	[34]
Genetic and family risk	FAP testing	Colorectal cancer	[54]
Susceptibility	Multiple cytokine polymorphisms	Gastric	[21]
Diagnostic	Carcino-embryonic antigen	Colorectal cancer	[33]
Prognostic	P53, p16	Esophageal adenocarcinoma	[29]
Predictive	ErbB2 for trastuzumab therapy, EGFR for gefitinib therapy	Gastric	[39]
Exposure	Nitrites / DNA adducts	Esophageal adenocarcinoma	[11]

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**Table 3:Gastrointestinal Biomarkers of microbiota with test site and detection methods**

<b>Biomarker</b>	<b>Test site</b>	<b>Biological sample</b>	<b>Method</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>References</b>
Lactate	Whole intestine	Blood, digesta content	Colorimetric Fluorometric	Indirect measurement of intestinal permeability as lactate can go across the intestinal mucosa to blood	[21]
Succinate	Whole intestine	Digesta content	Colorimetric	Phenolic compounds produced by microbial fermentation of aromatic amino acids, these volatile organic compounds could be quantified with electronic noses and other portable sensors	[34]
Phenol	Whole intestine	Blood, urine, faeces	Gas chromatography, mass	Associated with high levels of	[27]

			spectroscopy, nuclear magnetic resonance	dietary proteins, leading to excessive microbial fermentation	
Ammonia	Large intestine	Faeces , urine	Colorimetric	Associated with high levels of dietary proteins, rich in sulphur – containing amino acids, and inorganic sulphur	[52]
Hydrogen sulphide	Large intestine	Faeces	Colorimetric	Associated with high levels of dietary proteins	[30]

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 1300 **Table 4 - Characteristics of detection techniques, types of biomarkers identified, and**  
 1301 **research advancements**

<b>Detection Technique</b>	<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Types of Biomarkers Identified</b>	<b>Research Advancements</b>	<b>References</b>
Gas Chromatography	High sensitivity	Fatty acid composition	Improved resolution and detection limits	[53]
	Separation of compounds	Sterol profiles	Development of hyphenated techniques	
	Quantitative analysis	Triglyceride composition	Automated data processing algorithms	
			Integration with mass spectrometry	
Mass Spectrometry	High specificity	Phytosterol content	Enhanced ionization techniques	[40]
	Identification of compounds	Oxidation products	High-throughput methodologies	
	Molecular weight analysis	Alkyl esters	Miniaturization of instruments	
			Advances in tandem MS for complex mixtures	
Nuclear Magnetic	Structural elucidation	Triacylglycerol composition	Higher magnetic field strengths	[50]
Resonance (NMR)	Quantitative analysis	Free fatty acids	Development of benchtop NMR instruments	[40]

	Non-destructive	Aromatic compound profiles	Automation of data interpretation	
	Minimal sample preparation	Lipid oxidation markers	Integration with chemometrics	
			Utilization of heteronuclear experiments	
Metabolomics	Comprehensive analysis of metabolites	Metabolic pathways	Enhanced data processing algorithms	[35]
	Profiling of small molecules	Biomarker discovery	Integration with multi-omics approaches	
	Dynamic assessment of metabolism	Disease biomarkers	Standardization of analytical workflows	
Proteomics	Identification of proteins	Protein expression levels	Improved protein quantification techniques	[31]
	Characterization of protein-protein interactions	Post-translational modifications (PTMs)	Enhanced bioinformatics tools for data analysis	
		Biomarkers for disease diagnosis	Integration with other omics data for systems biology studies	

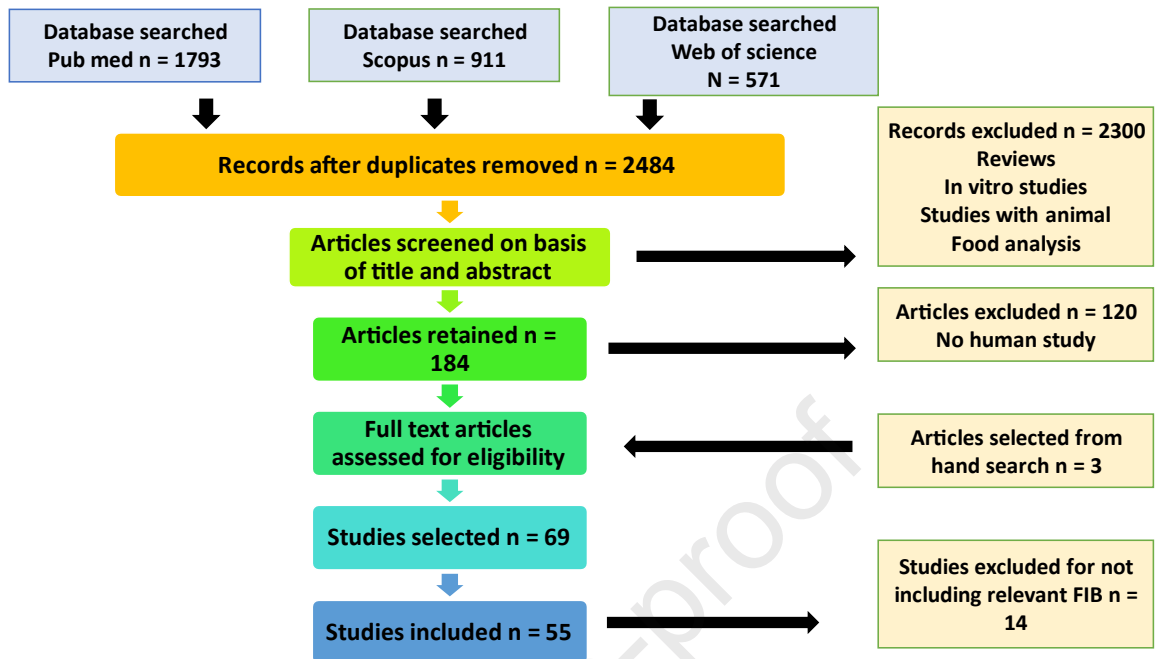


Figure 1 – Flow diagram of study selection

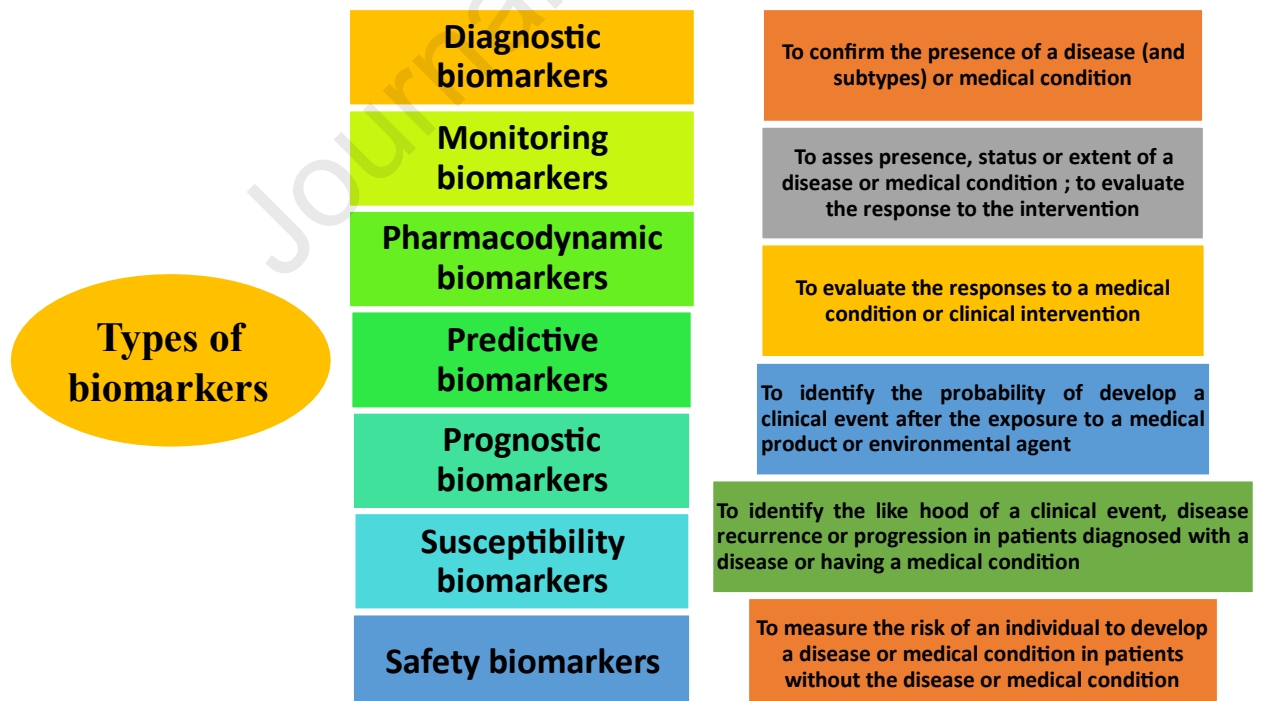
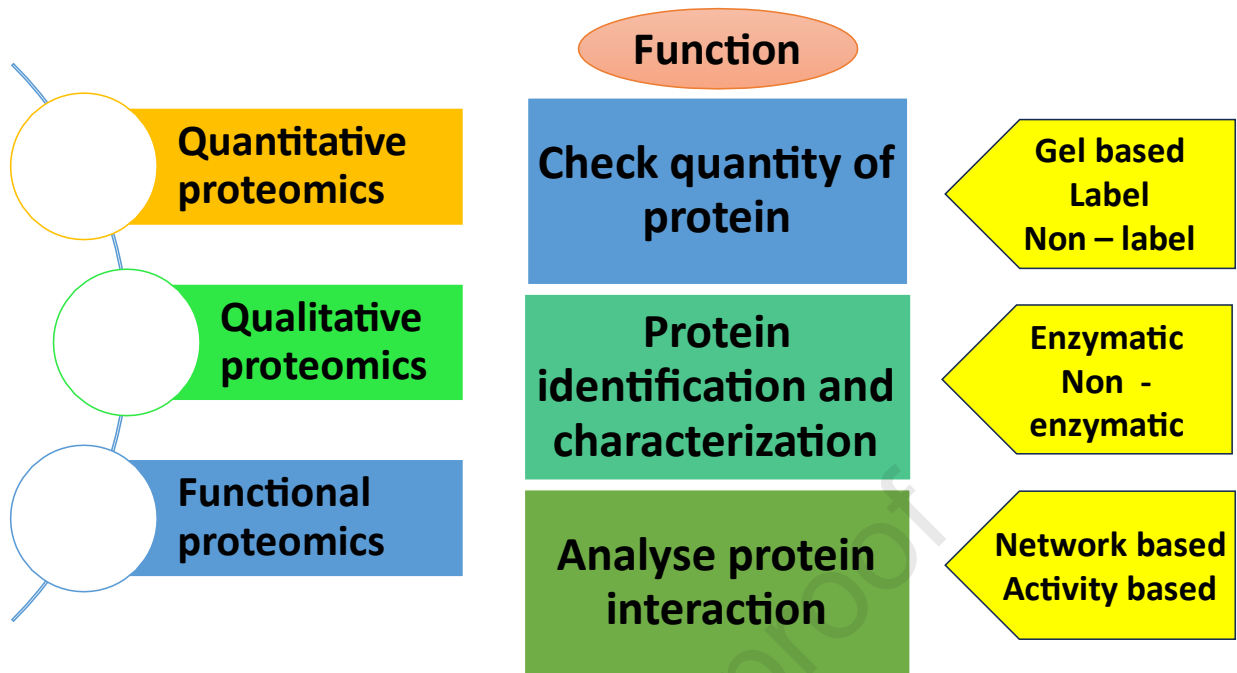


Figure 2 – Types of biomarkers and their functionality



**Figure 3 – Proteomics as a promising biomarker in food authentication and its functionality**

**Ethical Statement - Studies in humans and animals**

The authors state that this research does not entail using either humans or animals.

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**Declaration of interests**

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be considered as potential competing interests:

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