

1 **Direct Analysis of Xanthine Stimulants in Archaeological Vessels by laser desorption**
2 **REMPI**

3 *Shawn C. Owens^a, Jacob A. Berenbeim^a, Marshall R. Ligare^a, Lisa E. Gulian^a, Faady M.*
4 *Siouri^a, Samuel Boldissar^a, Stuart Tyson-Smith^b, Gregory Wilson^b, Anabel Ford^c, Mattanjah S.*
5 *de Vries^{a*}*

6 ^a Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of California Santa Barbara, Santa
7 Barbara, California 93106, USA

8 ^b Department of Anthropology, University of California Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, California
9 93106, USA

10 ^c MesoAmerican Research Center, University of California Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara,
11 California 93106, USA

12 **Keywords:** pottery, cacao, MesoAmerica, Maya, Mississippi, mass spectrometry, spectroscopy,

13 **Abstract**

14 Resonance enhanced multiphoton ionization spectroscopy (REMPI) generates simultaneous
15 vibronic spectroscopy and fragment free mass spectrometry to identify molecules within a
16 complex matrix. We combined laser desorption with REMPI spectroscopy to study organic
17 residues within pottery sherds from Maya vessels (600-900 CE) and Mississippian
18 vessels (1100-1200 CE), successfully detecting three molecular markers, caffeine, theobromine
19 and theophylline, associated with the use of cacao. This analytical approach provides a high
20 molecular specificity, based on both wavelength and mass identification. At the same time, the
21 high detection limit allows for direct laser desorption from sherd scrapings, avoiding the need for
22 extracting organic constituents from the sherd matrix.

23

24 **1. Introduction**

25 Analysis of organic compounds in pottery sherds traditionally relies on the use of infrared
26 spectroscopy¹, separation techniques such as gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS)^{2,3},
27 high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)⁴, and liquid chromatography-mass
28 spectrometry (LC-MS)^{2,5-7}. Chromatographic techniques, while providing a wealth of information,
29 often cannot be routinely applied to cultural heritage artifacts, e.g. pottery sherds, due to the
30 relatively large sample-size, and sample consumption, required by most GC and LC techniques.⁷
31 Typically, pieces of several cm³ in size may be needed to yield 500 mg of material for extraction.
32 Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectroscopy of pottery samples can provide functional group
33 identification of organic, as well as some inorganic, compounds, but can be challenging since the
34 organic materials often are present as part of an extremely complex mixture.¹ While these
35 techniques provide important information, they often lack the capability to identify unique
36 compounds, or require hundreds of milligrams of sample to do so. Therefore there remains a need
37 for techniques that require less sample, thus causing less physical damage to the object, while
38 maintaining high molecular selectivity. Here we describe a technique for organic tracer molecule
39 analysis for archaeometry, in a specialized form of laser mass spectrometry. A laser-desorption

1 jet-cooling source is followed by resonance enhanced multiphoton ionization (REMPI) and time-
2 of-flight (TOF) mass spectrometry. This approach combines the *selectivity* of resonant laser
3 spectroscopy with the *sensitivity* of mass spectrometry and is therefore simultaneously highly
4 specific and sensitive⁸⁻¹⁶.

5 As a member of the theobroma genus, the cacao bean (*Theobroma cacao*) originates from a tree
6 confined to within the tropical regions of South America and Mesoamerica¹⁷. The seeds, or pods,
7 produced by the tree were ground up and mixed with other ingredients (water, maize, honey) to
8 make a drink that had a mild stimulating effect.¹⁸ It was a particularly important cultural icon in
9 Mesoamerican society, and has been consumed by the Maya as early as 600 BCE¹⁸ in addition to
10 being the precursor to modern day chocolate.

11 Three molecules associated with the cacao bean are caffeine (1,3,7-trimethylxanthine),
12 theobromine (3,7-dimethylxanthine), and theophylline (1,3-dimethylxanthine) and these have
13 been found in pottery sherds found in the Mesoamerican region.^{2,18-22} These compounds are still
14 very common today in stimulant drinks such as coffee, tea, and yerba mate. Serving as natural
15 pest deterrents, these three methylxanthines are found in over 13 orders of plants, comprising well
16 over 100 different plant species and are often used as molecular markers to identify geo-cultural
17 origins of pottery sherds, particularly cacao.^{3,23}

18 Similar to cacao in MesoAmerican culture, people from regions around the American gulf coast
19 prepared a black tea made from the yaupon holly (*I. vomitoria*) as well as the dahoon holly (*I.*
20 *cassine*). These species contain caffeine and theobromine, but are not believed to contain
21 theophylline.^{3,7,24} Further, yerba mate (*I. paraguariensis*), guarana fruit (*P. cupana*), and the yoco
22 vine (*P. yoco*) is widespread in South America and contains caffeine, theobromine and/or
23 theophylline.^{23,25-27} Due to the shared occurrence of caffeine, theobromine, and/or theophylline it
24 is clear that analytical tools need to go beyond positive identification of these molecules within
25 complex matrices and need to consider relative occurrence to identify the organic origin of the
26 residue in question.

27 Each plant species has a characteristic concentration of each methylxanthine, which is commonly
28 used to narrow down the species of plant serving as the source of the organic residues in question.
29 The method presented here can positively confirm the presence of methylxanthines with a
30 reasonably high analytical detection limit and may pragmatically identify cacao residue from
31 pottery samples excavated where cacao and holly species are geolocated. The complete attribution
32 of concentration ratios of the different marker molecules to specific plants is complicated because
33 the distribution and concentration of these molecules in different plants is somewhat contentious
34 given all the variable conditions. Moreover, the extraction dynamics can affect the ratios
35 observed.²⁵ Previous analysis of pottery from Central America has identified theobromine in
36 residue from the inside of ceramic vessels from Honduras, Guatemala, and Belize dating from
37 1500 BCE to 480 CE.^{18,21,2} The identifications were made by GC/MS and HPLC/MS. Recent
38 research has also suggested the presence of all three molecular markers in sherds found in
39 Northwestern New Mexico and the Central Illinois River Valley, suggesting a previously unknown
40 trade network with MesoAmerican cultures.^{7,28,29}

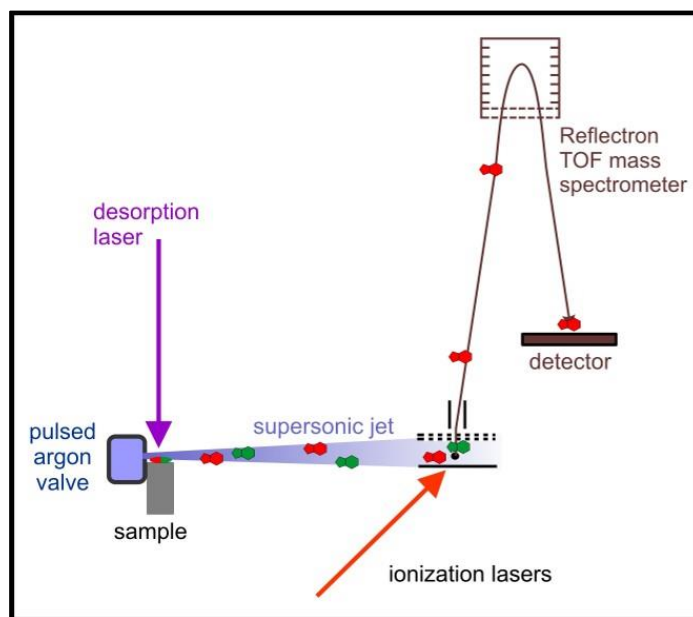
41 In the following sections we will detail the technique by which we identify these molecular
42 markers in pottery sherds, followed by a first example of the identification of methylxanthine
43 markers in organic residues in Maya and Mississippian pottery sherds.

1 **2. Experimental**

2

3 **2.1 Two-step laser mass spectrometry**

4 Figure 1 schematically shows the experimental setup which has been reported in more detail
5 elsewhere³⁰. The sample obtained from the pottery sherd can be either an extract deposited onto a
6 sample bar, or sherd scrapings placed on a sample bar from which we laser desorb directly. The
7 sample bar is mounted in a vacuum chamber, directly in front of a pulsed molecular beam
8 controlled by a piezo cantilever valve ^{31,32} (4×10^{-6} Torr source chamber pressure). Laser
9 desorption provides intact vaporization of large, complex and/or thermally labile molecules. The
10 desorbed molecules are entrained in a pulsed supersonic jet expansion of argon, which provides
11 very efficient cooling of the internal degrees of freedom of the molecules to the order of 10-20
12 °K.^{33,34} At this point, the cold molecules are gaseous and free of any intermolecular, i.e. matrix,
13 interactions. The cooling makes it possible to perform high-resolution unimolecular spectroscopy
14 while at the same time stabilizing the molecule, permitting its detection at the parent molecular
15 mass. Typical desorption laser fluence is on the order of $10 \mu\text{J}/\text{cm}^2$ in 10 ns laser pulses³⁵⁻⁴⁰. The
16 desorption laser is focused using either a cylindrical lens or a spherical lens, generating desorption
17 spot sizes of $0.50 \text{ mm} \times 3.0 \text{ mm}$ or 0.75 mm diameter respectively. Following jet-cooling, the
18 molecular beam is skimmed before being intersected by laser beam(s) and photo-ionized. We
19 implement resonance enhanced multiphoton ionization (REMPI) in two modes, using either one
20 or two colors⁴¹. The subsequent ions are detected by a reflectron time of flight mass spectrometer
21 (2×10^{-6} Torr analyzer pressure, mass resolution $m/\Delta m=500$).



22

23 **Figure 1:** Depiction of the laser desorption jet cooling mass spectrometer where a mixture of isomers (represented
24 by red and green symbols) is laser desorbed in vacuo and entrained in a pulsed Ar molecular beam. Upon entering the
25 ion source tunable REMPI lasers offer spectroscopic selectivity (in this example exciting the “red” isomers) and soft
26 ionization, followed by TOF mass detection.

27

28

1 2.2 REMPI

2 Resonance enhanced two-photon ionization, combines optical spectroscopy with mass
3 spectrometry. This dramatically enhances the specificity for selected compounds and allows for
4 distinction of structural isomers, tautomers and enantiomers.⁴² A tunable laser provides resonant
5 vibronic excitation of the jet-cooled molecules to a low level intermediate electronic state.
6 Subsequently, another photon ionizes the excited molecule either from the same laser pulse (1-
7 color REMPI) or from an overlapped second laser if additional energy is needed (2-color REMPI).
8 In the case of methylxanthine both photons originate from the doubled output of a Lumonics HD-
9 300 tunable dye laser (spectral line width $\approx 0.04 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, pulse energy $\approx 0.3\text{-}0.7 \text{ mJ}$ in 8 ns pulses).

10 Scanning the wavelength of the first photon while monitoring a specific ion mass generates a mass
11 selected excitation spectrum, or REMPI spectrum. When the REMPI spectrum of a given
12 compound is known, the excitation laser can be tuned to a specific resonance in order to selectively
13 ionize it. Since the sample has been decoupled from matrix interactions in the laser desorption
14 process, REMPI is matrix and concentration independent. This single molecule resonant
15 absorption is a “soft” ionization method with molecular identification based on the wavelength
16 specific signal of the parent ion and no fragmentation pattern disambiguation is necessary.
17 Resonant ionization not only selects for a specific compound; it can also select for specific isomers.
18 We have demonstrated that with this technique we can detect compounds at the femtomol level
19 and in favorable cases down to the 100 attomol level.⁹ We can further improve REMPI sensitivity
20 by two color ionization in which the excitation and ionization steps are performed at different
21 wavelengths. Typically, the absorption cross sections for the first and second step are of the order
22 of 10^{-17} cm^2 and 10^{-19} cm^2 , respectively. To maintain optimum selectivity it is undesirable to
23 significantly saturate the first step, forcing us to use a laser fluence that is low by two orders of
24 magnitude from what would maximize the second (ionization) step. Therefore, we can improve
25 overall detection limits without sacrificing selectivity if we employ a different wavelength for the
26 second step at higher laser fluence. We have demonstrated this principle for perylene, obtaining
27 an overall 0.25 photoionization efficiency resulting in a 30 femtogram detection limit.⁹

28 The combination of laser spectroscopy and mass spectrometry provides analytical information in
29 two dimensions: wavelength and mass. Generally spectroscopic resolution, which is typically
30 fractions of wave numbers is several orders of magnitude higher than the mass resolution that can
31 be obtained in conventional mass spectrometry.⁴² To fully capitalize on these advantages it is
32 necessary that the spectroscopy of the analyte molecule is known in a predetermined spectral
33 library. We can find a needle in a haystack, provided we know what the needle looks like.

34 2.3 Detection Limit

35 We previously reported data for a series of test samples with different concentrations of vanillic
36 acid, a marker for peonidin in grape wine⁴³. There the ion signal was linear with concentration (r
37 $= 0.9994$), allowing (a) quantitative measurements when using internal standards and (b)
38 establishment of a lower limit of detection. The latter will differ from compound to compound
39 because it depends on the ionization efficiency. In the case of vanillic acid with one color
40 ionization at 289.192 nm we obtained a detection limit at $S/N = 3$ of 60 picograms per laser shot.
41 To put this limit in perspective, 250 pg of vanillic acid corresponds to a few microliters of modern
42 wine and indeed we have detected vanillic acid in a 5 μL droplet of wine. Even if only 0.1% of the
43 original peonidin content of the wine can be recovered and converted to vanillic acid, we would
44 still only need a milliliter of residue, from for example an amphora, to be able to detect it. For the

1 current study of methylated xanthines, a detection limit of 4 picograms per 10 laser shot average
2 was determined. Theophylline ion signal desorbed from graphite substrate at quantities of 0.05,
3 0.5, 5, and 50 ng detected by 1C REMPI @ 280.71 nm fit a linear regression of the form $\log y =$
4 $m \log x + b$, where m is slope, x is concentration, b a fitting constant, and y is signal.
5 Extrapolating this fit down to the signal limit, corresponding to the background signal of desorbed
6 blank graphite sample, provided the limit of detection with a S/N of 3. This fit is shown in Figure
7 S.1. If additional detection sensitivity is required 2C REMPI is used. The ionization wavelength
8 of 308 nm was found to maximize ionization efficiency and minimize fragmentation of the
9 analytes, increasing signal by at least a factor of two (shown in S.2). Substrate does have an effect
10 on detection efficiency and we have tested graphite bars, gold plated bars, stainless steel pegs, and
11 double sided tape. Of these, graphite bars provide the greatest detection sensitivity but they suffer
12 from sample carryover due to graphite's ability to readily absorb either organic sample or organic
13 solvated sample. We used new graphite bars to negate the possibility of sample contamination
14 between runs, which we also controlled for by analysis of blanks.

15 **2.4 Sample preparation**

16 We purchased standards of theobromine, theophylline and caffeine from Sigma-Aldrich and used
17 them without further purification. Standards are directly applied to graphite sample bars as a thin
18 solid layer. The spectra for standards were collected using separate graphite bars to ensure each
19 spectrum is free of any other standards.

20 We analyzed pottery samples directly from the pottery material and from extracts when
21 concentration was necessary. The extracts are made by using a 3:1 mixture of acetone and water.
22 Approximately 400 mg of ground pottery is added to 5 ml of solution and allowed to sit at room
23 temperature for 72 hours. The supernatant liquid is then filtered by a Whatman 13 mm GD/X
24 disposable filter, polypropylene filter media with polypropylene housing, 0.45 mm pore size. The
25 extract is then concentrated by gentle heating (25-35 °C) under dry nitrogen flow. The extracts are
26 concentrated approximately 5 fold then deposited drop-wise on the ends of 0.75 mm diameter
27 disposable stainless steel pegs mounted to the sample bar. Gentle heating (35-45 °C) is used to
28 speed up evaporation of solvent. The dried, concentrated extracts are then immediately inserted
29 into the instrument for analysis. Direct desorption analysis of the samples is done by applying
30 small amounts (0.5-1.0 mg) of either ground or surface pieces of pottery material to double-sided
31 tape mounted on gold sample bars. A new, clean disposable razor blade was used to scrape sherd
32 fragments directly onto the tape for each sherd tested. Direct desorption does not lend itself to
33 samples in need of concentration, however, it does allow for the most immediate and unaltered
34 analysis of a sample's composition, avoiding possible unintended chemical rearrangements that
35 can occur in an extraction, condensation, or solvated separation step. Direct analysis also makes it
36 possible to separately sample different parts, for example to compare surface versus inside areas.

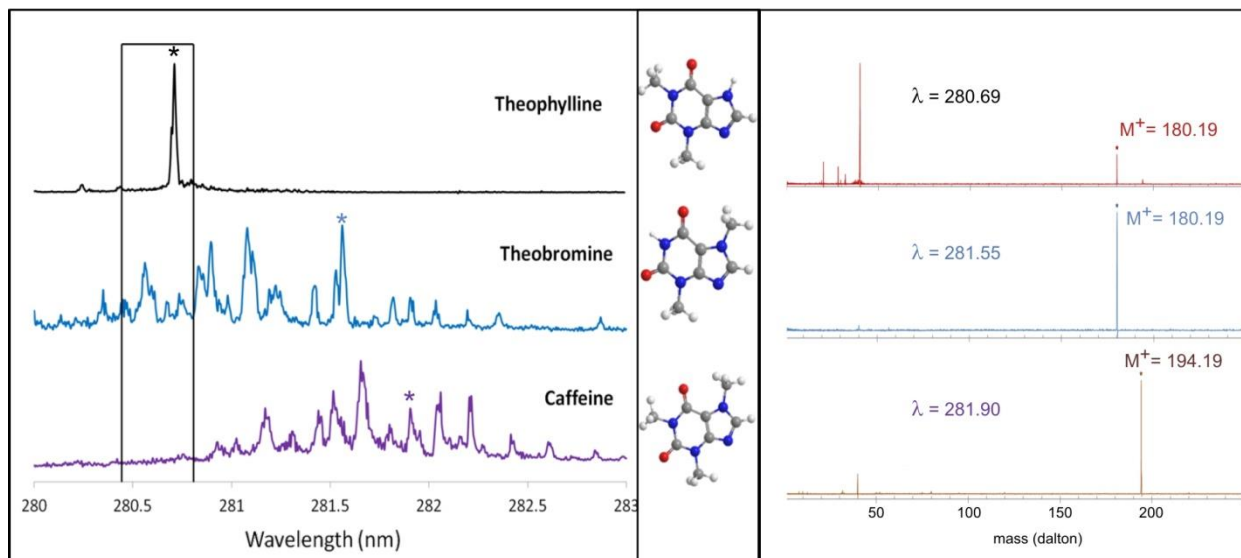
37

38

39

40

1 3.1 Results



2
3 **Figure 2:** Spectra of methylxanthine standards. Left panel: REMPI spectra recorded on the parent mass, indicated in
4 the right panel. Black box marks the region scanned for the pottery sherds. Right panel: mass spectra recorded at the
5 indicated resonant wavelength, marked for each compound with an asterisk in the left panel. Y-axis for both panels in
6 arbitrary units of ion intensity.

7 We previously reported the detailed REMPI spectra of all three molecular markers⁴⁴, identifying
8 unique resonances for the selective ionization of each of the markers. The left hand side of Figure
9 2 shows the REMPI spectra obtained from each standard. The wavelength range marked by a black
10 box indicates the part of the spectra used for subsequent sample analysis. In order to optimize
11 conditions for each target methylxanthine, we chose a wavelength correlating to a strong REMPI
12 transition and unique to each to perform optically-selected mass spectrometry. Figure 2 shows
13 mass spectra obtained at the resonant ionization wavelengths indicated in the figure with asterisks,
14 clearly determining the parent mass with virtually no fragmentation. The peak at mass 40 is from
15 the argon carrier gas of the molecular beam. When comparing theobromine and theophylline signal
16 directly from the same sample we scanned the wavelength range indicated by the black box. This
17 small part of the spectrum contains distinct and spectrally well separated peaks of each of these
18 compounds.

19 We examined samples from three different archaeological sites:

20 (1) A Puerto Escondido vessel extract which has previously tested positive for theobromine by
21 HPLC/MS.¹

22 (2) Thirteen base sherds of unique Late Classic period (c. 600-900 CE) Maya vessels from the El
23 Pilar area, located on the border of Guatemala and Belize.

24 (3) Seven sherds from the early Mississippian period (c. 1100-1200 CE) vessels, located from the
25 Central Illinois River Valley in Fulton County Illinois.

¹ Provided by Dr. Patrick McGovern from the Molecular Archaeology lab at the University of Pennsylvania Museum.

1

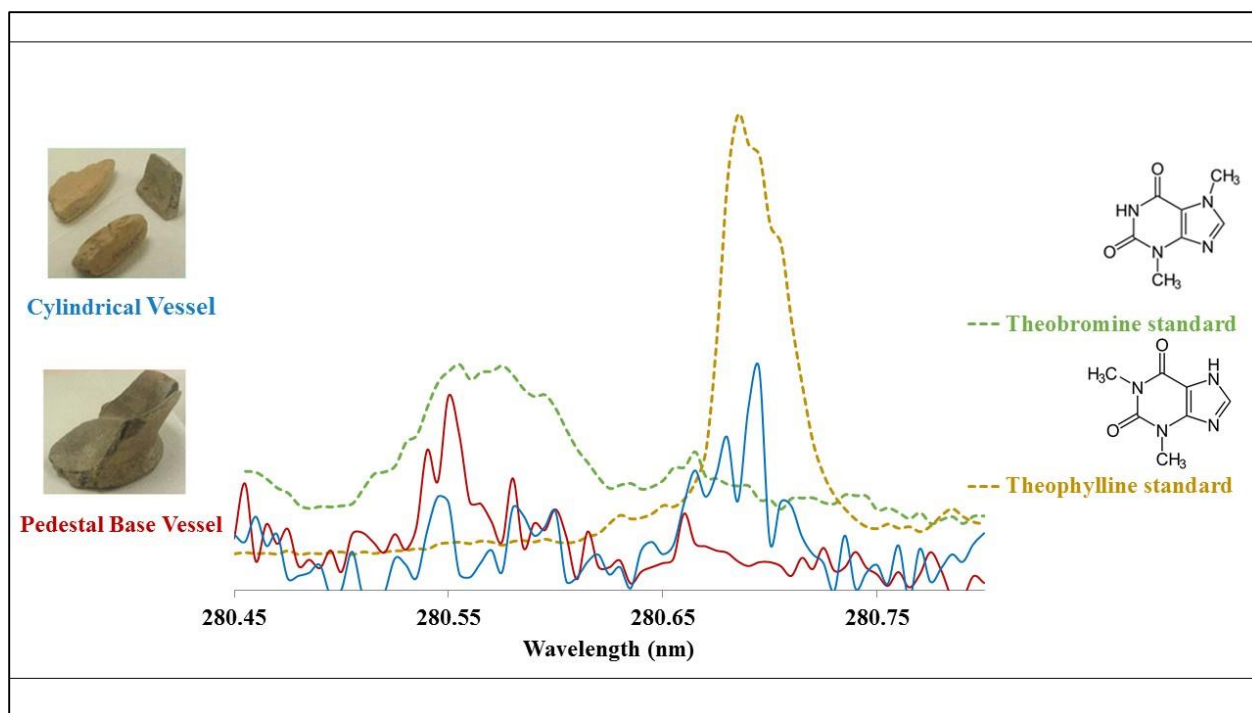
2 **3.2 Puerto Escondido Extract**

3 We analyzed extracts provided by Dr. McGovern from theobromine using 2C-REMPI (resonant
4 excitation at 281.55 nm, ionization at 308.00 nm). We detected theobromine in each of these
5 extracts confirming previously published findings.²

6 **3.3 Maya Sherds**

7 Thirteen samples from different ranked Maya archaeological dig sites were analyzed. Rank houses
8 may be associated with different social strata in different areas of the Maya settlement.⁴⁵ The data
9 from the analysis of extract revealed some levels of all three methylxanthines in each sherd,
10 excluding sherd one from a small rank house, which tested negative for all three markers. The
11 sherds from the Small Rank and High Rank House show much lower levels of theobromine than
12 theophylline, with caffeine being the most abundant of the three markers. Samples from a median
13 rank house and from a small center exhibit more theobromine relative to the other samples.

14 In order to investigate the potential of directly desorbing from sherd material, we examined
15 scrapings of the sherds for methylxanthines. The large amount of material required for extraction
16 (≈ 400 mg) often prevents any analysis of pottery sherds, as many of these items are essentially
17 priceless. In addition, solubility differences can impact the rate at which each respective molecule
18 is extracted from the sherd matrix. Figure 3 shows REMPI spectra, collected at m/z 180, obtained
19 directly off scrapings from two different sherds, a cylindrical vessel from a minor center and a
20 pedestal base vessel from a median rank house. For comparison Figure 3 shows pure control
21 samples of theobromine and theophylline which have been scaled in relative intensity to represent
22 equimolar quantities. It is clear that the sherd samples exhibit different theobromine to
23 theophylline residue ratios. This observation suggests a different history for these vessels. The
24 presence of both dimethylxanthine isomers with a relatively high theobromine abundance is a
25 positive indication of cacao present in the cylindrical but not the pedestal base vessel.



1
2 **Figure 3:** REMPI spectra of two different vessels (cylindrical vessel, blue trace, and pedestal vessel, red trace),
3 performed directly on sherds material. Dotted lines are REMPI spectra of pure standards of theobromine (green trace),
4 and theophylline (yellow trace). Standard spectra have been scaled to represent equimolar intensities (y-axis is ion
5 signal in arbitrary units).
6

7 **3.4. Mississippi Sherds**

8 We analyzed seven sherds from what is present day Fulton County, Illinois, collected from bluff
9 tops on the western side of the Central Illinois River Valley flood plain. The sherds originated
10 from a Mississippian culture, and date back to between 1100-1200 CE. We analyzed these samples
11 using the same procedures established with the Maya sherds, but only using direct desorption from
12 sherds material. All seven of these samples showed a strong presence of caffeine and theophylline,
13 while six displayed the presence of some theobromine. The presence of all three methylxanthenes
14 from these Northern American findings suggest the presence of cacao residue. The presence of
15 theophylline argues against “black” beverage, which would be based on holly native to the area.
16 This conclusion would be in agreement with two recent research studies suggesting the presence
17 of cacao residue in vessels obtained north of Mesoamerica and possibly indicating a previously
18 unknown trade network.^{7,29}

20 **4. Conclusion**

21 The attribution of the geo-cultural origins of pottery sherds is a very complex task, requiring a
22 deep understanding of numerous factors that can affect the presence of certain organic residues.
23 Some of these factors are unavoidable, e.g. physical and biological environmental impacts,
24 solubility differences leading to different leaching rates over time, various clays impacting the
25 affinity for long term storage of organic molecules, but others are manageable. For example, the

1 initial washing and storage process can be controlled. To preserve water-soluble markers, it can
2 be helpful to avoid the use of water. To minimize the risk of cross contamination sherds can be
3 collected in individual containers. The metabolic n-demethylation of these methylxanthines by soil
4 bacteria can be identified by the products paraxanthine and 7-methylxanthine^{28,46}, molecules well
5 suited to REMPI analysis, which we have shown previously in publishing the REMPI spectrum of
6 7-methylxanthine.⁴⁴ The ubiquity of the compounds used as biomarkers in museum, laboratory,
7 and storage spaces can be controlled for by the use of blanks both during analysis and in predictive
8 in-situ monitoring of an object's journey from excavation to storage.²⁸

9 We present a new method for analysis of molecular markers of stimulant containing beverages.
10 Pottery sherds from both Central and North America tested positive for all three xanthine alkaloids:
11 caffeine, theobromine and theophylline. Although the method is not yet quantitative, relative
12 amounts of caffeine to theobromine or caffeine to theophylline are consistent throughout the data
13 set at their respective resonant wavelengths for the direct desorption method. This method is more
14 sensitive than previous methods by identifying all three xanthine stimulants in multiple samples,
15 requiring much smaller sample sizes. The three major advantages of this technique are; reduced
16 sample sizes needed for positive identification, the ability to directly analyze samples in complex
17 matrices such as clay from pottery without extraction, and simultaneous positive identification
18 both my mass and spectral signature. We are undertaking a systematic study of a larger set of
19 pottery samples to evaluate if it will be possible to derive conclusions about their use from this
20 type of measurement.

21 Acknowledgements

22 This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under CHE-
23 1241779.
24
25

26 (1) Shillito, L. M.; Almond, M. J.; Wicks, K.; Marshall, L. J. R.; Matthews, W. *Spectrochim Acta A* **2009**, *72*,
27 120-125.

28 (2) Henderson, J. S.; Joyce, R. A.; Hall, G. R.; Hurst, W. J.; McGovern, P. E. *P Natl Acad Sci USA* **2007**, *104*,
29 18937-18940.

30 (3) Reber, E. A.; Kerr, M. T. *J Archaeol Sci* **2012**, *39*, 2312-2319.

31 (4) Naik, J. P. *J Agr Food Chem* **2001**, *49*, 3579-3583.

32 (5) Guasch-Jane, M. R.; Ibern-Gomez, M.; Andres-Lacueva, C.; Jauregui, O.; Lamuela-Raventos, R. M.
33 *Anal Chem* **2004**, *76*, 1672-1677.

34 (6) Mottram, H. R.; Dudd, S. N.; Lawrence, G. J.; Stott, A. W.; Evershed, R. P. *J Chromatogr A* **1999**, *833*,
35 209-221.

36 (7) Crown, P. L.; Gu, J.; Hurst, W. J.; Ward, T. J.; Bravenec, A. D.; Ali, S.; Kebert, L.; Berch, M.; Redman, E.;
37 Lyons, P. D.; Merewether, J.; Phillips, D. A.; Reed, L. S.; Woodson, K. *Proceedings of the National*
38 *Academy of Sciences* **2015**, *112*, 11436-11442.

39 (8) Arrowsmith, P.; de Vries, M. S.; Hunziker, H. E.; Wendt, H. R. *Applied Physics B* **1988**, *46*, 165-173.

40 (9) Meijer, G.; de Vries, M. S.; Hunziker, H. E.; Wendt, H. R. *Applied Physics B* **1990**, *51*, 395-403.

41 (10) Nir, E.; Hunziker, H. E.; de Vries, M. S. *Anal Chem* **1999**, *71*, 1674-1678.

42 (11) de Vries, M. S.; Elloway, D. J.; Wendt, H. R.; Hunziker, H. E. *Review of Scientific Instruments*. **1992**,
43 *63*, 3321-3325.

- 1 (12) Mahajan, T. B.; Plows, F. L.; Gillette, J. S.; Zare, R. N.; Logan, G. A. *J Am Soc Mass Spectr* **2001**, *12*,
2 989-1001.
- 3 (13) Gillette, J. S.; Ghosh, U.; Mahajan, T. B.; Zare, R. N.; Luthy, R. G. *Israel J Chem* **2001**, *41*, 105-110.
- 4 (14) Mahajan, T. B.; Ghosh, U.; Zare, R. N.; Luthy, R. G. *Int J Mass Spectrom* **2001**, *212*, 41-48.
- 5 (15) Boesl, U.; Zimmermann, R.; Weickhardt, C.; Lenoir, D.; Schramm, K. W.; Kettrup, A.; Schlag, E. W.
6 *Chemosphere* **1994**, *29*, 1429-1440.
- 7 (16) Hafner, K.; Zimmermann, R.; Rohwer, E. R.; Dorfner, R.; Kettrup, A. *Anal. Chem.* **2001**, *73*, 4171-
8 4180.
- 9 (17) Ogata, N. *Lowland Maya Area: Three Millennia at the Human-Wildland Interface* **2003**, 415-438.
- 10 (18) Hurst, W. J.; Tarka, S. M.; Powis, T. G.; Valdez, F.; Hester, T. R. *Nature* **2002**, *418*, 289-290.
- 11 (19) Brunetto, M. a. d. R.; Gutiérrez, L.; Delgado, Y.; Galignani, M.; Zambrano, A.; Gómez, Á.; Ramos, G.;
12 Romero, C. *Food Chemistry* **2007**, *100*, 459-467.
- 13 (20) Hall, G. D.; Tarka, S. M.; Hurst, W. J.; Stuart, D.; Richard, E. W. A. *American Antiquity* **1990**, *55*, 138-
14 143.
- 15 (21) Hurst, W. J.; Martin, R. A.; Tarka, S. M.; Hall, G. D. *J Chromatogr* **1989**, *466*, 279-289.
- 16 (22) Lo Coco, F.; Lanuzza, F.; Micali, G.; Cappellano, G. *Journal of Chromatographic Science* **2007**, *45*,
17 273-275.
- 18 (23) Ashihara, H.; Kato, M.; Crozier, A. In *Methylxanthines*; Springer Berlin Heidelberg: Berlin,
19 Heidelberg, 2011, pp 11-31.
- 20 (24) Edwards, A. L.; Bennett, B. C. *Econ Bot* **2005**, *59*, 275-285.
- 21 (25) Saldaña, M. D. A.; Mohamed, R. S.; Baer, M. G.; Mazzafera, P. *J Agr Food Chem* **1999**, *47*, 3804-3808.
- 22 (26) Meinhart, A. D.; Bizzotto, C. S.; Ballus, C. A.; Rybka, A. C. P.; Sobrinho, M. R.; Cerro-Quintana, R. S.;
23 Teixeira, J.; Godoy, H. T. *J Agr Food Chem* **2010**, *58*, 2188-2193.
- 24 (27) Schimpl, F. C.; da Silva, J. F.; Gonçalves, J. F. d. C.; Mazzafera, P. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*
25 **2013**, *150*, 14-31.
- 26 (28) Washburn, D. K.; Washburn, W. N.; Shipkova, P. A.; Pelleymounter, M. A. *J Archaeol Sci* **2014**, *50*,
27 191-207.
- 28 (29) Washburn, D. K.; Washburn, W. N.; Shipkova, P. A. *J Archaeol Sci* **2011**, *38*, 1634-1640.
- 29 (30) Meijer, G.; Devries, M. S.; Hunziker, H. E.; Wendt, H. R. *Applied Physics B-Photophysics and Laser*
30 *Chemistry* **1990**, *51*, 395-403.
- 31 (31) Meng, C. S.; Janssen, M. H. M. *Rev Sci Instrum* **2015**, *86*.
- 32 (32) Irimia, D.; Kortekaas, R.; Janssen, M. H. M. *Phys Chem Chem Phys* **2009**, *11*, 3958-3966.
- 33 (33) Li, L.; Lubman, D. M. *Rev Sci Instrum* **1988**, *59*, 557-561.
- 34 (34) Weyssenhoff, H. V.; Selzle, H. L.; Schlag, E. W. *Zeitschrift fur Naturforschung, Teil A* **1985**, *40a*, 674-
35 676.
- 36 (35) Meijer, G.; de Vries, M. S.; Hunziker, H. E.; Wendt, H. R. *Journal of Physical Chemistry.* **1990**, *94*,
37 4394-4396.
- 38 (36) Anex, D. S.; de Vries, M. S.; Knebelkamp, A.; Bargon, J.; Wendt, H. R.; Hunziker, H. E. *International*
39 *Journal of Mass Spectrometry and Ion Processes.* **1994**, *131*, 319-334.
- 40 (37) Nir, E.; Grace, L. I.; Brauer, B.; de Vries, M. S. *Journal of the American Chemical Society* **1999**, *121*,
41 4896-4897.
- 42 (38) Cohen, R.; Nir, E.; Grace, L. I.; Brauer, B.; de Vries, M. S. *Journal of Physical Chemistry A* **2000**, *104*,
43 6351-6355.
- 44 (39) Nir, E.; Imhof, P.; Kleinermanns, K.; de Vries, M. S. *Journal of the American Chemical Society* **2000**,
45 *122*, 8091-8092.
- 46 (40) Nir, E.; Muller, M.; Grace, L. I.; de Vries, M. S. *Chem Phys Lett* **2002**, *355*, 59-64.
- 47 (41) Zandee, L.; Bernstein, R. B. *Journal-of-Chemical-Physics.* **1979**, *70*, 2574-2575.
- 48 (42) Imasaka, T.; Moore, D. S.; Vo-Dinh, T. *Pure Appl Chem* **2003**, *75*, 975-998.

- 1 (43) Callahan, M. P.; Gengeliczki, Z.; de Vries, M. S. *Anal Chem* **2008**, *80*, 2199-2203.
- 2 (44) Callahan, M. P.; Gengeliczki, Z.; Svadlenak, N.; Valdes, H.; Hobza, P.; de Vries, M. S. *Phys Chem Chem*
- 3 *Phys* **2008**, *10*, 2819-2826.
- 4 (45) Ford, A.; Fedick, S. *Journal of Field Archaeology* **1992**, *19*, 35-49.
- 5 (46) Summers, R. M.; Louie, T. M.; Yu, C. L.; Subramanian, M. *Microbiology* **2011**, *157*, 583-592.

6