

褪黑素 UPLC-MS/MS 检测方法优化 及其对干旱和盐胁迫下葡萄幼苗 褪黑素含量的分析

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摘 要:褪黑素是一种吲哚类激素,对植物的生理活动和抗逆性起到显著的调节作用。该研究建立了褪黑素超高效液相色谱-串联质谱(UPLC-MS/MS)检测方法,并分别对干旱胁迫和盐胁迫条件下‘赤霞珠’葡萄幼苗根系和叶片中褪黑素含量的变化进行分析,以探讨葡萄中褪黑素的生理功能及其响应逆境胁迫的调控机制。结果显示:(1)褪黑素 UPLC-MS/MS 检测方法的优化条件为:采用超声波破碎法提取葡萄组织中的褪黑素;色谱条件为:色谱柱为 Agilent Eclipse XDB-C18(1.8 μ m, 3.0 $\times$ 50 mm),流动相 A 为 0.1%(v/v)的甲酸水溶液,流动相 B 为纯甲醇,梯度洗脱,柱温 42 $^{\circ}$ C,进样量 1 μ L,流速 0.2 mL/min;质谱条件为:电喷雾正离子模式(ESI+)电离,多反应监测模式(MRM)检测,检测离子对为 m/z 233 $\rightarrow$ 174。该方法测量结果的相对标准偏差(RSD)低于 7%,最低检测限(LOD)和最低定量限(LOQ)分别为 0.04 ng/mL 和 0.12 ng/mL。(2)干旱胁迫和盐胁迫下葡萄幼苗根系和叶片中褪黑素含量较对照组均显著增加,且胁迫程度越强增幅越大;用 120 mmol/L 的 NaCl 溶液处理幼苗以后,幼苗根系和叶片中褪黑素含量分别达到 627.25 和 3 220.42 μ g/g,大约都是相应对照组幼苗根系和叶片中褪黑素含量的 7 倍;10% PEG6000 处理植株后其根系和叶片中褪黑素含量也远远高于对照组。研究表明,超高效液相色谱串联质谱法可作为一种准确、高效、简便易操作且具有较高的灵敏度和精确度的植物内源褪黑素含量检测方法;葡萄中褪黑素的合成是其对逆境胁迫的一种应激响应,暗示着褪黑素在缓解逆境胁迫方面具有重要作用。

关键词:葡萄;褪黑素;超高效液相色谱-串联质谱;干旱胁迫;盐胁迫

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Optimization of UPLC-MS/MS Method for Melatonin Detection and Analysis of Melatonin Content in Grape Seedlings under the Conditions of Salt and Drought Stress with the Optimized Method

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Abstract: Melatonin is an indoleamine, which plays a significant role in regulation of the physiological activities and stress-tolerance of plants. This study employed Ultra Performance Liquid Chromatography tandem Mass Spectrometry (UPLC-MS/MS) and measured the changes of melatonin content in ‘Cabernet

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Sauvignon' grape leaves and roots under the conditions of salt and drought stress, respectively, and explored the physiological functions and regulation mechanisms of melatonin in response to stress. The results showed that: (1) the UPLC-MS/MS method for determination of melatonin was optimized, and melatonin was extracted from different grape tissues by the method of ultrasonication. The HPLC condition was as follows: The analytes were separated using an Agilent Eclipse XDB-C18(1.8 μm , 3.0 $\times$ 50 mm) at 42 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ with linear elution gradient at 0.2 mL/min flow rate. The injection volume was 1 μL . Mass spectrometric conditions: The electrospray was operated under the positive ionization mode and the sample was identified by multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) mode. The ion of monitor was at m/z 233 $\rightarrow$ 174. The established method exhibited high specificity and sensitivity, the relative standard deviation (RSD) was less than 7%. In addition, the limit of detection (LOD) and the limit of quantity (LOQ) was 0.04 ng/mL and 0.12 ng/mL, respectively. (2) The treatments of drought and salt stress significantly increased the melatonin content in leaves and roots of grape seedlings, and the increase range of melatonin content was enlarged with the increasing degree of stress treatment. After the seedlings were treated with 120 mmol/L NaCl, the melatonin content of grape roots and leaves reached 627.25 and 3 220.42 $\mu\text{g/g}$, respectively, which was about 7 times higher than that of control seedlings. When treated with 10% PEG6000, the content of melatonin in roots and leaves was much higher than that in the control group. As a conclusion, UPLC-MS/MS is an accurate and efficient method for the detection of endogenous melatonin in plants. the melatonin biosynthesis in grape is a response to stress, indicating that melatonin may play a vital role in alleviating abiotic stress in grape tissues.

Key words:grape; melatonin; UPLC-MS/MS; drought stress; salt stress

褪黑素(*N*-乙酰-5-甲氧基色胺)是一种吲哚胺类激素,化学结构式如图 1 所示^[1],它普遍存在于细菌、真菌、藻类、植物、动物、人类等绝大多数生物有机体中^[2-4]。在动物体内,褪黑素具有调节昼夜节律和光周期反应、改善睡眠障碍、减缓衰老、抗肿瘤、提高机体免疫力等多种功能^[5-8]。自 1995 年褪黑素在植物中被发现以后^[9-10],目前已证实超过 140 种植物中含有褪黑素^[11-13],同时植物中褪黑素生理功能的研究也越来越深入。在植物体内,褪黑素可以改善光周期,保护叶绿素,调节开花,促进果实成熟,延缓叶片衰老,并且具有类似生长素的功能如提高种子发芽率,促进不定根生长等^[14-17]。除此之外,褪黑素可以通过提高抗氧化系统酶活性来抑制活性氧产生,缓解逆境压力对植株的损伤^[18],提高植物抵抗不良环境的能力,在增加植物抗逆性方面也起着非常重要的作用^[19]。当植物受到干旱、低温、重金属胁迫等逆境胁迫后,植物体内褪黑素含量呈现增长趋势^[20],这表明褪黑素的产生可能是植物应对逆境胁迫的一种响应机制。

目前葡萄中褪黑素的相关研究主要是果实中褪黑素含量的检测以及含量变化的影响因素。Iriti 等^[21]对不同品种葡萄果实中褪黑素的含量进行了检测,结果表明褪黑素含量呈现品种差异。后来的研究陆续证实了葡萄酒中也存在褪黑素^[22],且红葡萄酒中褪黑素的浓度要高于白葡萄酒。Bocca-

landro 等^[23]分析了一天之中不同时间段葡萄果实中褪黑素含量的波动,研究发现在黎明以前,果实中褪黑素含量达到最高峰,而且可能受光照和温度的影响,夜间褪黑素含量要显著高于白天。目前有关葡萄中褪黑素生理功能的研究还不多。耿庆伟等^[24]研究显示,外源褪黑素可以缓解 O_3 胁迫下葡萄叶片的氧化损伤;Meng 等^[25]发现外源添加褪黑素可以缓解干旱胁迫对葡萄幼苗的伤害。虽然以上报道表明外源褪黑素可以调节逆境胁迫下葡萄的生理功能,然而在胁迫条件下,葡萄中内源褪黑素含量变化的研究还较少。由于葡萄中褪黑素含量较低,且一天之中含量变化也比较大,这就使得胁迫条件下葡萄中内源褪黑素含量的准确测定具有一定的难度。

目前,植物褪黑素检测方法主要有放射性免疫检测法(RIA)、高效液相色谱检测法(HPLC)、气相色谱质谱联用法(GC-MS)和液相色谱质谱联用法

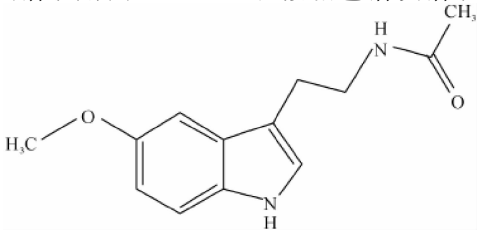


图 1 褪黑素的化学结构
Fig.1 The chemical structure of melatonin

(LC-MS)等^[26],不同的检测方法使得测定的结果差异很大^[27],而且不同的提取方法以及植物自身产生的次生代谢产物也会干扰褪黑素的测定^[28],因此需要建立相对稳定和准确的褪黑素提取和检测方法,对葡萄中褪黑素的含量进行准确测定。LC-MS 可以作为检测褪黑素含量的一种精确方法^[29],目前已经采用此方法对西红柿、香蕉和甜菜根中的褪黑素进行了检测^[30]。LC-MS 技术可以减少样品预处理时间,降低分析物的检测极限,精确度高^[31-33]。然而由于褪黑素在植物中含量较低,采用 LC-MS 方法对植物中低含量的褪黑素进行检测的时候通常会受植物中内源代谢物的干扰产生基质效应,进而会影响检测结果^[34]。与传统的液相色谱分析方法相比,超高效液相色谱质谱分析法在分离能力、检测速率、色谱峰形、分析能力和灵敏度方面更有效率,当传统的液相色谱分析方法被超高效液相色谱分析方法代替的时候,基质效应也有了重大的改善^[35]。Widiastuti Setyaningsih 等分别采用 HPLC 和 UPLC 方法对水稻谷粒中的褪黑素含量进行检测并且对这两种检测方法进行了比较,结果表明 HPLC 和 UPLC 均可以作为精确、可靠的方法来检测水稻中褪黑素的含量,但是由于 UPLC 方法在分离速度和精确度方面更优于 HPLC 法,采用 UPLC 方法检测褪黑素时用时较短,洗脱溶剂的消耗量也小于 HPLC 法,而且检测极限值 LOD 和检测定量限值 LOQ 均低于 HPLC 法^[36]。

本研究采用超高效液相色谱-串联质谱法(UPLC-MS/MS)对葡萄根系和叶片中褪黑素含量进行测定,并且采用此方法同时调查了盐胁迫和干旱胁迫下,‘赤霞珠’葡萄(*Vitis vinifera* L)幼苗根系和叶片中内源褪黑素的动态变化,以期探讨葡萄中褪黑素的生理功能以及其响应逆境胁迫的调控机制。

1 材料和方法

1.1 植物材料

选取 6 周龄的‘赤霞珠’组培苗,进行 10 d 的光培养苗,期间逐渐去掉瓶盖。当幼茎变为淡红色,选取长势一致的组培苗,用无菌水洗净根部琼脂,移栽

于育苗钵内,根部覆盖育苗基质。将所有试验苗置于人工气候箱,保持温度 26 ℃、16 h/8 h 的光/暗周期、空气相对湿度 80 %,并每 2 d 浇施 5 mL 蒸馏水。

正常生长 20 d 以后,将幼苗分为 4 组同期分别进行相应处理:① 60 mmol/L NaCl 胁迫;② 120 mmol/L NaCl 胁迫;③ 10%的 PEG-6000 模拟干旱胁迫;④ 无胁迫对照组。每组处理 12 株。处理 6 d 以后,于上午 9:00~10:00 时间段内,采取每棵幼苗的根系和叶片样品,迅速转移至液氮中,然后用单独的研钵研磨成粉,于-80 ℃低温保存,以备后续进行褪黑素的提取。

1.2 检测样品的准备

称取 0.5 g 植物组织粉末置于 15 mL 干净的玻璃管中,向样品中加入 3 mL 水和甲醇混合液(50:50,v/v),涡旋混匀,使样品充分与溶液接触。然后将样品置于冰上,用超声波细胞破碎仪超声破碎 7 min,然后于 4 ℃、8 000 × g 离心 10 min,过 0.22 μm 滤膜后,滤液在-20 ℃保存于避光样品瓶内。

1.3 待测样品的检测分析

褪黑素标准品购于美国 Sigma-Aldrich 公司,甲醇和甲酸(色谱纯)购于德国 Merck 公司。在弱光照条件下,将 10 mg 褪黑素标准品溶于 1 mL 纯甲醇,此溶液作为母液储存在-80 ℃超低温冰箱以防降解。

待测样品采用超高效液相色谱串联三重四级杆液质联用质谱仪(Agilent 1290+6460)检测,色谱柱为 Agilent Eclipse XDB-C18(1.8 μm,3.0 × 50 mm),流动相 A 为 0.1%(v/v)的甲酸水溶液,流动相 B 为纯甲醇。梯度洗脱条件见表 1,进样量 1 μL,柱温保持在 42 ℃,流速 0.2 mL/min。

表 1 流动相梯度洗脱程序
Table 1 Gradient elution program of mobile phase

时间 Time/min	0.1%甲酸水溶液 0.1% (v/v) formic acid/%	甲醇 Methanol/%	流速 Flow rate (mL/min)
0—6	95	5	0.2
6—15	45	55	0.2
15—17	0	100	0.2

表 2 质谱工作条件
Table 2 Conditions of mass spectrum

电离源温(℃) Ion source temperature	脱气温度(℃) Desolvation temperature	碰撞能量(V) Collision energy	吹扫气流量(L/h) Cone gas flow rate	毛细管电压(kV) Capillary voltage	锥孔电压(V) Extractor voltage
130	350	16	300	3.0	14

参照 Vigentini 等^[37] 的报道,设置三重四级杆液质联用质谱仪 Agilent 6460 工作条件(表 2),采用电喷雾电离正离子模式,褪黑素的检测离子对为 $m/z^+ 233 \rightarrow 174$ 。

采用外标法定量分析物。用甲醇水溶液(1 : 1, v/v)稀释母液至不同浓度梯度,构建校准曲线,曲线上的所有点代表 3 个重复值的平均值。使用回归分析确定标准曲线线性方程。基于信噪比 $S/N = 3 : 1$ 确定最低检测限(limits of detection; LOD),基于信噪比 $S/N = 10 : 1$ 确定最低定量限(limits of quantitation; LOQ)。

1.4 数据处理

所有实验数据重复测定 3 次,用 Excel 进行整理。利用 SPSS 软件中单因素方差分析(One-Way ANOVA)方法,计算均值和标准误差,采用最小显著差数法进行显著性检验,显著水平为 0.05。实验结果均以平均值±标准误差表示($n=3$)

2 结果与分析

2.1 UPLC-MS/MS 条件确立

褪黑素分子量为 232,电喷雾电离正离子模式,质子化后母离子 $[M+H]^+$ 为 233,选为定性离子。随后碰撞过程中会丢失 NH_4C_2O ,形成主要碎片 $m/z 174$,选为定性离子。0.1% (v/v) 的甲酸水溶

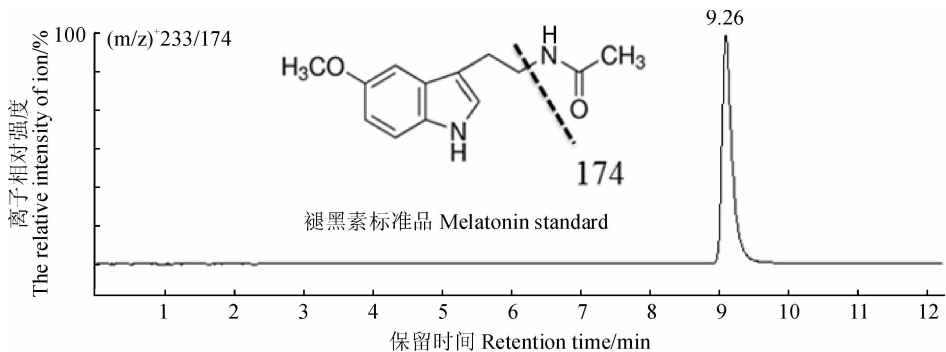
液和纯甲醇作为流动相,梯度洗脱,褪黑素出峰保留时间为 9.26 min(图 2)。

2.2 测量方法学分析

为了对褪黑素进行准确定量,配制浓度区间 0.12~12 ng/mL 标准品溶液(表 3),以平均峰面积为纵坐标(y),褪黑素标准品浓度为横坐标(x),绘制标准曲线。得到线性回归方程 $y = 8\,261.3x + 275.51$,相关系数 $r = 0.997\,5$,峰面积与浓度呈现出良好的线性关系,可用于定量分析。浓度为 1.2 ng/mL 的褪黑素标准品重复进样 6 次,最终计算得到精确性标准偏差(RSD)为 6.84%,同时将上述标准液每隔 2 h 进样 1 次,连续进样 6 次,计算得到稳定性 RSD 值为 1.32%。以信噪比为 3 和 10 计算褪黑素的最低检测限(LOD)和最低定量限 LOQ,分别为 0.04 ng/mL 和 0.12 ng/mL。以上结果表明检测方法具有良好的精确度和稳定性,符合分析要求。

2.3 胁迫条件下葡萄幼苗根部和叶片中褪黑素含量的测定

采用此方法,对盐和干旱胁迫条件下‘赤霞珠’葡萄幼苗根系和叶片中褪黑素的含量进行了测定。以平均峰面积为变量,通过标准曲线计算样品中褪黑素的含量。结果(图 3)显示,不同浓度 NaCl 溶液处理葡萄幼苗诱导盐胁迫时,在胁迫处理 6 d 以后葡萄幼苗根系和叶片中褪黑素含量均显著高于对照



离子相对强度也就是化合物的定量离子对强度,它与单位体积化合物的摩尔浓度成正比

图 2 褪黑素标准溶液(4 ng/mL)的 UPLC-MS/MS 色谱图

The relative intensity of ion is the quantitative ion pair intensity of a compound, which is positively related to the molarity of unit volume compound

Fig. 2 UPLC-MS/MS chromatograms of melatonin with a standard solution 4 ng/mL

表 3 所用检测方法的性能参数

Table 3 Analytical performance of the method

分析物 Analyte	线性范围(ng/mL) Linear range	R^2 R^2	最低检测限 LOD	最低定量限 LOQ	精确性标准偏差(%) Precision RSD	稳定性标准偏差(%) Stability RSD
褪黑素 Melatonin	0.12—12	0.9975	0.04	0.12	6.84	1.32

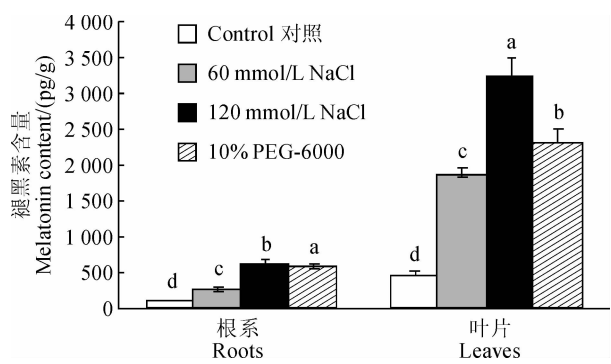


图3 盐胁迫和干旱胁迫处理6 d后‘赤霞珠’葡萄幼苗根系和叶片中褪黑素含量的变化

Fig.3 Changes of melatonin content in roots and leaves of Cabernet Sauvignon plantlets after salt and drought treatment for 6 days

组,而且褪黑素含量随着盐离子浓度的增大而大幅增加;在相同盐浓度处理下,葡萄幼苗叶片褪黑素含量远高于其根系含量。其中,用120 mmol/L NaCl溶液处理植株,6 d以后葡萄幼苗根系和叶片中褪黑素含量分别达到627.25和3 220.42 pg/g,大约都是相应对照组幼苗根系和叶片中褪黑素含量的7倍。同时,由10% PEG-6000溶液诱导引起的干旱胁迫处理葡萄幼苗,其褪黑素含量的表现与盐胁迫处理相似,幼苗根系和叶片中褪黑素含量均比对照组显著增加,分别是对照组幼苗根系和叶片中褪黑素含量的6倍和5倍。可见,葡萄幼苗体内褪黑素含量在干旱、盐胁迫等逆境条件下均有显著提升,这表明内源褪黑素的合成受胁迫条件的诱导,其含量的增加是植物应对逆境的一种生理反应,葡萄幼苗根系和叶片中的褪黑素可能对植株抵抗盐胁迫和干旱胁迫起到重要的作用。

3 讨论

褪黑素在不同种类植物中含量的差异比较大,其含量在甜菜根、香蕉和西红柿果实中仅为pg/g级别,而在金丝桃中已达到4.3 μg/g^[26]。不同实验室采用不同检测方法对同一种植物材料定量时,得到的褪黑素含量也有不同。Hattori等^[38]采用RIA方法检测到生姜块茎中褪黑素含量在583.7±50.3 pg/g之间,然而Van Tassel等^[39]采用HPLC和RIA方法对同一样品材料进行检测,发现生姜块茎中仅含有微量的内源褪黑素。超高效液相色谱串联质谱(UPLC-MS/MS)可应用于植物中褪黑素的精确测定^[40]。色谱可以很好地分离各物质,质谱可以提高植物褪黑素检测的准确度和灵敏度,且具有

很强的专一性和精确性^[41]。本研究采用超高效液相色谱串联质谱法测定葡萄根系和叶片中褪黑素含量,表现出来一些明显的优点。首先,采用超高效液相色谱串联质谱法检测植物组织中的褪黑素,通过离子对检测模式分析植物组织中的目标分析物,可以减少分析物的背景噪音,分离度较高,峰型较好,选择性高,串联质谱也提高了检测的准确度和灵敏度;其次,采用超声波破碎技术在暗光条件下操作,避免了褪黑素的氧化降解,降低了提取过程中褪黑素的损失率,缩短了提取时间,而且也降低了基质干扰效应。

非生物胁迫是限制作物产量的重要因素,干旱胁迫和土壤盐渍化问题已成为制约农业发展,影响农业生产的重要因素^[42-43]。植物遭受干旱胁迫和盐胁迫后生长发育迟缓,产量和品质下降,在代谢和发育等多个生理过程都会受到不同程度的影响,导致植物损伤甚至死亡^[44-46]。植物中褪黑素对逆境胁迫有显著的缓解作用。Zhang等^[47]的研究表明,外源添加褪黑素能够有效缓解PEG渗透胁迫对黄瓜种子萌发的抑制作用,并能促进生根,增强根系活力,提高根冠比。Li等^[48]发现,外源褪黑素可以通过上调褪黑素合成基因的表达、液泡隔离摄取盐离子、直接清除过氧化氢等途径来缓解高盐环境对湖北海棠生长的抑制作用。然而葡萄中褪黑素调节植株响应盐胁迫、干旱胁迫的研究还不够深入。植物中内源褪黑素含量的高低与植物所处的外界环境条件密切相关^[49]。本研究结果也显示葡萄根系和叶片中褪黑素的合成受干旱胁迫和盐胁迫条件的诱导,诱导促使其内源褪黑素的含量大大增加,这是葡萄幼苗应对逆境的一种生理反应,暗示褪黑素在提高葡萄根系和叶片抵抗逆境胁迫方面发挥着重要作用。今后仍需要更深入地研究和探索褪黑素提高植物抵御不良环境的作用机制。

综上所述,本研究建立了一种准确、高效、简便易操作的超高效液相色谱串联质谱分析方法,对‘赤霞珠’葡萄幼苗叶片和根中褪黑色素含量进行准确测定,此方法可为葡萄其他组织中褪黑素含量的检测提供依据,同时褪黑素含量的准确测定也可为葡萄中褪黑素生理功能的探究奠定基础。同时,此方法还被应用于调查盐和干旱逆境胁迫条件下葡萄组培苗根系和叶片中褪黑素含量的变化特征,这将有助于深入了解葡萄褪黑素在植物抵抗不良环境时发挥的作用。

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