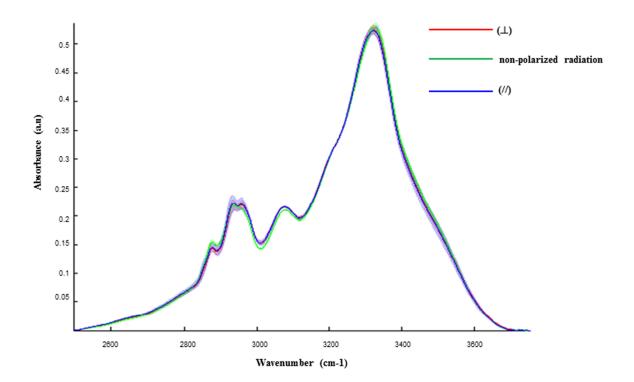
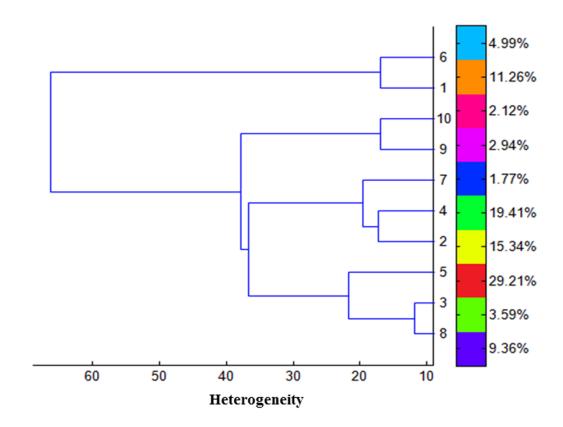
## **Supplementary Information**

**Figure 1S:** Average and standard deviation (n=20) spectra of rat tail tendon in the 2500-3800 cm<sup>-1</sup> range in non-polarized mode (b), with IR radiation polarized perpendicular ( $\perp$ ) (a) and parallel (//) (c) to the x-axis of the motorized plate. The tendon was aligned along this x-axis direction.



**Figure 2S:** Dendogram corresponding to the color-coded HCA clusterized images obtained for the 41(1) year old skin sample.



**Figure 3S:** Centroids (mean spectra and their standard deviation) of HCA clusters representative of the dermis. For each sample, three clusters were recovered.

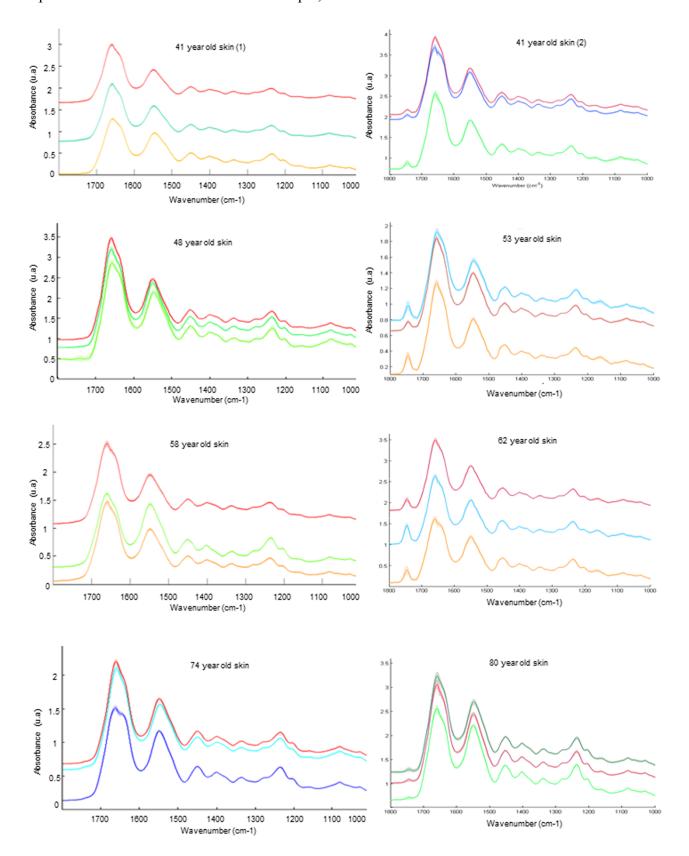


Figure 4S: SHG intensity for the eight skin samples of different age.

