

Support Information

The Power of the Weak: Recognition of Ion Pairs in Water Using a Simple Array Sensor

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Preparation of sub-microliter sensor arrays for anions,cations and Ion-pairs sensing.

The multi-well 10x8 (sub-microliter) chips were fabricated by ultrasonic drilling of microscope slides (a well diameter: $500 \pm 10 \mu\text{m}$, depth: $500 \pm 10 \mu\text{m}$). The sensor solutions (500 $\mu\text{M/L}$) were prepared by dissolving dyes S1-S6 in a PU-20 solution (4%, w/w), which was made by dissolving PU-20 in a mixture of solvents containing methanol and THF (v/v: 0.5/9.5). In a typical sensor array, the sensor solution was spotted onto the multi-well chip, the anions were then added as aqueous solutions (200nL, 500 μM) of their corresponding salts, to each well containing a sensor. pH controlled experiments were carried out by adjusted with NaOH (0.01 M) and HCl (0.01 M) aqueous solutions. pH values of the anions solutions were measured by Titrator T50 (Mettler Toledo Co.).

Image Acquisition and Data Processing of a Sensor Array

Images from the sensor arrays were recorded using a Kodak Image Station 440CF. The scanned images (12 bit) are acquired with a resolution of 433x 441 pixels per inch and with grey levels over 1000 (12 second exposures). The sensor arrays are excited with a broadband UV lamp (300-400 nm, $\lambda_{\text{max}}=365 \text{ nm}$) and up to four channels were used for emission detection: (1) Blue: band-pass filter 380-500 nm $\lambda_{\text{max}}=435 \text{ nm}$, (2) Green: band pass filter 480-600 nm $\lambda_{\text{max}}=525 \text{ nm}$, (3) Yellow: low pass filter 523 nm, (4) Red: low pass filter 590 nm. After acquiring the images, the integrated (non zero) grey pixel (n) value is calculated for each well of each channel. Images of the sensor chip were recorded before (b) and after (a) the addition of an analyte and their final responses (R) were evaluated as follows:

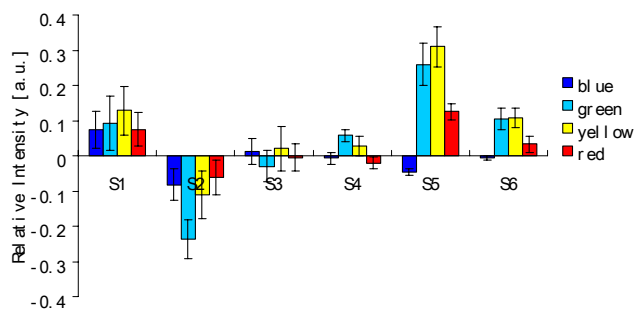
$$R = \sum_n \frac{a_n}{b_n} - 1$$

Sensors array responds for different analytes at different pH values

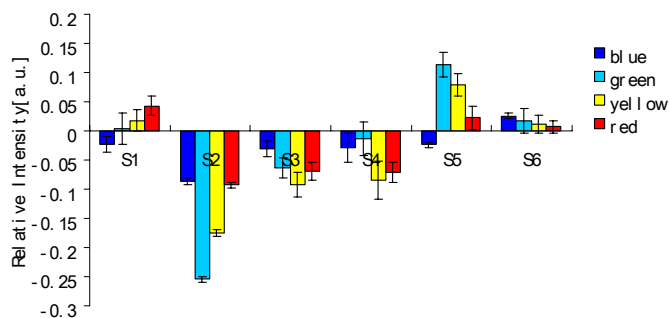
Lithium series anions analysis in the pH range of 5-9

Anions analysis at pH 5

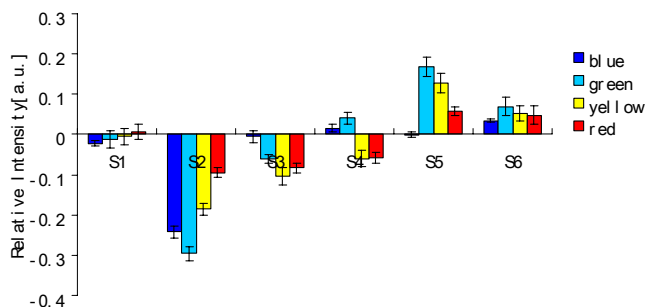
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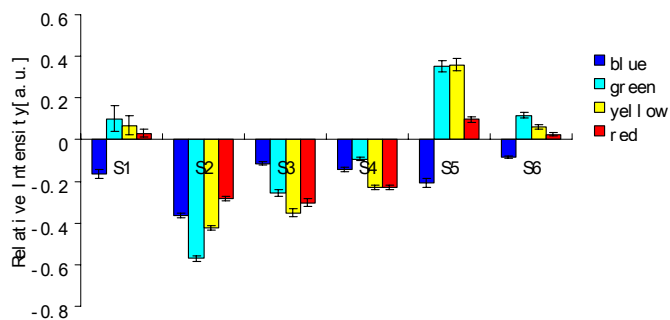
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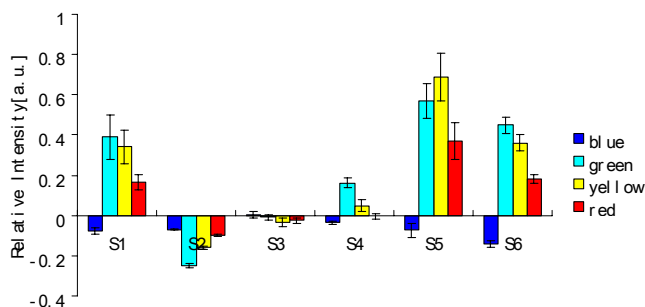
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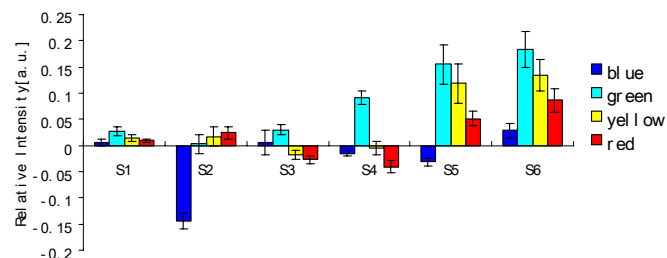
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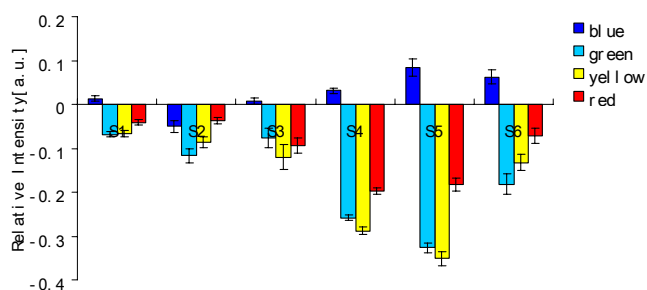
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Nitrate

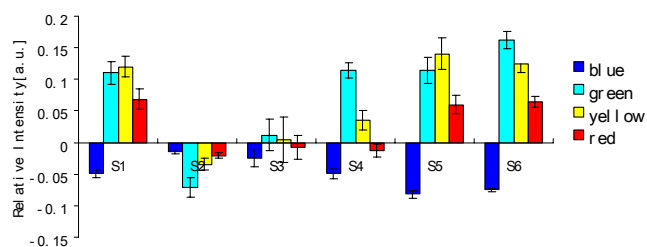


Dihydrogen phosphate

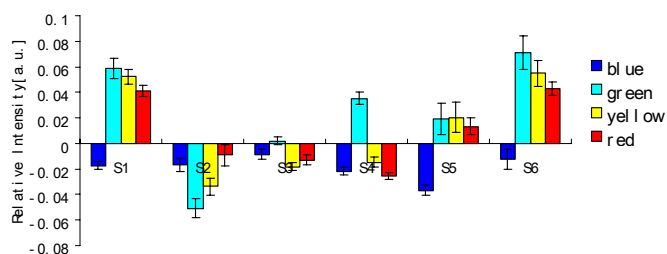


Anions analysis at pH 6

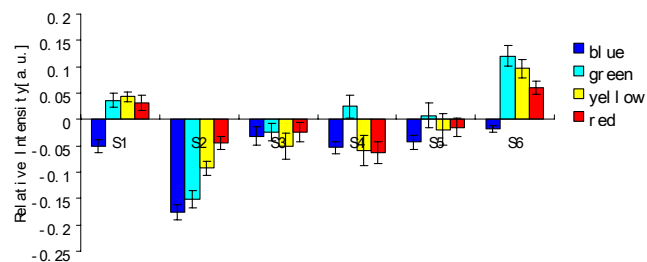
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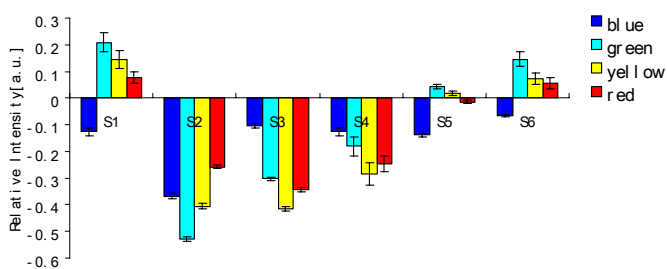
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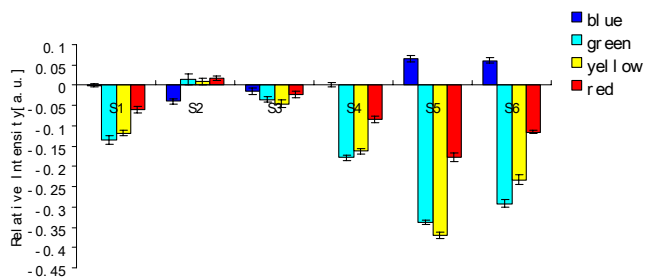
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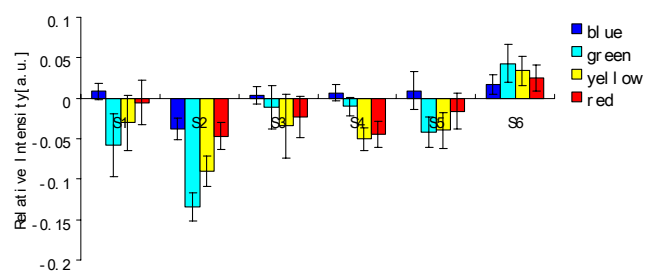


Dihydrogen phosphate

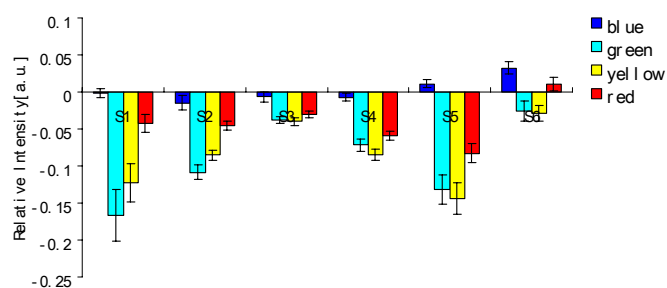


Anions analysis at pH 7

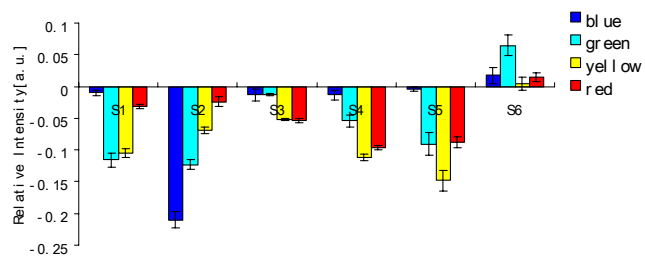
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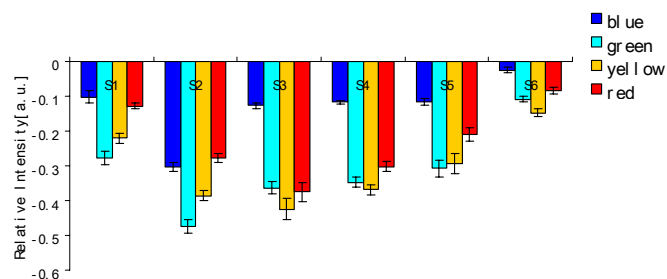
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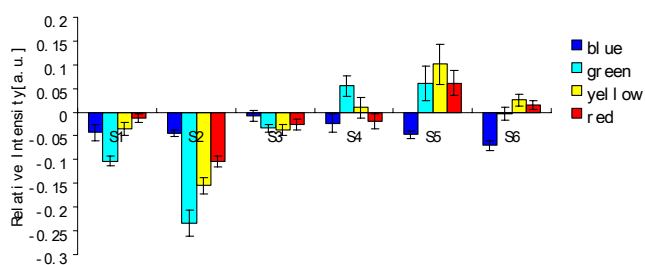
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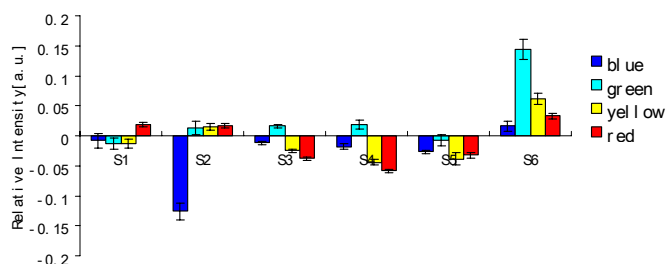
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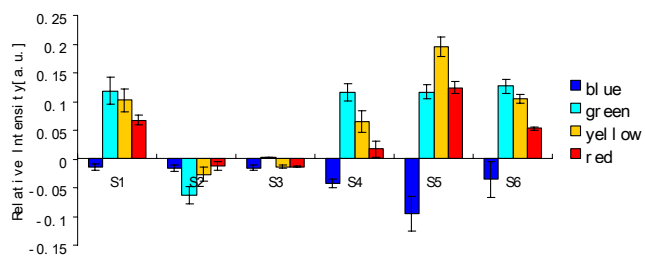
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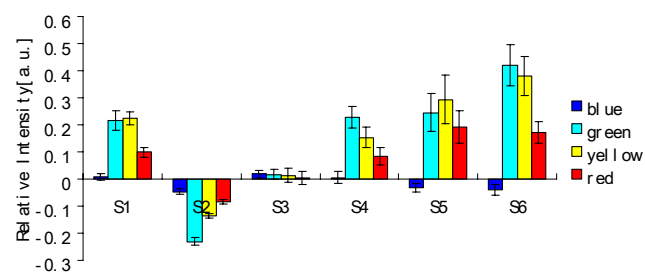


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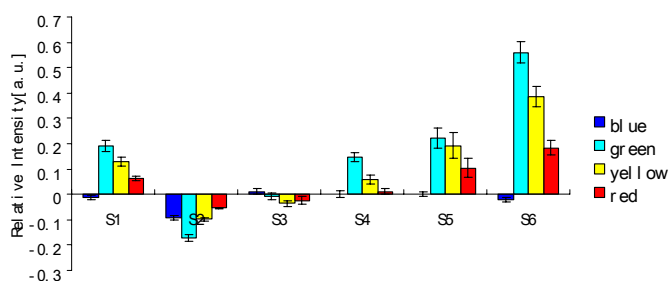


Anions analysis at pH 8

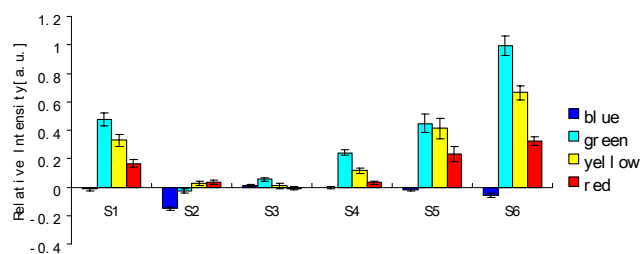
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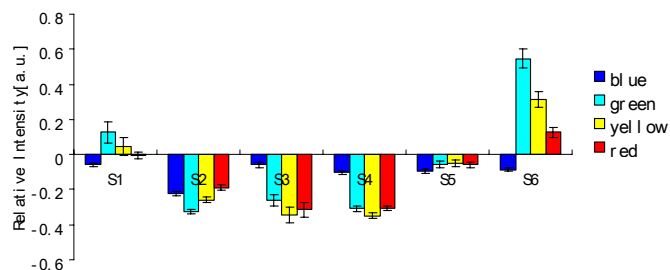
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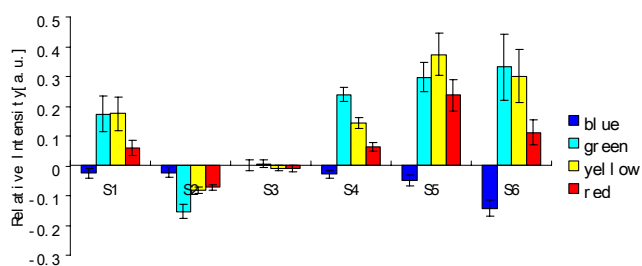
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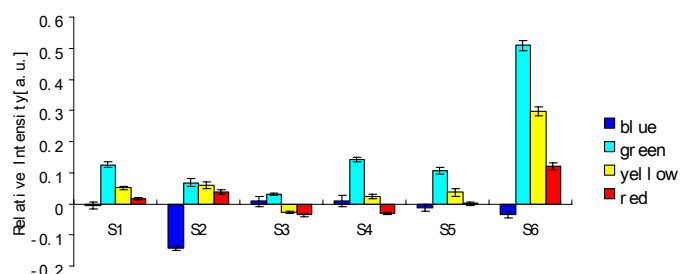
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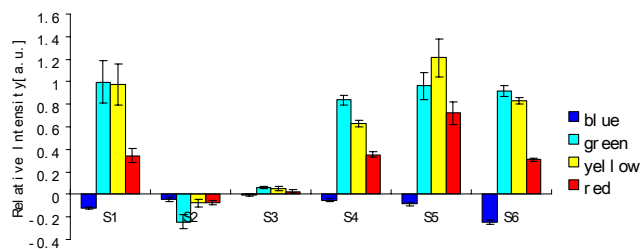
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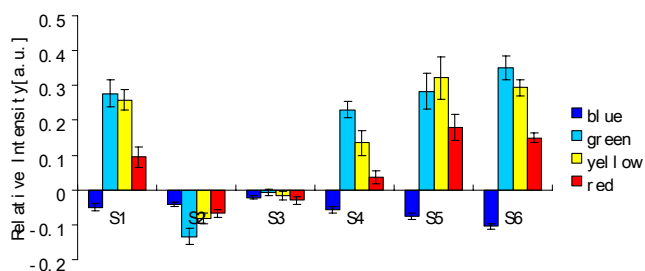


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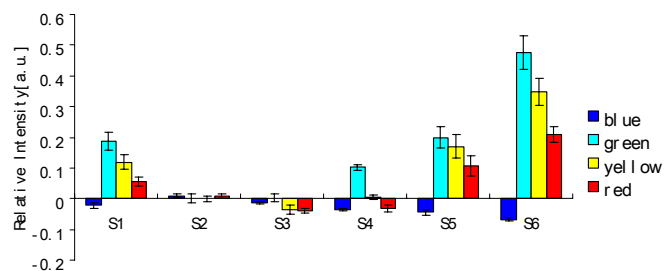


Anions analysis at pH 9

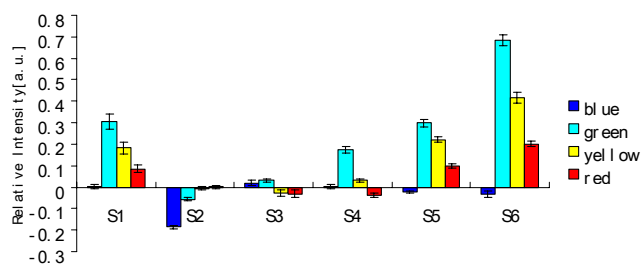
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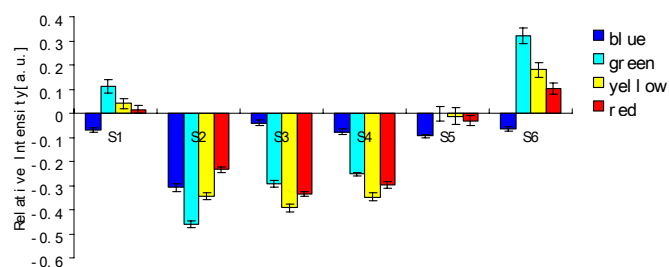
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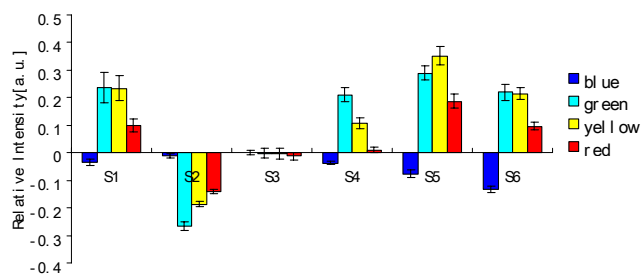
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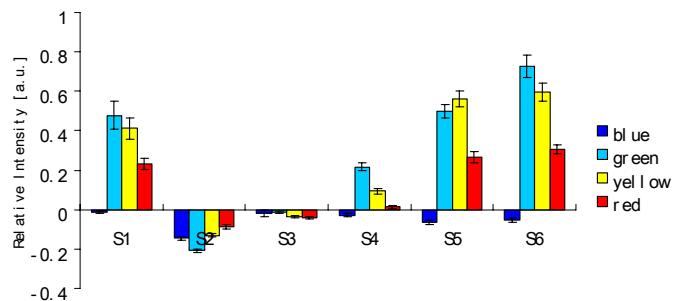
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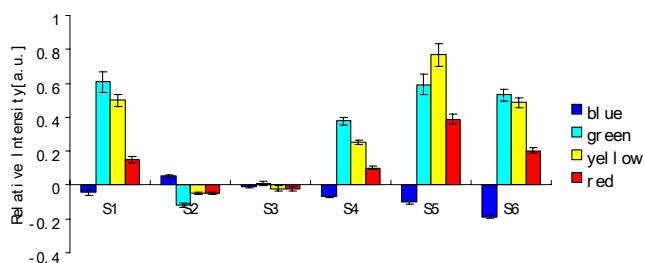
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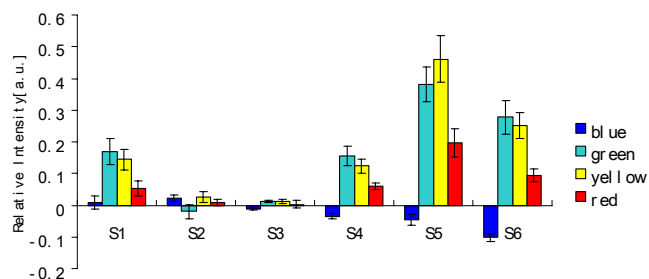
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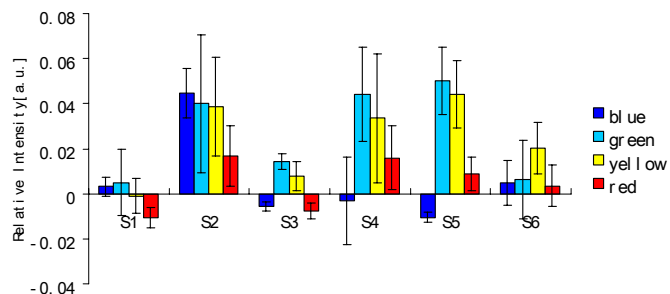
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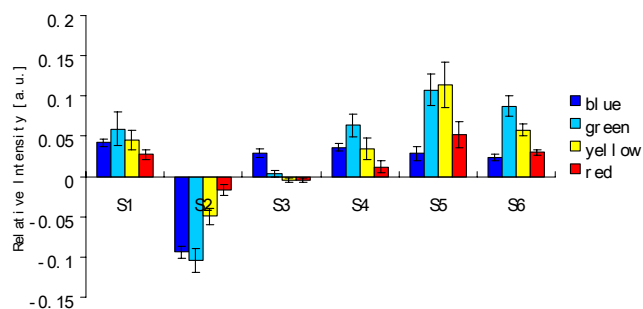
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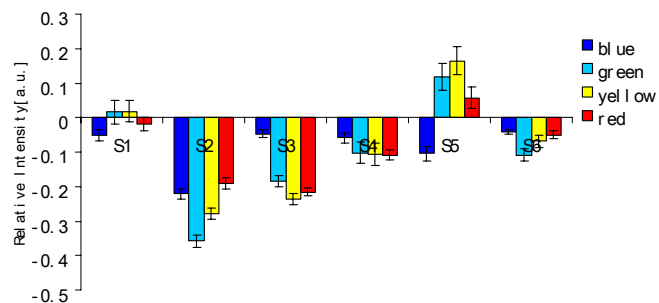
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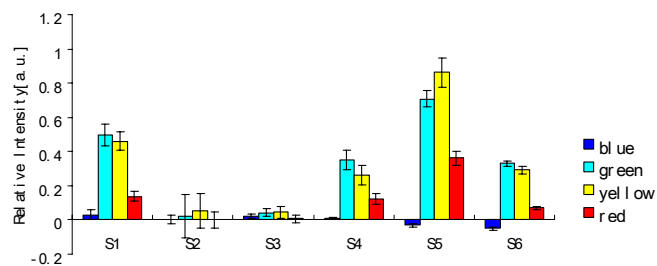
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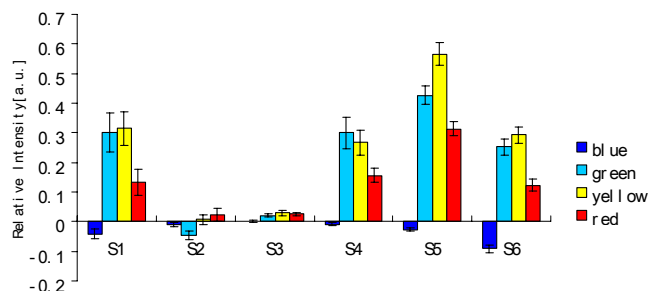
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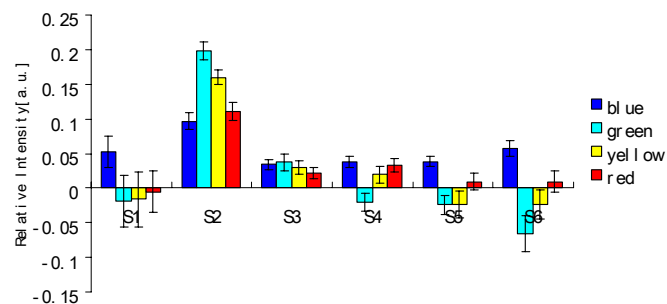
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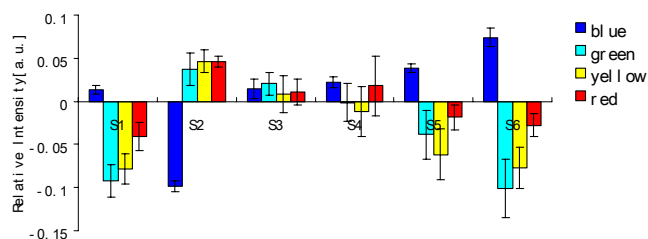
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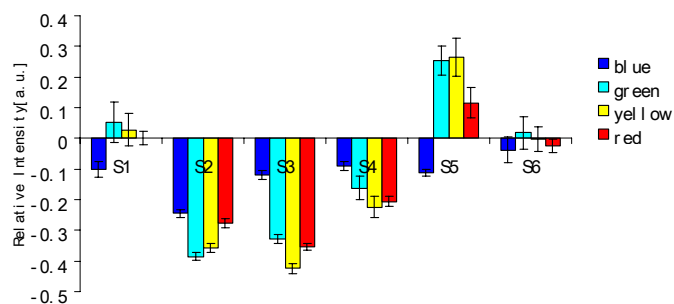
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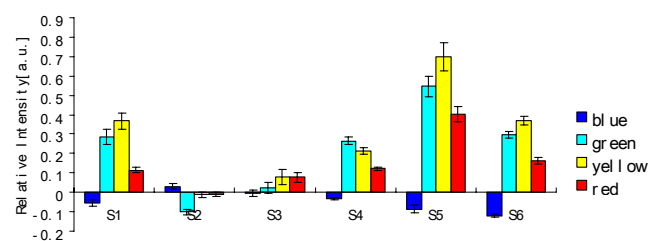
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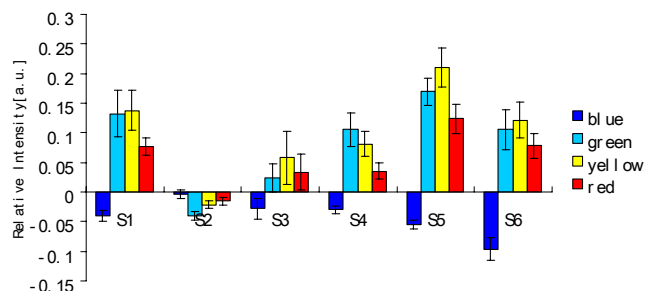
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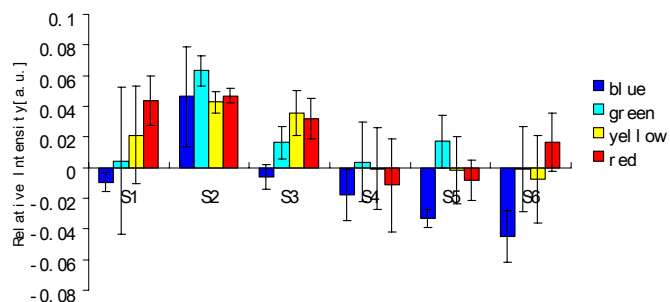
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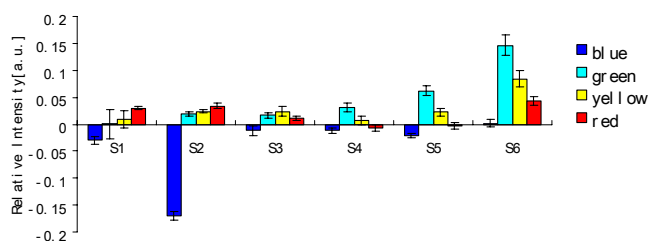
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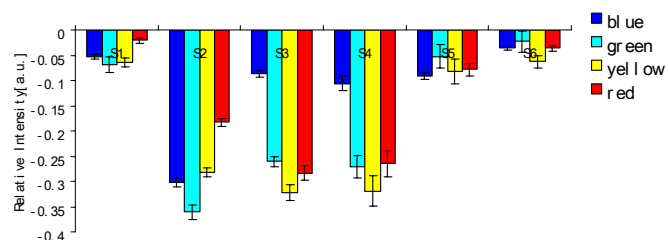
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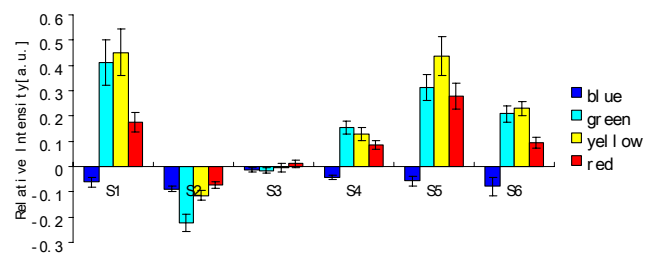
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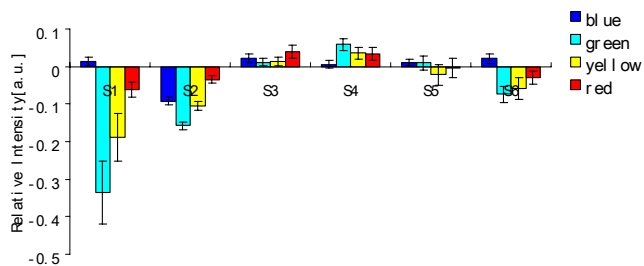
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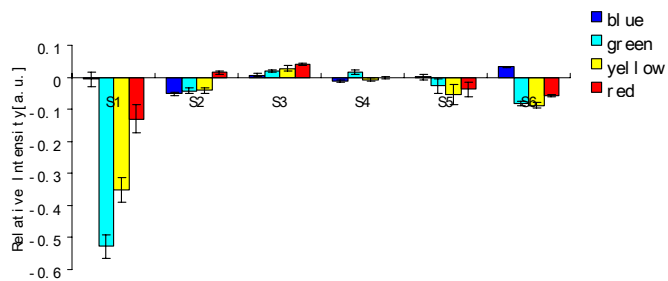
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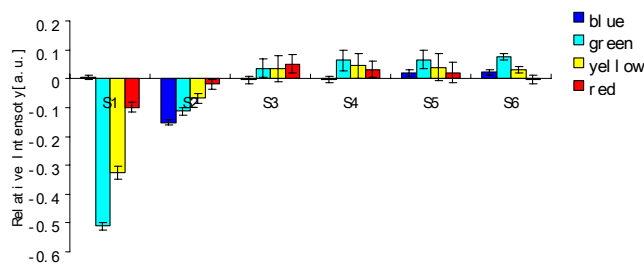
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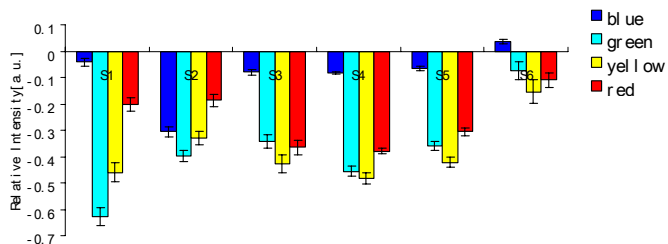
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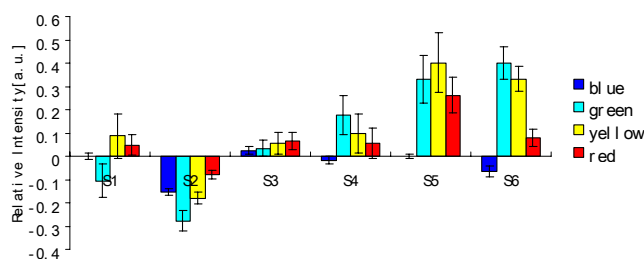
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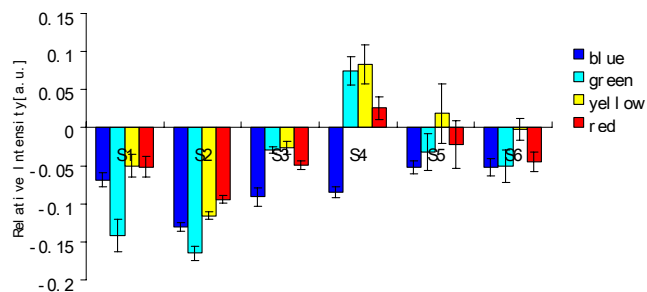
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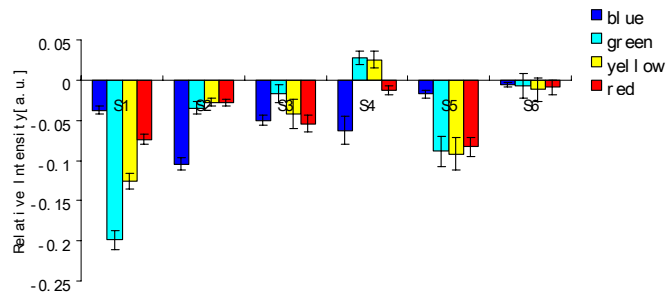
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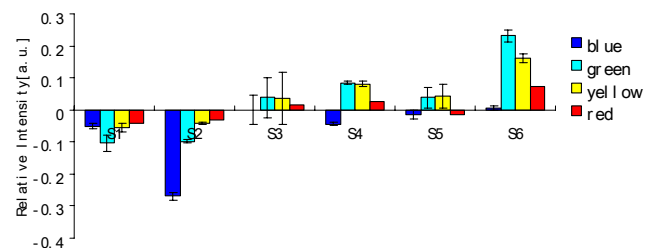
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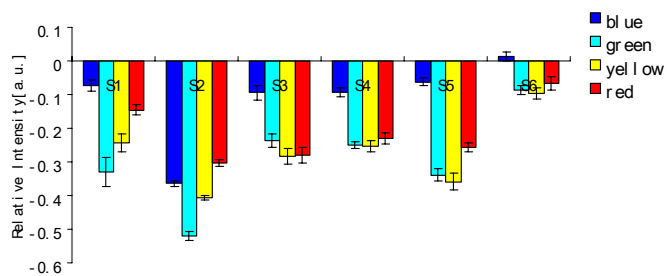
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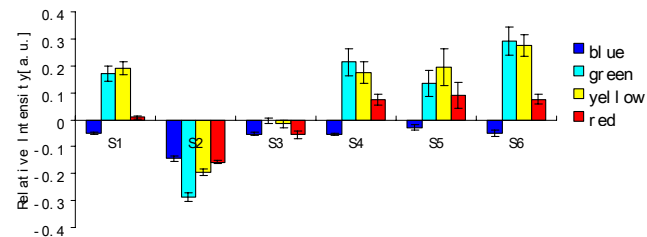
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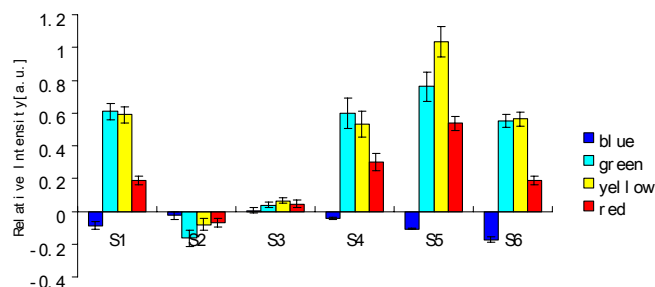
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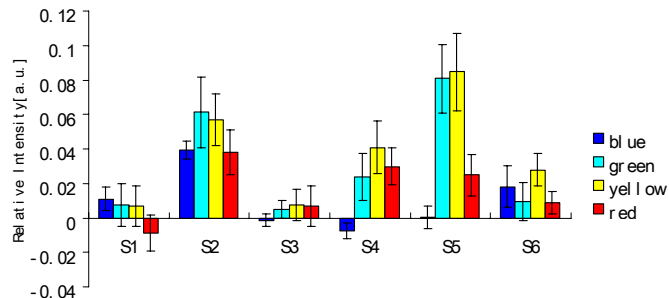
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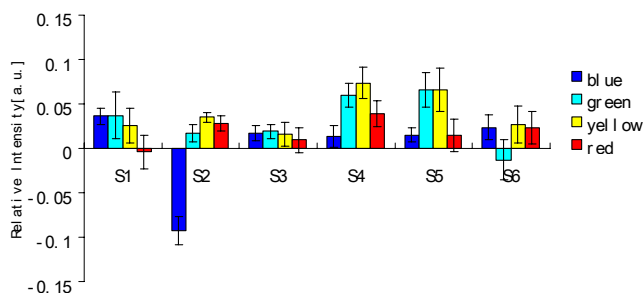
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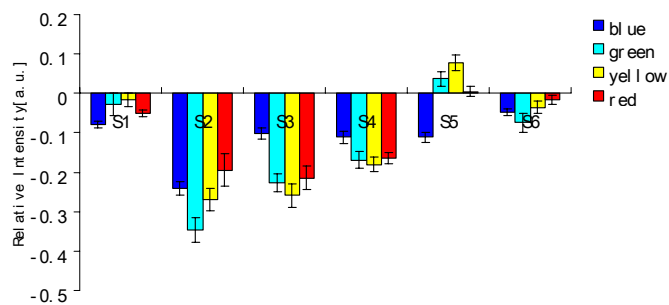
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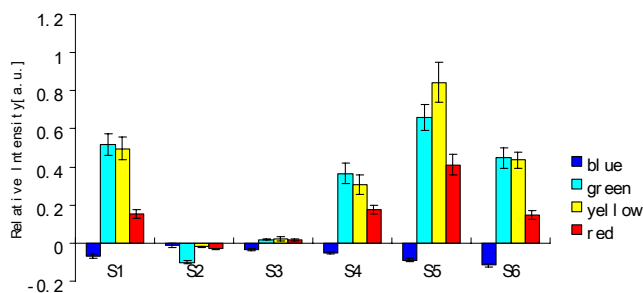
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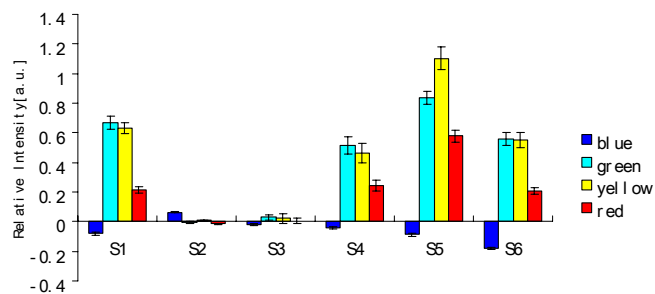
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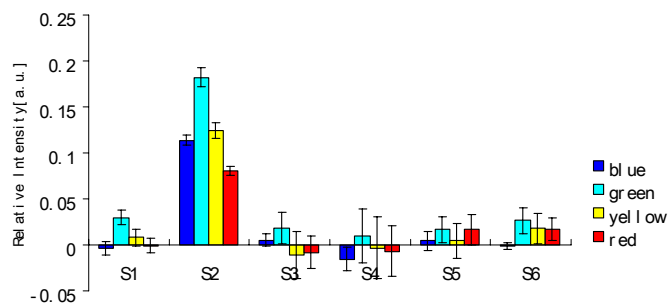
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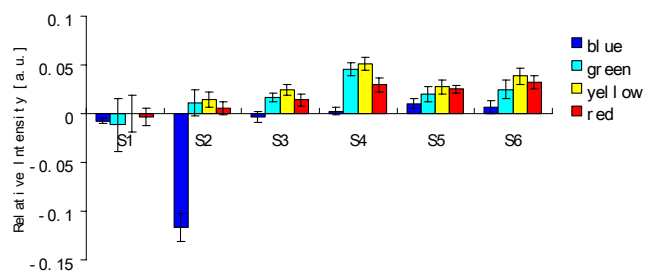
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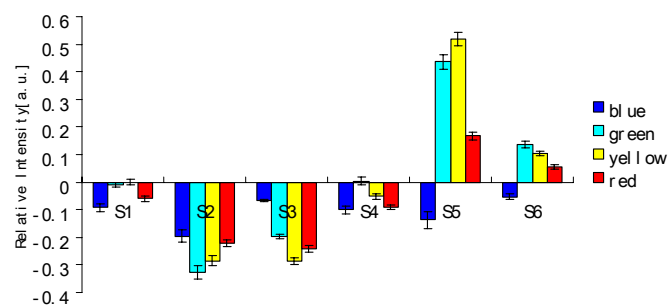
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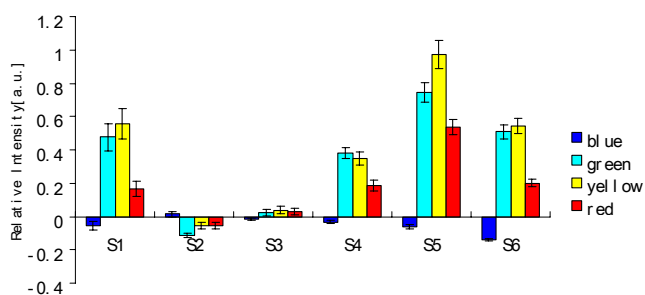
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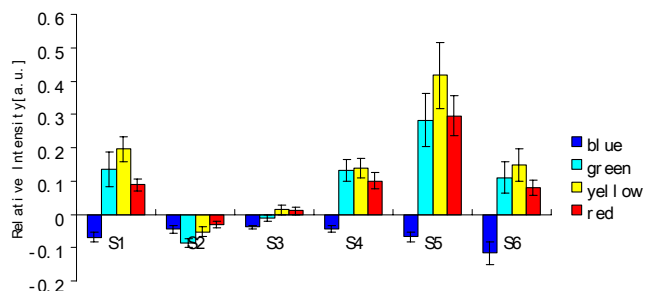
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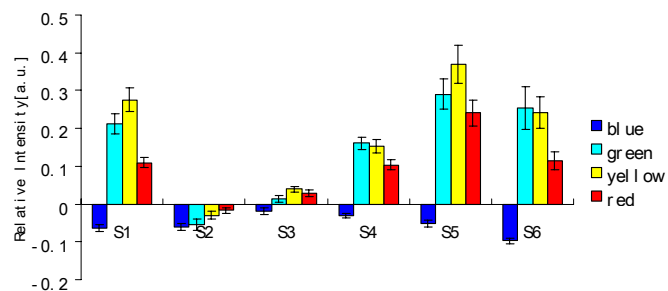
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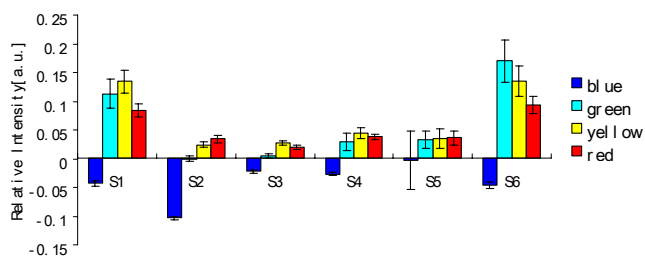
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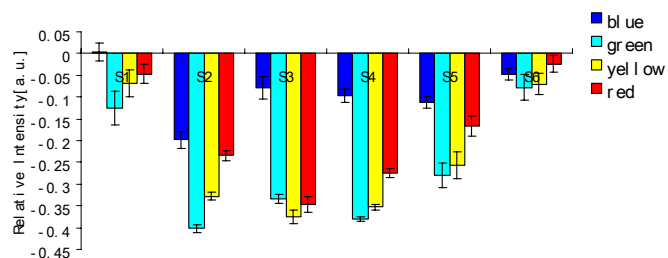
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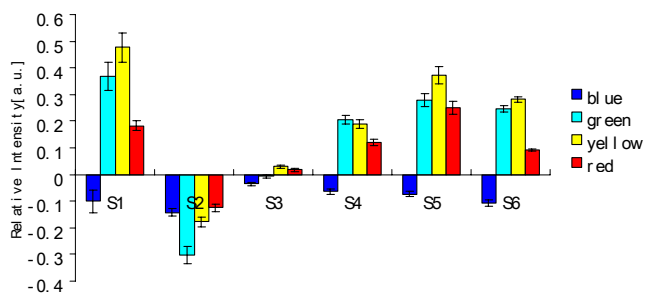
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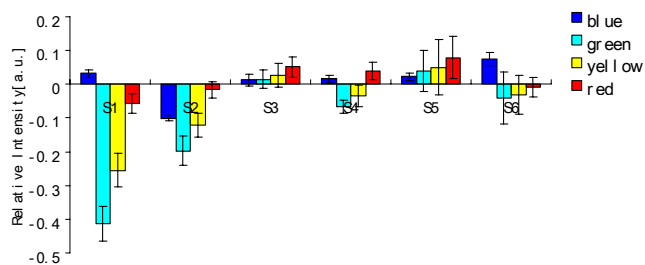
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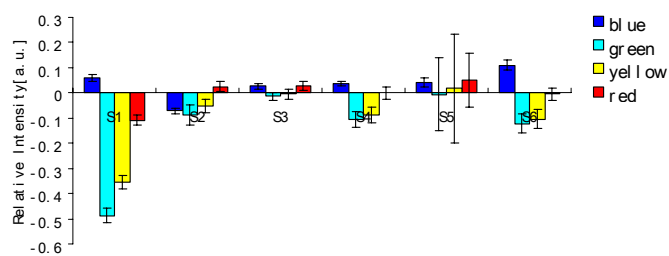
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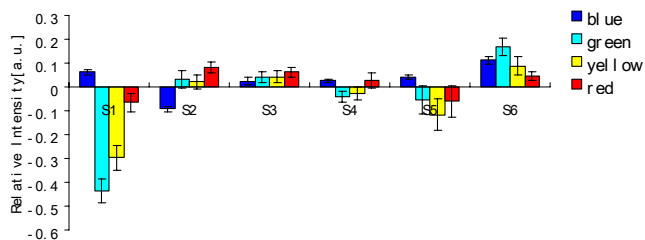
Fluoride



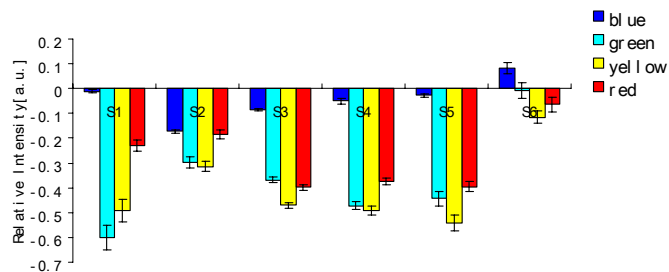
Chloride



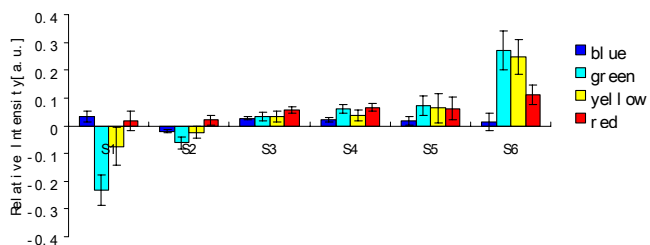
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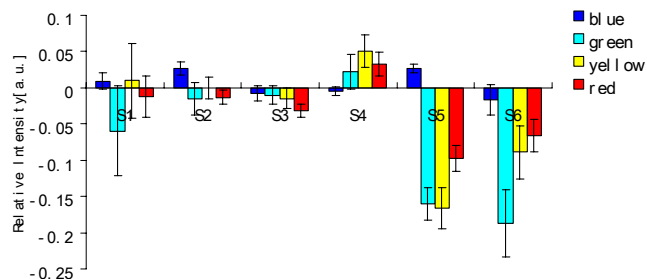
Iodine



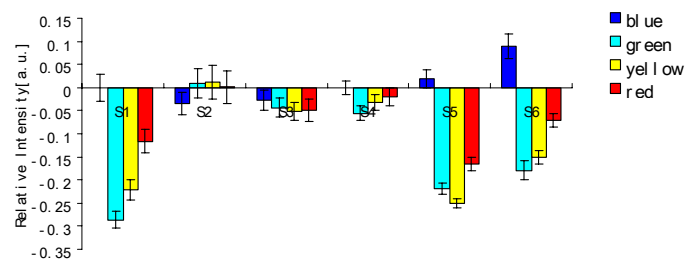
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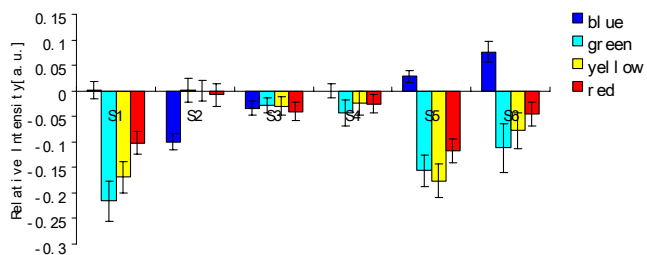
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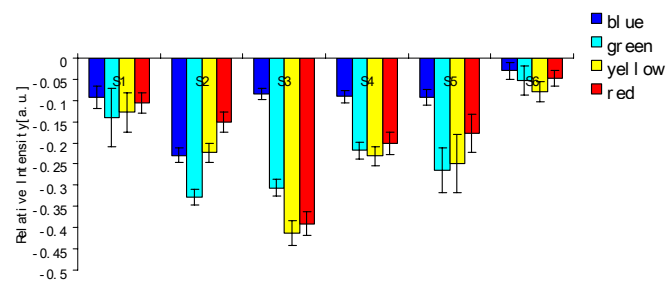
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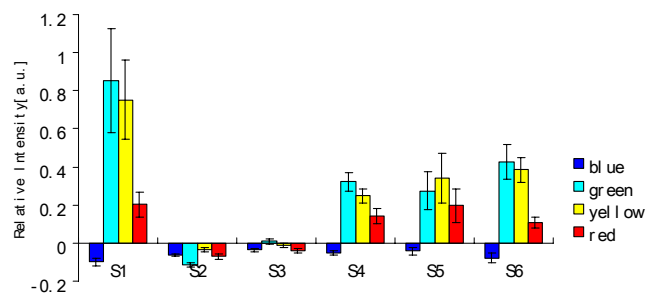
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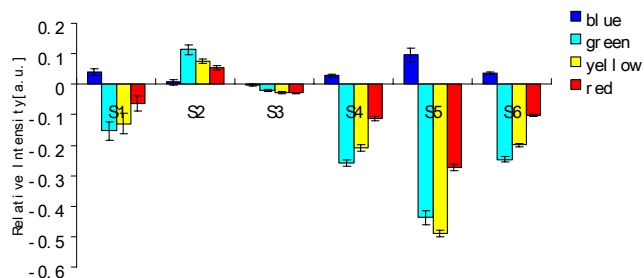
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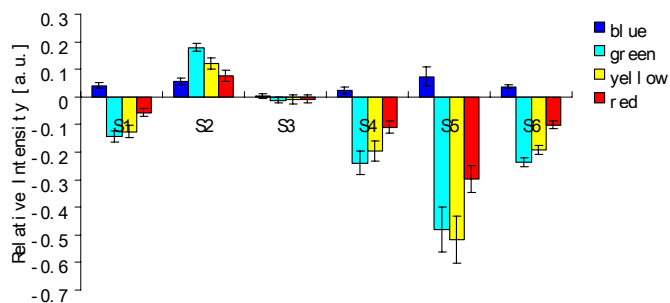
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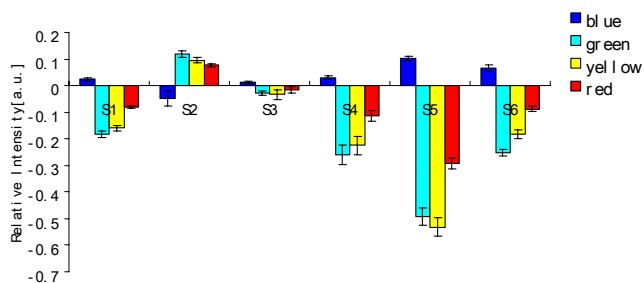
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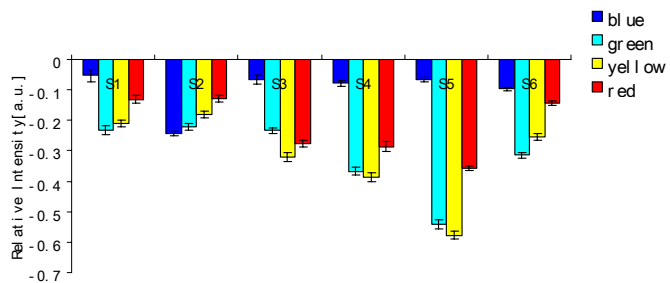
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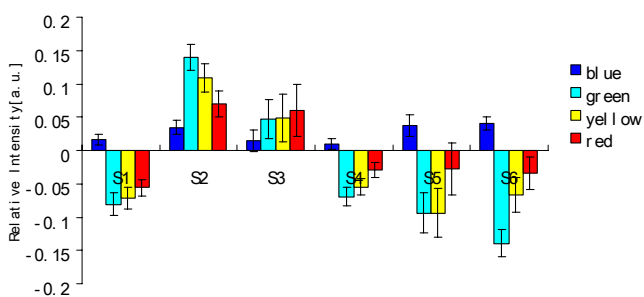
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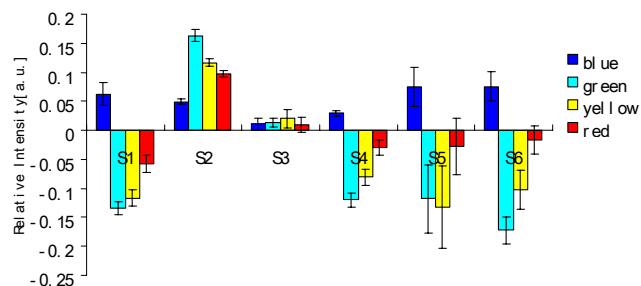
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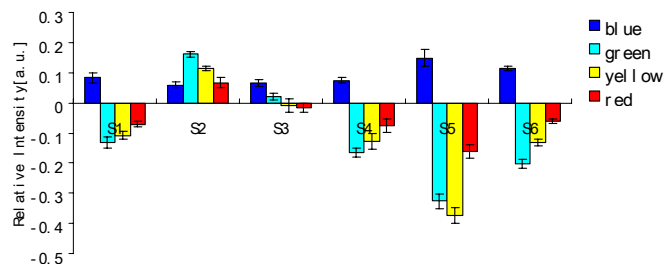
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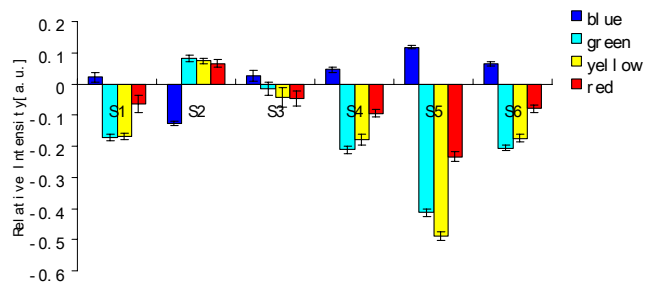
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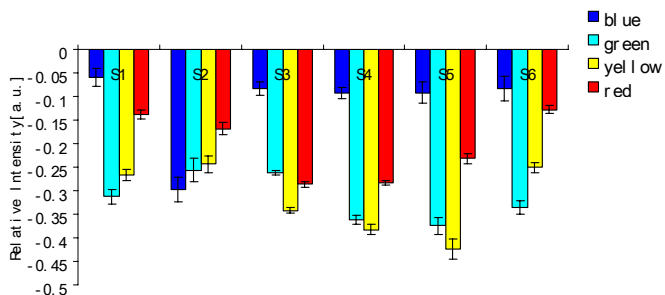
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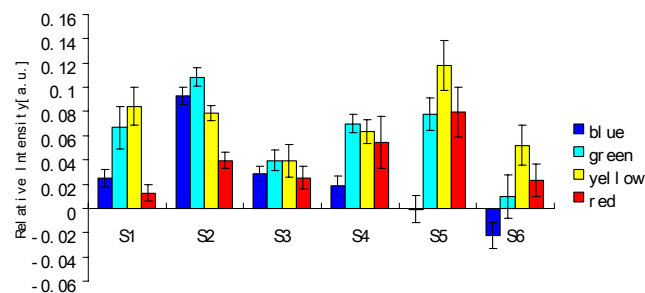
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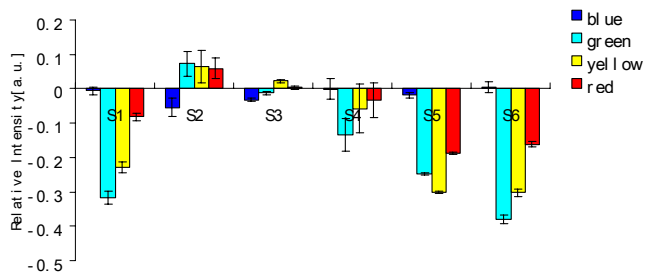
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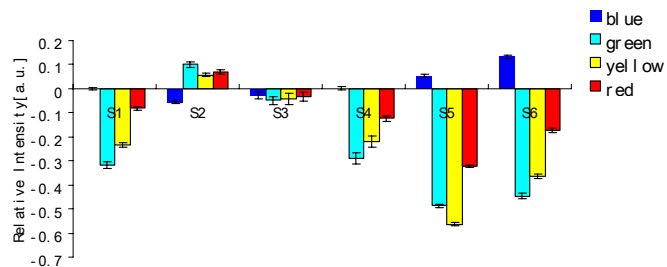
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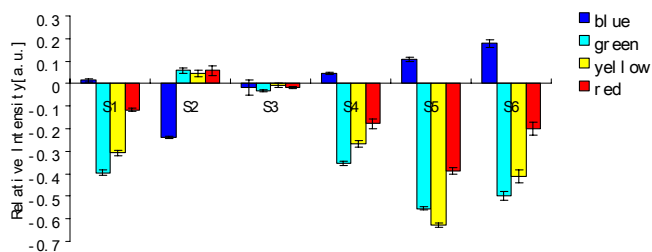
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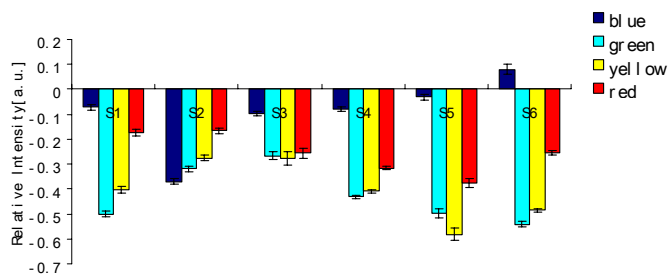
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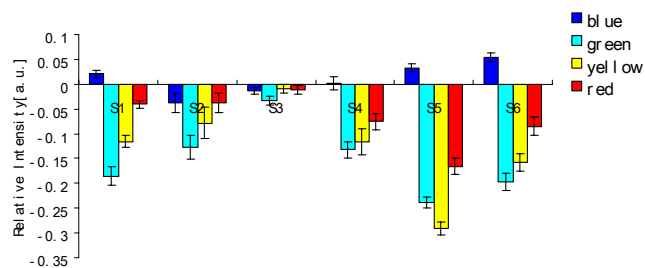
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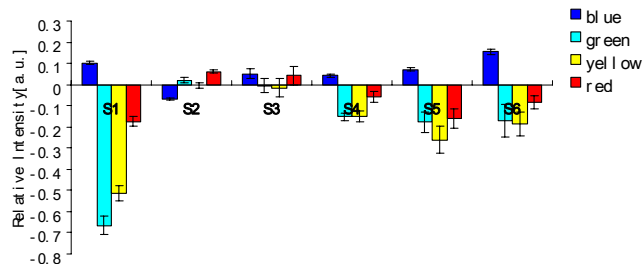
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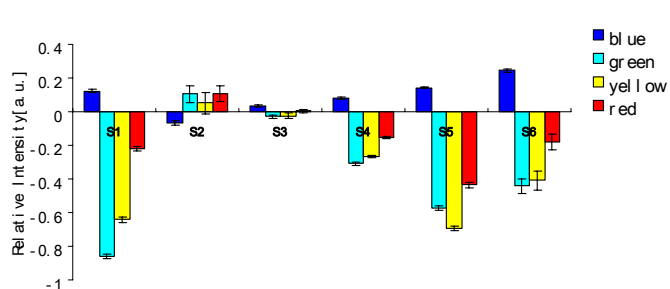
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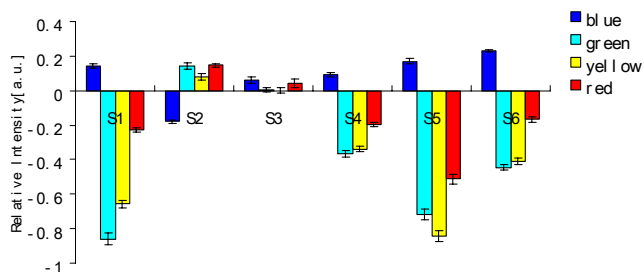
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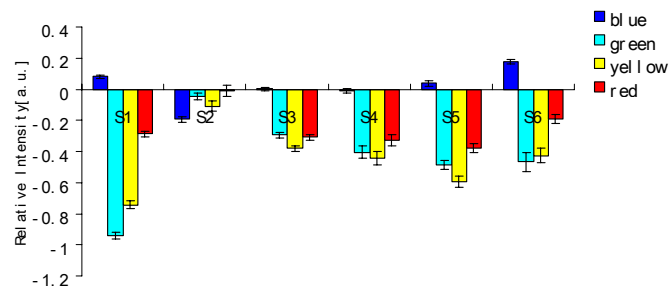
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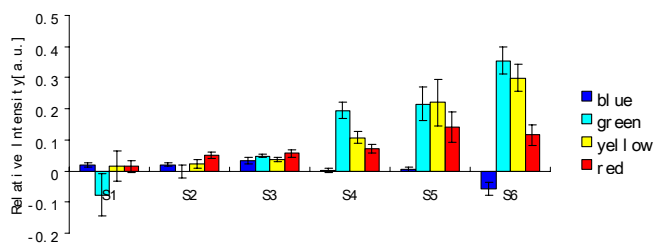
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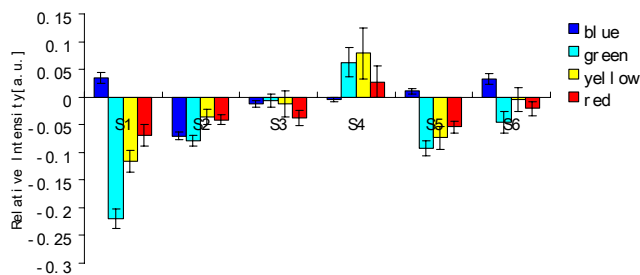
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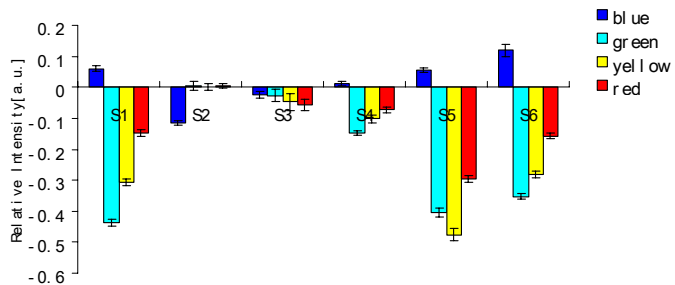
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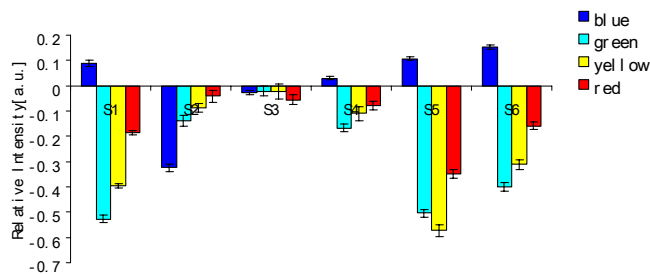
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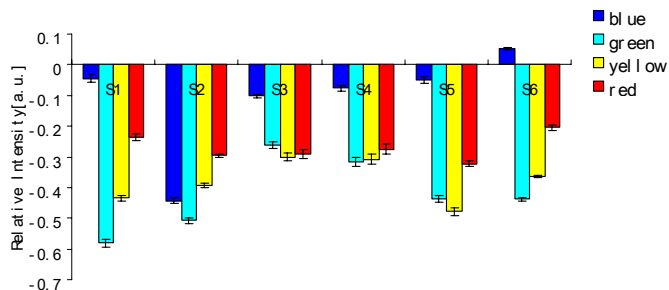
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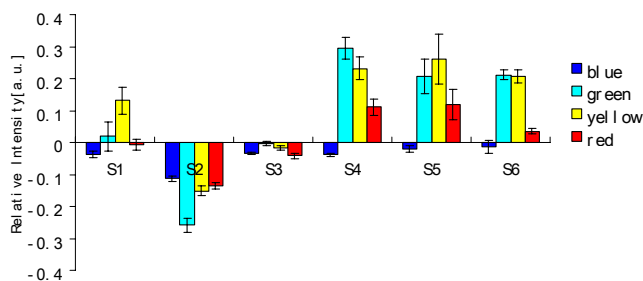
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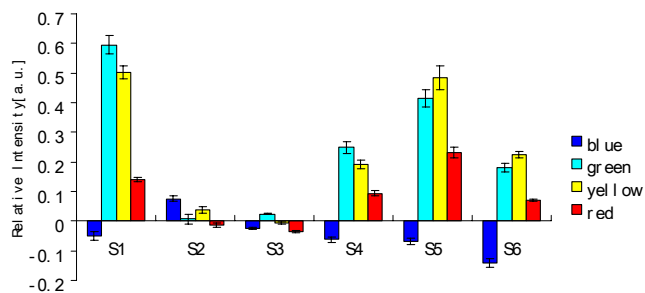
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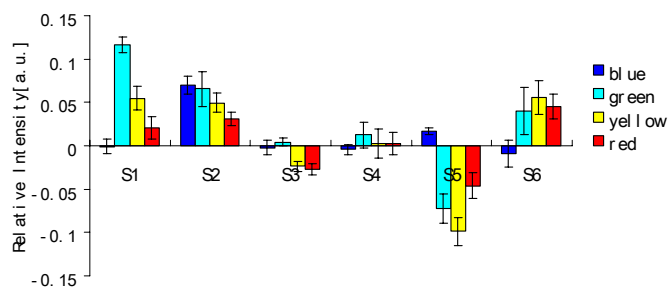
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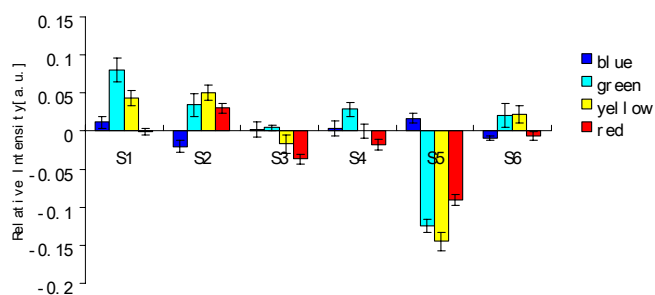
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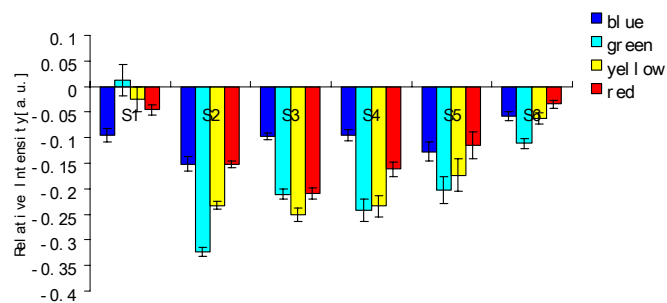
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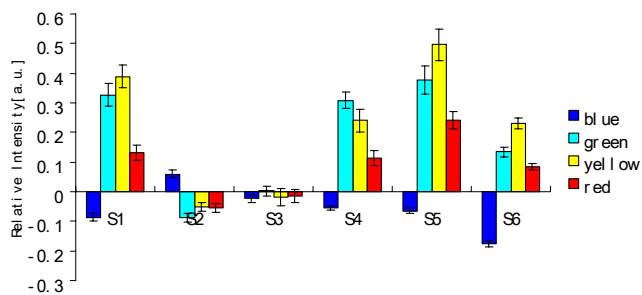
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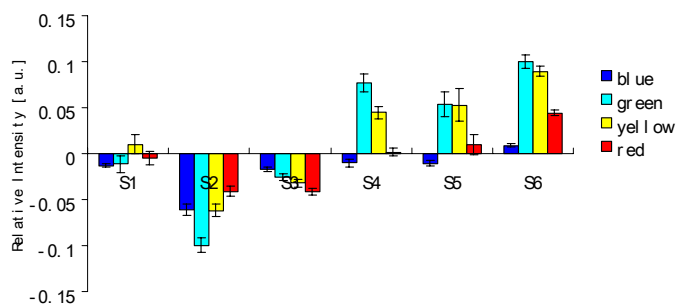
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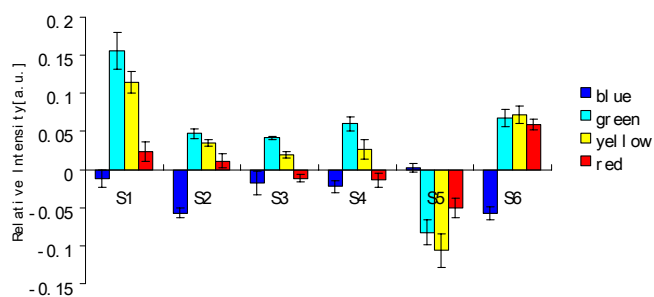
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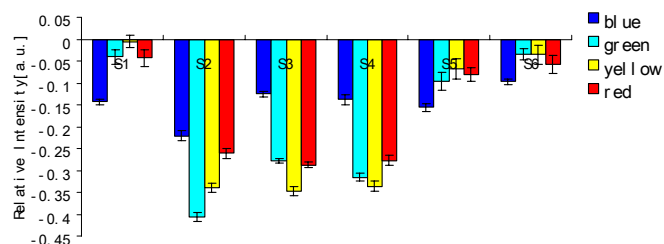
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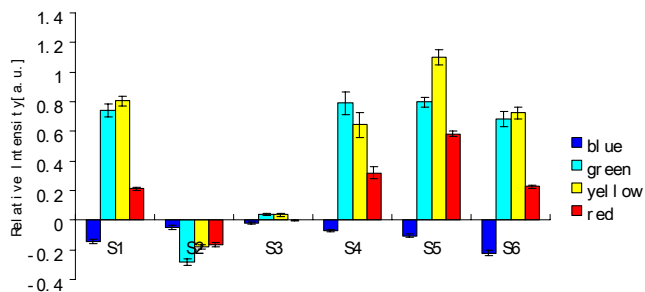
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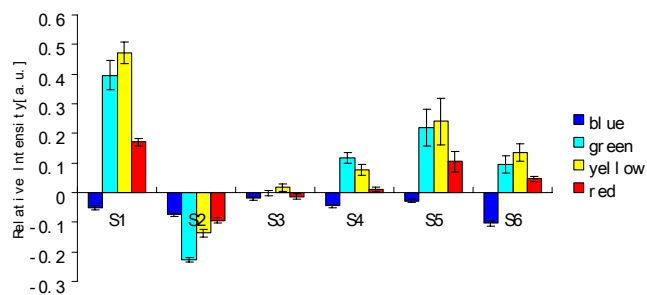
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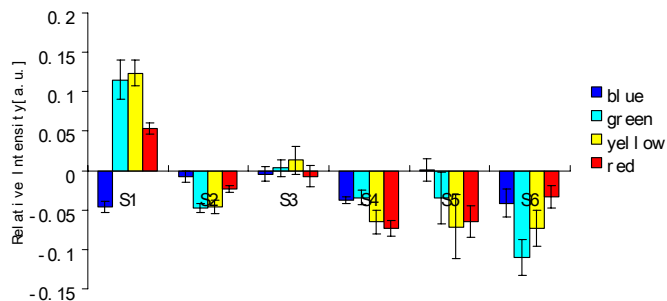
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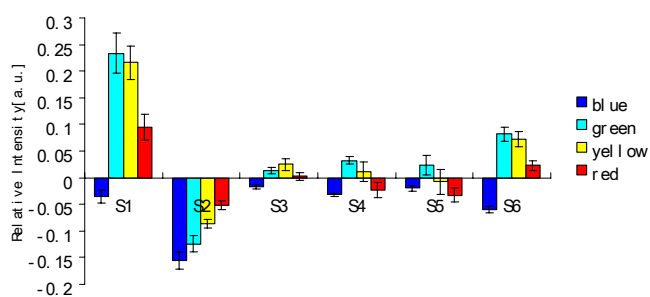
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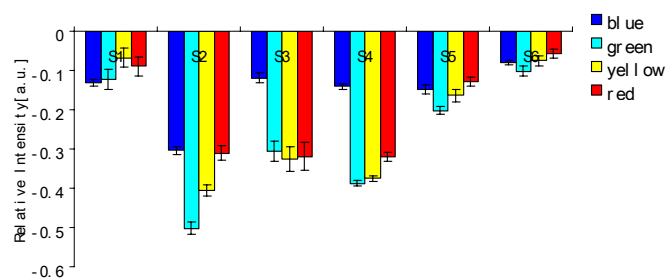
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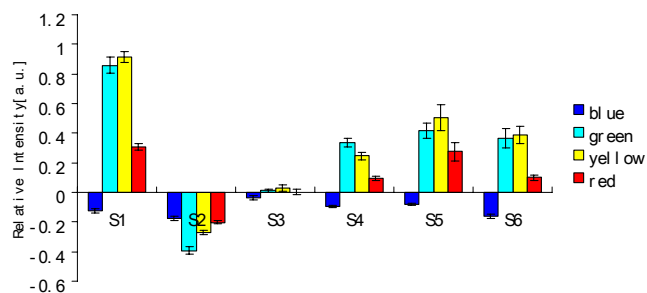
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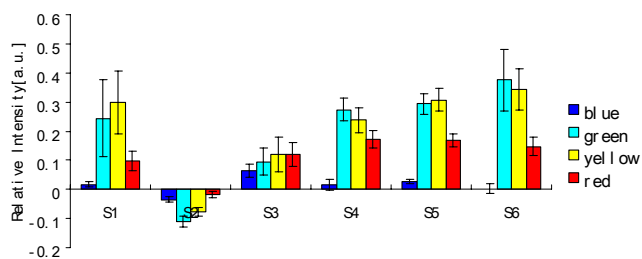
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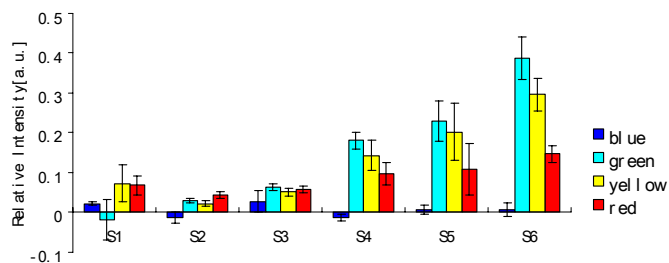
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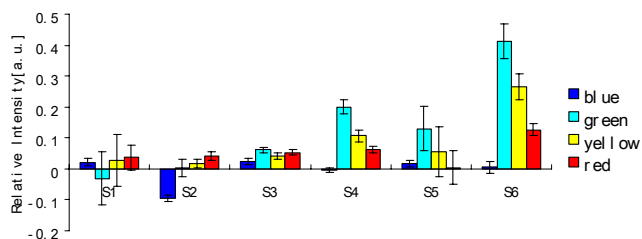
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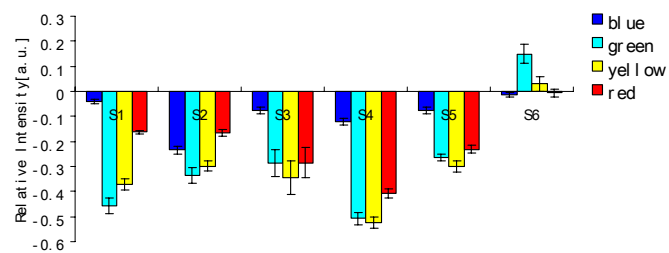
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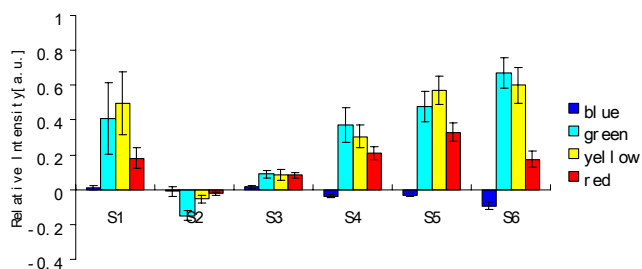
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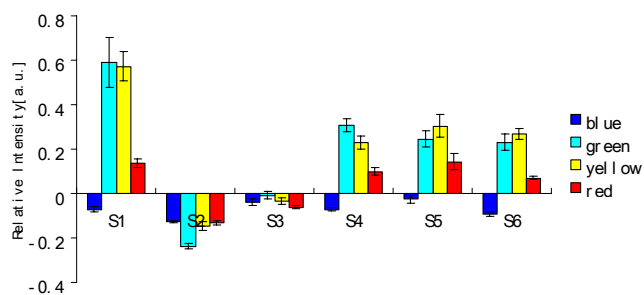
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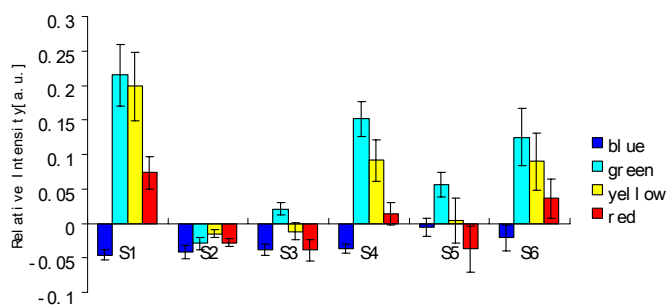
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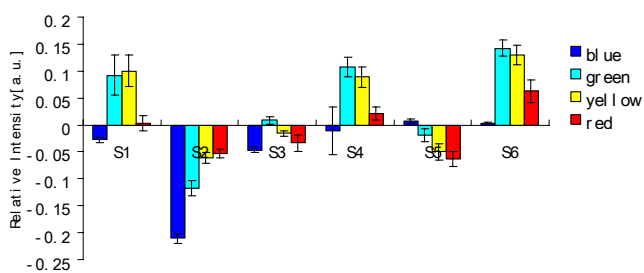
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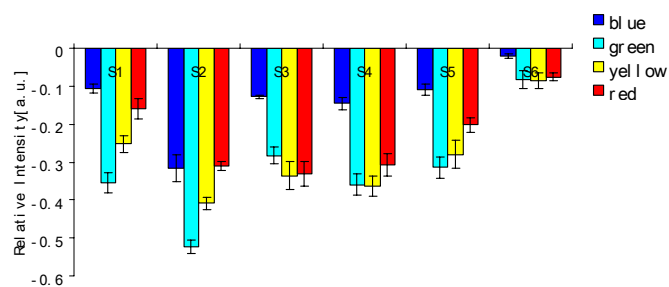
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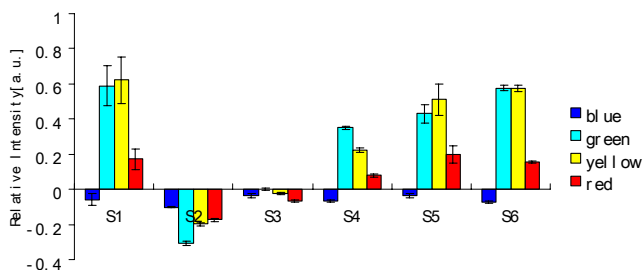
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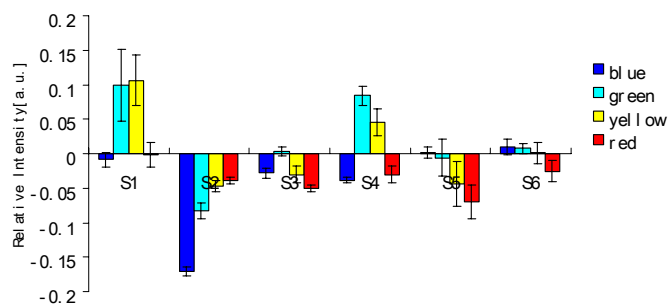
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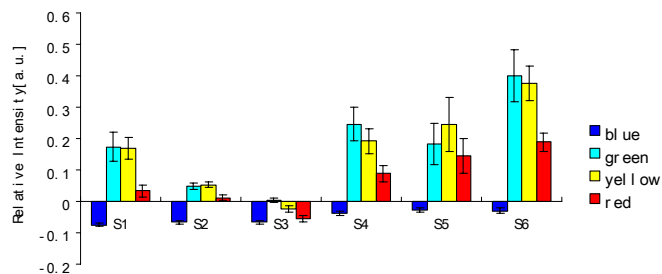
Acetate



Nitrate

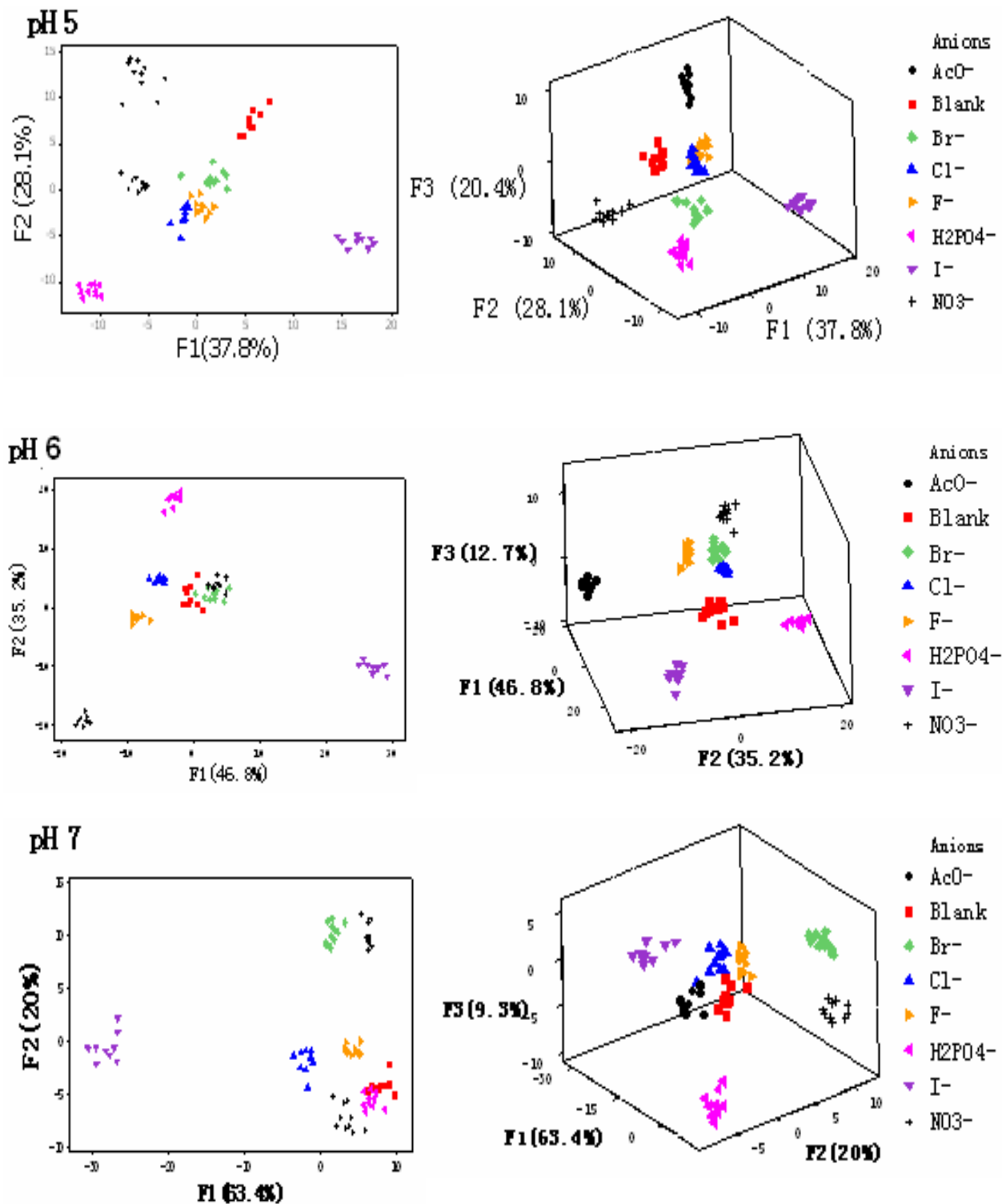


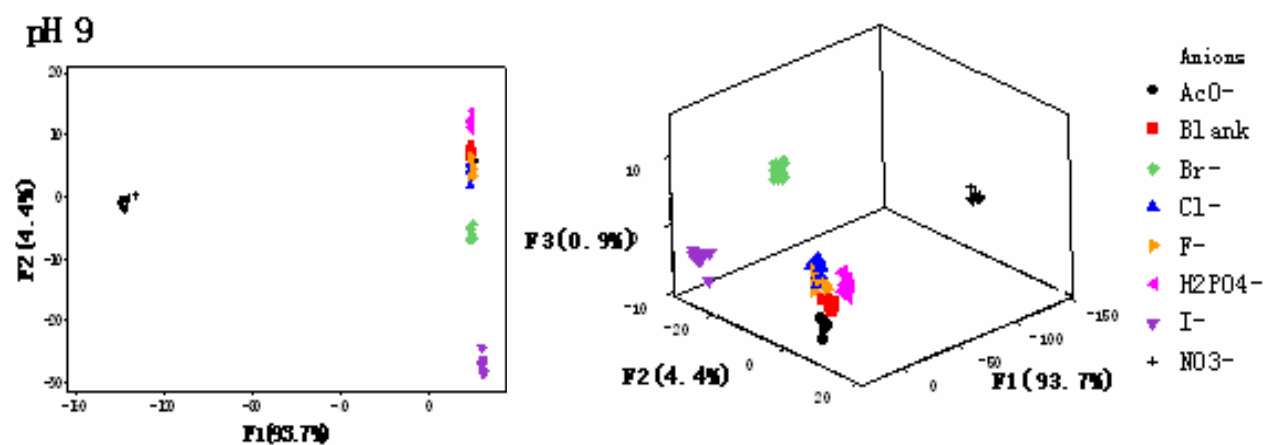
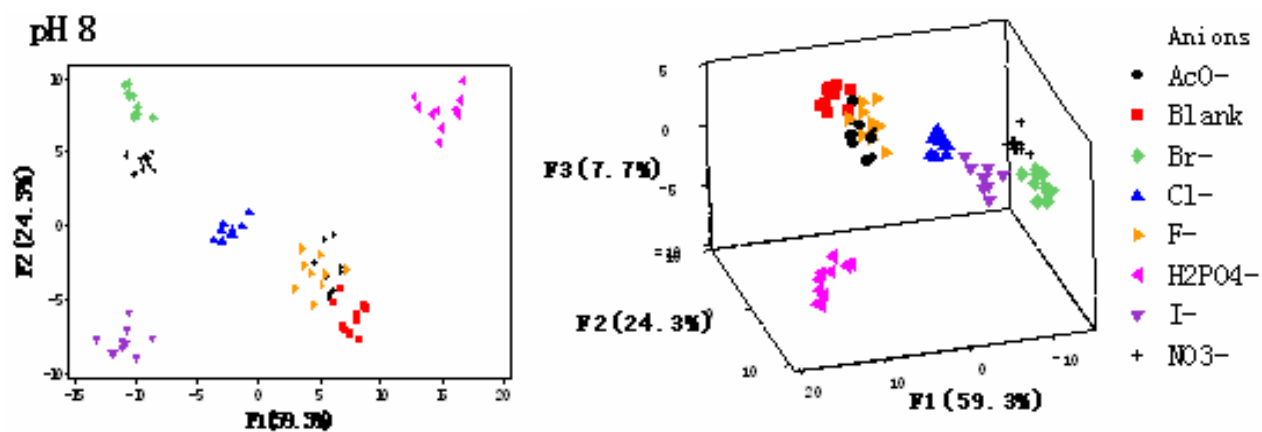
Dihydrogen phosphate



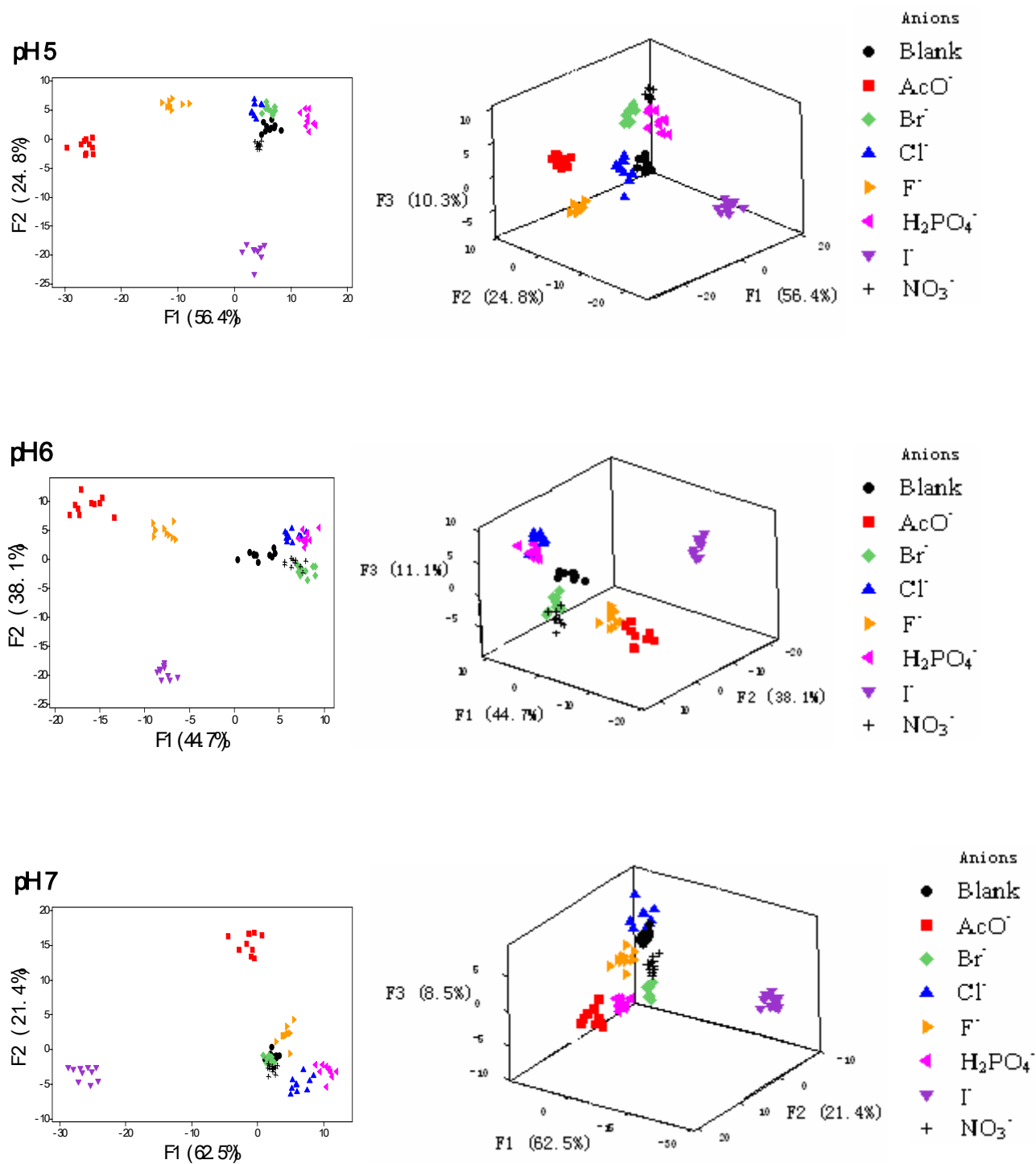
Linear Discriminant Analysis for anions in the form of their lithium salts at different pH values

LDA for anions in the form of their lithium salts at different pH values

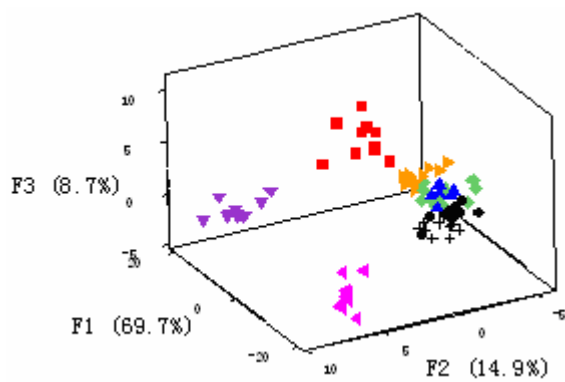
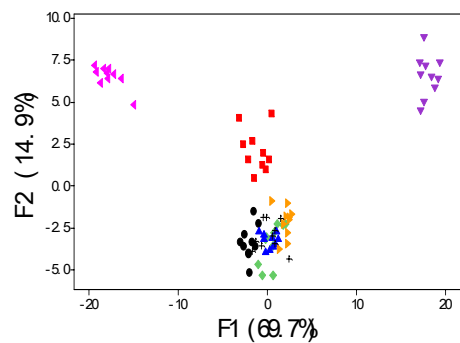




LDA for anions in the form of their sodium salts at different pH values



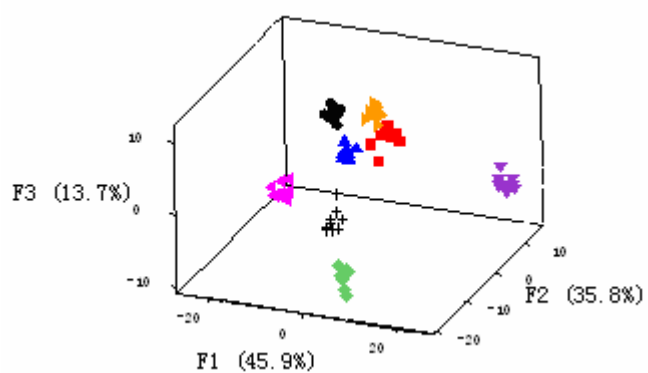
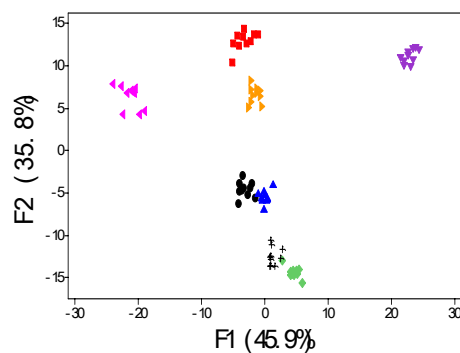
pH8



Anions

- Blank
- AcO^-
- ◆ Br^-
- ▲ Cl^-
- ▲ F^-
- ▼ H_2PO_4^-
- ▼ I^-
- + NO_3^-

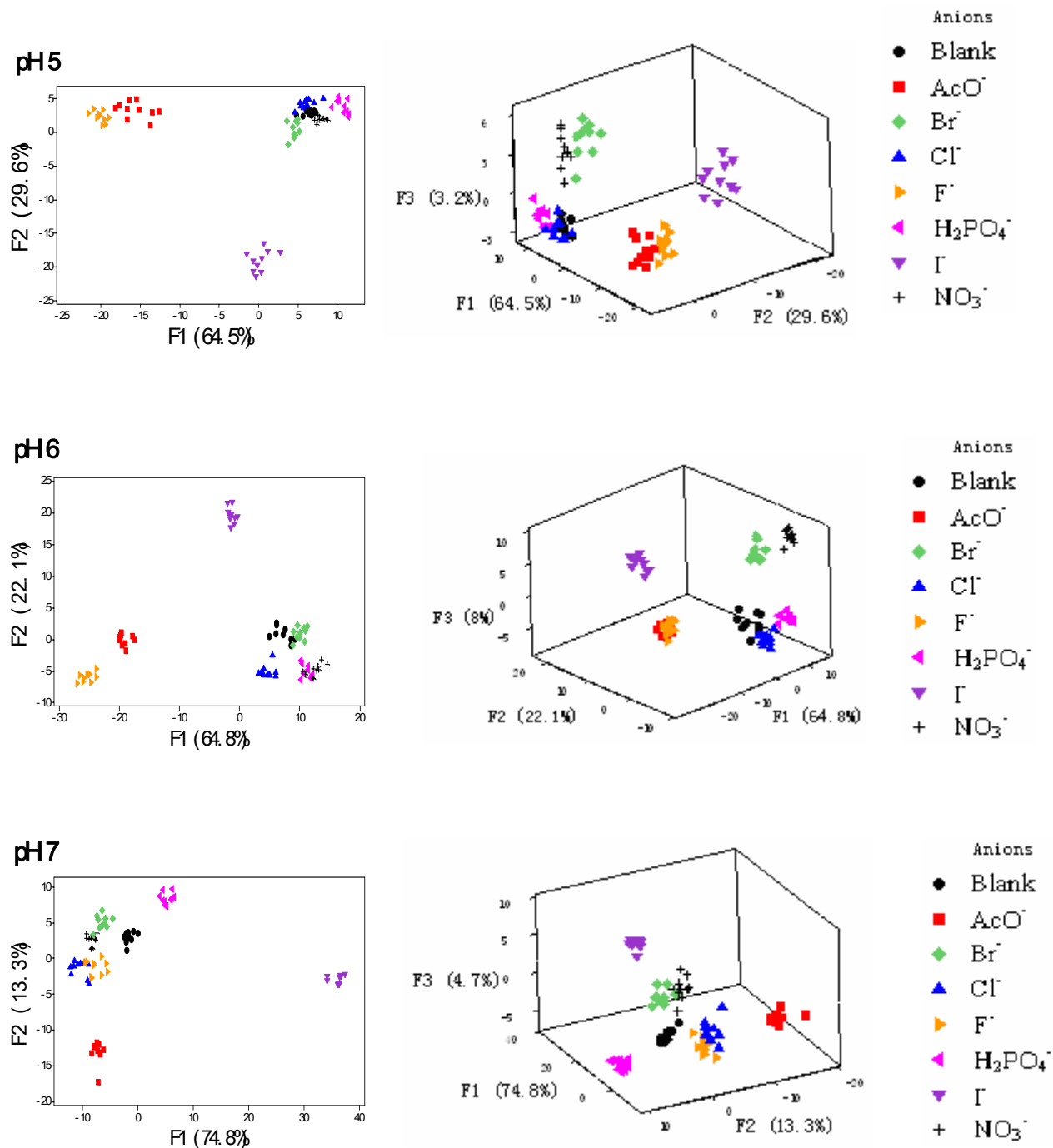
pH9



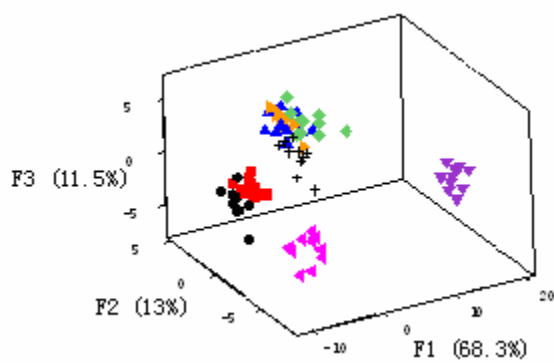
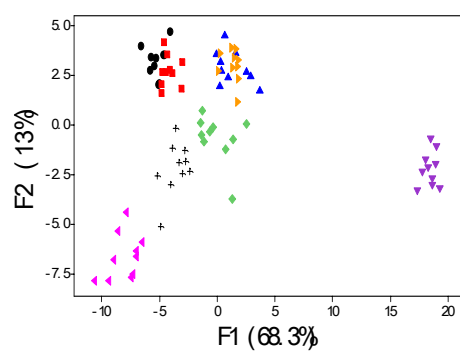
Anions

- Blank
- AcO^-
- ◆ Br^-
- ▲ Cl^-
- ▲ F^-
- ▼ H_2PO_4^-
- ▼ I^-
- + NO_3^-

LDA for anions in form of their potassium salts at different pH values



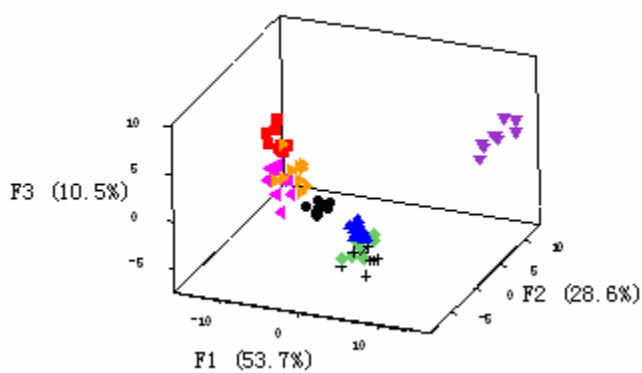
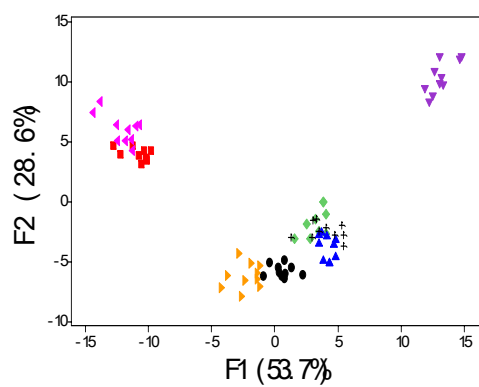
pH8



Anions

- Blank
- AcO^-
- ◆ Br^-
- ▲ Cl^-
- ▲ F^-
- ▲ H_2PO_4^-
- ▼ I^-
- + NO_3^-

pH9

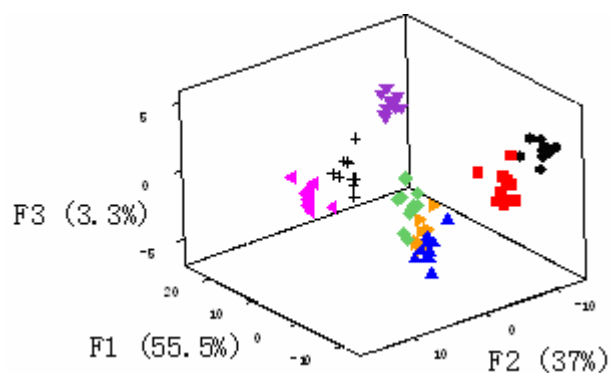
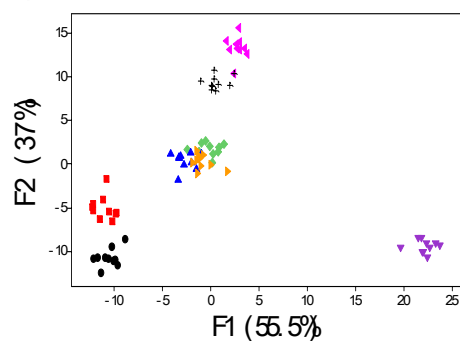


Anions

- Blank
- AcO^-
- ◆ Br^-
- ▲ Cl^-
- ▲ F^-
- ▲ H_2PO_4^-
- ▼ I^-
- + NO_3^-

LDA for anions in form of their ammonium salts at different pH values

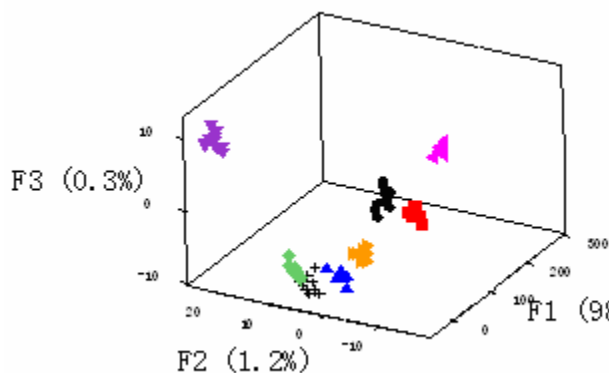
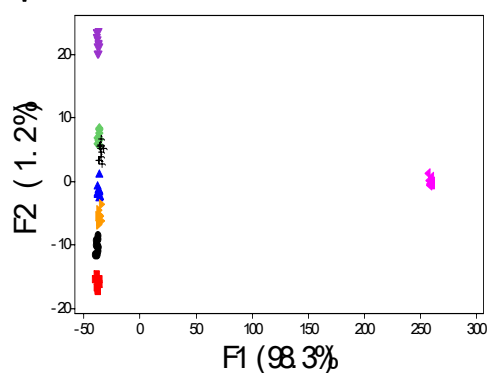
pH5



Anions

- Blank
- AcO⁻
- ◆ Br⁻
- ▲ Cl⁻
- ▲ F⁻
- ▲ H₂PO₄⁻
- ▼ I⁻
- + NO₃⁻

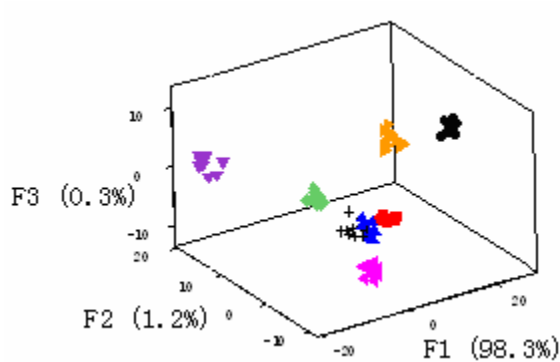
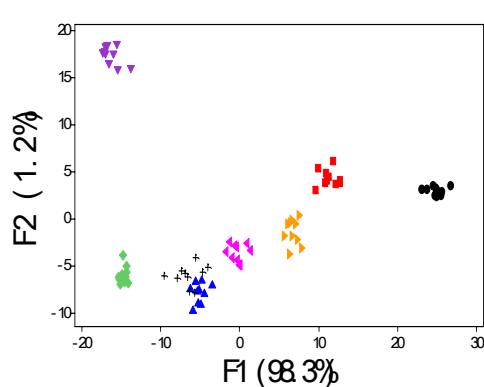
pH6



Anions

- Blank
- AcO⁻
- ◆ Br⁻
- ▲ Cl⁻
- ▲ F⁻
- ▲ H₂PO₄⁻
- ▼ I⁻
- + NO₃⁻

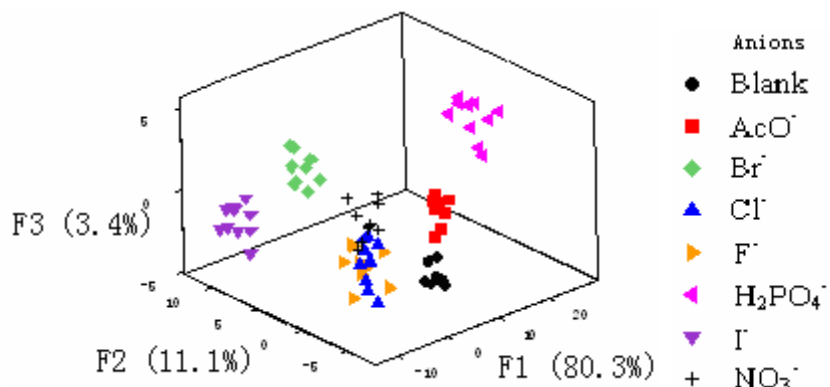
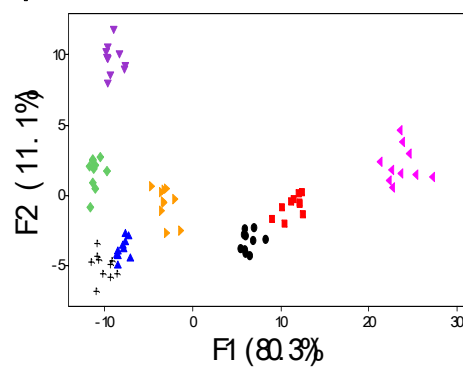
pH7



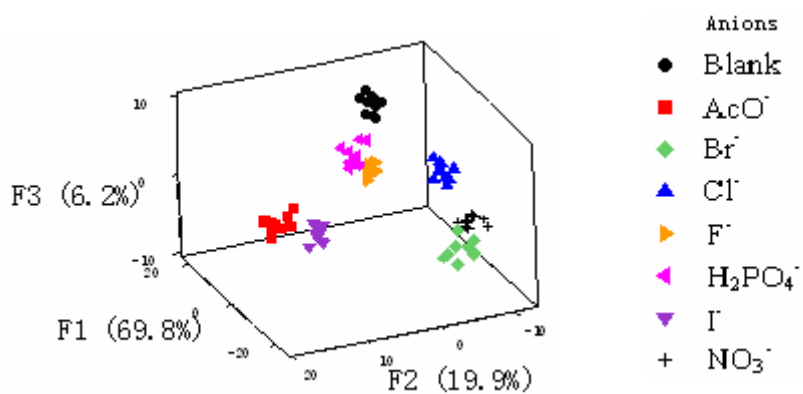
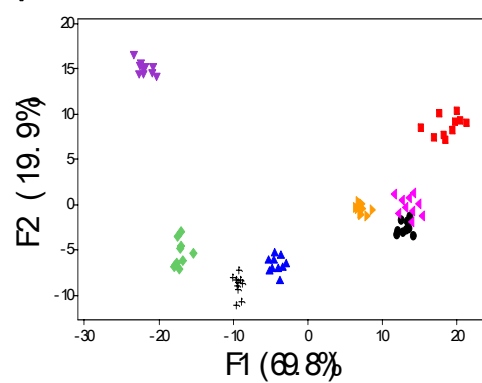
Anions

- Blank
- AcO⁻
- ◆ Br⁻
- ▲ Cl⁻
- ▲ F⁻
- ▲ H₂PO₄⁻
- ▼ I⁻
- + NO₃⁻

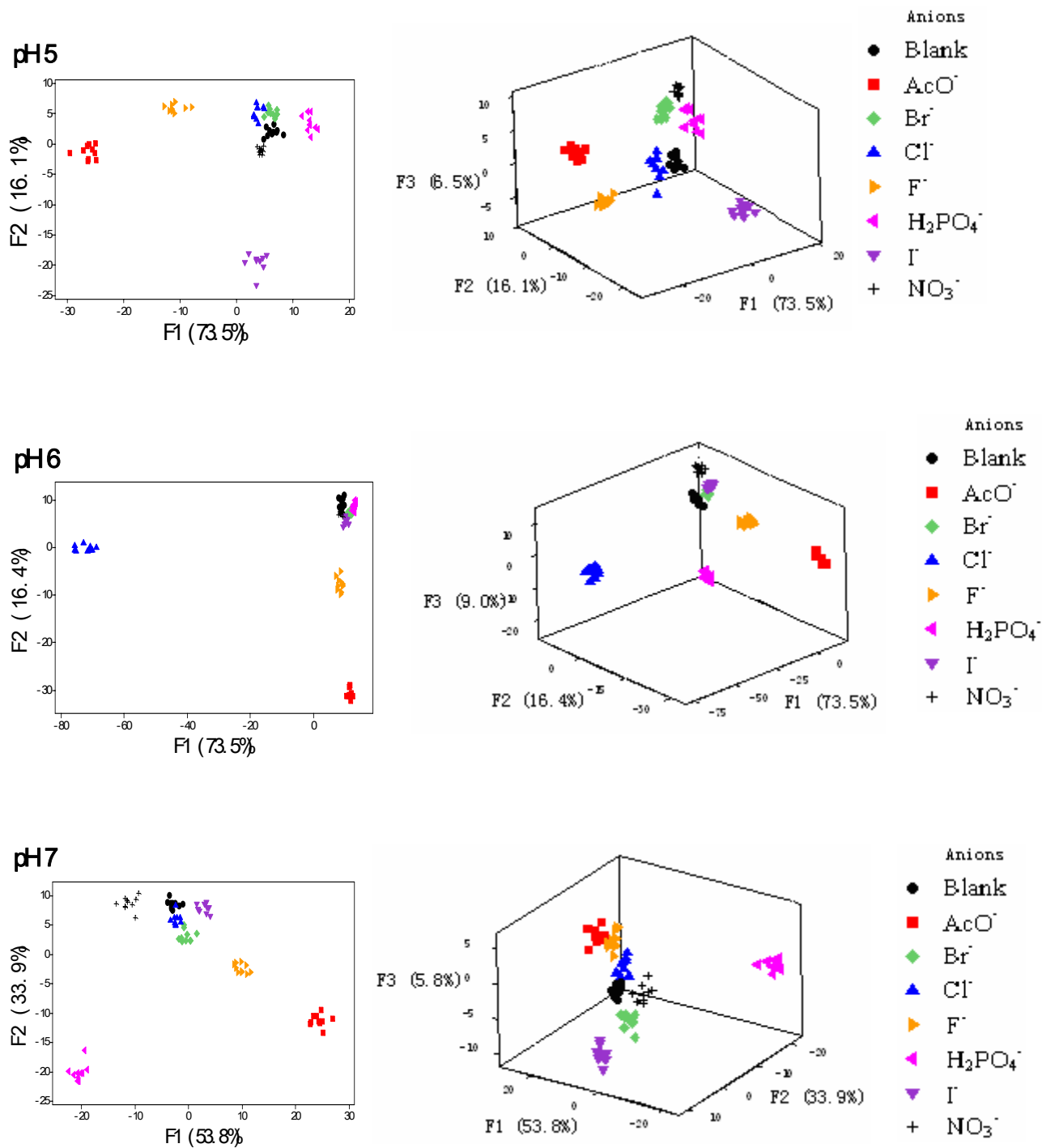
pH8



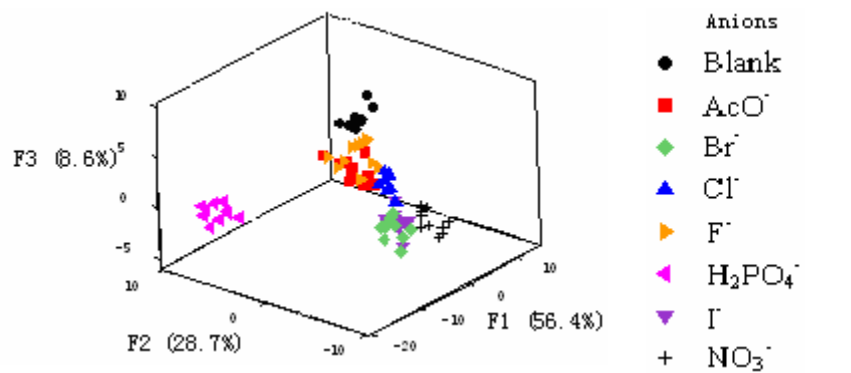
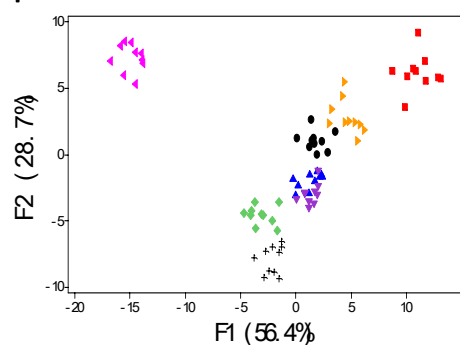
pH9



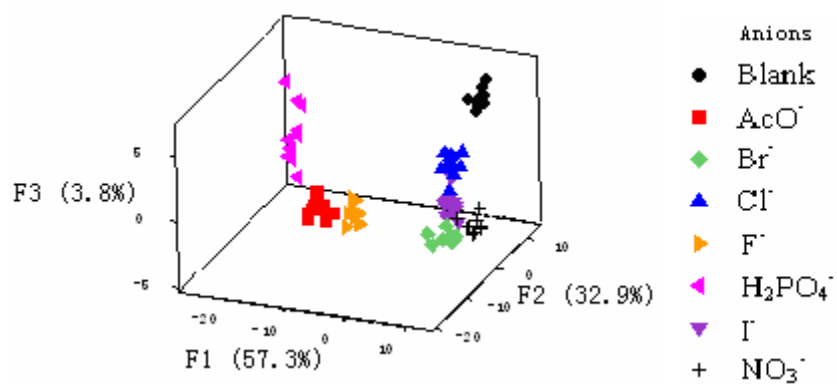
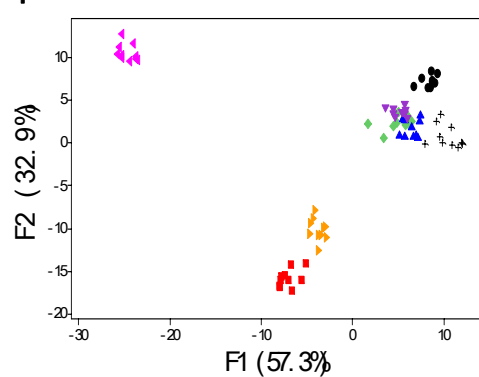
LDA for anions in form of their tetrabutylammonium salts at different pH values



pH8



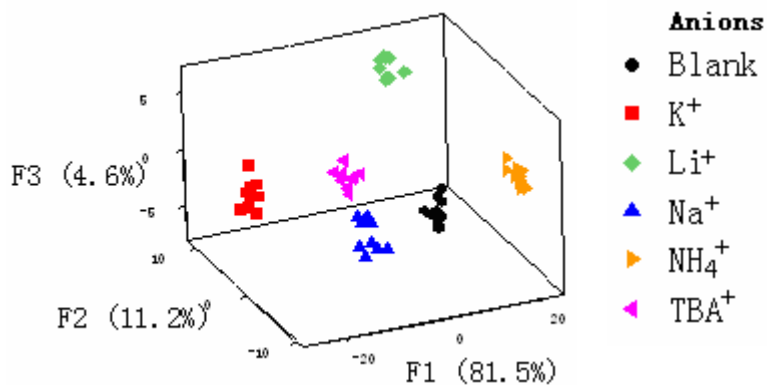
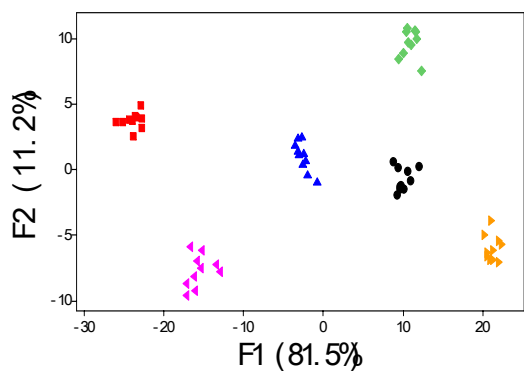
pH9



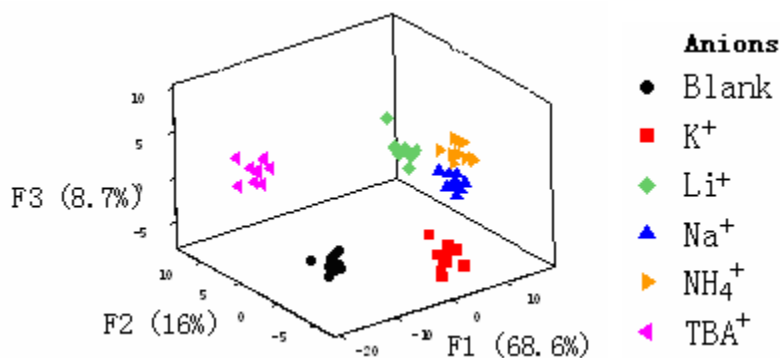
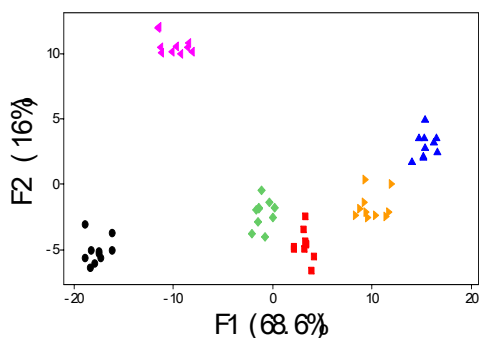
Linear Discriminant Analysis for all cations in form of their different salts at different pH values

LDA for cations in the form of their fluoride salts at different pH values

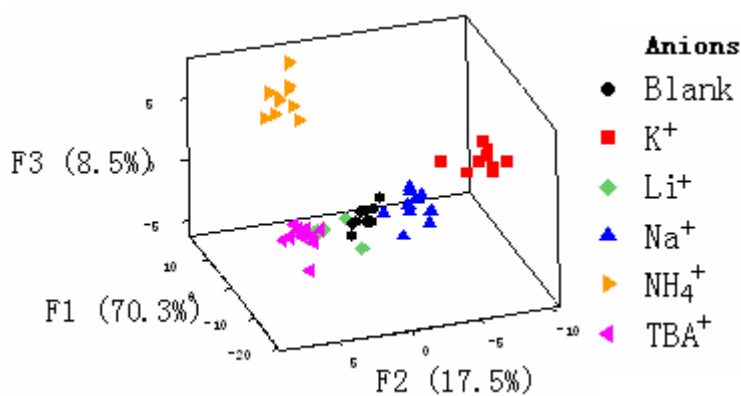
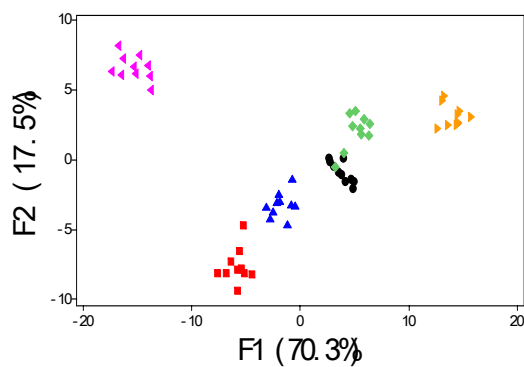
pH5



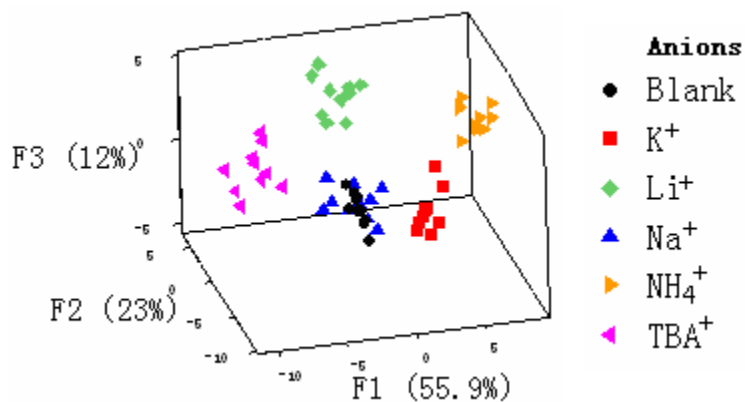
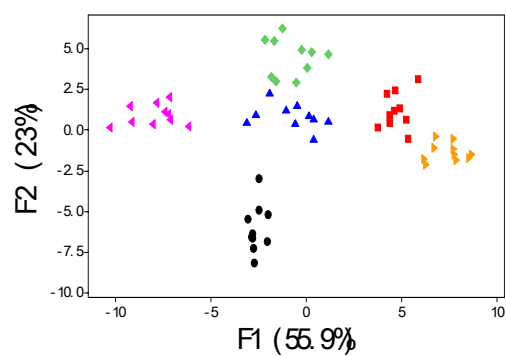
pH6



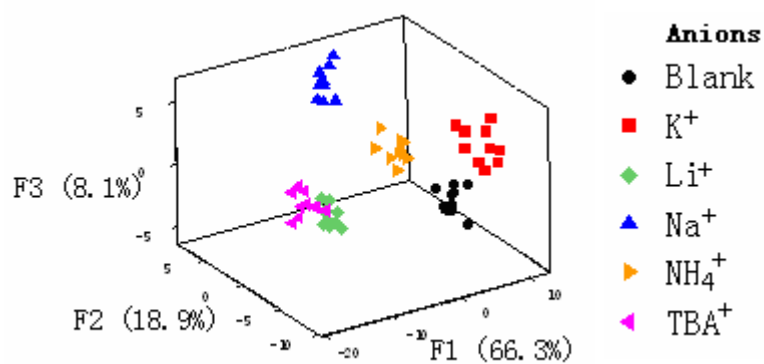
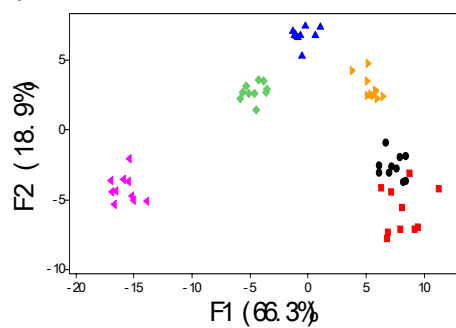
pH7



pH 8

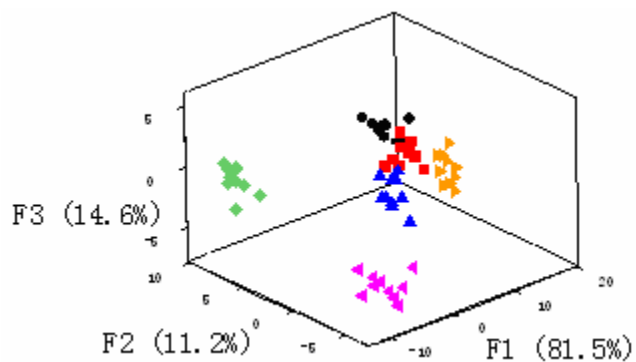
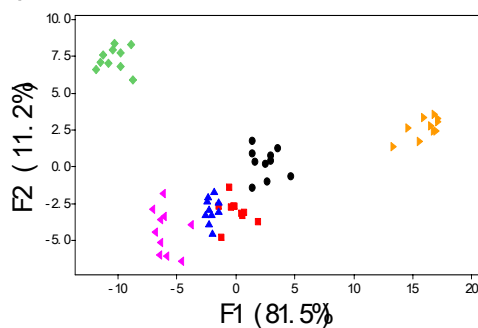


pH 9



LDA for cations in the form of their chloride salts at different pH values

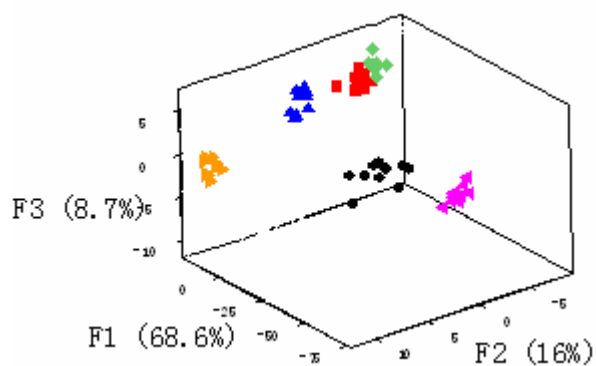
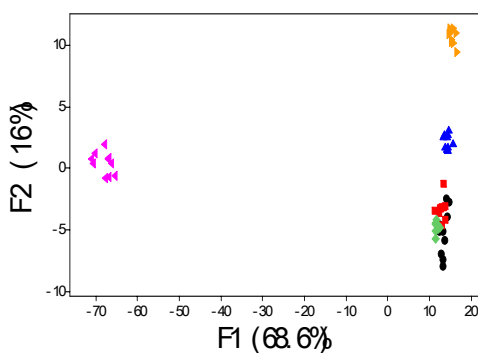
pH 5



Anions

- Blank
- K⁺
- ◆ Li⁺
- ▲ Na⁺
- ▲ NH₄⁺
- ▲ TBA⁺

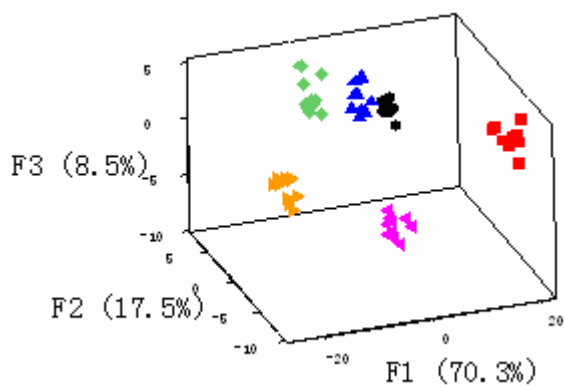
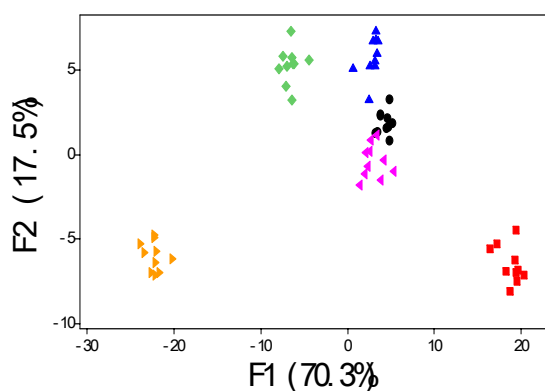
pH 6



Anions

- Blank
- K⁺
- ◆ Li⁺
- ▲ Na⁺
- ▲ NH₄⁺
- ▲ TBA⁺

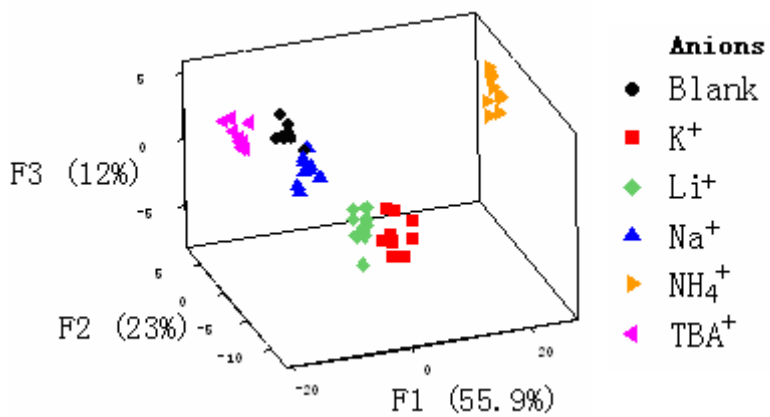
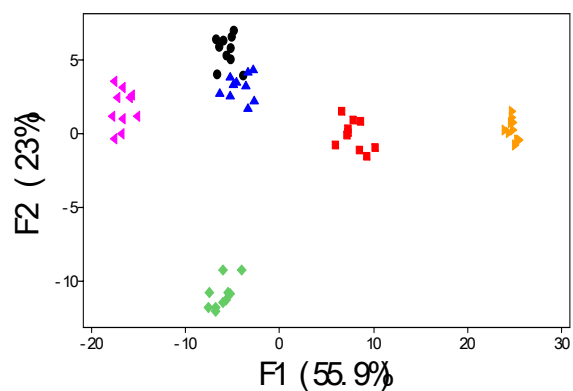
pH 7



Anions

- Blank
- K⁺
- ◆ Li⁺
- ▲ Na⁺
- ▲ NH₄⁺
- ▲ TBA⁺

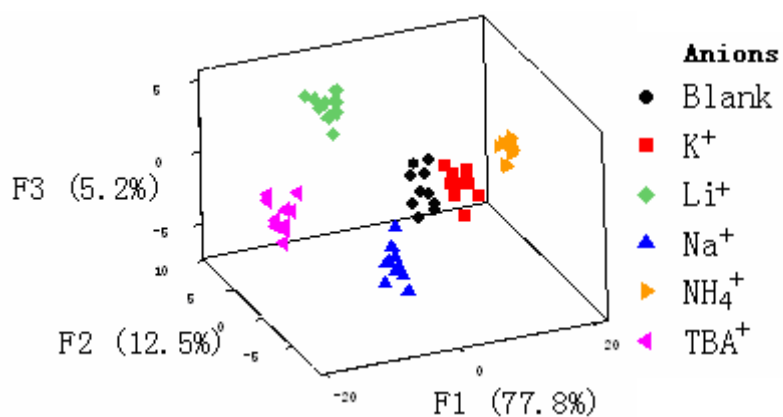
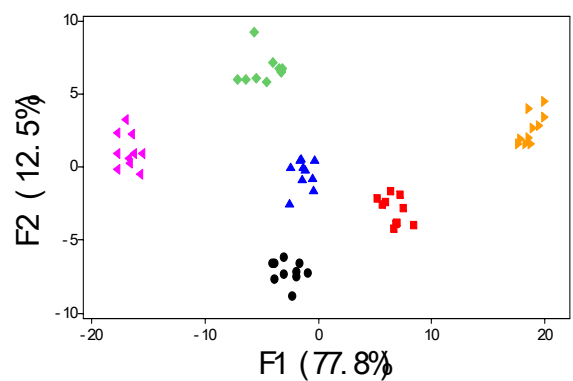
pH 8



Anions

- Blank
- K⁺
- ◆ Li⁺
- ▲ Na⁺
- ▶ NH₄⁺
- ▼ TBA⁺

pH 9

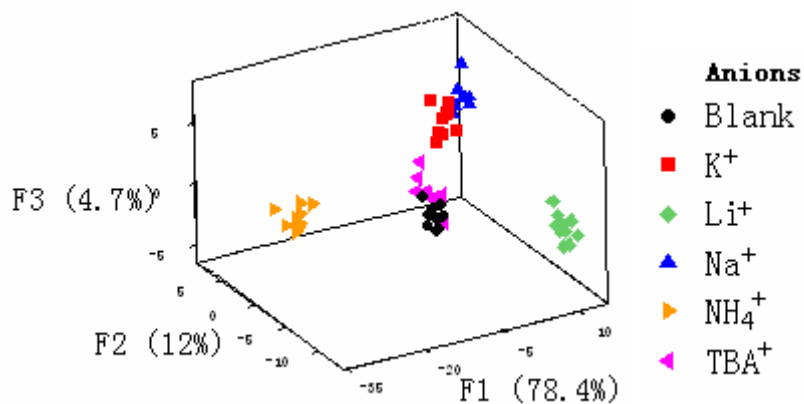
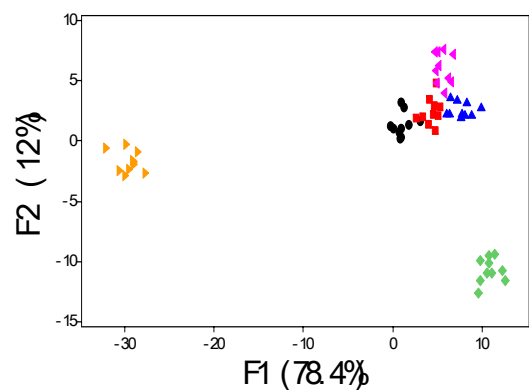


Anions

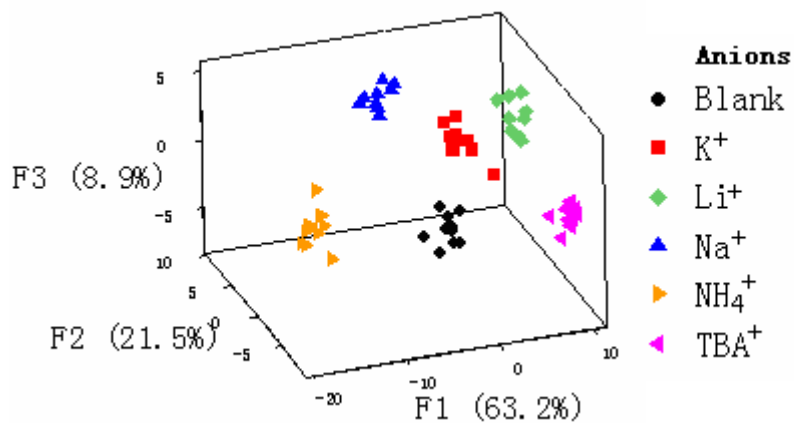
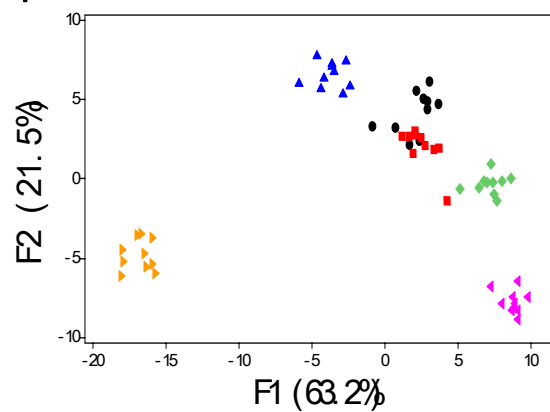
- Blank
- K⁺
- ◆ Li⁺
- ▲ Na⁺
- ▶ NH₄⁺
- ▼ TBA⁺

LDA for cations in the form of their bromide salts at different pH values

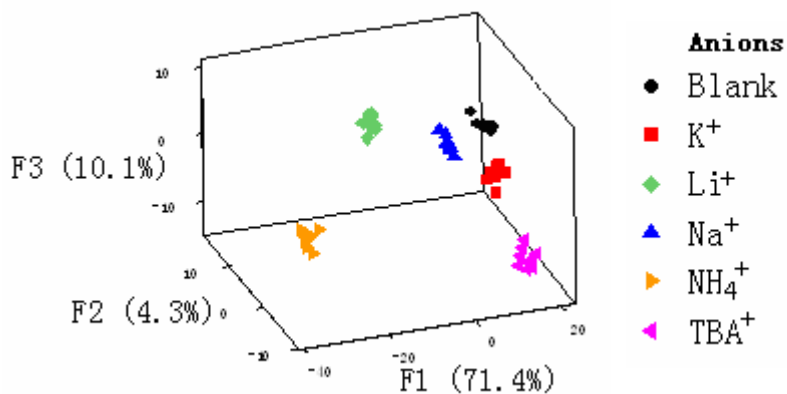
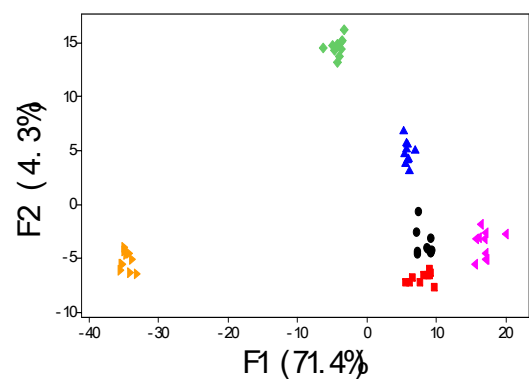
pH5



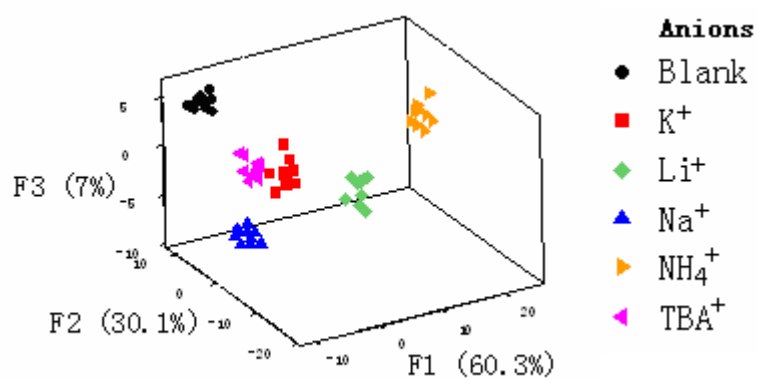
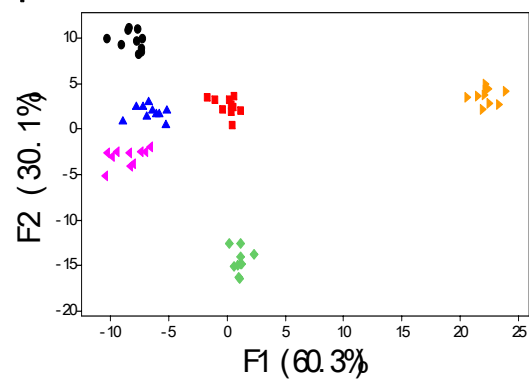
pH6



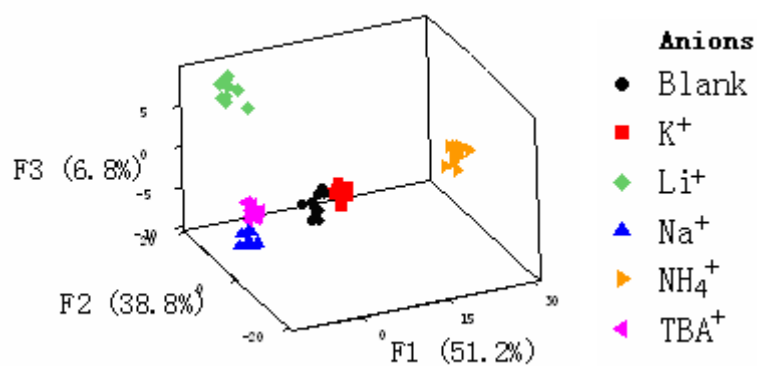
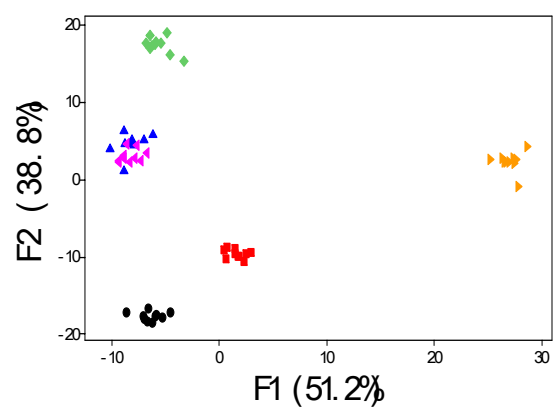
pH7



pH 8

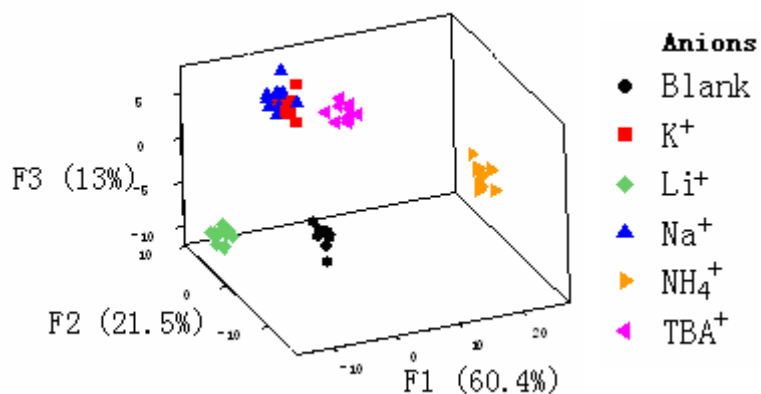
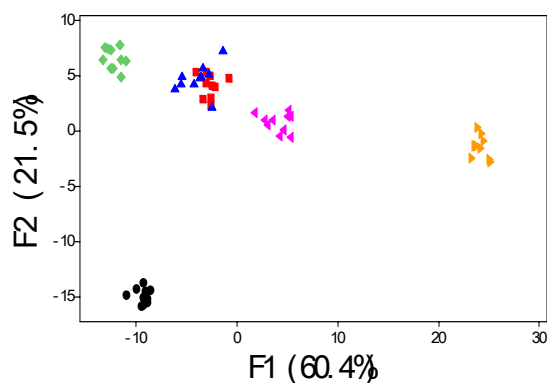


pH 9

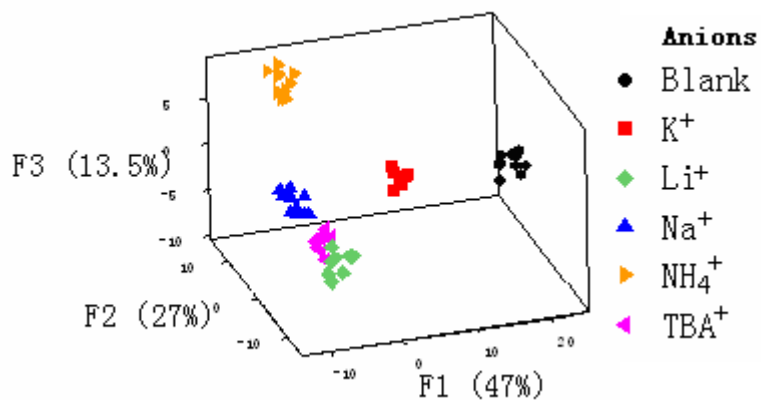
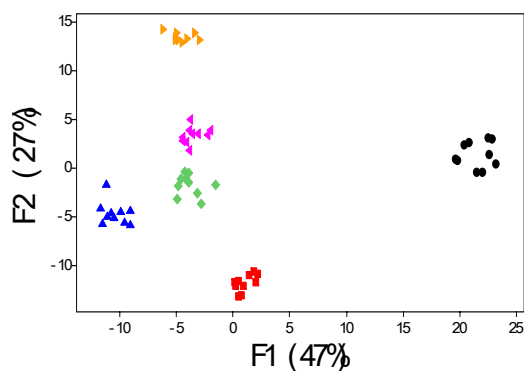


LDA for cations in the form of their iodine salts at different pH values

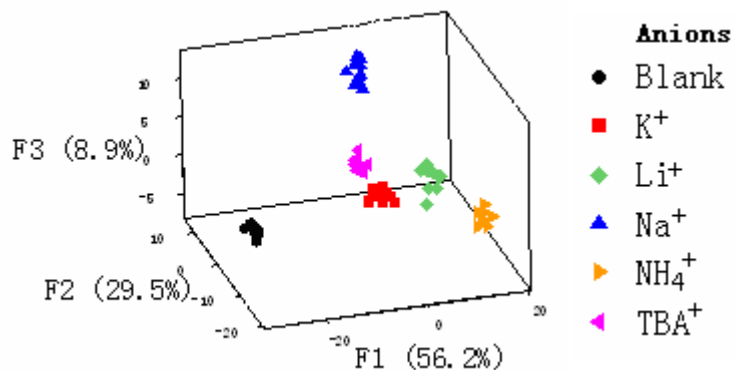
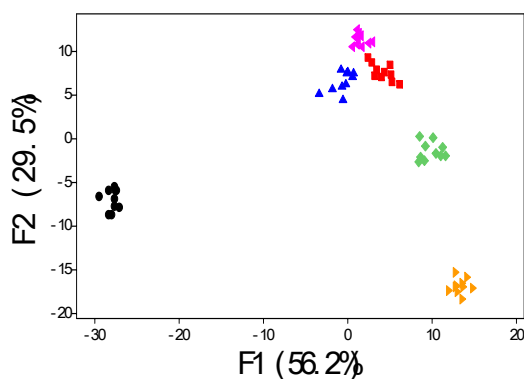
pH 5



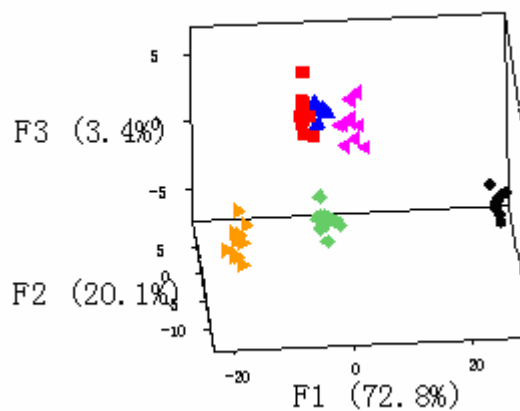
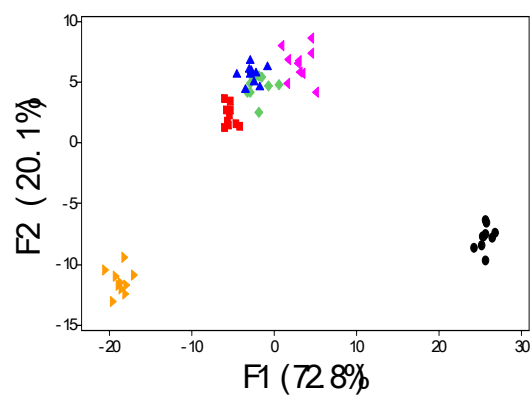
pH 6



pH 7



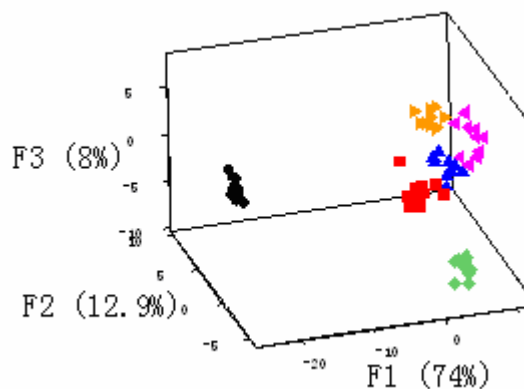
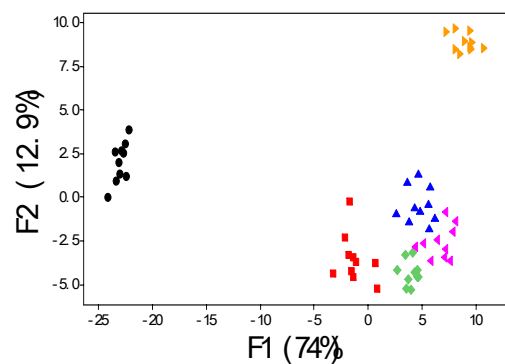
pH8



Anions

- Blank
- K^+
- ◆ Li^+
- ▲ Na^+
- ▶ NH_4^+
- ▼ TBA^+

pH9

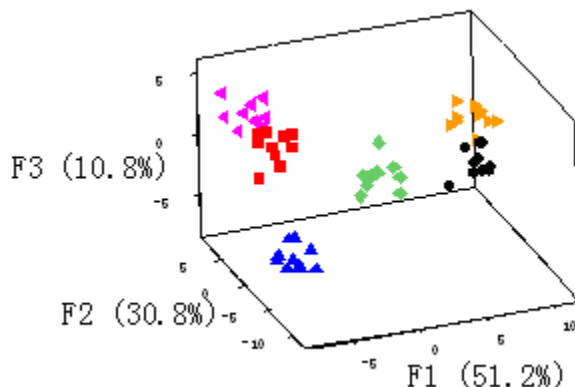
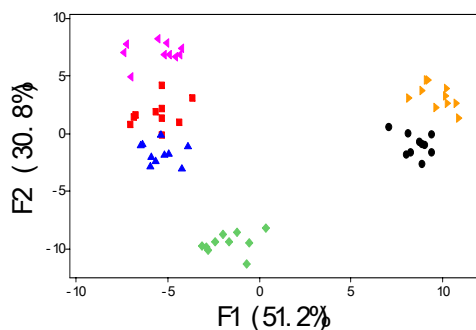


Anions

- Blank
- K^+
- ◆ Li^+
- ▲ Na^+
- ▶ NH_4^+
- ▼ TBA^+

LDA for cations in the form of their acetate salts at different pH values

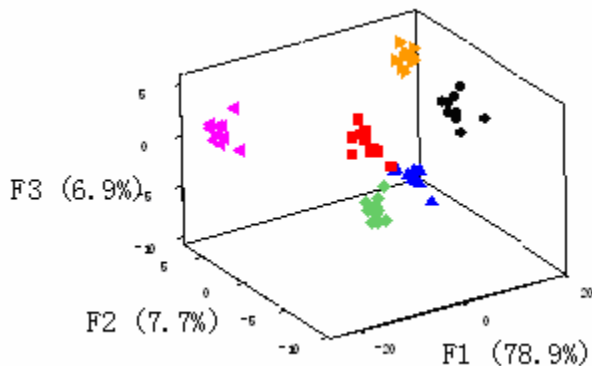
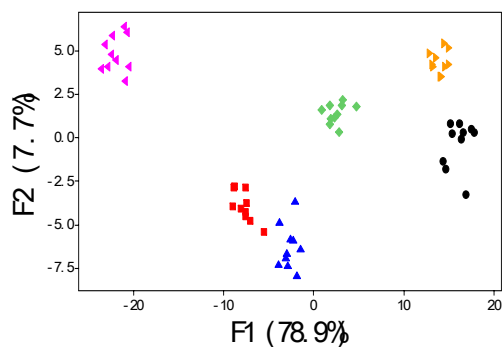
pH 5



Anions

- Blank
- K⁺
- ◆ Li⁺
- ▲ Na⁺
- ▲ NH₄⁺
- ▲ TBA⁺

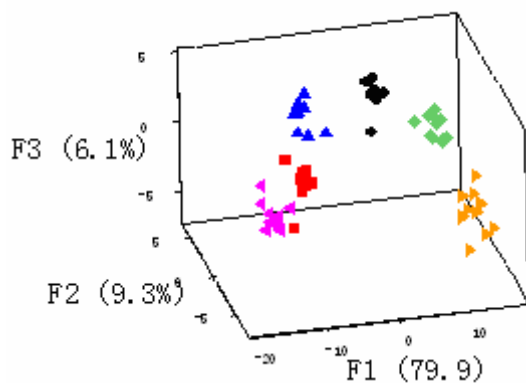
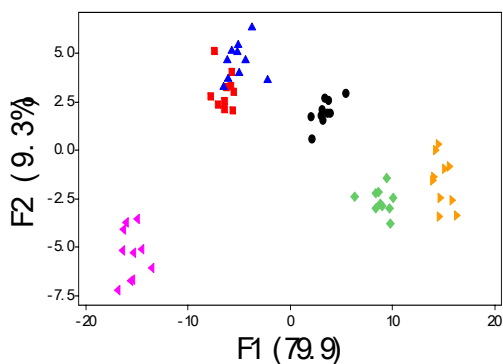
pH 6



Anions

- Blank
- K⁺
- ◆ Li⁺
- ▲ Na⁺
- ▲ NH₄⁺
- ▲ TBA⁺

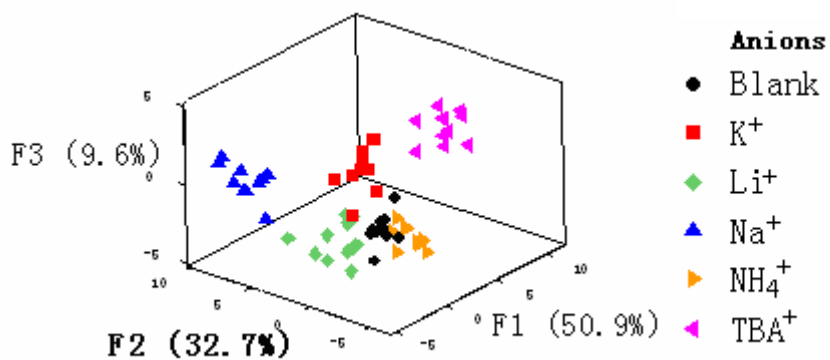
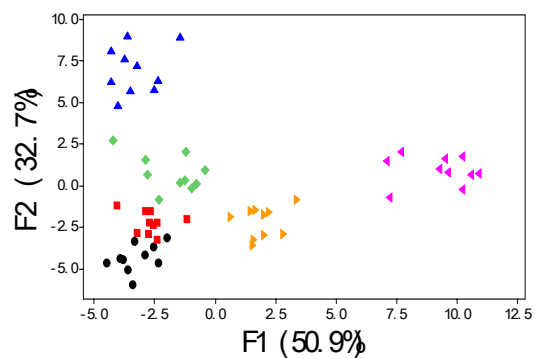
pH 7



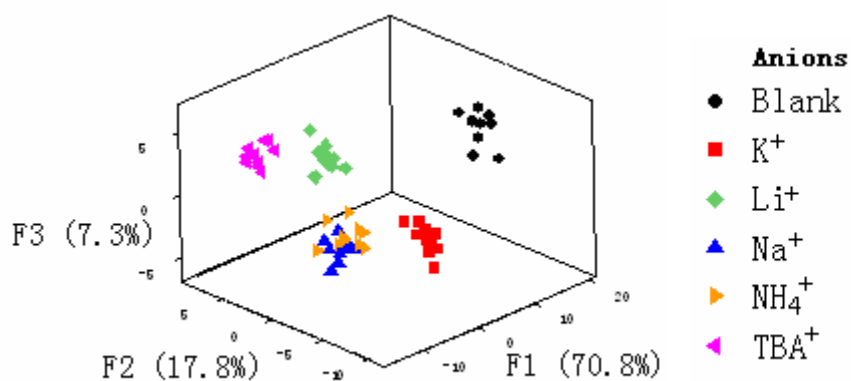
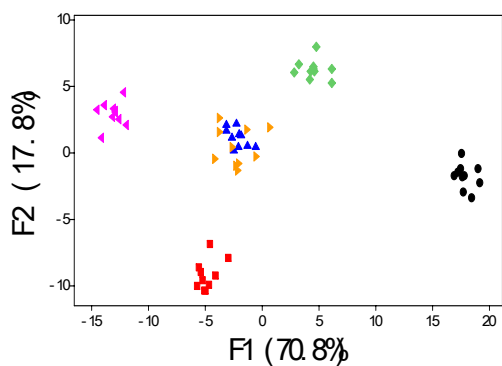
Anions

- Blank
- K⁺
- ◆ Li⁺
- ▲ Na⁺
- ▲ NH₄⁺
- ▲ TBA⁺

pH 8

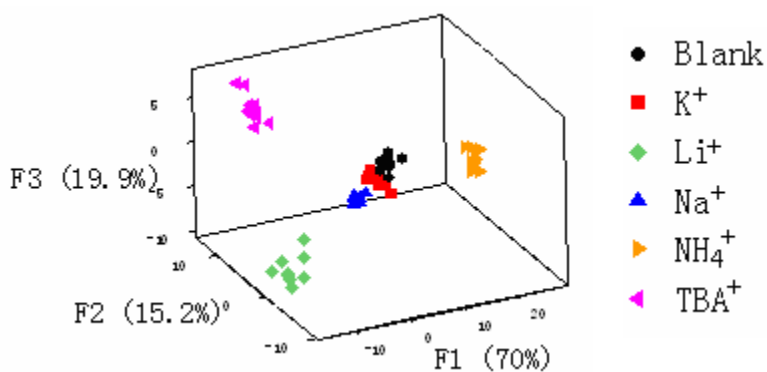
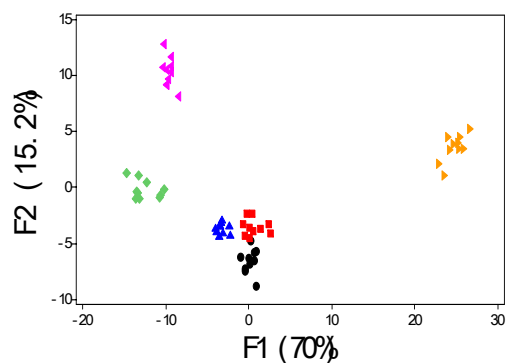


pH 9

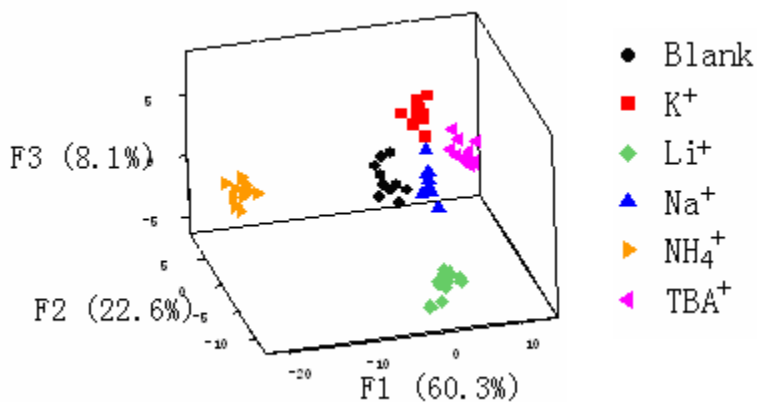
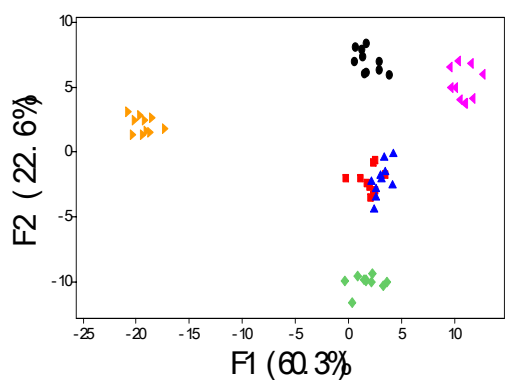


LDA for cations in the form of their nitrate salts at different pH values

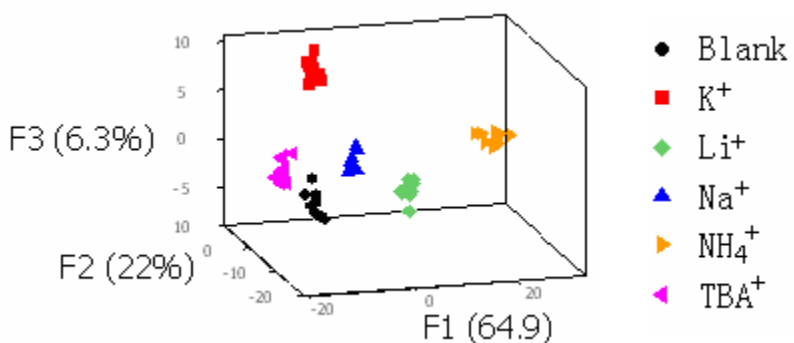
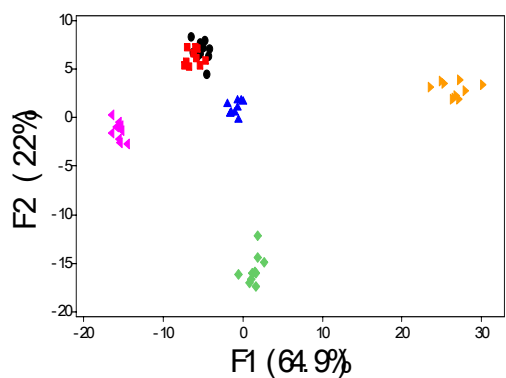
pH5



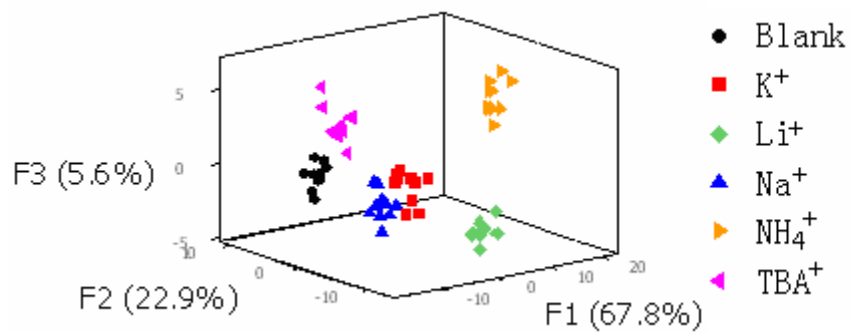
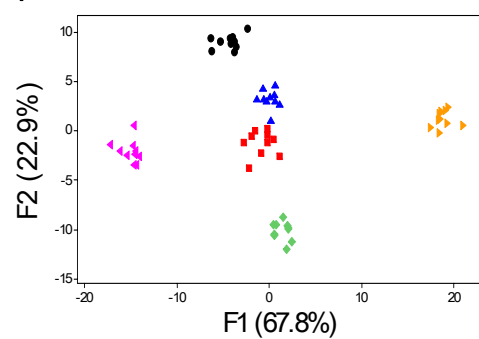
pH6



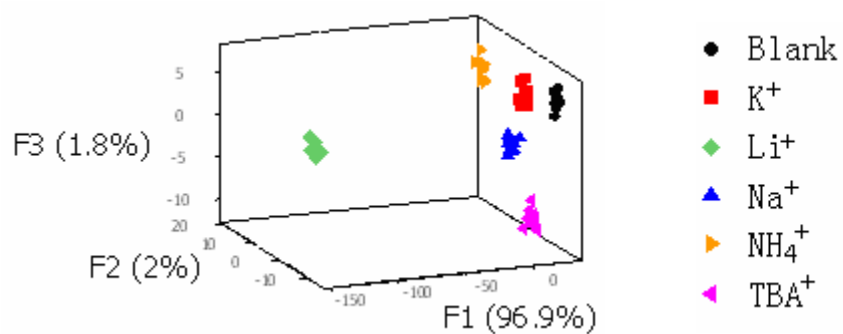
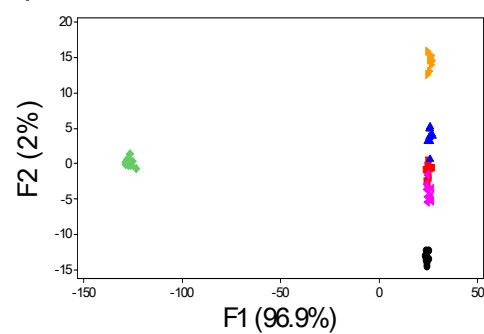
pH7



pH 8

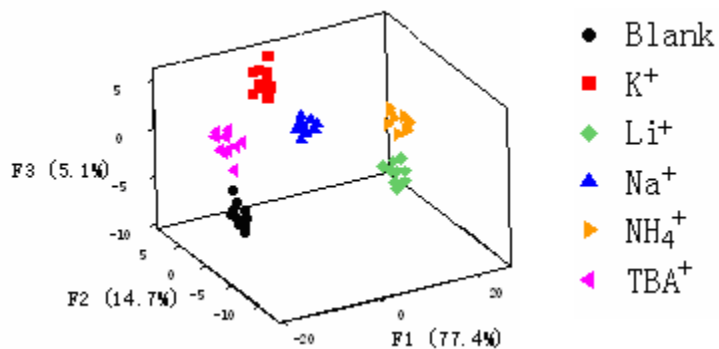
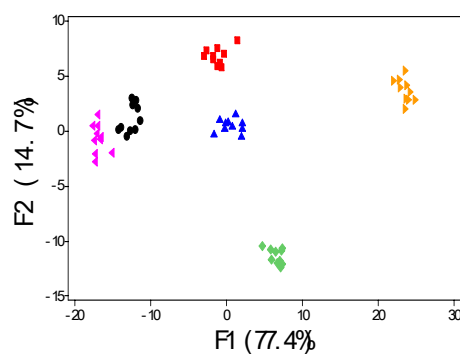


pH 9

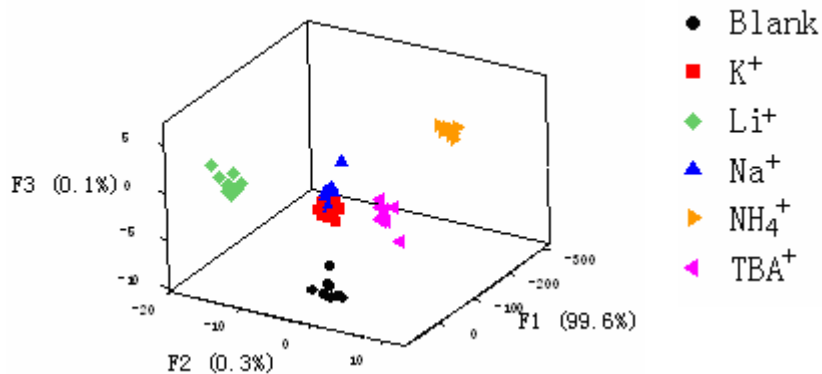
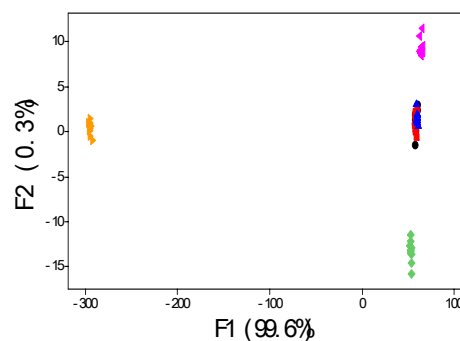


LDA for cations in the form of their dihydrogenphosphate salts at different pH values

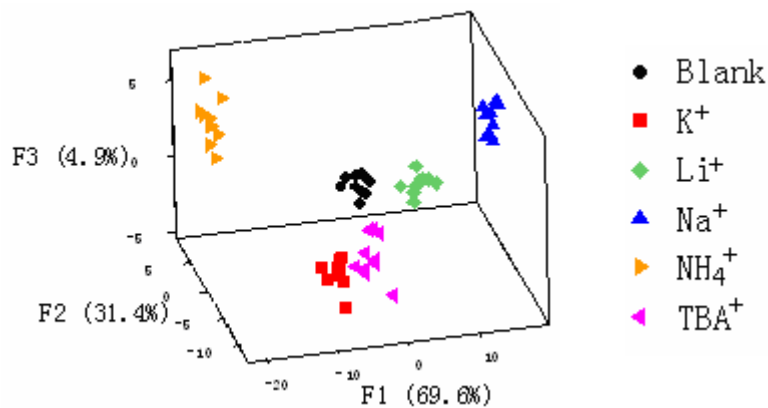
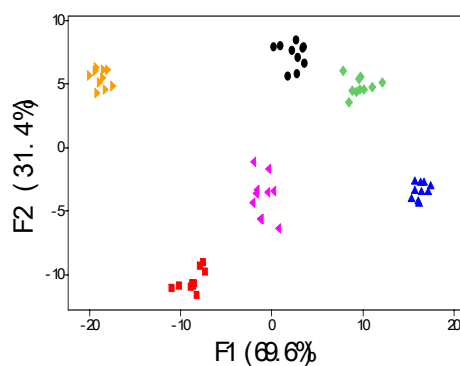
pH5



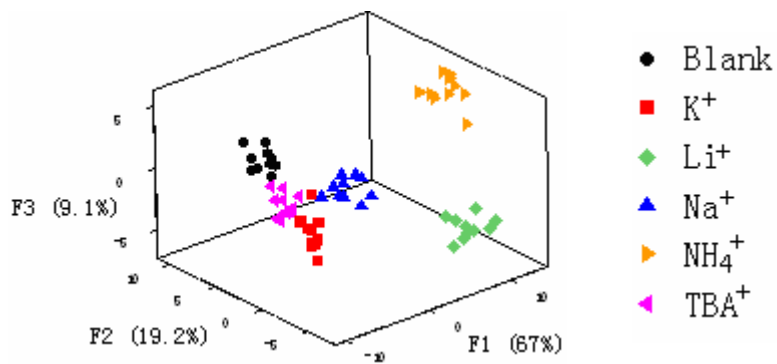
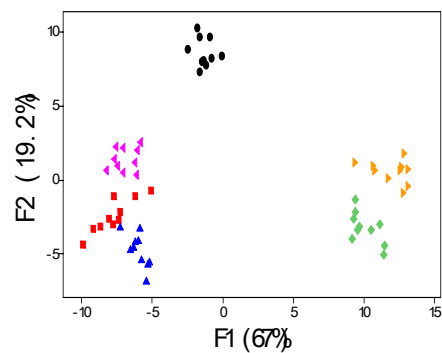
pH6



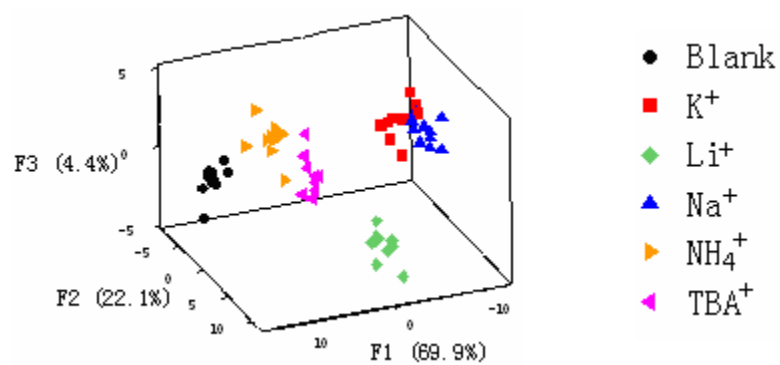
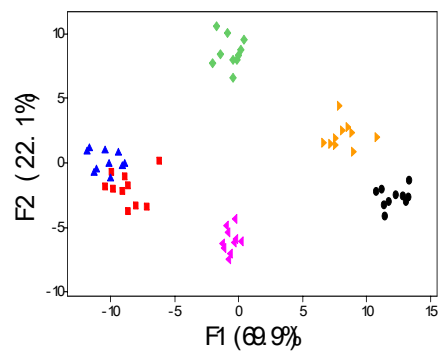
pH7



pH8

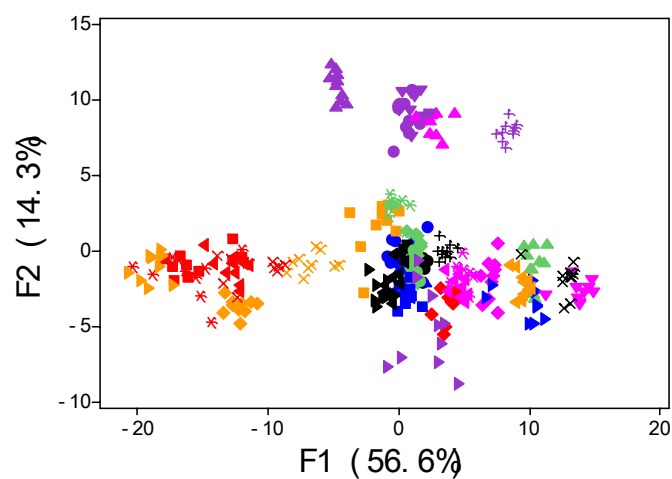


pH9



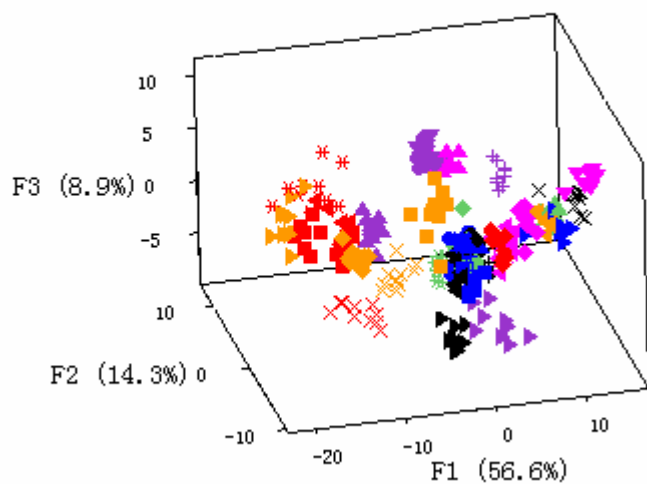
Linear Discriminant Analysis for Ion-pairs at different pH values

pH 5

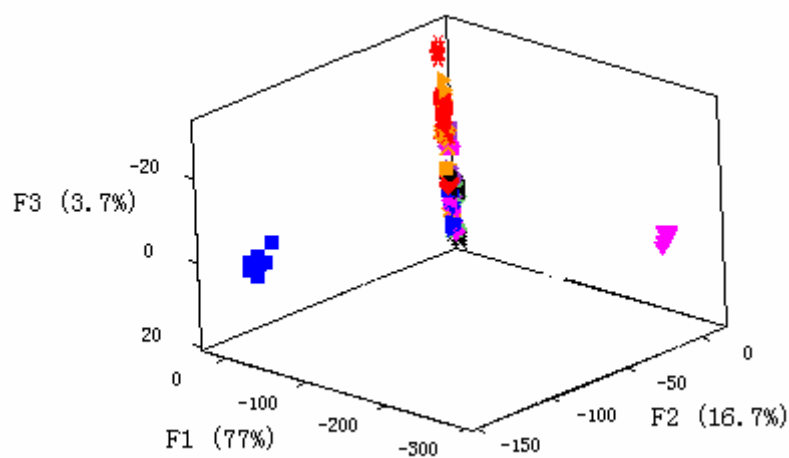
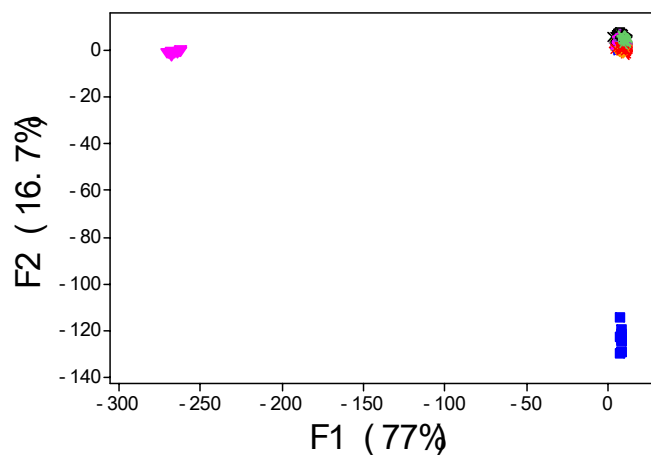


Ion-pairs

- Blank
- KAcO
- ◆ KBr
- ▲ KCl
- ▶ KF
- ▼ KH₂PO₄
- ▼ KI
- + KNO₃
- × LiAcO
- * LiBr
- LiCl
- LiF
- ◆ LiH₂PO₄
- ▲ LiI
- ▶ LiNO₃
- ▼ NaAcO
- ▼ NaBr
- + NaCl
- × NaF
- * NaH₂PO₄
- NaI
- NaNO₃
- ◆ NH₄AcO
- ▲ NH₄Br
- ▶ NH₄Cl
- ▼ NH₄F
- ▼ NH₄H₂PO₄
- + NH₄I
- × NH₄NO₃
- * TBA-AcO
- TBA-Br
- TBA-Cl
- ◆ TBA-F
- ▲ TBA-I
- ▶ TBA-NO₃
- ▼ TBAH₂PO₄



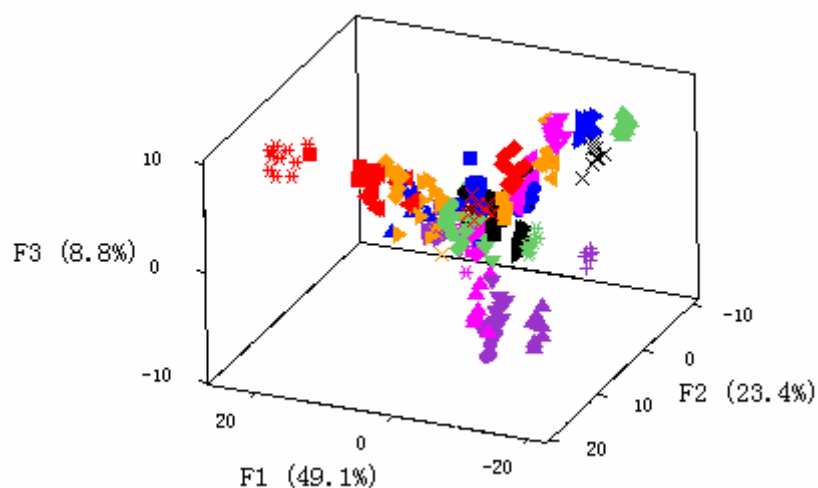
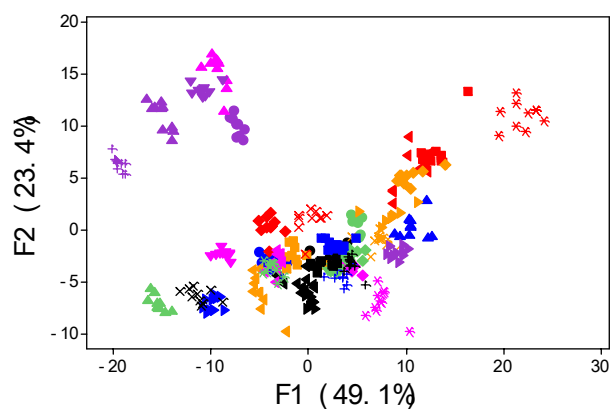
pH 6



Ion-pairs

- Blank
- KAcO
- ◆ KBr
- ▲ KCl
- ▶ KF
- ▼ KH2PO4
- ▼ KI
- + KNO3
- × LiAcO
- * LiBr
- LiCl
- LiF
- ◆ LiH2PO4
- ▲ LiI
- ▶ LiNO3
- ▼ NaAcO
- ▼ NaBr
- + NaCl
- × NaF
- * NaH2PO4
- NaI
- NaNO3
- ◆ NH4AcO
- ▲ NH4Br
- ▶ NH4Cl
- ▼ NH4F
- ▼ NH4H2PO4
- + NH4I
- × NH4NO3
- * TBA-AcO
- TBA-Br
- TBA-Cl
- ◆ TBA-F
- ▲ TBA-I
- ▶ TBA-NO3
- ▼ TBAH2PO4

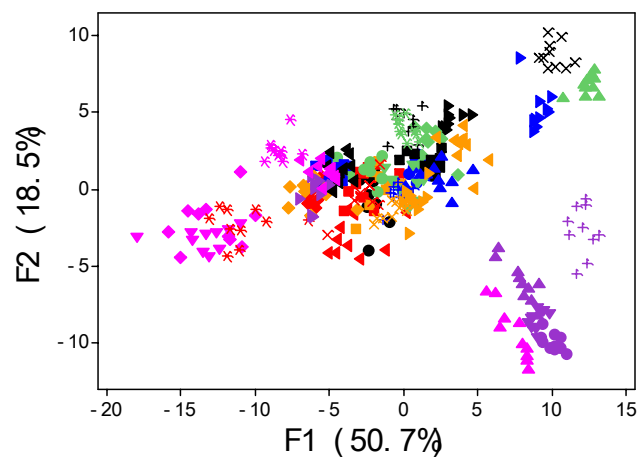
pH 7



Ion-pairs

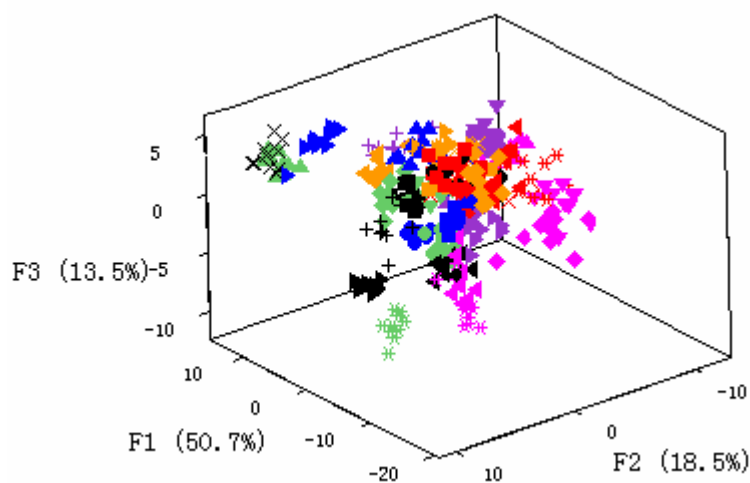
- Blank
- KAcO
- ◆ KBr
- ▲ KCl
- ▶ KF
- ▼ KH2PO4
- ▼ KI
- + KNO3
- × LiAcO
- * LiBr
- LiCl
- LiF
- ◆ LiH2PO4
- ▲ LiI
- ▶ LiNO3
- ▼ NaAcO
- ▼ NaBr
- + NaCl
- × NaF
- * NaH2PO4
- NaI
- NaNO3
- ◆ NH4AcO
- ▲ NH4Br
- ▶ NH4Cl
- ▼ NH4F
- ▼ NH4H2PO4
- + NH4I
- × NH4NO3
- * TBA-AcO
- TBA-Br
- TBA-Cl
- ◆ TBA-F
- ▲ TBA-I
- ▶ TBA-NO3
- ▼ TBAH2PO4

pH 8

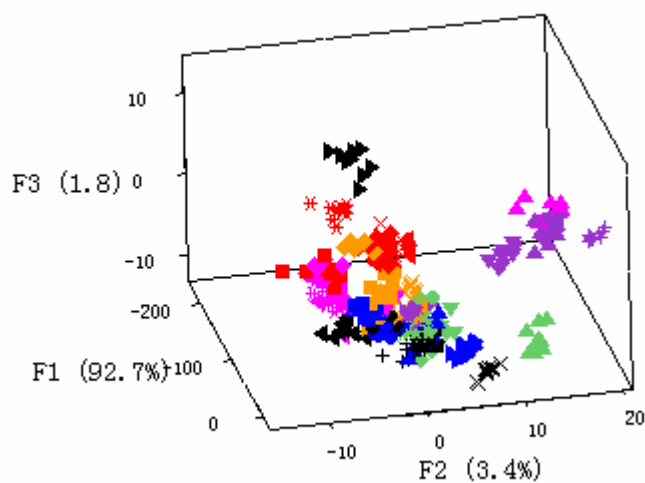
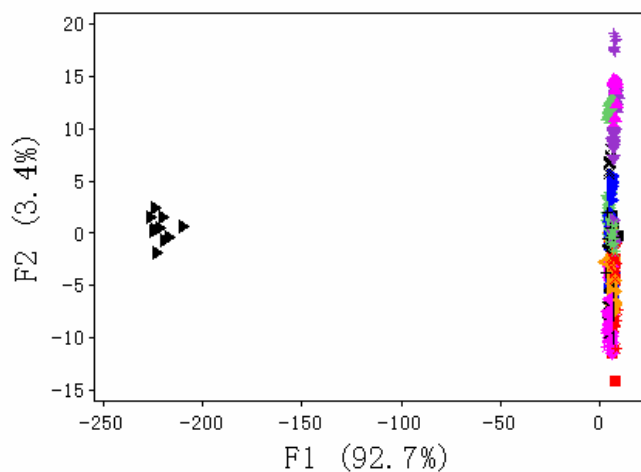


Ion-pairs

- Blank
- KAcO
- ◆ KBr
- ▲ KCl
- ▶ KF
- ▼ KH₂PO₄
- ▼ KI
- + KN₃
- × LiAcO
- * LiBr
- LiCl
- LiF
- ◆ LiH₂PO₄
- ▲ LiI
- ▶ LiNO₃
- ▼ NaAcO
- ◆ NaBr
- + NaCl
- × NaF
- * NaH₂PO₄
- NaI
- NaNO₃
- ◆ NH₄AcO
- ▲ NH₄Br
- ▶ NH₄Cl
- ▼ NH₄F
- ◆ NH₄H₂PO₄
- + NH₄I
- × NH₄NO₃
- * TBA-AcO
- TBA-Br
- TBA-Cl
- ◆ TBA-F
- ▲ TBA-I
- ▶ TBA-NO₃
- ▼ TBAH₂PO₄



pH 9



Ion-pairs

- Blank
- KAcO
- ◆ KBr
- ▲ KCl
- ▶ KF
- ▼ KH₂PO₄
- ▼ KI
- + KNO₃
- × LiAcO
- * LiBr
- LiCl
- LiF
- ◆ LiH₂PO₄
- ▲ LiI
- ▶ LiNO₃
- ▼ NaAcO
- ▼ NaBr
- + NaCl
- × NaF
- * NaH₂PO₄
- NaI
- NaNO₃
- ◆ NH₄AcO
- ▲ NH₄Br
- ▶ NH₄Cl
- ▼ NH₄F
- ▼ NH₄H₂PO₄
- + NH₄I
- × NH₄NO₃
- * TBA-AcO
- TBA-Br
- TBA-Cl
- ◆ TBA-F
- ▲ TBA-I
- ▶ TBA-NO₃
- ▼ TBAH₂PO₄

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Relative response (heat) map of the recorded 24×180 replica-averaged values illustrates the high output signal variability recorded from the array across the whole dataset

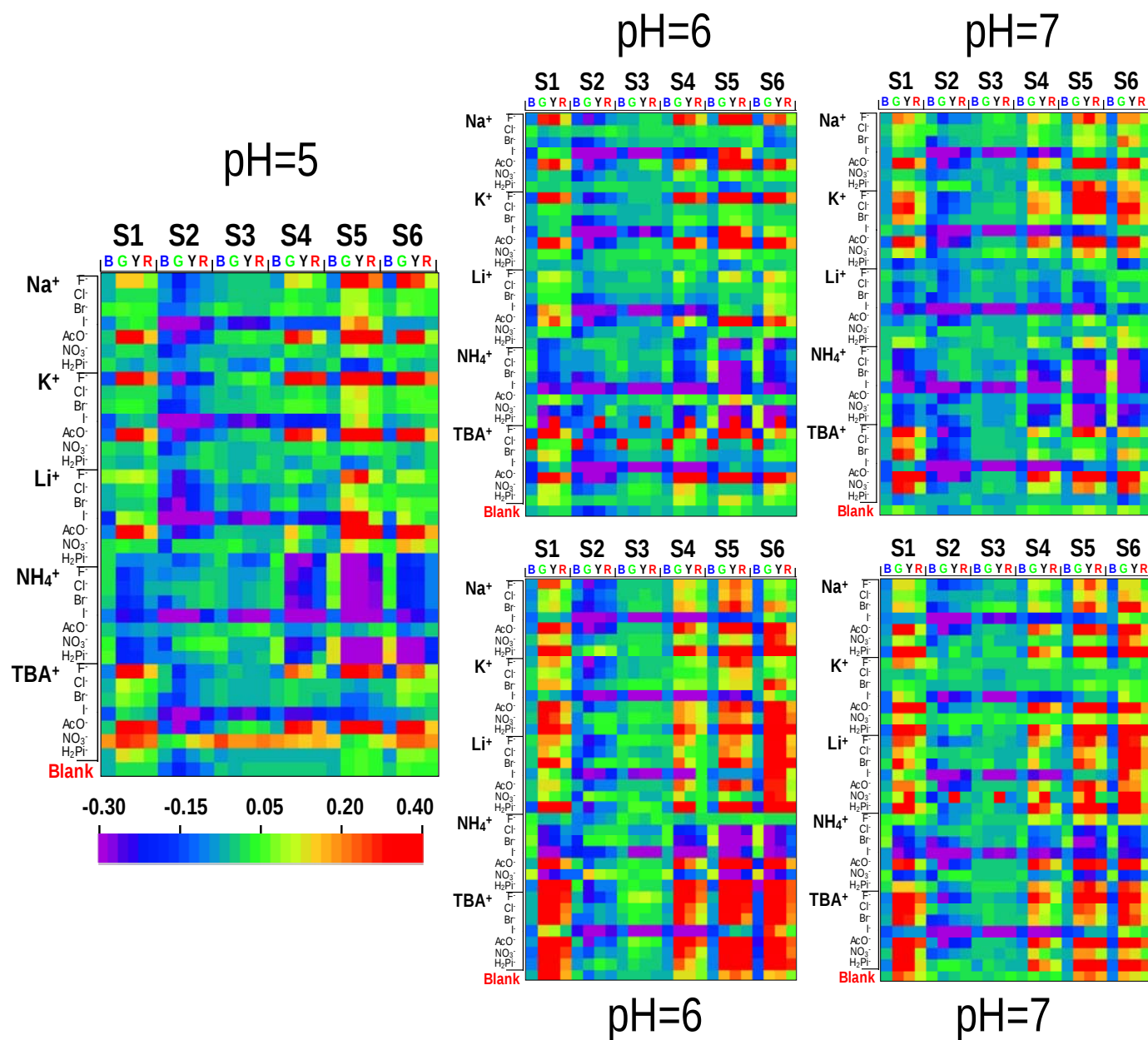


Table 1. Summary table of LDA cross-validated (leave-one-out) classification accuracy for anions in the presence of different cations at different pH values.

pH	Li ⁺	Na ⁺	K ⁺	NH ₄ ⁺	TBA ⁺
5	100%	98%	90%	86%	94%
6	99%	96%	100%	100%	100%
7	95%	96%	93%	100%	100%
8	100%	93%	94%	100%	94%
9	99%	99%	93%	98%	98%

Table 2. Summary table of LDA cross-validated (leave-one-out) classification accuracy for cations in the presence of different anions at different pH values.

pH	F ⁻	Cl ⁻	Br ⁻	I ⁻	AcO ⁻	NO ₃ ⁻	H ₂ PO ₄ ⁻
5	98%	97%	100%	93%	90%	92%	98%
6	100%	93%	97%	100%	97%	98%	92%
7	90%	98%	100%	98%	93%	100%	97%
8	95%	97%	100%	95%	92%	97%	95%
9	100%	100%	100%	93%	95%	97%	93%

Table 3. LDA cross-validated (leave-one-out) classification accuracy for **ion-pair** at different pH values.

pH	5	6	7	8	9
Classification accuracy (%)	89%	95%	94%	93%	93%

Reference

- 1 Zhuo Wang, Manuel A. Palacios, and Pavel Anzenbacher, Jr. *Anal. Chem.* 2008, 80, 7451-7459.
- 2 Palacios, M. A., Wang, Z., Montes, V. A., Zyryanov, G.V., Hausch, B. J., Jursikova, K., Anzenbacher, P., Jr. *Chem. Commun.* 2007, 3708-3710.