#### **ORIGINAL ARTICLE**

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# **Qualitative changes in each part of yellowtail** *Seriola quinqueradiata* **fesh during cold storage**

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## **Abstract**

To evaluate the important odor components in raw yellowtail, volatiles from each part of stored yellowtail fesh were analyzed using gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC–MS) and olfactometry (GC–O). The principal component analysis (PCA) results from GC–MS of 88 volatiles showed that PC1 separated the data into two groups [the dark muscle (DM) long storage] and [the ordinary muscle (OM) + DM no storage + DM short storage]. Eleven compounds, including 2,3-butanedione, in 24 kinds of odors were identifed or tentatively estimated using GC–O analysis. The numbers of odors perceived at the maximum split ratio (243) in GC–O analysis were 8 and 12 from OM and DM, respectively, irrespective of storage time. Kovats retention index 1387 (unknown compound, fshy and plastic odor) had the strongest odor in both muscles before and after storage. GC–O analysis showed that DM odors were more intense than those from dorsal OM. Moreover, their intensities increased during storage. Sensory evaluation revealed that DM had a stronger odor than OM throughout the storage period. These fndings suggested that odor components, which showed small thresholds, as well as other identifed components from DM, such as 2,3-butanedione, contributed to the yellowtail meat odor before and after storage.

**Keywords** Odor compounds · Yellowtail fesh · Dark muscle · Ordinary muscle · Volatiles · Storage · Gas chromatographyolfactometry

## **Introduction**

Fish fesh is rich in high-quality protein and in n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs), such as eicosapentaenoic acid, and docosahexaenoic acid. Dark muscle (DM)

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in fsh fesh, in particular, is abundant in various bioactive and nutritious compounds such as glutathione, heme iron, and taurine, in addition to the abovementioned compounds (Song et al. [2000;](#page-13-0) Sohn et al. [2005;](#page-13-1) Sohn et al. [2007;](#page-13-2) Tan-imoto et al. [2011](#page-13-3)). Hence, fish meat is recommended for maintaining a healthy lifestyle. However, fsh meat deteriorates easily during storage and processing. Odor change is one of the most infuential factors in degrading the quality of fsh. Some individuals tend to not eat fsh-based cuisine due to its pungent odor.

The yellowtail fsh, *Seriola quinqueradiata,* is important for aquaculture in Japan. The production of this fsh, which is farmed in southern parts of Japan, was 140,292 tonnes in 2015 (Production, Marketing and Consumption Statistics Division, Statistics Department, Minister's Secretariat, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Kaimen Gyogyou Toukeichousa, sea fshery statistics: [http://www.e](http://www.e-stat.go.jp/SG1/estat/List.do%3flid%3d000001167223/)[stat.go.jp/SG1/estat/List.do?lid=000001167223/](http://www.e-stat.go.jp/SG1/estat/List.do%3flid%3d000001167223/) "accessed 4 August 2017"). The fish is produced for domestic consumption, as well as for export. The Japanese eat yellowtail meat in its raw and cooked state. Ordinary muscle (OM) from yellowtail, individually or in combination with DM, is used in Japanese cuisine. The quality of fsh meat, especially that of raw meat, is important for consumer acceptability.

Many studies have examined changes in the volatile com-pounds during storage in various fish types (Kawai [1996](#page-13-4); Ganeko et al. [2008;](#page-13-5) Miyasaki et al. [2011](#page-13-6); François et al. [2012](#page-13-7); Moreira et al. [2013](#page-13-8); Foteini et al. [2014\)](#page-13-9). Several carbonyl compounds are secondary oxidation products from action of lipoxygenase or auto-oxidation of PUFAs. These volatiles might be involved in imparting the characteristic fishy odor to fish flesh (Josephson et al. [1984\)](#page-13-10). Trimethylamine is another contributor to the odor of seawater fsh (Koizumi et al. [1979](#page-13-11)). However, Ganeko et al. ([2008](#page-13-5)) and Miyasaki et al. ([2011](#page-13-6)) reported that carbonyl compounds, rather than trimethylamine, contribute to the fshy odor of fish flesh. However, most of abovementioned studies were carried out on OM or fsh fesh from which DM was not removed. Although we have previously studied changes in the volatile compounds in OM as well as DM of yellowtail during short-term cold storage (Tanimoto and Shimoda [2016](#page-13-12)), there has been limited information regarding volatile compounds in DM (Tokunaga et al. [1981;](#page-13-13) Hiratsuka et al. [2011](#page-13-14)). In particular, volatile compounds that contribute to odors in DM and OM of yellowtail before and after cold storage remain unclear.

The objective of this study was to evaluate the important odor components in both OM and DM of yellowtail fsh fesh before and after cold storage, using solid phase microextraction (SPME), followed by GC–MS and olfactometry (GC–O). We also measured visible cell counts, color, two indices of oxidation [thiobarbituric acid-reactive substances (TBARS) and peroxide value (PV)], and fatty acid composition, and evaluated the sensory characteristics of yellowtail fsh meat to investigate the relationship between favor components (volatile compounds) and these parameters during cold storage.

## **Materials and methods**

#### **Experimental animals**

Six cultured yellowtail fsh, *Seriola quinqueradiata* were purchased from a local market in Hiroshima, Japan. The average weight of these fish was  $5.4 \pm 1.2$  kg. The fish were transported to the laboratory on ice within 8 h of being killed at the market and then flleted. Left and right fllets of each fish were used in the study. The fillets from two fish were rinsed with chilled 1% saline, and were separated according to each part of the fesh (OM: dorsal fesh, ventral fesh, caudal fesh, and DM). Each part was minced using a food processor (MK-K60P, Panasonic, Kadoma, Osaka, Japan). The minced flesh was wrapped with a polyethylene film to be shaped into thin plates  $(9.5 \times 7.0 \times 1.0 \text{ cm})$  without headspace to prevent the surface from drying. The plates were stored in ice for 14 days or at 5 °C for 7 days. At 0, 3, 7, and 14 days of storage in ice, and at 1, 3, and 7 days of storage at 5 °C, each sample was frozen in a blast chiller/ freezer (iRiNOX AL-5 M, FMI, Osaka, Japan) and stored at − 80 °C until analyses, with the exception of psychrophilic viable cell count and color measurement. This process was repeated 3 times. Three samples from each part of the fesh were prepared in this study  $(n = 3)$ .

## **Viable cell counts**

Each part of the flesh  $(5 g)$  from three replicates was homogenized with 45 ml of 0.85% physiological saline on the day of sampling. The homogenates were serially diluted using the same solution. Viable cell counts were determined by plating 1-ml aliquots of diluted or undiluted samples on plates of standard agar medium (0.25% yeast extract, 0.5% polypeptone, 0.1% glucose, 1.5% agar, and fnal pH 7.1). The plates were aerobically incubated at 35 °C for  $48 \pm 3$  h. Colonies were counted after the incubation. Viable cell counts were expressed as colony forming units per sample weight (cfu/g).

#### **Color measurements**

The browning of DM was evaluated by measuring the *b*/*a* ratio on sampling day (Hiraoka et al. [2004\)](#page-13-15). The *a* (redness/ greenness) and *b* (yellowness/blueness) values were measured using a colorimeter (CR-400; Konica Minolta Optics, Inc., Tokyo, Japan). An average of six measurements on the surface of a minced DM was used for calculating the average from three replicate samples.

## **Determination of TBARS values**

A frozen sample (0.50–2.50 g) from three replicates was homogenized in an appropriate volume (2- to 64-fold volume) of 1.15% KCl solution (*w*/*v*) on ice using a glass/ Teflon Potter–Elvehjem tissue homogenizer. The homogenate (200 μl) was mixed with 650 μl TBA-EDTA solution (0.20 ml of 5.2% SDS solution (*w*/*v*), 50 μl of 0.8% dibutylhydroxytoluene in acetate (*w*/*v*), 1.50 ml of 0.80% thiobarbituric acid solution (*w*/*v*), 1.70 ml of 3.0 mM EDTA), and 150 μl of 3.40 M sodium acetate buffer (pH 3.5) in a screwcapped test tube. This mixture was kept on ice for 1 h. The tube was heated in boiling water for 60 min and immediately cooled to room temperature. One milliliter of n-butanol-pyridine mixture (30:2) was vortexed with the reaction mixture. After centrifugation at 700×*g* for 10 min, absorbance of the butanol layer was measured at 532 nm. The concentrations of TBARS in the fesh samples were expressed as nmol malondialdehyde/g fesh using 1,1,3,3-tetramethoxypropane as the standard.

#### **Total lipid content**

Lipids were extracted using chloroform/methanol (2:1), according to the method given by Bligh and Dyer ([1959](#page-13-16)). A frozen sample (2.5 g of DM and 5.0 g of OM) from three replicates was used for analysis. The total lipid content was determined gravimetrically.

#### **Determination of PV**

PV of the total lipid fraction from fish flesh was analyzed using a diphenyl-1-pyrenylphosphine-based fuorometric method with a slight modifcation (Akasaka et al. [1992](#page-13-17)). PV of corn oil, as determined by iodometry, was used as a standard for calculation of PV (AOCS [1960\)](#page-13-18). This value was expressed as mmol/kg total lipid.

#### **Fatty acid composition**

The total lipid fraction was converted to fatty acid methyl ester by direct trans-esterifcation using methanol containing 5–10% hydrochloric acid (Tokyo Kasei Kogyo Co. Ltd., Tokyo, Japan). The composition of the fatty acid esters was determined from gas chromatography using a Shimadzu GC 14A (Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan), equipped with a fame ionization detector (GC–FID). Separation was achieved on an InertCap WAX capillary column (30 m  $\times$  0.25 mm, 0.25μm flm thickness, Tokyo, GL sciences, Inc.) under conditions described below. The temperature was held at 50 °C for 5 min, then raised at a rate of 10 °C/min to 250 °C, and held for 15 min. The temperature was further increased at a rate of 10 °C/min to 260 °C with a fnal hold time of 10 min. The injection port and detector were maintained at 250 and 260 °C, respectively. Helium was used as the carrier gas with a constant inlet head pressure of 100 kPa. The injection was conducted in split mode (split ratio, 10).

#### **SPME of volatile compounds**

A frozen sample (1.5 g) from three replicates was homogenized in 7.5 ml saturated NaCl solution on ice, using a glass/Teflon Potter–Elvehjem tissue homogenizer. This saturated solution was used to accelerate transfer of volatile compounds to the vial headspace by salting-out efect. The homogenate was centrifuged at 10,000×*g* for 15 min at 0 °C. The supernatant  $(5.0 \text{ ml})$  was mixed with  $5 \mu$ l of  $0.010\%$ cyclohexanol solution (internal standard) in a 20-ml vial. The vial was tightly capped with a polypropylene holed-cap with a polytetrafuoroethylene/silicone septum and incubated in a water bath for 60 min at 40 °C. After incubation, a SPME fber (Supelco Co., Bellefonte, PA, USA) coated with 75 μm of carboxen-polydimethylsiloxane was exposed in the vial headspace for 30 min at 40 °C. After extraction, the fber was retrieved and placed in the injection port of a GC–MS or a GC–FID for sampling.

#### **Gas chromatography–mass spectrometry**

Volatile compounds were analyzed using a Shimadzu GCMS-QP2010 mass spectrometer (Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan). Separation was carried out on a DB-WAX capillary column (30 m  $\times$  0.25 mm, 0.5-µm film thickness, Agilent Technologies, Inc., Santa Clara, CA, USA). Separation was achieved as follows. The temperature was held at 35 °C for 10 min, then raised at a rate of 4 °C/min to 230 °C. The mass spectrometer was operated in the electron-impact ionization (EI) mode. The temperature of the GC–MS transfer line was 200 °C. The ionization voltage was set at 70 eV. The mass spectrometer scanned masses from 40 to 300 m/z at a rate of 2.0 scan/s. The Kovats retention index (KI) was determined using a homologous series of n-alkanes (C9–19) (Kovats [1965](#page-13-19)):

$$
KI = 100 \times \left[ n + \frac{\log t_x - \log t_n}{\log t_{n+1} - \log t_n} \right],
$$

where *n* is the number of carbon atoms in reference n-alkane;  $t_r$ , the retention time of a volatile compound, and  $t_n$  and  $t_{n+1}$ are the retention times of n-alkanes which elute immediately before and after the volatile compound (*x*). The compounds were identified by comparison with mass spectra from NIST/EPA/NIH Mass Spectral Library (NIST 11) (National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD, USA) and the Kovats retention index. The injection port was maintained at 230 °C. Helium was used as the carrier gas with a constant inlet head pressure of 50 kPa. Injection was conducted in splitless mode for 1.0 min with simultaneous cryofocusing with liquid nitrogen and in a split mode for 5.0 min (split ratio, 10). The semi-quantitative value of each volatile in each fsh sample (ng/g) was estimated by using the ratio of total ion peak area of the volatile to that of the internal standard (0.010% cyclohexanol solution).

## **Gas chromatography–fame ionization detector/ olfactometry (GC–FID/O)**

Odor compounds were analyzed using a Shimadzu GC 2014 (Shimadzu), equipped with FID (Shimadzu) and snifing port (OP275, GL sciences, Inc.). A DB-WAX capillary column (30 m  $\times$  0.25 mm, 0.5-µm film thickness, Agilent Technologies) was used for separation. The inlet head pressure of the carrier gas was constant at 100 kPa. The detector

was maintained at 240 °C. The split ratio was set at 1, 3, 9, 27, 81 or 243 to evaluate intensity of the odor compound. Other chromatographic conditions for the GC–FID/O analysis were same as those for the GC–MS analysis. The effluent from the capillary column was split 1:1  $(v/v)$  between the FID and the sniffing port using a "Y" splitter. A panel of two trained assessors (female, undergraduate and graduate students of the Prefectural University of Hiroshima, aged 23 and 24) performed GC–O snifng analysis. The assessors decided the retention time and odor characteristics when an odor was perceived.

#### **Sensory evaluation**

Sensory evaluation was conducted by 33 trained panelists (2 males and 31 females aged from 21 to 23 years; all were undergraduate and graduate students of the Prefectural University of Hiroshima). The scaling method using a 5-point scale (1, very weak; 2, weak; 3, normal; 4, strong; 5, very strong) was used for the evaluation. The panel judged the intensities of overall, fshy, and oily odor of each part of the raw fsh fesh before storage and after 7 days of storage at 0 °C. A frozen sample (5 g) was put into a vial (20 ml) and thawed on ice. After 1 h, the sample was evaluated.

#### **Statistical analyses**

Student's *t*-test and Tukey's multiple-range test were applied to determine diferences between the mean values of samples. The analyses were performed using SPSS Statistics 17.0 (IBM Japan, Ltd., Tokyo, Japan). The signifcance level was set at 5%. Principal component analysis (PCA) was performed with Pirouette 4.5 (Infometrix, Inc., Bothell, WA, USA) to analyze the data of volatile compounds from GC–MS.

## **Results**

#### **Viable cell counts and color**

Figure [1](#page-3-0) indicates the changes in viable cell counts of yellowtail fish flesh during storage. After 7 days of storage at 5 °C, viable cells in OM of the ventral fesh increased significantly  $(P < 0.05)$ , but the increase in magnitude was only one order, as compared to its initial values. The other yellowtail fesh at 5 °C and all fesh at 0 °C showed no signifcant increment during storage. There were no signifcant diferences among viable cell counts in the fesh of yellowtail fsh after the same storage times. Figure [2](#page-3-1) indicates the changes in *b*/*a* values of DM during storage at 0 and 5 °C. The b/a values of DM after 7 days of storage at 0 °C and 5 °C were signifcantly higher than those before storage  $(P < 0.05)$ . Therefore, although browning (metmyoglobin



<span id="page-3-1"></span>**Fig. 2** Changes in b/a values during storage of dark muscles at 0 and 5 °C. *Error bars* represent standard deviation for the sample triplicates  $(n = 3)$ . The different letters for the same storage temperature are significantly different  $(P < 0.05)$ 

<span id="page-3-0"></span>**Fig. 1** Microbiological changes in yellowtail fesh at 0 °C (*left*), and 5 °C (*right*) during storage. *OD* ordinary muscle in dorsal part, *OV* ordinary muscle in ventral part, *OC* ordinary muscle in caudal part, *DM* dark muscle. *Error bars* represent standard deviation for the sample triplicates  $(n = 3)$ . Diferent letters for OV stored at 5 °C indicate signifcant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ). There is no signifcant diference among diferent types of fesh at the same storage time



formation) of yellowtail DM occurred during storage, no microbial action was observed in yellowtail fsh fesh under the storage conditions in the present study.

#### **Lipid oxidation and fatty acid composition**

Table [1](#page-4-0) indicates the changes in TBARS, PV, and total lipid content of yellowtail fesh during storage at 0 and 5 °C. Levels of TBARS in yellowtail DM at the same storage time, except on day 3, were significantly higher  $(P < 0.05)$  at both storage temperatures, as compared with those in the other fesh. TBARS values of DM were signifcantly higher than those before storage ( $P < 0.05$ ) at 14 and 7 days of storage at 0 °C and 5 °C, respectively. TBARS levels of the OM samples were not signifcantly diferent after storage, as compared to the fresh samples, except for ventral fesh after day 7 of storage at 0 °C and dorsal fesh at day 7 of storage at 5 °C. In contrast, there were no signifcant diferences among the PVs in each type of yellowtail fesh before storage and after the same storage time. PV in ventral fesh at day 14 of storage at 0 °C and at day 7 of storage at 5 °C and in dorsal flesh at day 7 of storage at  $5^{\circ}$ C were significantly higher than those before storage (*P* < 0.05). The total lipid contents of caudal fesh of OM were signifcantly lower than those of the ventral fesh of OM and of the DM at the same storage time and temperature. The total lipid content in each type of yellowtail fesh did not change signifcantly during storage at either temperature.

Table [2](#page-5-0) shows the fatty acid composition of yellowtail fish flesh at day 0 and day 14 of storage at  $0^{\circ}$ C. The fatty acid composition of each type of yellowtail fesh at the same storage time and temperature was not signifcantly diferent from each other, except for a part of the fatty acid species (Supplementary data Tables S1 and S2). In addition, percentages of all fatty acid species of each type of yellowtail fesh did not change signifcantly during storage at both temperatures.

#### **Volatile compounds**

Table [3](#page-6-0) shows the volatile compounds in yellowtail fsh fesh after storage at 0 and 5 °C. During storage, 88 compounds (26 aldehydes, 22 alcohols, 12 ketones, 9 alkanes, 5 carboxylic acids, 5 furans, 2 esters, 2 nitrogen-containing compounds, 2 sulfur-containing compounds, 1 lactone, and 2 other compounds) were identifed in the fesh (Supplementary data Tables S4–S7). The levels of many volatile compounds were significantly higher ( $P < 0.05$ ) in DM than in other types of fesh at the same storage time under both storage temperatures. Although the number of volatile compounds, which had signifcantly higher content in DM, as compared to other types of flesh ( $P < 0.05$ ), was 5 before storage, it changed to 45 after 14 days of storage at 0 °C and to 27 after 7 days of storage at 5 °C. The number of volatile compounds, which increased signifcantly during storage (*P* < 0.05), was 10–15 in OM and 40 in DM at 0 °C and 2–7 in OM and 31 in DM at 5 °C. These results indicated that

<span id="page-4-0"></span>**Table 1 TBARS, PV, and total lipid content of yellowtail fish flesh during storage at 0 and 5 °C** 

	Parts of flesh 0 day <sup>a</sup>		$0^{\circ}C^{c}$			$5^{\circ}C$		
			3 day	7 day	14 day	1 day	3 day	7 day
TBARS $(\mu mol/g)$	OD.						$0.09 \pm 0.03^{\text{Aa}}$ $0.14 \pm 0.10^{\text{Aa}}$ $0.28 \pm 0.26^{\text{Aa}}$ $0.49 \pm 0.27^{\text{Aa}}$ $0.12 \pm 0.03^{\text{Aab}}$ $0.22 \pm 0.17^{\text{Aab}}$ $0.41 \pm 0.17^{\text{Ab}}$	
	<b>OV</b>			$0.10 \pm 0.08^{\text{Aa}}$ $0.14 \pm 0.01^{\text{Aa}}$ $0.48 \pm 0.16^{\text{Ab}}$ $0.55 \pm 0.12^{\text{Ab}}$ $0.18 \pm 0.07^{\text{Aa}}$			$0.41 \pm 0.34$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$0.46 \pm 0.20$ <sup>Aa</sup>
	OC	$0.09 \pm 0.04$ <sup>Aa</sup>		$0.14 \pm 0.06^{\text{Aa}}$ $0.45 \pm 0.32^{\text{Aa}}$ $0.61 \pm 0.32^{\text{Aa}}$		$0.18 \pm 0.15$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$0.20 \pm 0.13$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$0.59 \pm 0.38$ <sup>Aa</sup>
	DM	$0.45 \pm 0.21^{\text{Ba}}$	$1.78 \pm 1.77$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$2.84 \pm 1.83^{\text{Ba}}$ 7.47 $\pm 2.03^{\text{Bb}}$		$1.52 \pm 0.92^{\text{Ba}}$	$2.93 \pm 2.31^{Aab}$	$7.14 \pm 2.58^{Bb}$
PV (mmol/kg) total lipid)	<b>OD</b>	$0.2 \pm 0.1^{Aa}$	$1.3 \pm 1.1^{Aa}$	$4.4 \pm 4.4^{Aa}$	$13.3 \pm 9.4$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$0.6 \pm 0.3^{\text{Aa}}$	$2.1 \pm 2.5^{\text{Aab}}$	$12.0 \pm 8.1^{Ab}$
	<b>OV</b>	$0.4 \pm 0.3$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$1.0 \pm 0.9$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$3.7 \pm 2.5^{\text{Aab}}$	$8.9 \pm 4.0^{Ab}$	$0.8 \pm 0.6$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$2.1 \pm 0.7$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$5.9 \pm 2.7^{Ab}$
	OC	$0.8 \pm 0.1^{Aa}$	$3.7 \pm 5.4$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$6.4 \pm 9.8$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$23.9 \pm 25.4$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$0.5 \pm 0.4^{\text{Aa}}$	$2.9 \pm 3.3$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$12.3 \pm 17.3$ <sup>Aa</sup>
	DM	$0.6 \pm 0.7^{\text{Aa}}$	$1.8 \pm 1.6$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$2.8 \pm 2.2$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$11.0 \pm 12.5$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$0.5 \pm 0.4^{Aa}$	$2.1 \pm 2.0^{Aa}$	$4.4 \pm 3.4$ <sup>Aa</sup>
Total lipid con- tent $(\%)$	<b>OD</b>	$12.2 \pm 3.4^{\text{ABa}}$	$13.7 \pm 2.5$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$14.8 \pm 1.8$ <sup>ABa</sup>	$14.0 \pm 1.4$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$13.4 \pm 1.9$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$13.2 \pm 2.2$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$15.9 \pm 2.1$ <sup>Aa</sup>
	<b>OV</b>	$19.5 + 3.5$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$20.9 \pm 4.5$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$17.3 \pm 6.4$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$22.3 \pm 3.2^{\text{Ba}}$	$19.6 \pm 4.3$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$22.5 \pm 4.3^{Ba}$	$24.8 \pm 3.2^{\text{Ba}}$
	OC	$6.2 \pm 0.8^{\text{Ba}}$	$4.6 \pm 2.7^{Ba}$	$6.0 \pm 1.1^{\text{Ba}}$	$6.6 \pm 1.3^{\text{Ca}}$	$5.1 \pm 0.9^{\text{Ba}}$	$5.3 \pm 2.4$ <sup>Ca</sup>	$6.2 \pm 0.6^{\text{Ca}}$
	DM	$16.6 \pm 3.5$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$14.4 \pm 3.7$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$17.2 \pm 0.4$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$18.2 \pm 2.7$ <sup>ABa</sup>	$13.9 \pm 2.2$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$15.3 \pm 0.8$ <sup>Aa</sup>	$11.4 \pm 7.0$ <sup>Aa</sup>

The values indicate mean  $\pm$  standard deviation of triplicate determinations ( $n = 3$ )

*OD* ordinary muscle in dorsal part, *OV* ordinary muscle in ventral part, *OC* ordinary muscle in caudal part, *DM* dark muscle

a Storage time

**b** Storage temperature

The different capital letters at the same storage time and temperature indicate significantly different values  $(P < 0.05)$ . The different small letters at the same storage temperature for the same flesh type indicate significantly different values ( $P < 0.05$ )

Fatty acids	<b>OD</b>		$\overline{\text{O}}\text{V}$		OC		DM	
	$0 \, day^a$	14 day	0 <sub>day</sub>	14 day	0 <sub>day</sub>	14 day	0 <sub>day</sub>	14 day
14:0	$4.3 \pm 1.0$	$4.4 \pm 0.9$	$4.4 \pm 0.9$	$4.4 \pm 1.1$	$4.3 \pm 0.9$	$4.3 \pm 0.9$	$4.0 \pm 1.2$	$3.8 \pm 0.9$
16:0	$18.9\pm0.4$	$18.9 \pm 0.9$	$18.4 \pm 0.5$	$18.6 \pm 0.7$	$19.1 \pm 0.5$	$19.3 \pm 0.3$	$19.6 \pm 2.0$	$18.8 \pm 1.0$
17:0	$0.4 \pm 0.1$	$0.4 \pm 0.1$	$0.4 \pm 0.1$	$0.4 \pm 0.1$	$0.4 \pm 0.0$	$0.4 \pm 0.1$	$0.5\pm0.1$	$0.4 \pm 0.0$
18:0	$3.8 \pm 0.2^{AB}$	$3.7 \pm 0.2^{AB}$	$3.5 \pm 0.1^{\rm A}$	$3.5 \pm 0.2^{\rm A}$	$4.1 \pm 0.2^{AB}$	$4.1 \pm 0.2^{AB}$	$4.4 \pm 0.5^{\rm B}$	$4.2 \pm 0.4^{\rm B}$
20:0	$0.3 \pm 0.1$	$0.2 \pm 0.1$	$0.2 \pm 0.0$	$0.2 \pm 0.0$	$0.3 \pm 0.0$	$0.3 \pm 0.0$	$0.3\pm0.1$	$0.3\pm0.1$
Saturated	$27.7 \pm 0.9$	$27.7 \pm 0.9$	$26.9 \pm 1.3$	$27.1 \pm 1.7$	$28.2\pm0.7$	$28.4 \pm 1.2$	$28.9\pm3.6$	$27.5 \pm 1.7$
16:1	$5.8 \pm 0.4$	$5.8\pm0.5$	$6.0\pm0.5$	$6.0 \pm 0.6$	$5.5\pm0.4$	$5.5\pm0.5$	$5.3\pm0.9$	$5.1\pm0.5$
17:1	$0.4 \pm 0.0$	$0.5 \pm 0.0$	$0.4 \pm 0.0$	$0.4 \pm 0.0$	$0.5 \pm 0.0$	$0.5 \pm 0.0$	$0.4 \pm 0.1$	$0.4\pm0.1$
18:1n9	$28.1 \pm 5.4$	$28.1 \pm 5.1$	$28.8 \pm 5.1$	$28.8 \pm 5.2$	$27.4 \pm 5.5$	$27.8 \pm 5.7$	$28.7 \pm 4.6$	$27.1 \pm 6.0$
20:1n9	$4.1 \pm 1.2$	$4.1 \pm 1.3$	$3.9 \pm 1.1$	$4.0\pm1.1$	$4.3 \pm 1.1$	$4.4 \pm 1.2$	$4.7 \pm 1.5$	$4.7 \pm 1.3$
22:1n9	$3.0 \pm 1.2$	$3.0 \pm 1.3$	$2.8 \pm 1.1$	$2.8 \pm 1.1$	$3.1 \pm 1.3$	$3.1 \pm 1.2$	$3.7 \pm 1.7$	$3.7 \pm 1.6$
Monoenoic	$41.5 \pm 3.0$	$41.5 \pm 2.7$	$42.0 \pm 2.9$	$42.1 \pm 3.0$	$40.8 \pm 3.1$	$41.3 \pm 3.0$	$42.9 \pm 1.5$	$41.0 \pm 3.1$
16:2n4	$0.4 \pm 0.1$	$0.4 \pm 0.0^{\rm A}$	$0.4\pm0.0$	$0.4 \pm 0.0^{\rm A}$	$0.3 \pm 0.0$	$0.3 \pm 0.0^{AB}$	$0.3 \pm 0.1$	$0.3 \pm 0.0^{\rm B}$
16:3n4	$0.3 \pm 0.0$	$0.3 \pm 0.0$	$0.3 \pm 0.0$	$0.3 \pm 0.0$	$0.3 \pm 0.0$	$0.3\pm0.0$	$0.2 \pm 0.0$	$0.2\pm0.0$
18:2n6	$9.7 \pm 1.6$	$9.8 \pm 1.7$	$10.1 \pm 1.6$	$10.1 \pm 1.7$	$9.3 \pm 1.9$	$9.4 \pm 1.8$	$9.3 \pm 1.3$	$9.0 \pm 1.4$
18:3n3	$1.9 \pm 0.3$	$1.9 \pm 0.3$	$2.0 \pm 0.3$	$1.9 \pm 0.3$	$1.8 \pm 0.2$	$1.8 \pm 0.3$	$1.6 \pm 0.4$	$1.6 \pm 0.3$
18:4n3	$1.8 \pm 0.9$	$1.7 \pm 0.7$	$1.7 \pm 0.7$	$1.6 \pm 0.7$	$1.7 \pm 0.8$	$1.7 \pm 0.8$	$1.5\pm0.8$	$1.4 \pm 0.6$
20:2n6	$0.2 \pm 0.1$	$0.3\pm0.1$	$0.3 \pm 0.1$	$0.3 \pm 0.1$	$0.3\pm0.1$	$0.3 \pm 0.1$	$0.3 \pm 0.1$	$0.3\pm0.1$
20:4n6	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	$0.7 \pm 0.1$	$0.7 \pm 0.1$	$0.8\pm0.1$	$0.7\pm0.1$
20:3n3	$0.1 \pm 0.0$	$0.1 \pm 0.0$	$0.1 \pm 0.0$	$0.1 \pm 0.0$	$0.1 \pm 0.0$	$0.1 \pm 0.0$	$0.1 \pm 0.0$	$0.1 \pm 0.0$
20:4n3	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	$0.6 \pm 0.2$	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	$0.6 \pm 0.2$	$0.6 \pm 0.1$
20:5n3	$4.9 \pm 1.1$	$4.8 \pm 1.2$	$5.0 \pm 1.1$	$4.9 \pm 1.1$	$4.8 \pm 1.4$	$4.6 \pm 1.2$	$4.4 \pm 1.3$	$4.1 \pm 1.2$
22:5n3	$1.7 \pm 0.1$	$1.7 \pm 0.2^{AB}$	$1.7 \pm 0.1$	$1.7 \pm 0.2^{\rm A}$	$1.7 \pm 0.0$	$1.7 \pm 0.1^{\rm A}$	$1.5 \pm 1.2$	$2.1 \pm 0.2^{\rm B}$
22:6n3	$8.6 \pm 1.2$	$8.6 \pm 1.2$	$8.3 \pm 1.2$	$8.2 \pm 1.0$	$9.3 \pm 1.8$	$8.9 \pm 1.4$	$7.6 \pm 4.8$	$11.1 \pm 1.2$
Polyenoic	$30.9 \pm 2.1$	$30.8 \pm 2.1$	$31.1 \pm 1.7$	$30.8 \pm 1.4$	$31.0 \pm 2.3$	$30.3 \pm 1.8$	$28.2 \pm 4.5$	$31.5 \pm 1.8$
n3	$19.7 \pm 3.4$	$19.5 \pm 3.6$	$19.5 \pm 3.1$	$19.2 \pm 3.0$	$20.1 \pm 4.1$	$19.4 \pm 3.5$	$17.3 \pm 4.6$	$21.0 \pm 3.2$
n6	$10.6 \pm 1.5$	$10.7 \pm 1.7$	$11.0\pm1.6$	$11.0 \pm 1.8$	$10.3 \pm 1.9$	$10.3 \pm 1.8$	$10.4 \pm 1.3$	$10.1 \pm 1.4$
n3/n6	$1.9 \pm 0.6$	$1.9 + 0.6$	$1.8 \pm 0.5$	$1.8 \pm 0.5$	$2.0 + 0.7$	$1.9 \pm 0.6$	$1.7 + 0.5$	$2.1 \pm 0.6$

<span id="page-5-0"></span>**Table 2** Fatty acid compositions of yellowtail flesh during storage at 0 °C (%)

*OD* ordinary muscle in dorsal part, *OV* ordinary muscle in ventral part, *OC* ordinary muscle in caudal part, *DM* dark muscle

<sup>a</sup> Storage time. The values indicate means  $\pm$  standard deviation of triplicate determinations ( $n = 3$ )

The different capital letters at the same storage time and temperature are significantly different  $(P < 0.05)$ . There are no significant differences during storage for the same flesh type  $(P < 0.05)$ 

changes in volatile compounds in yellowtail fsh meat mainly developed in DM.

The results of PCA of volatile compounds from GC–MS in yellowtail fsh meat during storage at 0 and 5 °C are shown in Figs. [3](#page-11-0) and [4](#page-11-1). The scores for the frst 2 principal components (PC1 and PC2) accounted for 41.9% and 11.7% of the variation, respectively. PC1 separated the data into two groups: (DM long storage) and (OM + DM no storage + DM short storage). In contrast, each part of OMs with longer storage time showed higher PC2 scores. Many volatile compounds such as 2-methyl furan had high-factor loadings for PC1 (Fig. [4](#page-11-1) and Supplementary data Table S7). These volatiles contributed to the change in DM during storage and to the diference between OM and DM with longer storage time for PC1. For PC2, alcohols, such as hexanol and

1-octanol, had high-factor loadings, but aldehydes, such as hexanal and pentanal, had low-factor loadings. Therefore, changes in these compounds were involved in the changes in PC2 scores of OM during storage.

#### **GC–O analysis**

Table [4](#page-12-0) presents volatile components obtained via GC–O analysis of yellowtail fsh fesh at day 0 and day 7 of storage at 0 °C. Twenty-four kinds of odors were sensed using GC–O analysis. In these odors, eight compounds were identifed by GC/MS and Kovats index, and three compounds were tentatively estimated by odor characteristic and Kovats index of authentic samples. An unknown compound (KI 1387) showed the strongest odor in both muscles before and after



 $\overline{1}$ 

MS, KI

 $0.5\pm0.9$ 

 $1.8\pm0.8$ 

 $3.9\pm1.3$ 

 $1.0\pm1.6$ 

 $2.9\pm0.5$ 

917 2-Methyl  $2$ -Methyl<br>butanal

917

921 3-Methyl 3-Methyl<br>butanal

921

886 2-Methyl-

<span id="page-6-0"></span>886

2-Methyl-

Methyl- 0.8 ± 0.6 0.3 ± 0.1 0.2 ± 0.2 0.9 ± 0.6 0.3 ± 0.3 0.1 ± 0.3a 0.3 ± 0.3a 0.2 ± 0.2<sup>b</sup> 0.7 ± 0.4<sup>a</sup> 2.4 ± 0.3<sup>b</sup> ND<sup>b</sup> MS, KI<br>2-pentenal

 $0.1\pm0.2$ 

 $0.3\pm0.3$ 

 $0.9\pm0.6$ 

 $0.2\pm0.2$ 

 $0.3\pm0.1$ 

 $0.8\pm0.6$ 

895 Ethyl acetate 2.3±1.6 2.0±1.2 11.1±1.1  $\pm$  1.1±1.2 1.1  $\pm$  0.6 1.8  $\pm$  1.5  $\pm$  0.5  $\pm$  0.5 1.5  $\pm$  1.1  $\pm$  0.5 1.1  $\pm$  0.5 1.1  $\pm$  0.6 3.9  $\pm$  2.8 MS, KI 899 Nonane 2.3 ± 2.7 0.4 ± 0.3  $2.4 \pm 2.7$  3.2  $\pm 3.9$  0.3  $\pm 0.4$  3.6  $\pm 3.2$  1.4  $\pm 1.4$  0.4  $\pm 0.6$  1.1  $\pm 1.3$  1.3  $\pm 1.3$  0.7  $\pm 0.5$  1.8  $\pm 1.9$  MS, KI

 $3.6 \pm 3.2$ 

 $3.2 \pm 3.9$  $7.8 \pm 3.5$ 

 $18.2 \pm 15.5$ 

 $1.8\pm1.0$ 

 $1.1\pm0.6$ 

 $11.1 \pm 12.1$ 

 $2.0\pm1.2$  $0.4\pm0.3$ 

 $2.3 \pm 1.6$ 

Ethyl acetate 2-pentenal

 $0.9 \pm 0.3$  $1.4\pm1.4$  906 2-Butanone 10.1 ± 5.7 12.5 ± 1.6 12.4 ± 5.6 7.8 ± 3.5 9.8 ± 0.9 11.2 ± 2.2 ± 3.2 12.5 ± 3.0 15.6 ± 2.3 9.2 ± 1.1<sup>a</sup> 49.5 ±

 $9.8\pm0.9$  $0.3\pm0.4$ 

 $12.4 \pm 5.6$  $2.4 \pm 2.7$ 

 $12.5 \pm 1.6$ 

 $10.1\pm5.7$  $2.3 \pm 2.7$ 

2-Butanone

Nonane

895<br>899 906  $0.3 \pm 0.3$   $0.2 \pm 0.1$   $0.2 \pm 0.2$   $0.3 \pm 0.2$   $0.2 \pm 0.3$   $0.3 \pm 0.3$   $0.2 \pm 0.2$   $0.2 \pm 0.2$   $0.2 \pm 0.1$   $0.2 \pm 0.7$ a MS, KI

 $0.2\pm0.3$ 

 $0.2\pm0.1$ 

 $0.3\pm0.2$ 

 $0.2\pm0.2$ 

 $0.2\pm0.1$ 

 $0.3\pm0.3$ 

 $0.3\pm0.3$ 

 $0.8 \pm 0.9$   $0.3 \pm 0.2$   $0.3 \pm 0.3$   $0.3 \pm 0.6$   $0.3 \pm 0.5$   $0.8 \pm 0.6$   $0.7 \pm 0.4$   $0.6 \pm 0.6$   $0.3 \pm 0.1$   $0.3 \pm 0.1$ a  $5.4 \pm 1.7$ b  $1.8$  MS.KI

 $0.3\pm0.2$ 

 $0.2\pm0.1$ 

 $0.7\pm0.6$ 

 $0.3\pm0.3$ 

 $0.5\pm0.2$ 

 $0.8\pm0.9$ 

 $0.8\pm0.6$ 

942 2-Propanol 2.5±2.0 3.5±1.6 1.7±1.7 3.1±1.0 4.8±4.3 3.2±2.4 2.8±1.4 2.9±0.5 1.0±1.6 3.9±1.3 1.8±0.8 0.5±0.9 MS, KI

 $3.2 \pm 2.4$ 

 $4.8 \pm 4.3$ 

 $3.1\pm1.0$ 

 $1.7\pm1.7$ 

 $3.5\pm1.6$ 

 $2.5 \pm 2.0$ 

2-Propanol

942

 $2.8 \pm 1.4$ 

 $49.5 \pm 17.5$ <sup>b</sup>

 $30.9 \pm 9.3^{\circ}$  MS, KI

 $30.9\pm9.3^{\rm b}$  $1.8\pm1.9$ 

MS, KI

 $0.8\pm0.7^{\rm a}$ 

 $1.7\pm0.6^{\rm b}$ 

 $0.2\pm0.1^{\rm a}$ 

 $0.1\pm0.2$ 

 $0.2\pm0.2$ 

MS,KI

 $2.9\pm1.9^{\rm a}$ 

 $5.4\pm1.7^{\rm b}$ 

 $0.3\pm0.1^{\rm a}$ 

 $0.6\pm0.6$ 

 $0.7\pm0.4$ 

MS, KI<br>MS, KI<br>MS, KI

 $3.9 \pm 2.8$ 

 $1.1\pm0.6$  $0.7\pm0.5$ 

 $1.2 \pm 0.5$ 

 $13.4 \pm 20.8$ 

 $1.3\pm1.3$  $9.2\pm1.1^{\rm a}$ 

 $1.1\pm1.3$  $15.6 \pm 2.3$ 

 $17.5 \pm 3.0$  $0.4 \pm 0.6$  $1.5 \pm 1.1$ 

 $12.2 \pm 3.0$ 

 $11.2 \pm 2.2$ 

MS, KI

 $\mathop{\rm l\negthinspace P}\nolimits^{\rm b}$ 

 $2.4\pm0.3^{\rm b}$ 

 $0.7\pm0.4^{\rm a}$ 

 $0.2\pm0.2^{\rm b}$ 

 $0.3\pm0.3^{\rm a}$ 

 $1.1\pm0.3^{\rm a}$ 



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storage. The numbers of odors perceived at the maximum split ratio (243) were 8 and 12 from OM in dorsal part and DM, under both storage conditions, respectively, indicating that the odor of yellowtail DM was stronger than that of OM from GC–O. Low boiling point odors, which are low Kovats index, from DM had a larger split ratio before storage, as compared to those on day 7 of storage. However, high boiling point odors showed contrasting results. The high boiling point odors from DM after 7 days of storage were sensed more strongly, as compared to the low boiling point odors before storage. Therefore, the odors sensed in yellowtail DM using GC–O have stronger intensity, compared with those in OM in the dorsal part, and their intensities were enhanced during storage.

## **Sensory evaluation**

Figure [5](#page-13-20) shows the results of the sensory evaluation of the odor of yellowtail fsh fesh at day 0 and day 7 of storage at 0 °C. The sensory scores of DM from all evaluated items were signifcantly higher than those from other parts of the flesh under the same storage conditions ( $P < 0.05$ ). In addition, odor intensity and fshy odor of DM were enhanced significantly after 7 days of storage ( $P < 0.05$ ). However, the odor intensities of OM in dorsal and ventral parts decreased significantly after 7 days of storage ( $P < 0.05$ ). Therefore, the odor of DM was stronger than that of OM throughout the storage period. Although the odor level of DM increased during storage, that of OM decreased under the same storage conditions.

# **Discussion**

\*4 Identifcation was based on Kovats retention index (KI) and comparison of mass spectra (MS)

\*<sup>4</sup> Identification was based on Kovats retention index (KI) and comparison of mass spectra (MS)

before storage ( before storage  $(P < 0.05)$ 

The values indicate means ± standard deviation of triplicate determinations (*n* = 3). *ND*, not detected. Diferent letters for the same fesh type are signifcantly diferent compared to each sample

The values indicate means  $\pm$  standard deviation of triplicate determinations ( $n = 3$ ). ND, not detected. Different letters for the same flesh type are significantly different compared to each sample

Visible cell counts in most parts of yellowtail fesh showed no signifcant increase during storage (Fig. [1](#page-3-0)). Tanimoto and Shimoda [\(2016\)](#page-13-12) also reported that viable cells in OM remained at the same order of magnitude as their initial values for 2 days at 5 °C. These results indicate that qualitative changes, such as content of volatiles, in yellowtail meat proceeded without any microbial action.

The TBARS values of DM were significantly higher than those of other parts of yellowtail fesh, and increased significantly during storage ( $P < 0.05$ , Table [1\)](#page-4-0). Though PVs of some parts of yellowtail fesh increased during storage ( $P < 0.05$ ), PVs from each part of yellowtail flesh did not difer signifcantly from each other on the same day of storage. These results suggested that lipid hydroperoxide in DM degraded rapidly to secondary oxidation products during storage. With certain exceptions, OM in the ventral fesh showed no signifcant diference in the total lipid contents, and showed significantly lower TBARS ( $P < 0.05$ ) as compared to those of the DM at the same storage time and <span id="page-11-0"></span>**Fig. 3** Scatter plot of principal components (PC1 and PC2) for yellowtail fsh fesh during storage at 0 and 5 °C by using the peak areas of 88 volatile compounds. *Symbols* are the same as in Fig. [1](#page-3-0). Storage temperature and time of each fesh are indicated as follows: example OD\_3\_0, storage for 3 days at 0 °C



<span id="page-11-1"></span>**Fig. 4** Loading plot of principal components (PC1 and PC2) for yellowtail fsh fesh during storage at 0 and 5 °C using peak areas of 88 volatile compounds. The *numbers* indicate the Kovats index of volatile compounds in Table [3](#page-6-0)

temperature (Table [1\)](#page-4-0). A reason for this phenomenon could be that myoglobin (heme iron), which was abundant in DM, accelerated the lipid oxidation.

Many researchers have reported that various volatiles in fish meat increased during storage (Kawai [1996](#page-13-4); Ganeko et al. [2008](#page-13-5); Miyasaki et al. [2011](#page-13-6); François et al. [2012](#page-13-7); Moreira et al. [2013](#page-13-8); Foteini et al. [2014\)](#page-13-9). In this study, several volatile compounds in yellowtail fesh also increased significantly during storage ( $P < 0.05$ , Table [3,](#page-6-0) Supplementary data Tables S3–S6). In addition, the number of volatile compounds, which increased signifcantly during storage, was larger in DM than in other parts of flesh  $(P < 0.05)$ . Alcohols, such as 1-penten-3-ol and 1-pentanol, aldehydes, such as  $(Z)$ -4-heptenal and  $(E,Z)$ -2,4-heptadienal, and ketones, such as 1-penten-3-one, increased signifcantly in DM during storage. François et al. [\(2012](#page-13-7)) reported that hexanal level in European seabass decreased after 1, 4, and 15 days of storage on ice. The hexanal level in OM of each fesh part decreased signifcantly during storage in this study ( $P < 0.05$ , Table [3](#page-6-0), Supplementary data Tables S3–S6). However, hexanal, which was generated by oxidative decomposition of unsaturated fatty acids (Moreira et al. [2013](#page-13-8)), in DM increased signifcantly during storage. In our previous paper, many volatile compounds detected in DM of yellowtail increased signifcantly during 2 days of storage, and increased signifcantly in OM after 1 day of storage, but decreased or remained at the same level during the subsequent storage period (Tanimoto and Shimoda [2016](#page-13-12)),

<span id="page-12-0"></span>**Table 4** Volatile compounds perceived by using GC–O from yellowtail fish flesh stored for 0 and 7 days at 0 °C



KI indicates Kovats retention index

*OD* ordinary muscle in dorsal part, *DM* dark muscle

a Split ratio

Compound names in parentheses are estimated by odor characteristic and KI of authentic samples

supporting results from the present study. The number of volatile compounds, [which had signifcantly higher contents in DM, as compared to those in the other parts of fesh at the same storage time under both storage temperatures  $(P < 0.05$ , Table [3,](#page-6-0) Supplementary data Tables S3–S6)] was large both before and after storage. These numbers also increased during storage. These results indicated that the changing patterns of volatile compounds in yellowtail fesh were diferent between DM and OM. However, 2-methylpentanol and 1-hexanol increased signifcantly in both muscles. Therefore, the content of these volatiles might be proposed as a quality index for yellowtail during cold storage.

The results of GC–O showed that the number of odors, which were sensed at the maximum split ratio (243), was larger in DM than in OM in the dorsal fesh at both storage times (Table [4](#page-12-0)). These odors in DM were stronger than those in OM. In addition, the intensities of many odors sensed in DM after 7 days of storage were stronger than each intensity level before storage. In contrast, many odors sensed in the OM of the dorsal fesh after 7 days of storage

decreased in their intensities, as compared to those before storage. These results were supported by the changing profle of the volatile compounds in DM and OM in the dorsal fesh during storage (Table [3,](#page-6-0) Supplementary data Tables S3–S6) and by the results of sensory evaluation (Fig. [5\)](#page-13-20) in this paper. Increase in the odor intensity of 1-octen-3 one (mushroom-like, fungus-like, and fshy) in DM, and the decrease of the same in the OM in the dorsal fesh after storage (Table [4](#page-12-0)) were coincident with fuctuation of this volatile during storage (Table [3,](#page-6-0) Supplementary data Tables S3–S6) and results of sensory evaluation (Fig. [5](#page-13-20)), suggesting that this compound contributed to the odor of yellowtail meat. Though the hexanal level of OM in the dorsal fesh signifcantly decreased during storage, the intensity of odor sensed at the same KI value in this part increased after storage (Table [4\)](#page-12-0). This discrepancy might mean that other compounds, which have a very small threshold, were co-eluted with hexanal at the same retention time. François et al. ([2012\)](#page-13-7) also reported a decrease in the hexanal level and an increase in the odor intensity



<span id="page-13-20"></span>**Fig. 5** Sensory test of yellowtail fsh fesh stored for 0 and 7 days at 0 °C. *OD* ordinary muscle in dorsal part, *OV* ordinary muscle in ventral part, *OC* ordinary muscle in caudal part, *DM* dark muscle. *Capital letters* at the same storage time with a *diferent letter* indicate significantly different values ( $P < 0.05$ ). *Small letters* for the same flesh with a *different letter* indicate significantly different values ( $P < 0.05$ )

at the same linear retention indices as this compound in European seabass during storage. This result was consistent with our present study. The compounds 2,3-butanedione, 2,3-pentadione, hexanal, 1-octen-3-one, and (E,E)- 2,4-heptadienal were sensed at the maximum split ratio (243). However, several odors, which were sensed at this split ratio, were not detected by GC/MS (Table [4\)](#page-12-0). These compounds were considered to have very small thresholds. The number of odors with higher KI value and the maximum split ratio was specifcally higher in DM, as compared to the OM in the dorsal fesh before and after storage (Table [4](#page-12-0)). This suggests that these odors were highly involved in the DM odor of yellowtail. In addition, these odors from DM after 7 days of storage had higher intensities than those before storage.

In conclusion, these fndings suggested that odor components, which had very small thresholds, from DM contributed to the change in odor of yellowtail meat during storage, as compared to the change in odor of OM.

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