

# Mathematical Modelling on Non-Thermal Innovative Food Preservation Processes

*Cristina L.M. Silva*



# OUTLINE

---

## → Introduction

- Non-thermal Processes
- Mathematical Modelling
- Experimental Design and Data Analysis

## → Cases Studies

- Ozone, UV-C, Thermosonication
- Red bell pepper / ozone
- Courgette / UV-C
- Watercress / thermosonication



# OUTLINE

---

## → Introduction

### - Non-thermal Processes

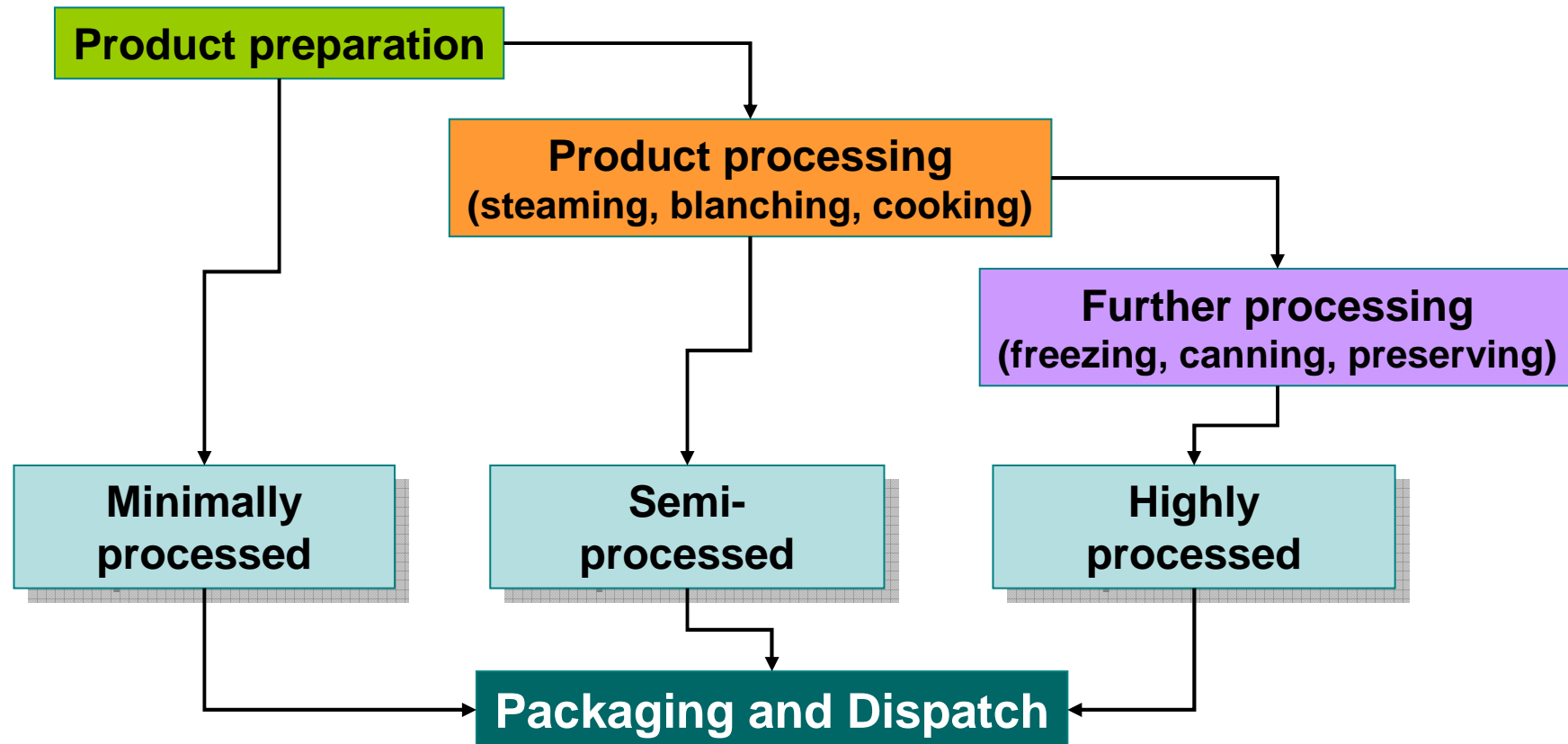
- Mathematical Modelling
- Experimental Design and Data Analysis

## → Cases Studies

- Ozone, UV-C, Thermosonication
- Red bell pepper / ozone
- Courgette / UV-C
- Watercress / thermosonication



# NON-THERMAL PROCESSES



# NON-THERMAL PROCESSES

---

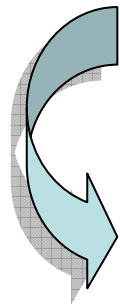
**The problem is... Heating!**



# NON-THERMAL PROCESSES

---

## NON-THERMAL TECHNOLOGIES



**little loss of:**

- colour
- flavour
- texture
- nutrients

**...but still retaining the desired shelf-life and safety!**



# NON-THERMAL PROCESSES

**Pulsed Electric Fields**

Exposure of food to an intense electric field by means of controlled pulses of high voltage

**Ohmic Heating**

Generation of heat inside the food as a consequence of Joule effect

**Radio Frequency**

Exposure of food to electromagnetic waves in the radio-frequency range

**Microwave**

Exposure of food to controlled microwaves

**High Pressure**

Short-time exposure to extremely high pressure (up to 5000 bar)



# NON-THERMAL PROCESSES

**Super Critical CO<sub>2</sub>**

**Contact of food with CO<sub>2</sub> at supercritical pressure**

**Ozone**

**Exposure of food to ozone**

**Ultrasonication**

**Exposure of foods to ultrasounds (US)**  
**US + mild temperatures (T) → thermosonication**  
**US + pressure (P) → manosonication**  
**US + T + P → manothermosonication**

**UV-C**

**Exposure of food to controlled pulses of UV rays**



# OUTLINE

---

## → Introduction

- Non-thermal Processes
- **Mathematical Modelling**
- Experimental Design and Data Analysis

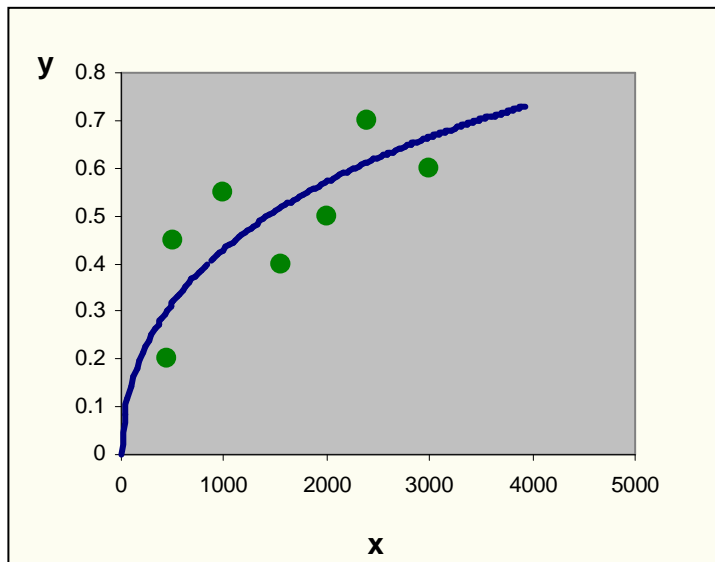
## → Cases Studies

- Ozone, UV-C, Thermosonication
- Red bell pepper / ozone
- Courgette / UV-C
- Watercress / thermosonication



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

**Model** → **mathematical expression**



$$y_i = f(x_{ij}, \theta_k) + \varepsilon_i$$

**$i=1,2,\dots,n$  (number of experimental runs/observations)**

**$j=1,2,\dots,v$  (number of independent variables)**

**$k=1,2,\dots,p$  (number of model parameters)**

# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

---

## Modeling and Simulation

➤ **Makes it possible to:**

**Gain more knowledge about the process and the effects on the product;**



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

---

## Modeling and Simulation

### Makes it possible to:

Gain more knowledge about the process and the effects on the product;

➤ **Reduce the number of experiments in the development stage;**



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

---

## Modeling and Simulation

### Makes it possible to:

Gain more knowledge about the process and the effects on the product;

Reduce the number of experiments in the development stage;

➤ **Optimize the process with respect to different parameters, such as quality;**



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

---

## Modeling and Simulation

### Makes it possible to:

Gain more knowledge about the process and the effects on the product;

Reduce the number of experiments in the development stage;

Optimize the process with respect to different parameters, such as quality;

➤ **Study the influence on the product during process disturbances.**



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

---

**Models should:**

**predict the response variable accurately**



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

---

**Models should:**

**predict** the response variable **accurately**

**adequacy of the model**



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

**Models should:**

**predict the response variable accurately**

**adequacy of the model**

**parameters quality**

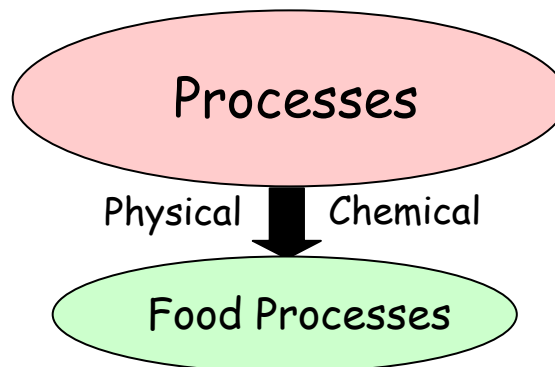


# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

Transport phenomena  
• heat transfer  
• mass transfer  
• momentum transfer

Reaction kinetics

Properties

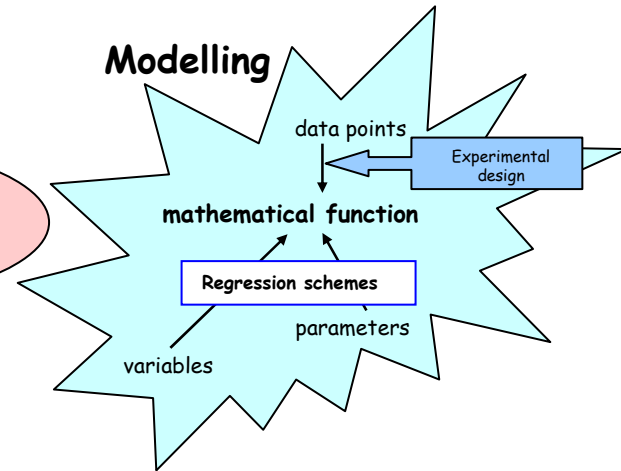
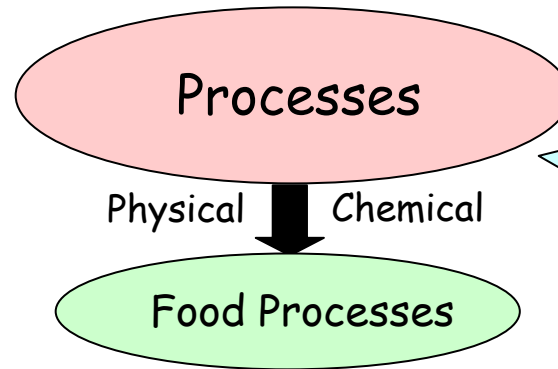


# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

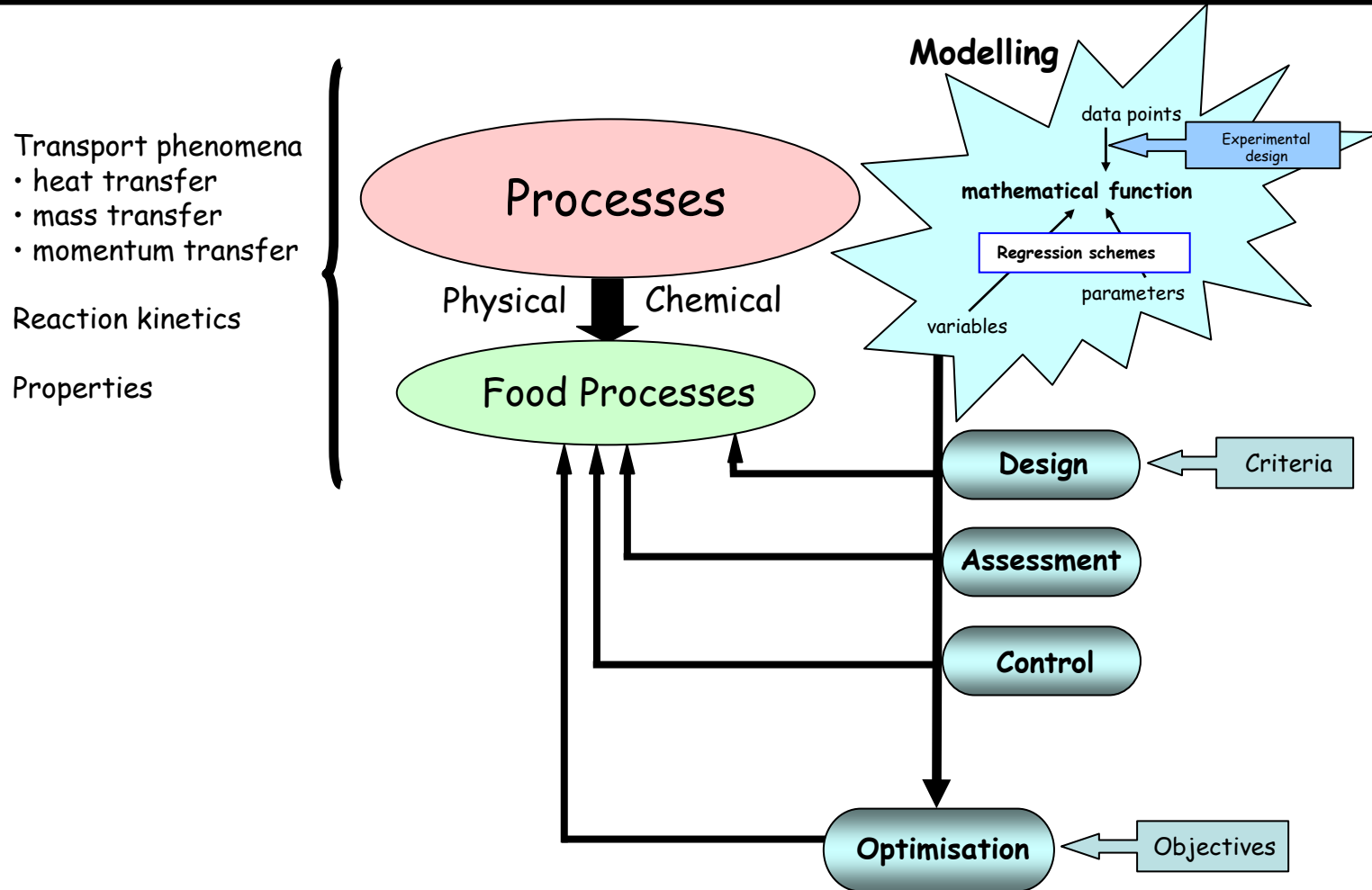
Transport phenomena  
• heat transfer  
• mass transfer  
• momentum transfer

Reaction kinetics

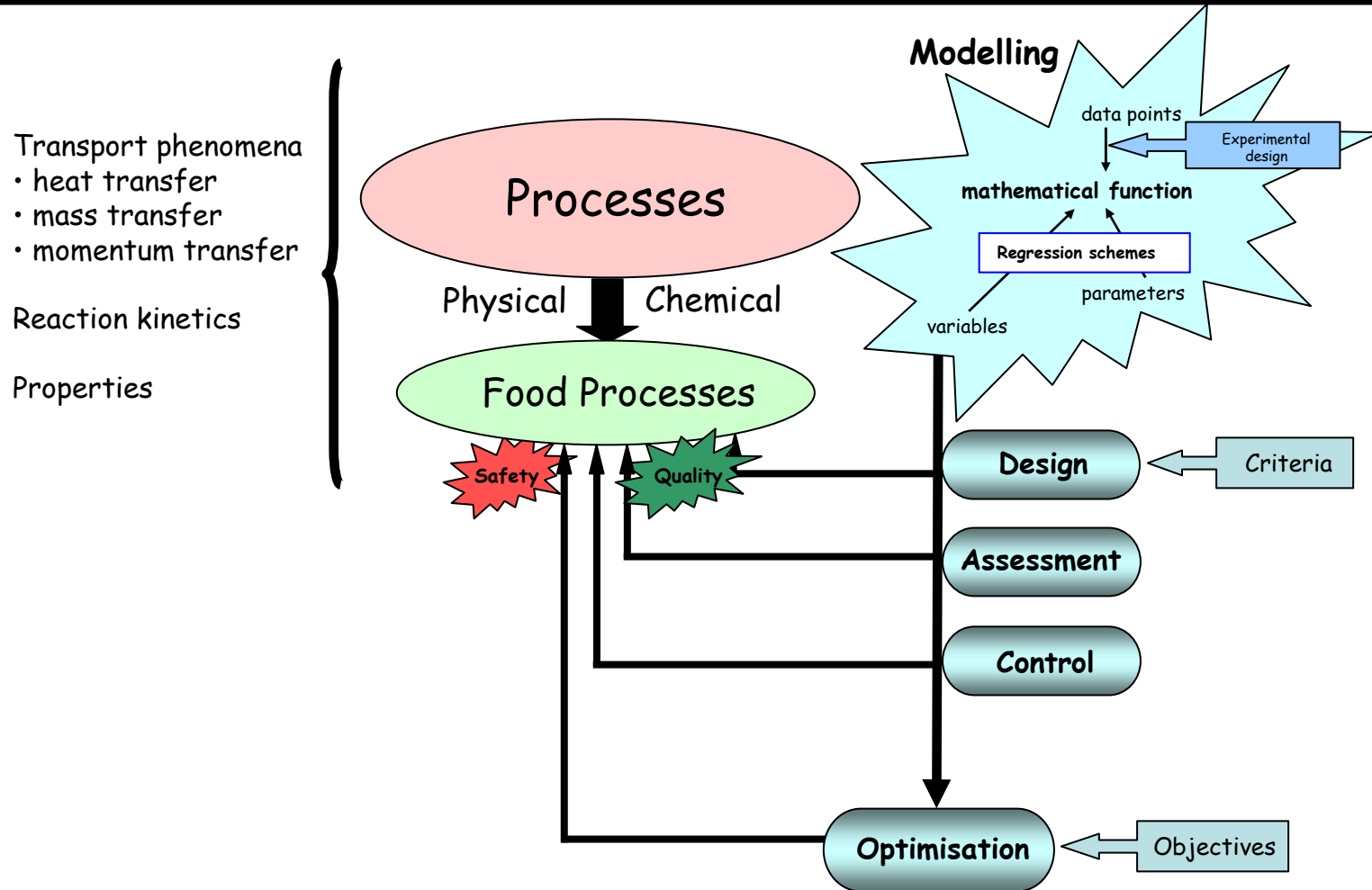
Properties



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

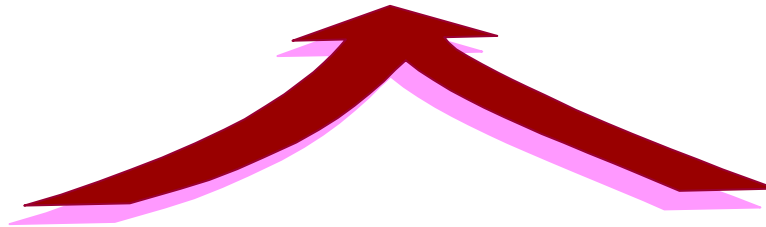
---

- ◆ Mechanistic models are more complex, but in general allow accurate predictions
- ◆ Empirical models are much simpler, but usually are appropriate to limited practical uses



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

- ◆ Mechanistic models are more complex, but in general allow accurate predictions
- ◆ Empirical models are much simpler, but usually are appropriate to limited practical uses



Balance of the advantages and disadvantages,  
depending on the final purpose.



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

---

**Difficulties in food processes modelling:**



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

## Difficulties in food processes modelling:

- ❖ Dynamic processes



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

## Difficulties in food processes modelling:

- ❖ Dynamic processes
- ❖ Complexity and heterogeneity of products



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

## Difficulties in food processes modelling:

- ❖ Dynamic processes
- ❖ Complexity and heterogeneity of products
- ❖ Structural and physicochemical changes



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

---

## Kinetic Studies:

Allow the quantification of the extension and rate of production/consumption of any substance



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

## Kinetic Studies:

Allow the quantification of the extension and rate of production/consumption of any substance



**Safety**



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

## Kinetic Studies:

Allow the quantification of the extension and rate of production/consumption of any substance



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

---

**Safety** and **Quality** depend on:

**Intrinsic** factors

**Extrinsic** factors



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

**Safety** and **Quality** depend on:

Intrinsic factors

[ pH  
a<sub>w</sub>  
others

Extrinsic factors



# MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

**Safety** and **Quality** depend on:

Intrinsic factors

pH  
 $a_w$   
others

Extrinsic factors

T  
pH  
humidity  
gas concentration  
others



# OUTLINE

---

## → Introduction

- Non-thermal Processes
- Mathematical Modelling
- **Experimental Design and Data Analysis**

## → Cases Studies

- Ozone, UV-C, Thermosonication
- Red bell pepper / ozone
- Courgette / UV-C
- Watercress / thermosonication



# EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS

---

## Model Validation:

- Heuristic sampling
- Experimental design

Minimize variance of:

- *predicted response*
- *parameter estimates*



# EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS

---

## Data Analysis:

- Regression schemes

$$SSR = \sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ y_i - f(x_{ij}, \theta_k) \right]^2$$

Least-squares  
method

- Analysis of residuals



# OUTLINE

---

## → Introduction

- Non-thermal Processes
- Mathematical Modelling
- Experimental Design and Data Analysis

## → **Cases Studies**

- **Ozone, UV-C, Thermosonication**
- Red bell pepper / ozone
- Courgette / UV-C
- Watercress / thermosonication



# CASE STUDIES

---

**Ozone**

**Exposure of food to ozone**

**Ultrasonication**

**Exposure of foods to ultrasounds (US)**

**US + mild temperatures (T) → thermosonication**

**US + pressure (P) → manosonication**

**US + T + P → manothermosonication**

**UV-C**

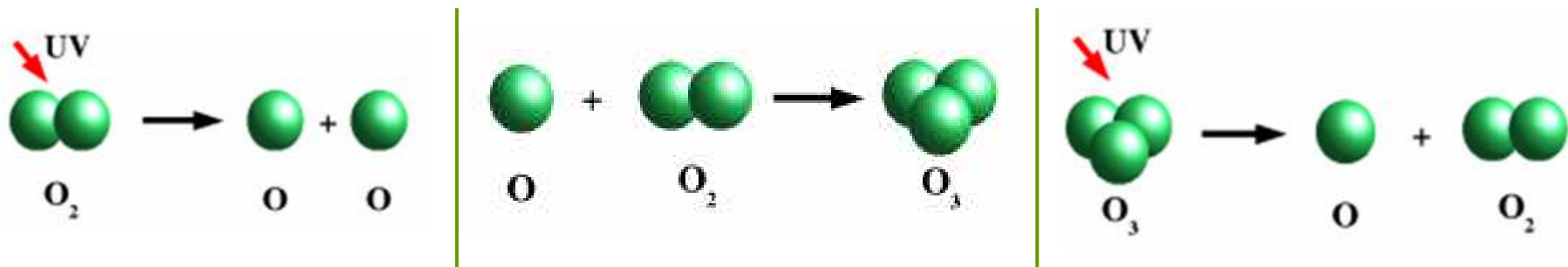
**Exposure of food to controlled pulses of UV rays**



# CASE STUDIES

## OZONE

- Gas formed by 3 oxygen atoms
- Highly instable
- In nature it is formed by the action of sun UV light (185 nm)

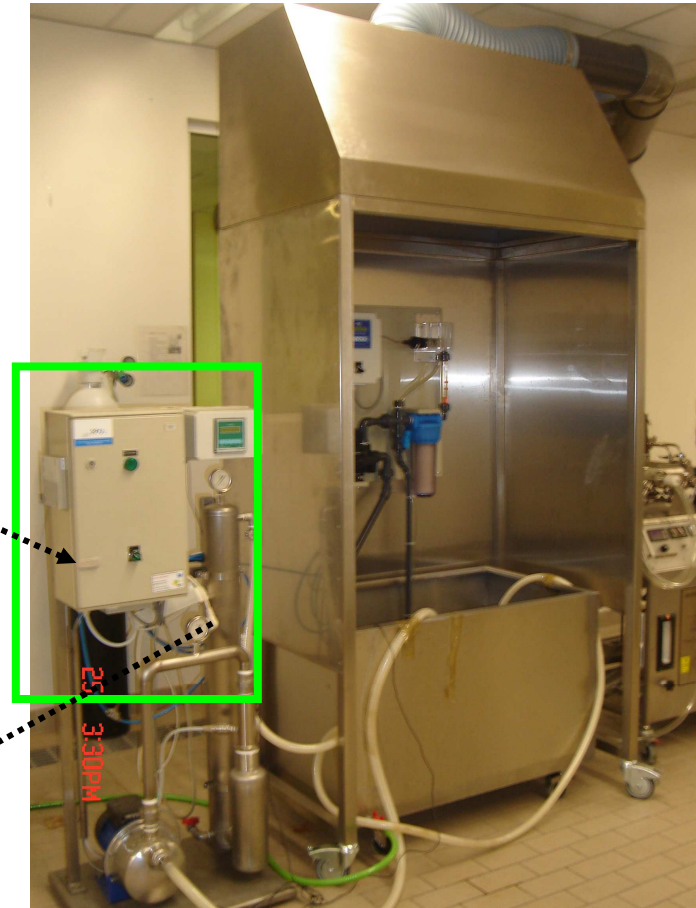


# CASE STUDIES

## OZONE

-Commercially:

Ozone generated by  
Electrical Discharge



# CASE STUDIES

---

## OZONE

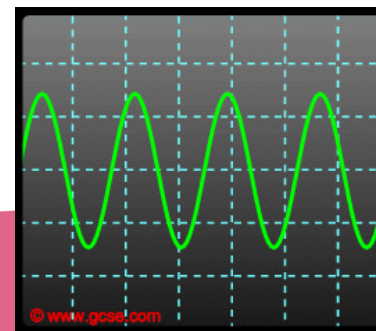
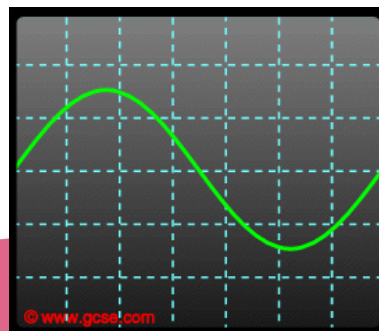
- Powerful antimicrobial agent → strong oxidant
- Lethal or inhibitory effect on microorganisms due to its reaction with:
  - intracellular enzymes
  - nucleic material
  - membrane components → destruction of coating of spores and viral capsules



# CASE STUDIES

## ULTRASOUNDS

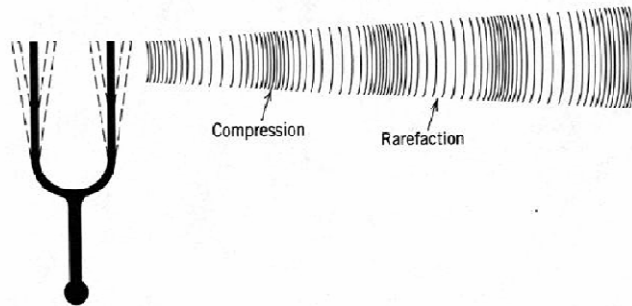
- Vibrations similar to sound waves
- Very high frequencies: 18 kHz – 500 MHz → greater than upper limit of human hearing!
- Some animals, such as dogs, dolphins, and bats, have an upper limit that is greater than that of the human ear and thus can hear ultrasound.



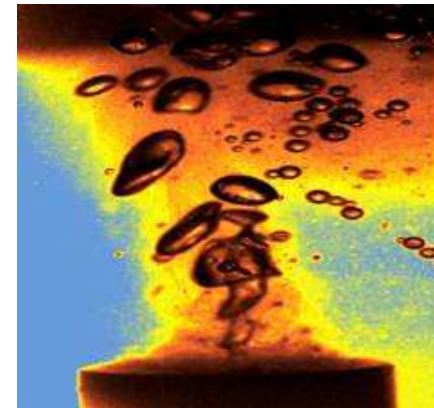
# CASE STUDIES

## ULTRASOUNDS

- In a biological medium: production of compression and expansion cycles  
→ CAVITATION phenomenon



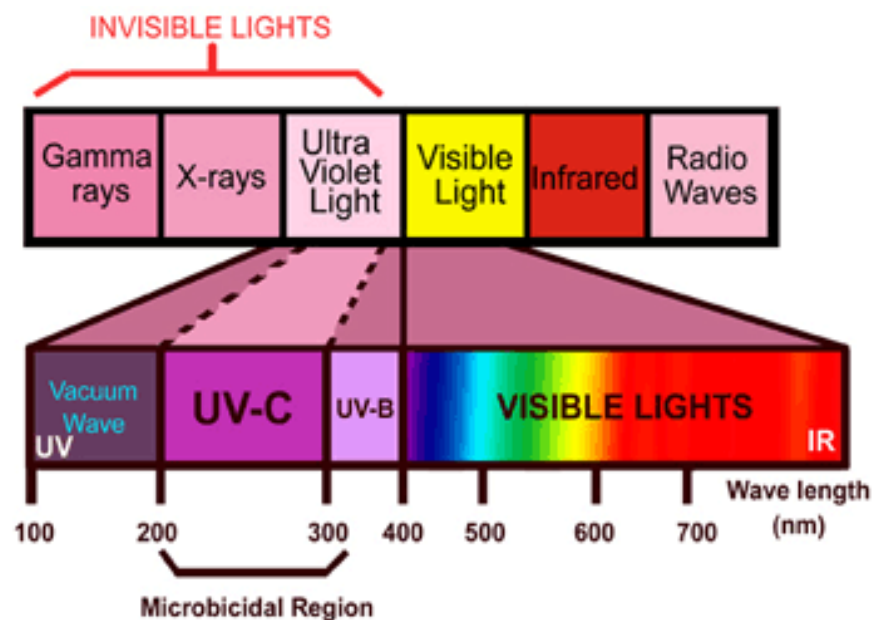
- The implosion of gas bubbles → high temperature and high pressure spots  
→ Cell disruption → cellular death



# CASE STUDIES

## ULTRAVIOLET RADIATION

- Ultraviolet light in the non-ionizing region of the electromagnetic spectrum, between X-rays (200 nm) and visible light (400 nm)

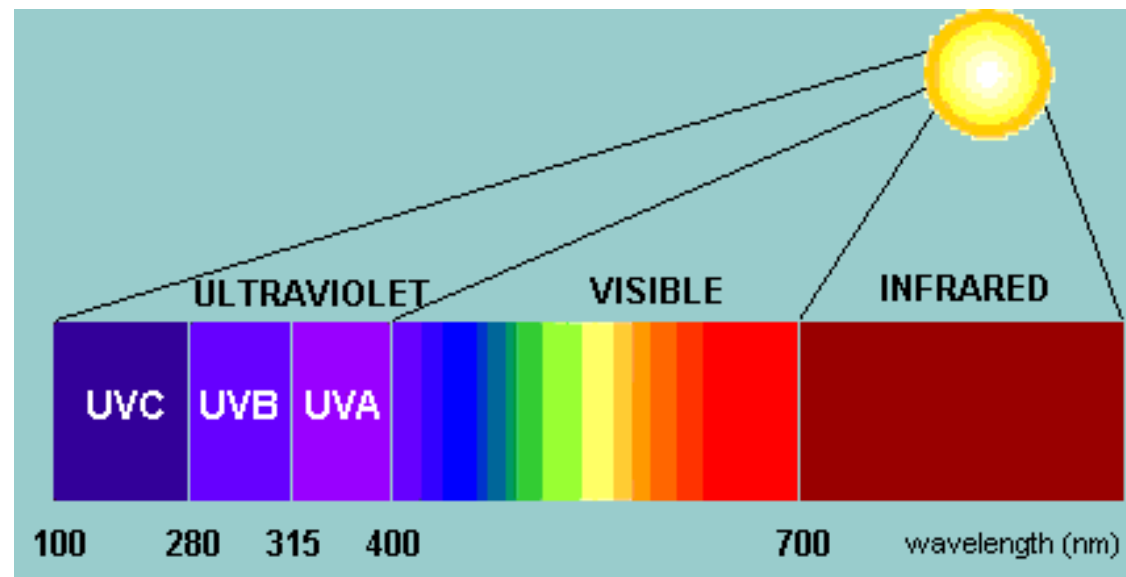


# CASE STUDIES

## ULTRAVIOLET RADIATION

UV light can be divided into three regions:

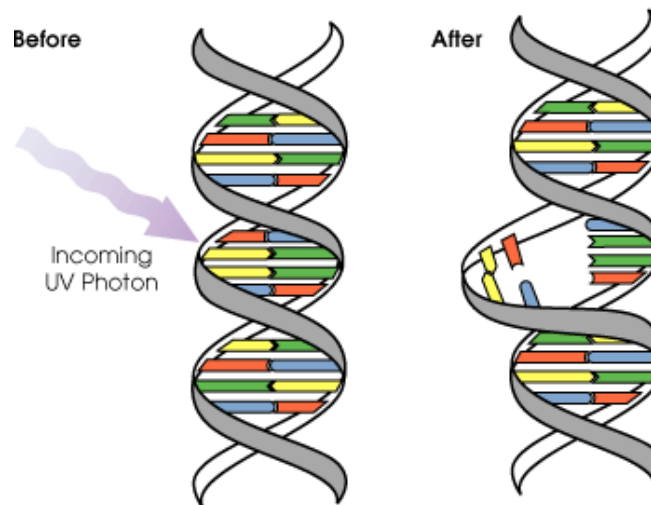
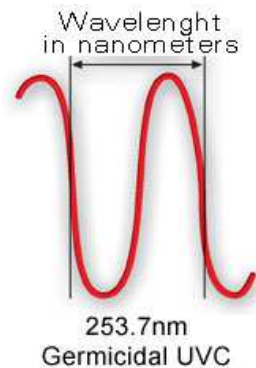
- **UVA:** 320-400 nm – therapeutic effects (dermatological);
- **UVB:** 280-320 nm – sun burn and plant damage
- **UVC:** 100-280 nm – dangerous to life – maximum lethal effect at 254 nm



# CASE STUDIES

## ULTRAVIOLET RADIATION - UVC

Lethal effect (254 nm) due to its destroying action on DNA chains → decreasing or inactivation of vital functions of cells



# Products



**Strawberry**



**Red bell pepper**



**Watercress**



**Brocoli**



**Courgette / squash**



**pumpkin**



# Technologies

## Ozone



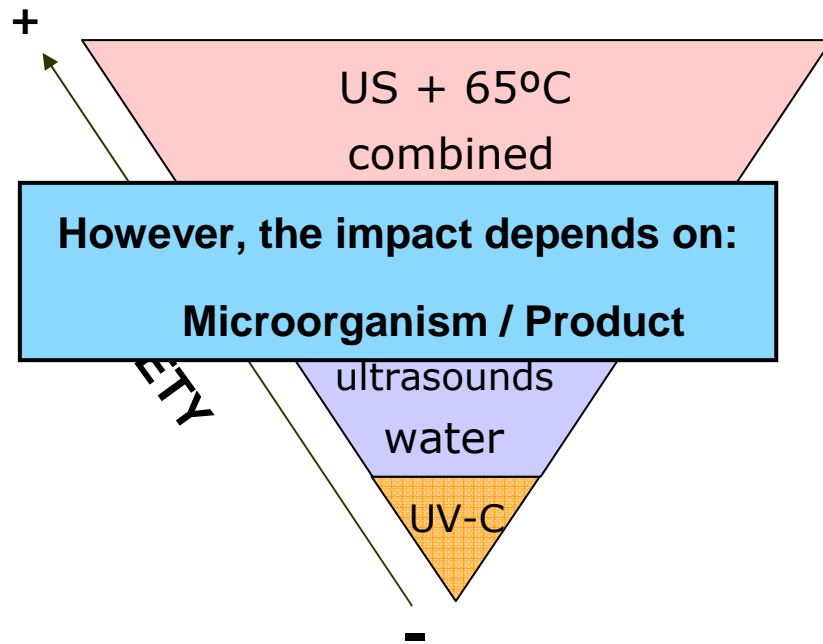
## Ultrasounds



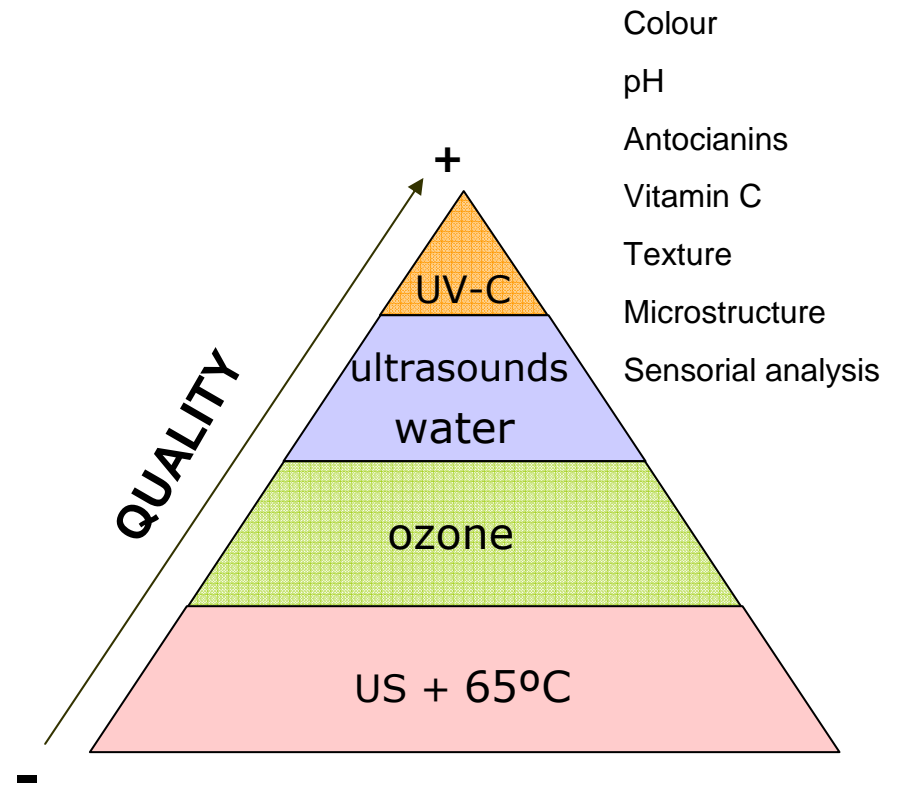
## UV-C



# SAFETY



# QUALITY



**Compromise: safety + quality**

# OUTLINE

---

## → Introduction

- Non-thermal Processes
- Mathematical Modelling
- Experimental Design and Data Analysis

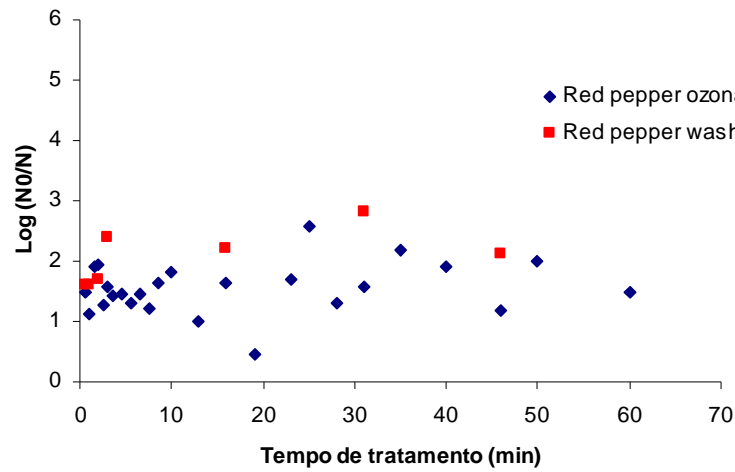
## → **Cases Studies**

- Ozone, UV-C, Thermosonication
- **Red bell pepper / ozone**
- Courgette / UV-C
- Watercress / thermosonication

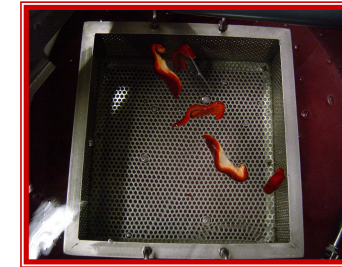


## Kinetic behaviour

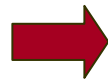
### Red bell pepper / *Listeria innocua*



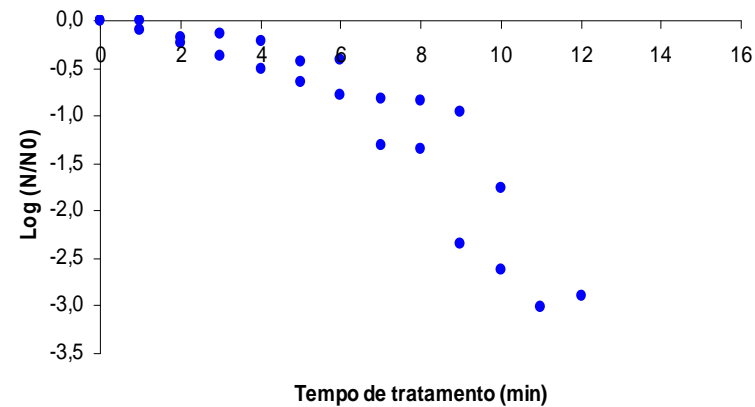
Ozone  
red bell pepper



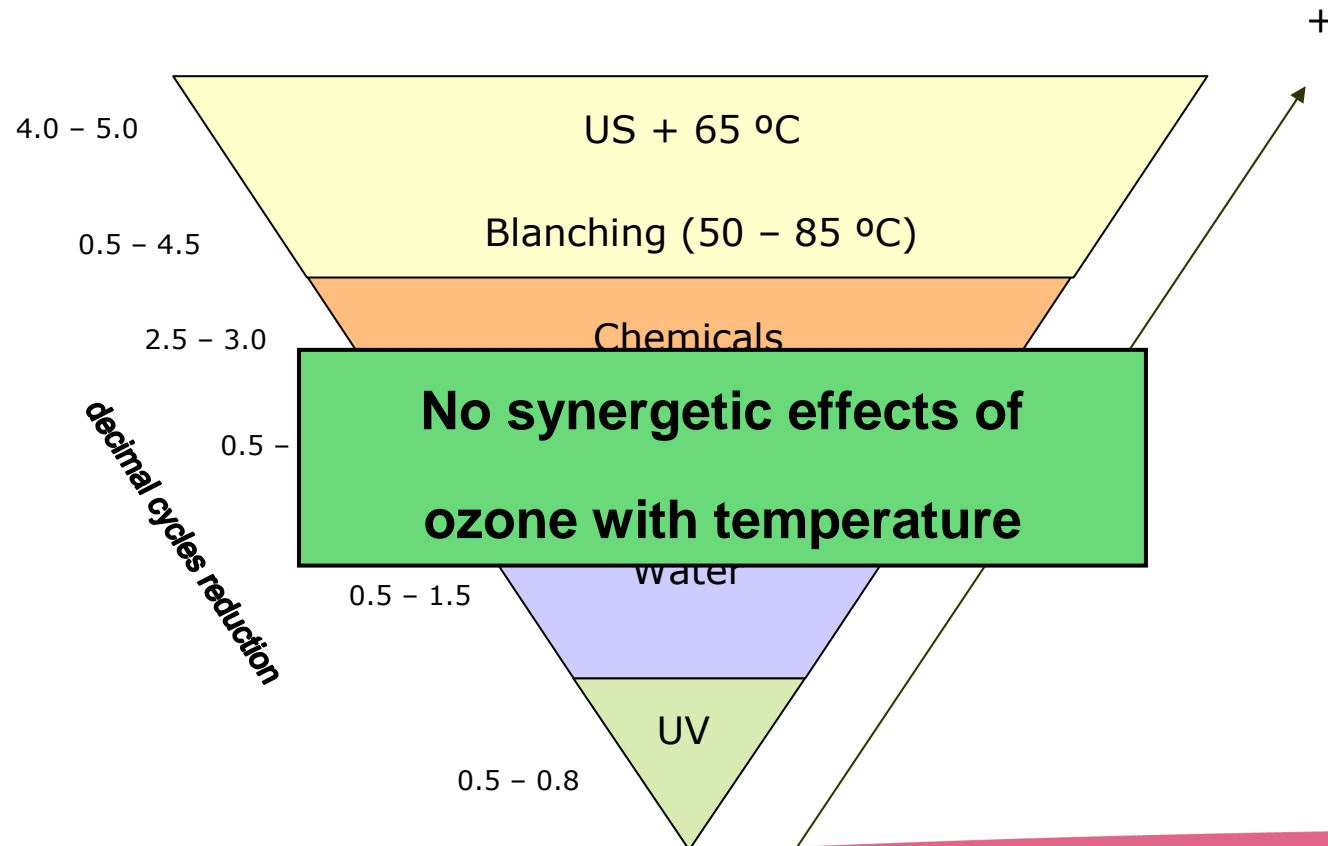
Ozone  
Water



### Water / *Listeria innocua*



# SAFETY (total mesophyls)



# OUTLINE

---

## → Introduction

- Non-thermal Processes
- Mathematical Modelling
- Experimental Design and Data Analysis

## → **Cases Studies**

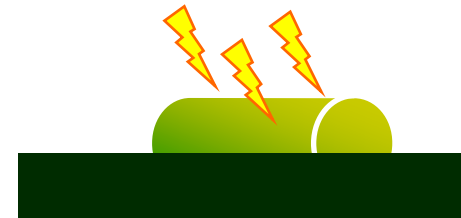
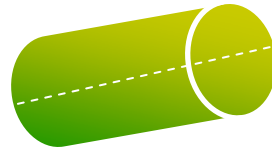
- Ozone, UV-C, Thermosonication
- Red bell pepper / ozone
- **Courgette / UV-C**
- Watercress / thermosonication

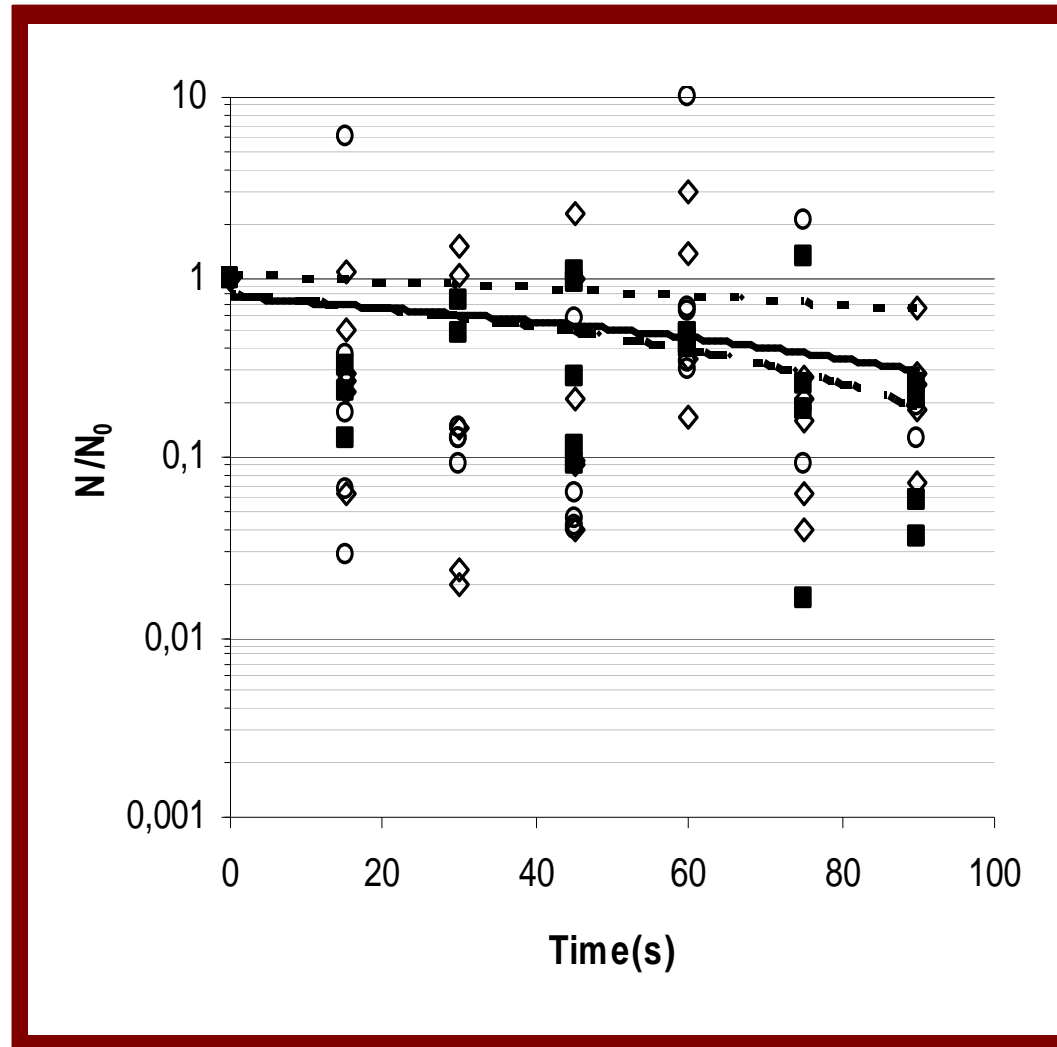




Fonte: [www.deltaohm.com](http://www.deltaohm.com)







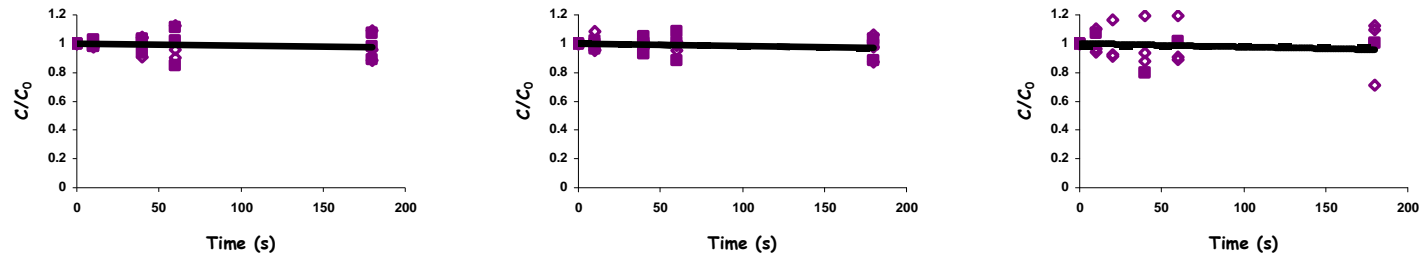
total mesophyls at 30 °C

(◇) — 11 J/m<sup>2</sup>

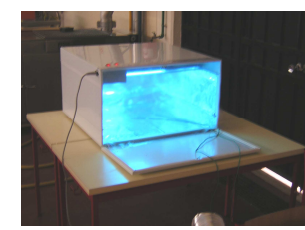
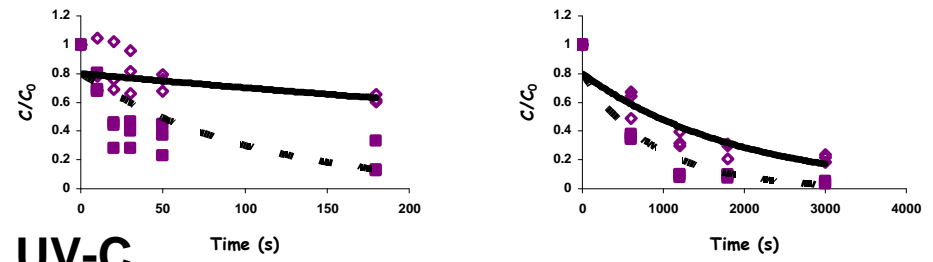
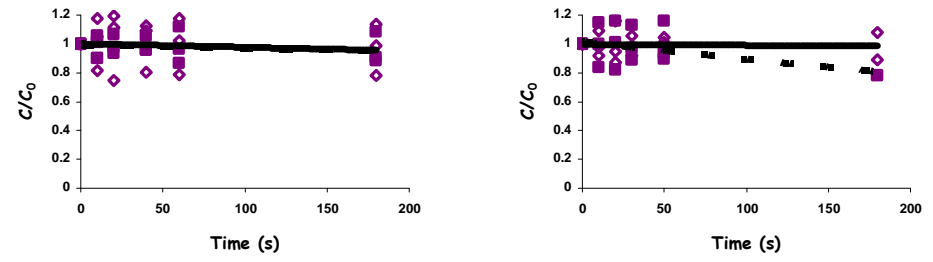
(■) -- 8 J/m<sup>2</sup>

(○) ... 5 J/m<sup>2</sup>

# Effect on Peroxidase ....



## Temp. and UV-C (11 J/m<sup>2</sup>)



(◇) heat    (■) heat and UV-C



# OUTLINE

---

## → Introduction

- Non-thermal Processes
- Mathematical Modelling
- Experimental Design and Data Analysis

## → **Cases Studies**

- Ozone, UV-C, Thermosonication
- Red bell pepper / ozone
- Courgette / UV-C
- **Watercress / thermosonication**

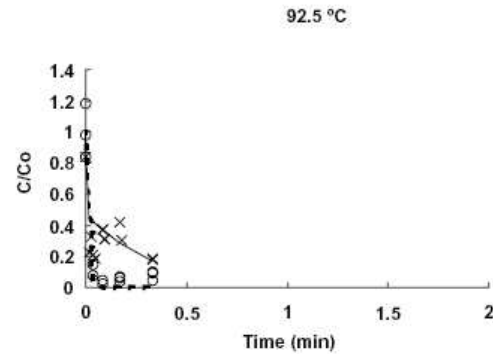
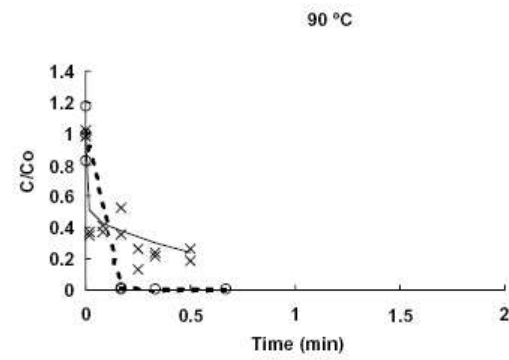
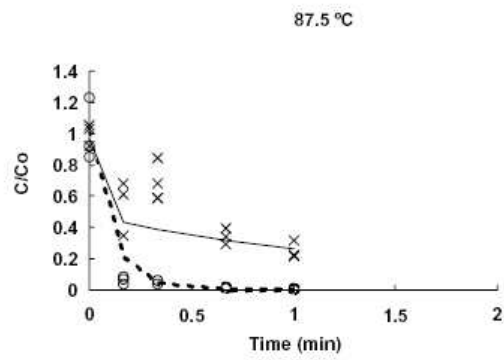
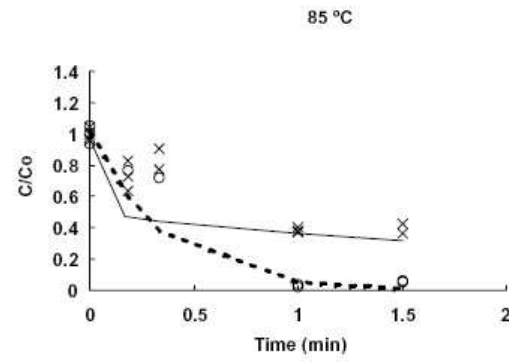
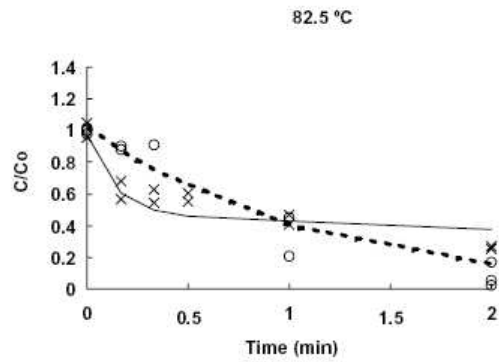


## Effect on Peroxidase ....

**Synergetic effect of**

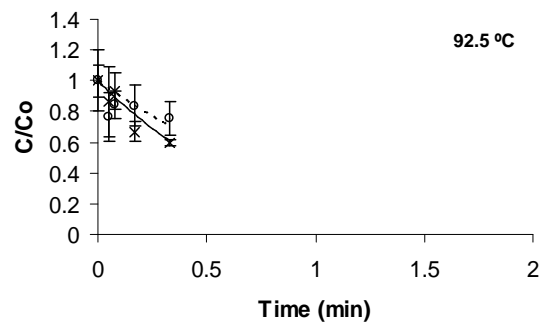
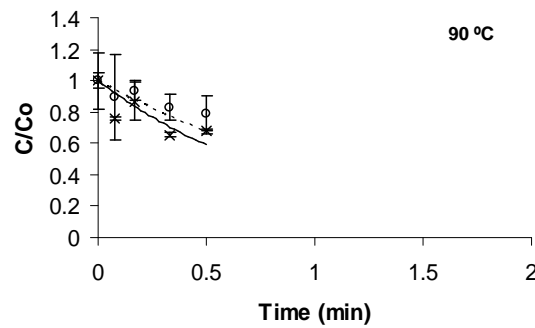
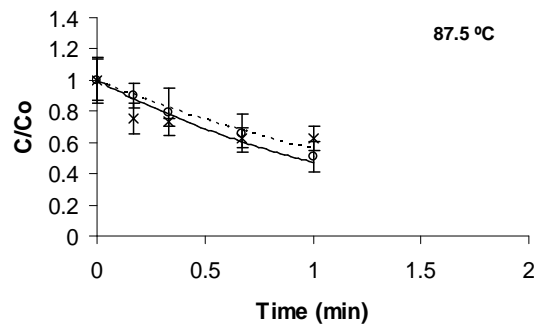
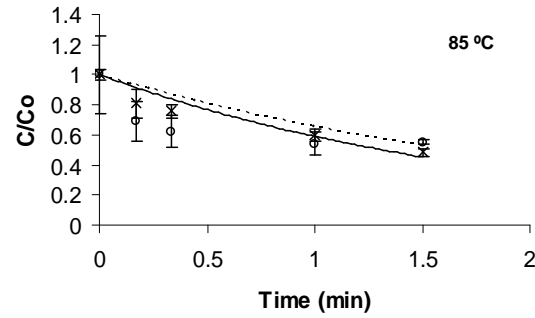
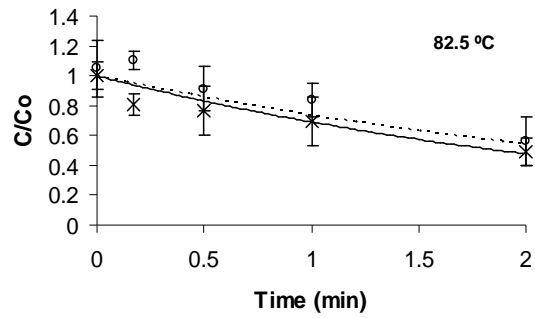
**Temperature and ultrasonication**





$$C = C_{01} e^{-k_{1ref} e^{\left(\frac{Ea_1}{R}\right)\left(\frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}}\right)} t} + C_{02} e^{-k_{2ref} e^{\left(\frac{Ea_2}{R}\right)\left(\frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}}\right)} t}$$

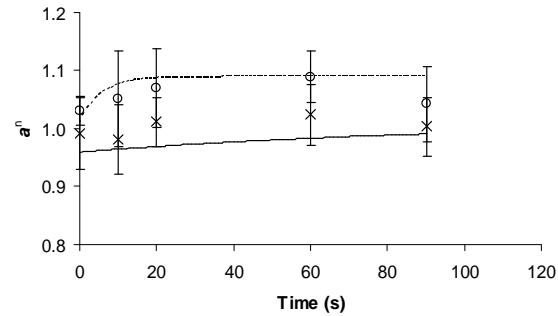
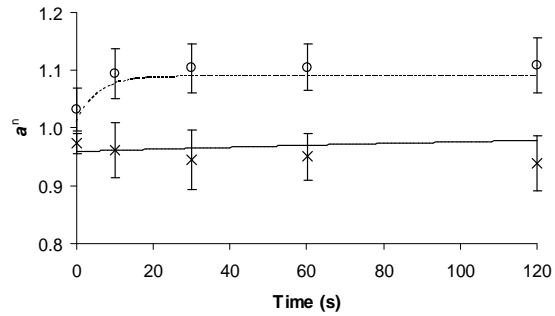




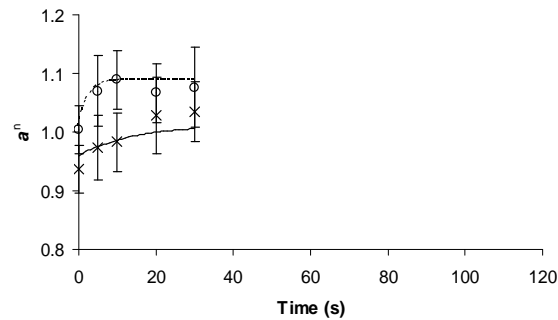
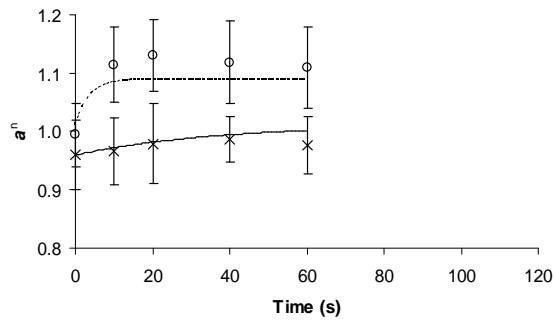
## Vitamina C

$$\frac{C}{C_0} = e^{\left\{ -k_{\text{ref}} e^{\left[ -\frac{E_a}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_{\text{ref}}} \right) \right]} t \right\}}$$

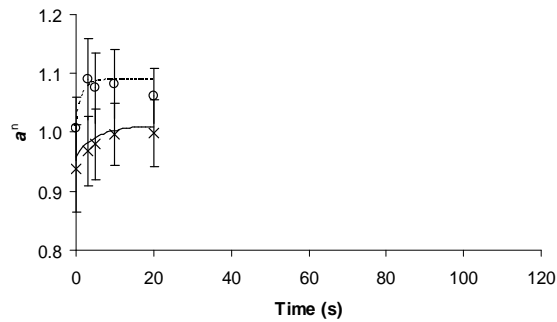




## Colour a\*



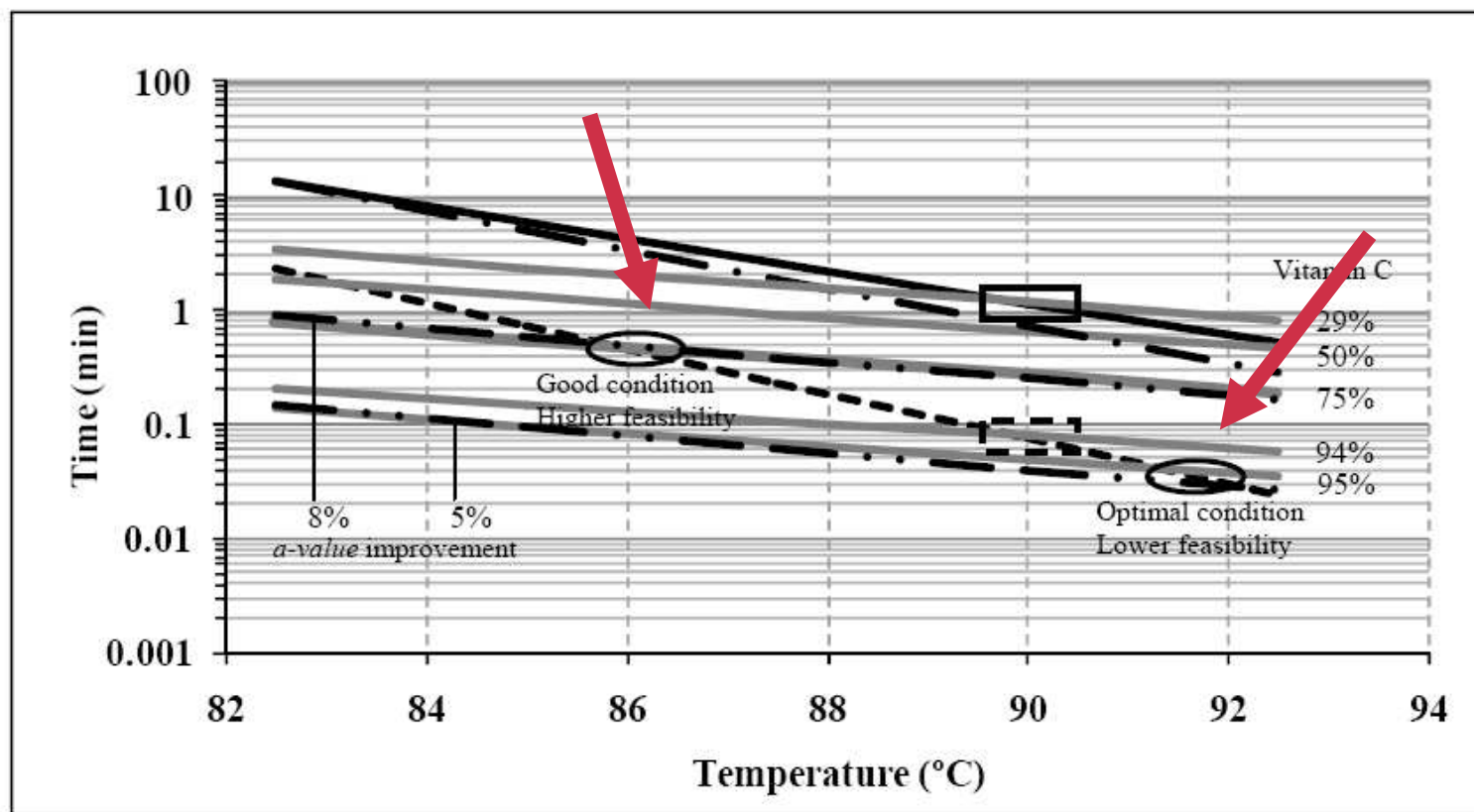
$$\frac{C - C_e}{C_0 - C_e} = e^{\left\{ -k_{ref} e^{\left[ \frac{E_a}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}} \right) \right] t} \right\}}$$



Quality parameter	Treatment	Model	Kinetic parameter	Reference
Peroxidase	Heat	<i>Biphasic first-order</i>	$C_{01}$ ( $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg protein}^{-1}$ ) 0.49±0.08 $k_{1\ 84.6^\circ\text{C}}$ ( $\text{min}^{-1}$ ) 18.01±13.98 $E_{a1}$ ( $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) 420.72±114.94 $C_{02}$ ( $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg protein}^{-1}$ ) 0.48±0.06 $k_{2\ 84.6^\circ\text{C}}$ ( $\text{min}^{-1}$ ) 0.24±0.14 $E_{a2}$ ( $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) 351.65±80.91 $R^2$ 0.94	Cruz et al. (2006)
	Thermosonication*	<i>First-order</i>	$C_0$ ( $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg protein}^{-1}$ ) 1.01±0.05 $k_{87.5^\circ\text{C}}$ ( $\text{min}^{-1}$ ) 9.64±2.21 $E_a$ ( $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) 496.45±65.52 $R^2$ 0.97	
Colour ( <i>a</i> parameter)	Heat	<i>Reversible first-order</i>	$C_0$ 0.96±0.01 $C_\infty$ 1.01±0.02 $E_a$ ( $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) 422.37±126.63 $k_{87.5^\circ\text{C}}$ ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ ) 0.028±0.024 $R^2$ 0.99	Cruz et al. (2007)
	Thermosonication*	<i>Reversible first-order</i>	$C_0$ 1.01±0.01 $C_\infty$ 1.09±0.01 $E_a$ ( $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) 187.70±160.07 $k_{87.5^\circ\text{C}}$ ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ ) 0.28±0.18 $R^2$ 0.99	
Vitamin C	Heat	<i>First-order</i>	$C_0$ 1 $E_a$ ( $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) 150.47±42.81 $k_{87.5^\circ\text{C}}$ ( $\text{min}^{-1}$ ) 0.75±0.10 $R^2$ 0.98	Cruz et al. (2008)
	Thermosonication*	<i>First-order</i>	$C_0$ 1 $E_a$ ( $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) 136.20±60.97 $k_{87.5^\circ\text{C}}$ ( $\text{min}^{-1}$ ) 0.58±0.11 $R^2$ 0.97	

\*Ultrasound at 20 kHz and 125 W







**CATÓLICA**  
UNIVERSIDADE CATÓLICA PORTUGUESA  
ESCOLA SUPERIOR DE BIOTECNOLOGIA



**INETI**

**CBQF - INTERFACE A<sup>4</sup>**

**State Associated Laboratory**