

# Integrative predictive modeling for food safety and quality:

*Tools and applications*

Cristina L.M. Silva

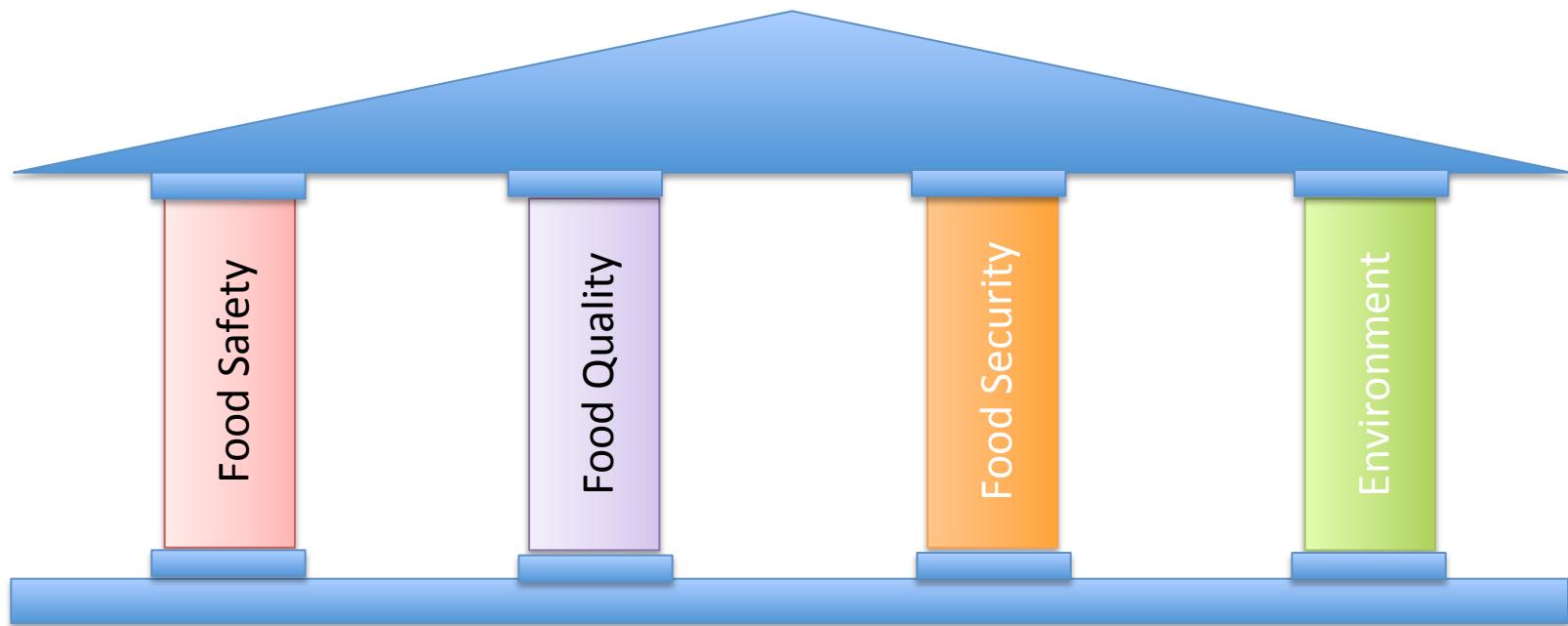
# Outline

- Modeling Food Quality and Safety
- Food Modeling Tools
- Case Studies
- Challenges

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- **Modeling Food Quality and Safety**
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# Food Pilars



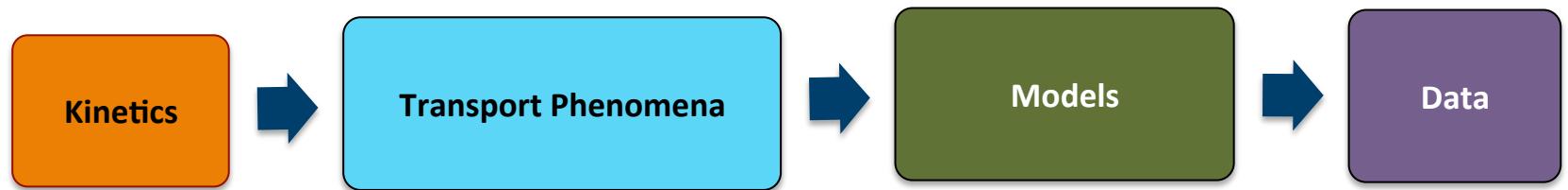
# Food Quality

Food production and distribution need to achieve food safety while:

- nutritious
- fresh
- ready-to-eat
- healthy
- natural
- affordable
- tasty
- convenient
- environmentally-friendly



# Computer simulation



# Models

***Mathematical description of a real system in the form of a computer program.***

- Composed of equations duplicating the functional relationships
- Mechanistic or empirical
  - Empirical are simpler
  - Mechanistic are more complex, requiring more computational effort
- Borderline between mechanistic and empirical models is often not well defined

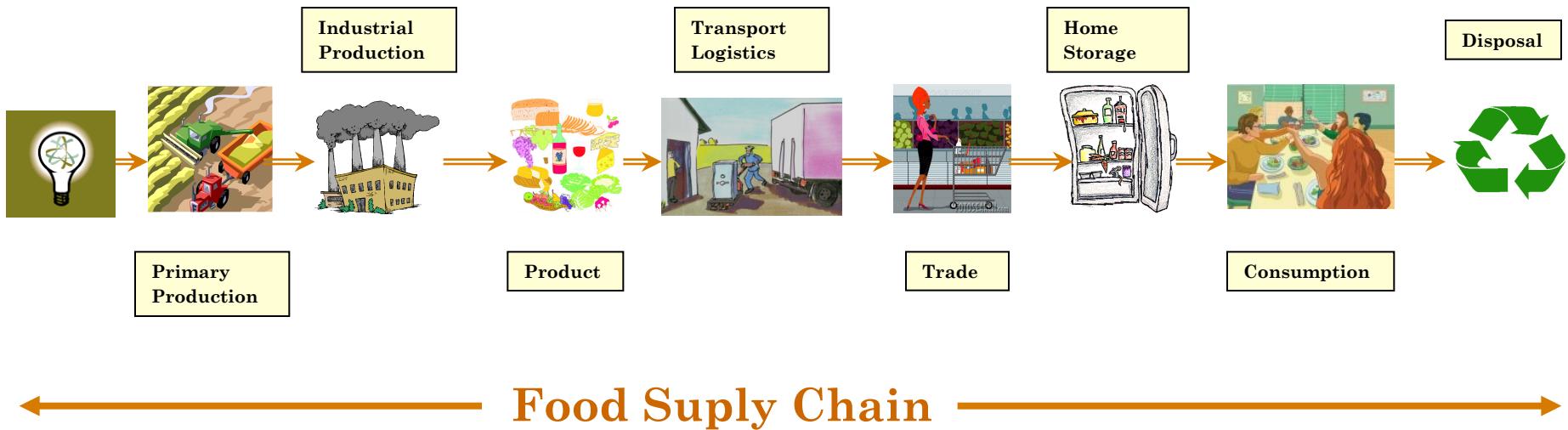
# Models (*cont.*)

- Modeling procedures
  - finite differences; finite elements; finite volumes
  - computational fluid dynamics (CFD) softwares, artificial neural network, fuzzy modelling, etc
- Response surface optimization

# Role of Modeling in Food

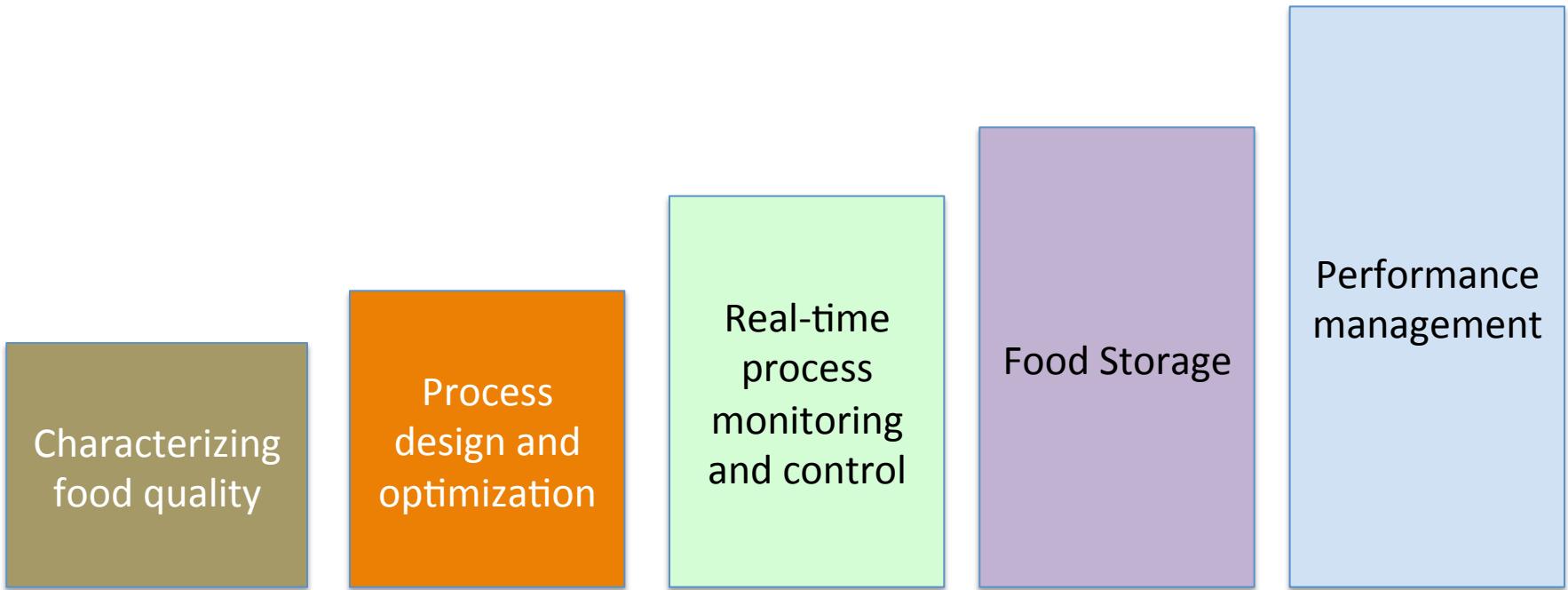
- Process design
- Product design
- Process and product optimization
- Prediction of storage and distribution
- Optimization of storage and distribution

# Food Supply Chain



Farm-to-table → Holistic approach

# Computer models in Food



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# Predictive Microbiology

The use of **mathematical models** in the description of  
**microbial responses** to environmental stressing factors

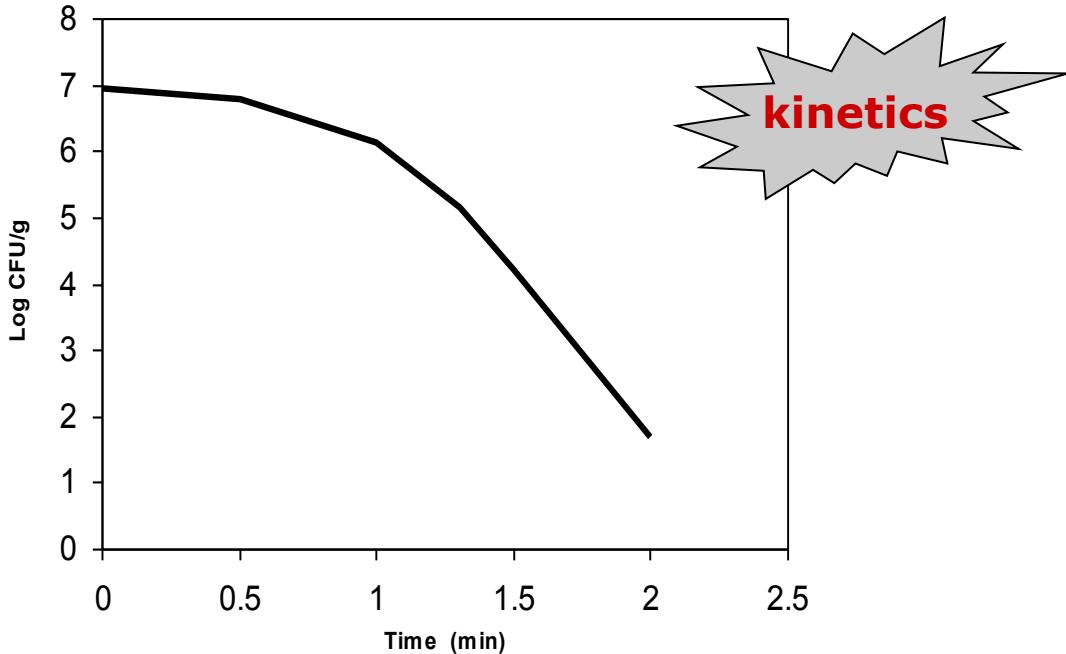
temperature, pH  
&  
water activity.

# Predictive Microbiology (cont.)

❖ primary model

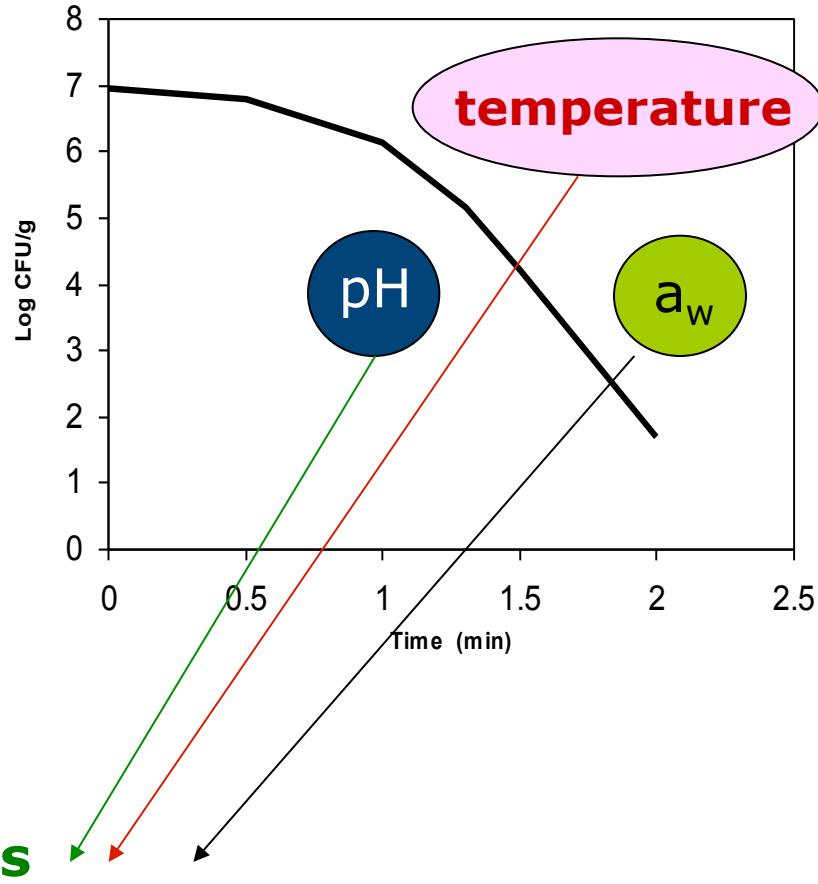


parameters



# Predictive Microbiology (cont.)

❖ primary model

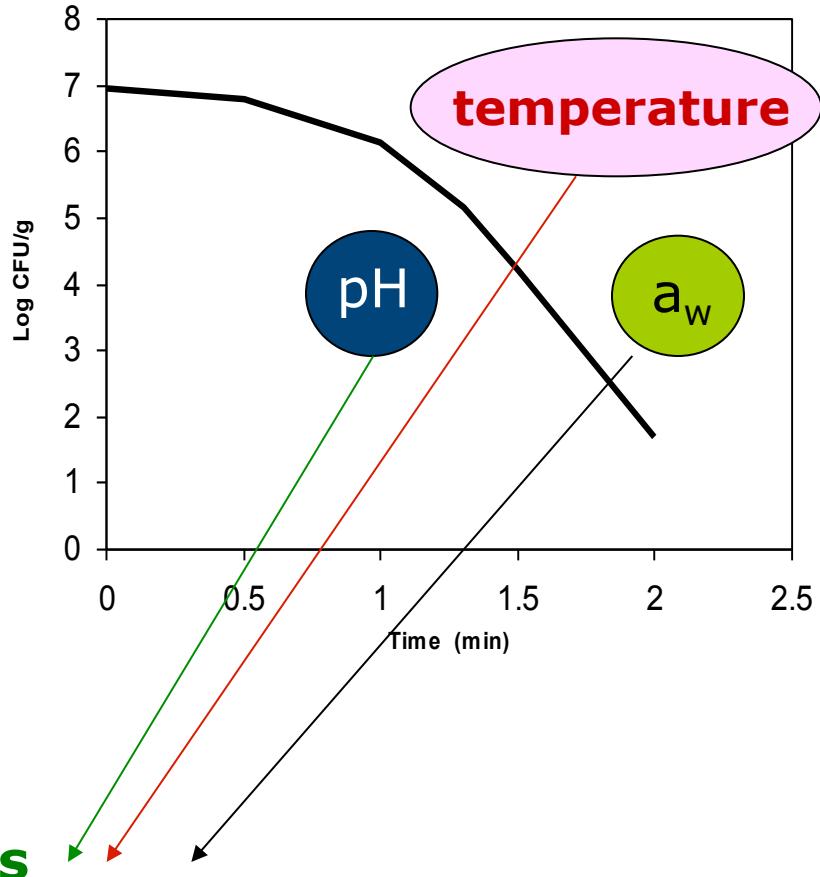


❖ secondary model

parameters

# Predictive Microbiology (cont.)

❖ primary model



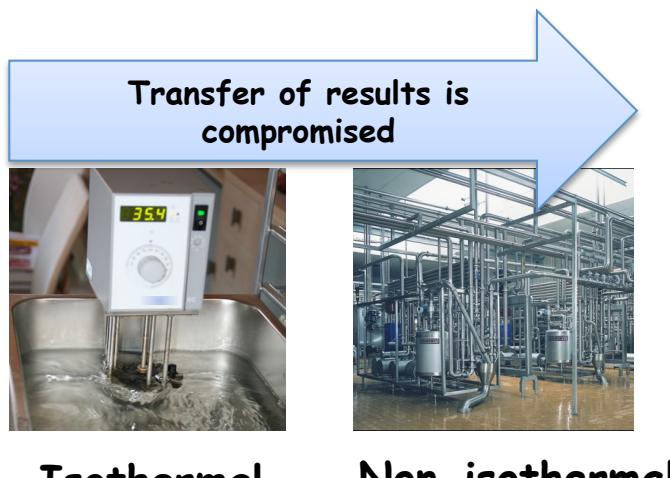
❖ secondary model

parameters

tertiary - integration of the previous models - **software**

# Predictive Microbiology (cont)

Predictive microbiology utilizes mathematical models (built with data from laboratory testing) and computer software to graphically describe these responses.



- Design of processing conditions
- Shelf-life studies

Available for industry:

e.g. Baseline, Combase, etc

*Tenenhaus-Aziza & Ellouze, 2015*

# Predictive Quality

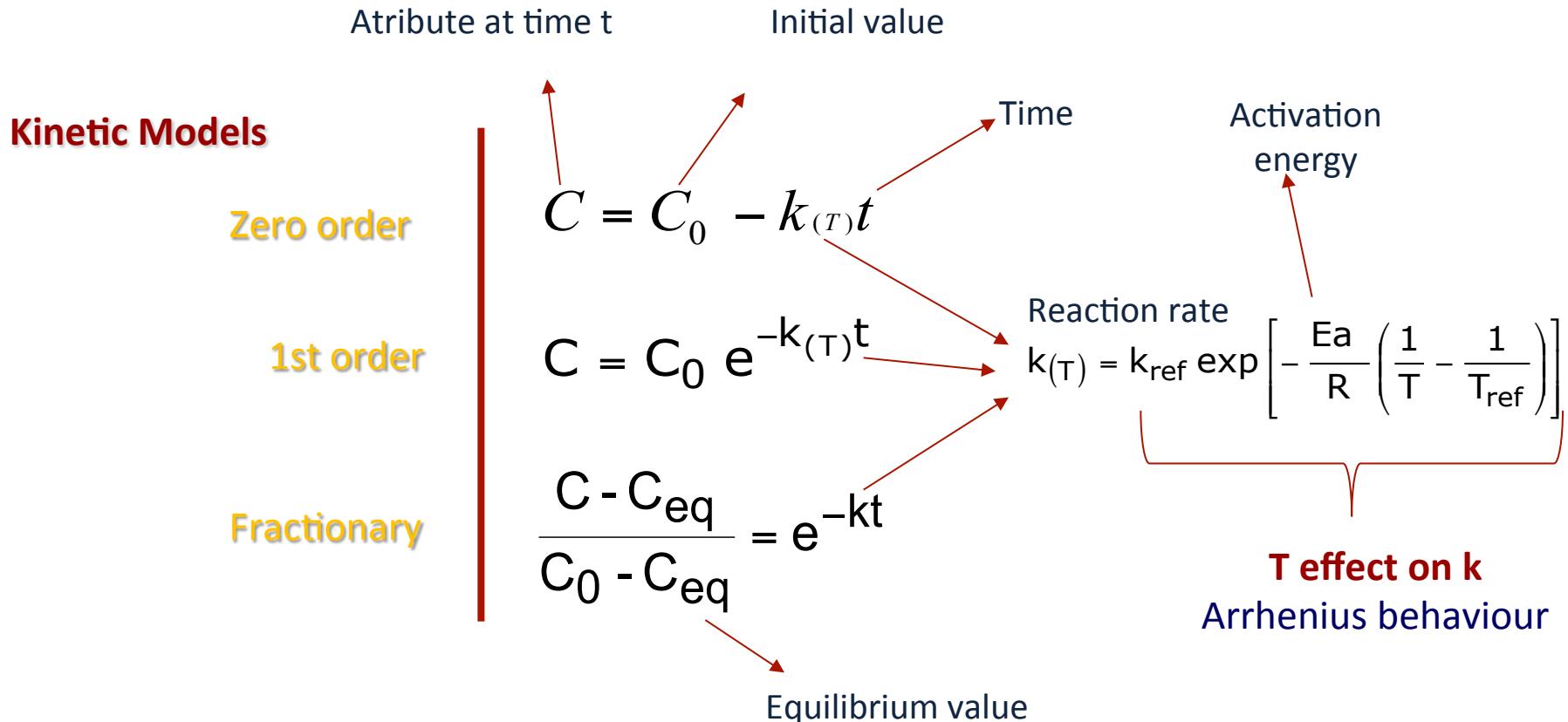
The use of **mathematical models** in the description of  
**QUALITY responses** to environmental factors

# Quality changes kinetics

**Historically: → single-response studies**  
**→ static conditions**

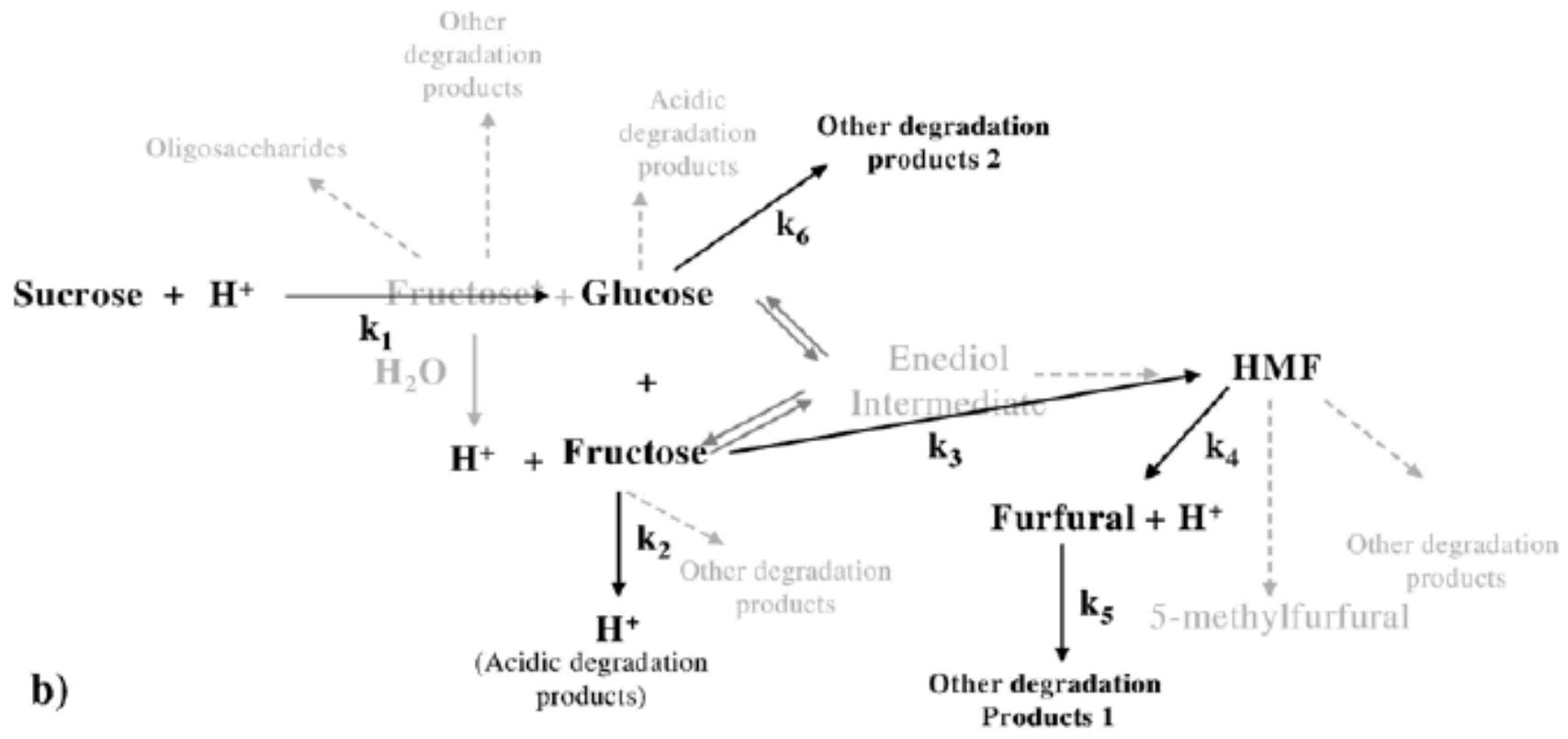
# Quality changes kinetics

Single-response → empirical



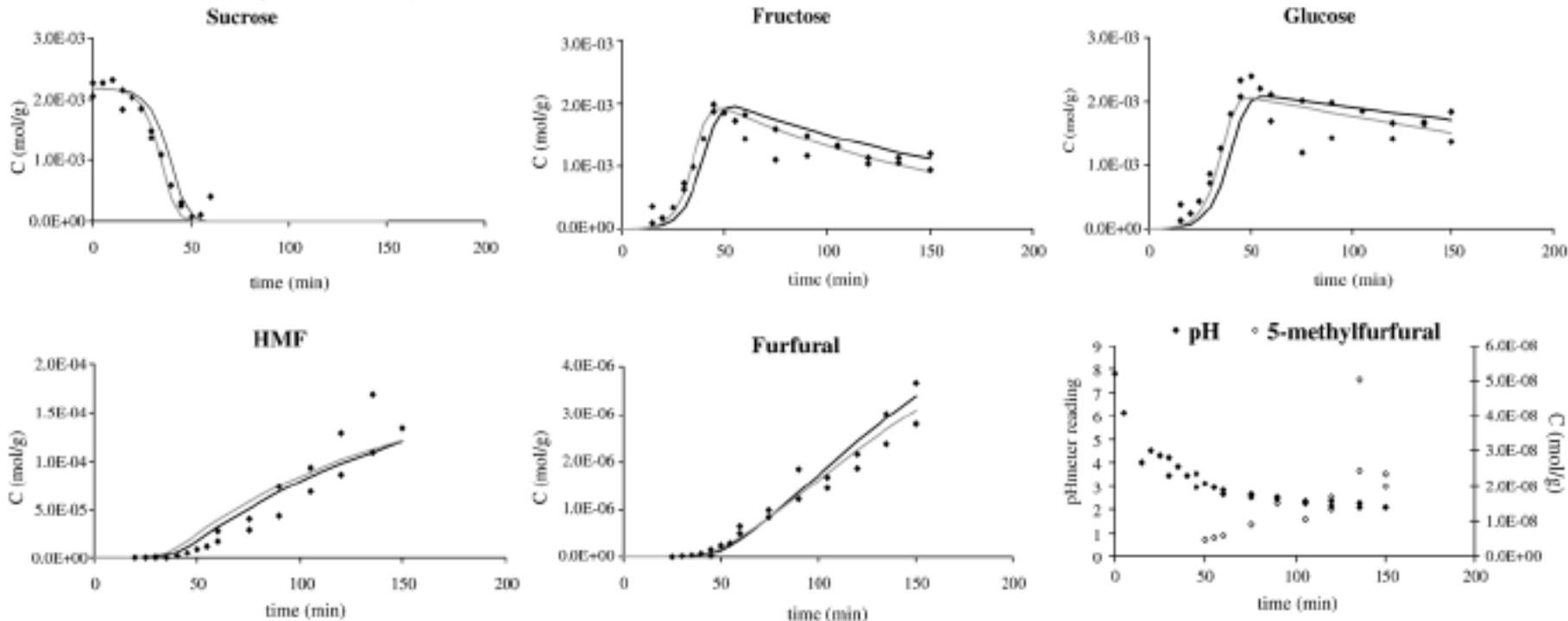
# Quality changes kinetics

Multiresponse Modelling → mechanistic



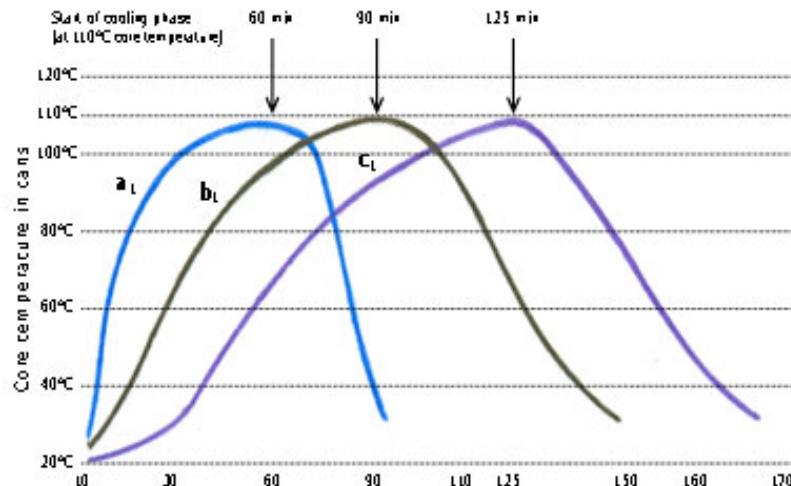
Quintas et al, 2007

# Quality changes kinetics



Quintas et al, 2007

# Quality changes kinetics



→ Need to have temperature histories and distributions



# Quality changes kinetics

## Isothermal conditions

$$C = C_0 - \left( k_{ref} \exp \left( -\frac{E_a}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}} \right) \right) t \right)$$

$$C = C_0 \exp \left( -k_{ref} \exp \left( -\frac{E_a}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}} \right) \right) t \right)$$

$$C = C_{eq} + (C_0 - C_{eq}) \exp \left( -k_{ref} \exp \left( -\frac{E_a}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}} \right) \right) t \right)$$

## Non-Isothermal conditions

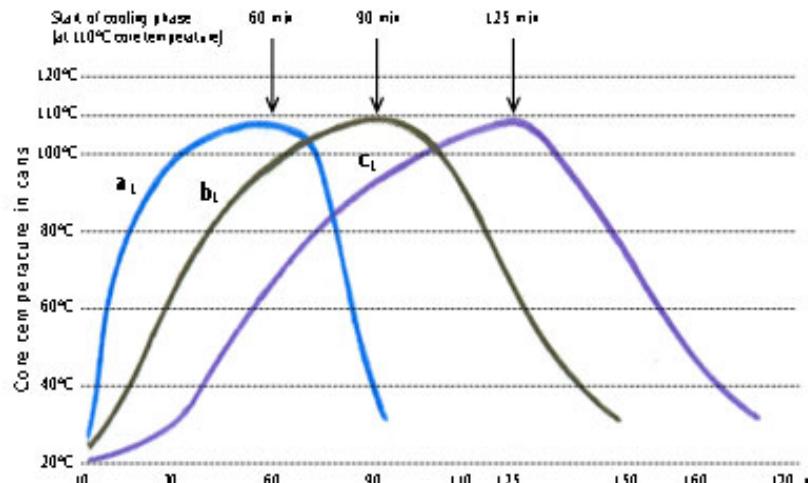
$$C = C_0 - \left[ k_{ref} \int_0^t \exp \left[ -\frac{E_a}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T(t)} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}} \right) \right] dt \right]$$

$$C = C_0 \exp \left[ -k_{ref} \int_0^t \exp \left[ -\frac{E_a}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T(t)} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}} \right) \right] dt \right]$$

$$C = C_{eq} + (C_0 - C_{eq}) \exp \left[ -k_{ref} \int_0^t \exp \left[ -\frac{E_a}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T(t)} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}} \right) \right] dt \right]$$

Integration

# Quality changes kinetics



→Reverse Engineering  
can be an excellent tool



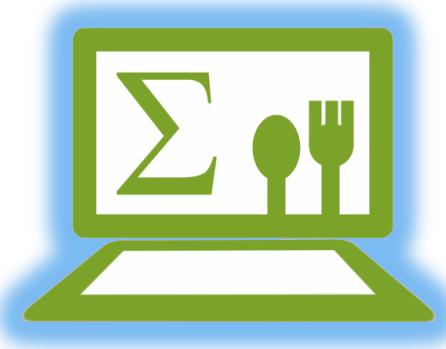
# Integrative Predictive Modeling

**Combining mathematical models for safety and quality responses, considering the whole food chain.**



# COST Action CA15118 - FoodMC

“Support the food sector in facing futures challenges in production and processing, adopting modelling and optimization methods from Maths and Computer Science”



<https://www6.inra.fr/foodmc>

Chair: Dr. Alberto TONDA (FR)



About FoodMC

Working groups



European  
Food-STA



[www.food-sta.eu](http://www.food-sta.eu)



554312-EPP-1-2014-1-AT-EPPKA2-KA

# COST Action CA15118 - FoodMC (*cont.*)



- ❖ Model link food processing - food structure
- ❖ Modeling for eco-design of food processes
- ❖ Software tools for the food industry

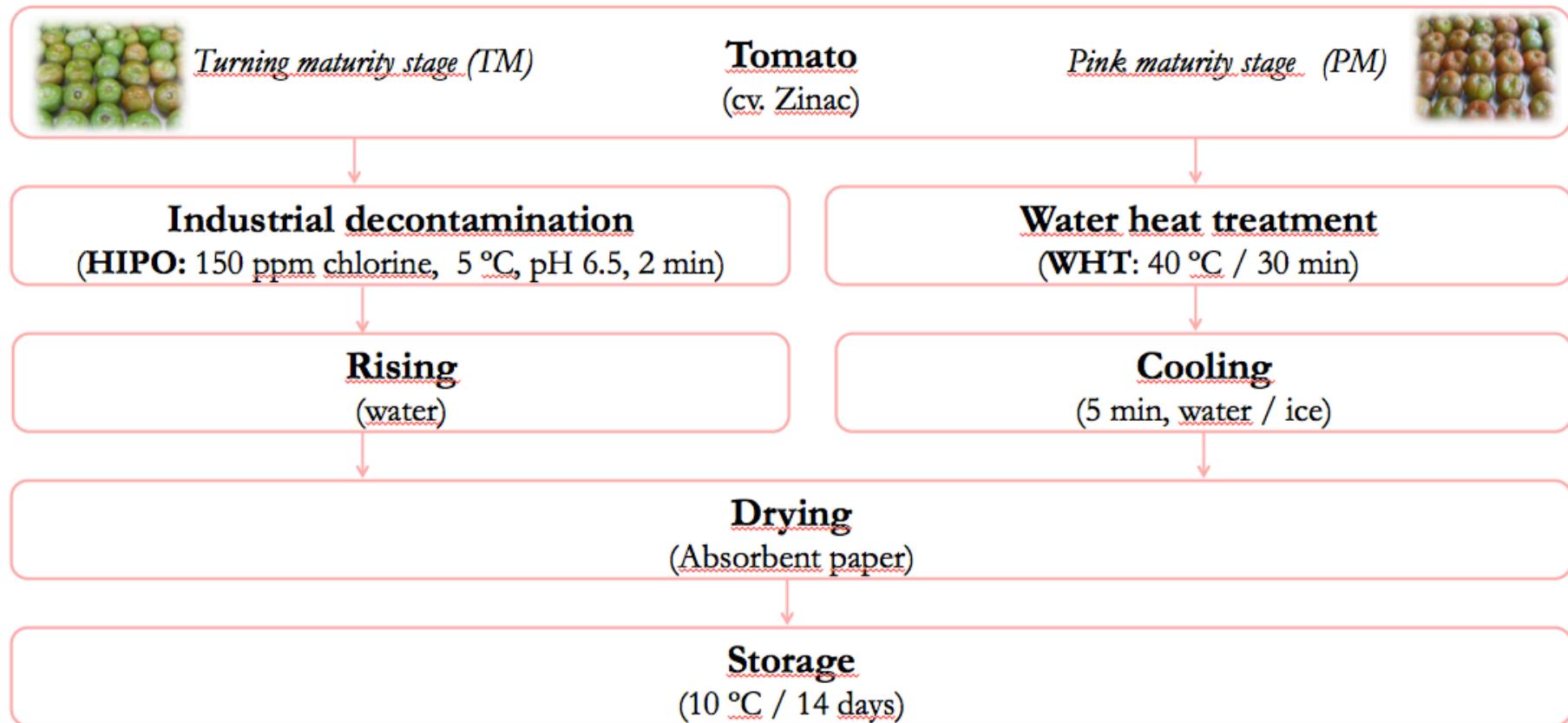
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# Postharvest treatment

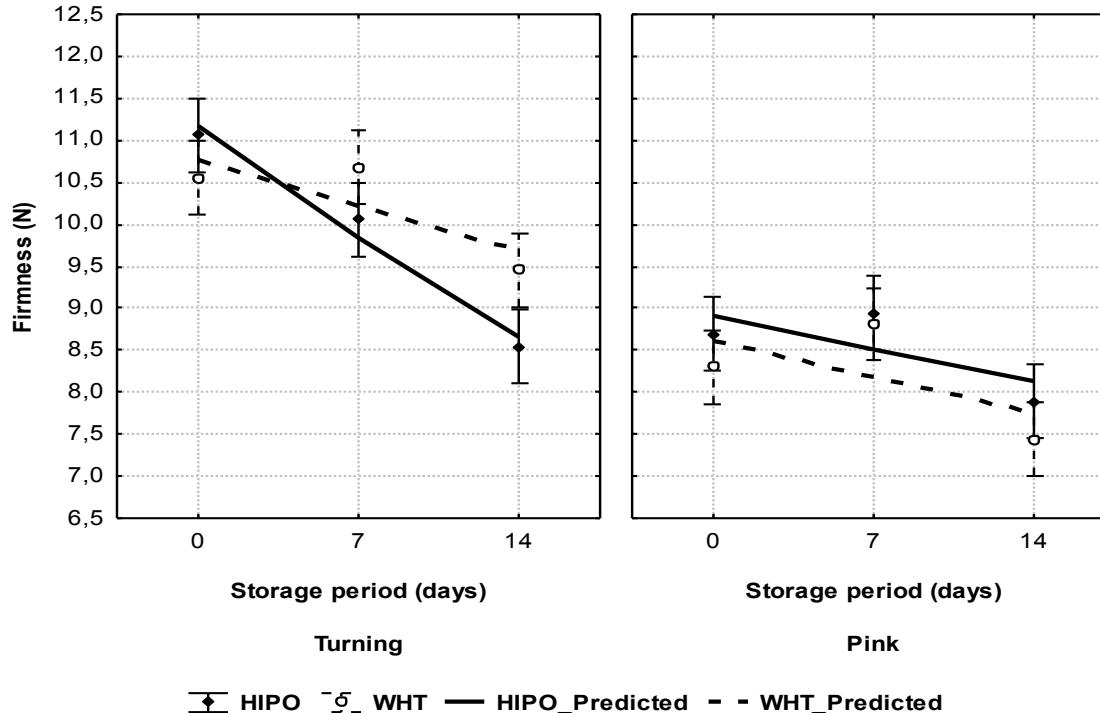


# Postharvest treatment



# Postharvest treatment

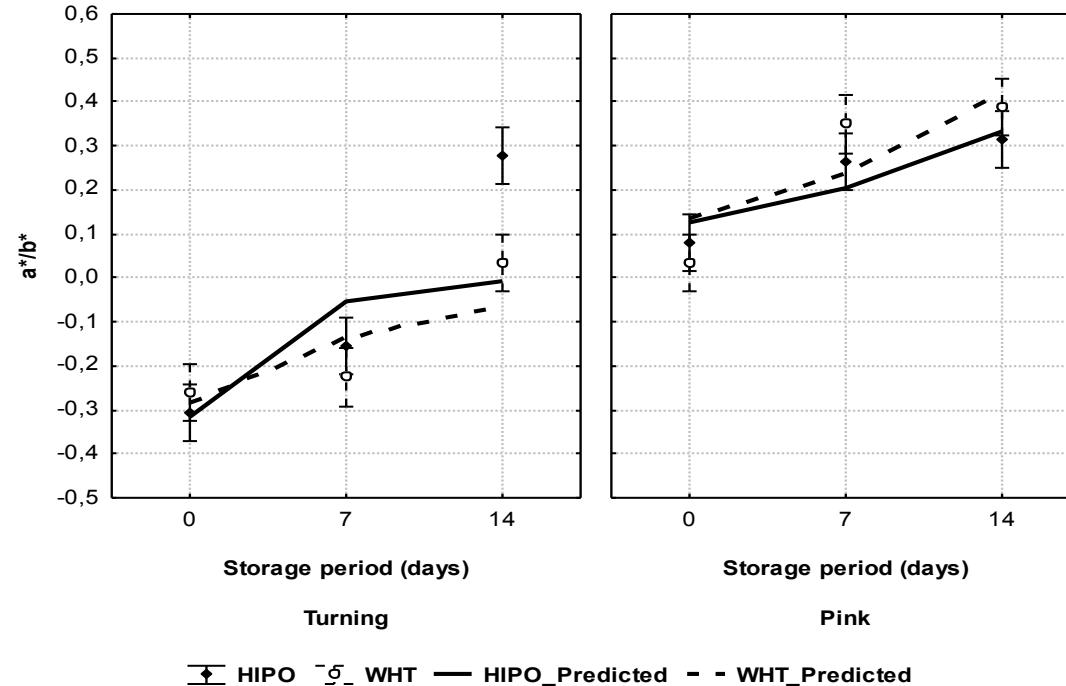
## Firmness



Pinheiro et al, 2014

# Postharvest treatment

## Colour



Pinheiro et al, 2014

# Postharvest treatment

$$C = C_0 e^{-k(T)t}$$

Maturity stages	Treatment	$a^*/b^*$	Firmness (N)
Turning	HIPO	$C_0 = -0.32 \pm 0.12$ $k_{10^\circ\text{C}} (\text{day}^{-1}) = 0.25 \pm 0.32$	$C_0 = 11.16 \pm 0.52$ $k_{10^\circ\text{C}} (\text{day}^{-1}) = 0.02 \pm 0.006$
	WHT	$C_0 = -0.28 \pm 0.11$ $k_{10^\circ\text{C}} (\text{day}^{-1}) = 0.11 \pm 0.10$	$C_0 = 10.77 \pm 0.69$ $k_{10^\circ\text{C}} (\text{day}^{-1}) = 0.01 \pm 0.01$
Pink	HIPO	$C_0 = 0.13 \pm 0.07$ $k_{10^\circ\text{C}} (\text{day}^{-1}) = -0.07 \pm 0.05$	$C_0 = 8.90 \pm 0.43$ $k_{10^\circ\text{C}} (\text{day}^{-1}) = 0.01 \pm 0.01$
	WHT	$C_0 = 0.13 \pm 0.07$ $k_{10^\circ\text{C}} (\text{day}^{-1}) = -0.08 \pm 0.04$	$C_0 = 8.60 \pm 0.72$ $k_{10^\circ\text{C}} (\text{day}^{-1}) = 0.01 \pm 0.01$

→ Results provide strong evidence that postharvest water **heat treatment (40 °C - 30 min)** for tomato fruits (cv. 'Zinac') at turning maturity stage guarantees the overall quality at 10 °C, **twice as long of fruits washed with chlorinated water.**



# Non-thermal technologies for *Alicyclobacillus acidoterrestris* inactivation in apple juice

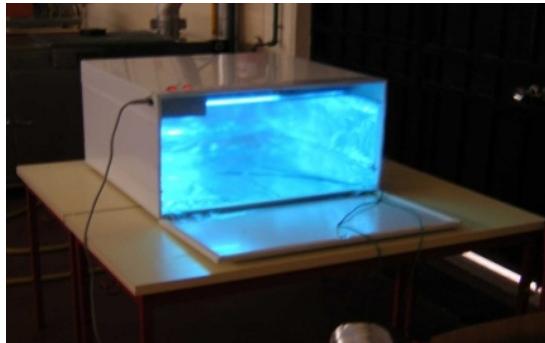


European  
**FoOD-STA**



[www.food-sta.eu](http://www.food-sta.eu)

**UV-C radiation**  
(13.44 W/m<sup>2</sup> for 8 min)

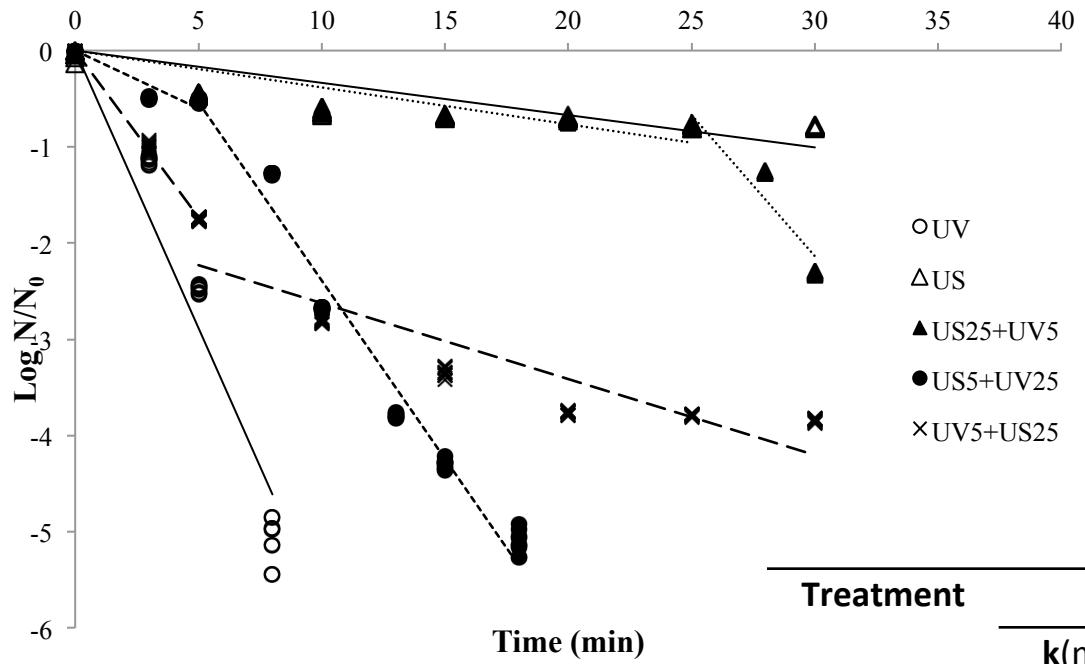


**Ultrasound (US)**  
(35 kHz frequency and  
120-480 W power for 30 min)



**Ozone**  
(500 mV for 60 min)





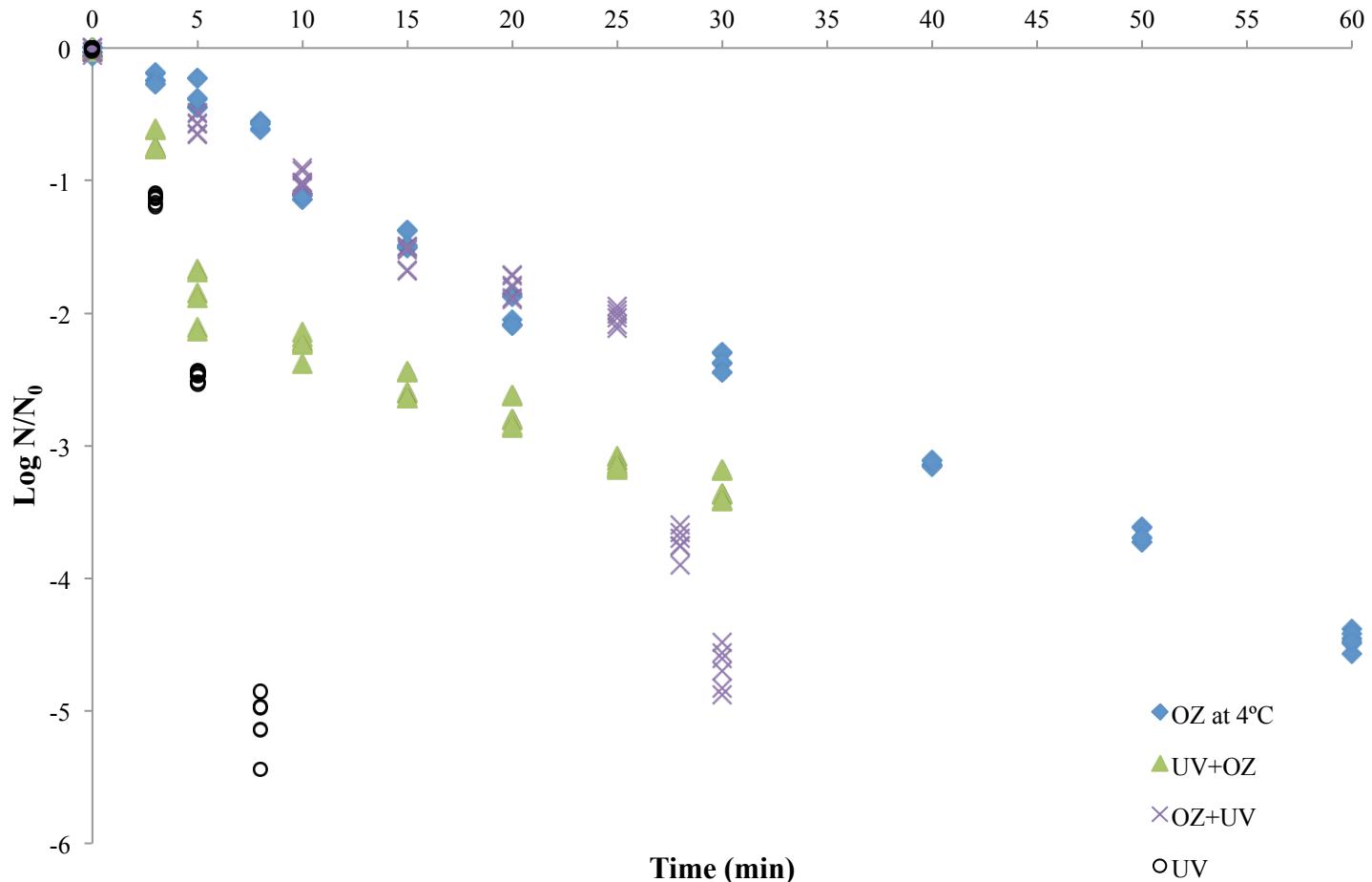
**Figure 1.** *A. acidoterrestris* inactivation in apple juice applying different treatments:

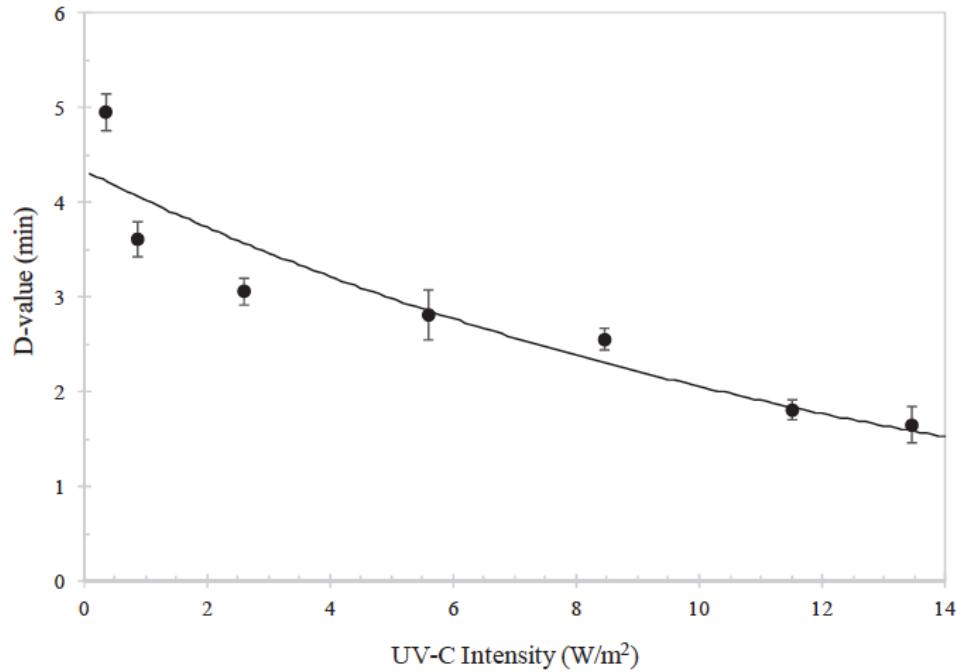
○UV  
 △US  
 ▲US25+UV5  
 ●US5+UV25  
 ✕UV5+US25

**Table 1.** Inactivation rates of *A. acidoterrestris* spores in apple juices; confidence intervals at 95% ( $CI_{95\%}$ ) and correlation coefficients (R) are included.

Treatment	First treatment		Second treatment	
	$k(\text{min}^{-1}) \pm CI_{95\%}/2$	R	$k(\text{min}^{-1}) \pm CI_{95\%}/2$	R
UV-C	0.576±0.031	0.97	-	-
US	0.033±0.003	0.61	-	-
TS	0.259±0.011	0.98	-	-
UV5+US25	0.346±0.004	0.99	0.079±0.011	0.90
US5+UV25	0.120±0.011	0.92	0.369±0.012	0.98
US25+UV5	0.038±0.003	0.76	0.293±0.041	0.95

*Tremarin et al, 2017*

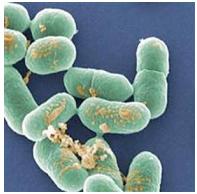




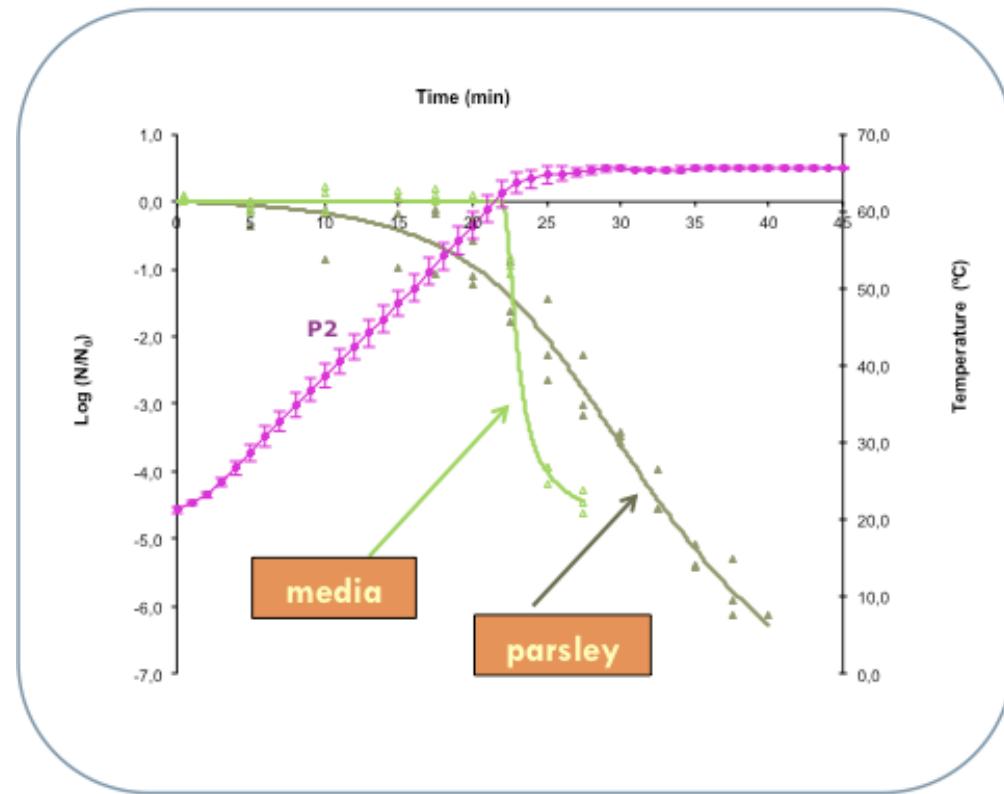
$$\log\left(\frac{N}{N_0}\right) = -\frac{1}{D}t$$

$$D = D_{\text{ref}} 10^{\left(\frac{l_{\text{ref}} - l}{z}\right)}$$

*Tremarin et al, 2017*

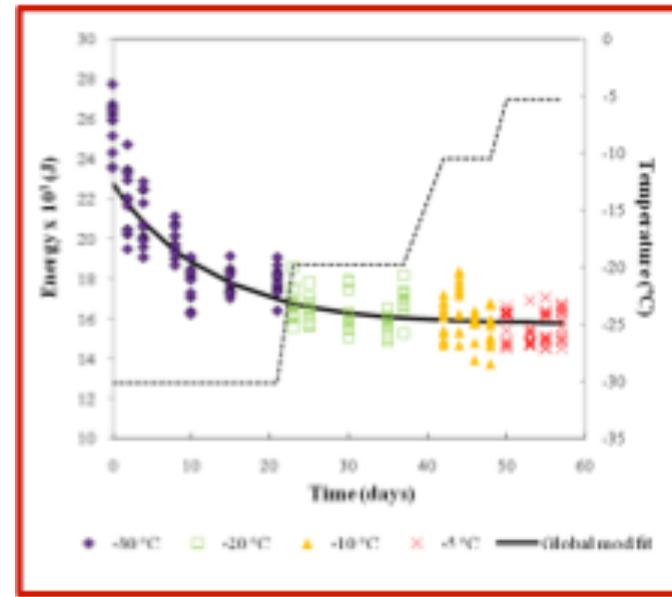


## Thermal inactivation of *Listeria* in culture media and foods



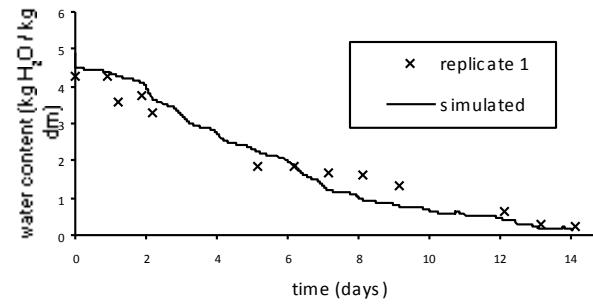
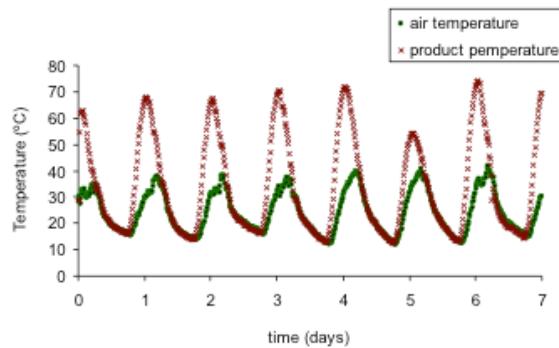
Gil et al, 2016

# Frozen storage of vegetables



Gonçalves et al, 2011

# Solar drying of grapes



Ramos *et al*, 2015

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# Challenges

- ✓ Development of ***Integrative models***, considering the whole food chain.
- ✓ Food quality kinetic studies under dynamic conditions.
- ✓ Use of reverse engineering.
- ✓ Multiresponse models – mechanistic.
- ✓ Development of a so called ***Predictive Quality*** – open access to database of kinetic studies.

# Thank you!

