





# Evaluation and optimization of antimicrobial activity





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# Regulation (EC) N° 178/2002 or « Food Law »



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It lays down the definitions, principles and obligations covering <u>all stages</u> of food and feed production and distribution.

- Establishing the general principles of food legislation
- Created the European Food Safety Authority (Efsa)
- Edicting procedures relative to food security (rapid alert system)

THE KEY OBLIGATIONS OF FOOD AND FEED BUSINESS OPERATORS

> Safety Operators shall not place on the market unsafe food or feed

#### Responsibility

Operators are responsible for the safety of the food and feed which they produce, transport, store or sell

#### Traceability

Operators shall be able to rapidly identify any supplier or consignee

#### Transparency

Operators shall immediately inform the competent authorities if they have a reason to believe that their food or feed is not safe

#### Emergency

Operators shall immediately withdraw food or feed from the market if they have a reason to believe that it is not safe

#### Prevention

Operators shall identify and regularly review the critical points in their processes and ensure that controls are applied at these points

Co-operation Operators shall co-operate with the competent authorities in actions taken to reduce risks



#### Introduction

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# 5,196 foodborne outbreaks in Europe in 2013

43,183 human cases, 11 deaths



3



#### Introduction







## **Preservatives in foods**

#### Regulations CE/1331/2008 and CE/1333/2008

Substances which prolong the shelf-life of foods by protecting them against deterioration caused by microorganisms and/or which protect against growth of pathogenic microorganisms

#### Examples for canned or botttled fruit and vegetables

E-number	Name	Maximum level (mg/l or mg/kg as appropriate)
E 263	Calcium acetate	quantum satis
E 270	Lactic acid	quantum satis
E 296	Malic acid	quantum satis





# Disinfectants on surfaces Regulation (EU) N°528/2012

#### **Positive lists**

Substance or mixture with the intention of destroying, rendering harmless or controlling effect on harmful organism

Product-type4 : food and feed area

Products used for disinfection of equipment, containers, consumption utensils, surfaces and pipework associated to the production, transport, storage or consumption for food and feed for humans and animals









#### Introduction

## **Preservatives in foods**

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## Better characterization of inhibitory activity (MIC)

Classical methods to determine bacteriostatic activity of an antimicrobial compound **Diffusion method Dilution method Antimicrobial** Inoculation of nutrient broth containing different on a filter disk antimicrobial concentrations Inoculation of **Petri plates** Agar medium Antimicrobial gradient Minimum inhibitory concentration MIC  $\bigcirc$ ()C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6 C7 Control C8 C9 without antimicrobial **Growing concentrations** of antimicrobials <u>C6<MIC<C7</u>

Comparison of strain sensitivity or antimicrobial efficiency





C1

C2

C4 C5

C6

# Method

# Improvement of dilution method by modeling

## 1rst step: continuous recording of absorbance during bacterial growth

### Automatic absorbance microplate reader



200 simoultaneous growth curves



antimicrobials

- inoculation with the bacterial culture (1%)
- setting of temperature, agitation
- setting of duration of recording (ex: every 30 min during 72h)









Lag time Exponential growth

Time







## Improvement of dilution method by modeling

3rd step: modeling the impact of antimicrobial concentration on µmax



Method

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Better characterization of inhibitory activity (MIC)



Improvement of dilution method by modeling

3rd step: modeling the impact of antimicrobial concentration on µmax

Several profiles that can guide the choice of the best antimicrobial according to the context



Guillier, L., et al. (2007). Journal of Food Protection 70(10): 2243-2250

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11

### Better characterization of inhibitory activity (MIC)







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#### **Optimization of combinations**

Application

# Multifactorial preservation with combinations of several antimicrobial compounds

#### To maintain food safety while lowering the doses of each compound



#### **Benefits**:

- ✤ To remain easily below regulation limits (if there are some)
- ✤ To remain below the organoleptic threshold (for compound such as essential oils)
- To optimize costs (balance between expensive/efficient and cheaper/less efficient compounds)

## How can food operators optimize antimicrobial combinations?





#### **Optimization of combinations**





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#### **Optimization of combinations**







#### **Part I conclusion**

#### Better evaluate and optimize the efficiency of preservatives in food

### Conclusion The dilution methodology associated to modeling

Highly efficient for fast and accurate screening of numerous compounds

- MIC : more accurate data with confidence intervals
- NIC : minimum concentration to use



#### The use of combinations

Highly efficient FIC method for accurate evaluation of synergistic / antagonistic / indifferent antimicrobial effect between compounds



# Disinfectants on surfaces Regulation (EU) N°528/2012

Substance or mixture with the intention of destroying, rendering harmless or controlling effect on harmful organism

#### Product-type4 : food and feed area

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# Part II

How can food operators better evaluate the efficiency of biocides on food contact surfaces?





#### Better characterize the lethal activity

#### **Biofilm settles on food-contact surfaces**



Biofilm: consortium of micro-organisms trapped in a matrix of organic polymers and adhering to a surface

# **Biofilms are bacterial fortresses**







## **Biofilm: a structure of resistance**

European

**FooD-STA** 



Disinfectants	Resistance coefficient (Rc) = Ratio of concentrations needed to obtain the same level of log reduction between biofilm and planktonic cells
oxidizing agents	5 - 600
QAC	10 - 1000

(Dubois-Brissonnet et al, 1995; Ntsama-Essomba et al, 1997; Campanac et al 2002, Luppens et al, 2002; Bridier et al 2011)

Activity of benzalkonium chloride on *Listeria monocytogenes* in the planktonic state ( $\bigcirc$ ), sessile ( $\triangle$ ) or biofilm state ( $\bigcirc$ ).







#### Inactivation dynamics are monitored by time lapse CLSM



#### Spatio-temporal dynamics of disinfectant action with two different biocides

P. aeruginosa ATCC 15442

#### **PAA (0,05%)**

Fluorescence is recorded in three spots

**BAC (0,5%)** 





Bridier, A et al, 2011. Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy 55, 2648-2654.

#### Spatio-temporal dynamics of disinfectant action with two different 0 min 5 min 10 min 15 min 20 min 25 min biocides

P. aeruginosa ATCC 15442

Fluorescence is recorded in three spots





#### Towards the use of natural compounds as disinfectants?



#### Thymbra capitata hydrosols as disinfectants

compared to BAC (benzalkonium ammonium chloride)



#### Resistance coefficient (Rc) =

C<sub>biofilm</sub>/C<sub>planktonic</sub>

#### **Resistance coefficient (Rc)**

Benzalkonium chloride	208.3
Hydrosol	1.6

#### Hydrosol is nearly as efficient on biofilm than on planktonic cells contrarily to benzalkonium chloride



#### Hypothesis to explain the high antimicrobial activity

- ✤ It contains a large amount of carvacrol associated with other antimicrobials
- It has an high water solubility

Karampoula, F. et al, 2016. Applied and Environmental Microbiology (accepted)





#### **Part II Conclusion**

Conclusion

Limits

- Microscopic techniques are an interesting tool to evaluate \* heterogeneity of bacterial resistance within the biofilm structure
- Adequate labelling is needed (no interaction with the biocide) \*
- CLSM availability (microscopic platforms possible to rent) slot allocations)

Next challenge is to apply these microscopic techniques for evaluation of antimicrobial activities within food matrices







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Images from MIMA2 platform – UMR Micalis AgroParisTech INRA

# Thank you for your attention !

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