



**The Abdus Salam
International Centre for Theoretical Physics**



2227-1b

Joint ICTP-IAEA Workshop on Radiation Resistant Polymers

14 - 18 March 2011

"The use of gamma irradiation for biopolymers development for food packaging application"

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Workshop on Radiation Resistant Polymers

Trieste, March 14-18, 2011

**Production of crosslinked natural
polymers containing WPI and caseinate
proteins using γ -irradiation
for the development of bioactive coating
and packaging**

Objectives of the study

- **Develop an active edible crosslinked coating and packaging containing natural antimicrobials.**
- **Use irradiation in combined treatments in order to increase the bacterial radiosensitization and the the shelf life of foods.**

Film preparation

Protein solutions (5%)

Glycerol (2.5%)

MC or CMC (0.25%)

Mannitol (2.5%)
or
Sorbitol (2.5%)
or
PEG (0.5%)

Agitation

Irradiation (8-128kGy)

Drying

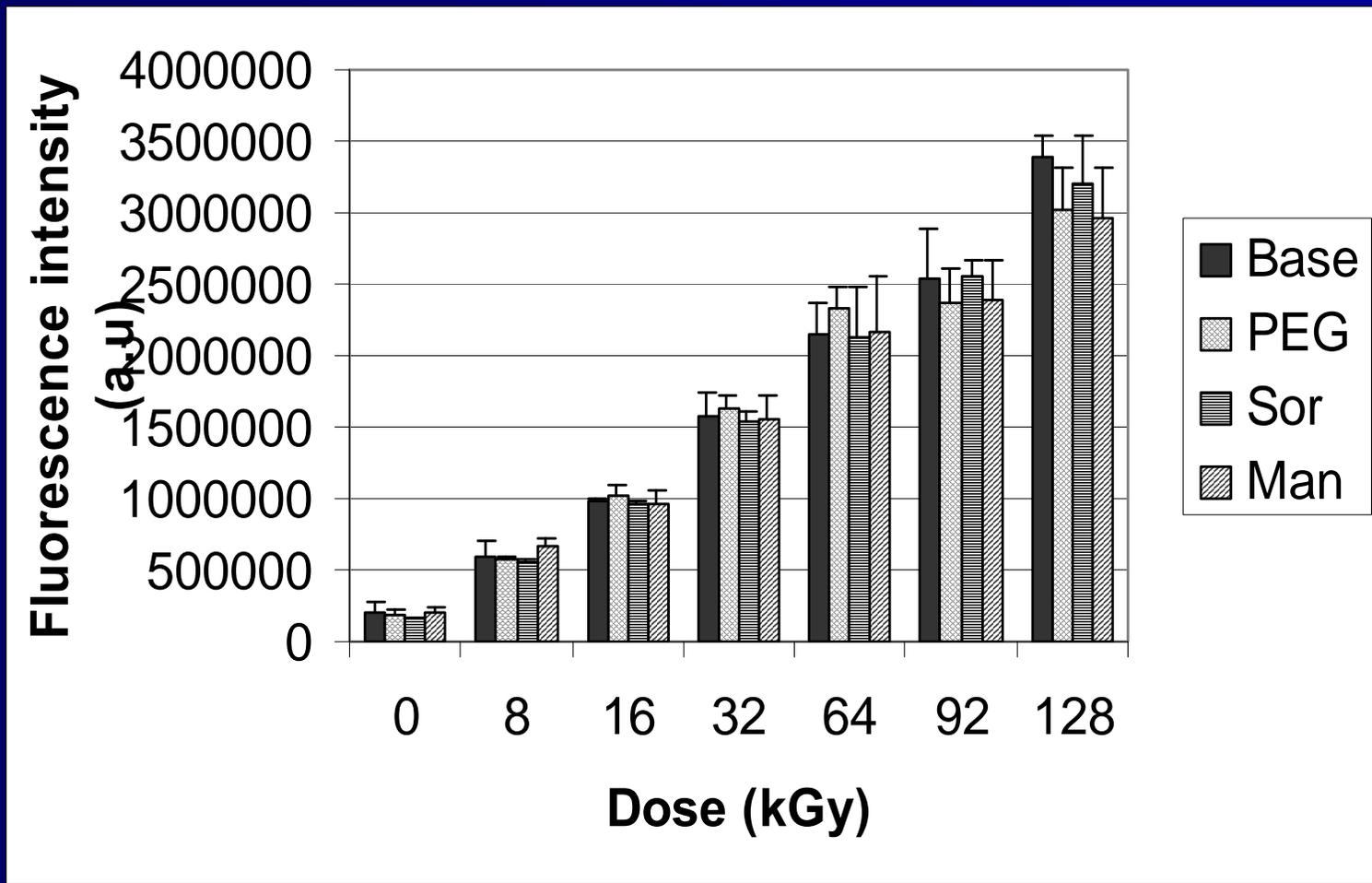
Casting

Packaging films

Irradiation of coated
foods (0 -3kGy)

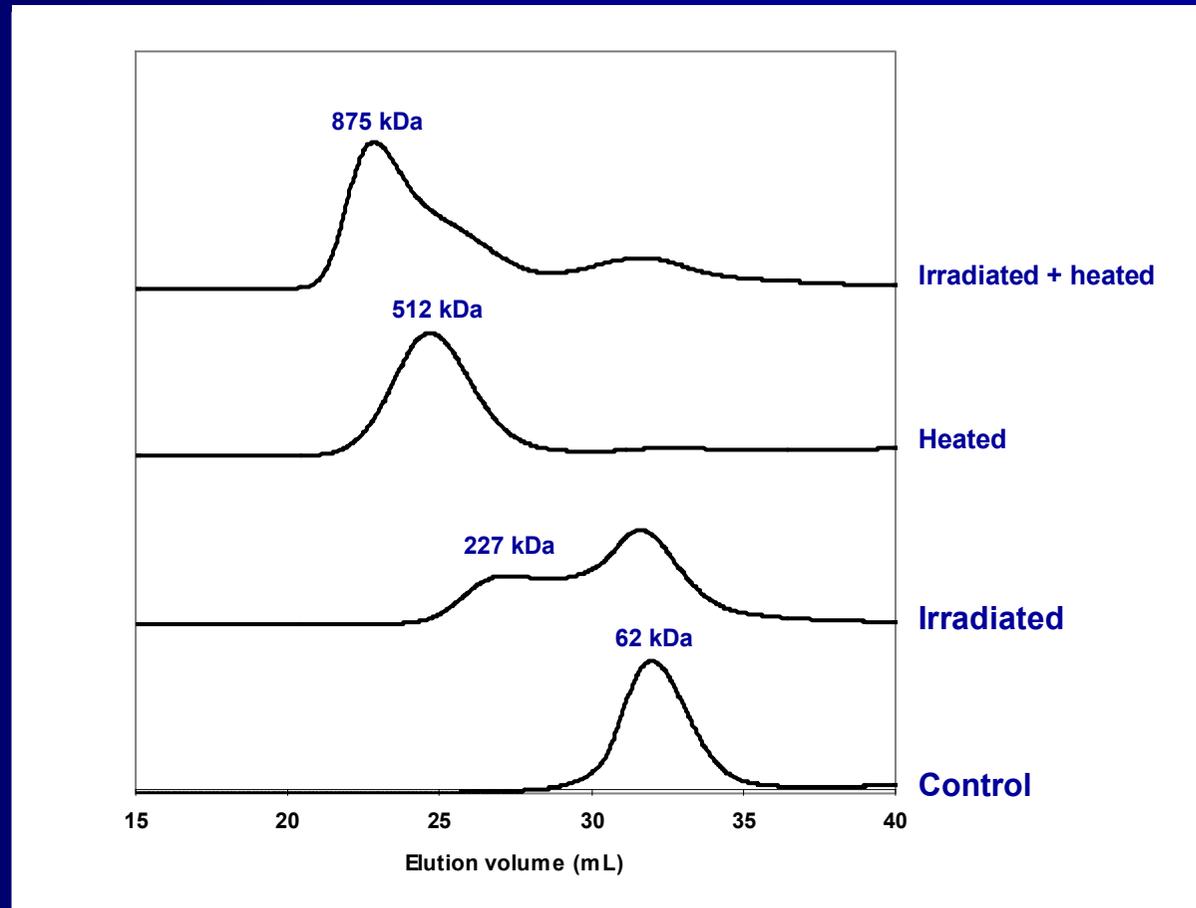
Edible coating for
application on food
products

Formation of bityrosine in calcium caseinate films as a function of irradiation dose

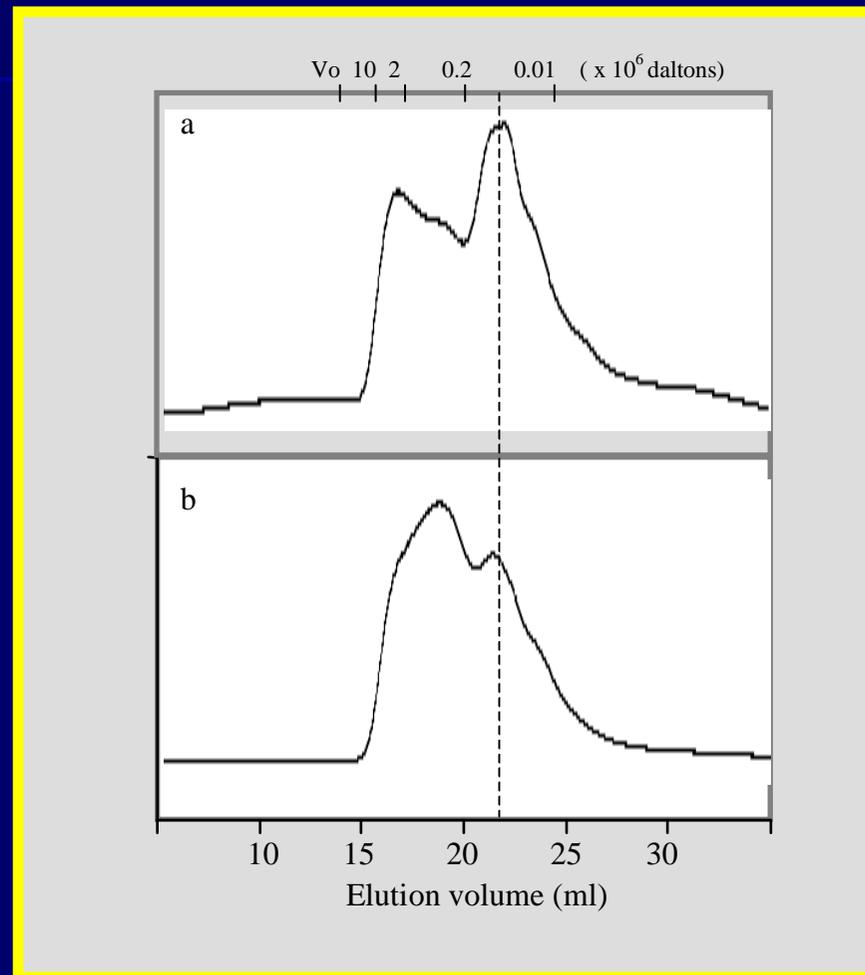


Size-exclusion chromatography

Absorbance at 280 nm



**SE - HPLC elution curves for soy protein isolate (SPI):
a) native; b) heated at 90°C and irradiated at 32 kGy**

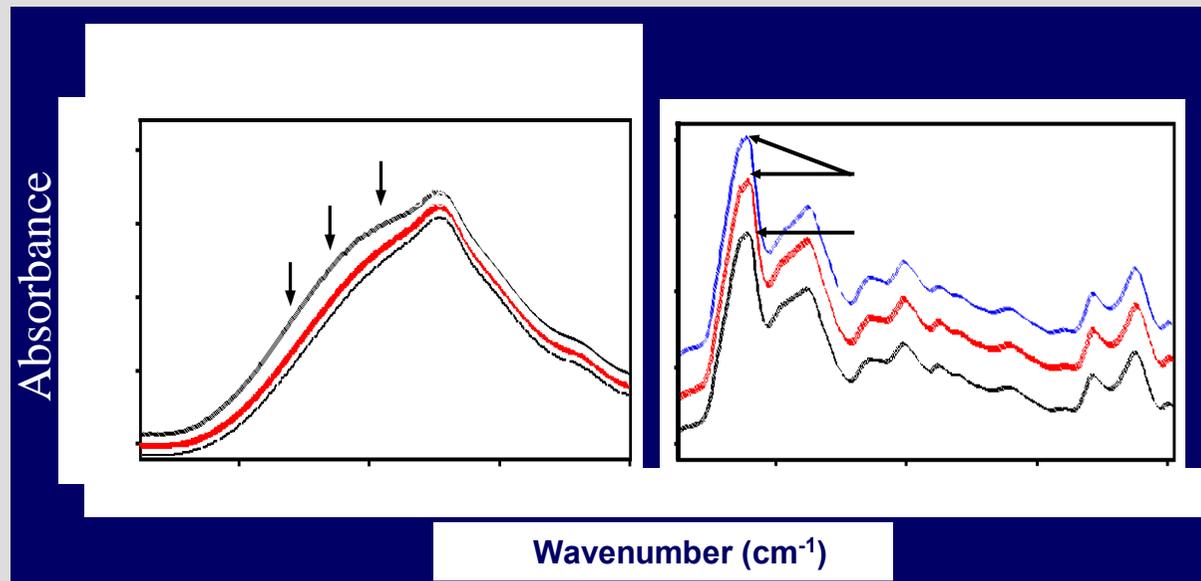


Result of isothermal calorimetry showing the effect of γ - irradiation on ΔH interaction of protein-water

Formulation	Heated (H)	H + Irradiated
CC : WPI	-64.2 ± 3.2 ^{a,1}	-56.2 ± 1.6 ^{a,2}
CC : WPI : Glyc	-23.4 ± 0.4 ^{b,1}	-20.1 ± 1.0 ^{b,2}
CC:WPI:Glyc:CMC	-16.5 ± 0.1 ^{cd,1}	-14.7 ± 0.3 ^{c,2}
CC:WPI:Glyc:CMC: pectin	-19.5 ± 0.5 ^{c,1}	-12.2 ± 0.2 ^{d,2}
CC:WPI:Glyc:CMC: pectin:Agar	-15.1 ± 0.2 ^{d,1}	-13.1 ± 0.5 ^{cd,2}

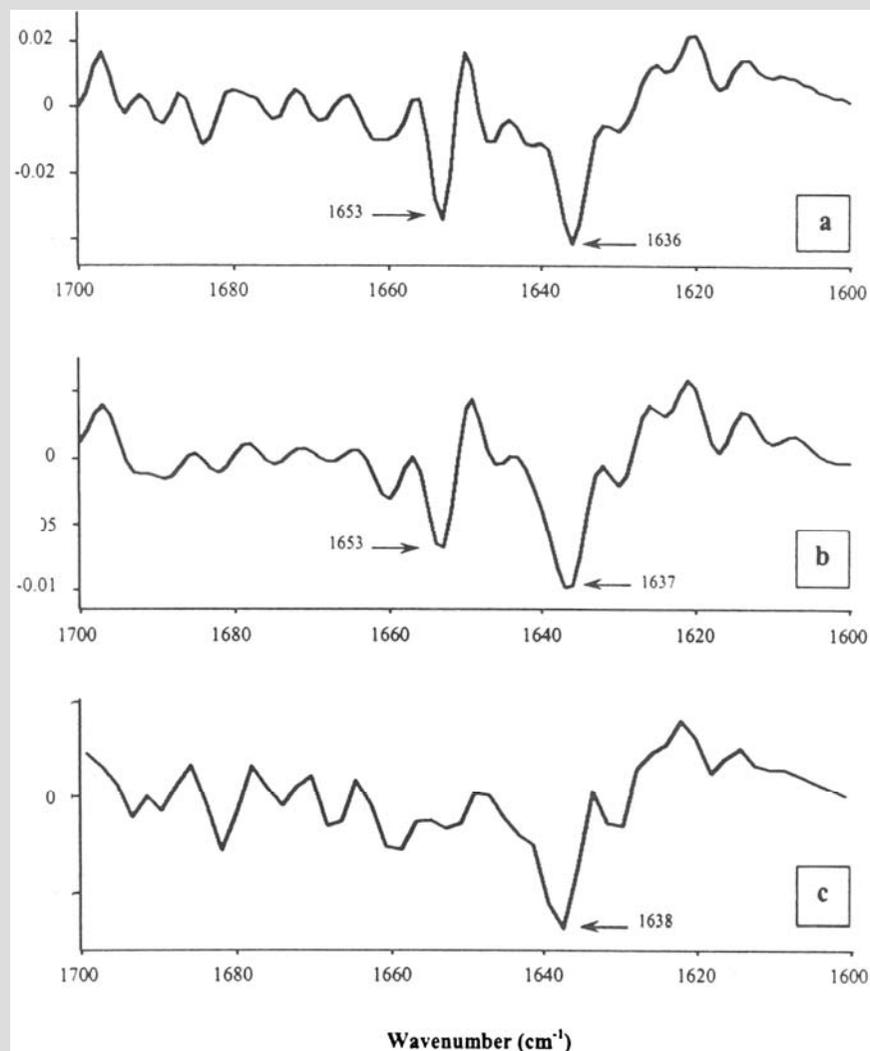
In the same raw, means followed by the same number are not significantly different
 J. Agric. Food Chem 2002, 51, 21, 6053-6057

FT-IR spectra of whey protein film



a) Spectra regions 3600-3000 cm^{-1} (upper curve: control film; middle curve: heated film; lower curve: irradiated film); b) Spectra regions 1700-1000 cm^{-1} (lower curve: control film; middle curve: heated film; upper curve: irradiated film).

Second derivative of the FT-IR spectra of whey protein films

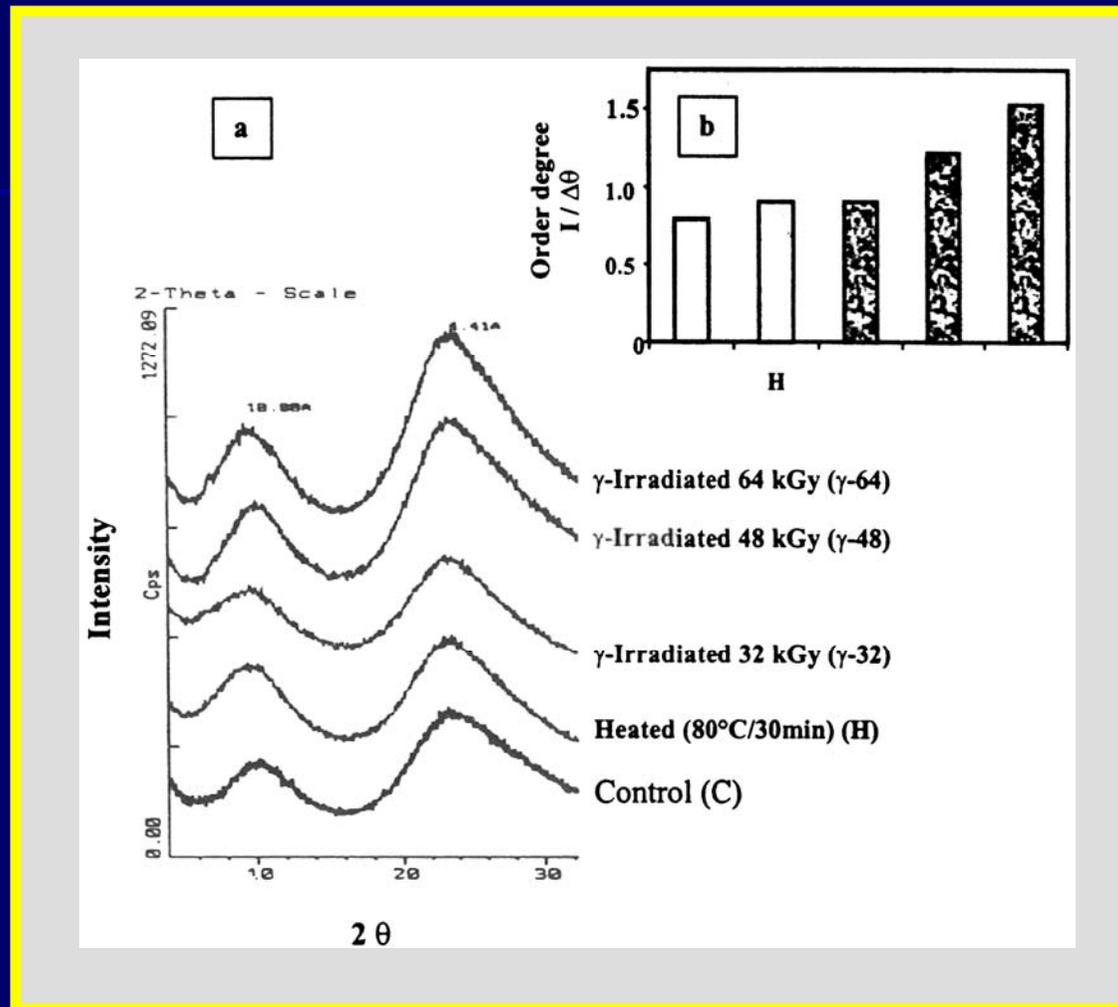


Mean Frequency Assignment (cm⁻¹)

1623 ± 3 β-Structure
1630 ± 4 β-Structure
1637 ± 3 β-Structure
1645 ± 4 Unordered
1653 ± 4 α-Helix

a) control film; b) heated film;
c) irradiated film. Assignment
of main frequencies (insert) is
based on spectras data from 17
proteins (including β-lactoglobulin
and α-lactalbumin) according to
Byler and Susi (1988).

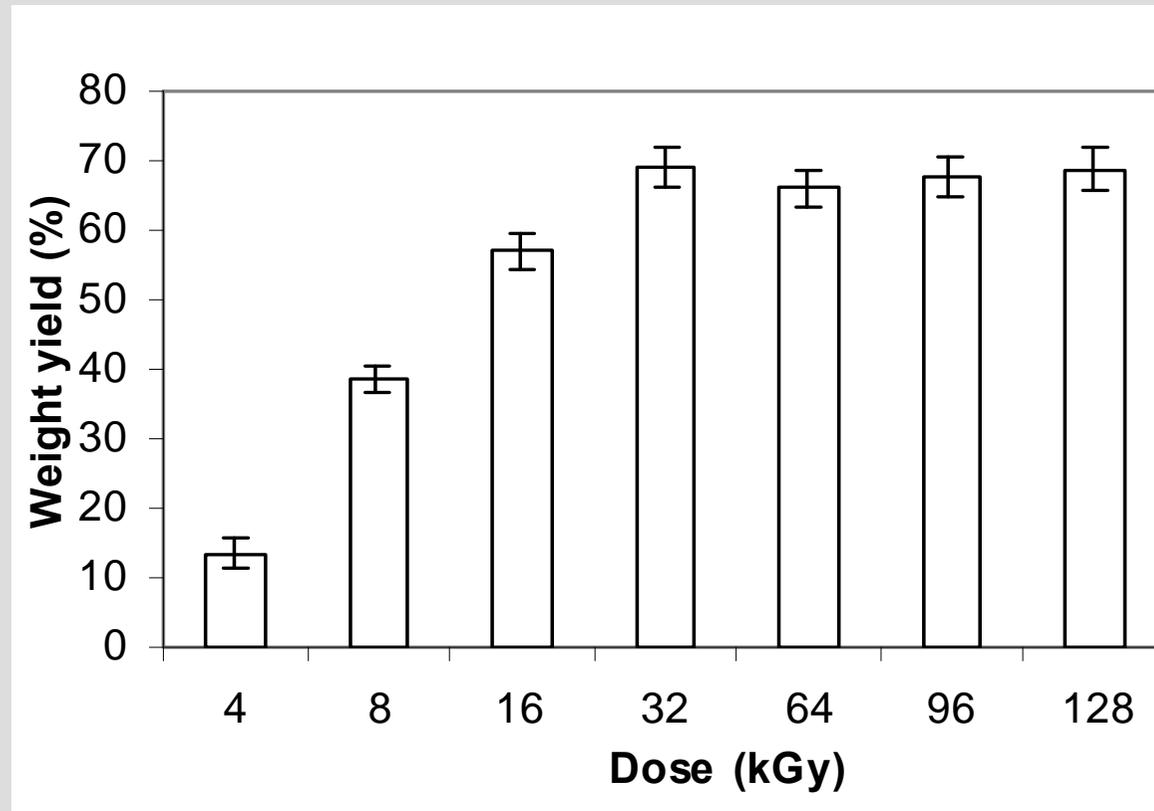
X-ray diffraction of whey protein films



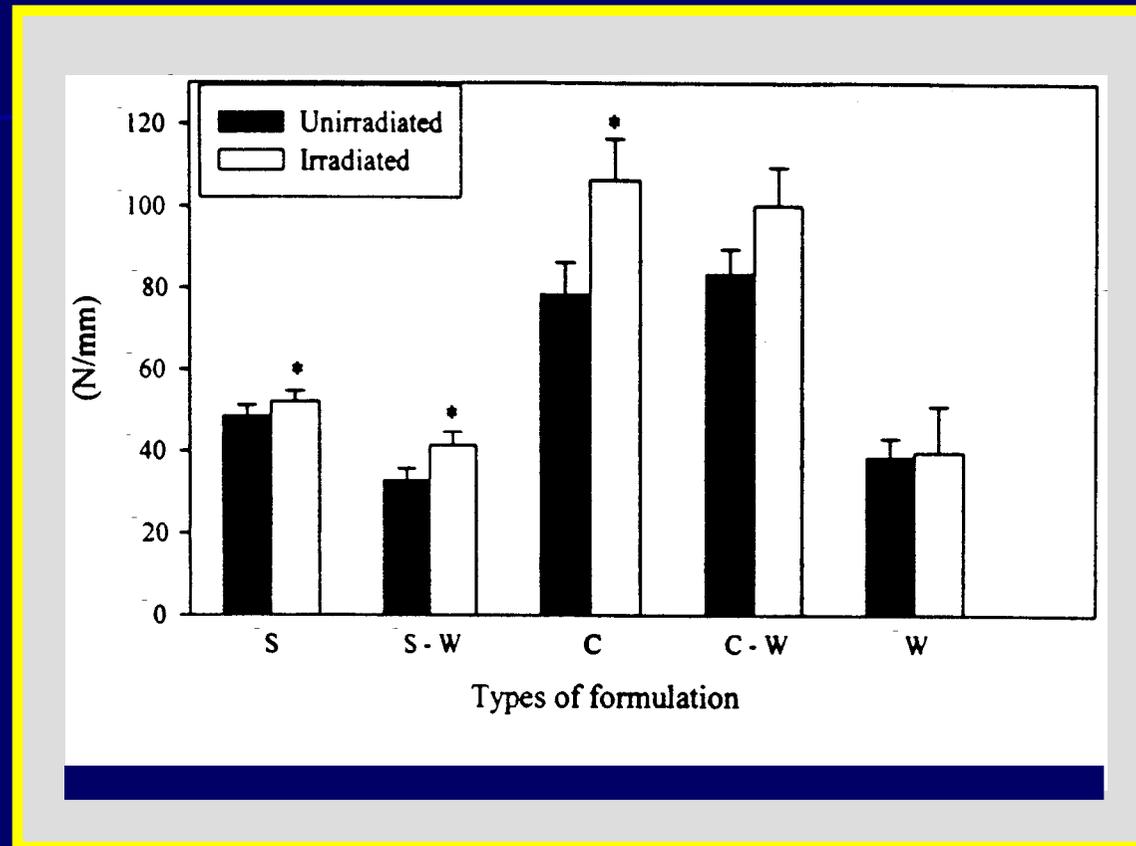
a) level of sharp angle ($A/2\delta$, where A is the band intensity and δ is the half width at half height of the band) in function of different methods and irradiation doses.

Fraction of insoluble matter in function of the irradiation dose

Results are expressed as the percentage in solid yield after soaking the films 24 hours in water



Effect of gamma irradiation on the puncture strength of protein-based edible films



S = soy protein isolate; W = whey protein isolate; C = calcium caseinate

(*) Significant difference compared to corresponding unirradiated films

Mechanical Properties

Puncture strength (N/mm)

Formulation	NI ¹ Films	I ¹ films
Proteins/Glyc	56.48 b	67.22 b*
Proteins/Gly/MC	73.00 d	80.89 c*
Proteins/Gly/CMC	23.97 a	49.33 a*
Proteins/Gly/ALG	61.64 c	69.73 b*

¹ I: irradiated NI: Non irradiated

Column: lower case row: *

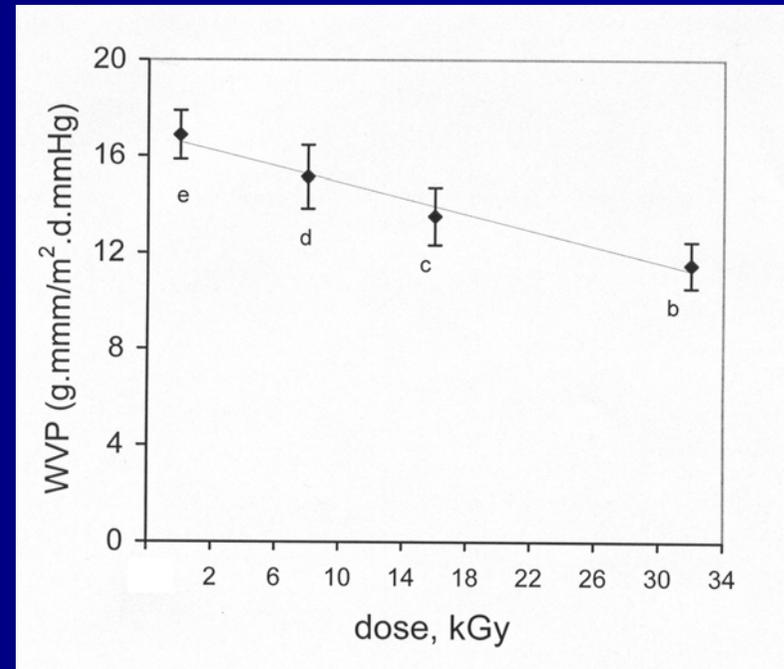
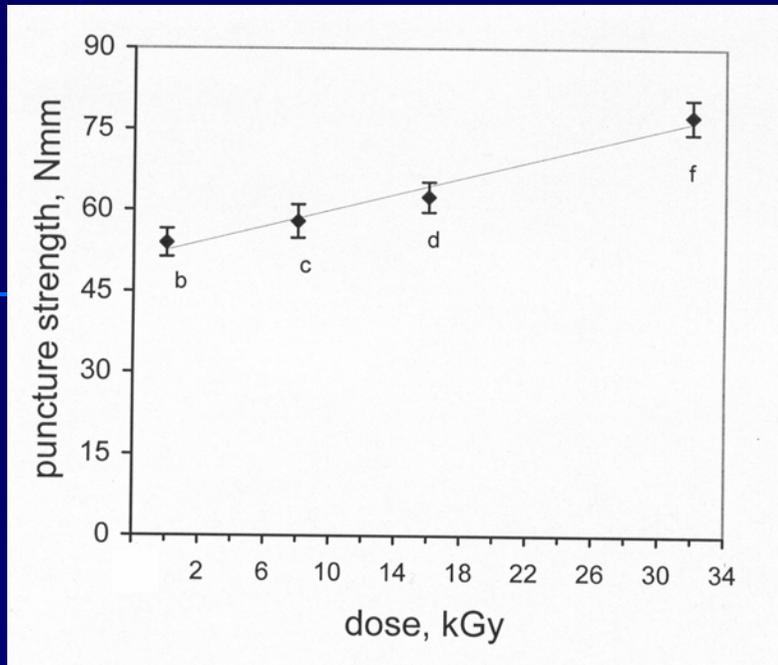
Mechanical Properties puncture deformation (mm)

Formulation	NI ¹ (mm)	I ¹ (mm)
Proteins/Glyc	4.02 c	3.70 c
Proteins/Gly/MC	3.50 b	3.34 b
Proteins/Gly/CMC	2.23 a	2.14 a
Proteins/Gly/ALG	3.67 b	3.44 b

1 NI: Non irradiated I: Irradiated

Column:lower case

Caseinate:WPI:Glycerol (1:1:0.1)

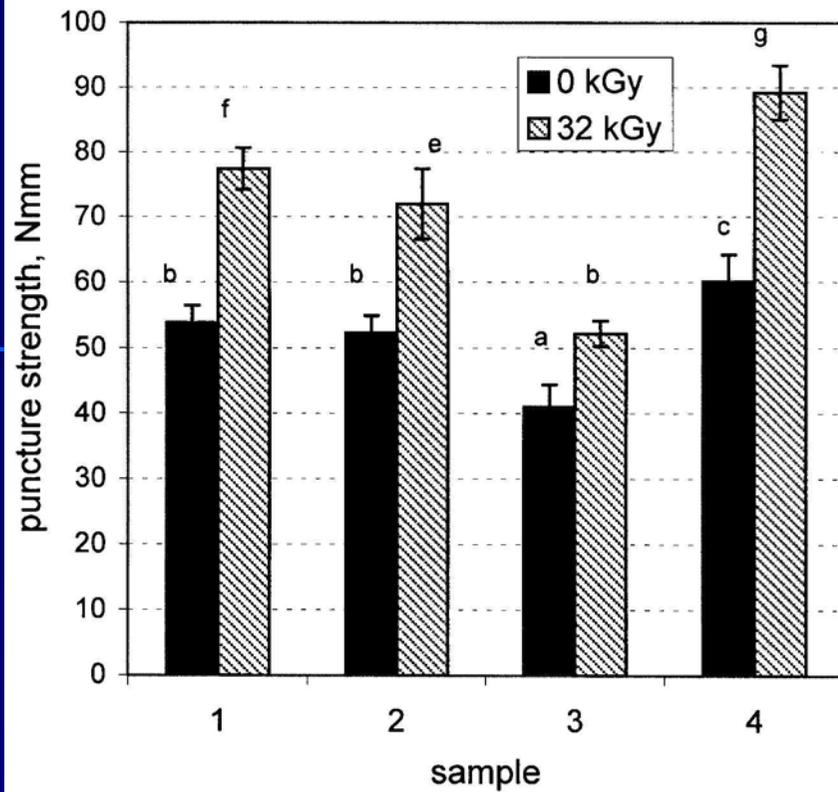


Water vapor permeability g.mm/m².day.mmHg

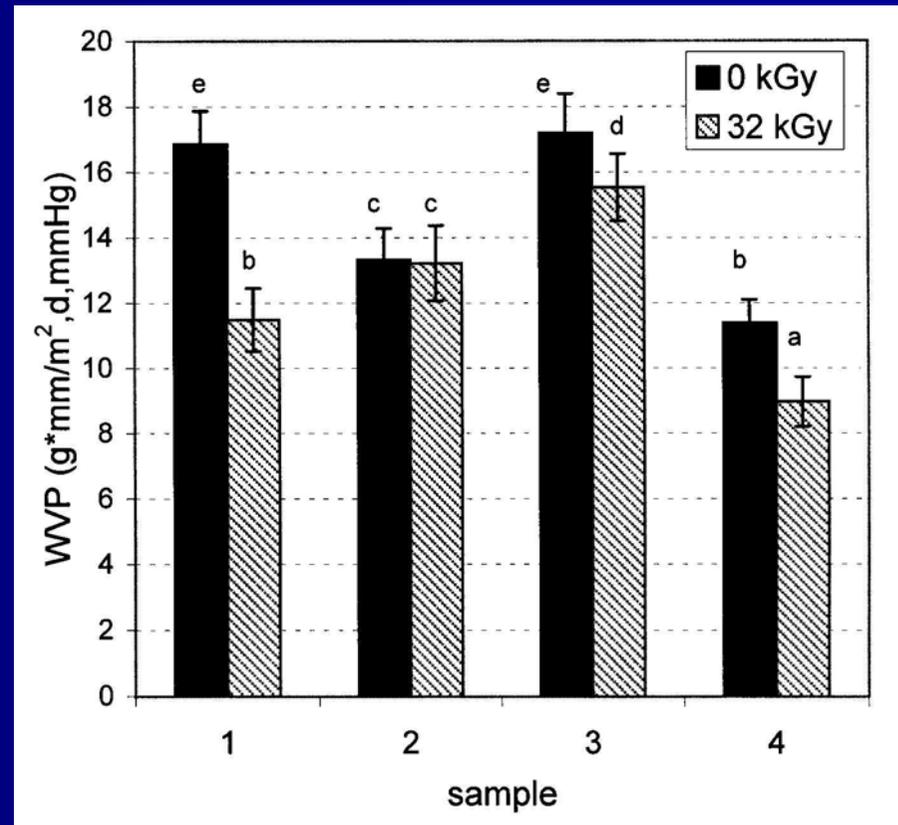
Formulation	NI ¹	I ¹
Proteins/Glyc	2.03 bB	1.75 bA
Proteins/Gly/MC	1.73 aA	1.71 abA
Proteins/Gly/CMC	1.78 aB	1.53 aA
Proteins/Gly/ALG	1.73 aA	1.71 abA

1 NI: Non irradiated I: Irradiated

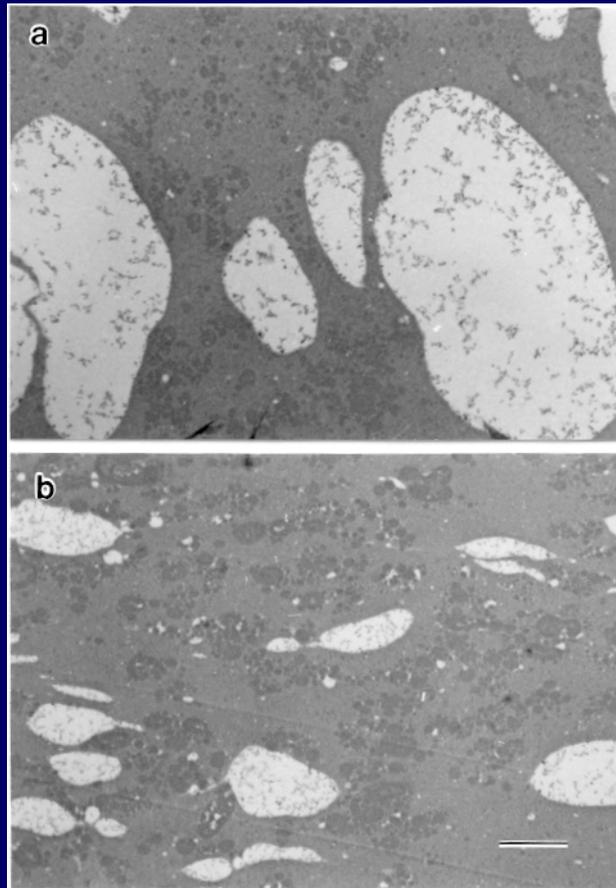
Column:lower case raw:upper case



- 1: CC-WPI
- 2: CC-WPI-PS
- 3: CC-WPI-SPS
- 4: CC-WPI-Alginate

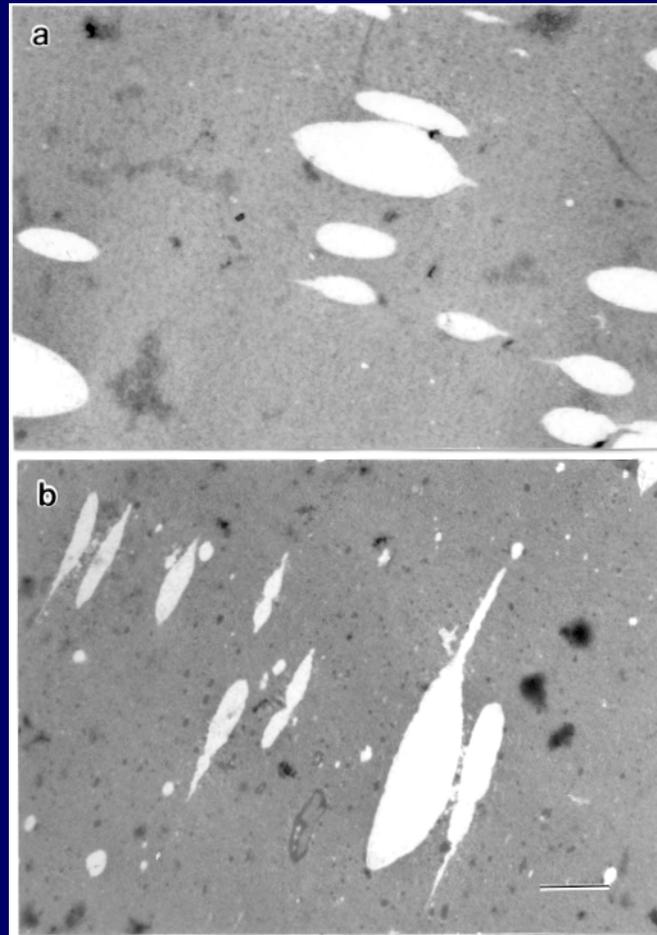


Cross section of calcium caseinate films
a) heated at 90°C for 30 min; b) irradiated (32 kGy)
(9 mm bar = 3 μm)

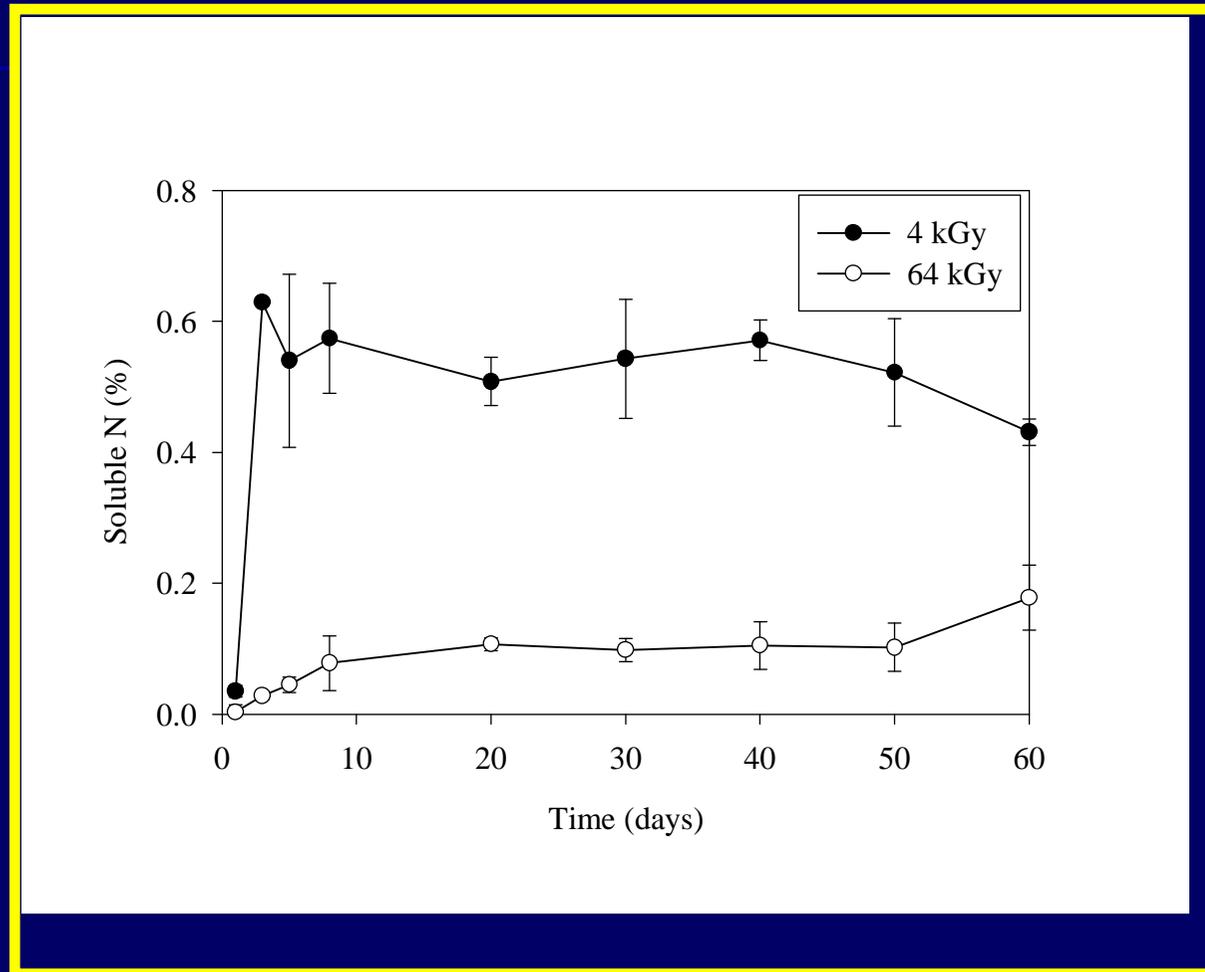


Cross section of WPI-calcium caseinate films

a) heated at 90°C for 30 min; b) heated at 90°C and irradiated at 32 kGy.
(9 mm bar = 3μm)



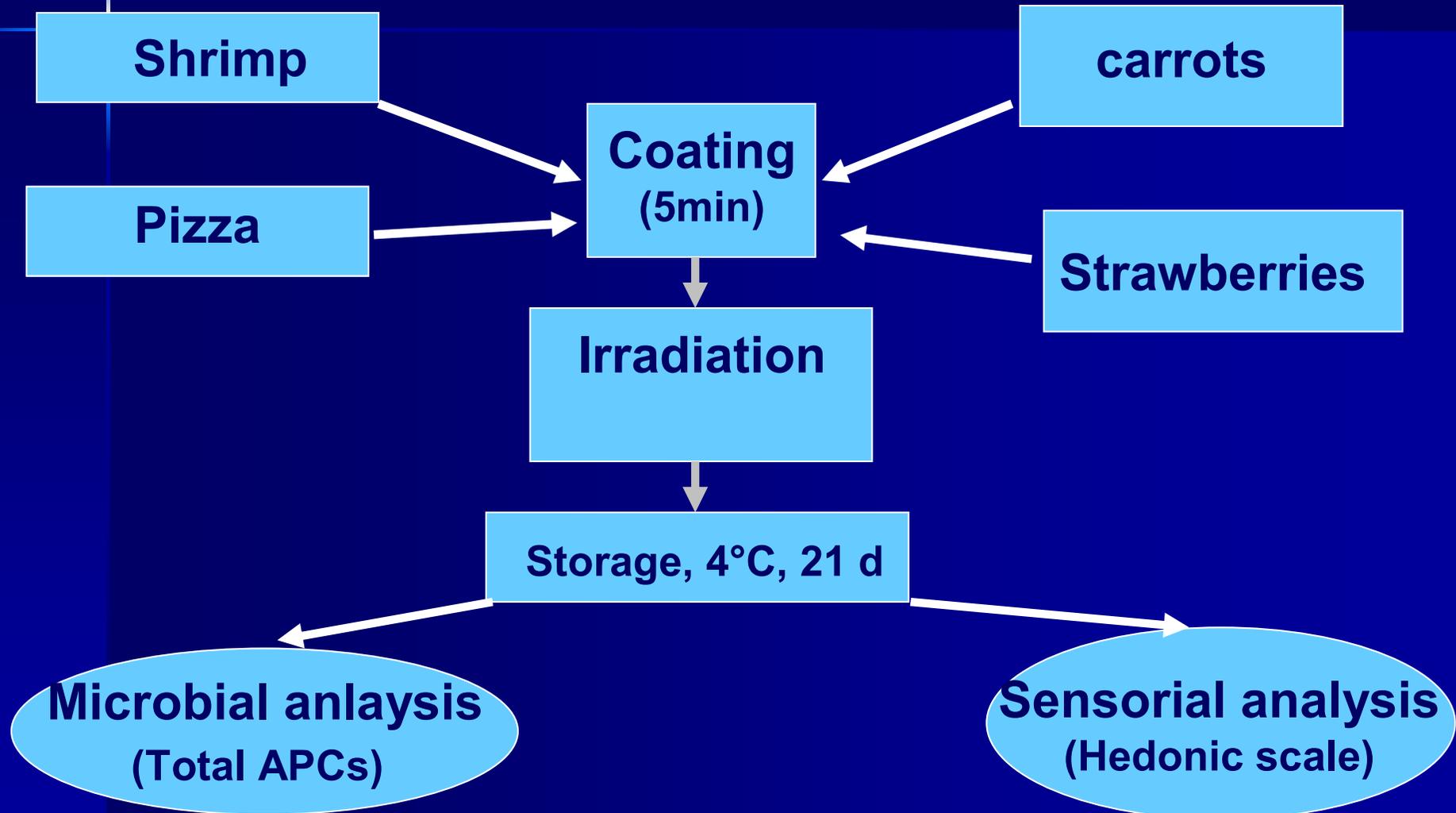
Percentage of nitrogen from calcium caseinate films converted to soluble N (% \pm S.D) by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in standard stock solutions



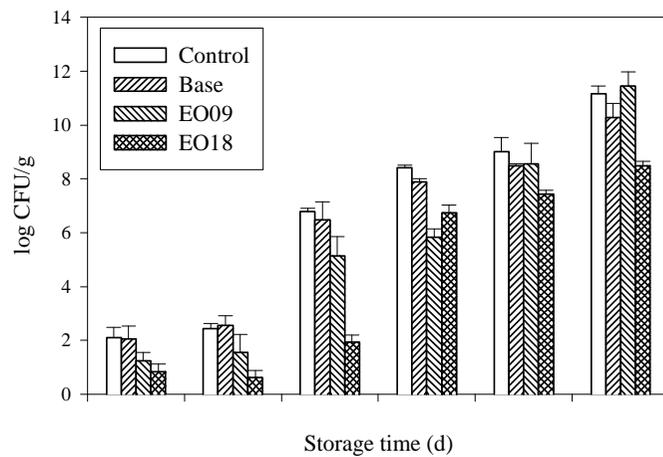
Application in food systems

Bioactive coating and packaging in
combination with irradiation

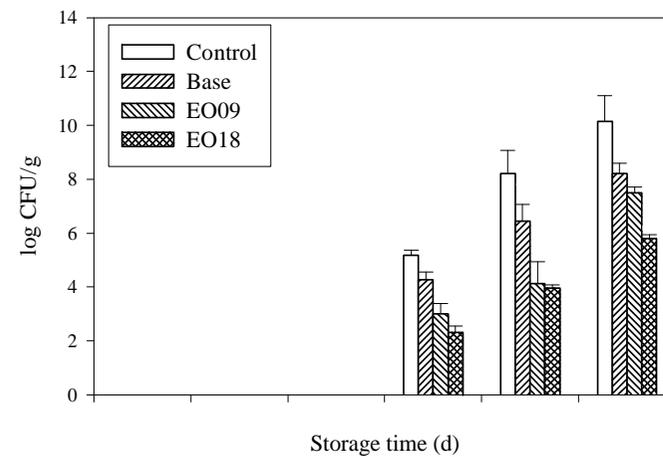
Procedure for antimicrobial and shelf life tests on irradiated coated convenience foods



Counts of bacterial population (APCs) in precooked shrimp during storage at 4°C



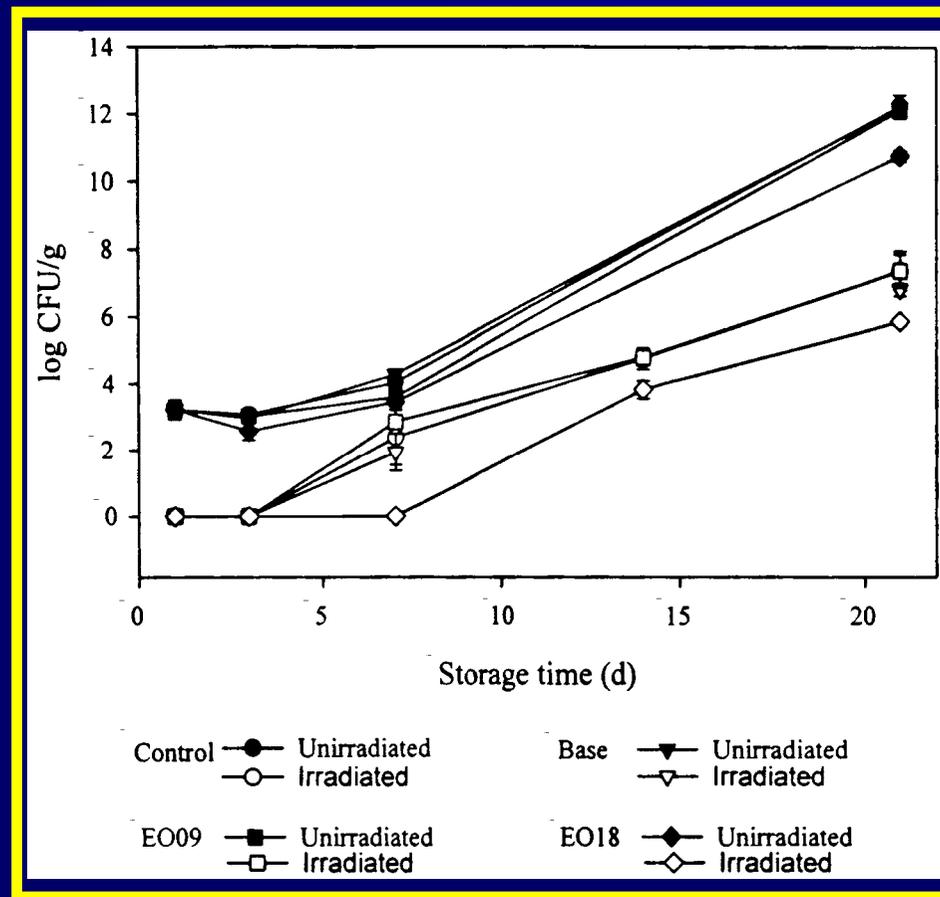
Unirradiated



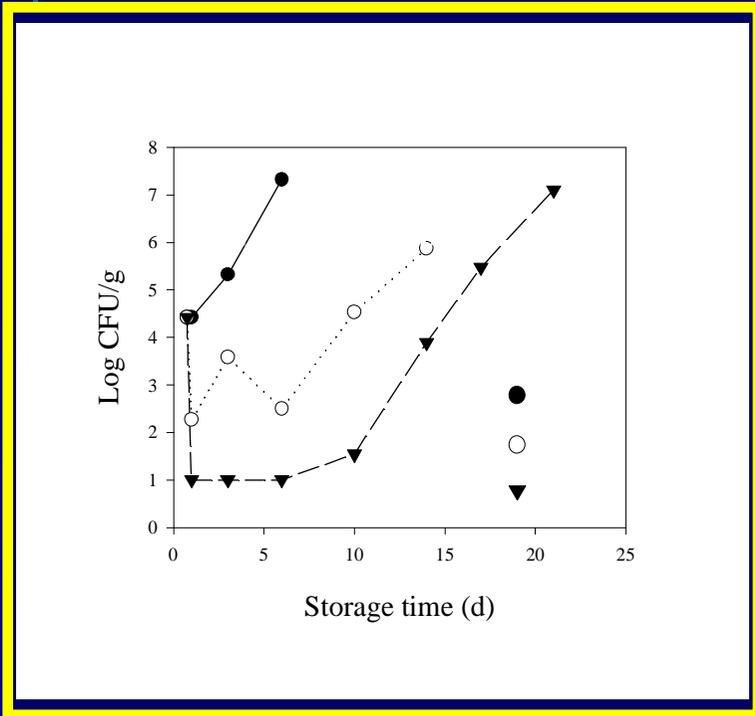
Irradiated (3 kGy)

For a given storage time, bars with different letters are significantly different ($p \leq 0.05$).

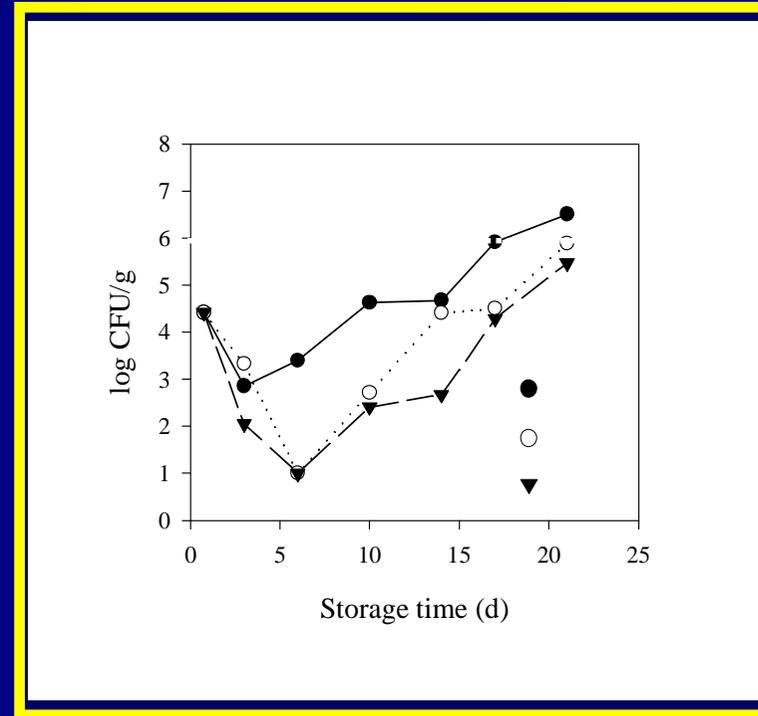
Effect of gamma irradiation and edible coating on the growth of *Pseudomonas putida* in precooked shrimp



Counts of bacterial population in refrigerated pizzas as affected by gamma irradiation and edible coating

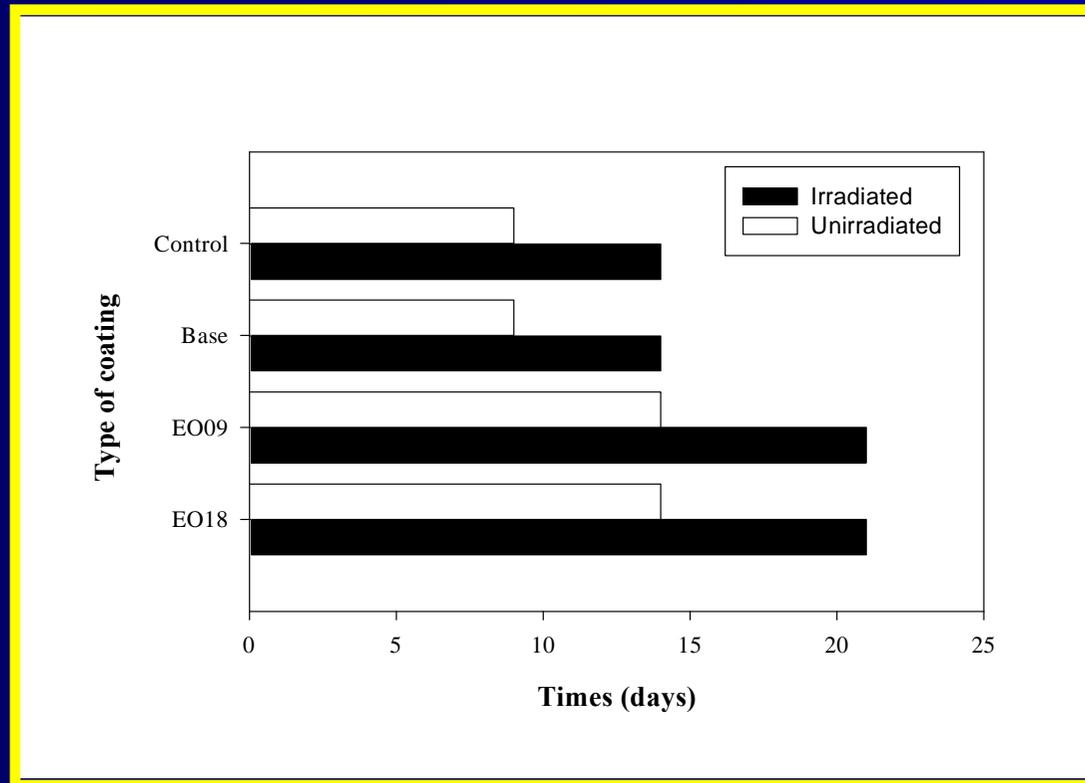


Irradiation alone



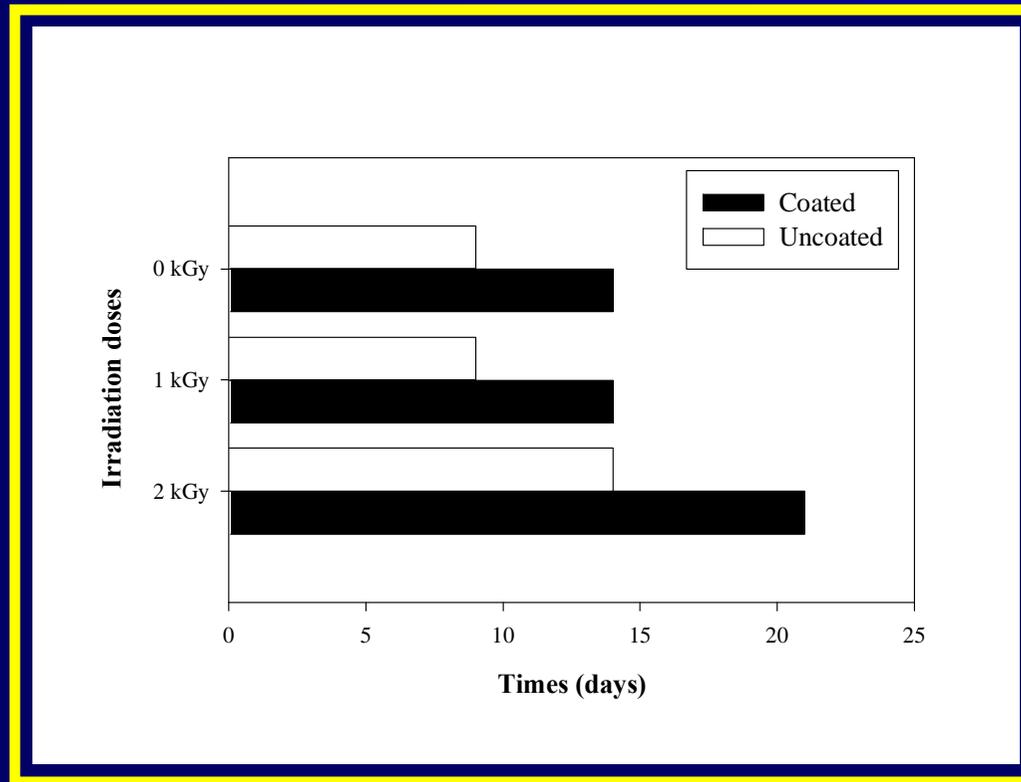
Irradiation + edible coating

Shelf life periods of precooked shrimp during refrigeration as affected by gamma irradiation and edible coating



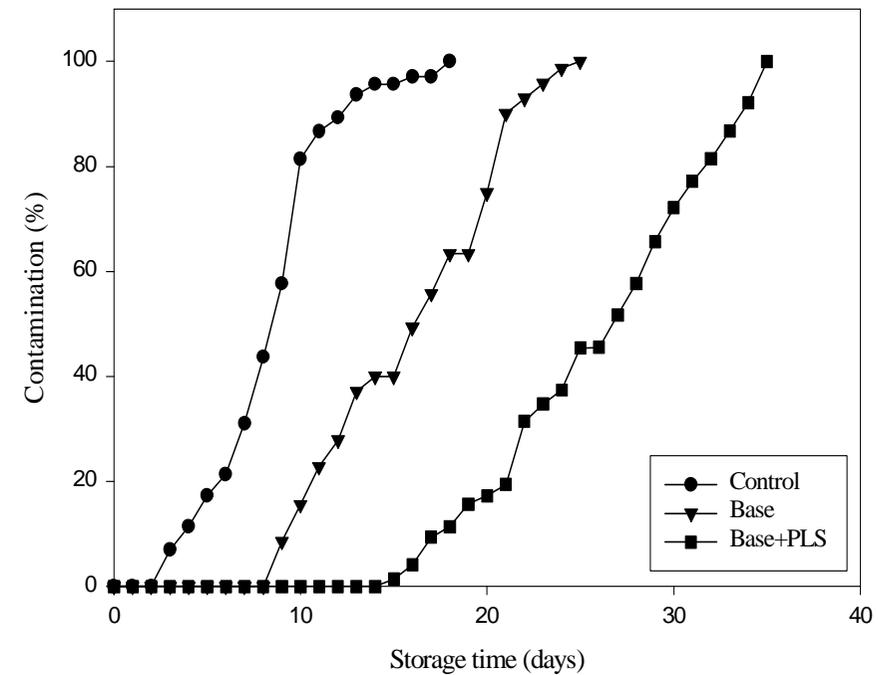
Results are expressed in terms of time to reach the onset of spoilage (10^7 CFU/g)
(* The onset of spoilage was not reached at the end of the experiment period (21 d))

Shelf life periods of pizza during refrigeration as affected by gamma irradiation and edible coating



Results are expressed in terms of time to reach the onset of spoilage (10^6 CFU/g)
(* The onset of spoilage was not reached at the end of the experiment period (21 d)

Application of coating for mold growth on strawberries

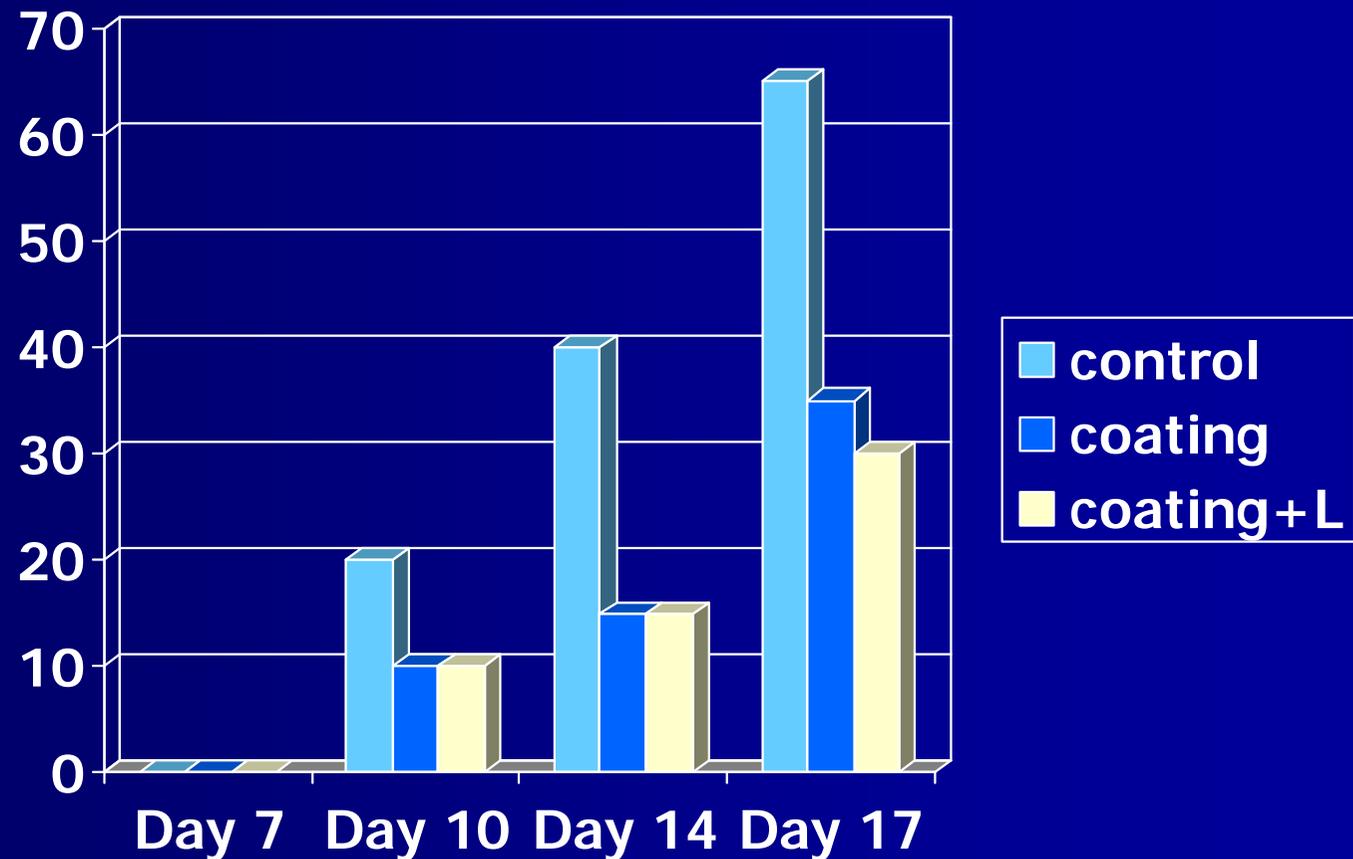


Irradiation and coating effect on moulds growth on strawberries (%)

Day	Control	Control coated with NIF**	Control coated with IF*	Irradiated	Irradiated coated with NIF	Irradiated coated with IF
3	7	11	5	0	1	0
9	68	40	30	22	23	20
11	85	65	<u>44</u>	38	<u>47</u>	40
12	90	75	56	44	56	45
13	93	85	68	51	58	54
17	97	97	89	79	81	84

* IF: Irradiated coating films at 32 kGy ** NIF: Non irradiated films

Effect of crosslinked coating on rotting fruits (%) during storage at 4 °C



The influence of antimicrobial compounds and MAP on radiation sensitivity of *Listeria monocytogenes* present in ready-to-use carrots and strawberries

Four compounds were evaluated:

trans-cinnamaldehyde (from cinnamon)

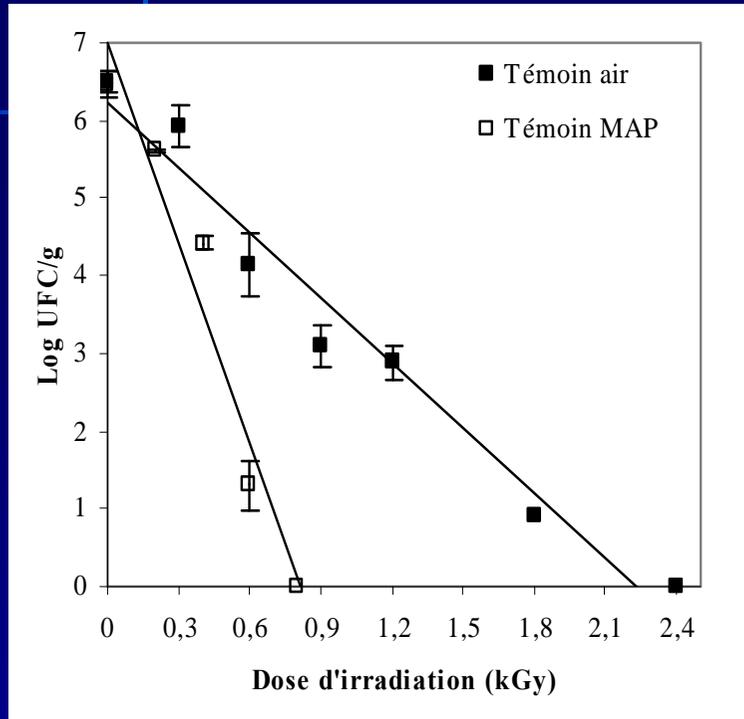
Spanish oregano, winter savory and

Chinese cinnamon essential oils and limonene

Relative radiation sensitivity (D_{10}) were evaluated in presence of the compound or essential oil under air or under MAP (60% O₂, 30% CO₂, and 10% N₂).

$D_{10} = D_{10}$ (kGy) control samples / radiation
 D_{10} (kGy) samples treated in presence of antimicrobial compounds.

Radiosensitivity of *Listeria* during irradiation treatment of mini carrots



**MAP: 60% O₂
30% CO₂
10% N₂**

D₁₀ (air) = 0.36 kGy

D₁₀ (MAP) = 0.12 kGy

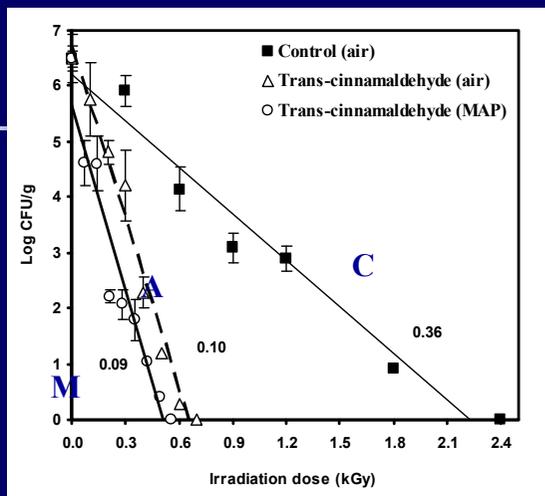
Increase of the Radiosensitivity by 3 time under MAP

D₁₀ value = Irradiation dose required (kGy) to decrease 90% of the bacterial population

D₁₀ determination of *L. monocytogenes* under air and MAP in presence of antimicrobial compounds

R_A = 3.7

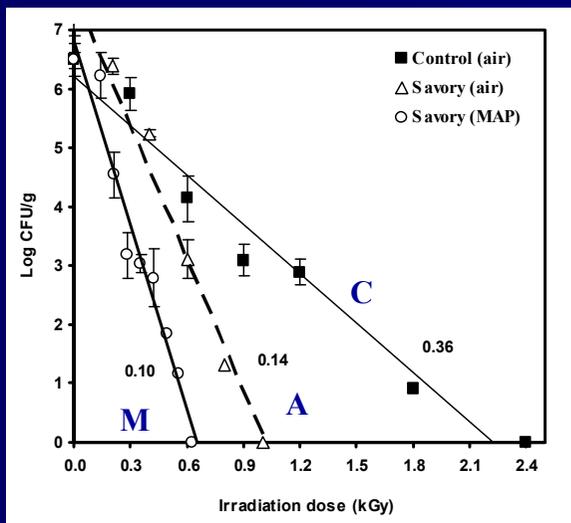
R_M = 4



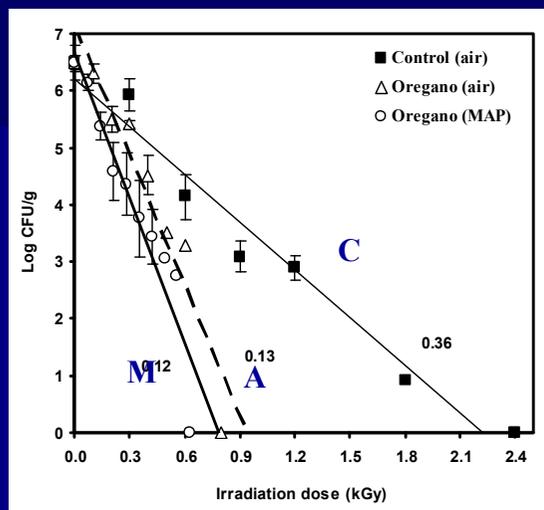
A: *trans*-cinnamaldehyde

R_A = 2.5

R_M = 3.7



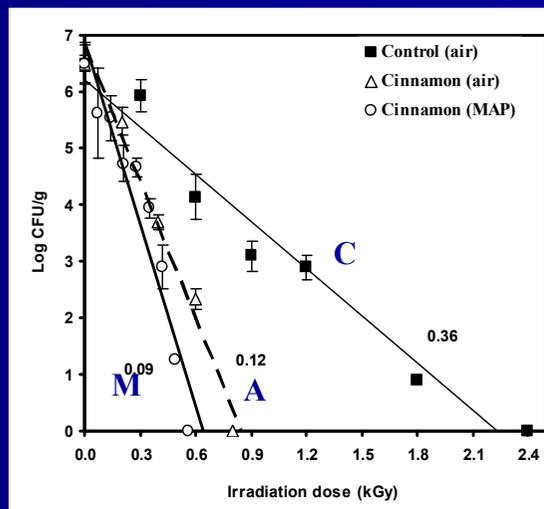
C: winter savory



B: Spanish oregano

R_A = 2.8

R_M = 3

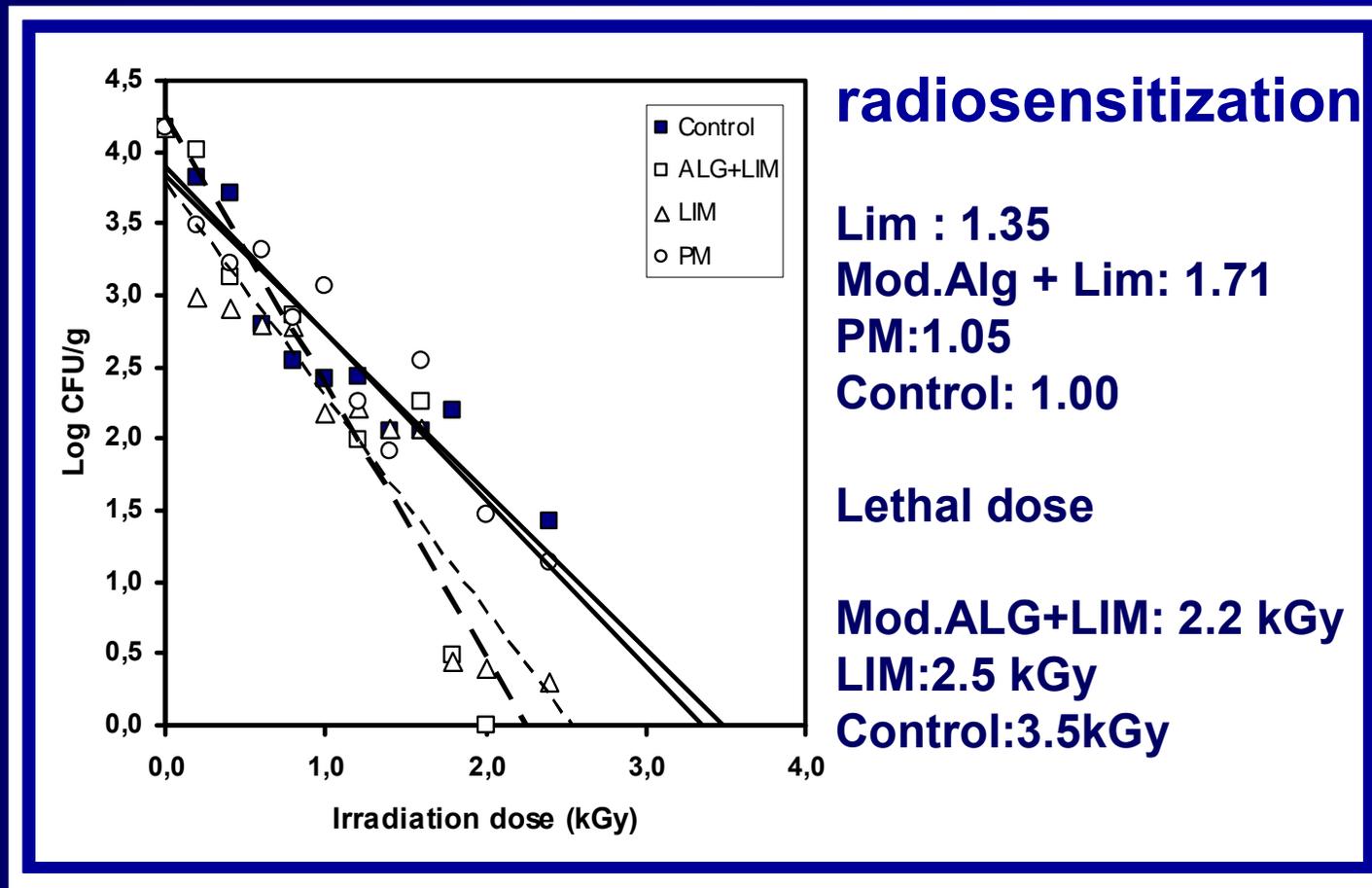


D: Chinese cinnamon

R_A = 2.9

R_M = 3.9

Radiosensitization of moulds on strawberries



Bioactives films

In order to carry:

Antioxydant and antimicrobial compounds



Scientific Challenge

Improve the physico-chemical properties

The water resistance

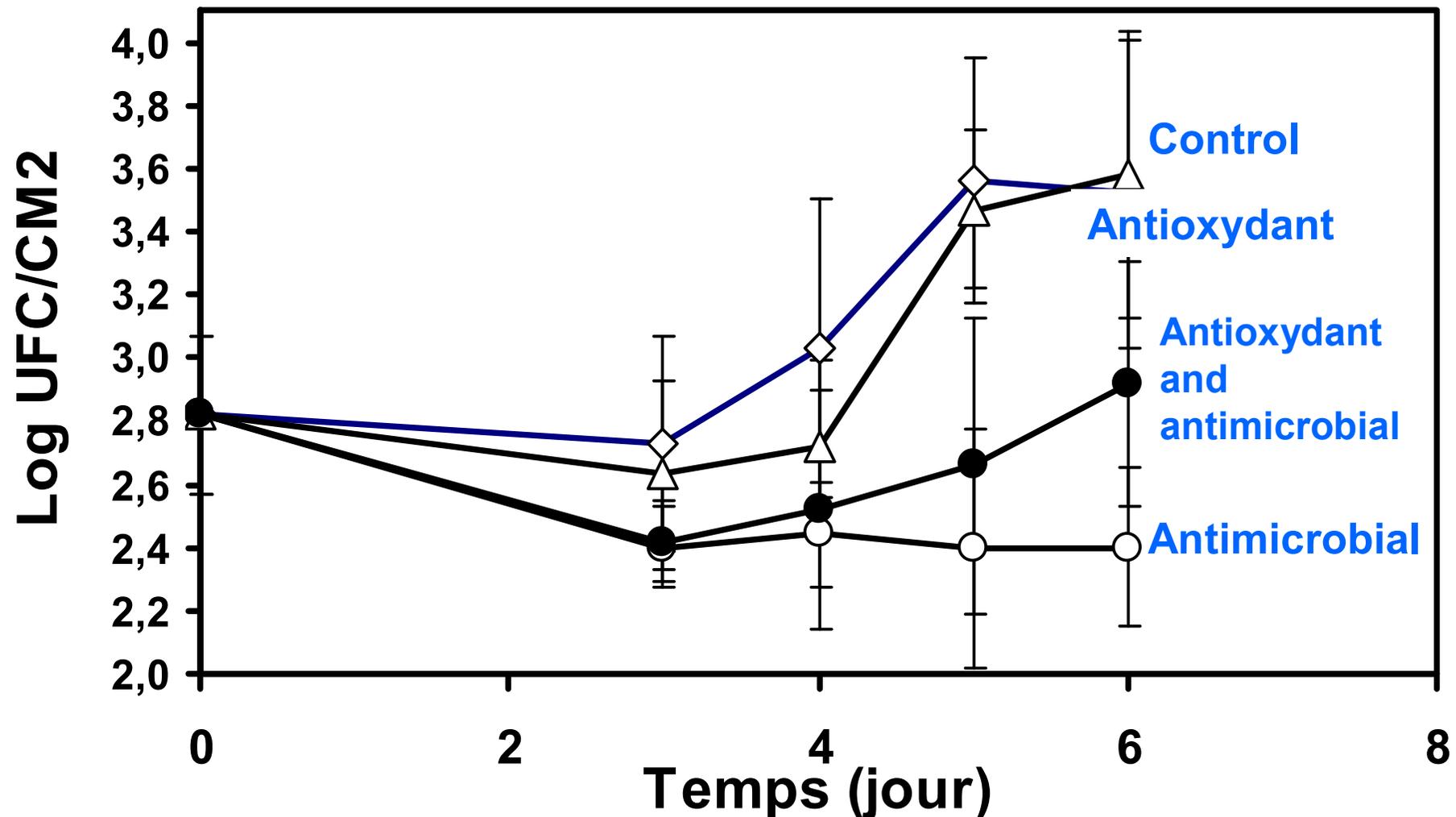
Polymers should be biodegradable

Irradiation should be applied in combination with other treatments like Chemical modification

or

development of new formulations should be done

Bioactive films and control of *E.coli* 0157:H7 on beef slices

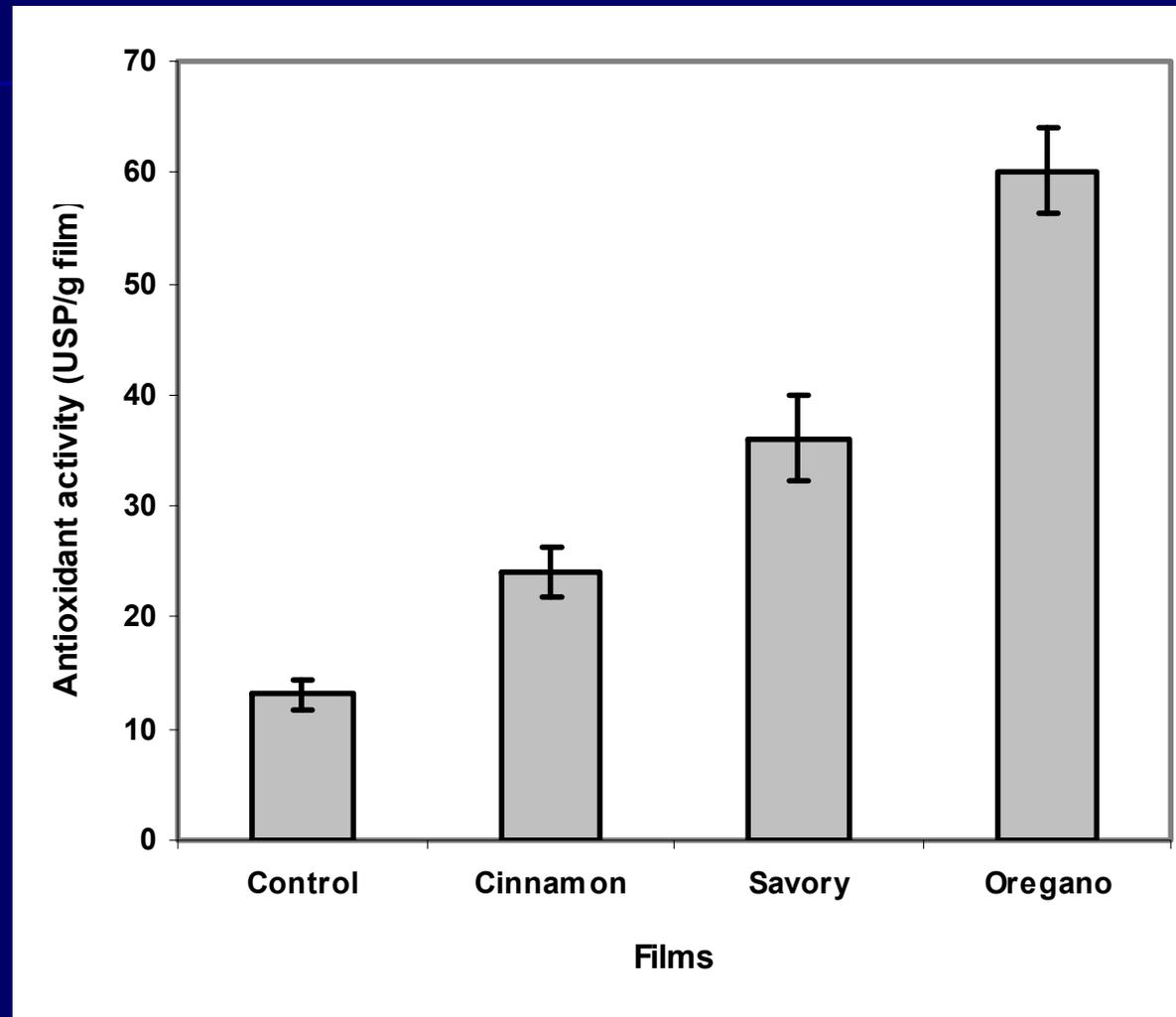


Release rate (%) of active compounds during storage of bologna at 4°C

Treatment	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Origano	17 ± 3b	63 ± 6c	66 ± 3c	72 ± 1c
Cinnamon	62 ± 4a	84 ± 1a	78 ± 2a	96 ± 0.3a
Savory	20 ± 3b	72 ± 3b	84 ± 2b	89 ± 0.3b

Mean in the same column bearing the same letters are not significantly different ($P \leq 0.05$)

Antioxydant properties of films

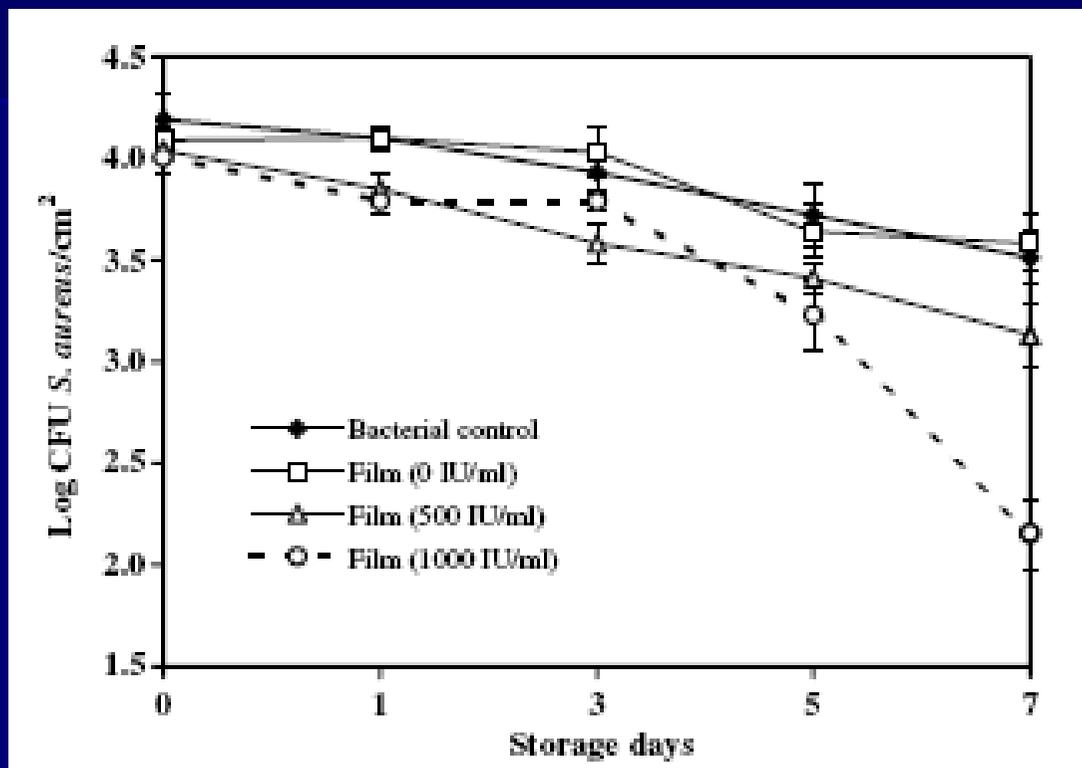
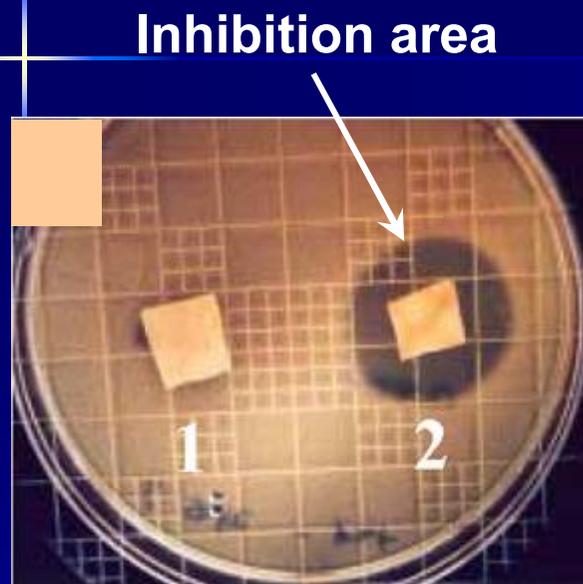


Mechanical properties of films

Type of film	Thickness (μm)	Puncture strength ($\text{N}\cdot\text{mm}^{-1}$)	Puncture deformation (mm)	Viscoelasticity Coefficient (%)
Control	104 ± 6 a	80 ± 4 d	6.1 ± 0.3 a	49 ± 0.3 ab
Origano	126 ± 6 b	58 ± 4 b	6.2 ± 0.3 a	52 ± 1.5 b
Savory	100 ± 7 a	68 ± 9 c	5.8 ± 0.5 a	52 ± 3 b
Cinnamon	127 ± 5 b	49 ± 5 a	6.1 ± 0.6 a	48 ± 3 a

Mean followed by the same letter between treatments are not significantly different ($P \leq 0.05$)

Bacteriocins immobilization



Antimicrobial activity of bioactive film containing nisin against *S. aureus* (1: control; 2: 1000 UI/mL of nisine).

Inhibition of *S. aureus* inoculated on beef slice.

Conclusion

Gamma irradiation induced

- Increase of bityrosine production
- Increase of puncture strength
- Modification of protein structure
(structure are more ordered and more stable)
- Reduction of pore size distribution in films (correlation with puncture strength)

crosslinking of natural polymers for the development of edible and biodegradable packaging.

**Plasticizers decreased puncture strength
Sorbitol had the greatest plasticizing effect)**

Thank you

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