

Sustainable processes for solid and concentrated particulate foods

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Dry fractionation

Spray drying

With a large pilot-scale facility we explore optimum milling and air classification conditions for production of pea or lupine protein concentrates¹. Their functionality is evaluated for the preparation of sustainable foods, such as meat analogues. Additionally, we are exploring a novel separation technique using electrostatic separation. This technique we evaluate for fractionation of wheat or rice bran, which contain health beneficial components.







Spray drying is investigated as an energy efficient alternative to freeze drying. We apply a single droplet method to find optimum drying conditions with maximum survival of probiotic bacteria³. Survival we evaluate by fluorescence microscopy (green is live and red is dead).

Frying of French fires



Suspension fractionation









In collaboration with Aviko BV the ambition is to optimise the industrial production process of French fries from raw materials until end-product and minimise all inefficiencies. Our focus is on how process conditions during frying affect the product quality distribution. We study this using an experimental fryer set-up with transparent walls.

Electrospray coating





Deterministic ratchets are a novelty for suspension fractionation, e.g. recovery of algae or beer filtration². Obstacles positioned in a flow channel separate particles from the fluid stream and sort on the basis of size. Using high speed camera techniques and laboratory experiments we explore this promising separation technique for future applications.

Electrospraying is a novel and more efficient technique for spray coating of edible oils⁴. We apply it to coat ultrathin fat layers to make capsules or tablets. Subsequently, we evaluate the water absorption capacity of these tablets.



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¹ Schutyser MAI, van der Goot, AJ, Trends in Food Science & Technology 22 (2010)154. ² Lubbersen YS, Schutyser MAI, Boom RM, Chemical Engineering Science 73 (2012) 314. ³ Schutyser MAI, Perdana J, Boom RM, Trends in Food Science and Technology, in press. ⁴ Khan MKI, Schutyser MAI, Schroën K, Boom RM, Journal of Food Engineering 108 (2012)410.