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**Consistencies and Textures** 

Potential of a newly developed biomimetic setup to better integrate the kinematic, mechanical and surface characteristics of tongue in oral tribological studies of foods

> <u>Rohit SRIVASTAVA</u>, Véronique BOSC, Frédéric RESTAGNO, Carole TOURNIER, Paul MENUT, Isabelle SOUCHON, Vincent MATHIEU





Centre des Sciences du Goût et de l'Alimentation



### **Food texture**

All the rheological and structure (geometrical and surface) attributes of a food product perceptible by means of mechanical, tactile, and where appropriate, visual and auditory receptors'



(ISO, 2008)

# **Food Oral Processing**

Mastication

Granulation

Tribology

**First Bite** 

Mechanics

Food oral processing is an essential physiological procedure for consumption and digestion of food.



#### **Rheology and tribology**

Adapted from Stokes et al, 2013

#### Dynamics of texture perception

Texturometer





Rheometer

Tribometer





Fig. 2. Food oral breakdown pathway (Adapted from Hutchings and lillford, 1988)) illustrating faster and slower eating in response to changes in elasticity, hardness and lubrication. In this hypothetical example, the food lower in hardness and elasticity and higher in initial lubrication is processed more quickly into a bolus that is safe to swallow which result in a faster eating rate.

### Role of tongue

- 8 muscles
- E ~ 10 kPa ("relaxed")
- E ~ 120 kPa ("contracted")

#### Topography

) Ishihara et al, 2013

## Role of Saliva



Roughness: 10  $\mu$ m <papillae height <110  $\mu$ m

Papillae width: Fungiform:  $878 \pm 97 \,\mu m$  Filliform:  $355 \pm 40 \,\mu m$ 

Andablo-Reyes et al., 2020

#### **Mechanoreceptors**

3 types of mechano-receptors (static or dynamic stimuli)



Slow adapting and rapid adapting



### Why is it Important ?

To better understand and model consumer's overall sensorial perception of food, it becomes important to map the dynamics of texture perceptions .

This will help us to design food for specifics consumers; such as

- Different populations around the world
- Elderly
- Infants
- People with special needs (Dysphagia; loss of perception of texture due to chemotherapy etc)



#### Tribology and texture perception



### Tribology is a system property

Pradal and Stokes (2016) have rightly said that tribology is a system property, it depends collectively on:

#### Measurement system

ball-on-disc/pin-on-disc, sliding/rolling/mixture of the two)

#### • Surfaces

(soft/hard/viscoelasticity, hydrophilic/hydrophobic and rough/smooth)

#### • Lubricant (food)

Rheology and heterogeneity, which includes the presence of particles, droplets, air, and surface active ingredients.



### Need for a physiologically relevant system

### Conceptualization



Srivastava et al, 2021



Srivastava et al, 2020

- PVA (Polyvinyl alcohol) is a polymer that forms a hydrogel on freezing.
- □ The rigidity of the hydrogel can be regulated by controlling the freeze-thaw cycles.

#### Conceptualization of artificial tongues





#### Model Food



VIVAPUR®	
COMPOSITION	Microcrystalline Cellulose
SHAPE	Heterogeneous
SIZE	15 and 250 μm



Scanning electron microscopy of Vivapur samples at 100 x magnification. Left: Vivapur 105 (small particle used in this thesis, 15  $\mu$ m); Right: Vivapur 200 (large particle used in this thesis, 250  $\mu$ m); Di Martino et al. (2004)

#### **Friction measurement**



### Effect of surface roughness

Rough tongue mimics (50.17 ± 1.46 kPa)

Normal stress: 9 kPa; Shearing velocity:10 mm/s



An evident impact of surface roughness on friction coefficient values (p-values < 0.0001 for rough vs. soft).

- On rough surface, friction coefficient remains stable w.r.t shearing cycle (Effective spreading of cheese on the rough surface under applied normal stress)

Could there be are certain combinations of operational parameters and tongue properties that could better segregate the particle size ?

### Variation of operational parameters

Rough tongue mimic (50.17 ± 1.46 kPa)



#### The friction coefficient shows dependency on the operating parameters like normal stress and shearing velocity.

However, to concretely identify the tribological phenomenon a complete Stribeck curve is required, and which will need testing more varied conditions.

Srivastava et al., 2021

## Variation of tongue rigidity

Rough tongue mimics (soft: 50.17 ± 1.46 kPa; hard: 100.78 ± 2.12 kPa)



An evident impact of tongue rigidity on friction coefficient values: higher for hard tongue mimic

- Decrease in friction coefficient with increase in normal stress
- Increase in friction coefficient with increase in shearing velocity

Srivastava et al., 2021

# In conclusion

- □ This oral tribological set-up was successfully developed to achieve more realistic oral conditions for investigating friction mechanisms
- Connections between friction coefficient and Tongue properties (surface roughness and rigidity)
  - □ Friction coefficient values were higher on the rough surface
  - Friction values were higher on hard tongue mimic; variation of normal load and shearing velocities were also prominent.

#### Future developments

- Building complete Stribeck curve
- Looking into the relaxation part of the motion
- Set-up itself can be modified to perform more realistic motions (e.g., oscillatory, translational) and to allow more robust control and automation

#### Thank you for your attention

Vincent Mathieu Isabelle Souchon Véronique Bosc Frédéric Restagno Paul Menut Carole Tournier David Forest Johana Guyader Bertille Dormoy Clara Ajamian