

Technical University of Denmark



Model-Based Monitoring of an Industrial Batch Pectin Extraction

André Fernandes Caroço, Ricardo; Santacoloma, Paloma A.; Abildskov, Jens; Huusom, Jakob Kjøbsted

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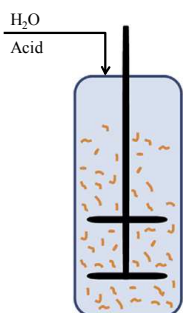
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1. Pectin Extraction Process

Extraction by acidic hydrolysis from peels of citrus fruits

- Batch operation with several tanks
- The pectin quality can be characterized by intrinsic viscosity (IV) and degree of esterification (%DE)
- Process conditions (Temperature and pH) and proportions of peel/solvent vary within a limited range which is known to result in a desired particular KPI profile

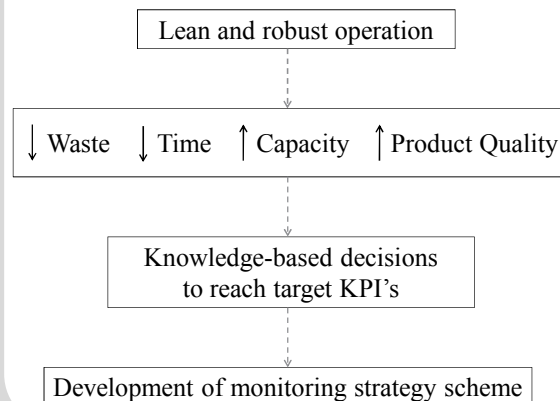


Key Performance Indicators:

- IV
- %DE
- $C_{\text{pectin,bulk}}$

2. Objective and Motivation

From recipe-driven to a model-based approach



3. Dynamic Modelling

First principle model describing the non-linear process in respect to the KPI

- Prediction of the desired KPI
- Flexible applicability over a wide operational range of T & pH
- Central role in model-based approaches
 - Process understanding
 - Troubleshooting
 - Monitoring
 - Continuous process optimization

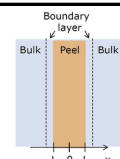
$$\frac{\partial c_{\text{pectin(peek)}}(t, x)}{\partial t} = D_{\text{pectin}} \frac{\partial^2 c_{\text{pectin(peek)}}(t, x)}{\partial x^2} + k_{\text{hydrolysis}} \cdot c_{\text{pectin(peek)}}(t, x)$$

$$\frac{\partial c_{\text{protopectin(peek)}}(t, x)}{\partial t} = -k_{\text{hydrolysis}} \cdot c_{\text{pectin(peek)}}(t, x)$$

$$\frac{\partial c_{\text{pectin(bulk)}}(t, L)}{\partial t} = \frac{A_{\text{total}} \cdot k_{\text{masstransfer}}}{V_{\text{total}}} \cdot (c_{\text{pectin(peek)}}(t, L) - c_{\text{pectin(bulk)}}(t, L)) - k_{\text{degradation}} \cdot c_{\text{pectin(bulk)}}(t, L)$$

$$\frac{\partial c_{\text{estergroup}}(t, L)}{\partial t} = DE_0 \cdot f_{GA} \frac{A_{\text{total}} \cdot k_{\text{masstransfer}}}{V_{\text{total}}} \cdot (c_{\text{pectin(peek)}}(t, L) - c_{\text{pectin(bulk)}}(t, L)) - k_{\text{de-esterification}} \cdot c_{\text{estergroup}}(t, L)$$

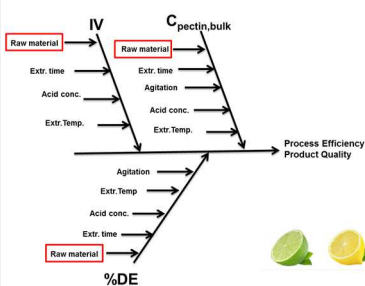
$$IV = IV_0 \cdot \exp(-k_{IV} \cdot t)$$



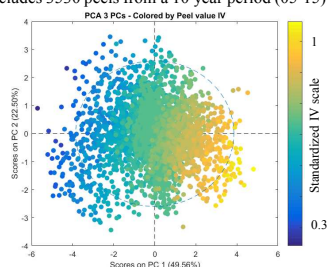
Development based on fundamental physical phenomena and a parameter training set: •Pilot scale •T vs pH DoE •one peel type

4. Identified Problems

➢ Lack flexibility for different peels

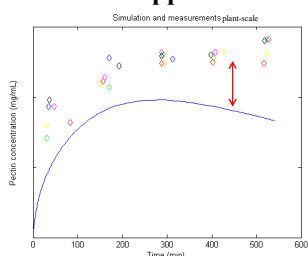


Preliminary exploratory analysis of historical dataset includes 3530 peels from a 10 year period (05-15)



Parameters that are inherently different from peel-to-peel are fixed or estimated for the training peel → Unaccounted uncertainty propagating into the output uncertainty

➢ Cross-scale application issues

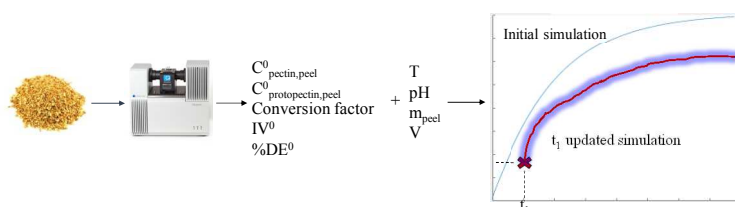


Sensitive parameters estimated at a different scale of application:

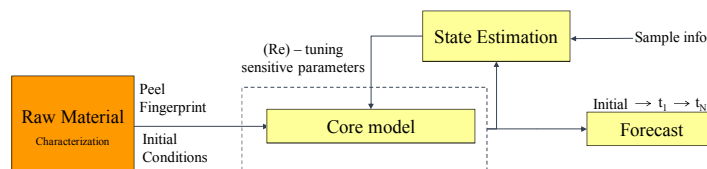
- Model alteration
- Re-tuning of parameters
- Hybrid approaches

5. Monitoring Strategy

Flexible model scheme that copes with raw material discrepancies by providing better initialization parameters for each different peel that arrives at the process line



Combination of state-of-the-art state estimation algorithms together with chemometric techniques to provide the process operators with a decision making tool for process optimization



6. References

The 1st principle model used in this research was developed in :
 N.M. Andersen, T. Cognet, P.A. Santacoloma, J. Larsen, I. Armagan, F.H. Larsen, K.V. Gernaey, J. Abildskov, J.K. Huusom, Dynamic modelling of pectin extraction describing yield and functional characteristics, Journal of Food Engineering, Volume 192, January 2017, Pages 61-71