



Influence of solar processing on broccoli (*Brassica oleracea L. Ssp. Italica*) florets properties

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Broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* L. var. *Italica*)

- Superfood
- High nutritional value
- Source of phytochemical compounds with health-promoting properties
- Usually consumed after cooking procedures



Thermal treatment affects:

- Cellular structure
- Texture
- Colour
- Phytochemical composition
- Organoleptic properties



Is solar cooking similar to other conventional cooking methods?



Box



Parabolic

- ❑ Investigate the phytochemical, physical and sensorial properties of broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* L. *ssp. Italica*) florets as affected by **water cooking process** at five different temperatures
- ❑ **Model the change kinetics** of total phenolic content (TPC), total antioxidant activity (TAA), colour, texture and sensory quality along water cooking under isothermal conditions
- ❑ **Evaluate the impact of solar cooking** on broccoli quality and **compare with estimated values**

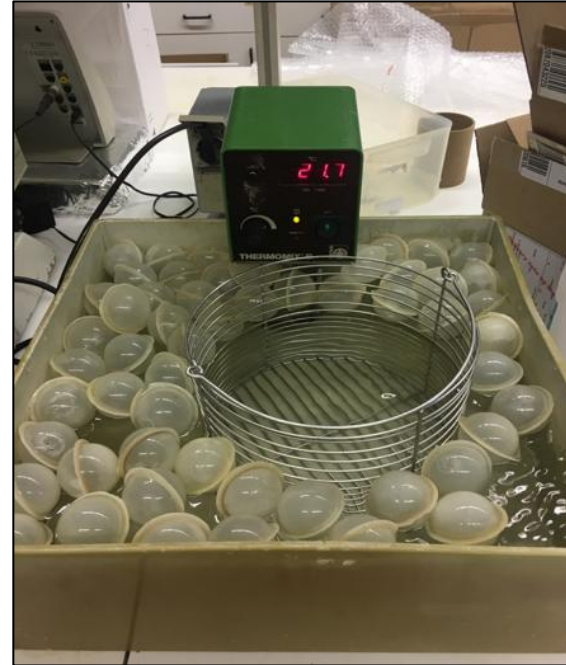
Materials & Methods



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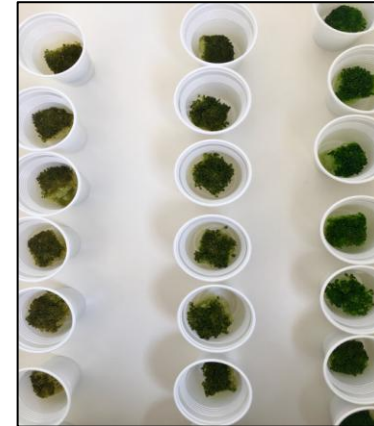
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- Thermal bath system
- Isothermal cooking conditions
- Five different cooking temperatures (70, 75, 83, 90, 95 °C)
- Evaluation of quality along time



Analysis:

- Total phenolic compounds
- Total antioxidant activity
- Colour
- Texture
- Sensory analysis (*colour, flavour and texture*)



Modeling:

$$\frac{C}{C_0} = \exp(-kt)$$

$$\frac{C - C_{eq}}{C_0 - C_{eq}} = \exp[-k t]$$

$$TCD = K [1 - \exp(-kt)]$$

$$k = k_{ref} \exp \left[-\frac{E_a}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}} \right) \right]$$

$$S = \alpha \exp \left\{ -\exp \left[\frac{k_{max} e}{\alpha} (\lambda - t) + 1 \right] \right\}$$

$$\alpha = (a + b) T$$

$$k_{max} = (k_1 + k_2) T$$

Solar cooking:



Box



Parabolic

- Several experiments
- Quality evaluation
- Predict quality

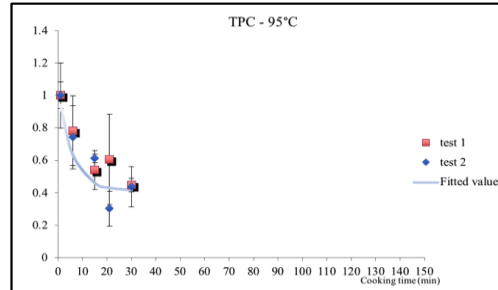
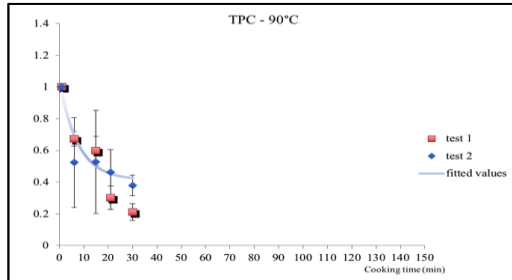
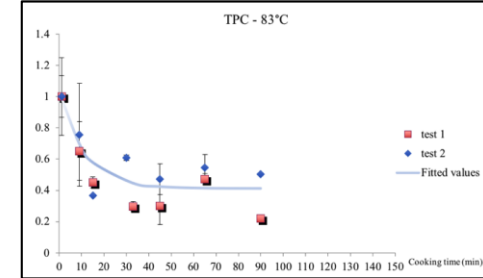
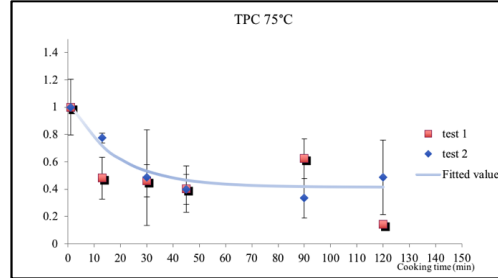
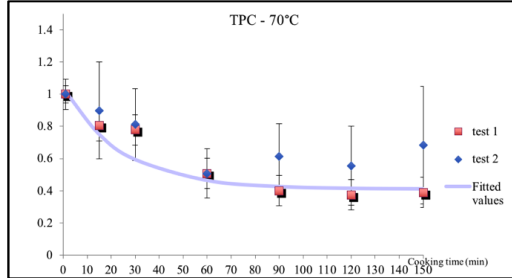
Results & Discussion



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Total Phenolic Compounds:



$$\frac{C - C_{eq}}{C_0 - C_{eq}} = \exp [-k t]$$

$$k = k_{ref} \exp \left[-\frac{E_a}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}} \right) \right]$$

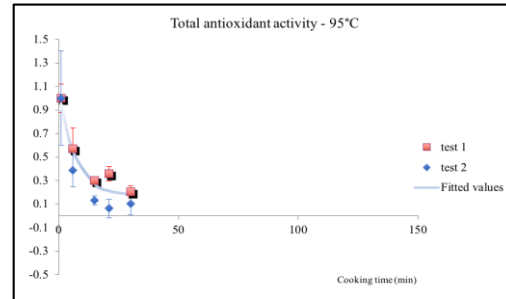
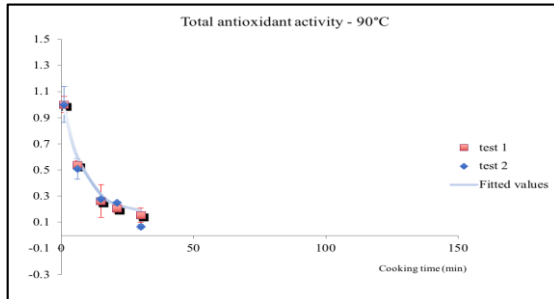
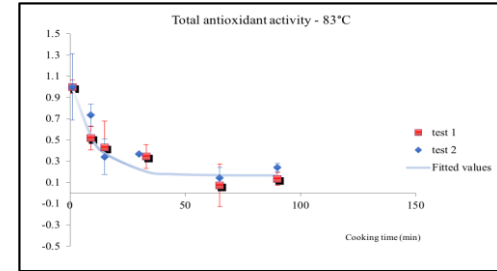
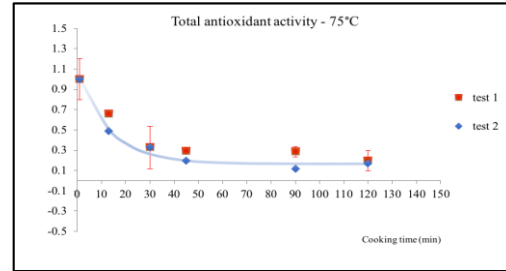
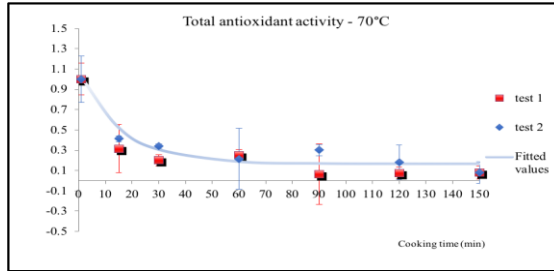
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Total Antioxidant Activity:



$$\frac{C - C_{eq}}{C_0 - C_{eq}} = \exp[-k t]$$

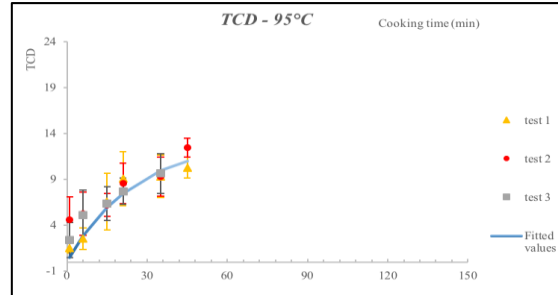
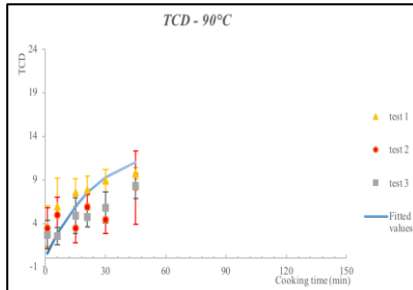
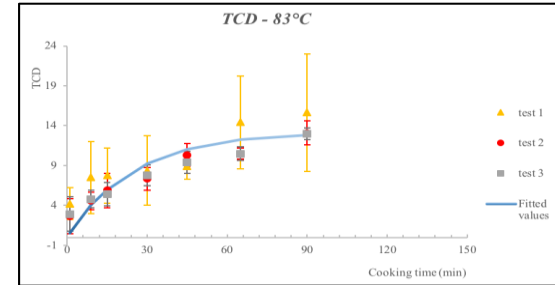
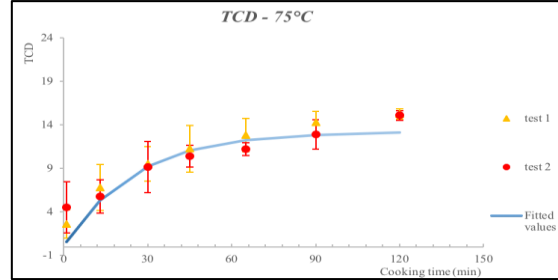
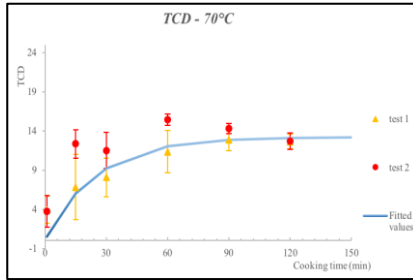
$$k = k_{ref} \exp \left[-\frac{E_a}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}} \right) \right]$$

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Total Colour Difference:



$$TCD = K [1 - \exp(-kt)]$$

$$k = k_{ref} \exp \left[-\frac{E_a}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}} \right) \right]$$

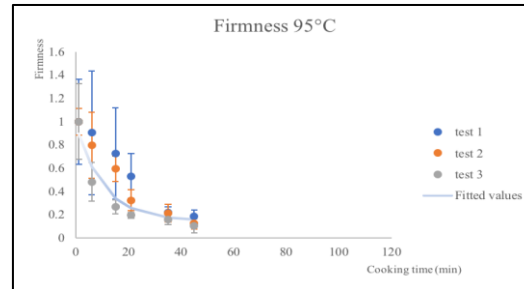
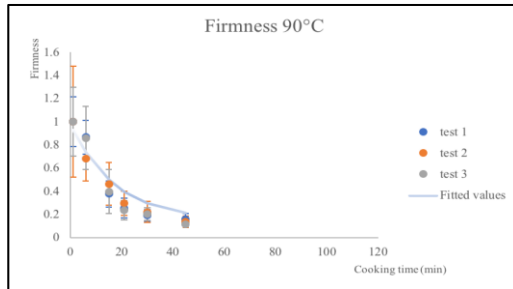
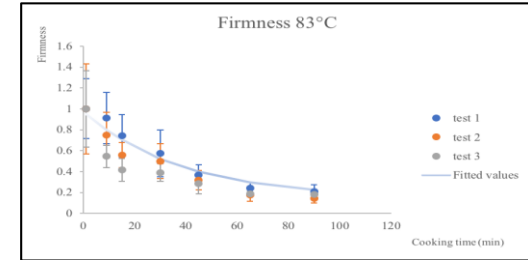
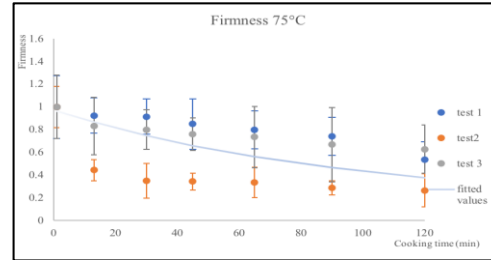
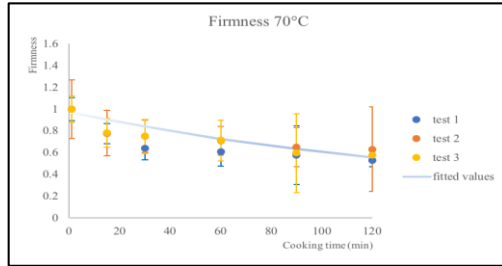
Results & Discussion



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Firmness:

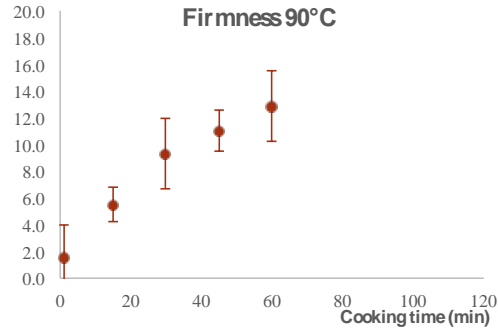
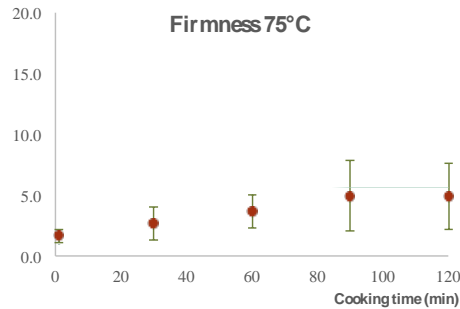
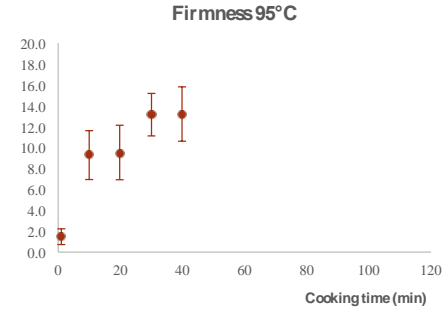
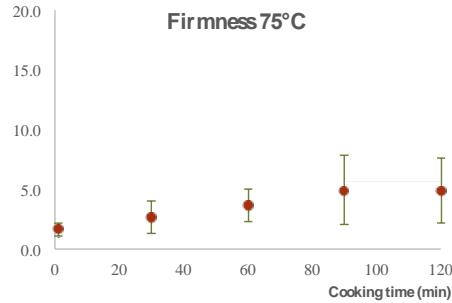
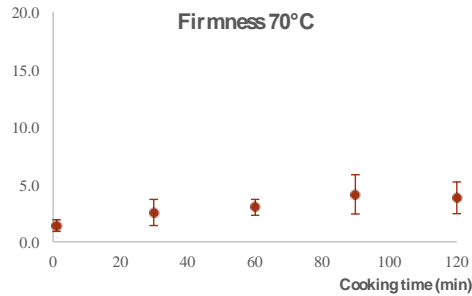


$$\frac{C - C_{eq}}{C_0 - C_{eq}} = \exp [-k t]$$

$$k = k_{ref} \exp \left[-\frac{E_a}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}} \right) \right]$$

Results & Discussion

Firmness by a trained panel:



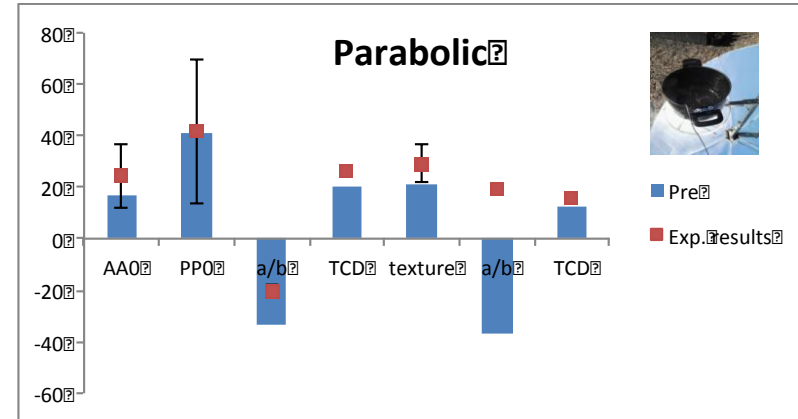
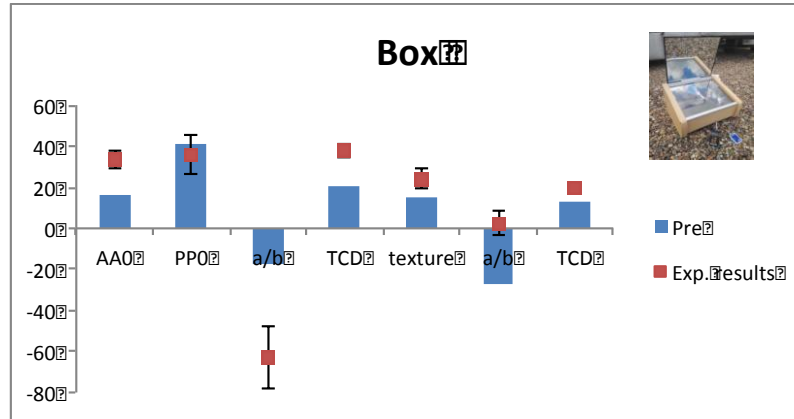
$$S = \alpha \exp \left\{ -\exp \left[\frac{k_{max} e}{\alpha} (\lambda - t) + 1 \right] \right\}$$

$$\alpha = (a + b) T$$

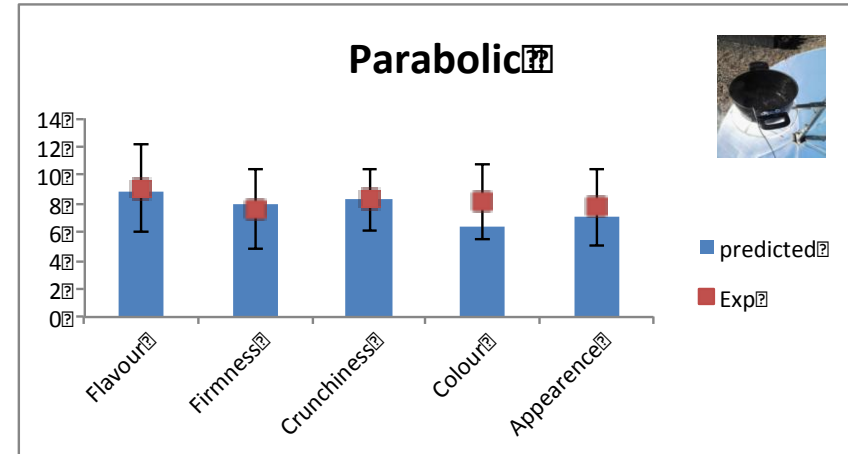
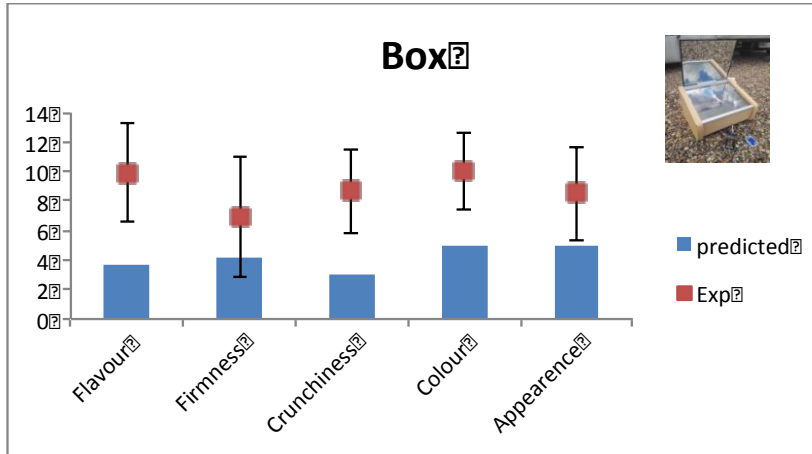
$$k_{max} = (k_1 + k_2) T$$

Results & Discussion

→ Impact of solar cooking



Results & Discussion



- ✓ Different models were able to describe broccoli florets quality changes due to water cooking
- ✓ Quality evaluated by analytical methods predicted in a similar way the behavior under solar conditions. Only total phenolic compounds could be well estimated
- ✓ For sensory parameters evaluated by a trained panel it was possible to estimate well only for parabolic cooking
- ✓ For box type cooking, panelist identified very different characteristics

Contact



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