

The logo features a red rectangular background. On the left, there is a white sunburst or radial pattern of dots. To the right of this pattern, the text "SYM'PREVIUS" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

**SYM'PREVIUS**

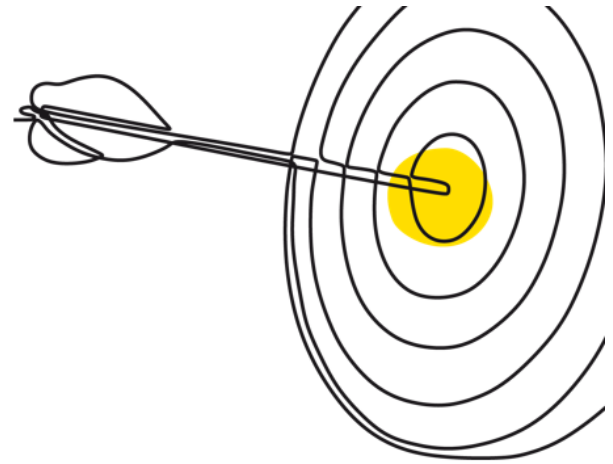
# **SYM'PREVIUS MAP: A WEB APPLICATION FOR THE DESIGN OF FOOD PACKAGING TO IMPROVE THE PRESERVATION OF FOOD PRODUCTS**

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# Presentation outline

1. Modified Atmosphere Packaging
2. Models for gas exchanges and bacterial growth
3. Predictive software
4. Take home messages



# Modified atmosphere packaging (MAP)

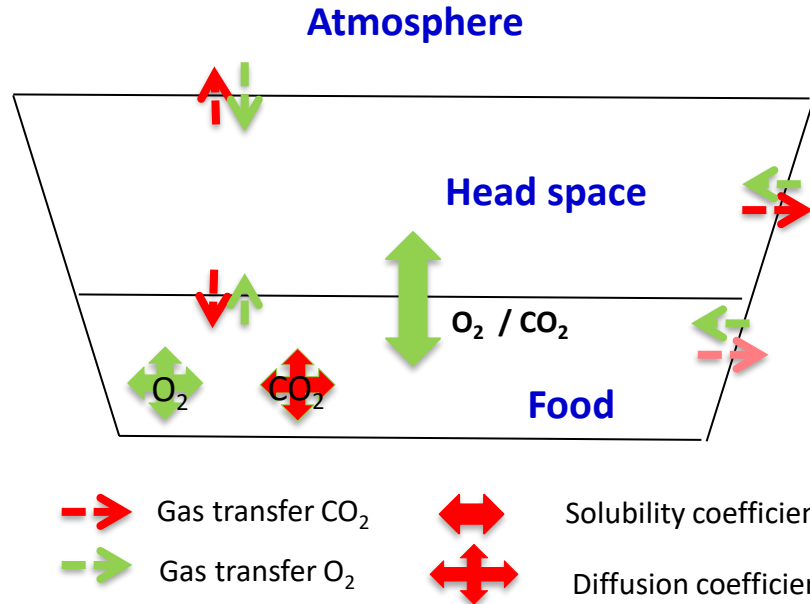
- Modified Atmosphere Packaging (MAP) allows to preserve the appearance, texture and nutritional properties of foods, while limiting the use of preservatives and reducing sanitizing processes
- MAP is mainly used by the food industry to increase shelf-life of packaged products, including microbial shelf-life

**Objective:** design a predictive tool that will enable manufacturers to design and optimize food packaging to improve the preservation food products under MAP



# Modified atmosphere packaging (MAP)

- Design MAP food packaging can be optimized by accounting for the gas exchanges and the inhibitory effects of gas concentrations throughout product shelf life



# Models for bacterial growth and gas exchanges

- Predictive microbial models for the effect of  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{O}_2$  on bacterial growth ([Couvert et al., 2017, 2019, 2023](#))
- A mathematical model for coefficients of solubility and diffusion of  $\text{CO}_2$  as a function of nutrition information
- Mathematical equations for headspace  $\text{CO}_2/\text{O}_2$  dynamics ([Guillard et al., 2016, 2017](#))
  - $\text{O}_2/\text{CO}_2/\text{N}_2$  transfer between headspace and external atmosphere
  - $\text{O}_2/\text{CO}_2$  solubilization and diffusion within the food
  - variations in headspace volume and composition



# Models for CO<sub>2</sub> solubility and diffusion

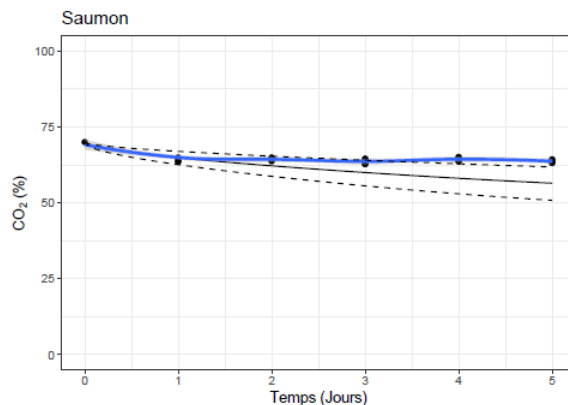
- Quadratic model for the diffusion coefficient and solubility of CO<sub>2</sub> based on nutritional composition data of foods :

- Water*
- Fat*
- Proteins*
- NaCl*
- Carbohydrates*
- Fibers*

→ Increase in water and fat content → increase of CO<sub>2</sub> diffusion rate

→ Increase in proteins and NaCl content → decrease of CO<sub>2</sub> diffusion rate

The model developed was validated in various food products including e.g. ham, salmon, cheese stored under MAP



- Prediction
- - Confidence interval
- Measured CO<sub>2</sub> in headspace

# The Sym'Previus predictive tool



**The Sym'Previus software is a set of decision support tools for food safety and quality ([www.symprevius.eu](http://www.symprevius.eu))**

- Identification of critical points (HACCP)
- Determination of the growth potential of microorganisms
- Assist in determining shelf life
- Optimize heat treatments

Why use Sym'Previus

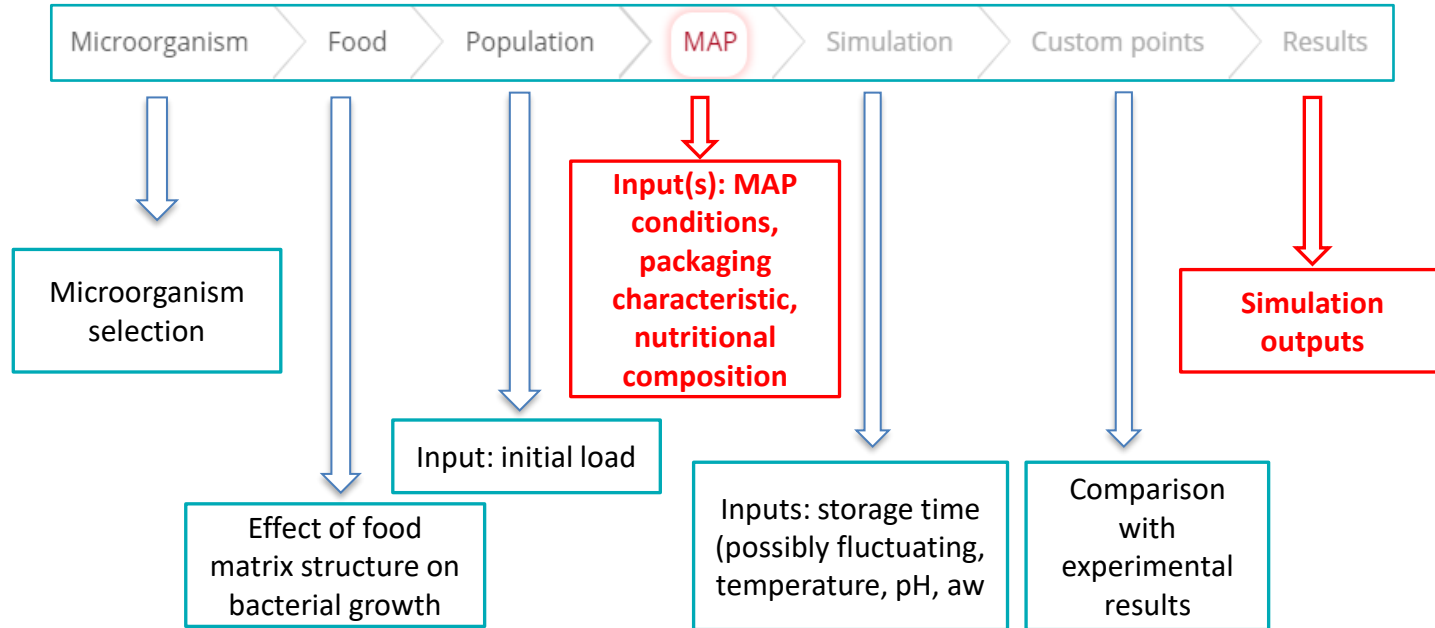


- Designed to support shelf-life determination, product formulation and process optimisation to reduce costs and time to market
- An extensive repository of predictive models that use recognized scientific approaches and were validated in food
- A user-friendly interface and dynamic plots and charts make the analysis quick and easy
- Referenced in the educational kit "Control of microbiological shelf life" developed by the French General Directorate for Food (DGAL) and the CTN QUALIMA



# Implementation in the predictive software Sym'Previus

## Modification of the usual software framework





# MAP tab

## Initial MAP conditions

### Conditioning

#### Gas percentages

CO2 (%)

O2 (%)

#### Gas pressure

Value

## Nutritional composition

### Nutritional information (for 100g of product)

Fat

Carbohydrates

Proteins

Salt

Water

Fiber

## Tray or bag

### Tray and lid

#### Tray

##### Permeability

O2

CO2

##### Dimensions

Thickness

Height

## Permeability coefficients

## Dimensions

#### Lid

##### Permeability

O2

CO2

##### Dimensions

Thickness

Length

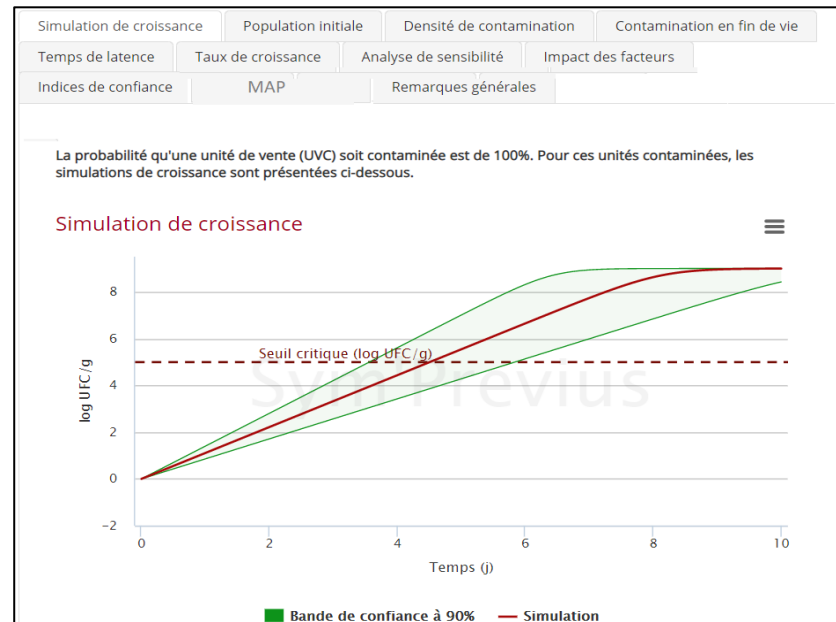
Width

### Bag

# Results tab

## Main outputs

- Bacterial growth kinetics as a function of time
- Probability to exceed a threshold concentration (specified by the user) at the end of stockage time
- Evolution of gas ( $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{O}_2$ ) in the head space



# Take home messages

- A simulation tool that will support design and optimisation MAP and food packaging (available in French and English)
- Simulations of growth under MAP available for different pathogenic or spoilage microorganisms
- The simulations use only data that is readily available to manufacturers (e.g., nutritional composition). Shiny app tools will be made available to facilitate unit conversion (for e.g., gas permeability)

# Acknowledgments

