Digitalization and innovation in the Food Supply Chain in the APEC region (PPFS 03 2021S) 2021.12.09

# Role of Innovation and Digital Technologies in Food Processing

Takeshi Kimura Ph.D.

Morimura Bros., Inc., Special Technical Advisor Ajinomoto Co., Inc., Aminoindex Dept., Consultant APEC PPFS WG3 Chair

# Outline

- Historical Perspective
- Innovations Behind Development of Food Processing
- Digital Technologies in Food Processing
- Final Thoughts

# **The History of Food Processing**

#### The First Methods

#### Cooking, Salting, Pickling, Drying, Smoking, Fermenting

- Cooking started as early as 1.5 million years ago.
- Simple food preservation methods such as drying, smoking and salting, started as early as 9600 BC.
- Food processing began with a number of preservation and cooking techniques that are still used today. Techniques were developed by some of the earliest empires, such as ancient Greece, India, China and Peru.

#### The 19th Century

#### Pasteurization and Canning

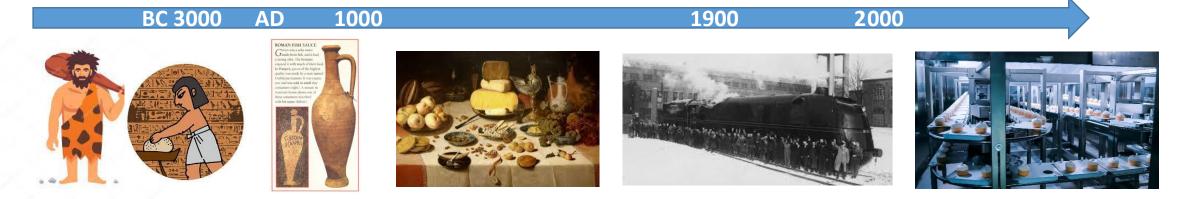
- Pasteurization and canning were popularized in the 1800's.
- Pasteurization, developed by French microbiologist Louis Pasteur, kills microbes by applying heat, without affecting the nutritional quality or taste of the food, allowing long term storage and transportation of foods.
- Other inventors developed bottling and the canning. The tin can would become particularly popular during World War I and the high demand for cheap, long-lasting, transportable food for soldiers.

#### The 20th Century

#### Mass production of packaged foods

- Spray drying, evaporation, freeze drying and the use of preservatives for increased shelf life and artificial sweeteners and colors for palatability.
- Household appliances such as refrigerators, freezers, microwave ovens etc paved way to the development of frozen foods,

# **Innovation Behind Food Processing**



#### Traditional Experience applied to food processing

Cooking Salting Pickling Drying Smoking Fermenting

#### Modern Science & Technology applied to food processing

Chemistry Hydrolysis Isolation Synthesis Pasteurization Preservatives Industrial Processing Taste and Smell Science Chemical Analysis Receptor Science Biotechnologies Fermentation Technologies Enzyme Technologies Digital Technologies Artificial Intelligence Robotics

# **Example of Ancient Food Technology: Fish Sauce**

## **Current Fish Sauces in Asia**

- Vietnam nyoc-mam
- Thailand nam-pla
- Philippines
- Myanmar ngan-pya-y
- Japan shottsuru, ishiri
- Cambodia

ngan-pya-ye

tak-trei

patis

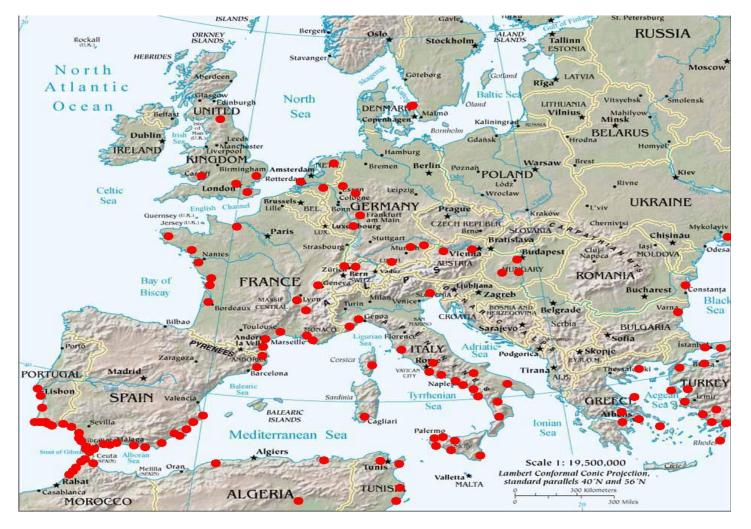
### Fish Sauces of Ancient Greece and Rome

- Ancient Greece : garon
- Ancient Rome : garum liquamen

Dr. Robert I. Curtis: U. Georgia, Professor of Classics Garum and Salsamenta Production and Commerce in Material Medica

Studies in Ancient Medicine, Pub: E.J.Brill 1991

#### Sites of Ancient Fish Sauce and Salted Fish Production (Form Curtis 1991)



Mediterranean Coast Spain, Italy, North Africa Written evidence for garum production in 5<sup>th</sup> century BC in Spain

#### Black Sea

Garum factory site from 6<sup>th</sup> century BC Record of trade with ancient Greece

## **Sites of Mediterranean Fish Sauce Factories**



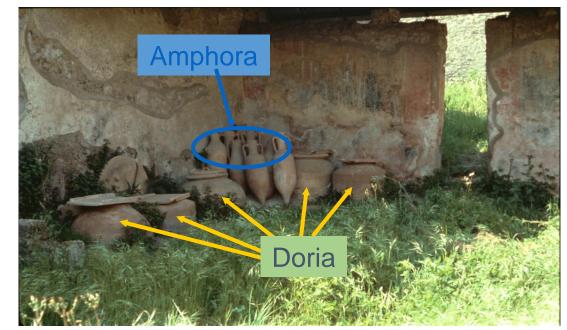
(From Curtis 1991)

# **Garum Shop of Pompeii**

Entrance to Garum (Fish Sauce) Shop of Pompeii (Courtesy of Dr. Curtis)



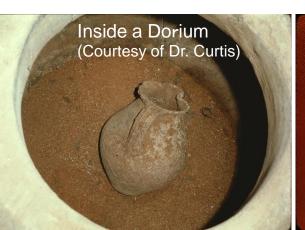
Amphora and Doria in Back Yard of Garum (Fish Sauce) Shop (Courtesy of Dr. Curtis)



Distribution in long vessels called amphora.

There were regions where guilds controlled the manufacturing of garum.

Name, grade, place of manufacture, main ingredient, name of distributor etc have been found inscribed on amphora, indicating a systematic distribution of the product.



Fish Bones Found Inside Doria (Courtesy of Dr. Curtis)



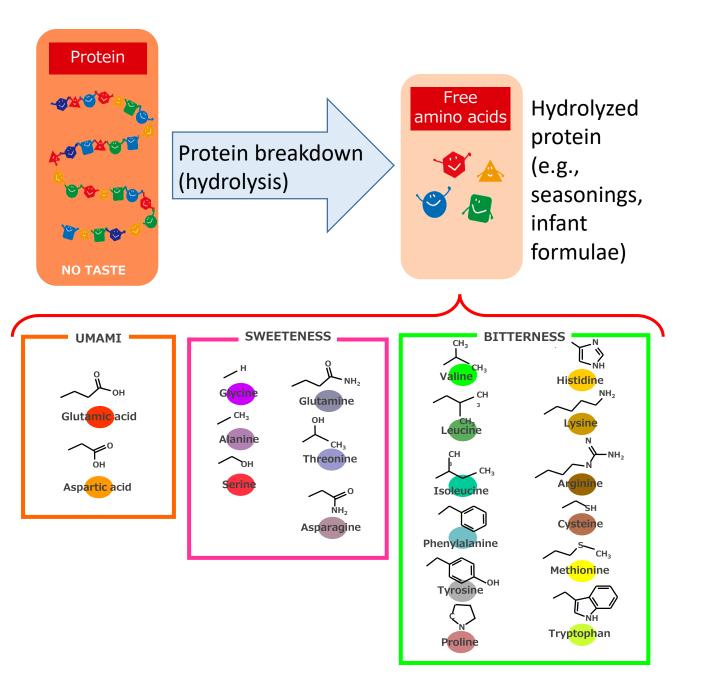
# Taste of amino acids

The so-called liquamen is made in this manner:

The intestines of fish are thrown into a vessel and salted.

Small fish either the best smelt, or small mullet, or sprats, or wolffish, or whatever is deemed to be small, are all salted together and, shaken frequently are fermented in the sun.

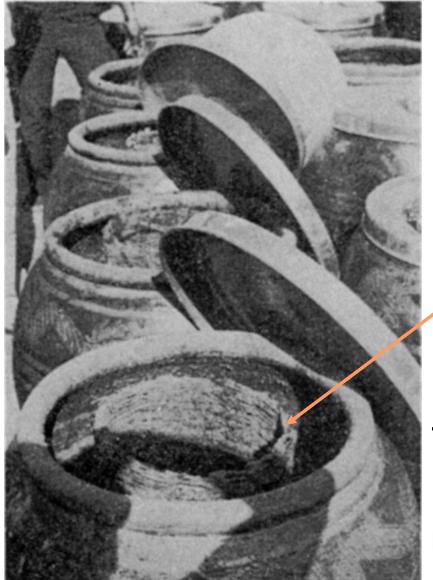
Geoponica: 10th century Greek agricultural manual, from 6<sup>th</sup> century Latin treatise



After it has been reduced in the heat, garum is obtained from it in the following way:

A large, strong basket is placed into the <u>vessel</u> of the aforementioned fish, and the garum streams into the basket. In this way the so-called liquamen is strained through the basket when it is taken up. The remaining refuse is alex.

Geoponica: 10th century Greek agricultural manual, from 6<sup>th</sup> century Latin treatise

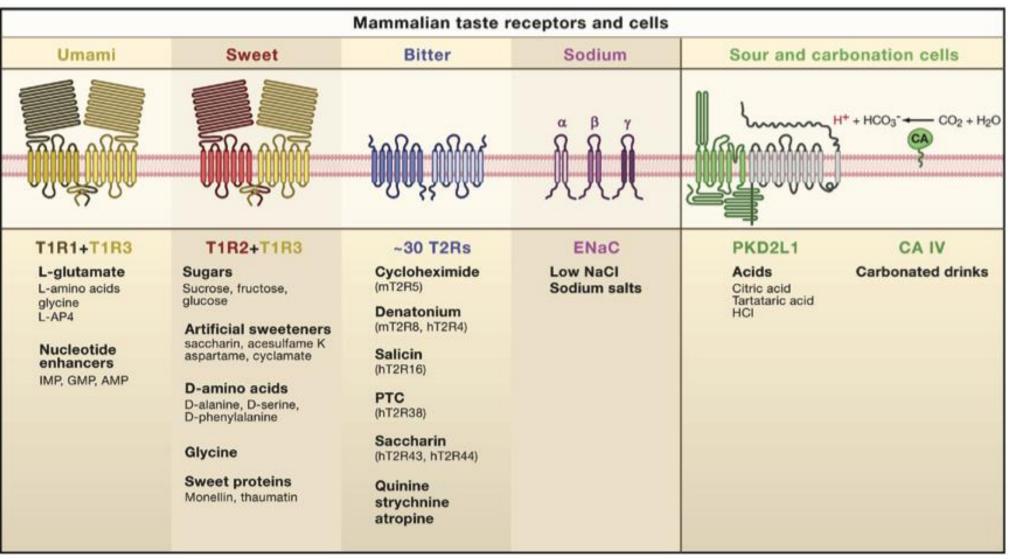


**Bamboo Basket** 

#### Fish Sauce Production in Thai Family Business

From: Ishige & Ruddle National Museum of Ethnology Research Report 12-2

## **Modern Discoveries in Taste: Taste Receptors**



https://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/sciencecommunication/2013/09/15/lets-talk-about-taste/

## 1908: Discovery of umami, the fifth basic taste

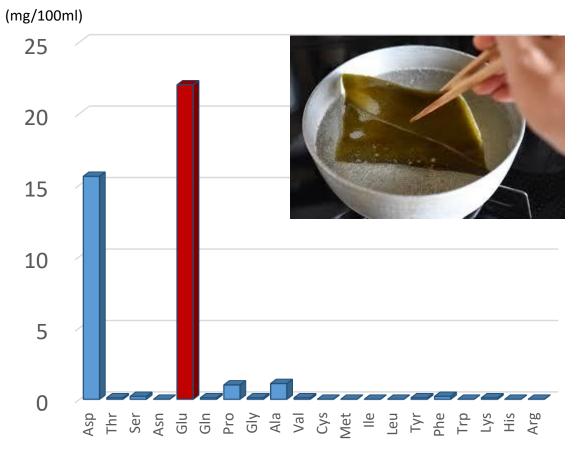


An attentive taster will find out something common in the complicated taste of asparagus, tomatoes, cheese and meat, which is quite peculiar and cannot be classed under any of the well defined four taste qualities, sweet, sour, salty and bitter.

(Prof. K. Ikeda's presentation at the 8th Int'l Congress of Applied Chemistry, Chicago, 1912)

## Soup stocks / Japanese vs Western

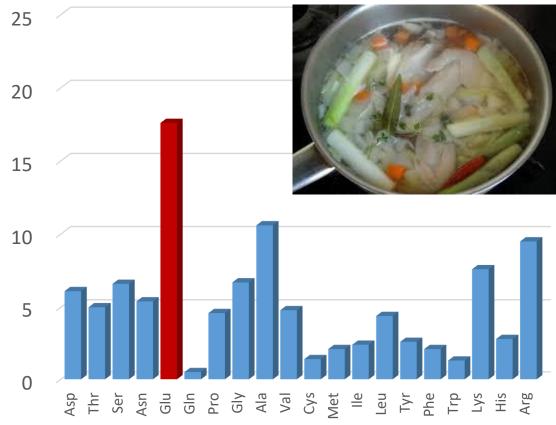
### Japanese Konbu dashi



Total free amino acids: 41mg/100ml

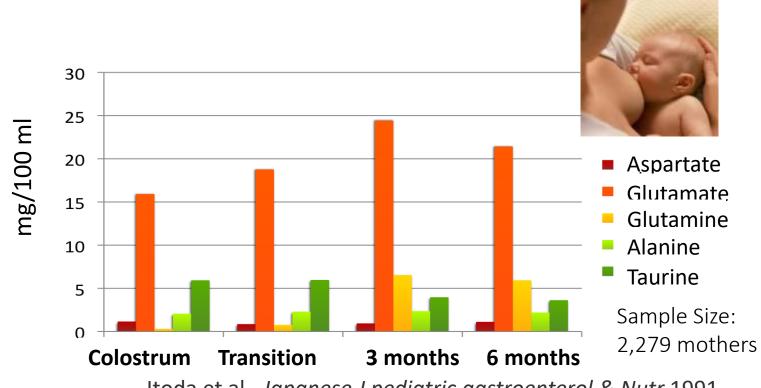


(mg/100ml)



Total free amino acids: 104mg/100ml

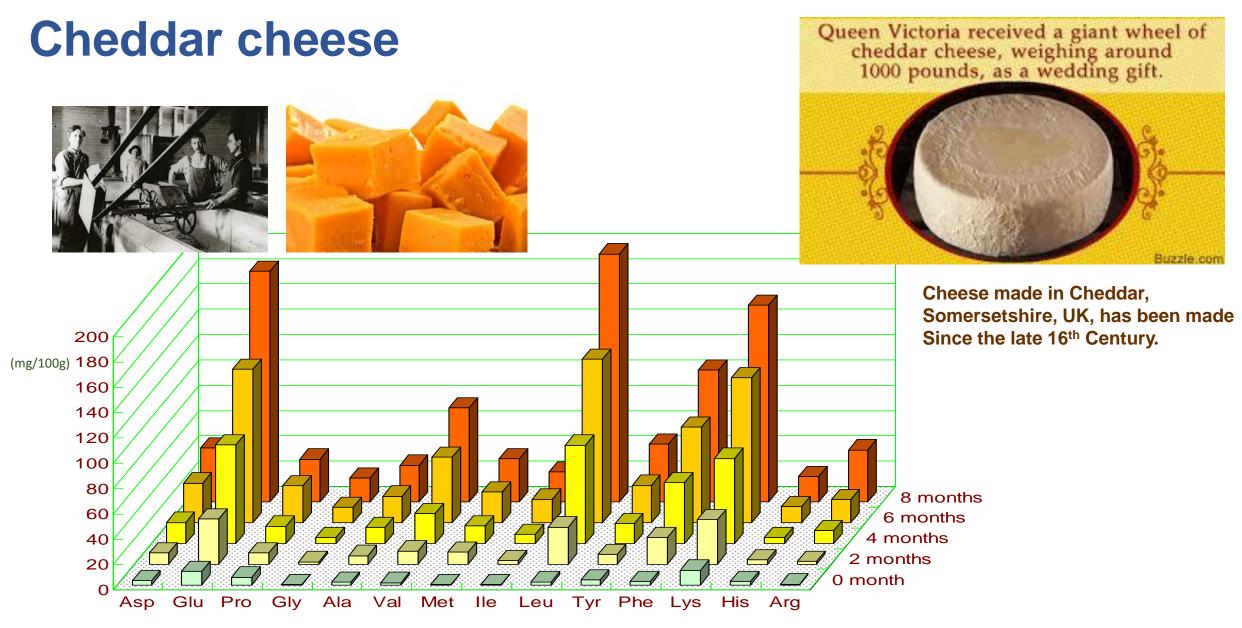
## Free Amino Acids in Breast milk



**Daily Intake of Free Glutamate:** 30.3 - 48.2 mg free glutamate/kg bw for a 3.5 kg infant ingesting approximately 750 ml of milk per day

Based on data from: Zhang, Z., et al. Amino Acid Profiles in Term and Preterm Human Milk through Lactation: A Systematic Review. *Nutrients* 2013;5:4800-21.

Itoda et al., Japanese J pediatric gastroenterol & Nutr 1991



<sup>(</sup>Weaver and Roger, J. Food. Sci., 43, 579 (1978))

© Umami Information Center

# Start of industrial production of seasonings

- 1847 Concentrated beef extract developed by Justus von Liebig, cheap and nutritious meat substitute.
- 1886 Ready-made soup based on legume by Maggi
- 1889 The Bovril company
- 1902 Marmite Food Extract Company
- 1908 Bouillon cube based on HVP
- 1909 MSG was developed in Japan
- 1910 OXO cube based on beef extracts









## **Application of Digital Technologies in Food Processing**

#### Automation and Robotics

- Packaged foods easy to handle
- Raw foods more difficult but improving with advances in digital recognition technology





(Courtesy of FANUC Corporation)

#### • Drones

- Agricultural
- Factory Inspection
  3D mapping of factory site
- 3-D Printing
  - Designing Foods





<u>Video Images of Robotics in Packaging: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ALz88MkTxNs, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szyjgqyvPB8</u>

## **Application of Digital Technologies in Food Processing**

### Al in Optimizing Operations

- Use of "Big-Data"
- Supply Chain Logistics Optimization

### Block-Chain, Distributed Legers

- Traceability
- Preventing Fraud

#### Small Scale Digital Technology in Restaurants and Catering

- Ordering via Digital Devices
- Robot Chefs
- Robot Servers

# **Thoughts on Future Developments**

#### Expected Future Developments

- Farm to Fork Automation
- Individualized Nutrition
- Sustainable Foods and Food Production
- Convenience Foods vs Traditional Cooking

#### Mass vs Niche

- Digital automation leads to less human involvement
- Need for Capital Expenditure = Large Sales Needed
  - Optimization for Max Popular Preference
- Food Preferences are Diverse = Many Niche Markets
- Scope for Small Scale Digital Technologies

### • Risks

- Hacking: Everything connected = Everything at Risk
- Increasing Complexity of Algorism: Unforeseen bugs in software, Reliance on 3<sup>rd</sup> Party for Repairs

# Thank you very much for your attention