

## Prediction of Ascorbic Acid Stability in Powdered Beverage

Young Chun Lee and Bong Soo Noh\*

*Department of Food Technology, Chung Ang University*

*\*Dong Suh Foods Co, Seoul 150*

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### 분말음료의 아스콜빈산 안정성 예측

이 영춘 · 노 봉수\*

중앙대학교 식품가공학과, \*동서식품

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#### Abstract

A powdered beverage with a fruit flavor was stored at 4, 21, 35 and 45°C for 180 days to study ascorbic acid destruction at the selected temperatures. Degradation of ascorbic acid in the model followed the first order reaction, and the temperature dependence of reaction rate constants at tested temperatures was accounted for by the Arrhenius equation. The calculated activation energy for the destruction of ascorbic acid was 3.3 Kcal/mole. The relationship between ascorbic acid content and sensory flavor score of the beverage indicated that samples with destruction of ascorbic acid over 25% showed objectionable flavor.

An attempt was made to predict the quality of powdered beverage by using a simulation model. A comparison between ascorbic acid values from shelflife tests and the simulation program showed a good agreement within acceptable error. This result demonstrated that quality of powdered beverage could be predicted by using a computer simulation model with a desired accuracy.

#### Introduction

During the past several years, techniques were developed to predict the shelf life of packaged foods based on the kinetics of quality deterioration. Reviews of this subject were published recently by Karel & Riemer<sup>(1)</sup>, Villota & Karel<sup>(2)</sup>, Heldman & Singh<sup>(3)</sup>, and Labuza.<sup>(4)</sup> The related subject of predicting nutrient retention during processing was summarized by Lund<sup>(5)</sup>. Quast & Karel<sup>(6)</sup> investigated the storage life of potato chips as a model of a dry food, which deteriorated by oxidation due to atmospheric oxygen and by textural

changes due to pick-up of water. The approach to model building included a theoretical consideration of reaction kinetics, as well as empirical data fitting. A study of the prediction of nutrient stability was carried out by Wanninger<sup>(7)</sup>, who postulated a mathematical model of the rate of ascorbic acid degradation based on the chemistry of ascorbic acid. This theoretical model was verified and its applicability tested on data from the literature.

One of the most labile nutrients in foods is ascorbic acid and its stability has been used as an indicator of product quality. A comprehensive review on its stability was presented by Bauernfeind and Pinke-

rt<sup>(8)</sup>. Kirk *et al.*<sup>(9)</sup> studied the degradation of ascorbic acid in a model system as a function of water activity, moisture content, oxygen and storage temperature. In their study the rate of destruction of the vitamin was well described by the first order kinetics.

The purpose of this study was to establish a relationship between ascorbic acid contents and quality of powdered beverage, and to predict ascorbic acid stability in powdered beverage by a time-temperature model.

## Materials and Methods

### Material

A model system of powdered beverage was prepared by dry blending powdered fruit flavor, sugar, ascorbic acid and others in a ribbon blender (rpm; 50) for 15 min. The composition of the system is shown in Table 1.

Blended beverage was filled in 200g jars, sealed and stored at the selected temperatures. Powdered beverage samples were taken at 20-day intervals to study the rate of ascorbic acid destruction and a relationship between that and product quality. 10~20g samples of powdered beverage were taken from 12 jars, blended and used for analysis.

**Table 1. Compositions of powdered beverage model system**

Composition	% (dry wt. basis)
Sugar	90.5
Fruit flavor	1.0
Ascorbic acid	0.5
Color	8.0
Na-citrate	
Tricalcium phosphate	
CMC	
Citric acid	
Total	100.0

### Determination of ascorbic acid by HPLC

Ascorbic acid was determined by Haney's method<sup>(10)</sup>, using high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC). Twenty grams of sample was dissolved in 150ml of 5% HPO<sub>3</sub> and filtered through Whatman

No. 5 filter paper. The filtrate was diluted 10 times with 5% HPO<sub>3</sub> and injected onto a reverse phase HPLC with  $\mu$ -Bondapak/C<sub>18</sub> column (Waters Associates Inc.). Ascorbic acid in powdered beverage was calculated by peak area. The operating conditions of HPLC are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2. Operating conditions of HPLC**

Instrument	Waters Associates, Model 440
Column	$\mu$ -Bondapak/C <sub>18</sub>
Solvent	water; methanol; tetrabutyl ammonium phosphate, 96.5; 2.5; 1.0
Detector	UV 254nm
Flow rate	2.0ml/min
Attenuation	10
Injector	U 6 K
Chart speed	0.2in/min

### Order of reaction with respect to ascorbic acid destruction

Powdered beverage with initial ascorbic acid concentration of 513mg/100g was stored at various temperatures for 180 days and samples were analyzed for ascorbic acid at 20-day intervals. A plot of logarithm of ascorbic acid concentration versus storage time was prepared and the rate constant of ascorbic acid destruction (*K*) was determined. The half-life of ascorbic acid in powdered beverage at 35°C was calculated by  $T_{1/2} = 0.693/K$ .

### Effect of storage temperature

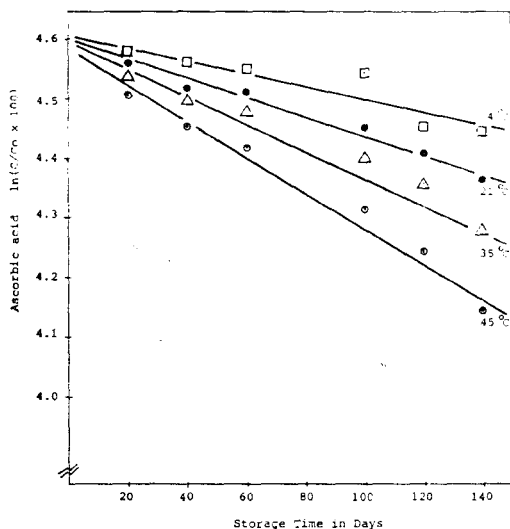
Powdered beverage was stored in temperature controlled storage chambers at 4°, 21°, 35° and 45°C. Representative samples were analyzed for ascorbic acid at 20-day intervals, and rate constants and an activation energy (*E<sub>a</sub>*) were calculated. All calculations in the study were made using an IBM system Model 4331 Group I Ao 2 at the Korean Information Computing Co. Ltd.

### Sensory Evaluation

Samples were evaluated for flavor at the end of each storage period by 15 trained panel members. Samples for flavor evaluations were prepared by dissolving 20g of beverage powder in 150ml of cold water. At each storage period, panelists were asked to taste control and stored samples, and to record flavor scores on a score card.

**Table 3. First-order rate constants determined at various storage temperature**

Storage temp.	Rate constant K (day <sup>-1</sup> )	Correlation coefficient
3°C	$1.305 \times 10^{-3}$	0.98
21°C	$1.57 \times 10^{-3}$	0.99
35°C	$2.099 \times 10^{-3}$	0.99
45°C	$3.017 \times 10^{-3}$	0.99

**Fig. 1. First-order plots for degradation of Ascorbic acid in powdered beverage**

C: Ascorbic acid conc. after storage  
 C<sub>0</sub>: Initial ascorbic acid conc.

## Results and Discussion

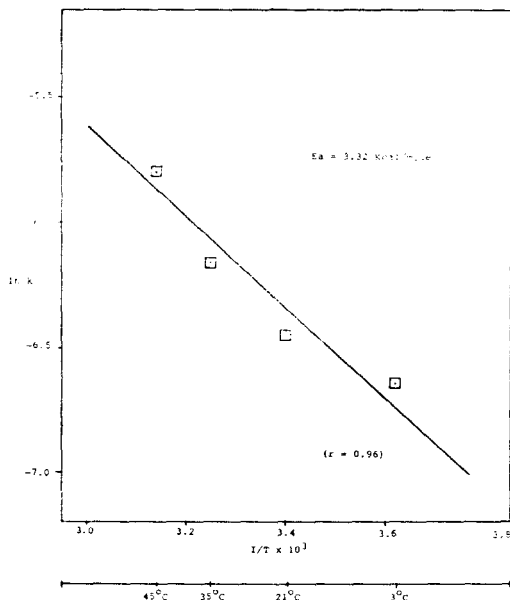
### Order of ascorbic acid destruction

Plots of the logarithm of ascorbic acid concentration versus storage time result in straight lines (Fig. 1), which indicated a first order reaction. The half-life calculated from the rate constant for ascorbic acid degradation at 35°C was 330 days, which was similar to that in tomato juice of 37.8°C report by Lee *et al.*<sup>(11)</sup>

### Effect of storage temperature

The first order rate constants determined for the powdered beverage at various storage temperatures are presented in Table 3. The result indicated that the rate of ascorbic acid destruction increased with increasing storage temperature. The Arrhenius equation is often used to account for temperature dependence of the reaction rate. Based on the rate constants su-

mmarized in Table 3, an Arrhenius plot was prepared (Fig. 2). An activation energy (*E<sub>a</sub>*) for destruction of ascorbic acid in the powdered beverage was calculated as 3.32 Kcal/mole.

**Fig. 2. Arrhenius plot of ascorbic acid destruction in powdered beverage**

Blaug and Hajratwala<sup>(12)</sup> reported an *E<sub>a</sub>* for the aerobic oxidation of ascorbic acid in a buffer system as 10.9 Kcal/mole and the *E<sub>a</sub>* for anaerobic destruction of ascorbic acid was calculated as 3.3 Kcal/mole by Lee *et al.*<sup>(11)</sup> The data showed that the *E<sub>a</sub>* for destruction of ascorbic acid in powdered beverage was close to *E<sub>a</sub>* for anaerobic destruction of ascorbic acid.

### Relationship between ascorbic acid and quality of powdered beverage

At each storage conditions, subjective evaluation for flavor and objective determination for ascorbic acid concentration were made at 20-day intervals for 6 months. The results of sensory evaluations are shown in Table 4.

The results indicated that the flavor score of the stored beverage decreased with increase in storage time, and this was more obvious at higher storage temperature, was found that samples with flavor score less than 3 had an objectionable flavor. The relationship between sensory score and retention of

**Table 4. Flavor score of powdered beverage during storage at various temperatures**

Storage time(day)	Storage temp. (°C)		
	21°	35°	45°
0	7.67*	—	—
20	7.35	5.79	5.45
40	6.40	6.27	4.98
60	7.00	7.00	5.50
100	6.98	6.91	4.87
120	6.40	4.90	4.01
140	6.10	5.88	3.71
180	5.60	3.96	2.67

\* Each value was a mean sensory score of 15 trained panelists

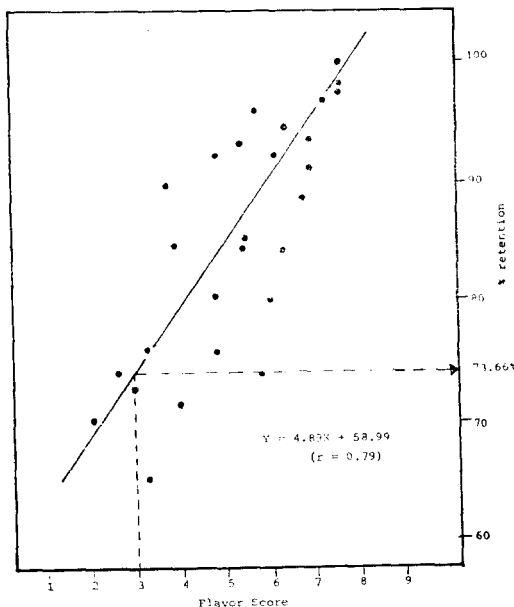
Flavor scores were based on the hedonic scale;

- 1=extremely dislike
- 3=moderately dislike
- 5=niether like nor dislike
- 7=moderately like
- 9=extremely like

ascorbic acid is shown in figure 3. The linear regression equation for this relationship was;

$$Y = 4.89X + 58.99 \quad (r = 0.79)$$

where, Y=flavor score



**Fig. 3. Relationship between ascorbic acid and flavor score for powdered beverage**

X=retention of ascorbic acid

It could be estimated from Figure 3 that beverage-samples with ascorbic acid destruction over 25% would have an objectionable flavor.

**Mathematical prediction model**

In this study, temperature and time were considered as main factors which affected destruction of ascorbic acid in the powdered beverage. A mathematical prediction model was developed based on the following informations;

- (1) The destruction of ascorbic acid followed a first order reaction

$$\ln C_t/C_0 = -Kt \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

where, C<sub>0</sub>; initial concentration of ascorbic acid

C<sub>t</sub>; concentration of ascorbic acid at the selected storage time, t.

Equation (1) could be modified for calculation of % retention of ascorbic acid at time, t.

$$\% \text{ retention} = e^{-Kt} \times 100 \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

- (2) The effect of temperature on the reaction rate constant could be accounted for by the Arrhenius equation.

$$\ln K = \ln A - \frac{Ea}{RT}$$

$$\text{or } \log \frac{K_2}{K_1} = \frac{Ea}{2.303R} \left( \frac{T_2 - T_1}{T_2 T_1} \right) \dots\dots\dots(3)$$

where, K<sub>1</sub>=rate constant at temperature T<sub>1</sub>

K<sub>2</sub>=rate constant at temperature T<sub>2</sub>

R=gas constant (1.987 cal/mole °K)

A=pre-exponential constant

Ea=activation energy for destruction of ascorbic acid (cal/mole)

- (3) The fluctuation of temperature during storage could be simulated by the Fourier series<sup>(11)</sup>,

$$f(X) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( a_n \cos \frac{n\pi X}{L} + b_n \sin \frac{n\pi X}{L} \right) \dots\dots(4)$$

where, L=limit of cycle

X=time in dadys

f(X)=storage temperature as a function of storage time

An attempt was made to evaluate whether the Fourier series could simulate seasonal temperature fluctuation. Average temperatures of 10 years in Seoul area were used as input data, and a comparison of temperature simulated by the Fourier series with the

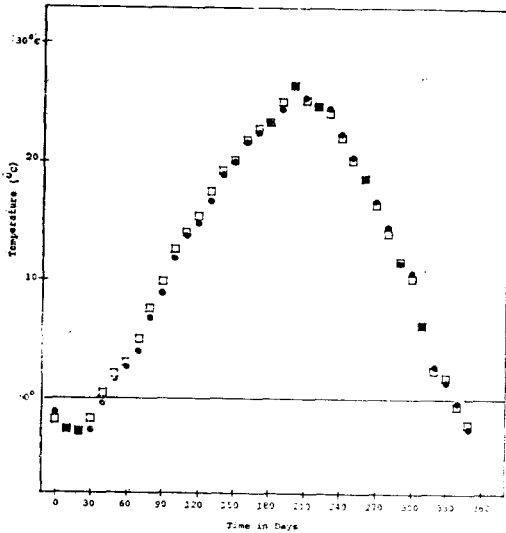


Fig. 4. Simulation of seasonal temperature changes by using the Fourier Series

- Temperature calculated by the Fourier Series
- Reputed daily temperature in Seoul area (monthly weather report)

actual temperature in Seoul area are shown in Figure 4. The result in Figure 4 showed that the simulated temperature was very close to the actual input temperature.

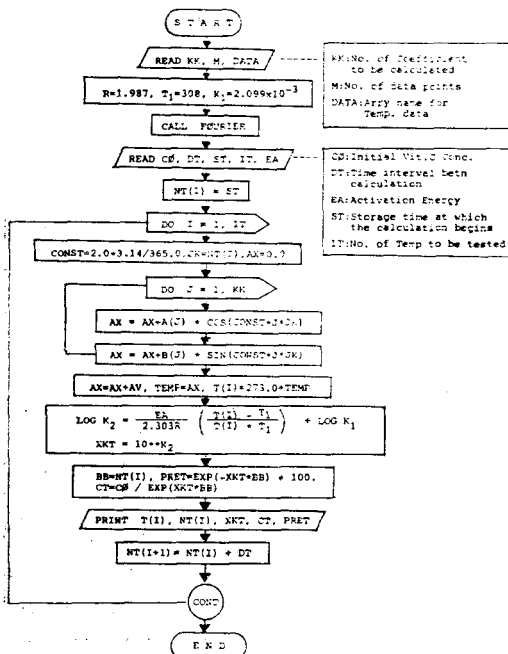


Fig. 5. Flow chart of the prediction model

A flowchart to calculate the retention of ascorbic acid in the powdered beverage as function of storage temperature and time is shown in Figure 5 and 6. The computer program required an initial concentration of ascorbic acid in the beverage, an activation energy for destruction of ascorbic acid and temperature profile during storage. The program, then, calculated and printed out the storage time, storage temperature, the reaction rate constant and % retention of ascorbic acid.

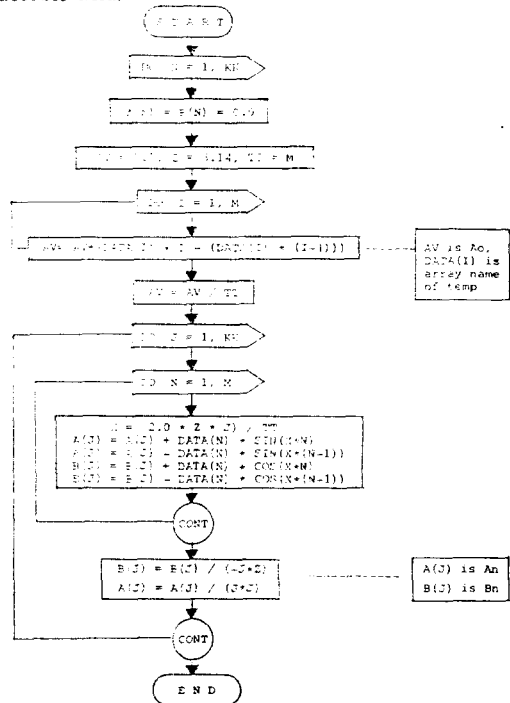


Fig. 6. Flowchart of subroutine fourier

### Prediction of ascorbic acid stability

Since the simulation program could predict ascorbic acid stability as a function of temperature and time, the suitable storage condition of powdered beverage for the desired quality could be selected by using this program. The ascorbic acid stability in powdered beverage predicted by the simulation program is shown in Figure 7. In Figure 7, the results obtained from shelf-life tests were compared with the predicted results. The difference between the determined results and the predicted values was in a range of 0~3% retention with a mean difference of 0.34±1.18% retention.

The good agreement between the predicted and the determined results indicated that the model could pre-

edict the ascorbic acid stability in the powdered beverage with reasonable accuracy. The mathematical prediction model performed its function well within the boundary of the system, indicating its possible application to dehydrated food product.

mole 이었으며 아스코르빈산의 잔존량과 향미 평점간의 상관관계에서 25% 이상 파괴되면 이미를 느낄 수 있었다. Simulation 모델을 적용하여 분말음료의 품질을 예견한바, 저장시험의 결과와 Simulation간의 오차는 약 3%이내로 매우 만족스러웠다. 이러한 결과로 분말음료의 품질을 Simulation을 이용하여 예견할 수 있음을 보여주었다.

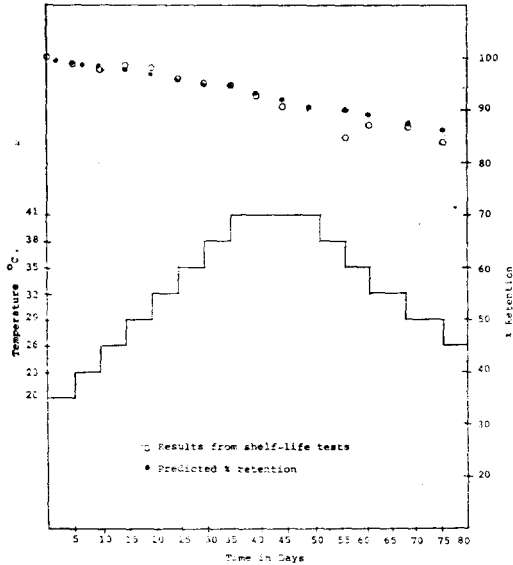


Fig. 7. Ascorbic acid stability with temperature fluctuation as a step function

요 약

오렌지향을 갖는 분말음료의 모델시스템을 설정하여 각기 4°, 21°, 35°, 45°,C에서 약 180일간 저장하여 아스코르빈산의 파괴를 측정하였다. 본 모델시스템에서 아스코르빈산의 파괴는 1차 반응이었으며 반응속도에 대한 온도와의 관계는 Arrhenius식에 따랐다. 아스코르빈산의 파괴에 대한 활성화 에너지는 3.3 Kcal/

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