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Education

- Ph. D. **Food Science and Technology**, specializing in Food Chemistry, GPA of **4.00/4.00**
University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, August 2008
Dissertation: "Characterization and Performance Improvement of Chitosan Films as Affected by Preparation Method, Synthetic Polymers, and Blend Ratios".
- M. S. **Food Science**, GPA of 3.50/4.00
Renmin University of China, Beijing, China, 2005
Dissertation: "Research on Environmental Labelling Standard for Food Service".
- B. S. Commodity Science, specializing in **Food Science**, GPA of 3.52/4.00
Renmin University of China, Beijing, China, 2002
Dissertation: "Applications of Intermittent Warming Treatment in Fruits Storage".

Professional Experience

- Aug. 2005 - Present Research Assistant, U.S.EPA sponsored project,
Food Biopolymers Research Group, Department of Food Science and Technology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN.
- Main research project: Investigation of physical, mechanical, antimicrobial and metal-binding functions of chitosan films as affected by their composition and structure changes through interacting with PEO and PVP.
 - Collaborated with extended project team colleagues on "Electrospun chitosan nanofiber" project.
- Jan. 2006 - Feb. 2006 Research member in hominy production project, Bush Brothers & Company, Knoxville, TN.
- Successfully applied high intensity ultrasound technique onto hominy production to reduce the usage of NaOH without compromising final quality of hominy.
- Sep. 2002 - July 2005 Research Assistant, School of Environment & Natural Resources, Renmin University of China, Beijing, China.
- Students group leader.
 - Collaboratively worked with local restaurants and non-profit organization.

Teaching Experience

Fall semester 2003 Teaching Assistant (Food Science in Fruits and Vegetables), School of Environment & Natural Resources, Renmin University of China, Beijing, China.

Technical Skills

- Familiar with **experimental techniques on biopolymer properties** (Rheometer, Texture analyzer, Differential Scanning Calorimetry, Scanning Electron Microscope, Particle Size Analysis, Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy, Surface tension, UV-VIS spectrophotometer).
- Proficiency in **statistical analysis** (SAS, JMP).
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Publications

Li J, Zivanovic S, Davidson PM, Kit K. Characterization and Comparison of Chitosan/PVP and Chitosan/PEO Blend Films, in preparation for Journal of Food Science.

Li J, Zivanovic S, Davidson PM, Kit K. Production and Characterization of Thick, Thin and Ultra-thin Chitosan/PEO Blend Films, in preparation for Journal of The Mechanical Behavior of Biomedical Materials.

Zivanovic S, **Li J**, Davidson PM, Kit K. 2007. Physical, mechanical, and antibacterial properties of chitosan/PEO blend films. *Biomacromolecules* 8 (5): 1505-1510.

Desai K, Kit K, **Li J**, Zivanovic S. 2008. Morphological and surface properties of electrospun chitosan nonofibers. *Biomacromolecules* 9: 1000-1006.

Li J, Li J. 2004. [Research on establishing the Standard System of Vegetable Quality Security in China]. *Science and Technology of Food Industry*.

Conference Presentations

Li J, Zivanovic S, Davidson PM, Kit K. 2008. Performance improvement of chitosan films by blending with poly (vinyl pyrrolidone). Institute of Food Technologists Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, Jun 28-July 1, 2008. Abstract 114-03.

Desai K, Kit K, **Li J**, Zivanovic S, Davidson PM. 2008. Bioderived nanofibrous filter media for heavy metal chelation and anti-microbial applications. To be presented at 236th National American Chemical Society Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, Aug 17-21, 2008. Abstract #1193242.

Zivanovic S, **Li J**, Wu T, Rajpal G. 2007. Chemical and physical characterization of regular and ultra thin chitosan films stored at various temperatures. YUCOMAT2007, Herceg Novi, Montenegro, September 10-14, 2007.

Li J, Zivanovic S, Davidson PM, Kit K. 2007. Surface properties of chitosan/PEO blend films as affected by film preparation method. 234th National American Chemical Society Meeting, Boston, MA, Aug 19-23, 2007. Abstract AGFD 177.

Desai K, Kit K, **Li J**, Zivanovic S, Davidson PM. 2007. Electrospinning and surface properties of chitosan/PEO nanofibers. 234th National American Chemical Society Meeting, Boston, MA, Aug 19-23, 2007. Abstract PMSE 545.

Li J, Zivanovic S, Davidson PM, Kit K. 2007. Production and characterization of ultra-thin Chitosan/PEO blend films. Institute of Food Technologists Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, July 28–Aug 2, 2007. Abstract 143-01.

Li J, Zivanovic S, Davidson PM, Kit K. 2006. Physical and mechanical properties of Chitosan/PEO blend films. Institute of Food Technologists Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL, June 24-28, 2006. Abstract 054C-31.

Li J, Zivanovic S, Davidson PM, Kit K. Physical properties of chitosan/PEO films. 2006. 231st National American Chemical Society Meeting, Atlanta, GA, March 26-30, 2006. Abstract AGFD 74.

Professional Membership

- Institute of Food Technologists (IFT): member, 2006-present.
- American Chemical Society (ACS): member, 2006-present.
- Chinese American Food Society (CAFS): member, 2007-present.
- UT Food Science Club: member, 2005-present; secretary, 2006-2007.

Awards and Honors

- Awarded by ***Gamma Sigma Delta (the Honor Society of Agriculture)*** for excellent academic research, 2006.
- Texture Technologies Corp. Travel Grant to attend IFT Annual meeting for using TA. *XTPlus* Texture Analyzer in research, 2006.
- Awarded “CHEN DEYUAN” Scholarship for excellent research work, Renmin University of China, 2003.
- **Excellent Graduate Student**, Renmin University of China, 2002.

Service

- Assisted with Tennessee State Science Olympiad Competition Food Science Event, 2006, 2007, 2008.
- Treasurer, UT off-campus Sutherland Apartments Residents Association, 2006, 2007, 2008.
- Member of the organizing committee, 14th Internationale Gesellschaft für Warenwissenschaften und Technologie (German: International Society of Commodity Science and Technology) Symposium, 2004.

References

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