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RESEARCH ARTICLE

ENVIRONMENT-CONTROLLED DRYING OF CUT-ROSELLE: ANALYSIS OF DRYING-PARAMETERS & VALIDATION OF MODIFIED-PAGE II

I.E. Saeed*, Zulkhairi Zainol Abidin

Dept of Mech. & Manufacturing Eng., Faculty of Eng. & Built Environ., National University of Malaysia, 43600 Bangi, S.D.E., Malaysia.

*Corresponding author: ismt5@yahoo.com

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ABSTRACT

This Part II, of the research on the controlled-environment drying of Cut-Roselle, aimed to inspect the effects of varying drying-conditions on the drying-rate and drying-constant, and to assess, evaluate, and verify the Modified-Page II model's performance. The study is carried-out in a chamber with controlled humidity, airspeed, and temperature. Where, different relative-humidity and temperatures are applied. The analysis of thin-layer drying-models revealed that the Modified-Page II model provided the most accurate fit, out of the 12 models. The average values obtained for the drying-constant (k), the model-coefficients (n) and (L) are, respectively, 0.00343, 0.99219, and -0.87306. The precision of the developed model is validated through two approaches: comparing the predicted-moisture contents with the actual moisture-data and examining the residuals in relation to the predicted-moisture contents. The findings indicated that the Modified-Page II model successfully, characterized the drying-performance of the Cut-Roselle.

KEYWORDS

Modified-Pagell; model-validation; drying-constant; drying-rate; drying-parameters; Roselle

1. INTRODUCTION

Roselle or Karkade, is a perennial herb referenced in (Thuy et al., 2023). Which is grown for medicinal purposes across various nations (Shruthi et al., 2016). Its vibrant red-hue and unique-flavour make it a favoured ingredient in jam, beverage, jelly and productions. The petals, abundant in anthocyanins, act as a natural-dye and are a potential antioxidant source (Lema et al., 2021; Pi-Jen et al., 2002). A calyx-derived infusion, known as Sudan-tea, is traditionally consumed in East-Africa, for coughs alleviation (Morton, 1987). For further details on Roselle's cultivation, bio-composite applications, and its uses in medicinal, domestic, and industrial sectors can be refer in (Ahiduzzaman et al., 2021; Mariod et al., 2021; Sapuan et al., 2021).

Hot-air drying, is commonly used in the food-industry to dehydrate the products, with temperature settings tailored to the heat-sensitivity of the food and the desired-quality of the final-product (Buzrul 2022; Lewicki, 2006). The wide variety of dehydrated foods available, along with the emphasis on quality (considering nutritional-content, textures, colors, forms/shapes), and energy-efficiency, highlight the needs for comprehensive consideration of the drying-processes (Górnicki et al., 2007). Due to the complex nature of food, drying may involves multiple mechanisms simultaneously. Thus, modelling the drying-process and predicting outcomes, in various conditions, is essential to understand the drying-mechanisms. The drying-rate during the falling-rate phases is influenced by the concentration-gradient within the food and is dependent on the drying-temperature (Nguyen and Price, 2007).

Mathematical-modelling of thin-layer drying, is crucial for managing operational-parameters effectively and estimating the performance of drying-systems (Jain and Pathare, 2004), designing and optimization of the equipment (Buzrul, 2022), as well as for comprehending the drying-process itself (Górnicki et al., 2007). Precise drying-models are needed for drying-curves simulation in varying-conditions (Simal et al., 2005). While

theoretical-models focus on moisture-movement being mainly, driven by internal-resistances mechanisms, the semi-theoretical and empirical models merely, consider external-resistances (Babalís et al., 2006). Models with fewer parameters are preferred for establishing clear-relations between parameter-values and drying-conditions applied (Chen, 2002). Nonetheless, accurately describing and predicting kinetics of the drying-material, poses a significant challenge in the field of drying process-modelling.

Reliable and consistent models are crucial for the precise assessment and prediction of drying durations and rates (Coumans, 2000). The kinetics of the drying are heavily affected by factors such as the temperature of the air and the physical-dimensions of the substances (Kiranoudis et al., 1997; Krokida et al., 2003). The drying-rate constants are calculable independently of the food material's shape or its varying dimensions during the drying-process (Simal et al., 2005; Rapusas and Driscoll, 1995). It investigates the mechanisms of transferring heat and mass, and examines the effects of various process-parameters on the dehydration-process. The quantification of this constant is achieved through experimental studies that monitor the reduction in moisture-levels over time, under different drying-environments (Krokida et al., 2004).

The rate at which drying occurs is governed by factors that control the transfer-mechanisms. These include the vapour-pressure within the material and the surrounding-air, the speed and temperature of the air, the rate at which water moves within the material, and the material's thickness and drying surface-area (El-Aouar et al., 2003). Moreover, different product types have their unique drying-characteristics (Belghit et al., 2000). The drying-curves refers to charts that illustrate how the average moisture-contents change with times, or how the drying-rates vary with the average moisture-contents (Jannot, 2004). Various drying techniques and systems, such as solar, traditional hot-air, or hybrid methods, are employed to dehydrate agricultural and food products.

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Numerous thin-layer drying models exist to characterize the drying-behavior of these materials. Researchers in a study introduced 34 thin-layer drying mathematical-models, commonly applied to fit the performance of foods and agricultural products (Inyang, et al., 2018). Two-term-Gaussian-model is found the best to fit the two-phase olive-pomace greenhouse-drying (Mellalou et al., 2023). Mugi and Chandramohan, used solar-dryers to dry guava-slices, and found that Page models are the best models to describe the drying-curves (Mugi and Chandramohan, 2022). Midilli-kucuk model is found the best fitted to thin-layer drying of the Rosemary-leaves, red-chilli solar-drying, and groundnut drying (Mghazli et al., 2017; Ekka and Palanisamy, 2020; Shimpay et al., 2022). The drying-curves of the mangoes are well described by the Approximation-of-diffusion and Two-term drying models (Dissa et al., 2011). Orange-slices drying-curves are fitted by Modified-Henderson and Pabis models (Atalay, 2019). Weibull, and Two-term exponential-models best fitted the Stevia-leaves drying (Télléz, et al., 2018). Page model represented apple-drying (Yuan et al., 2019, Lingayat et al., 2020), and apple-slices microwave-vacuum drying (Polat et al., 2019), while Midilli et al. model performed well for watermelon-drying (Lingayat et al., 2020). Modified Henderson model explained the drying characteristics of tomato-pieces, under mixed solar-dryer, while Pabis model explained the indirect-solar-dryer behavior (César et al., 2020). Page & Modified-Page, models described the drying-kinetics of garlic-slices (Engin and Tulek, 2014). The logarithmic model is the best drying-model for open-sun drying of gooseberry-slices (Patel et al., 2023).

To prove the reliability of established drying-models, the calculated moisture-content values (predicted by the model), are compared with measured (experimental) values (Simal et al., 2005; Midilli et al., 2002; Togrul and Pehlivan, 2003). As well, the residuals are analysed against the model's predicted values (Imad, 2010b; Keller, 2001; Spatz, 2001). In the first part of this study, statistical-analysis demonstrated that the Modified-Page II model performed better than other models. Hence, the goals of this work are to evaluate and validate the developed Modified-Page II model, for thin-layer drying of Cut-Roselle (*Hibiscus sabdariffa* L.), and to examine the impacts of the drying-conditions on the drying-rates, drying-constant, and model-parameters.

2. MATHEMATICAL-MODELLING

Experiments on thin-layer drying of Cut-Roselle are conducted in a Constant-Temperature and Humidity-Chamber. The experiments and the utilized equipment are detailed in first part of the study. Additionally, mathematical-modelling for the drying-experiments is provided. Twelve thin-layer drying models are fitted to the experimental-data using the non-linear regression-method with the least-squares Levenberg-Marquardt procedure (Doymaz, 2007; Saeed et al., 2008a; Suherman et al., 2012; Taskin et al., 2021). And compared using goodness-of-fit statistical-measures (Imad, 2010b; Inyang et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2023). The results showed the power of the Modified-Page II model to best describe the drying-performance of the Cut-Roselle. The basic formulae that describe the moisture-contents, drying-rate, statistical-parameters, and thin-layer drying-model, are given by:

Moisture-content, dry-basis (MC_{db}) (Mugi and Chandramohan, 2022; Joshy et al., 2021, Kipcak and Doymaz, 2020):

$$MC_{db} = \frac{W_w}{W_d} \cdot 100 \quad (1)$$

Moisture-ratio (MR) (Kipcak and Doymaz, 2020; Izli et al., 2018; Jayasuriya et al., 2023):

$$MR = (M - M_e) / (M_0 - M_e) \quad (2)$$

Drying-rate (DR) (Engin and Tulek, 2014; Jayasuriya et al., 2023; Saeed et al., 2012):

$$DR = (M_{(t+dt)} - M_t) / dt \quad (3)$$

Residual MR (MR_{Resid}) (Saeed et al., 2008b; Tahir, 2008; Imad, 2010b):

$$MR_{Residual} = MR_{Observed} - MR_{Predicted} \quad (4)$$

Coefficient-of-determination (R^2) (Joshy et al., 2021; Jayasuriya et al., 2023; Ismail and Kocabay, 2018):

$$R^2 = SSR / SST = 1 - SSE / SST \quad (5)$$

Adjusted- R^2 (AR^2) (Spatz, 2001; Tahir, 2008; Keller, 2001):

$$AR^2 = 1 - [SSE / (df_{error})] / [SST / (df_{total})] \quad (6)$$

Error (residual) sum of squares (SSE) (Saeed et al., 2008a; Tahir, 2008; Imad, 2010a):

$$SSE = \sum_{i=1}^N (MR_{exp,i} - MR_{cal,i})^2 \quad (7)$$

Standard-error of estimate (SEE) (Saeed, et al. 2008a; Tahir, 2008; Imad, 2010a):

$$SEE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (MR_{exp,i} - MR_{cal,i})^2}{(N - n_p)} \quad (8)$$

Reduced-sum sq-error ($RSSE$) (Engin and Tulek, 2014; Imad, 2010a; Tahir, 2008):

$$RSSE = \sum_{i=1}^N (MR_{exp,i} - MR_{cal,i})^2 / (N) \quad (9)$$

Root-mean sq-error ($RMSE$) (Joshy et al., 2021; Jayasuriya et al., 2023; Ingle et al., 2022):

$$RMSE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (MR_{exp,i} - MR_{cal,i})^2}{(N)} \quad (10)$$

Mean-sum of sq-errors (MSE) (Kingsly and Singh, 2007; Imad, 2010a; Tahir, 2008), or reduced chi-square (χ^2) (Joshy et al., 2021; Jayasuriya et al., 2023; Ingle et al., 2022):

$$MSE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (MR_{exp,i} - MR_{cal,i})^2}{(N - n_p)} \quad (11)$$

Arrhenius-equations: Eq.12 (Gupta et al., 2002; Sogi et al., 2003; Tahir, 2008) and Equation 13 (Tarigan, 2007; Azzouz et al., 2002; Shivhare et al., 2000):

$$k = k_0 \text{Exp}(-E_0 / RT) \quad (12)$$

$$k = A_0 \text{Exp}(-B/T) \quad (13)$$

Modified-Page II is given as (Buzrul, 2022; Imad, 2010a; Dasore et al., 2019):

$$MR = \exp(-k(t/L^2)^n) \quad (14)$$

3. RESULTS & DISCUSSIONS

As shown in Part-I of this study, the drying-temperature is the primary factor influenced the drying-kinetics of Cut-Roselle, with increased temperature significantly reduced the drying-time. This effect is also shown by many studies (Soysal et al., 2006; Wang et al., 2007; Therdtai, and Zhou, 2009). Conversely, air-humidity had a lesser effect on the drying-process. A statistical-analysis is performed, and a comparison among twelve drying-models is conducted to select the most-accurate model for the drying-curves. Dimensionless moisture-ratio (MR) is used to quantify the moisture-content (Thuy et al. 2023; Inyang, et al., 2018; Saeed, et al., 2008a; Imad, 2010a). The predicted (or theoretical) MR by the Modified-Page II model and the observed (experimental) MR are plotted against drying-time, and shown in Figure 1 to Figure 4 (Chabane and Adouane, 2018). It is obvious that the model predicted-well the drying-curves of Cut-Roselle, as the data-points of the observed-moisture and predicted-moisture are frequently, matching. Furthermore, the statistical-measures, i.e., R^2 , AR^2 , SSE , SEE , $RSSE$, $RMSE$, and MSE , are shown in Tables 1 to 4. These values are better than or agreed well with data found in the literature. For instance, gooseberry-slices drying (open-sun process) yielded an R^2 of 0.9976 and an $RMSE$ of 0.01255 (Patel et al., 2023). While solar drying of Amelie and Brooks varieties of mangoes resulted in R^2 values of 0.989 and 0.992, respectively, with an $RMSE$ of less than or equal to 0.0283 (Dissa et al., 2011). Researcher found values for $R^2=0.9993$, $RMSE=0.0114$, $MSE=0.0001$, $RSSE=0.00014$, in the hot-air-drying, and values for $R^2=0.9992$, $RMSE=0.0104$, $RSSE=0.00011$, $MSE=0.00012$, in solar-drying of Roselle (Tahir, 2008). The mixed solar-drying of tomato-slices showed an R^2 of 0.9888, and $RMSE=0.0027$, while,

indirect solar-drying showed an R^2 of 0.9996, with an RMSE of 0.008 (César et al., 2020). A study in 2023 found an R^2 of 0.998 and an RMSE of 0.00023, for Roselle-seeds dried at 70°C, and an R^2 of 0.996 for drying at 55°C (Thuy et al., 2023). In the study by researchers in 2021, on drying of

scint-leaf and lemon-basil leaf, they found values for R as 0.9998 and 0.9961, and for SSE as 0.0002 and 0.0034, and for RMSE of 0.0081 and 0.0222, respectively (Mbegbu et al., 2021).

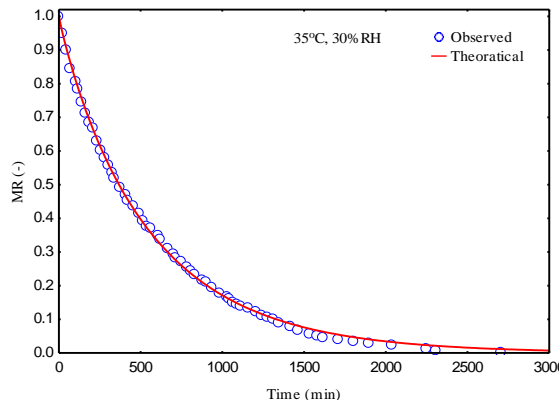


Figure 1a: MR vs. time (35°C, 30%RH)

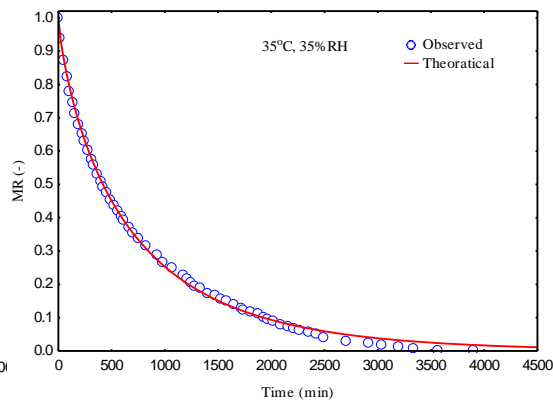


Figure 1b: MR vs. time (35°C, 35%RH)

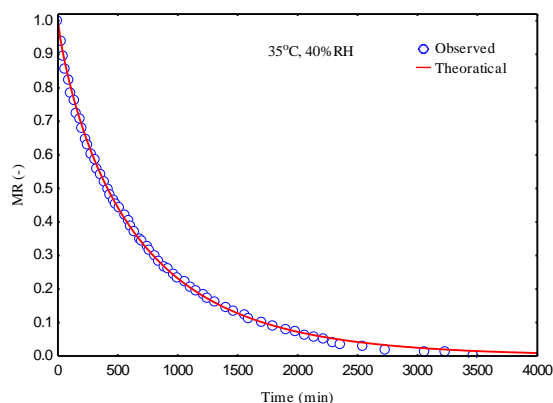


Figure 1c: MR vs. time (35°C, 40%RH)

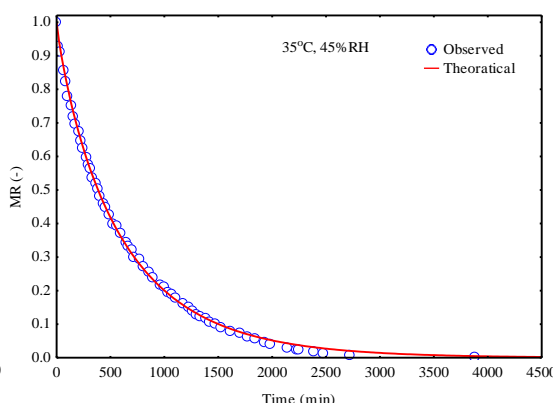


Figure 1d: MR vs. time (35°C, 45%RH)

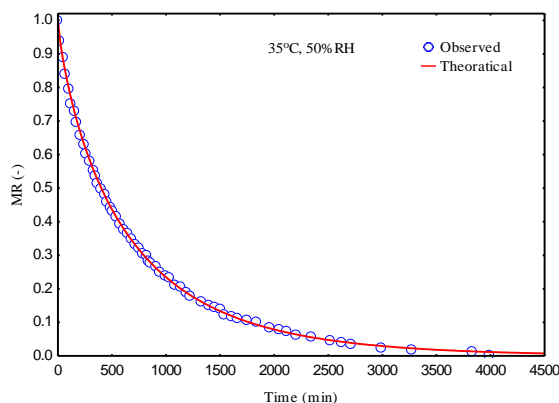


Figure 1e: MR vs. time (35°C, 50%RH)

Table 1: Statistical – Measures at 35°C

RH	R^2	SSE	SEE	RSSE	RMSE	MSE
30	0.9996	0.0047	0.0091	0.00008	0.0089	0.0001
35	0.9994	0.0064	0.0106	0.00011	0.0103	0.0001
40	0.9998	0.0022	0.0063	0.00004	0.0061	0.0000
45	0.9997	0.0035	0.0078	0.00006	0.0076	0.0001
50	0.9999	0.0007	0.0035	0.00001	0.0035	0.0000

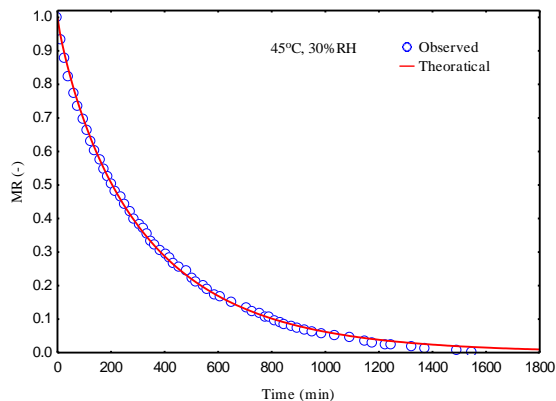


Figure 2a: MR vs. time (45°C,30%RH)

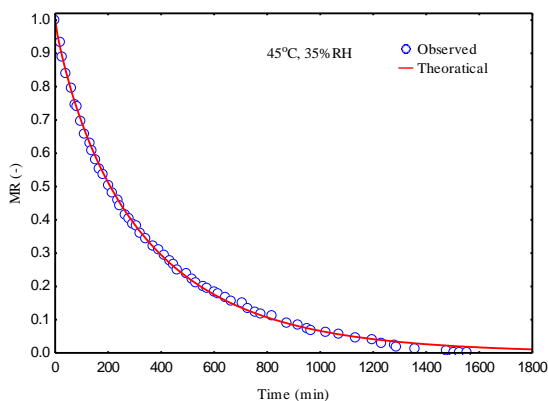


Figure 2b: MR vs. time (45°C,35%RH)

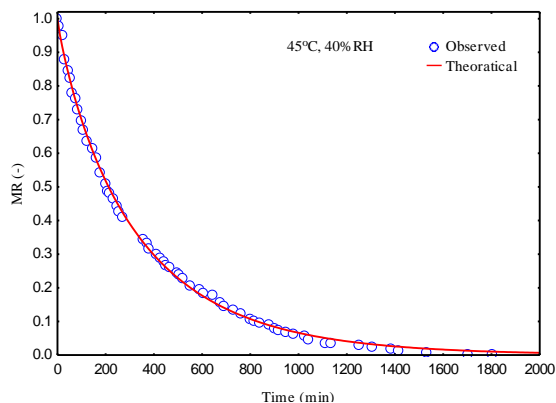


Figure 2c: MR vs. time (45°C,40%RH)

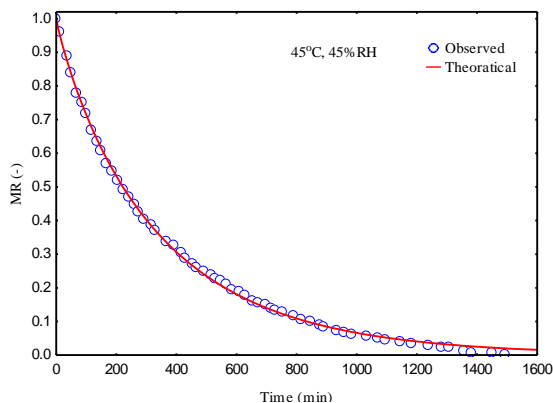


Figure 2d: MR vs. time (45°C,45%RH)

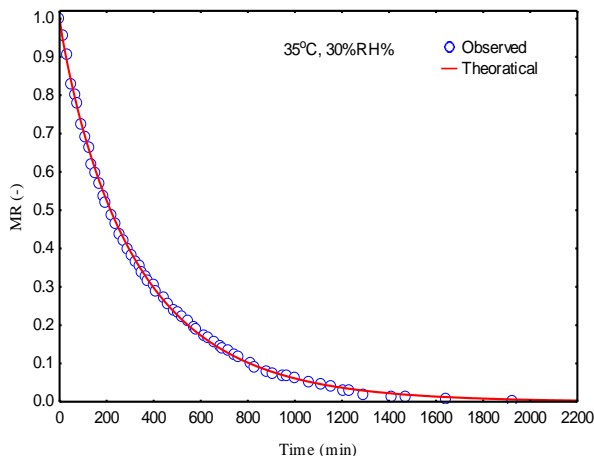


Figure 2e: MR vs. time (45°C,50%RH)

Table 2: Statistical- Measures at 45 °C

RH	R ²	SSE	SEE	RSSE	RMSE	MSE
30	0.9996	0.0037	0.0081	0.00006	0.0079	0.0001
35	0.9996	0.0044	0.0088	0.00007	0.0085	0.0001
40	0.9994	0.0073	0.0113	0.00012	0.0110	0.0001
45	0.9996	0.0041	0.0085	0.00007	0.0082	0.0001
50	0.9997	0.0030	0.0072	0.00005	0.0071	0.0001

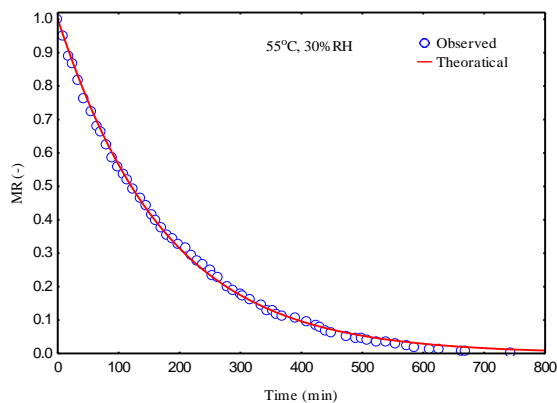


Figure 3a: MR vs. time (55°C,30%RH)

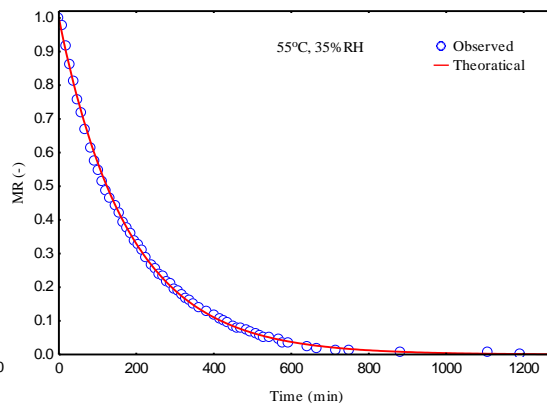


Figure 3b: MR vs. time (55°C,35%RH)

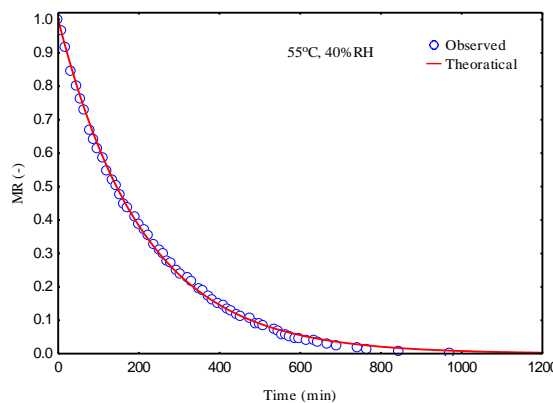


Figure 3c: MR vs. time (55°C,40%RH)

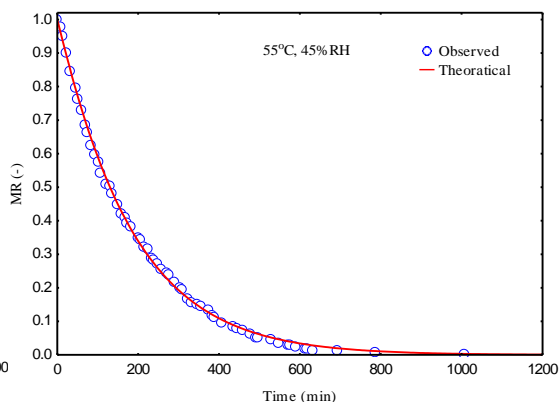


Figure 3d: MR vs. time (55°C,45%RH)

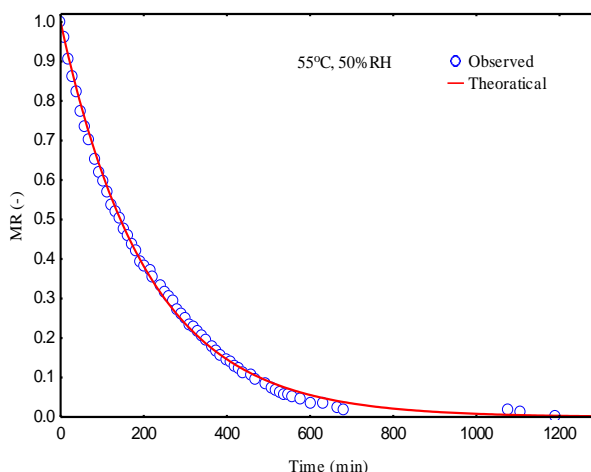


Figure 3e: MR vs. time (55°C,50%RH)

Table 3: Statistical-Measures at 55 °C

RH	R ²	SSE	SEE	RSSE	RMSE	MSE
30	0.9995	0.0049	0.0092	0.00008	0.0090	0.0001
35	0.9996	0.0035	0.0079	0.00006	0.0077	0.0001
40	0.9996	0.0042	0.0085	0.00007	0.0083	0.0001
45	0.9994	0.0072	0.0112	0.00012	0.0109	0.0001
50	0.9993	0.0070	0.0111	0.00012	0.0108	0.0001

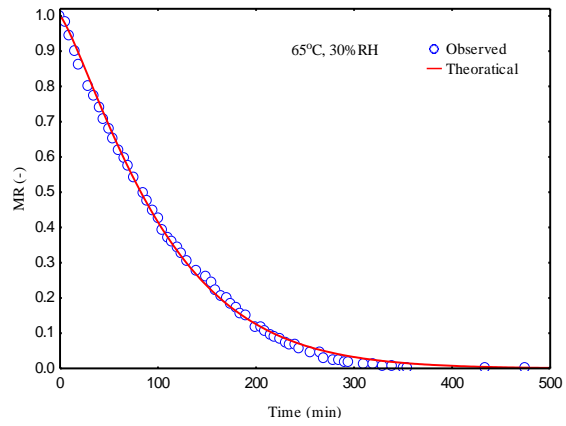


Figure 4a: MR vs. time (65°C,30%RH)

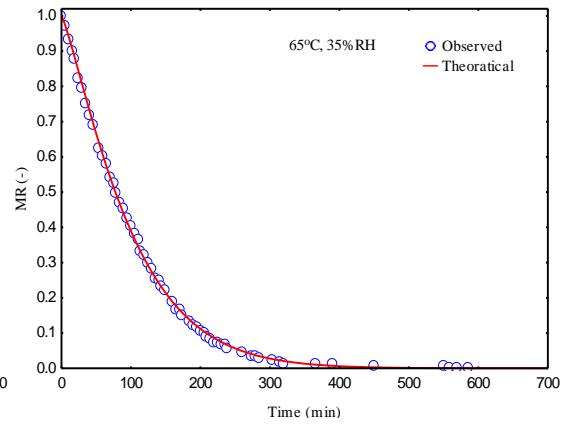


Figure 4b: MR vs. time (65°C,35%RH)

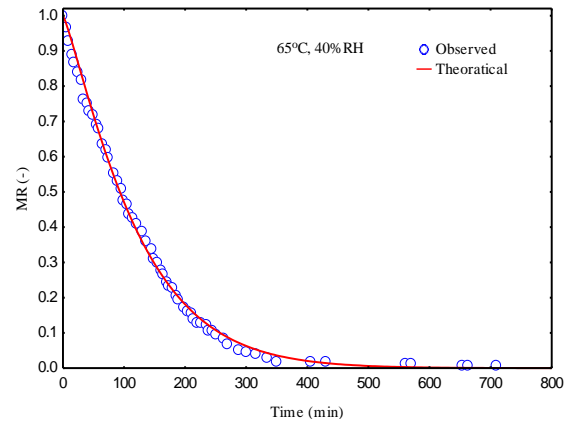


Figure 4c: MR vs. time (65°C,40%RH)

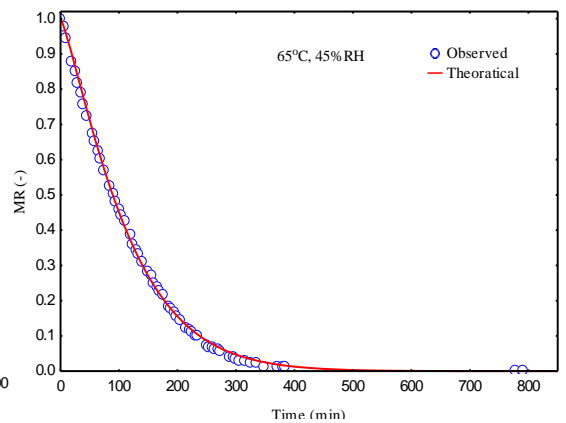


Figure 4d: MR vs. time (65°C,45%RH)

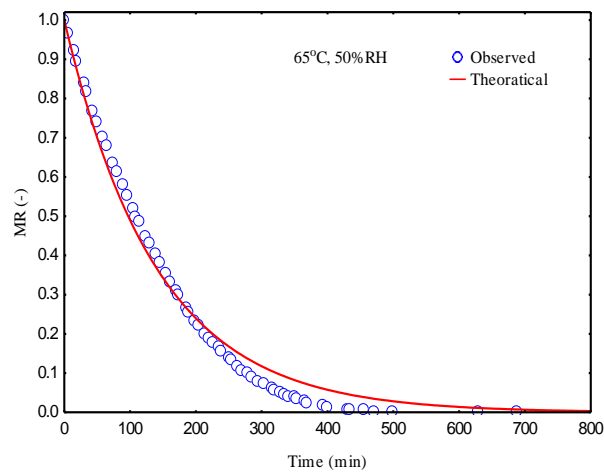


Figure 4e: MR vs. time (65°C,50%RH)

Table 4: Statistical-Measures at 65 °C

RH	R ²	SSE	SEE	RSSE	RMSE	MSE
30	0.9991	0.0097	0.0130	0.00016	0.0127	0.0002
35	0.9996	0.0045	0.0089	0.00007	0.0086	0.0001
40	0.9989	0.0148	0.0161	0.00025	0.0157	0.0003
45	0.9995	0.0055	0.0098	0.00009	0.0096	0.0001
50	0.9990	0.0108	0.0137	0.00018	0.0134	0.0002

3.1 Drying-Rate (DR)

Figure 5 illustrates how the drying-rate (DR) is correlated with the moisture-ratio (MR) in different drying-settings (Chabane and Adouane, 2018; Imad, 2010a). Initially, drying-process of Cut-Roselle showed a rapid decrease in moisture-content, which accelerated as the temperature is increased from 35°C to 65°C, and then slowed down as the drying neared completion and as moisture-level is reduced. Apparently, the drying-rate is higher when there is more moisture existent, which aligns with observations made by other studies (Saeed, et al., 2008b; Ingle et al., 2022). As drying continues, the rate gradually reduced to nearly-zero, reflecting the reduced-moisture in the Cut-Roselle and the minimal water-extraction. Notably, the drying-temperature is substantially, impacted the drying-rate of Cut-Roselle, with the rate increased as the temperature raised (35 - 65°C). This observation is in agreement with the results from other drying studies, like okra, Roselle hot-air drying, pumpkin-slices drying, and Roselle solar-drying (Doymaz, 2005; Saeed, et al., 2008a; Doymaz, 2007; Imad, 2010a).

The moisture content during the initial drying-phase is high, leading to increased heat-absorption and faster-drying rates due to enhanced moisture-diffusion. However, as the drying process continued, the reduction in moisture-content resulted in decreased heat-absorption and a subsequent decline in the drying-rate (Ingle et al., 2022). Using high-temperatures for drying results in greater moisture-diffusivity and creates a significant deficit in water vapour-pressure, which drives the drying-process. Gentle heating also promotes faster movement of water within the product (Kouhila et al., 2002). The rise in drying-temperature boosts the rate at which heat is delivered to the product, leading to quicker internal-water movement, especially at elevated-temperatures (Krokida et al., 2004 Kouhila et al., 2002; Belghit et al., 2000). Elevated-temperatures during the drying-process lead to increased drying-rates for the same level of water-content, resulting in a more rapid-reduction of moisture in Cut-Roselle. This phenomenon is supported by various studies

(Lahsani et al.,2004b; Kouhila et al., 2002; Belghit et al., 2000). Furthermore, it is consistently observed that higher drying-air temperatures significantly shorten the drying-time for Cut-Roselle, as it observed by others (Saeed et al., 2008a). The air's ability to retain moisture rises with temperature. However, if the relative-humidity of the air increases while the temperature remains the same, the drying-speed of Cut-Roselle slows down; which is consistent with results from other studies (Saeed et al., 2008a; Doymaz and Pala, 2002). Yet, the impact of humidity is significantly less than the effect of air-temperature (Saeed et al.2008a). It has been noted that during drying, certain crops may develop a crusty/hard outer-layer, that blocks further moisture-loss if the drying occurs too-quickly (Ekechukwu and Norton, 1999).

Researchers noted that Roselle calyxes are coated with a natural-wax that largely, hinders moisture movement from inside to the drying-air (Janjai and Tung, 2005). Once the surface-wax dried and cracked, it allowed some of the internal-moisture to escape. Towards, end-of-drying, the rate diminishes considerably due to the minimal moisture-content difference. Generally, at the commencement of drying, the internal water-movement to the surface is not as rapid as the evaporation-rate, leading to an increasingly dry-surface. Under the conditions applied, the drying of Cut-Roselle took-place exclusively, in the falling-rate-period (Mbegbu, et al., 2021; Togrul and Pehlivan, 2003). During the falling-rate phase of drying, the process is controlled by the diffusion of water within the solid. This intricate process includes the movement of water as both a liquid and a vapour, typically described through a concept known as effective-diffusivity (Lahsani et al., 2004b). The average drying-rates for different moisture-ratio intervals as: (1.00-0.90), (0.90-0.50), (0.50-0.20), (0.20-0.10), (0.10-0.05), (0.05-0.02), (0.02-0.01), and (0.01-0.00), which are related and characterised (0.0-10%), (10-50%), (50-80%), (80-90%), (90-95%), (95-98%), (98-99%) and (99-100%), of drying-process, are shown, at fixed-temperature and fixed-RH, in Figure 6a and 6b, respectively.

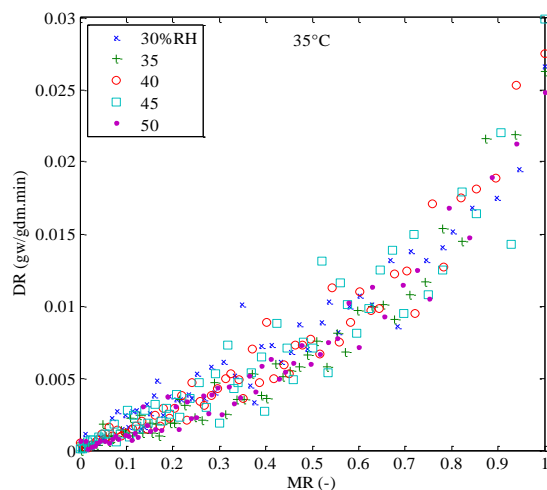


Figure 5a: DR vs. MR (35°C:30-50%RH)

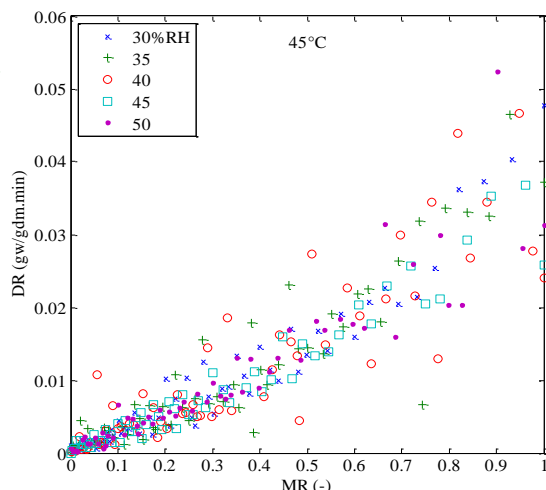


Figure 5b: DR vs. MR (45°C:30-50%RH)

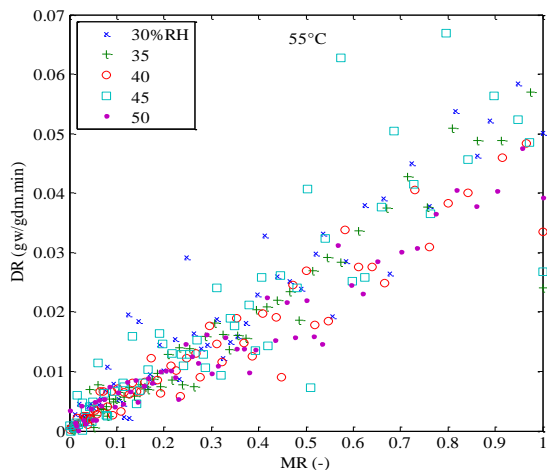


Figure 5c: DR vs. MR (55°C:30-50%RH)

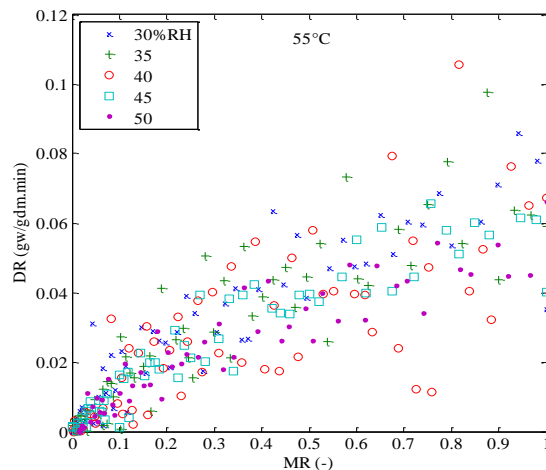


Figure 5d: DR vs. MR (65°C:30-50%RH)

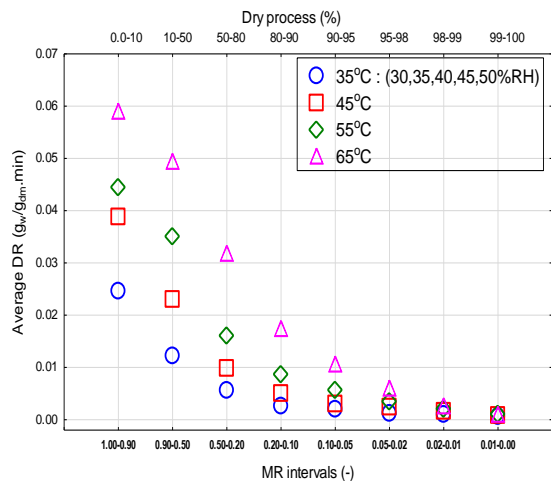


Figure 6a: DR vs. MR intervals (Fixed-T)

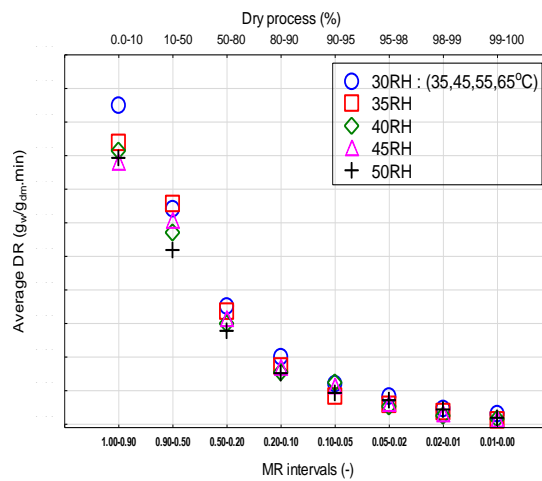


Figure 6b: DR vs. MR intervals (Fixed-RH)

3.2 Drying-Coefficients

3.2.1 Drying-Constant (k)

The rate-constant of the drying (*k*) can be defined by means of the thin-layer-equation. The scarceness of literature on the drying-constant (*k*) is attributed to the variability in the composition of materials and the conditions under which experiments are conducted, as noted by (Krokida et al., 2004). The mean-value of the drying-constant (*k*), as calculated using the Modified-Page II model under different conditions of drying-air, is 0.00343 (min⁻¹). As shown in Table 5, the drying-rate constant for Cut-Roselle is considerably, effected by temperature of the drying-air, with a p-value of 0.001. This correlation is supported by findings from other

research, including works by (Imad, 2010b; Saeed, et al., 2008b).The drying-constant (*k*), generally, exhibited a decrease form when the temperature is raised, as depicted in Figure 7a. Similar results are shown by (Soysal, et al., 2006; Overhults et al., 1973). Conversely, the relative-humidity of the drying-air had a less-significant effect on the drying-constant (*k*), with a p-value of 0.449, as indicated in Table 6. The constant (*k*) declined when the relative-humidity is raised from 30% to 50%, shown in Figure 7b. Additionally, the mean-values of (*k*) are lower than those predicted by this model for some agricultural-products, for instance, (*k*) equals 0.0338 according to Wang et al. (2007), *k*=0.01096 as found by Gunhan et al. (2005), and *k*=0.024520 as reported by Tahir (2008), *k*=0.00618 as in Imad, (2010b).

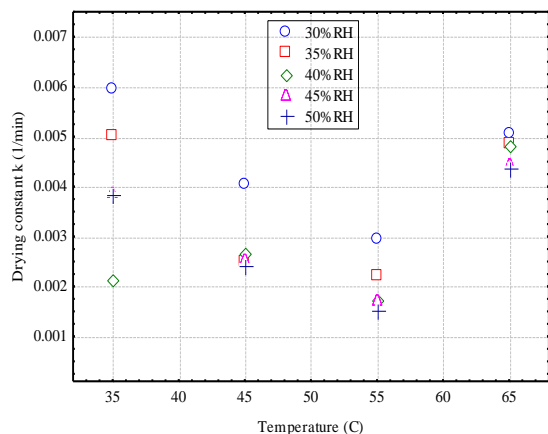


Figure 7a: Drying-constant (k) vs. temperature

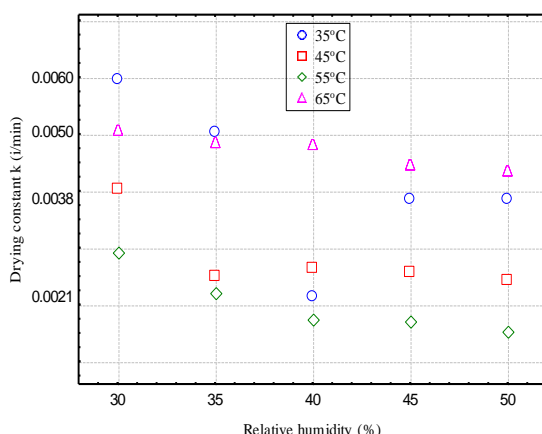


Figure 7b: Drying-constant (k) vs. RH

Table 5: One-way ANOVA: Drying-constant (k) vs Temperature

Source	DF	SS	MS	F	P
Temp	3	0.0000226	0.0000075	10.19	0.001
Error	16	0.0000118	0.0000007		
Total	19	0.0000345			

S = 0.0008603 R-Sq = 65.65% R-Sq(adj) = 59.21%

Individual 95% CIs For Mean Based on Pooled StDev

Level	N	Mean	StDev	-----+-----+-----+-----
35	5	0.0041692	0.0014476	(-----*-----)
45	5	0.0028286	0.0006800	(-----*-----)
55	5	0.0020246	0.0005662	(-----*-----)
65	5	0.0047120	0.0002861	(-----*-----)

+-----+-----+-----+-----

0.0012 0.0024 0.0036 0.0048

Pooled StDev = 0.0008603

Table 6: One-way ANOVA: Drying-constant (k) vs Temperature

Source	DF	SS	MS	F	P
RH	4	0.0000071	0.0000018	0.98	0.449
Error	15	0.0000273	0.0000018		
Total	19	0.0000345			
S = 0.001350 R-Sq = 20.68% R-Sq(adj) = 0.00%					
Individual 95% CIs For Mean Based on Pooled StDev					
Level	N	Mean	StDev		
30	4	0.004500	0.001311	(-----*-----)	
35	4	0.003650	0.001502	(------*-----)	
40	4	0.002833	0.001375	(-----*-----)	
45	4	0.003151	0.001247	(-----*-----)	
50	4	0.003035	0.001302	(-----*-----)	
				0.0024	0.0036 0.0048 0.0060
Pooled StDev = 0.001350					

The rate-constant of the drying *k*, may be expressed using a type of Arrhenius-equation, and absolute-temperature. This association is

characterised by equation (12) and equation (13). The correlation and the fitting process outcomes are presented in Table 7.

Table 7: Arrhenius-equation			
Formula	R ²	p-value	Eq.
$k = (340.127) * exp(-(0.0000000145)/(0.000000395 * T))$	0.9984688	0.00	12
$k = (343.617) * exp(-(0.03677)/T)$	0.9984695	0.00	13

The graphs that embody these Arrhenius equations (Equation 12 and Equation 13) and drying-constant as function of the inverse-absolute temperature (K), are given in Figure 8. The fitting resulted in an R² values of 0.9985 and 0.9985, for Equation 12 and Equation 13, respectively. The

R² values are greater than those found in former research on various produces, for instances, R²= 0.995 and 0.997 as in Tahir (2008), R²= 0.976 and R²= 0.980: stored-unshelled candle-nuts, and fresh-nuts drying (Tarigan et al., 2007).

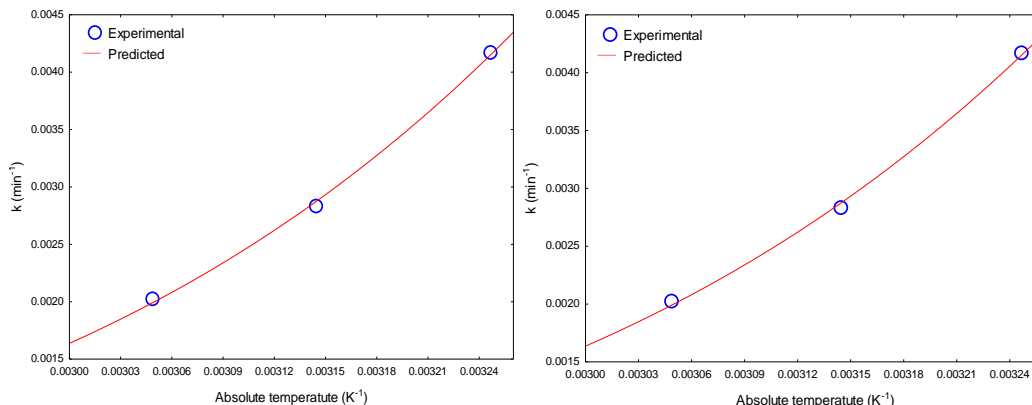


Figure 8: Drying-constant vs. Inverse Absolute-Temperature (1/K)

(left: Equation 12 and right: Equation 13)

3.2.2 Drying-Parameter (L)

Figures 9a and 9b illustrate the relationship between the drying-coefficient (L) and both the drying-temperature and relative-humidity, respectively. The Modified-Page Model II showed an average drying-coefficient (L) of (-0.87306). This coefficient typically, demonstrates a direct-correlation with the temperature, showing a significant impact (p-

value =0.000), as presented in Table 8. Conversely, relative humidity's influence on this drying-coefficient is not substantial (p-value =0.704), as given in Table 9. Additionally, the values of (L) align with those reported in the existing literature for various agri-products, e.g., L=3.8498 as noted by Wang et al. (2007), L=-2.3921 as found by Saeed et al. (2008a), L= -2.08952 as reported by Tahir (2008).

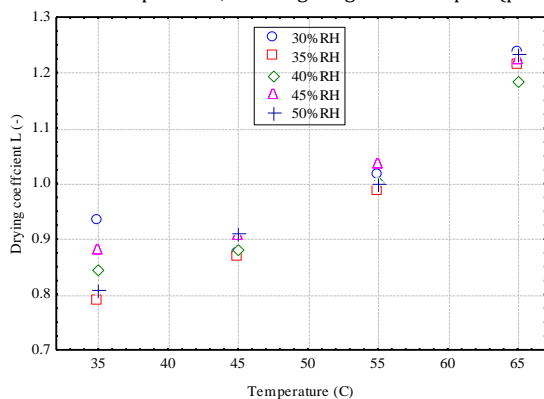


Figure 9a: Coefficient (L) vs. T (°C)

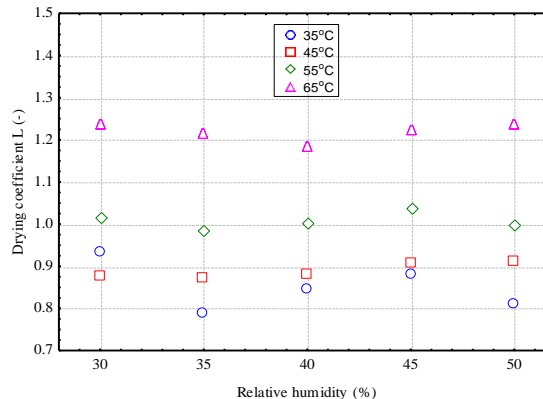


Figure 9b: Coefficient (L) vs. RH (%)

Table 8: One-way ANOVA: Drying-Parameter (*L*) versus Temp

Source	DF	SS	MS	F	P
Temp	3	1.1950	0.3983	13.35	0.000
Error	16	0.4772	0.0298		
Total	19	1.6723			

S = 0.1727 R-Sq = 71.46% R-Sq(adj) = 66.11%

Individual 95% CIs For Mean Based on Pooled StDev

Level	N	Mean	StDev	CI
35	5	-0.9818	0.3230	(-----*-----)
45	5	-0.6566	0.0697	(-----*-----)
55	5	-0.6315	0.0695	(-----*-----)
65	5	-1.2223	0.0727	(-----*-----)

Pooled StDev = 0.1727

Table 9: One-way ANOVA: Drying-Parameter (*L*) versus RH

Source	DF	SS	MS	F	P
RH	4	0.2128	0.0532	0.55	0.704
Error	15	1.4595	0.0973		
Total	19	1.6723			

S = 0.3119 R-Sq = 12.72% R-Sq(adj) = 0.00%

Individual 95% CIs For Mean Based on Pooled StDev

Level	N	Mean	StDev	CI
30	4	-1.0634	0.3762	(-----*-----)
35	4	-0.8040	0.2700	(-----*-----)
40	4	-0.7685	0.2772	(-----*-----)
45	4	-0.8884	0.2775	(-----*-----)
50	4	-0.8410	0.3439	(-----*-----)

Pooled StDev = 0.3119

3.2.3 Drying-Parameter (*n*)

Figures 10a and 10b demonstrate the impact of temperatures and relative-humidity on the drying-coefficient (*n*). The mean-value of (*n*) is found to be =0.99219. This coefficient is substantially, influenced by the drying-temperature, with a p-value of (0.000), as indicated in Table 10. The (*n*) values tend to rise with the increase in drying-temperature (maintaining a constant relative-humidity), between 35 to 55°C, similar results are shown by (Overhults et al., 1973). On the contrary, changes in relative-humidity do not significantly alter (*n*) when the temperature is held

steady, with a p-value of (0.990), as shown in Table 11. Additionally, the observed values of (*n*) are within the range predicted by this Model for drying various agricultural products. For instance, the values of (*n*) reported in previous studies include: 1.01729 by (56), 1.5974 by Tahir (2008), 1.226754 by Gunhan et al., (2005), and 0.992678 by Saeed et al., (2008a). It's important to notice that the drying-parameters (*k*), (*L*), and (*n*) of the Modified-Page II model, do not exhibited uniform behaviour; this is in line with the findings of researchers, who acknowledged that, it's not mandatory for all-coefficients to increase or decrease in similarity (Jayas et al., 1991).

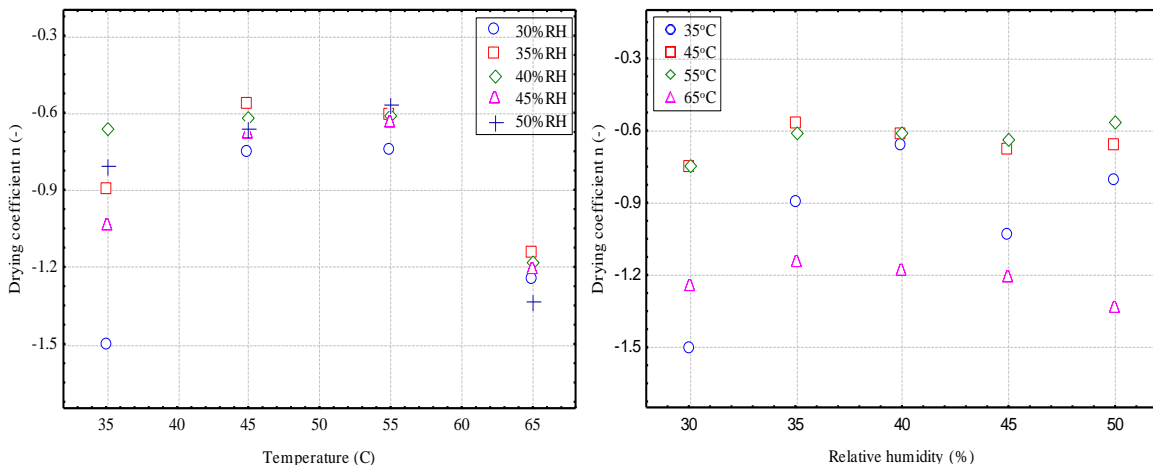


Figure 10a: Coefficient (*n*) vs. temperature (°C) **Figure 10b:** Coeff. (*n*) vs. relative humidity (%)

Table 10: Moisture-Ratio (MR) and Drying-Time											
Drying Process (%)	MR (-)	RH%									
		30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%
		35°C					45°C				
0.0	1.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
10	0.90	45	45	45	50	45	25	25	30	30	35
50	0.50	365	420	415	385	400	210	205	200	215	215
80	0.20	920	1265	1145	1030	1145	545	560	555	575	550
90	0.10	1310	1910	1710	1515	1785	800	855	820	845	810
95	0.05	1570	2430	2185	1890	2480	1045	1075	1030	1065	1065
98	0.02	2045	3015	2740	2265	3150	1245	1280	1335	1305	1270
99	0.01	2295	3250	3160	2590	3935	1410	1355	1475	1375	1475
End	0.00	2705	3900	3475	3885	3945	1550	1555	1805	1495	1925
		55°C					65°C				
0.0	1.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0.90	15	20	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	20
50	0.50	120	120	145	130	145	80	75	95	90	110
80	0.20	280	290	340	300	340	165	150	185	180	210
90	0.10	390	420	475	405	465	210	205	245	235	275
95	0.05	475	530	575	485	555	250	240	290	285	330
98	0.02	575	640	725	585	665	285	290	335	335	375
99	0.01	615	720	765	675	1165	320	365	560	385	425
End	0.00	745	1190	970	1010	1190	475	585	710	790	690

Table 11: One-way ANOVA: Drying Parameter (n) versus RH

Source	DF	SS	MS	F	P
RH	4	0.0078	0.0019	0.07	0.990
Error	15	0.4227	0.0282		
Total	19	0.4305			

S = 0.1679 R-Sq = 1.80% R-Sq(adj) = 0.00%

Individual 95% CIs For Mean Based on Pooled StDev

Level	N	Mean	StDev	-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
30	4	1.0158	0.1591	(-----*-----)
35	4	0.9648	0.1857	(-----*-----)
40	4	0.9784	0.1527	(-----*-----)
45	4	1.0129	0.1572	(-----*-----)
50	4	0.9890	0.1819	(-----*-----)

-----+-----+-----+-----+-----

0.84 0.96 1.08 1.20

Pooled StDev = 0.1679

3.3 Validation of Modified-Page II

To confirm the Modified-Page II drying-model, precision; the predicted/estimated MR is compared with the actual MR measured-data, as referenced in various studies (Midilli et al., 2002; Simal, et al.,2005, Togrul, and Pehlivan,2003; Imad, 2010a). Figure 11 illustrates the correlation between the predicted MR (MR_{pred}) and the observed MR (MR_{obs}) under varied drying situations. The data-points are evenly-distributed around the established linear-trend, signifying minimal-variance between the predicted and observed MR values. This uniform-distribution implies that the Modified-Page II model is highly effective in

representing the dynamics of the drying-process. Tables 12 and 13 examines the linearity-hypothesis, namely $y = Ax + B$, with the ideal scenario of $A=1$ and $B=0$; here $Y = MR_{predicted}$ and $x = MR_{observed}$. The hypothesis is tested at fixed-RH (Table12) and fixed-T (Table 13). In addition, the correlation-coefficient (r^2) values are also given. Using mean-values of the experimental-data, for T and RH , a hypothesis-testing formula is:

$$MR_{predicted} = 0.9958 * MR_{observed} + 0.0033$$

With, $r^2=0.9989$, the values for $A=0.9958$ which is very close to 1, while the value of $B=0.0033$ which is similarly close to zero.

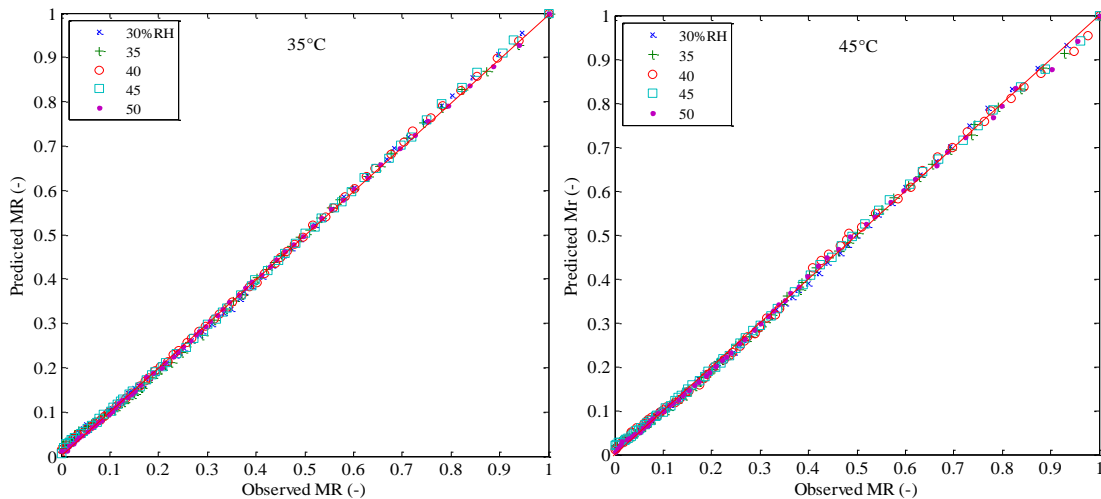


Figure 11a: MR_{pred} vs. MR_{obs} (35°C,30-50%RH) Figure 11b: MR_{pred} vs. MR_{obs} (45°C,30-50%RH)

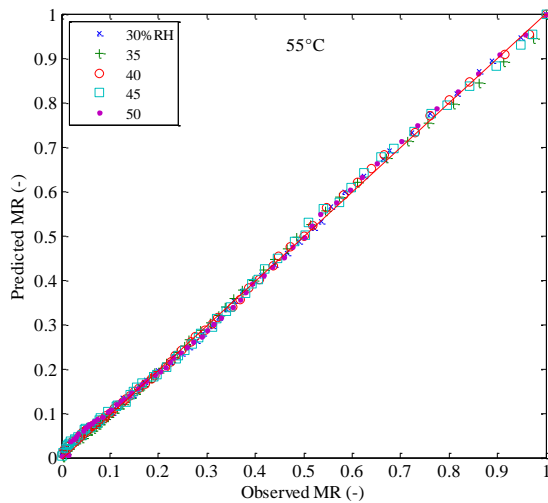


Figure 11c: MR_{pred} vs. MR_{obser} (55°C,30-50%RH)

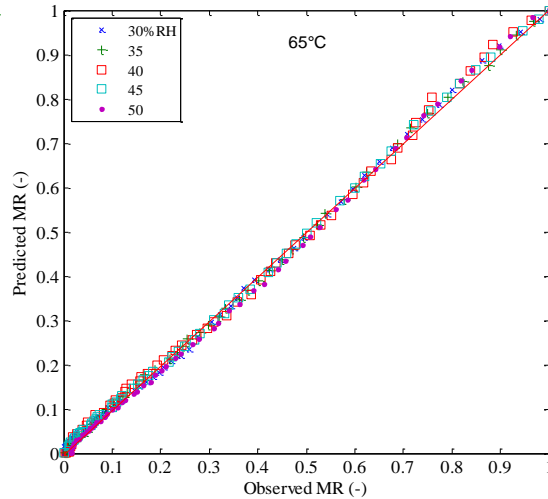


Figure 11d: MR_{pred} vs. MR_{obser} (65°C,30-50%RH)

Table 12: Hypothesis-Testing: $Y=Ax+B$; ($A=1$ & $B=0$); at Fixed-RH

RH%	Formulae	A	B	r ²
30	$MR_{pred}=0.997*MR_{obser}+0.003$	0.9968	0.0038	0.9989
35	$MR_{pred}=0.994*MR_{obser}+0.003$	0.9943	0.0029	0.9991
40	$MR_{pred}=0.996*MR_{obser}+0.003$	0.9960	0.0030	0.9987
45	$MR_{pred}=0.995*MR_{obser}+0.003$	0.9945	0.0038	0.9990
50	$MR_{pred}=0.997*MR_{obser}+0.003$	0.9973	0.0028	0.9990

Table 13: Hypothesis-Testing: $Y=Ax+B$; ($A=1$ & $B=0$); at Fixed-T

T°C	Formulae	A	B	r ²
35	$MR_{pred}=0.996*MR_{obser}+0.003$	0.9962	0.0031	0.9992
45	$MR_{pred}=0.992*MR_{obser}+0.004$	0.9922	0.0036	0.9991
55	$MR_{pred}=0.993*MR_{obser}+0.004$	0.9934	0.0036	0.9989
65	$MR_{pred}=1.001*MR_{obser}+0.003$	1.0012	0.0028	0.9985

The graphing of residuals against the predicted values from the model, serves as another method to confirm the Modified-Page II model precision, as showed by (Keller, 2001; Spatz, 2001). Figure 12 illustrates the residuals and predicted values derived from applying the Modified-Page II model to actual-data. The residuals are strewn-randomly around the zero-mark-line, which showed that the model accurately represented the data. There is no consistent negative or positive deviations in the residuals across most of the data-range, nor do the data-points showed any bias or form any discernible-patterns (Saeed et al., 2008b; Xanthopoulos et al., 2007). It showed that the Modified-Page II model is appropriate for adequately, characterizing the drying-performance of Cut-Roselle. Overall, the residuals plots confirmed the absence of systematic-errors. As seen in Table 13, the model, slightly more-accurate predicted

the Cut-Roselle drying-curves at lower temperatures (with an $r^2=0.9992$), compared to higher temperatures (with an $r^2=0.9985$). When drying at temperatures =35°C, the model initially underestimates the moisture content, then overestimates it when the moisture-ratio is between 0.9 and 0.5, underestimates again between 0.5 and 0.1, and finally overestimates towards the end of the drying-process. In drying with temperatures =65°C, the model overestimates the moisture-content at the beginning, underestimates between a moisture ratio of 0.7 and 0.2, overestimates from 0.2 to 0.09, and then underestimates from 0.9 until end-of drying-process. As a result of comparing the predicted-MR with actual-MR, and plotting the residuals vs. predicted values; the model's reliability in predicting the moisture-content of Cut-Roselle is thus validated.

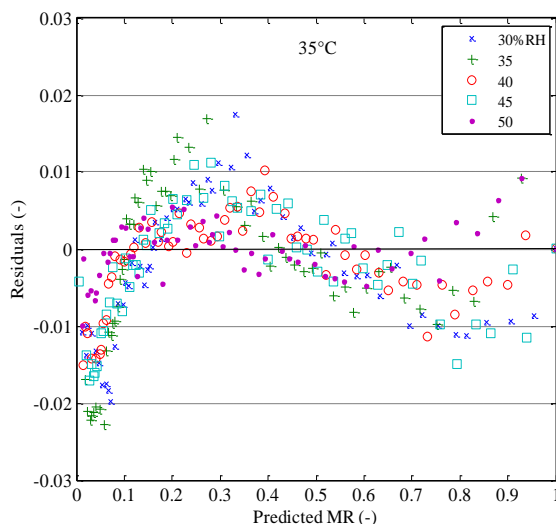


Figure 12a: Resid. vs. MR_{pred} 35°C(30-50%RH)

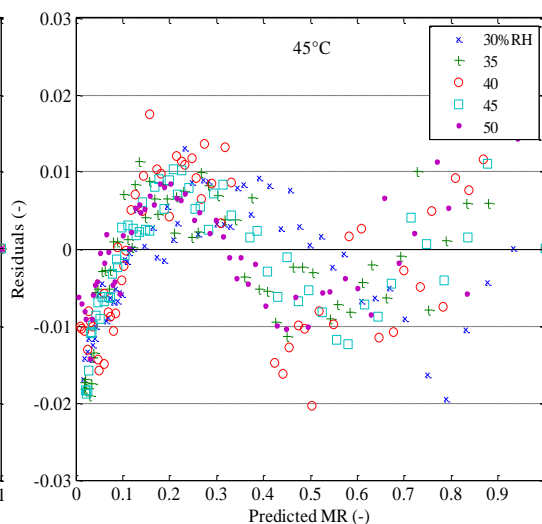


Figure 12b: Resid. vs. MR_{pred} 45°C(30-50%RH)

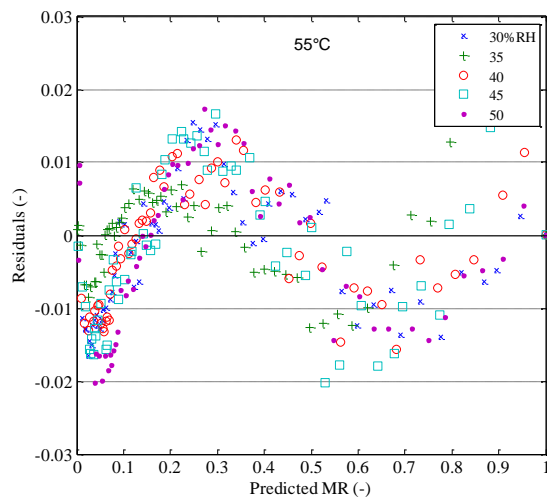


Figure 12c: Resid. vs. MR_{pred} 55°C(30-50%RH)

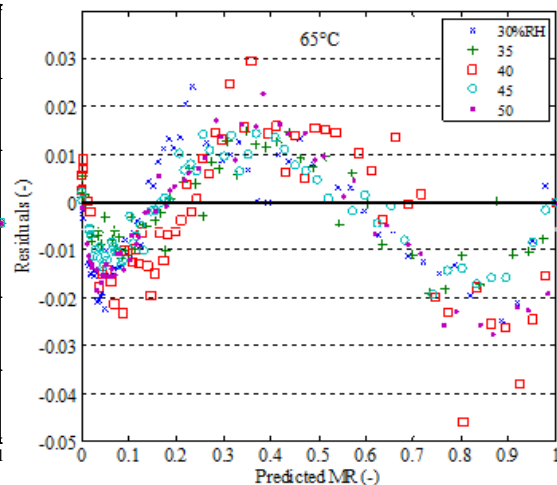


Figure 12: Resid. vs. MR_{pred} 65°C(30-50%RH)

A general-formula for Modified-Page II model, to compute the drying-characteristic of Cut-Roselle, adequately, with $R^2=0.99949$, is established as:

$$MR(k, l, n, t) = \frac{M - M_e}{M_o - M_e} = \exp(-0.00343(t - 0.87306^2)^{0.99219})$$

The constant and coefficients (k , l , and n) are correlated with drying-temperatures (35,45,55°C), such that:

$$k = 0.0078 - 0.0001 * T \quad (r^2=0.9796, p=0.0913)$$

$$l = -1.5448 + 0.0175 * T \quad (r^2=0.8034, p=0.2924)$$

$$n = 0.5623 + 0.0079 * T \quad (r^2=0.9170, p=0.1860)$$

4. CONCLUSIONS

This part of the study on controlled-environment drying of Cut-Roselle, provided a thorough-evaluation of Modified-Page II drying-model. The study also investigated the impact of drying-environments on the drying-rate and drying-coefficients. The experimental-data and analysis, showed that, the drying-process of Cut-Roselle occurs solely, in the falling-rate-period. The drying-rates are increased with temperature elevation from 35°C to 65°C, while an increase in air-humidity at a constant-temperature reduced the drying-rates. The influence of temperature on the drying-constant is significant, evidenced by a p-value of 0.001, whereas air relative-humidity exerted a less significant-impact, with a p-value of 0.449. The drying-parameter (L) showed a considerable sensitivity to temperature-variations ($p=0.000$) and is slightly, influenced as relative-humidity is changed with $p=0.704$. In a similar vein, the drying-coefficient (n) is noticeably affected by alterations in temperature ($p=0.000$), with relative-humidity also had a role, though to a slighter degree ($p=0.990$). The correlation between the predicted moisture-ratios with the experimental data, in addition to the residual-analysis against the predicted-values; functioned as standards in validating the Modified-Page II model. The results proved the model's accuracy in predicting the drying performance of Cut-Roselle within the specified drying-conditions.

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