
Preface

For 33 years, the French Association of Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis (AFCAT), have been organising annual meetings (JCAT) on principles, new developments and applications of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry (TAC) in collaboration with academic laboratories.

Investigations of bio-molecules and results of bio-industries have been in focus of JCAT at least 5 sessions among several ones in course of the last years:

1973 (Caen)
1982 (Geneva-CH)
1985 (Montpellier)
1988 (Lille)
1992 (Compiègne)
1994 (Clermont-Ferrand)
1995 (Marseilles)
1998 (Bâle-CH)
2002 (ENSIA-Massy).

At the last conference, compared to the previous meetings, more attention was devoted to characterization of food systems by TAC.

It is noteworthy to outline that an impressive increase in the number of papers published on food systems implying DSC took place in the last 30 years:

120 papers (1970–1979)
404 papers (1980–1989)
1205 (1990–2000).

This calculation was based on Food Science Technology Abstracts.

AFCAT 33 was organized at ENSIA-Massy (Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Industries Agricoles et Alimentaires) with more than 85 participants from France, and some other countries (Canada, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Tunisia, Algeria) who presented 50 oral or poster communications.

It is a great privilege to publish selected papers in JTAC which concerned exclusively food systems: ingredients (sugars, starch, proteins, fats...), or food products (honey, wheat doughs, emulsions,...), thermodynamics of colloidal particles in solution or adsorbed at solid surfaces.

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