



# Effect of age and historical intake on blood dioxin concentrations: Pharmacokinetic modeling to support statistical analyses

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## Introduction and Objectives

High correlation between past & 2005 food intake variables generate high uncertainty on parameters estimates  
 → How to address the UMDES autocorrelation problem?  
 What are the main factors responsible for the elevated levels of dioxin blood concentrations in older people?

### Objectives:

- Explore and explain the confounding effect of age, taking into account that older people potentially :
  - consumed food for a longer period of time
  - at much higher concentrations (dioxin peak ~1970)
  - and have slower elimination rates
- Provide insights on an adequate statistical model for predicting blood conc. as a function of food intake and age

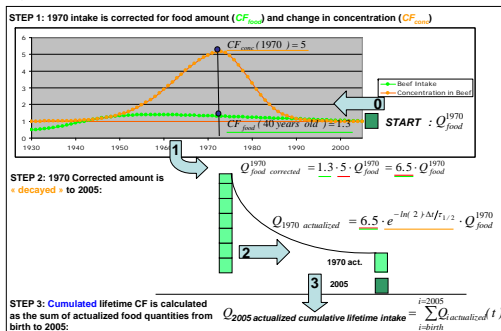
## Method: modeling to support statistical analysis

- Actualize food quantities of the 2005 UMDES food questionnaire for the effect of age and time by considering :
- Changes in amount of food consumed at different ages
  - Changes in historical concentrations in food
  - Variations in apparent elimination rates

$$Q_{actualized}^{2005}(t) = Q_{food}^{1970} \cdot CF_{food}(age(t)) \cdot CF_{conc}(t) \cdot CF_{elim}(age, t)$$

→ Produce 2005 equivalents of meals ingested that can be used in a statistical model

Fig. 1: Actualization of past food intakes for 2005



## Results: Correction factors for food, conc. and elim.

Fig. 2:  $CF_{food}$  - change of food intake with age  
 Standard changes of food intake with age obtained from the US EPA exposure factor handbook compared to 2005

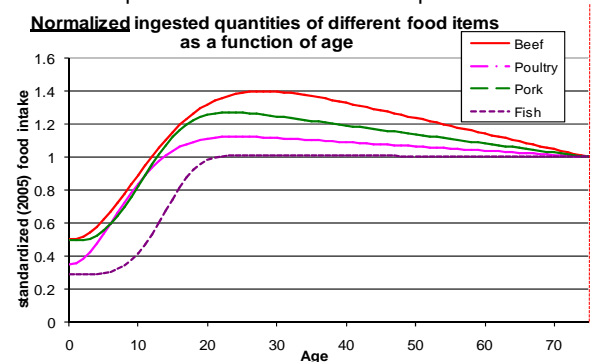


Fig. 3:  $CF_{conc}$  - changes in historical concentration in food  
 1978 normalized Trend of TCDD in different fish species (1978-2005) and in sediments (1900-1978)

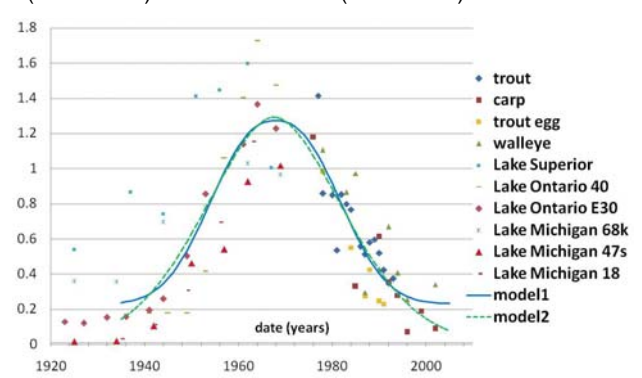
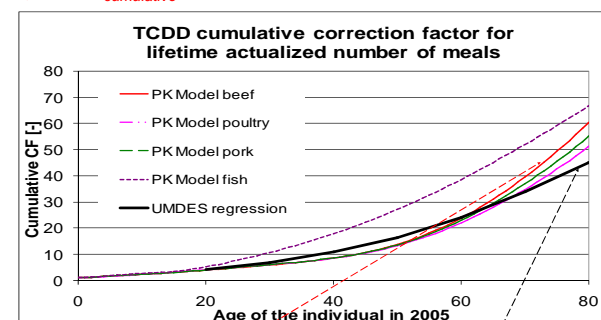


Fig. 4:  $CF_{elim}$  - Correction for past elimination in humans  
 Linear models of half-lives as a function of age, smoking status and percent body fat (pbf), see poster Half-Lives (Milbrath et al.)

$$t_{1/2}(age, smoke, pbf) = \beta_{(age)} + \beta_{age} * age + \beta_{smoke} * smoke + \frac{pbf_i}{pbf_{ref(age)}}$$

## Results: 2005 actualized cumulated intake and model

Fig. 5:  $CF_{cumulative}$  - Correction for lifetime adjusted number of meals



Comparison of  $CF_{cumulative}$  (--) with the UMDES regression (--) for age, age<sup>2</sup> and BMI: excellent agreement

$$C_{blood} \propto CF_{cumulative}^{2005}(t) \cdot Q_{food}^{2005} \cong 10^{(b_1 \cdot age + b_2 \cdot age^2 + b_3 \cdot BMI)} (b_0 + \sum_k b_k Q_{food,k})$$

Fig. 6a UMDES number of meat meals

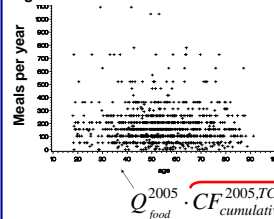
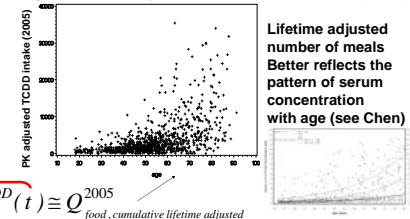


Fig. 6b Lifetime adjusted number of meat meals (TCDD)



## Conclusions

- Introducing historical changes in concentration and metabolic elimination lead to a better understanding of the role of age
- Predicted vs observed serum TCDD with age: Good agreement!
- The model suggests a multiplicative model for age and BMI (that affect decay) x an additive term for exposure variables (food,...)
- Cumulative correction factor useful to adjust the number of meals

## Acknowledgement

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