

Rapid Milk Freezer













Our Team



FIET

- Food Industry Enabling Technologies.
- Community working on increasing NZ's export earnings through novel technologies.
- MBIE-funded
- Massey University PN
 - Two Academic staff, one Post-Doc/ Research Officer and One PhD student (me).



Project Aims



- Small, far flung producers.
- Limited number of processors.
- Large processors want suppliers.
- Uneconomical to pick up milk regularly.
- Need to aggregate and store several collections of milk before transport.
- Freezing is sometimes used.

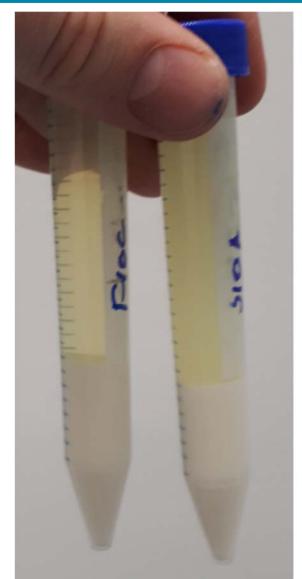


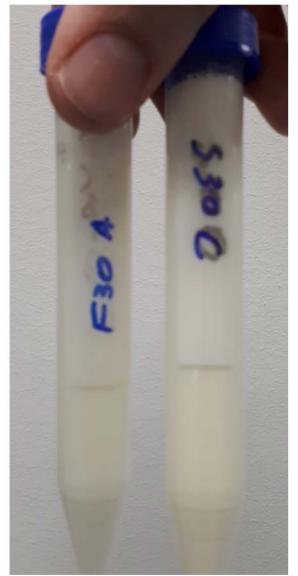


Project Aims



- Avoid damaging milk during freezing and frozen storage.
- Develop a reliable, affordable on-farm freezer.

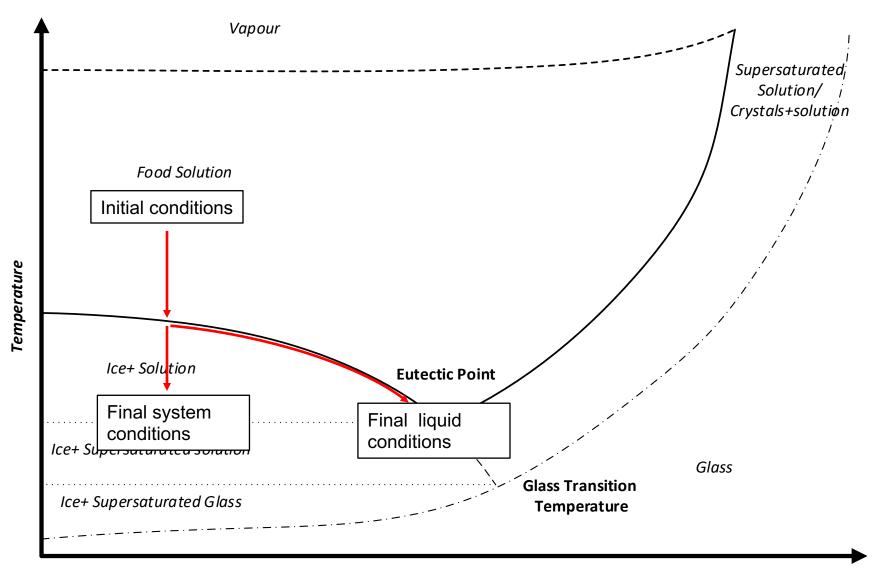






Unfrozen Water



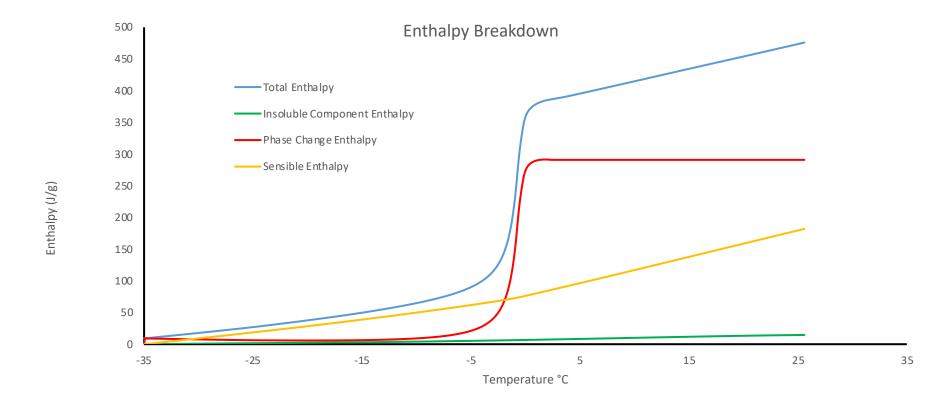




Unfrozen Water



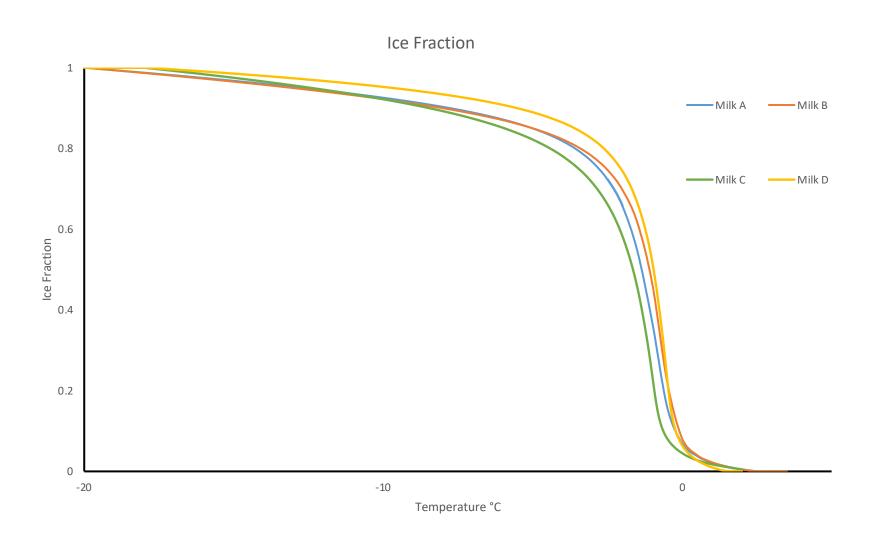
- DSC tracks heat flows during heating and cooling of a sample
- We can break down the heat flow between two temperatures, and use this
 to work out how much water is frozen in the sample.





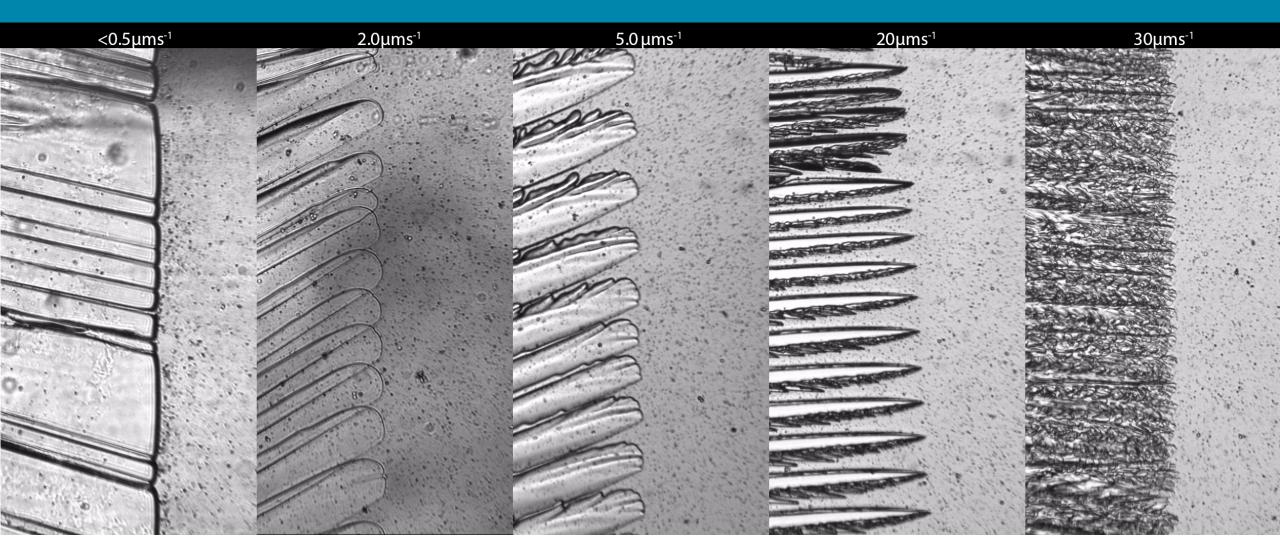
Unfrozen Water





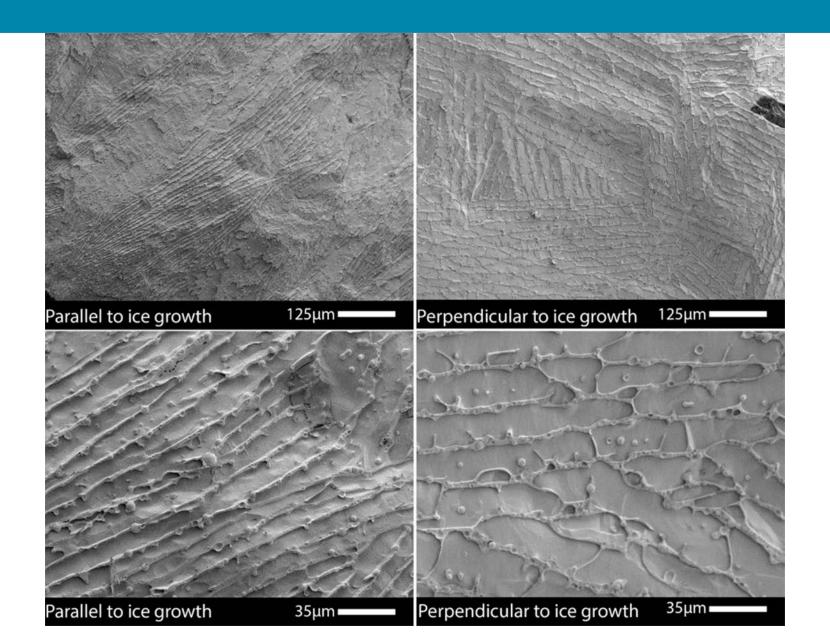






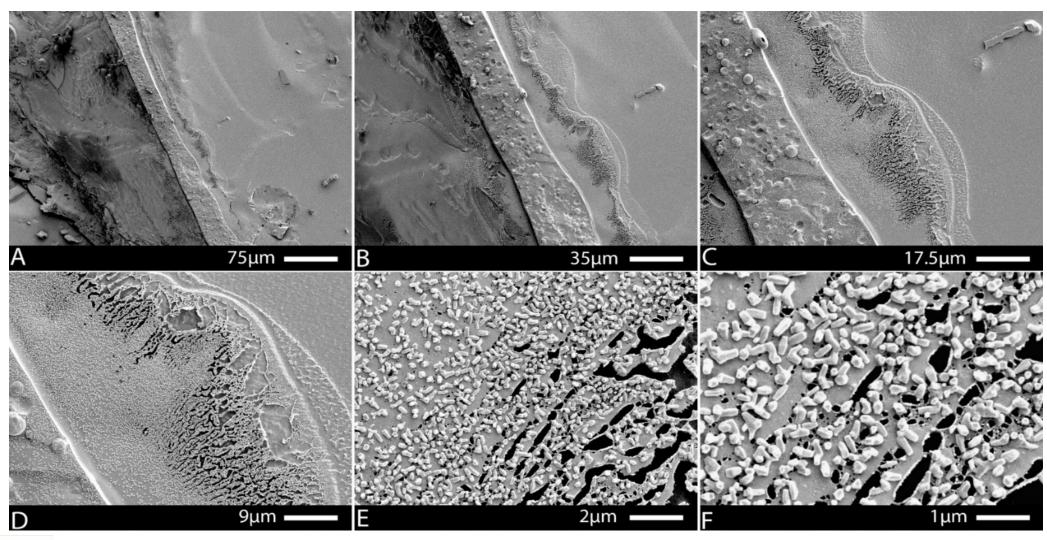








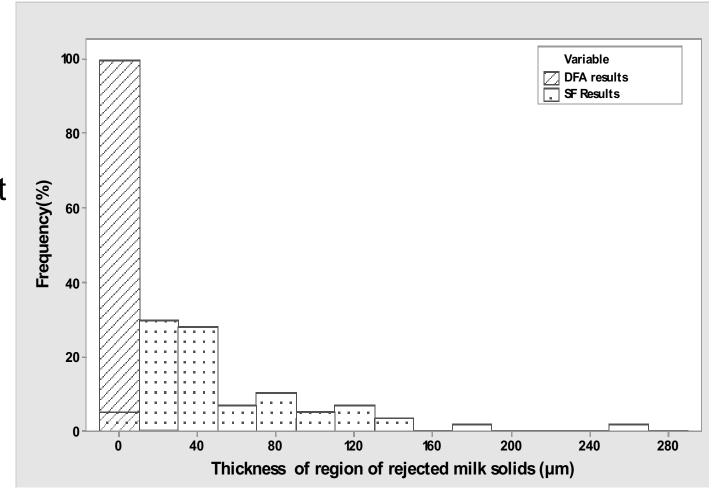








- Soft particles become noticeable as "grittiness" over ~80µm
- The slow frozen samples have bands this large, but not the rapidly frozen samples:
 - 3.23 ±1.54µm for rapidly frozen
 - 55.3 ±48.8µm for slowly frozen

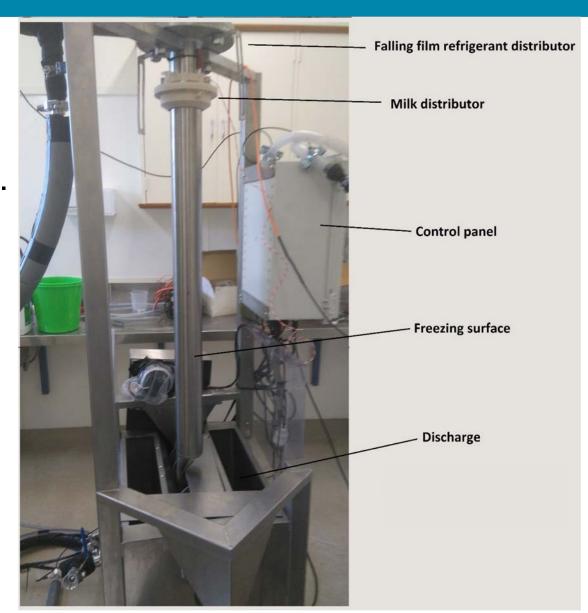




Falling Film Freezer



- Trialled with water+ Milk
 - Even at high freezing speeds, still slight freeze concentration. Decrease in milk concentration during process 17.7% vs 19.8%.
- Water ice is removed easily by a pulse of heat.
- Frozen milk is significantly more "cohesive"water ice is brittle.
- Frozen milk doesn't crack and detach like water ice- needs to be scraped off.
- System modified with scraper.





New Freezer



- Builds on the work done thus far.
- Combines several cooling and forming steps to make pelletised frozen milk.
- Designed to maintain high levels of food hygiene.
- Extremely robust and compact.
- Very economical Capex/Opex
- Currently working through commercialisation with manufacturer and patent applications.



Possible Processes



