

Call for Abstracts (Posters)

Technical Research Paper Submission Guidelines



Chicago, IL, USA
July 13-16, 2025

Call for Technical Research Paper (TRP) Abstracts

The Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) welcomes the submission of quality and original research focused on the science of food for poster presentation at IFT FIRST, July 13-16, 2025. This experience will bring together top scientists, researchers, and innovators from around the world to showcase recent findings and advancements in the science of food. IFT and IFT's Divisions strive to showcase high quality, transformative, and applied research. [Visit the submission site.](#)

TRP Program Goals

- Showcase and promote original, relevant, and high-quality research within the science of food
- Provide an opportunity for undergraduate, graduate, and professional members to gain experience presenting their research and findings to the science of food community
- Enhance the attendee and presenter experience by providing more ways for these groups to engage value through their participation in the scientific program
- Bring together members of academia and industry to learn and discuss scientific advancements

Live and In Person Poster Presentation Format

All accepted abstracts will be invited to present a physical poster during IFT FIRST in Chicago, IL. Posters will be displayed during the entirety of IFT FIRST. Primary authors will be invited to be present during two 45-minute all-poster session timeslots on July 14 and 15. Specific presentation times will be communicated upon notification of status. Posters sizing will be communicated to presenters at time of acceptance.

Important Information

- If an abstract is accepted as a poster presentation, the author(s) must register for and attend IFT FIRST in Chicago, IL for their poster to be included in the program. Failure to show up to present the poster, if not withdrawn in advance, will jeopardize the acceptance of future submissions by all author(s).
- Presenters will receive IFT FIRST-branded poster templates that are optional to use. Commercial-branded (i.e., Company or Industry) poster templates are prohibited. University templates are acceptable. There will be a location on the IFT-branded poster for a company or university logo.
- This is an in-person presentation experience. Virtual presentations will not be considered.
- It is the responsibility of the poster presenter to remove their poster Wednesday, July 16th after 3 p.m. CT should they want to keep it. All remaining posters will be discarded starting at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday. IFT is not responsible for any lost or damaged posters.

Abstract Submission Categories - Divisions

All abstracts submitted to the TRP program must be submitted to one of the following Divisions. IFT's Divisions are charged with recruiting expert reviewers to participate in this peer-review process, thus determining abstracts selected for IFT FIRST in 2025. Learn more about [IFT's Divisions here](#). Click on each Division to learn more about it.

- [Aquatic Food Products Division](#)
- [Biotechnology Division](#)
- [Carbohydrate Division](#)
- [Dairy Foods Division](#)

- [Education, Extension, & Outreach Division](#)
- [Food Chemistry Division](#)
- [Food Engineering Division](#)
- [Food Laws & Regulations Division](#)
- [Food Microbiology Division](#)
- [Food Packaging Division](#)
- [Food Safety & Quality Management Division](#)
- [Foodservice Division](#)
- [Fruit & Vegetable Products Division](#)
- [International Division](#)
- [Marketing, Sales, & Management Division](#)
- [Muscle Foods Division](#)
- [Nonthermal Processing Division](#)
- [Nutraceuticals & Functional Foods Division](#)
- [Nutrition Division](#)
- [Product Development Division](#)
- [Protein Division](#)
- [Refrigerated & Frozen Foods Division](#)
- [Sensory & Consumer Sciences Division](#)
- [Sustainable Food Systems Division](#)
- [Toxicology & Safety Evaluation Division](#)

Note on Cannabis-Related Content

IFT strives to provide high quality, relevant research and educational programming on key focus areas that impact professionals, the industry, and consumers. For proposals that address issues related to cannabis and its application in the food and beverage industry, IFT's review panel will evaluate the proposal based upon scientific merit, adherence to IFT's professional code of ethics, and the degree to which the program will advance the application of sound science without advocating or supporting the violation of any local, national, or international laws.

Graduate Student Oral Competitions

While submitting your abstract, qualified graduate students may indicate their desire to be considered for Division Oral competitions. Note that not all Divisions may host a competition due to the number of qualified applicants. Competitors must be IFT student members at the time of submission and must attend IFT FIRST. See information regarding [Graduate Student Oral Competitions here](#).

Guidelines

Timeline:

- January 9, 2025, by 11:59 p.m. CT: Submission Deadline
- Early March 2025: Submitters notified of their status
- May 1, 2025: Last date to withdraw poster via e-mail
- July 13-16, 2025: IFT FIRST in Chicago, IL

Abstract Submission Components:

The following sections are required to submit your abstract. Excluding title and 2-sentence summary, the abstract may be no longer than 350 words.

- Title
- 2-Sentence Summary
- Introduction
- Methods
- Results
- Significance

You will enter your abstract into one text box. Please label each section: Introduction, Methods, Results, and Significance. The word count limit is 354 to accommodate the labelling.

Eligibility and Additional Information

- Data must not be published before IFT FIRST 2025. Data similar to previous presentations should not be submitted.
- Abstracts must be submitted in English.
- At least one of the authors must be a member in good standing of the Institute of Food Technologists or one of the non-U.S. IFT Allied Organizations.
- IFT discourages the submission of incomplete research. Recent results may be added at the time of presentation.
- Authors should not split data to create several abstracts from one study.
- Standard abbreviations may be used without definition.
- Do not include references, credits, or grant support. Abstracts dealing with commercial products or services must have scientific emphasis and should not be submitted for promotional purposes
- Proofread very carefully for formatting, spelling, and grammar to avoid errors before submission.
- Tables and images are not accepted.
- All authors must save a copy of the abstract before the time of submission.
- Incomplete proposals will not be reviewed.
- Refer to Appendix A for a sample abstract.

NOTE: Individuals interested in promoting a commercial product or services are encouraged to participate as exhibitors in the food expo.

Abstract Review and Selection Criteria

All abstracts are peer-reviewed by IFT members with expertise within the discipline the abstract is submitted. Each abstract will be graded on the below criteria. Please see the [full rubric here](#).

- Scientific merit
- Relevancy to the science of food
- Innovation
- Practical application of content
- Quality of the Abstract

Abstract Revisions

Changes are not permitted after submission deadline. All authors must be listed at time of submission. No changes will be made after the submission deadline.

Abstract Status Notifications

Only primary authors will receive communication updates. Individuals listed as primary authors will receive email notification of abstract status early March 2025. It is the responsibility of the primary author to inform all co- authors and faculty advisors of disposition status and abstract scheduling information (if accepted).

All notices will be sent as bulk email messages from trp@ift.org. Many times, web-based email accounts (e.g., Gmail, Outlook, and Yahoo) automatically send bulk email messages into the spam folder. Please check both your inbox and your junk mail folder for your disposition notice.

Abstract Withdrawal

Submit withdrawal requests in writing by May 1, 2025, to avoid publication and participation.

Questions & Technical Support

Contact the Knowledge & Learning Experiences Team (trp@ift.org) for any questions regarding the proposal process. If you need technical support, please email help@mapyourshow.com or call (888)-527-8823 (International) 1-513-527-8823

Appendix A: Sample Abstract

Determination of Boiled Candy Glass Transition Temperature by Genetic Algorithm (GA) and Capacitor Based Thermal Analysis (CTA)

Introduction:

The glass transition temperature (T_g) is a very important parameter for candy production. The measurement of T_g, however, is done by comparably expensive and sophisticated equipment including differential scanning calorimeter (DSC), dielectric analyzer, and nuclear magnetic resonance. In this study, a Capacitor Based Thermal Analysis (CTA), which is much less expensive and less sophisticated analysis, was used to test the T_g of candy samples and the results were compared to DSC.

Method:

In this study, the T_g of several candies were measured by placing samples between two stainless plates, and monitoring capacitance and temperature as the samples were heated. The data of capacitance as a function of temperature were process by a genetic algorithm (GA), and fitted to a three-section model to determine T_g. T_g of the candies were independently measured by DSC as a reference.

Results:

The results showed that when the T_g of the candy was below ~15°C, the measurement from GA and capacitor based thermal analysis (CTA) was higher than that from DSC. However, if T_g of the candy was higher than 15°C, the two methods gave similar values. GA based CTA provides a feasible new way to measure phase transitions in candies with relatively inexpensive equipment, and less need for user interpretation of data.

Significance:

GA based CTA provides a much cheaper and less sophisticated methods for small or medium confection

manufacturers to measure the Tg of their products, helping them supervise or control the quality of the products during or after processing. For other researchers, GA based CTA is a new method with computational algorithm involved to study the phase transition of other food materials.

Appendix B: Science FIRST Speaking Commitment & Copyright Agreement

Upon submission acceptance, you will be asked to indicate your acceptance of the following preconditions to presenting. If you do not agree with one or more of the following statements or if you have any questions, contact IFT Staff at trp@ift.org.

Thank you for agreeing to present at the IFT FIRST Annual Event & Expo. It takes the coordination of countless details to successfully deliver the high-quality programs that attendees have come to expect—your cooperation is key. This Speaking Commitment & Copyright Agreement outlines IFT's expectations of speakers.

Deadlines

I agree to meet the critical deadlines provided to me in my invitation letter with respect to submission of materials and arriving at my assigned poster presentation, if applicable.

IFT FIRST Registration

I understand that, as a presenter, I am responsible to pay the appropriate IFT Member or Non-Member registration fee(s). All presenters must register for IFT FIRST Annual Event & Expo. Registration information is available at <https://www.iftevent.org/attend/registration>

Note on Cannabis-Related Content

I understand that IFT strives to provide high quality, relevant research and educational programming on key focus areas that impact professionals, the industry, and consumers. I also understand that, for proposals that address issues related to cannabis and its application in the food and beverage industry, IFT's review panel will evaluate the proposal based upon scientific merit, adherence to IFT's professional code of ethics, and the degree to which the program will advance the application of sound science without advocating or supporting the violation of any local, national, or international laws.

Right of First Refusal

I understand that IFT's right of first refusal applies to all research, science and technology abstracts/papers presented at the Annual Event. I acknowledge that IFT encourages authors to submit their papers for consideration in IFT's publications, the Journal of Food Science (JFS) or Comprehensive Reviews in Food Science and Food Safety (CRFSFS). Authors are encouraged to visit <https://ift.org/news-and-publications/scientific-journals> for information on how to submit manuscripts to JFS or CRFSFS. I understand that authors who wish to publish their papers non-IFT journals should contact the journals Editorial Office at journals@ift.org to request permission. I understand that authors are not required to submit papers for publication, and that if they do, papers should not have been published prior to the Annual Event.

Reporting

I agree that summative material and/or an article reporting on my presentation may be included in the post-IFT FIRST communication or on the IFT website, the purpose of which being to provide meeting highlights to those members who did not attend. I further acknowledge that members of the media may attend my presentation to record and report on its contents.

Conflict of Interest

I agree that, if I have any commercial relationships, that my presentation will be evidence-based, and I will disclose my relationship to the products/services from that entity. Additionally, I will not engage in any type of promotional marketing or selling of any product or service while presenting and will avoid any appearance of impropriety or inordinate promotion of a product or service I, or my employer, sells or provides.

Copyright Ownership

I warrant and represent that (a) I have full power and authority, free of any rights of any nature whatsoever by any person, to enter into this Agreement and to grant the rights which are granted to IFT in this Agreement; (b) no part of my presentation infringes upon any copyright or other intellectual property right of any third party; (c) the presentation contains nothing libelous, injurious or untrue (d) I have, as necessary, obtained appropriate permission to re-print any portion of the materials for which I am not the author. I have obtained concurrence from the sole author, co-authors or colleagues before submitting my materials for presentation and publication and have acknowledged all contributions to the materials.

License

I grant to IFT a perpetual, irrevocable, royalty-free, non-exclusive license to (1) record and reproduce, in any format, my presentation and to edit such at IFT's reasonable discretion; (2) reproduce, publish, display, and distribute such recordings, the presentation, and any materials which I make available as a supplement to my presentation, for IFT's business purposes; and (3) include the submitted materials individually or as part of a collective work distributed before, during, or after the Annual Event & Expo, including, but not limited to, on the IFT website. (IFT may make technical modifications to the presentation or submitted materials as needed to store them electronically or otherwise make them available electronically.)

I understand that this license to IFT does not change my ownership of the Materials and that I am free to otherwise make use of the Materials. Should I publish or give permission to others to publish these Materials at a later date, however, I and others must indicate that the work was produced as part of the Annual Event & Expo. I understand that IFT recommends that I attach a notice of my copyright ownership on the cover page of my Materials.

Artificial Intelligence

IFT acknowledges Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools have many benefits, but their use also carries a number of risks. I agree to only use AI tools for the following authorized purposes: idea generation, general-knowledge questions and research meant to enhance my understanding on a topic, and to summarize online research or to create outlines for content projects to assist in full coverage of a topic. I will not use AI Tools to create final work product (including the Program and Materials), and create content to be distributed by IFT. While using AI tools, I will not enter any IFT or third-party confidential, trade secret, or other personal or proprietary information into a prompt for an AI Tool. I agree to comply with IFT policies and guidelines on use of AI tools.

Further, I acknowledge that IFT may use AI tools to develop content to provide guidance to customers and partners and that such AI tools may access and use content for IFT has rights. However, I appreciated that, should the materials I submit, be used by such AI tools, IFT will provide me with the proper attribution/credit/citation for my relative contribution.

Media Release

I acknowledge that IFT reserves the right to publish the accepted abstracts on the IFT website. I understand that IFT may and grant the right to audio record, videotape and produce digital media reproductions of this session for subsequent use and/or sale by IFT or its contracted vendor partners, and I hereby grant to IFT the right to such use as well as the use and copy my presentation or parts thereof to create derivative works for distribution and sale including but not limited to: infographics, articles, webcasts, online courses, and other educational content.

I authorize IFT to use my name, likeness, photograph, and biographical material for the promotion of the program and/or the Annual Event & Expo. I understand that I may be contacted by IFT with opportunities for greater promotion of my submitted materials. I acknowledge that I will be notified if IFT decides to pursue derivative works with my presentation. I give IFT permission to produce electronic media of my poster for promotional use, distribution and/or sale by IFT or its vendors.

By signing this agreement, I agree that, IFT has the following rights:

- to publish, sell, reproduce, and distribute the submitted materials in all languages and in print, electronic, digital, or other media now known and yet to be discovered, throughout the universe;
- to create derivative works based upon the submitted materials in any language or format
- to authorize third parties to reproduce the submitted materials in print, electronic, or other media now known or hereafter devised, throughout the universe.

When signed and submitted, this will constitute my agreement with IFT for my presentation at the above-mentioned program.