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Abstract

10 This study aimed to determine the physicochemical properties (proximate composition, color, pH, salinity, water holding capacity (WHC), curing yield, and shear force) and 11 12 sensory properties (electric nose and sensory evaluation) of *Bulgogi* sauce with added crust derived from dry-aged beef loin. Increasing the amount of crust in the *Bulgogi* sauce tended 13 to increase the protein content, fat content, and pH. Uncooked *Bulgogi* also tended to have 14 15 elevated fat content, ash content, pH, and shear force. Increasing the crust content tended to decrease the water content, lightness, redness, and yellowness of *Bulgogi* sauce. The 16 yellowness of uncooked Bulgogi with 6-12% crust in sauce was significantly lower than 17 18 that of the control (no crust) and the sample with 3% crust in sauce (p<0.05). The redness of the cooked control *Bulgogi* was significantly lower than that of the samples with crust in 19 sauce (p<0.05). The WHC of uncooked *Bulgogi* with 6-12% crust in sauce was 20 21 significantly higher than that of the control and the sample with 3% crust in sauce (p<0.05). 22 The flavor, texture, and overall acceptability of the *Bulgogi* with 9% crust in sauce were 23 significantly higher than those of the control (p<0.05). These findings showed that the crust did not degrade the physicochemical properties of *Bulgogi* sauce and meat. The sensory 24 characteristics of Bulgogi marinated with 9% crust in sauce were rated the best as 25 26 persensory evaluation. Therefore, crust is a suitable flavor enhancer for Bulgogi sauce, and 27 a 9% addition amount is optimal in terms of quality.

28

29 **Keywords:** *Bulgogi*, by-product, crust, dry-aged beef, sauce

31

Introduction

32 The consumer demand for dry-aged meat with its unique flavor has recently increased, because it is viewed as a high-quality edible meat. Unlike wet-aging, dry-aging is an aging 33 unpackaged, it accelerated the microorganism decomposition of the meat surface (Perry, 34 2012). This dry-aging process induces a unique flavor that increases the consumer 35 preference for dry-aged meat. (Campbell et al., 2001). However, the crust formed during 36 the dry-aging process is the reason for the high price of dry-aged meat compared to other 37 meat types. The crust is the area of meat formed by surface hardening during the dry-38 aging process, and its use as edible meat is limited (Dashdorj et al., 2016; Lee and Kim, 39 40 2020). Nevertheless, the crust is enriched with flavor components due to surface moisture evaporation (Lee et al., 2019). Its role as a flavor enhancer with high functionality, 41 including anti-oxidant and anti-hypertensive functions, when applied to beef patty has 42 43 been reported (Park et al., 2018).

The sauce is gives the dish its distinct color and taste; however, one of the most 44 45 important characteristics of the sauce is its flavor (Mcgee, 2004). Therefore, our research team analyzed the quality characteristics of brown sauce after using crust powder as an 46 additive to enhance the flavor of the sauce, which is widely used in meat dishes (Park et 47 al., 2020). The addition of crust had a positive effect on the viscosity, aromatic component, 48 and sensory characteristics of brown sauce. Accordingly, the suitability of using crust as 49 a flavor enhancer for the sauce has been identified; however, in order to increase the utility 50 of crust as a flavor enhancer, it is necessary to devise a method for using it as a food 51 material in various forms. 52

In Korea, the export of sauce products has substantially increased in the past five years, with the income generated from exported products rising from \$92.63 million in 2013 to \$121.68 million in 2017, a 31.4% increase (MAFRA, 2018). This has been determined to be due to the large increase in the export of mixed sauce products that allow consumers to reproduce the taste of Korean-style food (K-food) in line with the globalization of K-food in recent years (Nam et al., 2010).

59 Bulgogi is one of the most representative K-foods, as people in countries with meateating culture are willing to try it without aversion (Kim et al., 2013a). Accordingly, the 60 export of 'Korean BBO sauce' to overseas countries has also been robust (MAFRA, 2018). 61 62 *Bulgogi* sauce removes any off-flavors when added to meat, and imparts the special flavor of Bulgogi (Heo and Lee, 2017). One of the most important goals of sauce products, 63 including Bulgogi sauce, is to maximize the unique flavor of the sauce (Methven, 2012). 64 However, even though Bulgogi sauce belongs to the category of 'Sauce', it is often used 65 as a marinade solution (Heo and Lee, 2017). Therefore, it can be said that Bulgogi sauce 66 has characteristics similar to those of a salt solution and different from those of brown 67 68 sauce, tomato sauce, and hot sauce, which are subsequently added to meat dishes. Accordingly, when crust was added as a flavor enhancer to Bulgogi sauce, which is 69 70 similar to a marinade solution, it was considered that the sauce would exhibit characteristics different from those of sauces used for garnish. 71

This study aimed to produce a sauce product with crust for addition to *Bulgogi*, to increase the utility of the crust as a flavor enhancer. We prepared sauces with different amounts of crust, and subjected them to quality property analysis to determine the optimum level of crust for the sauce.

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Materials and Methods

78 Crust sample preparation

Beef loin (*M. longissimus dorsi*; I Home Meat Co., Seoul, Korea) samples obtained
from six Holstein steer carcasses (Korea quality grade 3) and refrigerated for 24 h after

slaughter were divided into three sections of equal length and width. Divided beef loins were placed in a DA-45 dry-aging fridge (Korea Alesso, Gyeonggi-do, Korea) at 4°C (air velocity: 5 ± 3 m/s; humidity: 80% $\pm5\%$) for four weeks. Thereafter, the crust was cut from the outermost edge (height: 0.3-0.7 cm) of the dry-aged loin, to sterilize microorganisms that could cause spoilage, lyophilized in an FDU-1110 freeze-dryer (Eyela, Tokyo, Japan) at -70°C for 15 h, and then stored at -18°C. The physicochemical properties (proximate composition, pH, and color) of the crust are shown in Supplementary Table 1.

88

89 Experiment 1. Quality properties of *Bulgogi* sauce with added crust

90 Manufacturing process of *Bulgogi* sauce

Table 1 shows the ingredients of Bulgogi sauce manufactured according to the 91 92 procedure of Kim et al. (2013a) and Jung et al. (2015) with slight modification. Initially, garlic and ginger were ground in 10% of the amount of water using an MQ 5135 sauce 93 94 hand blender (Braun GmbH, Kronberg im Taunus, Germany) for 40 s at 200 rpm. Brown 95 sugar, refined rice wine, sesame oil, and black pepper powder were mixed into the solution for 1 min 30 s. The remainder of the water and soy sauce were added to the 96 solution and mixed for 2 min. Samples of this basic Bulgogi sauce were added with 0% 97 98 (control), 3%, 6%, 9%, and 12% crust using the hand blender for 2 min at 100 rpm, passed through an 18-mesh sieve, and then stored at 4°C. 99

100

101 **Qualitative properties of sauce**

The proximate composition of *Bulgogi* sauce samples was determined using methods in compliance with the AOAC (1990). Moisture and crude protein content were measured using oven-drying and Kjeldahl method, respectively. Crude fat and ash content were measured using Soxhlet and dry-ashing methods. The CIE general color (lightness: L*; redness: a*; and yellowness: b*) of the *Bulgogi*sauce samples was measured using a CR-10 color reader (Minolta, Tokyo, Japan), with a
white standard plate (CIE L*: +97.83; CIE a*: -0.43; CIE b*: +1.98) as reference.

The pH of the *Bulgogi* sauce samples (4 g in 16 mL of distilled water) were homogenized for 1 min using an HMZ-20DN Ultra-Turrax homogenizer (Poolim Tech, Seoul, Korea) at $10,923 \times g$, and the pH was measured using a Model S220 pH meter (Mettler-Toledo, Schwerzenbach, Switzerland).

The salinity of the *Bulgogi* sauce samples was measured using an SB-2000PRO salinity meter (HM Digital Inc., Redondo Beach, CA, USA), and the values are presented herein as percentages.

The aroma of the Bulgogi sauce samples was analyzed using a Heracles II electronic 116 nose (Alpha MOS, Toulouse, France). The electronic nose headspace conditions were as 117 118 follows: sample vial, 20 mL; sample volume, 1 mL; heating temperature, 40°C; and 119 incubation period, 20 min. The machine conditions were as follows: injected volume, 5 120 mL; injection temperature, 200°C; trap ready temperature, 40°C; sampling duration, 4 s; 121 trap desorption temperature, 250°C; injection duration, 1.5 s; column temperature program, 51°C (10 s) to 260°C (4 s); detector temperature, 260°C. Before principle 122 component analysis (PCA), the sensitivity of each electronic-nose sensor was measured 123 124 to determine the rates of change between resistance values of volatile compounds and the 125 air. Classified aroma profiles were taken as the primary (PC1) and secondary (PC2) component values. These measured sensitivity values were included in the Alpha Soft 126 127 software (Alpha MOS, Toulouse, France) used for PCA.

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130 Experiment 2. Qualitative and sensory properties of Bulgogi marinated

131 with *Bulgogi* sauce containing crust

132 Manufacturing process of Bulgogi

Raw *Bulgogi* meat comprising beef top round (*Biceps femoris*; *Hanwoo*; Korea quality grade 1) was cut into $5 \times 5 \times 0.2$ cm³ (length × width × height) pieces. The *Bulgogi* was marinated with a 3:4 ratio of beef top round to *Bulgogi* sauce with crust, at 4°C for 10 h. The uncooked marinated *Bulgogi* samples were stored at 4°C. Marinated *Bulgogi* samples were pan-fried front and back at 80°C for 30 s each.

138

139 Qualitative and sensory properties of *Bulgogi*

Proximate composition, color, and pH analyses were performed as described for *Bulgogi* sauce.

The water holding capacity (WHC) of uncooked *Bulgogi* samples was determined
using the filter paper press method of Grau and Hamm (1953) with slight modification.
Each 300 mg uncooked *Bulgogi* sample was placed on a filter paper (Whatman No.2, GE
Healthcare, Chicago, IL, USA) and compressed for 3 min using a filter-press device. The
WHC was calculated from the areas of meat and exudation as follows:

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148 WHC (%) =
$$\frac{Meat area (mm^2)}{Exudation area (mm^2)} \times 100$$

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- The curing yield of *Bulgogi* was determined by calculating the difference in *Bulgogi*weight before and after curing, as follows:
- 152

153 Curing yield (%) =
$$\frac{Bulgogi \ weight \ after \ curing \ (g)}{Bulgogi \ weight \ before \ curing \ (g)} \times 100$$

The shear force of cooked *Bulgogi* samples $(1.0 \times 2.0 \times 0.2 \text{ cm}; \text{length} \times \text{width} \times \text{height})$ was measured using a V-blade attached to a TA 1 texture analyzer (Ametek Inc., Berwyn, PA, USA), at a test speed of 3.0 mm/s, distance of 22.0 mm, and force of 5.6 N. The measured values were expressed in *kg*.

For sensory evaluation, fourteen sensory panelists analyzed cooked *Bulgogi* samples in triplicate, using basic taste identification tests. The color, flavor, texture, juiciness, offflavor, and overall acceptability of the samples were evaluated on a 10-point descriptive scale (1 = extremely undesirable; 10 = extremely desirable). The sensory evaluation was approved by the Kongju National University's Ethics Committee (Authority No: KNU 2020-15).

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166 Statistical analysis

The results of all experiments, except those of the electric nose, were assessed after a minimum of three trials. Data were statistically analyzed with a general linear model, using SAS version 9.3 (SAS Institute, Cary, NC, USA). The significance of differences was verified using Duncan's multiple range tests (p<0.05). The data are shown as means±standard deviation.

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Results and Discussion

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176 Experiment 1. Quality properties of *Bulgogi* sauce

177 **Proximate composition**

Table 2 shows the proximate composition of *Bulgogi* sauce. The ash content of *Bulgogi* sauce was found to be 2.33–2.50%, although no significant difference was

180 observed among the treatment groups based on the amount of crust added. The moisture 181 content decreased with an increase in the amount of added crust, whereas the protein 182 content showed a significant increase (p<0.05) and the fat content showed an increasing 183 trend. The proximate composition of a sauce depends on the contents of the added ingredients. Consequently, when crust was added to brown sauce, protein and fat content 184 185 increased while water content decreased with the amount of crust (Park et al., 2020). The 186 differences in the proximate composition of *Bulgogi* sauce based on the amount of crust 187 added are thought to be due to the high protein and fat content in the proximate composition of the crust (fat: 29.81%;protein: 56.25%; Supplementary Table 1), 188 189 indicating that adding high amounts of crust leads to elevated protein and fat content.

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191 Color, pH, and salinity

192 Table 3 presents the color, pH, and salinity of Bulgogi sauce based on the amount of crust added. The lightness of Bulgogi sauce decreased with an increase in the amount of 193 194 added crust, and the redness and yellowness followed a similar trend. Soy sauce has a significant influence on the primary color formation of Bulgogi sauce. The color of soy 195 sauce is reddish brown or dark brown, and mixing with other additives may turn the color 196 197 cloudy (Yokotsuka, 1986). It was hence presumed that the overall color of the Bulgogi sauce was influenced by the salt-soluble proteins released from the crust upon its addition. 198 199 The pH of *Bulgogi* sauce increased with the amount of crust added. Generally, as the 200 pH of a food product is known to generally decrease with an increase in the salt content 201 (Feiner, 2006a; Park and Kim, 2016). Thus, despite the pH of crust was lower than that 202 of Bulgogi sauce, the increase in pH upon the addition of the crust may be attributed to the relative decrease in the salt content with an increase in the amount of crust added. 203 204 The salinity decreased with an increase in the amount of crust added, with no

significant difference observed for the 6–12% crust treatments. This is thought to be due 205 206 to the relative decrease in the content of soy sauce, which may have an influence on the 207 salinity of the Bulgogi sauce. Thus, as the amount of crust added increased, the soy sauce 208 content and salinity decreased. Excessive salt intake has harmful effects on the human body, such as hypertension, cerebral stroke, and kidney function decline (de Wardener 209 210 and MacGregor, 2002). As the amount of salt in processed meat products is quite high, 211 the consumers' demand for low-salt meat products has been increasing (Morris et al., 212 2008). Sauce products are mostly high in salt content, and the use of various sauce products in different types of foods is leading to a substantially higher level of salt 213 214 consumption (Doyle and Glass, 2010). In particular, soy sauce, which accounts for the highest proportion among the additives in Bulgogi sauce, has a high salt content, and 215 hence, the need for salt reduction is more prominent (Goh et al., 2011). Therefore, the 216 217 addition of the crust is advantageous, as it can lower the salinity of Bulgogi sauce while enhancing its palatability. 218

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220 Experiment 2. Qualitative and sensory properties of Bulgogi marinated

221 with Bulgogi sauce containing added crust

222 Proximate composition

Table 4 presents the proximate composition of *Bulgogi* marinated with *Bulgogi* sauce containing added crust. The moisture, protein, and ash content among the treatment groups showed no significant differences; however, the fat content increased with the amount of crust added. The crust used in this study was obtained from beef sirloin with the formation of marbling, wherein layers of fat are distributed in the muscle tissue and the fat content is comparatively higher than that in the other meat areas (Corbin et al., 2015). It is hence thought that the fat content of the *Bulgogi* sauce increased with the 230 amount of crust added (The fat content of the crust: 29.81%; Supplementary Table 1). 231 The fat content of *Bulgogi* was lower than that of *Bulgogi* sauce. The reason for these results was that the part used as raw meat in *Bulgogi* was beef top round, which has a very 232 233 low fat content compared to other parts. Furthermore, when the raw meat was marinated with Bulgogi sauce, the curing yield was 124.57-128.87% in all treatments; however, 234 0.50-6.82% fat content of *Bulgogi* sauce did not significantly affect *Bulgogi* after curing; 235 236 hence, it was considered that the fat content of Bulgogi after curing was lower than that of *Bulgogi* sauce. 237

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240 Color and pH

Table 5 presents the color of Bulgogi before and after cooking, based on the amount 241 242 of crust added. Before cooking, the lightness of Bulgogi showed no significant difference 243 with up to 6% crust treatment; thereafter, it increased significantly with an increase in the 244 amount of crust added (p<0.05). The lightness of Bulgogi after cooking, likewise, showed no significant difference up to 6% crust treatment, but the 9% and 12% treatment groups 245 with relatively large amounts of added crust showed significantly higher values (p<0.05). 246 The redness of *Bulgogi* did not change significantly with the amount of added crust before 247 and after cooking, whereas the yellowness decreased before cooking and increased after 248 249 cooking. As shown, the addition of the crust led to a decrease in the lightness and yellowness of *Bulgogi* before cooking. In line with these results, previous studies have 250 251 reported a reduction in the lightness with increases in the redness and yellowness upon 252 the use of a light-brown colored additive in foods (Choi and Lee, 2016; Kim et al., 2013b). 253 In a study wherein brown mealworm powder, whose color was similar to that of the crust, 254 was added to meat patties, the lightness and yellowness decreased (Kim et al., 2015); this was attributed to the influence of the additive on the meat color, whereby it reduced the
relative content of myoglobin, a pigment in meat (Choi et al., 2019). On the contrary,
after cooking, the lightness and yellowness increased, because meat proteins such as those
in the crust undergo Maillard browning upon heat treatment (Young and West, 2001).
The addition of the crust to *Bulgogi* sauce is hence likely to further preserve the color of
the original beef meat in *Bulgogi* after cooking.

- 261
- 262 Water holding capacity and curing yield

Figure 1 shows the WHC and curing yield of *Bulgogi* after curing and before cooking. 263 The WHC values were significantly higher for the 6–12% crust treatment groups than for 264 the control and the 3% crust treatment group (p<0.05). For meat and meat products, the 265 WHC is closely associated with the pH, and it is known that an increase in the pH of meat 266 267 results in a high WHC (Sebranek, 2009). The pH increased with the amount of crust added, 268 which is thought to have led to the relatively high WHC of the treatment groups with high 269 pH. In addition, meat with a high WHC shows a low rate of water separation upon 270 cooking, with a consequent low reduction rate (Siegel et al., 1978). Therefore, it was predicted that the 6-12% crust treatment groups with high WHC would exhibit low 271 cooking loss. The curing yield fell within the range of 124.57-128.87%, and no 272 significant difference was found among the treatment groups with respect to the 273 274 proportion of crust added to the Bulgogi sauce. In general, the curing yield increases after 275 massaging actions such as tumbling (Plimpton et al., 1991). Kim et al. (2003) also 276 reported that pork meat cured in soy sauce after tumbling showed a higher curing yield 277 than the meat subjected to immersion alone during curing, in addition to a more 278 outstanding cooking yield. Hence, the lack of difference in curing yield among the 279 treatment groups in this study, regardless of the proportion of added crust, is thought to

280 be due to the use of immersion alone during the curing process.

281

282 Warner-Bratzler shear force (WBSF)

283 Figure 2 shows the WBSF of marinated Bulgogi after cooking, based on the amount of crust added. The WBSF of the different treatment groups exhibited a range (0.40–0.61 284 kg), and increased with the amount of crust added. The reason for increased shear force 285 286 is related to a decrease in the salt concentration of *Bulgogi* sauce. In meat, salt is dispersed 287 in the water added to the meat. The salt then penetrates into the muscle tissue and structurally swells the meat, resulting in extraction of salt-soluble protein (Feiner, 2006a). 288 289 When the meat tissue is swollen in this way, the texture of the tissue softens. Hence, the salt concentration decreases upon addition of crust, while the degree of softening of the 290 meat tissue is relatively reduced. Among the sensory properties of meat products, the 291 292 physical properties are a major determinant of consumer preference (Guerrero et al., 1999), and when meat powder is added to a food product, the binding strength can 293 294 increase (Lu and Chen, 1999). This increase in binding strength may promote binding 295 among the proteins or between the proteins and fats in meat, which in turn may further increase the binding strength. In addition, for thin-sliced meat products, a certain level of 296 297 binding strength is required for enhancing the texture. Hong et al. (2011) reported that the panelists that evaluated the sensory properties of their *Bulgogi* gave outstanding results 298 299 to the meat with a level of texture that was neither too soft nor too hard. The Bulgogi 300 produced in this study was thin-sliced to 0.2 cm thickness, and it is likely that the use of 301 Bulgogi sauce with added crust would have enhanced the texture of the Bulgogi.

302

303 Electronic nose

304 To examine the differences in the aroma of Bulgogi sauce and Bulgogi samples, the

305 volatile components were analyzed with respect to retention time using PCA, the results 306 of which are shown in Fig. 3. Fig. 3-a is the plots for the different samples indicated that, 307 compared to the control, the 3% crust treatment group had a clearly differentiated flavor, 308 and the 6% crust treatment group had a flavor distinguishable from those of the control and 3% crust treatment groups. On the contrary, the 9% and 12% crust treatment groups 309 shared similar flavors, implying that adding amounts exceeding 9% would not lead to a 310 311 significant difference in the flavor. Figure 3-b shows the PCA plot of different Bulgogi 312 samples. The samples treated with 3% crust showed distinctly different flavor compared to the control, but showed similar flavor to those treated with 3-9% crust. However, the 313 12% crust treatment group showed significantly different flavor compared to the 3-9% 314 crust treatment groups. In this study, among the major aroma volatile compounds changes 315 316 due to the increase in the amount of crust in Bulgogi sauce and Bulgogi, the Nonan-2-one 317 component increased in either. Nonan-2-one is a component commonly detected in 318 fermented cheese products, it has unique flavors such as 'buttery', 'cheese', 'fatty', and 319 'milk-like' flavors (Mallia et al., 2005). One of the representative characteristics of dry-320 aged beef is that it forms a unique flavor due to proteolysis of meat and microbial decomposition on the meat surface, which is known to have a "cheesy" or "buttery" flavor 321 (Dashdorj et al., 2016). Accordingly, it was found that the addition of crust on the Bulgogi 322 323 sauce could give a flavor similar to that of dry-aged beef to some extent. In addition, 324 according to Motono (2012), inosine monophosphate (IMP) or monosodium glutamate 325 (MSG) can be substituted with beef stock powder, as the latter contains a certain amount 326 of IMP or MSG that can increase palatability, and the addition of a set amount of such 327 ingredients is recommended for adding flavors to and enhancing the palatability of sauce products. As described above, the addition of crust to Bulgogi sauce leads to a change in 328 329 flavor, but when the amount of crust added exceeds 9%, it appears to lead to a distinctly

different flavor; thus, adding excessive crust may contribute to an off-flavor in *Bulgogi*.

331

332 Sensory evaluation

In this study, the crust separated from dry-aged beef loin was freeze-dried at -70 °C 333 to sterilize microorganisms that could cause spoilage (total bacteria count was used in 334 335 lieu of microbial colony detection). The results of the sensory evaluation of *Bulgogi* after 336 cooking, based on the amount of crust added to the Bulgogi sauce, are presented in Table 6. In various food products, the addition of a flavor enhancer may not induce a significant 337 change in flavor beyond a certain level, or may negatively affect the sensory properties 338 upon reaching an excessive level; hence, it is crucial to identify the optimum amount of 339 enhancer to be added (Methven, 2012). The color, juiciness, and off-flavor elements of 340 the sensory evaluation showed no significant differences across the treatment groups; 341 342 however, a significantly higher score was given for flavor to the treatment groups with 9% 343 or higher amounts of added crust, in comparison to that of the control (p<0.05). These 344 differences in the evaluation of flavor appeared similar to the results of the electronic nose 345 analysis of *Bulgogi* sauce. The 3% and 6% crust treatments showed different PCA results compared to the control, but they did not receive a significantly higher evaluation scores 346 347 than the control. The 9% and 12% crust treatment groups received higher evaluation than the control, but there was no difference between them. Accordingly, it is thought that 348 349 Bulgogi marinated using Bulgogi sauce prepared by adding 9% and 12% crust relatively high evaluation score for flavor due to its meaty flavor. Similar to the results of this study, 350 351 it has been shown that flavor evaluation increased with the amount of crust added in 352 brown sauce, and there was no difference in sensory properties when the amount of crust 353 added exceeded a certain level (Park et al., 2020). For texture, the 6% and 9% crust 354 treatment groups received significantly higher scores in comparison to the control

355 (p<0.05). As texture is one of the determinants of food sensory properties in meat 356 products, an excessively soft or hard texture that is unsuitable for the given food product is likely to reduce consumer preference (Szczesniak and Khan, 1971). Hence, to control 357 358 the texture, which is a critical factor in determining the sensory properties of meat products, a texture enhancer, such as isolated soy protein, egg protein, and gelatin, may 359 360 be added to the meat (Fernández-Ginés et al., 2005; Saranya et al., 2016). In this study, 361 the addition of crust to Bulgogi sauce increased the shear-force of the Bulgogi, and in contrast to the 6% and 9% crust treatment groups, the 12% crust treatment group did not 362 differ significantly from the control, i.e., the shear-force (texture) with acceptable sensory 363 properties could be achieved using 6% or 9% crust treatments. For overall acceptability, 364 the 9% crust treatment group earned a significantly higher evaluation result compared to 365 the control and the 3% treatment group. Therefore, with respect to the specific items of 366 367 sensory evaluation, 9% crust treatment of *Bulgogi* sauce is likely to be the suitable level for use as a flavor enhancer. 368

369

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Conclusion

371 We applied crust derived from by-products of dry-aged beef as a natural flavorenhancer for *Bulgogi* sauce. The crust added to *Bulgogi* sauce exerted positive effects on 372 the WHC of cured Bulgogi. The results of electronic nose and sensory evaluation of 373 374 Bulgogi samples treated with 9% and 12% crust had more positive characteristics than 375 those of the other samples. However, the texture and overall acceptability of Bulgogi 376 samples containing 9% crust were better than those of control. On the contrary, the 377 characteristics of *Bulgogi* samples containing 12% crust were non-significant compared 378 with the control. These results suggest that the addition of 9% crust to Bulgogi sauces as 379 a flavor-enhancer can improve several physicochemical factors and sensory properties.

380	
381	Conflict of Interest
382	The authors declare no potential conflict of interest.
383	
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388	
389	Ethics Approval
390	The experiment was approved by the Kongju National University's Ethics
391	Committee (Authority No: KNU2020-15).
392	
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508

Fig. 1. Curing yield and water holding capacity of *Bulgogi* marinated with *Bulgogi*

510 sauce containing added crust. ^{a-b}Means on the same bar with different letters are

significantly different (p<0.05).

512





514 Fig. 2. Warner-Bratzler shear force (WBSF) of cooked *Bulgogi* marinated with *Bulgogi*

sauce containing added crust. ^{a-c} Significantly different means on same bar (p<0.05).







Fig. 3-a. Principal component analysis of *Bulgogi* sauce containing various amounts of dry-aged beef crust.

Discrimination index = 83



520

Fig. 3-b. Principal component analysis of Bulgogi marinated with Bulgogi sauce containing added crust

522	Table 1. Ingredients	of Bulgogi sauce	containing various	amounts of crust	from dry-aged
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523 beef loin.

Ingredients (%)	Dry aged beef crust (%)						
ingredients (70)	0 (control)	3	6	9	12		
Water	74.7	74.7	74.7	74.7	74.7		
Soy sauce	16.6	16.6	16.6	16.6	16.6		
Garlic	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5		
Ginger	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3		
Brown sugar	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3		
Refined rice wine	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7		
Sesame oil	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8		
Whole black pepper	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1		
Crust	·	3	6	9	12		
Total (%)	100	103	106	109	112		
Total (g)	800	824	848	872	896		

526 Table 2. Proximate composition of *Bulgogi* sauce containing different amounts of dry-

Troite	Dry-aged beef crust (%)						
Traits	0 (control)	3	6	9	12		
Water (%)	92.12±1.93ª	90.87±2.02 ^{ab}	90.04±1.38 ^{ab}	90.72±1.86 ^{ab}	88.70±0.77 ^b		
Protein (%)	1.19±0.03 ^e	1.78±0.14 ^d	2.16±0.05°	2.39±0.11 ^b	3.06±0.27 ^a		
Fat (%)	0.50 ± 0.26^{d}	1.49±0.37°	3.71±0.51 ^b	5.39±0.57 ^b	6.82±0.23ª		
Ash (%)	2.46±0.04	2.33±0.12	2.41±0.12	2.50±0.15	2.44±0.09		

527 aged beef crust.

528 Data are shown asmeans±SD.

529 ^{a-e}Means on the same row with different letters are significantly different (p < 0.05).

530

532 Table 3. Color, pH, and salinity of *Bulgogi* sauce containing different amounts of dry-

533 aged beef crust.

Troits			Dry-aged beef crust (%)					
Traits		0 (control)	3	6	9	12		
	CIE L*	43.78±0.11ª	43.70±0.22 ^a	43.16±0.26 ^b	42.22±0.04 ^c	42.38±0.13°		
Color	CIE a*	4.48±0.26ª	0.72 ± 0.04^{b}	0.62±0.11 ^{bc}	0.52 ± 0.04^{cd}	0.40 ± 0.10^{d}		
	CIE b*	6.70±0.16 ^a	4.20±0.07 ^b	3.54±0.05°	3.26±0.09 ^d	3.28±0.13 ^d		
pН		5.34±0.02°	5.38±0.01 ^b	5.40±0.01 ^{ab}	5.42±0.01ª	5.42±0.01ª		
Salinity		2.15±0.03ª	2.10±0.03 ^b	2.08±0.01 ^{bc}	2.07±0.03 ^{bc}	2.06±0.01°		

534 Data are shown as means±SD.

^{a-e}Means on the same row with different letters are significantly different (p<0.05).

537 Table 4. Approximate composition of *Bulgogi* marinated with *Bulgogi* sauce containing

Dry-aged beef crust (%) Traits 3 0 (control) 6 9 12 77.21±2.60 Water (%) $77.26{\pm}1.32$ 76.78 ± 1.81 78.48 ± 3.56 $76.21{\pm}1.01$ Protein (%) 16.75 ± 0.15 $17.02{\pm}0.08$ $16.93{\pm}0.62$ 17.74 ± 0.28 18.36 ± 1.72 Fat (%) 1.57±0.51° $2.13{\pm}0.76^{b}$ $3.20{\pm}0.11^{a}$ 3.67±0.21ª $3.94{\pm}0.26^{a}$ Ash (%) $1.81{\pm}0.05$ 1.81 ± 0.03 1.79 ± 0.05 1.81 ± 0.06 $1.79{\pm}0.04$

538 added crust.

539 Data are shown as means±SD.

540 ^{a-e}Means on the same row with different letters are significantly different (p<0.05).

Troits			Dry-aged beef crust (%)					
TTatts			0 (control)	3	6	9	12	
	Uncooked		5.12±0.08°	5.15±0.01 ^{bc}	5.18±0.02 ^{abc}	5.24±0.01 ^{ab}	5.27±0.06 ^a	
рН	Cooked		5.65±0.02°	5.67±0.01 ^b	5.69±0.01ª	5.69±0.01ª	5.68±0.01 ^{ab}	
		CIE L*	43.45±0.35 ^a	43.55±0.49 ^a	42.80±0.52 ^a	41.64±0.69 ^b	40.62±0.19°	
	Uncooked	CIE a*	8.70±0.20	8.87±1.10	9.10±0.46	9.37±0.59	8.97±0.21	
Color		CIE b*	15.60±0.17 ^a	14.67±0.99 ^b	13.32±0.18°	12.75±0.07°	12.83±0.12°	
		CIE L*	49.33±0.12 ^b	49.30±0.01 ^b	49.45±0.07 ^b	51.34±0.30 ^a	51.12±0.28 ^a	
	Cooked	CIE a*	5.77±0.06	5.98±0.27	6.06±.36	5.95±0.26	6.05±0.07	
		CIE b*	9.02 ± 0.22^d	9.50±0.32°	9.96±0.15 ^b	10.54±0.24ª	10.62±0.15 ^a	

542 Table 5. Color and pH of *Bulgogi* marinated with *Bulgogi* sauce containing added crust.

543 Data are shown as means±SD.

^{a-e}Means on the same row with different letters are significantly different (p<0.05).

546 Table 6. Sensory evaluation of *Bulgogi* marinated with *Bulgogi* sauce containing added

547 crust.

Turita	Dry-aged beef crust (%)					
Traits	0 (control)	3	6	9	12	
Color	8.40±0.55	8.43±0.79	8.40±0.89	8.50±1.00	8.50±1.29	
Flavor	8.29±0.95 ^b	8.71±0.76 ^{ab}	9.14±0.69 ^{ab}	9.57±0.53ª	9.29±0.95ª	
Texture	8.14±0.69 ^b	8.43±0.98 ^{ab}	9.14±0.90 ^a	9.29±0.76ª	$9.00{\pm}0.82^{ab}$	
Juiciness	8.40±0.55	8.67±1.03	8.80±0.45	8.80±0.45	9.00±0.89	
Off-flavor	8.75±0.96	8.86±1.21	8.80±1.10	9.00±0.71	8.80±1.30	
Overall acceptability	8.14±0.69 ^b	8.14±0.69 ^b	9.00±1.00 ^{ab}	9.29±0.76ª	8.71±1.11 ^{ab}	
Data are shown as means \pm SD.						

549 ^{a-e}Means on the same row with different letters are significantly different (p<0.05).

550