



Introduction to Aerosol Technology for Pulmonary Drug Delivery

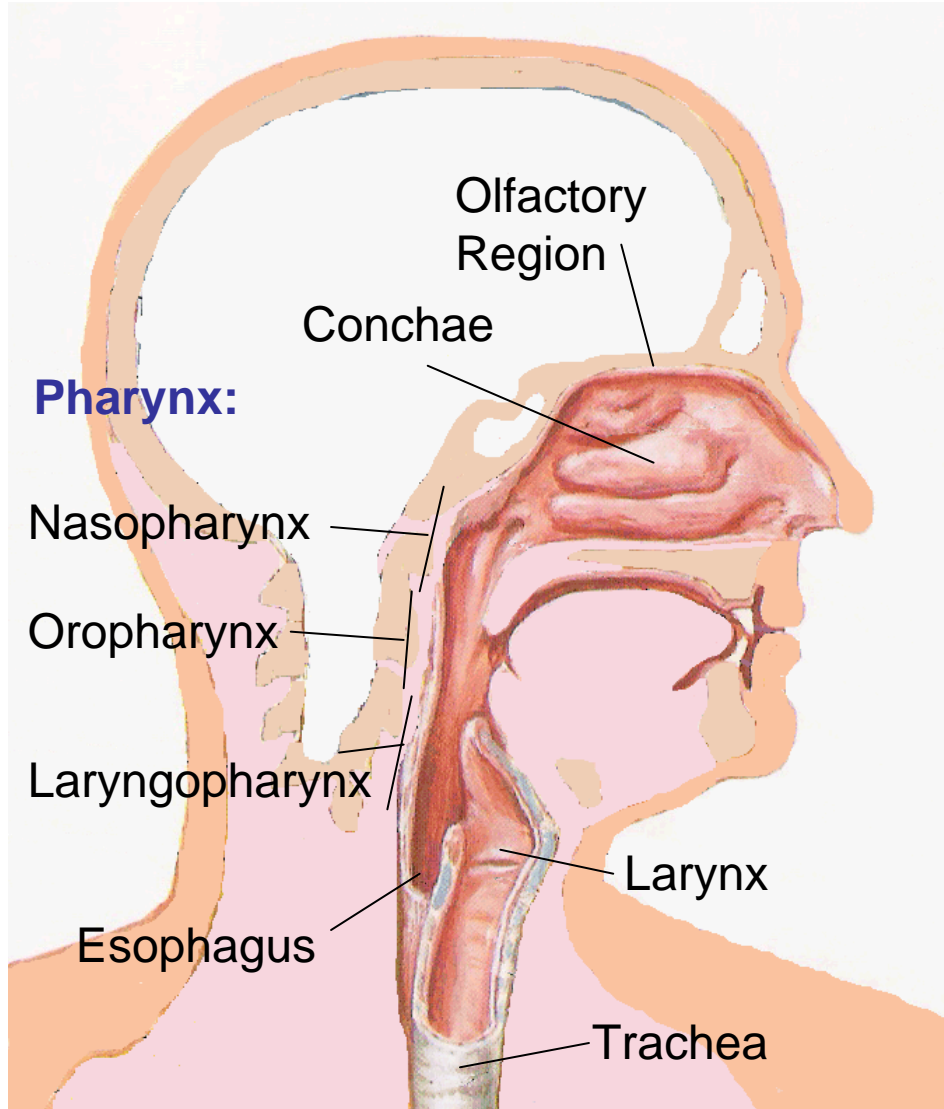
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Outline

- Anatomy and Physiology of the Respiratory System
- Deposition and Pharmacology
- Delivery and Dispersion Devices
- Powder Manufacture
- Particle Engineering
 - Understanding the Spray Drying Process
 - Designing Dispersibility
 - Designing Physical Stability
 - Encapsulation

The Portal: Nose or Mouth



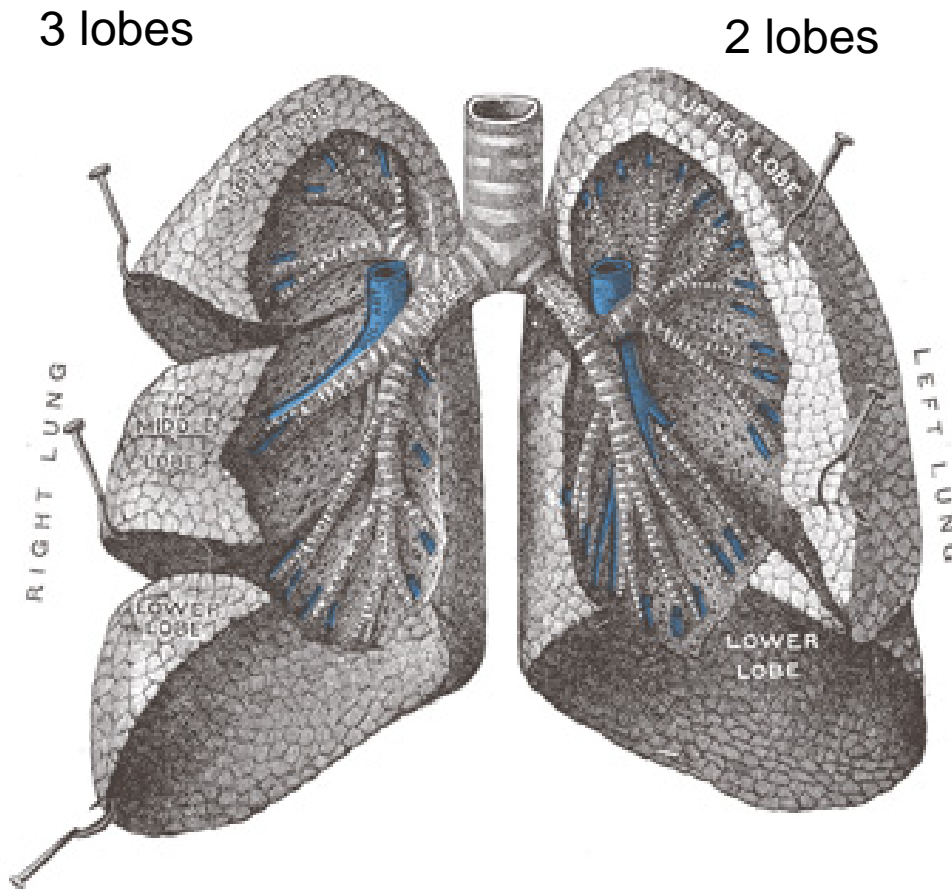
Nose

- Variable anatomy
- Warms and filters air
 - Captures > 50 % of particles with an aerodynamic diameter $d_a > 3 \mu\text{m}$
 - Captures > 90 % of particles with $d_a > 10 \mu\text{m}$
- Surface area: 150 cm^2
- Cilia and mucus transport particles down the nasal cavity to the pharynx. Mucociliary clearance takes 15 – 20 min.

Mouth

- Extrathoracic filter function
 - < 10 % for $d_a < 3 \mu\text{m}$
 - > 65 % for $d_a > 10 \mu\text{m}$
 - Depends on jaw and tongue position, and on breathing rate
- Extrathoracic volume: 50 cm^3

Lung Anatomy - Overview



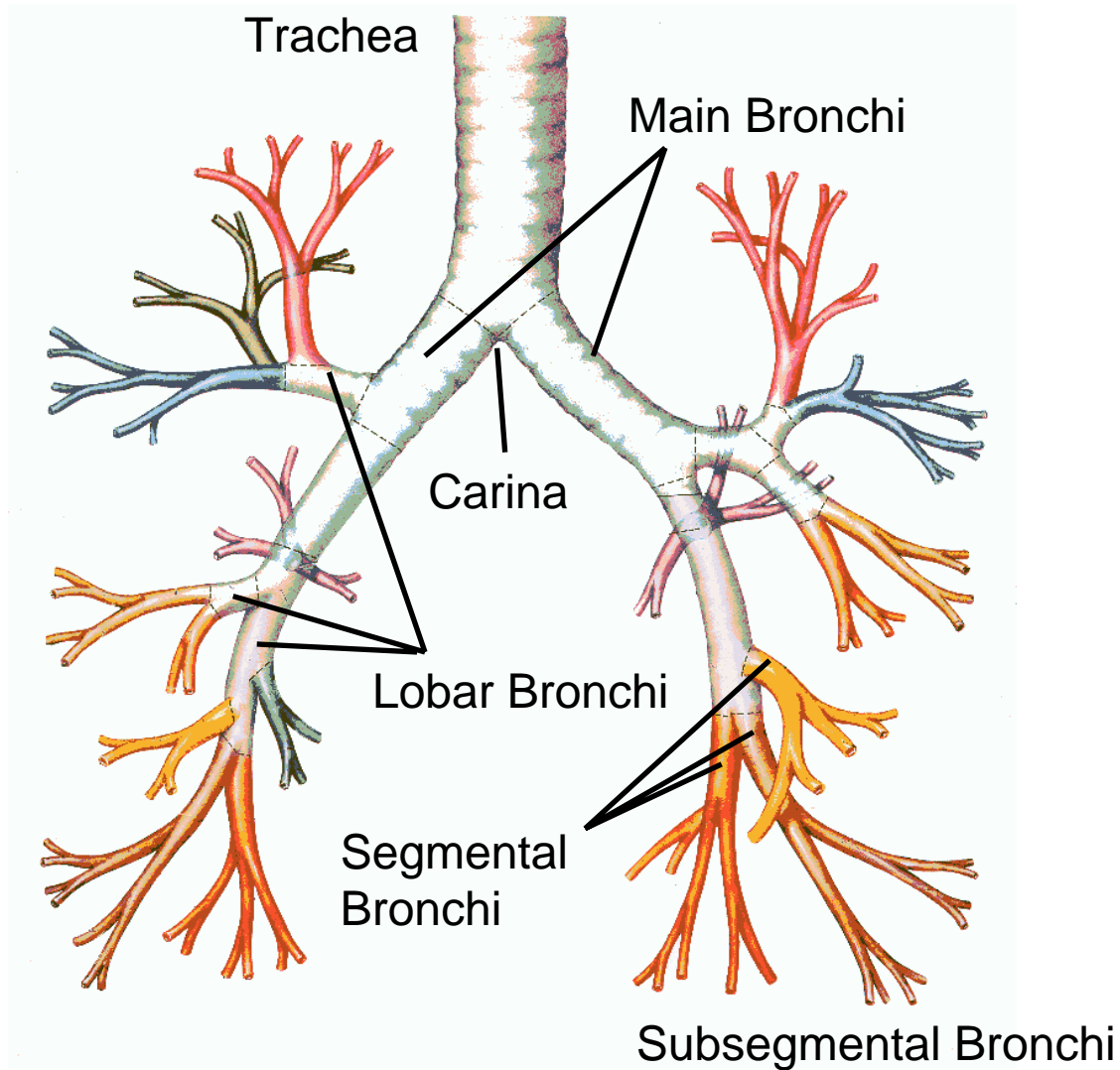
Conducting Zone

- Trachea
- Bronchi
- Bronchioles
- Terminal Bronchioles
- Volume: 175 cm^3
- Surface Area: 3500 cm^2

Respiratory Zone

- Respiratory Bronchioles
- Alveolar Ducts
- Alveoli
- Volume: $5,000 \text{ cm}^3$
- Surface Area: 100 m^2

Conducting Airways – Trachea and Bronchi



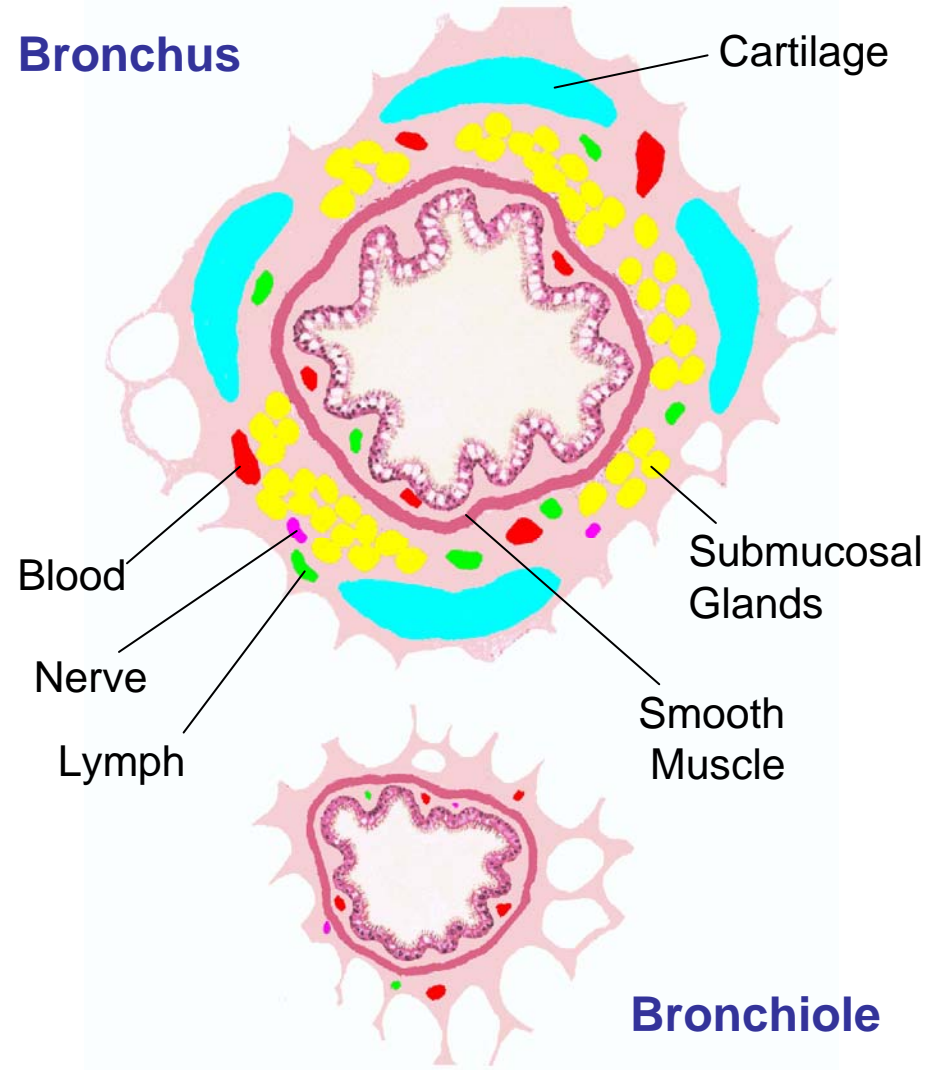
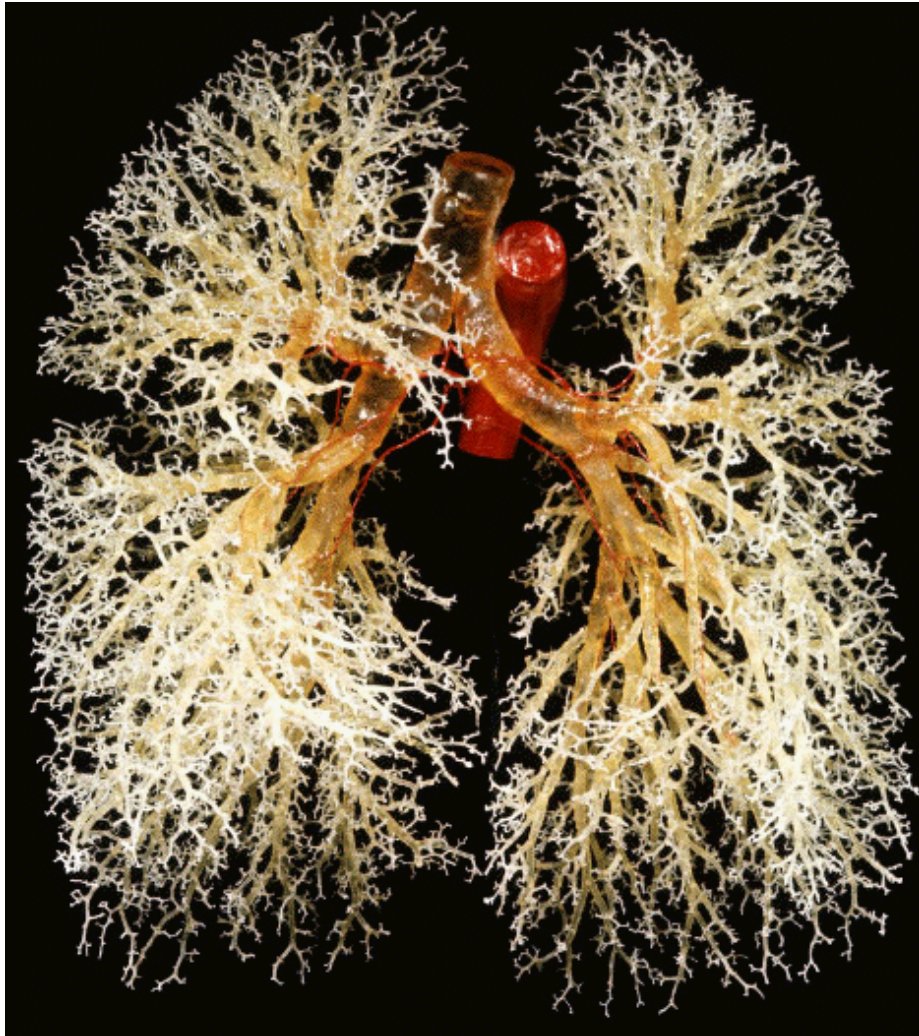
Structure

- Cartilaginous
- Longitudinal elastic fibers
- Smooth muscle
- Ciliated
- Mucus layer
- Branching with irregular dichotomy

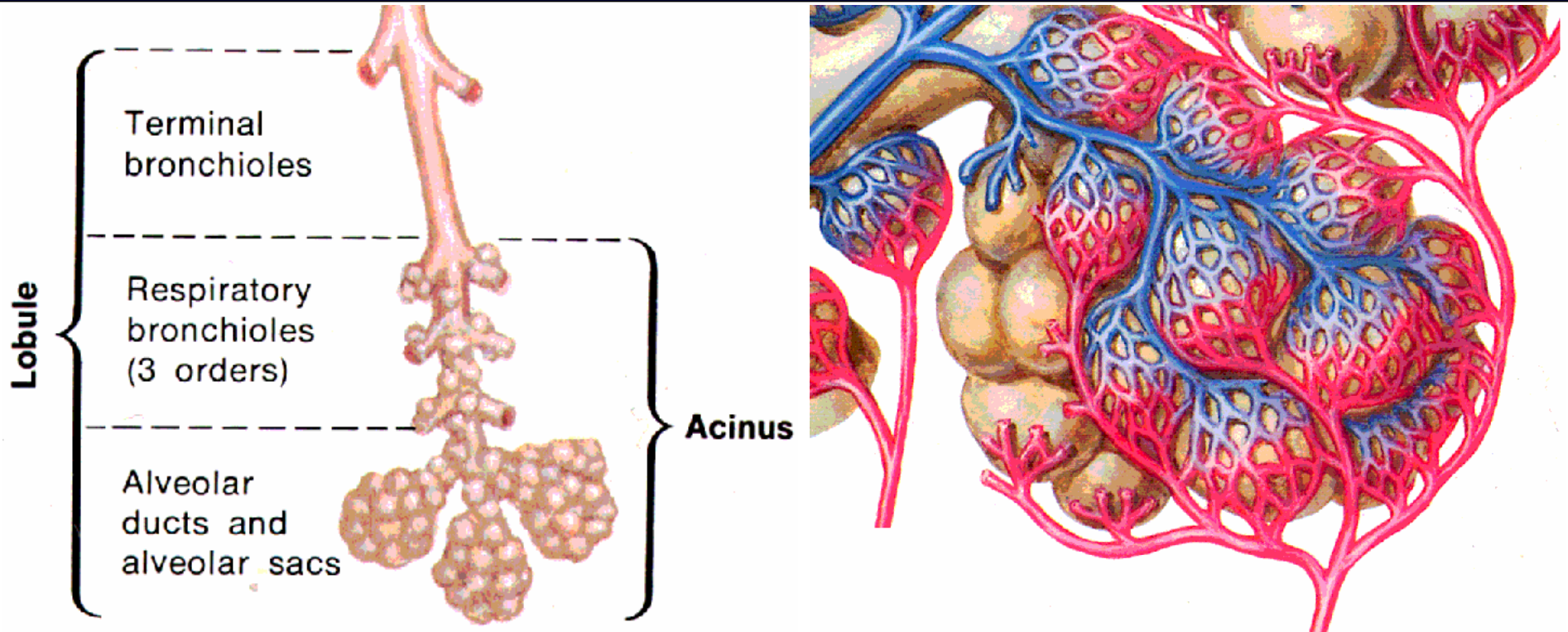
Physiology

- Contributes most of the airway resistance

Conducting Airways - Bronchi and Bronchioles

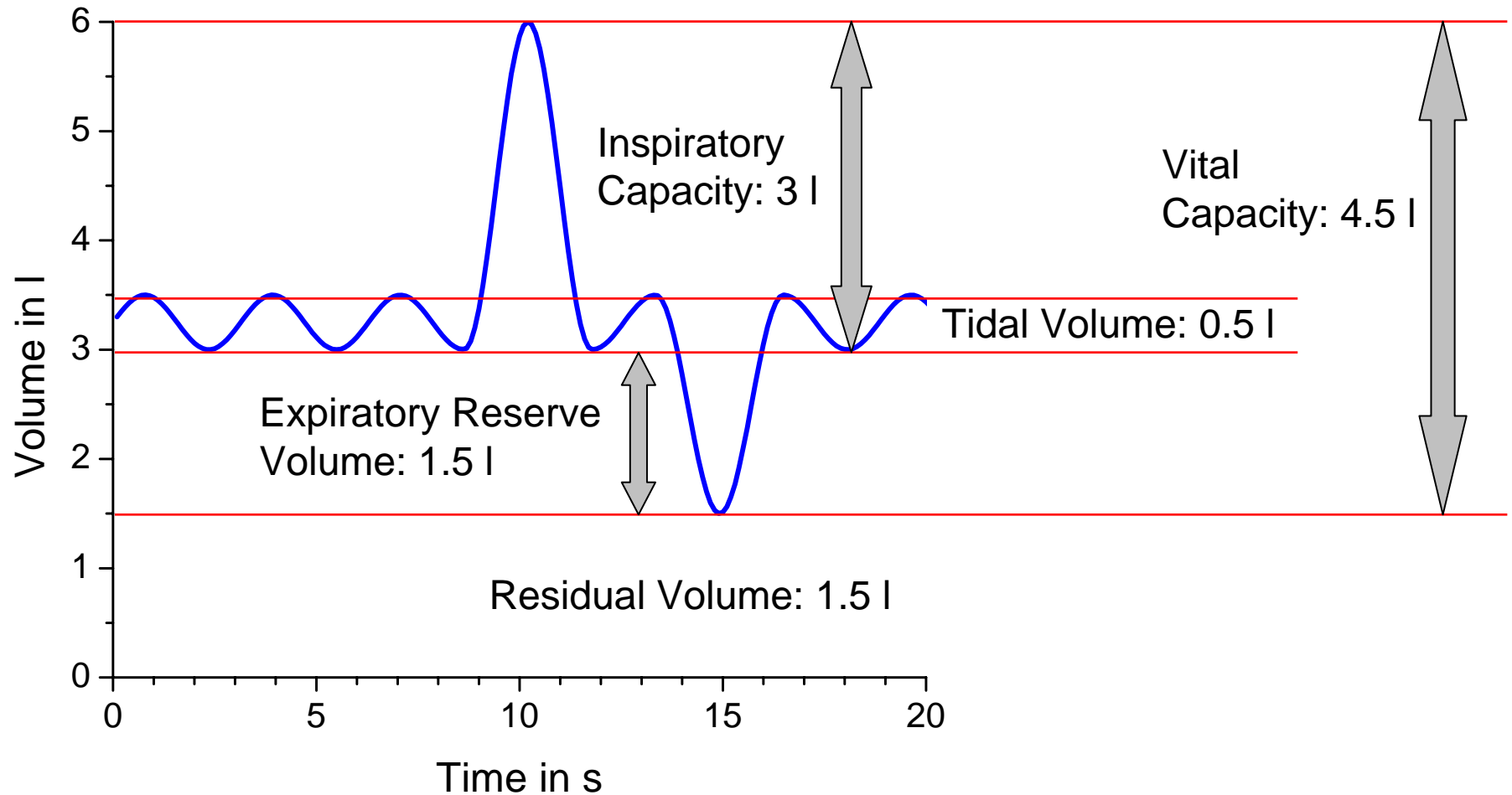


Respiratory Zone

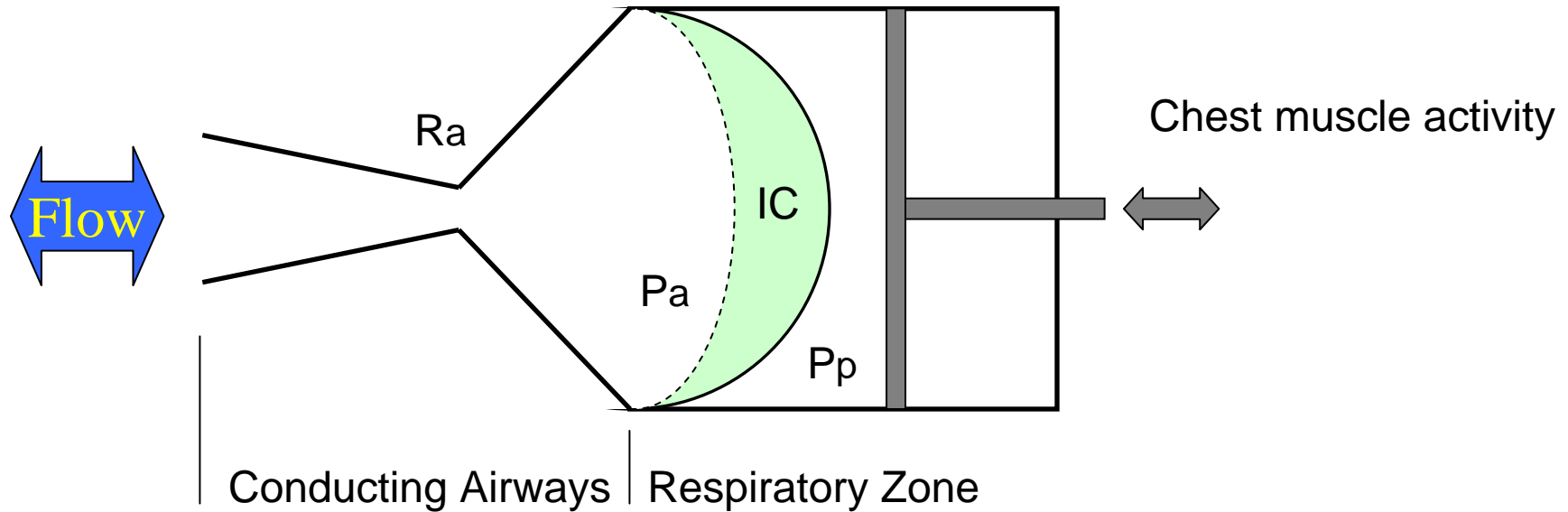


- No cartilage, cilia or mucus
- Few longitudinal elastic fibers and some smooth muscle
- 300 million alveoli provide a large surface area (100 m²) separated from blood flow by a thin tissue layer.
- The entire blood volume of the body passes through the lungs each minute.

Lung Volumes



Breathing - Mechanical Analogy

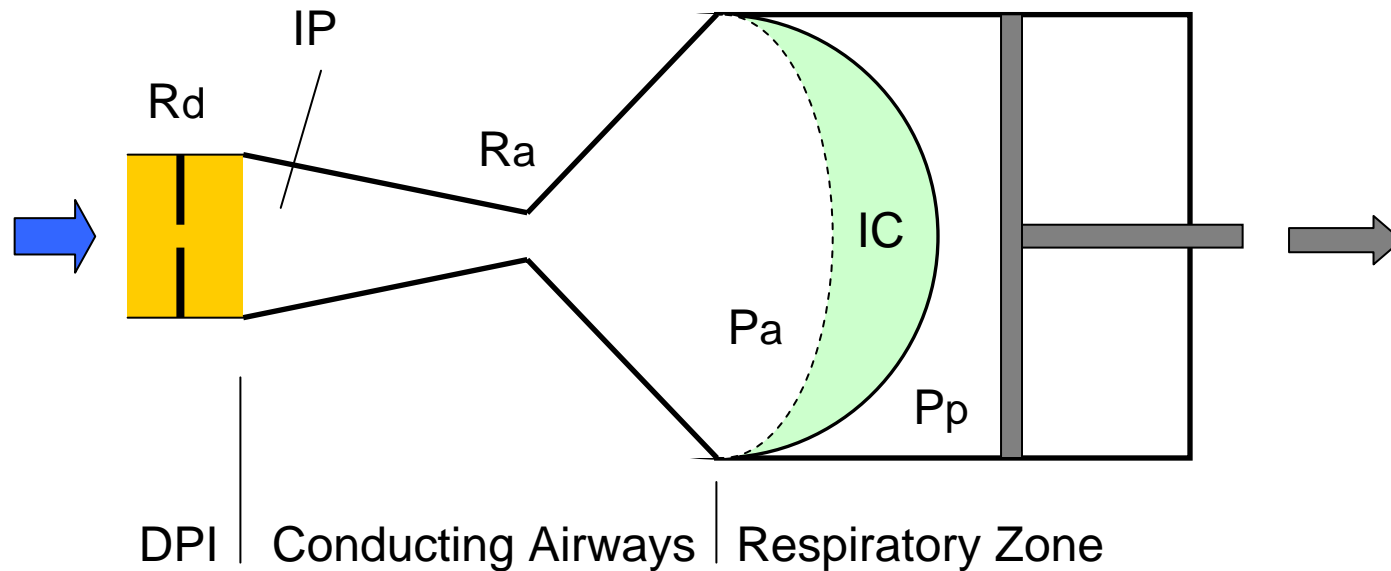


Flowrate: $Q = \frac{\sqrt{P_a}}{R_a}$

R_a : Airway Resistance
 P_p : Pleural Pressure (Drop)
 P_a : Alveolar Pressure (Drop)

IC: Inspiratory Capacity

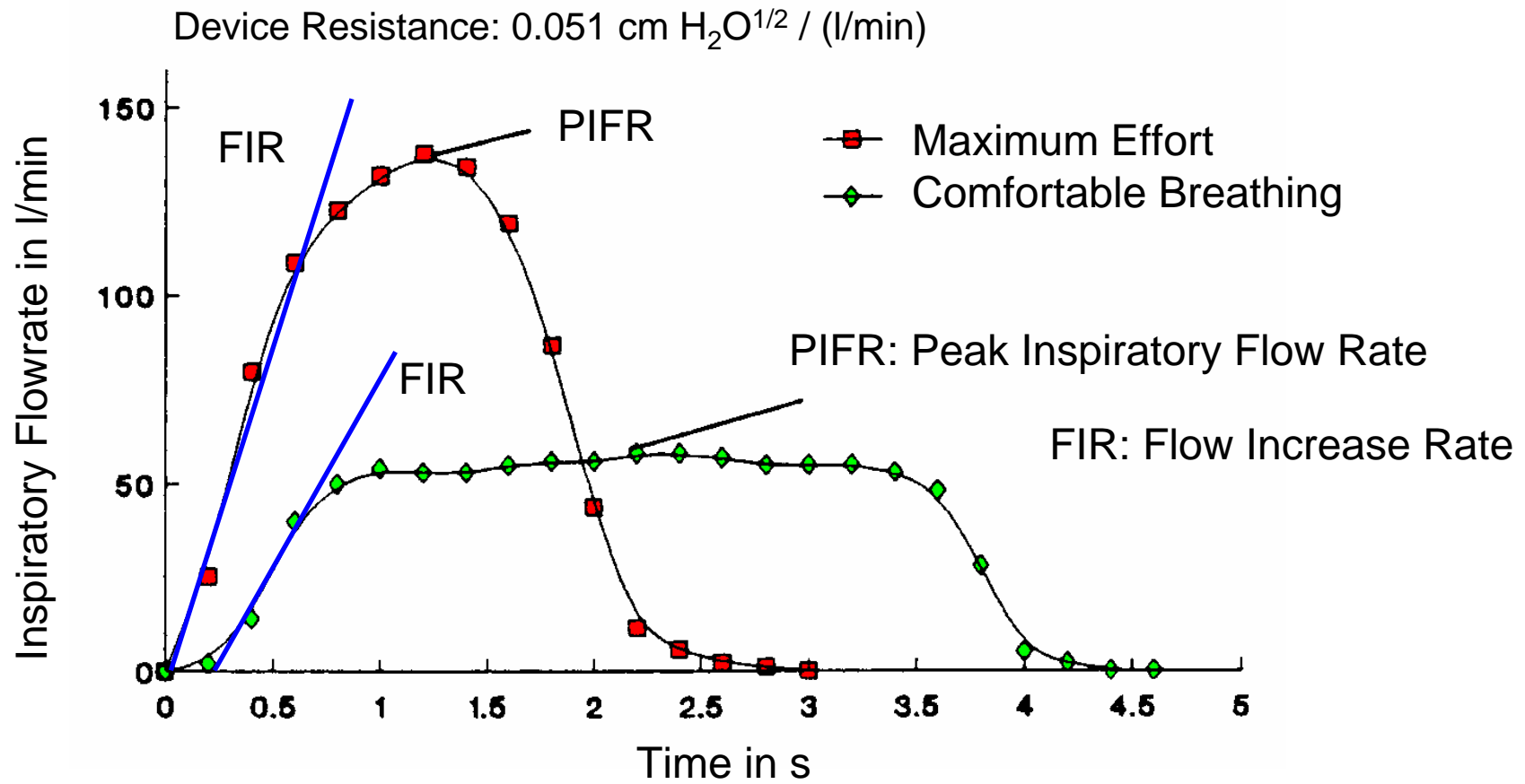
Inspiration through a DPI - Mechanical Analogy



Flowrate: $Q = \frac{\sqrt{IP}}{R_d}$, $R_d \gg R_a$

R_d : Device Resistance
 R_a : Airway Resistance
 P_p : Pleural Pressure (Drop)
 P_a : Alveolar Pressure (Drop)
 IP : Inspiratory Pressure (Drop)
 IC : Inspiratory Capacity

Breathing Profile, Flow versus Time



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Aerosol Transport – Aerodynamic Diameter

The aerodynamic diameter , d_a , of a particle is the diameter of a sphere with a density of 1 g/cm^3 having the same gravitational settling velocity as the particle.

Gravitational Force

$$F_{Gr} = m_p g ,$$



Drag Force (Stokes Law, $Re < 1$)

$$F_D = \frac{3\pi\eta v d_g}{C_c}$$

Settling velocity:

$$v_s = \frac{\rho_p d_g^2 g C_c}{18\eta}$$

Cunningham Slip Correction Factor corrects for non-continuum conditions. (P in kPa, d in μm)

$$C_c = 1 + \frac{1}{Pd} (15.39 + 7.518 e^{-0.0741 Pd})$$

d_a is derived equating the settling velocity of the particle and the reference sphere:

$$d_a^2 = \frac{\rho_p C_c}{\rho_{ref} C_{c,ref}} d_g^2$$

$$d_a = \sqrt{\rho_p d_g}$$

Assuming that the slip correction factors are nearly identical and using ρ in g/cm^3 :

Stokes Number and Impaction Parameter

The dimensionless Stokes number is the ratio of the stopping distance and a characteristic dimension of the gas flow. It describes how well particles are able to follow the gas flow.

$$Stk = \frac{s}{x} = \frac{v_0 \tau}{x}$$

$$\tau = \frac{d_a^2 C_c}{18\eta}$$

The stopping distance is the initial velocity of a particle times the relaxation time.

For the impaction of a gas jet onto a surface the characteristic dimension is the jet radius. The particle velocity is assumed to be the same as the gas velocity.

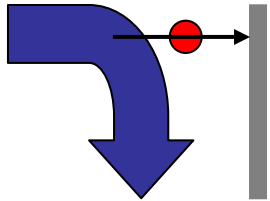
$$Stk = \frac{v d_a^2 C_c}{9\eta d_j}$$



$$K = d_a^2 Q = Stk \cdot \frac{18\eta}{C_c x^3} \quad (13)$$

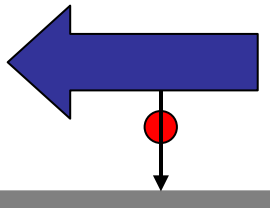
For lung deposition a related parameter, called impaction parameter or inertial parameter, is often used, where Q is the inspiratory flow rate. This is less accurate, because it assumes a fixed geometry.

Lung Deposition - Mechanisms



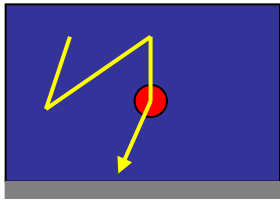
Impaction

Primary mechanism for big particles and upper airways



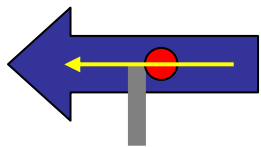
Sedimentation

More important in smaller airways and affected by breath-hold



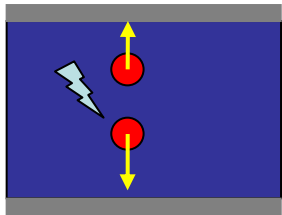
Diffusion

Primary mechanism for small particles in the respiratory zone



Interception

Important for non-spherical particles



Electrostatic Precipitation

Plays a role in triboelectrically charged aerosol

Factors Affecting Lung Deposition

- Aerodynamic particle diameter
 - Primary aerodynamic particle diameter
 - State of agglomeration
 - Hygroscopic growth / droplet evaporation
- Inspiratory flow
 - Flow increase rate
 - Peak inspiratory flow rate
 - Inspiratory capacity
 - Breath hold
- Lung volume
- Aerosol concentration and initial velocity
 - Inhalation device design
 - Delivered dose

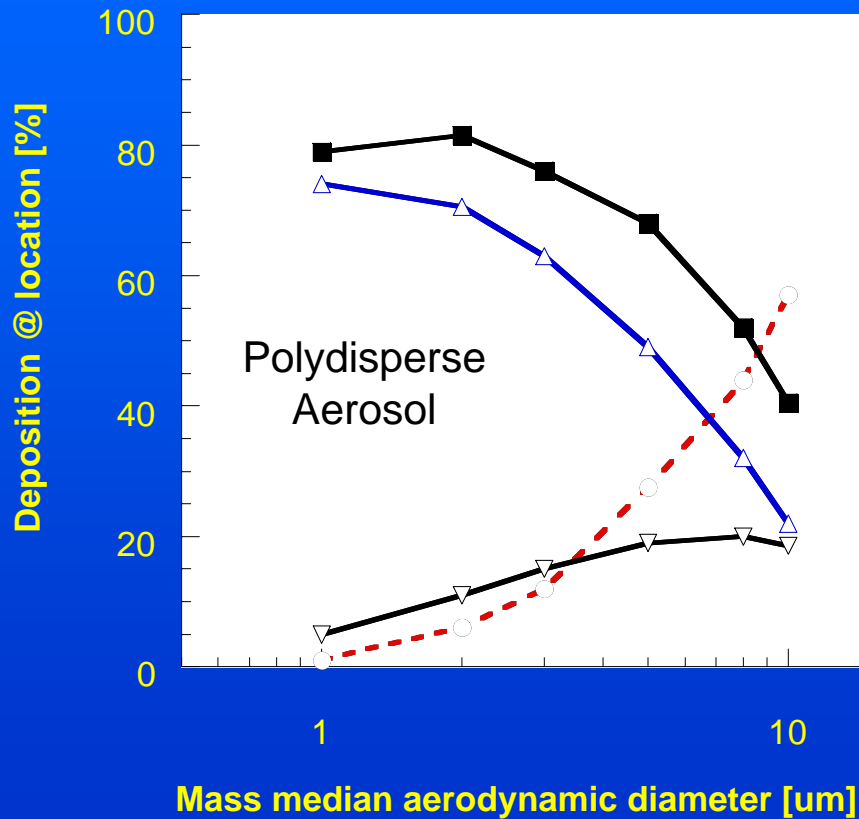
Determined by

- Formulation
- Delivery Device
- Patient
 - Gender
 - Age
 - Training
 - Disease state
 - Inspiratory Effort

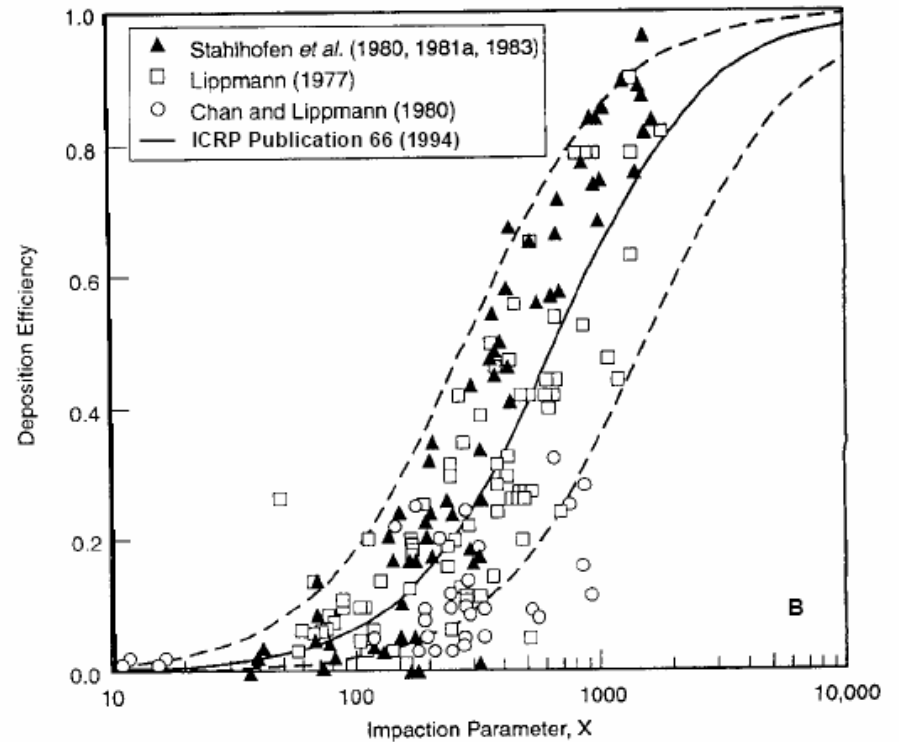
Deposition as a Function of Particle Size and Flow Rate

Inhaled volume 4 l
 Inhaled flow rate 30 l/min
 Breath hold 10secs
 GSD 2.2

---○--- Oropharynx
 —▼— Tracheobronchial
 —▲— Peripheral
 —■— Lung



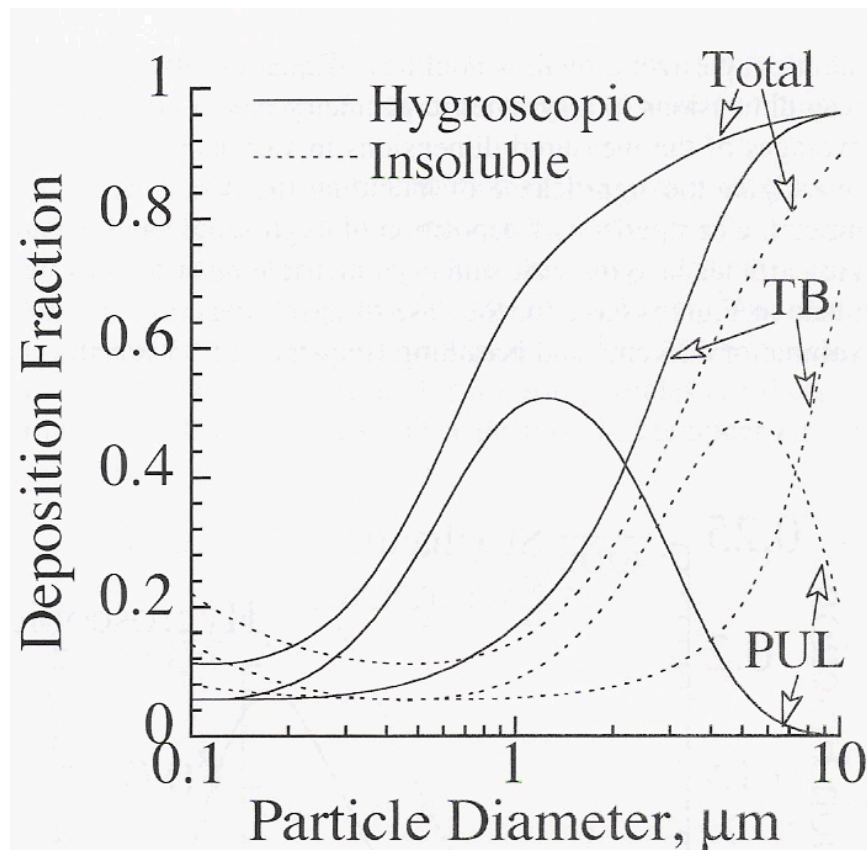
Extrathoracic Deposition Particles inhaled through a mouthpiece



$$X = d_a^2 Q^{0.6} V_T^{-0.2} [\mu\text{m}^2 \text{cm}^{1.2} \text{s}^{0.6}]$$

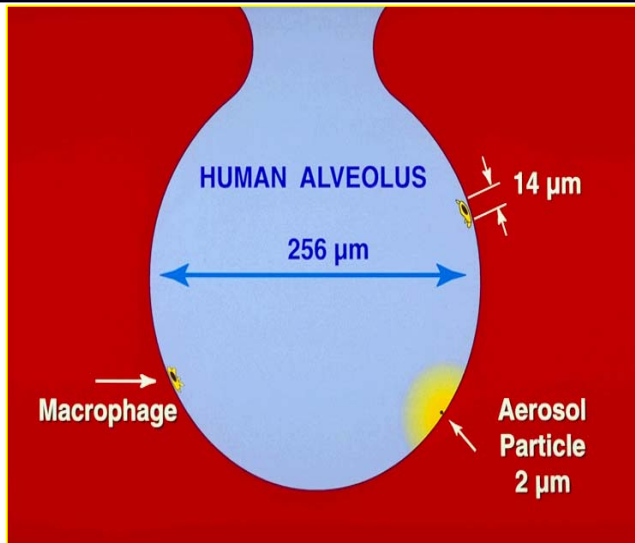
Hygroscopicity Influences Deposition

Regional and Total Deposition Oral Breathing



Numerical model results
Tidal volume: 625 ml
Breathing frequency: 15 / min
Monodisperse NaCl particles

Pharmacology - Systemic Drug Delivery



Transport Across the Alveolar Wall

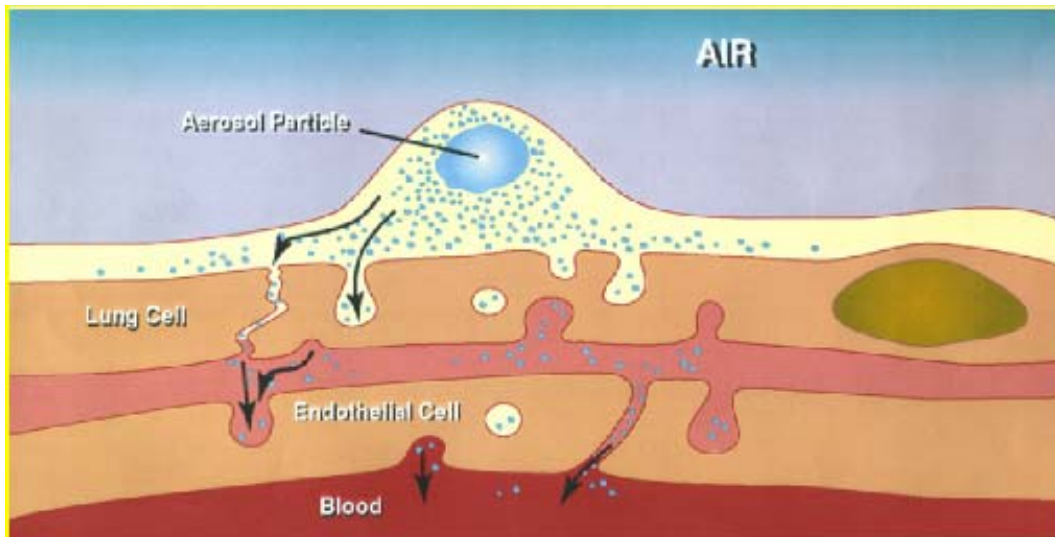
A typical aerosol dose (1 – 50 mg) deposits only a few particles per alveolus onto a thin alveolar wall (200 nm)

Transport mechanisms

- Paracellular
 - Tight junctions - epithelium
 - Loose junctions - endothelium
- Transcellular
 - Diffusion
 - Transcytosis
 - Receptor mediated

Absorption kinetics are fast and depend on

- Molecular weight
- Solubility
- Partition coefficient.



Pharmacology - Local Drug Delivery

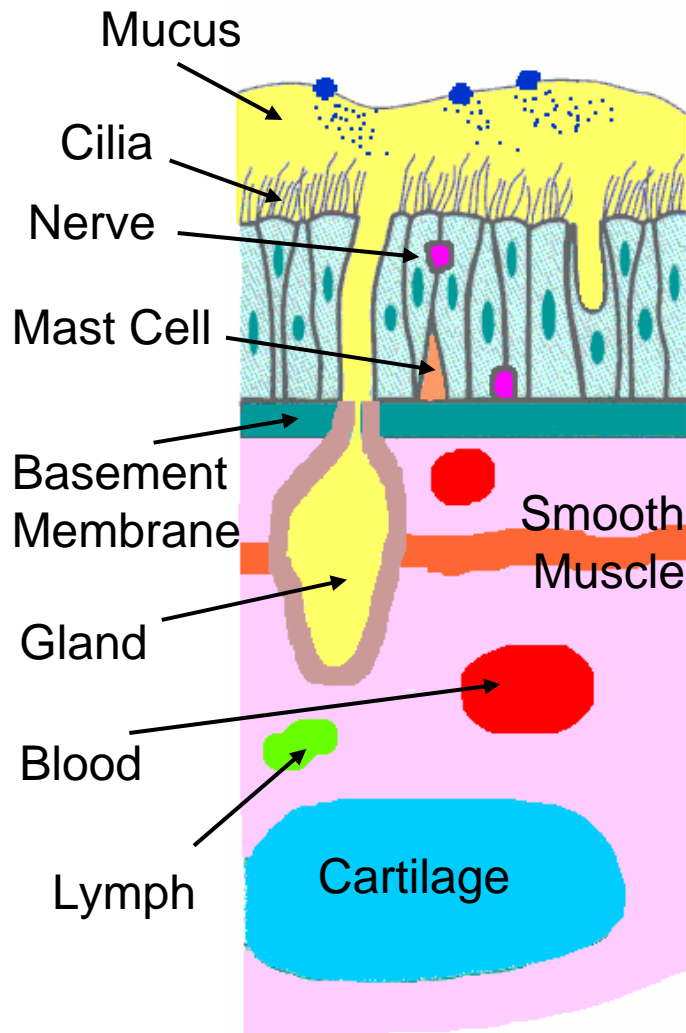
Across the Bronchiolar Epithelium

Transport mechanisms

- Local aerosol concentration higher, because of smaller surface area
- Diffusion in mucus layer competes with mucociliary clearance, solubility is important
- Bioavailability depends on location of local target
- Larger distances favor small molecules
- Active transport present, e.g. for immunoglobulins

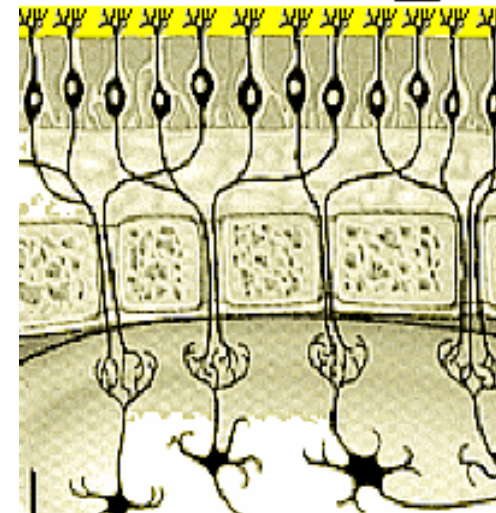
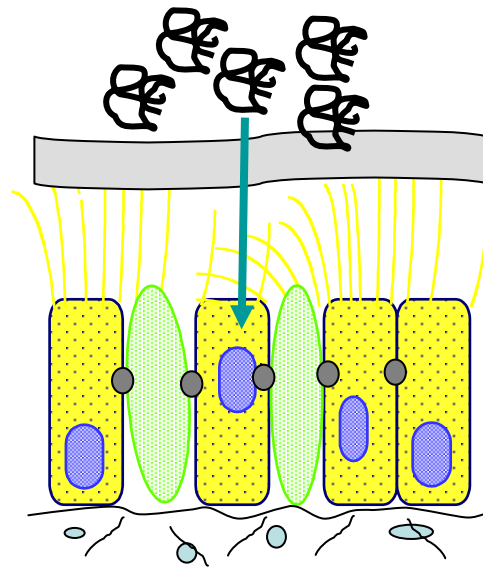
Absorption Kinetics

- Slower but targeting the conducting airways is difficult
- Interstitial tissue may act as reservoir



Pharmacology - Intranasal Drug Delivery

- Transport competes with mucociliary clearance.
- High bioavailability for small molecules (< 1 kDa) with rapid uptake (1 - 5 min)
- Low bioavailability (~ 1 – 5 %) for large molecules (>1 kDa) coupled with small surface likely requires penetration enhancers. Slower uptake (5 – 20 min)
- Drug delivery to the CNS via the olfactory region under investigation.
- Optimal droplet / particle size 20 - 100 μm to avoid lung deposition or dripping. Smaller particle sizes possible with bi-directional nasal delivery.



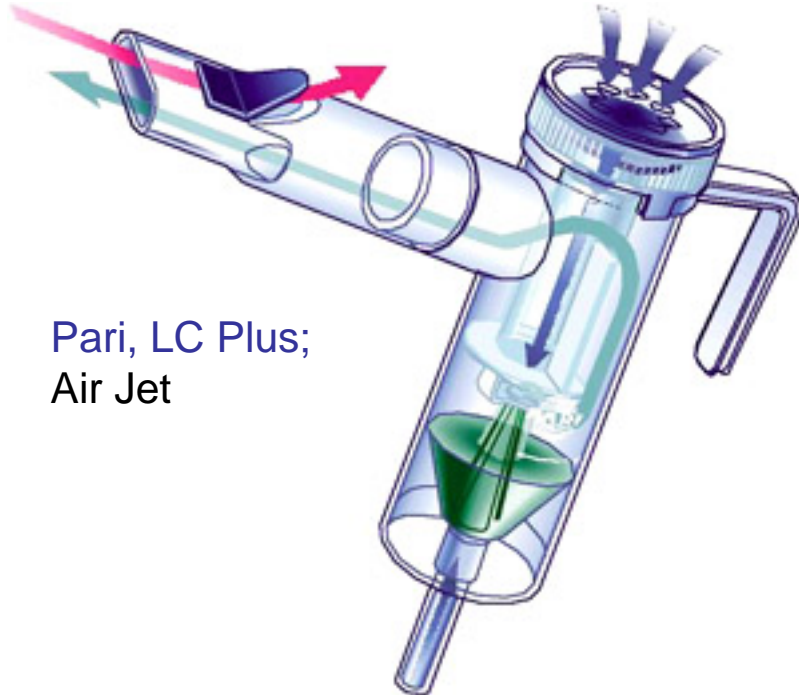
Olfactory Region

Outline

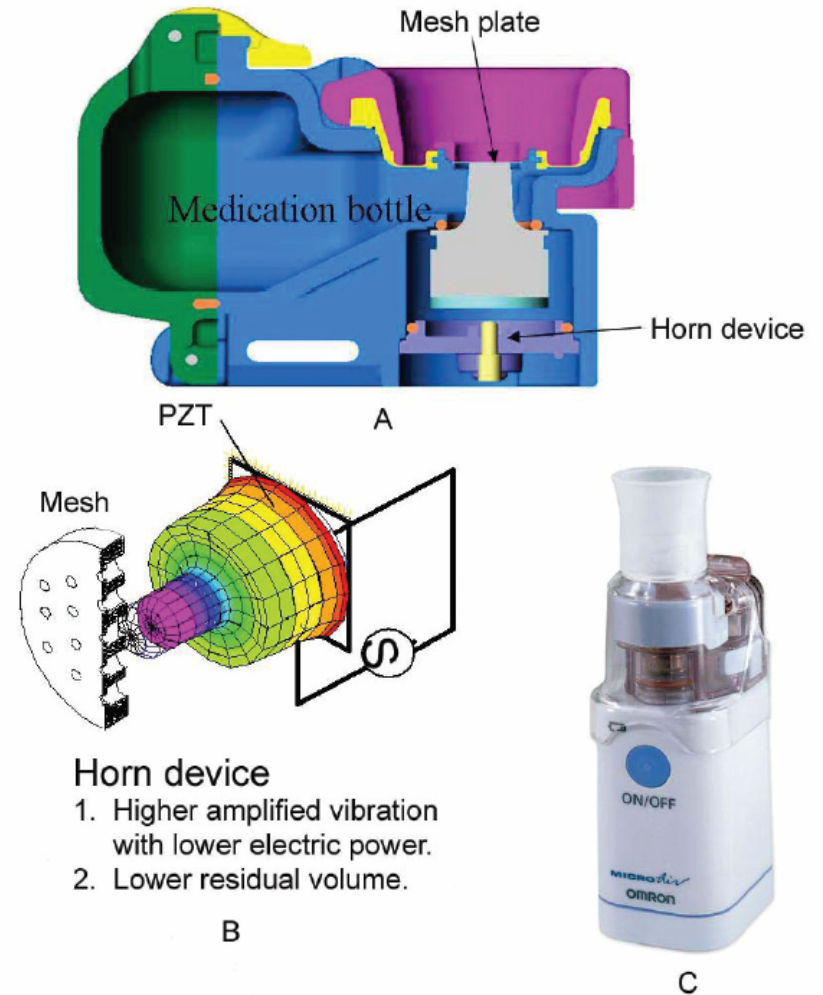
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Delivery Devices – Nebulizers

Nebulizer Types



Pari, LC Plus;
Air Jet



Horn device

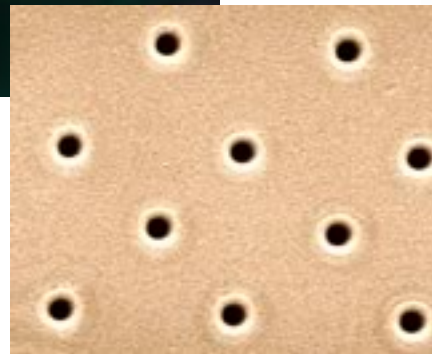
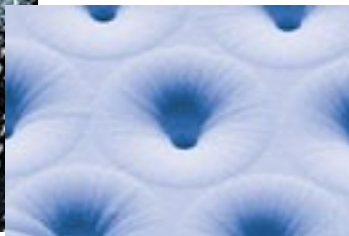
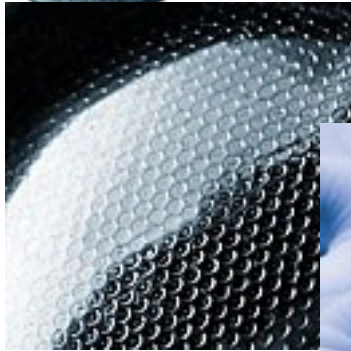
1. Higher amplified vibration with lower electric power.
2. Lower residual volume.

Omron, MicroAir; Ultrasonic / Vibrating Mesh

Delivery Devices - Nebulizers

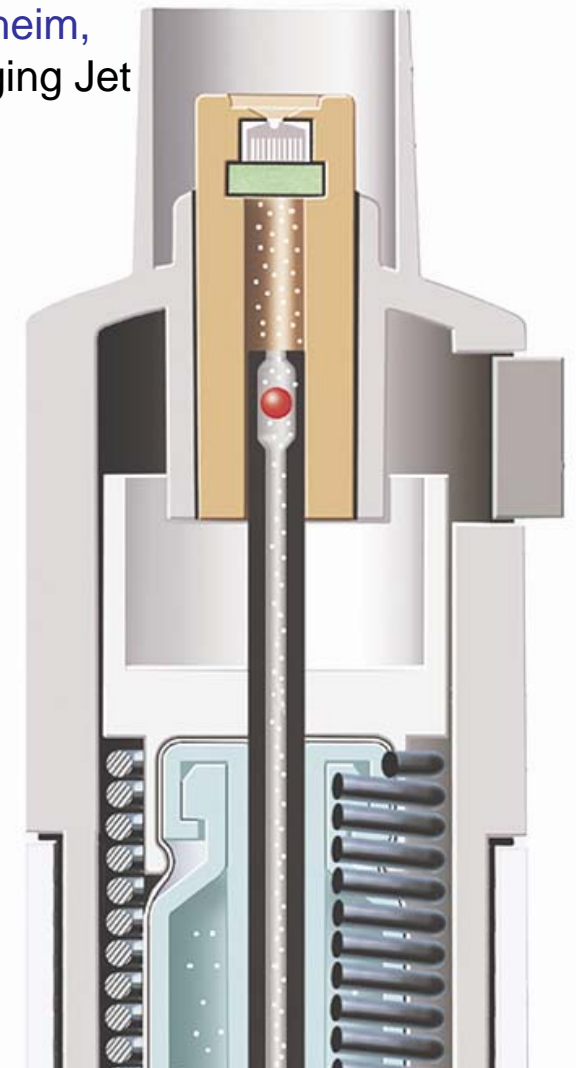
Nebulizer Types

Aerogen / Nektar,
OnQ; Micropump

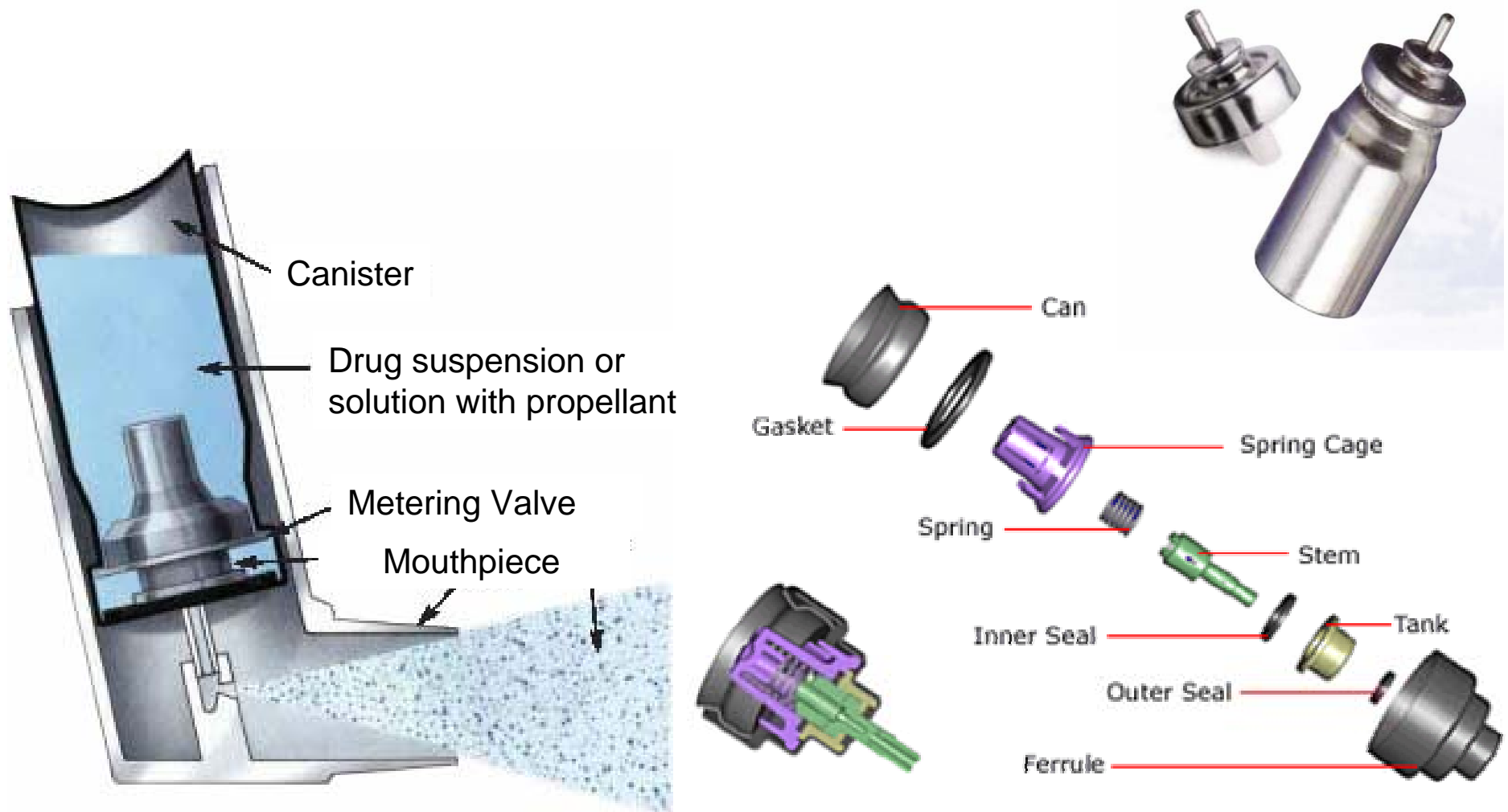


Aradigm AERx;
Microorifice /
Disintegrating jet

Boehringer Ingelheim,
Respimat; Impinging Jet



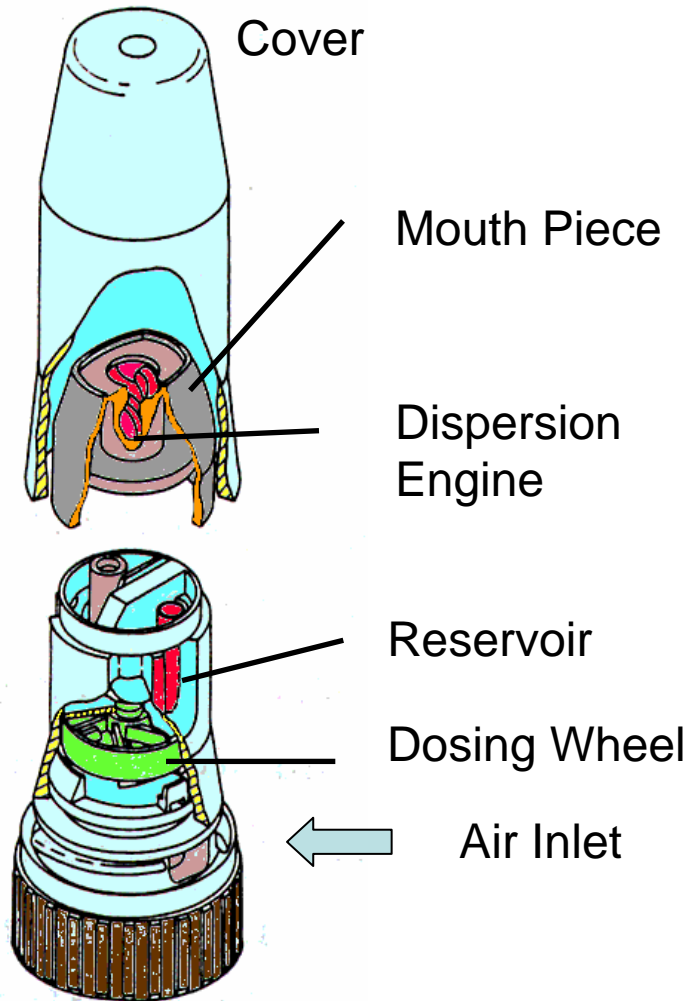
Delivery Devices - Pressurized Metered Dose Inhalers



Dry Powder Inhalers - Classification

- By dosage form
 - Single Dose (blister, capsule)
 - Multi-Dose (reservoir, unit packaged)
- By source of dispersion energy
 - Active (compressed air)
 - Passive (patient inspiratory effort)
 - Uncontrolled
 - With patient control or feedback

Multi-dose Dry Powder Inhaler - Reservoir

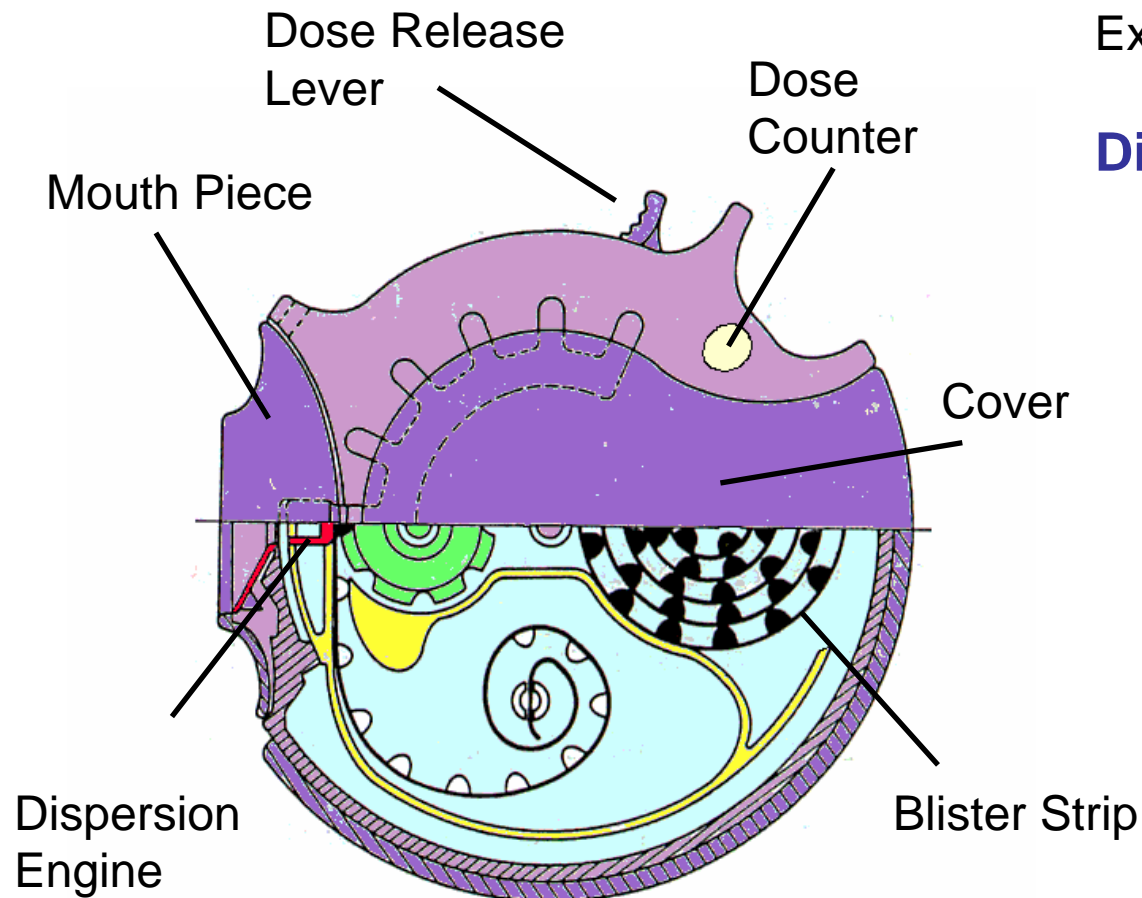


Example:

Turbuhaler (Astra Zeneca)

- Micronized neat drug or with lactose carrier
- 50 – 200 doses
- Dose counter
- ~ 50 mg reservoir capacity
- Flow rate dependent lung dose

Multi-dose Dry Powder Inhaler - Blister

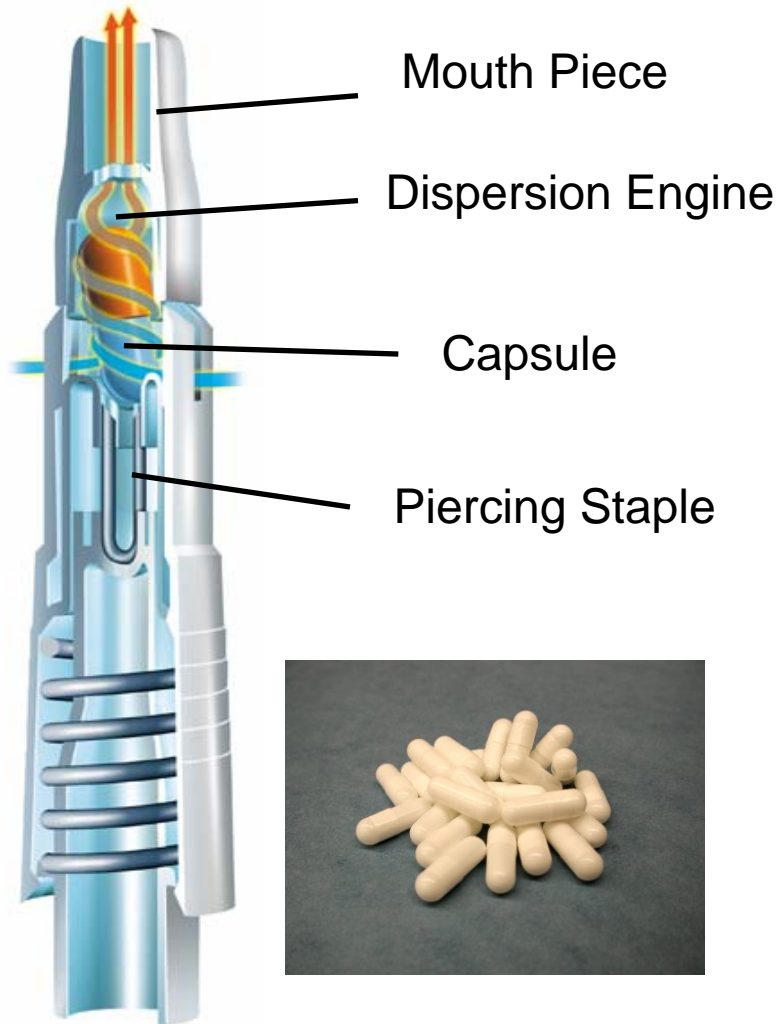


Example:

Diskus (GSK)

- Uses lactose carrier
- 60 metered doses
- Dose counter
- Small mouthpiece

Single-dose Dry Powder Inhaler - Capsule



Turbospin (PH&T)

- Several products in development using a similar concept
- Capsules contain ~ 5 to 50 mg of powder

- Moisture protection can be achieved by secondary packaging



Example: Spiriva capsules, Boehringer Ingelheim / Pfizer

Single-dose Active Dry Powder Inhaler - Blister



Nektar PDS

- Decouples inspiration and dispersion
- Uses compressed air for dispersion
- Foil blisters contain 2 – 5 mg of powder
- Aerosol is dispersed into collapsible holding chamber



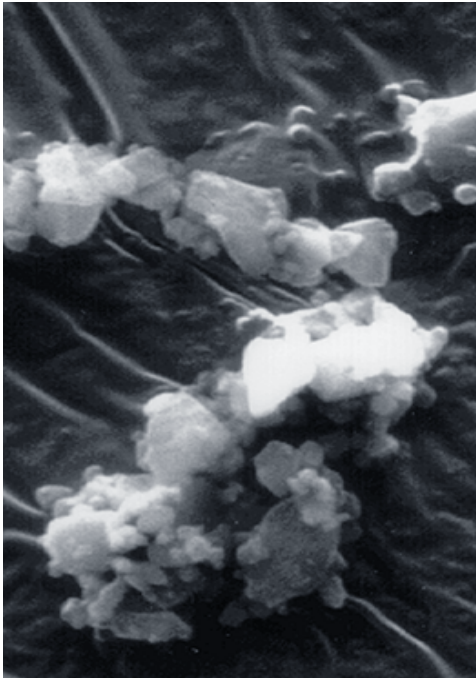
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Powder Manufacturing Methods – Milling and Blending

Milling

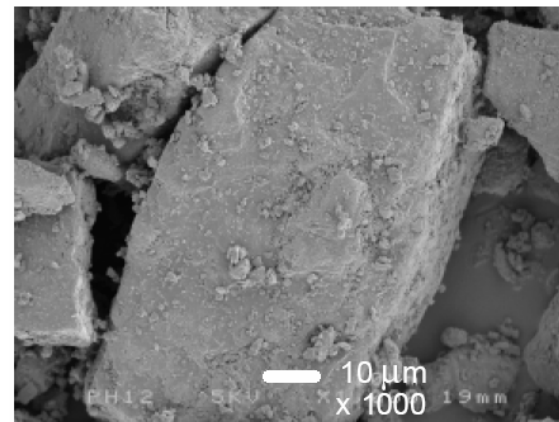
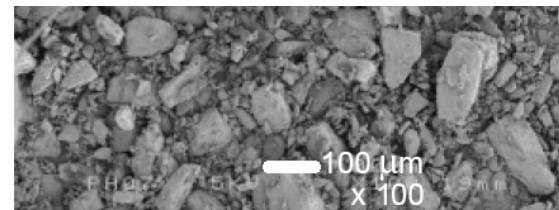
- Jet-milling (dry)
- Homogenization (wet)
- Cryo-milling (cold)



Micronized
Budesonide

Blending

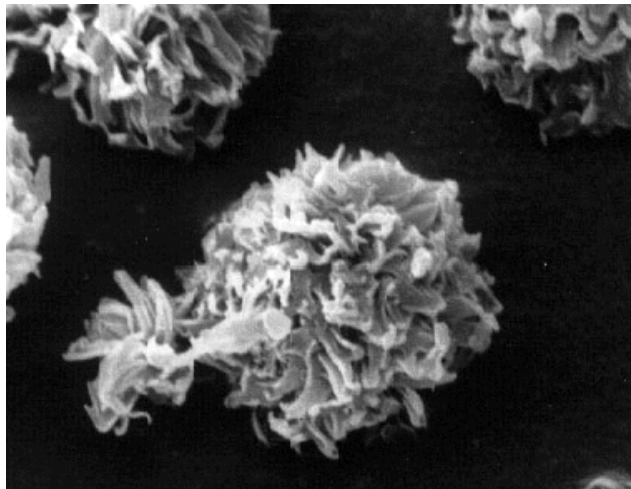
- with larger carrier particles
- with smaller “force control agents”



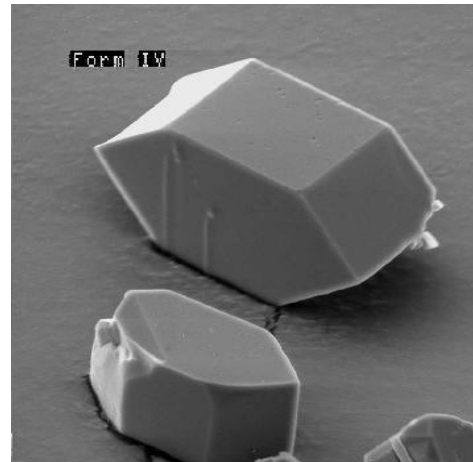
Lactose Blend

Powder Manufacturing Methods – Precipitation and SCF

Precipitation

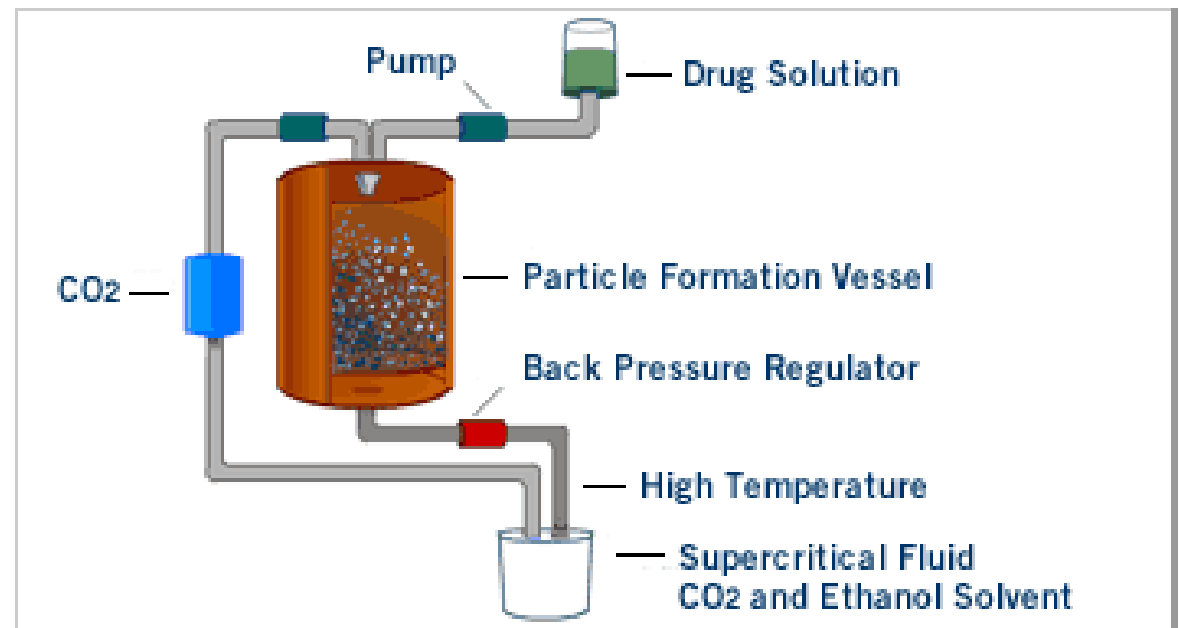


Example:
Mannkind Technospheres:
Self Assembling Particles
Precipitation induced by pH shift



Supercritical Fluid Particle Technology

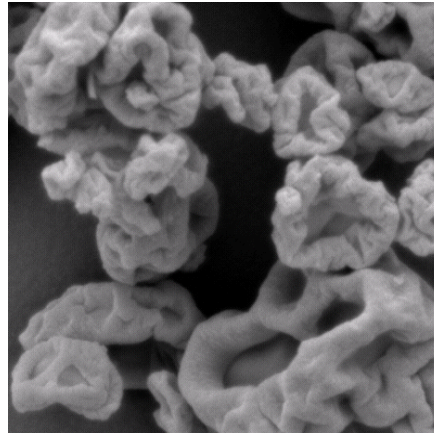
Dispersion and solvent extraction by supercritical fluids



Powder Manufacturing Methods – Spray Drying

Spray Drying

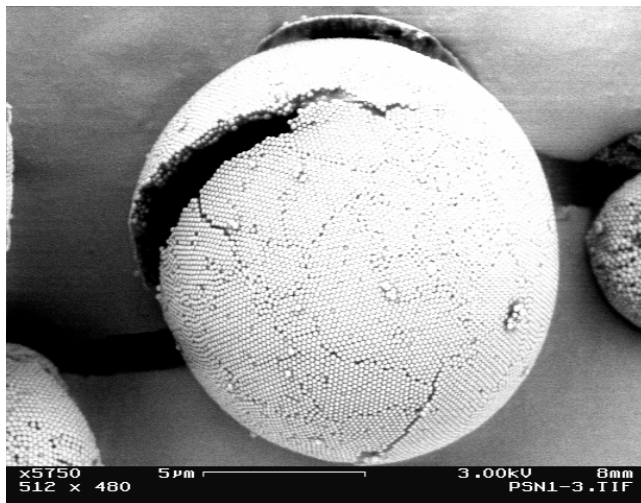
- Solutions
- Suspensions
- Emulsion
- Co-solvent
- With blowing agent



Protein solution



With Blowing Agent



Nanoparticle suspension

Spray Drying at Different Scales

Benchtop



Büchi 191
Evaporates 0.5 kg / h

Intermediate Scale



Niro Mobile Minor
Evaporates 7 kg / h

(Very) Large Scale



Kaolin Plant
Evaporates 16,000 kg / h

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The Ideal Particle

Provides good dispersibility

- Low density, rough surface, hydrophobic surface

Provides long shelf life

- Excipients for chemical and physical stabilization

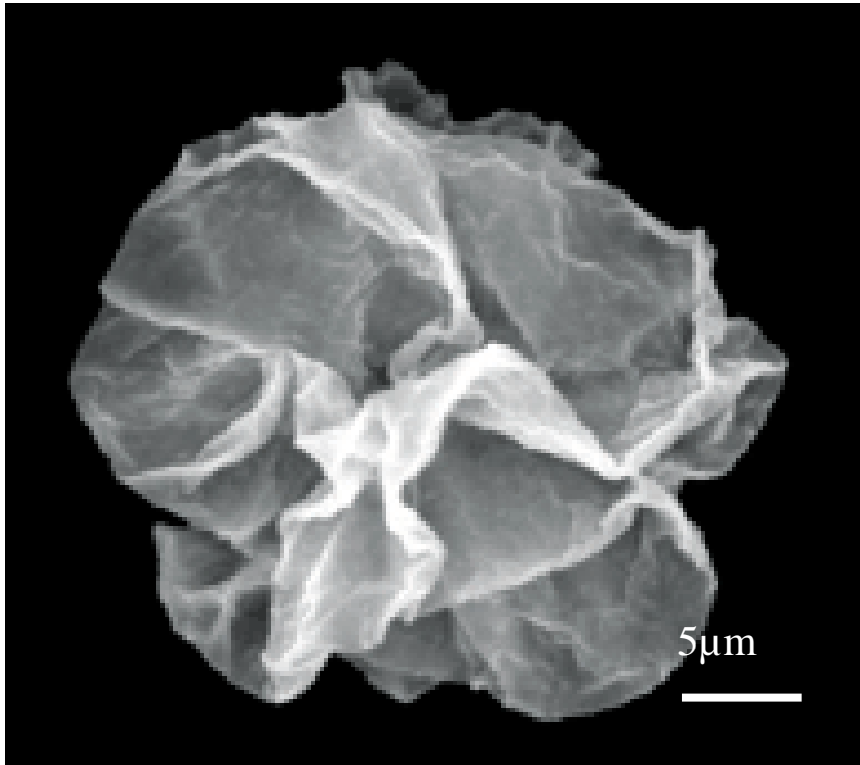
Provides environmental robustness

- Encapsulation
- Reduced hygroscopicity / low tendency to crystallize

Feasible for commercial development

- Reproducible, economical powder production
- Low product development costs

Example 1: Large Porous Particles (Alkermes / AIR)



- $D_p = 5-30 \mu\text{m}$
- $D_a = 1-5 \mu\text{m}$

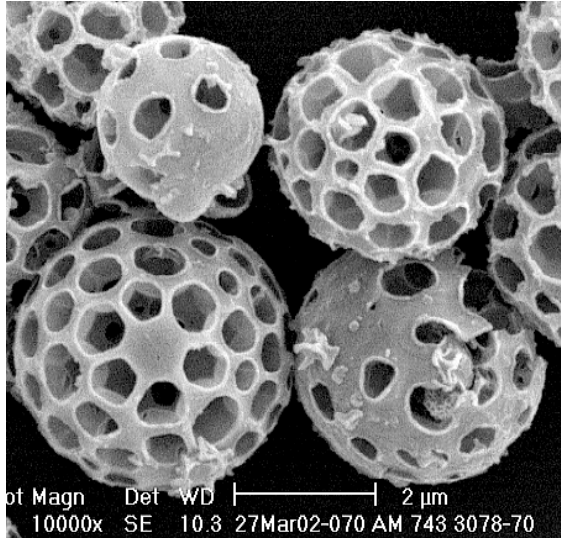
- Large particles with small aerodynamic diameter

$$D_a = D_p \sqrt{\rho_e}$$

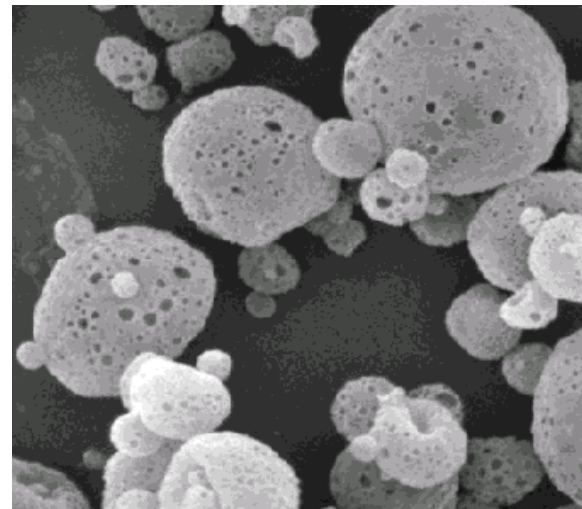
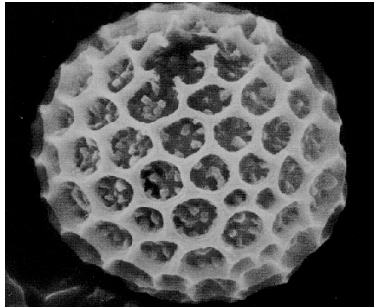
Provide good dispersibility

- Lipid (DPPC) based
- May use additional excipients such as organic salts

Example 2: Lipid Based Particles (Nektar Therapeutics)

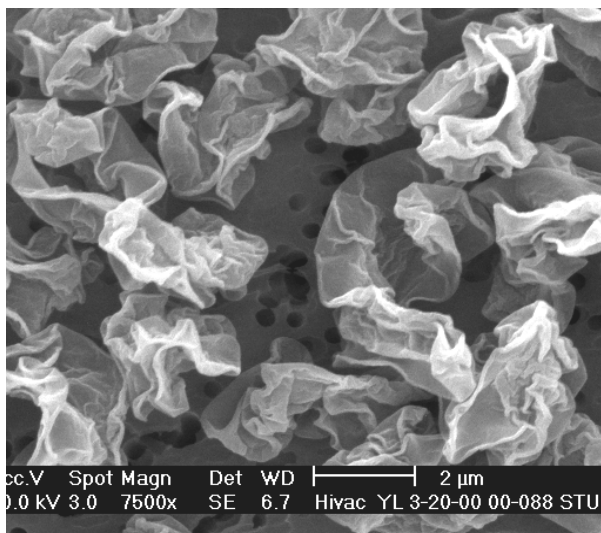


- Small porous particles provide good dispersibility and facilitate transport to the peripheral lung
- Lipid (DSPC) based
- May use blowing agent to lower and control particle density

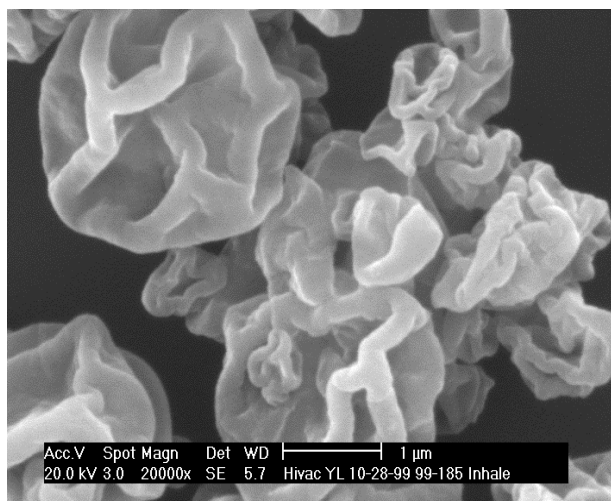


Example 3: Amino Acid / Sugar Based Particles (Nektar)

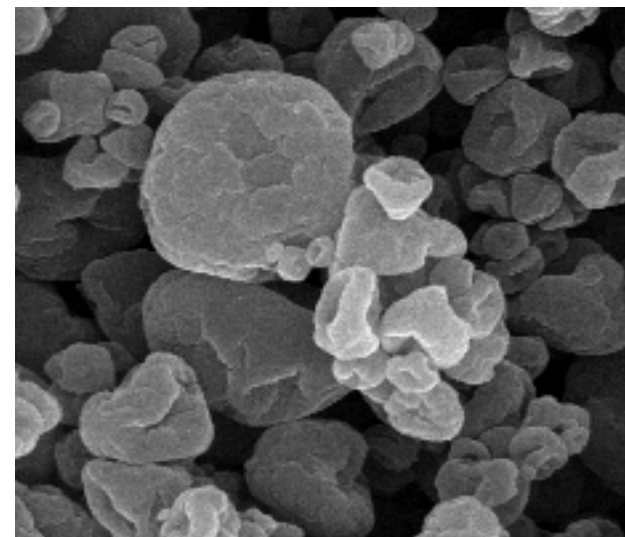
Trileucine Shell



Protein Formulation



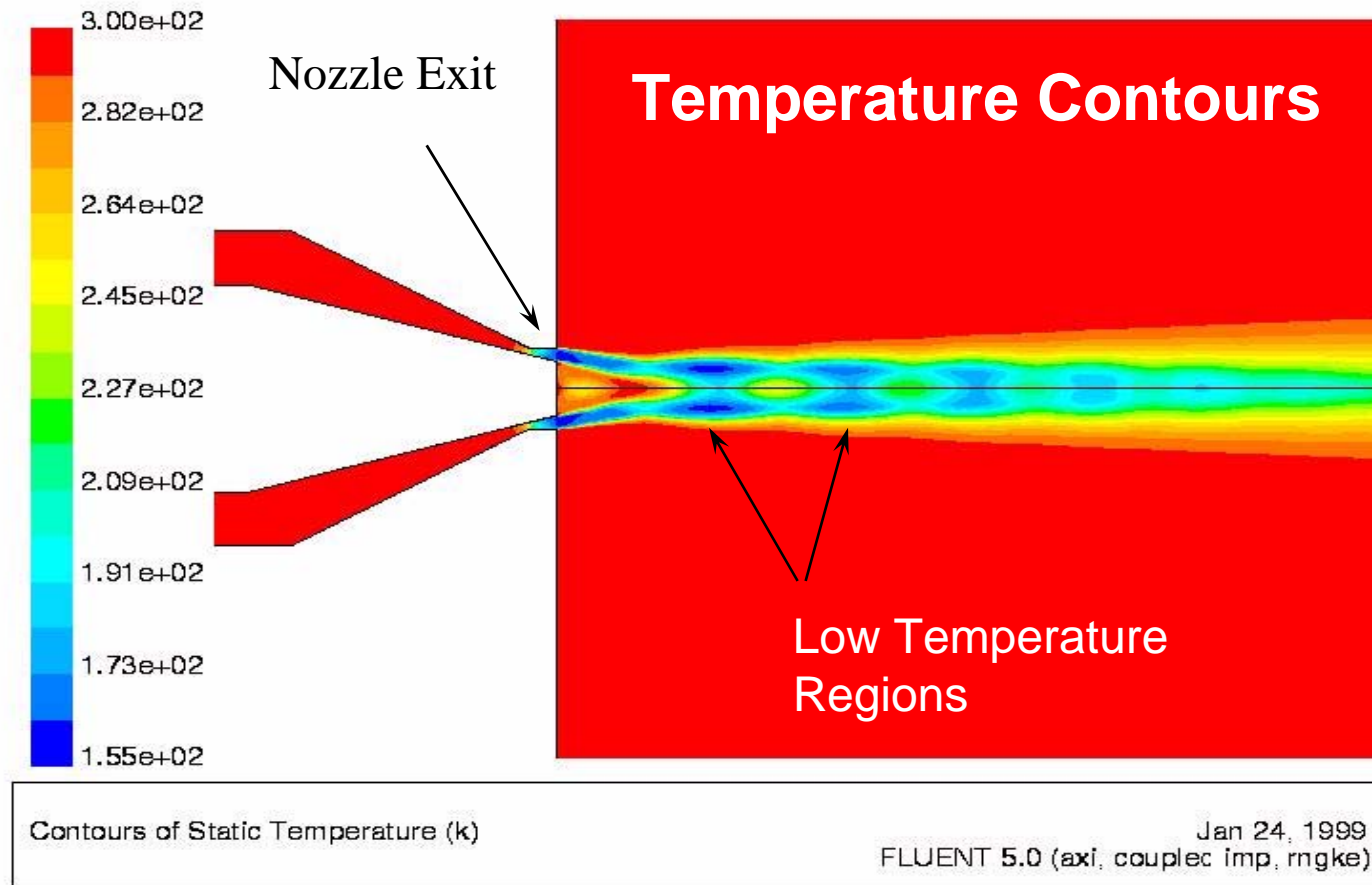
Crystalline Amino Acid Shell



Typical Excipients

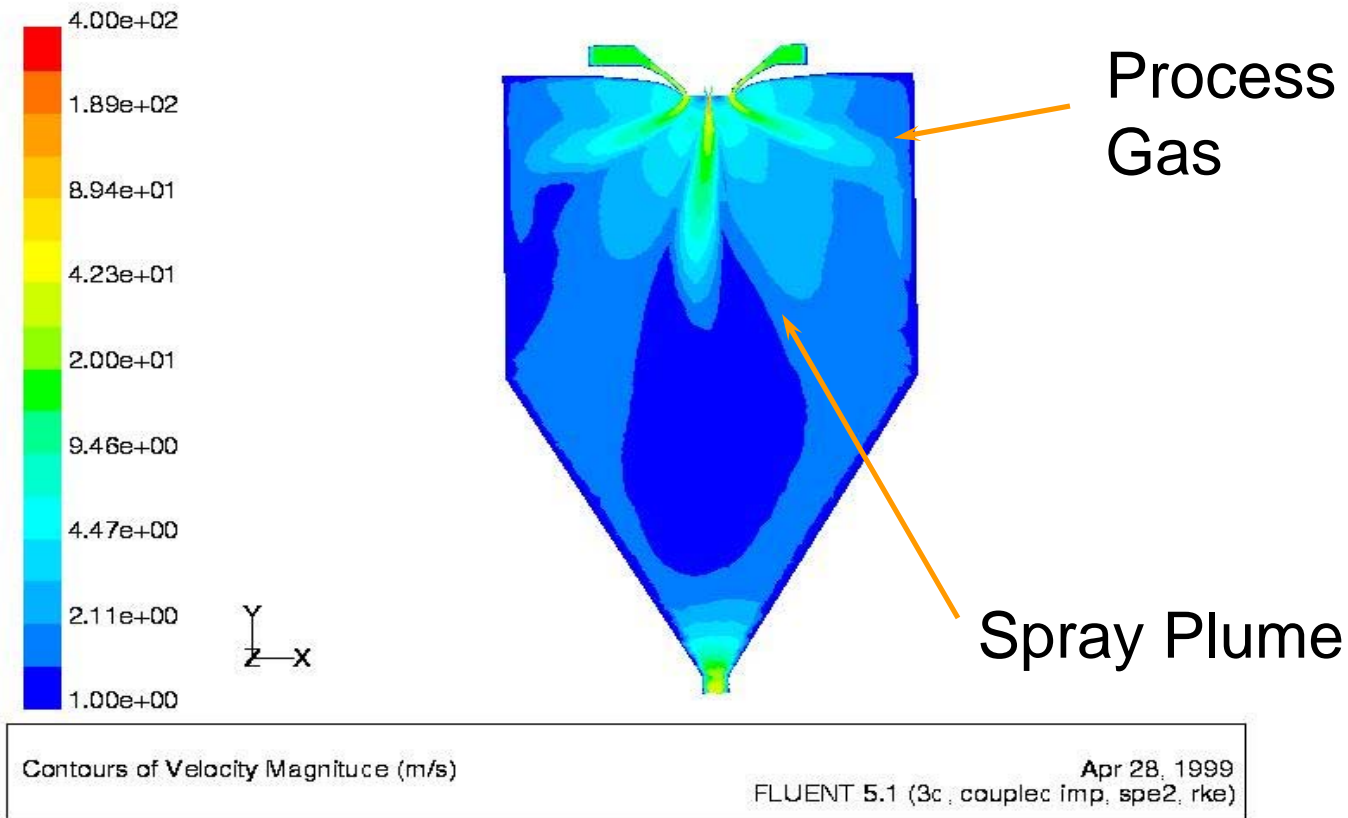
- Amino acids, di-, tripeptides
- Sugars
- Organic Salts

Understanding the Atomization Process



Droplets pass through a flow field with large temperature and velocity gradients.

Spray Dryer Internal Gas Flow Field



The flow field in the spray dryer is inhomogeneous.

Studying the Particle Formation Process

The two phase flow in a spray dryer is complex.

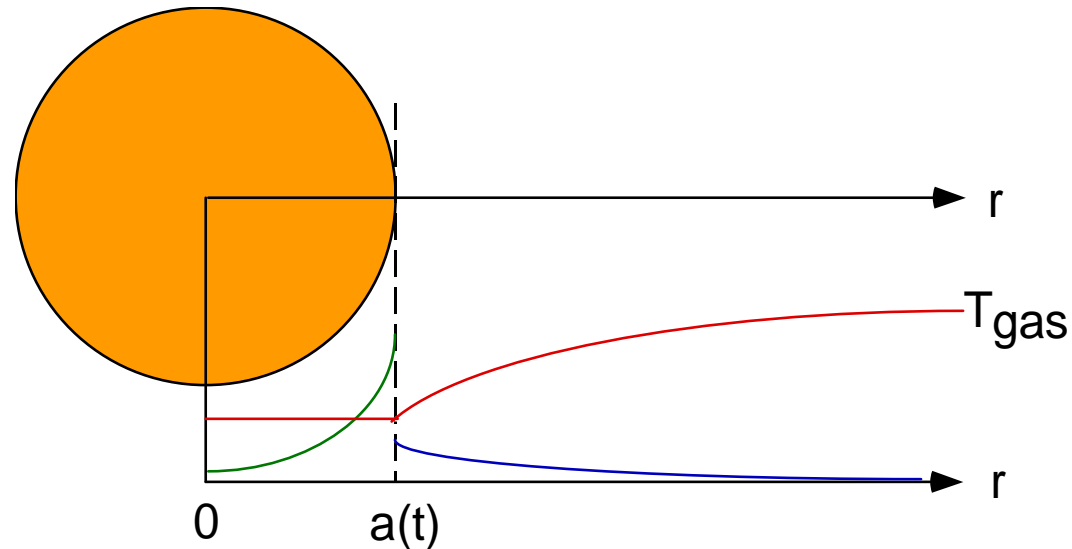
Heat and mass transfer processes are difficult to study *in situ*.

Approach:

Isolate and study relevant sub-processes in idealized environments

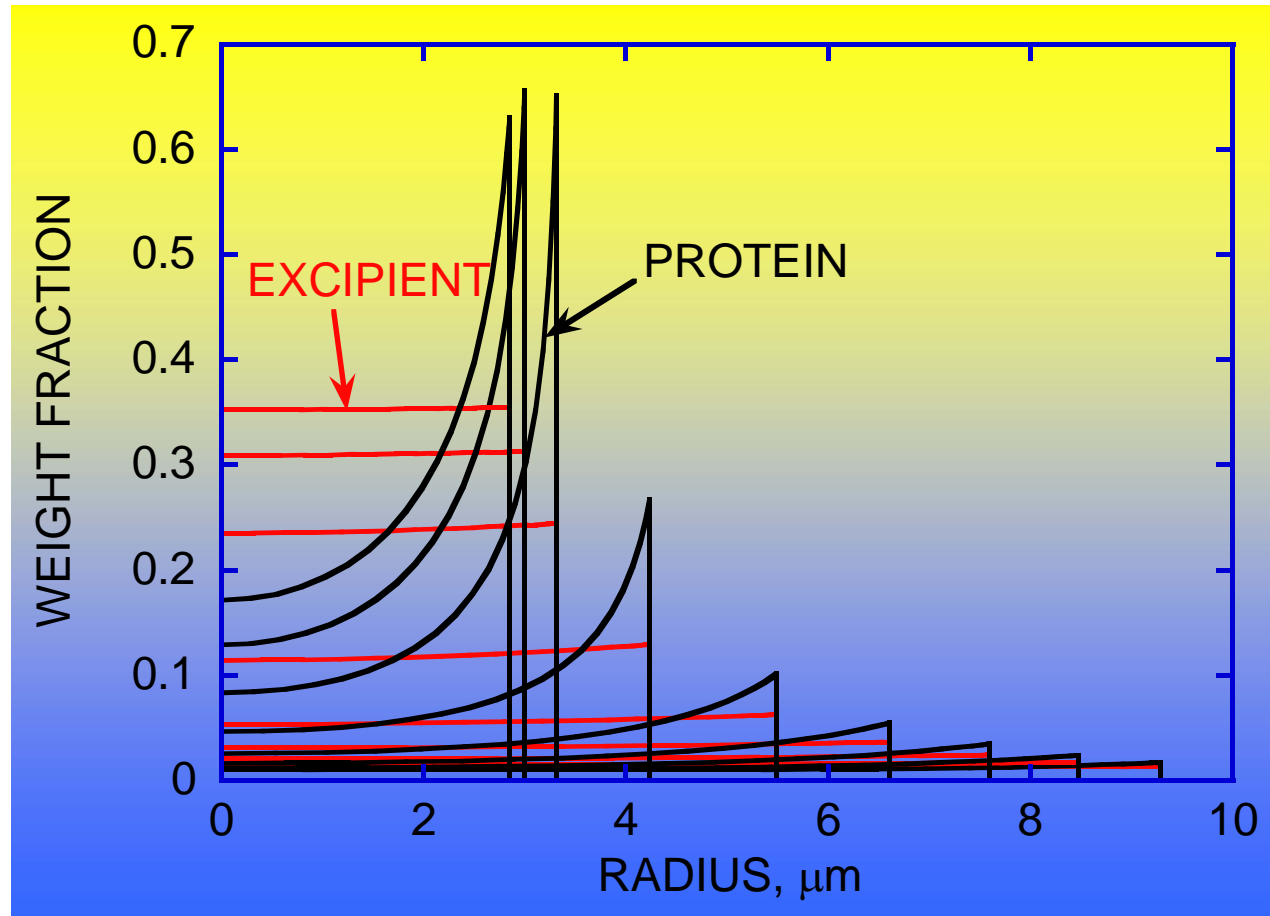
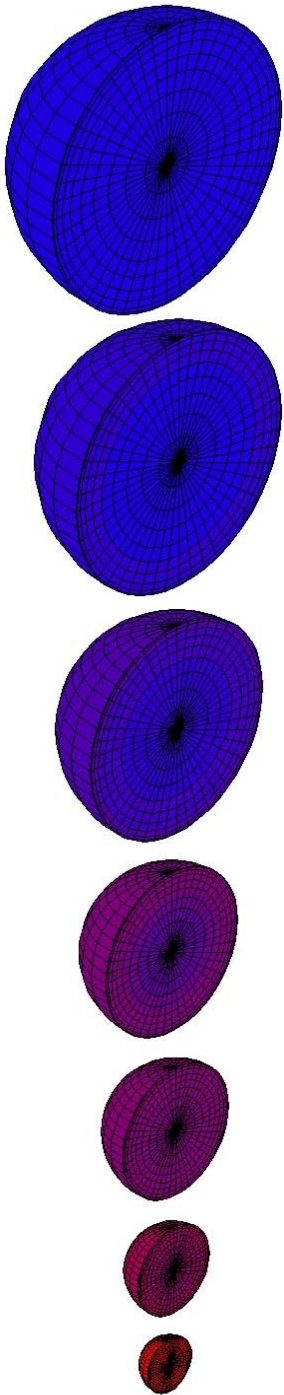
- Numerical model of droplet evaporation on single droplets in stagnant gas phase
- Analytical model for constant rate evaporation
- Experimental studies on monodisperse droplet drying in a laminar flow field

Numerical Model of Droplet Evaporation



- Transient evaporation of a radially symmetric droplet
- Finite difference mesh moves with interface
- Concentration and temperature profiles in liquid and gas
- Temperature and concentration dependent material properties
- Multiple solutes and solvents
- Accounts for surface activity

Internal Distribution of Components



The model can be used to predict the influence of processing conditions and formulation on the structure of the dry particle

Simplifying the Theoretical Description

Analytical model provides dimensionless numbers

Diffusion equation for normalized radial coordinate, $R=r/r_s$,

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = \frac{D}{r_s^2} \left(\frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial R^2} + \frac{2\partial c}{R\partial R} \right) + \frac{R\partial c\partial r_s}{r_s \partial R\partial t} \quad , \quad d^2(t) = d_0^2 - \kappa t$$

D : Diffusion coefficient, c : concentration, r_s : droplet radius, d : droplet diameter, κ : evaporation rate.

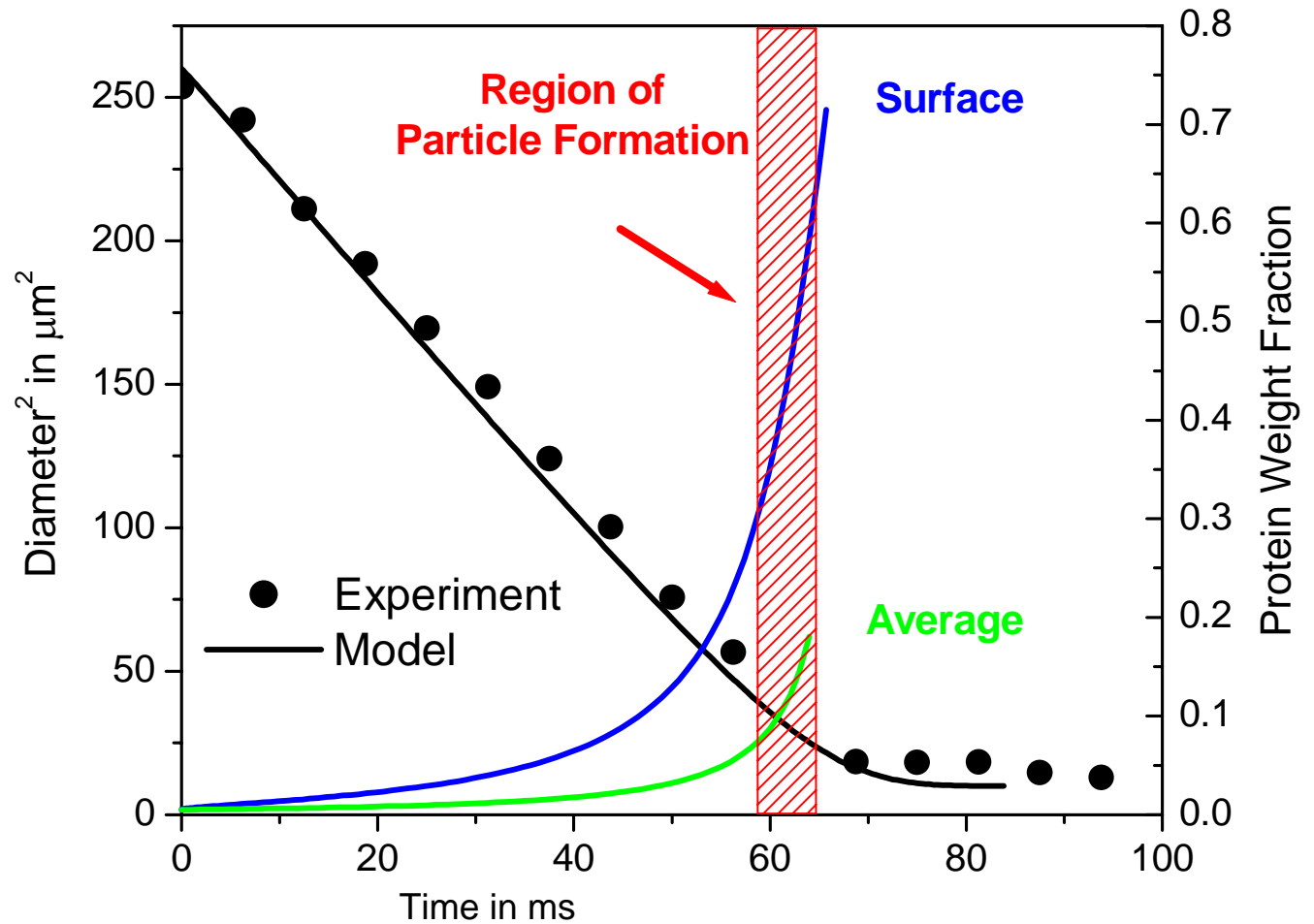
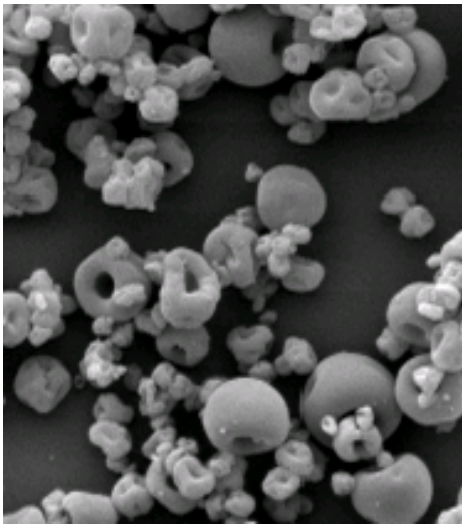
Solution

$$c = c_m \frac{\exp(-0.5\text{Pe}R^2)}{3 \int_0^1 R^2 \exp(-0.5\text{Pe}R^2) dR} \quad , \quad \text{Pe} = -\frac{r_s \partial r_s}{D \partial t} = \frac{\kappa}{8D}$$

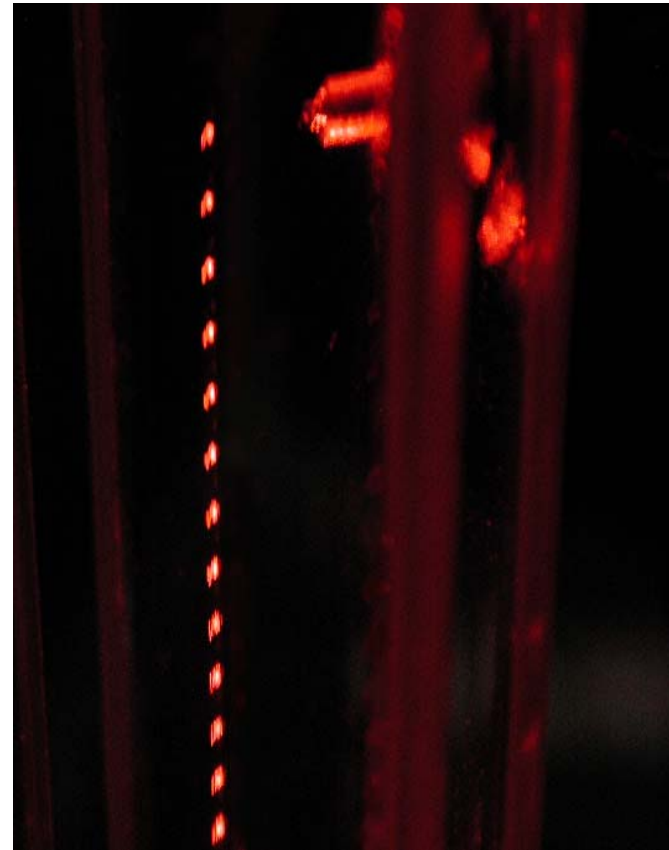
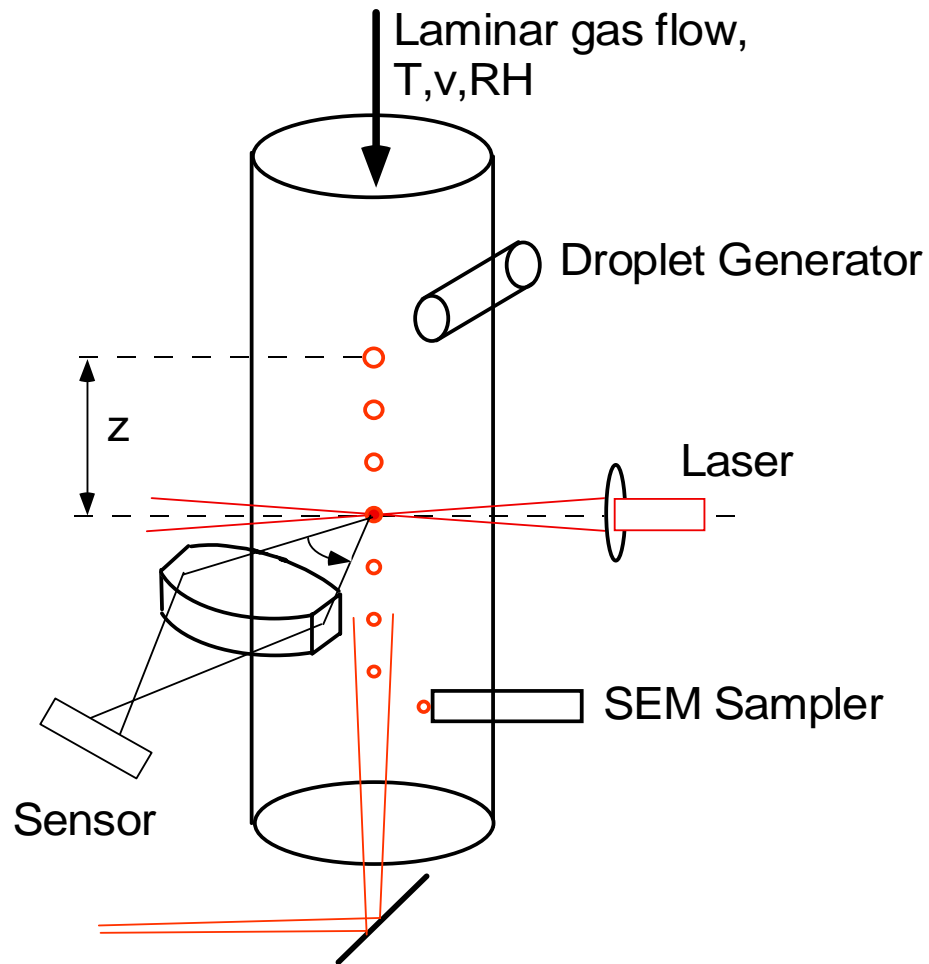
where the concentration is expressed as a function of the average concentration in the droplet, c_m . Pe is the Peclet number.

Evaporation Process for a Glycoprotein

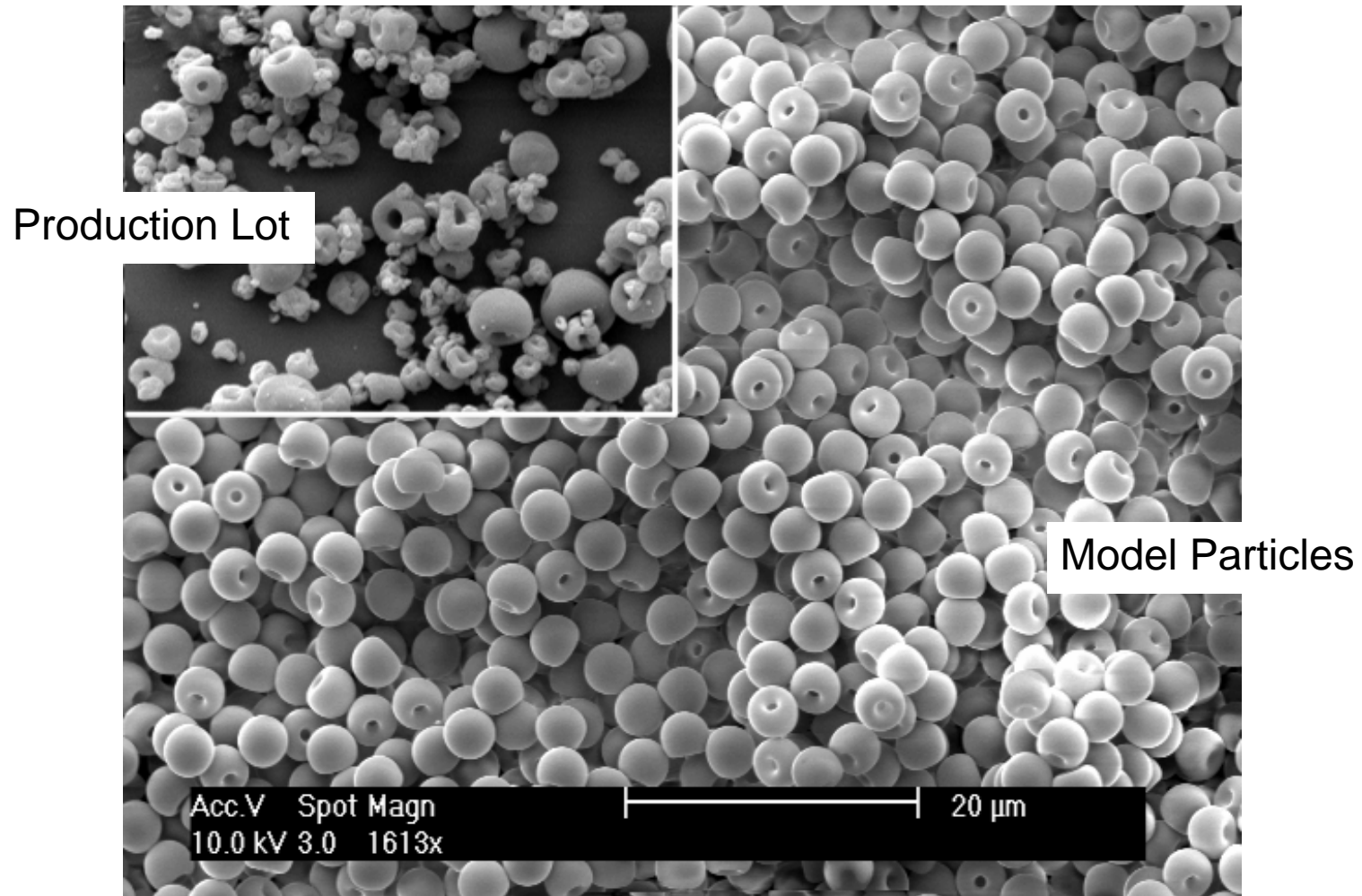
Pe = 10



Experimental Studies on Monodisperse Model Particles

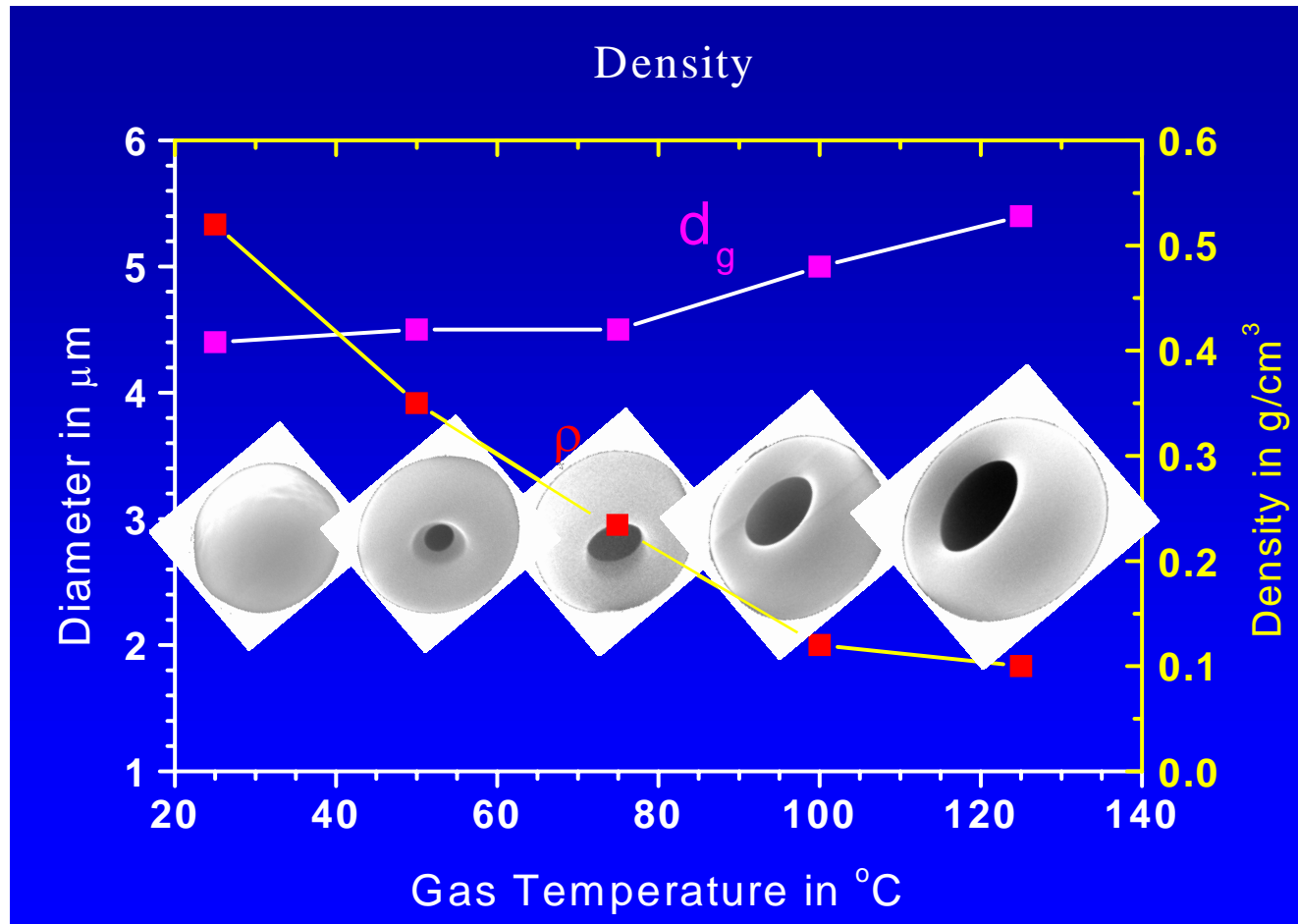


Model Particles: Perfect Control of Size and Morphology

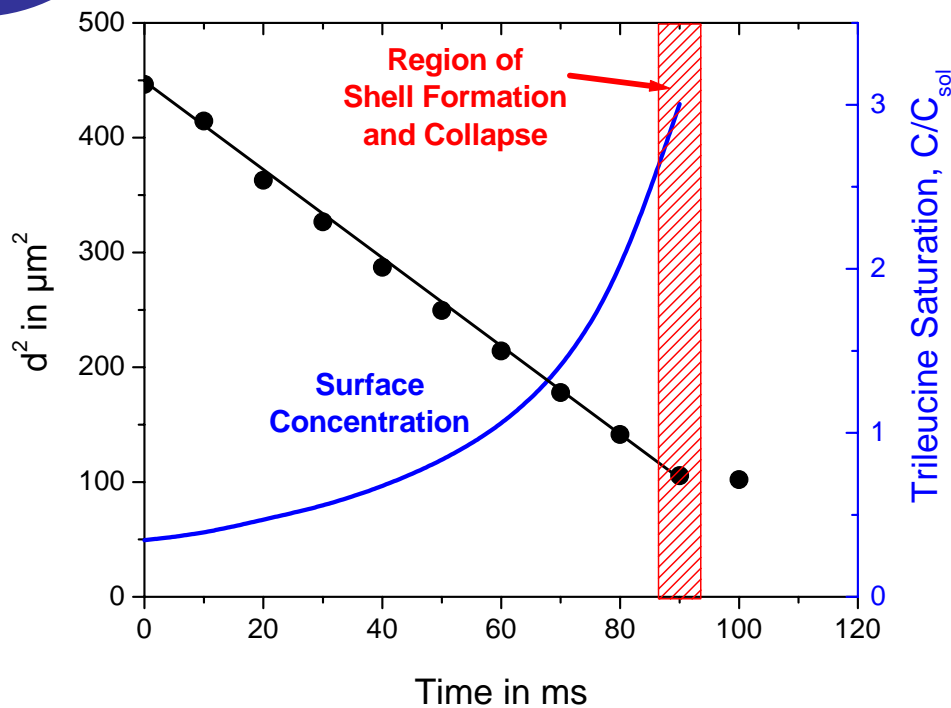
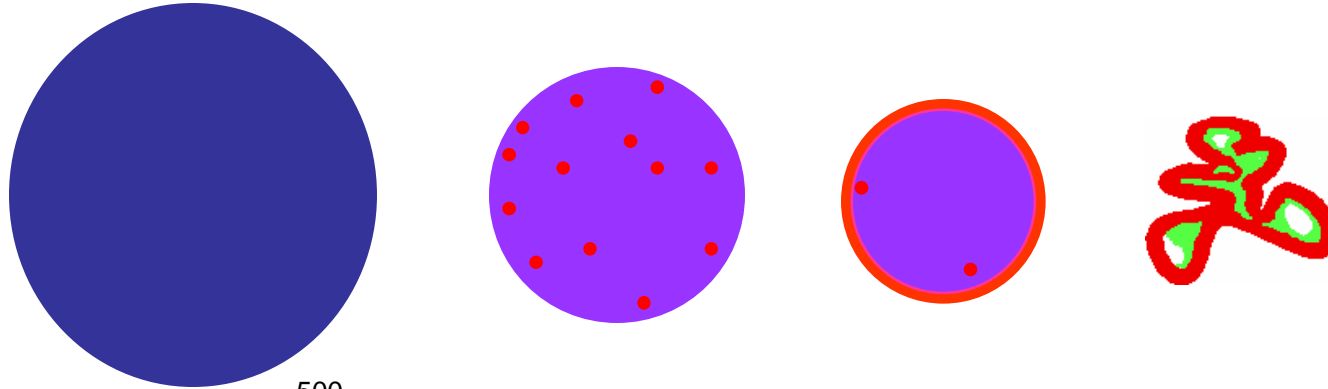


Understanding Particle Morphology

Particle density and geometric diameter as a function of processing conditions



Can a Small Molecule Encapsulate a Big Molecule ?

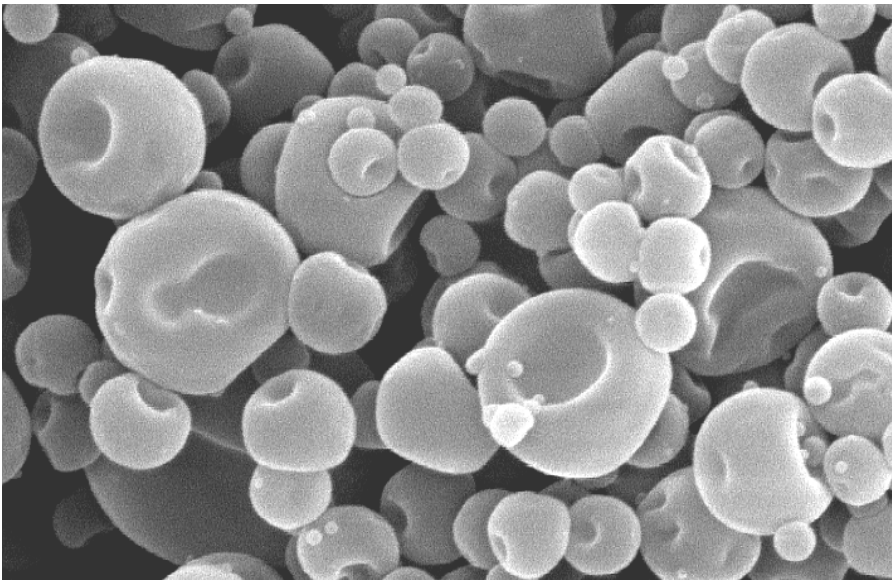


A small molecule acts like a very big molecule after phase separation! The Peclet number becomes very large at this point.

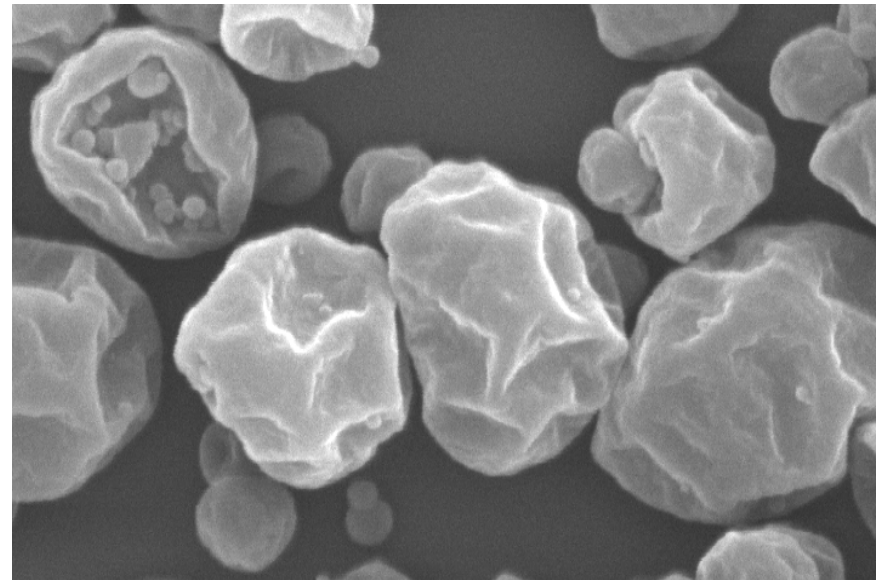
Successful Encapsulation of a Model Molecule

Spray-dried from a co-solvent system:

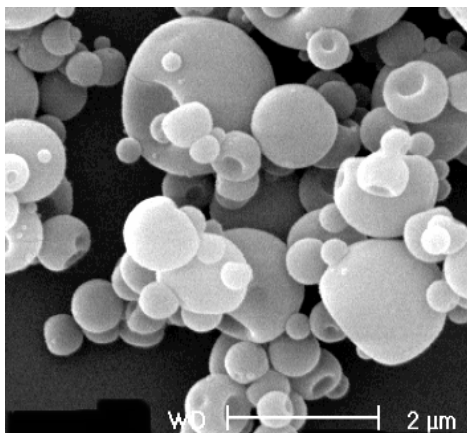
100 % PVP K17



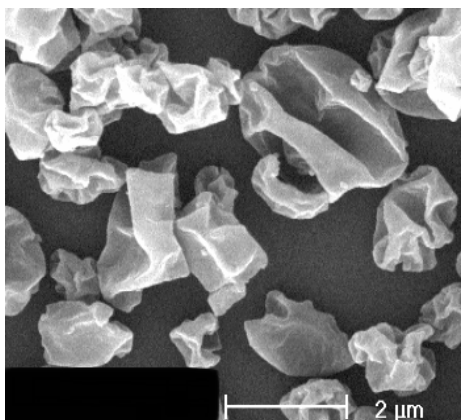
90 % PVP, 10 % Amino Acid



Designing for Dispersibility

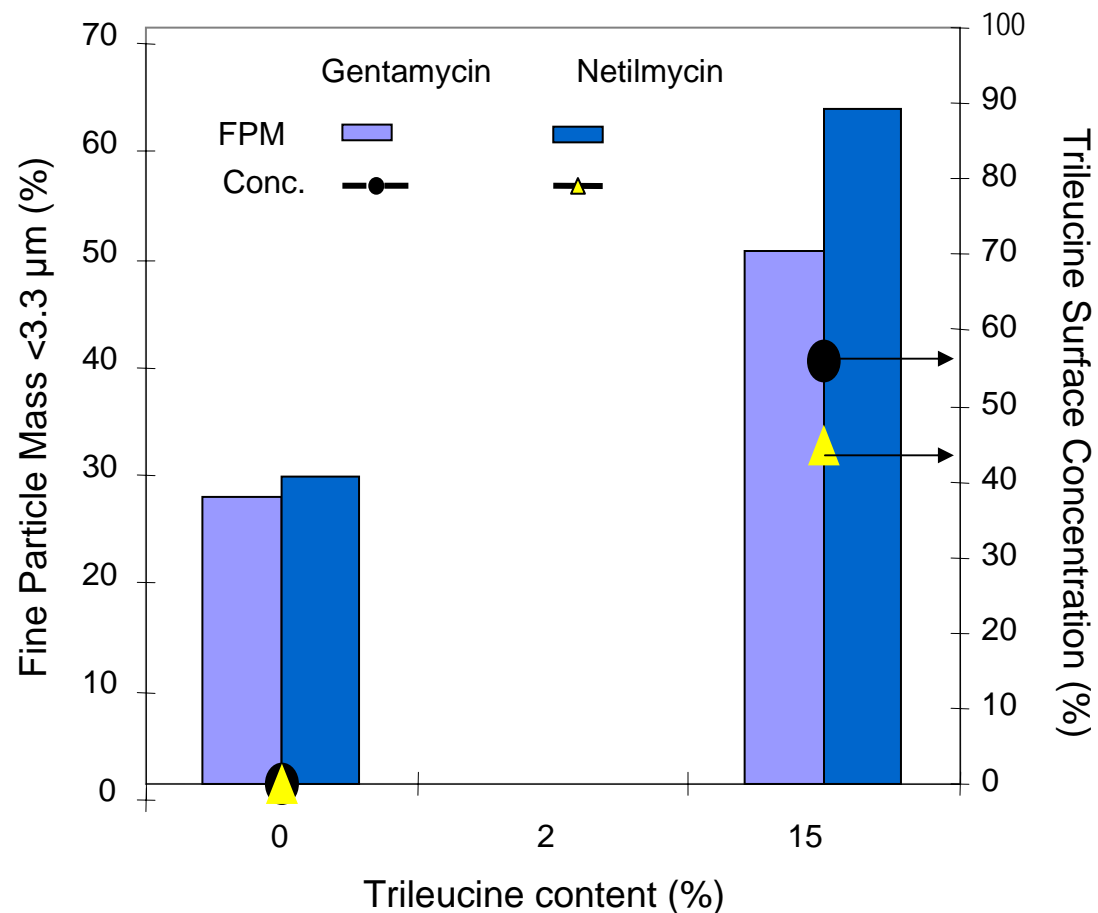


0 % Leu₃

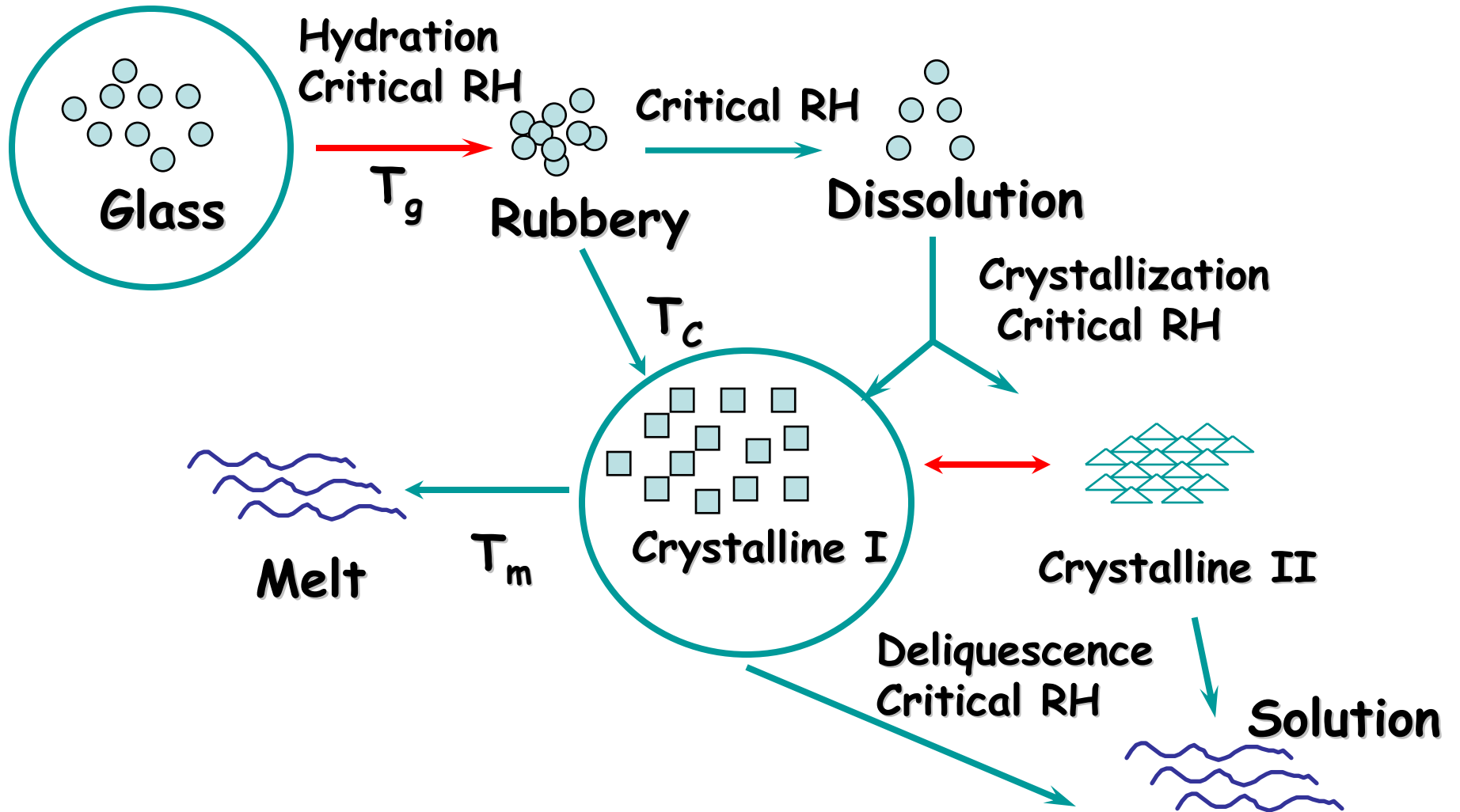


15 % Leu₃

Netilmicin Sulfate

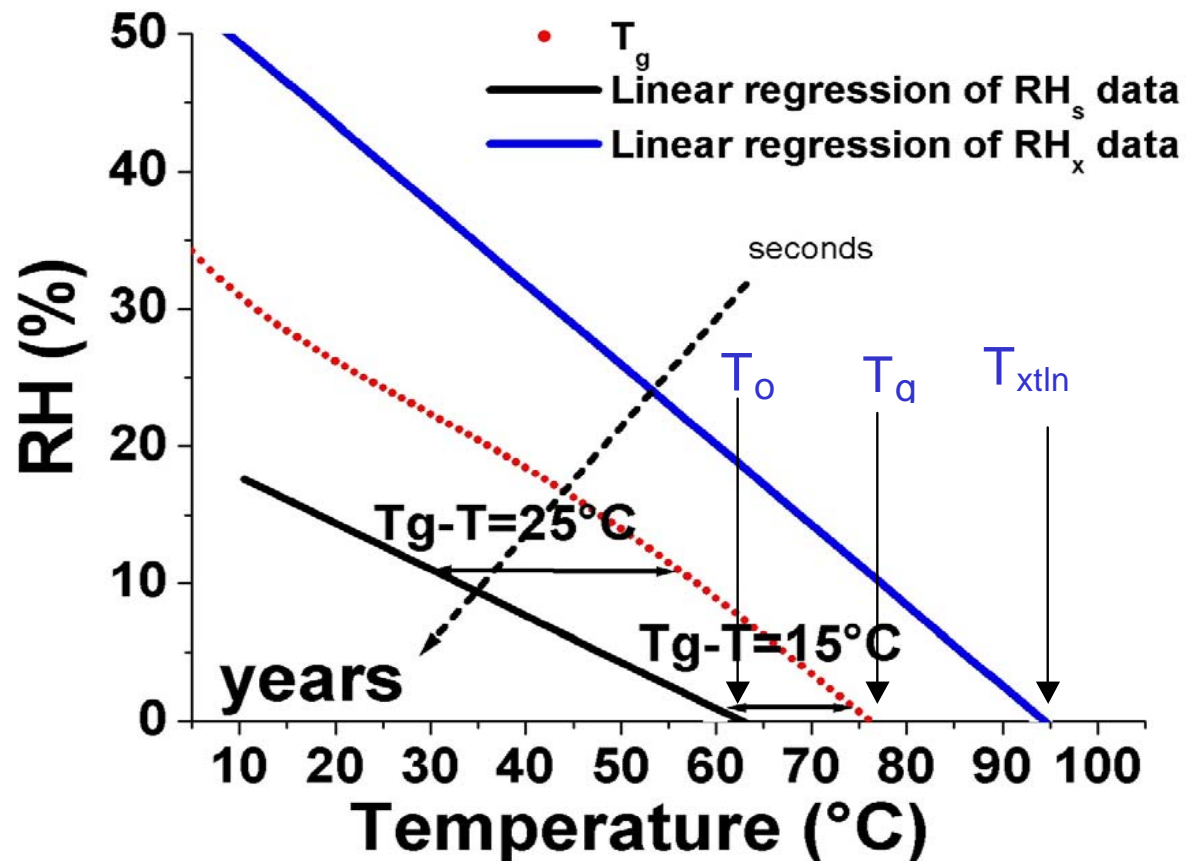


Stability Challenges for Spray-Dried Material

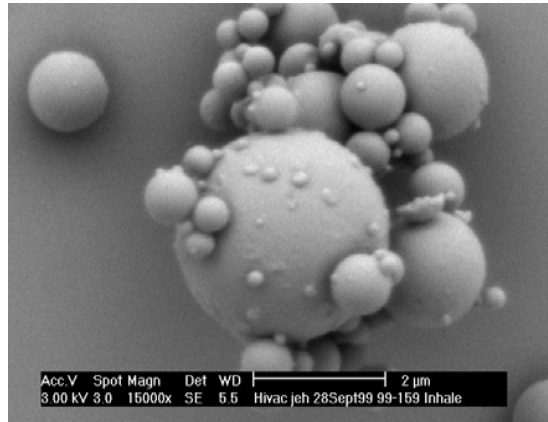


Key Stability Indicators

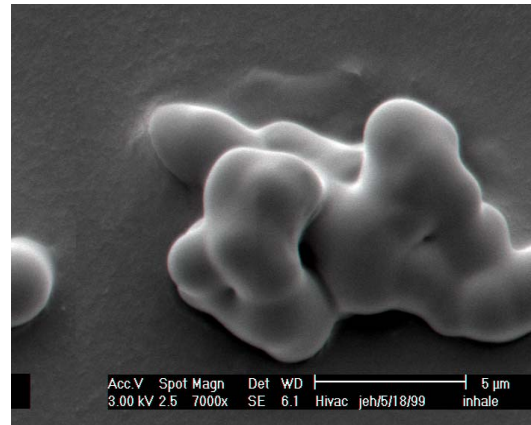
Glass Transition Temperature and Structural Relaxation Time



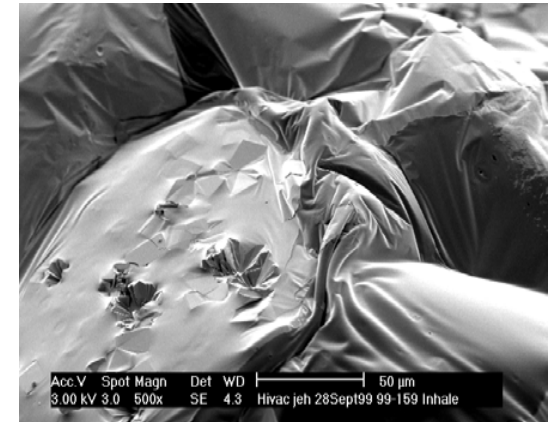
Moisture Induced Failure: Sucrose



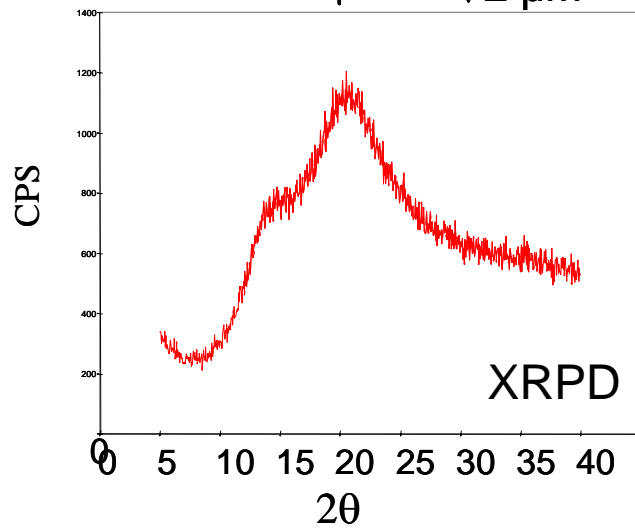
2 μm



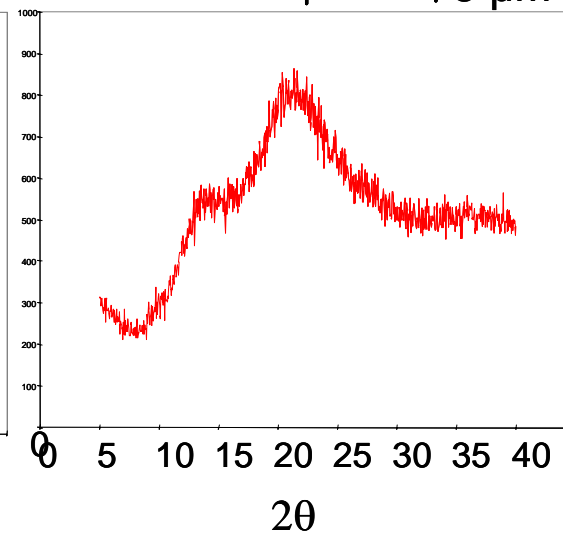
5 μm



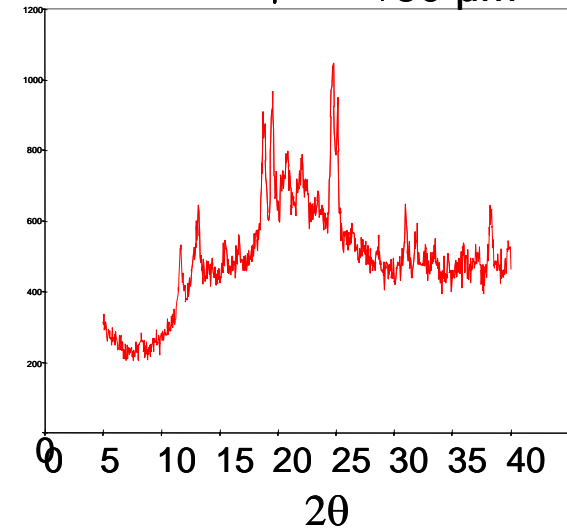
50 μm



RH < 10 %, years

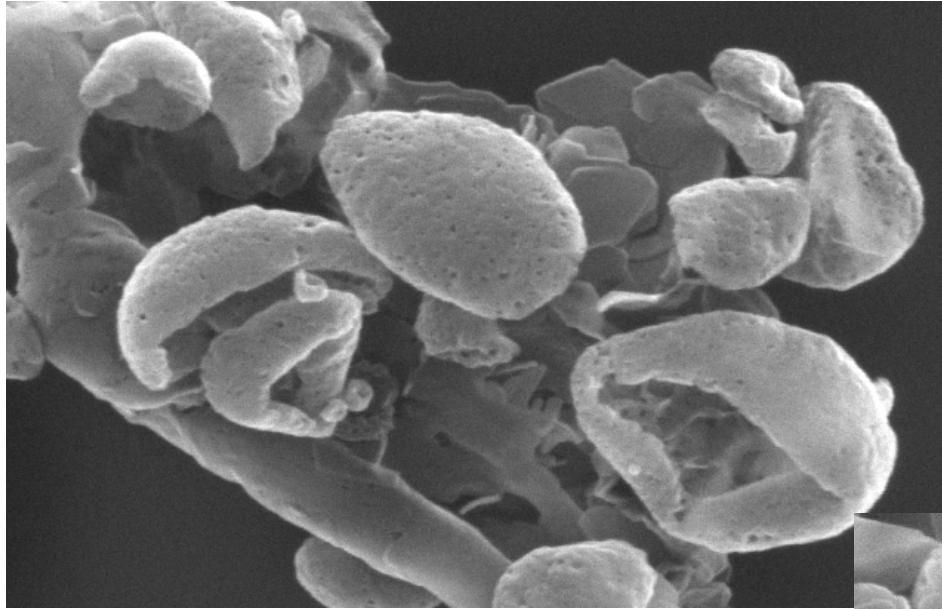


RH 33 %, hours



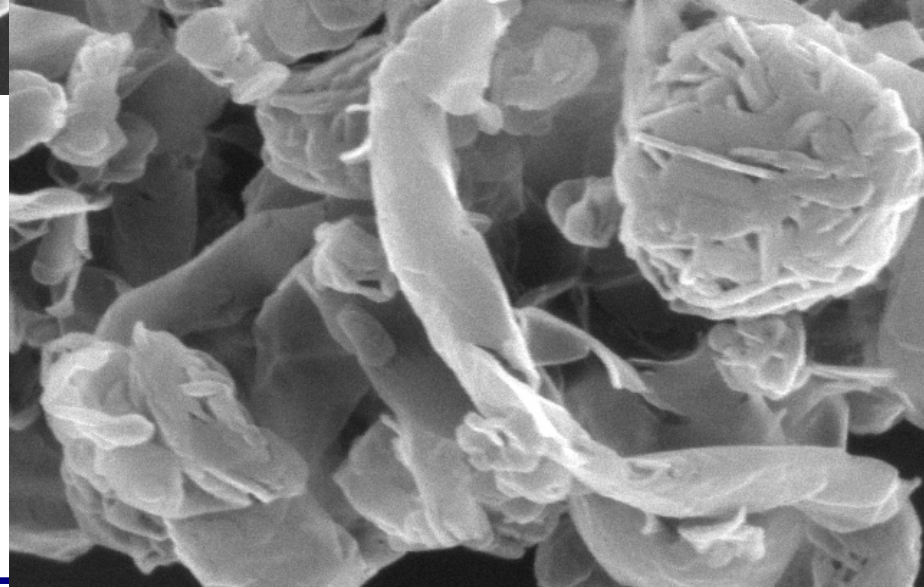
RH 75 %, minutes

Failure Mode - Recrystallization

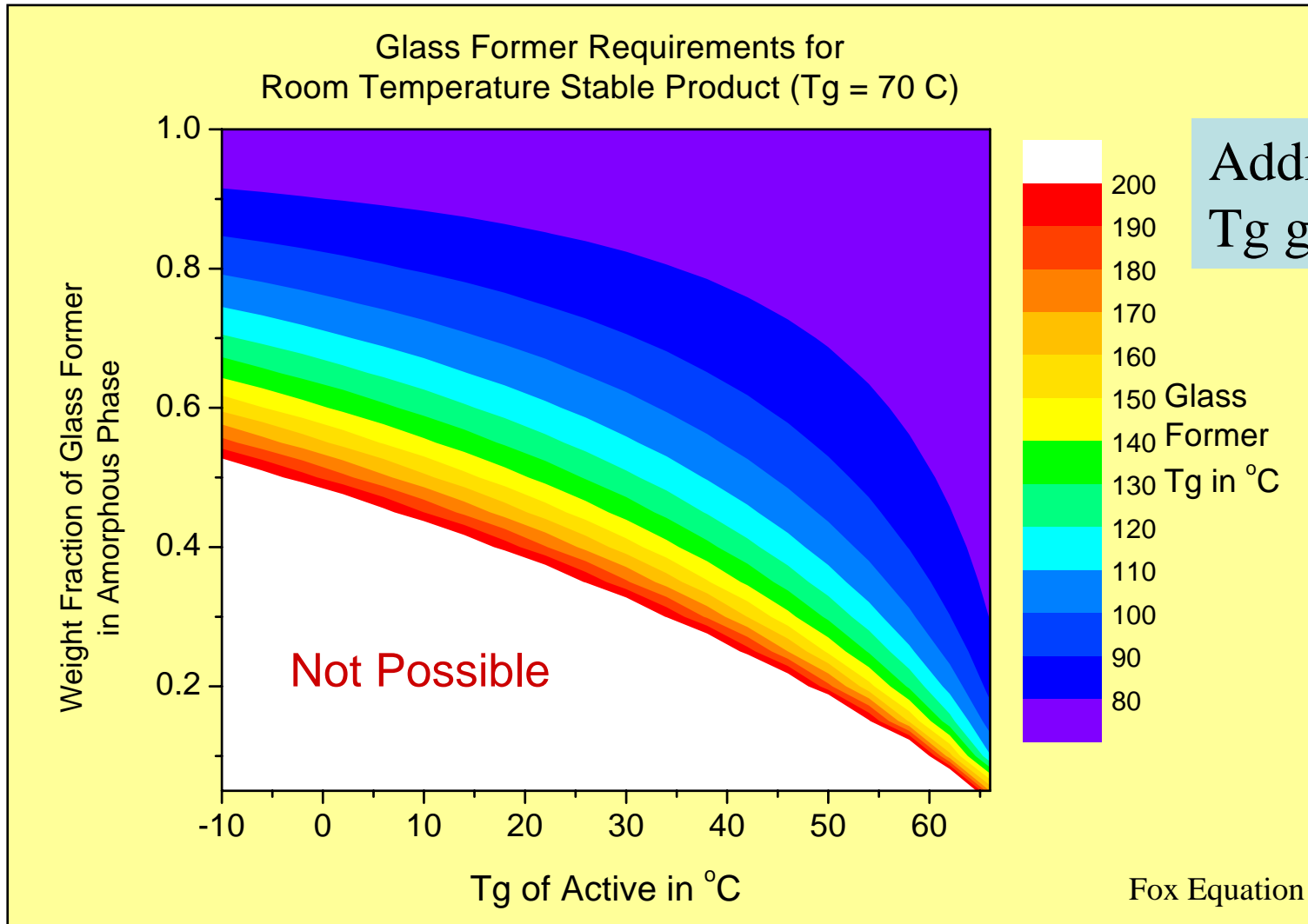


Spray-dried amino acid
95 % very small crystals

After storage at 40°C for 2 weeks
100 % crystalline



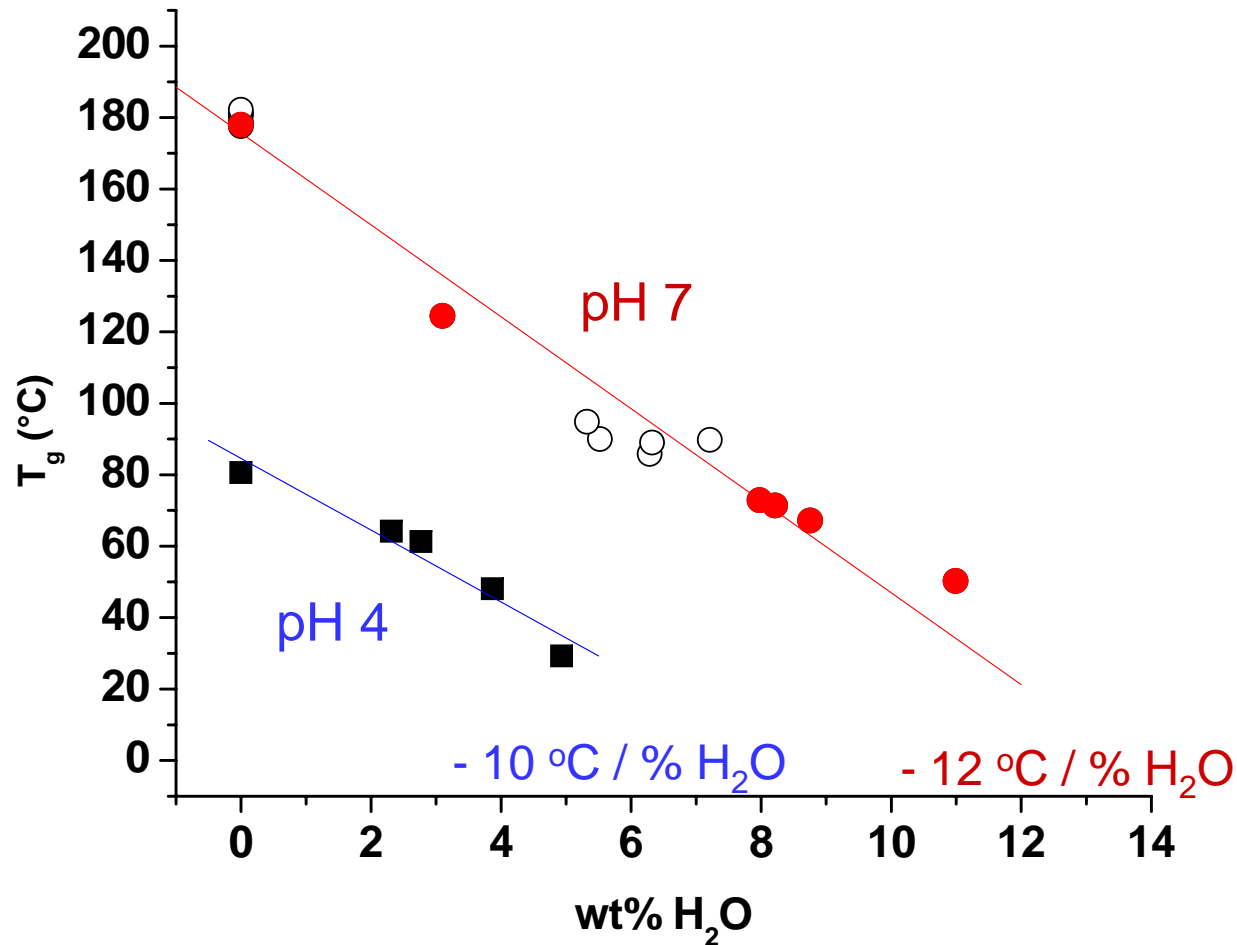
Increasing the Glass Transition Temperature



Addition of a high
T_g glass former

$$\frac{1}{T_g} = \sum_i \frac{Y_i}{T_{g,i}}$$

Increasing Water Content Depresses the T_g

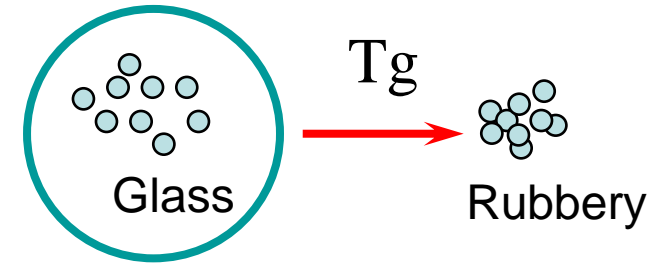


Example: Plasticization of amorphous sodium citrate.

Predictive Tool Assists Glass Stabilization

Glass Stabilization:

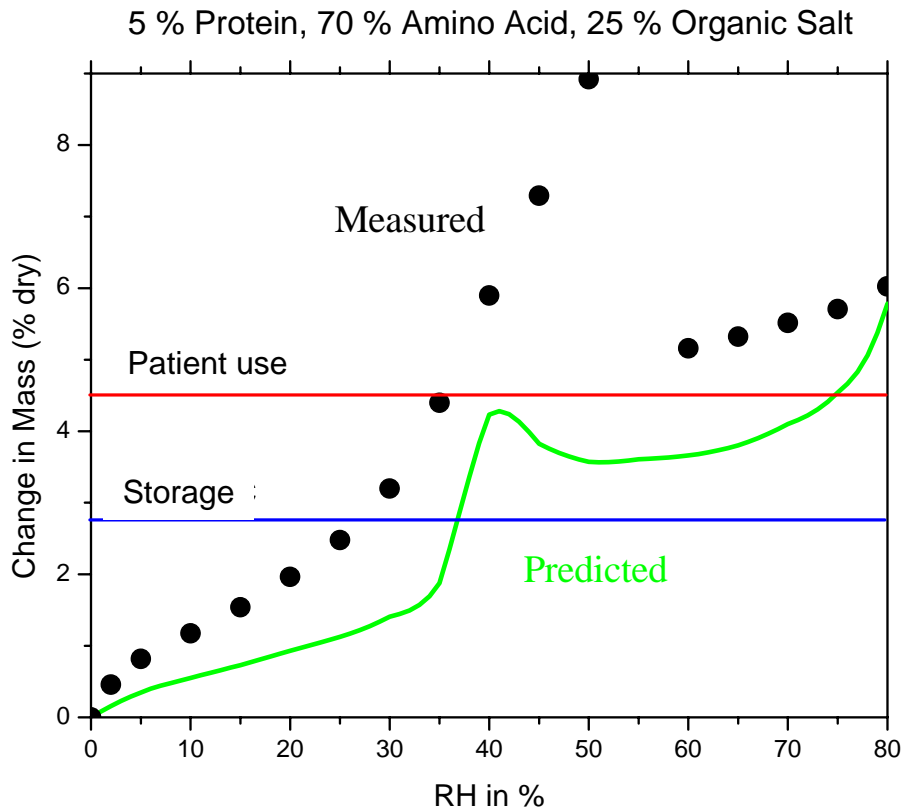
- Increase glass transition temperature
- Improve plasticization properties



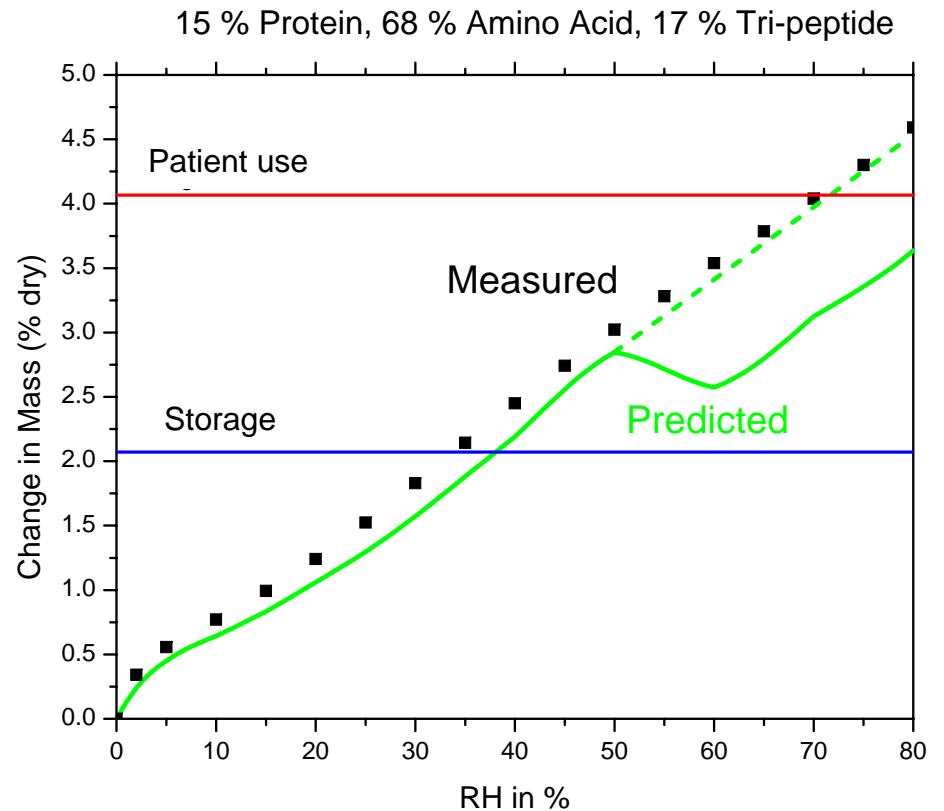
It is possible to develop a predictive tool for moisture sorption behavior and T_g of formulations as a function of excipient ratios and pH.

- Requires a database of excipient properties and excipient interactions.
- Coefficients for T_g models must be determined for typical formulation systems.

Designing the Amorphous Phase

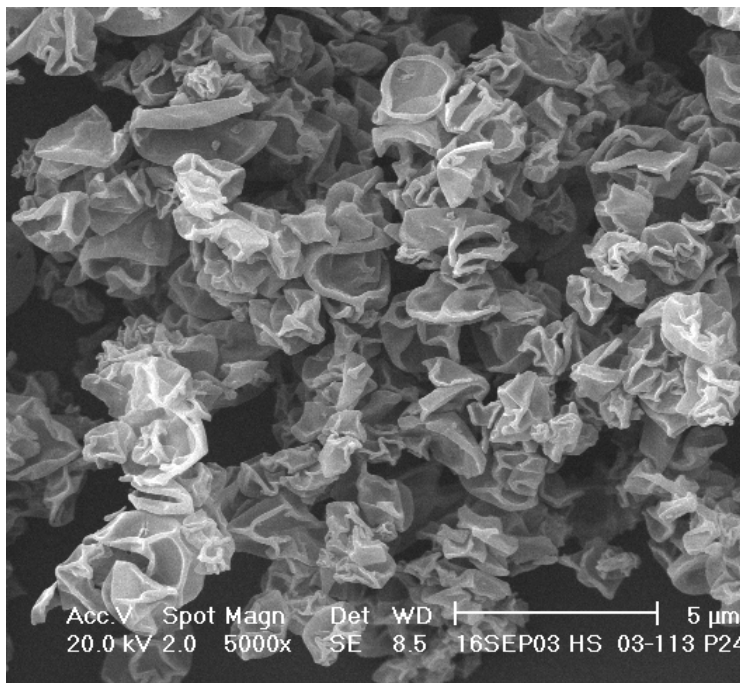


Crystallization at moderate RH

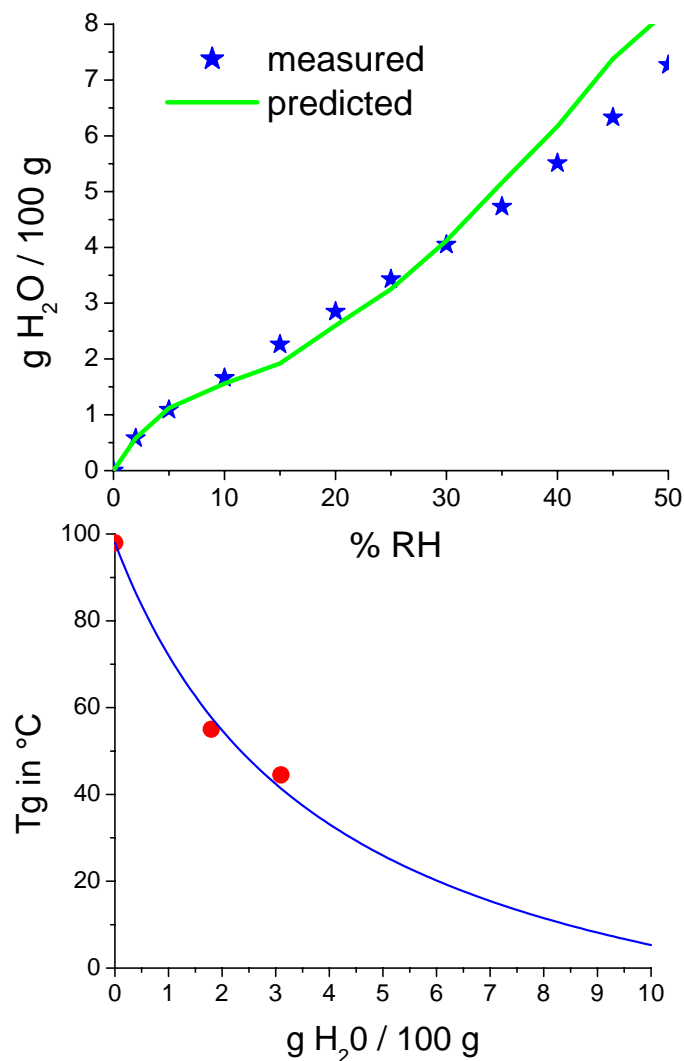


Much improved out-of-package stability

Exceeding the Limits of Glass Stabilization



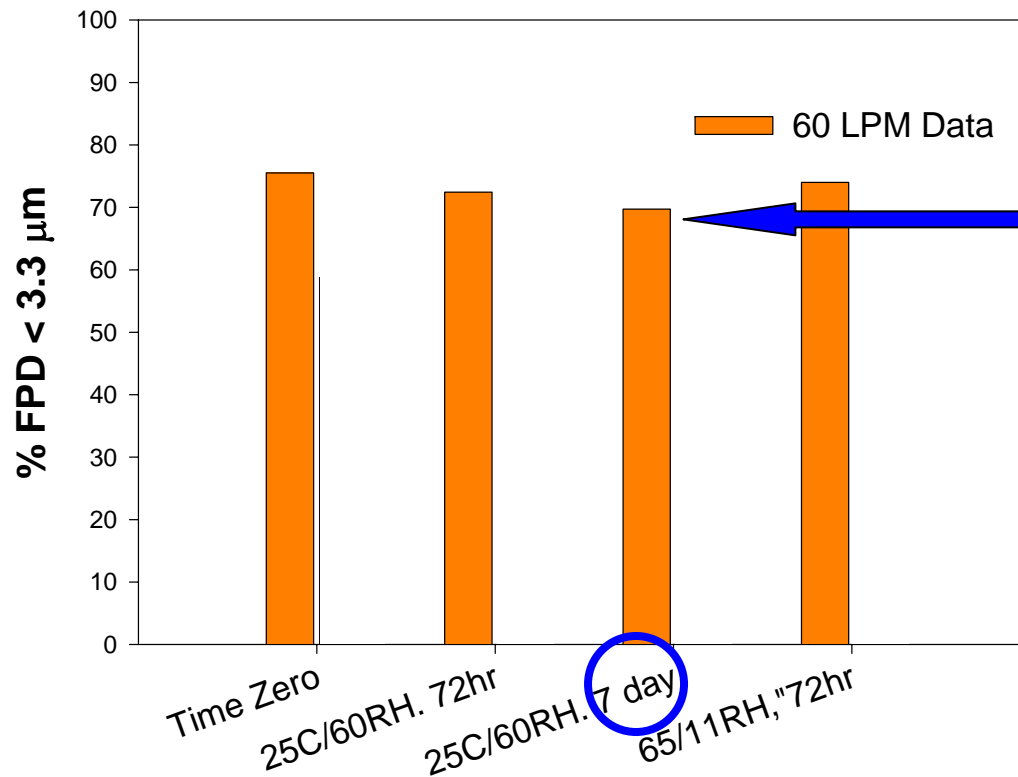
**Plasticized core protected
by a high T_g shell**



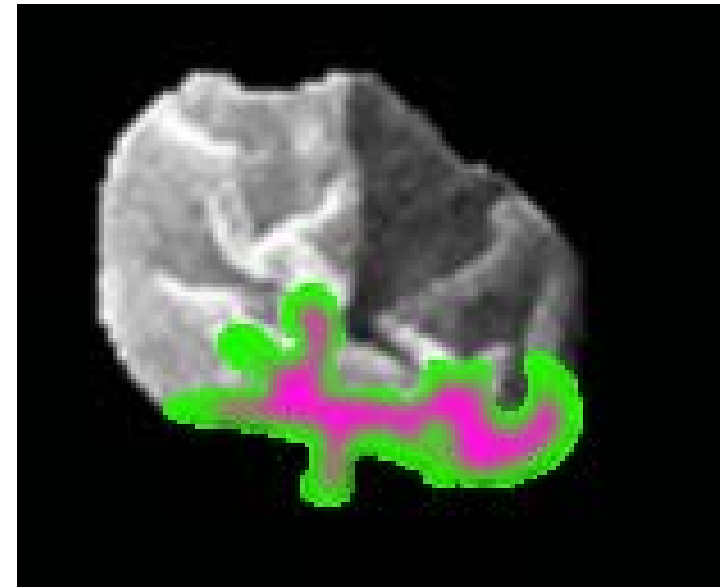
Excellent Out-of-Package Stability

56 % Encapsulation excipient, 20 % Saccharide
20 % low Tg API, 4 % organic salt

Lot 3909- 67



~ 20 °C above Tg !



Particle Engineering - Conclusion

- Aerosol science, process development and formulation are linked and form a new discipline: Particle Engineering.
- Understanding of the underlying physics and physical chemistry of the evaporation and particle formation processes has led to the development of predictive particle engineering tools.
- Predictive tools for the design of packaging configurations, processing conditions, and formulation compositions allow rapid development and optimal product performance
- Spray drying is capable of economical manufacture of sophisticated particles which have the potential to enable and improve therapeutics in the future for the benefit of patients