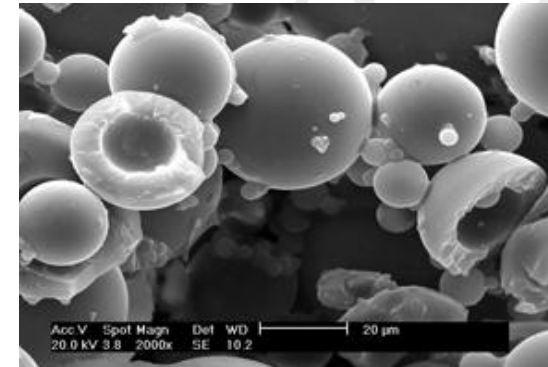


# Factors affecting stability of encapsulated ingredients

Dr. Eng. Camila A. Perussello  
[camila.perussello@teagasc.ie](mailto:camila.perussello@teagasc.ie)



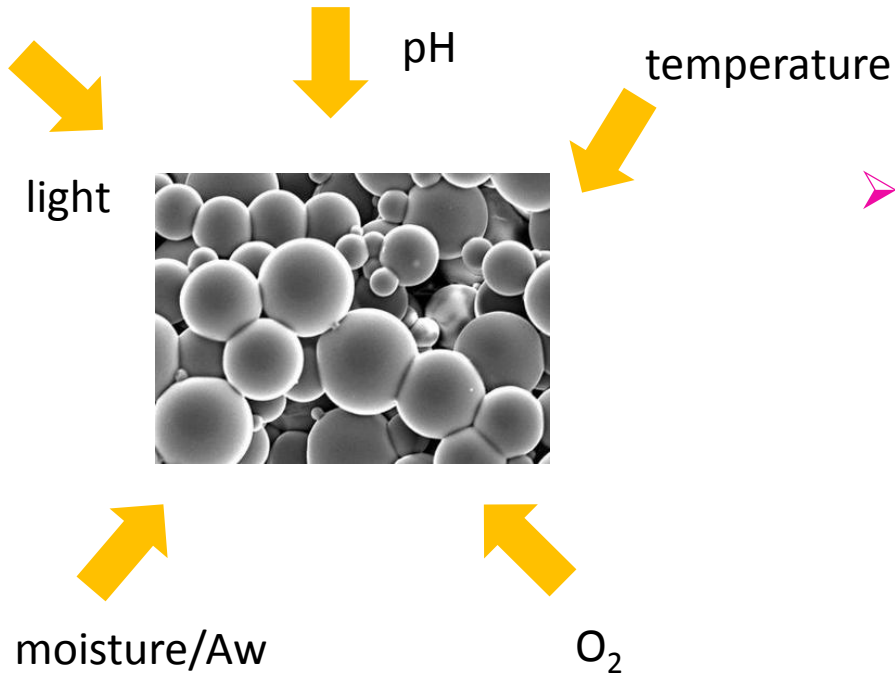
# Stability and quality of foods

- Food stability = **retention of quality** during processing and storage



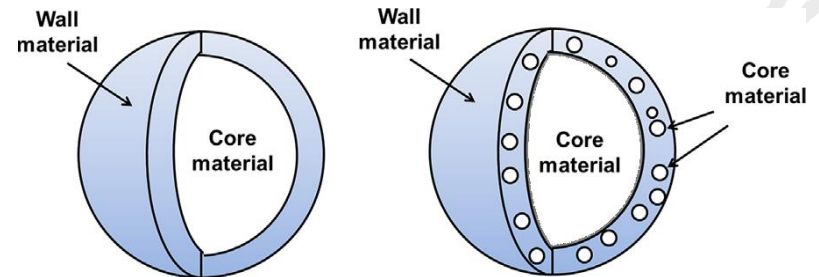
# Factors affecting stability of encapsulated ingredients

## ➤ External factors



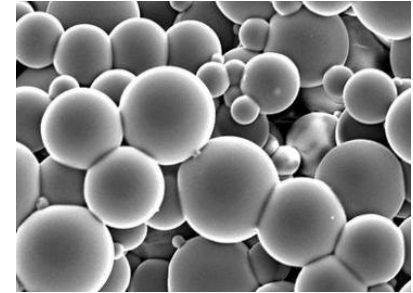
## ➤ Intrinsic factors

- Carrier materials
- Active materials
- Payload
- Particle size
- Particle shape/morphology



➤ **External** factors affecting stability of encapsulated ingredients can lead to:

- pH
  - Decreased probiotic viability in acidic media
  - Changes in chemical structure/ loss of functionality
- O<sub>2</sub>
  - Oxidation
  - Decreased nutritional value
- Light
  - Carotenoids, vitamins, polyphenols and lipids may degrade, isomerize or generate free radicals
  - Discoloration
- Moisture/A<sub>w</sub>
  - Aggregation of particles
  - Decreased delivery of functional properties
- Temperature
  - Protein denaturation
  - Decreased nutritional value
  - Color changes



➤ **Intrinsic** factors such as

- Properties of carrier materials ( $\mu$ , solubility, concentration, mass diffusivity)
- Properties of shell materials (thickness,  $\mu$ , solubility in water/oil)
- Payload, morphology and size

have influence on aspects such as:

- release rates/mechanisms
- sensory perception (texture/grittiness/roughness, odor, flavour, taste, appearance)



Consumer perception and acceptance!



# Stability/quality of encapsulated ingredients

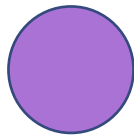
- Characterization of microparticles and encapsulated ingredients include determinations of:
  - Particle size, particle size distribution/uniformity;
  - Morphology of microparticles;
  - Properties of the encapsulated active ingredient (composition, thermal stability, volatility);
  - Properties of the microparticle (solubility);
  - Mass rate core/coating material (payload);
  - Thermal/oxidative stability of core and coating;
  - Sensory quality of the encapsulated material (color, flavor, odor).



# Particle size

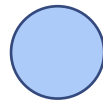
- Particle size varies according to the encapsulation method, active material, coating material and process parameters

MACRO



> 500

MICRO



2-500

NANO

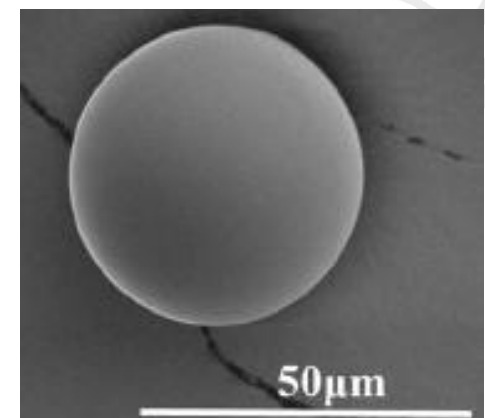
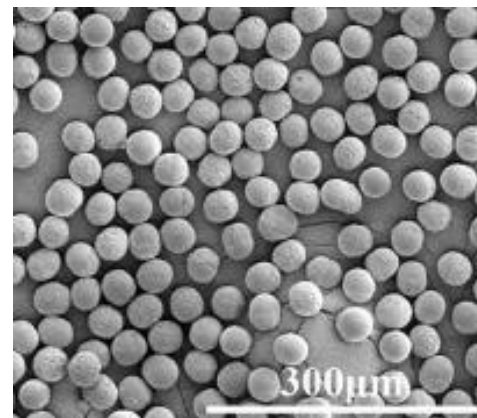
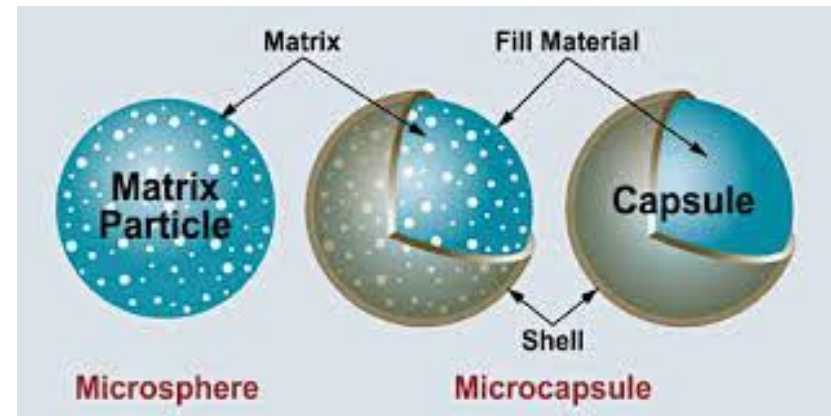


< 0.2

- Particle measurement techniques
  - Microscopy
  - Sieving
  - Sedimentation
  - Laser light scattering

# Choosing a method for particle sizing

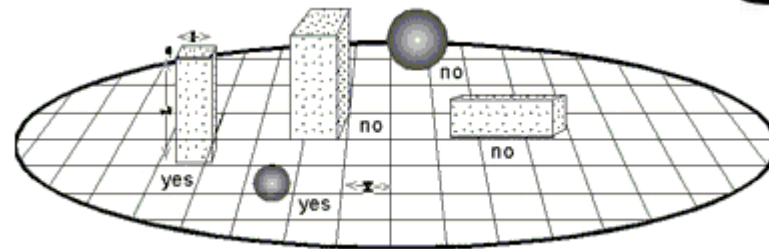
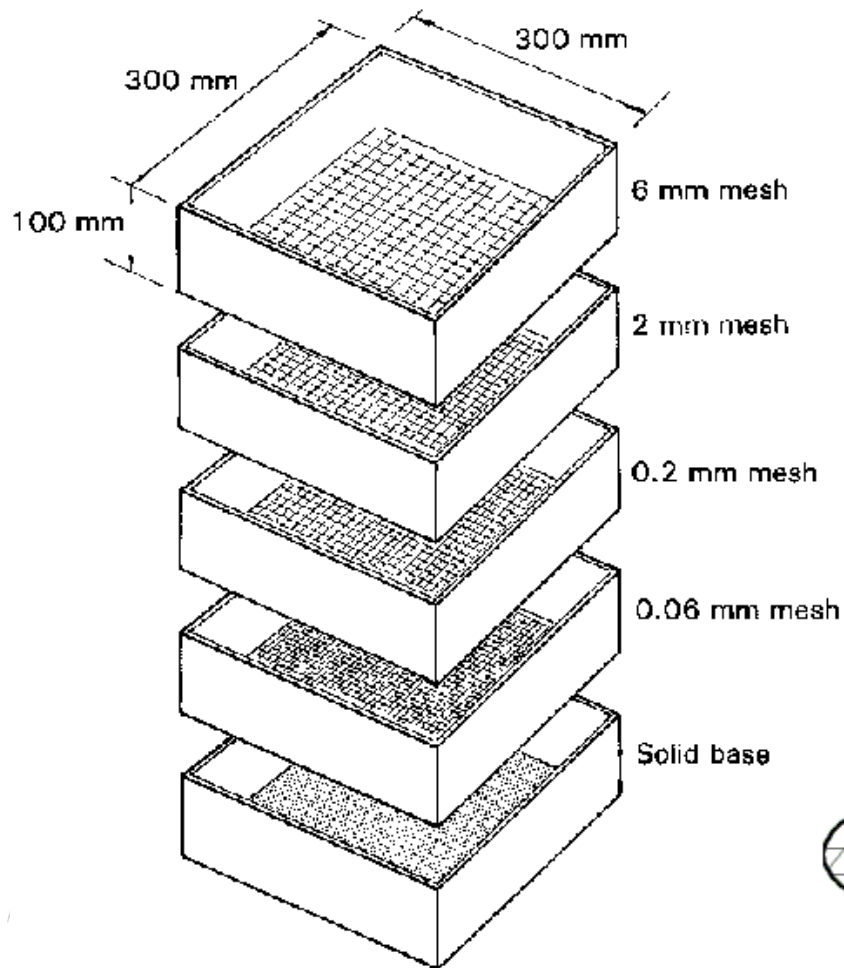
- Characteristics of the microparticles
  - Microsphere or microcapsule
  - Estimated size and size distribution
  - Toxicity
  - Level of detail/accuracy
- Application of the microparticles
- Cost
- Time





# Particle sizing - Sieving

- Sieving is performed manually or by machines using a stack of sieves with decreasing aperture size;



# Particle sizing - Sieving

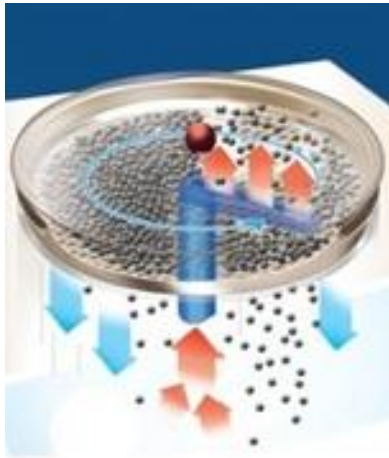
- Sieves have a specific aperture/mesh size (ex. 250  $\mu\text{m}$  = No. 60; 125  $\mu\text{m}$  = No. 120)
  - Sieve sizes are regulated by standards (ISO 565:1990 and ISO 3310-1:2000 (international), EN 933-1(European) and ASTM E11:01 (US);
  - Size range  $\approx$  5  $\mu\text{m}$  – 3 mm (3000  $\mu\text{m}$ ).

Sieve Mesh Chart			
APERTURE SIZE			
B.S.S(410/1969)	A.S.T.M. (11-70)	I.S. (469/1972)	MICRONS
4	5	4.00mm	4000
5	6	3.35mm	3353
6	7	2.80mm	2812
7	8	2.36mm	2411
8	10	2.00mm	2057
10	12	1.70mm	1700
12	14	1.40mm	1405
14	16	1.18mm	1180
16	18	1.00mm	1000
18	20	0.850mm	850



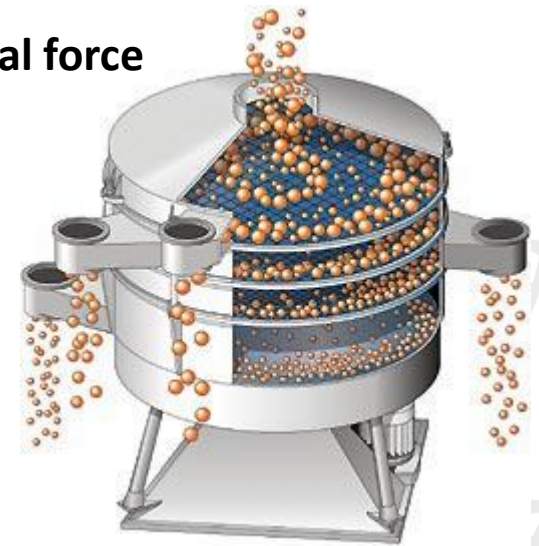
# Particle sizing - Sieving

- Sieving may be performed manually or by machines aided by different mechanisms

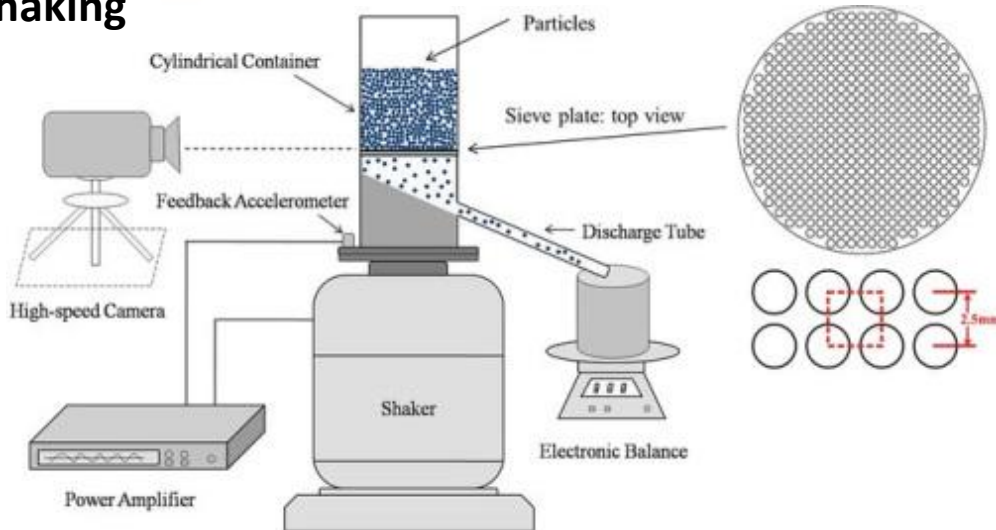


Air jet

Centrifugal force



Shaking



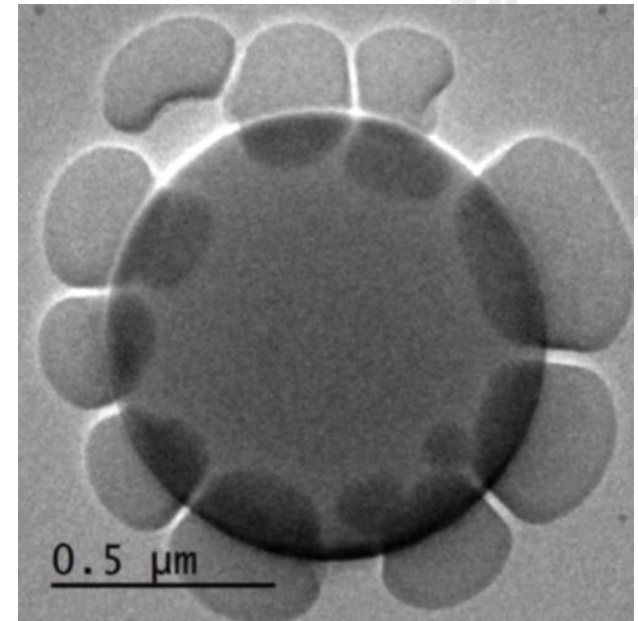
Ultrasonic



# Particle sizing - Microscopy

- Optical microscopy (1  $\mu\text{m}$  - mm) and Electron microscopy ( $\geq 0.001 \mu\text{m}$ )
  - Microscopy can distinguish aggregates from single particles;
  - Can be coupled to image analysis computers, each field can be examined, and a distribution obtained;
  - With small particles, diffraction effects increase causing blurring at the edges - determination of particles  $< 3 \mu\text{m}$  is less and less certain.

EM has **higher magnification and resolution** than OM: employs electron beams in place of light to illuminate specimens and uses electron lenses to magnify images

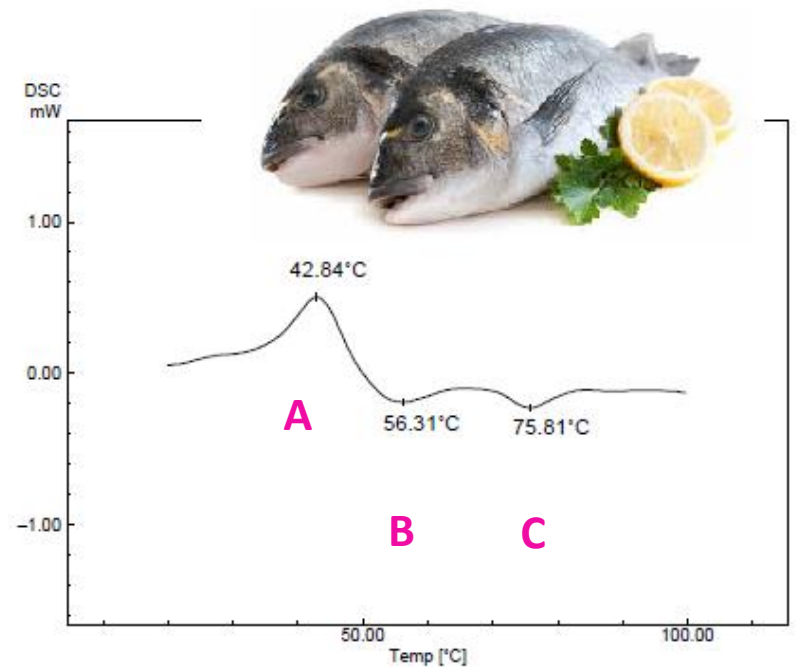


# Thermal analysis

- Thermal analyses can be used to determine the thermal behavior of substances subjected to temperature variations;
- The main thermal analysis techniques are:
  - DSC = Differential scanning calorimetry
  - TG = Thermal gravimetry
  - TMA = Thermo-mechanical analysis
  - DMA = Dynamic mechanical analysis
- The results may bring conclusions such as decomposition behaviour of materials, melting point, T<sub>g</sub>, drying, evaporation, adsorption of substances, oxidation and purity of substances.

## DSC for the decomposition of carp meat

Atmospheric gas : Nitrogen  
Gas flow rate : 30 mL/min  
Heating rate : 5°C/min

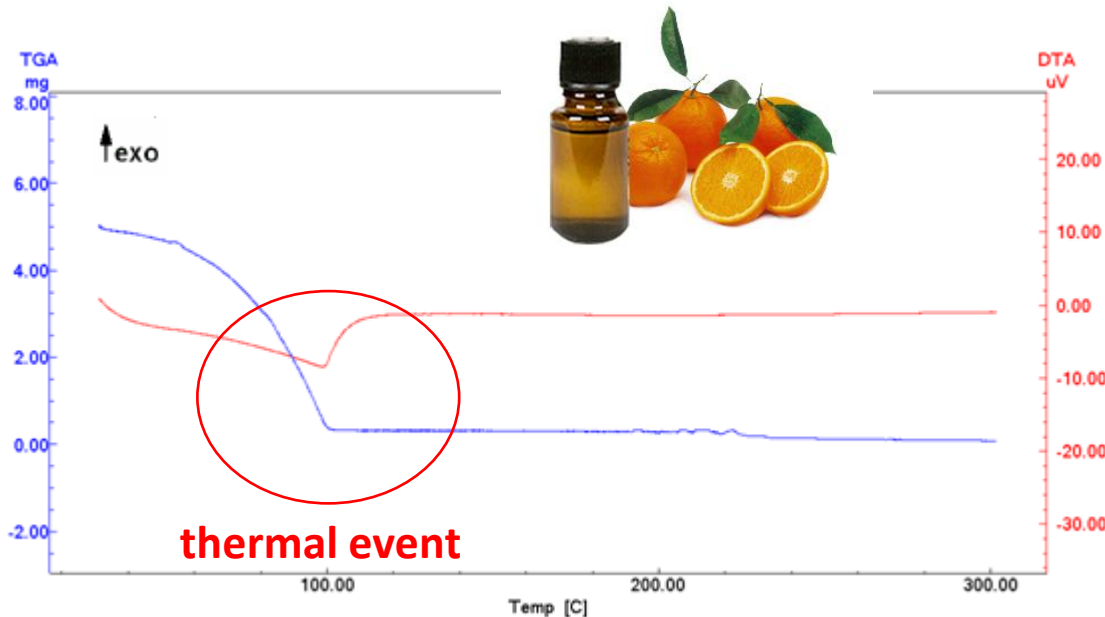


A - Shrinkage of myosin and actin caused by ATP remaining in the fish meat.

B and C - Denaturation of myosin and actin, respectively.

# Thermal analysis – TGA and DTA

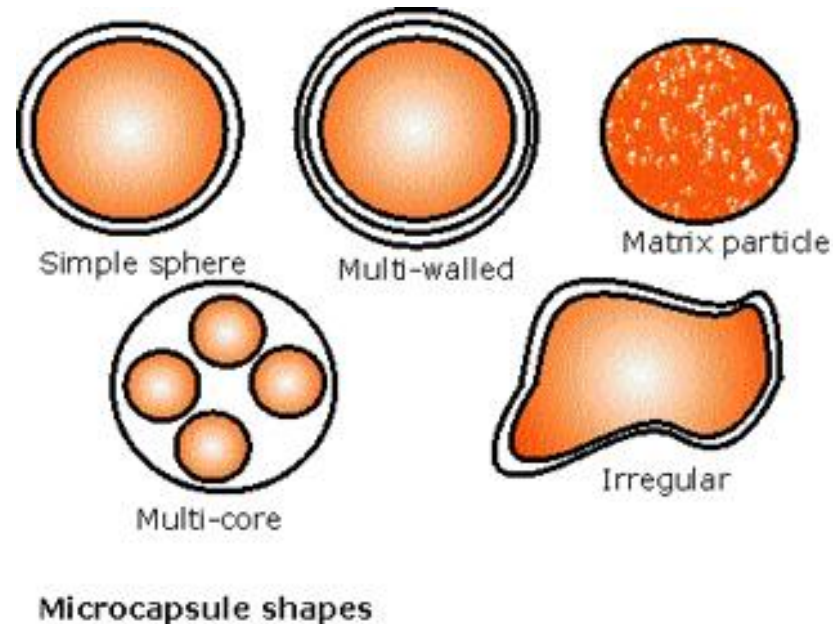
- Thermal Gravimetric Analysis (TGA) and Differential Thermal Analysis (DTA) are used to determine the thermal behavior of substances subjected to **temperature variations**:
  - TGA curves provide results of mass loss (or mass gain) of a substance during a temperature programme;
  - DTA curves, usually plotted together with TGA curves, provides a registration of thermal fluxes during a temperature programme.



TG and DTA curves for orange essential oil (air synthetic atmosphere 10°C/ min, 100 mL/min, 30 - 300°C, mass versus temperature)

# Payload

- Payload is the amount of core material encapsulated within a shell or matrix;
- Range from 1 to 99% depending on the **particle morphology**, encapsulation materials, and process;
- Microspheres accommodate payloads of 10-30%;
- Microcapsules accommodate more active material than microspheres ( $\geq 90\%$ ).

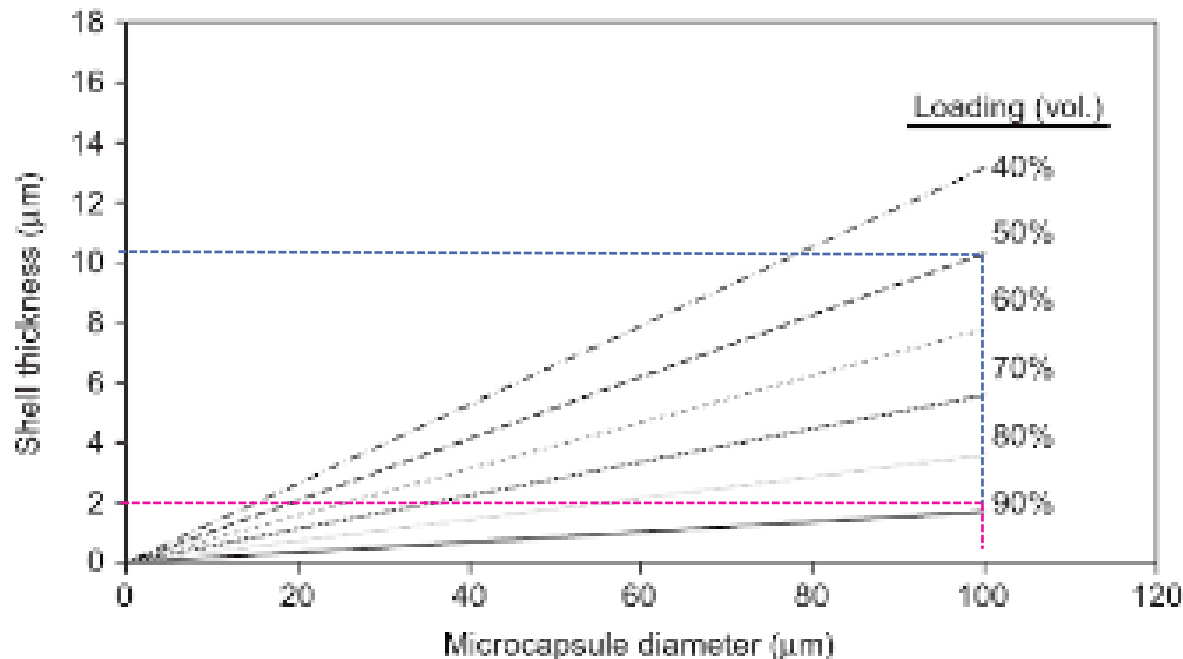


## ➤ Higher payloads mean

- Lower protection against environmental conditions (thinner shell)
- Higher costs with active ingredient
- Higher amount of core material near or at the surface (faster degradation and/or faster release – sometimes desirable)
- Inverted morphology in microspheres with payload >50%
- Thinner shells = less mechanical strength to be broken

## ➤ Lower payloads mean

- Thicker shell (more protection)
- Higher costs with coating materials



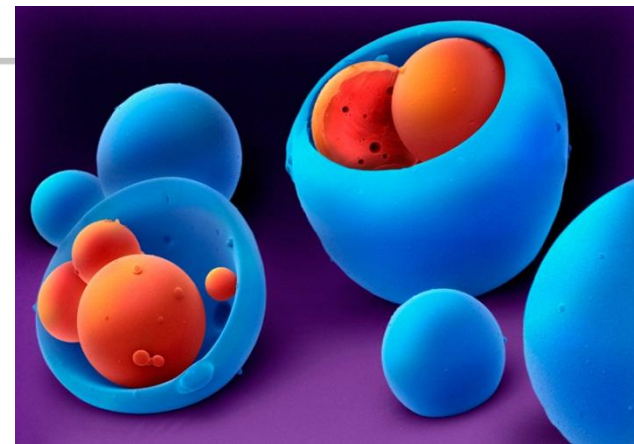
### Loading versus shell thickness for microcapsules

- A 100 μm capsule with 90% payload will have a 2 μm-thick shell
- Increasing shell thickness to from 2 to 10 μm reduces payload to 50%

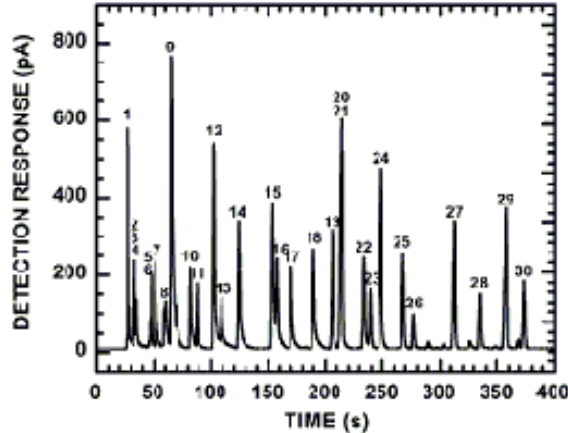
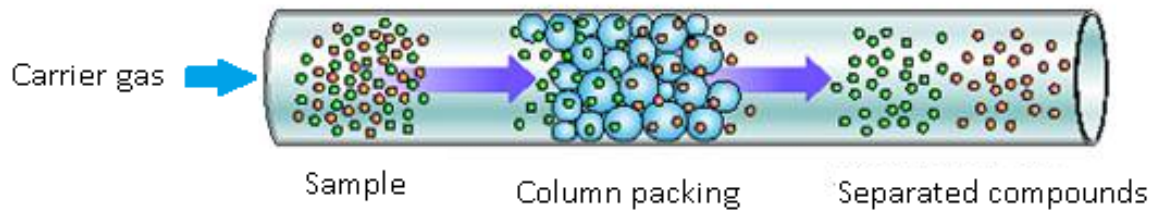


## ➤ How to determine payload

- Main techniques
  - GC/MS
  - HPLC



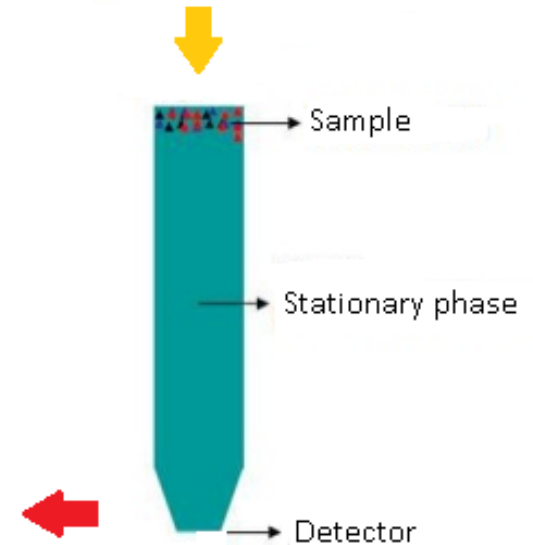
### GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY



1. ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL
2. ACETONE
3. 2-METHYL FURAN
4. ETHYL ACETATE
5. 2-BUTANONE
6. 1, 1, 1-TRICHLOROETHANE
7. 1-BUTANOL
8. DICHLOROETHYLENE
9. BENZENE
10. TRICHLOROETHYLENE
11. 2,5-DIMETHYLFURAN
12. 2,4-DIMETHYLBENZENE
13. 3-METHYL-1-BUTANOL
14. TOLUENE
15. NOCTANE
16. PERCHLOROETHYLENE
17. N-BUTYL ACETATE
18. CHLOROBENZENE
19. ETHYLBENZENE
20. M XYLENE
21. P XYLENE
22. STYRENE
23. 2-HEPTANONE
24. NONANE
25. CUMENE
26. α-PINENE
27. MENTHYLENE
28. 3-OCTANONE
29. OCTAMETHYLCYCLOTETRADECANE
30. LIMONENE

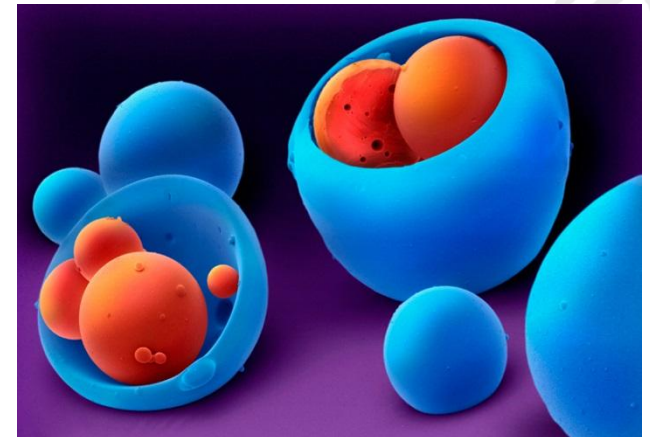
### HIGH PERFORMANCE LIQUID CHROMATOGRAPHY

Mobile phase  
(pressurized liquid)



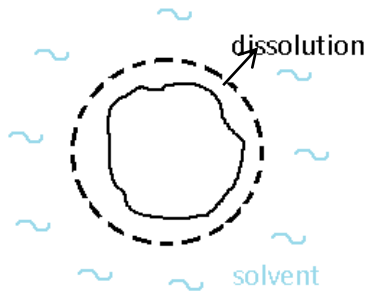
## ➤ Typical payloads for different encapsulation methods

- Atomization techniques: 10-30%
  - Spray-drying can accommodate higher loading through adjustment of the core/shell ratio in the SD solution and residence time;
  - Spray-chilling/freezing is limited to lower loadings because the feed slurry for atomization must remain at a low viscosity to form an aerosol;
- Extrusion: can be tuned to generate capsules with a range of payloads (nozzle geometry and size, shell materials);
- Emulsion-based processes (layer-by-layer) offer the highest payloads (up to 99%).

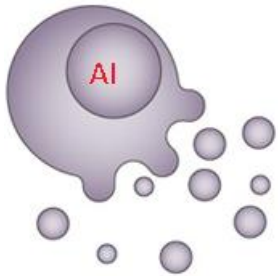


# Release mechanisms

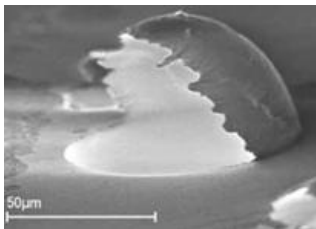
## A. Dissolution (pH, solvent, moisture)



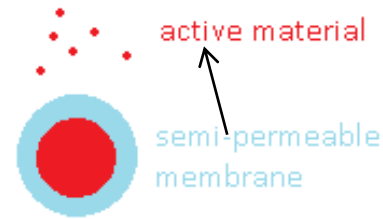
## B. Thermal (fusion)



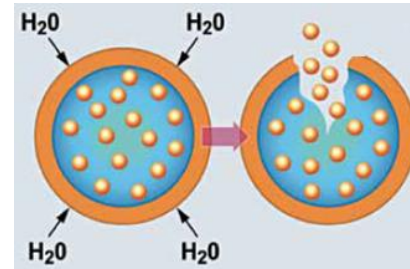
## C. Mechanical (pressure, cut, friction)



## D. Diffusion (selective permeability)



## E. Osmotic



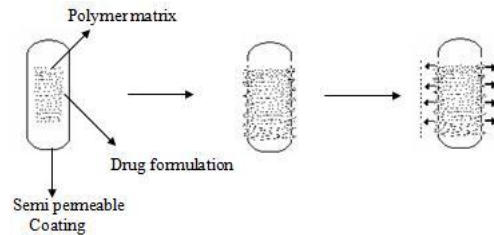
# Release profiles

## ➤ Triggered release

- Triggers: pH, T, moisture, P, electromag. field)
- Allows to achieve immediate, delayed or pulsatile release profiles

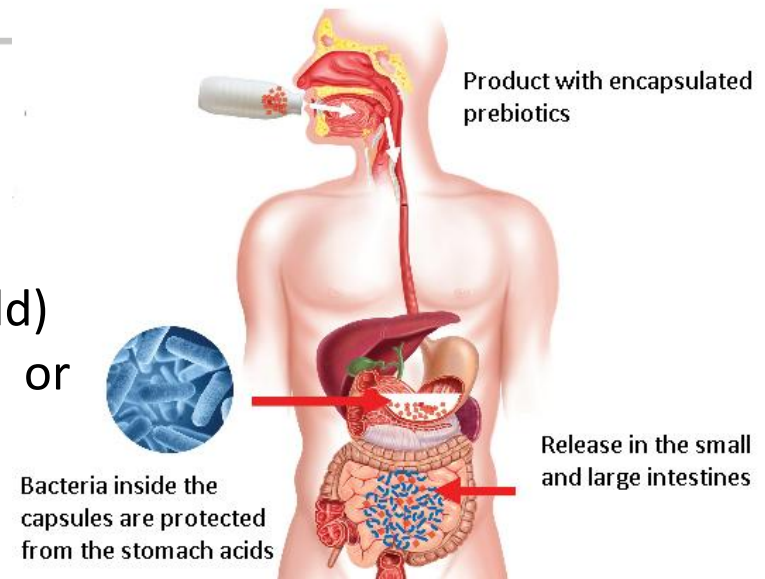
## ➤ Sustained release

- Release occurs for an extended period of time
- Allows to achieve constant active ingredient to exposure for a fixed period



## ➤ Burst release

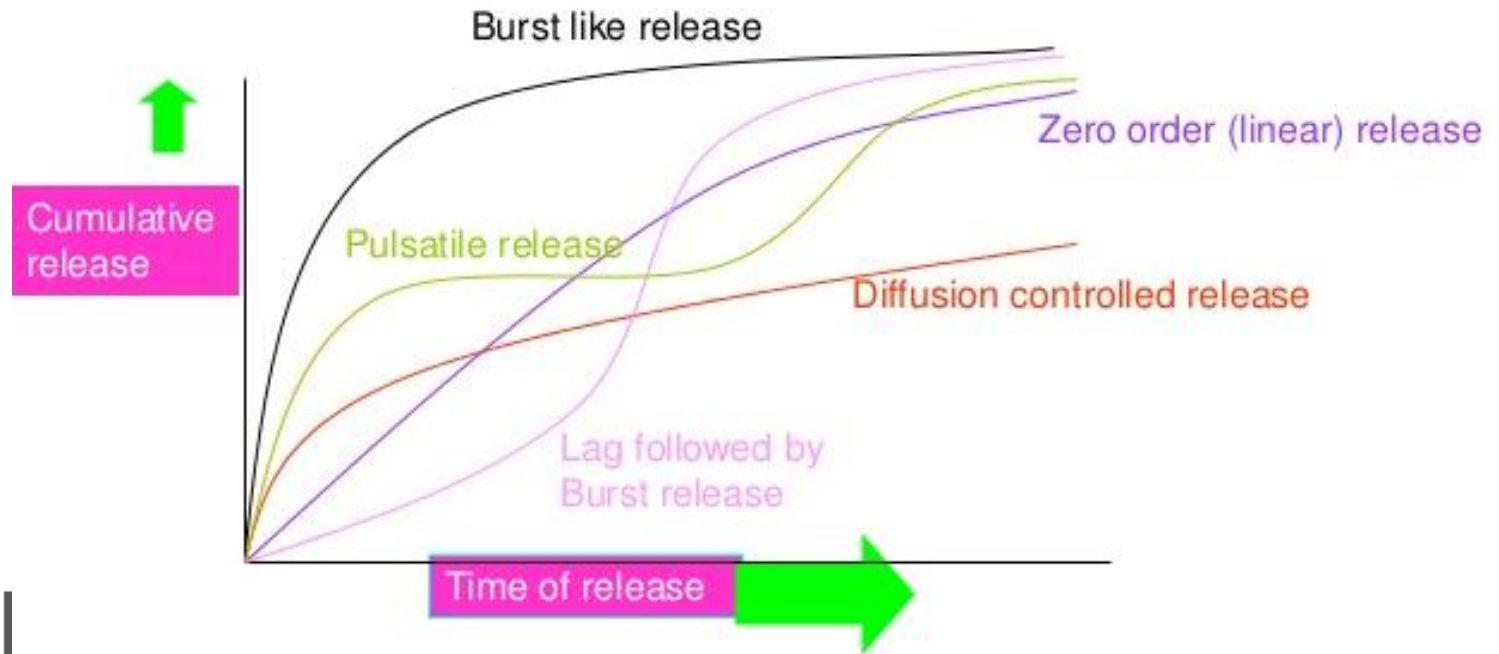
- Release due to mechanical forces



# Release profiles/rates

➤ Release profiles and rates depend on factors such as:

- Characteristics/properties of coating polymers and active ingredients
- Payload
- Morphology and size of the encapsulated particles



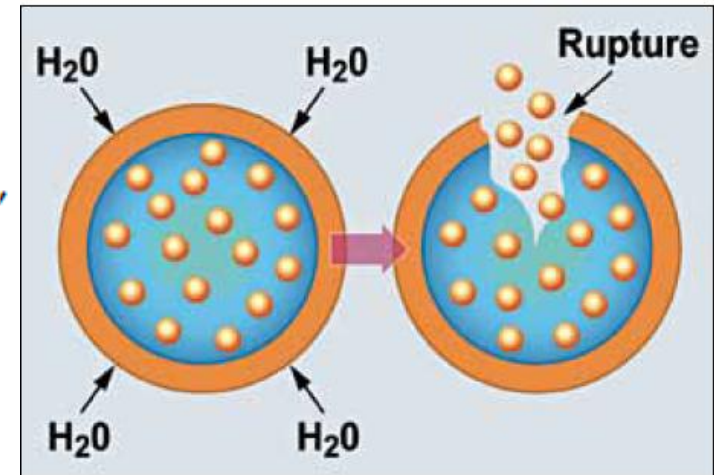
# Mathematical modelling of release profiles

Release rate model	Equation	Application
Zero order kinetics	$C_t = C_0 - kt$	Microspheres, fast release
First order kinetics	$\ln[C_t] = \ln[C_0] - kt$	Slow release
Higuchi's equation	$\frac{C_t}{C_0} = k_H \sqrt{t} + b$	Microcapsules, diffusion, low-soluble matrices
Korsmeyer-Peppas	$\frac{C_t}{C_0} = kt^n + b$	Diffusion + erosion
Peppas-Sahlin	$\frac{C_t}{C_0} = k_1 t^m + k_2 t^{2m}$	Diffusion + erosion

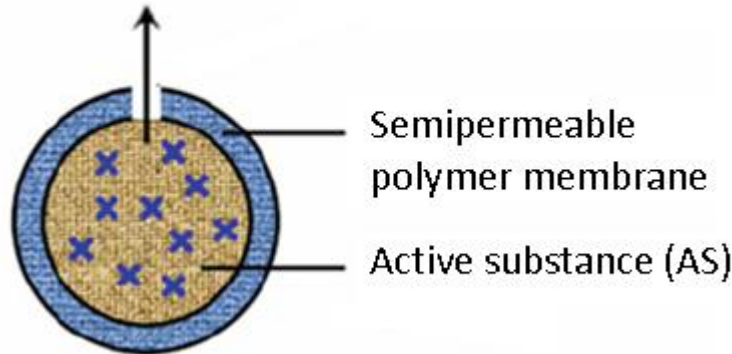
# Release methods

## Common Controlled Release Profiles

- Triggered release – Release occurs due to a change in environment, such as pH, temperature, moisture, pressure, electromagnetic. This is used to achieve immediate, delayed or pulsatile release profiles.
- Sustained release – Release occurs for an extended period of time. This can be used to achieve constant active ingredient exposure for a fixed period.
- Burst release
- Combination release profiles



Diffusion of the AS

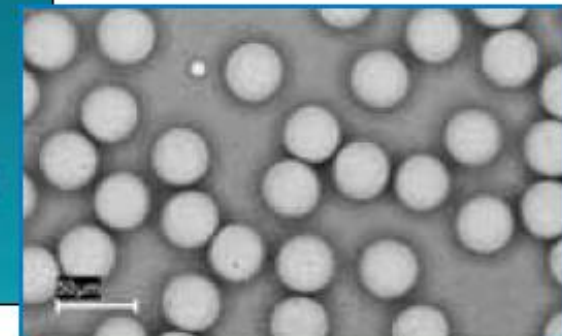
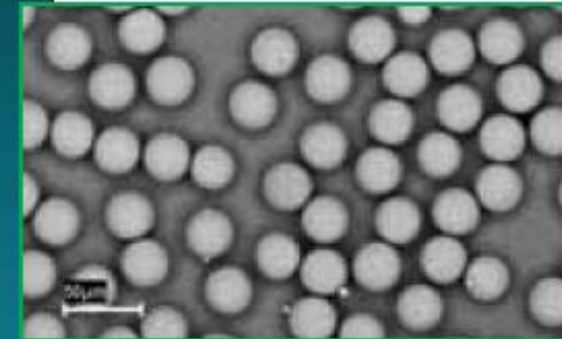
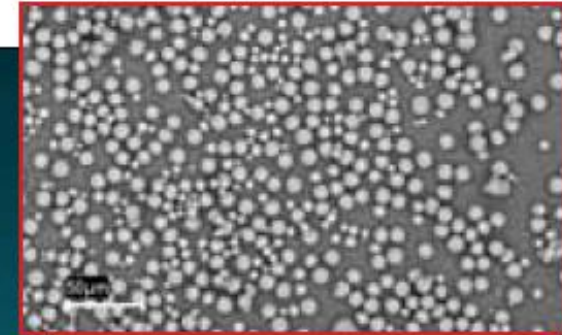
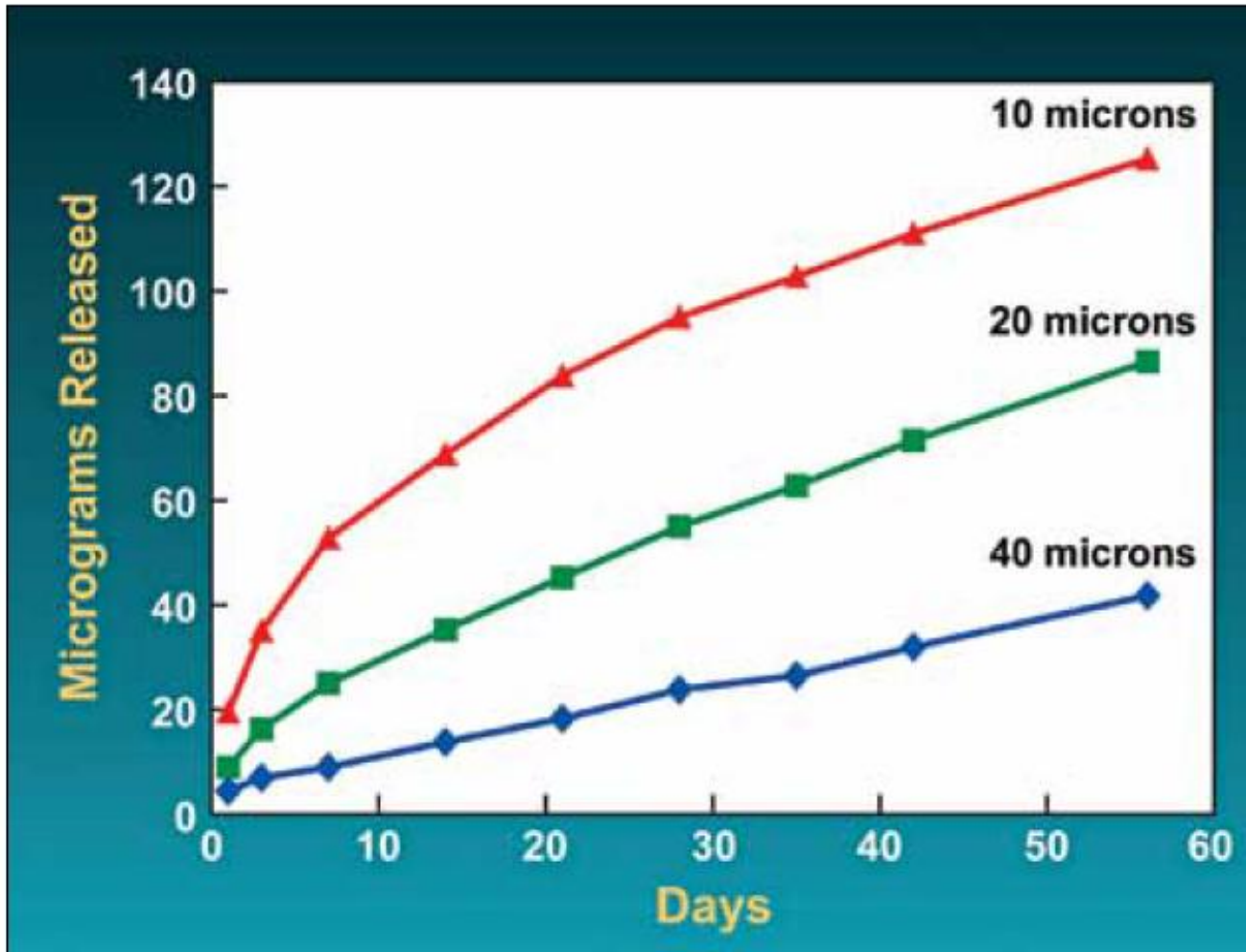


## Release Mechanisms

- Diffusion
- Dissolution
- Molecular trigger (such as pH)
- Biodegradation
- Thermal
- Mechanical
- Osmotic

# Release rates

- Particle size is one of many parameters that may be adjusted to control release rates of encapsulated ingredients.





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## **DISCLAIMER:**

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This presentation reflects only the opinion of authors and not the opinion of European Commission.



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