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## Review Article

# A Review: Microencapsulation

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## ABSTRACT

The method of encasing or enclosing one material in another, known as microencapsulation, is well-established and produces tablets that range in size from several hundred microns to considerably less than one micron. Microencapsulation is one of the more rookie techniques. Microcapsule and microsphere encapsulation potency depends on a number of variables, including the polymer's solubility in solvent, concentration, herbal solvent solubility in water, rate of solvent removal, etc. Encapsulation of substances can limit the core ingredient for a specific amount of time inside tablet shells (coating material). This strategy has been applied in many industries like printing, food, textiles, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, and defence. This strategy has led to the introduction of chemically decontaminating textiles or self-healing composites in defence settings. The assessment of microencapsulation and the materials involved, microencapsulation technologies, microencapsulation goals, microcapsule morphology, microcapsule methodology, release mechanism, and application fields with microencapsulated additives in building advent materials are all covered in this article

## INTRODUCTION

Through the process of microencapsulation, solids, beverages, or even gases can be encased in microscopic detritus that forms thin wall fabric coatings across the substances. In the late 1930s, the method was developed as a cleaner substitute for carbon paper and carbon ribbons, which were in demand by the business machinery sector. The last advancement in the 1950s was the development of ribbons and duplicate paper that

contained dyes in tiny gelatin drugs that were launched using a typewriter key or the pressure of a pen or pencil. This led to the development of several microencapsulated materials, including medications. A well-thought-out controlled drug delivery system can overcome several problems with conventional treatments and enhance a medicine's therapeutic potential. In order to maximise healing effectiveness, it will become It is crucial to deliver the agent to the target tissue in the appropriate amount within the allotted time

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frame by causing the least amount of toxicity and side effects possible. Turning in a therapeutic substance to the target website online in a managed launch method involves a number of steps. Using microspheres to deliver medications is one such method. Typically, microspheres are loose-flowing powders, such as proteins or synthetic polymers, that are biodegradable and ideally have a particle length of significantly less than 200  $\mu\text{m}$ . The process of microencapsulation involves covering or enclosing extremely small liquid or stable fabric droplets or debris with a continuous layer of polymeric fabric.

**Microspheres:** These stable debris particles have a matrix-like morphology and range in diameter from 1 to 1000  $\mu\text{m}$ . The medication is either dissolved or uniformly distributed within the biodegradable polymer.

**Microcapsule:** A tiny pill that is released when the pill breaks, melts, or dissolves and contains substance (such as an adhesive or medication).

#### Advantages:

- 1) Expensive manufacturing costs and performance-enhancing smooth product powder management minimal operation. It's used extensively in a wide range of compounds with different polarity and compositions. Quick time procedure
- 2) Resistance to heat An exceptional middle compound could be utilised as a solid product.
- 3) The compound's lack of volatility is reduced by the controlled introduction of hydrophobic actives.
- 4) Affordable operation suitable for warm touchy activities
- 5) Price strong technologies that do not require high temperatures or the usage of natural

solvents for elaboration in any certain pH scenario.

- 6) An appropriate substitute for a temperature-sensitive substance

#### Disadvantage:

- 1) Nonuniform debris that can shape aggregate is no longer recommended for thermolabile compounds.
- 2) A unique approach to encapsulation efficiency that uses a natural solvent and is not dependent on expensive fabric.
- 3) Aggregate can be shaped by highly expensive chemicals that are limited to low molecular weight.
- 4) Scaling parameters (feed flow, cooling temperature, atomiser air temperature and pressure, and melting) for quick actives launch that are specific to hydrophobic compound nonuniform particle variable encapsulation efficiency.
- 5) Unique product issues with viscous solution in terms of size and design. The cost of the polystyrene texture product is determined by a stepwise process.

#### Reason for Microencapsulation:

- 1) Extended or prolonged medication launch is the primary reason for microencapsulation.
- 2) The approach has been widely employed to mask the organoleptic properties, such as the flavour and smell of numerous tablets, and hence enhances patient compliance. For example, paracetamol and nitrofurantoin are used to disguise the sour flavour.
- 3) The liquid tablets might be changed into an unfastened flowing powder by employing microencapsulation techniques.
- 4) The tablets can be included via microencapsulation, which makes them sensitive to oxygen, moisture, and mild



conditions. Nifedipine, for instance, is a part of image graph instability.

- 5) The microencapsulation technique can also help you avoid pill incompatibilities.

### Core Material:

The centre fabric, which is defined as the special fabric that will be coated, might have a liquid or robust consistency. Because the liquid middle may contain dissolved or scattered material, the middle fabric's composition may vary. A mixture of energetic components, stabilisers, diluents, excipients, and release-charge retardants or accelerators can make up the strong middle. The ability to alter the middle material composition provides a certain amount of flexibility, and its application frequently enables beneficial layout and enhancement of the desired microcapsules' characteristics.

### Coating Material:

It should be possible for the coating fabric to form a film that is nonreactive, cohesive, and chemically matched with the centre cloth. Stability using the centre cloth, When it comes to energetic substances, inert Launched under controlled conditions, the coating can be thin, hard, brittle, flexible, etc.

1. The results obtained from the solid films cannot be extrapolated to the thin microcapsule coatings because cast or unfastened films organised with the help of the same old casting strategies can be noticeably thicker than those produced with the aid of the microencapsulation of small particles.

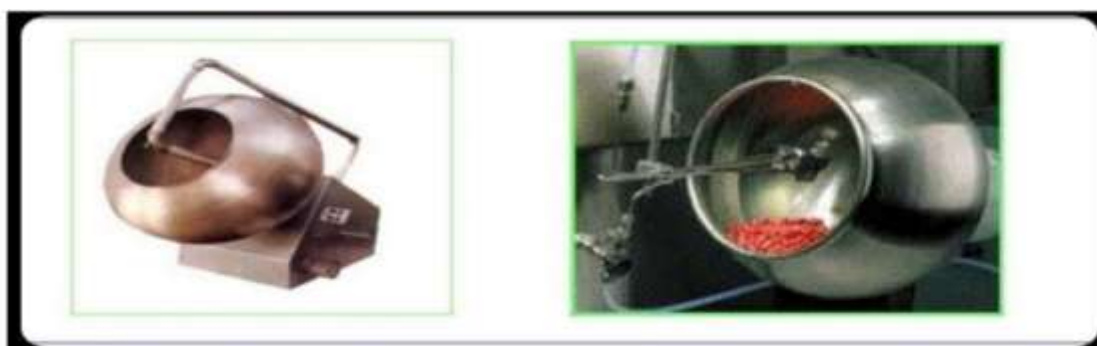
2. The exact microencapsulation procedure used to apply a particular coating creates precise and intrinsic homes that are difficult to replicate using current movie-casting techniques.
3. The middle fabric's coating substrate may also significantly affect the coating residences. Therefore, selecting a particular coating fabric requires consideration of both the executed outcome and the conventional unfastened-movie facts.

## Manufacturing methods for microcapsules

### Physical Method

#### 1) Pan coating:

1. One of the earliest industrial methods for creating tiny, coated particles or tablets, pan coating is widely employed in the pharmaceutical sector.
2. The method comprises the application of a coating composition to a debris transfer mattress while also using warm air to promote solvent evaporation.
3. As the coating cloth is applied gradually, the debris is tossed in a pan or other instrument.
4. The coating is applied as an answer or as an atomised spray to the preferred stable middle material inside the coating pan; it is appropriate for extremely large debris, exceeding six hundred microns in size.
5. Since the oatings are done inside the coating pans, heat is often conducted over the covered materials to remove the coating solvent.
6. In some instances, the drying oven is used to achieve the final solvent removal.

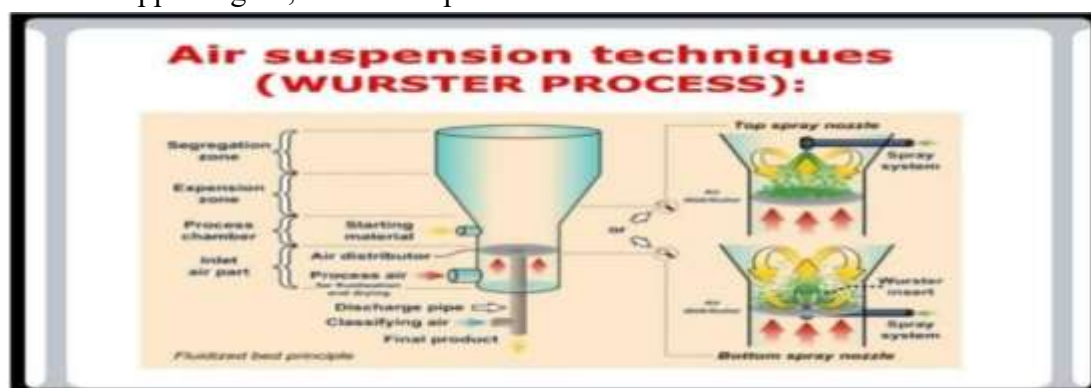


**Fig: Pan coating:**

## 2) Air-suspension coating:

Initially established in 1959 by Professor Dale Erwin Wurster at the University of Wisconsin, Compared to pan coating, air suspension coating offers more flexibility and control. This method disperses the solid particulate intermediate material into the supporting air, and the suspended

debris is lined with polymers in an unstable solvent, resulting in a very thin coating of polymer covering it. The air movement that aids in the debris' removal also makes drying easier, and the drying charge is directly correlated with the air movement's temperature, which can be adjusted to also affect the coating's homes.



**Fig: Air-suspension coating**

## 3) Extrusion Centrifugal:

Centrifugal extrusion, have been studied and used by a few producers. A number of coating structures approved for use in food were developed to encapsulate products that included vitamins, spices, and flavourings. Carrageenan, sodium alginate, gelatin, lipids, fatty acids, waxes, gum acacia, starches, cellulose derivatives, and polyethylene glycol are examples of these wall products. A concentric orifice placed at the outer circumference of a spinning cylinder, or the pinnacle, and nozzles are used in centrifugal extrusion, a liquid coextrusion technique. A

concentrated feed tube in the encapsulating cylinder or head allows coating and centre materials to be pumped one at a time to the several nozzles positioned at the tool's exterior floor. Coating cloth moves via the outer tube while the centre cloth travels through the middle tube. In order for the pinnacle to revolve around its vertical axis, the entire tool is attached to a revolving shaft. The microcapsules are accumulated on a moving mattress of fine-grained starch, which absorbs unwanted coating moisture and lessens their impact. The technique's generated particles range in diameter from 150 to 2000 mm.

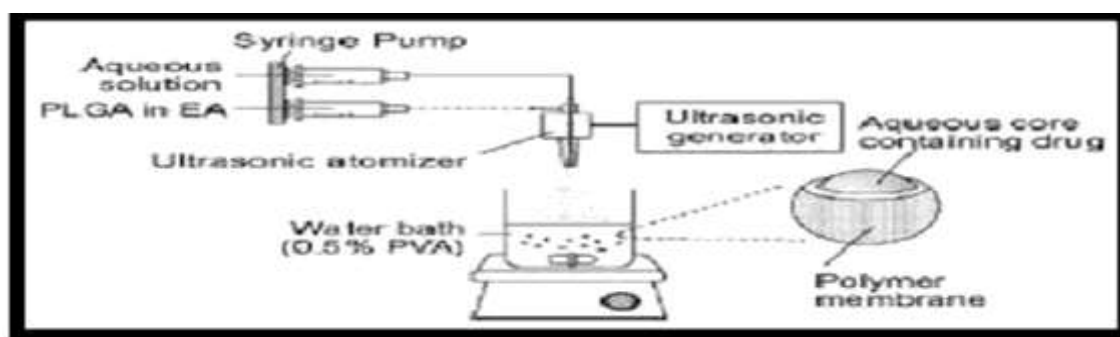


Fig: Extrusion Centrifugal

#### 4) Spraying to Dry:

One of the most often used drying and microencapsulation techniques in the food and pharmaceutical industries is spray drying because it is adaptable, affordable, effective, clean to scale up, easily accessible, and yields a suitable, palatable powder (Desobry et al. 1997). For many years, it has been widely utilised in conjunction with the encapsulation of bioactive food ingredients, such as proteins, lipids, vitamins, enzymes, pigments, and flavours. However, because the prescribed high temperature causes the product to volatilise and/or destroy, its usage in

thermo-touchy products—which include germs and important oils—is limited. Containing the center and wall material, observed via way of means of nebulization/atomization in a drying heated air-circulating chamber. The process of microencapsulation via spray drying involves the creation of an emulsion, solution, or suspension comprising the wall and centre material, which is monitored by nebulisation or atomisation in a drying room with warm air circulating. When the water comes into contact with the fresh air, it immediately evaporates, and the matrix encloses the core substance.

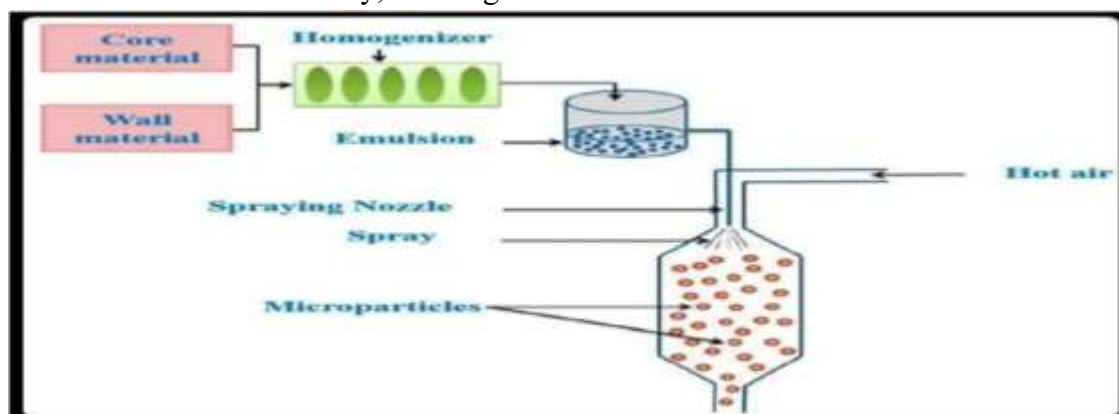


Fig: Spraying to Dry

### Chemical and physical techniques

#### 1. Coacervation

Due to the fact that the central material is totally encased by the process, coacervation, often referred to as “section separation,” is regarded as a legitimate microencapsulation technique. Way of

means via the matrix. This approach Both simple and complex methods of coacervation, which involves the precipitation or separation of a colloidal component from an aqueous component, can be employed (Dziezak, 1988; Bakan, 1973). The polymer competes for the solubility of gelatin protein solution using a non-solvent or a polymer with higher water solubility in straightforward

coacervation. Of hydrophobic interaction. The tablet is formed in complex coacervation by the ionic interaction of oppositely charged polymers, which are often the high-quality prices on protein molecules. And gum arabic and gelatin, which are anionic macromolecules (Versic, 1988; Soper, Brazel, 1999; 1995). The intricate Coacervation involves the segregation of a liquid portion of the coating fabric, while the two opposite rates are neutralized by one another (Soper, 1995). From a polymeric reaction seen through the coating of that segment as a consistent layer surrounding the suspended core particles. After that, the coating is hardened. In general, The three stages of batch-kind coacervation techniques are carried out under continuous stirring.

1. Development of a kinetics model for three immiscible chemical segments.
2. The coating's deposition
3. The coating solidifies.

Coacervation microencapsulation was assessed using a large range of coating materials, but the results were not positive. The gelatin/gum Acacia

device is the coating apparatus that has been researched and understood the most. But there are many different coating designs, such as those made of gliadin, heparin/gelatin, carrageenan, chitosan, soy protein, polyvinyl alcohol, and gelatin/carboxymethylcellulose.

Guar gum/dextran and B lactoglobulin/gum Acacia are also suitable. Microencapsulation by coacervation (Gouin, 2004). In recent years, there have also been modifications to coacervation methods.

## Chemical Method

### 1. Polymerization

Protective microcapsules are shaped in situ using polymerisation techniques in a notably novel microencapsulation approach. • The procedures include the reaction of monomeric units placed on the interface current between a non-stop section where the centre cloth is distributed and a core cloth material. • Since a liquid or petrol often serves as the non-stop or centre cloth assisting section, the polymerisation response occurs at the interface between the and solid or liquid.

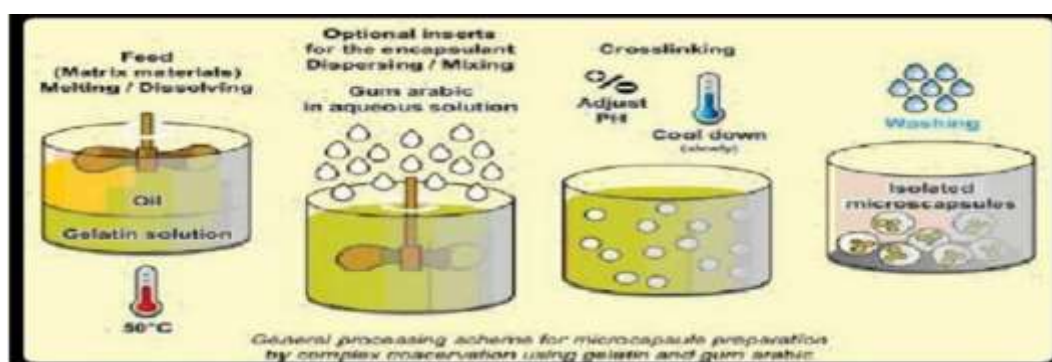


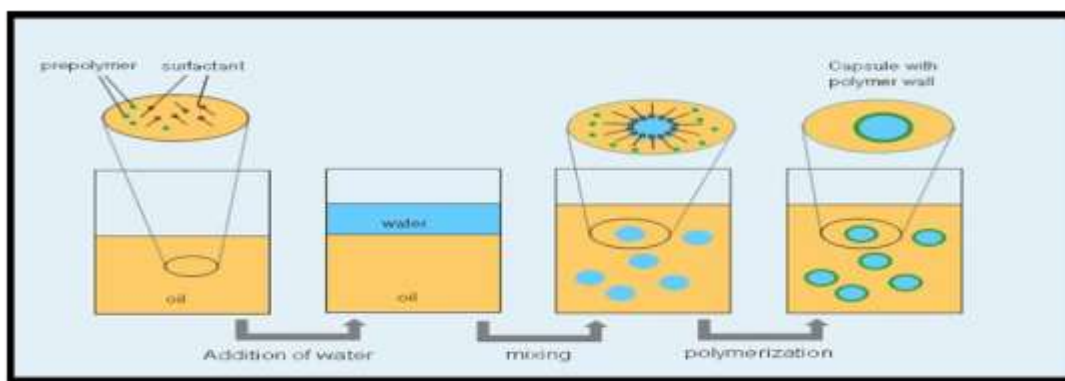
Fig: Polymerization

### 2. Interfacial polymerization:

The materials are multifunctional monomers, such as multifunctional acid chlorides and multifunctional isocyanates. Both of these can be used individually or in combination. In the liquid centre material, the multifunctional monomer

dissolved. The mixture can be supplied with a coreactant multifunctional amine. In order to neutralise the acid created throughout the reaction, base is supplied. This causes the contact to polymerise quickly, and the pill shell era begins. polyurea shell can form during the reaction of isocyanate and amine. It is possible to create

polynylon or polyamide shells while amine and acid.

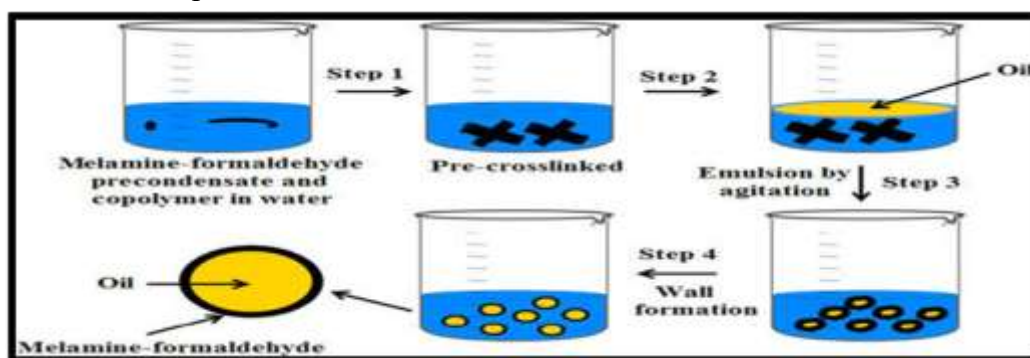


**Fig: Interfacial polymerization**

### 3. Polymerisation in situ

Similar to IFP, the creation of the pill shell is caused by the polymerisation of monomers introduced into the encapsulation reactor. The core material is not exposed to any reactive retailers using this approach. With the help of the non-stop segment and the dispersed core material,

polymerisation takes place entirely continuous segment as well as at the interface's non-stop segment side. A prepolymer with a low molecular weight will be formed initially, and as time passes, the prepolymer will increase in size. It uses a powerful pill shell to deposit on the floor of the middle material that has been scattered there.



**Fig: Polymerisation in situ**

### Drug release mechanism and control

The four main processes of drug release from microcapsules are erosion, osmosis, dissolution, and diffusion.

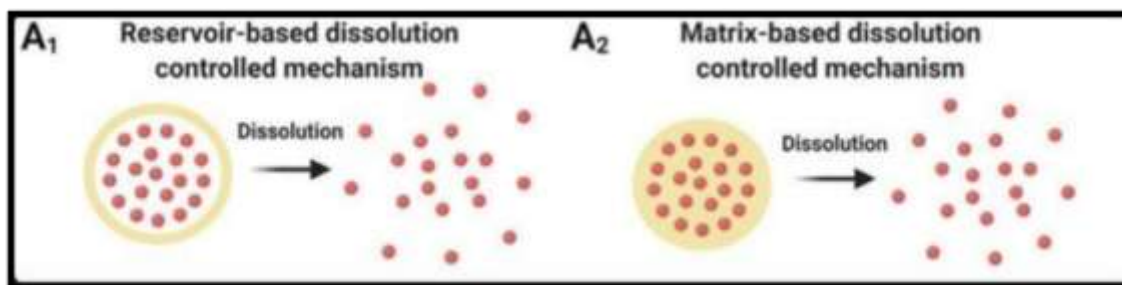
#### 1) Diffusion

Diffusion is the most widely recognised mechanism by which the dissolving fluid enters the shell, dissolves in the middle, and escapes

through the pores or interstitial channels. Therefore, the overall launch depends on, (a) how quickly the dissolution fluid reaches the microcapsule wall; (b) how quickly the medication dissolves inside the dissolution fluid. The rate at which the drug dissolves and spreads across the surface (3,4,16). Such a drug launch's kinetics follow Higuchi's Equation as follows (4,5,8,50,51):  $[D/J (2A-\epsilon CS) CS t] = Q^{1/2}$  where  $Q$  is the amount of drug released in accordance

with the unit area of the exposed floor at time  $t$ ;  $D$  is the solute's diffusion coefficient inside the solution;  $A$  is the total amount of drug in accordance with unit volume;  $CS$  is the drug's solubility in the permeating dissolution fluid; and

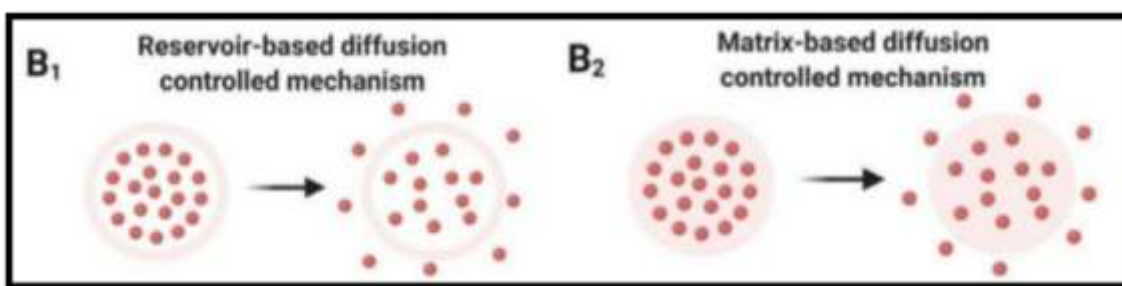
$\varepsilon$  is the microcapsule wall's porosity.  $J$  is the capillary device's tortuosity inside the wall.  $Q = vt$ , where  $v$  is the basic launch rate, is a simplified version of the previous equation.



## 2) Dissolution

When the polymer coat dissolves in the dissolution fluid, the drug's launch charge from the

microcapsule is determined by the coat's dissolution charge. The discharge charge is influenced by the coat's thickness and solubility in the dissolving fluid.



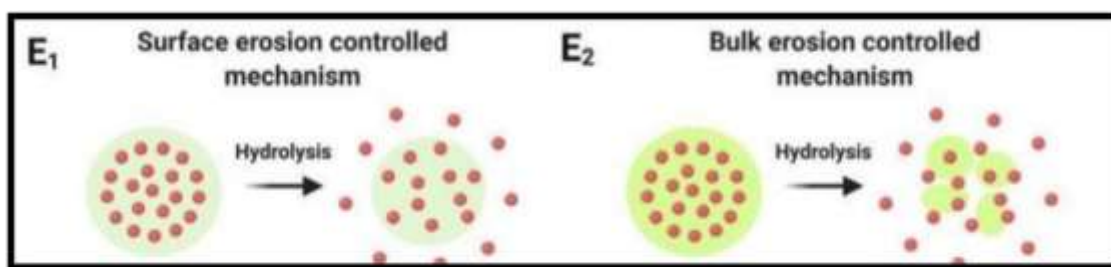
## 3) Diffusion of osmosis

The microcapsule's polymer coat functions as a semi-permeable membrane, allowing an osmotic stress differential between its interior and exterior and forcing the medication solution out of the microcapsule through tiny pores inside the coat.

## 4) Erosion

Positive coat ingredients like glyceryl monostearate, bee's wax, and stearyl alcohol are used in drug launches due to coat erosion caused

by pH and/or enzymatic hydrolysis. The amazing diversity of microcapsule body types in terms of size, shape, and arrangement of the middle and coat substances has made attempts to model drug launch from microcapsules challenging. Additionally, the physiochemical properties of coating substances, such as variable thickness, porosity, and inertness, and core substances, such as solubility, diffusibility, and partition coefficient, make drug launch modelling challenging. But based mostly on a variety of studies of the discharge characteristics, the following generalisations can be made:



1. The drug launch charge from reservoir-type microcapsules is zero order.
2. Launch charges for monolithic microcapsules with dissolved drug may be  $t_{1/2}$  dependent for the first  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the drug launch and then exponentially decrease beyond that.
3. At some point during almost the entire drug launch, however, the discharge fee is mostly  $t_{1/2}$  dependent if a monolithic microcapsule has a significant excess of dissolved drug.
4. The medication's path in monolithic tablets isn't always consistent; the drug in the middle travels a greater distance than the drug on the outside. As a result, the discharge cost often drops with time.

### Microcapsule characterisation:

#### 1) Particle size and shape:

Traditional mild microscopy, or scanning electron microscopy (SEM), is the most widely utilised method for visualising microcapsules. Each of these techniques is employed to study the shape and form of microcapsules. Offers more options than mild microscopy. It also allows for the analysis of double-walled systems by examining the microsphere surfaces. Confocal laser scanning microscopy (CLSM) is a non-destructive visualisation approach that provides information about interior particles in addition to surface systems (Preet et al., 2013).

#### 2) Fourier transform-infrared spectroscopy (FTIR):

It is utilised to study how the polymeric matrix of the provider system degrades and to examine how the drug system and polymer interact.

#### 3) Hausner's ratio and Carr's index:

The continual funnel and cone approach proved to be compatible with the attitude of repose. Using poured or trapped bulk densities of identified weight of pattern and a measuring cylinder, the bulk density of combined microcapsules was determined by calculating the Hausner's ratio or Carr's index (Hausner, 1967; Carr, 1965). [Tapped Density-Bulk Density/Tapped Density]  $\times$  100 is Carr's Index. Hausner's ratio (HR) is equal to  $\rho_T/\rho_B$ , where  $\rho_B$  is bulk density and  $\rho_T$  is tapped density (Mishra et al., 2013).

#### 4) Bulk density:

To achieve clear quantities between 50 and 100 millilitres, weigh the proper microcapsules and then move to a 100 millilitre cylinder. Bulk Density ( $\rho_p$ ) = [Weight of Microcapsules (g) (M) / Bulk Volume (ml)(V)] where  $V_0$  is the powder's amount and M is its mass.

#### 5) Isoelectric factor:

A device called micro electrophoresis is used to measure the electrophoretic mobility of microspheres, which makes it easy to compute the isoelectric factor. The mobility is related to the microcapsules' ion absorption capacity, ionisable behaviour, and floor-contained charge.

## 6) Calculating drug loading, microcapsule yield, and encapsulation performance:

The drug content was determined by extracting a 20 mg microcapsule design using methanol. UV spectrophotometry was used to evaluate the results after filtration and methanol dilution. %loading is equal to the drug's weight divided by the microcapsules' weight. %Encapsulation performance = [actual drug content/%theoretical drug content] 100% Yield =  $M/M_0 \times 100$  M = Microcapsule Weight M<sub>0</sub> is the total estimated medication and polymer weight (Mishra et al., 2013; Agnihotri et al., 2012).

## 7) Contact angle:

The wetting properties of the microcapsule are determined by calculating the attitude of touch. This method makes it easy for us to identify the hydrophilicity and hydrophobicity of microcapsules. This is measured at the solid, air, or water floor by placing a droplet in a circular movable device that is hooked up above the inverted microscope's objective. It is measured at 200 degrees Celsius during a minute of microcapsule breakdown.

## 8) Drug launch studies conducted in vitro:

The USP rotating basket and paddle equipment can be used in a variety of pH conditions, such as pH 1.2 and pH 7.4. After specific time intervals, the pattern must be removed and altered using an equal medium.

## DIFFERENT CAPSULES PROPERTIES:

### 1) Microcapsule particle size and shape

The unique methods that can be employed to provide the microcapsules determine the particle length of the microcapsules. Due to the unique tactics employed, Table 3 recommends the version

within the particle sizes. The term "morphology of the microcapsules" refers to both the internal and external forms of the medications, which are largely dependent on the conditions under which the microcapsules are supplied as well as the materials utilised for their walls.

### 2) Porosity

One of the most important characteristics of the microcapsules that determines their presence in a certain meal matrix is their porosity, which is shaped by the use of any technique. Composition of the microcapsule's wall fabric and the process by which it is supplied. If you wish to guide the mass transition between the surroundings and the middle, the wall matrix that holds the middle is created in one of these ways.

### 3) Hydrophobicity of the surface

Surface hydrophobicity can be defined as a molecule's physical property that is rejected by water. This is an asset that is essentially based entirely on the wall cloth and the middle cloth to be contained. In a study conducted by Mendanha et al. (2009), microcapsules containing casein hydrolysate were created inside SPI and pectin; the results showed that hydrophobicity decreased with the boom.

### 4) Flowability

According to Turchiuli et al. (2005), the Hausner Ratio (HR) and % compressibility, also known as Carr's Index, are used to determine the flowability of microencapsulated powder shapes.6) Micromechanical characteristics The microcapsules' micromechanical homes determine their mechanical cause. Examining the mechanical properties of the microcapsules as soon as they are manufactured is crucial since it enables you to ensure that the middle fabric



discharge occurs at a specific target and time, and no earlier.

### 5) Thermal characteristics

One of the most important residencies to research is the thermal residence of microcapsules, which enables you to determine both their discharge rates and garage balance.

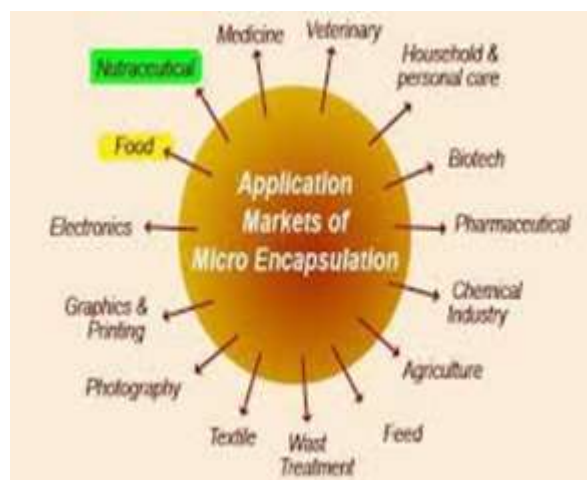
### 6) Functional characteristics

Apart from the microcapsules' physical, mechanical, and thermal houses, useful houses are also crucial, especially when using the microcapsules to expand a new product with provided useful houses.

### 7) Solubility

In order to determine how the microcapsules behave in water or any other medium—that is, whether or not the middle fabric is launched in that medium—the solubility evaluation of the microcapsules is essentially completed

## APPLICATIONS



**Fig: Applications of Microencapsulation**

#### 1. Agricultural

Crop protection is one of the most important microencapsulated product packages (87–93). Insect pheromones are becoming a viable biorational substitute for conventional, strong insecticides. In particular, by interfering with the mating process, sex attractant pheromones can reduce insect populations.

### 2. Pharmaceutics

Medications Pharmaceutical and biomedical programs for regulated and sustained drug delivery are among the leading areas of encapsulation technique<sup>94-103</sup>. Potential uses for this drug delivery system include the replacement of medicinal substances (such as insulin, which is no longer taken orally) <sup>104,105</sup>, gene therapy<sup>106-109</sup>, and the use of vaccinations to treat AIDS<sup>110-112</sup>, tumors<sup>113,114</sup>, cancer<sup>115</sup>, and diabetes<sup>116-118</sup>.

### 3. Food Sector

There may be a current trend towards a healthier way of living that includes consumers becoming more aware of what they eat and the benefits certain foods have for maintaining good health. Using a weight-loss regimen to prevent contamination is a whole new line of innovative so-called “practical foods,” many of which may be enhanced with ingredients to support health.

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