

# A Review: Microencapsulation

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## Abstract

The pharmaceutical, cosmetic, and food industries find great value in the formulation of natural substances with a biocompatible or biodegradable carrier material to form composites or encapsulates. This article's primary goal is to examine microencapsulation as a cutting-edge medication delivery method. Delivery mechanism. Its application encompasses all other small particulate matter, not just conventional microcapsules. Systems such as self-assembling structures that involve preparative manipulation. Review topics include materials for encapsulation, preparation methods, the mechanics of release through the capsule wall, description of microcapsules and the various applications they find. The analysis of The most advanced technology for microencapsulation and microcapsule preparation is created specifically to study the characteristics, applications, and preparation of individually encapsulated novel small particles, as well as noteworthy advancements to established methodologies pertinent to microcapsules and their application in a broad range of industrial, engineering, pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and scientific contexts.

**Keywords:** Microencapsulation, Jet Excitation, SCF method, Coacervation

## Introduction<sup>1</sup>

The process of enclosing a material inside a tiny container known as a capsule is known as microencapsulation. Microcapsules consist of a small sphere surrounded by a consistent wall. The wall of the microcapsule is sometimes referred to as a shell or coating, while the substance inside is known as the core or internal phase. The size range of the microcapsules is 1  $\mu$ -7mm. The size and form of capsules can vary depending on whether one of the three states—solid, liquid, or gas—is encapsulated (Leon and Herbert, 1990).

- The resulting capsule may have an irregular shape if the core is made of a solid or crystalline material.
- Simple spherical capsules containing a single droplet of encapsulate may form if the core material is liquid.

## Reasons for Microencapsulation<sup>2-5</sup>

- Its primary purpose is to improve the product's stability and prolonged/sustained release.
- Managing the pace at which the medication is released from the microcapsules.
- This method was frequently employed to disguise the taste and odour of many medications and to increase patient compliance.
- To transform liquid medications into a powder that flows easily.
- To lessen the drugs' toxicity, GI discomfort, and numerous serious side effects
- Microencapsulation can be utilised to modify the absorption site (James, 2002; Bansode et al., 2010).

**Microspheres:**

- Microspheres are stable debris with a matrix-like shape and a diameter within side the variety of 1–1000 $\mu\text{m}$  wherein the drug is both dissolved or homogenously dispersed within side the biodegradable polymer.

**Microcapsule :**

- A tiny pill containing material (consisting of an adhesive or a medicine) this is launched whilst the pill is broken, melted, or dissolved

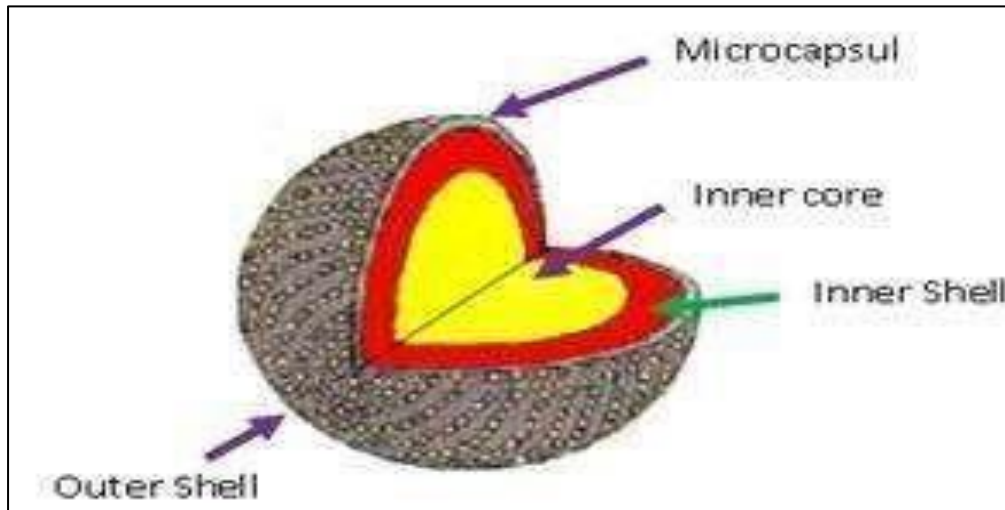


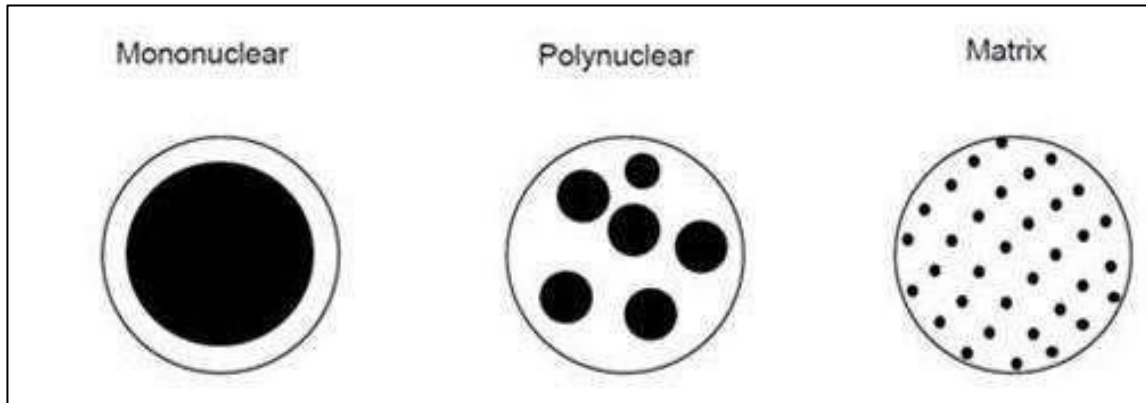
Figure 1: Structure of microcapsule

Most microcapsules are small spheres with diameters ranging between a few micrometers and a few millimeters. However, many of these microcapsules bear little resemblance to these simple spheres. In fact, both the size and shape of formed micro particles depend on the materials and methods used to prepare them. The different types of microcapsules and microspheres are produced from a wide range of wall materials like monomers and/or polymers (King, 1995; Shahidi and Han, 1993). Depending on the physicochemical properties of the core, the wall composition and the microencapsulation technique used, different types of particles can be obtained (Fig. 1): A simple sphere surrounded by a coating of uniform thickness; A particle containing an irregular shape core; Several core particles embedded in a continuous matrix of wall material; Several distinct cores within the same capsule and multi walled microcapsules. This paper aims to provide an overview of the latest methods for microencapsulating food ingredients through various processes, along with the essential theoretical and practical details. The impact of information processing technology and It is also covered how the matrix materials affect the stability and bioavailability of these ingredients.

**Types of microcapsules<sup>6</sup>:**

1. Mononuclear / single core.

2. Polynuclear/ multiple core.
3. Matrix type (Jyothi, 2012).



**Figure 2: Types of microcapsules**

1. Mononuclear (core-shell)microcapsules contain the shell around the core.
  2. Polynuclear capsules have many cores enclosed within the shell.
  3. Matrix encapsulation in which the core material is distributed homogeneously into the shell material.
- Types of microcapsules.

### Techniques to manufacture microcapsules<sup>7-11</sup>

#### Physical method

##### 1) Pan coating:

- One of the earliest industrial methods for creating tiny, coated particles or tablets is the pan coating process, which is widely employed in the pharmaceutical sector.
- To help the solvent evaporate, heated air is used in conjunction with the application of a coating composition to a mattress that transfers debris.
- While coating the fabric slowly, the debris is tumbling in a pan or other tool.
- Fit for extraordinarily large debris, larger than 600 microns
- The coating is applied as an atomized spray or as a response to the preferred stable intermediate material inside the coating pan.

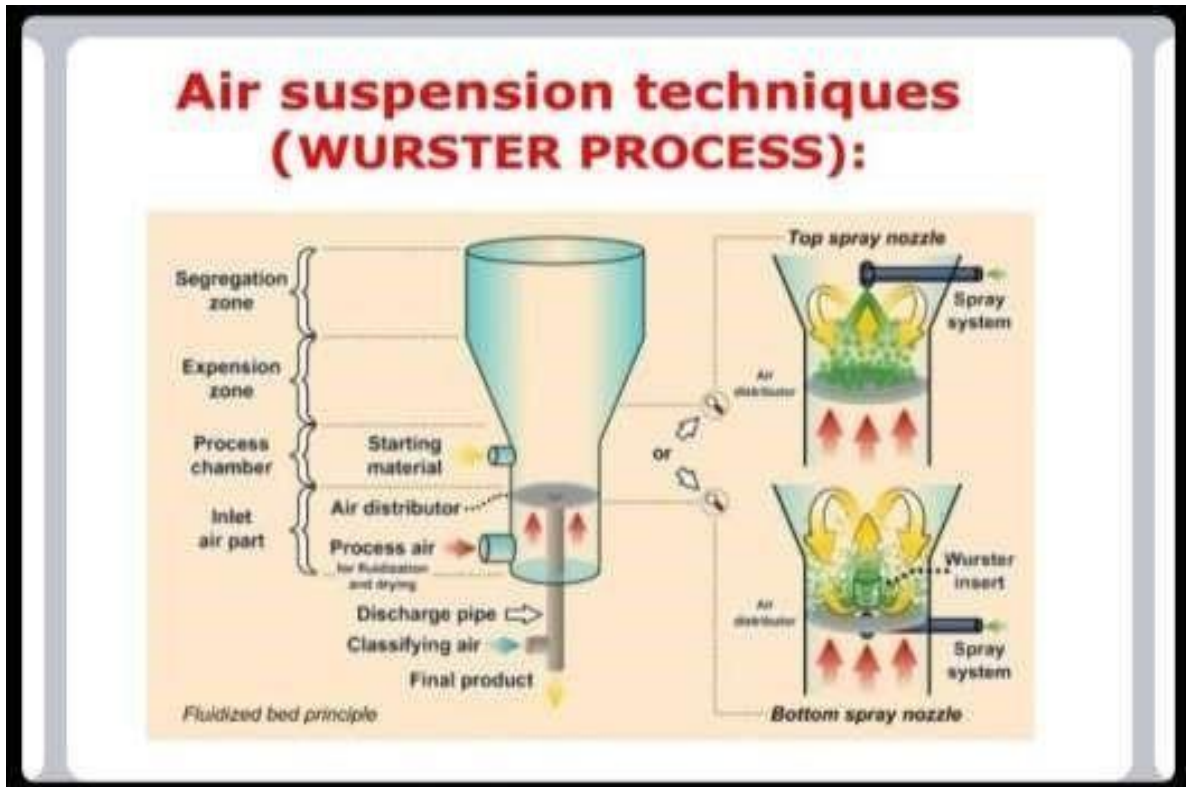
Because the oatings are being done inside the coating pans, heat is typically applied over the covered substances to cast off the coating solvent. In certain cases, the final solvent elimination is completed in a drying oven.



**Figure 3: Pan coating**

## 2) Air-suspension coating:

Compared to pan coating, air suspension coating offers more versatility and advanced manipulation, as first reported by Professor Dale Erwin Wurster at the University of Wisconsin in 1959. Using this method, the solid middle particulate is released into the supporting air, and the suspended debris is coated in a very thin layer of polymer by polymers dissolved in an unstable solvent. Several hundred air-suspension cycles are performed until the desired results, including coating thickness, are obtained. The same air movement that helps the debris also makes it easier for them to dry, and the drying process's cost is directly correlated with the air movement's temperature, which can be adjusted to further impact the residences of the coating.



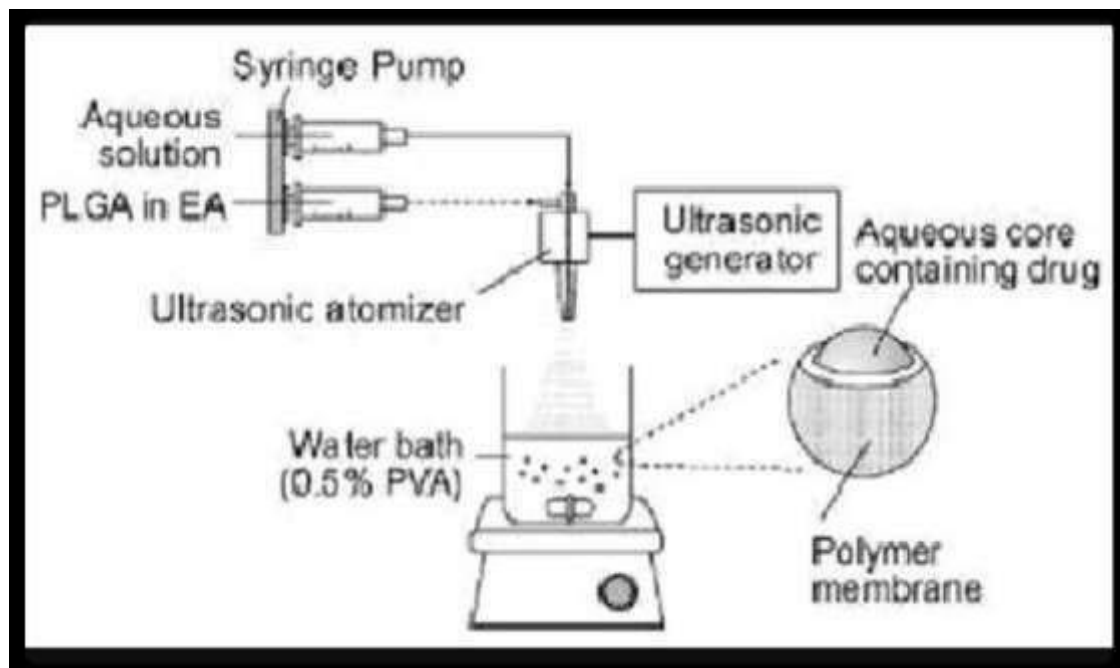
**Figure 4: Air-suspension coating**

The dispersion of the core materials in a supporting air stream and the spraying of coating material are steps in the air suspension technique. Particles suspended in the air. The air in motion particles are suspended in the stream in an upward inside of the coating chamber. The layout of the coating chamber and its functional specifications ought to be in a way that may have an impact on the Particle movement across the coating zone of chamber, where a polymer coating is found (solution) is applied to the particles in motion. Since The particles in motion went through the coating zone multiple times, the central substance obtain additional coating material. The periodic The procedure is carried out multiple times. based on the intended thickness of the coating or whether the core material particles are Completely contained.

The temperature of the supporting air stream has a direct impact on the drying rate. The variables of the process, which may have an impact on the process (Bakan, 1991). proportion of the coating substance, or if in solid state followed by solubility, melting point, surface area, density, volatility, and melting point of the primary substance, coating application rate material, airstream temperature, and the quantity of air needed for the core to become fluid content.

### 3) Centrifugal Extrusion

Centrifugal extrusion is any other encapsulation method that has been investigated and utilized by a few manufacturers. A quantity of food-authorized coating structures were formulated to encapsulate merchandise consisting of flavourings, seasonings, and vitamins. These wall substances encompass gelatin, sodium alginate, carrageenan, starches, cellulose derivatives, gum acacia, fats, fatty acids, waxes, and polyethylene glycol. Centrifugal extrusion is a liquid coextrusion manner using nozzles along with a concentric orifice positioned at the outer circumference of a rotating cylinder i.e., the pinnacle. The encapsulating cylinder or head includes a concentric feed tube thru which coating and center substances are pumped one by one to the numerous nozzles installed at the outer floor of the tool. While the center cloth passes thru the middle tube, coating cloth flows thru the outer tube. The whole tool is connected to a rotating shaft such that the pinnacle rotates round its vertical axis. As the pinnacle rotates, the center and coating substances are co-extruded thru the concentric orifices of the nozzles as a fluid rod of the center sheathed in coating cloth. Centrifugal pressure impels the rod outward, inflicting it to interrupt into tiny particles. By the movement of floor tension, the coating cloth envelops the center cloth, thus. The microcapsules are accumulated on an ebb-and-flow fine-grained starch bed, which softens their impact and absorbs unwelcome coating moisture. The method produces particles with diameters ranging from 150 to 2000 mm.

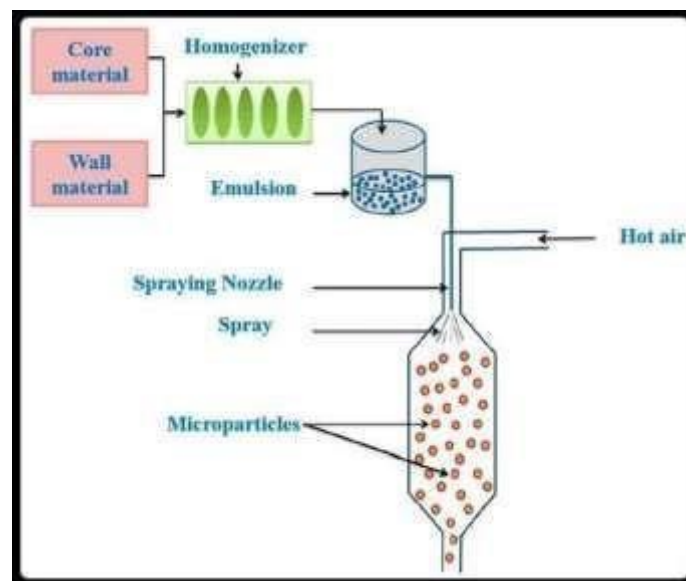


**Figure 5: Centrifugal Extrusion**

### 4) Spray drying

One of the most popular microencapsulation and drying technologies in the food and pharmaceutical industries is spray drying because it is a simple, easy-to-use device that is flexible, affordable, efficient, clean to scale up, and produces accurate, tasty powder (Desobry et al. 1997). For many years, it has been prominently utilised in conjunction with the encapsulation of bioactive meal components, such as proteins, fats, vitamins, enzymes, pigments, and flavours. However, because the specified excessive temperature causes volatilization and/or product destruction, its use in thermo-touchy products—which include microorganisms and important oils—is restricted. The process of creating an emulsion, solution, or suspension with the wall and centre materials through spray drying is known as microencapsulation. This is observed by nebulization/atomization in a drying chamber with circulating warm air. The water evaporates

right away in touch with the new air, and the matrix encapsulates the center material. The most popular method of microencapsulation in the food industry is spray drying. A Boake Roberts discovered the spray drying method for creating encapsulated flavouring in 1937 after accidentally adding acetone to tomato puree, which enabled him to preserve the tomato powder's flavour and colour while spray drying. Then, apply spray The most significant commercial step in the production of dry flavourings is now drying. Enzymes, oleoresins, fat and oil flavour, colourants, vitamins, and aroma compounds have been contained by means of this method. The most popular use of this cost-effective and efficient method of material preservation is with flavours for which specialised equipment is not needed. Modified starch, maltodextrin, gum, or other materials are hydrated in order to be utilised as the wall material or carrier during the encapsulation process. The encapsulation material is homogenised using the carrier material, typically 1:1:4. Following that, the mixture is fed into a spray dryer and atomized using a rotating wheel or nozzle. Water evaporates when hot air comes into contact with atomized substance. After the capsules sink to the bottom of the dryer, they are then gathered.



**Figure 6: Spray Drying**

## Physico-chemical method<sup>12,13</sup>

### 1 .Coacervation

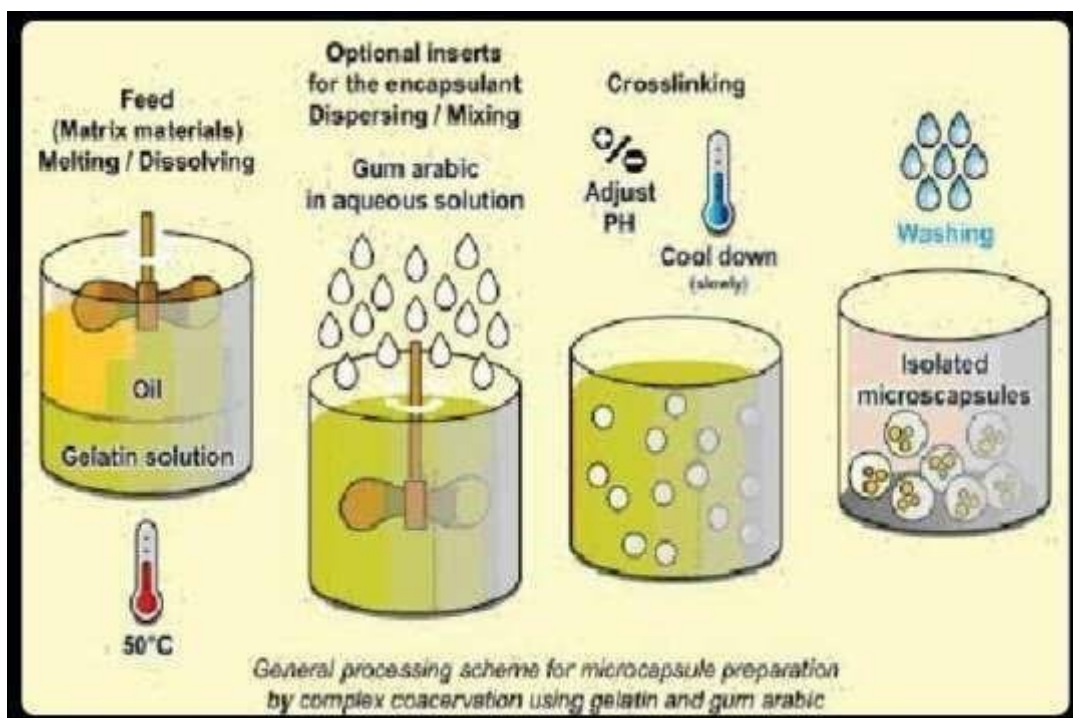
Because the middle material is completely entrapped by the matrix during coacervation, also known as "section separation," it is thought to be a true microencapsulation technique. Precipitation or the separation of an aqueous section from a colloidal section are included in this procedure (Dziezak, 1988; Bakan, 1973). It is possible to employ both simple and complex coacervation techniques. A nonsolvent or a more water-soluble polymer is utilised in easy coacervation. Through hydrophobic interaction, the polymer competes with gelatin protein answer for solubility. The ionic interaction of oppositely charged polymers, typically the premium prices on protein molecules and anionic macromolecules made up of gum arabic and gelatin, shapes the tablet in complex coacervation (Versic, 1988; Soper, 1995; Brazel, 1999). Coacervation is the process of separating a liquid coating fabric segment from a polymeric solution that is visible through the coating of that segment as a homogeneous layer centred around suspended particles. After that, the coating solidifies. Generally speaking, the three steps of the batch-kind coacervation approaches are carried out under constant agitation.

1. Creation and kinetics of a three-immiscible chemical segment
2. Deposition of the coating
3. Solidification of the coating

Many coating materials were tested for coacervation microencapsulation; however, the gelatin/gum Acacia device is the most thoroughly researched and understood coating device. Coacervation microencapsulation can also be done with various coating structures, such as gliadin, heparin/gelatin, carrageenan, chitosan, soy protein, polyvinyl alcohol, gelatin/carboxymethylcellulose, B lactoglobulin/gum Acacia, and guar gum/dextran (Gouin, 2004). Recent years have also seen the development of new coacervation strategies that can overcome many of the problems that arise during a typical gelatin/gum acacia complex coacervation process, particularly when handling the encapsulation of heat-touchy meal ingredients like hazardous taste oils.

While many coating materials have been tested for coacervation microencapsulation, the gelatin/gum acacia system is the most researched and understood coating system. But other coating materials like carrageenan, gliadin, heparin/gelatin, B-lactoglobulin/gum, chitosan, soy protein, polyvinyl alcohol, gelatin/carboxymethylcellulose, and Guar gum/dextran and acacia are also appropriate for coacervation microencapsulation (Gouin, (2004)). Additionally, altered coacervation procedures have been created recently that can conquer a few of the issues that arise in a normal gelatin/gum acacia complex aggravation process, particularly when heat-sensitive food is being encapsulated components like oils with volatile flavours.

#### Chemical method: 1) Polymerization



**Figure7:- Polymerization**

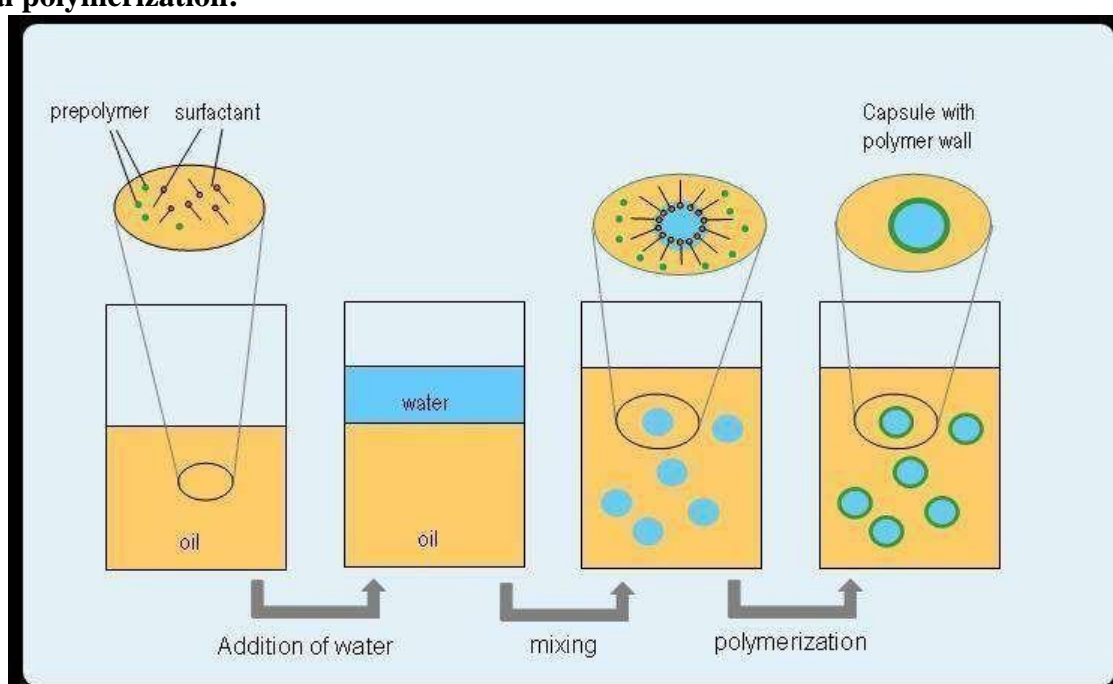
A notably novel method of microencapsulation forms protective microcapsules in situ by means of polymerization strategies.

- The methods involve the reaction of monomeric units situated on the interface current between a central fabric material and a continuous segment where the central fabric is distributed.

- Since the non-stop or centre cloth-assisting section is typically a liquid or petrol, the polymerization response takes place at an interface between a liquid and either a liquid, petrol, or solid.

An emulsified pesticide and diacid chloride solution, as well as an aqueous solution with an amine and they add a polyfunctional isocyanate. An acid is neutralised when a base is present. developed throughout the process. Condensed Polymer walls immediately form at the the emulsion droplet interface. (b). As it is In specific microencapsulations, polymerization procedures, the direct synthesis of a only one monomer is applied to the particle. surface, for instance. Fibres of cellulose are encased submerged in dry toluene and wrapped in polyethylene. The average deposition rate is 0.5 m/min. The range of coating thickness is 0.2 to 75 $\mu$ m. The layer is even throughout the sharp edges. forecasts. Matrix polymerization, or c: In a many procedures, a fundamental component is embedded in a matrix of polymers during the way the particles are formed. A basic illustration

## 2) Interfacial polymerization:



**Figure 8:- Interfacial Polymerization**

Multifunctional monomers, such as multifunctional isocyanates and multifunctional acid chlorides, are the materials utilised. You can use these separately or in combination. The liquid centre material dissolves the multifunctional monomer. It is possible to add a coreactant multifunctional amine to the mixture. Delivered to neutralise the acid created throughout the reaction is base. This results in rapid polymerization at the interface and the formation of the pill shell. As isocyanate and amine react, a polyurea shell can be created. A polyamide or nylon shell can be created as an amine and acid chloride react.

## 3. In situ Polymerization

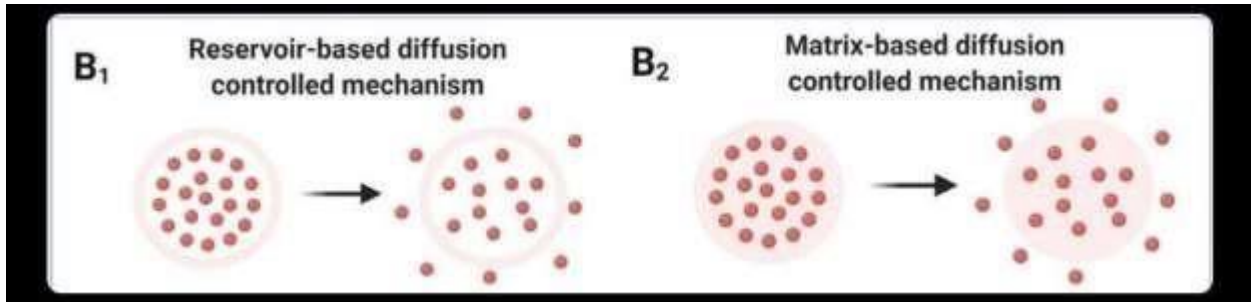
Similar to IFP, the polymerization of monomers introduced to the encapsulation reactor results in the formation of the pill shell. No reactive retailers are introduced to the core material using this method. With the help of the dispersed core material and non-stop segment, polymerization occurs entirely inside the continuous segment and at the non-stop segment side of the interface formed. A low molecular weight prepolymer will first take shape, but as time passes, it will enlarge in size. It uses the process of creating a robust pill shell to deposit at the floor of the distributed middle material there.



**Mechanism and control release of drug<sup>14-16</sup>**

Major mechanisms of drug launch from microcapsules consist of diffusion, dissolution, osmosis and erosion.

**1) Diffusion**



**Figure 10:- Diffusion**

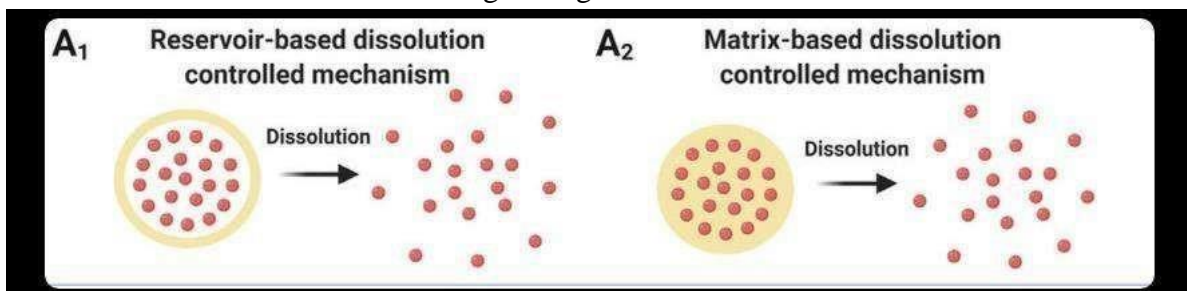
The most commonly involved mechanism is diffusion, in which the dissolving fluid enters the shell, dissolves the middle, and escapes through pores or interstitial channels. Therefore, two factors determine the overall launch: (a) the rate at which the dissolving fluid passes through the microcapsule wall, and (b) the rate at which the drug dissolves within the dissolving 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, and 51):

$$Q = [D/J (2A-\varepsilon CS) CS t]^{3/4}$$

Where D is the solute's diffusion coefficient within the solution and Q is the amount of drug released in accordance with the Unit region of the exposed floor in time t. A represents the total amount of drug in relation to the unit volume; CS denotes the drug's solubility in the permeating dissolution fluid; ε indicates the porosity of the microcapsule wall; and J represents the tortuosity of the capillary device inside the wall. One way to simplify the above equation is to write  $Q = vt$ , where v is the plain launch rate.

**2) Dissolution**

Dissolution charge of polymer coat determines The launch charge of drug from the microcapsule when the coat is soluble within side the dissolution fluid. Thickness of coat and its solubility within side the dissolution fluid have an effect on the discharge charge.

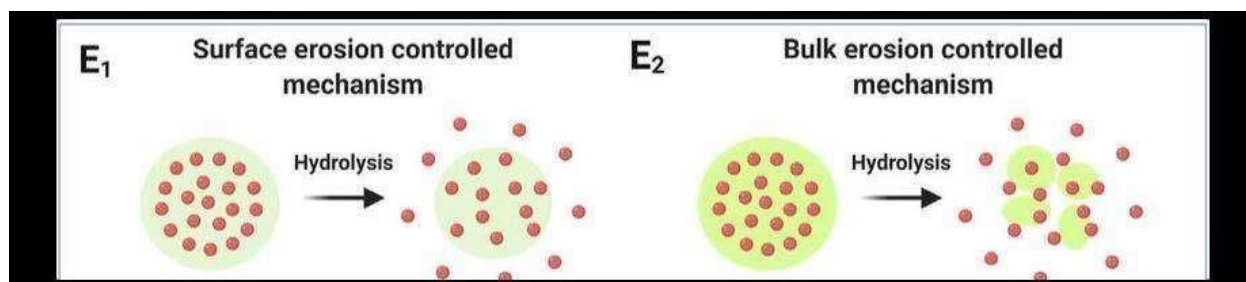


**Figure 11:- Dissolution**

**3) Osmosis diffusion**

The microcapsule's polymer coat functions as a semi-permeable membrane, allowing the development of an osmotic stress differential between the interior and exterior of the microcapsule and facilitating the release of the drug solution through tiny pores within the coat.

#### 4) Erosion



**Figure 12:- Erosion**

Glyceryl monostearate, bees wax, and stearyl alcohol are examples of positive coat substances that can cause coat erosion due to pH changes and/or enzymatic hydrolysis during drug launch. Because of the remarkable variation in the physical types of microcapsules with respect to size, shape, and arrangement of the middle and coat substances, attempts to model drug release from microcapsules have become increasingly complex. Drug launch modelling is further complicated by the physiochemical properties of coating materials, which include variable thickness, porosity, and inertness, and core substances, which include solubility, diffusibility, and partition coefficient. Nonetheless, the following generalisations about the discharge characteristics may be made, primarily based on a variety of research:

1. The drug launch fee from microcapsules that match the type of reservoir is 0 order.
2. Launch charges for monolithic microcapsules containing dissolved drug may be  $t_{1/2}$  dependent for the first half of the drug launch and then exponentially decrease from there.
3. But in the case of a monolithic microcapsule with a significant excess of dissolved drug, the release charge is mostly  $t_{1/2}$  dependent during almost the entire drug launch.
4. The drug's path through monolithic tablets isn't always straight; the drug in the middle travels a greater distance than the drug on the surface. As a result, the discharge fee typically goes down over time.

#### **Characterization of microcapsules<sup>17-19</sup>:-**

##### **1) Particle size and shape:**

Scanning electron microscopy, or traditional mild microscopy, is the most widely used method for visualising microcapsules (SEM). The form and shape of microcapsules are studied using each of these approaches. gives more choices than when using light microscopy. It allows for the investigation of doublewalled systems in addition to the microsphere surfaces. Confocal laser scanning microscopy (CLSM) is a non-destructive visualisation technique that provides results not only about systems and surfaces but also displays information about internal particles.

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

It is employed to investigate the deterioration of the provider system's polymeric matrix and to examine the interaction between the drug system and polymer.

##### **3) Carr's index and hausner's ratio:-**

The resting attitude was determined in accordance with the continuous funnel and cone method. With the help of poured or trapped bulk densities of recognised weight of pattern and a measuring cylinder, the bulk density of combined microcapsules was determined using the hausner's ratio or Carr's index.

Carr's Index =  $[\text{Tapped Density} - \text{Bulk Density} / \text{Tapped Density}] \times 100$

Hausner's ratio (HR) =  $\rho_T / \rho_B$  wherein  $\rho_T$  is tapped density and  $\rho_B$  is Bulk density (Mishra et al., 2013)

#### 4) Bulk density:-

Weigh correct microcapsules after which switch to 100ml cylinder to attain obvious volumes of among 50 and 100ml.

Bulk Density ( $\rho_p$ ) =  $[\text{Weight of Microcapsules (g) (M)} / \text{Bulk Volume (ml) (V)}]$

Where, M = mass of the powder,

V<sub>o</sub> = quantity of the powder

#### 5) Isoelectric factor:-

A tool used to measure the electrophoretic mobility of microspheres and easily calculate the isoelectric factor is the micro electrophoresis. The mobility is related to the microcapsules' ability to absorb ions, exhibit ionisable behaviour, or have a floor charge.

#### 6) Determination of drug loading, encapsulation performance and microcapsule yield:-

The 20 mg pattern of microcapsules was extracted with methanol to determine the drug content material. After filtering and diluting with methanol, the resulting concentration was examined using UV spectrophotometry.

%loading = weight of drug/weight of microcapsules

%Encapsulation performance =  $[\text{tural drug content} / \text{\%theoretical drug content}] \times 100$

% Yield =  $M / M_0 \times 100$

M = Weight of microcapsules

M<sub>0</sub> = Total predicted weight of drug and polymer (Mishra et al., 2013; Agnihotri et al., 2012)

#### 7) Contact angle:-

To determine the wetting assets of the microcapsule, the attitude of touch is calculated. This method makes it easy to identify the hydrophilicity and hydrophobicity of microcapsules. This is measured at the solid, air, or water surface by positioning a droplet in a circular mobile device that is connected above the objective of an inverted microscope. It is measured at 200°C within a minute of the microcapsules breaking down.

#### 8) In vitro drug launch studies:-

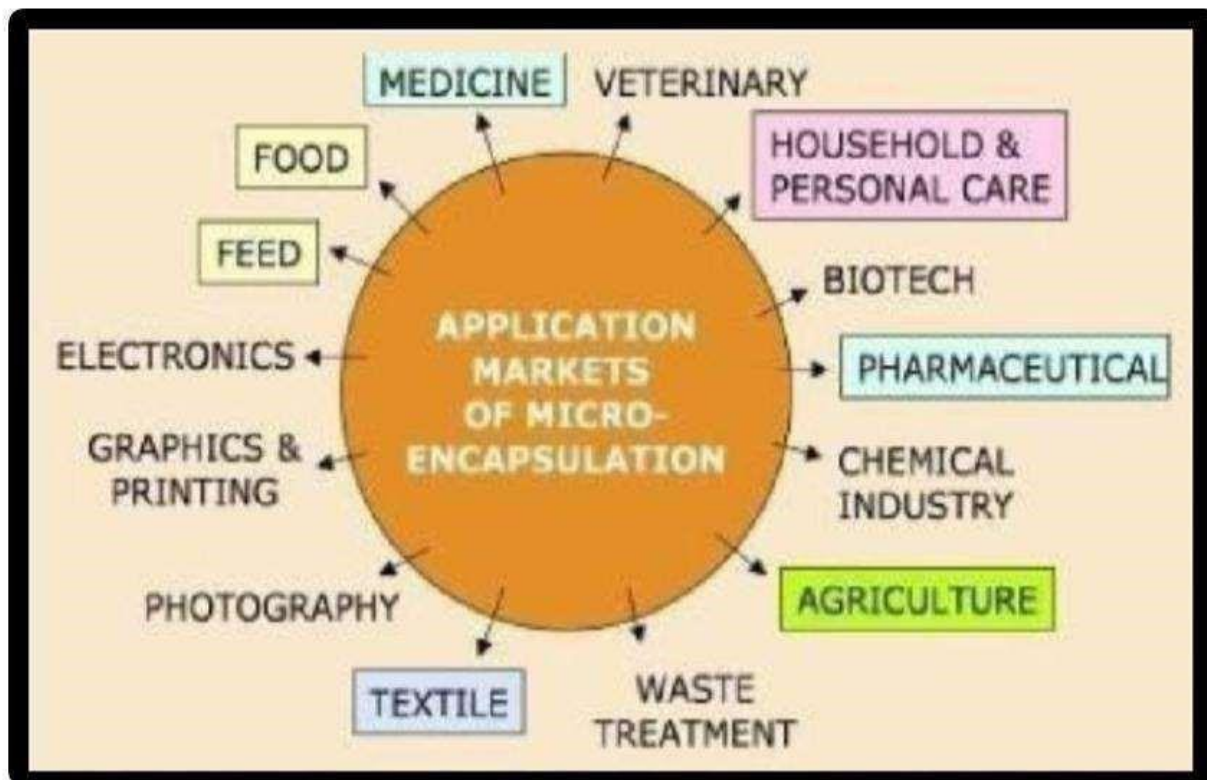
With the use of a USP rotating basket and paddle apparatus, it can be done in a variety of pH scenarios, such as pH 1.2 and pH 7.4. The pattern must be removed after specific intervals and replaced using an equivalent medium. The profile for launch Is choose how to use the quantity launched characteristic of time plot.

#### Factors influencing encapsulation Efficiency<sup>20-21</sup>

1. Solubility of polymer in the organic solvent
2. Solubility of organic solvent in water
3. Concentration of the polymer
4. Ratio of dispersed phase to continuous phase (DP/CP ratio)
5. Solvent removal

6. Interaction between drug and polymer
7. Solubility of drug in continuous phase
8. Weight of the polymer

## APPLICATIONS



**Figure 13:- Applications of Microencapsulation**

### Conclusion:

An active ingredient is packaged inside a tablet that ranges in length from one micron to many millimetres using the microencapsulation technique. Until the appropriate moment, the tablet shields the lively factor from its surroundings. The fabric then escapes through the tablet wall in a variety of ways, such as by rupturing, dissolving, melting, or diffusing. Microencapsulation is both a science and an artistic endeavour. There is no right or wrong way to do it, and each new application presents a fresh challenge. Those puzzles require skill, expertise, and a wide range of technological knowledge to solve. Choosing the right encapsulating material and microencapsulation technique are the challenges. Though many different encapsulated products have been created, produced, and effectively sold in the cosmetics and pharmaceutical industries, in the food industry, microencapsulation has found a comparatively much smaller market.

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