

# SPREADING OF COMPLEX FLUIDS: DEPOSITION LAW AND ANALYSIS OF SPREADING DEFECTS

PhD defense

**04/10/22**

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# INDUSTRIAL CONTEXT

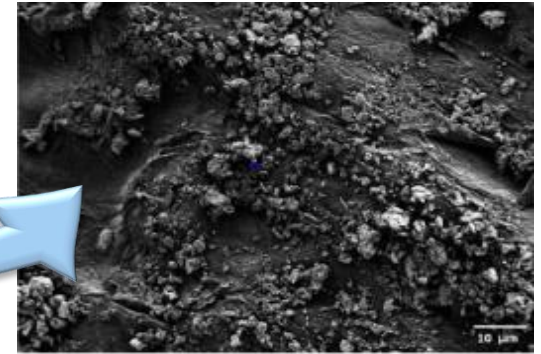
# PRODUCT SPREADING: A KEY STEP IN COSMETICS LIFE



*Storage*

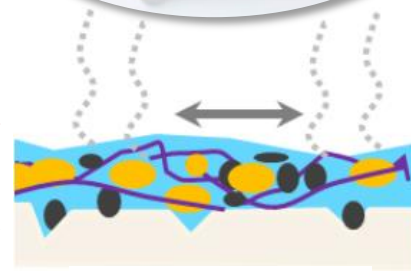


*Application*



*Deposit*

# PRODUCT SPREADING: A KEY STEP IN COSMETICS LIFE



**Impacts**

Sensory perception

Efficiency Performances

Evaporation

Solid mechanics

**Physics at stakes**

Rheology

Tribology Friction

Wetting

Substrate impregnation

**Application**

Many physics involved:

- **Complex modeling**
- **Interdependance** of phenomena

➡ **Lack of understanding**

# COSMETIC CREAM FORMULATION



## Volatile phase

Water  
...

## Non-Volatile phase

### Texture agents

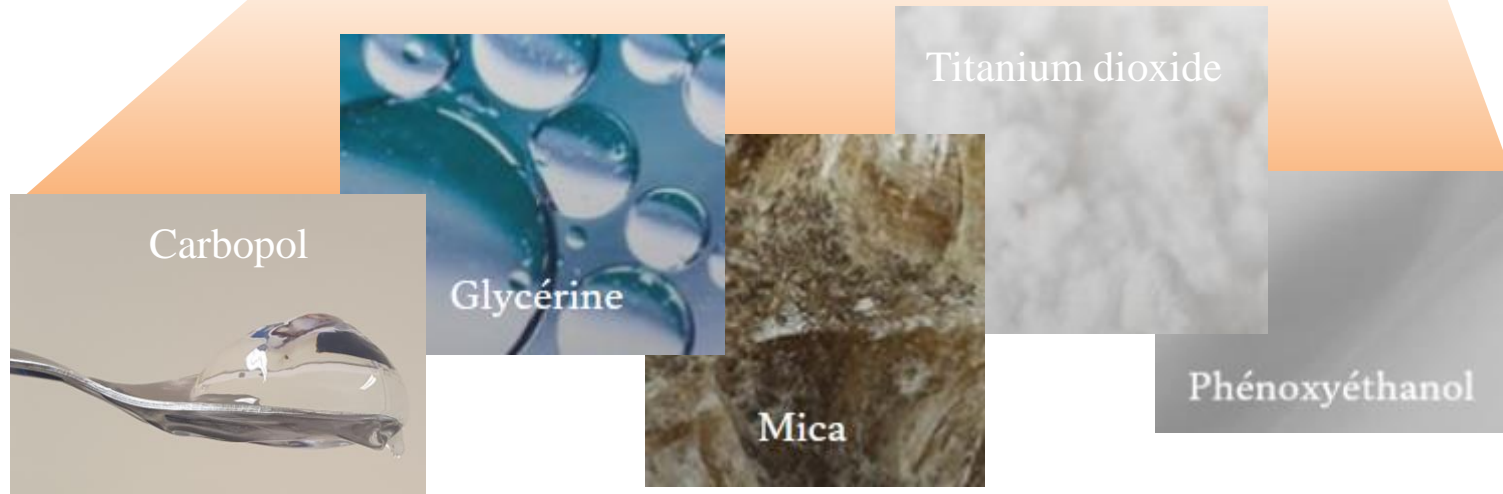
*Polymers (Carbopol, Xanthan...)  
Solid particles (starch, silica)...*

### Actives

*Glycerol, UV filters, waxes, oils, Pigments, Mattifying particles (cellulose beads, silica)...*

### Preservatives

*Phenoxyethanol  
...*



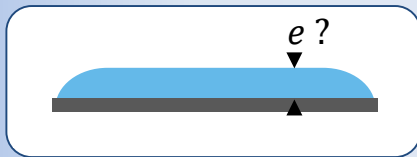
# My PhD SUBJECT

**UNDERSTAND THE PARAMETERS THAT GOVERN SPREADING AND THE PHENOMENA RESPONSIBLE FOR SPREADING DEFECTS**

**FOCUS ON 2 MAIN ASPECTS**

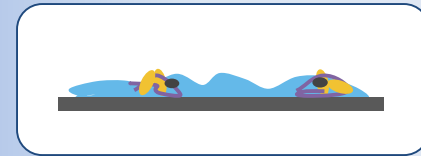
« Simple » fluids

**THICKNESS OF SPREADING**

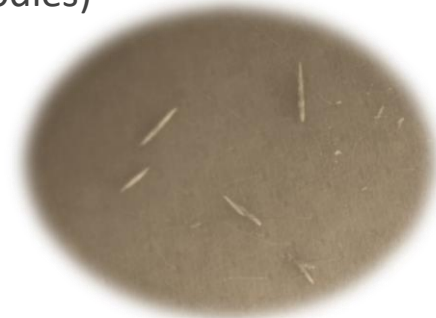


Filled polymeric gels

**SPREADING DEFECTS**



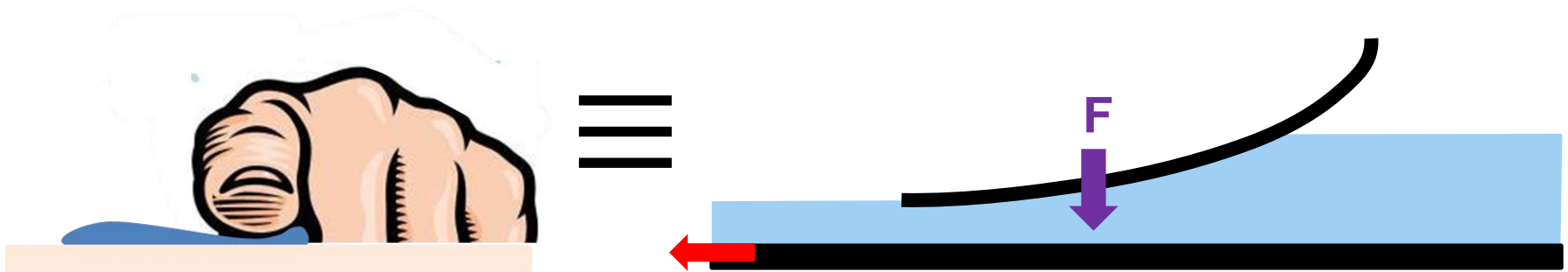
Aggregates formation  
(Noodles)





# **WHAT GOVERNS THE SPREADING THICKNESS?**

# MODEL STUDIED: SOFT BLADE COATING



*Seiwert & Quéré (2013)*  
*Trinh & Stone (2013)*  
*Pranckh & Scriven (1990)*



**Elasticity-capillary analogy**

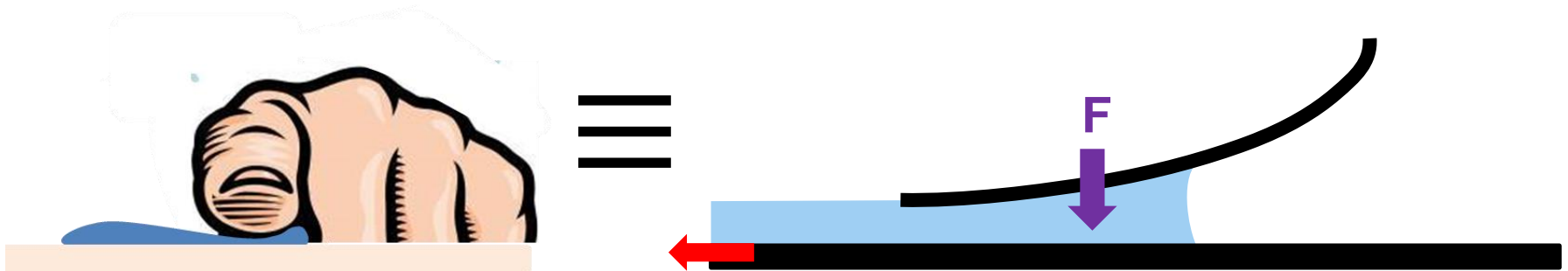
**Dip coating**

*Landau-Levich (1942)*  
*Derjaguin (1943)*  
*de Ryck & Quéré (1998)*  
*Smit (2021)*  
*Spiers (1975)*





# MODEL STUDIED: SOFT BLADE COATING



Seiwert & Quéré (2013)  
Trinh & Stone (2013)  
Pranckh & Scriven (1990)



Elasticity-capillary  
analogy

- **Finite** reservoir + **emptying**
- Newtonian and **complex fluids**



Initially addressed by  
C. Kusina (2019) for yield  
stress fluids

**Dip coating**

Landau-Levich (1942)  
Derjaguin (1943)  
de Ryck & Quéré (1998)  
Smit (2021)  
Spiers (1975)



How does a finite reservoir influence the spreading dynamics ?  
What is the impact of rheology ?

# FLUIDS OF INTEREST

**Newtonian fluids**

$$\tau = \mu \dot{\gamma} \longrightarrow \textit{Silicone oil}$$

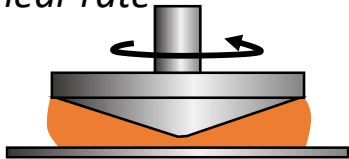
**Shear-thinning fluids**

+ Normal stress

$$\tau = k \dot{\gamma}^n \longrightarrow \textit{Xanthan gel}$$

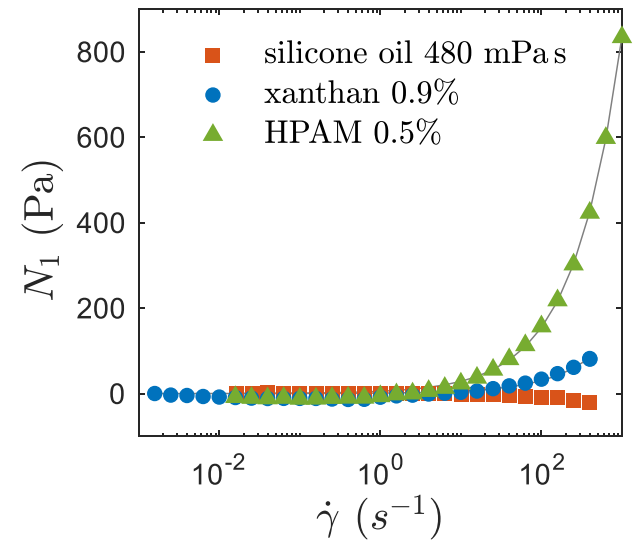
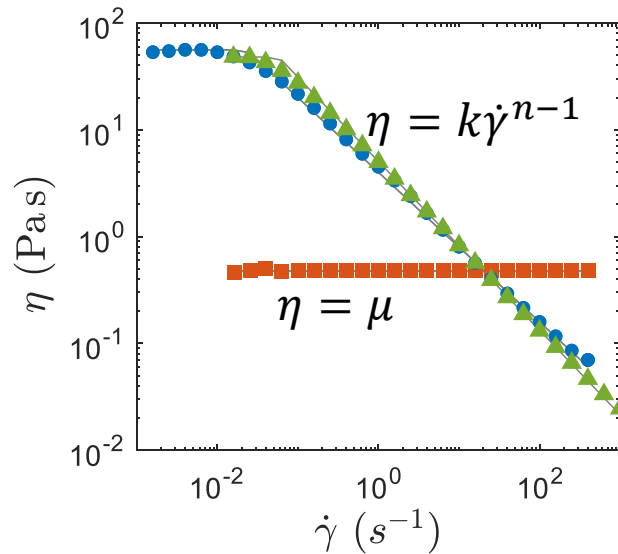
$$N_1 = \alpha \dot{\gamma}^m \longrightarrow \textit{HPAM solution}$$

$\dot{\gamma}$  shear rate



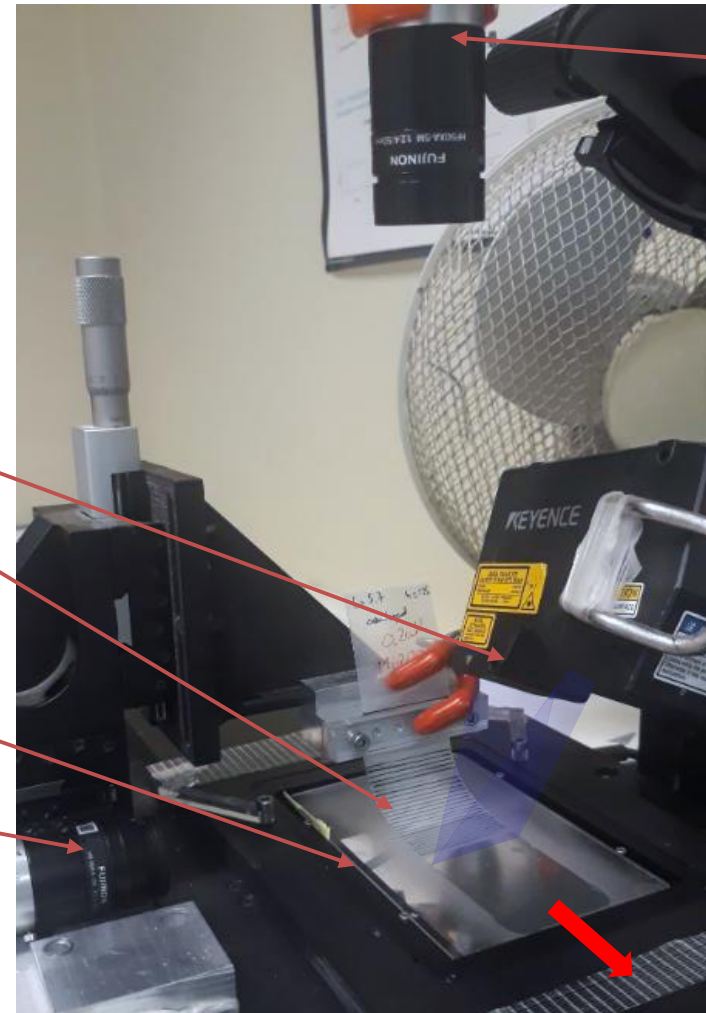
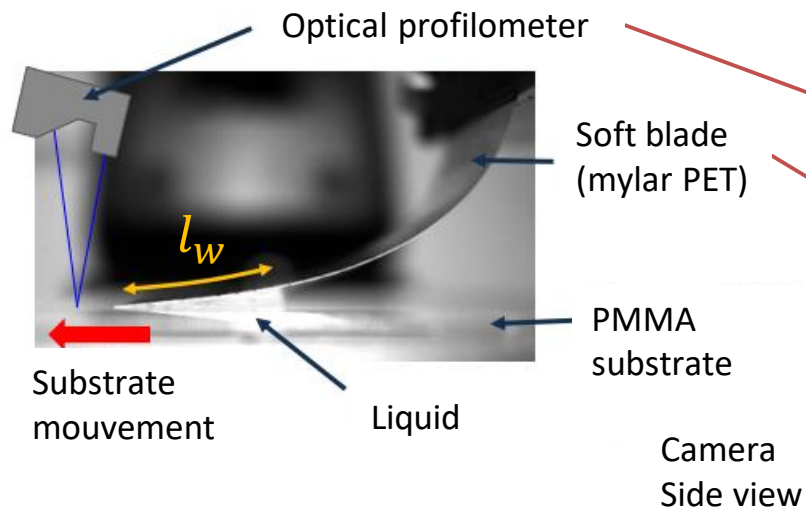
$\eta$  viscosity

$N_1 \propto$  normal force



# EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

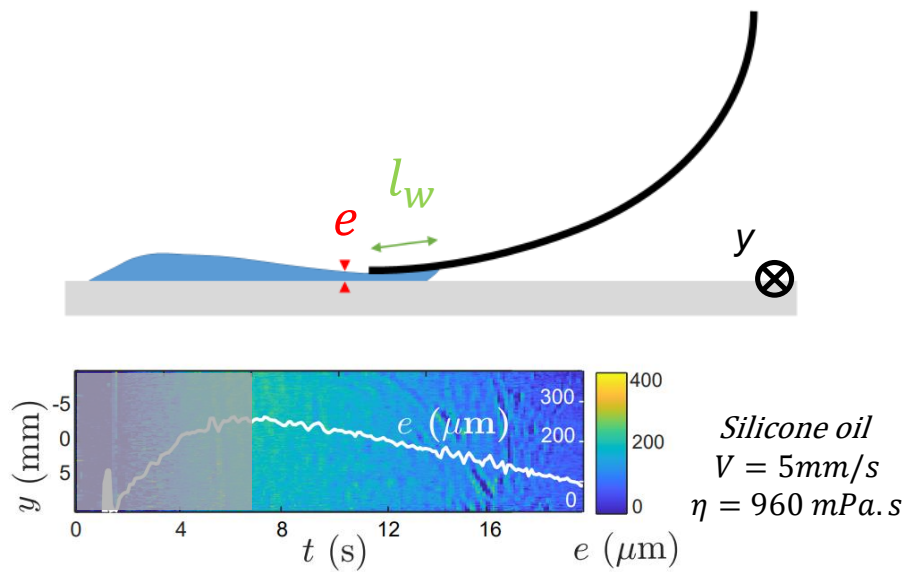
BASED ON KUSINA'S PhD SETUP



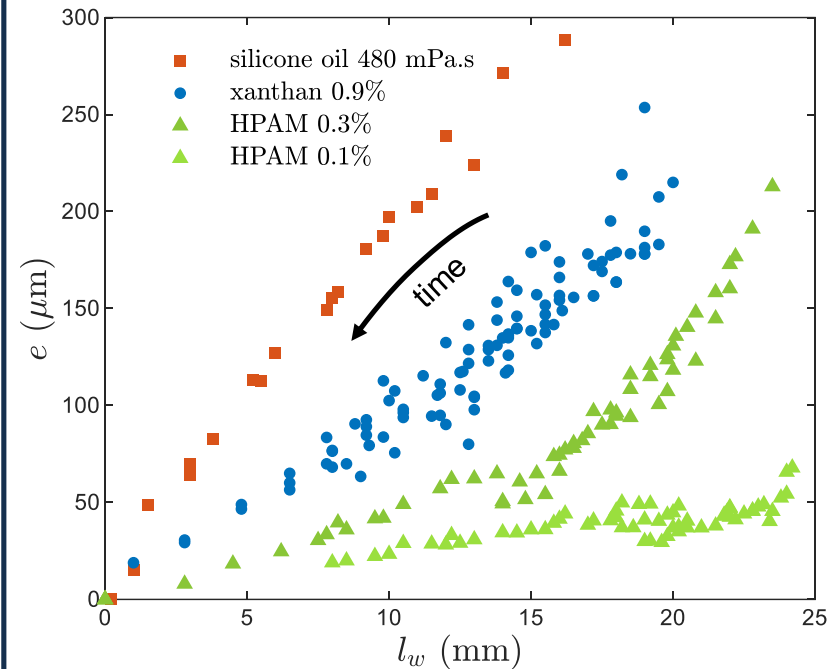
Simultaneous recording :

- **Deposited thickness  $e$**  (profilometer)
- **Wetting length  $l_w$**  (cameras)

# SOFT BLADE COATING EXPERIMENT



## Evolution $e = f(l_w)$ for 3 types of fluids

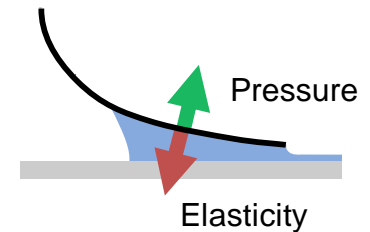


$e$  not constant  $\rightarrow$  deposit of decreasing thickness as  $l_w$  decreases

# WHAT GOVERNS THE SPREADING THICKNESS ?

## PHYSICAL LAW FOR FILM THICKNESS

- *Blade elasticity*  $\Gamma_{dry} \sim E^* I \frac{d\theta}{ds} \sim \frac{E^* I}{L - l_w}$
- *Lubricating pressure*  $p \sim \eta \frac{V}{e^2} l_w$   $\xrightarrow{\text{Torque}}$   $\Gamma_{wet} \sim \eta \frac{V}{e^2} b l_w^2 (L - l_w)$



Balance of viscous and elastic torques:

Shear thinning	$n = 1$	Newtonian
$\eta = k \dot{\gamma}^{n-1}$ $e \sim \left( l_w \sqrt{\frac{k V^n L^2 b}{E^* I} \left( 1 - \frac{l_w}{L} \right)} \right)^{\frac{2}{n+1}}$	$\eta = \mu \text{ (cte)}$ $e \sim l_w \sqrt{\frac{\mu V L^2 b}{E^* I} \left( 1 - \frac{l_w}{L} \right)}$	<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"><math>e</math> thickness of fluid</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"><math>V</math> velocity of the blade</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"><math>l_w</math> wetting length</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"><math>k</math> flow consistency</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"><math>n</math> flow behaviour index</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"><math>\mu</math> dynamic viscosity</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"><math>b</math> width of the blade</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"><math>L</math> length of the blade</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"><math>I</math> geometric parameter</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"><math>E^*</math> young modulus (incl. Poisson ratio)</div> </div>

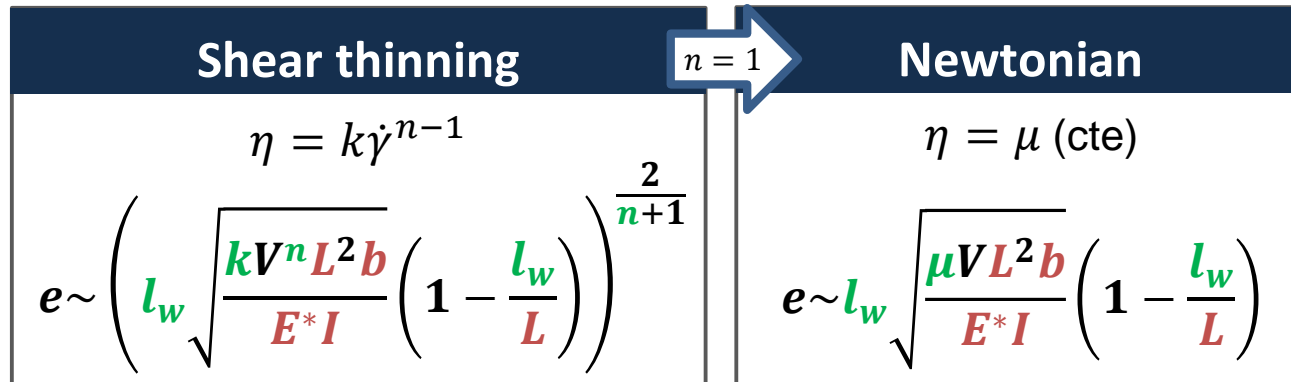
*Krapez et al., PRF 2022*

*Krapez et al., PRL 2020*

- Scaling law : ➤ **Dependence** on  $l_w$
- $e \nearrow$  with fluid **viscosity**, spreading **velocity**
  - $e \searrow$  with **blade rigidity**

# WHAT GOVERNS THE SPREADING THICKNESS ?

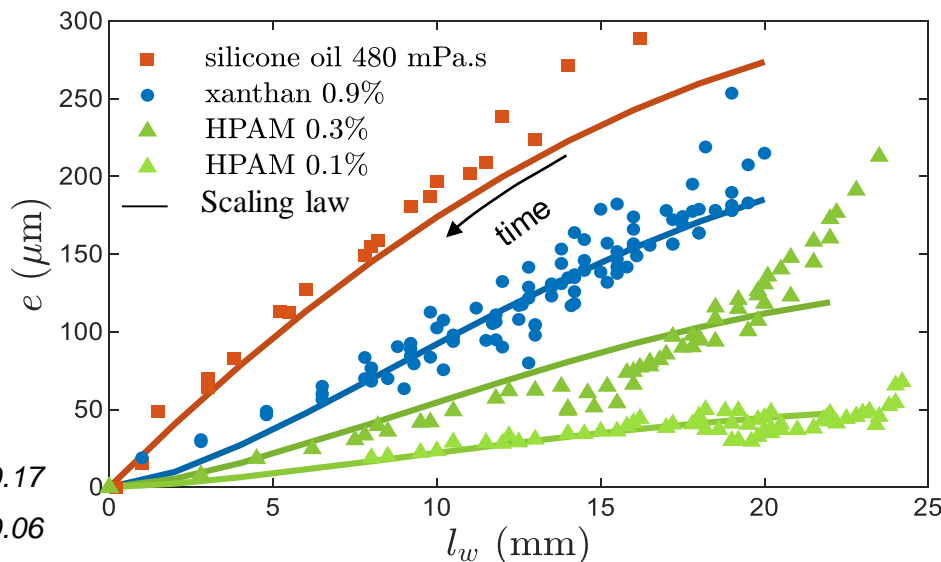
## PHYSICAL LAW FOR FILM THICKNESS



- ▶  $e$  thickness of fluid
- ▶  $V$  velocity of the blade
- ▶  $l_w$  wetting length
- ▶  $k$  flow consistency
- ▶  $n$  flow behaviour index
- ▶  $\mu$  dynamic viscosity
- ▶  $b$  width of the blade
- ▶  $L$  length of the blade
- ▶  $I$  geometric parameter
- ▶  $E^*$  young modulus (incl. Poisson ratio)

Krapez et al., PRF 2022

Krapez et al., PRL 2020

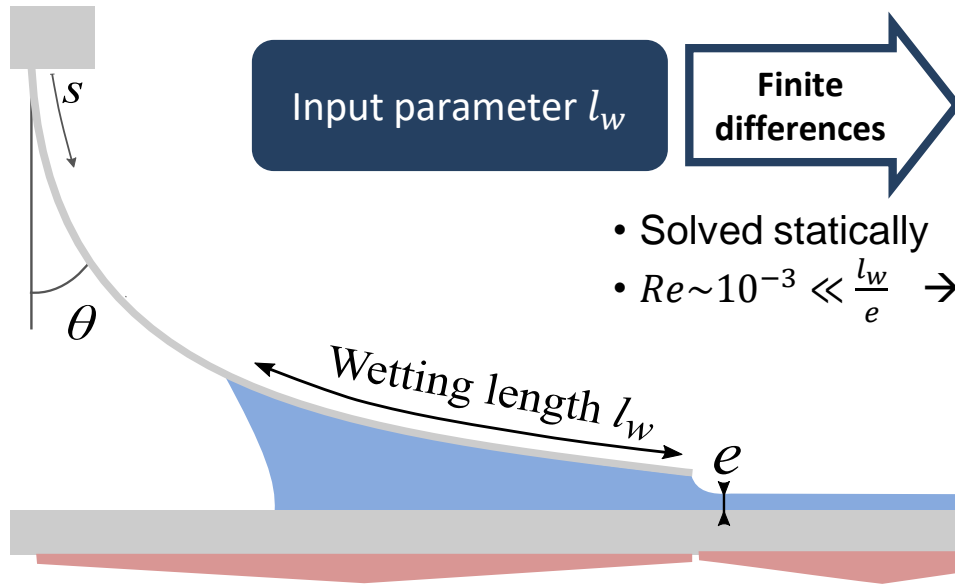


Film thickness **predicted by scaling law**

Thickness **increases with viscosity and spreading velocity**

— Prefactor 0.17  
— Prefactor 0.06

# NEW NUMERICAL STUDY



Input parameter  $l_w$

Finite differences

Corresponding thickness  $e$

- Solved statically
- $Re \sim 10^{-3} \ll \frac{l_w}{e} \rightarrow$  lubrication approximation

Fixed mounting  $\theta(0) = 0$   
 No torque at tip  $\frac{d\theta}{ds}\bigg|_{s=L} = 0$

Horizontal  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$   
 Laplace  $\frac{d\theta}{ds}\bigg|_{s=L} = -\frac{p_L}{\gamma}$

**Blade**

**Free surface**

$$E^* I \frac{d^2\theta}{ds^2} = b \int_s^L f_v \sin(\theta(s) - \theta(s')) - p \cos(\theta(s) - \theta(s')) ds'$$

*Euler Elastica*      *Viscous drag force*      *Lift from fluid pressure*

Laplace pressure

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{ds^2} = -\frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{dp}{ds}$$

Governing equation for the shape ( $\theta$ )

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{ds^2} + S(s, \theta(s)) = 0$$

Analogy heat equation

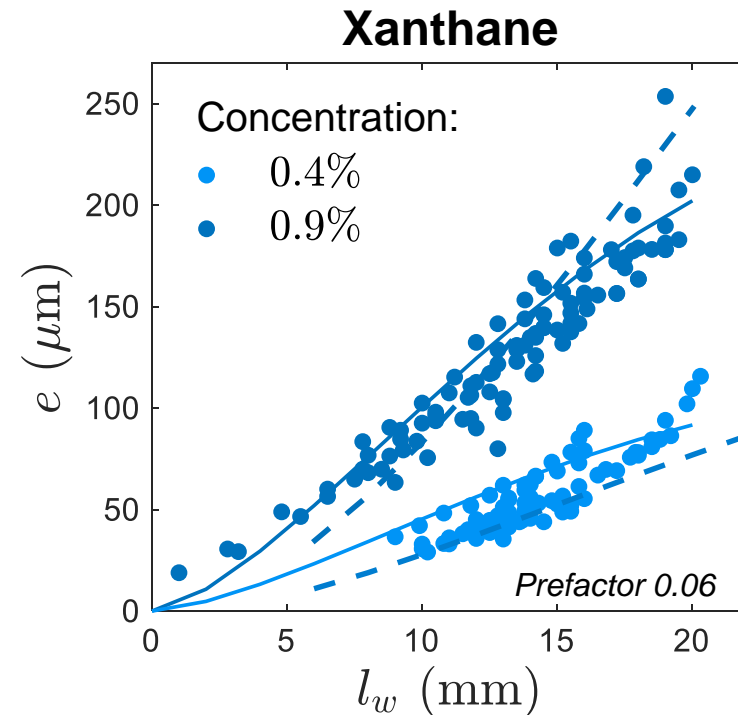
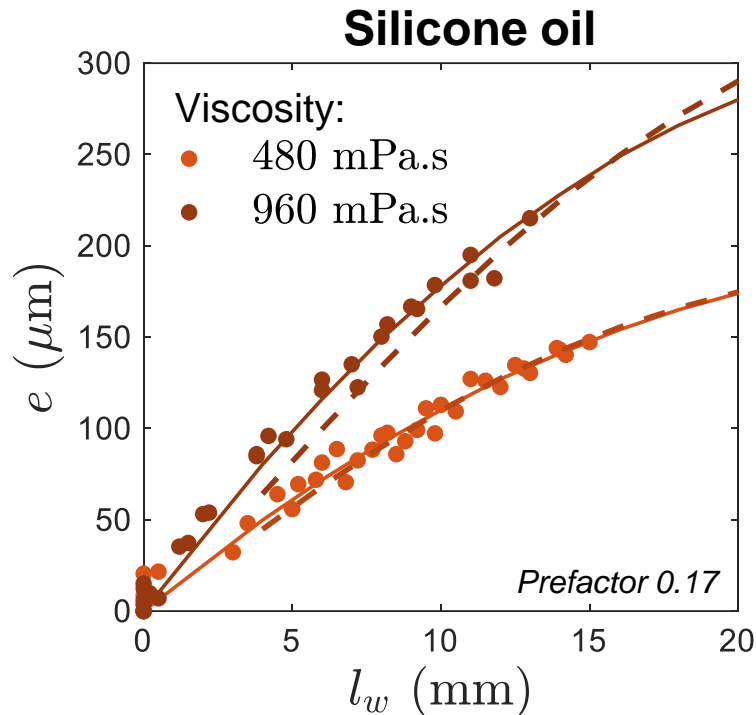
$$\frac{\partial\theta}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2\theta}{\partial s^2} + S \rightarrow 0$$

# VALIDATION OF THE MODEL

## THICKNESS AS A FUNCTION OF THE WETTING LENGTH:

- Experiments
- Scaling law
- - - Numerical computation

(No adjustable parameters)



Agreement of scaling law & numerical computation with experimental data

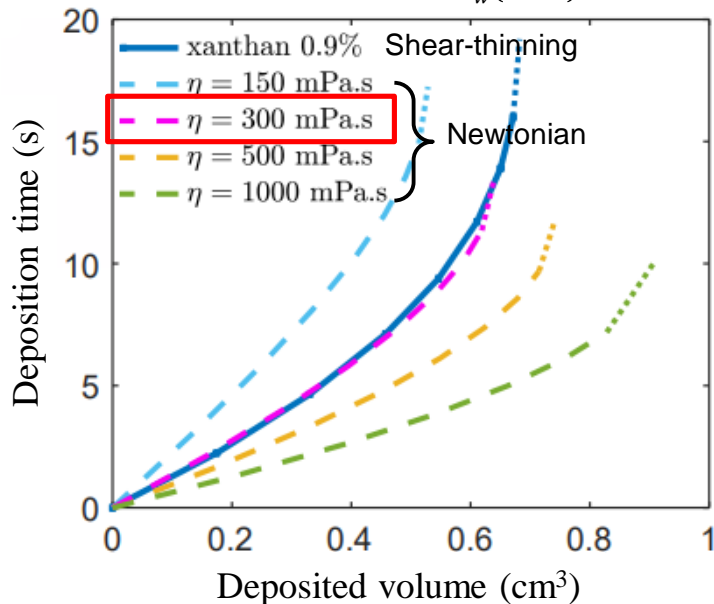


# COMPARISON : NEWTONIAN & SHEAR-THINNING FLUIDS

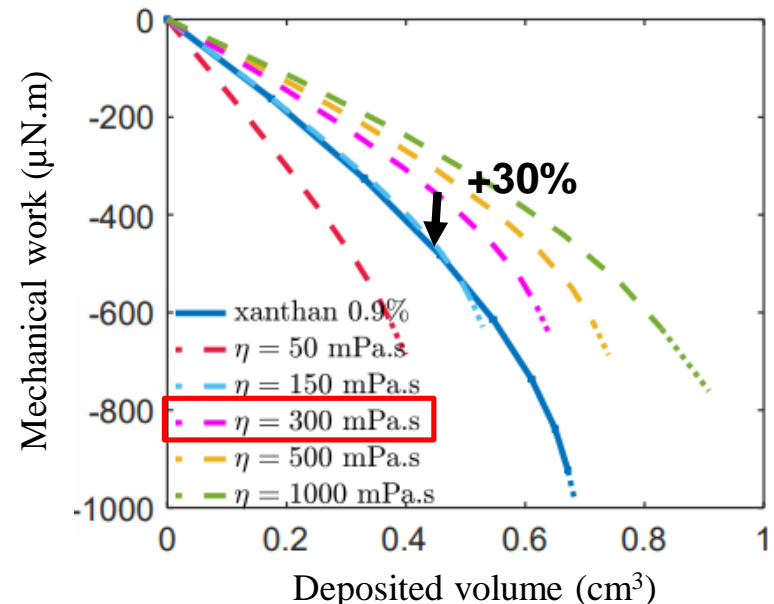
## CHOICE OF NEWTONIAN EQUIVALENT

Same volume of fluid spread in the same time  
(identical velocity and initial wetting length)

$$V = 10 \text{ mm/s}$$
$$l_w(t = 0) = 18 \text{ mm}$$



## ENERGY NEEDED TO SPREAD THE FLUID

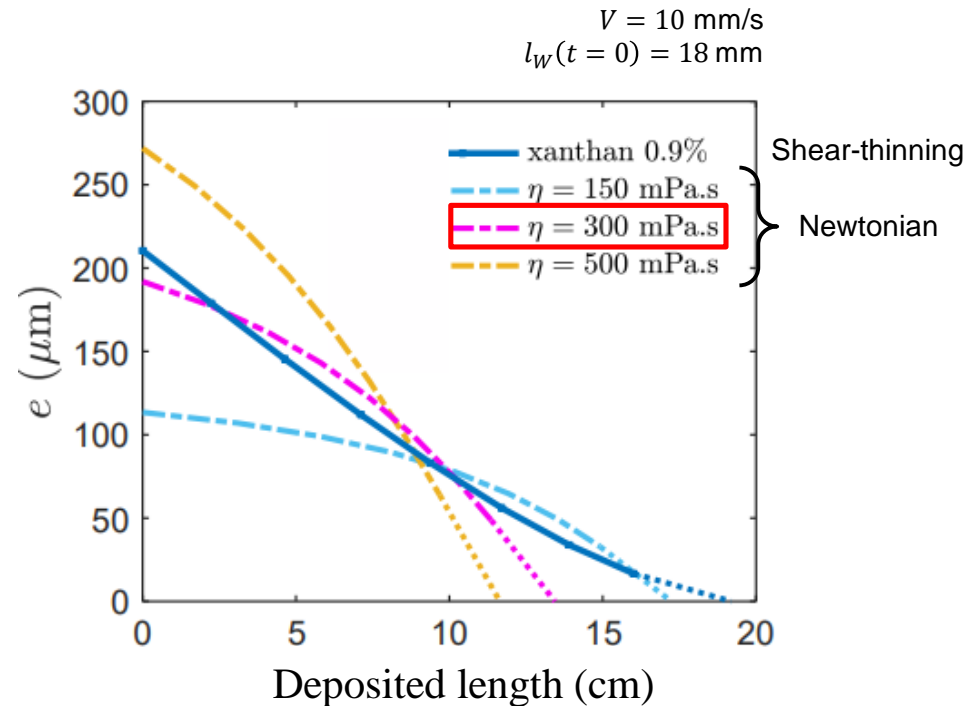


*Krapez et al., PRF 2022*

A **higher mechanical work** is needed to spread a **shear-thinning** fluid compared to its Newtonian equivalent (300 mPa.s)

# COMPARISON : NEWTONIAN & SHEAR-THINNING FLUIDS

## SHAPE OF FLUID DEPOSIT

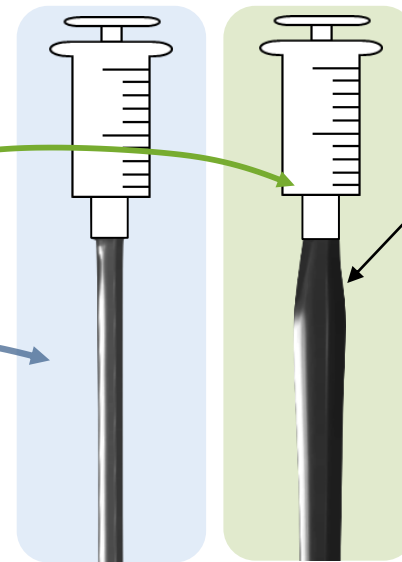
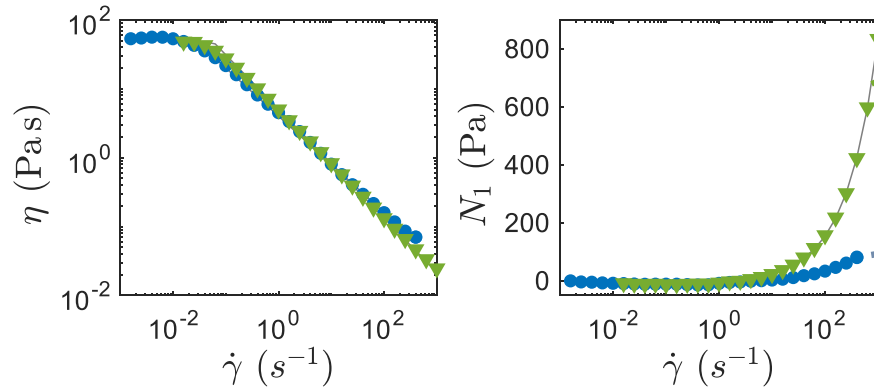


Different curvatures

Greater film **homogeneity** for **low viscosity**  
**Newtonian** fluid

# NORMAL STRESS FLUIDS

## NORMAL STRESSES IMPACT

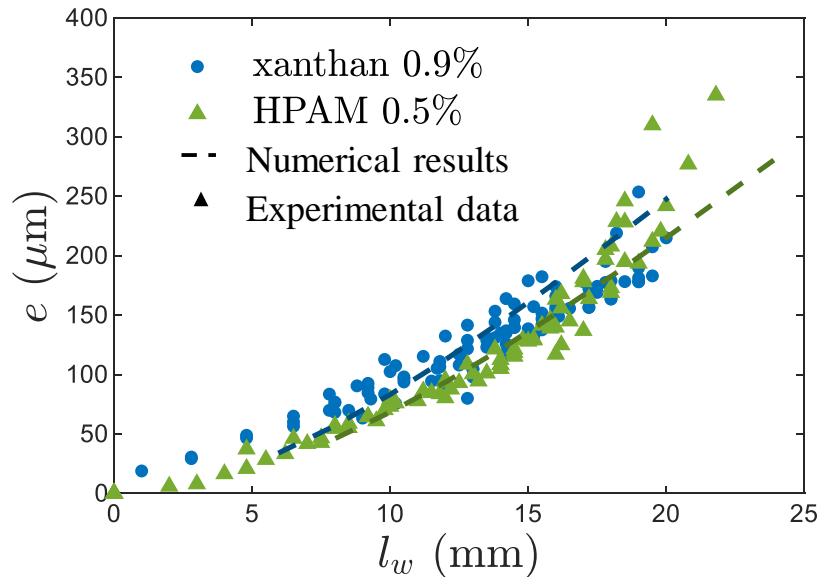


xanthan  
 $Wi \approx 2$

HPAM  
 $Wi \approx 10$

Die swell effect

Weissenberg number  $Wi = \frac{N_1}{\tau}$

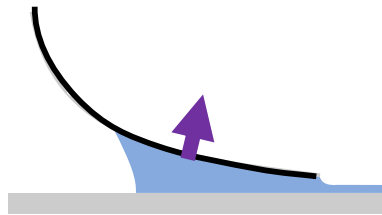


Film thickness increased by factor 2 to 8 in dip coating  
*de Ryck & Quéré 1998*

**No effect of normal stress**

# NORMAL STRESS FLUIDS

## WHY IS THERE NO EFFECT OF NORMAL STRESS?



Total pressure:  
 $p = p_l + p_N$

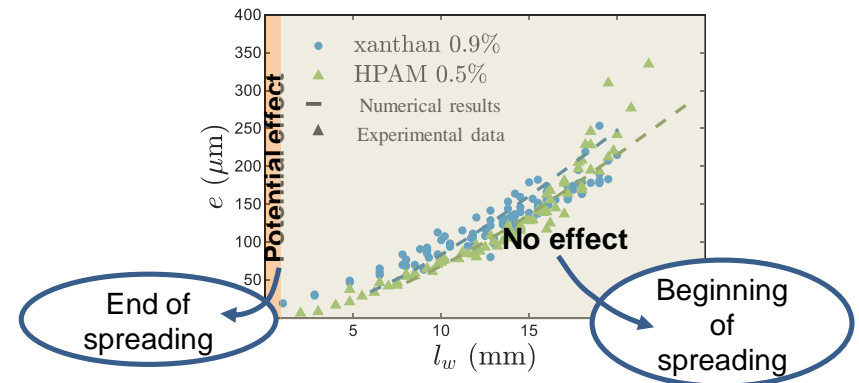
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Lubricating pressure: } p_l \sim \frac{l_w}{e} \tau \\ \text{Pressure due to normal stress: } p_N \sim N_1 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\frac{p_N}{p_l} \sim \frac{N_1}{\tau} \frac{e}{l_w} \sim Wi \frac{e}{l_w}$$

**Geometric factor** that counterbalances the high Weissenberg number

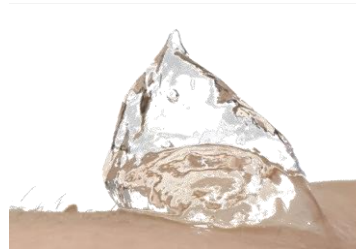
Negligible while:

$$\frac{p_N}{p_l} \ll 1 \Leftrightarrow l_w \gg 0.05 \text{ mm (HPAM 0.5\%)}$$

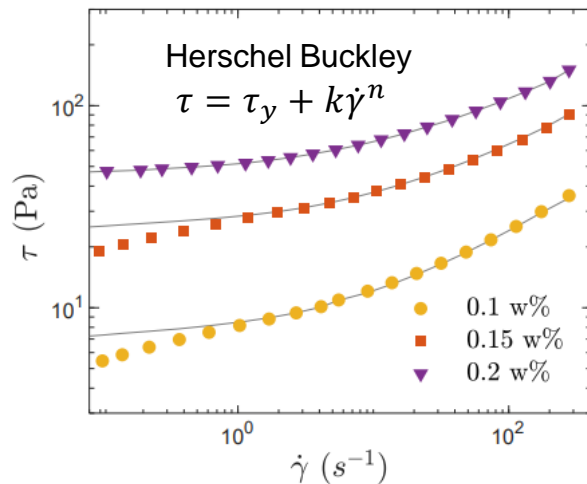


# SOFT BLADE COATING OF YIELD STRESS FLUIDS

## CARBOPOL GEL IN WATER



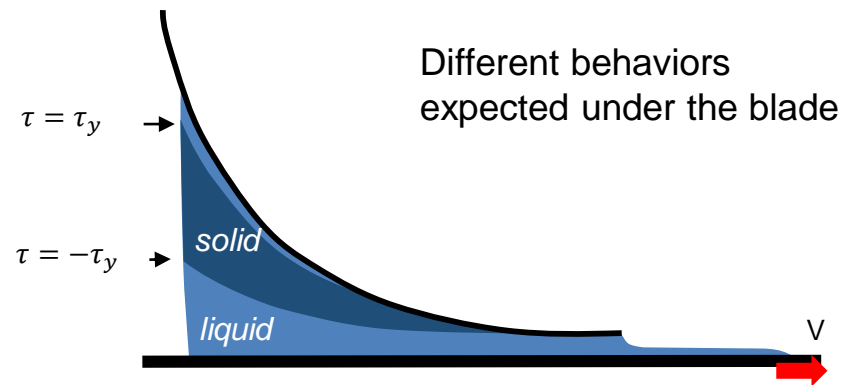
## RHEOLOGY



Large **discrepancy** of the data

Do not follow the scaling law

## THEORETICAL REPRESENTATION

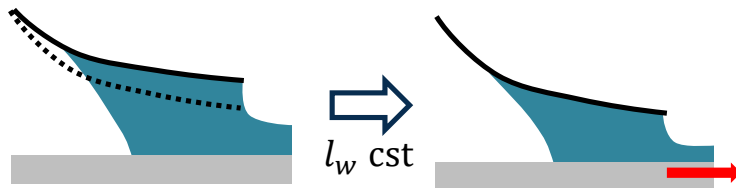


At least **two limiting phenomena** identified

# LIMITS WITH YIELD STRESS SPREADING

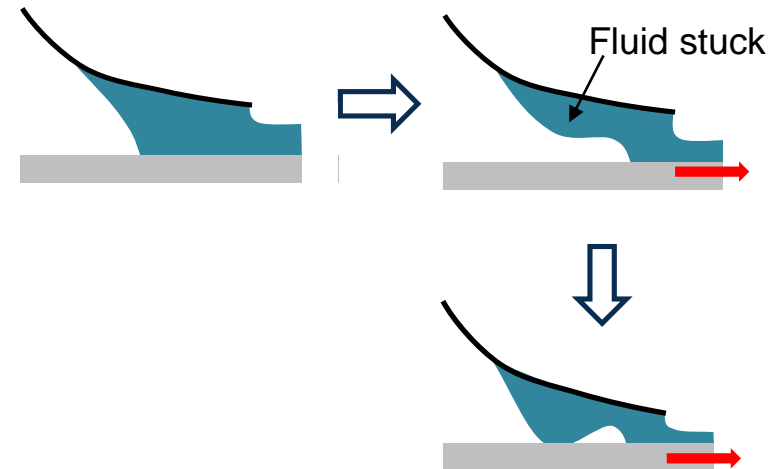
## INITIAL ELASTIC FORCES

Elastic forces induced by Carbopol not taken into account in the blade shape



- $e$  varies **independantly** from  $l_w$

## FLUID STUCK UNDER THE BLADE



- **Non monotonous** deposit (bumps)
- $l_w$  ?  $\rightarrow$  no longer properly defined



Situations **not described** in our model !

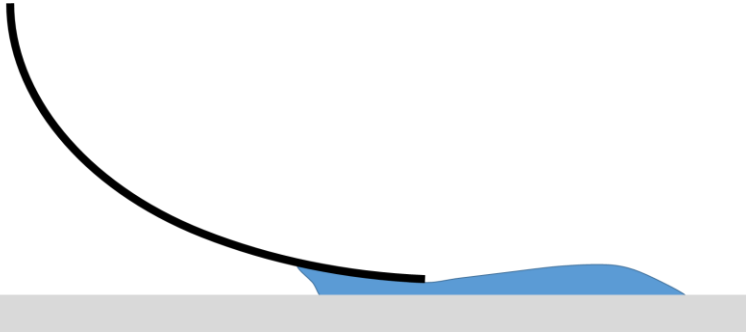


Solution : Fixed blade (*Maillard 2016*)

**Out of our study scope**

# CONCLUSIONS

## ANALOGY WITH FINGER COATING



### Key points:

- **Non uniform coating** is expected for **Newtonian and shear thinning fluids**  
→ **Solution** : infinite reservoir of fluid
- Adding polymers to obtain **normal stress** has **no impact** on the thickness **at the beginning of spreading**.
- To get **longer** and more **homogeneous** deposit **reduce spreading velocity** or **viscosity** (side effect: it leads to overall **thinner** deposit)
- **Limits** to describe **yield stress** spreading



Spreading of formulation with **solid particles** ?

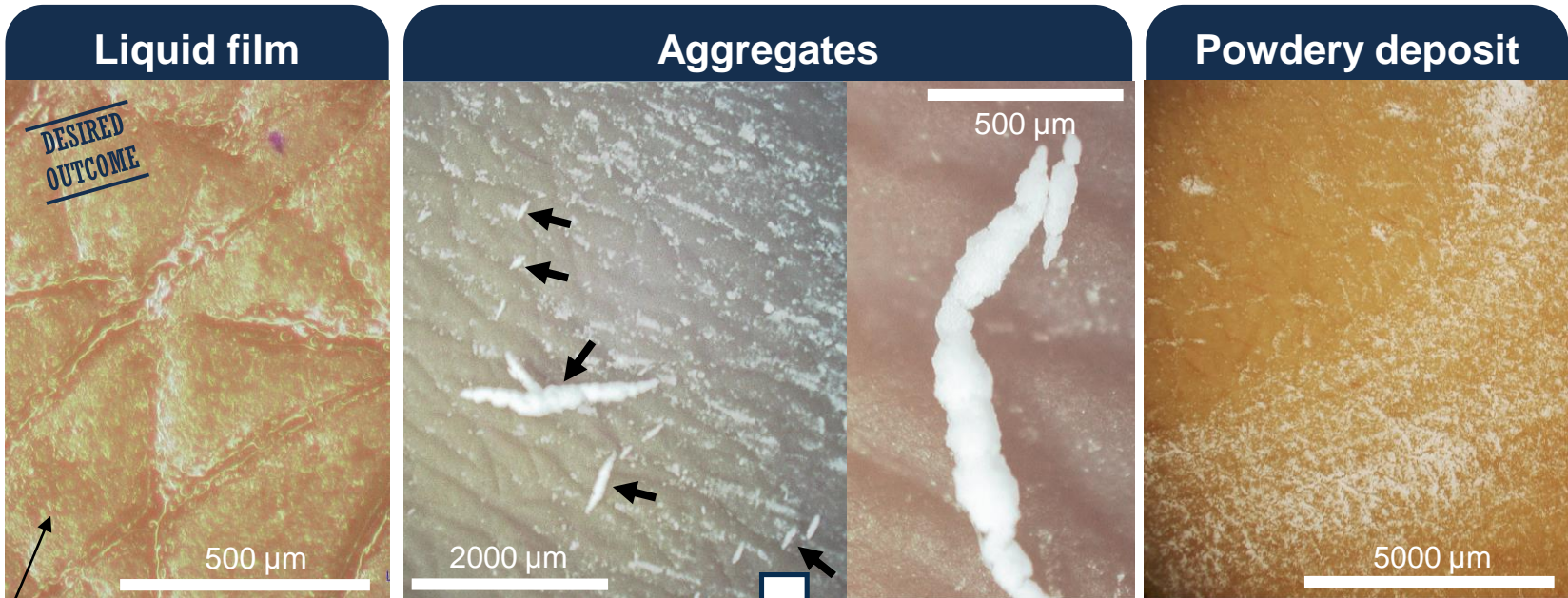


# **THE IMPACT OF PARTICLES IN SPREADING DEFECTS**



# OBSERVATIONS:

DIFFERENT TYPES OF RESULTS AT THE END OF SPREADING A COSMETIC CREAM :



Artificial skin

- Induce **unpleasant sensation** upon spreading on skin
- **Reduce the efficiency** of cosmetic product

What are the parameters involved ?  
How to explain aggregate formation ?  
How to avoid them ?

Challenge to switch to biobased products (ex : cellulose)

# FORMULATION



## CHOICE OF THE FORMULATION BASIS :

→ Characteristic **rheological behaviour**

→ As **simple** as possible

- Carbopol gel in water: mechanical resistance (yield stress)
- Glycerol : residual film (10 wt% )
- Preservatives

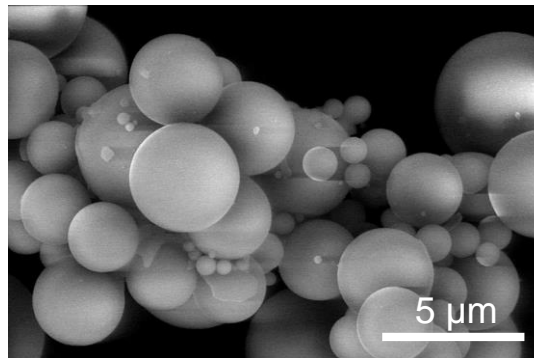
## CHOICE OF THE PARTICLE :

### MODEL : SILICA BEADS

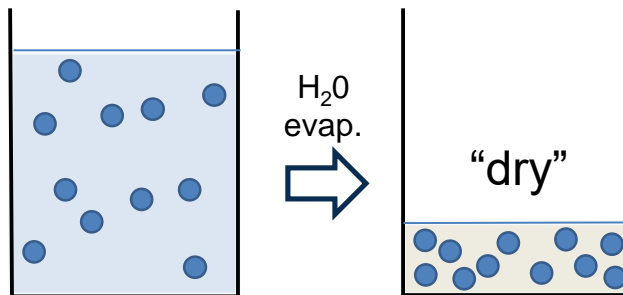
→ Spherical

→ Non porous

→ Rigid and smooth



## EVOLUTION:

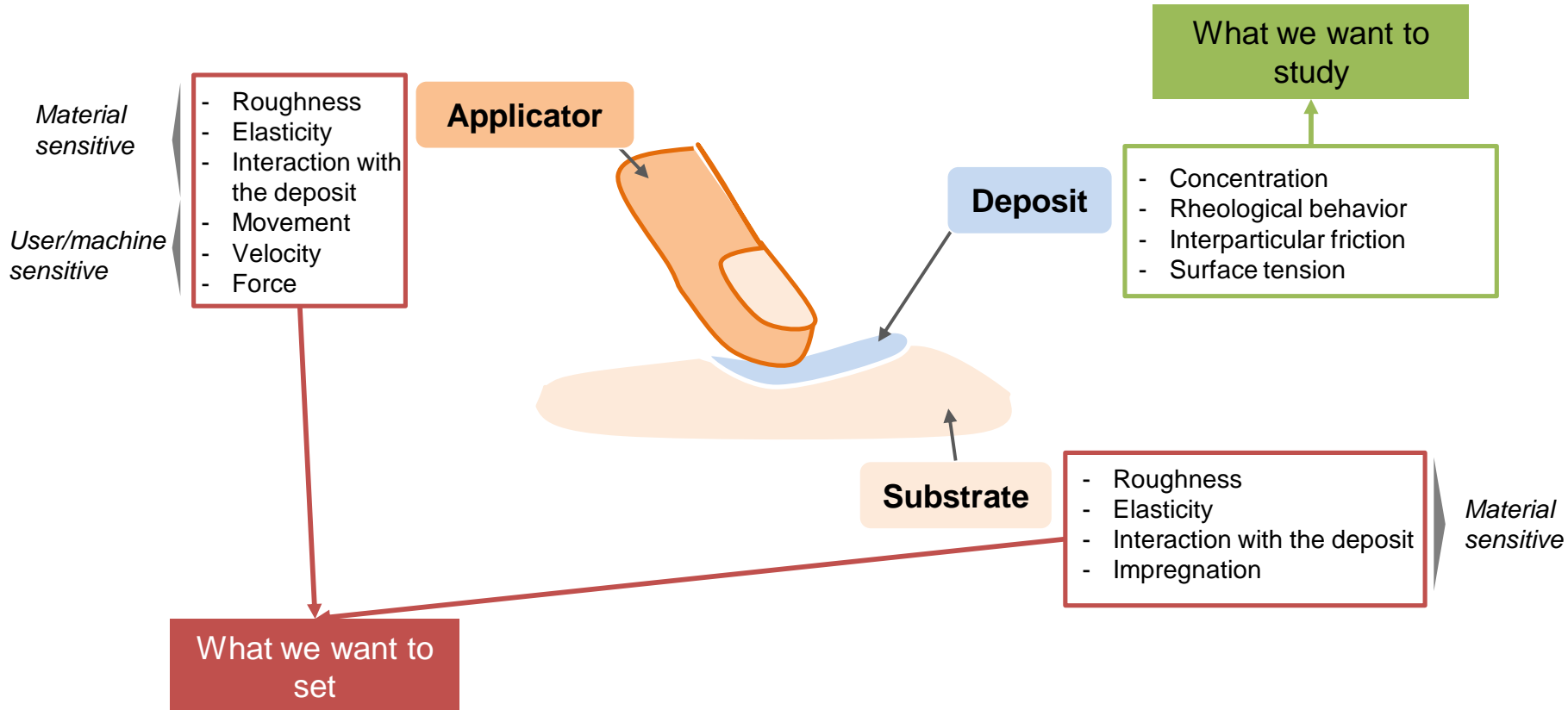


Concentration (volume fraction) of particle in the **non-volatile** phase :

$$c_v = \frac{V_{solid\ particles}}{V_{solid\ particles} + V_{glycerol}} \cdot 100$$

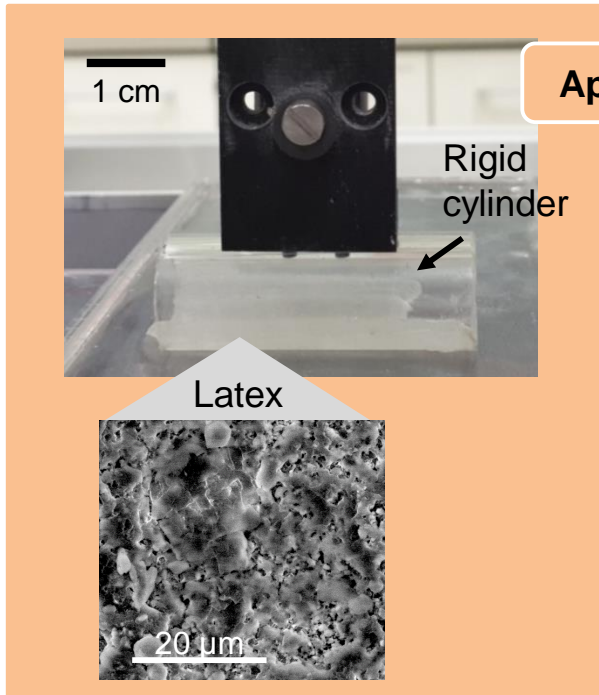
# SCOPE OF THE STUDY

## FACTORS THAT MIGHT INFLUENCE THE EMERGENCE OF AGGREGATES:



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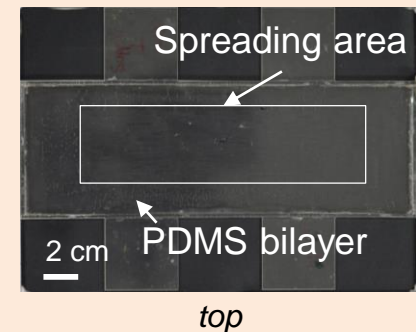
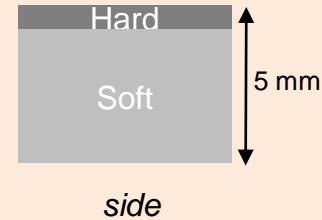
Applicator

Deposit

Substrate

What we want to study

- Concentration
- Rheological behavior
- Interparticular friction
- Surface tension

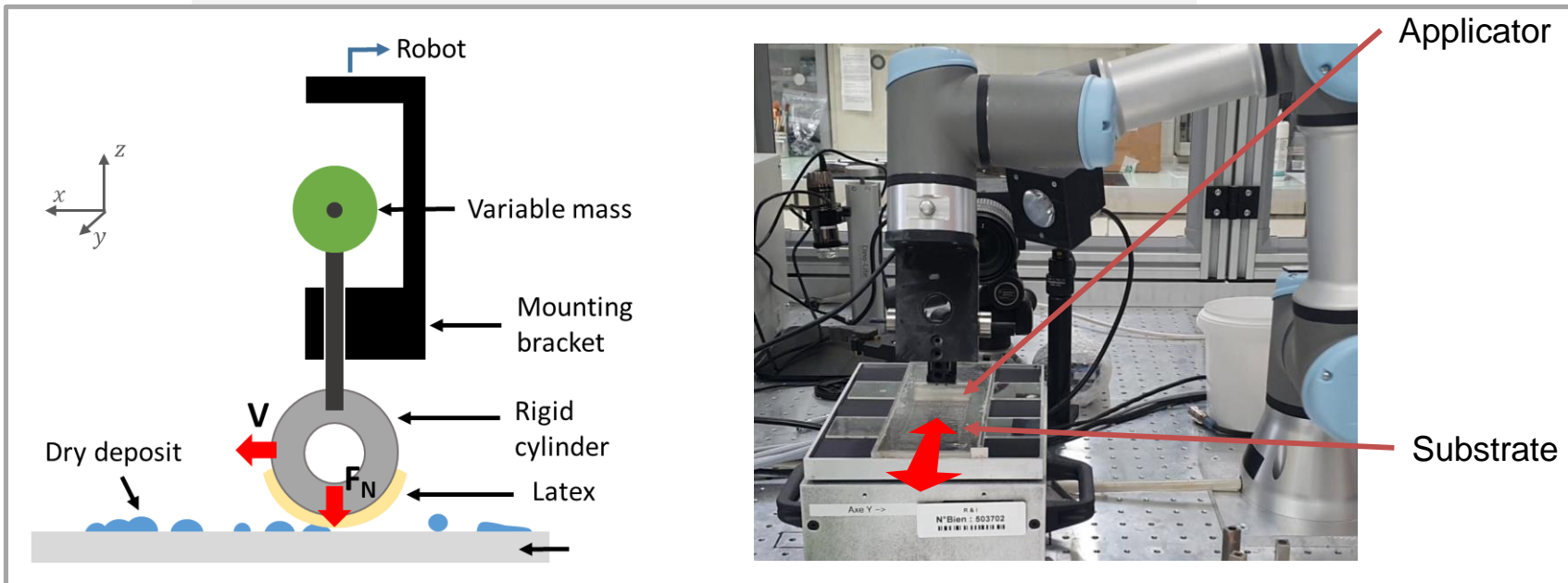


# EXPERIMENTAL SETUP & PROTOCOL

## Protocol

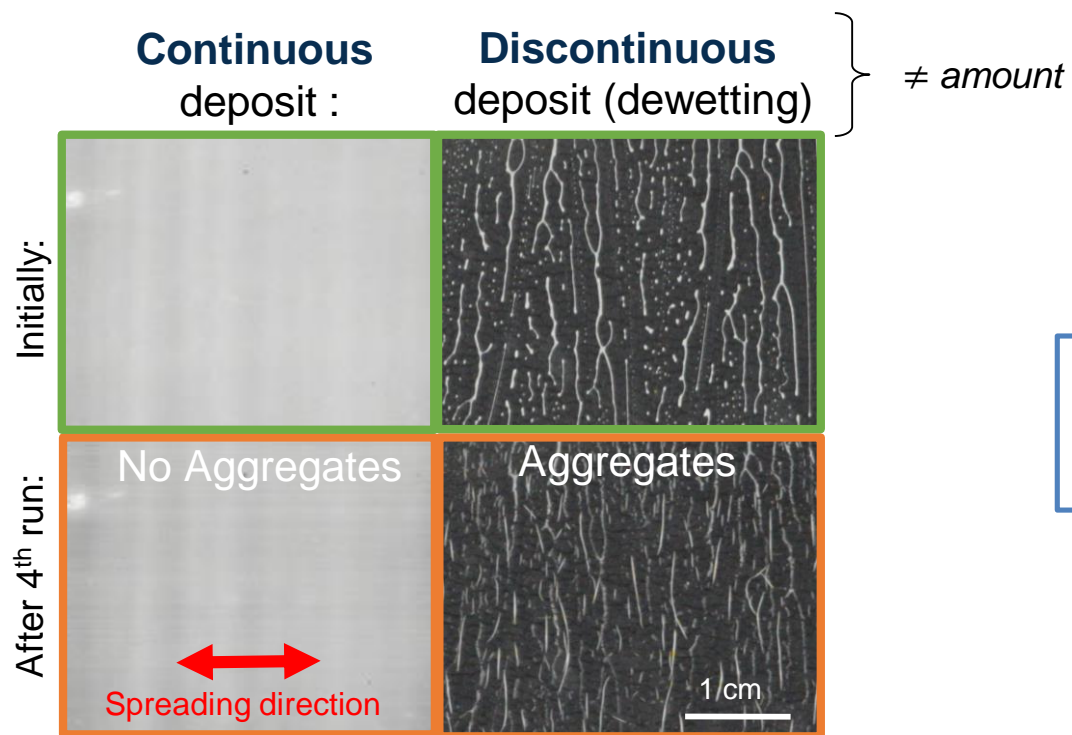
- **Spreading** around 0.1-0.2 g of formulation with the applicator
- **Drying** on a heated plate at 40°C for 20min

➤ **Dry deposit** = glycerol, carbopol and solid particles



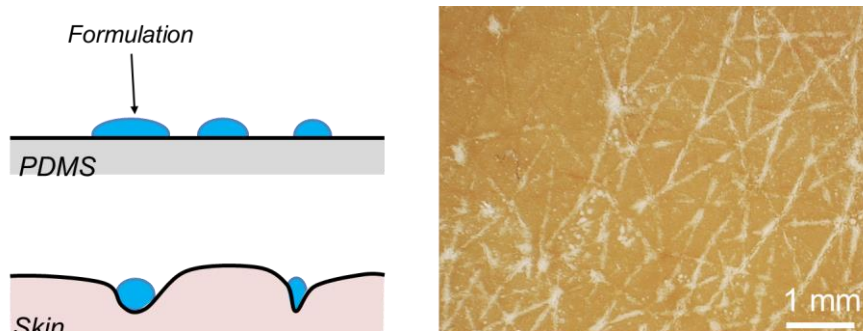
- **2 Back and forth** movement with **the applicator** moved by the robot

# ROLE OF DISCONTINUITY



Discontinuity is at the origin of aggregates formation

## PARALLEL WITH SPREADING ON SKIN

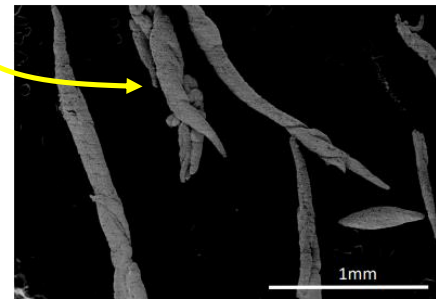
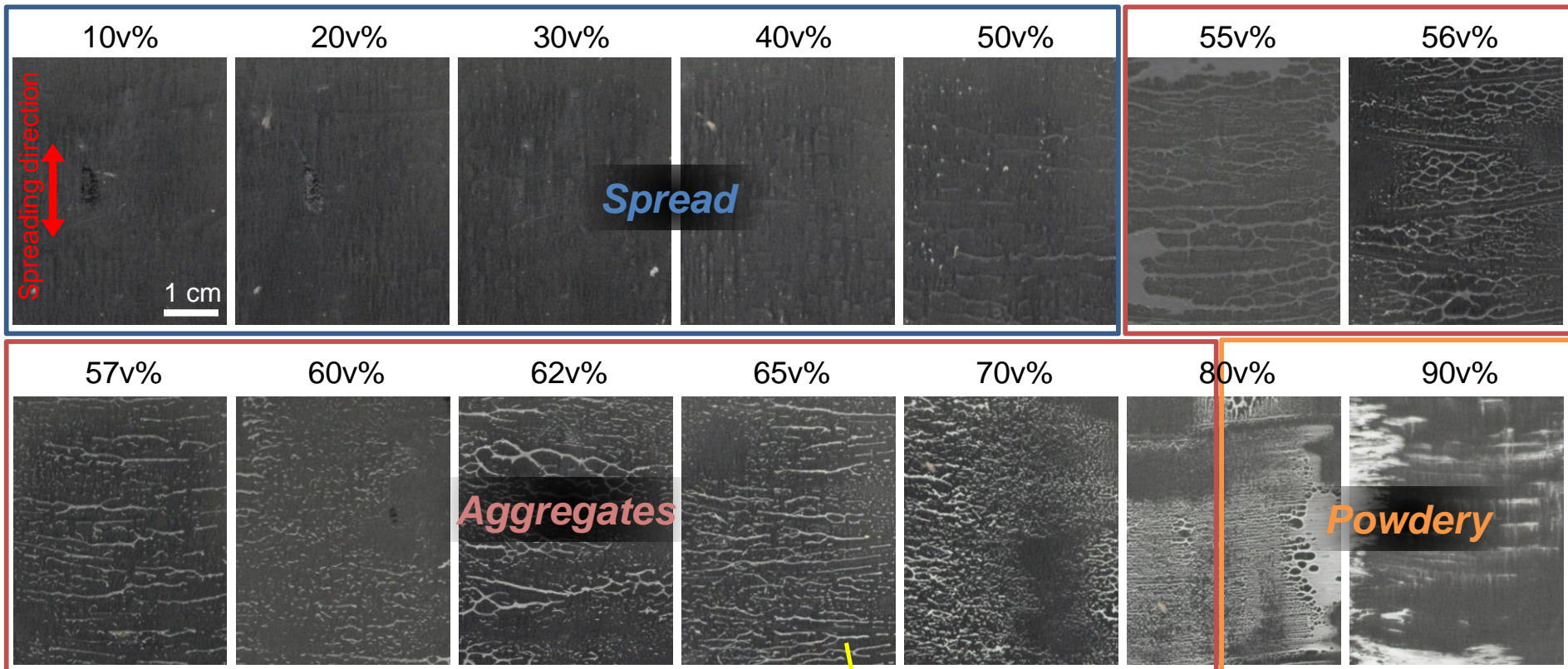


The spreading of cosmetics on the skin also causes a discontinuity in the deposit

- Choice of **discontinuous deposit** for the experiments

# IMPACT OF PARTICLE CONCENTRATION

After the 1<sup>st</sup> run :

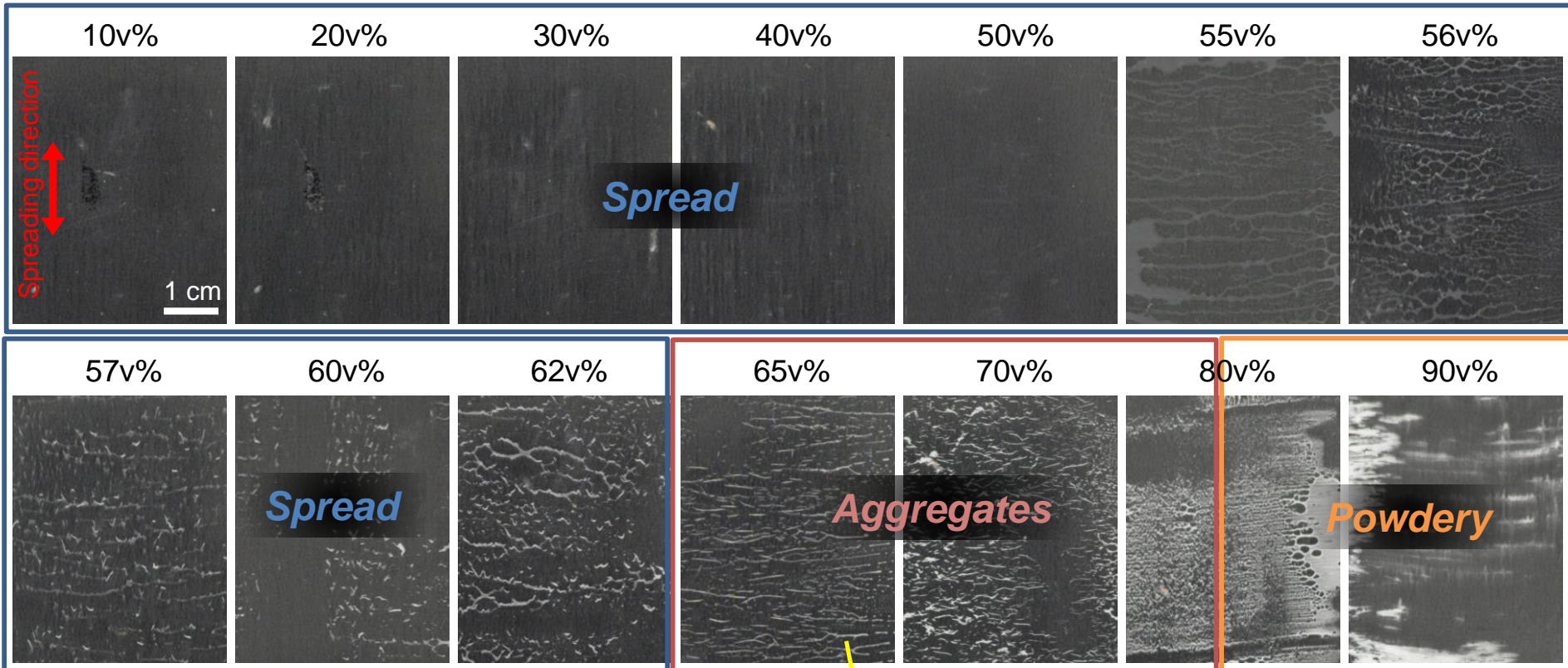


Aggregate = an object you can manipulate



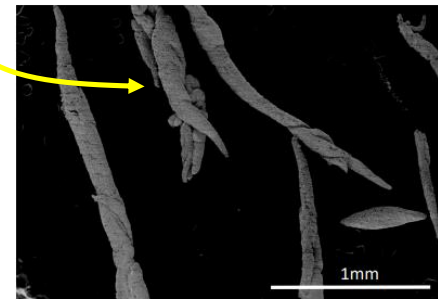
# IMPACT OF PARTICLE CONCENTRATION

After the 4<sup>th</sup> run :



Aggregates formation **depends on particle concentration** in glycerol:

- Low  $c_v$  = spread
- Intermediate  $c_v$  = **aggregates**
- High  $c_v$  = powdery deposit

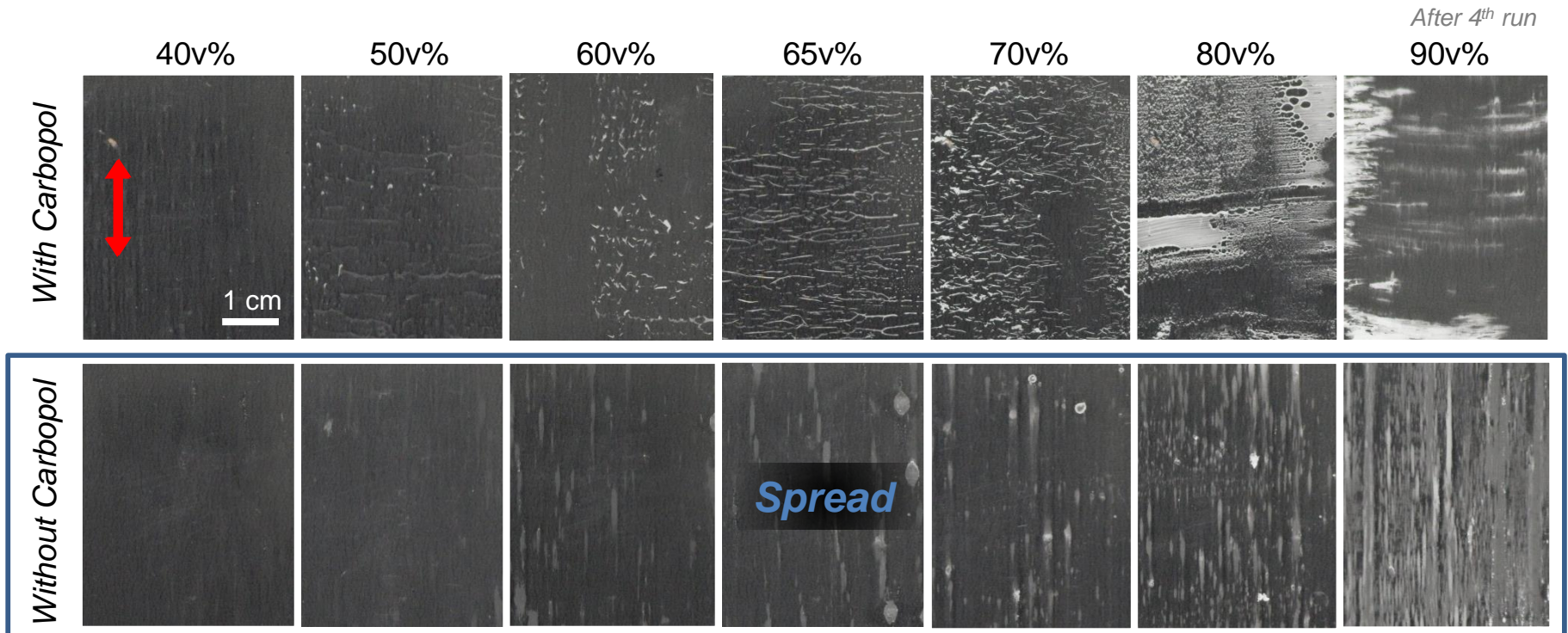


Aggregate = an object you can manipulate





# IMPACT OF CARBOPOL IN THE FORMULATION



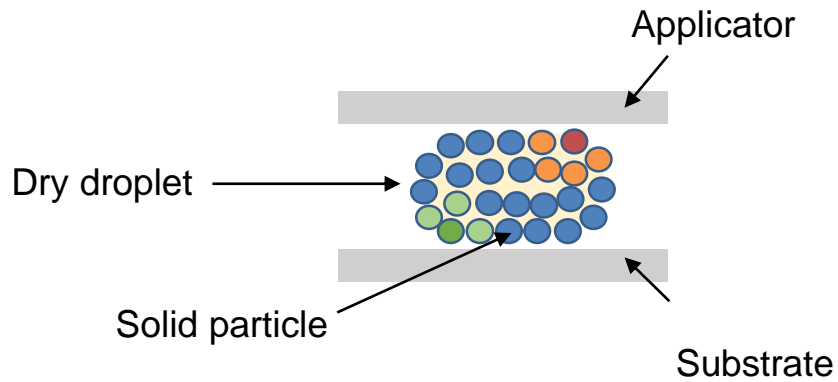
**Without carbopol** the samples do **not** form aggregates



# **MECHANISM OF AGGREGATES FORMATION**

# FORMATION MECHANISM

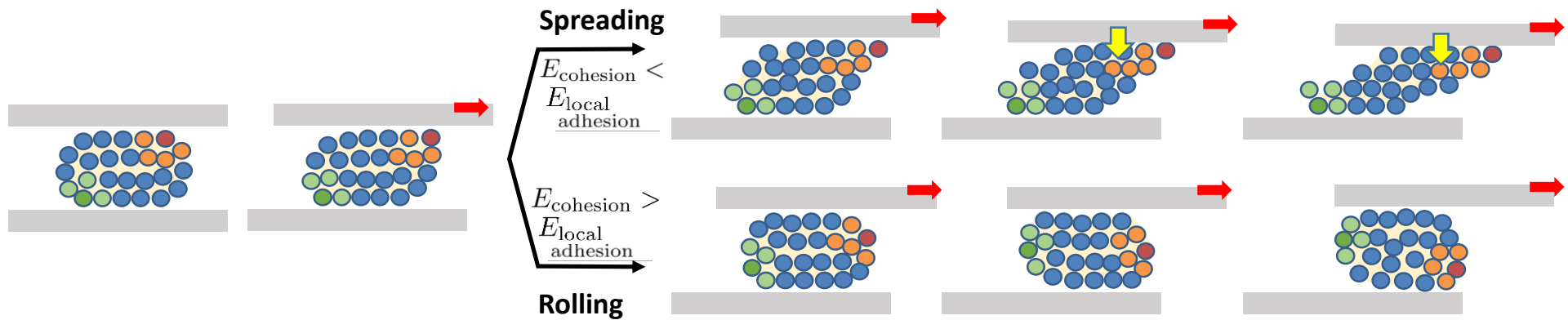
## PROPOSAL FOR A MICROSCOPIC MECHANISM



+ **No slip** at the wall

# FORMATION MECHANISM

## PROPOSAL FOR A MICROSCOPIC MECHANISM



Aggregates forms if:  $E_{\text{cohesion}} > E_{\text{local adhesion}}$  (+ no slip)

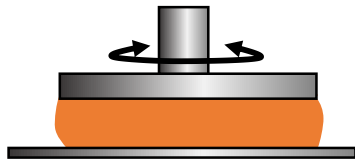
$\downarrow$   
 $\sim G'$

# VALIDATION OF THE MODEL : RHEOLOGY

## PRINCIPLE

In oscillation

$\hat{\gamma}$  strain  
 $f$  frequency



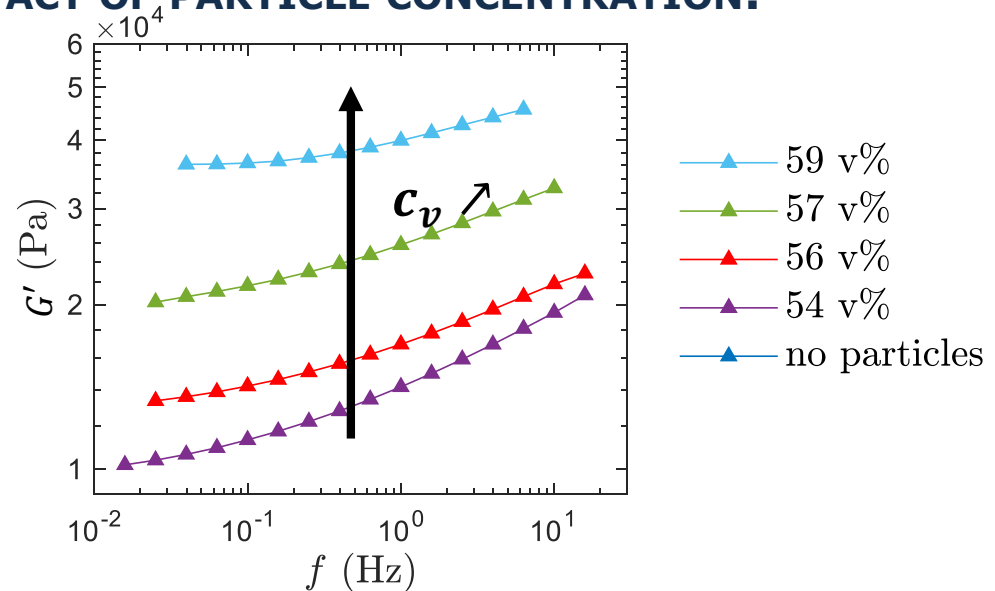
$G'$  Elastic modulus  
 $G''$  Viscous modulus

Elastic modulus  $G'$  increases with:

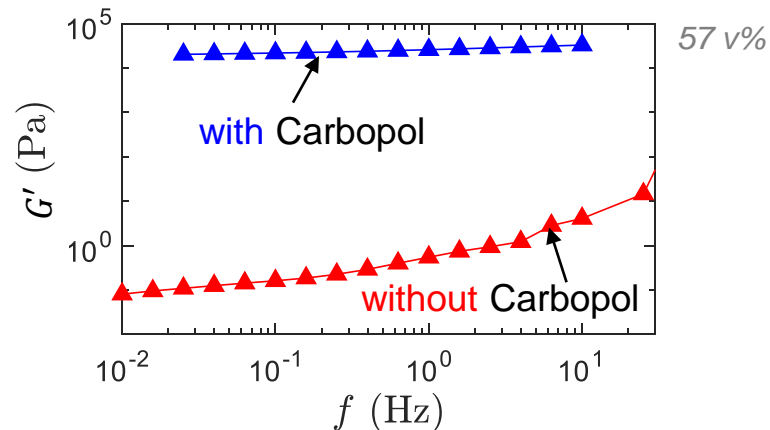
- particle concentration  $c_v$
- Carbopol presence
- frequency

↳ Consistent with aggregates formation

## IMPACT OF PARTICLE CONCENTRATION:

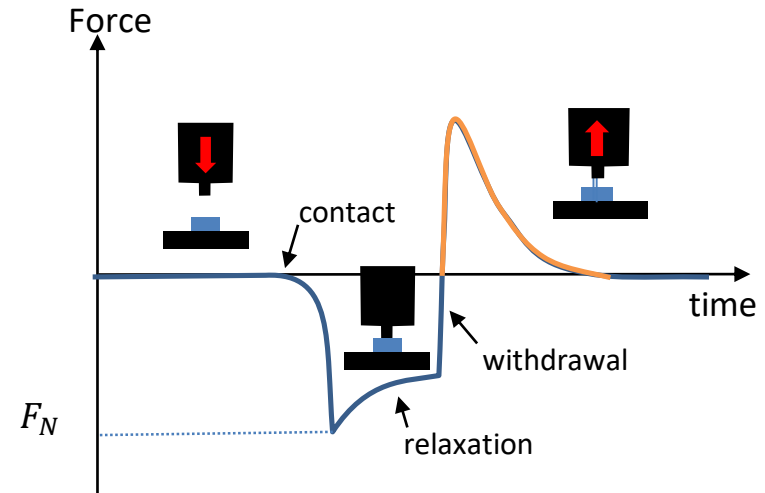
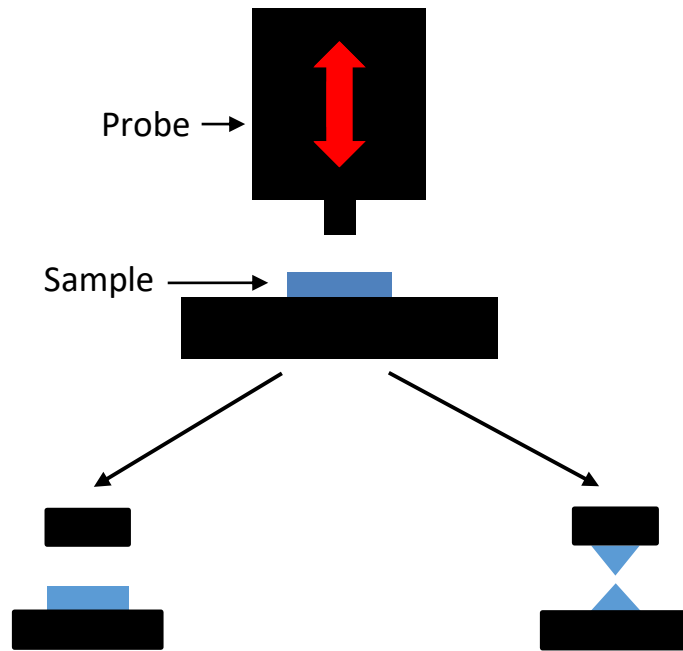


## IMPACT OF CARBOPOL:



# VALIDATION OF THE MODEL: PROBE TACK TEST

## PRINCIPLE



**Adhesive failure**

$$E_{\text{cohesion}} > E_{\text{adhesion}}$$



Aggregates  
expected

**Cohesive failure**

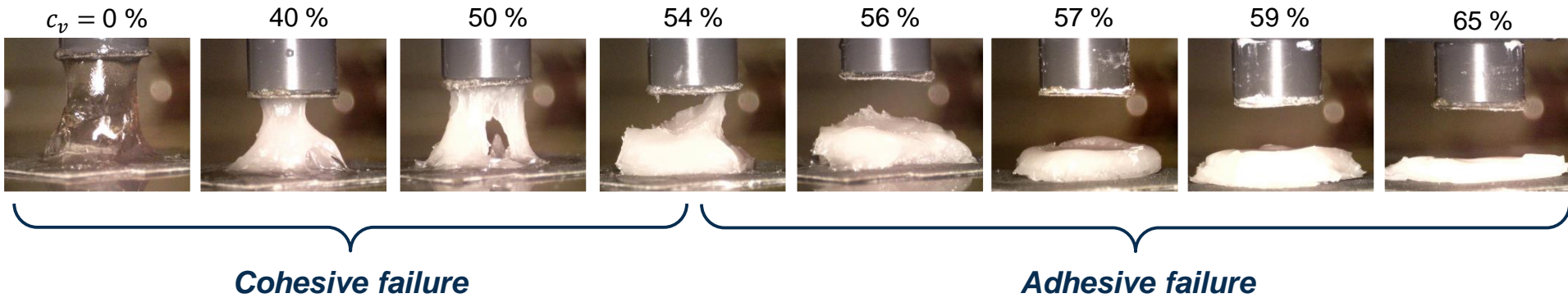
$$E_{\text{cohesion}} < E_{\text{adhesion}}$$



Spreading  
expected

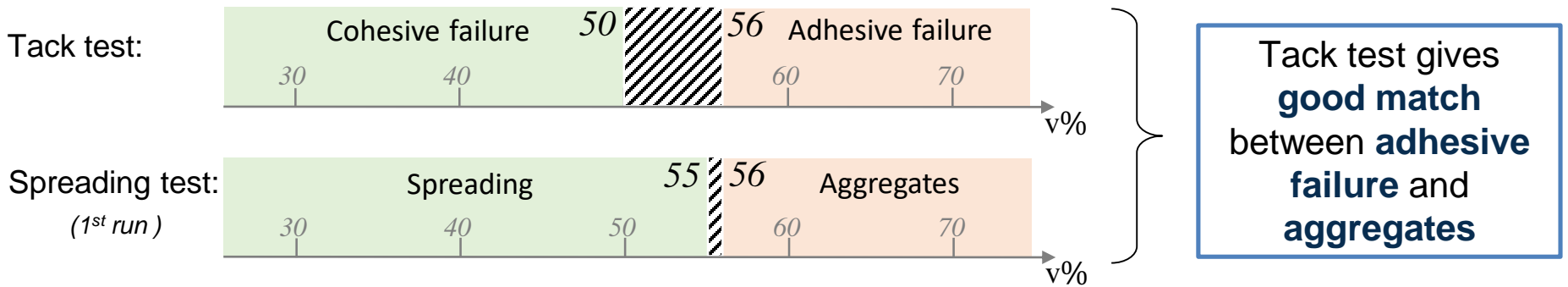
# VALIDATION OF THE MODEL: PROBE TACK TEST

## IMPACT OF THE SOLID PARTICLE CONCENTRATION



$c_v \geq 54\% \Rightarrow$  Adhesive failure is observed,  
 $E_{\text{cohesion}} > E_{\text{adhesion}}$  and aggregates are expected

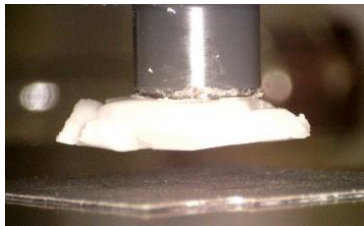
## COMPARISON WITH SPREADING TEST



# VALIDATION OF THE MODEL: PROBE TACK TEST

## IMPACT OF CARBOPOL

*with Carbopol*



***Adhesive failure***

$$E_{\text{cohesion}} > E_{\text{adhesion}}$$

Removing Carbopol

*without Carbopol*



***Cohesive failure***

$$E_{\text{cohesion}} < E_{\text{adhesion}}$$

↳ **Consistent with the absence of aggregates**

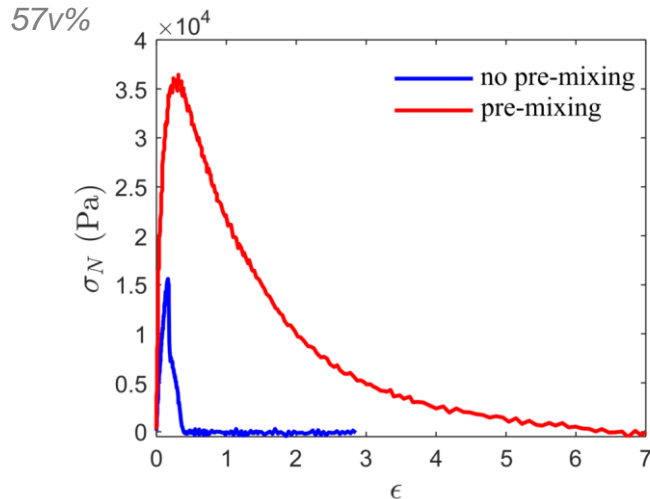
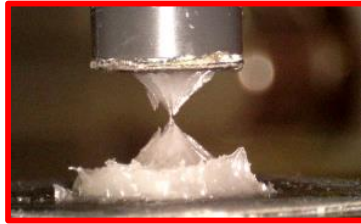


# VALIDATION OF THE MODEL: PROBE TACK TEST

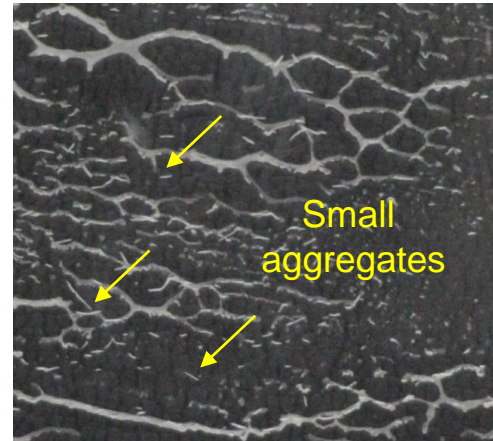
## IMPACT OF PRE-MIXING

No pre-mixing

Pre-mixing

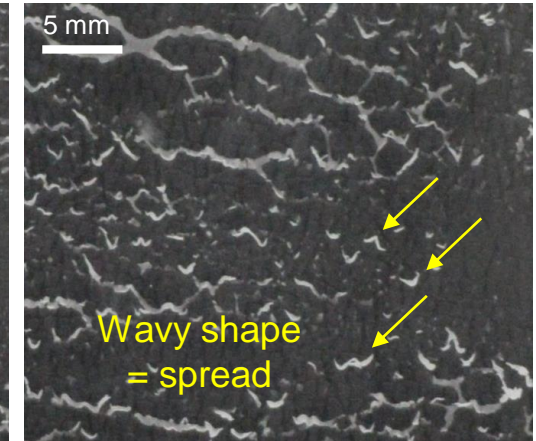


After 1<sup>st</sup> run



After 4<sup>th</sup> run

62v%

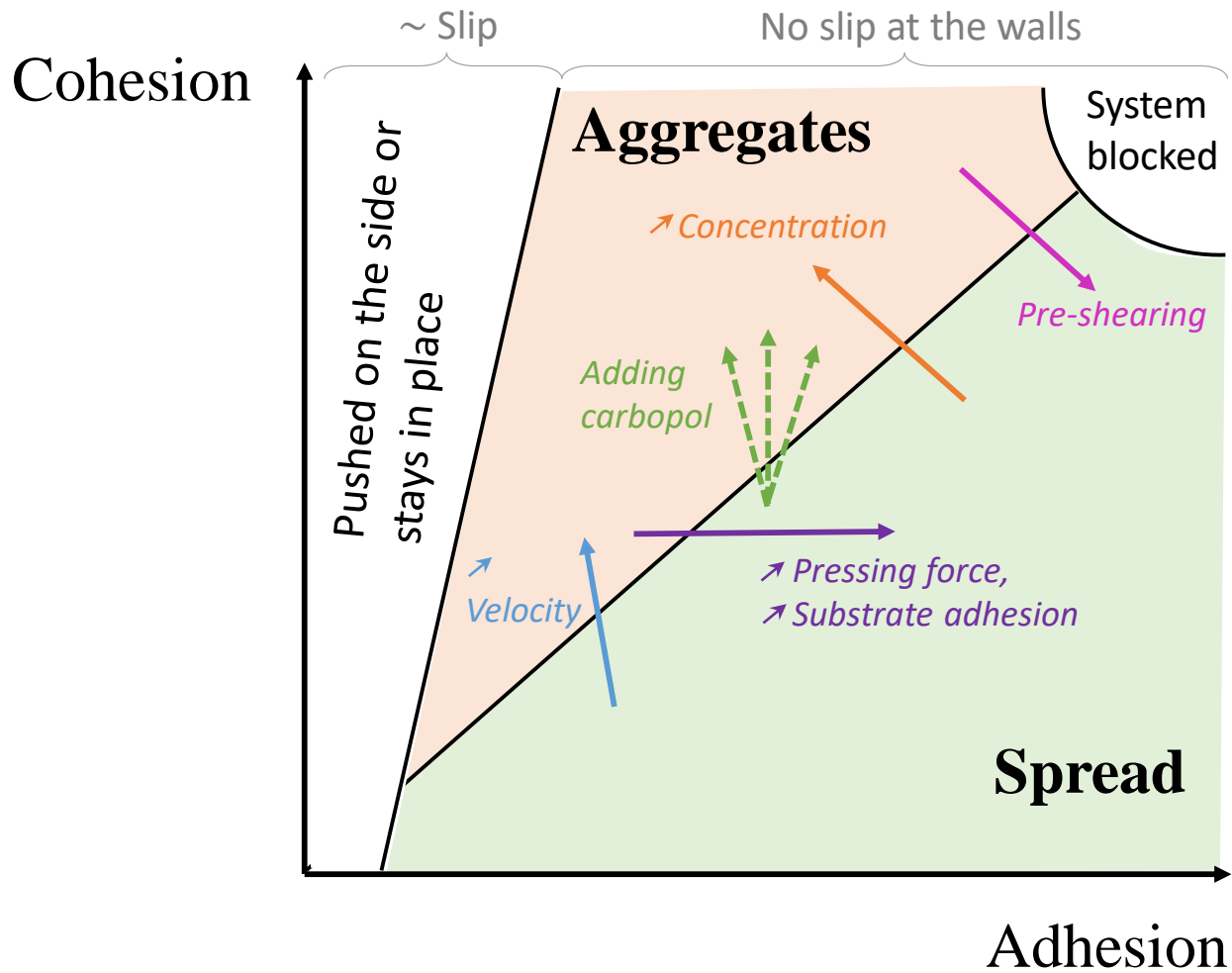


Spreading of aggregates by successive runs  $\approx$  premixing

With **pre-mixing**  $\rightarrow E_{cohesion} > E_{adhesion} \Rightarrow E_{cohesion} < E_{adhesion}$   
 $\rightarrow$  **cohesive failure** for  $c_v \leq 57\%$  (instead of 54%)

Explain the spreading of aggregates after the first run (at some  $c_v$ )

# SUMMARY

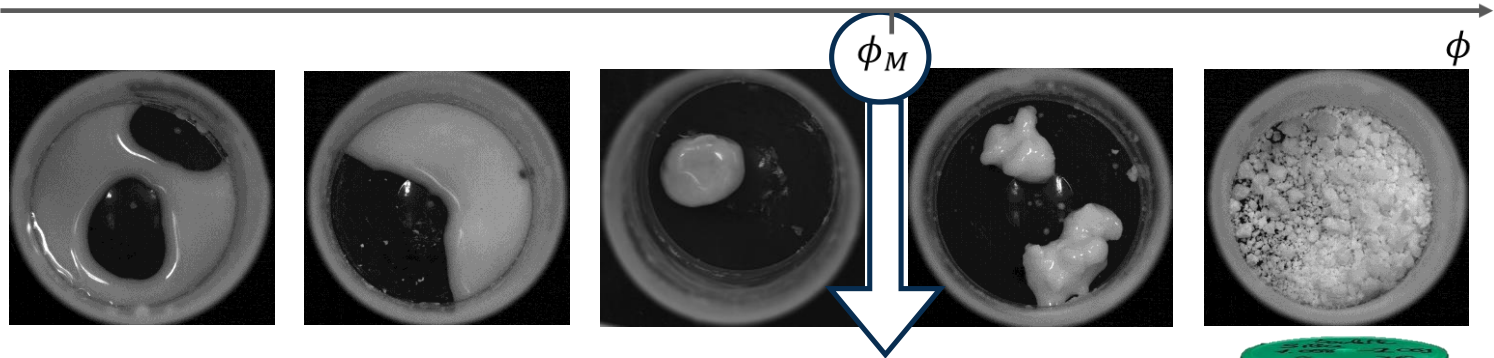
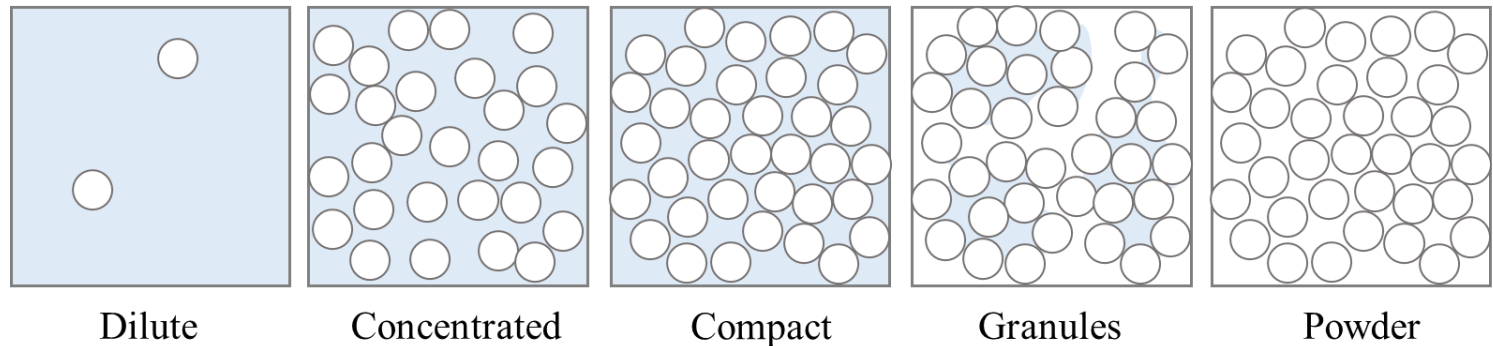




# **WHAT WOULD BE A SAFE RANGE OF CONCENTRATION?**

For carbopol/glycerol based formulations

# JAMMING PACKING FRACTION



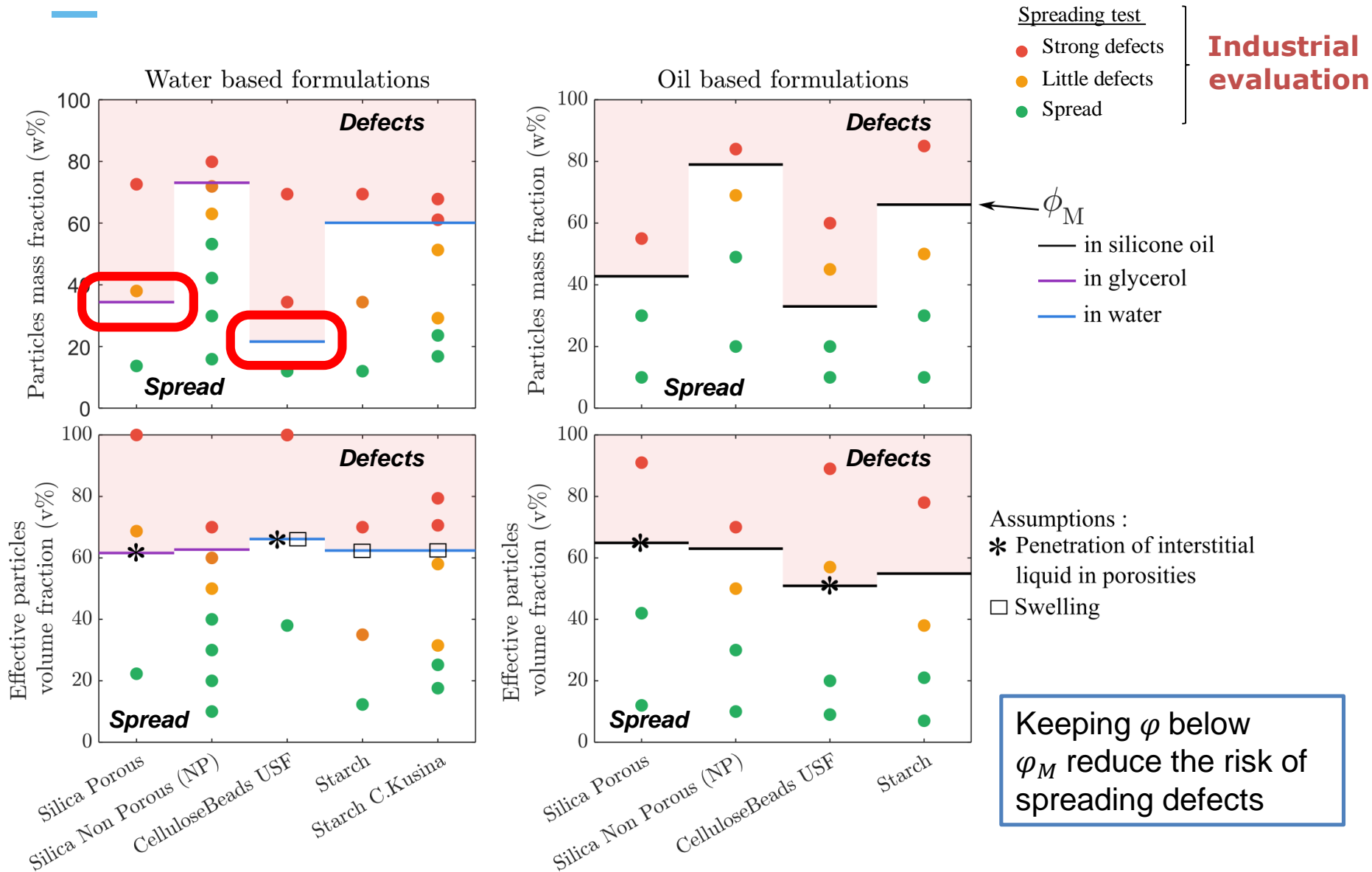
Estimated through the  
« Small ball test »



Ball representing  
the limit  $\phi_M$

**Above this limit in the non volatile phase,  
aggregates are expected to occur after drying**

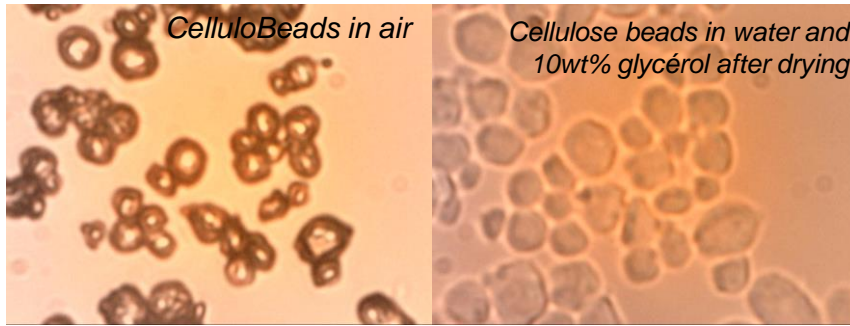
# COMPARISON WITH AGGREGATES TEST



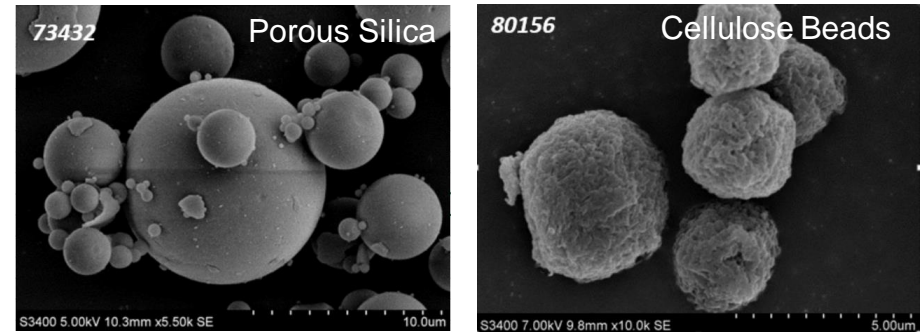
# EXTENSION TO OTHER PARTICLES

## TWO CORRECTIVE EFFECTS ON THE VOLUME FRACTION:

### SWELLING



### POROSITY

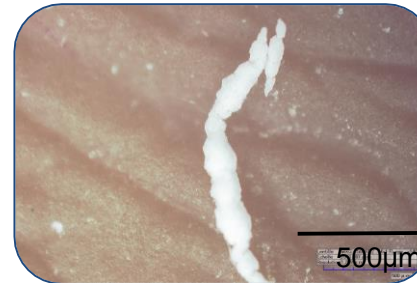


Effect on the volume of particule and volume of interparticulate liquid

The jamming packing fraction is reached for **low mass fraction** of particles if they are **porous** or **swell** in solvent

# CONCLUSIONS

## AGGREGATES OF PARTICLES



### Key points:

- **New set-up** with robot & **artificial skin** to study aggregate formation
- **Several** factors indentified as impacting aggregates formation: **particle concentration, Carbopol ...**
- Aggregates form when **cohesion** of the material is stronger than adhesion on the walls.
- Good match between **tack test** and spreading test results. Easier experiment to predict aggregates.
- To reduce the risk of aggregates keep  $\phi < \phi_M$
- Warning: **swelling & porous particles** have low maximum mass fraction.



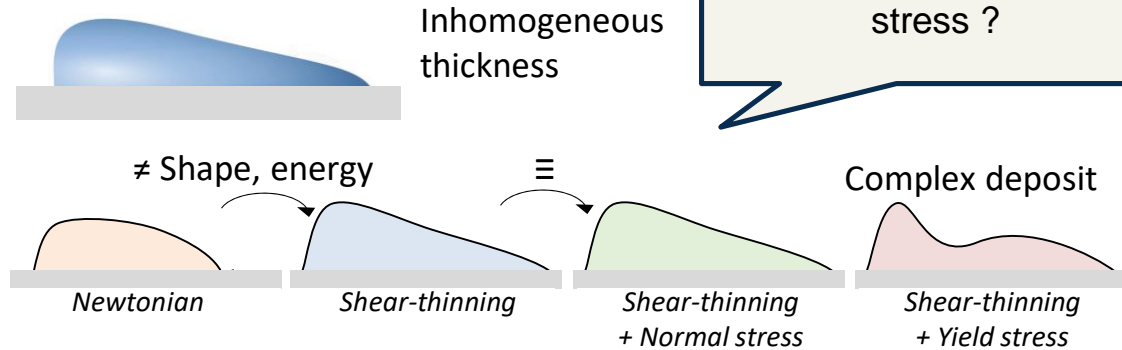
# **CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVES**



# CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVES

How does a finite reservoir influence the spreading dynamics ?

What is the impact of rheology ?



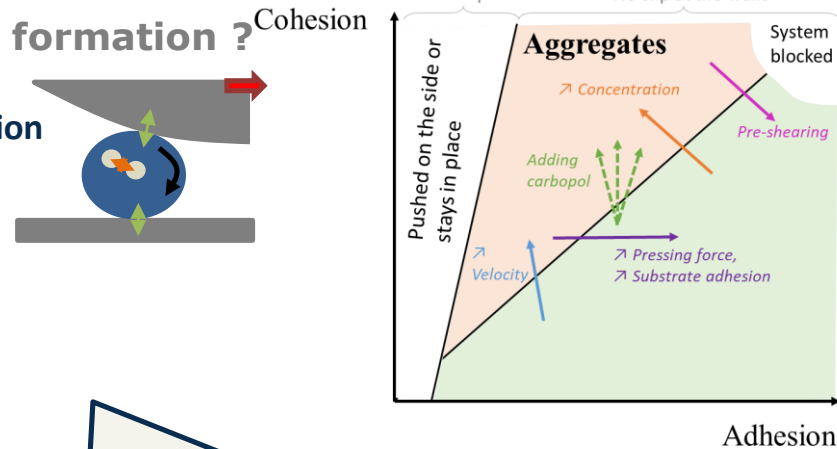
What are the parameters involved in aggregates formation ?

How to explain their formation ? Cohesion VS adhesion

How to avoid them ?  $\phi < \phi_M$

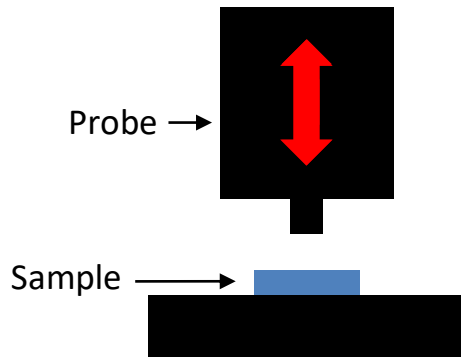
& Spreading if :

- Low cohesion in the material
- Strong adhesion to the walls



Quantitative validation ?  
 Improve equivalence spreading test & tack test (material, movement) ?  
 Skin topography ?

# PERSPECTIVE: TACK TEST



## Use:

Prediction of aggregates formation for a given formulation (dried)

## Advantages:

- Quick
- Easy to implement in industry

## To dig deeper:

- Probe surface material
- Test conditions (pull-back velocity...)

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

JURY: MARIE-CAROLINE JULLIEN, LUDOVIC PAUCHARD,  
GUILLAUME OVARLEZ, DAVID QUÉRÉ, JEAN-FRANÇOIS  
JOANNY

L'ORÉAL: ODILE AUBRUN, JEAN-BAPTISTE BOITTE,  
CHRISTOPHE KUSINA, DANIELLE LE VERGE

CBI LAB: ISABELLE BORSENBARGER & HÉLÈNE DODIER

MIE TEAM: ANNIE COLIN, ANAÏS GAUTHIER, ...

WORKSHOP & MEB: LUDOVIC OLANIER, ALEXANDRE  
LANTHEAUME, BRUNO BRESSON



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

**Questions ?**