

Application of a full-factorial design to the control of colloidal characteristics of Non-isocyanate polyurethane nanoparticles prepared by nanoprecipitation

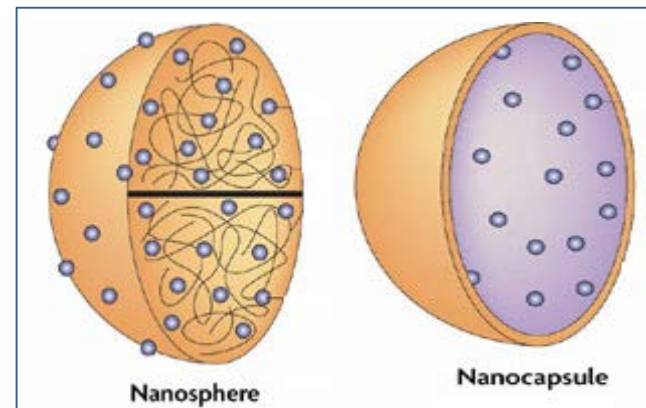
T. Quérette, C. Bordes, and N. Sintès-Zydowicz

Polymer nanoparticles

- Active agent delivery

in cosmetics, agrochemistry, pharmaceuticals

- **protect** and **carry** the active ingredient



Scheme of a NP (left) and a NC (right)

¹ Legrand, P. et al. Int. J. Pharm. 2007. **344**(1-2): p. 33-43.

Nanoparticle formation

Solvent evaporation

layer-by-layer

Supercritical fluid expansion

Salting out

Nanoprecipitation

Mini/microemulsion polymerisation

Nanoprecipitation

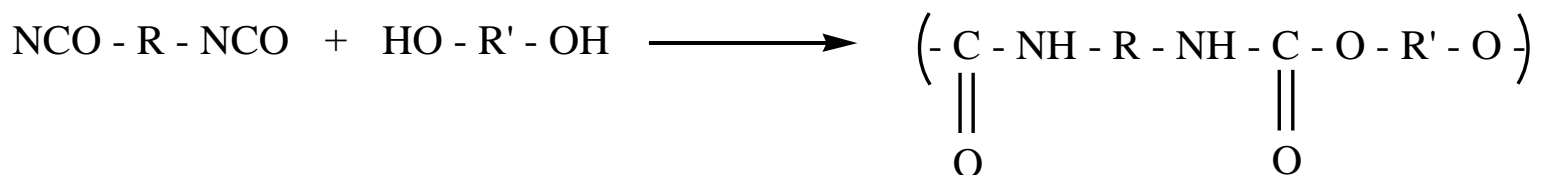
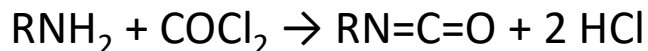
- ✔ Straightforward and reproducible method
- ✔ Preformed polymer
- ✔ No expensive mechanical energy input

Polymers for Nanoprecipitation

➔ PLA, PCL, PLGA, PLA-PEG, PCL-PEG, PNIPAm, PMMA

➔ *Polyurethane* :  Versatile synthetic polymer
 Biodegradability¹
 Good blood compatibility²

 Toxicity of the isocyanate monomers



¹ R. Chandra, R. Rustgi, Prog. Polym. Sci., 23 (1998) 1273-1335.

² M.D. Lelah, L.K. Lambrecht, B.R. Young, S.L. Cooper, J. Biomed. Mater. Res., 17 (1983) 1-22

Objectives

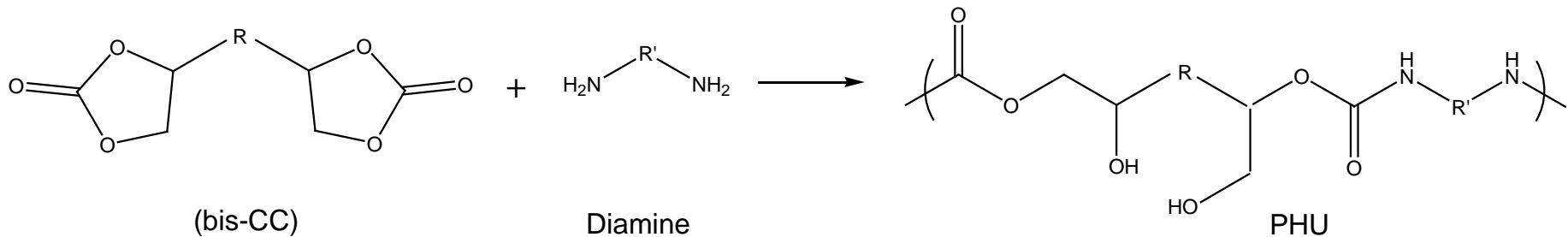
➤ non isocyanate polyurethane¹ nanoparticles

➔ ***Poly(hydroxy)urethane (PHU)***²

✔ Same advantages as PU

✔ *Isocyanate free* synthesis

✔ Possibility to introduce *stimuli-responsive* functions
(OH groups)



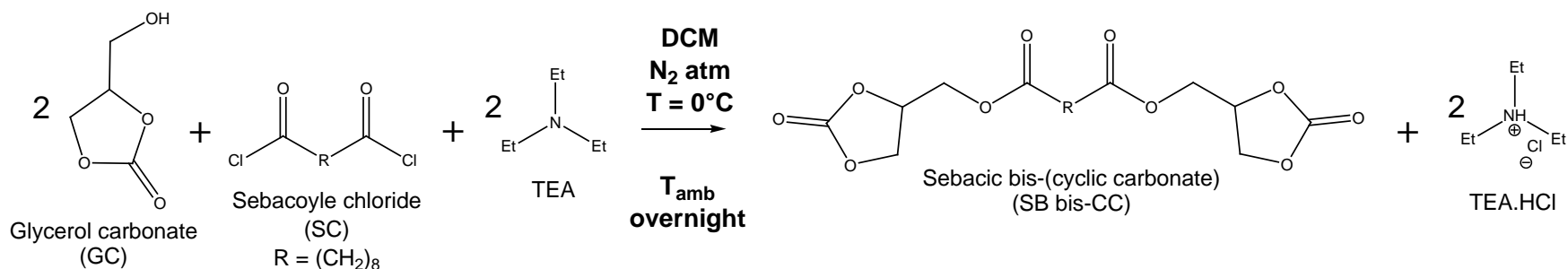
¹ Kathalewar, M.S. et al. RSC Adv. 2013. **3**(13): p. 4110-4129.

² Proempers, G. et al. Des. Monomers Polym., 2005. **8**(6): p. 547-569.

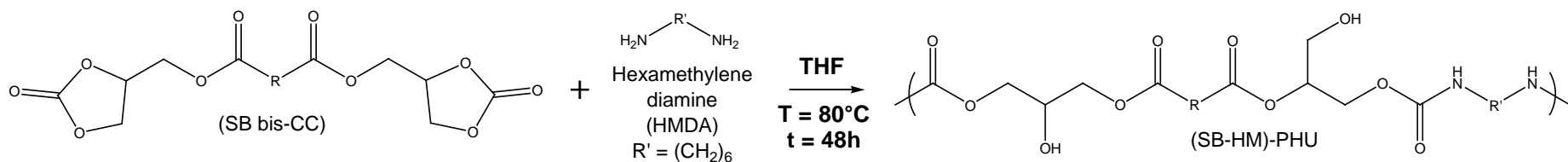
PHU Nanoparticles

✓ PHU nanoprecipitation¹

➤ SB bis-CC monomer synthesis



➤ Poly(hydroxy)urethane synthesis



¹ T. Quérette, E. Fleury, N. Sintès-Zydowicz, European Polymer Journal, 114 (2019) 434-445.

Nanoprecipitation method

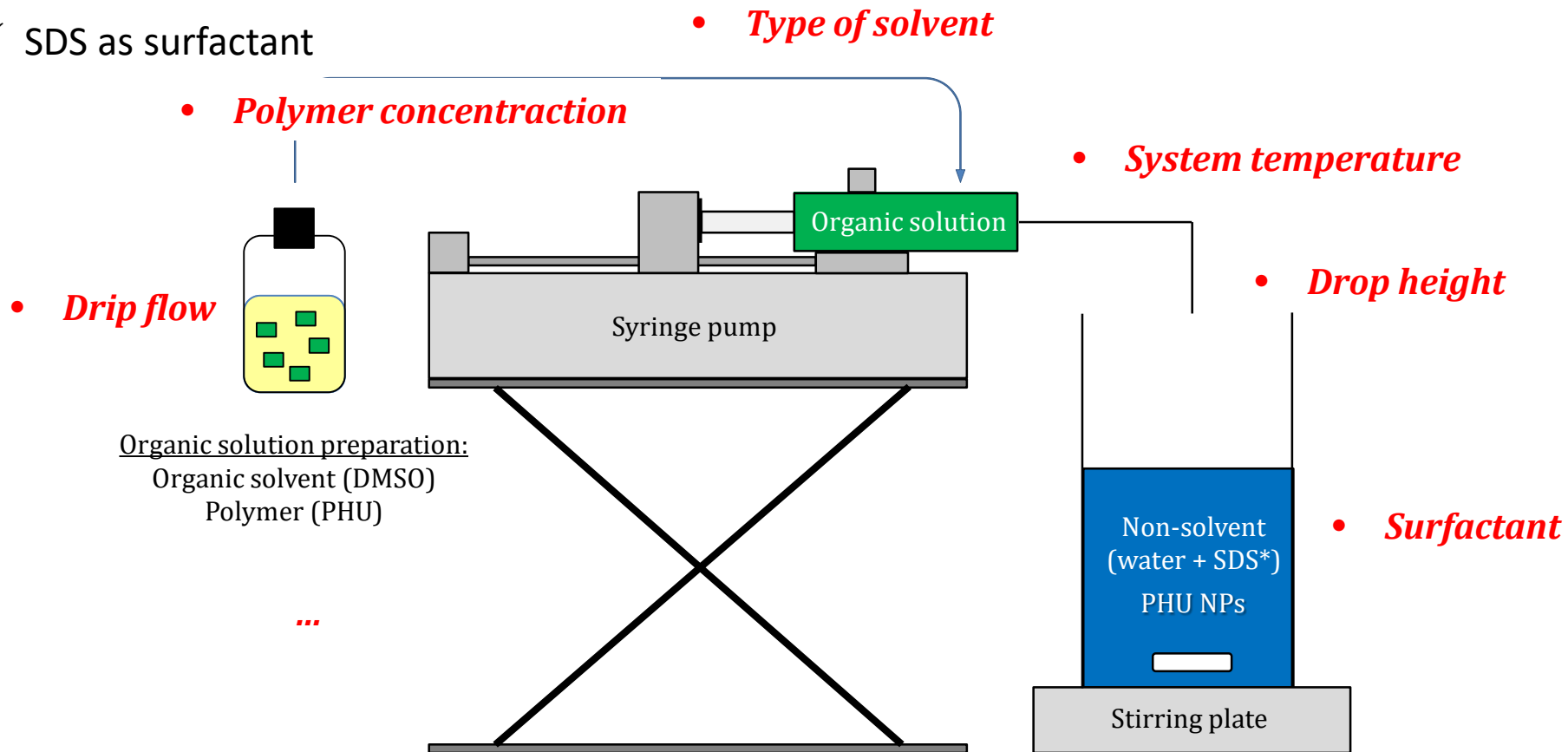
- Preparation of a water-insoluble polymer organic solution
 - The organic solvent is completely water-miscible
 - Dropwise addition of the organic solution into an aqueous phase
- ➔ Spontaneous water-organic solvent interdiffusion
- ➔ Precipitation of the polymer
- ➔ Formation of monodisperse NP in the 50-300 nm range

Nanoprecipitation technique¹

Experimental set-up scheme:

- ✓ PHU soluble in DMSO
- ✓ PHU not soluble in water
- ✓ DMSO and water fully miscible
- ✓ SDS as surfactant

$$\bar{M}_n = 12\,900 \text{ g/mol}, \bar{M}_w = 30\,000 \text{ g/mol},$$
$$T_d = 210^\circ\text{C}, T_g = -7^\circ\text{C}$$



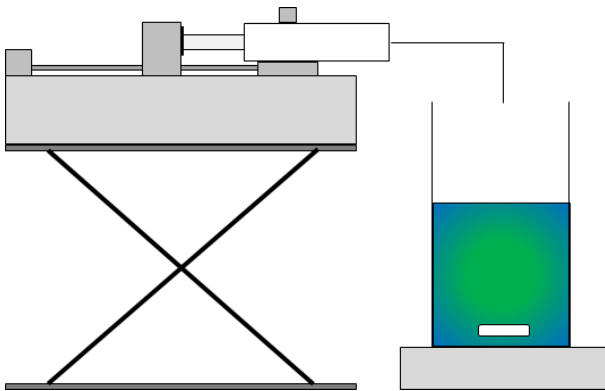
* Sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS)

2³ Full-factorial design¹

Critical parameters:

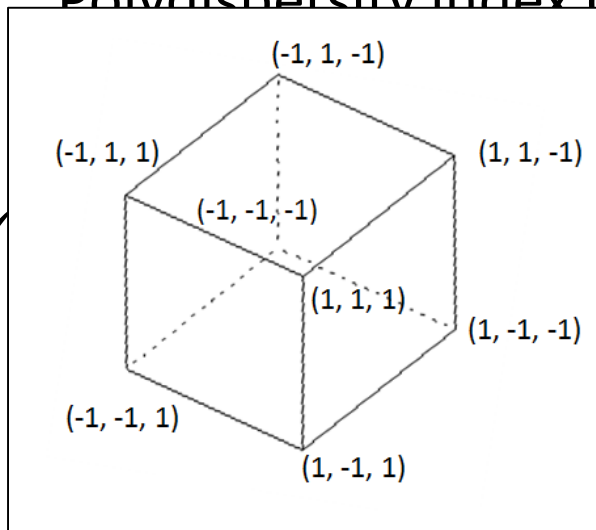
- Polymer concentration in the organic solution
- Volume of water in the beaker
- Amount of surfactant in the non-solvent

- ❓ Effect of these parameters on the quality of the suspension
- ❓ Nanoprecipitation Process optimization



2³ Full-factorial design

✓ **2 responses** (DLS measure)
Experimental matrix:
 Z-average diameter / mea
 Polydispersity index (PDI)



3D
cube
edges

3D
cube
centre

Run	Natural variables			Coded variables		
	[PHU]	V _{water}	[SDS]	X ₁	X ₂	X ₃
1	1	50	0	-1	-1	-1
2	5	50	0	1	-1	-1
3	1	150	0	-1	1	-1
4	5	150	0	1	1	-1
5	1	50	25	-1	-1	1
6	5	50	25	1	-1	1
7	1	150	25	-1	1	1
8	5	150	25	1	1	1
A	3	100	12.5	0	0	0
B	3	100	12.5	0	0	0
C	3	100	12.5	0	0	0
D	3	100	12.5	0	0	0

REGRESSION
DEV

✓ **3 factors & 3 coded variables**¹ :

[PHU] (1, 3, 5 ; mg/ml)* ⇔ X₁ (-1, 0, +1)

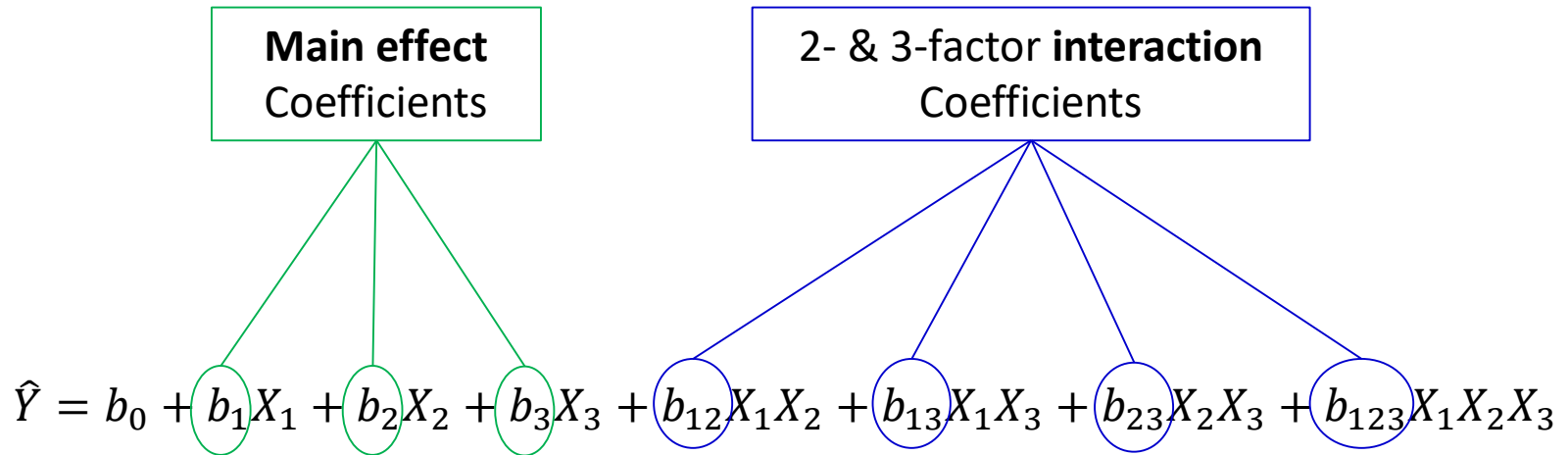
V_{water} (50, 100, 150 ; ml) ⇔ X₂ (-1, 0, +1)

[SDS] (0, 12.5, 25 ; mmol/l)** ⇔ X₃ (-1, 0, +1)

* Concentration of PHU in DMSO . ** Concentration of SDS in water

¹ C.E. Mora-Huertas, H. Fessi, A. Elaissari, Int J Pharm, 385 (2010) 113-142

Regression model



Regression model for responses (\hat{Y}_1 and \hat{Y}_2)

✘ \hat{Y} : predicted response

✘ Multiple linear regression analyses performed by NEMRODW®

Experimental Results

	Run	Coded variable			Natural variable			Response	
		X ₁	X ₂	X ₃	[PHU] g/l	V _w ml	[SDS] Mmol/ l	Y ₁ (PDI)	Y ₂ (d) nm
Cube edges	1	-1	-1	-1	1	50	0.0	0.28	103
	2	1	-1	-1	5	50	0.0	0.27	110
	3	-1	1	-1	1	150	0.0	0.15	87
	4	1	1	-1	5	150	0.0	0.26	101
	5	-1	-1	1	1	50	25.0	0.15	55
	6	1	-1	1	5	50	25.0	0.10	88
	7	-1	1	1	1	150	25.0	0.52	179
	8	1	1	1	5	150	25.0	0.20	81
Centre points	A	0	0	0	3	100	12.5	0.12	102
	B	0	0	0	3	100	12.5	0.13	86
	C	0	0	0	3	100	12.5	0.13	93
	D	0	0	0	3	100	12.5	0.13	93
Repeated runs	3'	-1	1	-1	1	150	0.0	0.20	88
	3''	-1	1	-1	1	150	0.0	0.25	118
	4'	1	1	-1	5	150	0.0	0.28	137
	4''	1	1	-1	5	150	0.0	0.29	110
	5'	-1	-1	1	1	50	25.0	0.14	55
	6'	1	-1	1	5	50	25.0	0.10	90
	6''	1	-1	1	5	50	25.0	0.12	86

$\sigma_1 = 0.024$
 $\sigma_2 = 13 \text{ nm}$

$Y_1 \pm 0.05$
 $Y_2 \pm 25 \text{ nm}$

95%

Bold figures: unimodal and polydisperse (PDI > 0.2) size distributions

Red figures: multimodal and polydisperse size distributions

PDI ≤ 0.2 ⇒ d = z-ave ; PDI > 0.2 ⇒ d = d_{moy}

Effects of parameters

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1X_1 + b_2X_2 + b_3X_3 + b_{12}X_1X_2 + b_{13}X_1X_3 + b_{23}X_2X_3 + b_{123}X_1X_2X_3$$

Effects	b_0	b_1	b_2	b_3	b_{12}	b_{13}	b_{23}	b_{123}
Y_1	0.24	-0.03	0.04	0.00	-0.02	-0.06	0.07	-0.05
Y_2	101	-6	12	0	-15	-11	18	-17

✘ Coefficients determined using ordinary least square regression on 8 design points

$$\sigma_{bi(Y1)} = \frac{\sigma_1}{\sqrt{N}} \sim 0.01$$

$$\sigma_{bi(Y2)} = \frac{\sigma_2}{\sqrt{N}} \sim 4.3$$

$$N = 8$$

$$\Delta b_i = t_{theo} \times \sigma_{b_i}$$

$$\Delta b_{i(Y1)} = 0.02$$

$$\Delta b_{i(Y2)} = 9.5$$

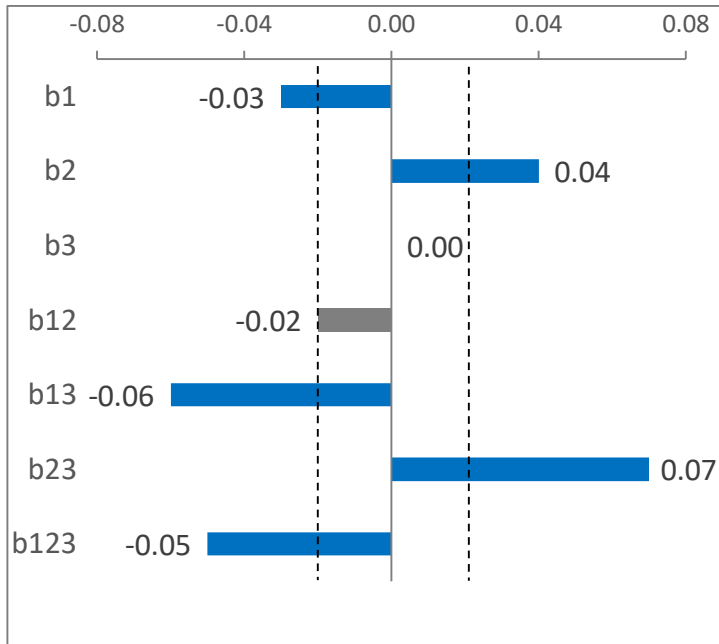
95%

t_{theo} : the theoretical value of the Student t statistic which is equal to 2.22 with a risk of 0.05 and a degree of freedom equal to 10

Analysis of DOE

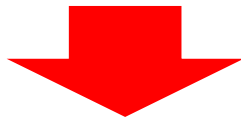
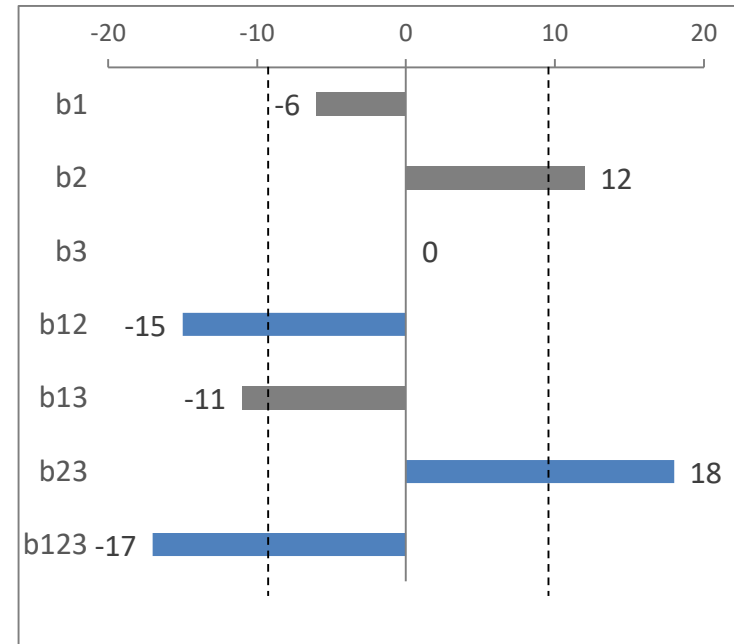
$$\Delta b_{i(Y_1)} = 0.02$$

PDI



$$\Delta b_{i(Y_2)} = 9.5$$

Size



$$\hat{Y}_1 = 0,24 - 0,03X_1 + 0,04 X_2 - 0,06 X_1X_3 + 0,07 X_2X_3 - 0,05 X_1X_2X_3$$

$$\hat{Y}_2 = 101 + 12 X_2 - 15 X_1X_2 - 11 X_1X_3 + 18 X_2X_3 - 17 X_1X_2X_3$$

Analysis of DOE results obtained for PDI

$$\hat{Y}_1 = 0,24 - 0,03X_1 + 0,04 X_2 - 0,06 X_1X_3 + 0,07 X_2X_3 - 0,05 X_1X_2X_3$$

➤ Minimal PDI value

[PHU] = 5g/l
 $V_w = 50$ ml
 [SDS] = 25 mM

	Run	Coded variable			Natural variable			Response	
		X ₁	X ₂	X ₃	[PHU] g/l	V _w ml	[SDS] Mmol/l	Y ₁ (PDI)	Y ₂ (d) nm
Cube edges	1	-1	-1	-1	1	50	0.0	0.28	103
	2	1	-1	-1	5	50	0.0	0.27	110
	3	-1	1	-1	1	150	0.0	0.15	87
	4	1	1	-1	5	150	0.0	0.26	101
	5	-1	-1	1	1	50	25.0	0.15	55
	6	1	-1	1	5	50	25.0	0.10	88
	7	-1	1	1	1	150	25.0	0.52	179
	8	1	1	1	5	150	25.0	0.20	81
Centre points	A	0	0	0	3	100	12.5	0.12	102
	B	0	0	0	3	100	12.5	0.13	86
	C	0	0	0	3	100	12.5	0.13	93
	D	0	0	0	3	100	12.5	0.13	93
Repeated runs	3'	-1	1	-1	1	150	0.0	0.20	88
	3''	-1	1	-1	1	150	0.0	0.25	118
	4'	1	1	-1	5	150	0.0	0.28	137
	4''	1	1	-1	5	150	0.0	0.29	110
	5'	-1	-1	1	1	50	25.0	0.14	55
	6'	1	-1	1	5	50	25.0	0.10	90
	6''	1	-1	1	5	50	25.0	0.12	86



Analysis of DOE results obtained for the diameter

$$\hat{Y}_2 = 101 + 12 X_2 - 15 X_1 X_2 - 11 X_1 X_3 + 18 X_2 X_3 - 17 X_1 X_2 X_3$$

➤ Minimal diameter (55 nm)

[PHU] = 1g/l
 $V_w = 50$ ml
[SDS] = 25mM

Run	X_1	X_2	X_3	[PHU]	V_w	[SDS]	PDI	Z-avr
5	-1	-1	1	1	50	25.0	0.15	55



Predictive performance of the models

➤ Calculated centre points $\hat{Y}_1 = 0.24$ $\hat{Y}_2 = 101$ nm

➤ Experimental centre points

	Run	Coded variable			Natural variable			Response	
		X ₁	X ₂	X ₃	[PHU] g/l	V _w ml	[SDS] Mmol/ l	Y ₁ (PDI)	Y ₂ (d) nm
Centre points	A	0	0	0	3	100	12.5	0.12	102
	B	0	0	0	3	100	12.5	0.13	86
	C	0	0	0	3	100	12.5	0.13	93
	D	0	0	0	3	100	12.5	0.13	93
Mean value								0.13	94

➔ $\varepsilon_0(Y_1) = |\hat{Y}_0 - Y_0| = 0.11 > 0.05$

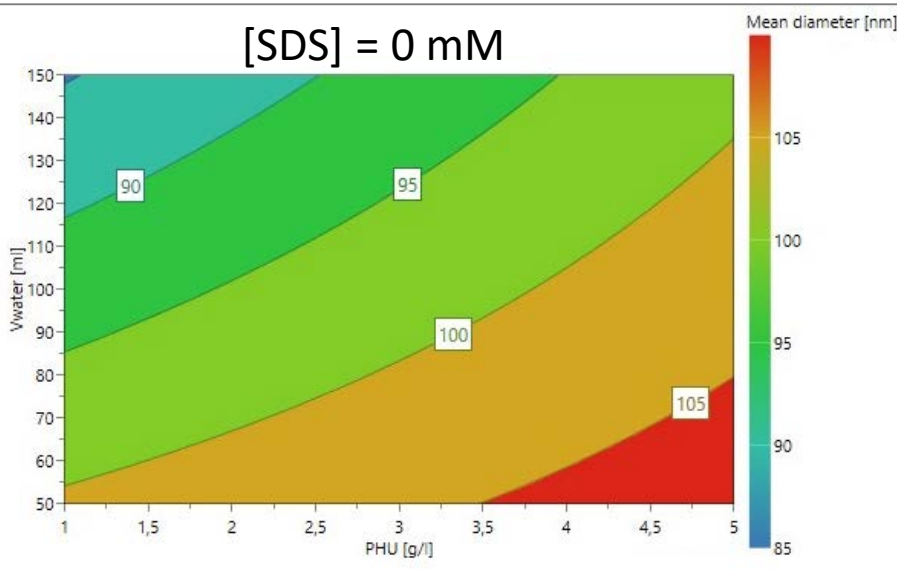
$\varepsilon_0(Y_2) = |\hat{Y}_0 - Y_0| = 7 \text{ nm} < 25 \text{ nm}$

➤ ANOVA (p-value < 0.05) ; R²-adjusted coefficient ≈ 0.92

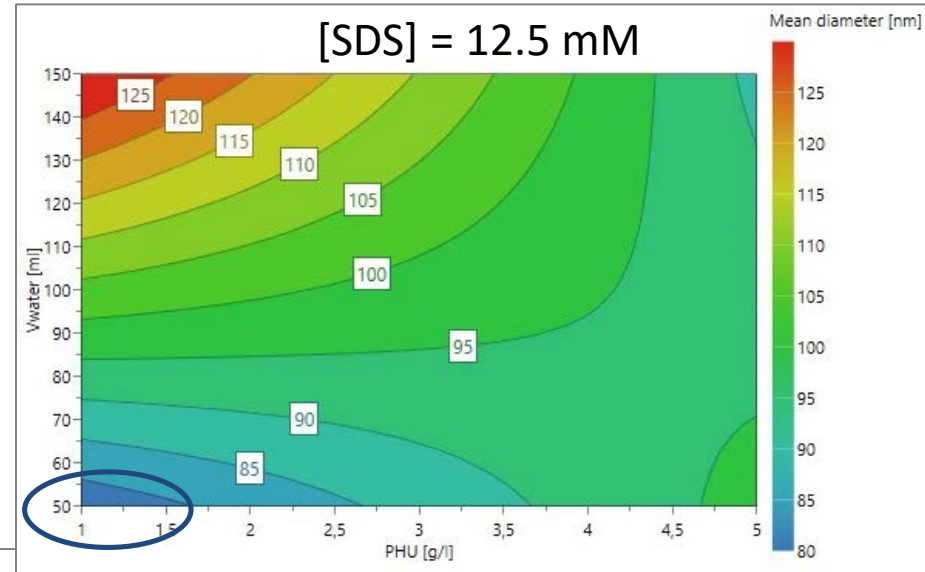
➔ \hat{Y}_2 for prediction purpose in the whole experimental domain

Response surfaces

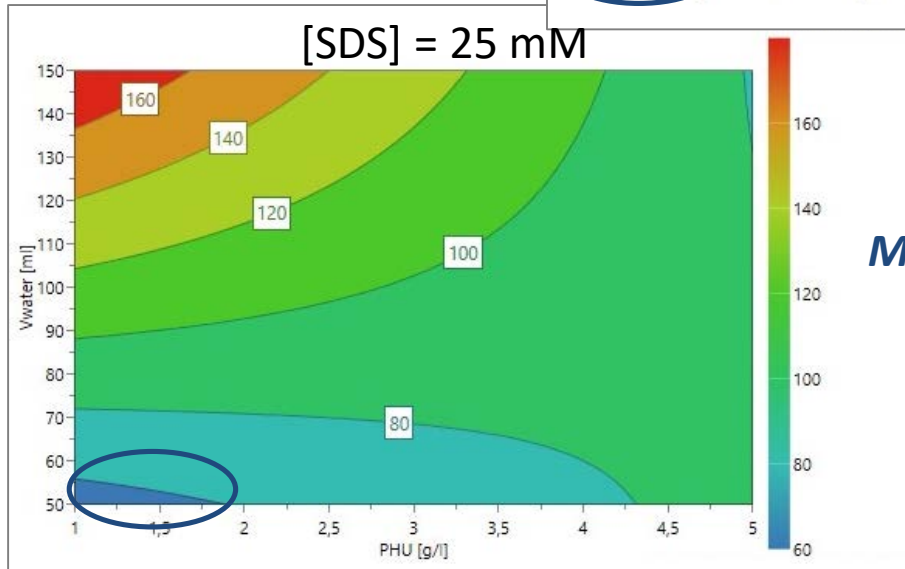
[SDS] = 0 mM



[SDS] = 12.5 mM



[SDS] = 25 mM



Minimal diameter = 75 - 80 nm

Influence of SDS and PHU amounts

[SDS] = 25 mM

Run	Coded variable			Natural variable			Response	
	X ₁	X ₂	X ₃	[PHU] g/l	V _w ml	[SDS] Mmol/	Y ₁ (PDI)	Y ₂ (d) nm
7	1	1	1	1	150	25.0	0.52	179
8	1	1	1	5	150	25.0	0.20	81

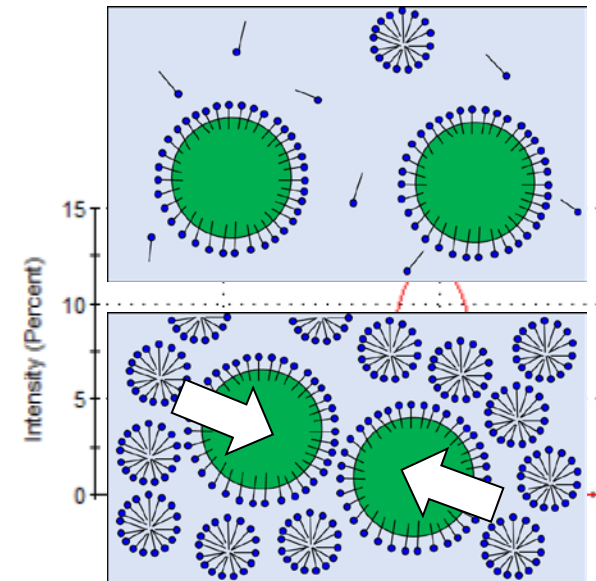
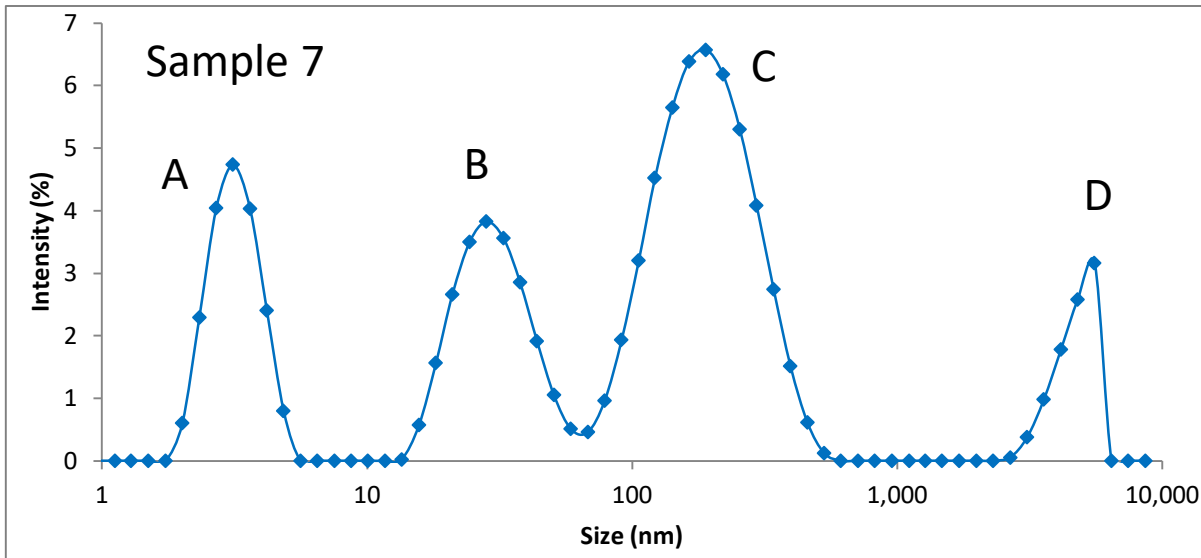
$$\hat{Y}_2 = 101 + 12 X_2 - 15 X_1 X_2 - 11 X_1 X_3 + 18 X_2 X_3 - 17 X_1 X_2 X_3$$

$$A_{tot} = \frac{6 \times m}{d \times \rho}$$

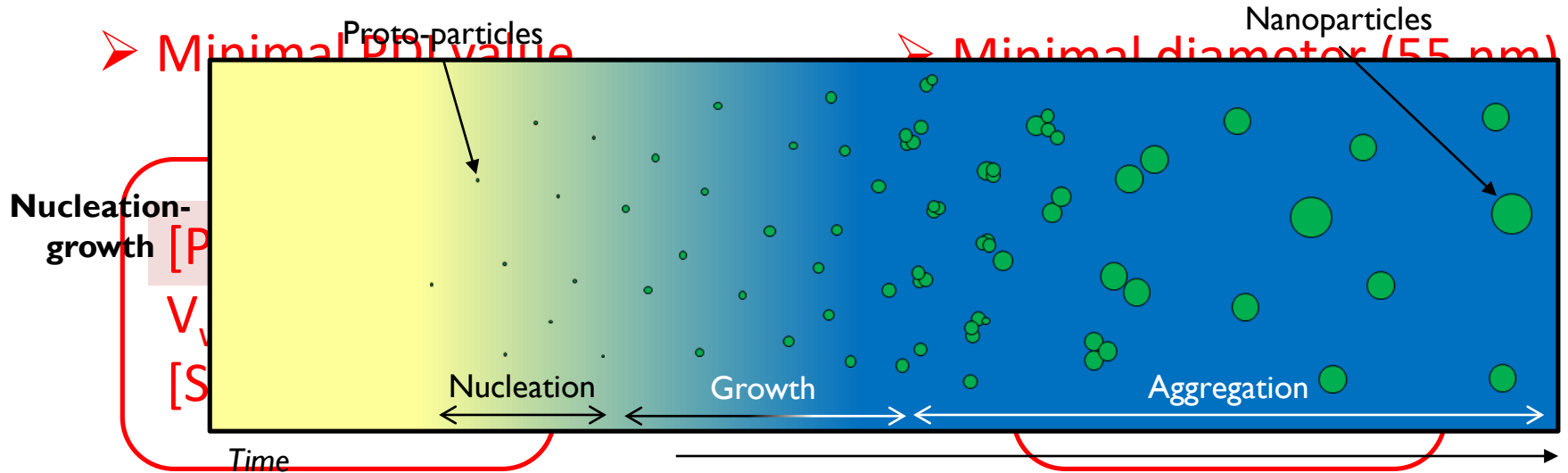
$$A_{tot} = N_{part} \times A_{part}$$

$$A_{part} = \pi \times d^2$$

$$N_{part} = \frac{V_{tot}}{V_{part}} = \frac{6 \times m}{\pi \times d^3 \times \rho}$$



PHU Concentration



Numerous PHU nanoparticles

↓ Viscosity of the organic phase

↓ Destabilizing effect of micelles

↓ Protoparticle growth time

↓ PDI

↓ diameter

Conclusion

- poly(hydroxy)urethane nanoparticle by nanoprecipitation
 - ✓ Optimized
- Most influent parameters
 - ✓ identified
- Experimental conditions for Minimal diameter and PDI values
 - ✓ identified
 - [PHU] = 5g/l
 $V_w = 50$ ml
[SDS] = 25 mM
 - [PHU] = 1g/l
 $V_w = 50$ ml
[SDS] = 25 mM
- ✓ Good predictive performance for \hat{Y}_2 model
- Presence of SDS mandatory but micelles destabilizing effect

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION