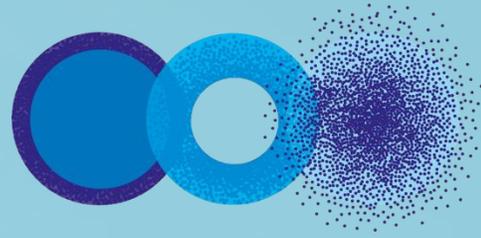




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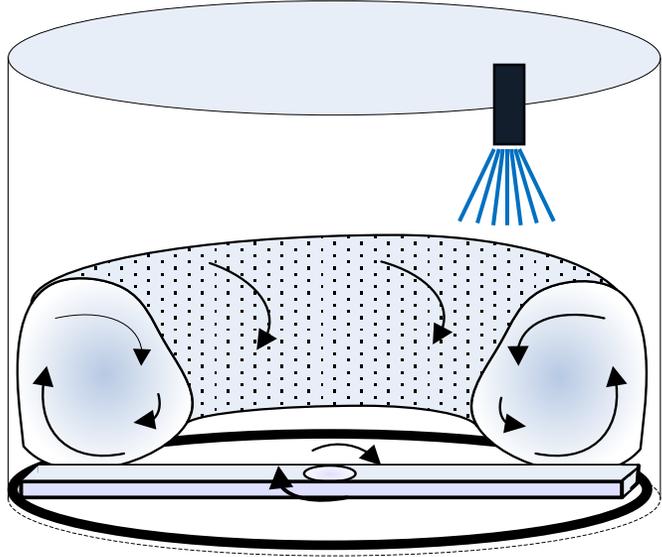
# Model Driven Design of Formulated Products

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Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering,  
The University of Sheffield

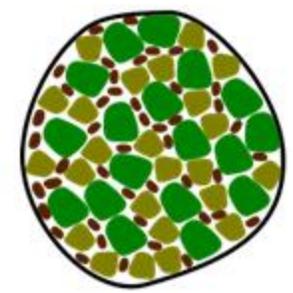
A WORLD  
TOP 100  
UNIVERSITY

# Process-product relationship in disintegration of granules

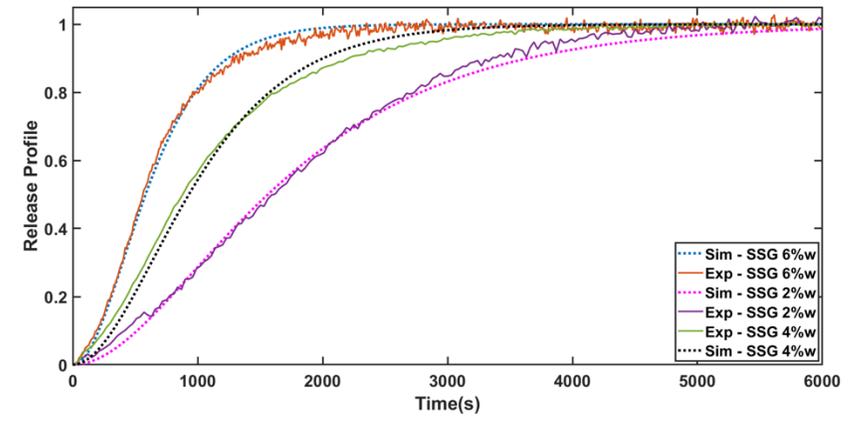
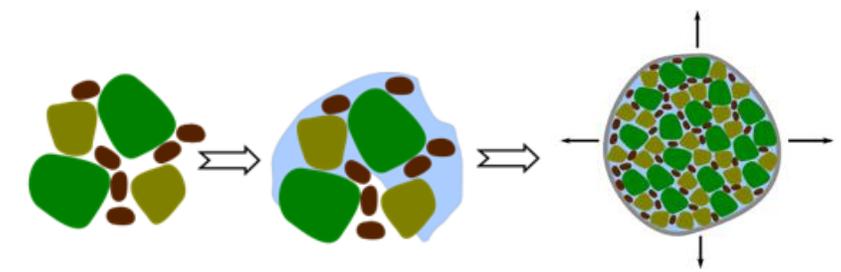
High Shear Wet Granulation Process Model



Product Properties

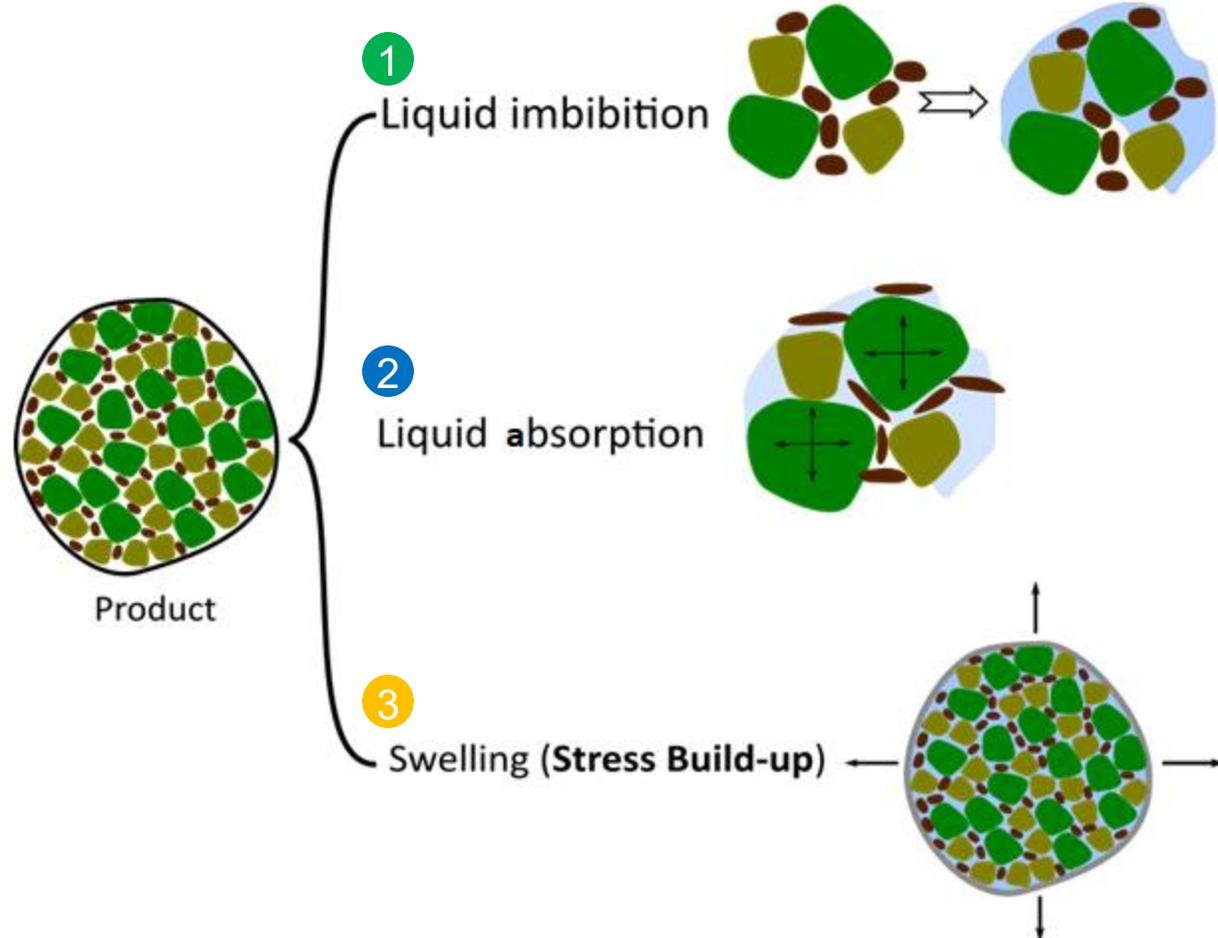


Granule Disintegration Model



Inverse Problem

# Single Granule Swelling Mechanisms



1 Liquid penetration rate at granule's surface based on Darcy's law

$$\left(\frac{dV_l}{dt}\right)_{sin} = 4\pi R^2 \frac{k_{per}}{\eta} \lim_{r \rightarrow R} \frac{\partial P_c}{\partial r} - \underbrace{\sum n_{p,i} \frac{dV_{p,i}}{dt}}_{\text{Total liquid absorbance by the solid phase}}$$

$V_l = \varepsilon S V$

Total liquid absorbance by the solid phase

2

$$\left(\frac{dV_{s,i}}{dt}\right)_{sin} = n_{p,i} \frac{dV_{p,i}}{dt} \rightarrow \text{liquid absorbance by } i^{\text{th}} \text{ component in the solid phase}$$

$$\sum V_{s,i} = (1 - \varepsilon)V = \sum n_{p,i} V_{p,i} + V_{binder}$$

3

$$\frac{\varepsilon - \varepsilon_0}{\Delta \varepsilon_\infty} = 1 - (1 - \hat{m}_s)^\beta \rightarrow \text{Dependency of porosity on mass absorption ratios of solid phase}$$

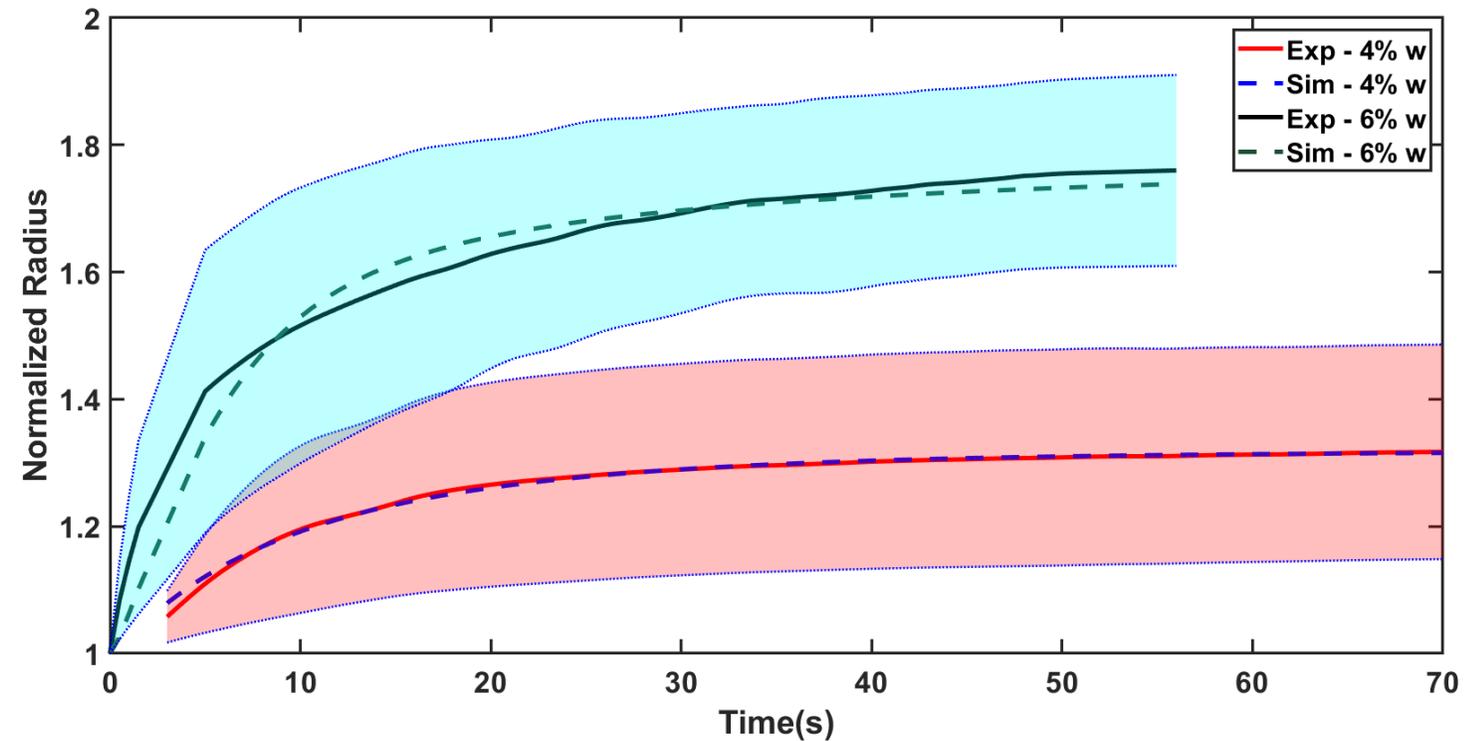
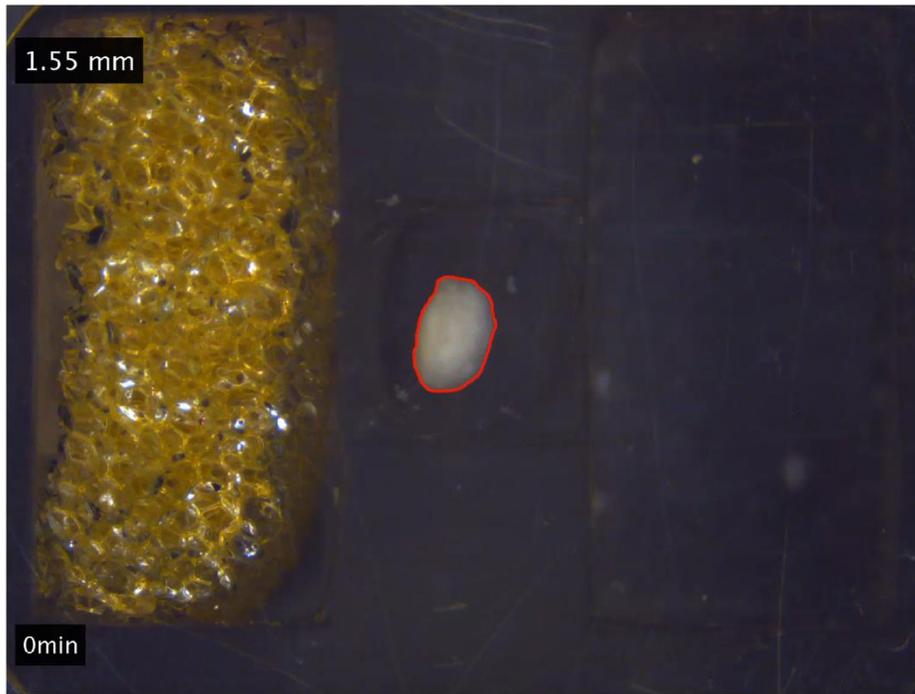
$$\hat{m}_s = \frac{\sum w_i Q_i^{abs} - 1}{\sum w_i Q_i^{max} - 1}$$

$$Q_i = \frac{\rho_l}{\rho_{s,i}} \frac{V_{p,i}}{V_{p,i}(0)} - \frac{\rho_l}{\rho_{s,i}} + 1$$

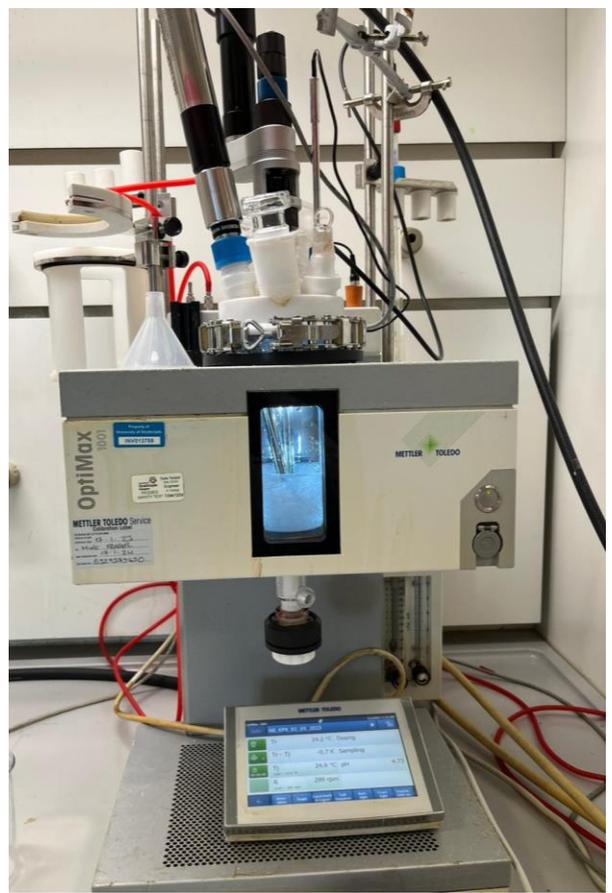
$t$ : time,  $R$ : granule radius,  $\varepsilon$ : porosity,  $S$ : saturation,  $V$ : volume,  $V_l$ : volume of liquid in granule,  $k_{per}$ : permeability,  $P_c$ : capillary pressure,  $n_{p,i}$ : number of  $i^{\text{th}}$  component in the solid  
 $V_{p,i}$ : volume of a single  $i^{\text{th}}$  component particle,  $V_{s,i}$ : volume of  $i^{\text{th}}$  component in the granule,  $V_{binder}$ : volume of the binder in the granule,  $x_{v,i}$ : volume fraction of  $i^{\text{th}}$  component in the solid  
 $Q_i$ : mass absorption of  $i^{\text{th}}$  component,  $\Gamma_i$ : porosity factor of  $i^{\text{th}}$  component,  $\varepsilon_0$ : initial porosity,  $\Delta \varepsilon_\infty$ : porosity difference at infinite,  $\rho_{s,i}$ : density of  $i^{\text{th}}$  component,  $\hat{m}_s$ : normalized liquid uptake  
 $w_i$ : mass fraction of components,  $\rho_l$ : fluid density,  $V_{p,i}(0)$ : initial volume of a single  $i^{\text{th}}$  component particle

# Granule swelling characterisation – flow cell

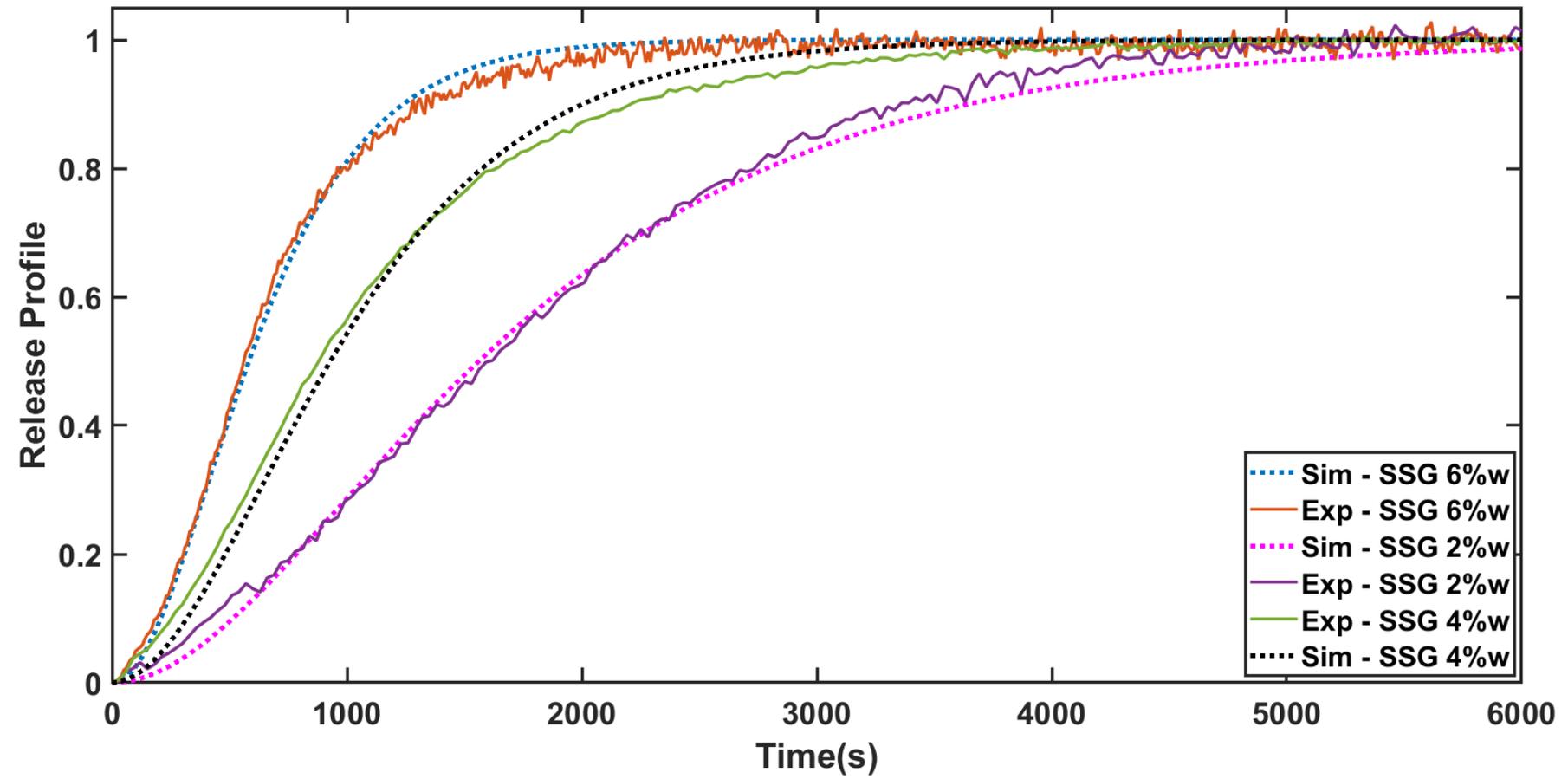
- Granule Size = 1- 1.4 mm
- SSG = 0 % , L/S =1, HPMC Conc = 12.5%



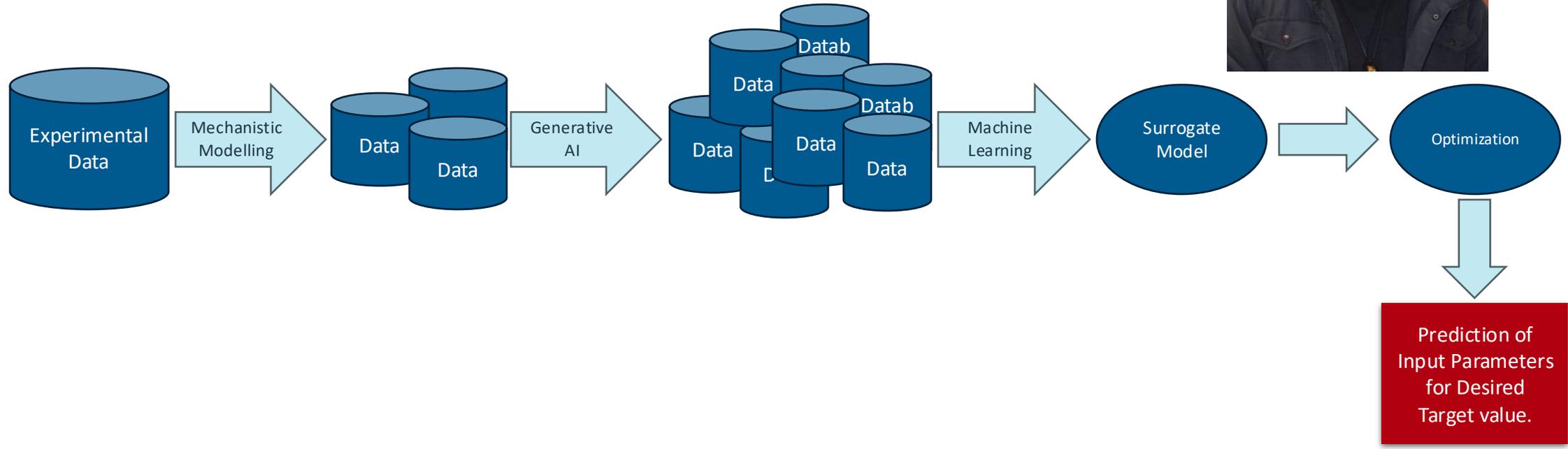
# Parameter estimation and validation



Release profile of MCC granules



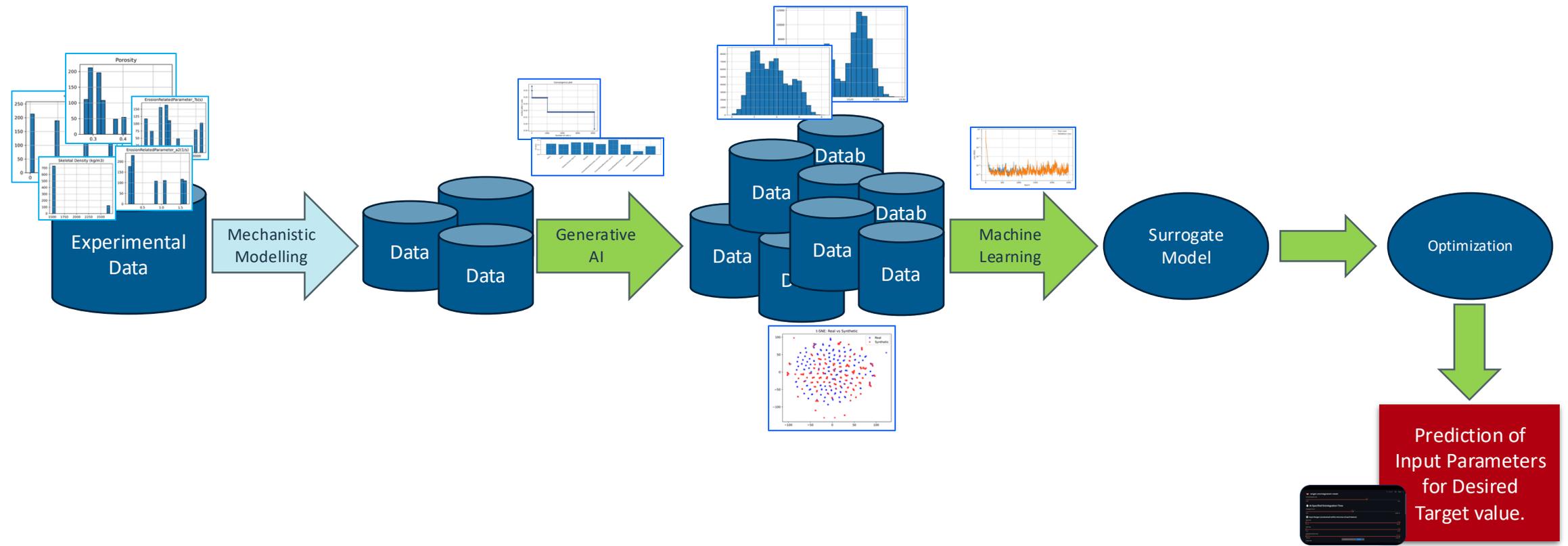
# Project overview



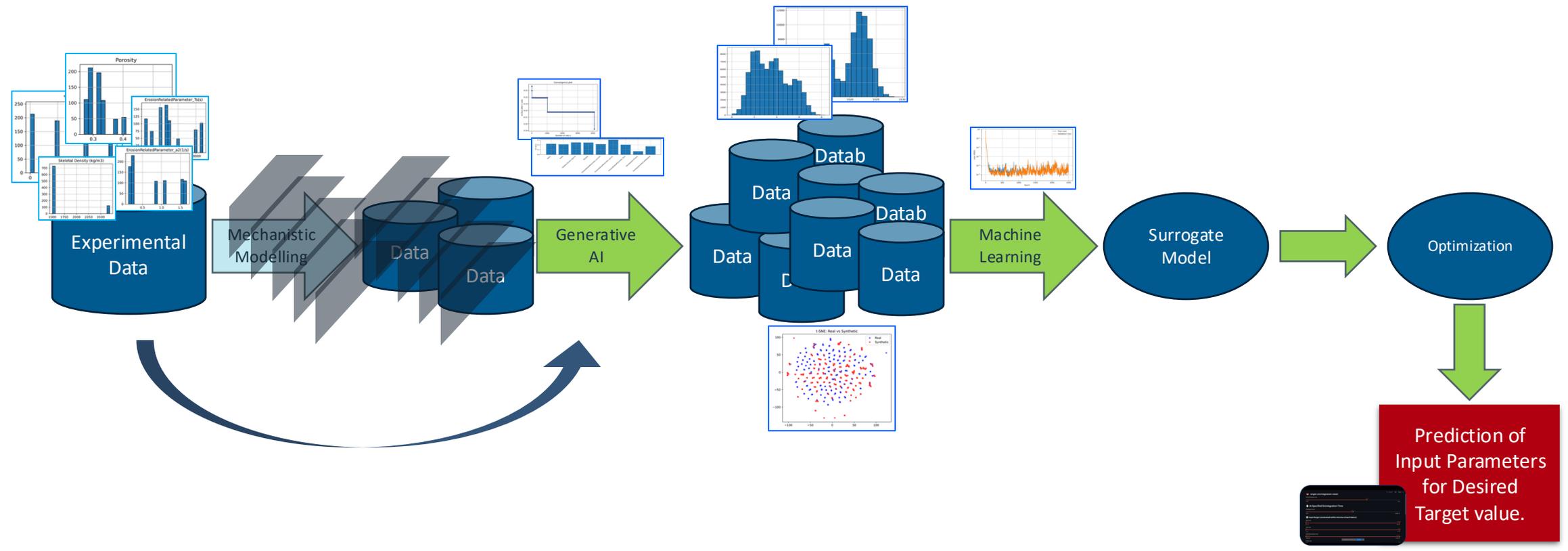
## Planned Workflow

Step	Process	Mathematical Representation
1	Experimental data	$\mathcal{D}_{exp} = \{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$
2	Mechanistic Model interpolation	$\widehat{y}_{mech} = f_{mech}(x; \Phi)$
3	Generative AI to expand data	$\tilde{x} = G(z; \theta_G)$
4	ML model trained on expanded data	$\widehat{y}_{ML} = f_{ML}(x; \theta_{ML})$
5	Optimization using surrogate model	$\hat{x} = \arg \min_x \mathcal{L}(f_{ML}(x), y_{target})$

# Recent Progress

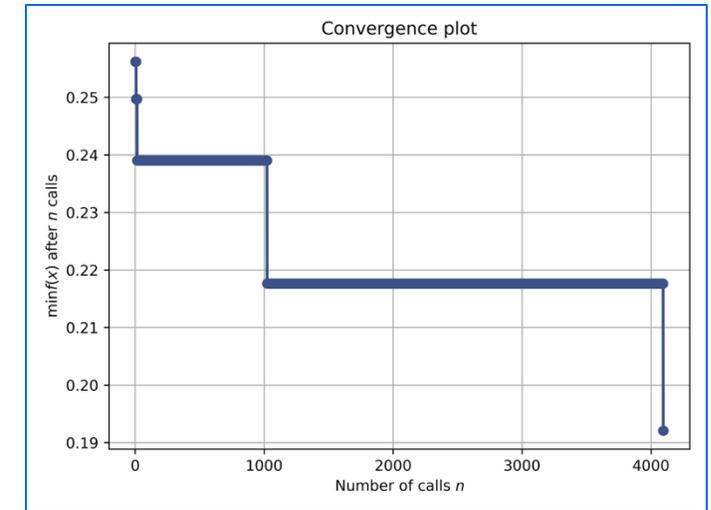


# Recent Progress

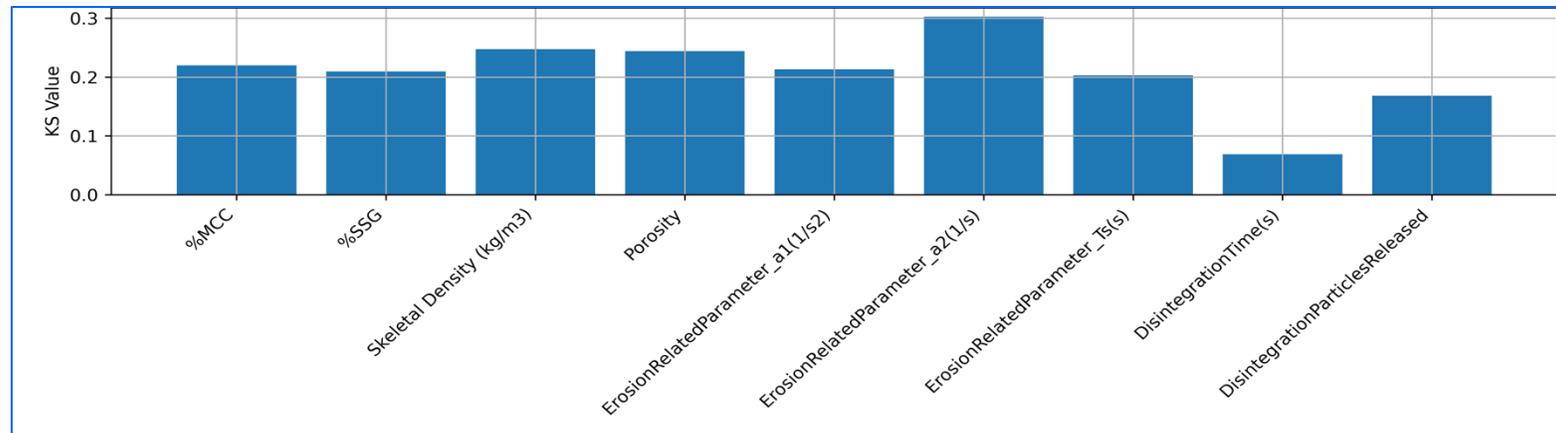


## Preliminary Data Generation

- Generative Adversarial Network (GAN) have been trained for data generation.
- The Kolmogorov-Smirnov (KS) value of 0.19205 which shows moderate alignment between the real and generated data.
- To have a valid generated data, KS test must be  $< 0.2$ .



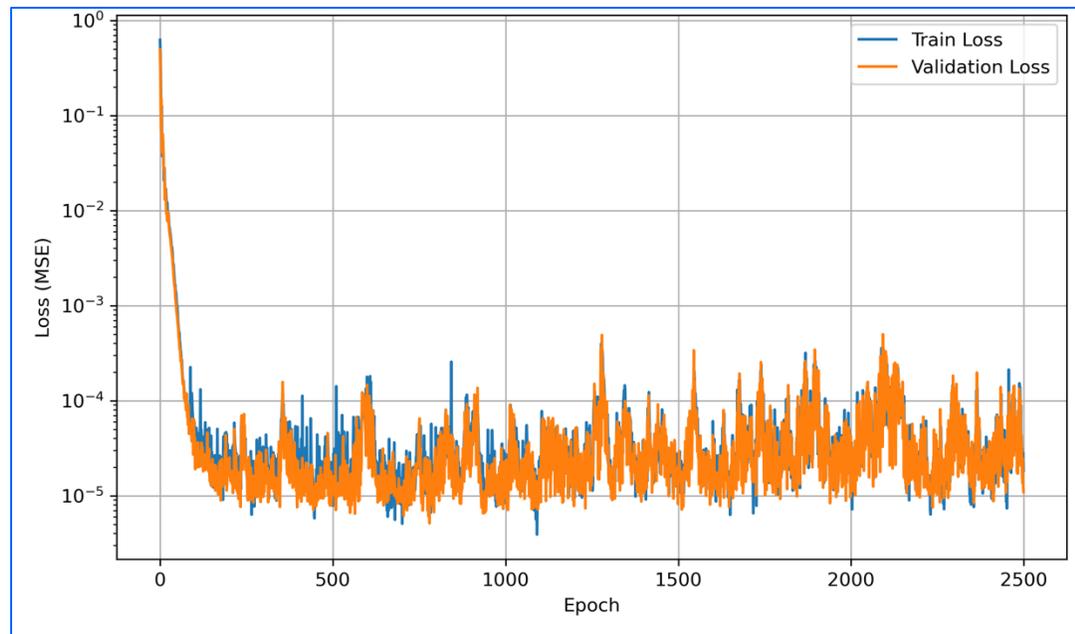
Average KS per iterations



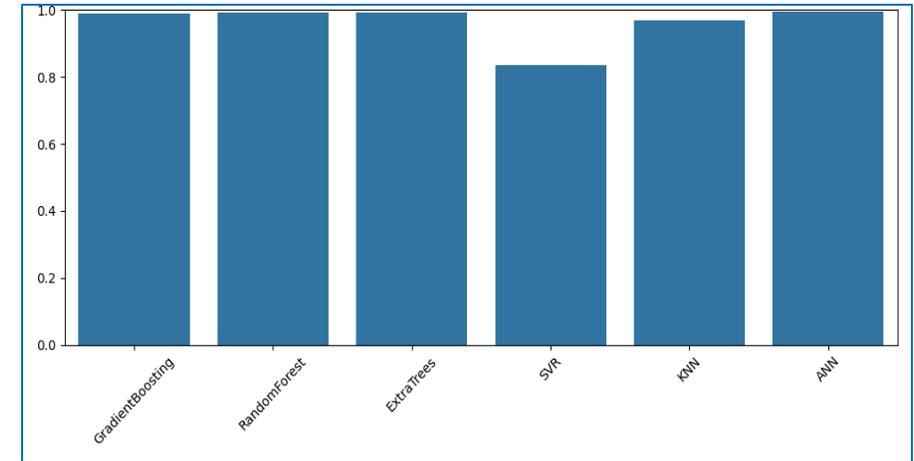
KS values per features

## Training Forward Models for Predicting Disintegration profiles

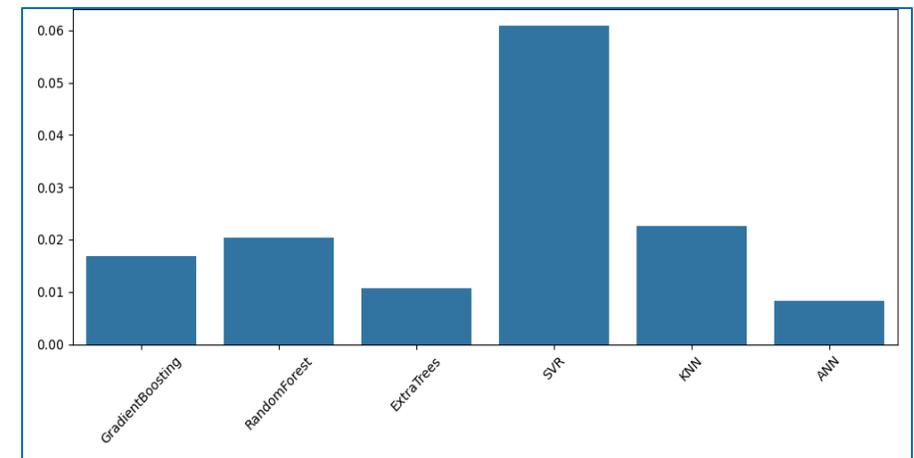
- Different ML based models have been trained to predict disintegration profile.
- Artificial Neural Network found to be the best model.
- MSE between  $10^{-4}$  –  $10^{-5}$  for validation loss of predicting disintegration value.



Train and validation loss curves for optimized ANN model



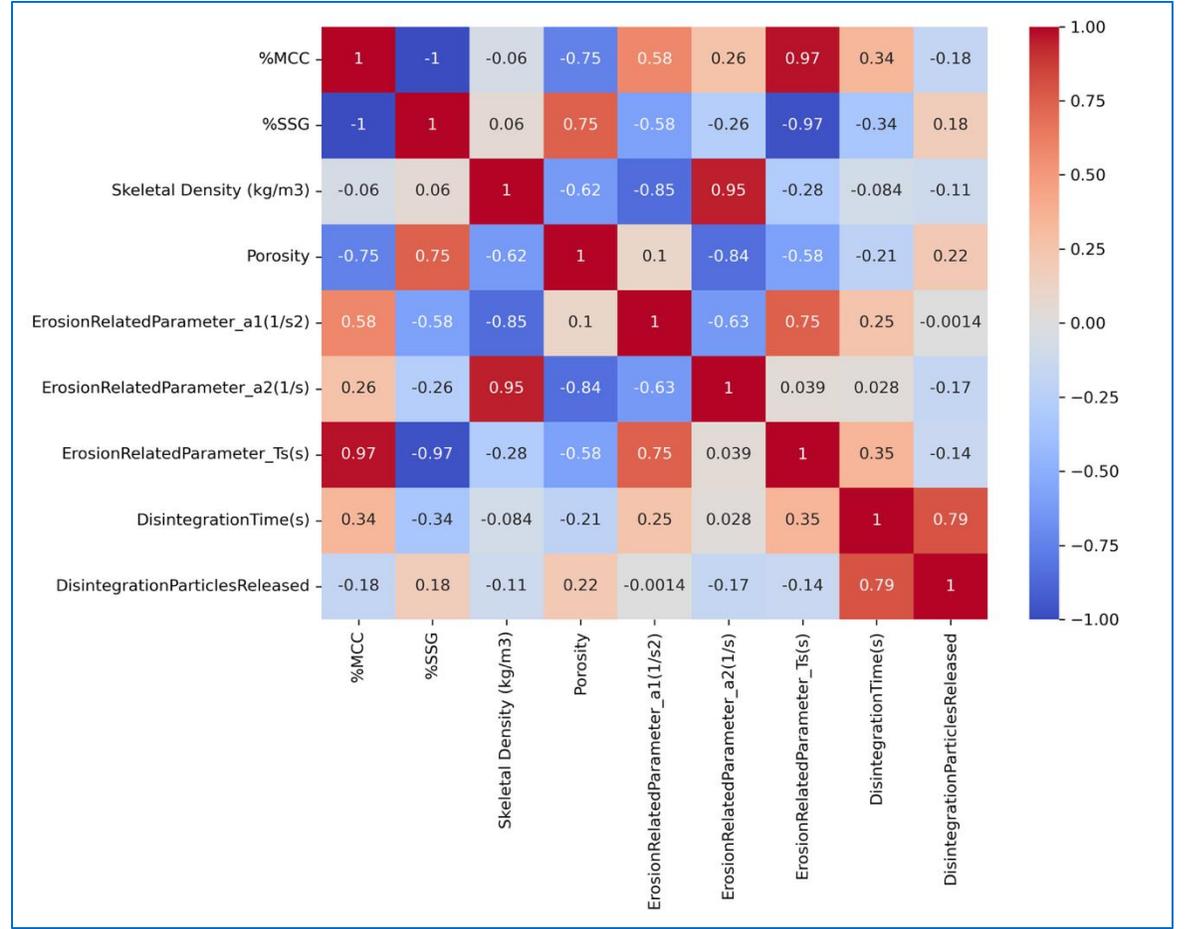
R<sup>2</sup> values for trained models



MSE values for trained models

## Data Analysis

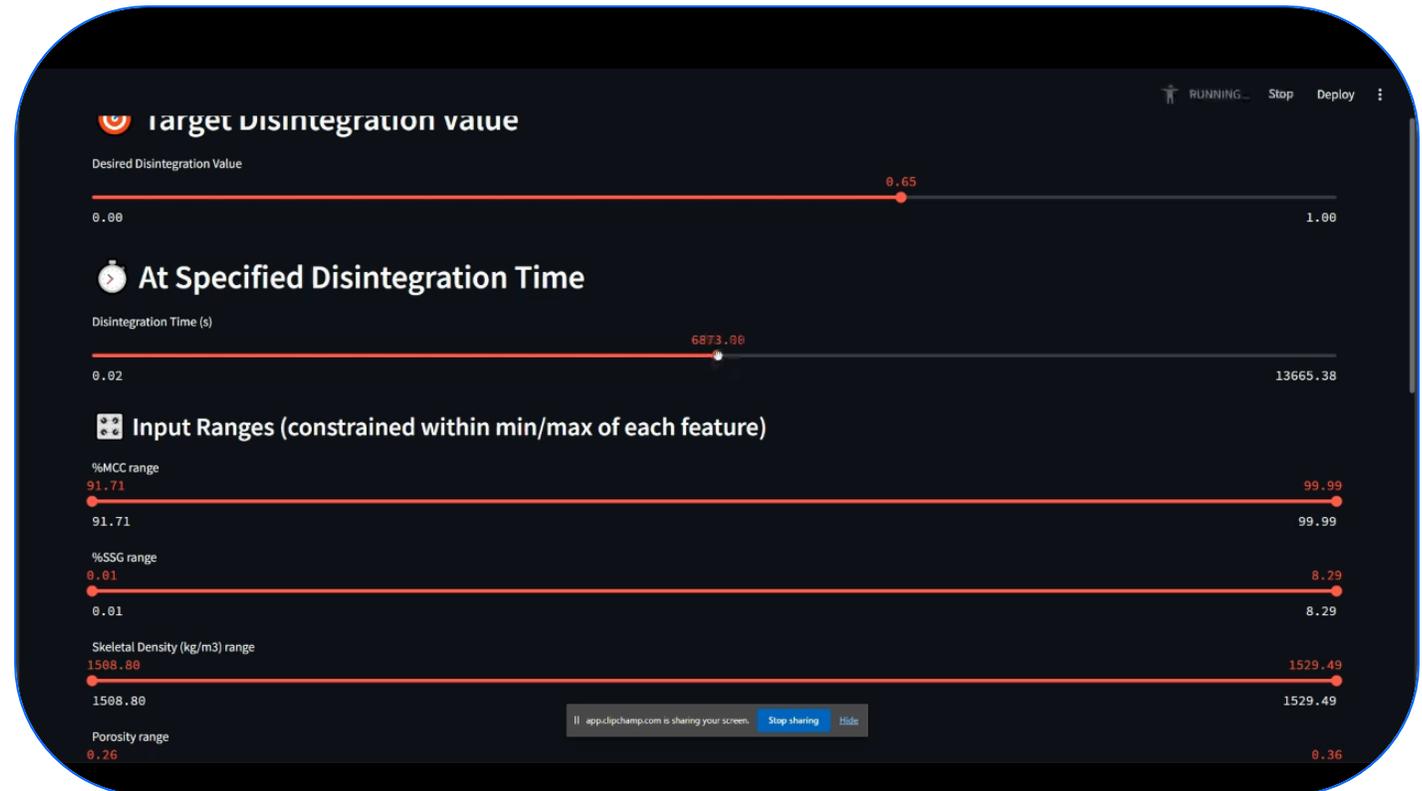
- Good correlation of disintegration value with Porosity of granules.
- Erosion Parameters ( $a_2(1/s)$ ,  $T_s(s)$ ) are effective parameters in modelling.
- %SSG is a valuable parameter for better disintegration but less than Porosity



Correlation matrix of the properties included in the dataset

## Preliminary Inverse Modelling

- Inverse Modelling is done with the generated data.
- Bayesian Optimization (global optimization) used to predict manufacturing parameters to have desired disintegration value at a specific time.
- User Interface (UI) made for practical usage.
- User can also select the accuracy threshold to get answer in case of non-realistic selection of the disintegration rate.
- Disintegration profiles is plotted for the detected granules.

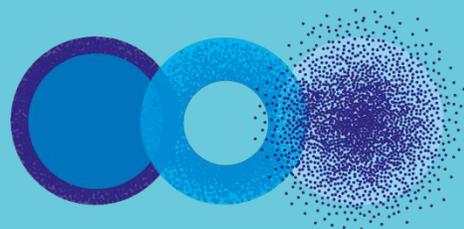


## Summary

- A hybrid framework combining experimental data, generative AI, and machine learning was developed for inverse formulation design.
- GAN was used to generate realistic synthetic data (e.g. porosity, skeletal density), expanding the dataset beyond original measurements.
- A trained ANN achieved high accuracy in predicting disintegration profiles, with validation MSE between  $10^{-4}$  and  $10^{-5}$ .
- Bayesian Optimization was integrated into a custom-built user interface to identify optimal input features that achieve user-defined disintegration targets.

## Planned Further Work

- Integration of mechanistic modelling for expanding the data space.
- Improving models to get high quality data from Generative AI or mechanistic modelling.
- Using Variational Auto Encoders, as another inverse modelling approach to compare with the existing optimization method.
- Validating the inverse modelling approaches by testing the results within lab and update the approaches to reduce the potential errors of the process.
- Generalizing and including the whole processes within the UI, so that researchers from different labs could be able to use it and reduce the test and trials.



# Thank you!

## Special thanks to:

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