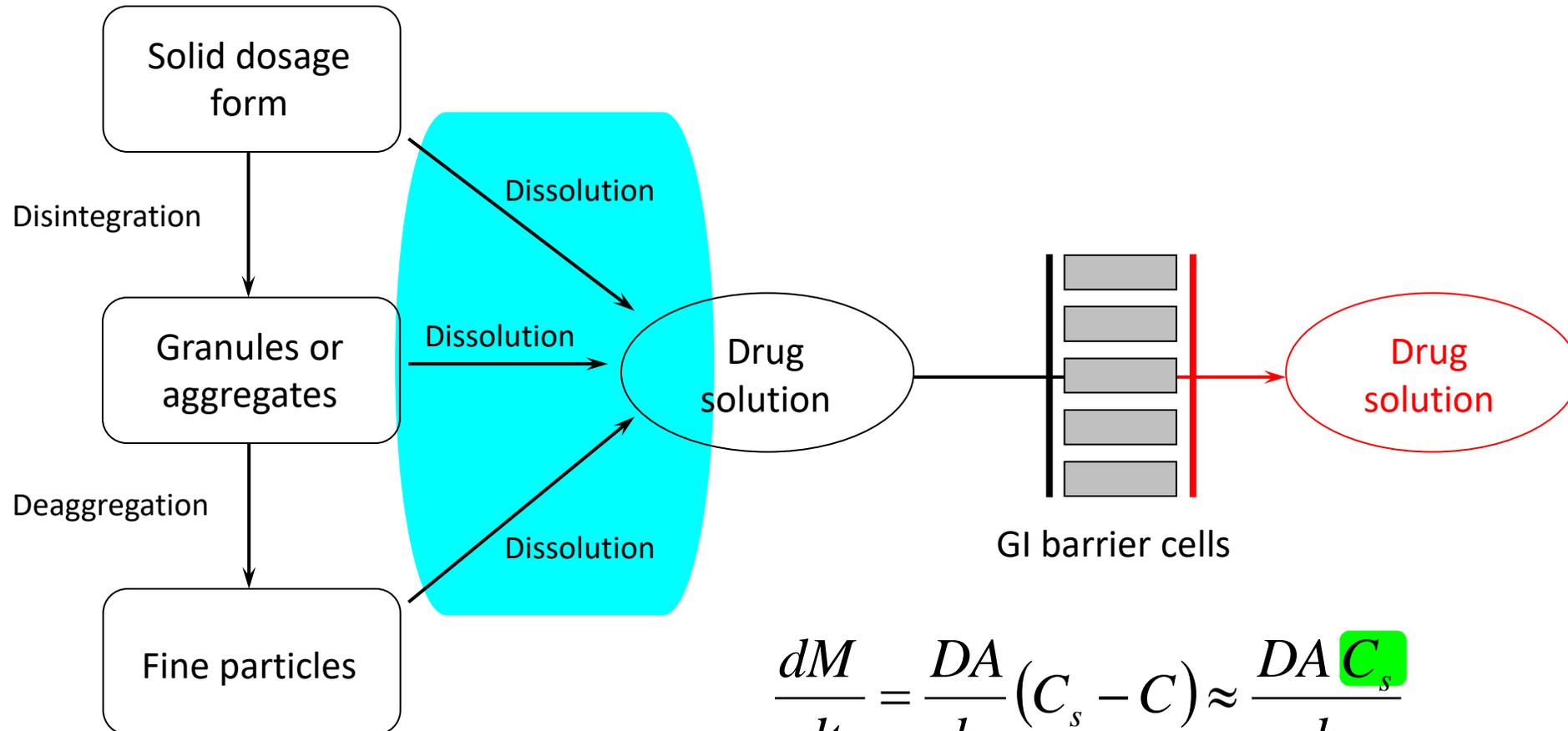


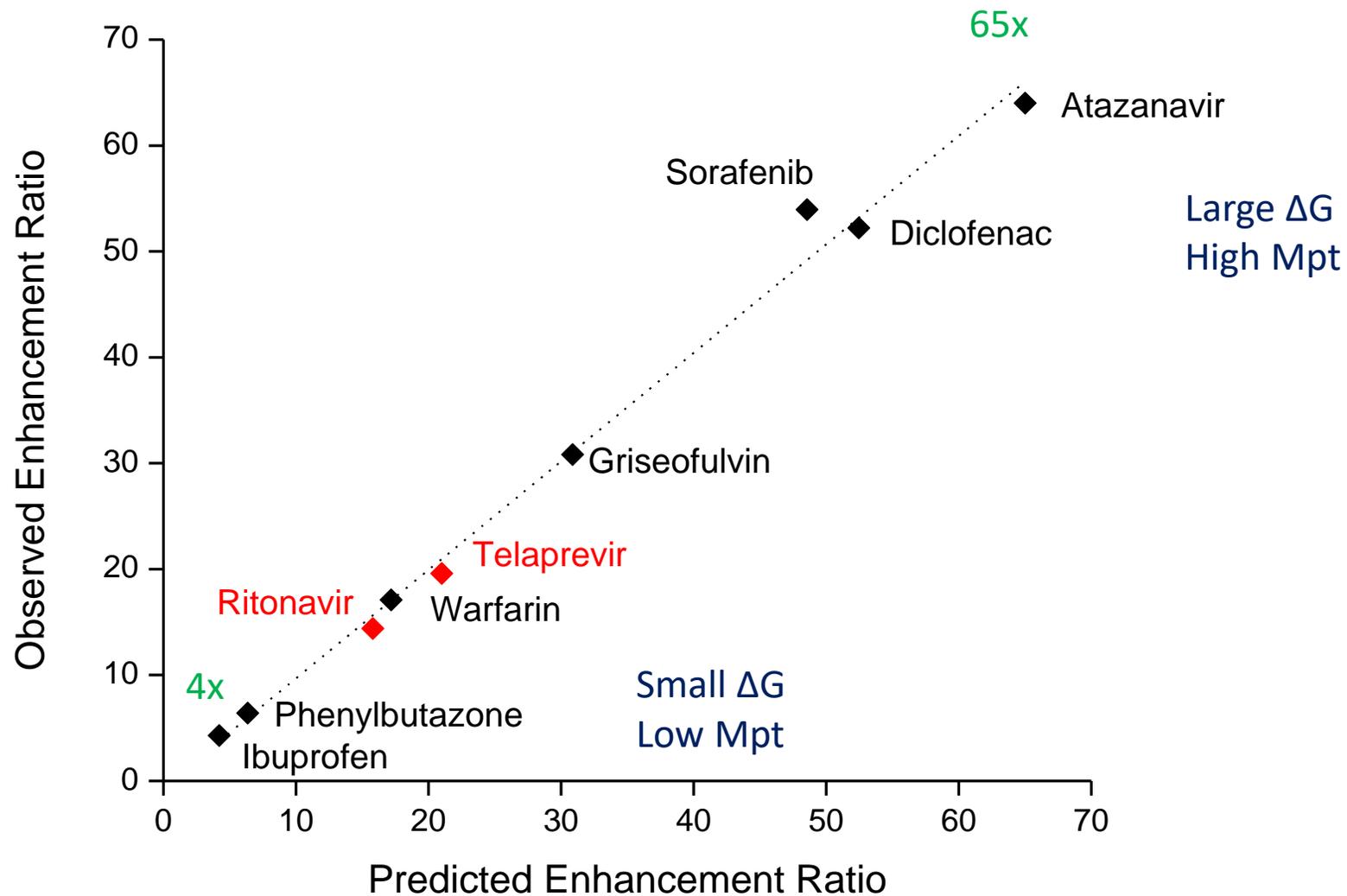
# Release Mechanisms of Amorphous Solid Dispersions

Lynne S. Taylor  
Purdue University

# Solubility → Dissolution → Absorption

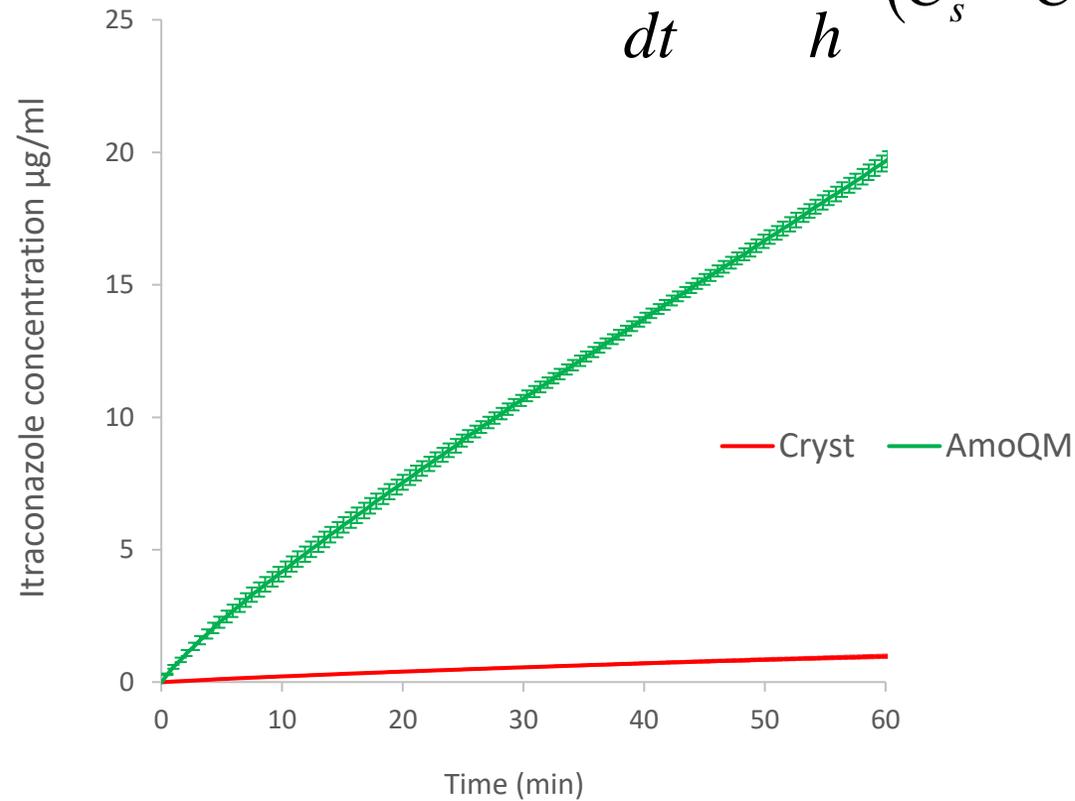


# Amorphous:Crystalline Solubility Ratios



# Amorphous Form has a Faster Dissolution Rate than Crystal

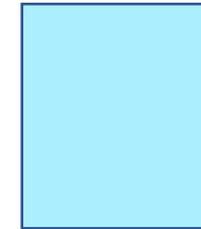
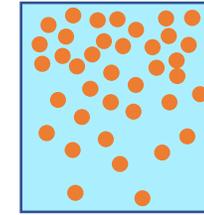
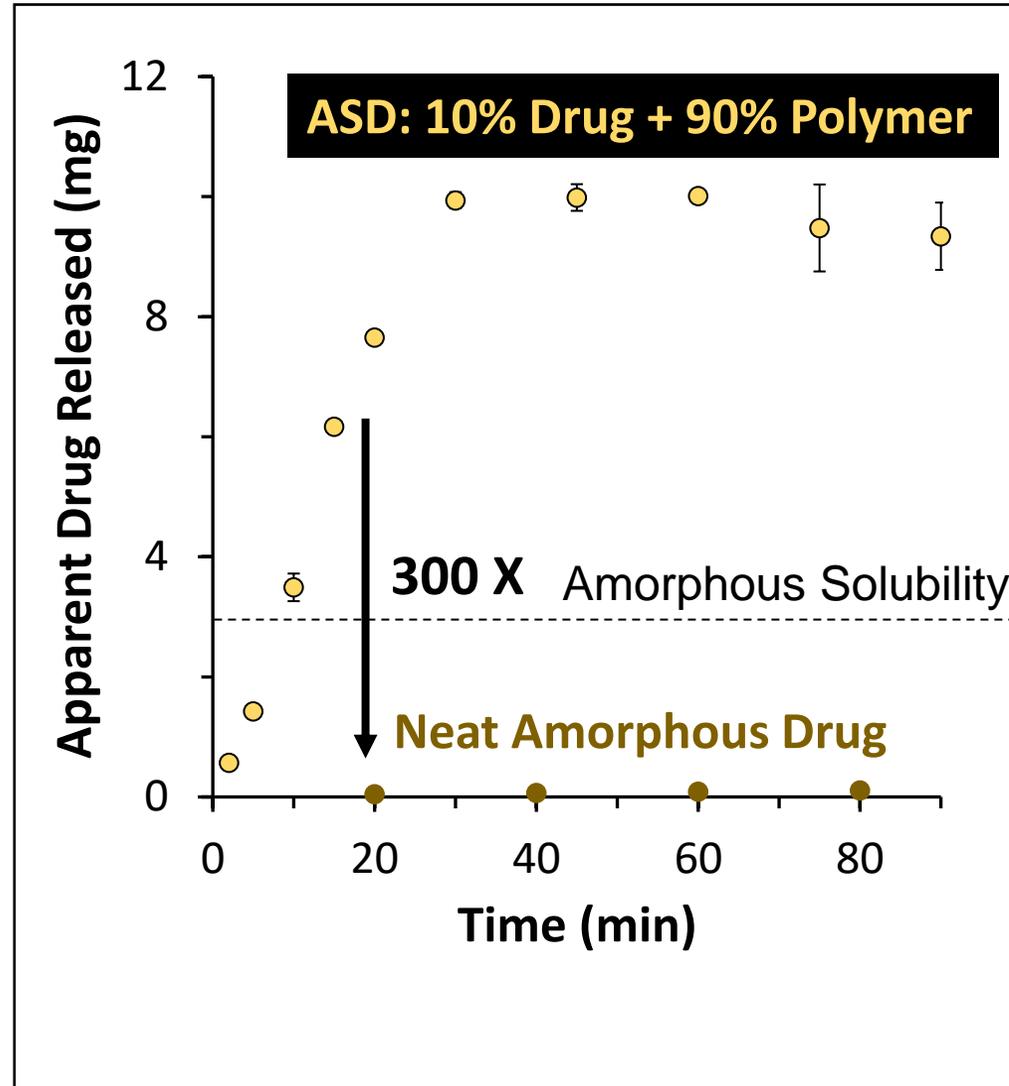
$$\frac{dM}{dt} = \frac{DA}{h} (C_s - C) \approx \frac{DA C_s}{h}$$



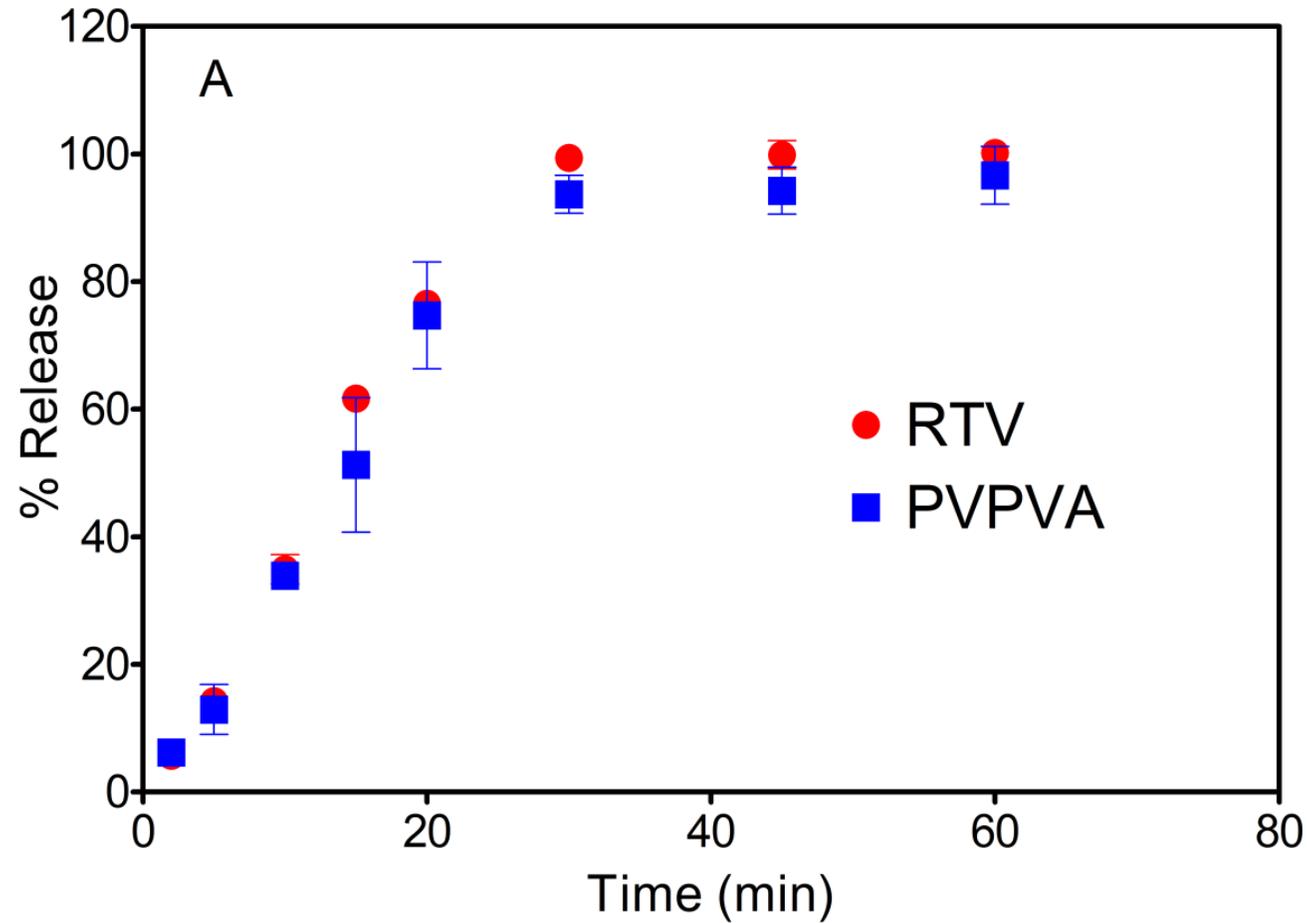
# Amorphous Solid Dispersion Release Drug Faster than Neat Amorphous Drug

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = \frac{DA}{h} (C_s - C) \approx \frac{DA}{h} C_s$$

X



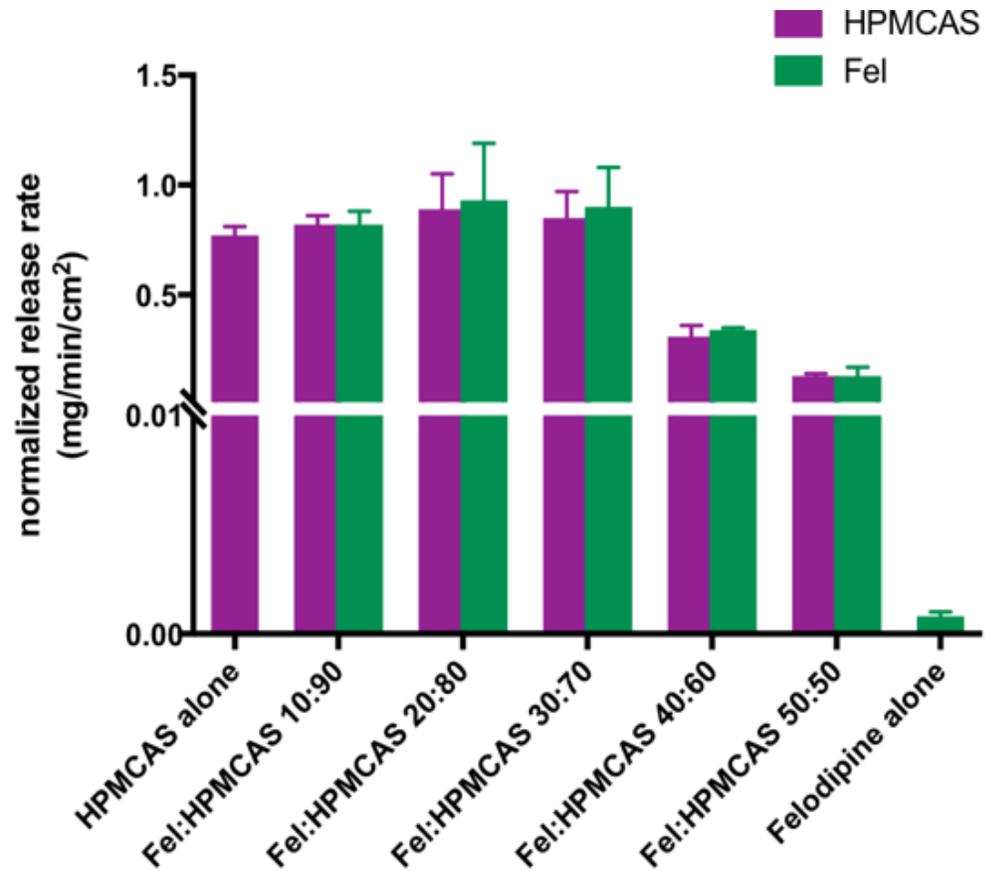
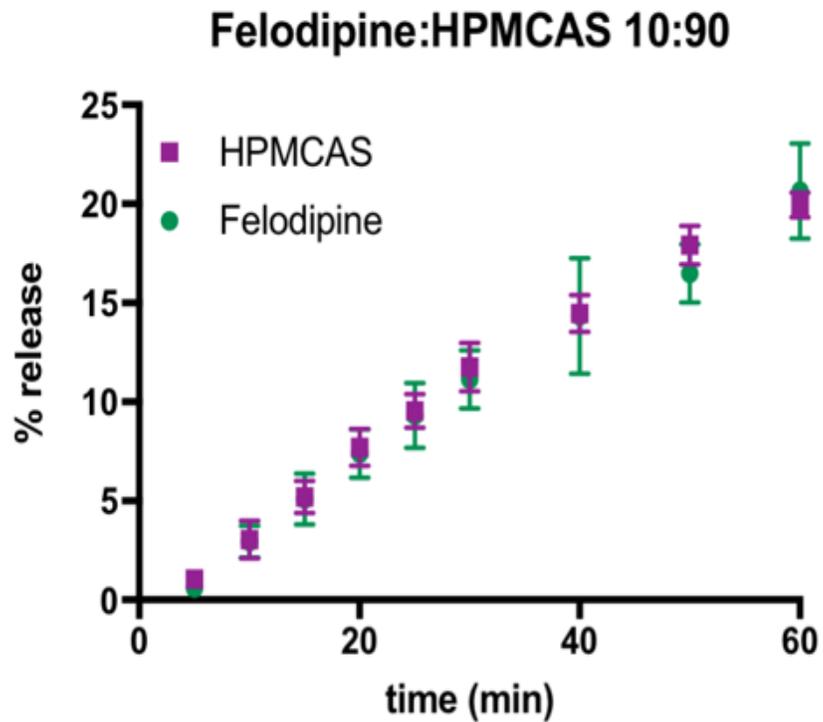
# Comparison of Drug and Polymer Release Rates (10% DL)- Drug Release is Controlled by Polymer



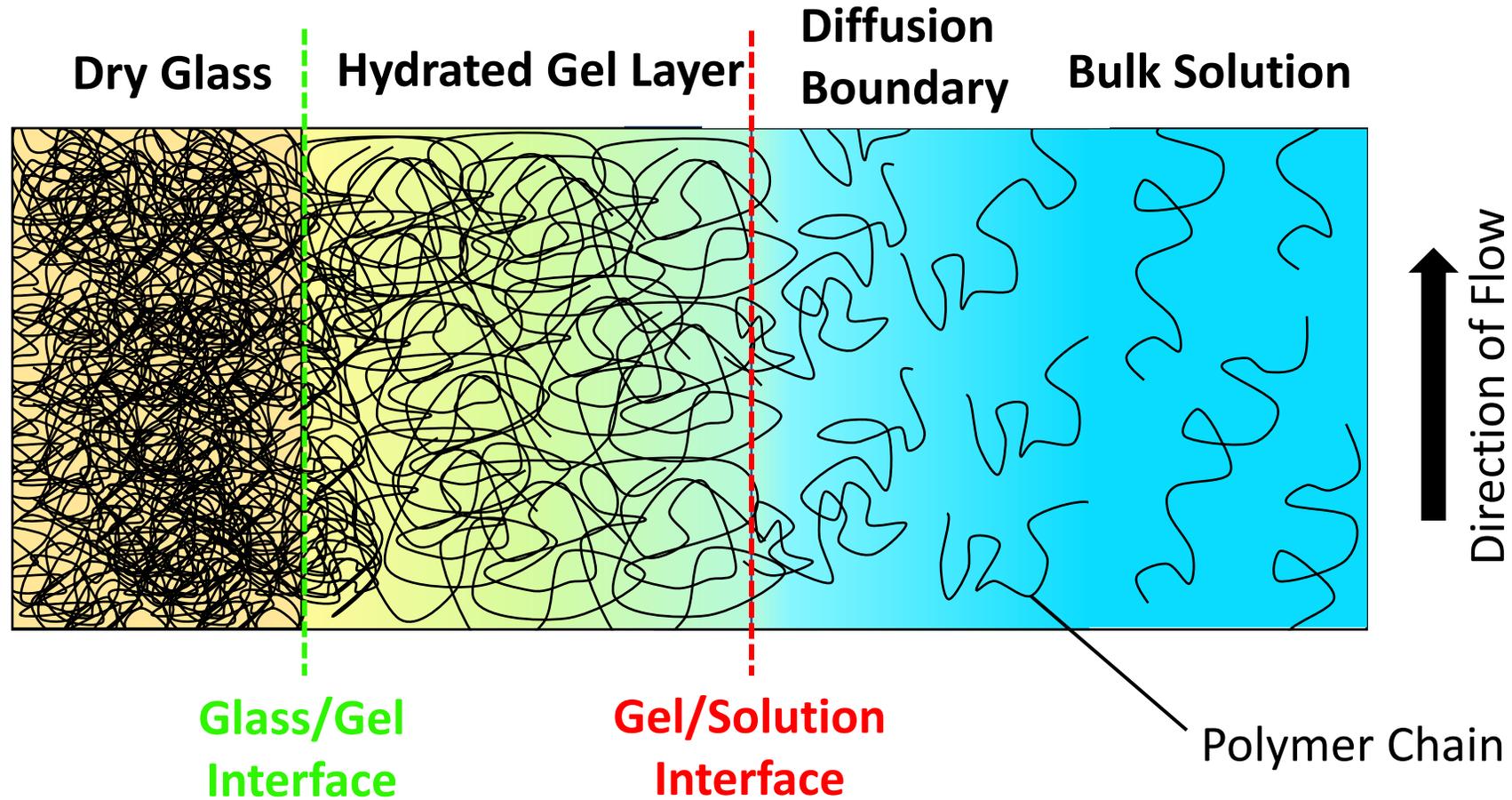
Congruent release

10% drug loading

# Similar Observation for HPMCAS-Based ASDs

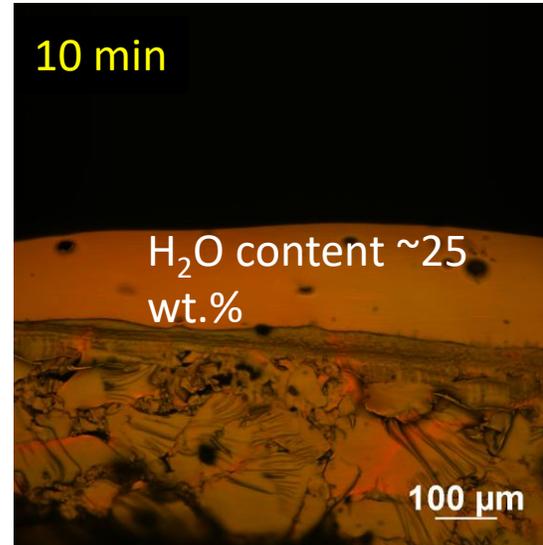
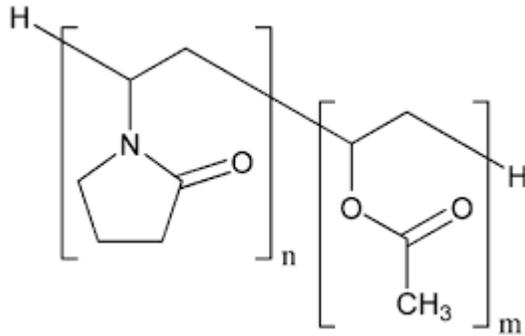


# Neutral Polymer Dissolution Overview



Gel Layer = High viscosity region; Polymer diffusion  $\lll$  water diffusion

# Copovidone



Gel

Glass

## Overview

T<sub>g</sub> ~ 110°C

MW ~70,000

Spray drying, HME



## Pros

Highly soluble

Not pH-dependent

Extrudable

Soluble in multiple solvents

## Cons

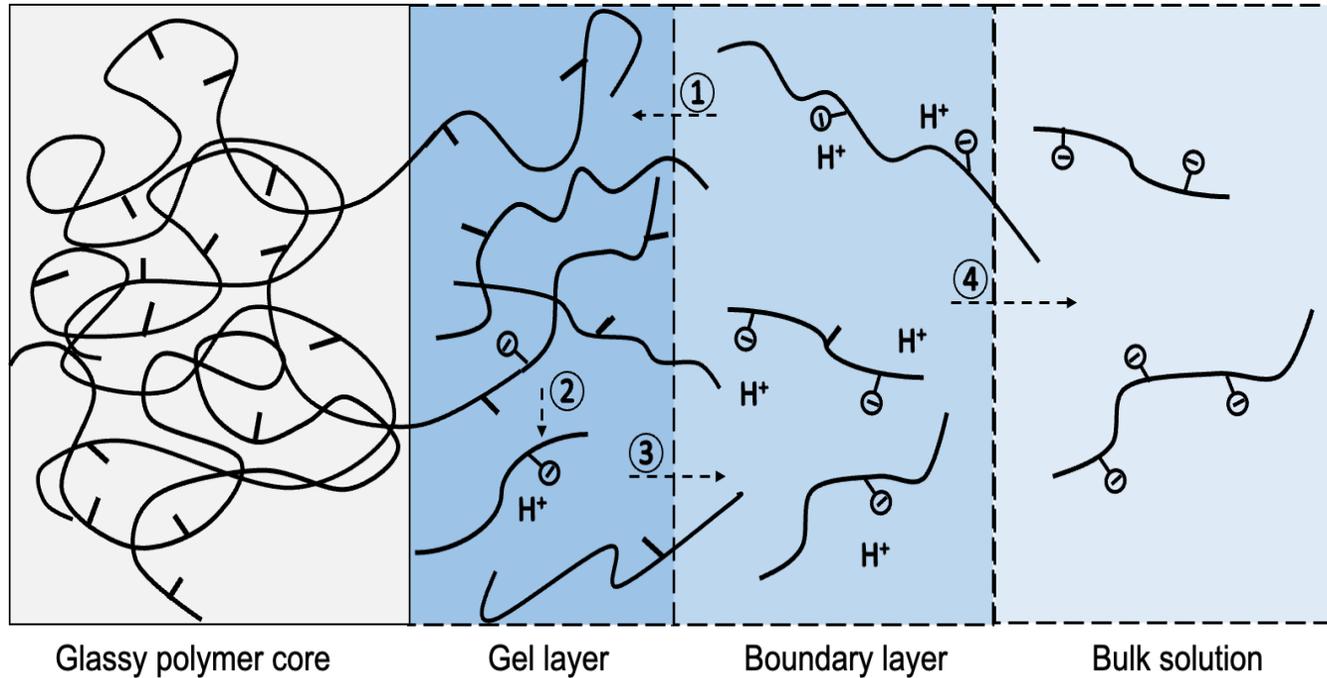
Gel formation

Often not good for high

Crystallization-tendency drugs

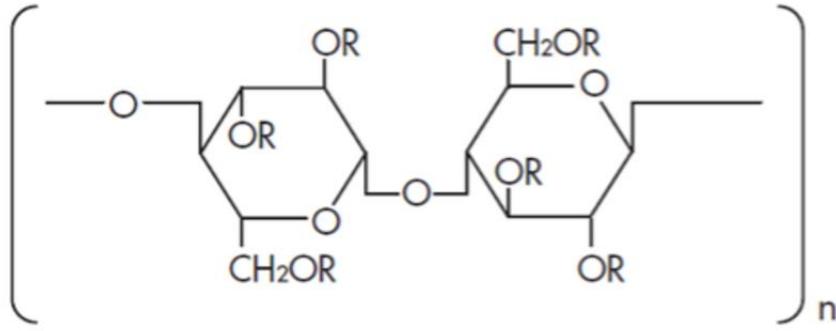
Hygroscopic

# Ionic Polymer Dissolution Overview



1.  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and base diffusion to polymer
2. Ionization of acid groups
3. Polymer movement into boundary layer
4. Polymer and proton diffusion to bulk

# HPMCAS



- R = -H  
 -CH<sub>3</sub>  
 -CH<sub>2</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)OH  
 -COCH<sub>3</sub>  
 -COCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>COOH
- CH<sub>2</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)OCOCH<sub>3</sub>  
 -CH<sub>2</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)OCOCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>COOH

## Overview

Available as 3 grades

T<sub>g</sub> ~ 120°C

MW ~18,000

Spray drying, HME, Co-precipitation

Grade	Acetyl [%]	Succinoyl [%]	Dissolution pH
AS-LF/LG	5-9	14-18	> 5.5
AS-MF/MG	7-11	10-14	> 6.0
AS-HF/HG	10-14	4-8	> 6.5



## Pros

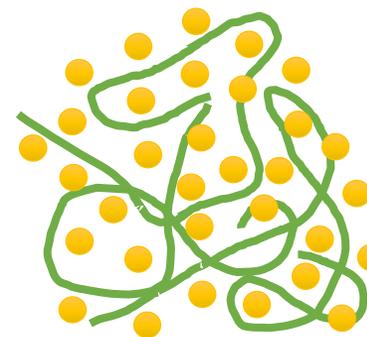
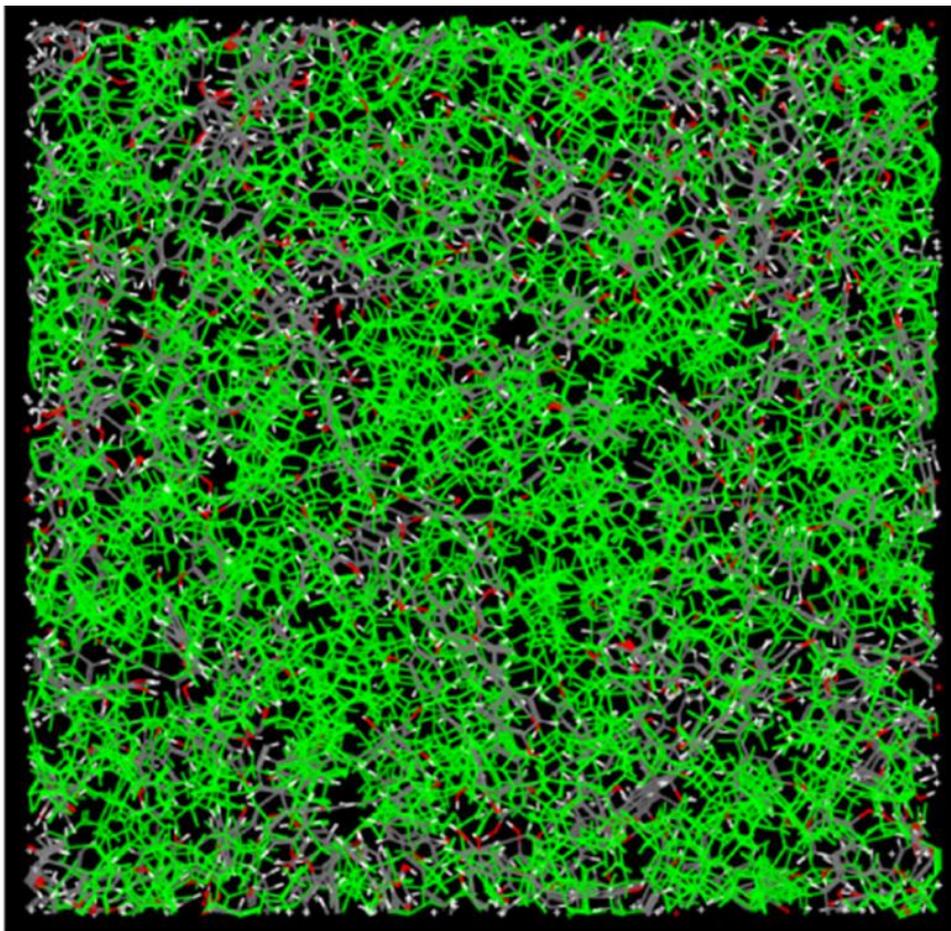
- Excellent crystallization inhibitor
- Low hygroscopicity
- pH dependent solubility
- Disintegration

## Cons

- pH-sensitive dissolution
- Harder to extrude than copovidone
- Reactivity
- Degradation

# Amorphous Solid Dispersions – Molecular Level Structure

MD simulation of PVP and resveratrol ASD

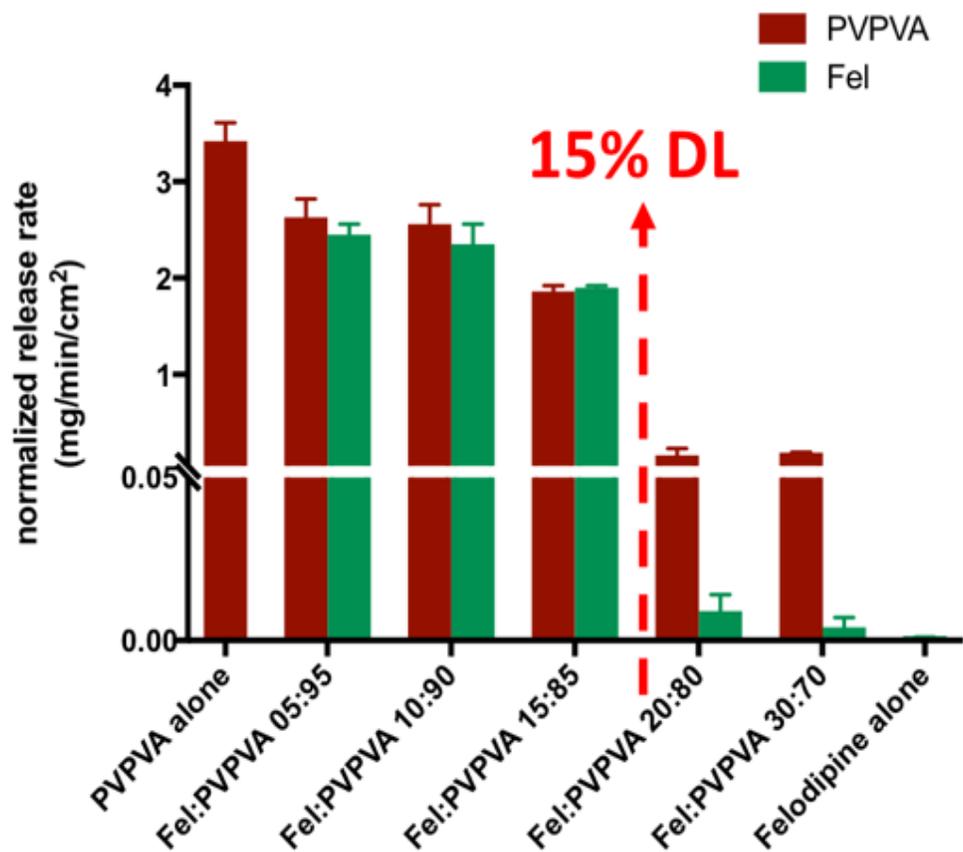


## Considerations

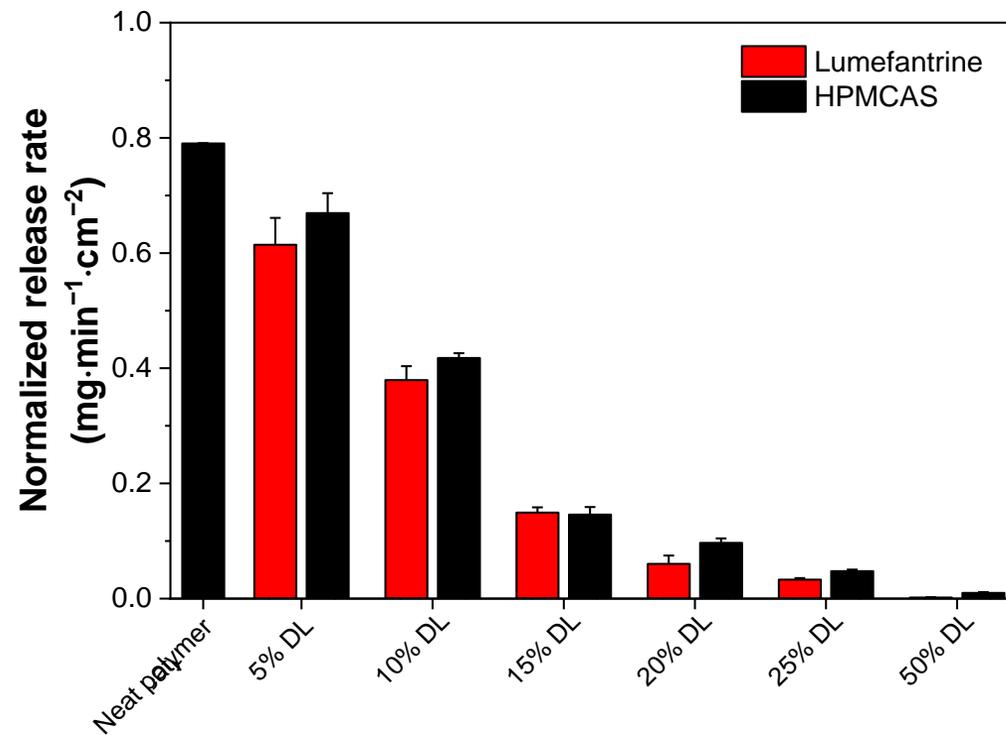
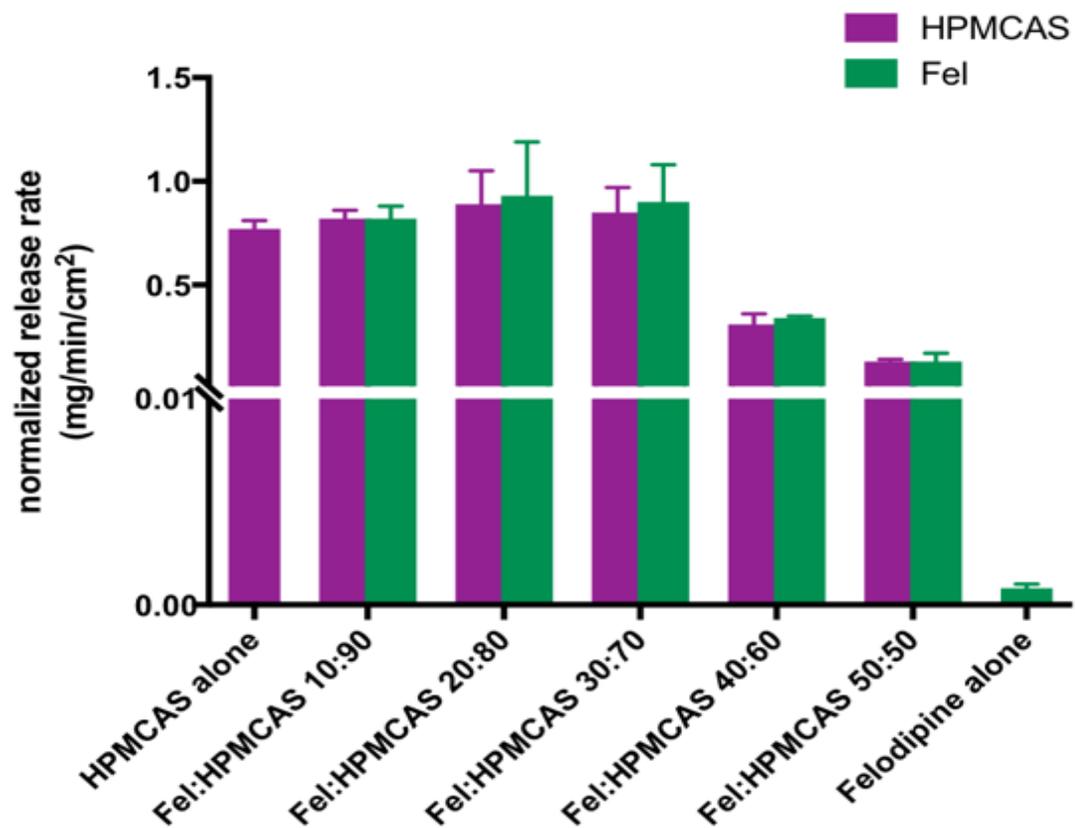
- 1) Polymer dissolution rate
- 2) Impact of drug on polymer dissolution
- 3) Impact of polymer on drug dissolution
- 4) Phase behavior

Pajzderska, A., & Gonzalez, M. A. (2023). Molecular Dynamics Simulations of Selected Amorphous Stilbenoids and Their Amorphous Solid Dispersions with Poly (Vinylpyrrolidone). *Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*.

# Drug Loading and Release – PVPVA-ASDs



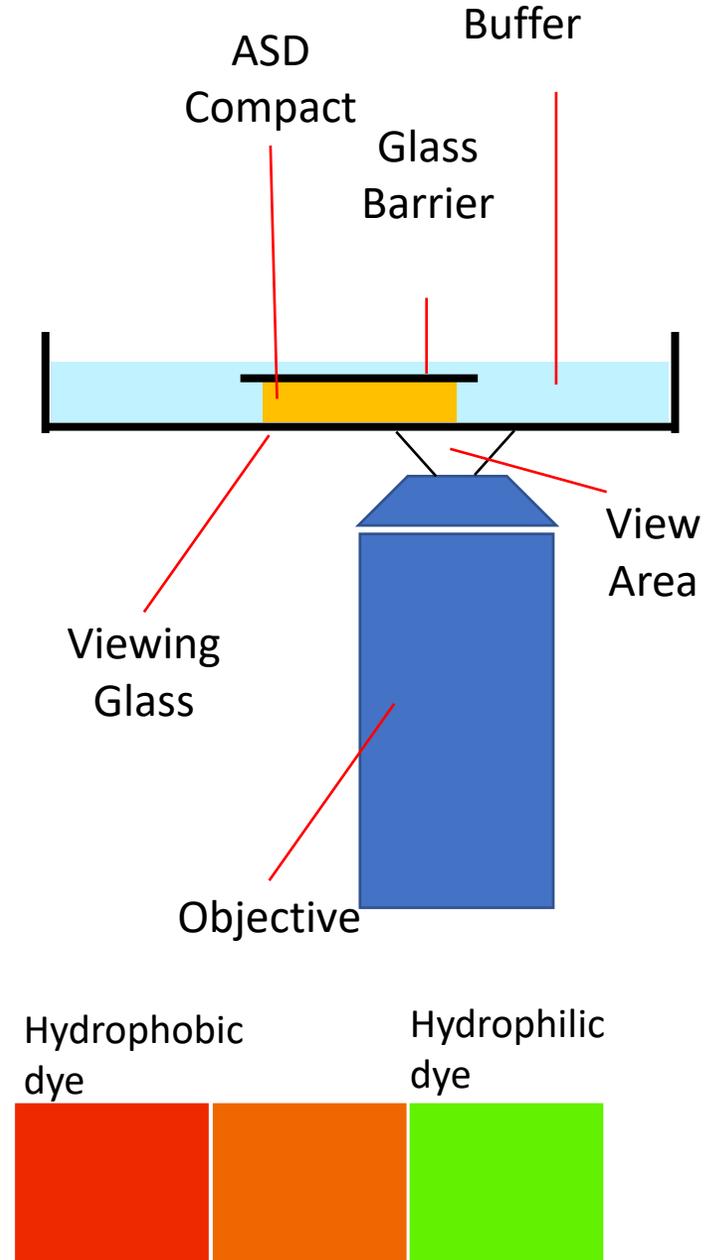
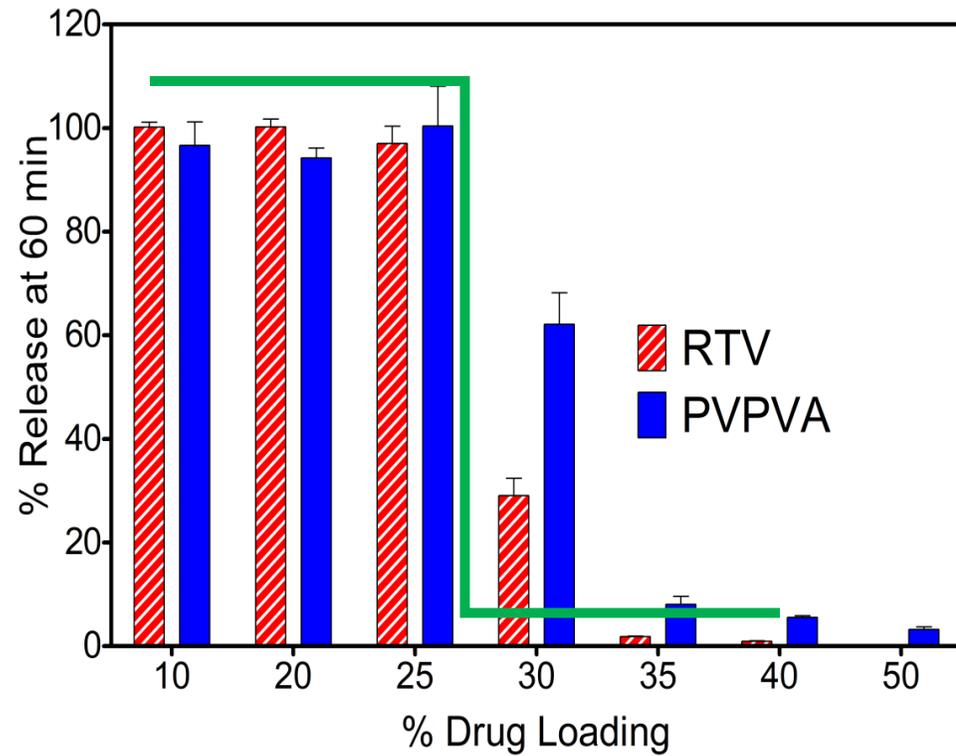
# Drug Loading and Release – HPMCAS-ASDs



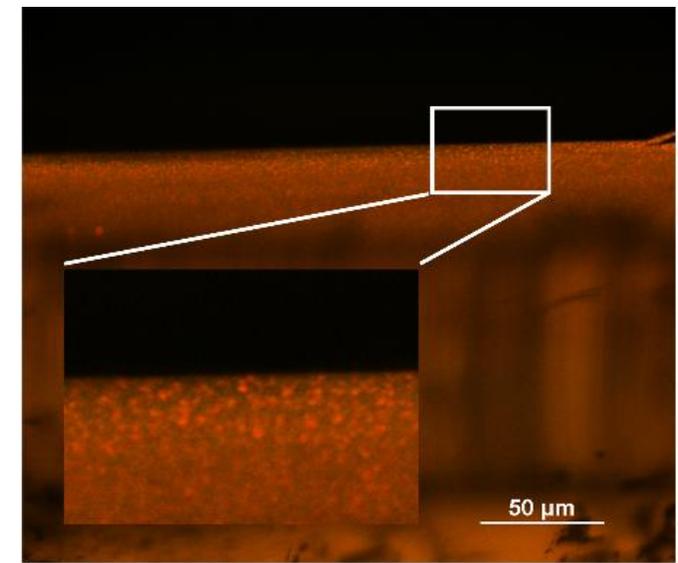
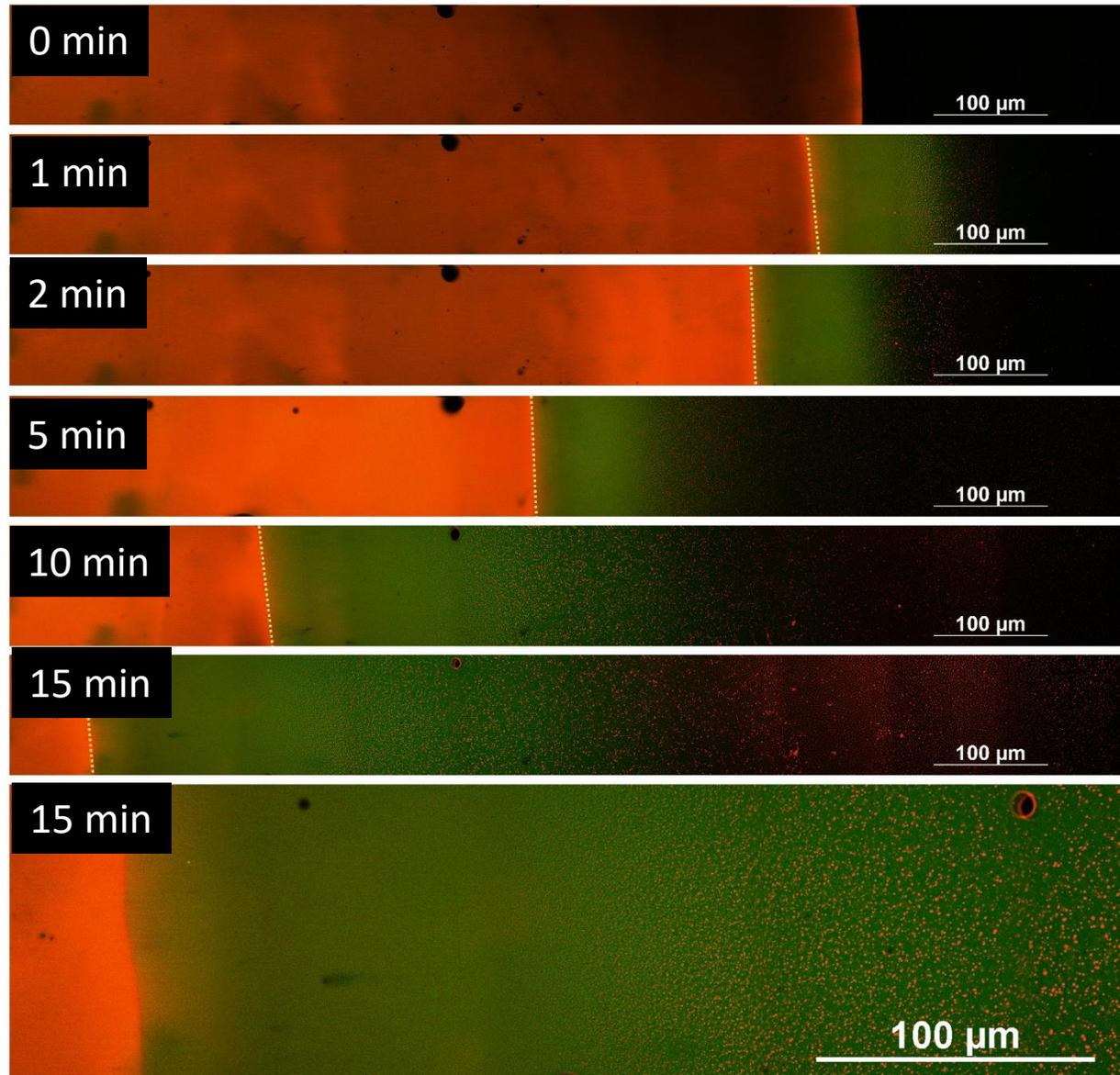
Saboo, S., Moseson, D.E., Kestur, U.S. and Taylor, L.S., 2020. *Eur J Pharm Sci*, 155, 105514.

Hiew, T. N., Zemlyanov, D. Y., & Taylor, L. S. (2021). *Molecular Pharmaceutics*, 19(2), 392-413.

# Probing the “falling-off-a-cliff” effect in PVPVA-ASDs

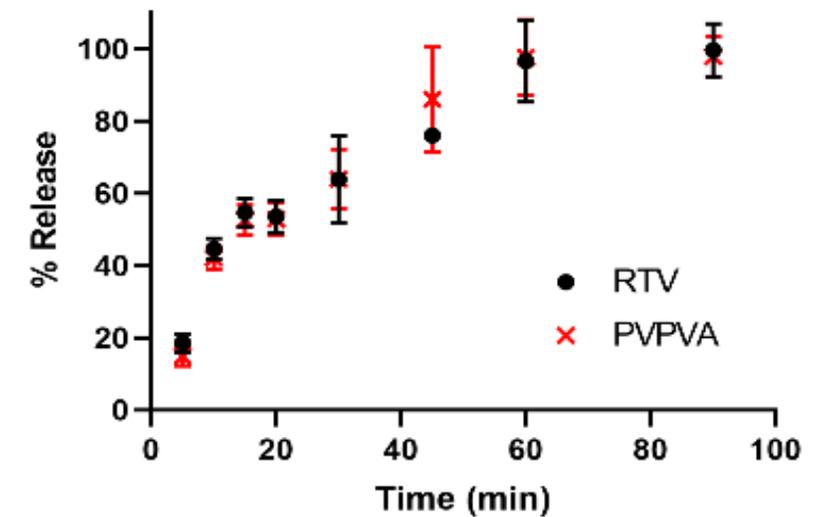


# Ritonavir-PVPVA “Low” Drug Loading ASD



Congruent release – drug and polymer release together

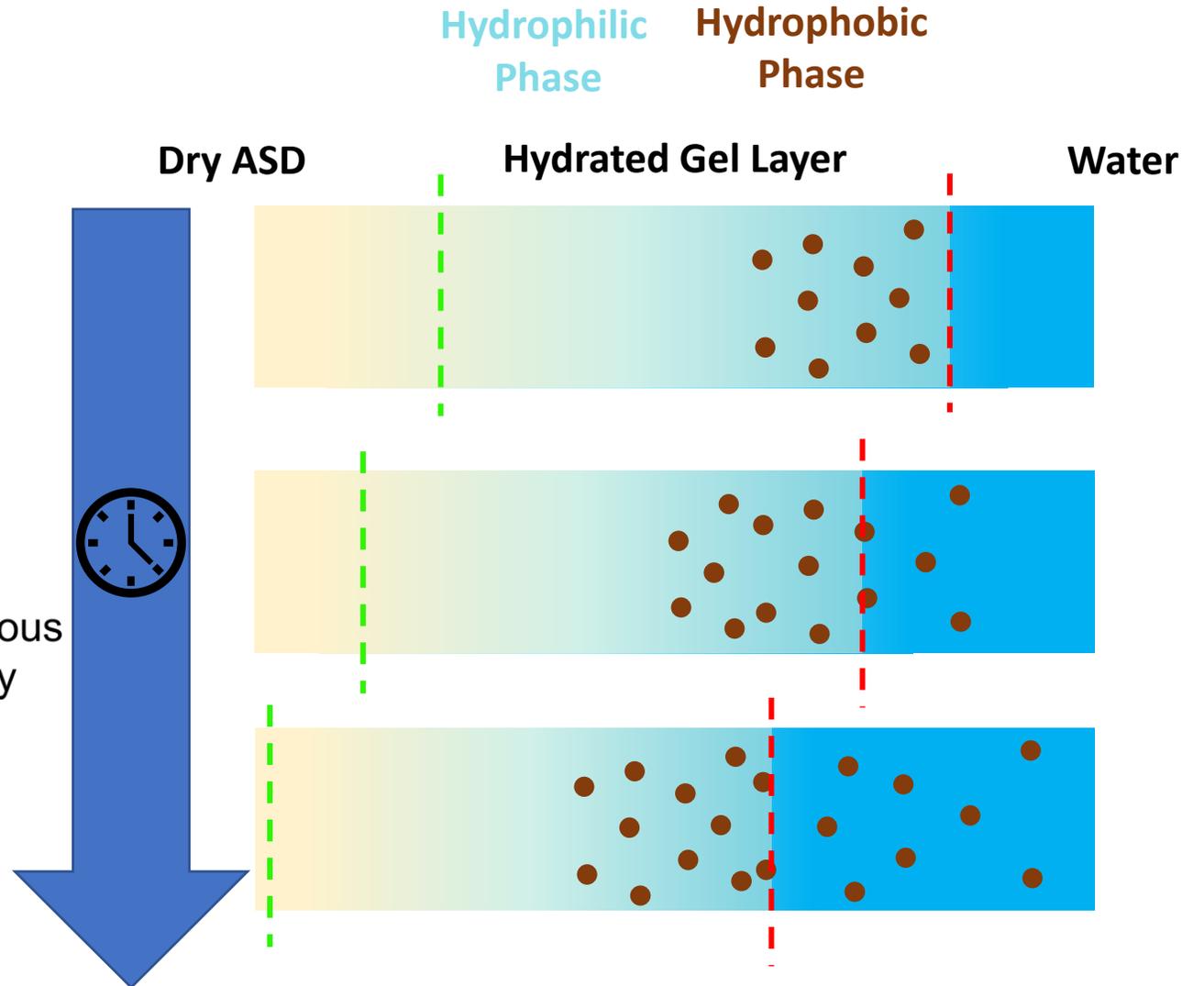
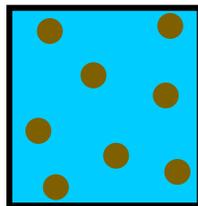
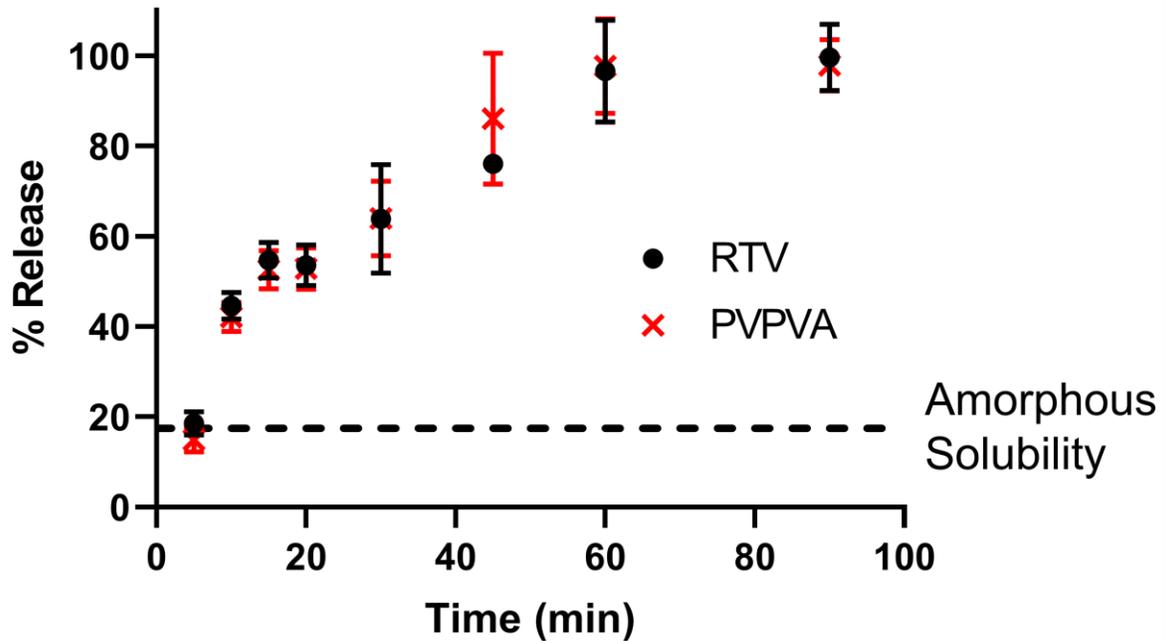
RTV-PVPVA 20-80



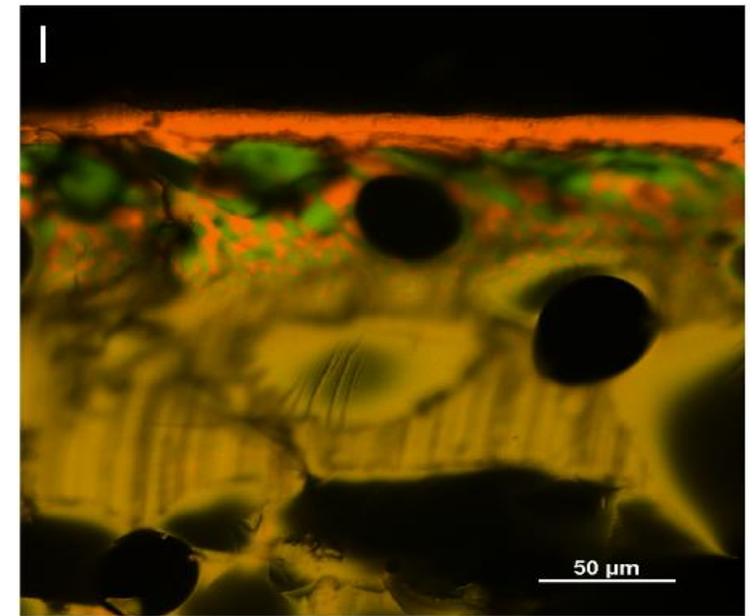
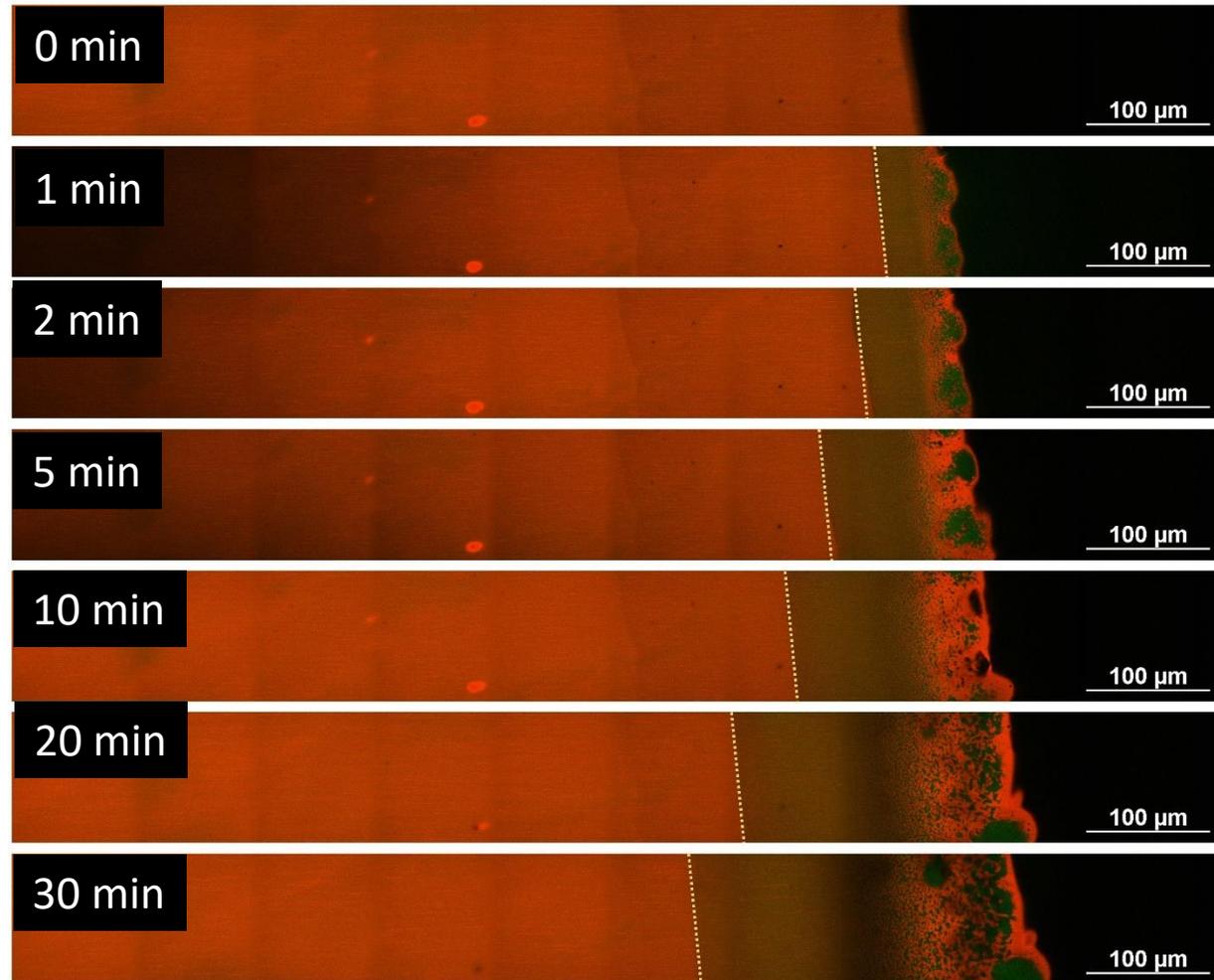
# Mechanism for Congruent Release

## Congruent

RTV-PVPVA 20-80

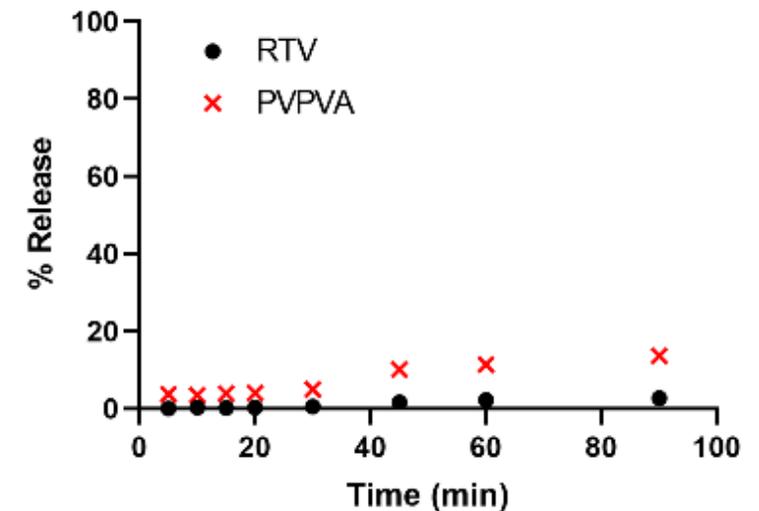


# Ritonavir-PVPVA “High” Drug Loading ASD

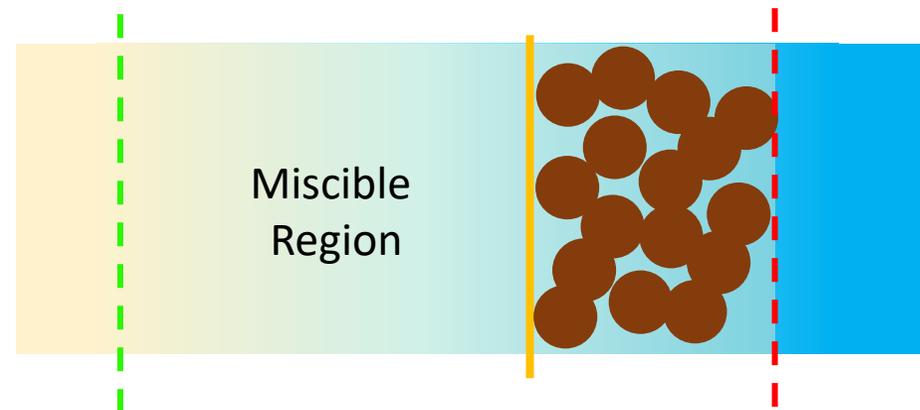
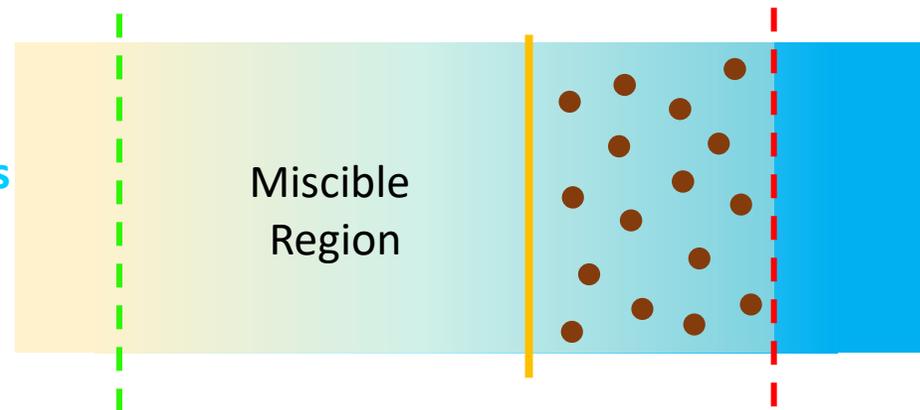
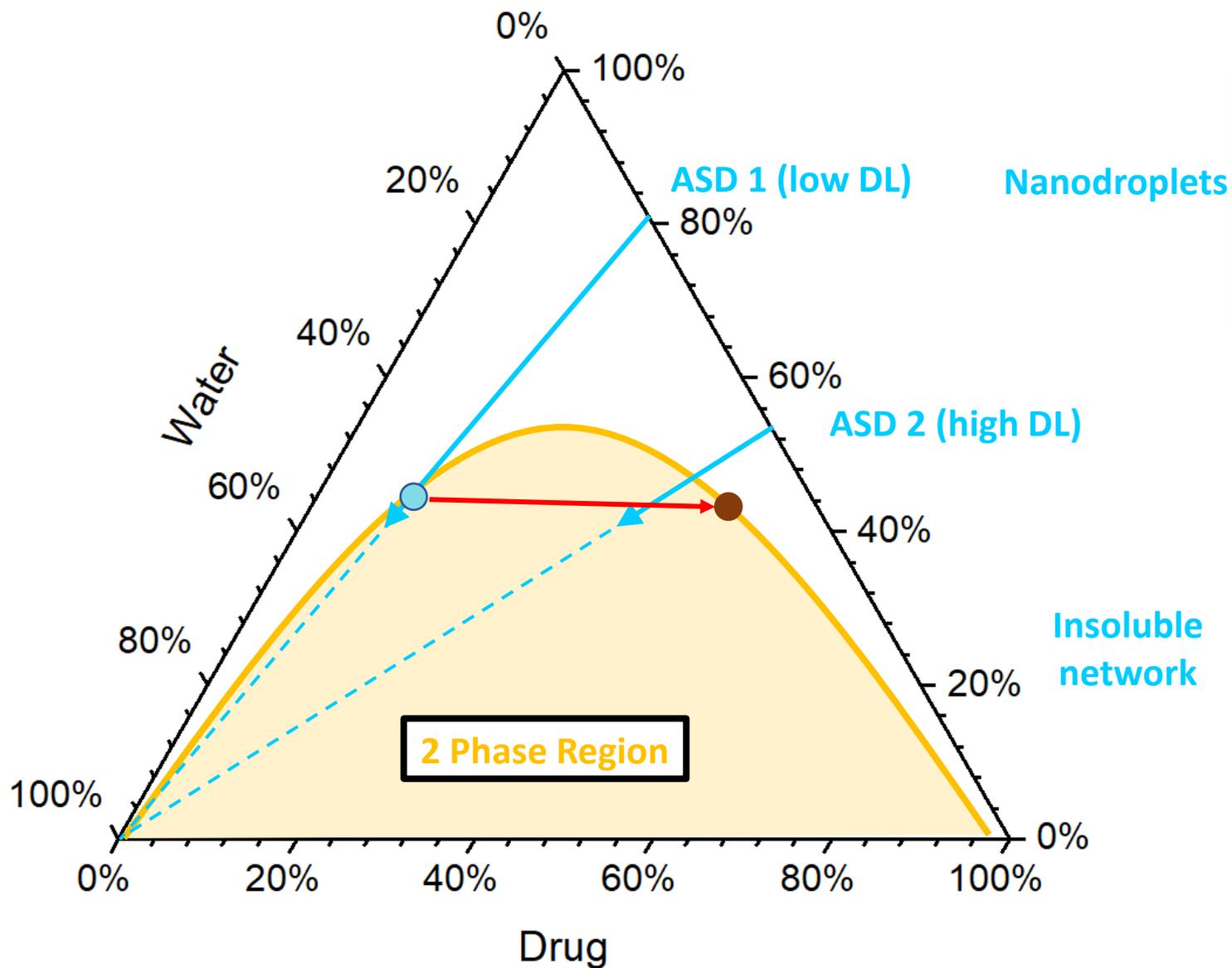


Incongruent release – some polymer release, no drug release

RTV-PVPVA 40-60



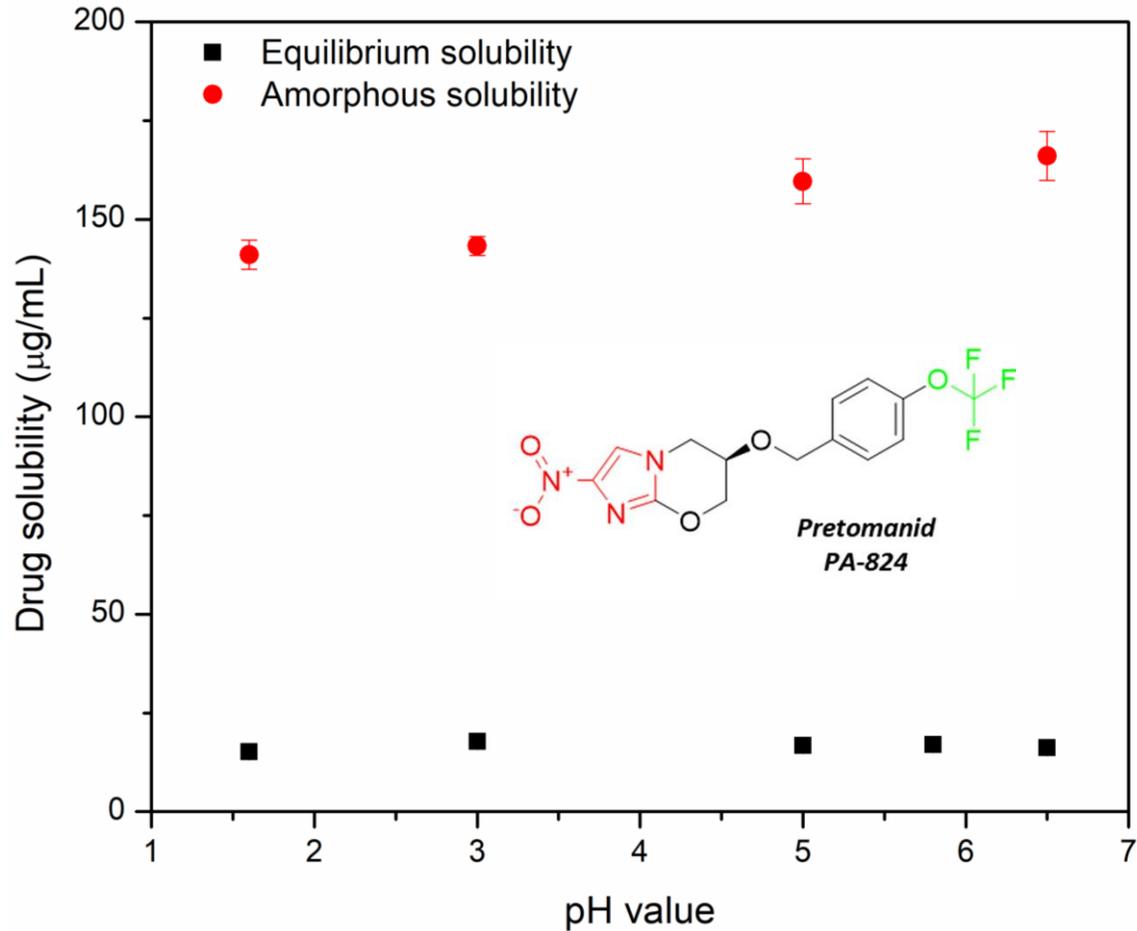
# Phase Morphology with Drug Loading



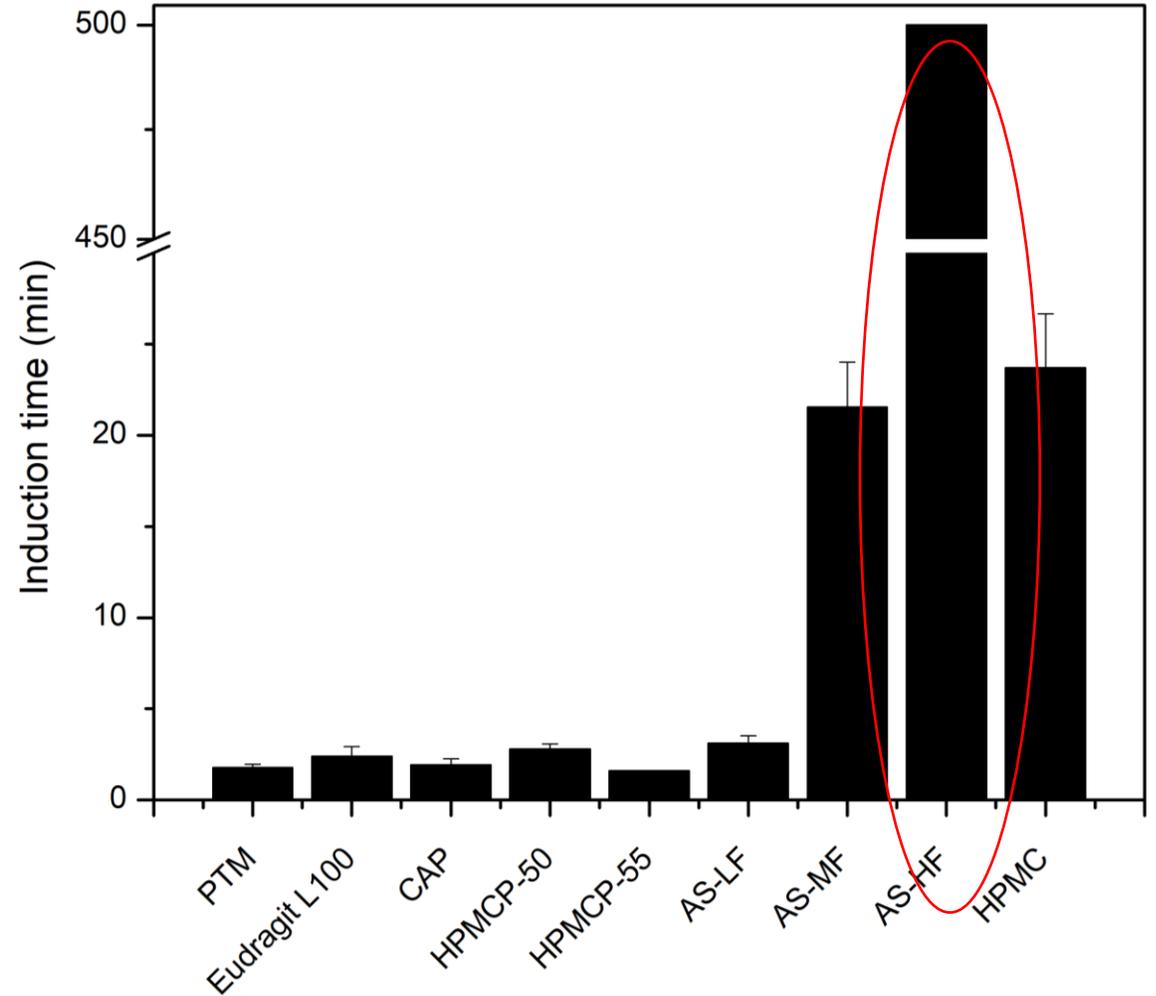
Hydrophilic Phase   
Hydrophobic Phase 

# HPMCAS-based ASDs

## pH independent drug solubility

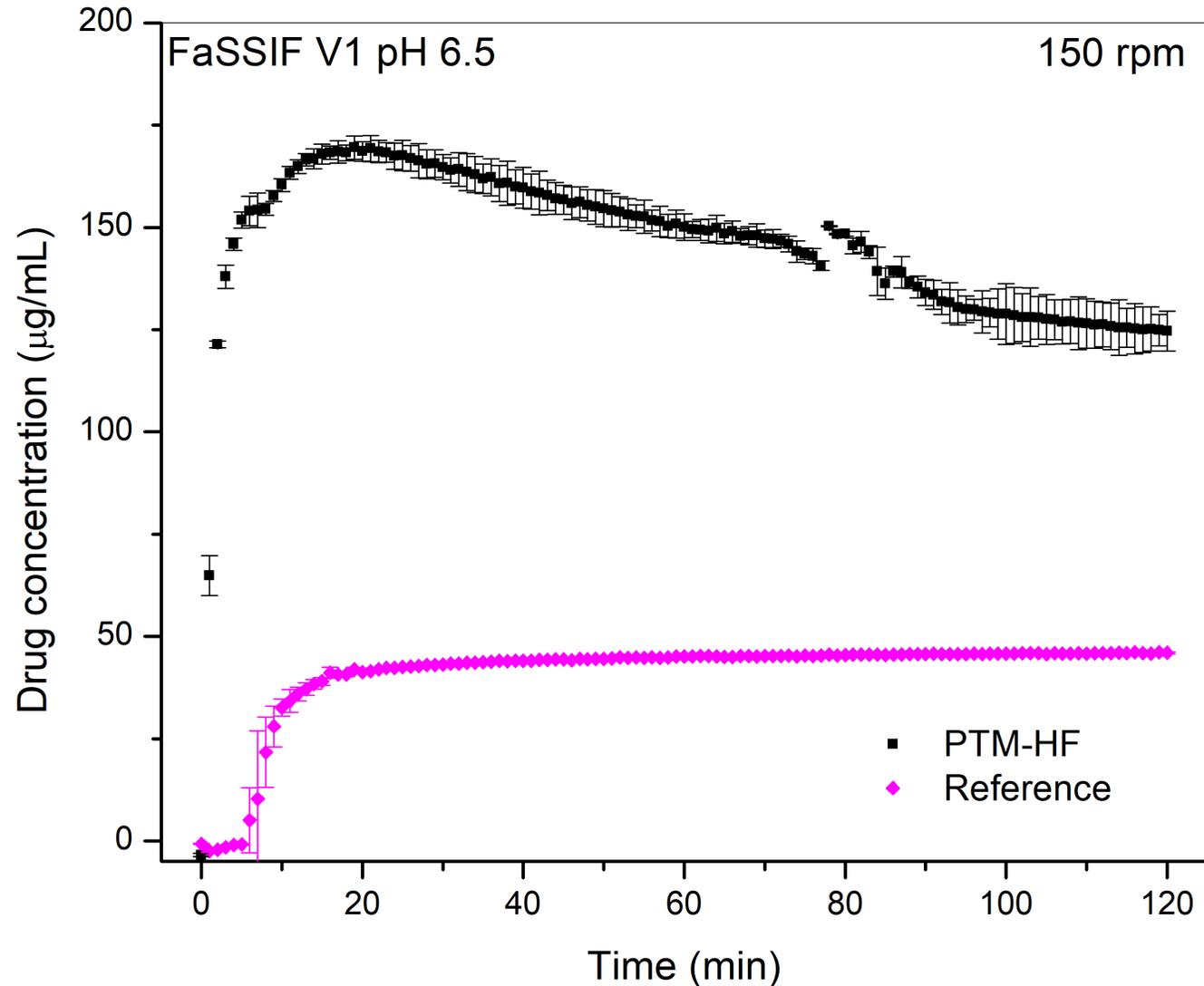


## High crystallization tendency



HPMCAS-HF only viable choice for polymer

# Improved PTM Dissolution from ASD in FASTED state conditions



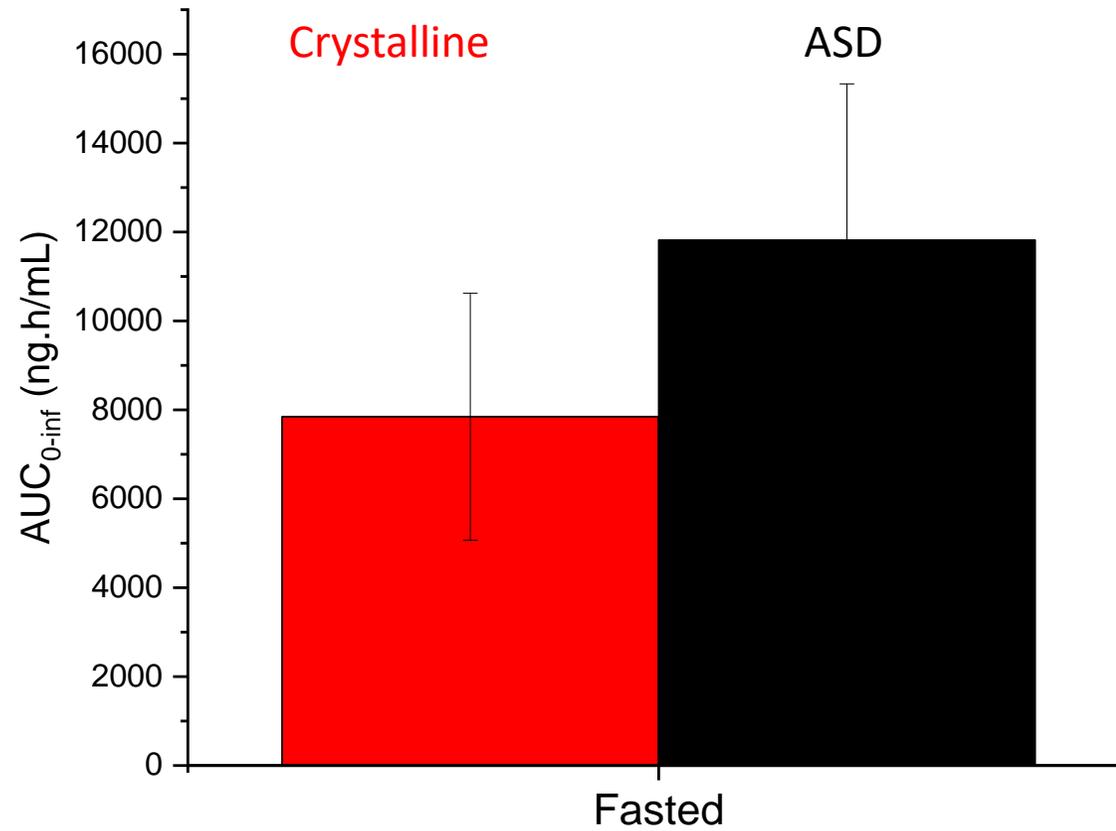
Complete release ~ 200 µg/mL

Binary ASD: PTM-HF 20-80 %w/w

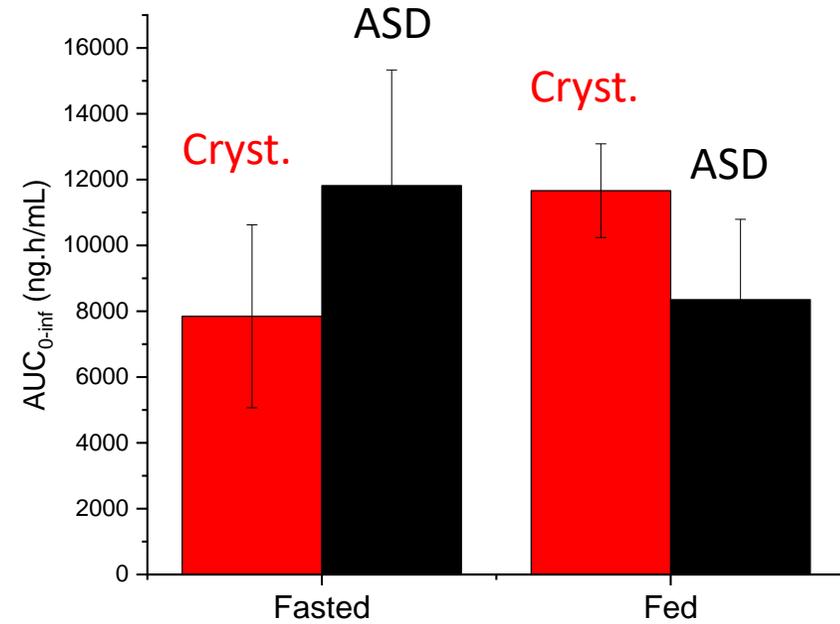
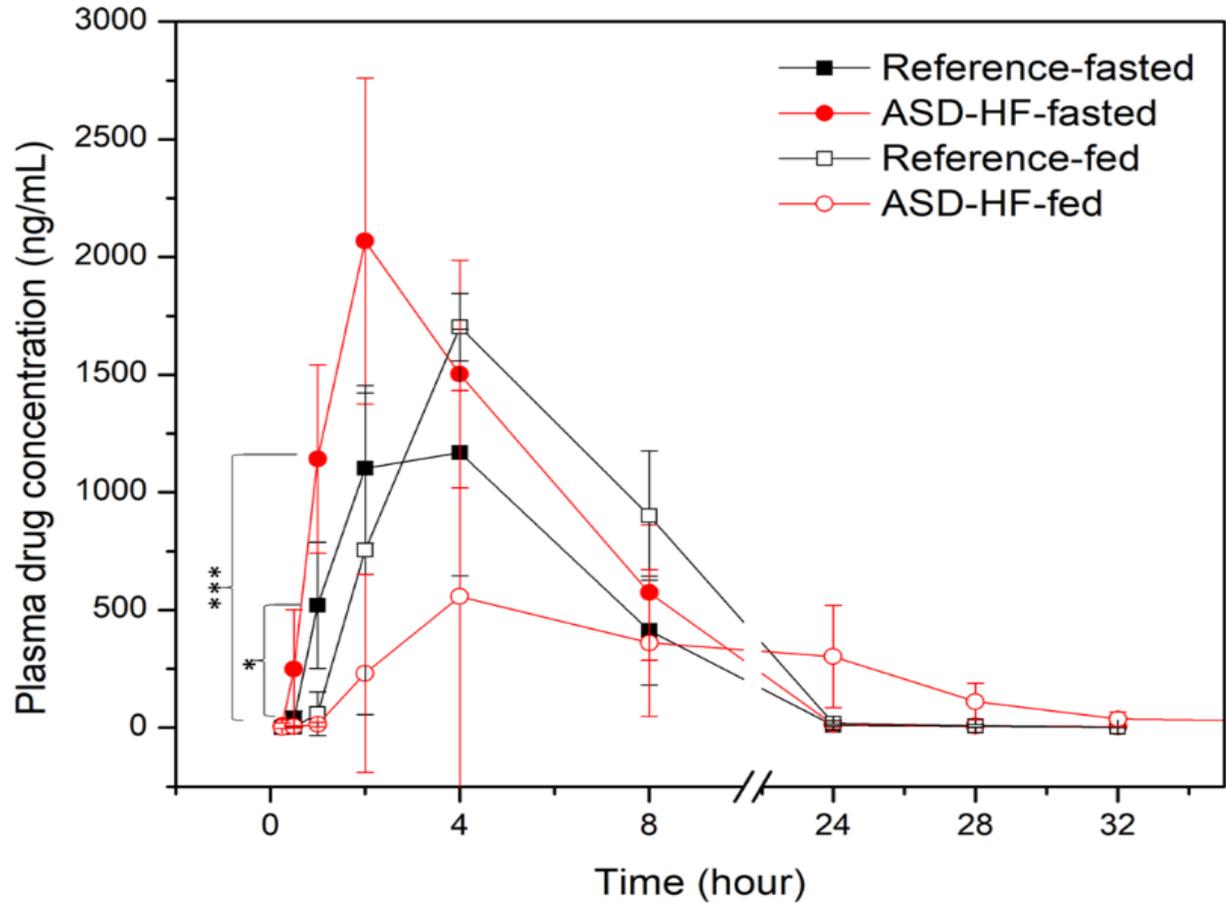
## Dissolution testing:

- ASD tablet (30 mg)
- Media: FaSSIF V1 (150 mL)
- 37°C, 150 rpm, USP apparatus II

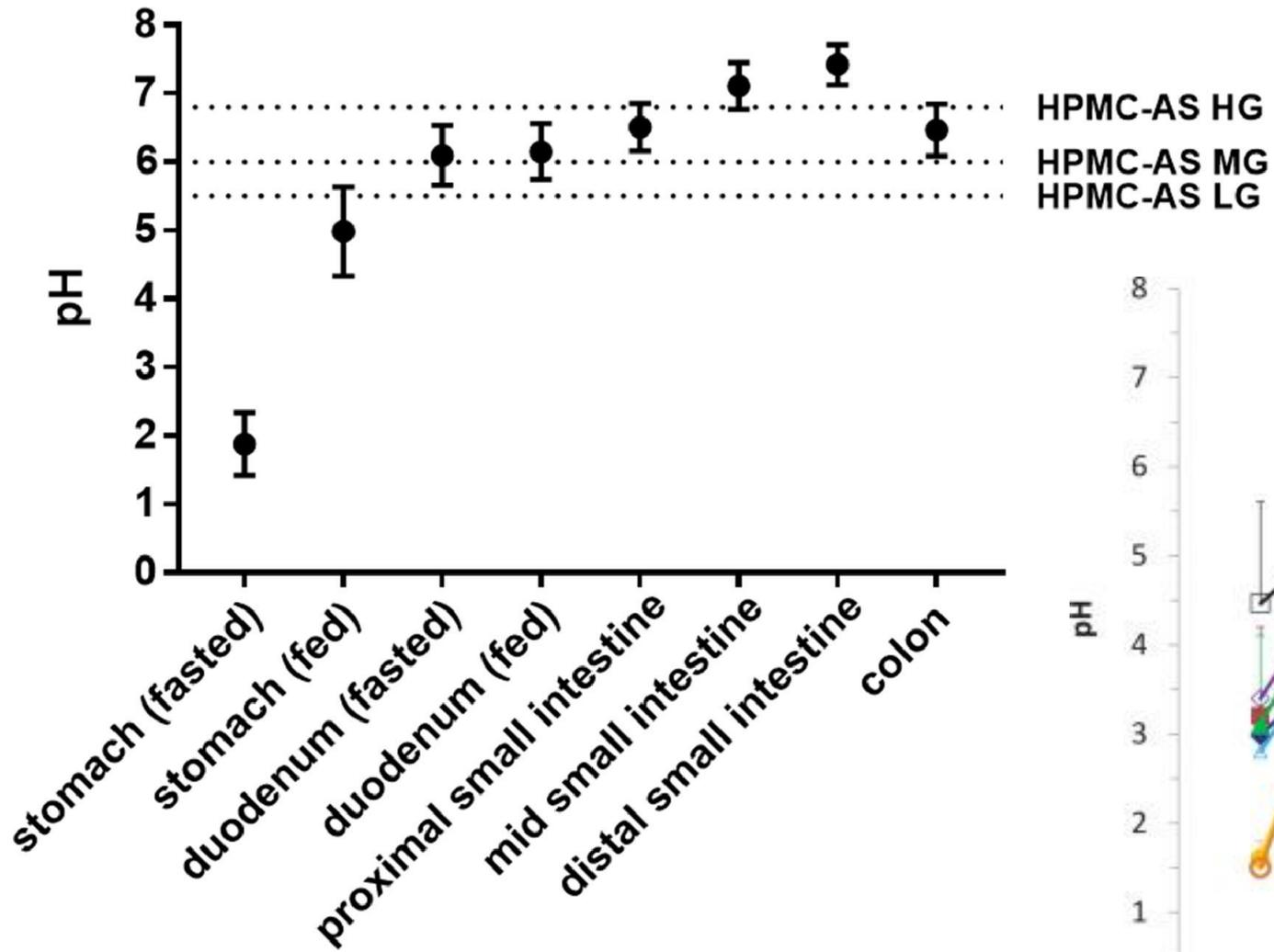
# Improved Absorption in Vivo in Fasted State from ASD



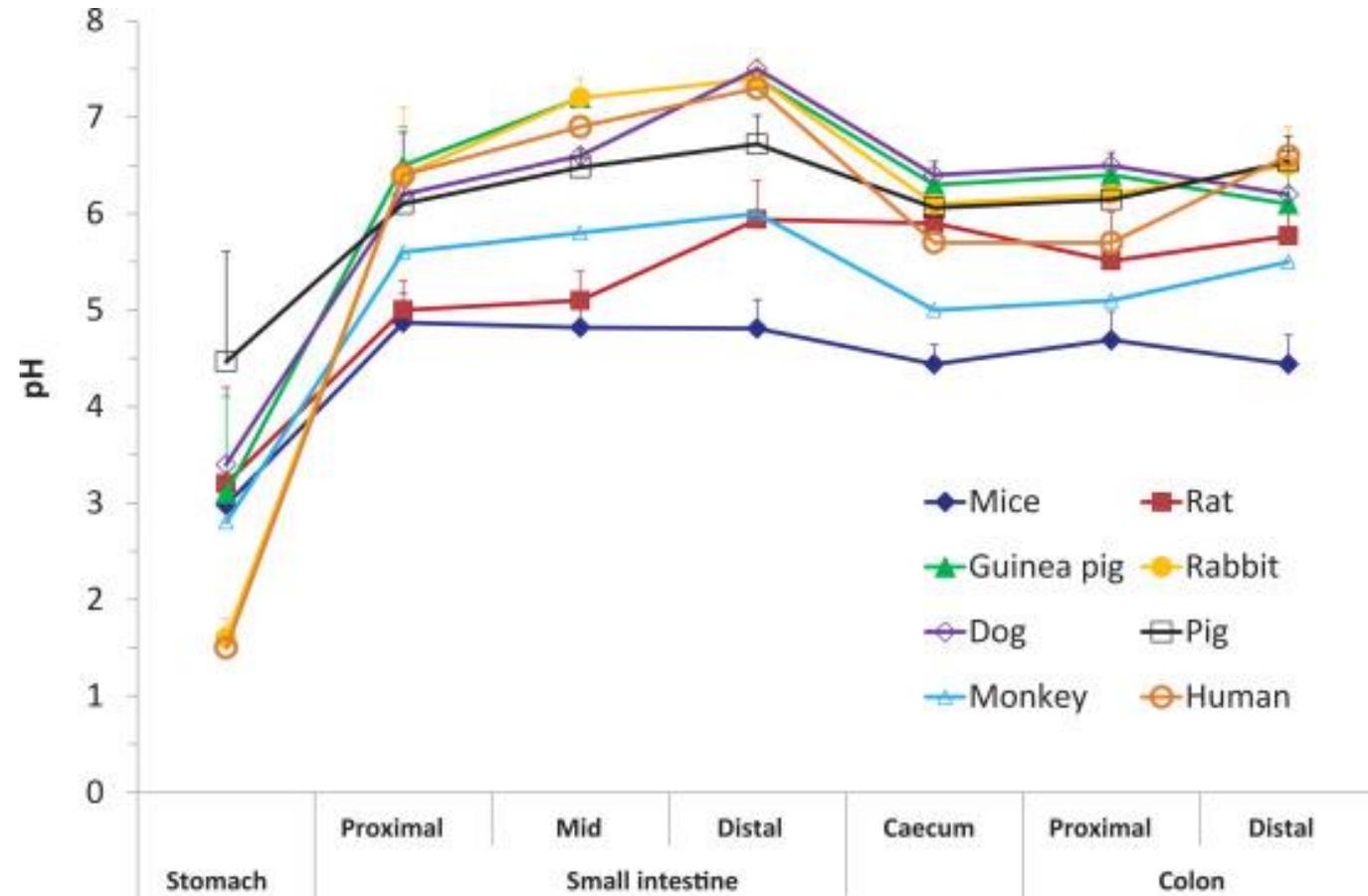
# But – Negative Food Effect



## A Closer Look at pH

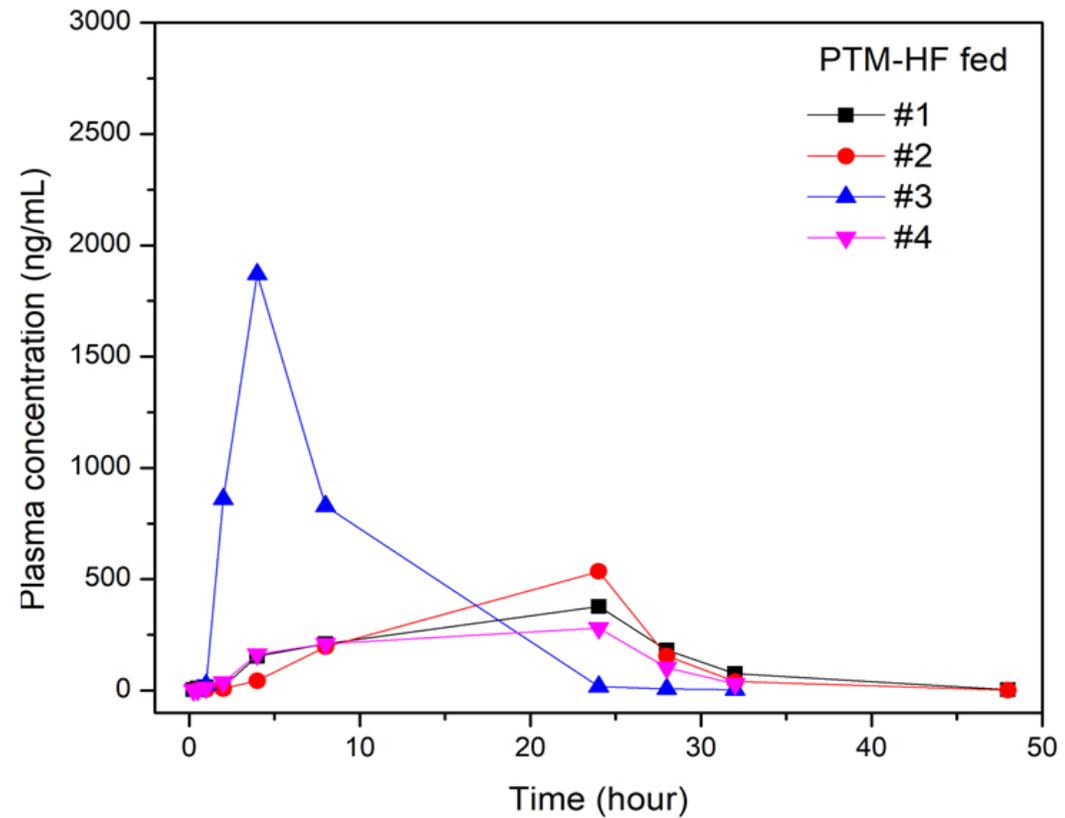
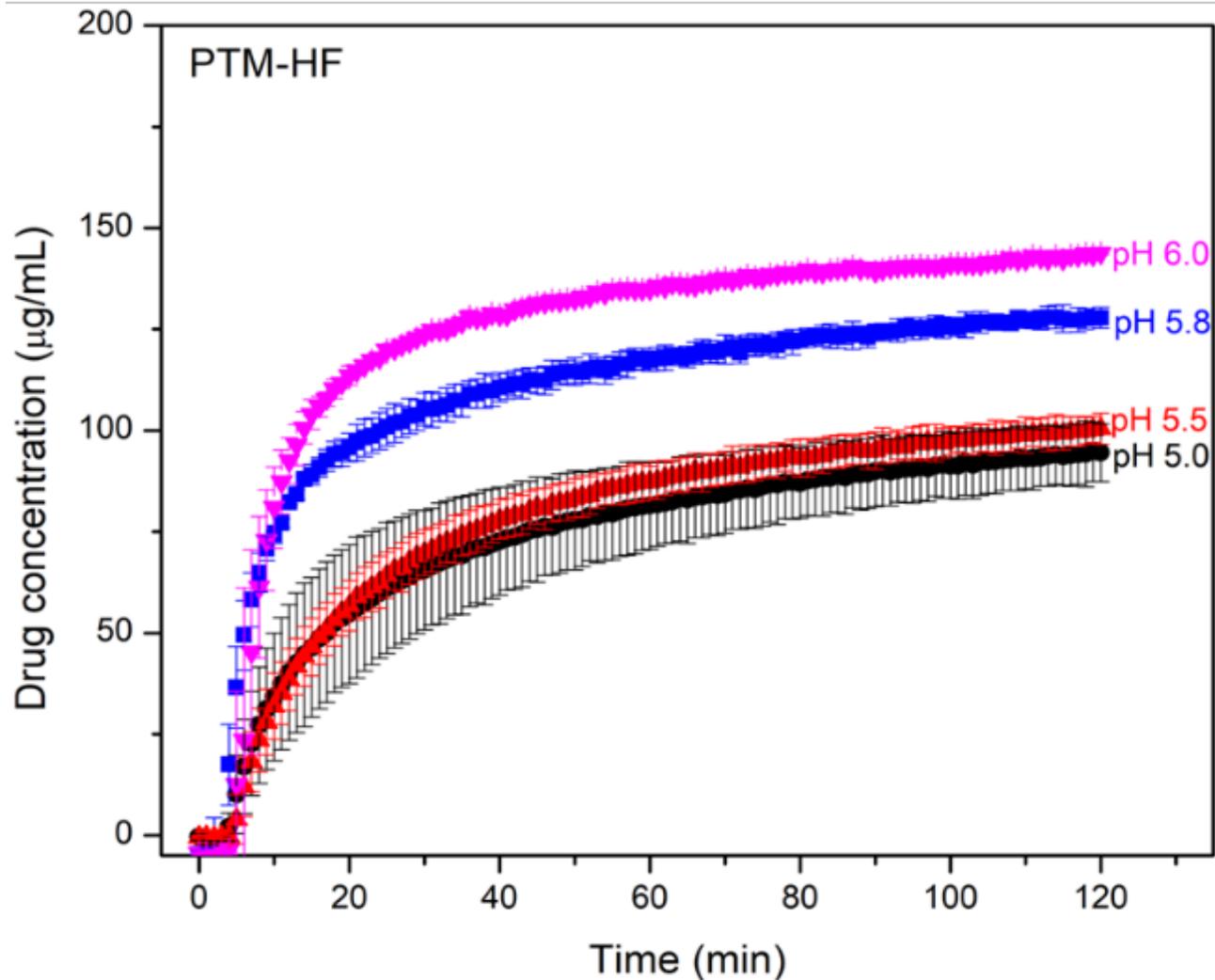


Vinarov, Zahari, *et al.* European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences 162 (2021): 105812.



Hatton, Grace B., *et al.* Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences 104.9 (2015): 2747-2776.

# Importance of pH for HPMCAS-based ASDs



# Summary

- Release from ASDs is likely to be controlled by polymer release rate
- Polymer release is impacted by external factors (pH, hydrodynamics) and formulation factors (drug properties and loading, additional excipients)
- Release testing approaches are in their infancy for ASD formulations and will evolve as more is revealed about release mechanisms

# Acknowledgements

- Ruochen Yang
- Alex Deac
- Tu Van Duong
- Thuy Nguyen
- Anura Indulkar
- BMGF
- TB Alliance
- AbbVie