

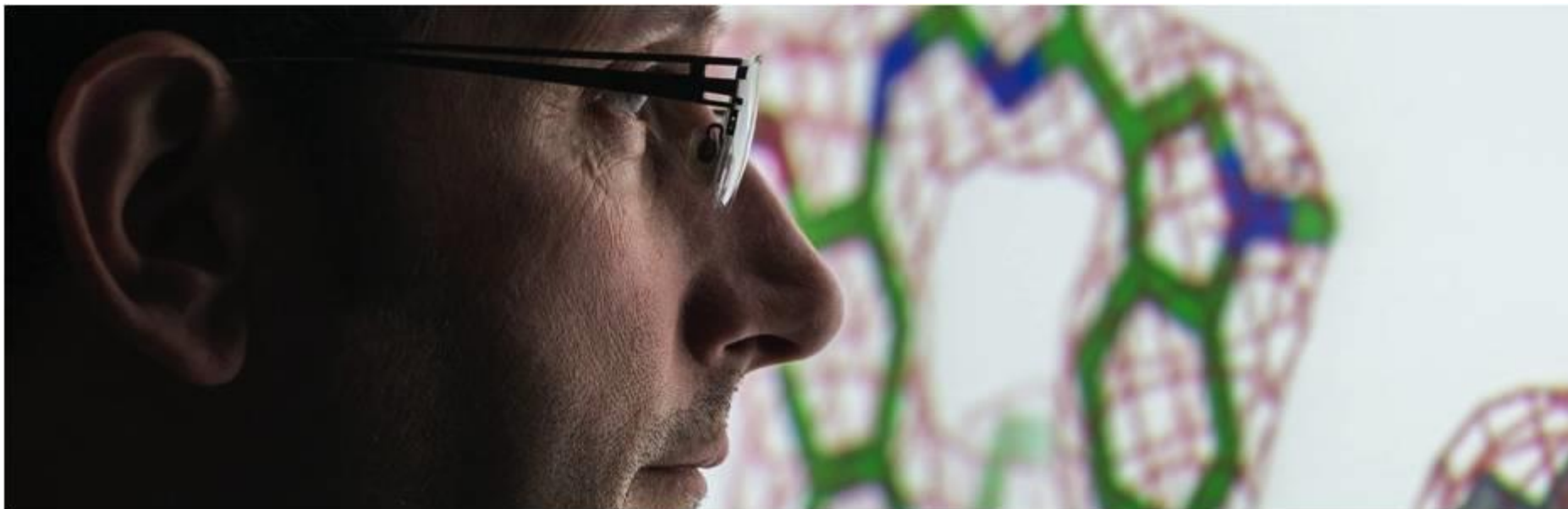
# D3P: Digital Design of Drug Product

## Application of Global Systems Analysis to a Tablet Manufacturing Process

**Gavin Reynolds**

Advanced Process Modelling Forum, London

April 2016



# Overview

- Introduction
  - D3P Project Overview
  - Concepts
- Case Study – Application to a Tablet Manufacturing Process
- Summary



# Introduction: D3P

# Digital Design of Drug Products

Innovate UK funded project

**Innovate UK**  
Technology Strategy Board

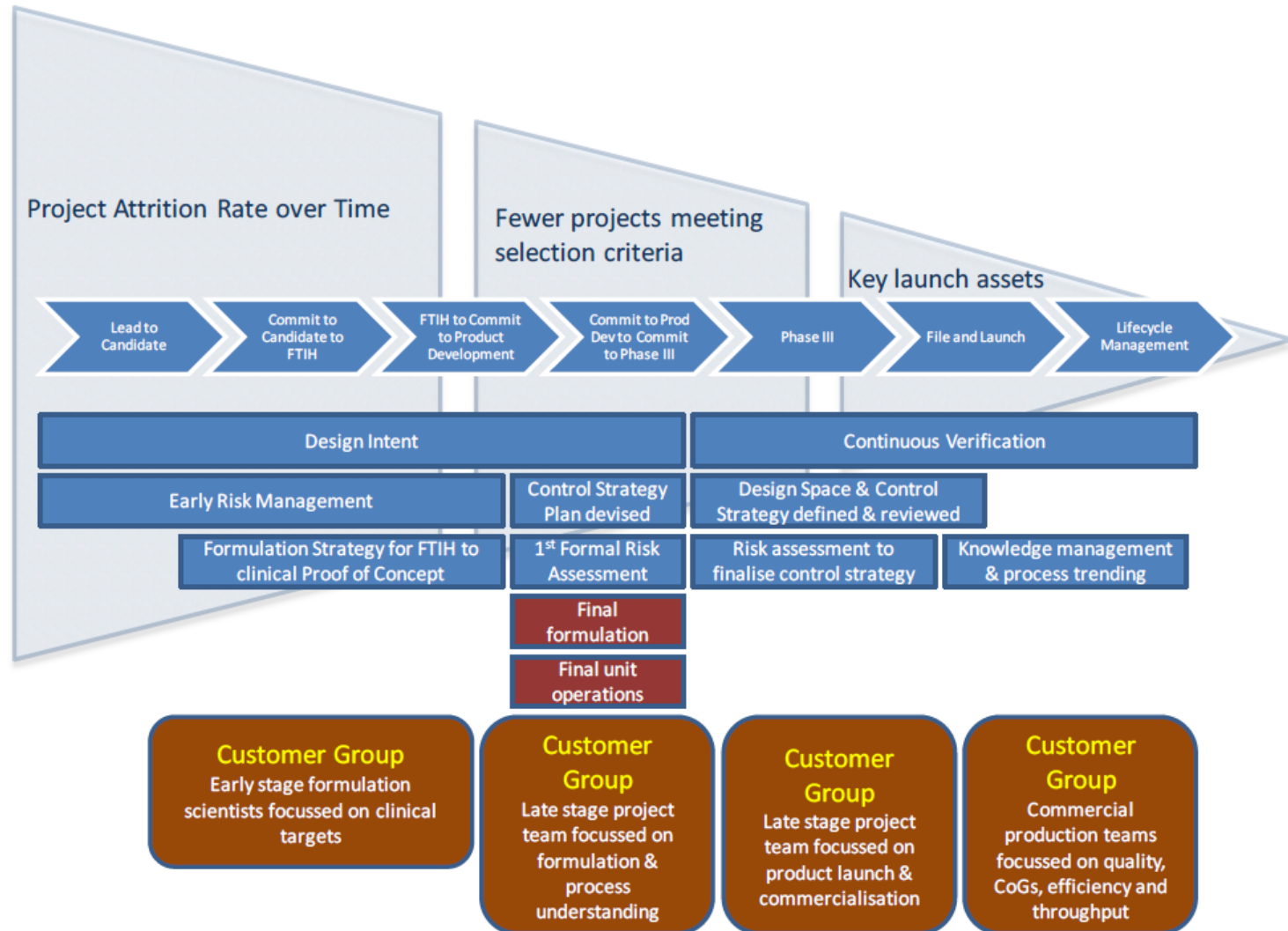
Two-year programme, from June 2014

Consortium members:

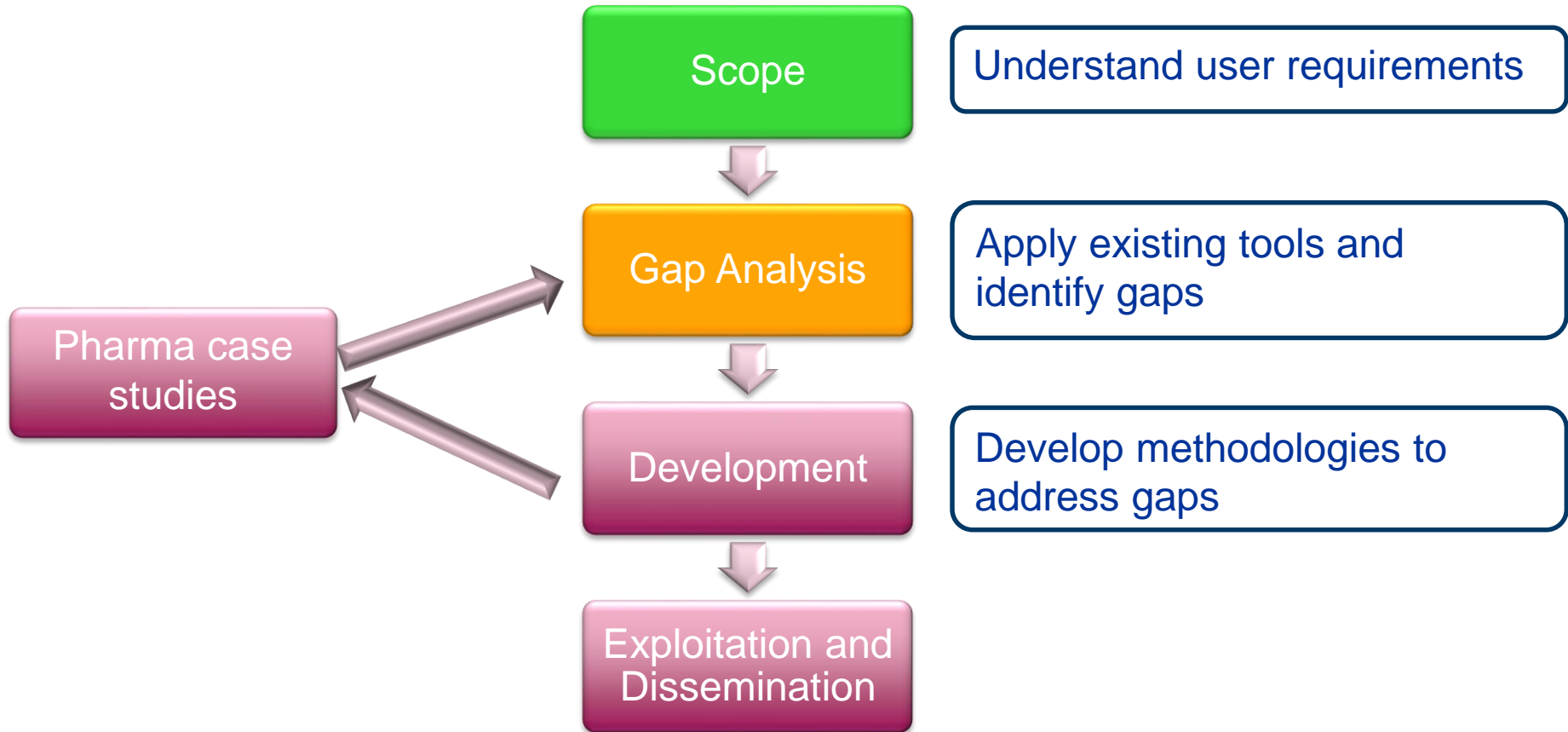


# Project aim

Integration of qualitative and quantitative tools to create a 'Design Space Explorer' to improve the design and manufacture of formulated drug products.



# Project Structure



# Qualitative Tools



- What CQAs need to be considered?
- What processes are important?
- What material properties, intermediate properties and process parameters are linked to the product CQAs?
- How are these properties transformed through the process?

- Generate qualitative **understanding**
- May be sufficient to aid early **decision making**
- Provides a **scope** for a more detailed quantitative model
- Can highlight the key **requirements** for an in-silico model



# Quantitative Tools



- Mechanistic models linking the influence of material properties and process parameters on product quality attributes
- PSE already have a suite of process models and an environment for implementation of new models
- Running simulations and interpreting results can be very time consuming

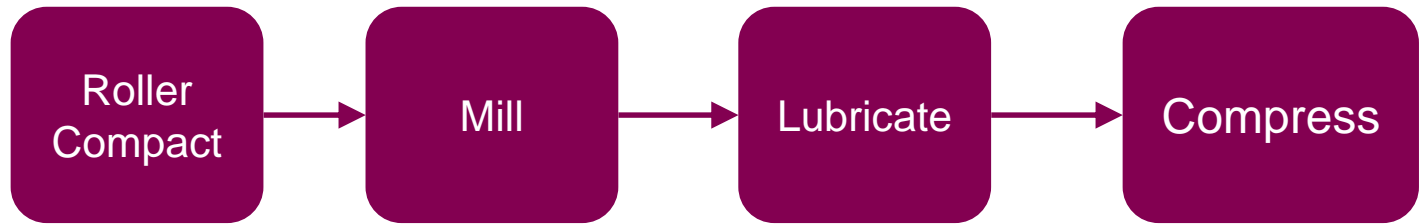
- Automated interrogation of process models to quantify uncertainty and sensitivity will provide a new paradigm for utilising these tools for decision making during drug product development and establishing robust control strategies





# Case Study: Application to a tablet manufacturing process

# Scope



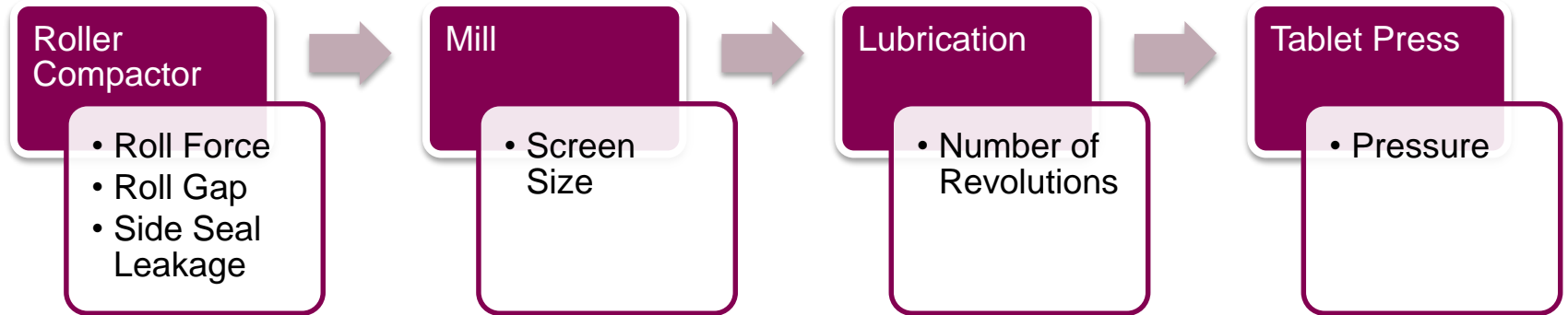
## Quality Attributes

Potential CQAs	Risk	Model Response
Dissolution	Green	
Degradation	Green	
Appearance	Yellow	Tablet tensile strength
Assay	Green	
Content Uniformity	Yellow	Granule flow (weight uniformity)
Hardness	Red	Tablet tensile strength
Manufacturability	Red	Tablet tensile strength and granule flow

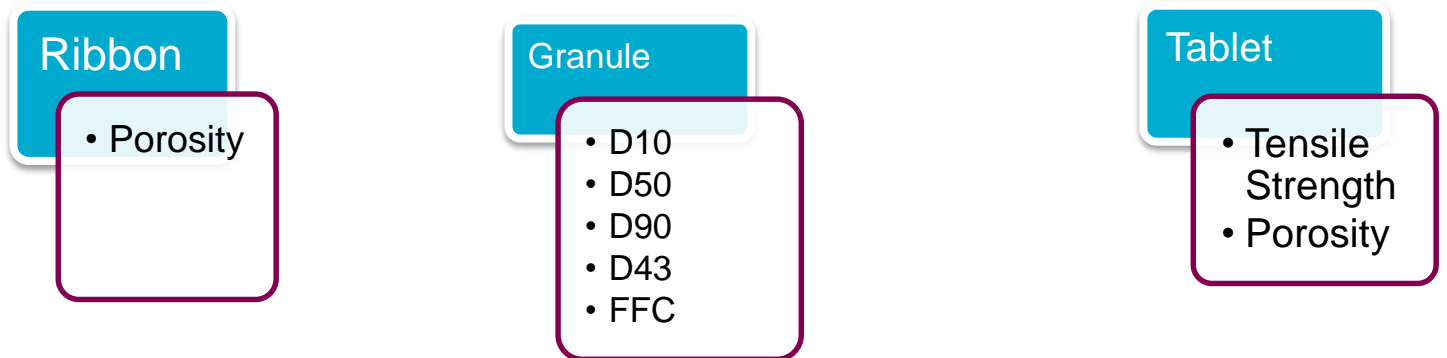


# 'Virtual Experimental Design': Factors to investigate

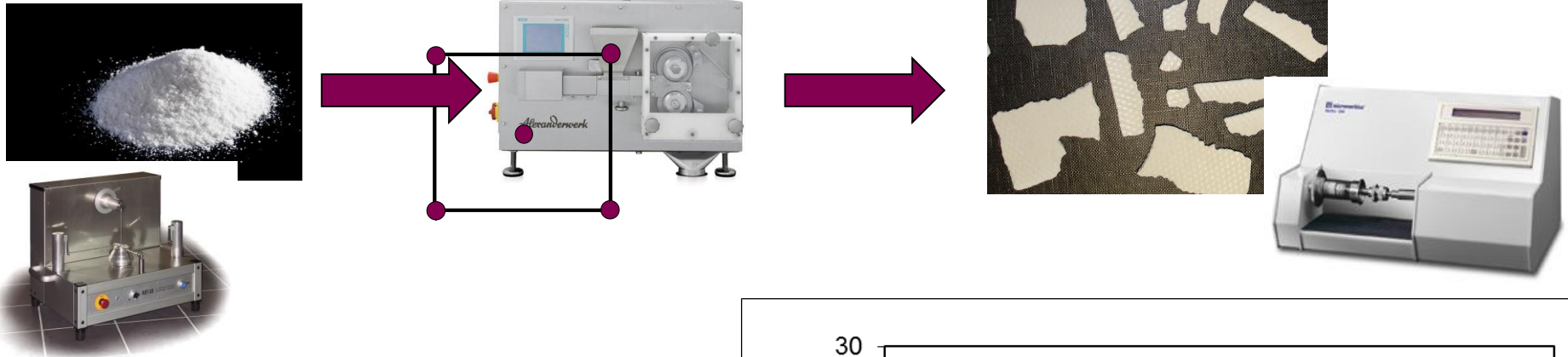
## FACTORS



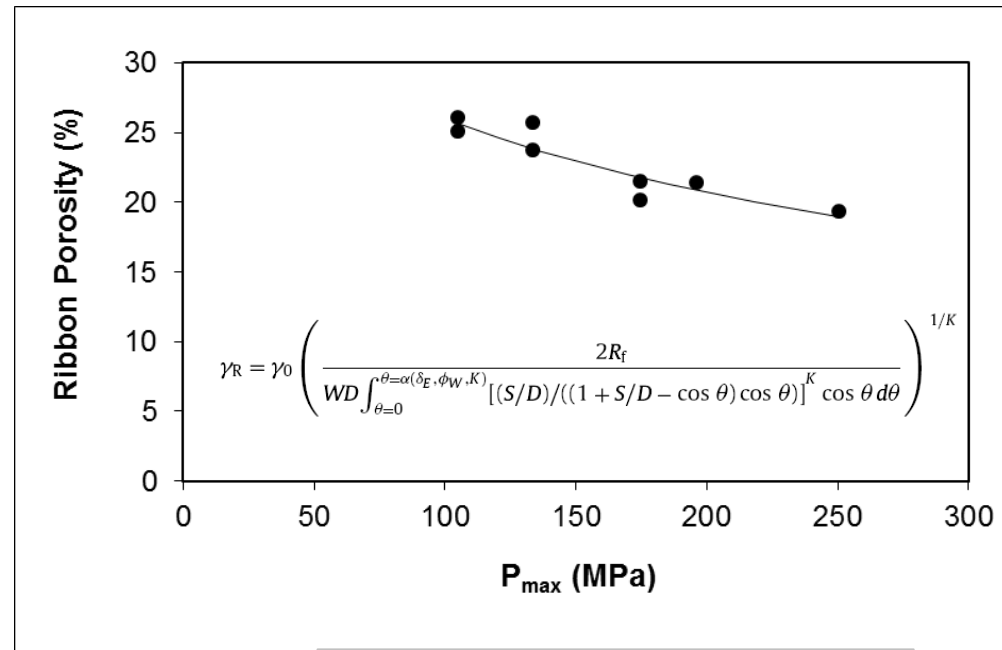
## RESPONSES



# Building the model: Roller Compactor



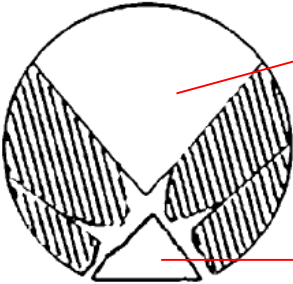
- The powder compaction properties are calibrated to RC experimental data.
- $P_{\max}$  is dependent on these parameters, so the model needs to be solved iteratively to determine  $\gamma_0$  and  $K$ .



Reynolds (2010), *Comp. Chem. Eng.* 34, 1049



# Building the model: Milling



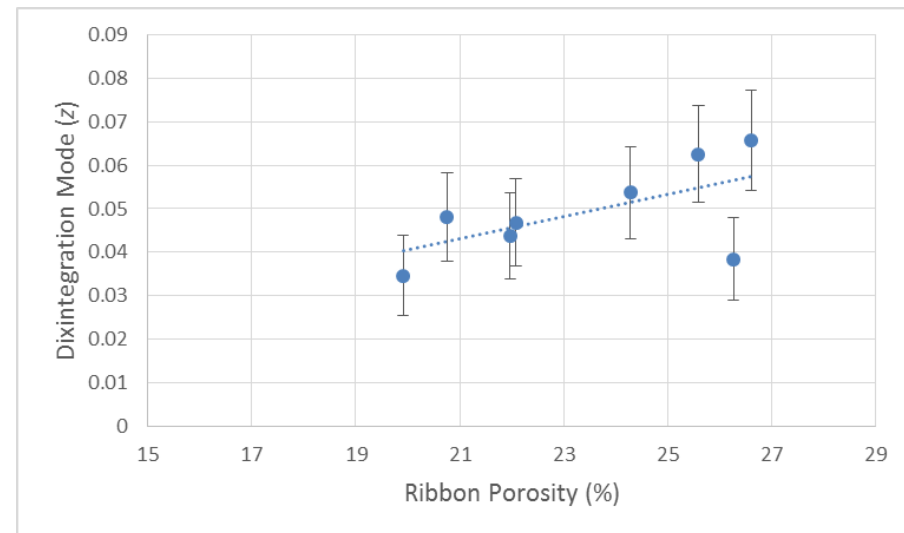
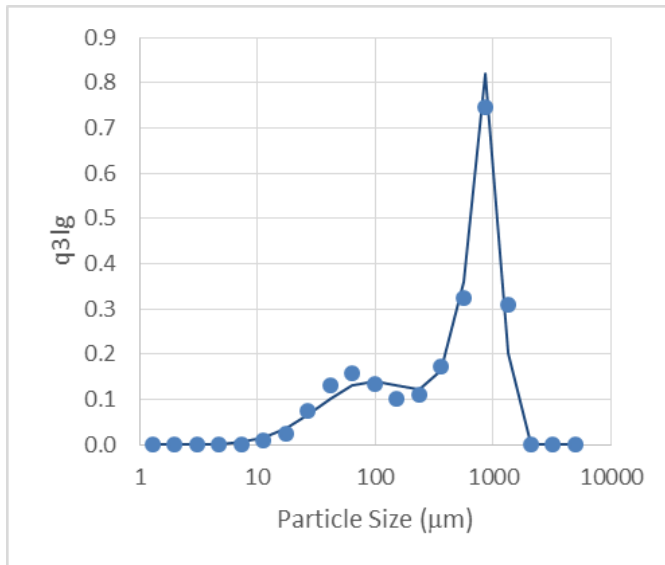
$$b(v, v) = \frac{u z}{3k_v^{1/3} v^{1/3}} \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi \ln \sigma_1}} \exp \left[ - \left( \frac{\ln \left( v^{1/3} / k_v^{1/3} \mu_1 \right)}{\sqrt{2 \ln \sigma_1}} \right)^2 \right] + (1-z) \frac{p}{u} \frac{\left( \frac{v}{u} \right)^{-1} \left( 1 - \left( \frac{v}{u} \right) \right)^{r-1}}{B(q, r)}$$

$$1 + \operatorname{erf} \left[ \frac{\ln u^{1/3} / k_v^{1/3} \mu_1}{\sqrt{2 \ln \sigma_1}} \right]$$

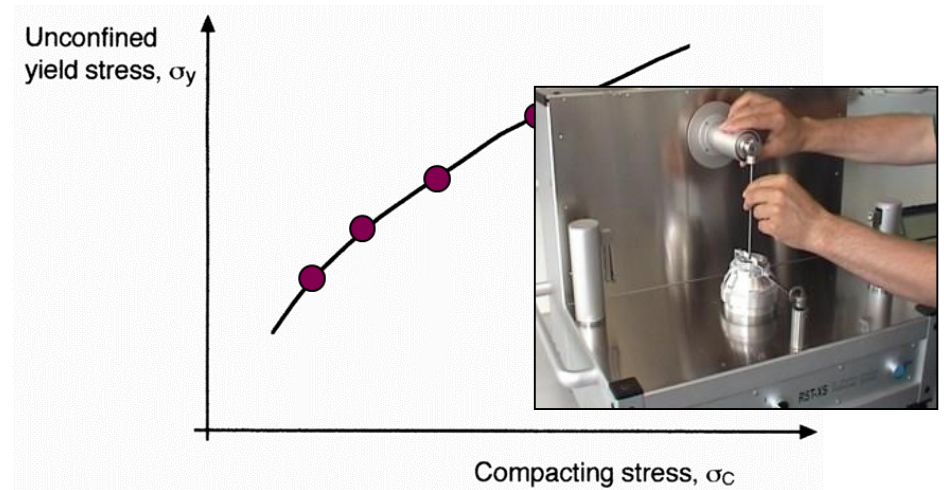
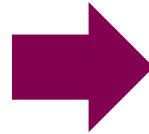
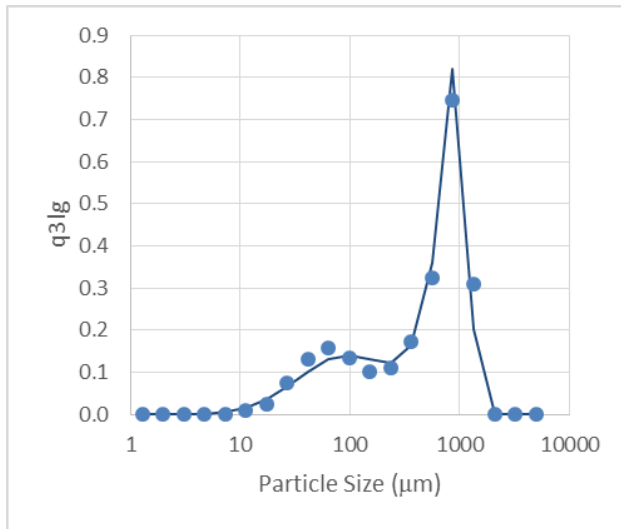
Reynolds (2010), Chem. Eng. J. 164, 383

## Model

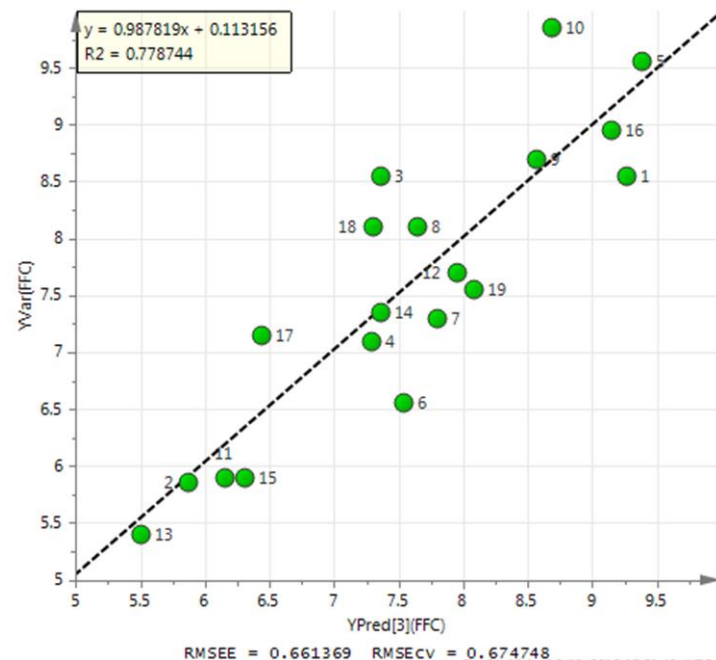
- Fine mode can be described with the size of initial powder.
- Size of coarse mode can be calculated based on screen size and dimensions of mill.
- Ratio between fine and coarse mode is a function of material properties and process parameters.



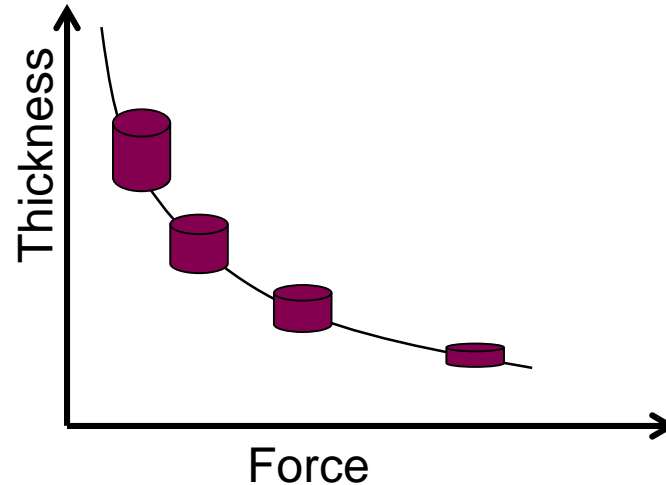
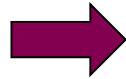
# Building the model: Granule Flowability



- PLS Model based on particle size metrics (d10, d50, d90 and d4,3) to predict FFC (4kPa)

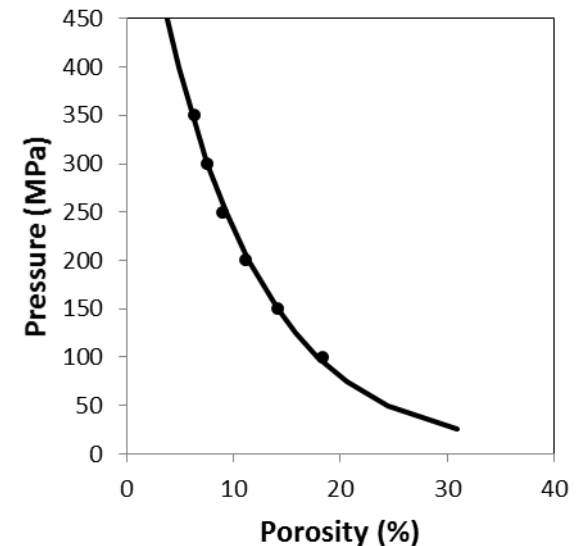


# Building the model: Tablet Press

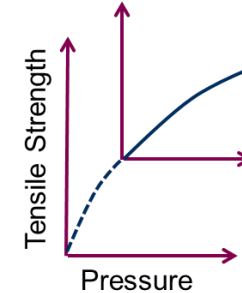
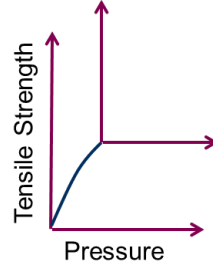
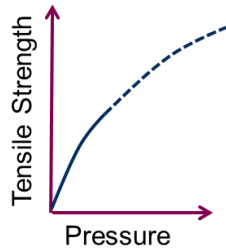
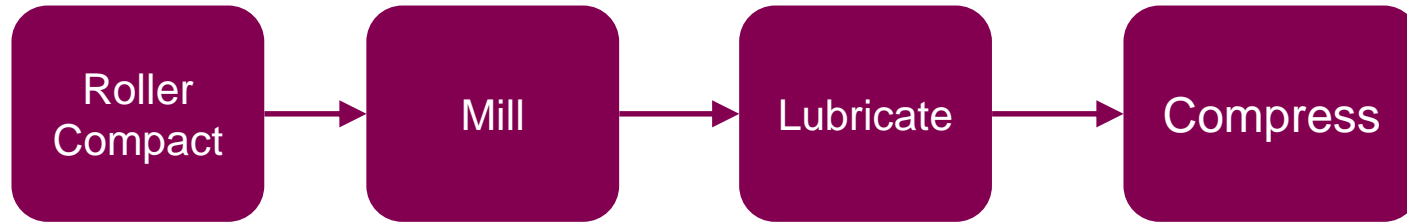
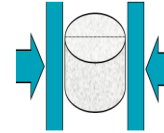


- A simple compaction model is implemented to determine tablet porosity from the tablet dimensions and punch force.

$$P = \frac{F}{A} \quad P = P_0 \exp[-K \varepsilon]$$



# Building the model: Tensile Strength



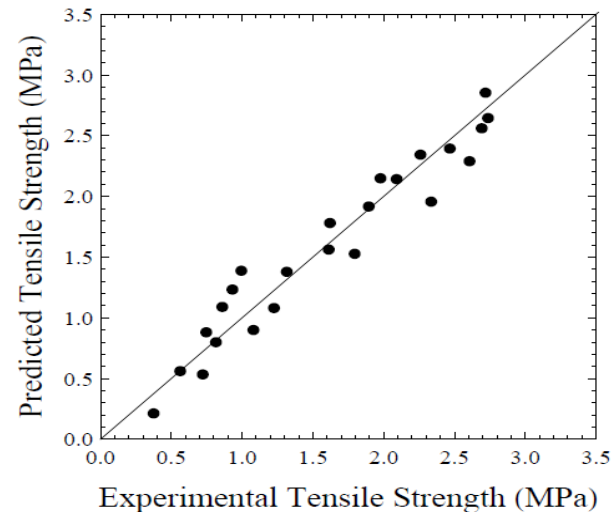
$$T_{tablet} = \bar{T}e^{-k_b \epsilon_{tablet}} - \bar{T}e^{-k_b \epsilon_{ribbon}}$$

Tablet porosity

Ribbon porosity

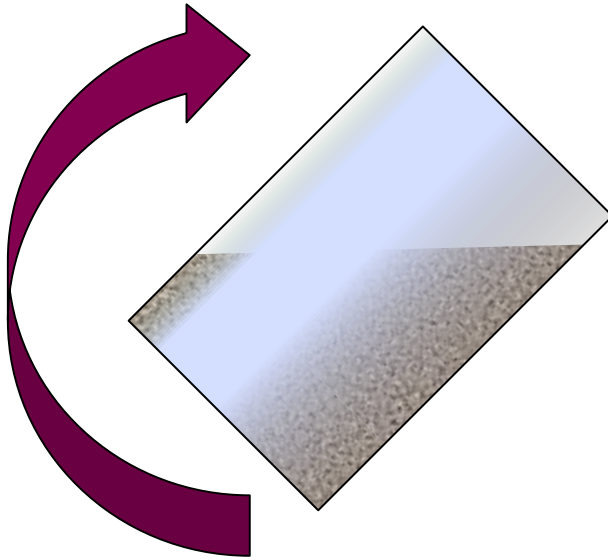
Parameter estimation

- Compaction profiles for several ribbon porosities



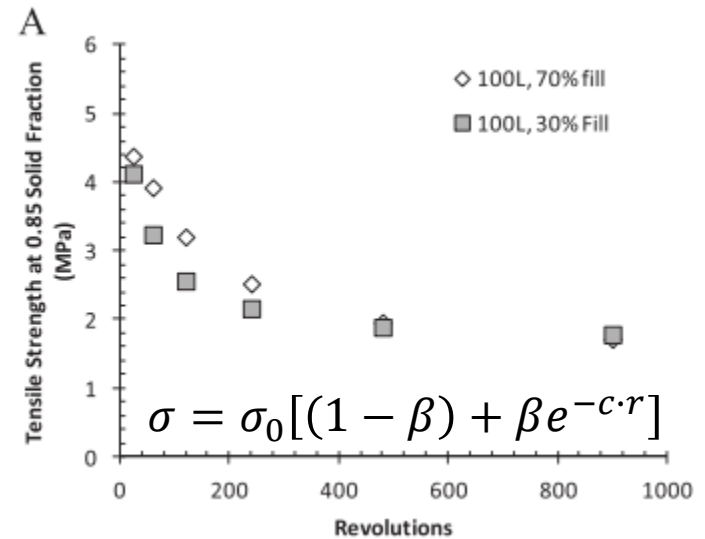


# Building the model: Lubrication

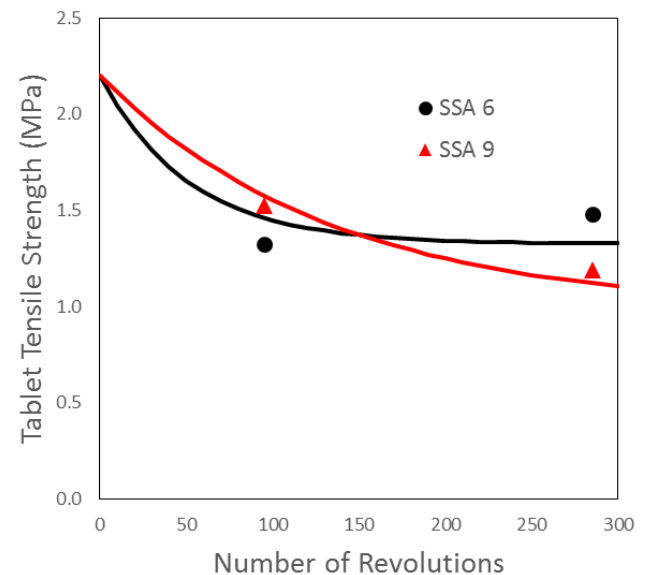


## Parameter estimation:

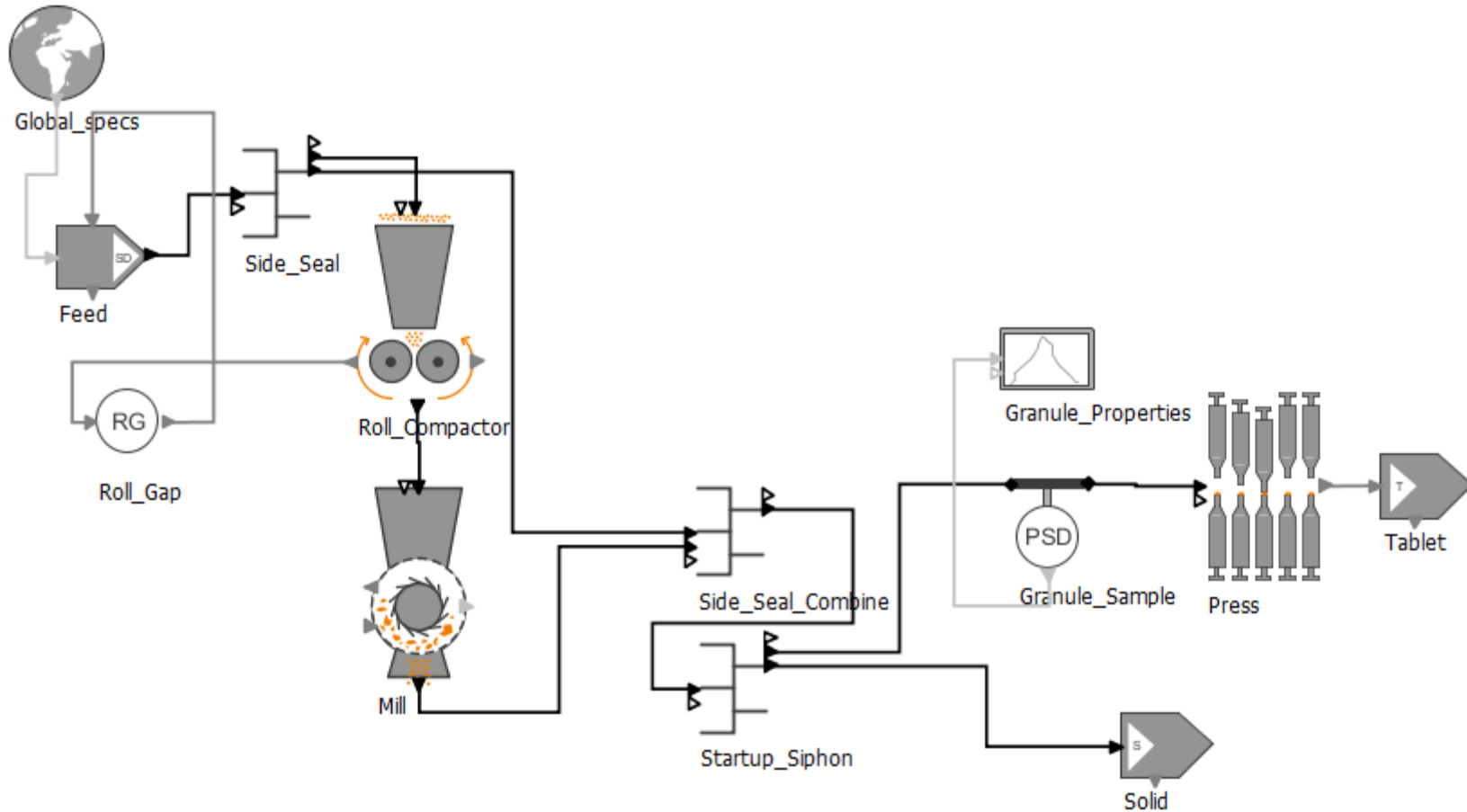
- $\beta$  and  $c$  estimated separately for lubricant SSA of  $6\text{m}^2/\text{g}$  and  $9\text{m}^2/\text{g}$
- Describe extent and rate of overlubrication



Kushner & Schlack (2014), *Int J Pharm* 475, pp 147-155

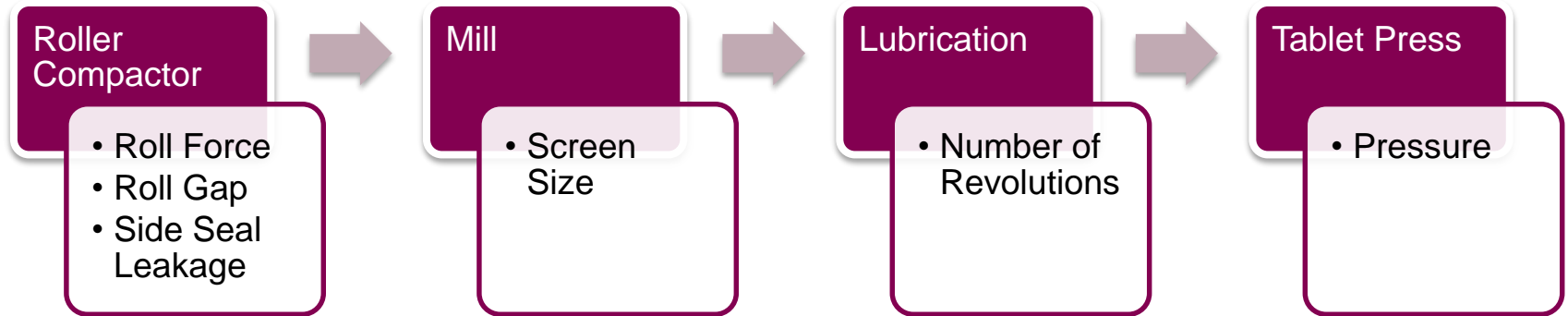


# gSolids implementation

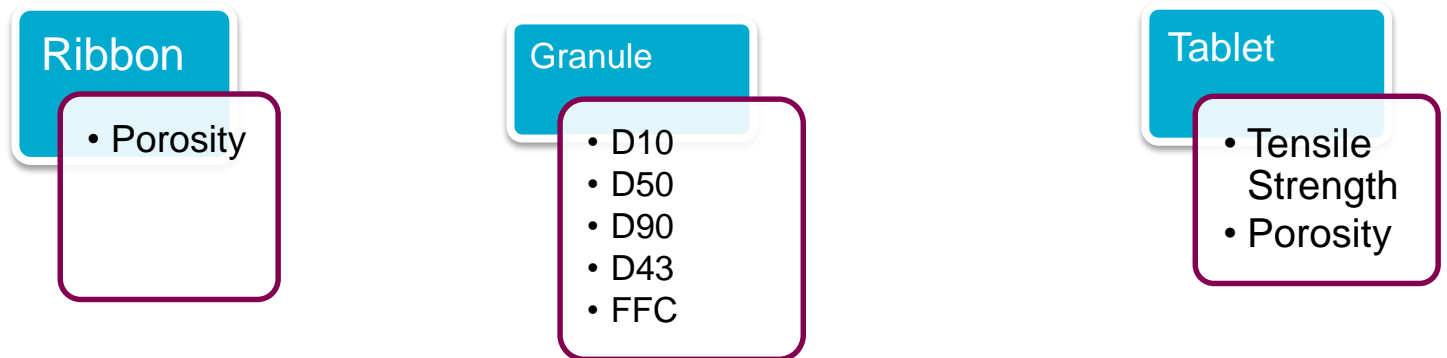


# 'Virtual Experimental Design': Factors to investigate

## FACTORS



## RESPONSES



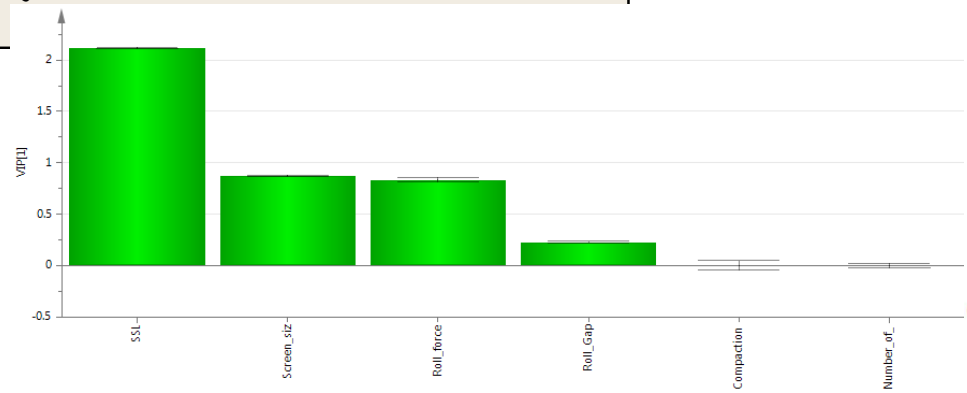
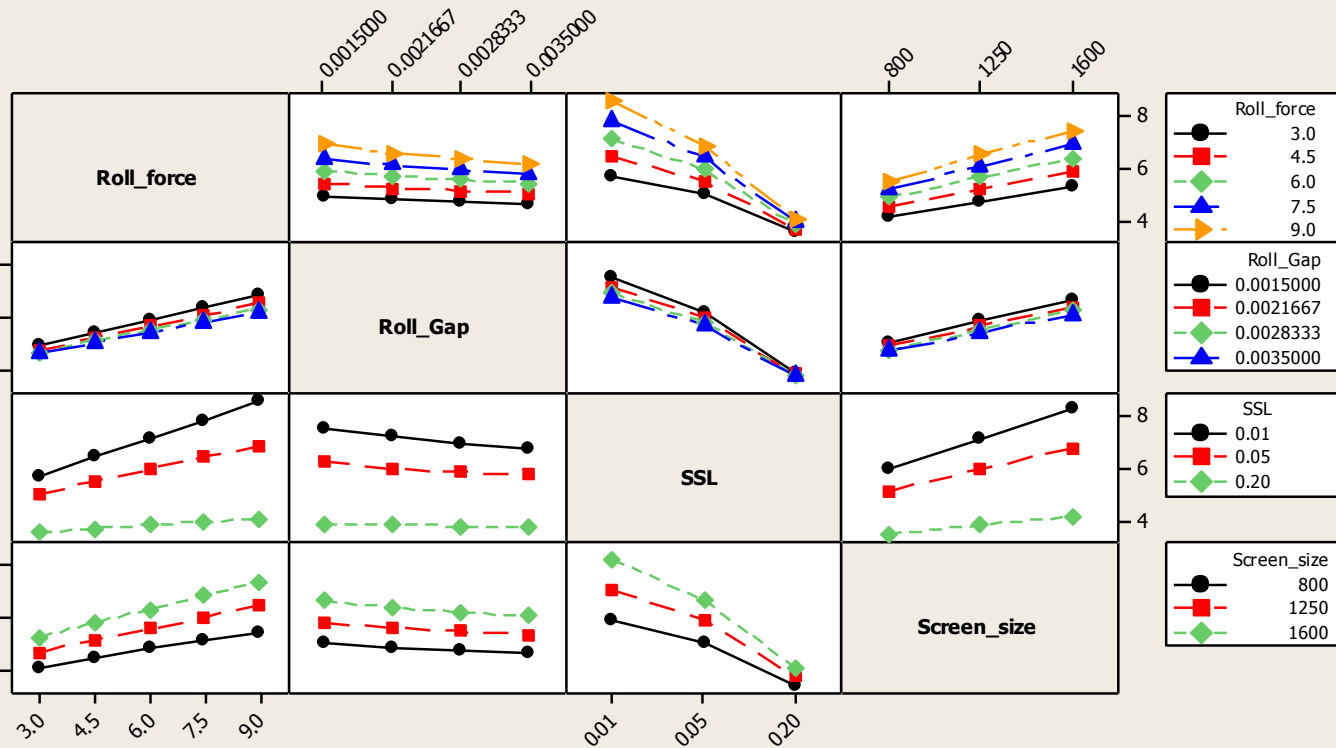
*The results presented in the following slides are the result of over 3000 automated simulations performed by varying these factors.*



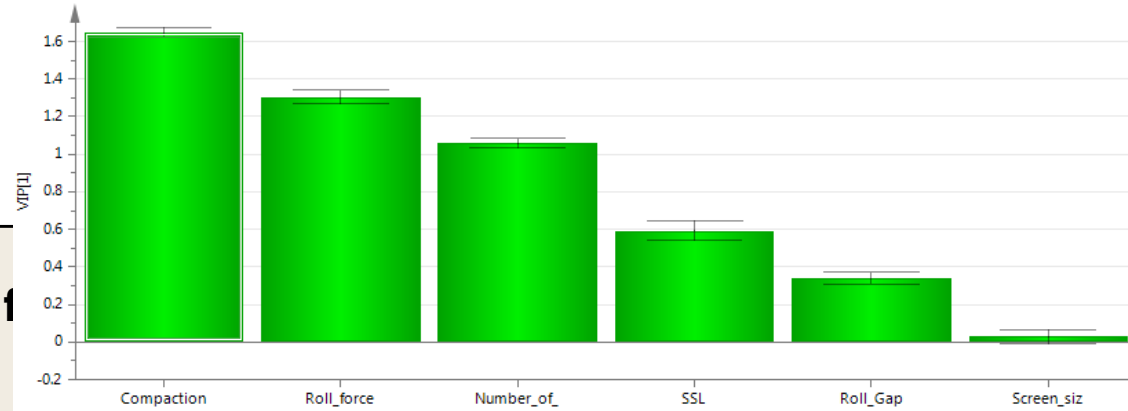
# 'Virtual Experimental Design': FFC

## Interaction Plot for FFC

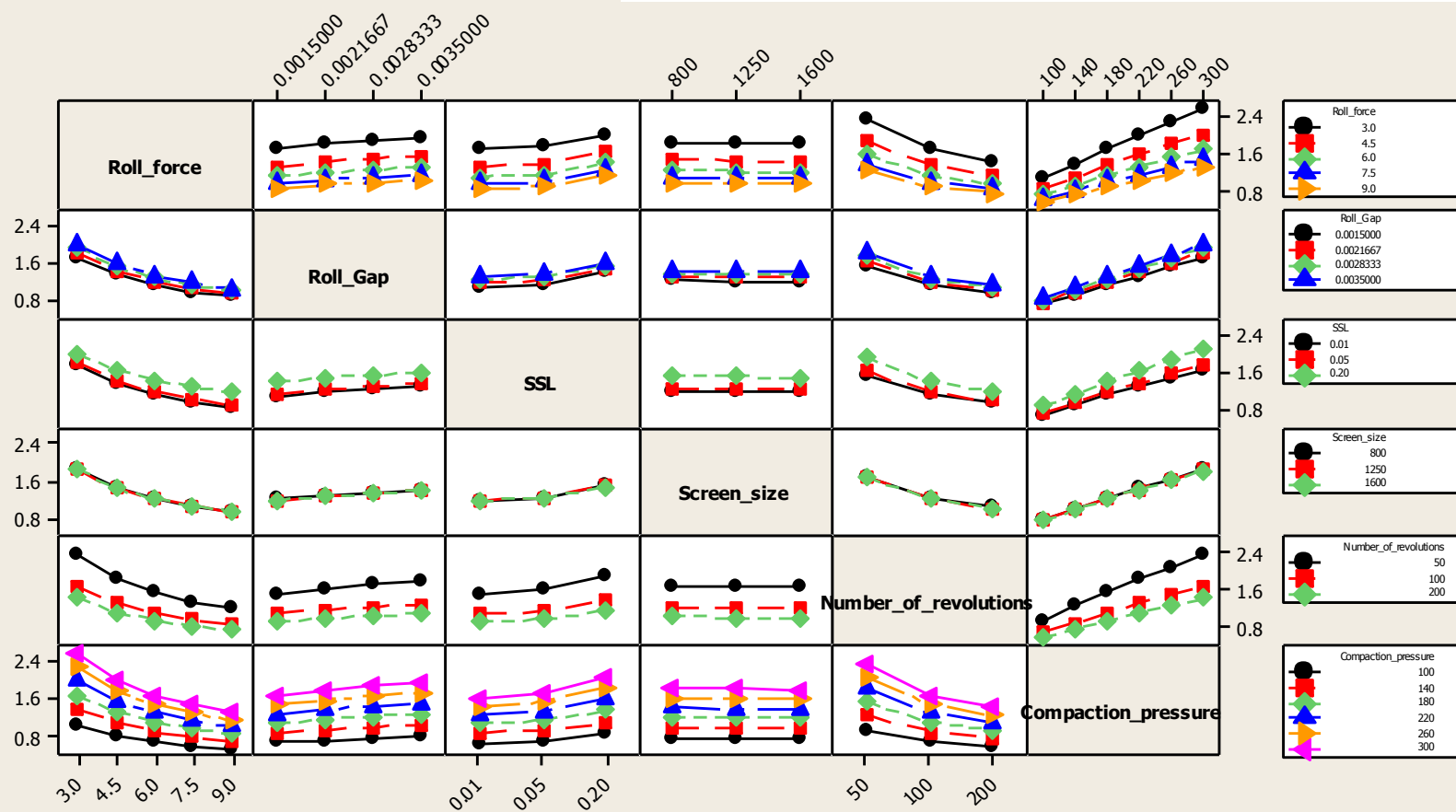
Data Means



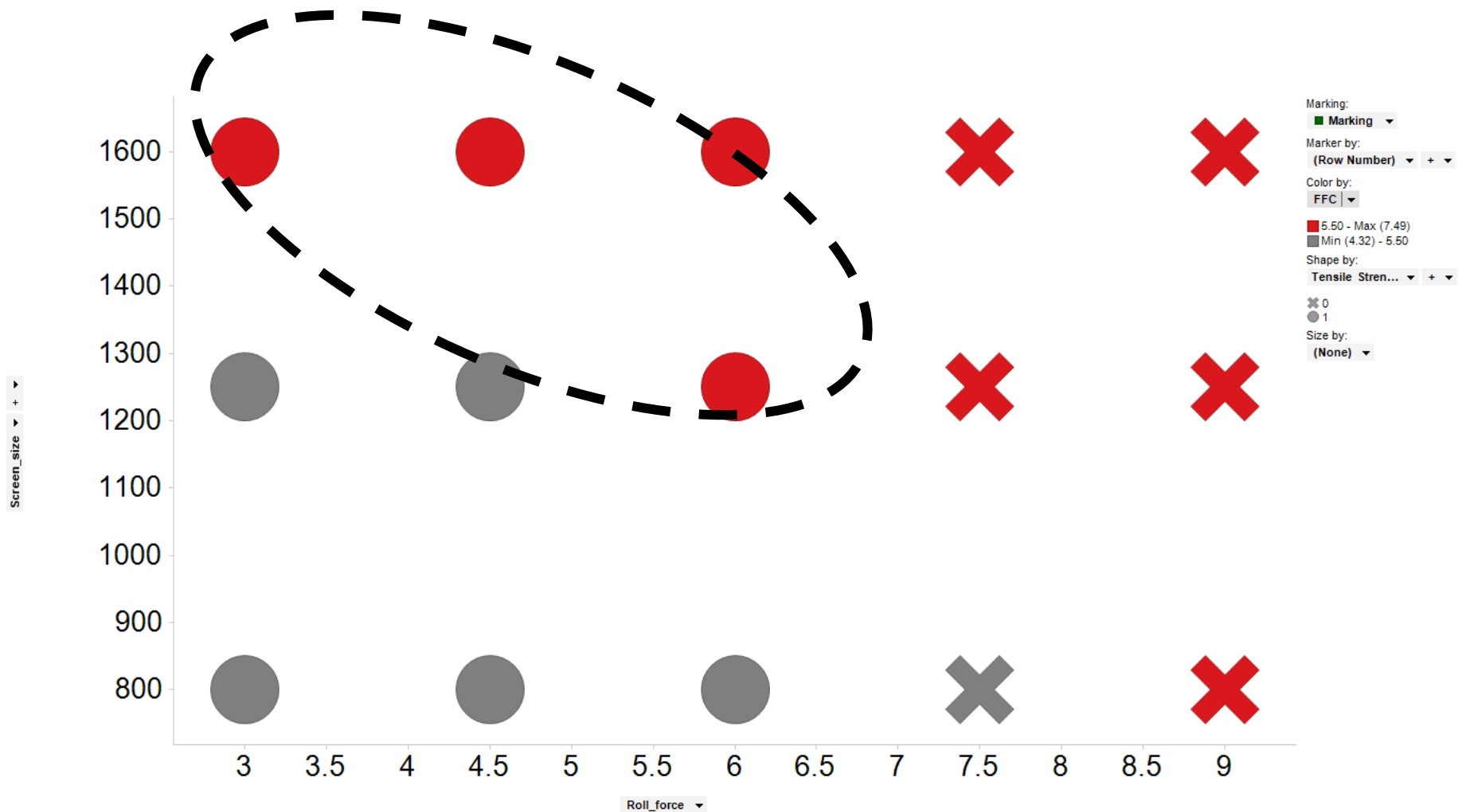
# 'Virtual Experimental Design': Tensile Strength



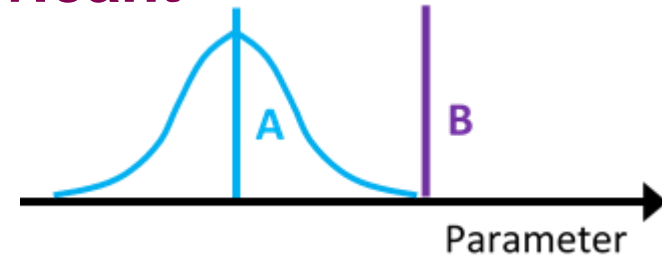
Interaction Plot 1



# 'Virtual Experimental Design': Operating Space

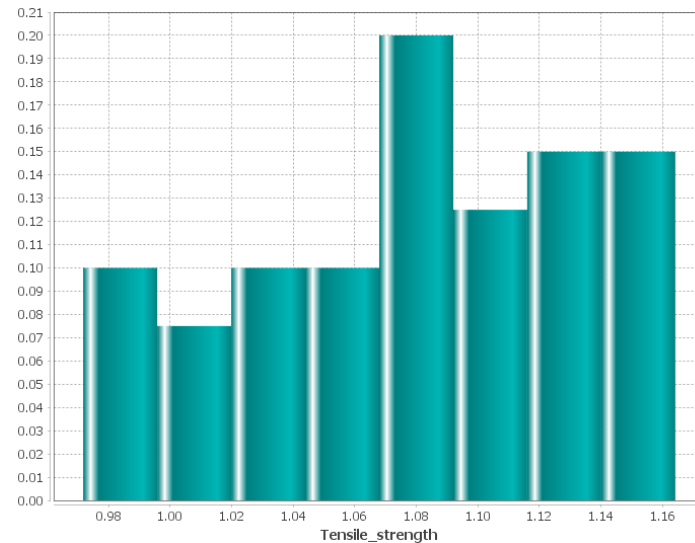
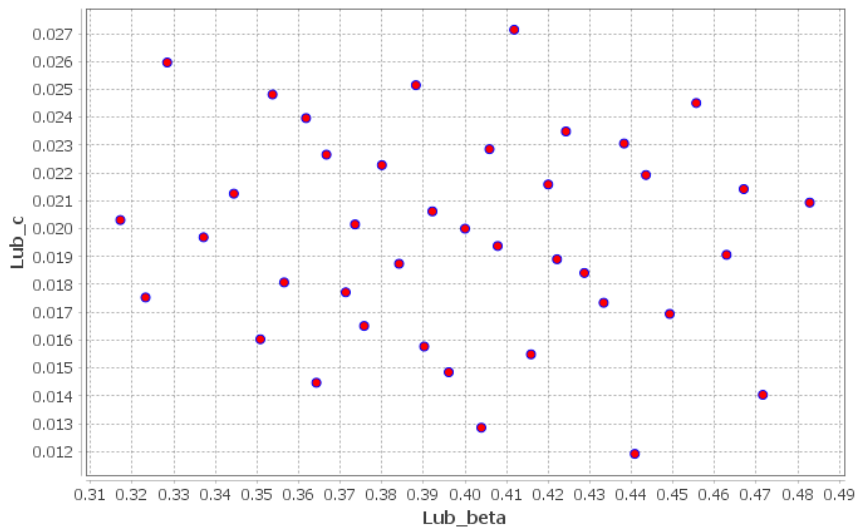


# Uncertainty Analysis: Variability in lubricant



What is the impact on tablet tensile strength from variability in lubricant specific surface area?

Lubrication parameters varied using a normal distribution with mean equivalent to 6 m<sup>2</sup>/g and span (3 standard deviations) up to the parameters for 9 m<sup>2</sup>/g.



COV: ~ 5% Variation in tablet tensile strength



# Summary



# Summary

- Qualitative tools for process understanding can be used to define the scope and framework for a quantitative model
- Automated interrogation or 'virtual experimental design' of a system model is an efficient way to rapidly quantify the importance and criticality of material properties and process parameters on product quality attributes
- Uncertainty analysis can be used to understand the impact of variability of raw material properties on product quality attributes



# Acknowledgements

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Britest

Martin Edwards, Mark Talford





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