

## Engineering Conferences International ECI Digital Archives

---

Fluidization XV

Proceedings

---

5-23-2016

# Pickup velocity of nanoparticles

Jia Wei Chew

*Singapore Membrane Technology Center, Nanyang Environment and Water Research Institute, Singapore, [jchew@ntu.edu.sg](mailto:jchew@ntu.edu.sg)*

J. Ruud van Ommen

*Chemical Engineering, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands*

Aditya Anantharaman

*School of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore*

Follow this and additional works at: [http://dc.engconfintl.org/fluidization\\_xv](http://dc.engconfintl.org/fluidization_xv)

 Part of the [Chemical Engineering Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Jia Wei Chew, J. Ruud van Ommen, and Aditya Anantharaman, "Pickup velocity of nanoparticles" in "Fluidization XV", Jamal Chaouki, Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal, Canada Franco Berruti, Wewstern University, Canada Xiaotao Bi, UBC, Canada Ray Cocco, PSRI Inc. USA Eds, ECI Symposium Series, (2016). [http://dc.engconfintl.org/fluidization\\_xv/23](http://dc.engconfintl.org/fluidization_xv/23)

This Abstract and Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Proceedings at ECI Digital Archives. It has been accepted for inclusion in Fluidization XV by an authorized administrator of ECI Digital Archives. For more information, please contact [franco@bepress.com](mailto:franco@bepress.com).

# Pickup Velocity of Nanoparticles

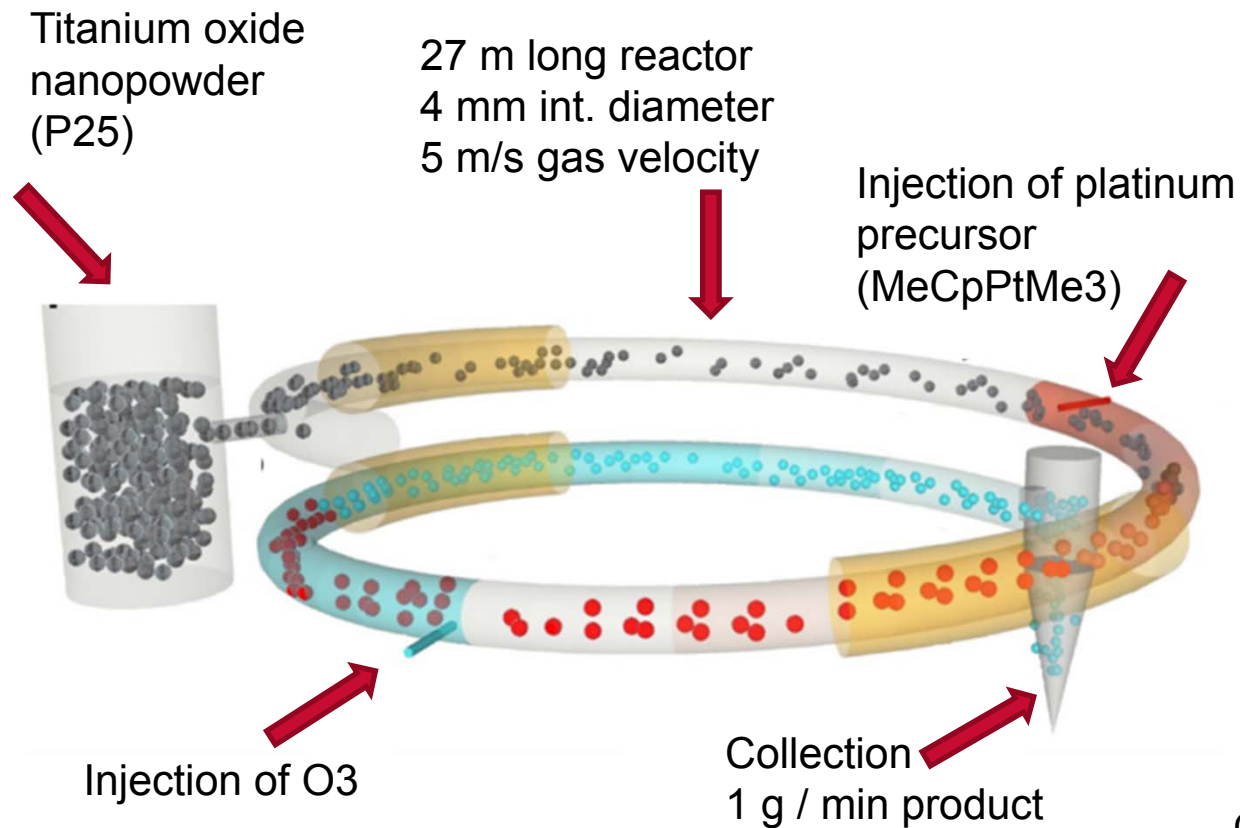
Aditya Anatharaman<sup>a</sup>, J. Ruud van Ommen<sup>b</sup>, Jia Wei Chew<sup>a</sup>  
*Nanyang Technological University (Singapore)*  
*Delft University of Technology (Netherlands)*



Fluidization XV, May 2016

# Introduction

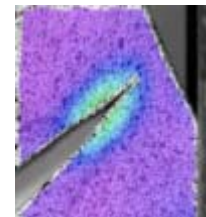
## Pneumatic transport reactor for coating nanoparticles



Catalysts



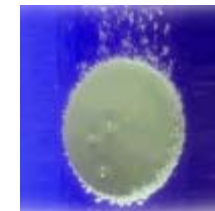
Q-dots for PV



Self-healing mat.



Li-ion batteries



Controlled release



Nuclear medicine

van Ommen *et al.* (2015)  
*J. Vac. Sci. Technol. A* 33, 021513

Coming 6 months:  
scale up to 1kg/min via



# Introduction

- Critical velocities for gas-solid pneumatic conveying
  - Minimum pickup velocity ( $U_{pu}$ ): Minimum fluid velocity necessary to start the motion of a particle initially at rest (Halow 1973)
  - Minimum saltation velocity ( $U_{salt}$ ): Maximum fluid velocity at which the suspended particles commence to sediment (Cabrejos and Klinzing 1992)
- Why  $U_{pu}$  is important
  - Start-up; re-suspension
  - Provides operational rule-of-thumb

## First systematic study of pneumatic conveying of nanoparticles

Halow JS, (1973). Chemical Engineering Science, 28, 1-12

Cabrejos FJ, Klinzing GE (1992). Powder Technology, 72, 51-61

# Our six “standard” powders

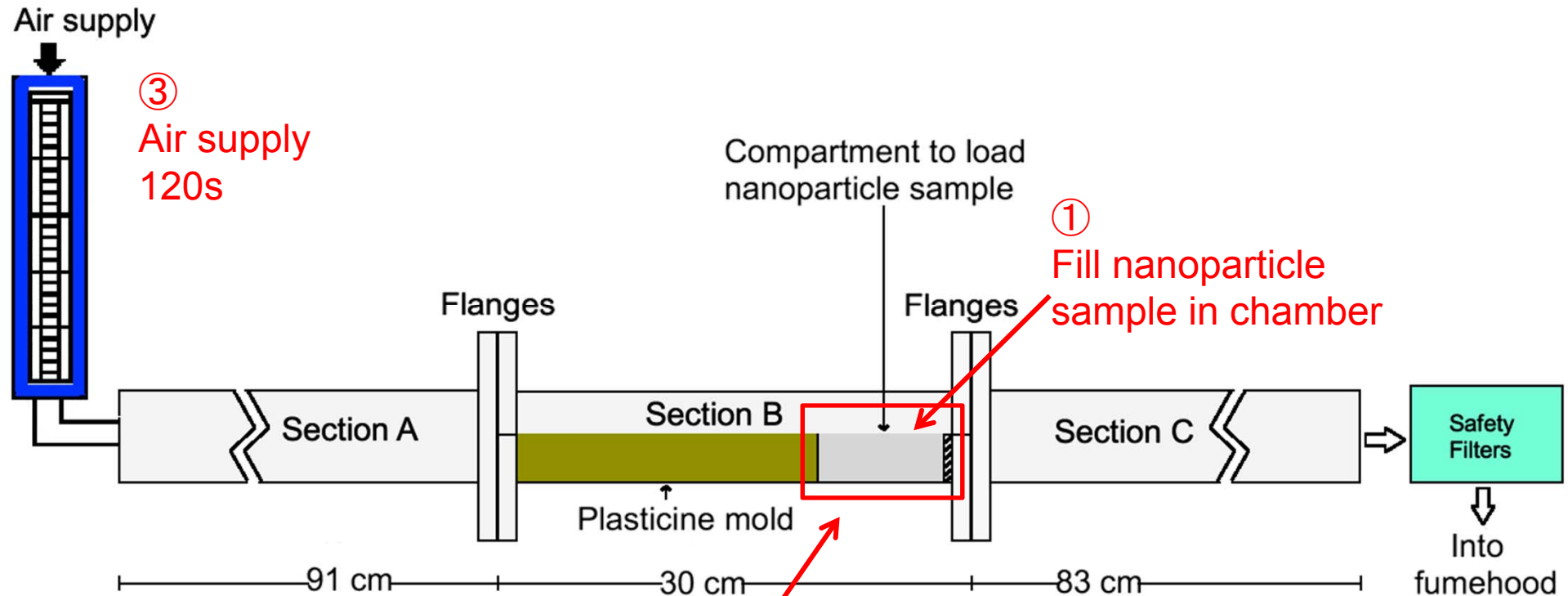
Commercial name (Evonik)	Material	Surf. type	Particle diam. (nm)	Particle density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Hamaker coeff. (J)
<b>Aerosil 130</b>	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Polar	16	2200	6.6·10 <sup>-20</sup>
<b>Aerosil R972</b>		Apolar			
<b>Aeroxide Alu C</b>	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Polar	13	3600	1.45·10 <sup>-19</sup>
<b>Aeroxide Alu C805</b>		Apolar			
<b>Aeroxide P25</b>	TiO <sub>2</sub>	Polar	21	4000	1.54·10 <sup>-19</sup>
<b>Aeroxide T805</b>		Apolar			

## *Earlier studies with these powders*

**Fluidized bed:** Tahmasebpour et al. *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.* 15(2013) 5788

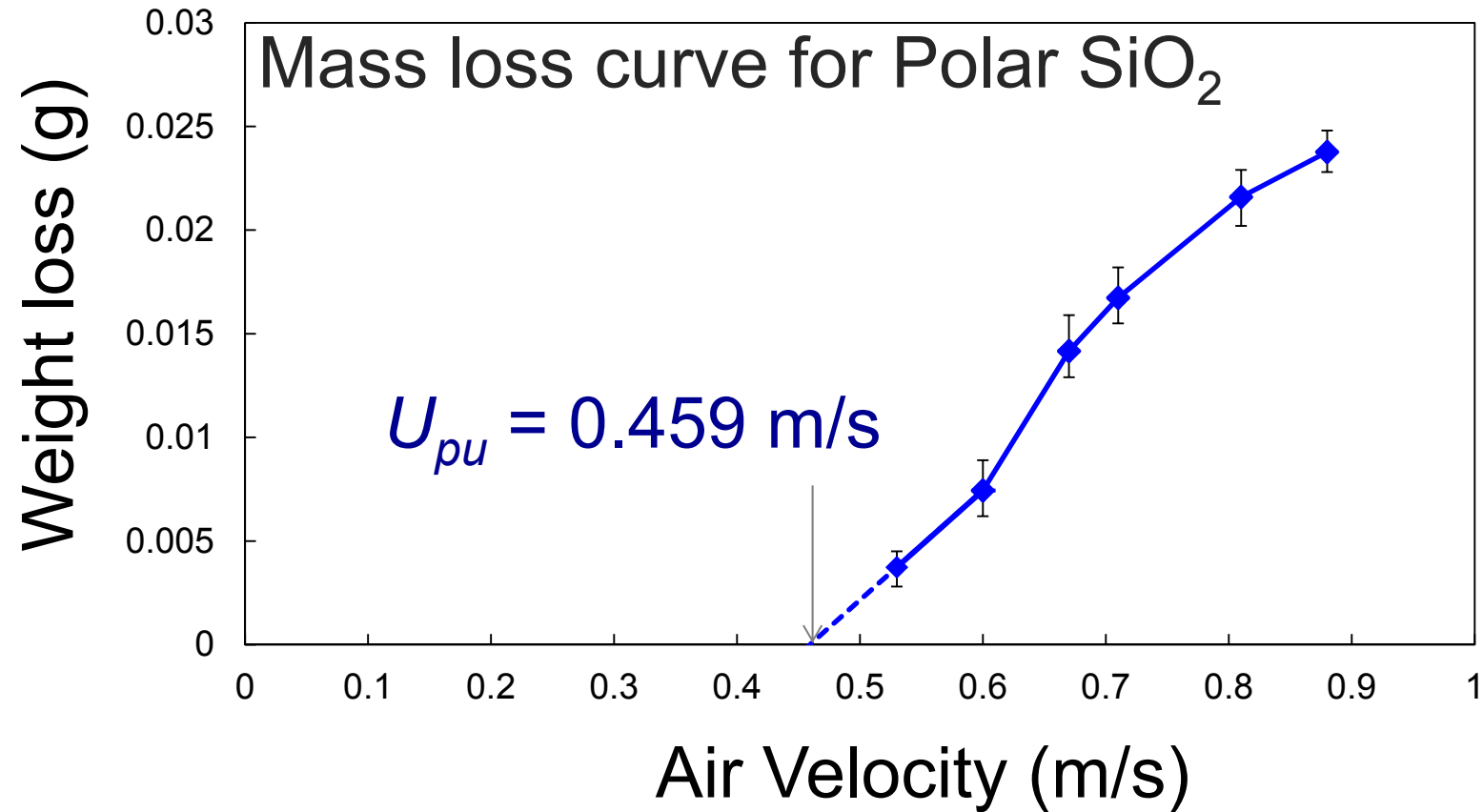
**Powder flow shear tester:** Xanthakis et al., *Powder Technol.* 286 (2015) 156

# Procedure to Measure $U_{pu}$

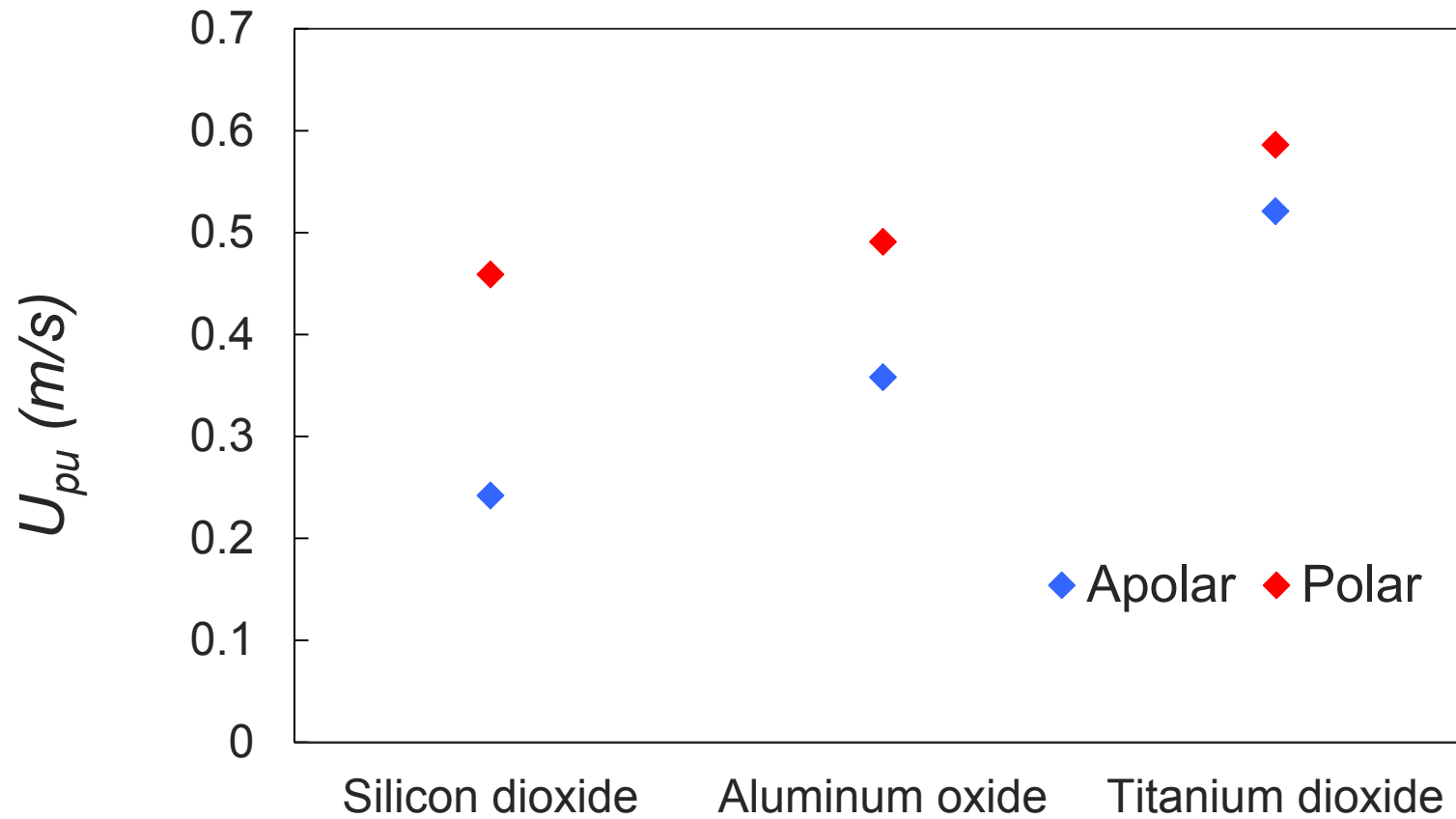


② Weigh bottom part of Section B and  
 ④ Disassemble and weigh bottom part  
 of section B again to note mass loss  
 assemble apparatus

# Determining $U_{pu}$



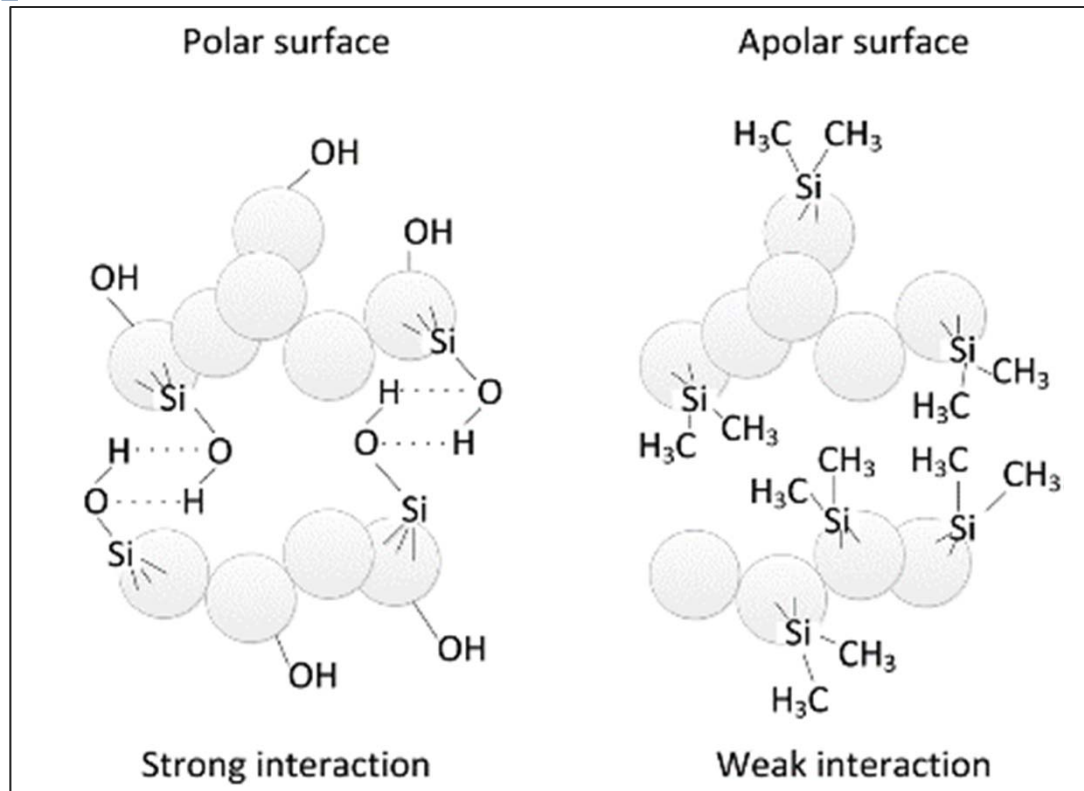
# $U_{pu}$ Values





# Apolar vs Polar

8

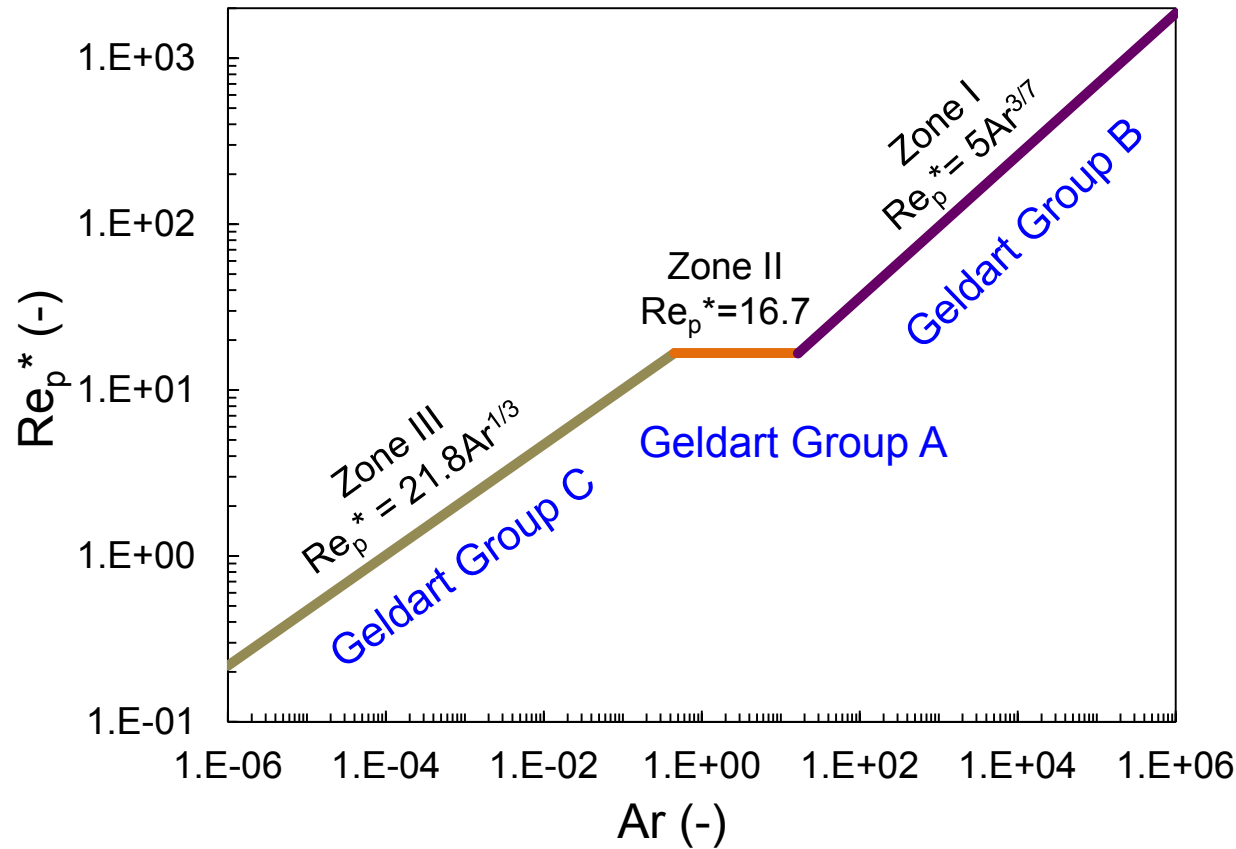


Polar nanoparticles: Hydroxyl groups on surface,

Apolar nanoparticles: Hydroxyl groups absent, replaced by organic groups during hydrophobization

Tahmasebpour et al. (2013) Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics, 15, 5788

# 'Geldart Groups'



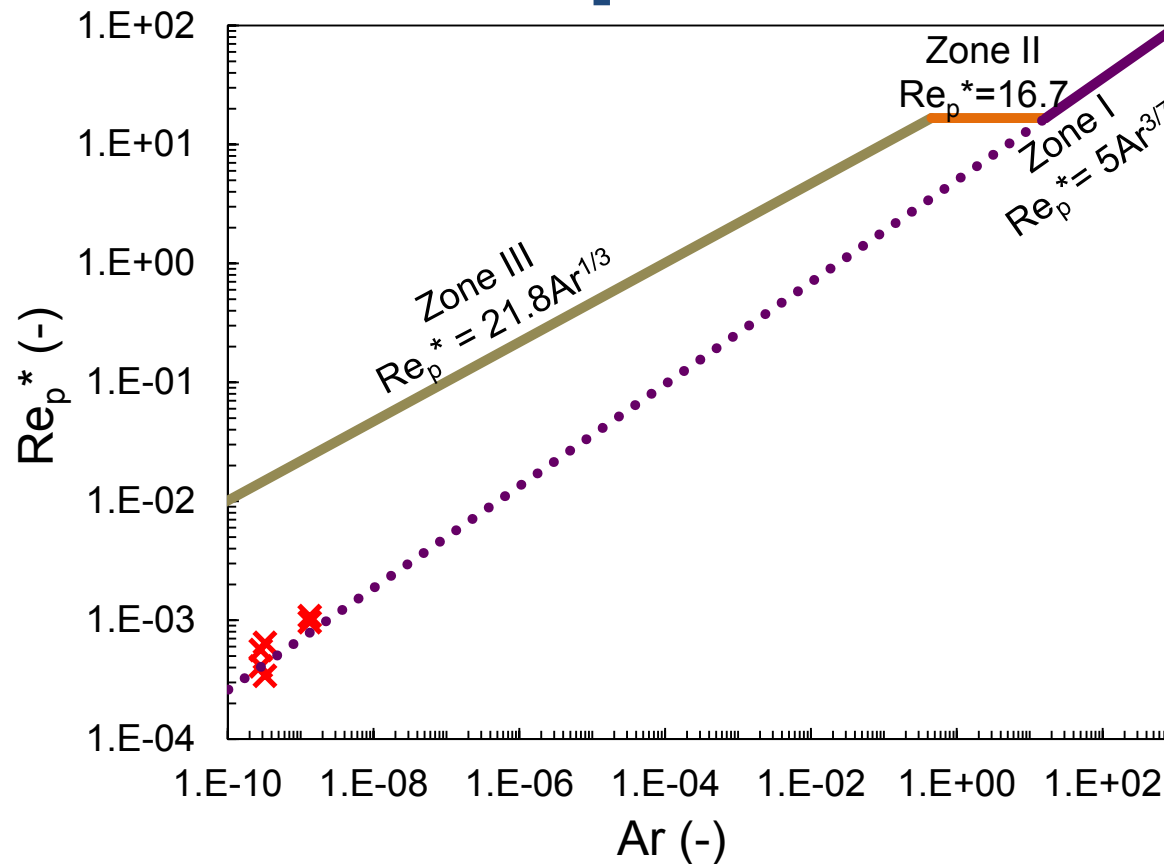
## Three-zone model of Kalman et al. (2005)

- Zone I:  $Re_p^* = 5Ar^{3/7}$  for  $Ar \geq 16.5$
- Zone II:  $Re_p^* = 16.7$  for  $0.45 < Ar < 16.5$
- Zone III:  $Re_p^* = 21.8Ar^{1/3}$  for  $Ar \leq 0.45$

$$Re_p^* = \frac{\rho_p d_p U_{pu}}{\mu_f \left[ 1.4 - 0.8 \exp\left(-\frac{D/D_{ref}}{1.5}\right) \right]} \quad Ar = \frac{g \rho_f (\rho_p - \rho_f) d_p^3}{\mu_f^2}$$

Kalman et al., (2005). Powder Technology 160, 103-113;

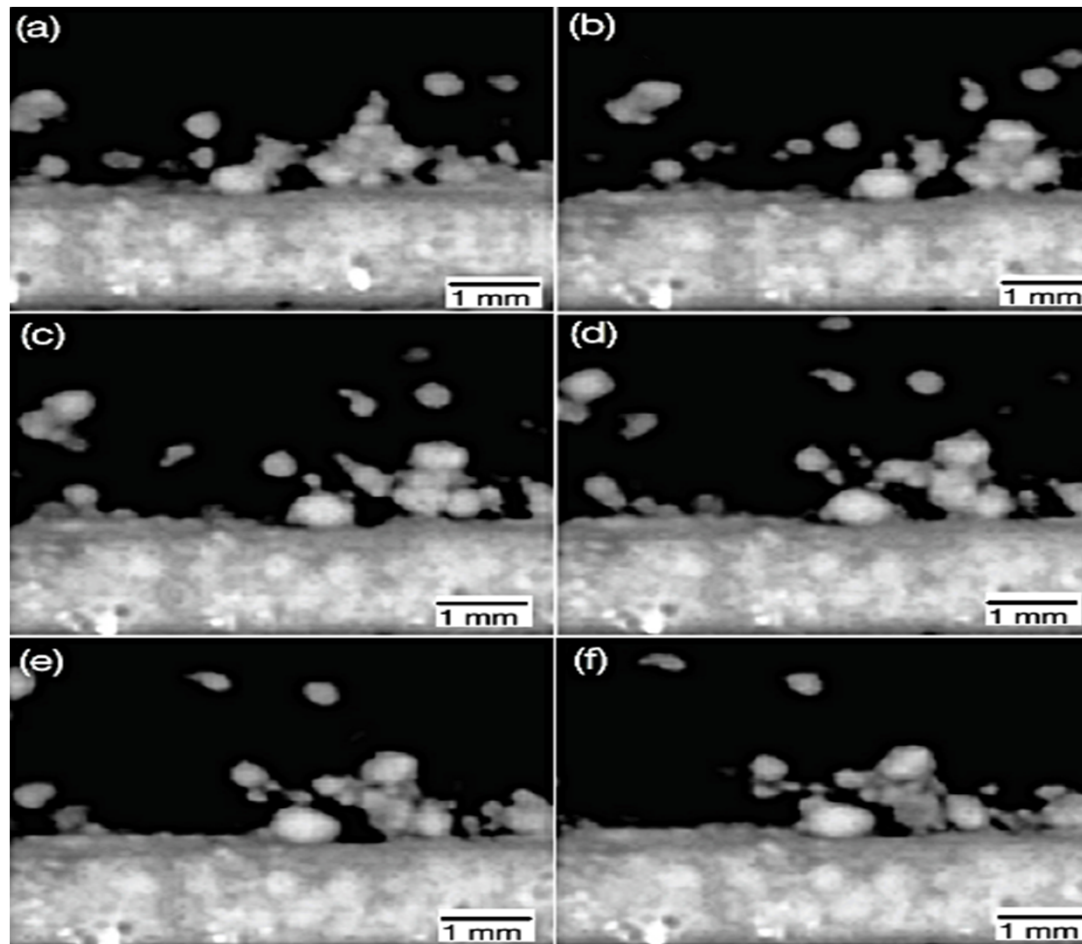
# 'Geldart Groups'



- $U_{pu}$  an order-of-magnitude lower than predicted.
  - $Re_p^*$  order-of-magnitude smaller than Zone III prediction.
- $U_{pu}$  values agree well with extrapolated Zone I (Geldart Group B) correlation

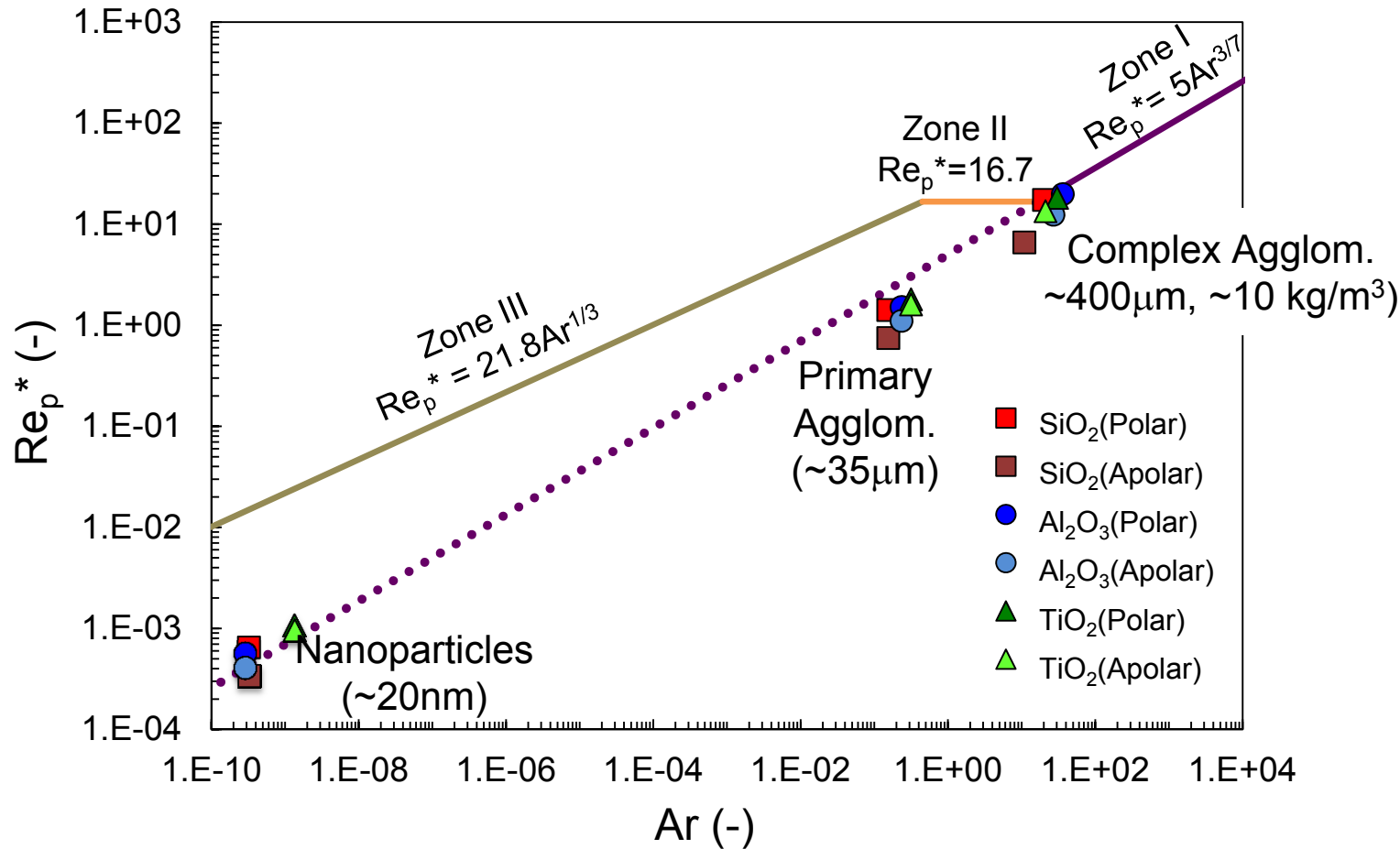
# Nanoparticle Agglomerates

11



Unsurprisingly, nanoparticles are entrained in agglomerates

# Zones in Pneumatic Conveying



Primary and complex agglomerates agree well with Zone I  
(Geldart Group B)

# Conclusions

- Nanoparticles can be pneumatically transported!
- Polar nanoparticles have greater  $U_{pu}$  than apolar nanoparticles.
- Difference between  $U_{pu}$  polar and apolar species decrease in the order:  
$$\text{SiO}_2 > \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 > \text{TiO}_2$$
- $U_{pu}$  of nanoparticles lower than predicted  
→ Nanoparticles are entrained as porous micron sized agglomerates.
- Behavior of nanoparticles corresponds more with pickup Zone I (Geldart Group B) than Zone III (Geldart Group C).

## Acknowledgement

The authors thank the financial support from

- the National Research Foundation (NRF), Prime Minister's Office, Singapore under its Campus for Research Excellence and Technological Enterprise (CREATE) program (M4098010)
- Singapore's Ministry of Education Academic Research Fund Tier 1 (M4011437).

# Pickup Velocity of Nanoparticles

**Aditya Anatharaman<sup>a</sup>, Ruud van Ommen<sup>b</sup>, Jia Wei Chew<sup>a</sup>**  
*Nanyang Technological University (Singapore)*  
*Delft University of Technology (Netherlands)*

