



# Ice Cream Properties Affected by Homogenization

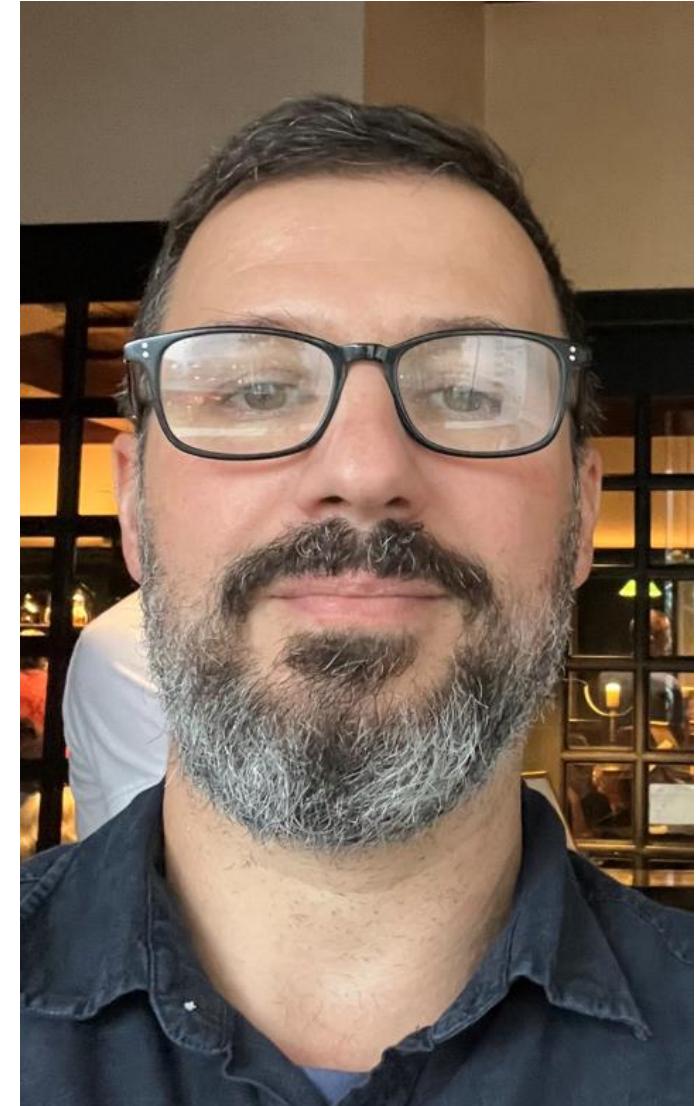
Pavlos Kouroutsidis & Darin Dye

**FDC**   
**2024 Annual Technical Conference**



## About Us: Pavlos Kouroutsidis

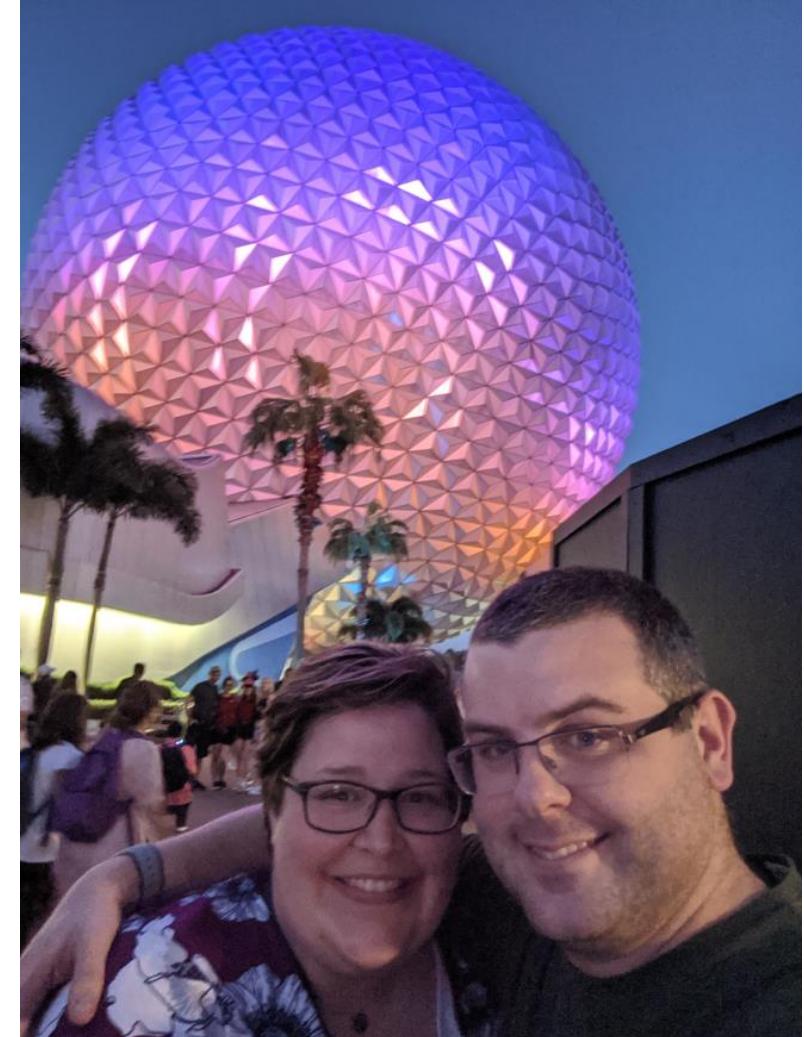
- ▶ 18 years as Application Specialist for Homogenizers & HP pumps
- ▶ Graduated college with M.S. in Chemical Engineering – Food Science
- ▶ Favorite flavor of ice cream:
  - Aggie blue mint





## About Us: Darin Dye

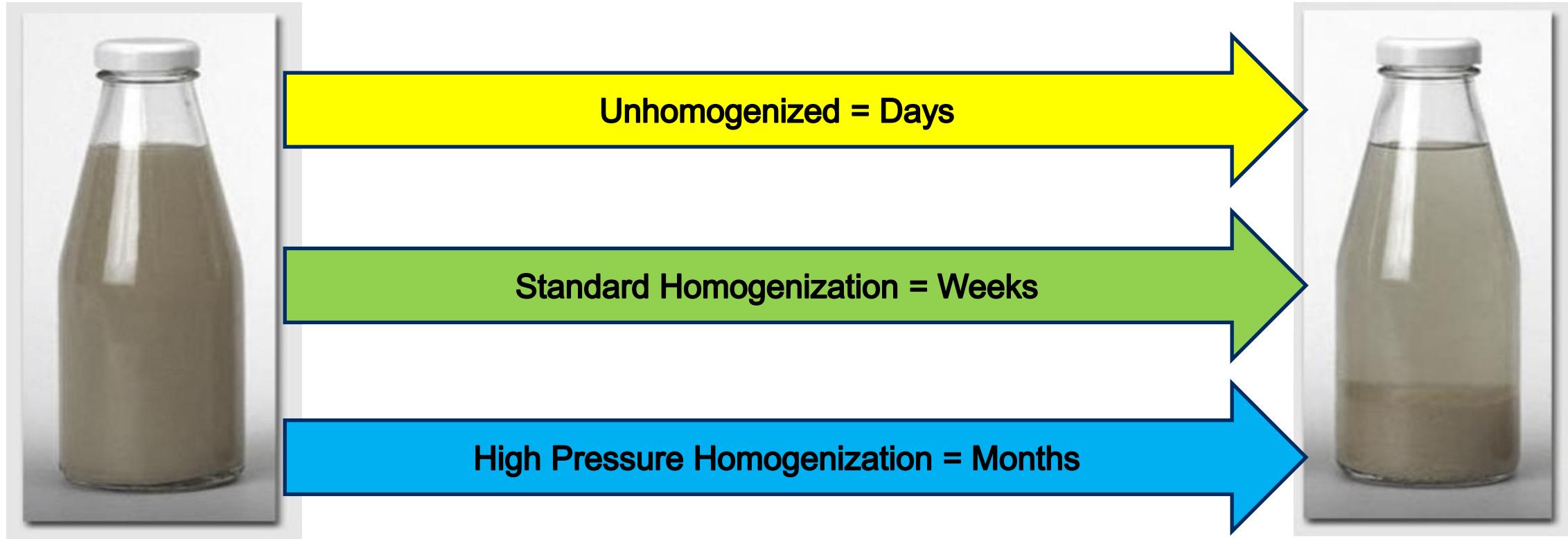
- ▶ 11 years as Application Engineer for Homogenizers & HP pumps
- ▶ Graduated college with B.S. in Mechanical Engineering
- ▶ Favorite flavor of ice cream:
  - Chocolate chip cookie dough



# Refresher on Homogenizer's Purpose & Function



# Stability of Suspensions



Target Product

Fully separated



# Governing Equation (Natural Stability)

Speed of Separation  
Lower = Better

Rising or settling velocity of particles is given by

$$V_c = \frac{g d^2 (\rho_w - \rho_o)}{18 \eta}$$

STOKES' LAW

Particle Size

$V_c$  = settling/creaming velocity  
 $d$  = particle diameter  
 $\rho_w$  = particle density  
 $\rho_o$  = fluid density  
 $\eta$  = fluid viscosity

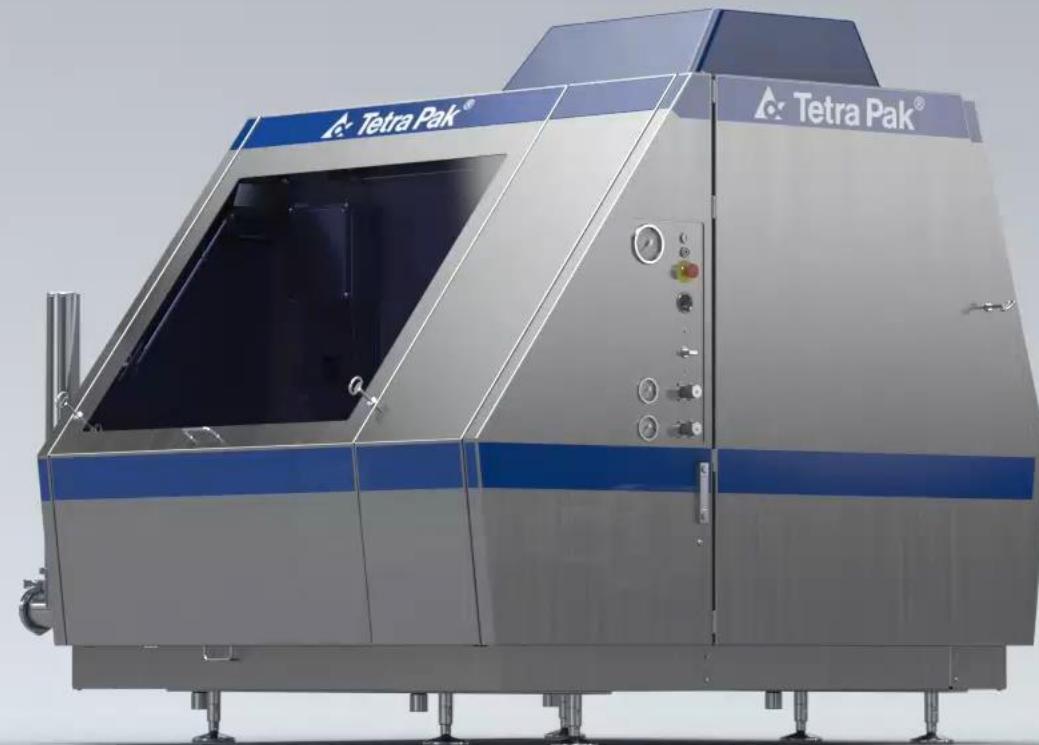
Product stability improved **BEFORE** adding gums/emulsifiers/etc

$\frac{1}{2}$  size particles =  $\frac{1}{4}$  rate of separation (aka 4x longer shelf life)



# Tetra Pak® Homogenizer

## Drive end - Working principle





# Tetra Pak® Homogenizer

## Pump block - Working principle





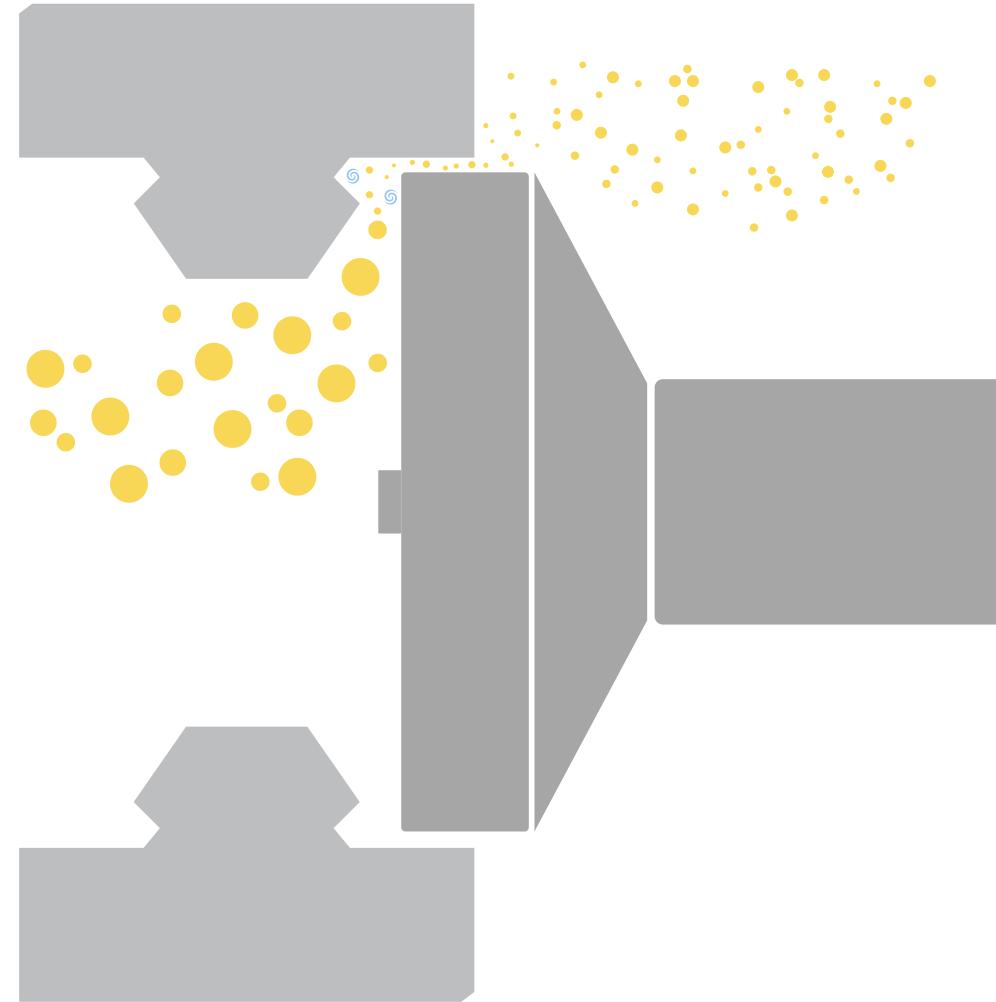
# Tetra Pak® Homogenizer

Working principle Homogenization Device (HD 100)



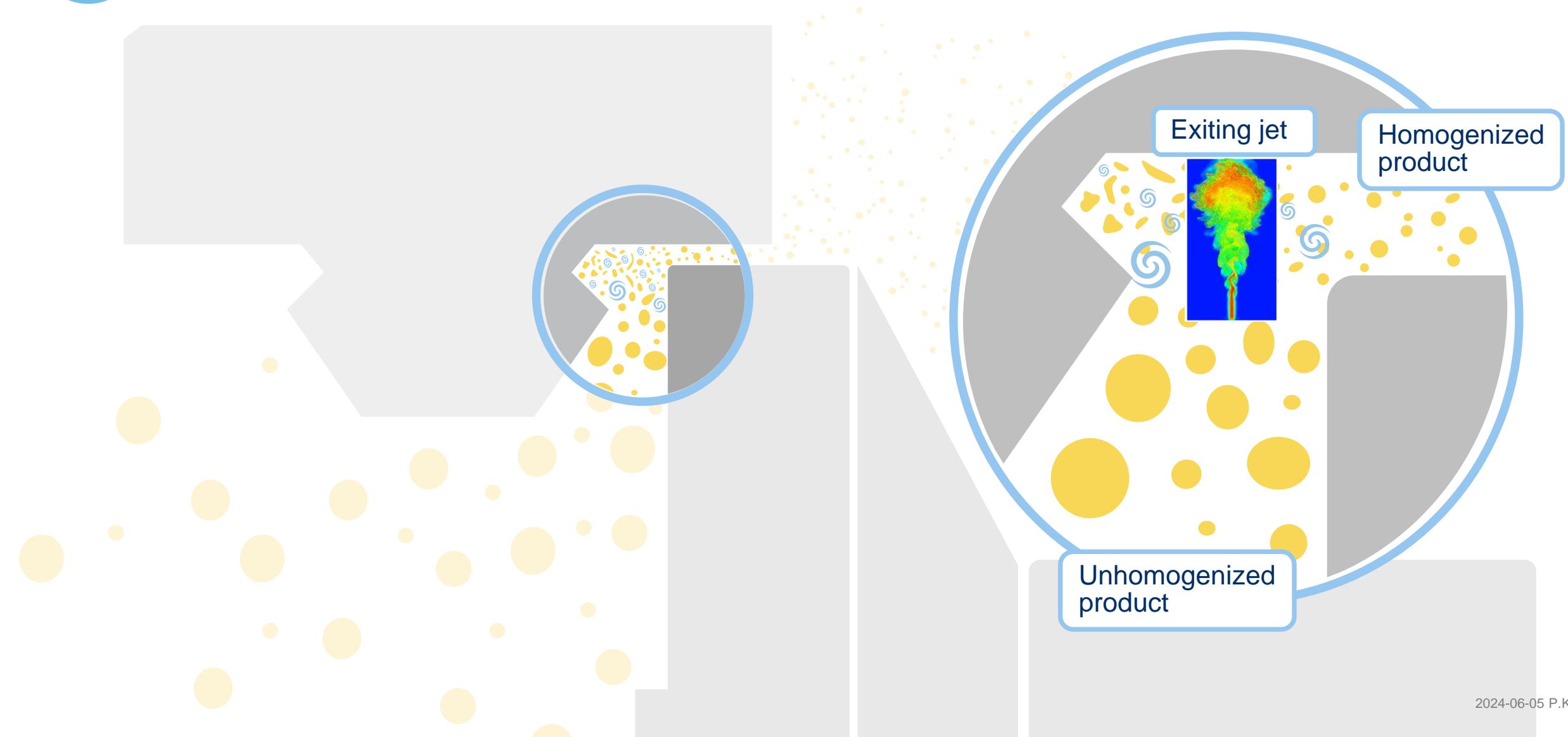


# Homogenizing Device – where the “turbulence” happens



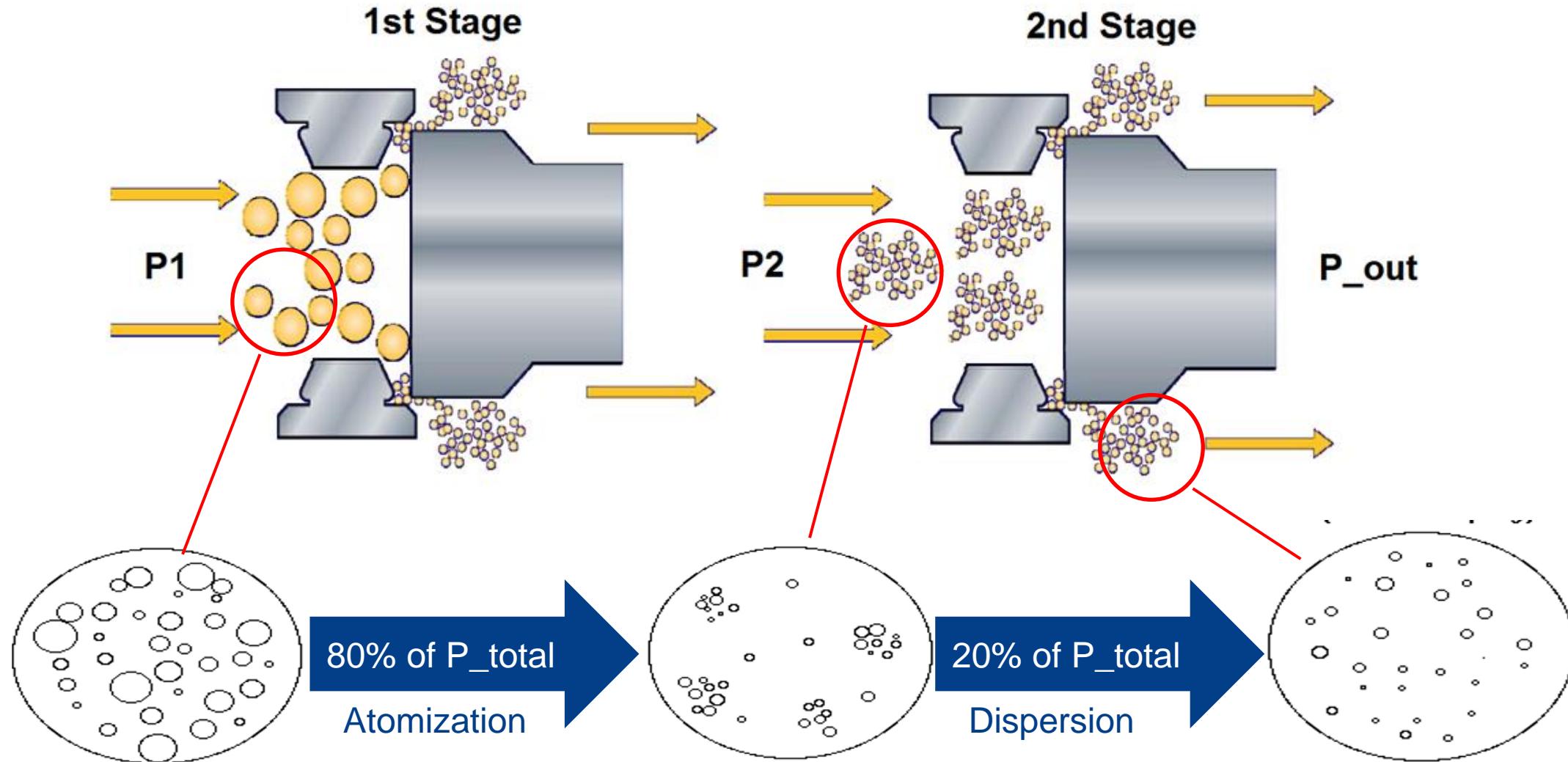


# Homogenizing Device – where the “turbulence” happens





# Two Stage Homogenization



# Ice Cream Structure and Fat Globules



# Ice Cream Structure – "it is all about the air bubbles"

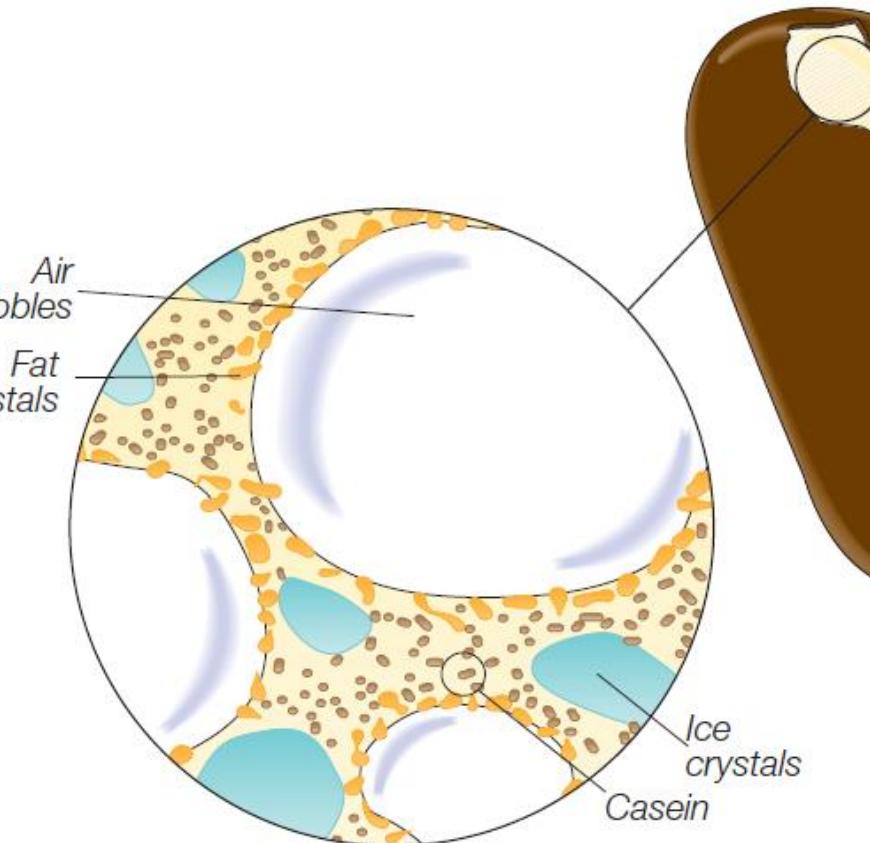
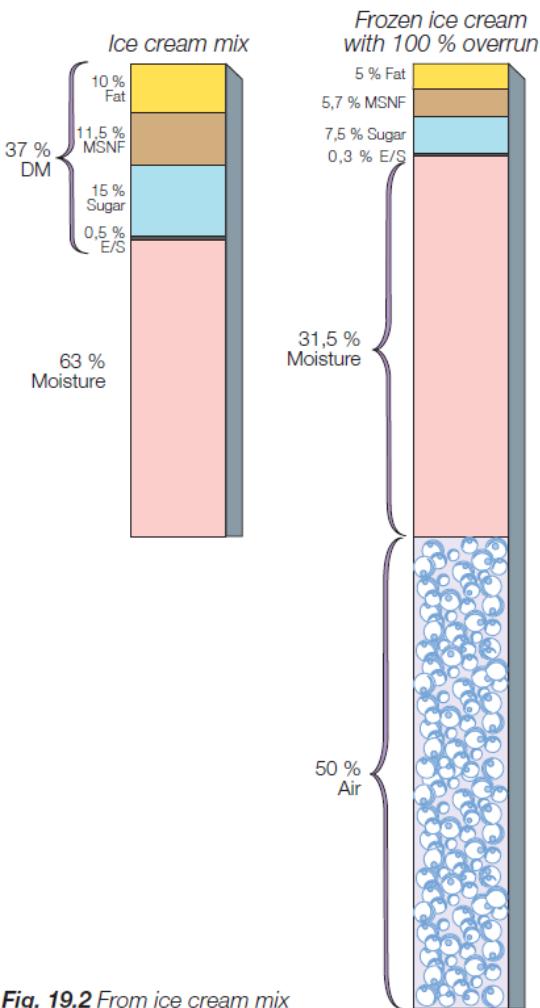
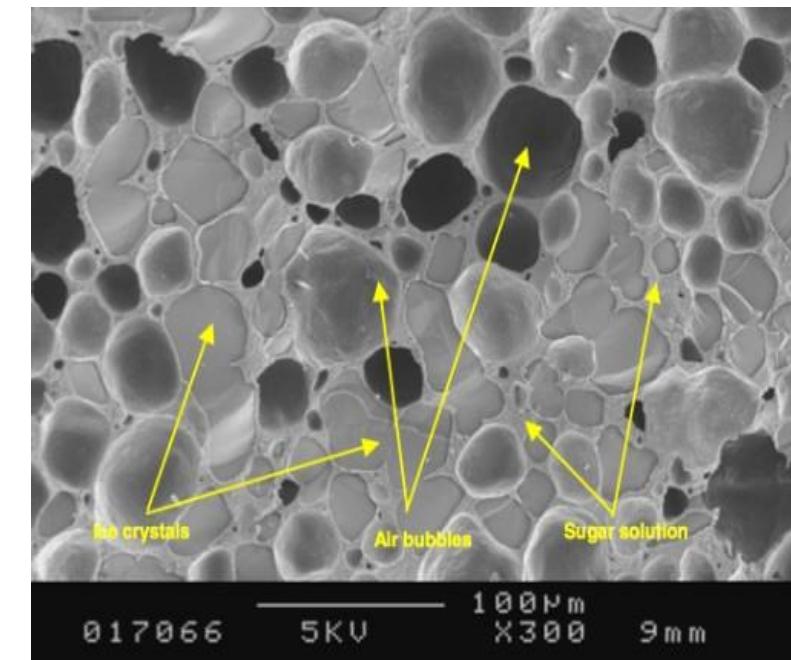


Fig. 19.2 From ice cream mix to ice cream.

Dairy processing handbook 2015



Clarke, 2003



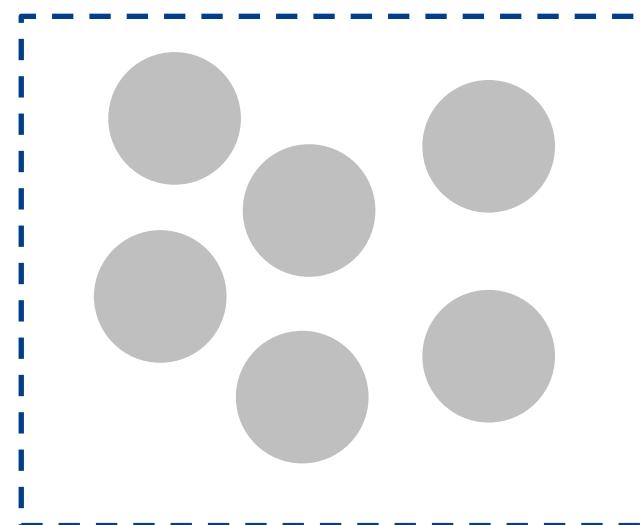
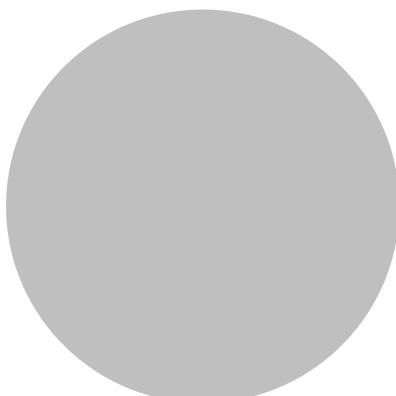
# A Quick Thought Experiment

Diameter Ref:  
Raw MF = 4.0 um  
HTST MF = 0.8 um

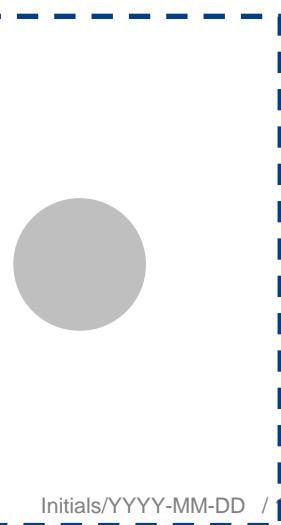
- ▶ Volume of a sphere =  $\frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$

$$V_1 = \left(\frac{r_1}{r_2}\right)^3 \times V_2$$

- ▶ Conservation of Mass: One [1] 4-micron fat globule will become [125] 0.8-micron fat globules



125 x





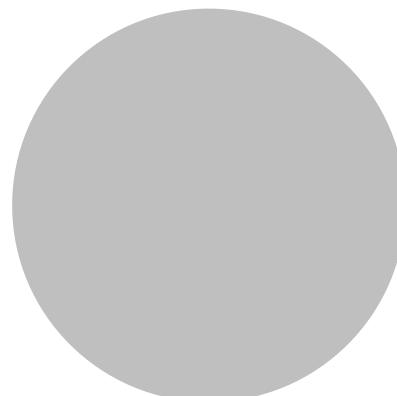
## A Quick Thought Experiment (Cont'd)

Diameter Ref:  
Raw MF = 4.0 um  
HTST MF = 0.8 um

- Surface area of a sphere =  $4\pi r^2$

$$A_1 = \left(\frac{r_1}{r_2}\right)^2 \times A_2$$

- Original globule has 25x the surface area, but smaller globules are 125x more numerous



125 x





## A Quick Thought Experiment (Cont'd)

- Surface area of original globule

$$\sum A_1 = 1 \times 4\pi r_1^2 = 4\pi(2 \text{ } \mu\text{m})^2 = 50.26 \text{ } \mu\text{m}^2$$

- Sum of surface area from homogenized globules

$$\sum A_2 = 125 \times 4\pi r_2^2 = 125 \times 4\pi(0.4 \text{ } \mu\text{m})^2 = 251.33 \text{ } \mu\text{m}^2$$

**Result:** The total surface area post-homogenization is 5x greater than it was originally.



## A Quick Thought Experiment (Conclusion)

- ▶ The amount of gained surface area from homogenization is proportional to the degree of size reduction of the ingredients.

$$SA_{gain} = \frac{r_1}{r_2}$$



# Implications for Ice Cream

- ▶ The increased area that homogenized milk fat covers helps:
  - Make it easier to achieve target overrun
  - Smoother mouth feel of added ingredients (cocoa, etc)
  - Fuller fat texture with less cream
  - Improves melting resistance



# Analyzing Homogenization Effect

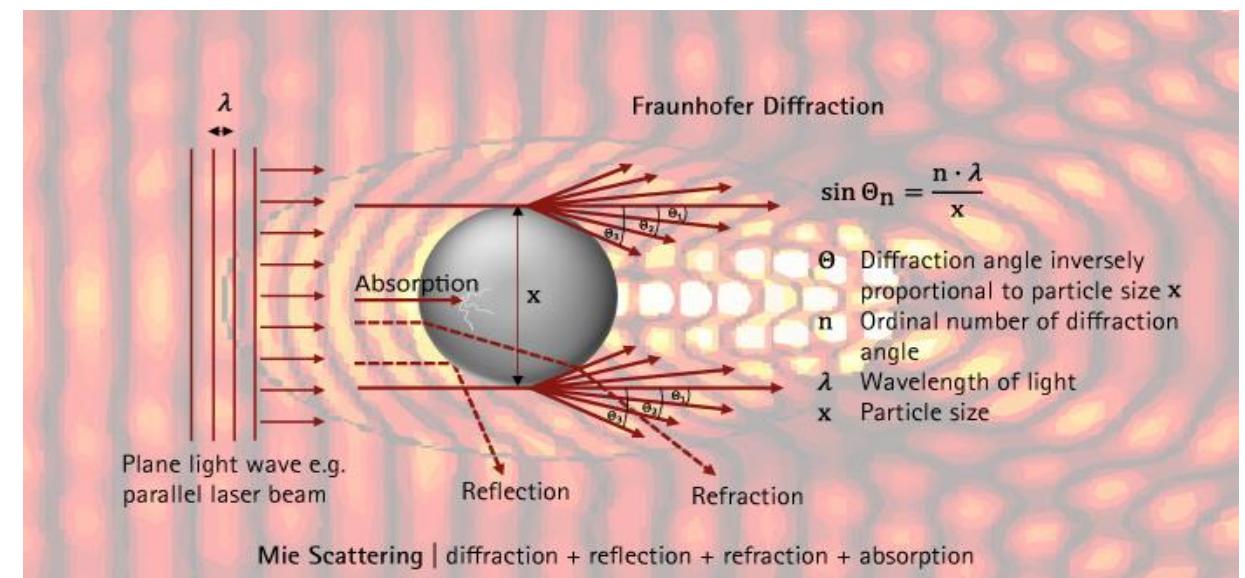
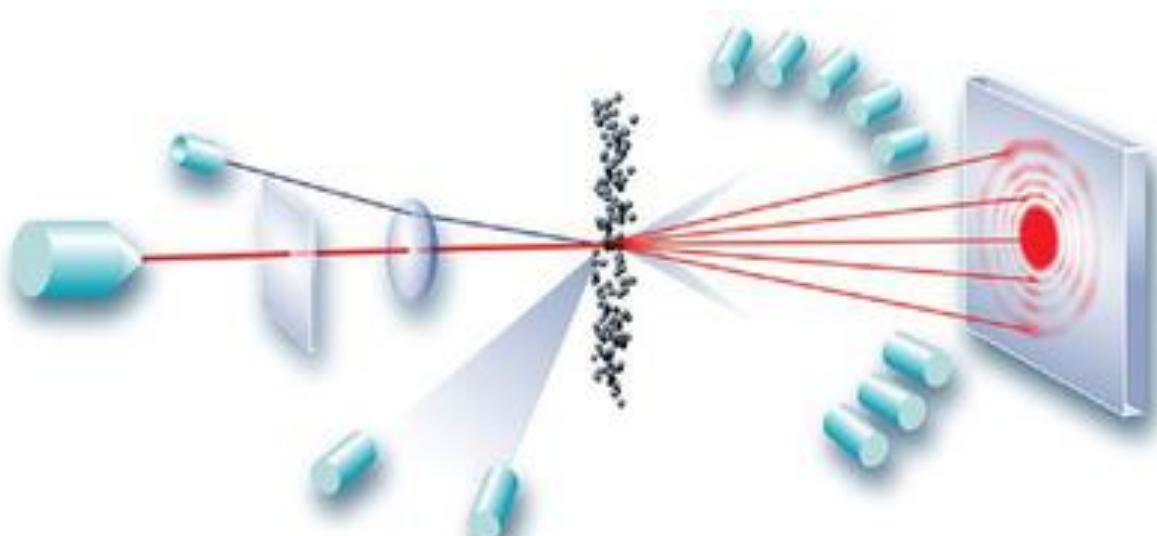


# Measuring the Size of Fat Globules

## Laser diffraction technology



[www.americanlaboratory.com](http://www.americanlaboratory.com)



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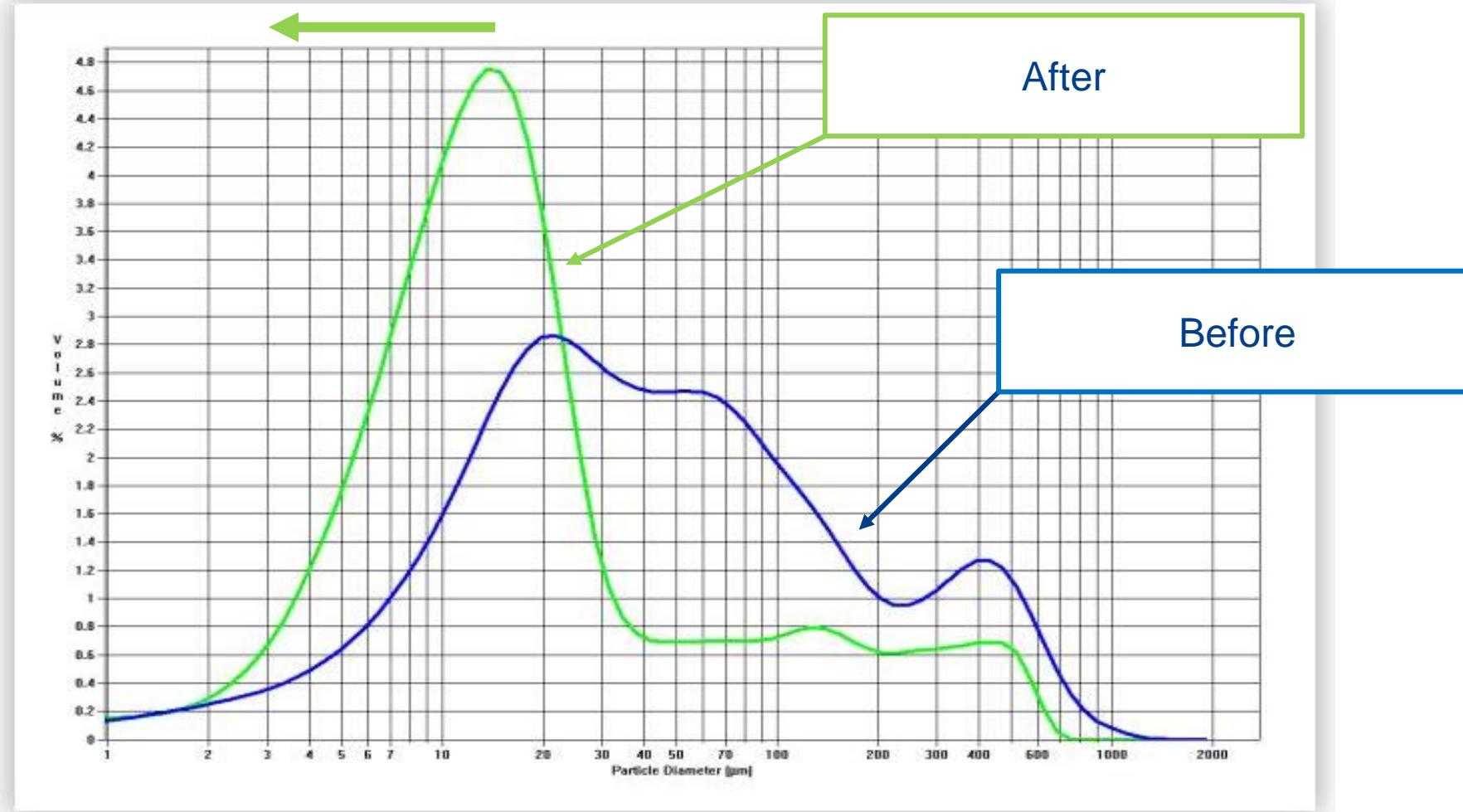
[www.sympatec.com](http://www.sympatec.com)

2024-06-05 P.K.



# Plotting the Data

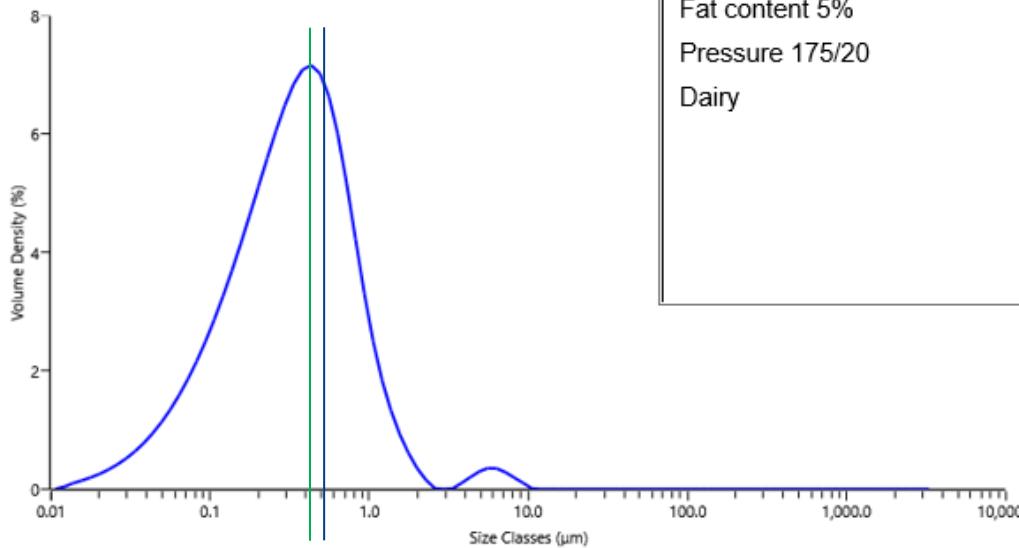
Increasing Pressure





# Typical Ice Cream Particle Size Distribution: the "Finger Print"

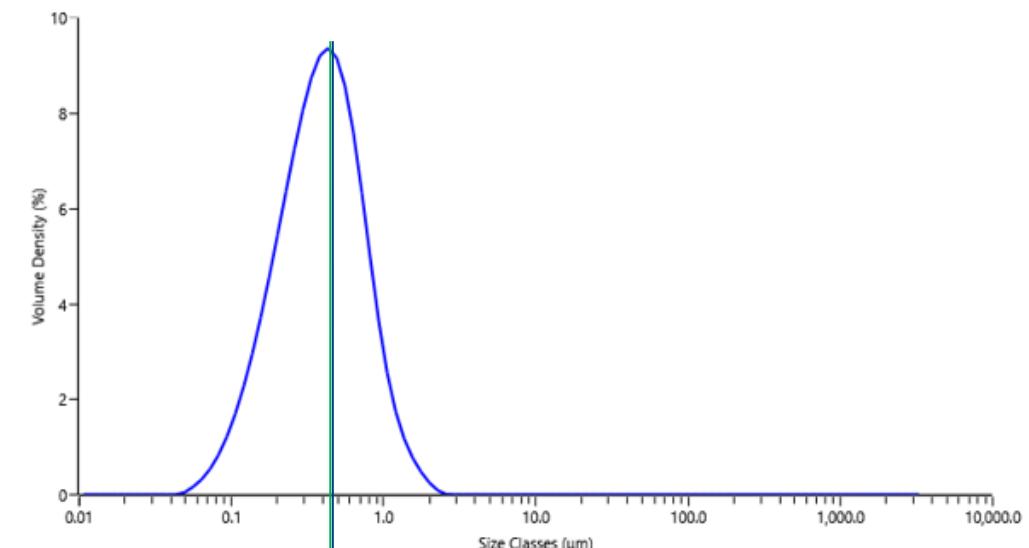
Sample 3



[48] Average of '3'-2024-02-21 09:3

Record Number	Sample Name	D [4,3] ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	D [5,3] ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Dx (10) ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Dx (50) ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Dx (90) ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Mode ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	D [3,2] ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Span
48	Average of '3'	0.504	0.948	0.0855	0.333	0.902	0.424	0.186	2.451

With solA



[54] Average of '3 solA'-2024-02-21

Record Number	Sample Name	D [4,3] ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	D [5,3] ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Dx (10) ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Dx (50) ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Dx (90) ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Mode ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	D [3,2] ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Span
54	Average of '3 solA'	0.457	0.547	0.157	0.387	0.840	0.430	0.302	1.767

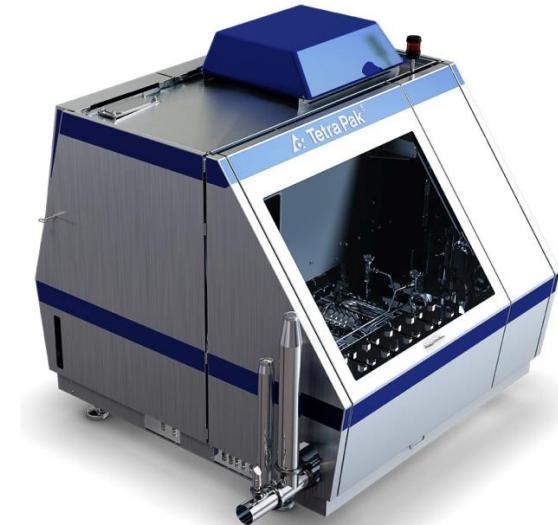
- ▶ Documenting the **required particle size distribution** of the homogenized ice cream mix, will eliminate "guess work" and **safeguard** against **energy waste** and **poor production quality**

# Factors Influencing Homogenization Efficiency



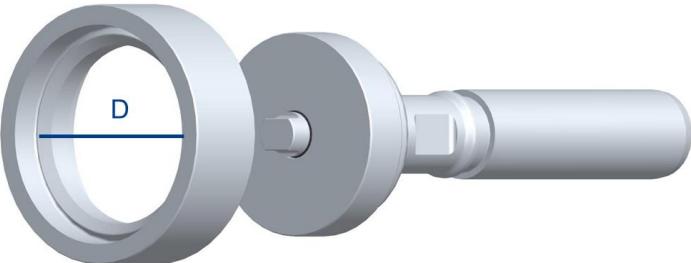
# Factors Influencing Homogenization Effect

- ▶ Homogenizer configuration
- ▶ Homogenization pressure
- ▶ Relationship between first and second stage pressure (Thoma number)
- ▶ Fat content and type
- ▶ Temperature
- ▶ Wear

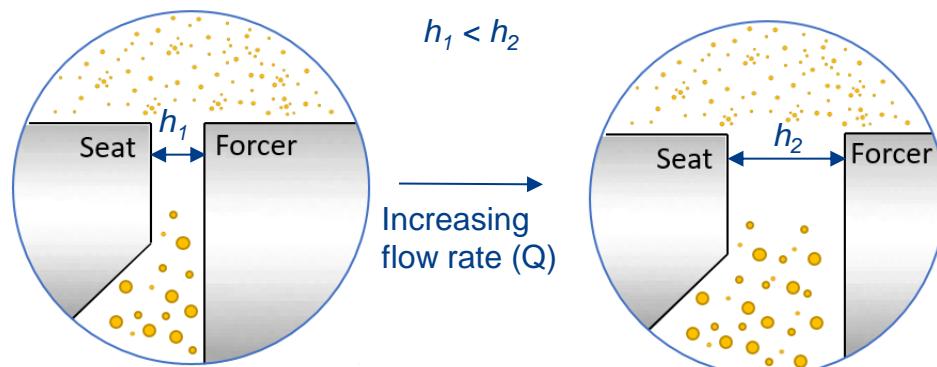


# Homogenization Configuration

## Gap height and product flow



$$\text{Gap height}(h) \propto \frac{\text{Flowrate } (Q)}{\sqrt{\text{Pressure}}(P) * \text{DeviceDiameter}(D)}$$



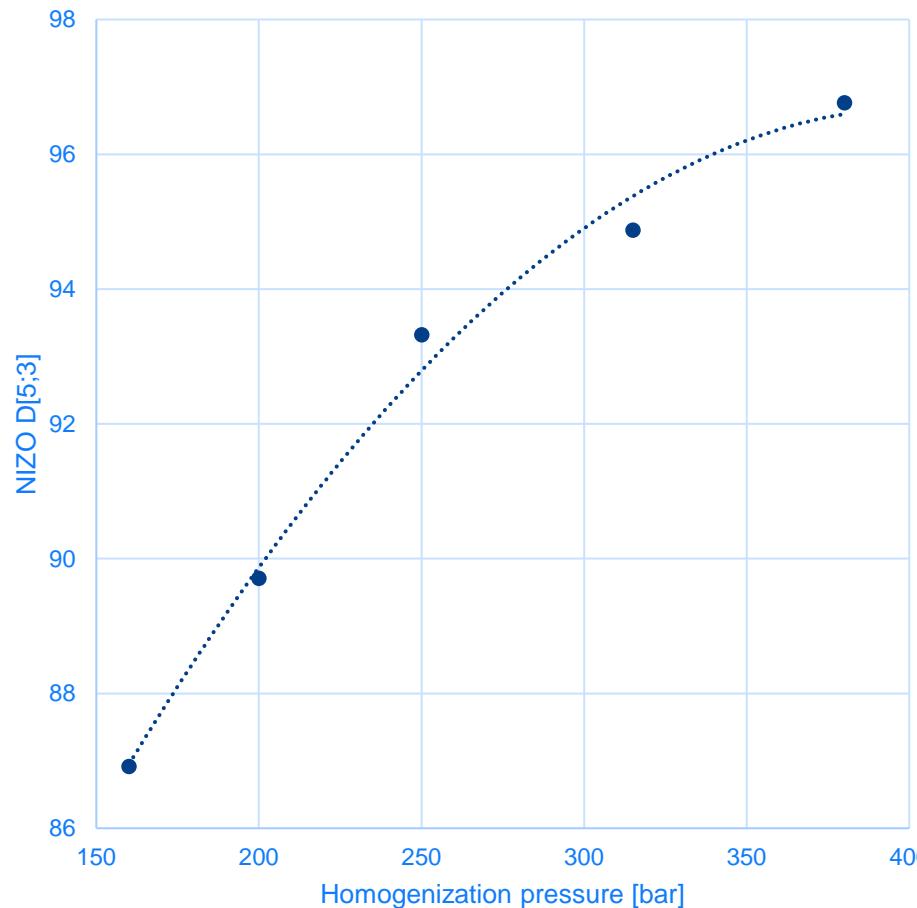
- ▶ Product flow and pressure affects the gap height which results in a difference in homogenization efficiency

Flow rate [l/h]	Gap Height [μm]	NIZO [%]
6000	33.2	91.5
9000	49.7	90
13 000	71.8	89



# Homogenization Pressure

The higher the pressure the better effect

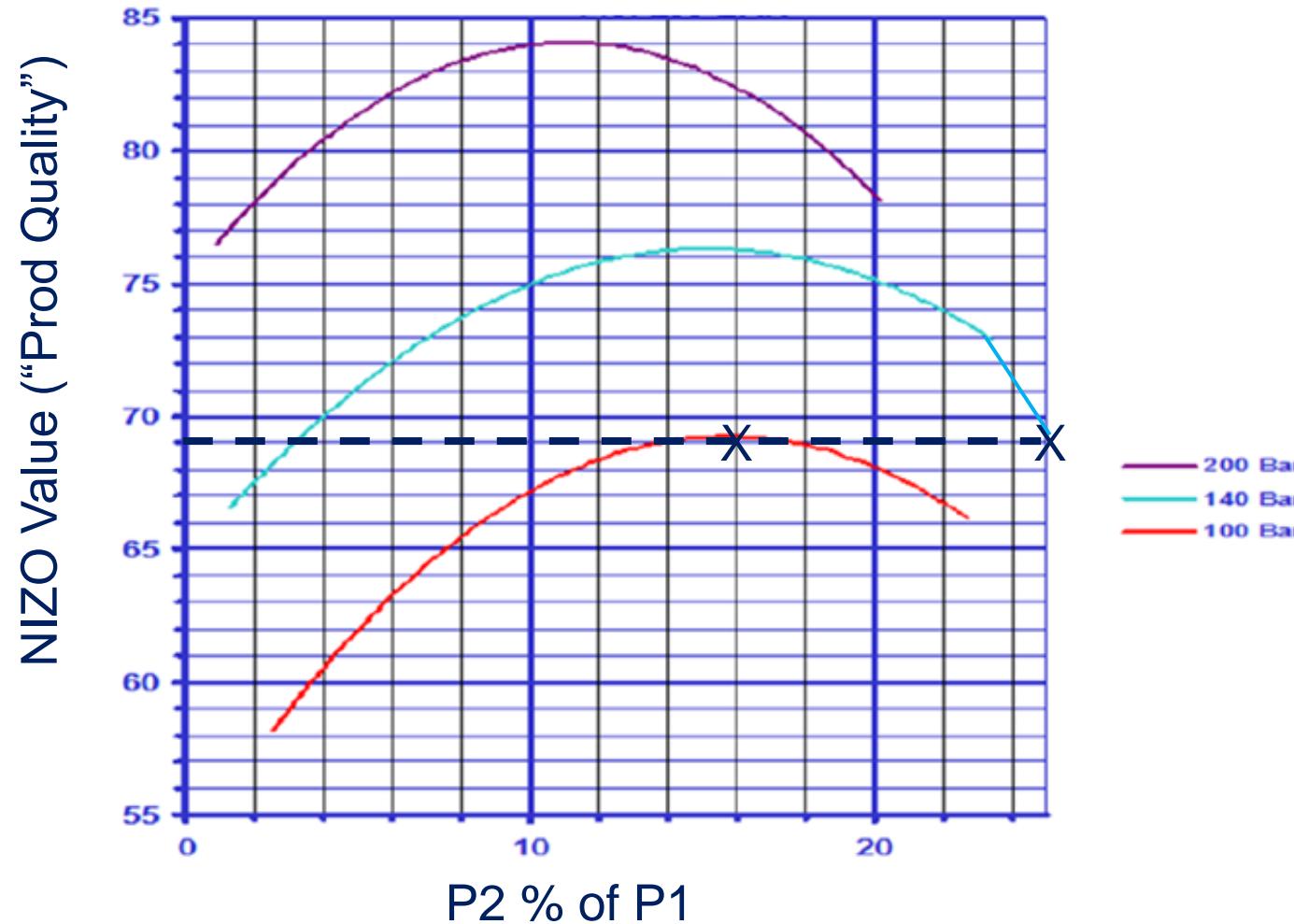


Pressure	NIZO
160	87
200	90
250	93
315	95
380	97



# Relationship Between 1st & 2nd Stage Pressure

Rule of Thumb:  
10-20% of total  
pressure from 2<sup>nd</sup> stage

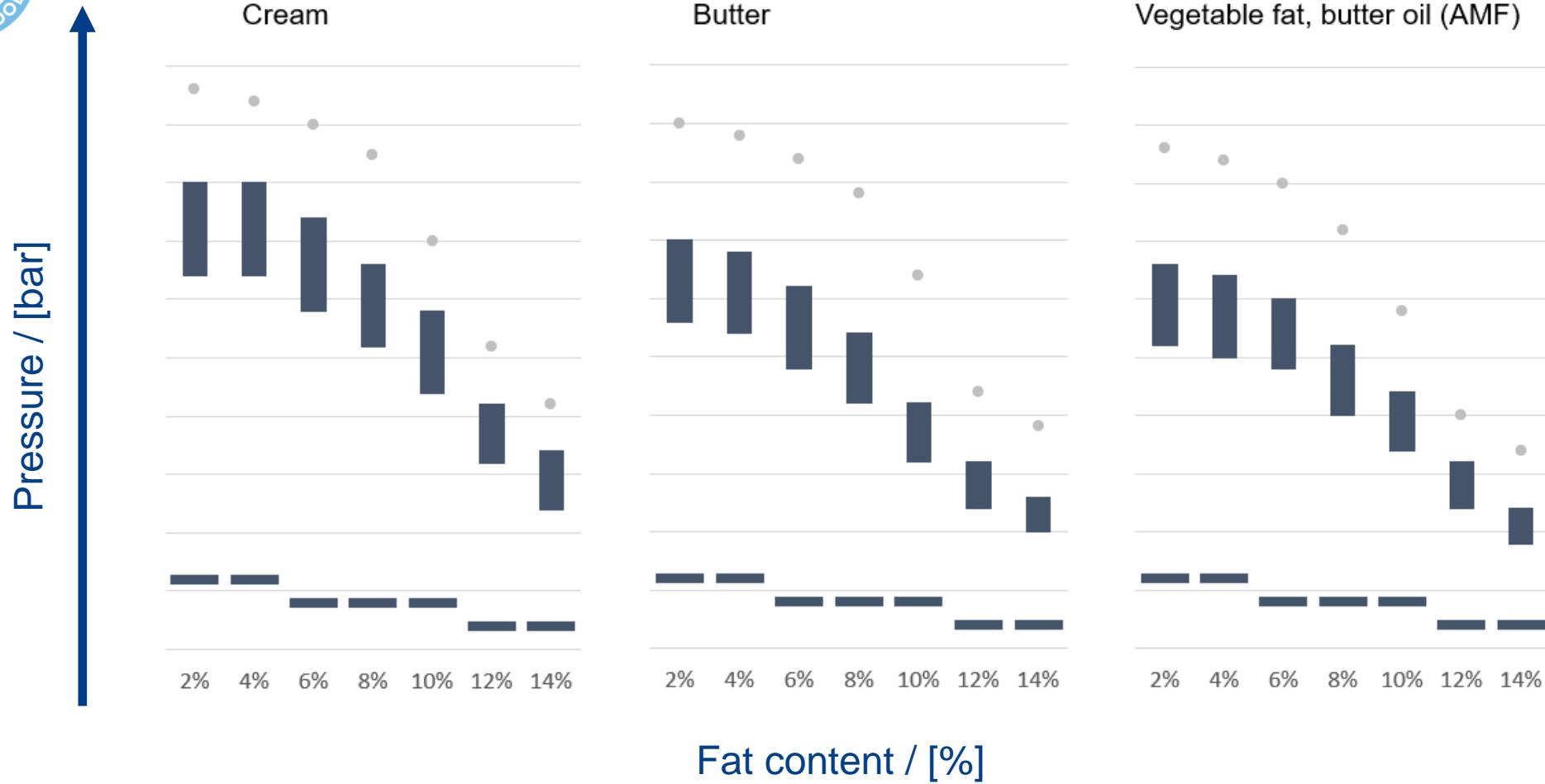


Operator #1:  
1500 psi<sub>total</sub>  
P2 = 16% (230 psi)

Operator #2:  
2000 psi<sub>total</sub>  
P2 = 25% (500 psi)



# Fat Content and Type

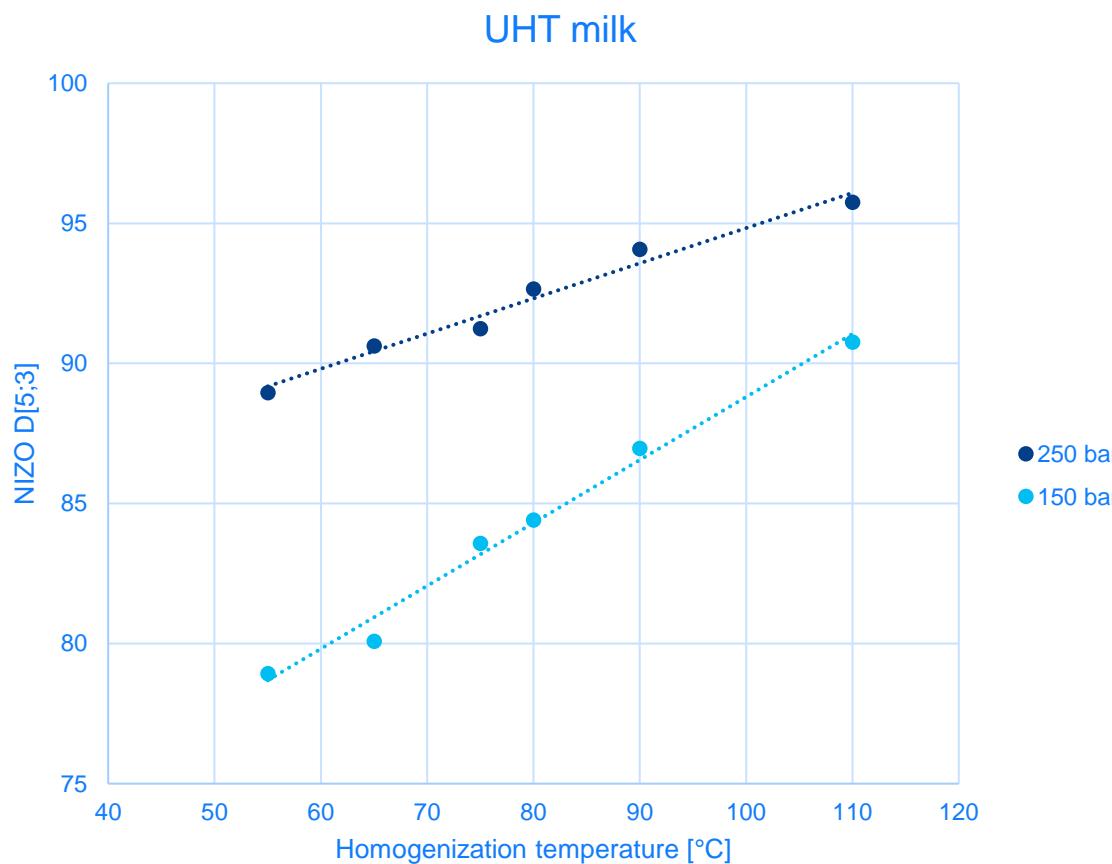


- ▶ Lower pressure with increased fat content
- ▶ Vegetable fats require lower pressures than dairy fat



# Homogenization Temperature

The higher the temperature the higher efficiency

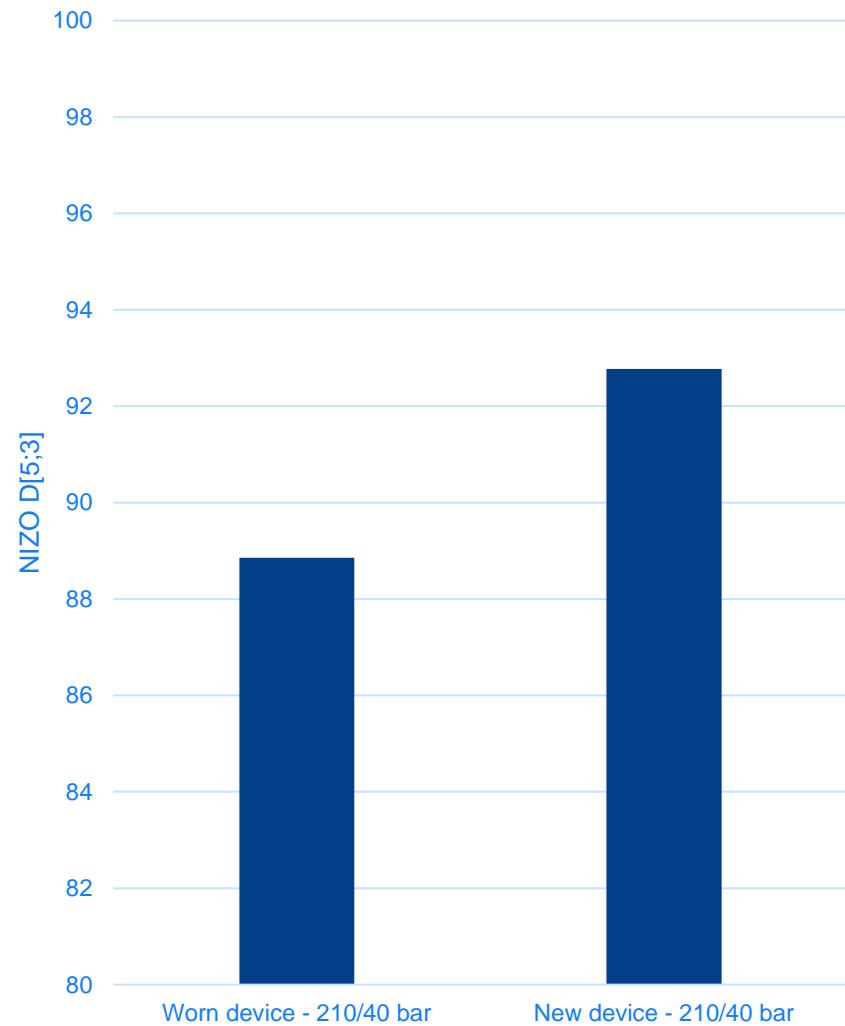


## ► Factors to consider

- Burnt / denatured product
- Cost of heat
- Cost of cleaning (fouling)
- Impact on other equipment
- Material selection of wear parts



# Impact from Wear



Forcer

# Thank you!