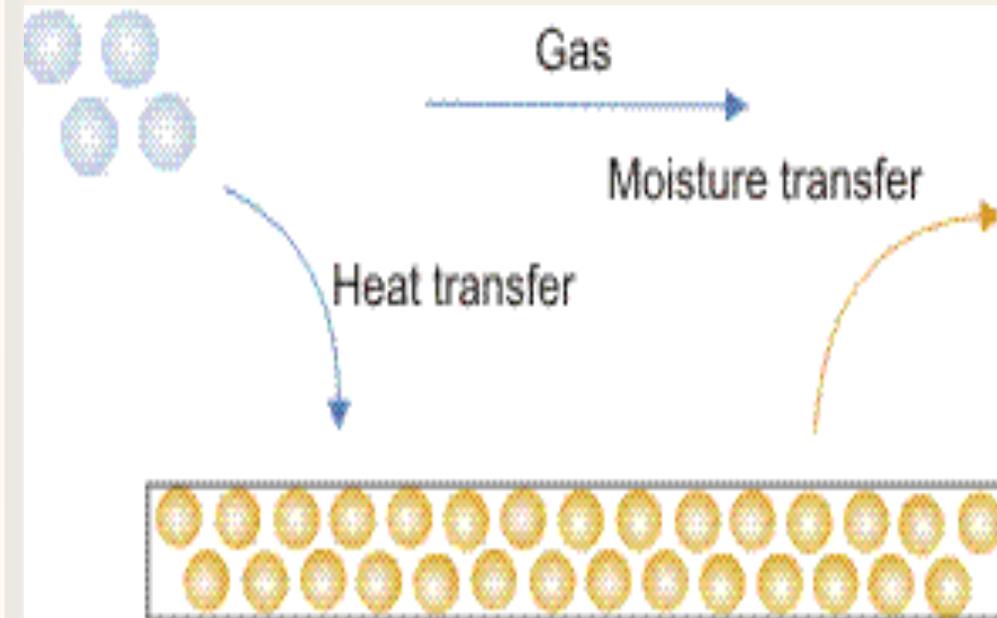


# Drying

*Mohammed Albarki, BSc. Pharm, PhD*

# Drying

- **Defined** as the removal of a small amount of a liquid from a material by the application of **heat**.
  - The liquid is transferred from a **surface** into an unsaturated **vapor phase**.
- **Drying** and **evaporation** are distinguishable merely by the **relative quantities** of liquid removed from the solid.



# Non-Thermal Drying

- There are **non**-thermal methods of drying for example:
  1. **Expression** of the solid to remove liquid (the squeezing of wetted sponge).
  2. **The extraction** of liquid from a solid by use of a solvent
  3. **Adsorption** of water from a solvent by the use of desiccants (anhydrous calcium chloride)
  4. **Absorption** of moisture from gases by passage through a sulfuric acid column
  5. **Desiccation** of moisture from a solid by placing it in a sealed container with moisture-removing material (silica gel)

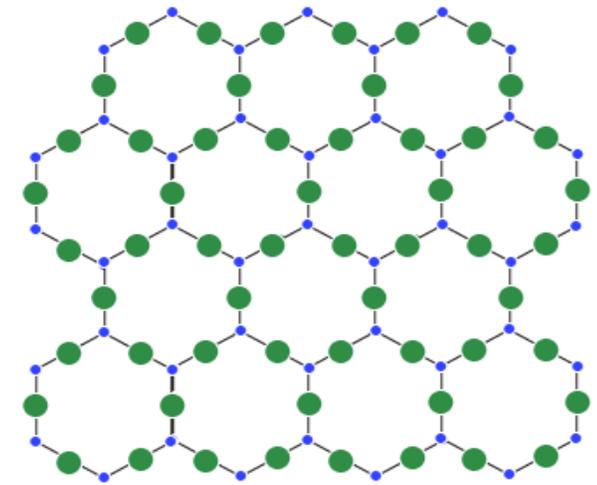


# Purpose of Drying (Uses)

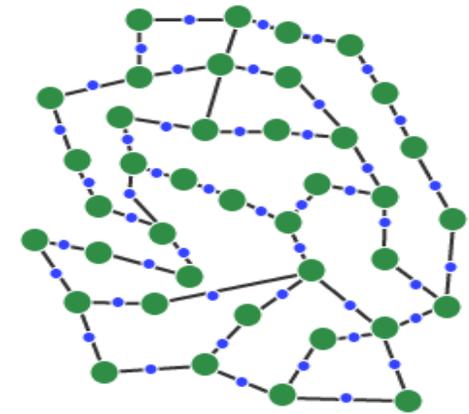
1. In the **preparation of granules** in tablets and capsules.
2. Used in the **processing of materials** e.g. the preparation of dried aluminum hydroxide, **spray drying** of lactose, and the preparation of powdered extracts.
3. Used to **reduce bulk and weight of drying material**, thereby lowering the cost of transportation and storage.
4. **Removing the moisture to facilitate milling (comminution)** by making the dried substance far more friable.
5. Aids in the **preservation** of animal and vegetable drugs by minimizing mold and bacterial growth.
6. Dried products are **more stable** such as effervescent salts, aspirin, hygroscopic powders, ascorbic acid, and penicillin; through reducing the chemical reactivity.

# Classification of Solids Based on Drying Behavior

- Solids to be dried may be classified based on their drying behavior into:
- **Granular or crystalline solids** in which the water is held in open surface pores and interstitial spaces between particles that are **easily accessible** to the surface.
- **Amorphous solids** in which the moisture is an integral part of the molecular structure and entrapped in fine capillaries and pores, accordingly it is **more difficult** to dry than crystalline solids.



**Crystalline Solids**



**Amorphous Solids**

# Drying of Solids

- The moisture in a solid can be expressed on a wet-weight or dry-weight basis.
- **Loss on drying (LOD)**: is an expression of moisture content of a **wet-weight basis** which is calculated as:

$$\%LOD = \frac{\text{weight of water in sample}}{\text{Total Weight of wet sample}} \times 100$$

- This is determined using moisture balance which has a heat source for rapid heating and a scale calibrated in percent LOD.
- The weighted wet sample allowed to dry and obtain %LOD.



# Drying of Solids

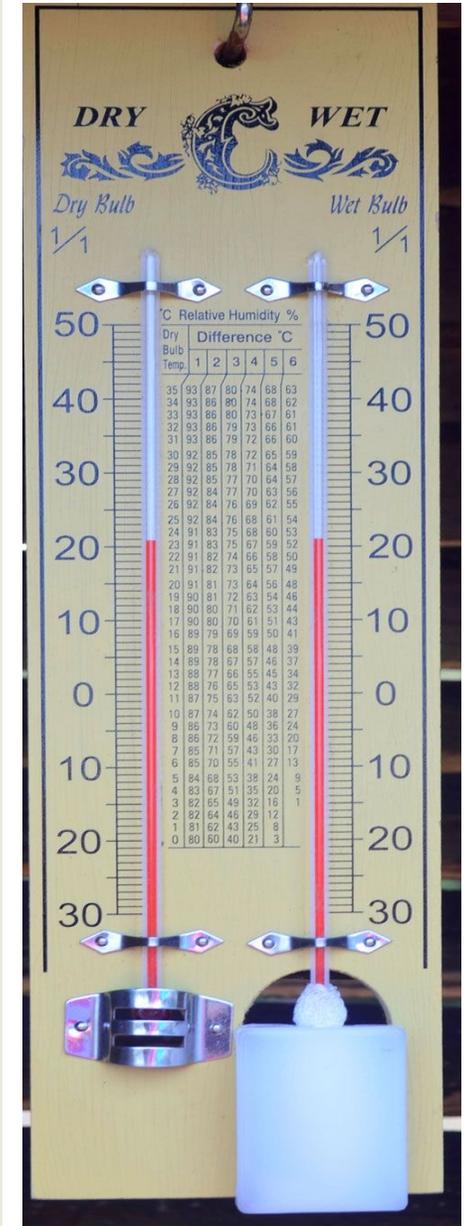
- **Moisture Content**
- On a **dry-weight basis**, the water is expressed as a percentage of the weight of the dry solid.
- Moisture in a wet solid is calculated on a dry-weight basis. This value is referred to as moisture content (MC)

$$\%MC = \frac{\textit{weight of water in sample}}{\textit{Weight of dry sample}} \times 100$$

- If exactly 5 g of moist solid is brought to a constant dry weight of 3 g →
- $MC = [(5-3)/3] * 100 = 66.7\%$
- $LOD = [(5-3)/5] 100 = 40\%$

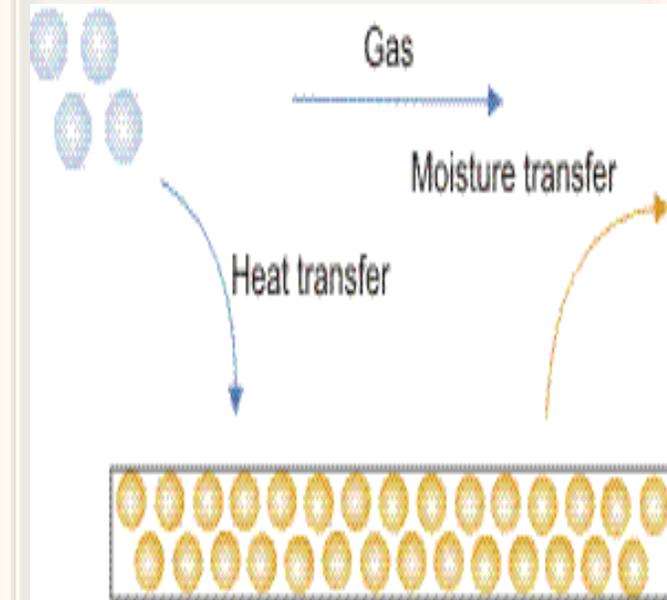
# Psychrometry

- Psychrometry determines the vapor concentration and **carrying capacity** of the gas (air).
  - **Vapor-carrying capacity** of the air, nitrogen, or other gas stream passing over the drying material.
  - The carrying capacity **determines** the **rate** and the **extent** of drying material (the lowest moisture content).
- **Wet-bulb temperature** is measured by a thermometer (the bulb is covered by a wick saturated with water).
- **Dry-bulb temperature** (actual air temperature) is measured by an ordinary thermometer.



# Theory of Drying

- Drying involves **heat and mass transfer** operations.
- **Heat must be** transferred into the material to be dried to supply the **latent heat** required for the vaporization of the moisture.
- **Mass transfer:** It is involved in:
  1. The diffusion of water through the material to the evaporating **surface**, →
  2. The subsequent evaporation of the **water from the surface**,
  3. And the diffusion of the resultant vapor into the passing air stream.



# Theory of Drying

- The drying process can be understood more easily if attention is focused on the film of liquid at the surface of the material being dried.
- The rate of evaporation of this film is related to the rate of heat transfer by the equation :
- **Heat Transfer:**

$$dW/d\theta = q/\lambda \quad \text{equation 1}$$

- Where  $(dW/d\theta)$  is the rate of evaporation.
- $(q)$  is the overall rate of heat transfer.
- And  $(\lambda)$  is the latent heat of vaporization.
- The driving force for heat transfer. it is a temperature differential

A British thermal unit (Btu) is a measure of the heat content of fuels or energy sources. It is the quantity of heat required to raise the temperature of one pound of liquid water by 1 degree Fahrenheit at the temperature that water has its greatest density (approximately 39 degrees Fahrenheit).

One British thermal unit (Btu) is approximately equal to the energy released by burning a match.

# Mass Transfer

- The rate of **diffusion** of moisture into the air stream is expressed by rate equations similar to those for heat transfer in the previous slide.
- The driving force for **mass** transfer is a **humidity differential**. The equation is:  
$$dW/d\theta = k' A(H_s - H_g) \quad \text{equation 2}$$
- Where  $dW/d\theta$  is the **rate of diffusion** expressed as pounds of water per hour;
- **k'**: the **coefficient of mass transfer** ;
- **A** is the area of the evaporating surface in square feet;
- **H<sub>s</sub>**: the absolute **humidity** at the **evaporating surface**;
- **H<sub>g</sub>**: the absolute **humidity** of the **passing air stream**.
- **→ (H<sub>s</sub> - H<sub>g</sub>)** is the humidity differential
- **Note:** The coefficient of mass transfer is not constant but varies with the **velocity** of the air stream passing over the evaporating surface.

# Theory of Drying

- After an **initial period of adjustment**, the rate of evaporation is equal to the rate of diffusion of vapor (or rate of heat transfer = rate of mass transfer),
- And the rate of heat transfer [equation (1)] can be equated with the rate of mass transfer [equation (2)], or:

$$dW/d\theta = q/\lambda = k' A(H_s - H_g)$$

- The overall rate of heat transfer, **q** includes all methods of heat transfer which are **convection, radiation, and conduction**
- → From these equations, we can conclude that: The rate of drying may be accelerated by increasing any of the individual terms in the equation →
- The general principles for efficient drying are: **Next Slide**

# The General Principles for Efficient Drying

1. The rate of **convective** heat transfer ( $q_c$ ) can be increased by:
  - Increasing the **air flow rate**
  - Raising the **inlet air temperature**.
2. The rate of **radiation** heat transfer. ( $q_r$ ).
3. The rate of **conduction** heat transfer ( $q_k$ ) can be increased by:
  - **Reducing the thickness** of the material to be dried (**large surface area**)
  - By allowing it to **come in close contact** with a raised temperature surface.
4. Increasing the **air velocity also speeds** up the rate of drying by increasing the coefficient of mass transfer ( $k$ )(sufficient turbulence to minimize boundary layer thickness) by:
5. **Dehumidifying** the inlet air, thus increasing the humidity differential ( **$H_s - H_g$** ) also speeds up the rate of drying(low relative humidity)

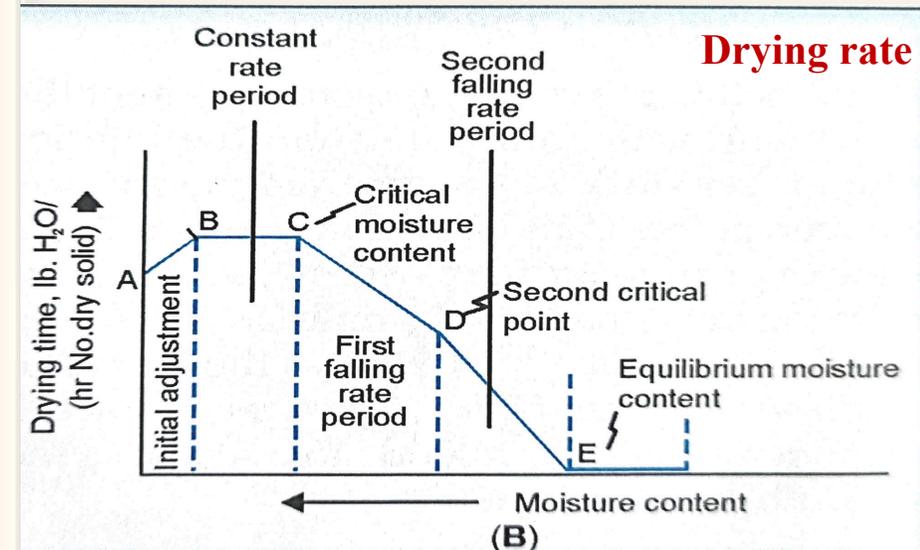
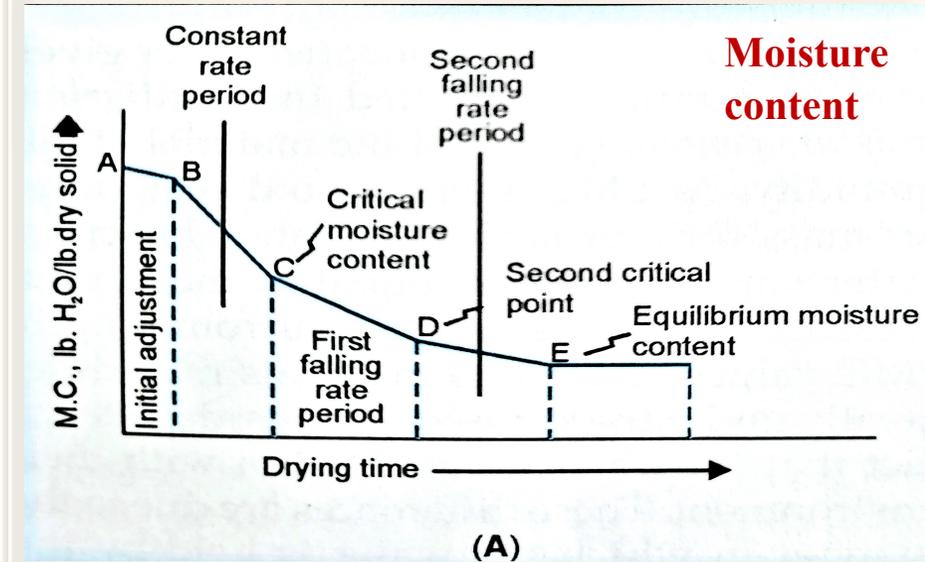
# The behavior of Solids during Drying/Rate of Drying

- How would we know if 8 or 12 hr are required to dry a batch weight of the material in a certain dryer?
- How can one determine the size of a particular type of dryer required for drying a substance from one moisture level to the **desired moisture content**?
- The study of drying rate is crucial to understanding the solid behavior during drying.
- The **rate of drying** could be determined by suspending the wet sample on a scale in a drying cabinet and measuring the weight of the dry sample as a function of time.
- The data from the drying rate is plotted as:
  1. Drying **rate** vs moisture **content**
  2. Moisture content vs drying **time**



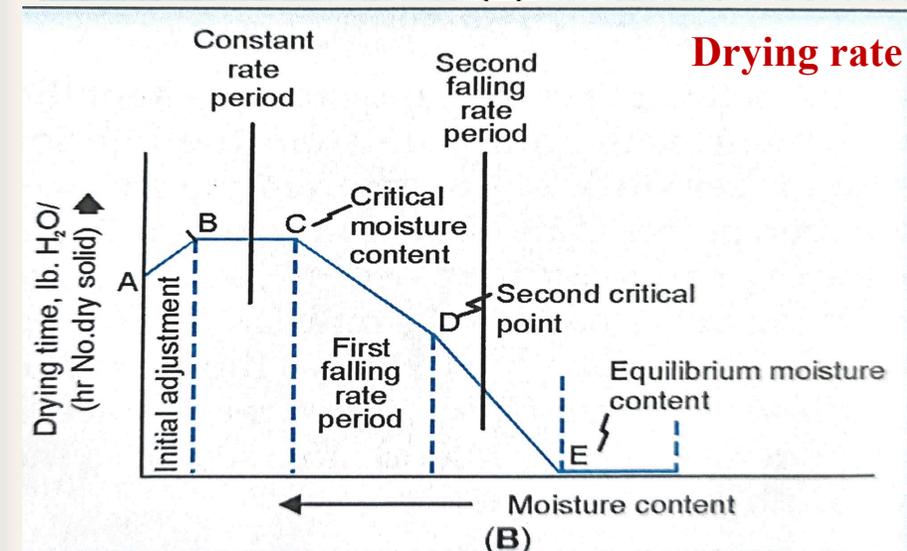
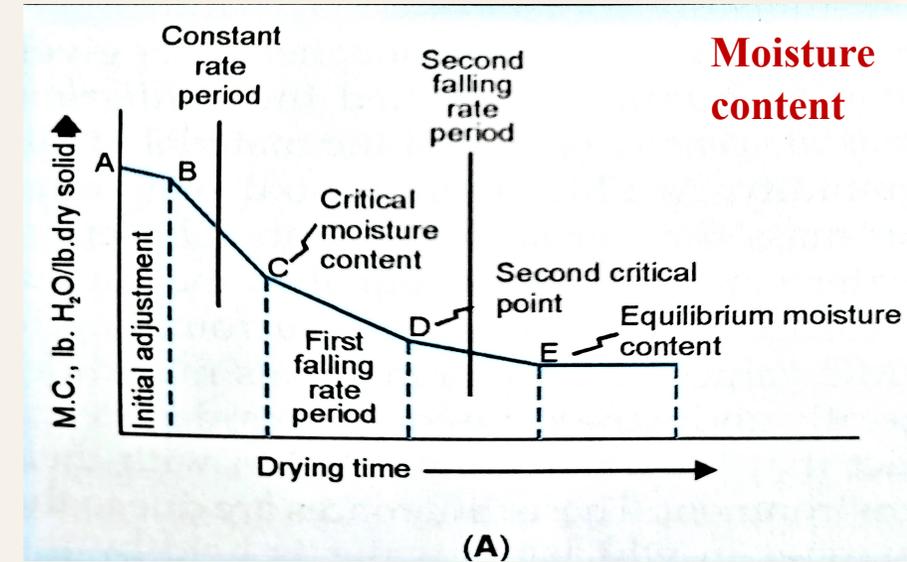
# The behavior of Solids during Drying

- **A-B segment (initial adjustment)**
- The product starts to **absorb** heat and increase in temperature.
- At the same time: **moisture begins to evaporate** and this tends to cool the drying solid (lowers surface temperature). →
- Heating rate = Cooling rate till drying temperature stabilizes.
- **At B** The temperature is stabilized **as** long as there is a film of moisture remaining at the surface of the solid.
- **B-C segment:** moisture evaporates from the surface and is **replaced** by water diffusing from the interior at a rate equal to the rate of evaporation, → (**evaporation rate = diffusion rate**).
  - This is a **constant rate period**.



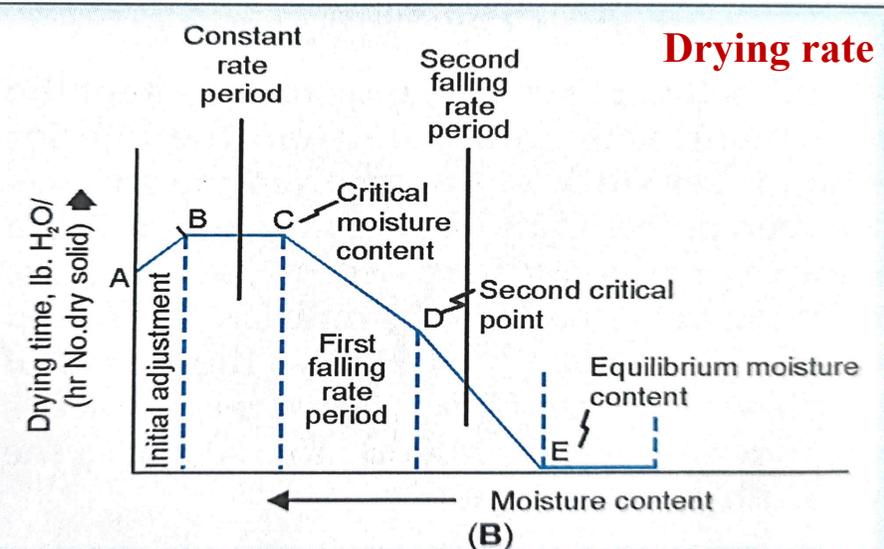
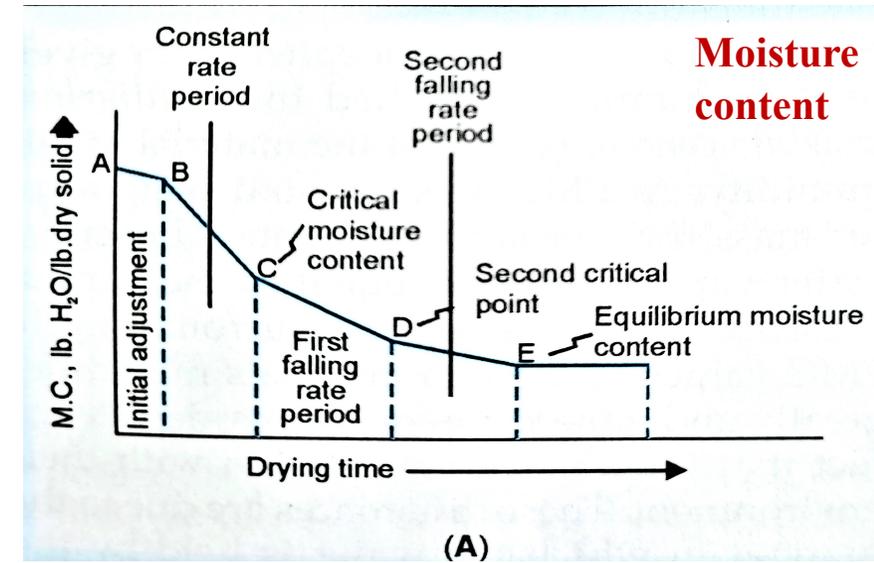
# The behavior of Solids during Drying

- **At point C:** water replacement will decline and dry spots start to appear on the surface. → (drying rate falls off)
  - This is the **first critical moisture content point**.
- **C-D segment:** This is called the **first falling rate period** or a period of unsaturated surface drying
  - The first **decrease** in drying **rate** and dry spots continue to **grow**.
- **At D:** the surface film is **completely evaporated**. This is the **second critical point**.
  - The drying rate **depends on** the diffusion rate of moisture to the surface of the solid



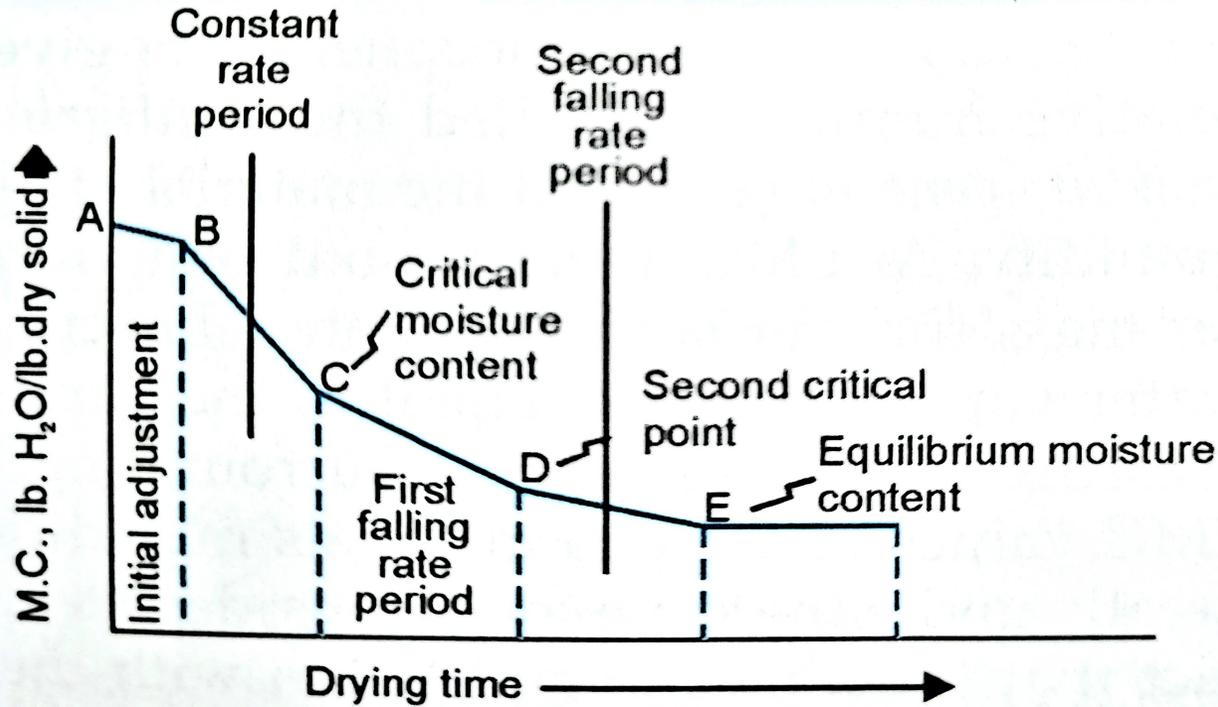
# The behavior of Solids during Drying

- **D-E segment:** second falling rate period in drying rate.
  - The drying rate falls more rapidly than the first falling rate. (**why?**)
- **At E:** This is the equilibrium moisture period begins.
  - **no** more drying will happen after this point. →
  - **Drying rate = zero**
  - The temperature and moisture content remain constant.
  - Continuous drying will **be a waste of time and energy.**



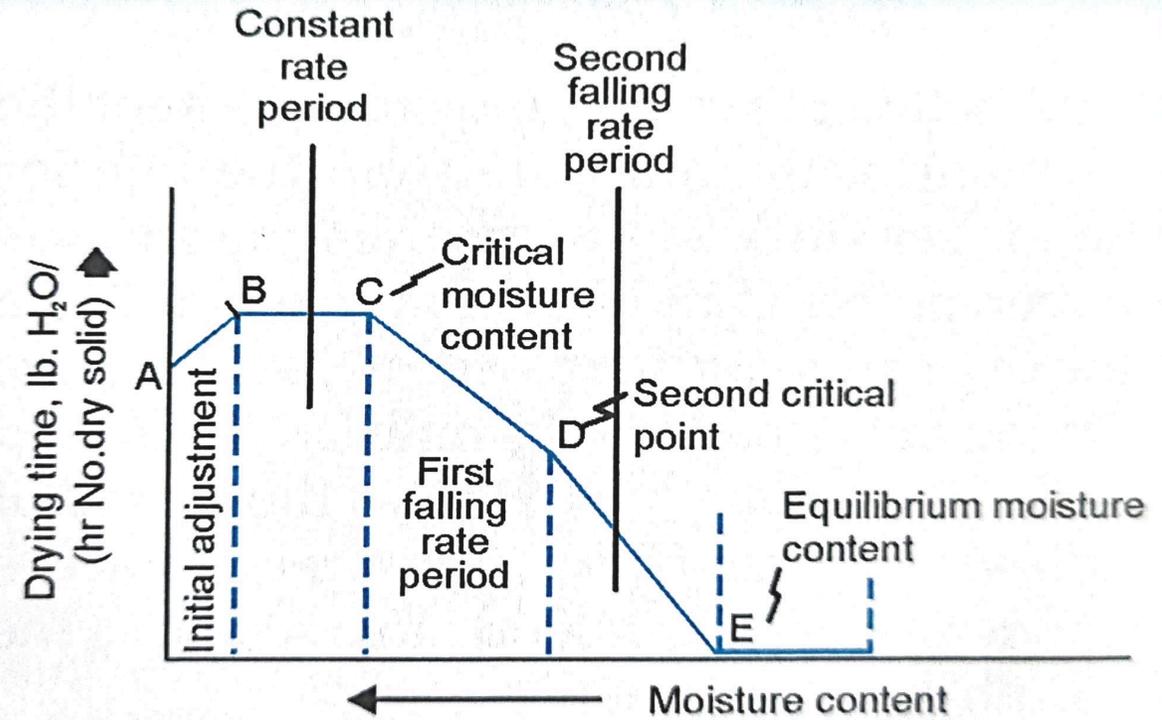
# The behavior of Solids during Drying

Moisture content



(A)

Drying rate



(B)