

Waters™



## Section II: Intermediate Rheology Methods

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*Rheology Applications Engineer*

*TA Instruments – Waters LLC*

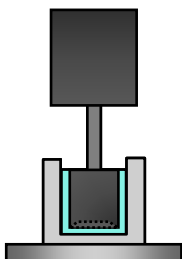
## Agenda: Day 2

<b>8:30 - 9:00 AM</b>	Light Breakfast
<b>9:00 - 9:20 AM</b>	I Have a Viscometer... Why do I need a Rheometer?
<b>9:20 - 10:15 AM</b>	Rheological Theory and Introduction to HRx0 and Geometries
<b>10:30 - 10:50 AM</b>	Morning Break with Beverages and Snacks
<b>10:50 - 12:00 PM</b>	Rheology Applications Examples - Basic and Advanced
<b>12:00 - 1:00 PM</b>	Lunch
<b>1:00 - 2:00 PM</b>	DMA Theory and Introduction to DMA 850
<b>2:00 - 3:00 PM</b>	Basic and Advanced DMA Applications



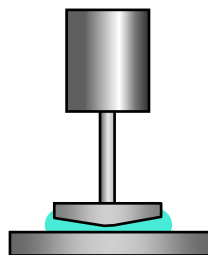
# Recall – Rheometer Geometries

Concentric  
Cylinders



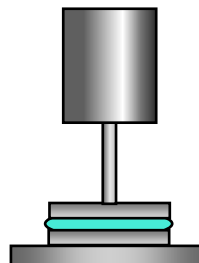
Very Low  
to Medium  
Viscosity

Cone and  
Plate



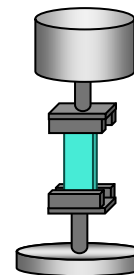
Very Low  
to High  
Viscosity

Parallel  
Plate



Very Low  
Viscosity  
to Soft Solids

Torsion  
Rectangular



Mid-modulus  
Solids

Water



to



Steel



$10^{-3}$

$10^{-1}$

$10^1$

$10^3$

$10^5$

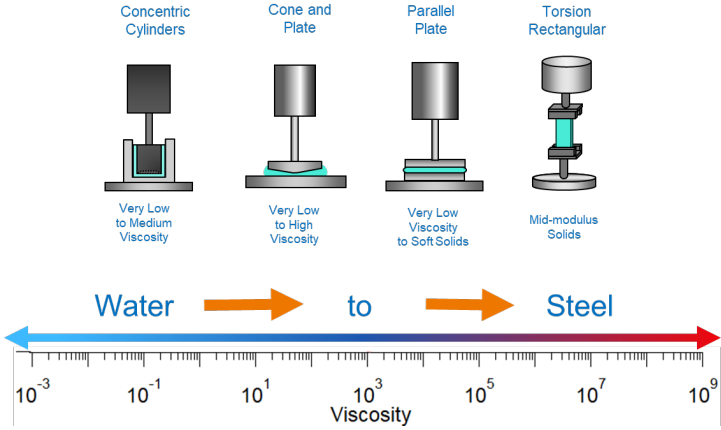
$10^7$

$10^9$

Viscosity

# Assess material to test

- How to Select a geometry configuration for a material?
  - Estimate sample viscosity – concentric cylinder, plates, or torsion – plate size
  - Volume requirements- concentric cylinder requires 6-25mL of sample depending on rotor, plates require much less
  - Particle size, settling or mixing necessary – particles must be less than 1/10<sup>th</sup> of the gap size
  - Loading procedure for structured substances (Pre-shear)
  - Evaporation – seal sample edge, solvent trap, or RH accessory
  - Surface slip and edge fracture – geometry surface: smooth sandblasted, crosshatched



## Concentric Cylinders (or Cups) and Rotors (or Bobs)

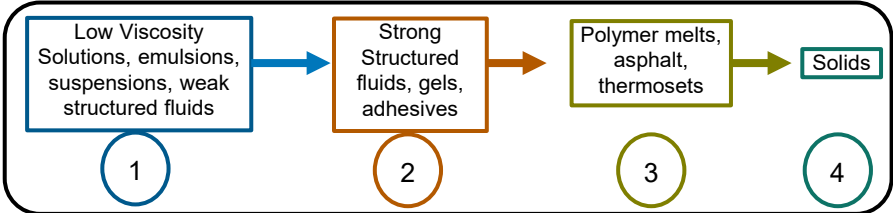
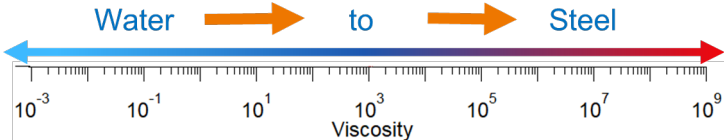
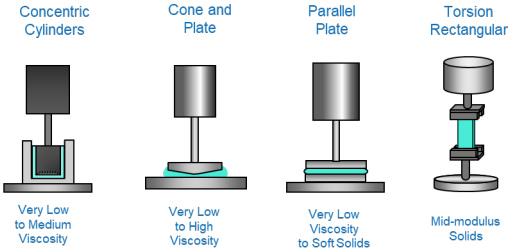


## Cones and Plates



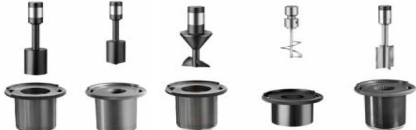
Smooth, Sandblasted, and Cross hatched

# Organization of talk

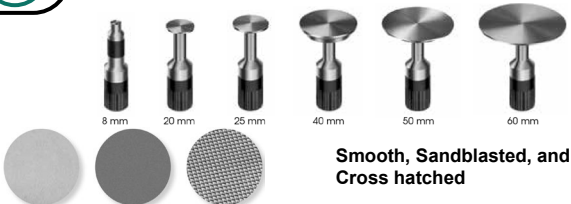


- We will cover applications from low to high viscosity materials
- Geometry and configuration considerations will be highlighted

## Concentric Cylinders (or Cups) and Rotors (or Bobs)



## Cones and Plates



- Newtonian – Viscosity is independent of shear rate
  
- Non-Newtonian – Viscosity is dependent on shear rate
  - Neat Fluid
  - Polymer melt
  - Structured Fluid
    - Yield stress
    - Thixotropy
    - Viscoelasticity

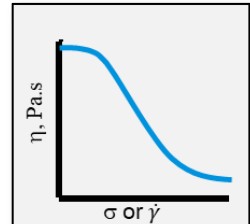
## ■ Three categories of Structured Fluids

- Suspension - Solid particles in a fluid
- Emulsion - Fluid in a fluid
- Foam - Gas in a fluid (or solid)

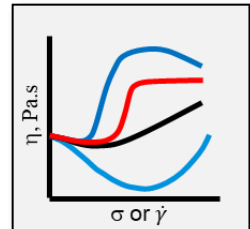
Newtonian



Shear Thinning



Shear Thickening



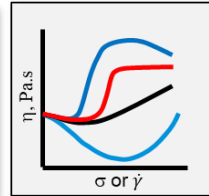
Newtonian



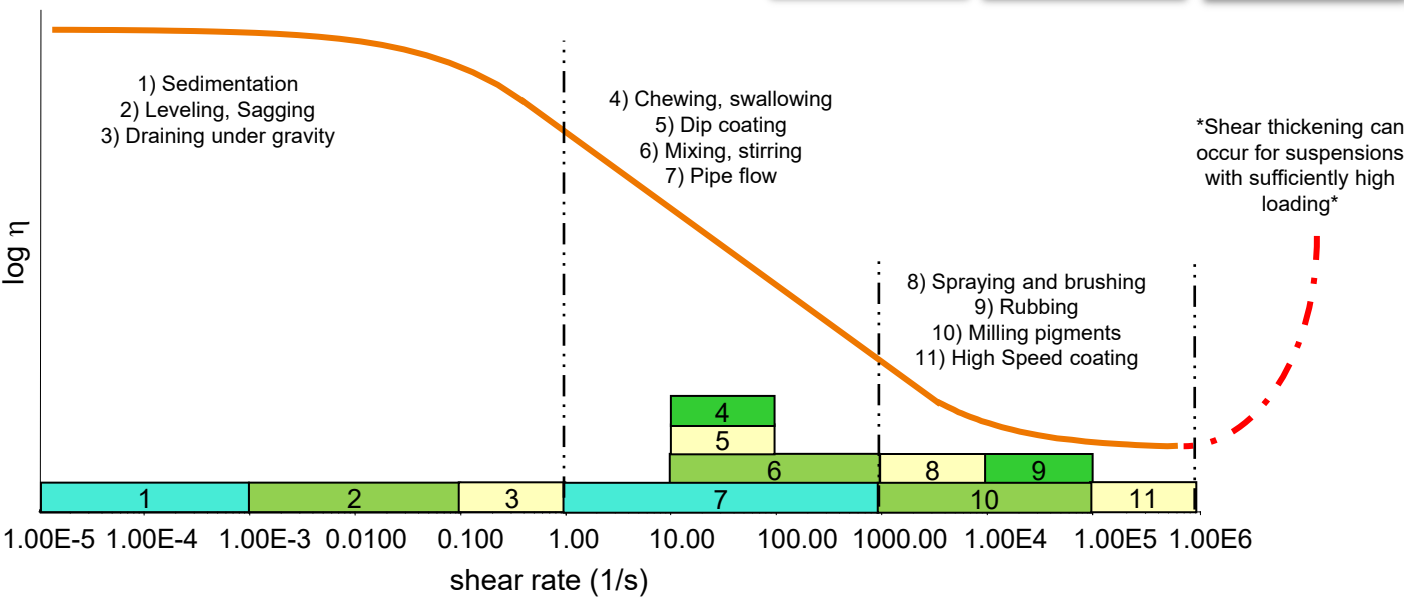
Shear Thinning



Shear Thickening



• What shear rate?



## Rheology Applications

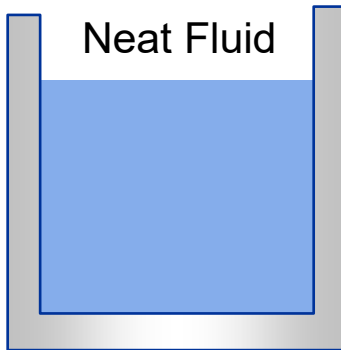
### Neat Fluids



\*In the next several examples, I will demonstrate common neat fluids\*



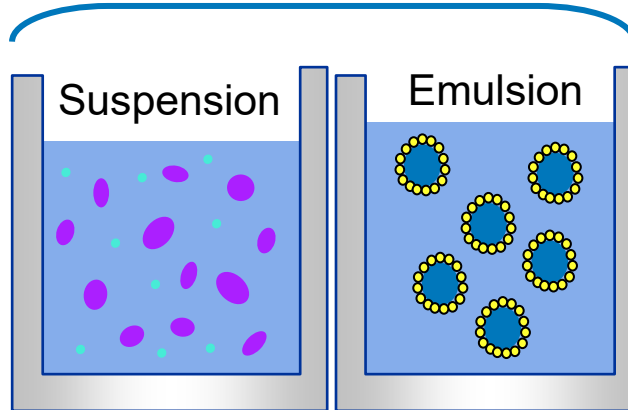
## Unstructured



Examples are:

- Water
- Oil
- Honey

## Structured



### ■ Three categories of Structured Fluids

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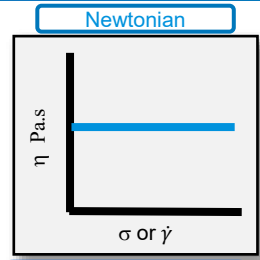
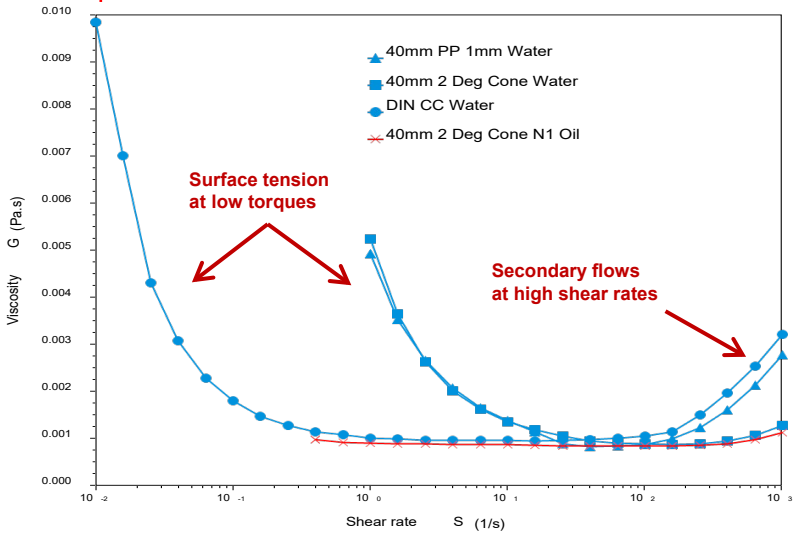
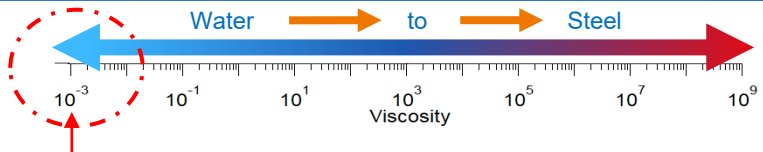
Examples are:

- Paints
- Coatings
- Inks
- Adhesives
- Personal Care Products
- Cosmetics
- Foods

# Common Neat Fluid - Water

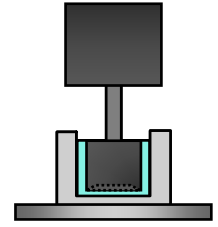
## Flow Sweep Experiment

1



Right tool for the job:

Concentric  
Cylinders



Very Low  
to Medium  
Viscosity

Runner up:

40-60mm parallel plates

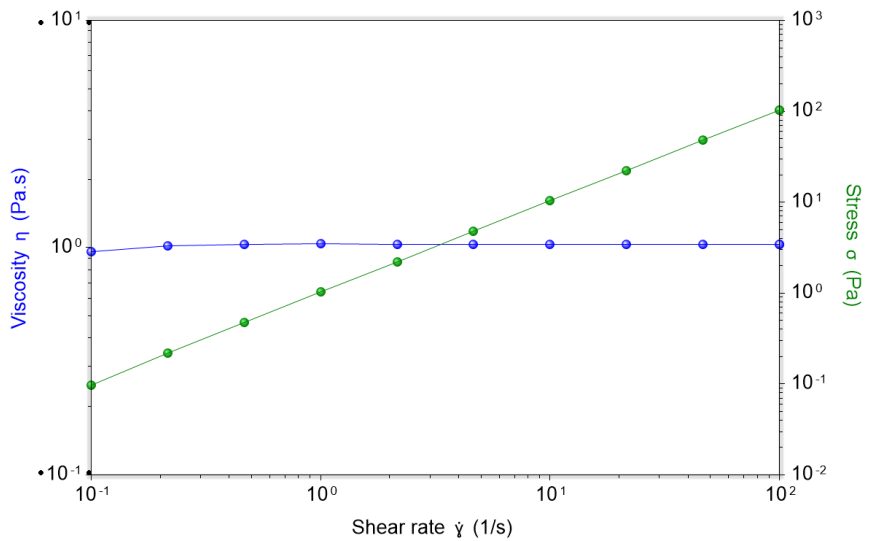
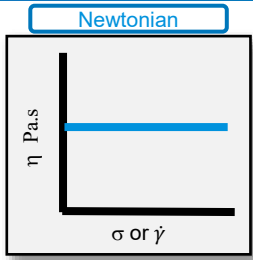
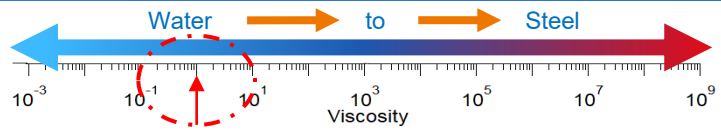


- Water is possibly the most well-known Newtonian fluid
- Viscosity is 1 mPa\*s at 20°C
- This is additionally observed for water-based formulations
- For a more complete flow curve, a concentric cylinder geometry is required
- For plates - Use a large diameter geometry with a smaller gap

# Common Neat Fluid 2 – Olive Oil

1

## Flow Sweep Experiment



- Viscosity is 1 Pa\*s at 20°C
- Oil based fluids typically don't have the same surface tension effects at with water
- Geometry selection will come down to sample volume

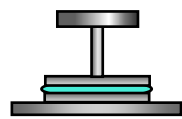
### Right tools for the job:

Concentric Cylinders



OR

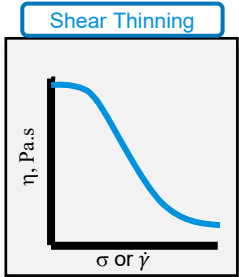
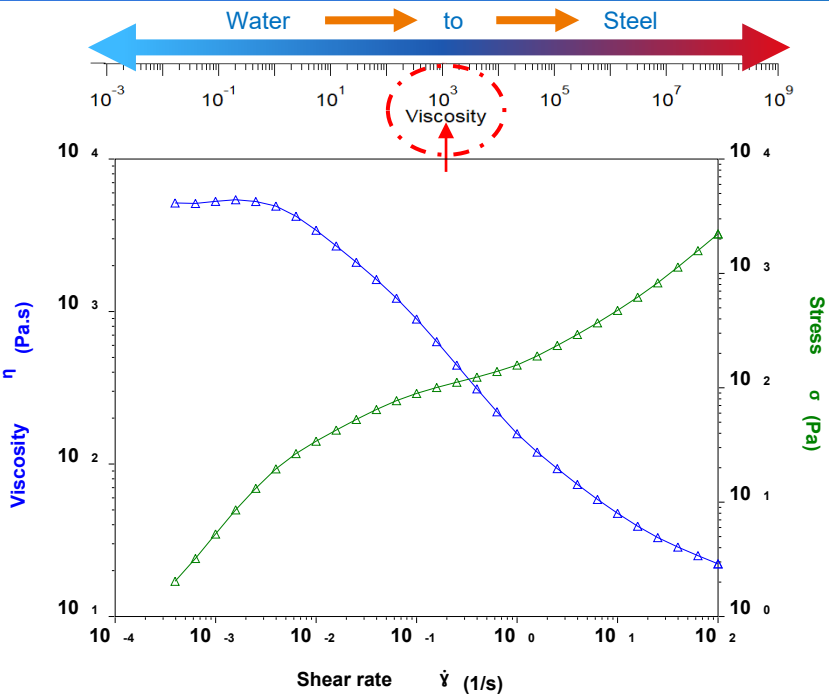
40-60mm parallel plates



# Common Neat Fluid 3 – Honey

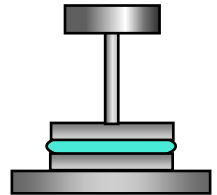
## Flow Sweep Experiment

1



Right tool for the job:

20-60mm parallel plates



- Viscosity is approximately 5000 Pa\*s at 25°C
- Non-Newtonian Neat Fluid
- Honey is quite viscous and sticky, making it more suited to a plate geometry rather than a concentric cylinder configuration

## Rheology Applications

### Structured Fluids

# Classes of Fluids

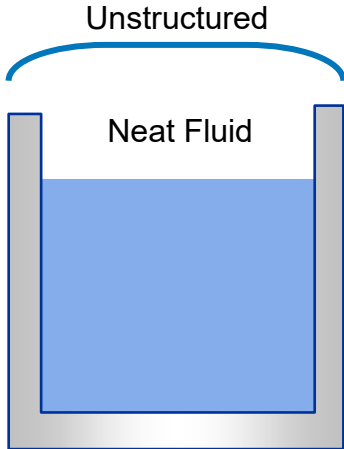
Low Viscosity  
Solutions, emulsions,  
suspensions, weak  
structured fluids

Strong  
Structured  
fluids, gels,  
adhesives

\*We will now turn our attention to structured fluids\*

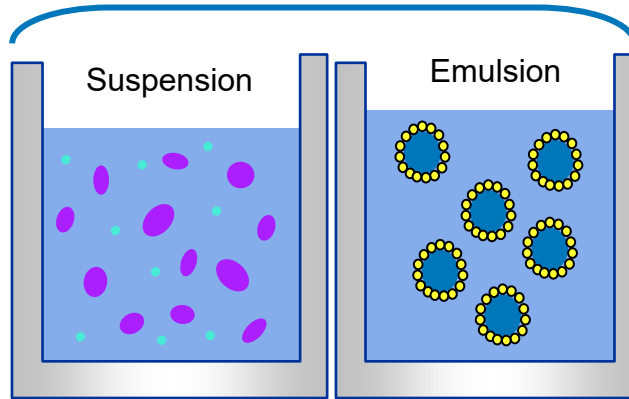


## Structured



Examples are:

- Water
- Oil
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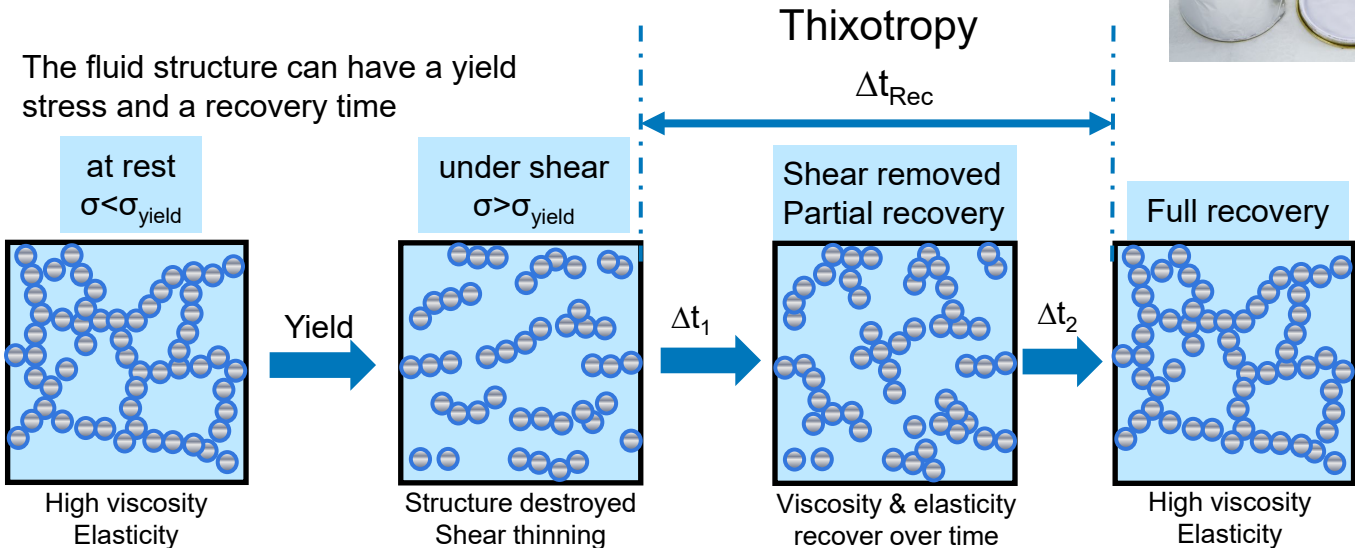
Examples are:

- Paints
- Coatings
- Inks
- Adhesives
- Personal Care Products
- Cosmetics
- Foods

- Structured fluid properties
  - Non-Newtonian
  - Yield stress
  - Thixotropic
  - Viscoelasticity



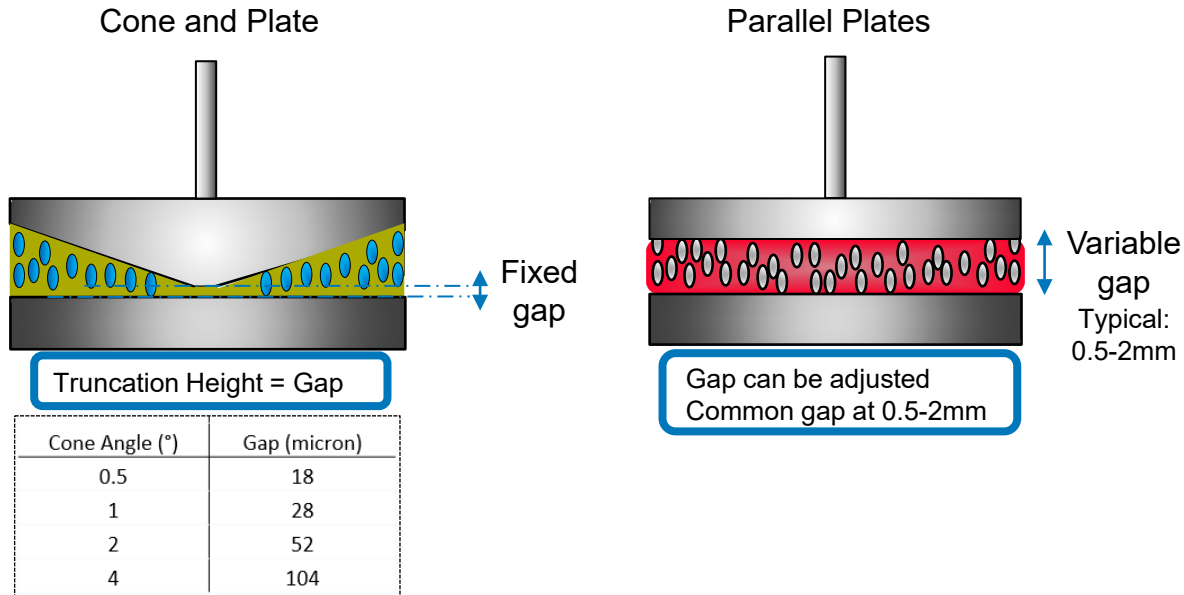
- The fluid structure can have a yield stress and a recovery time



- Considerations for structured fluids

- **Particle Sizes**
- Wall Slip
- Viscosity

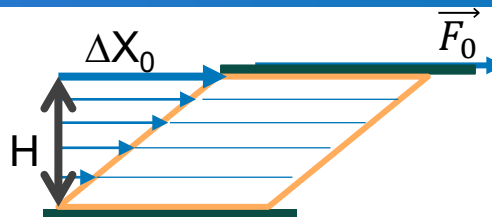
- Particle sizes must be less than 1/10<sup>th</sup> of the gap size
- Parallel Plates are best suited, since the gap can be varied





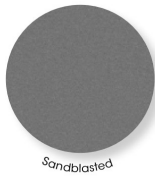
- Considerations for structured fluids

- Particle Sizes
- **Wall Slip**
- Viscosity

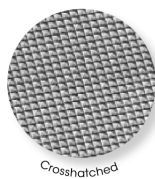


- We assume a fluid velocity of zero at the wall
- Slip is the occurrence of non-zero wall velocity

Parallel Plates:



Sandblasted



Crosshatched

If using parallel plates:

- Use sandblasted or crosshatched plates
- Increase plate gap

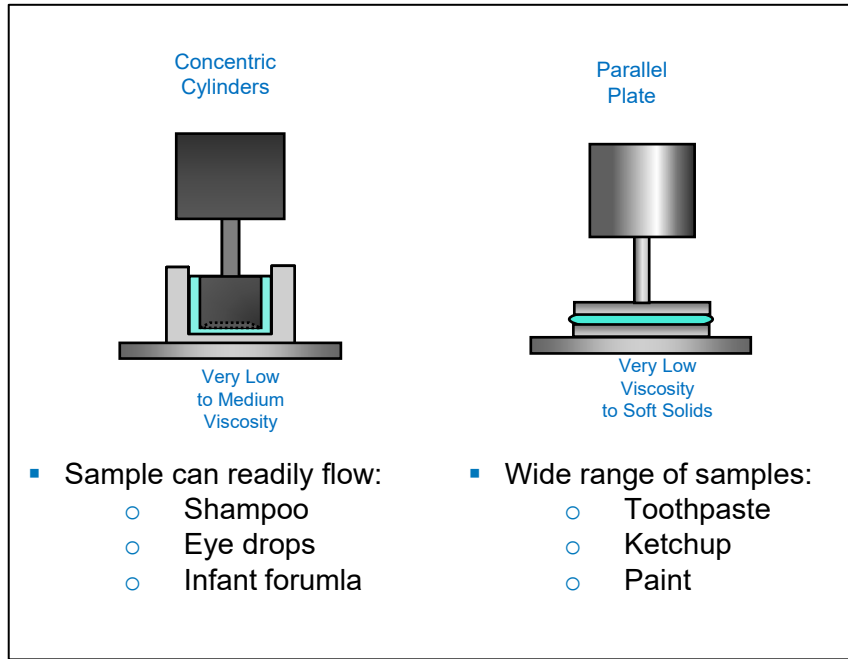
Concentric Cylinder:



If using concentric cylinder:

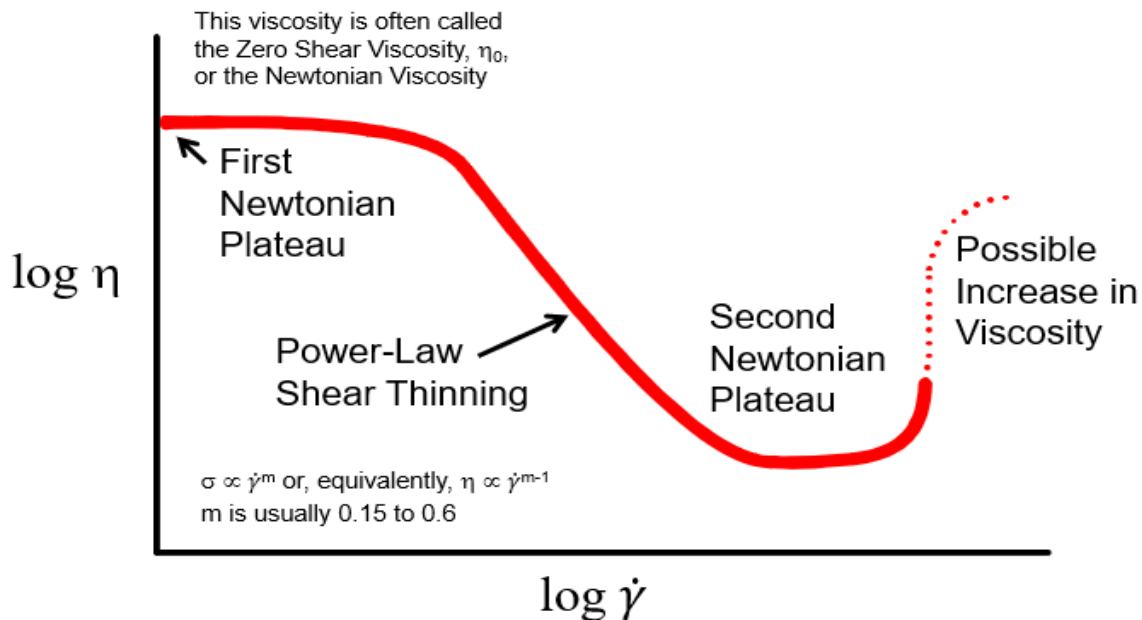
- Use sandblasted cup and rotor
- Use grooved cup with vane or helical rotor

- Considerations for structured fluids
  - Particle Sizes
  - Wall Slip
  - Viscosity



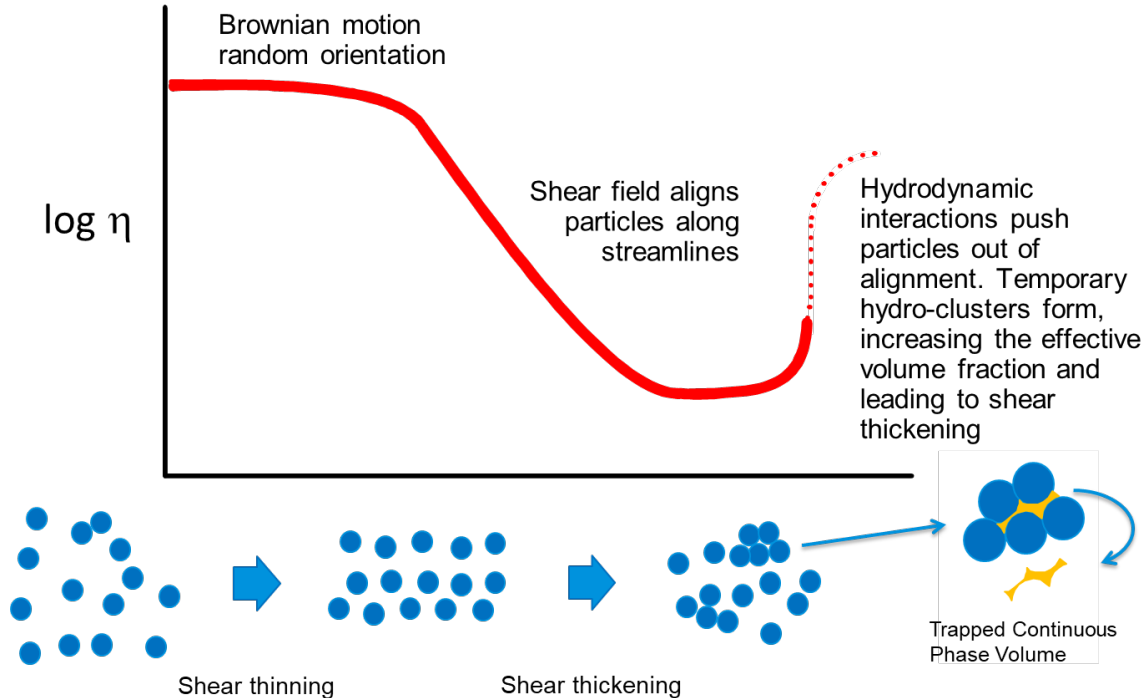
\*\*\*Additionally noting surface tension effects for parallel plates

# General Viscosity Curve for Suspensions

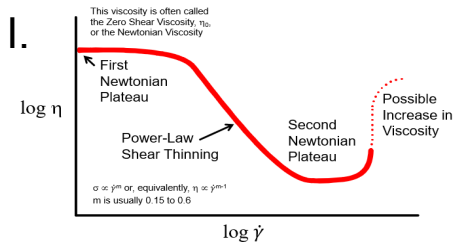


Reference: Barnes, H.A., Hutton, J.F., and Walters, K., An Introduction to Rheology, Elsevier Science B.V., 1989. ISBN 0-444-87469-0

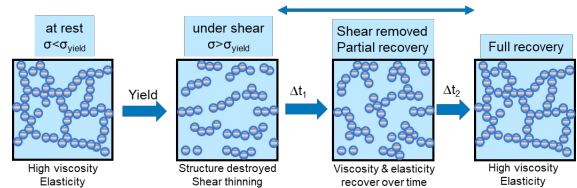
# General Viscosity Curve for Suspensions



- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of structured fluids:
  - I. Flow Curve (Newtonian or Non-Newtonian)
  - II. Yield Stress
  - III. Thixotropy
  - IV. Viscoelasticity (complex mechanical properties)



II. & III.



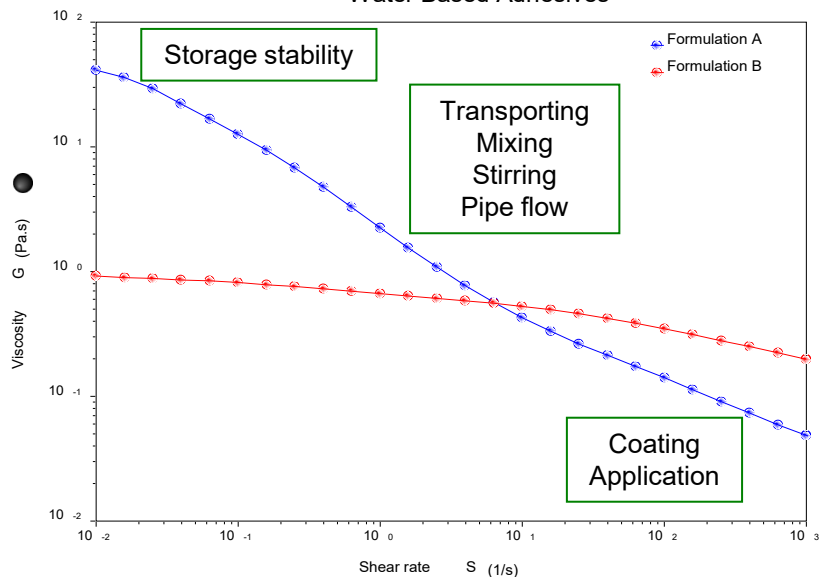
IV.



Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of structured fluids:

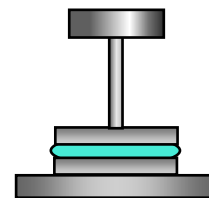
- I. **Flow Curve (Newtonian or Non-Newtonian)**
- II. Yield Stress
- III. Thixotropy
- IV. Viscoelasticity (complex mechanical properties)

Water Based Adhesives



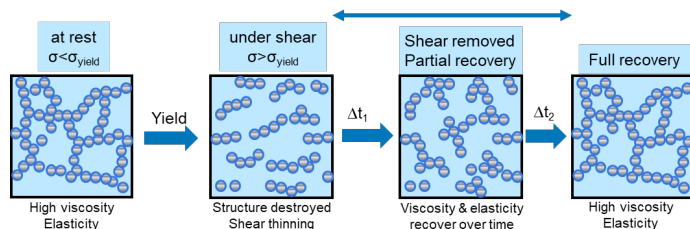
Right tool for the job:

20-60mm parallel plates



- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of structured fluids:

- I. Flow Curve (Newtonian or Non-Newtonian)
- II. **Yield Stress**
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- IV. Viscoelasticity (complex mechanical properties)



## Common methods

- Stress ramp →
  - Ramp between initial and final stress within time interval
- Stress sweep
  - Rotational stress is stepped in increments
- Shear rate ramp
  - Ramp between initial and final stress within time interval
- Dynamic stress/strain sweep
  - Oscillate at strain within LVR, then outside the LVR, and then back inside LVR

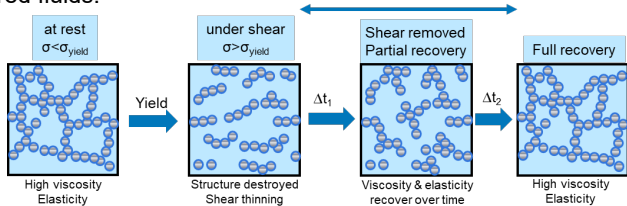
Note:

**Yield behavior is a time dependent characteristic.  
Measured yield stress values will vary depending  
on experimental parameters**

# Properties of Structured Fluids

Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of structured fluids:

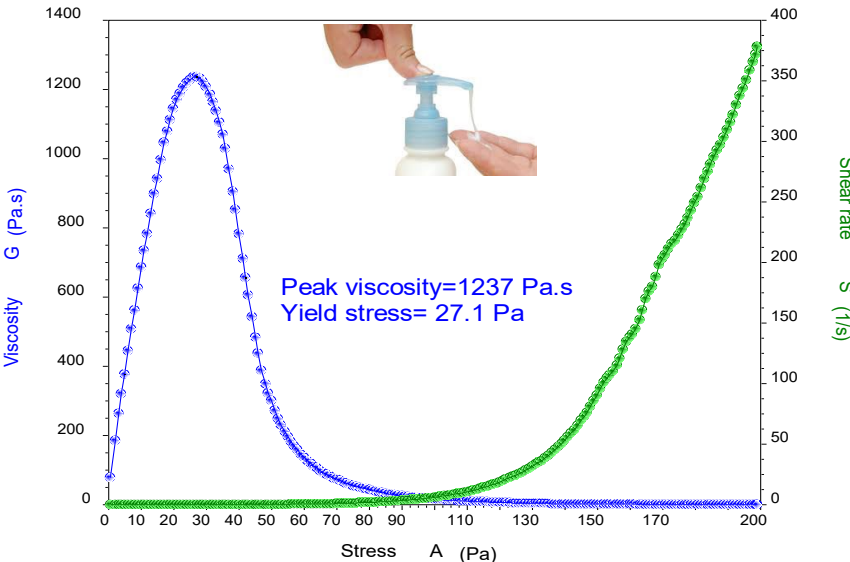
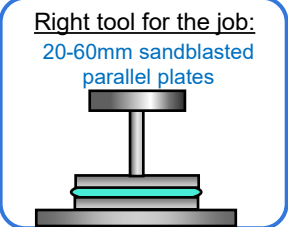
- I. Flow Curve (Newtonian or Non-Newtonian)
- II. **Yield Stress**
- III. Thixotropy
- IV. Viscoelasticity (complex mechanical properties)



Common methods

- o **Stress ramp #1**
- o Stress sweep
- o Shear rate ramp
- o Dynamic stress/strain sweep

- Stress ramp from 0 to 200 Pa in 60 seconds
- Yield is determined at the point where viscosity shows a peak

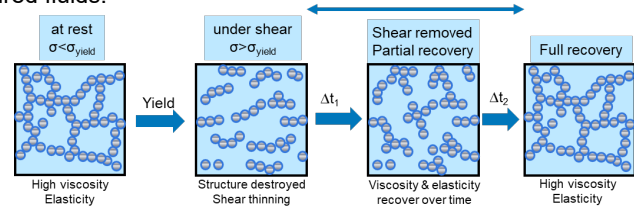




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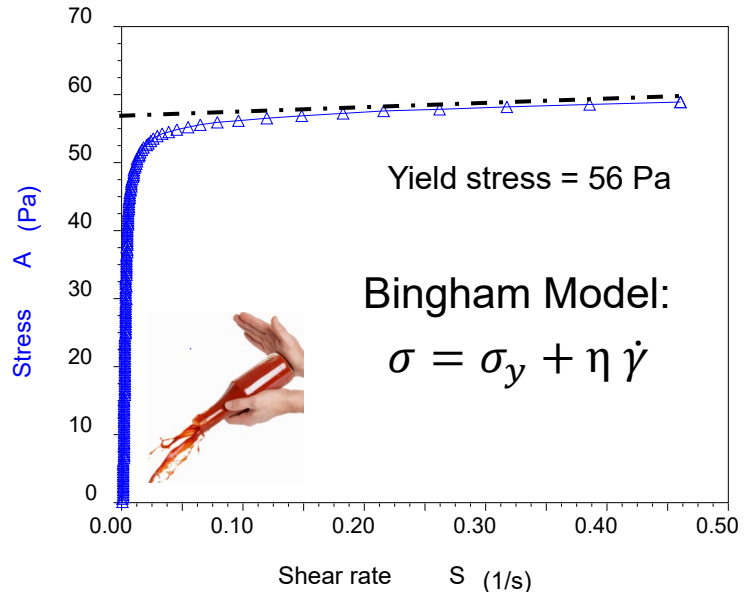
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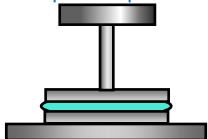
Common methods

- o **Stress ramp #2**
- o Stress sweep
- o Shear rate ramp
- o Dynamic stress/strain sweep

\*Bingham – Yield stress of a Newtonian fluid

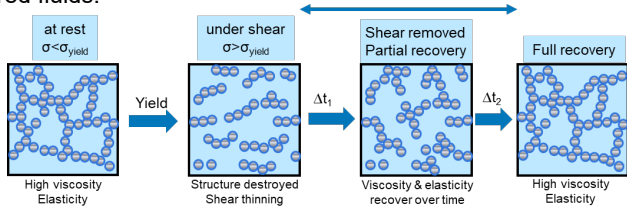


Right tool for the job:  
20-60mm sandblasted  
parallel plates

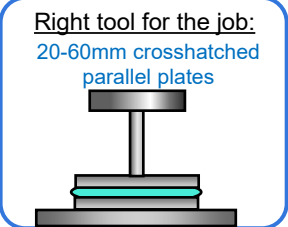
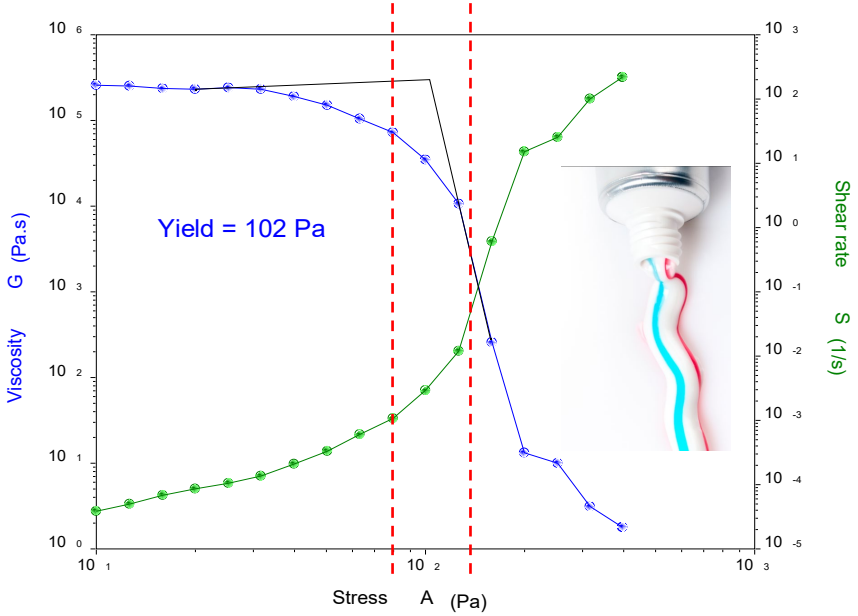


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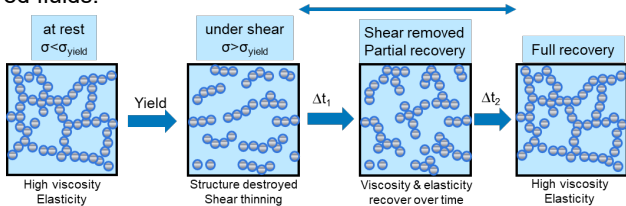


- Common methods
  - o Stress ramp
  - o **Stress sweep #1**
  - o Shear rate ramp
  - o Dynamic stress/strain sweep



# Properties of Structured Fluids

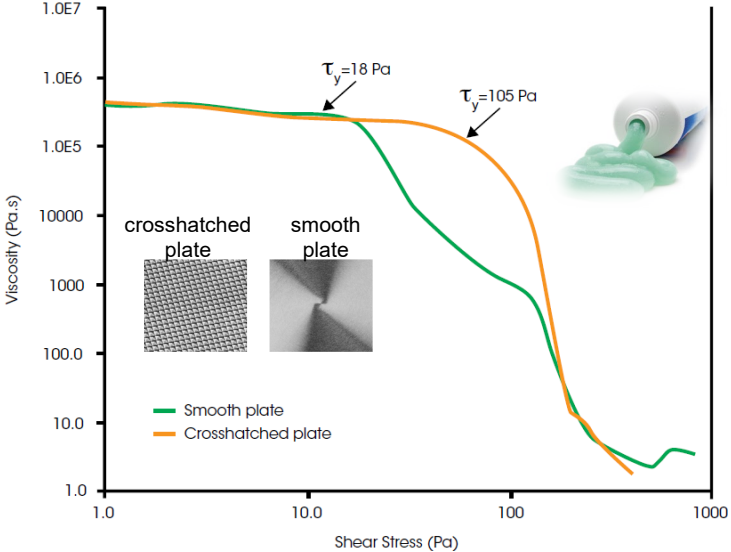
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- Common methods
  - Stress ramp
  - **Stress sweep #2**
  - Shear rate ramp
  - Dynamic stress/strain sweep

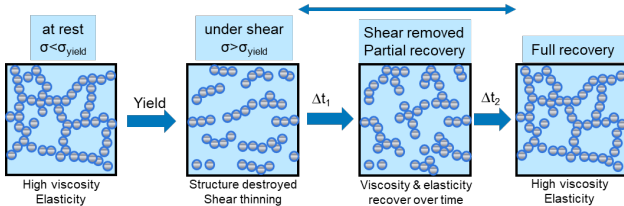
- Incidence of wall slip is often observed when testing structured fluids
- Wall slip shows artifact yield

Yield Stress Measurements on Toothpaste



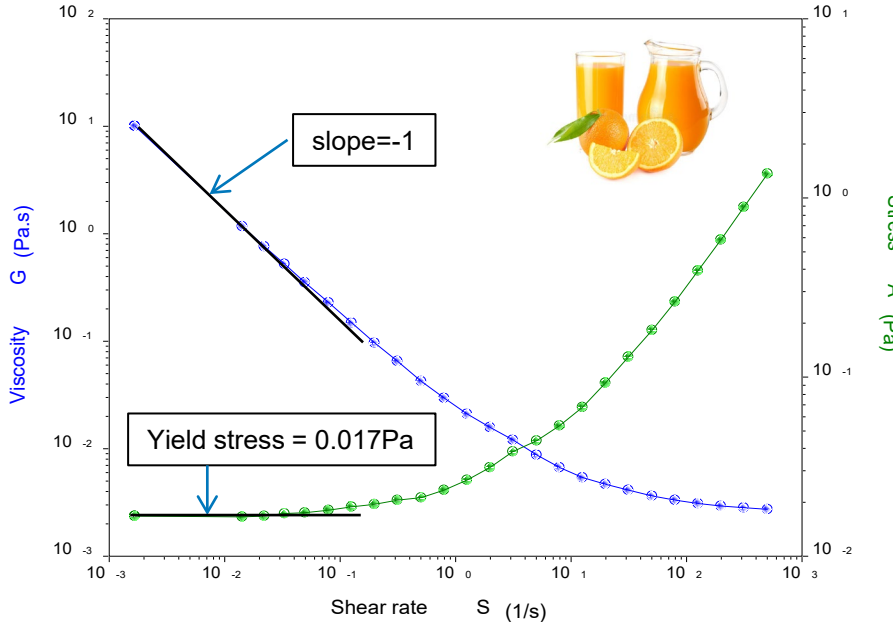
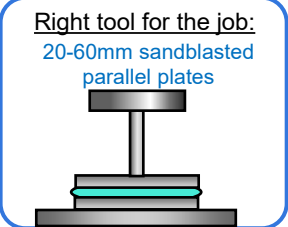
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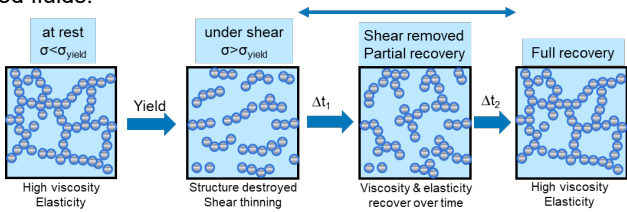
- Common methods
  - o Stress ramp
  - o Stress sweep #2
  - o **Shear rate ramp**
  - o Dynamic stress/strain sweep

- Shear rate ramp down from 500 to 0.001 1/s
- Yield is identified by the stress plateau
- Suitable for weak structures



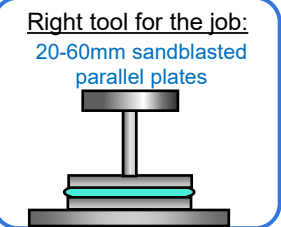
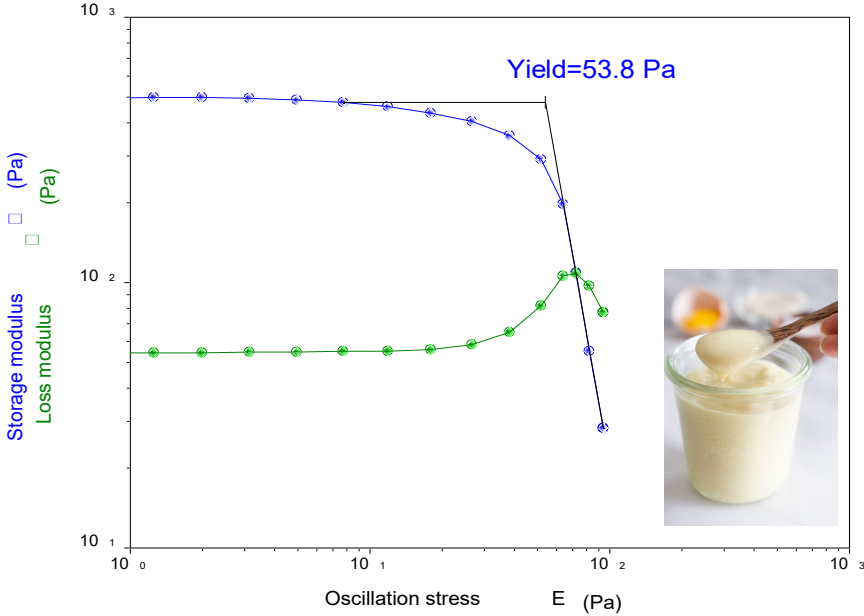
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- Common methods
  - o Stress ramp
  - o Stress sweep #2
  - o Shear rate ramp
  - o **Dynamic stress/strain sweep**

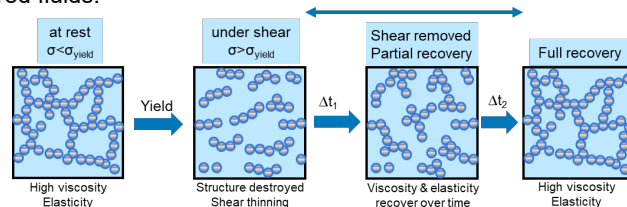
- Dynamic stress/strain sweep test on Mayonnaise
- Yield stress is signified at the onset of  $G'$  vs. stress curve
- Yield determined by this method indicates the critical stress at which irreversible plastic deformation occurs



# Properties of Structured Fluids

Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of structured fluids:

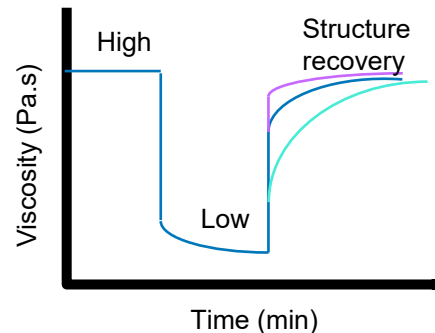
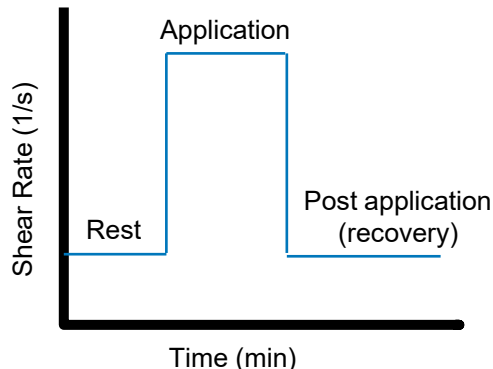
- I. Flow Curve (Newtonian or Non-Newtonian)
- II. Yield Stress
- III. **Thixotropy**
- IV. Viscoelasticity (complex mechanical properties)



Common methods

- **Stepped Flow (3 step)**
- Stepped Dynamic (3 step)
- Stress ramp up and down (thixotropic loop)
- Dynamic time sweep after pre-shear

## Stepped Flow (3 step)



Experimental:

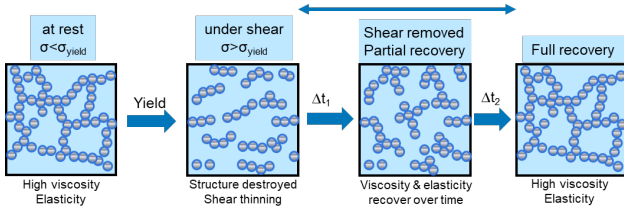
Step 1: Low Shear (e.g. 0.1 1/s), state of rest

Step 2: High Shear (e.g. 10 1/s), structural destruction

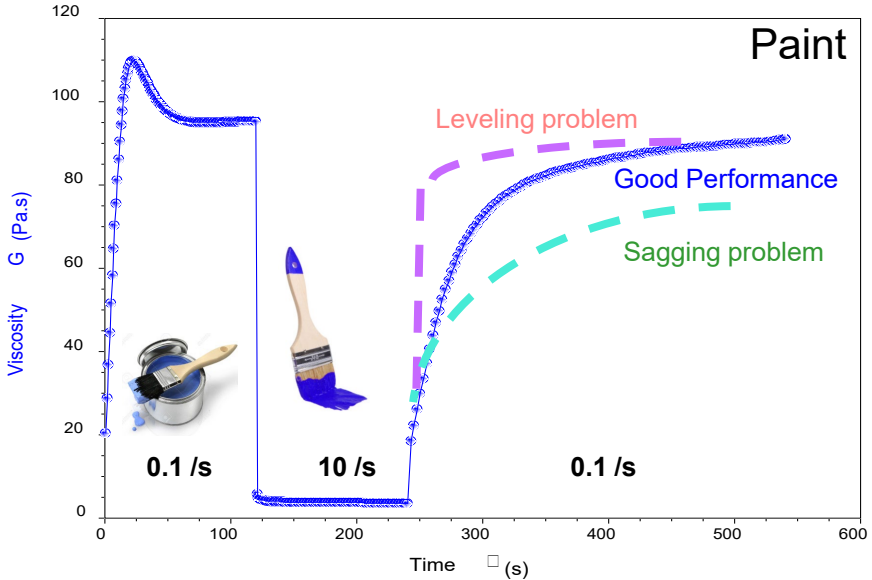
Step 3: Low Shear (e.g. 0.1 1/s), structural regeneration

# Properties of Structured Fluids

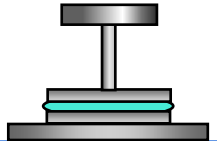
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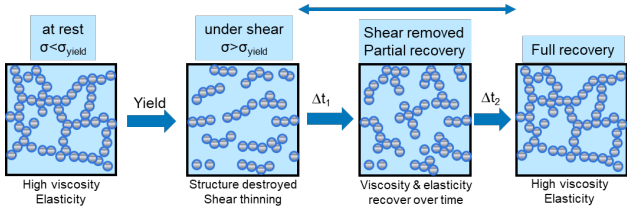


Right tool for the job:  
20-60mm parallel plates



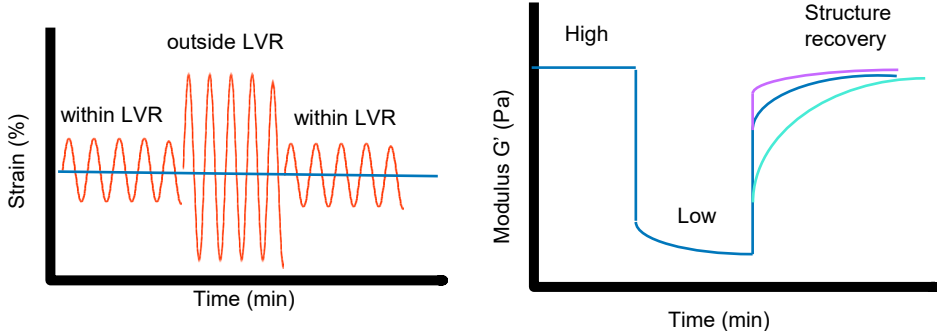
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- Common methods
  - o Stepped Flow (3 step)
  - o **Stepped Dynamic (3 step)**
  - o Stress ramp up and down (thixotropic loop)
  - o Dynamic time sweep after pre-shear

## Stepped Dynamic (3 step)



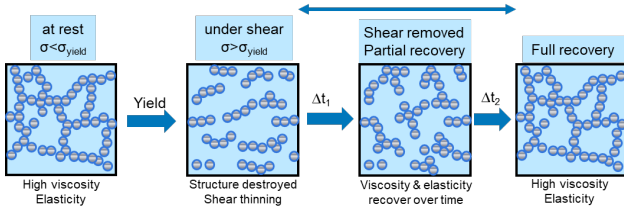
**Experimental:**

- Step 1: Oscillate within LVR, state of rest
- Step 2: Oscillate outside LVR, structural destruction
- Step 3: Oscillate within LVR, structural regeneration

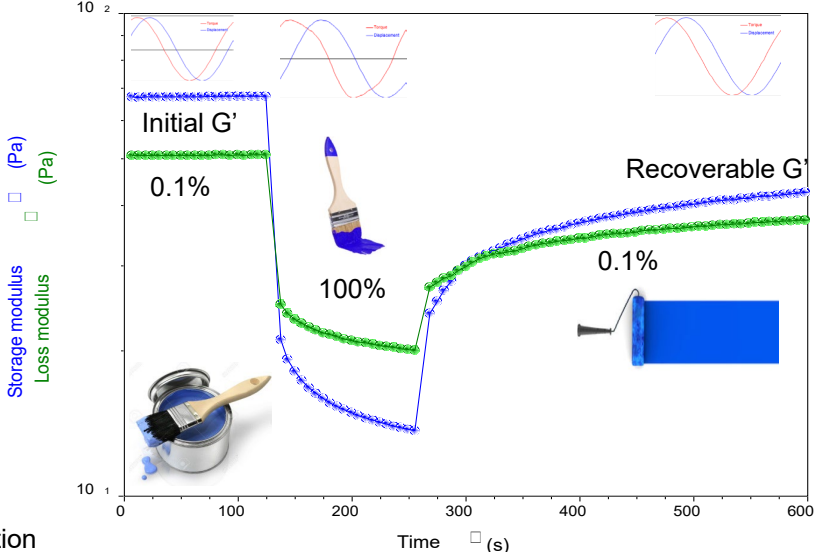
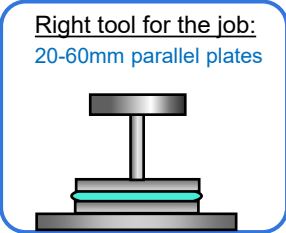


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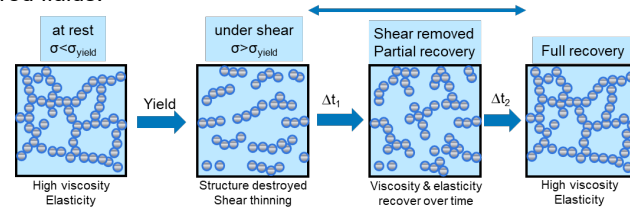


- Experimental:
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  - Step 3: Oscillate within LVR, structural regeneration

# Properties of Structured Fluids

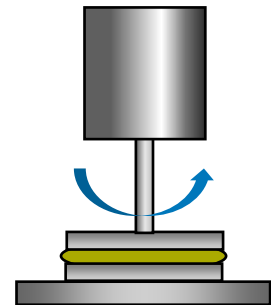
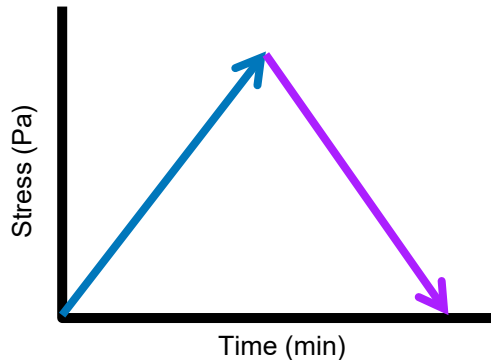
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Common methods

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- **Stress ramp up and down (thixotropic loop)**
- Dynamic time sweep after pre-shear



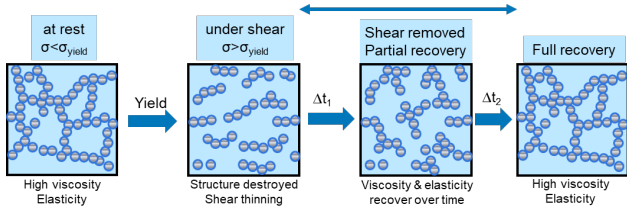
Ramp shear stress linearly from zero up until sample flows, then ramp stress back down to zero

Thixotropic index is measured by taking the area between the up and down stress curves

TA Tech Tip:

# Properties of Structured Fluids

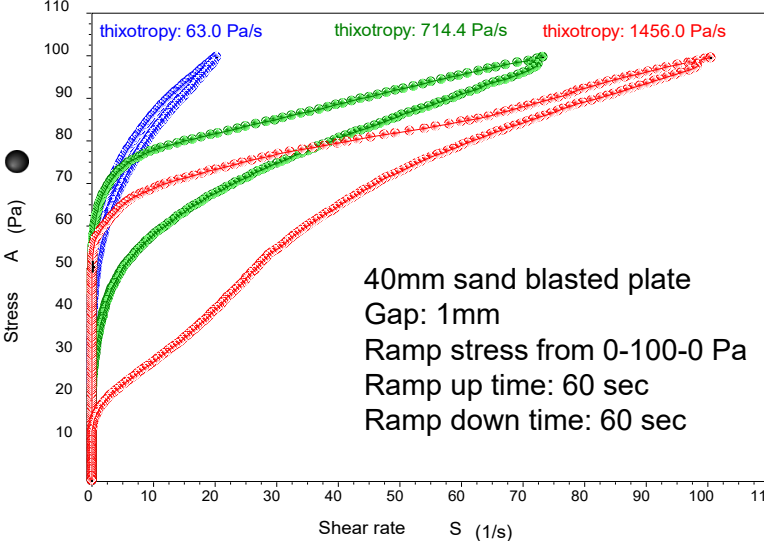
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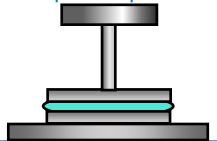
- Ramp shear stress linearly from zero up until sample flows, then ramp stress back down to zero
- Thixotropic index is measured by taking the area between the up and down stress curves
- TA Tech Tip:

Mayonnaise, Yellow Mustard, and Ketchup



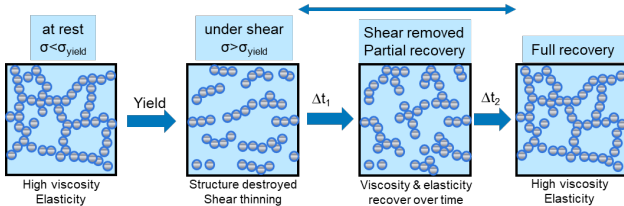
40mm sand blasted plate  
 Gap: 1mm  
 Ramp stress from 0-100-0 Pa  
 Ramp up time: 60 sec  
 Ramp down time: 60 sec

Right tool for the job:  
 20-60mm sandblasted parallel plates

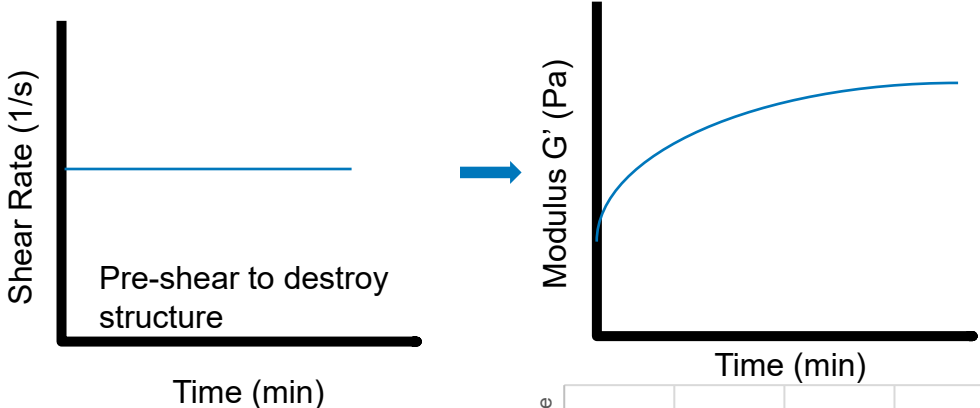


# Properties of Structured Fluids

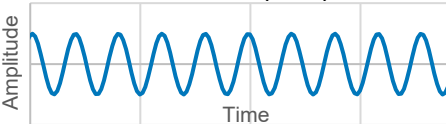
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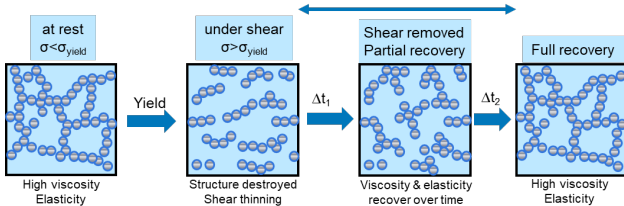


Experimental:  
 Step 1: Preshear sample for some duration to destroy structure  
 Step 2: Oscillation time (strain within LVR) to observe recovery

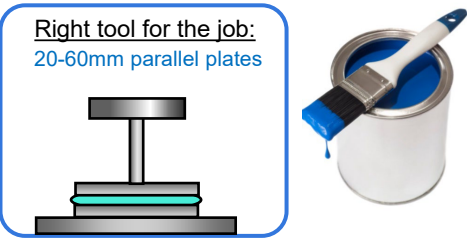
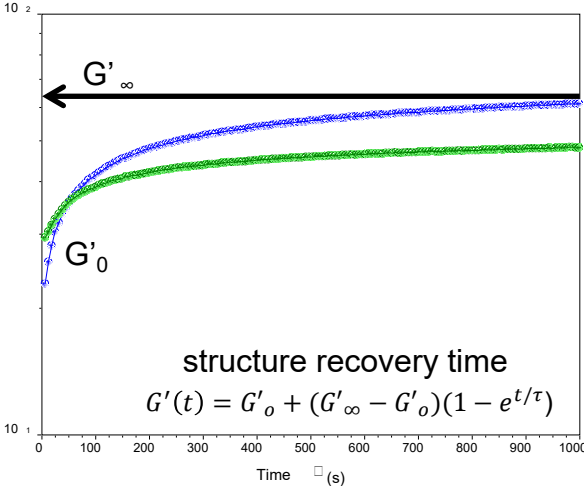


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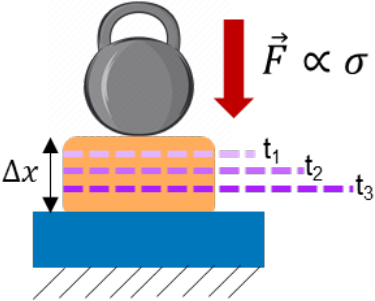
- Common methods
  - Stepped Flow (3 step)
  - Stepped Dynamic (3 step)
  - Stress ramp up and down (thixotropic loop)
  - **Dynamic time sweep after pre-shear**



- Monitor the increase of the  $G'$  as a function of time.
- Thixotropic recovery is described by measuring the recovery time ( $\tau$ )

# Properties of Structured Fluids

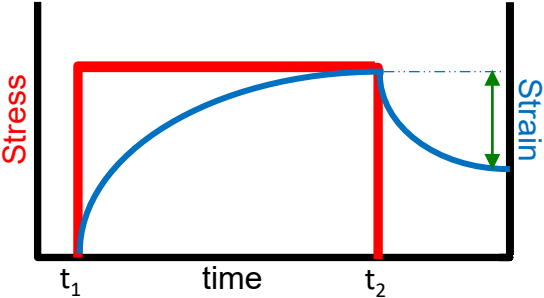
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  - I. Flow Curve (Newtonian or Non-Newtonian)
  - II. Yield Stress
  - III. Thixotropy
  - IV. **Viscoelasticity (complex mechanical properties)**
- Common methods
  - **Creep Recovery**
  - Normal Stress
  - Oscillation Frequency Sweep
  - Oscillation Temperature Ramp



Recall:  $G = \frac{\sigma}{\gamma}$

$$J = \frac{\gamma}{\sigma} \qquad J_R = \frac{\gamma_{t_1} - \gamma_r}{\sigma}$$

- Force/Stress is applied for a set duration and strain is measured
- After stress is removed, strain recovery is measured
- The more the strain recovers, the more elastic the sample is



# Properties of Structured Fluids

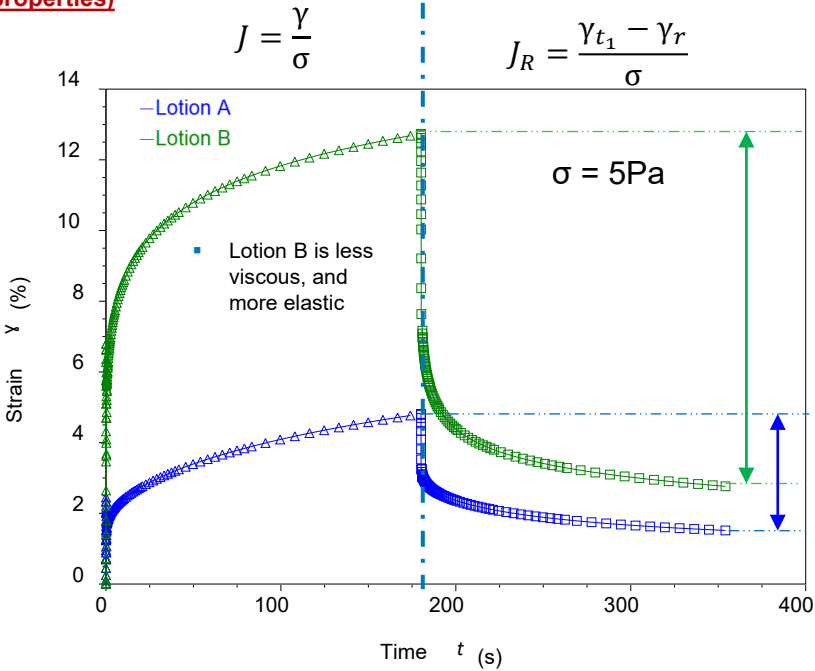
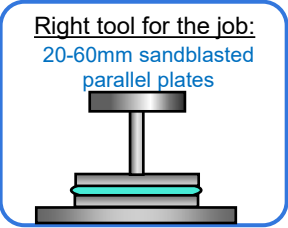
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Recall:  $G = \frac{\sigma}{\gamma}$

- Common methods
  - **Creep Recovery**
  - Normal Stress
  - Oscillation Frequency Sweep
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- Compliance and modulus have an inverse relationship
- In creep step – low compliance implies high modulus (low strain at a given stress)
- In recovery step – low recoverable compliance implies high elasticity (sample fully recovers)

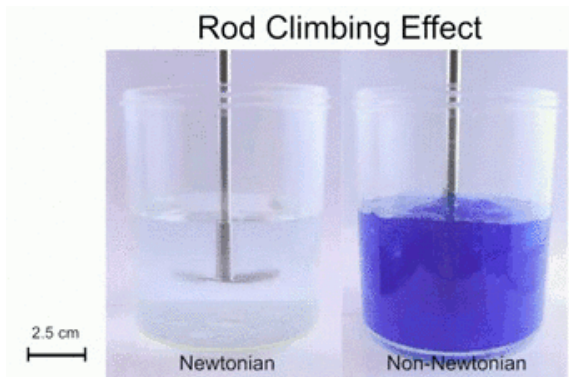


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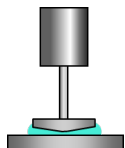
- Creep Recovery
- **Normal Stress**
- Oscillation Frequency Sweep
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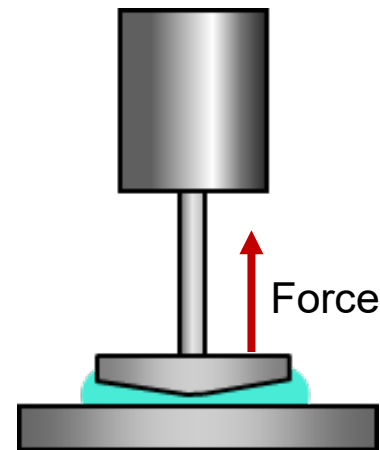
## Normal Stress Constant

$$K_Z = \frac{2}{\pi R^2}$$

Right tool for the job:  
20-60mm Cone and Plate



- Normal stress is measured as a function of shear rate
- Elastic fluids store energy of deformation, and push plates apart



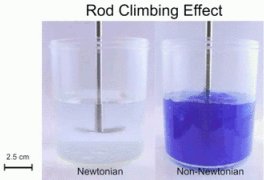
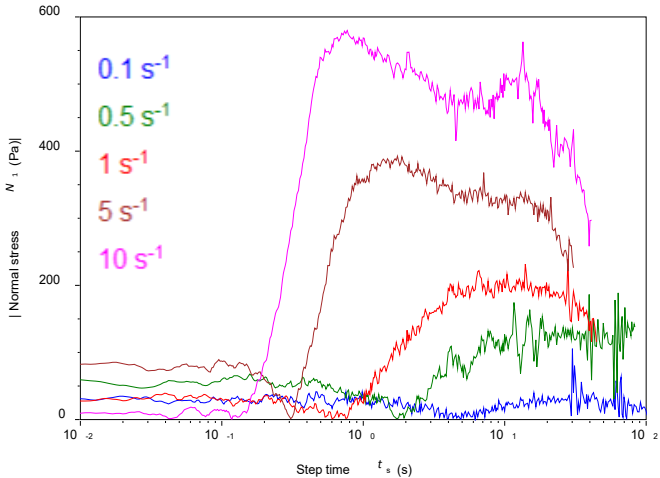
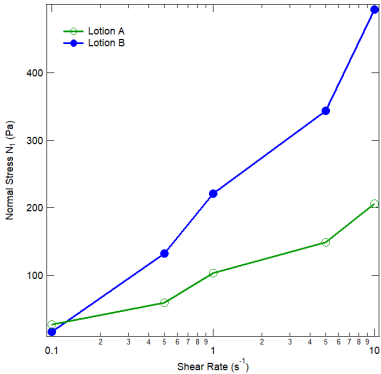


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■ Common methods

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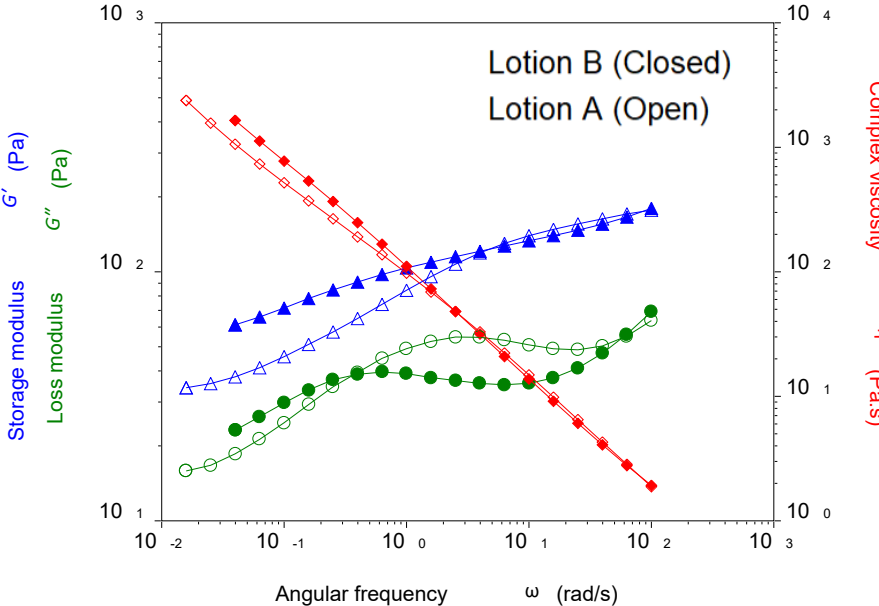
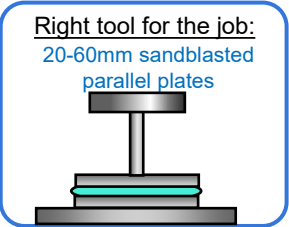
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- Common methods
  - Creep Recovery
  - Normal Stress
  - **Oscillation Frequency Sweep**
  - Oscillation Temperature Ramp

■ The complex viscosity of the two lotions is very similar

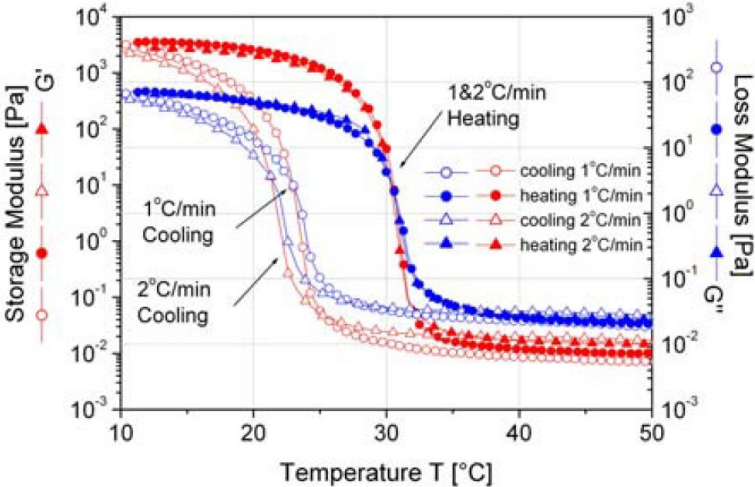
■ However, the viscoelasticity is very different between the two



# Properties of Structured Fluids

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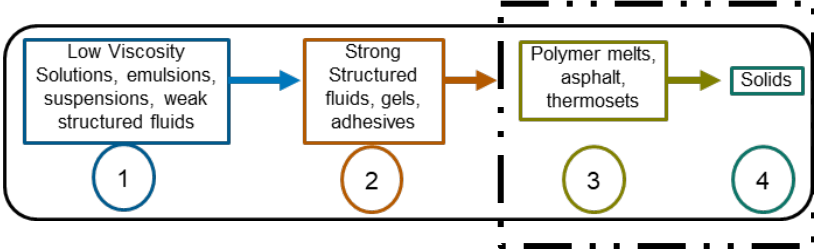
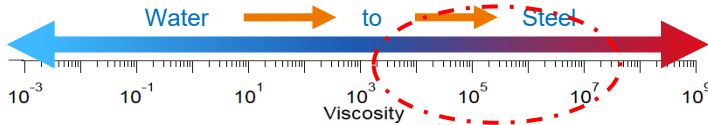


# Rheology Applications

## Polymers

# Rheology Applications

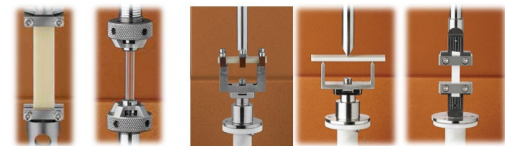
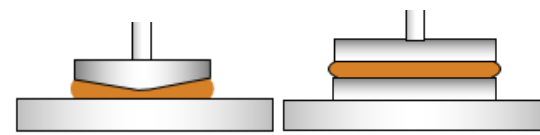
## 2. Polymers



Three main reasons for rheological testing:

- **Characterization**  
MW, MWD, formulation, state of flocculation, etc.
- **Process performance**  
Extrusion, blow molding, pumping, leveling, etc.
- **Product performance**  
Strength, use temperature, dimensional stability, settling stability, etc.

- **Polymer melts:**
  - 25mm and 8mm parallel plates, and disposable plates (cure)
  - Cone-plate (normal force measurement)
  - Cone partitioned plate (avoid edge fracture, LAOS)
- **Polymer solids:**
  - Torsion rectangular and cylindrical geometry
  - DMA clamps (tension, bending, cantilever, compression)



Torsion rectangular and cylindrical clamps

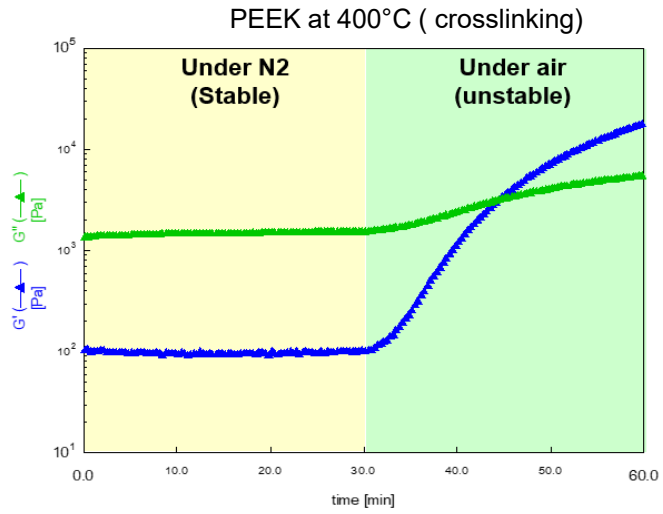
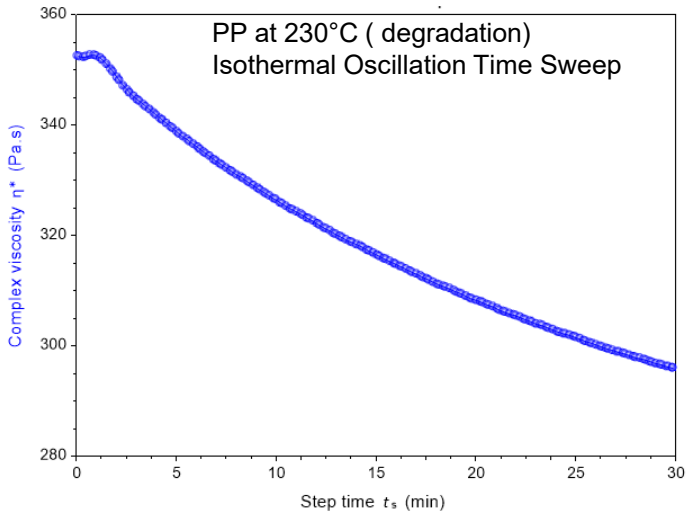
DMA cantilever, 3-point bending and tension clamps

# Properties of Polymers

Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:

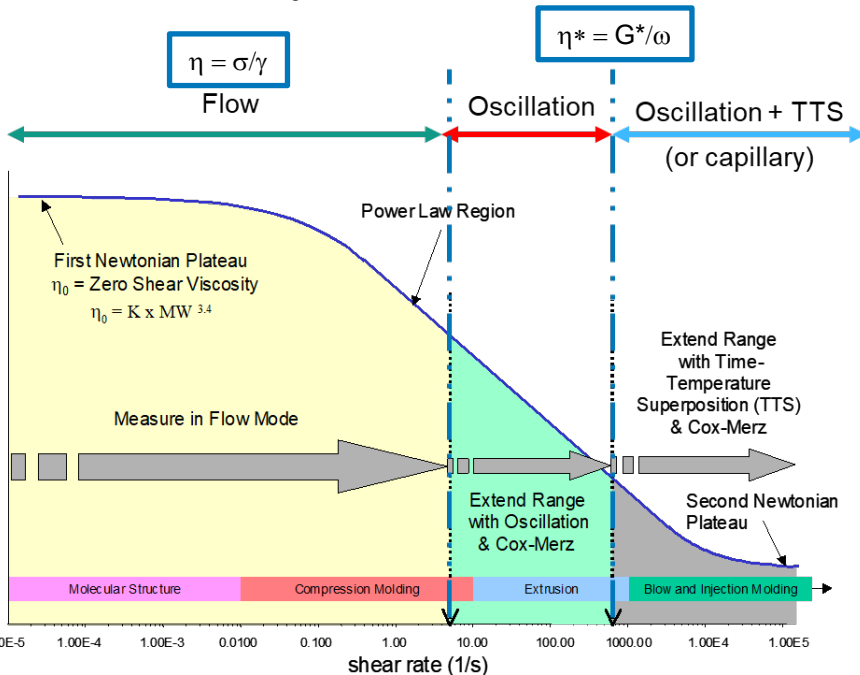
- I. **Thermal Stability**
- II. Flow Curve
- III. Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)
- IV. Thermosets, Curing, Gelation

- Determines if properties are changing over the time of testing
  - Degradation
  - Molecular weight building, crosslinking



# Melt Flow Testing Considerations

- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:
  - I. Thermal Stability
  - II. **Flow Curve**
  - III. Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)
  - IV. Thermosets, Curing, Gelation



- **Edge Fracture:**  
Sample leaves gap because of normal forces
- **Cox-Merz Rule**  
An empirical relationship between a dynamic complex viscosity and steady shear viscosity. It has been observed working with many polymer melt systems

$$\eta(\dot{\gamma}) \equiv \eta^*(\omega)$$

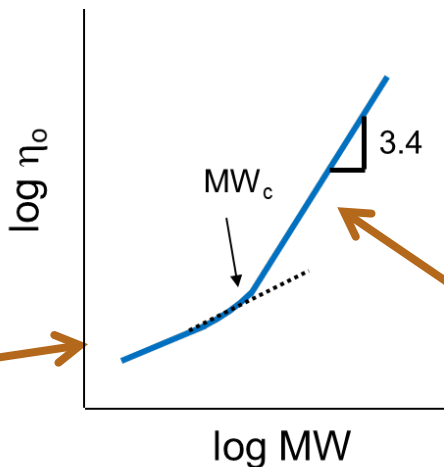
Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:

- I. Thermal Stability
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- Sensitive to Molecular Weight, Mw
- For Low MW (no Entanglements)  $\eta_0$  is proportional to Mw
- For MW > Critical Mw<sub>c</sub>,  $\eta_0$  is proportional to Mw<sup>3.4</sup>



$$\eta_0 = K \cdot Mw$$

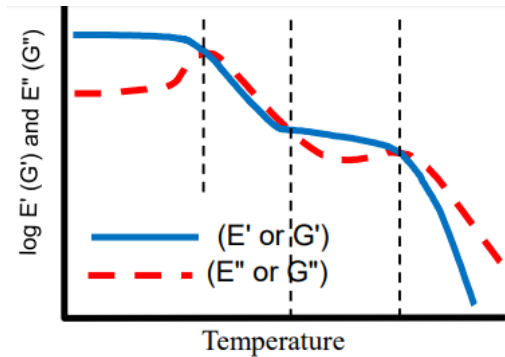
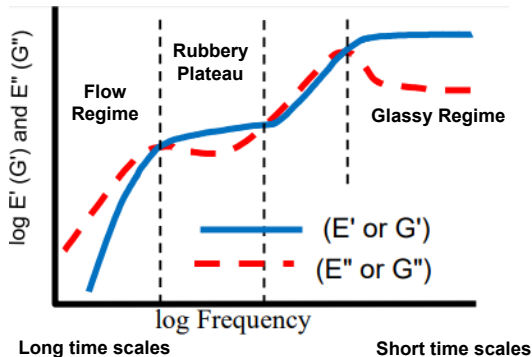


$$\eta_0 = K \cdot Mw^{3.4}$$



Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:

- I. Thermal Stability
- II. Flow Curve
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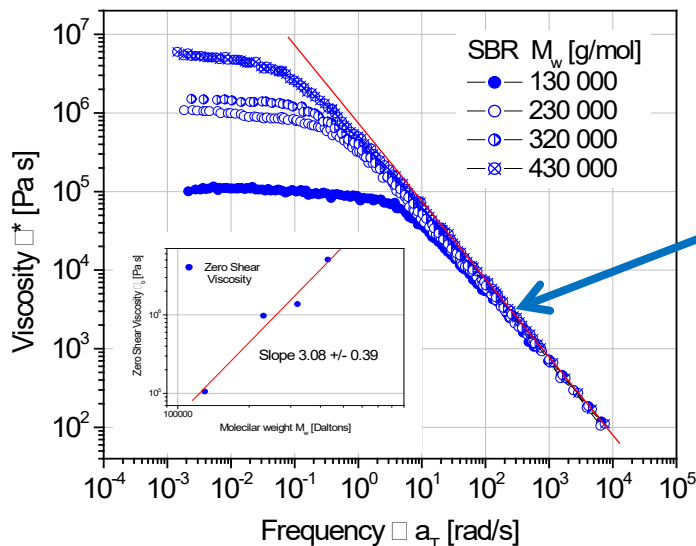


- At low frequencies molecular relaxation is at large time scales- **large length scales**
- At high frequencies molecular relaxation is at short time scales – *small length scales*

- At low temperatures molecular relaxation is slow – the diffusion is limited to *small length scales* and small time scales
- At high temperatures molecular relaxation is fast – the diffusion is predominately **large length scales** and large time scales

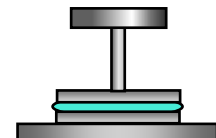
Commonality between Frequency and Temperature is the timescale of molecular relaxation (Polymer chains diffusing)

- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:
  - Thermal Stability
  - Flow Curve
  - Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)**
  - Thermosets, Curing, Gelation
- The zero shear viscosity increases with increasing molecular weight. TTS is applied to obtain the extended frequency range.

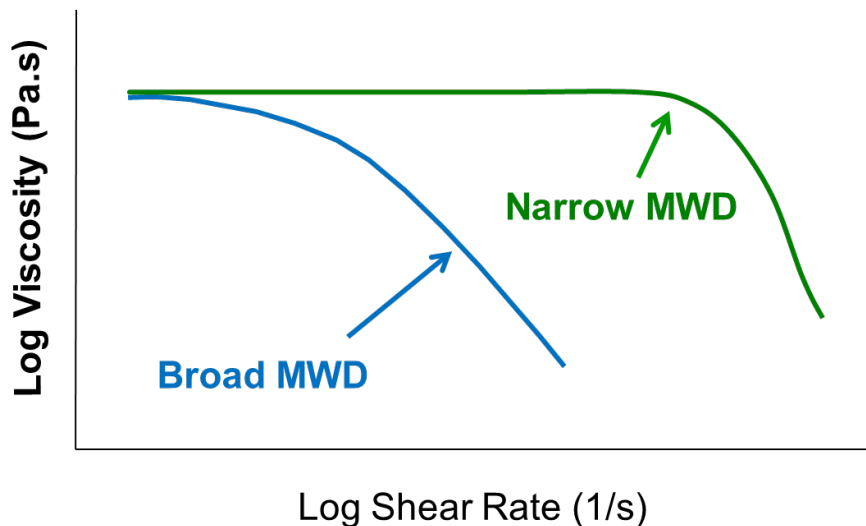


The high frequency behavior (slope -1) is independent of the molecular weight

Right tool for the job:  
25mm parallel plates



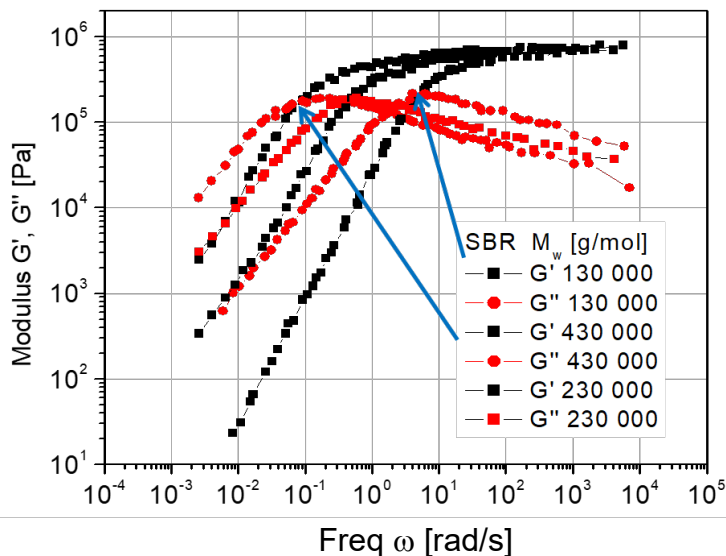
- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:
  - I. Thermal Stability
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  - III. **Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)**
  - IV. Thermosets, Curing, Gelation
- A Polymer with a broad MWD exhibits non-Newtonian flow at a lower rate of shear than a polymer with the same  $\eta_0$ , but has a narrow MWD.



Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:

- I. Thermal Stability
- II. Flow Curve
- III. **Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)**
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The  $G'$  and  $G''$  curves are shifted to lower frequency with increasing molecular weight.



TA Instruments Webinar

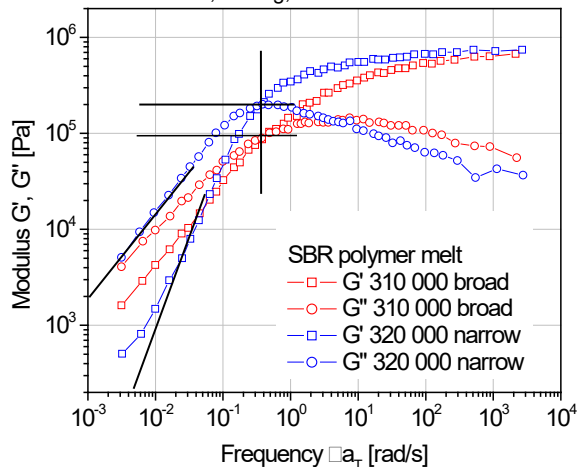


TA WEBINARS

Professor Chris Macosko  
– Analyzing Molecular  
Weight Distribution w/  
Rheology

- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:

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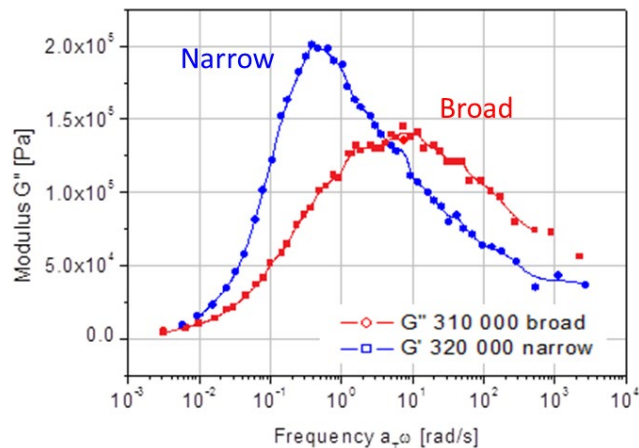


Higher crossover frequency : lower  $M_w$

Higher crossover Modulus: narrower MWD

(note also the slope of  $G''$  at low frequencies – narrow MWD steeper slope)

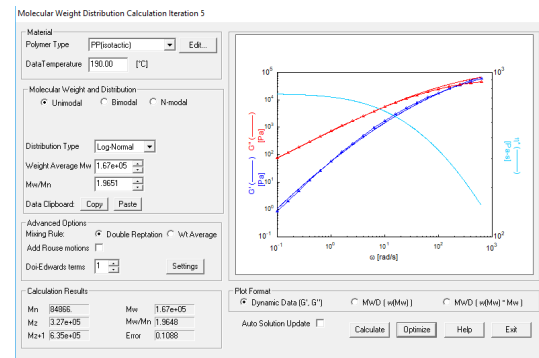
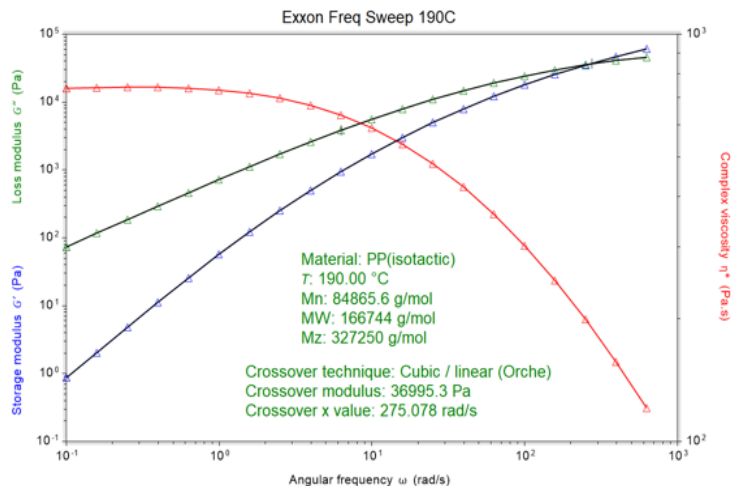
- The maximum in  $G''$  is a good indicator of the broadness of the distribution



Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:

- I. Thermal Stability
- II. Flow Curve
- III. **Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)**
- IV. Thermosets, Curing, Gelation

- Using rheological measurements to quantify molecular weight and molecular weight distribution



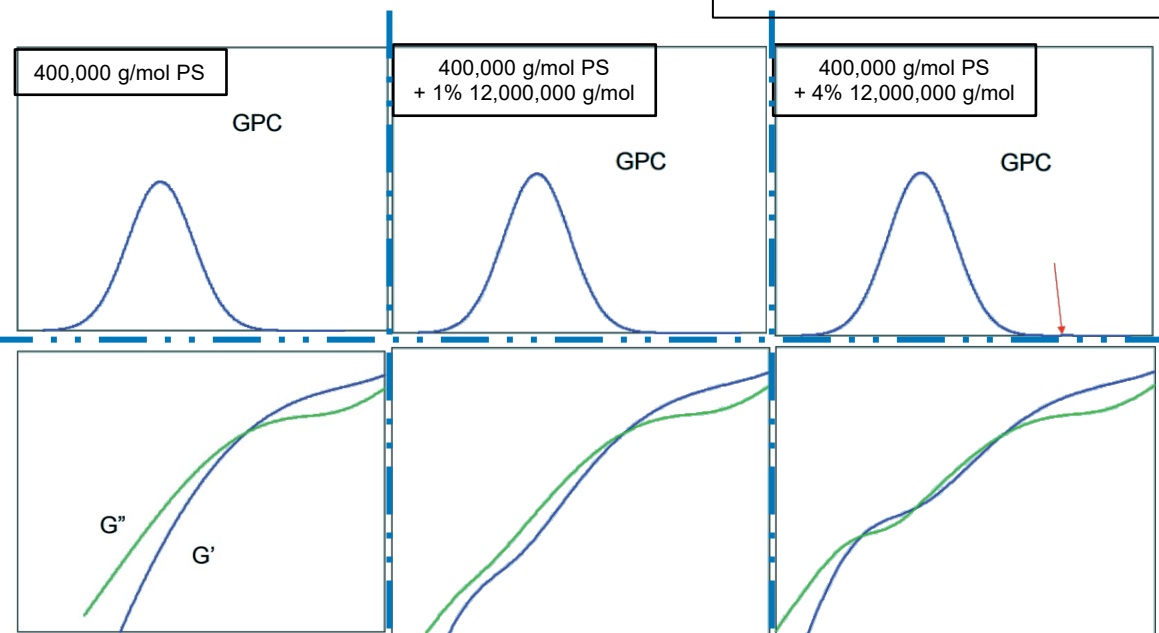
[João Maia: The Role of Interfacial Elasticity on the Rheological Behavior of Polymer Blends](#)  
[Chris Macosko: Analyzing Molecular Weight Distribution w/ Rheology](#)

- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:

- I. Thermal Stability
- II. Flow Curve
- III. **Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)**
- IV. Thermosets, Curing, Gelation

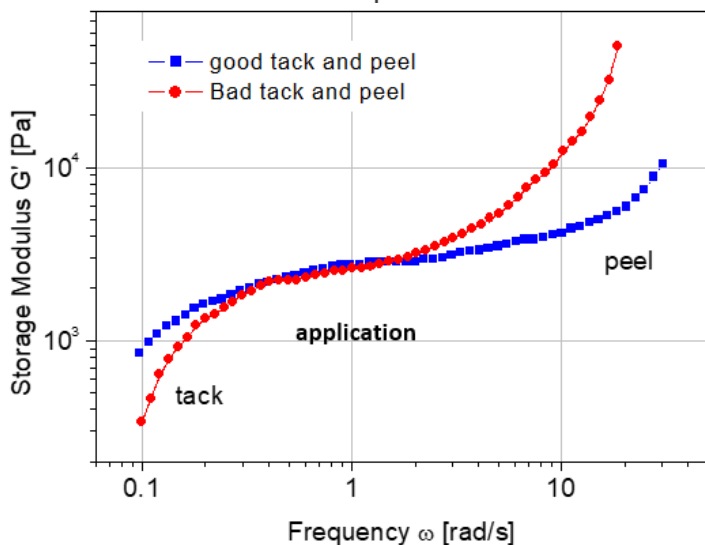
## Frequency Sweep

- Small amounts of ultra high MW PS increases entanglement of the polymer. It shows much more effect on the terminal region compared to the GPC data.



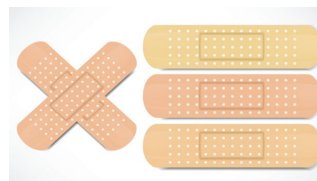
- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:
  - Thermal Stability
  - Flow Curve
  - Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)**
  - Thermosets, Curing, Gelation

Tack and Peel performance of a PSA



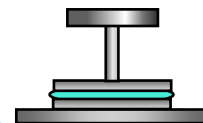
## Tack and Peel of Pressure Sensitive adhesive

- Frequency Sweep



- A dynamic frequency sweep test results can correlate to tack and peel performance
- One single frequency sweep test cannot cover the entire frequency range of interest. Use Time-Temperature Superposition (TTS).

Right tool for the job:  
25mm parallel plates

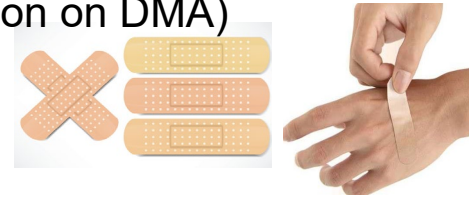




- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:
  - I. Thermal Stability
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  - III. **Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)**
  - IV. Thermosets, Curing, Gelation

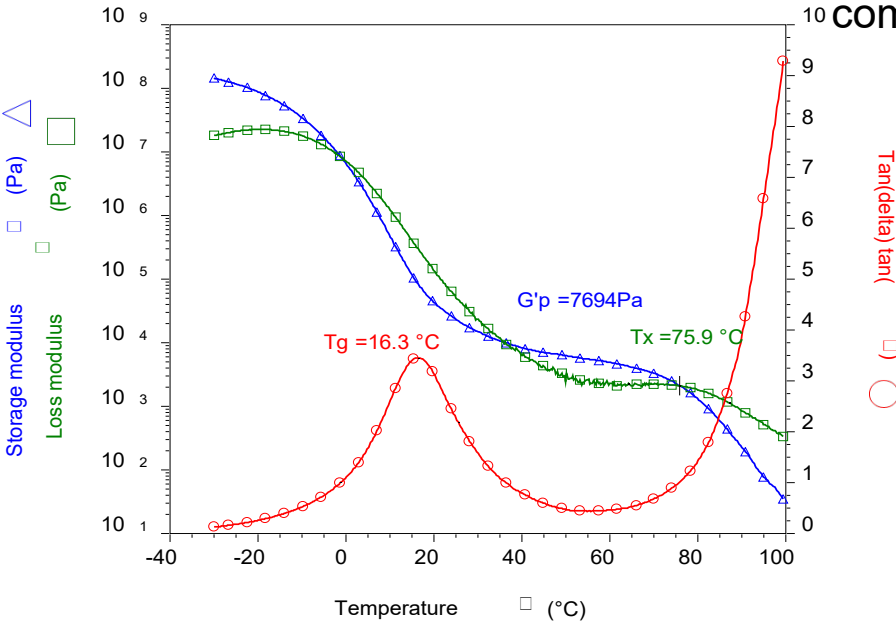
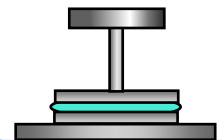
## Tack and Peel of Pressure Sensitive adhesive

- Temperature Ramp (more common on DMA)



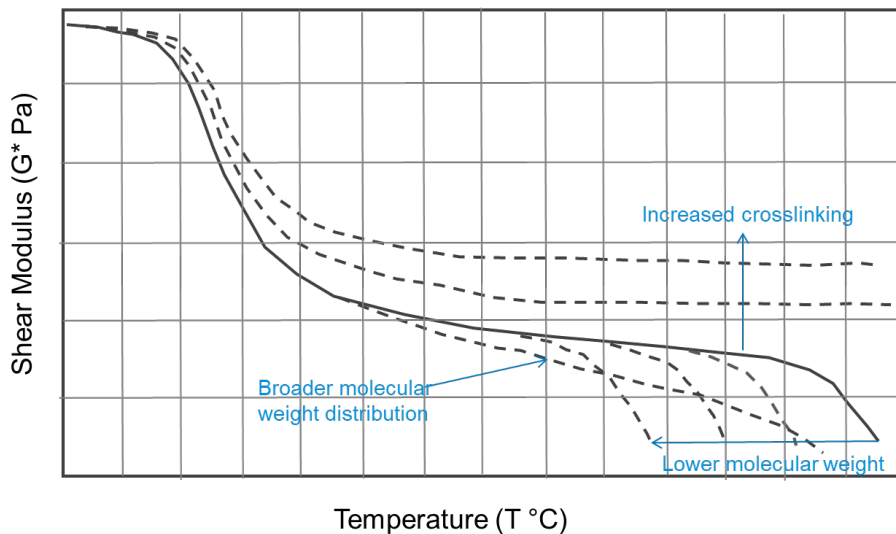
- A temperature ramp test is an alternative to frequency sweeps for temperature stable polymers

Right tool for the job:  
25mm parallel plates



# Molecular weight, Viscoelasticity, and Curing

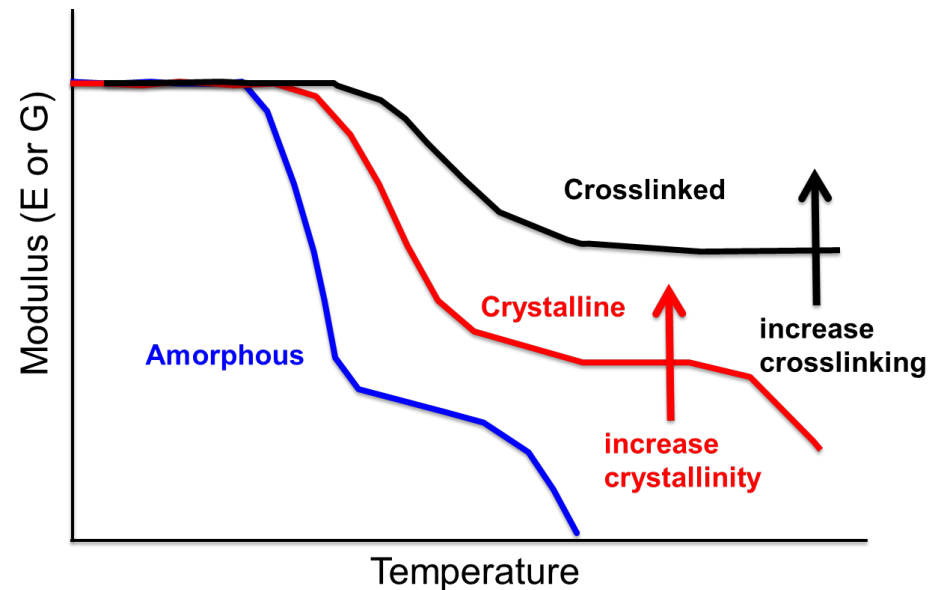
- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:
  - I. Thermal Stability
  - II. Flow Curve
  - III. **Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)**
  - IV. Thermosets, Curing, Gelation



- Temperature Ramp
  - Correlates with polymer molecular structure: Mw, MWD, and crosslinking

- Segway into “Thermosets, curing and gelation” section**

- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:
  - I. Thermal Stability
  - II. Flow Curve
  - III. Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)
  - IV. Thermosets, Curing, Gelation

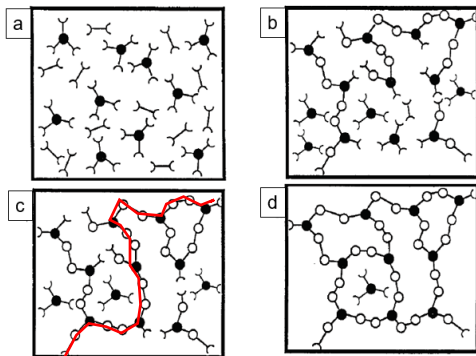


- Correlates with polymer molecular structure: Mw, MWD, and crosslinking

Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:

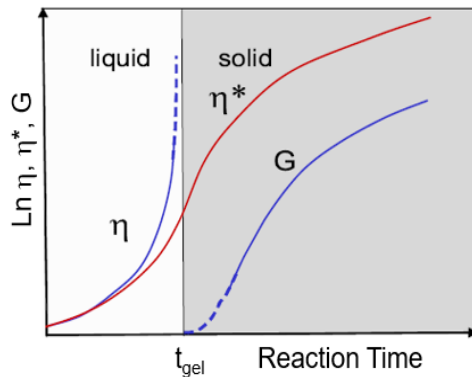
- I. Thermal Stability
- II. Flow Curve
- III. Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)
- IV. **Thermosets, Curing, Gelation**

## Gelation and Vitrification

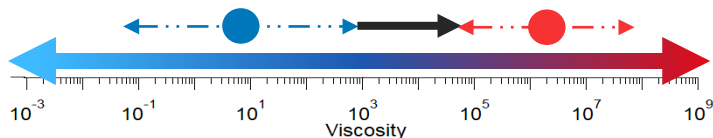


- Formation of network across span of material volume

## What Rheology Measures



Viscosity can increase many orders of magnitude over duration of cure

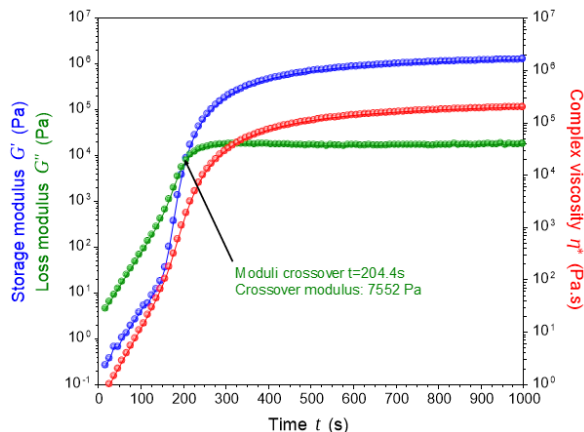


- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:

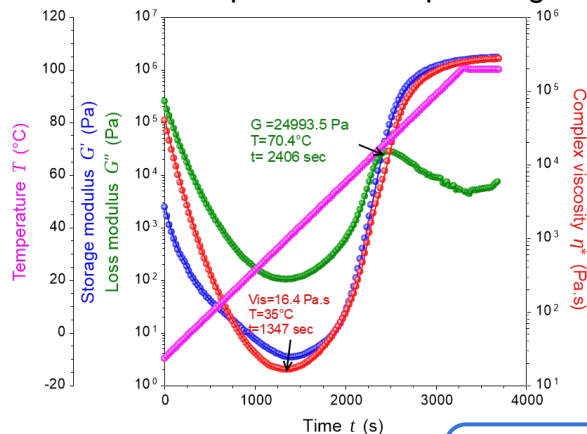
- I. Thermal Stability
- II. Flow Curve
- III. Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)
- IV. **Thermosets, Curing, Gelation**



## Isothermal Curing (Time Sweep)

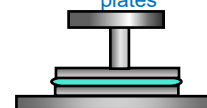


## Temperature Ramp Curing



- Measure viscosity change before crosslinking
- Monitor gelation and measure the gel point
- Monitor sample viscoelastic property change ( $G'$  and  $G''$ ) during curing
- Evaluate the mechanical properties of the end-use product

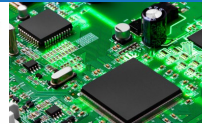
**Right tool for the job:**  
Disposable 25mm parallel plates



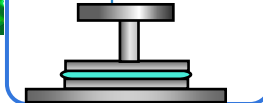
# Isothermal Curing Experiments

Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:

- I. Thermal Stability
- II. Flow Curve
- III. Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)
- IV. **Thermosets, Curing, Gelation**

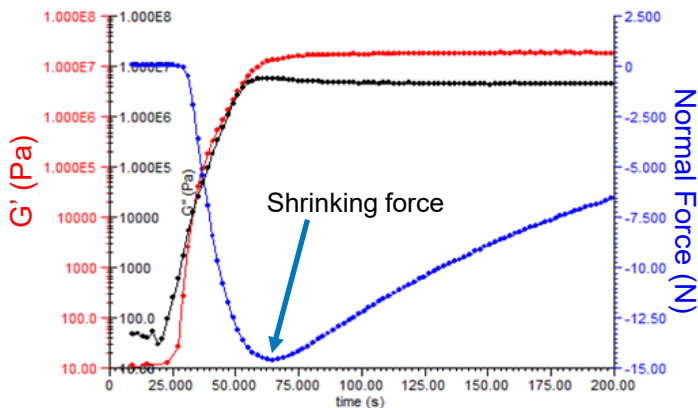


Right tool for the job:  
Disposable 25mm parallel plates

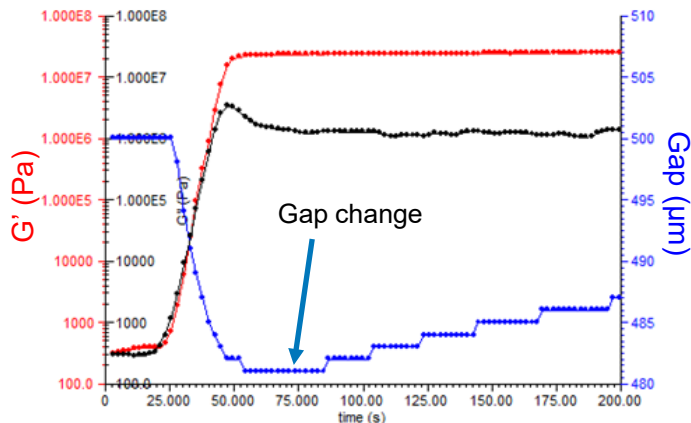


## Isothermal Curing (Time Sweep)

Set Gap Constant monitor shrinking force



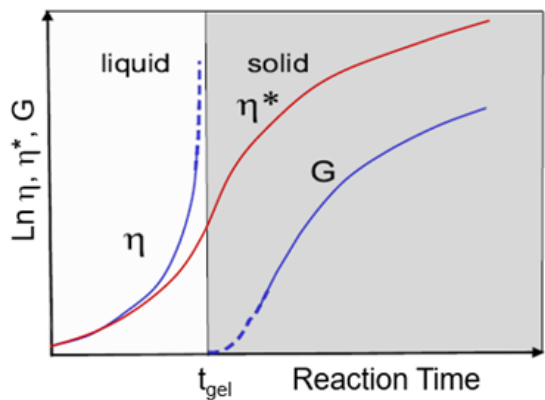
Set Axial Force = 0  
monitor dimension(gap) change



Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:

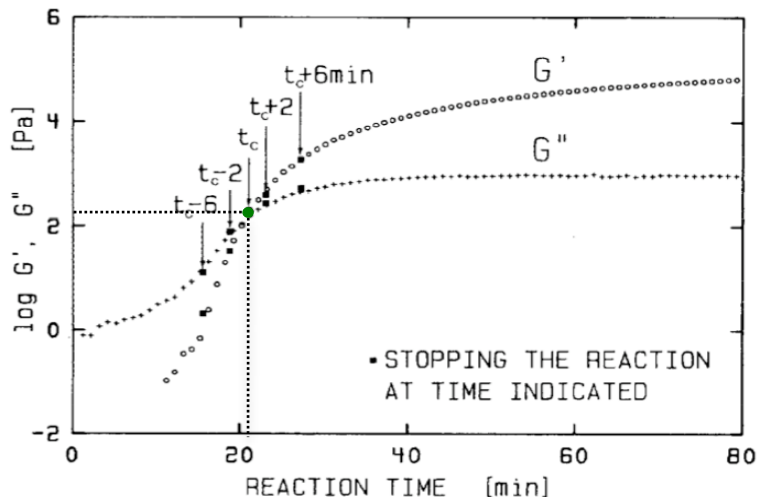
- I. Thermal Stability
- II. Flow Curve
- III. Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)
- IV. **Thermosets, Curing, Gelation**

- Viscosity goes to infinity
- System loses solubility
- Molecular weight  $M_w$  goes to infinity



Empiricism of Y. M. Tung and P. J. Dynes (1982)

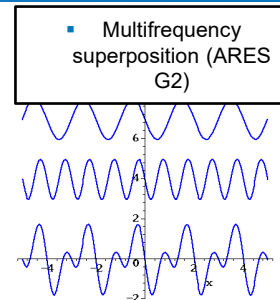
When  $G' = G''$  and  $\tan \delta = 1$



F. Chambon and H. H. Winter (1985)

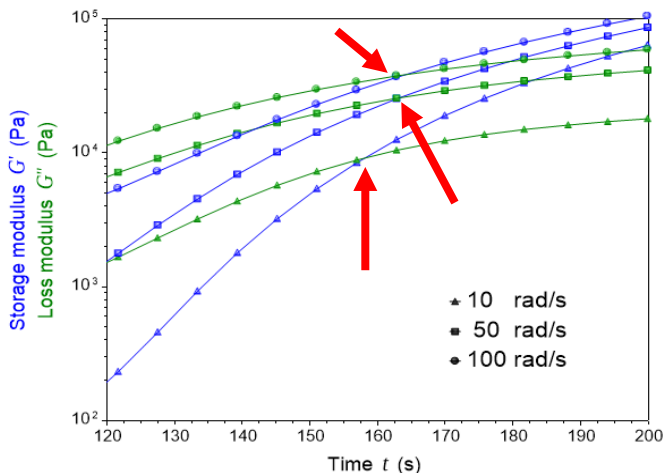
# True Gelation Point (Multifrequency time sweep)

- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:
  - I. Thermal Stability
  - II. Flow Curve
  - III. Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)
  - IV. **Thermosets, Curing, Gelation**

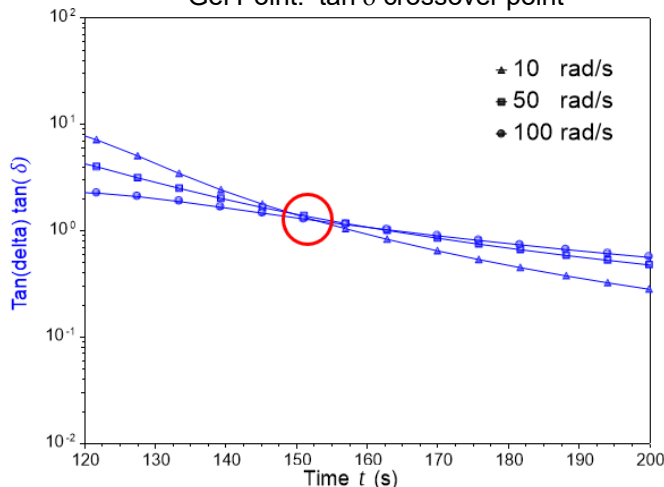


## Multifrequency Time Sweep

$G'/G''$  crossover: frequency dependent



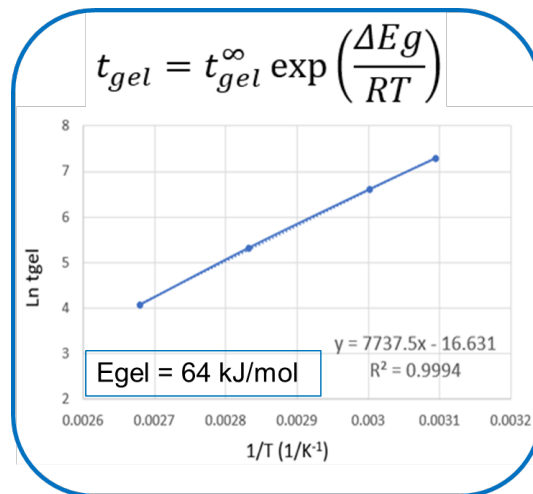
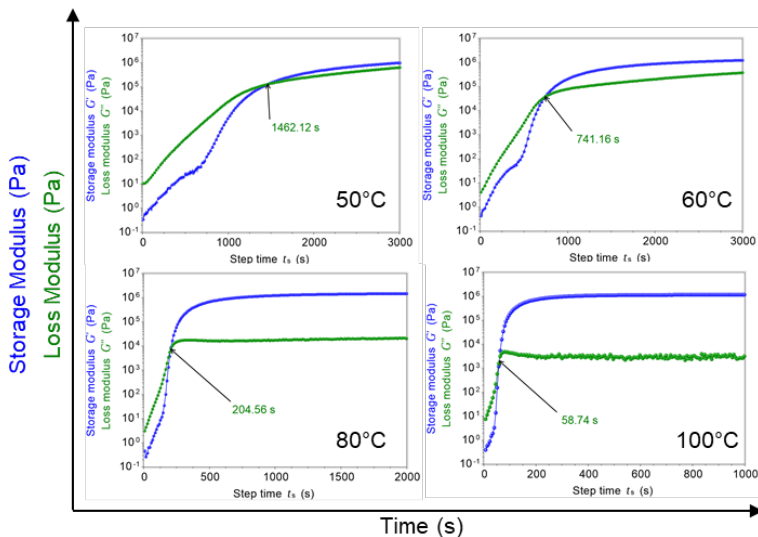
Gel Point:  $\tan \delta$  crossover point





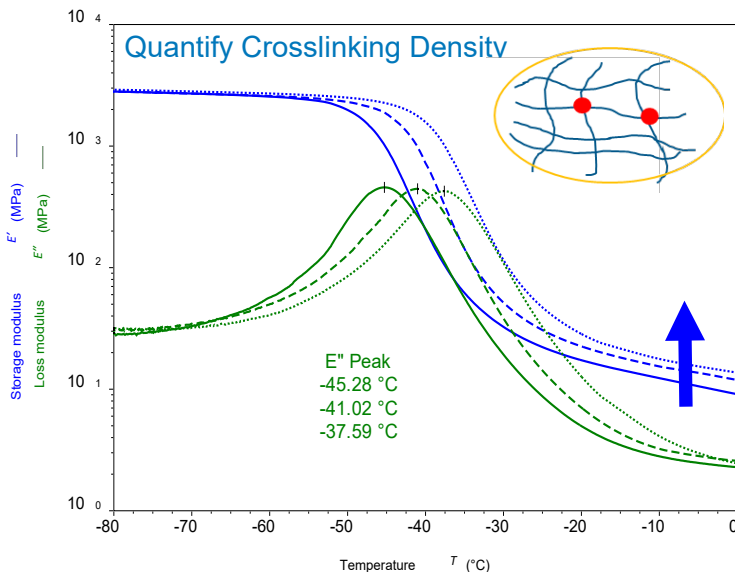
- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:
  - I. Thermal Stability
  - II. Flow Curve
  - III. Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)
  - IV. **Thermosets, Curing, Gelation**

- The gelation kinetics can be described using the empirical Arrhenius model
- Perform isothermal curing at different temperatures



Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:

- I. Thermal Stability
- II. Flow Curve
- III. Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)
- IV. **Thermosets, Curing, Gelation**



$$M_c = \frac{3RTd}{E'_{rubbery}} \quad \text{or} \quad M_c = \frac{RTd}{G'_{rubbery}}$$

$M_c$  = Molecular weight between crosslinks  
 $R$  = Universal gas constant  
 $T$  = Absolute temperature (K)  
 $d$  = Polymer density

$$\text{Crosslinking density, } q = \frac{M_w}{M_c}$$

$M_w$  = Molecular weight of the monomer

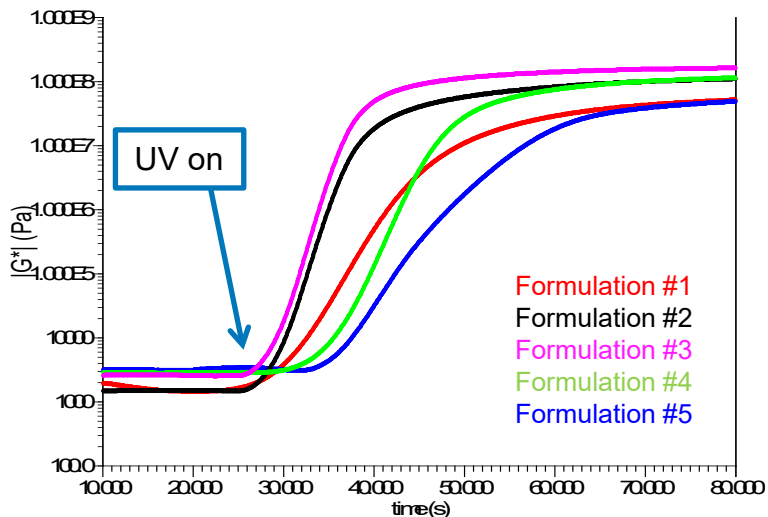
- For unfilled polymers, crosslinking density can be quantitatively measured using rheology
- Calculation uses storage modulus in rubber plateau region ( $G'_{rubbery}$  or  $E'_{rubbery}$ )

M. Barszczewska-Rybarak et al; Acta of Bioengineering and Biomechanics, vol 19, 1, 2017.

M. H. Abd-El Salam, J of Applied Polymer Sci, vol 90, 1539-1544, 2003.

- Overall, we want to characterize several relevant properties of polymers:

- I. Thermal Stability
- II. Flow Curve
- III. Molecular Weight Effects (Viscoelasticity)
- IV. **Thermosets, Curing, Gelation**



- Monitor UV curing:  
Dynamic time sweep
- Measure curing time with different formulations, UV intensity and temperature
- Measure cured adhesive modulus

# Powder Rheology Kit and Contents

## *Powder Rheology Accessory Components*

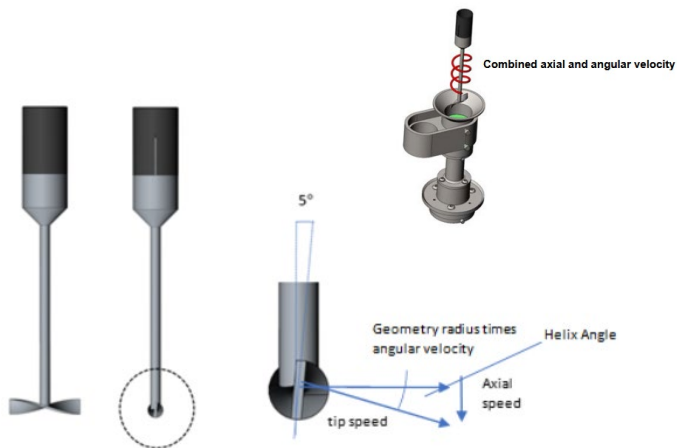


Figure 3 Components.

- We will review a short case study of two powders (for coating applications)



## Flowability Testing



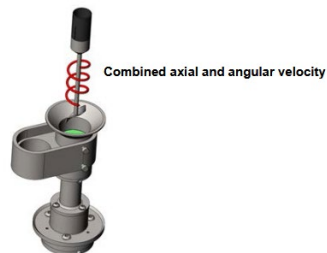
- Measure confined (downward stroke) and/or unconfined (upward stroke) flow energies
- Measure as a function of time (fixed number of cycles, fixed upward speed, fixed downward speed)
- Measure as a function of tip speed (variable speed)

## Shear Testing



- Measure shear properties of powder: cohesion, unconfined yield stress, major principle stress

# Flowability Testing Methods



## ■ Powder conditioning

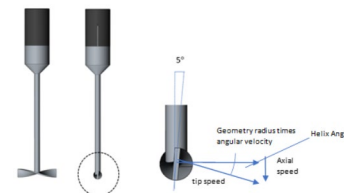
1: Powder Flow Conditioning

**Environmental Control**  
 Temperature: 25 °C  Inherit Set Point  
 Soak Time: 0.0 s  Wait For Temperature

**Test Range**  
 Upper gap: 60.0 mm  
 Lower gap: 5.0 mm

**Conditioning Parameters**  
 Tip speed: 60.0 mm/s

Data acquisition



## ■ Fixed Cycles & Constant Speed (properties over time)

## ■ Fixed Cycles & variable speed

2: Powder Flowability

**Environmental Control**  
 Temperature: 25 °C  Inherit Set Point  
 Soak Time: 0.0 s  Wait For Temperature

**Test Range**  
 Upper gap: 30.0 mm  
 Lower gap: 5.0 mm

**Conditioning Parameters**  
 Tip speed: 60.0 mm/s Helix angle: 5.0 °  
 Axial speed: 5.22934 mm/s Angular speed: 4.26941 rad/s

**Unconfined Flow Parameters**  
 Enabled  
 Tip speed up: 60.0 mm/s Helix angle: 5.0 °  
 Axial speed up: 5.22934 mm/s Angular speed: 4.26941 rad/s

**Confined Flow Parameters**  
 Enabled  
 Tip speed down: 60.0 mm/s Helix angle: 5.0 °  
 Axial speed down: 5.22934 mm/s Angular speed: 4.26941 rad/s

Repeat Count: 7

Data acquisition

2: Powder Flowability

**Environmental Control**  
 Temperature: 25 °C  Inherit Set Point  
 Soak Time: 0.0 s  Wait For Temperature

**Test Range**  
 Upper gap: 30.0 mm  
 Lower gap: 5.0 mm

**Conditioning Parameters**  
 Tip speed: 100.0 mm/s Helix angle: 5.0 °  
 Axial speed: 8.71557 mm/s Angular speed: 7.11568 rad/s

**Unconfined Flow Parameters**  
 Enabled  
 Tip speed up: 100.0 mm/s Helix angle: 5.0 °  
 Axial speed up: 8.71557 mm/s Angular speed: 7.11568 rad/s

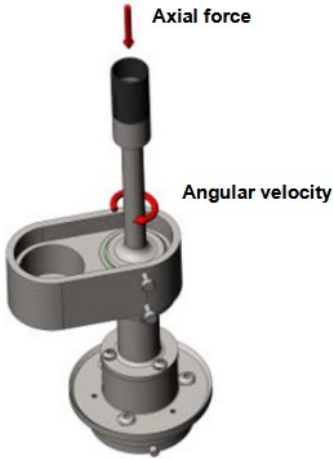
**Confined Flow Parameters**  
 Enabled  
 Tip speed down: 100.0 mm/s Helix angle: 5.0 °  
 Axial speed down: 8.71557 mm/s Angular speed: 7.11568 rad/s

Repeat Count: 1

Data acquisition

3: Powder Flowability → 80 mm/s  
 4: Powder Flowability → 60 mm/s  
 5: Powder Flowability → 40 mm/s  
 6: Powder Flowability

# Shear Testing Method



## ■ Powder consolidation

⤴ X: Powder Consolidation

**Environmental Control**

Temperature  °C  Inherit Set Point

Soak Time  s  Wait For Temperature

**Test Parameters**

Constant axial stress  Pa

⤵ Data acquisition

## ■ Powder Shear Test

⤴ 1: Powder Shear

**Environmental Control**

Temperature  °C  Inherit Set Point

Soak Time  s  Wait For Temperature

**Test Parameters**

Consolidating stress  Pa

Test mode

	Normal Stress (Pa)	Velocity (rad/s)	Duration (s)
1st Pre-shear	<input type="text" value="15000.0"/>	<input type="text" value="1.0e-3"/>	<input type="text" value="300.0"/>
Pre-shear	<input type="text" value="15000.0"/>	<input type="text" value="1.0e-3"/>	<input type="text" value="300.0"/>
1	<input type="text" value="14000.0"/>	<input type="text" value="1.0e-3"/>	<input type="text" value="300.0"/>
2	<input type="text" value="12000.0"/>	<input type="text" value="1.0e-3"/>	<input type="text" value="300.0"/>
3	<input type="text" value="10000.0"/>	<input type="text" value="1.0e-3"/>	<input type="text" value="300.0"/>
4	<input type="text" value="8000.0"/>	<input type="text" value="1.0e-3"/>	<input type="text" value="300.0"/>
5	<input type="text" value="6000.0"/>	<input type="text" value="1.0e-3"/>	<input type="text" value="300.0"/>
6	<input type="text" value="4000.0"/>	<input type="text" value="1.0e-3"/>	<input type="text" value="300.0"/>
7	<input type="text" value="2000.0"/>	<input type="text" value="1.0e-3"/>	<input type="text" value="300.0"/>

Repeat initial pre-shear

Steady state detection

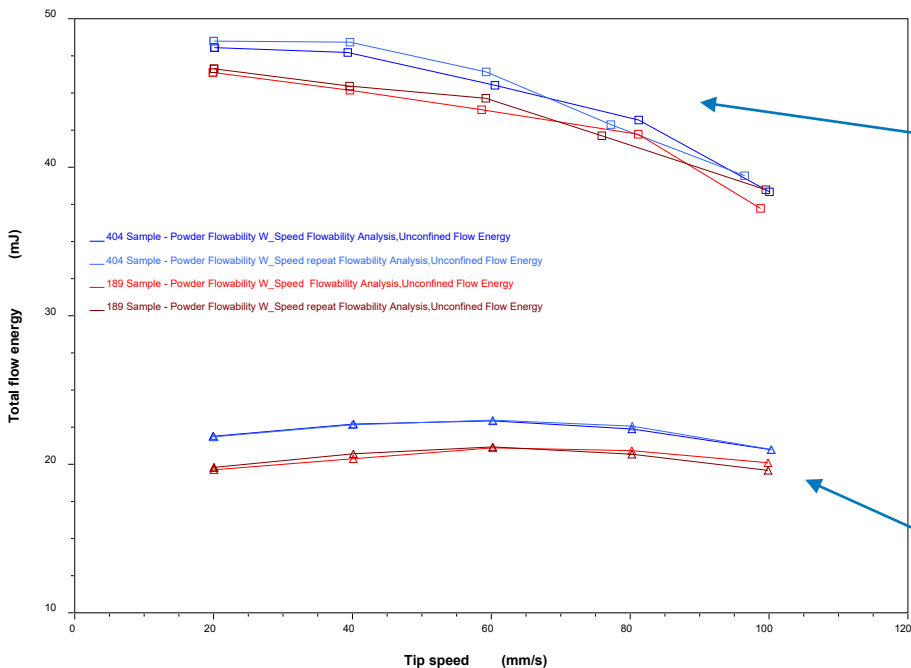
Peak detection

⤵ Date acquisition

⤵ Advanced

# Flowability Testing

- Fixed Cycles & variable speed



## Confined Energy

- Sample 189 has 4% lower flow resistance at 20mm/s (low speed)
- Progressively smaller difference with increasing tip speed

## Unconfined Energy

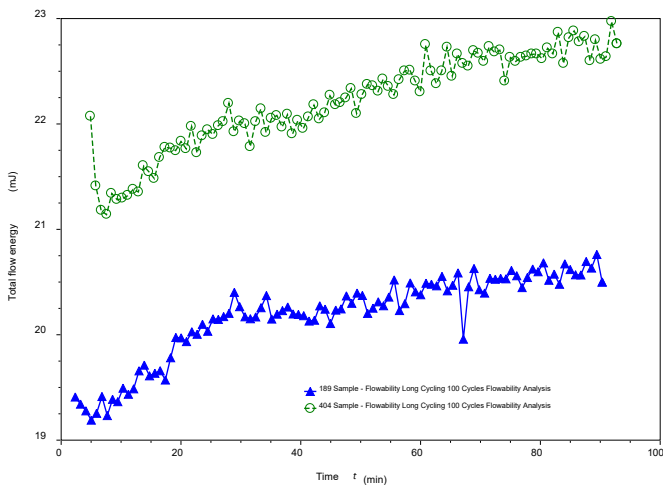
- Sample 189 has 10% lower flow resistance at 20mm/s (low speed)
- Sample 189 has 4% lower flow resistance at 100mm/s (high speed)



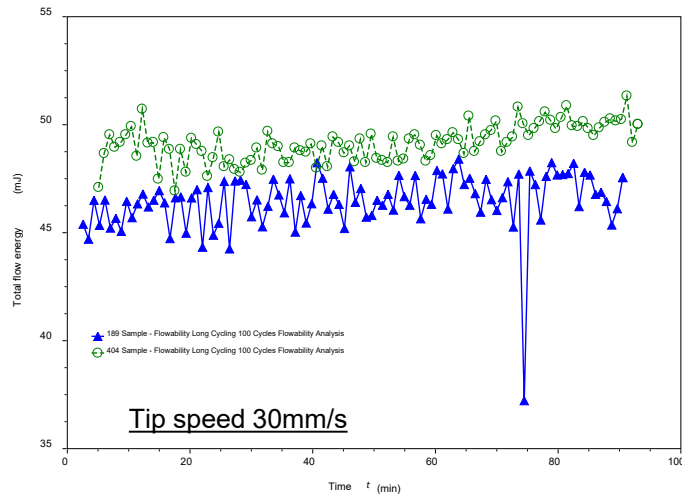
# Flowability Testing

- Testing over longer duration (90 minutes)

## Unconfined



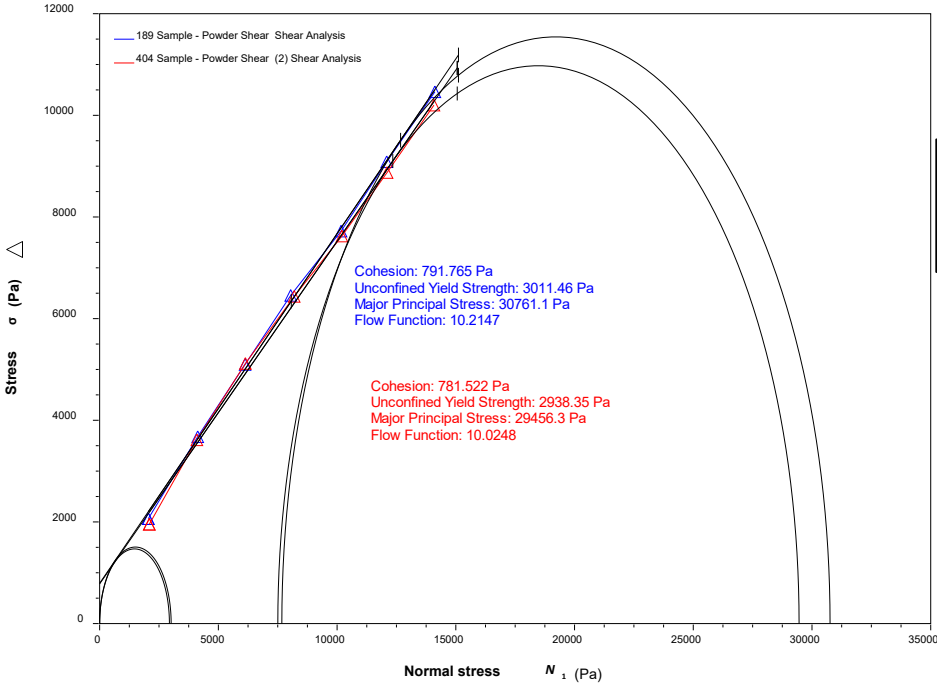
## Confined



### Unconfined Energy

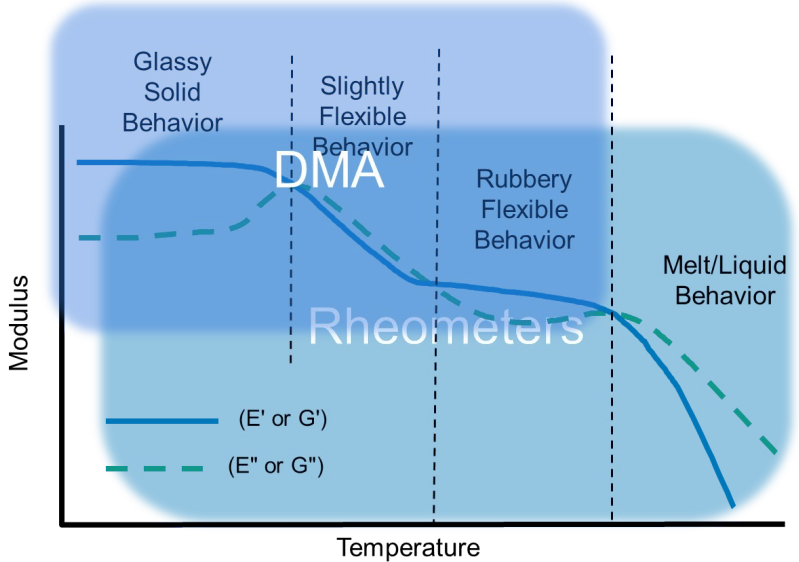
- Both powders show an appreciable increase in flow resistance over time

# Shear Testing

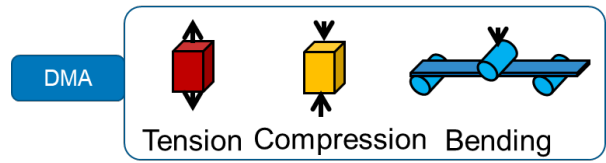
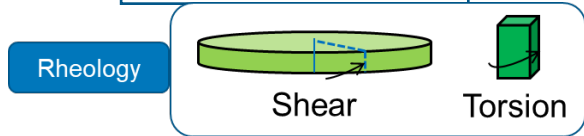


## Shear Properties

- Samples have very little difference in shear properties



$$E = 2G(1 + \nu)$$



# Thank You!