

# Practical Rheology: Application Tips and Tricks

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# Agenda

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- Fundamental rheology
- Differences between a viscometer and a rheometer
- Flow analysis, application tips and tricks
- Oscillation analysis, application tips and tricks
- Introduction to rheology accessories and hyphenated techniques

TA Instruments website: Free Online thermal and rheology training courses

<https://www.tainstruments.com/recorded-theory-applications-training/>

# Rheology: An Introduction



Rheology is the science of flow and deformation of matter



# What Rheology measures?

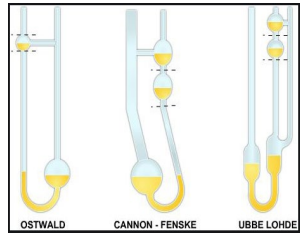
- Rheology can provide information about the material's:
  - **Viscosity** - defined as a material's resistance to flow and is a function of shear rate or stress, with time and temperature dependence
  - **Viscoelasticity** - is the property of a material that exhibits both viscous and elastic character. Measurements of storage modulus ( $G'$ ), Loss modulus ( $G''$ ), and damping factor ( $\tan \delta = G''/G'$ ) with respect to time, temperature, frequency and stress/strain are important for characterization

$$\frac{\text{Stress}}{\text{Shear rate}} = \text{Viscosity}$$

$$\frac{\text{Stress}}{\text{Strain}} = \text{Modulus}$$

# Rheology Instrumentation

## Viscometers



## Rotational rheometers



## Capillary viscometers

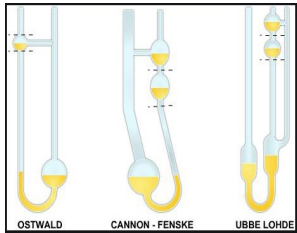


## DMAs and mechanical testers



# What is the difference between a **Viscometer** and a **Rheometer**?

## Viscometers



## Capillary viscometers



- Only measure viscosity
- Only handle liquid samples
- Limited measurement range
- Report apparent viscosity vs. rpm and/or temperature
- May not be able to measure true shear viscosity vs. shear rate

# What is the difference between a **Viscometer** and a **Rheometer**?

## Rotational rheometers

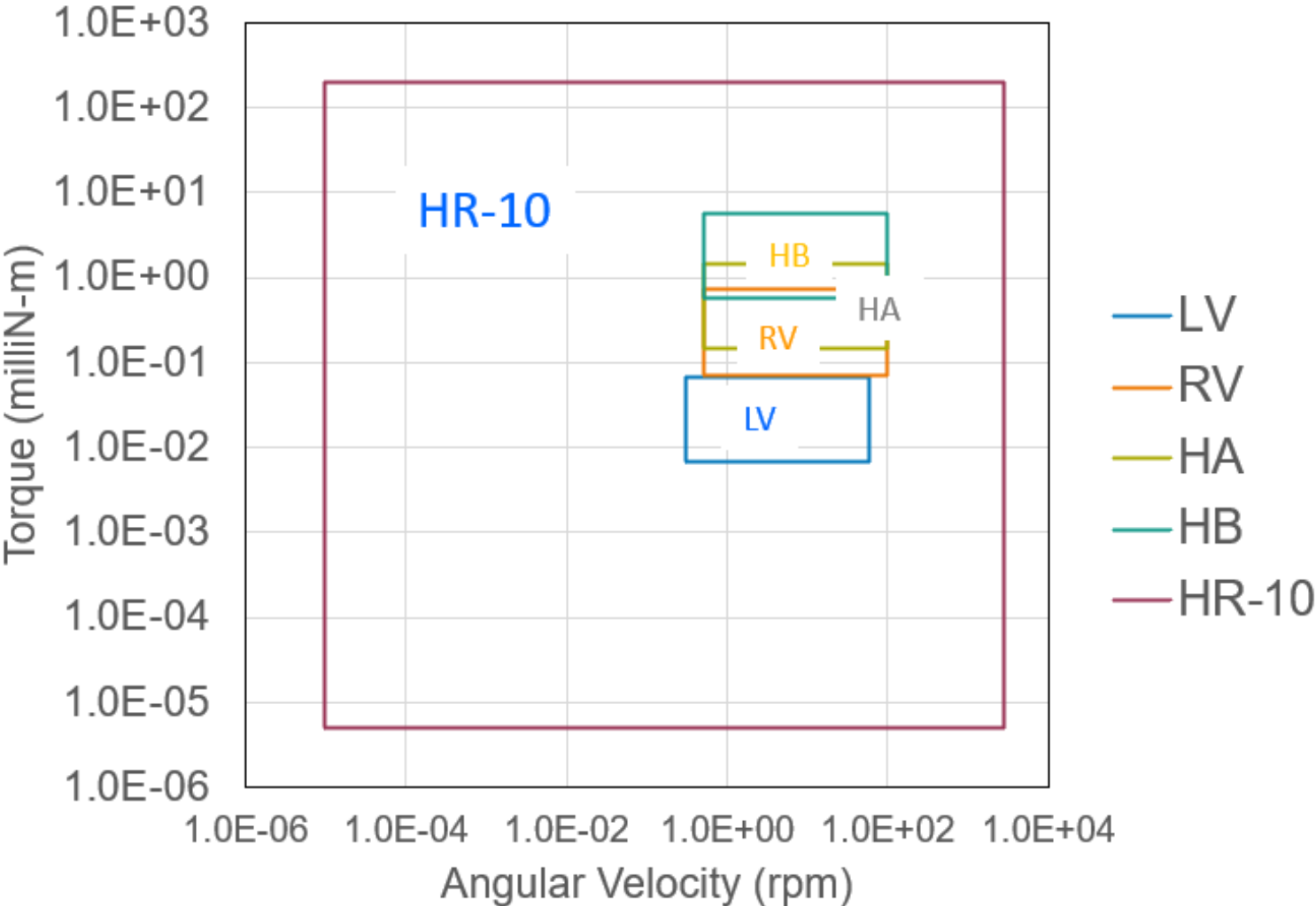


- Capable of handling any samples from low viscosity liquid to high modulus solid
- Capable of performing flow measurement to directly measure viscosity vs. shear rate, shear stress and temperature
- Capable of performing oscillation measurement to measure viscoelastic properties of a sample
- Capable of perform transient measurement such as creep, stress relaxation, or stress/strain

## DMA's and mechanical testers



# Comparison of Angular Velocity and Torque Ranges of HR-10 vs. Brookfield Viscometer



- With flow testing, the Discovery HR-X0 rheometers provide a much wider range of angular velocities and torques than do common viscometers.

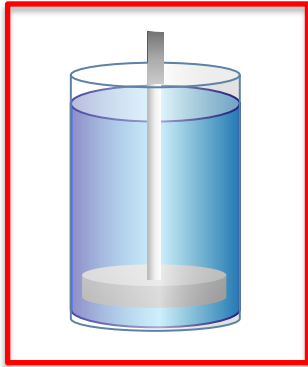


- LV, RV, HA, HB are different type of viscometer spindles

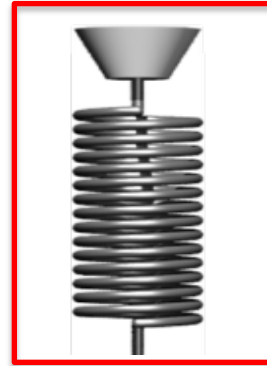


# What Type of Samples a Rheometer Can Measure?

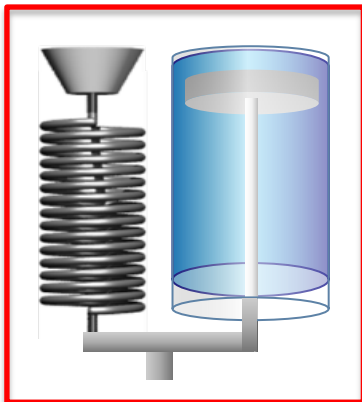
- Viscosity (liquids)



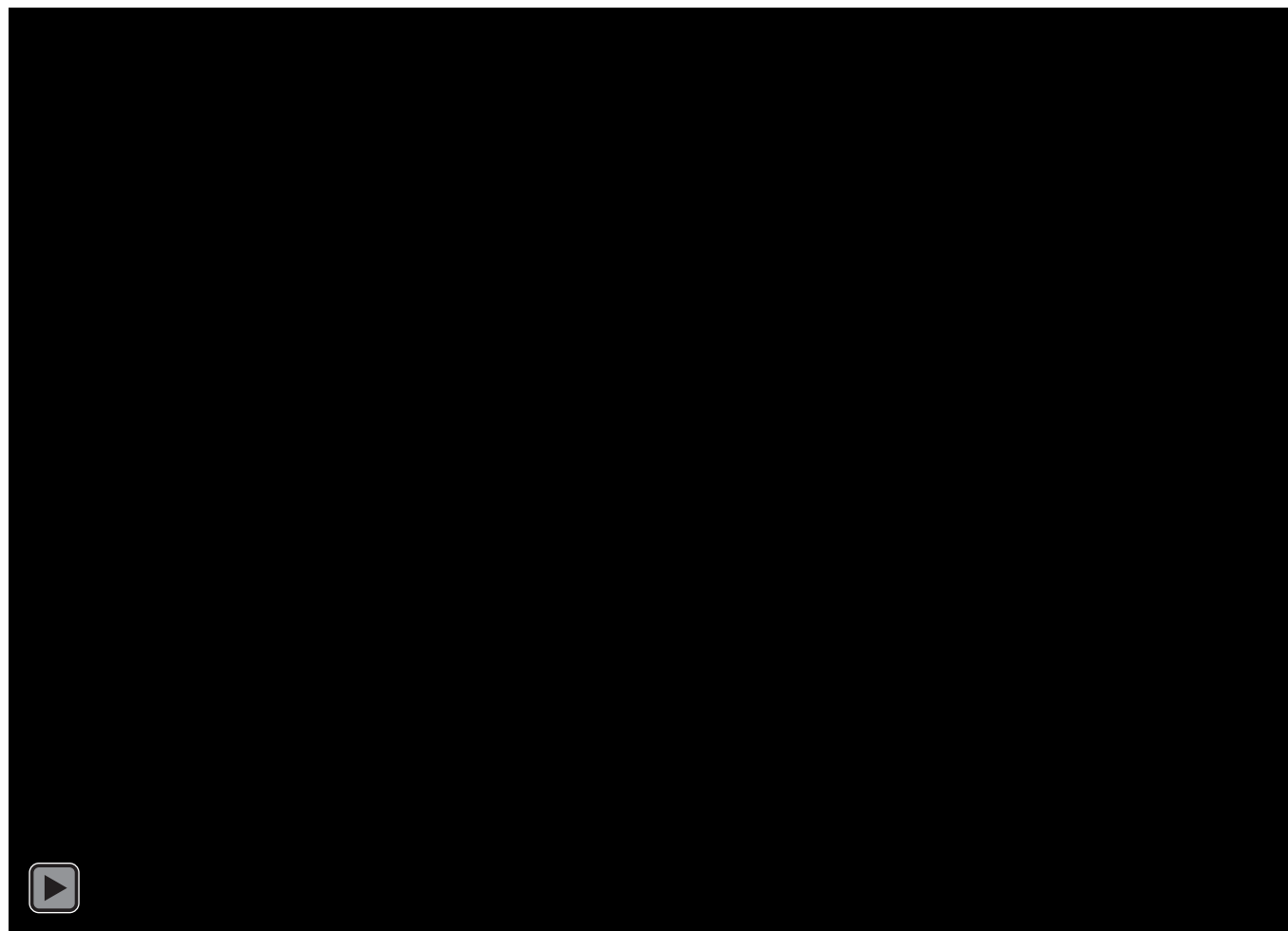
- Elasticity (solids)



- Viscoelasticity (semi-solids, pastes and gels)

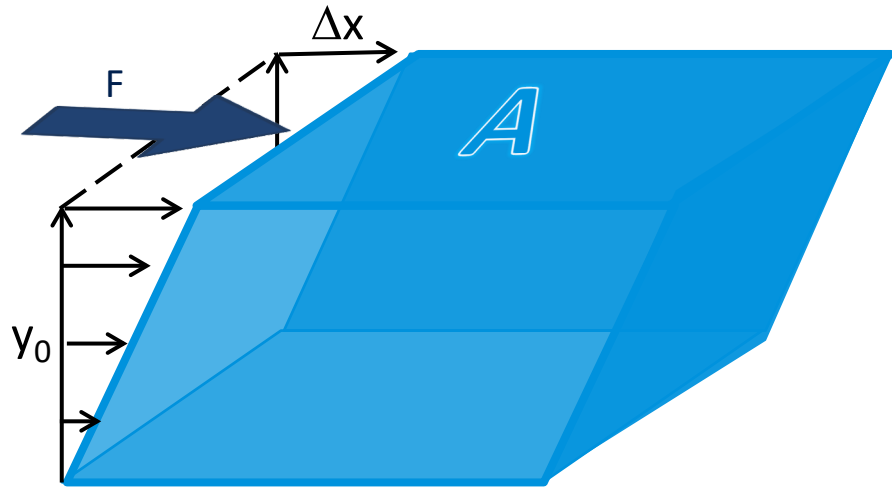


# A Rotational Rheometer- How does it work?



# How does a Rotational Rheometer Work?

- The study of stress and deformation relationship



$$\text{Shear stress } \sigma = \frac{F}{A}$$

$$\text{Shear strain } \gamma = \frac{\Delta x}{y_0}$$

$$\text{Shear rate} = \dot{\gamma} = \frac{1}{y_0} \cdot \frac{dx(t)}{dt}$$

$$\frac{\text{Stress}}{\text{Strain}} = \text{Modulus}$$

$$\frac{\text{Stress}}{\text{Shear rate}} = \text{Viscosity}$$

# How does a Rotational Rheometer Work?

- In a rheological measurement, stress; strain and strain rate (shear rate) are all calculated signals
- The raw signals behind the scene are torque; angular displacement and angular velocity

Fundamentally, a rotational rheometer will apply or measure:

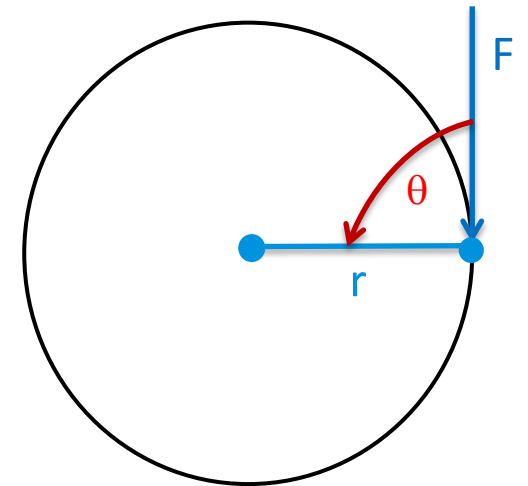
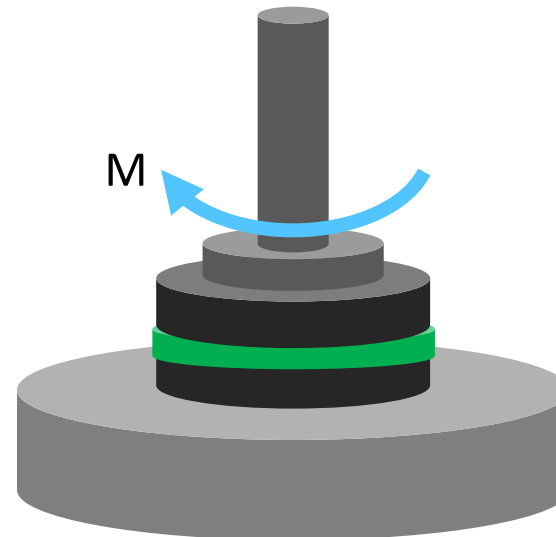
1. Torque (Force)
2. Angular Displacement
3. Angular Velocity

# Measured parameter: torque

- Torque ( $M$ ) is a measure of how much a force ( $F$ ) acting on an object causes that object to rotate.
  - The object rotates about an axis, called the pivot point
  - The distance ( $r$ ) from the pivot point to the point where the force acts is called the moment arm
  - The angle ( $\theta$ ) at which the force acts at the moment arm

$$M = r \cdot F \cdot \sin \theta = r \cdot F$$

(for  $\theta = 90^\circ$  as shown)



## Calculated parameter: stress

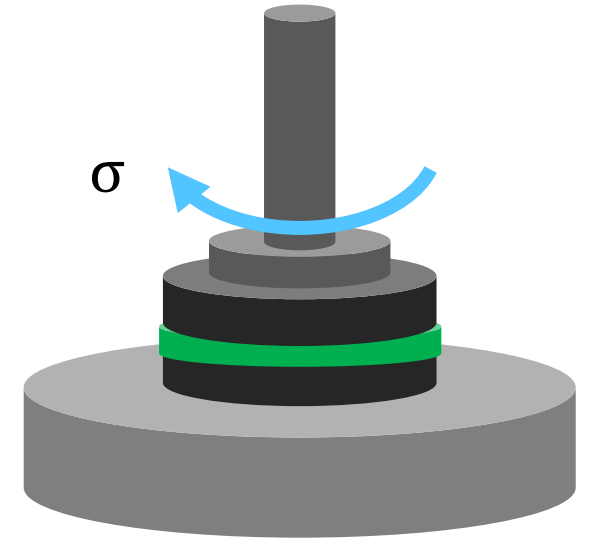
- Shear stress is calculated from the torque and geometry stress constant

$$\sigma = M \cdot K_{\sigma}$$

$\sigma$  = shear stress (Pa or Dyne/cm<sup>2</sup>)

$M$  = torque (N·m or gm·cm)

$K_{\sigma}$  = stress constant



- The stress constant,  $K_{\sigma}$ , is dependent on measurement geometry and/or initial sample dimensions

# Measured parameter: angular displacement

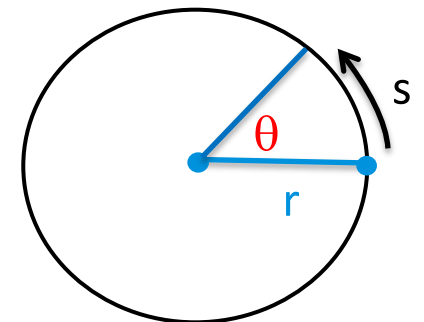
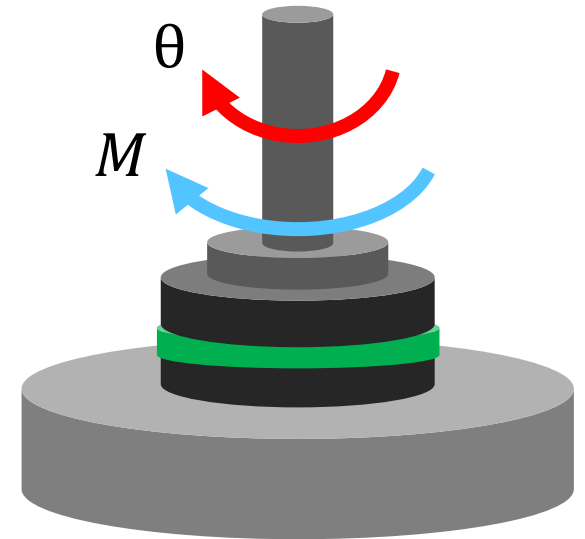
- Angular displacement ( $\theta$ ) is the angle, in radians, through which an object moves on a circular path

$s$  = arc length (or linear displacement)

$r$  = radius of a circle

Conversion: degrees = radians  $\cdot 180/\pi$

$$\theta = s/r$$



# Calculated parameter: strain

- Strain is a measure of deformation representing the angular displacement relative to a reference length

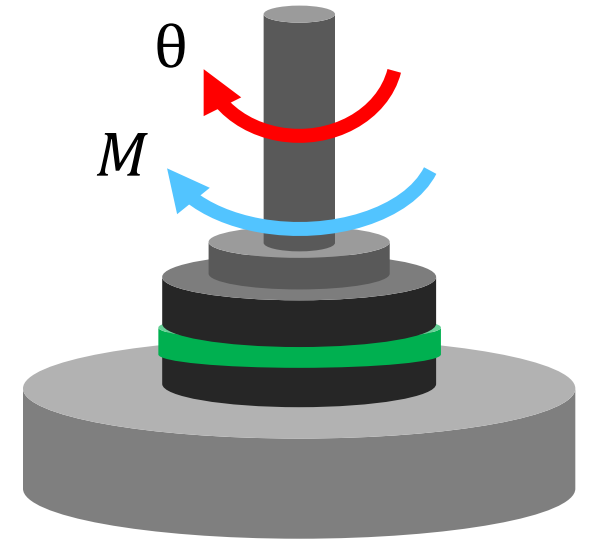
$$\gamma = \theta \cdot K_{\gamma}$$

$\gamma$  = shear strain (no units)

$\theta$  = angular displacement (radians)

$K_{\gamma}$  = strain constant

- The strain constant,  $K_{\gamma}$ , is dependent on measurement geometry and/or initial sample dimensions





# Equation for modulus

$$G = \frac{\sigma}{\gamma} = \frac{M \cdot K_{\sigma}}{\theta \cdot K_{\gamma}}$$

Material function

Constitutive equation

Measured signals

Geometry constants

# Measured parameter: angular velocity

- Angular velocity ( $\Omega$ ) is the change in angular displacement ( $\theta$ ) per unit time of measurement

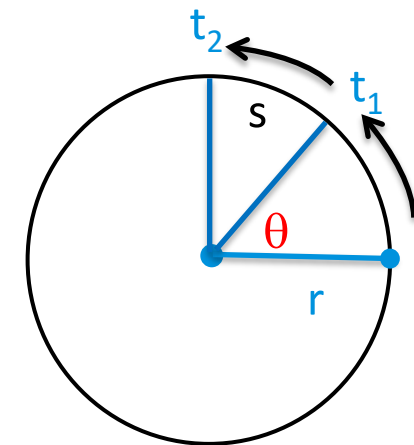
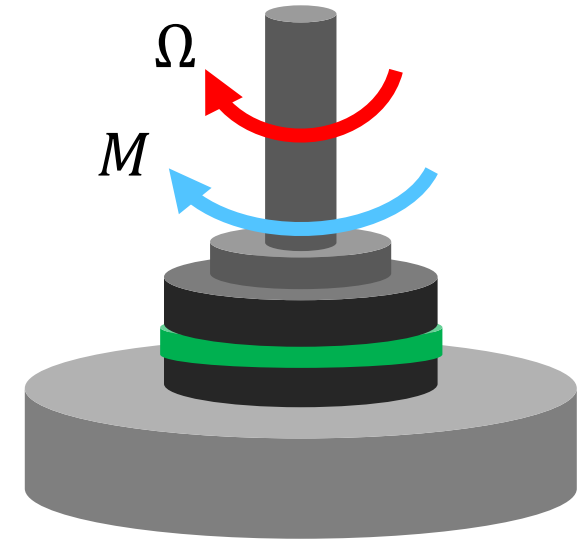
Note: linear velocity  $V = \Delta s / \Delta t$

$$\Omega = \Delta\theta / \Delta t$$

$\Omega$  = angular velocity (radians/s)

$\theta$  = angular displacement (radians)

t = time (s)



# Calculated parameter: shear rate

- Shear rate is calculated from the angular velocity and geometry strain constant

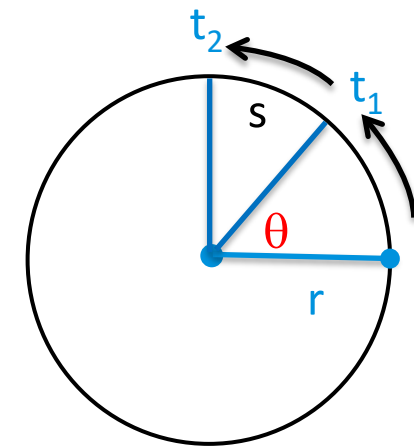
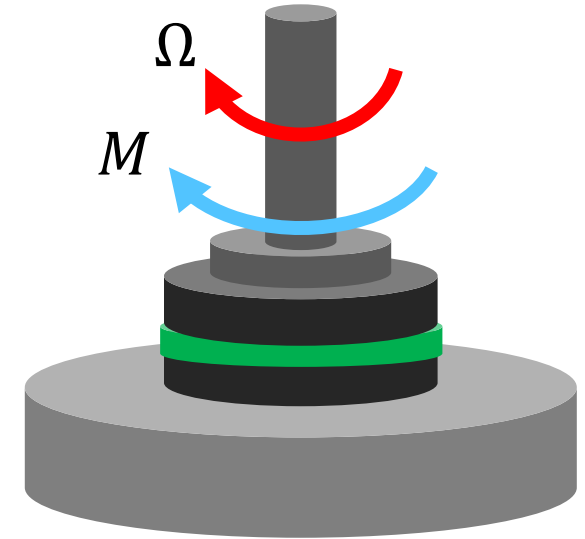
$$\dot{\gamma} = \Omega \cdot K_{\gamma}$$

$\dot{\gamma}$  = shear rate ( $s^{-1}$ )

$\Omega$  = angular velocity (radians/s)

$K_{\gamma}$  = strain constant

- The strain constant,  $K_{\gamma}$ , is dependent on measurement geometry and/or initial sample dimensions



# Equation for viscosity

$$\eta = \frac{\sigma}{\dot{\gamma}} = \frac{M \cdot K_{\sigma}}{\Omega \cdot K_{\gamma}}$$

Material function

Constitutive equation

Measured signals

Geometry constants

# Discovery Hybrid Rheometer Specifications

## Technical Specifications

Specification	HR 30	HR 20	HR 10
Bearing Type, Thrust	Magnetic	Magnetic	Magnetic
Bearing Type, Radial	Porous Carbon	Porous Carbon	Porous Carbon
Motor Design	Drag Cup	Drag Cup	Drag Cup
Minimum Torque (nN.m) Oscillation	0.3	1	5
Minimum Torque (nN.m) Steady Shear	1	3	5
Maximum Torque (mN.m)	200	200	200
Torque Resolution (nN.m)	0.05	0.1	0.1
Minimum Frequency (Hz)	1.0E-7	1.0E-7	1.0E-7
Maximum Frequency (Hz)	100	100	100
Minimum Angular Velocity <sup>(1)</sup> (rad/s)	0	0	0
Maximum Angular Velocity (rad/s)	300	300	300
Displacement Transducer	Optical Encoder	Optical Encoder	Optical Encoder
Optical Encoder Dual Reader	Standard	Standard	N/A
Displacement Resolution (nrad)	2	2	10
Step Time, Strain <sup>(2)</sup> (ms)	15	15	15
Step Time, Rate <sup>(2)</sup> (ms)	5	5	5
Normal/Axial Force Transducer	FRT	FRT	FRT
Maximum Normal Force (N)	50	50	50
Normal Force Sensitivity (N)	0.005	0.005	0.01
Normal Force Resolution (mN)	0.5	0.5	1



## DMA Mode Specifications

Motor Control	Force Rebalance Transducer
Minimum Force in Oscillation	3 mN
Maximum Axial Force	50 N
Minimum Displacement in Oscillation	0.01 $\mu\text{m}$
Maximum Displacement in Oscillation	100 $\mu\text{m}$
Axial Frequency Range	$6 \times 10^{-5}$ rad/s to 100 rad/s ( $10^{-5}$ Hz to 16 Hz)

# ARES-G2 Rheometer Specifications

Force/Torque Rebalance Transducer (Sample Stress)	
Transducer Type	Force/Torque Rebalance
Transducer Torque Motor	Brushless DC
Transducer Normal/Axial Motor	Brushless DC
Minimum Torque ( $\mu\text{N}\cdot\text{m}$ ) Oscillation	0.05
Minimum Torque ( $\mu\text{N}\cdot\text{m}$ ) Steady Shear	0.1
Maximum Torque ( $\text{mN}\cdot\text{m}$ )	200
Torque Resolution ( $\text{nN}\cdot\text{m}$ )	1
Transducer Normal/Axial Force Range (N)	0.001 to 20
Transducer Bearing	Groove Compensated Air

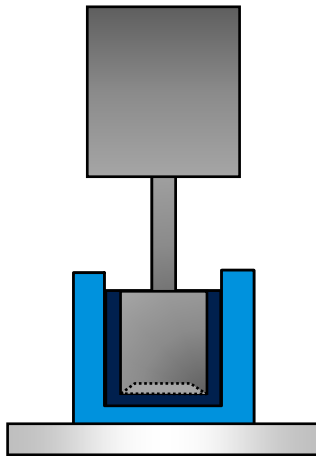
Driver Motor (Sample Deformation)	
Maximum Motor Torque ( $\text{mN}\cdot\text{m}$ )	800
Motor Design	Brushless DC
Motor Bearing	Jeweled Air, Sapphire
Displacement Control/ Sensing	Optical Encoder
Strain Resolution ( $\mu\text{rad}$ )	0.04
Minimum Angular Displacement ( $\mu\text{rad}$ ) Oscillation	1
Maximum Angular Displacement ( $\mu\text{rad}$ ) Steady Shear	Unlimited
Angular Velocity Range ( $\text{rad/s}$ )	$1 \times 10^{-6}$ to 300
Angular Frequency Range ( $\text{rad/s}$ )	$1 \times 10^{-7}$ to 628
Step Change, Velocity (ms)	5
Step Change, Strain (ms)	10



Orthogonal Superposition (OSP) and DMA modes	
Motor Control	FRT
Minimum Transducer Force (N) Oscillation	0.001
Maximum Transducer Force (N)	20
Minimum Displacement ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) Oscillation	0.5
Maximum Displacement ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) Oscillation	50
Displacement Resolution (nm)	10
Axial Frequency Range (Hz)	$1 \times 10^{-5}$ to 16

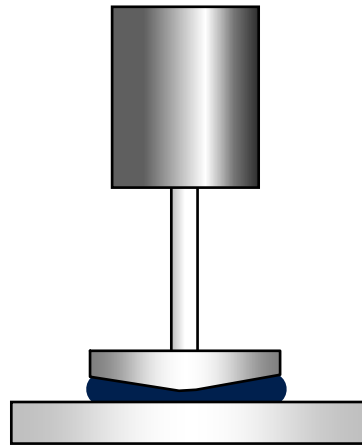
# Geometry Options

Concentric  
Cylinders



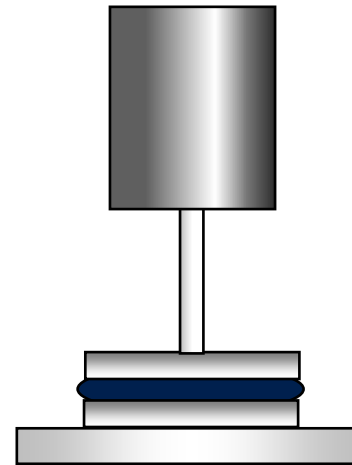
Very Low  
to Medium  
Viscosity

Cone and  
Plate



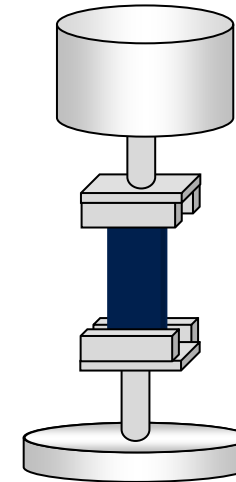
Very Low  
to High  
Viscosity

Parallel  
Plate



Very Low  
Viscosity  
to Soft Solids

Torsion  
Rectangular



Mid-modulus  
Solids

Water



to



Steel

# Rheology Applications

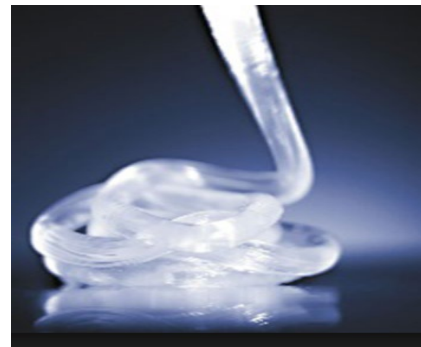
## Flow Analysis - Tips and Tricks





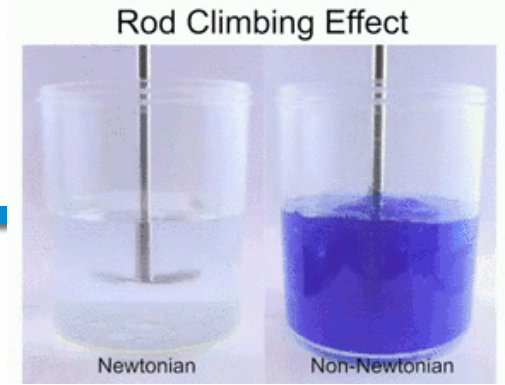
# Viscosity Ranges

Materials	Viscosity $\eta$ (Pa.s)
Air /Gas	0.00001
Water	0.001
Milk/ Coffee	0.01
Olive oil	0.1
Glycerol	1
Liquid Honey	10
Molasses	100
Polymer Melt	1000
Asphalt Binder	100,000

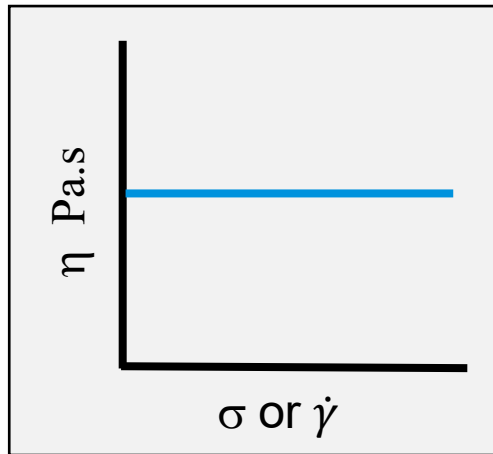


# Viscosity Behaviors

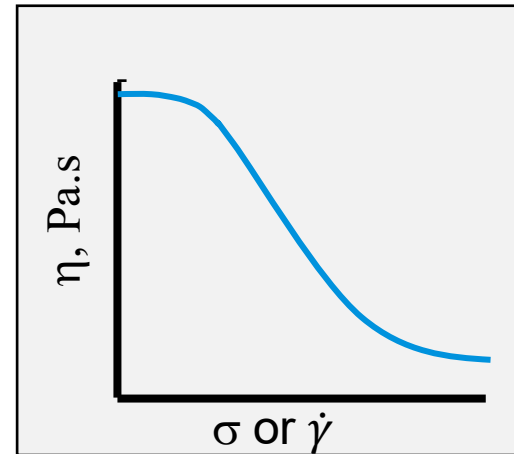
- Newtonian and non-Newtonian



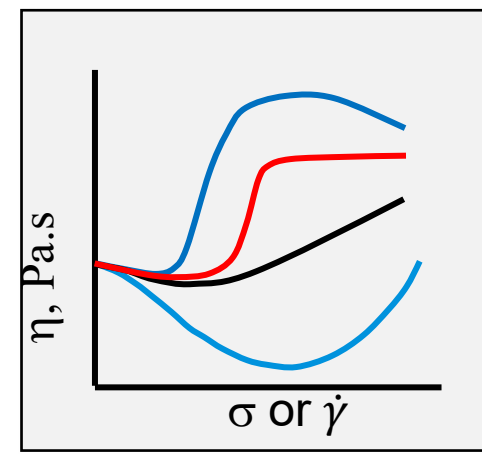
Newtonian



Shear Thinning



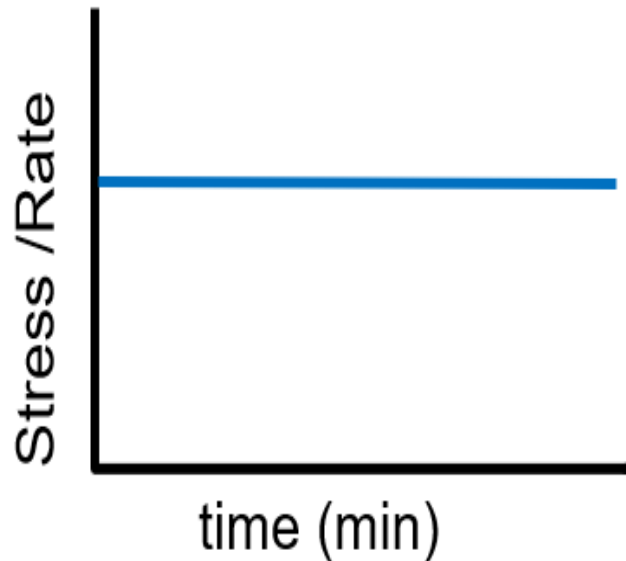
Shear Thickening



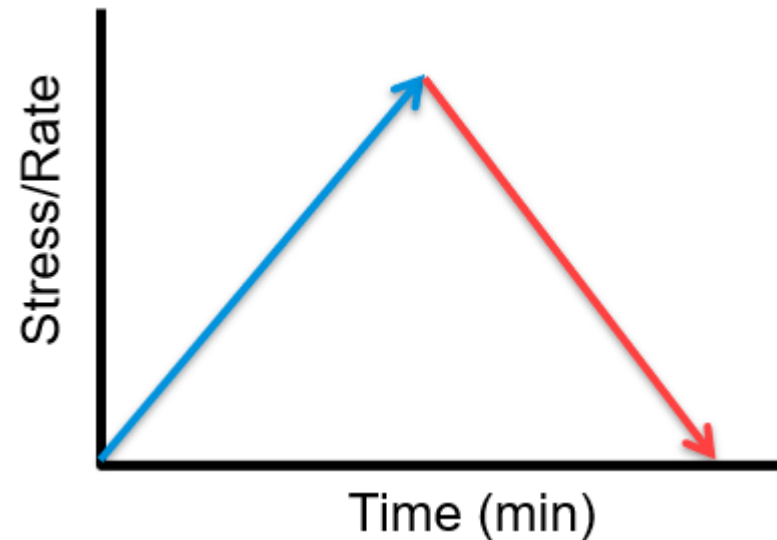
# Viscosity Measurement Methods

- Common rheological methods for measuring viscosity of liquids

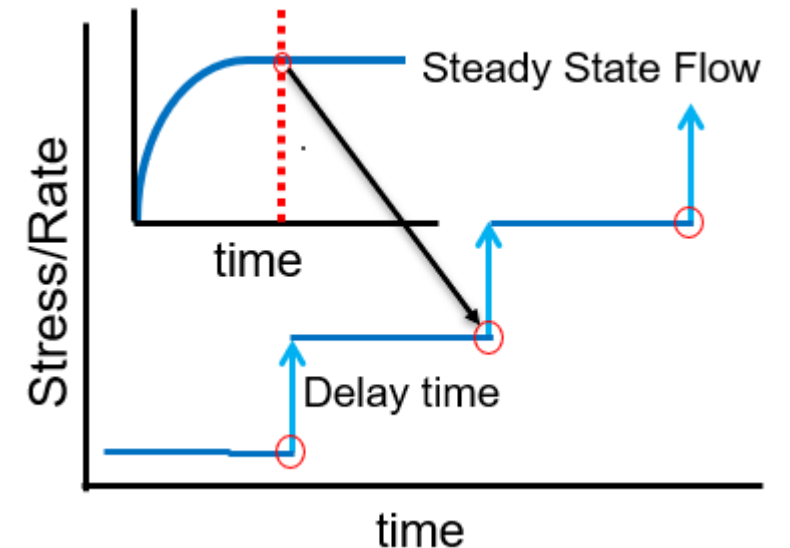
Single rate/stress



Flow ramp

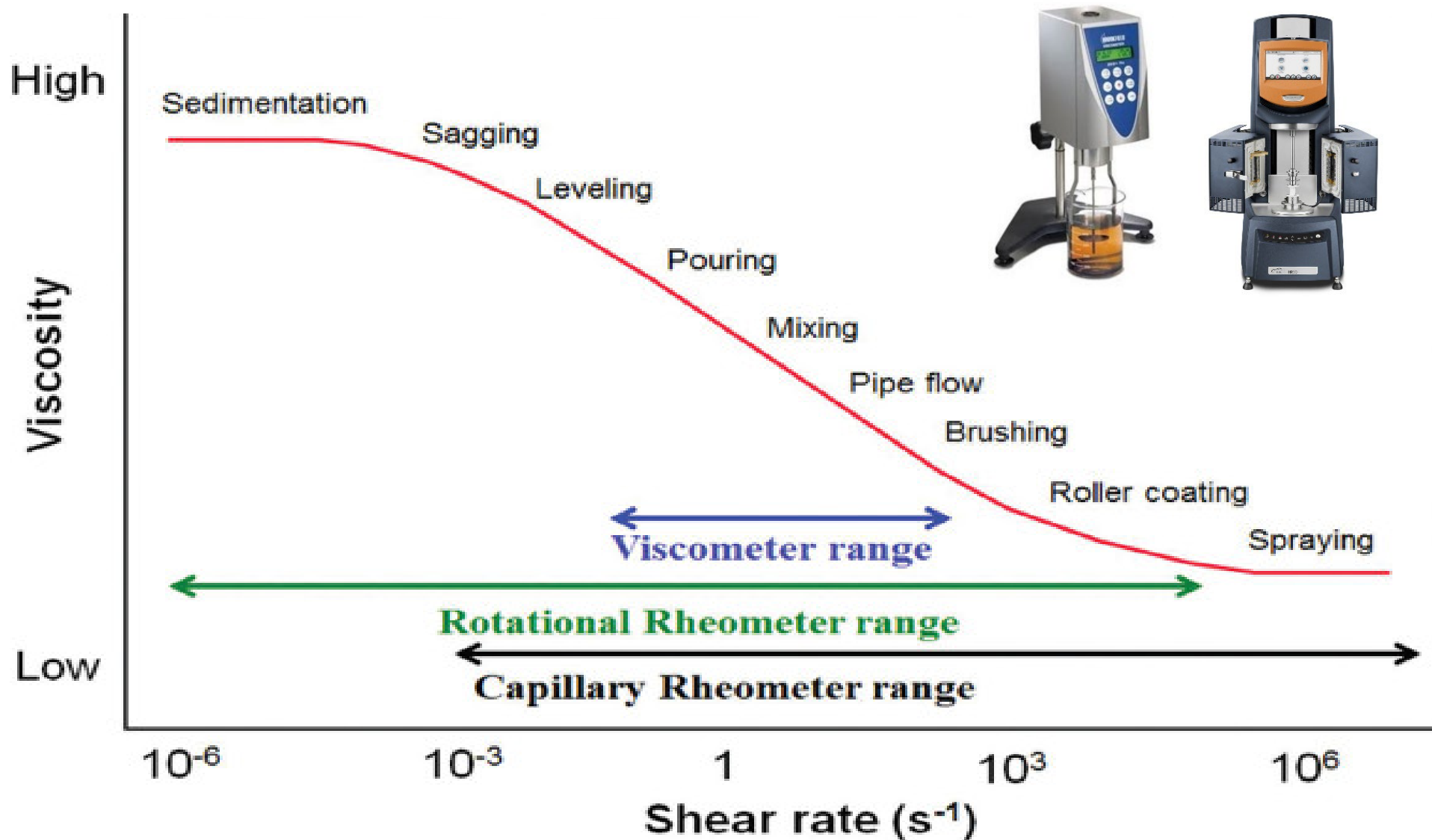


Stepped or steady state flow

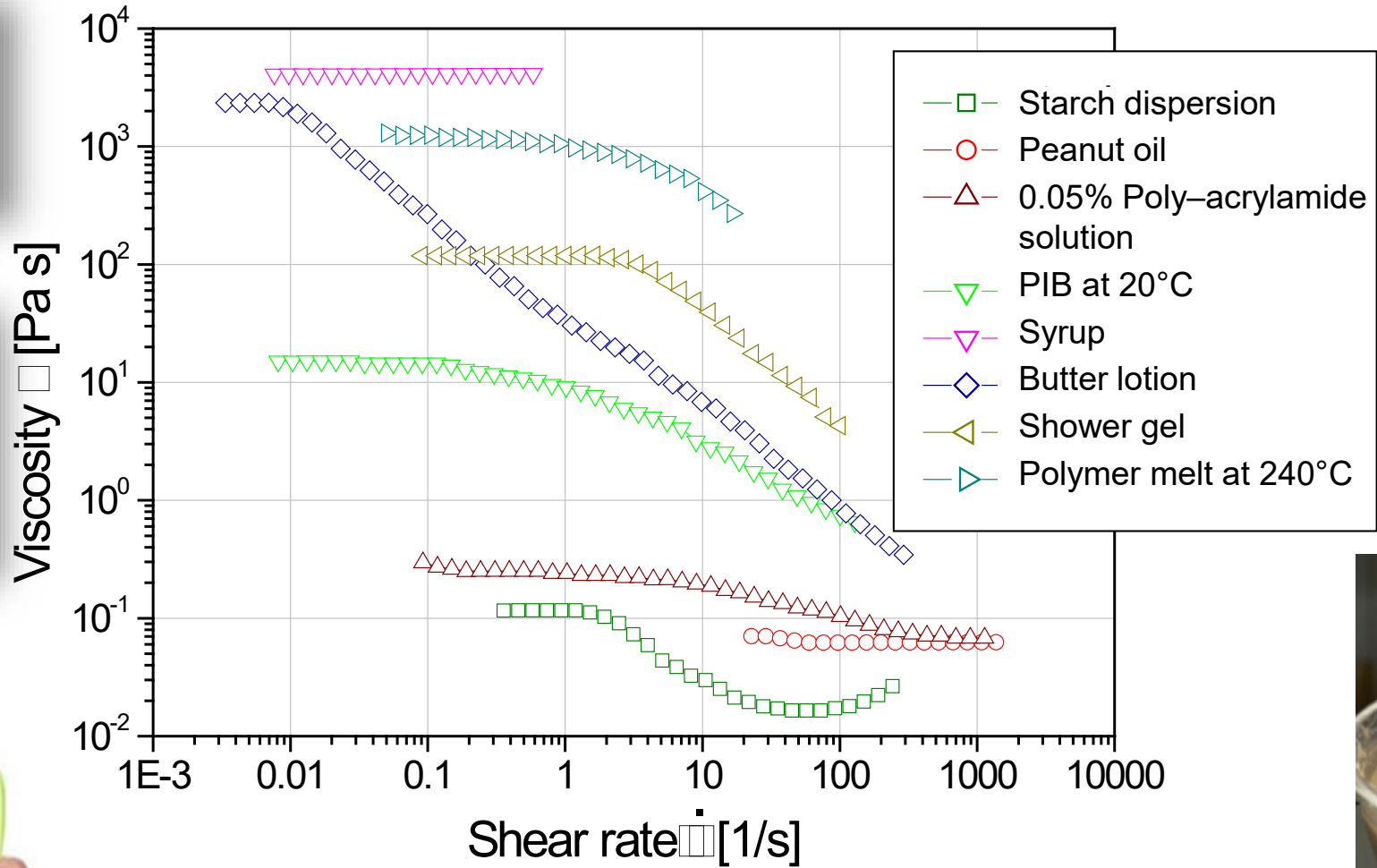


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# Information from a Flow Curve

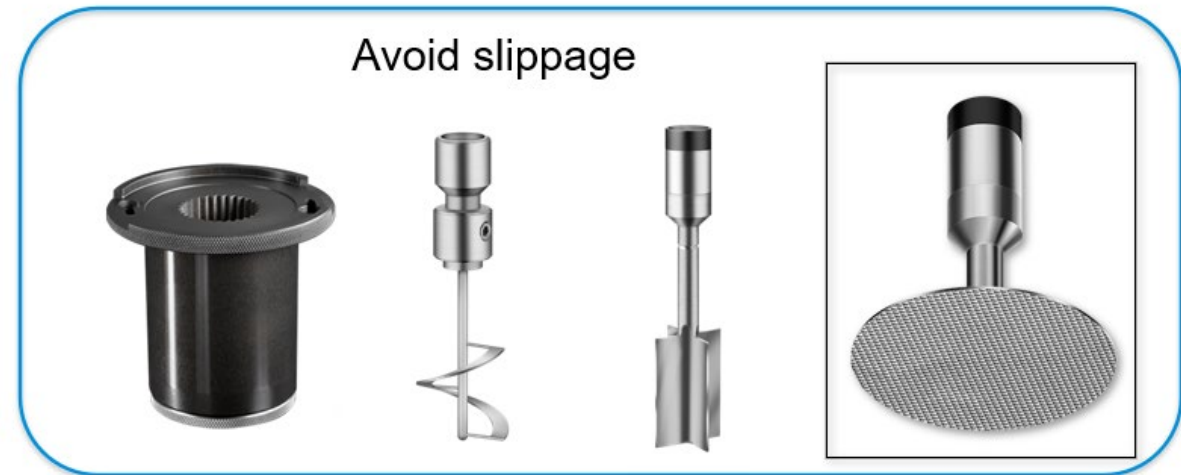
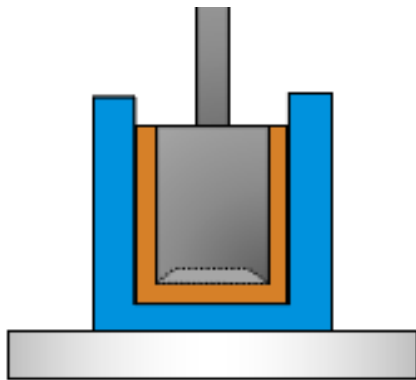
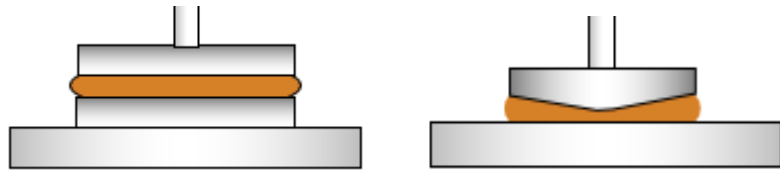


# Viscosity Curves of Various Fluids



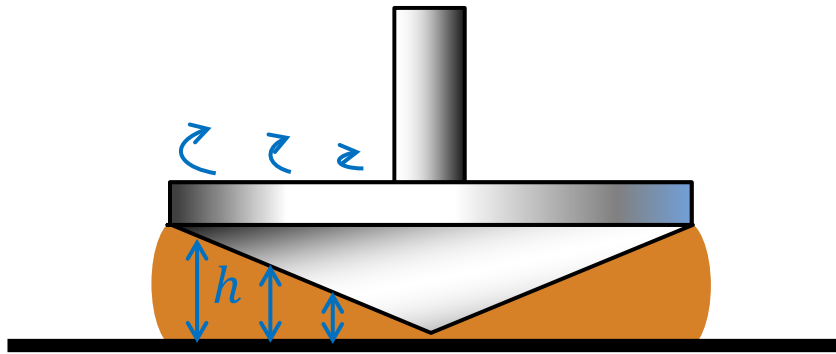
# What Geometry to Use?

- Cone or parallel plate (e.g. 60mm, 40mm, 25mm, 20mm, 8mm)
- Roughen surface parallel plate to avoid slippage (e.g. crosshatched, sandblasted)
- Concentric cylinder cup with DIN, recess-end, vane or helical rotor



# What is the difference between a Cone-plate vs. a parallel plate?

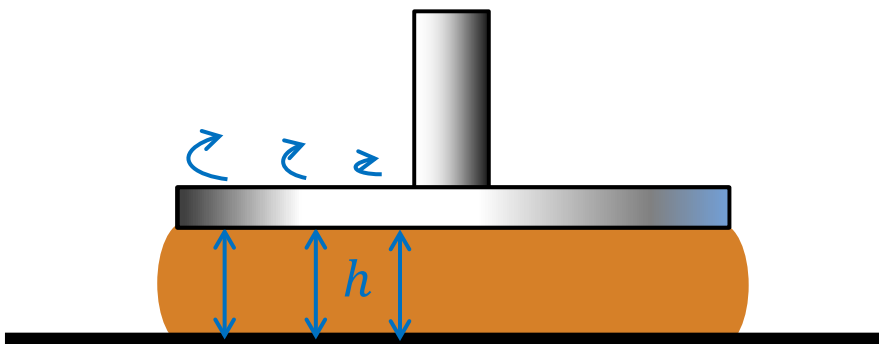
Provide uniform shear across the sample



- The cone shape produces a smaller gap height closer to inside, so the shear on the sample is constant

$$\gamma = \frac{dx}{h} \quad h \text{ increases proportionally to } dx, \gamma \text{ is uniform}$$

Non-uniform shear but can be corrected

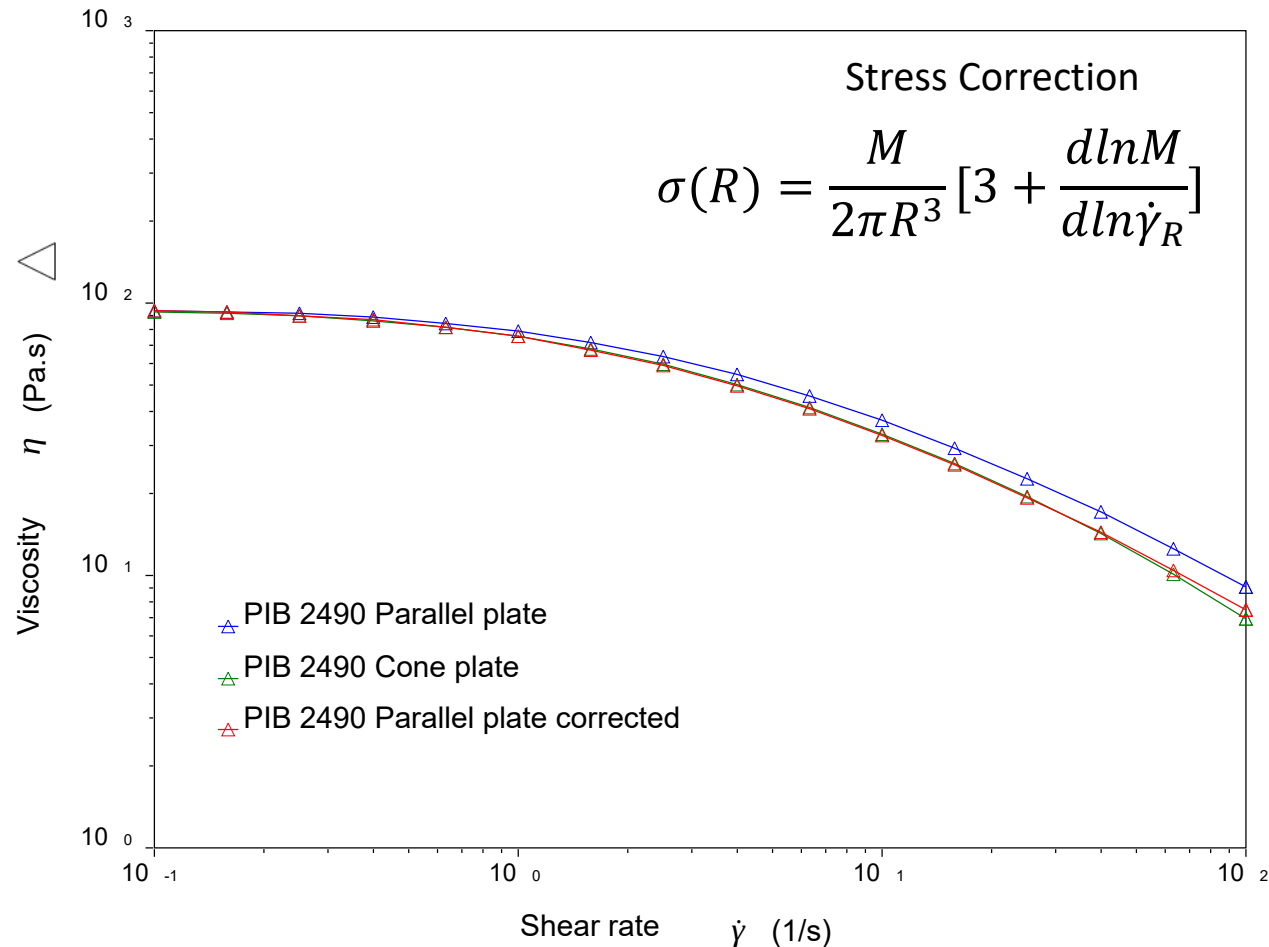


- For a given angle of deformation, there is a greater arc of deformation at the edge of the plate than at the center

$$\gamma = \frac{dx}{h} \quad dx \text{ increases further from the center, } h \text{ stays constant}$$

# Parallel Plate Stress Correction

- The parallel plate viscosity can be corrected through the Weissenberg-Rabinowitsch correction so that parallel plate data can be compared with cone and plate data.



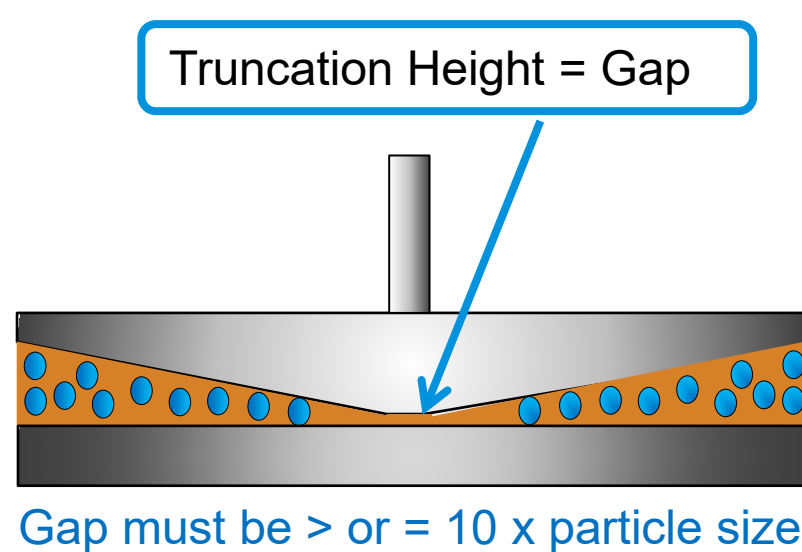
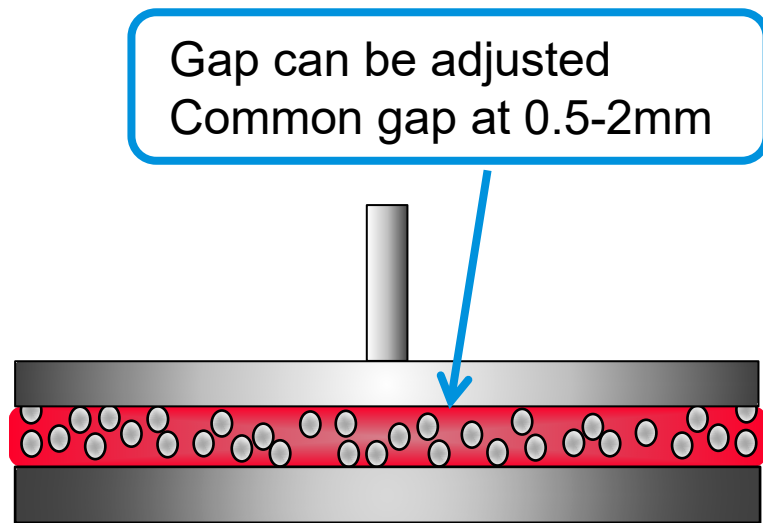


# Be Careful When Using a Cone and Plate

- Most structured fluids contain particles with size in the micrometer range
- Depending on the cone angle, the truncation gap of a cone geometry will be between 10 and 120 mm
- Parallel plate geometry is recommended

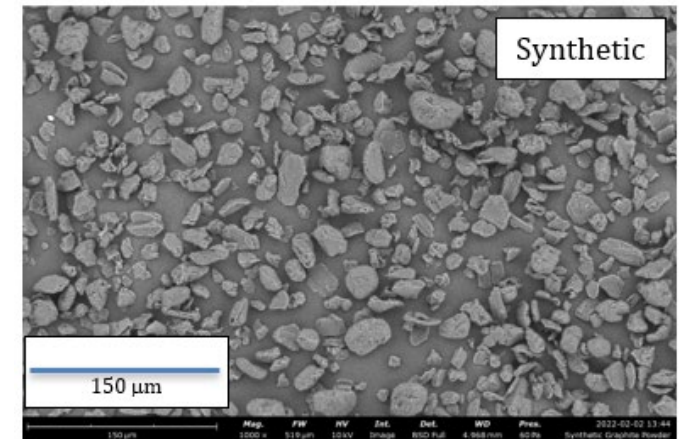
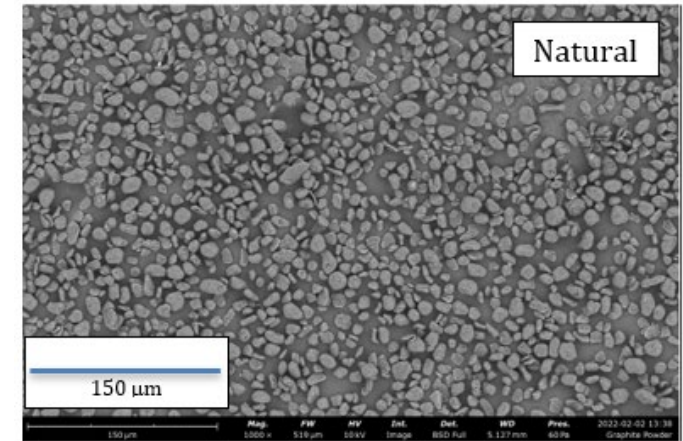
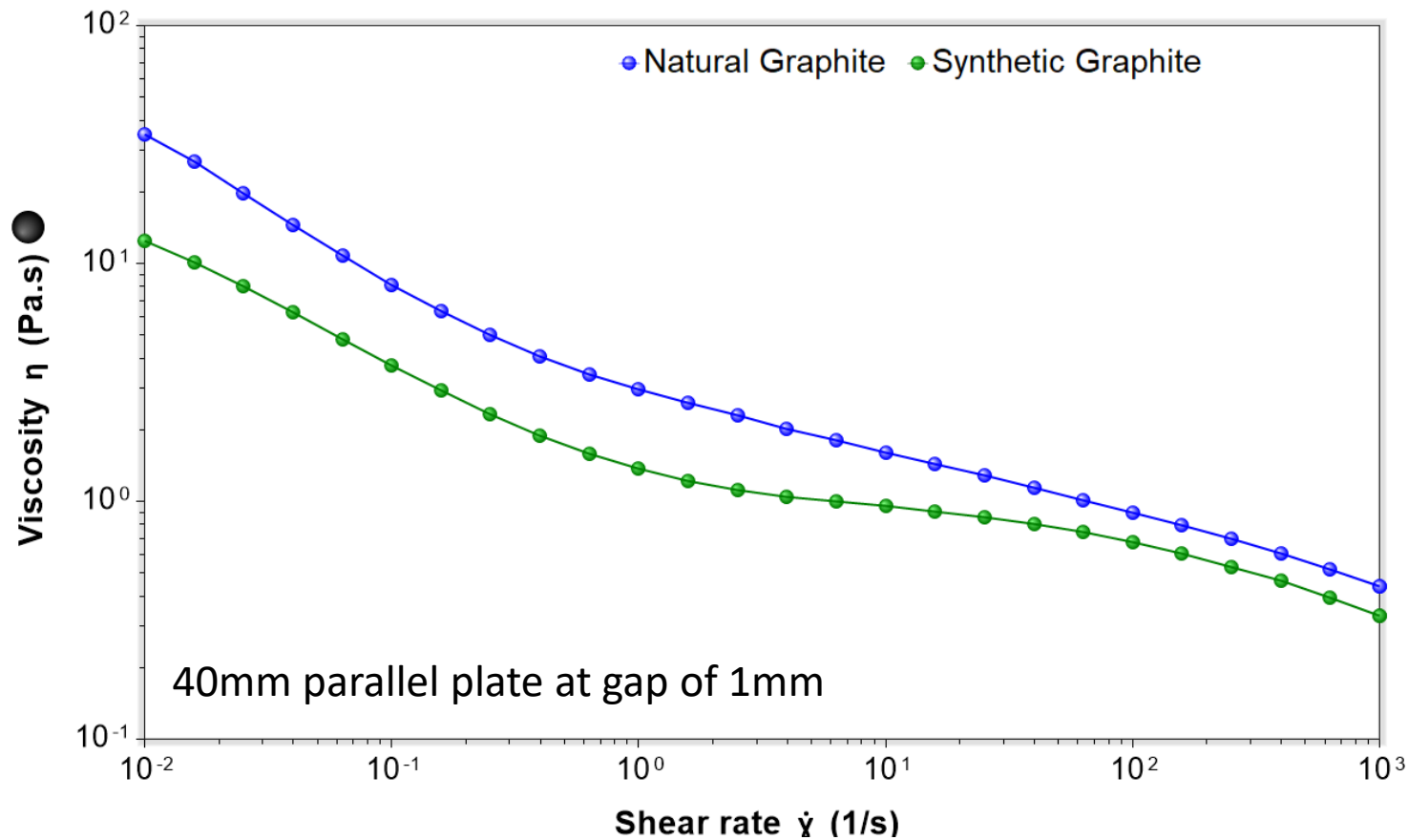
## Typical Truncation Heights:

1° degree ~ 20 - 30 microns  
2° degrees ~ 60 microns  
4° degrees ~ 120 microns



# Example Viscosity Test on Battery Slurries

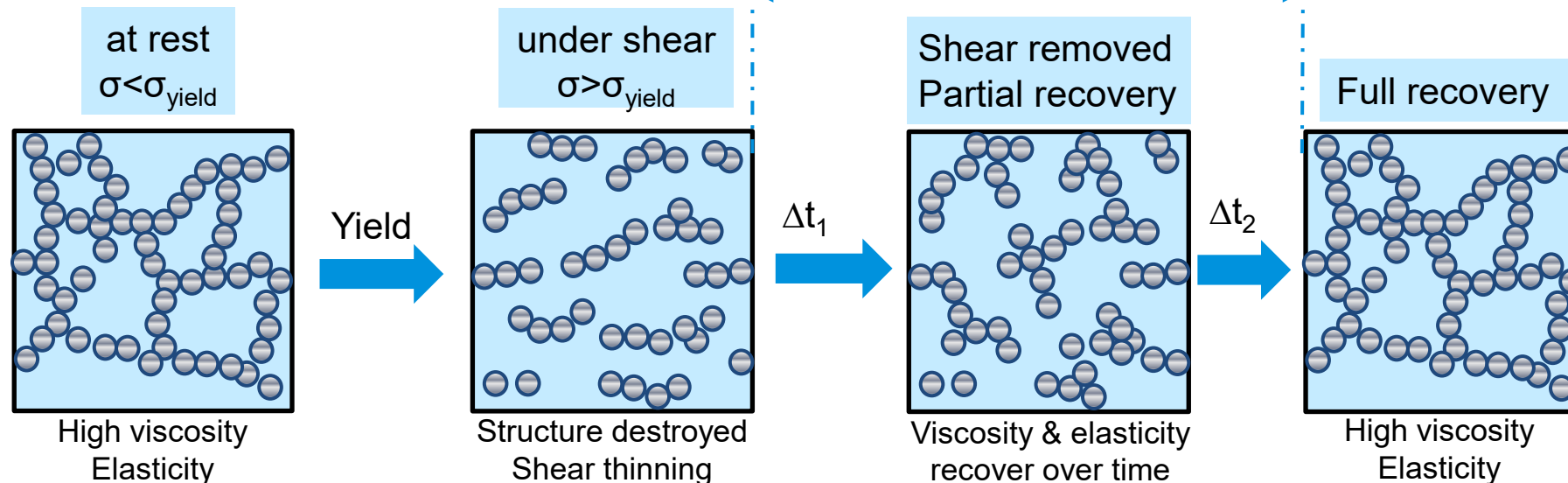
- Slurry viscosity scan over a wide range of shear rate
- Particle size and shape affect the flow behavior of the slurry



T Chen, Apps note RH119

# What else a flow test can measure? -Yield and Thixotropy

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



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# What is Yield?

- Yield stress is a time dependent characteristic that is associated with many structured fluids such as Mayonnaise, Ketchup, hand lotion, hair gels, paints etc.
- A material that has yield does not flow unless the applied stress exceeds a certain value – yield point
- Yield stress is created in formulation by adding additional thickeners
- Yield helps stabilize complex fluids
  - Avoid sedimentation and increase shelf life
  - Reduce flow under gravity
  - Stabilize a fluid against vibration



# How to Measure Yield

- Yield can be quantitatively measured on a rotational rheometer
- Common methods
  - Stress ramp
  - Stress sweep
  - Shear rate ramp
  - Dynamic stress/strain sweep

No settling?!

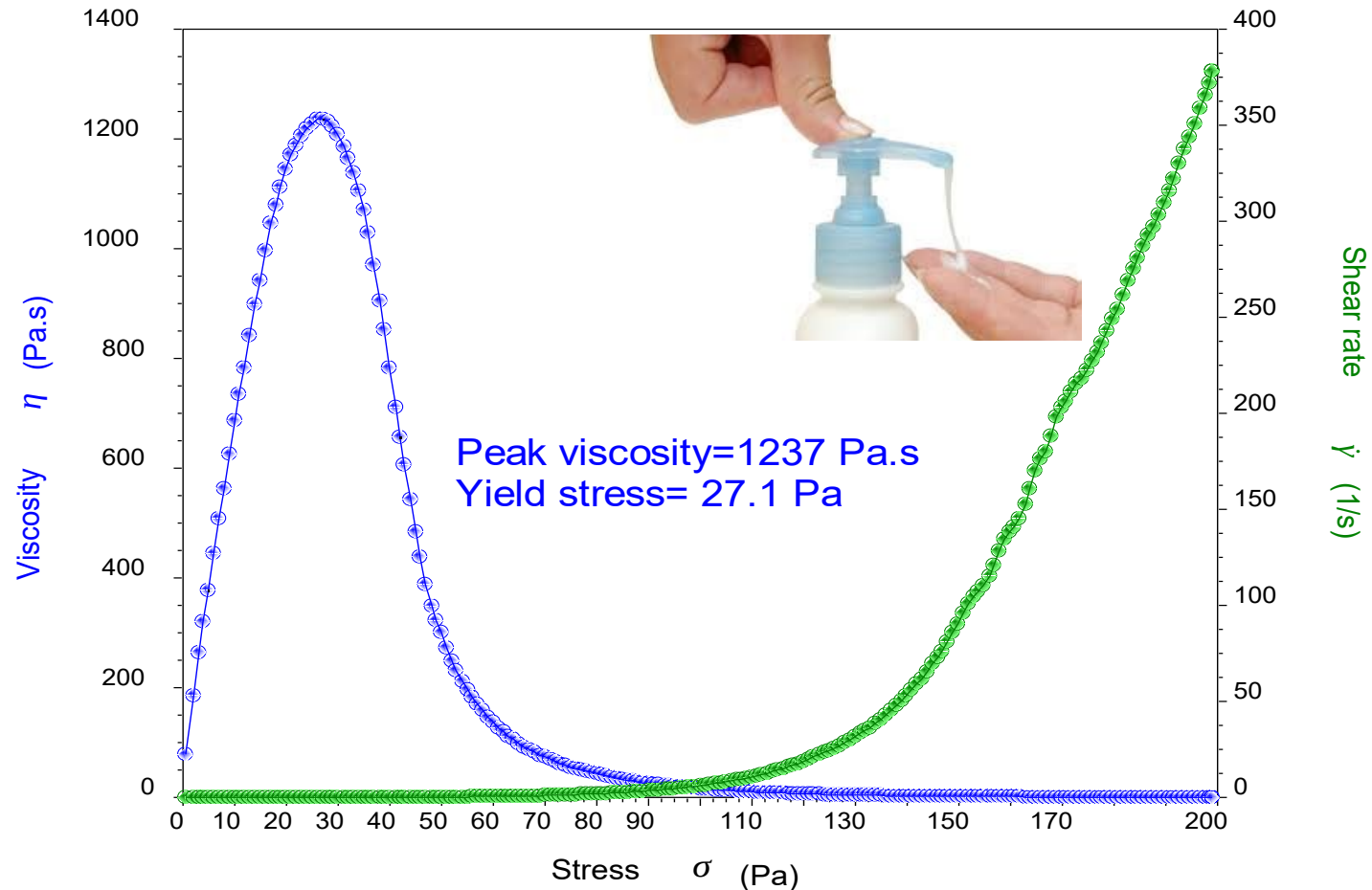


Note:

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

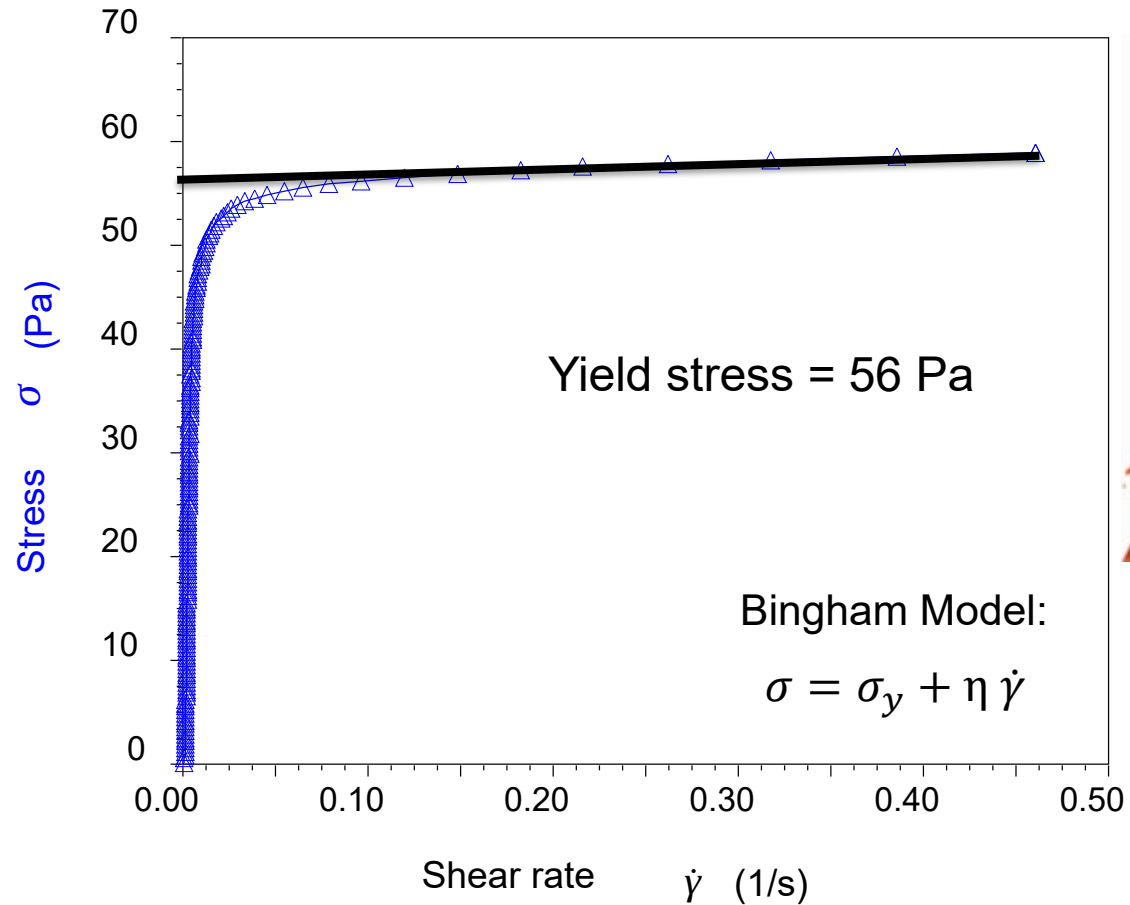
# Yield Stress of a Body Lotion

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



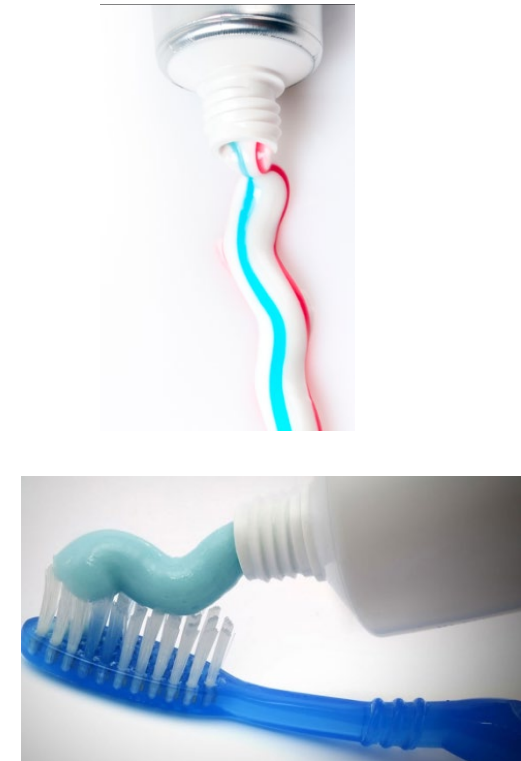
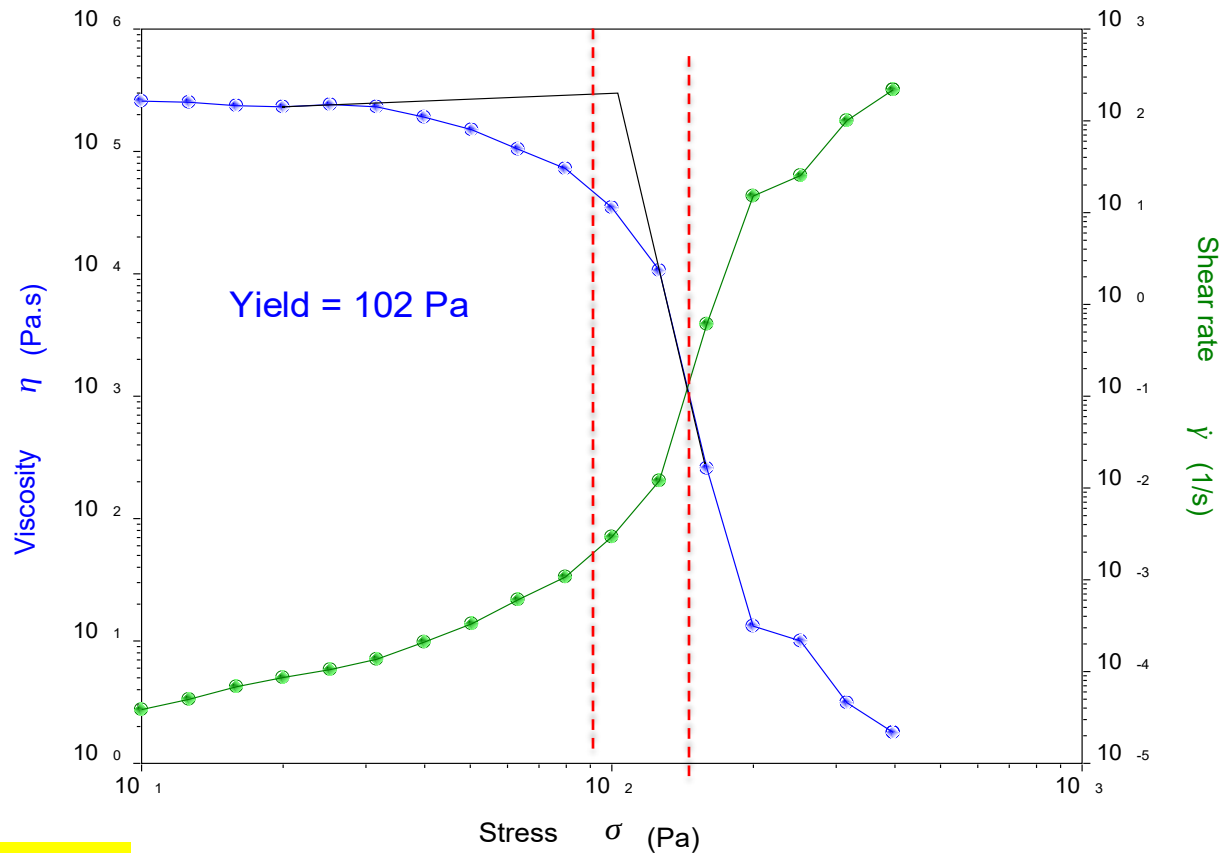
# Yield Stress of Ketchup

- **Stress ramp** test on Ketchup
- Yield is computed by fitting the flow curve with a mathematical model



# Yield Stress of a Toothpaste

- **Steady state stress sweep** from 10 Pa to 500 Pa
- Yield stress is determined by a sharp decrease in viscosity over a narrow range of applied shear stress
- Take the onset of viscosity vs. stress curve

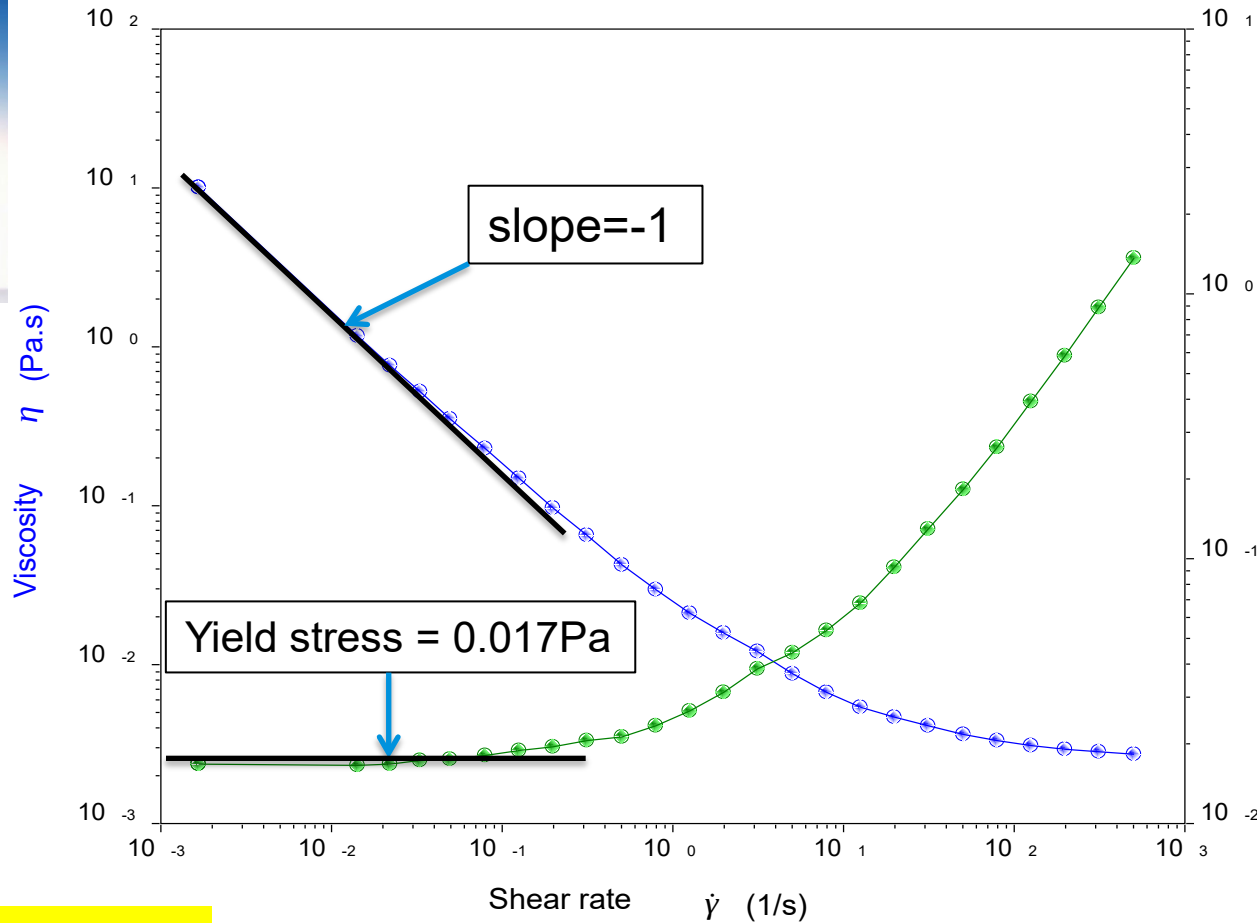




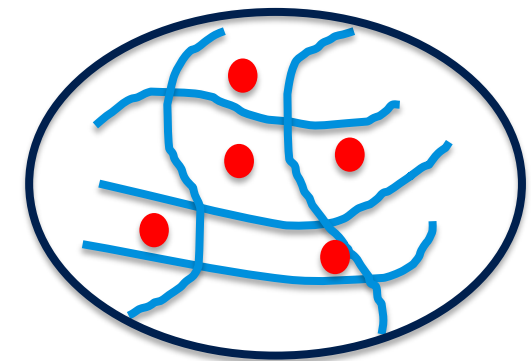
# Yield Stress of Orange Juice



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



No settling?!





# What is Thixotropy?

- Thixotropy is a time-dependent shear thinning property, which is used to characterize structure change reversibility
- A thixotropic fluid takes a finite time to attain equilibrium viscosity when introduced to a step change in shear rate
- Thixotropy is a desired property for many applications such as:
  - Control sagging and levelling of paints
  - Start up of pipeline flow after rest



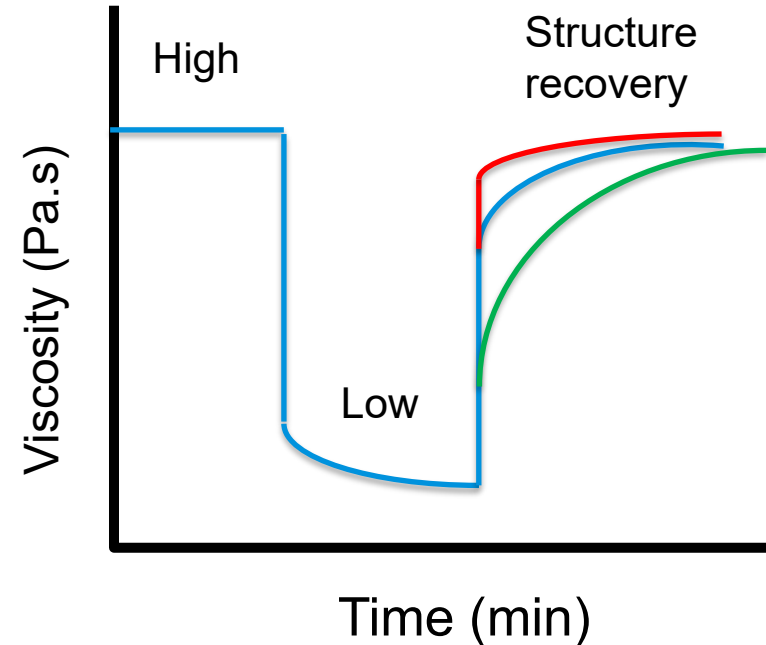
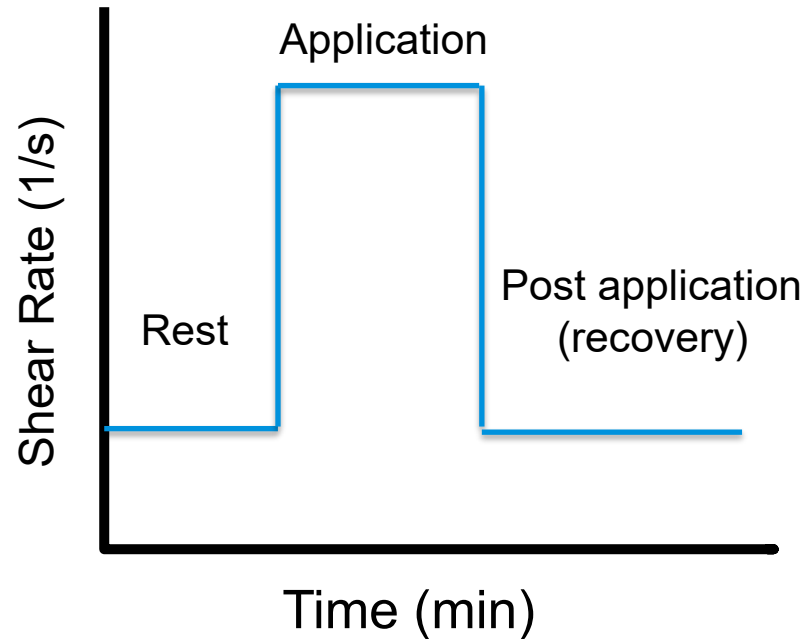
# How to Measure Thixotropy

- Thixotropy can be quantitatively measured on a rotational rheometer
- Common methods
  - Stepped flow method
  - Stepped dynamic method
  - Stress ramp up and down method (Thixotropic loop)
  - Dynamic time sweep after pre-shear method

**Note:**

Thixotropic behavior is a time dependent characteristic. Measured thixotropy will vary depending on experimental parameters.

# Stepped Flow Method



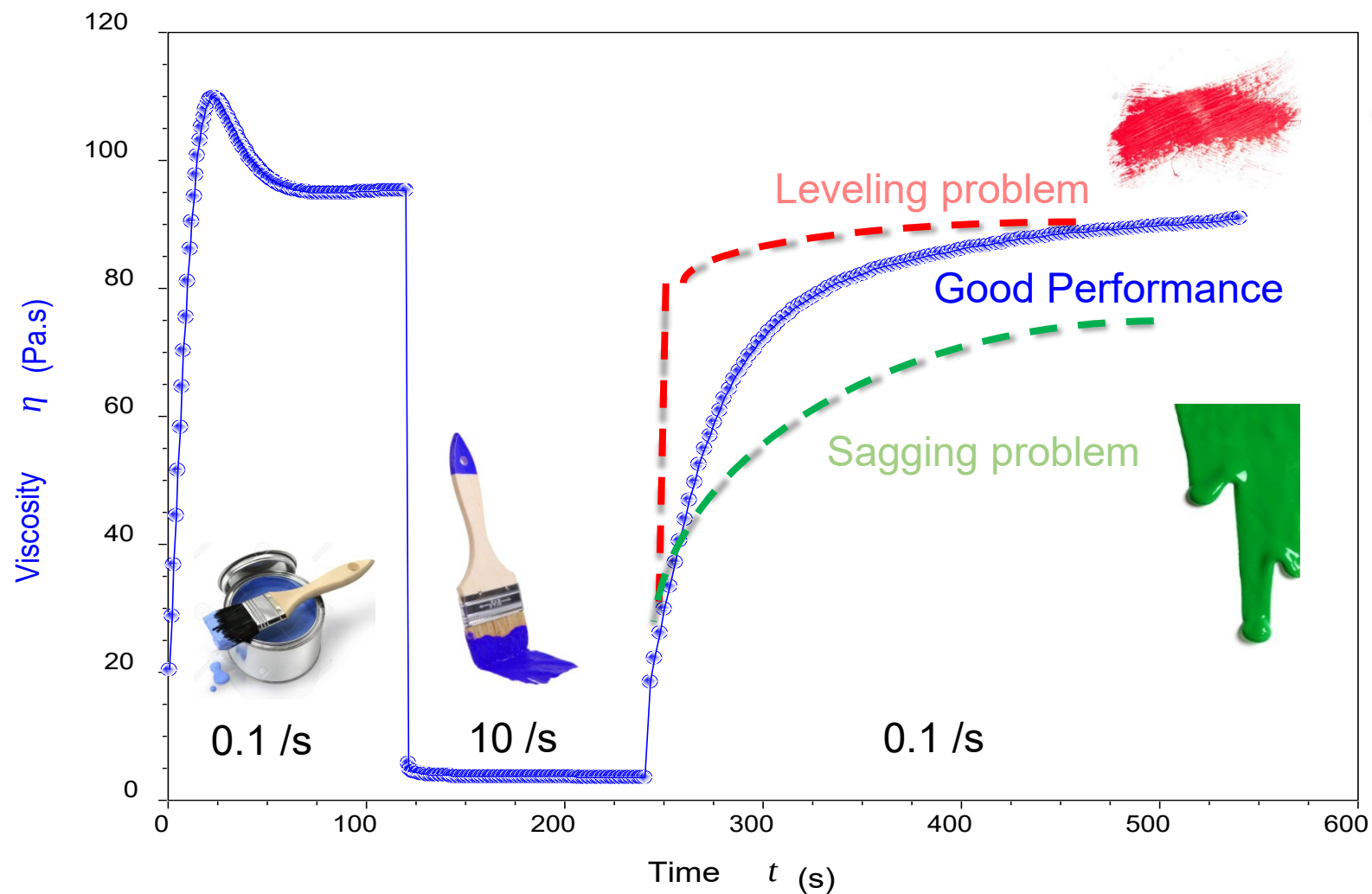
Experimental:

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

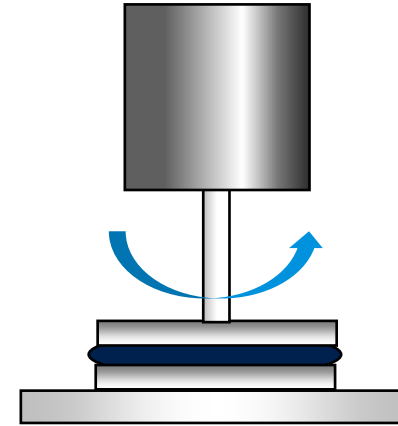
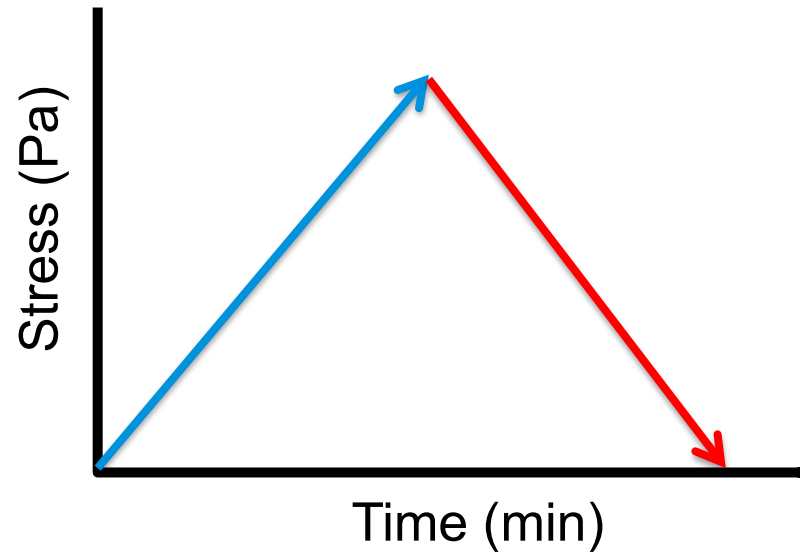
Step 2: High Shear (e.g. 10 1/s), structural destruction

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

# Thixotropic Analysis of a Blue Paint



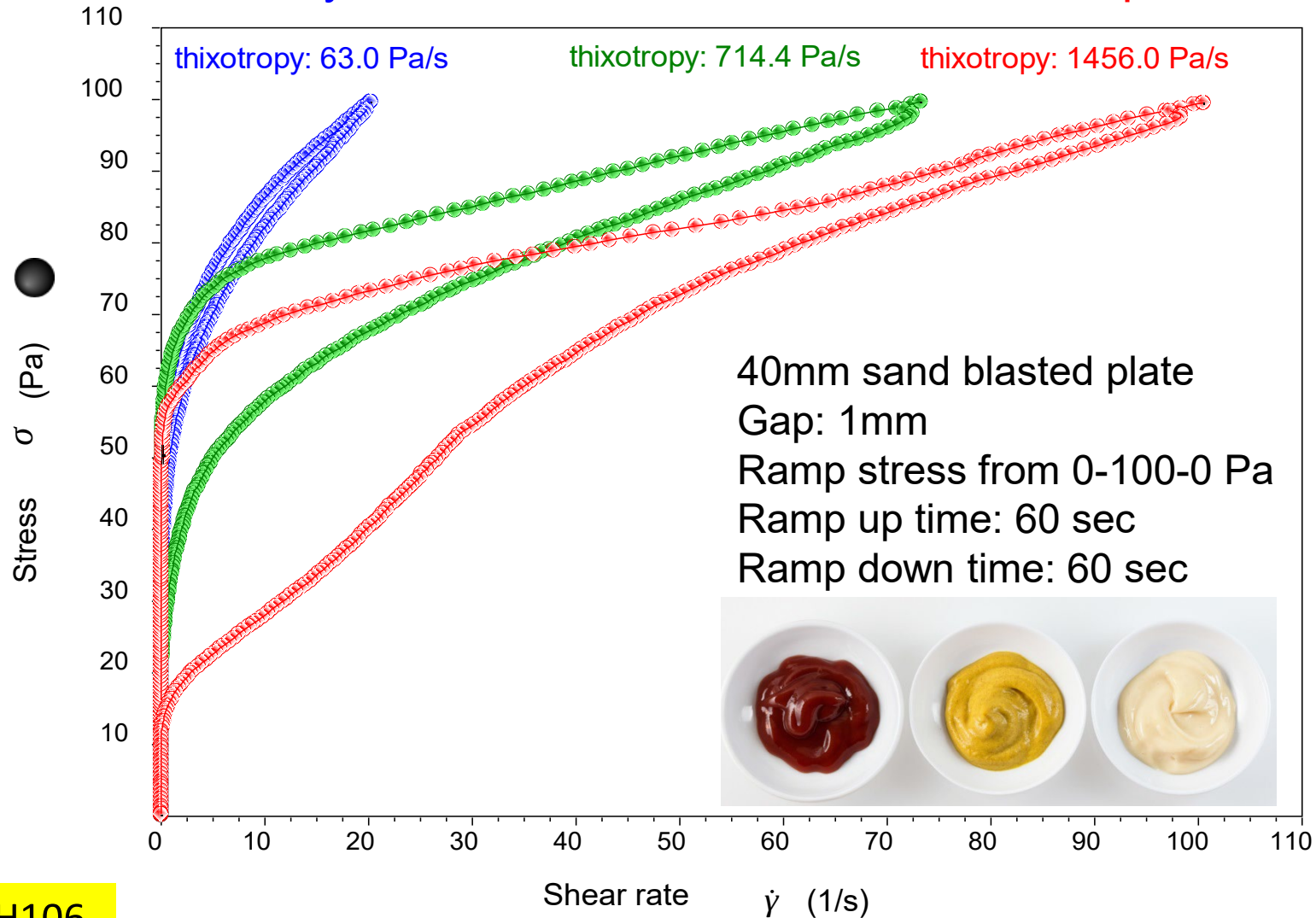
# Stress/Rate Ramp Up and Down Method



- 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: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8lZangOp1SY>

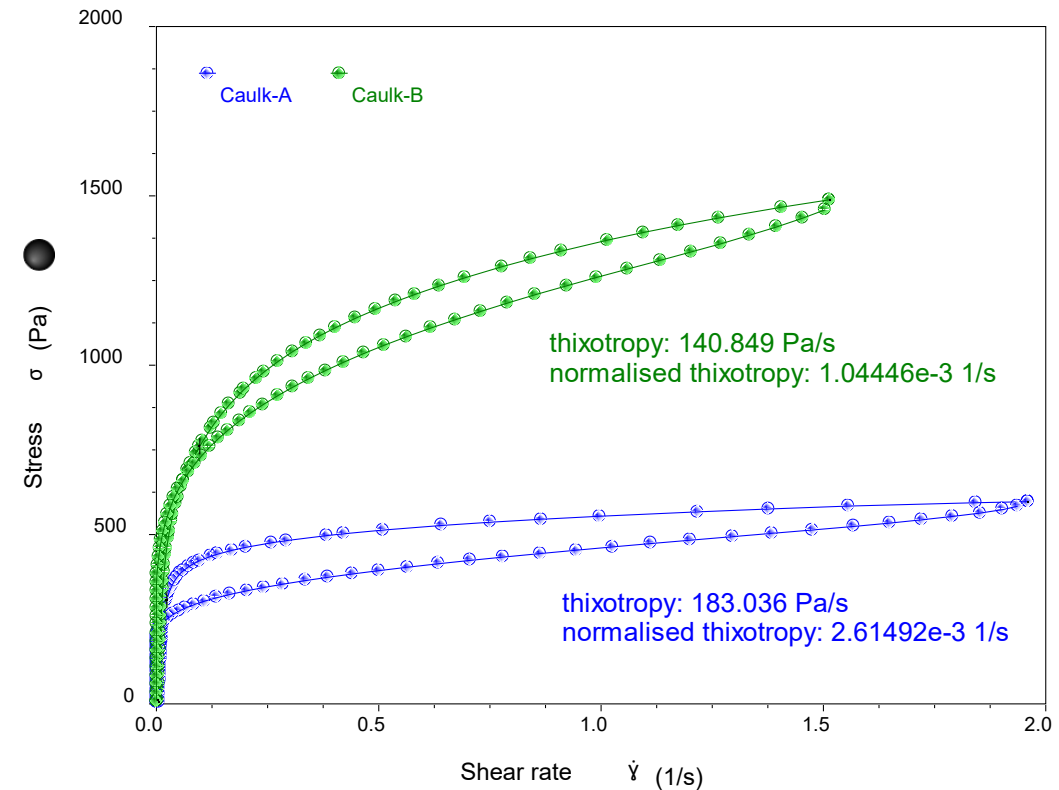
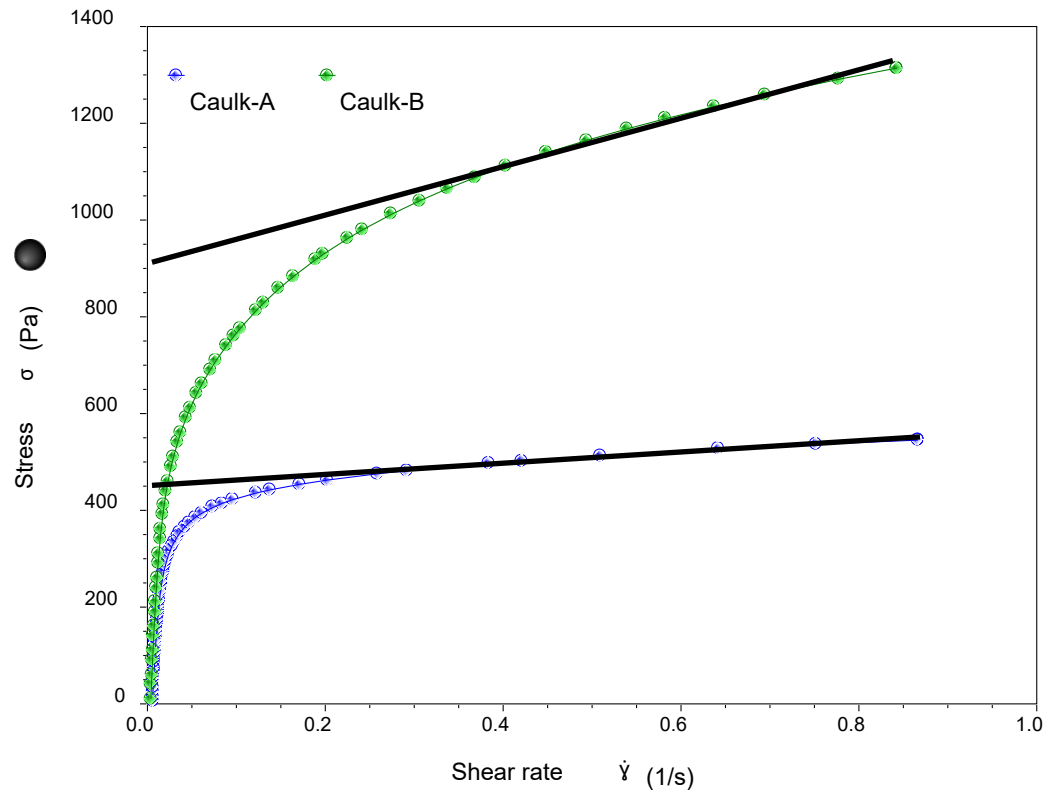
# Thixotropic Loop Testing on Foods

## Mayonnaise, Yellow Mustard, and Ketchup



# Caulk - Yield and Thixotropy

- Caulk exhibits a yield behavior. Below the yield stress, caulk does not flow
- Caulk shows thixotropic property, which can be measured using a flow loop test





# TA Practical Series Training Course

<https://www.tainstruments.com/a-practical-approach-to-rheology/>

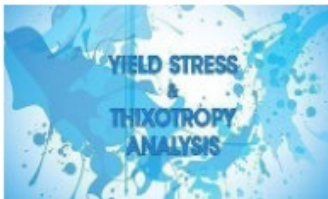
- How to measure Yield stress
- How to measure Thixotropy
- How to avoid wall slip and edge fracture
- How to fit flow curves with models



## Viscosity Measurements on Liquids

The second chapter this four part series on rheology will cover viscous behaviors of liquids.

[View Archive](#)



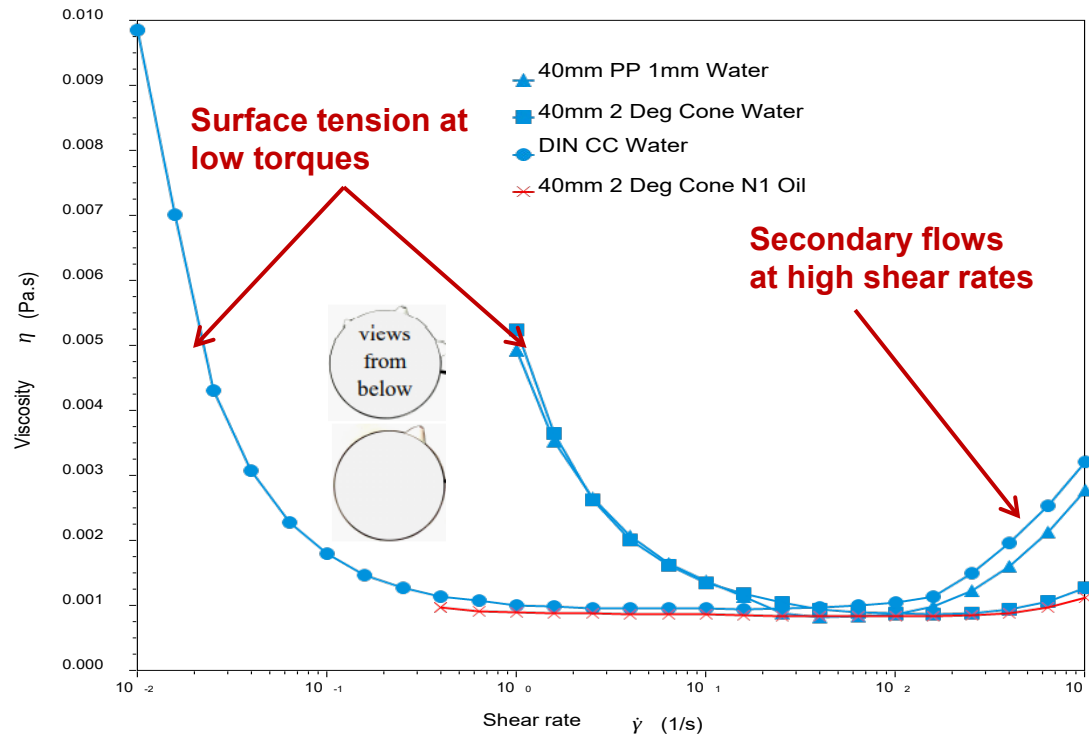
## Yield and Thixotropy Measurements

Beyond viscous behavior, complex fluids can exhibit other important flow characteristics, most notably yield stresses and thixotropy. In this third part, we will explore effective ways to quantify these behaviors.

# Water is not a Good Viscosity Standard



- Surface tension causes artifact shear thinning under low torque
- Secondary flow shows artifact shear thickening under high shear
- Use a large diameter geometry with a smaller gap



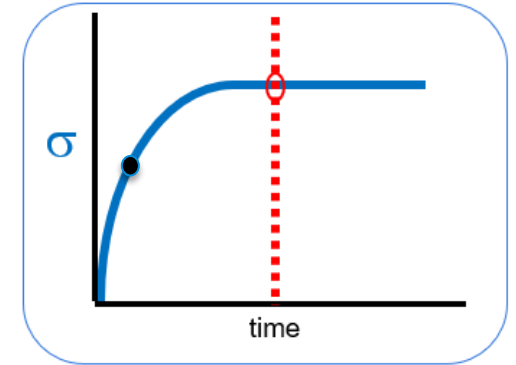
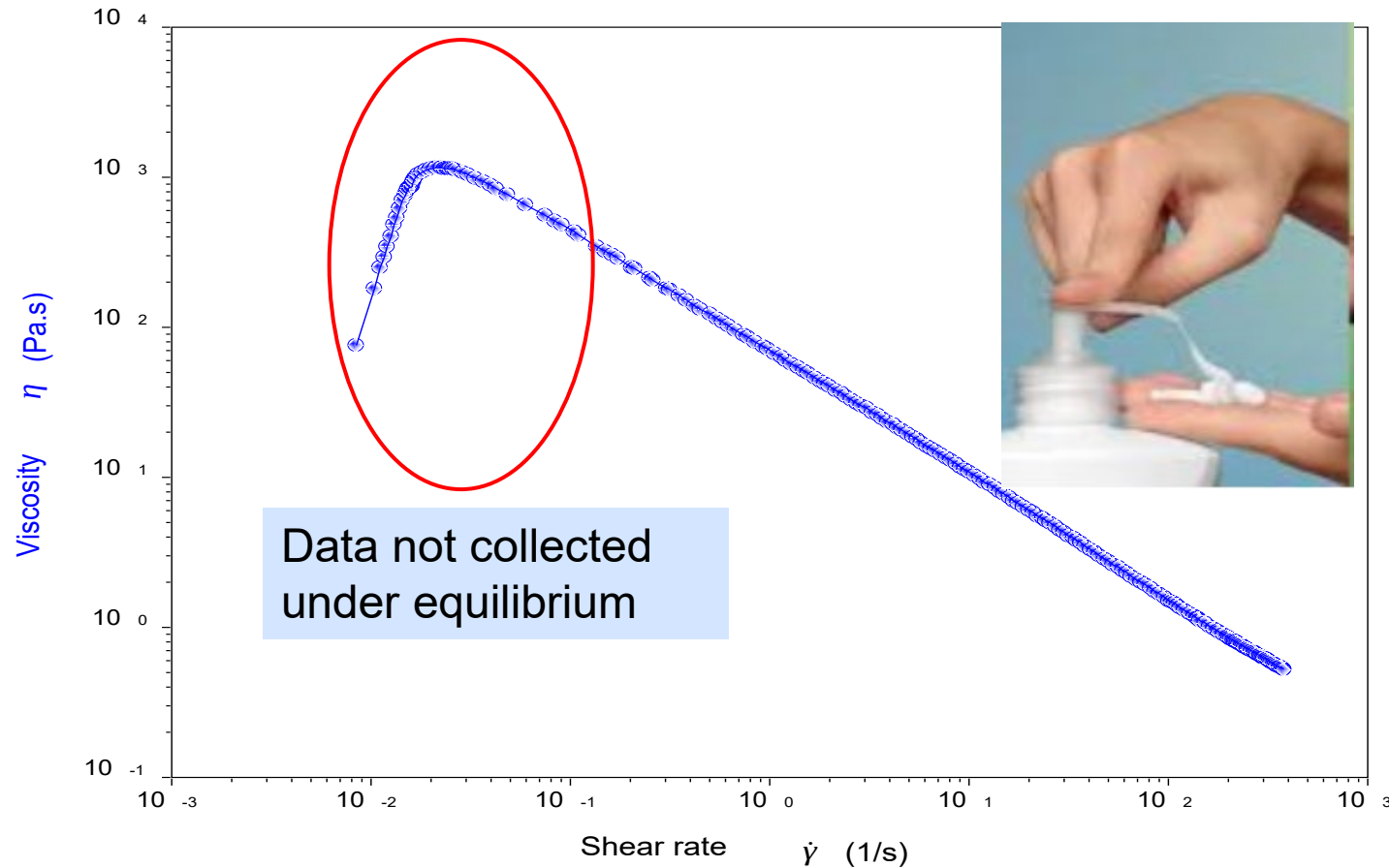
- TA Webinar - Professor Randy H. Ewoldt  
<http://www.tainstruments.com/randym-ewoldt-experimental-challenges-of-shear-rheology-how-to-avoid-bad-data-2/>



Ewoldt R.H., Johnston M. T., Caretta L.M., “Experimental challenges of shear rheology: how to avoid bad data”, in: S. Spagnolie (Editor), *Complex Fluids in Biological Systems*, Springer (2015) 1-36

# What is wrong with viscosity under low shear rates?

- Stress ramp from 0 to 200 Pa within 60 seconds.



1: Flow Sweep

#### Environmental Control

Temperature  °C  Inherit Set Point

Soak Time  s  Wait For Temperature

#### Test Parameters

Logarithmic sweep

Shear rate  1/s to  1/s

Points per decade

Steady state sensing

Max. equilibration time  s

Sample period  s

% tolerance

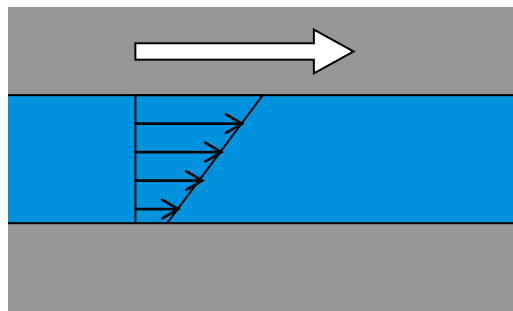
Consecutive within

Scaled time average

# Wall Slip Phenomena

- Wall slip is often observed in flow viscosity measurements
- It can manifest itself in many ways:
  - Artificially low yield stress
  - Early shear thinning
  - Low viscosity

**Wall Slip**  
Incorrect Velocity Profile

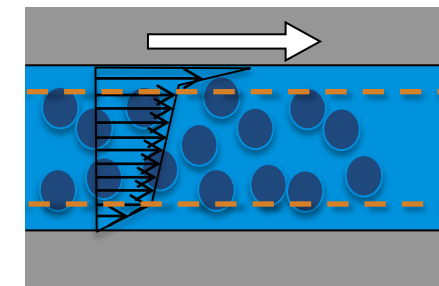
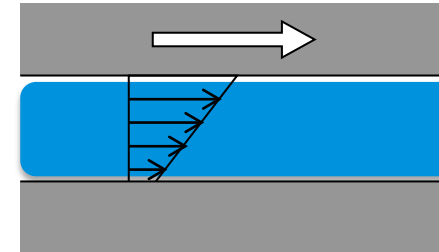
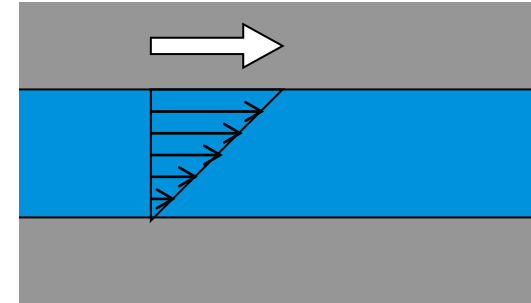


Surface wetting

Wall Depletion

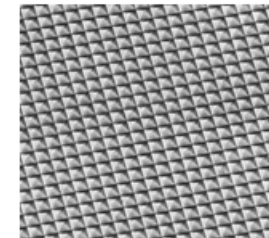
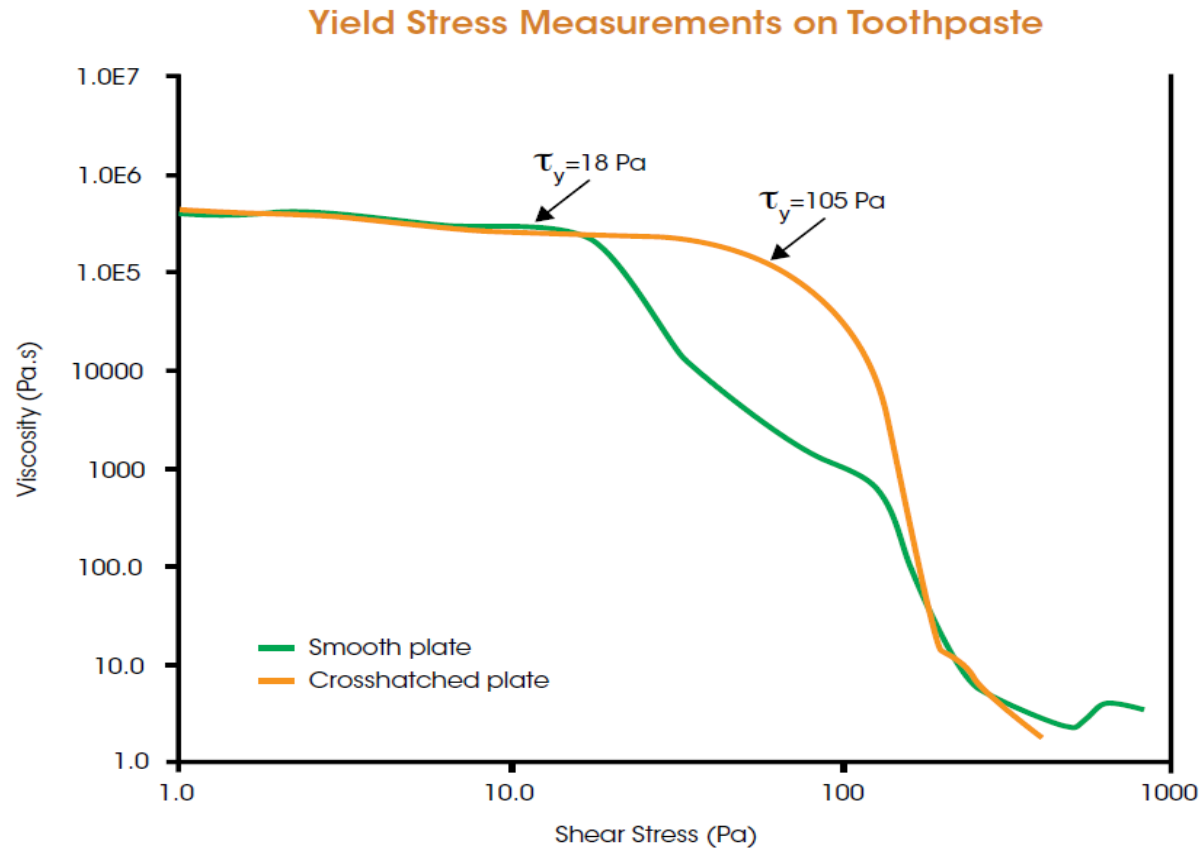
## No slip condition

Ideal, Assumed Velocity Profile

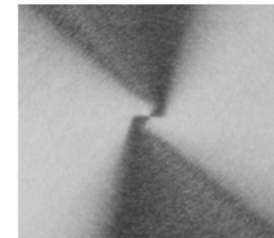


# Wall Slip – Artifact Yield

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



crosshatched  
plate

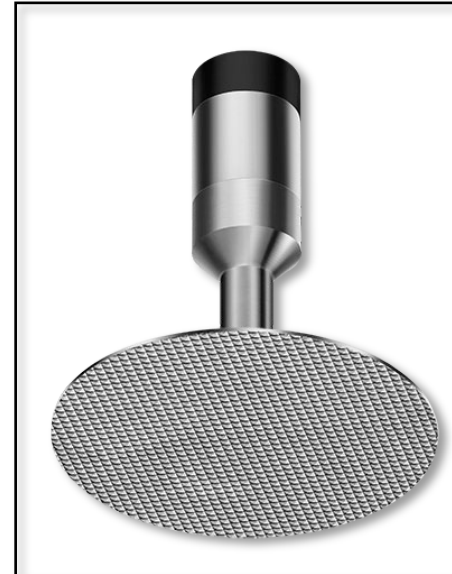


smooth  
plate



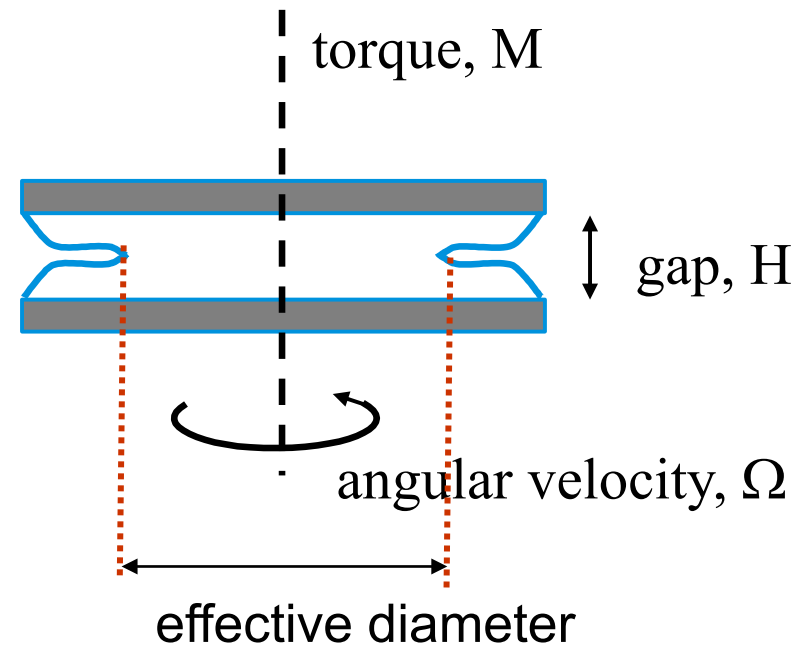
# Solutions To Minimize Wall Slip

- Diagnosis method
  - Running the same experiment at different gaps. For samples that don't slip, the results will be independent of the gap
- Solutions
  - Use a grooved cup with vane or helical shape rotor geometry
  - Use a roughened surface geometry

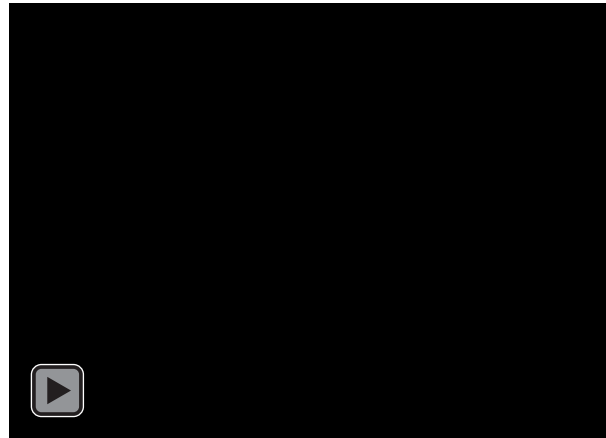


# Edge Fracture

- Edge fracture is caused by the elasticity of the fluids
- When shearing a viscoelastic material, a large normal stress difference (created from its elasticity) can lead to a crack formation at the geometry edge. This is called edge fracture.
- Results: decrease in viscosity
- To minimize edge fracture
  - Decrease measurement gap
  - Use partitioned plate



# Flow Viscosity Testing Limited due to Edge Fracture



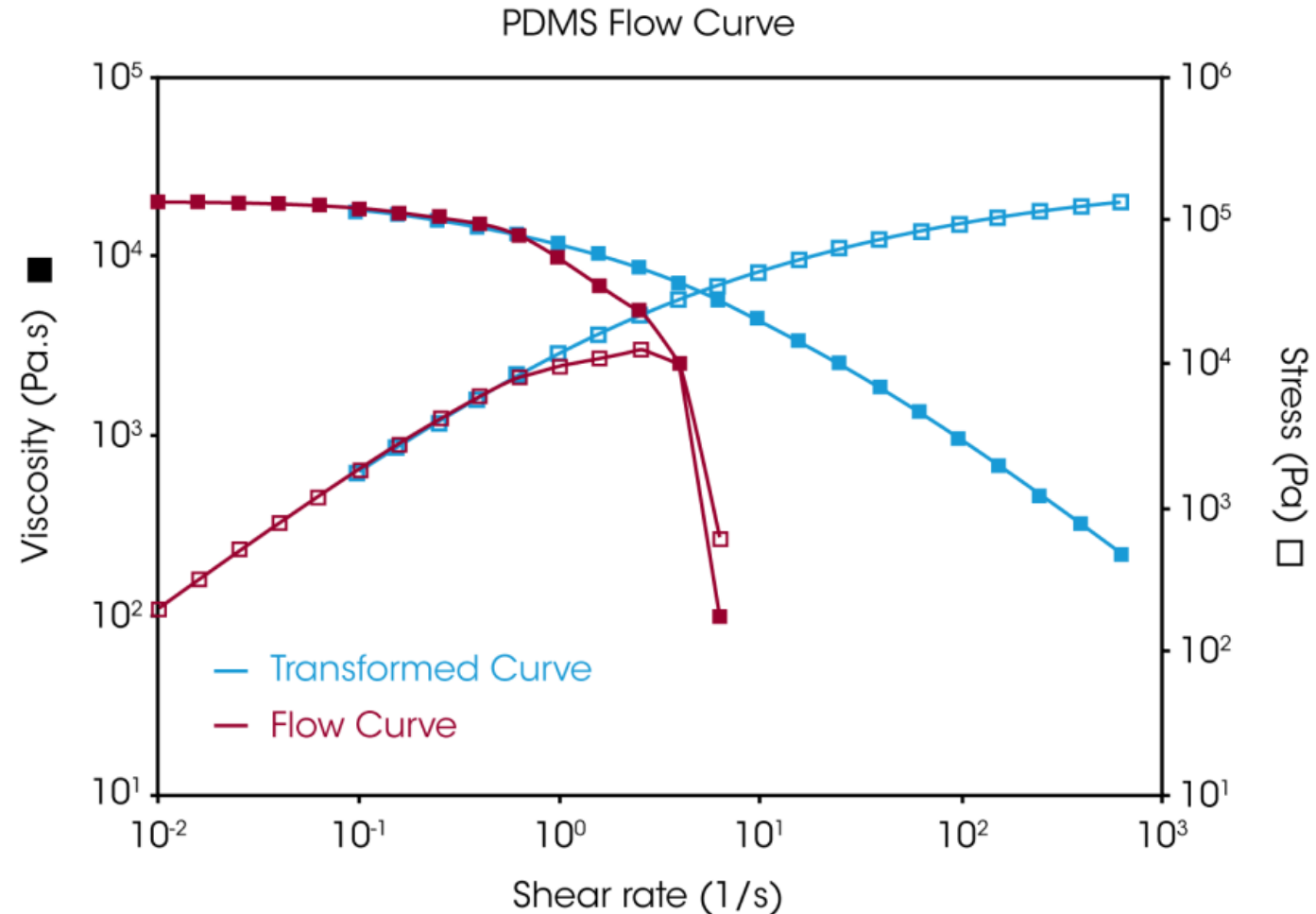
- Edge fracture occurs when testing the shear viscosity of molten polymers due to its viscoelastic nature
- Cox-Merz transformation: convert dynamic complex viscosity vs. frequency to transient shear viscosity vs. shear rate

$$\eta = \sigma / \dot{\gamma}$$

$$\eta^* = G^* / \omega$$

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

- The Cox-Merz transformation works primarily with polymer melts and polymer solutions





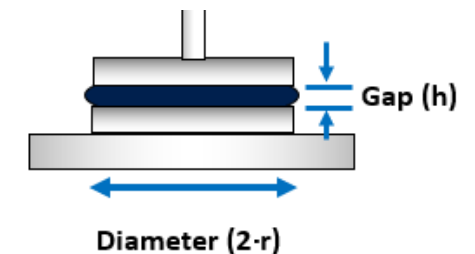
# Challenges for High Shear Rate Testing

- Max velocity on rheometer ( $\Omega$ ) : 300 rad/s
- What is the max shear rate the instrument/geometry can reach?
- **Can a sample be tested up to these shear rate?**

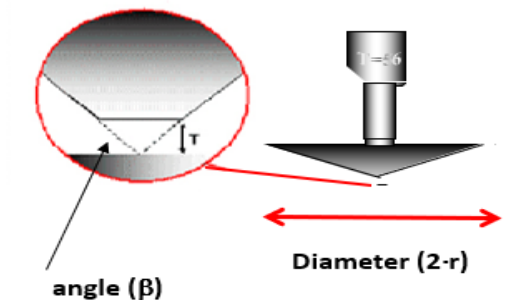
Geometry	Diameter (mm)	Cone angle (°)	Gap (um)	Sample volume (mL)	Max shear rate (approx.) 1/s
Cone and parallel plate	8	0	1000	0.05	1,200
	20	0	500	0.16	6,000
	40	0	1000	1.26	6,000
		0	100	0.13	60,000
		0	10	0.013	600,000
		1	25	0.29	17,200
		2	52	0.59	8,600
Concentric cylinder	DIN rotor			22.0	3,656
	Recessed end rotor			7.5	3,656

$$\dot{\gamma} = \Omega \cdot K_{\gamma}$$

Parallel plate:  $K_{\gamma} = \frac{r}{h}$



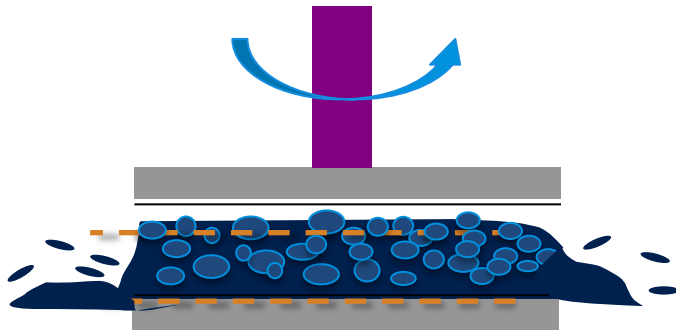
Cone plate:  $K_{\gamma} = \frac{1}{\beta}$



# Challenges for High Shear Rate Testing

- The maximum measurable shear rate is often depending on the sample and not the instrument
  - Turbulence affects the viscosity reading
  - Sample spin out of the plate or splash out of the cup
  - Shear heating
- Solutions
  - Reduce test gap
  - Use a capillary rheometer
  - Use flow model fitting to predict high-shear viscosity

Sample spin out of the plate at high shear



Use a capillary rheometer



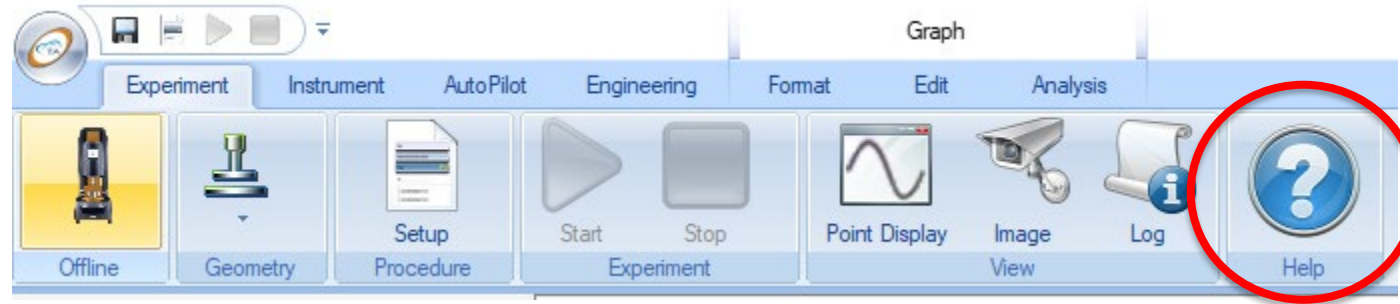
# Fit the Flow Curve to a Mathematical Model

- Fit viscosity curves with mathematical models

- Newtonian model
- Power law model
- Bingham model
- Williamson model
- Sisko model
- Herschel-Bulkley model
- Cross model
- Carreau model
- Carreau-Yasuda model
- Casson model
- Ellis model

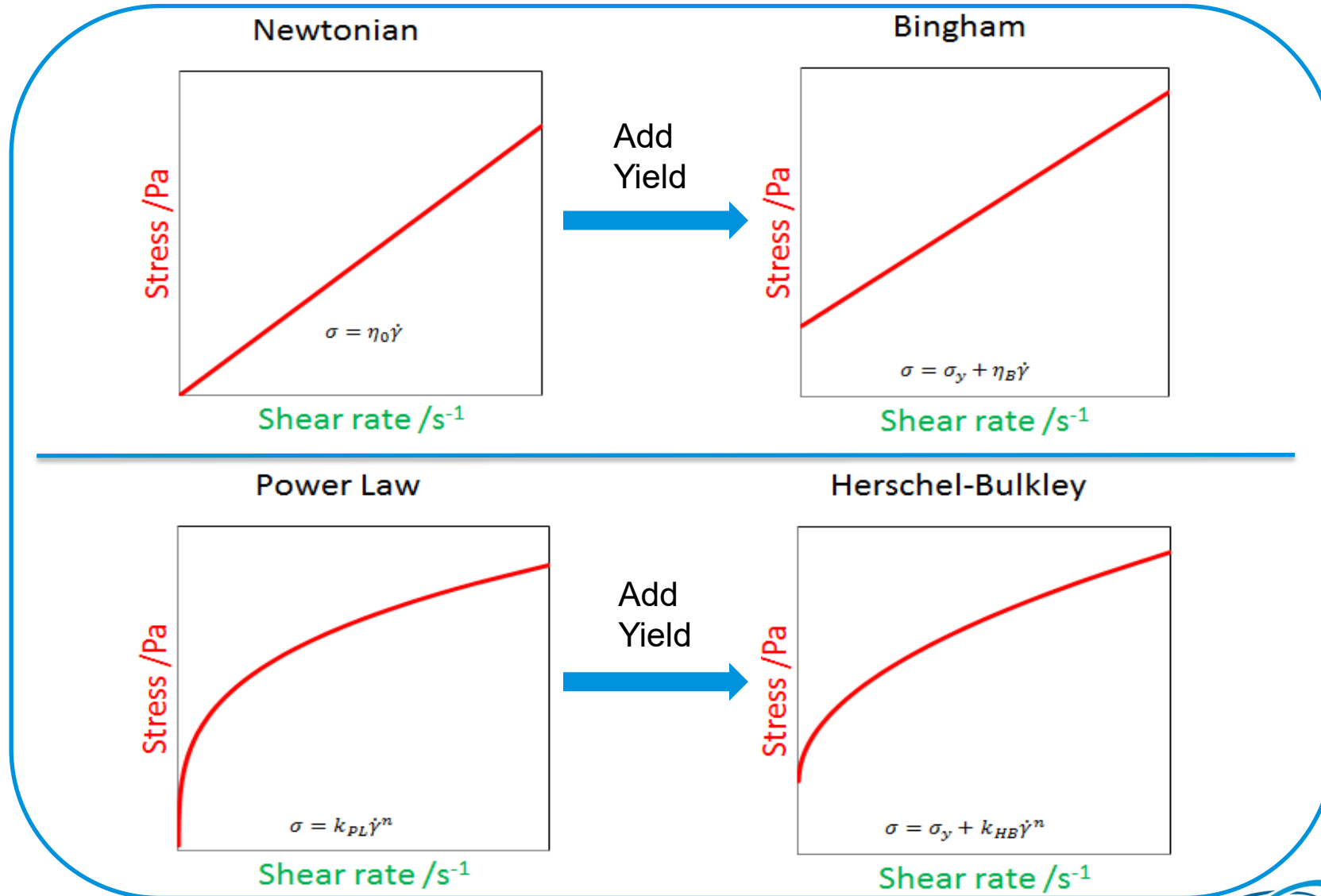
- Extrapolate to zero shear and infinite shear viscosity
- Calculate yield stress
- Calculate viscosity at a specific point

# Where to Find Model Equations



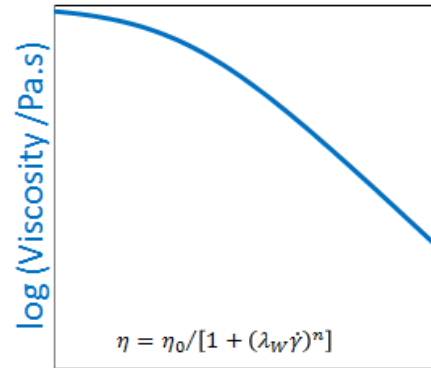
A screenshot of the TRIOS web interface. The top right corner features a search bar with the text 'flow model' and a magnifying glass icon, which is circled in red. The main content area displays the breadcrumb path: [You are here: Evaluating Data > Analysis > Rheology Analysis Models > Carreau-Yasuda Model](#). Below this is the title **Carreau-Yasuda Model**. The text reads: "This Viscosity model allows data to be fitted to the following model:" followed by the equation 
$$\frac{\eta - \eta_{\infty}}{\eta_0 - \eta_{\infty}} = [1 + (k\dot{\gamma})^a]^{\frac{n-1}{a}}$$
. Below the equation, it states: "With  $\eta_0$  the zero shear viscosity,  $\eta_{\infty}$  the infinite viscosity, k the consistency (characteristic time), n the power law index and an a parameter describing the transition between Newtonian plateau and power law region." The section **Using This Model** follows, with the text: "Use this model to fit data from a fluid that has a low and high infinite viscosity region and with a power law region in between. The parameter a adjusts the transition from the Newtonian plateau into the power law region."

# Example Flow Models



# Example Flow Models– Continued

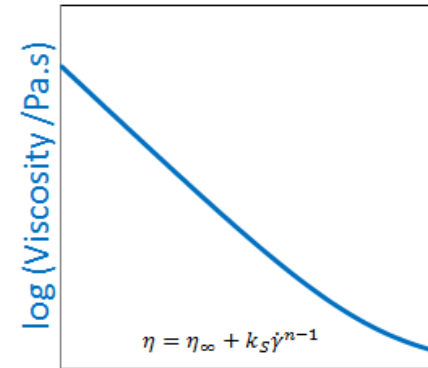
Williamson



log (Shear rate / s<sup>-1</sup>)

- Zero Shear Viscosity

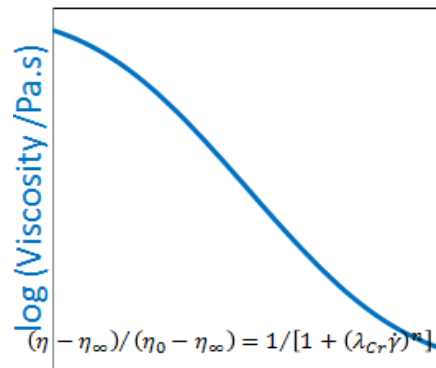
Sisko



log (Shear rate / s<sup>-1</sup>)

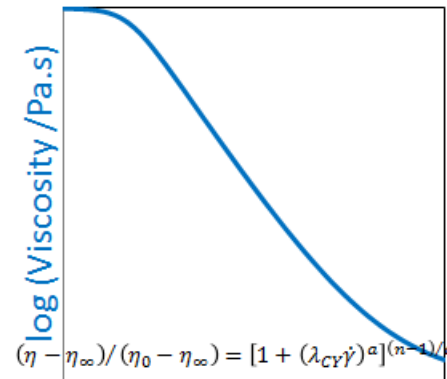
- Infinite Shear Viscosity

Cross



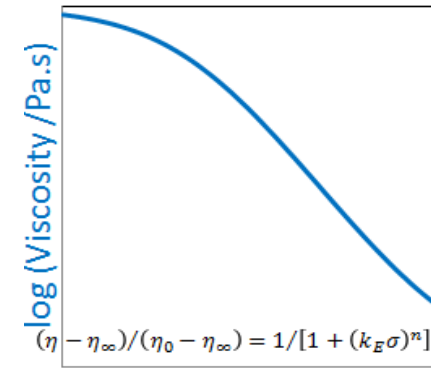
log (Shear rate / s<sup>-1</sup>)

Carreau-Yasuda



log (Shear rate / s<sup>-1</sup>)

Ellis

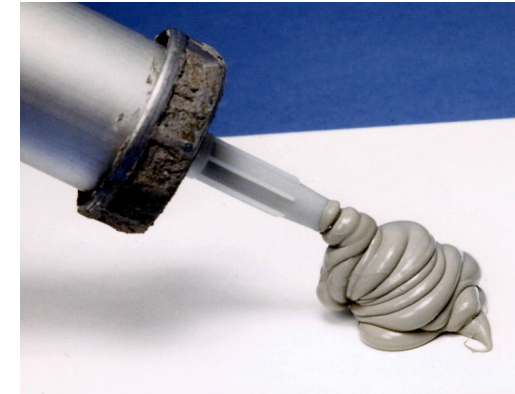
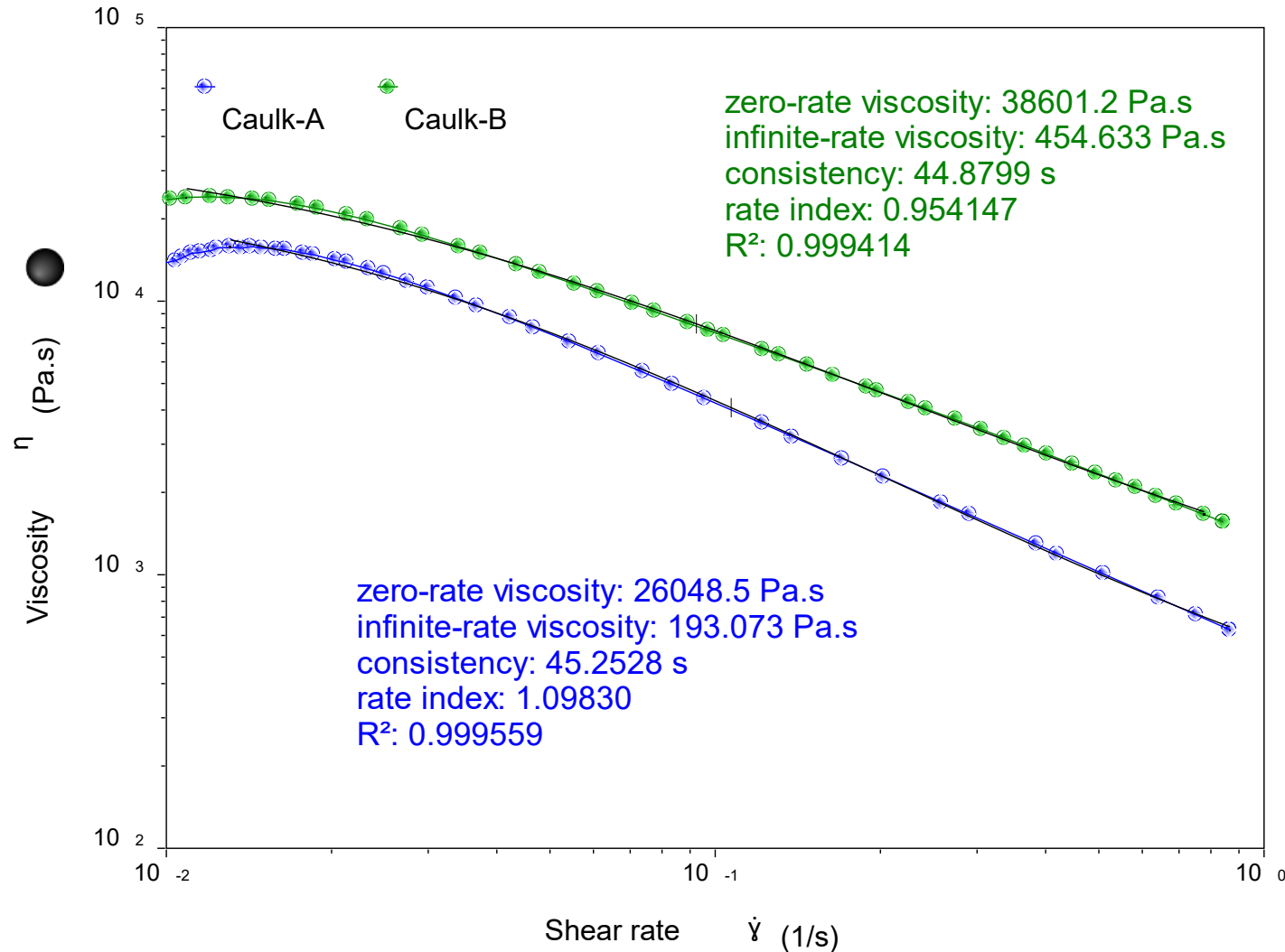


log (Stress / Pa)

- Both Zero Shear and Infinite Shear Viscosity

# Caulk – Viscosity Measurements

- Slippage and edge fracture are observed before the shear rate reached 1 1/sec.



# Rheology Applications

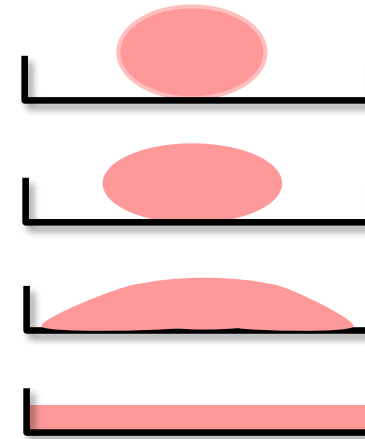
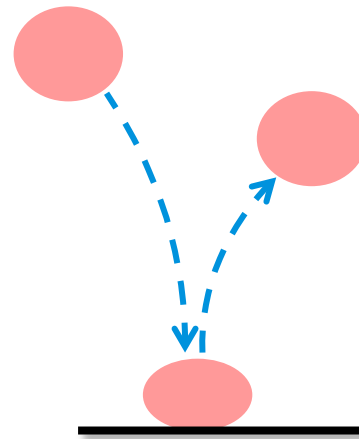
## Oscillation Analysis - Tips and Tricks





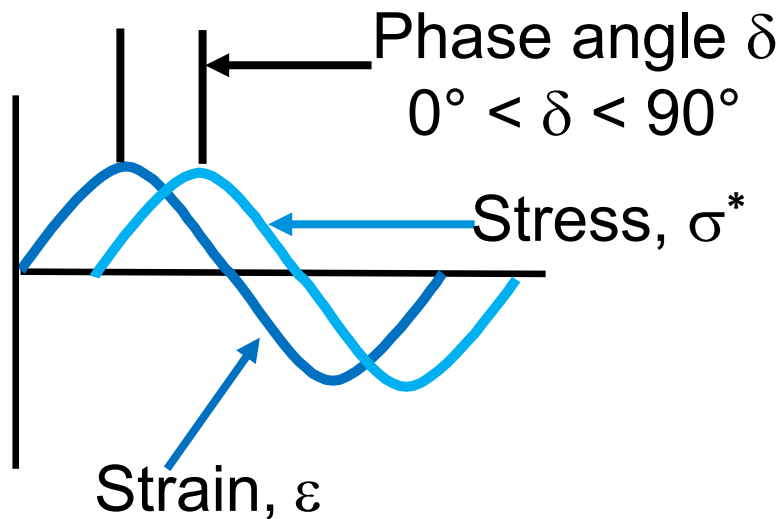
# Not Everything Flows

- **Liquid** - flows freely, remains at constant volume and takes the shape of its container
- **Solid** - has a fixed shape and volume, no flow
- **Semi-solid** – shows both viscous and elastic behavior. May flow under certain temperature or time scale

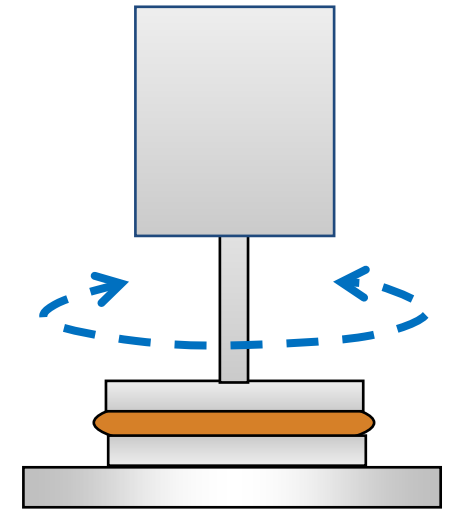


# Dynamic Oscillatory Tests

- Apply a sinusoidal strain to the sample at a certain frequency
- Monitor sample response in stress
- The shift between the input strain and output stress is the phase angle



$$\gamma = \gamma_0 \cdot \sin(\omega t)$$
$$\sigma = \sigma_0 \cdot \sin(\omega t + \delta)$$





# Viscoelastic Parameters

Complex Modulus: Measure of materials overall resistance to deformation

$$G^* = \left( \frac{\text{Stress}^*}{\text{Strain}} \right)$$

Elastic (Storage) Modulus: Measure of elasticity of material and ability to store energy

$$G' = \left( \frac{\text{Stress}^*}{\text{Strain}} \right) \cos \delta$$

Viscous (loss) Modulus: The ability of the material to dissipate energy

$$G'' = \left( \frac{\text{Stress}^*}{\text{Strain}} \right) \sin \delta$$

Tan Delta: Measure of material damping

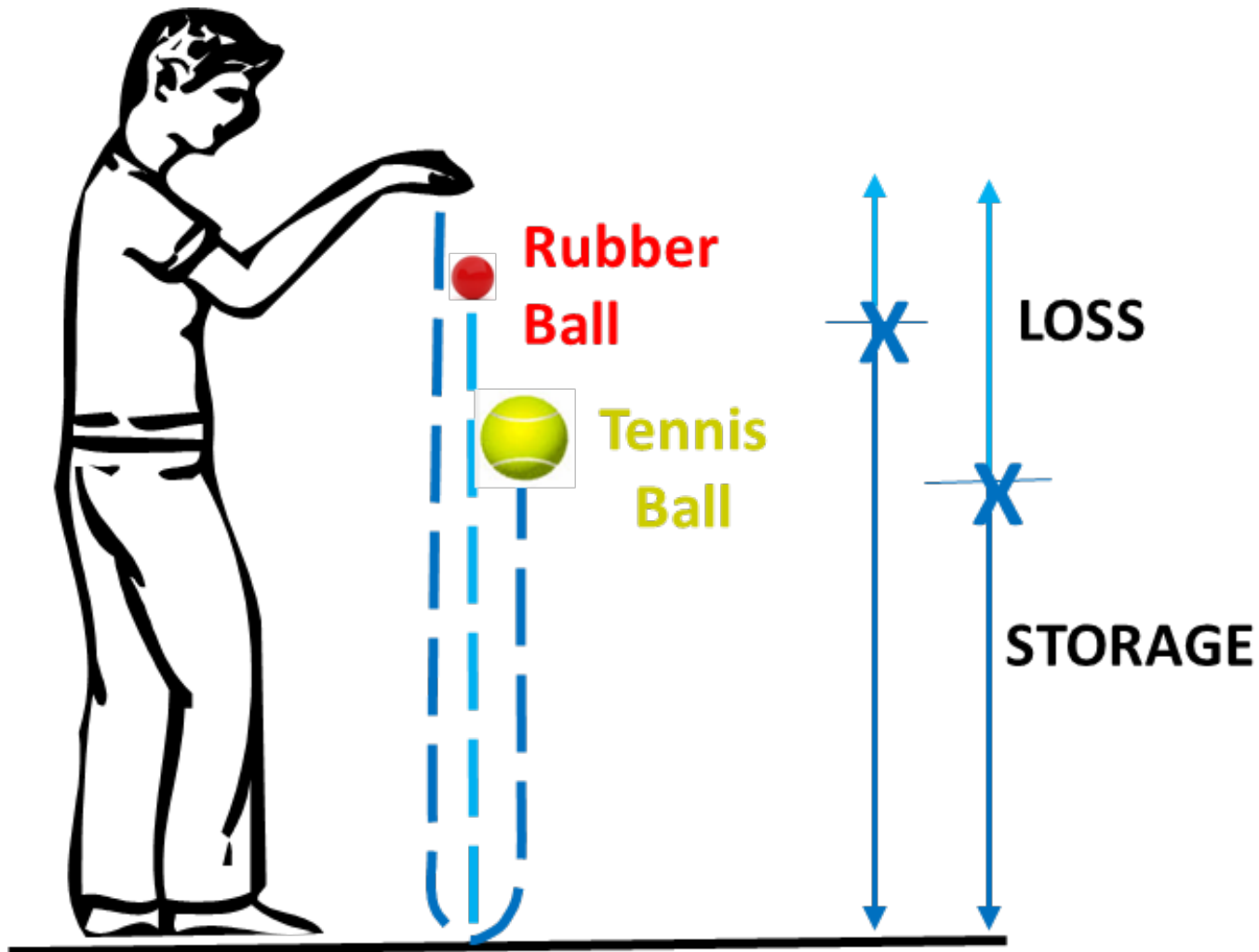
$$\tan \delta = \left( \frac{G''}{G'} \right)$$

Complex Viscosity: Viscosity measured in an oscillatory experiment ( $\omega$  in rad/s)

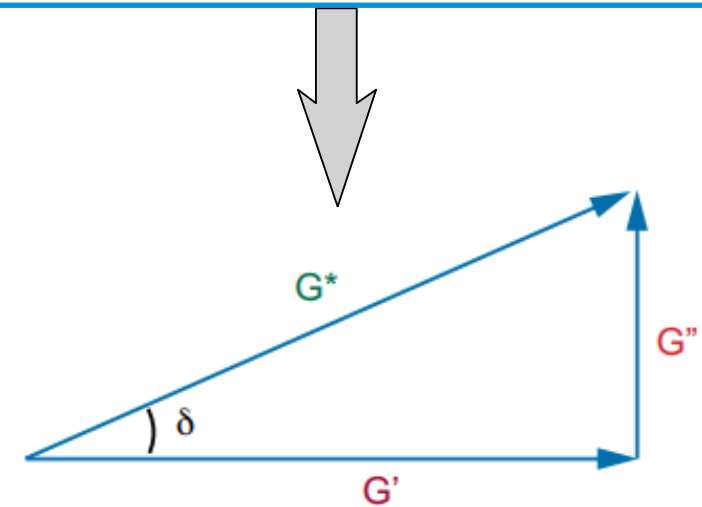
$$\eta^* = \left( \frac{G^*}{\omega} \right)$$

$$\eta^* = \eta' - i\eta''$$

# Storage and Loss of a Viscoelastic Material



Dynamic measurement represented as a vector



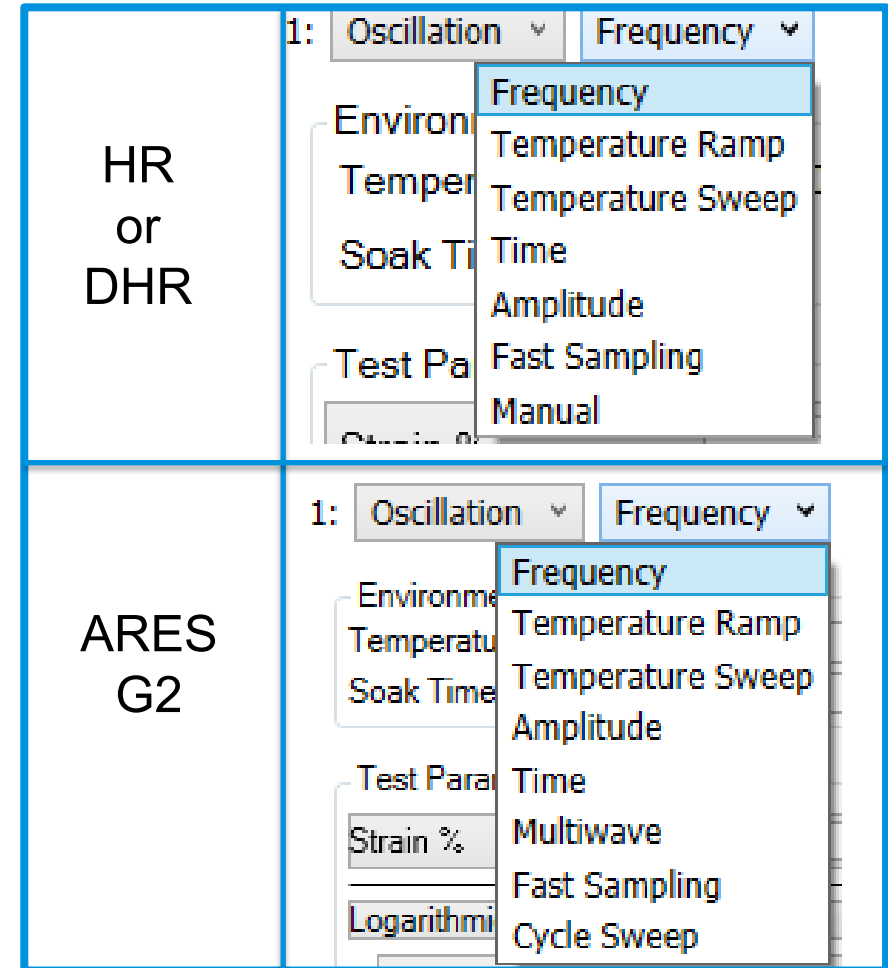
Rheological Parameters

- $G^* = \text{Stress}^*/\text{Strain}$
- $G' = G^* \cdot \cos\delta$
- $G'' = G^* \cdot \sin\delta$
- $\tan \delta = G''/G'$

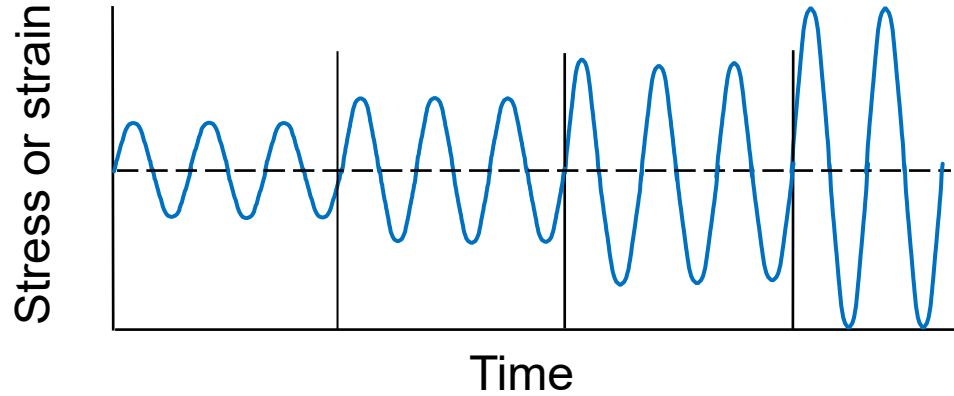
# Dynamic Oscillation Methods

- Stress, strain, or amplitude sweep
- Time sweep
- Frequency sweep
- Temperature ramp
- Temperature sweep (or step)
  - Time temperature superposition (TTS)

<https://www.tainstruments.com/a-practical-approach-to-rheology/>  
<https://www.tainstruments.com/recorded-theory-applications-training/>



# Dynamic Strain or Stress Sweep



- The material response to increasing deformation amplitude (strain or stress) is monitored at a constant frequency and temperature
- In TRIOS: Amplitude

## USES

- Measure sample LVR
- Measure yield stress
- Measure non-linear viscoelastic properties (LAOS)

### 1: Oscillation Amplitude

#### Environmental Control

Temperature  °C  Inherit Set Point  
Soak Time  s  Wait For Temperature

#### Test Parameters

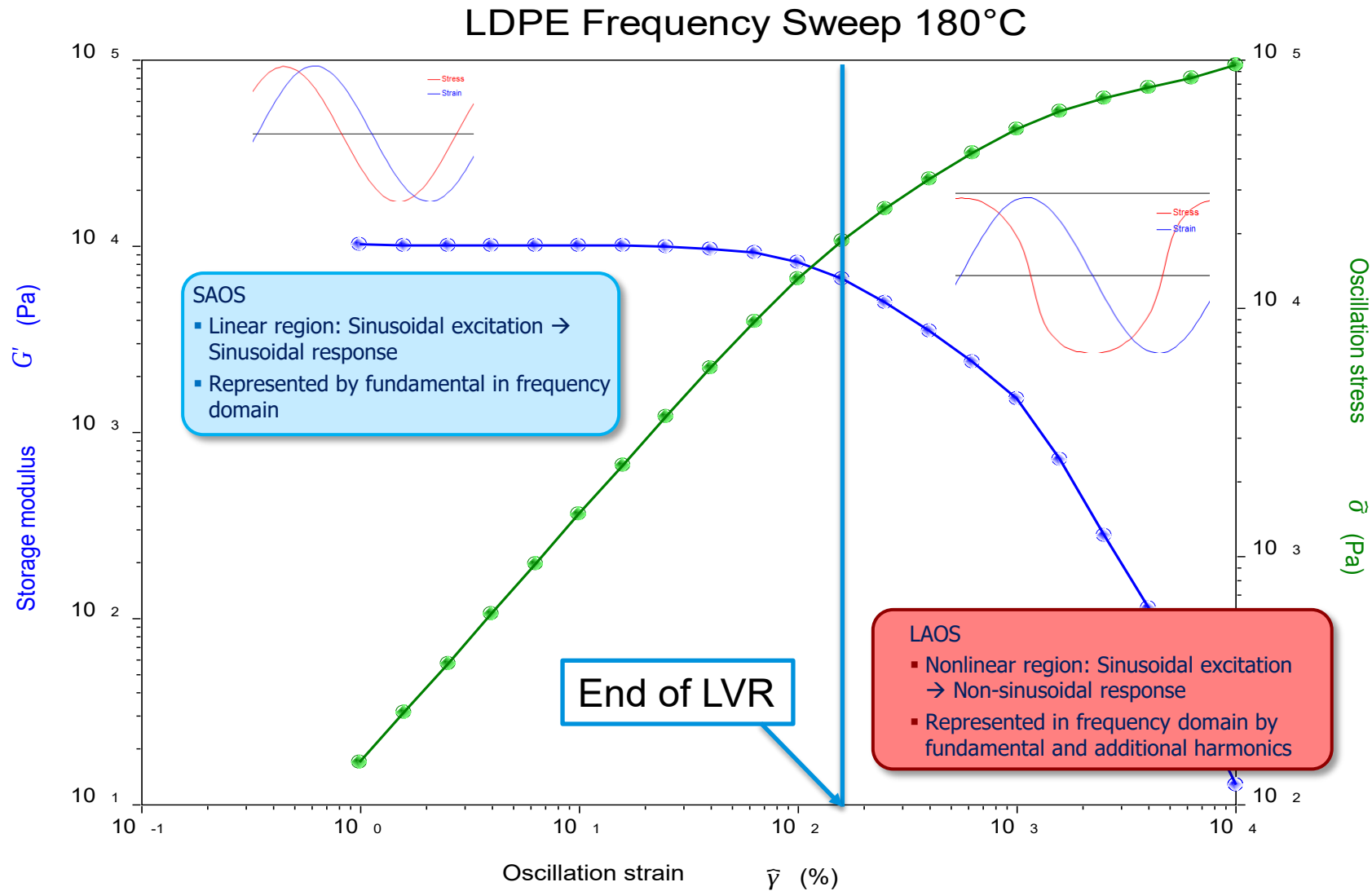
Angular frequency  rad/s

Logarithmic sweep

Strain %  % to  %

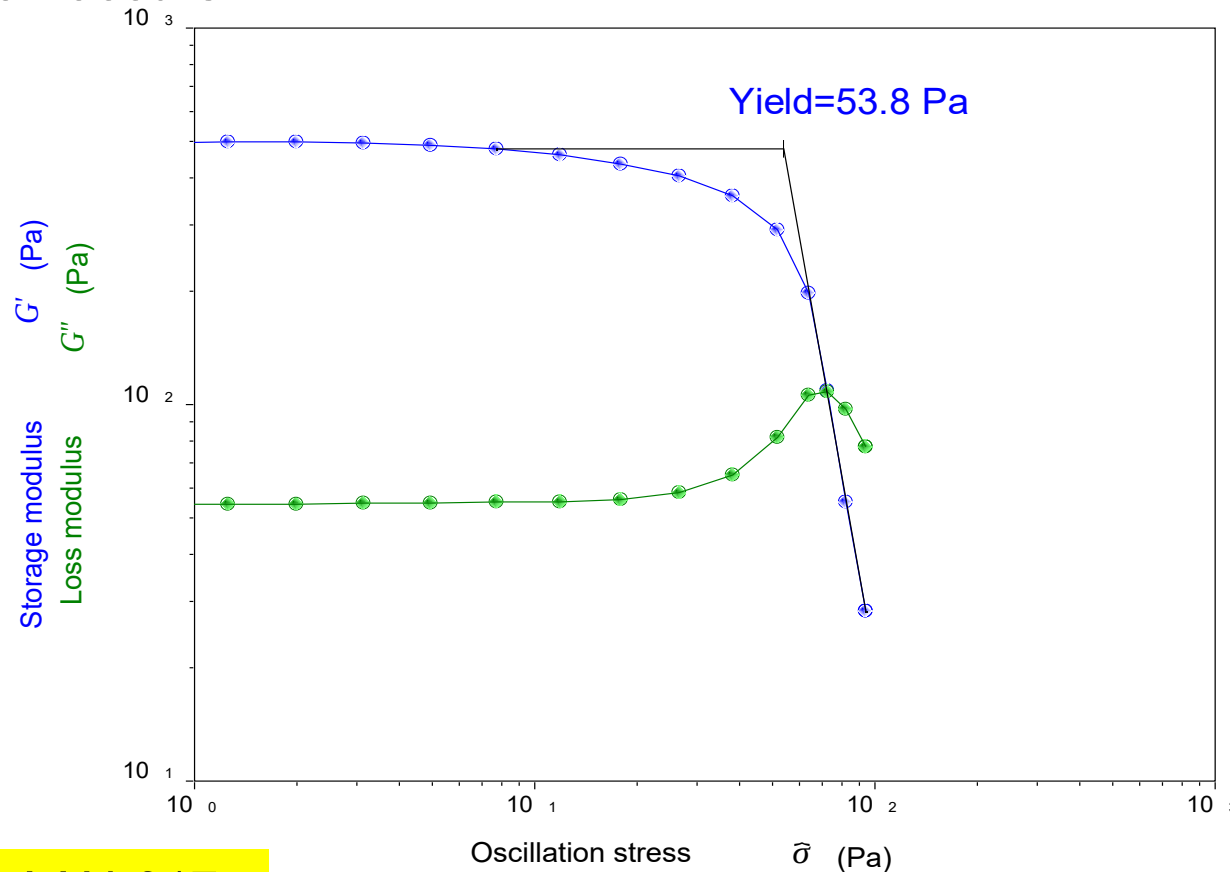
Points per decade

# Linear and Non-linear Viscoelasticity



# Yield Stress of Mayonnaise

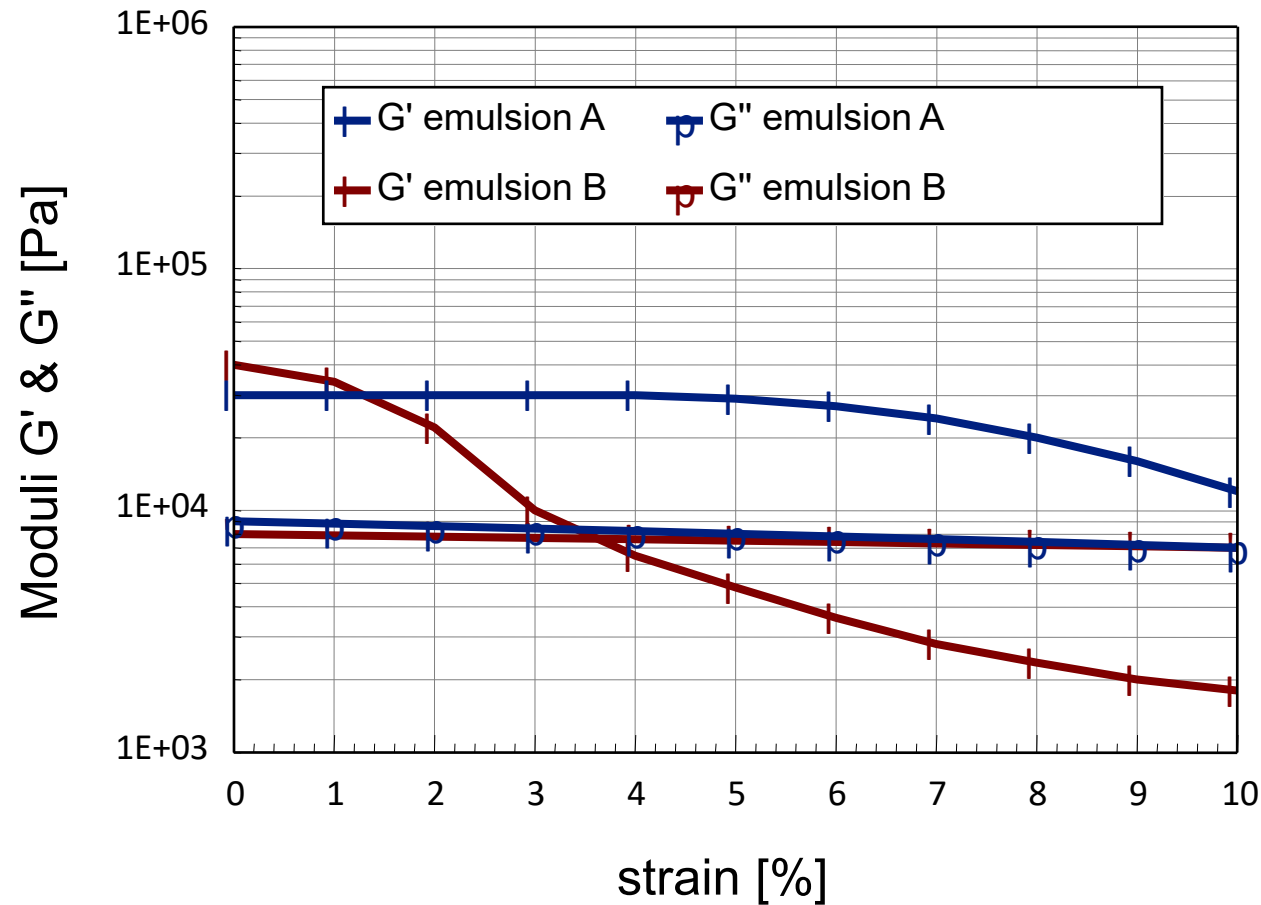
- Dynamic stress/strain sweep test on Mayonnaise
- Yield stress is signified at the onset of  $G'$  vs. stress curve
- Yield determined by this method indicates the critical stress at which irreversible plastic deformation occurs





# Creams/Lotions: Predict Stability

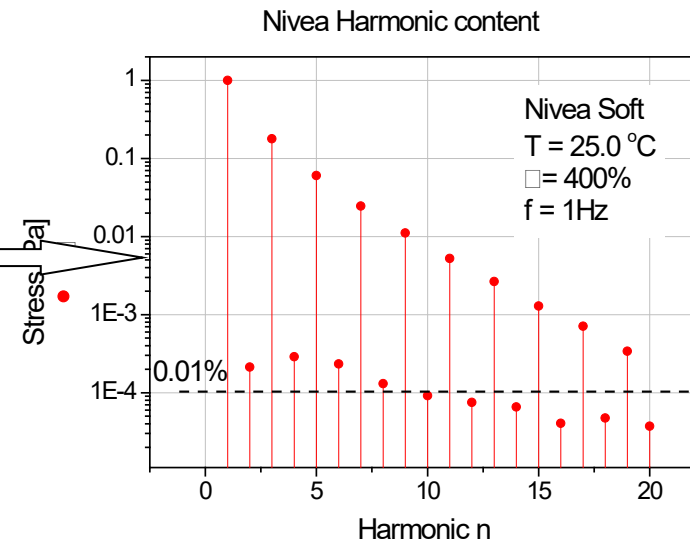
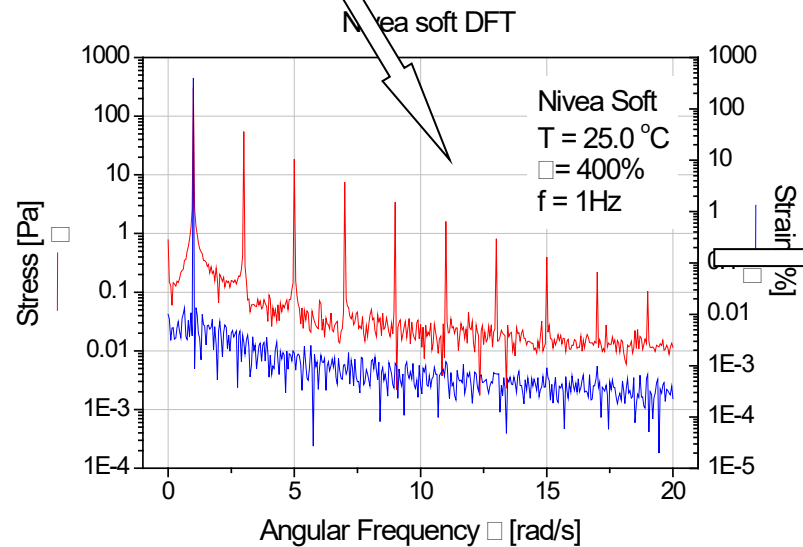
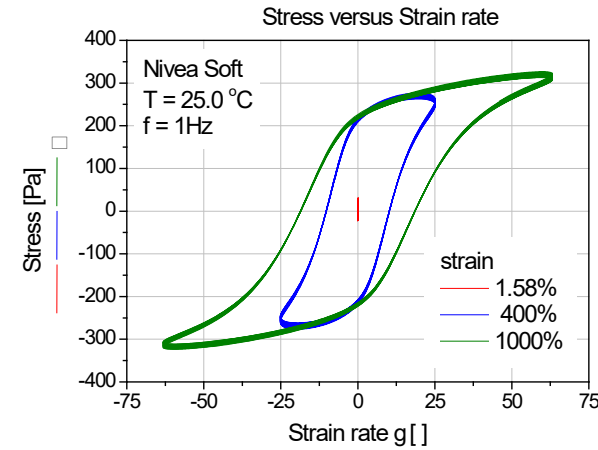
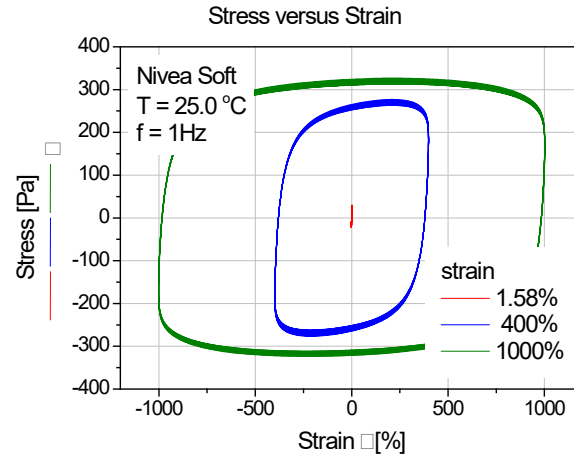
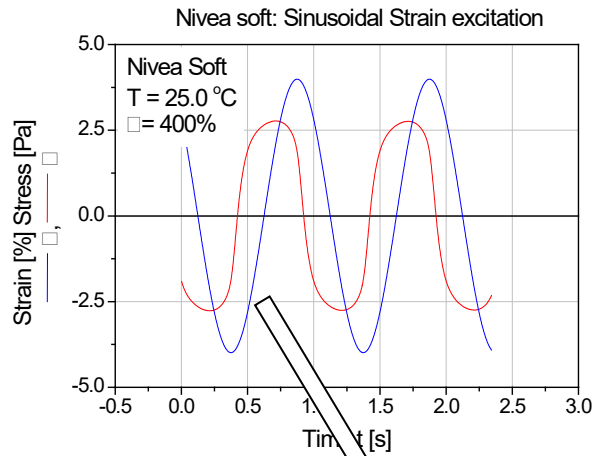
## Stability, phase separation of a cosmetic cream



# LAOS Analysis of a soft cosmetic cream



- Geometry: Sandblasted parallel plates

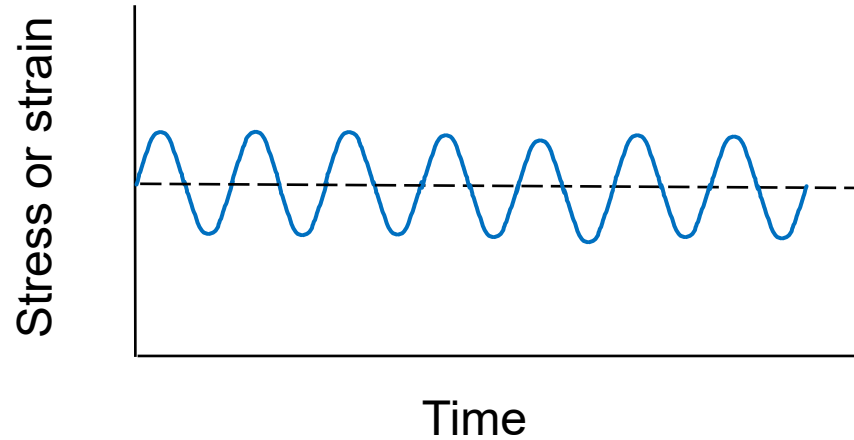


- TA Webinar - Professor Gareth H. McKinley

<https://www.tainstruments.com/rheological-fingerprinting-of-complex-fluids-ta-instruments-webinar/>



# Dynamic Time Sweep



- The material response is monitored at a constant frequency, amplitude and temperature.

- In TRIOS: Time

1: Oscillation Time

## Environmental Control

Temperature  °C  Inherit Set Point

Soak Time  s  Wait For Temperature

## Test Parameters

Duration  s

Maximize number of points

Strain %  %

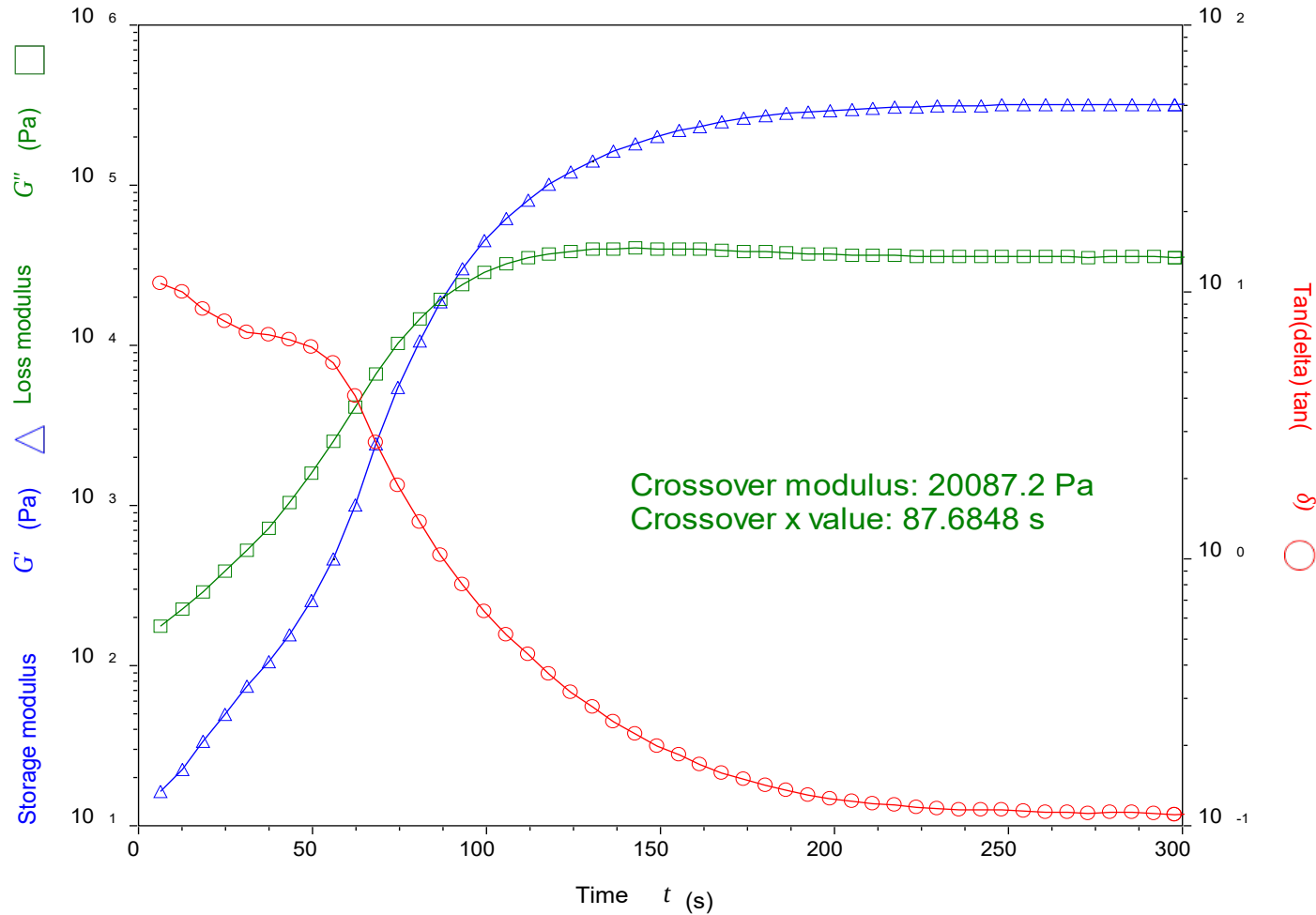
Single point

Angular frequency  rad/s

## USES

- Cure Studies
- Stability against thermal degradation
- Time dependent Thixotropy

# Epoxy Curing

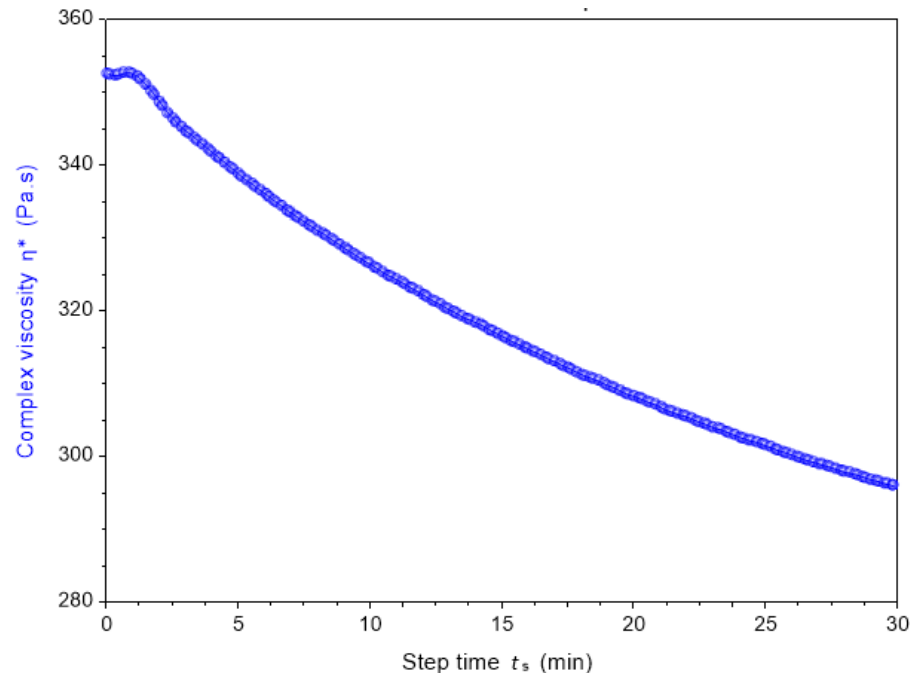


# Using Time Sweep to Evaluate Polymer Melt Stability

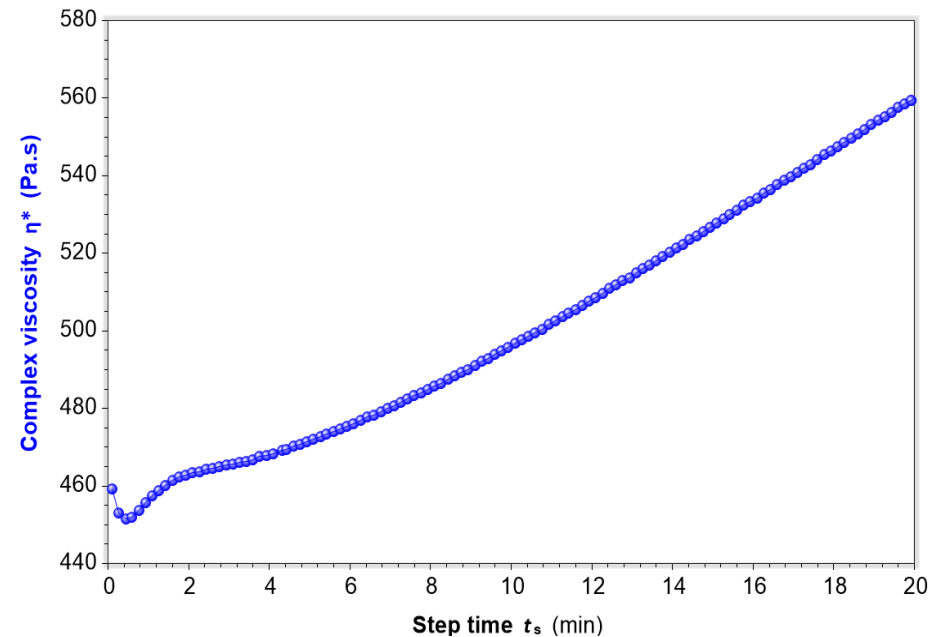
**Dynamic time sweep:** Determine if melt properties are changing over time

- Decrease in viscosity → Degradation (chain scission, MW decreases)
- Increase in viscosity → Crosslinking (MW increases)

PP at 230°C ( degradation)

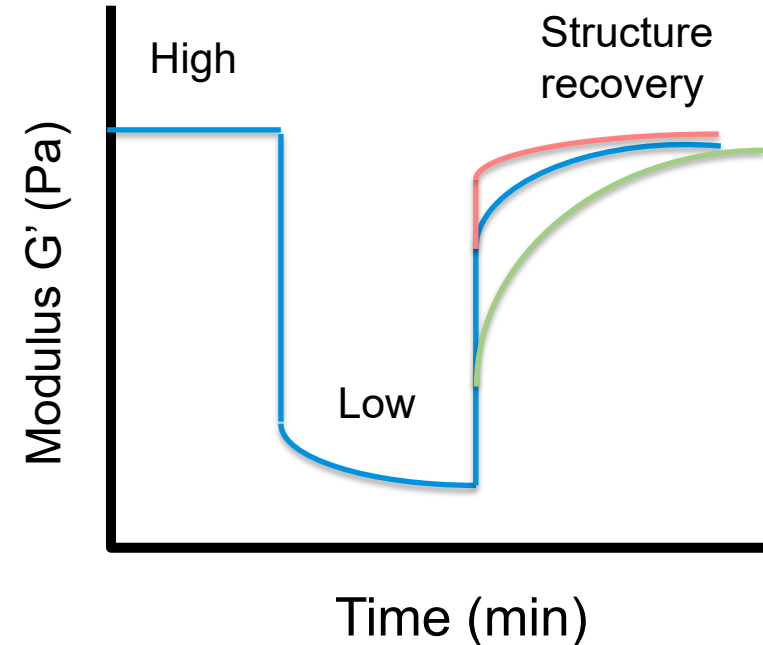
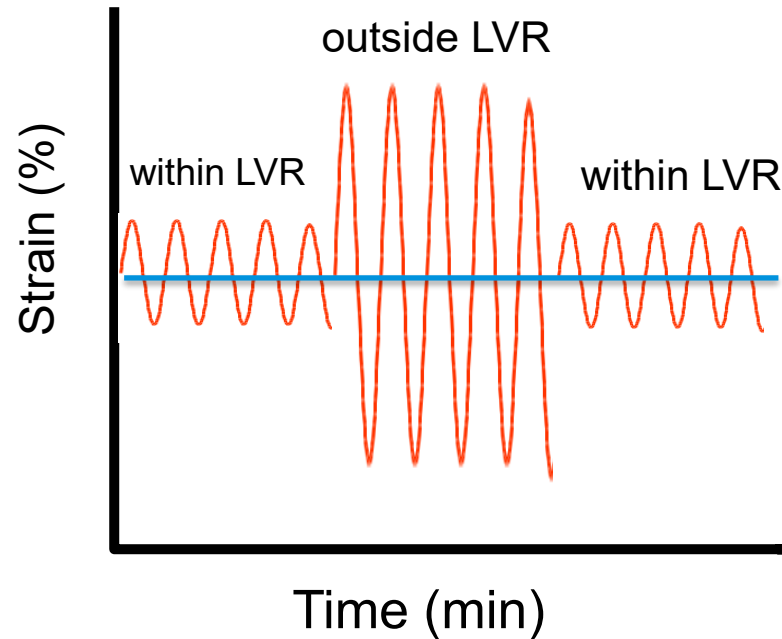


PET at 280°C ( crosslinking)



<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3909935239496367883?source=CW+webvision>

# Stepped Time Sweep Method for Thixotropy Measurement



Experimental:

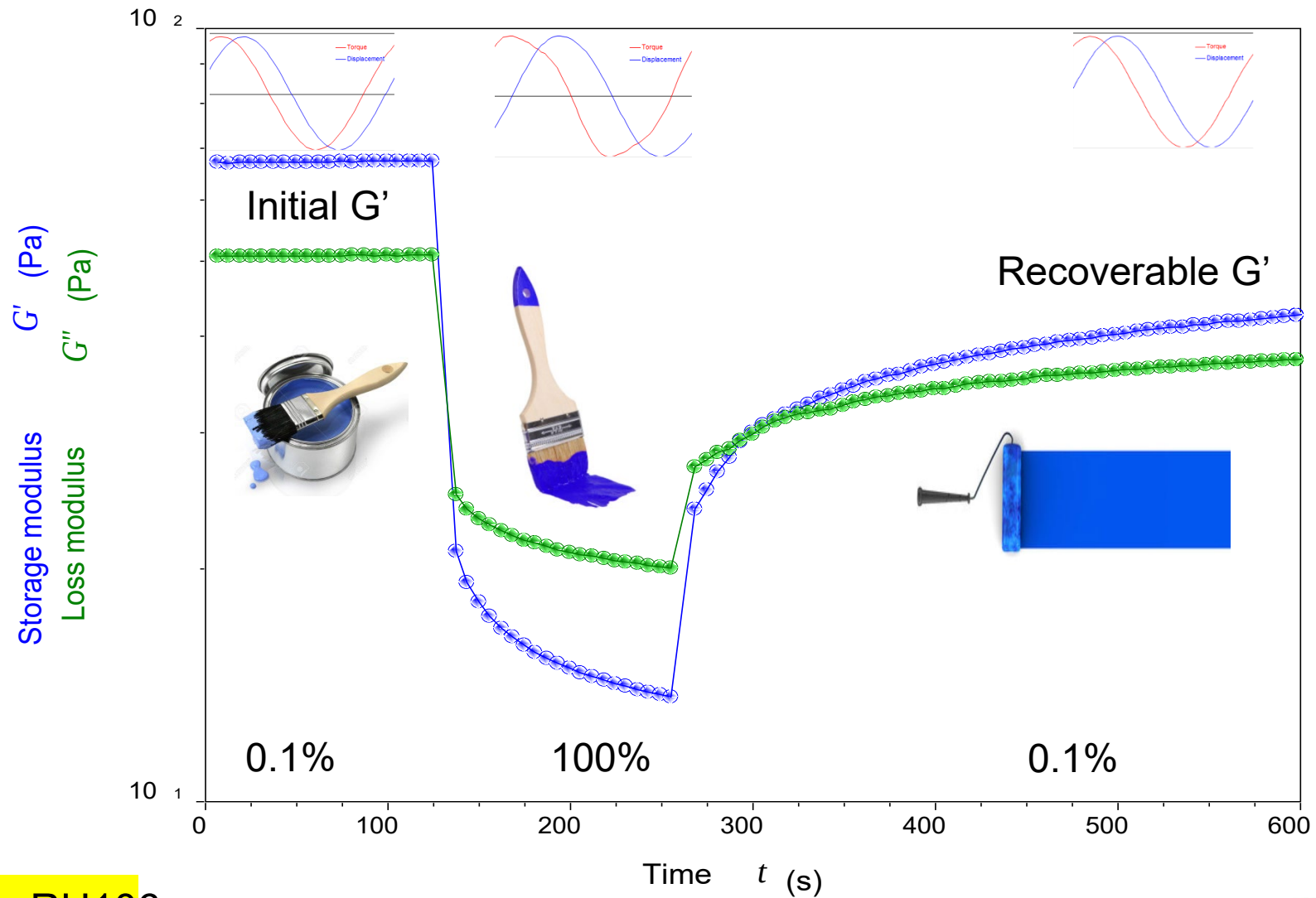
Step 1: Dynamic time sweep within LVR, structure at rest

Step 2: Dynamic time sweep outside LVR, structural destruction

Step 3: Dynamic time sweep within LVR, structural regeneration

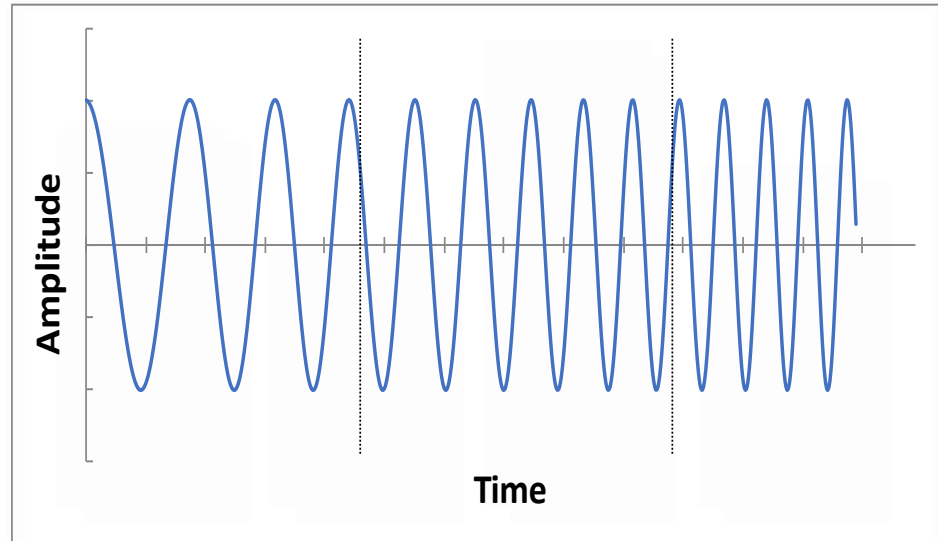
Good for measuring high viscosity samples

# Blue Paint: Stepped Time Sweep



Chen apps note: RH106

# Frequency Sweep



- The material response to increasing frequency (rate of deformation) is monitored at a constant amplitude (strain or stress) and temperature.
- In TRIOS: Frequency

## USES

- Measure polymer relaxation
- Measure polymer Mw/ MWD
- Scouting differences of viscoelastic properties between formulations

### 1: Oscillation Frequency

#### Environmental Control

Temperature  °C  Inherit Set Point

Soak Time  s  Wait For Temperature

#### Test Parameters

Strain %  %

Logarithmic sweep

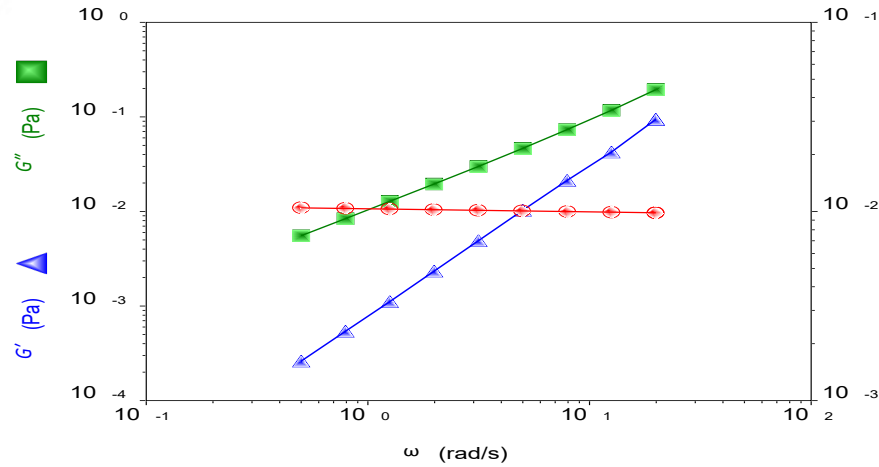
Angular frequency  rad/s to  rad/s

Points per decade

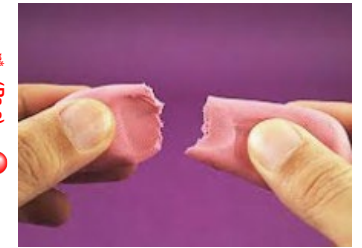
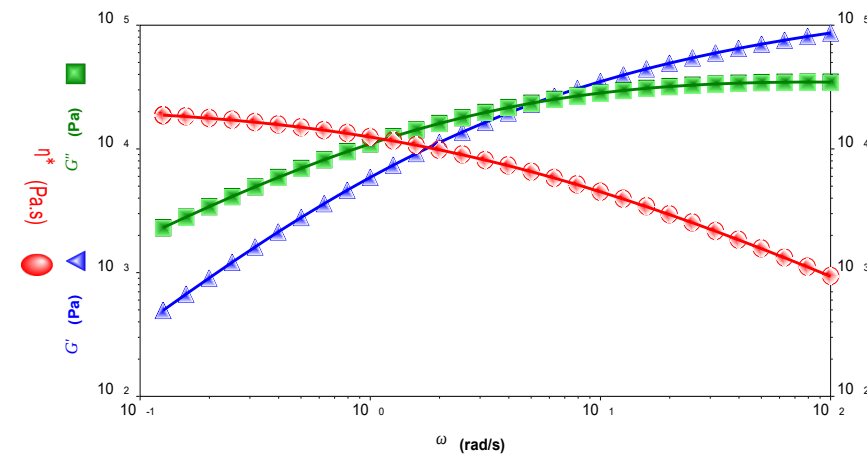


# Differences in Viscoelasticity using Frequency Sweep

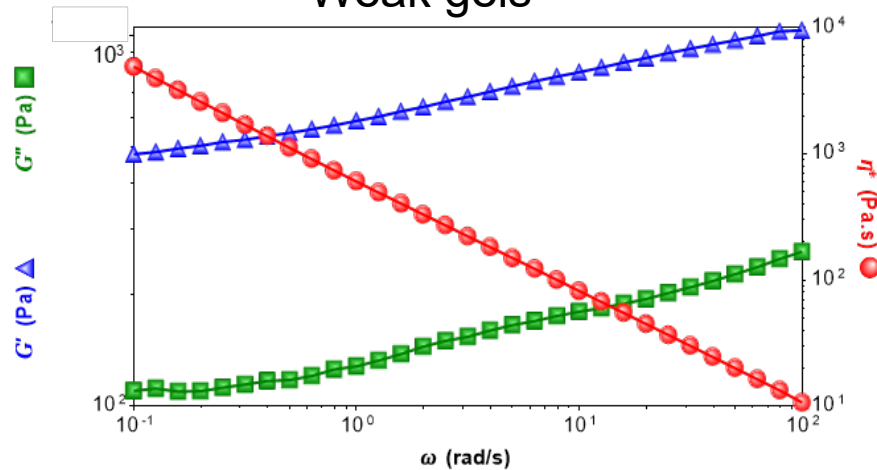
## Low viscosity liquids



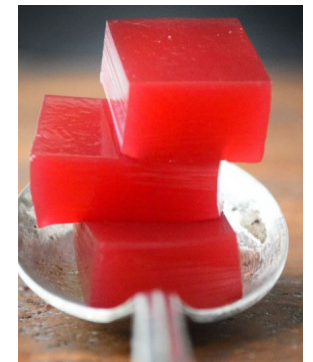
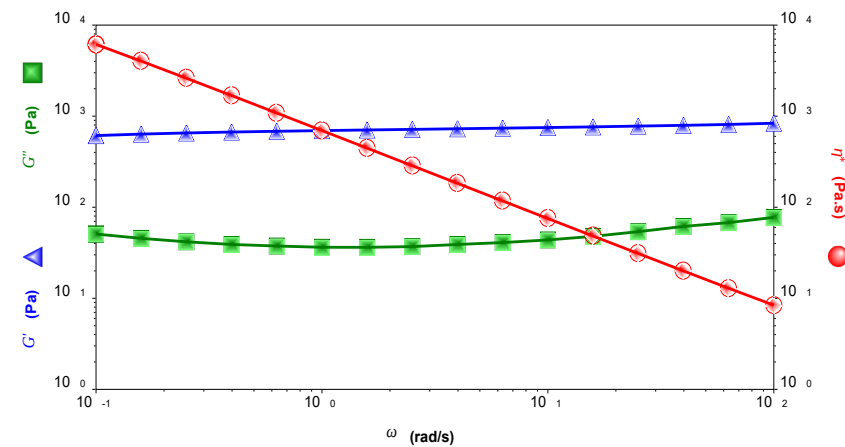
## Viscoelastic materials



## Weak gels

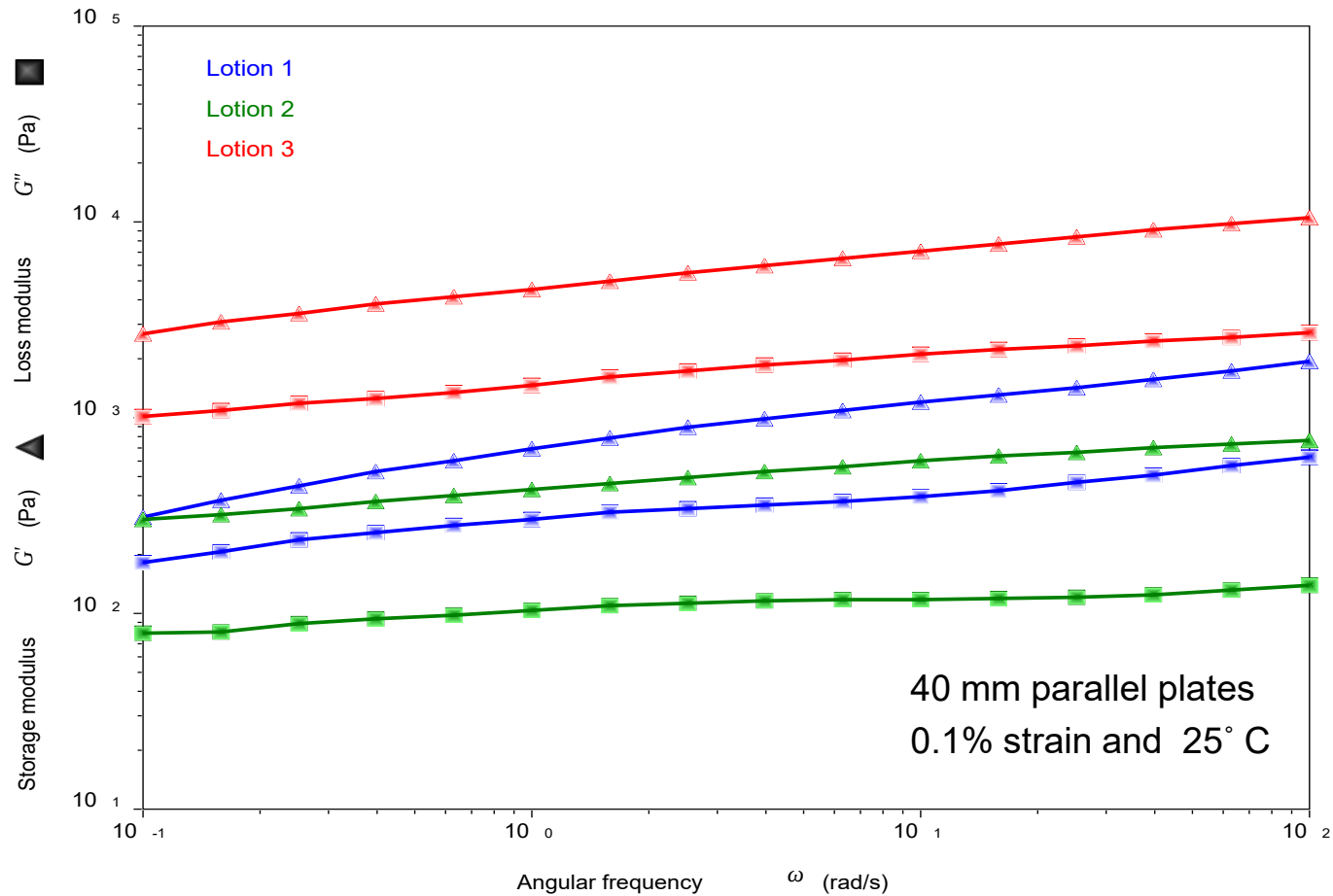


## Elastic solids



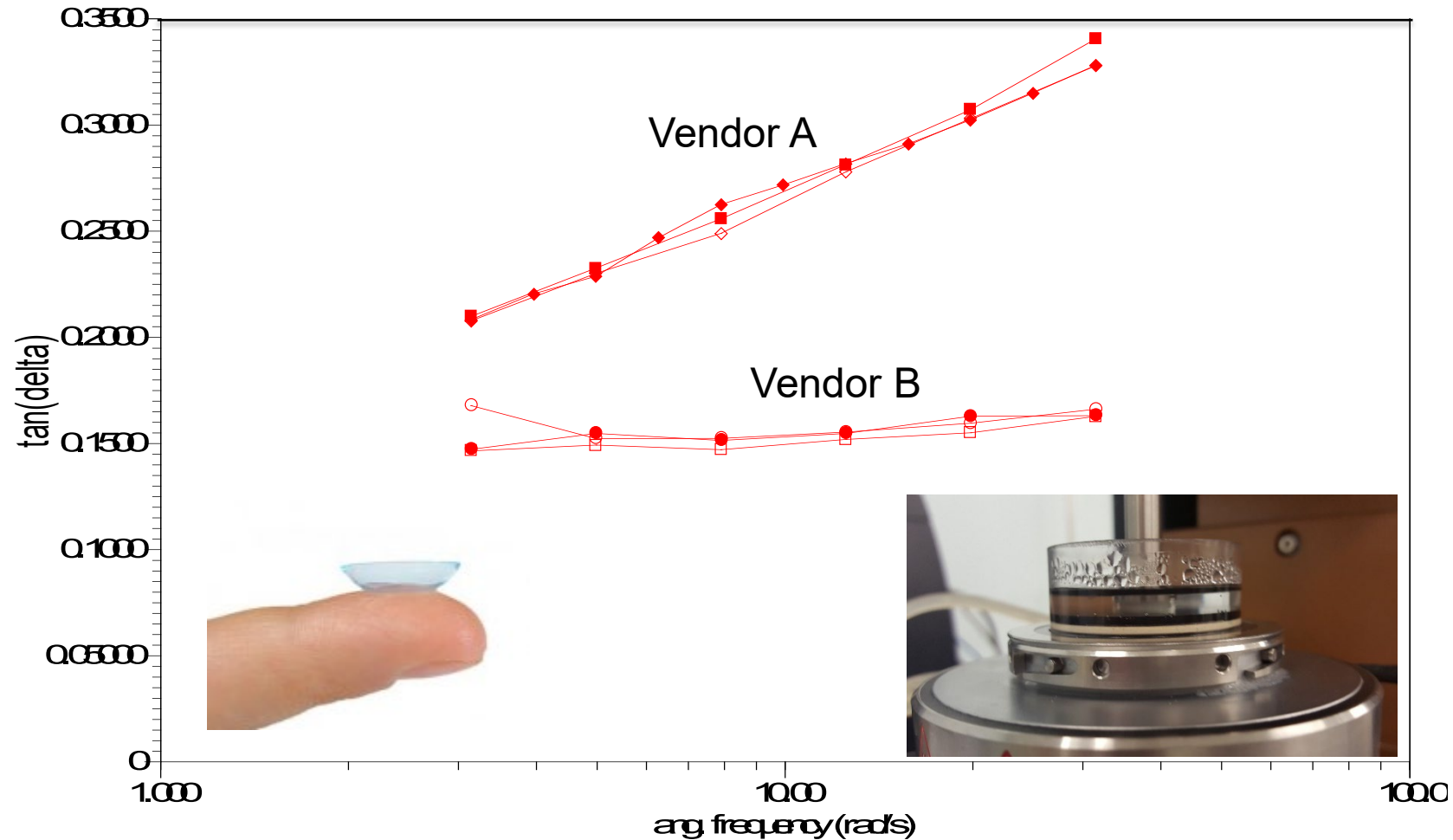
# Frequency Sweep – Lotions

- Quantitative comparison on different formulations



# Contact Lens Visco-elasticity

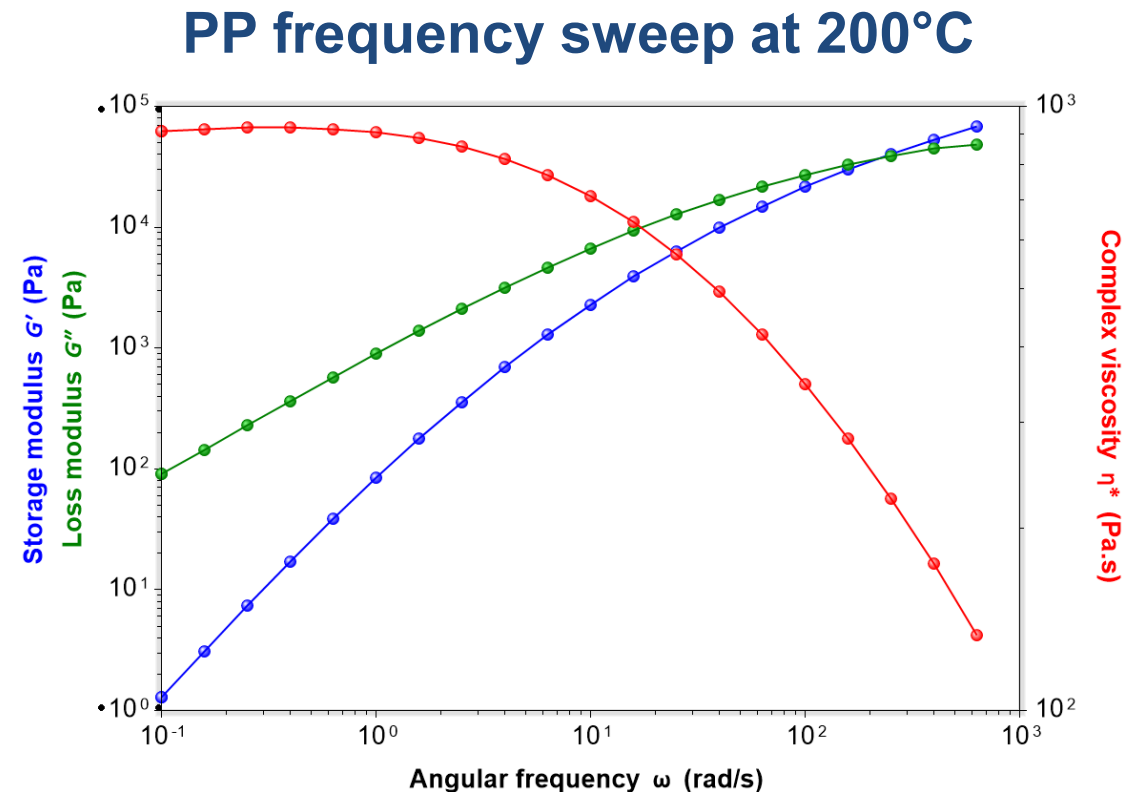
- Compare frequency dependency of contact lens' elasticity



# Melt Rheology Testing – ASTM D4440

- ASTM 4440 – “Dynamic Mechanical Properties, Melt Rheology”
- Dynamic frequency sweep at the molten temperature
- Sample moduli ( $G'$ ,  $G''$  and  $G^*$ ) and complex viscosity is measured isothermally as a function of frequency (shear rate)
- The measured complex viscosity vs. frequency can be converted to shear viscosity vs. shear rates using the Cox-Merz Rule

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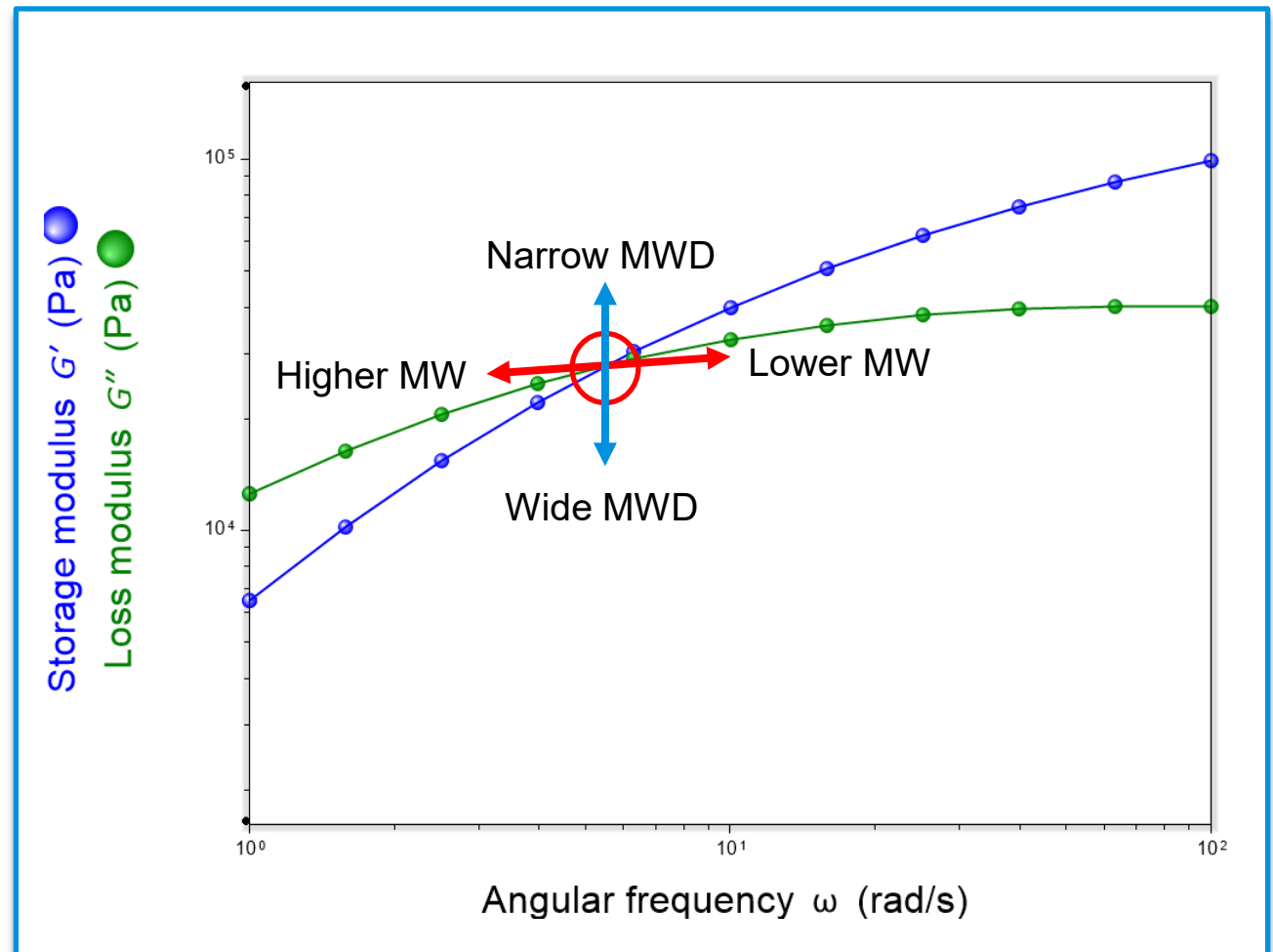
# Influence of MW/MWD on G'/G'' Crossover Point

The shape of G', G'' curves in frequency sweep tests are sensitive to molecular chain entanglement

The G crossover point → sensitive indicator for probing molecular architecture (MW, MWD)

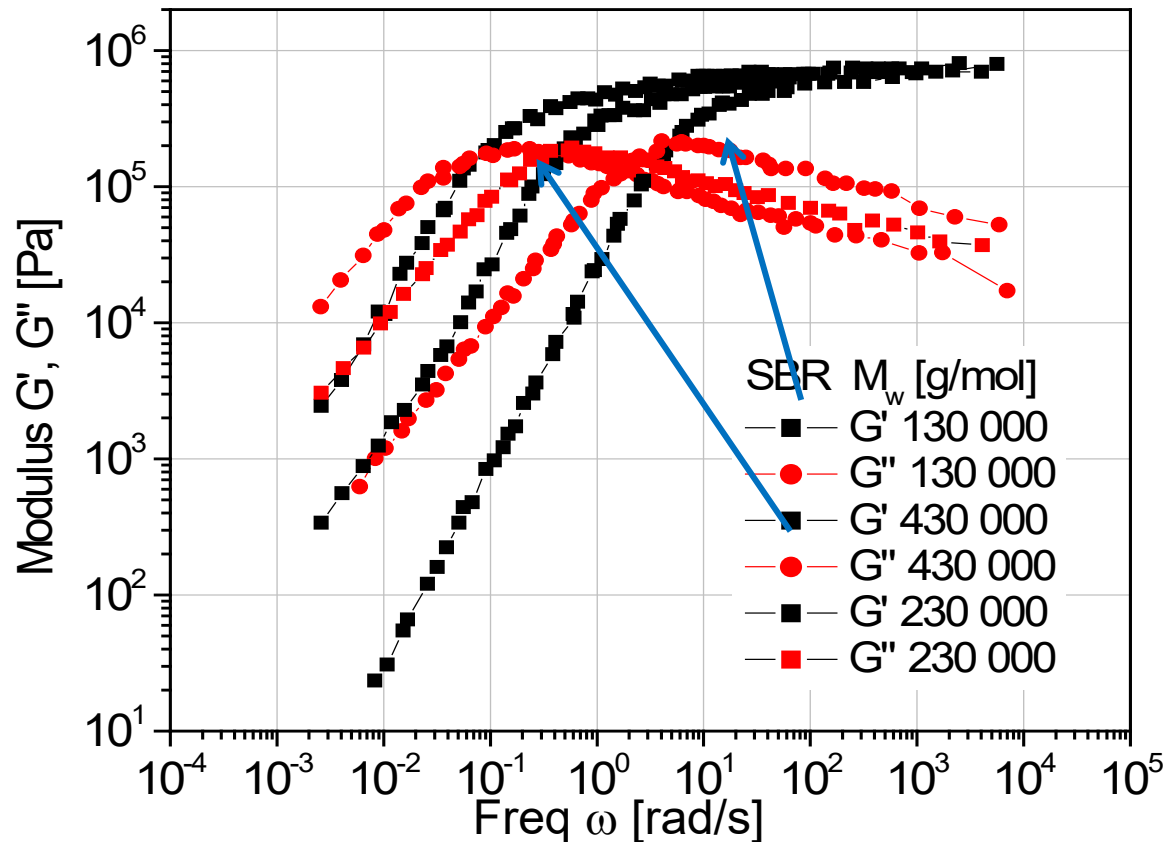
- Higher G crossover frequency  
→ **lower MW**
- Lower G crossover Modulus  
→ **Wider MWD**
- Quickly screen and compare differences between polymer batches

TA apps note: AAN013



# Influence of MW on $G'$ and $G''$

- The  $G'$  and  $G''$  curves are shifted to lower frequency with increasing molecular weight.



TA Instruments Webinar

<https://www.tainstruments.com/analyzing-molecular-weight-distribution-w-rheology/>



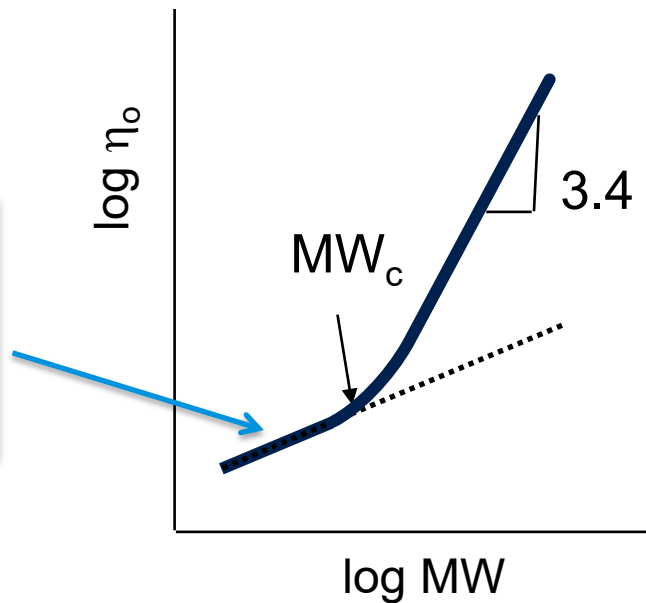
Professor Chris Macosko  
– Analyzing Molecular  
Weight Distribution w/  
Rheology

# Zero Shear Viscosity ( $\eta_0$ )

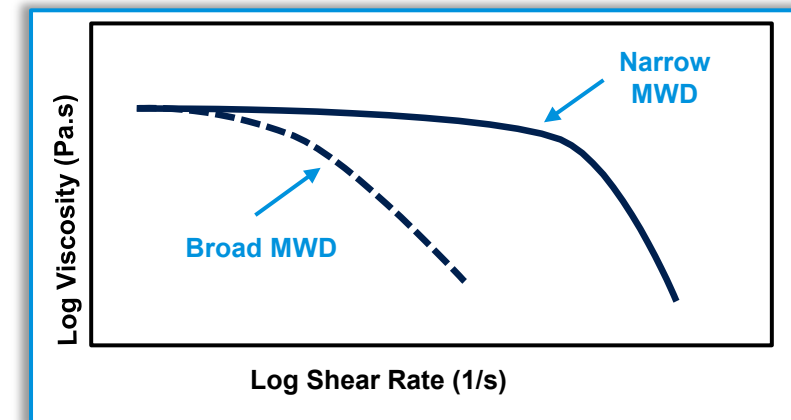
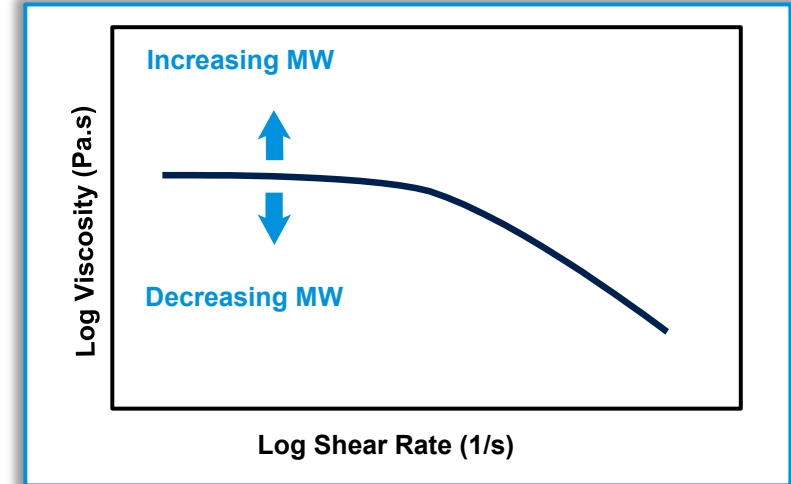
- **Low MW**  $\rightarrow$   $\eta_0$  is proportional to MW
- **MW > Critical MW<sub>c</sub>**  $\rightarrow$   $\eta_0$  is proportional to MW<sup>3.4</sup> (i.e.  $\eta_0 \propto M_w^{3.4}$ )
  - Critical MW<sub>c</sub>: polymer chain is long enough to interact with itself  $\rightarrow$  entanglement starts to happen
- **Higher Mw**  $\rightarrow$  Higher  $\eta_0$



$$\eta_0 = K \cdot Mw$$



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



Ref. Graessley, Physical Properties of Polymers, ACS, c 1984.

# Fingerprinting Polymer Architecture

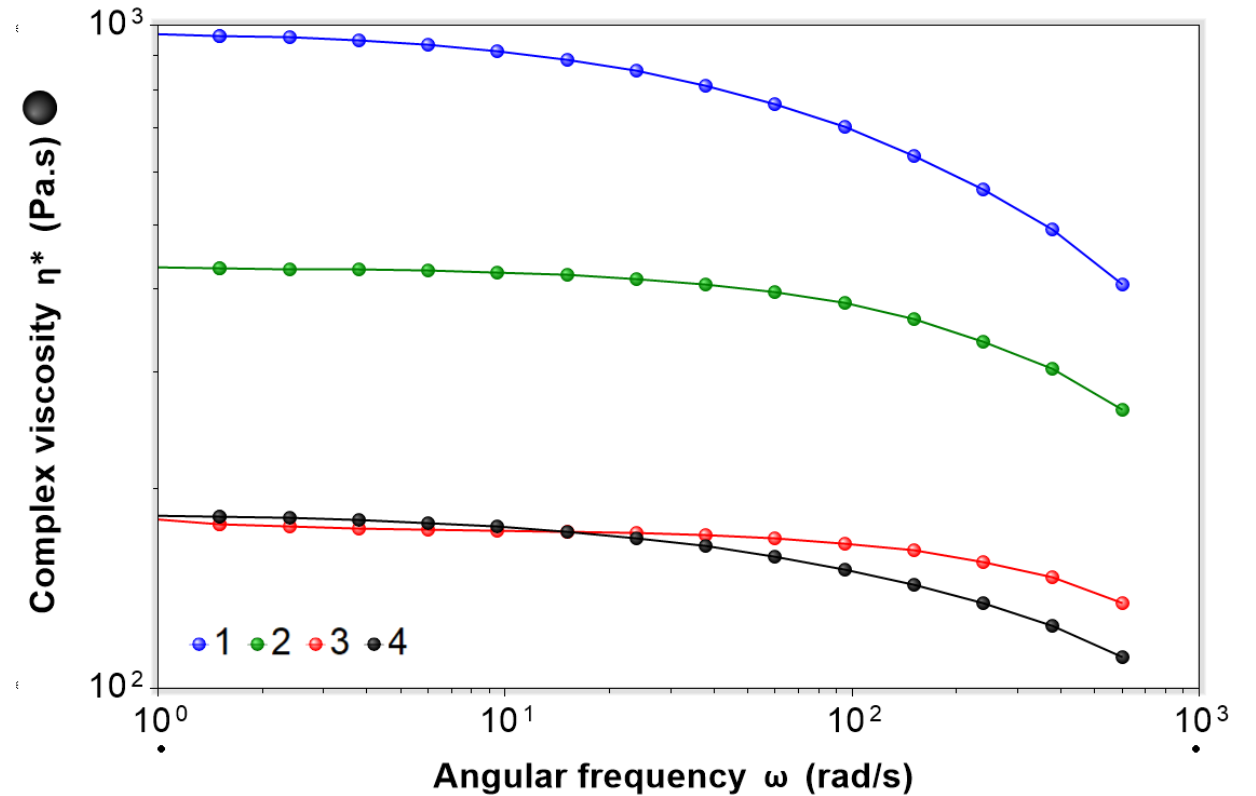


Recycled PET from different sources can largely differ with respect to:

- Molecular weight (MW)
  - Molecular weight distribution (MWD)
- **Problem:** Feedstock processing could cause significant MW reduction
  - **Solution:** Viscosity measurement provides comparison to the MW and MWD information

	Zero Shear Viscosity (Pa.s)	Molecular Weight	
Sample 1	983		
Sample 2	430		MWD
Sample 3	176		↓
Sample 4	186		

PET @ 280°C



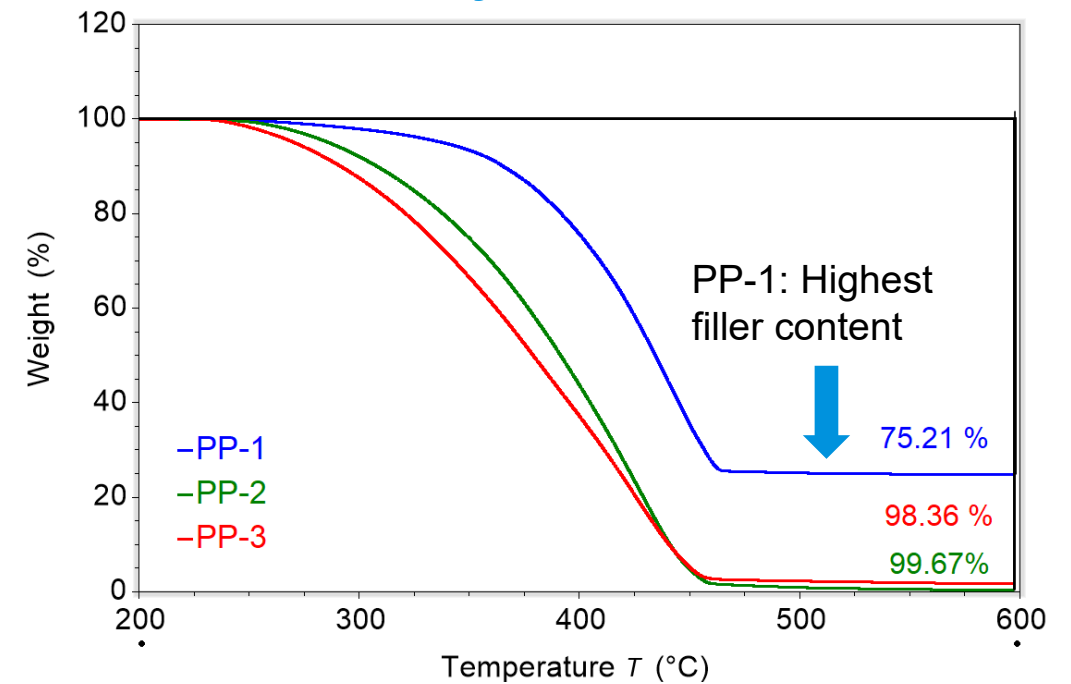
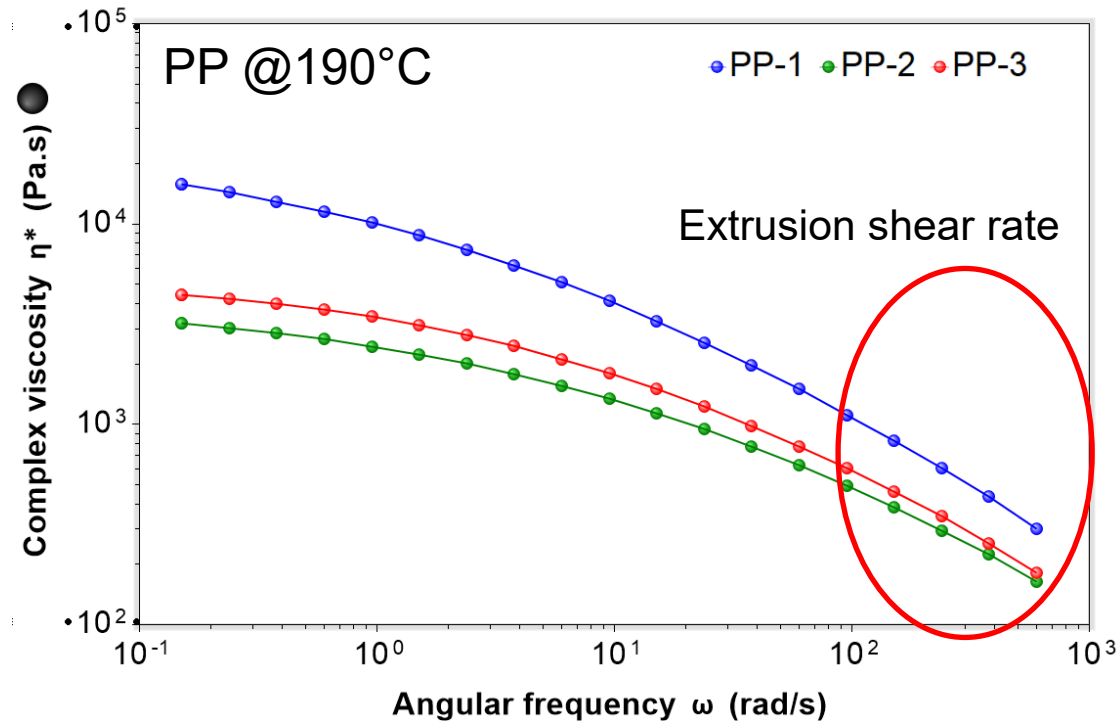


# Guide Processing of Recycled PP from Different Sources

- Rheology: Directly measure melt viscosity at processing temperature
- TGA: Supporting information (impurity/ filler content)

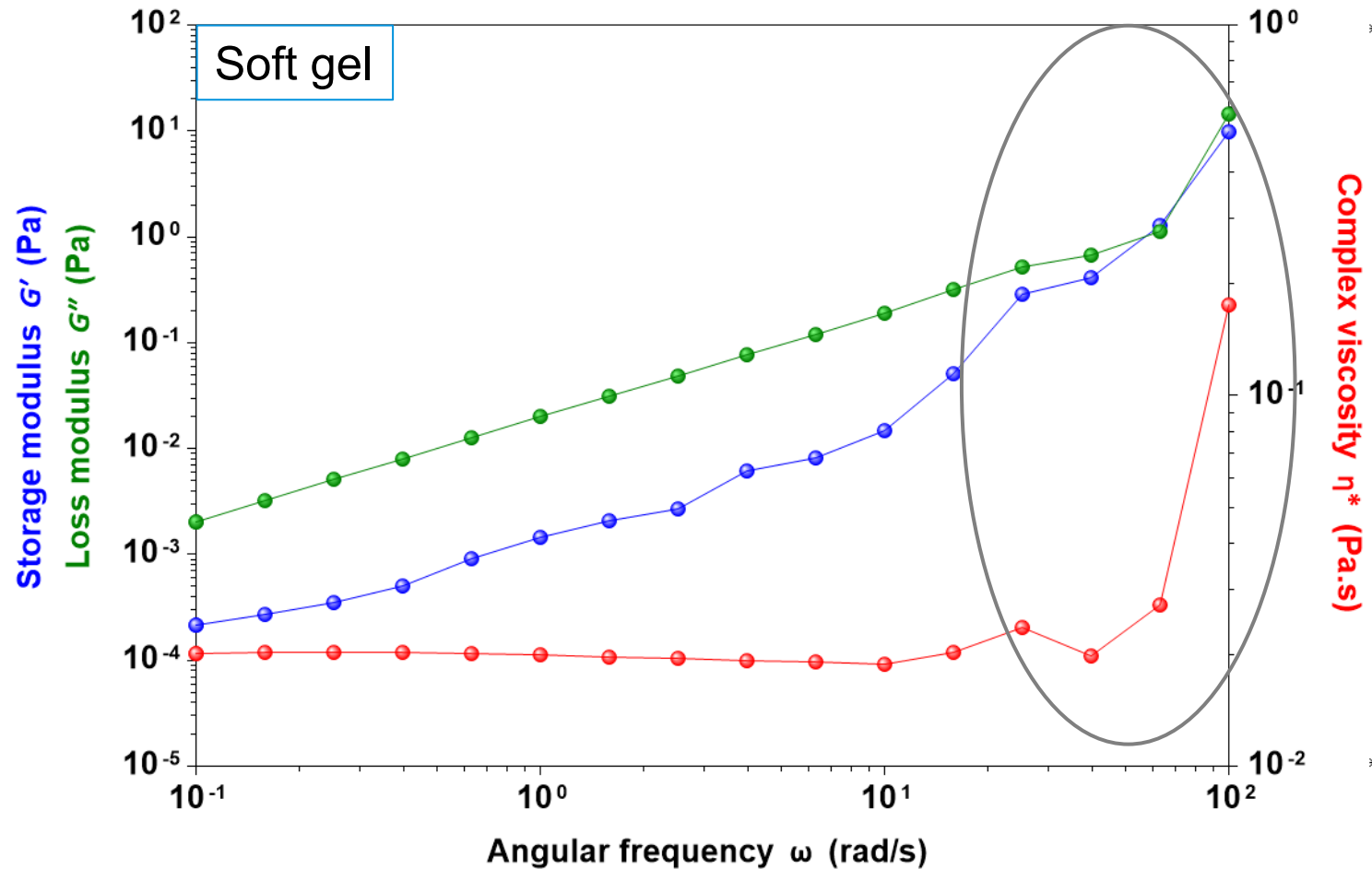


TGA analysis at 10°C/min



# Frequency Sweep Test Challenges

- Why data look so bad at high frequencies?



# System Inertia

- What is Inertia?:

Inertia is a property of matter, which manifests itself as a resistance to any change in momentum of a body

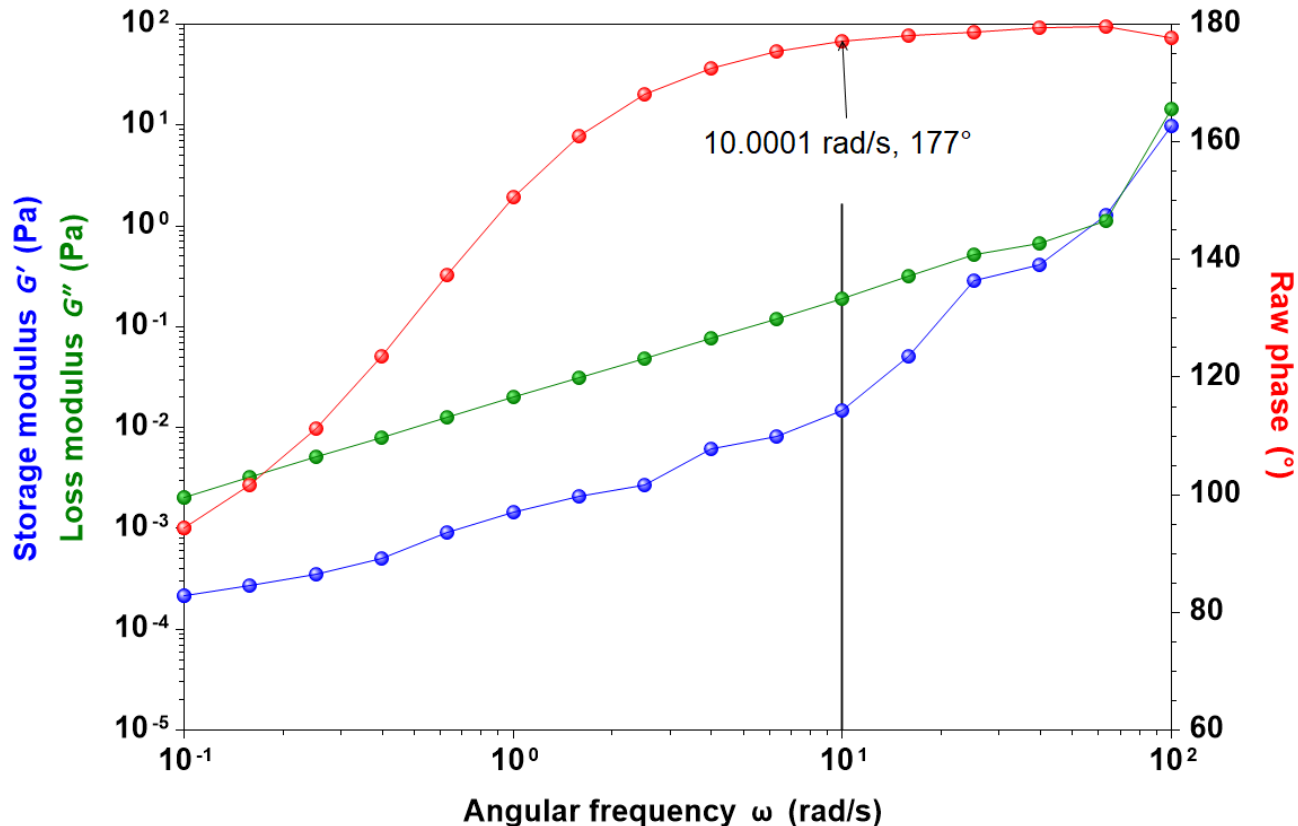
- Instrument has inertia (motor + geometry)
- Sample has inertia



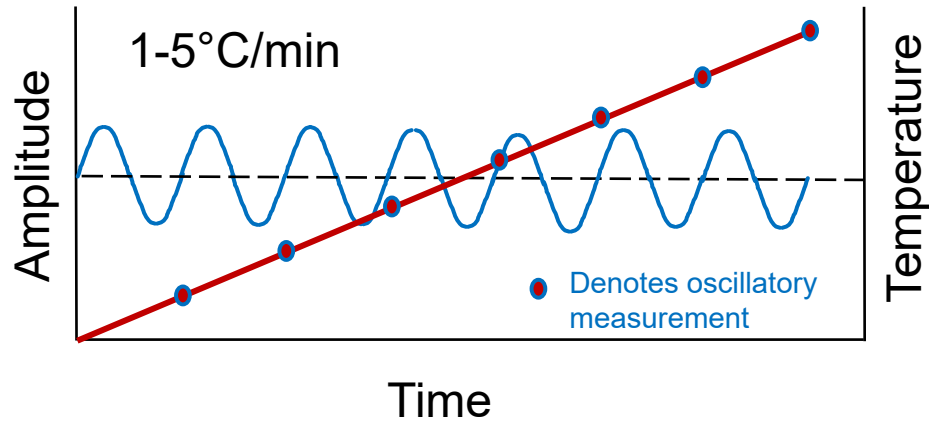
Note: ARES G2 has separator motor and transducer design, so motor inertia has no impact to the measurement results!

# Understand and Avoid Inertia Influence

- How do we know when inertia is dominating my results?
  - In general, consider delete data when “Raw Phase” is greater than 170°
- How to reduce inertia influence?
  - Use a lighter geometry (e.g., Al)
  - Increase sample stiffness (e.g., reduce gap)



# Dynamic Temperature Ramp



- Linear heating rate is applied, and the material response is monitored at a constant frequency and constant amplitude
- In TRIOS: Temp Ramp

1: Oscillation Temperature Ramp

Environmental Control		
Start temperature	<input type="text" value="-100"/> °C	<input type="button" value="Use entered value"/>
Soak time	<input type="text" value="180.0"/> s	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wait for temperature
End temperature	<input type="text" value="150"/> °C	
Soak time after ramp	<input type="text" value="0.0"/> s	
Ramp rate	<input type="text" value="3.0"/> °C/min	▼
Estimated time to complete	01:23:20 hh:mm:ss	

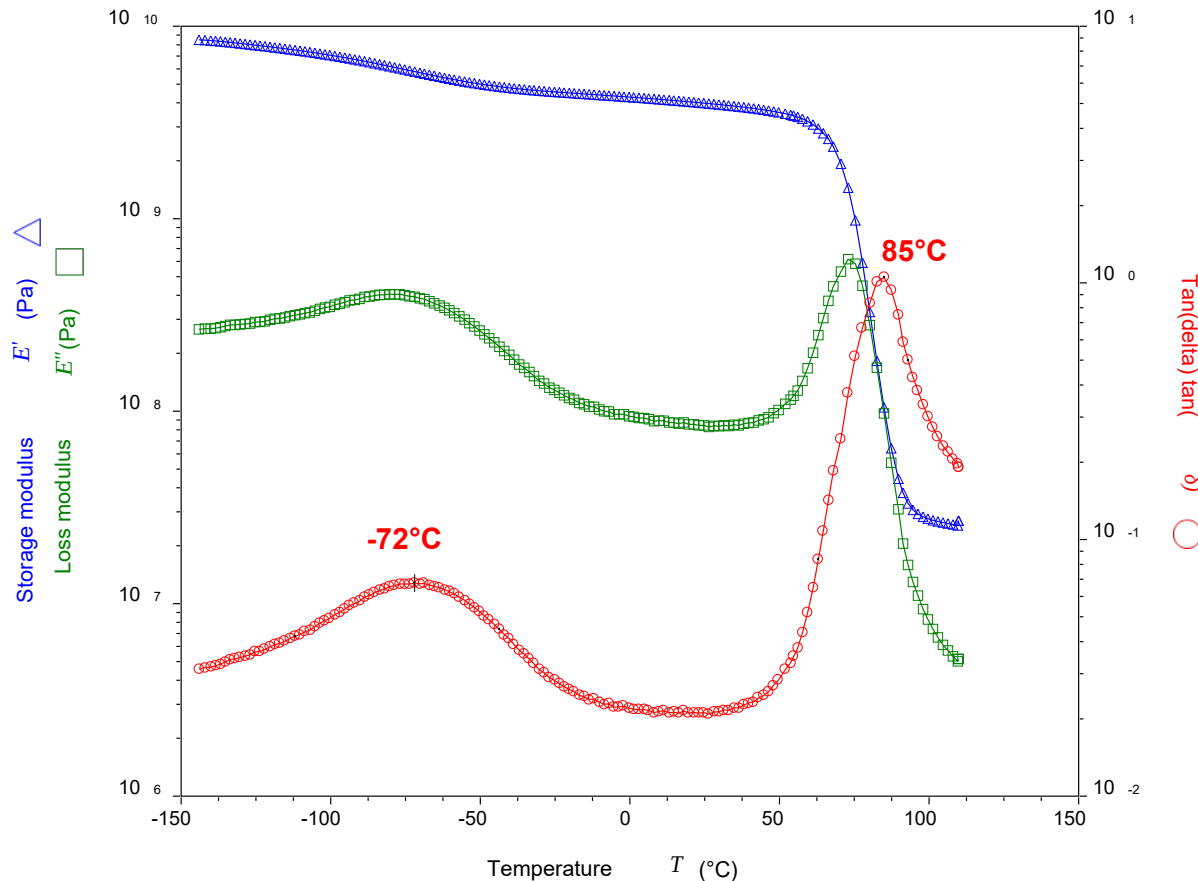
Test Parameters	
Maximize number of points	▼
Strain %	<input type="text" value="0.05"/> %
Single point	▼
Frequency	<input type="text" value="1.0"/> Hz

## USES

- Measure material's viscoelastic properties vs. temperature
- Measure glass transition and sub-ambient transition temperatures

# Rheometers and DMAs are more sensitive to weak amorphous transitions than DSC

PET film: Tested in tension



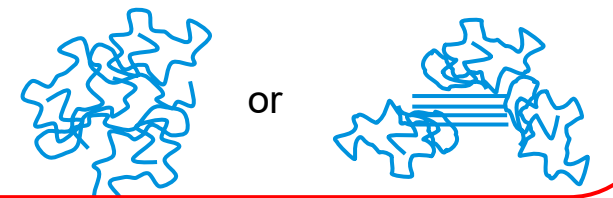
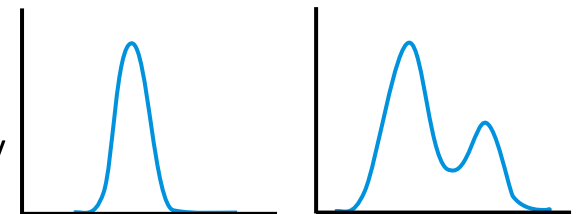
Glass Transition ( $T_g$ ): Cooperative motion among a large number of chain segments

Secondary Transitions ( $T_\beta, T_\gamma$ ): Local or side group motion

Rheology/DMA is 100-1000 $\times$  more sensitive than DSC for identifying weak amorphous transitions

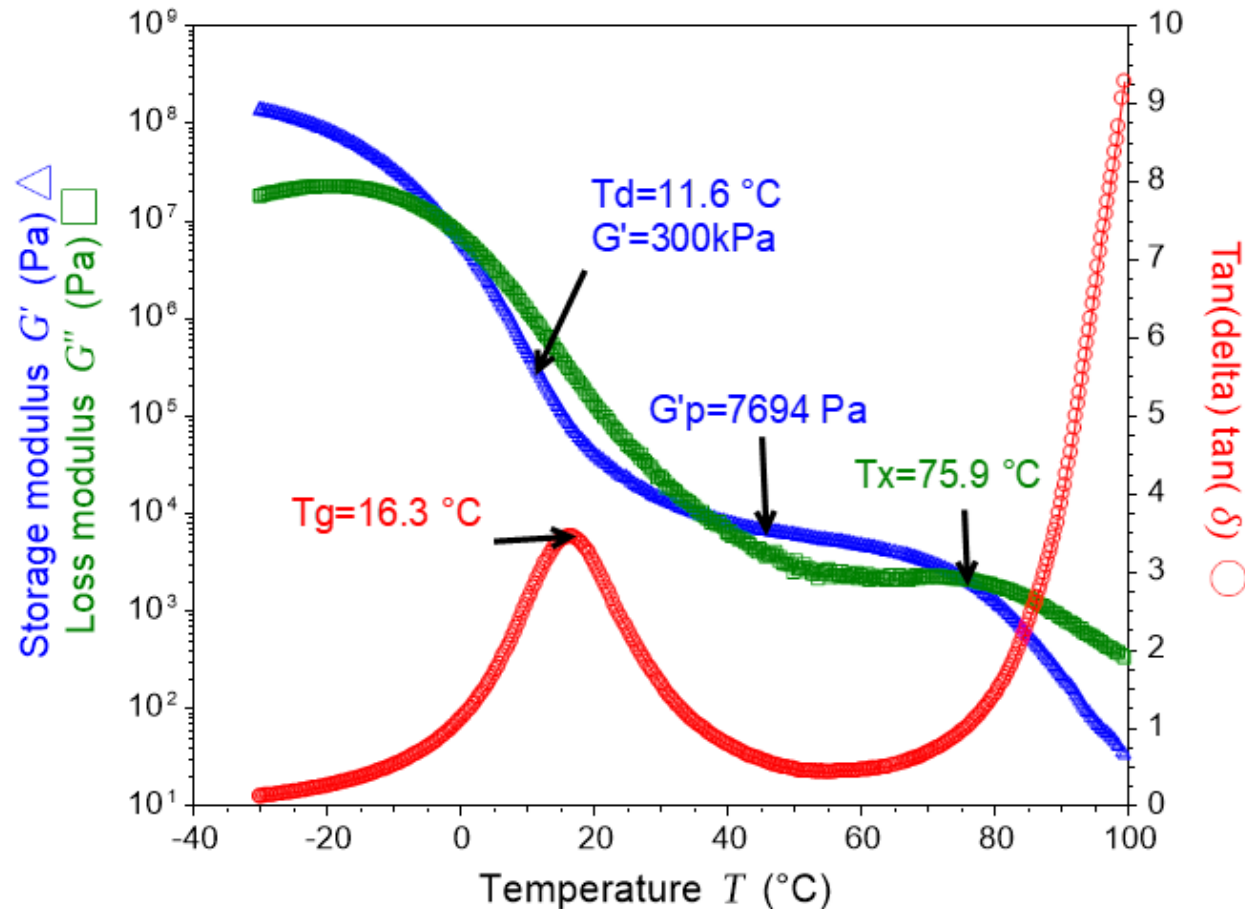
Monitor  $T_g$  using DMA to study:

- Blend Miscibility
- Crystallinity
- Crosslinking density



# What do We Learn from a Temp Ramp Test?

- Most popular test for PSA evaluations
- Results correlate to the PSA performance with temperature



Applications temperature window – Between  $T_g$  (or  $T_d$ ) and  $T_x$

$T_g$ : Glass transition

$T_d$ : Dahlquist temperature

$T_x$ : G crossover temperature

Cohesion strength:

$G_p$ : Plateau modulus

# How to Design a Good Temp Ramp Test?

- Sample loading and trimming
  - High temp (easy to trim)
- Geometry
  - 8mm or 25mm parallel plate
- Temperature range
  - From below  $T_g$  into the molten state
- Heating or cooling rate
  - 2-5 degrees/min
- Frequency
  - Commonly at 1Hz or 10 rad/s
- Oscillation strain %
  - Within the linear viscoelastic region (LVR) of the sample
- Axial force control
  - Ensure good contact and no slipping
  - Compensate for geometry and sample thermal expansion or shrinkage

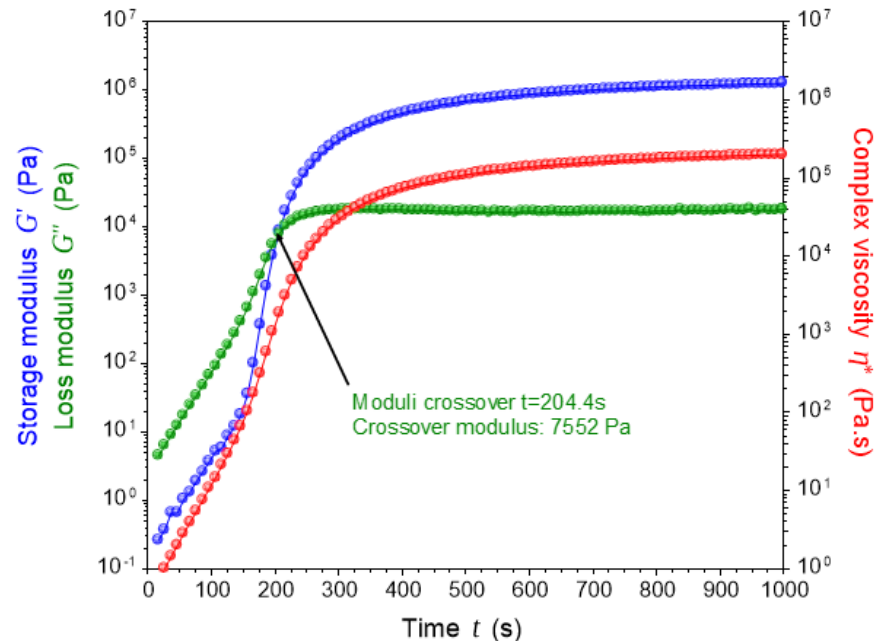




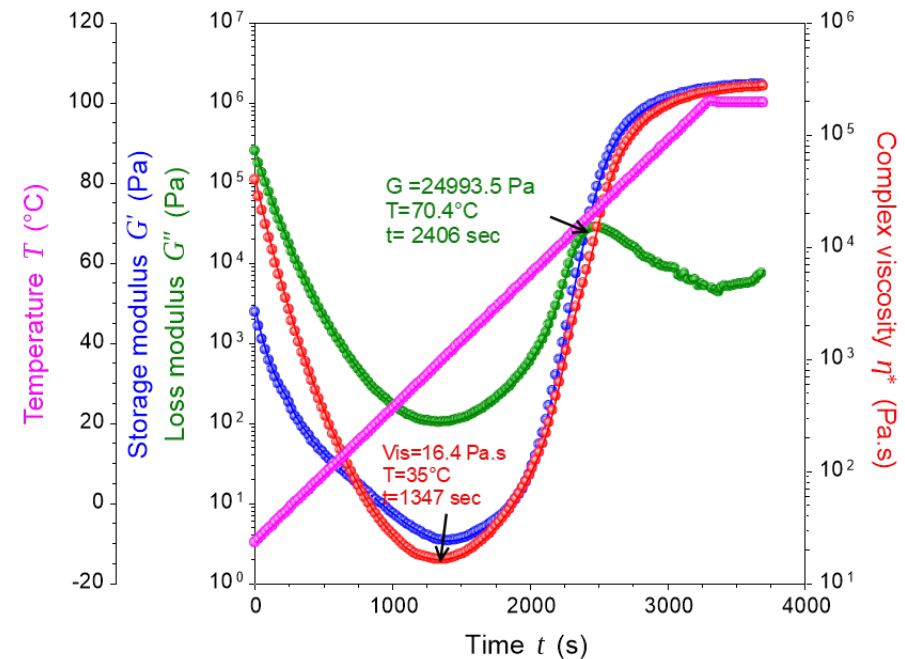
# Rheology for Thermoset Characterization

- 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

## Isothermal Curing

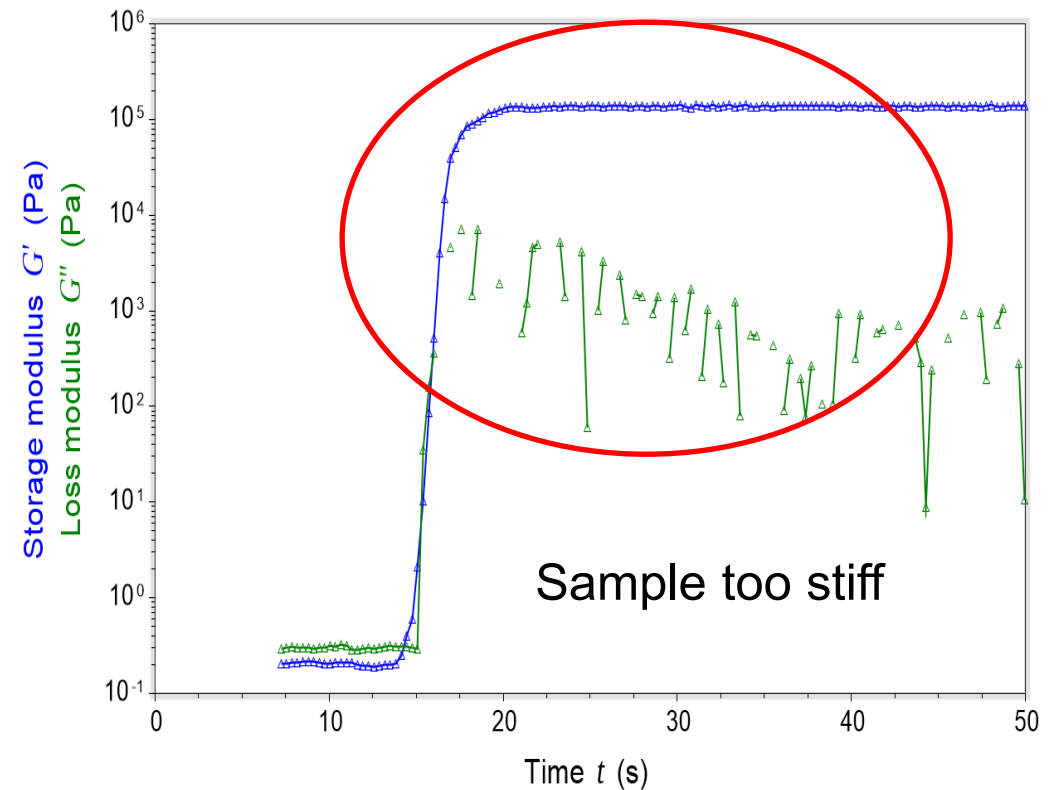
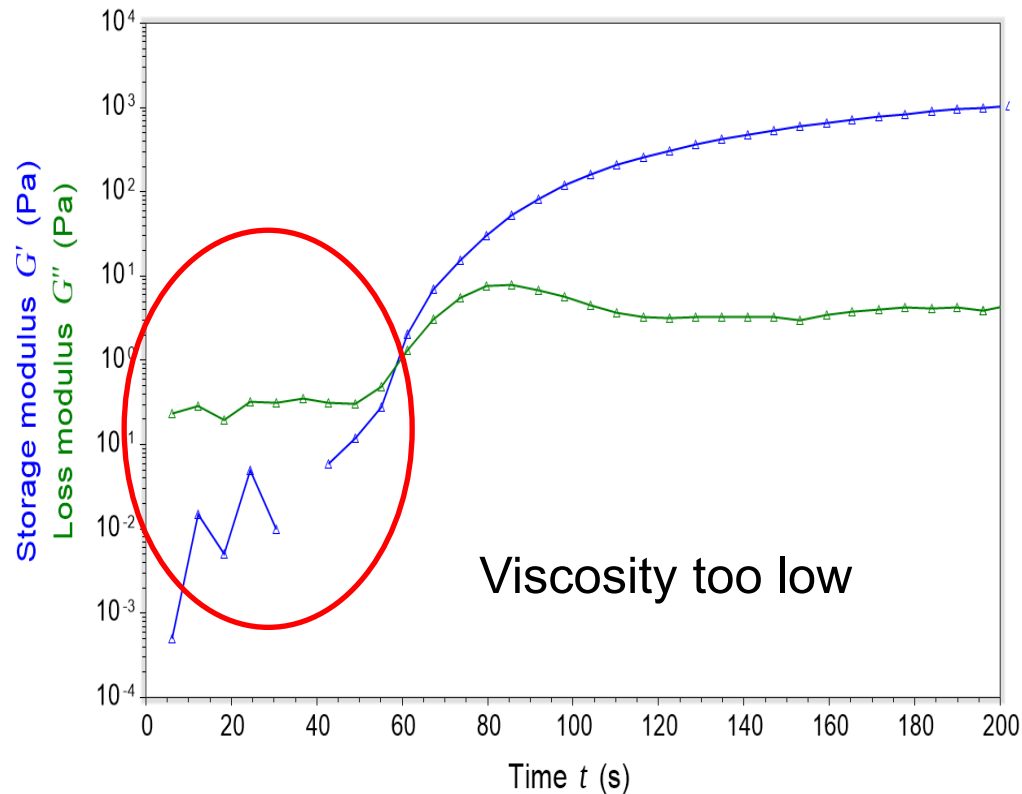


## Temperature Ramp Curing



# Challenge in Experimental Designs

- Significant change in viscoelastic properties (6-8 decades) through curing
- Appropriate geometry size (8mm, 25mm) and test gap (1-2mm)
- **Challenge in setup appropriate test parameters**



# How to Adjust Strain During a Test?



- Setup a torque range in a procedure. During the test, when applied torque is outside of the torque window, strain will be adjusted. (Example: ARES G2 or DHR)
- Setup a minimum operating torque in a procedure. Use a reasonably small strain to start the test. When torque is below the minimum set value, strain will be increased. (Example: DHR or AR)

## Auto strain adjustment

Mode

Strain adjust  %

Displacement  Strain  % Strain

Minimum % strain  %

Maximum % strain  %

Torque  Stress

Minimum torque   $\mu\text{N}\cdot\text{m}$

Maximum torque   $\mu\text{N}\cdot\text{m}$

## Controlled Strain Advanced

Controlled strain type

Initial stress

Torque   $\mu\text{N}\cdot\text{m}$

Lower torque limit   $\mu\text{N}\cdot\text{m}$

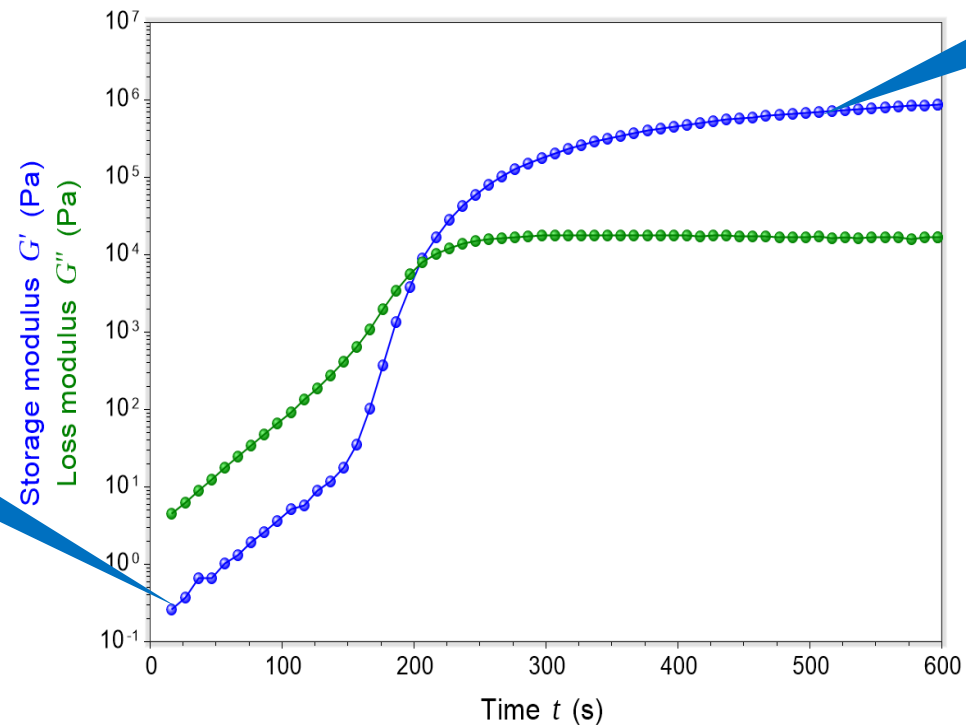
Number of tries

Initial tolerance  %

Store all tries as data points

# Approaches for Optimum Test Parameters

- The key to ensure a good measurement result
  - Change the measurement strain

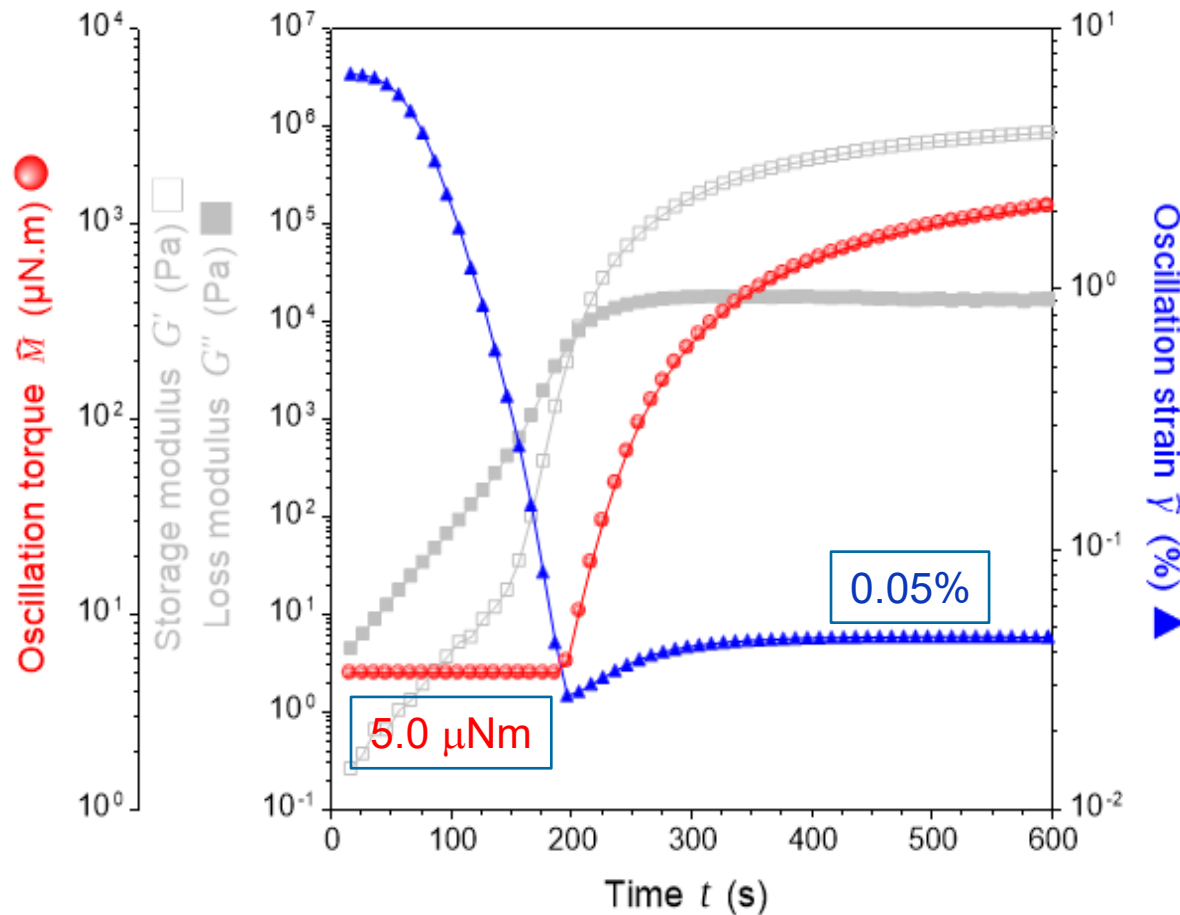


Low viscosity liquid  
Large strain

High modulus solid  
Small strain

# Strain Adjustment Method-1

- An Isothermal curing example



- Good for all controlled-stress rheometer (AR, DHR, HR)
- **Setup an instrument lower torque limit**
- When sample has low viscosity, auto-switch to use stress/torque control for the test.

## 2: Oscillation Time

Environmental Control  
Temperature  °C  Inherit Set Point  
Soak Time  s  Wait For Temperature

Test Parameters  
Duration  s  
Sampling interval  s/pt  
Strain %  %  
Single point  
Frequency  Hz

### Controlled Strain Advanced

Controlled strain type  
Non-iterative sampling

Initial stress  
Torque   $\mu\text{N.m}$

Lower torque limit   $\mu\text{N.m}$

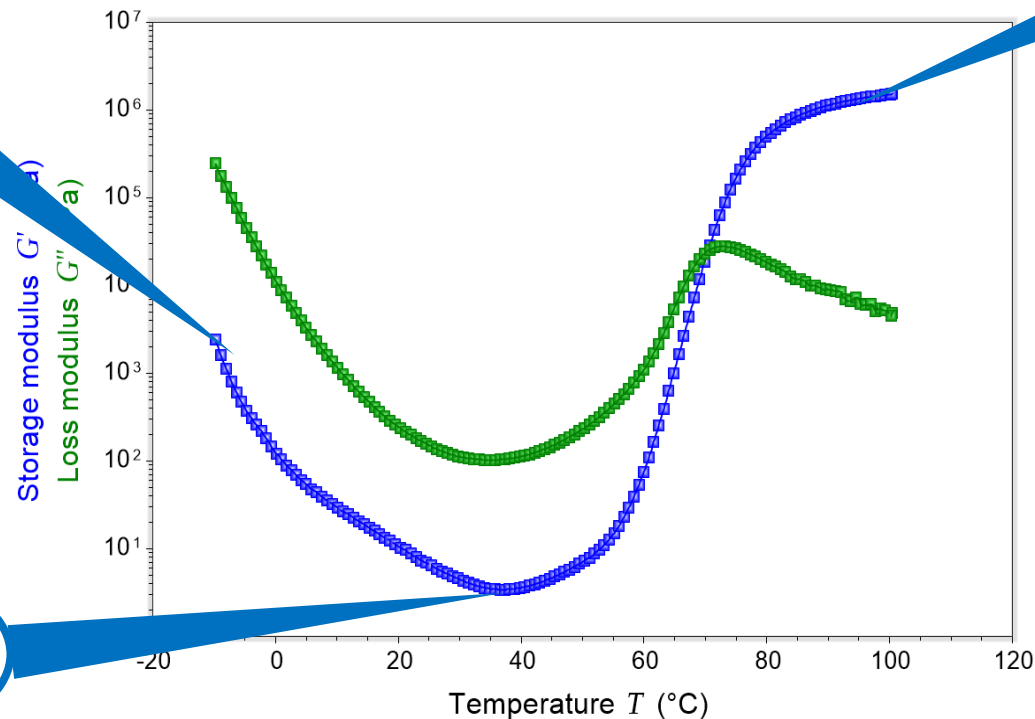
Number of tries   
Initial tolerance  %

# Approaches for Optimum Test Parameters

- The key to ensure a good measurement result
  - Change the measurement strain

Mid viscosity paste  
Medium strain

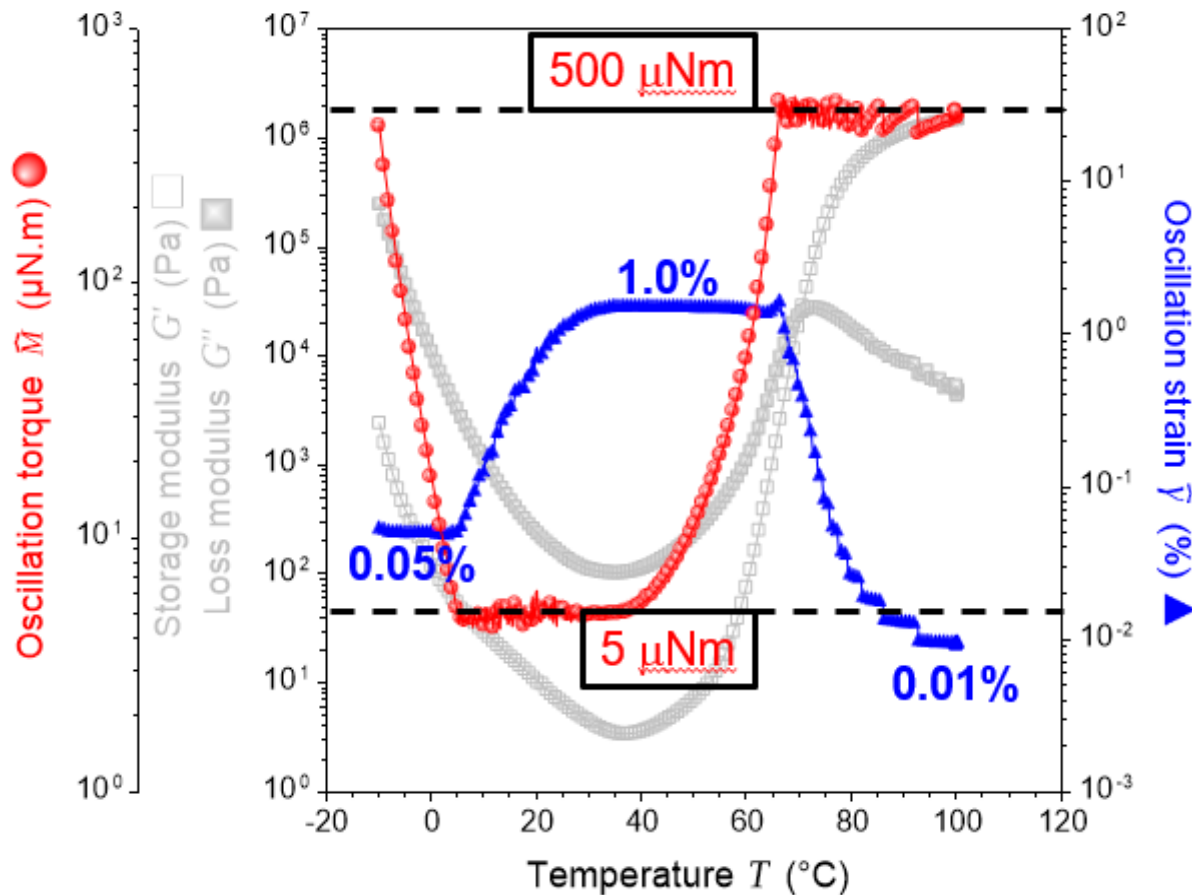
Low viscosity liquid  
Large strain



High modulus solid  
Small strain

# Strain Adjustment Method-2

- A temp ramp curing example



- Good for both controlled-stress and controlled-strain rheometers
- Setup a smart torque window**
- When measurement torque goes outside of the window, strain will be adjusted

Auto strain adjustment

Mode

Strain adjust  %

Displacement  Strain  % Strain

Minimum % strain  %

Maximum % strain  %

Torque  Stress

Minimum torque   $\mu\text{N.m}$

Maximum torque   $\mu\text{N.m}$

# Monitoring Shrinkage

- Thermoset material shrinks during curing
- The amount of shrinkage could cause cracking or failure to the end products

1: Conditioning Options

Axial force adjustment

Mode

Tension  Compression

Axial force  N  Set initial value

Sensitivity  N

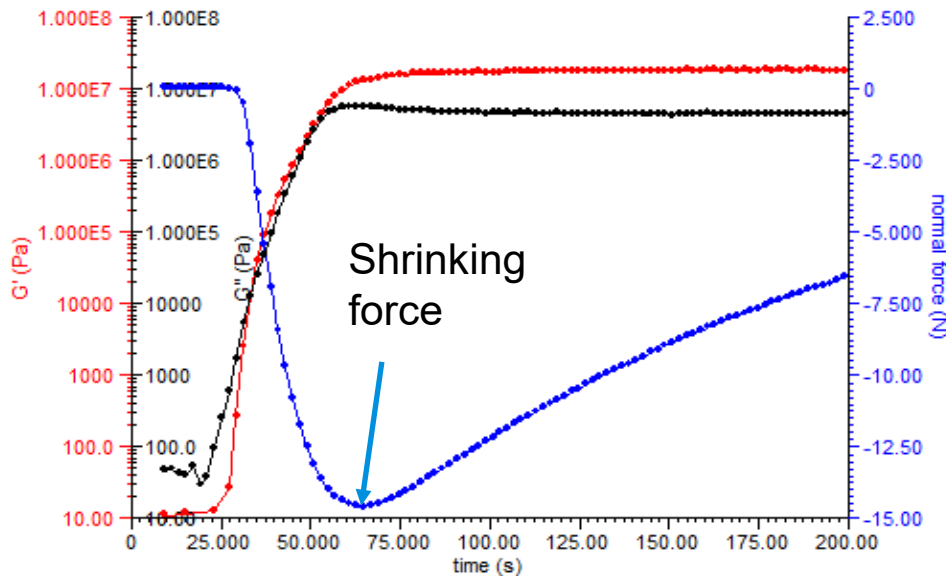
Advanced

Gap change limit up   $\mu\text{m}$

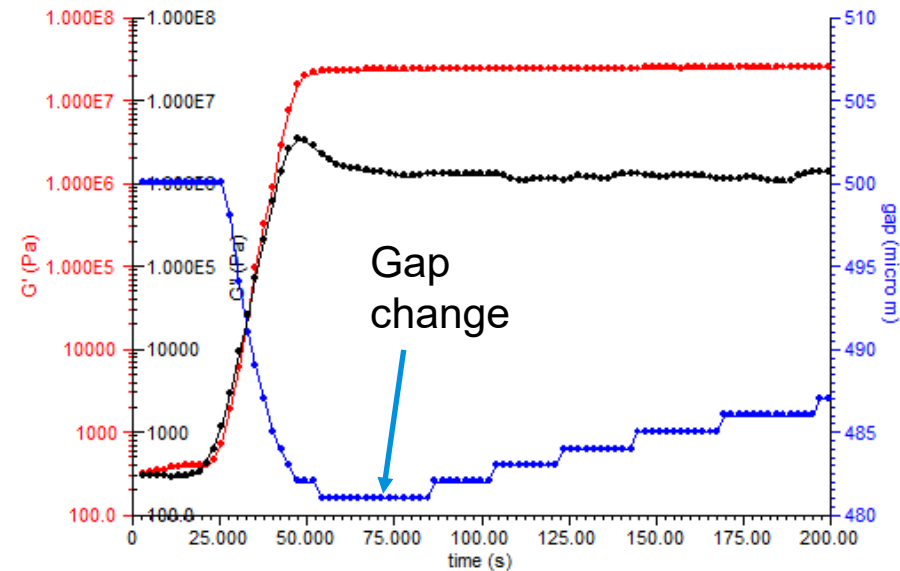
Gap change limit down   $\mu\text{m}$

Return to window  Return to initial value

(1) Set Gap Constant  
monitor shrinking force

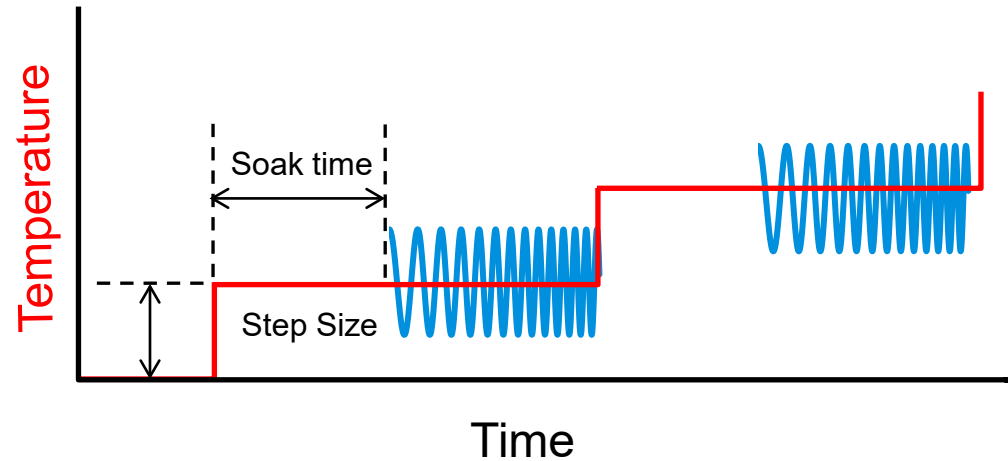


(2) Set Axial Force = 0  
monitor dimension(gap) change





# Temperature Sweep (or Step)



- Step and hold temperature then monitor material response. No thermal lag
- In TRIOS: Temp Sweep

## USES

- Measure material's viscoelastic properties vs. temperature
- Time-Temperature Superposition test (TTS)

1: Oscillation Temperature Sweep

Environmental Control		
Start temperature	<input type="text" value="-100"/> °C	<input type="button" value="Use entered value"/>
Soak time	<input type="text" value="180.0"/> s	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wait for temperature
End temperature	<input type="text" value="180"/> °C	
Temperature step	<input type="text" value="10"/> °C	<input type="button" value="v"/>

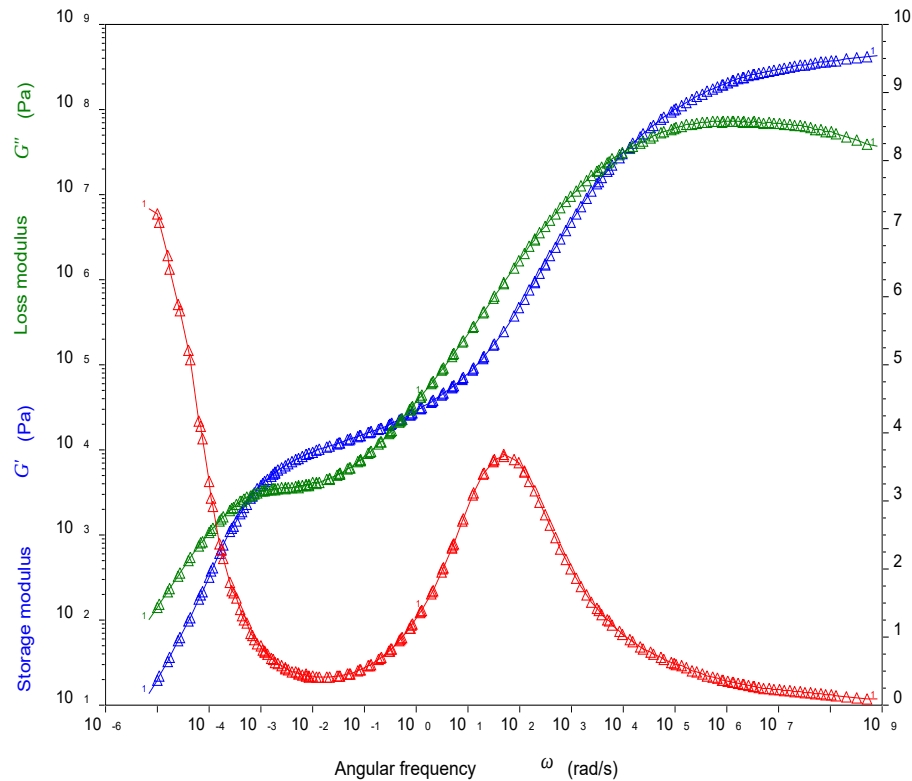
  

Test Parameters		
Strain %	<input type="text" value="0.05"/> %	<input type="button" value="v"/>
Logarithmic sweep <input type="button" value="v"/>		
Angular frequency	<input type="text" value="100.0"/> rad/s to <input type="text" value="1.0"/> rad/s	<input type="button" value="v"/>
Points per decade	<input type="text" value="5"/>	

# Time-Temperature Superposition (TTS)

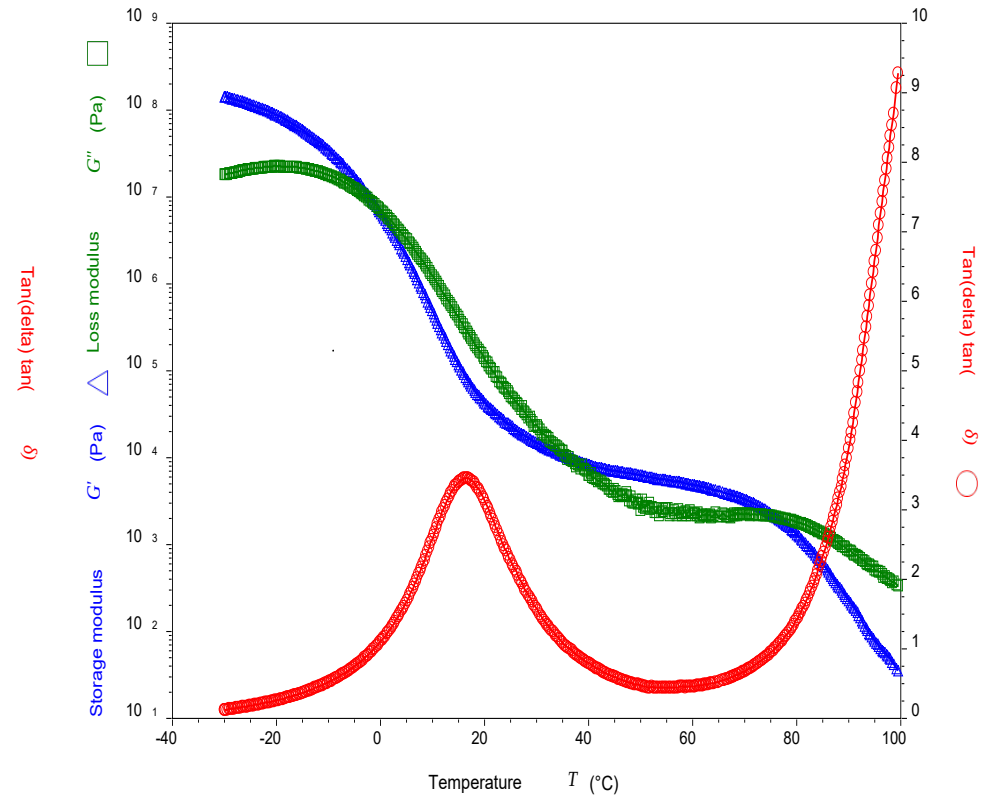
- The viscoelastic properties of an amorphous polymer as a function of temperature is mirror imaged as its properties as a function of time (frequency)

TTS master curve generated at 20°C



Time

Dynamic temperature ramp

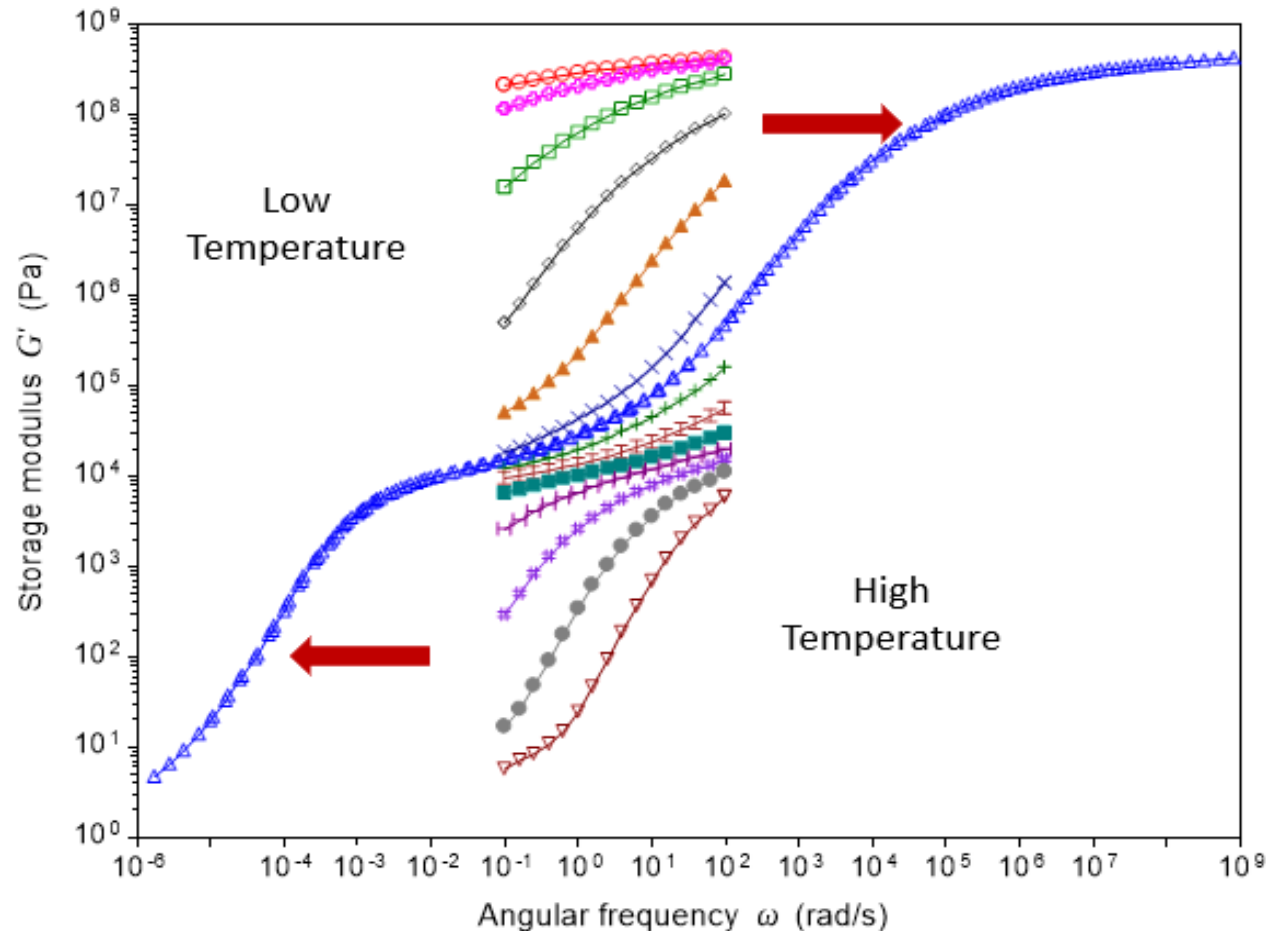


Temperature



# Benefit of Time-Temperature Superposition

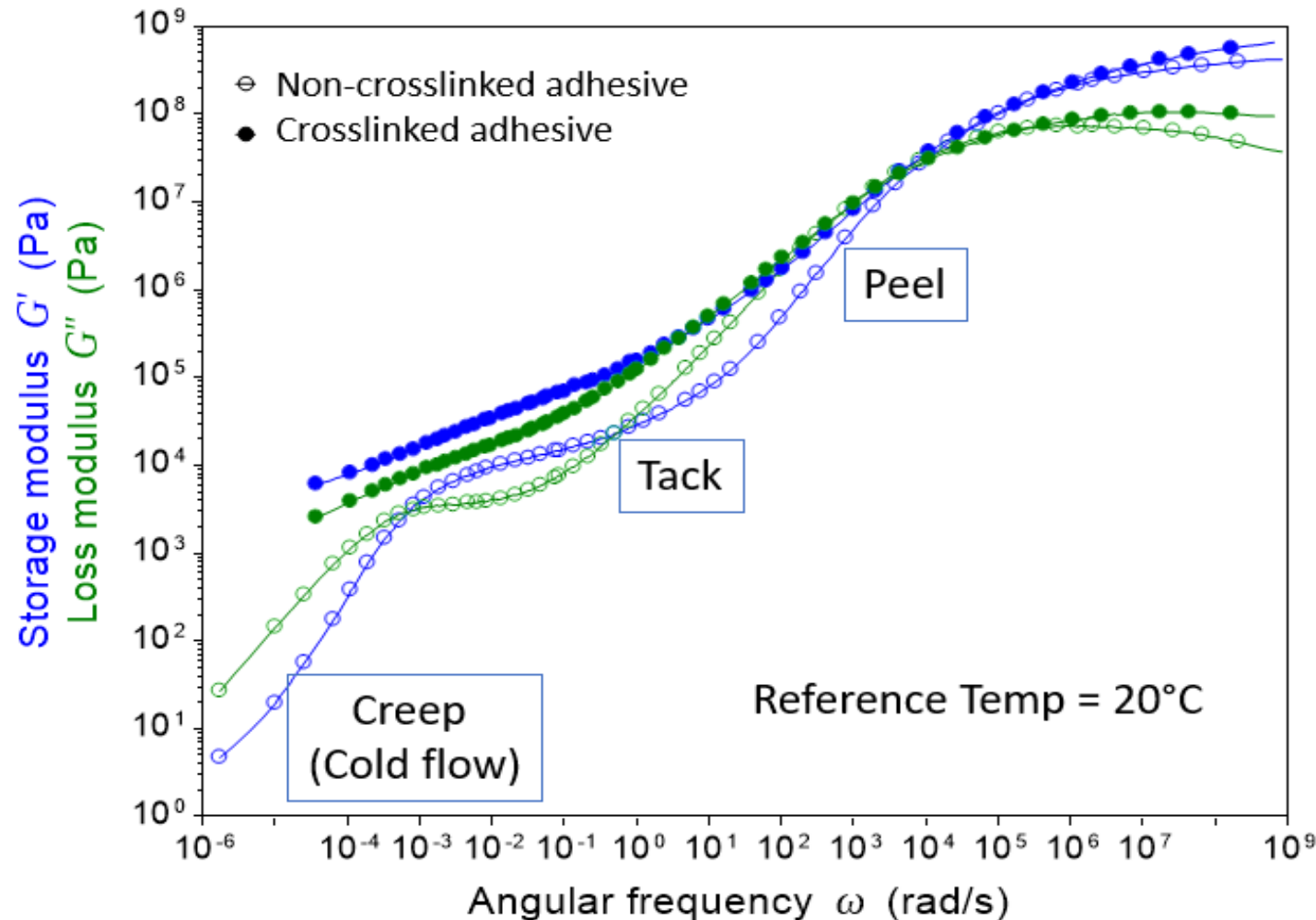
- Perform frequency sweeps at different temperature
- Extrapolates properties to time scales outside the instrumental range



- Frequency sweep data collected under different temperature steps can be shifted along the x-axis.
- Access to a wide range of frequency or time scales
- Predict properties outside of instrument capability
- TTS can be applied to both dynamic and transient measurements

# TTS Benefit on Adhesive Analysis

- Dynamic TTS results for a non-crosslinked and a crosslinked pressure sensitive adhesive materials



# Introduction to rheology accessories and hyphenated techniques



# Popular Accessories on Rheometers

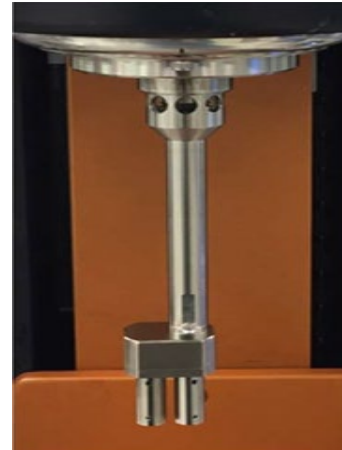
Powder accessory



Humidity chamber



Extensional Viscosity



UV accessory



OSP accessory



Rheo-Microscopy



Rheo-Raman



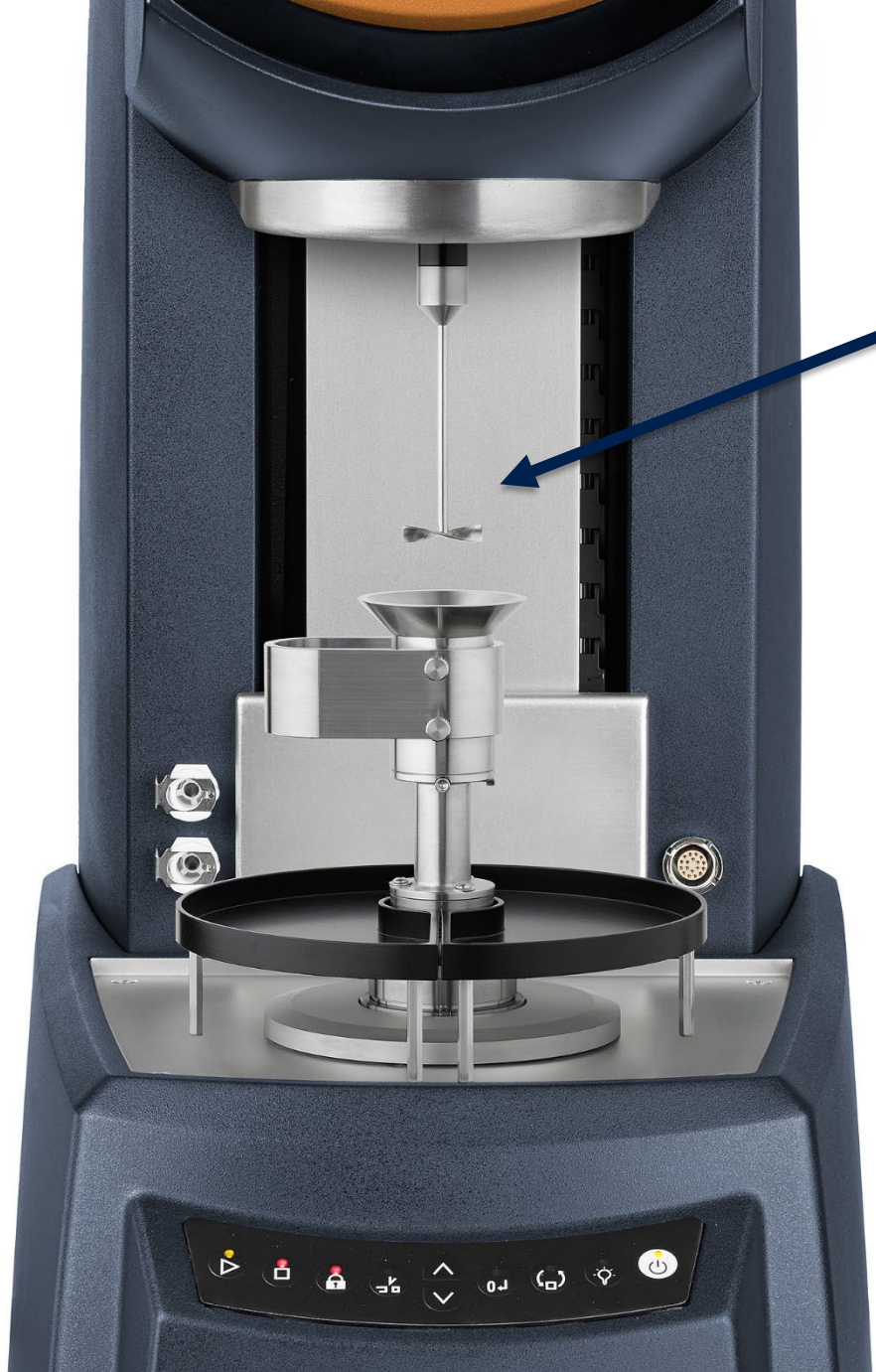
Rheo-Dielectric



# HR x0 Powder Rheology Accessory

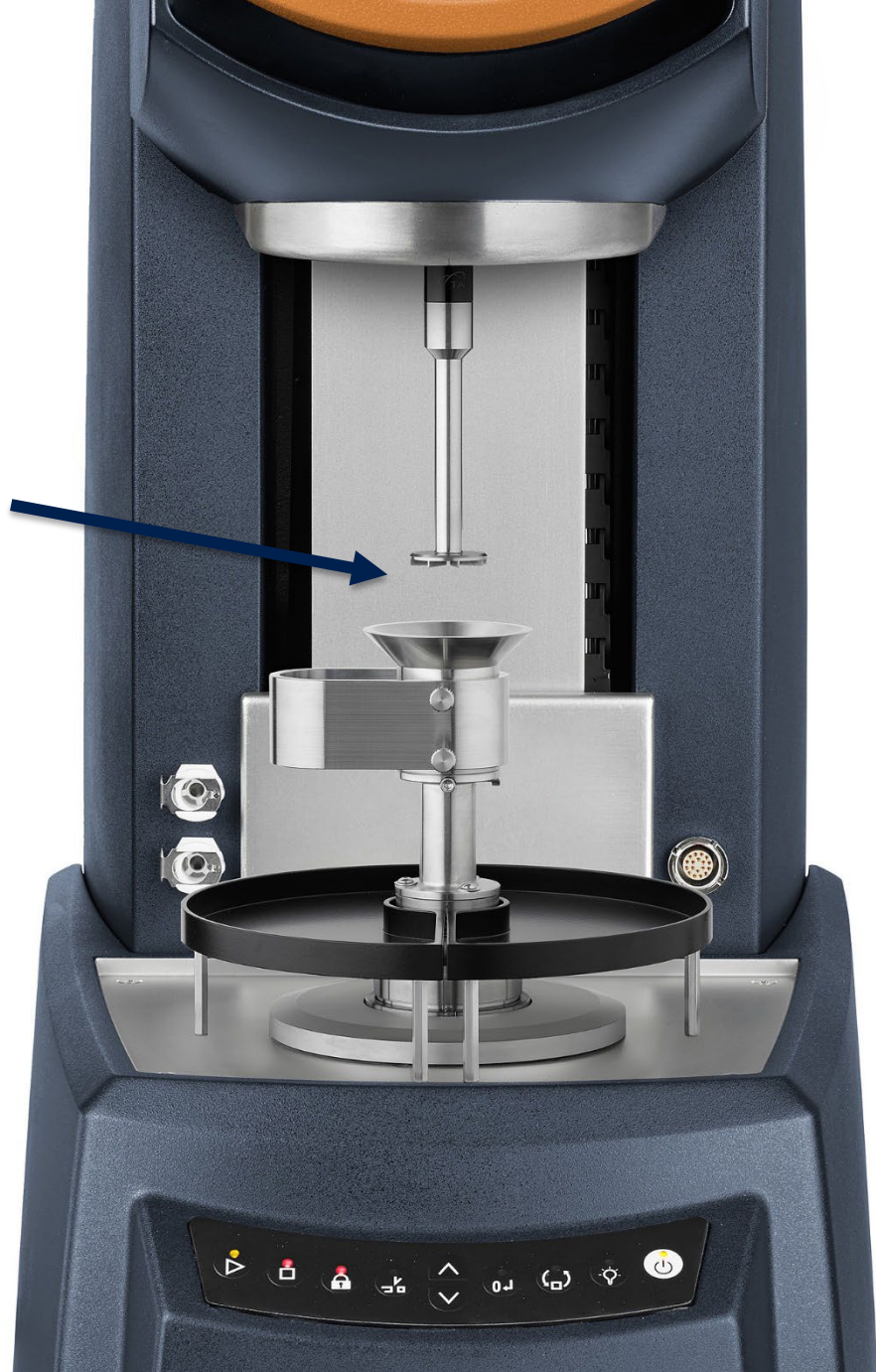
- Available on HR 10, HR20 and HR30 rheometer. Powder solution offers comprehensive powder flow analysis
  - Flowability
  - Shear
  - Wall friction (2023)
  - Compressibility (2023)
- Excellent repeatability (within 5%)
- Easy sample preparation: loading and trimming
- Integrated Smart Swap design. Accessory change in less than 10 seconds
- One click data analysis package in Trios





Flow Cell

Shear Cell

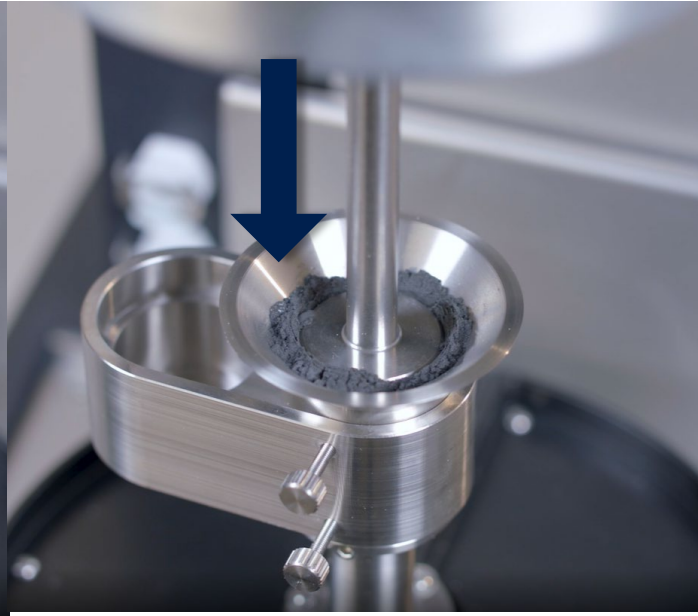




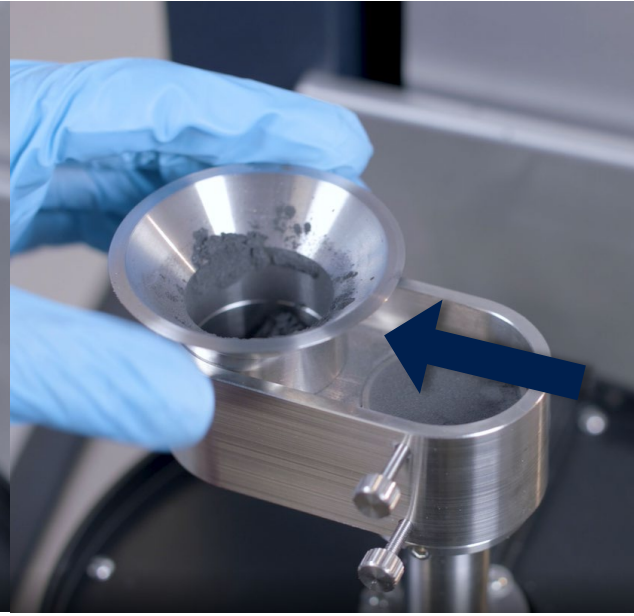
# Powder Shear Cell sample preparation



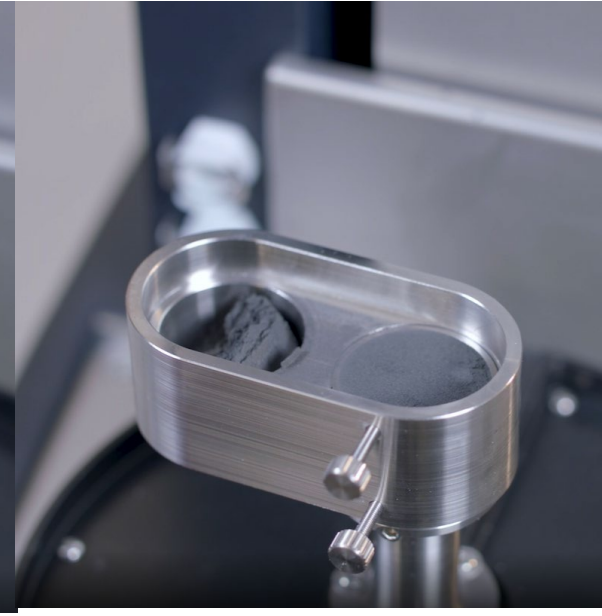
Load Sample  
>15 mL



Sample  
Consolidation



Trim Sample  
User prompt from  
the touchscreen



Start the Test

# TRIOS simplifies Powder Flowability test

1: Powder ▾ Flowability ▾

Environmental Control

Temperature  °C  Inherit Set Point

Soak Time  hh:mm:ss

Test Range

Upper gap  mm

Lower gap  mm

Conditioning Parameters

Tip speed  mm/s

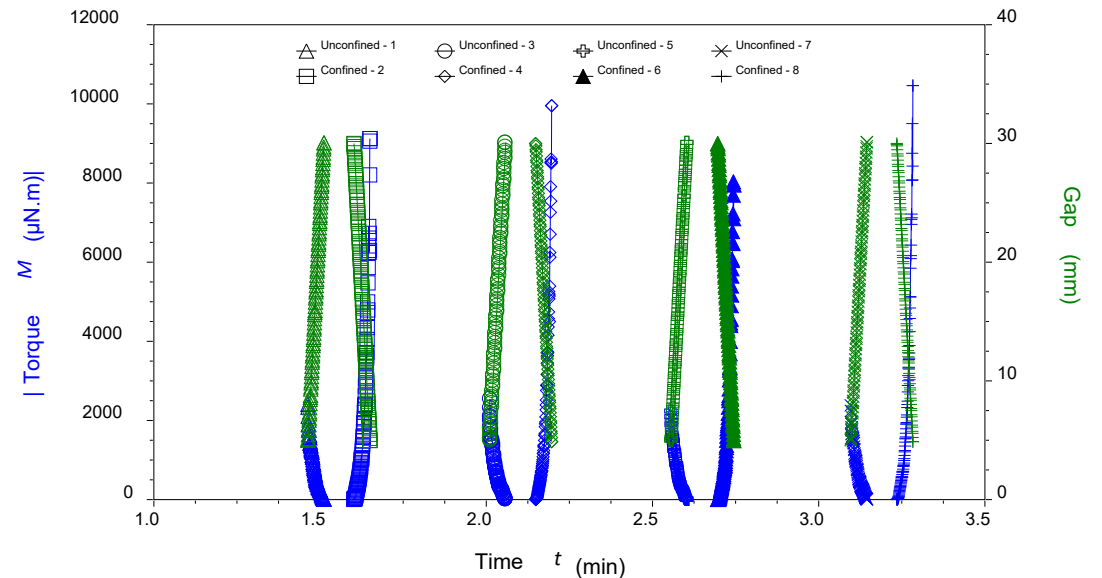
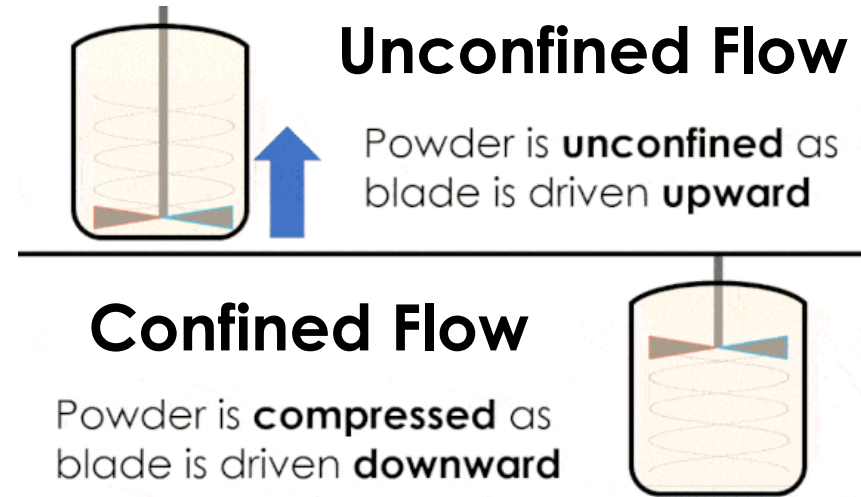
Unconfined Flow Parameters

Tip speed up  mm/s

Confined Flow Parameters

Tip speed down  mm/s

Repeat Count:



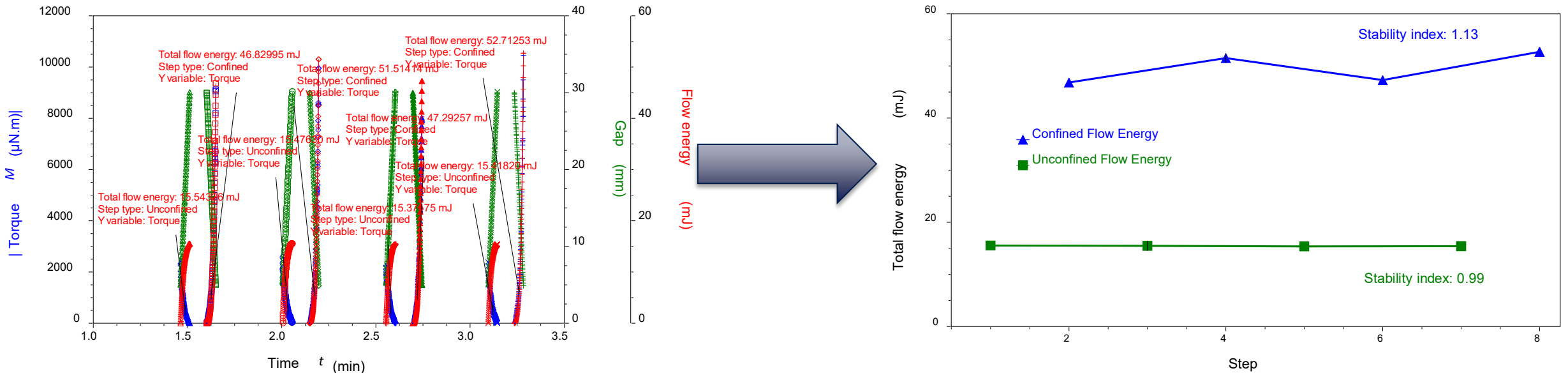
- Repeat steps – Stability Index
- Vary Tip Speed – Flow Rate Index

# Powder Analysis Key automates Flowability calculation



## TRIOS Powder Analysis Software key (optional)

- Powder Key Performance Indicators are **One Click away**
- Automated process saves user from complicated mathematical analysis
- Quantitative, relevant, repeatable results



$$\text{Flow Energy} = \int \text{Torque energy } T * d\theta + \int \text{Force energy } N * dh$$

# TRIOS simplifies Powder Shear Test

1: Powder Consolidation  
2: Powder Shear

Environmental Control  
Temperature 25 °C  Inherit Set Point  
Soak Time 00:00:00 hh:mm:ss

Test Parameters  
Consolidating stress 9 kPa  
Test mode Standard  
Maximum step duration 00:05:00 hh:mm:ss

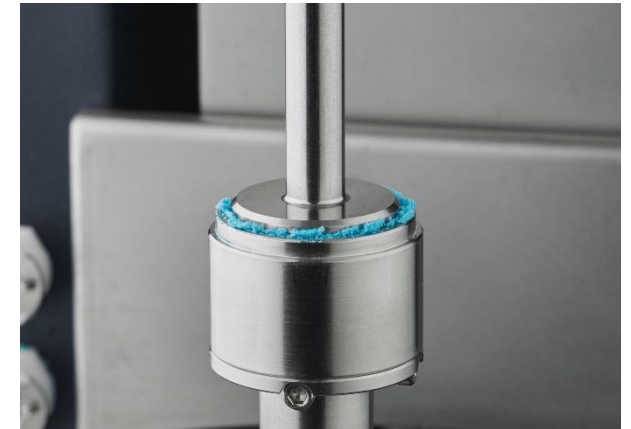
	Normal Stress (kPa)	Velocity (rad/s)	Duration (hh:mm:ss)
Pre-shear	9	1.0e-3	00:05:00
1	7	1.0e-3	
2	6	1.0e-3	
3	5	1.0e-3	
4	4	1.0e-3	00:05:00
5	3	1.0e-3	00:05:00

Repeat initial pre-shear  
 Steady state detection  
 Peak detection

TRIOS Unlimited:  
complete customizability

## TRIOS Powder-Shear test form performs ASTM D7891 measurement

- “Pre-Shear”: Apply consolidating normal stress (9 kPa), pre-shear until steady state
- “Shear” Reduce normal stress, shear until yield
- Repeat consolidating pre-shear
- Repeat shear with decreasing normal stress



# TRIOS simplifies Powder Shear Test

1: Powder Consolidation

2: Powder Shear



## Environmental Control

Temperature  °C  Inherit Set Point

Soak Time  hh:mm:ss

## Test Parameters

Consolidating stress  kPa

Test mode

Maximum step duration  hh:mm:ss

	Normal Stress (kPa)	Velocity (rad/s)	Duration (hh:mm:ss)
Pre-shear	9	1.0e-3	00:05:00
1	7	1.0e-3	00:05:00
2	6	1.0e-3	00:05:00
3	5	1.0e-3	00:05:00
4	4	1.0e-3	00:05:00
5	3	1.0e-3	00:05:00

Repeat initial pre-shear

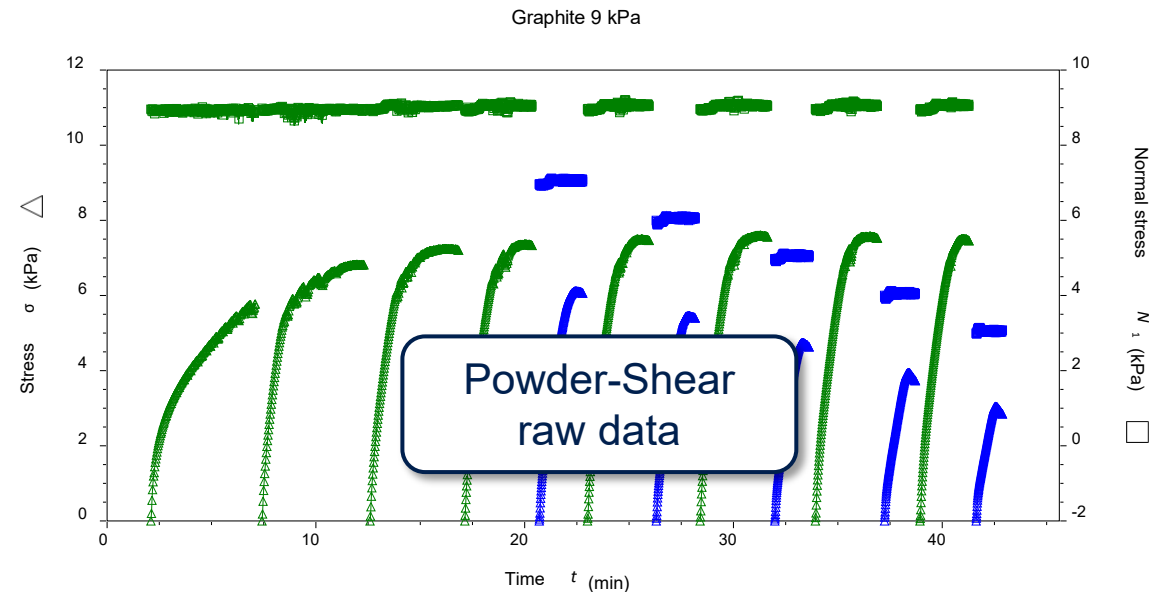
Steady state detection

Peak detection

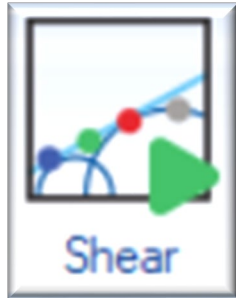


## TRIOS Powder – Shear test form performs measurement per ASTM D7891

- “Pre-Shear”: Apply consolidating normal stress (9 kPa), pre-shear until steady state
- “Shear” Reduce normal stress, shear until yield
- Repeat consolidating pre-shear
- Repeat shear with decreasing normal stress



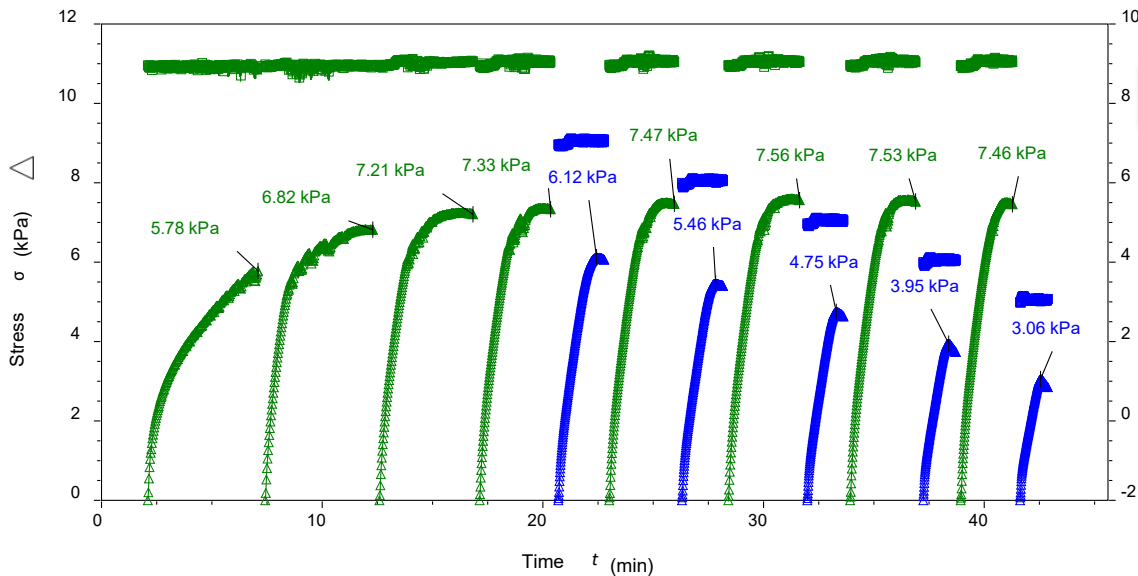
# Powder Analysis Key automates Shear calculations



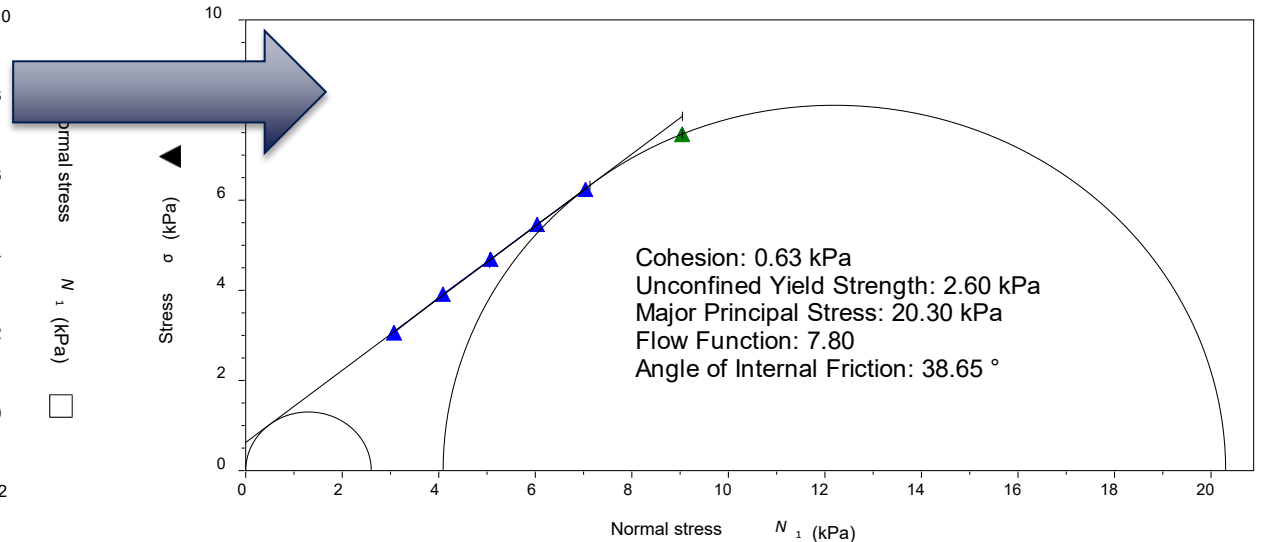
## TRIOS Powder Analysis Software key (optional)

- Powder Key Performance Indicators are **One Click away**
- Automated process saves user from complicated mathematical analysis
- Quantitative, relevant, repeatable results

Graphite 9 kPa



Graphite 9 kPa Shear Analysis

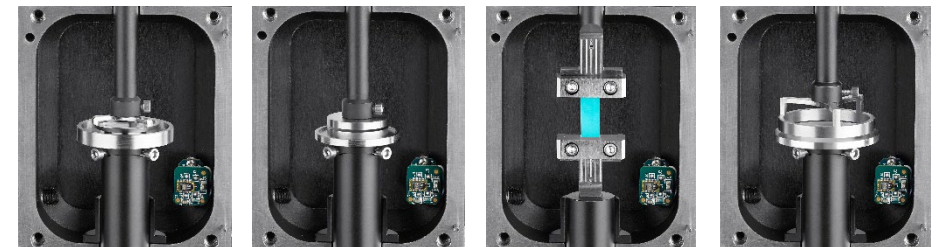
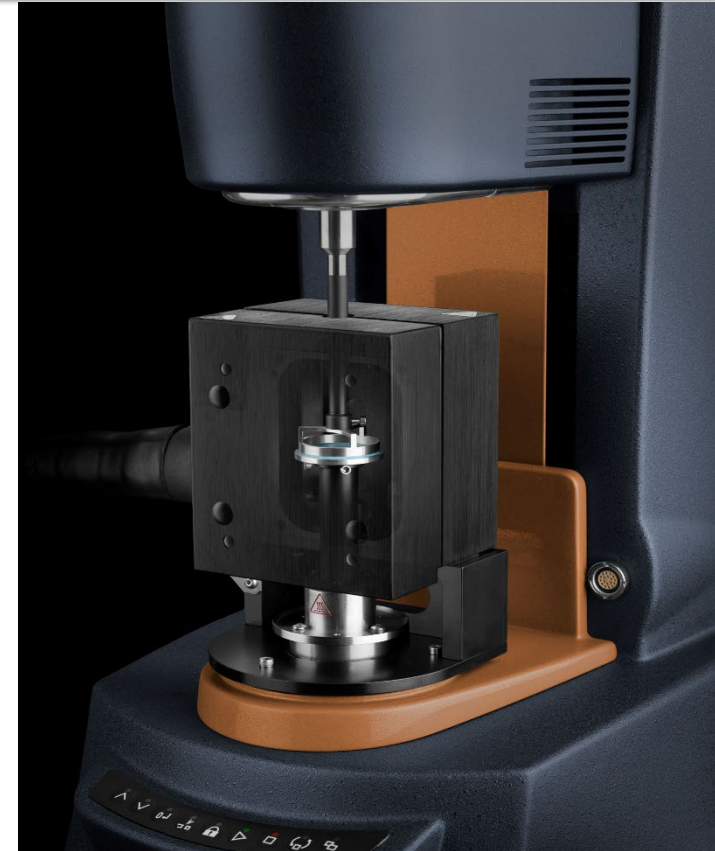


# DHR-RH Accessory

## Features and Benefits

- Uniform, reliable control of temperature and relative humidity over full operating range
- Optimized gas flow eliminates interference from laboratory conditions
- Completely integrated system including native control and coordination of temperature, humidity, and rheology through powerful TRIOS software
- Wide variety of test geometries:
  - Standard parallel plate
  - Disposable parallel plate
  - Film Tension
  - Annular Ring
  - Surface Diffusion
  - Torsion Rectangular
  - Three-Point Bending
- Innovative geometries for RH: true humidity-dependent rheology, not dominated by diffusion
- True Dynamic Axial Film Tension
- Tribo-rheometry – Ring on plate, 3 Balls on Plate
- DMA geometries for true dynamic deformation in the axial direction: film tension, 3-point bending, single/dual cantilever, compression

Specifications	
Temperature Range	5 °C to 120 °C
Humidity Range	5% to 95%
Humidity Accuracy	5-90% RH: ± 3% RH > 90% RH: ± 5% RH

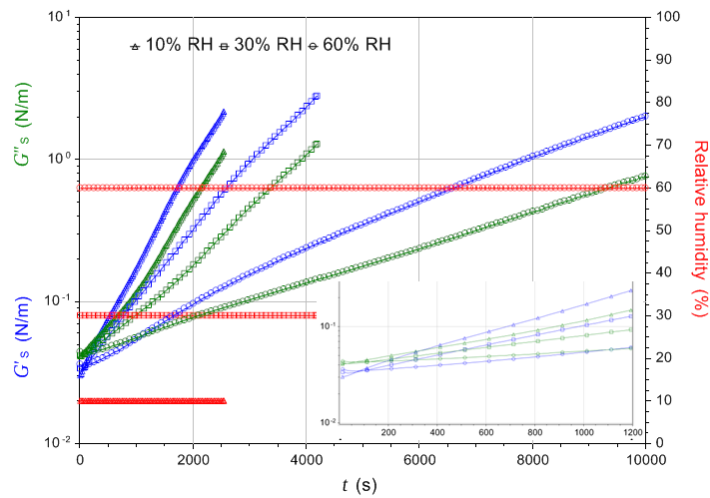


# Example of Humidity Controlled Measurements

- Paint drying



White Paint Drying under Different Humidity

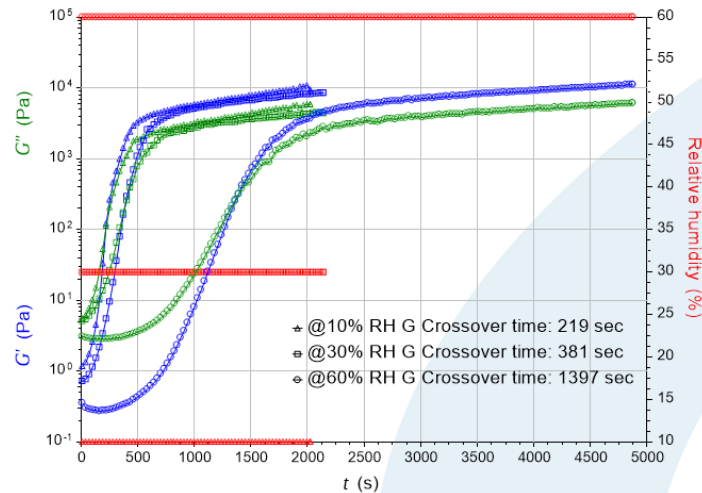


T Chen, TA apps note RH024

- Adhesive curing



Elmers Glue Curing Under Humidity Control @ 50°C

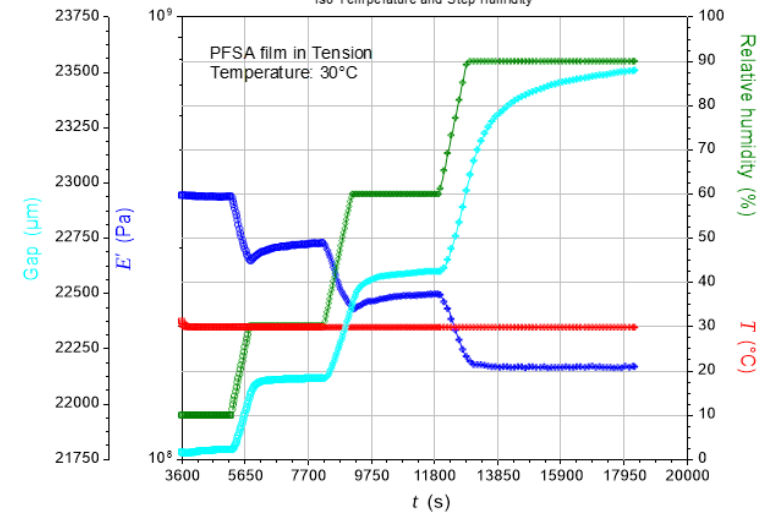


T Chen, TA apps note RH101

- Polymer CHE



Iso Temperature and Step Humidity



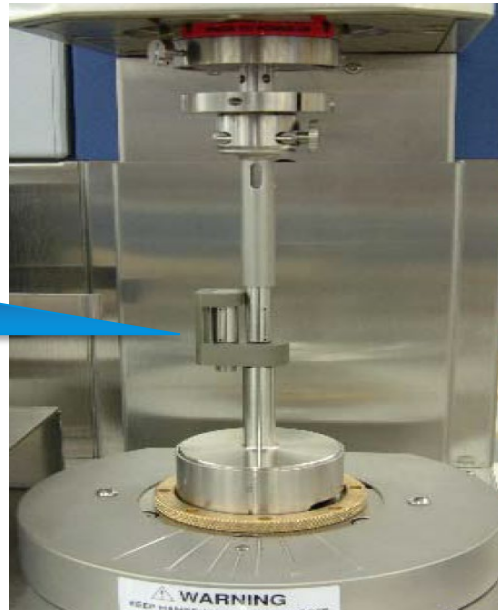
T Chen, TA apps note RH112



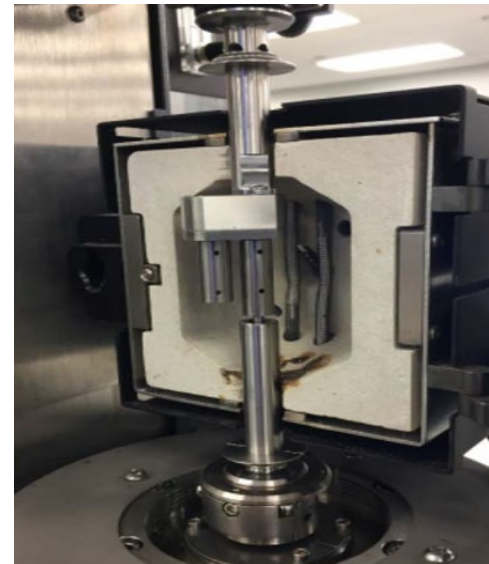
# Extensional Viscosity Measurements on Polymer Melts

- Nonlinear elongation flow is more sensitive for some structure elements (e.g. branching ) than shear flows
- Many processing flows are elongation flows. Extensional viscosity measurements can be used to help predict processability

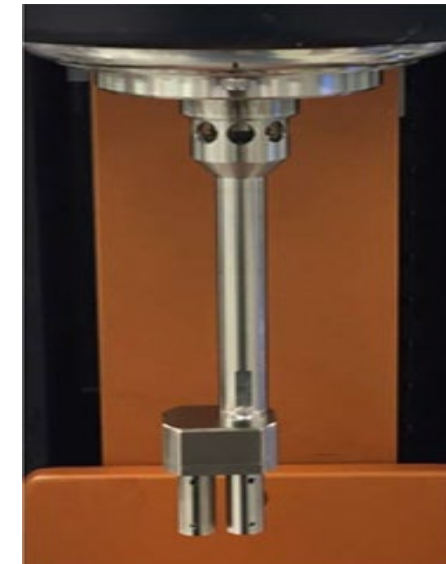
ARES G2 - EVF



ARES G2 - EVA

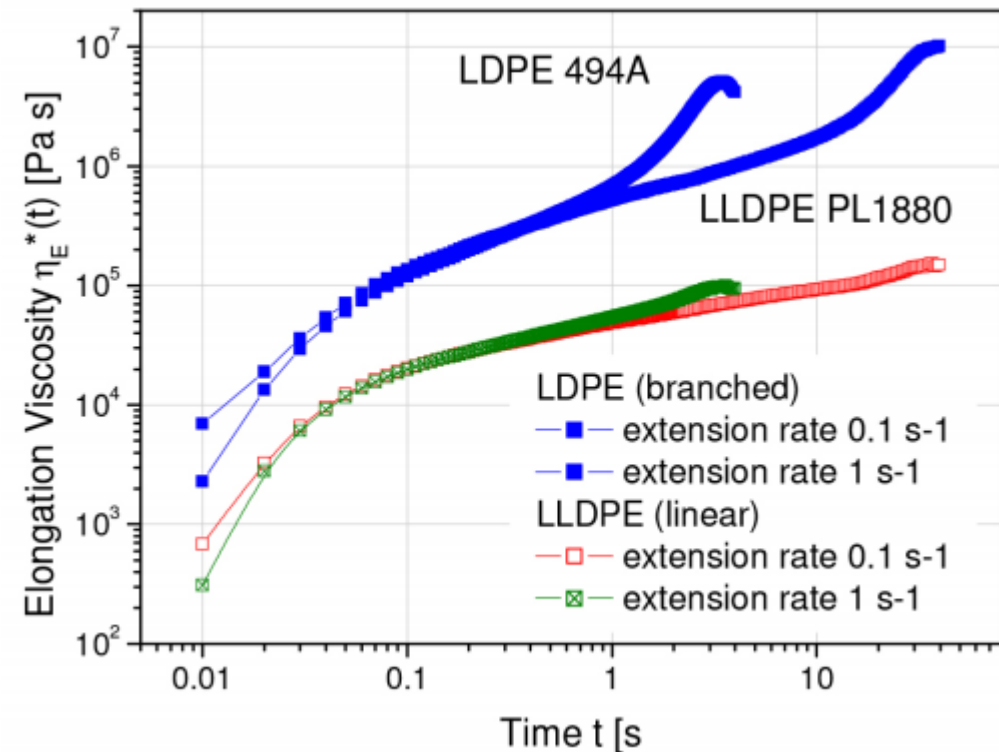
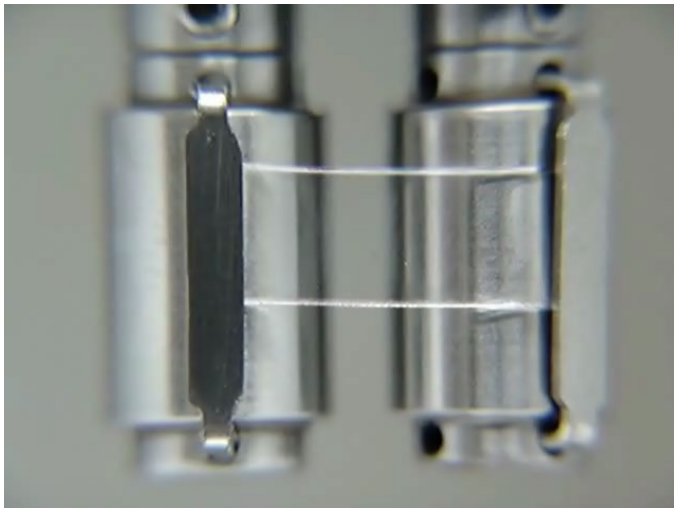


DHR/HR - EVA



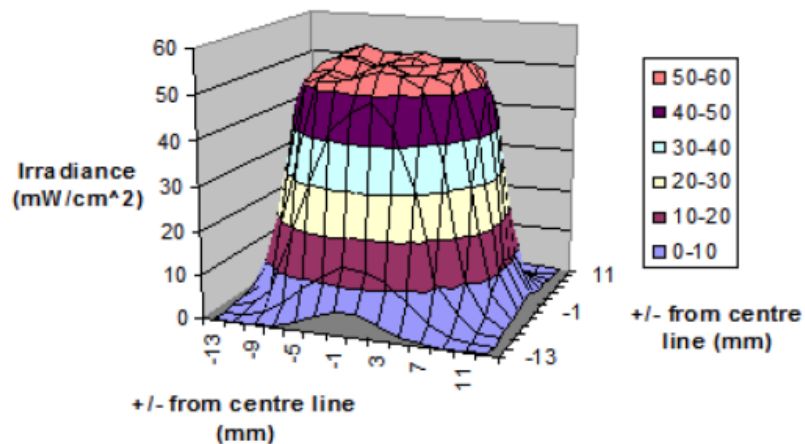
# Example of Extensional Rheology

- Many processing flows are elongational flows
- Nonlinear elongation flow is more sensitive for some structure elements (e.g. branching ) than shear flows
- Polymer melt extension – SER or EVF



TA apps note APN002

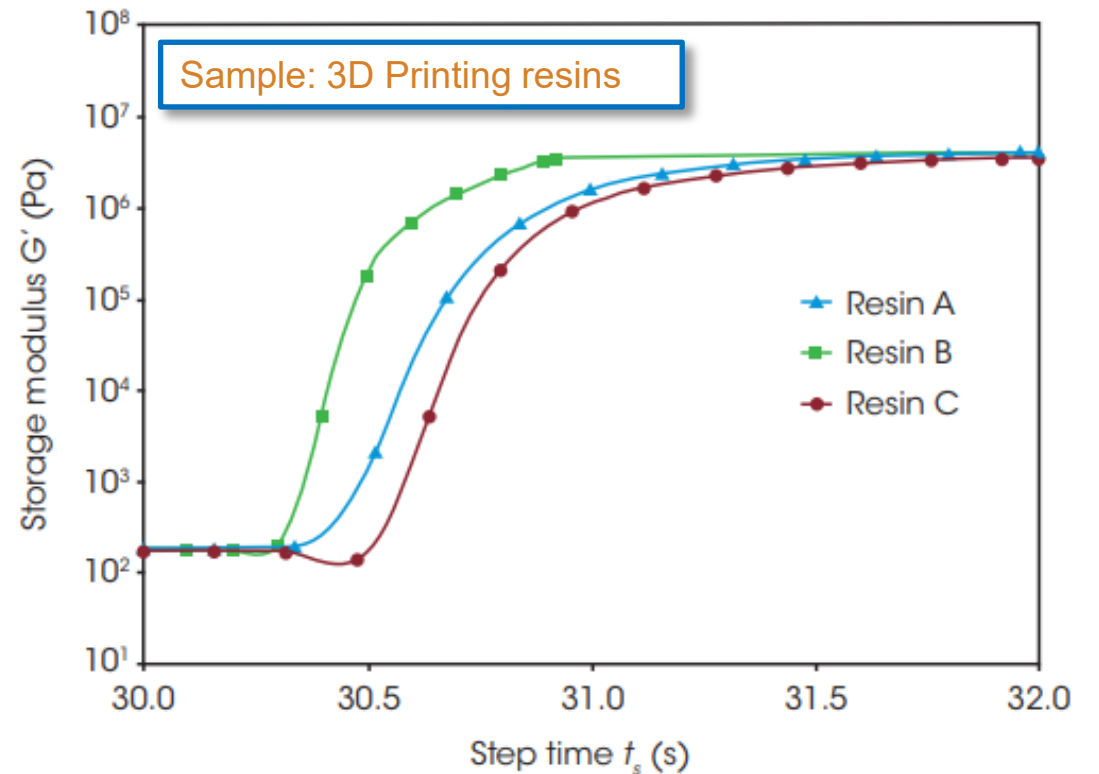
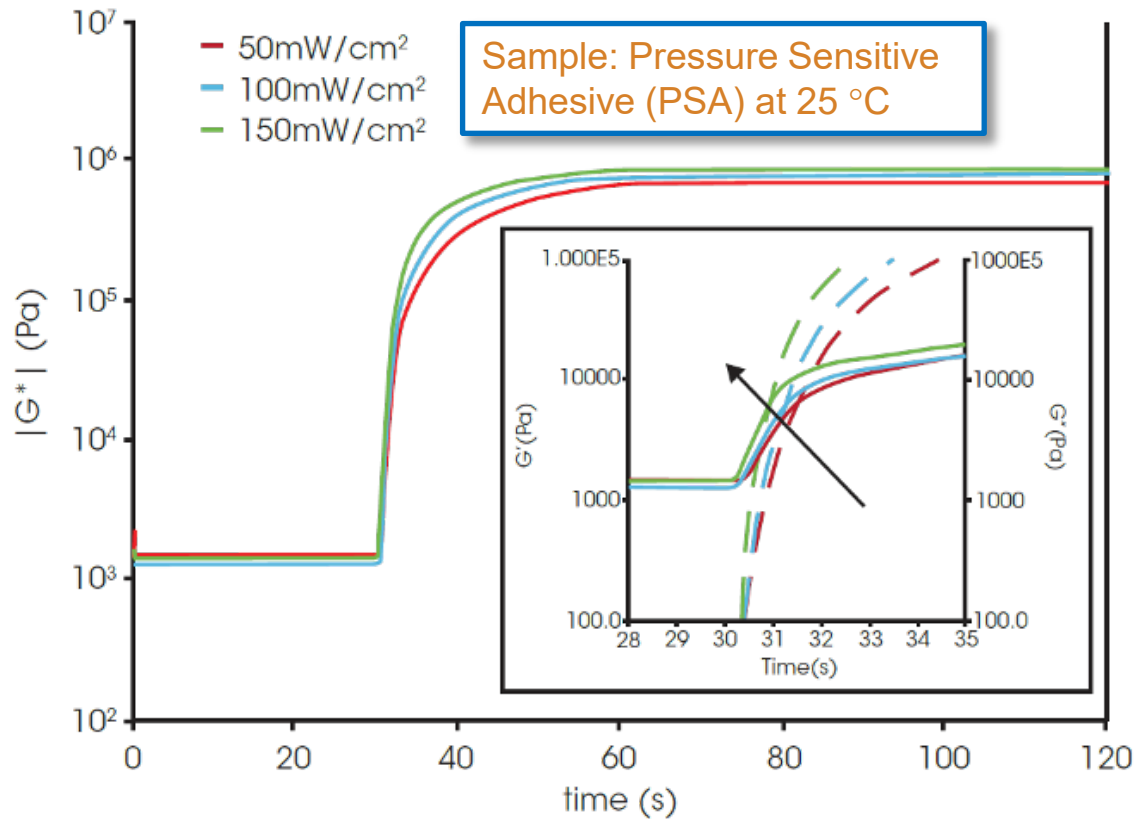
# UV Light Guide Curing Accessory



- Collimated light and mirror assembly insure uniform irradiance across plate diameter
- Maximum UV intensity at plate: 300 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>
- Broad range spectrum with main peak at 365 nm with wavelength filtering options
- Cover with nitrogen purge ports
- Optional disposable acrylic plates available
- LED UV for HR rheometer: choice of two standard wavelengths at 365nm and 455nm.

# UV Curing Applications

Effect of UV Curing Intensity



T Chen, TA apps notes AAN021, RH032

K Coasey, TA apps note RH118

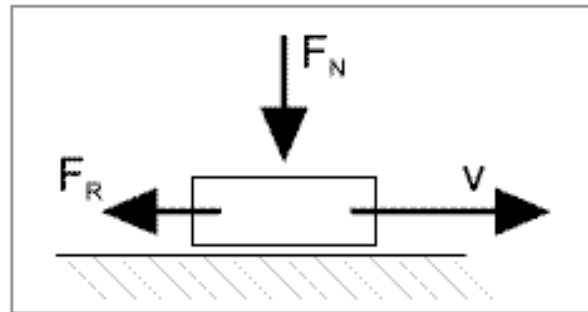
# Tribo-rheometry Accessory

Tribology is the study of interacting surfaces in relative motion, it includes:

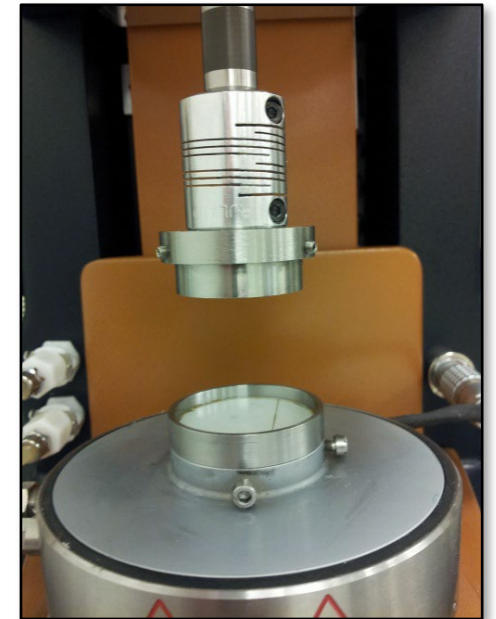
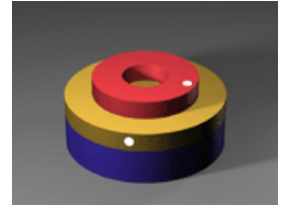
- Solid and liquid lubrication, lubricating oils and greases
- Friction, wear, surface damage
- Surface modifications and coatings

Requires:

- Small gaps → Alignment → Beam/Disc Coupling
- Normal Force Control → Compliance → Beam/Disc Coupling



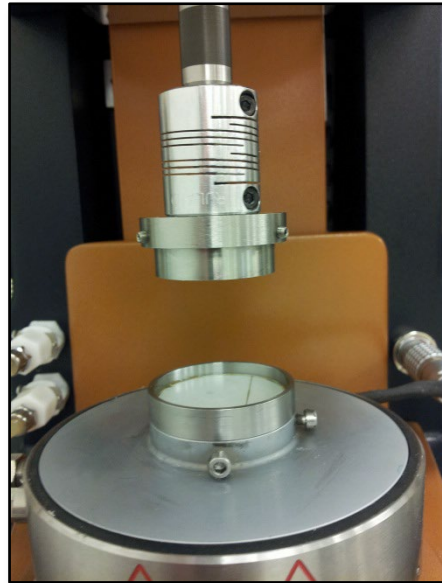
$$\mu = \frac{F_R}{F_N} = \frac{\text{shear stress}}{\text{normal stress}}$$



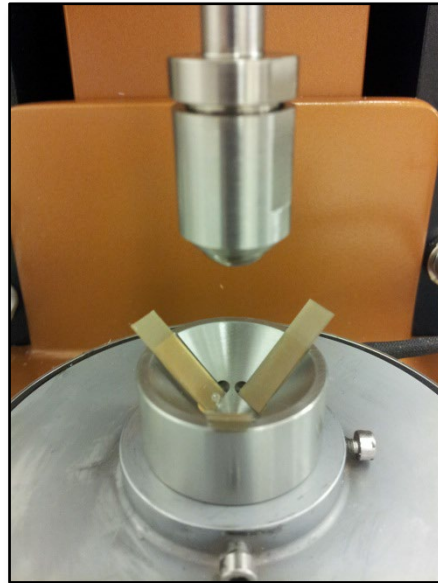
# Peltier Tribo-rheometry Accessory

- Available on both Discovery HR rheometers and the ARES G2

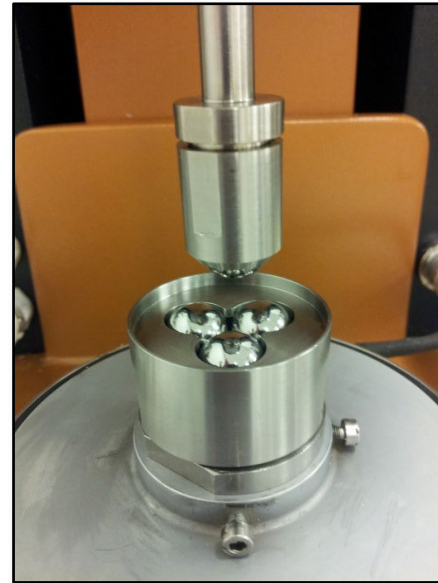
Ring on Plate



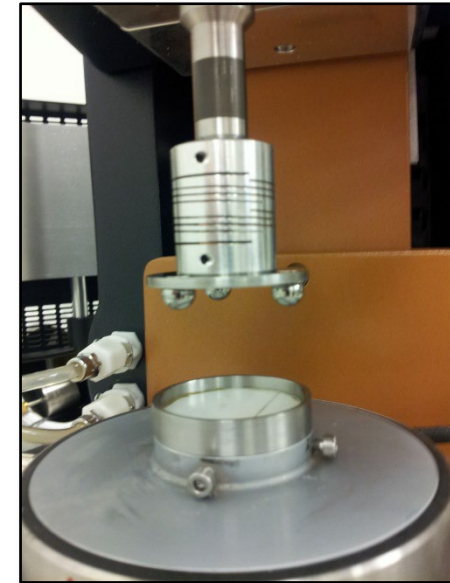
Ball on 3 Plates



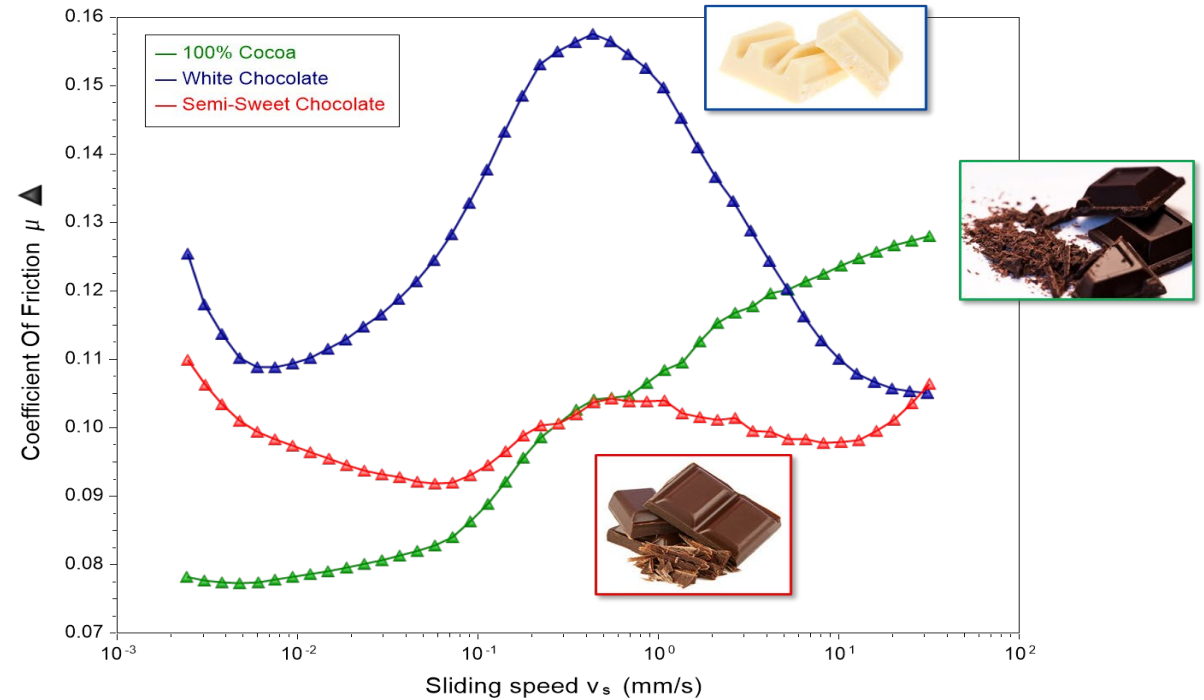
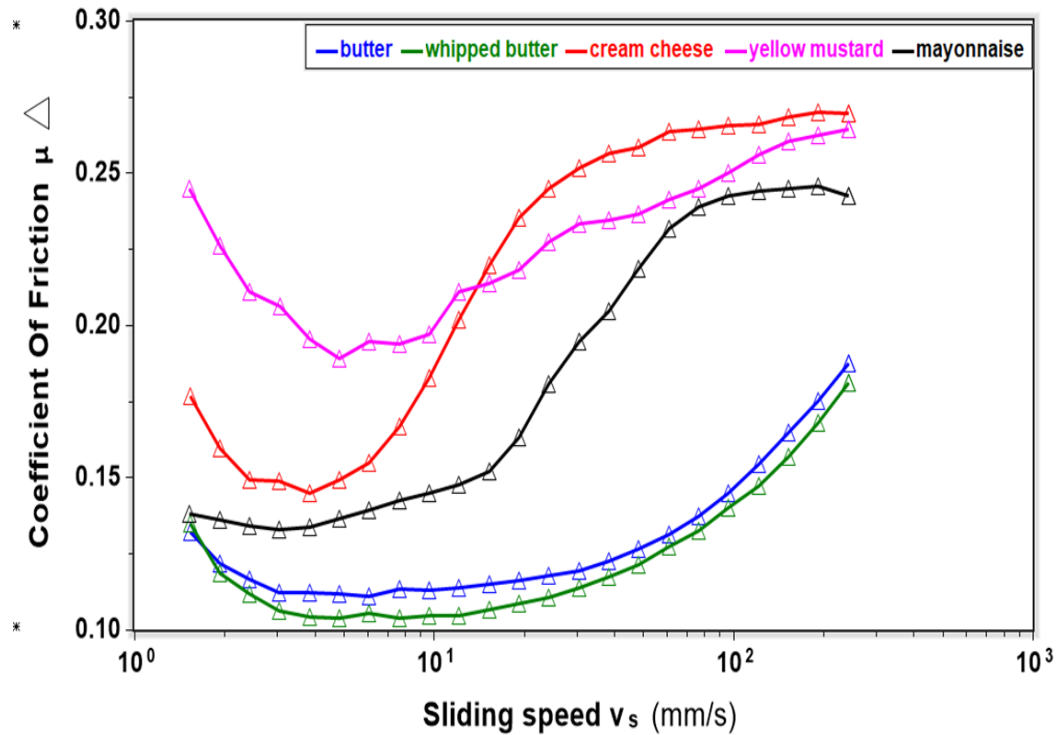
Ball on 3 Balls



3 Balls on Plate



# Examples of Food tribology



[TA Webinars:](#)

<https://www.tainstruments.com/an-introduction-to-tribo-rheometry-quantifying-friction/>

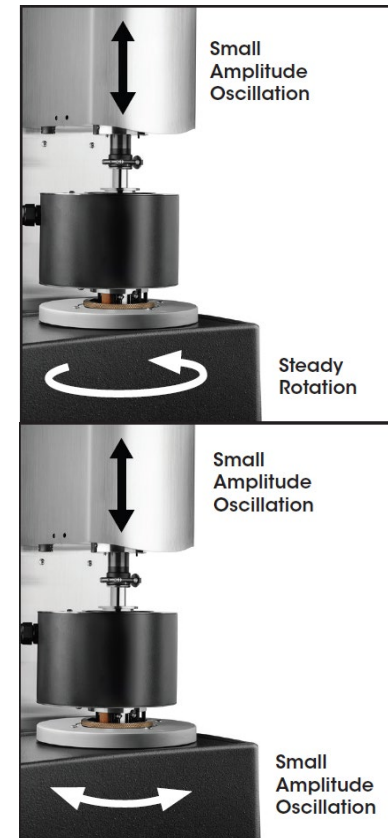
<https://www.tainstruments.com/applications-of-tribo-rheometry-in-material-characterization/>

# Orthogonal Superposition Accessory

## OSP Features and Benefits

- Available on both Discovery HR rheometer and ARES G2
- Ensure accuracy in both rotational and axial measurements, avoiding artifacts from pumping effects and surface tension with the specially designed OSP double-gap cup and rotor
- OSP and 2D-SAOS experiments fully programmable from TRIOS Software. Simultaneous measurements in two directions
- Monitor temperature-dependent changes and replicate real-world processing conditions with optional temperature control through the Environmental Test Chamber (-10 °C to 150 °C)

ARES G2 Rheometer

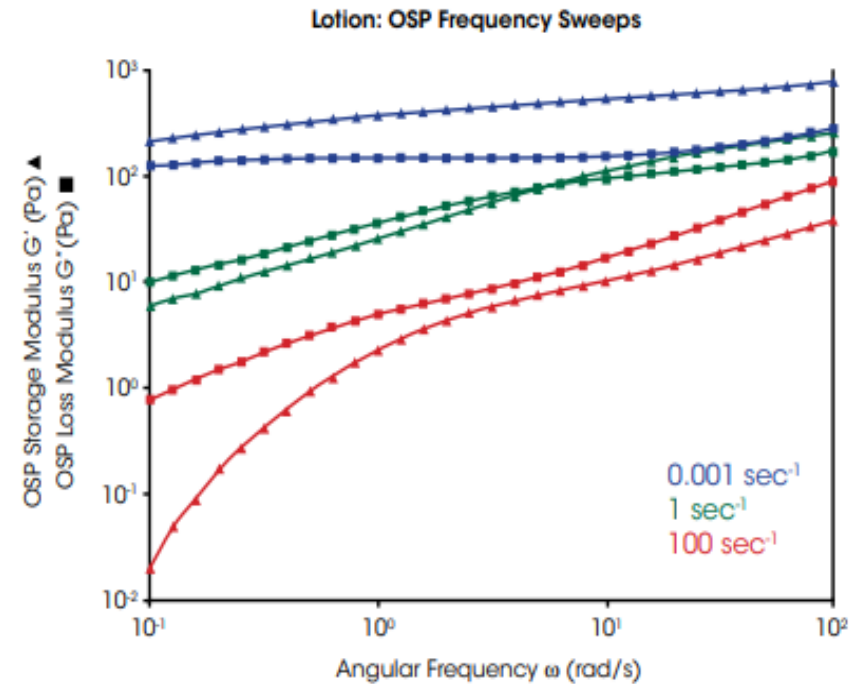
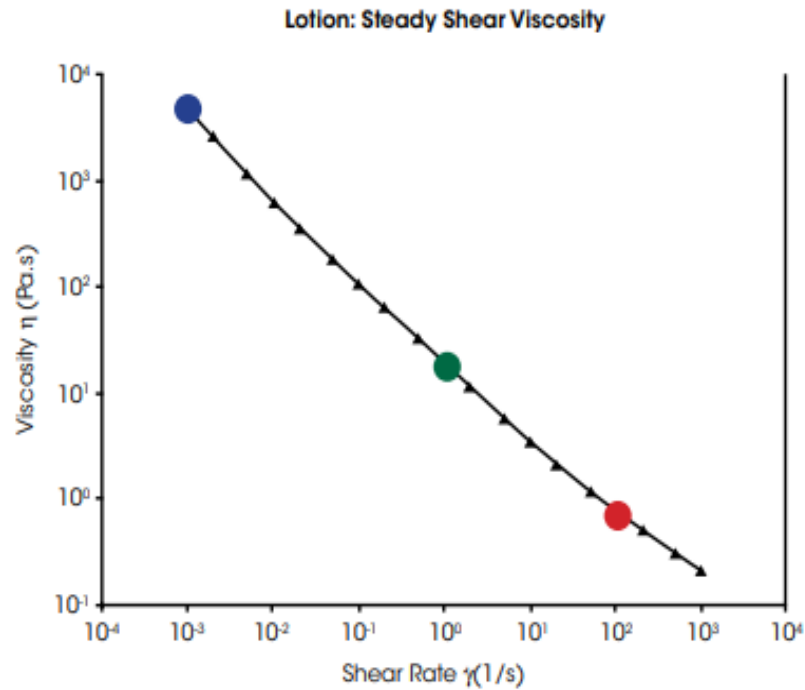


HRx0 Rheometer





# Example of Orthogonal Superposition analysis on Lotion



# Rheo-Raman

## Features and Benefits

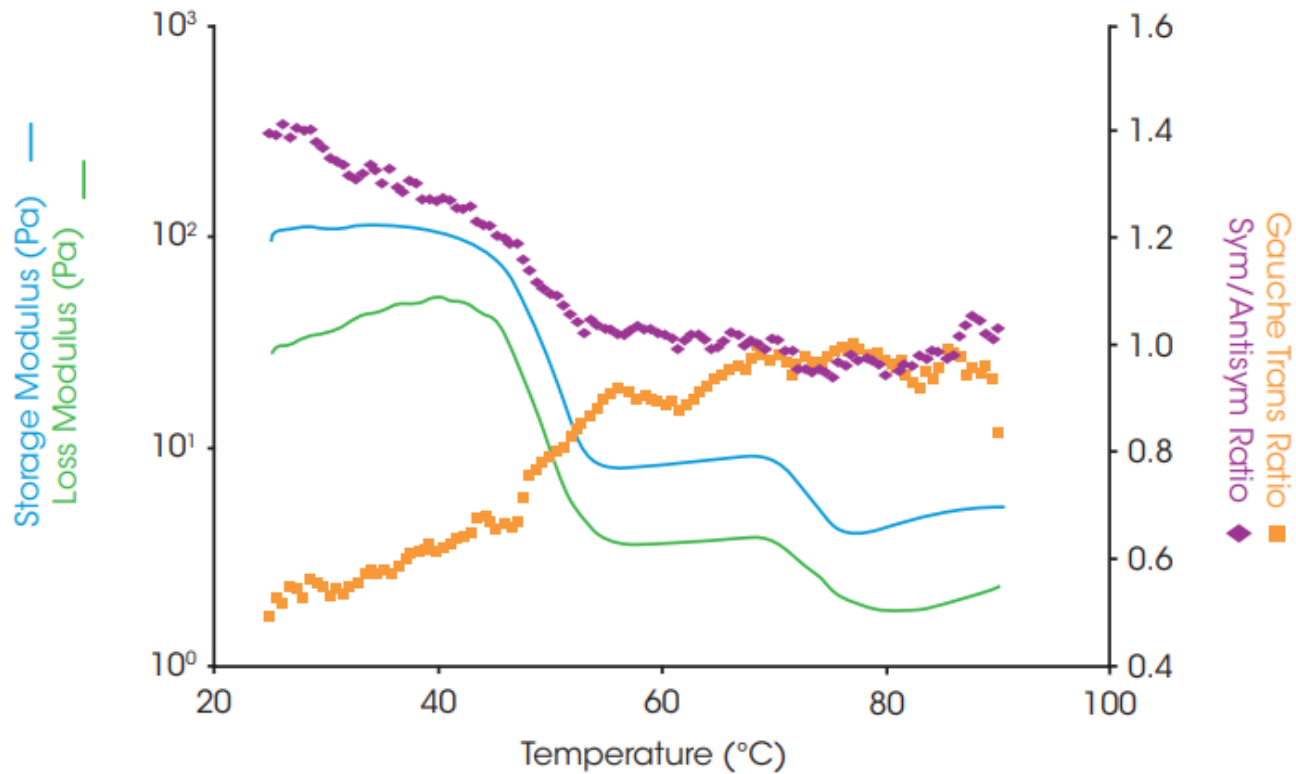
- Integrated operation with Thermo Fisher™ iXR Raman spectrometer
- Choice of different lasers for maximum versatility
  - 432 nm, 532 nm and 785 nm (high brightness, high power options)
  - User installable laser sets — quick and easy to switch lasers
- Multiple interlocks for class 1 laser classification
- Safe under all conditions of normal use
- Free space coupling maximizes laser intensity at sample
- Software integration provides seamless Rheo-Raman experiments
  - Synchronized data collection between TRIOS and Thermo Scientific™ OMNIC™ software
  - Rheo-Raman data analysis performed in OMNIC software
- Temperature control up to 100 °C using Upper Heated Plate (UHP)
- Optical table provides excellent stability, alignment, and vibration free measurements
- Micrometer driven access to any radial positions
- Fine axial adjustment for focusing inside the sample
- Quartz plates minimize fluorescence artefacts



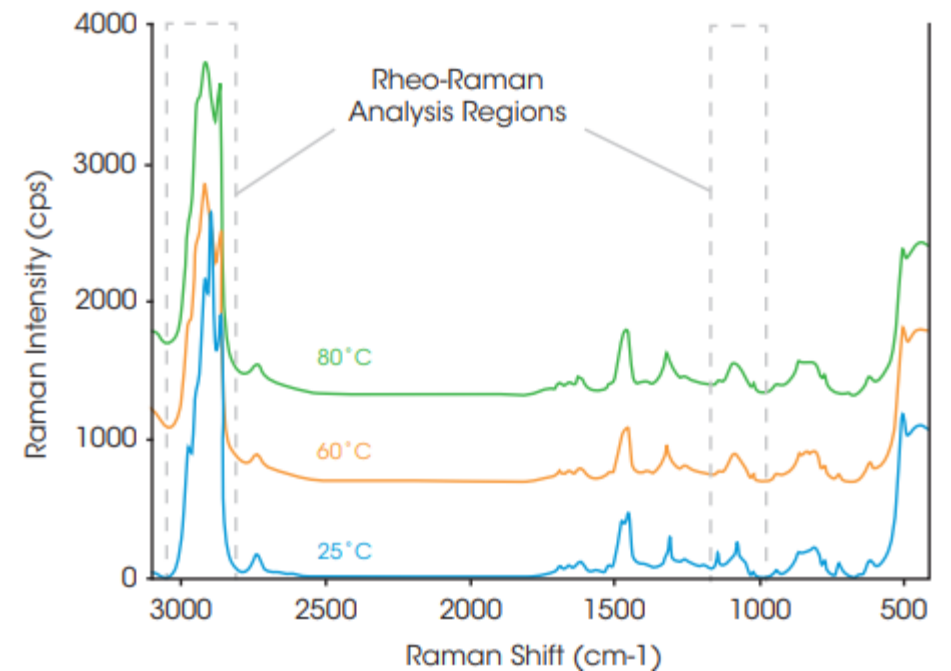
# Simultaneous Rheology-Raman Analysis



### Quantitative Rheo-Raman Analysis



### Effect of Temperature on Raman Spectra

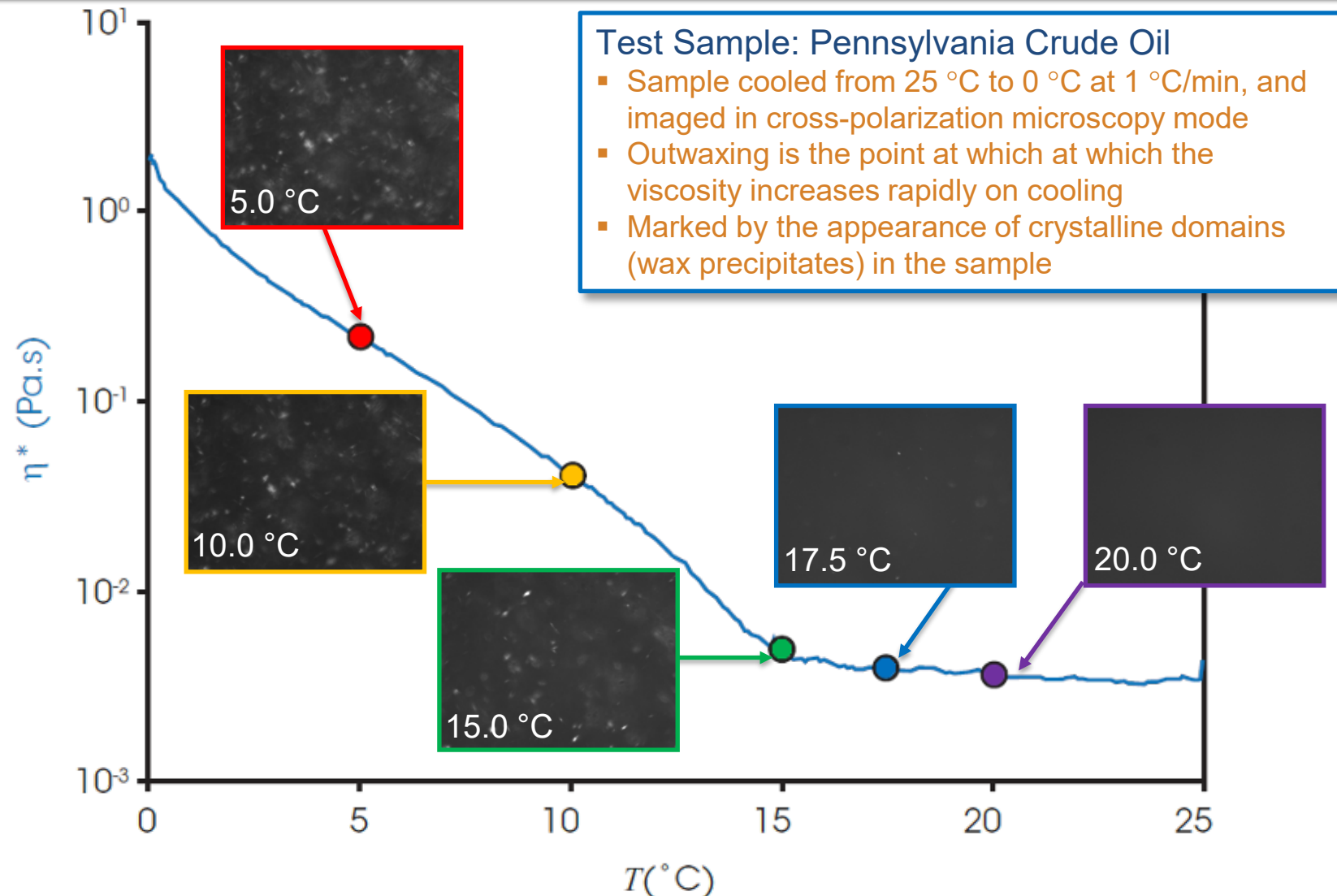


# Modular Microscope Accessory (MMA)

- Available on Discovery HR rheometers.
- Compact, modular design, that mounts on instrument frame for easy alignment and minimum vibration
- Uses standard Nikon microscopy objectives. Tested with 20× to 100×.
- Fast speed camera for image capture up to 90 fps
- X-Y-Z micrometer stage controls to select observation position
- Brightfield microscopy with cross-polarization
- Modular Options:
  - Counter-rotating plate for zero-velocity stagnation plane
  - Piezo-scanning stage for 100 μm depth profiling
  - Dichroic splitter for fluorescence microscopy
  - UHP for temperature control up to 100°C



# MMA Application: Crude Oil Outwaxing



<https://www.tainstruments.com/use-of-thermal-analysis-and-rheometry-to-study-waxation-in-crude-oil/>

# Dielectric Accessory



Agilent E4980A LCR meter



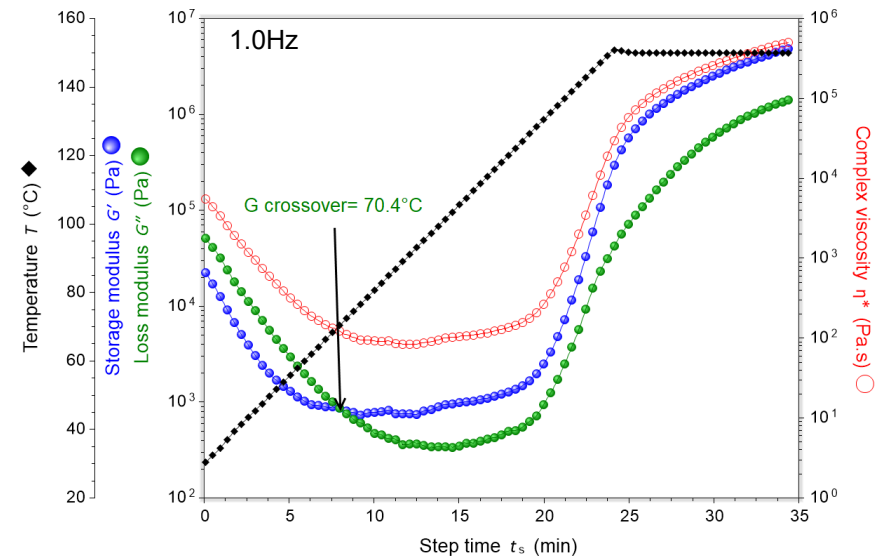
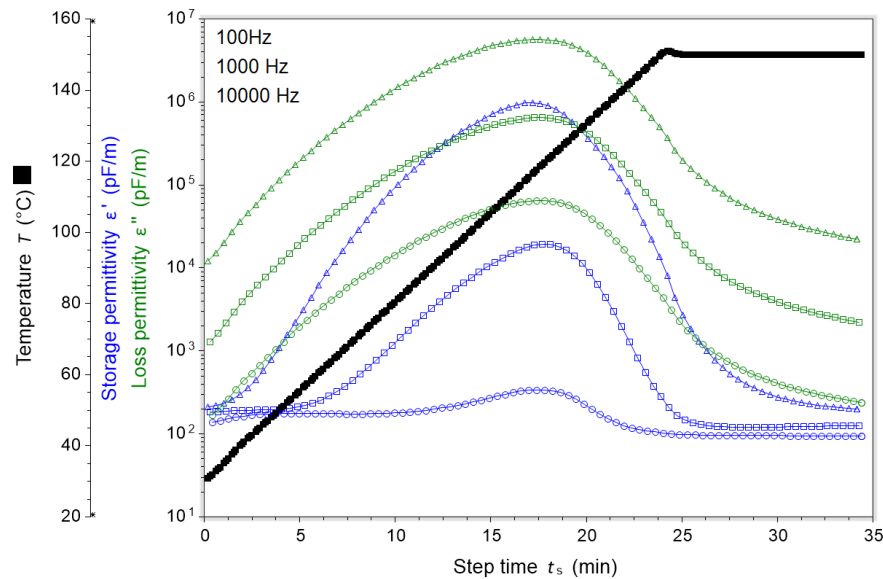
Grounded Geometries with Ceramic Insulator (standard or disposable)

# Simultaneous Rheology-Dielectric Analysis on Thermoset

- Dielectric:
  - Permittivity ( $\epsilon'$ ;  $\epsilon''$ ;  $\epsilon^*$ )
  - Loss tangent
  - Capacitance
  - Conductance



- Rheology:
  - Modulus ( $G'$ ;  $G''$ ;  $G^*$ )
  - Tan delta
  - Complex viscosity
  - Stress and strain



# Other Accessories



Small Angle Light  
Scattering



Interfacial Accessories



Magneto-Rheology



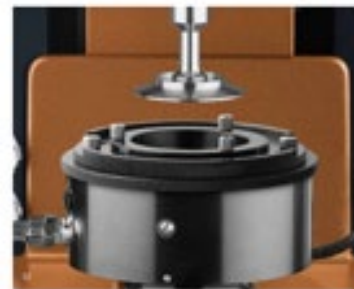
Electro-Rheology



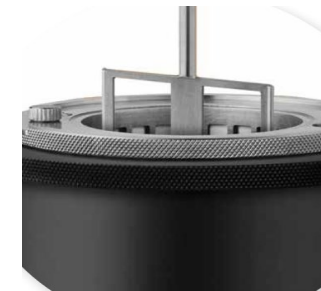
Pressure Cell



Starch Pasting Cell



Immobilization Cell



Building material cell



**Thank You!**



# Where to Find Help

## On your desktop



HR-DHR  
Manuals

### TA Instruments

#### HR/DHR Manuals

To view the desired manual using Acrobat Reader, click the name in the list below:

*TA Manual Supplement  
(Contains important information applicable to all manuals.)*

##### Instrument Documentation

HR/DHR Series Getting Started Guide - **UPDATED**  
AR-G2/AR2000ex/AR1500ex Rheometer Getting Started Guide

##### Accessory Documentation

Air Chiller System (ACS) Getting Started Guide  
Asphalt Submersion Cell Getting Started Guide  
Dielectric Accessory Getting Started Guide  
Electrically Heated Cylinder (EHC) Getting Started Guide  
Electrically Heated Plate (EHP) Getting Started Guide  
Electrorheological Accessory Getting Started Guide  
Environmental Testing Chamber (ETC) Getting Started Guide  
Gas Cooling Accessory Getting Started Guide  
High Sensitivity Pressure Cell Getting Started Guide  
Immobilization Cell Getting Started Guide  
Interfacial Subphase Exchange Cell Getting Started Guide  
MagnetoRheology Getting Started Guide  
Modular Microscopy Accessory Getting Started Guide  
Optics Plate Accessory Getting Started Guide  
Peltier Plate Concentric Cylinder Getting Started Guide  
Peltier Plate Getting Started Guide



ARES-G2  
Manuals

### TA Instruments

#### ARES-G2 Manuals

To view the desired manual using Acrobat Reader, click the name in the list below:

*TA Manual Supplement  
(Contains important information applicable to all manuals.)*

##### Instrument Documentation

ARES-G2 Getting Started Guide  
Air Chiller System (ACS) Getting Started Guide - **UPDATED!**  
Advanced Peltier System (APS) Getting Started Guide  
Chiller Panel Kit Installation Instructions  
Dielectric Accessory Getting Started Guide  
Electrorheological (ER) Accessory Getting Started Guide  
FCO Camera Kit Installation Guide  
High Sensitivity Pressure Cell Getting Started Guide - **NEW!**  
Interfacial Double Wall Ring (DWR) Getting Started Guide  
LN2 Kit Installation Guide

Partitioned Plate Getting Started Guide  
Peltier Plate Kit Installation Instructions  
Sealed Fluid Bath Kit Installation Guide  
Sealed Fluid Bath Kit Upgrade Kit  
UV Curing Accessory Getting Started Guide

##### Software Documentation

What's New in TRIOS Software



## In TRIOS



Help

TRIOS Online Help - Welcome...  
File Edit View Favorites Tools Help  
Access Panel Applications SuccessFactors Log in Suggested Sites Web Slice Gallery Log in to Virgin Pulse Page Safety Tools

TA  
Search

Search by keywords

You are here: Welcome to TRIOS

### Welcome to TRIOS Online Help for the HR/DHR Rheometers

TRIOS is TA Instruments' state-of-the-art software package that uses cutting-edge technology for instrument control, data collection, and data analysis of thermal and rheology instruments. The intuitive user interface allows you to simply and effectively program experiments and move easily between processing experiments and viewing and analyzing data. TRIOS software delivers a whole new experiment experience.  
Before beginning, read our [Notices](#) and TA Instruments End-User License Agreement located in the [TA Manual Supplement](#). Find out what What's New in TRIOS Software by clicking [here](#). A list of included manuals can be found [here](#).



# Web Based e-Training Courses

## Web based e-Training Courses

TA Instruments offers a variety of training opportunities via the Internet. e-Training opportunities include the following:

### QUICKSTART e-TRAINING COURSES

QuickStart e-Training courses are designed to teach a new user how to set up and run samples on their analyzers. These 60-90 minute courses are available whenever you are. These pre-recorded courses are available to anyone at no charge. Typically these courses should be attended shortly after installation.

<https://www.tainstruments.com/training/e-training-courses/>

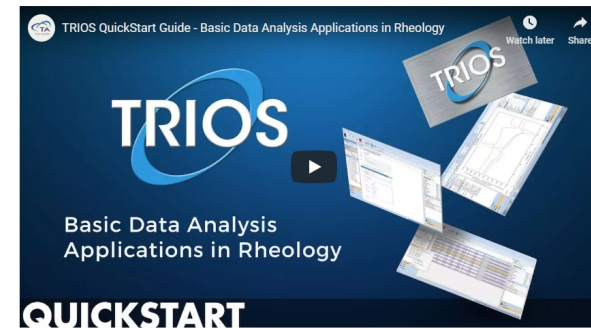
### ARES G2



### Discovery HR



### TRIOS Software



# Practical Series Training Course

<https://www.tainstruments.com/practical-series-training-courses/>



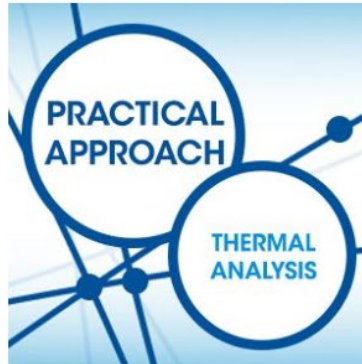
Products ▾ Videos ▾ Support ▾ **Training ▾** News & Events ▾ Sales Promos Careers ▾ About TA ▾ Contact ▾

Practical Series – Training Courses

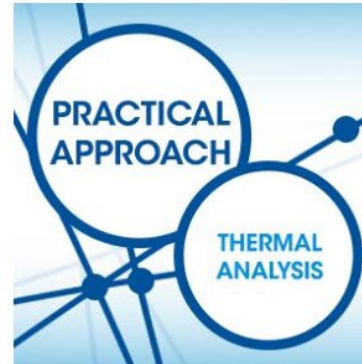
Sign up or log in for our free, on-demand practical series training courses here

Sign up

Log in



A Practical Approach to Thermal Analysis – Thermogravimetry



A Practical Approach to Thermal Analysis – Differential Scanning Calorimetry



A Practical Approach to Rheology



A Practical Approach to Microcalorimetry



# TA Webinars - Rheology

<https://www.tainstruments.com/support/webinars/>

View all

Electroforce

Dilatometry

Microcalorimetry

Rheology

Rubber

Thermal Analysis



**Interfacial Rheology:  
Fundamental Overview  
and Applications**



**Designing New  
Materials for Additive  
Manufacturing: Vat  
Photopolymerization**



**Strategies for  
Rheological Evaluation  
of Adhesives**



**An Introduction To High  
Pressure Rheology**



**Randy H. Ewoldt:  
Experimental  
Challenges of Shear  
Rheology, How to Avoid  
Bad Data**



**Norman J. Wagner: An  
Introduction to  
Colloidal Suspension  
Rheology**



**Professor João Maia:  
The Role of Interfacial  
Elasticity on the  
Rheological Behavior  
of Polymer Blends**



**Neil Cunningham:  
Essential tools for the  
new Rheologist**



**Extensional Rheology  
in Polymer Processing**



**An Introduction to  
Tribo-Rheometry:  
Quantifying Friction**



**Rheo-Microscopy:  
Bridging Rheology,  
Microstructure &  
Dynamics**



**Extensional Rheology &  
Analytics of Material  
Characterization**

## Tech Tips



Installation & Calibration of the Relative Humidity Accessory for the Discovery Hybrid Rheometer



Shear Sandwich Clamp Installation & Calibration for the Discovery DMA 850



Three Point Bend Clamp Installation & Calibration for the DMA850



Installation and Calibration for the UV Accessory on the Ares G2 Rheometer



Single Cantilever Installation & Calibration - DMA 850



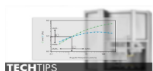
Dual Cantilever Installation & Calibration - DMA 850



Linear Film Tension Clamp for DMA using the ARES-G2



Loading the Powder Clamp on the Q800 DMA with 35mm Dual Cantilever Clamp



Frequency Sweep Tests for RPA Flex and RPA Elite



Improving Structured Fluid Measurements w/ Pre-Shearing



Measuring Thixotropy Of A Sample- TA TechTips



The Double Wall Ring & Interfacial Measurements - TA

## Applications Notes Library

### Applications Notes Library

Our instruments are used in a variety of products, in multiple industries. The application notes below provide more detail on specific potential applications. You can search for specific app notes with the search field.

261 item

Title	Product Category	Ref#	Link
Hot Melt Adhesives	Rheology	AAN001	<a href="#">Download Note</a>
Generating Mastercurves	Rheology	AAN005e	<a href="#">Download Note</a>
Analytical Rheology	Rheology	AAN006e	<a href="#">Download Note</a>
Normal Stresses in Shear Flow	Rheology	AAN007e	<a href="#">Download Note</a>
Mischungsregeln Komplexer Polysysteme	Rheology	AAN008d	<a href="#">Download Note</a>
Mixing Rules for Complex Polymer Systems	Rheology	AAN008e	<a href="#">Download Note</a>
Application of Rheology of Polymers	Rheology	AAN009	<a href="#">Download Note</a>
Synergy of the Combined Application of Thermal Analysis and Rheology Monitoring and Characterizing Changing Processes in Materials	Rheology	AAN010e	<a href="#">Download Note</a>

site

## Seminar Series: Instant Insights

### Seminars:

Thermal Analysis and Rheology

Medical Device and Biomaterials Testing

Elastomers and Rubber Compounds

TRIOS AutoPilot & TRIOS Guardian



### Thermal, Rheological and Mechanical Characterizations of Thermoset

*Tianhong (Terri) Chen, Ph.D.*

Thermosetting materials, such as epoxy, have been widely applied in many areas including automotive, aerospace and electronics industries in the form of surface coating, structural adhesives, advanced composites and packaging materials.

[View Archive](#)



### Advancements in the Characterization of Pharmaceuticals by DSC

*Jason Saienga, Ph.D.*

Differential Scanning Calorimetry is a simple, yet powerful technique to gain a broad understanding of the characteristics of pharmaceutical materials, from the crystalline structure that exists to the compatibility of a specific formulation.

[View Archive](#)



### Steady State & Flash Methods for Thermal Diffusivity and Thermal Conductivity Determination

*Justin Wynn*

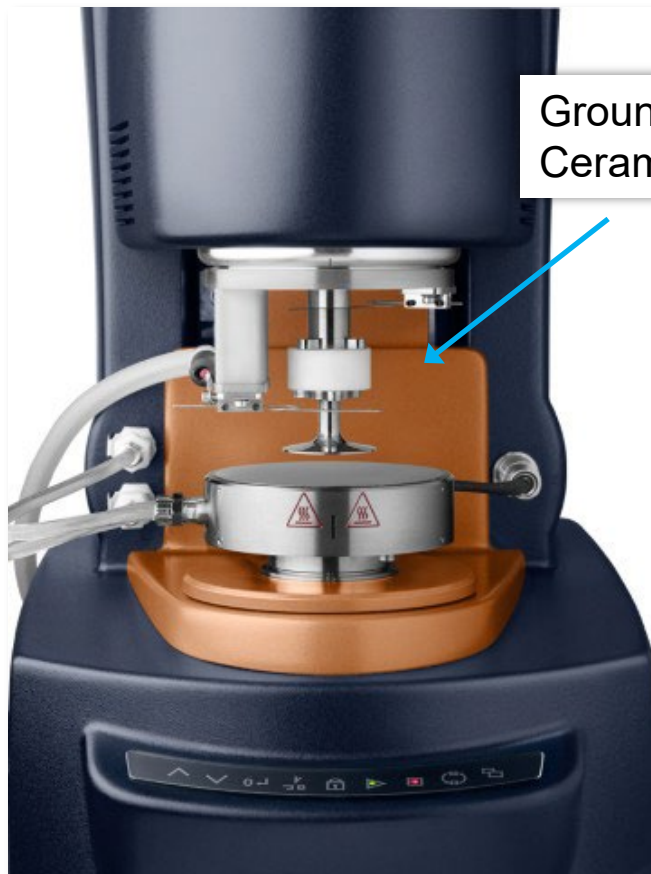
In this presentation we will demonstrate accurate and high-throughput methods to measure the critical heat transfer properties of thermal diffusivity and thermal conductivity.

[View Archive](#)

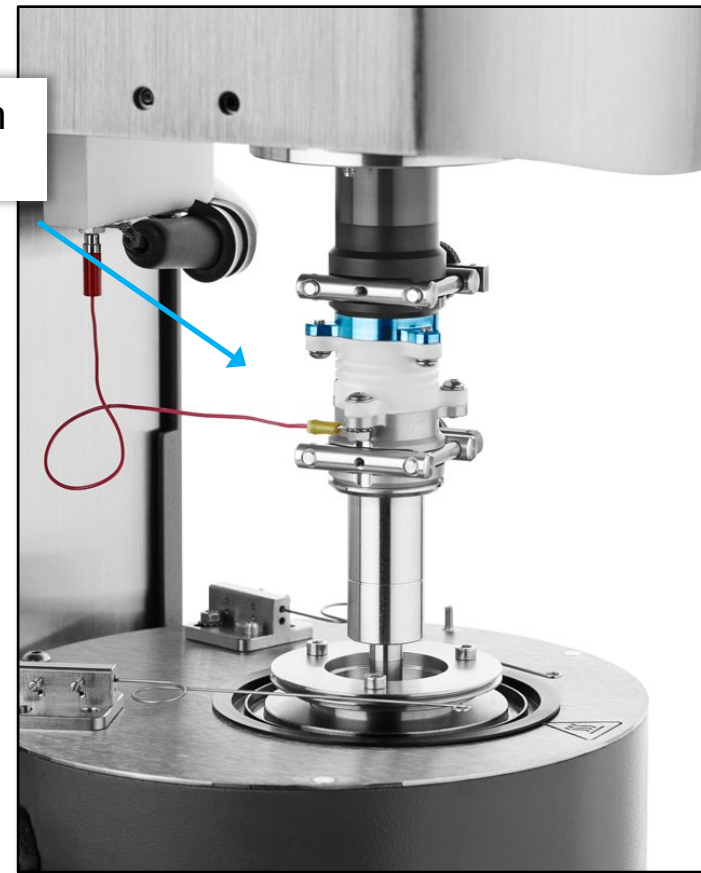




# Electro-Rheology (ER) Accessory

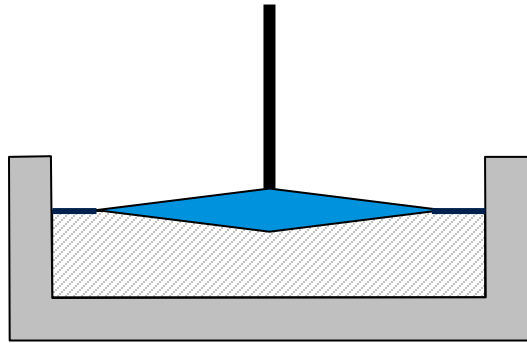


Grounded Geometries with  
Ceramic Insulator



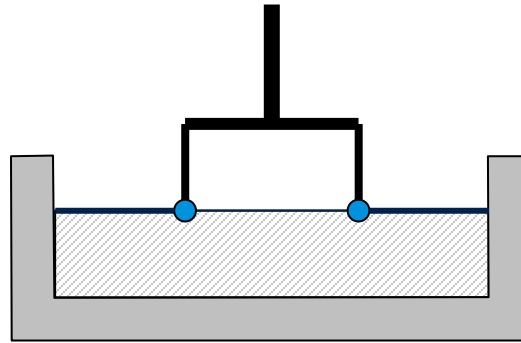


# DHR Interfacial Accessories



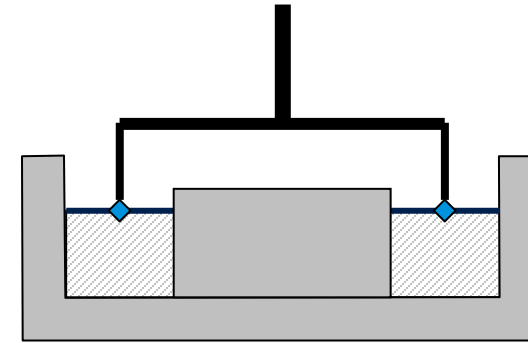
Bicone

Steady Shear Viscosity at air/liquid and liquid/liquid interface.



DuNouy Ring

Qualitative Viscoelastic measurements at air/liquid and liquid/liquid interface.



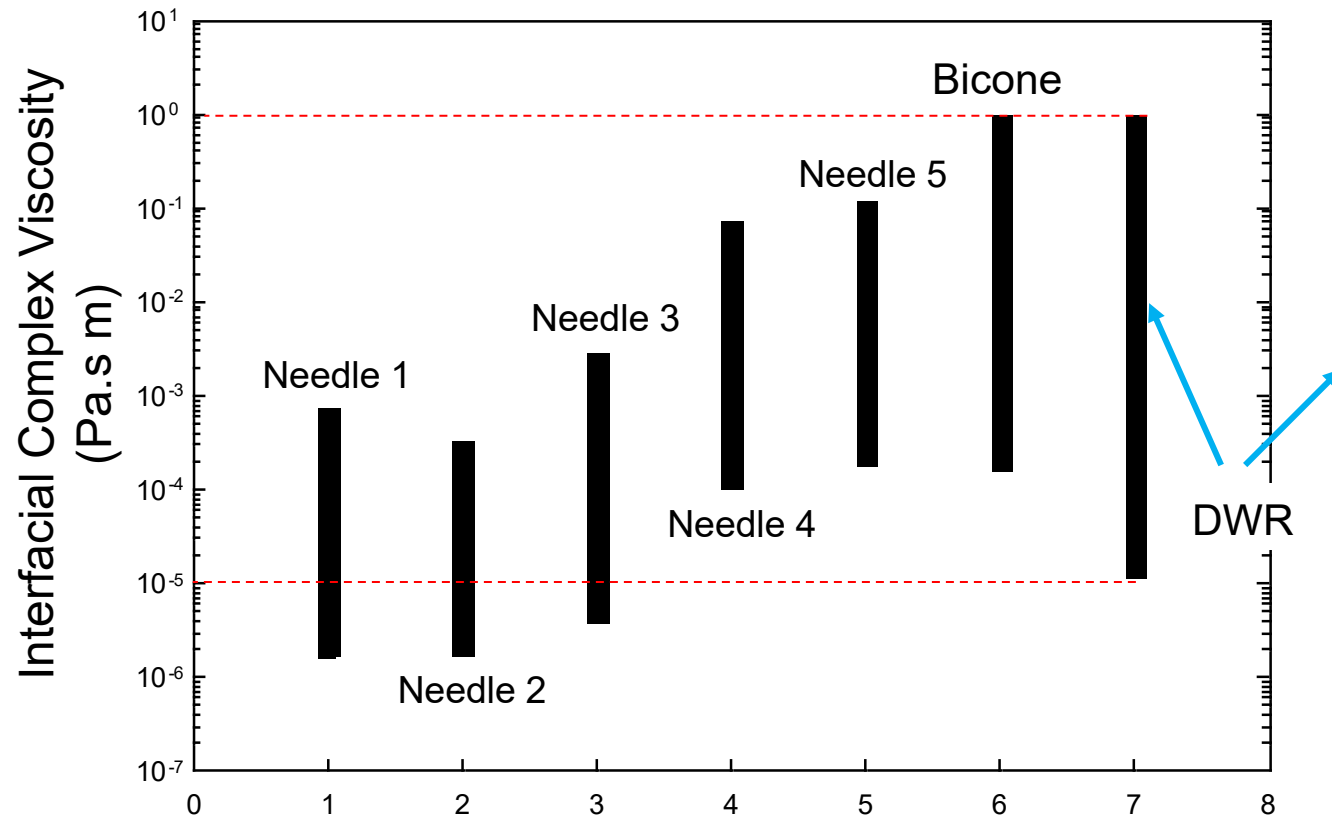
Double Wall Ring

Quantitative Viscoelastic measurements at air/liquid and liquid/liquid interface.

- Interfacial shear rheology of thin layers at liquid-liquid or liquid-gas interfaces
- Effect of particles, surfactants or proteins at the interface
- Applications: food, biomedical, enhanced oil recovery

# Patented DWR Interfacial System

## Oscillation Experiments at 0.1 Hz



# Interfacial Exchange Cell



1: Conditioning ▾ Interfacial Pump ▾

Event timer start  
 Immediate  Synchronize to next set command  
 Complete pump cycle before motor command

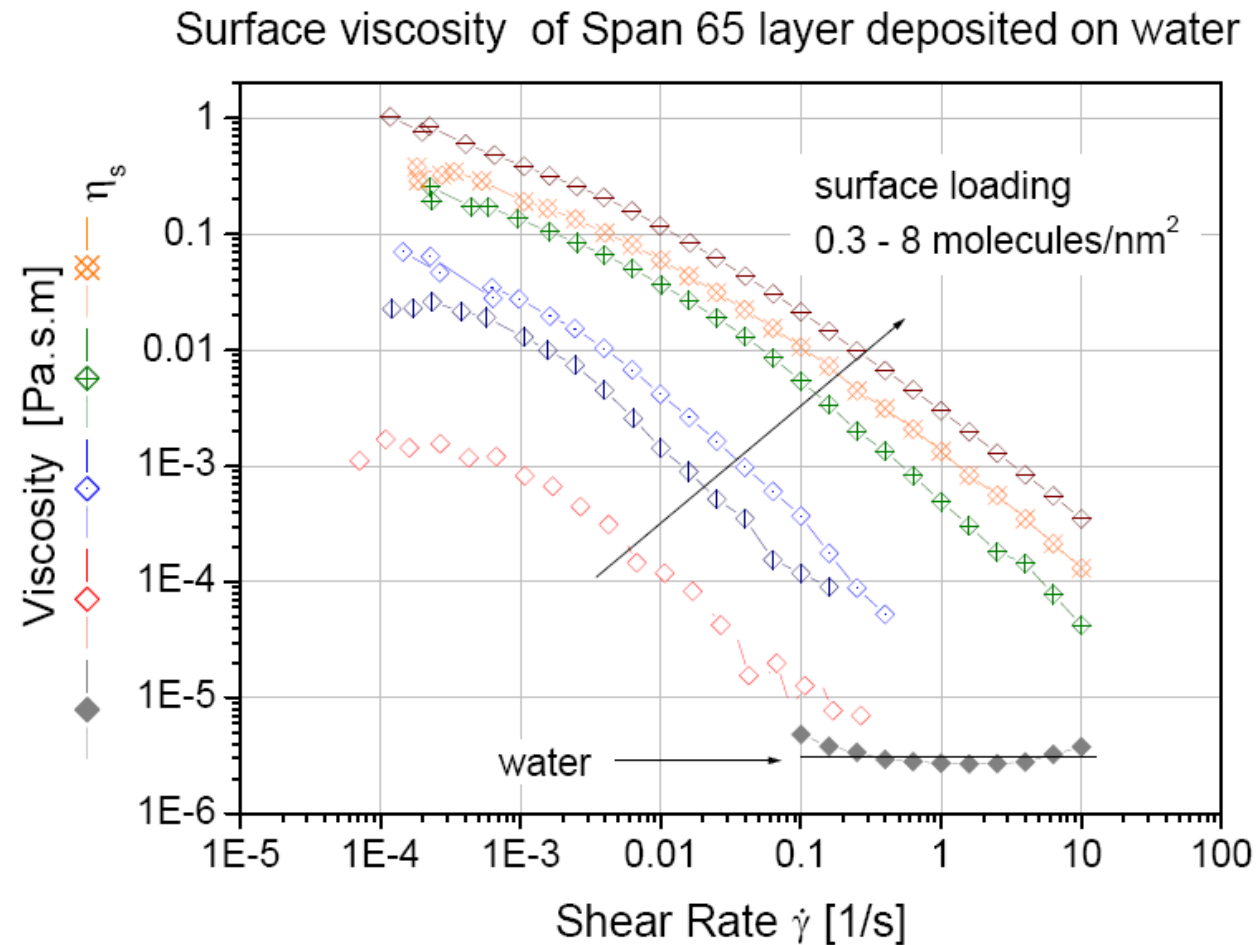
Timing  
Delay time  s  
 Duration  Volume  
Event duration  s

Pump Control  
Flow Rate  ml/min  
Direction:  Flow  Reverse

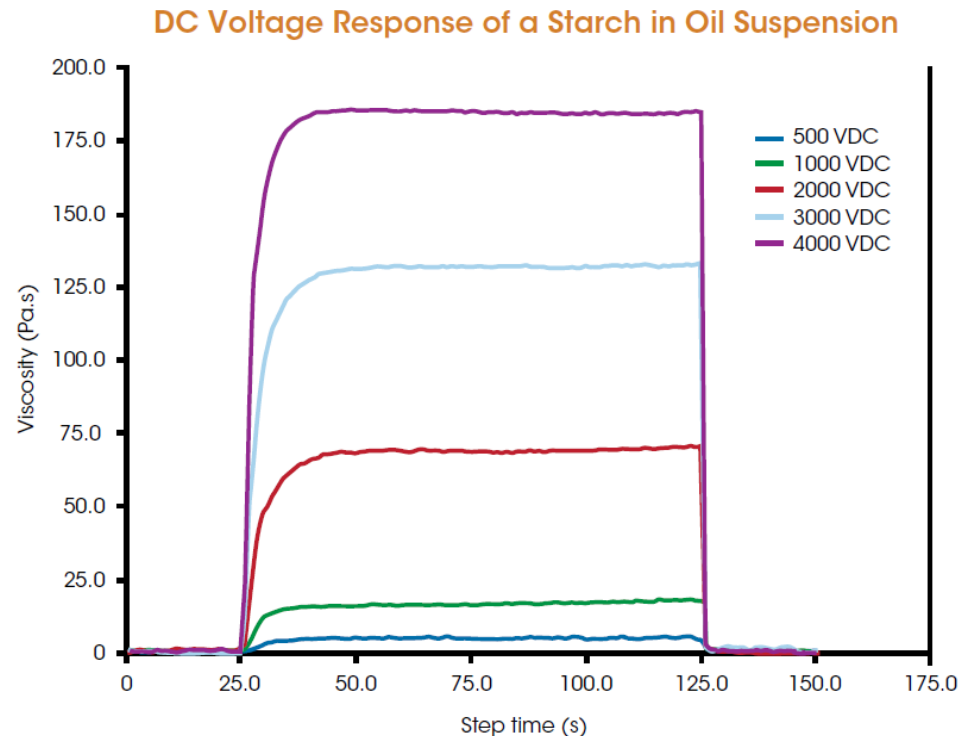
Table 1: Interfacial Exchange Cell Specifications

Subphase Volume	37.7 mL
Recommended Infusion Rate	6 mL/min
Trough to Tee Fitting Tube Length	280 mm
Maximum Operating Temperature	100°C

# Surface Concentration Effects on Interfacial Viscosity



# Electro-Rheology (ER) Accessory



- Plates and DIN concentric cylinders
- Fully programmable from TRIOS
- Wide range of voltage profiles
  - Constant voltage
  - Step voltage, ramp voltage
  - Sine wave voltage function
  - Triangle wave voltage function
  - Wave functions with DC offsets

## Applications:

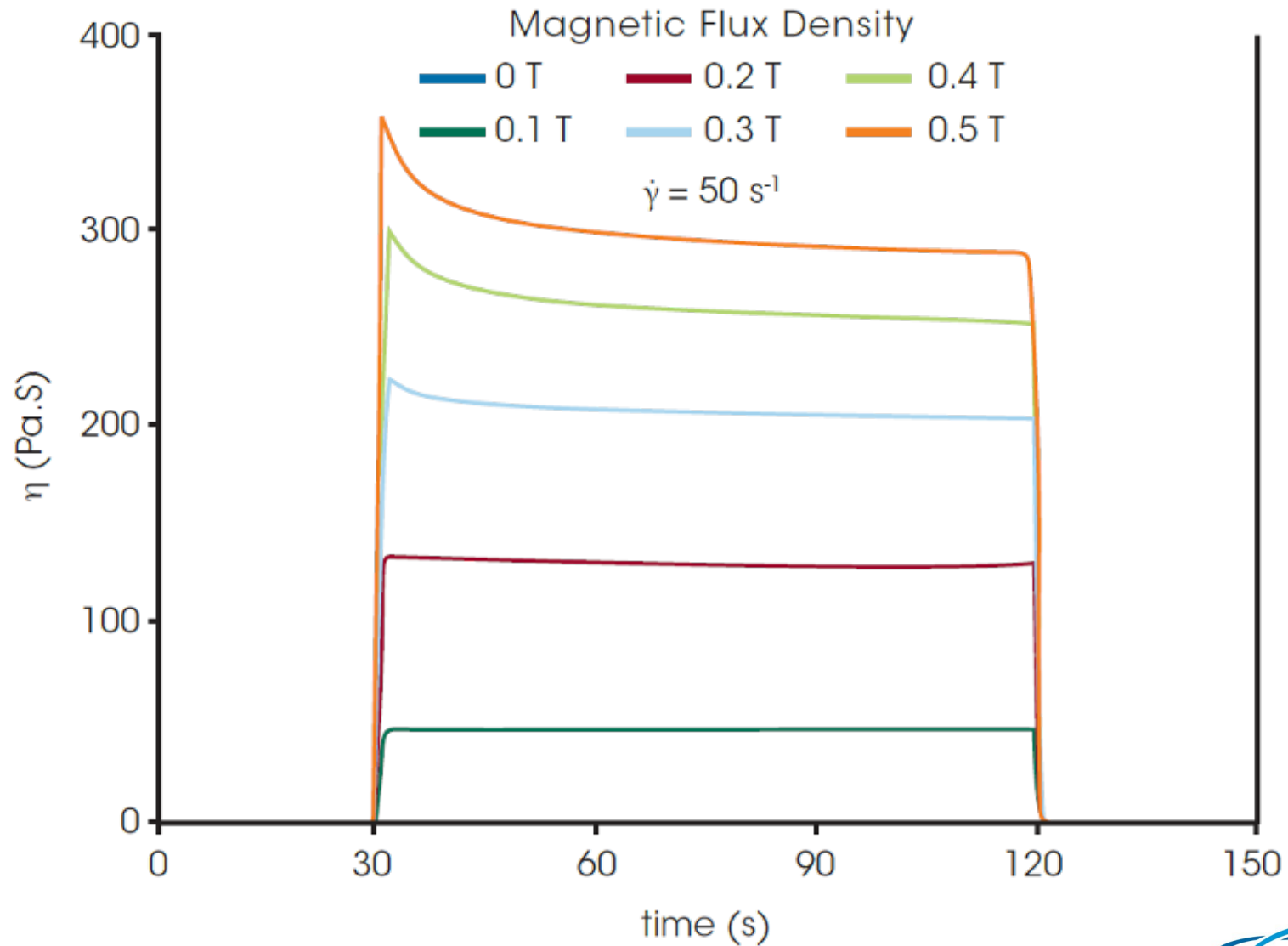
- Hydraulic valves and clutches
- Shock absorbers
- Bulletproof vests
- Polishing slurries
- Flexible electronics

# Magneto-Rheology (MR) Accessory

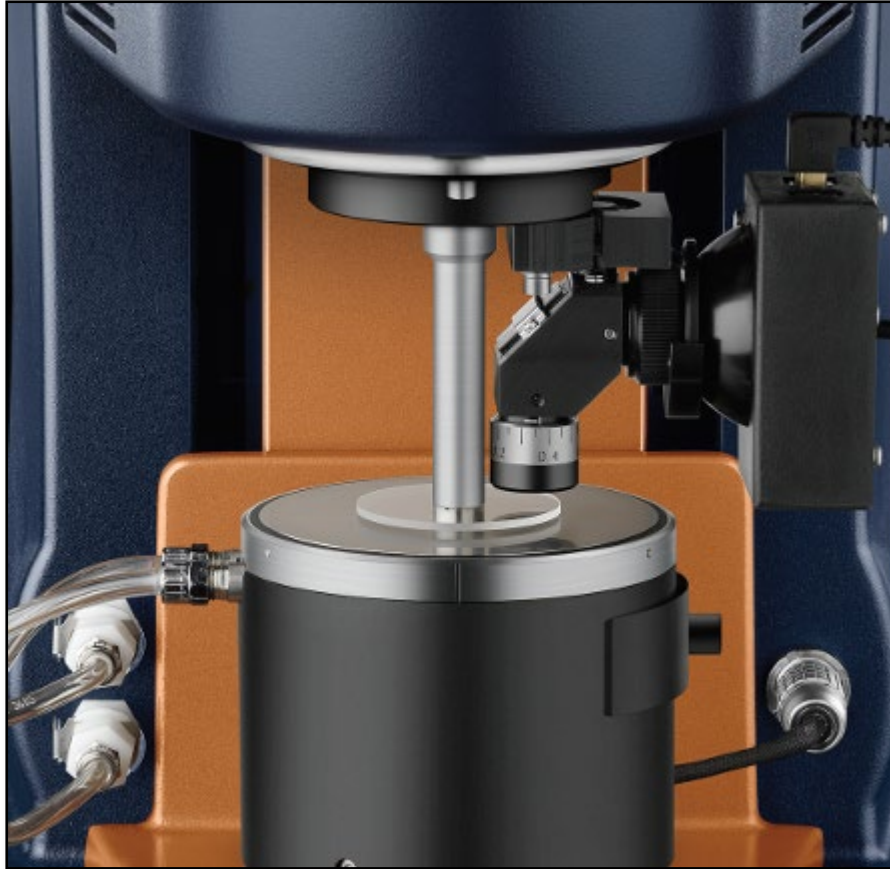


- MR fluids are “smart materials” that respond to an applied magnetic field
- Rheological properties of these materials can be easily tuned by controlling the strength of the field
- Can apply magnetic field up to 1T, over temperature range of -10 to 170 °C
- Exclusive closed loop control of magnetic field strength for increased accuracy
- Complete control of magnetic field profile in all standard rheological test modes:
  - Constant field
  - Step, ramp field
  - Sine wave
  - Triangle wave
  - Wave functions with field offsets

# Magneto-Rheology (MR) Accessory



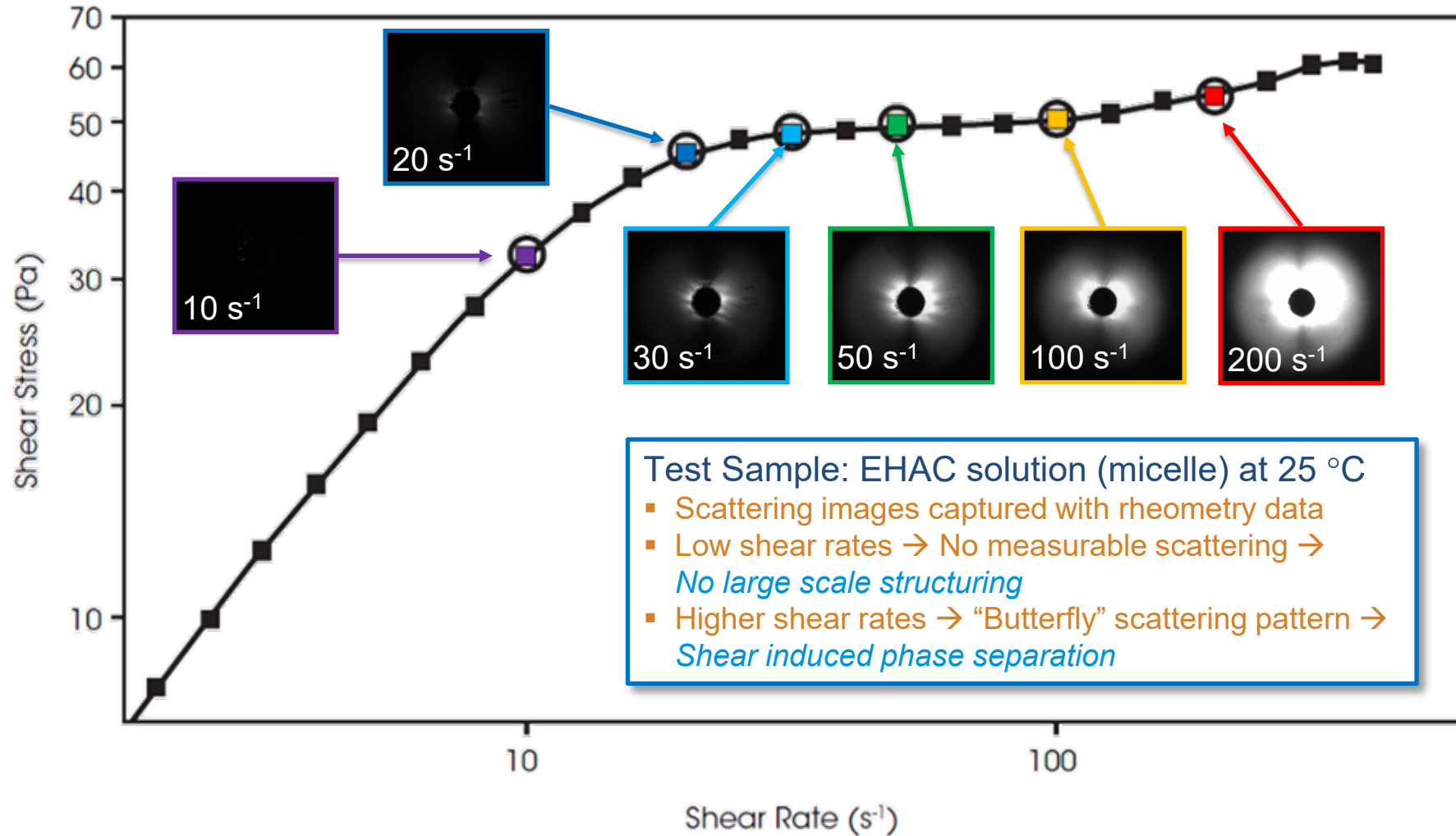
# Small Angle Light Scattering (SALS)



- Provides the capability to simultaneously collect rheological and structural information
- SALS can reveal information about particle size, shape, orientation, and spatial distribution
- Patented Peltier plate temperature control from 5 to 95 °C
- Laser light (635 nm wavelength) passes through a 50 mm quartz geometry
- CCD Camera collects images that are stored with rheology data
- $q$  vector range:  $1.38 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$  to  $6.11 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$  (length scale range:  $1.0 \mu\text{m}$  to  $\sim 4.6 \mu\text{m}$ )



# SALS Application: Shear Induced Phase Separation



# Amorphous, Crystalline and Crosslinked Polymers

