



# Rheology Theory and Applications



# Course Outline

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- Basics in Rheology Theory
- TA Instruments Rheometers
  - Instrumentation
  - Choosing a Geometry
- Rheology Experimental
  - Flow tests
  - Oscillation tests
  - Transient tests
- Applications of Rheology
  - Polymers
  - Yield stress and thixotropy of structured fluids

# Basics in Rheology Theory



# Rheology: An Introduction



Rheology: The study of the flow and deformation of matter.  
Rheological behavior affects every aspect of our lives.



# Basic Material Behaviors

Water

Oil

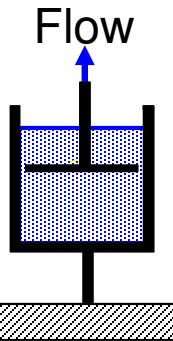
Soap

Egg white

Polymer Melt

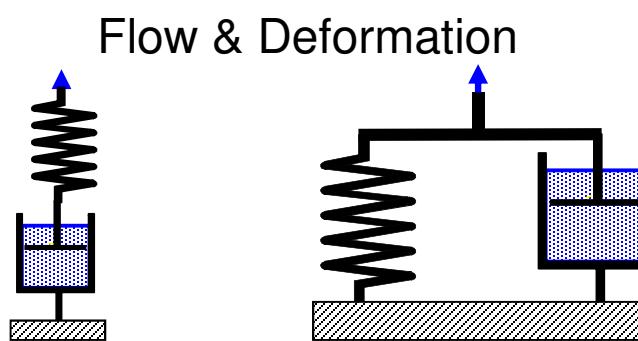
Ceramic ?

Metal

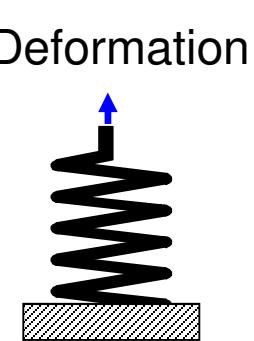


Viscous Liquids

$$\text{Viscosity} = \frac{\text{Stress}}{\text{Strain Rate}}$$



Viscoelastic



Elastic Solids

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

# Rheology: An Introduction

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- Rheology is the study of flow and deformation of matter
  - The word ‘Rheology’ was coined in the 1920s by Professor E C Bingham at Lafayette College
- Flow is a special case of deformation
- The relationship between stress and deformation is a property of the material

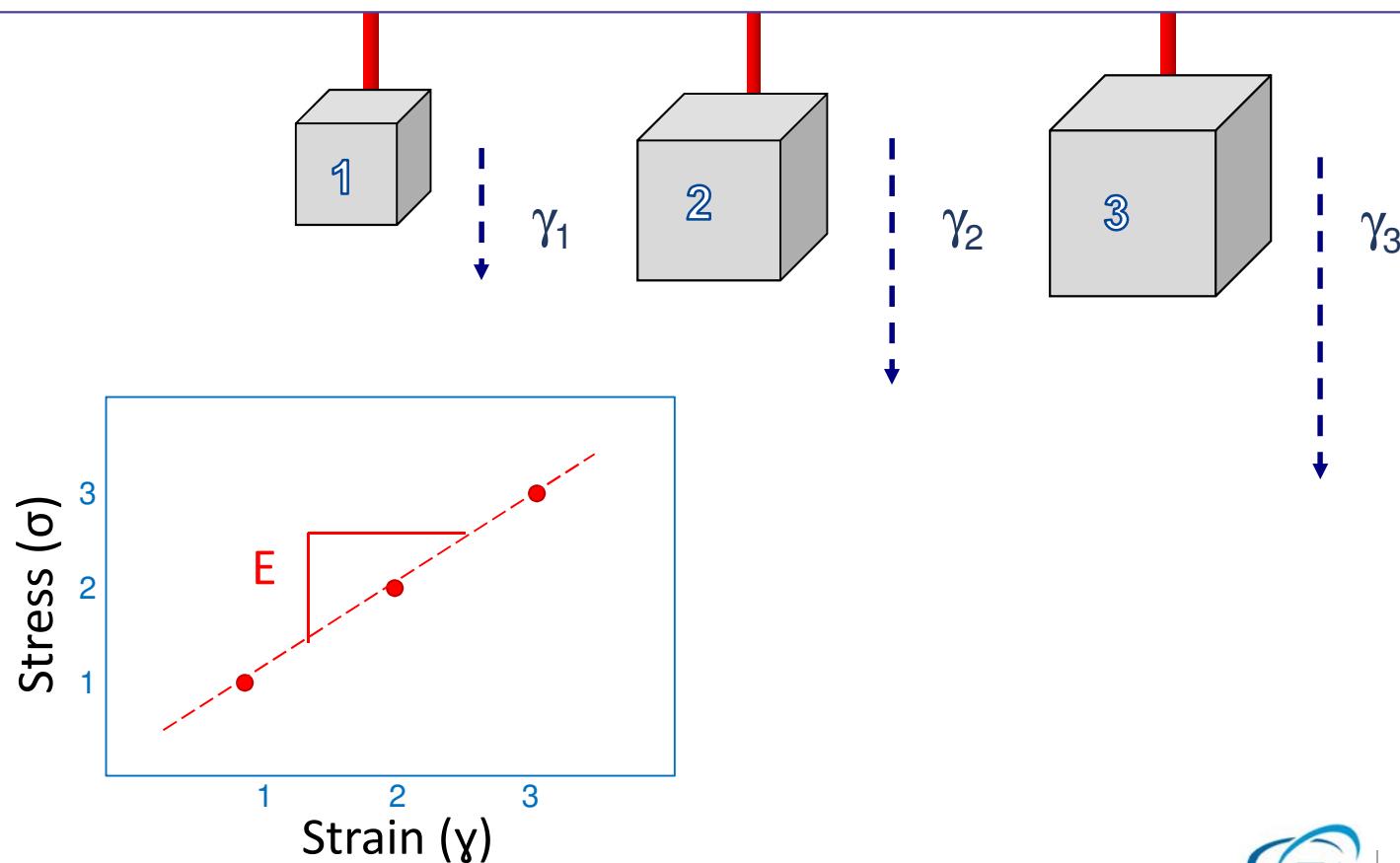
$$\frac{\text{Stress}}{\text{Shear rate}} = \text{Viscosity}$$

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

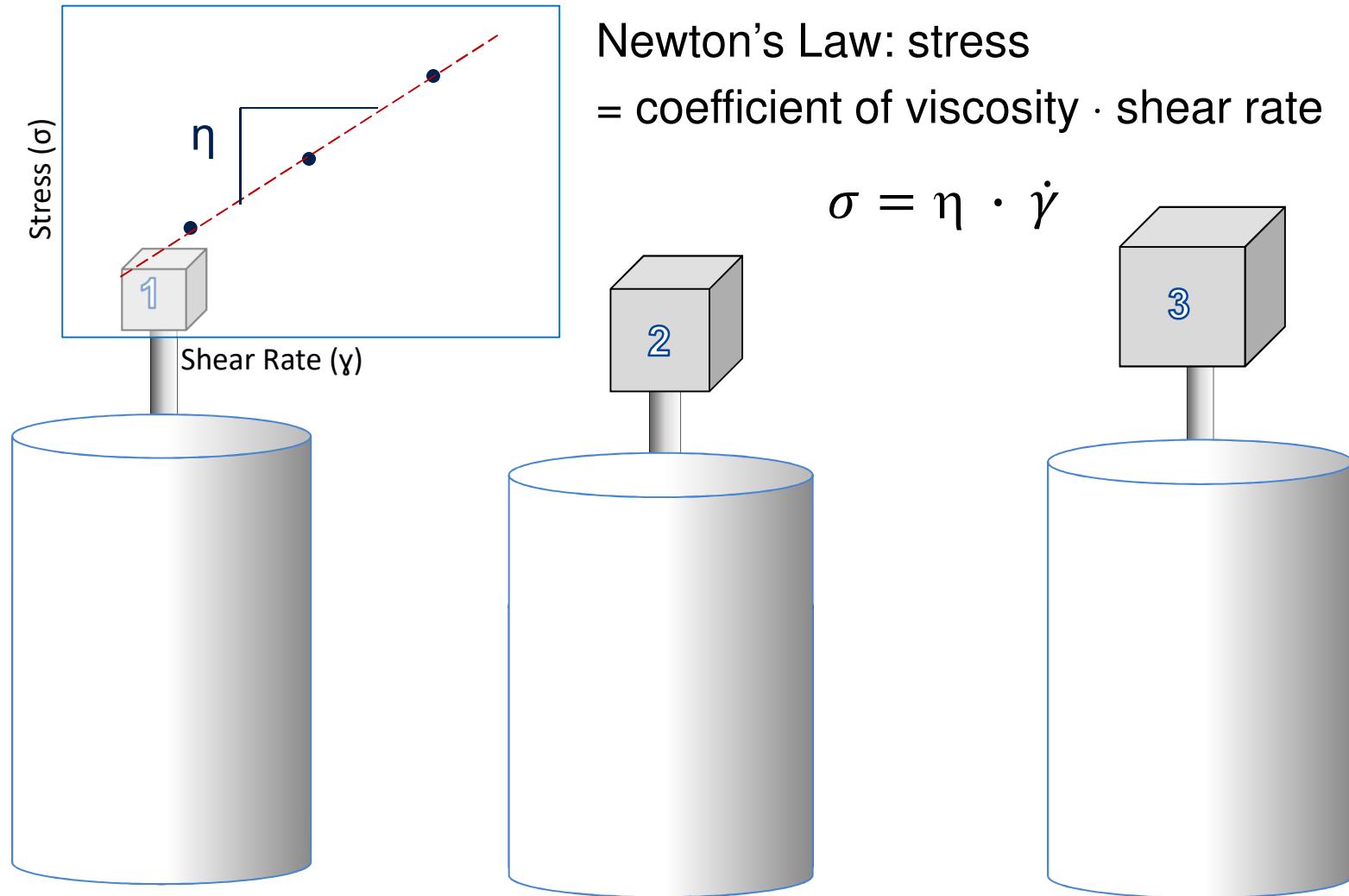
# Elastic Behavior of an Ideal Solid

Hooke's Law of Elasticity: Stress = Modulus · Strain

$$\sigma = E \cdot \gamma$$



# Viscous Behavior of an Ideal Liquid



# Viscoelasticity Defined

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Range of Material Behavior

Liquid Like ----- Solid Like

*Ideal Fluid* ----- Most Materials ----- *Ideal Solid*

*Purely Viscous* ----- *Viscoelastic* ----- *Purely Elastic*

***Viscoelasticity:*** Having both viscous and elastic properties

- Materials behave in the linear manner, as described by Hooke and Newton, only on a small scale in stress or deformation.

# Solid or Liquid?

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- Long deformation time: pitch behaves like a highly viscous liquid
  - 9<sup>th</sup> drop fell July 2013
- Short deformation time: pitch behaves like a solid

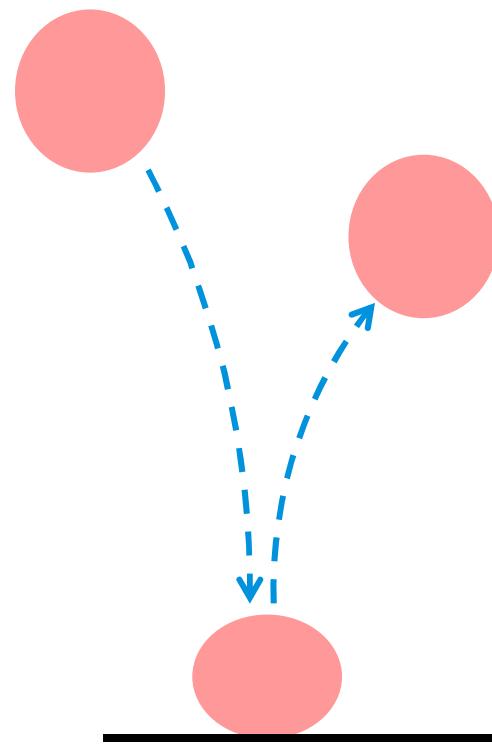


Started in 1927 by Thomas Parnell in Queensland, Australia

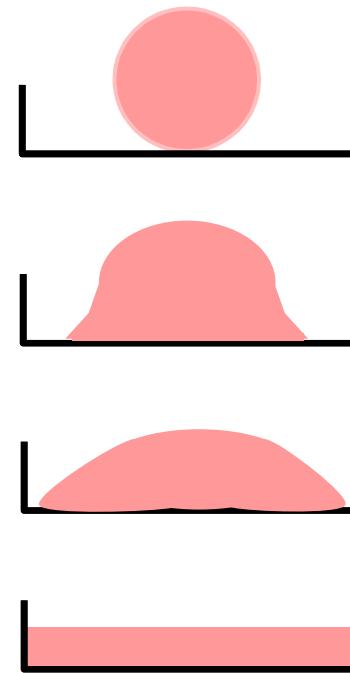
<http://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2013/07/the-3-most-exciting-words-in-science-right-now-the-pitch-dropped/277919/>

# Time-Dependent Viscoelastic Behavior

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T is short [ $< 1\text{s}$ ]



T is long [24 hours]

# Importance of Rheological Measurements

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- Investigating molecular structure
- Guide and troubleshooting processing
- Evaluate product performance



# Basic Parameters and Units

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Stress = Force /Area [Pa, or dyne/cm<sup>2</sup> ]

$\sigma$  = shear stress

Strain = Geometric Shape Change [no units]

$\gamma$  = shear strain

Strain Rate or Shear Rate = Velocity Gradient [1/s]

$\dot{\gamma}$  = shear strain rate

Modulus = Stress / Strain [Pa or dyne/cm<sup>2</sup> ]

G = Shear Modulus

Compliance = Strain / Stress [1/Pa or cm<sup>2</sup>/dyne]

Typically denoted by J

Viscosity = Stress /Strain Rate [Pa·s or Poise]

Denoted by  $\eta$

**S.I. units × 10 = c.g.s. units**

# TA Instruments Rheometers



# Types of Rheometers

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- Rotational (Shear) Rheometers
  - ARES-G2 and ARES (Strain Control – SMT)
  - DHR or AR (Stress Control – CMT)
  - Closed Die Cavity Rheometer (Strain Control – SMT)
- Solids (Tensile/Bending) Rheometers
  - RSA-G2 and RSA (Strain Control – SMT)
  - DMA 850/Q800 (Stress Control – CMT)

**SMT:** Separate Motor and Transducer (Dual-Head)

**CMT:** Combined Motor and Transducer (Single Head)

# Rotational Rheometers by TA

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ARES G2



Controlled Strain  
Dual Head  
SMT

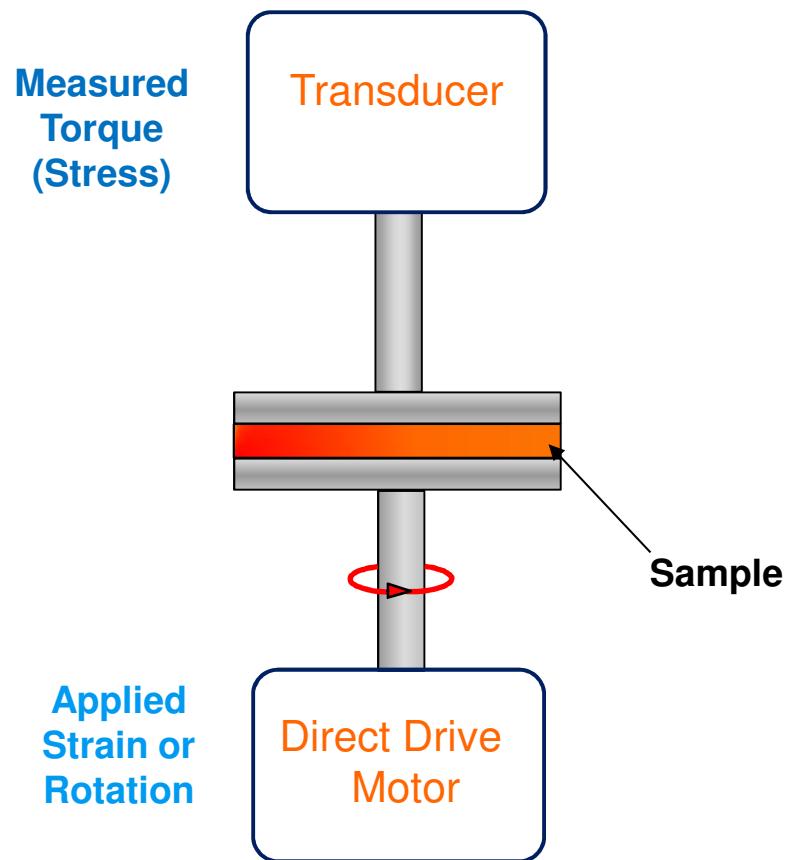
DHR



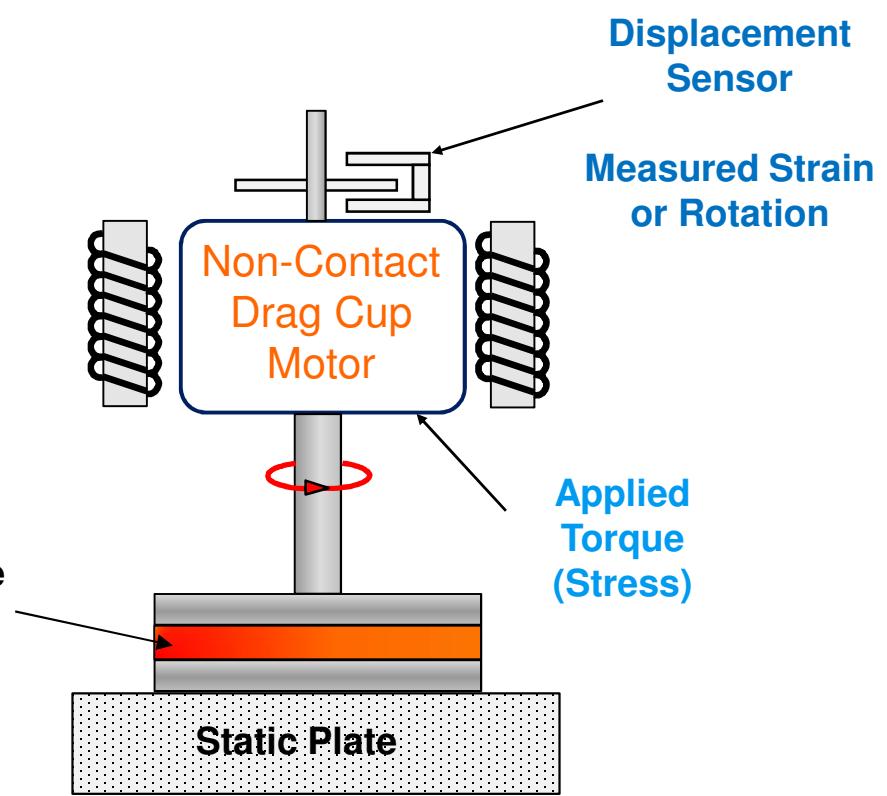
Controlled Stress  
Single Head  
CMT

# Rotational Rheometer Designs

*Dual head or SMT  
Separate motor & transducer*

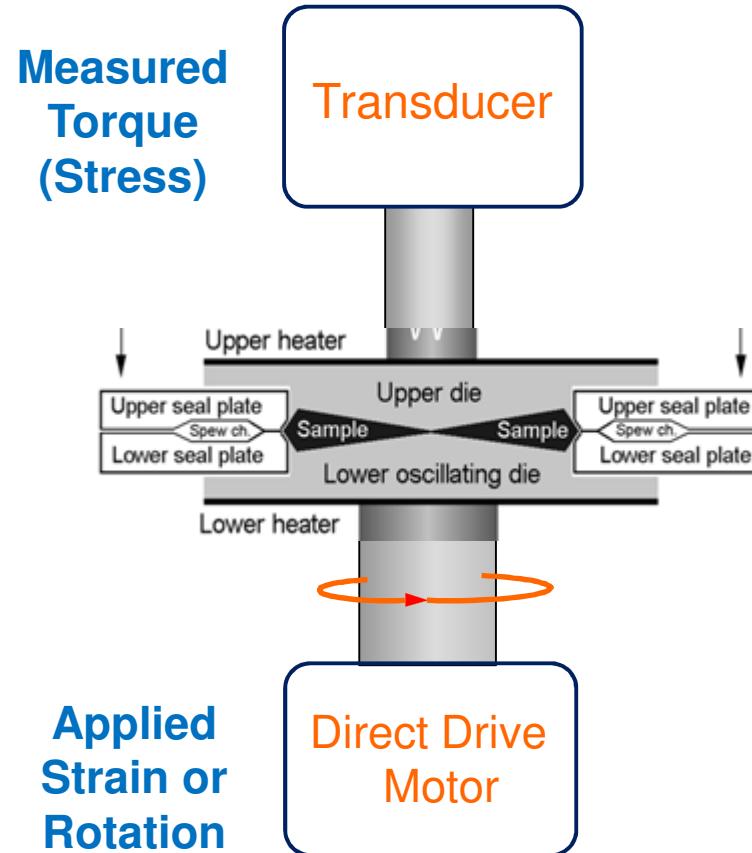


*Single head or CMT  
Combined motor & transducer*



Note: With computer feedback, DHR and AR can work in controlled strain/shear rate, and ARES can work in controlled stress.

# Closed Die Cavity Rheometer by TA



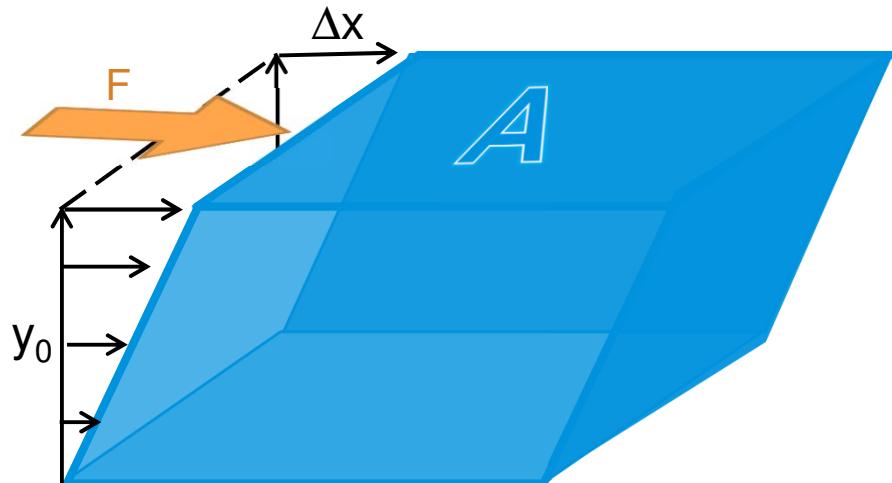
RPA Elite, RPA Flex and MDR



Controlled Strain  
SMT or Dual Head

# How do Rheometers Work?

- The study of stress and deformation relationship



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

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

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

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

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

# How do Rheometers Work?

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- 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

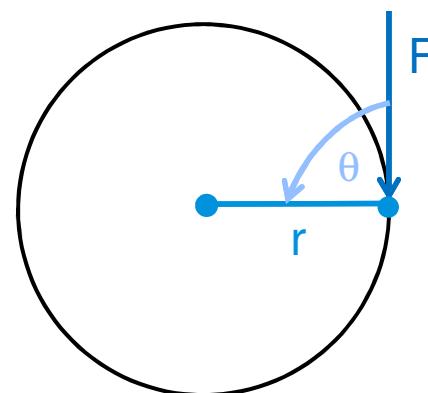
# Measured parameter: torque

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- 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

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

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

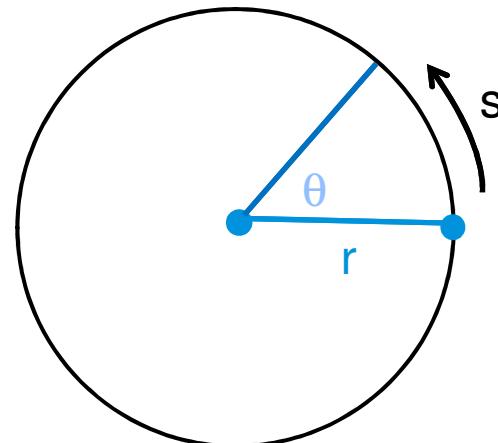
- $\sigma$  = shear stress (Pa or Dyne/cm<sup>2</sup>)
- $M$  = torque (N·m or gm·cm)
- $K_{\sigma}$  = stress constant
- The stress constant,  $K_{\sigma}$ , is dependent on measurement geometry and/or initial sample dimensions

# Measured parameter: angular displacement

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- 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

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- 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
- Calculate percent strain ( $\gamma\%$ ) by multiplying strain by 100

# Equation for modulus

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

Material function

Constitutive equation

Measured signals

Geometry constants

# Measured parameter: angular velocity

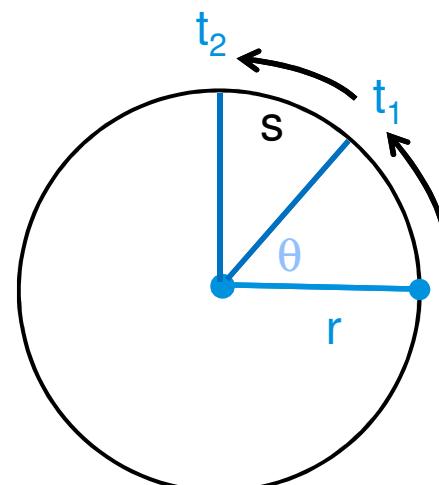
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- Angular velocity ( $\Omega$ ) is the change in angular displacement ( $\theta$ ) per unit time of measurement

- 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

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- 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

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

Material function

Constitutive equation

Measured signals

Geometry constants

# Five Important Rheometer Specifications

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- Torque range
- Angular Resolution
- Angular Velocity Range
- Frequency Range
- Normal Force

# Discovery Hybrid Rheometer Specifications

Specification	HR-3	HR-2	HR-1
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	0.5	2	10
Minimum Torque (nN.m) Steady Shear	5	10	20
Maximum Torque (mN.m)	200	200	150
Torque Resolution (nN.m)	0.05	0.1	0.1
Minimum Frequency (Hz)	1.0E-07	1.0E-07	1.0E-07
Maximum Frequency (Hz)	100	100	100
Minimum Angular Velocity (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	N/A	N/A
Displacement Resolution (nrad)	2	10	10
Step Time, Strain (ms)	15	15	15
Step Time, Rate (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



DHR - DMA mode (optional)	
Motor Control	FRT
Minimum Force (N) Oscillation	0.1
Maximum Axial Force (N)	50
Minimum Displacement (μm) Oscillation	1.0
Maximum Displacement (μm) Oscillation	100
Displacement Resolution (nm)	10
Axial Frequency Range (Hz)	1 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> to 16

# 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 ( $\mu\text{N.m}$ ) Oscillation	0.05
Minimum Torque ( $\mu\text{N.m}$ ) Steady Shear	0.1
Maximum Torque (mN.m)	200
Torque Resolution (nN.m)	1
Transducer Normal/Axial Force Range (N)	0.001 to 20
Transducer Bearing	Groove Compensated Air



Driver Motor (Sample Deformation)	
Maximum Motor Torque (mN.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 (rad/s)	$1 \times 10^{-6}$ to 300
Angular Frequency Range (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

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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

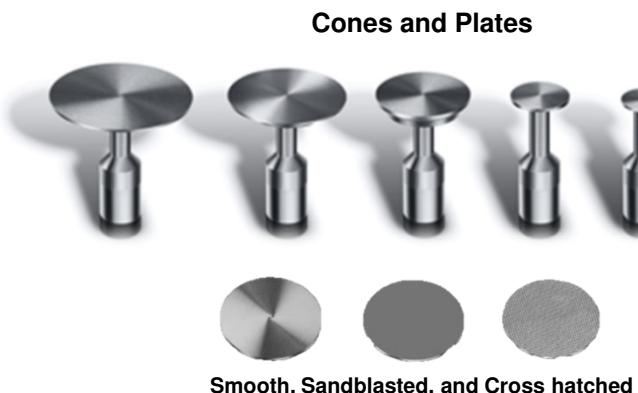


Solids

Water → to → Steel

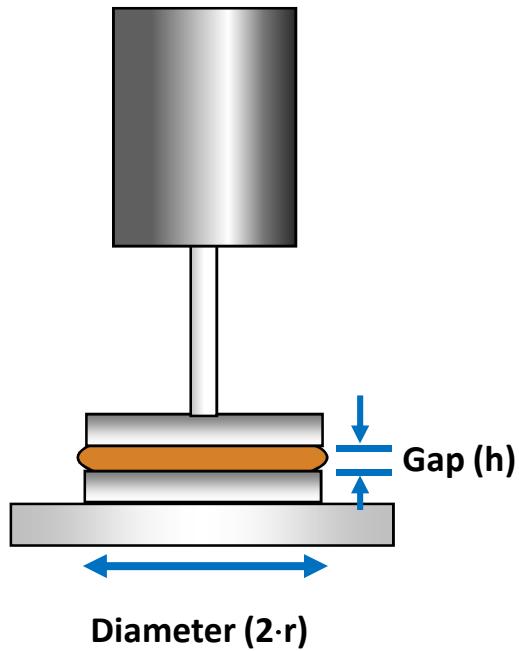
# Assess material to test

- Geometry - material of construction, size and surface
- In general, lower viscosity use larger diameter or larger contact area and higher viscosity or more solid-like smaller diameter
- Consider:
  - Volume requirements
  - Particle size, settling or mixing necessary
  - Loading procedure for structured substances (Pre-shear)
  - Evaporation – seal sample edge, solvent trap, or RH accessory
  - Surface slip and edge fracture



# Parallel Plate

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$$\text{Strain Constant: } K_\gamma = \frac{r}{h}$$

(to convert angular velocity, rad/sec, to shear rate, 1/sec, at the edge or angular displacement, radians, to shear strain (unitless) at the edge. The radius, r, and the gap, h, are expressed in meters)

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$$\text{Stress Constant: } K_\sigma = \frac{2}{\pi r^3}$$

(to convert torque, N·m, to shear stress at the edge, Pa, for Newtonian fluids. The radius, r, is expressed in meters)

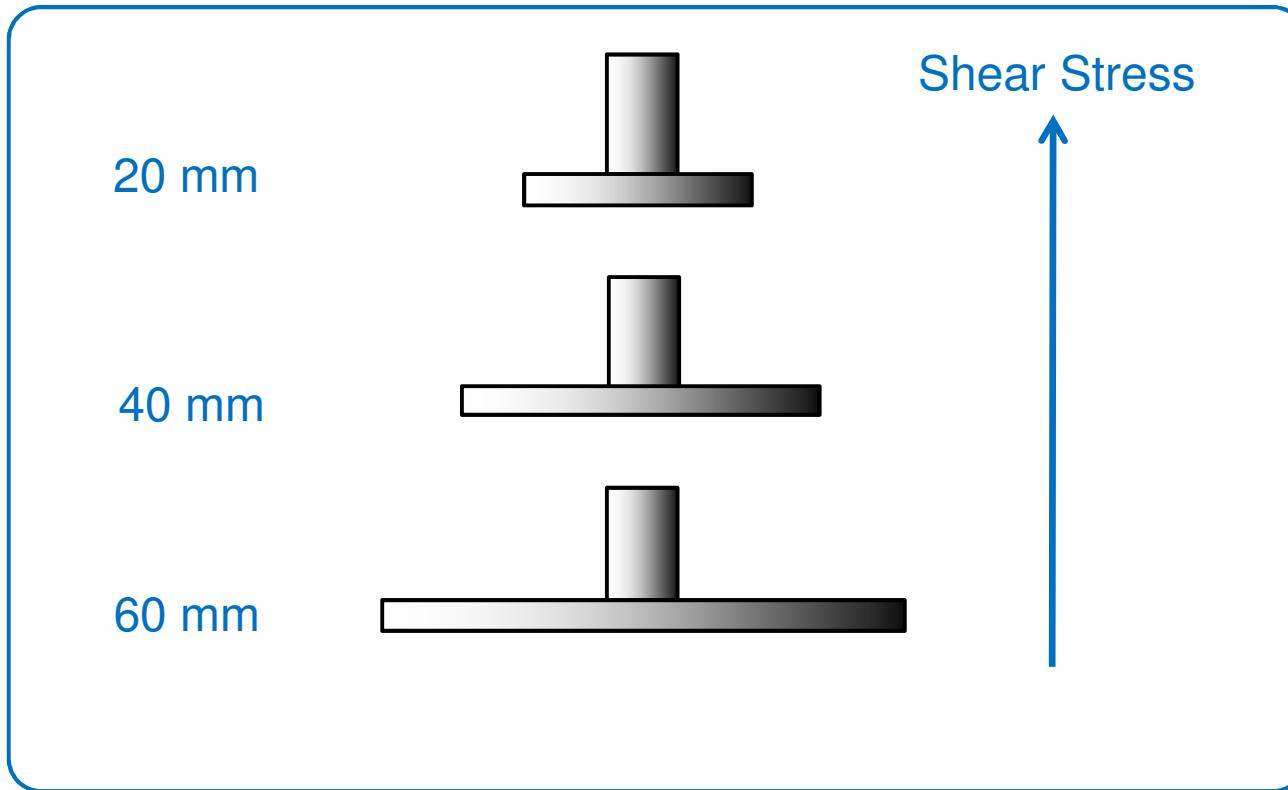
# When to use Parallel Plates

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- Low/Medium/High Viscosity Liquids
  - Soft Solids/Gels
  - Thermosetting materials
  - Samples with large particles
- 
- Samples with long relaxation time
  - Temperature Ramps/ Sweeps
  - Materials that may slip
    - Crosshatched or Sandblasted plates
  - Small sample volume



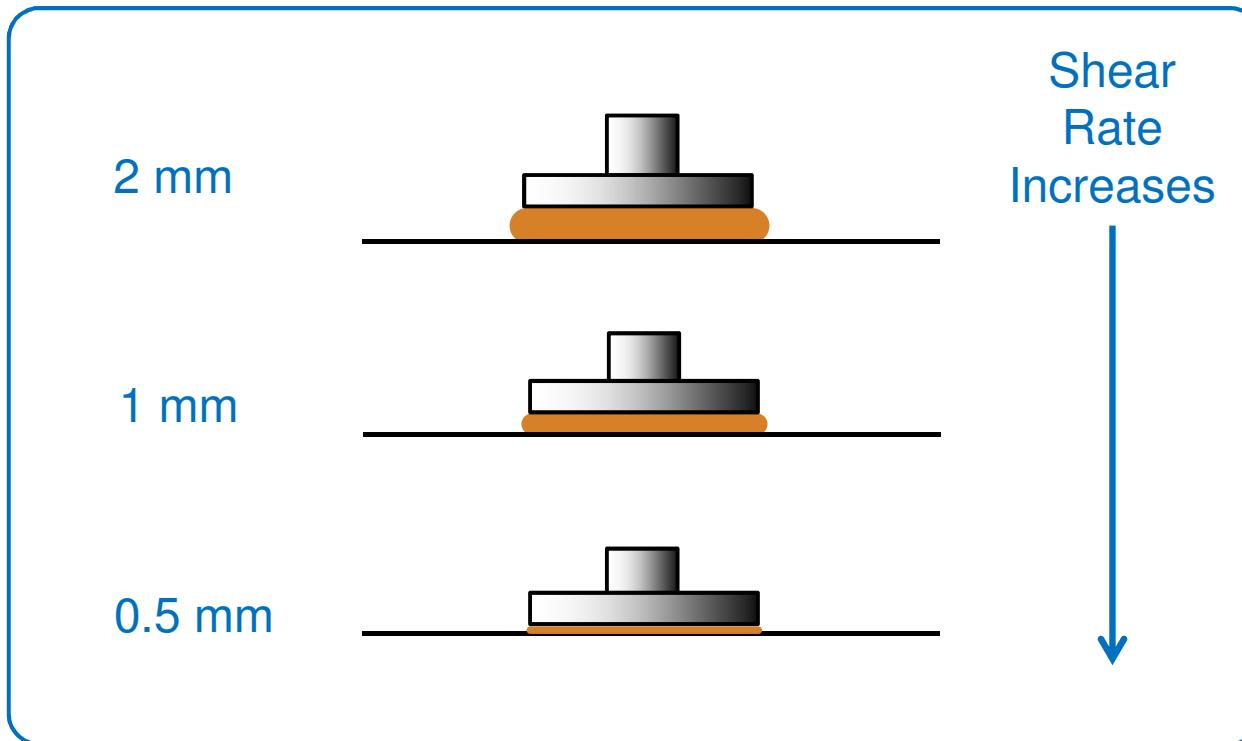
# Plate Diameters



As diameter decreases, shear stress increases

$$\sigma = M \frac{2}{\pi r^3}$$

# Plate Gaps



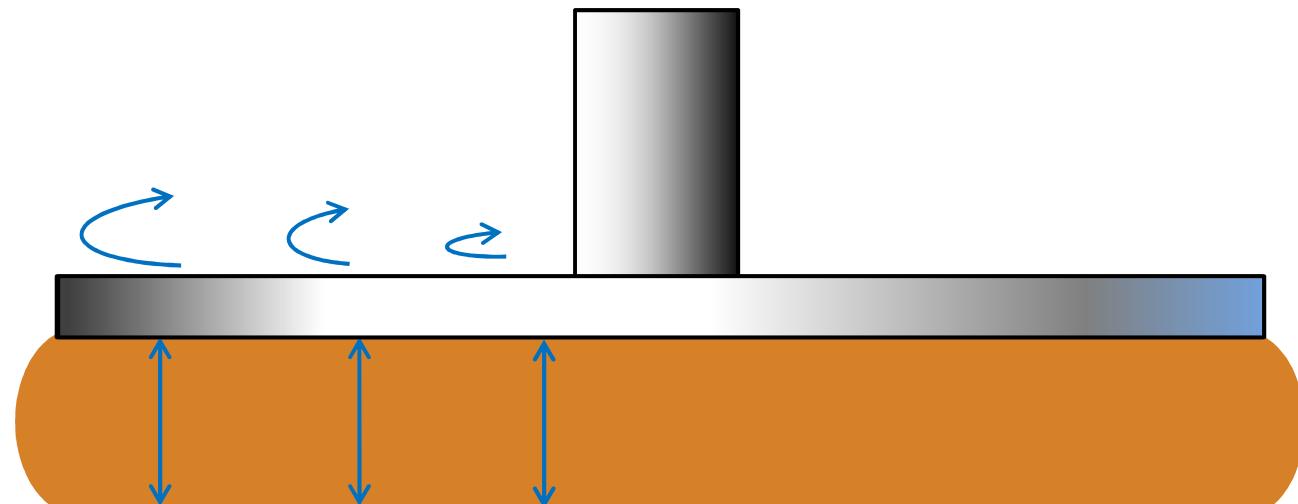
As gap height decreases, shear rate increases

$$\dot{\gamma} = \Omega \frac{r}{h}$$

# Effective Shear Rate varies across a Parallel Plate

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



$$\gamma = \frac{dx}{h}$$

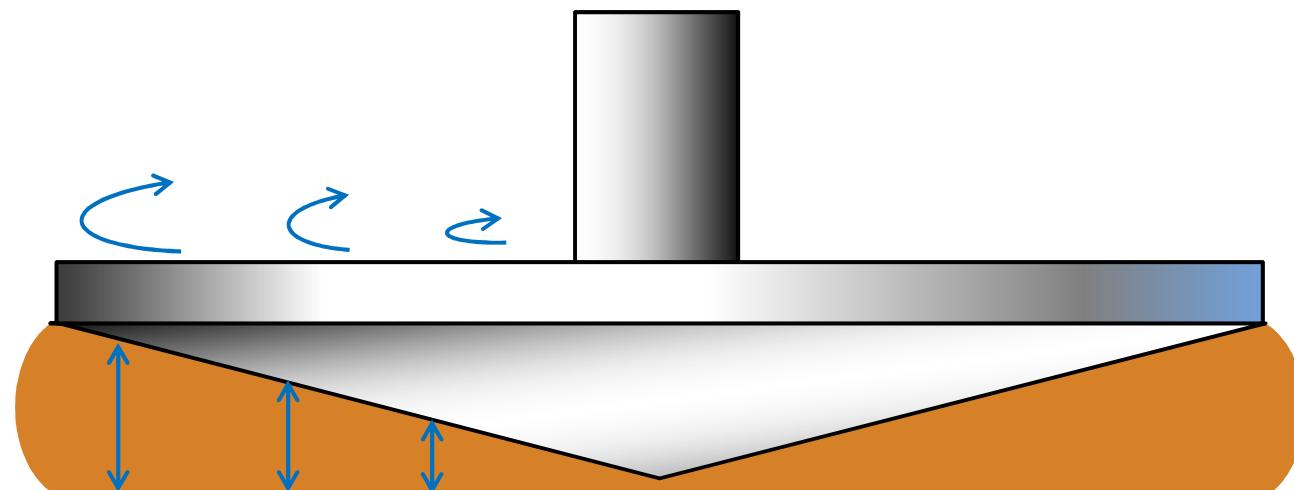
*dx increases further from the center,  
h stays constant*

Single-point correction for the parallel plate geometry (0.76 radius)  
[M.S. Carvalho, M. Padmanabhan and C.W. Macosko, *J. Rheol.* 38 (1994) 1925-1936]

# Shear Rate is Normalized across a Cone

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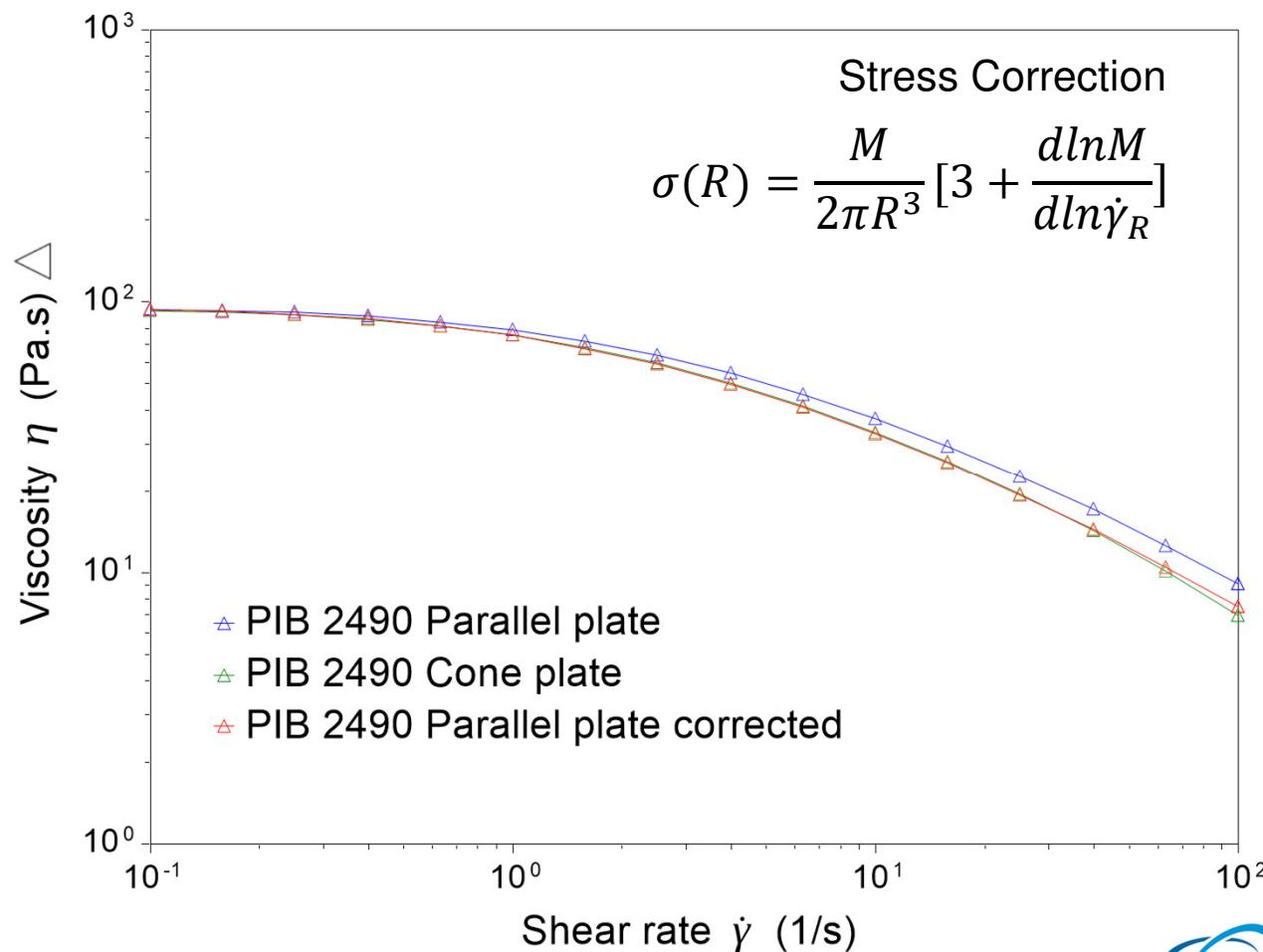
- The cone shape produces a smaller gap height closer to inside, so the shear on the sample is constant



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

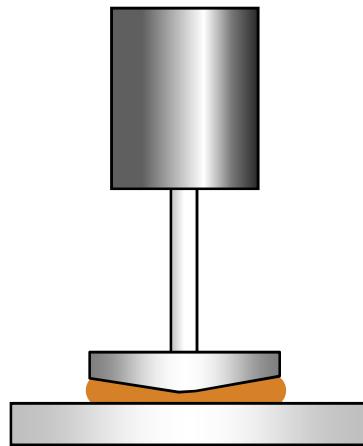
# Parallel Plate Stress Correction

- 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.



# Cone and Plate

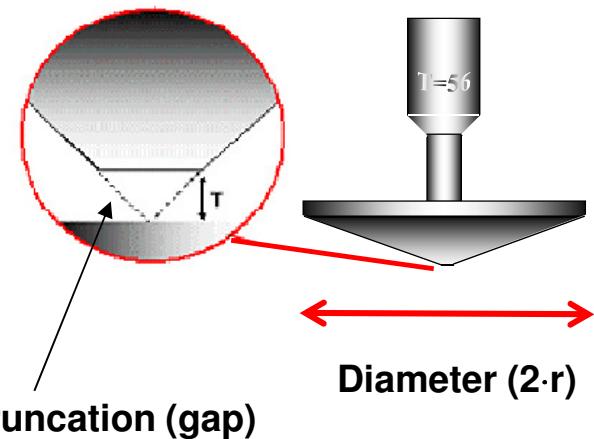
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$$\text{Strain Constant: } K_\gamma = \frac{1}{\beta}$$

(to convert angular velocity, rad/sec, to shear rate, 1/sec, or angular displacement, radians, to shear strain, which is unit less. The angle,  $\beta$ , is expressed in radians)

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$$\text{Stress Constant: } K_\sigma = \frac{3}{2\pi r^3}$$

(to convert torque, N·m, to shear stress, Pa. The radius,  $r$ , is expressed in meters)

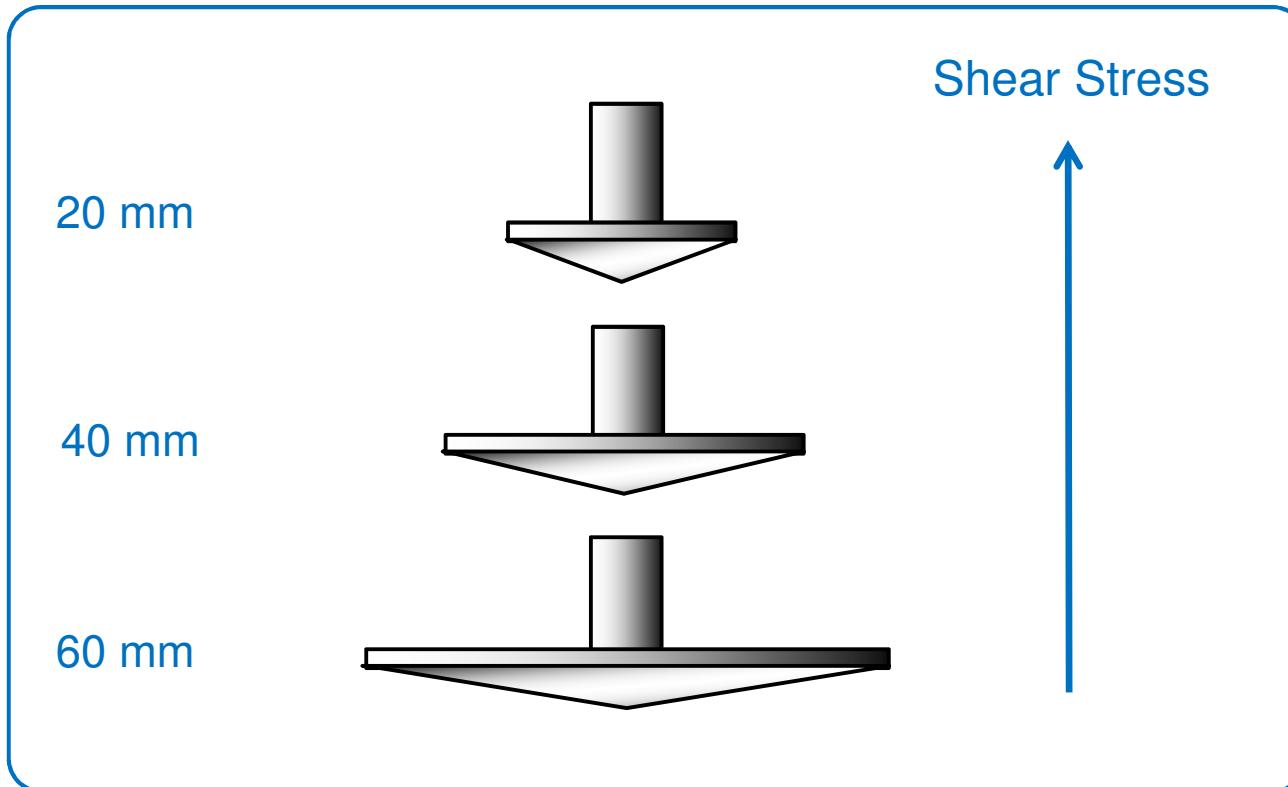
# When to use Cone and Plate

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- Very Low to High Viscosity Liquids
- High Shear Rate measurements
- Normal Stress Growth
- Unfilled Samples
- Isothermal Tests
- Small Sample Volume



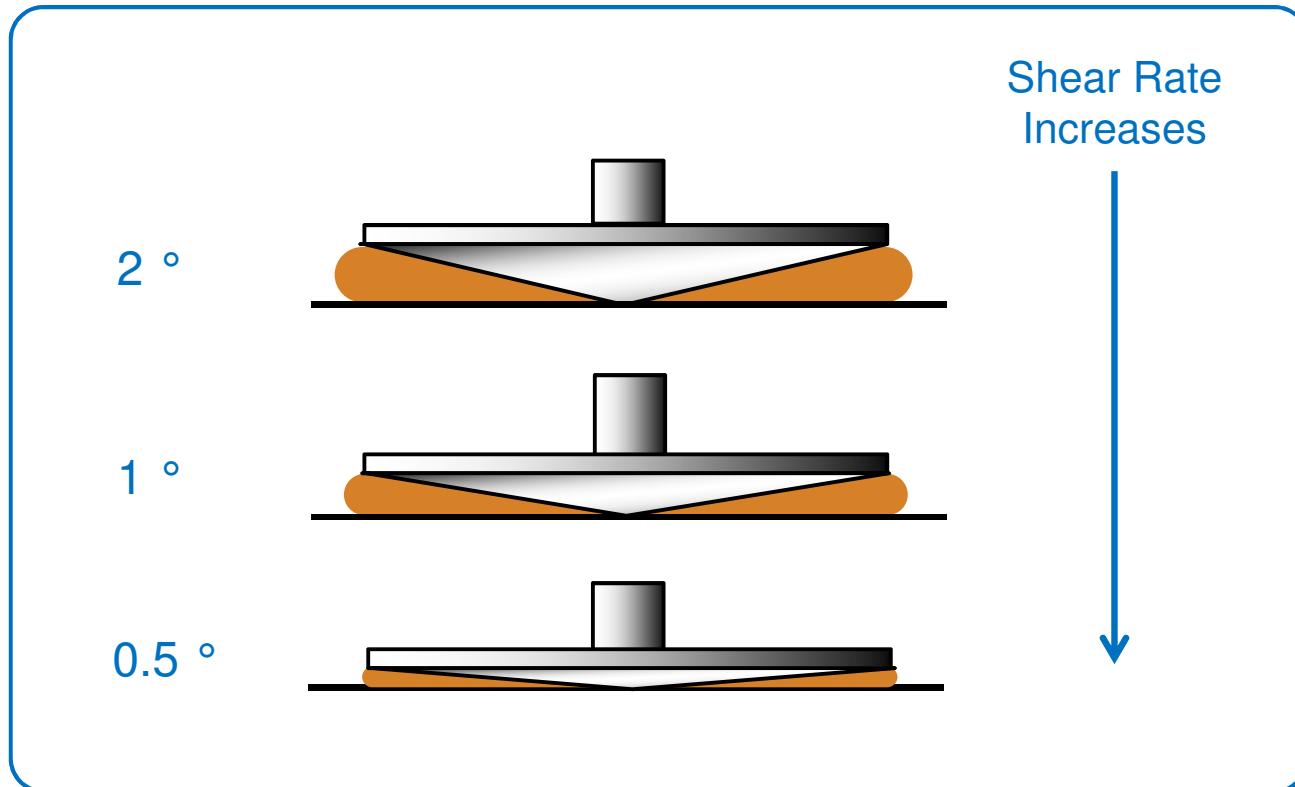
# Cone Diameters



As diameter decreases, shear stress increases

$$\sigma = M \frac{3}{2\pi r^3}$$

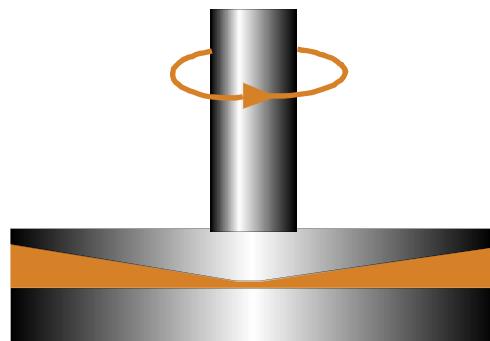
# Cone Angles



As cone angle decreases, shear rate increases     $\dot{\gamma} = \Omega \frac{1}{\beta}$

# Limitations of Cone and Plate

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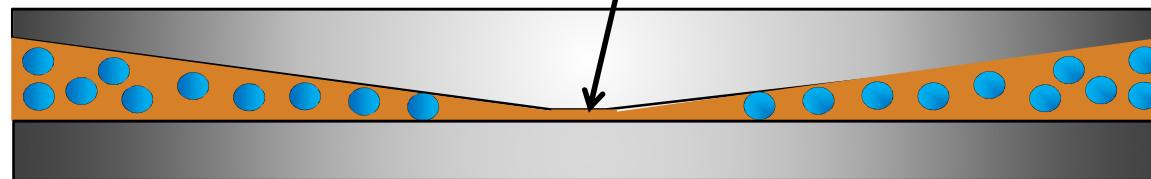


Cone & Plate

Typical Truncation Heights:

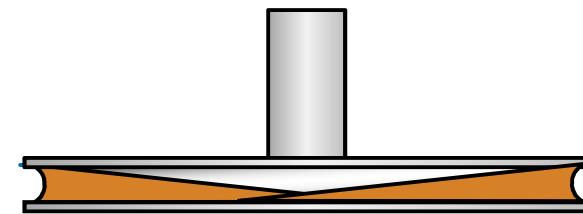
- 1° degree ~ 20 - 30 microns
- 2° degrees ~ 60 microns
- 4° degrees ~ 120 microns

Truncation Height = Gap

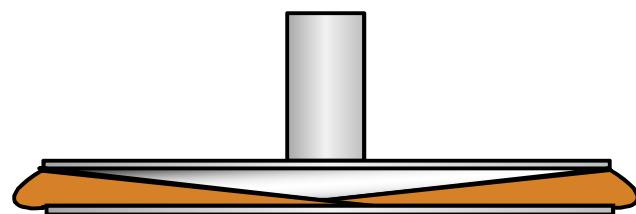


Gap must be > or = 10 [particle size]!!

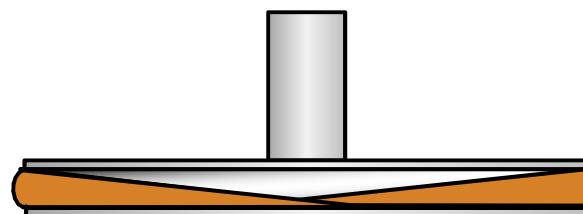
# Correct Sample Loading – parallel plate and cone-plate



✗ Under Filled sample:  
Lower torque contribution



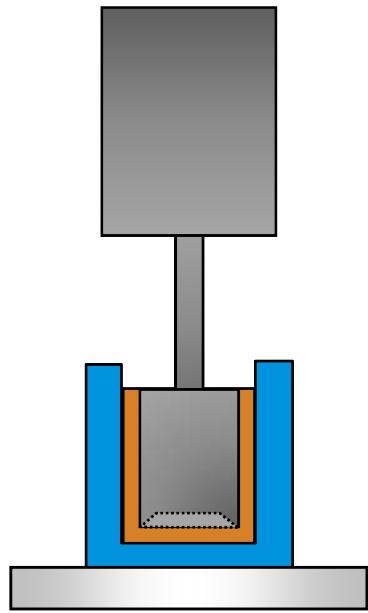
✗ Over Filled sample:  
Additional stress from  
drag along the edges



✓ **Correct Filling**

# Concentric Cylinder

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## Strain Constant:

$$K_\gamma = \frac{1 + \left(\frac{r_2}{r_1}\right)^2}{\left(\frac{r_2}{r_1}\right)^2 - 1}$$

(to convert angular velocity, rad/sec, to shear rate, 1/sec, or angular displacement, radians, to shear strain (unit less). The radii,  $r_1$  (inner) and  $r_2$  (outer), are expressed in meters)

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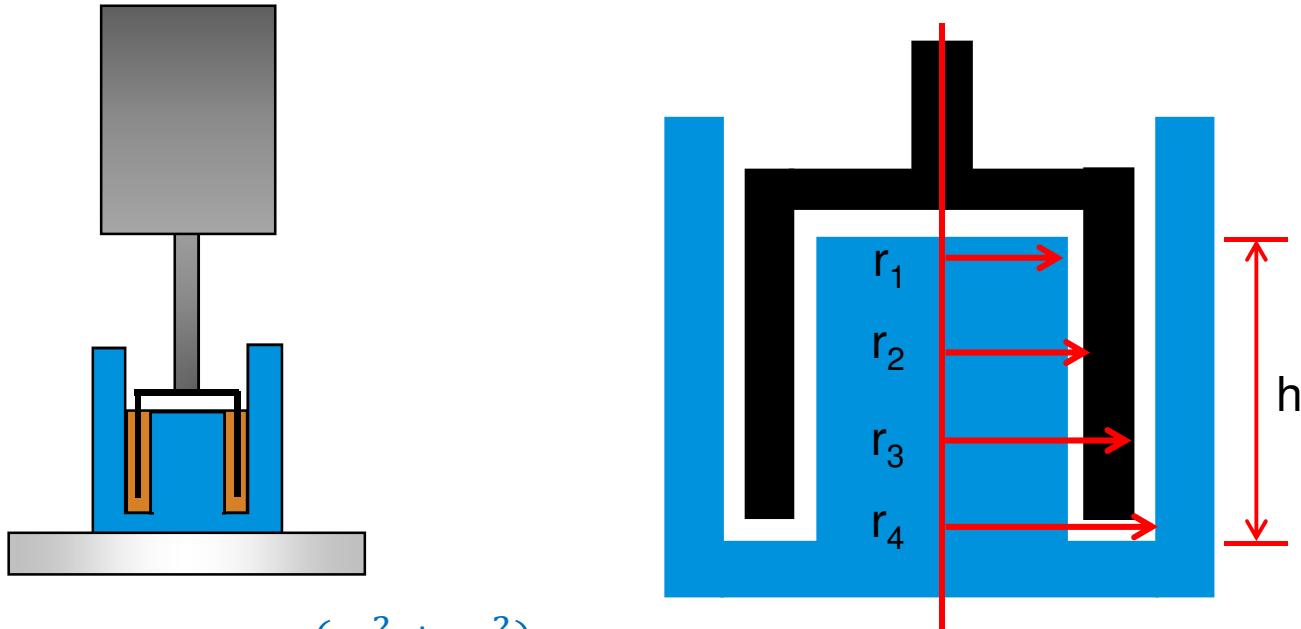
## Stress Constant:

$$K_\sigma = \frac{1}{4\pi l} \left[ \frac{1 + \left(\frac{r_2}{r_1}\right)^2}{c_l r_2^2} \right]^*$$

(to convert torque, N·m, to shear stress, Pa. The bob length,  $l$ , and the radius,  $r$ , are expressed in meters)  
 $c_l$  is the face factor

# Double Wall

- Use for very low viscosity systems (<1 mPas)



**Strain Constant:**  $K_\gamma = \frac{(r_1^2 + r_2^2)}{(r_2^2 - r_1^2)}$

**Stress Constant:**  $K_\sigma = \frac{(r_1^2 + r_2^2)}{4\pi h \cdot r_2^2(r_1^2 + r_3^2)}$

# When to Use Concentric Cylinders

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Peltier Concentric Cylinder



Electrically Heated Cylinder (EHC)

- Low to Medium Viscosity Liquids
- Unstable Dispersions and Slurries
- Minimize Effects of Evaporation
- Weakly Structured Samples (Vane)
- High Shear Rates

# Peltier Concentric Cylinders

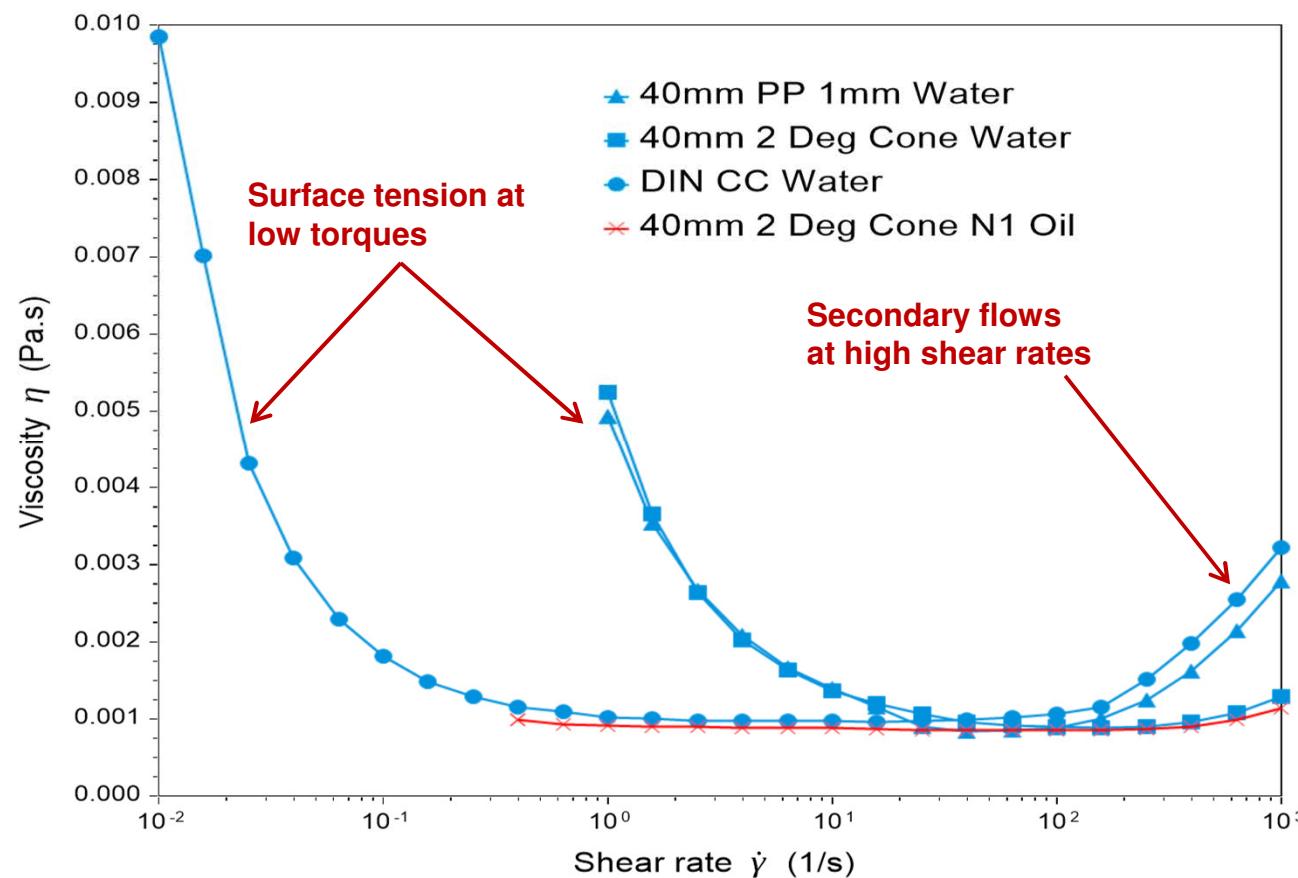


Concentric Cylinder Cup and Rotor Compatibility Chart

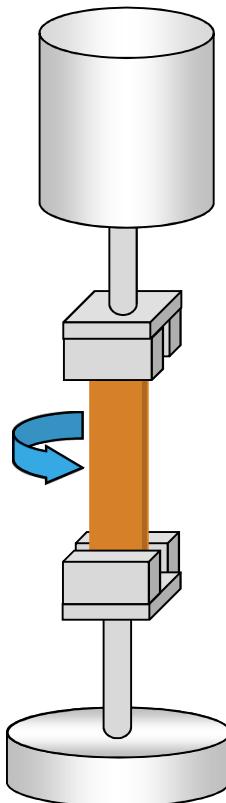
Cup/Rotor	DIN	Recessed End	Starch Impeller	Vane	Wide Gap Vane	Double Gap	Helical Rotor
Standard (rad= 15 mm)	●	●		●	●		
Large Diameter (rad= 22 mm)	●	●	●	●	●		●
Starch (rad= 18.5 mm)	●	●	●	●	●		●
Grooved				●	●		
Double Gap						●	
Helical (rad= 17 mm)							●

# Viscosity of Water

- 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



# Torsion Rectangular



$$K_\gamma = \frac{t}{l \left[ 1 - 0.378 \left( \frac{t}{w} \right)^2 \right]}$$

$$K_\tau = \frac{\left( 3 + \frac{1.8}{w} \right)}{(w \cdot t^2)}$$

## Advantages:

- High modulus samples
- Small temperature gradient
- Simple to prepare

w = Width

l = Length

t = Thickness

## Disadvantages:

- No pure Torsion mode for high strains

Torsion cylindrical also available

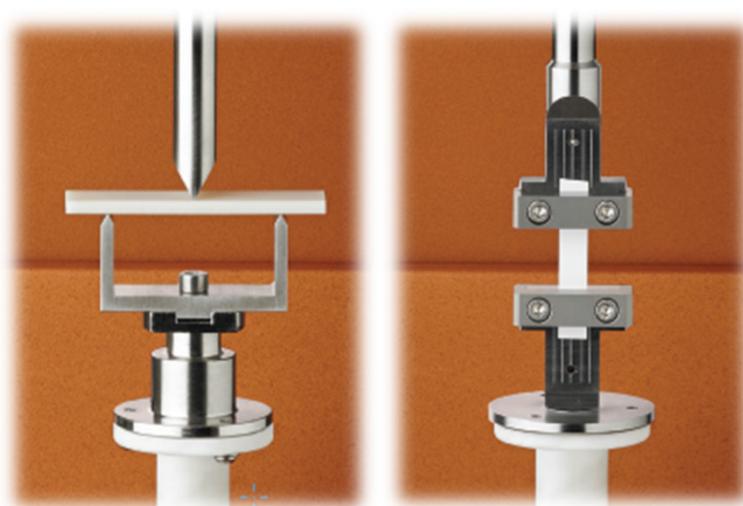
# Torsion and DMA Measurements



- Torsion and DMA geometries allow solid samples to be characterized in a temperature controlled environment
  - Torsion measures  $G'$ ,  $G''$ , and  $\tan \delta$
  - DMA measures  $E'$ ,  $E''$ , and  $\tan \delta$ 
    - ARES G2 DMA is standard function ( $50 \mu\text{m}$  amplitude)
    - DMA is an optional DHR function ( $100 \mu\text{m}$  amplitude)



Rectangular and cylindrical torsion



DMA 3-point bending and tension (cantilever not shown)

# Geometry Overview

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Geometry	Application	Advantage	Disadvantage
Cone/plate	fluids, melts viscosity > 10mPas	true viscosities	temperature ramp difficult
Parallel Plate	fluids, melts viscosity > 10mPas	easy handling, temperature ramp	shear gradient across sample
Couette	low viscosity samples < 10 mPas	high shear rate	large sample volume
Double Wall Couette	very low viscosity samples < 1mPas	high shear rate	cleaning difficult
Torsion Rectangular	solid polymers, composites	glassy to rubbery state	Limited by sample stiffness
DMA	Solid polymers, films, Composites	Glassy to rubbery state	Limited by sample stiffness (Oscillation and stress/strain)

# **Setting up Rheological Experiments**

## **Flow Tests**



# Newtonian & Non-Newtonian Behavior

- **Newtonian**

- Viscosity independent from shear rate and shear stress
- Viscosity only changes with temperature

- **Non- Newtonian**

- Viscosity is shear dependent
  - ✓ Decrease with shear – shear thinning
  - ✓ Increase with shear – shear thickening
- Viscosity is time dependent
  - ✓ Decrease with time – Thixotropic
  - ✓ Increase with time – Rheopectic

# Viscosity Values

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

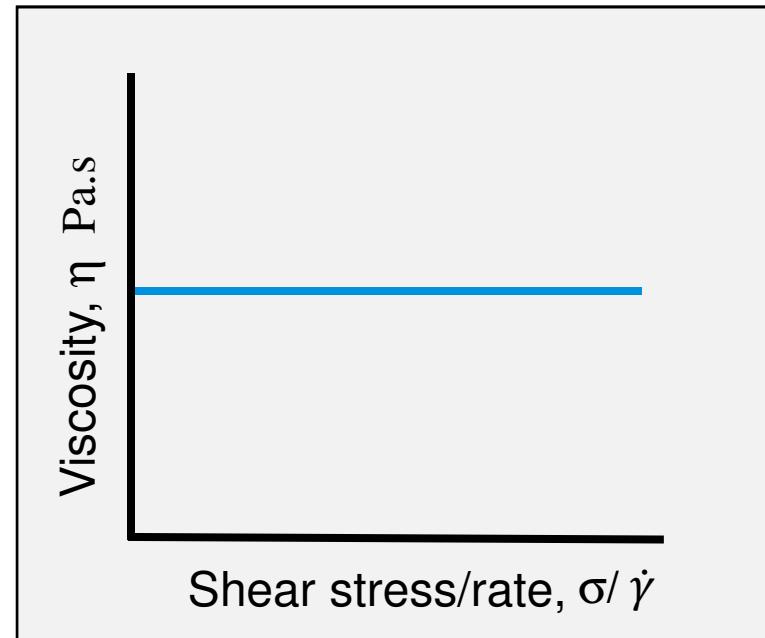


# Newtonian Fluids

- Viscosity independent of shear rate and shear stress
- Examples:  
water, acetone, ethanol, glycol, glycerin, cooking oil etc.



$$Viscosity = \frac{\sigma}{\dot{\gamma}}$$

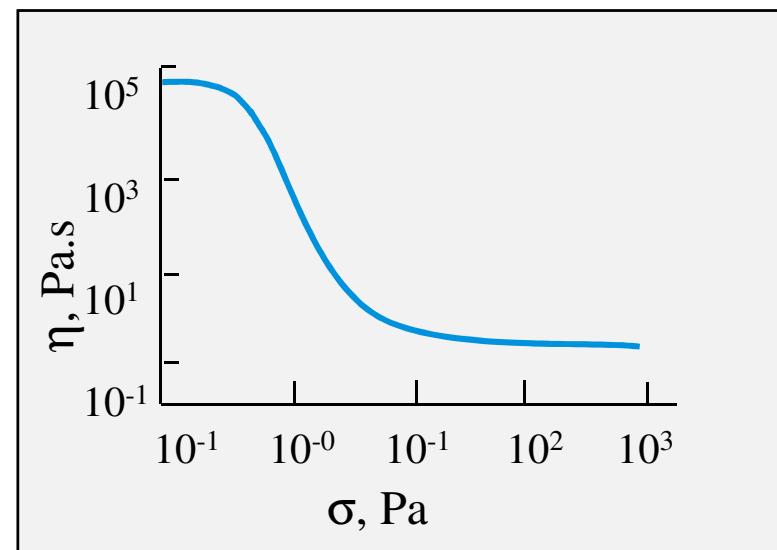
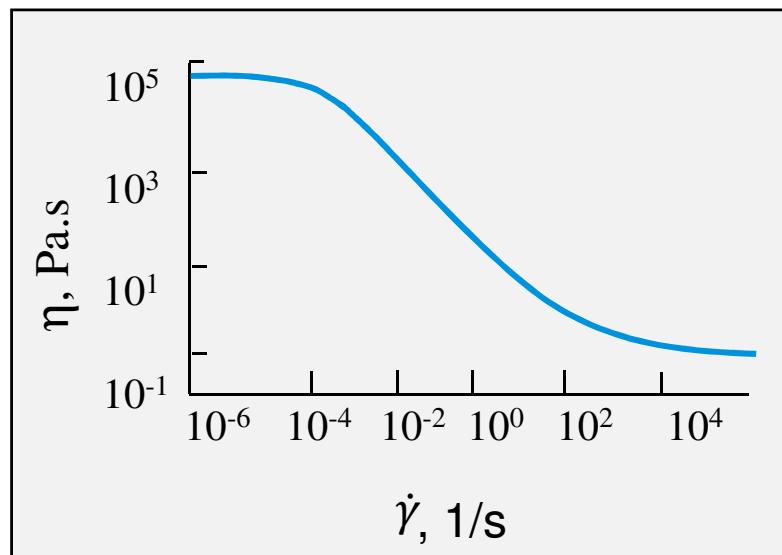


Viscosity constant

# Shear Thinning Fluids

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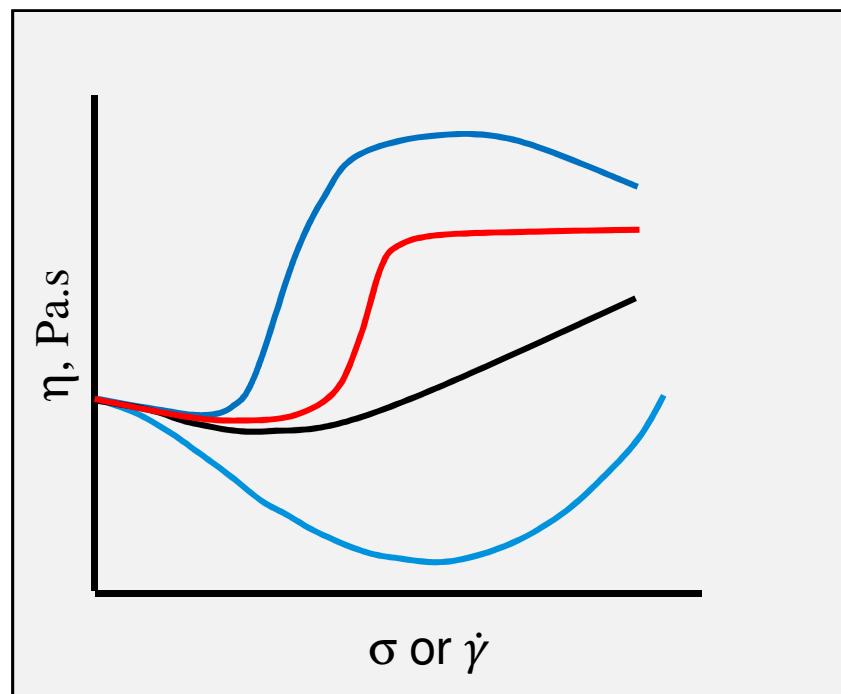
- Viscosity decrease with shear rate and shear stress
- Examples:  
hand wash, paint, coating, shampoo....



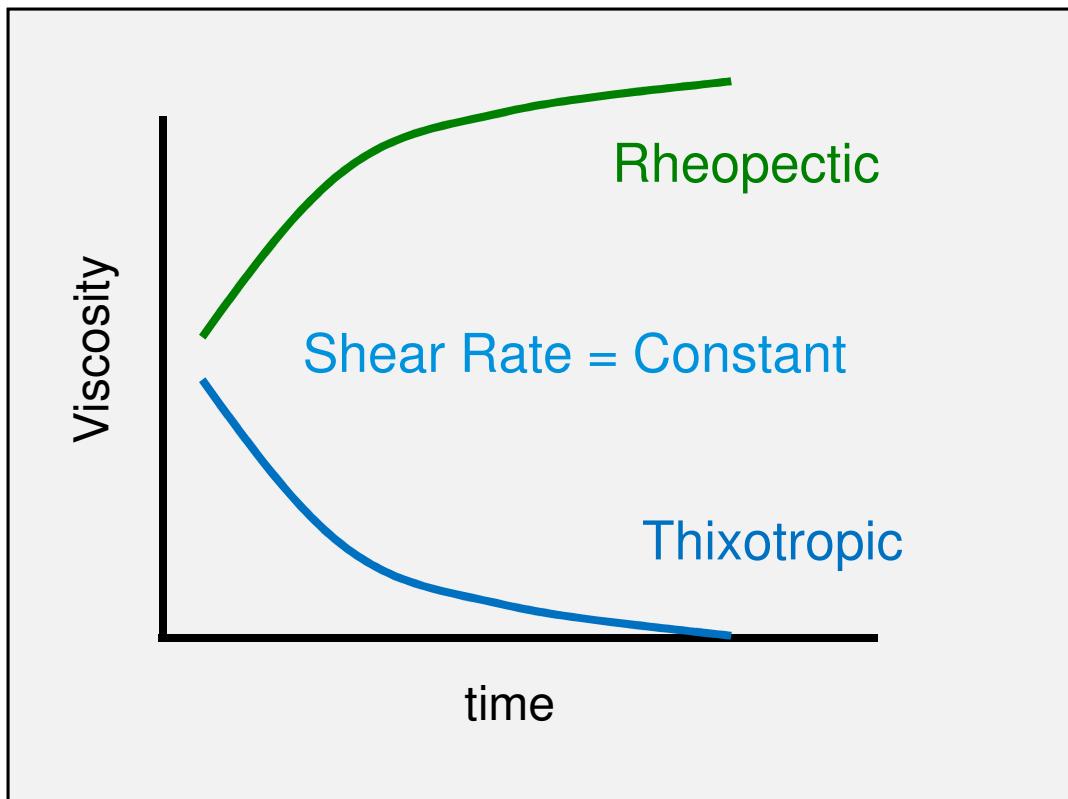
# Shear Thickening Fluids

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- Viscosity increase with shear rate and shear stress
- Examples:  
highly concentrated cornstarch slurry; mud slurry



# Time Dependent Fluids

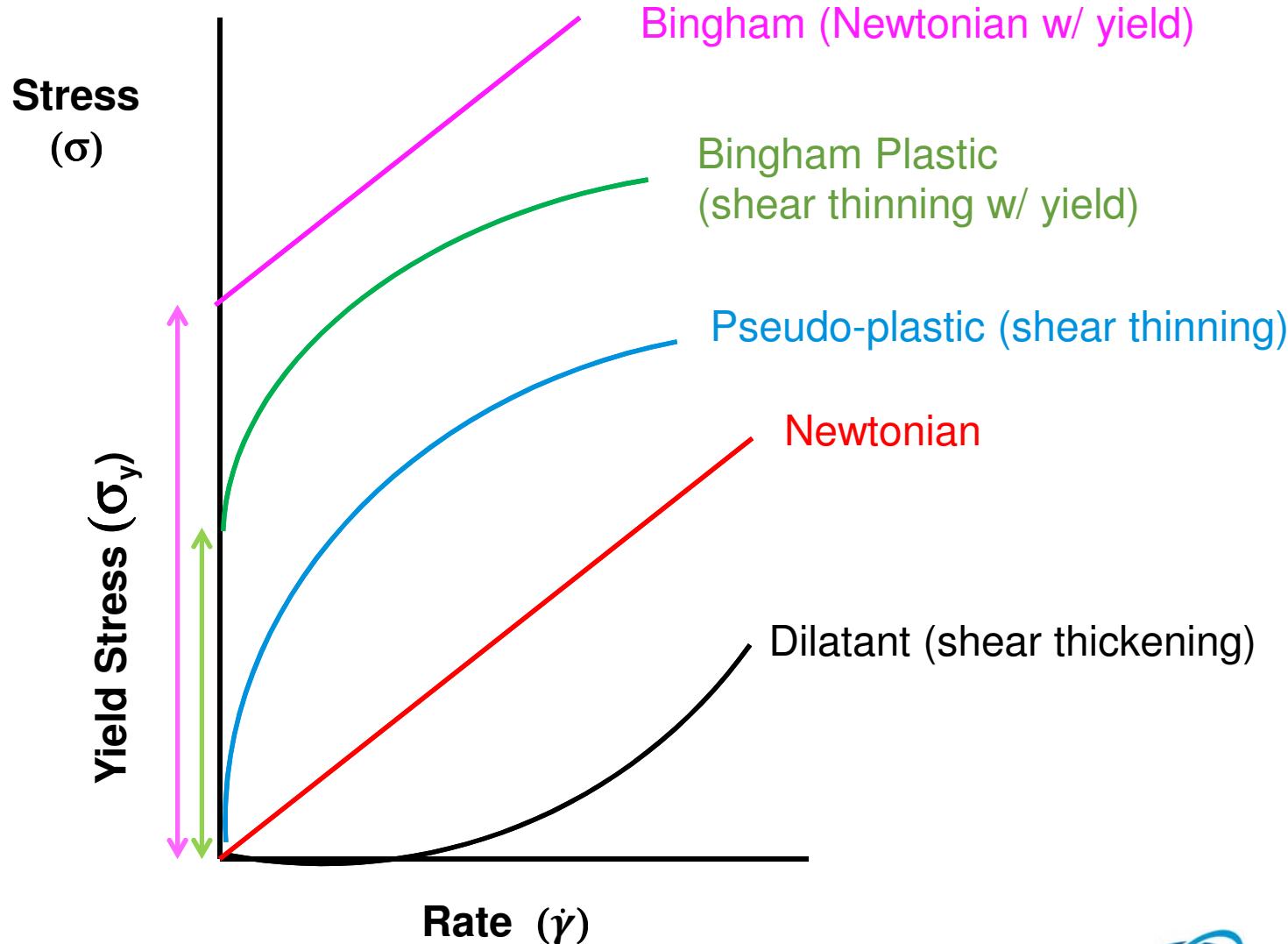


A rheoplectic material becomes more viscous with increasing time of applied force

A thixotropic material becomes more fluid with increasing time of applied force

# Summary of Flow Diagrams

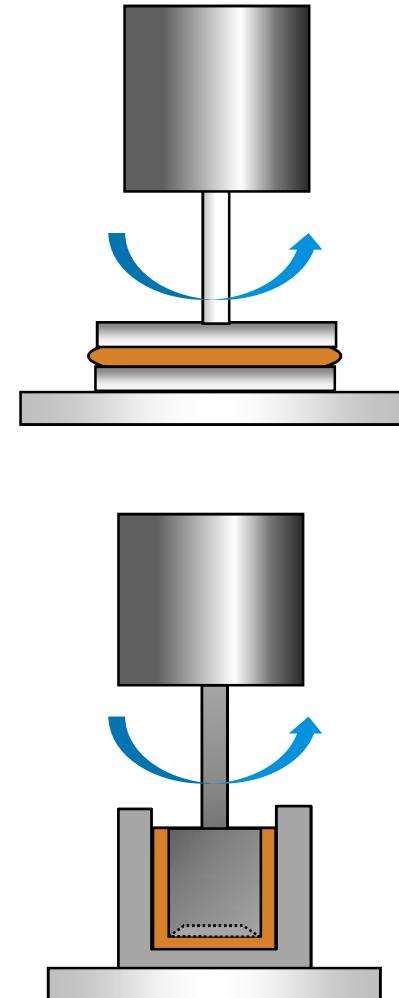
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# Rheological Methods

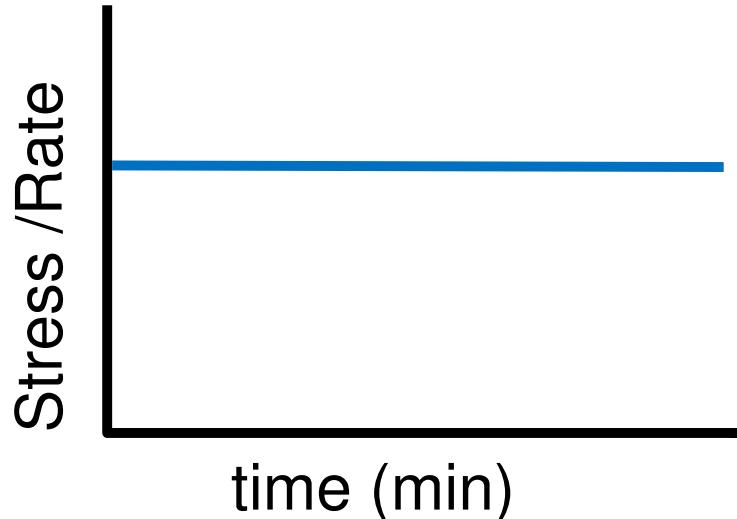
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- Common rheological methods for measuring viscosity of liquids
  - Single rate/stress flow
  - Continuous rate/stress ramp
  - Stepped or steady state flow
  - Flow temperature ramp



# Single Rate/Stress Test

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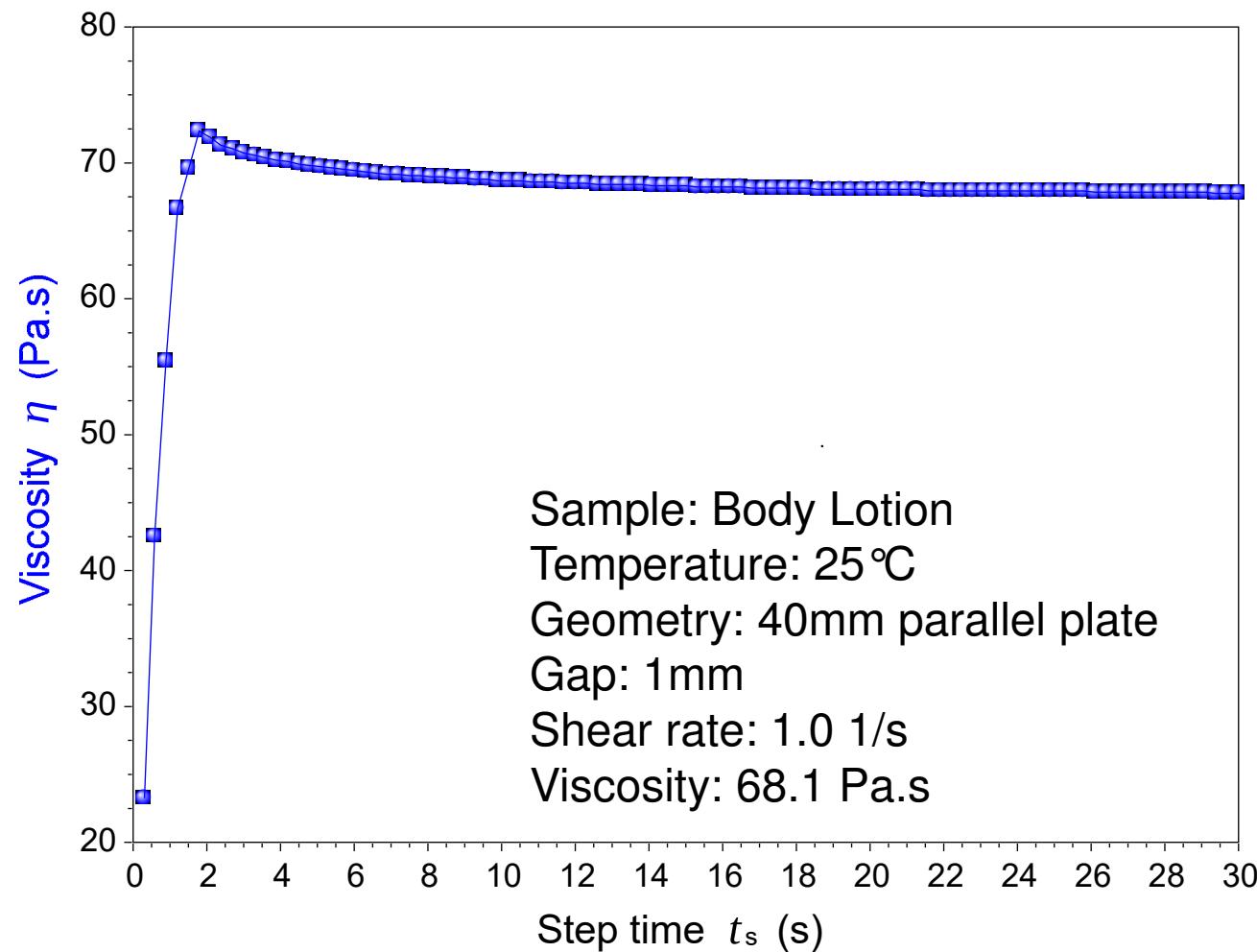
- Isothermal temperature
- Constant rate vs. time
- Constant stress vs. time

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## USES

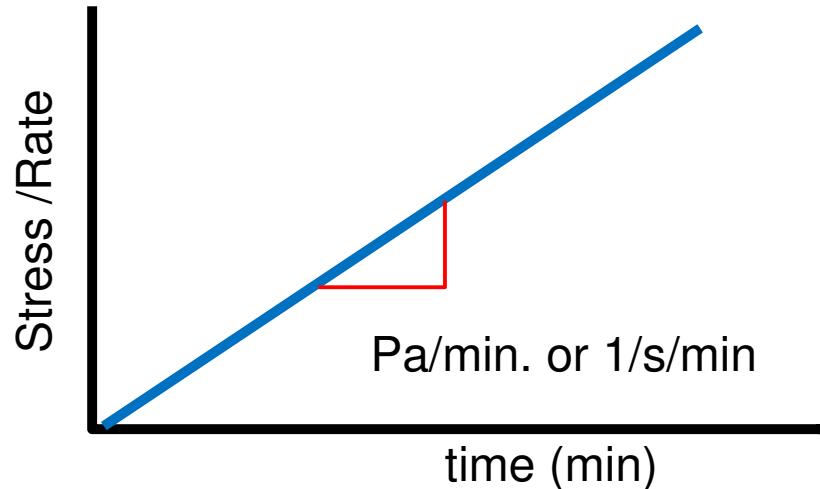
- Single point testing
- Scope the time for steady state under certain rate

# Body Lotion: Single Rate Test



# Continuous Ramp

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- Isothermal temperature
- Ramp stress or shear rate at a constant speed

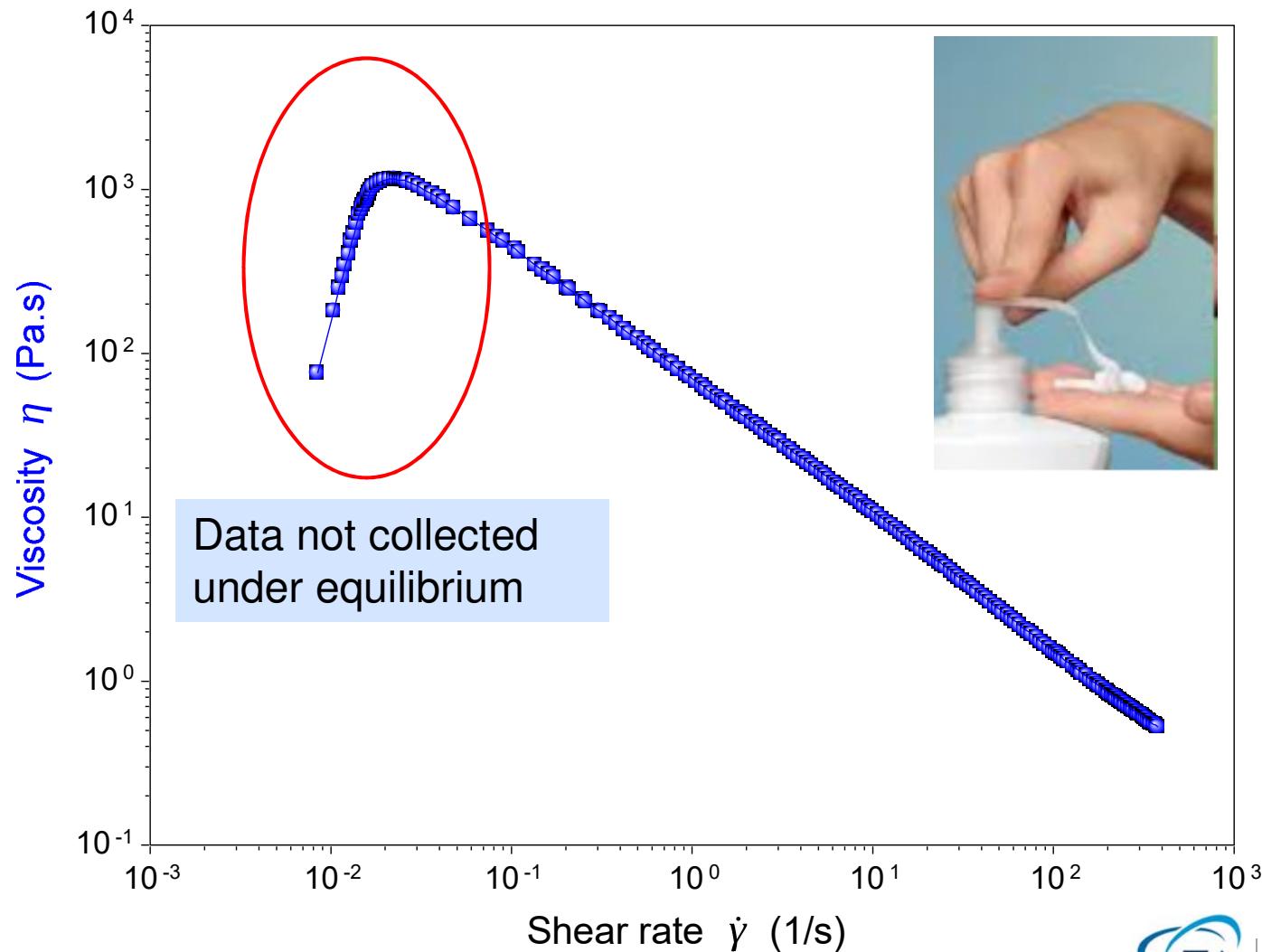
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## USES

- Scouting viscosity over wide range of shear
- Measure yield stress

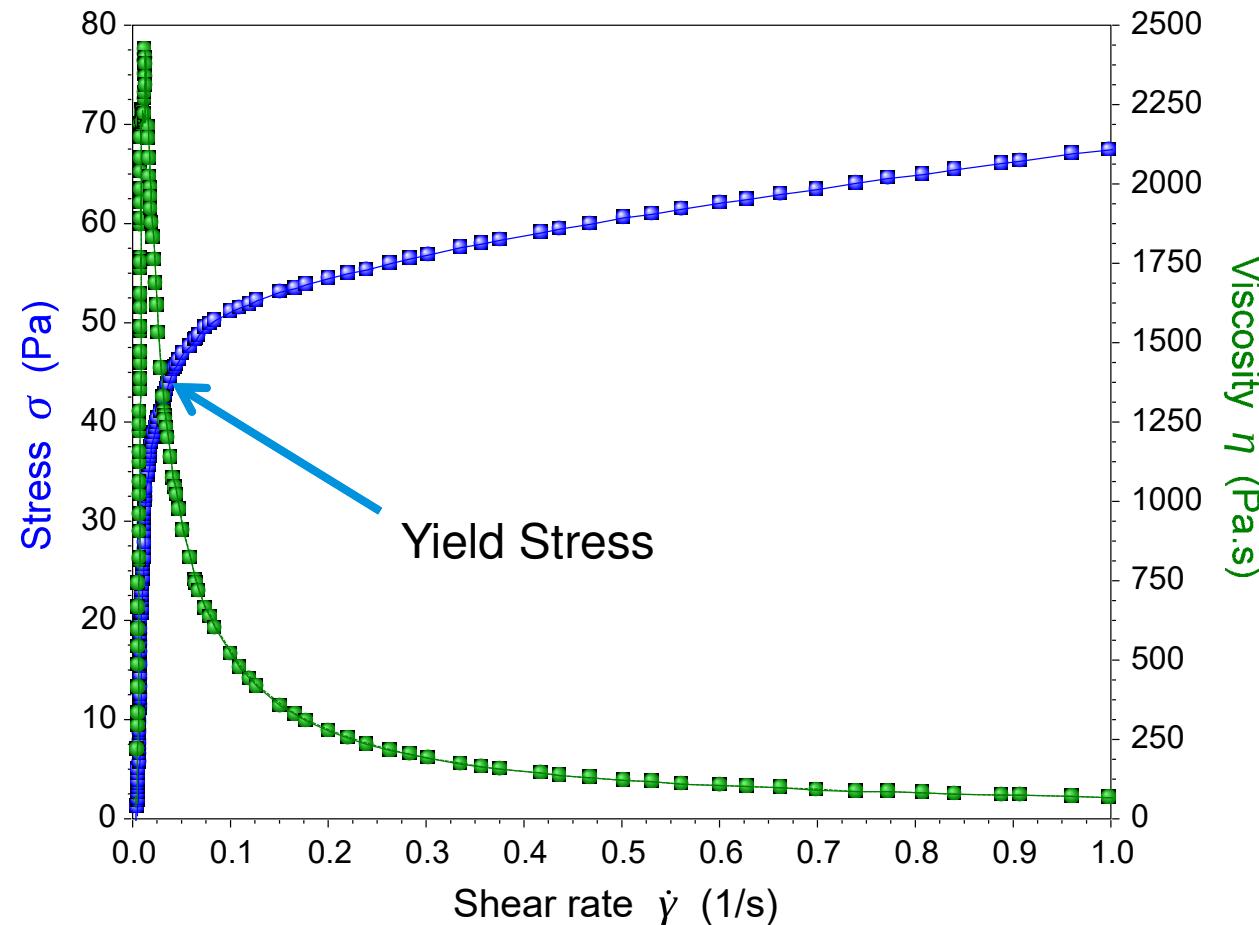
# Viscosity of a Body Lotion

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

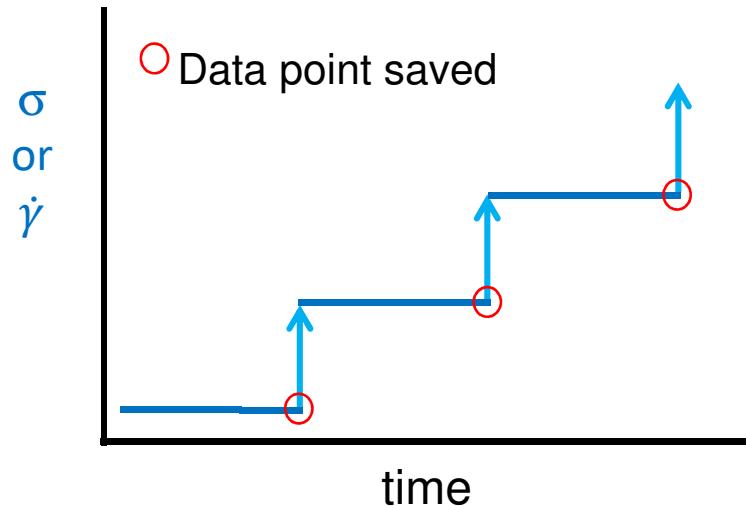


# Measure Yield Stress of a Body Lotion

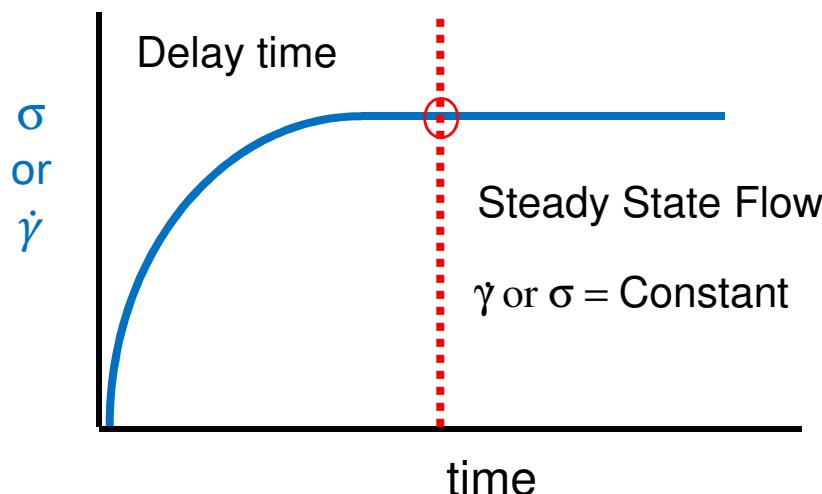
- Body lotion does not flow unless the applied stress exceeds a certain value – the yield point.



# Stepped or Steady-State Flow



- Step stress or shear rate from low to high on a logarithmic scale
- At each step, viscosity is measured when steady state has been reached

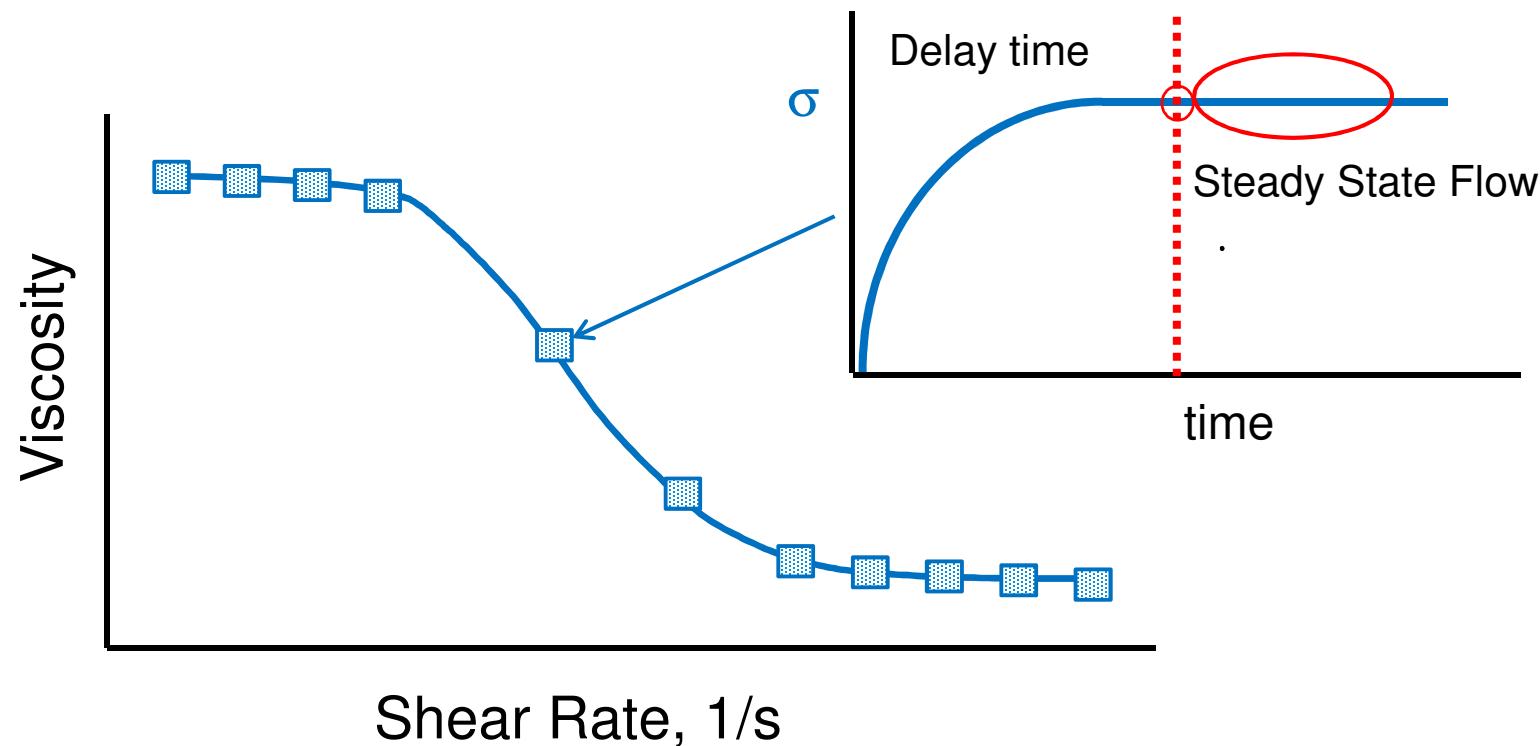


## USES

- Viscosity Flow Curves
- Yield Stress Measurements

# Stepped or Steady-State Flow

- At each point, viscosity is measured at steady state
- Provides the most precise shear viscosity versus shear rate determination



# DHR and ARES G2: Steady State Algorithm

## 2: Flow Sweep

Environmental Control

Temperature  °C  Inherit Set Point

Soak Time  hh:mm:ss  Wait For Temperature

Test Parameters

Logarithmic sweep

Shear rate  to  1/s

Points per decade

Steady state sensing

Max. equilibration time  hh:mm:ss

Sample period  hh:mm:ss

% tolerance

Consecutive within

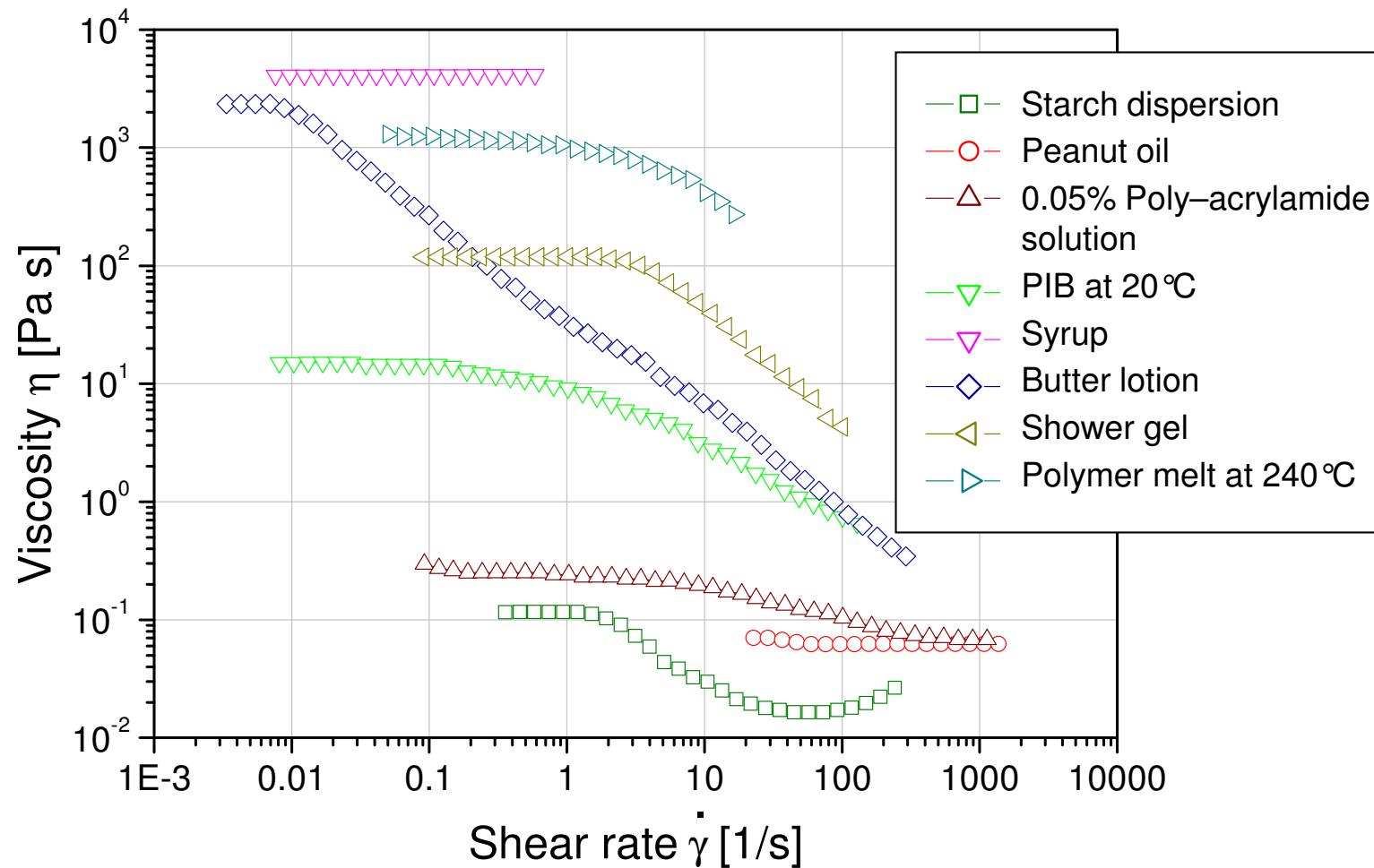
Scaled time average

## Control variables:

- Shear rate
- Velocity
- Torque
- Shear stress

Steady state algorithm

# Viscosity Curves of Various Fluids



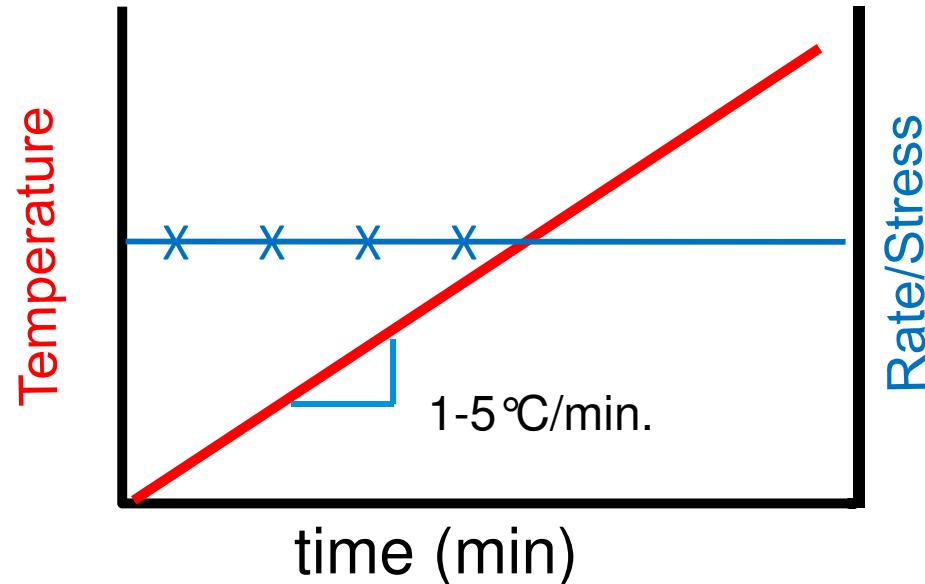
# Typical Applications Shear Rates

Process	Shear Rate (1/s)
sedimentation	$10^{-5} - 10^{-2}$
leveling and sagging	$10^{-2} - 1$
chewing, swallowing, dipping coating,	$1 - 10^2$
pipe flow, pumping, mixing, stirring	$1 - 10^3$
brushing, painting, extruding	$10^2 - 10^4$
milling, spraying, rubbing	$10^3 - 10^5$
high speed coating	$>10^5$



# Flow Temperature Ramp

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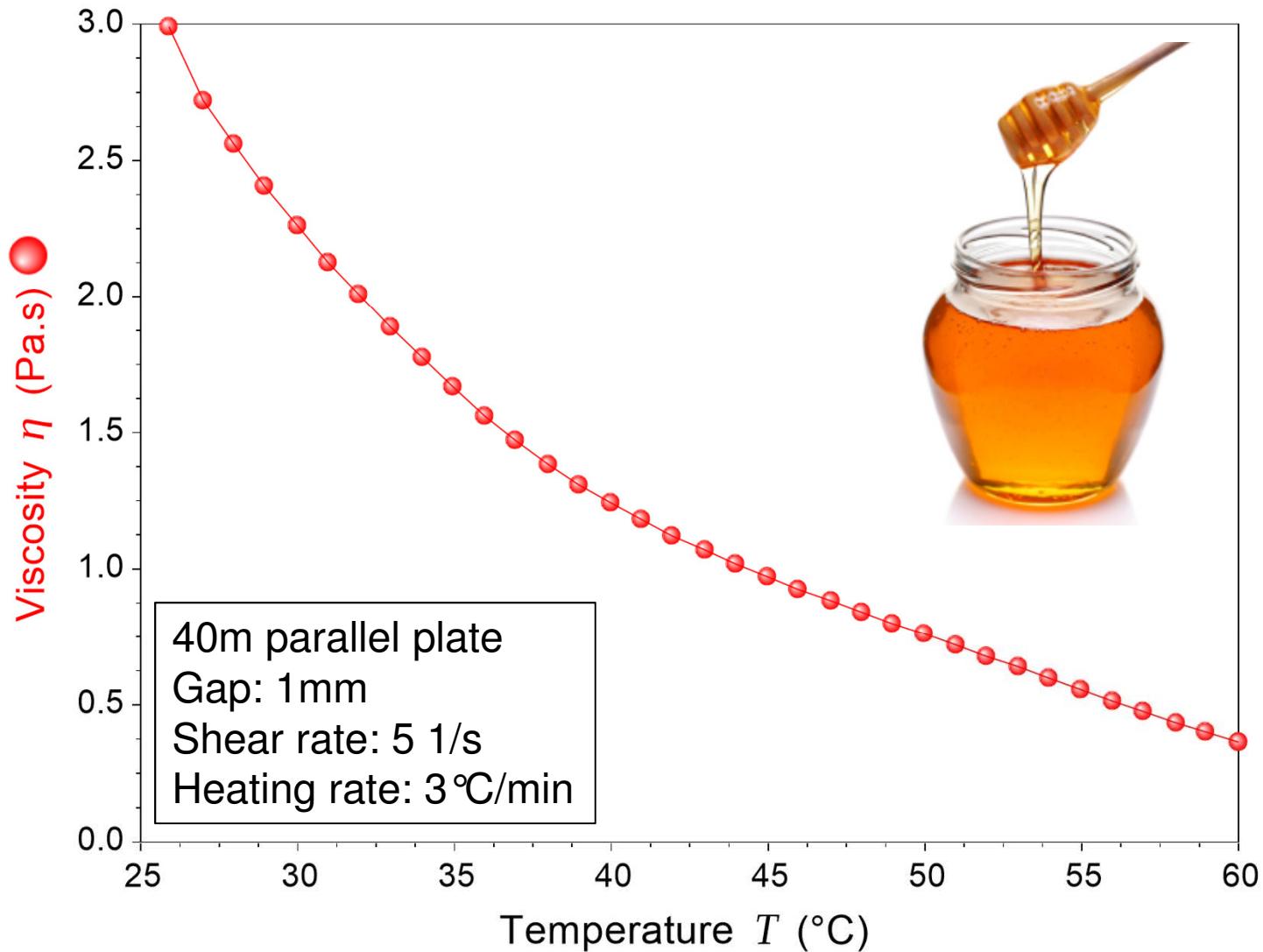
- Constant shear stress or shear rate
- Ramp temperature

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## USES

- Measure the viscosity change vs. temperature

# Viscosity of Honey: Temperature Dependence



# **Setting up Rheological Experiments**

## **Oscillatory Tests**



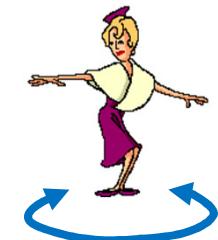
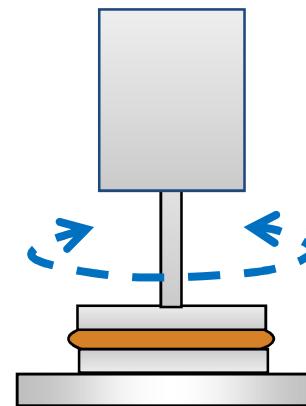
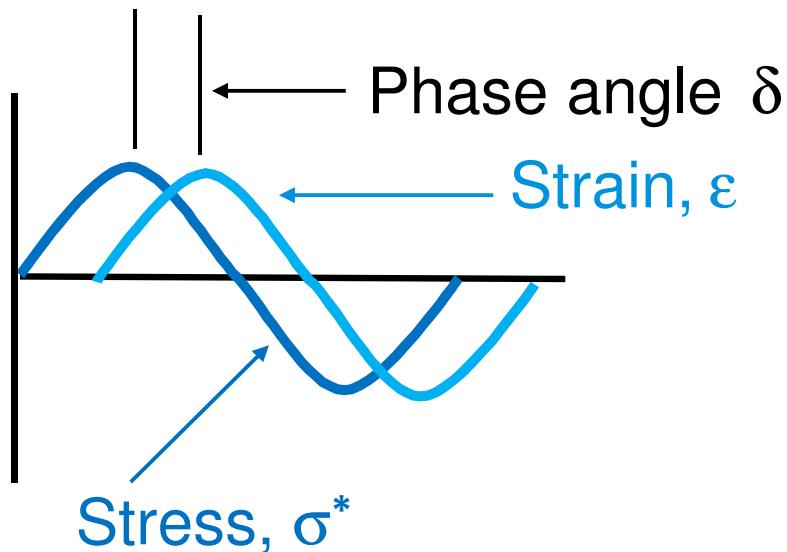
# Outline

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- Understanding Oscillation
- Approach to Oscillation Experimentation
  - Stress and Strain Sweep
  - Time Sweep
  - Frequency Sweep
  - Temperature Ramp
  - Temperature Sweep (TTS)

# Dynamic Oscillatory Tests

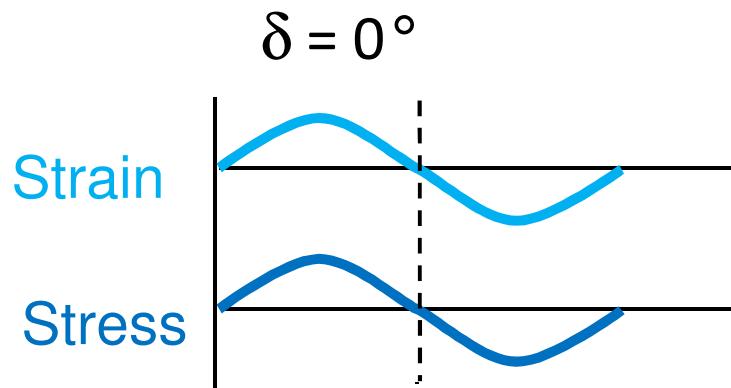
- Most commonly used tests in adhesive evaluations



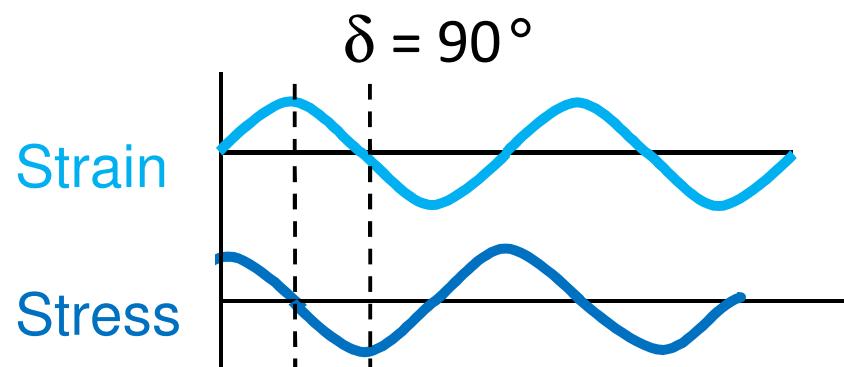
- Apply a sinusoidal stress to the sample at a certain frequency
- Monitor sample response in strain deformation
- The shift between the input stress and output strain is the phase angle

# Dynamic Testing: Response for Classical Extremes

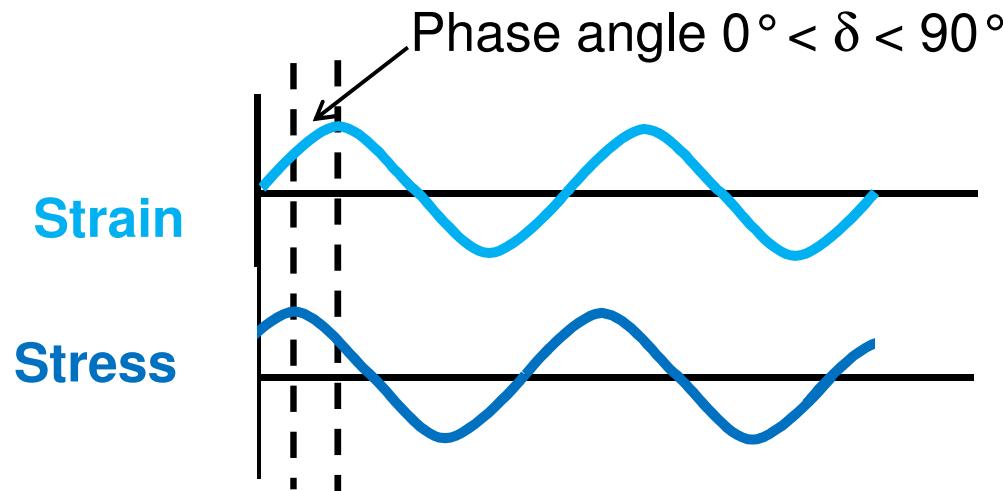
Purely Elastic Response  
(Hookean Solid)



Purely Viscous Response  
(Newtonian Liquid)



Viscoelastic Response



# Viscoelastic Parameters

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The Modulus: Measure of materials overall resistance to deformation.

The Elastic (Storage) Modulus: Measure of elasticity of material. The ability of the material to store energy.

The Viscous (loss) Modulus: The ability of the material to dissipate energy. Energy lost as heat.

Tan Delta:  
Measure of material damping - such as vibration or sound damping.

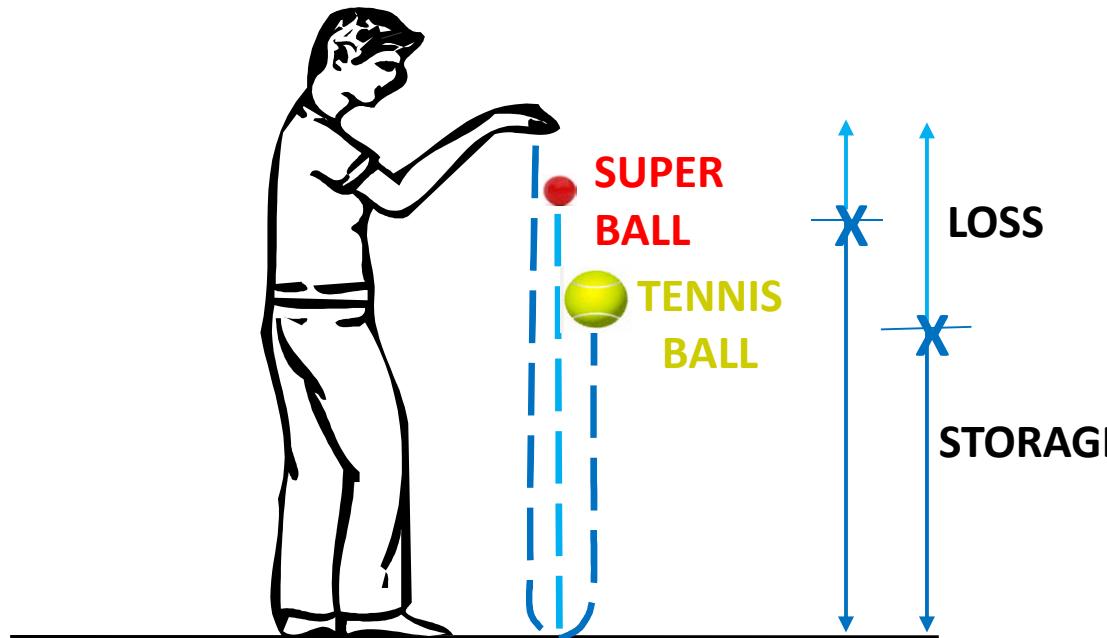
$$G^* = \left( \frac{\text{Stress}^*}{\text{Strain}} \right)$$

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

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

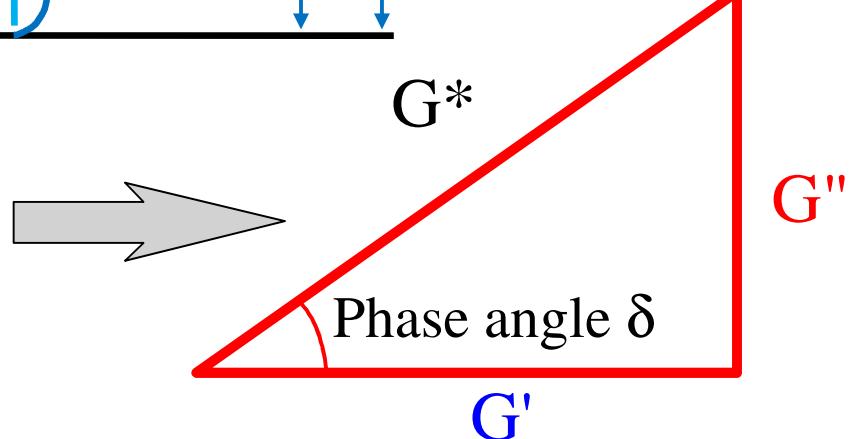
$$\tan \delta = \left( \frac{G''}{G'} \right)$$

# Storage and Loss of a Viscoelastic Material



Dynamic measurement  
represented as a vector

$$G^* = (G'^2 + G''^2)^{1/2}$$



# Complex Viscosity

---

- The viscosity measured in an oscillatory experiment is a **Complex Viscosity** much the way the modulus can be expressed as the complex modulus. The **complex viscosity** contains an elastic component and a term similar to the steady state viscosity.
  - The Complex viscosity is defined as:

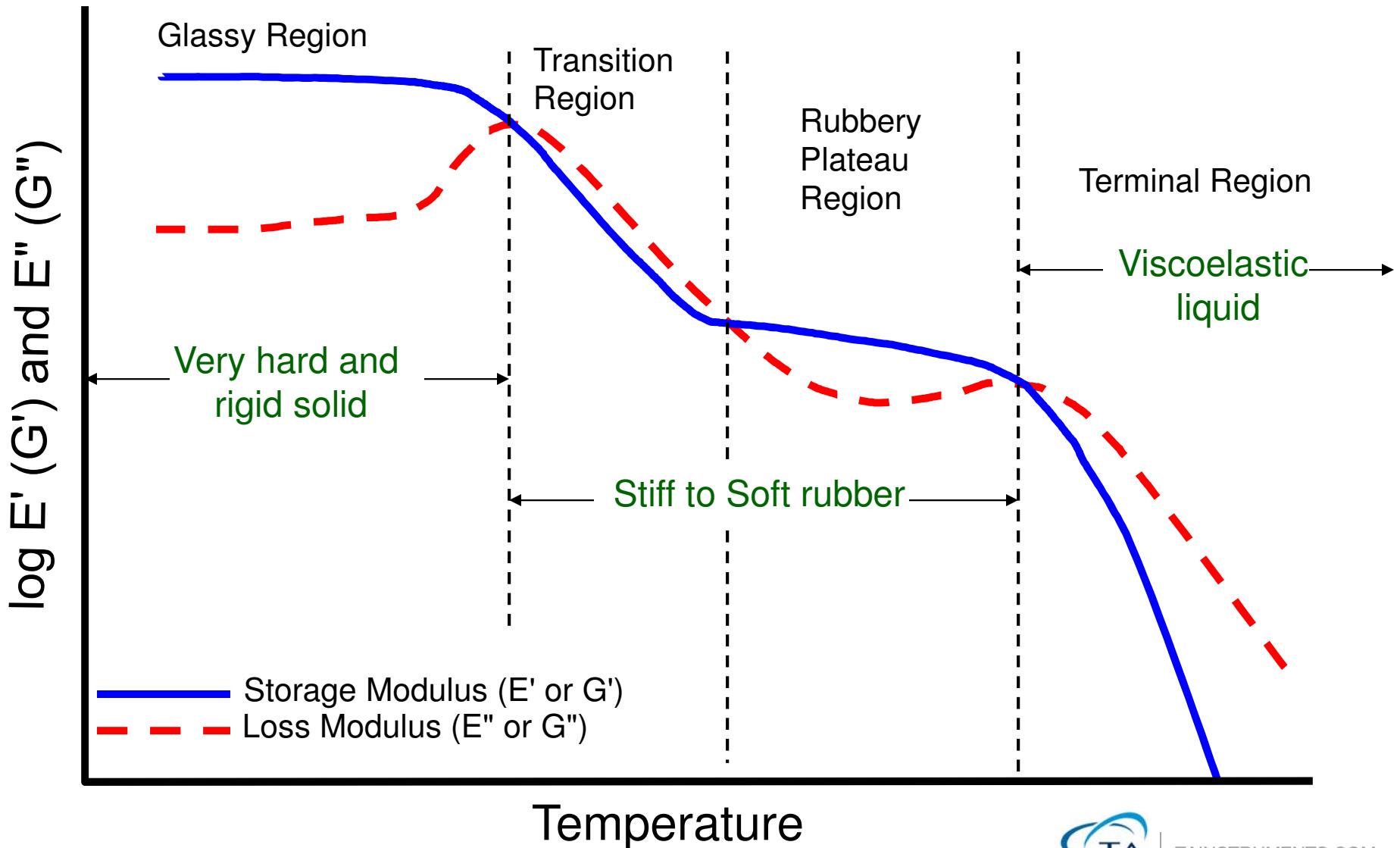
$$\eta^* = \eta' - i \eta''$$

or

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

Note: frequency must be in rad/sec!

# Viscoelastic Spectrum for a Typical Amorphous Polymer



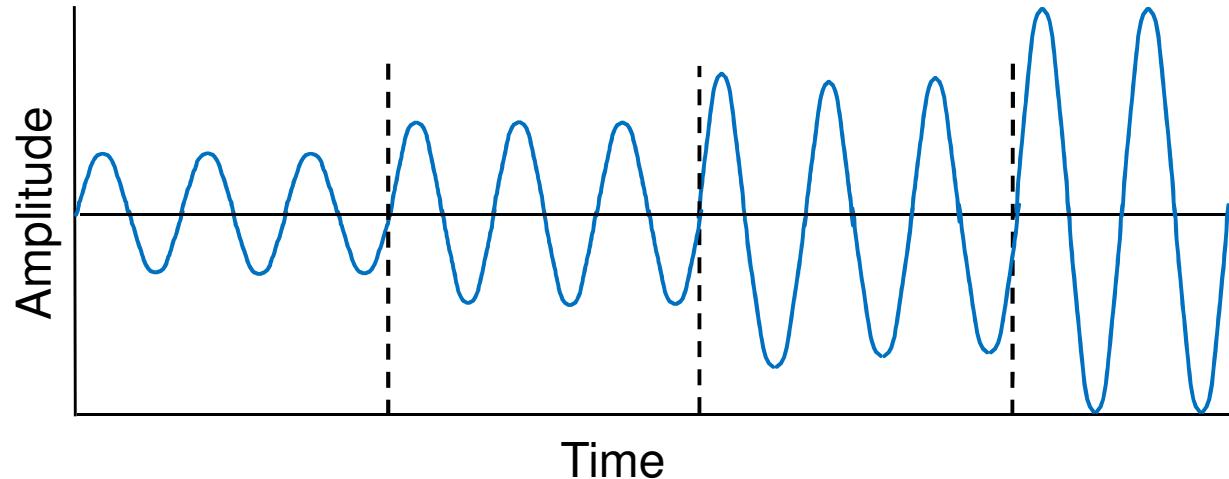
# Dynamic oscillation methods

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

# Strain, stress, or amplitude sweep

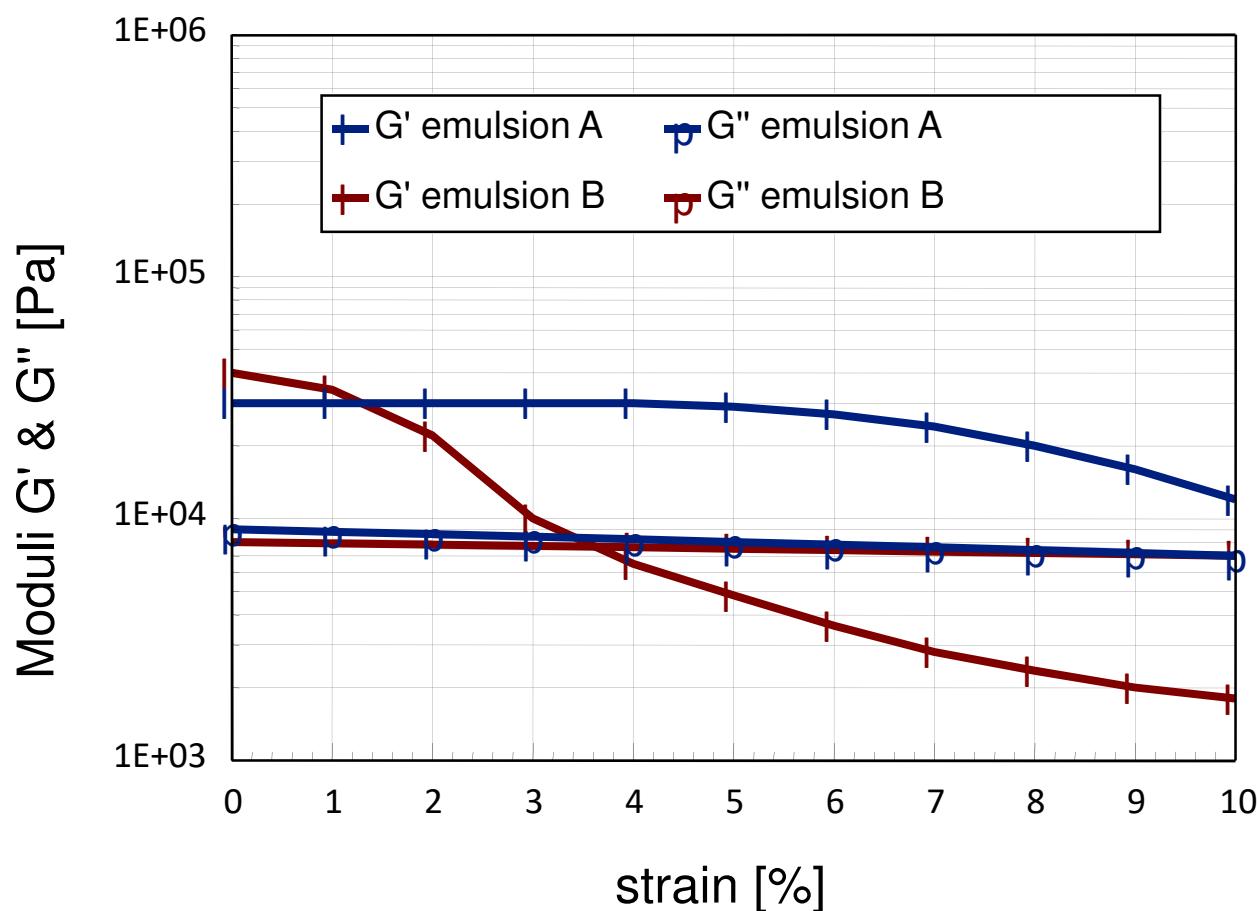
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- The material response to increasing deformation amplitude is monitored at a constant frequency and temperature
- Determine LVR or yield stress
  - Tests assumes sample is stable

# Creams/Lotions: Predict Stability

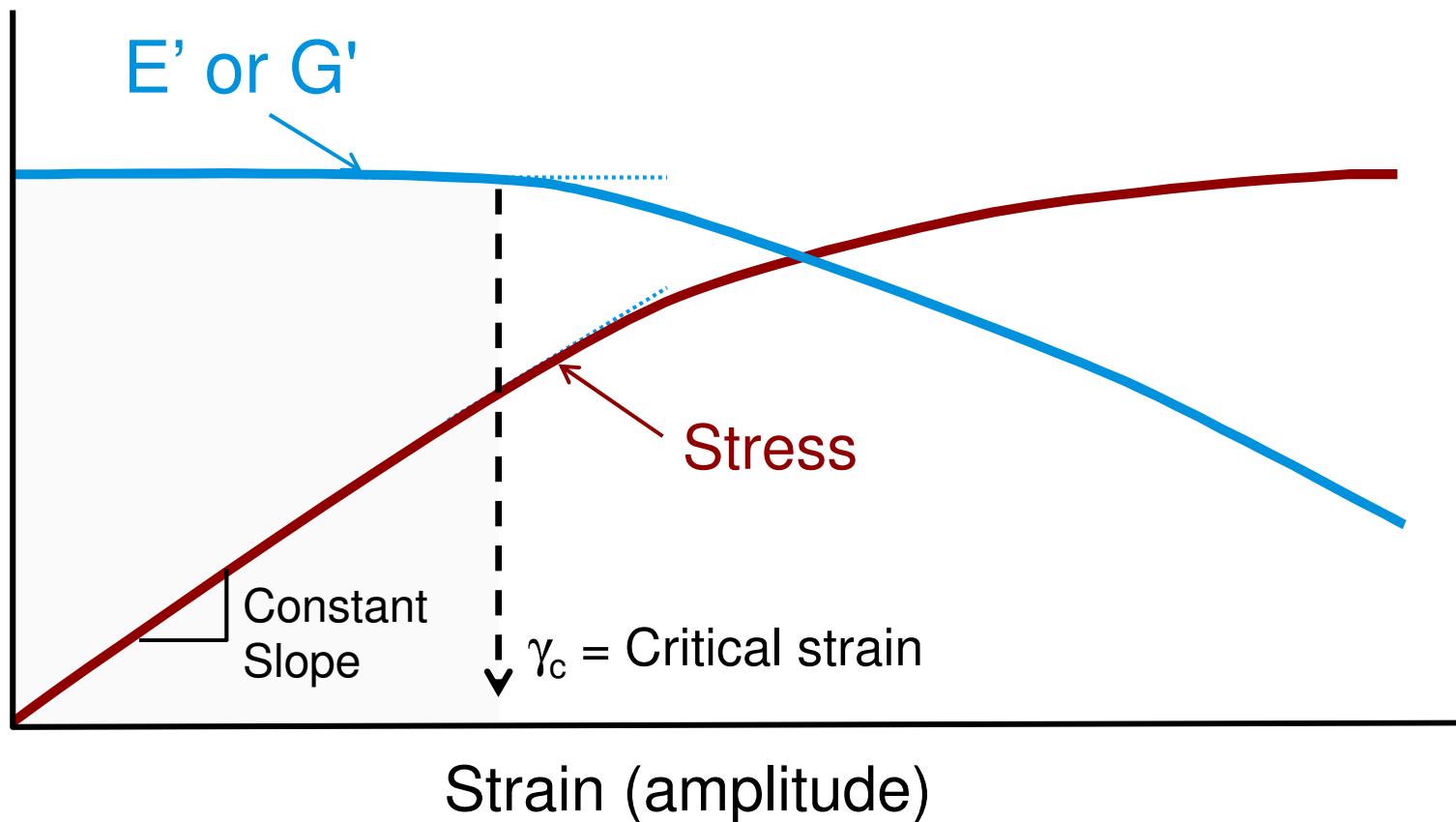
Stability, phase separation of a cosmetic cream



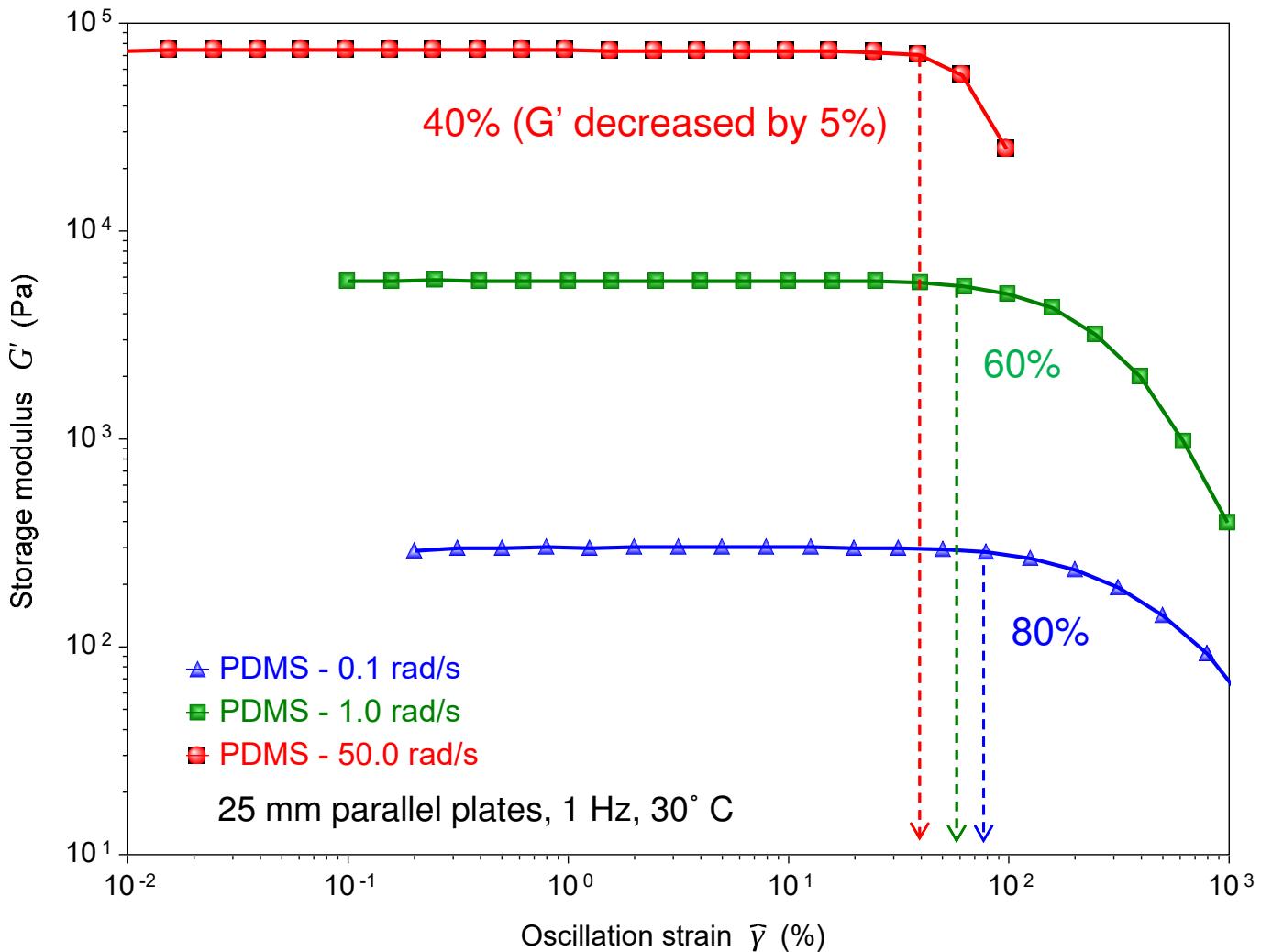
# Dynamic Strain Sweep: Material Response

LVR: Storage modulus independent of strain

Non-linear Region: modulus is a function of strain



# Frequency dependence of LVR



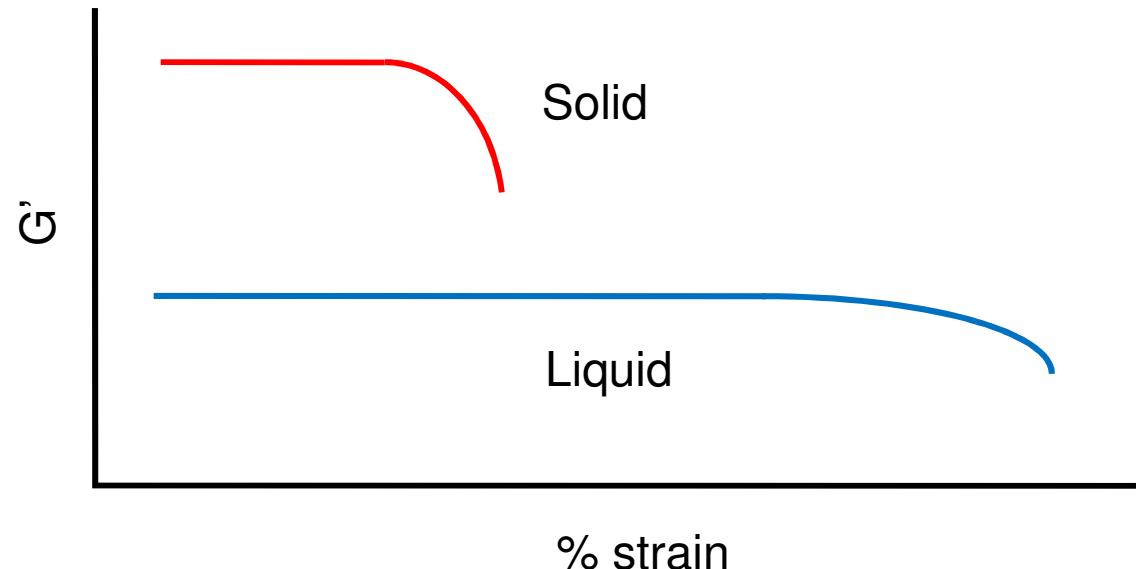
- LVR decreases with increasing frequency
- Modulus increases with increasing frequency



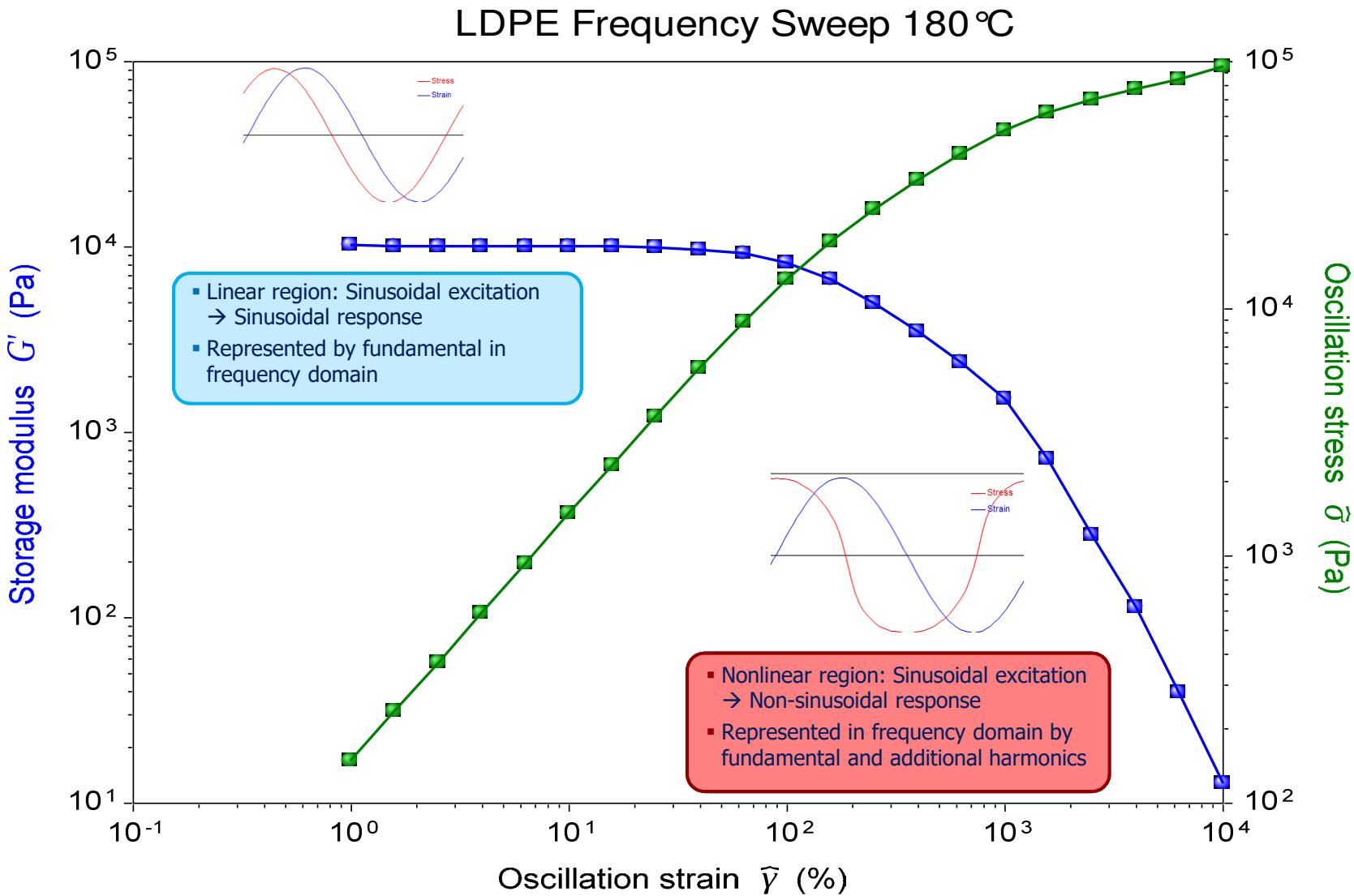
# Temperature Dependence of LVR

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- In general, the LVR is shortest when the sample is in its most solid form.

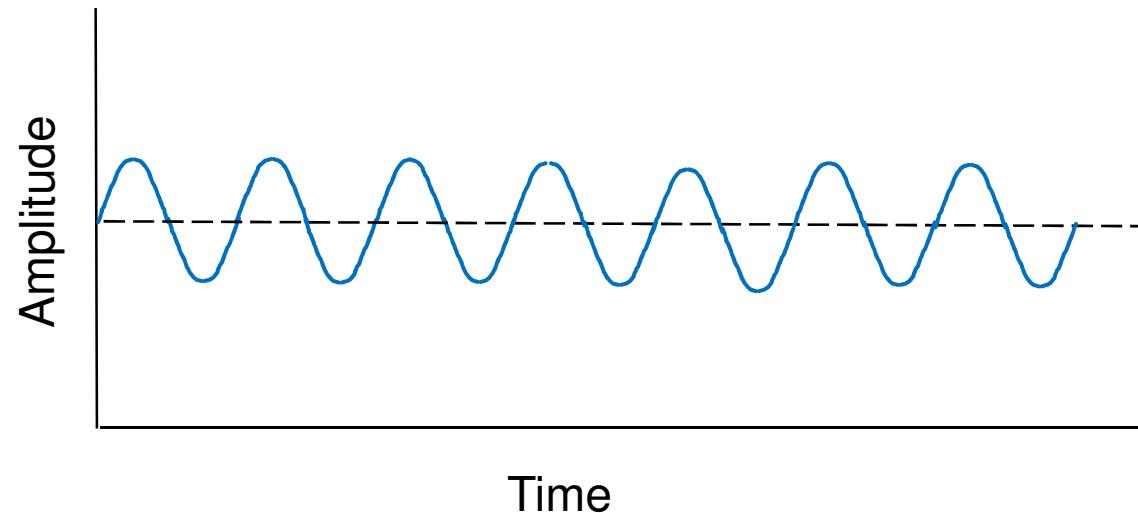


# Linear and Non-linear Viscoelasticity



# Time sweep

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- The material response is monitored at a constant frequency, amplitude, and temperature
- Determine stability (e.g. evaporation, degradation), thixotropy, and curing studies
  - Amplitude within LVR

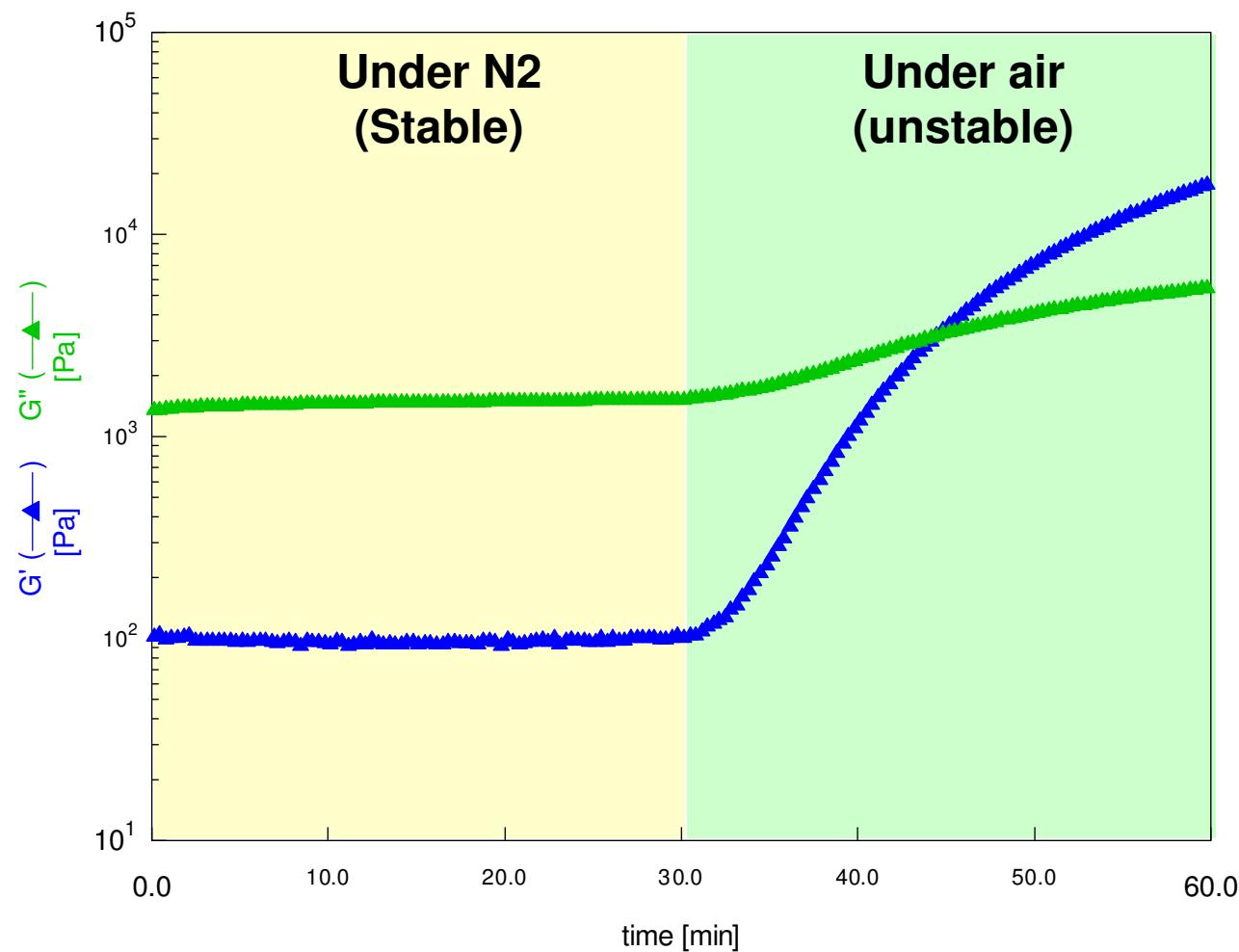
# Importance of Time Sweep

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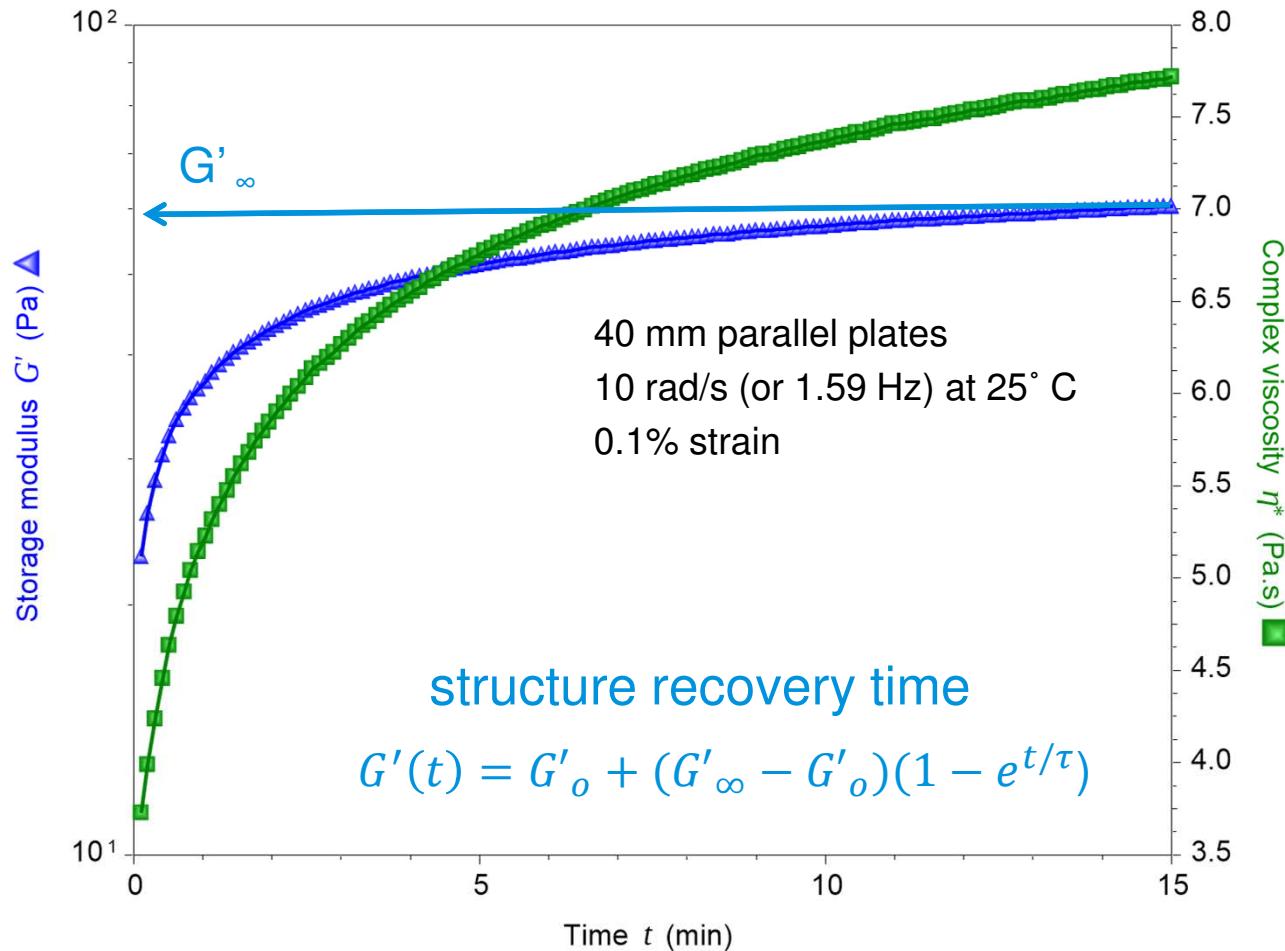
- Important, but often overlooked
- Determines if properties are changing over the time of testing
  - Complex Fluids or Dispersions
    - Drying or volatilization (use solvent trap)
    - Structure recovery
    - Thixotropy
  - Polymers
    - Degradation (inert purge)
    - Curing

# Time Sweep on PEEK Melt - Thermal Stability

2000G time sweep at 400°C



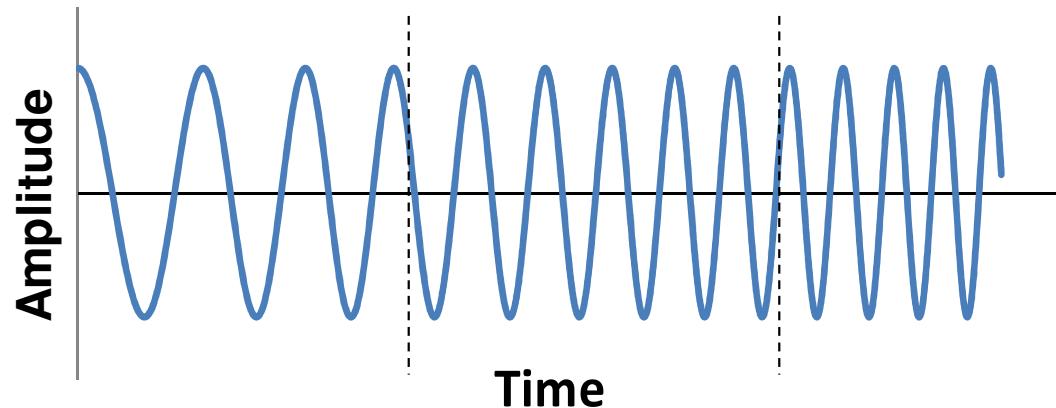
# Structure Recovery of a Paint



- Monitor the increase of the  $G'$  or complex viscosity as function of time
- Thixotropic recovery can be described by the recovery time ( $\tau$ )
  - Rule out evaporation

# Frequency sweep

---



- The material response to increasing frequency (rate of deformation) is monitored at a constant amplitude and temperature
- Determine stability over the expected duration of test
  - Low frequencies = longer times
  - Amplitude within LVR

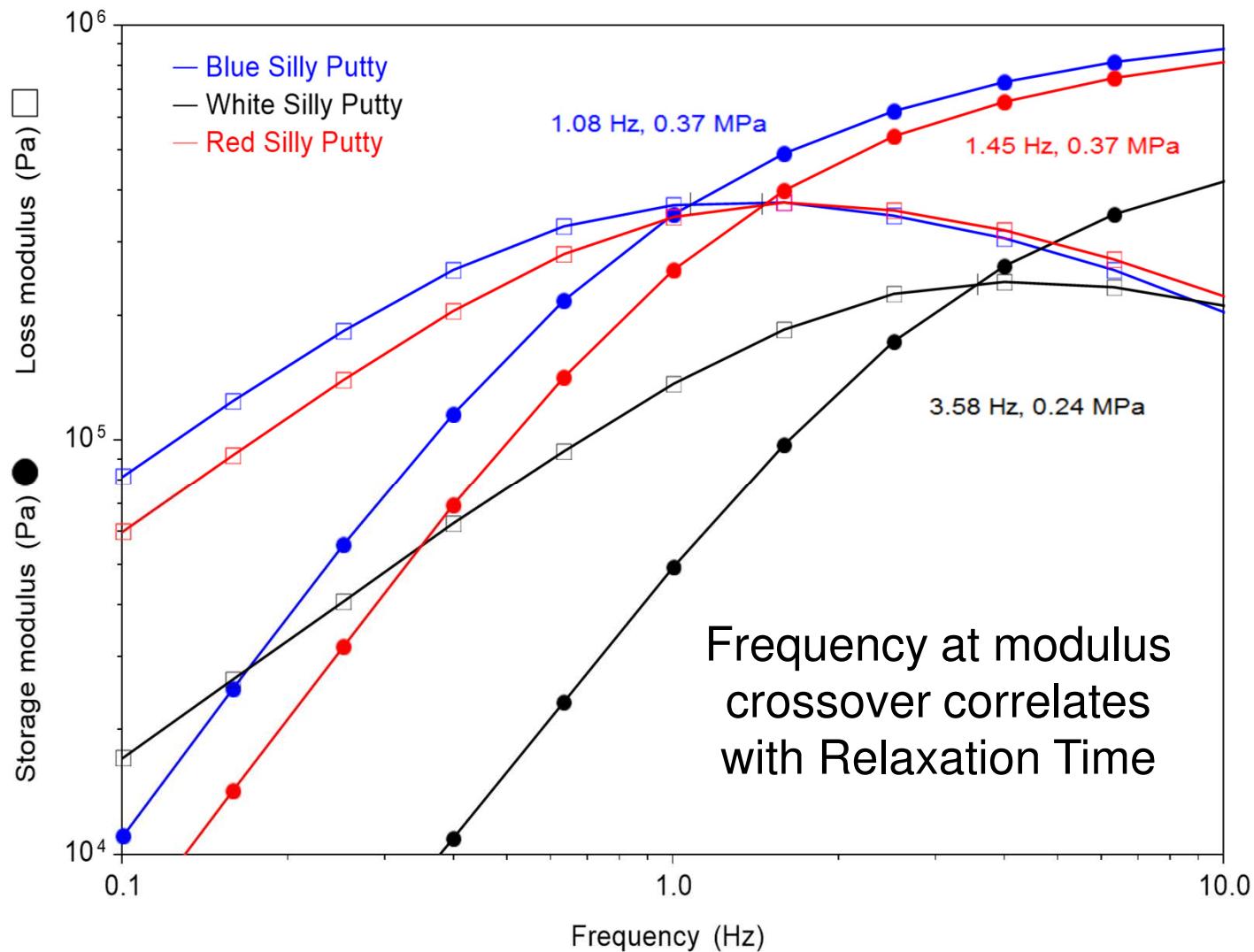
# Time-Dependent Viscoelastic Behavior

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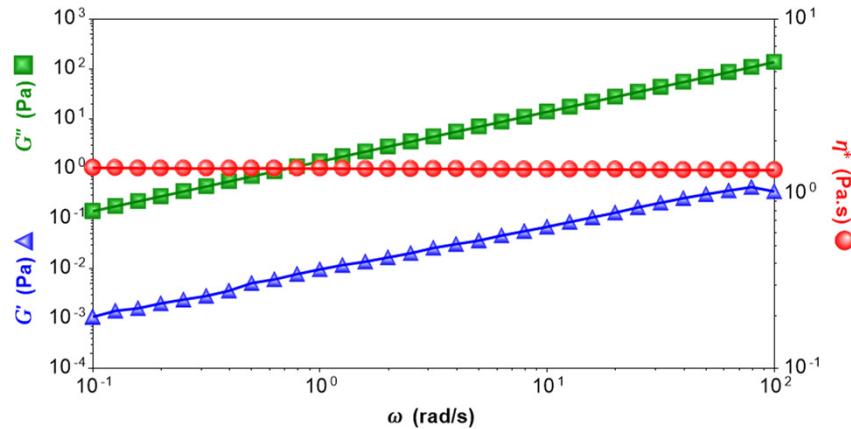
- Silly Putties have different characteristic relaxation times
- Dynamic (oscillatory) testing can measure time-dependent viscoelastic properties more efficiently by varying frequency (deformation time)

# Frequency Sweep- Time Dependent Viscoelastic Properties

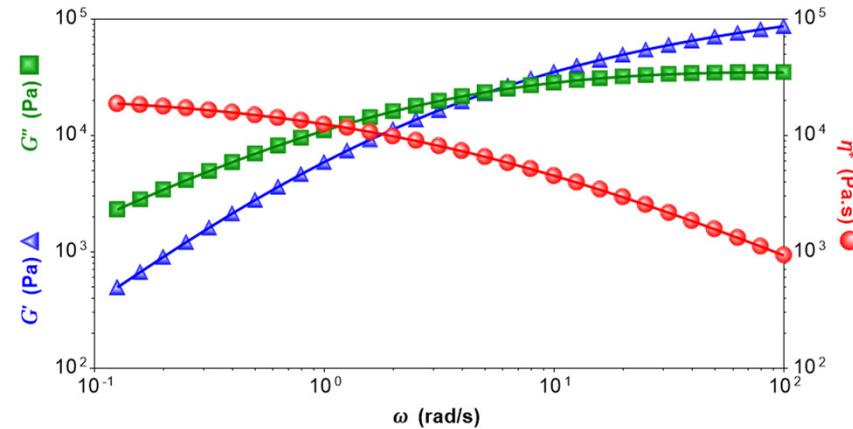


# Differences in elasticity using frequency sweep

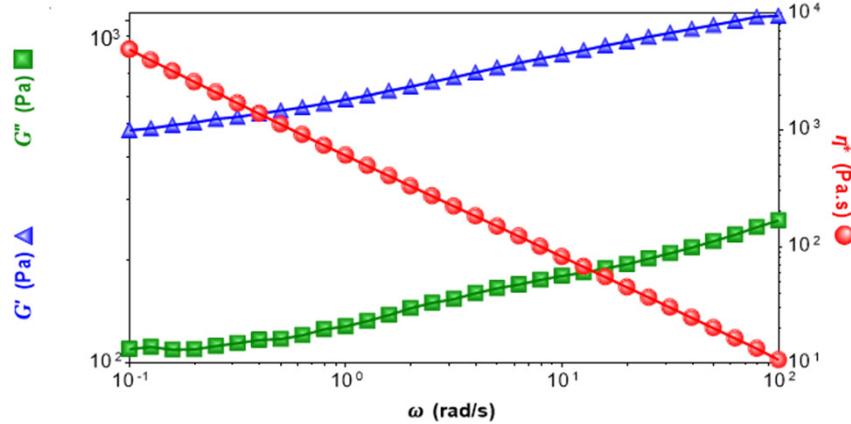
Mineral oil



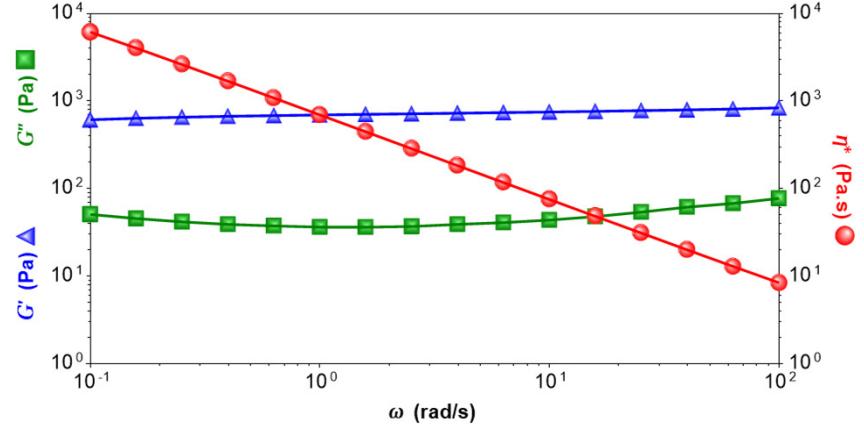
PDMS



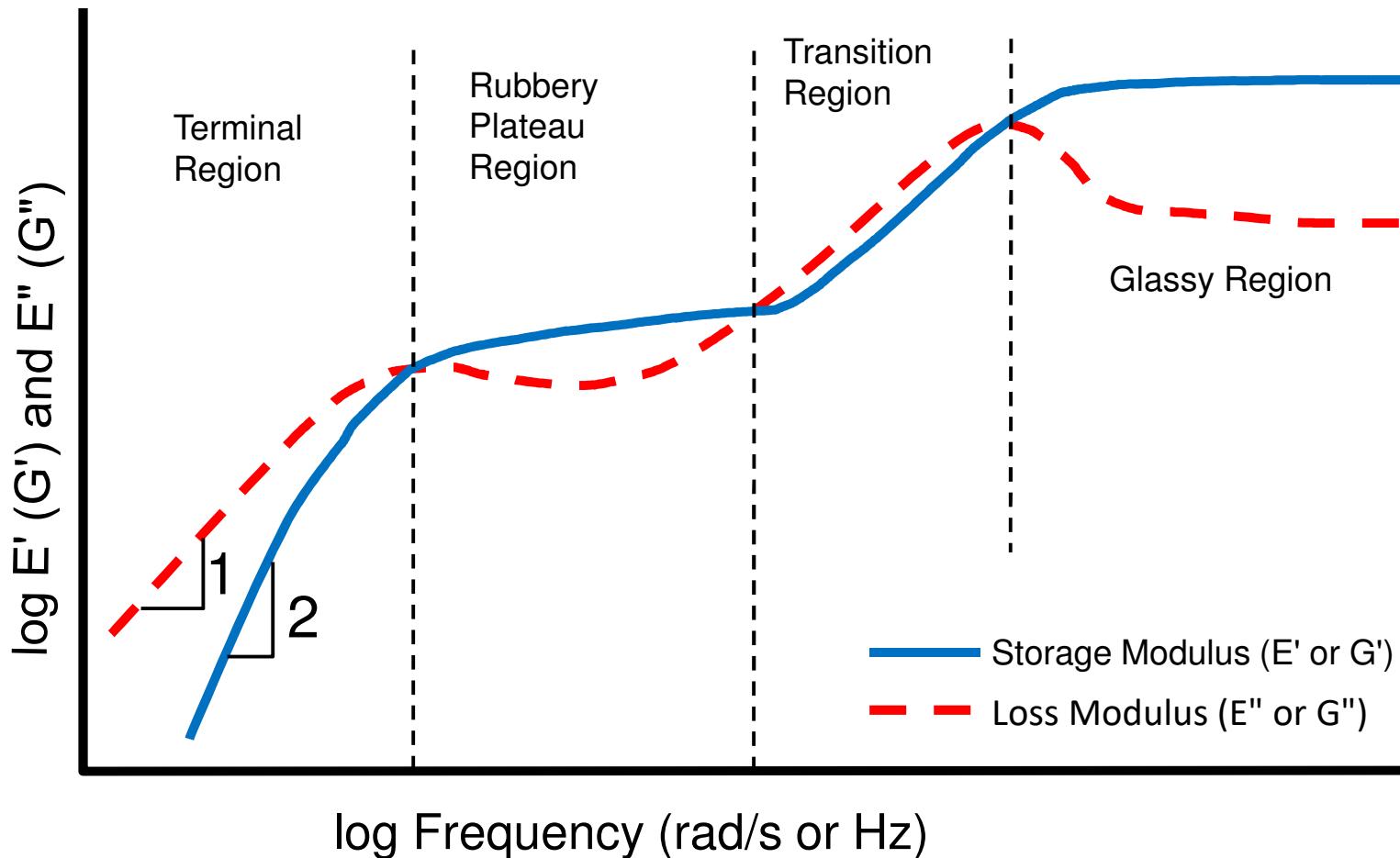
Skin cream



Hydrogel



# Frequency Sweep: Material Response

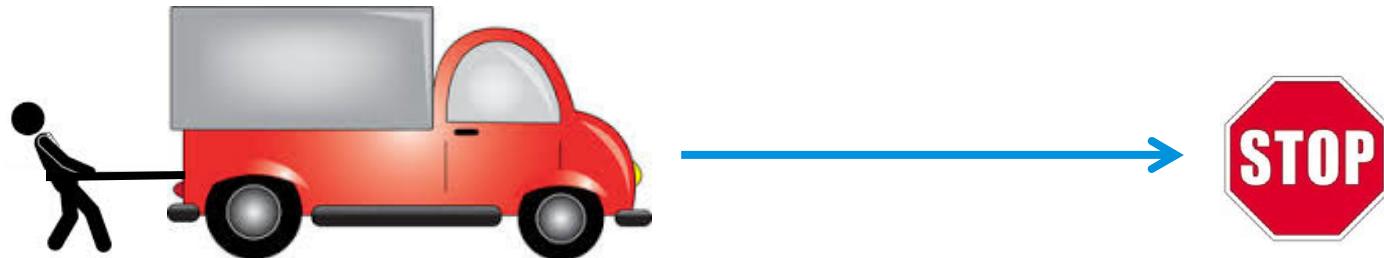
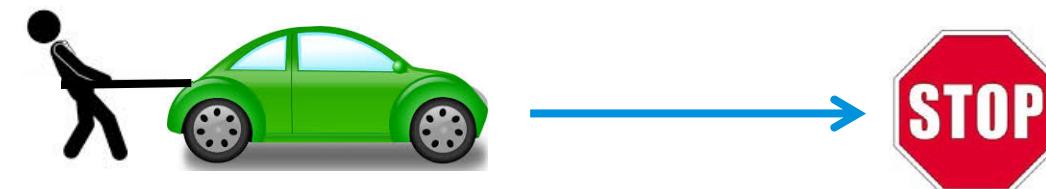


# Inertial Effects

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- What is Inertia?

- Definition: That property of matter which manifests itself as a resistance to any change in momentum of a body
- Instrument has inertia
- Sample has inertia



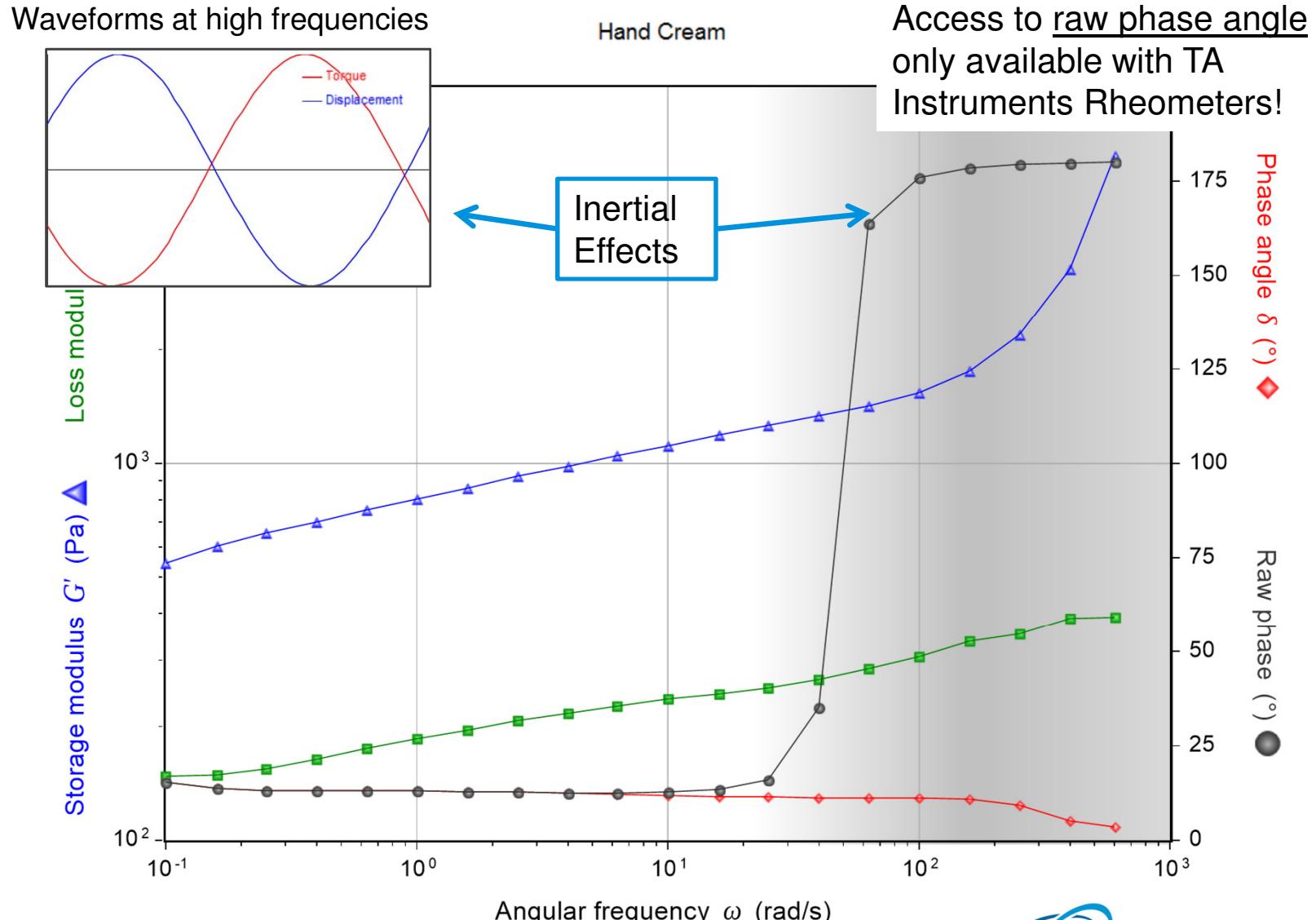
# Inertial Effects in Oscillation for DHR

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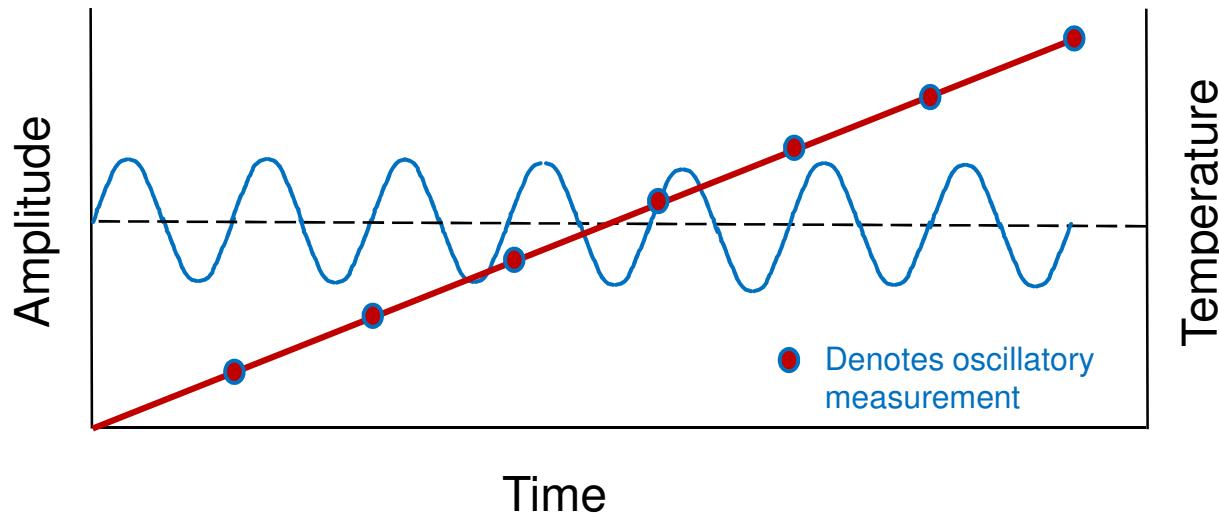
- Inertia consideration
  - Viscosity limitations with frequency
  - Minimize inertia by using low mass geometries
  - Monitor inertia using Raw Phase in degree
  - When Raw Phase is greater than:
    - . **150° degrees for AR series**
    - . **175° degrees for DHR series**
    - . This indicates that the system inertia is dominating the measurement signal. Data may not be valid

**Raw Phase × Inertia Correction = delta**

# DHR Correction for Inertia

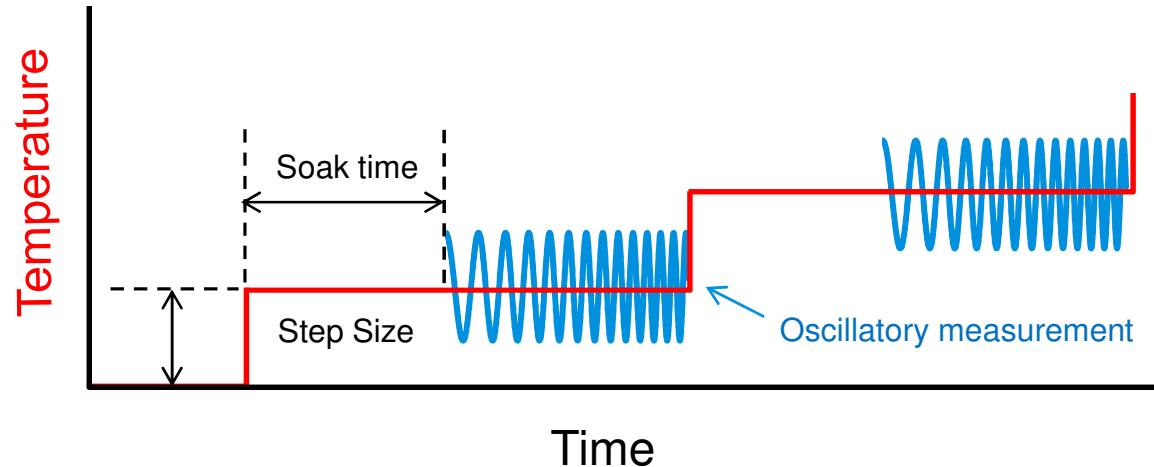


# Dynamic temperature ramp



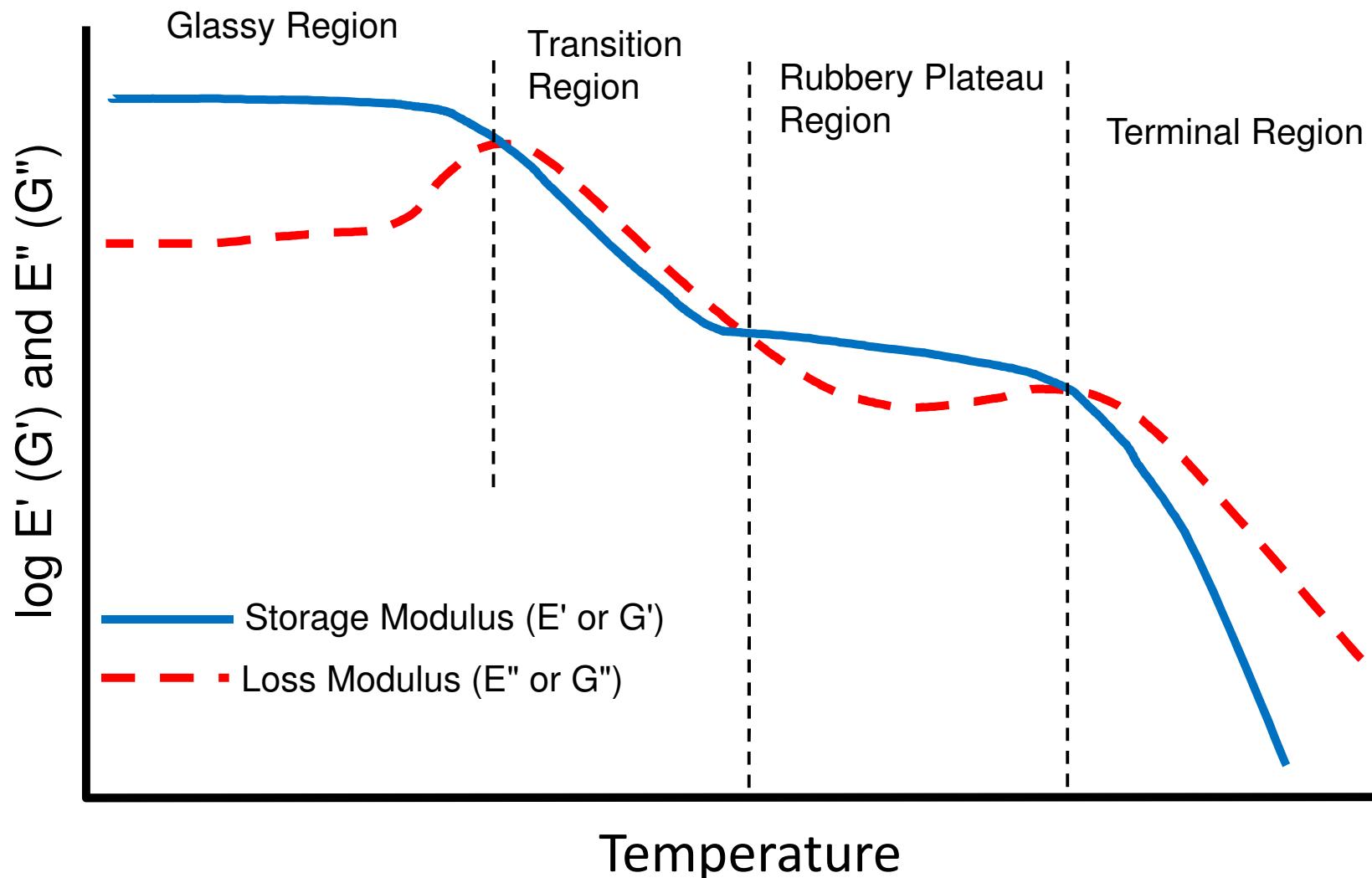
- Linear heating rate is applied and the material response is monitored at a constant frequency and constant amplitude
- Common heating/cooling rate: 2-5 °C/min
- Amplitude within LVR

# Temperature sweep (or step) - Single /Multi-Frequency

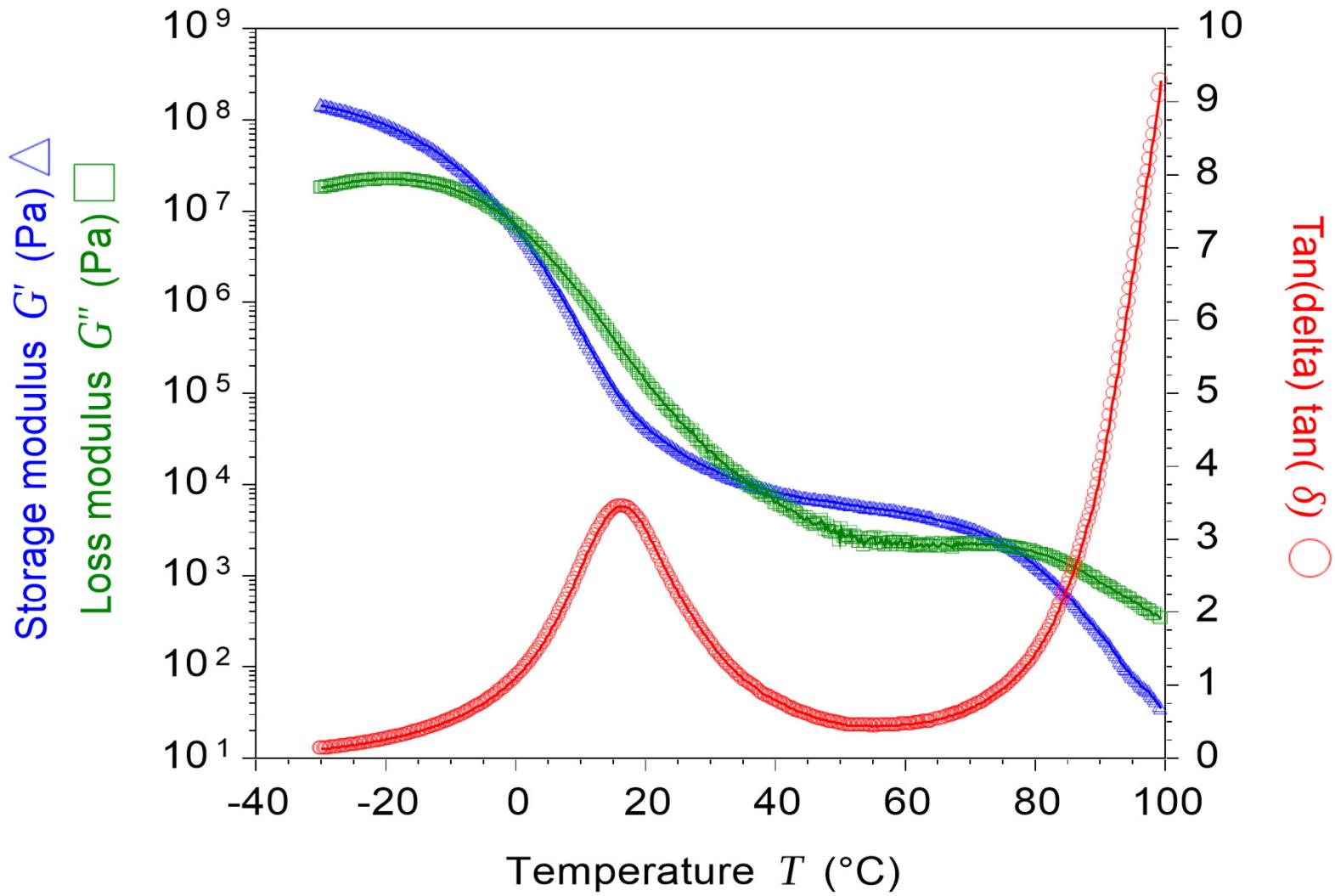


- Step and hold temperature then monitor material response
  - No thermal lag
- Common step: 5-10 degrees per step
- Amplitude within LVR

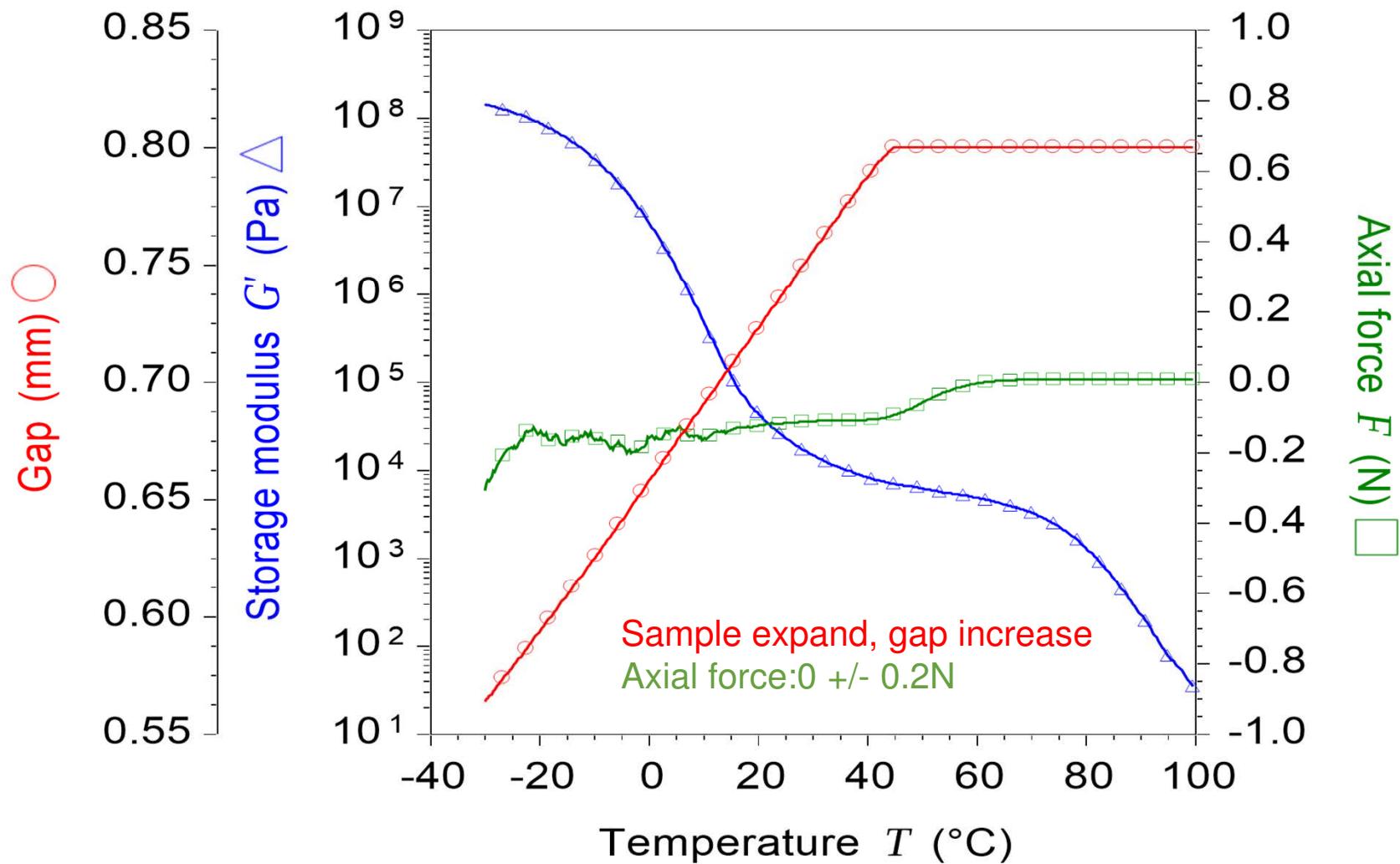
# Dynamic Temperature Ramp or Sweep: Material Response



# Temperature Ramp of an Adhesive



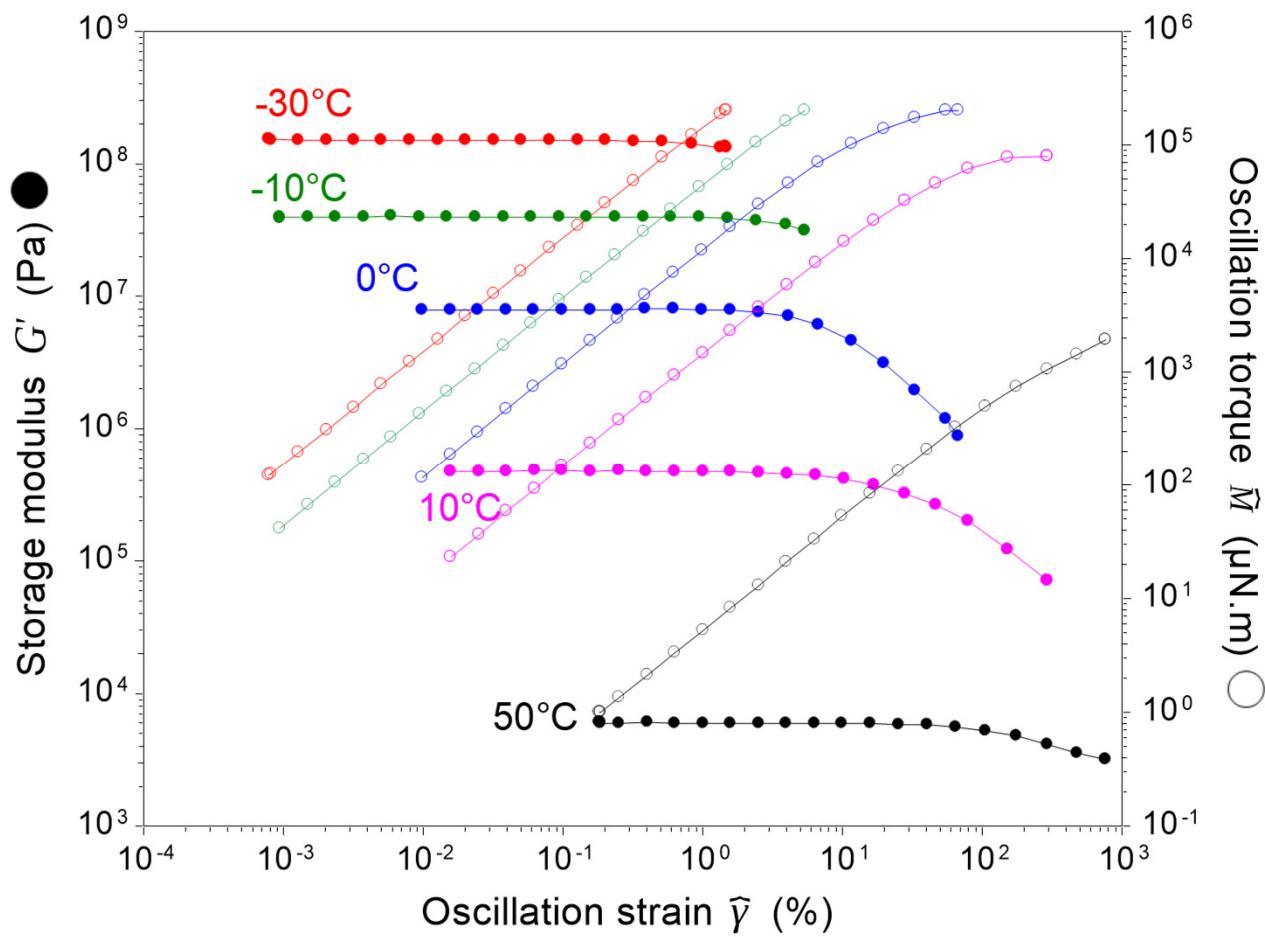
# Using Axial Force Control in a Temp Ramp Test



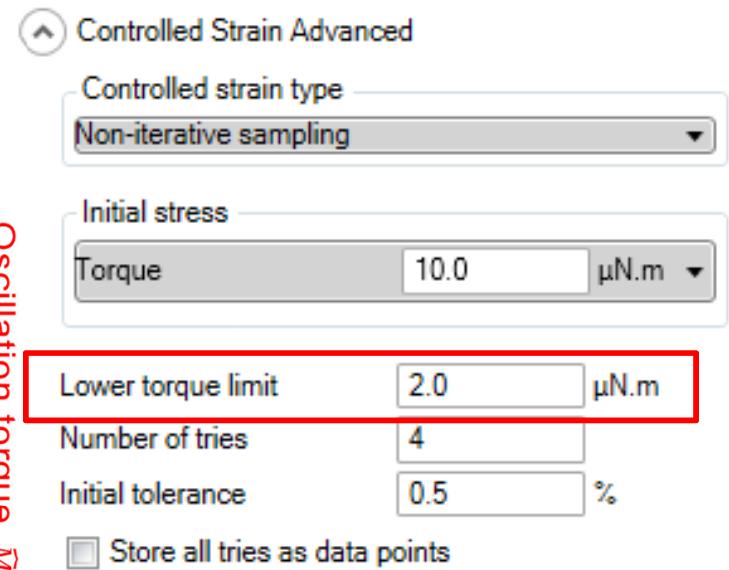
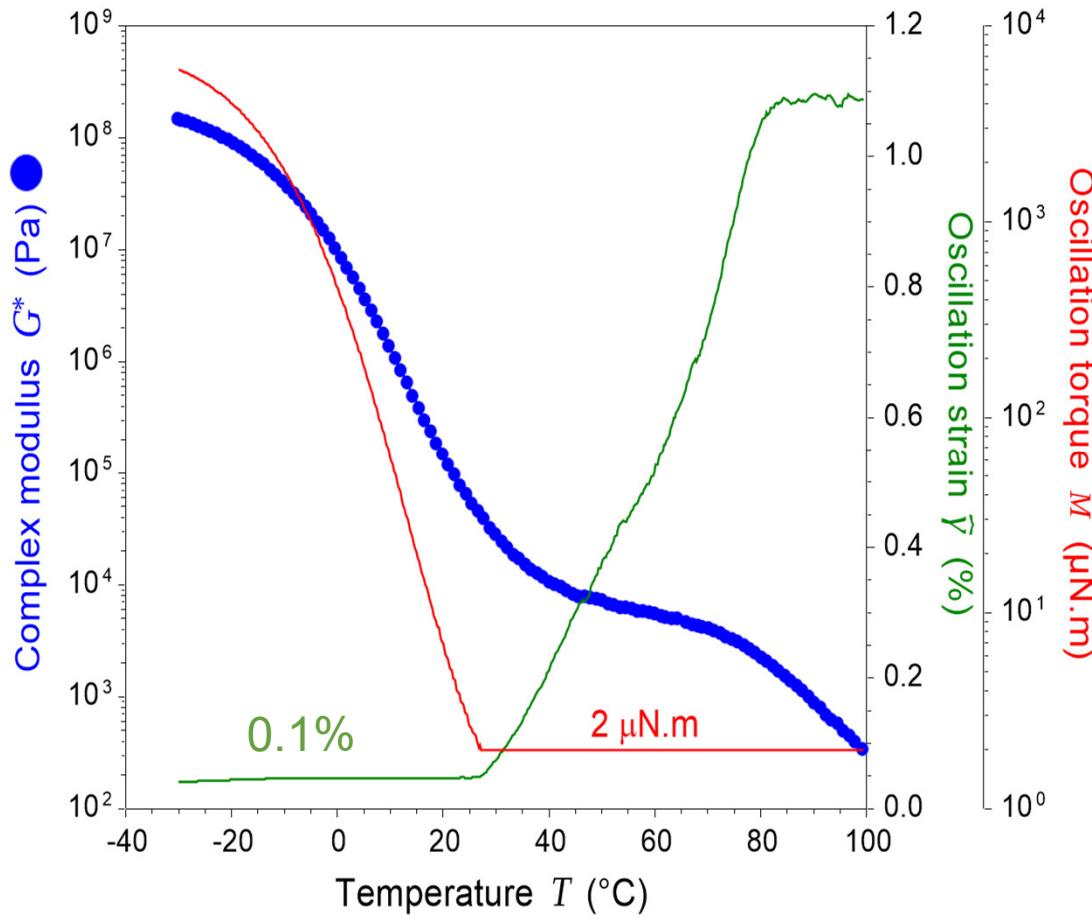
# Adjusting strain and torque in temperature ramp

@ Low temperature:  
A small strain is preferred.

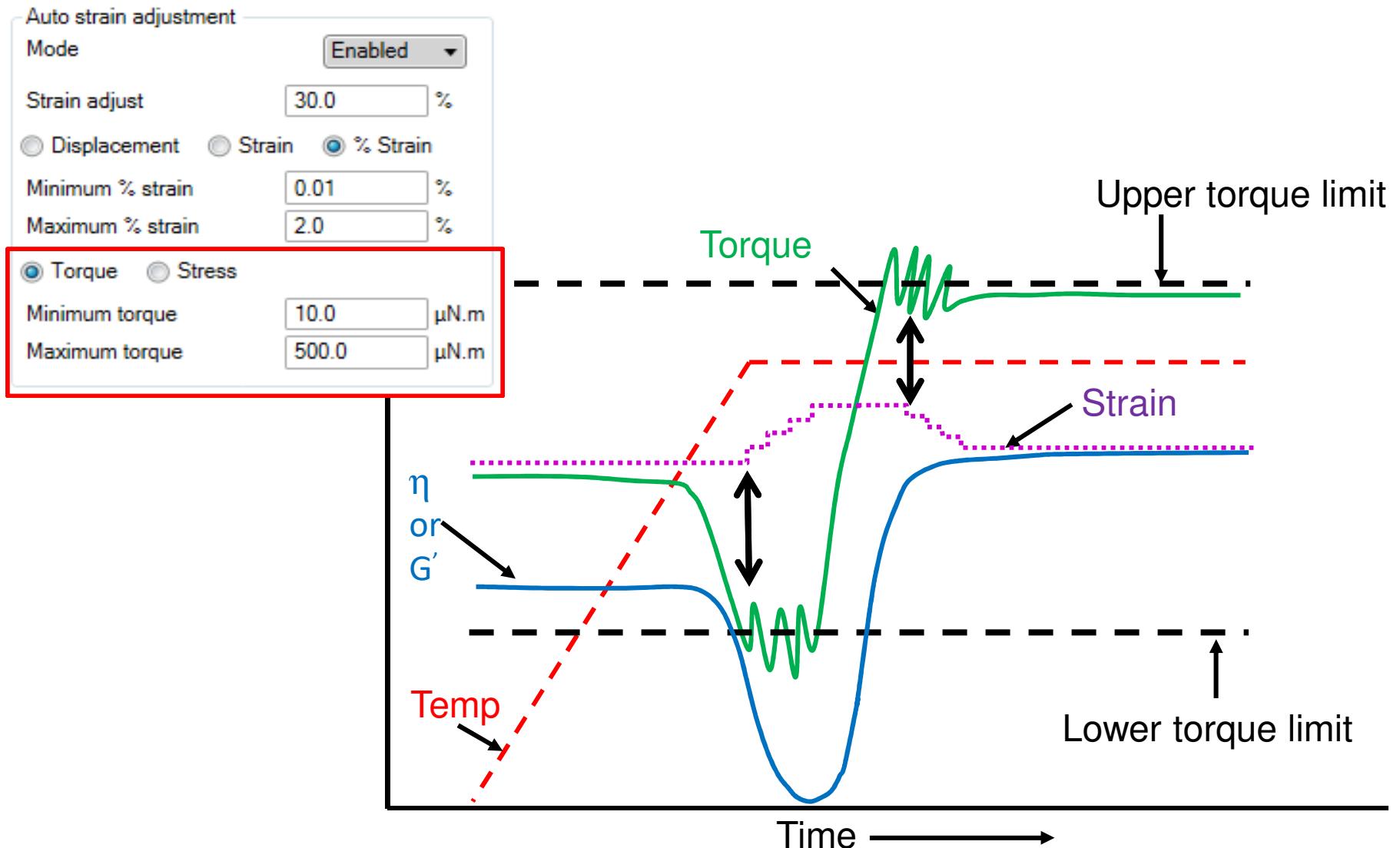
@ High temperature:  
A large strain is preferred.



# DHR and AR: Non-iterative Sampling

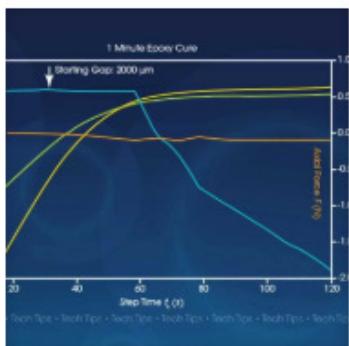


# ARES-G2 and DHR: Auto-Strain



# TA Tech tips

## axial force control



Using Axial Force Control

## non-iterative sampling



Non-Iterative Sampling For Thermoset Rheology

## auto strain| using dhr w/ trios v3.2 or hi



Auto Strain using DHR w/ TRIOS v3.2 or higher



A Tech Tips

Auto-Strain Functionality when using the ARES-G2

- Videos available at [www.tainstruments.com](http://www.tainstruments.com) under the Videos tab or on the TA tech tip channel of YouTube™ (<https://www.youtube.com/user/TATechTips>)

# **Setting up Rheological Experiments**

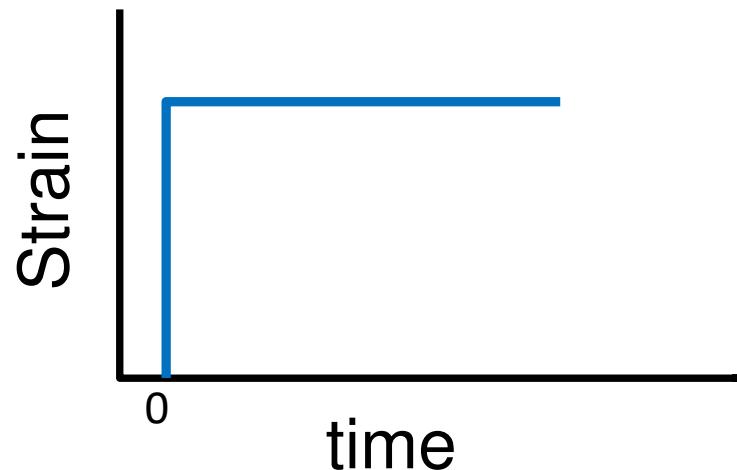
## **Transient Tests**



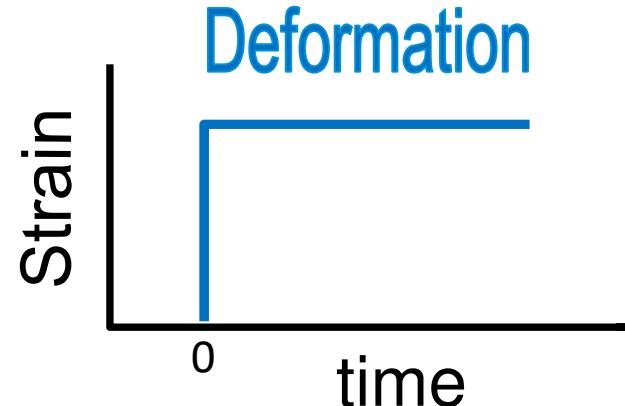
# Stress Relaxation Experiment

---

- Strain is applied to sample instantaneously (in principle) and held constant with time.
- Stress is monitored as a function of time  $\sigma(t)$ .



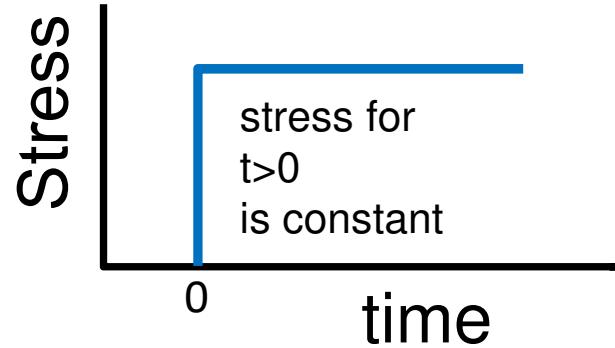
# Stress Relaxation Experiment



## Response of Classical Extremes

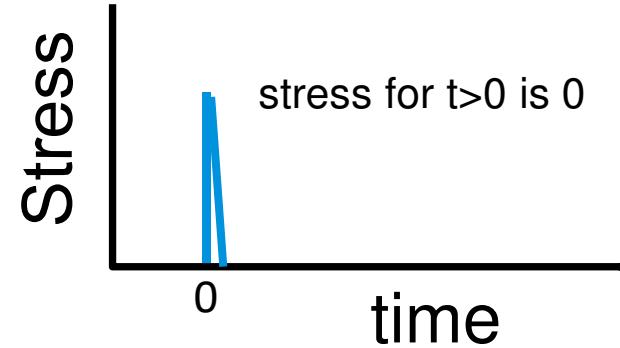
Elastic

Hookean Solid



Viscous

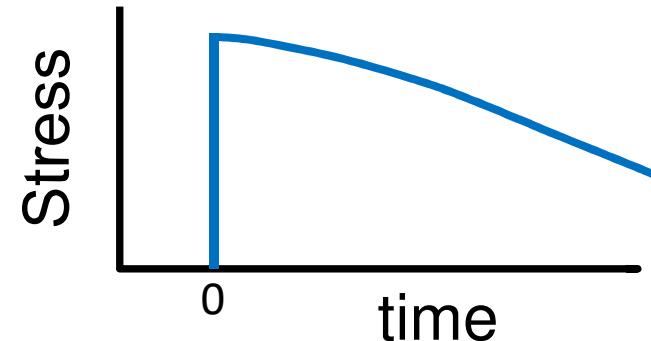
Newtonian Fluid



# Stress Relaxation Experiment

## Response of ViscoElastic Material

Stress decreases **with time** starting at some high value and decreasing to zero.



- For small deformations (strains within the linear region) the ratio of stress to strain is a function of time only.
- This function is a material property known as the **STRESS RELAXATION MODULUS,  $G(t)$**   
$$G(t) = \sigma(t)/\gamma$$

# Determining Strain For Stress Relaxation

---

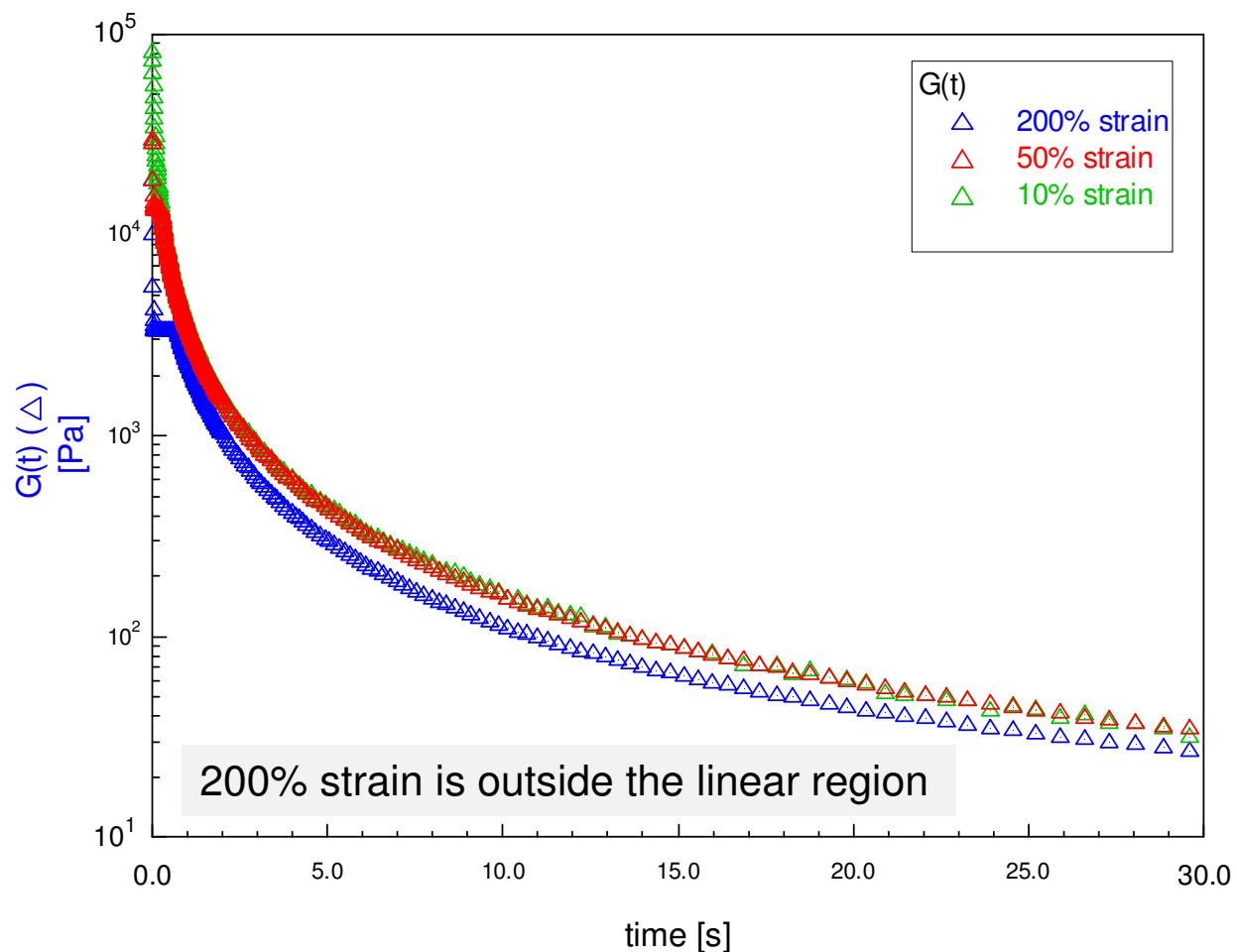
- **Research Approach**, such as generation of a family of curves for TTS, then the strain should be in the linear viscoelastic region. The stress relaxation modulus will be independent of applied strain (or will superimpose) in the linear region.
- **Application Approach**, mimic real application. Then the question is "what is the range of strain that I can apply on the sample?" This is found by knowing the Strain range the geometry can apply.
  - The software will calculate this for you.

$$\gamma = K_\gamma \times \theta \quad (\% \gamma = \gamma \times 100)$$

# Stress Relaxation and Linear Region

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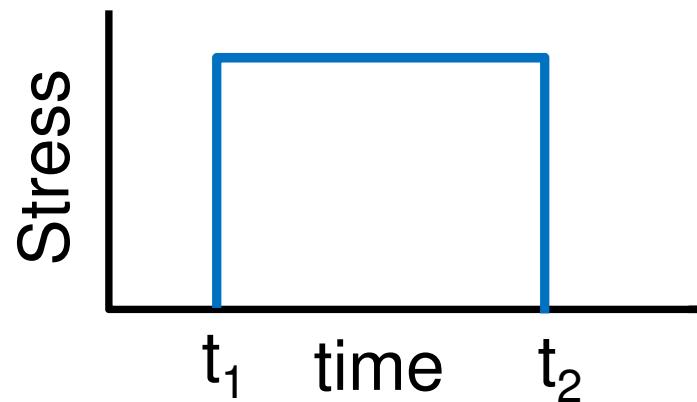
Stress Relaxation of PDMS, Overlay



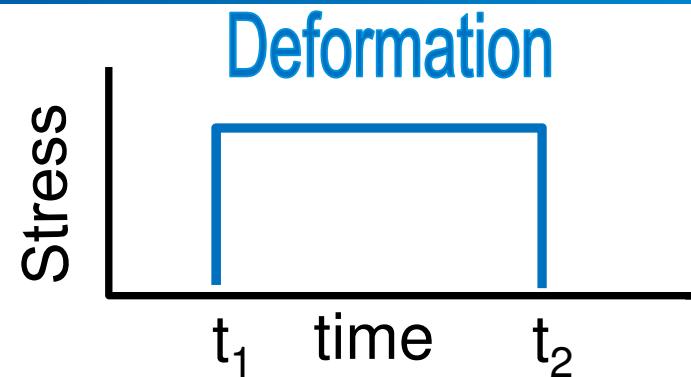
# Creep Recovery Experiment

---

- Stress is applied to sample instantaneously,  $t_1$ , and held constant for a specific period of time. The strain is monitored as a function of time ( $\gamma(t)$  or  $\varepsilon(t)$ )
- The stress is reduced to zero,  $t_2$ , and the strain is monitored as a function of time ( $\gamma(t)$  or  $\varepsilon(t)$ )



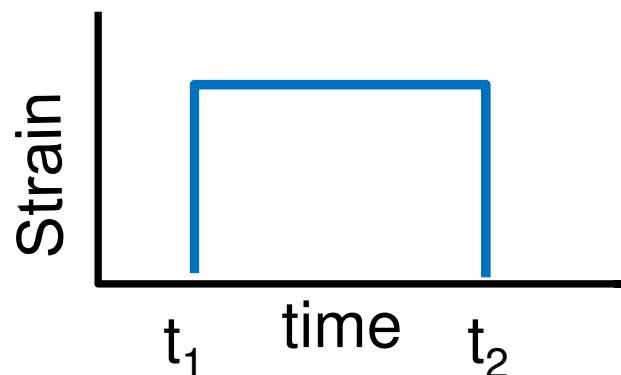
# Creep Recovery Experiment



## Response of Classical Extremes

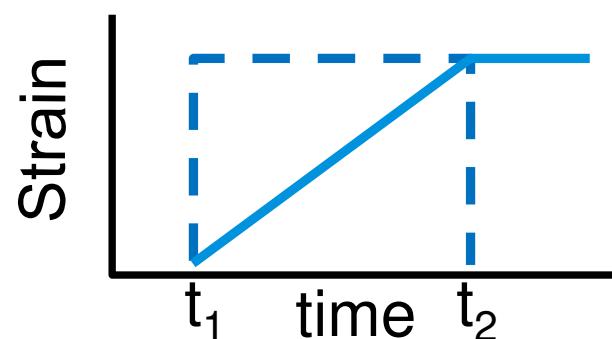
### Elastic

- Strain for  $t > t_1$  is constant
- Strain for  $t > t_2$  is 0

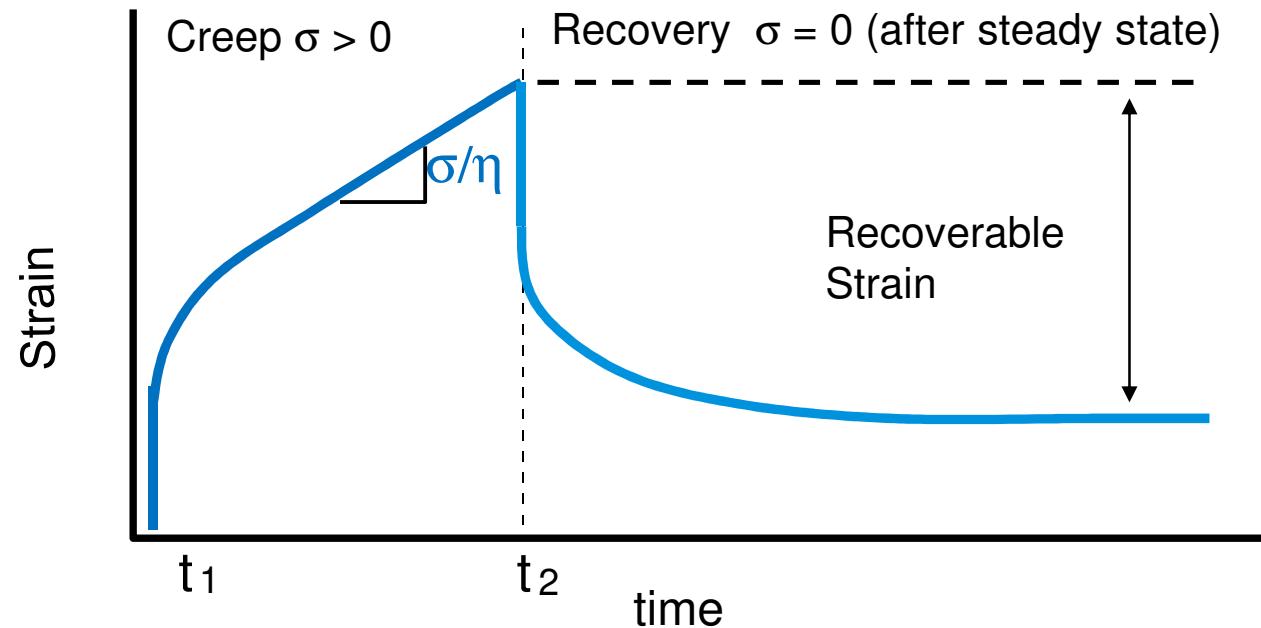


### Viscous

- Strain rate for  $t > t_1$  is constant
- Strain for  $t > t_1$  increase with time
- Strain rate for  $t > t_2$  is 0



# Creep Recovery: Response of Viscoelastic Material

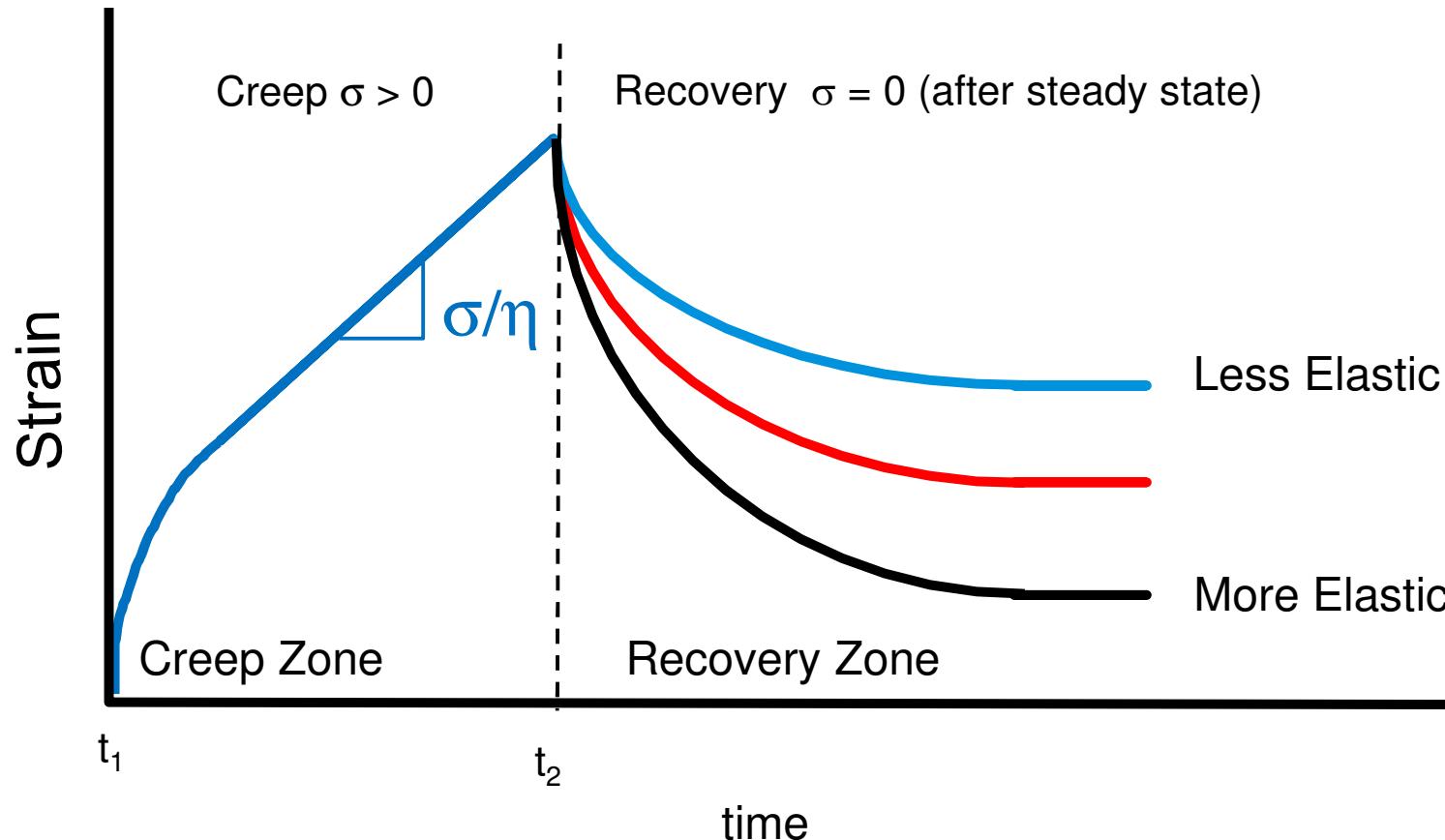


**Strain rate decreases with time in the creep zone, until finally reaching a steady state.**

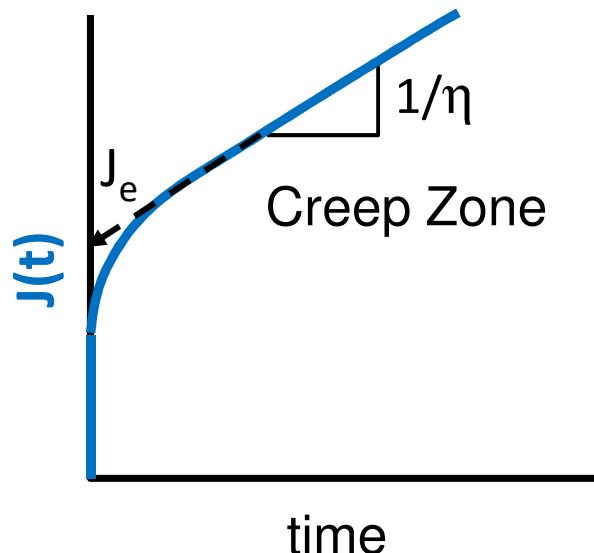
**In the recovery zone, the viscoelastic fluid recoils, eventually reaching a equilibrium at some small total strain relative to the strain at unloading.**

Mark, J., et. al., Physical Properties of Polymers, American Chemical Society, 1984, p. 102.

# Creep Recovery Experiment



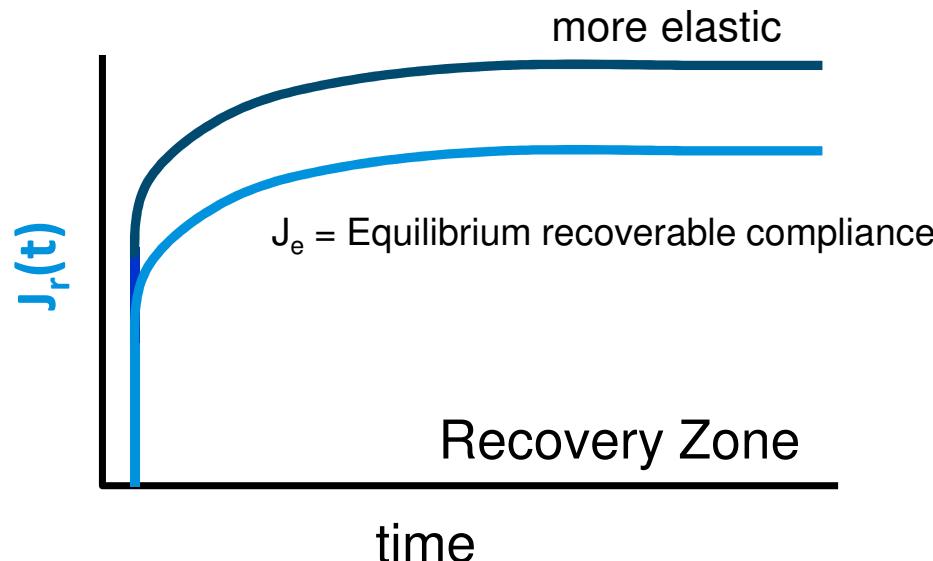
# Creep Recovery : Creep and Recoverable Compliance



Creep Compliance

$$J(t) = \frac{\gamma(t)}{\sigma}$$

The material property obtained from Creep experiments:  
Compliance = 1/Modulus (in a sense)



Recoverable Compliance

$$J_r(t) = \frac{[\gamma_u - \gamma(t)]}{\sigma}$$

Where  $\gamma_u$  = Strain at unloading  
 $\gamma(t)$  = time dependent recoverable strain

Mark, J., et. al., Physical Properties of Polymers, American Chemical Society, 1984, p. 102.

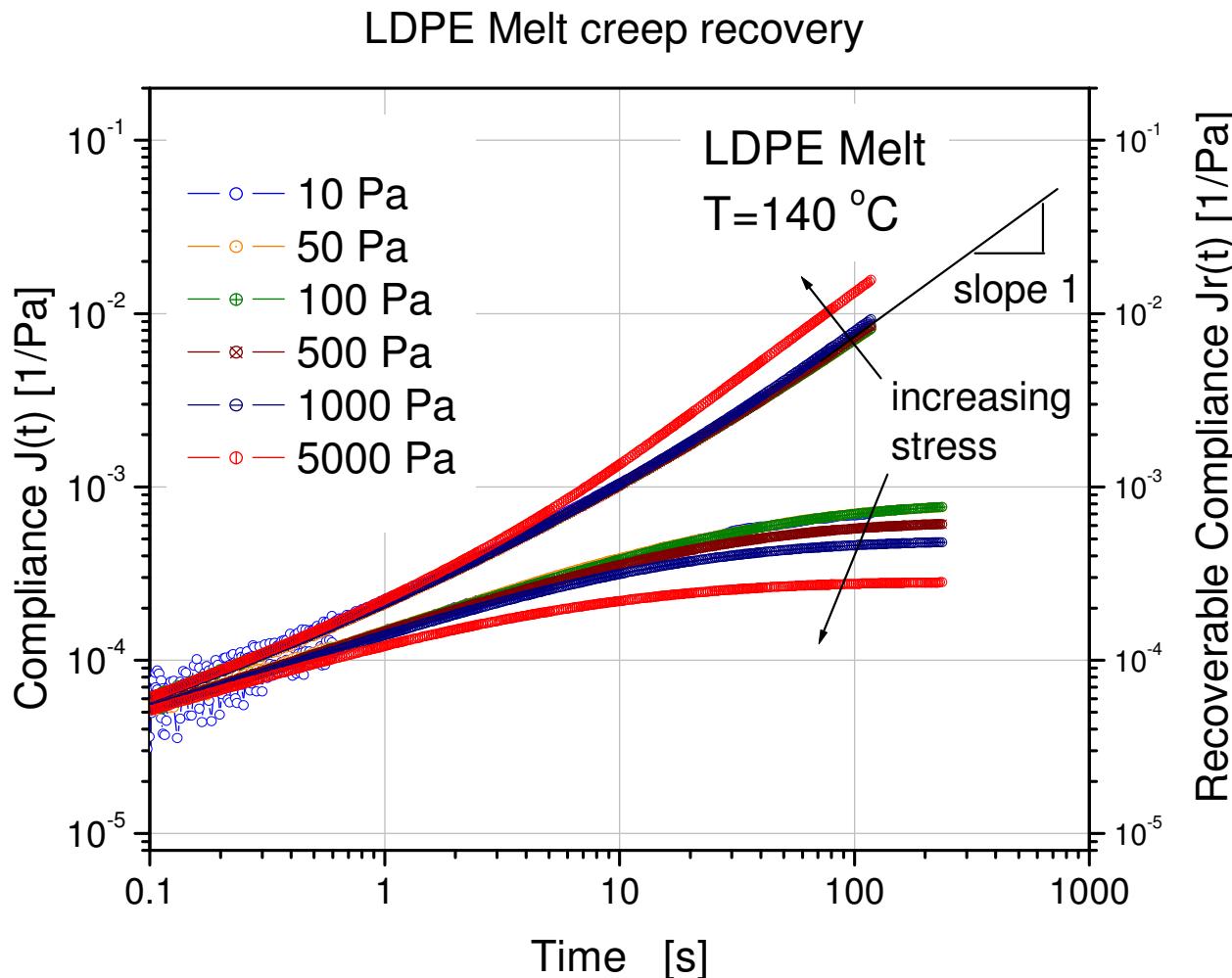
# Determining Stress For Creep Experiment

---

- **Research Approach** - If you are doing creep on a polymer melt, and are interested in viscoelastic information (creep and recoverable compliance), then you need to conduct the test at a stress within the linear viscoelastic region of the material.
- **Application Approach** - If you are doing creep on a solid, you want to know the dimension change with time under a specified stress and temperature, then the question is "what is the max/min stress that I can apply to the sample?". This is found by knowing the Stress range the geometry can apply.
  - The software will calculate this for you.

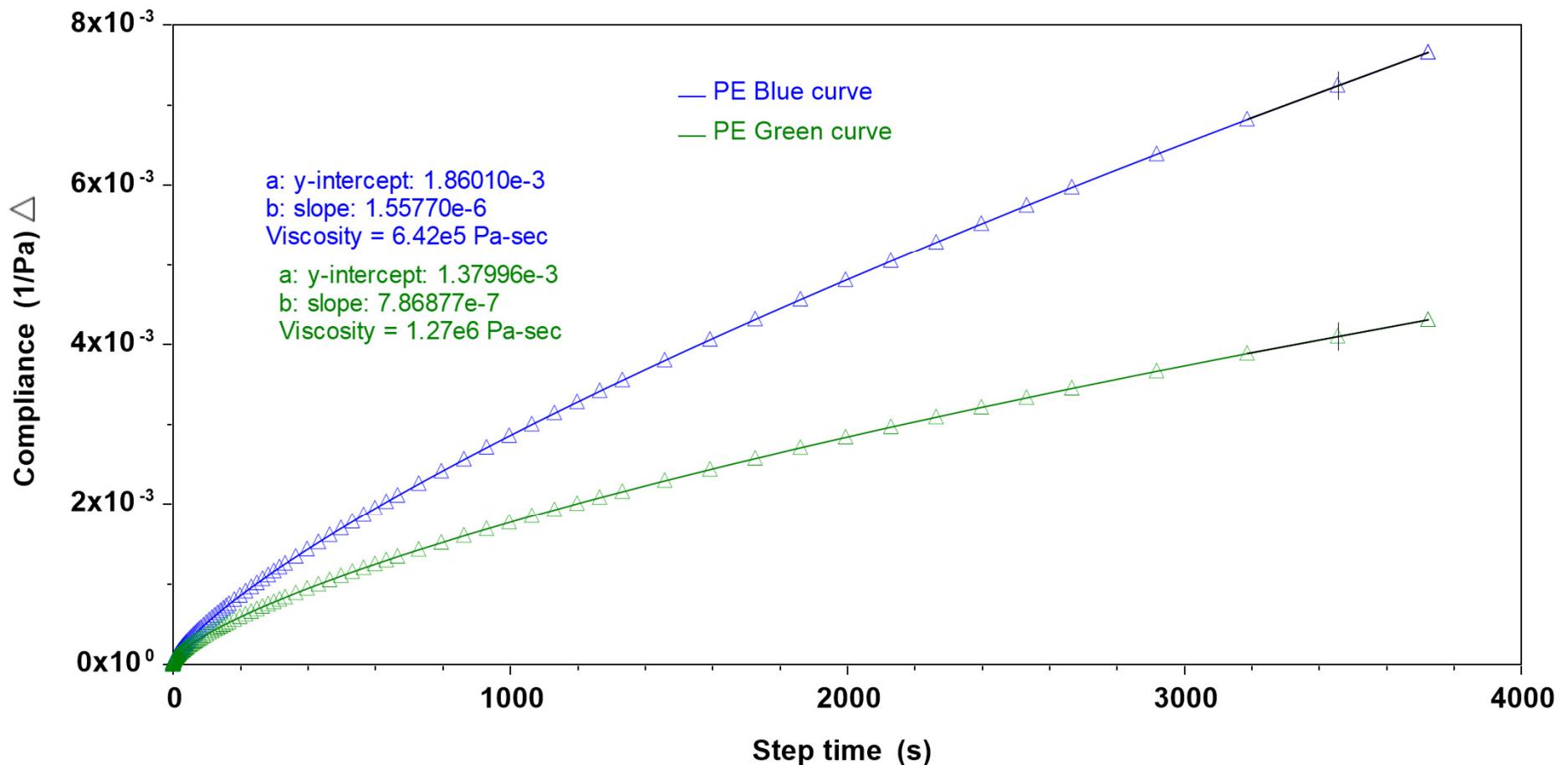
$$\sigma = K_{\sigma} \times M$$

# Creep and Recovery with Increasing Stress



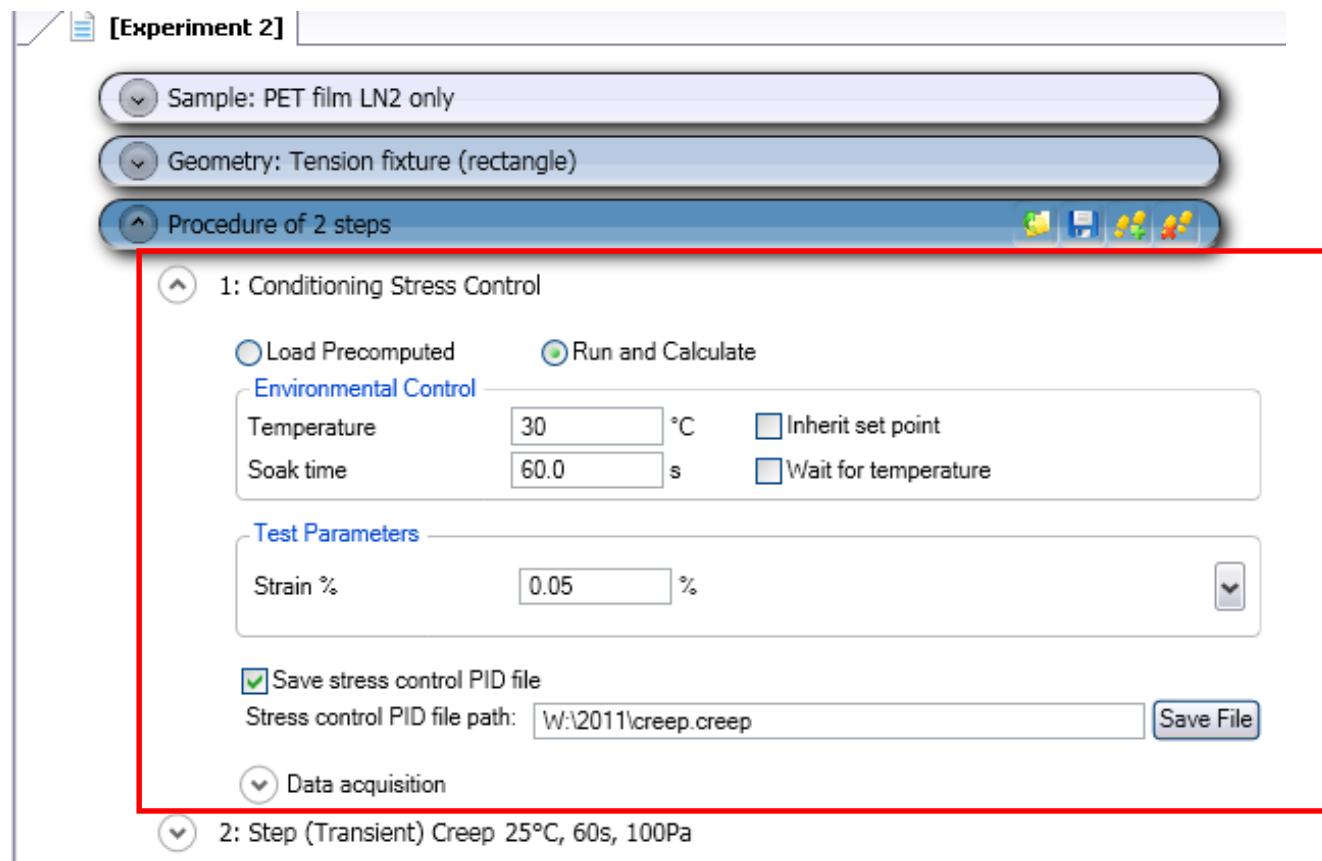
Non linear effects can be detected in recovery before they are seen in the creep (viscosity dominates)

# Creep Testing for Zero Shear Viscosity



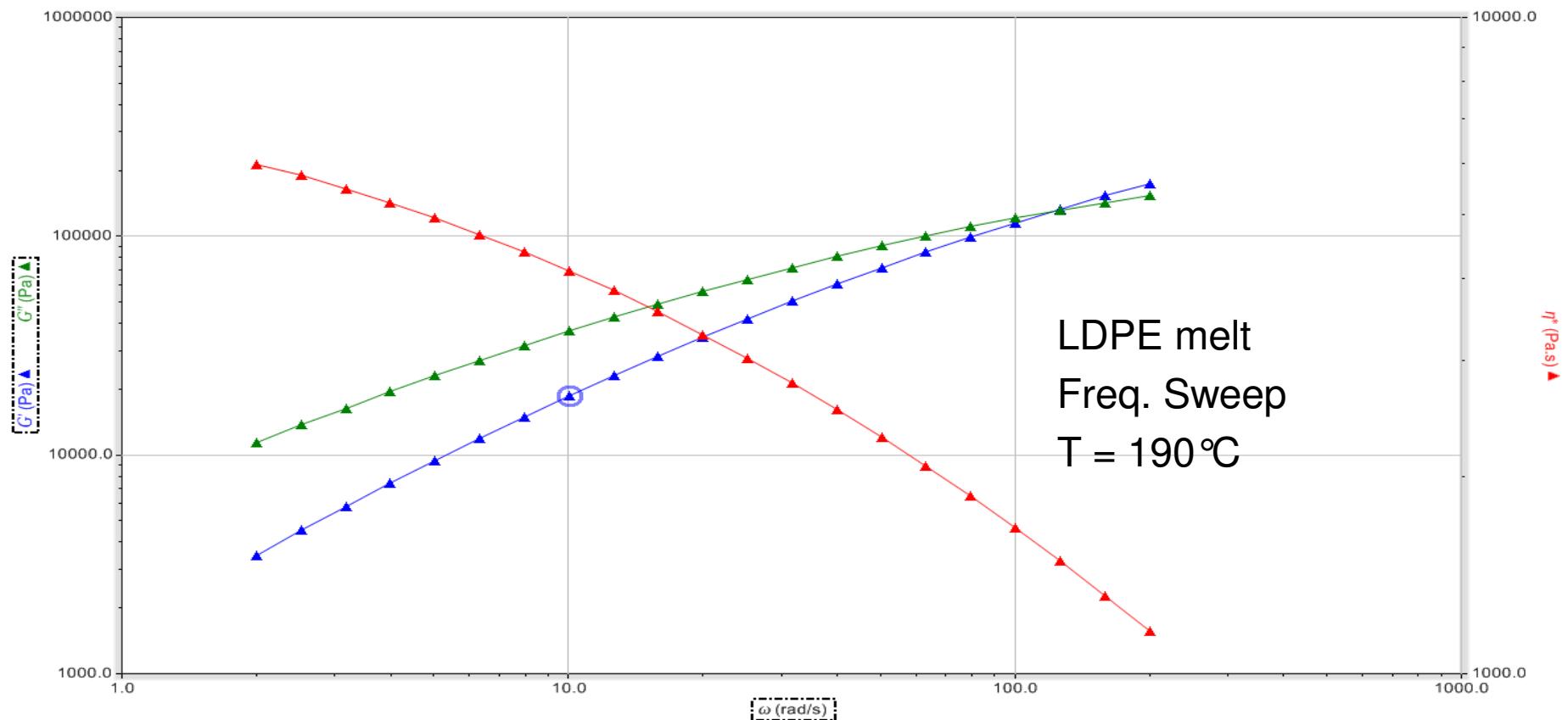
# Programming Creep on an ARES-G2

- Set up a pre-test and get the sample information into the loop
- Stress Control Pre-test: frequency sweep within LVR



# ARES-G2 Stress Control Pretest

Pretest → Frequency Sweep from 2 to 200 rad/s → data analyzed in software to optimize Motor loop control PID constants



# **Applications of Rheology**

## **Polymers**



# Purpose of a Rheological Measurement

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Three main reasons for rheological testing:

- **Characterization**

- MW, MWD, formulation, state of flocculation, etc.

- **Process performance**

- Extrusion, blow molding, pumping, leveling, etc.

- **Product performance**

- Strength, use temperature, dimensional stability, settling stability, etc.

# Most Common Experiments on Polymers

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## ▪ Oscillation/Dynamic

- Time Sweep
  - Degradation studies, stability for subsequent testing
- Strain Sweep – Find LVR
- Frequency Sweep –  $G'$ ,  $G''$ ,  $\eta^*$ 
  - Sensitive to MW/MWD differences melt flow can not see
- Temperature Ramp/Temperature Step
  - Transitions, end product performance
- TTS Studies

## ▪ Flow/Steady Shear

- Viscosity vs. Shear Rate, mimic processing
- Find Zero Shear Viscosity
- Low shear information is sensitive to MW/MWD differences melt flow can not see

## ▪ Creep and Recovery

- Creep Compliance/Recoverable Compliance are sensitive to long chain entanglement, elasticity

# Know Your Sample – Polymers

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- Polymer samples come in different forms (e.g. powder, flakes, pellets) and can be sensitive to environmental conditions
- Careful sample preparation techniques are required to prepare good test specimens for reproducible results
  - Molding a sample and punching discs
  - Handling powders, flakes
  - Controlling the environment

# Loading Polymer Pellet Samples

Set Environmental System to test temperature



Mount melt ring onto the lower plate and load pellets



Bring the upper plate close to top of melt ring and close the oven



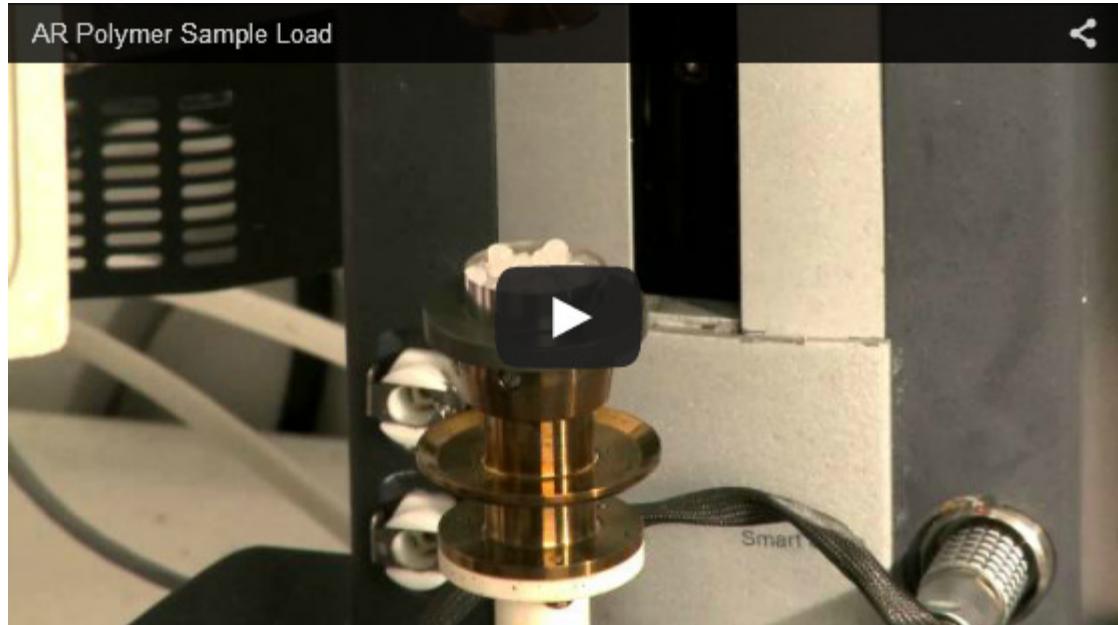
After few minutes, open the oven, remove melt ring and go to trim gap



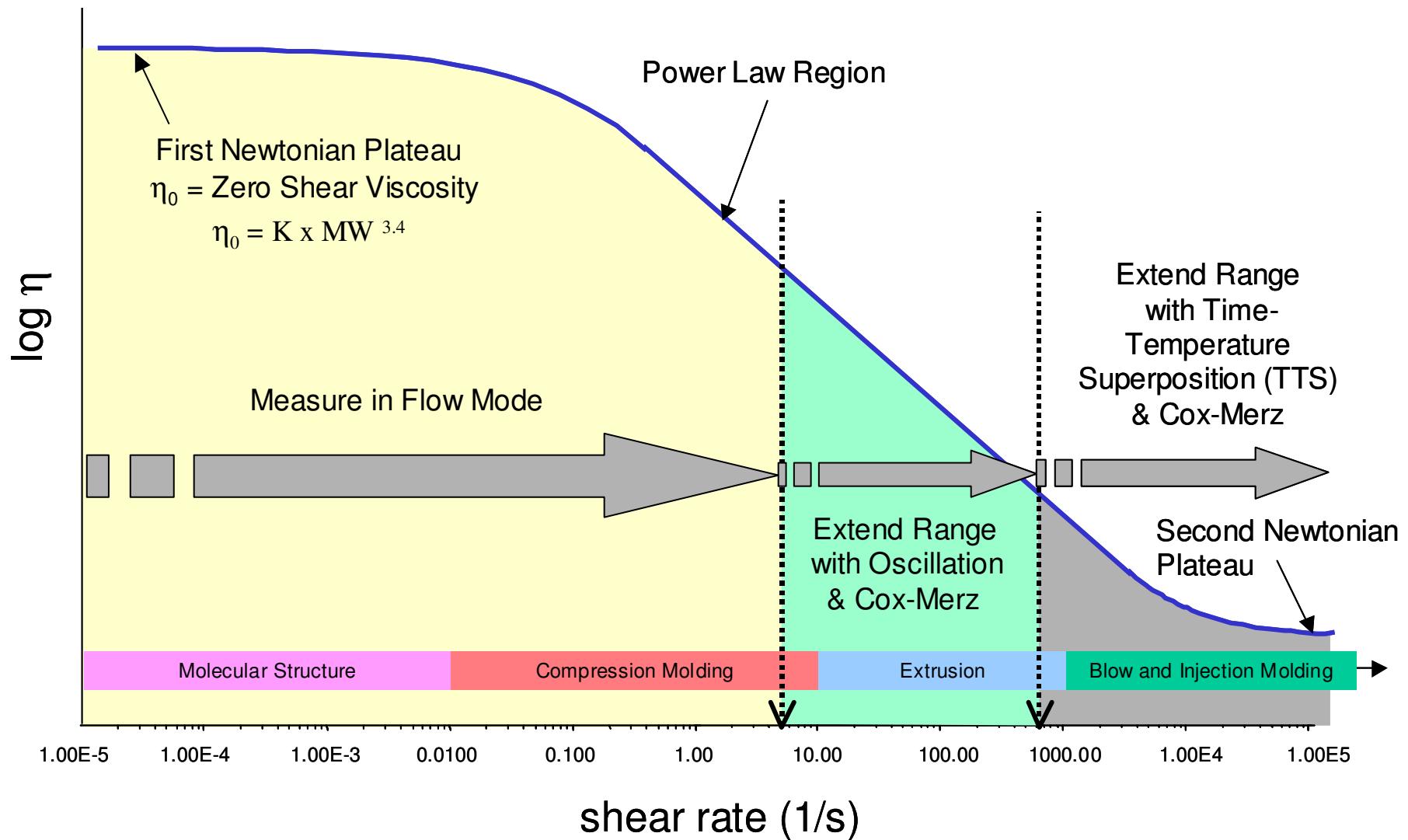
After sample relaxes, open the oven and trim excess sample



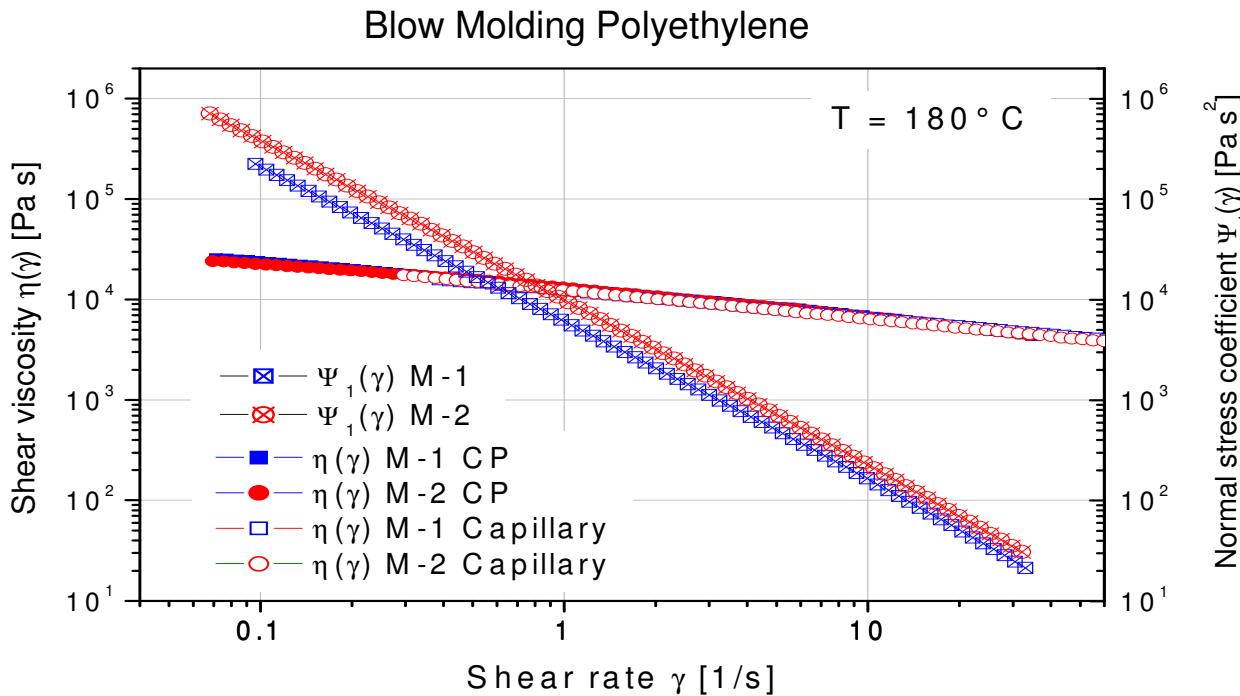
Close the oven and adjust gap to geometry/test gap



# Idealized Flow Curve – Polymer Melts



# Effect of HDPE Variations in Blow Molding



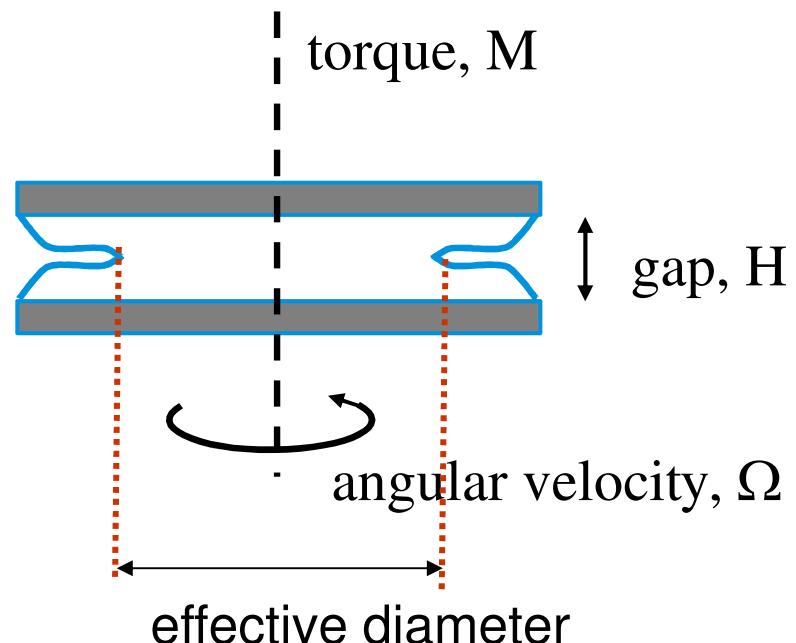
Parameter	Sample	
	M-1	M-2
MFI	0.6	0.5
GPC-M <sub>W</sub>	131K	133K
Viscosity at 1 sec <sup>-1</sup>	8.4K	8.3K
Die Swell	28	42

No differences in MFI, Viscosity, or GPC!

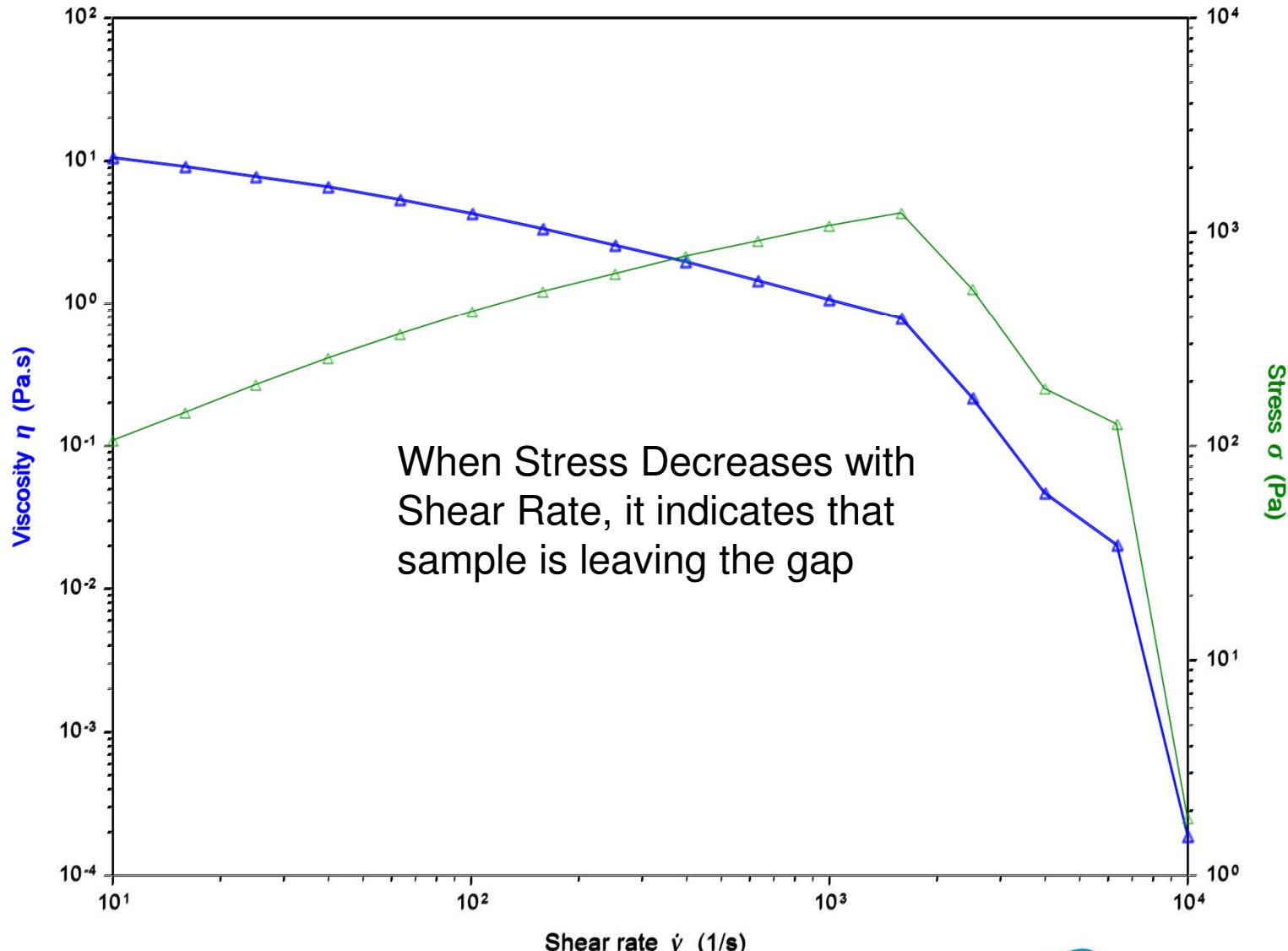
M-2 produces heavier bottles in blow molding  
due to increased parison swell

# 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

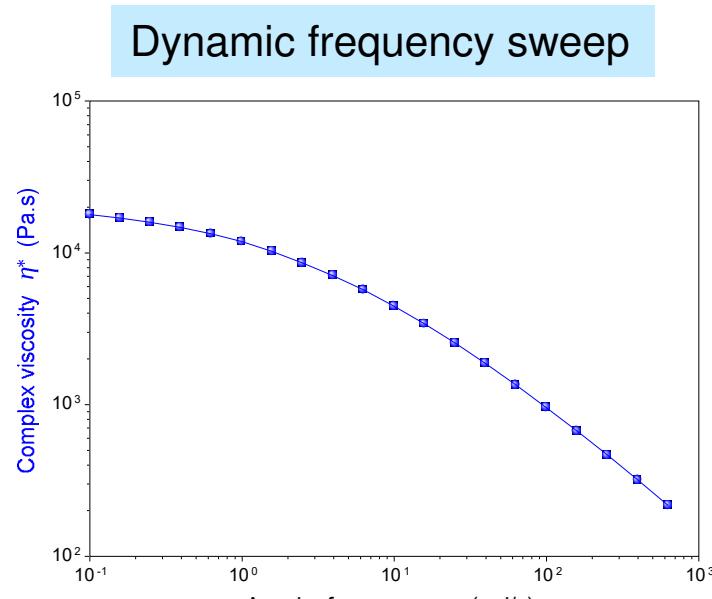


# Shear Thinning or Sample Instability?

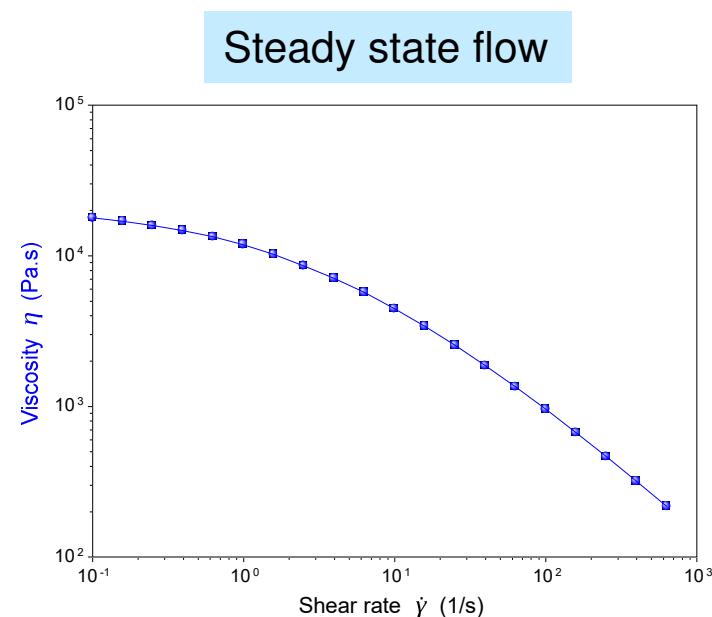


# The Cox-Merz Rule

- For materials that exhibit wall slip or edge fracture, one alternative way to obtain viscosity information over shear is to use the Cox-Merz rule
  - Cox-Merz “rule” is an empirical relationship. It was observed that in many polymeric systems, the steady shear viscosity plotted against shear rate is correlated with the complex viscosity plotted against frequency



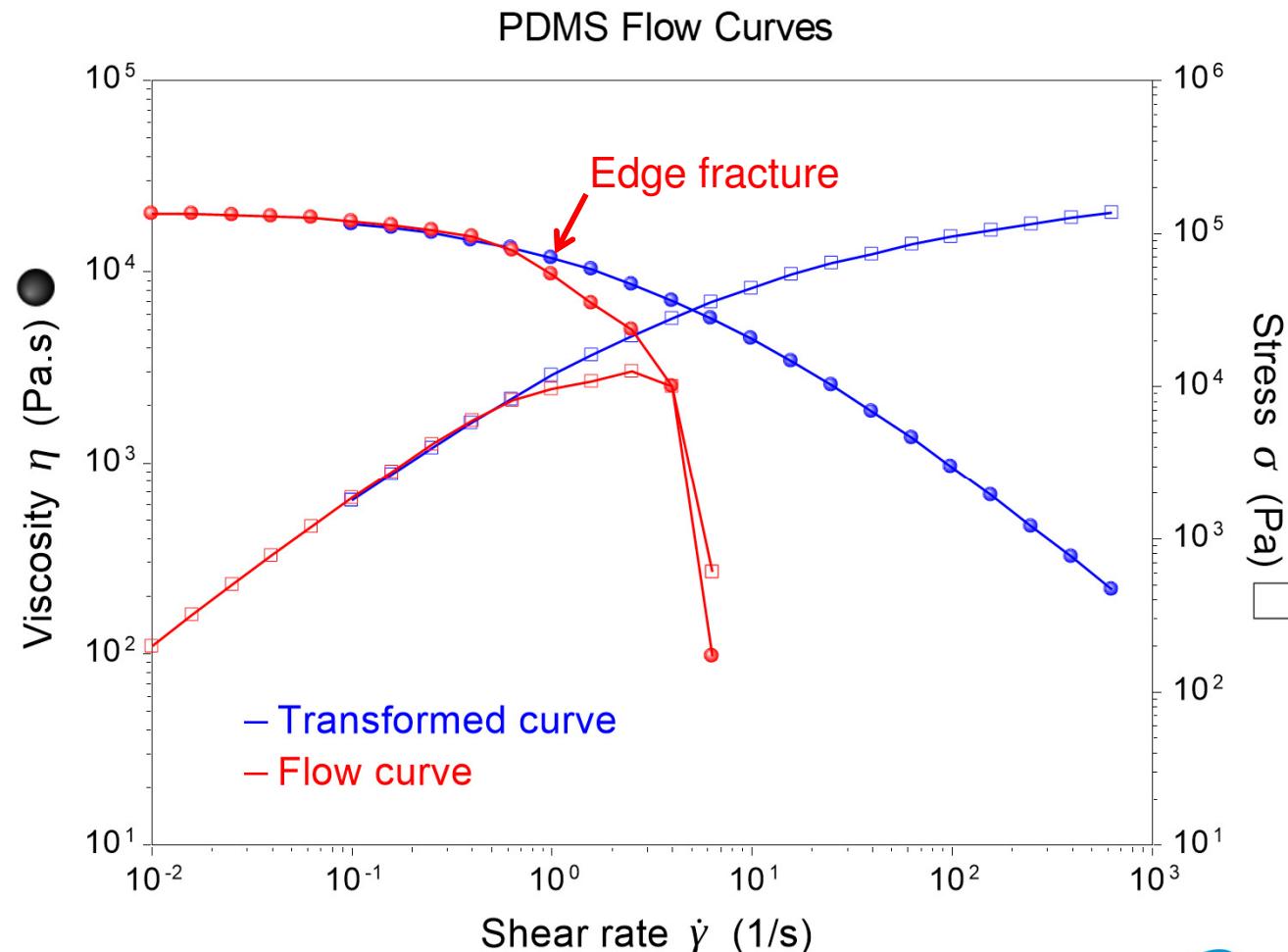
$$\eta^* \text{ (Pa.s)} \sim \omega \text{ (rad/s)}$$



$$\eta \text{ (Pa.s)} \sim \dot{\gamma} \text{ (1/s)}$$

# Cox-Merz Transformation Benefit

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

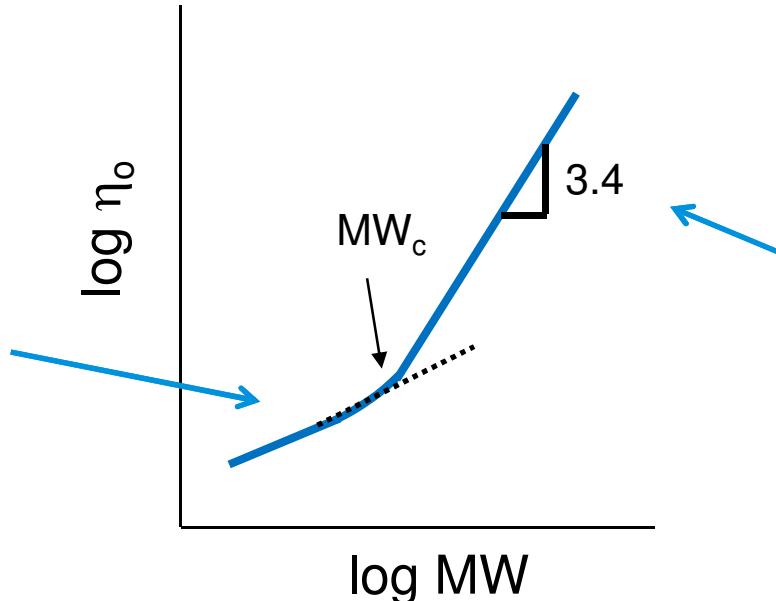


# Melt Rheology: MW Effect on Zero Shear Viscosity

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



$$\eta_0 = K \cdot M_w$$

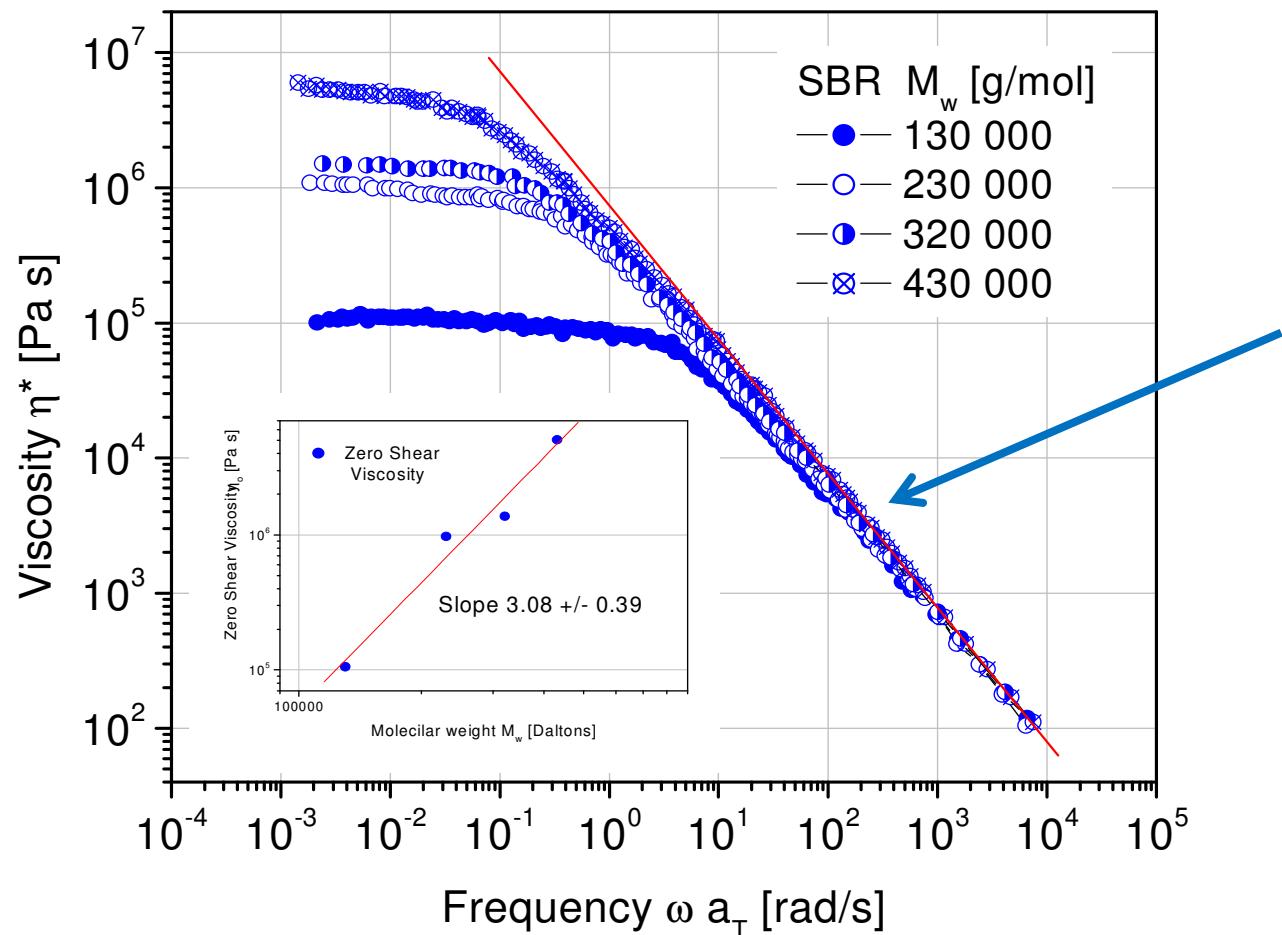


$$\eta_0 = K \cdot M_w^{3.4}$$

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

# Influence of MW on Viscosity

The zero shear viscosity increases with increasing molecular weight.  
TTS is applied to obtain the extended frequency range.

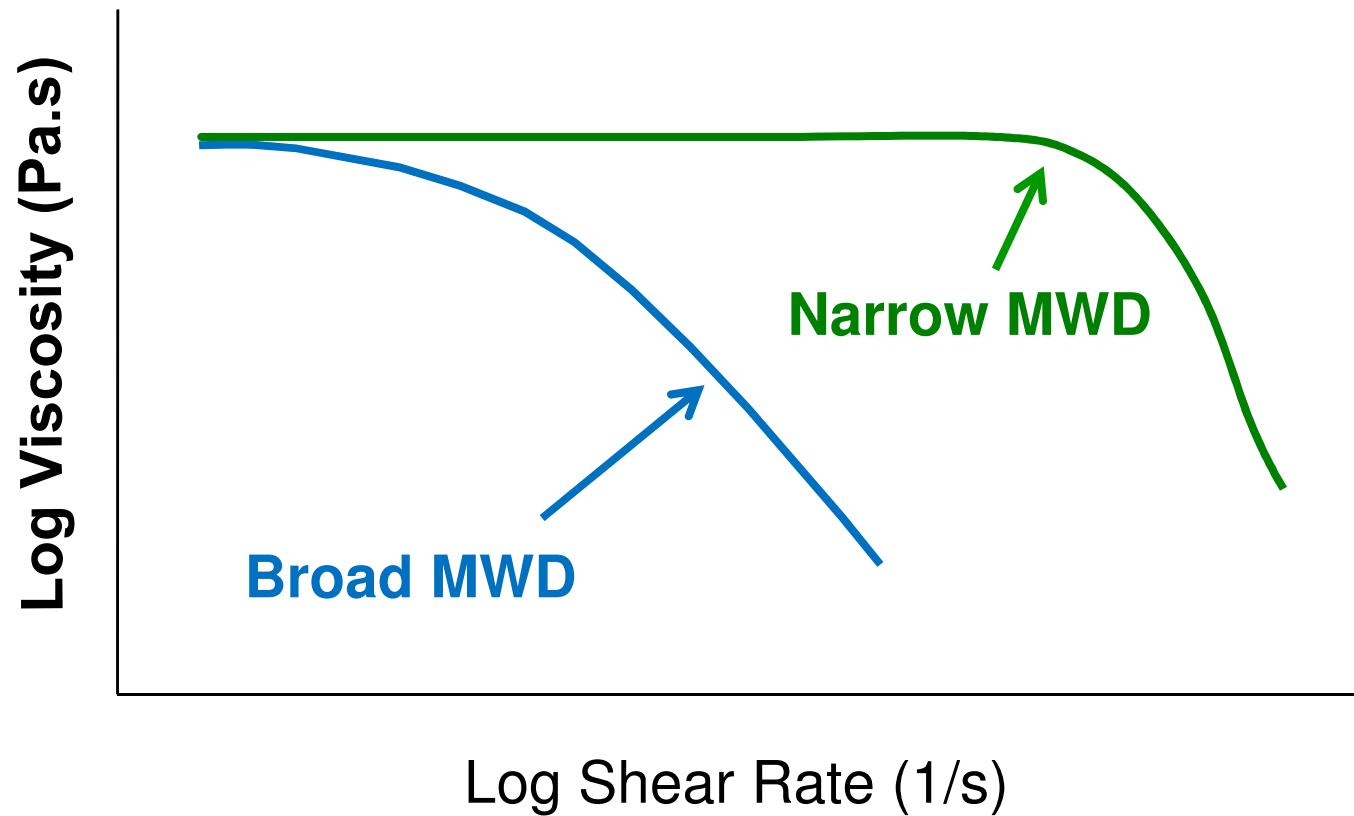


The high frequency behavior (slope -1) is independent of the molecular weight

# Influence of MWD on Viscosity

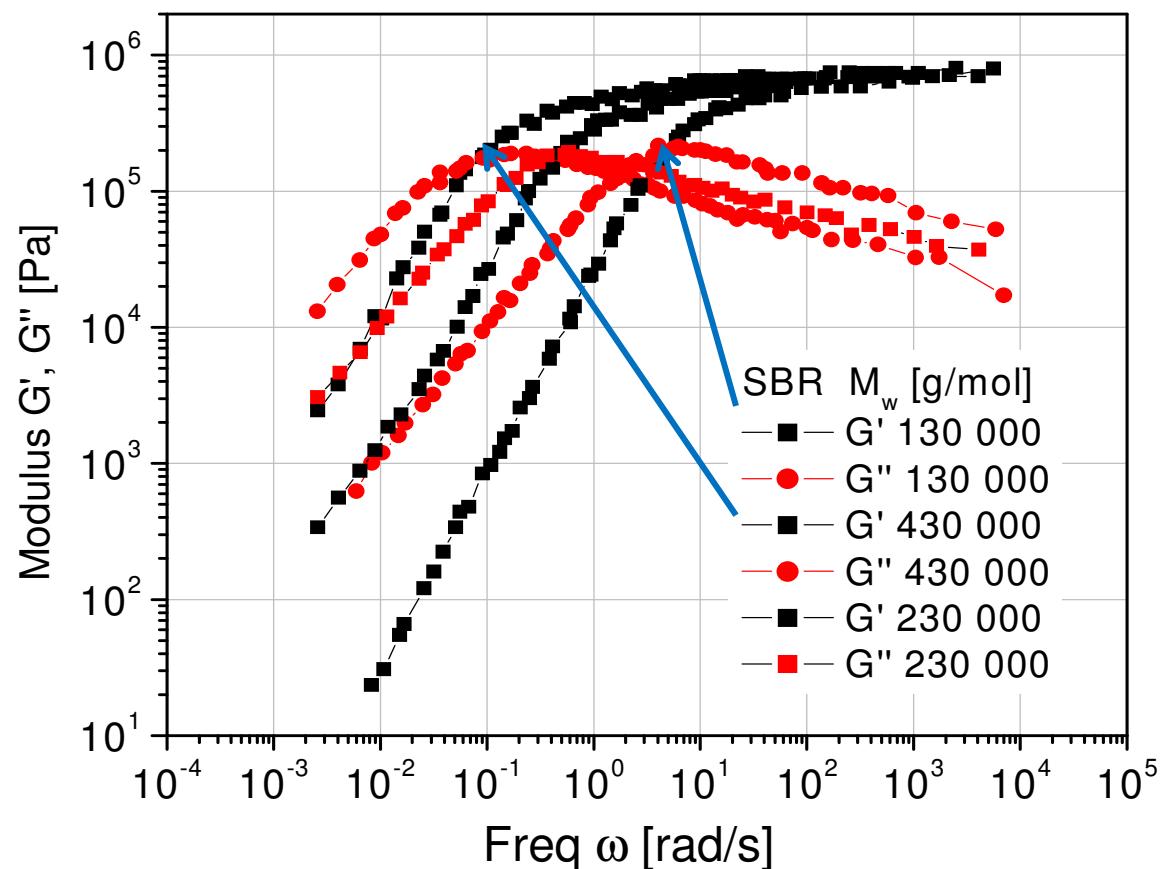
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- A Polymer with a broad MWD exhibits non-Newtonian flow at a lower rate of shear than a polymer with the same  $\eta_0$ , but has a narrow MWD.

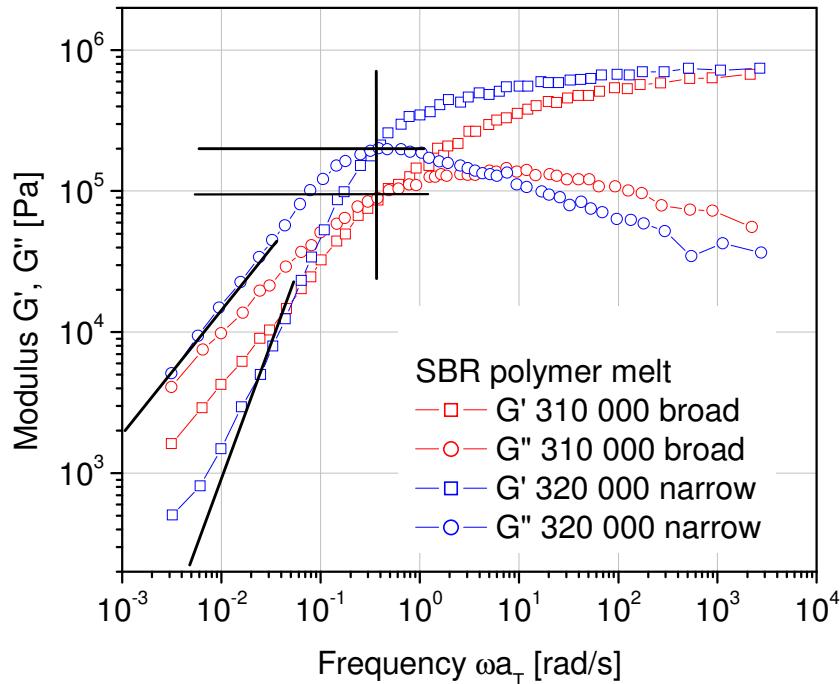


# Influence of MW on G' and G"

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

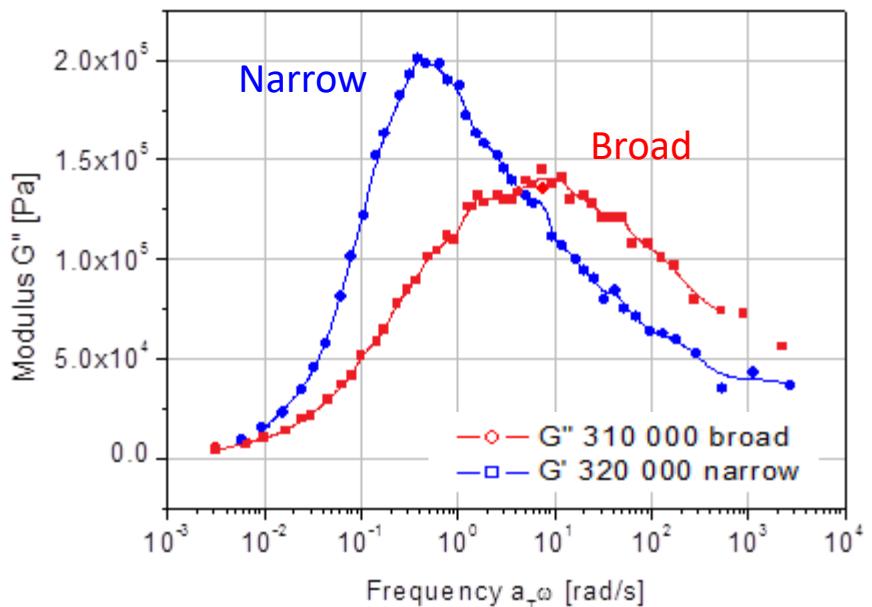


# Influence of MWD on $G'$ and $G''$

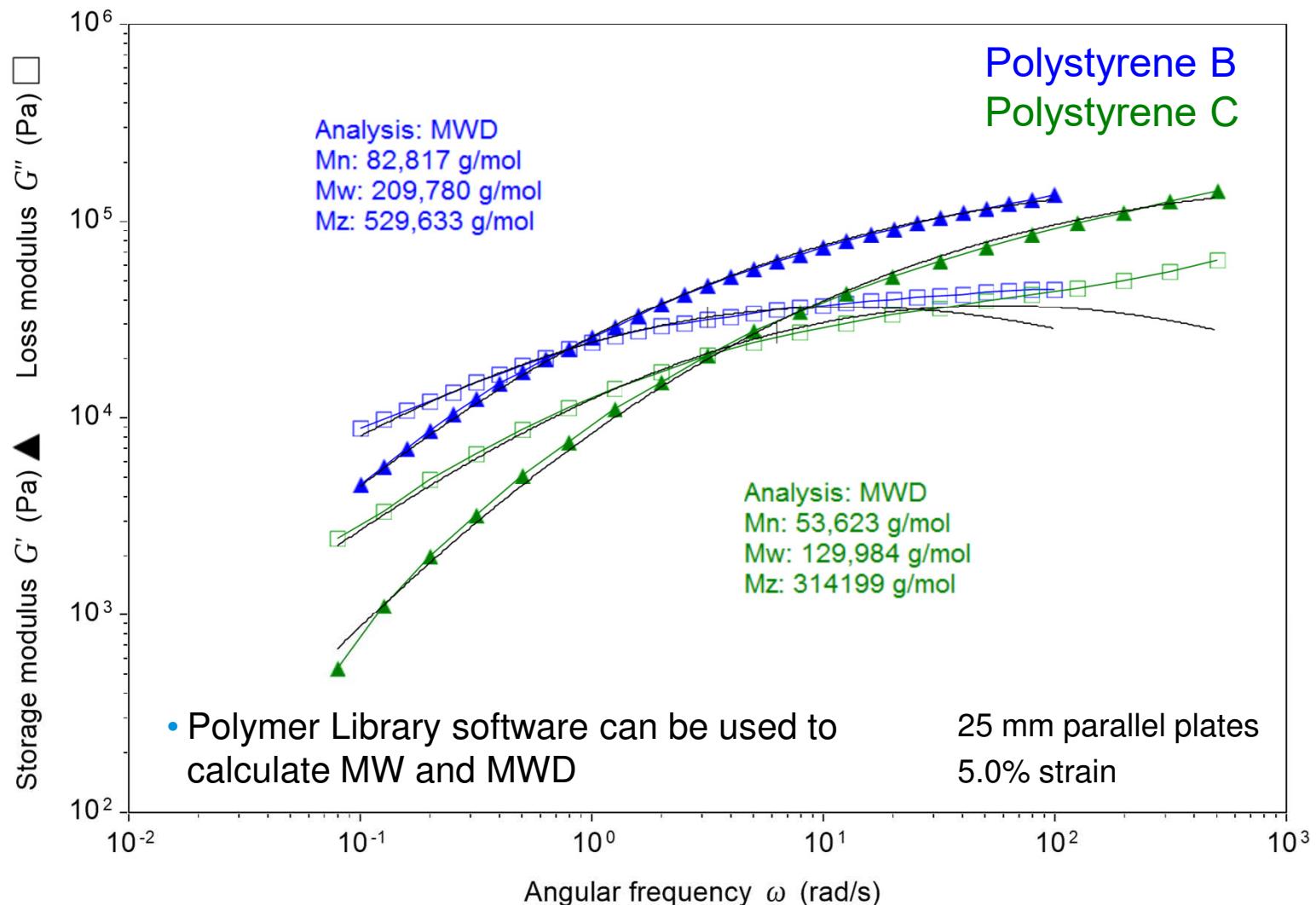


Higher crossover frequency : lower  $M_w$   
Higher crossover Modulus: narrower MWD  
(note also the slope of  $G''$  at low frequencies – narrow MWD steeper slope)

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



# Frequency sweep – polymer melt (ASTM D4440)

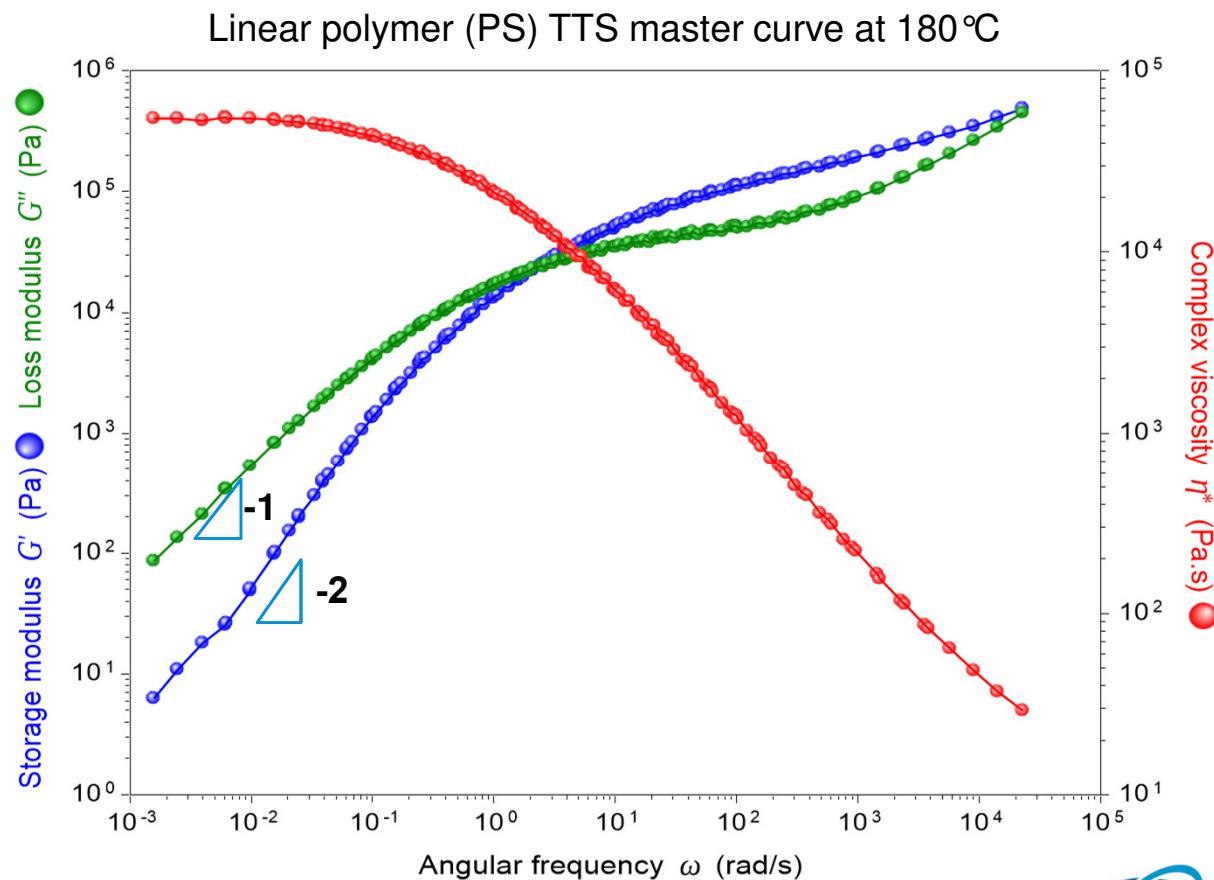


[João Maia: The Role of Interfacial Elasticity on the Rheological Behavior of Polymer Blends](#)

[Chris Macosko: Analyzing Molecular Weight Distribution w/ Rheology](#)

# Frequency Sweep-Terminal Regime

- The terminal regime in a frequency sweep result is sensitive to polymer structure
- For a linear polymer:  
 $G''$ : straight line with slope of -1;  $G'$ : straight line with slope of -2

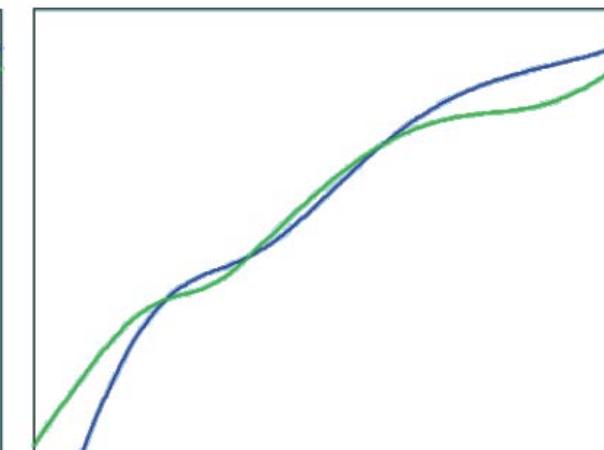
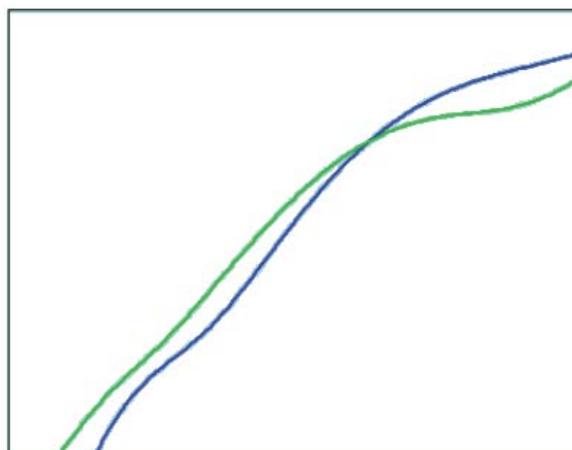
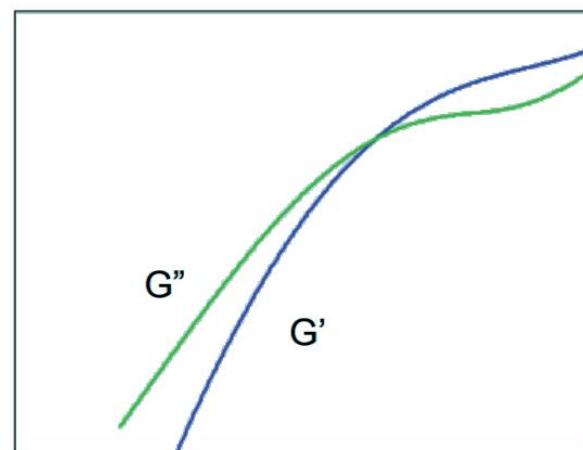
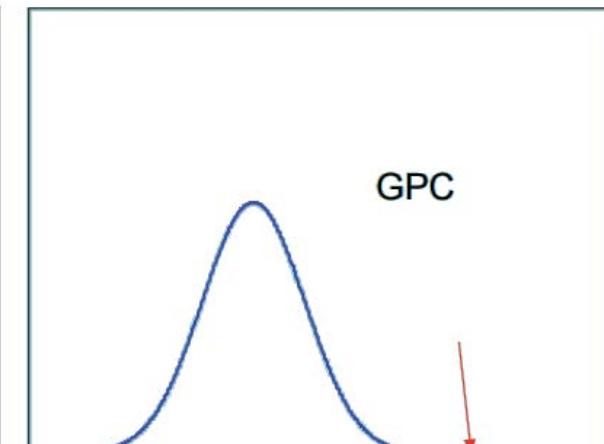
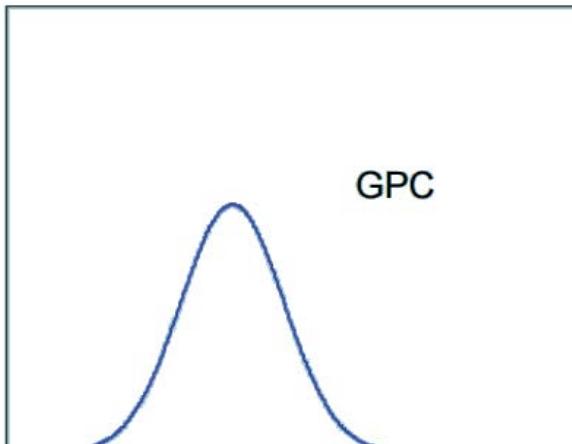
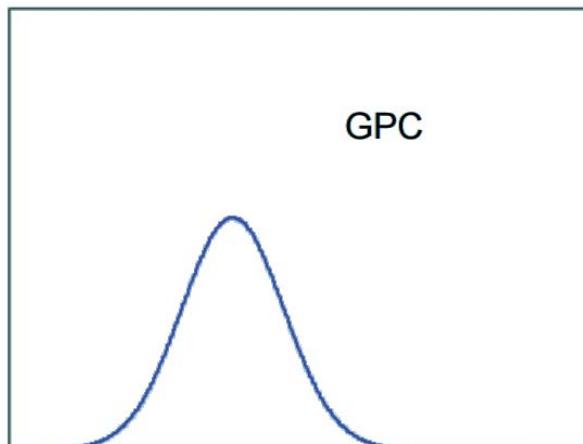


# High MW Contributions

400,000 g/mol PS

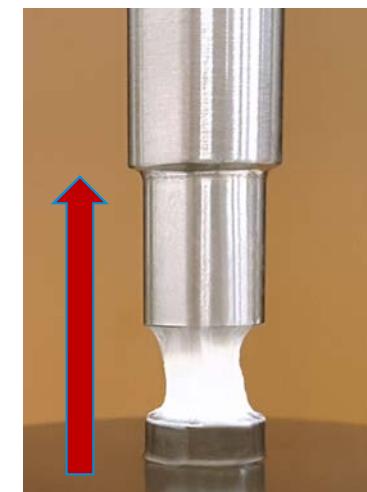
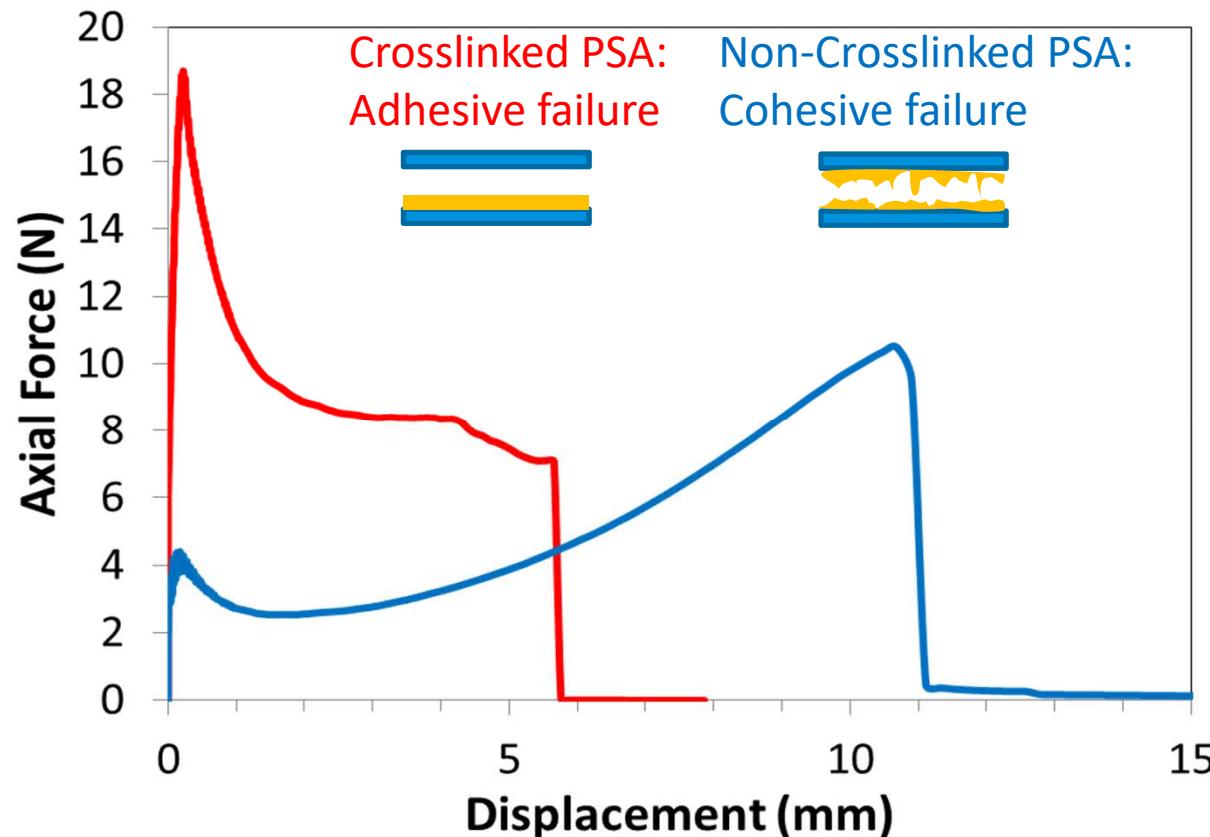
400,000 g/mol PS  
+ 1% 12,000,000 g/mol

400,000 g/mol PS  
+ 4% 12,000,000 g/mol



# Adhesive Tack Testing

- Tack testing method: ASTM D2979
- Use 8mm parallel plate, axial tensile at 0.1mm/sec
- The maximum force required to pull the plate away is defined as the sample's tackiness.



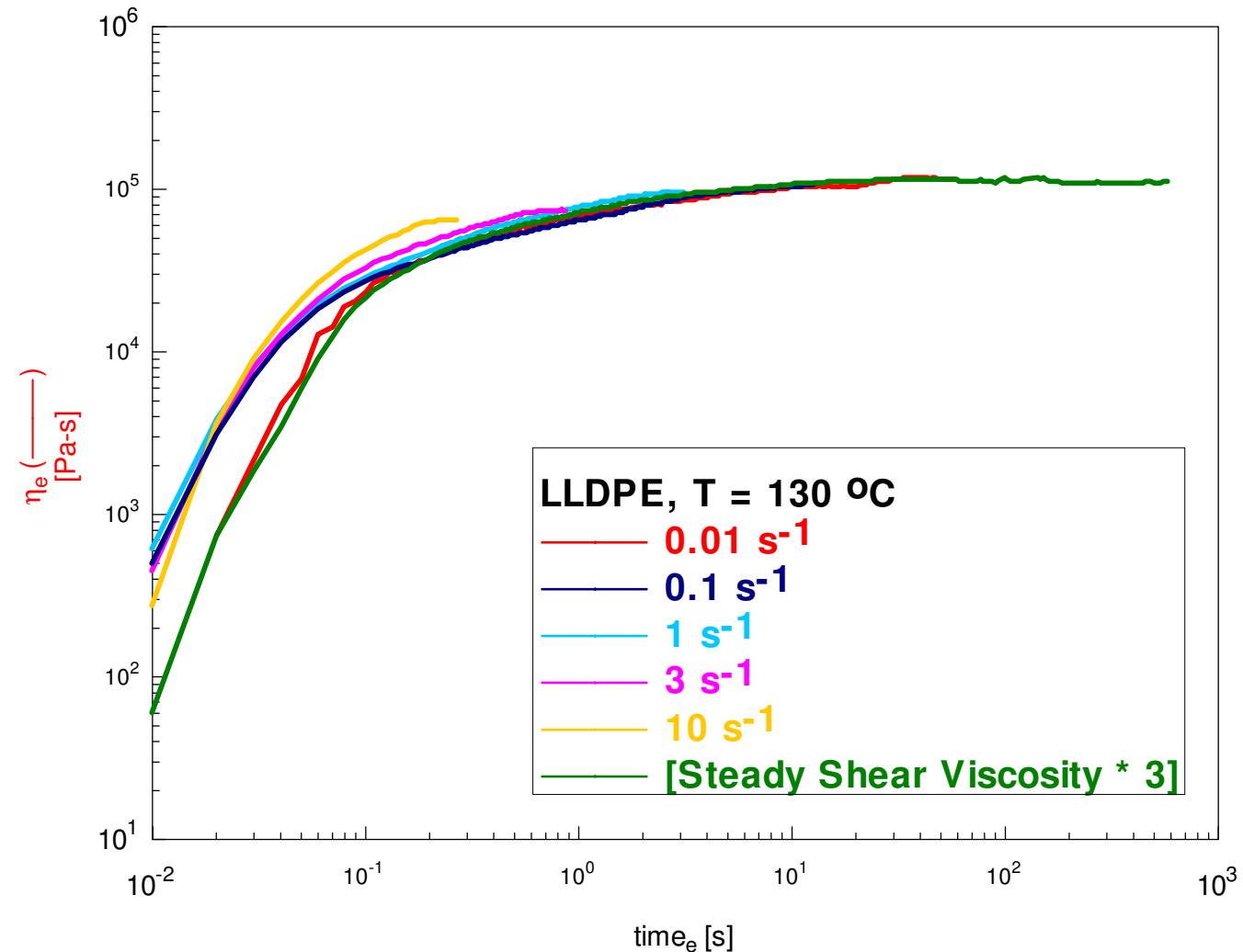
# Extensional Viscosity Measurements

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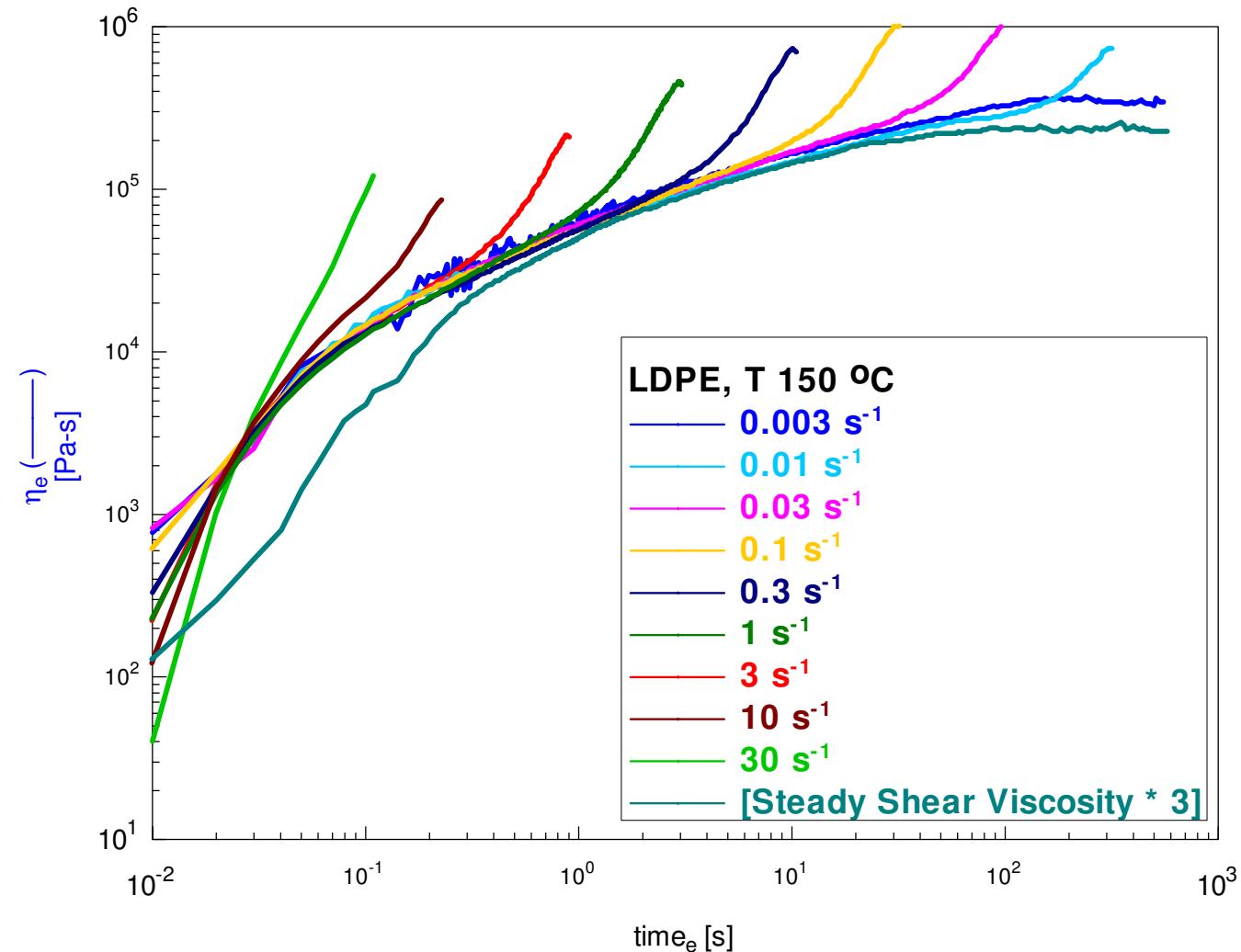
- Non linear elongation flow is more sensitive for some structure elements (e.g. branching ) than shear flows
- Many processing flows are elongation flows. Extensional viscosity measurements can be used to help predict processability



# LLDPE (Low branching)



# LDPE (High branching)



# Thermosetting Polymers

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- Thermosetting polymers are perhaps the most challenging samples to analyze on rheometers as they challenge all instrument specifications both high and low.
- The change in modulus as a sample cures can be as large as 7-8 decades and change can occur very rapidly.

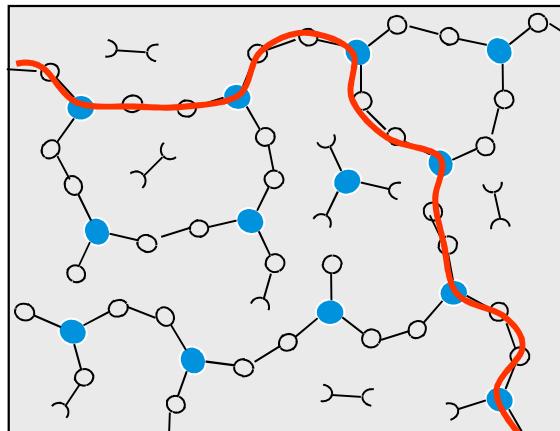
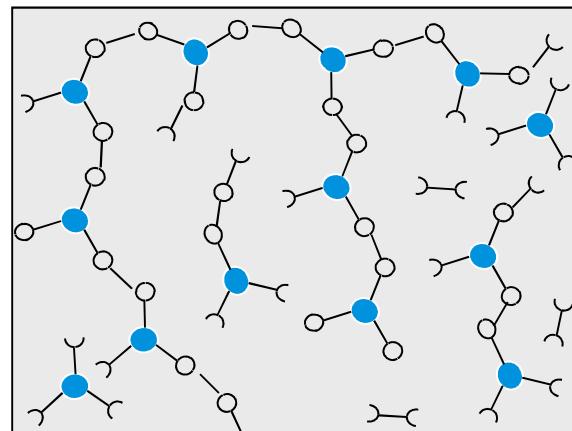
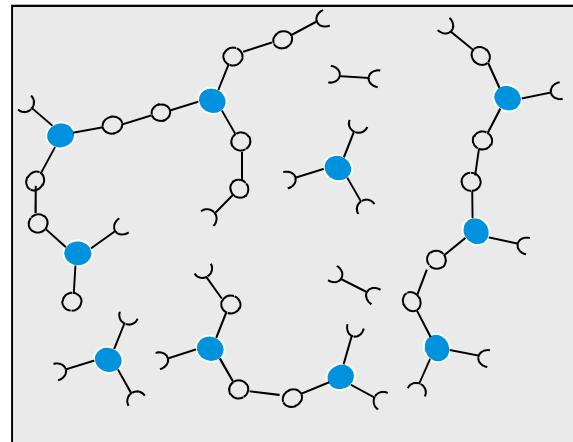
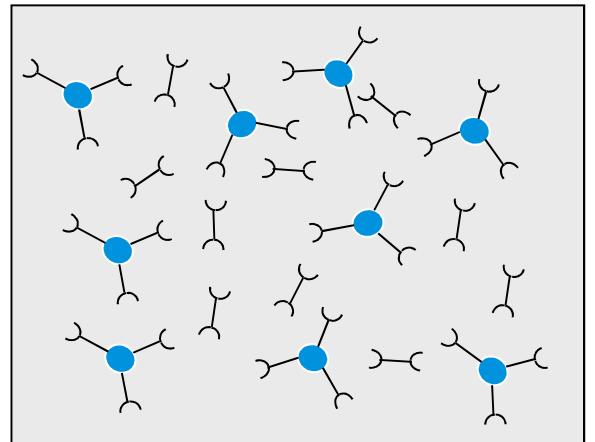


# Thermosets Analysis

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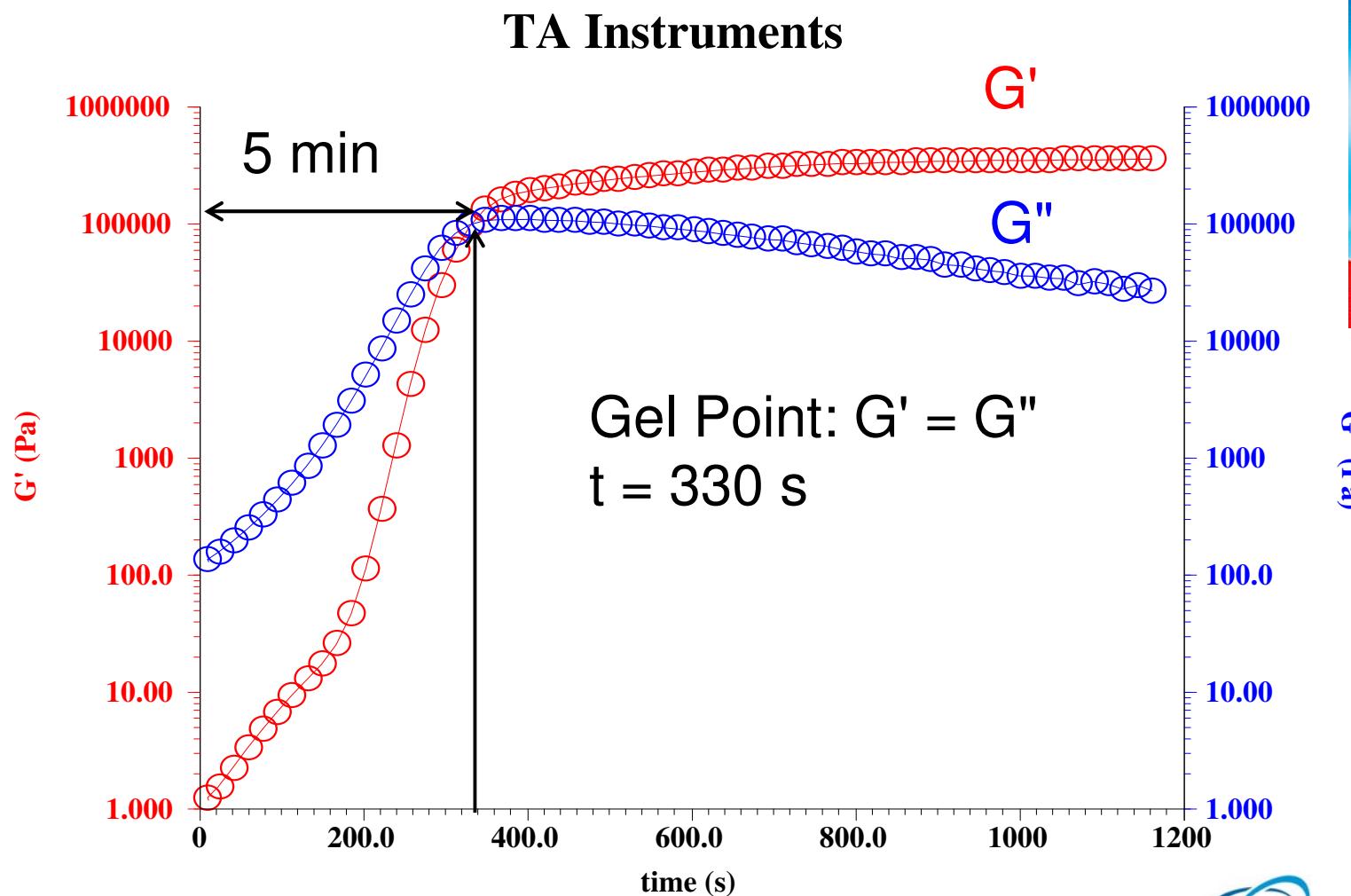
- Monitor the curing process
  - Viscosity change as function of time or temperature
  - Gel time or temperature
- Test methods for monitoring curing
  - Isothermal time sweep
  - Temperature ramp
  - Combination profile to mimic process
- Analyze cured material's mechanical properties ( $G'$ ,  $G''$ ,  $\tan \delta$  ,  $T_g$  etc.)

# Structural Development During Curing

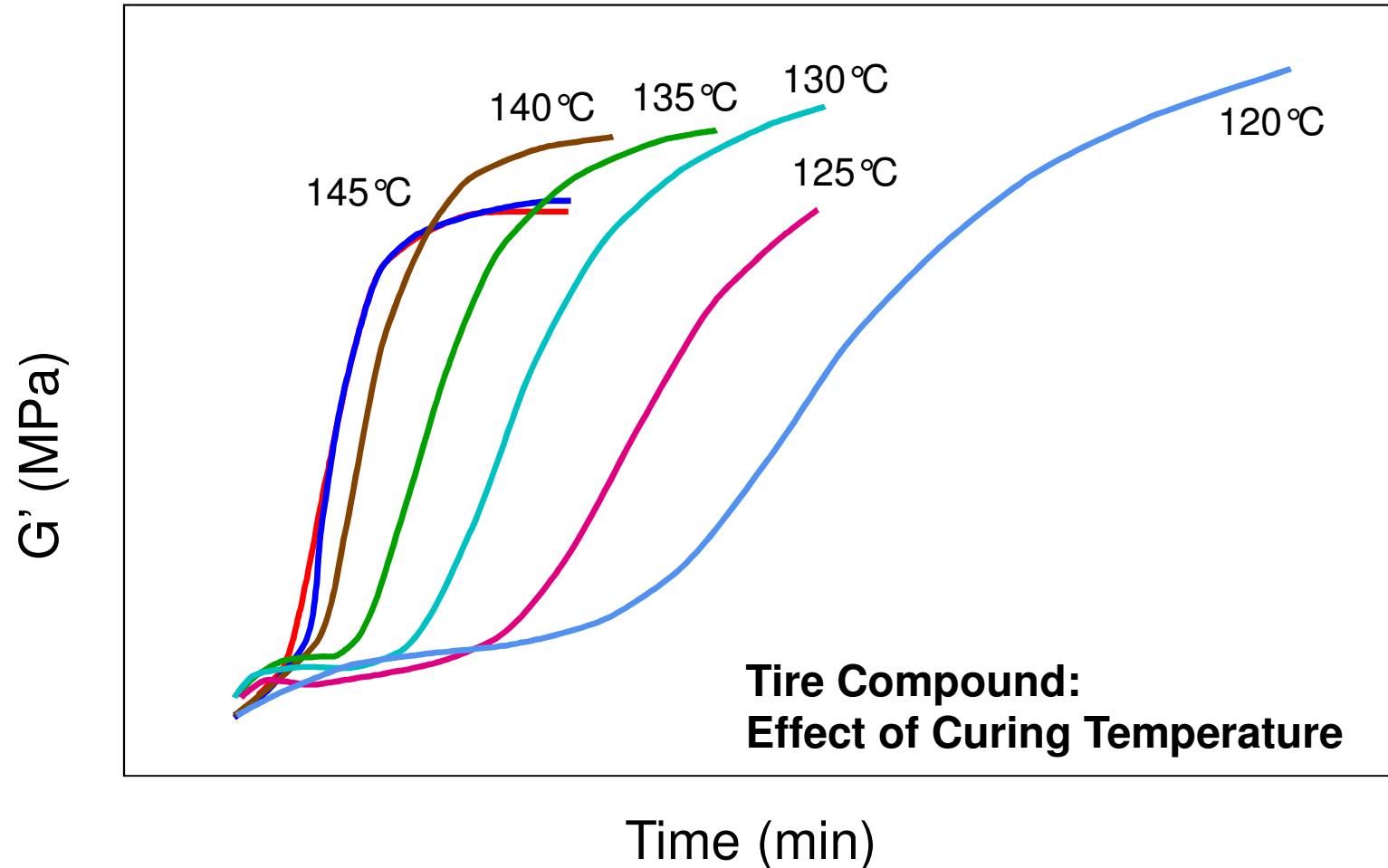


Gel point

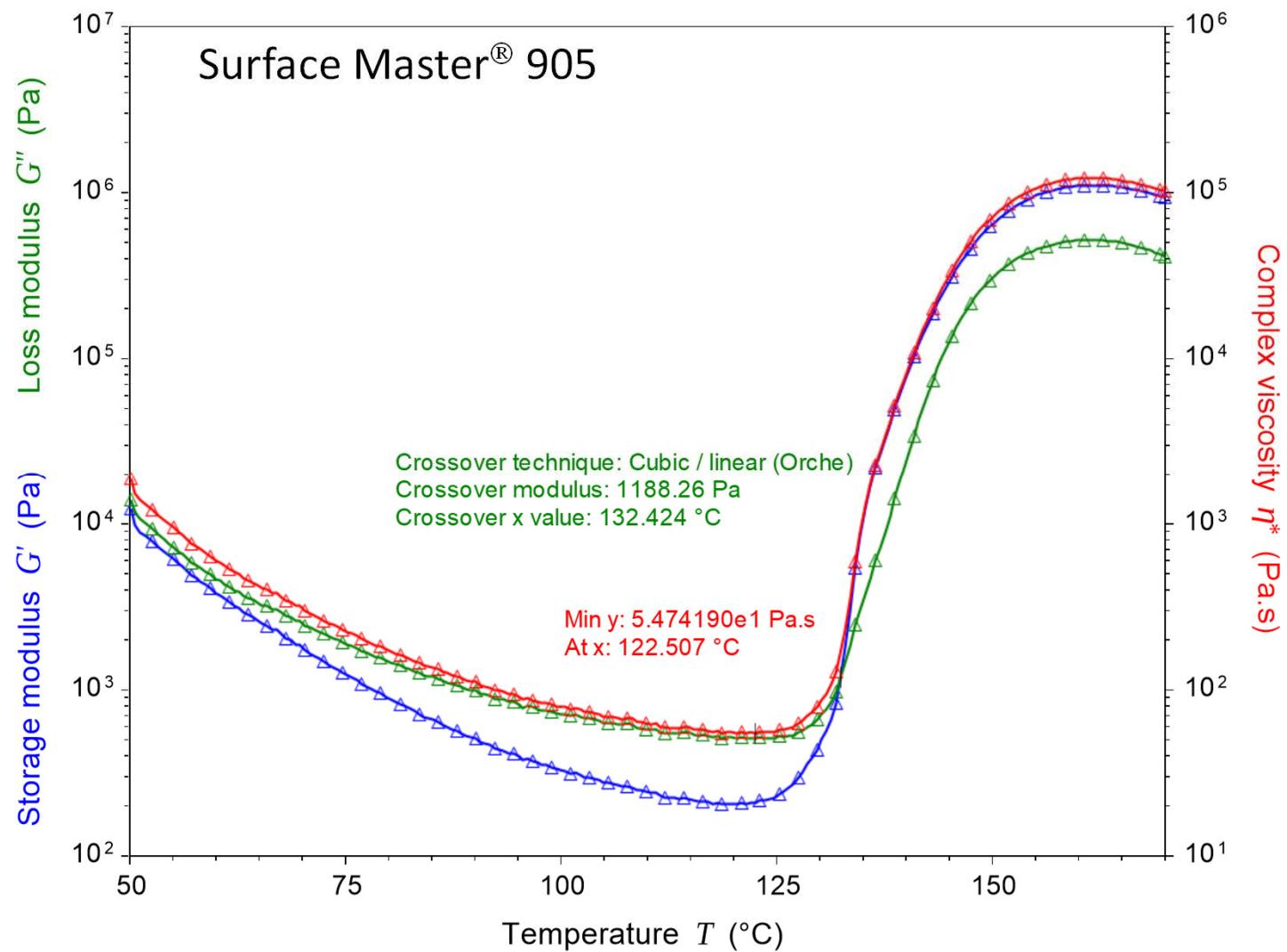
# Curing Analysis: Isothermal Curing



# Isothermal Curing

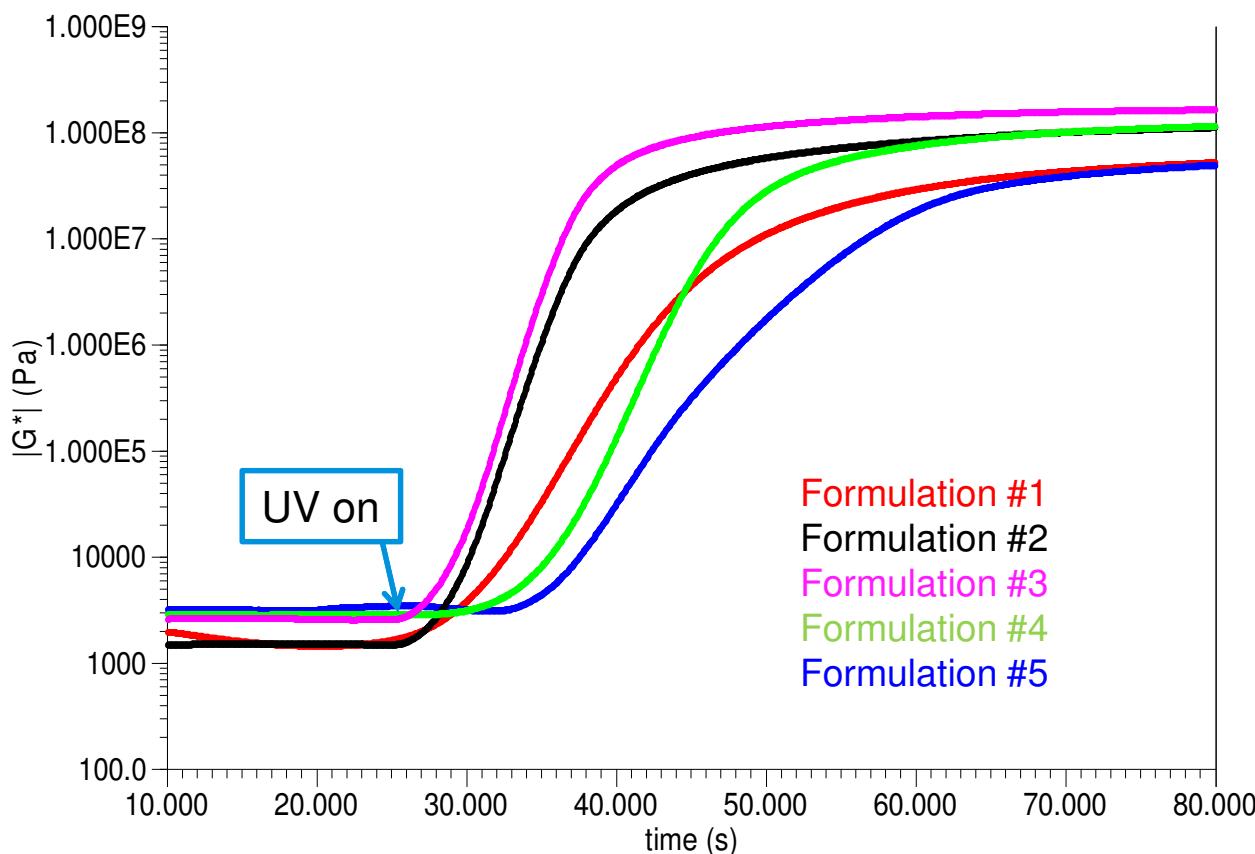


# Temperature Ramp Curing



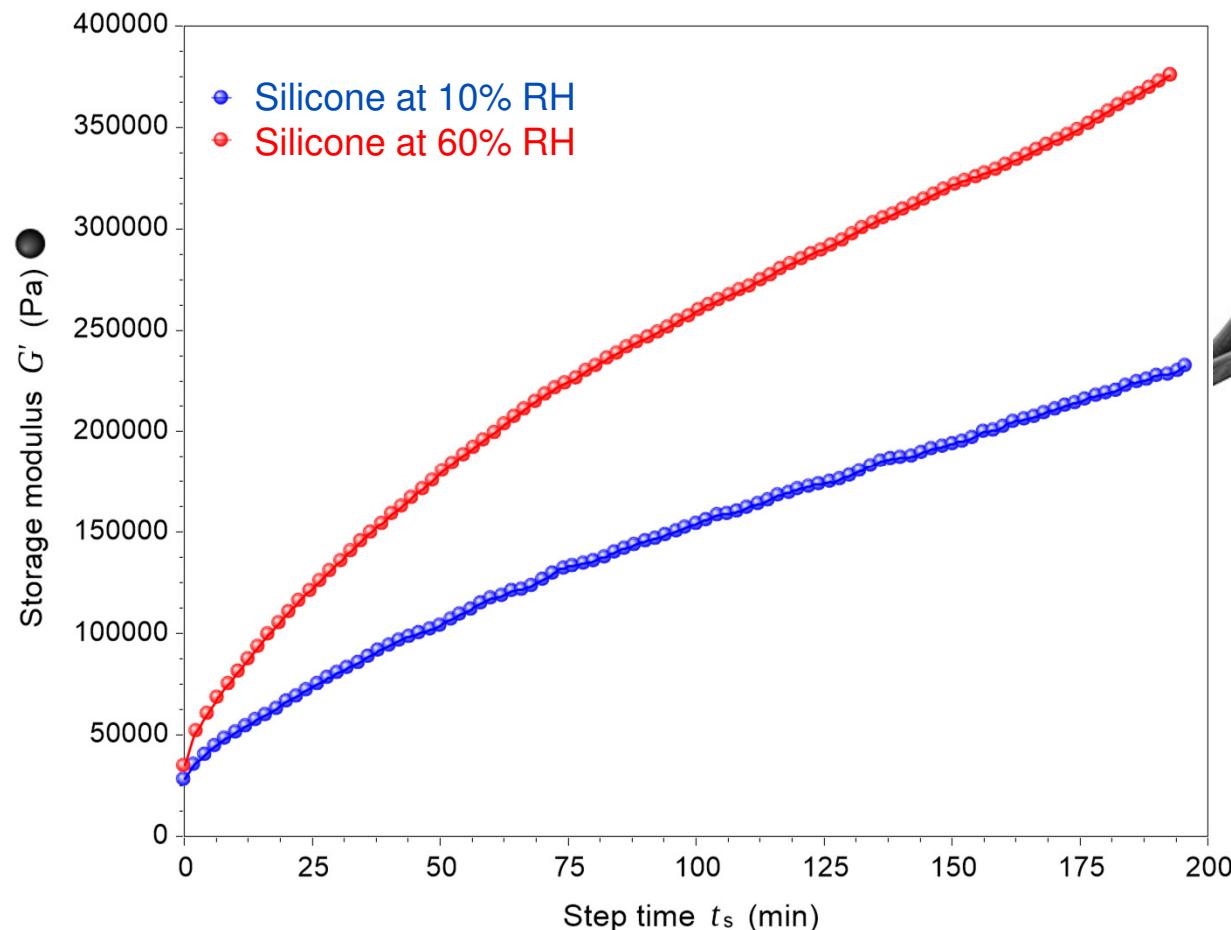
# UV Curing

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



# Curing with Controlled Humidity

- Silicone adhesive curing under 25 °C and 10%; 60% relative humidity
- Higher humidity, faster curing



# Testing Solids: Torsion and DMA

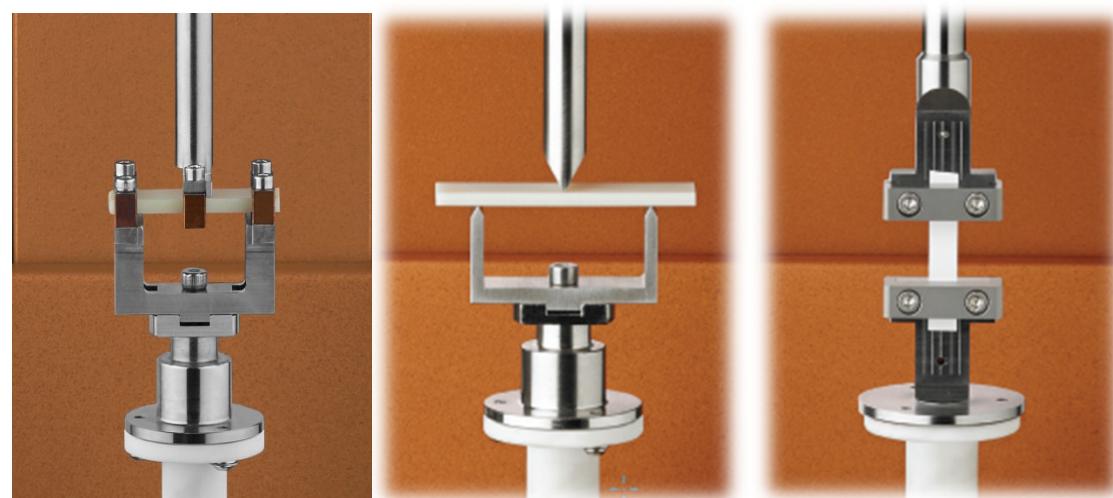
- Torsion and DMA geometries allow solid samples to be characterized in a temperature controlled environment
  - Torsion measures G', G'', and Tan δ
  - DMA measures E', E'', and Tan δ
    - DMA mode on ARES G2 (max 50 μm amplitude)
    - DMA mode on DHR ( max 100 μm amplitude)

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

**v : Poisson's ratio**



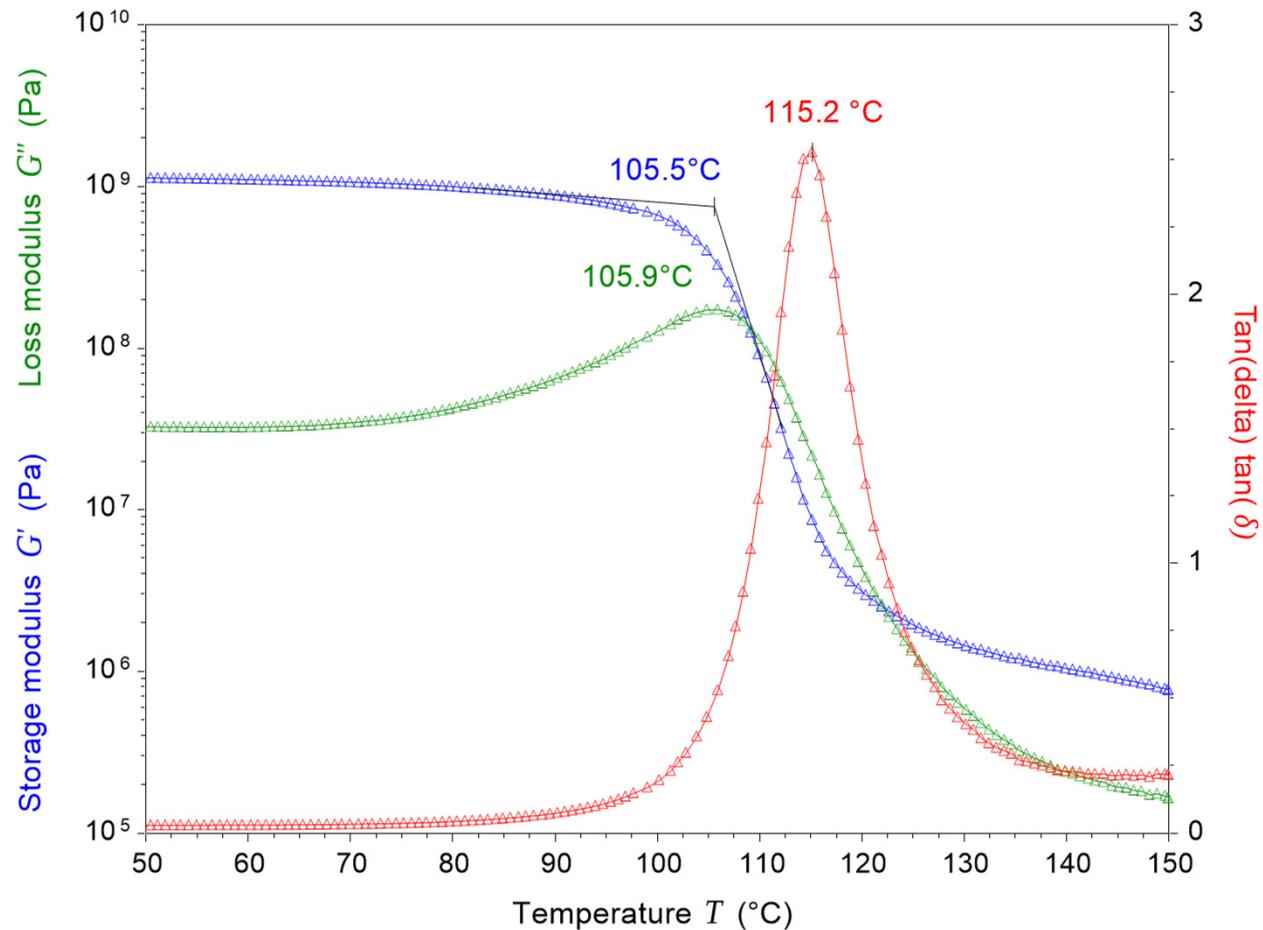
Torsion rectangular  
and cylindrical clamps



DMA cantilever, 3-point bending and tension clamps

# Dynamic Temp Ramp Test

- Measure moduli,  $\tan \delta$  and transitions



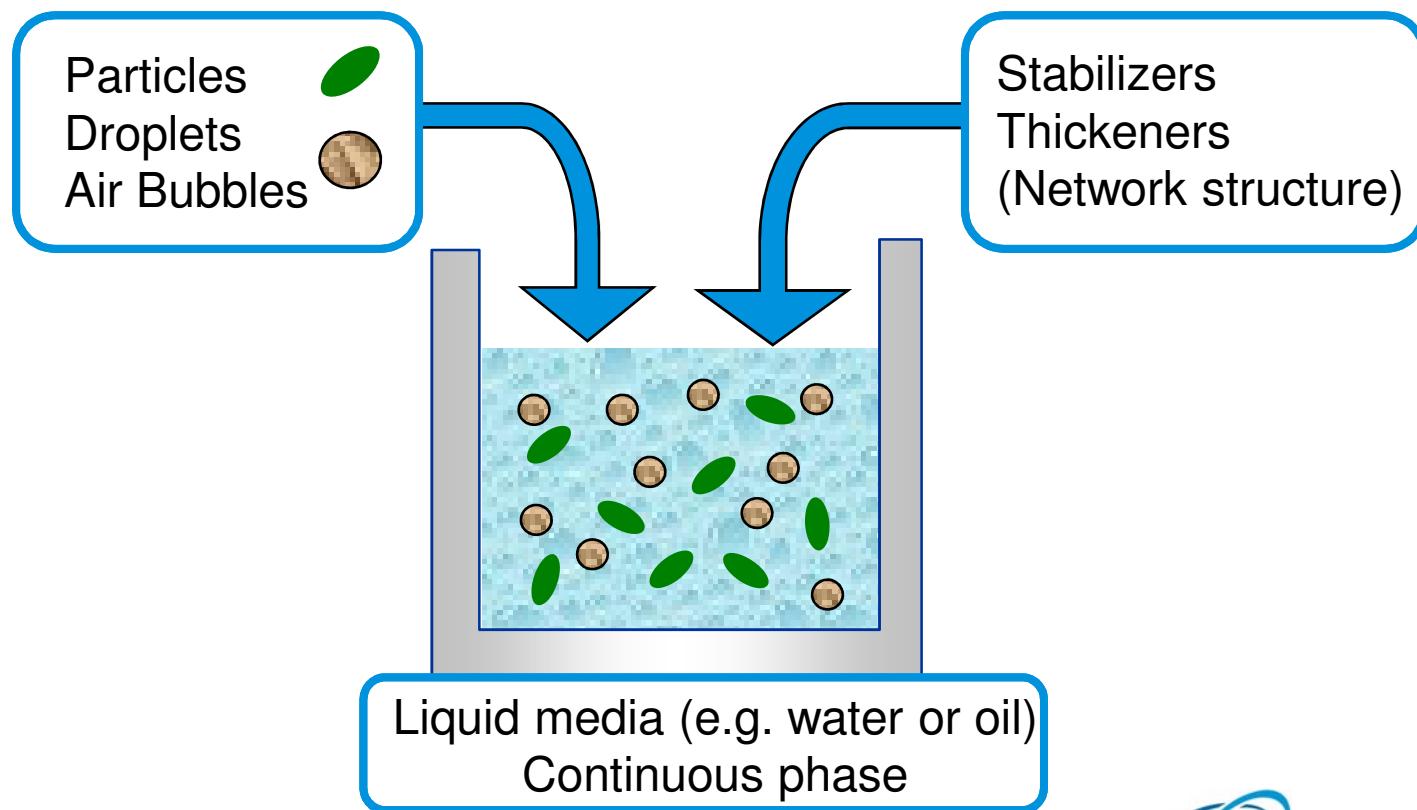
# **Applications of Rheology**

## **Yield stress and thixotropy of structured Fluids**



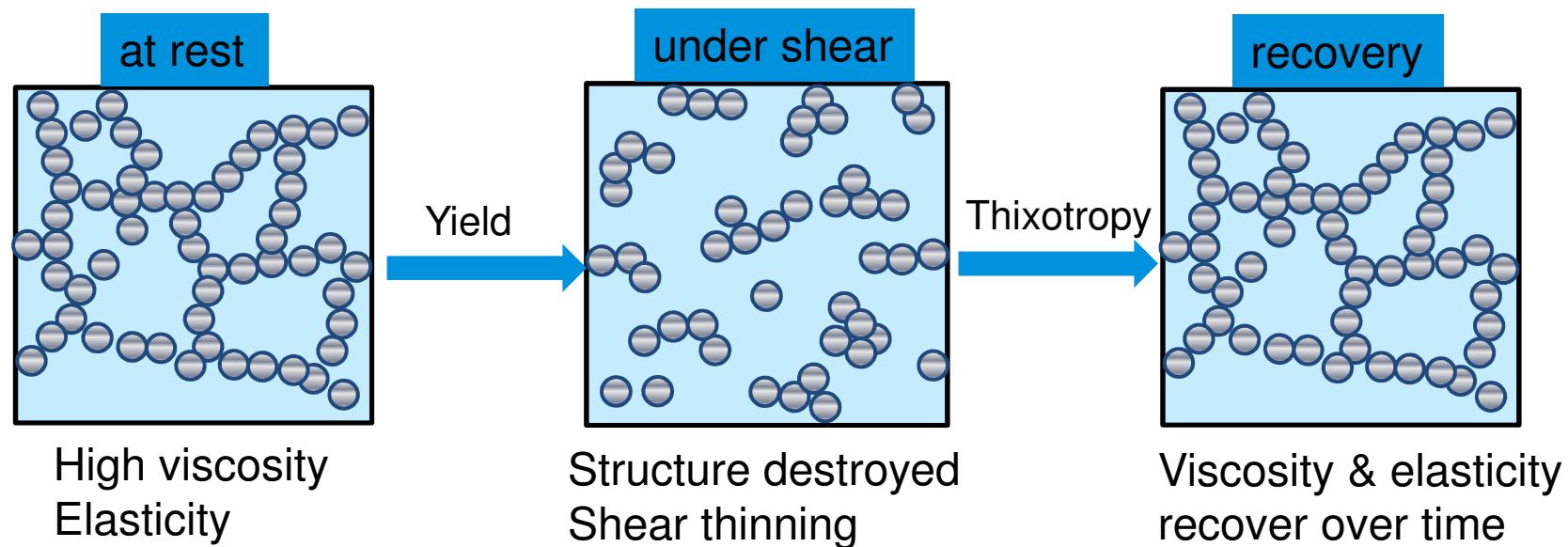
# Structured Fluids

- A multiphase complex system consists of a continuous phase (e.g. water or oil) and a dispersed phase (solid, fluid, gas)
- Stabilizers or thickeners are added to form a weak three dimensional network structure



# Properties of Structured Fluids

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



# Types of Structured Fluids

- Three categories

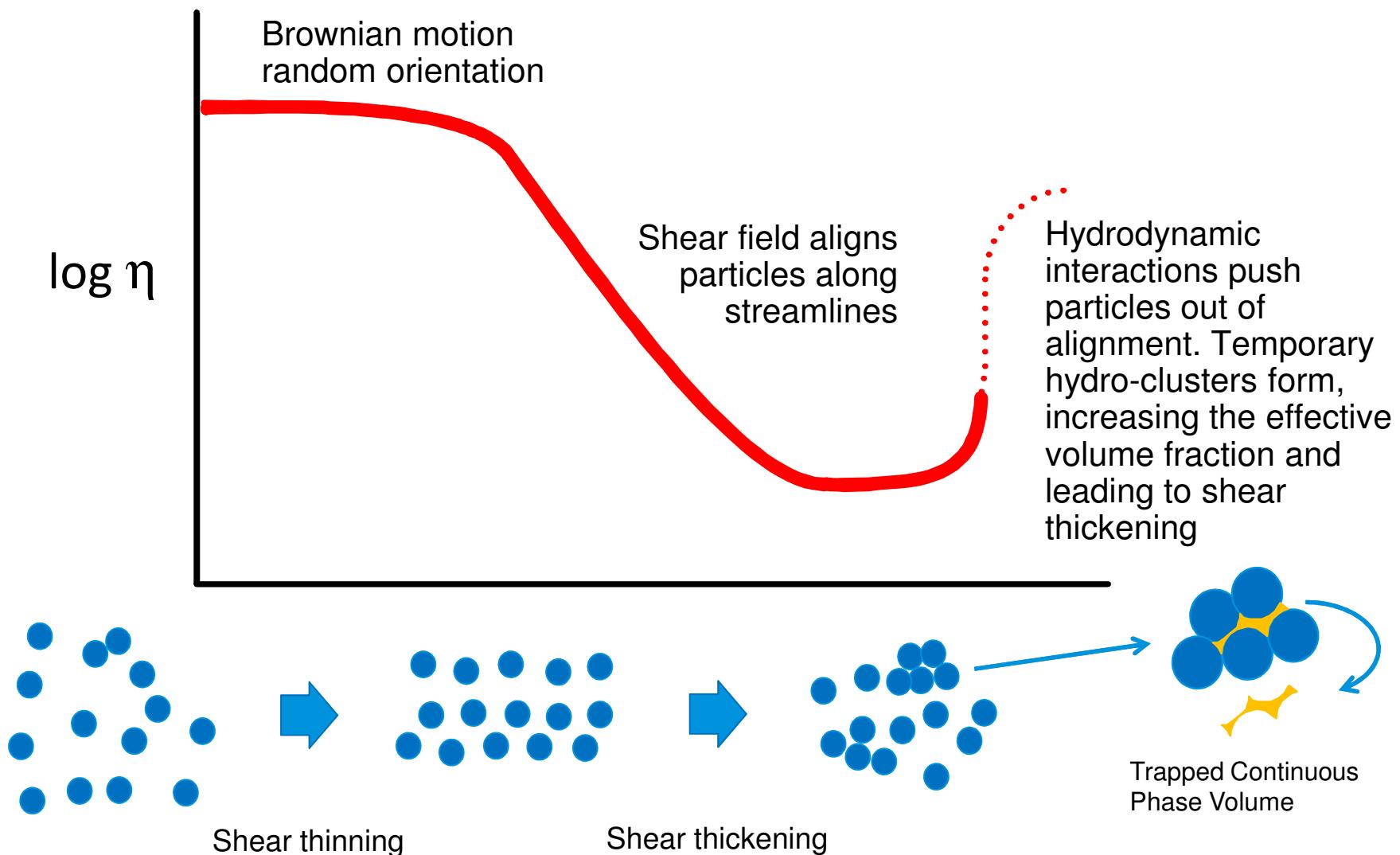
- Suspension Solid particles in a Newtonian fluid
- Emulsion Fluid in a fluid
- Foam Gas in a fluid (or solid)

- Examples are:

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



# Generalized Flow Curve for structured fluids



# 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

---

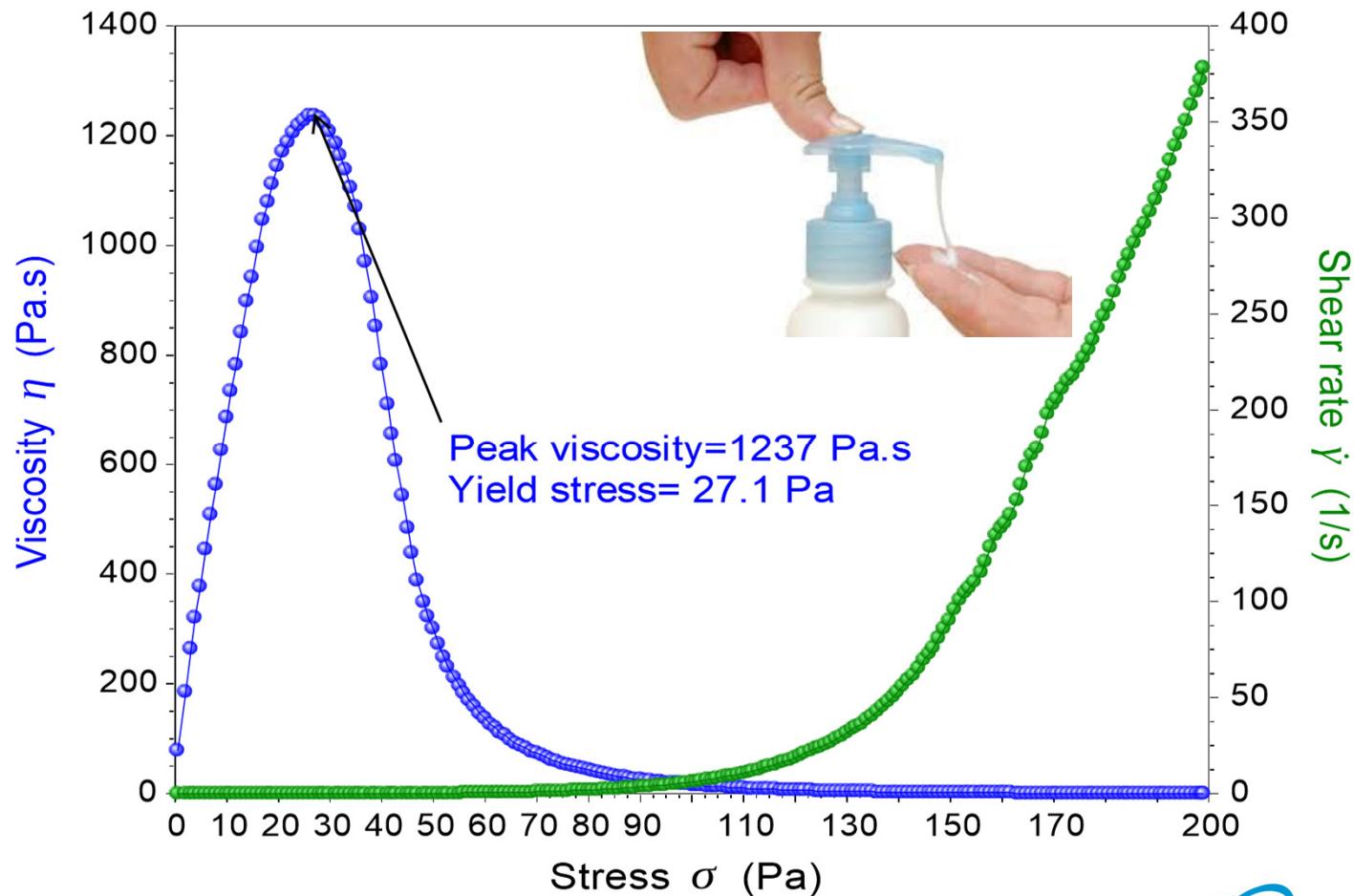
- Yield can be quantitatively measured on a rotational rheometer
- Common methods
  - Stress ramp
  - Stress sweep
  - Shear rate ramp
  - Dynamic stress/strain sweep

Note:

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

# Yield Stress of a Body Lotion

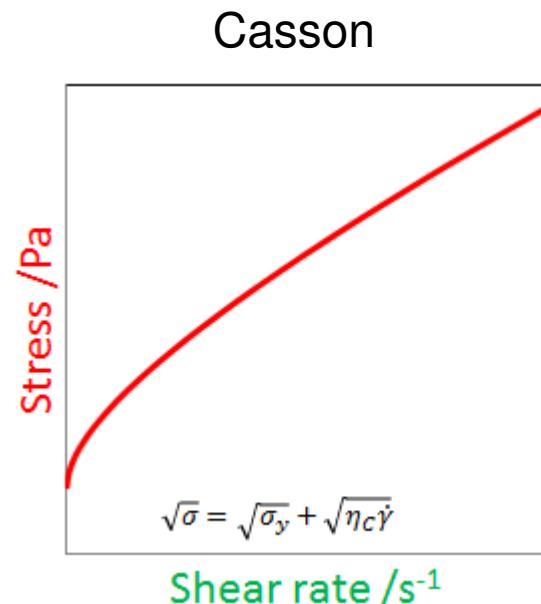
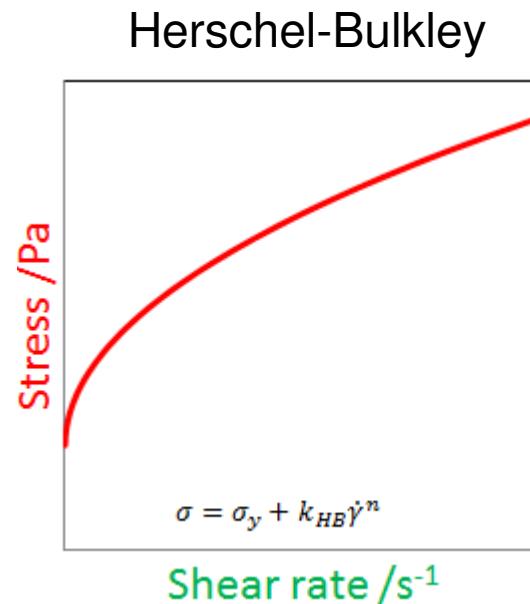
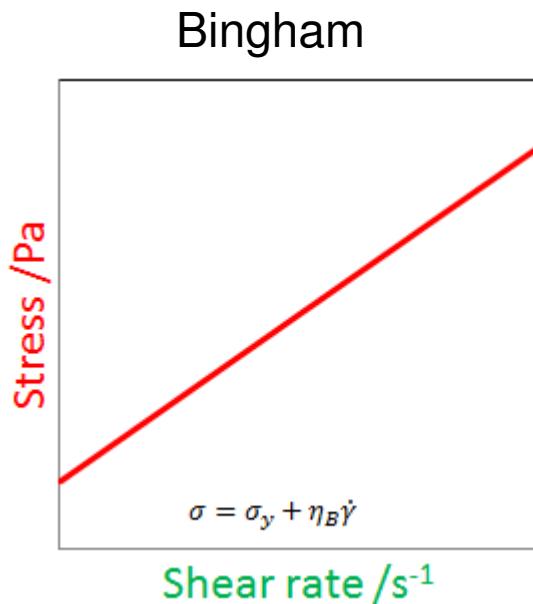
- Stress ramp from 0 to 200 Pa in 60 seconds
- Yield is determined at the point where viscosity shows a peak



# Fit Results with a Flow Models

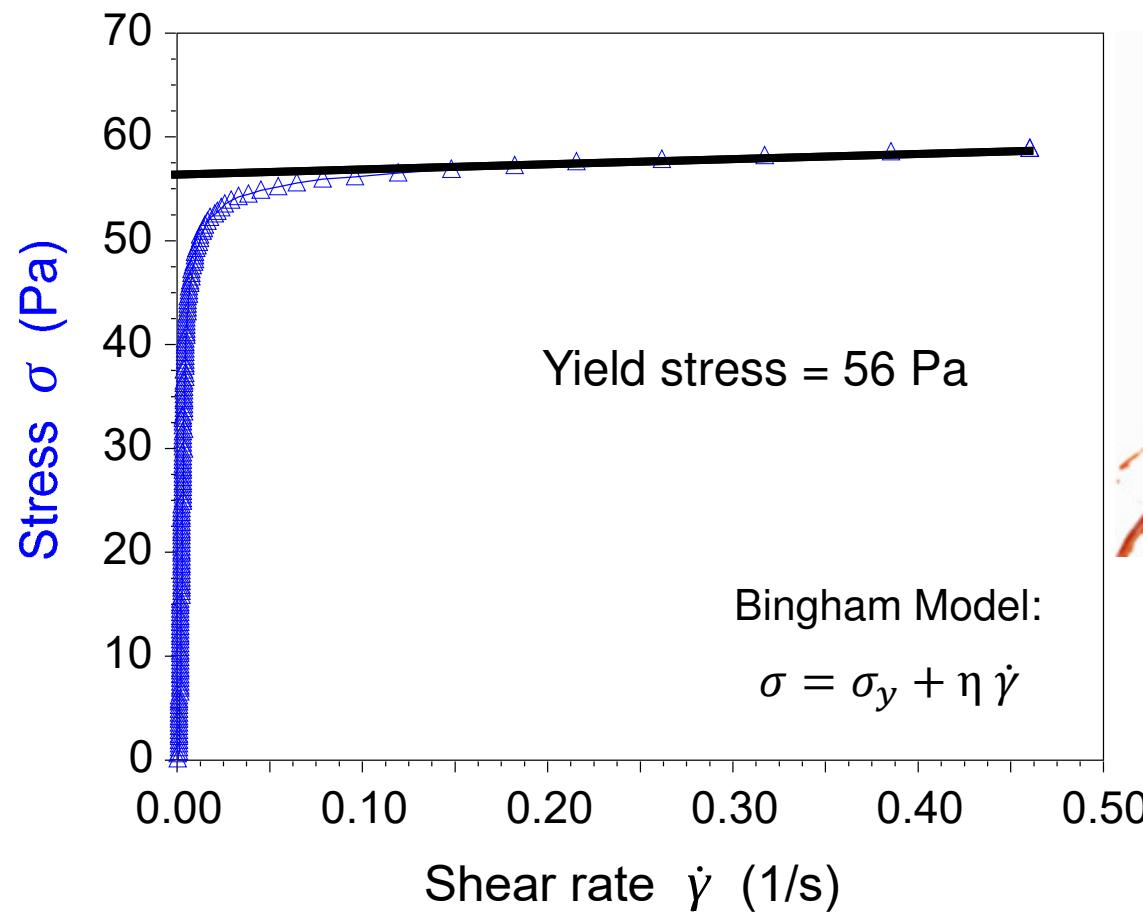
---

- Fit the stress ramp curves with a mathematical flow model
- Three flow models to describe the yield behavior



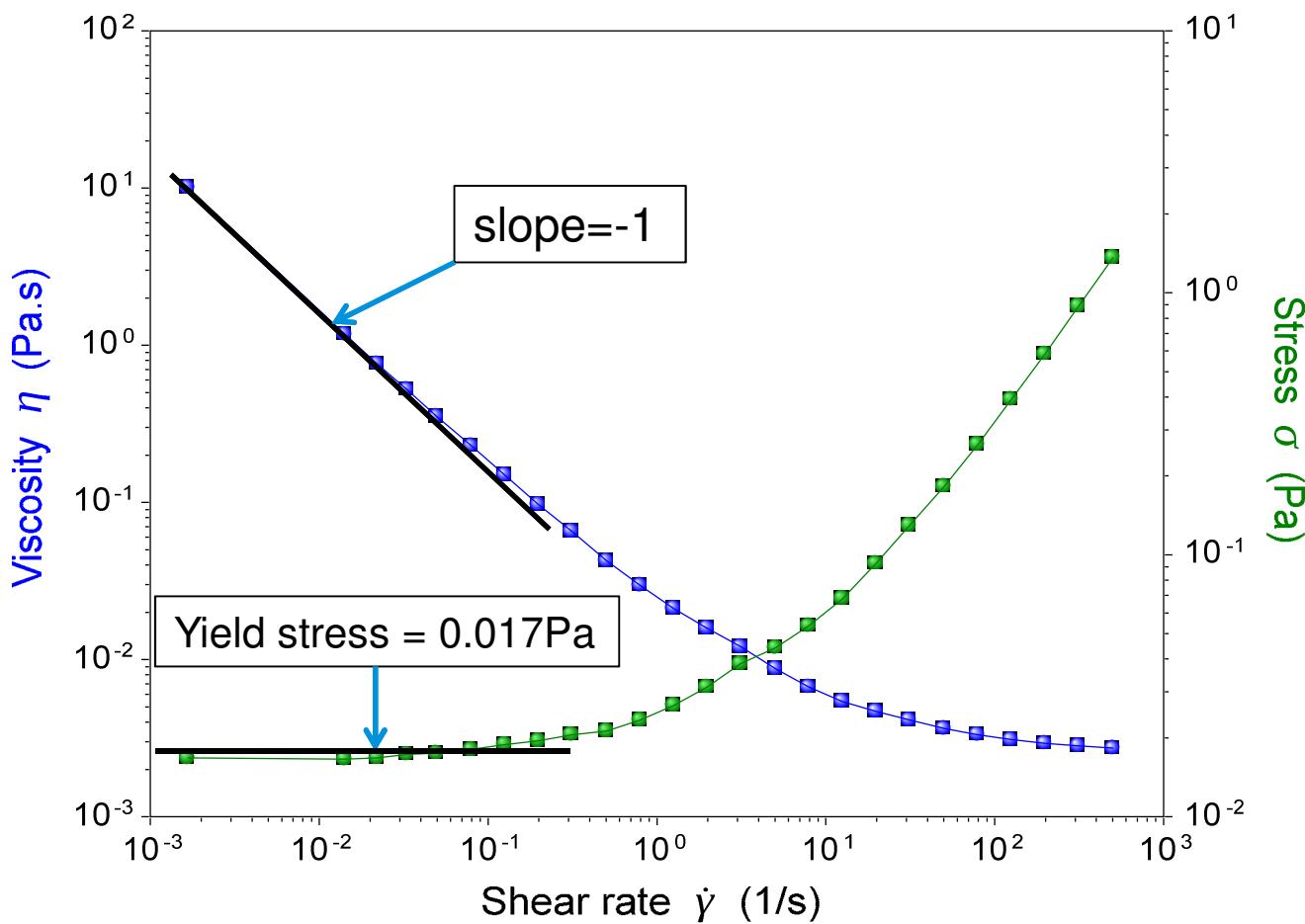
# Yield Stress of Ketchup

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



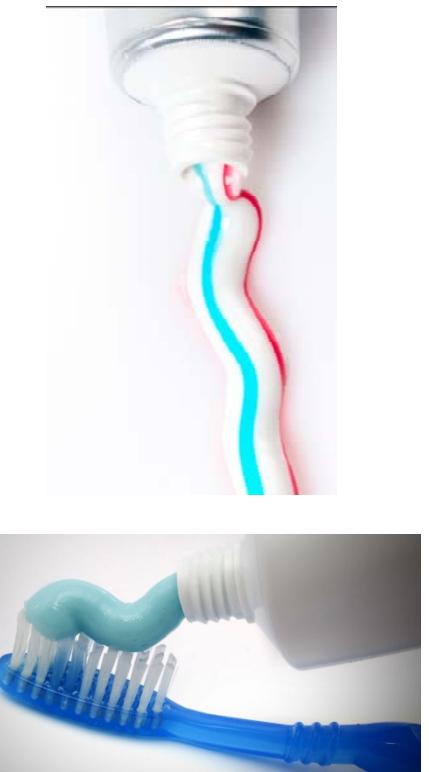
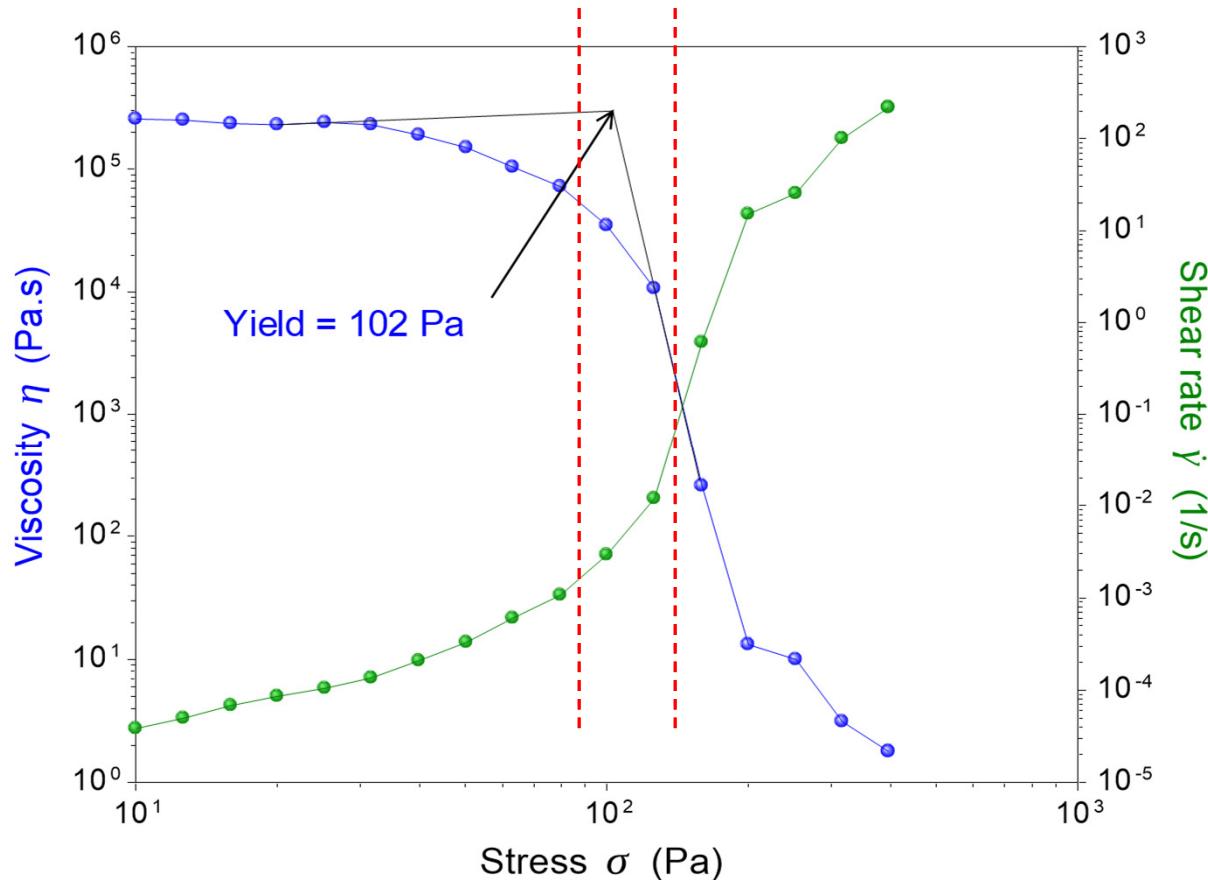
# Yield Stress of Orange Juice

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



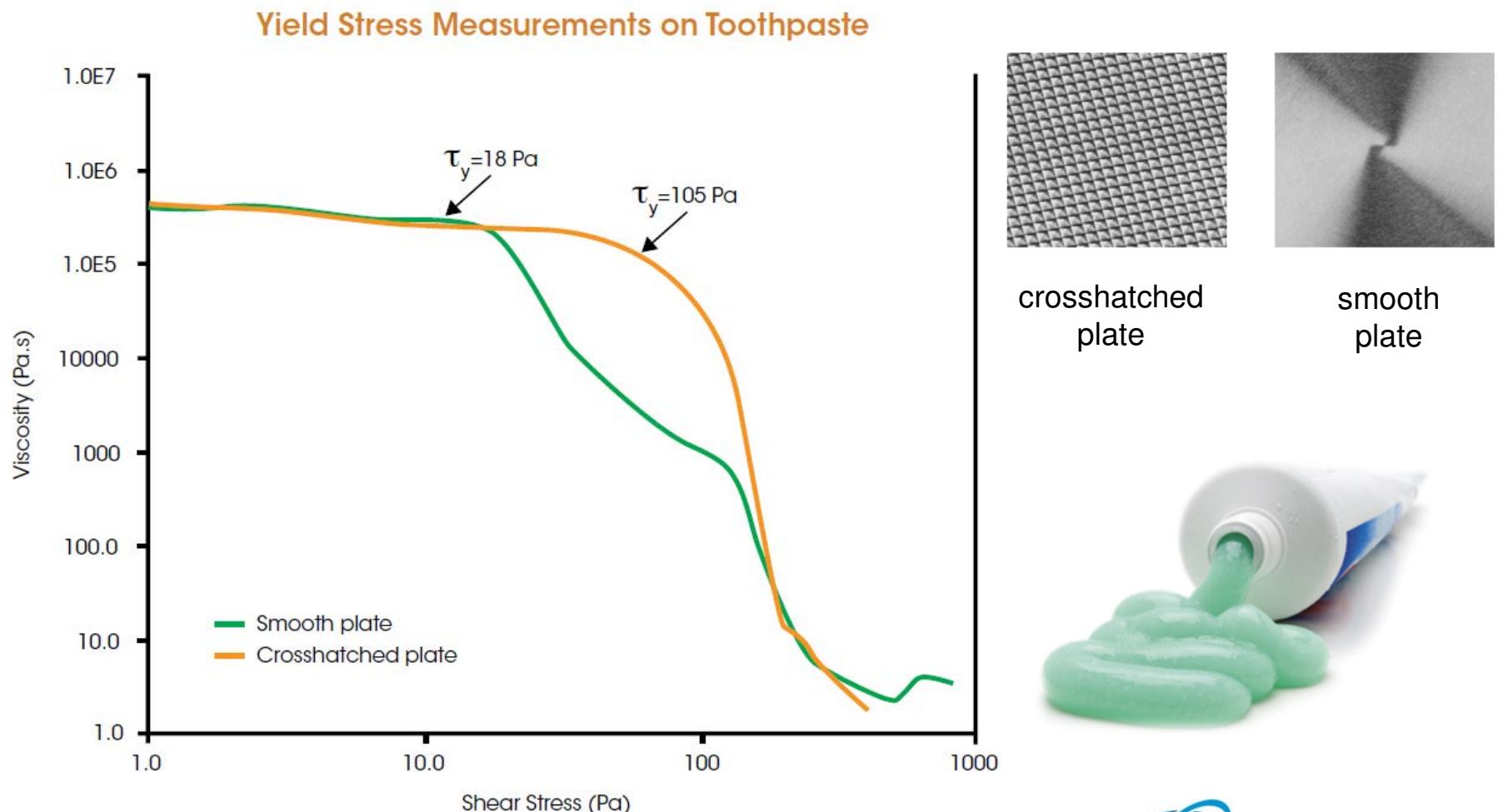
# Yield Stress of a Toothpaste

- 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



# Wall Slip – Artifact Yield

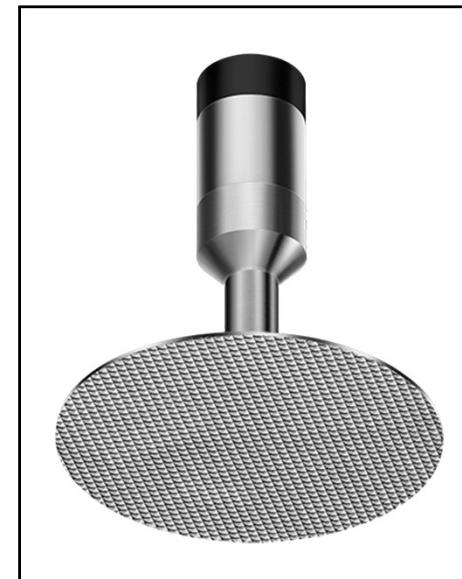
- Incidence of wall slip is often observed when testing structured fluids
- Wall slip shows artifact yield



# Solutions To Minimize Wall Slip

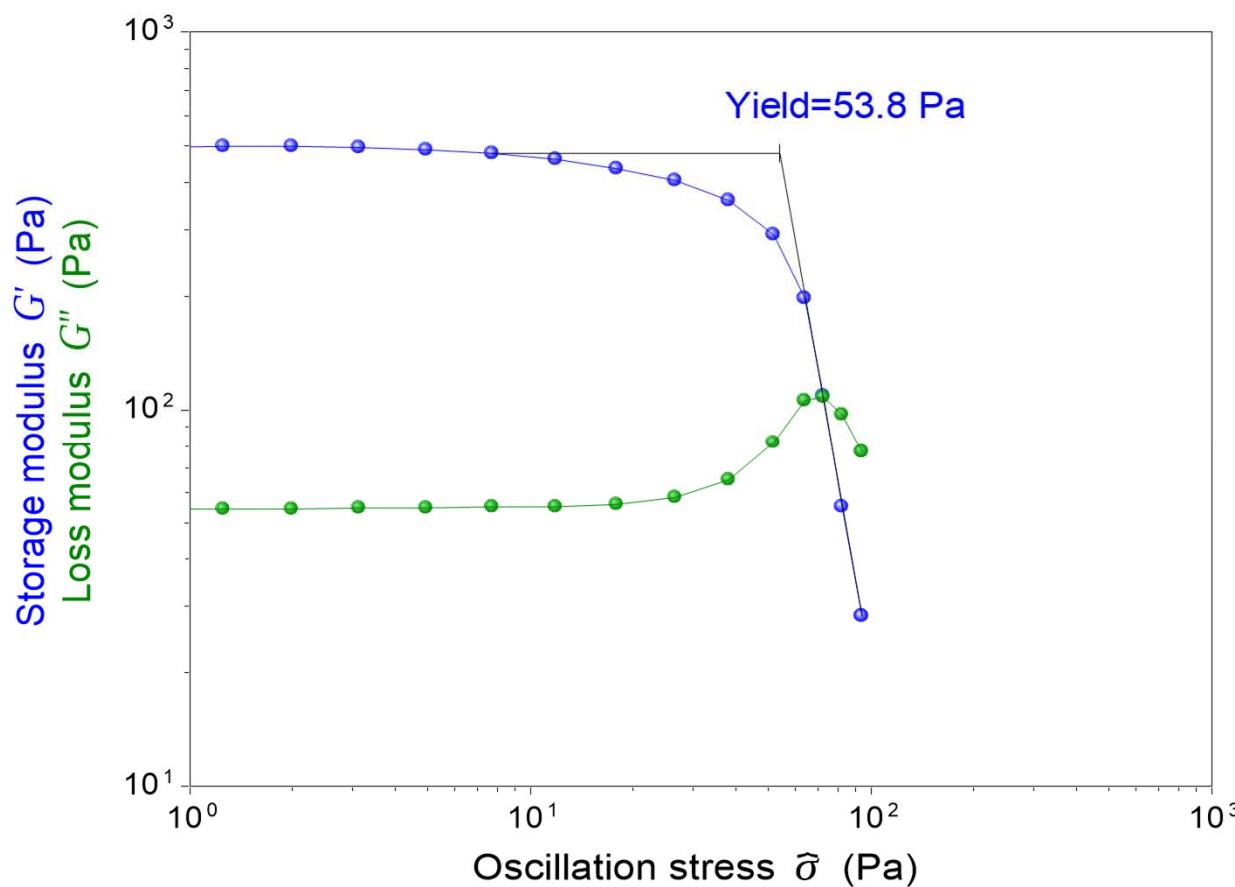
---

- 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



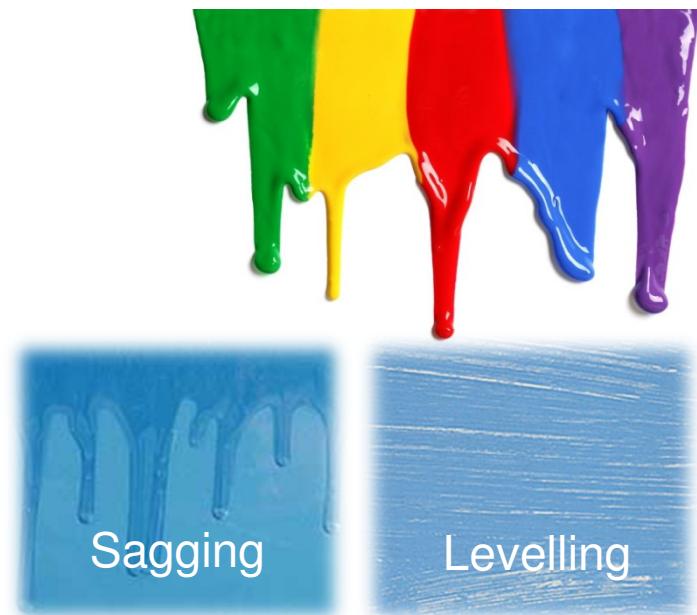
# Yield Stress of Mayonnaise

- 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



# 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:
  - Control sagging and levelling of paints
  - Start up of pipeline flow after rest



# How to Measure Thixotropy

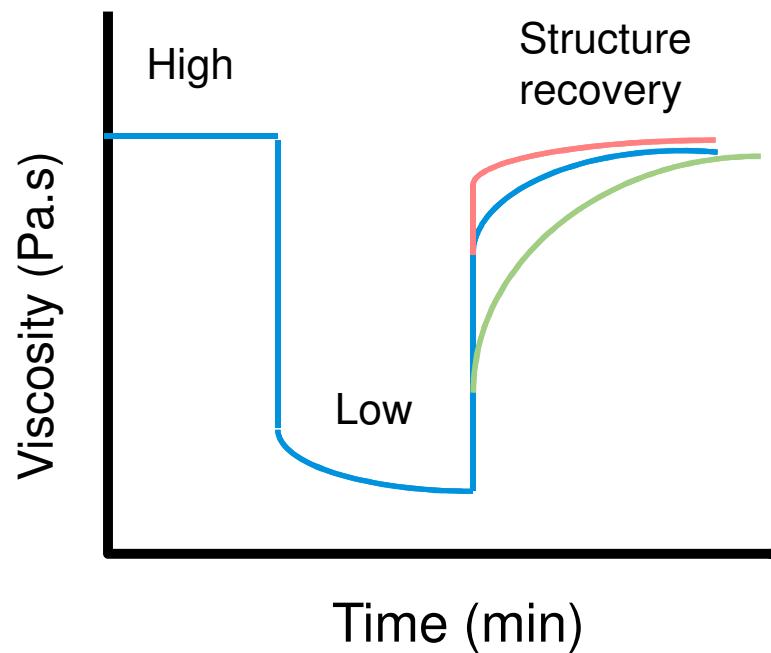
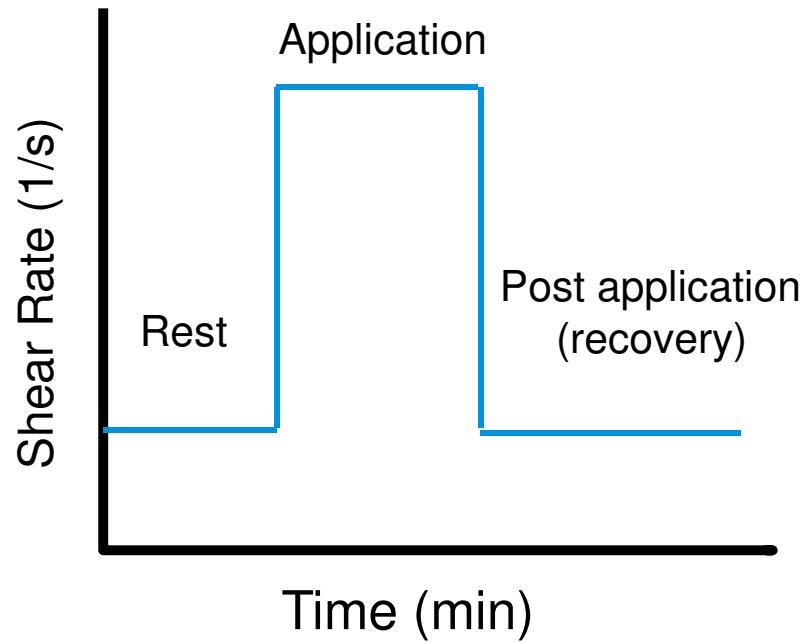
---

- 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



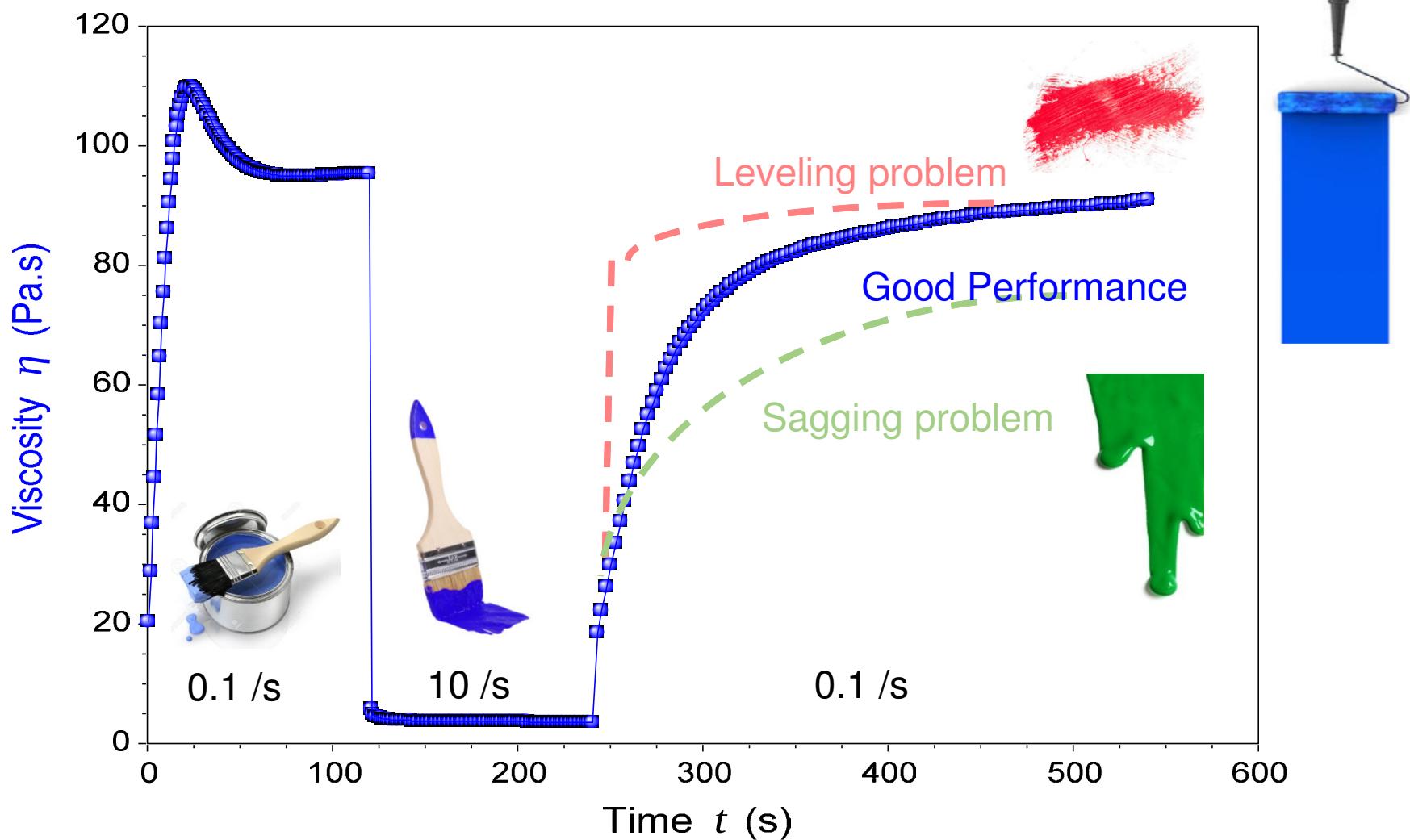
Experimental:

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

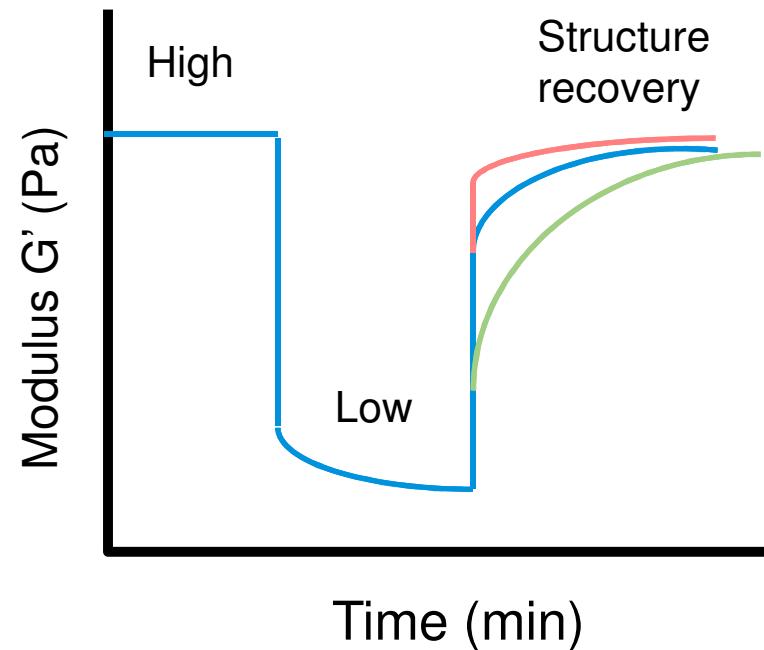
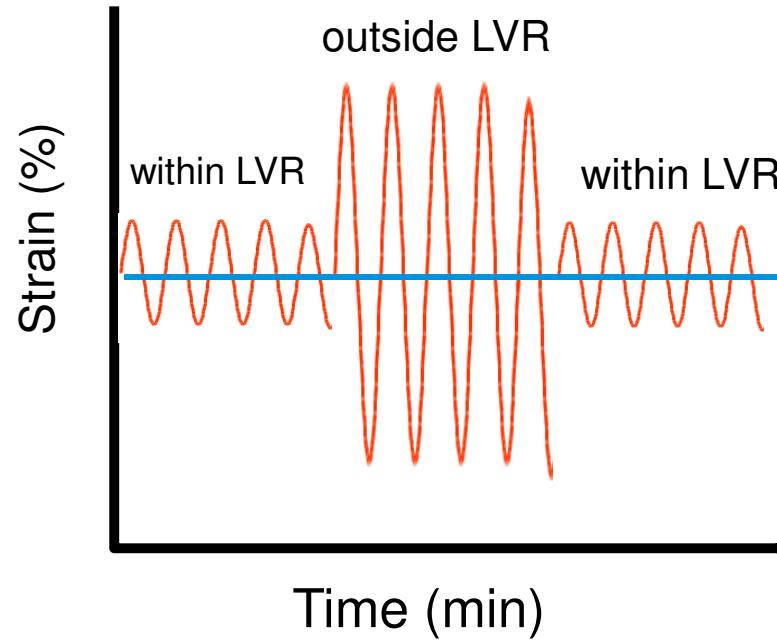
Step 2: High Shear (e.g. 10 1/s), structural destruction

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

# Thixotropic Analysis of a Blue Paint



# Stepped Dynamic Method



Experimental:

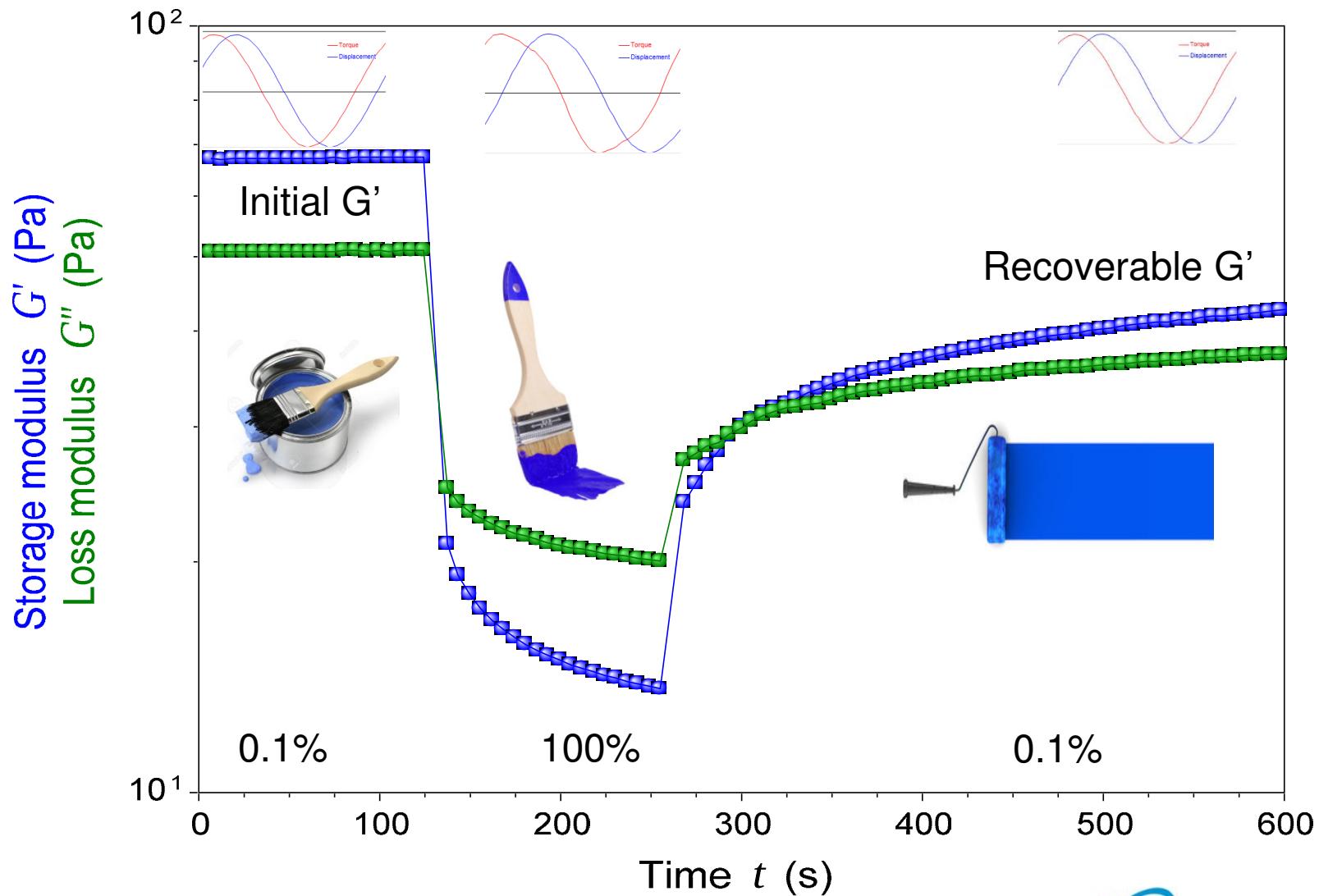
Step 1: Dynamic time sweep within LVR, structure at rest

Step 2: Dynamic time sweep outside LVR, structural destruction

Step 3: Dynamic time sweep within LVR, structural regeneration

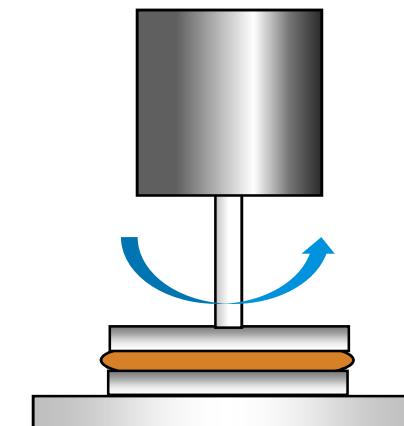
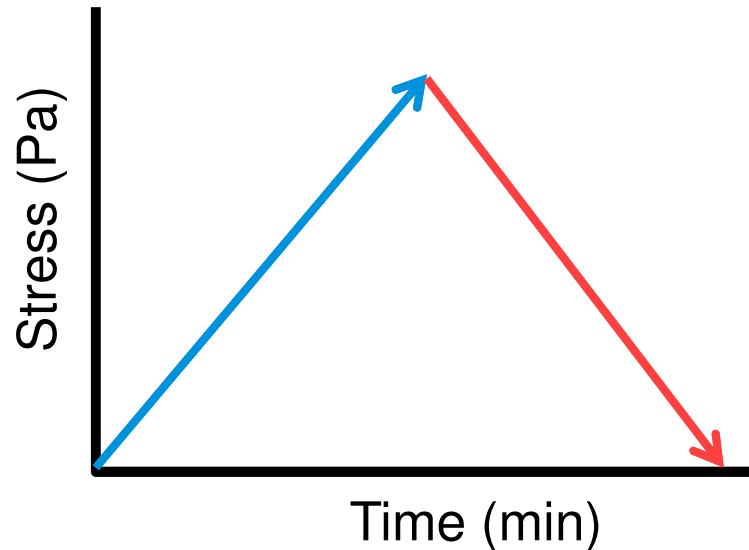
Good for measuring high viscosity samples

# Blue Paint: Stepped Time Sweep



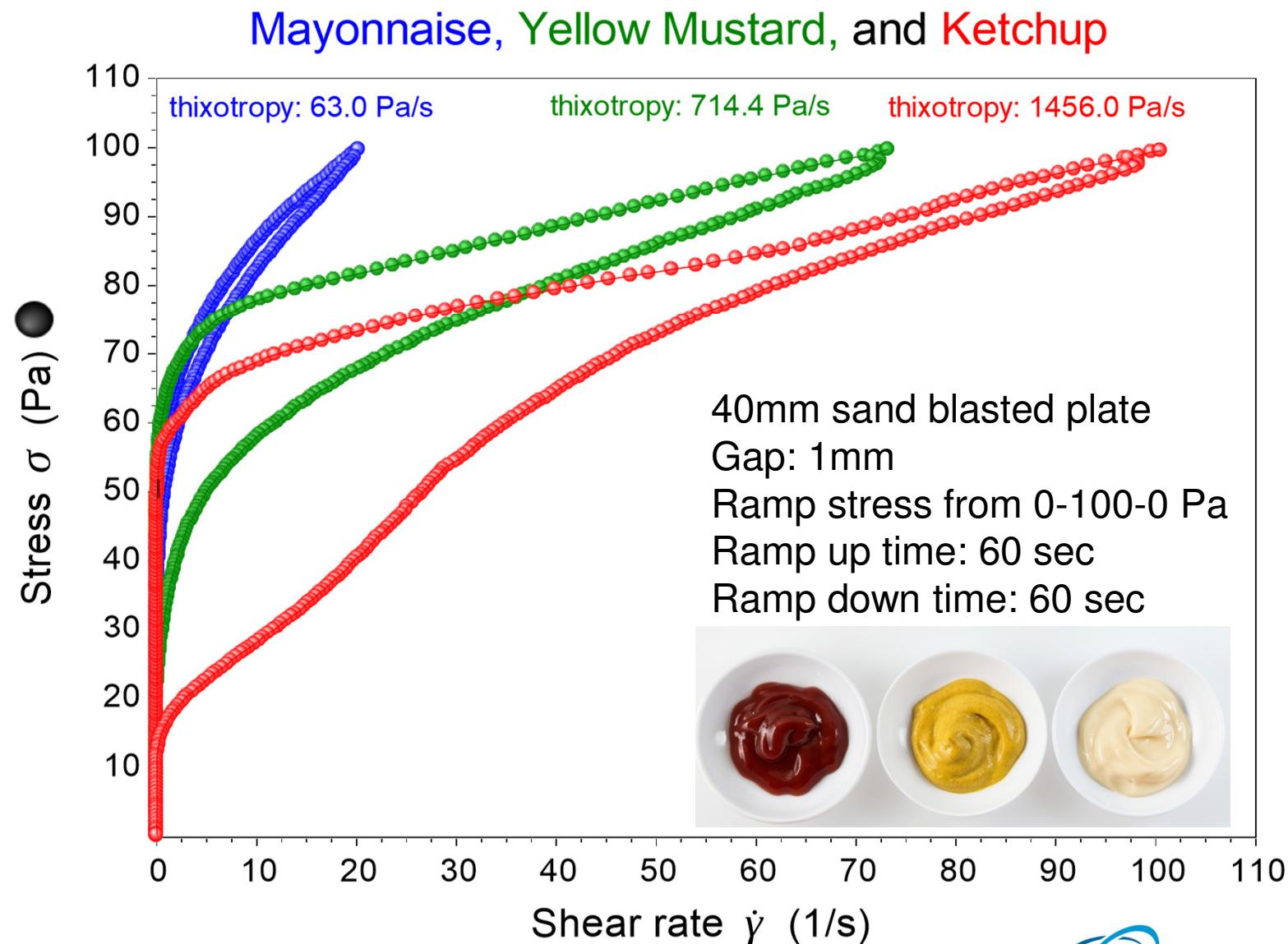
# Stress Ramp Up and Down Method

---

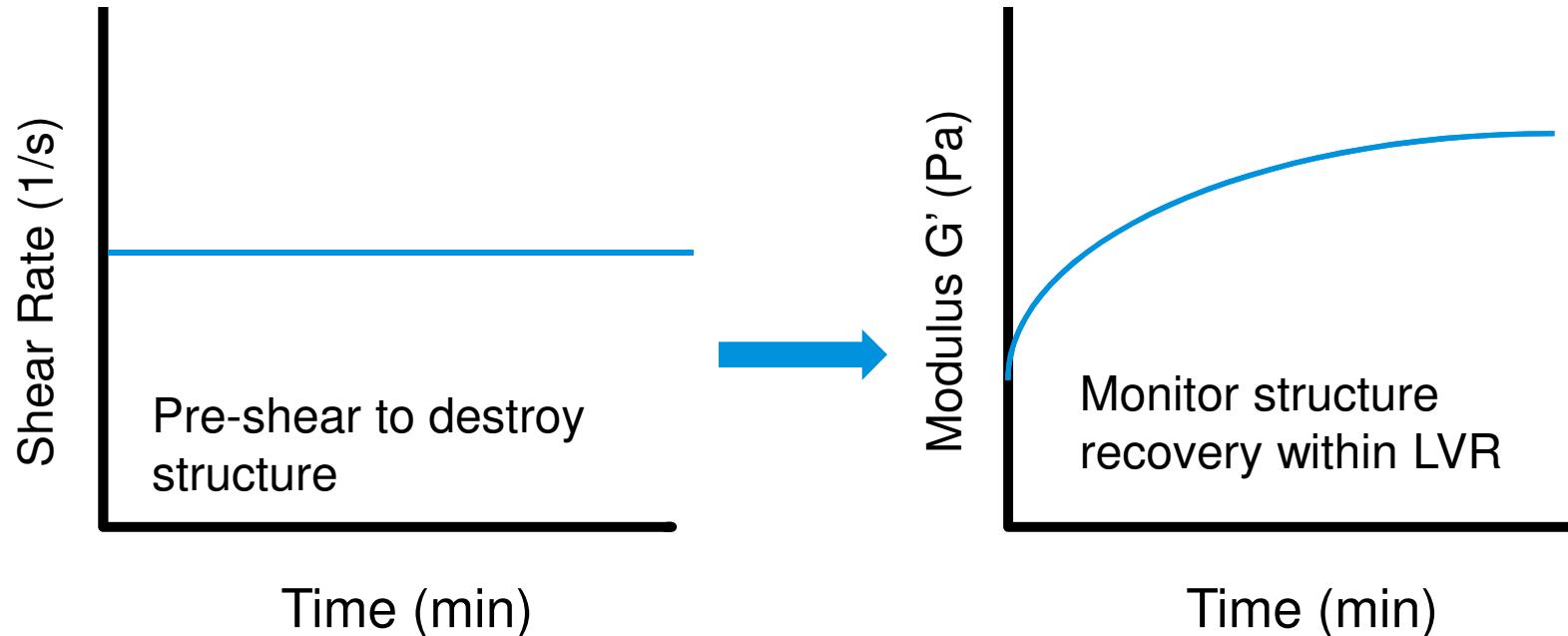


- Ramp shear stress linearly from zero up until sample flows, then ramp stress back down to zero
- Thixotropic index is measured by taking the area between the up and down stress curves
- TA Tech Tip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8IZangOp1SY>

# Thixotropic Loop Testing on Foods



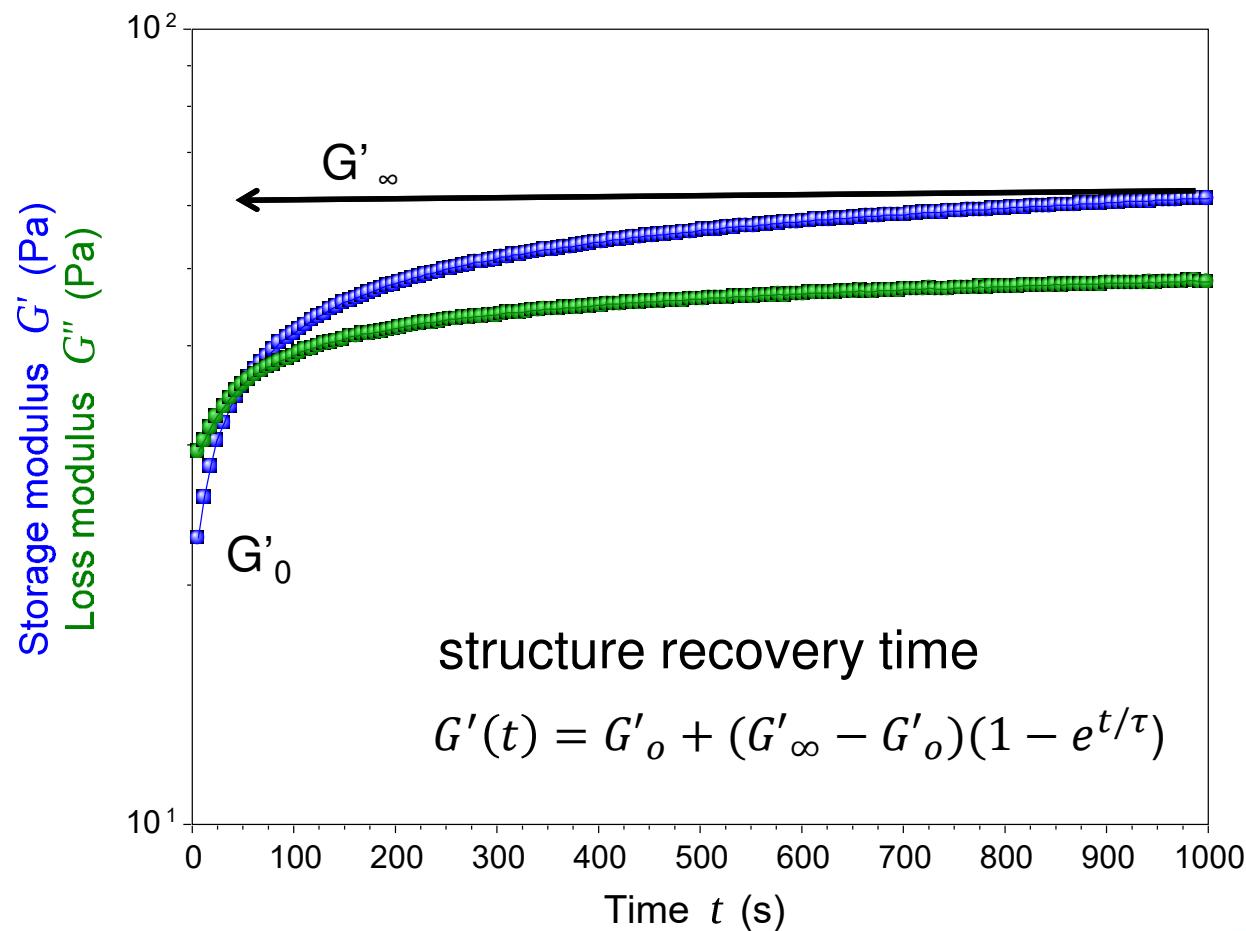
# Time Sweep After Pre-shear Method



- Apply a constant shear (e.g. 10 or 100  $1/\text{s}$ ) for a certain time (e.g. 1 min.) to break down structure
- Immediately start a time sweep within the linear region of the material to monitor structure recovery

# Blue Paint: Time Sweep After Pre-shear

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



# TRIOS Help Menu



- Browse the contents list or search using the search tab.
- Access to Getting Started Guides also found through the help menu.

# Instructional Videos

- From [www.tainstruments.com](http://www.tainstruments.com) click on Videos, Support or Training

The screenshot shows the TA Instruments website navigation bar at the top with links for info@tainstruments.com, 302-427-4000, and a language selector. Below the navigation bar are several dropdown menus: Products, About TA Instruments, Videos, Support (which is highlighted with a red box), Training, News & Events, and Careers. A large red box highlights the 'Support' dropdown menu. To the right, the 'Training' section is also highlighted with a red box. The 'Training' section includes links for Initial Installation & Training, Course Schedule, Training Courses (which is also highlighted with a red box), ElectroForce Training, Strategies for Better Data, and Training FAQ.

- Select Videos for TA Tech Tips, Webinars and Quick Start Courses

The screenshot shows the TA Instruments website navigation bar at the top with links for info@tainstruments.com, 302-427-4000, and a language selector. Below the navigation bar are several dropdown menus: Products, About TA Instruments, Videos (which is highlighted with a red box), Support, Training, and News & Events. A large red box highlights the 'Videos' dropdown menu. Below the navigation bar, there are five icons with labels: Film Tension, Webinars, Tech Tips (which is highlighted with a red box), Product Videos, Service Videos, and Quick Start Guides.

See also: <https://www.youtube.com/user/TATechTips>

# Instructional Video Resources

## Quickstart 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.

[Contact Us for Web based e-Training Courses](#)

The screenshot shows the 'Training' dropdown menu open. Under 'Initial Installation & Training', there are links for 'Course Schedule', 'Training Courses', 'ElectroForce Training', 'Strategies for Better Data', and 'Training FAQ'. Under 'Web based e-Training Courses', there are links for 'Theory & Applications Courses', 'Hands-On Training Courses', 'Custom Onsite Training Courses', and 'Web based e-Training Courses' (which is highlighted).

## Strategies for Better Data - Rheology

Thermal Analysis    **Rheology**

Part 1: Instrument Fundamentals and Sample Preparation

Part 2: Efficient and Effective Method Development

Part 3: Tips for Data Reduction and Presentation

Part 1: Instrument Fundamentals and Sample Preparation



#### IN THIS SESSION

This introductory session will introduce fundamental concepts of rheology and provide specific guidance for preparing the sample and instrument.

- Rheology Fundamentals: viscosity, modulus, stress, strain, viscoelasticity
- How a Rheometer Works
- Appropriate Geometry Selection
- Understanding Your Material and Preparing a Representative Sample

# Avoid Testing Artifacts

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- TA Webinar - Professor Randy H. Ewoldt

<http://www.tainstruments.com/randy-h-ewoldt-experimental-challenges-of-shear-rheology-how-to-avoid-bad-data-2/>

## About the Speaker

Randy H. Ewoldt is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mechanical Science and Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He has Ph.D. and S.M. degrees from MIT, and a B.S. degree from Iowa State, all in Mechanical Engineering. Before joining Illinois, he held a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Minnesota. At Illinois, his research group studies rheology, fluid mechanics, and design of complex fluids; in particular, this includes yield stress fluids, polymer gels, biological materials, and large-amplitude oscillatory shear (LAOS) characterization. His work has been recognized by young investigator awards from NSF, ASME, 3M, DuPont, and The Society of Rheology.



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 if I need help?

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- TA Tech Tips
  - <http://www.youtube.com/tatechtips>
- On-site training & e-Training courses - see Website
- TA Instruments Applications Helpline available from the TA website
  - <http://www.tainstruments.com/support/applications/applications-hotline/>
- Service related queries
  - Email: [servicehelpline@tainstruments.com](mailto:servicehelpline@tainstruments.com)
  - Ph: 302-427-4050
- Check out our Website
  - <http://www.tainstruments.com/>

# Thank You

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The World Leader in Thermal Analysis,  
Rheology, and Microcalorimetry



# **Applications of Rheology**

## **Advanced Accessories**



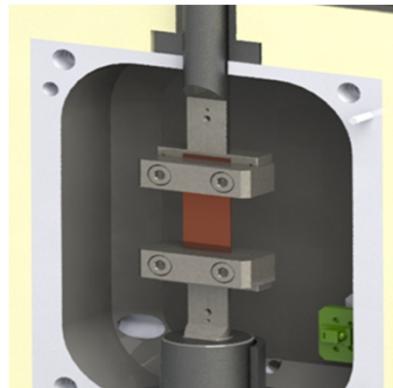
# DHR Humidity Accessory



▪ Surface Diffusion



▪ Bulk Diffusion



▪ Film/fiber Tension

Temperature Range  
5 °C – 120 °C

Temperature Accuracy  
±0.5 °C

Heating/Cooling Rate  
±1 °C/min maximum

Humidity Range  
5- 95%

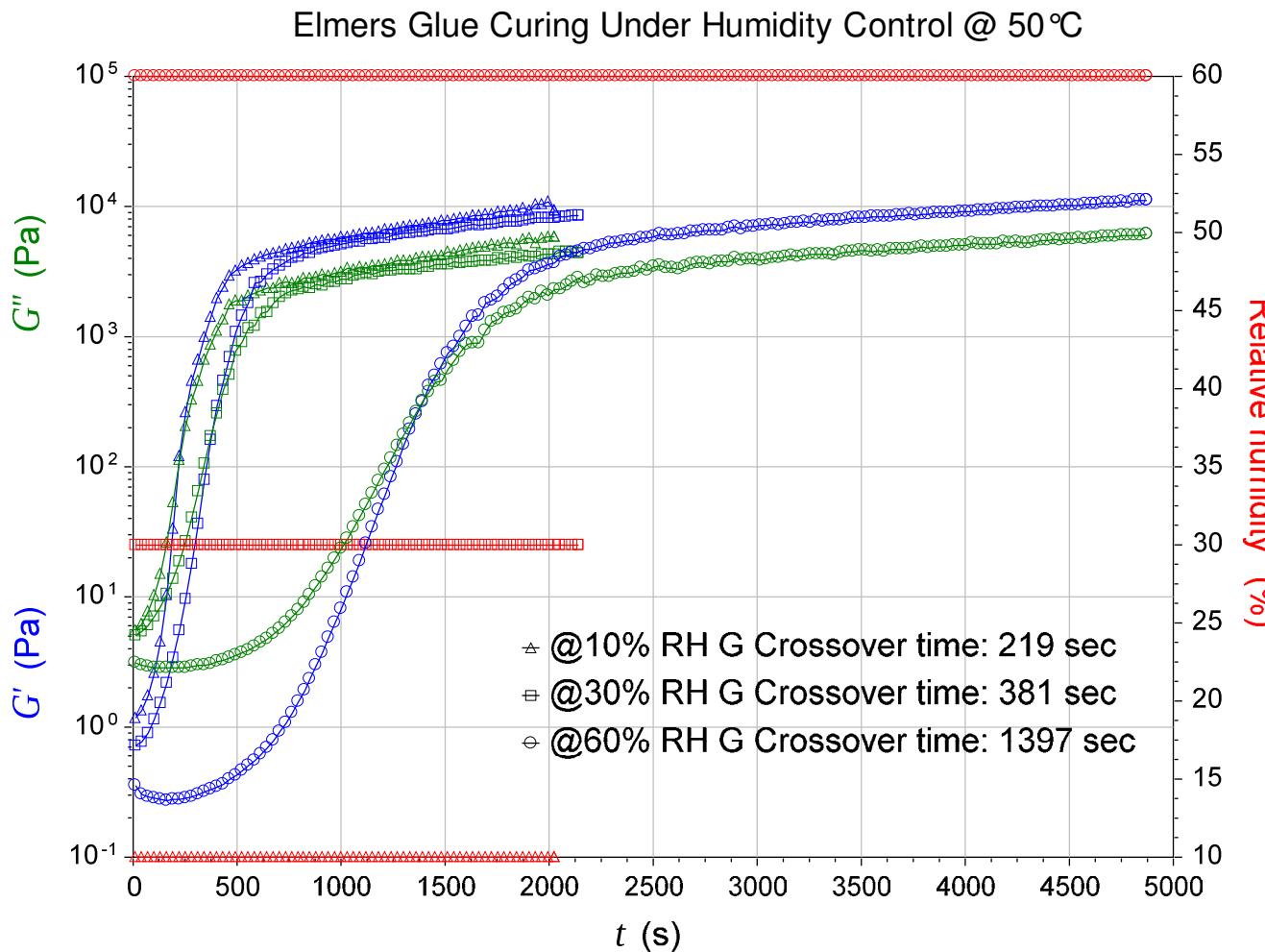
Humidity Accuracy  
5-90%RH: ±3% RH  
>90%RH: ±5% RH

Humidity Ramp Rate  
±2% RH/min  
increasing or decreasing



TAINSTRUMENTS.COM

# DHR Humidity Accessory



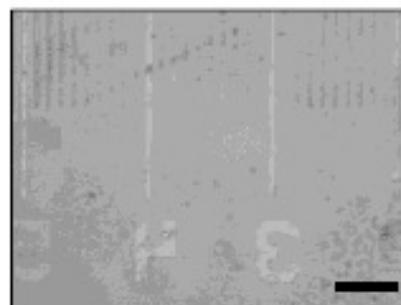
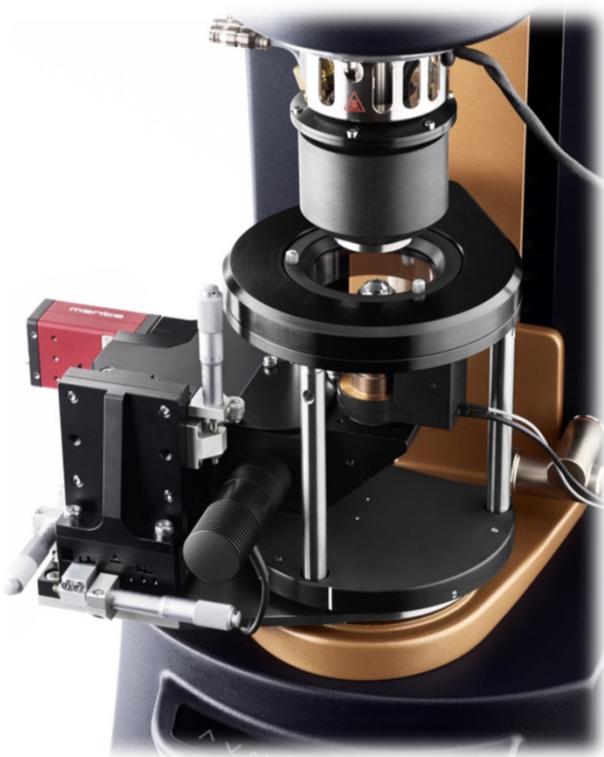
- Bulk diffusion geometry at 50°C and constant RH (10%, 30% and 60%)

- The test frequency - 1.0 rad/s and oscillation torque - 5  $\mu\text{N}\cdot\text{m}$

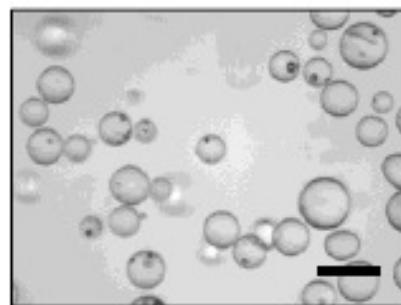


# Modular Microscope Accessory (DHR)

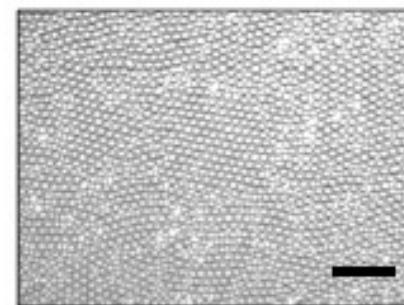
- Connecting Rheology with structure under flow conditions (counter rotation option also available). Modular video camera, light source, and interchangeable optical objectives.



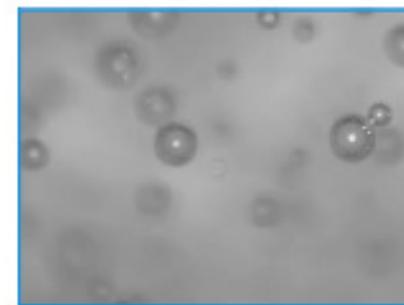
Calibration Grid, 20X



Glass Spheres in PDMS, 20X



7  $\mu\text{m}$  Fluorescent PS Spheres, 20X



3D scan of hollow glass spheres, 20X

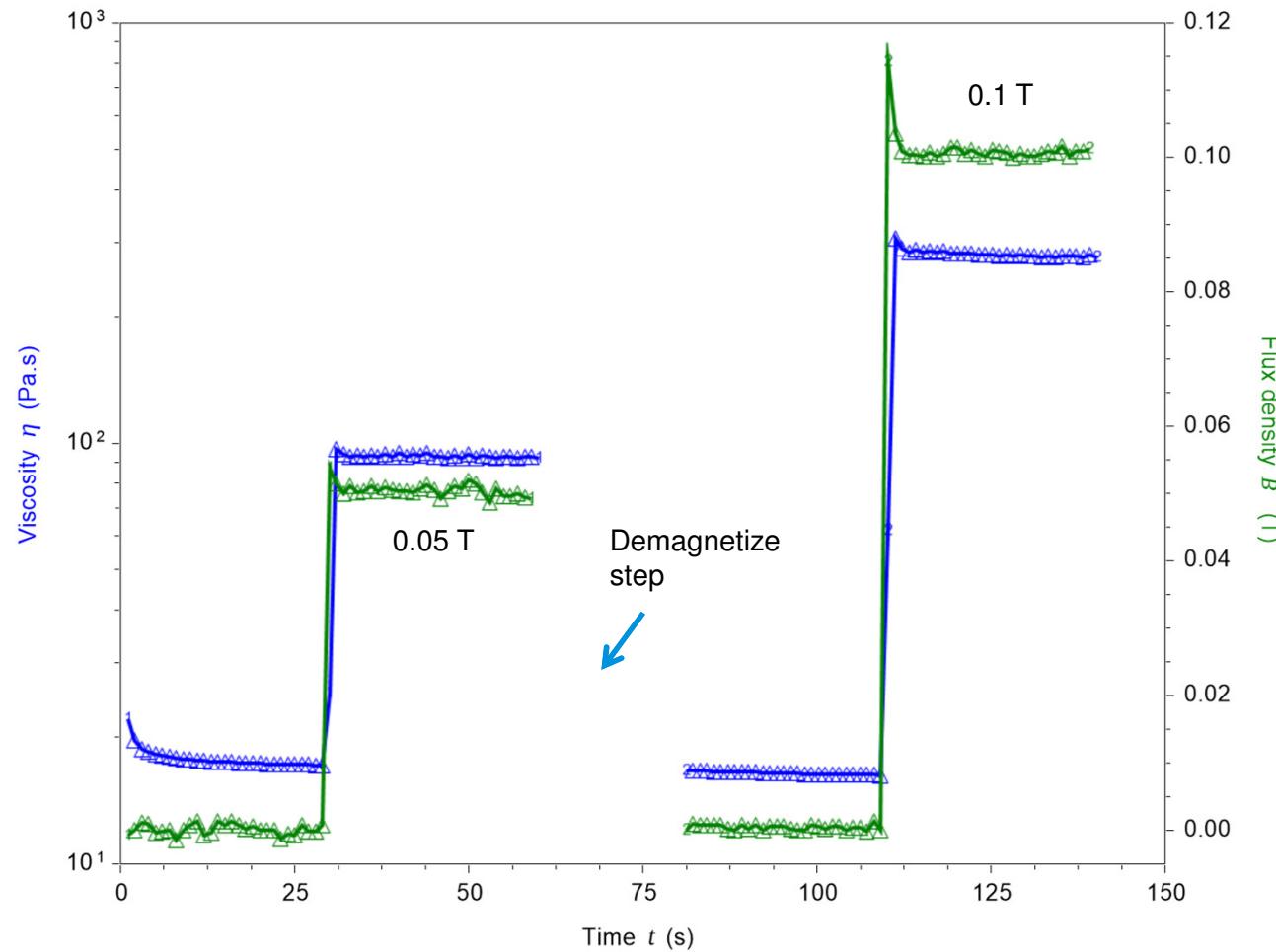
# MagnetoRheology Accessory (DHR)

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- The MR Accessory enables characterization of magneto-rheological fluids under the influence of a controlled field
- Applied fields up to 1 T with temperature range of -10 °C to 170 °C (standard and extended temperature options)
- The system accommodates an optional Hall probe for real-time measurement and closed-loop control of the sample field



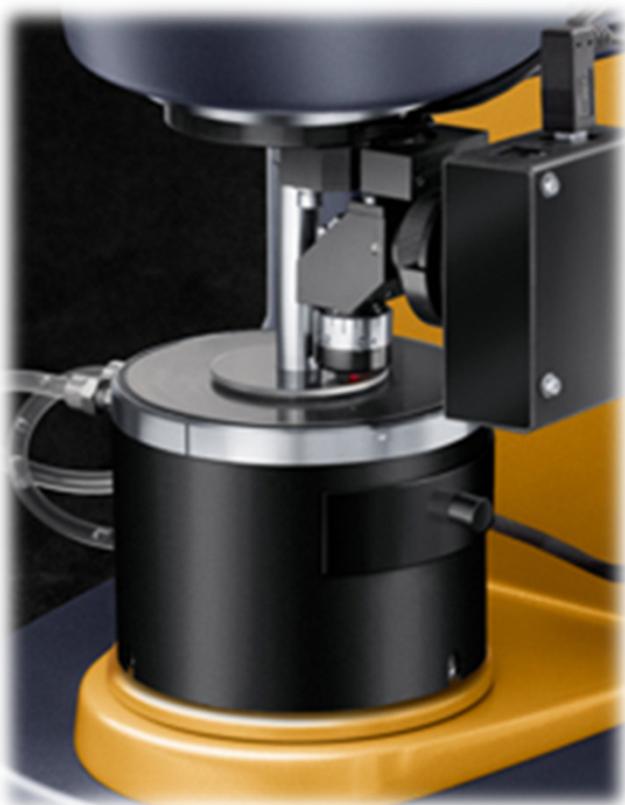
# Magneto Rheology Accessory (DHR)



- Lord MR Fluid MRF-140CG (081610) – 300 $\mu\text{m}$  gap at 20°C

# Small Angle Light Scattering (DHR)

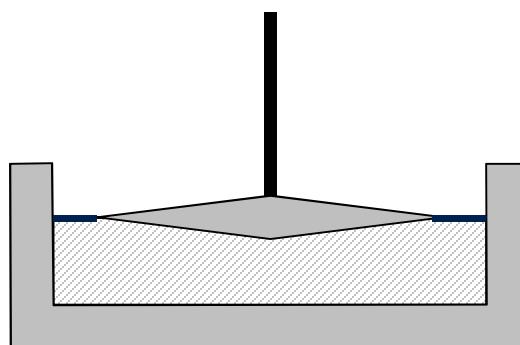
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- Simultaneous rheology and structure information
- Laser Light creates interference pattern
- Pattern reflects size, shape, orientation and arrangements of objects that scatter
- Objects scatter due to differences in refractive index

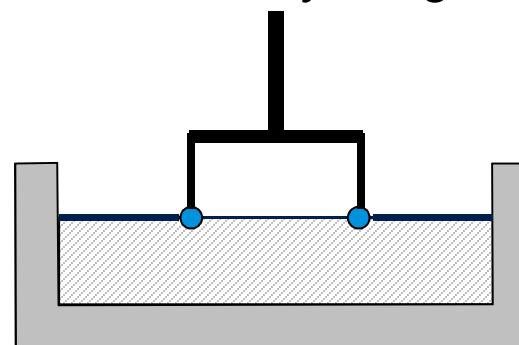
# Interfacial Accessories

Bicone



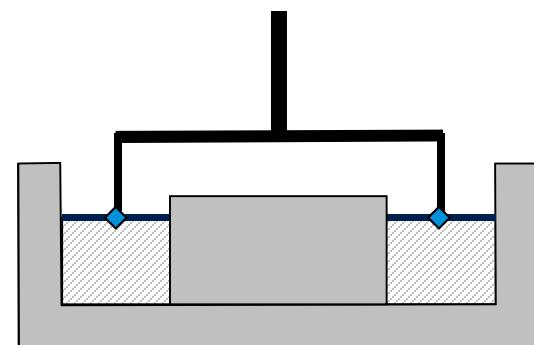
Steady Shear Viscosity at  
air/liquid and liquid/liquid  
interface.

DüNouy Ring



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

Double Wall Ring

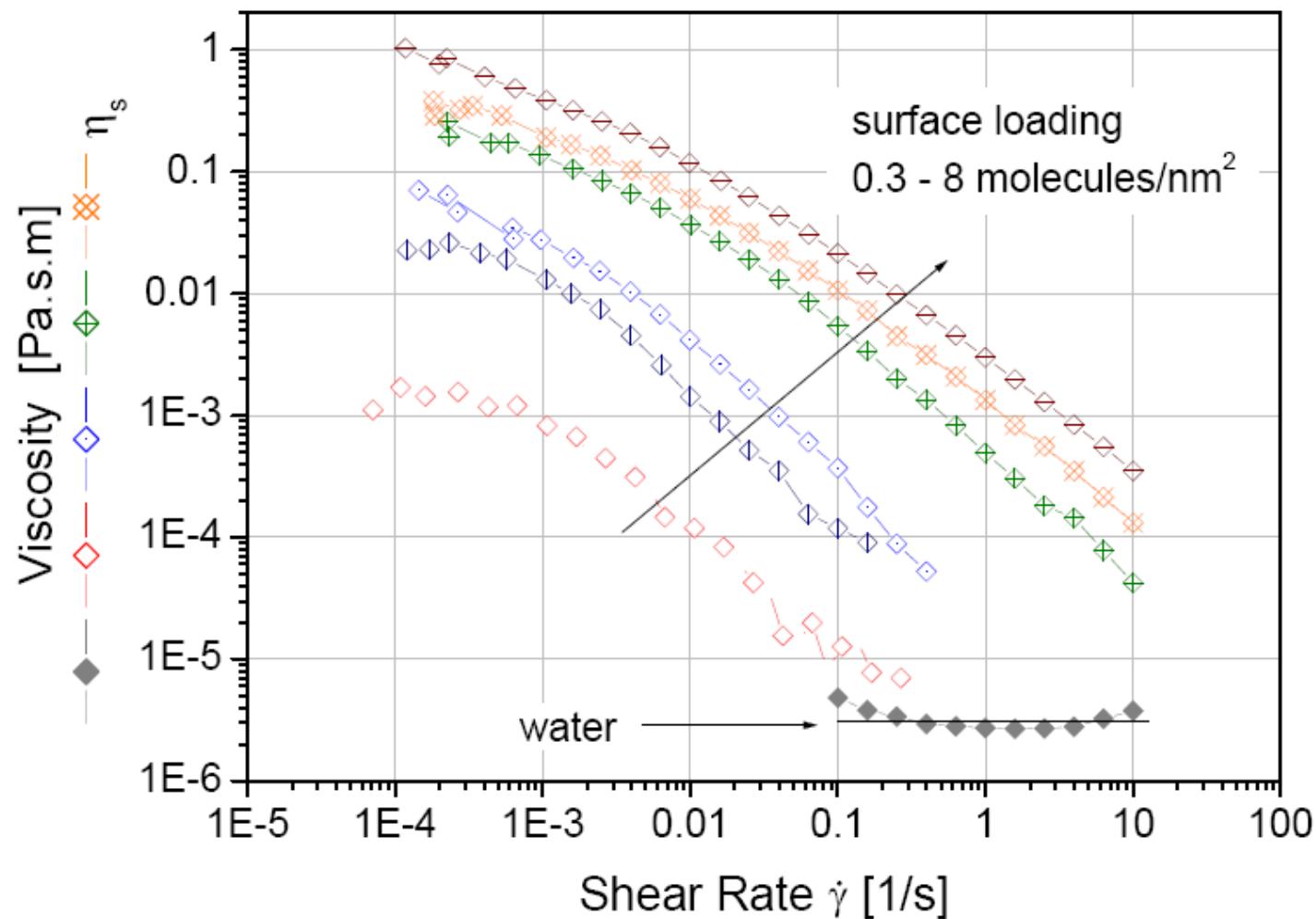


Quantitative Viscoelastic  
measurements at air/liquid  
and liquid/liquid interface.

- 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

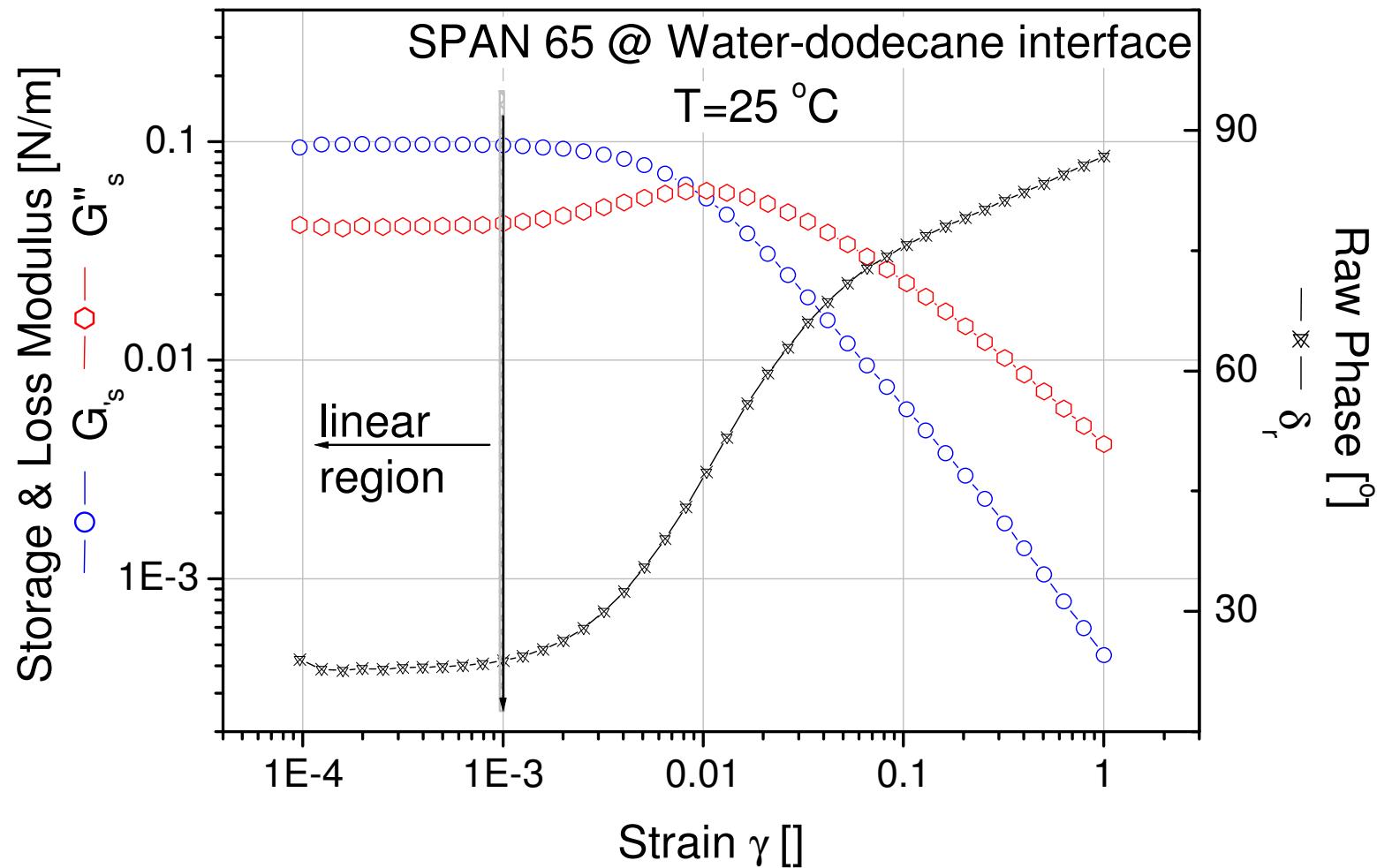
# Surface Concentration Effects on Interfacial Viscosity

Surface viscosity of Span 65 layer deposited on water



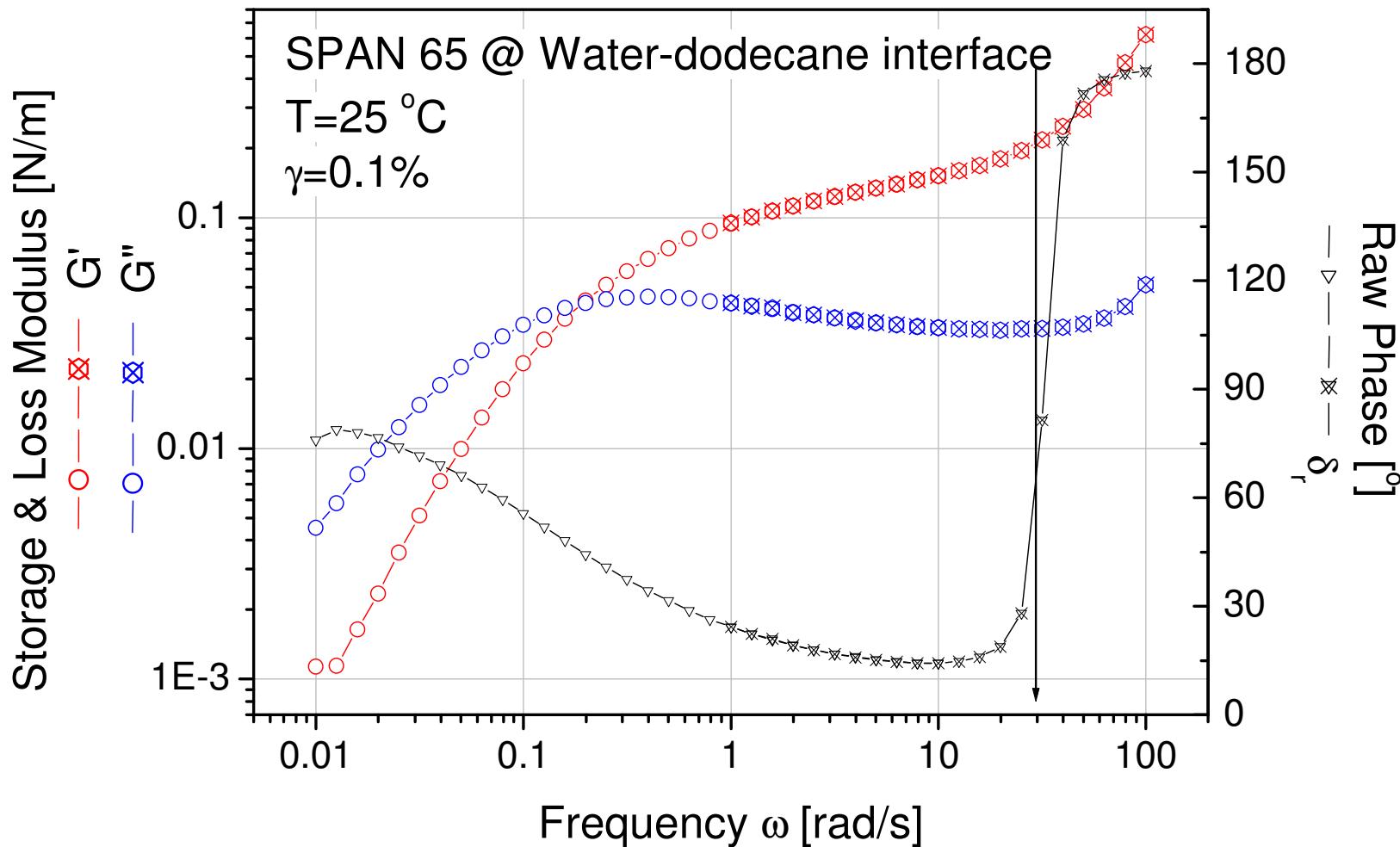
# SPAN65® Water-Dodecane Interface

Interfacial properties Span65 @ water-dodecane interface



# SPAN65® Water-Dodecane Interface

Interfacial properties Span65 @ water-dodecane interface



# Dielectric Accessory

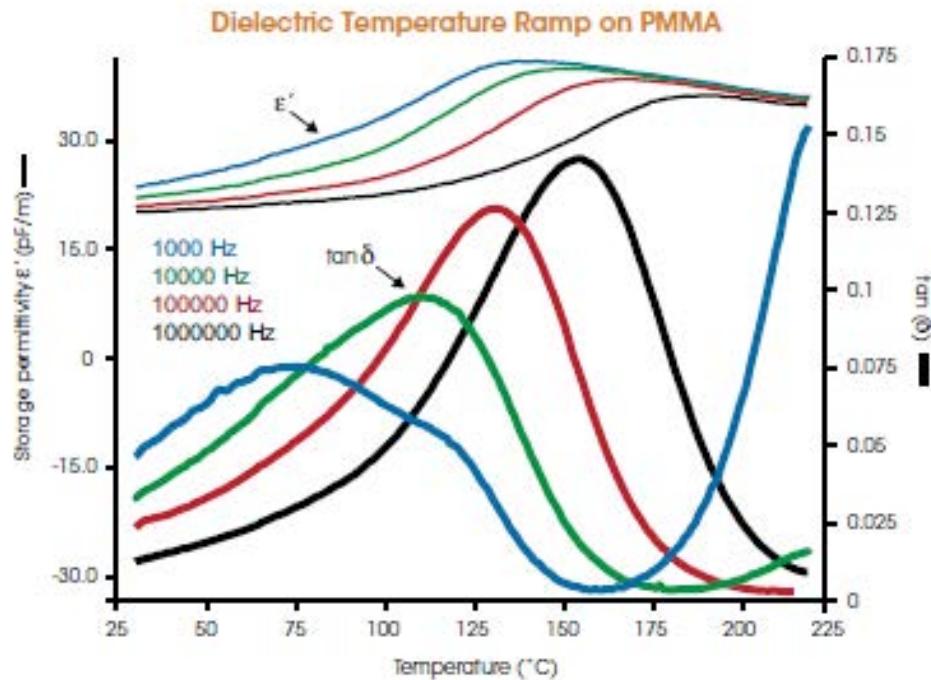


Agilent E4980A LCR meter



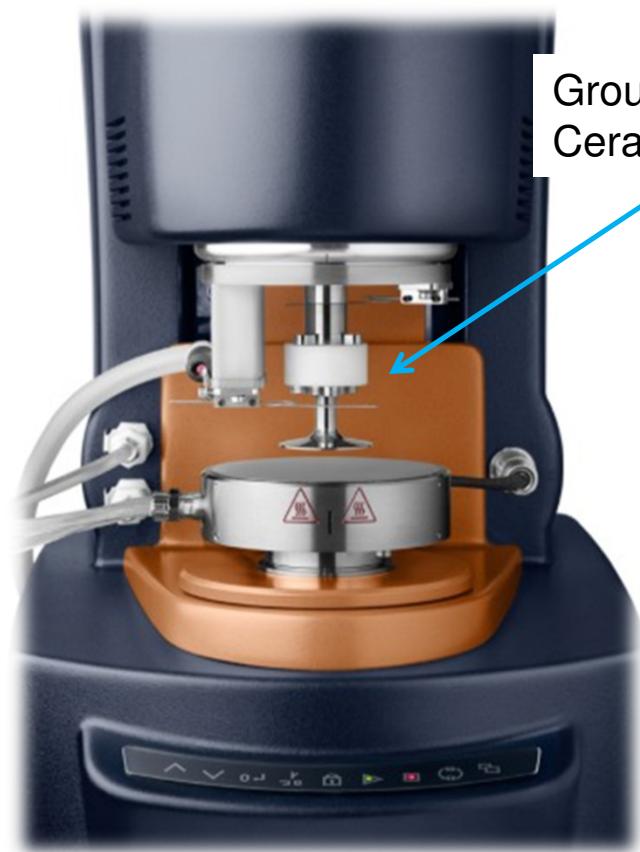
Ground Geometries with Ceramic Insulator  
(standard or disposable)

# Dielectric Accessory

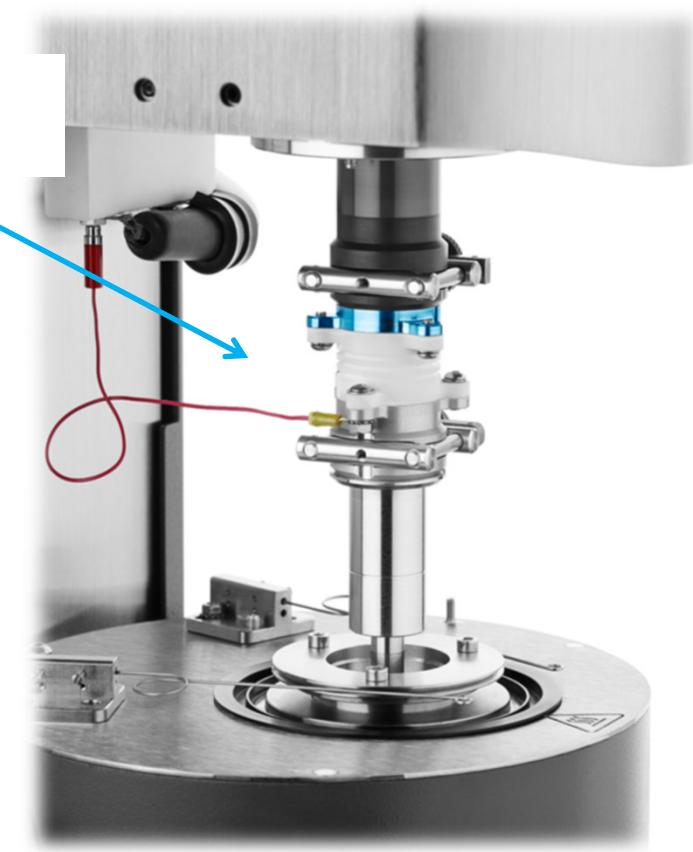


- Stand-alone or combined Dielectric-rheology
- LCR Fully programmable from TRIOS
- Wide temperature range: -160 to 350 °C
- Applications: Characterize polar materials such as PVC, PVDF, PMMA, PVA

# Electro-Rheology (ER) Accessory

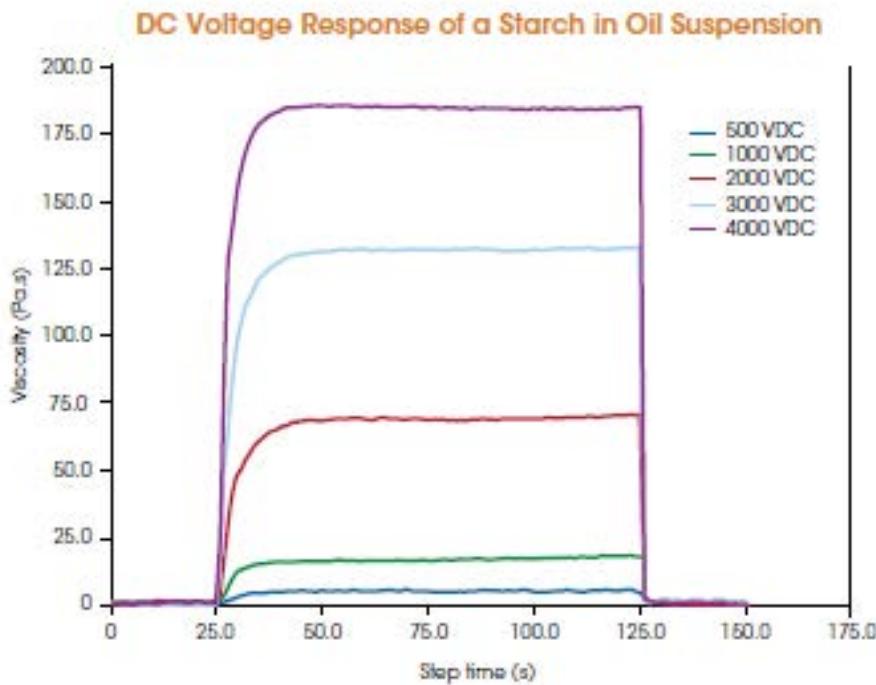


Ground Geometries with  
Ceramic Insulator



- Plates and DIN concentric cylinders

# Electro-Rheology (ER) Accessory



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

## Applications:

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

# Peltier Plate Tribo-rheometry Geometries

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Ball on three Plates



Three Balls on Plate



Ring on Plate

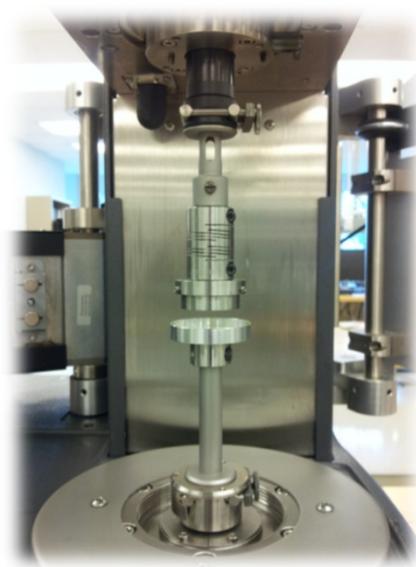


4 Balls

Also available for  
ETC

# ARES G2 FCO and APS Tribology Accessory

Ring on Plate



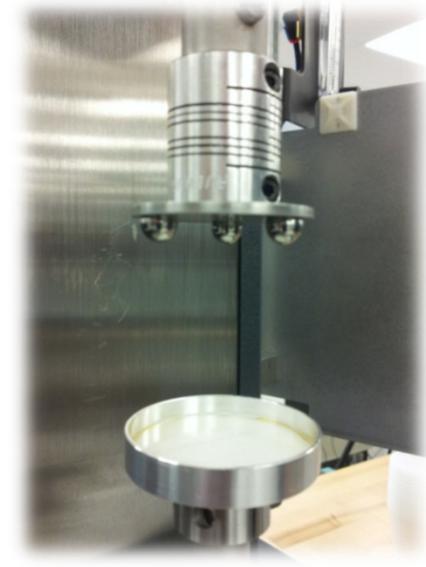
Ball on 3 Plates



4 Balls



3 Balls on Plate



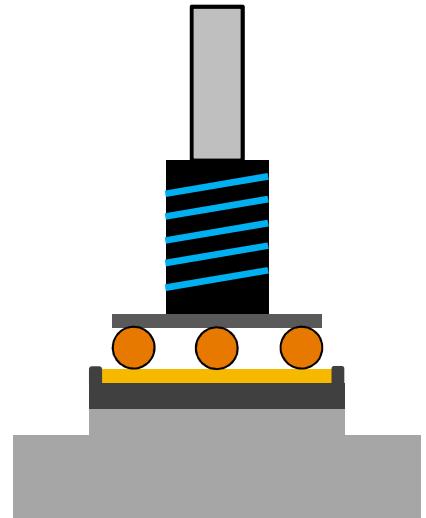
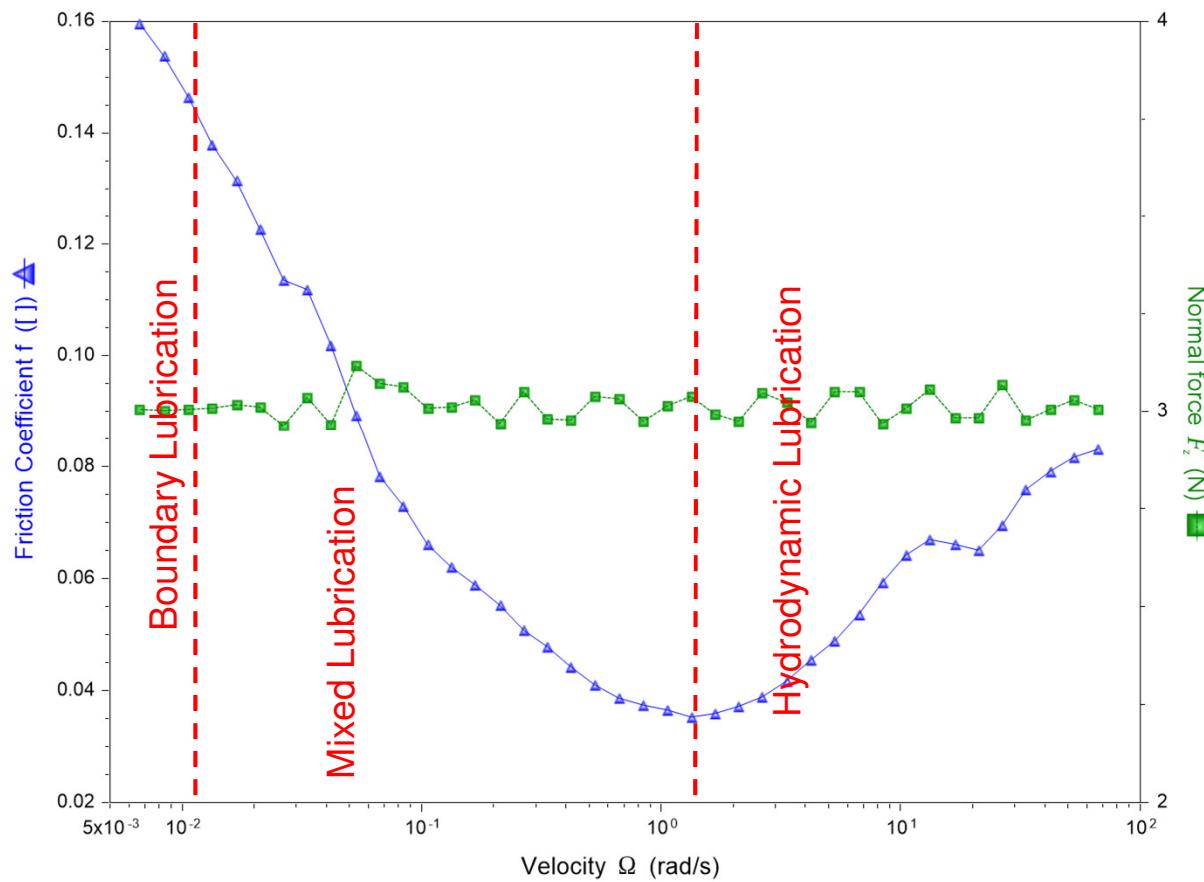
- High temperature with FCO
  - Applications: Automotive, High temp. greases/oils, Asphalt, Rubber
- Close to Room Temperature - APS and Plate
  - Applications: Personal care products, Lubricants, Foods

# Coefficient of Friction Measurement

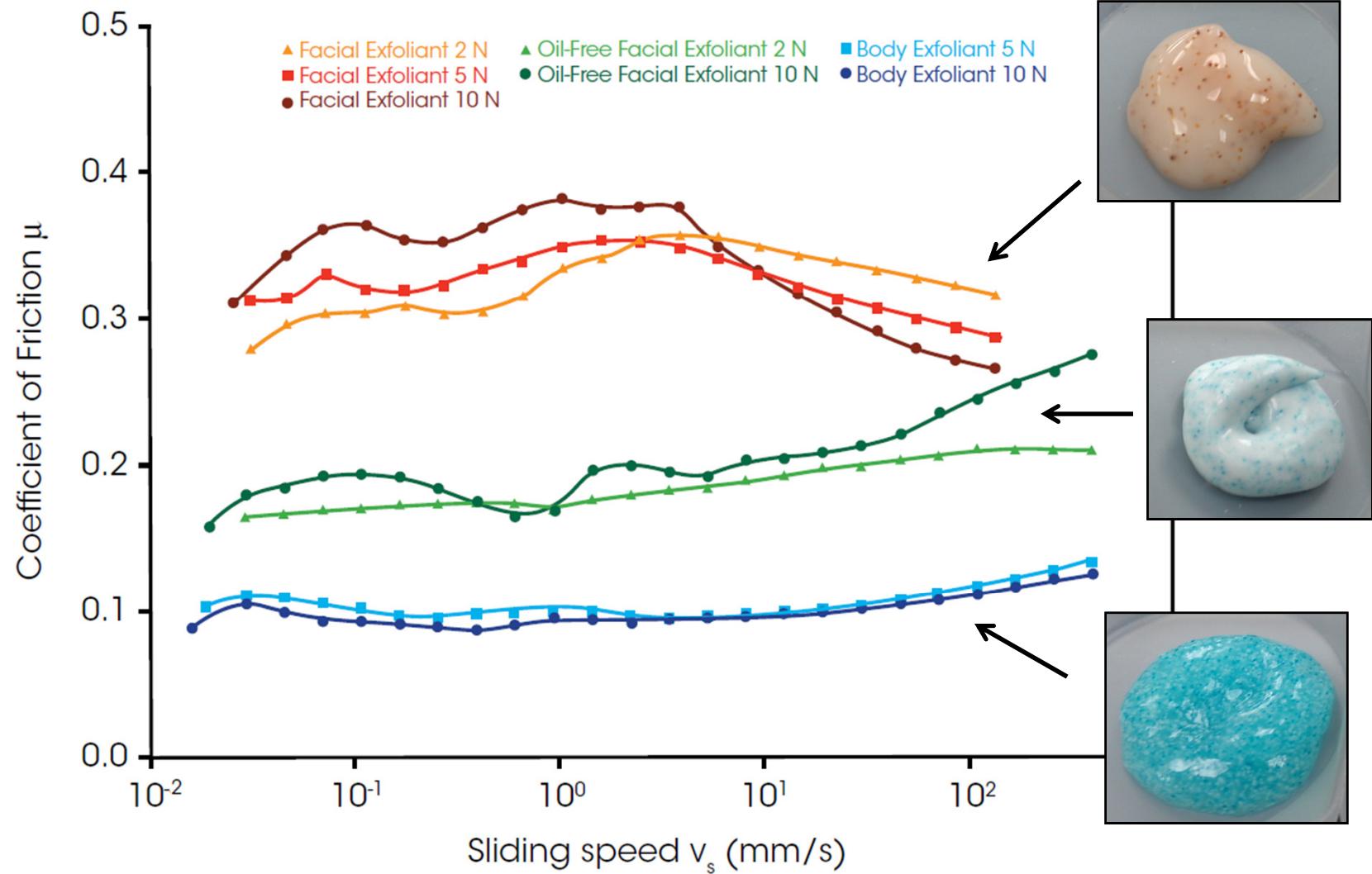
PVC on Steel with 2.0 Pa.s oil as lubricant

Geometry: 3 Balls on Plate

Temperature: 25°C, Procedure: Flow ramp



# Tribo-Rheometry: Exfoliants

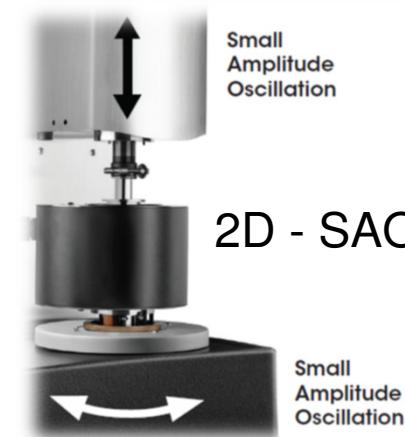


# Orthogonal Superposition Features on ARES G2

- OSP on steady shear to monitor structural changes in materials (alternative to LAOS measurements)
- 2D-SAOS measurements to quantify anisotropy in materials
- Mentioned DMA capabilities previously in the polymer analysis section
- Simultaneous multiaxial testing of soft solids such as gels, foams, rubbers,...

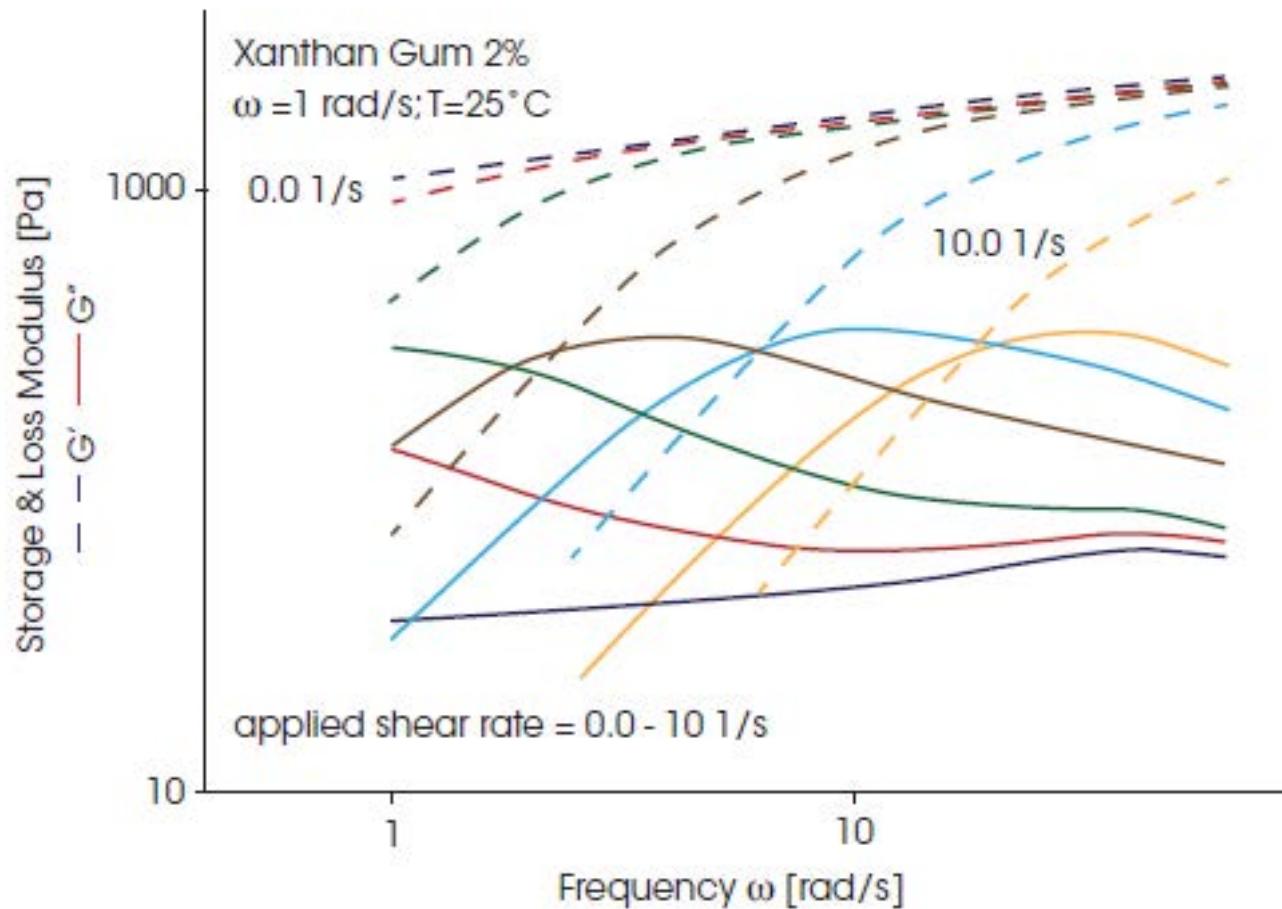


OSP



2D - SAOS

# Structure breakdown monitored by OSP

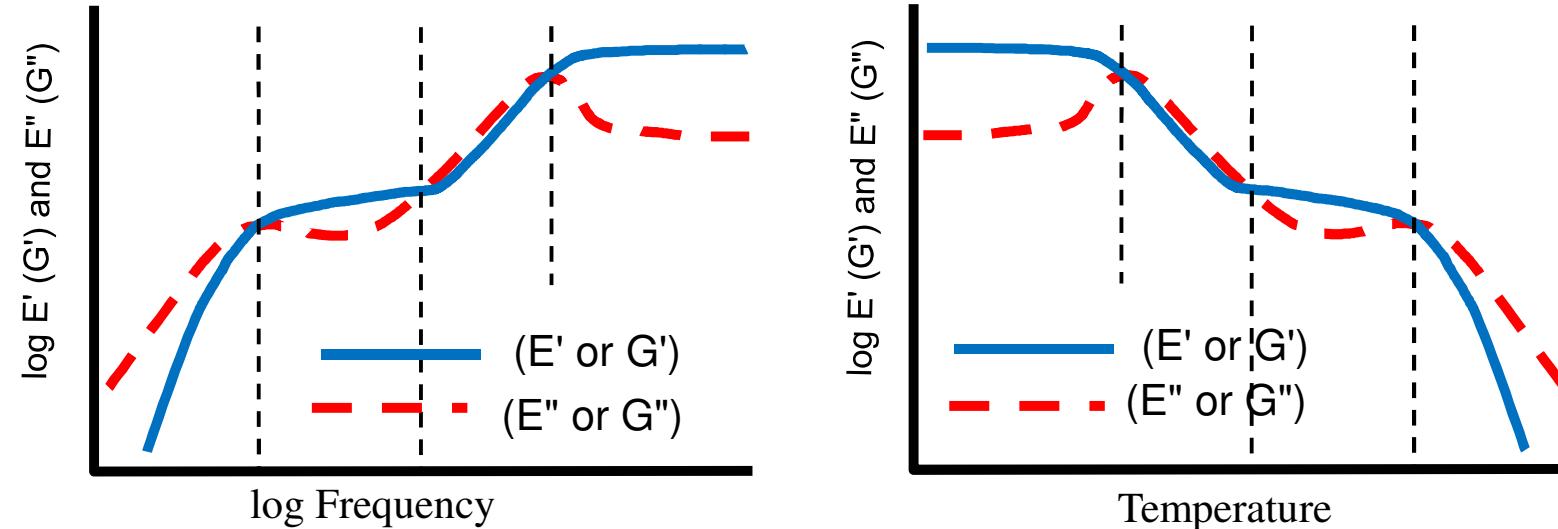


Steady shear breaks downs gel structure and moves flow region to shorter times scales (high frequencies)

# **Appendix 1: Time Temperature Superposition (TTS)**



# Time and Temperature Relationship



- Linear viscoelastic properties are both time-dependent and temperature-dependent
- Some materials show a time dependence that is proportional to the temperature dependence
  - Decreasing temperature has the same effect on viscoelastic properties as increasing the frequency
- For such materials, changes in temperature can be used to “re-scale” time, and predict behavior over time scales not easily measured

# Time Temperature Superpositioning Benefits

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- TTS can be used to extend the frequency beyond the instrument's range
- Creep TTS or Stress Relaxation TTS can predict behavior over longer times than can be practically measured
- Can be applied to amorphous, non modified polymers
- Material must be thermo-rheological simple
  - One in which all relaxations times shift with the same shift factor  $a_T$

# When Not to Use TTS

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- If crystallinity is present, especially if any melting occurs in the temperature range of interest
- The structure changes with temperature
  - Cross linking, decomposition, etc.
  - Material is a block copolymer (TTS may work within a limited temperature range)
  - Material is a composite of different polymers
  - Viscoelastic mechanisms other than configuration changes of the polymer backbone
    - e.g. side-group motions, especially near the  $T_g$
    - Dilute polymer solutions
    - Dispersions (wide frequency range)
    - Sol-gel transition

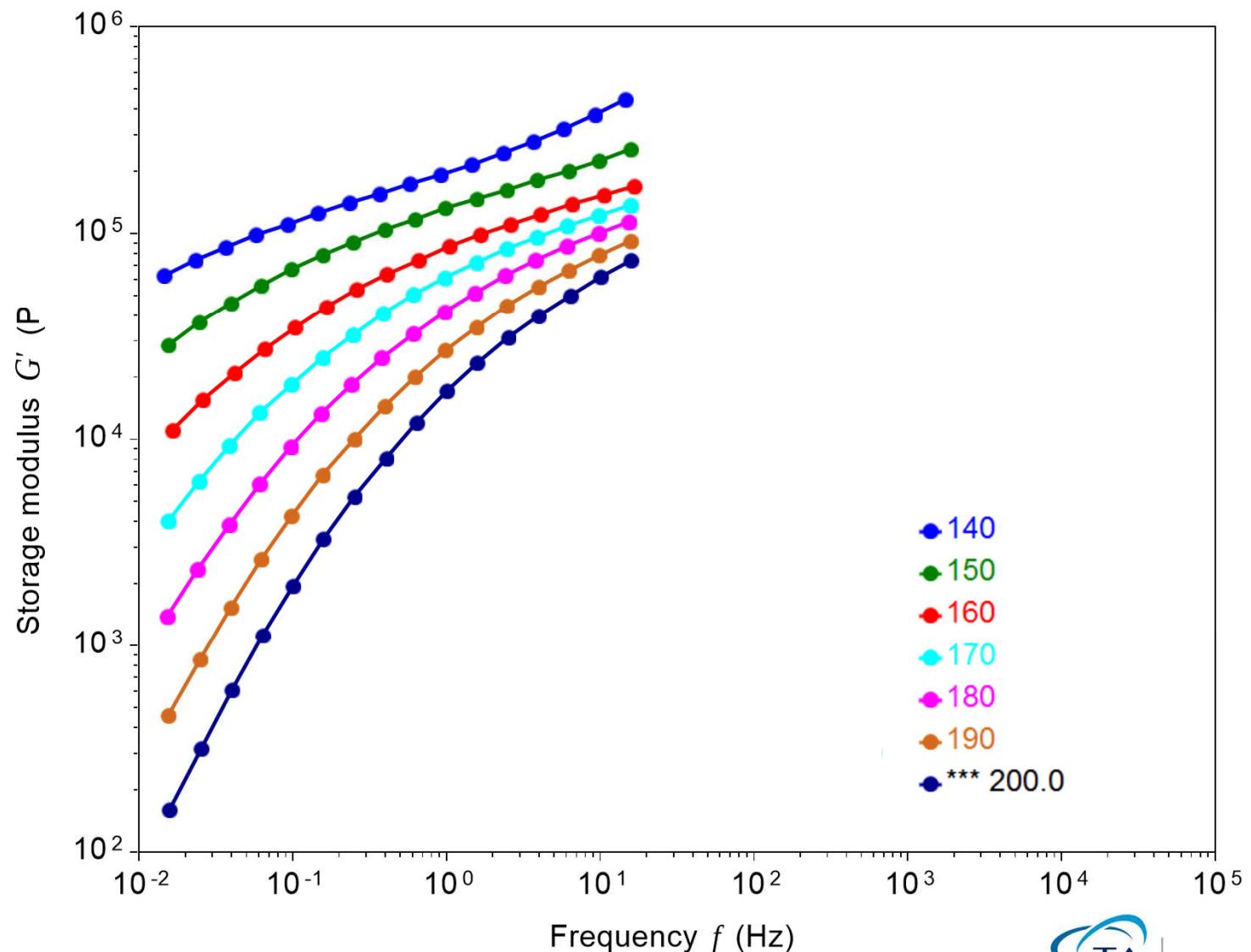
# Guidelines for TTS

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- Decide first on the Reference Temperature:  $T_0$ . What is the use temperature?
- If you want to obtain information at higher frequencies or shorter times, you will need to conduct frequency (stress relaxation or creep) scans at temperatures lower than  $T_0$ .
- If you want to obtain information at lower frequencies or longer times, you will need to test at temperatures higher than  $T_0$ .
- Good idea to scan material over temperature range at single frequency to get an idea of modulus-temperature and transition behavior.

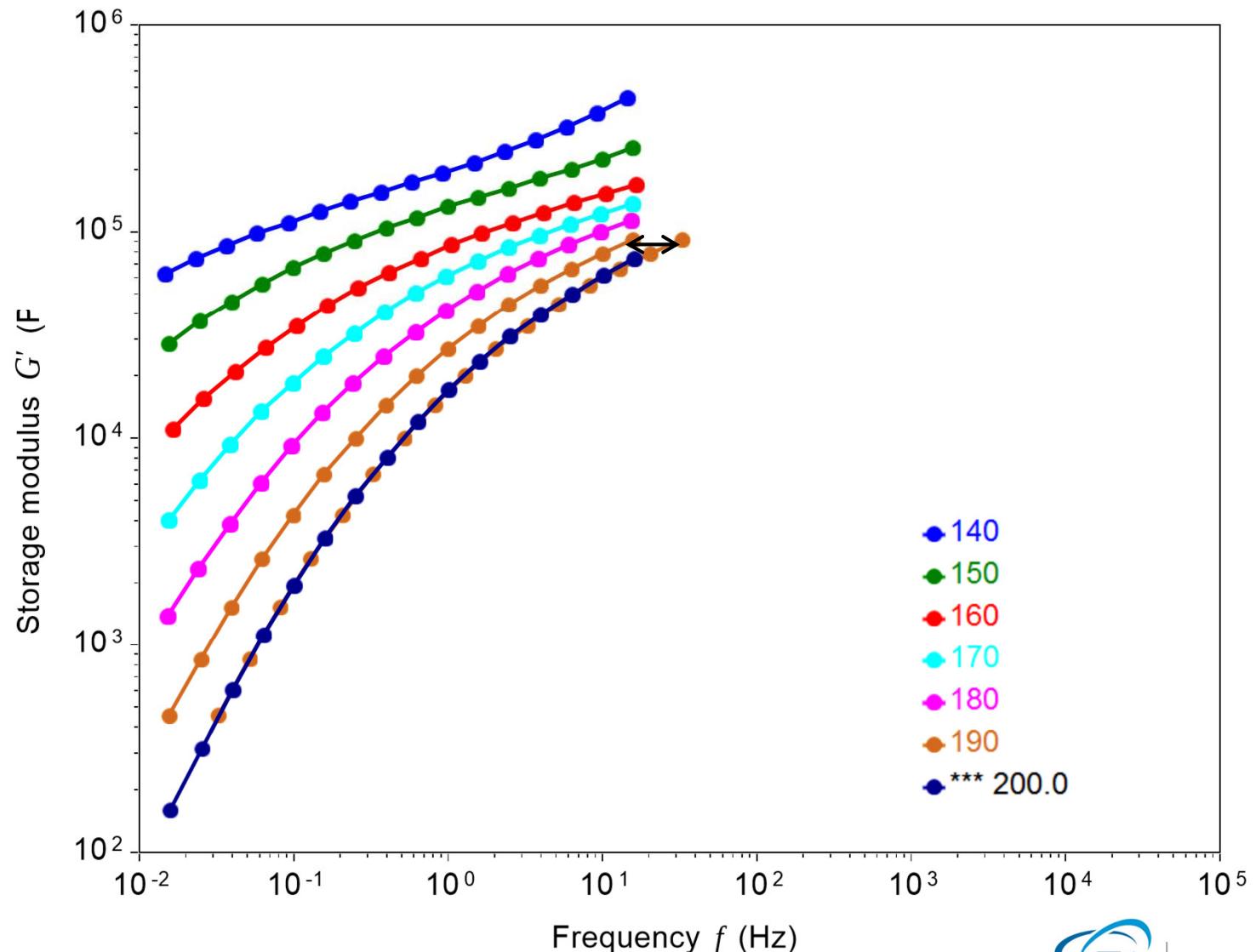
# TTS Shifting

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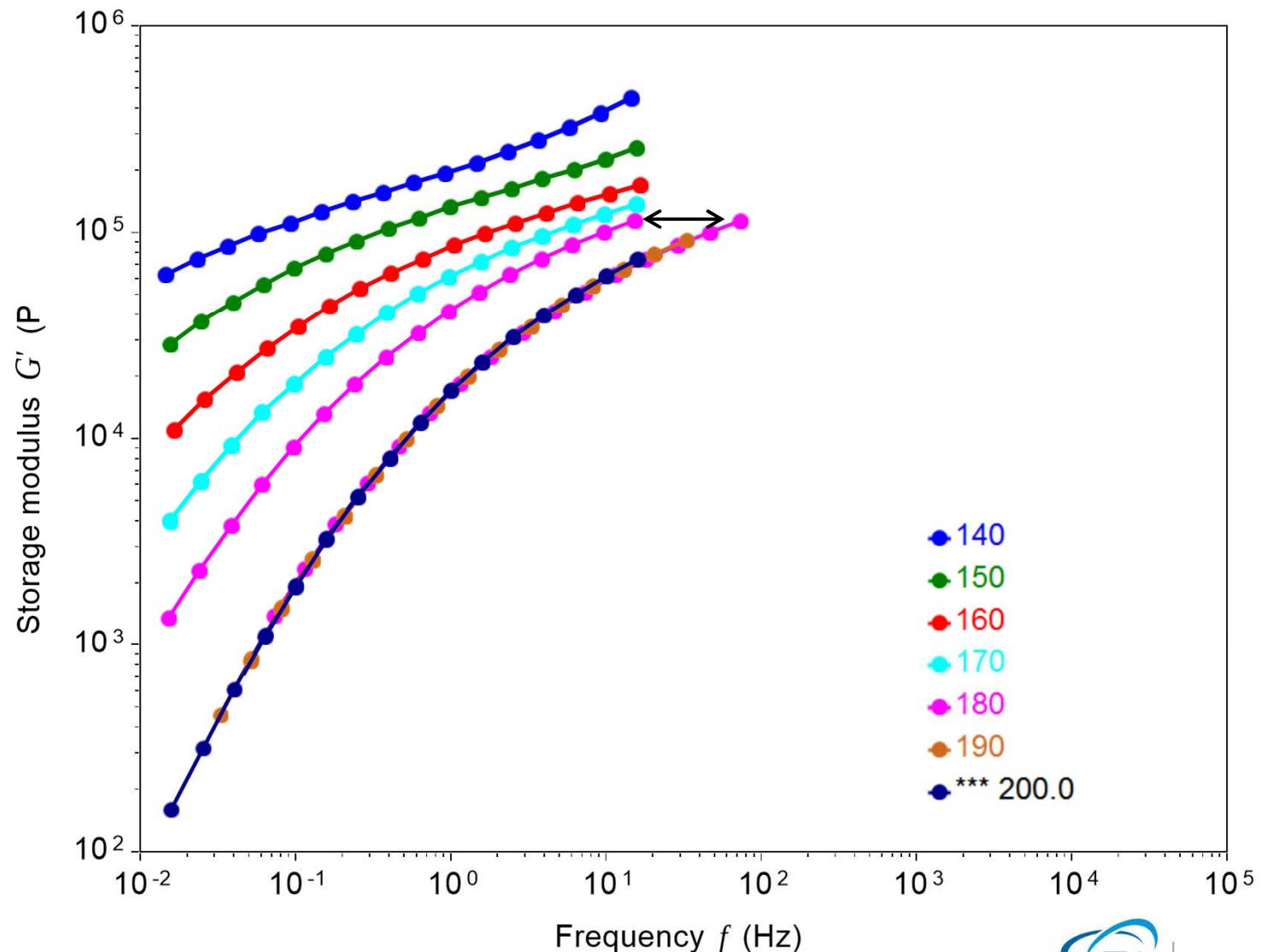
# TTS Shifting

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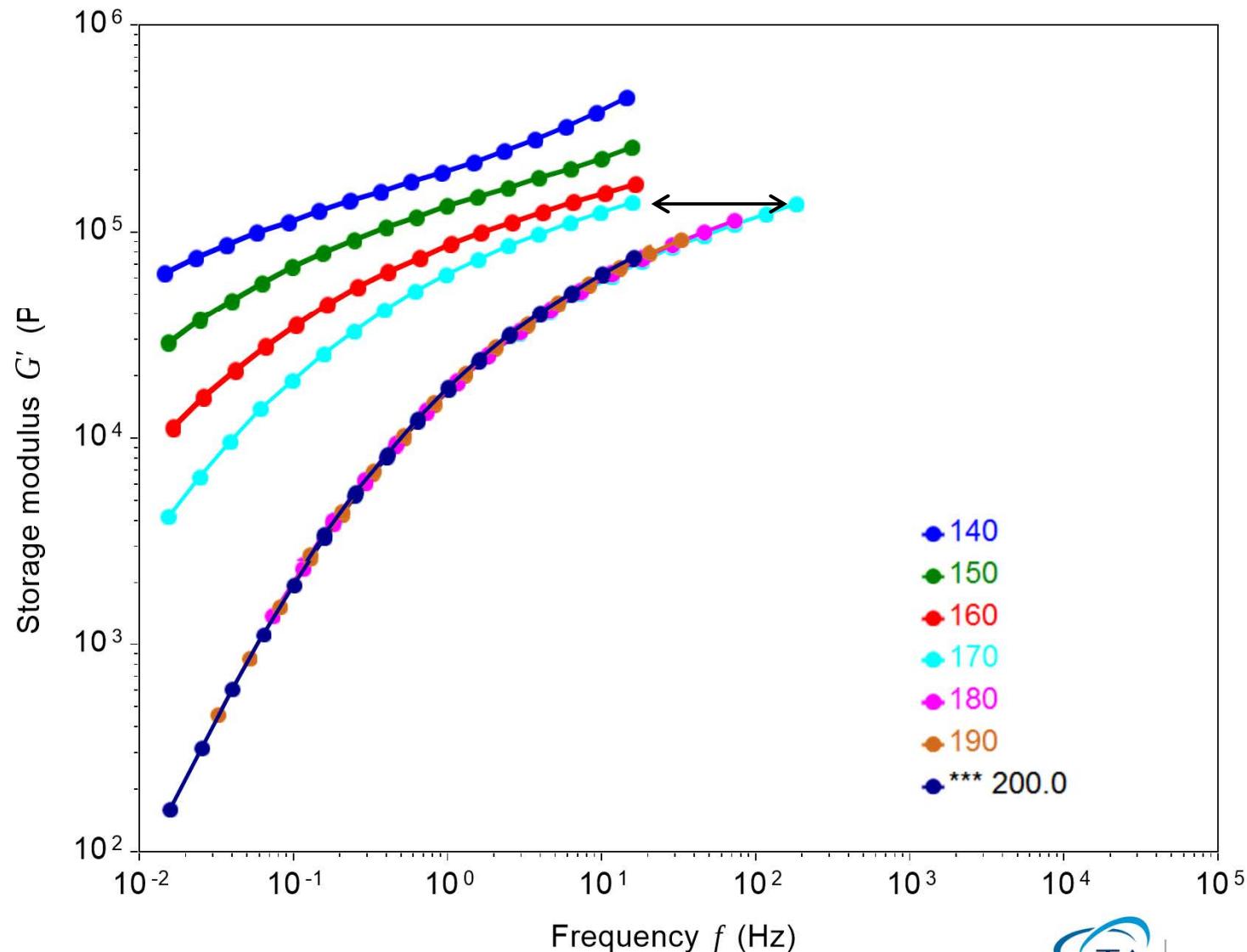
# TTS Shifting

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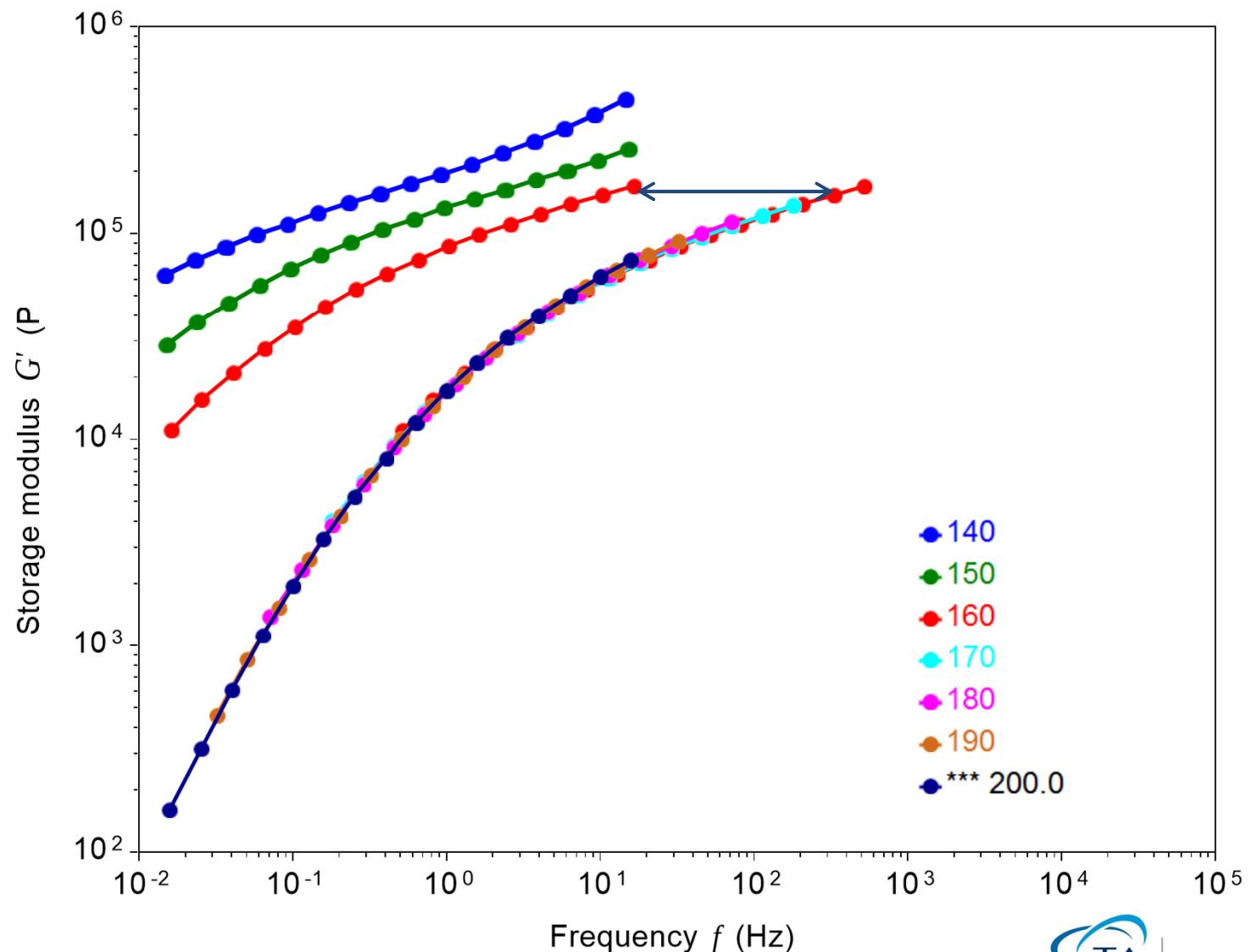
# TTS Shifting

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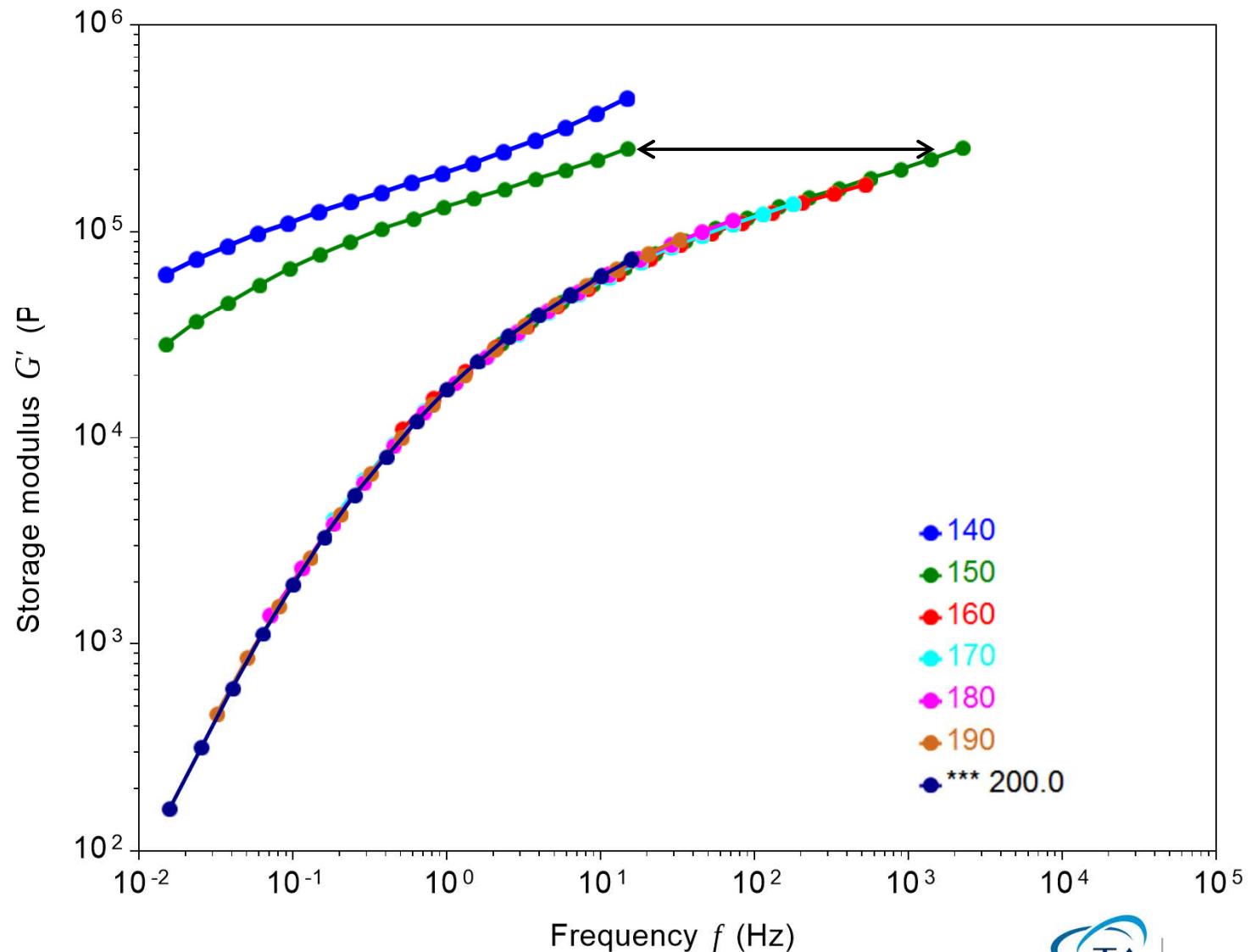
# TTS Shifting

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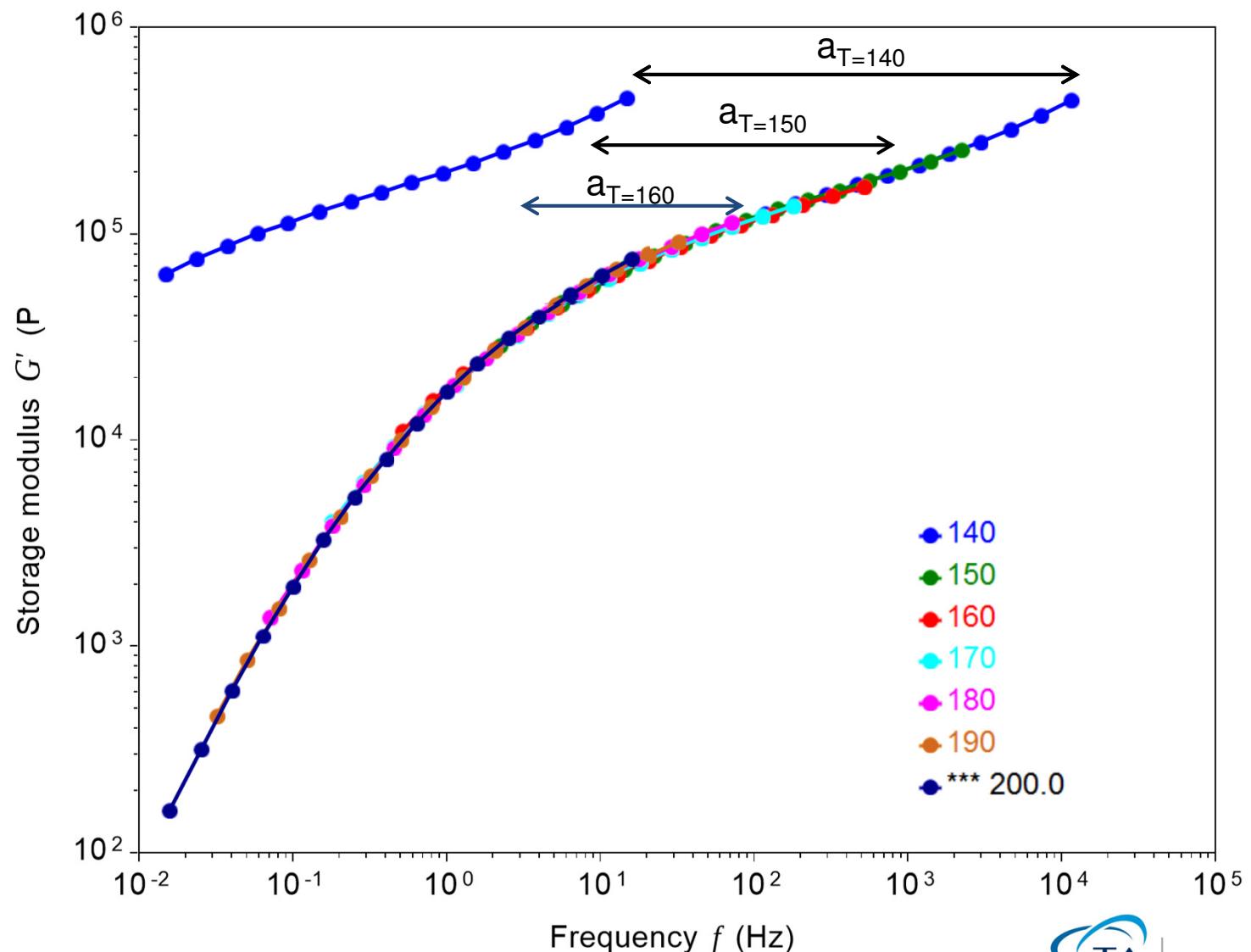
# TTS Shifting

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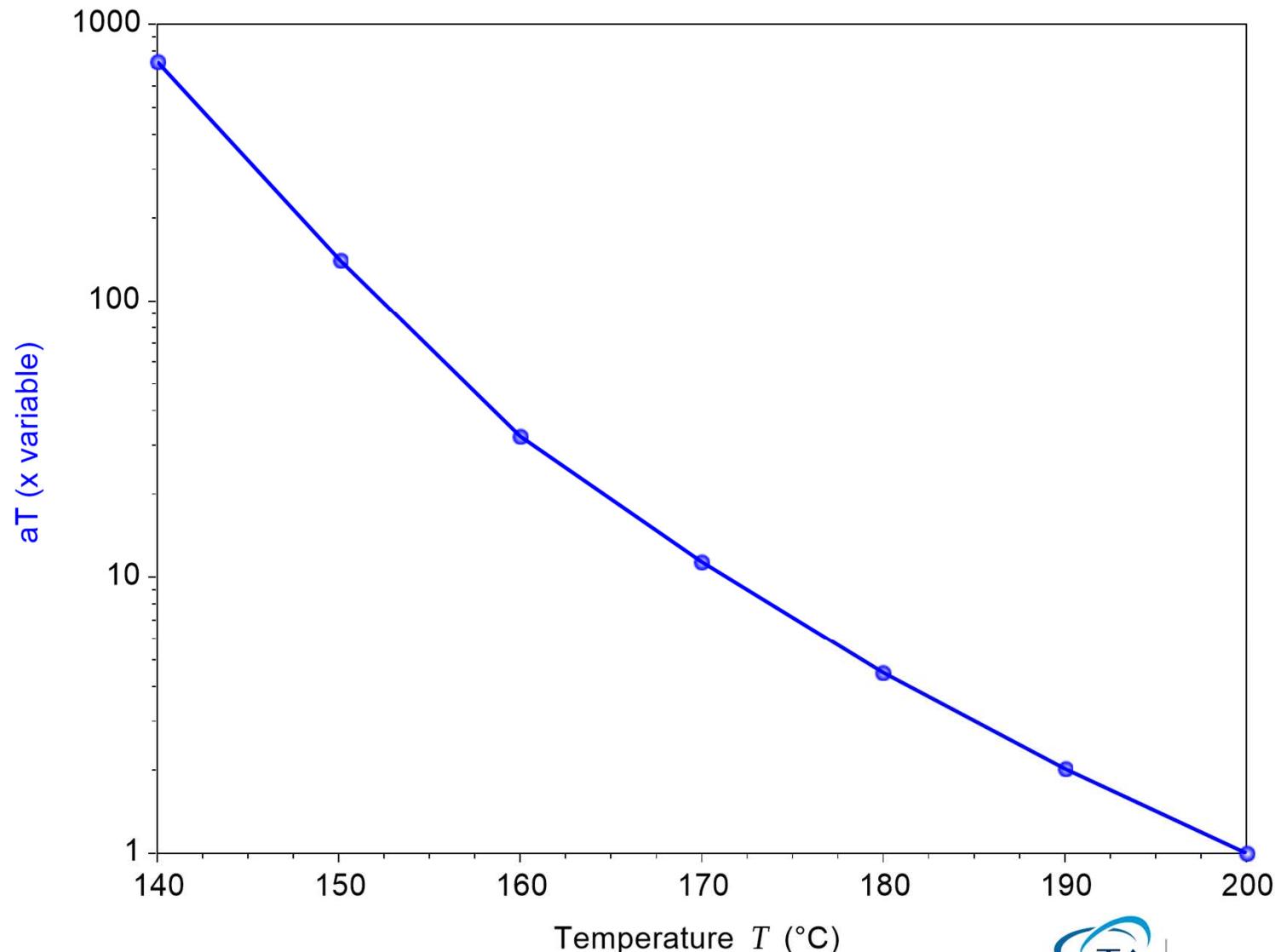
# TTS Shifting

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# Shift Factors $a_T$ vs Temperature

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# Shift Factors: WLF Equation

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- Master Curves can be generated using shift factors derived from the Williams, Landel, Ferry (WLF) equation

$$\log a_T = -c_1(T-T_0)/c_2 + (T-T_0)$$

- $a_T$  = temperature shift factor
- $T_0$  = reference temperature
- $c_1$  and  $c_2$  = constants from curve fitting
  - Generally,  $c_1=17.44$  &  $c_2=51.6$  when  $T_0 = T_g$

# When not to use the WLF Equation

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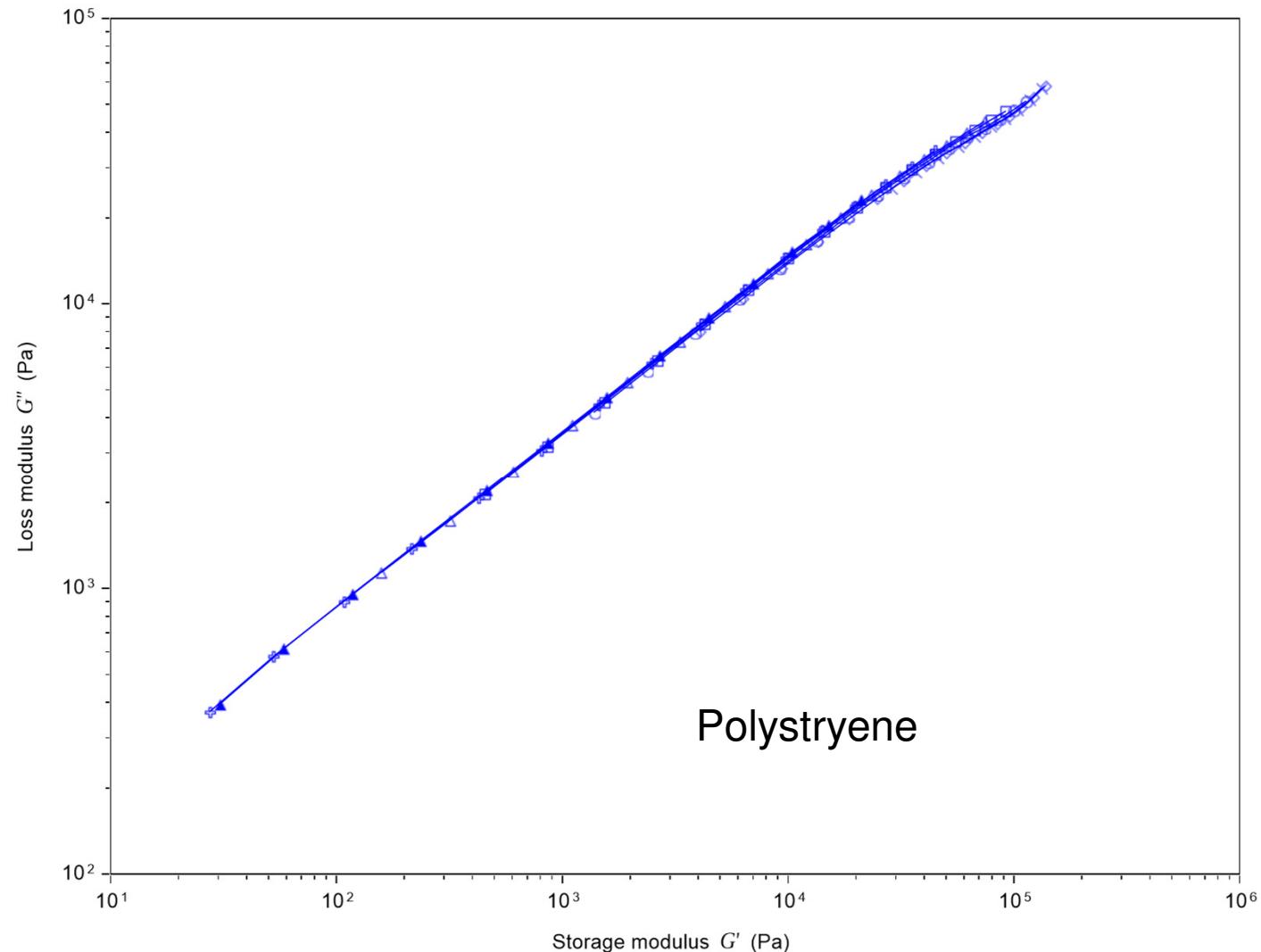
- Sometimes you shouldn't use the WLF equation (even if it appears to work)
- If  $T > T_g + 100^\circ\text{C}$
- If  $T < T_g$  and polymer is not elastomeric
- If temperature range is small, then  $c_1$  &  $c_2$  cannot be calculated precisely
- In these cases, the Arrhenius form is usually better

$$\ln a_T = (E_a/R)(1/T - 1/T_0)$$

- $a_T$  = temperature shift factor
- $E_a$  = Apparent activation energy
- $T_0$  = reference temperature
- $T$  = absolute temperature
- $R$  = gas constant
- $E_a$  = activation energy

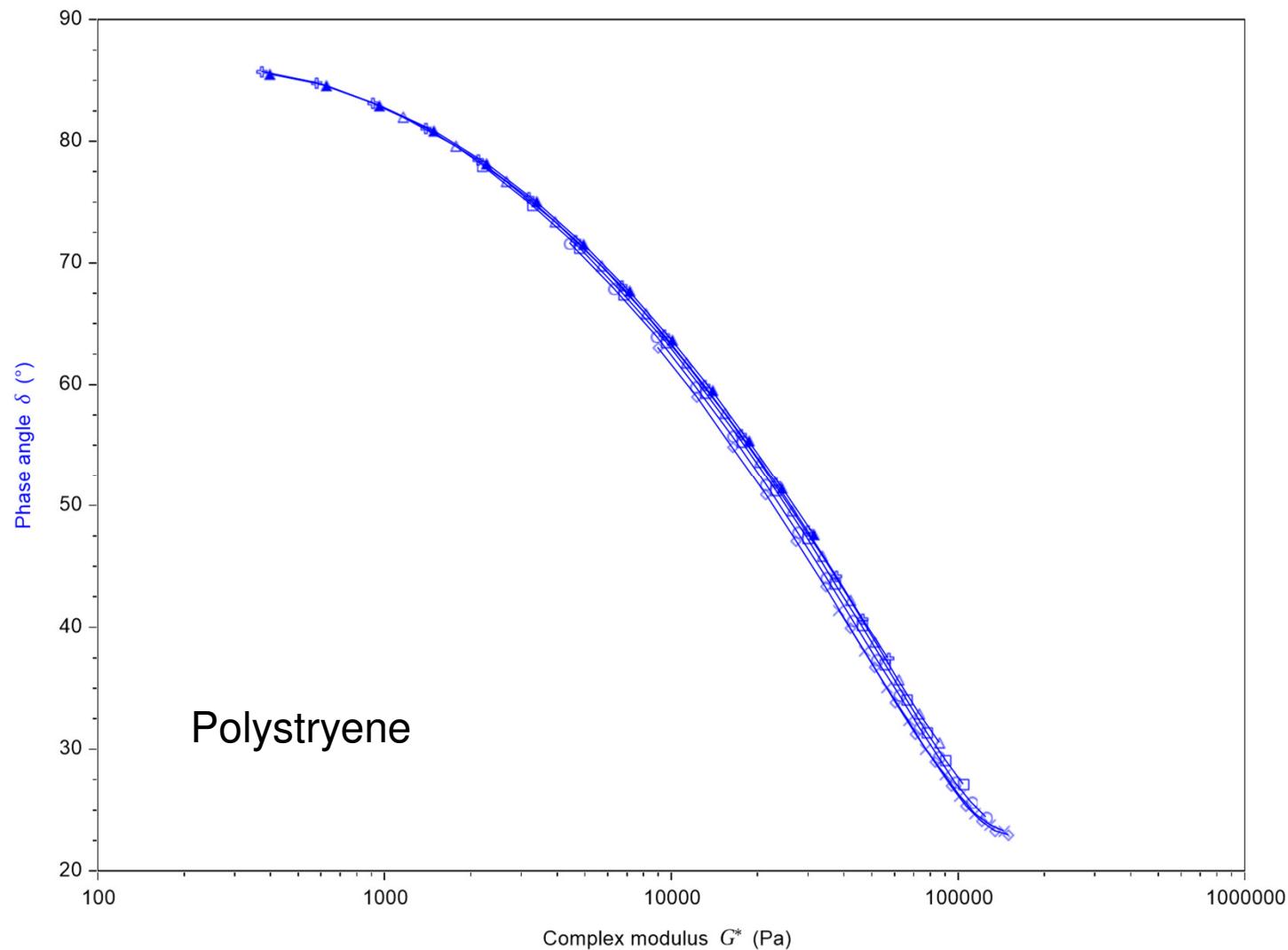
# Verify Data for TTS

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# Verify Data for TTS

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# References for TTS

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- 1) Ward, I.M. and Hadley, D.W., "Mechanical Properties of Solid Polymers", Wiley, 1993, Chapter 6.
- 2) Ferry, J.D., "Viscoelastic Properties of Polymers", Wiley, 1970, Chapter 11.
- 3) Plazek, D.J., "Oh, Thermorheological Simplicity, wherefore art thou?" Journal of Rheology, vol 40, 1996, p987.
- 4) Lesueur, D., Gerard, J-F., Claudy, P., Letoffe, J-M. and Planche, D., "A structure related model to describe asphalt linear viscoelasticity", Journal of Rheology, vol 40, 1996, p813.

# **Appendix 2: Rheometer Calibrations**

## **DHR and AR**



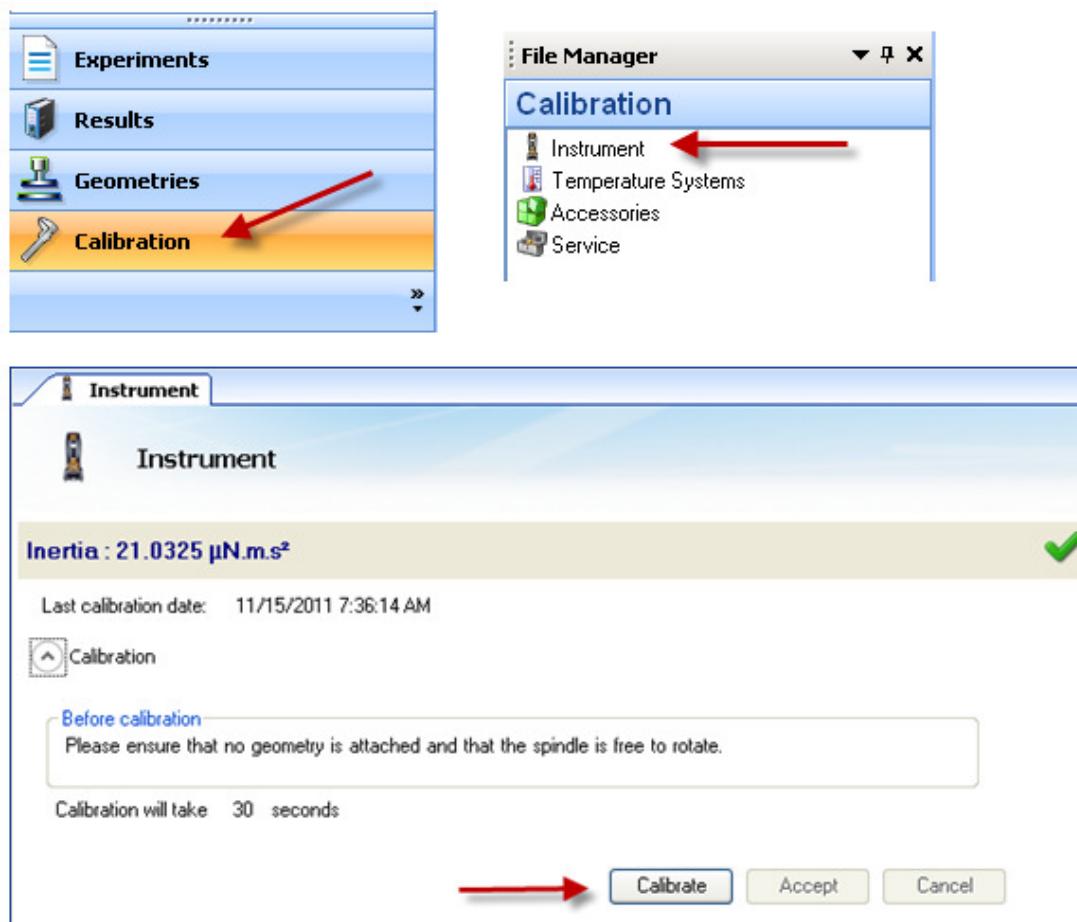
# DHR – Calibration Options

- Instrument Calibrations
  - Inertia (Service)
  - Rotational Mapping
  - Oscillation Mapping (recommended for interfacial measurements)



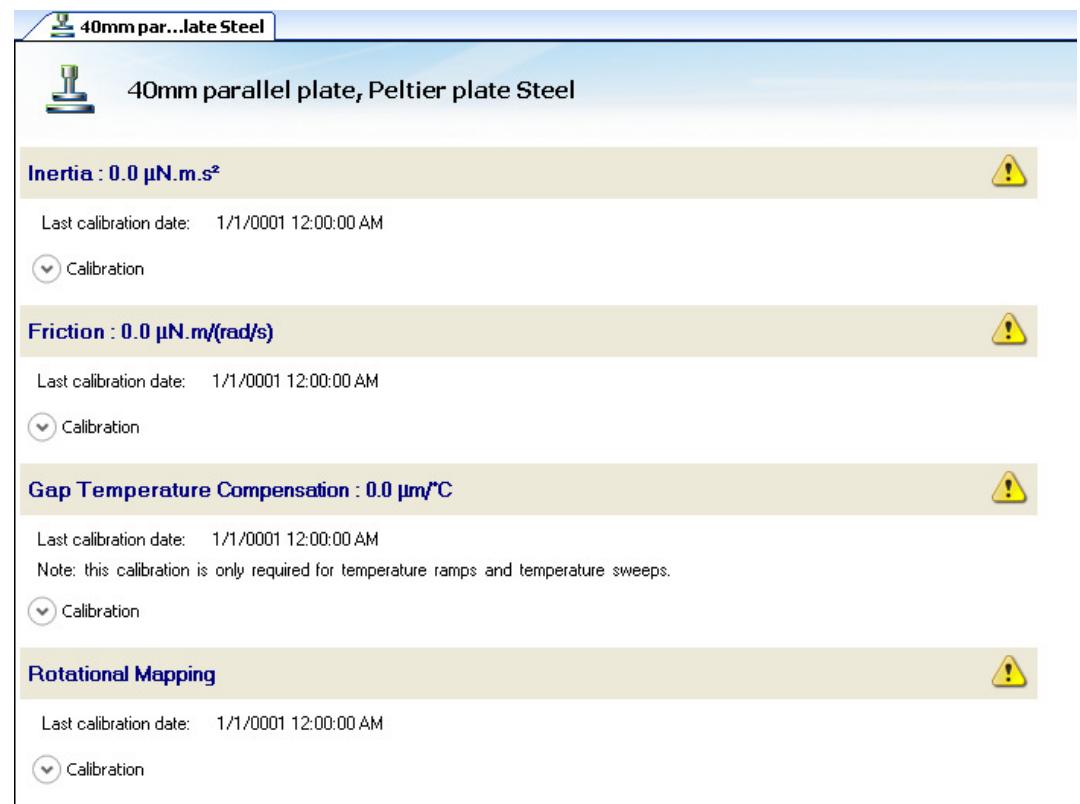
# DHR – Inertia Calibration

- Go to the Calibration tab and select Instrument
  - Make sure there is no geometry installed and then click calibrate



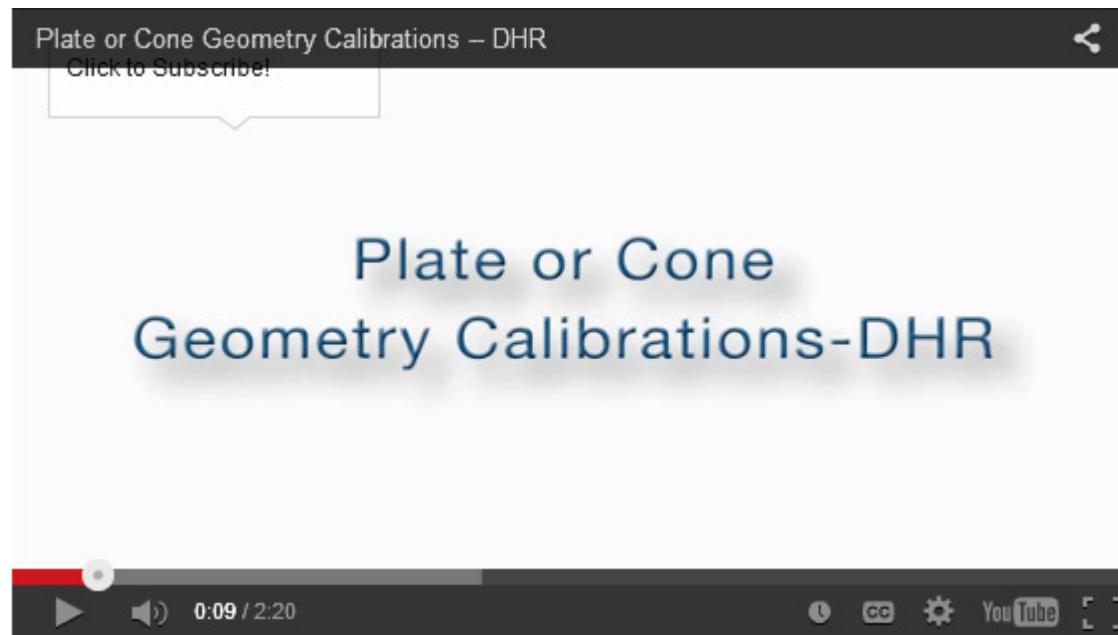
# DHR – Geometry Calibration

- Geometry Calibrations:
  - Inertia
  - Friction
  - Gap Temperature Compensation
  - Rotational Mapping



# TA Tech Tip – Geometry Calibrations

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- Videos available at [www.tainstruments.com](http://www.tainstruments.com) under the Videos tab or on the TA tech tip channel of YouTube™ (<http://www.youtube.com/user/TATechTips>)

# **Appendix 2: Rheometer Calibrations**

## **ARES-G2**

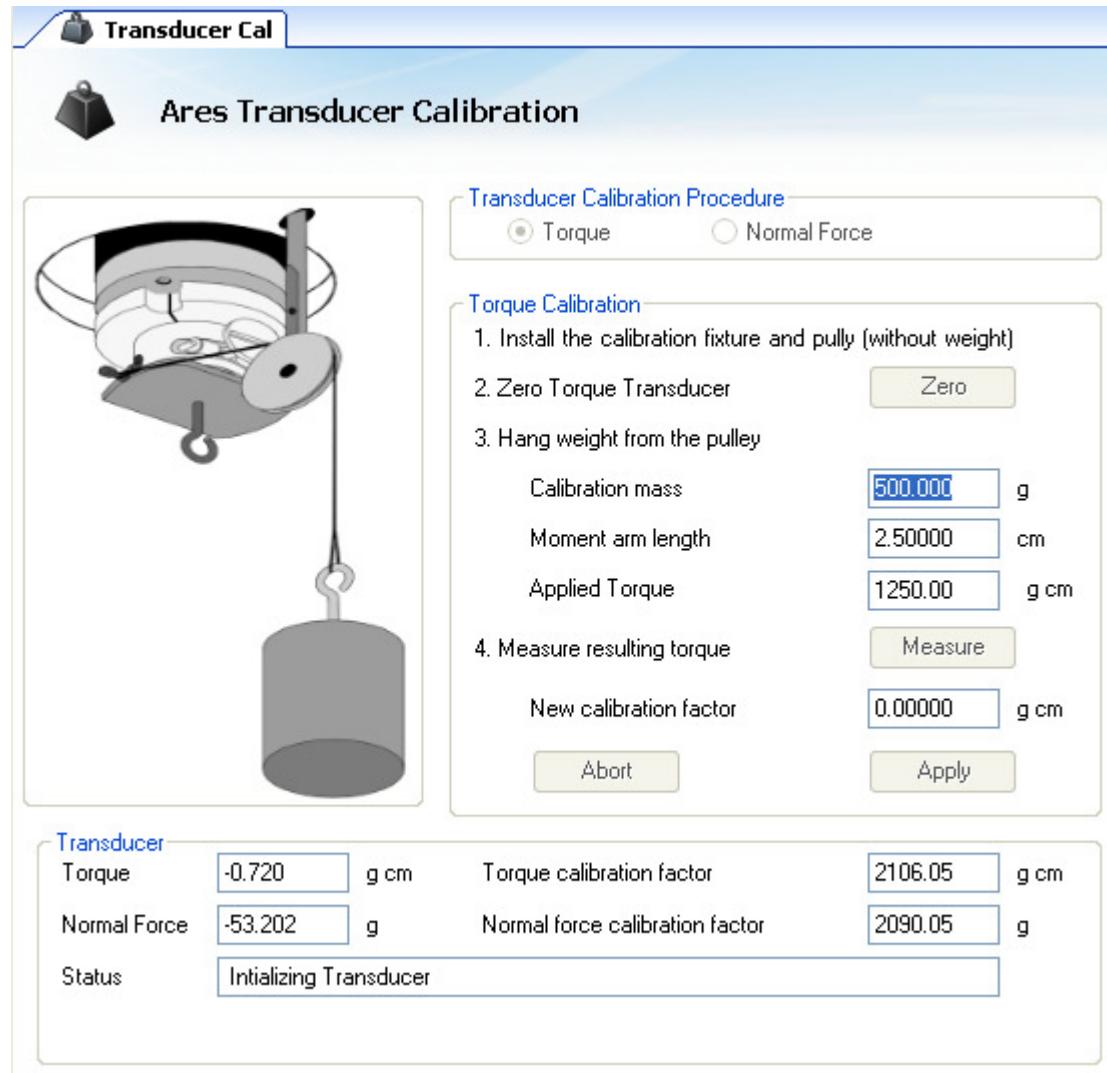


# ARES-G2 – Calibration Options

- Instrument Calibrations
  - Temperature Offsets
  - Phase Angle (Service)
  - Measure Gap Temperature Compensation
  - Transducer
- Geometry Calibrations:
  - Compliance and Inertia (from table)
  - Gap Temperature Compensation



# ARES-G2 – Transducer Calibration



# ARES-G2 – Geometry Calibration

Geometry: 40mm parallel plate, Stainless steel

Diameter	40	mm
Gap	1.0	mm
Loading gap	10.0	mm
Trim gap offset	0.05	mm

Material: Stainless steel

Minimum sample volume is 1.25664 cm<sup>3</sup>

Constants

Gap temperature compensation

Expansion coefficient	0.0	µm/°C
<input type="checkbox"/> Move stage to maintain starting gap		

Upper compliance: 0.0 mrad/N.m  
Lower compliance: 0.0 mrad/N.m  
Geometry inertia: 0.0 µN.m.s<sup>2</sup>  
Stress constant: 79577.5 Pa/N.m  
Strain constant: 20.0 1/rad  
Stress constant (linear): 795.775 Pa/N  
Strain constant (linear): 1000.0 1/m  
Normal stress constant: 1591.55 Pa/N

- Gap Temperature Compensation
  - Enter manually or run calibration
- Compliance and Inertia
  - (from table in Help menu)
- Geometry Constants
  - Calculated based on dimensions

# Geometry Inertia & Compliance- Help Menu

- [Click here](#) for a spreadsheet that contains the inertia, compliance, and gap compensation data for the majority of the ARES-G2/ARES tooling.



The screenshot shows a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet titled "ARES-G2 Geometries". The table has columns for Rank, Catalog Number, Part Number, Size (mm), Type, Additional Features, Usage (ARES Classic or ARES-G2), Material, Window Style, Inertia (μN\*m\*s²), and Compliance (mrad/N\*m). The table lists various geometries, including cones and rectangular plates, made from materials like SST 316, INVAR-36, TITANIUM 6AL-4V, and HASTELLOY-B2. The "Inertia" and "Compliance" columns use scientific notation.

Rank	Title								
1	Introducing the ARE S-G2 Test Geometries								
2	ARES-G2 Rheometer: Setting Up a Step (Transient) Creep Test								
3	Inertia and Compliance Correction								
4	Loading ARES-G2 Samples								
5	Configuring a New Geometry								
6	Understanding the Variables								
7	Calculating Drift Correction for Recoverable Compliance								
8	Transformations								
9	Operating the Dielectric Accessory								
10	About the TRIOS Guardian™ Option								
11	Discrete Retardation Time Spectrum								
	Setting Up an Oscill								
Catalog Number	Part Number	Size (mm)	Type	Additional Features	Usage (ARES Classic or ARES-G2)	Material	Window Style	Inertia μN*m*s²	Compliance mrad/N*m
708.01002.1	401.00536.1	25mm	Cone	.02 radian .100" dia tip	Both	SST 316	Rectangular	3.59E+00	2.67E+00
708.01002.10	401.00536.10	25mm	Cone	.10 radian .040" dia tip	Both	INVAR-36	Rectangular	3.60E+00	3.57E+00
	401.00536.11	25mm	Cone	.10 radian .040" dia tip	Both	SST 17-4PH	Rectangular	3.47E+00	2.63E+00
	401.00536.12	25mm	Cone	.10 radian .040" dia tip	Both	TITANIUM 6AL-4V	Rectangular	1.98E+00	4.75E+00
	401.00536.13	25mm	Cone	.02 radian .236" dia tip	Both	TITANIUM 6AL-4V	Rectangular	1.98E+00	4.75E+00
	401.00536.14	25mm	Cone	.04 radian .236" dia tip	Both	TITANIUM 6AL-4V	Rectangular	1.98E+00	4.75E+00
	401.00536.15	25mm	Cone	.01 radian .157" dia tip	Both	TITANIUM 6AL-4V	Rectangular	1.98E+00	4.75E+00
	401.00536.16	25mm	Cone	.10 radian .040" dia tip	Both	HASTELLOY-B2	Rectangular	4.23E+00	2.49E+00
708.01002.17	401.00536.17	25mm	Cone	.01 radian .157" dia tip	Both	SST 316	Rectangular	3.59E+00	2.67E+00
	401.00536.2	25mm	Cone	.02 radian .100" dia tip	Both	INVAR-36	Rectangular	3.60E+00	3.57E+00
	401.00536.3	25mm	Cone	.02 radian .100" dia tip	Both	SST 17-4PH	Rectangular	3.47E+00	2.63E+00
	401.00536.4	25mm	Cone	.02 radian .100" dia tip	Both	TITANIUM 6AL-4V	Rectangular	1.98E+00	4.75E+00

What if the online table does not list a compliance value for my specific geometry?  
Use the compliance value for a geometry of the same/similar dimension, type, and material.

# ARES-G2 - Gap Temperature Compensation

 Gap Temperature Compensation Calibration :

Gap Temperature Compensation Calibration

Geometry Name: 40mm parallel plate, Stainless steel

Notes:

Current Expansion Coefficient: 0.00000  $\mu\text{m}/^\circ\text{C}$

New Expansion Coefficient: \_\_\_\_\_  $\mu\text{m}/^\circ\text{C}$

Temperature / Time Profile

Run at Gap       Maintain Zero Gap

Maintain Force: 5.0 N

Starting Temperature: -80  $^\circ\text{C}$

Start Temperature Equilibration Time: 300 s

Ramp Temperature       Step Temperature

Temperature Ramp Rate: 1.0  $^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$

Final Temperature: 65  $^\circ\text{C}$

Final Temperature Equilibration Time: 300 s

# General Rheometer Maintenance

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- Air Supply
  - Dry particulate-free air (dew point -40 °C)
  - Check filters/regulators on a periodic basis to ensure proper pressure, free of moisture/oil/dirt buildup.
  - If air must be turned off, then make sure that the bearing lock is fastened
    - NOTE: Do not rotate drive-shaft if air supply is OFF!
- Location
  - Isolate the instrument from vibrations with a marble table or Sorbathane pads.
  - Drafts from fume hoods or HVAC systems and vibrations from adjacent equipment can contribute noise to measurements, particularly in the low torque regime. Use a Draft Shield to isolate instrument from drafts.

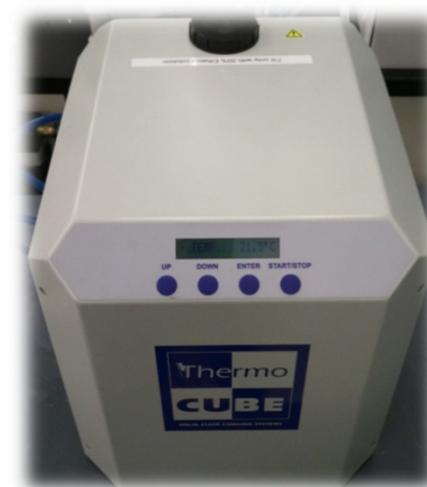
# General Rheometer Maintenance - Peltier

## ■ Circulator Maintenance

- Proper operation of a fluid circulator is vital for correct and efficient operation of Peltier-based temperature control devices.
- Check fluid levels and add anti-fungal additive regularly.
  - Note: if operating circulator below 5°C then it is recommended to fill the circulator with a mixture or material with a lower freezing point than water to prevent permanent circulator damage.
    - Example: add ~20% v/v ethanol to water

## ■ Keep it clean!

- Flush and clean circulator, Peltier system, and tubing at first sight of contamination.
- When not in use, it is strongly recommended to deactivate the Peltier device and turn off the circulator.

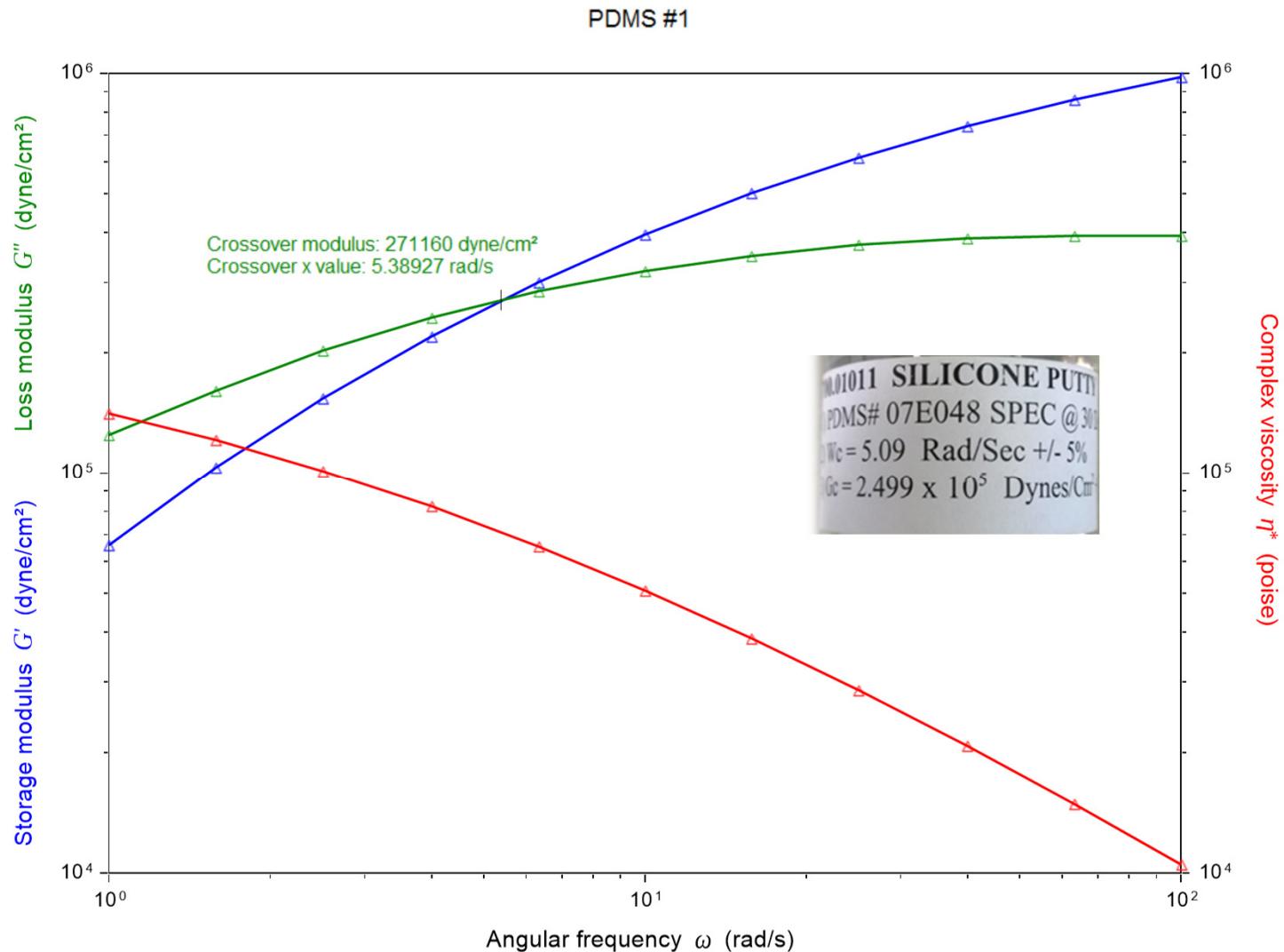


# Verify Rheometer Performance

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- Rheometers are calibrated from the factory and again at installation.
- TA recommends routine validation or confidence checks using standard oils or Polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS).
- PDMS is verified using a 25 mm parallel plate.
  - Oscillation - Frequency Sweep: 1 to 100 rad/s with 5% strain at 30°C
  - Verify modulus and frequency values at crossover
- Standard silicone oils can be verified using cone, plate or concentric cylinder configurations.
  - Flow – Ramp: 0 to 88 Pa at 25°C using a 60 mm 2° cone
    - Service performs this test at installation

# PDMS Frequency Sweep Results



# Load Standard Oil

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- Set Peltier temperature to 25°C and equilibrate.
  - Zero the geometry gap
- Load sample
  - Be careful not to introduce air bubbles!
- Set the gap to the trim gap
- Lock the head and trim with non-absorbent tool
  - Important to allow time for temperature equilibration.
- Go to geometry gap and initiate the experiment.



# Flow Ramp – Standard Oil (Service Test)

1000cP oil ramp DHR 25C 40mm PP

