

Rheology of polymer systems/ Reologia dos sistemas poliméricos

1. Introduction

Studying polymers...

- ***Rheology***: The study of the deformation and flow of matter
- ***Elasticity***: The ability to return to its natural shape after deformation, restoring force
- ***Viscosity***: Resistance to shear or extensional stress

Polymer rheology

Why do materials deform?

Action of force:



Newton

- ❖ Change of movement OR
- ❖ Body deformation (change of shape)

Polymer rheology

How do bodies respond to forces (of deformation)?

- VISCIOUS flow
- PLASTIC deformation
- ELASTIC deformation
- COMBINED (e.g. viscoelastic behaviour)

Polymer rheology

Molecular origin

Movement of macromolecule chains

- ❑ “Unrestricted” – viscous def.
- ❑ Restricted (by appreciable frictional forces) – plastic def.
- ❑ Hindered (particularly by chemical bonds) – elastic def.
(network)

Polymer rheology

A bit of theory

Force = vector

$$\mathbf{F} = (F_x, F_y, F_z) \text{ or } (F_1, F_2, F_3)$$

Deformation = change of **position** of material points

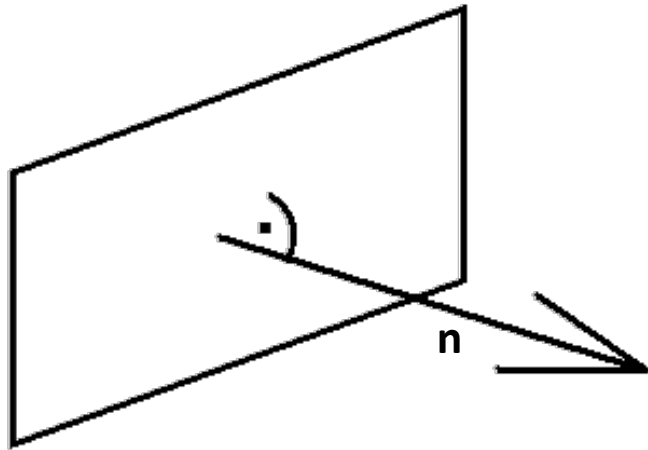
Position \rightarrow positional vector

**ACTION OF A VECTOR (FORCE) CHANGES
ANOTHER VECTOR (POSITION)**

Polymer rheology

A bit of theory

Deformation force “spreads” over an area (A) →
→ **TENSION** (F/A)



Position of an area – **normal vector** (n)
(perpendicular to tangent plane)

Tensor algebra and calculus:
 $F/A \equiv T = \sigma \cdot n$
 σ ...**stress tensor**

$T \dots T_i, i = 1, 2, 3$
(3 components)

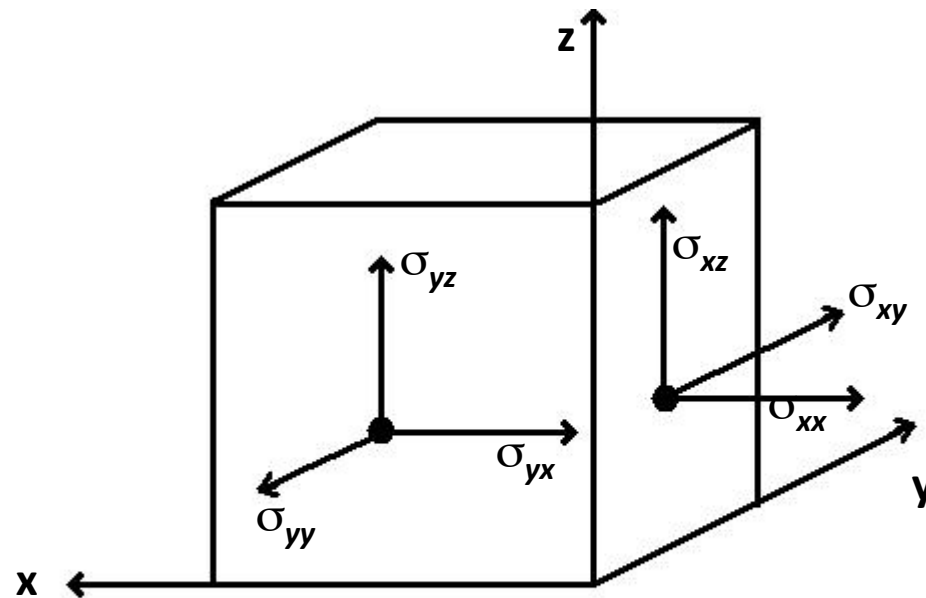
$\sigma \dots \sigma_{ij}, i, j = 1, 2, 3$
(9 components)

Polymer rheology

A bit of theory

Tensors in description of deformations

Component of force in the i -th direction (F_i) causes deformation and **stress** not only in that direction (σ_{ii}) but also in the other two directions ($\sigma_{ij}, i \neq j$):



Polymer rheology

A bit of theory

Tensors in description of deformations

Deformation is described by the strain (or small deformation) tensor γ :

$$\gamma_{ij} = (1/2)(\partial u_i / \partial x_j + \partial u_j / \partial x_i); i, j = 1, 2, 3$$

$$\gamma_{ij} = \gamma_{ji}$$

u

●
after

●
before

▸▾ deformation

Polymer rheology

Properties of materials are described by **constitutive equations**
or (rheological) **equations of state** \equiv

relation among following tensors:

- stress
- strain
- rate of strain (deformation)
 $\equiv d\gamma/dt$

Polymer rheology

Material models → material parameters

Modulus = $\frac{\text{magnitude of acting force (stress)}}{\text{relative magnitude of resulting deformation}}$

- Measure of material stiffness

bulk: $K = -P/(\Delta V/V_0)$

shear: $G = \sigma_{yx}/\gamma_{yx}$

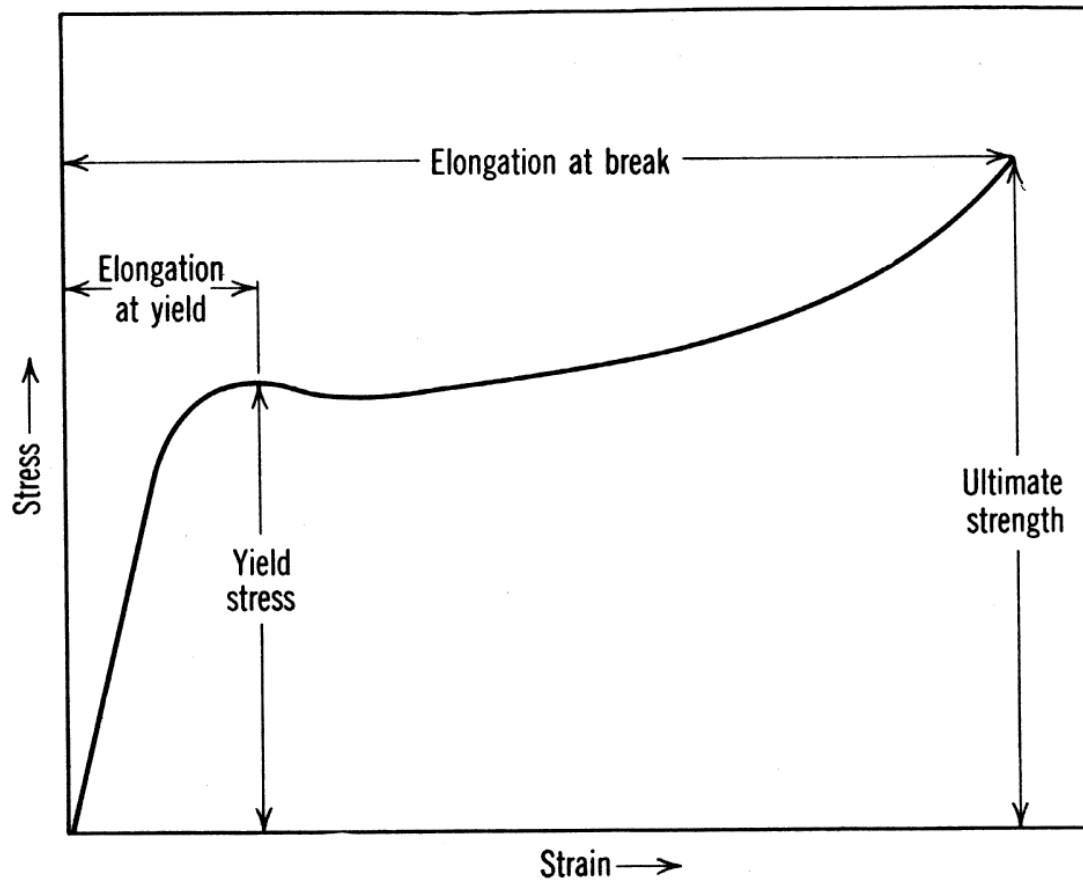
Young (elastic): $E = \sigma_{xx}/\gamma_{xx}$

Poisson ratio: $\nu = \gamma_{yy}/\gamma_{xx}$

$$E = 2G(1 + \nu) = 3K(1 - 2\nu) \quad (\text{only two are independent})$$

Polymer rheology

General **stress-strain curve**:

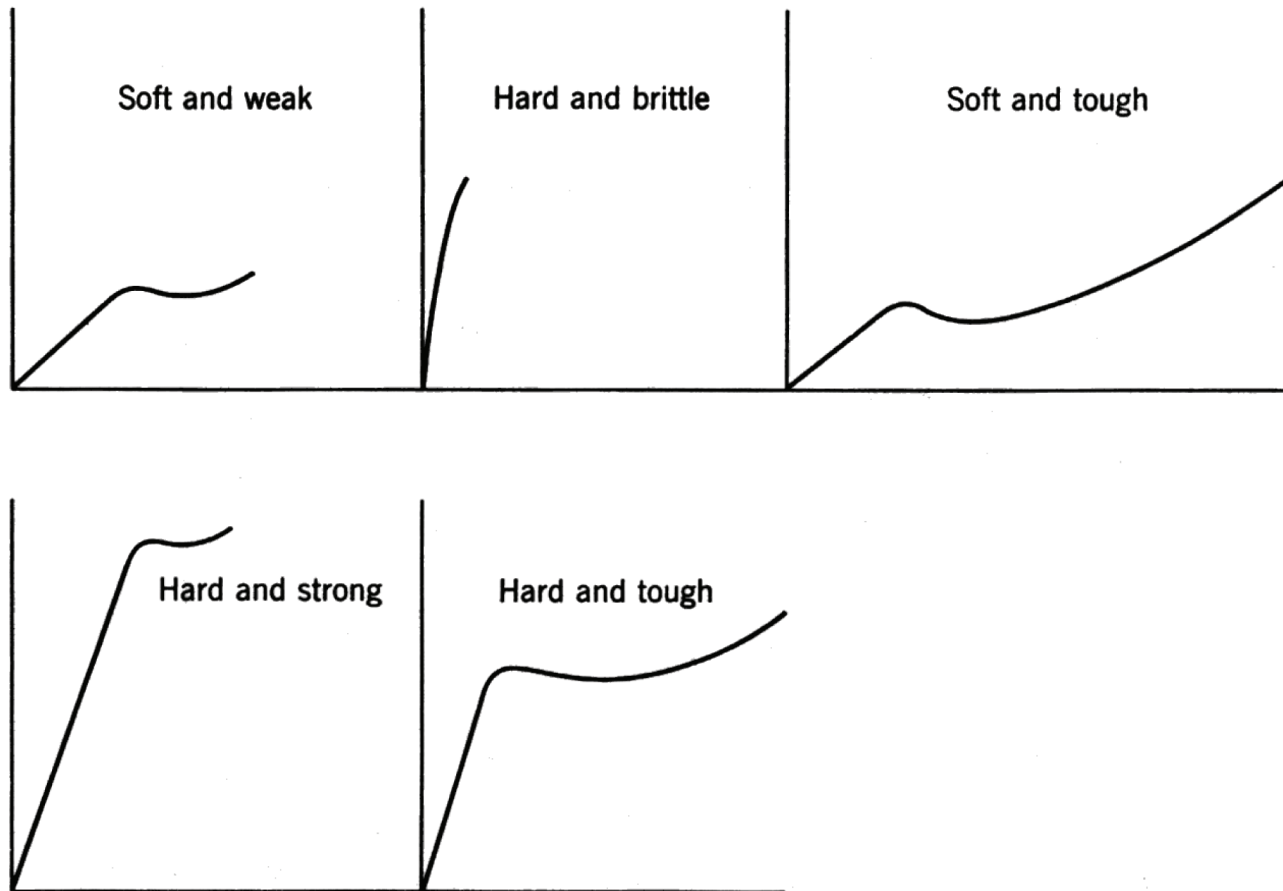


measurement of
force as the sample
is elongated at
constant rate

! rate of strain !

Polymer rheology

Generalized material properties from the stress-strain curve:



Polymer rheology

Viscoelastic materials

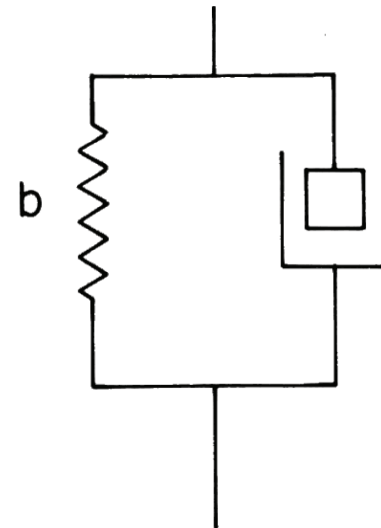
Simple models

spring & dashpot / mola & amortecedor

Maxwell

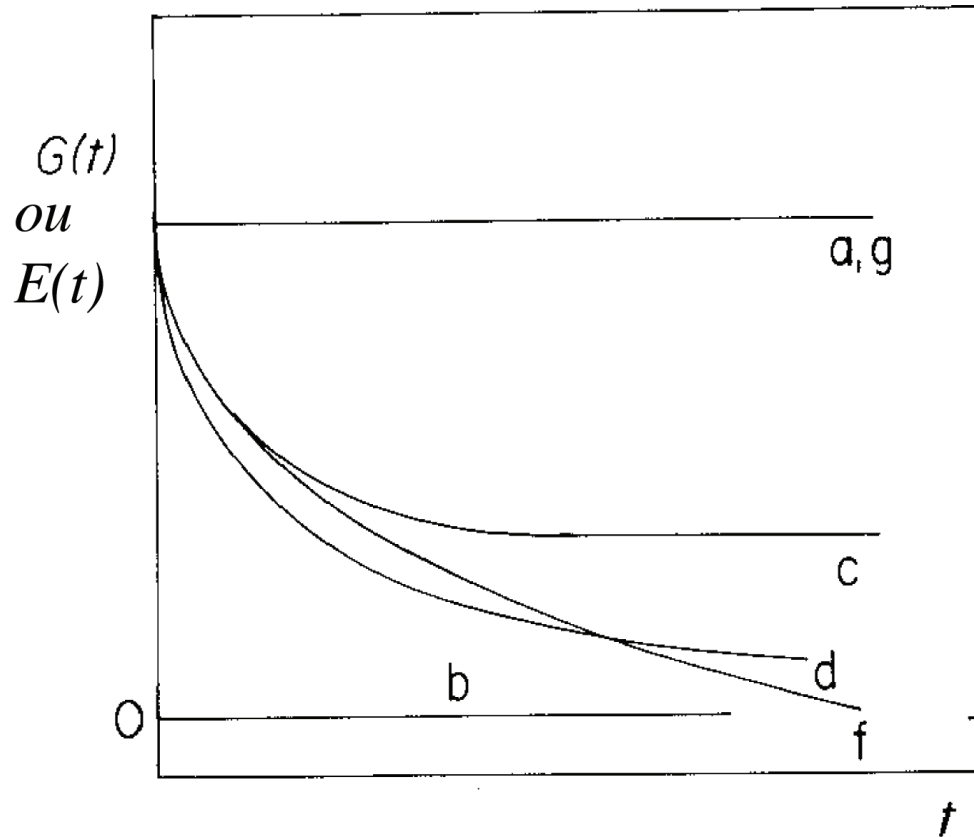


Kelvin (Voigt)



Polymer rheology

Viscoelastic materials



*a-material elástico
perfeito*

b-líquido

c-sólido viscoelástico

d-líquido viscoelástico

f-elemento de Maxwell

g-elemento de Voigt

References

- “Principles of Polymer Systems”, 2nded., F. Rodriguez, McGraw-Hill-Int. Student Ed., 1983: § 7.1 - 7.6
 - “Introduction to Macromolecular Science”, P. Munk, John Wiley & Sons, 1989: § 4.1.4