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# Introduction Rheology

Material Science for Soft Solids & Liquids

**Anamet Seminar, 2019**

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# Agenda

## Brno Seminar - Rheology



- Wednesday
  - 13:30 -14:50 Kinexus
  - 14:50-15:00 Break
  - 15:00-15:30 Rosand
  - 16:00-17:00 Complimentary techniques
- Thursday
  - 10:00-12:00 Kinexus/rSpace workshop
    - Hands on the machines, method development for various samples, sample data interpretation
  - 12:00-13:30 Closing remarks & Lunch
  - 13:30-14:30 Remaining, 1:1 Q&A – Booked sessions

# Presentation Overview



- Overview and Introduction

- Basic rheology theory
- How a rheometer works

- Viscosity Measurements

- Viscosity flow curves
- Yield stress, Thixotropy

- Viscoelastic Measurements

- Amplitude sweep
- Frequency sweep





# OVERVIEW AND INTRODUCTION



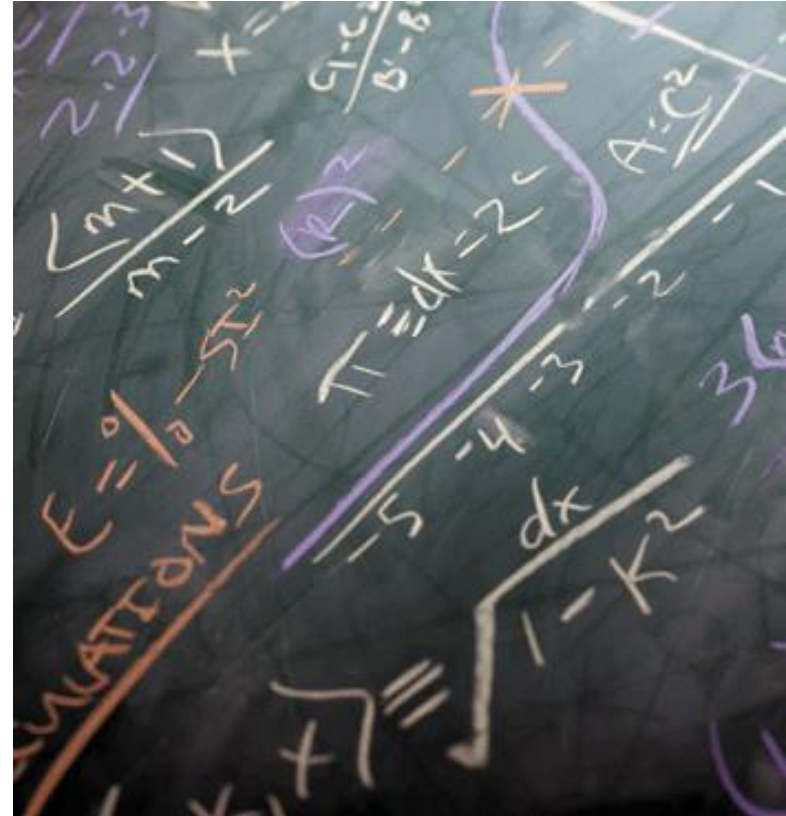
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# What is rheology...?

- The technical definition is:

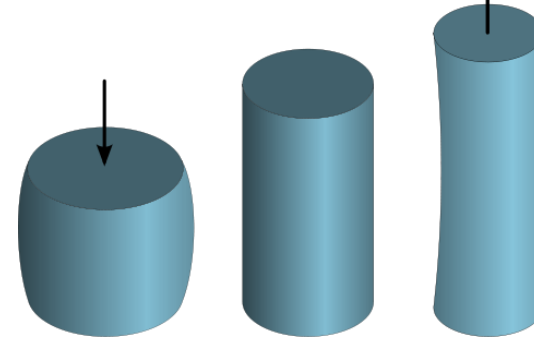
“The science of deformation and flow”

- **But**, what does this **really** mean?



# Solids & Liquids

Solids **DEFORM**  
when stressed



Liquids **FLOW** when  
stressed

- Complex materials can show both **SOLID** and **LIQUID** like behaviour.
- Rheology primarily describes the behaviour of these complex materials

# Rheology Testing

- Typical testing in rheology splits measurements into *deformation (oscillation)* and *flow (viscosity)*

“The science of  
*deformation and flow*”

## DEFORMATION

- › Quantifies **VISCOELASTICITY**
- › How does a sample behave *before* a sample flows...?
- › Predicts sample properties
  
- › Sample classification
- › Sample stability – will it settle?
  
- › Types of experiment:
  - Oscillation
  - Creep, Relaxation

## FLOW

- › Measures the **VISCOSITY** of a sample
- › Mimics typical processing conditions
- › The resistance to flow
  
- › How thick is a paint sample
- › Will the sample be pumped?
  
- › Types of experiment:
  - Viscometry

# Rheometer Principles – Measurement



## 1. Drag Cup Motor = Stress

- Directly applies a torque (which is a stress in rheological terms)

## 2. Air Bearing

- Enable low torque measurements well beyond viscometer range

## 3. Position Sensor = Shear Rate (Strain)

- Independently measures the resultant movement which is determined by the viscosity of the sample. The rheometer literally monitors the displacement in time to convert to a shear rate
- In controlled rate, the speed (shear rate) is applied directly and the stress required is recorded

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

Controlled Stress & Controlled Rate/Strain are possible

4. Geometry Recognition & Chuck

5. Measurement Geometry / Measuring System

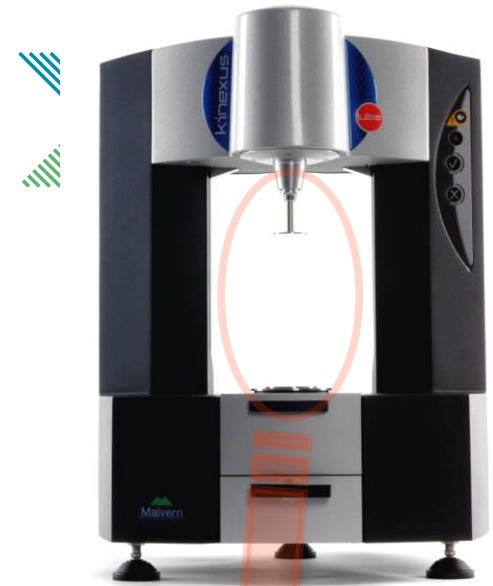
6. Strain Gauge = Normal Force & Automatic Gap

8. Temperature Control



# Rheometer Principles

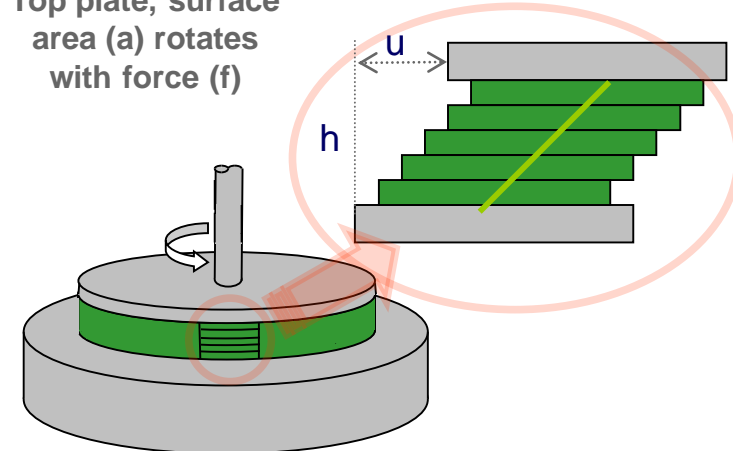
- Rheology testing involves some standard variables:
  - **Shear stress:** force (f or p) per area (a)
  - **Shear strain:** displacement (u) divided by height (h)
  - **Shear (strain) rate:** change in strain with time
- A sample sandwiched between two plates experiences a strain or shear rate depending on the type of stress applied
- The sample experiences a shear profile, and from this typical material properties can be calculated



$$\text{Viscosity } (\eta) = \frac{\text{Shear Stress}}{\text{Shear Rate}} = \frac{\sigma}{\dot{\gamma}}$$

$$\text{Modulus } (G^*) = \frac{\text{Shear Stress}}{\text{Shear Strain}} = \frac{\sigma}{\gamma}$$

Top plate, surface area (a) rotates with force (f)



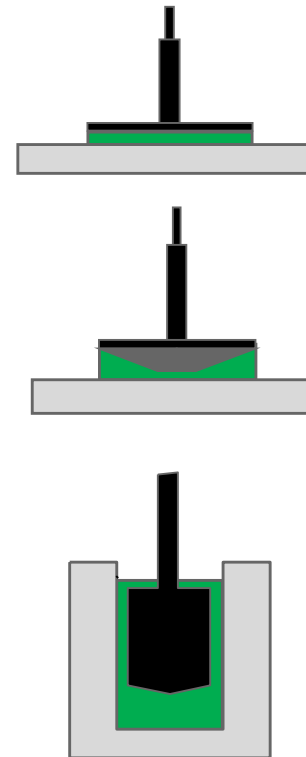
# Why different measuring systems?

- **A rheometer has a finite range of torque (twisting force)**
  - For **thick / tough samples** we need to focus this force on a small area – a small plate (PP20)
  - For **weak sample** we need to spread this force on a large area – a large plate (PP50, PP60)
- **Similarly, a rheometer has a finite movement range**
  - Samples rotate more with a larger gap for stiff materials



# Typical measuring systems

- The most common measuring systems are:
  - **Parallel plate**
    - First choice for oscillation testing
      - Benefits of flexible gap ( $\sim 0.5 - 2\text{mm}$ )
  - **Cone and plate**
    - First choice for viscosity testing
      - Absolute viscosity from uniform shear rate
      - Fixed, small “truncation” gap ( $\sim 0.03 - 0.15\text{mm}$ )
  - **Cup and bobs**
    - Legacy/specialist testing
      - Low viscosity at low shear rates
      - Larger dispersed particle testing
      - Volatile sample testing



# Special Measuring Systems

- Some sample types do not lend themselves to be measured using conventional tools and require a modified interface. Here are some common examples:



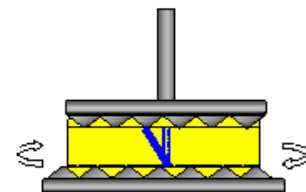
← Vane Tools →

- **Reduce wall slip** (e.g. slurries)
- **Measurement of delicate structures** (e.g. yield stress determination for foams and soft solids)



← Serrated & roughened surfaces →

- **Reduce slip effects** (e.g. concentrated dispersions & semi-solids)





# VISCOSITY MEASUREMENTS



# Viscosity

- **Introduction to Viscosity**
  - Defining shear stress and shear rate
  - Viscometers and rheometers
  - Identifying the appropriate shear rate
  - Shear thinning and why it occurs
- **Viscosity Measurements**
  - Viscosity flow curves
  - Yield stress
  - Thixotropy



# Rheology Testing

- Typical testing in rheology splits measurements into *deformation (oscillation)* and *flow (viscosity)*

“The science of  
*deformation and flow*”

## DEFORMATION

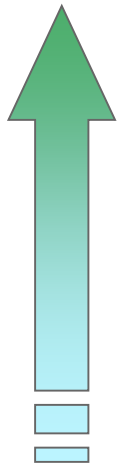
- › Quantifies **VISCOELASTICITY**
- › How does a sample behave *before* a sample flows...?
- › Predicts sample properties
  
- › Sample classification
- › Sample stability – will it settle?
  
- › Types of experiment:
  - Oscillation
  - Creep, Relaxation

## FLOW

- › Measures the **VISCOSITY** of a sample
- › Mimics typical processing conditions
- › The resistance to flow
  
- › How thick is a paint sample
- › Will the sample be pumped?
  
- › Types of experiment:
  - Viscometry

# What is Shear Rate?

- Really just a deformation rate. How much work are we putting into the sample?



Faster processes,  
squeezing  
materials through  
smaller gaps

Process	Typical shear rate range (s <sup>-1</sup> )		
Reverse gravure	100,000	-	1,000,000
Roller coating	10,000	-	1,000,000
Spraying	10,000	-	100,000
Blade coating	1,000	-	100,000
Mixing/stirring	10	-	1,000
Brushing	10	-	1,000
Pumping	1	-	1,000
Extrusion	1	-	100
Curtain coating	1	-	100
Levelling	0.01	-	0.1
Sagging	0.001	-	0.1
Sedimentation	0.000001	-	0.0001

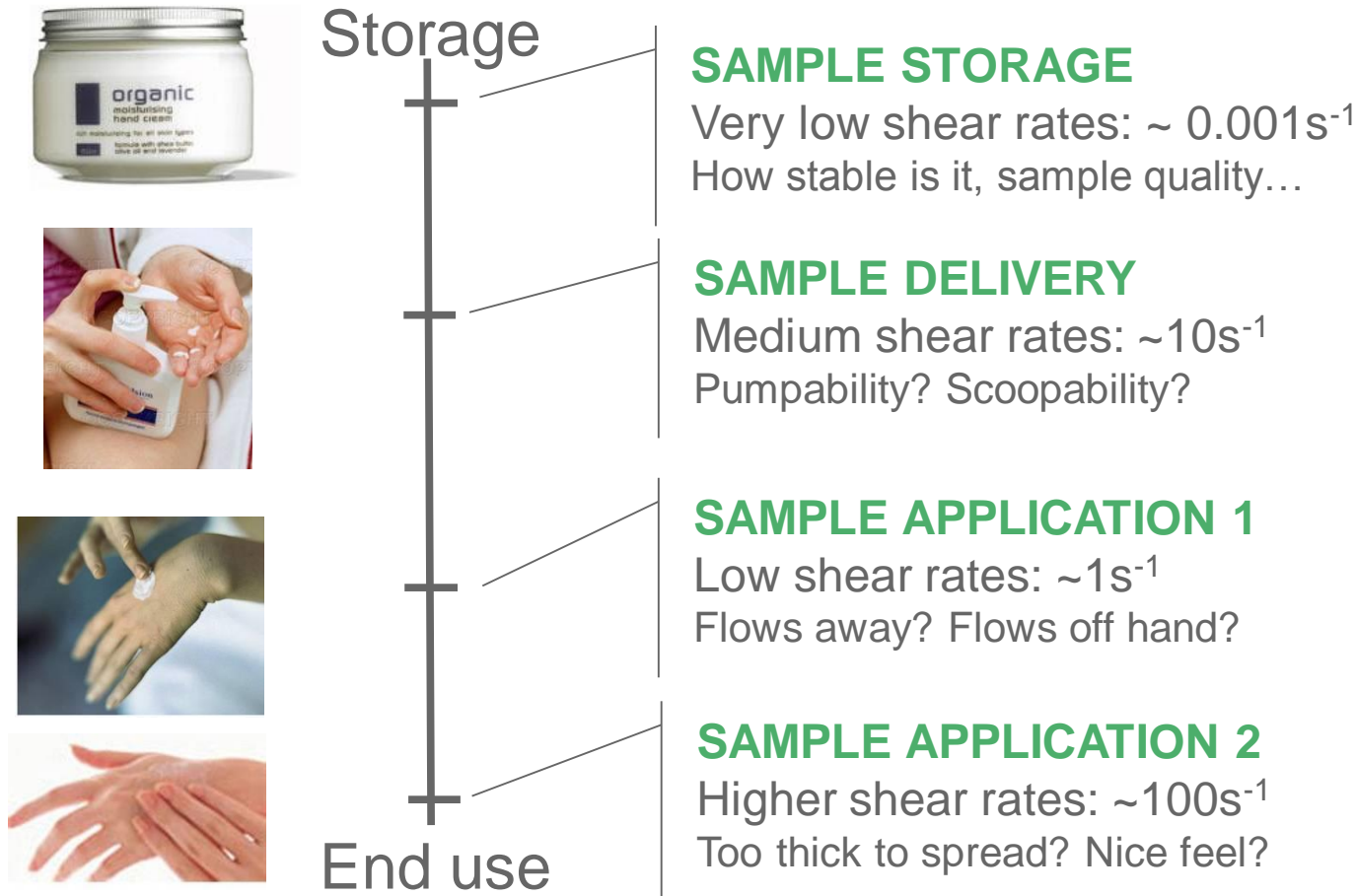
Measurable on a **Rosand** capillary rheometer

Measurable on a **Kinexus** rotational rheometer



# Match Shear Rate to Processes...

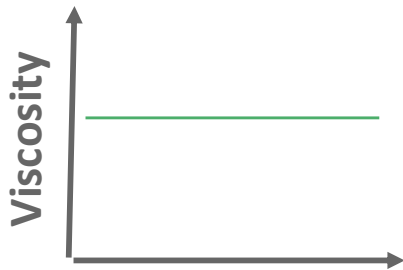
- Take an everyday simple example... hand cream



# Flow Curves

- Three general flow behaviours
  - Viscosity is a function of shear rate

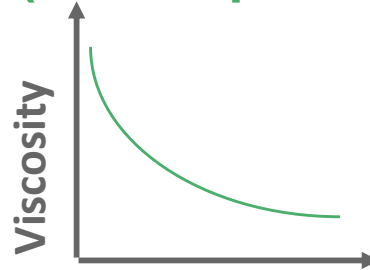
## Newtonian



**Shear Rate**

e.g. silicone oil, low concentration dispersions

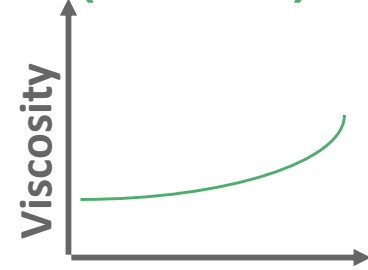
## Shear-Thinning (Pseudoplastic)



**Shear Rate**

e.g. polymers, dispersions

## Shear-Thickening (Dilatant)



**Shear Rate**

e.g. cornflour, high solid content  $\text{TiO}_2$

- › Most, real, samples are shear thinning with Newtonian regions
- › Viscosity testing is most powerful when it is used to simulate or mimic processes

# Simple Flow



SEEN ON  
BOFUNK.COM

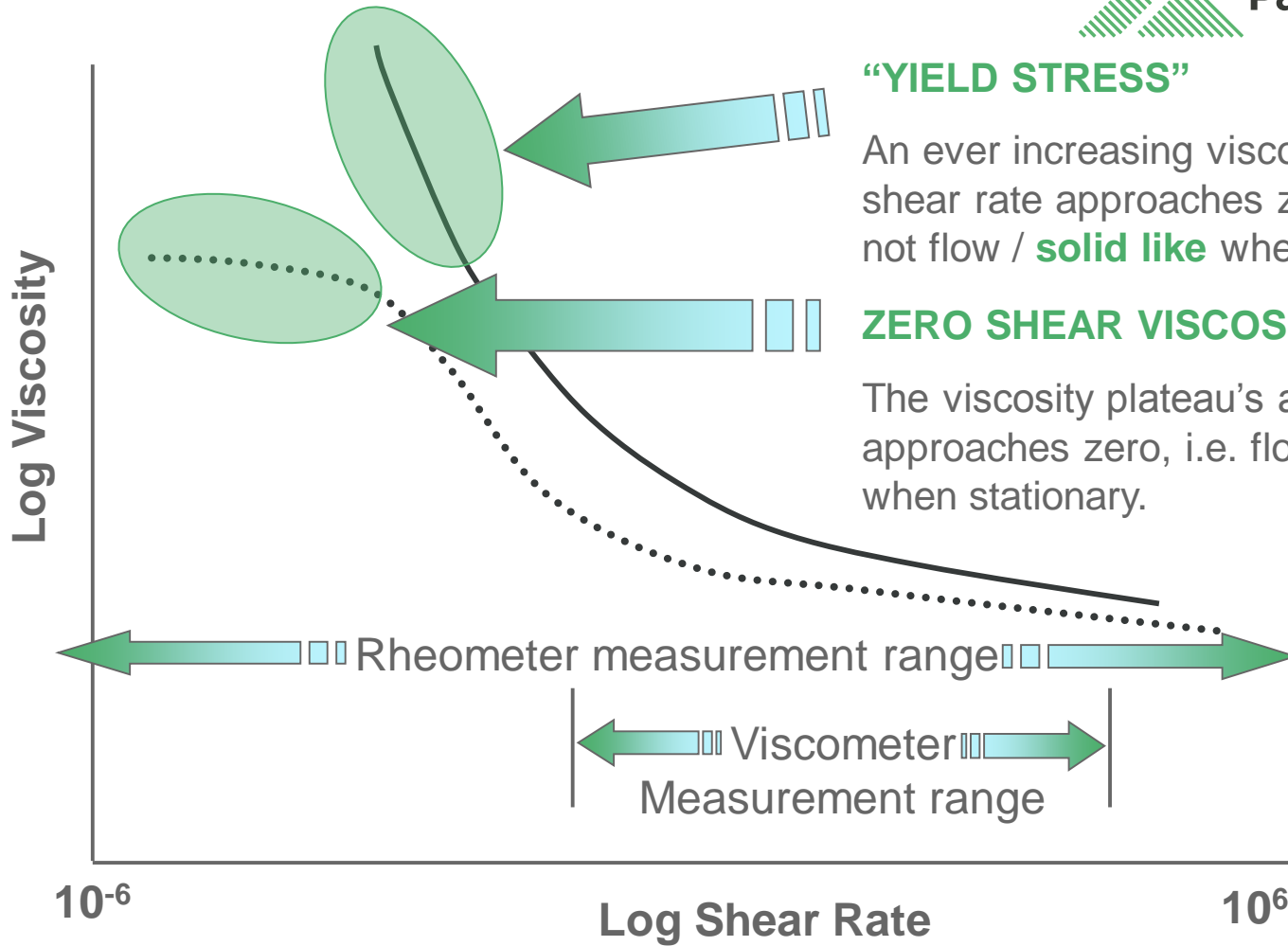


# Not Simple Flow



- Need to measure to understand behaviour
- Shear thickening

# Flow Curve Measurements



## “YIELD STRESS”

An ever increasing viscosity as the shear rate approaches zero, i.e. a does not flow / **solid like** when stationary.

## ZERO SHEAR VISCOSITY

The viscosity plateau's as the shear rate approaches zero, i.e. flows / **liquid like** when stationary.

Rheometer measurement range

Viscometer Measurement range

$10^{-6}$

Log Shear Rate

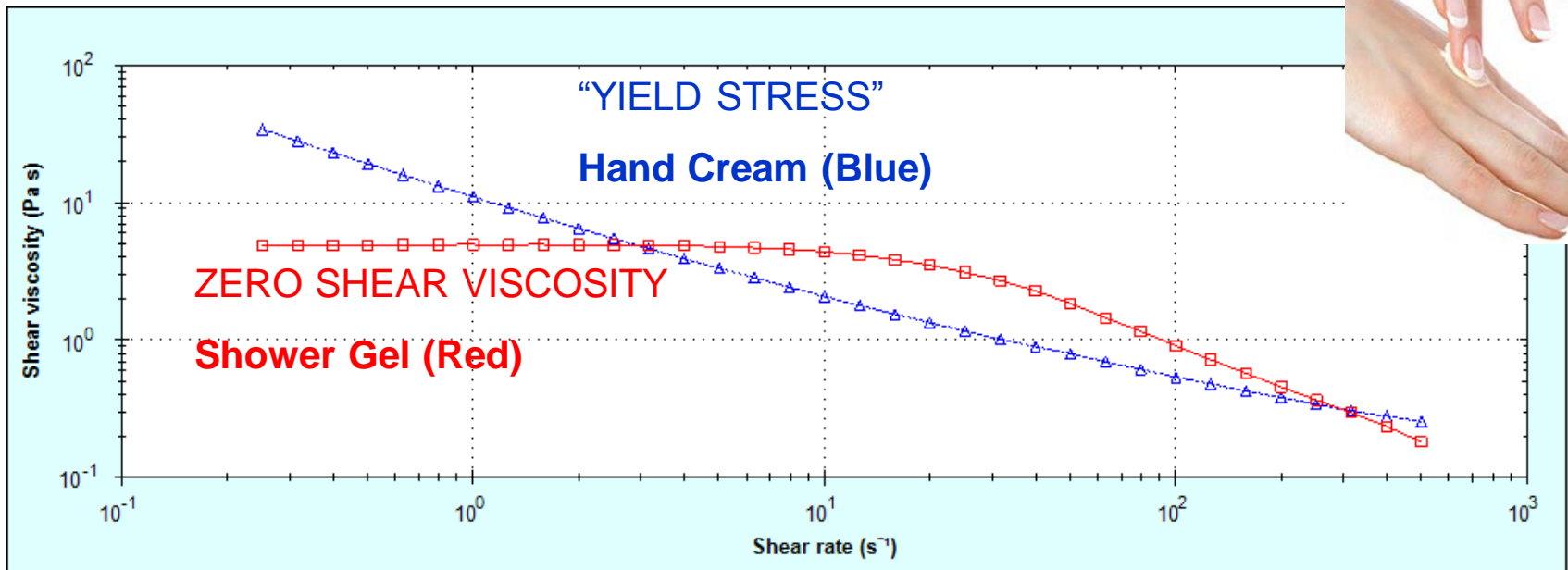
$10^6$

Studying **weaker** interactions

Studying **stronger** interactions

# V001 – Flow Curve: Typical Results

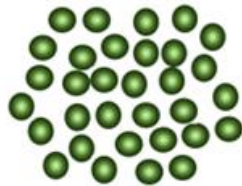
- This tests shows how materials behave under different conditions, which are mimicked by shear rates



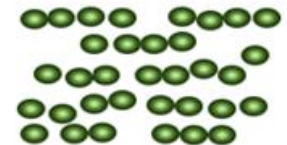
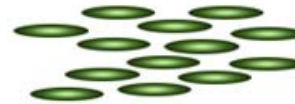
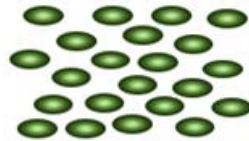
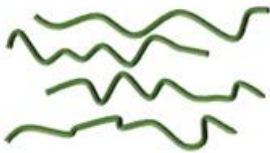
- Notice how it is **only at low shear rates** that shower gel and hand cream are different; they are different when in the bottle
- At higher shear rates, i.e. being applied, they have similar viscosities, as both are expected to behave the same under these conditions

# Why does shear thinning occur?

## microstructure at rest



## microstructure under shear



Polymer chains  
disentangling and  
stretching

Emulsion droplets  
reorganising and  
deforming

Elongated particles  
aligning with the  
flow

Aggregated structures  
breaking down to  
primary particles

# YIELD STRESS





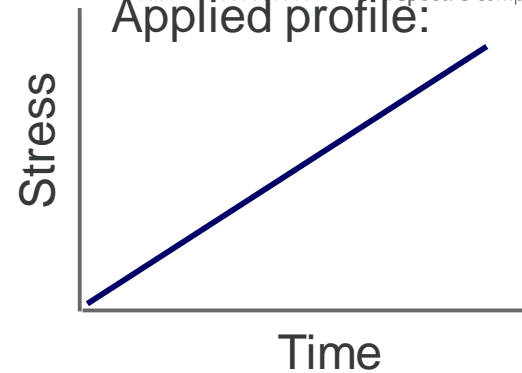
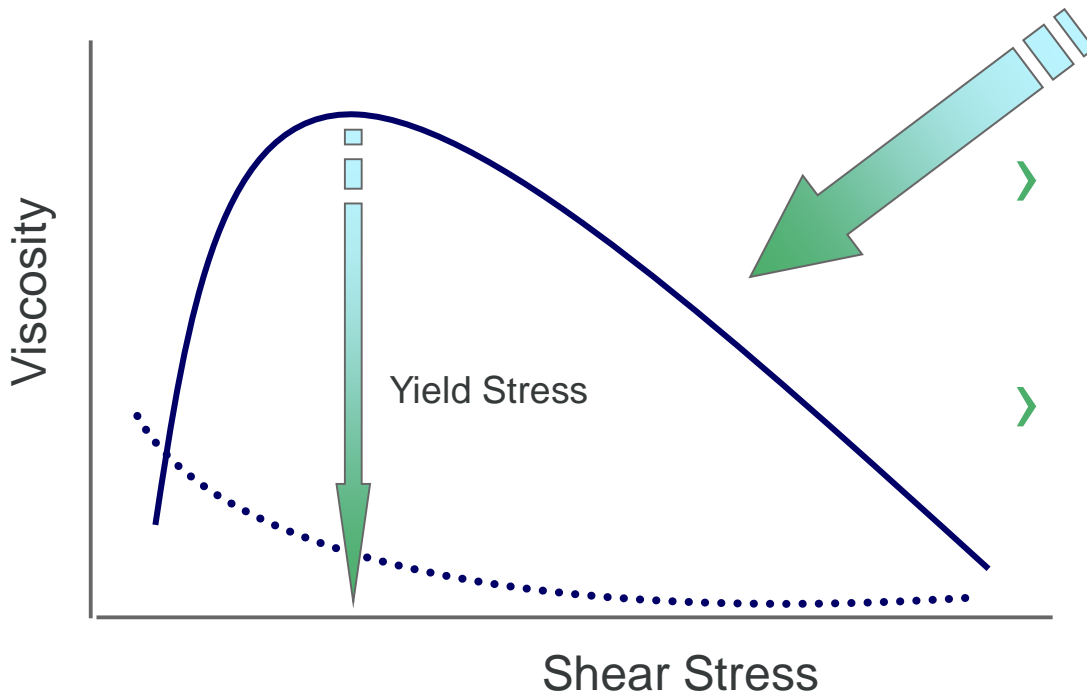
# Yield Stress

- › Some samples require a certain stress until they flow – **a yield stress**
  - › A transition to go from solid to liquid
- For example:
    - Why **toothpaste** needs to be squeezed to get out of the tube but does not flow into bristles on tooth brush
    - Why Heinz **tomato sauce** needs a whack but still looks thick on the plate
    - Or why pumps have a start-up time



# Yield Stress Measurement

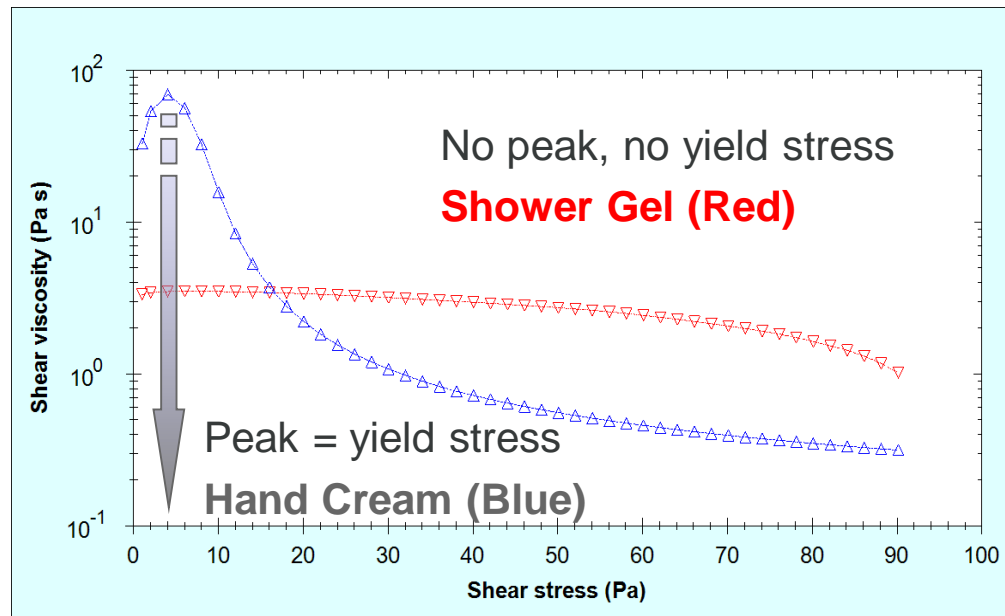
- Apply an increasing rotational “squeeze”, i.e. shear stress to a material



- A material with yield stress will stretch easily, until the yield point, then flow
- The stress at the peak in viscosity is the force required to go from solid like to liquid like, i.e. the yield stress
- No peak (dotted line), no force needed

# V003 – Stress Ramp: Typical Results

- Typical results from a stress ramp experiment shows clear differences between a yield stress type material, and that of a zero shear viscosity system



Sample Description	Experiment Name	Action Name	Point Index	Shear stress(Pa)	Shear viscosity(Pa s)
Bubble Bath	TOOLKIT V003-1 Shea	Yield stress anal	1	0.000	-E311

Gap and Normal force | Temperature | Live data | Final results | Table | Yield stress analysis

18:24:58 Run Analyse\_0011-1

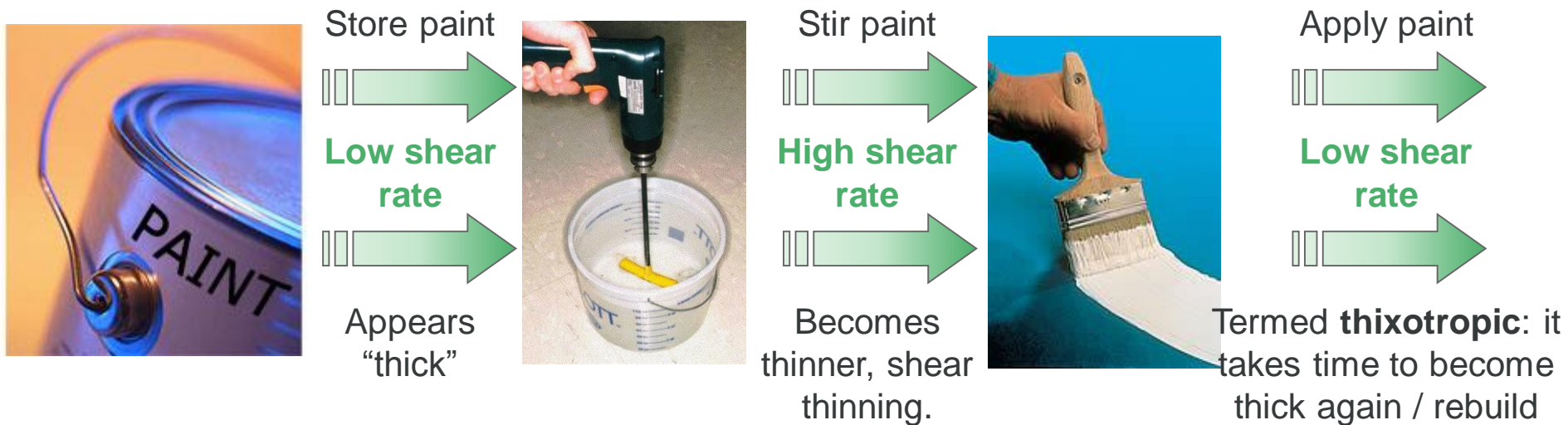
- It is typical to only quantify the yield stress when a sample exhibits one in the flow curve
- rSpace can measure the peak in the data directly

# THIXOTROPY

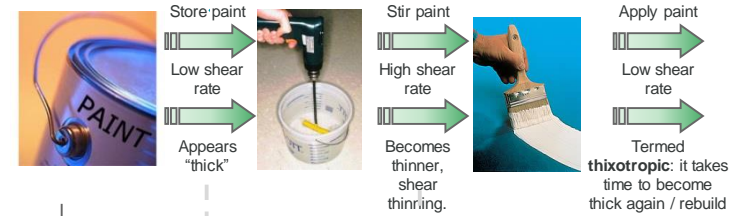


# Thixotropy – Not Just Shear Thinning

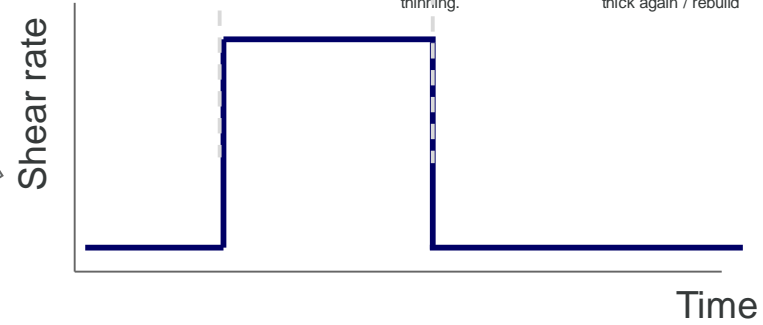
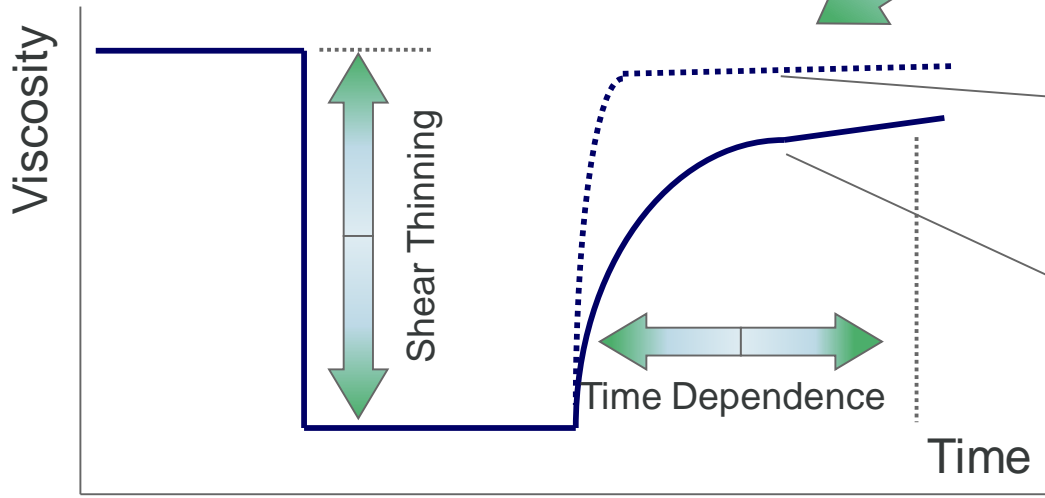
- Viscosity is not only dependent on shear rate it is also **time dependent**
- Think of paint. Thick in the can when left in the shed for months, but thins when stirred
- However, it is thixotropic as it does not rebuild straight away on stopping the stirring



# V002 Thixotropic Measurement



- Apply a step sequence of shear rates. Simulate a process



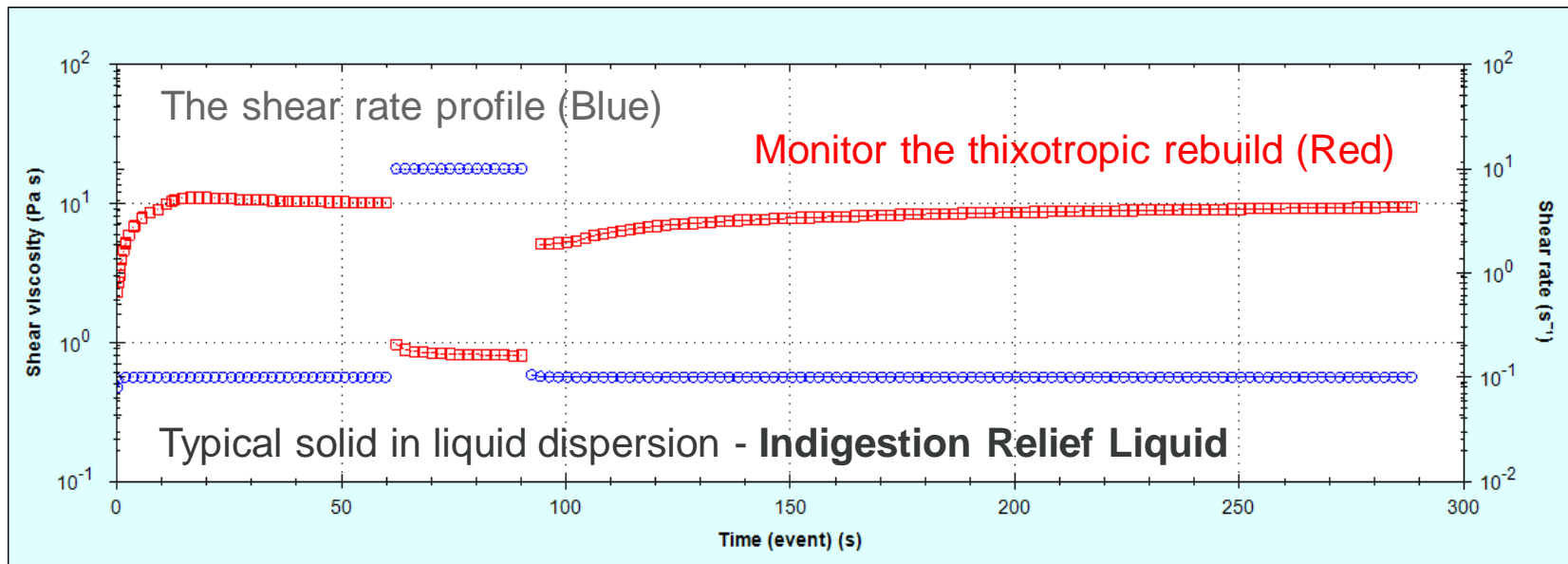
**Bad paint** – leaves brush marks  
Rebuilds too thick too quickly

**Good paint** – leaves smooth finish  
Rebuilds quite slowly. Enough time to allow ridges to smooth out

- A shear thinning material may be thixotropic
- However, a thixotropic material will always be shear thinning

# V002 – Three Step Test: Typical Results

- This tests shows how a material **rebuilds** its structure **after a high shear** process



- › The **longer** a material takes to rebuild, the **more thixotropic** the sample is
- › Thixotropy also affects how long a sample takes to get to steady flow
- › Thixotropy is not only an important material parameter. It is important to understand for **reproducible measurements**, i.e. repeat when fully rebuilt



# VISCOELASTIC MEASUREMENTS



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# Overview



- Viscoelastic Measurements
- Oscillation Amplitude Sweep
- Frequency Sweep
- What is a solid, and what is a liquid!



# Rheology Testing



- › We have looked at the first part of rheology... flow... now:

“The science of  
*deformation* and *flow*”



## DEFORMATION

- › Quantifies **VISCOELASTICITY**
- › How does a sample behave *before* a sample flows...?
- › Predicts sample properties
  
- › Sample classification
- › Sample stability – will it settle?
  
- › Types of experiment:
  - **Oscillation**
  - **Creep, Relaxation**

## FLOW

- › Measures the **VISCOSITY** of a sample
- › Mimics typical processing conditions
- › The resistance to flow
  
- › How thick is a paint sample
- › Will the sample be pumped?
  
- › Types of experiment:
  - **Viscometry**

# Viscoelasticity

- All this means that most materials are not completely solid nor completely liquid like...
- They are **viscoelastic**



## An example would be a paint:

- › During storage it needs to behave like a **solid** to prevent sedimentation
- › When painting it needs to behave like a **fluid** so that it flows in the bristles of the brush and can be evenly painted

# Pitch Drop Experiment

- Timescale is also important in Rheology!



- Pitch behaves as a SOLID on short timescales (high frequency) – *shatters when hit with a hammer*

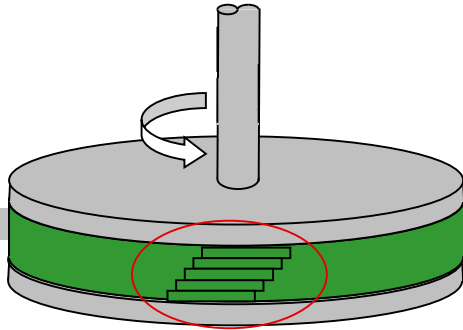
- ....but behaves like a LIQUID on long timescales (low frequency) – *drips at rate of 1 drop every 10 years*

<http://www.science.uq.edu.au/uq-science-webcams>



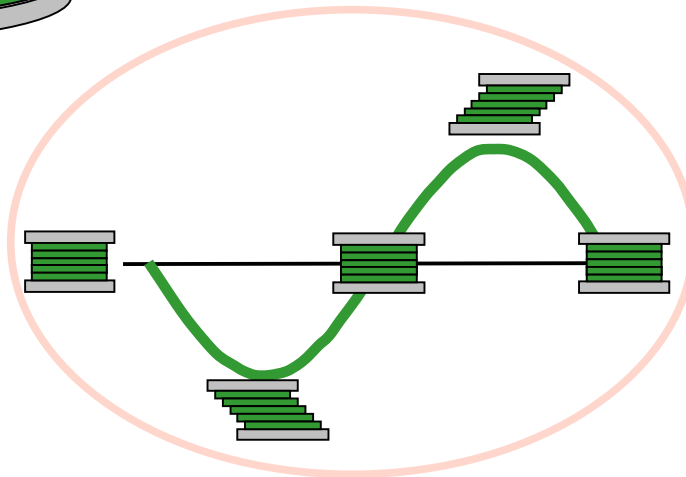
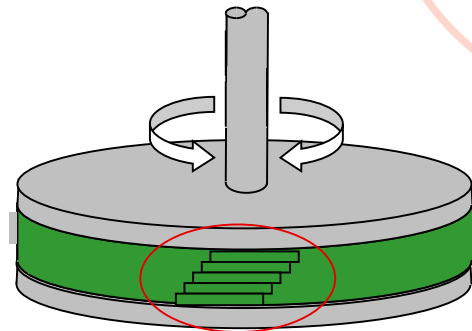
# Oscillation Testing

TOP PLATE ROTATES AT A CONSTANT  
ROTATIONAL VELOCITY



- To determine the Viscosity we apply a constant Shear Stress and measure the resultant Shear Rate (or vice versa)

TOP PLATE OSCILLATES AT  
A GIVEN STRESS OR STRAIN  
AMPLITUDE



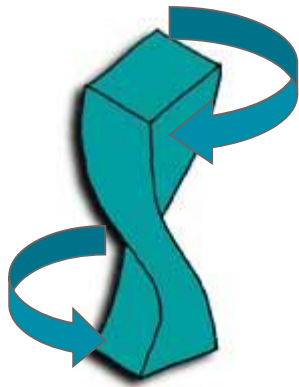
- To determine the Modulus we apply an oscillatory Shear Stress and measure the resultant Shear Strain (or vice versa)

- Modulus is given by the max stress (amplitude) divided by the max strain

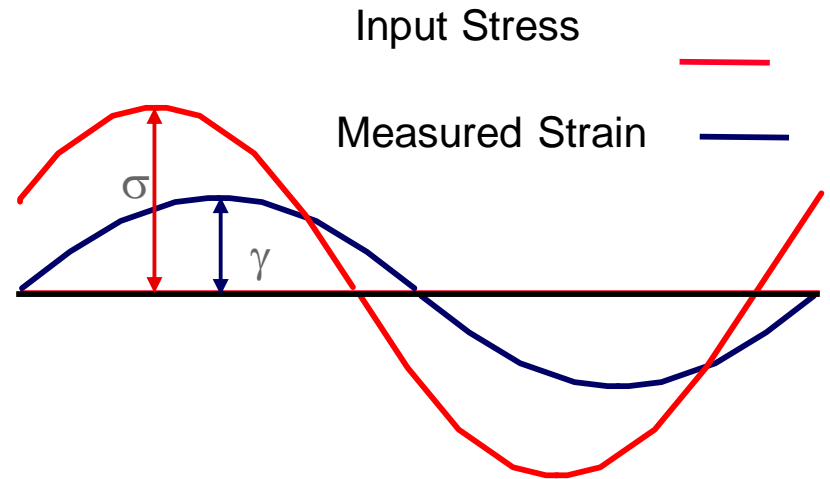
# Complex Modulus - $G^*$

- ›  $G^*$  is measure of overall material stiffness with contributions from viscous and elastic elements
  - Some stress required to stretch the elastic components
  - Some stress required to translate viscous components

Calculated from how much a sample moves for a given force.



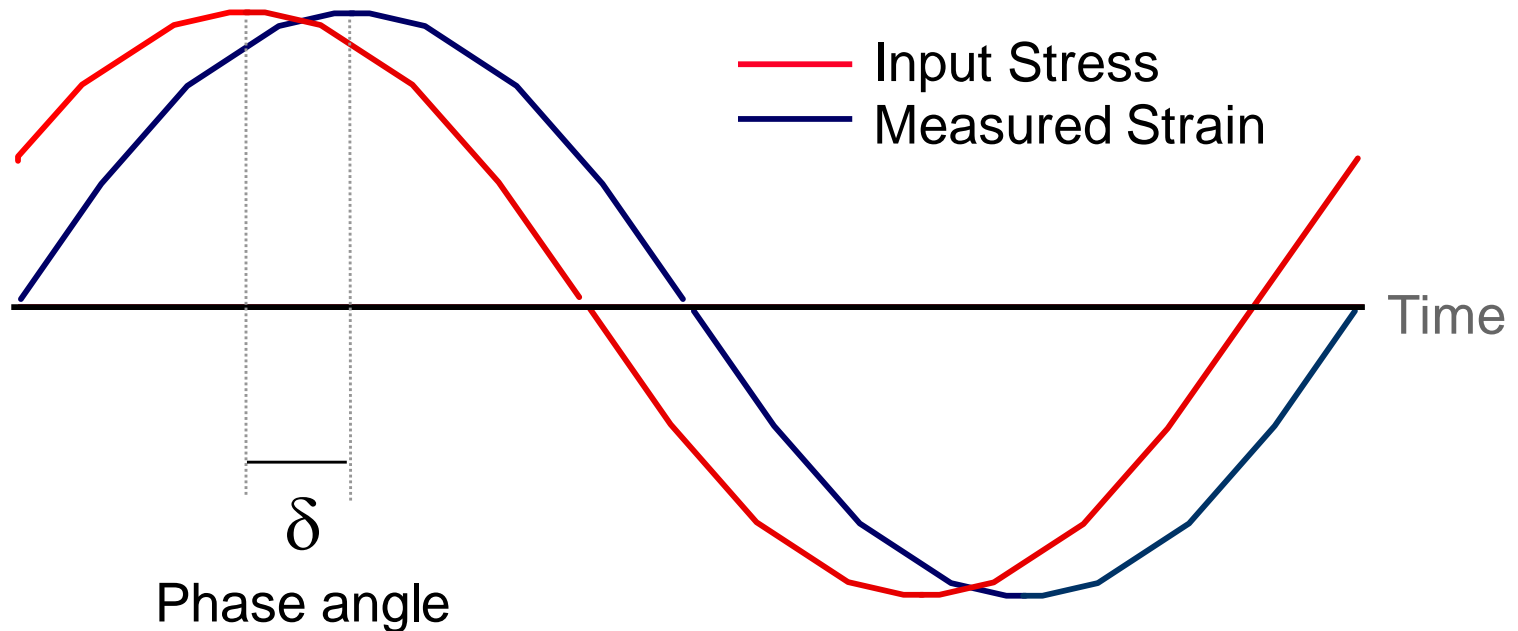
Units of Pascal's (Pa)



$$G^* = \frac{\text{Max Stress}}{\text{Max Strain}}$$

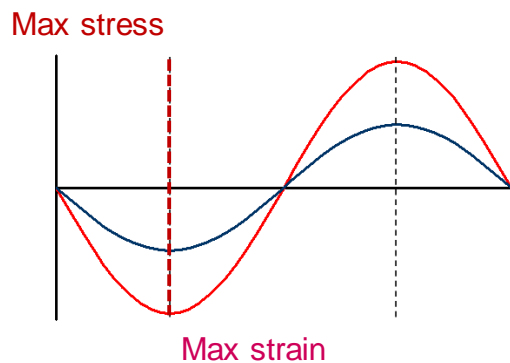
# Phase Angle

- › We can also calculate the phase angle
- › Different types of materials have a different lag / phase angle between the applied and measured sinusoidal signal

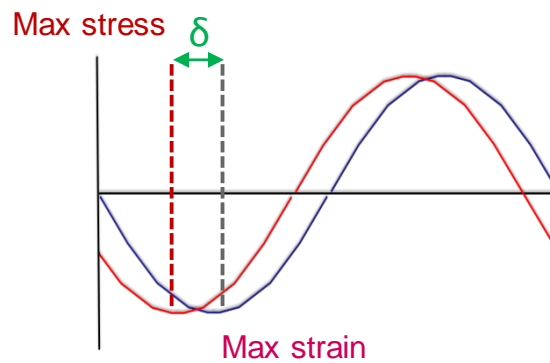


# Phase Angle - $\delta$

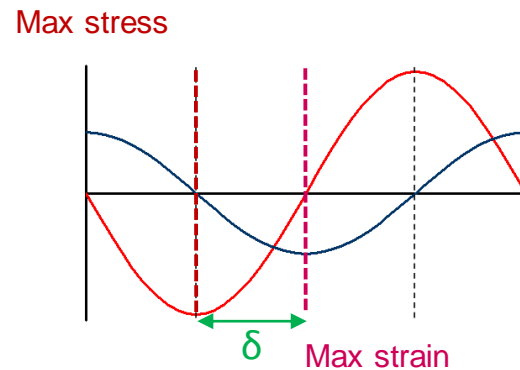
- For a Purely Elastic Material – Solid-like behaviour
  - the stress is in phase with the strain ( $\delta = 0$ )
- For Purely Viscous Material – Liquid-like behaviour
  - the stress is in phase with the shear rate ( $\delta = 90^\circ$ )
- For Viscoelastic Material – Mixed behaviour
  - The phase angle is somewhere in between ( $0 < \delta < 90^\circ$ )



Elastic ( $\delta = 0$ )



Viscoelastic ( $0 < \delta < 90^\circ$ )



Viscous ( $\delta = 90^\circ$ )



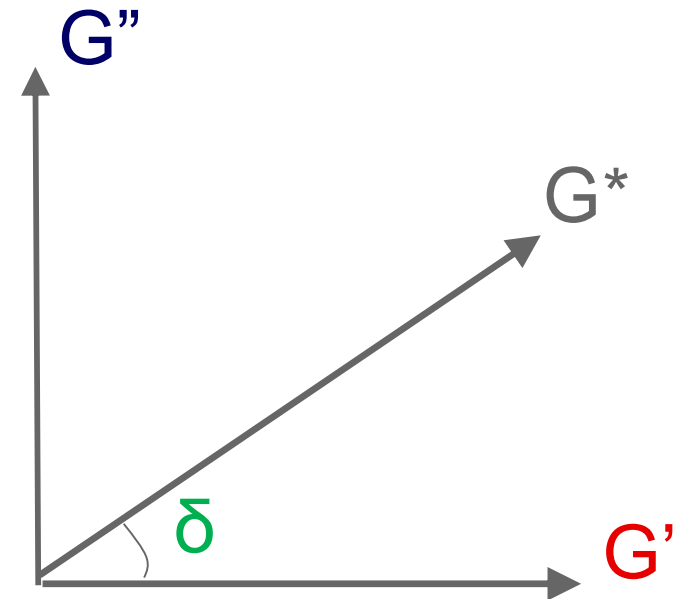
# Solid or liquid like...?

- Yogurt and honey can have the same complex modulus or same stiffness, however...
- Yogurt is elastically dominated, it behaves as a solid
  - **Pour it and it drops**
  - **Leaves ridges, doesn't flow well**
- Honey is viscously dominated, it behaves as a liquid
  - **It pours and strings**
  - **Settles with a smooth finish**



# Elastic and Loss Modulus

- ›  $G^*$  can be broken down into its component parts using simple trigonometry
- › These components are termed:
  - Storage (elastic) modulus, given by  $G' = G^* \cos \delta$
  - Loss (viscous) modulus, given by  $G'' = G^* \sin \delta$
- ›  $G'$  is a measure of the energy stored and is related to the stress contribution (or stiffness) from the materials elastic structure
- ›  $G''$  is a measure of the energy dissipated (or lost) and is related to the stress contribution from the viscous elements



# Storage and Loss Modulus



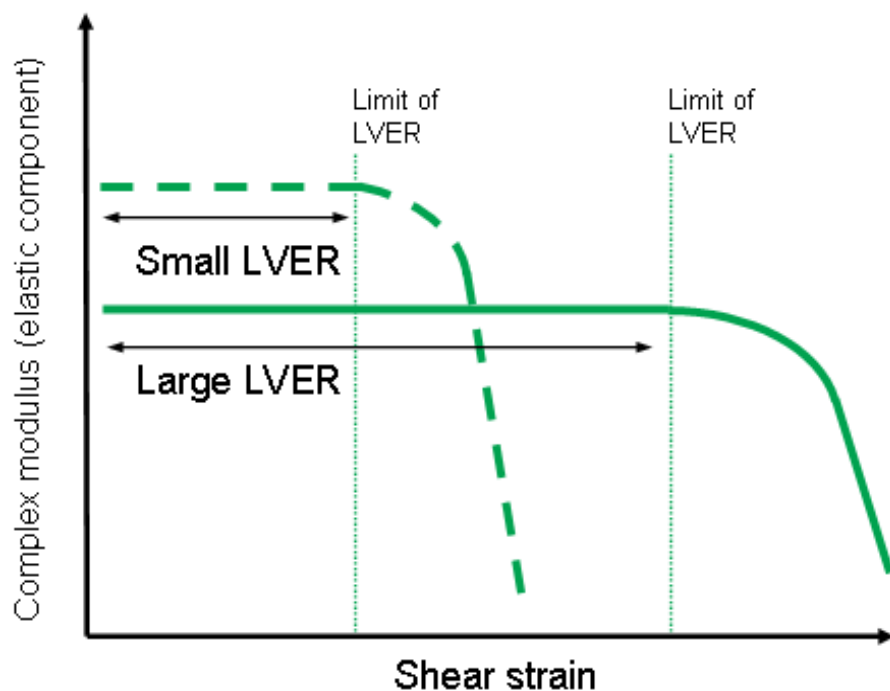
- Rheology language tends to use a combined form of complex modulus and phase angle
- **Storage (elastic) modulus**       $G'$
- **Loss (viscous) modulus**       $G''$
- If  $G' > G''$ , phase angle less than  $45^\circ$  - **SOLID LIKE**
- If  $G'' > G'$ , phase angle greater than  $45^\circ$  - **LIQUID LIKE**
- $G^*$  - modulus, is still a measure of toughness

# AMPLITUDE SWEEP



# Amplitude Sweep

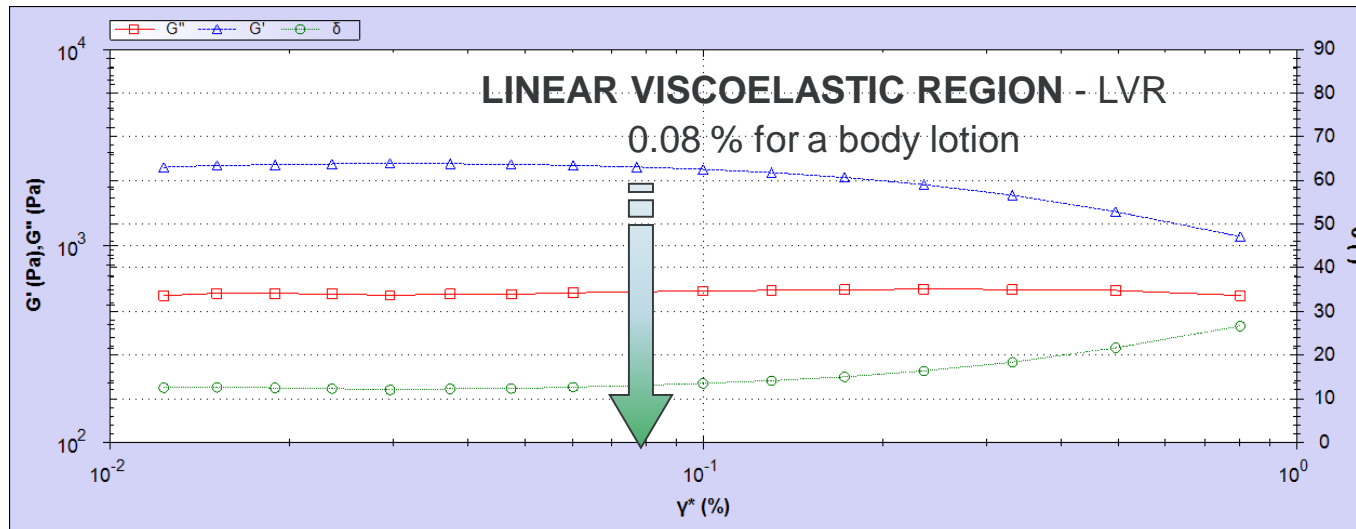
- › Determines the Linear Viscoelastic region (LVR) where stress/strain ratio and hence  $G^*$ ,  $G'$  and  $G''$  are constant
- › Hookes law is only applicable within the LVR so stress or strain value kept within LVR for further linear testing



- › Structural breakdown (yielding) is observed at stresses/strains outside the LVR which is why  $G'$  drops
- › A large LVR means a 'more ductile' material and a small LVR "a more brittle" material

# O001 Amplitude Sweep: Typical Results

- This tests records the **linear viscoelastic region (LVER)** of a material



- › Typically  $G'$  is the most sensitive to the LVER
  - › The limit of the LVER is where the structure of the material starts to break down
  - ›  $G'$  is a direct measurement of the **structure** in the sample
  - ›  $G''$  is the viscous or **flow** property, as such this tends to flow instead of breaking down

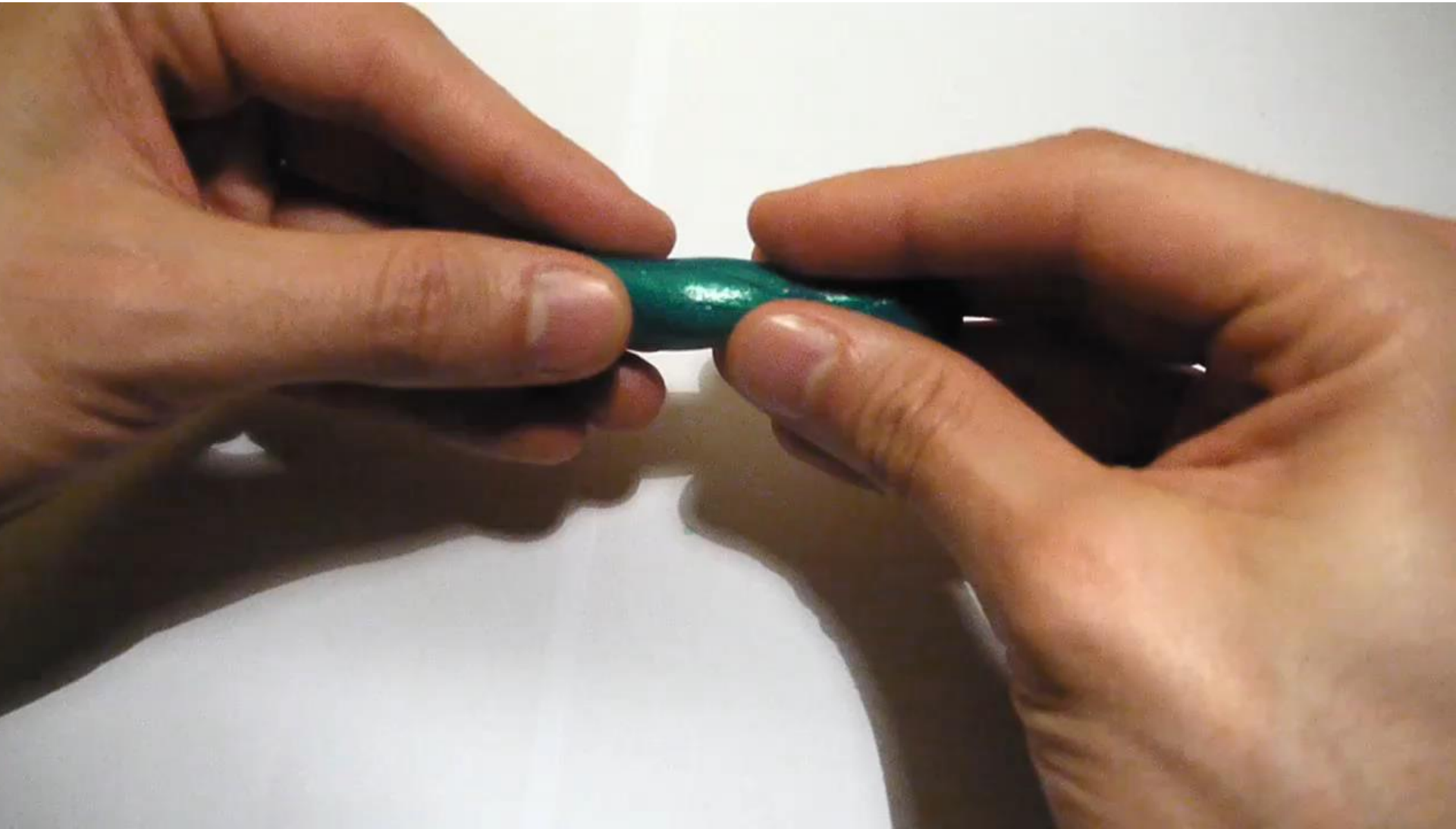
# FREQUENCY SWEEP



# Solid AND Liquid “like”



➤ Your inks want to behave like...

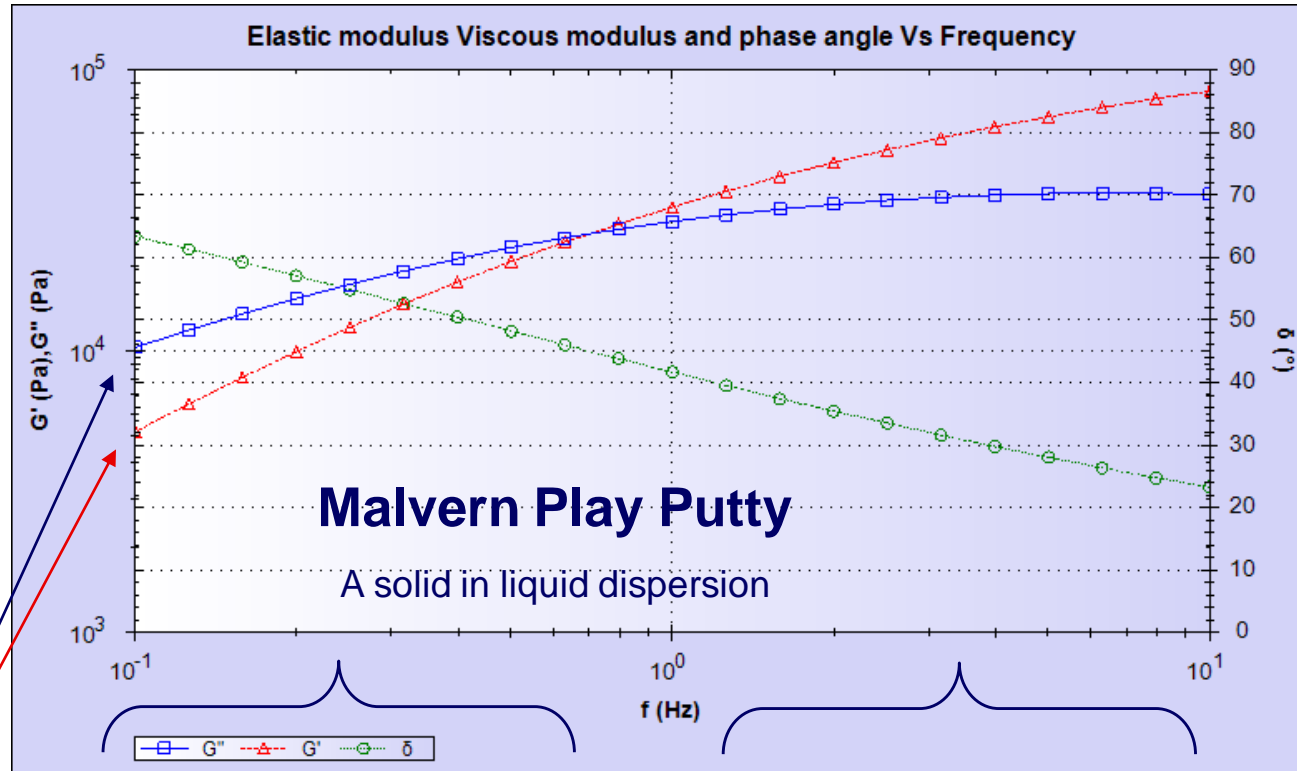




# O002 Frequency Sweep: Results

- The test records the viscoelastic spectrum of the material

**G'** – Storage (Solid like) modulus  
**G''** – Loss (Liquid like) modulus



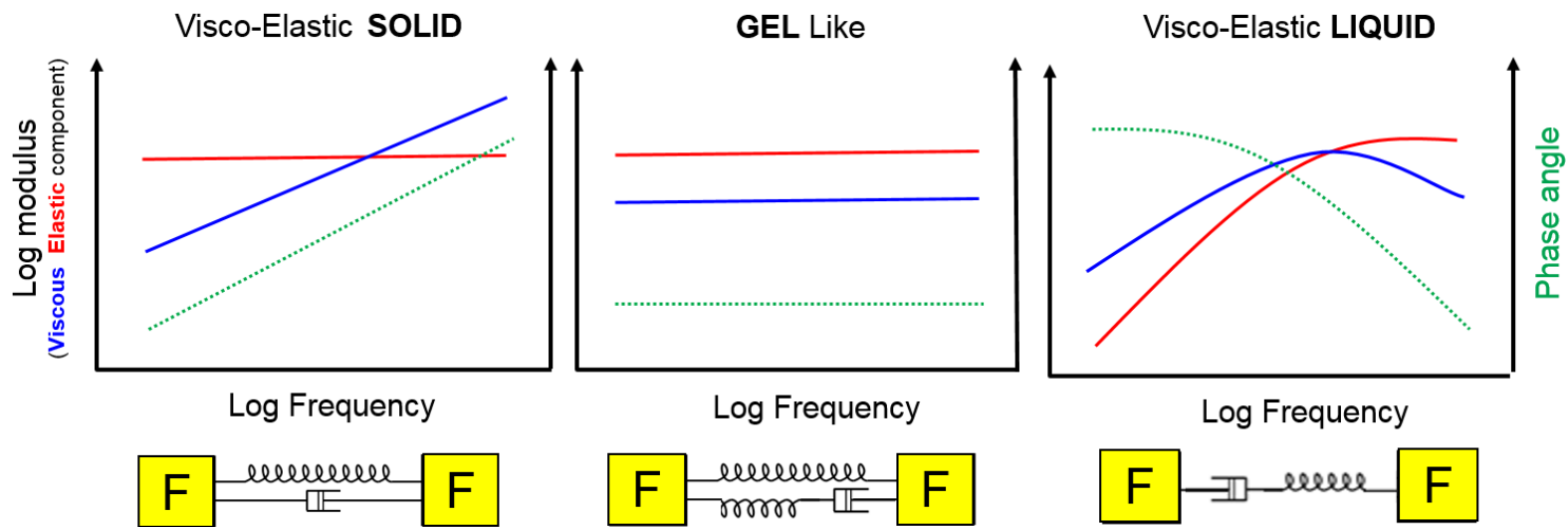
$\delta$  – Phase angle

Low frequencies  
Long timescales  
 $G'' > G'$   
**LIQUID LIKE**

High frequencies  
Fast timescales  
 $G' > G''$   
**SOLID LIKE**

# Material Behaviour

- Three general material behaviours
- Material property at rest (0Hz) classifies behaviour



- > VISCOELASTIC **SOLID**: phase angle  $\Rightarrow 0^\circ$  at 0Hz.
- > VISCOELASTIC **LIQUID**: phase angle  $\Rightarrow 90^\circ$  at 0Hz.
- > GEL: phase angle independent of frequency.

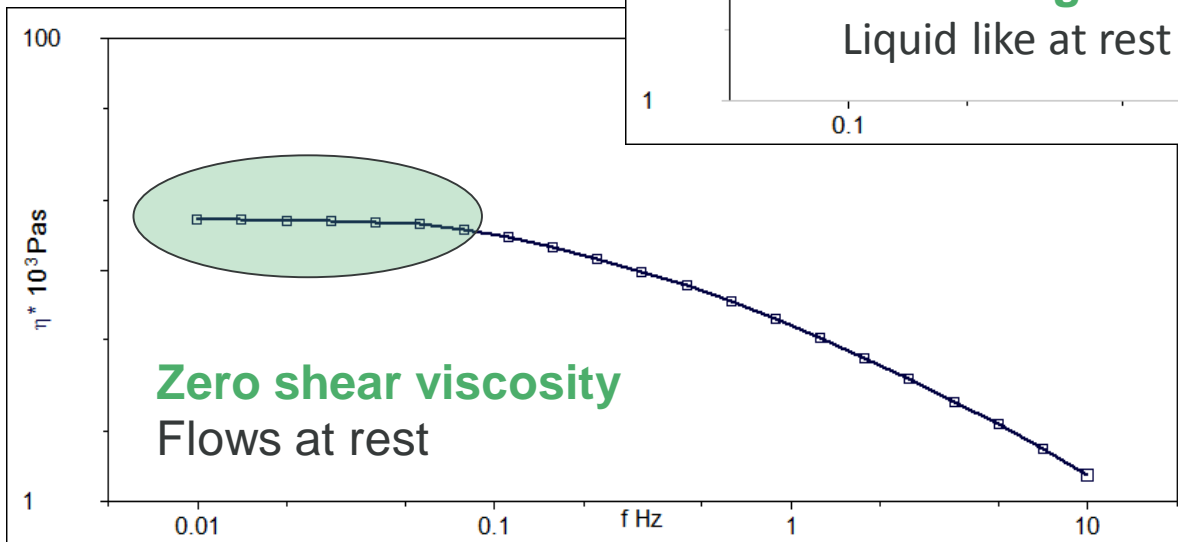
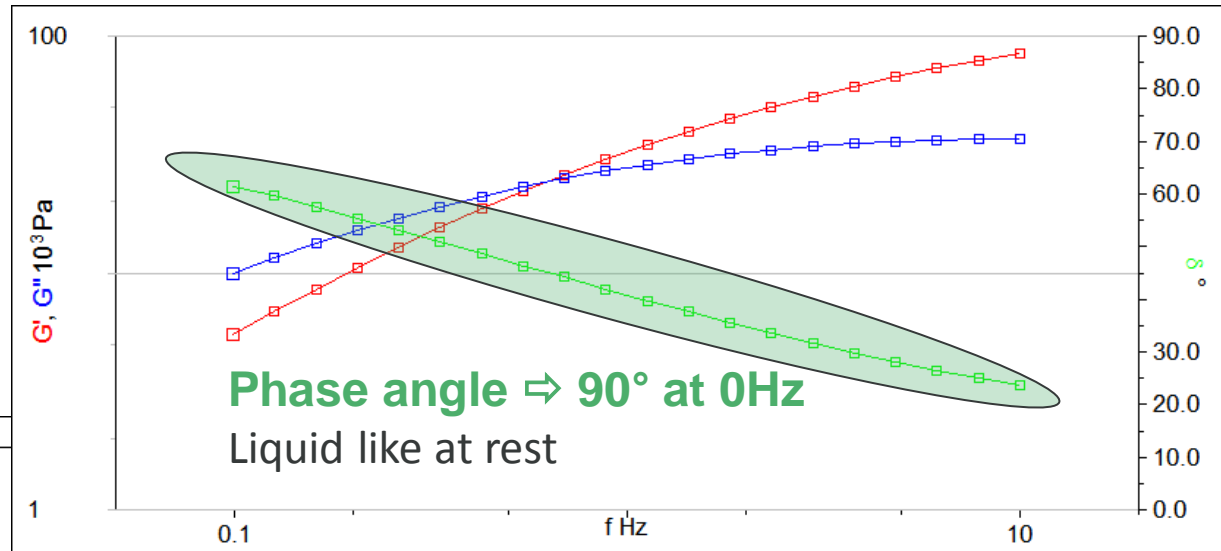
# VISCOSITY VS. OSCILLATION



# Solid or Liquid? Play Putty



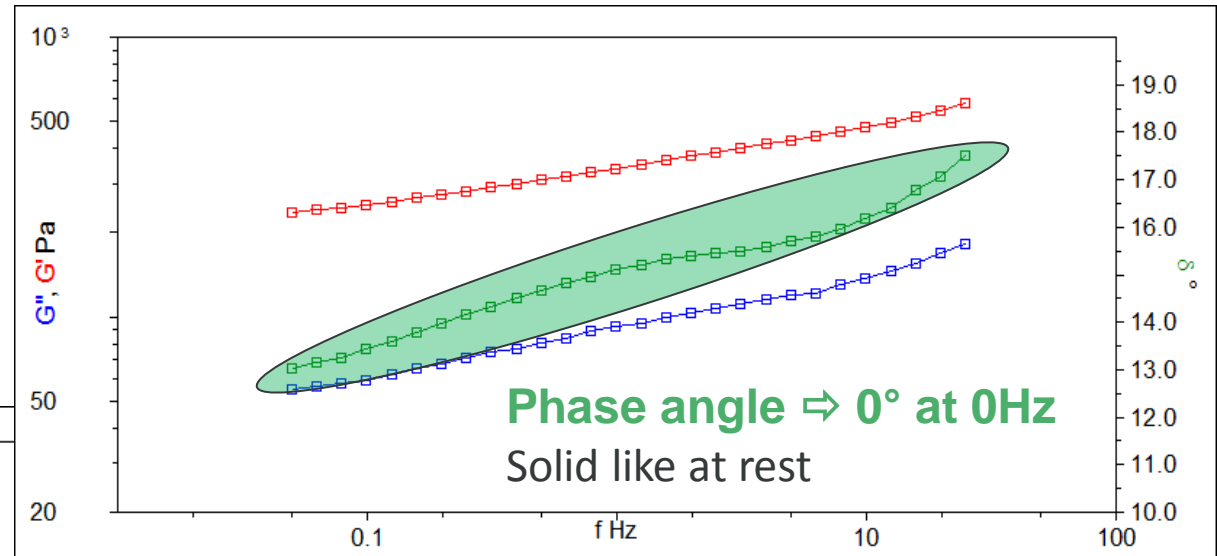
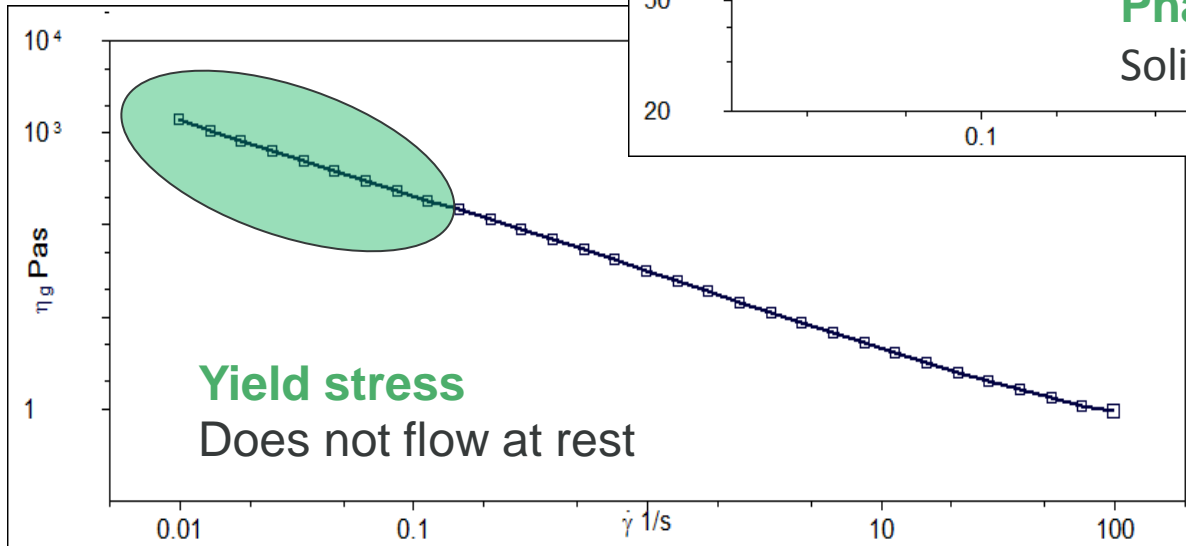
- Play Putty is actually a **VISCOELASTIC LIQUID!**



# Solid or Liquid? Hand Cream



- Hand cream is actually **VISCOELASTIC SOLID!**

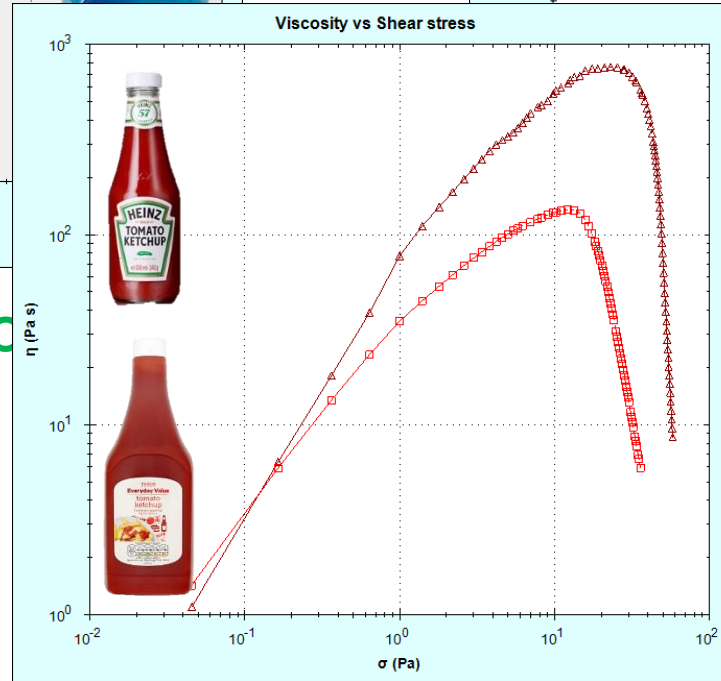
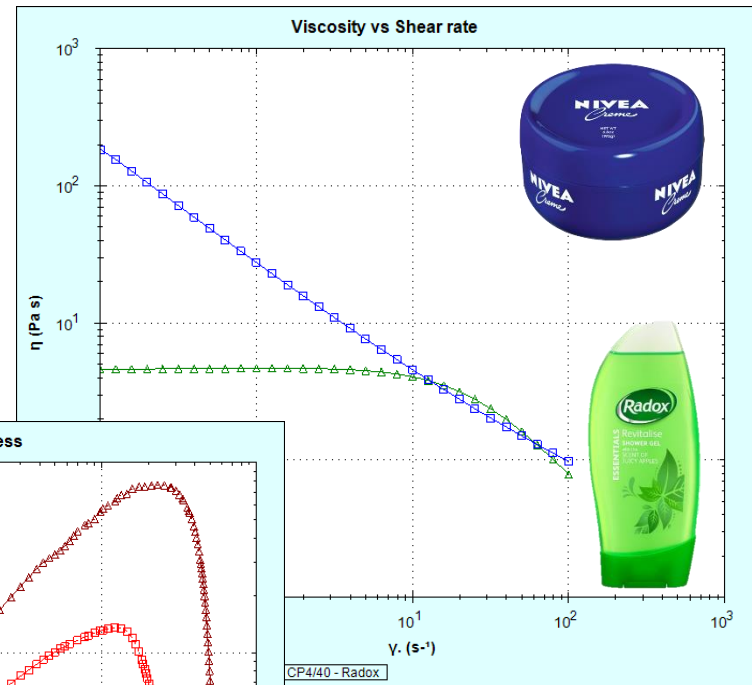
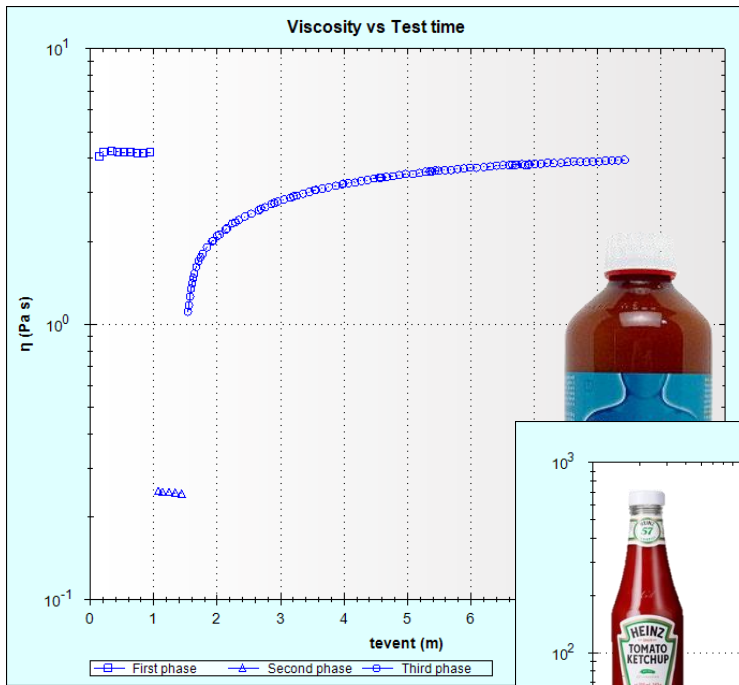




# SUMMARY & OVERVIEW



Malvern  
Panalytical



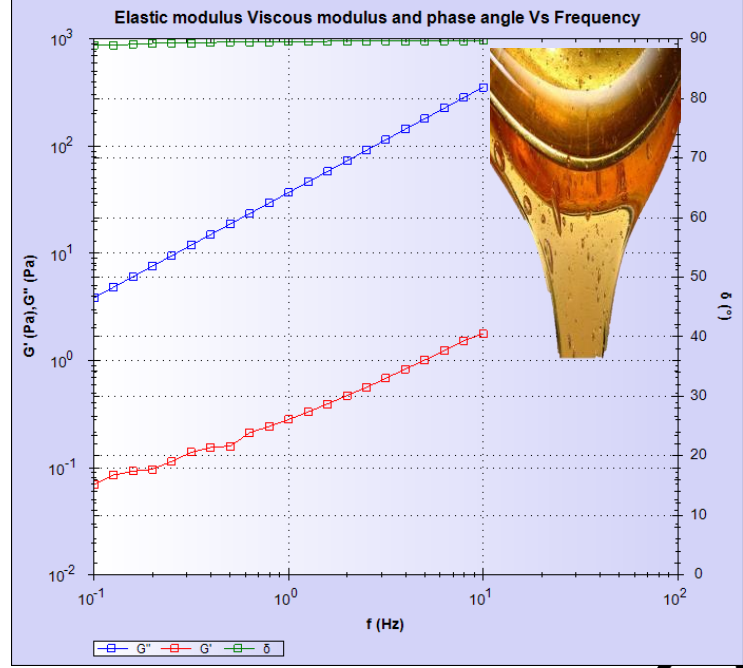
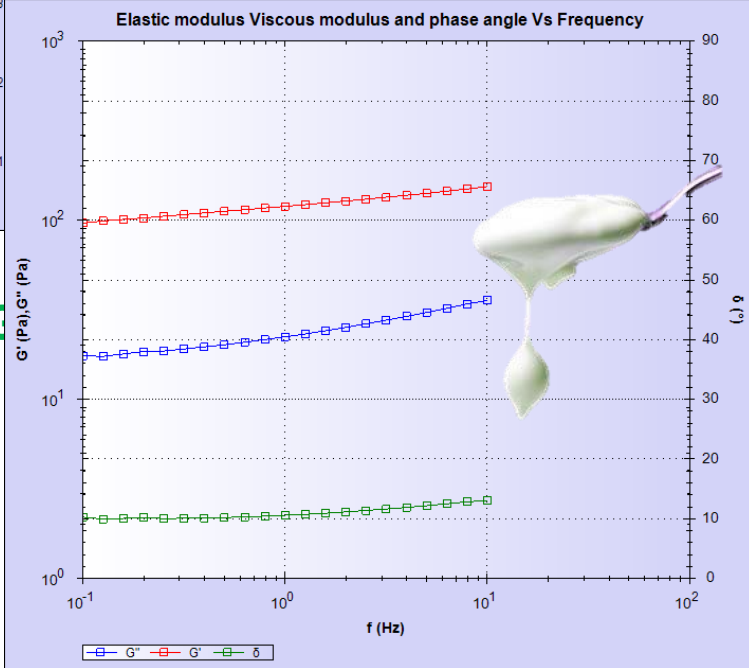
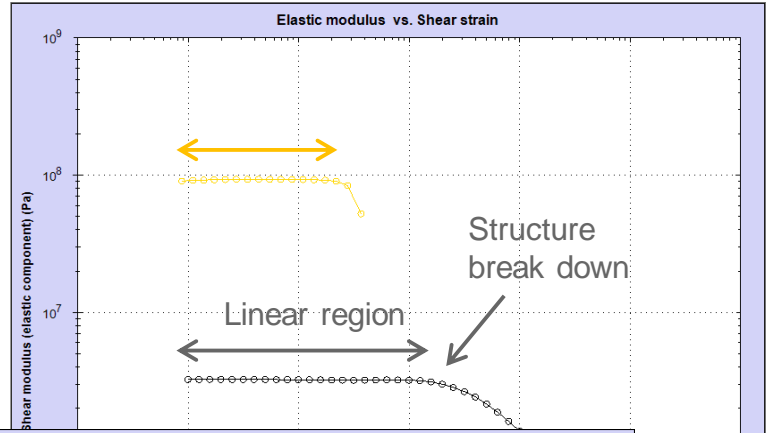
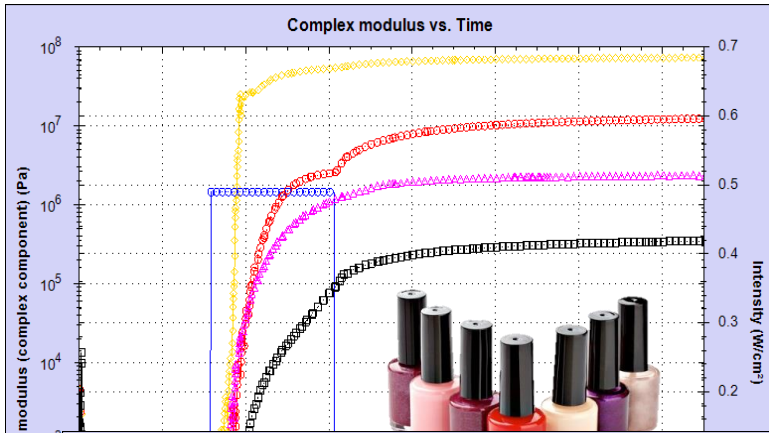
THIXOTROPY- VISCOMETRY

YIELD STRESS - VISCOMETRY

YIELD STRESS - VISCOMETRY

# RHEOLOGY MEASUREMENTS

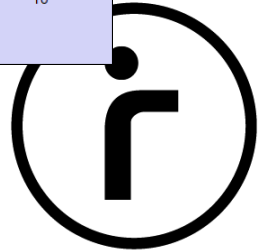




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LATION

# FREQUENCY SWEEP - OSCILLATION RHEOLOGY MEASUREMENTS





Thank you for your attention

Any questions?

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