

---

---

# Linear Viscoelasticity

*(its all a matter of time)*



*Gareth H. McKinley*

Department of Mechanical Engineering  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

*Including material from:*

Randy Ewoldt, University of Illinois  
Gerry Fuller, Stanford University  
Tim Lodge, U. Minnesota

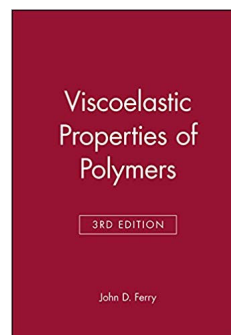
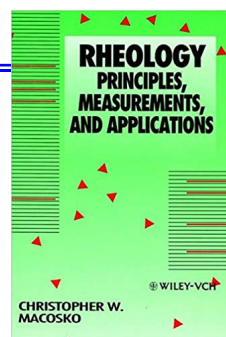
Introduction to Viscoelasticity | Göteborg, Sweden | Aug. 21 2019

---

---

## Key References

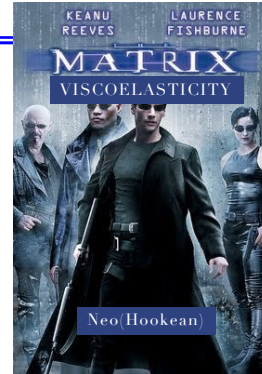
- Rheology: Principles, Measurements and Applications
  - C.W. Macosko (Wiley, 1994)
- Viscoelastic Properties of Polymers
  - J.D. Ferry (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 1980)



LVE-2

## The Goal of Today... (in honor of 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary)

- “I’m going to learn ~~Jiu Jitsu~~ VISCOELASTICITY?”



How to Learn Viscoelasticity

Before...



After... want some more???



LVE-3

## So What is a Complex Fluid?

- Complex fluids possess an underlying microstructure that can be affected by (and in turn then affect) a flow field
  - Gives rise to *Visco-Elasticity*
- Examples include:
  - Polymer solutions, polymer melts, liquid crystals
  - Foams, gels, bubbly-liquids,
  - Suspensions, emulsions, slurries, mud..
  - Food stuffs, paints, adhesives and other consumer products
- Basically everything except air, oil, water!
- These fluids violate Newton’s law of viscosity :

$$\tau_{yx} = \mu \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial y} \quad \boldsymbol{\tau} = \mu \{ \boldsymbol{\nabla} \mathbf{v} + \boldsymbol{\nabla} \mathbf{v}' \}$$

- **Rheology**: study of the material properties of complex fluids in specified/known flow fields
- **Non-Newtonian Fluid Dynamics**: self-consistent constitutions of conservation of mass, momentum PLUS a *constitutive model* (rheological equation of state)

For example: “Neo-Hookean Dumbbell Model”

Isaac Newton, FRS 1672



Robert Hooke, FRS 1663



\*Posthumous Portrait by Rita Greer (Wikipedia)

### Four Key Rheological Phenomena

$G(t)$  : viscoelasticity

$\eta(\dot{\gamma})$  shear thinning

$N_1(\dot{\gamma})$  shear normal stresses

$\eta_E(\dot{\epsilon})$  strain hardening

Image from Chris Macosko's book 5

### Rheology = study of deformation of complex materials

EXAMPLES:

Surfactant Solution  
(body wash)

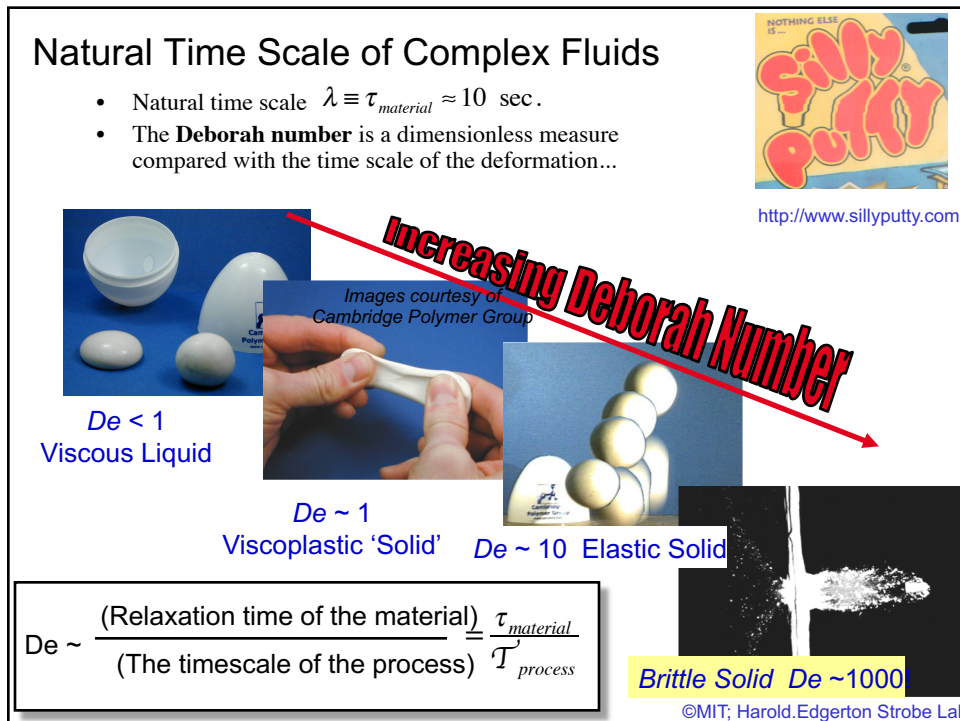
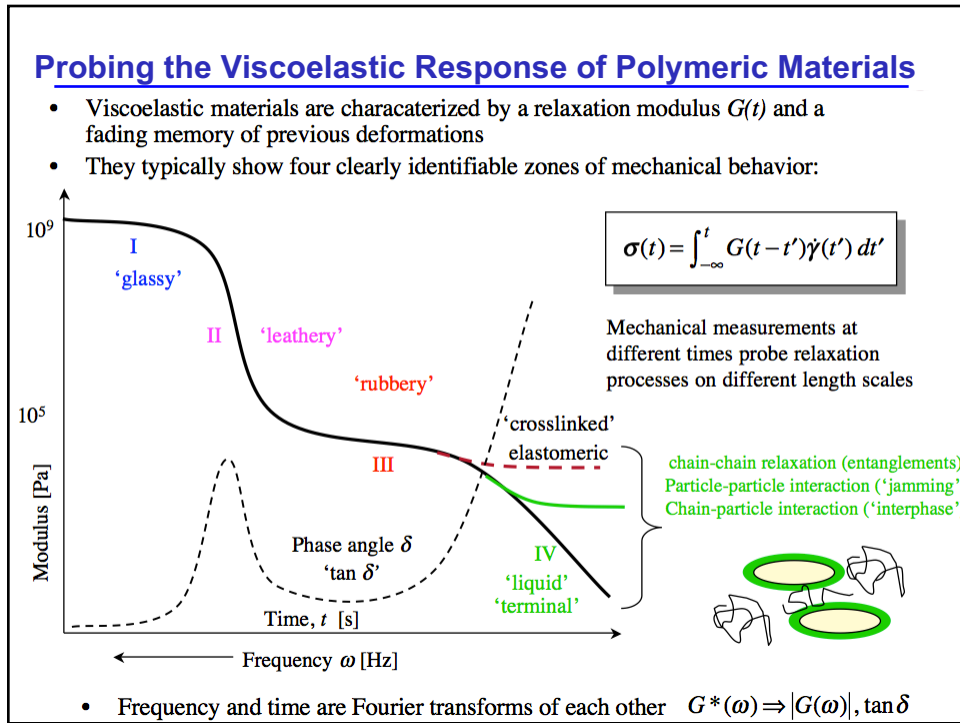
Dilute Polymer Solution  
(oil additive)

Entangled Polymers  
(polyethylene melt)

Emulsion  
(mayonnaise)

Suspension  
(latex paint)

Gel  
(gelatin) 6



## Origin of the Deborah number

see M. Reiner, *Physics Today*, January 1964, p. 62

**Judges 5:5** Famous song after the victory over the Philistines, she sang, "The mountains flowed before the Lord."

### *The Deborah Number*

By M. Reiner

The following lines are from an after-dinner talk presented at the Fourth International Congress on Rheology, which took place last August in Providence, R. I. Marcus Reiner, research professor at the Israel Institute of Technology, is currently in the United States as a visiting professor at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn.

physics where such problems will be dealt with."

I said, "This branch of physics already exists; it is called mechanics of continuous media, or mechanics of continua."

"No, this will not do," Bingham replied. "Such a designation will frighten away the chemists."

So he consulted the professor of classical languages and arrived at the designation of rheology, taking as the motto of the subject Heraclitus'  $\pi\alpha\nu\tau\alpha \rho\epsilon\iota$  or "everything flows."

Rheology has become a well-known branch of science, but most people

the time of observation of God is infinite. We may therefore well define as a nondimensional number the Deborah number

$$D = \text{time of relaxation} / \text{time of observation.}$$

The difference between solids and fluids is then defined by the magnitude of  $D$ . If your time of observation is very large, or, conversely, if the time of relaxation of the material under observation is very small, you see the material flowing. On the other hand, if the time of relaxation of the material is longer than your time of ob-

9

## A creep test:

A creep test (constant load) on silly putty



Another creep test (silicone gum!!)

From Youtube:





10mm

0° 30° 60° 90°

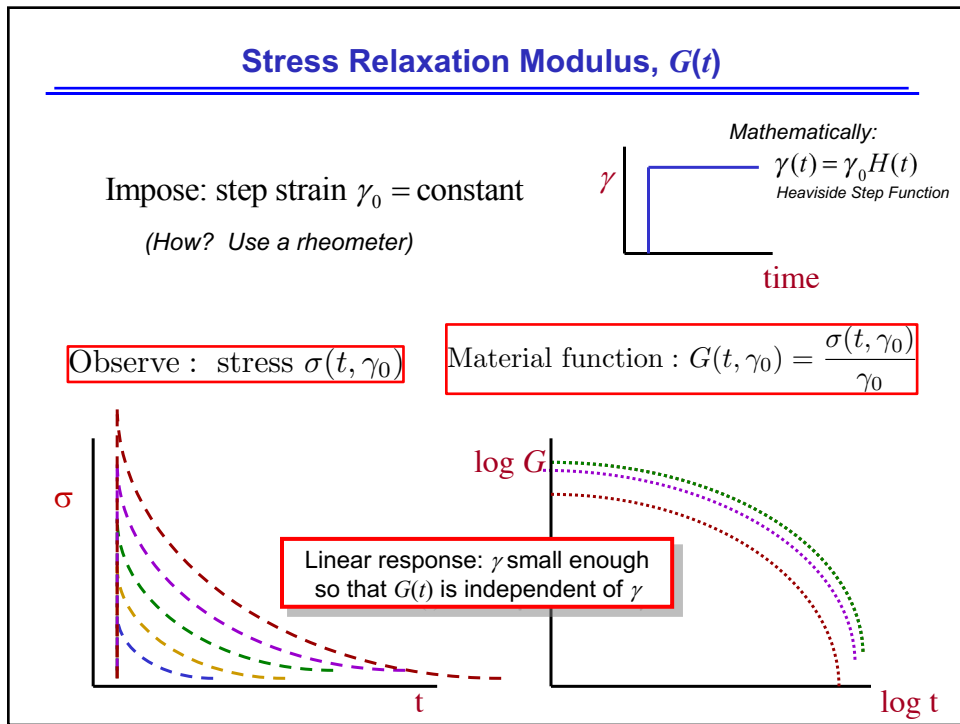
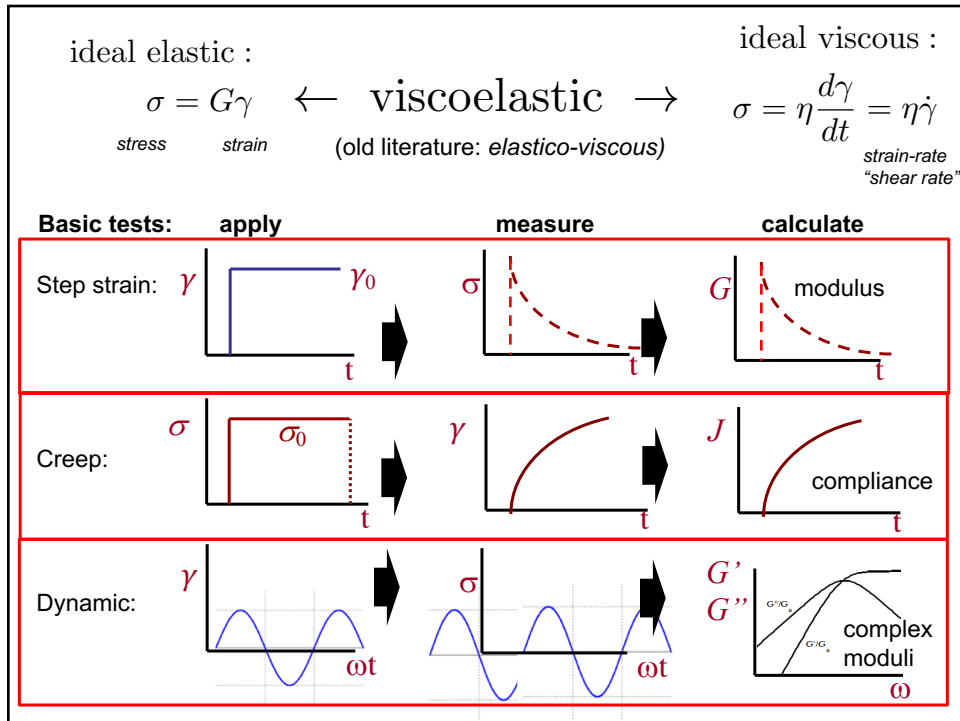
Elastic

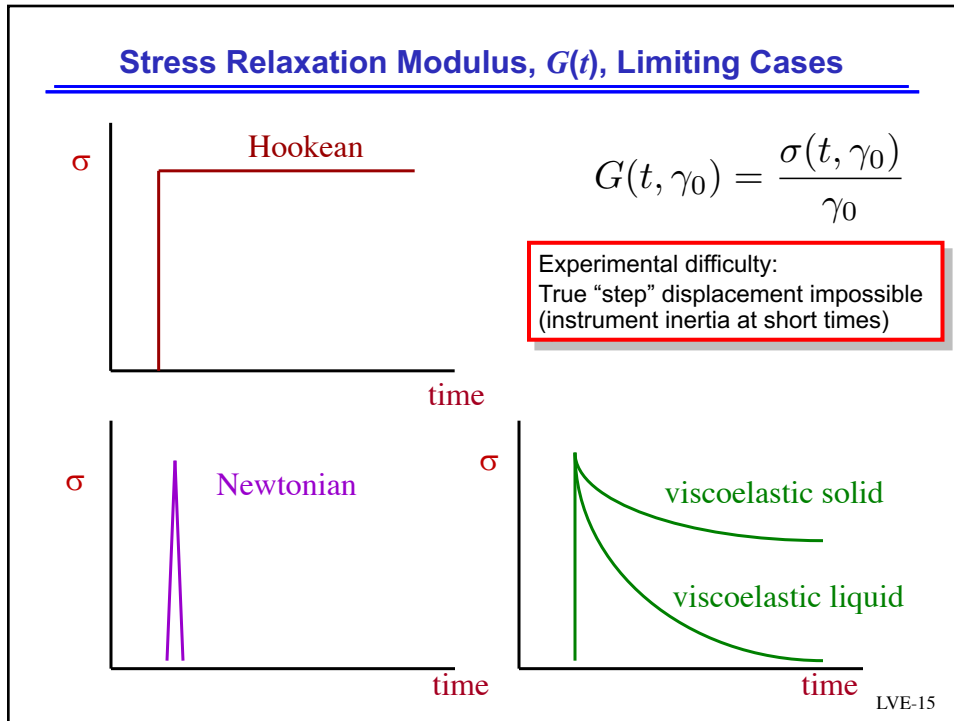
increasing amplitude  
(of applied stress and/or deformation)

Viscous

"Linear viscoelasticity" is the limit of small loading amplitude (does not disrupt microstructure)

ideal elastic :  $\sigma = G\gamma$  ← viscoelastic → ideal viscous :  $\sigma = \eta \frac{d\gamma}{dt} = \eta \dot{\gamma}$





### Maxwell Viscoelastic Model

- Let's motivate these linear tests using a simple model
- Elastic solid:  $\sigma_e = G\gamma$  spring
- Viscous liquid:  $\sigma_v = \eta\dot{\gamma}$  dashpot
- The Maxwell model is a *superposition* of these two:

total strain :  $\gamma = \gamma_e + \gamma_v$

stress is equal :  $\sigma = \sigma_e = \sigma_v$

$$\sigma + \frac{\eta_0}{G_0} \frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \eta_0 \frac{d\gamma}{dt} \rightarrow \sigma + \lambda \frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \eta_0 \frac{d\gamma}{dt}$$

$\lambda = \eta_0/G_0$  : relaxation time

16



### Example: Maxwell Model in Step Strain

- In a step-strain experiment, the material is subjected to an instantaneous strain of magnitude  $\gamma_0$
- Following the step, the strain is held fixed at this constant value and the stress is monitored in time.
- The initial stress is then  $G_0\gamma_0$
- Solving the Maxwell model, we have

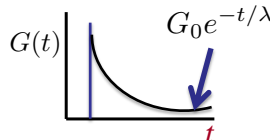
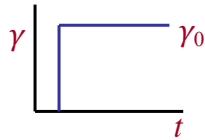
$$\sigma + \lambda \frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \eta_0 \frac{d\gamma}{dt}$$

$$\sigma = \sigma(t=0)e^{-t/\lambda} = G_0\gamma_0 e^{-t/\lambda}$$

- Dividing the stress by the strain, we get the "relaxation modulus"

$$G(t) = G_0 e^{-t/\lambda}$$

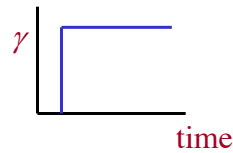
- No strain dependence
- Single relaxation time



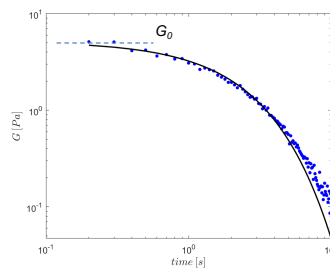
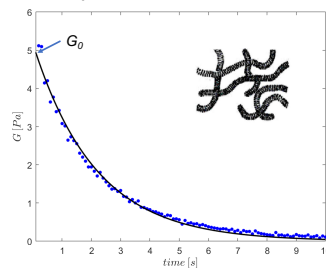
17

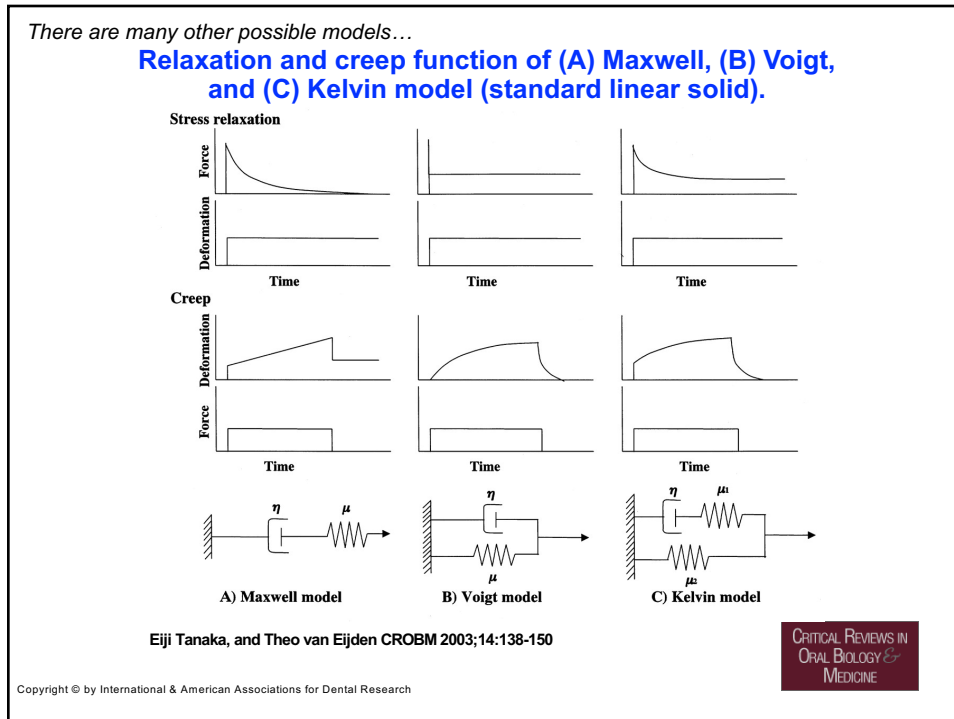
### Comparing with Measurements of $G(t)$

1. Impose: step strain  $\gamma_0 = \text{constant}$
2. Observe : stress  $\sigma(t, \gamma_0)$
3. Material function :  $G(t, \gamma_0) = \frac{\sigma(t, \gamma_0)}{\gamma_0}$
4. Choose a model and fit to data; e.g. Maxwell  $G(t) = G_0 e^{-t/\lambda}$



Example: Wormlike micellar solution (e.g. hair shampoo)





### Generalized Maxwell Model

$$G(t) = \sum_k G_k \exp(-t / \lambda_k)$$

A spectrum of relaxation times  $\{\lambda_k\}$  “Prony Series”

Extract spectrum by inversion (tricky) or

Fit to model e.g. for polymers, Rouse, Zimm, reptation...

$G(t)$  usually follows a kind of “equipartition”:

$$G(t) = \frac{\rho N_{av}}{M} k_B T \sum_k \exp(-t / \lambda_k)$$

other models:  $G(t) = At^{-n}$  power-law spectra, near gel point

LVE-20

