
Chapter 24

Polymer Composites

PRP

FRP

Nanocomposites

Composites [複合素材, 複合材料]

- ❑ dream: **strength of steel** with resilience of rubber
- ❑ goal: enhancing stiffness [modulus] and (tensile) strength
- ❑ **composite** = introducing 2nd phase of high modulus
 - ❑ composite vs blend vs toughened plastic
- ❑ matrix polymers
 - ❑ thermosets (crosslinked) ~ epoxy, unsaturated polyesters, --
 - ❑ thermoplastics ~ nylon, PP, PEEK, ---
- ❑ 2nd phase [reinforcement]
 - ❑ particulate ~ talc, mica, silica, --
 - often for low cost
 - ❑ fiber
 - glass fiber [GF], carbon [graphite] fiber [CF], Aramid, ---

Table 24.2

Fibre	Density ρ_f /Mg m ⁻³	Tensile Modulus E_f /GPa
E-glass	2.55	76
Aramid (Kevlar 49)	1.45	125
PBO (Zylon HM)	1.56	270
Carbon (high strength)	1.77	230
Carbon (high modulus)	1.90	360

Particulate composites

□ modulus

- upper bound ~ uniform strain [parallel, rule of mixture]

$$e_p = e_m = e_c \quad \sigma_p = E_p e_p \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_m = E_m e_m$$

$$\sigma_c = \phi_p \sigma_p + \phi_m \sigma_m = \phi_p E_p e_p + \phi_m E_m e_m$$

$$\frac{\sigma_c}{e_c} = E_c = \phi_p E_p + \phi_m E_m$$

- lower bound ~ uniform stress

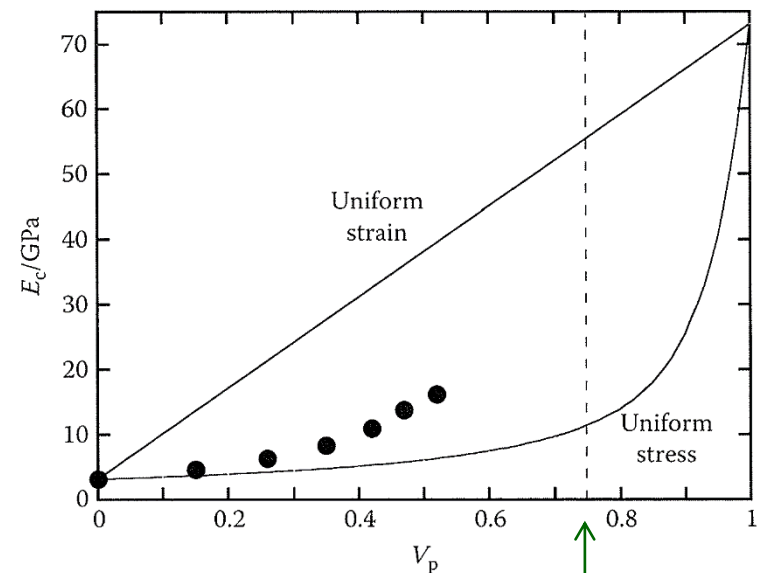
$$\sigma_p = \sigma_m = \sigma_c$$

$$E_c = \frac{E_p E_m}{\phi_m E_p + \phi_p E_m}$$

- experimental? **close to lower bound**

- why? low level of stress transfer → non-uniform strain
- hard to get high E by particulate
 - higher E by FRP; PRP for cost

Fig 24.6 p600

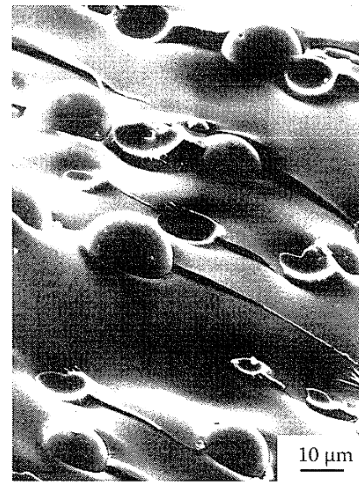
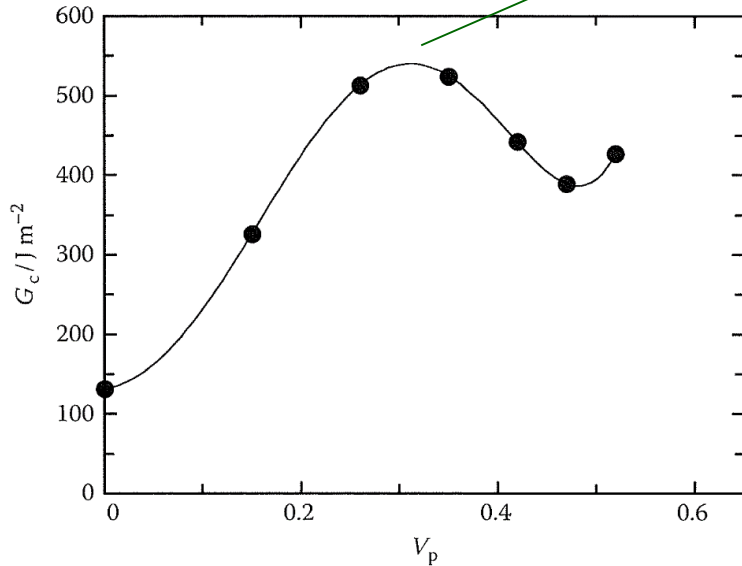


$\phi_p, \max = .75$

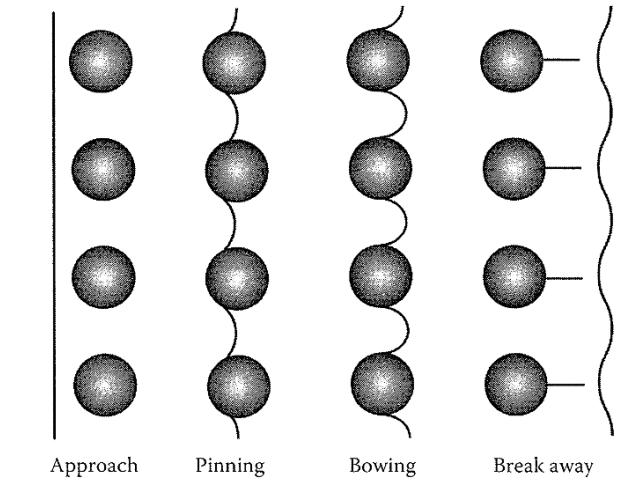
□ fracture toughness

- G_c actually enhanced
- toughening mechanism
 - crack pinning
 - multiple crazing and cavitation-yielding also

ϕ_p can be 75% p598
practically < 35%



(a)



(b)

Fig 24.7 and 8 p601
glass-particle-filled epoxy

Fiber reinforced plastics [FRP]

types

- continuous-fiber composite
 - stack of plies [prepregs]
 - unidirectional
 - crossply (0/90)
 - angle-ply (0/45/90---)
 - woven fabric
- short-fiber composite
 - direction random
 - length important

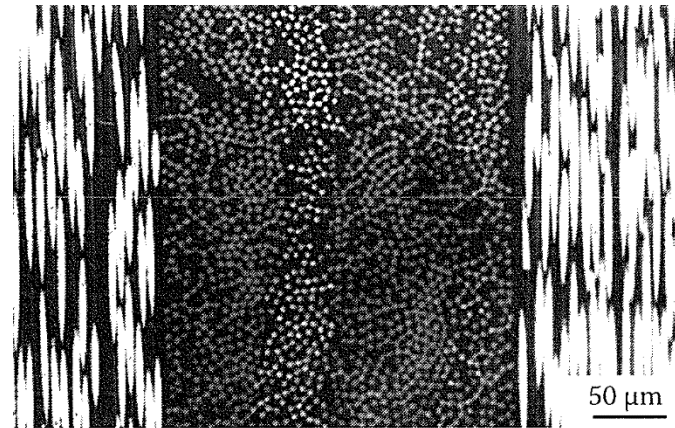


Fig 24.2
0/90/90/0 laminate

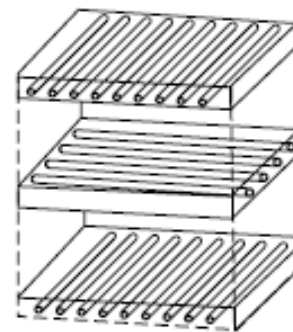
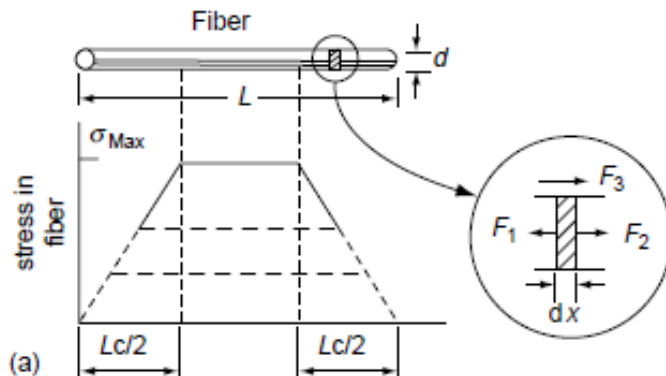
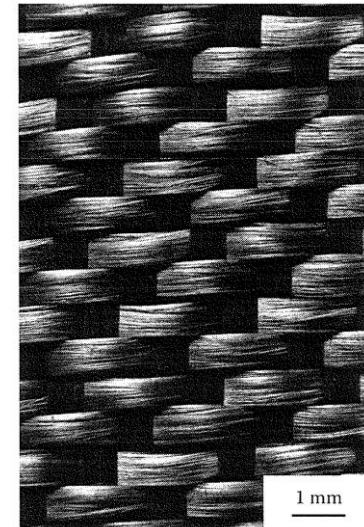


Fig 24.2
woven



□ modulus

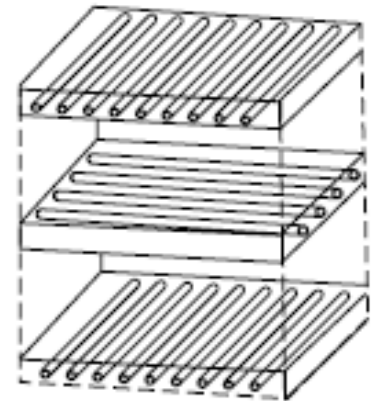
□ continuous fiber composite

- axial (0° -ply) \sim uniform strain

$$E_1 = E_f \phi_f + E_m \phi_m = E_f \phi_f + E_m (1 - \phi_f)$$

- transverse (90° -ply) \sim uniform stress

$$\frac{1}{E_2} = \frac{\phi_f}{E_f} + \frac{\phi_m}{E_m} = \frac{\phi_f}{E_f} + \frac{(1 - \phi_f)}{E_m}$$



□ short-fiber composite

$$E_c = K_e E_f \phi_f + E_m (1 - \phi_f)$$

- K_e = fiber efficiency factor
 - depends on fiber length [aspect ratio], orientation, interface
- $K_e = 0.1 - 0.6$

□ strength [fracture]

- continuous fiber better in tension
 - tensile strength
- short fiber better in compression or shear
 - flexural strength

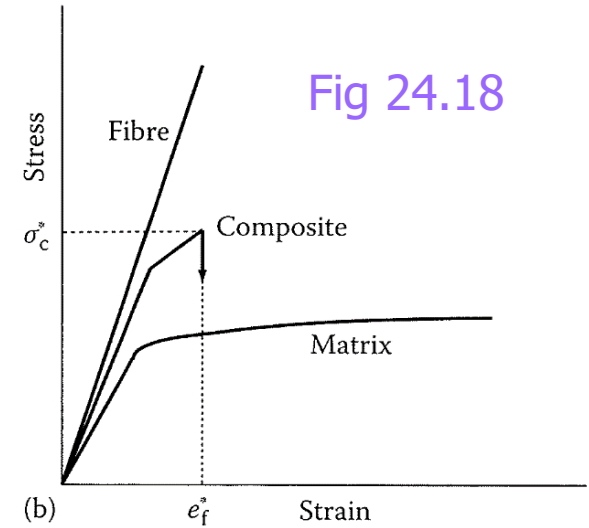


Fig 24.19

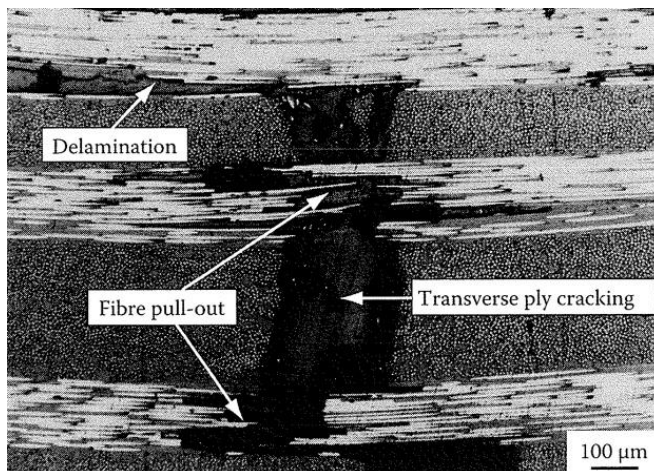
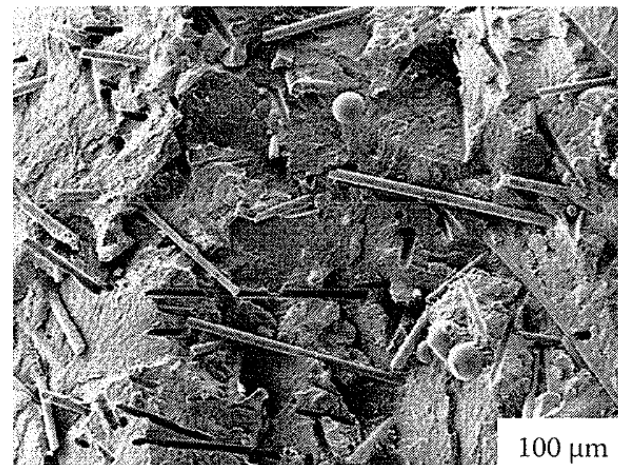


Fig 24.20

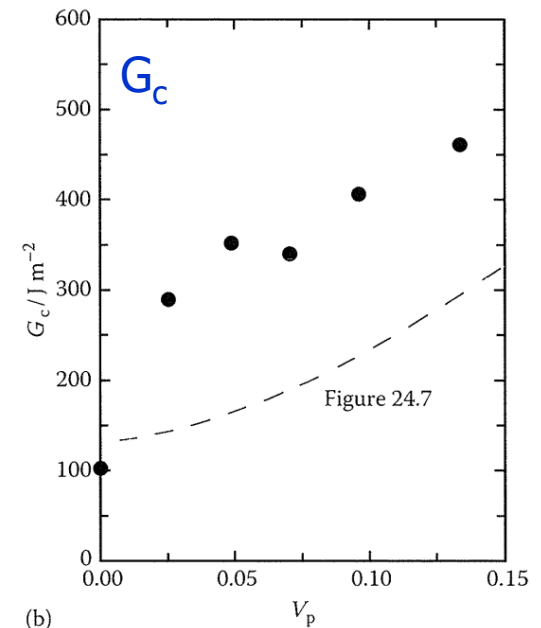
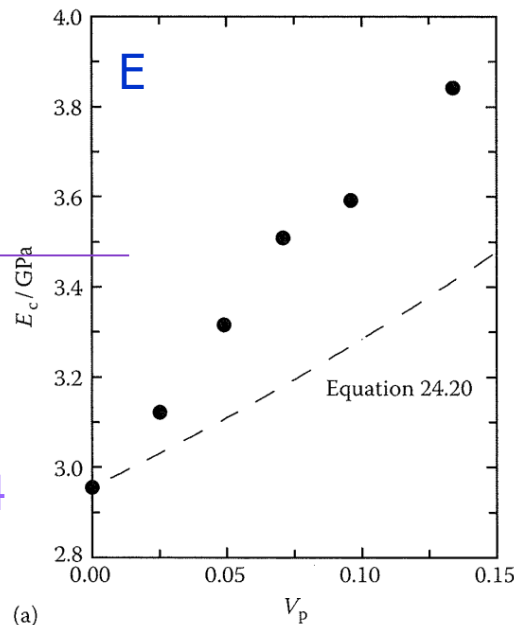


Nanocomposites

- nanosized (< 100 nm) reinforcement
 - compared to macro- or micro-composites;
 - smaller flaw
 - larger interfacial area
 - higher performance **at much lower content ($< 5\%$)**
 - modulus, strength, heat resistance, transparency, processability

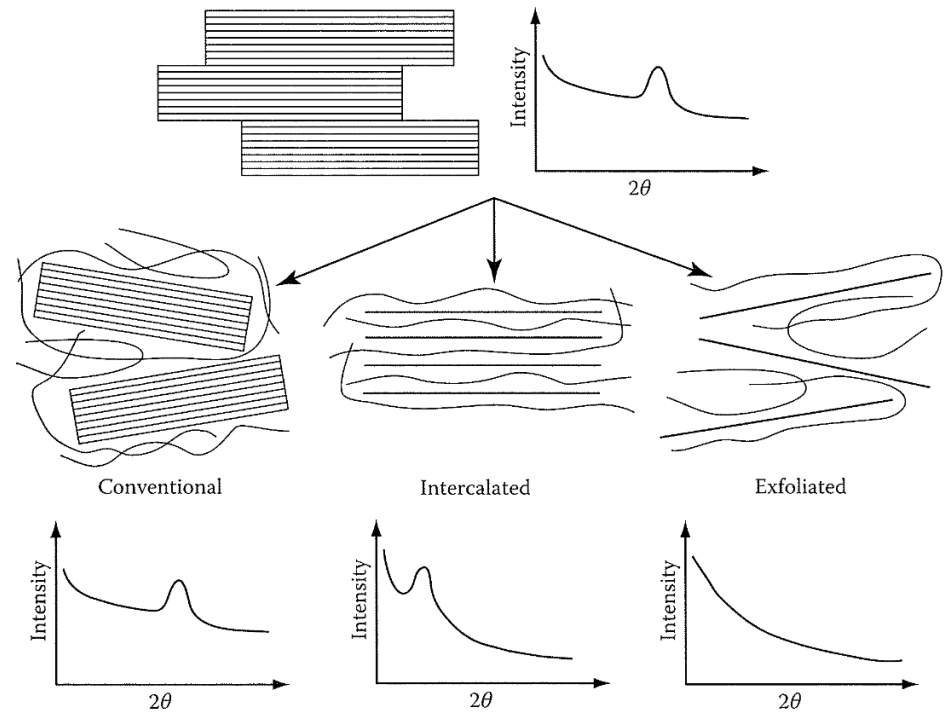
- nanoparticles
 - carbon black
 - nanosilica
 - fullerene

Fig 24.24



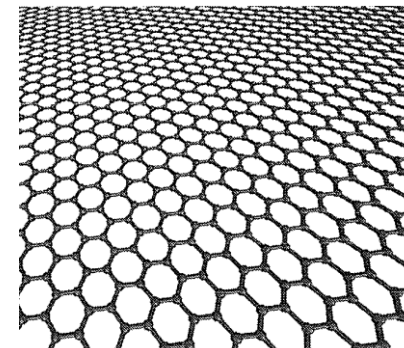
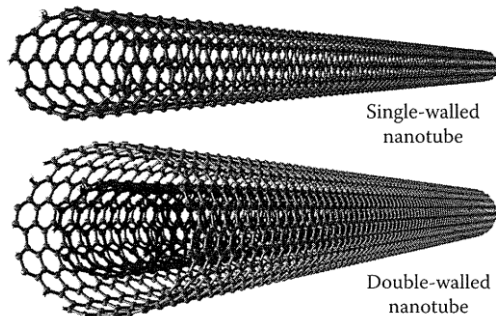
□ nanoplatelets

- nanoclay [nanosilicate]
- graphene
- graphene nanoplate [GNP]
 - intercalated or exfoliated
 - barrier (and conducting) properties



□ nanotubes

- CNT ~ SWNT, MWNT
 - conducting property



Chapter 25 + Extra 2

Electrical and Other Properties

Electrical properties

Permeability

Stability

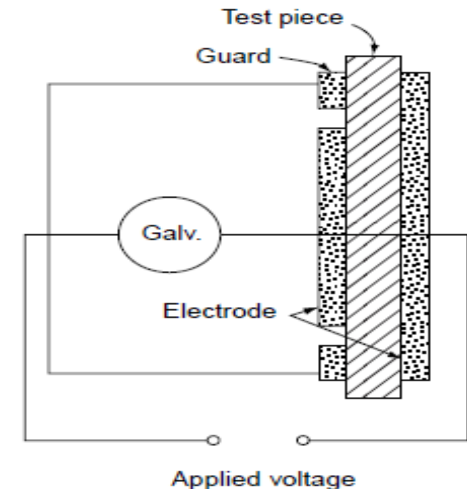
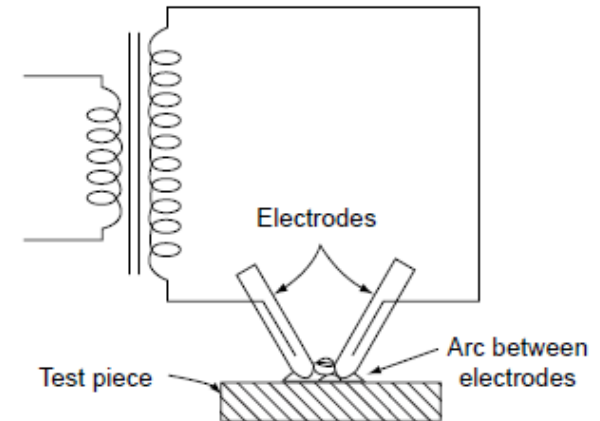
Optical properties

Electrical properties

Ch 24++ sl 11

- ❑ at high electric field
 - ❑ electrical failure, treeing
 - ❑ **arc resistance**
 - arcing \sim forming carbonized conducting path across surface
 - ❑ No direct relation to chemical structure

- ❑ at low electrical field 1: resistivity
 - ❑ Polymers are insulators.
 - resistivity $\sim 10^8 - 10^{20} \Omega\text{cm}$
 - ❑ **insulation resistance**
 - composite of
 - volume resistivity \sim depends on material
 - surface resistivity \sim depends on surface finish
 - 3-electrode measurement



□ at low electrical field 2: dielectric

- **dielectric constant**, $\epsilon = C / C_0$
 - $\epsilon \propto$ polarizability $[\alpha] \propto$ refractive index
 - non-polar polymers, $\epsilon = n^2$
 - polar polymers, $\epsilon > n^2 \leftarrow$ electronic + orientational (dipole) polarization
 - ϵ (α and n also) related to chemical structure
 - $\epsilon = \delta / 7.0$

$C_0 =$ capacitance of vacuum
 $C_{\text{air}} = 1.0005$

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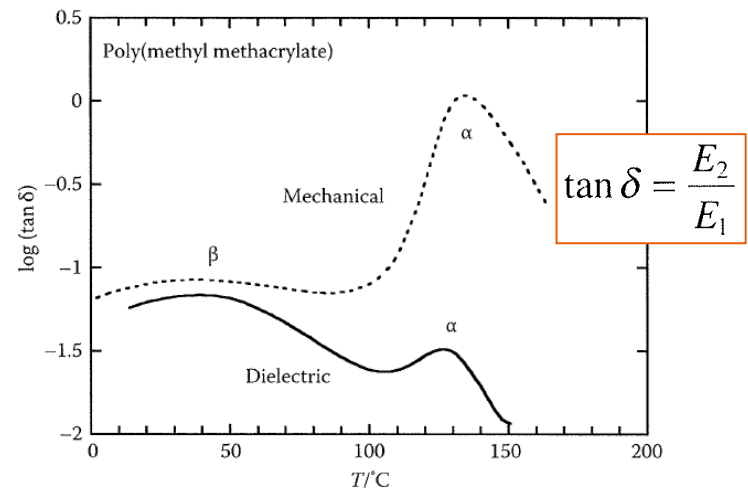
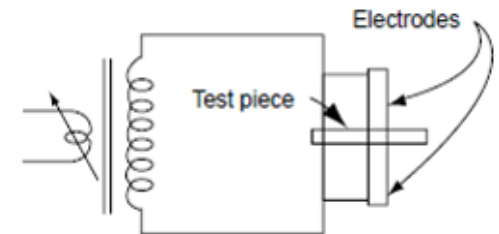
□ **dielectric strength**

- max V that produce dielectric breakdown [leak]
- depends on thickness, temp, structure

□ **dielectric relaxation**

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

$$\frac{\epsilon''}{\epsilon'} = \tan \delta \propto \frac{\text{energy dissipated per cycle}}{\text{energy stored per cycle}}$$



Properties of Polymers

- ❑ Material properties
 - ❑ chemical properties
 - stability, solubility, permeability, flammability
 - ❑ electrical properties
 - ❑ optical properties
 - ❑ thermal properties
 - ❑ mechanical properties
 - ❑ Processing properties
 - ❑ Product properties ~ product design
- ❖ 'There are no bad materials, but only bad articles.'

Permeability

- in membranes \sim permeability
- in packaging \sim barrier property

□ diffusion-solution model

□ absorption-diffusion-desorption

□ $P = D S$

□ Diffusivity

- T_g of polymer

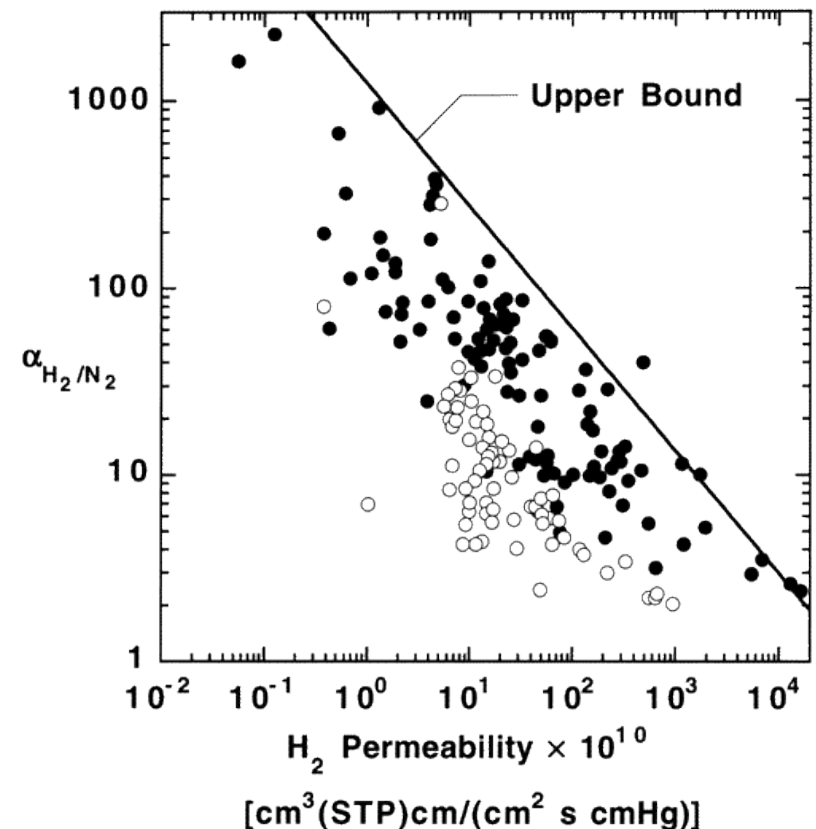
- size of gas

□ Solubility

- boiling point of gas

- polarity of gas and polymer [$\Delta\delta$]

□ permeability vs selectivity



Stability

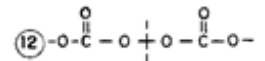
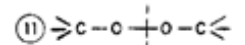
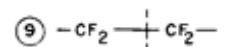
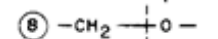
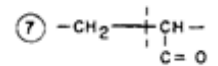
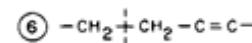
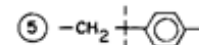
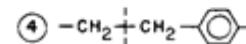
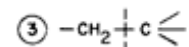
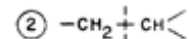
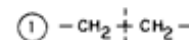
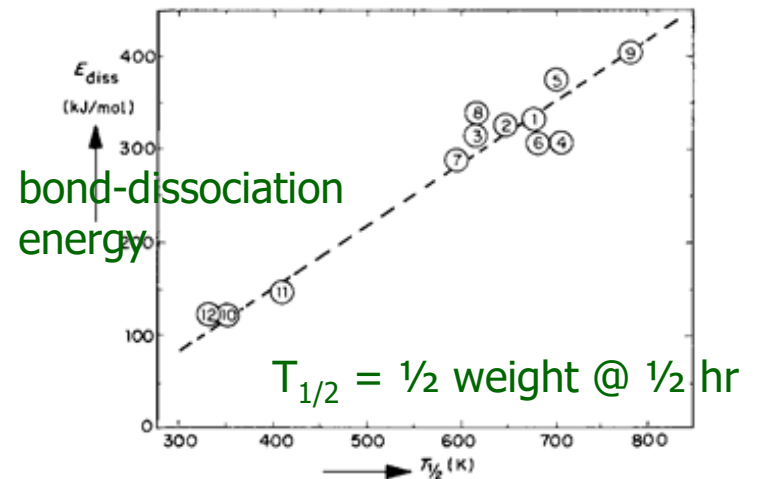
- ❑ thermal stability
 - ❑ depends on the dissociation energy of **the weakest bond**
 - ❑ measurement ~ thermal gravitational analysis [TGA]

- ❑ light [UV] stability
 - ❑ 300 nm \approx 400 kJ/mol
 - ❑ depends on **absorption wavelength**

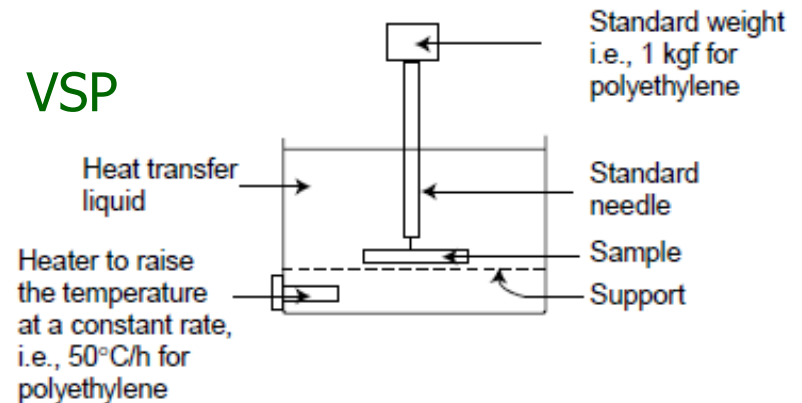
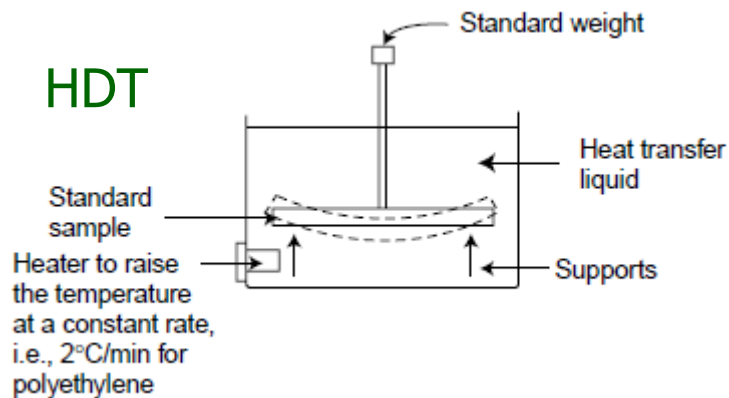
- ❑ oxidation stability
 - ❑ thermal and photochemical
→ related to thermal/light stability

- ❑ hydrolysis stability
 - ❑ depends on constituent groups

- weatherability [내후성]
- usually covered by addition of **stabilizers**



- ❑ thermal stability [열안정성] vs heat resistance [내열성]
 - ❑ thermal stability \leftarrow bond strength
 - ❑ heat resistance $\leftarrow T_g$ or T_m
 - ❑ different property, but related usually
- ❑ heat resistance evaluation
 - ❑ heat distortion [deflection] temperature [HDT]
 - = deflection temperature under load [DTUL]
 - ❑ Vicat softening temperature [VSP]

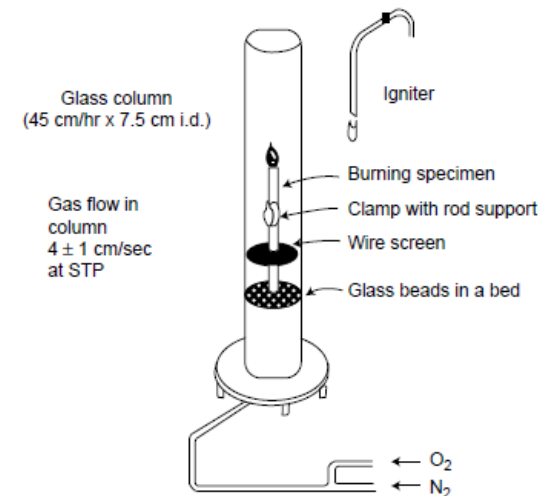


Flammability

- burning = 2-step process
 - pyrolysis [decompose] → gas + char – Q_1
 - combustion [ignite-flame] → combustion product + Q_2
- for fire resistance [flame retardation]
 - high thermal stability
 - low gas (Q_2) and high char ← low H/C (like ring)
 - inhibiting gas like halogen; e.g. PVC
- evaluation ~ **limited oxygen index [LOI]**

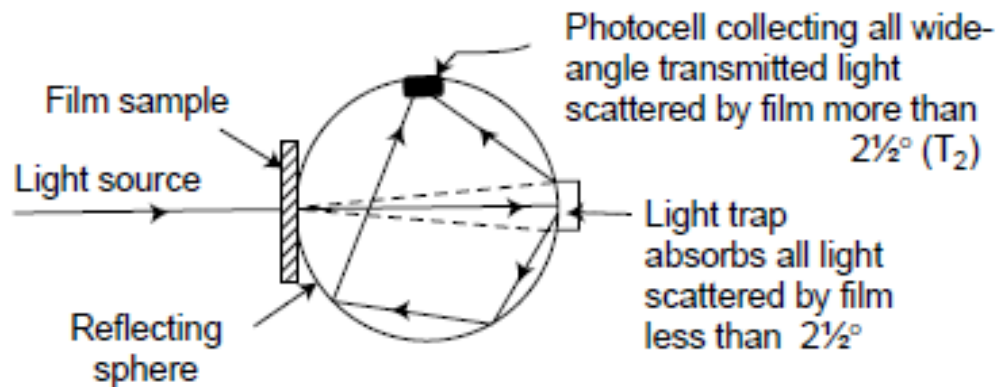
$$\text{LOI} = \frac{[\text{O}_2]}{[\text{O}_2] + [\text{N}_2]} \times 100$$

- high LOI ~ high flame retardancy [난연성]



Optical properties

- Light upon interaction with polymer
 - reflected ~ **gloss** ← surface roughness
 - absorbed ~ **color** ← chromophore
 - refracted, scattered, transmitted ~ **clarity** ← 2nd phase
- optical clarity
 - transparent < 30% haze < translucent < opaque
 - haze ~ fraction of light 2.5° deviated by scattering



- ❑ opaque due to
 - ❑ scattering by heterogeneity [different refractive index]
 - ❑ larger than wavelength of visible light [340 nm]
 - impurity
 - 2nd phase
 - crystallite

- ❑ for a semicrystalline polymer to be transparent
 - ❑ small crystallites
 - ❑ $\rho_{\text{crystal}} \approx \rho_{\text{amorphous}}$
 - ❑ biaxial orientation

- ❑ refractive index
 - ❑ optical lenses
 - ❑ optical fibers \sim total reflection