Wolfgang Grellmann Sabine Seidler

# Polymer Testing





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Grellmann, Seidler **Polymer Testing** 

Wolfgang Grellmann Sabine Seidler (Eds.)

# Polymer Testing

2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

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### **Preface to the Second Edition**

The textbook *"Polymer Testing"* is mainly intended for the education of university students and students of universities of applied sciences. This textbook was deemed to be necessary because the testing of polymers has become established as a separate scientific discipline within polymer sciences in recent years. The textbook was first published in German in 2005. An improved English version was published in 2007, and a Russian edition appeared in 2010 with special consideration given to the specific GOST standards.

The positive reviews from our colleagues demonstrate that the concept "Method – Parameters – Examples" meets students` needs and is also accepted in practice.

Although there have been no significant changes to basic testing methods since the first edition appeared, there have been considerable advances in the evaluation of structure-property correlations and standardisation. It has become increasingly necessary to provide material-scientific parameters to quantify the relationship between microstructure and macroscopic properties. Therefore, it seemed necessary to publish a second edition. The previous edition has been comprehensively revised, and the new edition covers all the latest developments in the field, including all amendments to the most important polymer test standards up to May 2013.

Using the same concept and methodical structure in the presentation of polymer test procedures, the parameters obtained by the latter and the selected examples, the new edition provides university students and students of universities of applied sciences with a good and fast source of information. This is why the textbook has been widely adopted by universities and universities of applied sciences for the teaching of *"Polymer Testing"*.

In order to provide support the lecturers, a PowerPoint presentation has been created for all pictures and tables. It can be downloaded from www.hanserpublications.com. In this regard, we would like to thank Prof. Dr.-Ing. Christian Bierögel, in particular, for his valuable advice in the preparation of this edition and especially for the new publication of the pictures, which are now in colour, and his extensive work on producing the PowerPoint presentation of all pictures. A Wiki dictionary, *"Plastics Testing and Diagnostics*", has been produced on the scientific basis of the book and of publications from the Merseburg scientific school, and it often provides more detail than the book. The dictionary is available at www.polymerservice-merseburg.de/wiki-lexikon-kunststoffpruefung and can be used for practical work. An extensive compilation of fracture mechanics test specimens and approximation equations to calculate parameters in fracture mechanics are just two examples of what the dictionary offers.

We would like to thank Carl Hanser Verlag, especially Ms. Dr. N. Warkotsch, Ms. Dr. C. Strohm, Ms. Dipl.-Ing. (FH) U. Wittmann and Mr. S. Jörg, for their much-appreciated and reliable assistance.

June 2013

The Editors

### **Preface to the First Edition**

This book is based on the editors' extensive experience in research, development and education in the field of materials science and especially polymer testing, polymer diagnostics and failure analysis. The results of their work were published in several reference books about deformation and fracture behavior of polymers, in numerous single publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals and in proceedings. Given the fact that the field of science undergoes a rapid and dynamic development it seemed prudent to present these results in a textbook for students.

The following factors convinced us that a comprehensive representation of the state of knowledge was needed:

- The ever-increasing importance of this materials group for continued technical progress led to an increasing share of polymers and compounds in various applications.
- The increased safety awareness led to the development of hybrid methods of polymer diagnostics, which enable a complex view of the connection between loading and material behavior under actual loading conditions and ambient influences
- As a result of the development of fiber-reinforced thermoplastic and thermosetting composite materials, new challenges to polymer testing methods emerged.
- The increasing use of polymers and elastomers in medical technology for various applications requires the development of technological testing methods for viability, serviceability, operating safety and /or service life.
- As a consequence of the trend to miniaturization components (microsystems), more suitable testing methods are necessary for the evaluation of various thermomechanical loadings of materials properties, e.g., in highly integrated electronic components.

In addition, a number of new standards and regulatory codes for polymer testing have been introduced over the past years, further emphasizing the need for a redesigned textbook for this discipline of science. The book presents a comprehensive representation of knowledge provided by respected colleagues from universities, universities of applied sciences and the polymer industry. A list of co-authors as well as acknowledgements for numerous colleagues and co-workers follow on separate pages.

The editors and co-authors tried hard to overcome the limits of classic polymer testing using ASTM and ISO standards in order to make the importance of polymer testing for the development and application of new polymers, composite materials and materials compounds, as well as the introduction of new technologies, more recognizable.

This book is primarily designed for students of bachelor, diploma and master courses of material science, material technology, plastic technology, mechanical engineering, process engineering and chemical engineering. It can be used by students, teachers of universities and colleges for supplementary studies in the disciplines of chemistry and industrial engineering. The methods of polymer testing are also essential to the development and application of biomedical or nanostructured materials.

With the publication of this book we hope that it will not only serve the important task of training of young scientists in physical and material oriented disciplines, but will also make a contribution to further education of professional polymer testers, design engineers, and technologists.

We thank Carl Hanser Publishers for publishing this book, entitled "Polymer Testing", especially we are grateful to Dr. Christine Strohm who thoroughly revised the complete text for this edition. We also thank Dr. Paul I. Anderson for the translation of several chapters. The main idea of this book was based on the 1992s book by Dr. Heinz Schmiedel "Handbook of Polymer Testing", written in German language. We kept the physical-methodical approach and also, the comprehensive chapter "Fracture Toughness Measurements in Engineering Plastics" based on our research work in this field for many years. For example it is pointed out on the extensive collection of fracture mechanics specimen and the evaluation equations for determination of fracture mechanics parameters.

We want to thank sincerely all co-workers from the Center of Engineering Science and the Institute of Polymer Materials e.V. of the Martin-Luther-University of Halle-Wittenberg and all collaborators from the Institute of Materials Science and Technology of the Vienna University of Technology who, with their commitment and their willing cooperation, made the publication of this book possible in the first place.

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May 2007

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## **Table of Contents**

No	Nomenclature (Selection)				XXI
Тε	Γerminology				XXIX
Symbols and Abbreviated Terms				XXXIII	
1	Introduction			1	
	1.1	The Genesis of Polymer Testing as a Science			1
	1.2	Factors Influencing Data Acquisition			4
	1.3	Classification of Polymer Testing Methods			5
	1.4	Standards and Regulatory Codes for Polymer Testing			7
	1.5	Compilation of Standards			10
	1.6	References by Area of Specialization			11
2	Preparation of Specimens			15	
	2.1	Intro	troduction		
	2.2	Testing Molding Materials			17
	2.3	Specimen Preparation			18
		2.3.1	General	Remarks	18
		2.3.2	Specime	en Preparation by Direct Shaping	19
			2.3.2.1	Production of Specimens from Thermoplastic	
				Molding Materials	19
			2.3.2.2	Production of Specimens from Thermosetting	
				Molding Materials	26
			2.3.2.3	Production of Specimens from Elastomeric Materials	28
		2.3.3	Specime	en Preparation by Indirect Shaping	29
		2.3.4	Characte	erization of Specimen State	31
	2.4	Specimen Preparation and Conditioning			33
	2.5	Compilation of Standards			36
	2.6	References			38
3	Determining Process-Related Properties			39	
	3.1 Molding Materials			39	

	3.2 Det		rmining Bulk Material Properties	
		3.2.1	Bulk Density, Compacted Apparent Density, Fill Factor	40
		3.2.2	Pourability, Angle of Repose, Slide Angle	41
	3.3	Determining the Properties of Fluids		
		3.3.1	Rheological Fundamentals	
			3.3.1.1 Viscosity of <i>Newtonian</i> and non- <i>Newtonian</i> Fluids	42
			3.3.1.2 Temperature and Pressure Dependence of Viscosity	46
			3.3.1.3 Molecular Mass Influence on Viscosity	46
			3.3.1.4 Volume Properties	47
		3.3.2	Measuring Rheological Properties	48
			3.3.2.1 Rheometry/Viscometry	48
			3.3.2.2 Rotational Rheometers	49
			3.3.2.3 Capillary Rheometers	55
			3.3.2.4 Extensional Rheometers	66
		3.3.3	Selecting Measurement Methods for Characterizing	
			Polymer Materials	68
	3.4	Comp	pilation of Standards	69
	3.5	5 References		
4	Mechanical Properties of Polymers			73
	4.1 Fundamental Principles of Mechanical Behavior			
		4.1.1	Mechanical Loading Parameters	73
			4.1.1.1 Stress	73
			4.1.1.2 Strain	76
		4.1.2	Material Behavior and Constitutive Equations	77
			4.1.2.1 Elastic Behavior	77
			4.1.2.2 Viscous Behavior	80
			4.1.2.3 Viscoelastic Behavior	82
			4.1.2.4 Plastic Behavior	88
	4.2	Mechanical Spectroscopy		
		4.2.1	Experimental Determination of Time Dependent	
			Mechanical Properties	90
			4.2.1.1 Static Testing Methods	91
			4.2.1.2 Dynamic–Mechanical Analysis (DMA)	92
		4.2.2	Time and Temperature Dependence of Viscoelastic Properties	99
		4.2.3	Structural Factors Influencing Viscoelastic Properties	102
	4.3	Quasi-Static Test Methods		
		4.3.1	Deformation Behavior of Polymers	104

	4.3.2	Tensile Tests on Polymers		110
		4.3.2.1	Theoretical Basis of the Tensile Test	110
		4.3.2.2	Conventional Tensile Tests	113
		4.3.2.3	Enhanced Information of Tensile Tests	122
	4.3.3	Tear Tea	st	128
	4.3.4	Compre	ession Test on Polymers	130
		4.3.4.1	Theoretical Basis of the Compression Test	130
		4.3.4.2	Performance and Evaluation of Compression Tests	133
	4.3.5	Bend Te	ests on Polymers	138
		4.3.5.1	Theoretical Basis of the Bend Test	138
		4.3.5.2	The Standardized Bend Test	144
4.4	Impa	Impact Loading		
	4.4.1	Introduction		
	4.4.2	Charpy	Impact Test and Charpy Notched Impact Test	150
	4.4.3	Tensile-	Impact and Notched Tensile-Impact Tests	155
	4.4.4	Free-fall	ling Dart Test and Puncture Impact Test	158
4.5	Fatigue Behavior			161
	4.5.1	Fundam	nentals	161
	4.5.2	Experin	nental Determination of Fatigue Behavior	163
	4.5.3	Plannin	g and Evaluating Fatigue Tests	167
	4.5.4	Factors Influencing the Fatigue Behavior and		
		Service-	Life Prediction of Service Life for Polymers	169
4.6	Long	g-Term Static Behavior		171
	4.6.1	Fundamentals		171
	4.6.2	Tensile	Creep Test	173
	4.6.3	Flexural	l Creep Test	180
	4.6.4	Creep C	Compression Test	181
4.7	Hardness Test Methods			183
	4.7.1	Principles of Hardness Testing		183
	4.7.2	Conven	tional Hardness Testing Methods	185
		4.7.2.1	Test Methods for Determining Hardness Values	
			after Unloading	185
		4.7.2.2	Test Methods for Determining Hardness Values	
			under Load	187
		4.7.2.3	Special Testing Methods	191
		4.7.2.4	Comparability of Hardness Values	191
	4.7.3	Instrum	ented Hardness Test	193
		4.7.3.1	Fundamentals of Measurement Methodology	193

			4.7.3.2	Material Parameters Derived from Instrumented	
				Hardness Tests	195
			4.7.3.3	Examples of Applications	198
		4.7.4	Correlat	ting Microhardness with Yield Stress and	
			Fracture	e Toughness	200
	4.8	Friction and Wear			203
		4.8.1	Introdu	ction	203
		4.8.2	Fundam	nentals of Friction and Wear	205
			4.8.2.1	Frictional Forces	205
			4.8.2.2	Temperature Increase Resulting from Friction	206
			4.8.2.3	Wear as a System Characteristic	207
			4.8.2.4	Wear Mechanisms and Formation of Transfer Film	207
		4.8.3	Wear Te	ests and Wear Characteristics	208
			4.8.3.1	Selected Model Wear Tests	209
			4.8.3.2	Wear Parameters and Their Determination	211
			4.8.3.3	Wear Parameters and Their Presentation	212
		4.8.4	Selected	Experimental Results	213
			4.8.4.1	Counterbody Influence	213
			4.8.4.2	Influencing of Fillers	214
			4.8.4.3	Influence of Loading Parameters	216
			4.8.4.4	Predicting Properties Via Artificial Neural Networks	217
		4.8.5	Summa	ry	219
	4.9	Comp	Compilation of Standards		
	4.10	Refer	leferences		
5	Fract	cture Toughness Measurements in Engineering Plastics			233
	5.1	Intro	duction		
	5.2	Curre	ent State and Development Trends		
	5.3	Fundamental Concepts of Fracture Mechanics			235
		5.3.1	Linear-I	Elastic Fracture Mechanics (LEFM)	235
		5.3.2	Crack-T	Tip-Opening Displacement (CTOD) Concept	240
		5.3.3	J-Integr	al Concept	243
		5.3.4	Crack R	esistance (R-) Curve Concept	245
	5.4	Experimental Determination of Fracture Mechanical Parameters			247
		5.4.1	Quasi-st	tatic Loading	247
		5.4.2	Instrum	ented Charpy Impact Test	251
			5.4.2.1	Test Configuration	251
			5.4.2.2	Maintenance of Experimental Conditions	252