

Model answer for  
 Polymer Midterm Exam July 2018  
 (الامتحان)

Q 1.

a. physical structures

- \* Linear polymer
- \* Cross-Linked poly
- \* Branched-chain

Chemical structures (on the basis of functionality)

- \* monofunctional
- \* Bifunctional
- \* Trifunctional

b. preparation method

- \* Condensation polymerization method

- \* ~~Condensation~~
- \* Addition

\* Bulk polymerization

\* Solution

\* suspension

\* Emulsion

Homogeneous

Heterogeneous

c. physical properties

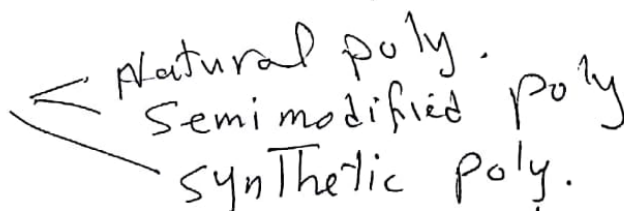
\* Thermoplastic

\* Thermoset

\* Elastomers

\* fibers

by origin



2 - 6 pts to design polymer product

1 - polymer: - properties of polymer

- additive and fiber

2 - process: - Extrusion, injection, compression

Heating, Mixing, pumping, forming

morphology, orientation, Degradation.

3 - product: - film / fiber, pellet, component

4 - Performance: Thermal, mechanical, optical.

5- profit: Material cost, Die and mold cost  
machine and Energy cost, labor and automation cost

6- Post-Consumer Life.

recycling, Environment, sustainability, Regulation  
legislation.

3- polymer available to The designer

1- Engineering plastic: substituted for metals  
such as Aluminium

2- Thermosets: high temperature Engineering plastics  
used in electronic industry

3- Composites

Both Thermoplastic and Thermoset can reap the  
benefit of fiber reinforcement.

e.g Glass fibers are principle form of reinforcement

4- Structural foam

many polymers can be foamed by introduction of  
blowing agent

5- Elastomers: polymer family consist of long chain  
cross molecules

6- Polymer Alloys

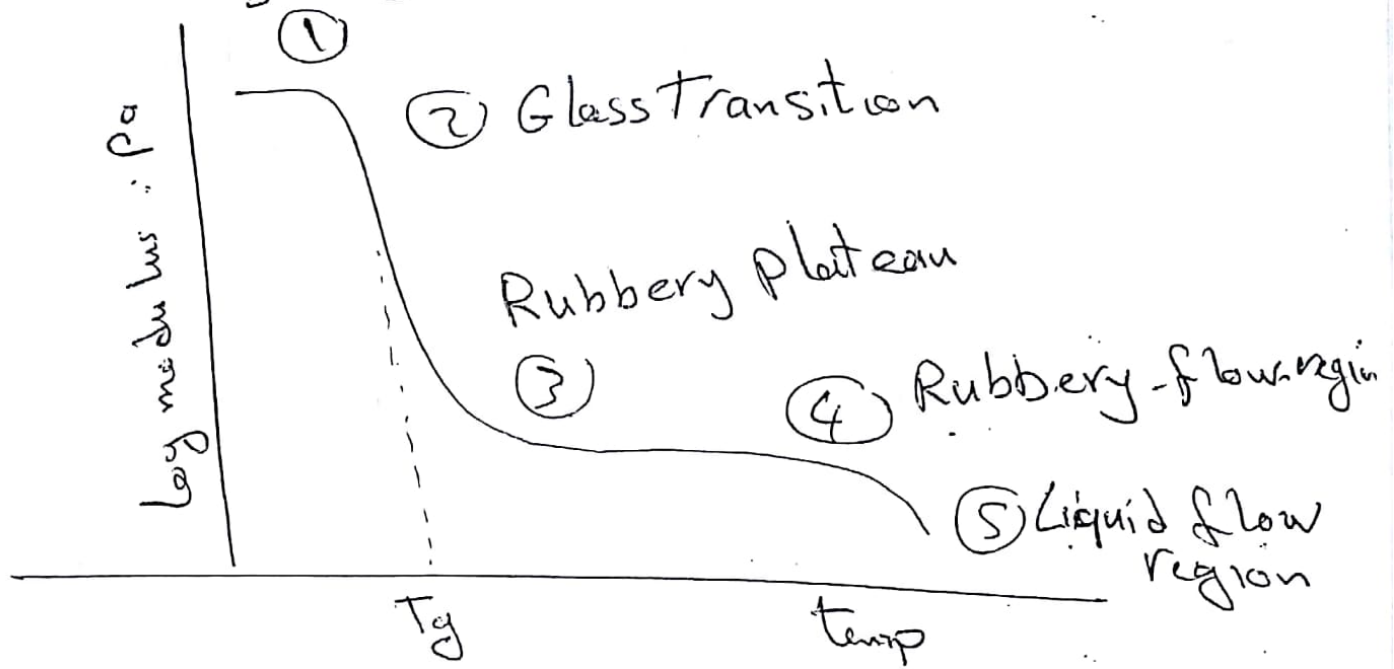
Similar to that of Alloying metals

7- Liquid crystal polymers.

outstanding dimensional stability.

high strength, stiffness and ease of processing

Q.2) Flow Curve Concept. (Modulus vs temp.)  
glassy region



① Glassy region

- The polymer is glassy and brittle.
- Below  $T_g$  The modulus approximately 1 GPa
- Molecular motion are restricted to vibrations and short range rotational motions

② Glass transition

- Typically The modulus drops a factor of about 1000 across a 20 - 30 °C range

③ Rubbery plateau

- Results from the formation of entanglements in high M.W.
- Modulus is inversely proportional to the M.W between entanglements  $M_e$ .

④ Rubbery-flow-region

- Combines the rubber-elasticity and flow properties.
- Depends on the time-scale of experiment.
- Does not occur for cross-linked materials

⑤ Liquid flow region - Polymer flows readily

Q.2

2. chemical additive used in polymer

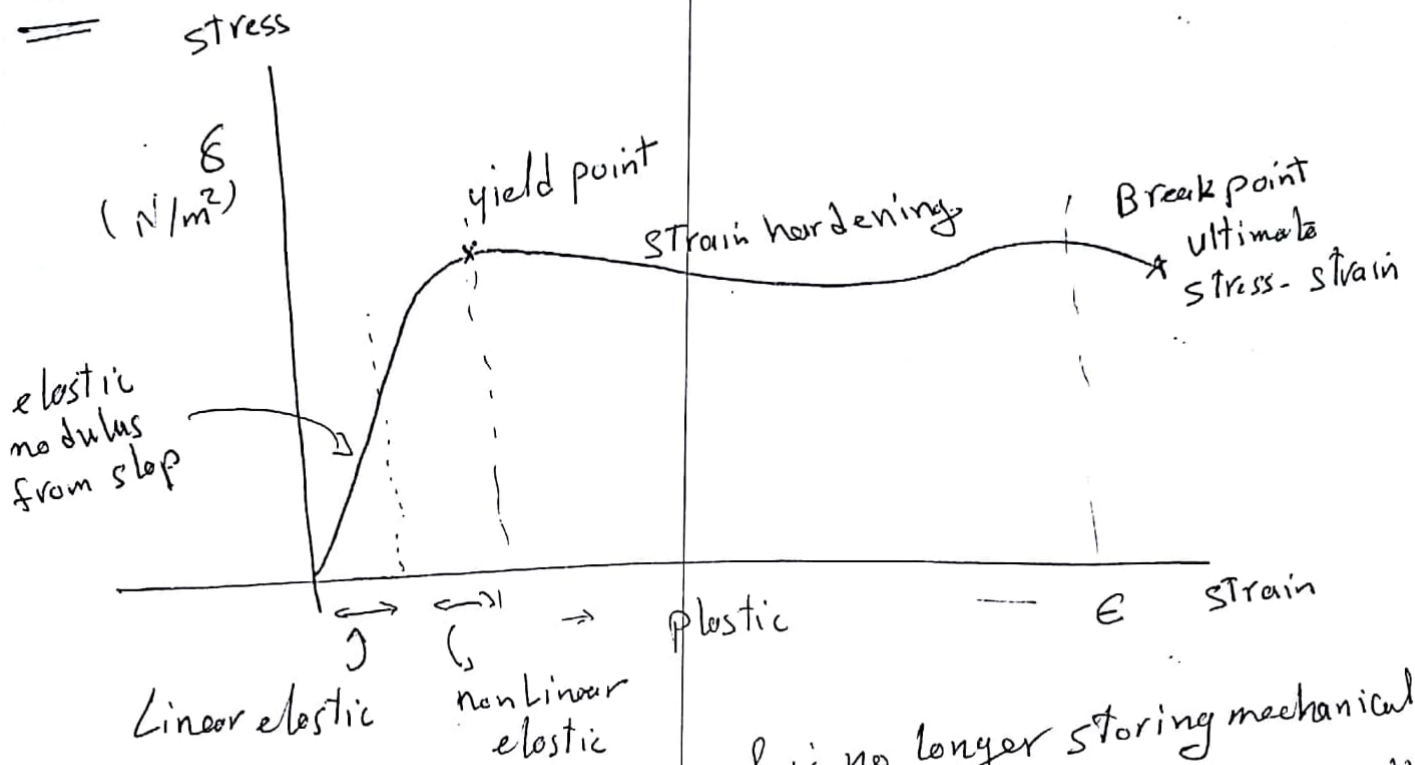
- 1- Antistatic agent :- to improve surface and conductivity and reduce the likelihood of spark or discharge
- 2- Coupling agents: to improve the bonding of the polymer to inorganic filler
- 3- fillers: to improve the mechanical properties to reduce cost.
- 4- flame retardants :- to ~~improve~~ reduce the combustion of polymer.
- 5- lubricants :- to improve the viscosity of the molten polymer and improve forming characteristics  
e.g. wax or calcium stearate
- 6- pigments :- to ~~improve~~ produce colours in plastics.
- 7- plasticisers: to alter the properties and forming characteristics
8. Reinforcement :- to improve the strength and stiffness of polymer
- 9- stabilisers :- to ~~improve~~ prevent deterioration of the polymer due to environmental factors



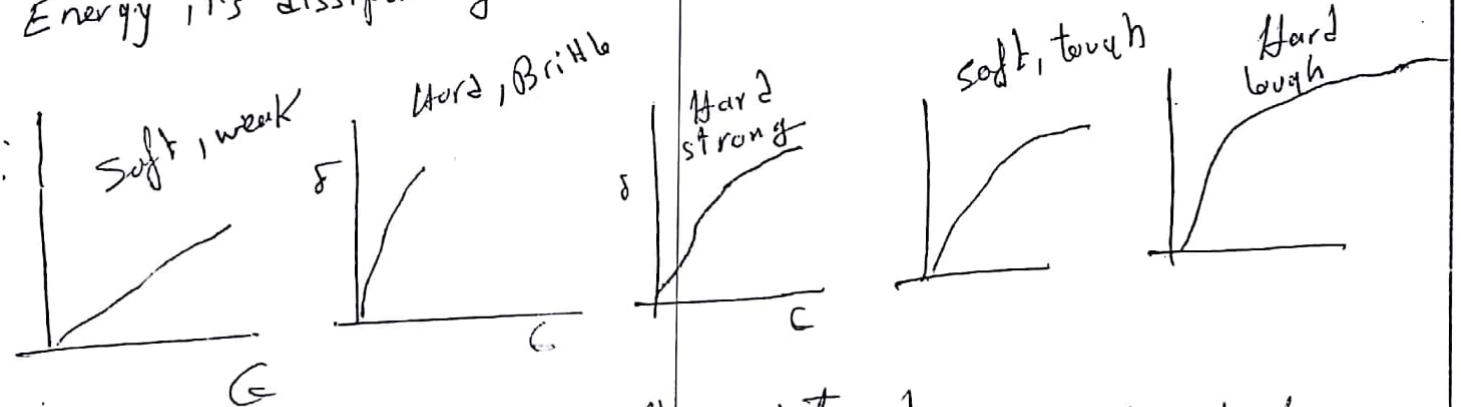
# Question 3

3-

## Stress-strain Curve



yield point:- mean that The material is no longer storing mechanical Energy its dissipating mechanical energy by deforming permanently



Material	Elastic modulus	yield point	tensile strength	Elongat of Break
1) Soft - weak	Low	Low	Low	moderate
2) Hard, Brittle	High	non-existent	High	Low
3) Hard, strong	High	high	high	moderate
4) Soft, tough (Rubber)	Low	Low	moderate	High
5) Hard, tough nylon, Cellulose acetate	High	High	High	High

## Question 3

### 1] Types of mechanical test

- \* static testing :- tensile, compressive and shear properties  
stress-strain curve, stiffness, strength and toughness
- \* impact test :-  
high strain-rate properties :- impact strength
- \* Creep test  
Time dependence of elongation; viscoelasticity
- \* Dynamic (Mechanical)  
viscoelastic properties, Thermal transition,  
molecular relaxation
- \* Fatigue test:  
Life time or durability.
- \* Hardness ~~is~~  
resistance to surface indentation
- \* abrasion resistance  
weight loss by abrader or finely divided abrasive

### 2] Rheology

study of the flow / deformation behaviour of material  
both in liquid and solid state

#### • Elasticity

The ability to undergo reversible deformation or carry a stress without suffering permanent deformation

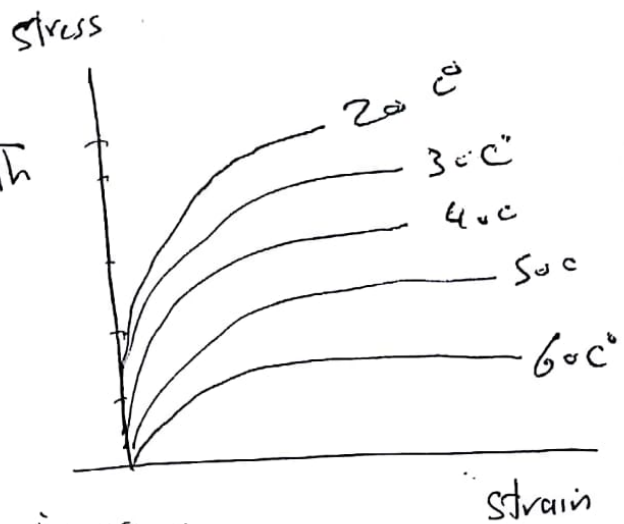
#### • Strength The ability to sustain a dead load

Toughness: The energy spent in causing a material to fail.  
in the tensile test. The area under the stress-strain curve represent a measure of toughness

### Question 3 (4)

1. Temp  $\uparrow$

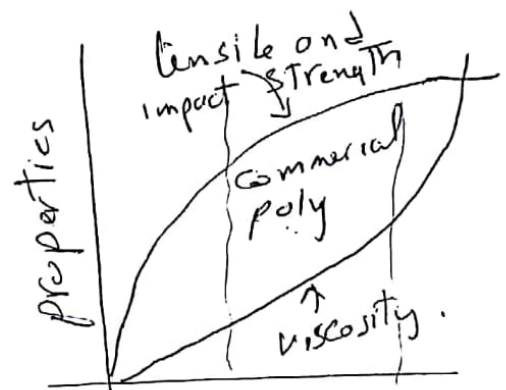
- ↓ in elastic modulus
- reduction in tensile strength
- Enhancement of ductility



2. Molecular weight M.W

tensile & impact strength increase with increasing M.W due to increase chain entanglements

↳ viscosity increase



3. Degree of crystallinity

$\uparrow$  crystallinity -  $\uparrow$  density, higher resistance to both dissolution and softening by heat