



# ISAET '21

## 7th International Symposium on Asphalt Emulsion Technology

# High Float Emulsion Residue: Its Unique Rheology and Microstructure

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McAsphalt Industries Limited



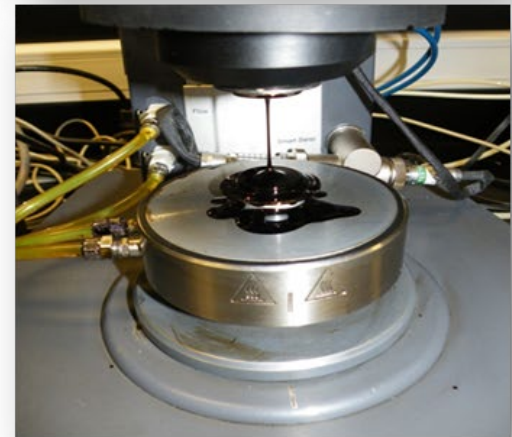
# CONTENT

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- BACKGROUND
- RHEOLOGY
- TECHNIQUES & EXPERIMENTATION
- RESULTS & INTERPRETATION

## Part 2 (2015-2021)

- BACKGROUND
- TECHNIQUES & EXPERIMENTATION
- RESULTS & INTERPRETATION
- SUMMARY



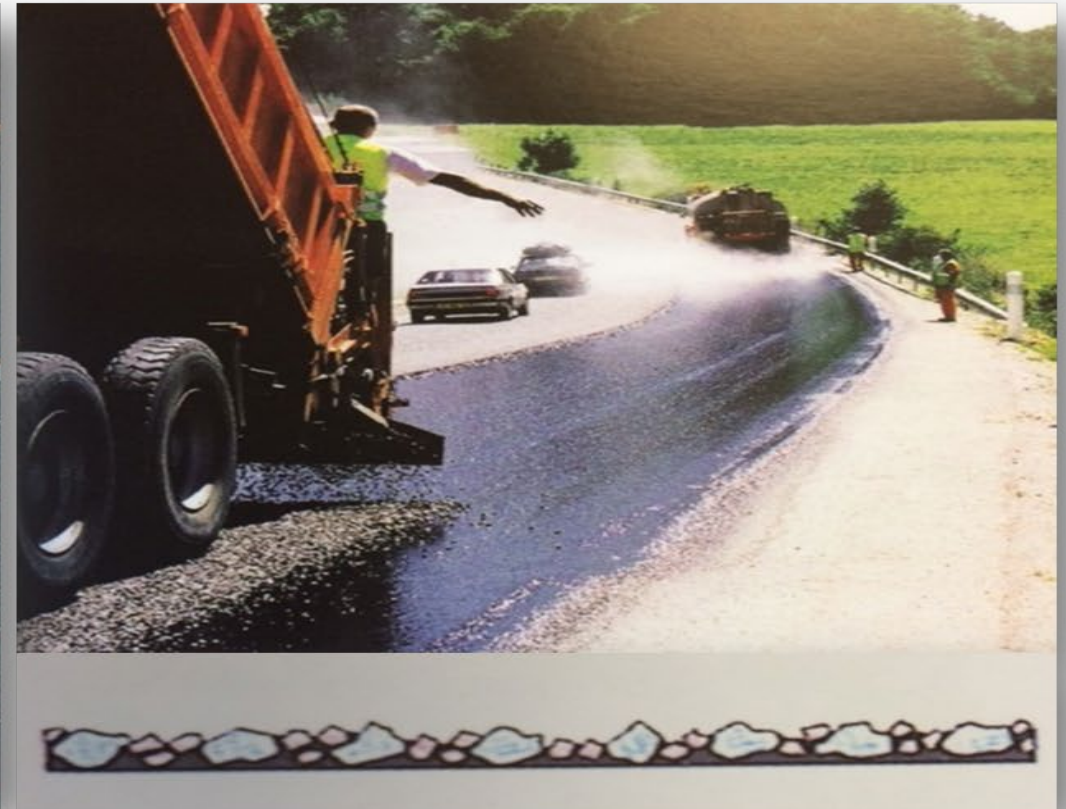
# BACKGROUND

- In Canada, the paved public road network exceeds 400,000 km
- *Maintenance becoming a concern*
  - *Budgets*
  - *VOC constraints*
- Need to optimize next-gen pavement preservation materials



# BACKGROUND

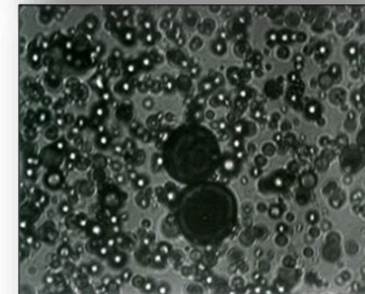
## Pavement Preservation



# BACKGROUND

3 major ways to liquefy “glue”:

- *Heating up bitumen (asphalt) - common in hot mix asphalt application (HMA)*
  - *Energy intensive*
- *Cutbacks – mixture of bitumen and petroleum solvents*
  - *Problem with VOC emissions*
- *Emulsions – mixture of bitumen, water and emulsifying agent*
  - *Environmentally responsible*
  - *Most cost effective*



# BACKGROUND

## Advancement in Emulsion Formulation

- *Select and specify bitumen emulsion for surface treatments*

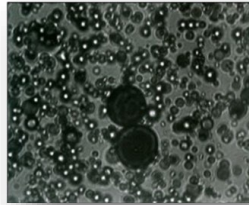
## Current Testing Framework

- *Does NOT consider all service conditions and performance characteristics*
- *Requires knowledge of basic science that underlies emulsion systems*

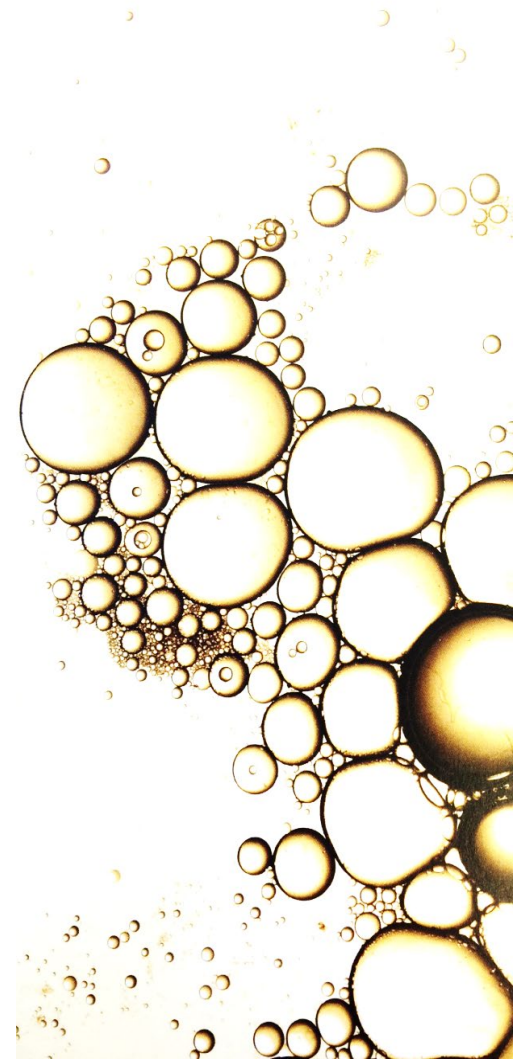


# BACKGROUND

## Emulsion Composition



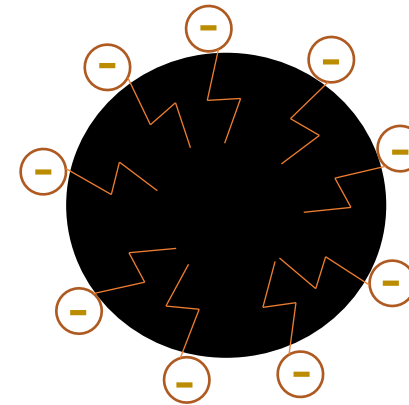
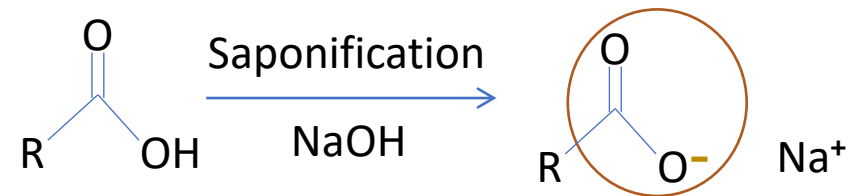
- *Bitumen*
  - *SARA fractions, inorganic heavy metals*
  - *Inherent composition yields its “viscoelasticity”*
- *Water*
  - *Typically softened water*
    - *Favourable for addition of surfactants*
- *Emulsifier (surfactant)*
  - *Allows mixing of two immiscible liquids*
  - *Typically a chemical*
  - *Can add performance characteristics in residue*



# BACKGROUND

## Identity of Emulsion

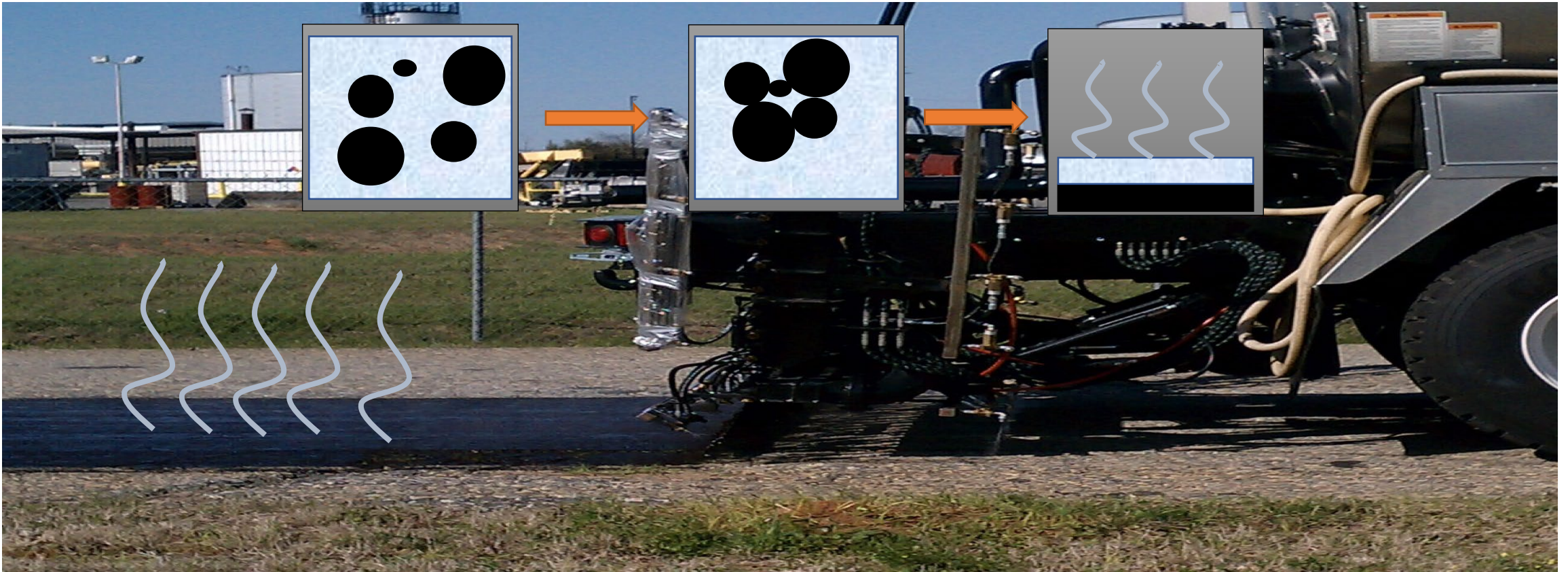
- *Dictated by the emulsifier*
  - *Cationic (+)*
    - *Fatty amines*
  - *Anionic (-)*
    - *Fatty acids*
  - *High float (-)*
    - *Crude tall oil*
    - *Special type of anionic i.e. HF-100S*



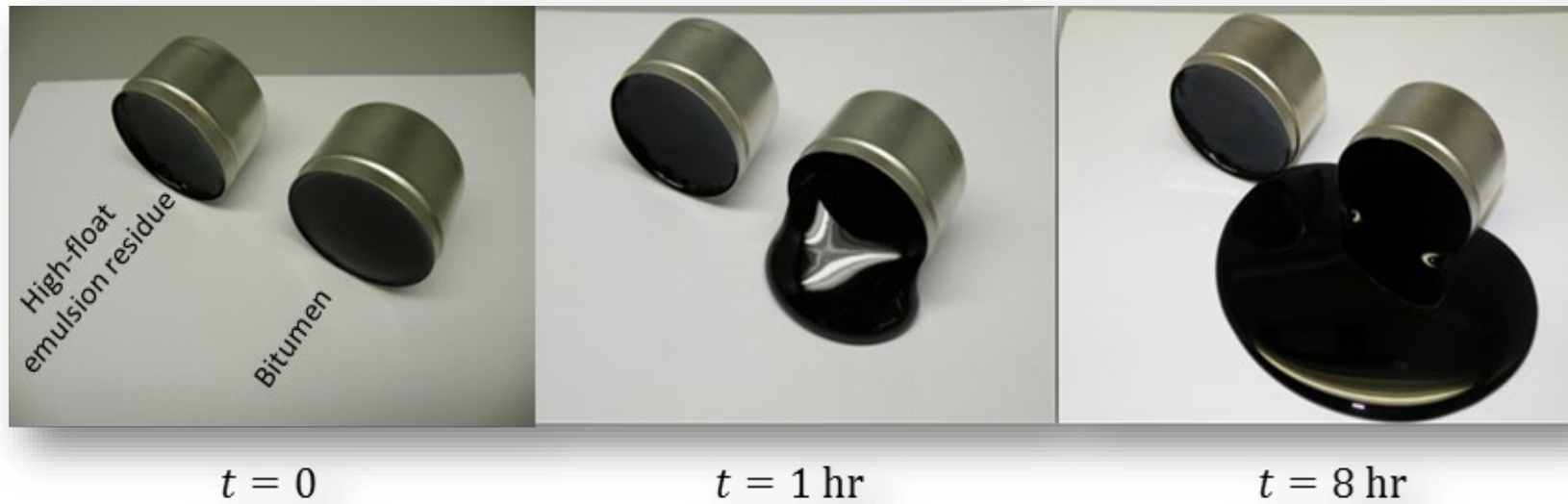
Surfactant adsorption at the bitumen-water interface

# BACKGROUND

## Emulsion Residue Formation



# BACKGROUND



Yield Stress???

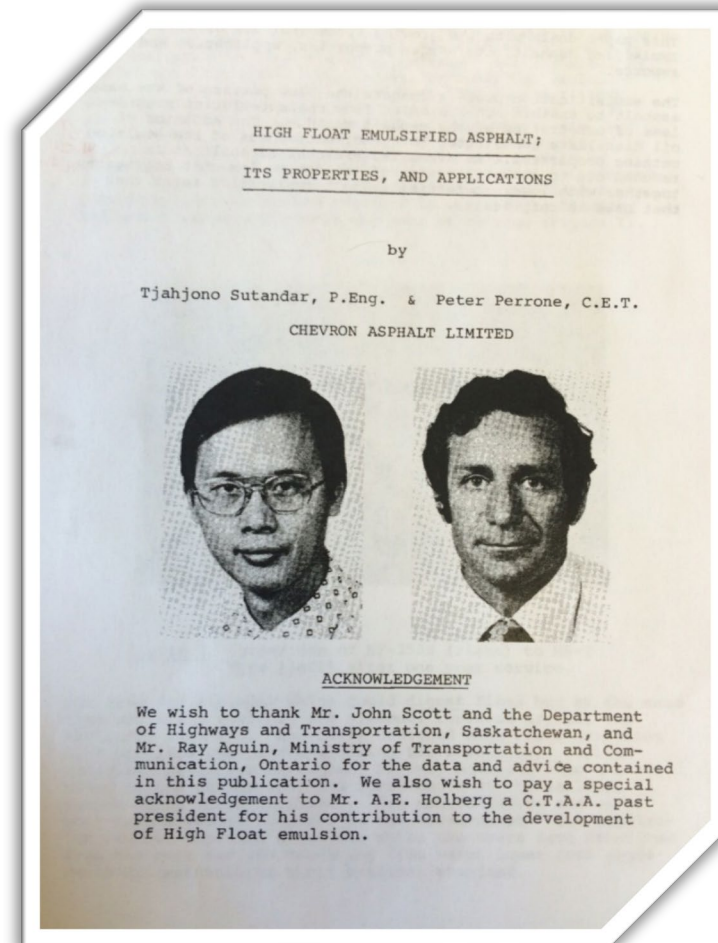
# BACKGROUND

## Materials with Yield Stress

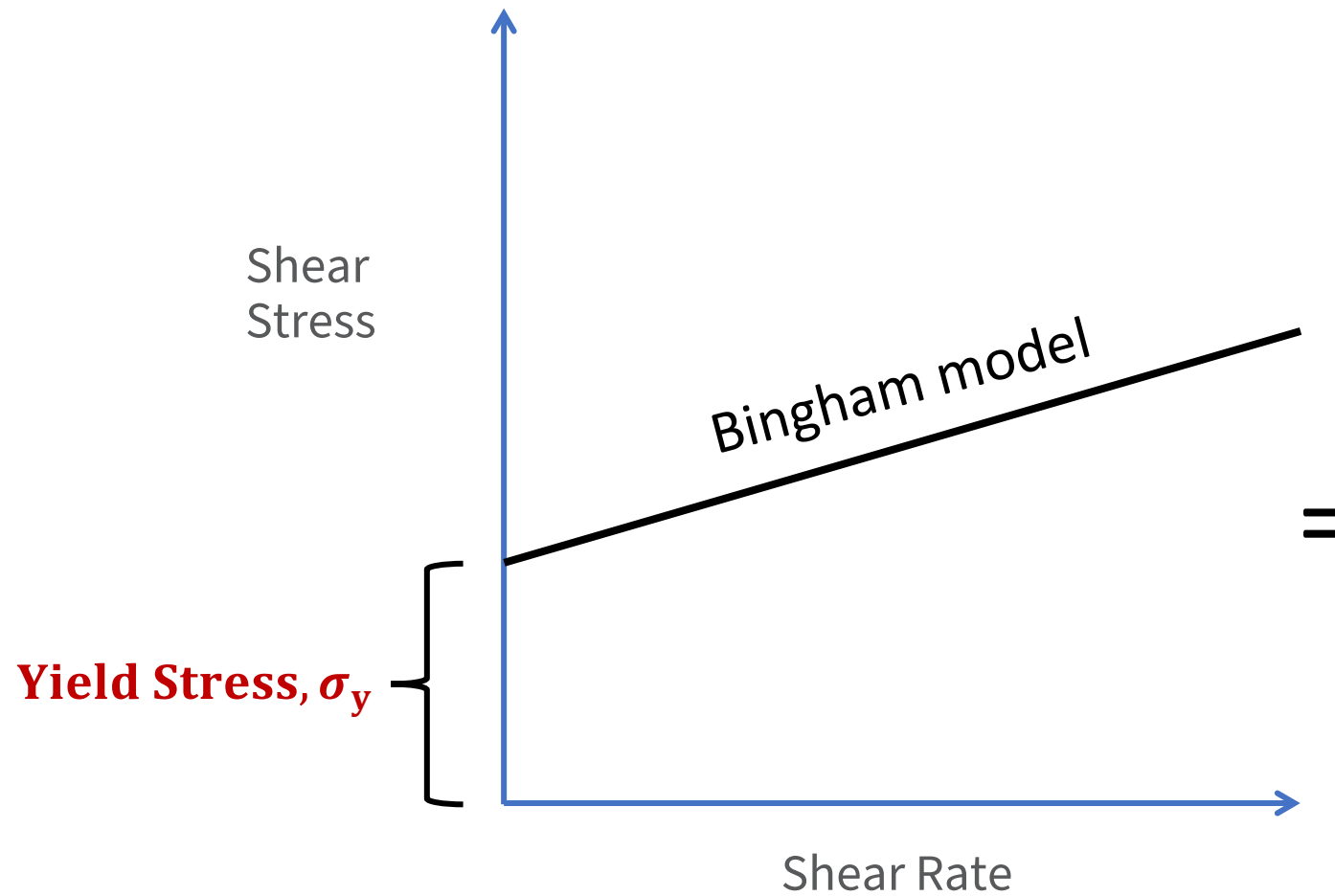


# BACKGROUND

- *1980 paper by Sutandar and Perrone claimed structure was characterized by Bingham plastic flow behaviour*
- *Implied concept of yield stress*
  - *However, there is no rigorous way to quantify*
  - *Mechanism is not fully understood*



# BACKGROUND



=



Float Test

# BACKGROUND

Understanding of high-float emulsion is rudimentary

- *NO rigorous characterization of performance*
  - *Only semi-quantitative float test for “resistance to flow” behavior*

Our Strategy (2015):

1. Study the rheology of HF residues
2. Develop a rheological model
3. Quantify inherent yield stress - rigorous rheology
4. Propose an alternative to float test

# RHEOLOGY

- *Viscoelastic materials led to the study of rheology*
- *Coined by Eugene Bingham*
- *Flow and deformation of materials when subjected to a stress*

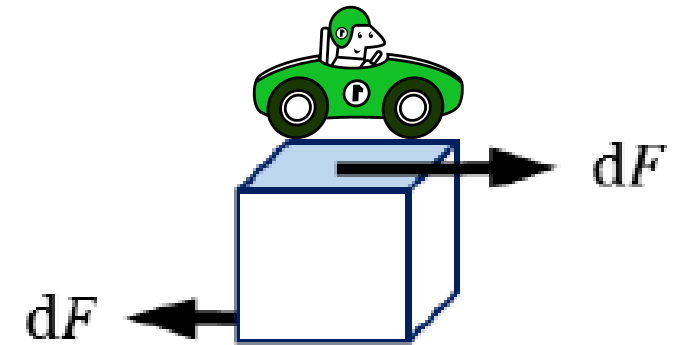
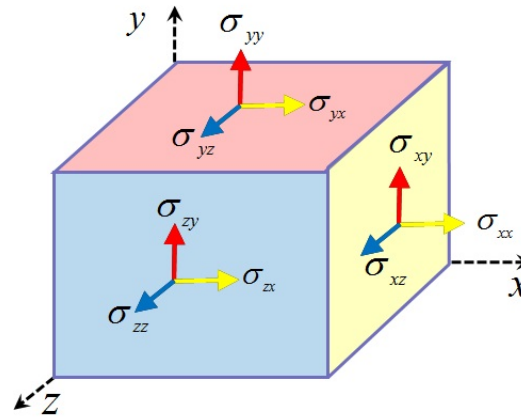


Eugene Cook Bingham  
(1878-1945)

# RHEOLOGY

## Quantification Using Stress ( $\sigma$ ) and Strain ( $\epsilon$ )

- *Expressed as tensors for all modes of deformation*
- *Only need to consider one component: **Pure shear***



# RHEOLOGY

Basic rheological models defined with stress and strain:

Hookean Solid

$$\sigma = G\varepsilon$$



- *Most common type of elastic behavior*
- *$G$  is the “shear modulus”*

Newtonian Fluid

$$\sigma = \mu \dot{\varepsilon}$$



- *No resistance to deformation*
- *$\dot{\varepsilon}$  is the rate of strain,  $\mu$  is viscosity*
- *Viscosity is the rate of deformation through mechanical energy into heat*

# RHEOLOGY

Kelvin-Voigt Solid

$$\sigma = G\varepsilon + \mu\dot{\varepsilon}$$



- *Elastic and viscous elements are in parallel*
- *Internal dissipation within material but will complete recoil*

Maxwell Fluid

$$\dot{\varepsilon} = \frac{\dot{\sigma}}{G} + \frac{\sigma}{\mu}$$

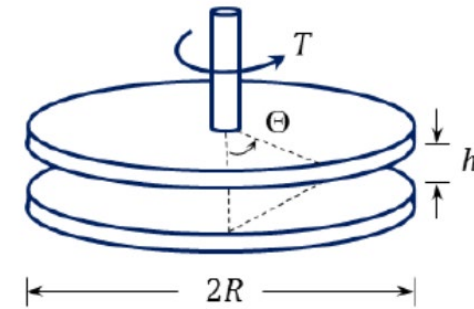


- *Elastic and viscous elements are in series*
- *Flows like a liquid under constant force*

# RHEOLOGY

## Pure shear on Dynamic Shear Rheometer (DSR)

- *Sample is placed between two parallel plates*
- *Torque  $T$  is applied and used to calculate shear stress*
- *Angle of rotation  $\Theta$  is used to calculate shear strain*



Setup of DSR.  $T$  is used to calculate “shear stress” and  $\Theta$  is used to calculate “shear strain.”

# RHEOLOGY

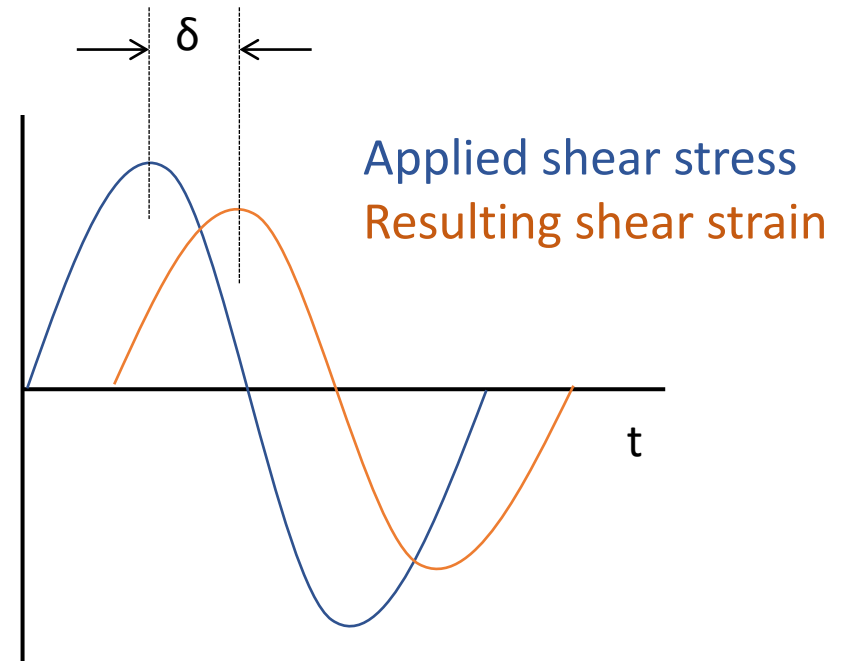
## Response to Time-Varying Excitation

- *Sinusoidal Excitation*
  - *Oscillatory excitation*
  - *Phase angle  $\delta$  denotes “viscoelasticity”*
  - *Used in paving industry to define rutting parameter:*

$$|G^*|/\sin\delta \geq 1.00\text{kPa}$$

### Problem:

- *Only measured at one frequency*
- *Does NOT characterize non-linear viscoelastic material*
- *What if material was similar to K-V material???*



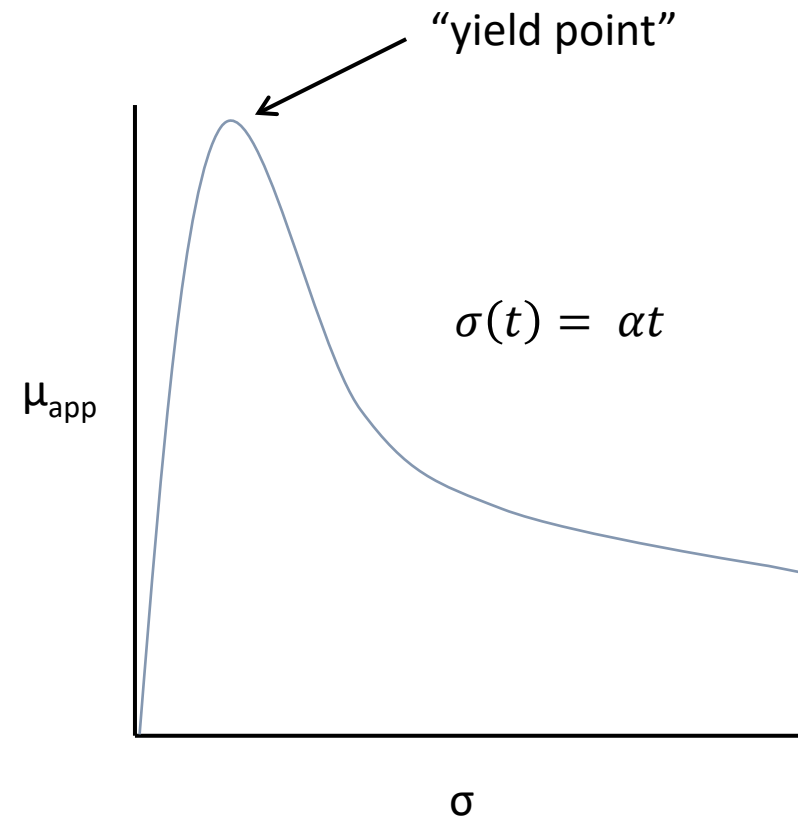
# RHEOLOGY

## Stress Ramp Excitation

- *Stress increases linearly with time at a constant rate  $\alpha$*
- *Most commonly reported is apparent viscosity:*

$$\mu_{app} = \sigma / \dot{\epsilon}$$

- *Materials with inherent yield point's ( $\sigma_y$ ) will undergo obvious physical changes*



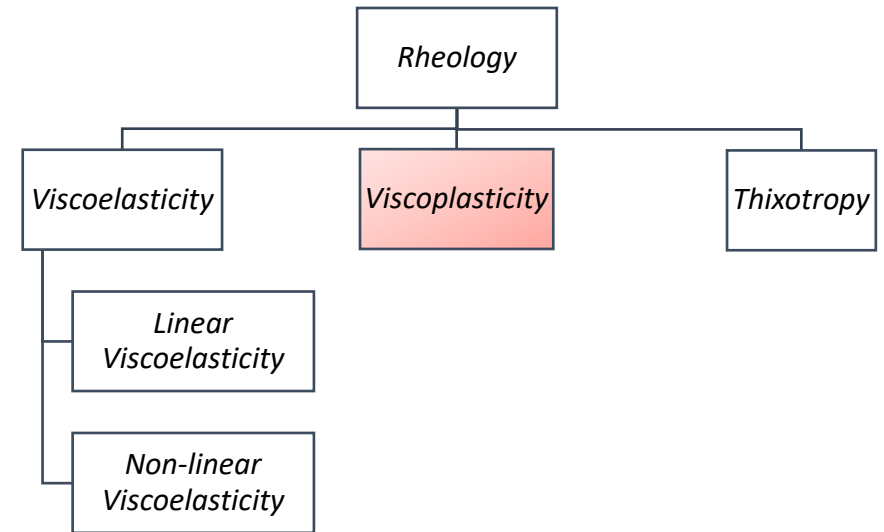
# RHEOLOGY

Materials with a yield stress (viscoplastic)

- When  $\sigma < \sigma_y$ , material behaves like a **solid**
- When  $\sigma > \sigma_y$ , material behaves like a **fluid**
- Most general model is the Herschel-Bulkley fluid:

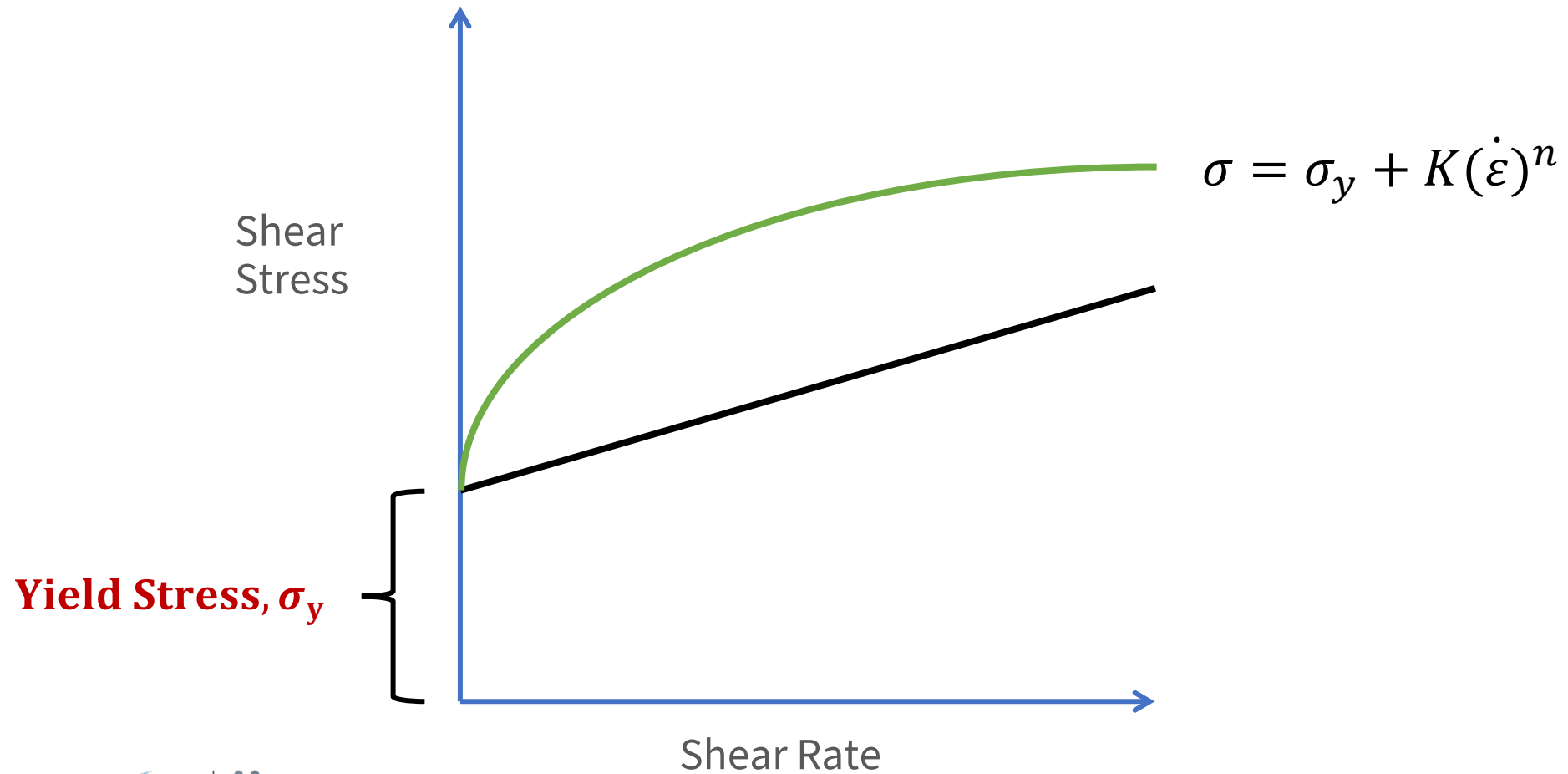
$$\text{When } \sigma < \sigma_y : \dot{\epsilon} = 0$$

$$\text{When } \sigma > \sigma_y : \sigma - \sigma_y = K(\dot{\epsilon})^n$$



*Rheology and its Different Branches of Study*

# RHEOLOGY



# RHEOLOGY

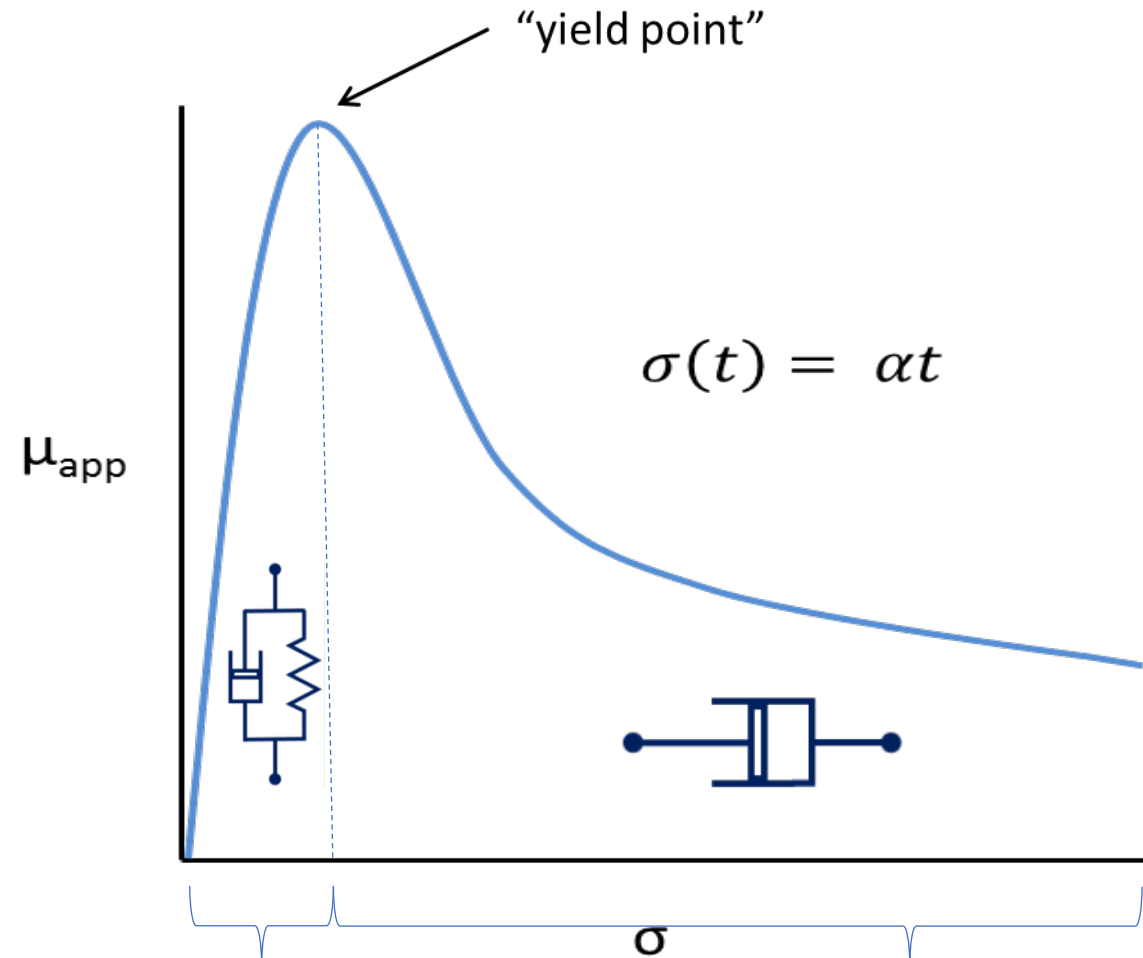
## Consideration of Rheological Behavior when $\sigma < \sigma_y$

- *Experimental evidence indicates that the material must be allowed to deform as a solid*
- *New elastic parameter for  $\sigma < \sigma_y$  regime:*

$$\sigma = \sigma_e + \mu \dot{\epsilon}$$

*“elastic stress”*

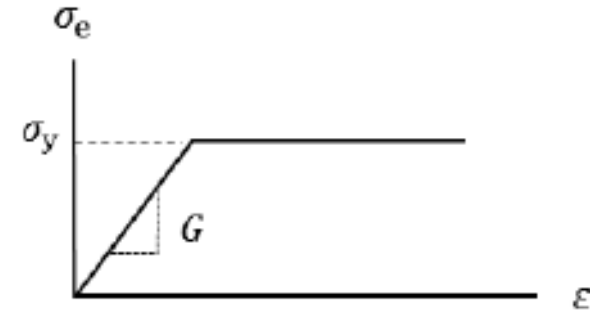
# RHEOLOGY



# RHEOLOGY

Given that elastic stress has two parameters,  $G$  and  $\sigma_y$ ,  $\sigma_e$  in terms of  $\varepsilon$  can be expressed as:

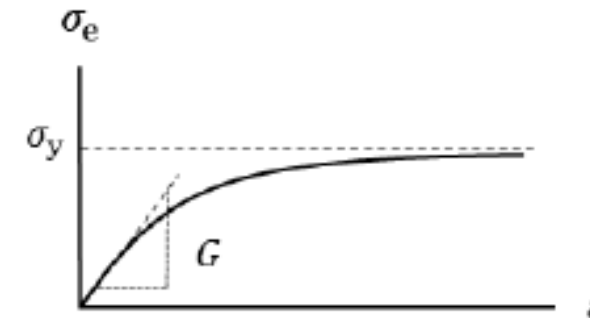
$$\sigma_e = \begin{cases} G\varepsilon; & \varepsilon < \sigma_y/G \\ \sigma_y; & \varepsilon > \sigma_y/G \end{cases}$$



OR

$$\sigma_e = \sigma_y [1 - \exp(-G\varepsilon/\sigma_y)]$$

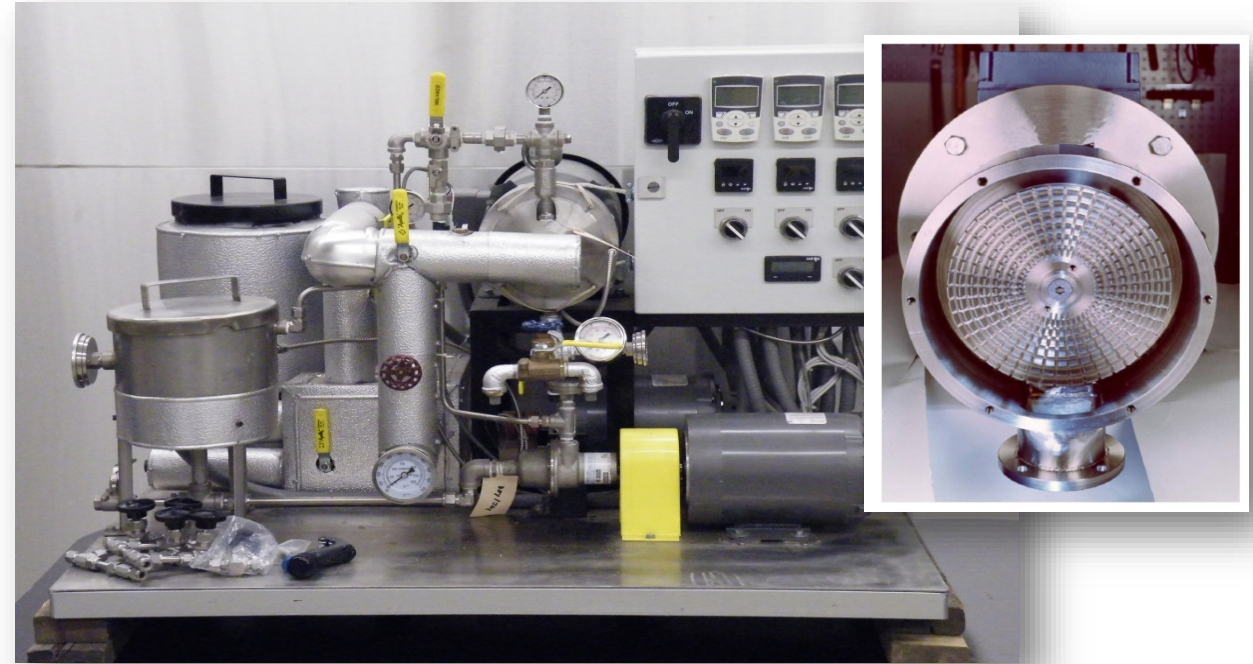
- “softer” response



# TECHNIQUES & EXPERIMENTATION

## Emulsion Manufacture

- *Colloid mill*
- *Capability of rotating at 3450 RPM*
- *Provides mechanical energy to shear and disperse bitumen in aqueous phase*



# TECHNIQUES & EXPERIMENTATION

## Specimens

1. *Bitumen PG 58-28*
  - *Typical grade for CoE*
2. *Emulsion A (HF-100S)*
  - *Made with base PG 58-28*
3. *Emulsion B*
  - *Made with base PG 58-28*
  - *Designed to FAIL “float test”*



# TECHNIQUES & EXPERIMENTATION

## Emulsion Recipes

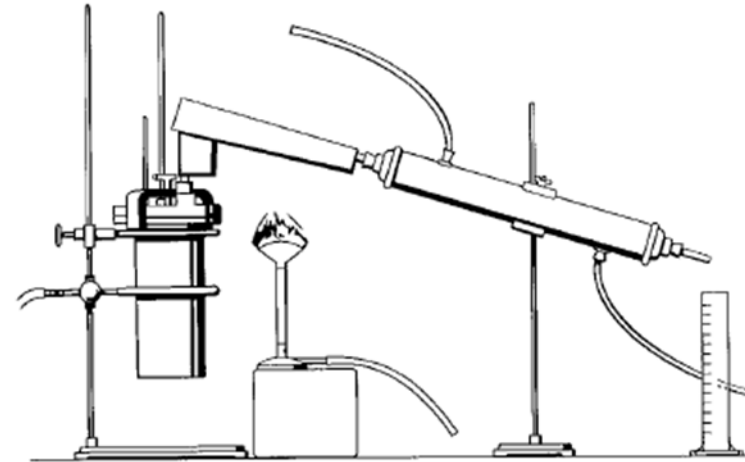
| Emulsion | Base Bitumen | Bitumen (%) | CTO (%) | NaOH(s) (% by wt. CTO) | Water (%) |
|----------|--------------|-------------|---------|------------------------|-----------|
| A        | PG 58-28     | 62          | 2.2     | 10                     | 35.8      |
| B        | PG 58-28     | 62          | 1.1     | 10                     | 36.9      |

Emulsion B was specifically designed to FAIL the “float test” i.e. half the emulsifier (CTO) dosage of Emulsion A (recognized as HF-100S by industry standards).

# TECHNIQUES & EXPERIMENTATION

## Obtaining Residue by Distillation

- *ASTM D6997/ AASHTO T59*
- *Requires 200g of emulsion*
- *Water component distilled at 260°C over ~ 1 hour*
- *Residual testing performed on emulsions A & B (Residue A & B)*
  - *Float test, DSR*

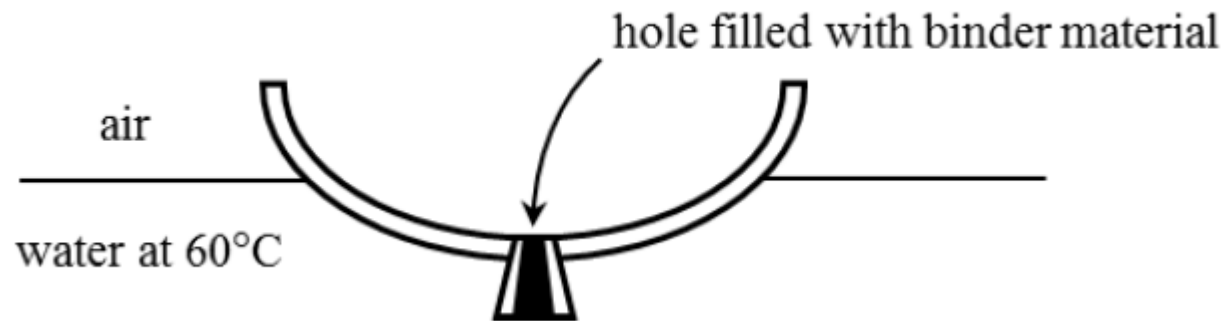


Distillation set up. This figure was taken from Asphalt Emulsions Manual Series no. 19 developed by AEMA, and Asphalt Institute.

# TECHNIQUES & EXPERIMENTATION

## Float Test

- *ASTM D139/ AASHTO T50*
- *Characterizes “consistency” by floating a plug of residue over a 60°C water bath*
- *Time required to float is 1200 sec*



# RESULTS & INTERPRETATION

## Float Test Results

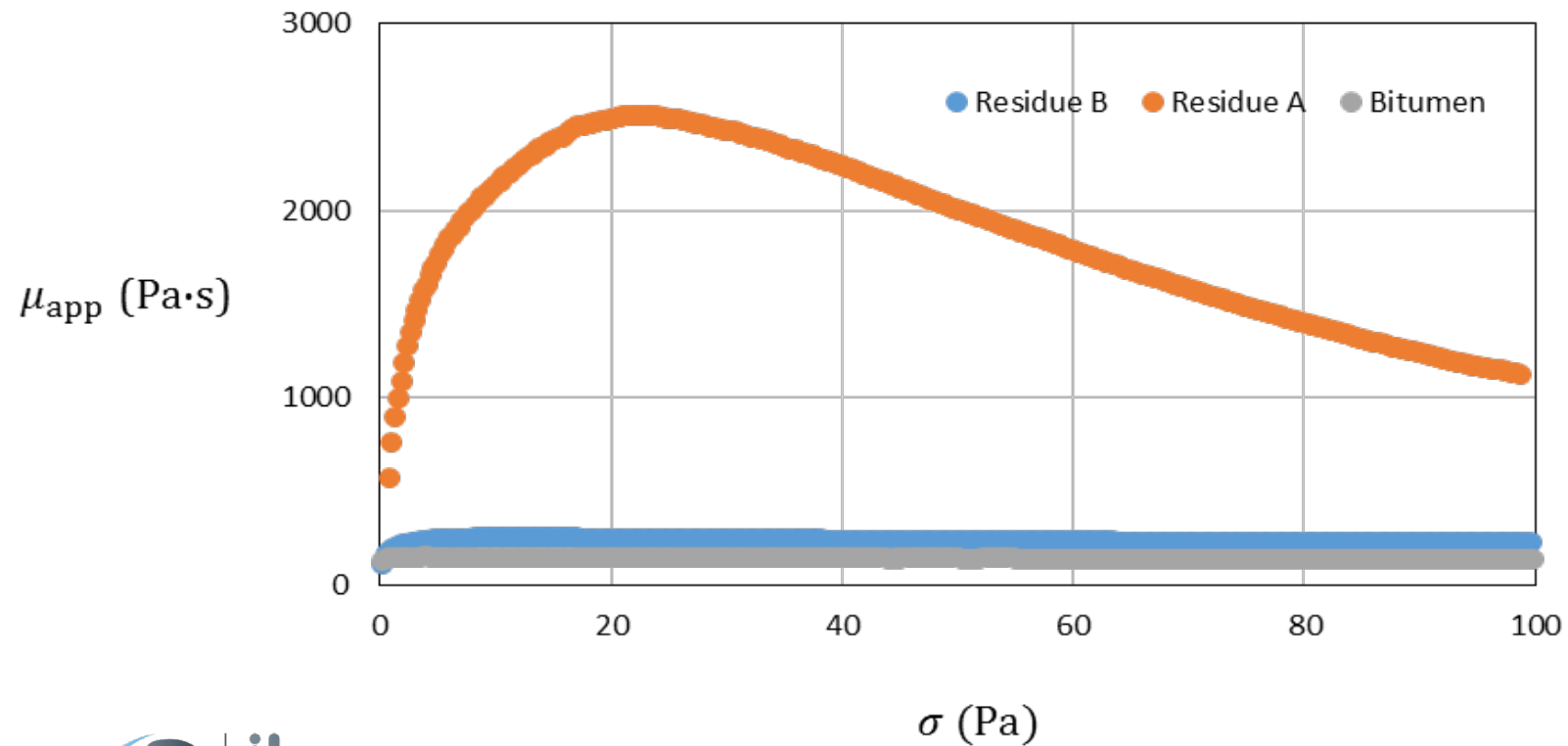
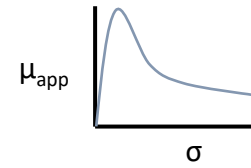
| Material  | Time (seconds) |
|-----------|----------------|
| PG 58-28  | 35             |
| Residue A | 1200+          |
| Residue B | 425            |

- Demonstration of the effect of emulsifier dosage (CTO)
- Residue A possess “high float” quality
  - Similar to K-V model



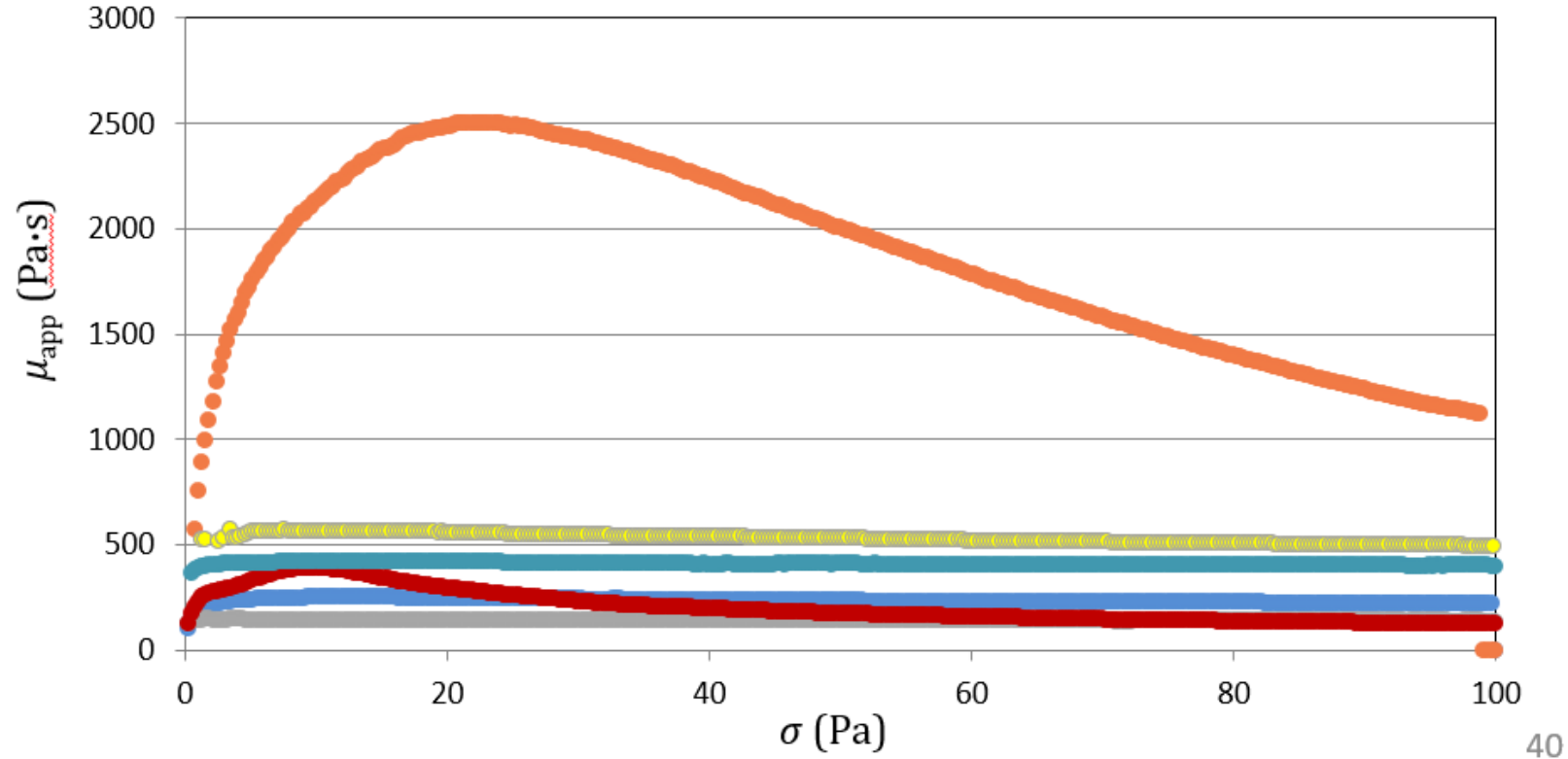
# RESULTS & INTERPRETATION

## DSR Test Results - Stress Ramp



# RESULTS & INTERPRETATION

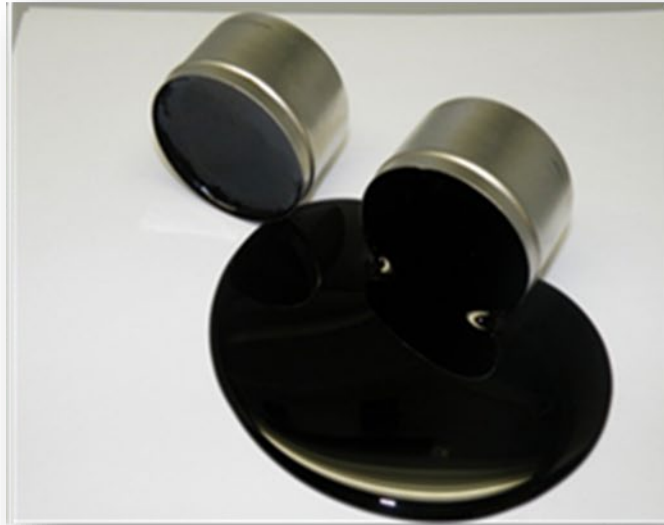
● Residue B   ● Residue A   ● PG 58-28   ● HF-150S   ● Standard Fluid   ● PG 64-34



# RESULTS & INTERPRETATION

Asphalt vs Mayonnaise:

Which one is “stronger” — when it comes to resisting bleeding or drainage?



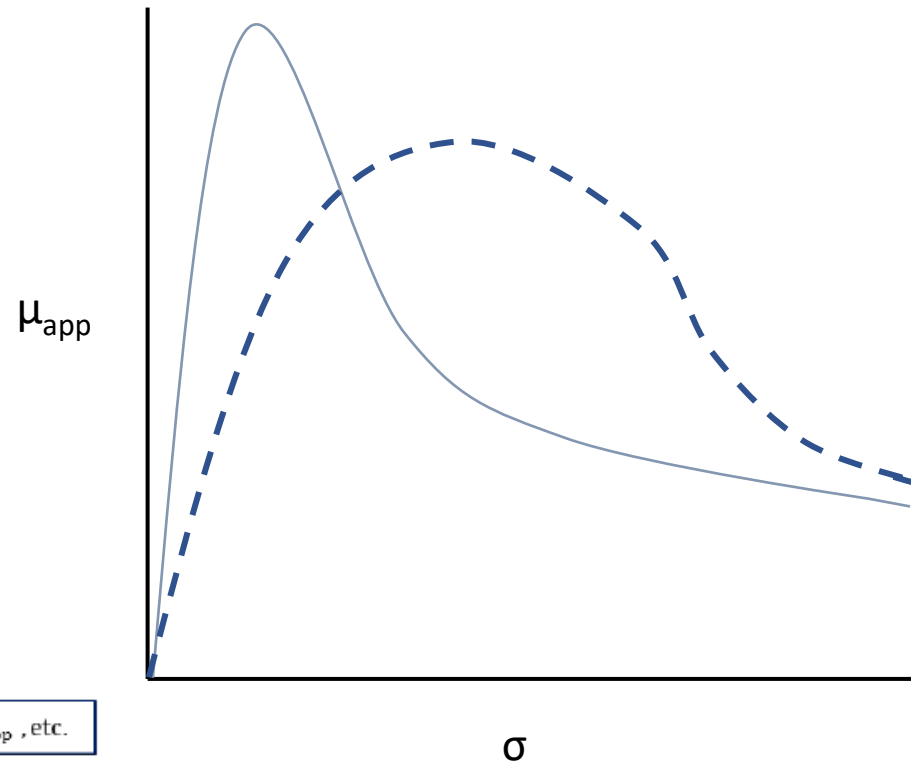
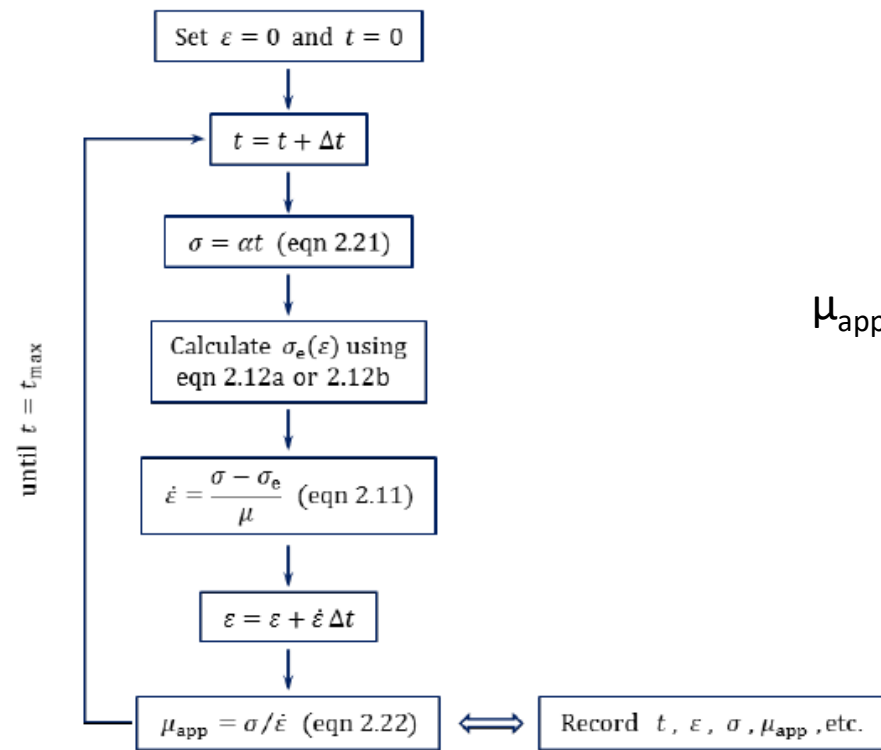
$t = 8 \text{ hr}$



$t = 12 \text{ hr}$

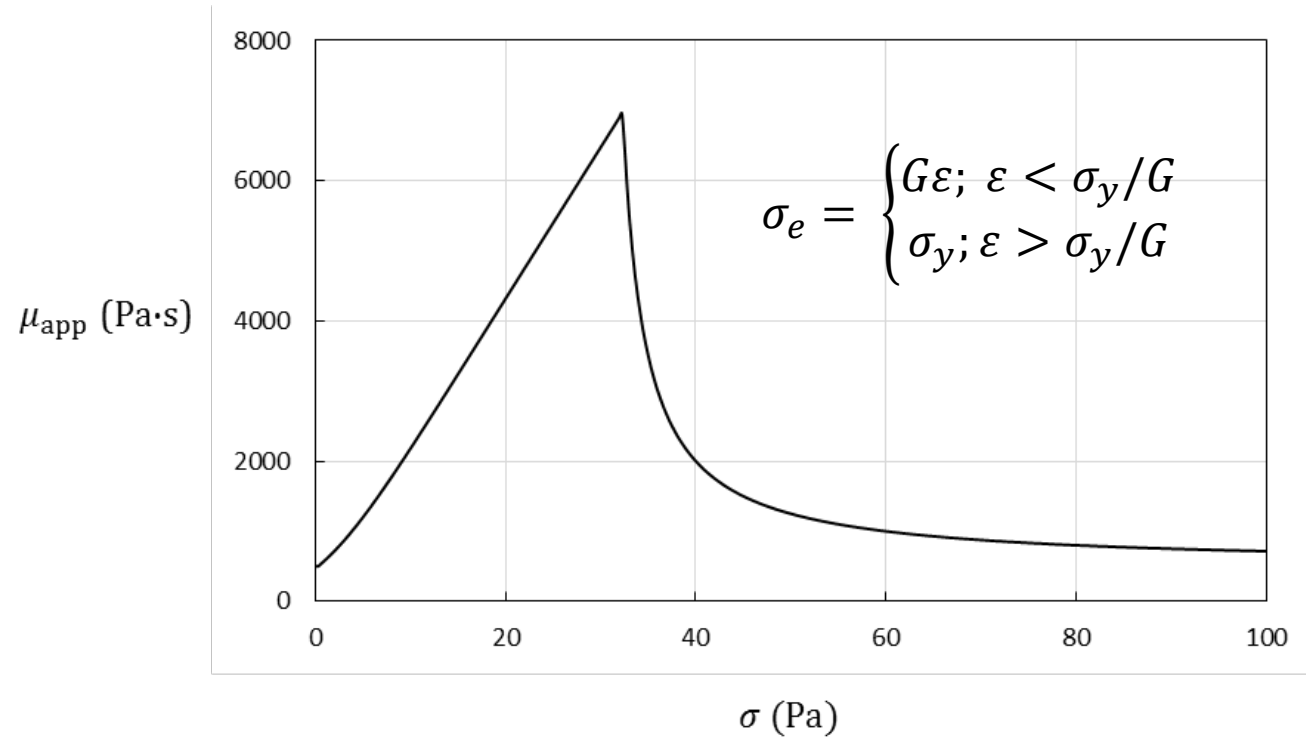
# RESULTS & INTERPRETATION

## Numerical Simulation



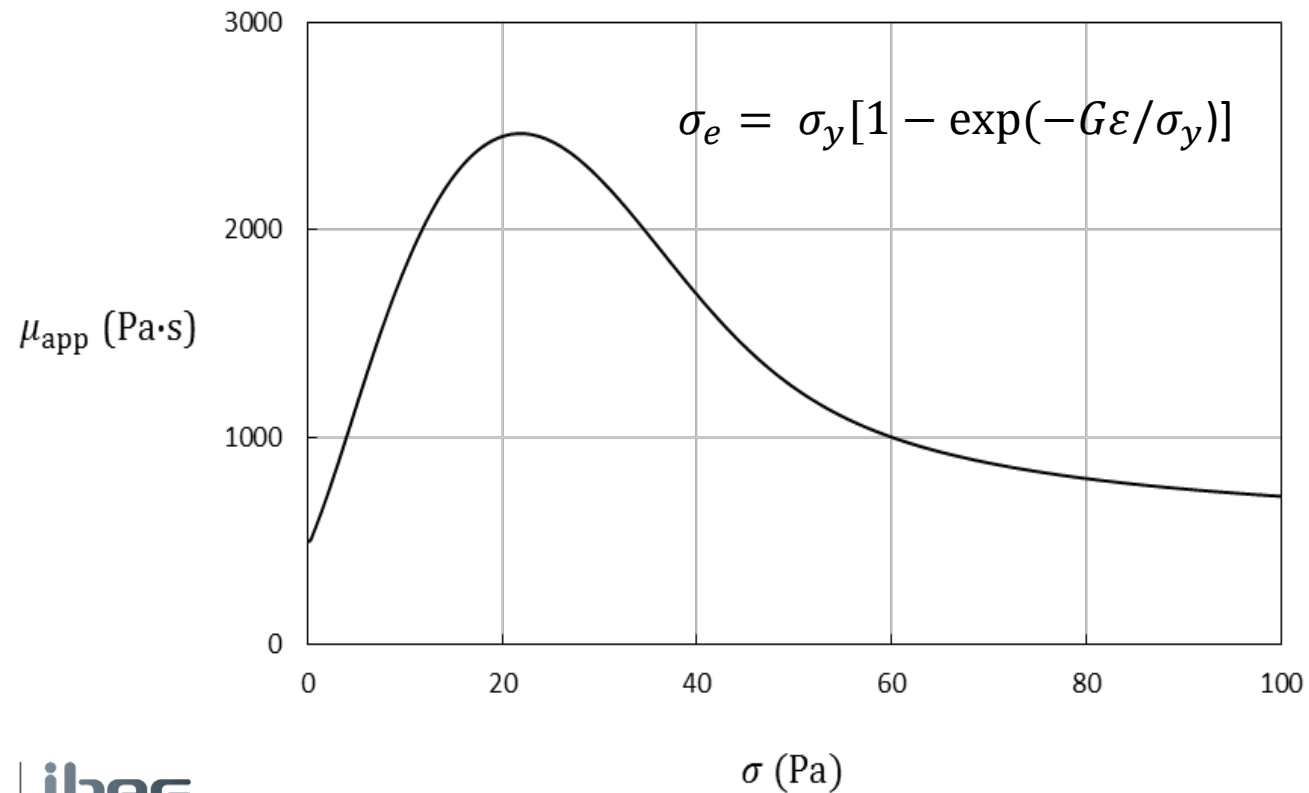
# RESULTS & INTERPRETATION

## Numerical Simulation

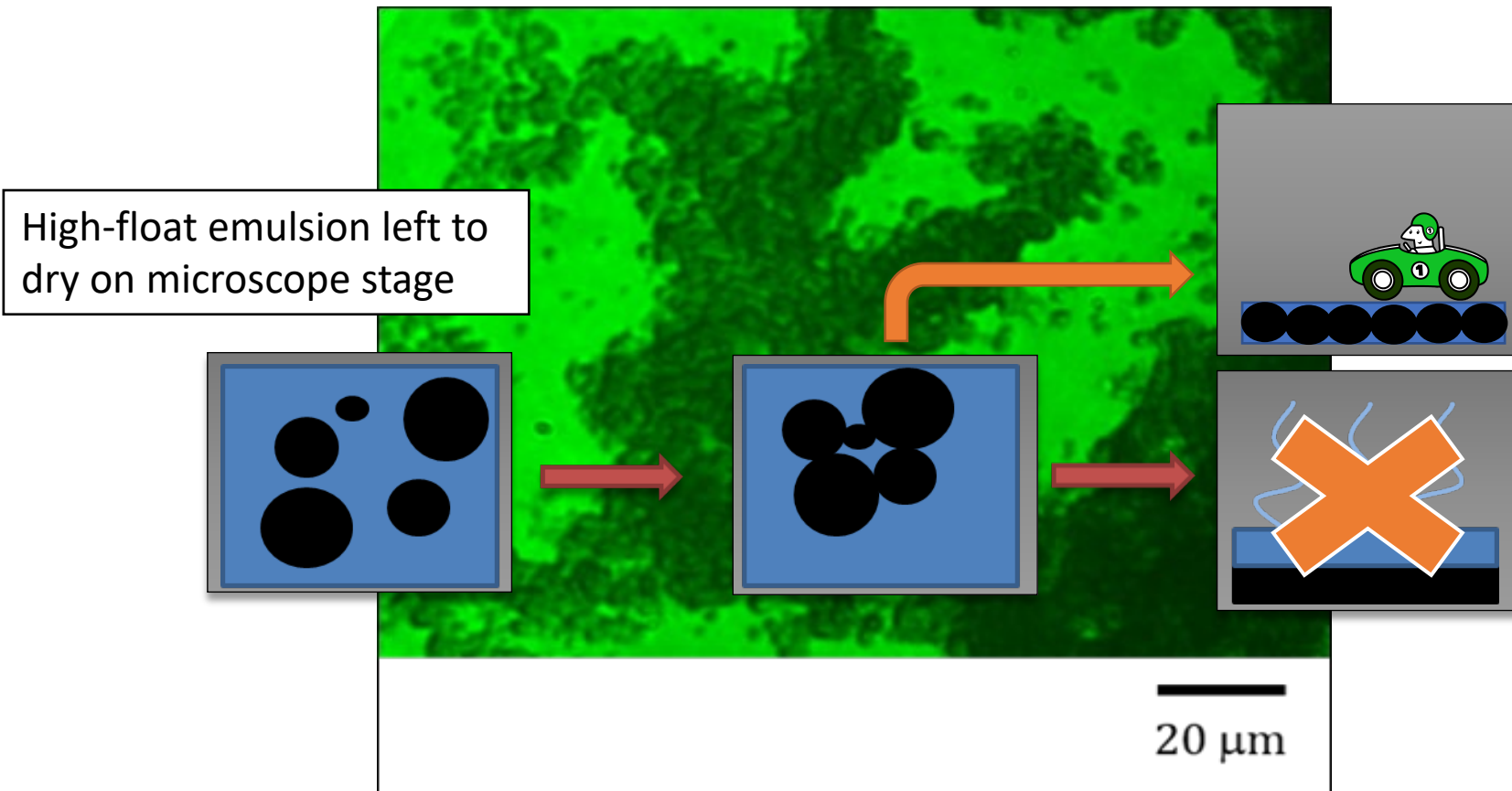


# RESULTS & INTERPRETATION

## Numerical Simulation



# RESULTS & INTERPRETATION



# 2015 to 2021

Some time went by...



|         | ASTM D4957   |             |                  | DSR Flow Sweeps                     |                                     |                                      |
|---------|--------------|-------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Product | Size of Tube | $\mu_{app}$ | $\dot{\epsilon}$ | $\mu_{app}$ @ min. $\dot{\epsilon}$ | $\mu_{app}$ @ max. $\dot{\epsilon}$ | $\mu_{app}$ @ D4957 $\dot{\epsilon}$ |
| HF-100S | 100          | 191.04      | 1.36             | 229.10                              | 163.80                              | 198.70                               |
| HF-150P | 200          | 587.76      | 0.86             | 206.90                              | 171.30                              | 184.65                               |
| HF-150S | 100          | 103.35      | 2.52             | 117.40                              | 87.30                               | 92.60                                |
| HF-250S | 100          | 46.20       | 5.63             | 39.70                               | 36.60                               | 34.20                                |

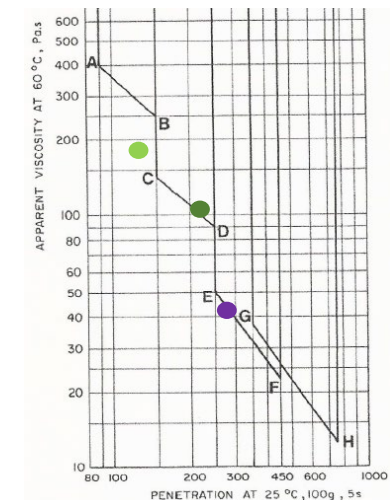
Low  
High

For a 100 modified Koppers Tube: Max shear rate is  $3.2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ; min. is  $0.8 \text{ s}^{-1}$

For a 200 modified Koppers Tube: Max shear rate is  $1.6 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ; min. is  $0.4 \text{ s}^{-1}$

Passes, but likely due to a clog

Example of a rheogram

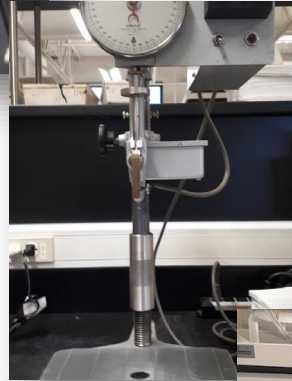


... started to question reliability of some of our HF residue results

# BACKGROUND (part 2)

## *Current HF Residue Testing in Canada*

- *Float test (D139)*
  - *Resistance to flow*
- *Penetration test (D5)*
  - *Material consistency*
- *Viscosity test (D2171, D4957, Par. 6.2.5/A in CGSB Can2-16.5-M84)*
  - *Absolute and Apparent Viscosity*



*All performed  
after Residue by  
Distillation  
ASTM D6997*

# BACKGROUND (part 2)

## *HF Residue Characterization Using the DSR*

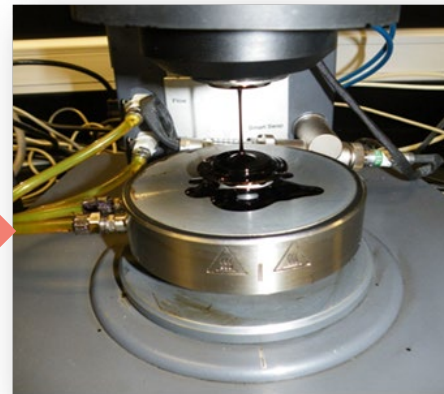
- Hinging on idea that the DSR can potentially measure reliable  $\mu_{app}$  at various  $\dot{\epsilon}$ , could we also replace the pen, and float tests by measuring viscosities below and above the yield stress?*



**Penetration test**



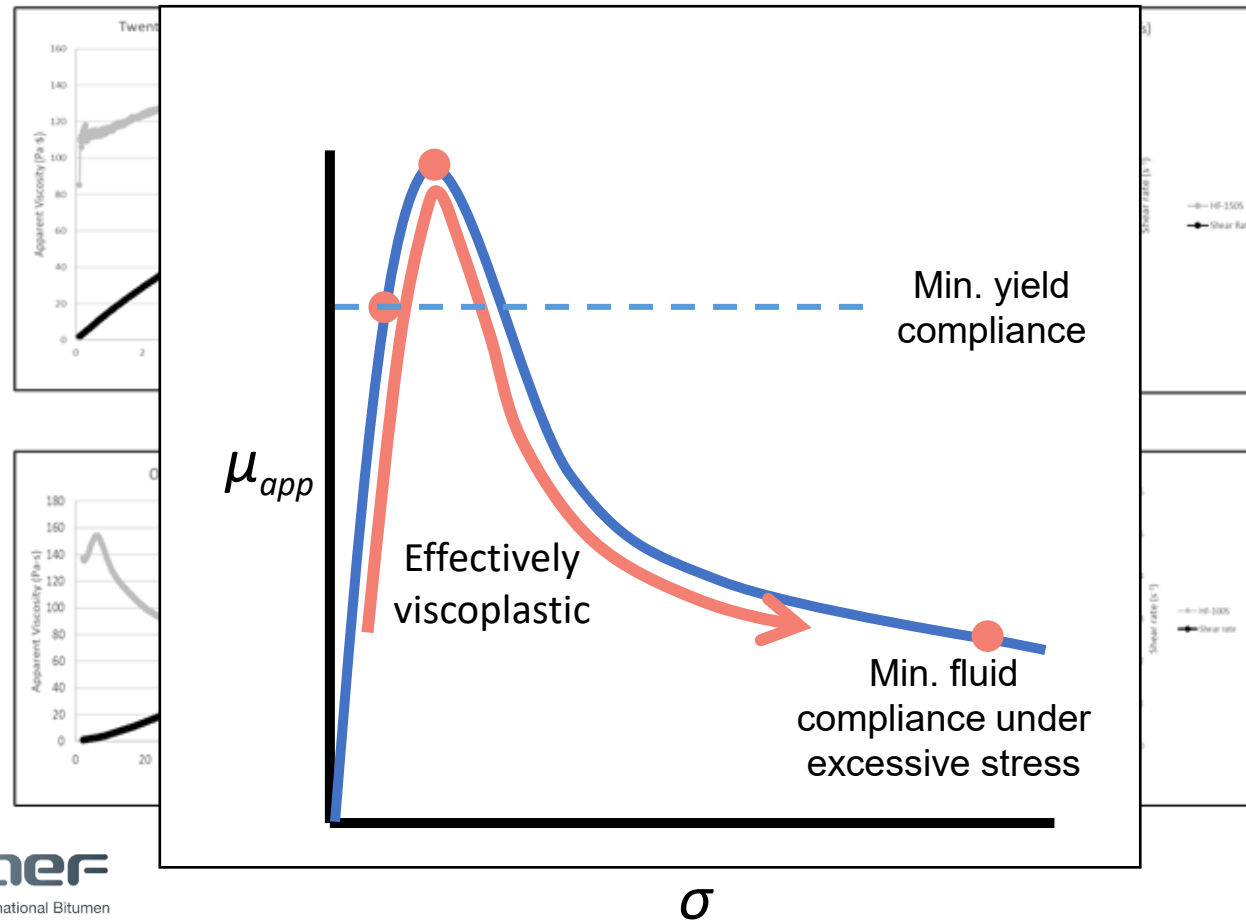
**Float test**



**Flow sweeps on DSR**

# RESULTS & INTERPRETATION (part 2)

## *HF Residue Characterization Using the DSR*



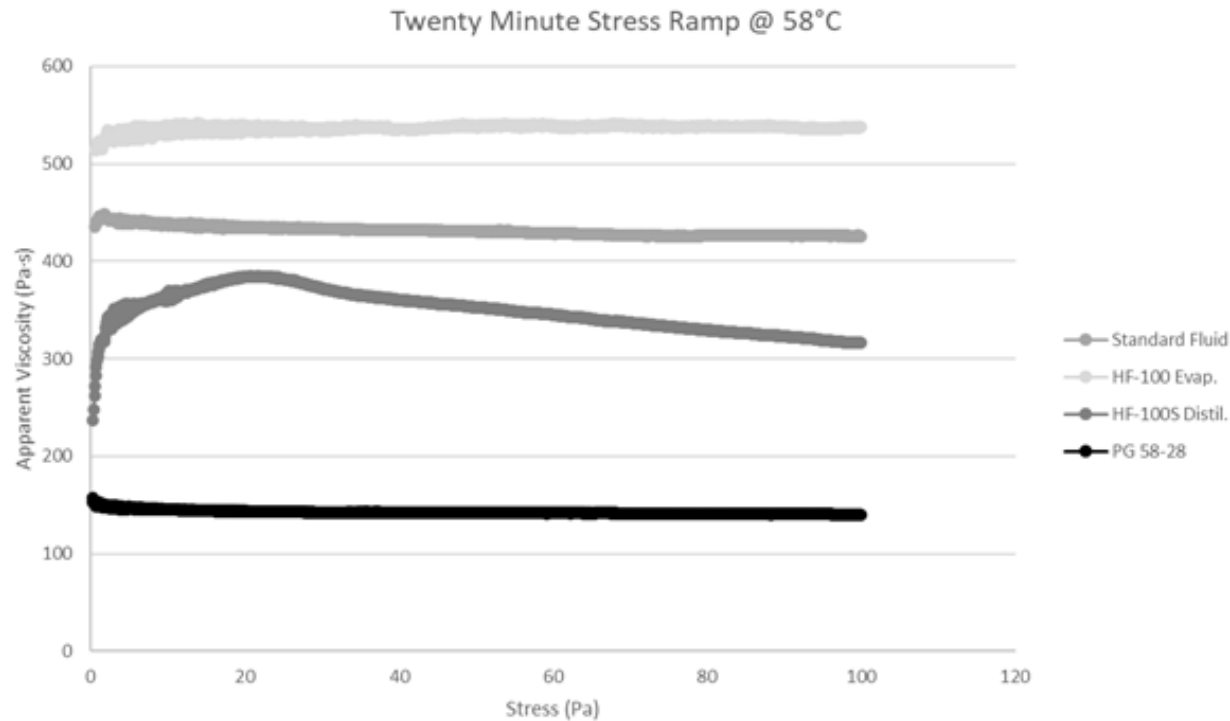
# RESULTS & INTERPRETATION (part 2)

- *Key viscoplastic shear rates,  $\dot{\epsilon}$  :*
  - *Below  $\sigma_y$ , resistance to flow*
  - *$\sigma_y$ , maximum  $\mu_{app}$*
  - *Above  $\sigma_y$ , steady-simple flow*

-----> Metrics for HF residue susceptibility to flushing/drainage, replacing the float test

-----> A better measurement of “consistency”, replacing the pen. test
- *Shear rate considerations for measuring  $\mu_{app}$  after 50 stress ramps*
  - *HF-100S, 150S resistance to flow compliance,  $\dot{\epsilon} < 0.1 \text{ s}^{-1}$*
  - *HF-250S resistance to flow compliance,  $\dot{\epsilon} < 0.05 \text{ s}^{-1}$*
  - *Simple-fluid behavior for all HFs,  $\dot{\epsilon} > 1.0 \text{ s}^{-1}$*

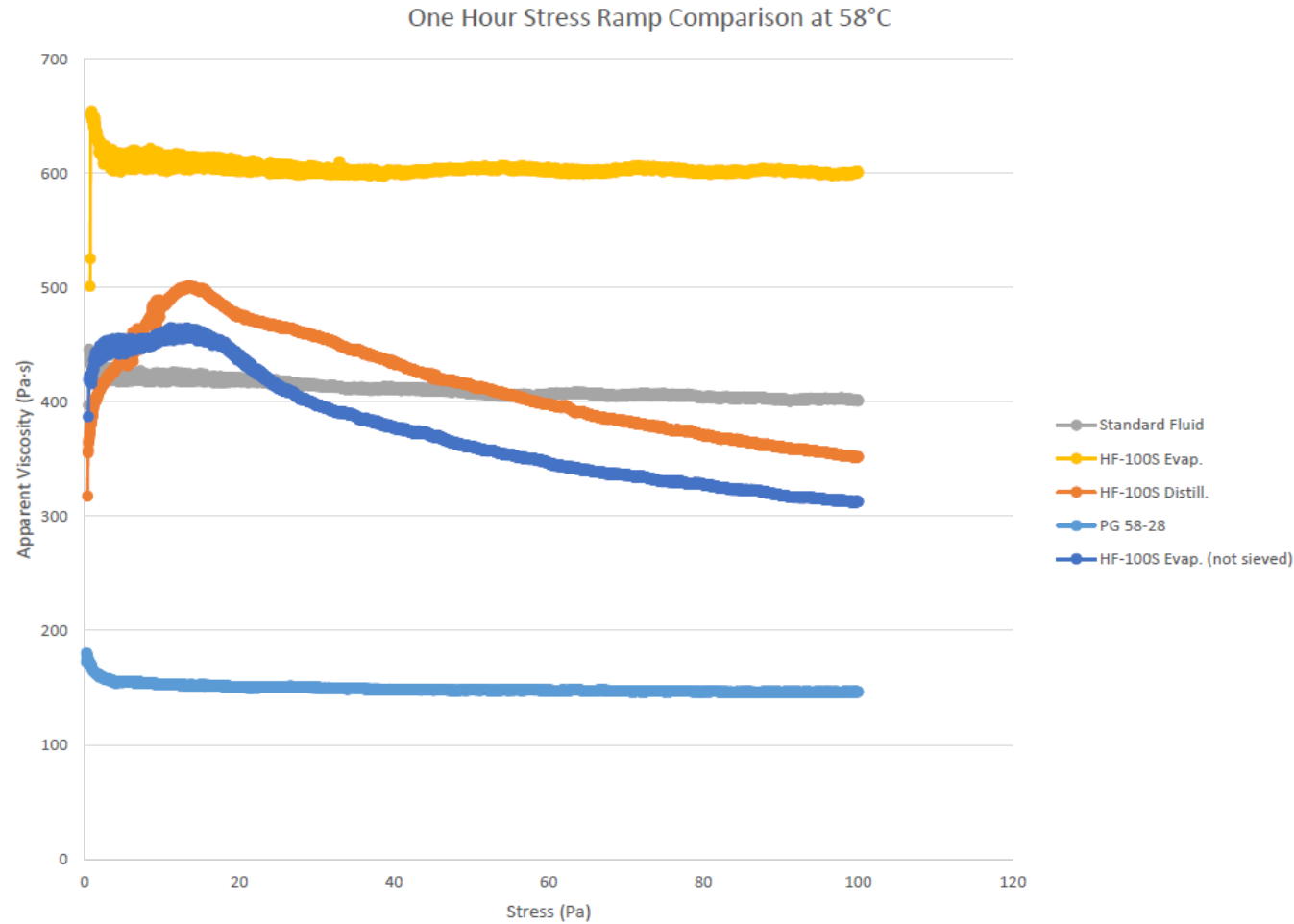
# RESULTS & INTERPRETATION (part 2)



*Only considered Residue by Distillation, what about Residue by Evapouration?*

- *High viscosity*
- *No yielding*
- *Behaves like a fluid*

# RESULTS & INTERPRETATION (part 2)



# SUMMARY

- *Demonstrated that Residue A has different physical properties from original PG 58-28 bitumen*
- *High float residue possesses a yield stress*
- *Developed a new hybrid rheological model for high float residue*
- *Propose an alternative protocol to the Float Test (ASTM D139)*

# SUMMARY (part 2)

- *Current HF residue testing is inadequate, and not equally understood*
- *It is still important to measure the apparent viscosity of an HF residue well beyond its yield*
  - Flow curve or stress ramp measurements could replace the current *vacuum capillary viscosity methods*
- *Evaporated specimens behave more like a viscous fluid and not like a viscoplastic fluid unless residue is NOT sieved*

# IN THE FUTURE

- *Gather more data of varying HF grades to determine proper ramp rates and corresponding shear rates*
- *Look at alternative recovery techniques to adequately emanate field conditions*
- *Discuss with stakeholders about continuing our research to progress to more scientific, robust, performance-based testing*

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## Contributors

- Justin Suda
- Sina Varamini
- Elijah Bickle
- Tony Kucharek

## MCA Senior Management & Lab Support

- Ron Vertz
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- Abdul Elkadri
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- Evan Kohut
- Reza Raheem
- Melissa Corrigan



Sina and Tony



Elijah



# THANK YOU



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