



Epoxy Chemistry

Research update

27. April 2021

Pascal Studer

Laboratory for Soft Materials

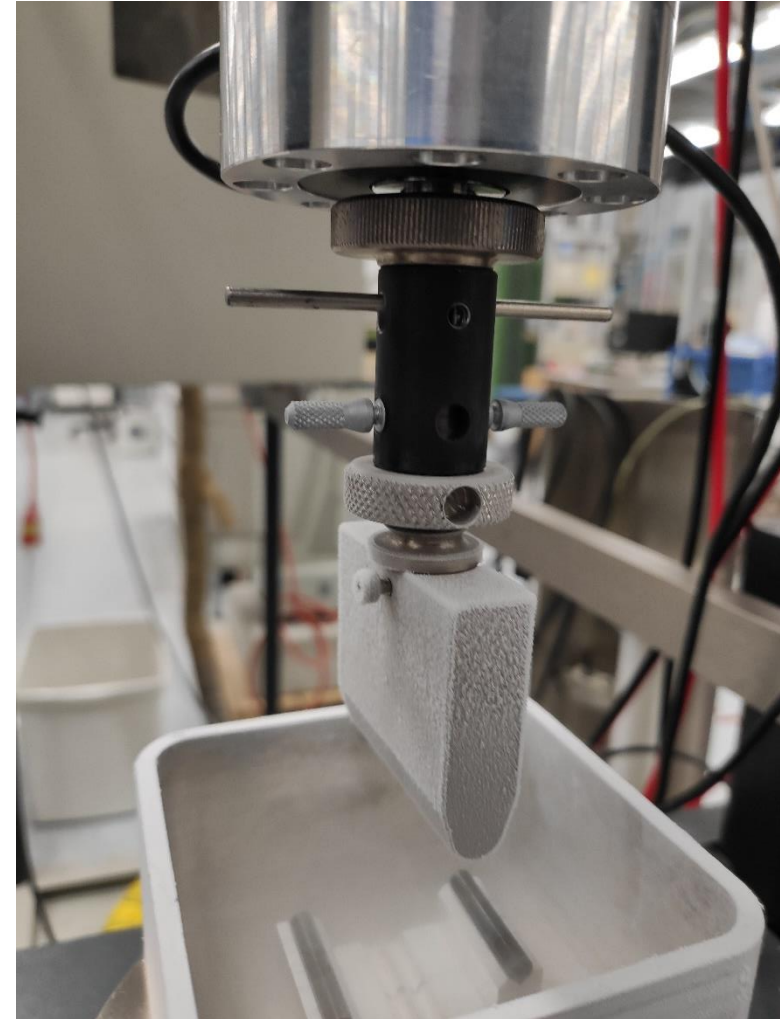
Current research topics

- Characterisation of Araldite CY192-1 / HY918 system
- Phenoxy resins
 - Linear polymers which potentially exhibit high fracture toughness at cryogenic temperatures
- High T_g-epoxy (T_g > 140°C)
 - For engineering a specific epoxy composite with UHMWPE
- High K_{1c}-epoxy by adding reactive diluents to high T_g epoxy

Araldite CY192-1 / HY918

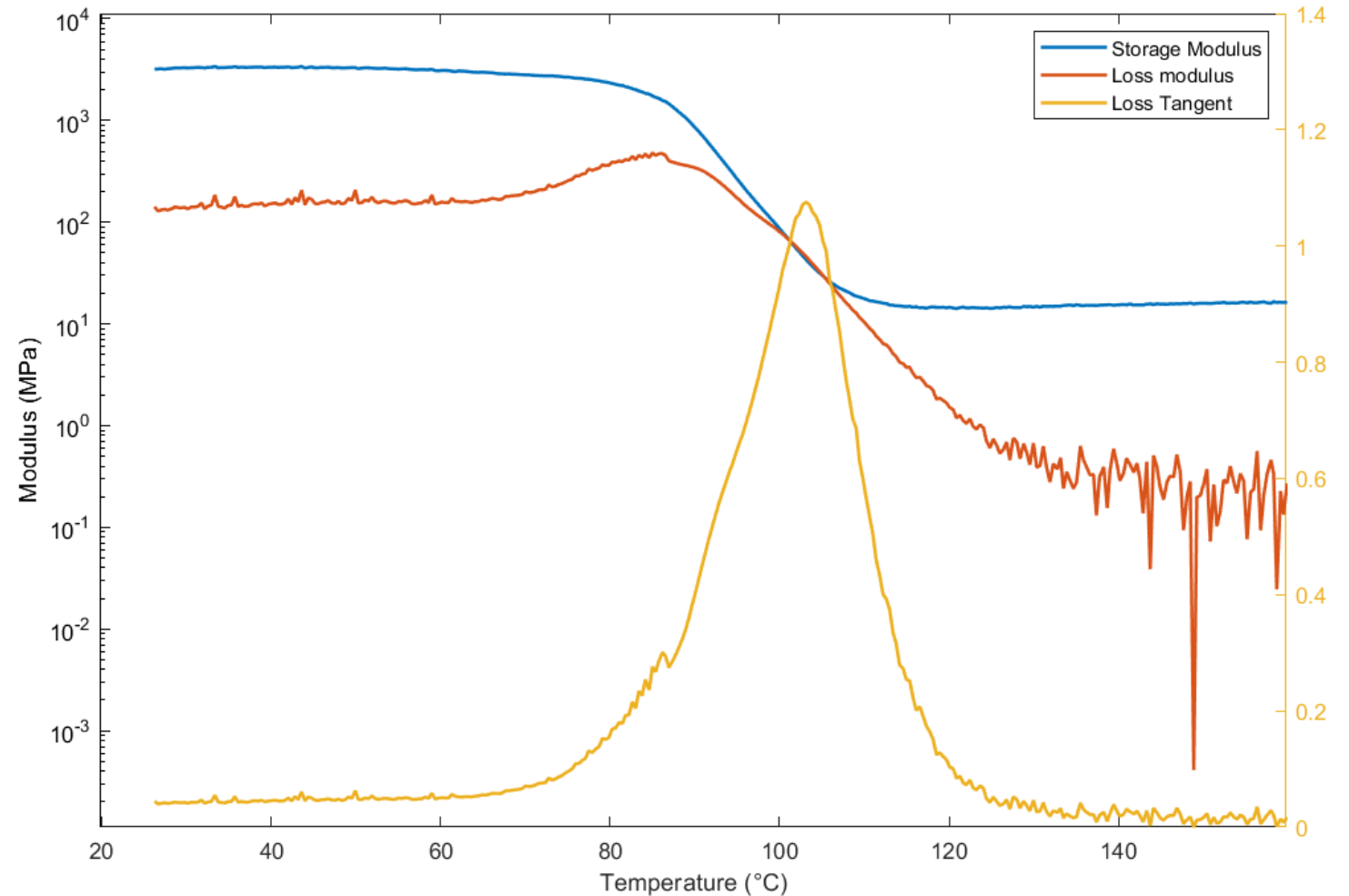
- T_g : 89°C by DSC (inflection point)
- Fracture toughness: K_{Ic}
 - Significant increase at lower temperature, but still low compared to MY750!

RT	LN2
0.87	2.79
0.92	2.07
0.86	2.57



Araldite CY192-1 / HY918

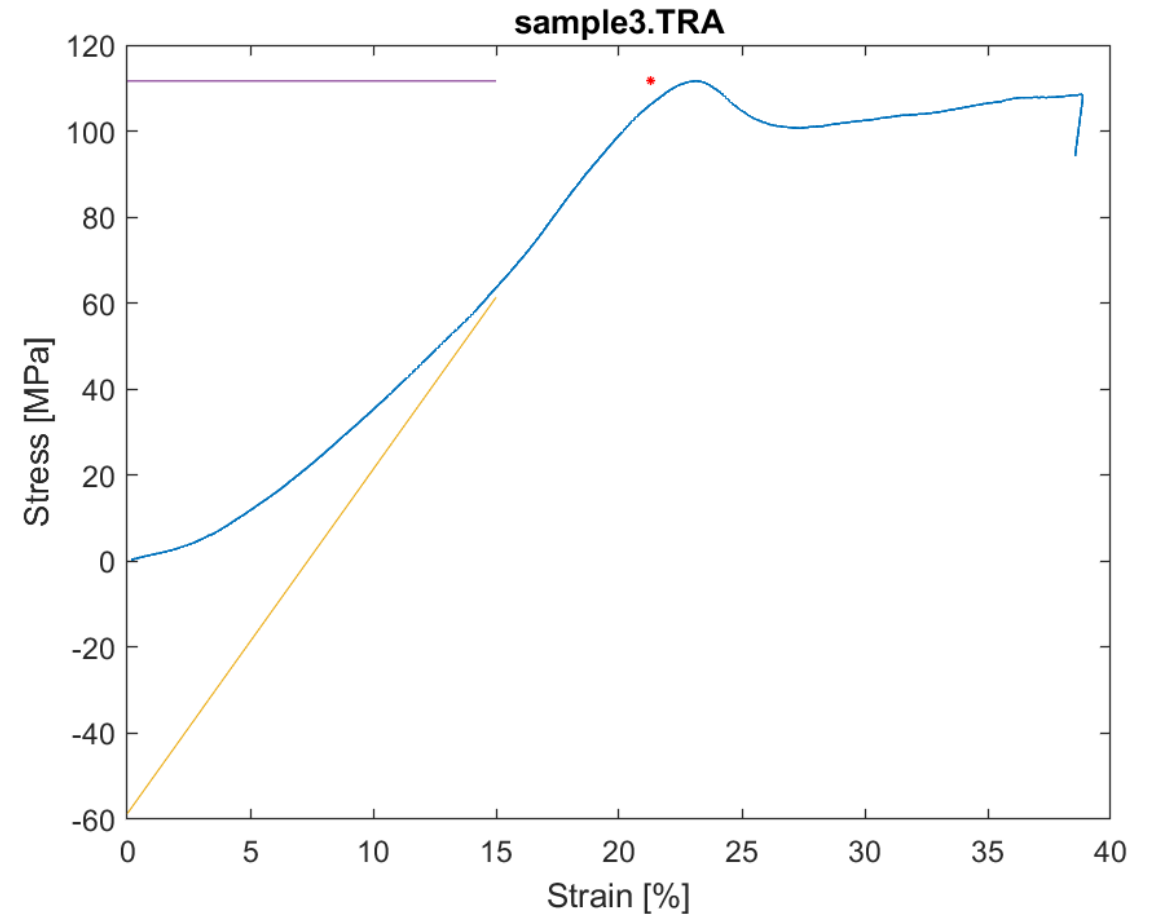
- DMTA
 - 3-point bending, 1 Hz, 0.02% strain, 2°C/min
 - E' at 25°C: **3.2 GPa**
 - T_g from $\max(\tan\delta)$: 103°C
- Flexural bending:
 - E' at 25°C: **3.06 GPa**



Araldite CY192-1 / HY918

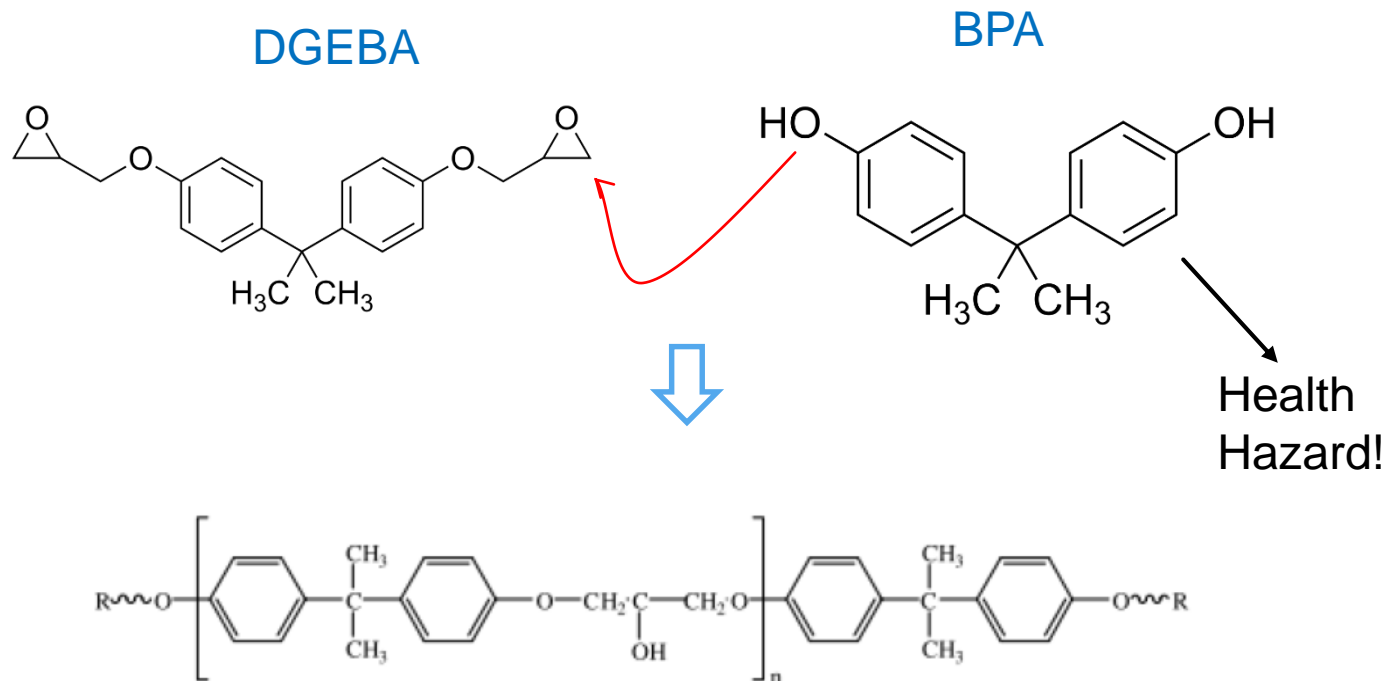
- Compression testing at 0.1s^{-1}
 - Brittle fracture in LN2
 - At RT:

Yield strain (%)	Yield stress (Mpa)
22.1	116.3
21.3	111.6
20.3	109.0



Phenoxy resins

- Phenoxy resins are mainly linear
 - Increased fracture toughness at cryogenic temperatures



D: DGEBA + BPA
E: DGEBiphenyl + BPA
F: Novolac + BPA

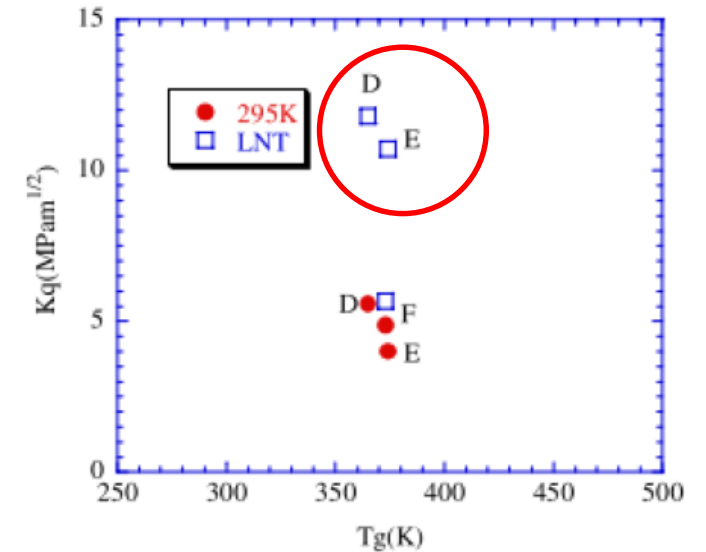


Fig. 9. Relationship between K_q and T_g .

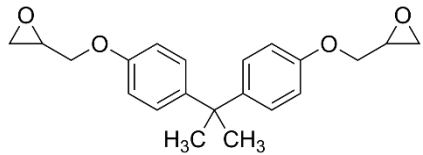
Epoxies for cryogenic use: Ueki et al., *Cryogenics*, 2004, DOI: 10.1016/j.cryogenics.2004.07.002

Phenoxy resins

Starting system

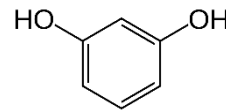
Lower melting point (110°C)
Less toxic
Lower viscosity

Resin
DGEBA
(A)

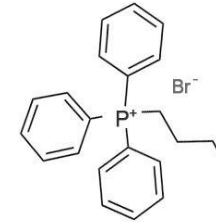


1 : 1

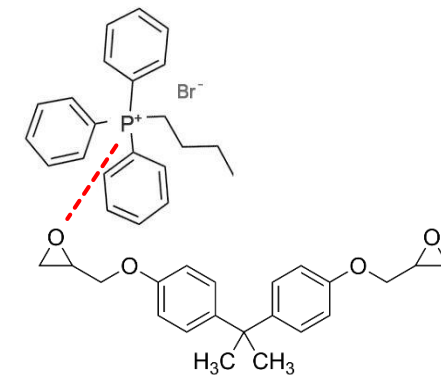
Hardener
Resorcinol (RSO)
(B)



Latent catalyst
Butyl triphenyl phosphonium bromide
(C)



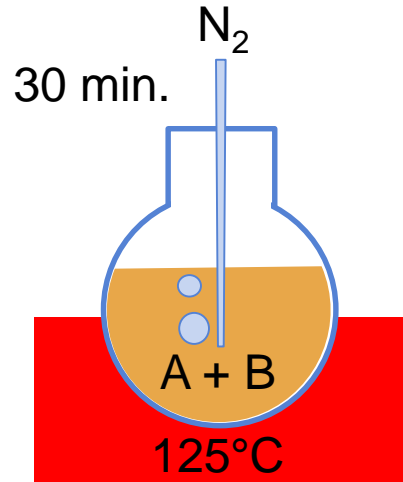
- Example: 14.72g DGEBA, 4.74g RSO, ~6.8mg catalyst
- A and B: equimolar amount



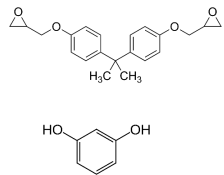
Phenoxy resins

- Current processing method

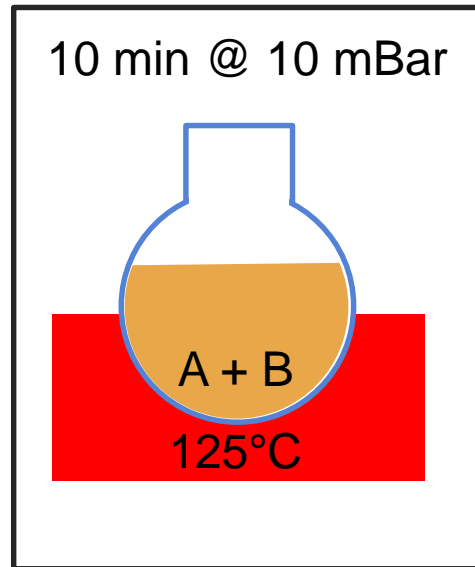
Liquify mixture



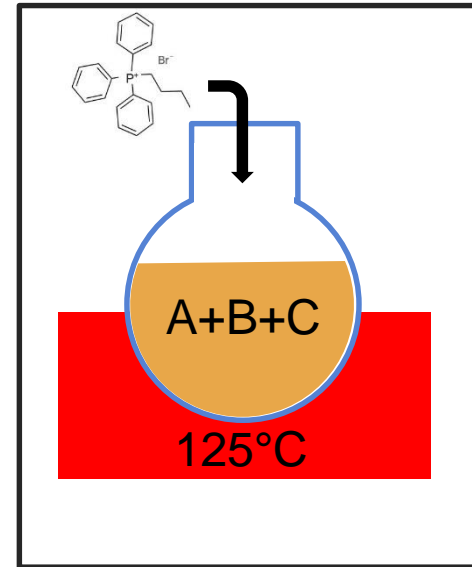
30 min.



Degas

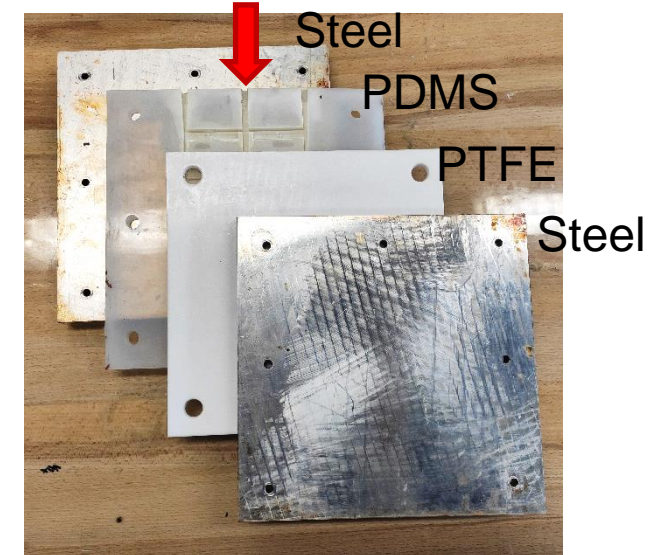


Add catalyst



(Catalyst stored in vacuum @ 50°C)

Fill mold



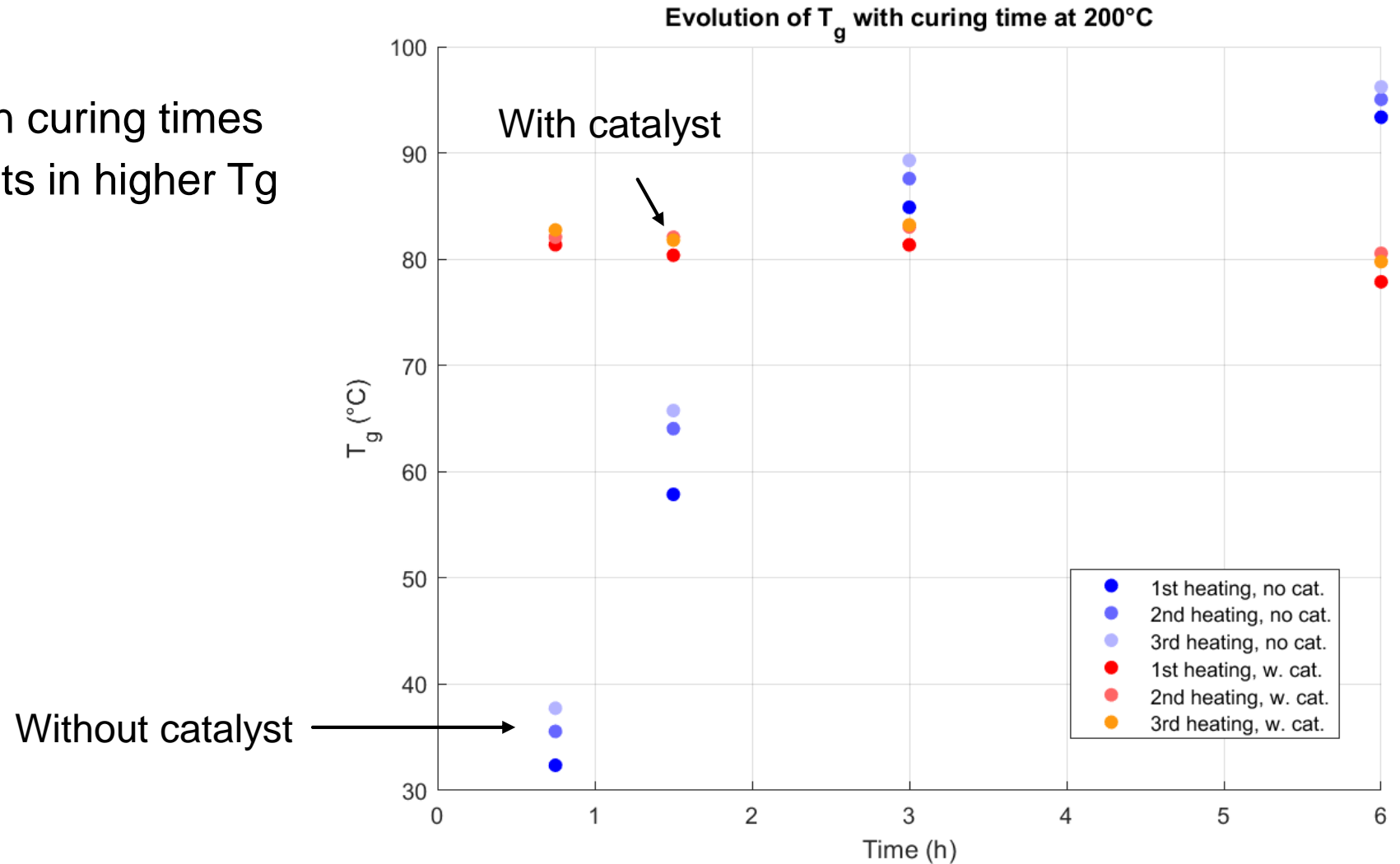
Mold preheated to 130°C

Cure

~30 min @ 200°C

Phenoxy resins

- Results
 - Effect of catalyst on curing times
 - More catalyst results in higher T_g



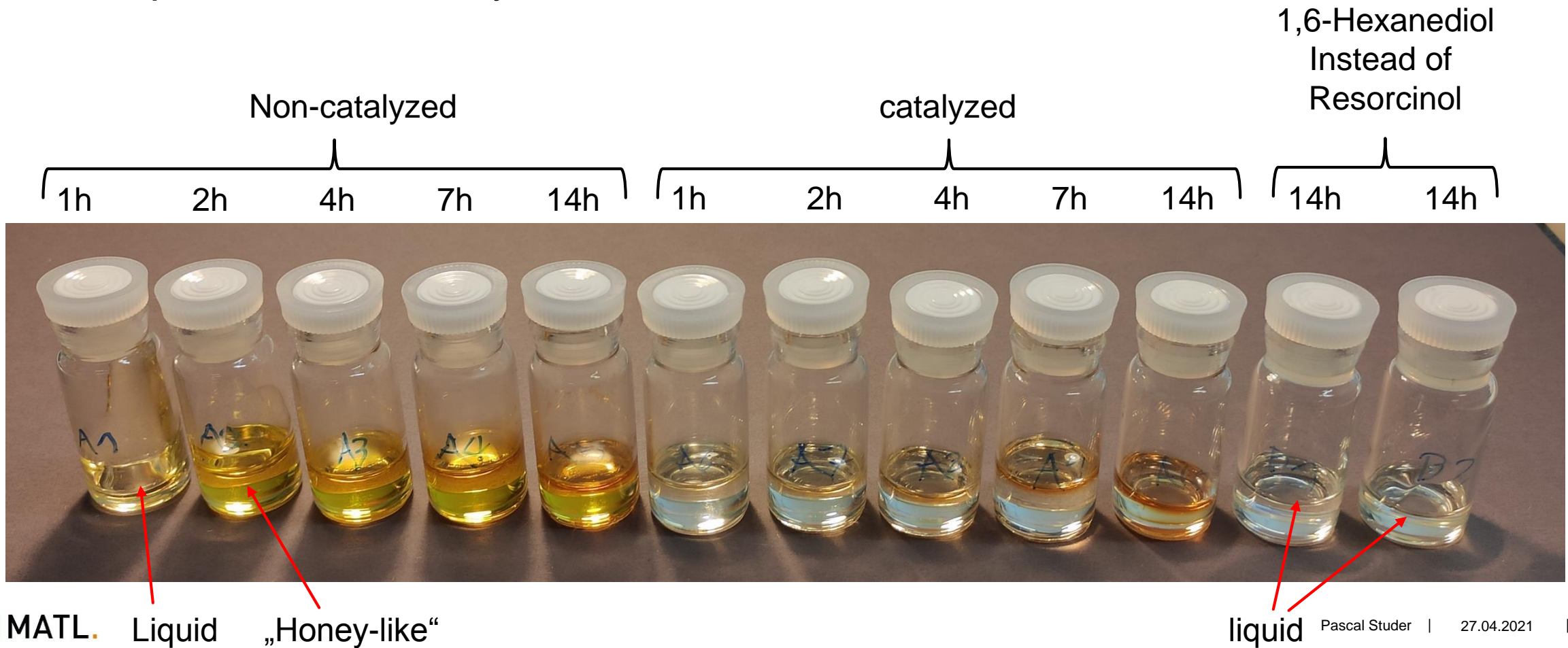
Phenoxy resins

- Problem: Bubbles in the samples
 - Water bubbles due to condensation of hydroxy-groups?
 - No, mass loss during curing insignificant
 - 4.0 Mass. ‰ without catalyst
 - 1.9 Mass. ‰ with catalyst
 - Catalyst interaction with PDMS mold?
 - No, samples cured without catalyst also have bubbles!
 - Without catalyst: Longer curing time (~6h)
 - Residual gas in the mixture?
 - Probably no
 - When degassing at 10mbar, first strong bubbling, then less and less
 - Going to lower pressures, mixture begins boiling
 - Resorcinol: Vapour pressure $P=3.35 \text{ mBar}$ @ 125°C (Antoine Equation)
- Trying a lower curing temperature...



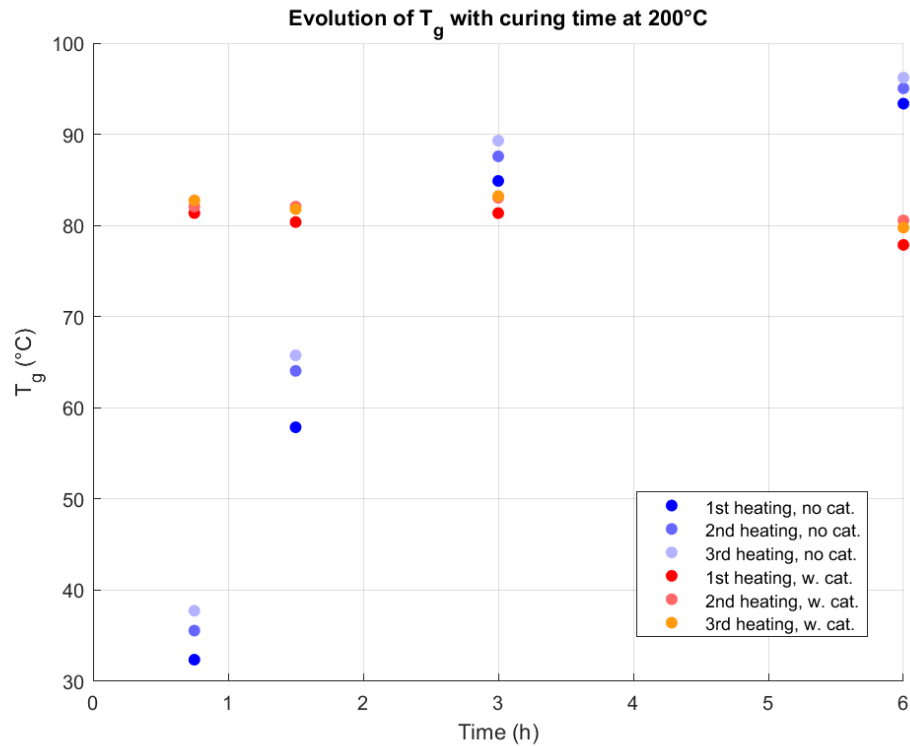
Phenoxy resins

- $T_{\text{Cure}} = 165^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Samples for DSC study

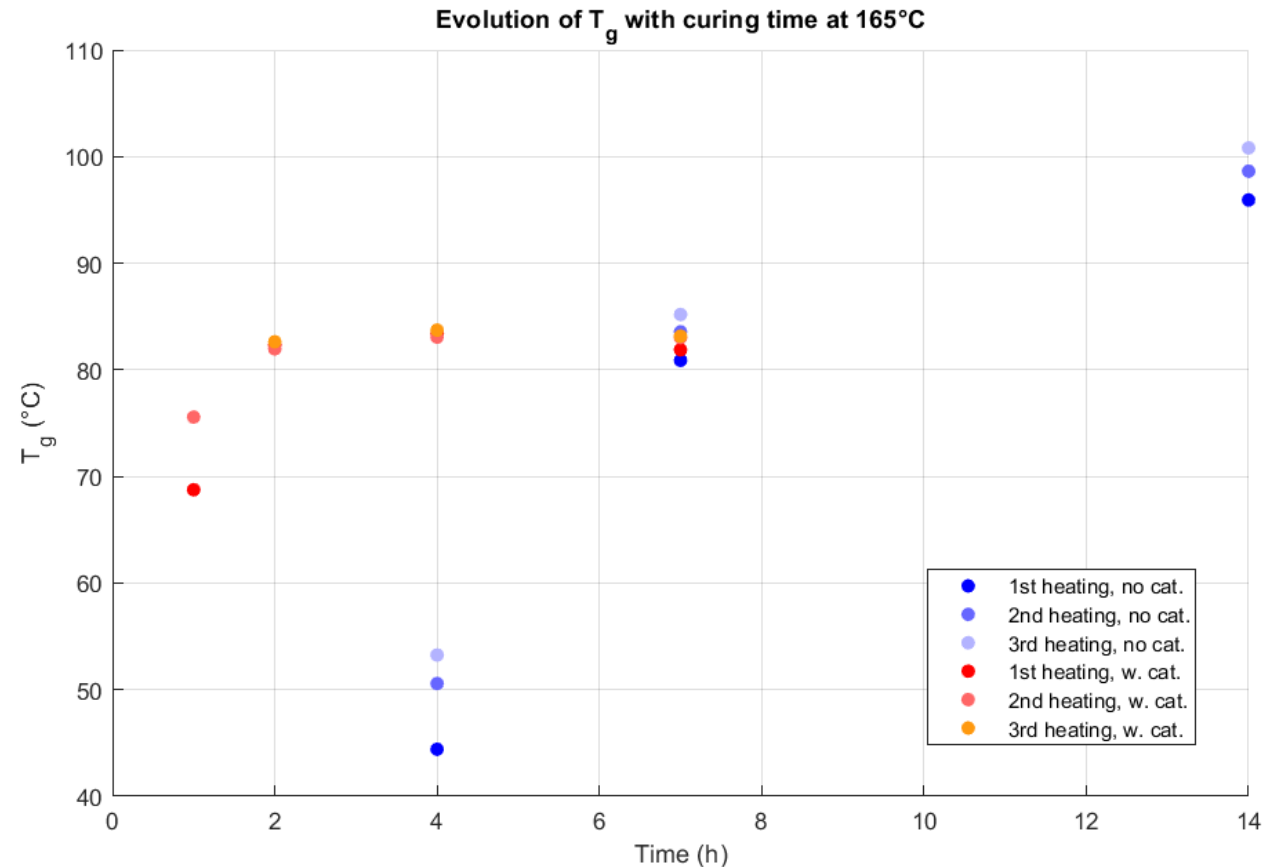


Phenoxy resins

- $T_{\text{Cure}} = 200^{\circ}\text{C}$



- $T_{\text{Cure}} = 165^{\circ}\text{C} \rightarrow$ almost no bubbles!



Phenoxy resins – characterization

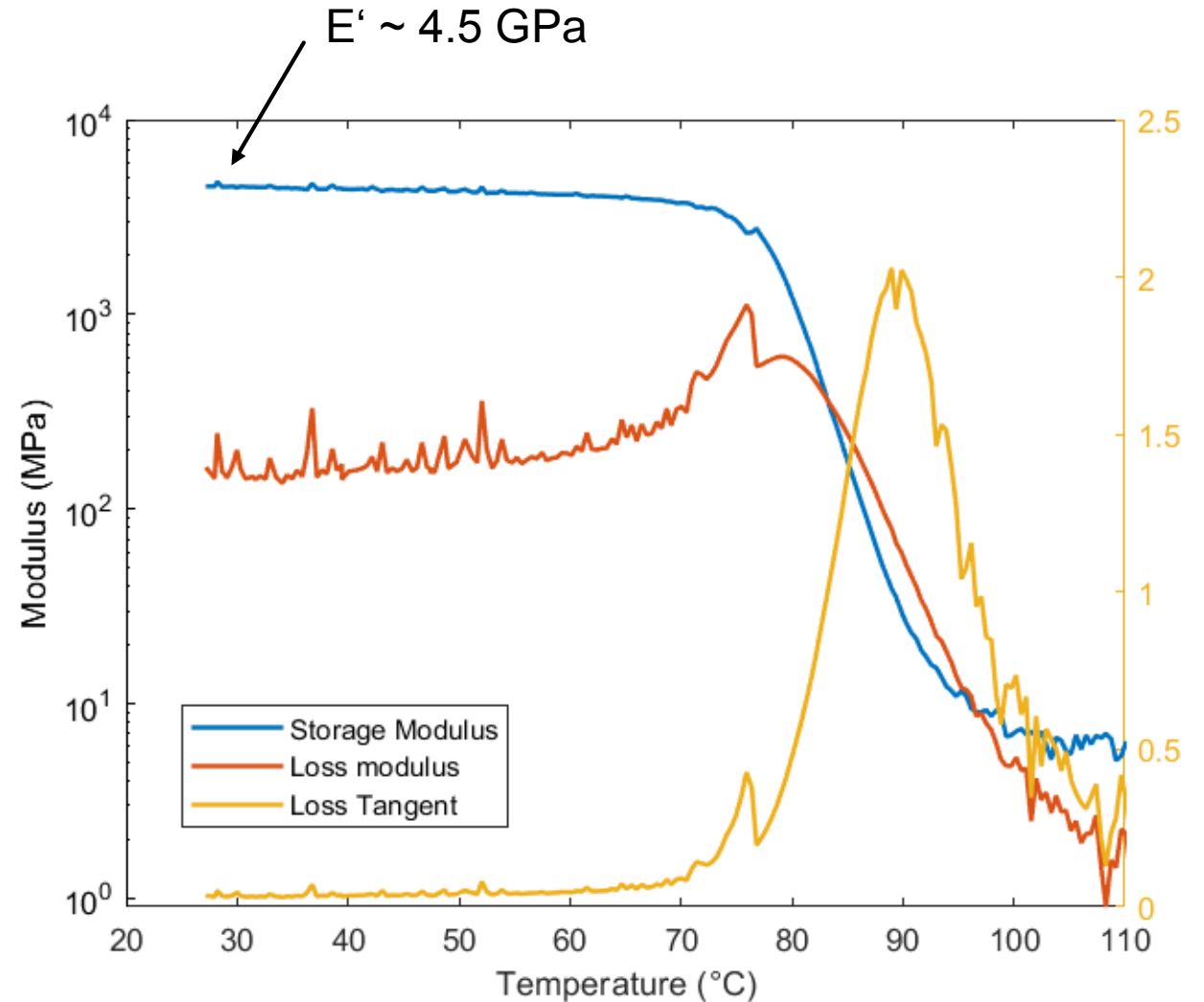
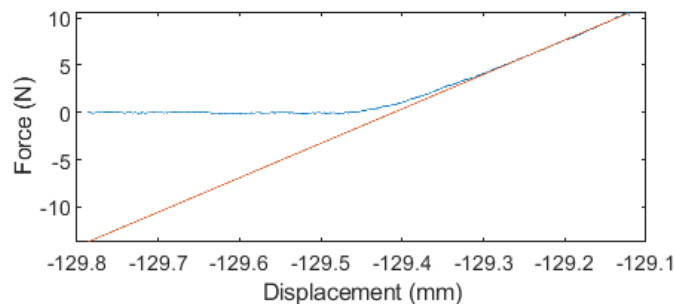
- Single-etch notch bend specimens
 - W x H x L ~ 5mm x 9mm x 40mm
 - Tested with 200N loadcell @ Zwick
- Calculated K_{Ic} values ($\text{MPa}\cdot\text{m}^{0.5}$)

	RT	LN2
	1.09	1.62
	1.23	1.55
	0.86	1.46
	1.08	1.46
	0.63	



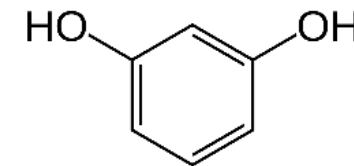
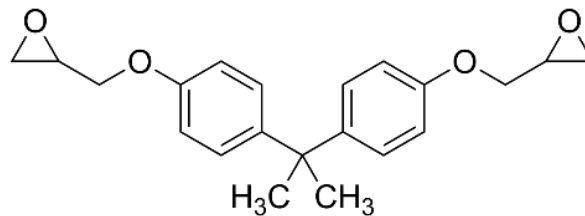
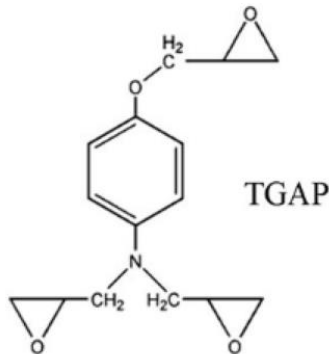
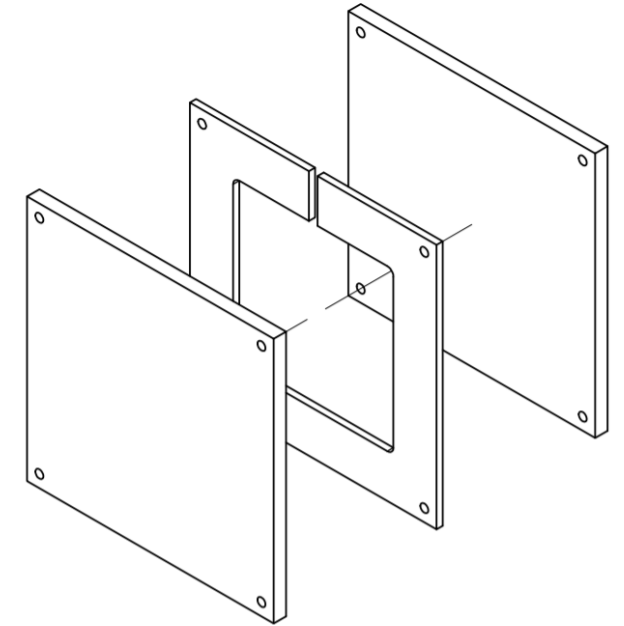
Phenoxy resins – characterization

- Bending specimens
 - W x H x L ~ 4mm x 3mm x 40mm
- DMTA with ARES-G2
 - 1 Hz
 - 0.005 % strain amp.
 - Temperature sweep @ 3°C/min
- Flexural modulus with Zwick
 - E' @ RT: 3.4 Gpa
 - W x H x L ~ 5mm x 5mm x 60mm



Phenoxy resins – Continuation

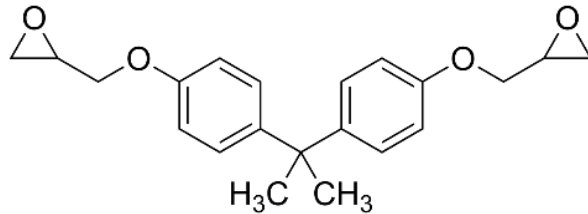
- Lower T_g (~80°C) compared to samples cured in glass vial (~100°C)
 - Modulus seems dependent on sample dimensions
 - Still some bubbles, especially in thin samples
 - Dimension tolerances of samples could be better
 - Fracture toughness much lower than expected
-
- → move away from silicone mold
 - → make PTFE mold for plates for water-jet cutting, **design in progress**



Phenoxy resins – Continuation

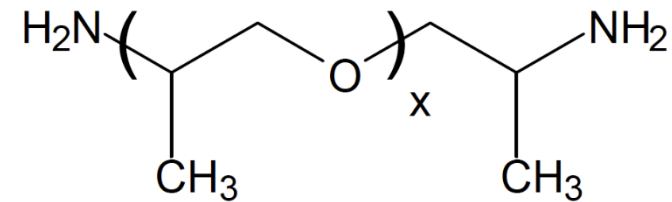
- Advantage of phenoxy chemistry: Long curing time
- Imitate the network structure of tough resins
 - Use long difunctional monomers in network
 - Or slightly crosslink the linear network using TGAP (trifunctional)

DGEBA (F=2)



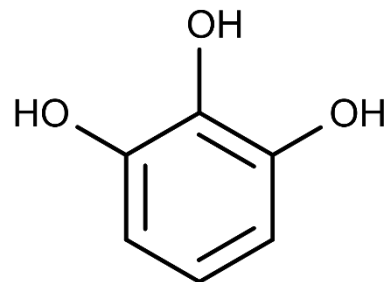
Epoxy cured
With
Jeffamine

Jeffamine (F=4)



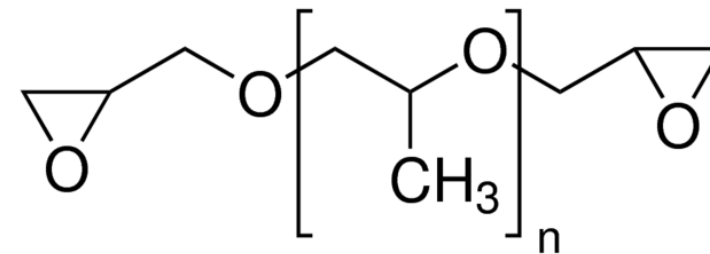
$x \approx 6.1$

Pyrogallol (F=3)



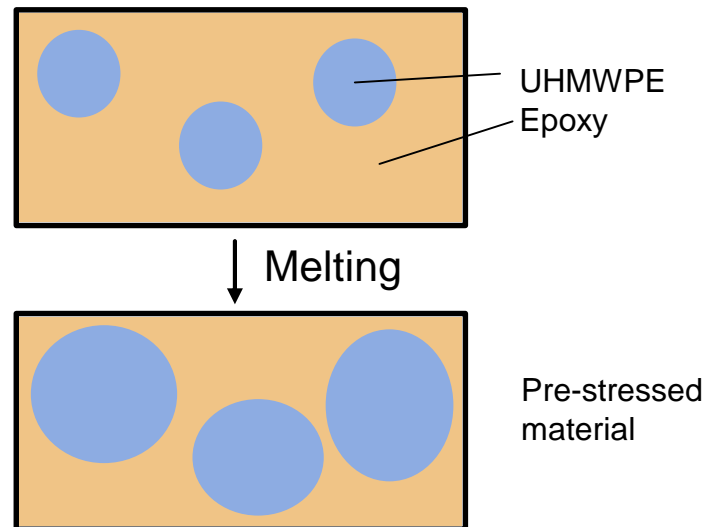
Phenoxy
pendant

Poly(propylene glycol) diglycidyl ether (F=2)



High T_g epoxy composite

- Idea



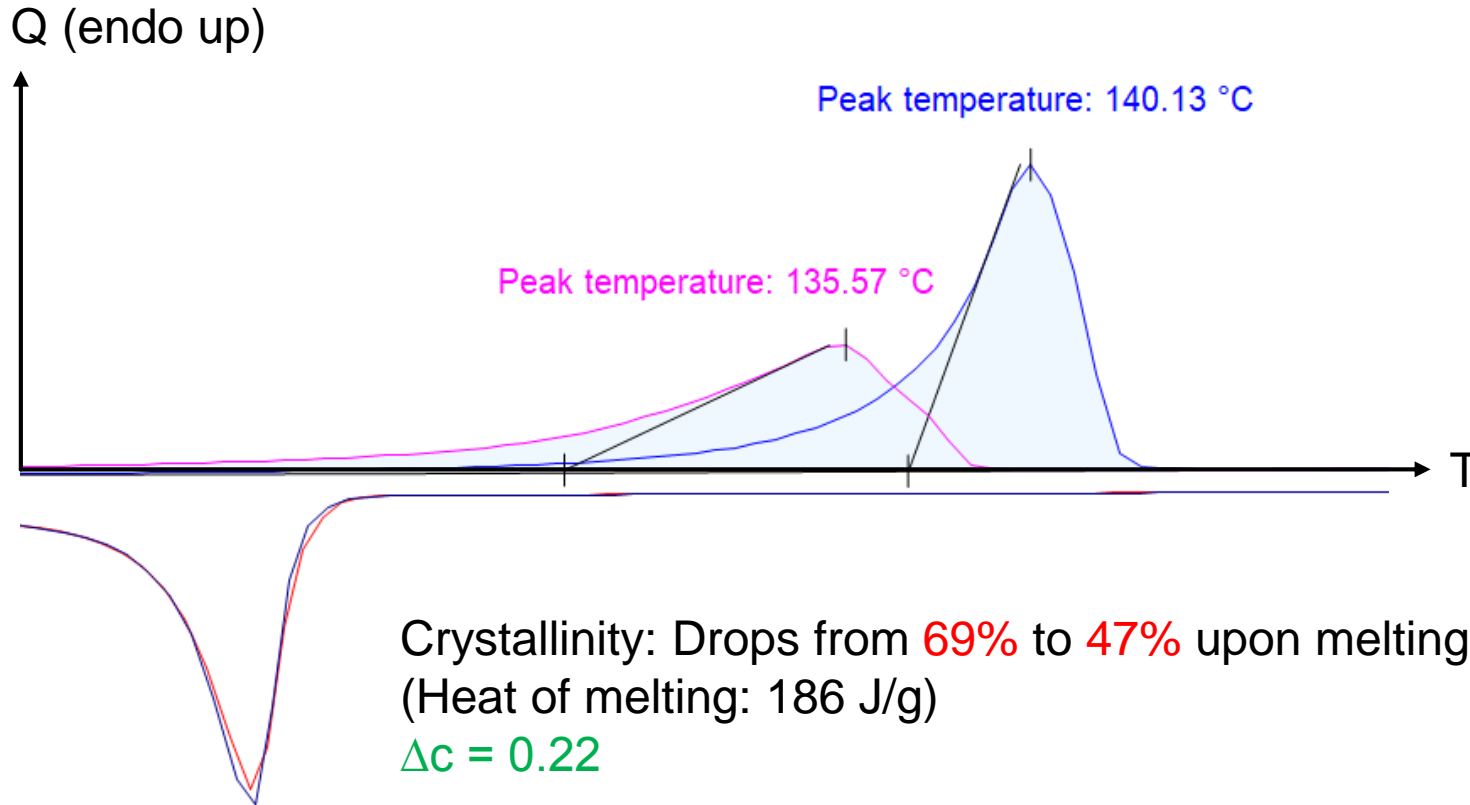
- Materials

- UHMWPE particles:
 - Mitsui Mipelon PM-200
 - Particle size ~10 microns
 - Melting point: 140°C
- High T_g epoxy
 - To be synthesized

High T_g epoxy composite

- DSC of the UHMWPE powder

Shrinkage of epoxy: About 1% over 200K



Calculations

- $\rho_c = 1.004 \text{ g/cm}^3$
- $\rho_a = 0.853 \text{ g/cm}^3$
- $\Delta c = 0.22$

$$\left(\left(\frac{\rho_c}{\rho_a} - 1 \right) \Delta c + 1 \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} = 1.0128$$

→ 1.28% linear expansion
(melting)

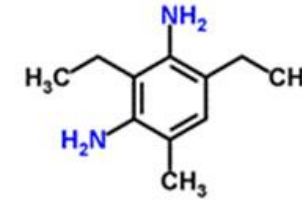
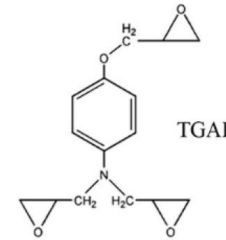
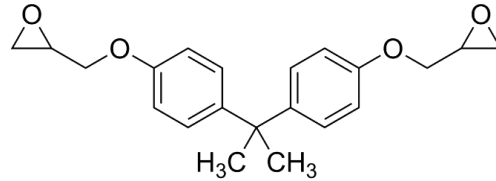
- $\alpha_{PE} = 108 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ K}^{-1}$
- $\Delta T = 200 \text{ K}$

→ 2.16% linear thermal
expansion over 200K

High T_g epoxy composite

Composition from reference paper

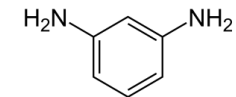
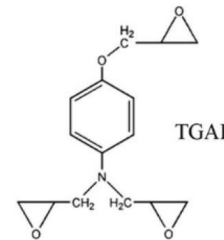
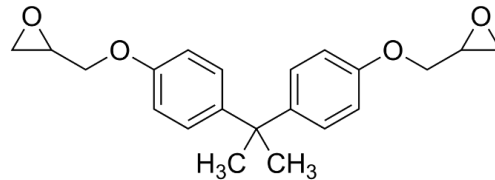
- DGEBA 100 pHr
- TGAP 20 pHr
- DETDA 34 pHr



- Miscible at 40°C, curing cycle: 100°C 60 min, 150°C 90 min., 177°C 120 min.
- T_g : 200°C

Materials I have in the lab

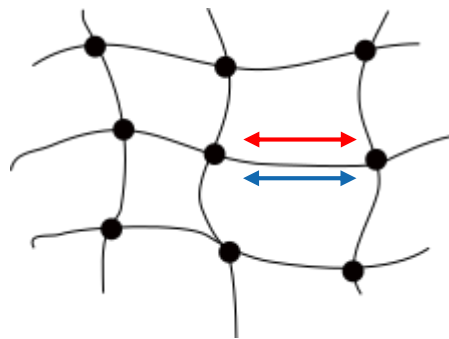
- DGEBA
- TGAP
- m-phenylenediamine



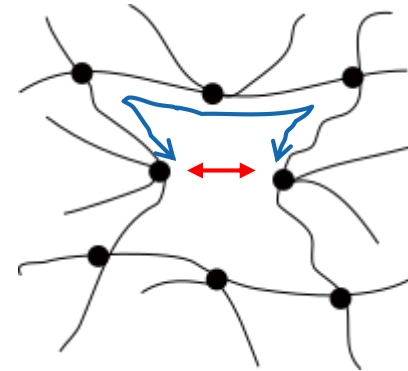
Melts at 64-66°C

High K_{1c} epoxy

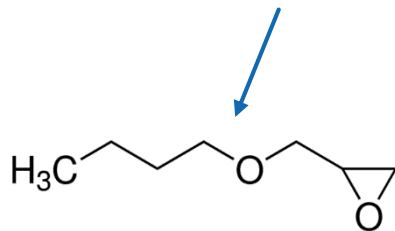
- Important research findings
 - The **toughness** increases with increasing **topological distance between crosslinks**



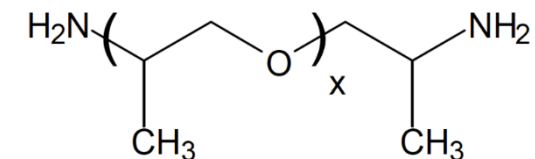
Euclidean distance
Topological distance



- Approach: Reactive diluents, RESD, long-chain monomers such as Jeffamine



Reaction in presence of solvent,
Then drying



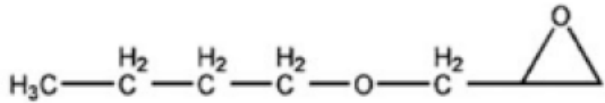
$x \approx 6.1$

References

RESD; network topology: Sharifi et al., J. Mater. Chem., 2014, DOI: 10.1039/c4ta03051f
Reactive diluents: Jin-Woo et al., J. Appl. Polym. Sci., 2012, DOI: 10.1002/app.38040

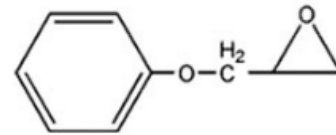
Idea for a epoxy with high fracture toughness

- Start from a known high T_g resin: DGEBA, TGAP and DETDA
 - Change network structure with reactive diluents, e.g. butylglycidylether, BGE
 - Increases toughness of network



BGE

Lowers T_g

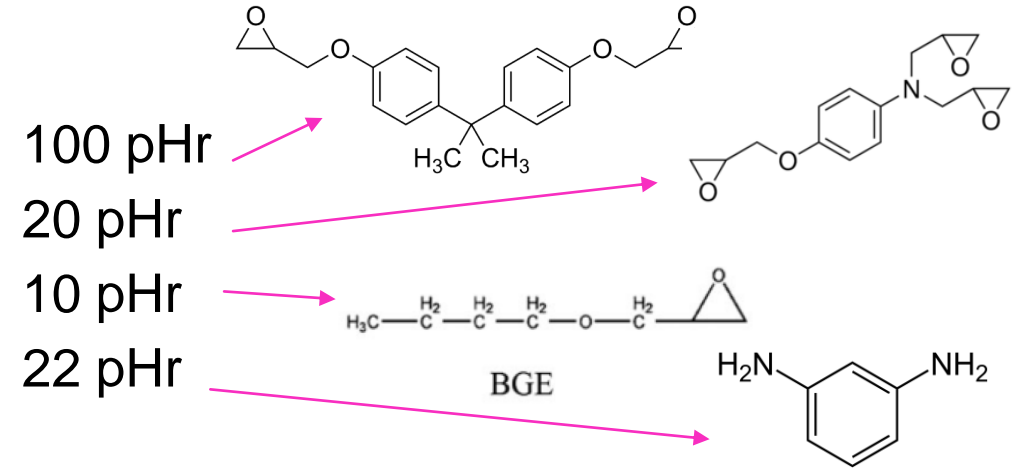


PGE

Does not affect T_g much

First result

- **Materials:**
 - Araldite MY750 DGEBA, ~5.3 equiv/kg
 - TGAP: Tri-glycidyl p-aminophenol
 - BGE: Butyl glycidyl ether
 - MPD: M-phenylene diamine
- **Procedure**
 - Degassing at 75°C 10 min 10 mbar
 - Curing: 100°C 60 min, 150°C 90 min, 177°C 120 min
- **Samples feel tough, testing to be done**



Wrinkles on samples, from PTFE foil,
PTFE foil only wrinkled where sample was

- Order thicker PTFE foil (this was 170g/m²)
- Which kind available at PSI?