

# Shear-stress relaxation in free-standing polymer films

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Using molecular dynamics simulation of a polymer glass model we investigate free-standing polymer films focusing on the in-plane shear modulus  $\mu$  and the shear-stress relaxation modulus  $G(t)$  as a function of temperature  $T$ , film thickness  $H$  and sampling time  $t$ . Various observables, such as the glass transition temperature  $T_g$ , are seen to vary inversely with  $H$  demonstrating thus the (to leading order) linear superposition of bulk and surface properties. Confirming the time-translational invariance of our systems,  $\mu$  is shown to be numerically equivalent to a second integral over  $G(t)$ . As shown from the respective standard deviations, this is especially important for large times and for temperatures around the glass transition. Both  $\mu$  and  $G$  are found to decrease continuously with  $T$  and a jump-singularity is not observed. Using the successful time-temperature superposition scaling of  $\mu$  and  $G$  the shear viscosity can be estimated for a broad range of temperatures.

**Salle de réunion du département de Chimie – ICPM**

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