

**Institute of Mechanics** 

# Continuum mechanical modeling of processing induced initial anisotropy in the finite strain deformation of amorphous thermoplastic polymers

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## **Motivation**

- injection molding of plastic components gives rise to "frozen-in" molecular stretch and orientation
- examples (injection molded plate and tensile test specimen, PMMA)

heating above

glass transiton





### Model response vs. experimental data

uniaxial tensile tests at different strain rates and temperatures on PMMA (below and above glass transition)







molecular orientation visible under polarized light





bright  $\triangleq$  high molecular orientation

no orientation left after annealing at 120° C

#### aim of this work:

predictive modeling accounting for processing influence

## **Constitutive modeling**

including pre-deformation of molecular network with initial inelastic deformation gradient  $F^{i}$ 



- glass transition temperature strain rate dependent
- requirement for model extension: reduced hardening at high temperatures and low rates (molecular reptation)

### **Computational examples**

- simulation of annealing experiments with injection molded components
- key issue: estimation of "frozen-in" network stretch and orientation from flow field and mapping to FE model
- 5 regions with different initial stretch









flow rule for inelastic rate of deformation tensor in intermediate configuration

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{D}}^{p} = \dot{\gamma}^{p} \frac{\overline{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}'}{|\overline{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}'|}, \quad \overline{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}' = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}' - \hat{\boldsymbol{b}}', \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \det(\boldsymbol{F}) \ \boldsymbol{F}^{eT} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \boldsymbol{F}^{e-T}$$

backstress (8-chain-model, Arruda & Boyce ,1993)

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{b}} = \frac{1}{3} C^R \frac{\sqrt{N}}{\lambda_c} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left(\frac{\lambda_c}{\sqrt{N}}\right) \hat{\boldsymbol{B}}^n \quad , \quad \hat{\boldsymbol{B}}^n = \boldsymbol{F}^n \boldsymbol{F}^{nT} \quad , \quad \lambda_c^2 = \frac{1}{3} \text{tr} \hat{\boldsymbol{E}}^n$$

**inelastic strain rate** (Argon, 1973)

 $\dot{\gamma}^p = \dot{\gamma}_0^p \exp\left[-\frac{As}{T}\left(1 - \left(\frac{|\overline{\Sigma}'|}{s}\right)^{\frac{5}{6}}\right]\right]$ 

effect of current inelastic deformation and initial network deformation

E(T)

A(T)

lg

model extension beyond glass transition

**intermolecular resistance**: temperature dependent stiffness and activation energy (Dupaix & Boyce, 2007)

network resistance: density of entanglements n(T)

reasonable agreement of stress-free deformation after heating above glass transition temperature

#### **Conclusions & Outlook**

- thermo-mechanical model for large strain deformation of amorphous thermoplastics considering initial network stretch from manufacturing process
- calibrated from experiments over a wide range of temperatures
- reasonable esimate of stress-free deformation during heating

#### future work:

- estimation and mapping of molecular stretch and orientation from mold filling simulations
- improvement of temperature dependent network model
- application: forming simulations including manufacturing influence



