

Theory and Practice of Wet Spinning of Cellulose Solutions

Doctoral Course, **Part 8**



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School of Chemical
Engineering

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March 10 – 11, 2022

Outline

1. Introduction, history
2. Pulps as raw materials
3. Cellulose solvents
4. Theoretical aspects of cellulose dissolution
5. Rheology of cellulose solutions
6. Coagulation and regeneration of cellulose
7. Filament breaches during spinning
- 8. Types and properties of MMCFs**

Schedule

L1	Introduction, Raw material	March 10	9:00 – 9:45
L2	Raw materials. Cellulose solvent	March 10	10:00-10:45
L3	Cellulose solvents	March 10	11:00-11:45
L4	Cellulose solvents	March 10	12:00-12:45
	Break		
L5	Cellulose dissolution	March 10	14:00-14:45
L6	Rheology	March 10	15:00-15:45
L7	Cellulose dissolution/ Coagulation and Regeneration	March 10	16:00-16:45
L8	Coagulation and Regeneration	March 11	9:00 – 9:45
L9	Coagulation and Regeneration	March 11	10:00-10:45
L10	Filament breaches	March 11	11:00-11:45
L11	Types and properties of MMCFs	March 11	12:00-12:45
L12	Q&A	March 11	13:00 -

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Types and Properties of MMCFs

- Commercial vs Selected Non-Commercial MMCFs
- Mechanical properties
- Optical properties
- Interaction with water

Classification of Fiber properties

Geometric	Physical	Chemical
Length Average values Distribution Cross section Area Shape Crimp Frequency Form	Density Linear Bulk Thermal Melting point Transitions Conductivity Decomposition Optical Birefringence Refractive index Luster and color Electrical Resistivity Dielectric constant Surface Friction Roughness Mechanical Tension Compression Torsion Bending Shear	Response to Acids Alkalies Oxidation Reduction Heat Sorption Moisture Dyes Other chemicals Swelling Anisotropy

Matrix of fibre properties investigated			
Mechanical properties	Stress-strain	Yield point	Toughness
	Linear density	Elastic limit	Prop. Limit
	Höller Diagram	Factor analysis	
Cellulose structure	X-Ray diffraction	WAXS	SAXS
	Birefringence		
	Pore structure		
Cellulose-Water Interaction	DVS	Hailwood-Horrobin model	
Fiber Fibrillation	Method	Cross-linking	

Linear density calculation: Lyocell

TASK:

Linear density (titer, dtex) of an **loncell** fiber?

Hole diameter, $d = 100 \mu m$
Number of holes, $n = 400$
Density, $\rho = 1.139 g/cm^3$
Cellulose conc, $c = 0.13$
Extr. vel, $v_{extr} = 5 \frac{m}{min}$
Take – up vel, $v_{tup} = 55 \frac{m}{min}$

ANSWER:

Dope flow, Q ?

$$Q = \frac{v_{extr} \cdot n \cdot d^2 \cdot \pi}{4} = \frac{5 \text{ m}}{\text{min}} \cdot 400 \cdot \frac{1 \cdot 10^{-8} m^2}{4} \cdot \pi$$
$$= 15.71 \cdot 10^{-6} m^3/min = 15,71 \text{ ml/min}$$

Titer calculation, T ?

$$T = \frac{Q \cdot \rho \cdot c}{v_{tup} \cdot n}$$
$$= \frac{15.71 \cdot 10^{-6} m^3}{\text{min}} \cdot \frac{1139 \text{ kg}}{m^3} \cdot 0.13 \cdot \frac{\text{min}}{55 \text{ m}} \cdot \frac{1}{400}$$
$$= 1.06 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ kg/m} = 1.06 \frac{g}{10000} m = dtex$$

Linear density calculation: Lyocell

TASK:

Consideration of fiber shrinkage and moisture content:

At a shrinkage of 8%, the filament shrinks from 9000 m by 720 m. Thus

$$f = 1.08$$

At a moisture content of 11%, a titer of 100 corresponds to an effective titer of 111. Thus,

$$h = \frac{111}{100} = 1.11$$

ANSWER:

Effective *Titer* calculation, T ?

$$T = \frac{Q \cdot \rho \cdot c \cdot f \cdot h}{v_{tup} \cdot n} = 1.06 \cdot 1.08 \cdot 1.11$$

$$T_{eff} = 1.27 \text{ dtex}$$

Linear density calculation: **Viscose**

TASK:

Linear density (titer, dtex) of a **Viscose** fiber?

Hole diameter, $d = 50 \mu\text{m}$
Number of holes, $n = 100$
Density, $\rho = 1.4 \text{ g/cm}^3$
Cellulose conc, $c = 0.06$
Extr. vel, $v_{extr} = 20 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{min}}$
Take – up vel, $v_{tup} = 22 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{min}}$

ANSWER:

Dope flow, Q ?

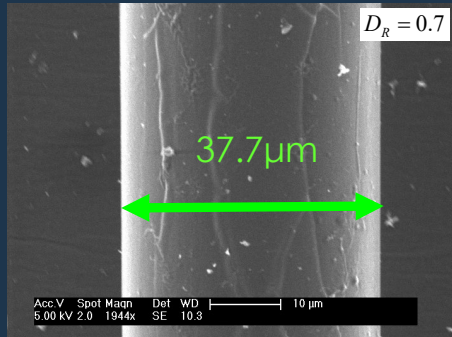
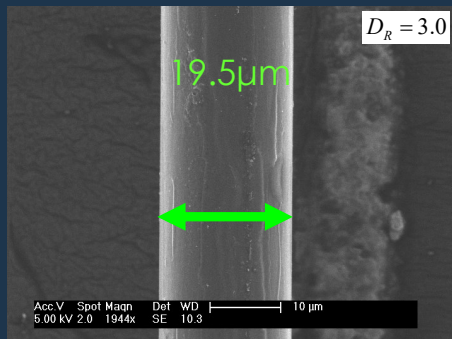
$$Q = \frac{v_{extr} \cdot n \cdot d^2 \cdot \pi}{4} = \frac{20 \text{ m}}{\text{min}} \cdot 100 \cdot \frac{2.5 \cdot 10^{-9} \text{ m}^2}{4} \cdot \pi$$
$$= 3.93 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3/\text{min} = 3,93 \text{ ml/min}$$

Titer calculation, T ?

$$T_{eff} = \frac{Q \cdot \rho \cdot c \cdot f \cdot h}{v_{tup} \cdot n} = 1.50 \cdot 1,08 \cdot 1,11$$
$$= \mathbf{1.80 \text{ dtex}}$$
$$= \frac{3.93 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3}{\text{min}} \cdot \frac{1400 \text{ kg}}{\text{m}^3} \cdot 0.06 \cdot \frac{\text{min}}{22 \text{ m}} \cdot \frac{1}{100}$$
$$= 1.50 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ kg/m} = 1.50 \frac{\text{g}}{10000} \text{ m} = \text{dtex}$$

LYOCELL

- Linear density
- Fiber diameter



Linear density (titer, dtex)

- Hole diameter, $d = 100 \mu\text{m}$
- Number of holes, $n = 200$
- Density, $\rho = 1.139 \text{ g/cm}^3$
- Cellulose conc, $c = 0.13$
- Extr. vel, $v_{extr} = 4 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{min}}$
- Take-up vel, $v_{tup} = 48 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{min}}$

$$Q = \frac{v_{extr} \cdot n \cdot d^2 \cdot \pi}{4} = 6.283 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3/\text{min}$$

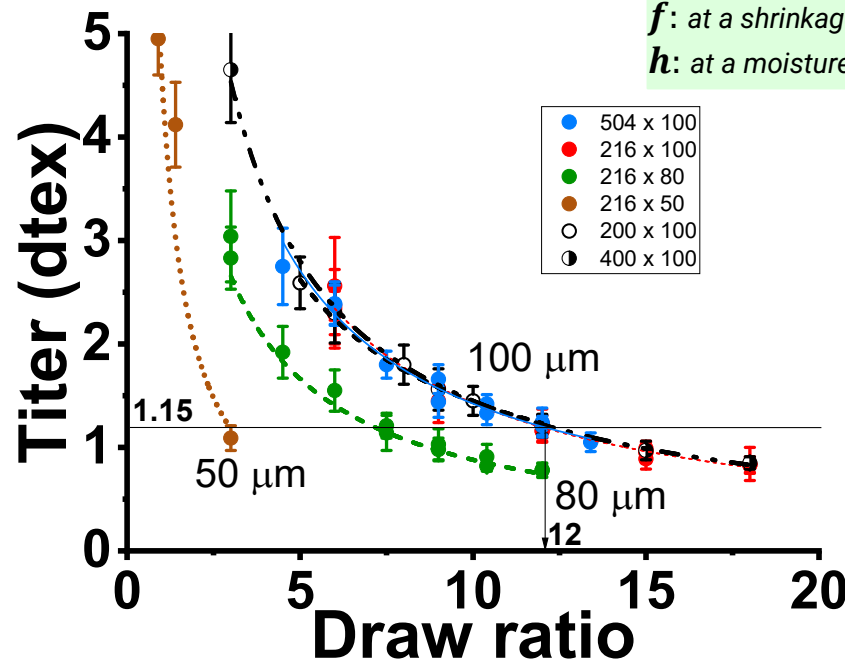
Titer calculation, T

$$T = \frac{Q \cdot \rho \cdot c}{v_{tup} \cdot n} = 9.7 \cdot \frac{10^{-8} \text{ kg}}{\text{m}} = 0.97 \frac{\text{g}}{10000 \text{ m}} = \text{dtex}$$

$$T_{eff} = T \cdot f \cdot h = 0.97 \cdot 1.05 \cdot 1.11 = 1.13 \text{ dtex}$$

f: at a shrinkage of 5%, the titer increases by a factor of 1.05

h: at a moisture of 11%, the titer increases by a factor of 1.11



Fiber diameter

Linear density c:

c... Tex... g/1000 m

D... μm

ρ ... g/cm³

$$A = \frac{\pi D^2}{4} \rightarrow c = A\rho = \frac{\pi \rho D^2}{4}$$

$$D = 2 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{c}{\pi \cdot \rho}} = 2 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1.13}{\pi \cdot 1.5}} = 10.2 \mu\text{m}$$

Terms and Definitions

Linear Density (fiber fineness)

c , mass per unit length (= titre, linear density)

1 tex = g fibre / 1000 m

Circular cross section

Area A is related to Diameter D

$$A = \frac{\pi D^2}{4} \quad c = A\rho = \frac{\pi\rho D^2}{4}$$

$$D = 2 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{c}{\pi \cdot \rho}}$$

Diameter of a 1.3 dtex fibre?

$$\left(\frac{0.13 \text{ g}}{1000 \text{ m}} \cdot \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{10^{-6}}{1.53 \text{ g}} \right)^{0.5} \cdot 2 = 10.5 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ m} = 10.5 \mu\text{m}$$

$$D [\mu\text{m}] = 11.3 \sqrt{\frac{c_{\text{dtex}}}{\rho}}$$

Mechanical Strength

Tenacity in cN/tex; Tensile Strength, stress in MPa

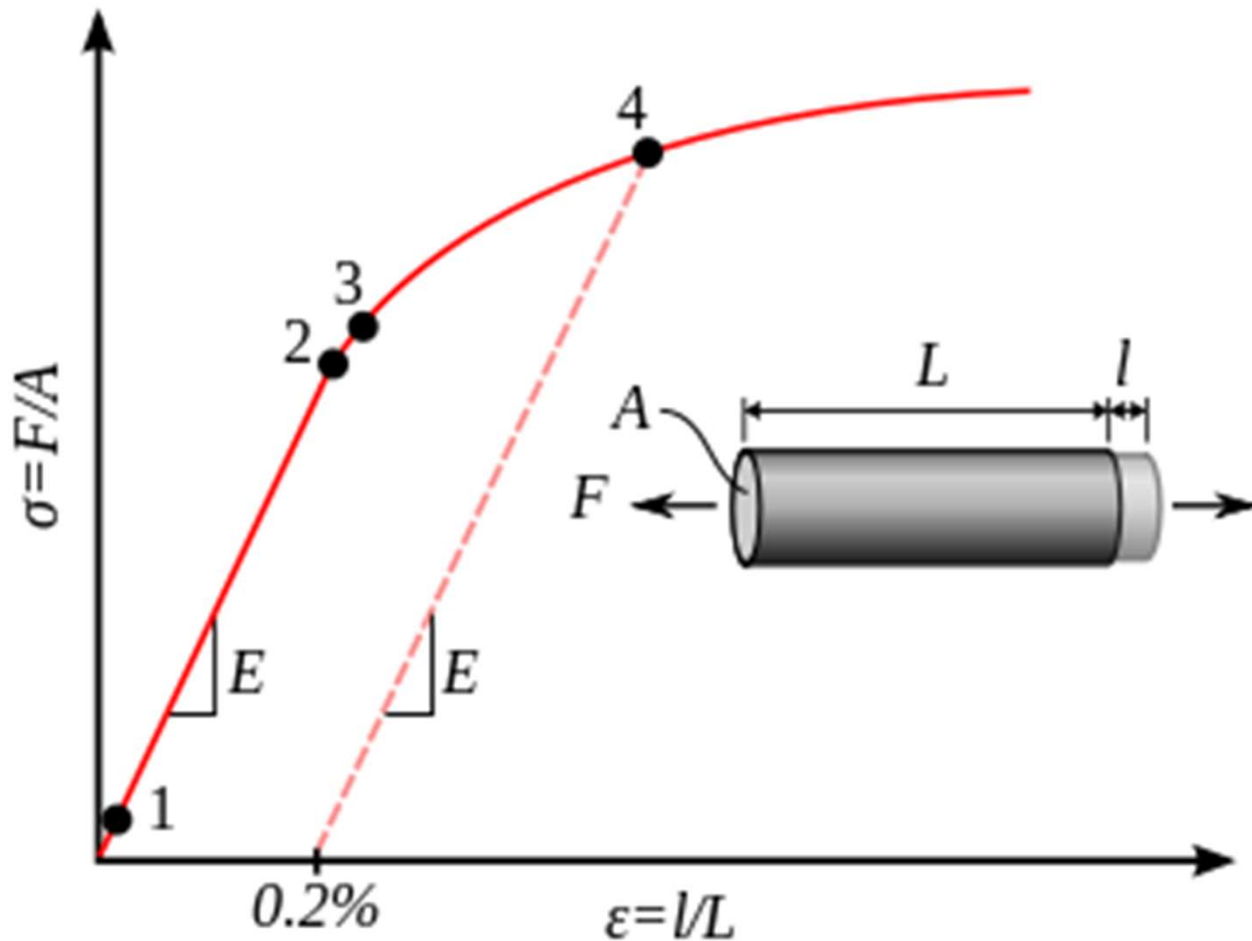
$$\frac{cN}{\text{tex}} = \frac{10^{-2} \cdot kg \cdot m \cdot s^2 \cdot 10^3 \cdot m}{s^2 \cdot kg \cdot m \cdot 9.81 \cdot 10^{-3}} \approx 10^3 m$$

$$R_m = \frac{cN}{\text{tex}} \cdot \rho \cdot g = 10^3 m \cdot \frac{1500 \text{ kg} \cdot 9.81 \cdot m \cdot s^{-2}}{s^2 \cdot kg \cdot m \cdot 9.81 \cdot 10^{-3}}$$

$$1 \frac{cN}{\text{tex}} \approx \frac{1.5 \cdot 10^7 N}{m^2} = 15 \text{ MPa} = 0.015 \text{ GPa}$$

$$1 \text{ GPa} \approx 66.7 \frac{cN}{\text{tex}}$$

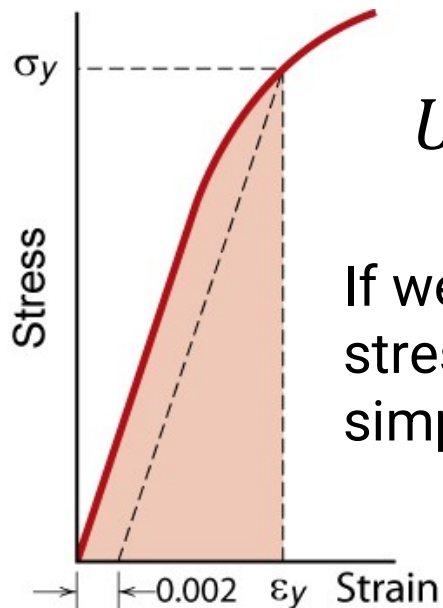
Stress-strain



- 1. True elastic limit**
- 2. Proportionality limit (Hooke)**
- 3. Elastic limit:** permanent deformation starts to occur
- 4. Yield strength:** curve levels off. Plastic deformation begins

Resilience, U_r

Ability of a material to store energy
Energy stored best in elastic region



$$U_r = \int_0^{\epsilon_y} \sigma d\epsilon$$

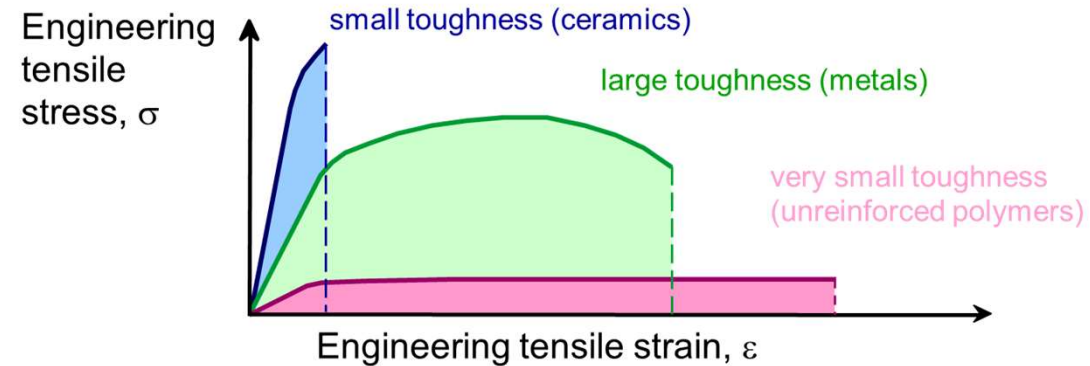
If we assume a linear stress-strain curve this simplifies to

$$U_r \cong \frac{1}{2} \sigma_y \epsilon_y$$

Adapted from Fig. 6.15, Callister & Rethwisch 8e.

Toughness

Energy to break a unit volume of material
Approximate by area under the stress-strain curve.



Brittle fracture: elastic energy

Ductile fracture: elastic + plastic energy

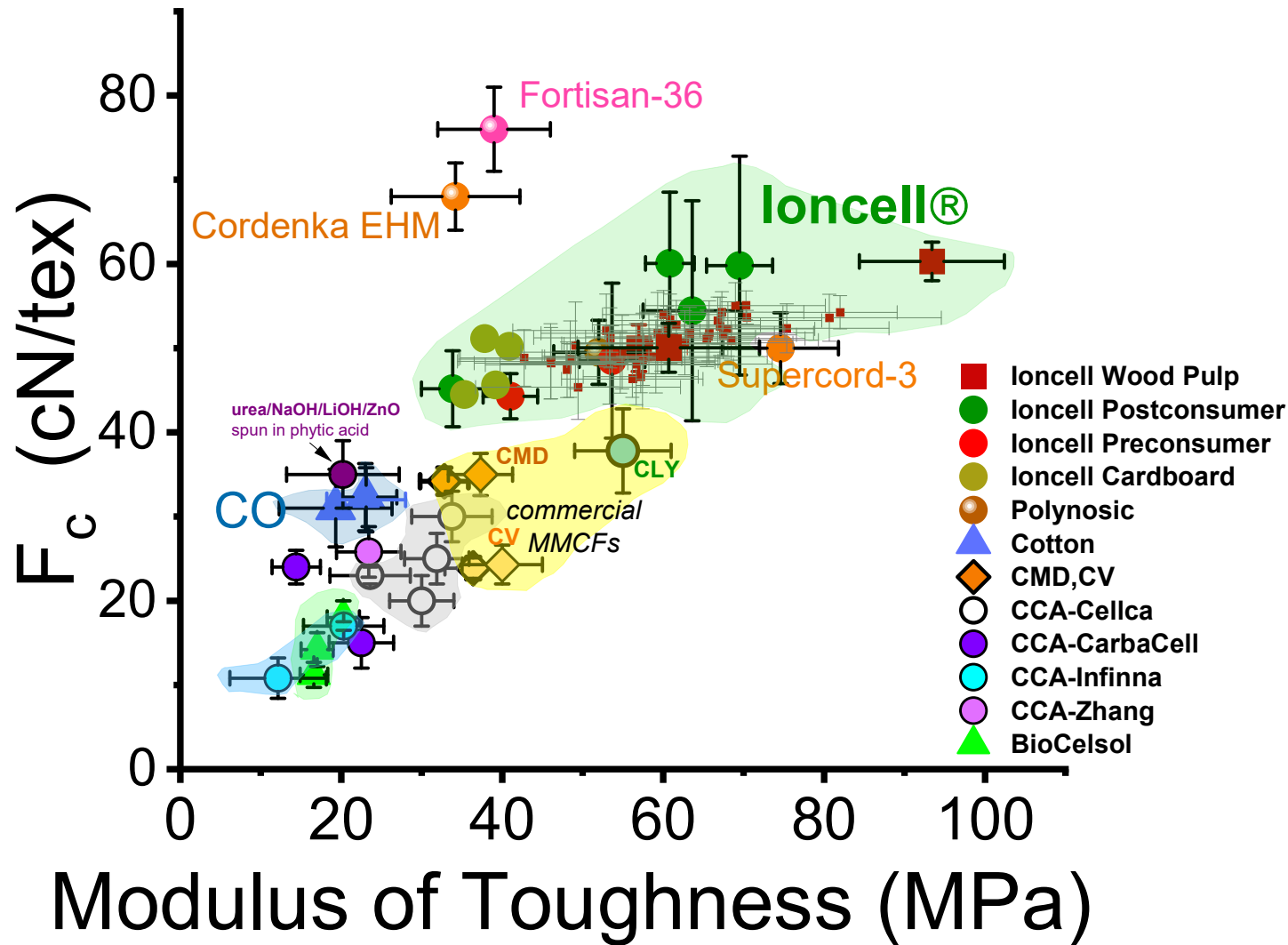
Unit: J/g or MPa

$$MPa \cong 1.5 \cdot \frac{J}{g}$$

Overview of MMCFs

	Production kt/a	Solvent	Regeneration	Tenacity cN/tex	Elong %	T-wet/dry MPa	Toughn MPa	Source
Commercial MMCFs								
Viscose (CV)	6 900	Xanthate in NaOH _{aq}	H ₂ SO ₄ , Na ₂ SO ₄ , ZnSO ₄ , (organic modifier)	24	20	~ 0,50	40	ISBN 185573459 1, p88f
Modal (CMD)				34	13	~ 0,55	35	
Supercord-3				50	16	~ 0,60	74	
Lyocell (CLY)	> 300	NMMO.H ₂ O	H ₂ O/NMMO	38	16	~ 0,85	55	
Cupro	20	Cu(NH ₃) ₄ (OH) ₂	H ₂ O, H ₂ SO ₄	22	12	~ 0,50	20	
Former MMCFs								
Fortisan-36		CTA, Acetone	Dry spin., sapon.	76	6		39	Moncrieff, R.W. (1953)
Polynosic		Viscose	low acid, no modif	49	12	~ 0,70	52	Tachikawa (1952)
Cordenka EHM		Viscose	Zn(II), modif; coag->reg	68	6		34	Northolt (1985)
MMCFs in development								
CARBAMATE								
Cellca		Urea, NaOH, ZnO	H ₂ SO ₄ , Na ₂ SO ₄ , Al ₂ (SO ₄) ₃	25	17		32	Lenz. Ber. (1985), 59, 111-
Carbacell		Urea/NaOH, ZnO	H ₂ SO ₄ , Na ₂ SO ₄	15	20		23	US20090258227A1
Infinna		Urea, NaOH, H ₂ O ₂ , ZnO	H ₂ SO ₄ , Na ₂ SO ₄ , Al ₂ (SO ₄) ₃	17	16		20	Journal of Cleaner Produc
AQUEOUS NaOH								
Biocelsol		NaOH, ZnO	H ₂ SO ₄ , Na ₂ SO ₄	18	15		20	Vehviläinen, M. ^a , et al. Che
TreeToTextile		NaOH, ZnO	Na ₂ CO ₃ (NaOH)	19	9		13	WO 2020 251463, WO2020
Leena Zhang		Urea/thiourea, NaOH/LiOH, ZnO	Na ₂ SO ₄ , phytic acid (or H ₂ SO ₄)	35	8		20	ACS Sustainable Chem Eng
IONCELL (CLY) ST		[Superbase] OAc	IL, water	50	13	0,90	57	
IONCELL (CLY) HT		[Superbase] OAc	IL, water	62	16	0,95	93	

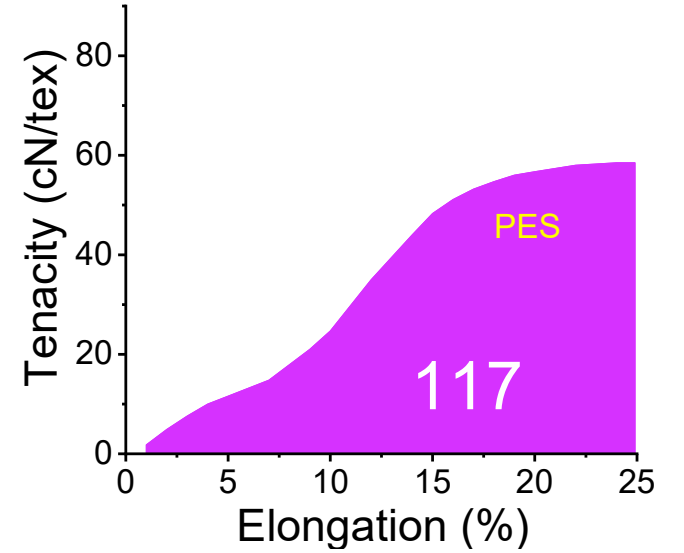
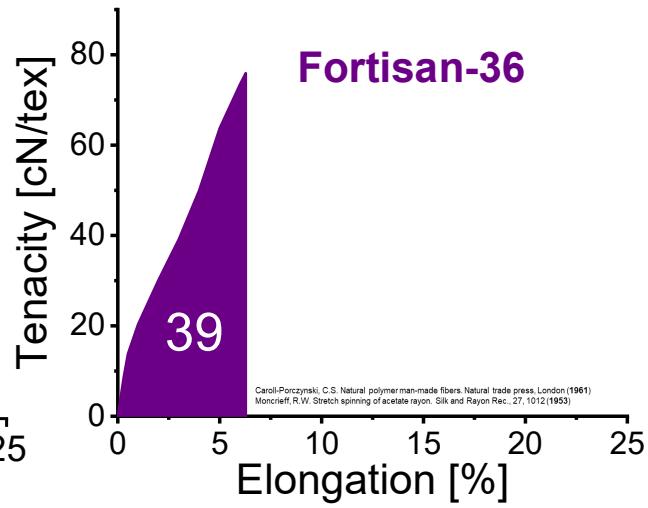
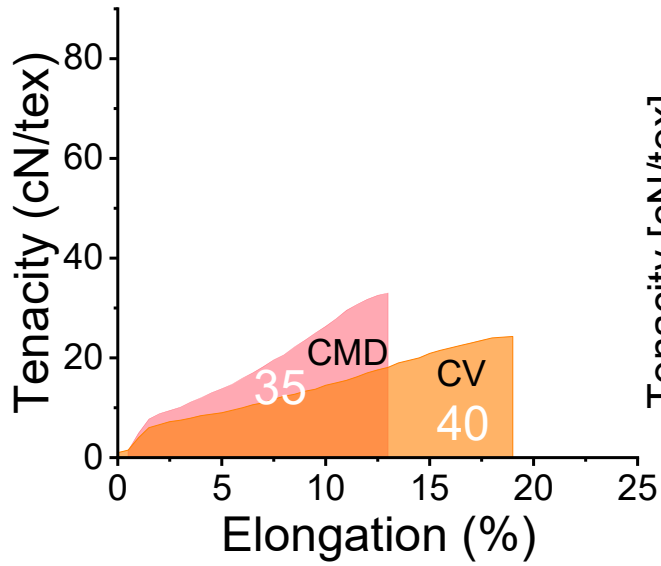
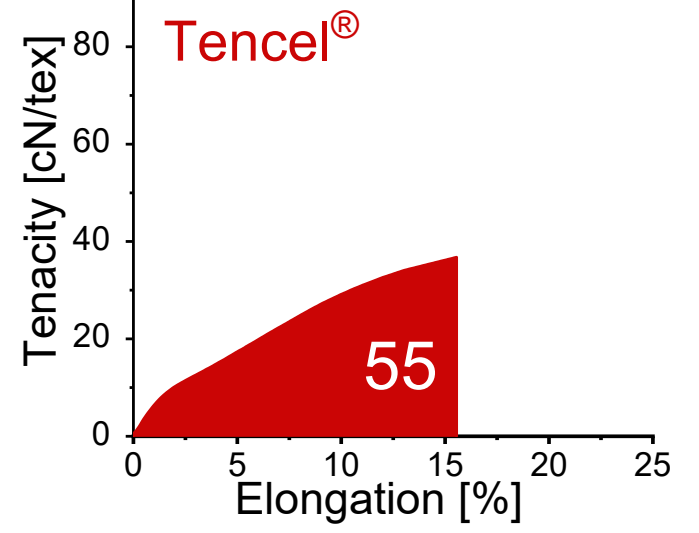
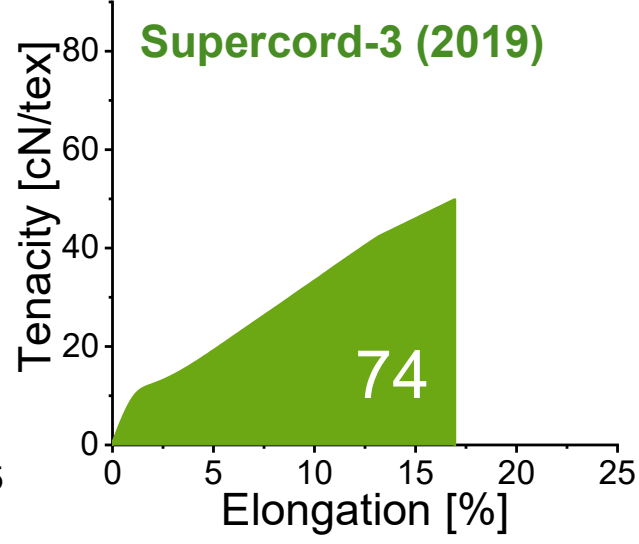
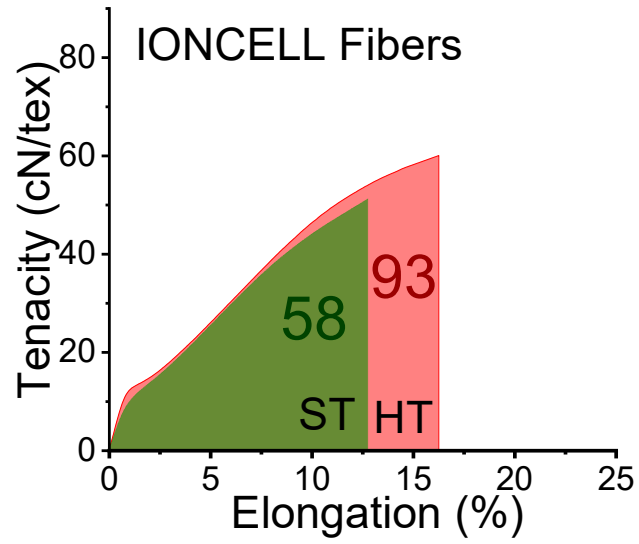
Tensile Strength vs Toughness



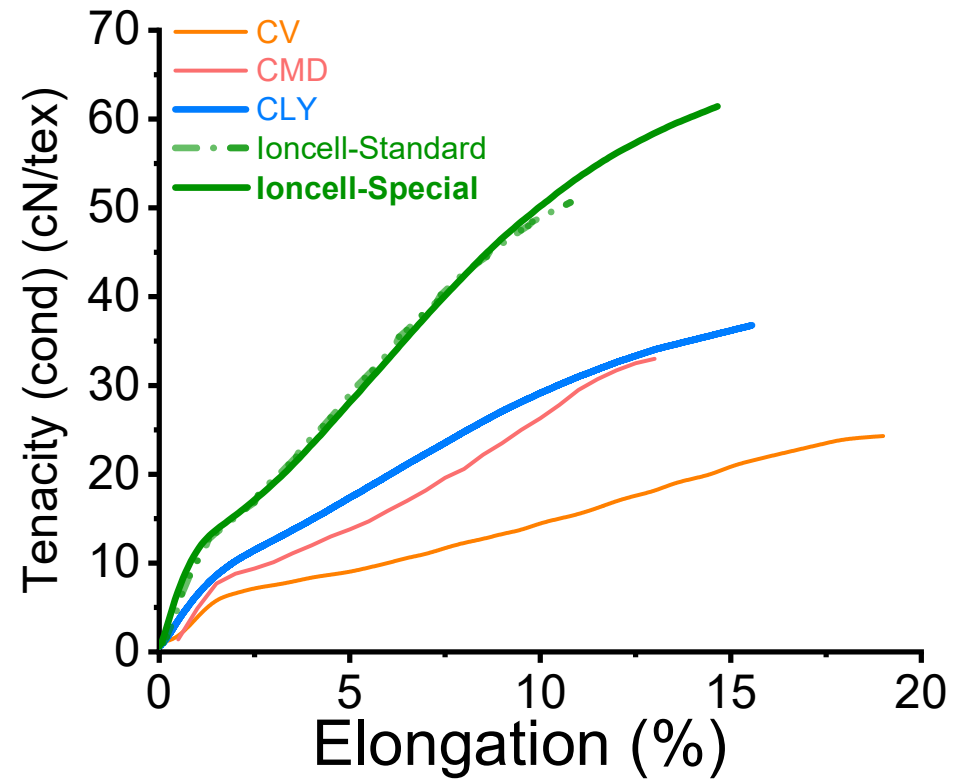
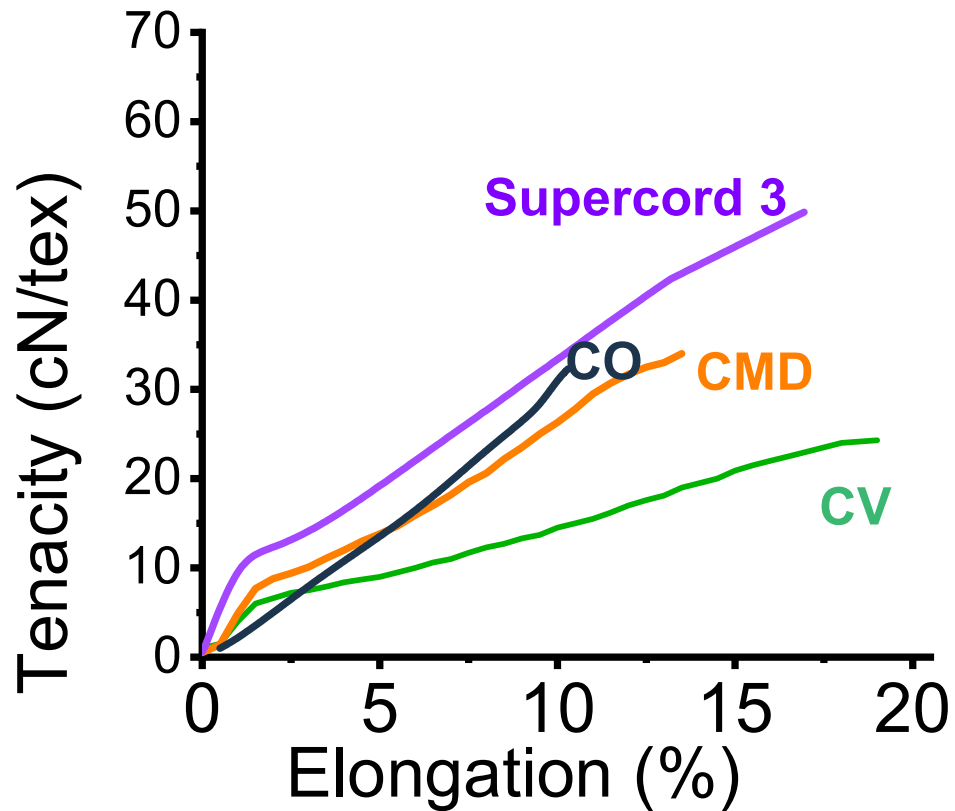
Series of toughness:

100% = 55 MPa = Lyocell Fiber

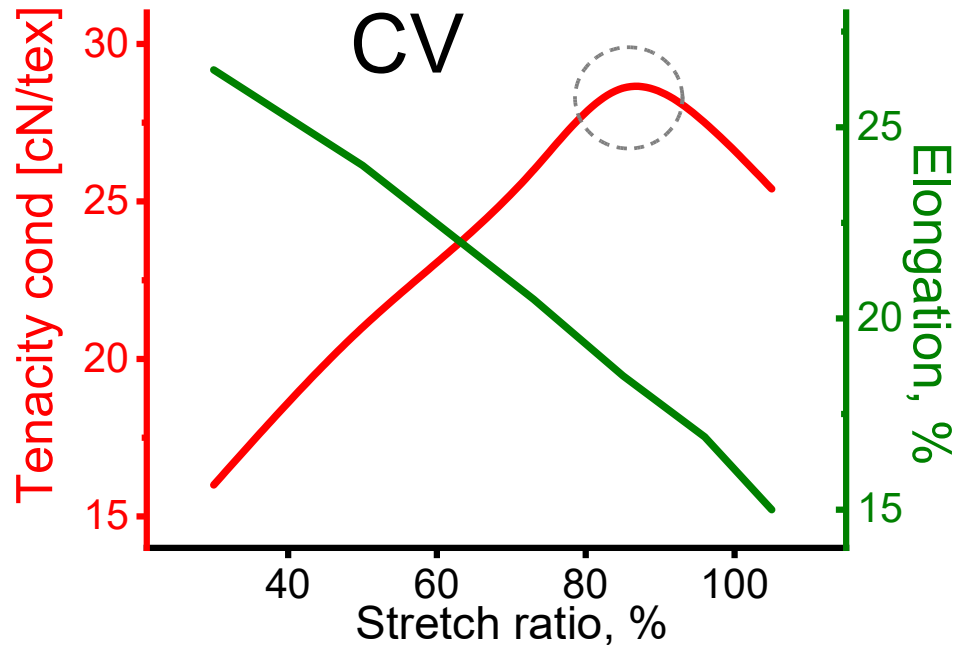
IONCELL-HT (169) > **Supercord-3 (135)** >
 IONCELL-ST (104) > **Lyocell (100)** >
Polynosic (92) > **CV (73)** > *Fortisan-36 (69)* >
 EHM (62) > **CMD (64)** > Cellca (58) >
 Carbacell (42) > Infinna (36) =
 Biocelsol (36) = Zhang-CCA (36) =
 Cupro (36) > TTT (24)



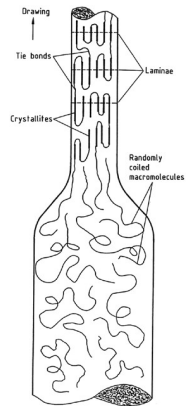
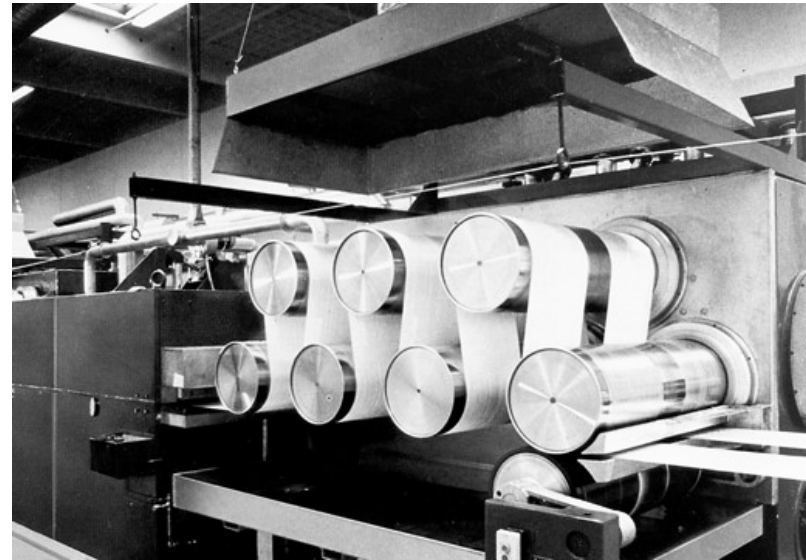
Stress-strain of MMCFs and CO



Overstretching of filaments



Maximum tenacity derived from stretching below the maximum.



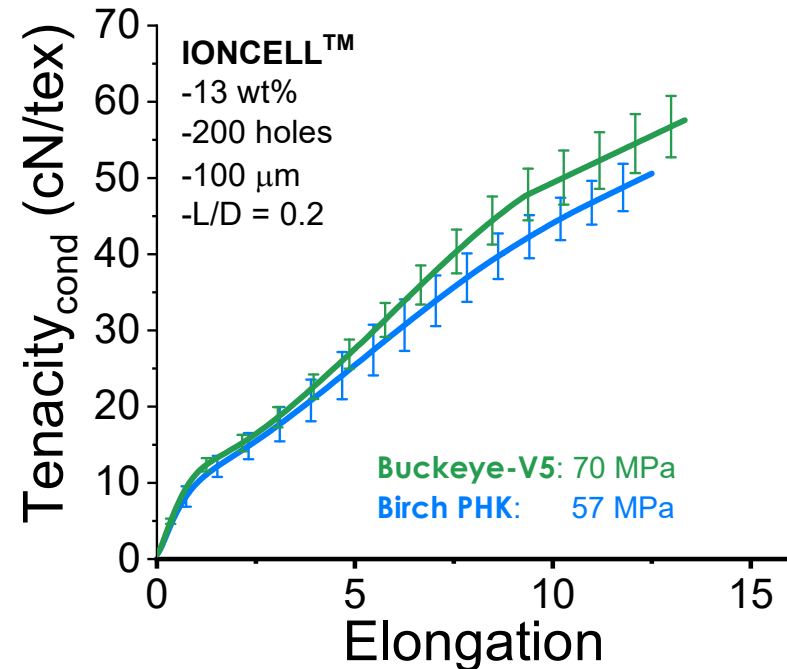
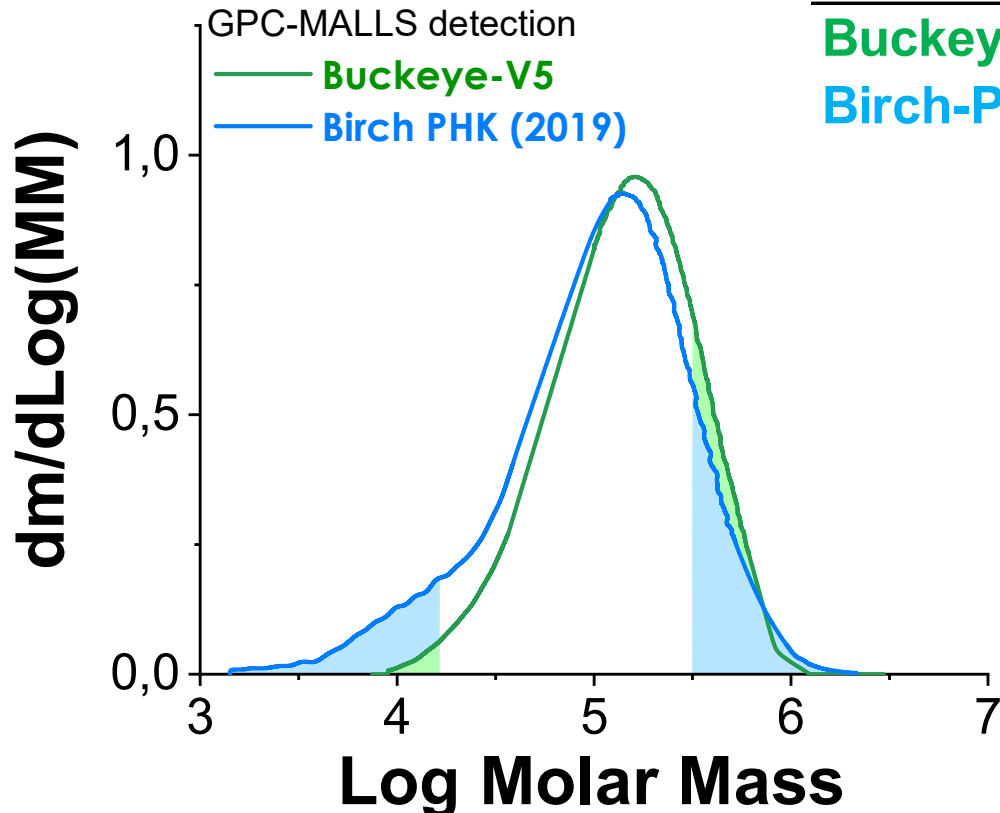
Stretching beyond the maximum leads to a breakage of the fiber bundle.

Fiber structure gets disrupted and the fiber surface becomes rough.

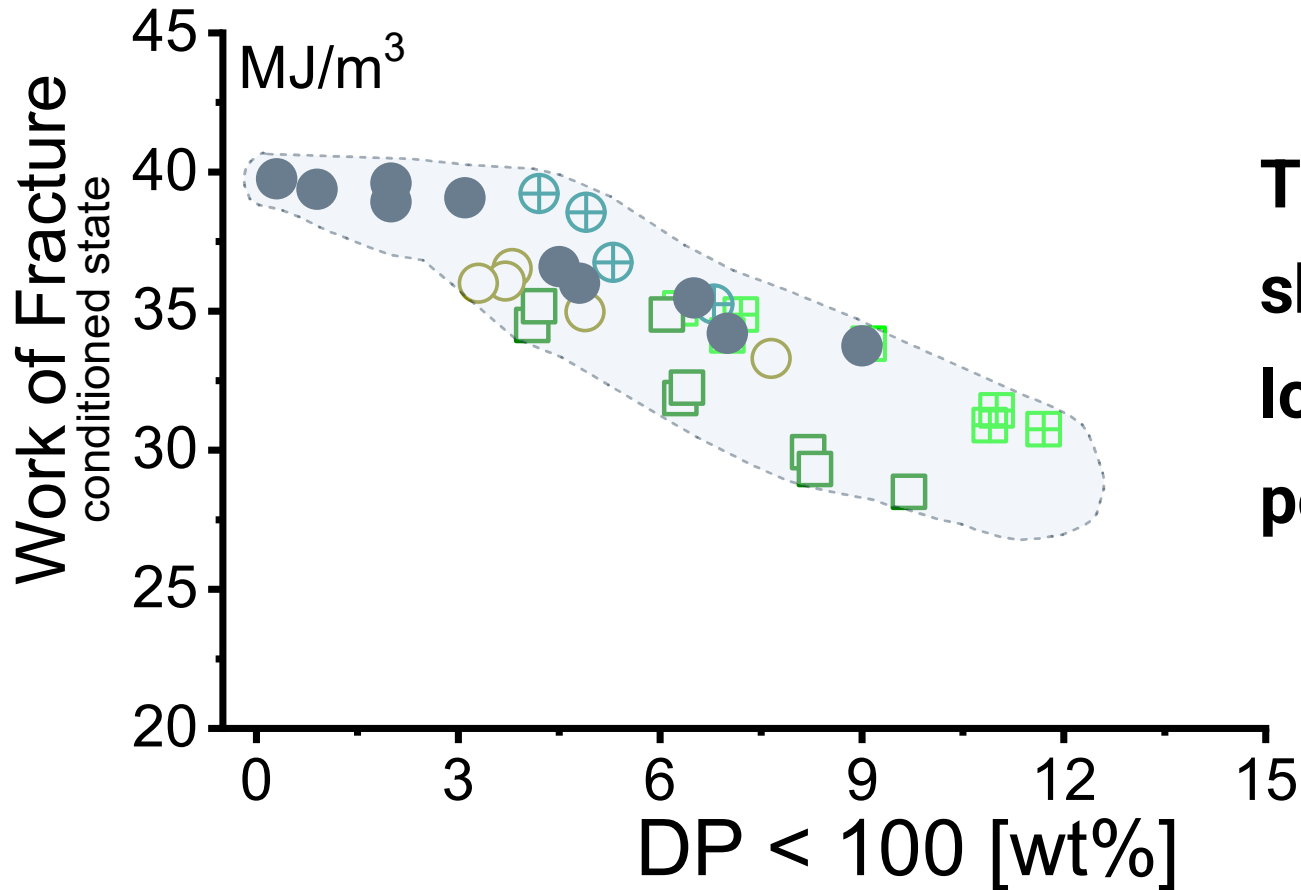
Effect of pulp properties: IONCELL

Pulp	Viscosity mL/g	Xylan % od	Mannan % od	DPw	DPn	DP<100 % od	DP>2000 % od
Pine PHK-CCE Buckeye-V5	617	0,6	0,7	1240	570	0,8	16,4
Birch-PHK	502	7,0	1,2	1030	275	7,1	12,7

Fibers from Pulp	Ten_c	Elong_c	Ten_w	Elong_w
Buckeye-V5	57.6±4.1	13.4±2.5	57.5±4.0	14.3±1.6
Birch-PHK	49.9±4.4	12.5±2.0	47.3±4.5	14.2±2.1



Effect of MMD on Fiber Work Fracture



The higher the amount of short chains, DP < 100, the lower is the strength potential of viscose fibers.

Laboratory Pulps HW-Sulfite SW-Sulfite HW-PHK SW-PHK
Commercial pulps ● Representative Selection

Classification of Fiber Properties

In an effort to understand the multitude of mechanical property parameters of fibres such as conditioned and wet strength (σ_c, σ_w), conditioned and wet elongation ($\varepsilon_c, \varepsilon_w$), wet modulus (WM), loop and knot strength (L_S, Kn) a factor analysis was carried out and the correlation of these parameters was summarized into two factors, F1 and F2.

Factor analysis: $\underline{Z} = \underline{A} \cdot \underline{F} + \underline{E}$

\underline{Z} matrix of standardized characteristics; \underline{A} matrix of factor loadings; \underline{F} matrix of common factors; \underline{E} matrix of feature-specific factors.

Factor analysis is a multivariate statistical method that makes it possible to reduce a group of m correlated characteristics to a small number of uncorrelated factors (linear correlation).

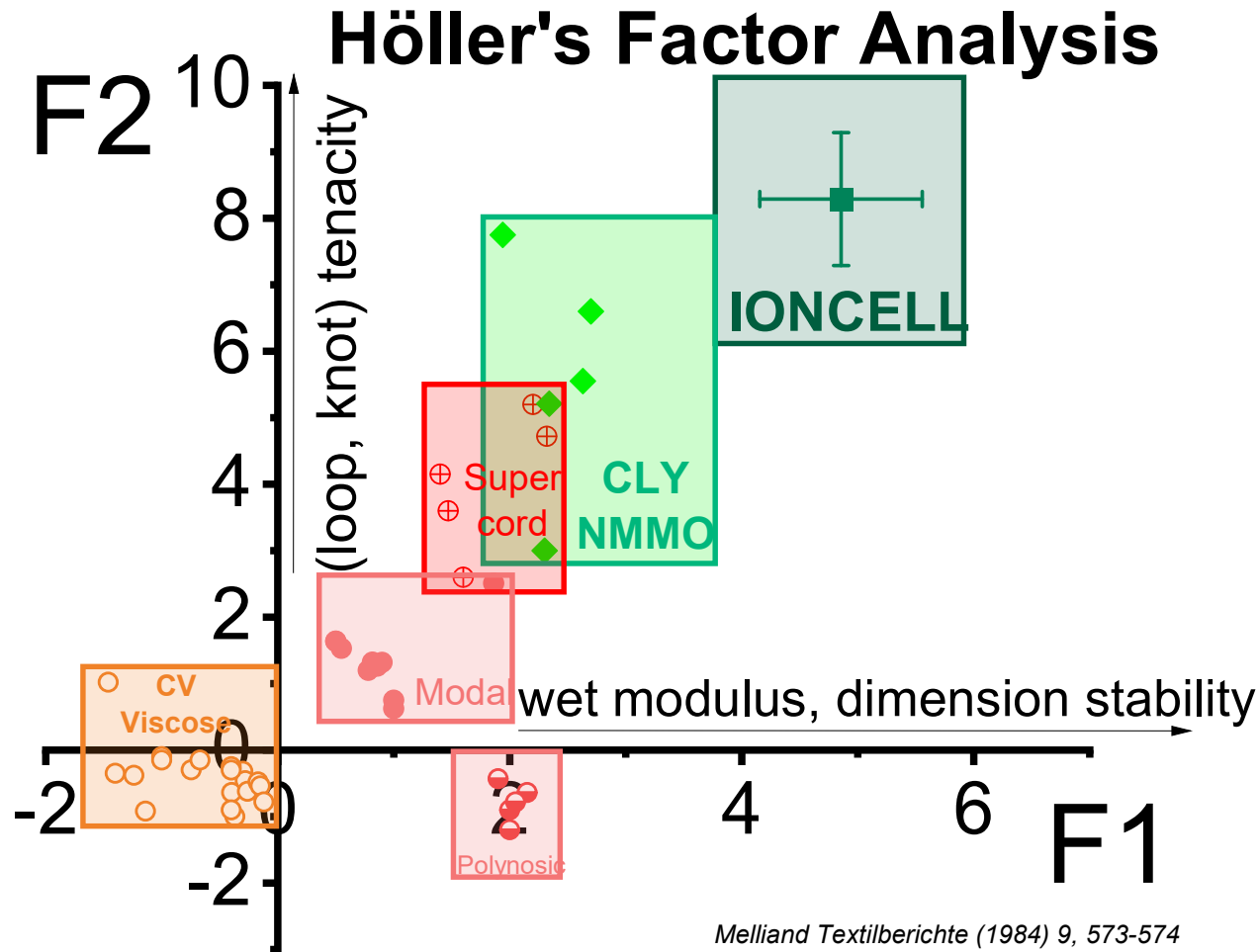
$$F_1 = -1.109 + 0.03992 * \sigma_c - 0.06502 * \varepsilon_c + 0.04634 * \sigma_w - 0.04048 * \varepsilon_c + 0.08936 * WM + 0.02748 * L_S + 0.02559 * Kn$$

$$F_2 = -7.07 + 0.02771 * \sigma_c - 0.04335 * \varepsilon_c + 0.02541 * \sigma_w - 0.03885 * \varepsilon_c + 0.08936 * WM + 0.01542 * L_S + 0.02891 * Kn$$

F1 characterizes mostly the modulus of the stress-strain both in dry and wet conditions

F2 characterizes the loop and knot strengths and the modulus of toughness

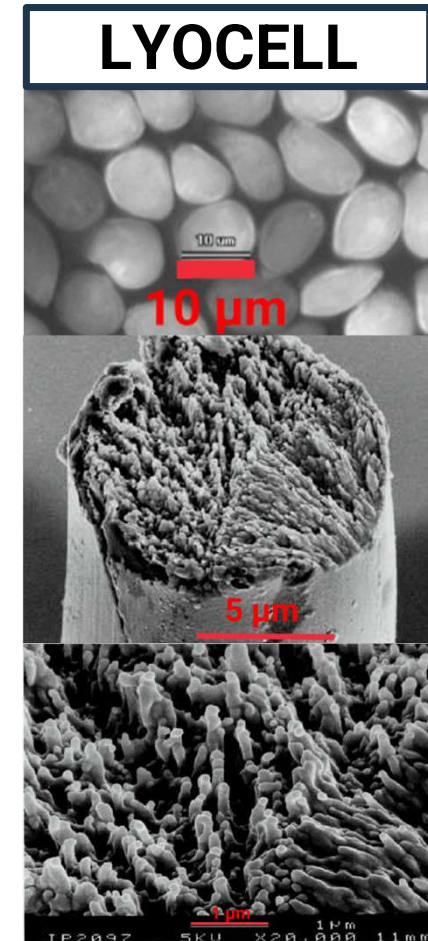
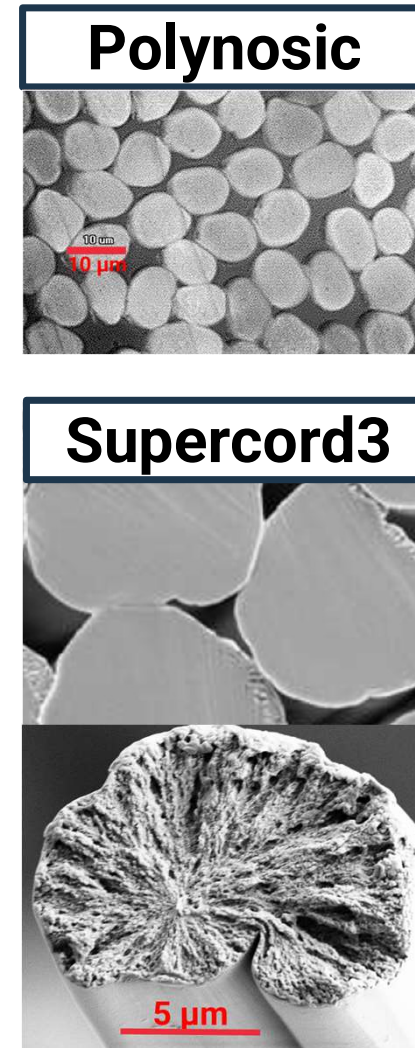
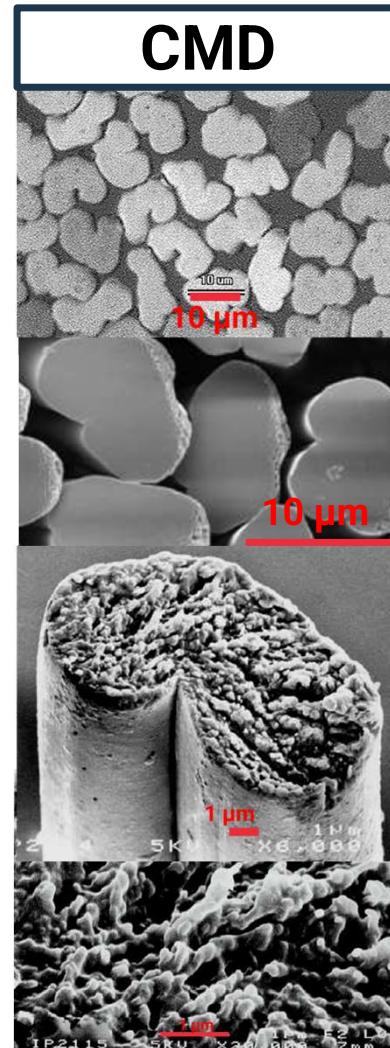
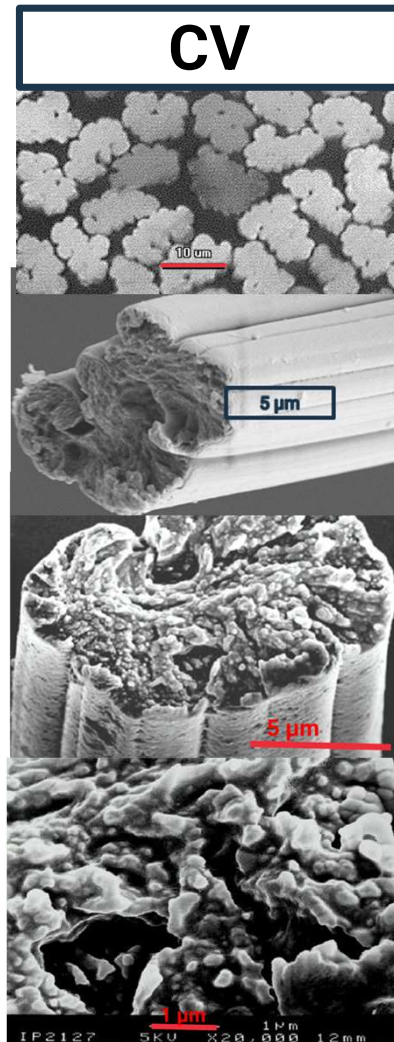
Classification of Fiber Properties



Lin. Density
Tenacity
Elongation
Elastic modulus
Modulus of toughness
Loop tenacity
Knot tenacity
Wet tenacity
Wet elongation

Melliand Textilberichte (1984) 9, 573-574
 Lenz Ber. (1985), 58, 94-100

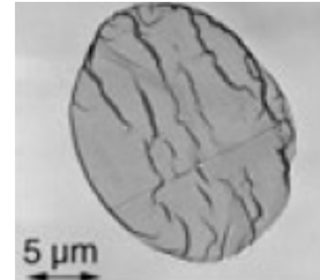
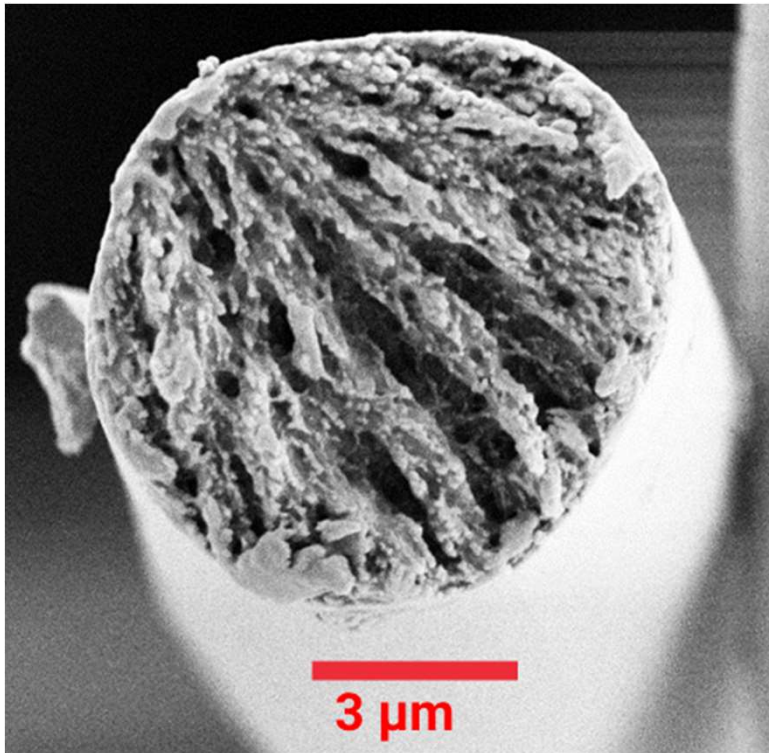
Fiber cross section



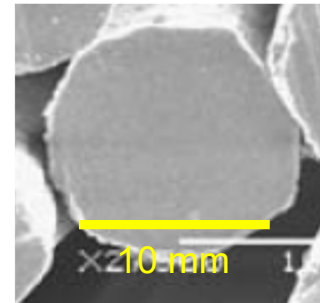
Röder, T. et al. Lenzinger Berichte 87 (2009) 98-105; CV, Tirecord birefringence measurement: Aalto; Cordenka EHM®: Boerstael H. PhD thesis (1998)

Fiber cross section

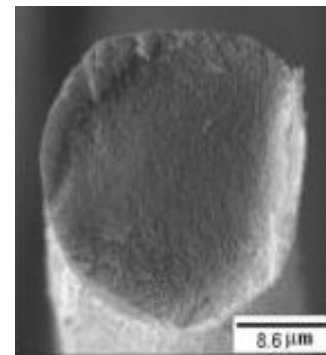
IONCELL



CarbaCell®
1.5 dtex



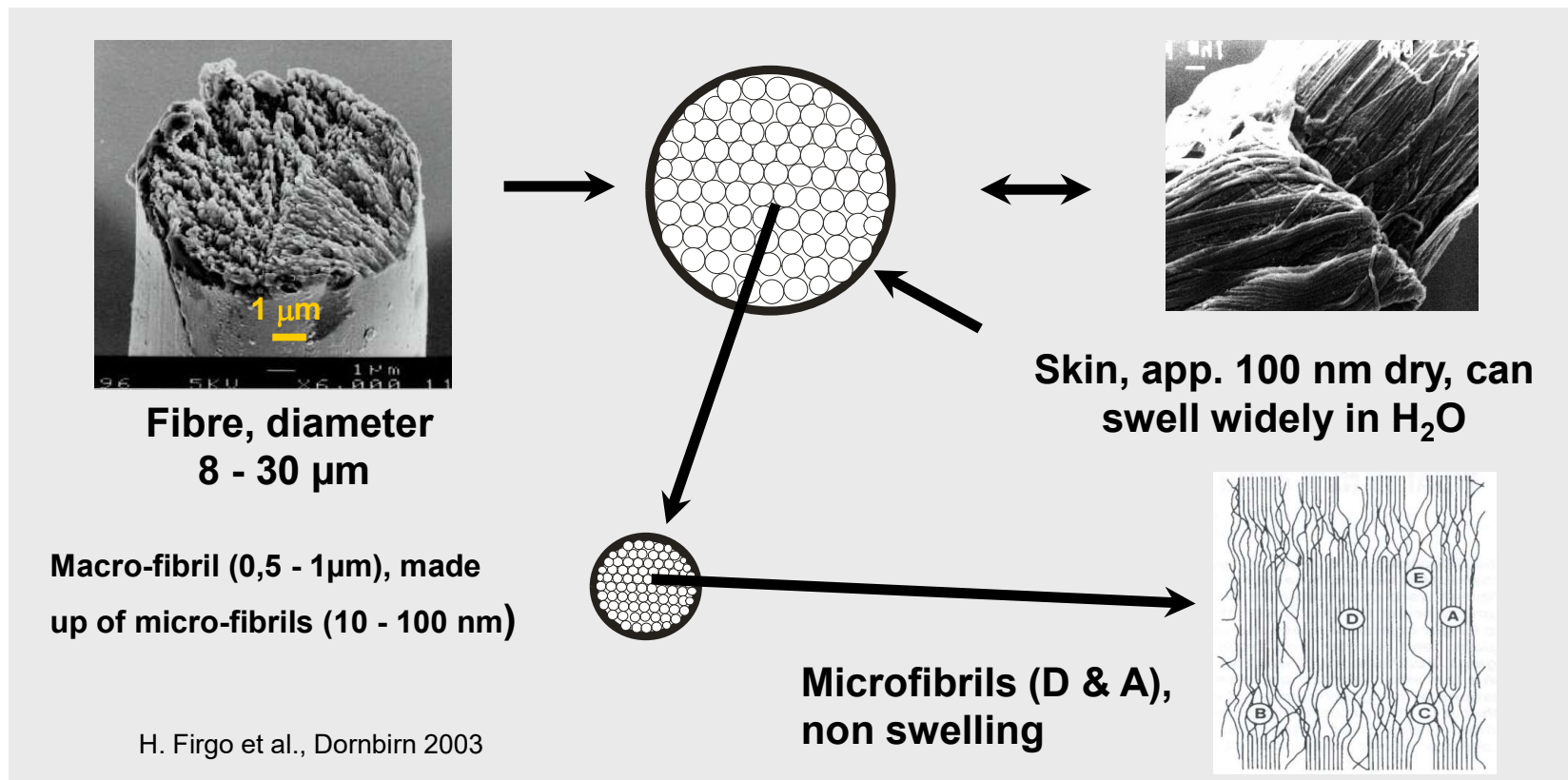
BioCelsol
2.1 dtex



NaOH/Urea
3.5 dtex

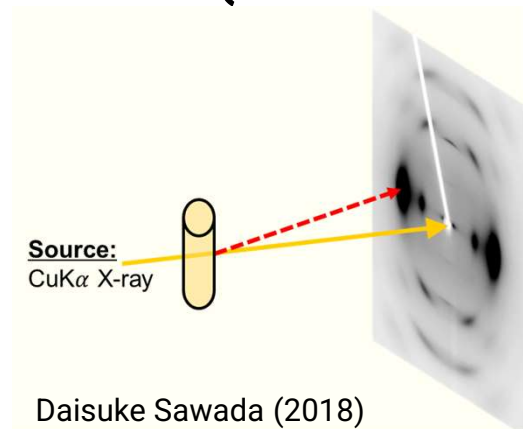
Lyocell Fiber – NanoMultifilament

- Nonswelling hydrophilic crystalline microfibrils
- Swelling amorphous regions and interfibril capillaries



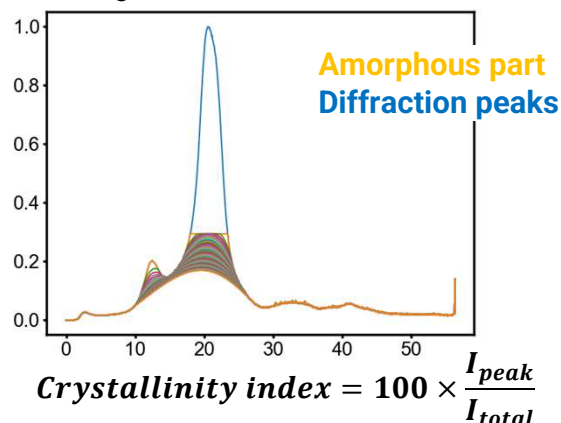
Estimation of structural parameters

WAXS (0.1 – 20 nm)



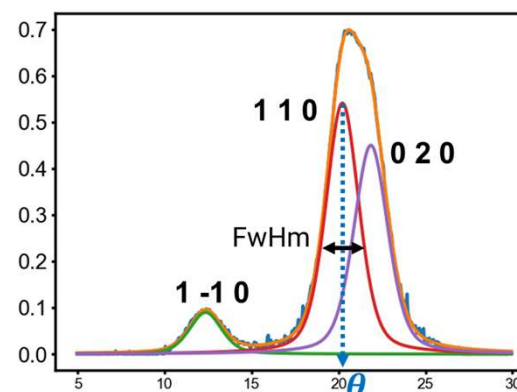
Crystallinity index

Background area vs peak area after background subtraction



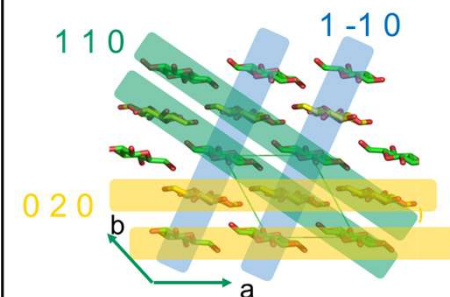
Crystal size

Estimated from Scherrer equation



Scherrer Equation

$$\text{Crystal width} = \frac{K\lambda}{FWHM \cdot \cos\theta}$$



Orientation index, Hermans parameter

Estimated from equatorial diffraction azimuthal profile

$$f_c = \frac{3\langle \cos^2\phi \rangle}{2}$$

Fiber axis vs. crystallographic axis - (020) lattice plane of cellulose II at $21.9^\circ 2\theta$

Total, amorphous orientation

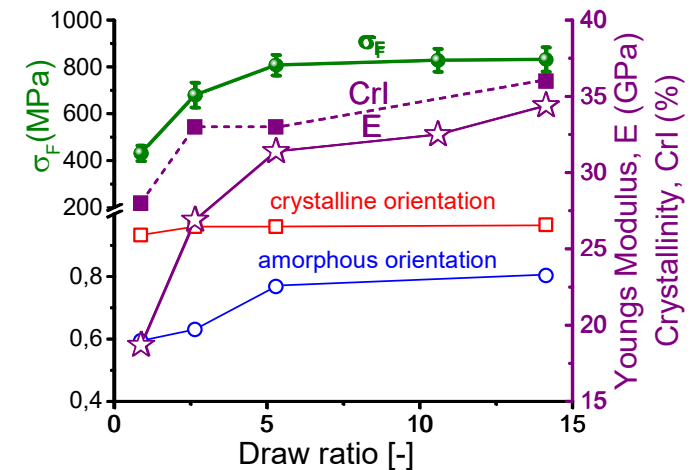
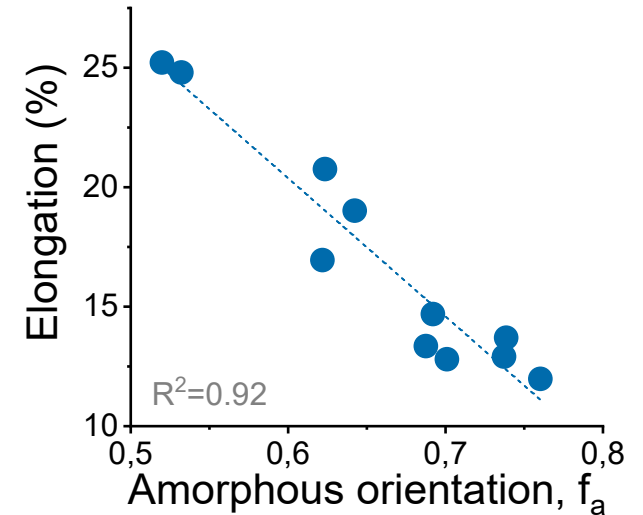
Determined by birefringence measurement using polarized light microscope with a 5λ Berek compensator. Δn obtained by dividing the retardation of the polarized light by fiber thickness
Amorphous orientation f_a

$$f_a = \frac{f_t - (X_c \cdot f_c)}{(1 - X_c) \cdot 0.91}$$

Structural characterization

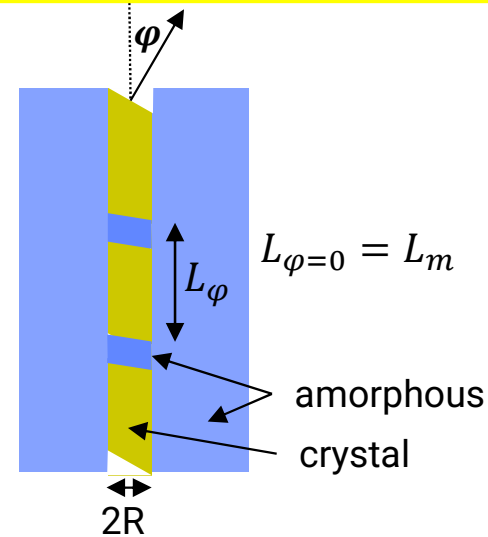
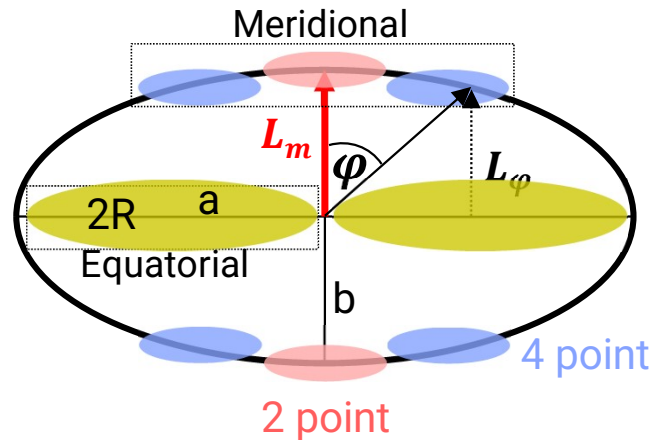
	loncell®			Tencel	Supercord3	Modal	Viscose
f_c	0,84	0,96	0,83	0,79	0,83	0,75	0,62
f_{tot}	0,71	0,82	0,68	0,66	0,63	0,47	0,41
f_{amorph}	0,71	0,81	0,64	0,60	0,62	0,35	0,27
CrI	33	36	37	38	23	29	28
Crystal size							
020 Å	34				20	31	
average Å	33				23	33	
Comment		1	2				

loncell-F: E-PHK pulp in 17 wt% IL

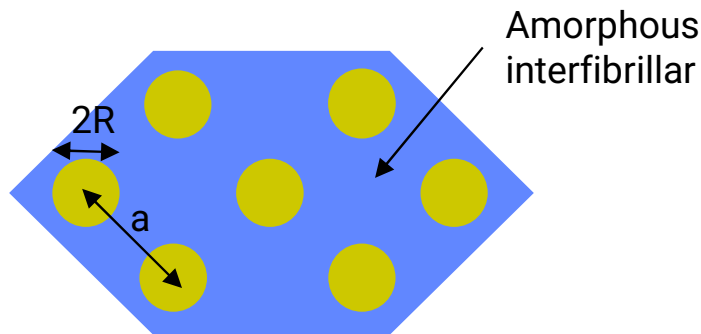


Small angle scattering pattern of fibrous polymer

Model of repeating unit in an elementary fibril constructed from the meridional Bragg peak



Tilt angle ϕ indicates a higher level of interlinks between crystalline & amorphous regions in the elementary fibril



Cross-section of a hexagonally packed cylinder

SANS measurements in the Q-range of $0.1-0.45 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$. Elliptical shape of the meridional Bragg peak.

Meridional Bragg peak of SANS pattern to be attributed to the periodic structures, the

LONG PERIOD, L_ϕ , present in cellulose elementary fibrils.

Internal structure of elementary fibril

SANS measurements

Studying the meridional Bragg peak for the quantification of the dimensions of the crystalline and amorphous phase in MMCFs

The larger **Long Periods**, the higher the tenacity.

An increase in the **tilt angle** improves the toughness

Sample	Tenacity _c cN/tex	Toughness MPa	L_m \AA^{-1}	$\varphi\text{-max}$ °
Ioncell STG pulp, DR 12	44	50	210	51
Lyocell-NMMO	38	54	198	45
Viscose	20	33	166	
Ioncell HPG pulp, DR 12	58	70	364	75

Single-Phase Structure

Continuous chain modulus: serial arrangement of crystallites
(SAXS patterns do not show meridional reflexes)

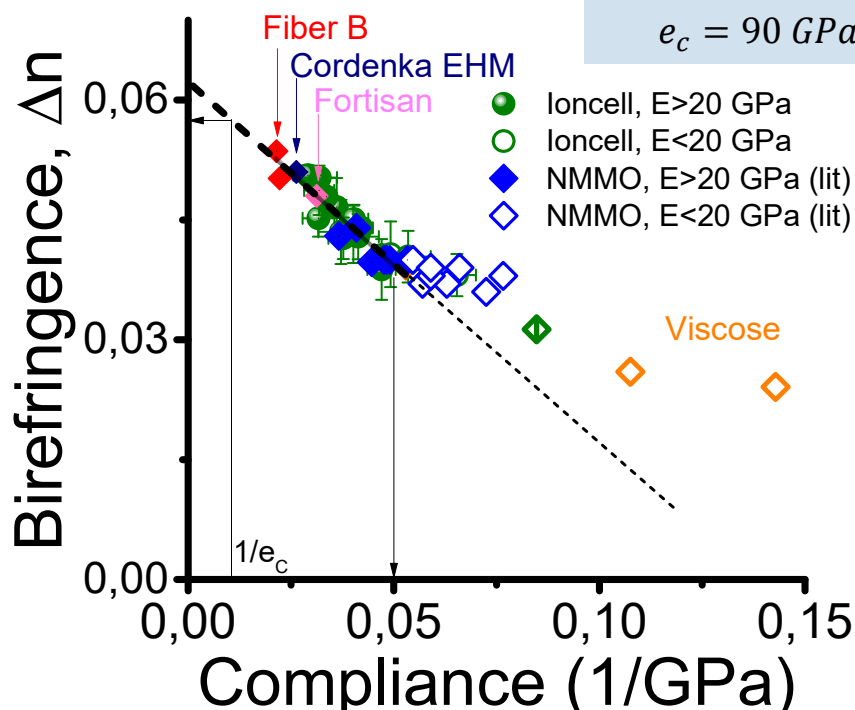
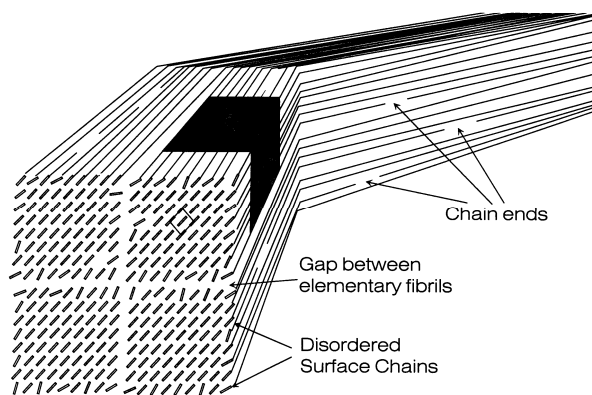
$$\frac{1}{E} = \frac{1}{e_c} + \frac{\langle \sin^2 \phi \rangle_E}{2g}$$

$$\Delta n = \Delta n_{max} \left(1 + \frac{3g}{e_c} \right) - \frac{3g\Delta n_{max}}{E}$$

$$\frac{\text{slope}}{\text{intercept}} = \frac{3g}{1 + \frac{3g}{e_c}}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} g &= 3.7 \text{ GPa} \\ \Delta n_{max} &= 0.068 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$e_c = 90 \text{ GPa (II)}$$

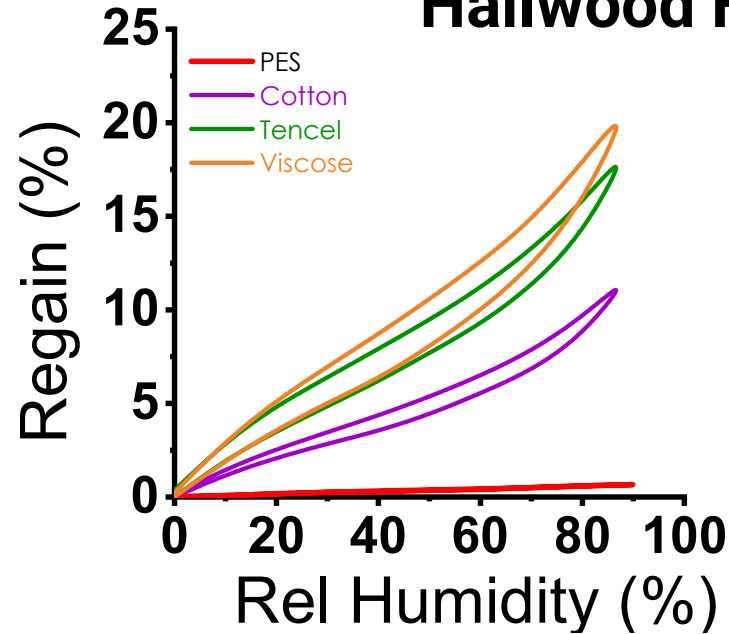


E, e_c, g elastic, chain, shear moduli

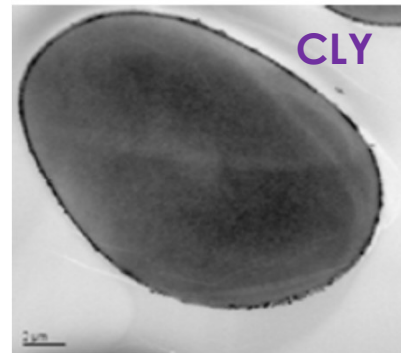
LYOCELL

Fiber-Water Interaction

Hailwood Horrobin Model

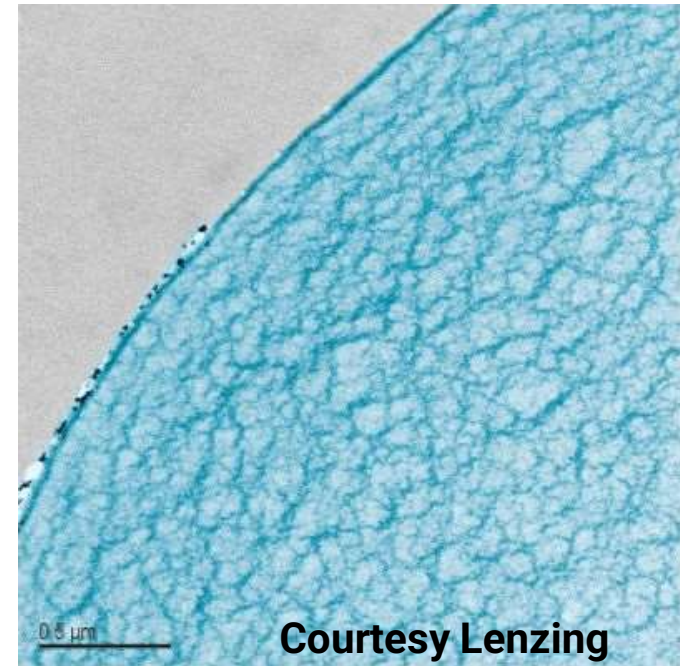


Sample	Sorption Desorption		Hysteresis*
	Monolayer water (mg/g)	(mg/g)	
Cotton fibers	33	43	33
PES fibers	4	4	0
Tencel	60	78	29
Viscose	65	92	42



Nanofibrils act as a **microscopic canal system** facilitating moisture absorption and transportation

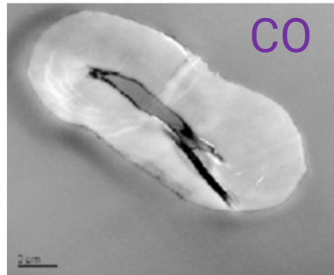
Solvent exchange followed by isoprene polymerization and OsO₄ staining



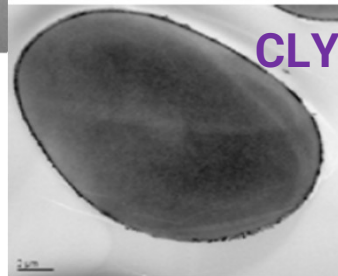
Courtesy Lenzing

M. Abu-Rous et al. Cellulose, 13, 411-419 (2006)

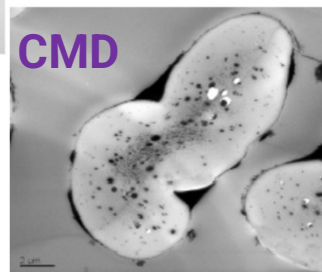
Absorbed Water in Cellulose Fibers



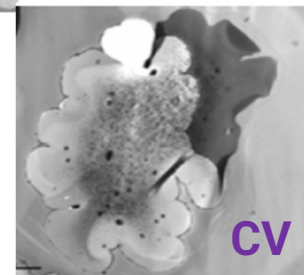
Cotton absorbs only little water



Tencel shows uniform water absorption over the whole fiber cross section



Crystalline skin of **Modal** contains less water than the core



Uneven water distribution in **viscose**

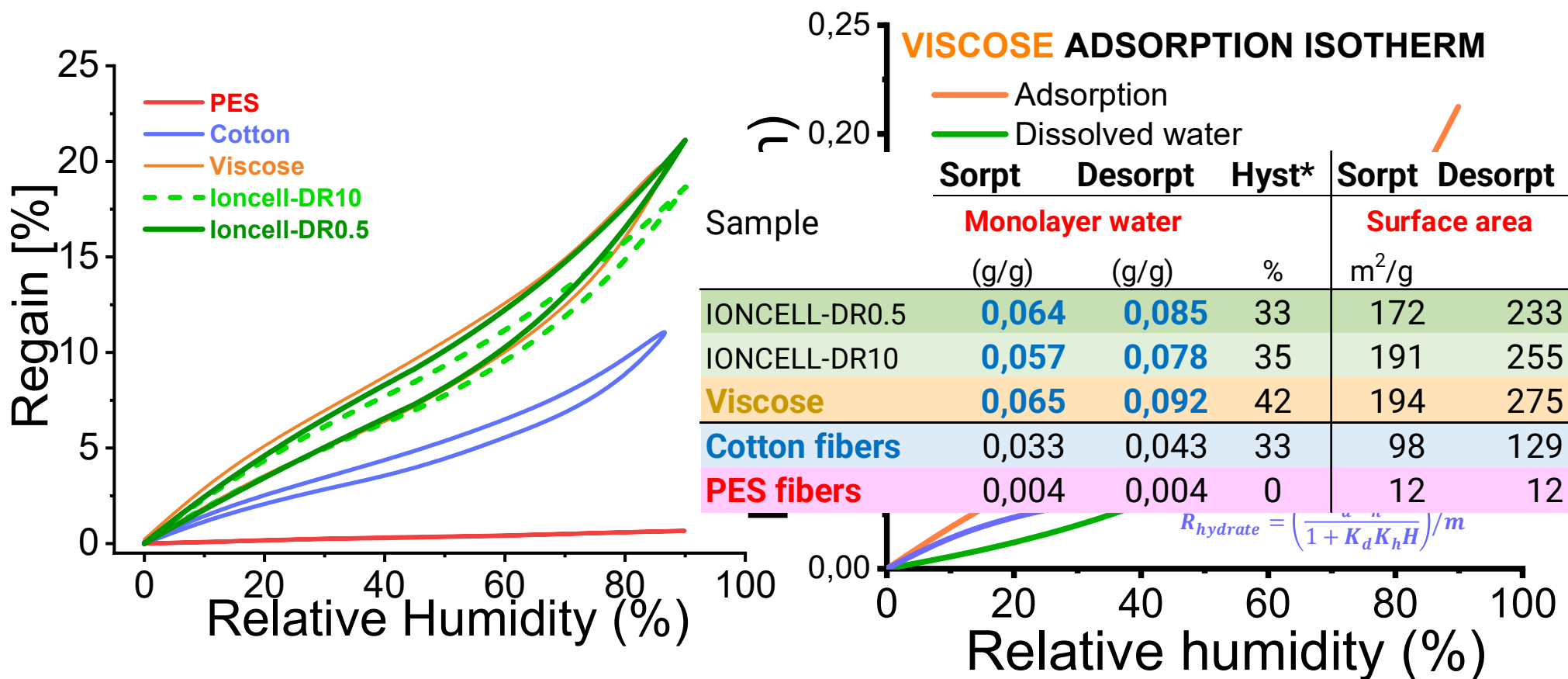
Visualization of water:

Solvent exchange procedure followed by isoprene polymerization and **OsO₄ staining** in aqueous solution:

M. Abu-Rous et al. *Cellulose*, 13, 411-419 (2006)

Interaction of fibers with water

Hailwood-Horrobin model



Water interaction



Cotton

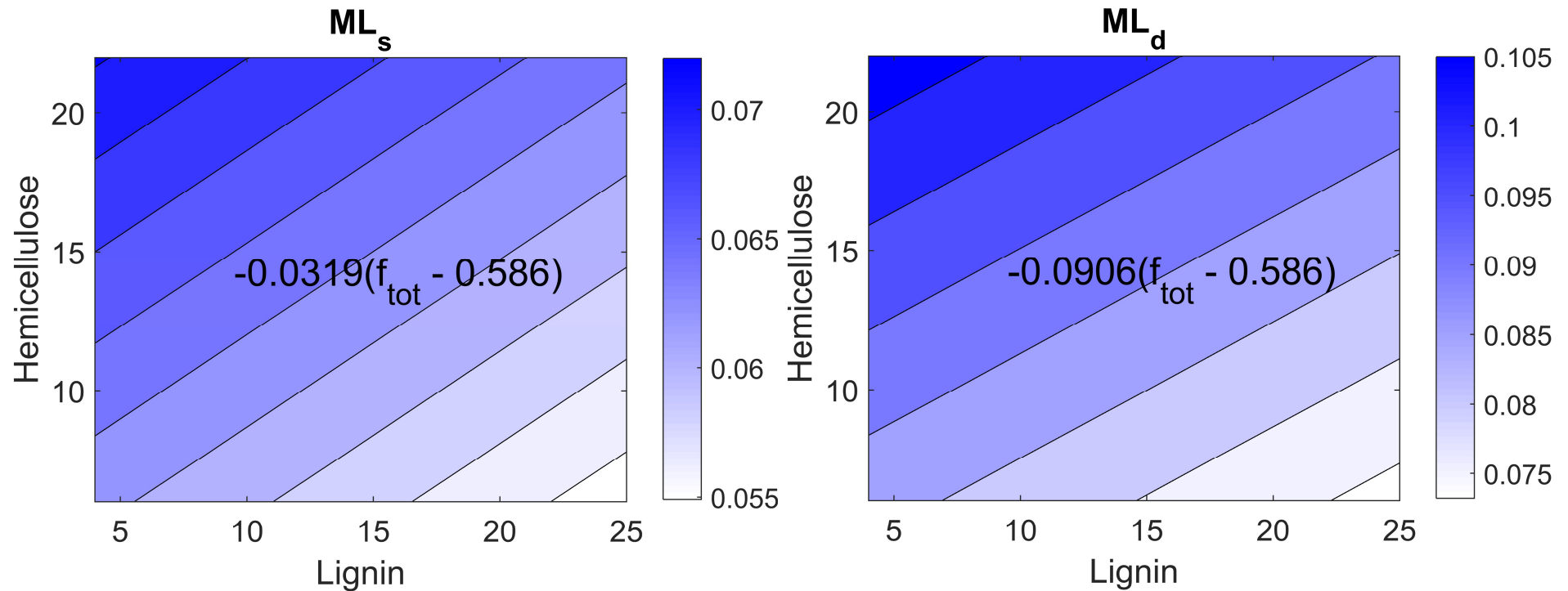


Lyocell



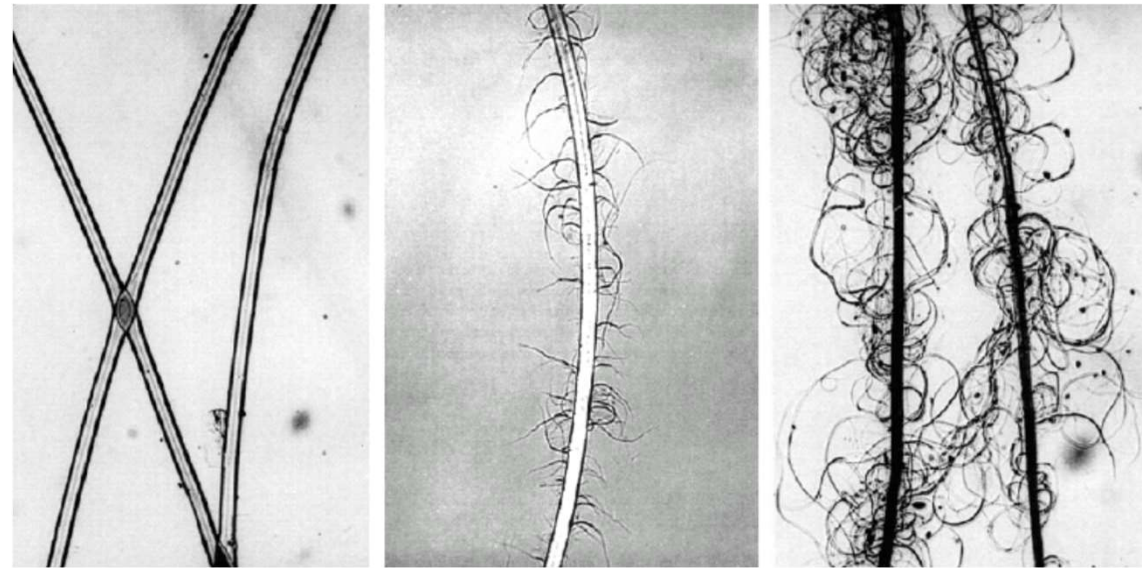
Modal®

Interaction with Water- Effect of hemicellulose and lignin

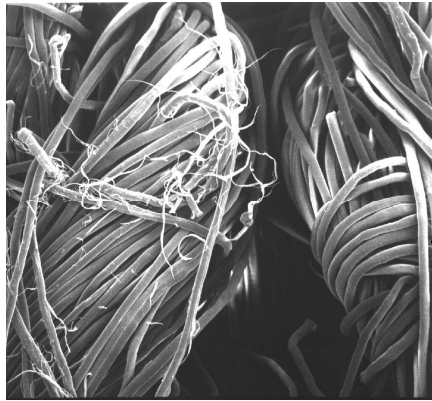


Fibrillation of Lyocell Fibres

- Weak lateral adhesion through high crystallinity and orientation
- Longitudinal splitting of fibrils from fibers
- By wet mechanical treatment (dyeing, washing, drying)
- Leads to the formation of pills, strips, hard surface,..

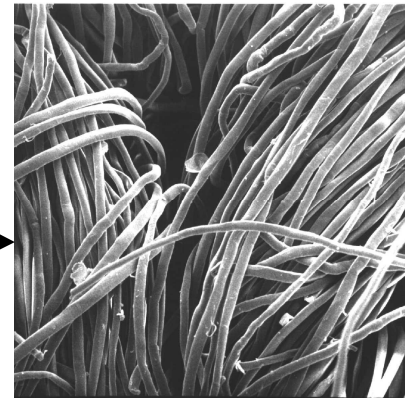


Cross-linking reduces Fibrillation



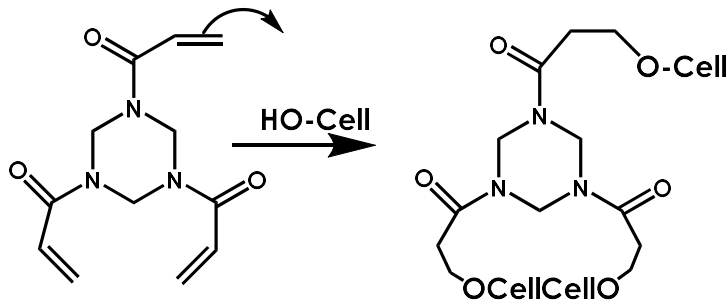
Lyocell

Cross-linking

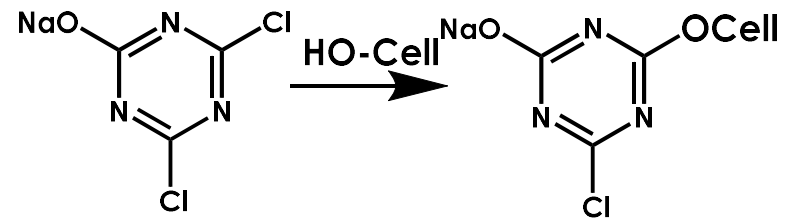


Lyocell LF

Triacrylamido-trihydrotriazin
(Lenzing, A100).



2,4-Dichloro-6-hydroxy-1,3,5-triazin (Lenzing, Lyocell LF).



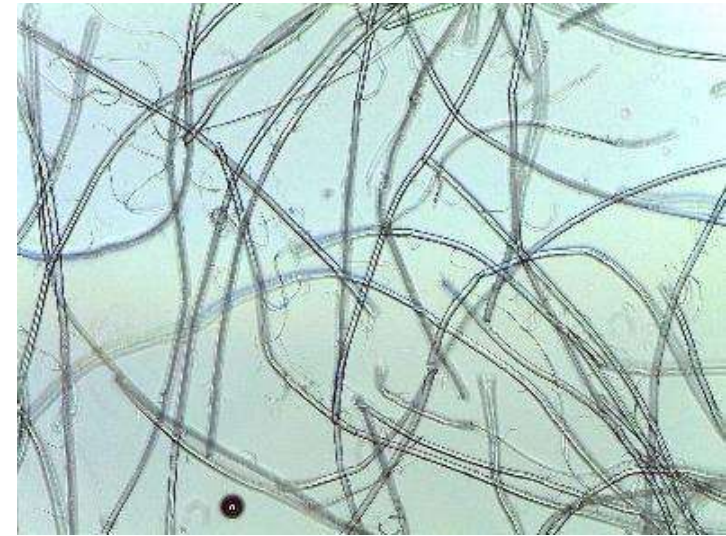
Fibrillation in a blender

- 500 mg of air-dried fibers cut into 5 mm placed in the laboratory blender
- 500 ml water (or alkaline solution) added to the blender
- Mixing of the fiber suspension with high shear force
- Time and energy saving

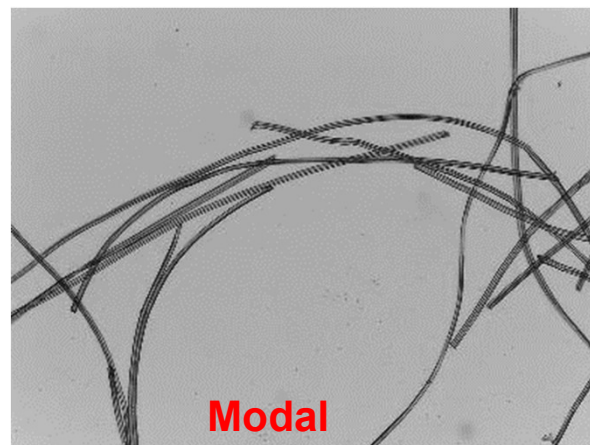
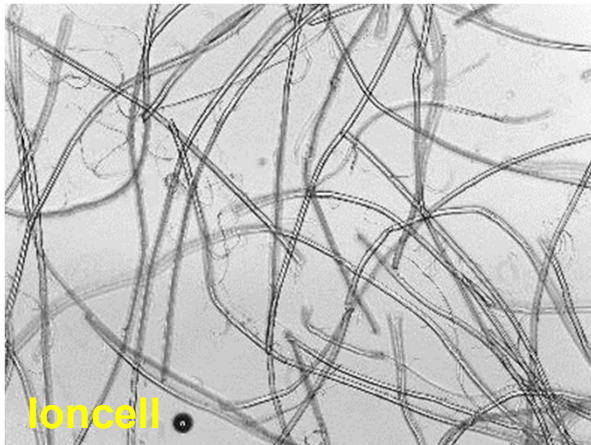
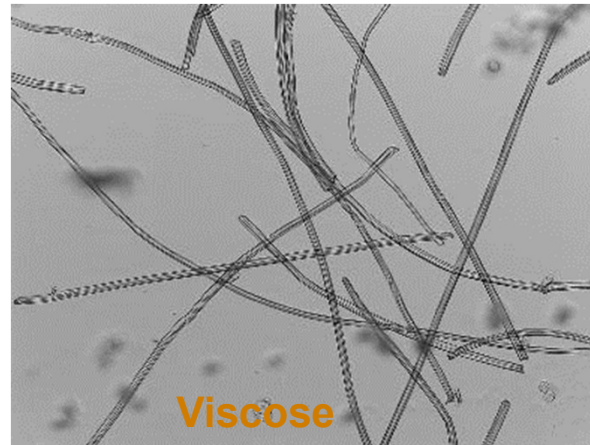
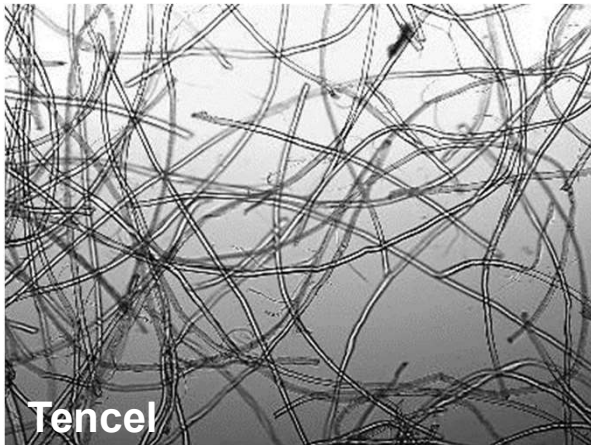


Assessment of Fibrillation index

- **Blender treated fibers further cut to 2 mm diluted to 0.5-1.0 g/L suspension**
- **Suspension mixed 1:1 with 2% gelatin suspension (heating needed)**
- **2 drops of the suspension on objective glass with pipette tip that has been cut.**
- **Cover slide was placed before imaging with an optical microscope**
- **Fibrillation test using ImageJ software:**
$$I_f = \frac{\sum_L l}{L}$$
 where I_f is the fibrillation index, l is the lengths of the fibril over the length of the fibre L



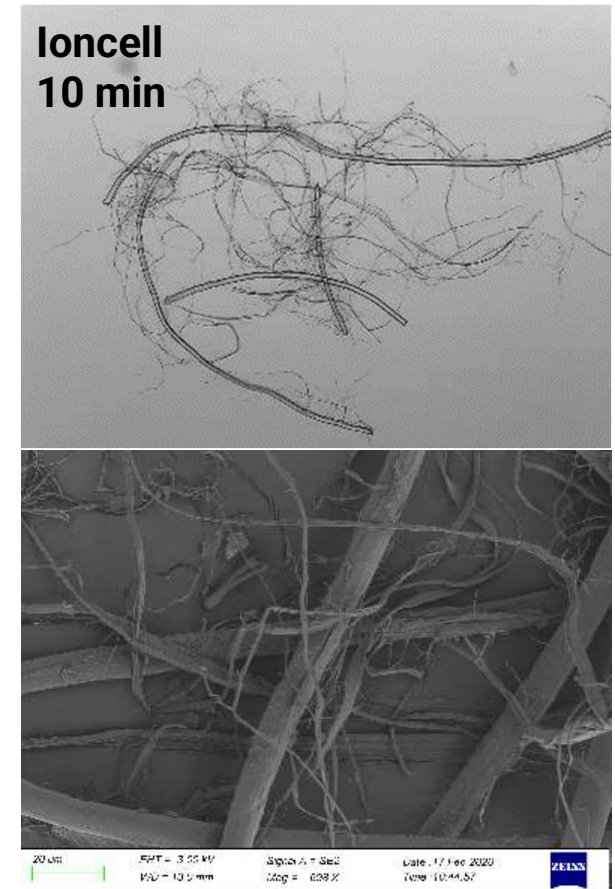
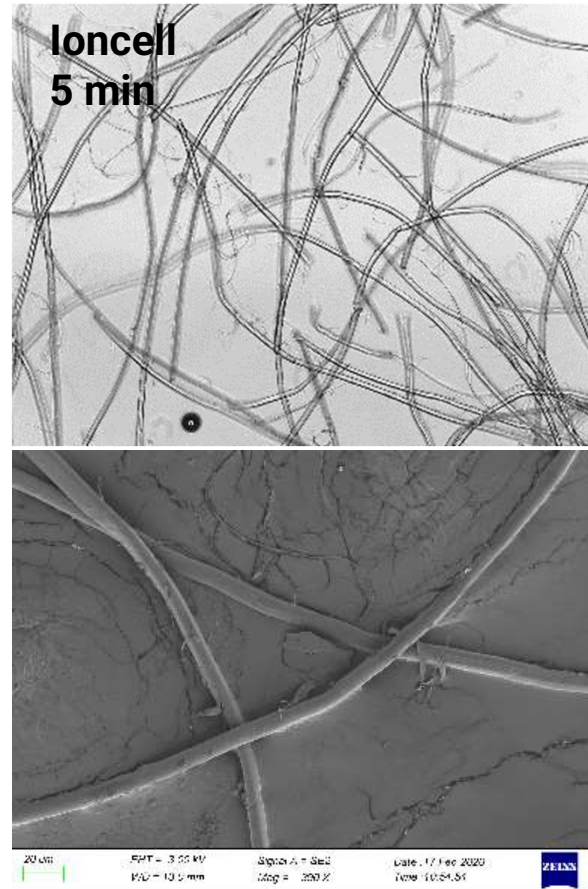
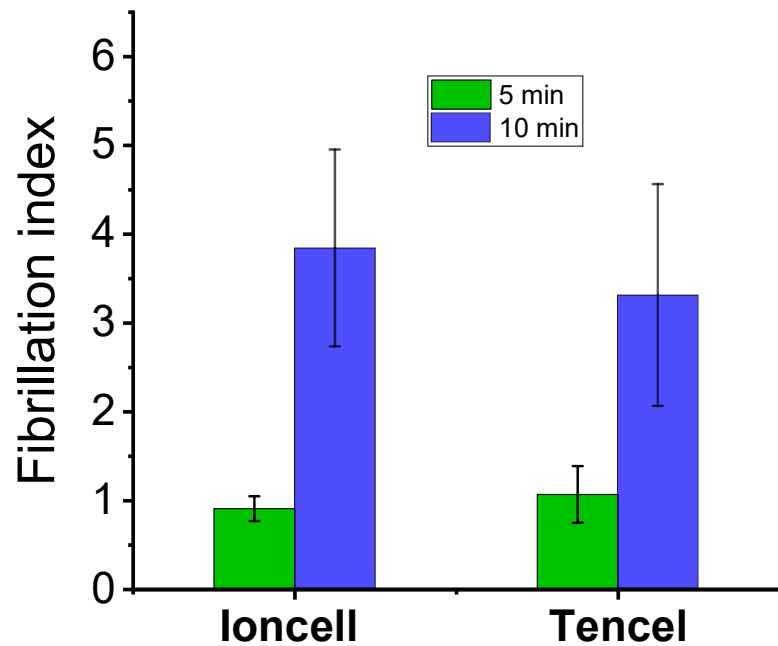
Fibrillation of different fibres



Fiber	l_f	σ_{cond} cN/tex	ϵ_{cond} %
Ioncell	3,1	49,8	10,6
Tencel	2,6	36,8	15,6
Modal	0	29,4	13,6
Viscose	0	26,8	21,3

20 g/L NaHCO₃, 5', 80°C

Effect of mixing time



A significant enhancement in the fibrillation observed as treatment time increases (room temperature)

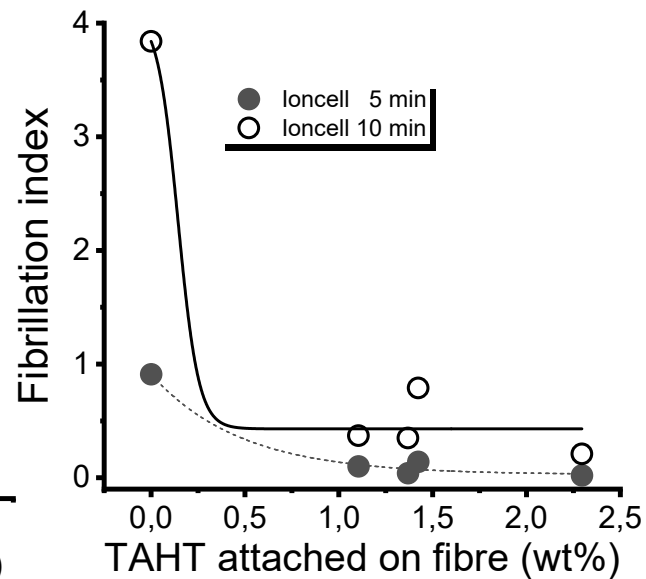
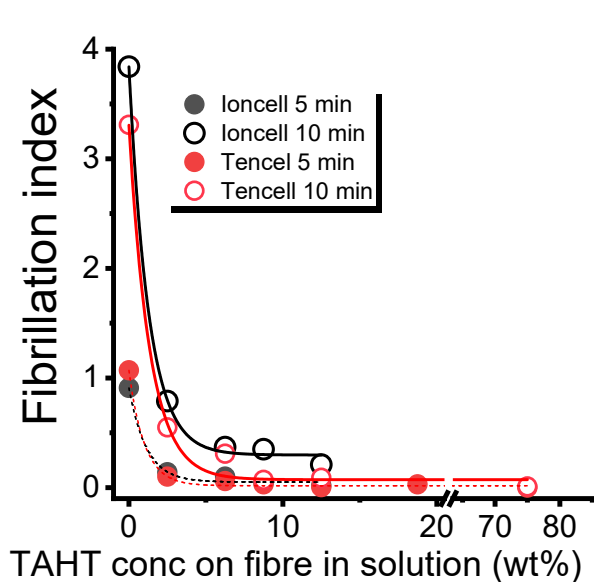
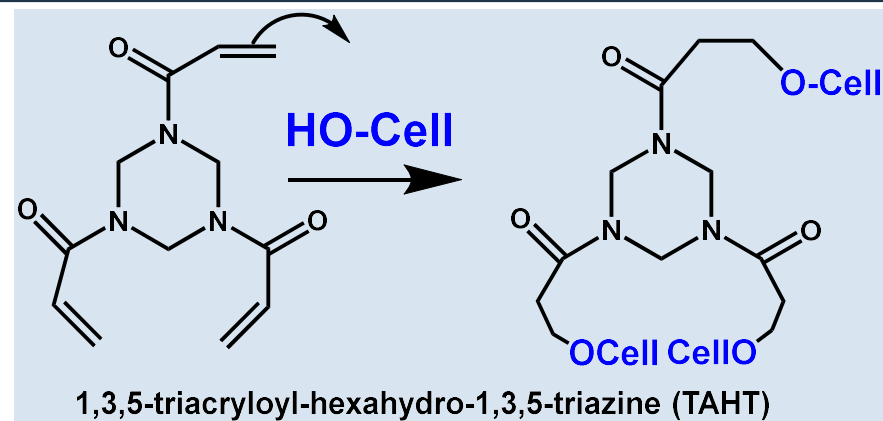
Yibo Ma, Sixta H. et al. Cellulose (2021) 28:31–44

Crosslinking with TAHT

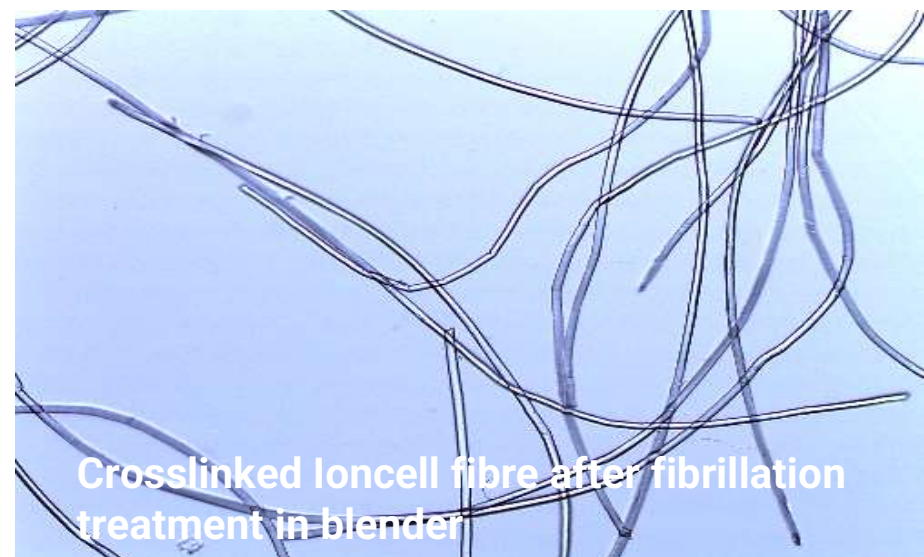
Dissolve TAHT in alkaline solution (pH 10-13)

Fibres mixed with TAHT in alkaline solution (consist. 12.5%) at 80 °C for 15 min.

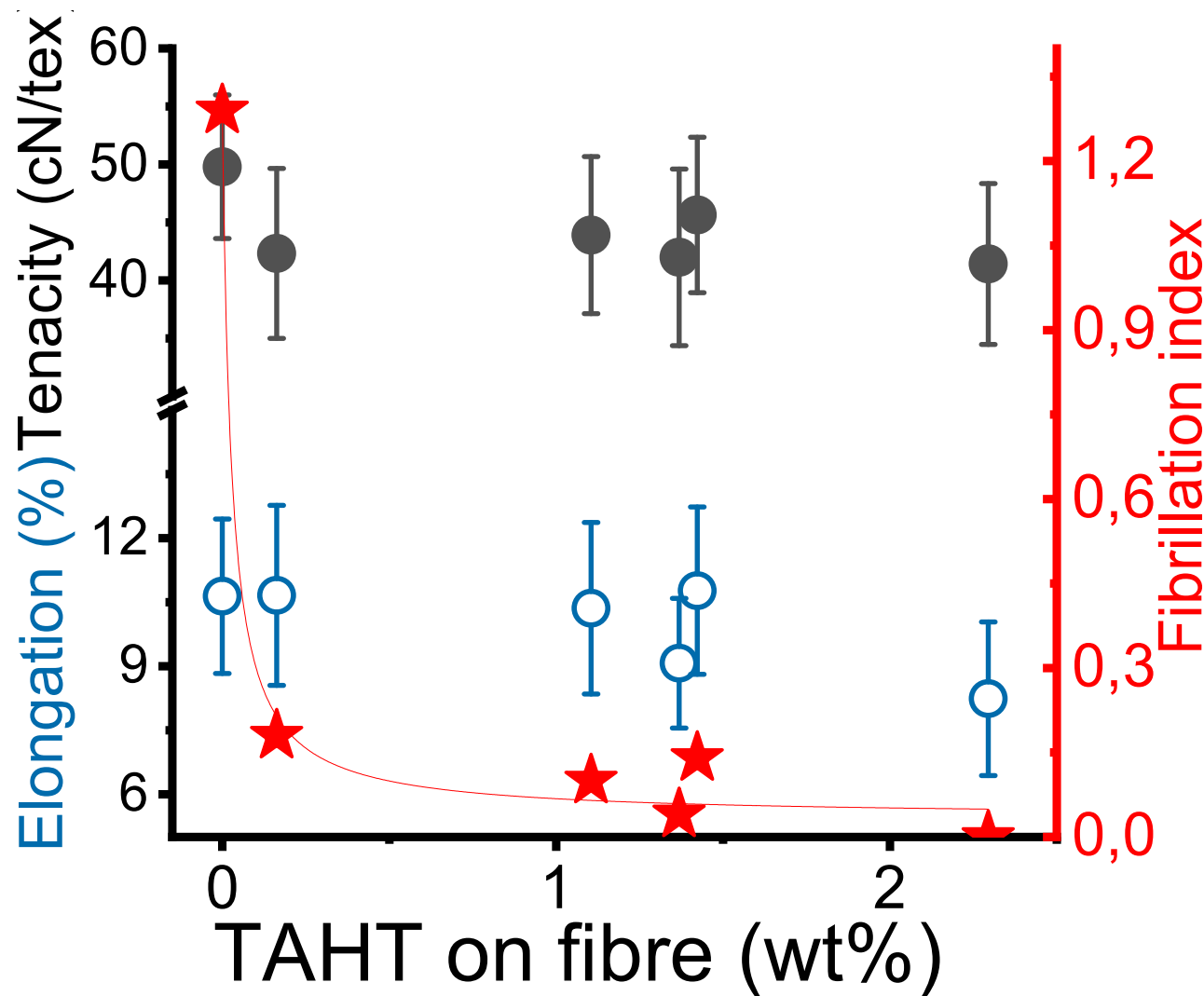
Fibre drying at 120°C



Yibo Ma, Sixta H. et al. Cellulose (2021) 28:31–44



Effect of crosslinking on fibre properties



Crosslinking with THAT has a minor effect on the mechanical loncell fiber properties

Less than 0.5 wt% THAT on the fiber sufficent to avoid fibrillation