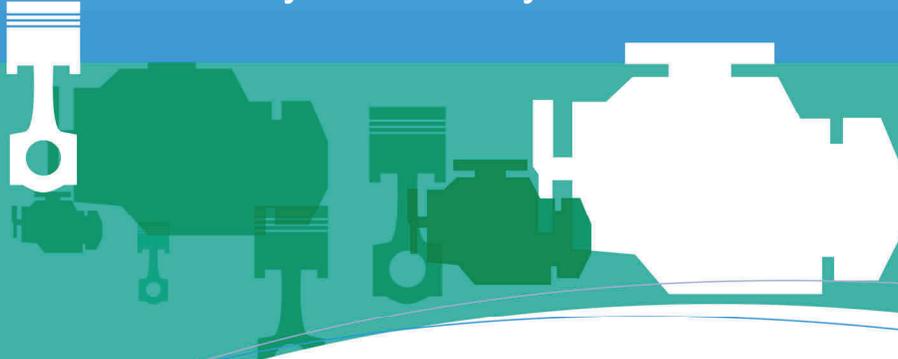


# Viscosity & Viscosity Modifiers



[InfineumInsight.com/Learn](http://InfineumInsight.com/Learn)



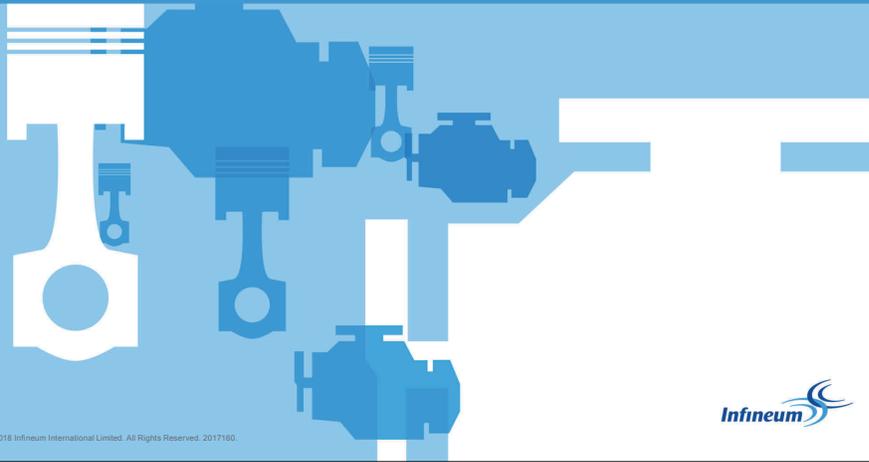
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## Outline

- Viscosity
  - Definition & Terminology
  - Temperature Dependence
- Viscosity Modifiers
  - Function
  - Thickening Efficiency
  - Shear-Thinning
  - Types/Chemistry
- Pour Point Depressants
- SAE Viscosity Grades
- Appendix
  - Viscosity measurement methods



## Viscosity



## Viscosity

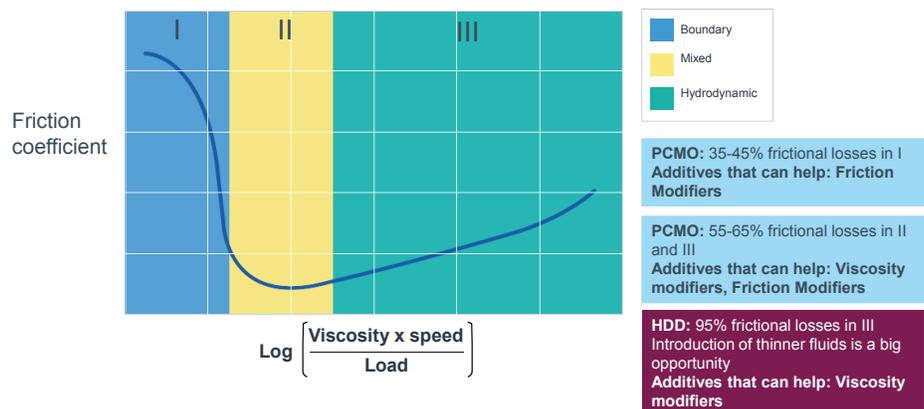
- Dynamic viscosity is resistance to flow of a fluid
- Defined as shear stress divided by shear rate (how hard you push it divided by how fast it slides)
  - Units of dynamic viscosity:
    - Pascal seconds (Pa-s)
    - mPa-s = 1cP (CentiPoise)
- Dynamic viscosities are usually measured under high shear conditions:
  - For example, the cone on plate or cylinder viscometer
- Kinematic viscosity is the dynamic viscosity divided by the fluid density.
  - The physical principle of measurement is based on the rate at which a fluid flows under gravity through a capillary tube.
  - Usually measured under low shear conditions.
  - Units of kinematic viscosity:
    - $\text{mm}^2/\text{s}$  = CentiStoke (cSt)
- Famous scientists who contributed to viscosity fundamentals

## What is the optimal viscosity?

- Metal on metal contact leads to high energy losses and surface wear
- Oil film between metal surfaces reduces energy losses
  - Oil provides less resistance to movement than metal
- Sufficient viscosity is needed to form the film
- Viscosity should be high enough to form the protective film, but low enough not to give excessive energy losses within the fluid



## Stribeck curve

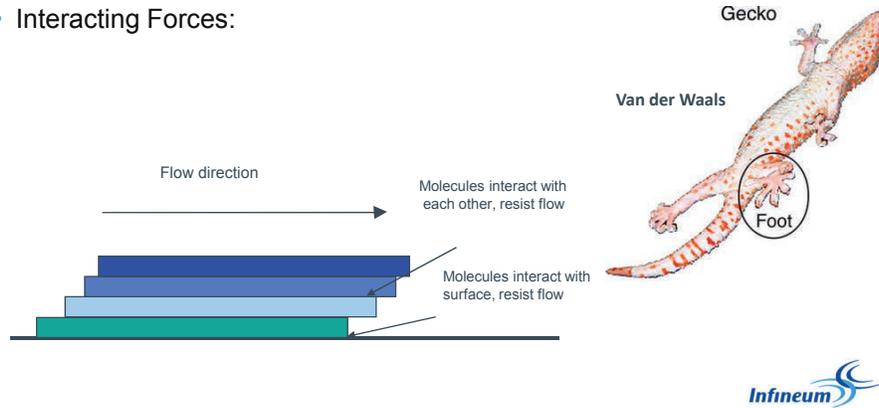


Viscosity modifiers and friction modifiers can be used in a complementary fashion in properly formulated engine oils to reduce friction because they operate in different lubrication regimes, as noted in the Stribeck Curve.

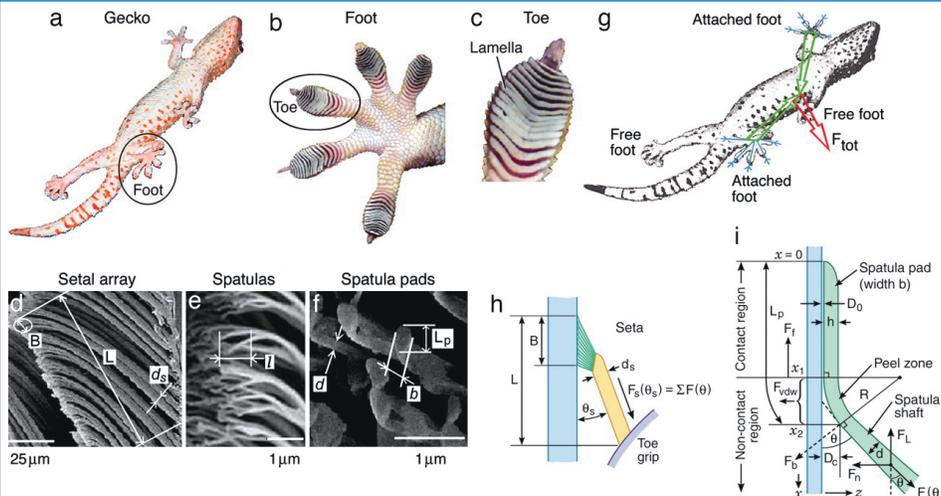


## Molecular origins of viscosity

- Molecules in adjacent layers of oil interact, preventing layers from sliding past each other
- The higher the interaction the higher is the resistance to the flow (viscosity)
- Interacting Forces:



## Gecko Toe Adhesion



Yu Tian, Noshir S. Pesika, Hongbo Zeng, Kenny Rosenberg, Boxin Zhao, Patricia McGuiggan, Kellar Autumn, Jacob N. Israelachvili. *PNAS* **103** (2006) 19320-19325

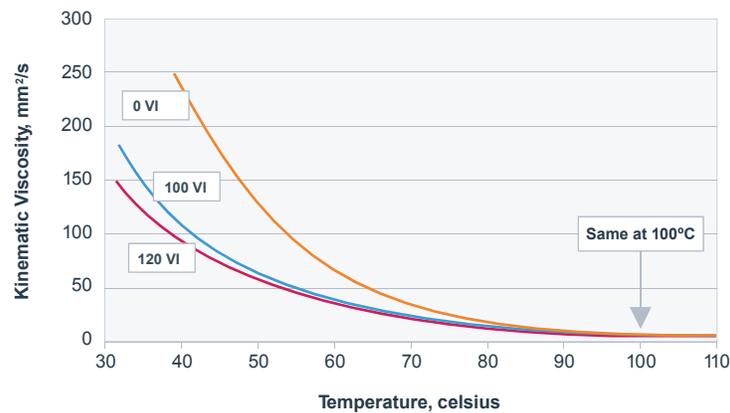


## Viscosity of materials

Substance	Viscosity at room temp (mPa-s or cP)
Ketchup	100,000
VM Concentrate	40,000
Molasses	8,000
Maple syrup	3,000
Motor oil (SAE 8 – SAE 40 grades)	25 - 350
Olive oil	80
Group III base oil 4 cSt	45
Mercury	2
Water	1
Gasoline	0.5
Acetone	0.3
Air	0.018



## Viscosity index

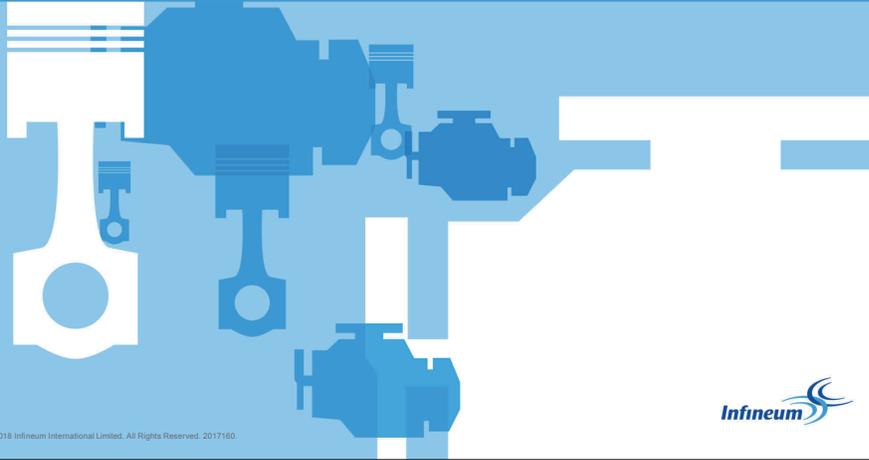


Viscosity Index (VI) defines the viscosity relationship with temperature.

- The Viscosity of low VI oils change significantly with temperature
- The Viscosity of high VI oils changes much less with temperature



## Viscosity modifiers



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## Viscosity modifiers

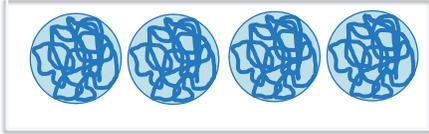
- Viscosity modifiers (VM) are used to reduce the influence of temperature on the viscosity of lubricants
  - Also known as Viscosity Index Improvers (VII)
- Viscosity modifiers in crankcase lubricants are polymers
- VM's are used in most engine oils and many transmission fluids



## Viscosity modifiers

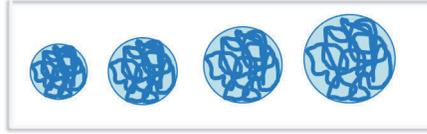
- Polymeric Viscosity Modifier occupies large volume of solution
- Viscosity modifier increases viscosity proportionally to volume that polymer occupies
- Volume of the majority of viscosity modifiers is almost independent of temperature

OCPs, Hydrogenated Styrene Dienes (HSD)



Low Temperature High

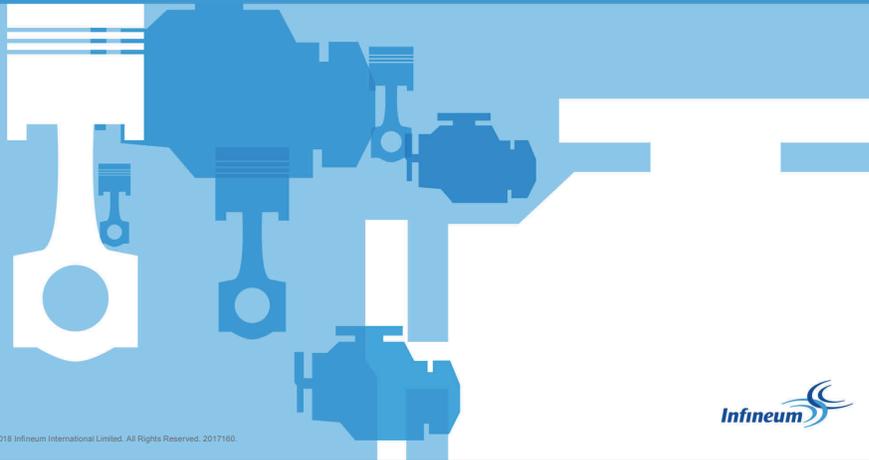
PMAs, temperature sensitive OCPs and HSDs



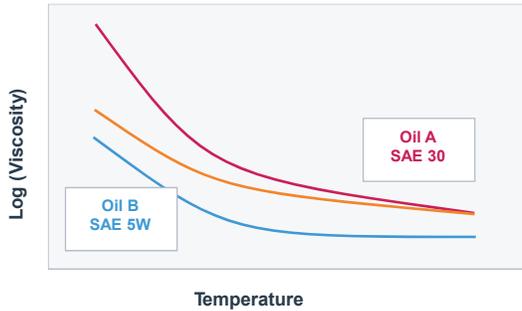
Low Temperature High



## Function of viscosity modifiers



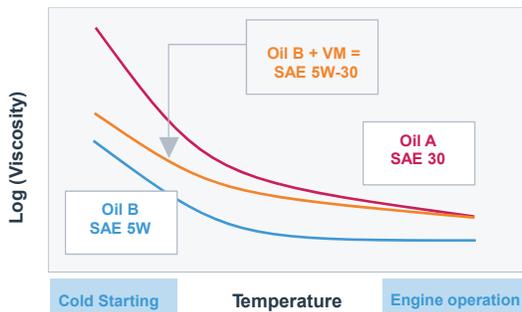
## Function of viscosity modifiers



- Base oil viscosity has strong temperature dependence:
- First described in 1920s and now more precisely in ASTM D341
- Thinner base oils (Oil B) provide good low temperature properties, but cannot provide protection at high temperatures
- Thicker base oils (Oil A) provide protection at high temperatures, but have insufficient pumpability at low temperatures



## Function of viscosity modifiers

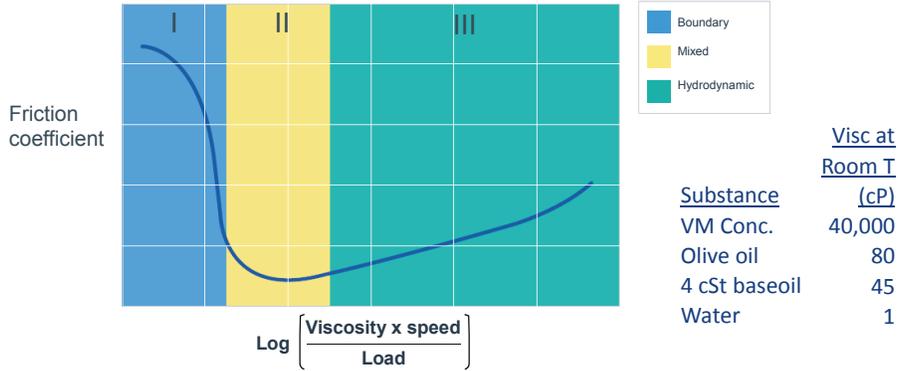


- VM adds viscosity to thinner oil at both high and low temperatures proportionally to baseoil viscosity at the particular temperature
- VM added viscosity does not have strong dependence on temperature
- Reduces final oil temperature dependence
- Multigrade oils (SAE xW-xx) provide engine protection at both high and low temperatures through use of viscosity modifiers



## Function of viscosity modifiers - Demo

- Effect of Viscosity and VM Polymer on Friction – Stribeck Curve



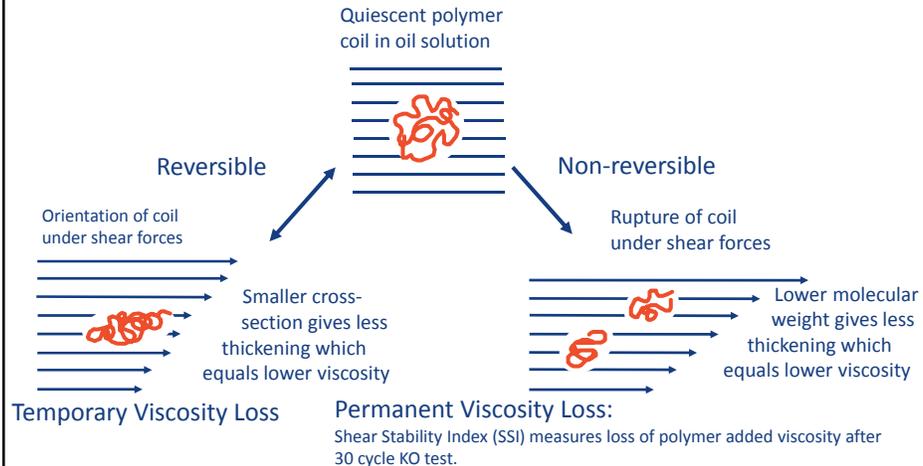
## Thickening efficiency



- Thickening Efficiency or TE is the amount of viscosity increase per % polymer
- TE is highly dependent on Molecular Weight and chemistry
  - Higher MW = Higher TE
  - Less Branching = Higher TE
  - Better match of VM polarity to base oil polarity = Higher TE



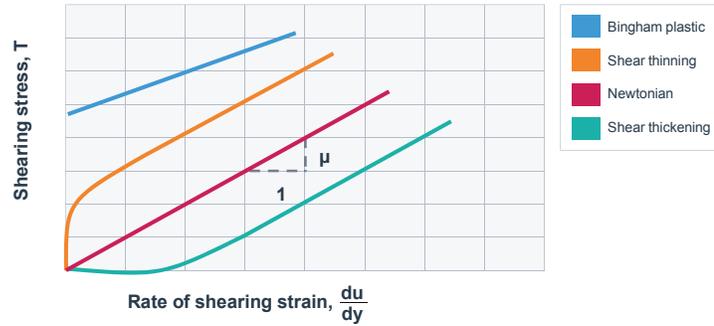
## Shear-thinning: Temporary & Permanent Viscosity Loss



## Shear stability index (SSI) (permanent viscosity loss)

- Shear Stability Index (SSI) measures loss of polymer added kinematic viscosity after 30 cycles in Kurt Orbahn
- The higher the SSI the more viscosity loss upon oil shearing
- SSI is usually measured in a reference oil that represents polymer behavior in SAE 15W-40 grade
- SSI depends on polymer chemistry, molecular geometry and molecular weight
  - Higher MW = less shear stable VM

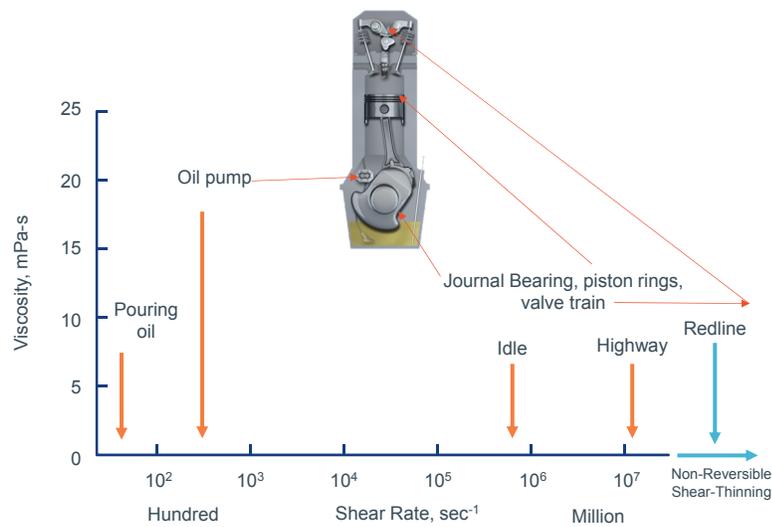
## Newton's law & shear thinning (temporary viscosity loss)



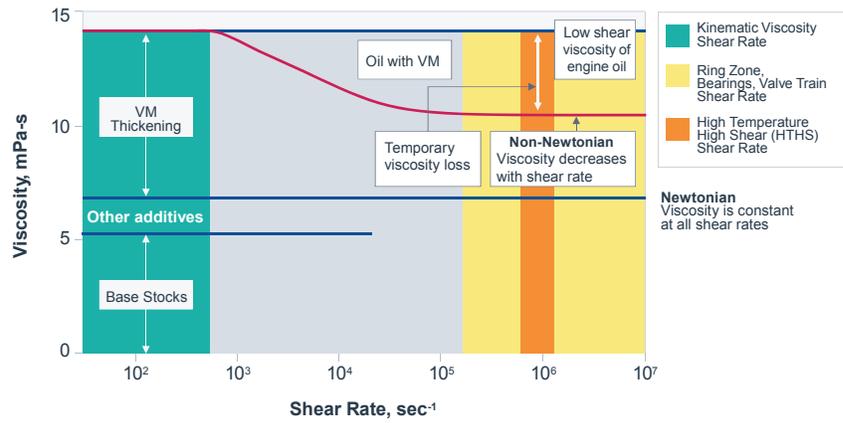
- Newton's Law of Viscosity:  $\text{viscosity} = \text{shear stress} / \text{shear rate}$
- Newtonian Fluids = viscosity is a constant; does not change with shear stress or shear rate
- Fluids that do not obey this are called Non-Newtonian
- The most common type is Shear-Thinning
  - Viscosity decreases with increasing shear rate
  - Viscosity modified fluids fall into this category



## Typical shear rates



## Shear rate & shear-thinning



23

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## Viscosity modifier types

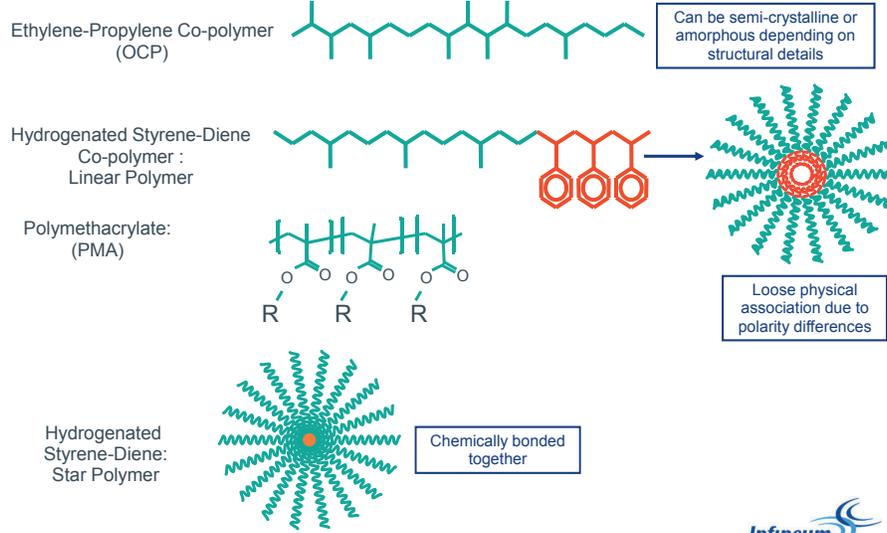
- Common types
  - Ethylene-Propylene Co-polymer (OCP)
    - Semi-crystalline
    - Amorphous
  - Hydrogenated Styrene-diene Co-polymer (HSD)
  - Polymethacrylate (PMA)
- Factors that need to be considered when selecting VM
  - Cost to achieve required thickening (Cost vs. TE)
  - Shear Thinning Properties
  - Low Temperature Properties
- Other performance harms/credits

24

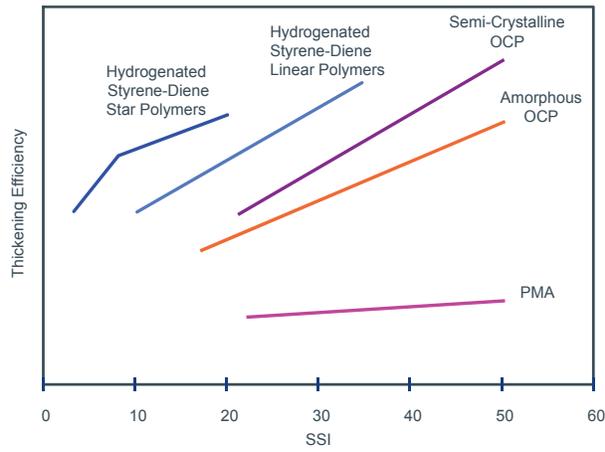
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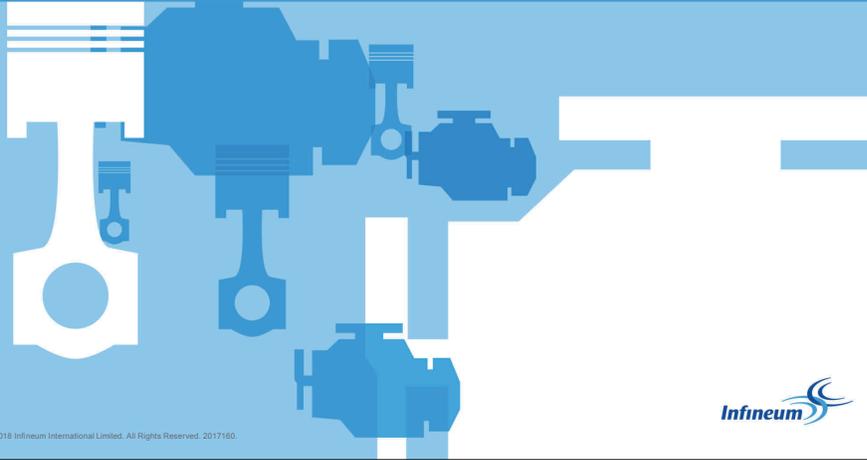
# Viscosity modifier chemistry



# Performance comparison TE vs. SSI

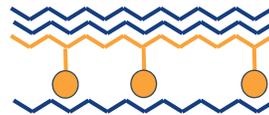


## Pour point depressants

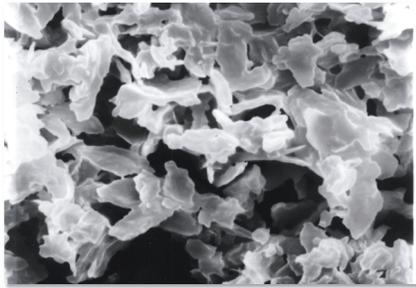


## Pour point depressants

- Pour Point Depressants
  - Commonly referred to as PPDs
  - Also know as Lube Oil Flow Improvers (LOFIs)
- Break up regularity of wax crystals
  - Prevent large crystal sheets from forming
  - Encourage small crystals - easier flow
  - Minimize low-temperature viscosity and yield stress
- Types:
  - Fumarate Vinyl Acetates (FVA)
  - Polymethacrylates (PMA)



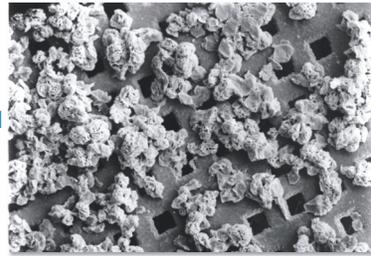
## Wax crystal modification by LOFI



50 micron

- Wax crystals can cause the most serious type of engine problem
- Engines can start but the oil does not flow, leading to catastrophic engine failure

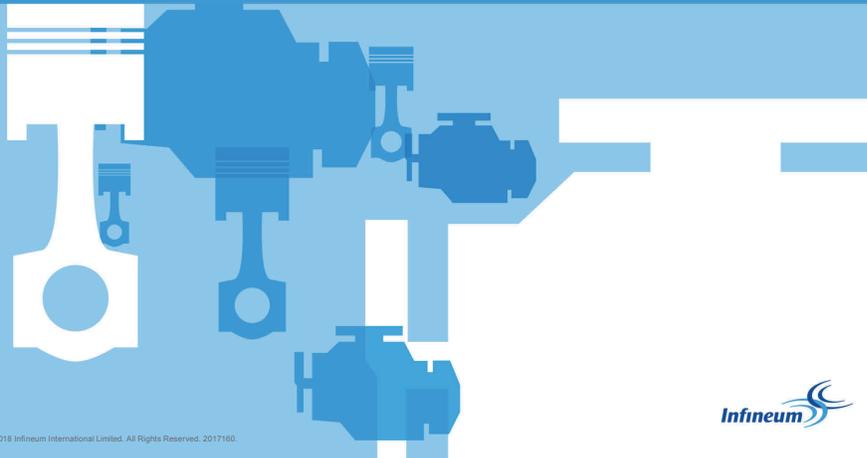
+ LOFI



50 micron



## SAE viscosity grades



## SAE J300 engine oil viscosity grades (issued January 2015)

SAE Grade	CCS mPa-s, Max	MRV mPa-s, Max w/No Yield Stress	Kinematic Viscosity at 100 °C mm <sup>2</sup> /s		HTHS @ 10 <sup>6</sup> Sec <sup>-1</sup> at 150 C mPa-s, Min
			Min	Max	
0W	6200 at -35°C	60 000 at -40°C	3.8	—	—
5W	6600 at -30°C	60 000 at -35°C	3.8	—	—
10W	7000 at -25°C	60 000 at -30°C	4.1	—	—
15W	7000 at -20°C	60 000 at -25°C	5.6	—	—
20W	9500 at -15°C	60 000 at -20°C	5.6	—	—
25W	13000 at -10°C	60 000 at -15°C	9.3	—	—
8	—	—	4.0	<6.1	1.7
12	—	—	5.0	<7.1	2.0
16	—	—	6.1	<8.2	2.3
20	—	—	6.9	<9.3	2.6
30	—	—	9.3	<12.5	2.9
40	—	—	12.5	<16.3	3.5 <sup>(1)</sup>
40	—	—	12.5	<16.3	3.7 <sup>(2)</sup>
50	—	—	16.3	<21.9	3.7
60	—	—	21.9	<26.1	3.7

(1) For 0W, 5W, 10W Multigrades – Changed from 2.9 in 11/2007

(2) For 15W, 20W, 25W Multigrades and SAE 40 Grade

Previously 5.6



## Viscosity measurement methods

Temp	Shear	Performance	Instrument	ASTM Method
High	Low	Oil Consumption Quality Control	Kinematic Viscometer	D 445
Low	High	Cold Starting	Cold Cranking Simulator (CCS)	D 5293
Low	Low	Cold Pumping	Mini-Rotary Viscometer (MRV)	D 4684
High	High	Wear/Fuel Economy	Tapered Bearing Simulator (TBS) Tapered Plug Viscometer (TPV) Multi-Cell Capillary (MCC)	D 4683 D 4741 D 5481



## SAE viscosity grades

'Summer' Grade	60	0W-60	5W-60	10W-60	15W-60	20W-60	25W-60
	50	0W-50	5W-50	10W-50	15W-50	20W-50	25W-50
	40	0W-40	5W-40	10W-40	15W-40	20W-40	25W-40
	30	0W-30	5W-30	10W-30	15W-30	20W-30	25W-30
	20	0W-20	5W-20	10W-20	15W-20	20W-20	
	16	0W-16	5W-16				
	12	0W-12					
	8	0W-8					
	0W	5W	10W	15W	20W	25W	
	'Winter' Grade						

Straight Grades

Some common viscosity grades for engine oils

\*SAE 0W-X grades typically need synthetic base stocks

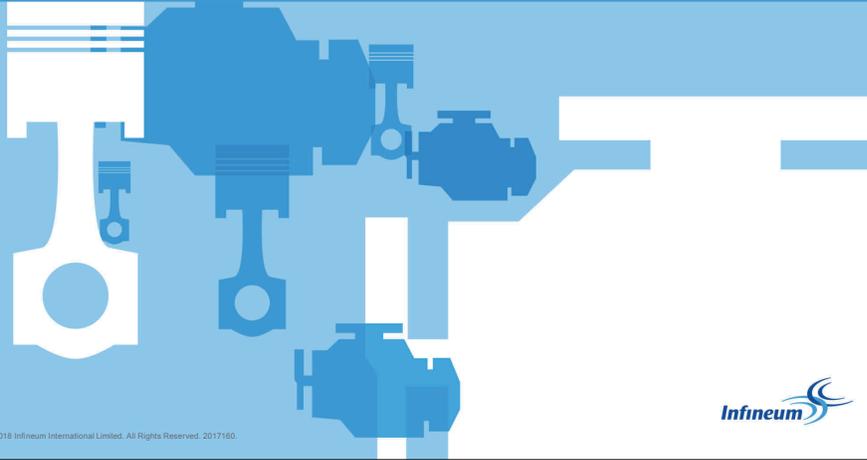


## SAE J300 engine oil viscosity grades

- Correct
  - SAE 10W-30
- Incorrect
  - 10W-30
  - SAE 10W/30
  - SAE 10W30
  - SAE 10w-30
- Labeling
  - Must label as the lowest 'W' grade
    - An oil that meets 5W also meets 10W, 15W, etc.
  - Oils with VM must be labeled as Multigrades
- Need to take care with CCS and KV100 labelling as there is overlap between the SAE grades



## Summary



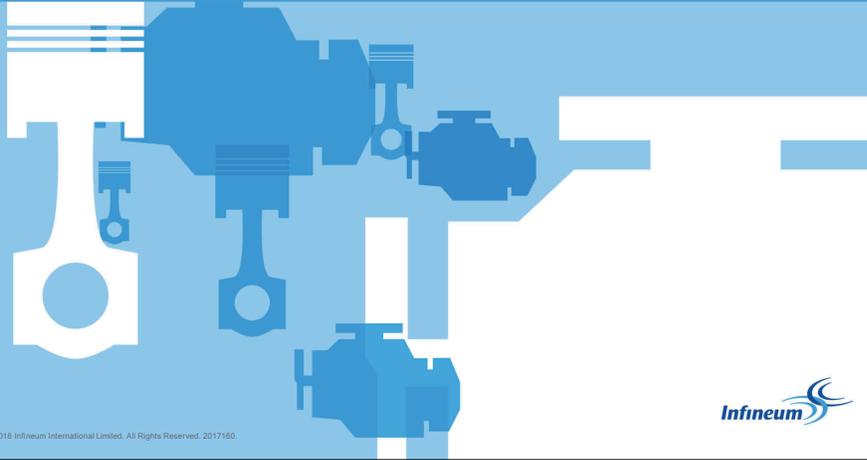
## Summary

- Viscosity is a measure of a fluid's resistance to flow
  - It depends strongly on temperature
  - And it can depend on shear rate
- Viscosity modifiers in lubricants:
  - Are used to reduce the influence of temperature on lubricant viscosity
  - Chemical structure and molecular weight affect performance and efficiencies
  - Exhibit temporary and permanent viscosity loss due to shear
  - Three common types: OCPs, Hydrogenated Styrene-diene Co-polymer, PMAs
  - Oil formulators must balance viscometric requirements, engine performance and cost
- Viscosity grades are defined by SAE J300
  - *“Oils which are formulated with polymeric viscosity index improvers for the purpose of making them multiviscosity-grade products are non-Newtonian and must be labeled with the appropriate multiviscosity grade”.*

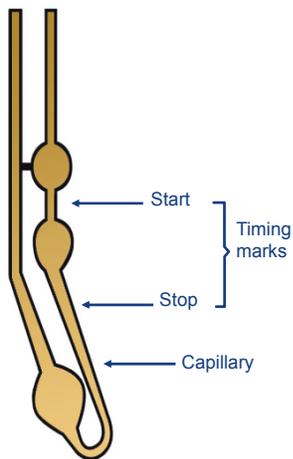
Source: SAE J300



## Appendix: viscosity measurement methods



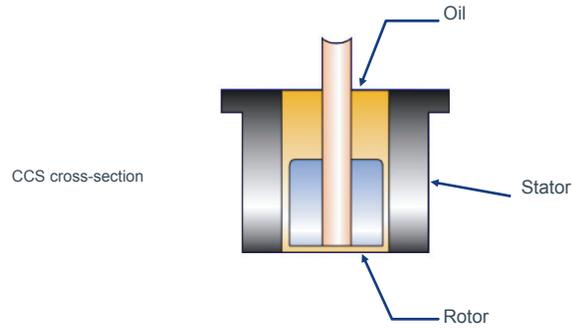
## Kinematic viscosity



- Kinematic viscosity = viscosity/density
- Principle
  - Measure time for known volume to flow through capillary tube
    - Driving force: gravity (mass of fluid)
    - Low shear rate
  - Units
    - $\text{mm}^2/\text{s}$
    - CentiStokes = cSt (discouraged)
    - Saybolt Universal Seconds (SUS) (obsolete)

## Cold cranking simulator

- Rotor/stator system

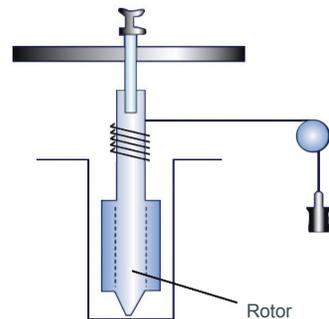


- Viscosity range - 500 to 200,000 mPa-s
- Shear rates - 104 to 106 sec<sup>-1</sup>
- Shear stress - 50,000 Pa

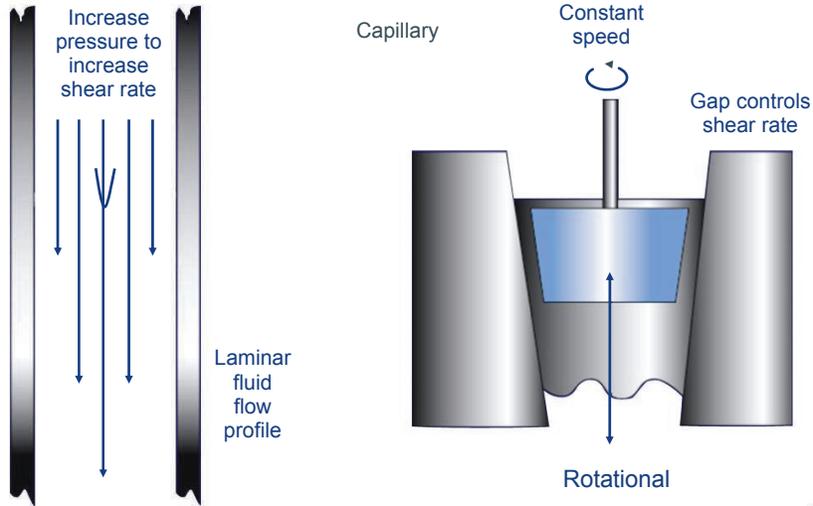


## Mini-rotary viscometer

- Low shear rate/shear stress measurement
- Measurements
  - Yield stress (min. stress to cause flow)
  - Viscosity @ 525 Pa stress
- Relationship to pumpability failure mechanism
  - Yield stress/air-binding
  - Viscosity/flow-limited



## High temperature high shear



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