

Exercises 6: Rubber Elasticity

6.1. Young's modulus for an elastomer at 25°C is 3×10^7 dynes / cm². Calculate the shear modulus. What is the retractive stress if a sample 1cm x 1cm x 10 cm is stretched to 25 cm length at 100°C? The front factor is set to 1.

6.2. A styrene-butadiene rubber with 23.5 mol% styrene in the polymer is vulcanized with sulfur. (a) Calculate the stress at 20% elongation of the vulcanizate in which 1.4% of the butadiene units are crosslinked. (b) What would be the corresponding stress if 2% of the butadiene units are crosslinked? Assume random distribution of styrene and butadiene units in the polymer chain. [Density of vulcanizate (without filler) = 0.98 g/cm³ at 25°C]

6.3. A 2g piece of a typical rubber-band is placed in a toluene-bath at 25°C. The material swells 4.88 times to its original volume. Calculate the number of elastically active chains per unit volume n and the Young modulus E of the dry rubber.
 $\rho(\text{toluene}) = 0.8669 \text{ g/cm}^3$, $\chi = 0.39$