

INFLUENCE OF LARGE STRAIN RHEOLOGY ON THE ADHESIVE PERFORMANCES OF PSA

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Promoting the Interests of the Self Adhesive Tape Industry



- **1. HOW TO MODEL THE ADHERENCE IN PEELING?**
- **2. SOME NEW KEY EXPERIMENTS:**
 - **1. ROLE OF THE PEELING ANGLE (MODE MIXITY)**
 - **2. ROLE OF NON-LINEAR RHEOLOGY**
- 3. ON THE ROAD AGAIN...

The Mechanics of Peeling (basics)





$$G = \frac{F}{b}(1 - \cos\theta) + \left(\frac{F}{b}\right)^2 \frac{1}{2(2h)E}$$

Kendall 1957 Adhesion energy (Dupré)



 $w = \gamma_1 + \gamma_2 - \gamma_{12}$

Adherence energy and dissipated energy :

 $\Gamma(v) = w(1 + \Phi(a_T v)) \gg w$

Gent 1972 Maugis Barquins 1988

Interfacial fracture???

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Three main mechanisms of dissipation $\Gamma(v) > w$



Multiscale Modeling of Peeling

10 cm – 1 m Straight string model (Kendall)

100 µm – 1 mm Curved knee model (Bending)

20 μm – 100 μm Viscoelastic cohesive zone

100 nm – 20 μm Soft viscoelastic adhesive layer Fracture mechanisms (shear + fibrils)

1 A nm – 100 nm Intermolecular cohesive zone (VdW) Racking

Fluorescen

Particles

Peel

Angle

Contraction

Substrate

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R

Basics of PSA

Adhesive: very soft polymer (PA, ...)

Typical thickness $a \sim 20-40 \ \mu m$

Dahlquist criterion:



 $\mu' \sim 10-100$ kPa @ 1 Hz - Very soft for spontaneous adhesion $\mu'' \sim 10$ kPa @ 1 Hz - Fast relaxation under finger pressure $Tg \sim -40$ °C - Broad band dissipation during peeling

Weak level of crosslinking – no flow, no residuals on substrate

Backing : glassy semicristalline polymer (PE, PP)

Typical thickness 2h ~ 20 µm

E ~ GPa – Avoid large stretching, very flexible

Substrate : backing itself, with release coating

Glassy -> no sliding? Relatively weak adhesion

Fracture of confined soft materials

1) Softness: Elastoadhesive length is large !

 $\rho \sim \ell_{EA} = \frac{\Gamma}{E} \sim \frac{\Gamma(v)}{E(v)} \sim \frac{10 \div 100 J/m^2}{10 \div 100 kPa} \sim 1mm \gg a \sim 20 \mu m$

For very thick glue ($a \sim 10$ mm) elastic blunting at crack tip!

Stress singularity is cut at a distance ℓ_{EA} and the tip experiences a constant stress ~ E

Hui 2003

2) Incompressibility

No large volumetric strain without cavitation

Spontaneous cavitation under negative pressure -p > E

Gent 1972



Fracture of confined soft materials

3) Softness + incompressibility + confinement :

$$\rho \sim \ell_{EA} = \frac{\Gamma}{E} \sim \frac{\Gamma(v)}{E(v)} \sim \frac{10 \div 100 J/m^2}{10 \div 100 kPa} \sim 1mm \gg a \sim 20 \mu m$$

A) Elastoadhesive confinement:



 $rac{aE}{\Gamma} \ll 1$ No stress singularity within thickness aUniform stress-(large)stretch through thickness

B) Geometric confinement:



Very stiff oedometric modulus Strong negative hydrostatic pressure Tendency to cavitation and stringing

C) Saint-Venant principle:

Lateral variations of (σ, ε) are correlated over distance a

Kaelble's model

Beam on a Winkler elastic foundation?



Kaelble's model (scaling laws)

1) **Uncoupling mode I** (cleavage) and **mode II** (shear), as a function of peeling angle

2) **Stress concentration** due to elastic stiffness mismatch between adhesive and backing!





Kaelble's model (scaling laws)

3) Stress based peel failure criteria:

$$\sigma_0 \le \sigma_C \quad \& \quad \tau_0 \le \tau_C$$

4) Peeling energy:



$$\begin{split} &\Gamma(a,\theta) \sim a \left[K(\theta) \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_0^2}{Y}} + \sqrt{\frac{\tau_0^2}{G}} \right]^2 \sim a K^2(\theta) \frac{\sigma_c^2}{Y} \sim a K^2(\theta) \mathcal{W}_{el}(\sigma_c) \\ &\text{A)} \quad \sigma_0 = \sigma_c \qquad \tau_0 = \sigma_c \frac{\beta}{\alpha} f(\theta) < \tau_c \quad \text{Strand debonding !} \\ &\text{B)} \quad \tau_0 = \tau_c \qquad \sigma_0 = \tau_c \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \frac{1}{f(\theta)} < \sigma_c \quad \text{Frictional sliding ??} \\ &\text{Mode A dominates except at small (and large?) peeling angle} \end{split}$$

 $Y \sim 100 kPa \quad \sigma_c \sim 10Y \quad K \sim 1 \quad \Gamma \sim 100 J/m^2 \gg w \sim 0.1 J/m^2$



The role of viscoelastic dissipation

Viscoelastic Winkler foundation



Effective work of debonding :



Linear viscoelasticity

$$\Gamma(a,\theta,v) \sim a K^2(\theta) \frac{\sigma_c(v)^2}{Y(v)}$$



Kaelble 1964

The role of non-linear viscoelastic rheology Gent and Petrich model

Effective work of debonding :

$$\Gamma(v) = \int_0^{\sigma_c} \sigma(\varepsilon, \dot{\varepsilon}) d\delta$$

$$\Gamma(v) = \int_0^{\sigma_c} \sigma(\varepsilon\{\delta(t)\}, \dot{\varepsilon}\{\delta(t)\}) \dot{\delta} dt$$

$$\Gamma(v) = a \int_0^{\sigma_c} \sigma(\varepsilon, \dot{\varepsilon}) d\varepsilon \simeq a \, \mathcal{W}(\varepsilon_c(\sigma_c), \dot{\varepsilon})$$



$$\dot{\varepsilon} = \frac{d(\delta/a)}{dx}\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{d(\delta)}{dx}\frac{v}{a}$$





Gent & Petrich 1969

The three complementary experimental setups



Bond formation

- Lay down a first adhesive layer on the flat bar (the finger is covered with a glove and pressure is gently applied through another backing)
- 2) Lay down a second adhesive layer and wait 10 minutes before peeling (no significant aging, results are consistent with peeling from roller!)

Microscopic investigation of the debonding region



1) Side view

2) Bottom view



1) Dependence of the adherence energy on the peeling angle

Scotch 3M 600 "Crystal"



Villey et al, Soft Matter (2015)

Peeling angle dependence



2) Dependence on linear and non-linear rheology

10⁹

(e 10⁷

6 different formulations supplied by 3M©

Main polymer: 2-ethyl hexyl acrylate (EHA) 3 levels of methacrylate (MA) : Decrease Tg 2 levels of crosslinker (A,B) : Decrease \mathcal{E}_{C}

						CO 40 DO 0 DO
Name	EHA	MA	AA	Cross-Linker	T_g	-60 -40 -20 0 20 T(℃)
1A	70%	25%	5%	0.2%	-34 ± 4 °C	10 ⁹
1B	70%	25%	5%	0.4%	-34 ± 4 °C	
2A	85%	10%	5%	0.2%	-43 ± 5 °C	$=10^7$
2B	85%	10%	5%	0.4%	-43 ± 5 °C	E I I
3A	95%	0%	5%	0.2%	$-53.5 \pm 8 \ ^{\circ}\text{C}$	E⊒
3B	95%	0%	5%	0.4%	$-53.5 \pm 8 \ ^{\circ}\text{C}$	^{10°} D)
						-60 -40 -20 0 20

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T(°C)

Linear rheology of PSA



Distinct effect of non-linear rheology!



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Distinct effect of non-linear rheology!



1. Effect of change of Tg

- $G_c \sim 100 \text{ J/m}^2 \sim \text{cst}$
- $V_c \sim$ Arrhenius shift factors

$$\log a_T = \log \frac{V_{ref}}{V} = \frac{\Delta H}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_{ref}}\right)$$

 $\Delta H \sim 40-50 \text{ kJ/mol}$

(literature: 60-80 kJ/mol) Cailles et al, Polymer, 2015

2. Effect of crosslink density

An increase in the density of crosslinks, has the effect of reducing the maximum extensibility of the fibrils, and thus the adherence energy

This effect is reduced when increasing the crack velocity and disappears at the peak, where the maximum extensibility is governed by the entanglement network

Confirmation by microscopic analysis







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Interpretation of the adherence curve $\Gamma(V)$



Main conclusions

1. The **bond stress distribution** is essential to understand the dependence of the adherence energy on the geometry of loading (adhesive thickness and peeling angle)

2. The occurrence of **large deformations** is essential to reach high values of Γ by **rate dependent elastic hysteresis**. The **large strain rheology** must then be taken into account for quantitative predictions of the adherence energy.

3. The **strong confinement** of the **soft uncompressible adhesive** is a key feature to reach these large deformations through **cavitation** and **stringing** and to develop hysteretic dissipation.

Open questions

Full role of non-linear rheology

(large strain, finite extensibility, entanglement network)

Criterion of fibril debonding

(stress, strain, strain energy density, total strain energy)

What determines the position of the instability?

(peak in the adherence, change to brittle failure, ...)

Role of the substrate

(relating adhesion energy *w* and debonding stress σ_c ?)

Boundary condition on the substrate

(sliding permitted?)

Perspective: the role of fibril mechanisms

While acknowledging fibril formation, most authors keep referring to bulk rheology of the adhesive!

A more realistic average behavior of fibrilled adhesive can be obtained by comparing with tack measurements!



Thanks for your attention!

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