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Effect of water content on viscoelastic properties of amorphous potato starch: DMA measurement

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Introduction

Due to its mechanical properties and the absence of endogenous lipids, amorphous potato starch is offering promising prospects as **smart material** with **shape memory (SMP)** (Fig. 1) despite its sensitivity to water¹.

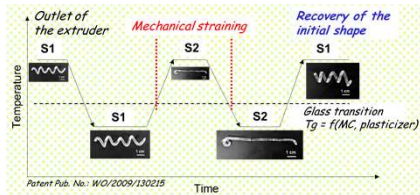


Fig. 1. SMP Programming

Shape recovery (>90%) is triggered by heating above T_g and water uptake.

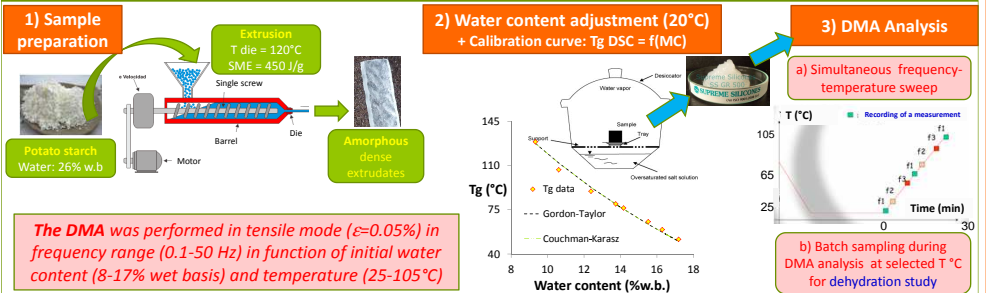
Commonly used approach for modeling the thermo-mechanical behaviour of SMP is based on the theory of linear viscoelasticity^{2,3}.

Objectives

The **time and temperature dependencies** of linear viscoelastic behaviour of **amorphous potato starch** obtained by extrusion was investigated by **dynamic thermomechanical analysis (DMA)** in order to build a constitutive model that takes into account the **dehydration effect** occurring during DMA analysis.

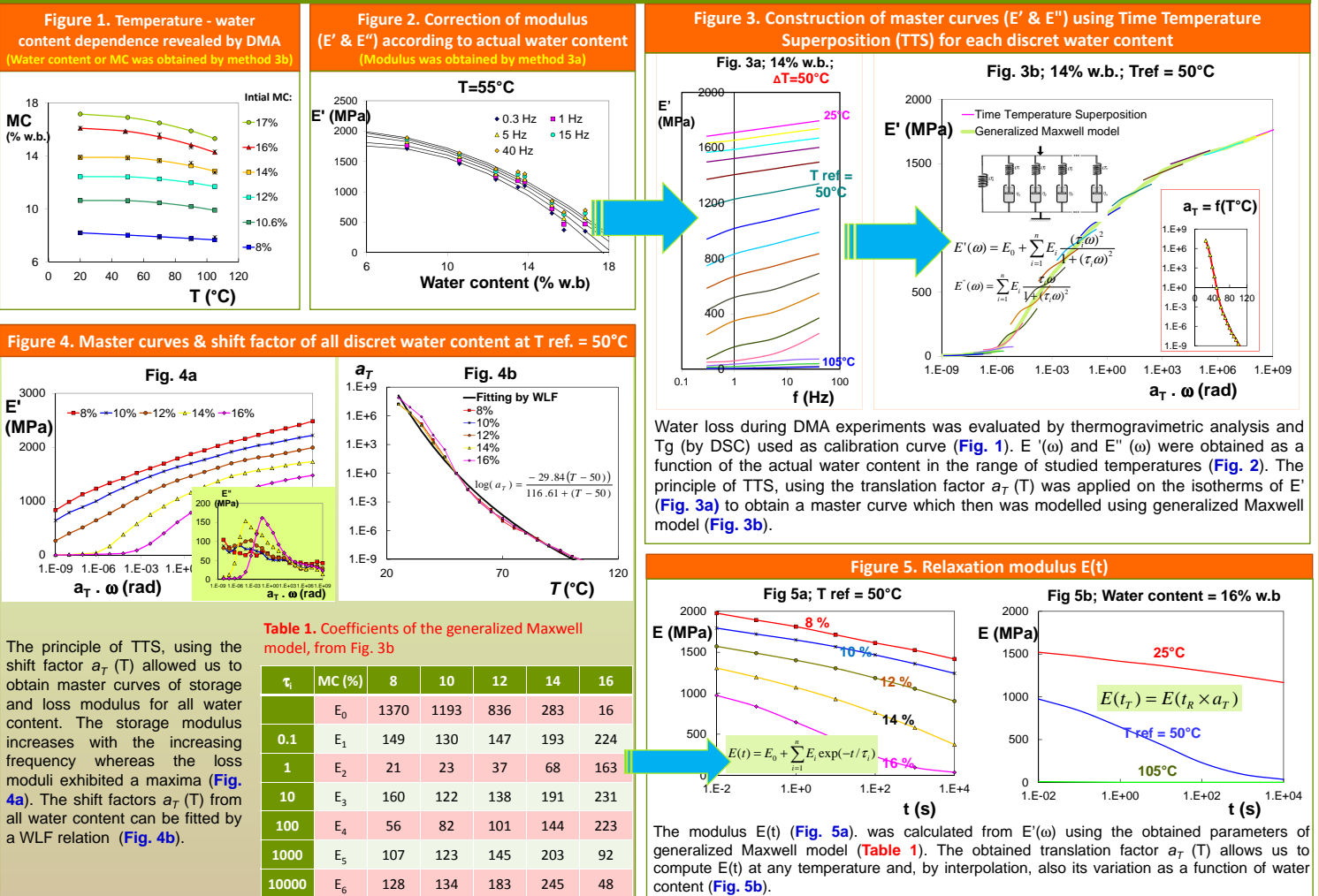
A master curve of the relaxation modulus was built to describe the viscoelastic properties on a large time domain.

Material and Method



The DMA was performed in tensile mode ($\epsilon=0.05\%$) in frequency range (0.1-50 Hz) in function of initial water content (8-17% wet basis) and temperature (25-105°C)

Results



Conclusions

- Linear viscoelasticity behaviour of extruded potato starch was modelled using **generalized Maxwell model**.
- Relaxation modulus was determined by tensile stress DMA in a wide range of time in function of temperature for different water content.
- Relaxation modulus was obtained as continuous function of temperature and water content.
- The glass transition temperature decreases with increasing water content following models of Gordon-Taylor and Couchman-Karasaz.

Perspectives

The results will lead to a **dataset of material constitutive laws (relaxation modulus)** for modeling and simulation of shape memory effect using FEM.

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