

RHEOLOGY OF AQUEOUS DISPERSIONS OF HYDROGENATED CASTOR OIL

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ABSTRACT:

Three major hydrogenated castor oil crystal morphologies have been observed: fiber, rosette and irregular crystal. Due to the difficulty in obtaining samples with a single crystal morphology, rheological studies of suspensions containing mixtures of the three morphologies in an aqueous solution have been undertaken. The viscometry of dilute suspensions has shown that the magnitude of intrinsic viscosity is dominated by the fraction of a crystal morphology type, i.e. fiber > rosette > irregular crystal. A modified Farris model was fitted to the rheology data for mixtures of crystal morphology with interacting particles. A yield stress exists for concentrated suspensions followed by a shear thinning behavior with the increase of shear rate. A power-law relation has been found between yield stress and total particle volume fraction, and a constant exponent of 1.5 has been obtained regardless of crystal morphology.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG:

Drei große hydrogenierte Kastoröl-Kristallmorphologien wurden beobachtet: Faser, Rosette und irregulärer Kristall. Aufgrund der Schwierigkeit, Proben mit einer einzigen Kristallmorphologie zu erhalten, wurden rheologische Studien an Suspensionen aus Mischungen dieser drei Morphologien in wässrigen Lösungen durchgeführt. Die Viskosimetrie der verdünnten Suspensionen verdeutlichte, dass der Betrag der intrinsischen Viskosität von dem Anteil des kristallinen Morphologietypus bestimmt wird, nämlich Faser > Rosette > irregulärer Kristall. Ein modifiziertes Farris-Modell wurde an die rheologischen Daten für die Mischungen der Kristallmorphologie mit wechselwirkenden Partikeln angepasst. Bei den konzentrierten Suspensionen existiert eine Fließspannung, die von einem scherverdünnenden Verhalten mit zunehmender Schergeschwindigkeit begleitet wird. Es wurde ein Potenzgesetz zwischen der Fließspannung und dem Partikelgehalt gefunden. Der Exponent des Potenzgesetzes nahm unabhängig von der Kristallmorphologie den Wert 1,5 an.

RÉSUMÉ:

Trois principales morphologies cristallines d'huile de castor hydrogénée ont été observées : fibre, rosette et cristal irrégulier. A cause de la difficulté d'obtenir des échantillons avec une morphologie cristalline unique, des études rhéologiques de suspensions contenant des mélanges des trois morphologies dans une solution aqueuse ont été entreprises. La viscosimétrie des suspensions diluées a montré que la magnitude de la viscosité intrinsèque est dominée par la fraction de morphologie cristalline type, c-à-d, fibre>rosette>cristal irrégulier. Un modèle de Farris modifié a été ajusté aux données rhéologiques des mélanges de morphologie cristalline et de particules interagissantes. Une contrainte seuil existe pour les suspensions concentrées, qui est suivie par un comportement rhéo-amincissant aux vitesses de cisaillement plus élevées. Une relation de type loi de puissance a été trouvée entre la contrainte seuil et la fraction volumique totale en particule, avec un exposant constant de 1.5 obtenu quelle que soit la morphologie cristalline.

KEY WORDS: suspension rheology, morphology, hydrogenated castor oil, fiber, rosette

sions. Therefore, all the experiments were conducted in the hydrodynamic regime and Brownian motion was considered negligible. Also, due to the small Reynolds number particle inertia could be negligible too, while viscous forces dominated indicating particles and fluid motions were fully coupled.

Shear thinning behavior for non-Brownian particulate suspensions at high Peclet number is not fully understood. Pe is so large that no significant reduced viscosity will be observed caused by shear-induced alignment. Shear induced adhesions between particles [46] could be an explanation of such shear thinning. At low shear rate, flocs of particles form and break down with the increase of shear rate. Another explanation comes from Mueller et al. [40] who hypothesized that the shear thinning was caused by the decrease of the local viscosity between gaps of particles. During shear flow, the shear rate in the small gap between two particles is higher than the bulk shear rate. Mueller et al. [40] states that when the gap decreases, there will arise a point that the heat diffused out to the bulk is not enough, leading to a rise of local temperature in the gap. Thus, the viscosity in the gap will decrease resulting in the lubrication of one particle to another.

4 CONCLUSIONS

Rheology of three mixtures of HCO crystal morphologies has been studied to understand the relationship of rheology with crystal morphology. Rheological properties, intrinsic viscosity and yield stress, are functions of the volume fractions and crystal shape. The magnitudes of intrinsic viscosity and yield stress have the following decreasing sequence: fiber > rosette > irregular crystal. The Huggins coefficient is a decreasing function of morphology in the preceding sequence. A modified Farris model has been successfully applied on the mixture of morphology with particulate interactions. Concentrated suspensions show yield stress which is the power law function of total volume fraction.

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