Critical Gels, Scott Blair and the Fractional Calculus of Soft Squishy Materials





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In Memoriam: Sean A. Collier





Gifts may be made to MIT for the Sean Collier Memorial Fund to establish the Collier Medal to be awarded to individuals who demonstrate the values of Officer Collier and other causes.





- Some History of G.W. Scott Blair and the Beginnings of the Society of Rheology
- Scott Blair, Soft Materials and Quasi-properties
- Fractional Calculus and the "Spring-pot"
 - The Fractional Maxwell Model & Fractional Kelvin-Voigt Models
 - Nonlinear Deformations
- Applications to Real Materials and more complex flows

• Don Plazek, J.Rheology 1996 (mis)quoting Novalis (1772-1801):

"To become properly acquainted with a truth, we must first have disbelieved it and disputed against it"

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Some History...

e Lafayette





Quoting W.H. Herschel (at the 3rd Plasticity Symposium, Lafayette College; 1928) *"I have always wondered what I am...*

I know now, that I am a Rheologist" (!)

"When the Society was organized in Washington in Dec. 1929 there was present as a Charter Member, Dr. George W. Scott Blair of England..."

E.C. Bingham; *History of the Society of Rheology* **1924-1944** *AIP Niels Bohr Library for the History of Science*

EASTON, PA., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1935

'Panta Rhei' is Motto

Professor Bingham proposed the new word rheology formed from the Greek word "rheo" which is to "flow"-but "flow" in the larger sense of "deformation." Also at this meeting Professor Bingham brought forth the motto "panta rhei" or "everything flows." Although some naturally objected to the new word and its broadness, the majority of the men were satisfied and the new term held good.

The chemists and physicist found a certain satisfaction in having a name to call themselves by which really covered all that they were doing. That same year the Society of Rheology was formed with Professor Eugene C. Bingham as the first president. Immediately the new society became affiliated with the American Institute of Physics, which enabled it to publish rheological papers in the journal "Physics." the At present time there are about three hundred members in the society.



History

G.W. Scott Blair (1902-1987)





GEORGE WILLIAM SCOTT BLAIR MA PhD DSc FRIC FInstP (1902-1987) – 'THE MAN AND HIS WORK'

> by Prof. Howard A. Barnes, OBE, DSc, FREng, Unilever Research, Port Sunlight, CH63 3JW.

A talk given on the occasion of the opening of the Scott Blair reading room at the University of Wales Aberystwyth, Dec. 15th 1999.



Younger rheologists might ask 'who was this man, Scott Blair, anyway?'. George William Scott Blair was for most of us the quintessential—*if eccentric*—Englishman,

After 30 years working on industrial rheology problems, I now feel a great deal of empathy with Scott Blair who was also struggling with industry's big problems, that is, with real materials that one had to look study, not just working on model systems of one's own making and to one's own liking. To many rheologists, George Scott Blair was given to flights of fancy into psycho-Rheology, fractional differentiation, etc. However, I think these were his honest attempts to try to explain real materials in real situations, which we still struggle with today. Howard A. Barnes, *Biorheology* **37** (2000)







Author(s): G. W. S. Blair, B. C. Veinoglou, J. E. Caffyn Source: Proceedings of the Royal Society of London. Series A, Sciences, Vol. 189, No. 1016 (Mar. 27, 1947), pp. 69-87

Limitations of the Newtonian time scale in relation to non-equilibrium rheological states and a theory of quasi-properties

BY G. W. S. BLAIR, D.SC. AND B. C. VEINOGLOU, PH.D. In collaboration with J. E. CAFFYN, B.Sc.

National Institute for Research in Dairying, University of Reading (N.I.R.D) (Communicated by E. N. da C. Andrade, F.R.S.—Received 30 May 1946)

The behaviour of complex materials under stress is described in terms of entities which are not strictly 'physical properties'. These so-called 'quasi-properties' range from entities hardly distinguishable from dimensionally true physical properties to concepts which are much less clearly defined.

Firmness, Stickiness, Stringiness....the principle of intermediacy



It is seen that the fluid properties of matter occupy the upper regions of the chart and the solid properties of matter the lower, while between them on either side a twilight zone exists where solid and fluid properties subsist together. Ideal properties, therefore, lie north and south and real ones east and west.

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From Continuous Time Random Walks to Power-Law Rheology







Continuous Time Random Walks to Power-Law Rheology





Physics Today (2002), 55: 48-54.

Rheological Aging in a Laponite Gel Rich, McKinley, Doyle; *J. Rheology* **55**(2), 2011



Ubiquity of Power-Law Rheology: Relationship to Microstructure

Plii

Air-solution interface of a **Gluten Gel** Laponite Dispersion **Protein-Surfactant Mixture** Morris and Gunning, Soft Matter, Courtesy J. W. Ruberti & S.H. Peighambardoust et al., Gavin Braithwaite (CPG) J. Cereal Science, (2006), 43. 4, 2008. Scale bar: 10 μm. Scaleadstophical microstructure leadstophicale-free power-law relaxation behavior. 4, 2008. Scale bar: 10 μm. **Actin Filaments Collagen Matrix** Cheese Leading edge of cell N Saeidi, E. A. Sander, J. W. Ruberti, T. D. Pollard and J. A. Cooper, K. J. Aryana, Z. U. Haque, Int. J. Food. Biomaterials, 30, 2009. Scale bar: 500 nm Science, 326, 2009. *Sci. Tech.*, 36, 2001. Scale bar 10 µm. 10/12/13





The

Fractional

Keith B. Oldham and

- One of the earliest attempts at modeling power-law behavior was by P. G. Nutting: proposed the Nutting equation $\psi = \tau^{\beta} \gamma^{-1} t^k$ where β, k are constants.
- A. Gemant (1936) discussed the use of half differentials in rheology, but deemed it simply to be a useful mathematical symbol in later papers.
- G. W. Scott Blair (1939; 1947) greatly expanded Nutting's work, proposed the use of "intermediate" fractional differential equations through the principle of intermediacy and termed ψ a "quasi-property".
 - Quasi-properties are a class of quantities that differ from each other in dimensions of [M], [L] and [T]. For example the quantity $E\lambda^{\alpha}$ to be seen later. (*G* and η are special cases of a quasi-property for $\alpha = 0$ and $\alpha = 1$ respectively). Units of Quasi-properties: Pa s^{α}
- Bagley & Torvik, Koeller and Nonenmacher considered using springpot elements and constructing thermodynamically consistent constitutive models, and studied their response under various deformations.
- Schiessel & Blumen, and Heymans & Bauwens showed "tree" and "ladder" models can be reduced to fractional constitutive equations.
- Podlubny has contributed much to the physical meaning of fractional derivatives and numerical techniques to solve fractional differential equations (including MATLAB codes).

- G. W. S. Blair, B. C. Veinoglou and J. E. Caffyn, Proc. Roy. Soc. Lond. A (1947), 189: 69-87
- R. L. Bagley, AIAA Journal, (1988) 27:1412-1417
- R. L. Bagley and P. J Torvik, J. Rheol. (1986), 30: 133-155
- H. Schiessel and A. Blumen, J. Phys. Math, Gen. (1993), 26:5057-5069
- N. Heymans 29/10 J. C. Bauwens, Rheol. Acta. (1994) 33:210-219
- ** I. Podlubny, *Fractional Differential Equations*, 1999 (Academic Press)

P. G. Nutting, J. Franklin Inst. (1921), **191**:679 and P. G. Nutting, Proc. Amer. Soc. Test. Mater. (1921), **21:**1162



A Rheological Example



- Filler-matrix interactions (e.g. in filled elastomers)
- Hydrogen-bond interactions, hydrophobic "stickers",...







"I am never content until I have constructed a mechanical model of the subject I am studying....

I often say that when you can measure what you are speaking about and express it in numbers, you know something about it; but when you cannot measure it, when you cannot express it in numbers, your knowledge is of a meager and unsatisfactory kind",

1897 William Thomson (Baron Kelvin), A Dictionary of Scientific Quotations (Oxford)



Mathematical Definitions: Fractional Calculus

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}^{n}}{\mathrm{d}t^{n}} \rightarrow \frac{\mathrm{d}^{\alpha}}{\mathrm{d}t^{\alpha}} \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \quad \text{Example:} \quad \frac{d^{1/2}}{dt^{1/2}} \left\{ \frac{d^{1/2}x}{dt^{1/2}} \right\} = \frac{d^{1}x}{dt^{1}}$$
Caputo Derivative:
$$\frac{d^{\alpha}\gamma(t)}{dt^{\alpha}} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(m-\alpha)} \int_{0}^{t} (t-t')^{m-\alpha-1} \gamma^{(m)}(t') \, dt' \quad m = [m-\alpha) \quad (Could t')$$

 α

$$\text{If } 0 < \alpha < 1 \qquad \qquad \frac{d^{\alpha}\gamma(t)}{dt^{\alpha}} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \int_{0}^{t} \frac{(t-t')^{-\alpha}\dot{\gamma}(t') \ dt'}{G(t) = \frac{\sigma(t)}{\gamma_{0}} \sim t^{-\alpha}}$$

The fractional derivative is a linear operator: $\frac{d^{\alpha}}{dt^{\alpha}}[f_1(t) + cf_2(t)] = \frac{d^{\alpha}}{dt^{\alpha}}f_1(t) + c\frac{d^{\alpha}}{dt^{\alpha}}f_2(t)$

 $\mathbf{0}$

Laplace Transform:
$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{d^{\alpha}}{dt^{\alpha}}\gamma(t);s\right\} = s^{\alpha}\tilde{\gamma}(s) - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} s^{\alpha-k-1}\gamma^{(k)}(0), \ n-1 < \alpha \le n$$

Fourier Transform:
$$\mathcal{F}\left\{\frac{d^{\alpha}}{dt^{\alpha}}\gamma(t);\omega\right\} = (i\omega)^{\alpha}\tilde{\gamma}(\omega)$$

I. Podlubny, Fractional Differential Equations, *Academic Press*, 1999

T. Surguladze, J. Math. Sci., (2002), 112: 4517-4557

T. Nonnenmacher, *Rheological Modelling: Thermodynamical and* Statistical Approaches, (1991), 7:309-320 • We incorporate these fractional derivatives into constitutive equations by generalizing the ideas of **springs and dashpots** The Springpot as an Intermediate Element

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- The idea that material time (or *rheological time*) inside the sample evolves in a different way than laboratory (Newtonian) time
 - Time derivatives become non-local quantities (Podlubny et al., JCP 2009)
 - Geometric & physical interpretation (Podlubny, FCAA, 2002)



GEOMETRIC AND PHYSICAL INTERPRETATION ... Fractional Calculus and Applied Analysis **5**(4), 2002



Figure 1: The "fence" and its shadows: ${}_0I_t^1f(t)$ and ${}_0I_t^{\alpha}f(t)$, for $\alpha = 0.75$, $f(t) = t + 0.5\sin(t)$, $0 \le t \le 10$.



The Fractional Maxwell Model (FMM)







• Reduces correctly to Maxwell Model for α = 1 and β = 0





The Mittag-Leffler Function



• Response of the FMM to a Step Strain? $\gamma(t) = \gamma_0 H(t)$

Relaxation modulus for FMM $G(t) = \mathbb{G}t^{-\beta}E_{\alpha-\beta,1-\beta}\left(-\left(\frac{t}{\lambda}\right)^{\alpha-\beta}\right)$

• Where $E_{a,b}(z)$ is the *Generalized Mittag-Leffler* function

$$E_{a,b}(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^k}{\Gamma(ak+b)}$$

Examples

$$E_{1,1}(-z) = e^{-z}$$

$$E_{1/2,1}(z) = e^{z^2} \operatorname{erfc}(-z)$$

$$E_{2,1}(z) = \cosh(\sqrt{z})$$



Gostya Mittag-Leffler (1846 – 1927)

Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences

Fellow of Royal Soc.

Member of the Nobel Prize Committee (1903) {Marie Curie}

- MLF asymptotes:
 - Stretched Exponential at short times
 - Power-law relaxation at long times

(Here I have set $\beta = 0$, but this result is general)



- Quasi-properties provide a 'snapshot' and quantitative measure of the spectrum of the dynamical relaxation processes taking place inside a real material
 - Different formulations may have not only different "values", of the quasi-property of interest and also <u>different dimensional units</u>!



 $\lambda_{characteristic} \sim (\mathbb{V}/\mathbb{G})^{1/(\alpha-\beta)}$

Consistent with the common (pragmatic) practice of comparing:

- "the viscosity at $\dot{\gamma} = 1 \text{s}^{-1}$
 - "residual stress after 10minutes relaxation"
 - "The dynamic modulus at ω = 1rad/s

 $G(t) \sim V t^{-\alpha}$: V has units [Pa.s^{\alpha}]

$$G(t_{ref}) = \left(\mathbb{V}t_{ref}^{-\alpha} \right) \left(t/t_{ref} \right)^{-\alpha}$$

Reported value



Versatility of Two Element Fractional Models Fourier Transform to evaluate complex modulus







Critical Gels (& beyond criticality)





Data from Winter, H. H. & Chambon, F. 1986, Analysis of linear viscoelasticity of a crosslinking polymer at the gel point. *Journal of Rheology* **30**, 367–382.

• Only **three** parameters required to capture the behavior of the time-evolving cross-linking reaction beyond the gel point.

| $t-t_c \ [\min]$ | lpha | $\mathbb{V} \left[\mathrm{Pa} \ \mathrm{s}^{\alpha} \right]$ | \mathbb{G} [Pa] |
|------------------|------|---|-------------------|
| 0 | 0.52 | 367.3 | 13.97 |
| 10^{2} | 0.44 | 1512 | 42.07 |
| 10^{6} | 0.32 | 9596 | 1283 |







LM10Pa

LM130Pa

0.362

0.190

78.61

1038.74

6444.09

4835.88

Only *three* parameters required ($\beta = 0$) to capture the rheological behavior of these protein gels across the whole experimental range of data.

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Power-Laws Everywhere!



• The human body is a collection of soft solids, complex fluids and power-law rheology





Versatility of Two-Element Fractional Models: Data





Cervical Mucus

Quasiproperty strongly correlated with preterm birth risk Grace Yao, AJ, GHM et al., PLoS ONE, 2013

Mamaku Gum (Black Fern) Jaishankar A., Wee M., McKinley G.H., *et al.*, SOR Pasadena, 2013

Silicone Pressure Sensitive Adhesive

Data from Wyatt N.B., Grillet A.M., Hughes L.G., SOR 2013



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Predictions Using Fractional Material Response









- Limited to description of *linear viscoelastic properties*; need to incorporate finite strain deformations
- Formulation of the Fractional Upper Convected Maxwell Model (FUCM)
 - Correctly done by Yang, Lam & Zhou JNNFM 2010

 $\tau_{ij} = \tau_{[0]ij}(\boldsymbol{r}, t, t) = \int_0^t G(t - t'') \gamma_{[1]ij}(\boldsymbol{r}, t, t'') dt'',$ where G(t) is the relaxation modulus:

 $G(t) = E\left(\frac{t}{\lambda}\right)^{\alpha-\beta} E_{\alpha,1-\beta+\alpha}\left[-\left(\frac{t}{\lambda}\right)^{\alpha}\right].$

P(x,t)



- Measurements show that the Cox-Merz Rule is alive and well
 - V. Sharma, B. Keshavarz, GHM In Prep (2013)
- Time-Strain Separability appears to hold
 - Bread Dough; Roger Tanner & coworkers (2002-2012)
 - Gluten Gels; Trevor S.-K. Ng & GHM, J. Rheol (2008, 2010)
 - Kidney Tissue; Palierne & coworkers, J. Biomech (2010)
- (Non)Brownian Dynamics of Dumbbells/Network Segments
 - Modify underlying dynamics from usual Weiner process
 - Instead sample from a Mittag-Leffler Distribution

Tull Thang, Lin Zhou & Pam Cook, Paper GS13, Wed. 2:20pm





- The language of *fractional calculus, spring-pots* and *quasi-properties* provide an ontology for describing the properties of real-world soft materials
 - Quantitatively capture the linear viscoelastic properties of real materials in a compact format
 - Analytic expressions are available for creep, LVE, step strain (*Mittag-Leffler function*)...
- The familiar Maxwell and Kelvin-Voigt models are thus **special cases** of a more general (and more generally applicable) class of <u>fractional LVE models</u>
- Quasi-properties differ from material to material in the dimensions of mass M, length L and time T, depending on the power α. It may thus be argued (G.W. Scott Blair *et al.*) that they are not true material properties because they contain non-integer powers of the fundamental dimensions of space and time.
- Such quasi-properties appear to compactly describe textural parameters such as the 'firmness' and 'tackiness' of real-world material.

They are numerical measures of a dynamical process (such as creep or relaxation) in a material rather than of an equilibrium state.





• Spring-pots and quasi-properties form the common language for transliteration between fractional calculus and important *technological properties* (Reiner, 1964)





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