

ELASTOMER RATE-DEPENDENCE: A TESTING AND MATERIAL MODELING METHODOLOGY

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Overview

- **Motivation and Background**
- **Testing Comments**
- **Stress-relaxation Testing**
- **Prony Series Viscoelasticity**
- **Family of Constant Strain-Rate Testing**
- **Summary and Conclusions**

Motivation and Background

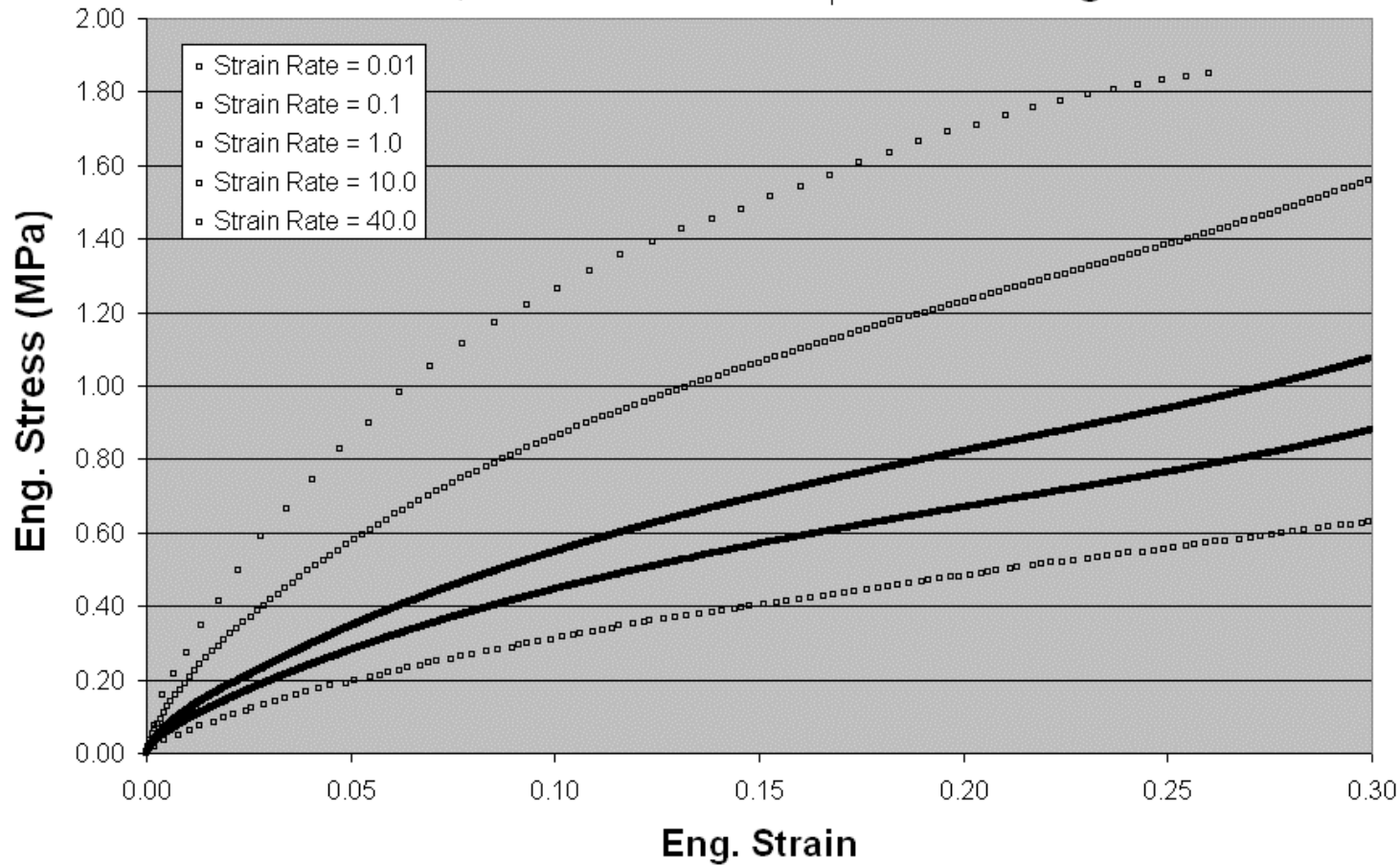
- **Time-dependence of Elastomers**
- **Stress Relaxation curve fitting exists in Abaqus/CAE for Prony series viscoelastic material definition**
- **Well defined recipe**
- **Relatively common for sealing applications (long time)**

- **New application for time domain dynamic impact events**
- **Desire to capture rate-dependence of stress-strain curves**
- **Typical test data is often a family of constant strain-rate stress-strain curves**

Motivation and Background

- Typical test data for understanding rate-dependence

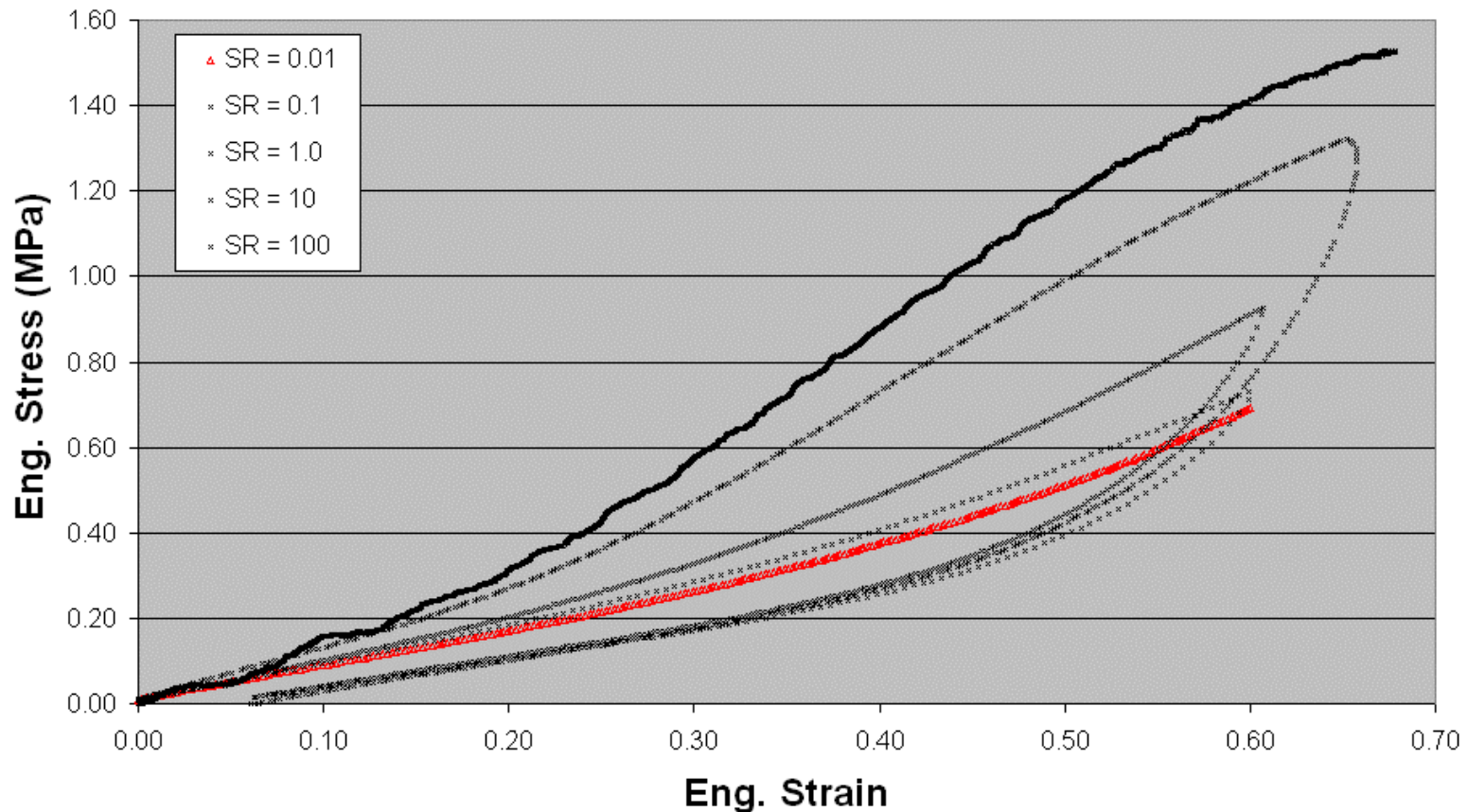
Rubber, Constant Strain-Rate Testing



Motivation and Background

- Another example of typical test data

Vinyl, 35 Durometer, Constant Strain-Rate Testing



Motivation and Background

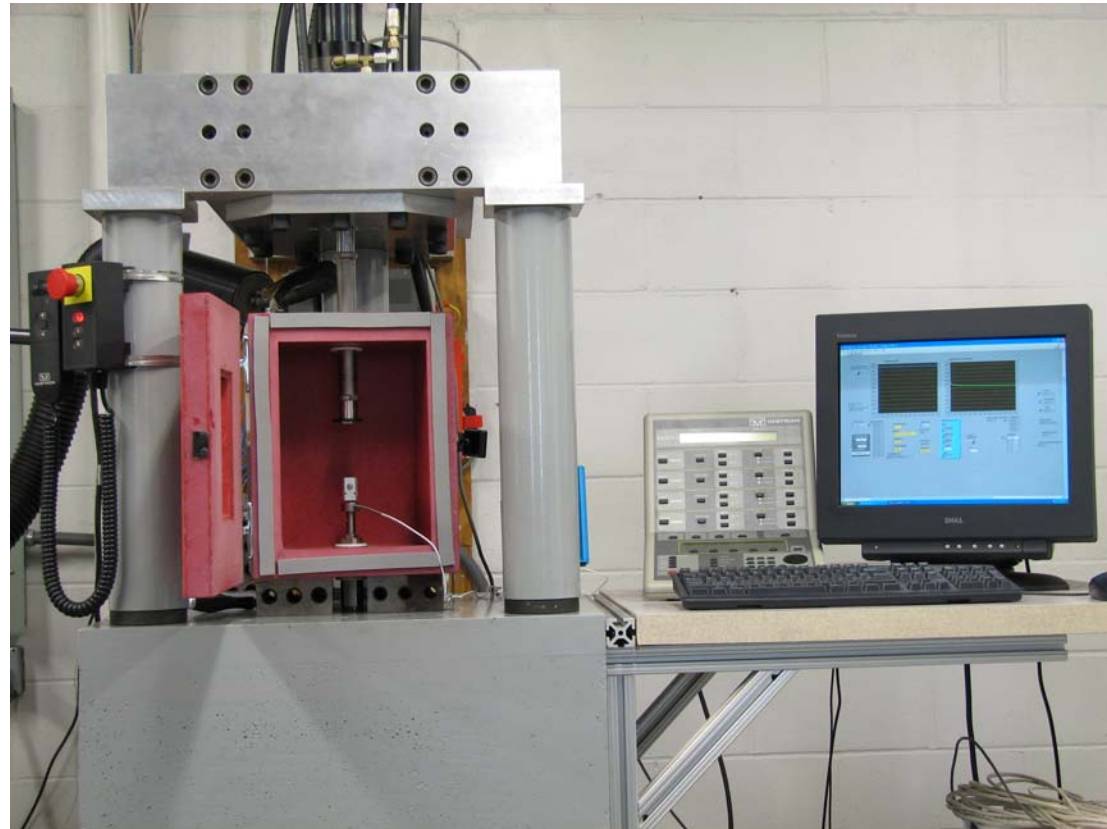
- **No curve fitting in Abaqus for this type of test data**
- **Testing itself can be more complicated than stress-relaxation testing**

- **Can we use stress-relaxation testing instead?**
- **Can we use existing curve fitting to Prony series material model?**
- **Will we capture the rate-dependence of the loading curves?**
- **Will we capture the hysteresis loops in the load / unload cycle?**

- **Focus on stress-relaxation testing at short times (milliseconds)**
- **All specimens pre-conditioned to remove Mullins effect**
- **All testing at room temperature**

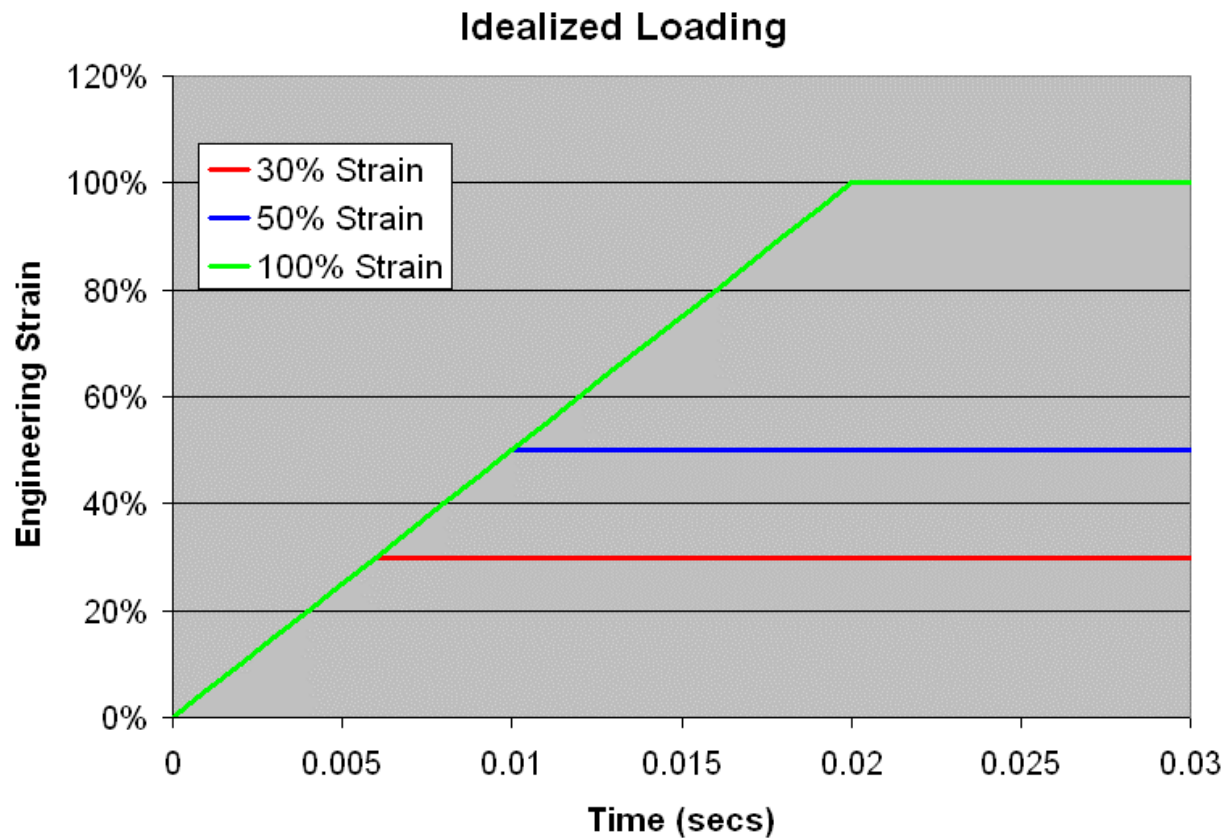
Testing Comments

- All testing performed at Axcel Products
- Instron Model 8800 Series servo-hydraulic test instrument
- Crosshead mounted 10 kN low mass high fidelity actuator



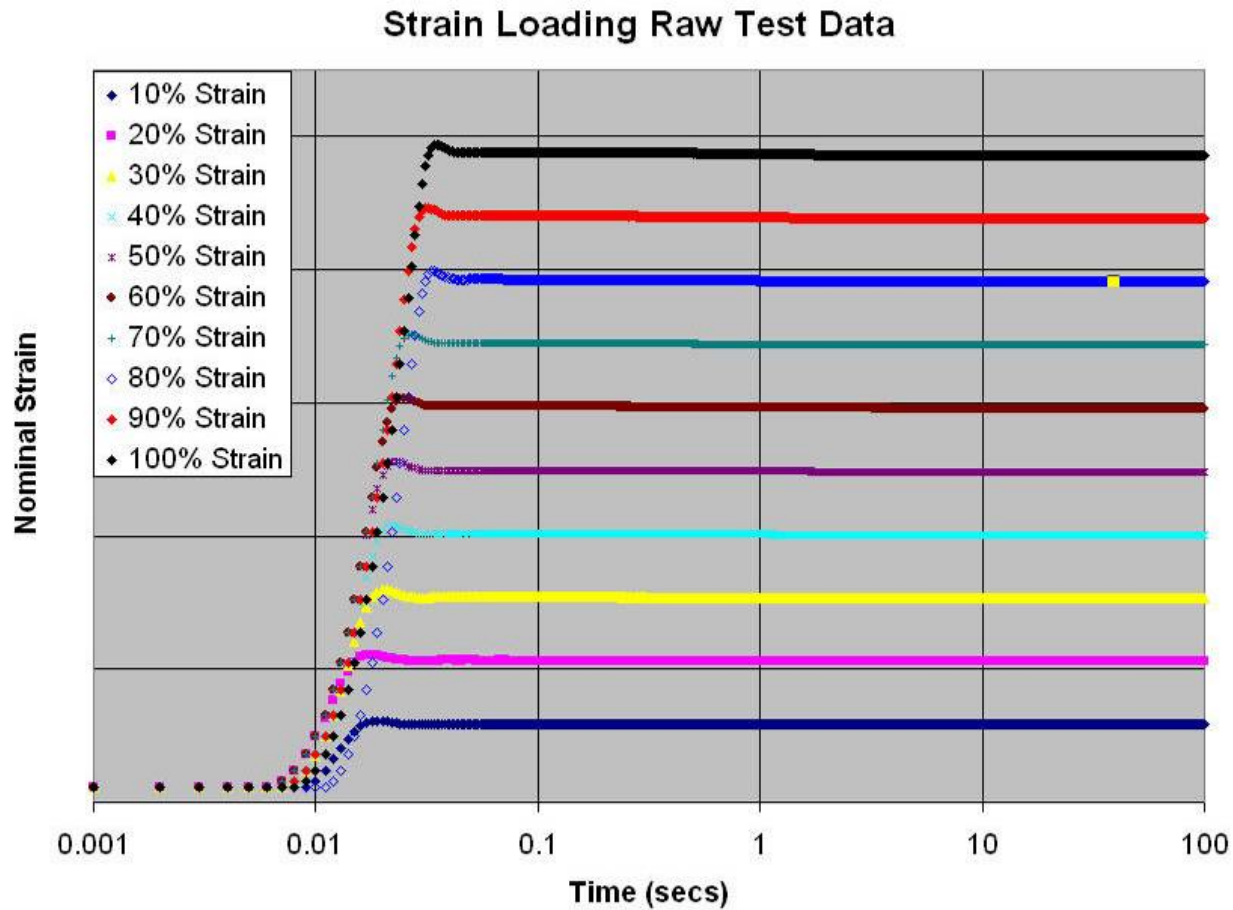
Stress Relaxation Testing

- Be consistent about time-frame of interest
- Try to achieve loading of stress-relaxation test at 50 /sec
- Test data taken every 1 millisecond



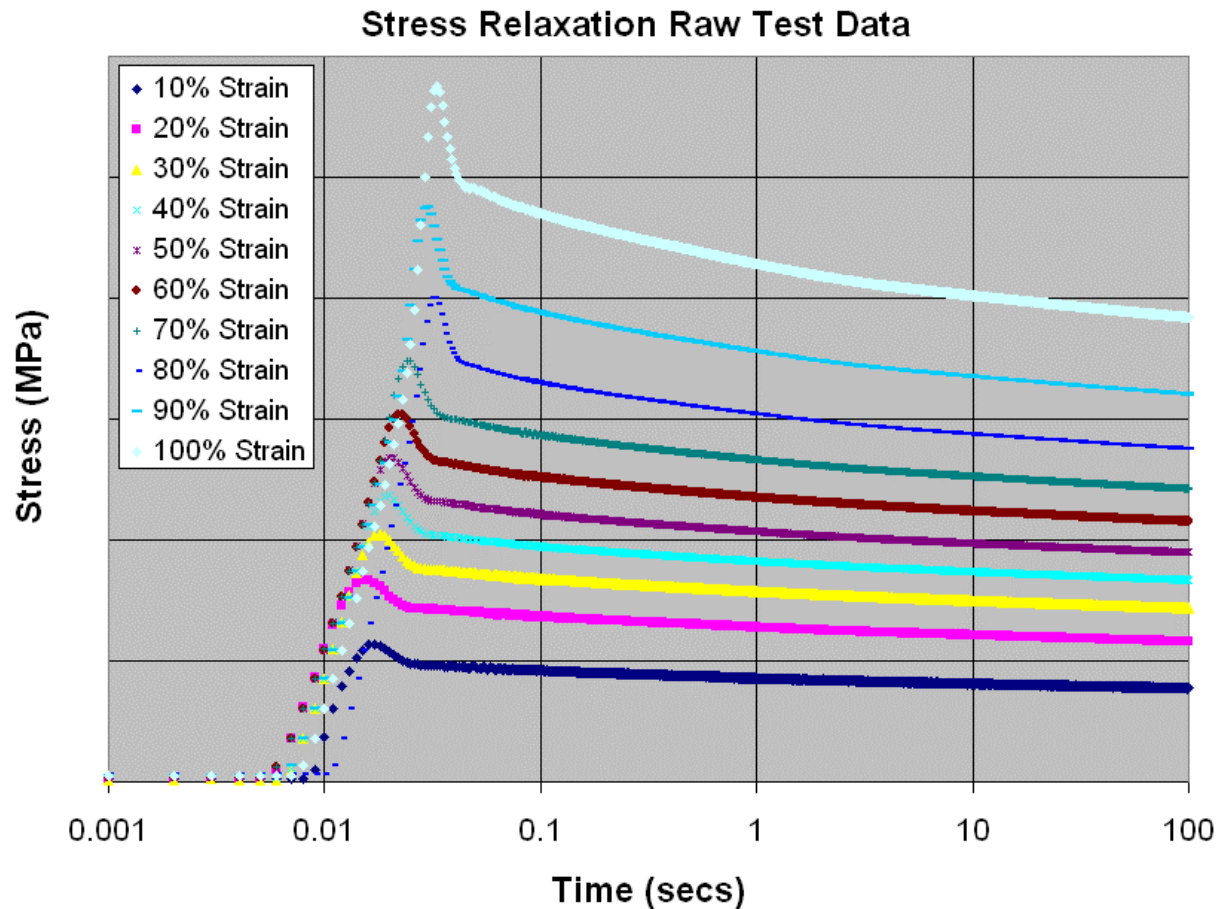
Stress Relaxation Testing

- Some actual strain-time test data - inertia effects present



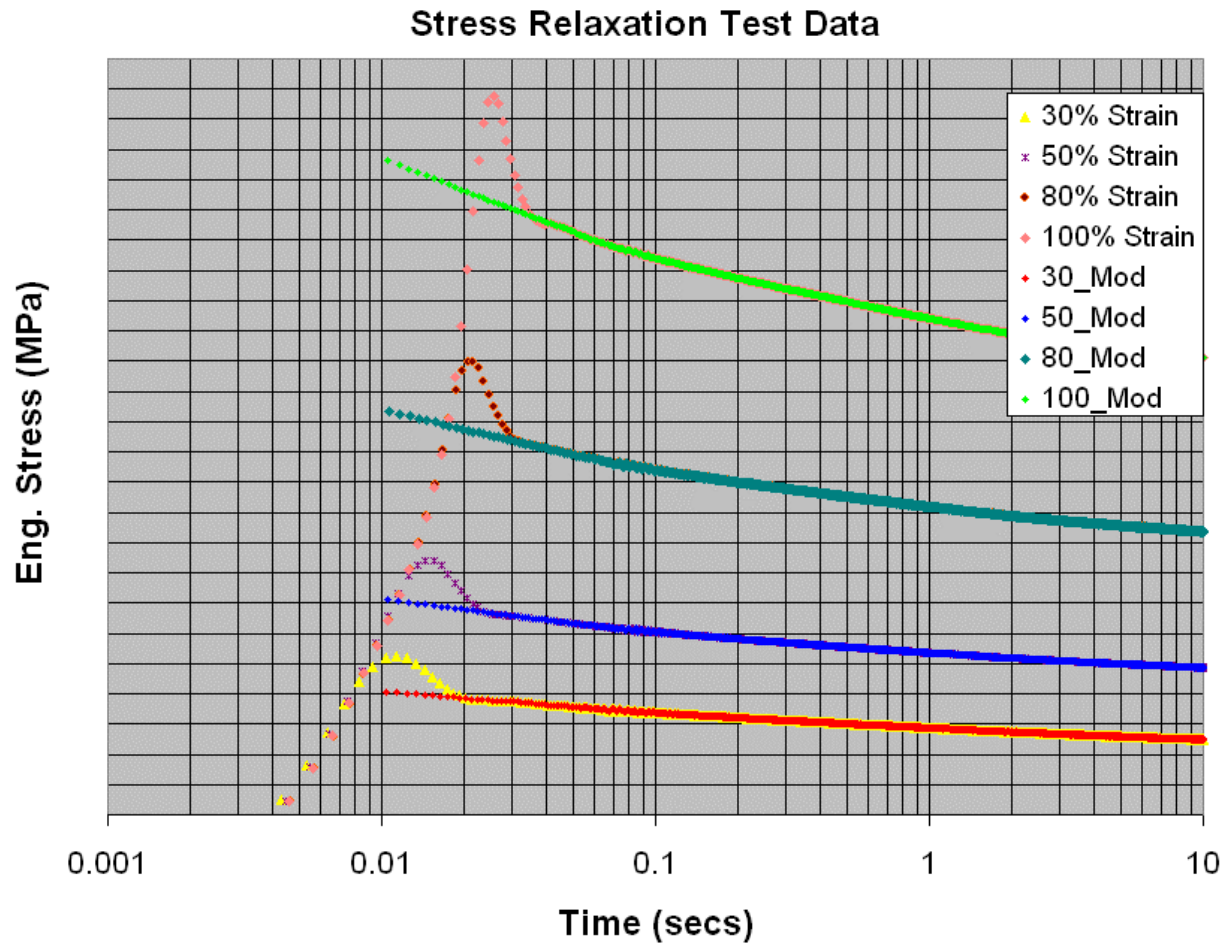
Stress Relaxation Testing

- **Corresponding Stress-time responses**



Stress Relaxation Testing

- Data processed to align start and remove overshoot



Prony Series Viscoelasticity

- In **ABAQUS** the time-dependent **behavior** $G(\tau)$ and $K(\tau)$ can be represented in terms of a **Prony series**:

$$G(\tau) = G_0 \left(1 - \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{g}_i^p \left(1 - e^{-\tau/\tau_i^G} \right) \right)$$

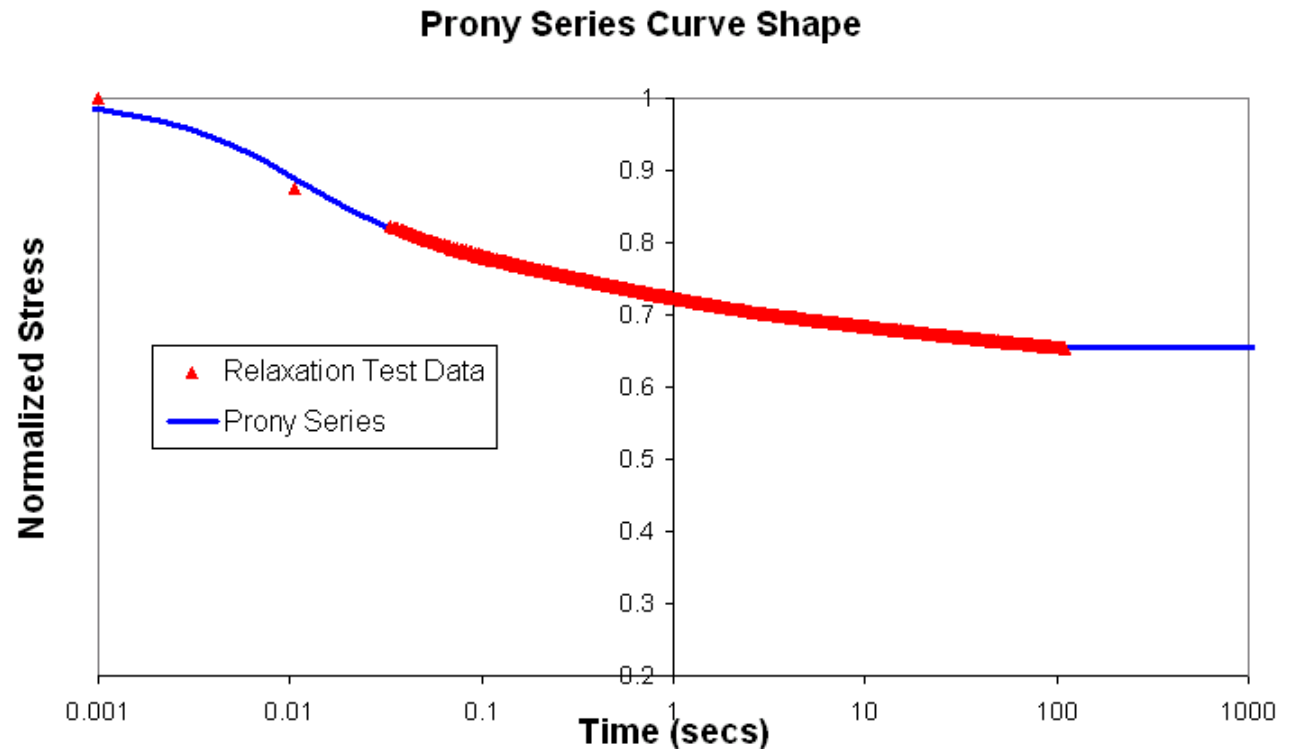
material coefficients are
up to N pairs of \bar{g}_i^p and τ_i^G

- G_0 and K_0 are determined from the elasticity definition.
- These are simply a sum of a series of exponential decays.
- For many solid elastomers, the relaxation behavior is dominated by shear relaxation. In these cases it is not necessary to specify $K(\tau)$.
- Rule of thumb is to have as many Prony terms as decades of time data.

Prony Series Viscoelasticity

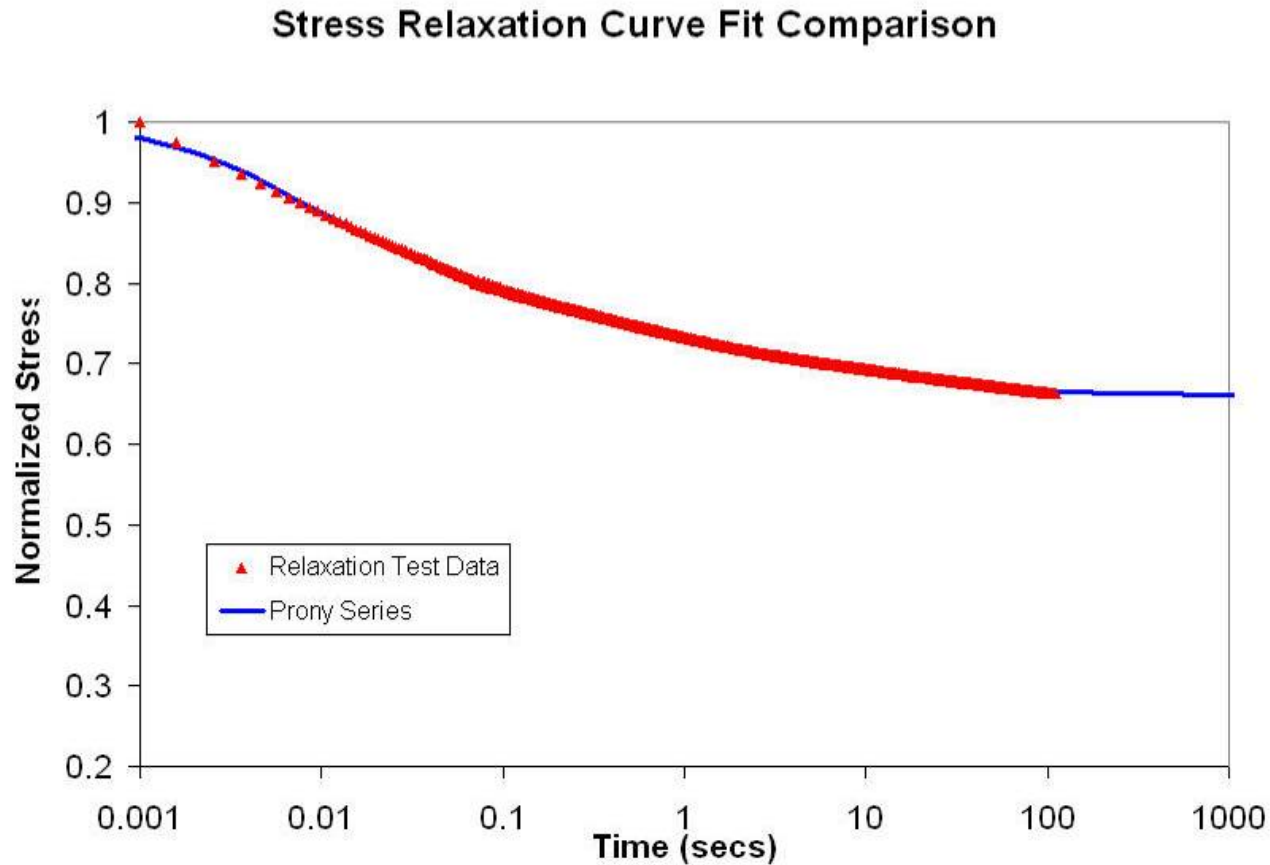
- Shape of the curve is improved with some very early time tau
- Prony series improved with early time test data

G_1	1.52E-01	Tau_1	0.01
G_2	7.26E-02	Tau_2	0.06
G_3	5.19E-02	Tau_3	0.54
G_4	3.70E-02	Tau_4	3.34
G_5	3.31E-02	Tau_5	37.80



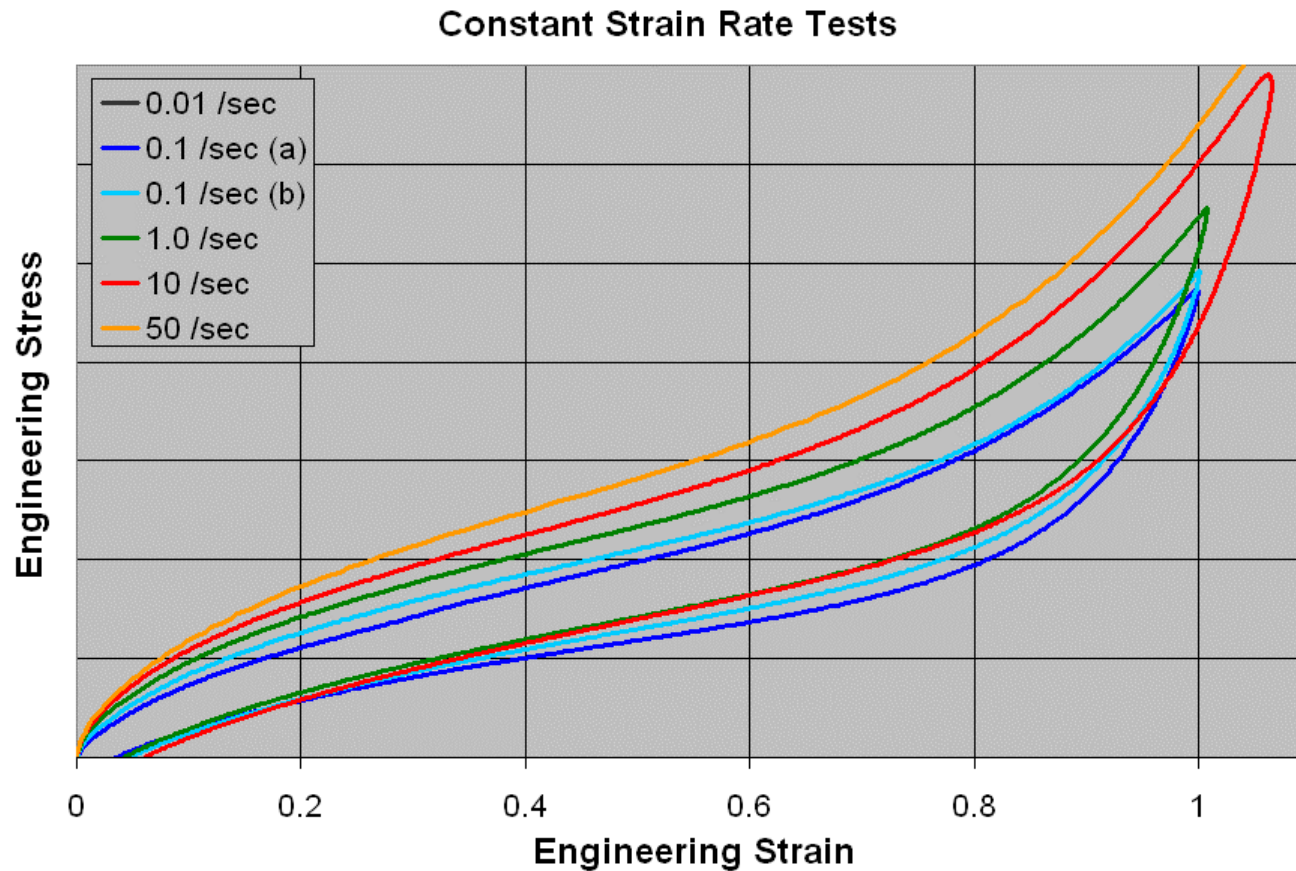
Prony Series Viscoelasticity

- **Resulting Prony Series curve fit to the stress-relaxation test data**



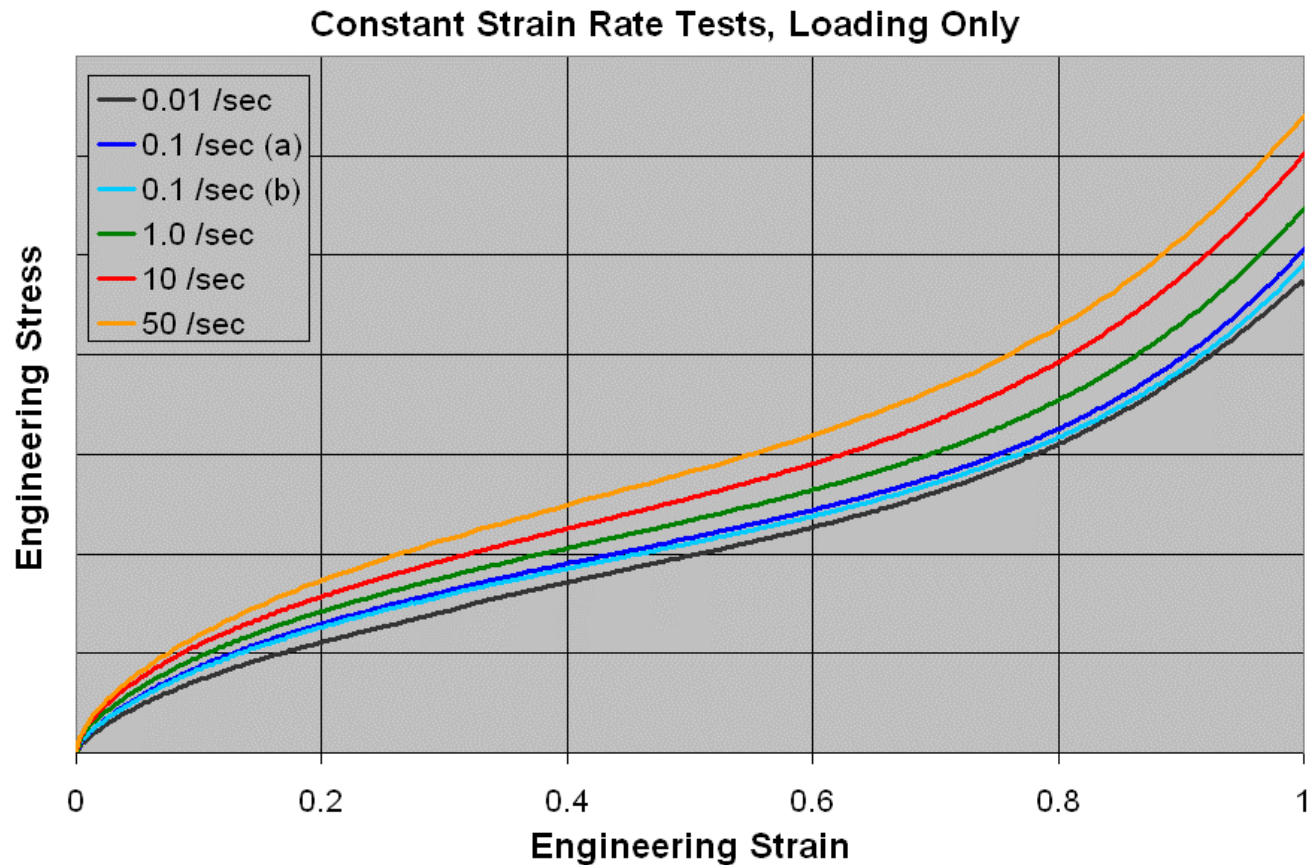
Family of Constant Strain-Rate Data

- Test Result from load / unload cycle



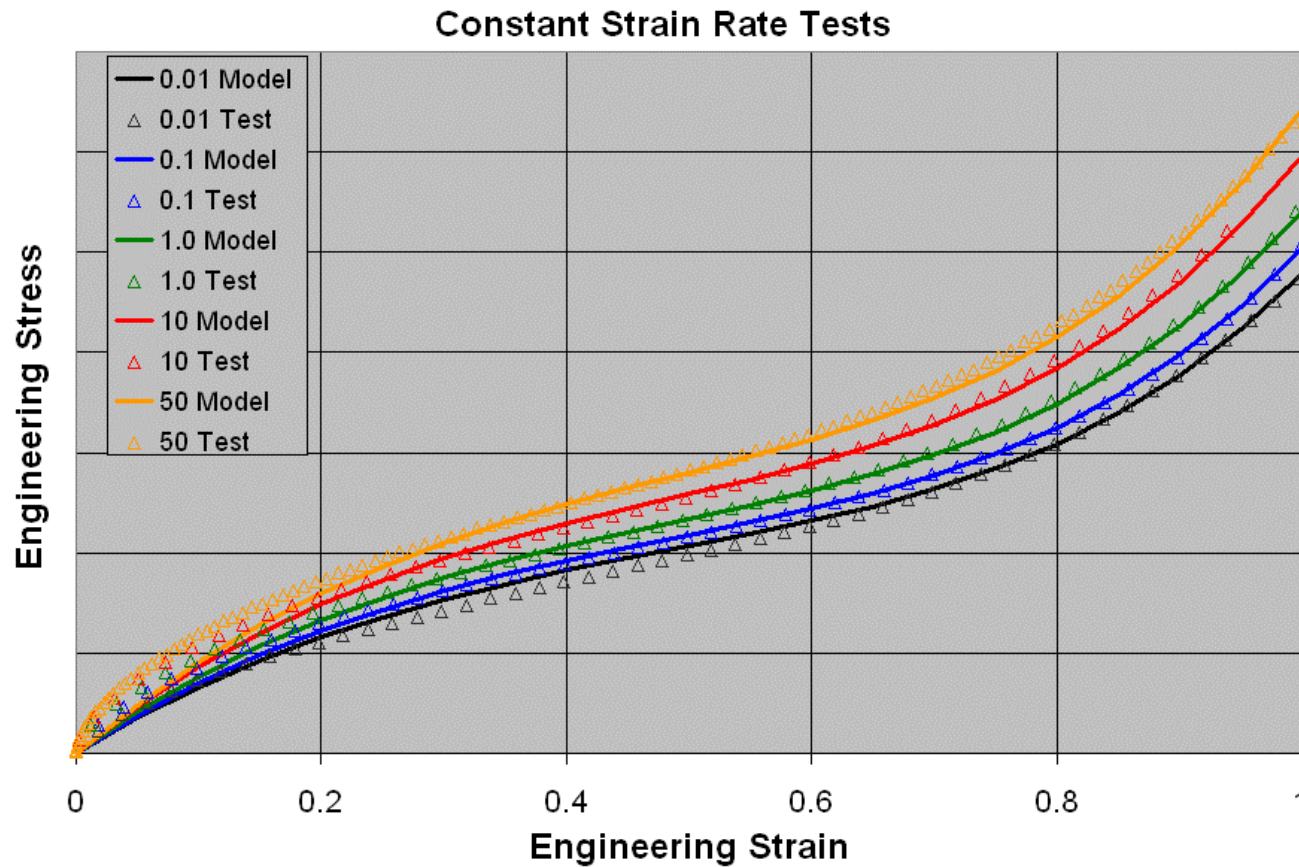
Family of Constant Strain-Rate Data

- Focus on just the load curves



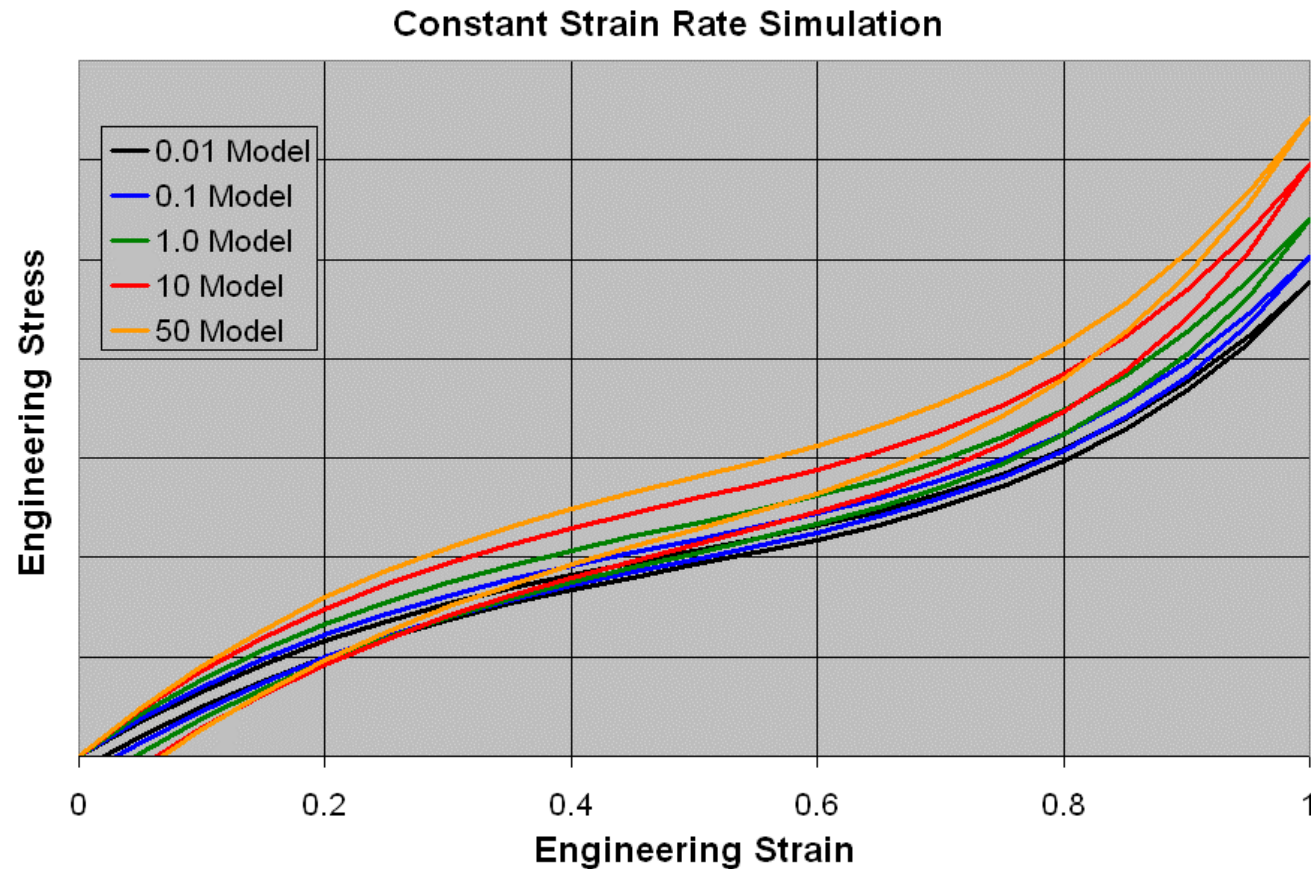
Family of Constant Strain-Rate Data

- Comparison of Prony series material model to test data



Family of Constant Strain-Rate Data

- How about the load / unload hysteresis loop?



Summary / Conclusions

- **Stress-relaxation tests were performed at short times**
- **Curve fitting in Abaqus/CAE used to calibrate Prony series viscoelasticity**
- **The material model correlated very well with the test data**

- **Family of constant strain-rate test data also performed**
- **Test data not used for calibration**
- **Prony series material mode represents load curves very well**
- **Prony series does a poor job representing the hysteresis loop**

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