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# **CONCEPTUAL PHENOMENOLOGICAL MODEL FOR INTERACTION OF ASPHALT BINDERS WITH MINERAL FILLERS**

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# Outline

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- **Background**
- **Introduction**
- **Conceptual Model**
- **Test for Free Asphalt Volume**
- **Experimental Plan**
- **Summary of Results**
- **Factors Affecting Filler Stiffening**
- **Summary of Findings and Conclusions**

# Background

- **Einstein Model for Diluted Composites (1911)**

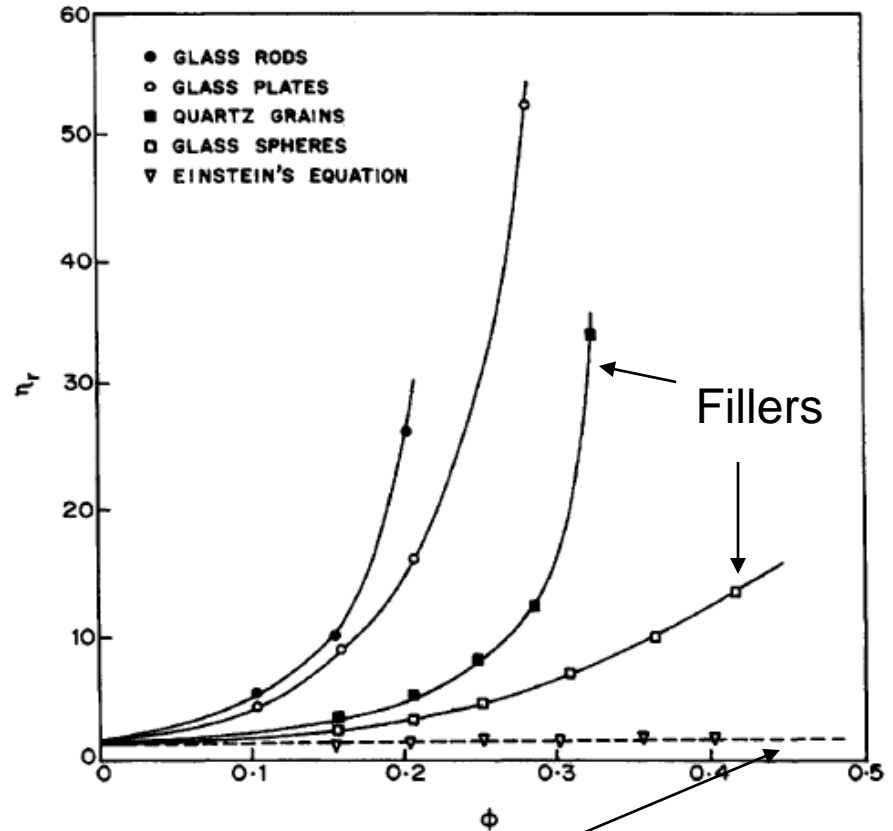
$$\eta_r = 1 + K_E \phi$$

$\eta_r$  = Viscosity of composite/  
viscosity of matrix

$K_E$  = Einstein Constant = 2.5

$\phi$ : Filler volume fraction

- Many modification to this equation have followed.



Einstein Model

After Shenoy 1999

# Background

- **The Marion–Pierce model**

$$G_{mastic}^* = G_{binder}^* \left( 1 - \frac{\phi}{\phi_m} \right)^{-2}$$

- **Nelsen Model**

$$\frac{G_c}{G_m} = \frac{1 + ABV_P}{1 - B\psi V_P}$$

$$B = \frac{\left( \frac{G_P}{G_m} \right)^{-1}}{\left( \frac{G_P}{G_m} \right)^{+A}}$$

Where A= KE-1, and

$$\psi = 1 + \frac{1 - \phi_m}{\phi_m^2} V_P$$

Filler Maximum Packing Fraction.

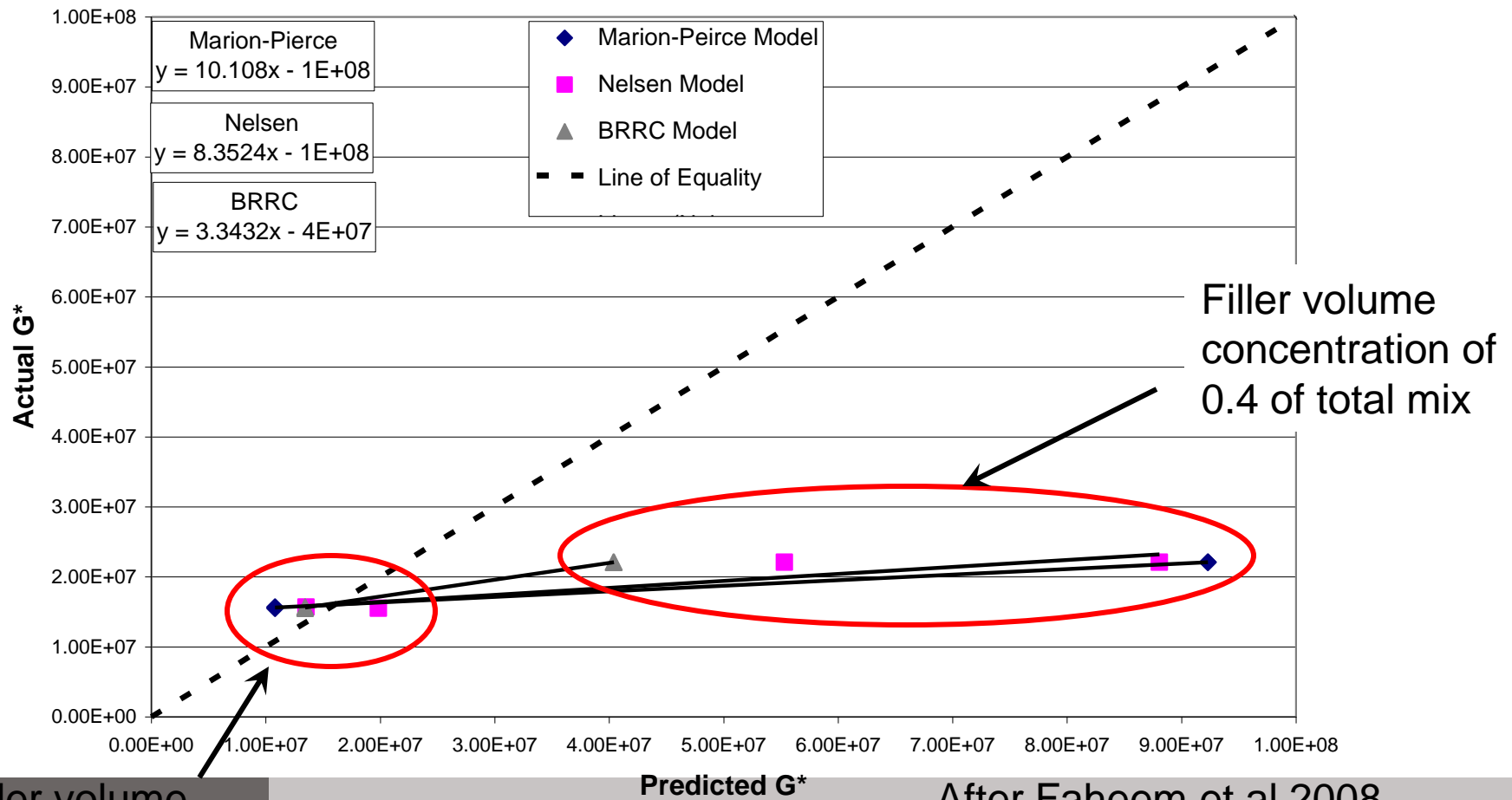
- **BRRC Model**

$$\Delta R \ \& \ B = \frac{1021.2 * K}{(100 - V_F)(1 + K)}$$

K = f/b, f = filler volume fraction (%), b = bitumen volume fraction (%) and Vf = % voids (Rigden)

# Evaluation of Models

## Evaluation of Prediction models

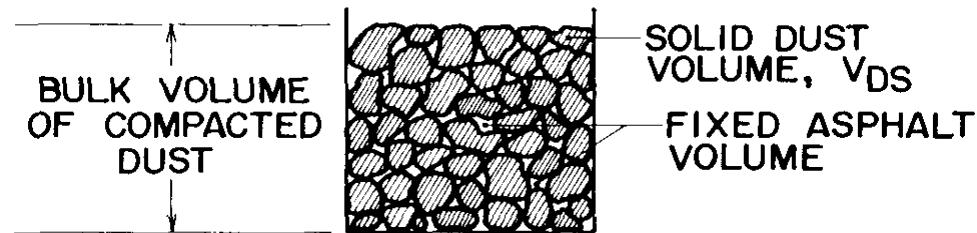


Filler volume concentration of 0.2 of total mix

After Faheem et al 2008

# Problem Statement

- Currently the filler influence on asphalt mastic is estimated using the **Fractional voids** method.



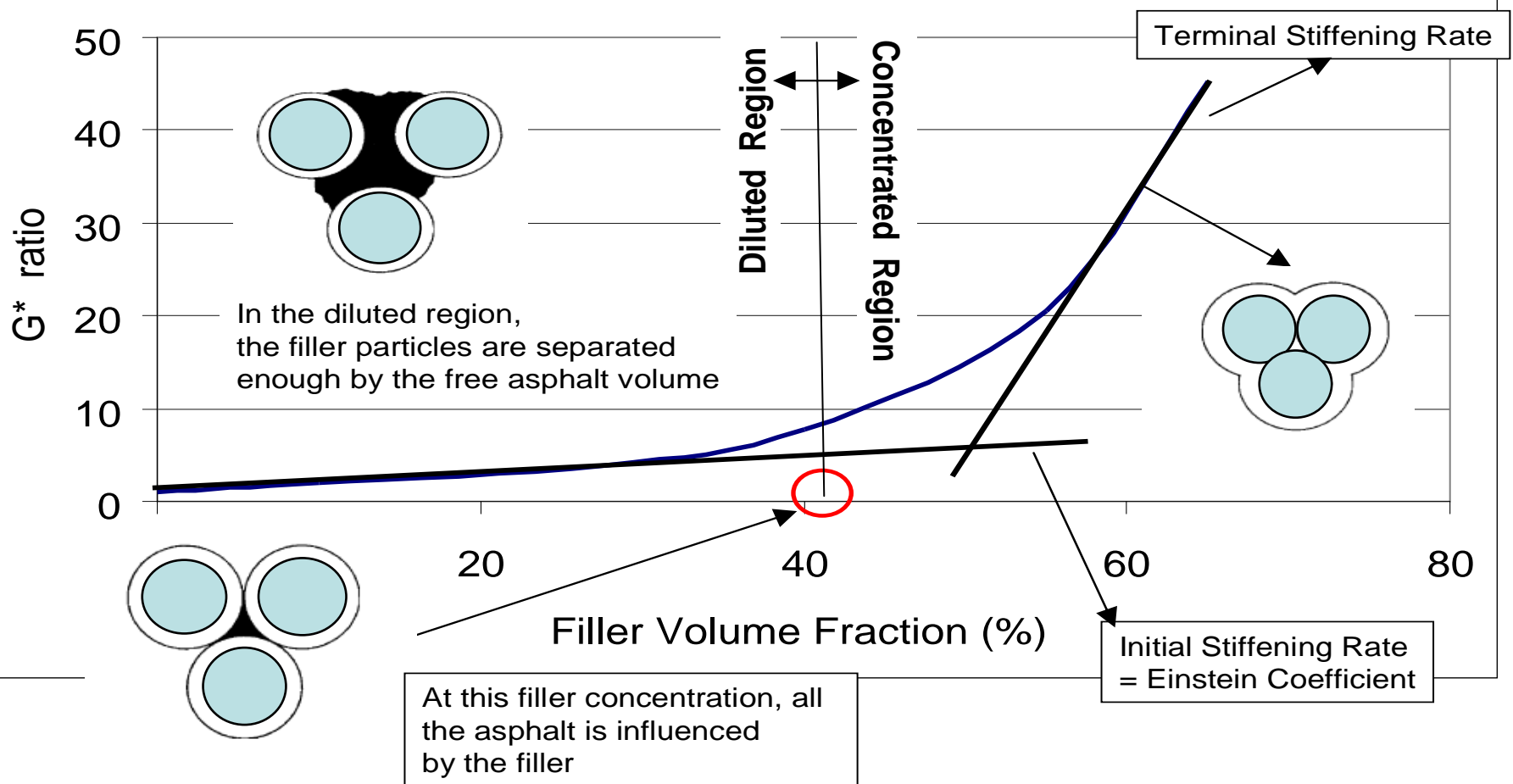
- Measures filler volume fraction at maximum mastic stiffness.
- Does not elaborate the trend of increase in stiffness as the filler concentration increases.
- Does not help identify the mechanism by which filler particles interact with the asphalt matrix.

# Hypothesis

- The filler influence in the mastic follows two regions:
  - a. **DILUTED**, where the increase in the stiffness takes a linear trend as a function of volume of filler, where the rate of increase is named: “**Initial Stiffening Rate**”
  - b. **CONCENTRATED**, where the increase in stiffness transitions to a higher rate of stiffness called: “**Terminal Stiffening Rate**”.

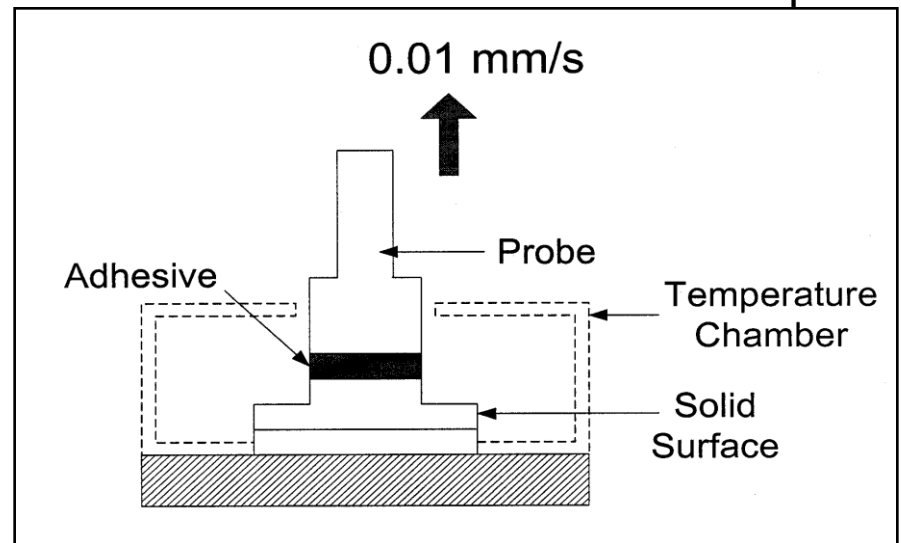
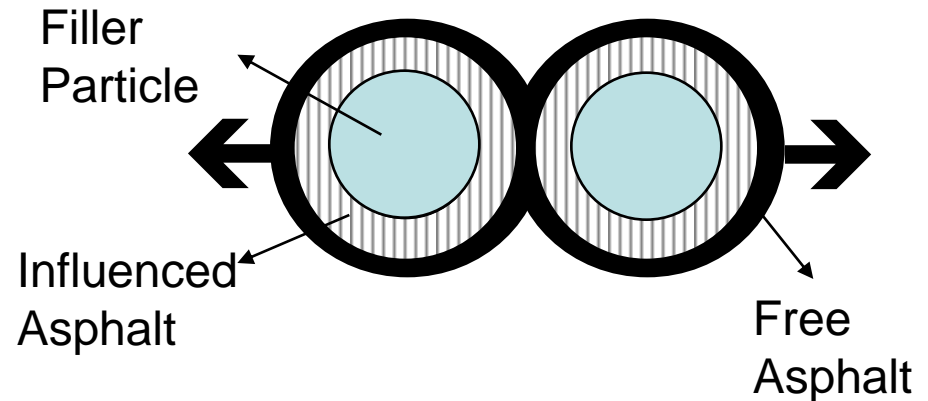
# Conceptual Model

## $G^*$ Ratio vs. Filler Volume Fraction



# Test for the Presence of Free Asphalt

- Asphalt in the mastic is divided into 2 fractions
  - Free Asphalt
  - Influenced Asphalt
- The free asphalt is holding the mastic system together



(After Kaniitpong 2004)

# Experimental Variables

	<b>Filler Properties</b>	<b>Binder Properties</b>	<b>Mastic Properties</b>
<b>Controlled Variable</b>	1- Filler source - <i>Limestone</i> - <i>Dolomite</i> - <i>Granite</i> - <i>Fly Ash</i> - <i>Carbon Black</i>	1- PG grad - <i>PG64-22</i>	1- Filler Volume Fraction - <i>5 concentrations</i>
<b>Dependent Variables</b>	1- Fractional Voids 2- Size distribution	1- Complex Shear Modulus 2- Tack Factor	1- Relative Complex Shear Modulus 2- Tack Factor

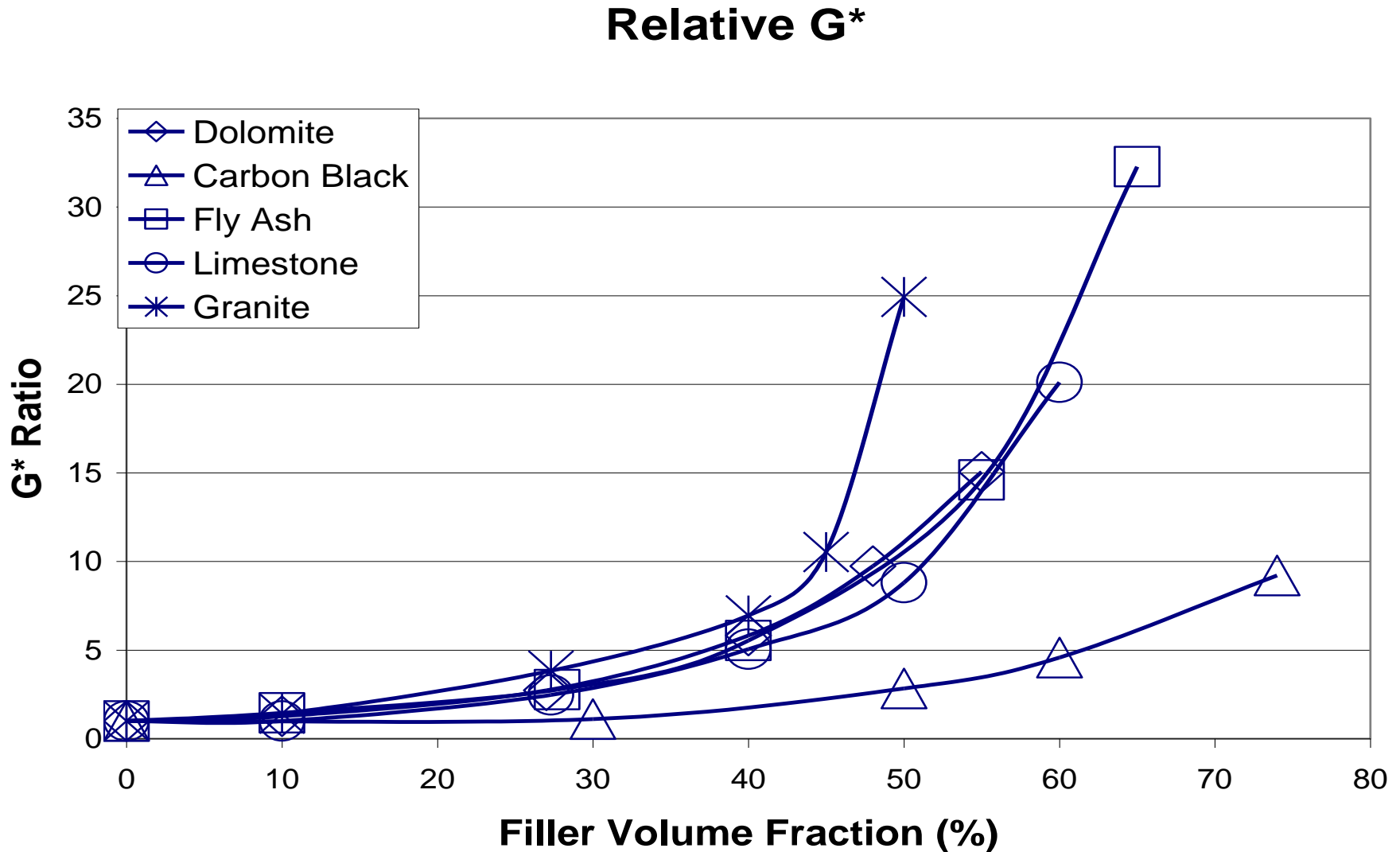
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# Summary of Results

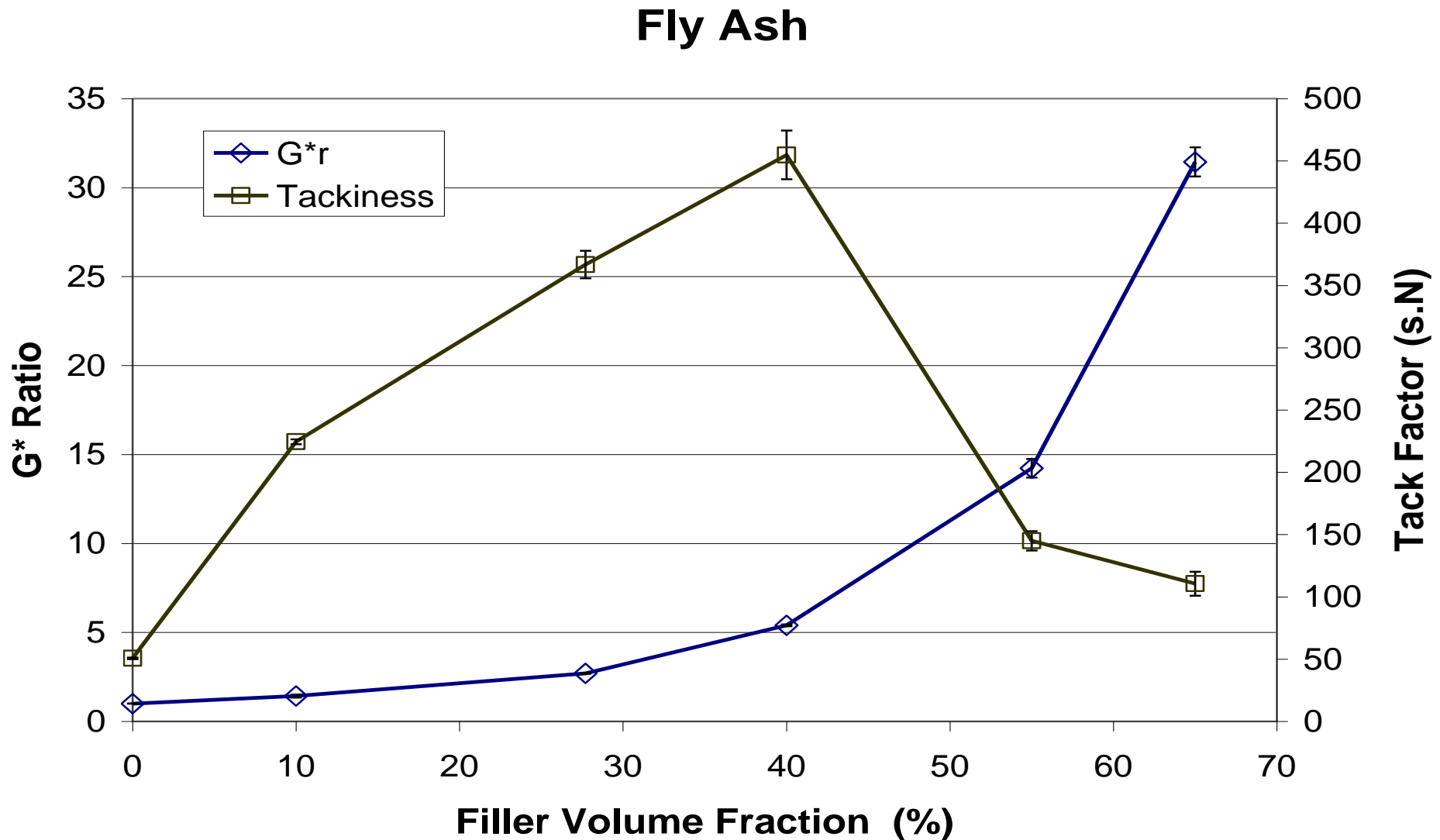
# Physical Properties of Fillers

Filler Type	Rigden Voids (%)	D10 ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	D50 ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	D90 ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	SG
Granite	38%	2.07	17.97	149.15	2.62
Type C Fly Ash	26%	0.97	9.77	49.22	2.53
Dolomite	43%	4.03	31.44	81.62	2.59
Limestone	35%	2.54	26.37	67.21	2.65
Carbon Black	11%	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.23

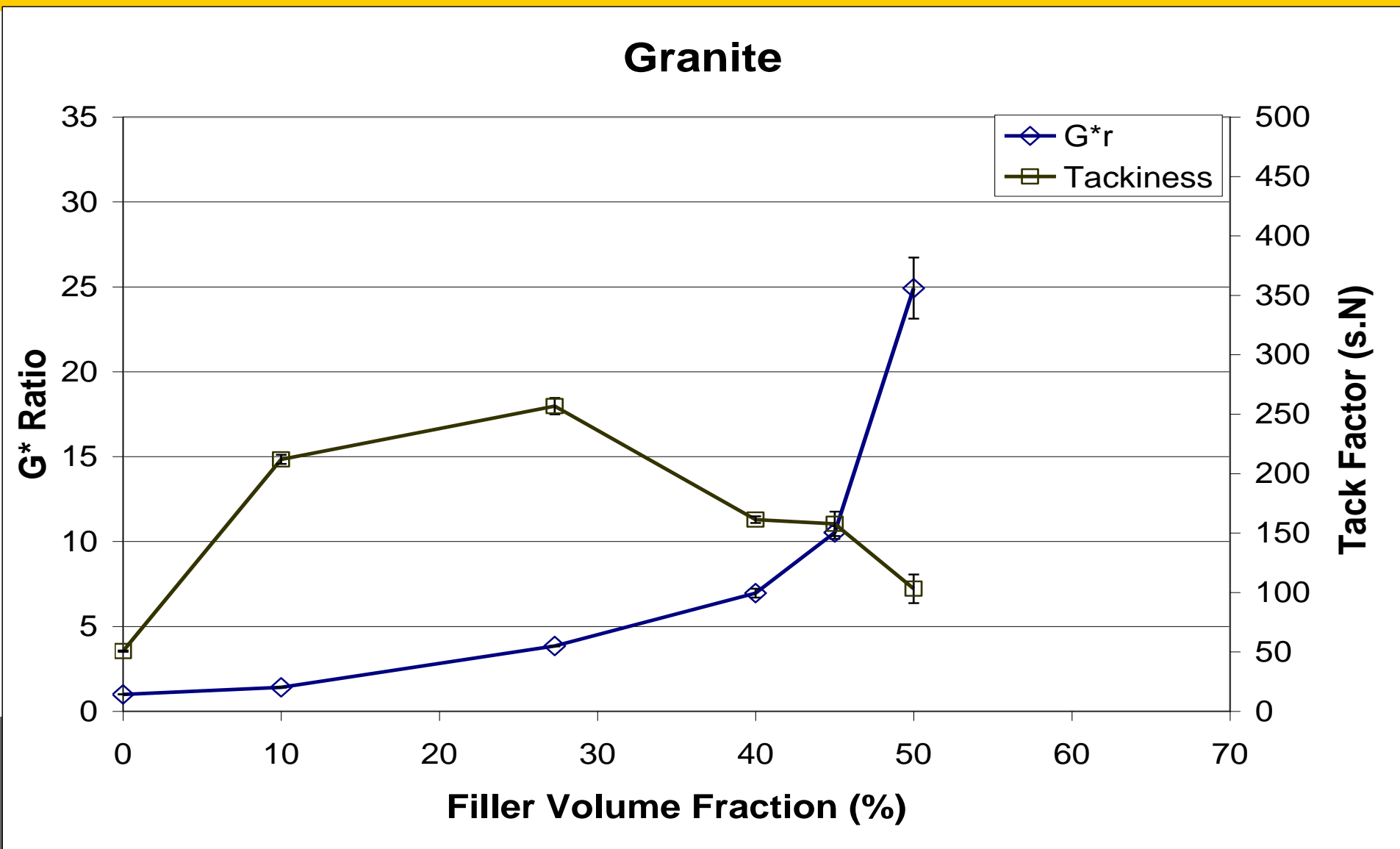
# Effect of Filler on Mastic Stiffness



# Mastic Stiffness and Tackiness

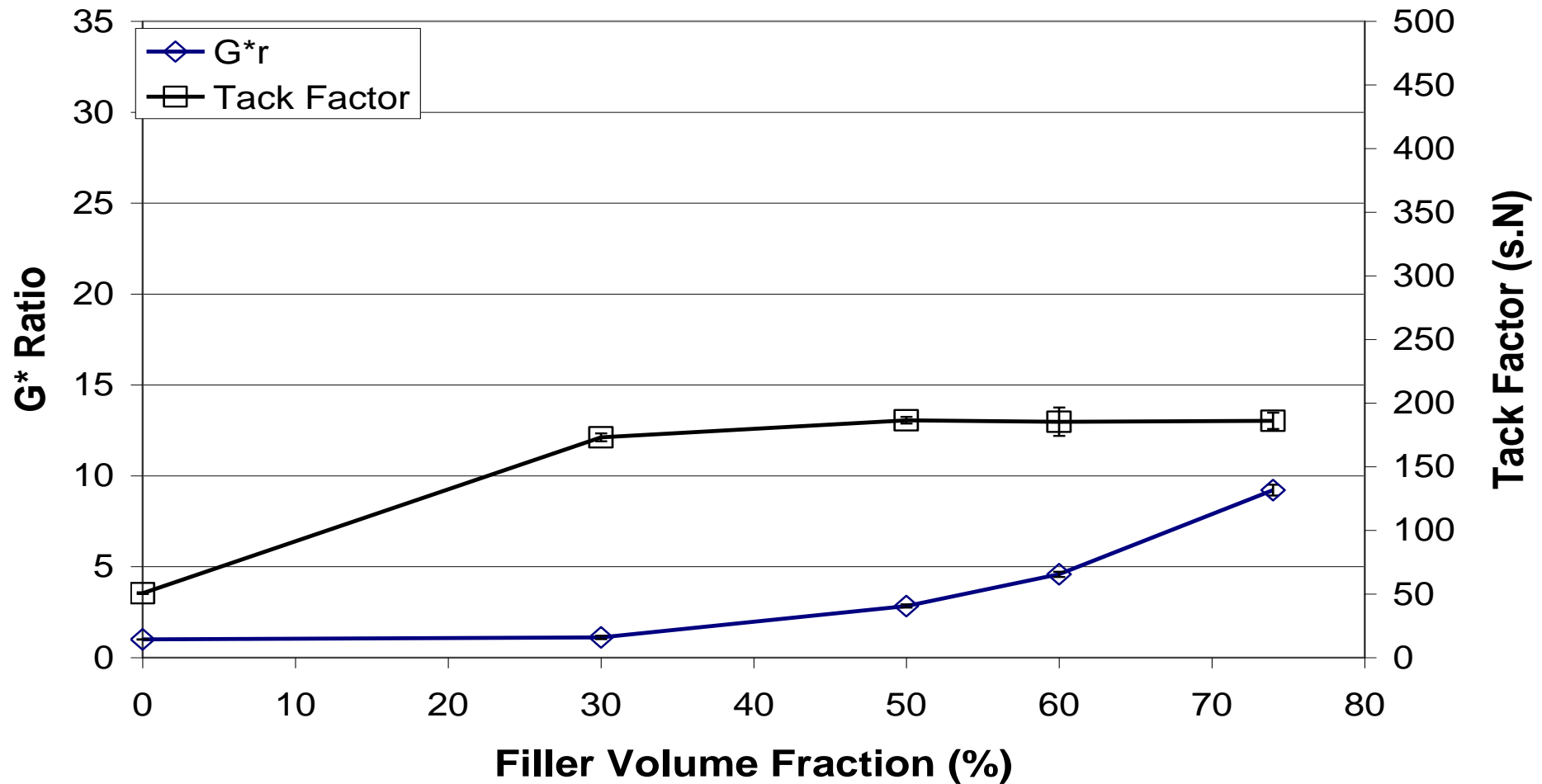


# Mastic Stiffness and Tackiness



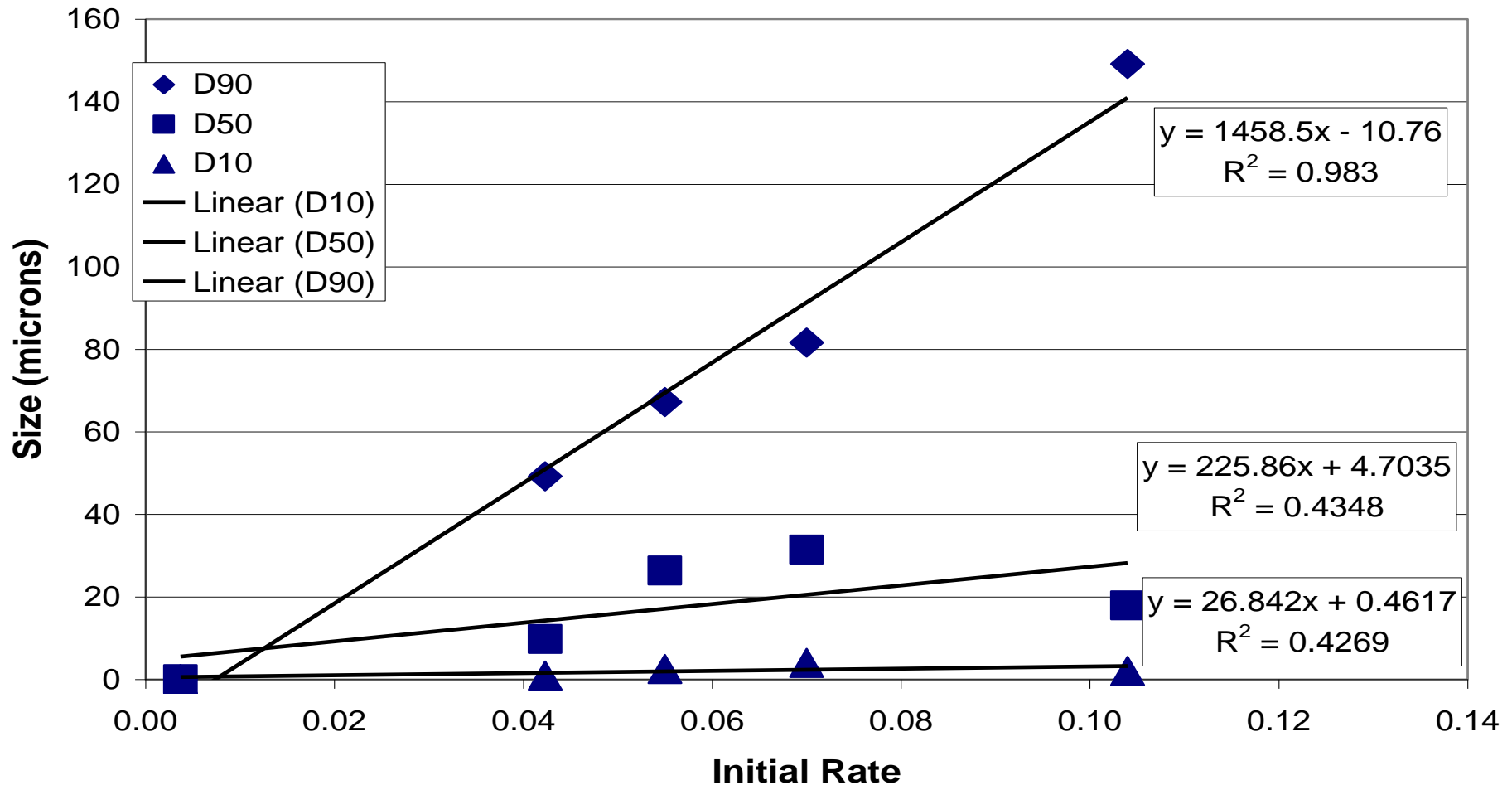
# Mastic Stiffness and Tackiness

## Carbon Black



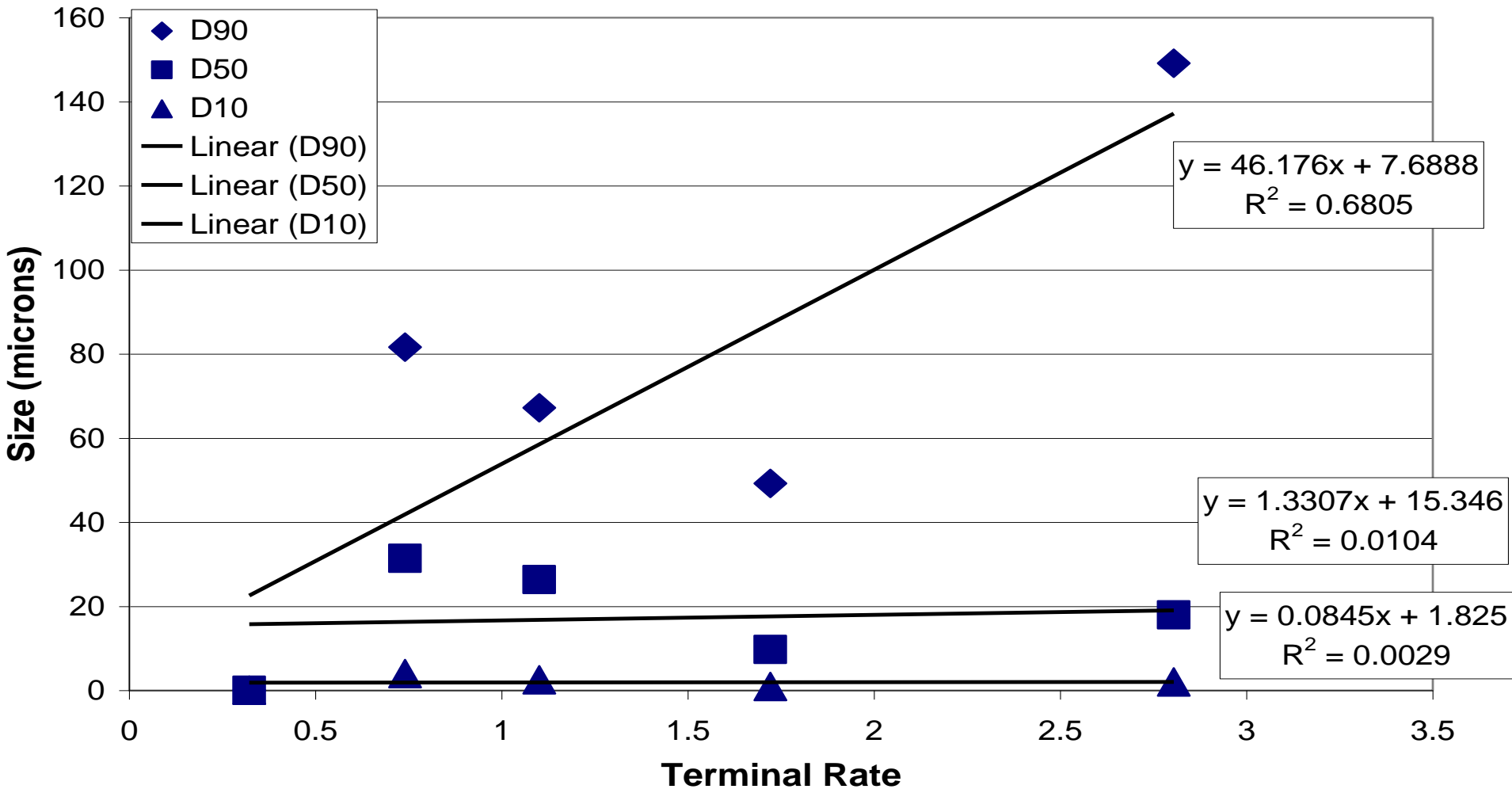
# Factors Affecting Initial and Terminal Stiffening Rates

## Effect of Filler Size on Initial Stiffening Rate



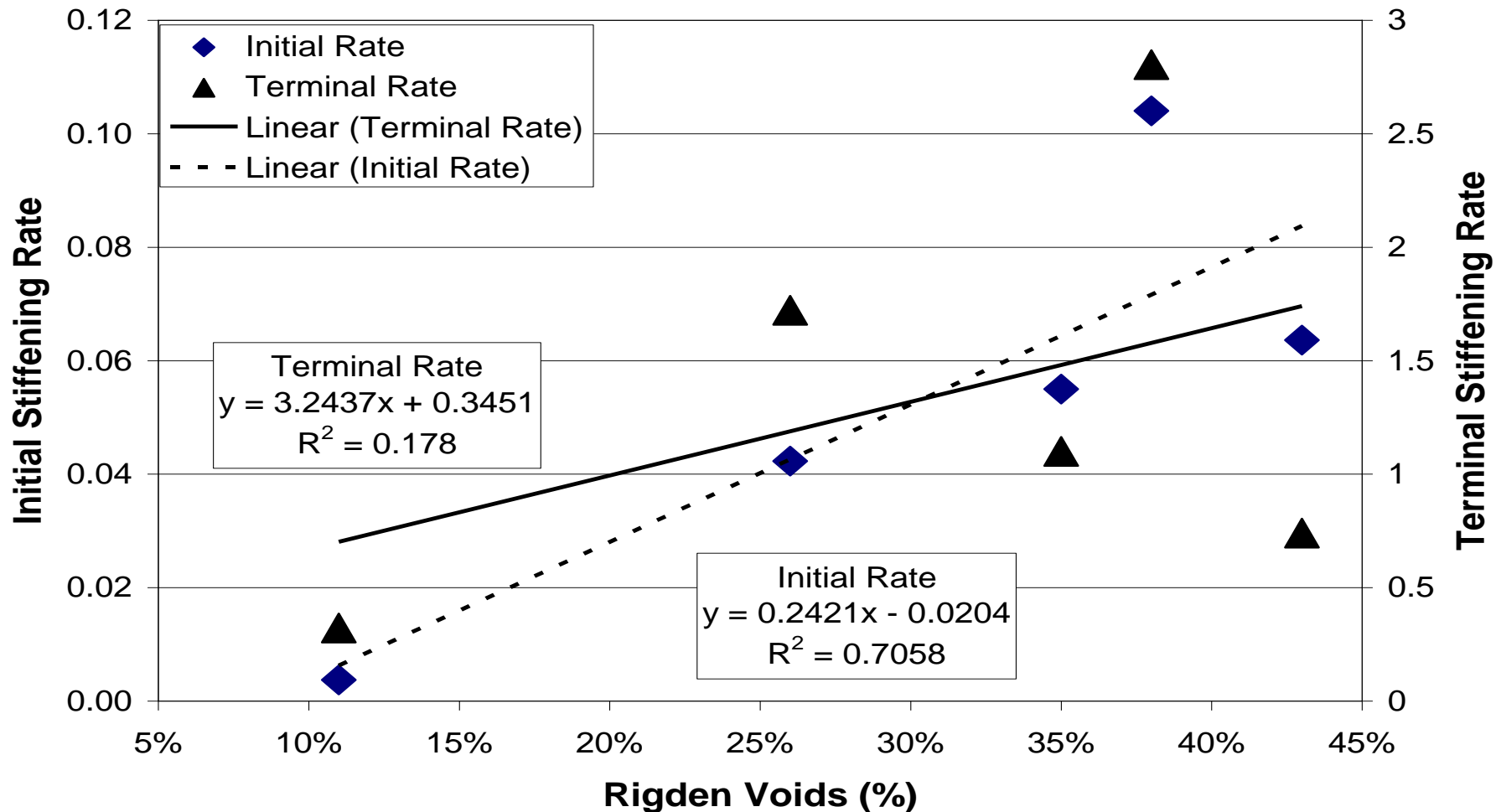
# Factors Affecting Initial and Terminal Stiffening Rates (Cont'd)

## Effect of Filler Size on Terminal Stiffening Rate



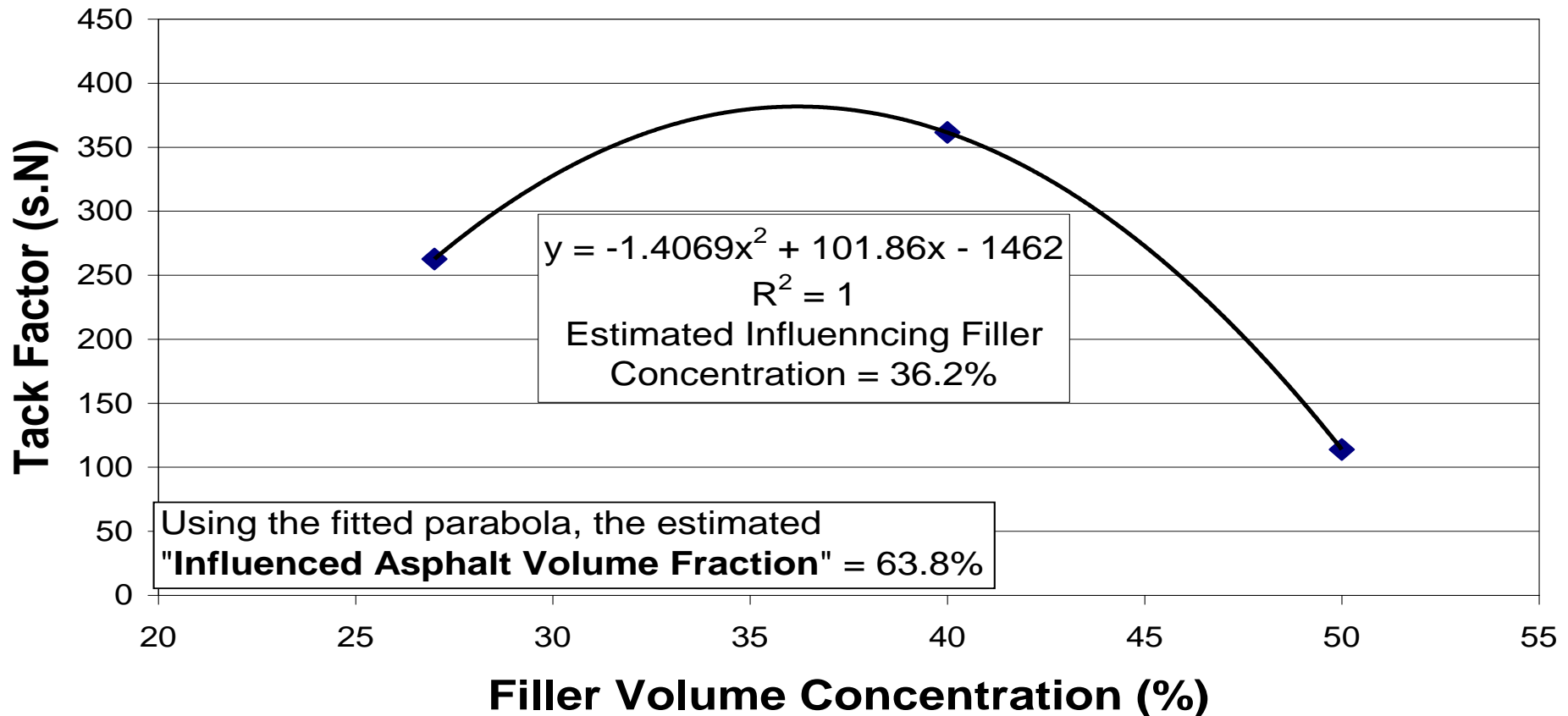
# Factors Affecting Initial and Terminal Stiffening Rates (Cont'd)

## Initial and Terminal Stiffening Rates Against Rigden Voids

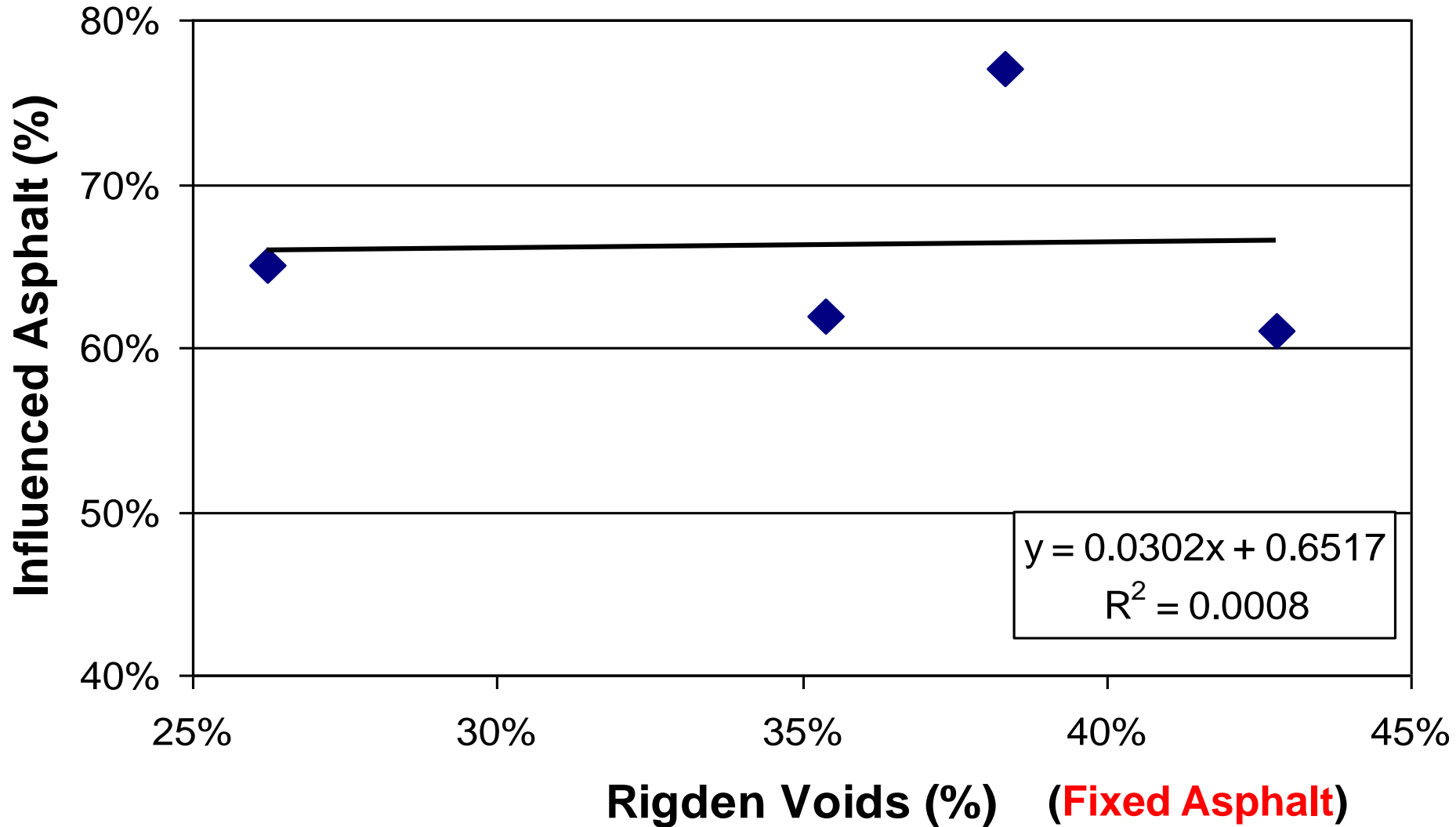


# How to Measure the Influenced Asphalt Volume Fraction

## Determination of Influenced Asphalt Volume Fraction

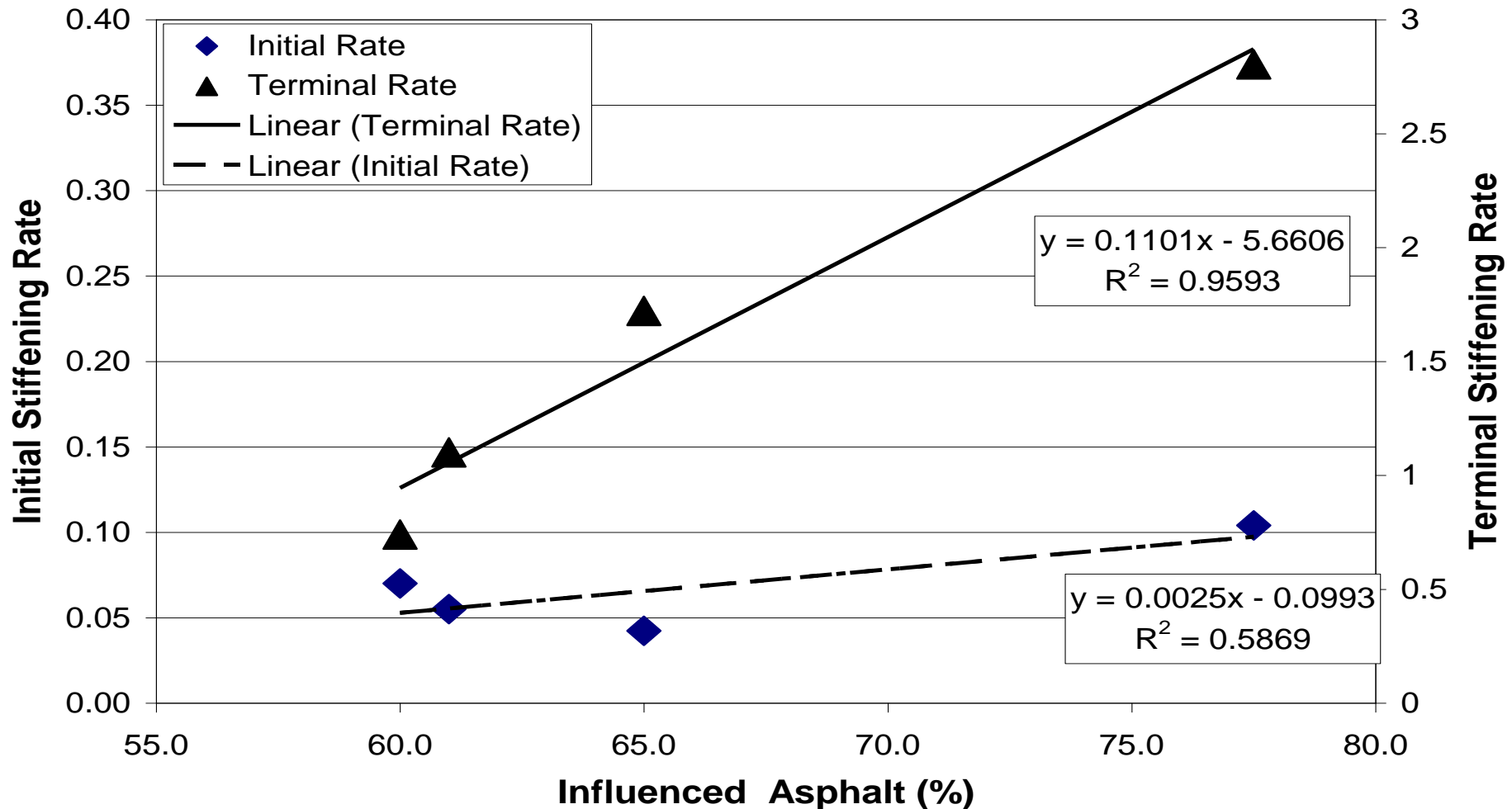


# Fractional Voids vs. Influenced Asphalt Volume



# Factors Affecting Initial and Terminal Stiffening Rates (Cont'd)

## Influenced Asphalt Against Initial and Terminal Stiffening Rates



# Summary of Findings

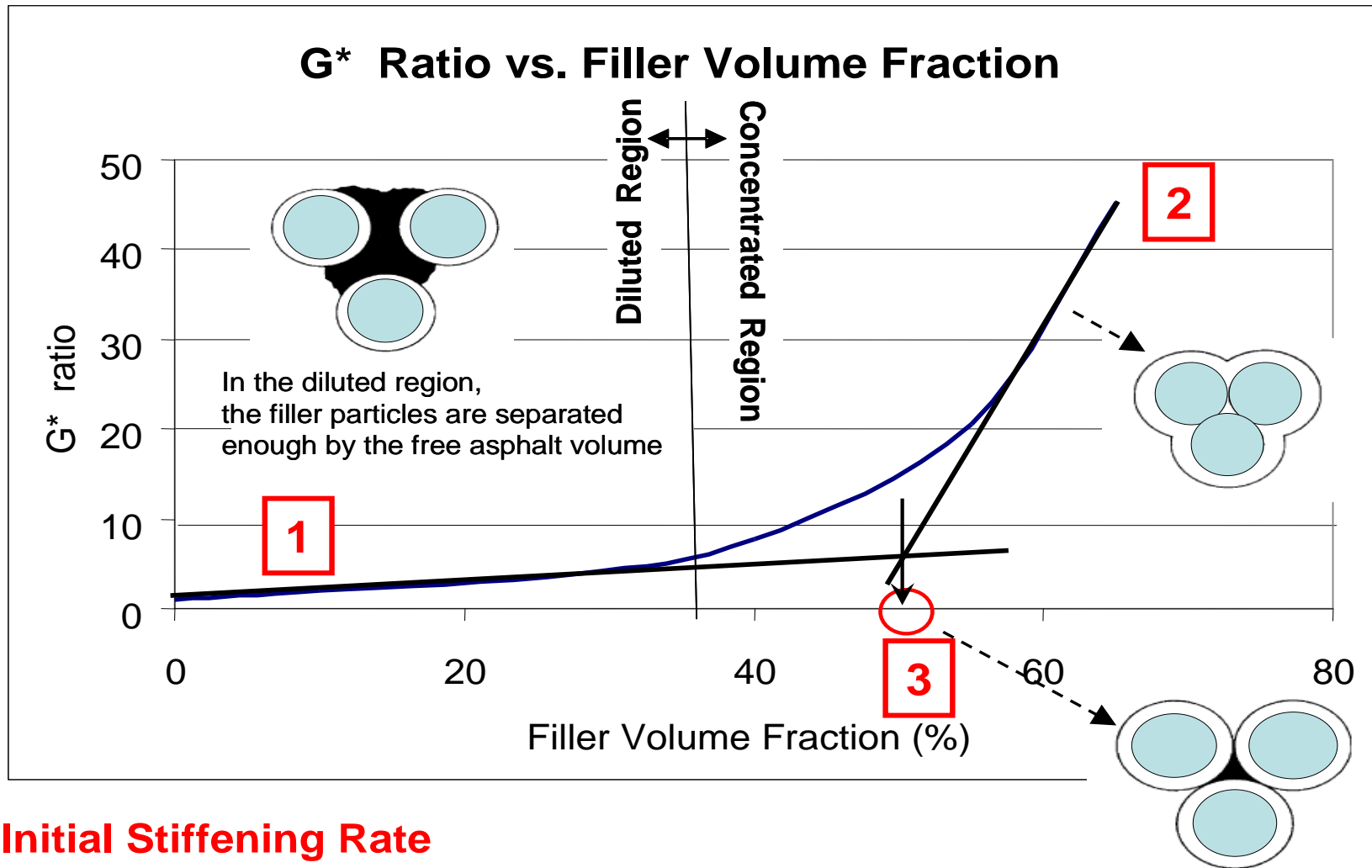
- The tackiness test allows calculating the volume of the “**influenced asphalt**” directly
- The tackiness test helped validate the **Two-Regions** hypothesis of this study
- The stiffening rate within the ***Diluted Region*** is highly dependent on the ***Rigden voids*** of the filler and the ***Nominal Maximum Particle Size***.
- The stiffening rate within the ***Concentrated Region***, which is assumed to be an indication of filler-bitumen interaction, is highly dependent on the ***Influenced Asphalt Volume*** fraction.

# Update and Acknowledgment

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- **Update on Recent Testing**
  - Recent testing matched the results of this study.
  - New testing included measuring physical and chemical properties of filler.
- **Thanks to MTE for their help in filler procurement and testing.**

# Conceptual Model Parameters



1. Initial Stiffening Rate
2. Terminal Stiffening Rate
3. Critical Filler Concentration

At this concentration the transition is due to the consumption of "Free Asphalt"

# Thank You!

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