

INTERNATIONAL  
STANDARD

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**Plastics — Acquisition and presentation  
of comparable multipoint data —**

**Part 1:**  
Mechanical properties

*Plastiques — Acquisition et présentation de données multiples  
comparables —*

*Partie 1: Propriétés mécaniques*



Reference number  
ISO 11403-1:1994(E)

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO 11403-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Terminology*.

ISO 11403 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Plastics* — *Acquisition and presentation of comparable multipoint data*:

- Part 1: *Mechanical properties*
- Part 2: *Thermal and processing properties*
- Part 3: *Environmental influences on properties*

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## Introduction

This International Standard has been prepared because users of plastics find sometimes that available data cannot be used readily to compare the properties of similar materials, especially when the data have been supplied by different sources. Even when the same standard tests have been used, they often allow the adoption of a wide range of alternative test conditions, and the data obtained are not necessarily comparable. The purpose of this International Standard is to identify specific methods and conditions of test to be used for the acquisition and presentation of data in order that valid comparisons between materials can be made.

ISO 10350 is concerned with single-point data. Such data represent the most basic method for characterizing materials and are useful for the initial stages of material selection. The present International Standard identifies test conditions and procedures for the measurement and presentation of a more substantial quantity of data. Each property here is characterized by multipoint data which demonstrate how that property depends upon important variables such as time, temperature and environmental effects. Additional properties are also considered in this standard. These data therefore enable more discriminating decisions to be made regarding a material's suitability for a particular application. Some data are also considered adequate for undertaking predictions of performance in service and of optimum processing conditions for moulding a component, although it should be recognized that, for purposes of design, additional data will often be needed. One reason for this is that some properties are strongly dependent upon the physical structure of the material. The test procedures referred to in this standard employ, where possible, the multipurpose tensile bar, and the polymer structure in this test specimen may be significantly different from that in specific regions of a moulded component. Under these circumstances, therefore, the data will not be suitable for accurate design calculations for product performance. The material supplier should be consulted for specific information on the applicability of data.

ISO 10350 and the various parts of this International Standard together define the means for acquiring and presenting a core set of comparable data for use in material selection. Use of these standards should result in a rationalization of effort and a reduction of cost associated with provision of these data. Furthermore, reference to these standards will simplify the development of data models for the computerized storage and exchange of data concerning material properties.

Where appropriate, values for test variables have been specified by this standard. For some tests however, owing to the wide range of conditions over which different plastics perform, the standard gives guidance in the selection of certain test conditions so that they cover the operating range for that polymer. Because, in general, the properties and performance specifications for different polymers differ widely, there is no obligation to generate data under all the test conditions specified in this standard.

Data on a wide range of properties are needed to enable plastics to be selected and used in the large variety of applications to which they are suited. ISO standards describe experimental procedures which are suitable for the acquisition of relevant information on many of these properties. For other properties, however, ISO standards either do not exist or exhibit shortcomings that complicate their use at present for the generation of comparable data (see annex A). The standard has therefore been divided into parts so that each part can be developed independently. In this way, additional properties can be included as new or revised standards become available.

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# Plastics — Acquisition and presentation of comparable multipoint data —

## Part 1: Mechanical properties

### 1 Scope

This part of ISO 11403 specifies test procedures for the acquisition and presentation of multipoint data on the following mechanical properties of plastics:

Dynamic modulus

Tensile properties at constant test speed

- Ultimate stress and strain
- Tensile stress-strain curves

Tensile creep

Charpy impact strength

The test methods and test conditions apply predominantly to those plastics that can be injection- or compression-moulded or prepared as sheets of specified thickness from which specimens of the appropriate size can be machined.

### 2 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO 11403. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this part of ISO 11403 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of

IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 179:1993, *Plastics — Determination of Charpy impact strength.*

ISO 293:1986, *Plastics — Compression moulding test specimens of thermoplastic materials.*

ISO 294:—<sup>1)</sup>, *Plastics — Injection moulding of test specimens of thermoplastic materials.*

ISO 295:1991, *Plastics — Compression moulding of test specimens of thermosetting materials.*

ISO 527-1:1993, *Plastics — Determination of tensile properties — Part 1: General principles.*

ISO 527-2:1993, *Plastics — Determination of tensile properties — Part 2: Test conditions for moulding and extrusion plastics.*

ISO 899-1:1993, *Plastics — Determination of creep behaviour — Part 1: Tensile creep.*

ISO 2818:1994, *Plastics — Preparation of test specimens by machining.*

ISO 3167:1993, *Plastics — Multipurpose test specimens.*

ISO 6721-2:1994, *Plastics — Determination of dynamic mechanical properties — Part 2: Torsion-pendulum method.*

1) To be published. (Revision of ISO 294:1975)

ISO 6721-4:1994, *Plastics — Determination of dynamic mechanical properties — Part 4: Tensile vibration — Non-resonance method*.

ISO 10350:1993, *Plastics — Acquisition and presentation of comparable single-point data*.

ISO 10724:1994, *Plastics — Thermosetting moulding materials — Injection moulding of multipurpose test specimens*.

### 3 Definition

For the purposes of this part of ISO 11403, the following definition applies.

**3.1 multipoint data:** Data characterizing the behaviour of a plastics material by means of a number of test results for a property measured over a range of test conditions.

### 4 Specimen preparation

In the preparation of specimens by injection or com-

pression moulding, the procedures described in ISO 293, ISO 294, ISO 295 or ISO 10724 shall be used. The method of moulding and the conditions will depend upon the material being moulded. If these conditions are specified in the International Standard appropriate to the material, then they shall be adopted, where possible, for the preparation of every specimen on which data are obtained using this part of ISO 11403. For those plastics for which moulding conditions have not yet been standardized, the conditions employed shall be within the range recommended by the polymer manufacturer and shall, for each of the processing methods, be the same for every specimen. Where moulding conditions are not stipulated in any International Standard, the values used for the parameters in table 1 shall be recorded with the data for that material.

Where specimens are prepared by machining from sheet, the machining shall be performed in accordance with ISO 2818.

Table 1 — Moulding parameters

Type of moulding material	Moulding method and standard (where applicable)	Moulding parameters
Thermoplastic	Injection, ISO 294	Melt temperature Mould temperature Average injection velocity
Thermoplastic	Compression, ISO 293	Moulding temperature Moulding time Cooling rate Demoulding temperature
Thermosetting	Injection, ISO 10724	Temperature of the plasticized material Mould surface temperature Average injection velocity Cure time
Thermosetting	Compression, ISO 295	Mould temperature Moulding pressure Cure time

## 5 Conditioning

After moulding, specimens shall be conditioned for 28 days  $\pm$  2 days at 23 °C  $\pm$  2 °C and (50  $\pm$  5) % relative humidity prior to testing (see note 1) unless special conditioning is required by the relevant material standards. For those materials whose properties are known to be insensitive to moisture, the control of relative humidity is not necessary. Where it can be demonstrated that the use of a shorter conditioning period has no significant influence on the measured properties, then this shorter period may be used and shall be recorded with the property data in the tables in clause 7.

NOTE 1 Changes in the molecular structure of a test specimen occur following cooling from the moulding temperature. At elevated temperatures, changes in the size and structure of crystalline regions will take place. In amorphous regions, molecular rearrangements will also occur (physical ageing) and, whereas changes in crystallinity are inhibited at temperatures below the glass transition temperature, physical ageing continues in many polymers at ambient temperatures. These structural changes have a significant influence on certain properties and therefore give rise to a dependence of properties on thermal history. By prescribing an isothermal conditioning period for specimens prior to testing, a reproducible and traceable structural state is established for subsequent measurements carried out in the short term around, or slightly above, ambient temperatures. However, when measurements are made over a wider and increasing temperature range, or at a constant elevated temperature, further structural changes can take place during the test. Subsequent cooling will establish different structural states and, if the test is non-destructive, repeat measurements will not reproduce previous values.

If special conditioning procedures are specified in material standards which involve heating, to prepare specimens in their dry state or with a more stable structure, then, after conditioning, specimens shall be heated to the glass transition temperature of the polymer for a period of 20 min and subsequently cooled in still air at 23 °C prior to conditioning for 28 days  $\pm$  2 days at 23 °C  $\pm$  2 °C. Where data on materials whose properties are sensitive to water content are to be presented for the polymer in its dry state, conditioning shall be carried out at 0 % relative humidity.

Where specimens have been subject to a thermal history under conditions other than 23 °C and 50 % relative humidity, details of this history shall be recorded with the associated property data in the tables in clause 7.

Subsequent thermal conditioning is required for certain tests and is specified with test requirements in clause 6.

## 6 Test requirements

### 6.1 General

In acquiring data for the properties included in this part of ISO 11403, the test procedures described in the corresponding ISO test standard for each property shall be followed.

Where data are recorded at selected temperatures, values shall be chosen from the series of integral multiples of 10 °C, starting at  $-40$  °C and replacing 20 °C by 23 °C.

For materials whose properties are sensitive to the water content, the results of tests on the polymer after it has been conditioned may change progressively with time when tested at elevated temperatures because of a continual decrease in water content. The relevance of the data generated is therefore uncertain. Whether such data are worth presenting in accordance with this part of ISO 11403 should be decided by the data supplier.

### 6.2 Dynamic modulus: ISO 6721-2 or ISO 6721-4

Use a specimen of thickness 1 mm prepared by compression moulding if feasible. If an alternative thickness or method of moulding is necessary, these shall be stated.

Record the real part of the dynamic shear or Young's modulus,  $G'$  or  $E'$  respectively, and the respective loss factor  $\tan \delta_G$  or  $\tan \delta_E$  measured at a frequency of 1 Hz  $\pm$  0,5 Hz and at intervals of 10 °C between  $-40$  °C and the maximum working temperature, as shown by figure 1 and table 2 in clause 7. The measurement at 20 °C shall be replaced by one at 23 °C.

Begin measurements at the lowest temperature and proceed to higher values. Care shall be taken in selecting the heating rate or the dwell time at each temperature to ensure that there is no significant difference between the recorded temperature and the actual temperature of the specimen.

### 6.3 Tensile properties at constant test speed: ISO 527-1 and ISO 527-2

NOTE 2 Data on the tensile properties of materials other than those covered in ISO 527-2 will be covered in this part of ISO 11403 when additional parts to ISO 527 have been prepared.

### 6.3.1 General

Use the type A multipurpose specimen specified in ISO 3167. Conduct two tensile tests, the first at a test speed of 1 mm/min up to a strain of 0,25 % to obtain a value for the tensile modulus and the second at a test speed of 5 mm/min to failure (see note 3). For this second test, the specimen used to determine the modulus may be used after removing the stress and allowing an appropriate period of time to elapse to permit the specimen to recover from its previous loading.

NOTE 3 The criterion used in the single-point data standard ISO 10350 for selecting the test speed according to the mode of failure of the specimen is not appropriate here because it could lead to the need to change the test speed at different temperatures.

At a constant temperature  $T_i$ , measure the stress-strain curve up to the ultimate values of stress  $\sigma_{ui}$  and strain  $\varepsilon_{ui}$  which represent the yield point Y or, if no yield is observed, the breaking point B. If no yield or break is observed up to 50 % elongation, then this elongation shall represent the ultimate point on the curve. Repeat the measurements at up to seven temperatures  $T_i$ , one of which shall be 23 °C and the others selected between -40 °C and the maximum working temperature of the polymer.

### 6.3.2 Ultimate stress and strain

At each temperature  $T_i$ , record the ultimate values of stress  $\sigma_{ui}$  and strain  $\varepsilon_{ui}$  as shown by figure 2 and table 3 in clause 7.

### 6.3.3 Tensile stress-strain curves

At each temperature  $T_i$ , record the tensile modulus  $E_t$  and the stress at nine values of strain given by  $\varepsilon_{ki} = \varepsilon_{ui} \times k/10$  ( $k = 1$  to 9), as shown by figure 2 and table 4 in clause 7.

### 6.4 Tensile creep: ISO 899-1

Use the type A multipurpose test specimen specified in ISO 3167. Where creep tests are undertaken at temperatures above 23 °C, the specimen shall be held for a period of 24 h at the test temperature prior to load application.

NOTE 4 The creep behaviour of plastics is particularly dependent upon the state of physical ageing of the specimen. If the temperature of the specimen is raised following a period of storage at ambient temperature, significant further changes in age state can take place. These changes become less with increasing time but lead to a dependence

of creep behaviour upon the elapsed time at the elevated temperature prior to load application.

Select and record in table 5 of clause 7 a value for the maximum stress  $\sigma_{mi}$  that the polymer could experience for prolonged periods of time at the temperature  $T_i$ . Repeat for up to seven temperatures  $T_i$ , one of which shall be 23 °C and the others selected to span the useful working range of the polymer.

At each temperature, identify five creep stresses  $\sigma_{ki} = \sigma_{mi} \times k/5$  ( $k = 1$  to 5). At each of these stresses, record the creep strain at five times  $t$  (in hours) given by  $\log t = 0, 1, 2, 3$  and 4, as shown by figure 3 and table 5 in clause 7.

NOTE 5 The procedure stated in this part of ISO 11403 for presenting creep properties involves the acquisition of a large amount of data, and it will be common practice to generate some of the values for certain materials and grades of a material by calculation. It is not possible at present to describe in this part of ISO 11403 how such calculations should be carried out, implying that each data supplier may use his own method.

Data obtained by extrapolation shall be restricted to no more than one decade in time and shall be labelled with the letter E in the appropriate box in table 5. Interpolation is permitted as long as the calculated values of strain recorded in table 5 refer to stress and time values which differ by less than  $\pm 20$  % from the values of stress and time at which strain measurements were made. Where data for a polymer have been derived by calculation using measured values for similar grades of the polymer, then these data shall be labelled with the letter C in the appropriate box in table 5. For filled materials, calculated data shall be derived only by interpolation between measured data for materials of higher and lower filler content.

### 6.5 Charpy impact strength: ISO 179

Use the type 1 specimen specified in ISO 179, cut from the central part of the type A multipurpose tensile specimen specified in ISO 3167. The notched specimen shall have a type A notch (45° V-notch of depth 2 mm and tip radius 0,25 mm) machined into the edge of the specimen (see ISO 2818).

Use edgewise impact.

Record the impact strength of notched and unnotched specimens,  $a_{cA}$  and  $a_{cU}$  respectively, at intervals of 10 °C from -40 °C to 23 °C as shown by figure 4 and table 6 in clause 7.

At each temperature, record the mean value for the impact strength of all the specimens that showed a complete or hinged break. In the same box, record in

brackets the percentage of the number of specimens tested at that temperature that showed a complete or hinged break (i.e. whose impact energy measurements therefore contributed to the recorded value). Where all the specimens in the batch tested at a particular temperature did not break or showed only a partial break, record an asterisk in the appropriate box.

### 7 Presentation of data

Record the results in the formats described by the following tables together with information that identifies the material.

**Table 2 — Dynamic modulus and loss factor versus temperature** (see 6.2 and figure 1)

$T$ (°C)	- 40	- 30	- 20	- 10	0	10	23	...
$G'$ or $E'$ (MPa)								
$\tan \delta_G$ or $\tan \delta_E$								

NOTE — Indicate in the table whether  $E'$  and  $\tan \delta_E$  or  $G'$  and  $\tan \delta_G$  have been measured.

**Table 3 — Ultimate values of stress and strain and the mode of failure at temperatures  $T_i$**   
(see 6.3.2 and figure 2)

$i$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
$T_i$ (°C)							
$\sigma_{ui}$ (MPa)							
$\epsilon_{ui}$							
Y or B							

**Table 4 — Values of the tensile modulus and the stress taken from stress-strain curves at temperatures  $T_i$  and strains  $\epsilon_{ki} = \epsilon_{ui} \times k/10$**  (see 6.3.3 and figure 2)

$T_i$ (°C)	$E_t$ (MPa)	Stress levels corresponding to the values of $k$ below								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

**Table 5 — Creep strains at times  $t$  and stresses  $\sigma_{ki} = \sigma_{mi} \times k/5$  corresponding to a fixed temperature  $T_i$**   
(see 6.4 and figure 3)

$T_i =$ (°C)		$\sigma_{mi} =$ (MPa)				
log $t$ ( $t$ in hours)	Creep strains corresponding to the values of $k$ below					
	1	2	3	4	5	
0						
1						
2						
3						
4						

NOTE —  $\sigma_{mi}$  is selected appropriate to the creep performance at the temperature  $T_i$ .

**Table 6 — Notched and un-notched Charpy impact strength,  $a_{cA}$  and  $a_{cU}$  respectively, versus temperature**  
(see 6.5 and figure 4)

$T$ (°C)	- 40	- 30	- 20	- 10	0	10	23
$a_{cA}$ (kJ/m <sup>2</sup> )							
$a_{cU}$ (kJ/m <sup>2</sup> )							

NOTE — Use an asterisk to indicate no fracture of any of the specimens tested at that temperature.

The following additional information shall be included with each table:

- The method of preparation of the specimen.
- A reference to the International Standard which gives the processing conditions used to prepare the specimen, if this was prepared by injection or compression moulding. If these are not given in any standard, then record the appropriate conditions identified in table 1.
- Any special conditioning procedure referred to in clause 5.

- The number of specimens tested.

## 8 Precision

For information on the precision of the test methods used to generate the data recorded in the tables in clause 7, the appropriate ISO test standard should be consulted. However, not all of these standards contain a precision clause and, furthermore, the precision of the data from some tests will depend on the test conditions and on the behaviour of the material under those conditions.

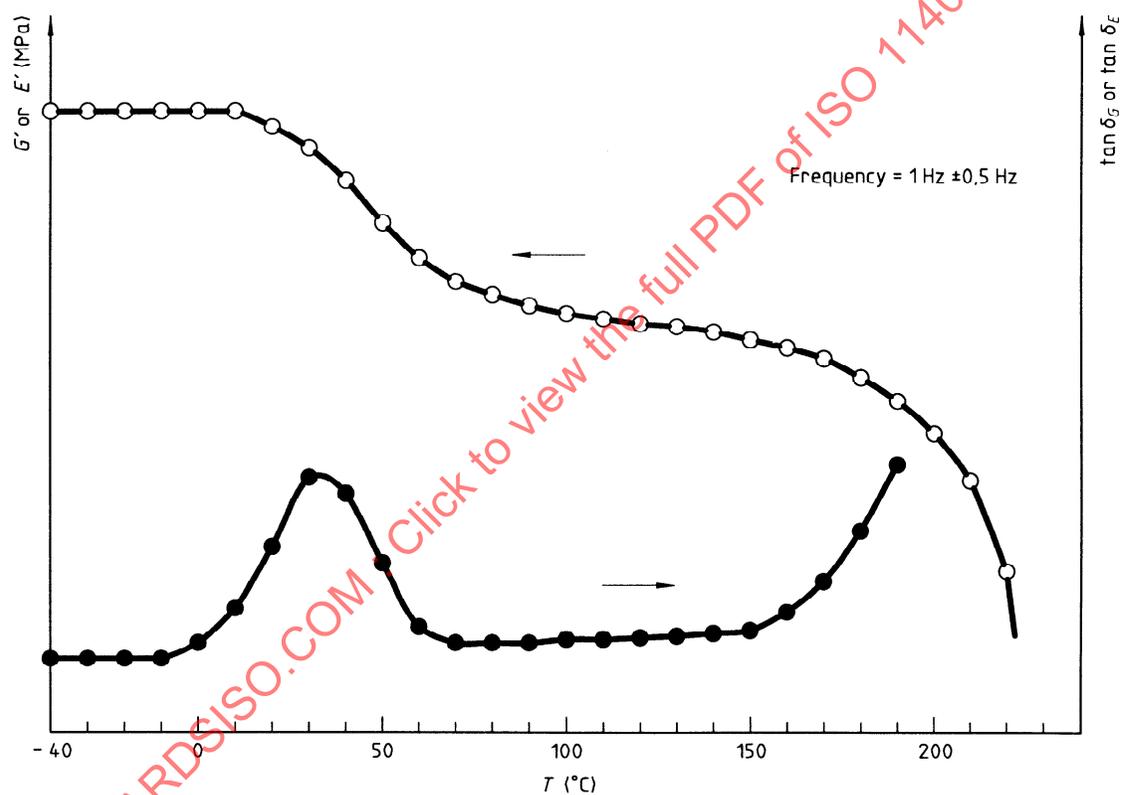


Figure 1 — Schematic diagram depicting the variation of the real part of the dynamic shear or tensile modulus,  $G'$  or  $E'$  respectively, and the damping factor of a semi-crystalline polymer with temperature  $T$  showing the glass-to-rubber relaxation region and the early stages of melting

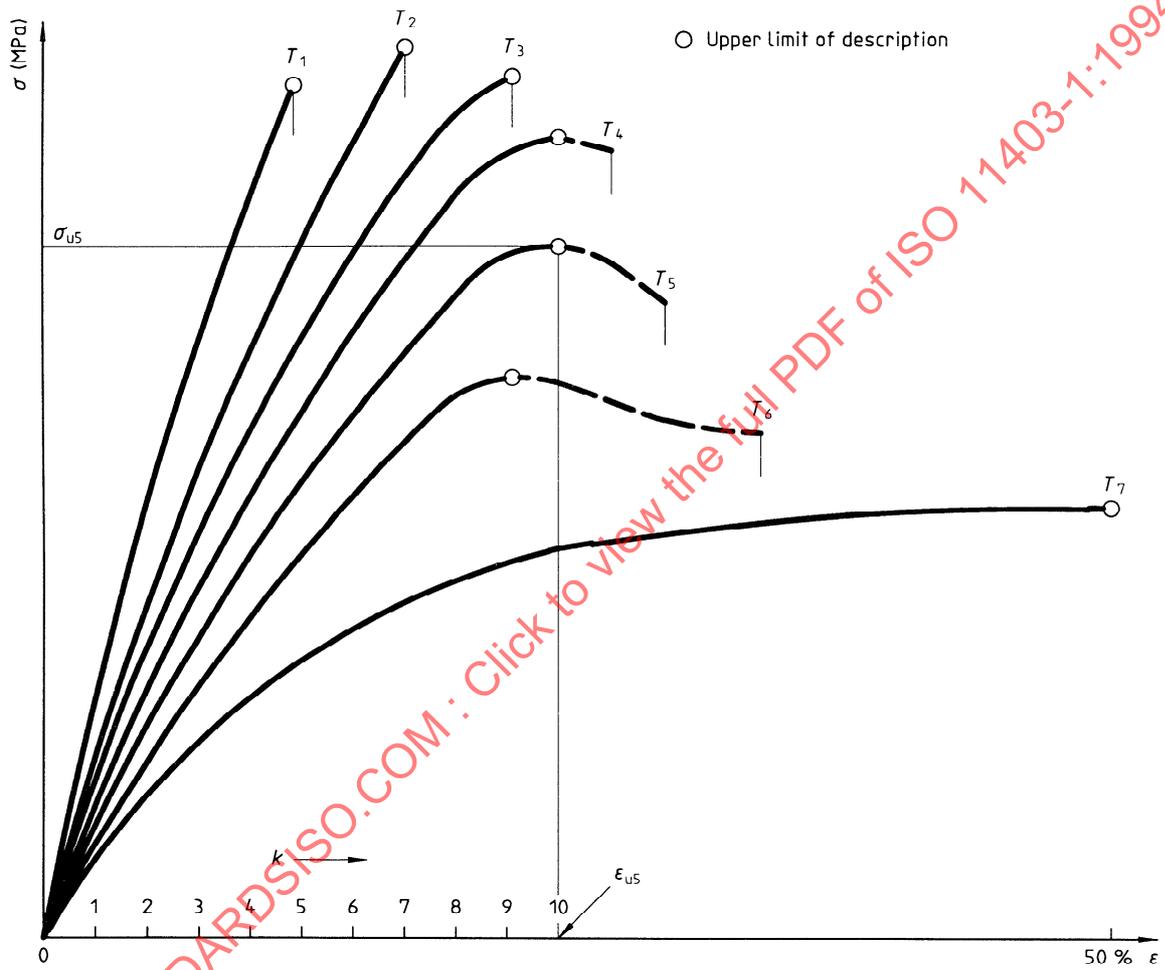


Figure 2 — Stress-strain curves at different temperatures  $T_i$  showing ultimate values of stress  $\sigma_{ui}$  and strain  $\epsilon_{ui}$  and identifying strains  $\epsilon_{ki} = \epsilon_{ui} \times k/10$  at which values of stress are to be recorded