

# **Development of Standard Techniques for the Calculation of Master Curves for Linear-Visco Elastic Materials**

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# Software Objectives

- Master Curve Production
- Discrete Relaxation and Retardation Spectra Calculation
- Conversions - time to frequency and vice-versa
- Advanced graphing and ease of use to perform complex calculations

# Why master curves?

- Powerful tool to understand how asphalt type and chemical makeup affects the visco-elastic behavior of binders
- Enables easy interpolation of properties and avenue for extrapolation

# Master Curve Production

## Shifting Techniques (Gordon/Shaw)

- Determine an initial estimate of the shift using WLF parameters and standard constants.
- Refine the fit by using a pairwise shifting technique and straight lines representing each data set.
- Further refine the fit using pairwise shifting with a polynomial representing the data being shifted. The order of the polynomial being taken as the minimum value between number of the augment  $n+1$ , where  $n$  is the number of data points - or -  $\Delta f$  (the number of decades of frequency - or time).

## Normalized for density - vertical shift

- To enable all properties to be reported at the density corresponding to the reference temperature (Rouse, 1953)

$$G(T_R, t) = \frac{T_R \rho(T_R)}{T \rho(T)} G\left(T, \frac{t}{a_T}\right)$$

# Spectra Calculations

*Baumgaertel and Winter (1989)*

- Relaxation and Retardation Spectra Calculated
  - for example

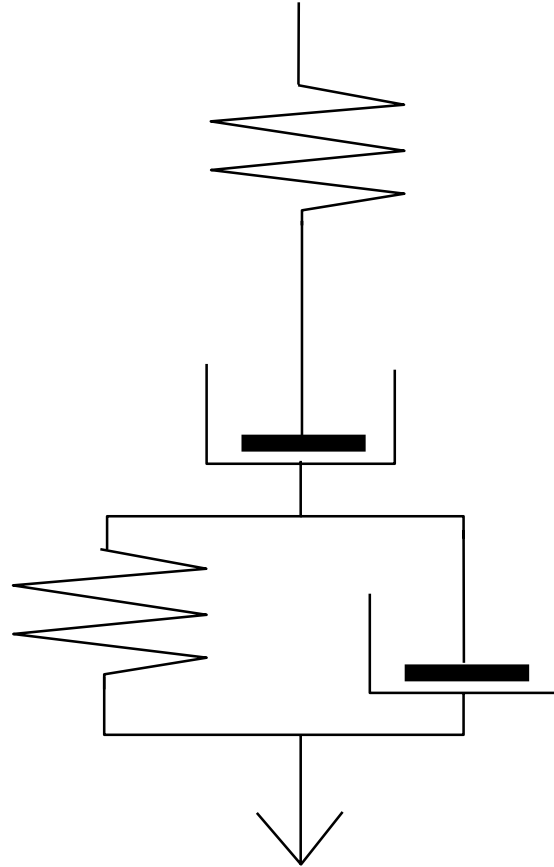
$$G'(\omega) = G_o + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{G_i (\omega\tau_i)^2}{1 + (\omega\tau_i)^2}$$

$$G''(\omega) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{G_i \omega\tau_i}{1 + (\omega\tau_i)^2}$$

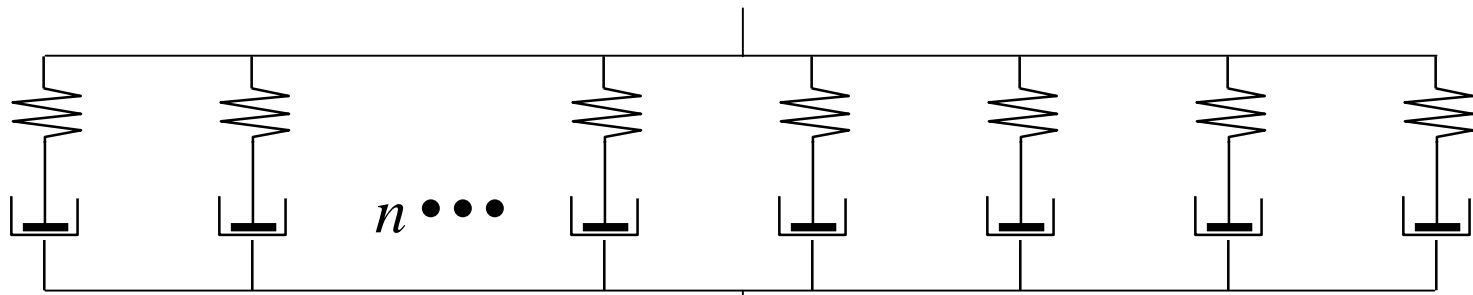
- Enables conversion of time to frequency (and vice-versa) and yields information about molecular structure (Rouse)

Maxwell Element

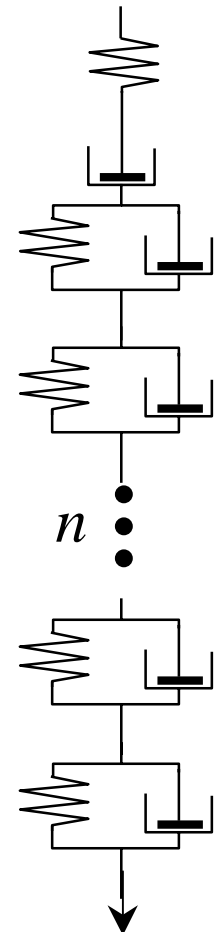
Voigt Element



**Basic Visco-Elastic Model - The Maxwell Model**



*Relaxation Spectra Model*



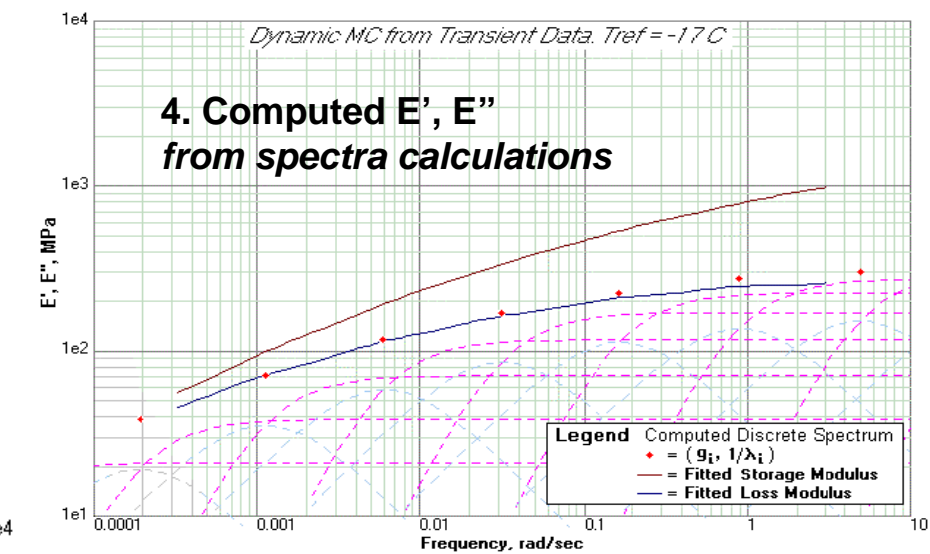
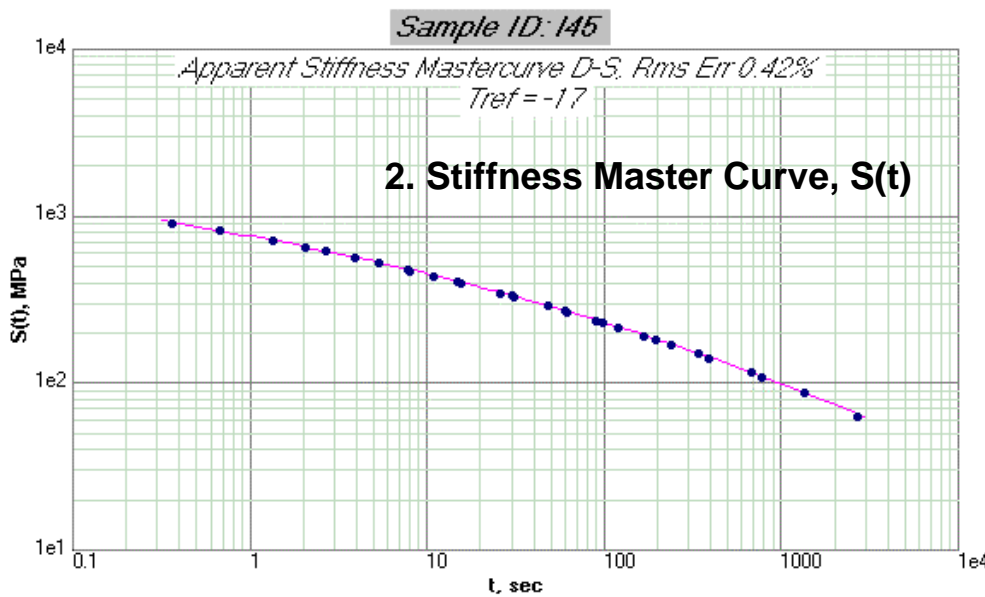
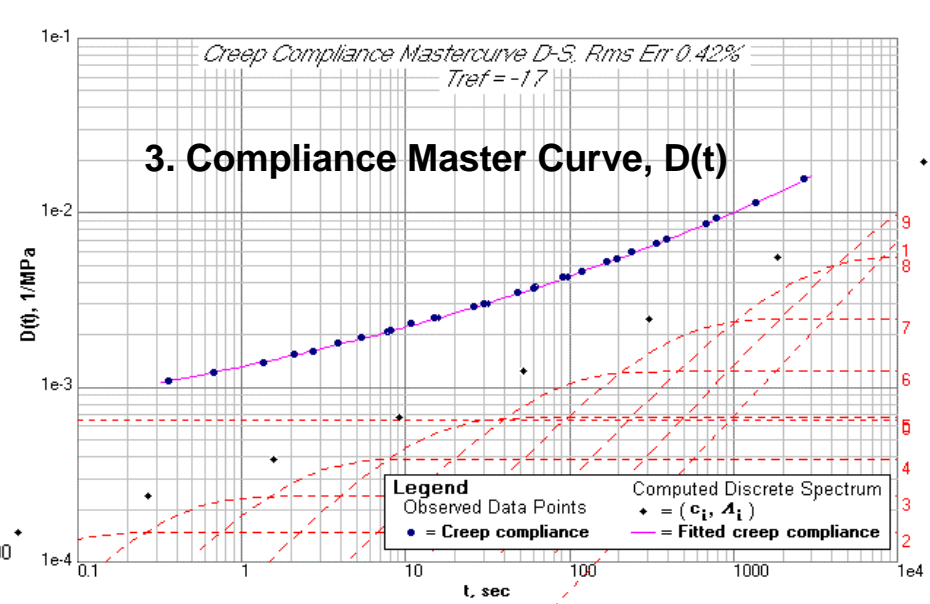
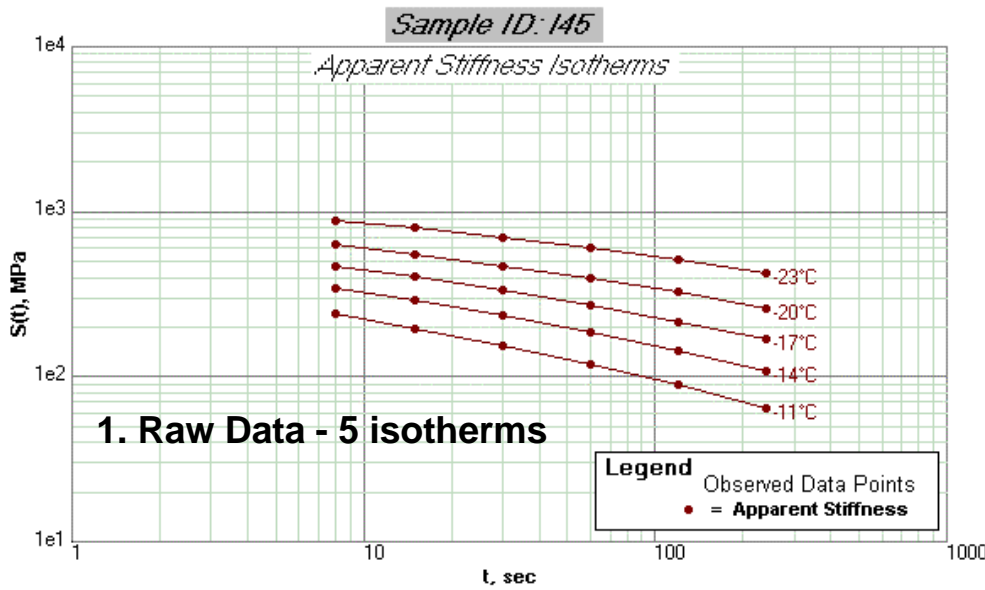
*Retardation Spectra Model*

# Typical Results from Different Equipment

Two example used

1. BBR
2. DSR

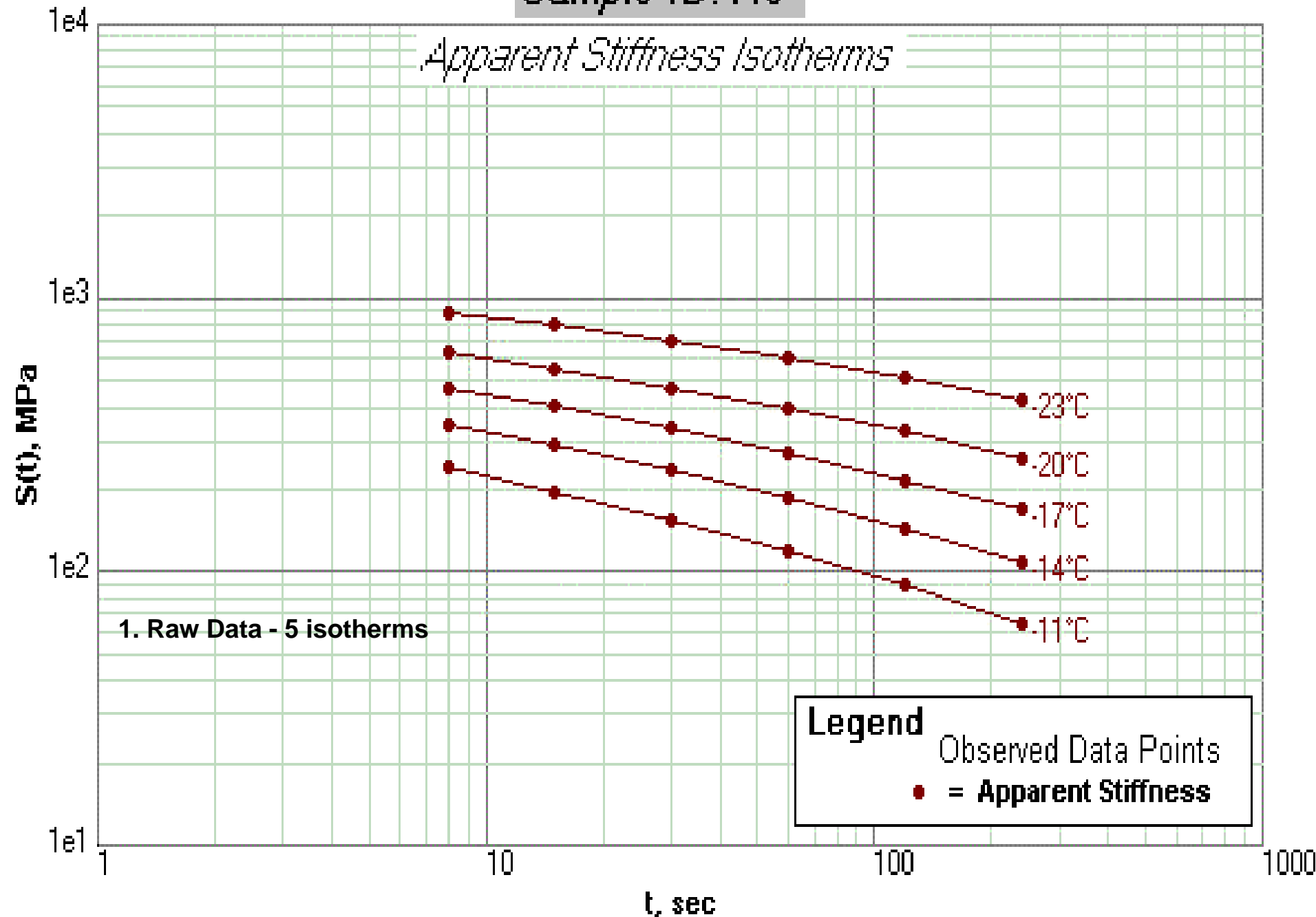
BBR



**1. Bending Beam Rheometer - Typical Data Set**

*Sample ID: 145*

*Apparent Stiffness Isotherms*



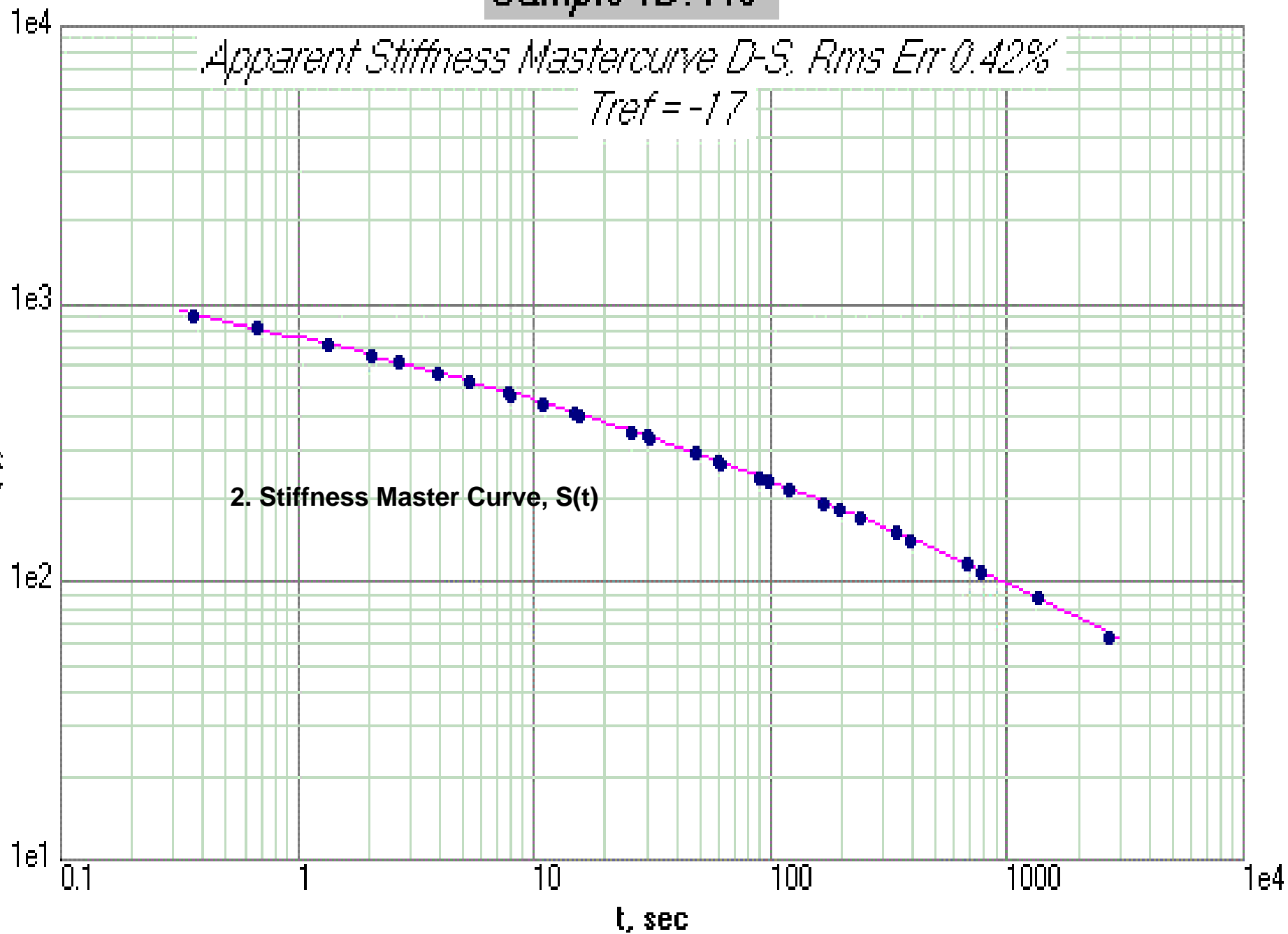
*Sample ID: 145*

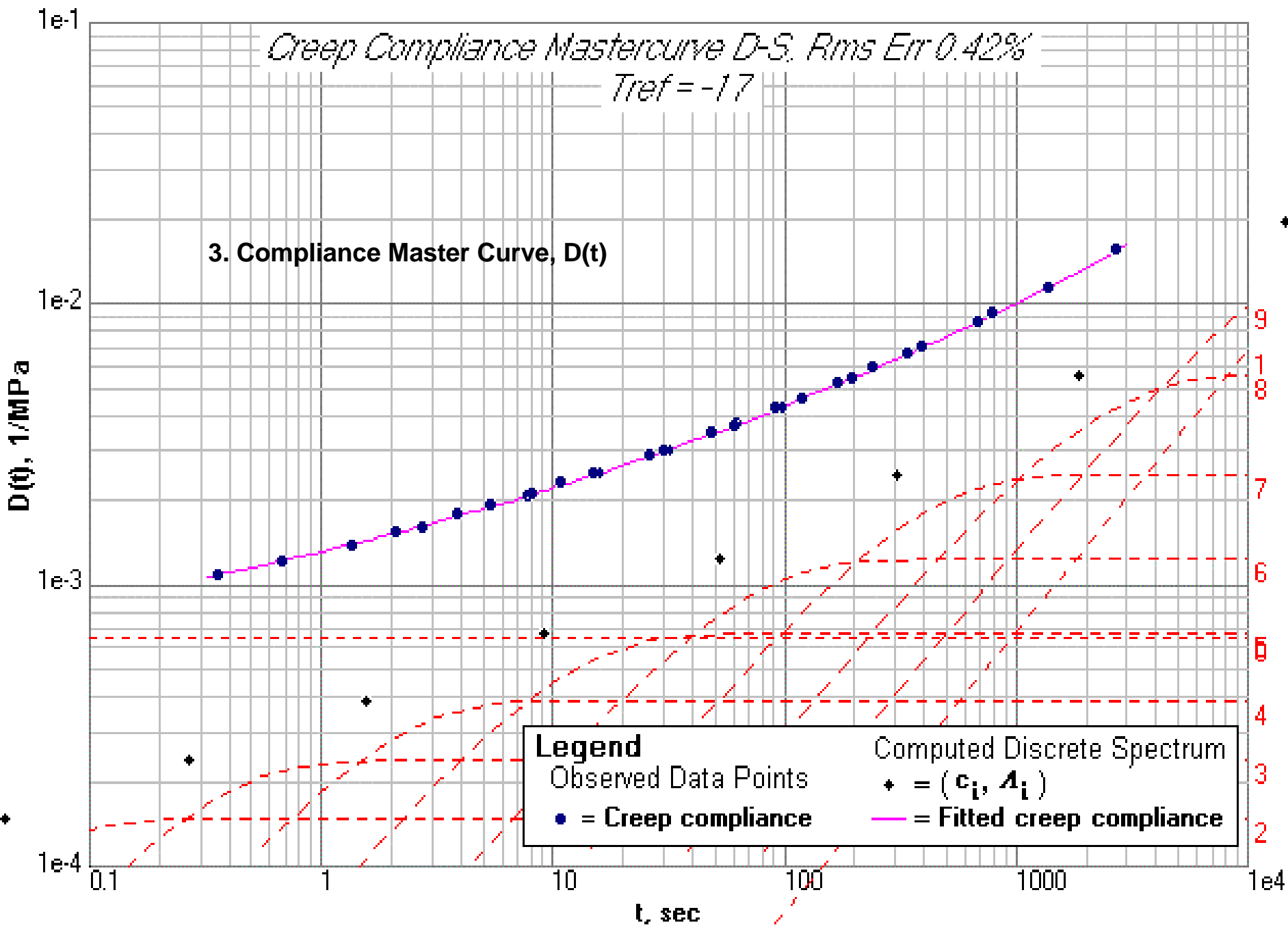
*Apparent Stiffness Mastercurve D-S, Rms Err 0.42%*

*Tref = -17*

**S(t), MPa**

**2. Stiffness Master Curve, S(t)**

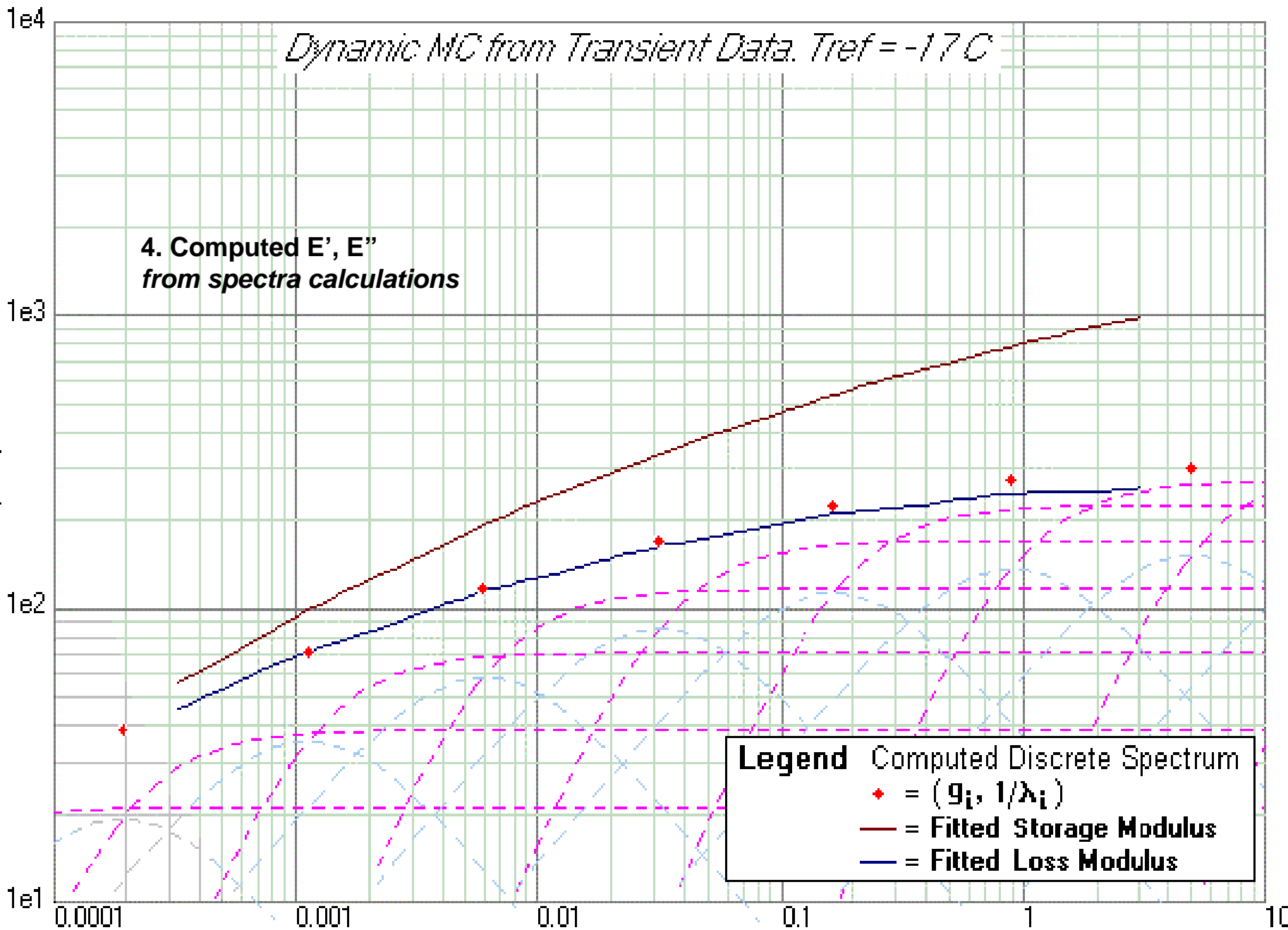




*Dynamic MC from Transient Data. Tref = -17 C*

**4. Computed E', E''  
from spectra calculations**

**E', E'', MPa**



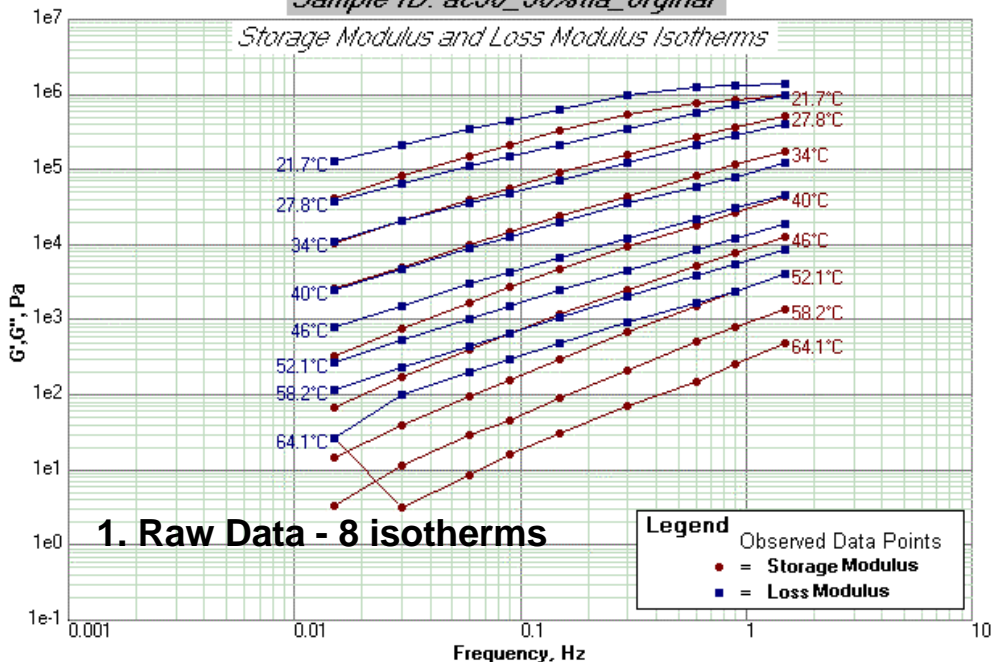
**Legend**  
♦ =  $(g_i, 1/\lambda_i)$   
— = Fitted Storage Modulus  
— = Fitted Loss Modulus

**Frequency, rad/sec**

DSR

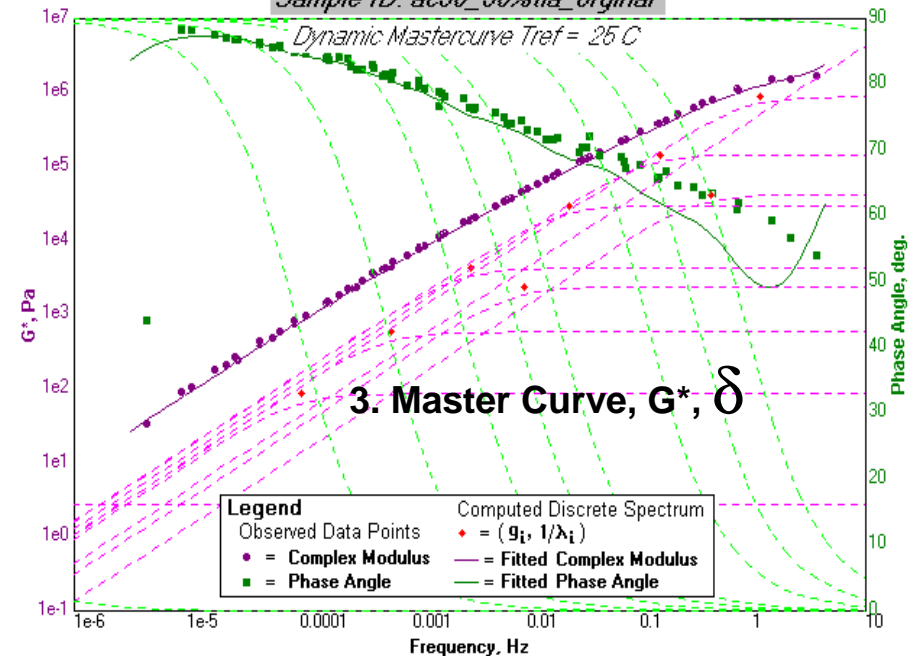
Sample ID: ac30\_30%tla\_original

Storage Modulus and Loss Modulus Isotherms



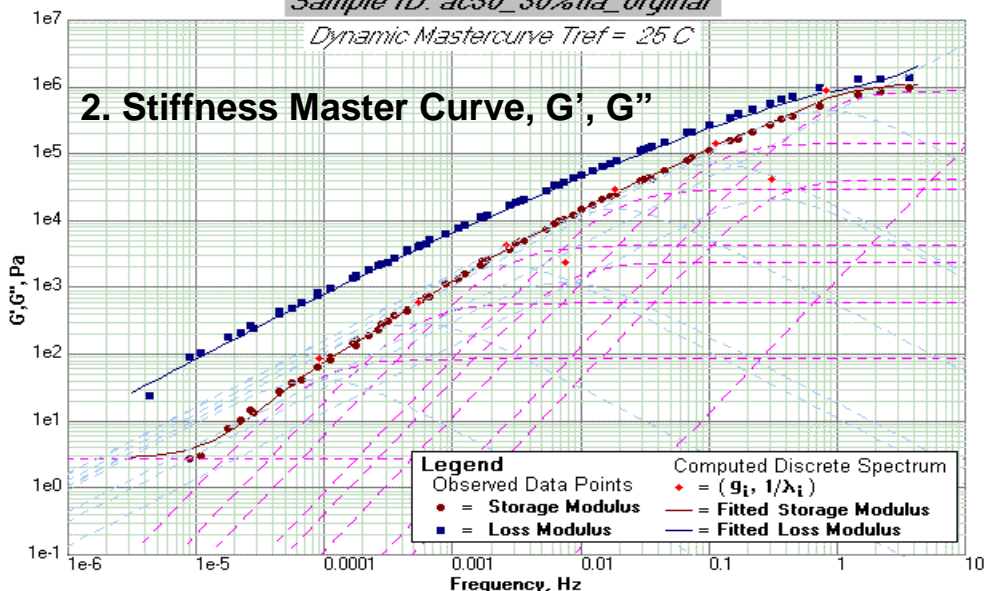
Sample ID: ac30\_30%tla\_original

Dynamic Mastercurve Tref = 25 C



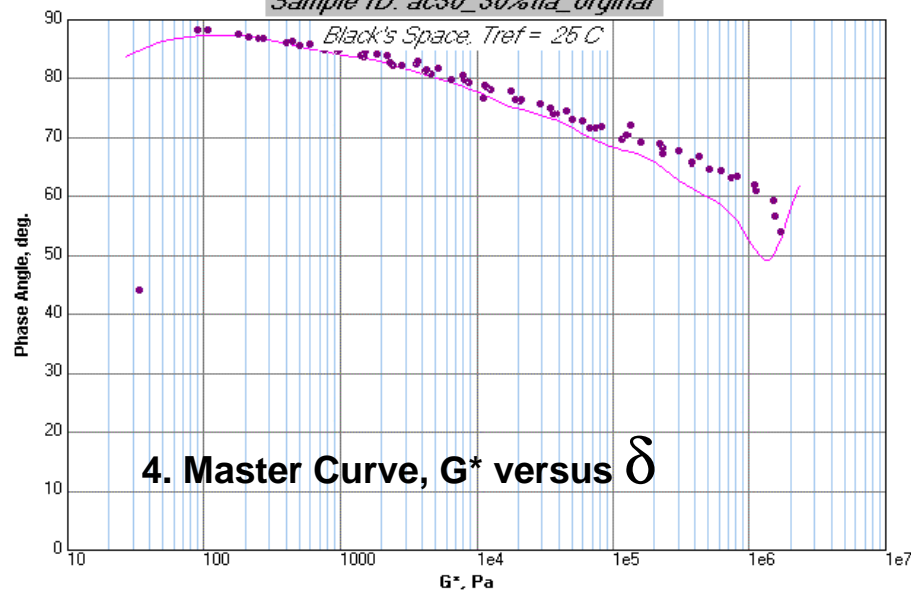
Sample ID: ac30\_30%tla\_original

Dynamic Mastercurve Tref = 25 C



Sample ID: ac30\_30%tla\_original

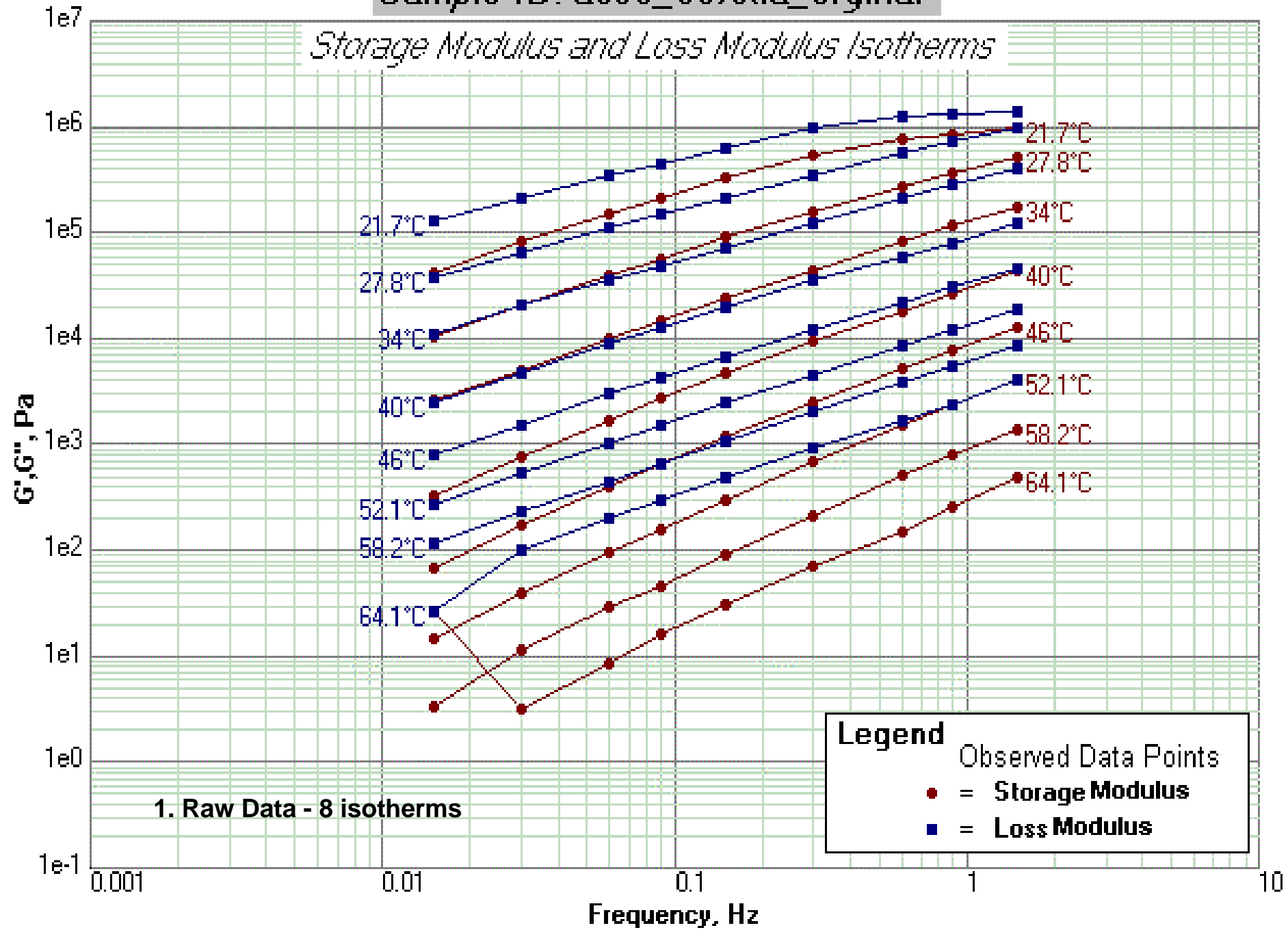
Black's Space, Tref = 25 C



## 2. Dynamic Shear Rheometer - Typical Data Set

Sample ID: ac30\_30%tta\_original

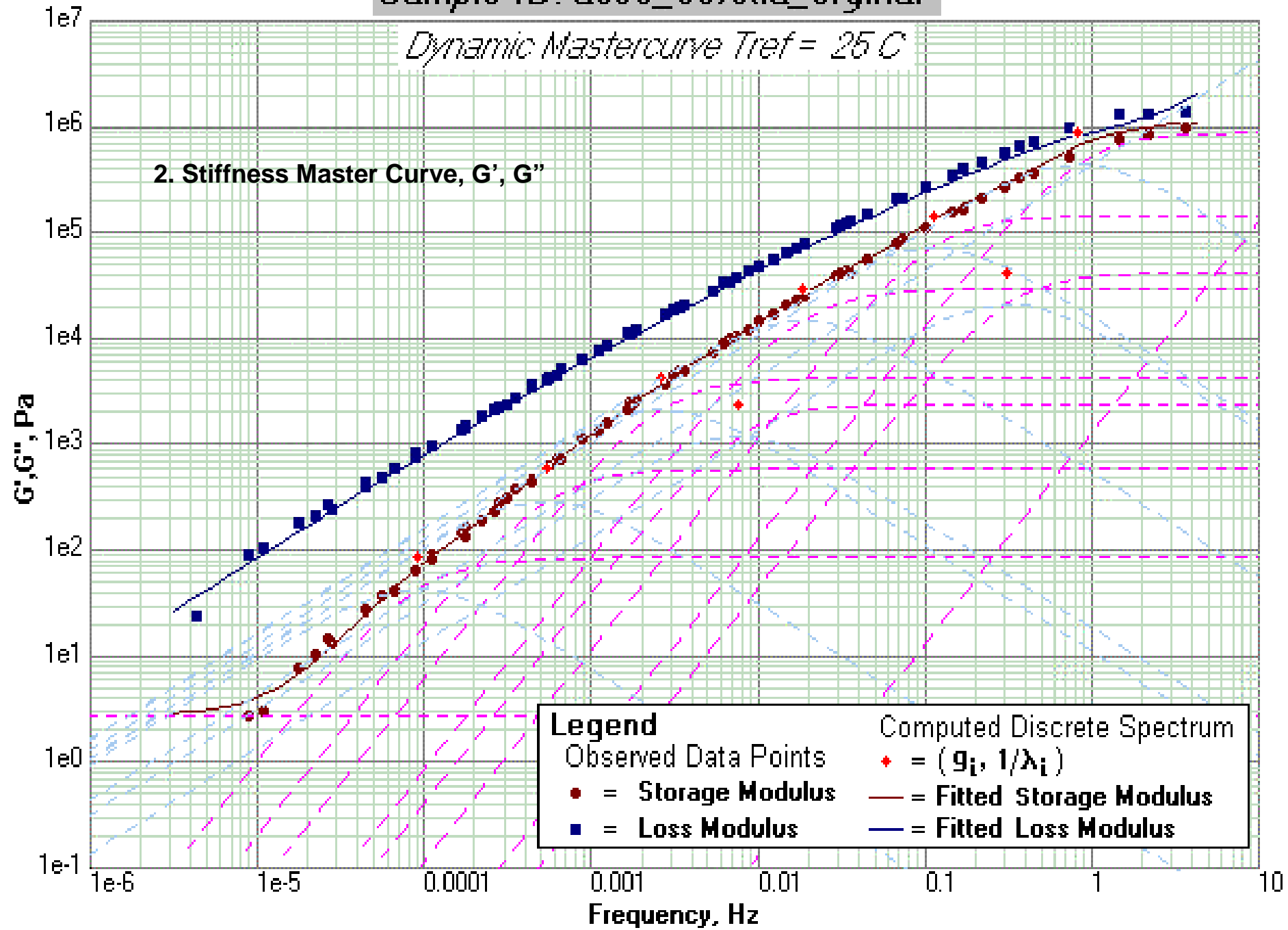
Storage Modulus and Loss Modulus Isotherms



Sample ID: ac30\_30%tla\_original

Dynamic Mastercurve  $T_{ref} = 25\text{ C}$

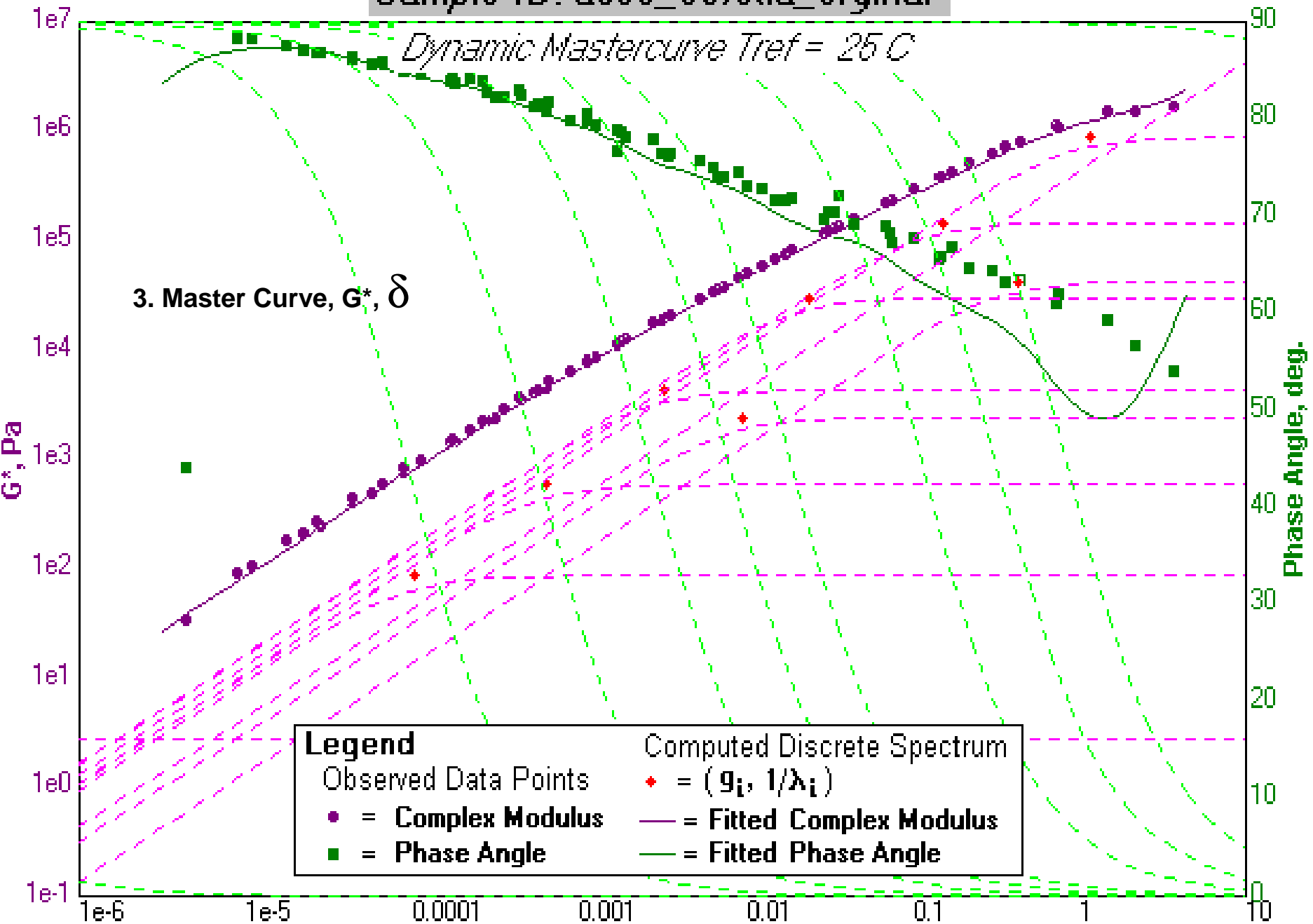
2. Stiffness Master Curve,  $G'$ ,  $G''$



Sample ID: ac30\_30%tla\_original

Dynamic Mastercurve  $T_{ref} = 25\text{ C}$

3. Master Curve,  $G^*$ ,  $\delta$

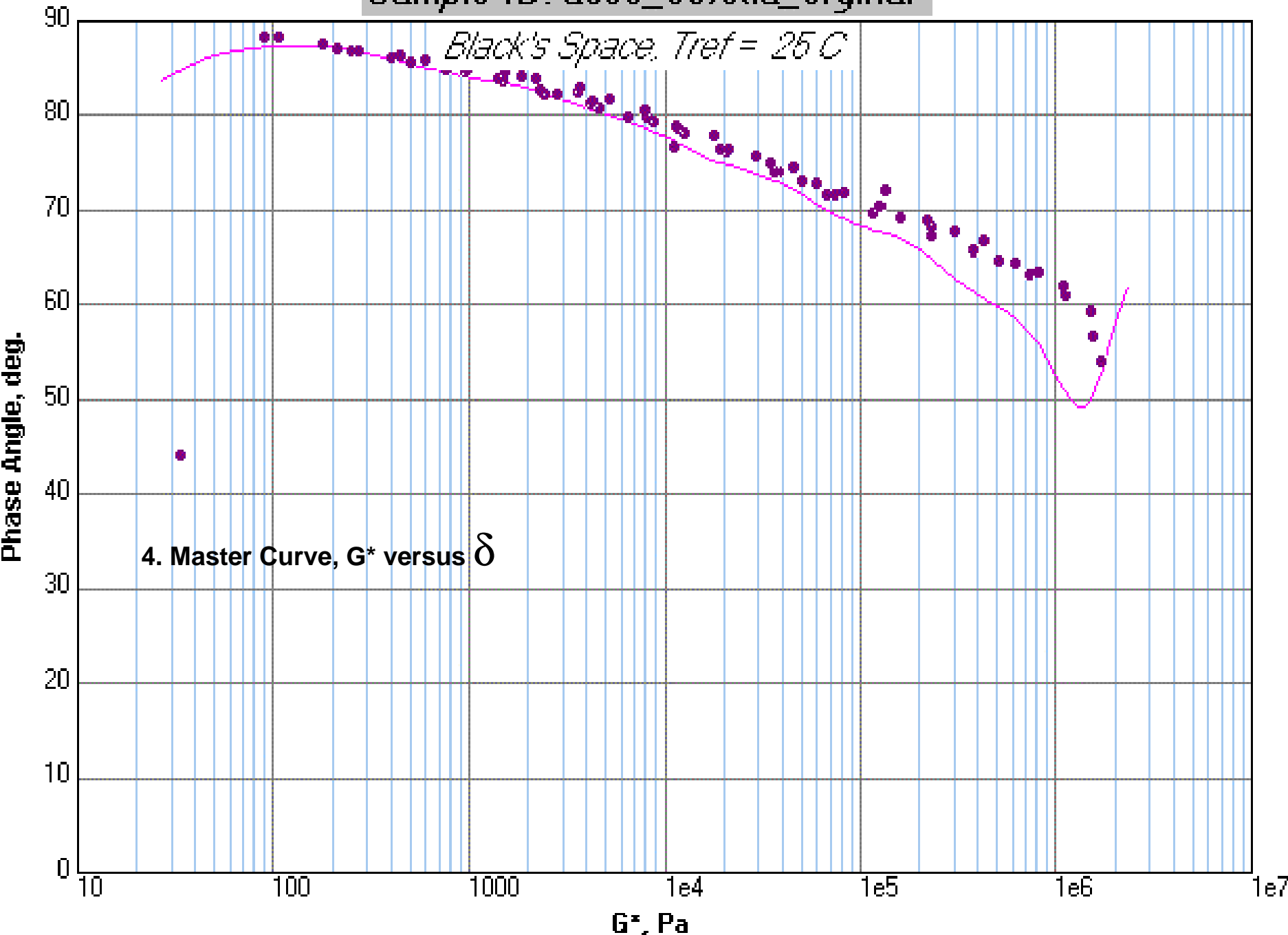


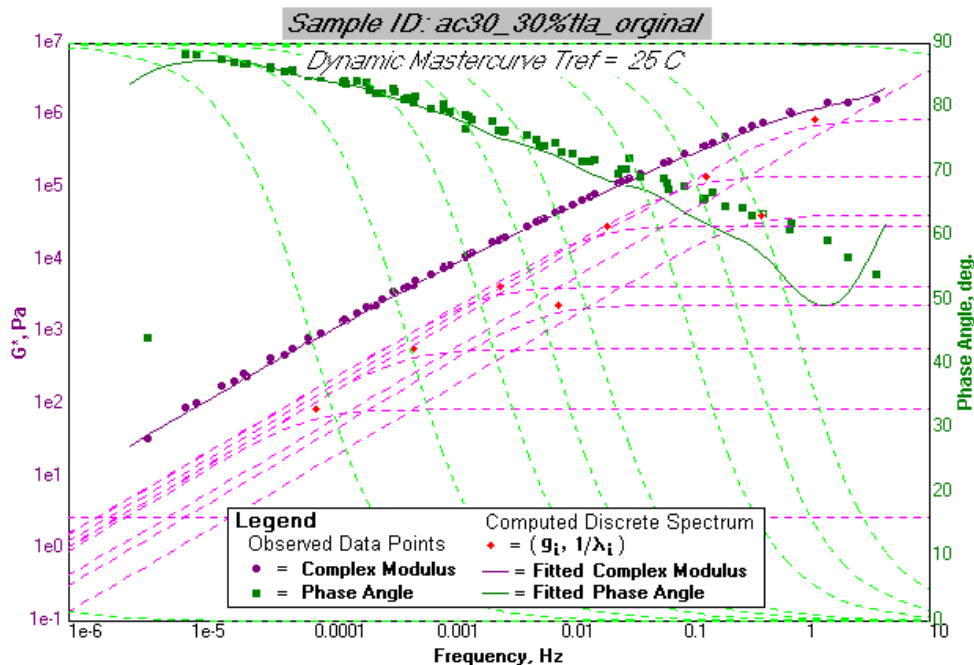
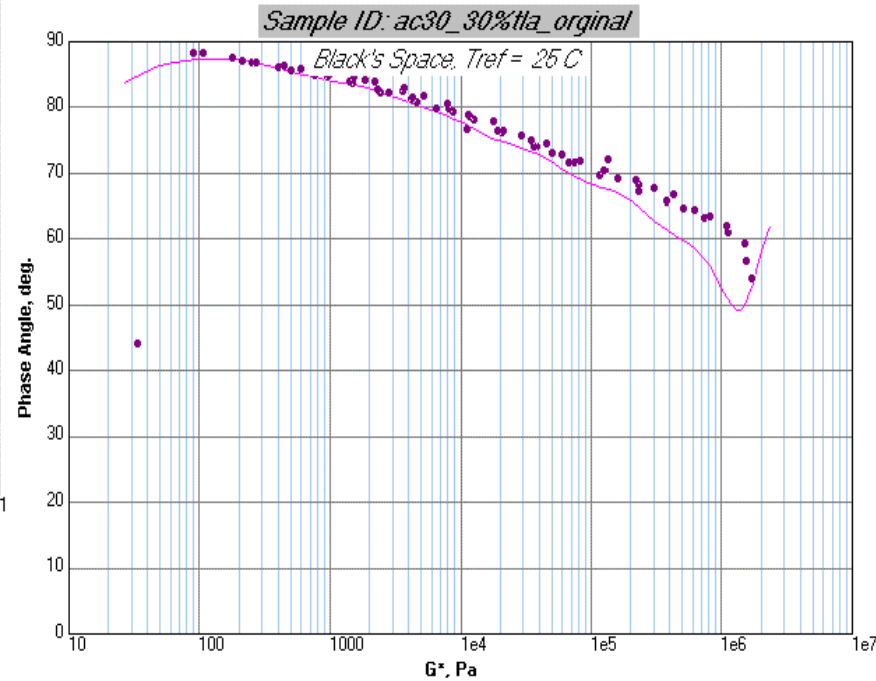
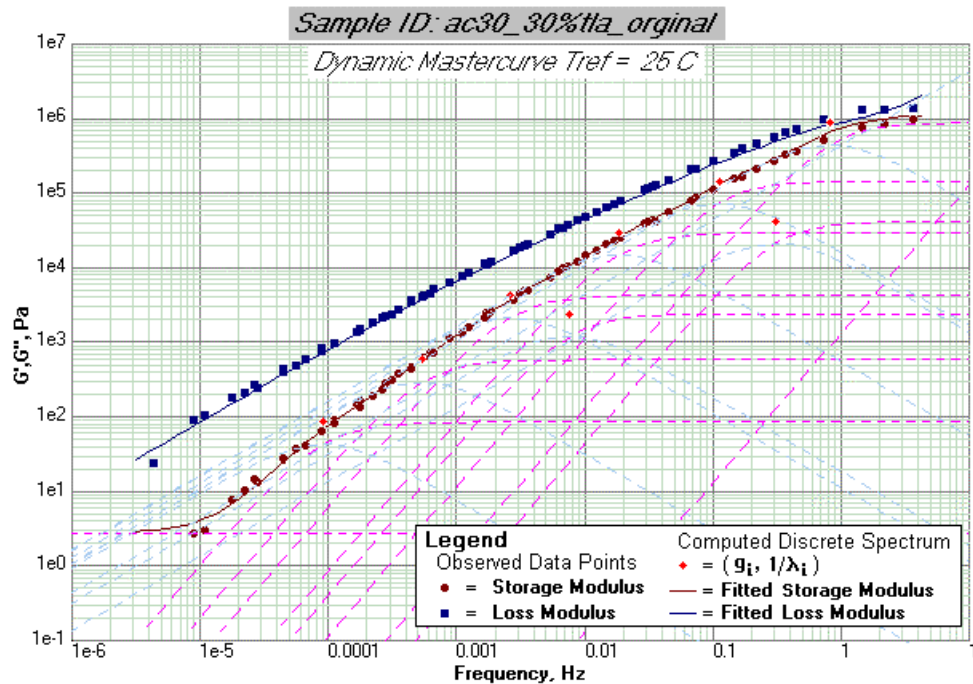
**Legend**

Observed Data Points	Computed Discrete Spectrum
● = Complex Modulus	♦ = $(g_i, 1/\lambda_i)$
■ = Phase Angle	— = Fitted Complex Modulus
	— = Fitted Phase Angle

Sample ID: ac30\_30%tla\_original

Black's Space. Tref = 25 C





### 3 formats for master curve

- $G'$ ,  $G''$  versus frequency
- $G^*$ ,  $\delta$  versus frequency
- $G^*$  versus  $\delta$  (Black space)

Error

# Typical Error

Typical error -

BBR - new spec -  $< 1.25\%$

Other DSR etc  $< 5\%$

Error need to be determined for various applications. Fit needs to consider “noise” and goodness of fit.

# Error Criteria

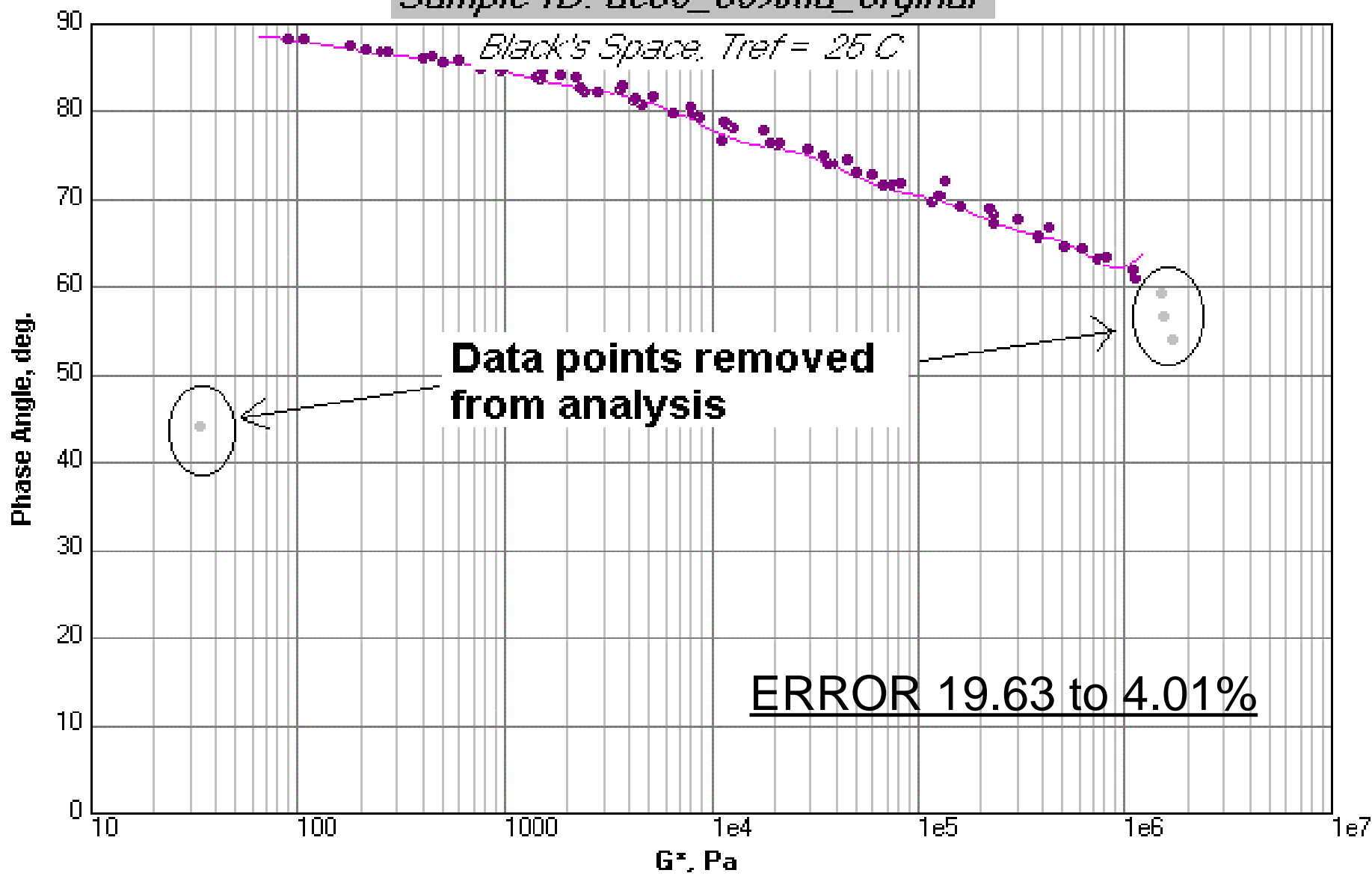
- Root mean square error

$$Error = \frac{(S(t) - S(t)_{fitted})}{S(t)}$$

$$rms(\%) = 100 \sqrt{\frac{SSRE}{12}}$$

Sample ID: ac30\_30%tla\_original

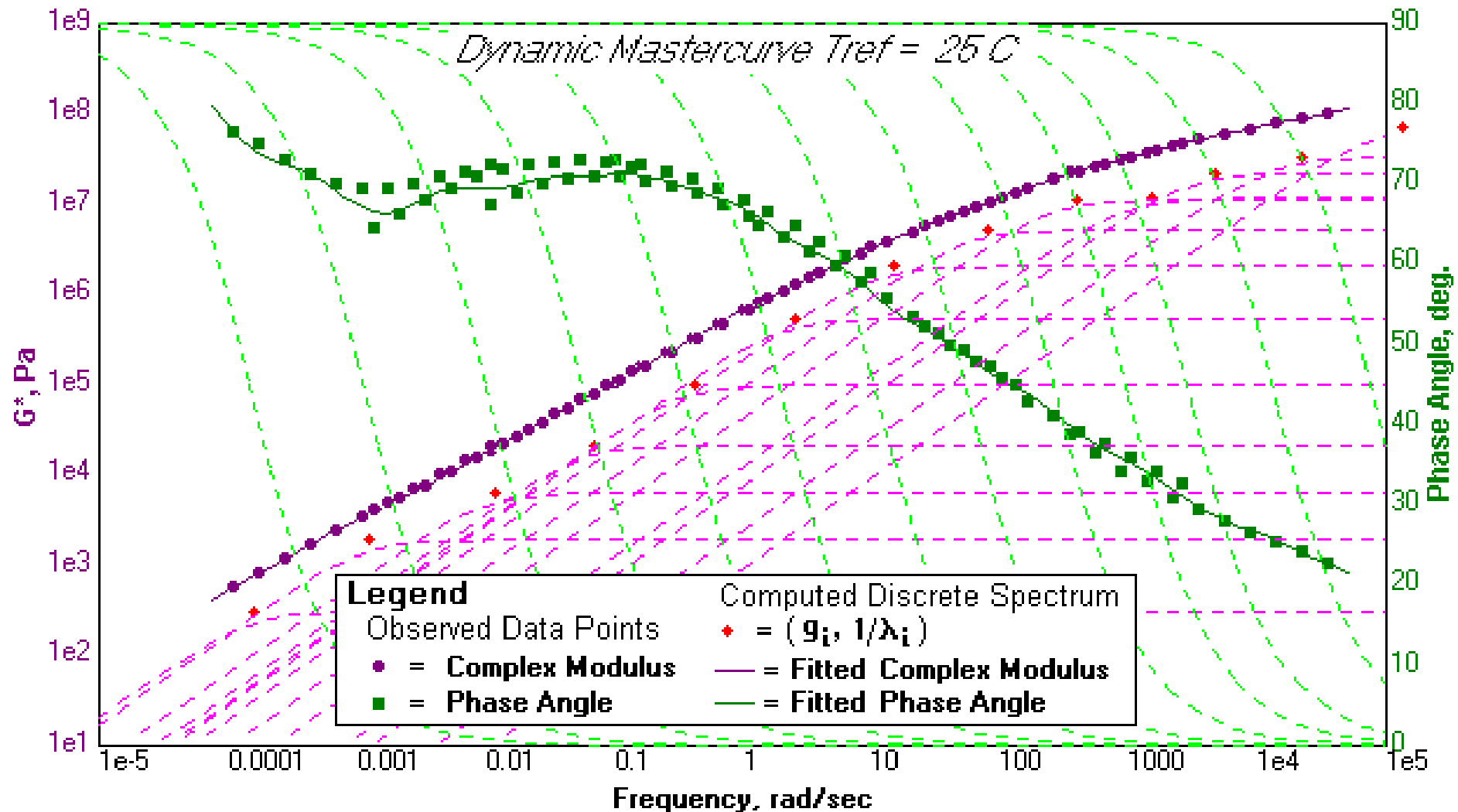
Black's Space. Tref = 25 C



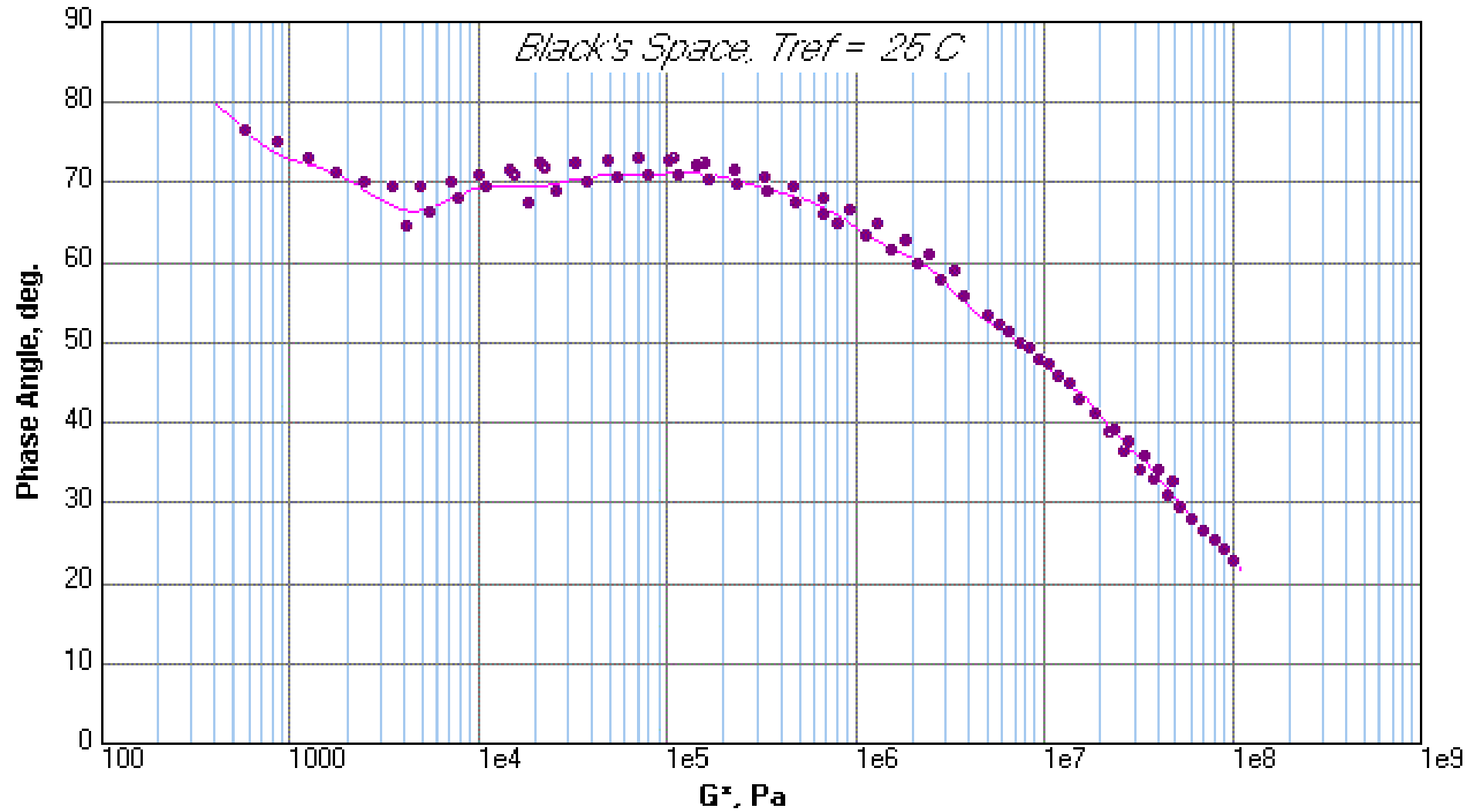
Data points removed from analysis

ERROR 19.63 to 4.01%

# Polymer modified binders



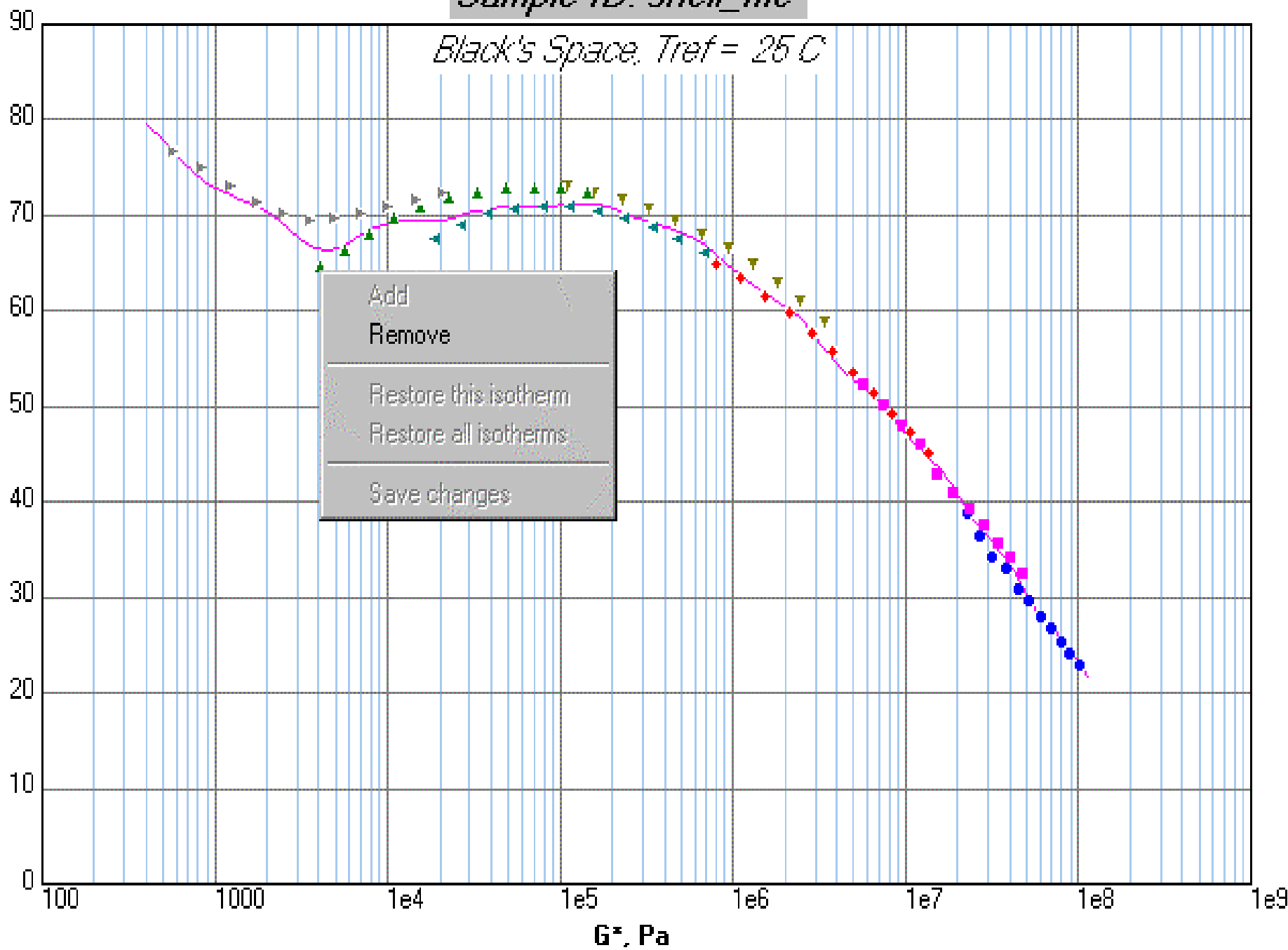
# Black space



Sample ID: shell\_mc

Black's Space, Tref = 25 C

Phase Angle, deg.



# Conclusions

- Software developed for rapid production of master curves
  - Shifting based on Gordon and Shaw
  - Inter-conversions enabled
  - Interpolation rapid and easy to perform
  - Graphs in different formats allows understanding of data
  - RMS error criteria - a measure of goodness of fit
  - Works well with modified binders and mixtures