TUAT Fluid Dynamics Seminar Effects of flexibility and entanglement of sodium hyaluronate in solutions on the elastic instability in micro abrupt contraction-expansion channels



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Abstract

Fluids containing a small amount of polymer induce complex flow behavior, that is, hierarchical flow characteristics affected by a length scale. Elastic instability in a microfluidic device is one of an interesting phenomenon of complex fluids. In this seminar, I will introduce the observation of sodium hyaluronate (Hyaluronic Acid Sodium salt, Na-HA) solution in planar abrupt contraction-expansion microchannels to discuss the effects of polymer flexibility and entanglement on elastic instability. As the rigidity of Na-HA depends on the ionic strength of a solvent, Na-HA was dissolved in water and phosphate buffered saline. The flow regimes of the Na-HA solutions in several planar abrupt contraction-expansion channels were characterized by rheological properties of the solution. It was found that the entanglement of Na-HA in the solution is a more

dominant factor affecting the flow regimes than the solution relaxation time and polymer rigidity.

