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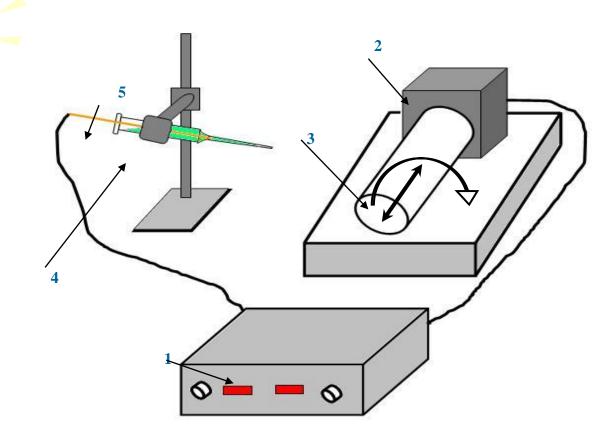
Factors affecting the Electrospinning العو امل المؤثرة في تقنية الغزل الكهربائي

By

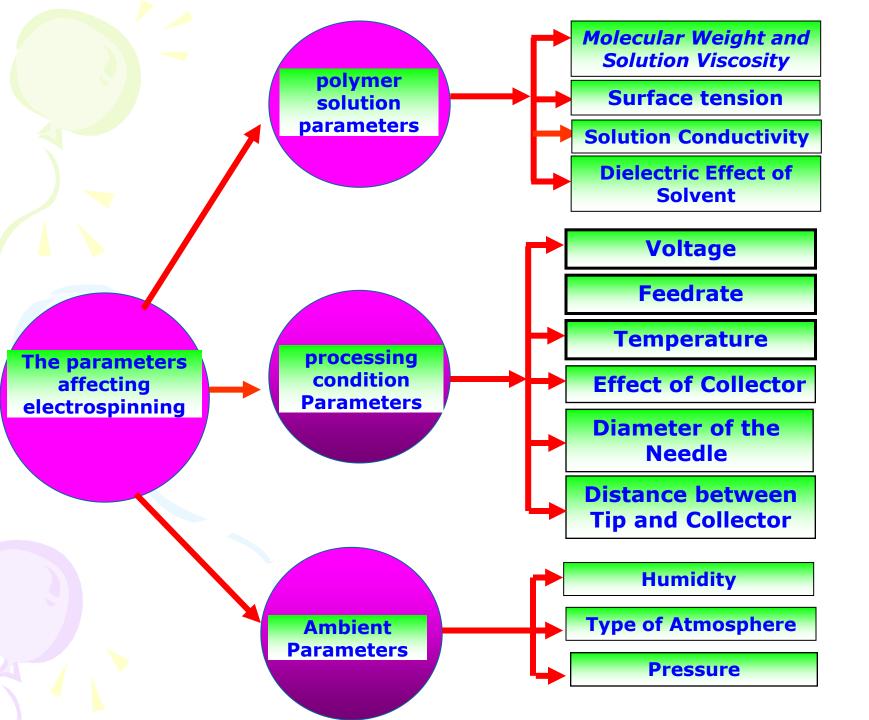
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Introduction

Although electrospinning is a very simple process, requiring just simple laboratory equipment to yield fibers down to the nanoscale, the science behind it is not simple at all. Electrospinning process involves the understanding of electrostatics, fluid rheology and polymer solution properties such as rate of solvent evaporation, surface tension and solution conductivity. These fundamental properties are constantly interacting and influencing each other during the electrospinning process.



. 'DC power supply . 'Electric Motor . 'Rotating collector '. Syringe '. Copper tip



Polymer Solution Parameters

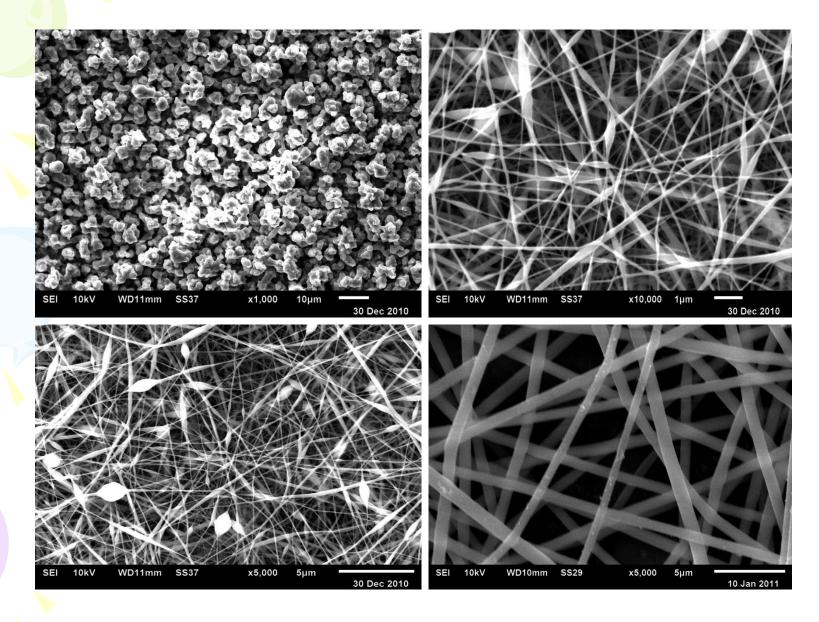
Molecular Weight and Solution Viscosity

- One of the conditions necessary for electrospinning to occur where fibers are formed is that the solution must consists of polymer of sufficient molecular weight and the solution must be of sufficient viscosity.
- Monomeric polymer solution does not form fibers when electrospun.
- The molecular weight of the polymer represents the length of the polymer chain, which in turn have an effect on the viscosity of the solution.
- Similar to increasing the molecular weight, an increased in the concentration will result in greater polymer chain entanglements within the solution.

•Many experiments have shown that a minimum viscosity for each polymer solution is required to yield fibers without beads.

•At a low viscosity, it is common to find beads along the fibers deposited on the collection plate.

•When the viscosity increases, there is a gradual change in the shape of the beads from spherical to spindle-like until a smooth fiber is obtained as shown in Fig.



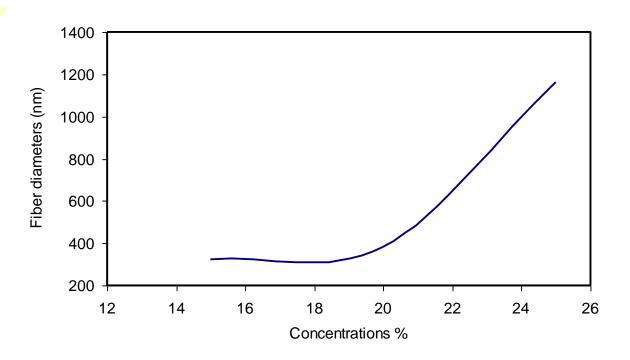


Figure: Effect of concentration on fiber diameter at constant electric potential, screen distance & flow rate

| Concentrations % | 15 | 20 | 25 |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|------|
| Fiber Diameters (nm) | 321 | 383 | 1164 |

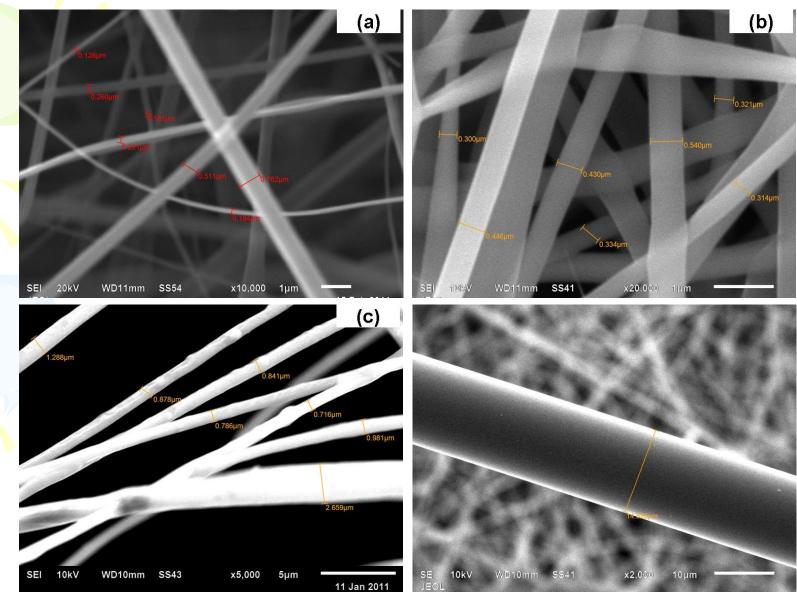


Figure: Microstructures showing the effect of concentration on fiber diameter at constant flow rate, screen distance & electric potential. (a) 15 %, (b) 20 %, (c) 25 % and (d) 30%