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8					
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10	Submitted to				
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12	Journal of Food Engineering				
13					
14	Revised Manuscript				
15	August 2018				
16					
17	©GLC, ZA, JG, GW and DIW				
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- 26 Quantifying the effect of solution formulation on the removal of soft solid food
- 27 deposits from stainless steel substrates
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- 33 Abstract

34 The role of detergent formulation on the cleaning of a complex carbohydrate-fat food 35 soil from stainless steel surfaces was studied using a modified version of the 36 millimanipulation device described by Ali et al. (2015b) which allowed the force 37 required to scrape the soil from the surface to be measured as the soil is immersed, in 38 situ and in real time. This allowed the influence of temperature, solution chemistry and 39 time on the mechanical forces (rheology) and removal behaviour of the soil to be 40 studied - in effect quantifying the relationships in Sinner's cleaning circle. The soil 41 simulated a burnt-on baked-on deposit and featured regular cracking in the 300 µm 42 thick layer. The removal force decreased noticeably on hydration: the cleaning 43 mechanism was then determined by the agents present. At 20°C, below the temperature 44 at which the fat phase was mobile, removal was characterised by cohesive failure except 45 in the presence of the cationic surfactant CTAB, which promoted adhesive failure and fast decay in removal force. At 50°C, when the fat was mobile, a transition between 46 47 cohesive and adhesive failure was observed at pH 7 which was inhibited at higher pH. 48 Adhesive failure and fast decay in removal force was observed at higher pH and 50°C 49 in the presence of the anionic and non-ionic surfactants, SDBS and TX-100, 50 respectively.

51 Keywords Millimanipulation, cleaning, adhesion, burnt soil, surfactant

52

53 Introduction

- 54 Fouling and cleaning is ubiquitous in the food sector, from the domestic kitchen to large
- scale manufacturing plants. The first commercially available electrical dishwasher was

56 sold in the 1920s and improvements to their effectiveness have been achieved both by 57 optimising the water cycling system (e.g. Rosa *et al*, 2012) and developing 58 combinations of cleaning agents in the 'detergent' to clean more quickly and impart 59 dishes with 'shine' (Showell, 2005; Rosen and Kunjappu, 2012).

60 Significant advances have been made in the understanding of the cleaning mechanisms 61 of single-component food soils over the past 20 years. Soils studied include whey 62 protein gels (Saikhwan et al, 2010), heated egg white (Li et al, 2015), milk deposits 63 generated during thermal processing (both pasteurisation and higher temperature 64 operation, e.g. Morison and Thorpe, 2001), mixtures of commercially available cooking 65 oils (Jurado-Alameda et al, 2015), and starches (Otto et al, 2016). The cleaning 66 mechanism is dictated by the composition and structure of the soil (Fryer and 67 Asteriadou, 2009) and those listed all differed noticeably.

68 For example, the wheat starches studied by Din and Bird (1996) were cleaned via 69 enzymatic breakdown of the starch polymers into dextrins, oligiosaccarides and sugars, 70 each of which are more soluble in water than the parent molecule (Pongsawasdo and 71 Murakami, 2010). Jurado-Alameda et al. (2015) found that surfactants such as linear 72 alkylybenzylsulphonate (LAS) had little impact on the rate and extent of cleaning of 73 dried potato starch residues on stainless steel fibres. In the absence of amylases, high 74 pH and long soaking times were required for cleaning regardless of surfactant 75 concentration. The use of heated solutions gave more benefit than other factors at room 76 temperature. Such information is often discussed in terms of Sinner's cleaning circle 77 relating how time, temperature, chemistry and mechanical forces together determine 78 how well and how fast different soils can be removed from a surface.

Protein-containing soils generated by cooking often contain thermally denatured gels.
These swell and may be broken down following contact with alkali, and cleaning can
involve dissolution or erosion, both of which can be diffusion limited (Morison 2002).
The erosion of heated whey protein deposits can be enhanced by flow pulsing (Gillham *et al*, 2000) or regular switching between cleaning solutions (Christian and Fryer 2006).

Oils have been found to be the most difficult of all common foodstuffs to clean (Detry *et al*, 2007, 2009; Palmisano *et al*, 2011) owing to their inherent hydrophobicity and tendency to wet many dishwares preferentially to water. Fatty soils pose a particular challenge as most consumer detergents employ aqueous solutions. The active agent 88 must therefore be soluble (or encapsulated) in water, preferentially adsorb on to the soil 89 surface, remove the soil from the substrate, and stabilise removed residues in the 90 solution. Highly polymerised lipids such as those found in burnt oil soils have limited 91 solubility in organic solutions and no recorded solubility in water (Ali et al, 2015a). 92 High pH or long soaking times are often required, in combination with mechanical 93 shear, to remove such soils from the substrate (Dunstan and Fletcher, 2014). Surfactants 94 can promote detachment of mobile components at the soil-substrate interface (Ali et al, 95 2015a, 2015b). A combination of saponification, mechanical cleaning and surfactant 96 action will be required to clean burnt oil soils as the existing literature does not report 97 a single mechanism being entirely effective.

98 Other techniques promoting cleaning include modification of the substrate, either 99 temporarily, such adjusting the electrostatic charge of a stainless steel surface 100 (Mauermann *et al.*, 2009) or permanently via coating (Ashokkumar and Adler-Nissen, 101 2011; Magens *et al.*, 2017). These approaches are suited for repeated processes where 102 the soil and substrate operations do not change: with multi-product plant (or facilities 103 such as a kitchen) one substrate may enhance cleaning of one soil and promote adhesion 104 of another (Ali, 2015).

105

106 Baking and drying

107 The properties of the soil to be cleaned are determined both by its composition and its 108 processing history, and particularly its thermal history (Fryer and Asteriadou, 2009). 109 Thermal transformation is widely used in food processing (baking, drying, frying, ...) 110 and exposure to high temperatures, often in humid environments, promotes 111 evaporation, shrinkage, and chemical reactions including free radical polymerisation, 112 condensation polymerisation and thermal decomposition. These structural changes 113 encourage closer packing which increases the cohesive forces in the soil (Stanga, 2010). 114 This paper considers baked mixtures of proteins, fats and starches (with small amounts 115 of minerals and fibres).

Drying (typically at 85-90 °C for 1 hour) has been shown to increase soil adhesion. Marked increases in both the cohesive and adhesive strength of starch soils following water loss were reported in ultrasound cleaning studies by Stanga (2010) and dynamic mechanical analysis measurements by Jonhed *et al.* (2008). Surface energy studies by

120 Otto et al. (2016) demonstrated that whilst starch underwent structural changes during 121 heating, whey and soy proteins exhibited a significantly larger response to heating as 122 measured by UV-Vis photometry in a continuous flow cleaning system. Protein 123 denaturation caused by heating for an hour at temperatures above 55 °C caused internal 124 hydrophobic structures to become exposed, accompanied by a large shift in the Lifshitz-125 van der Waals component of the soils surface energy measured for those soils. This 126 leads to strong wetting and adhesion on stainless steel surfaces. The additional exposure 127 of internal binding groups such as sulfyl hydride allows disulphide bridges to form on 128 drying, forming denser, more cohesive soils on the substrate (Castner and Ratner, 129 2002).

In this work the soiling layers were baked at 204 °C for 7 minutes, so that virtually all the water initially present is evaporated off and the above structural changes are accompanied by reaction steps. These burnt complex soil layers pose particular challenges for cleaning and the aim of this work is to generate insights into how particular cleaning agents or mixtures thereof achieve soil weakening or removal of multi-phase soils comprising of burnt starch-protein-fats solid networks surrounded by more mobile fats.

137

138 Soil Adhesion Forces

Sinner's circle allows information about cleaning to be linked qualitatively, and there is a need to quantify the effect of chemistry and temperature on removal. For soils which do not dissolve, the response to mechanical forces, *i.e.* their rheology, needs to be quantified, preferably *in situ* and in real time.

143 Cleaning ultimately involves disruption of soil-substrate bonds. Soils bind through a 144 combination of Lifshitz-van der Waals, ionic and electrostatic forces (Moeller and 145 Nirschl, 2017). In dry conditions Lifshitz-van der Waals tend to dominate (Kumar et 146 al, 2013) but when immersed in aqueous solution, electrostatic forces, influenced by 147 factors such as pH and electrolyte concentration, play a larger role (Israelachvilli, 148 1998). Prochaska et al. (2007) reported that cationic starches had a stronger binding 149 potential to stainless steel than natural starch, and attributed this to differences in ionic 150 interactions with the steel surface which, when submerged in water, acquire a negative charge. Determining the impact of cleaning agents on the balance of all the above interactions provides insight into the cleaning mechanisms and thus development of more effective dishwashing formulations through targeted selection of agents for components which are difficult to remove (Basso *et al.*, 2017).

155 Measurement of the forces required to clean, *i.e.* detach elements of soil from a 156 substrate in a given environment is currently performed at three length scales of 157 investigation: the nano-, micro- and macro-scales.

158 Macroscale testing of cleaning performance is the most widespread approach as it 159 underpins empirical investigation and supports direct transfer of results to practice. 160 Cleaning-in-place (CIP) systems are widely used to ensure the hygiene of food manufacturing plant, and scaled down systems have been used to investigate such 161 162 operations. Interpretation of the results in terms of cleaning mechanisms can require 163 detailed analysis which is not always straightforward. The bath-substrate-flow system 164 employed by Jurado-Alameda et al. (2015) allows the effect of solution formulation to 165 be studied but the flow regime in the cell is complex so identifying the dependency on 166 local flow velocity (and hydraulic forces) is difficult. Flow cells (e.g. Bishop, 1997; 167 Detry et al, 2007; 2009) are often used to study the impact of shear forces in cleaning 168 as the fluid flow patterns are known or can be predicted numerically, so that the results 169 can be related to the process scale.

170 At the other end of the spectrum, nano-scale investigations typically involve measuring 171 the adhesive forces between well-defined elements of a test soil and a surface. Aktar et al. (2010) used an AFM cantilever to measure the adhesion force¹ associated with 172 173 removal of caramel particles from stainless steel and recorded values in the range of 0.1-0.3 N m⁻¹. Bobe *et al.* (2007) reported similar values, of 0.21 - 1.3 N m⁻¹, for 174 removal of yeast particles from stainless steel surfaces. These forces depended on 175 176 particle size and the distance of the tip from the soil. Such techniques can provide 177 valuable insight into the chemical and electrostatic forces active in soil-substrate 178 binding, and in attachment of spores and bacteria (e.g. Lelièvre et al, 2002).

¹ Adhesion forces are reported in N m⁻¹: this quantity is equivalent to surface energy, in J m⁻²

179 Food soils tend to be multicomponent and microstructured, subject to variations in 180 topology, morphology and electrostatic environments across the substrate at the length scale of $10 - 100 \mu m$. Additional information on interactions is required for such 181 182 systems and researchers have therefore tended to focus at the micro-scale. Moeller and 183 Nirschl (2017) deposited approximately 1000 particles of starch-based soil onto a 184 stainless steel surface and measured the centrifugal force required to remove them. This 185 allowed statistical treatment of the results from a test of reasonable duration. They 186 found that the repeatability of the method was highly dependent upon the soil type and 187 structure: the more complex the soil the lower the repeatability. In this paper tests are 188 performed in triplicate in order to create higher confidence in the repeatability of the 189 results. This number of tests does not support a rigorous statistical analysis.

190 Surface roughness has also been shown to lead to variability in testing at this length 191 scale. Hauser (2008) reported a decrease in adhesive strength between soil and substrate 192 with increasing roughness but also a decrease in cleaning efficiency in immersed 193 systems. Bobe *et al.* (2007) pointed out that measures of roughness such as R_q provide 194 no information about the 'structure' of the roughness elements, e.g. spherical vs 195 cylindrical vs conical, which play an important role in adhesion. Quantifying roughness 196 and relating it to adhesion forces continues to be an active topic of investigation, 197 promoted by the advent of nano-fabrication and tailoring of surfaces (LaMarche, 2017).

198 A number of micro-scale devices have been developed for studying the forces involved 199 in cleaning under chemical environments and differences between soil components. 200 These typically involve imposing a known shear force or shear stress on the layer and 201 measuring the resulting deformation, or imposing a deformation etc. Fluid dynamic 202 gauging (FDG) is an example of the former and has been used to monitor the strength 203 (Chew et al, 2004) and swelling characteristics (Gordon et al, 2010) of food soils when 204 contacted with a variety of cleaning solutions. Whereas denatured whey proteins were 205 reported to swell and erode in alkali, gelatin and egg proteins both swelled but both 206 require shear forces to effect removal (Gordon et al, 2010; Perez-Mohedano et al, 207 2016). Ali et al. (2015a) observed little swelling with burnt oil soils in aqueous cleaning 208 solutions and removal of these was characterised by a 'cohesive blistering' mechanism. 209 The size and quantity of blisters formed per sample depended upon the solution pH and 210 the shear forces generated by agitation of the solution.

211 The use of controlled deformation (effectively controlled strain) devices was pioneered 212 by workers at Birmingham (Liu et al, 2002) who adapted a micromanipulation device 213 originally developed for studying individual yeast cells (Marmoushy *et al.*, 1998) to 214 study the removal of biofilms and soil layers. Liu et al (2002) identified and quantified 215 different failure modes between soil types: baked tomato paste removal was dominated 216 by its cohesive strength, exhibited by its detachment in chunks even after soaking in an 217 external bath, while pure whey protein deposits exhibited predominately cohesive 218 failure.²

219 Micromanipulation tends to work at scale of tens of microns, and the heterogeneity of 220 food deposits prompted workers such as Ashokkumar and Adler-Nissen (2011) and Ali 221 et al. (2015b) to develop 'millimanipulation' devices which could be used to study 222 composite deposits, as well as hard layers which techniques such as FDG could not 223 deform. Those workers considered dry deposit layers. In this work, the device presented 224 by Magens et al. (2017) was adapted to allow immersion of the sample in cleaning solutions for controlled lengths of time, at temperatures ranging from 20 °C to 50 °C. 225 226 mimicking the chemical environment in a domestic automatic dishwasher. The soil 227 studied is a complex mixture of starch, protein and fat, representative of some 228 encountered in practice. The measurements provide indications of the rheology and 229 cleaning behaviour of the soil, immersed in cleaning solution, in situ and in real time 230 and thereby provide direct quantification of the effects of the parameters in Sinner's 231 cleaning circle.

232

233 Materials and Methods

234 Soils and substrates

A model burnt soil deposit, henceforth referred to a complex model soil (CMS), was generated containing fats, carbohydrates and proteins as detailed in Table 1. This formulation was provided by Procter and Gamble to mimic consumer products known to pose difficulty in automatic dishwashers. The soil was applied as a slurry to stainless steel substrates, dried and baked.

^{240 &}lt;sup>2</sup> There is a difference in terminology between Liu *et al.* (2002) and this paper. Liu *et al.* described a soil as failing cohesively when the adhesive strength of the soil to the substrate is lower than the internal cohesive strength of the soil. Here, cohesive failure is used to describe the case when the cohesive strength of the soil is lower than the adhesive strength of the soil to the substrate.

244 Slurry preparation involved boiling the pasta in deionised water for 7 minutes before 245 draining the liquid off and adding the solids to the fat emulsion (pre-heated to 50 °C), 246 milk, cheese powder and salt. The mixture was then blended for 1.5 minutes at 247 maximum speed on a household food processor (Cookworks, HA-3213) until it 248 appeared homogenous to the eye. An excess of the slurry was placed on the sample 249 plate and a wiping blade device (Supplementary Figure S1) similar to that reported by 250 Glover *et al.* (2016) was used to generate a smooth layer of initial thickness δ . The gap 251 between the blade and the substrate is set by a pair of micrometers with a precision of 252 $\pm 1 \,\mu$ m: the dried layer was rougher than this owing to the inherent heterogeneity of the 253 slurry. δ was typically 300 µm and the layer mass approximately 1.8 g, giving an initial 254 coverage on 50×50 mm test plates of 0.72 kg m⁻².

The sample was then left to dry in air (20°C, 48 % humidity) for 24 hours before being baked in air in a conventional oven at 204 °C for 7 minutes. Baked samples were left standing in ambient air to cool to room temperature before testing.

- Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC, Supplementary Figure S2) indicated that the majority of volatiles in the CMS are lost in the drying stage of sample preparation. A broad melting peak was evident in the dried and burnt samples between 20 and 40°C, with a sharp exothermic peak at 20°C on cooling, which is attributed to the fat phase.
- 262 The effect of temperature on the fat component was evaluated by studying the rheology 263 of the emulsion employed in the formulation over the range 10-60°C, spanning the 264 temperatures employed in the cleaning tests. The fat present in the soil contains less 265 water and its rheological behaviour will be affected by changes introduced by baking 266 and components absorbed from other ingredients in the CMS, so these results are 267 interpreted as indicators of the fat behaviour. Samples were tested in a Malvern Kinexus rheometer using a 40 mm diameter smooth 4° cone and plate configuration. Shear rate 268 269 sweeps at 22°C indicated viscoplastic behaviour (see Supplementary Figure S3 inset) with a critical stress of approximately 160 Pa and a critical shear rate of around 1 s⁻¹. 270 Measurement of apparent viscosity were therefore made at 0.1 s⁻¹ at intervals of 5 K. 271 272 The apparent viscosity decreased strongly with temperature until 40°C, above which it 273 was almost insensitive to temperature and the behaviour was Newtonian. This was

interpreted as the temperature at which the fat phase in the soil was expected to become

275 mobile (i.e. more free flowing). These observations are consistent with the DSC results.

276 The substrates were fabricated from 316 stainless steel. The data presented here were 277 obtained using 50 mm square plates with thickness 3 mm and surface root mean square 278 roughness, $R_{q_s} = 1.6 \,\mu m$ (measured using a scanning confocal thickness sensor, Micro-279 Epsilon model IFS2405-3). Prior to applying the soil the substrates were cleaned by 280 sonication for 10 minute periods in aqueous 1M NaOH, dishwashing solution (Fairy LiquidTM in reverse osmosis water, $< 5 \text{ g L}^{-1}$) then acetone, scrubbing with a soft cloth 281 282 following each sonication step. Cleaning was repeated if any residual soil was visible. 283 After each test any remaining soil was removed using a plastic spatula and the plate left 284 to soak in 1M NaOH/soap solution overnight and rinsed with deionised water before 285 undergoing the procedure outlined above.

286 Figure 1 shows photographs of the soil layer before and after baking. Drying was 287 accompanied by a loss of around 50 % of the initial soil mass, which is comparable 288 with the water content of the mixture (Table 1). A further 10 wt.% was lost during 289 baking and was accompanied by visible cracking of the layer (see Figure 1(b)). It was 290 not possible to generate layers of this soil free from cracks but prolonging the drying 291 time, such as allowing the moisture to evaporate overnight before baking, reduced the 292 severity and size of the cracking. Thinner soiling layers (δ initial < 200 µm) exhibited 293 finer scale cracking patterns, as defined both by cracking frequency and width, than 294 thicker ones (δ initial > 500 µm), which is consistent with the literature on film cracking 295 (Lee and Routh, 2004).

296 The crack pattern structure was quantified using two methods. The first was based on 297 the fraction of the plate area occupied by cracks. This was calculated by converting a 298 photograph into a binary image in MatlabTM (Figure 1(c)) and dividing the soiled region 299 into ten equal strips. The fraction of cracked area was calculated for each strip, giving 300 an average of 38.8% with a standard deviation of 5.3%. The second was to count the 301 number of cracks along 9 equally-spaced gridlines (Figure 1(d)). This gave averages (\pm 302 standard deviation) in the vertical and horizontal directions of 19.0 \pm 3.0 and 21.2 \pm 303 2.6, respectively, corresponding to a crack spacing of approximately 2.5 mm.

305 Millimanipulation flow system

306 The millimanipulation device described by Magens et al. (2017) (Figure 2) was 307 modified to include a solution circulation system. The sample is located on a computer-308 controlled translation stage (labelled E on the figure, Standa 103880) which moves the 309 sample so that the layer is forced against the blade (B, 24.6 mm long) at set velocity V. 310 The blade is mounted on the end of a frictionless pivot and the force imposed on the 311 blade is measured by a force transducer (C). Upwards motion of the blade, which would 312 affect the measurement, is inhibited by a counterweight (D). Further details of the 313 device and its operation are given in Magens et al. (2017).

The sample mount is located within a stainless steel chamber (internal dimensions $113 \times 61 \times 13$ mm). The volume of solution volume held in the chamber after locating the sample is approximately 87 ml.

A stirred 1 litre jacketed vessel served as the solution reservoir. Liquid is delivered at a set flow rate by a peristaltic pump to the base of the sample chamber (marked I). The solution passes across the chamber and leaves via the outlet located on the far wall before draining back to the reservoir under gravity. The reservoir contents are heated by recirculation of hot water through the jacket. The temperature of the solution is monitored by a thermocouple located in the sample chamber. Changes to solution composition are made in the reservoir.

324 The tests reported here featured a solution flow rate of 100 ml min⁻¹, giving a space 325 time of approximately 53 s. The time taken for a change in solution chemistry to take 326 effect in the chamber was determined by a simple residence time test whereby the 327 conductivity of the solution in the reservoir was altered by adding a 10 mL dose of 1 M 328 NaOH and monitoring the conductivity of the liquid leaving the chamber. Figure 3 329 shows that breakthrough is observed after approximately 30 seconds followed by a two-330 step change in conductivity which could be modelled approximately as plug flow (along 331 the connecting tubing) in parallel with a mixing element. The inset in Figure 3 shows 332 that the change in conductivity was complete after 150 s at this flow rate.

333

334 Test protocol

335 Cleaning solution was initially circulated through the empty chamber to bring it to the 336 required temperature. The solution was allowed to drain and the sample swiftly 337 mounted in place, dry, and the millimanipulation blade located to pass over the substrate 338 with a 50 µm gap. Solution was then reintroduced and pumped through the chamber at 339 a rate of 100 ml min⁻¹. Once the surface of the layer was immersed, the blade motion 340 was initiated. The bladed moved across the sample at velocity V for a set time t_s to give a total displacement $X = Vt_s$. The velocity and distance travelled can be set as required 341 (see Magens *et al*, 2017). In these tests V was 0.1 mm s⁻¹ and the force on the blade was 342 recorded at 151 Hz. For ease of plotting, the data are truncated on a 1:100 basis. The 343 344 removal force per unit width, F_w , was calculated from

345
$$F_{w} = \frac{\text{measured force}}{\text{blade width}}$$
 [1]

Tests were performed in triplicate. Removal profiles such as Figure 6 feature the average value of F_w plotted against blade-soil displacement, *x*. Later profiles show F_w plotted against time in contact with cleaning solution: since *V* is constant in these tests, the abscissa is readily converted between *x* and *t*.

350 Interpretation of $F_{\rm w}$ measurements in terms of material parameters and relating these to 351 cleaning applications requires some care, as outlined by Ali et al. (2015b). When 352 removal occurs purely by adhesive failure, F_w provides a measure of the work required 353 to peel a deposit away from a surface and this can be related to forces (or momentum) 354 applied to a layer by a tool or a flow. When removal occurs by cohesive breakdown, a 355 quantitative model of the deformation is needed to isolate the contributions from 356 rheological parameters such as yield strength and elastic compression to the measured 357 force. These material parameters then need to be compared with the forces imposed in 358 the cleaning operation. For cleaning in pipe flows, these are typically related to fluid 359 shear but in cleaning by impinging jets or liquid films, shear and extensional forces can 360 act depending on the geometry and whether the liquid film is confined or has a free 361 surface. At a coarse level, F_w can be used to gauge the change in material strength.

362 Test solutions

Tests solutions were prepared in batches using 1 L deionised water and the pH adjusted to 7, 9 or 12 using 1 M aqueous NaOH. Surfactant solutions were prepared at 1 wt.% loading using sodium dodecyl benzene sulfonate (SDBS, anionic, critical micelle concentration (CMC) 0.1 g L⁻¹ (Sanz *et al.* 2003), hexadecyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB, cationic, CMC 0.334 g L⁻¹ (Previdello *et al.* 2006), and toctylphenoxypolyethoxyethanol (TX-100, non-ionic; CMC 0.0131 g L⁻¹ (Ruiz *et al.* 2001). The mixtures were prepared by stirring at 50 °C for 30 minutes before being left to cool to room temperature.

371

372 **Results and Discussion**

373 *Effect of contact with cleaning solution for set time*

374 The impact of immersion was initially assessed by comparing F_w before and after the 375 sample was contacted with cleaning solution for a set time. Dry samples prepared on 376 discs or square plates were mounted in the solution chamber with no liquid present and $F_{\rm w}$ measured at V = 0.1 mm s⁻¹ for 200 s, giving $X_{\rm dry} = 20$ mm (region A in Figure 4). 377 378 Solution was then introduced to the chamber for periods ranging from 1 - 60 min with 379 the sample stationary, after which F_w was measured for a further 200 s, giving 20 mm 380 $< X_{\text{wet}} \le 40 \text{ mm}$. A section of undisturbed material 10 mm long remained. Figure 4(b) 381 shows an example of a square plate following testing with 1 wt% SDBS solution at pH 382 10 and room temperature. There is a noticeable amount of residual material on the 383 substrate in region A (dry removal) compared with region B (following soaking), 384 indicating that the adhesion of the soil to the substrate had decreased significantly.

The change in soil behaviour was also evident in the behaviour of the removed oil. Figure 5(a) shows that, prior to soaking, removal is characterised by the 'chipping' away of small chunks of material by the blade. After soaking, the removed soil forms a weakly cohesively-bound heap ahead of blade (Figure 5(b)). The absence of much residual material on the substrate indicates that adhesion of the soil layer was reduced more than cohesive interactions within the layer.

The importance of mechanical action is demonstrated by the presence of the residual material in region A and the original soil layer in region C. These remained in place, unchanged, after soaking, indicating that the weak shear force associated with the solution flow was not large enough to disrupt either material. 395 The corresponding F_w profiles are shown in Figure 6. The dry profiles exhibit a cut-off at 430 N m⁻¹, which is due to the maximum force that could be measured for this setting 396 397 of the transducer. The range can be extended by adjusting the transducer position, at 398 the expense of reducing the sensitivity for weaker layers. The oscillations evident in the 399 dry $F_{\rm w}$ profiles arise from the cracked nature of the soils. Regions free of deposit do not 400 contribute to the force on the blade, and the periodicity is roughly consistent with the 401 average measured crack spacing of 2.3 mm (Figure 1(d)). The average value of F_w for 402 dry samples was consistent between tests, at approximately 400 N m⁻¹ (1 s.f.). This is 403 comparable with the F_w values reported by Ali et al. (2015b) for baked lard (up to 430 404 N m⁻¹ for oils cooked for 5 hr at 220°C).

405 The F_w profiles for samples soaked at pH 10 at room temperature in Figure 6(b) show 406 similar oscillation, associated with inhomogeneous coverage, and a general reduction 407 in absolute amplitude with time. The relative amplitude of oscillation is consistent at approximately 20 % of the mean Fw value indicating the impact of the cracking is 408 409 consistent over the test duration. The values are larger than those reported by Akhtar et al. (2010) and Bobe et al. (2007) of 0.1 - 0.3 and 1.3 N m⁻¹ for fresh caramel and 410 yeast layers, respectively. With extended soaking they approach those reported by Ali 411 412 et al. (2015b) for unbaked oil soils with thickness ranging from 0.3 to 0.6 mm, of 0-20 N m⁻¹. 413

The average F_w value is plotted against soaking time in Figure 7, normalised by the dry value. After 10 minutes of soaking there was virtually no variation in F_w . Much of the weakening of the adhesive forces occurred within the first 10 minutes of soaking, and there is a noticeable reduction in F_w for the test started after 5 minutes of soaking, indicating that changes were occurring over this timescale. Subsequent testing focused on shorter soaking periods, measuring F_w continuously for 500 s after the soil contacted the solution.

Figure 7 also shows the average F_w values measured after soaking in 1 wt% SDBS solution at the same temperature and pH. There is no significant effect of this anionic surfactant, as both data sets exhibit an almost exponential decay to $F_{w,wet}/F_{w,dry} = 0.05$ after 10 minutes. The F_w value obtained with SDBS after 60 minutes was larger than at 10 minutes, which was attributed to this sample having swollen more and having 426 absorbed more water. Similar results were obtained for SDBS solutions at pH 11 and427 12 (data not reported).

428

429 Effect of contact with solution, continuous measurement: effect of temperature

Figure 8(a) shows examples of removal profiles obtained with no pre-soaking in water 430 431 at pH 7 and 20 °C, with no surfactant present. The initial F_W values are noticeably smaller than the average of 400 N m⁻¹ for dry deposits evident in Figure 6(a). This arises 432 433 from the nature of the layer at the edge of plates differing from that in the interior. When 434 the slurry is applied to the plate the layer is pinned at the edges so the layer thickness 435 is thinner there and subject to a different drying and baking history. Data obtained for t < 40 s (labelled A on the Figure) and t > 460 s (labelled D) were therefore excluded 436 437 from comparisons.

438 It is evident that stage A masks a rapid reduction in removal force caused by hydration 439 following initial contact with solution. The F_w values measured after 60 s (stage B) lie 440 in the range 100 – 150 N m⁻¹, which is larger than that observed at pH 10 (Figure 6): 441 the effect of pH is discussed in the next section. In stage B there is a slow decrease in 442 F_w with time which in Figure 8(*a*) is masked by the scatter in the data: this feature is 443 clearer in Figure 8(*b*), obtained at 50°C, and subsequent plots.

- 444 After 460 s at 20°C, there is a transition to a faster decay in F_w (labelled stage C): the 445 transition time is labelled t_c . At 50°C, Figure 8(*b*), $t_c \sim 220$ s and F_w decreases more 446 quickly, with noticeably less scatter. The data could be fitted to an exponential decay 447 expression with characteristic decay time, $D_r \sim 125 \pm 3$ s, as well as less scatter.
- The photographs in Figure 8 show that the transition is accompanied by a change in the amount of soil remaining on the substrate, with almost no residual material after t_c . These findings indicate that the adhesion of the soil to the substrate changes at t_c : the soil is still removed as a coherent layer, with cohesion within the soil (which may be decreasing due to the uptake of water) stronger than the adhesion to the substrate.
- The B/C transition is more likely to arise from water penetrating through the soil (*i.e.* related to absorption and diffusion) rather than being due to ingress of water at the soil-

455 substrate interface. The latter would start as soon as there was contact with solution via456 the network of cracks in the layer.

Figure 8 confirms that temperature is an important parameter in cleaning of the CMS 457 458 material, as Sinner's circle indicates. 50°C is a standard operating temperature in 459 domestic dishwashers, and lies above the temperature estimated for the fat-rich phase 460 in the CMS to become more fluid. The time taken for a 200 µm thick soil layer to reach 461 50°C after contacting the solution can be estimated by considering conduction through a slab of baked material with a thermal diffusivity of 2×10^{-7} m²/s (Rask, 1989). This 462 463 gives a heating time of order 1 s, which is negligible. The initial F_w values are larger at 464 50°C than at 20°C (but subject to considerable scatter), which may be due to faster 465 swelling. The B/C transition occurs earlier, which is consistent with faster diffusion, 466 while the presence of mobile fat is likely to facilitate adhesive failure. A pseudoexponential decay in stage C was not observed at 20° C. This may be because the 467 468 solution was not in contact with the solution for long enough at this lower temperature.

469

470 *Effect of pH*

471 Many detergents are alkaline as this promotes swelling of proteins and hydrolysis of
472 fats. The impact of pH on removing CMS layers was investigated primarily with water
473 at pH 7 and aqueous NaOH solutions (pH 9 and 12) at 20 °C and at 50 °C.

Figure 9 shows that pH had little influence at 20 °C. The removal profiles are similar, with initial F_w values following hydration between 140 and 200 N m⁻¹, followed by a slow linear decay. The B/C transition evident at pH 7 was not observed at pH 9 and occurred later, around 410 s, at pH 12. As a result the non-edge data were fitted to a simple linear trend: the decay rate was greatest at pH 9.

The removal profiles at 50°C at pH 9 and pH 12 in Figure 10 do not show the marked transition evident at 220 s at pH 7 (Figure 8(b)). Decay profiles measured at pH 6 and 8 were similar to those at pH 7 (Supplementary Figure S4). The initial F_w values are similar to those at 20 °C and the linear decay rates were faster at this higher temperature, at 0.51 ± 0.01 N m⁻¹ s⁻¹ (pH 7) and 0.26 ± 0.01 N m⁻¹ s⁻¹ at pH 9 and 12. Whereas F_w decayed almost exponentially in stage C at pH 7, the decay at pH 9 is close to linear 485 until $t \sim 420$ s and at pH 12 F_w does not decay strongly until around 300 s. The 486 photograph provided as insets show a gradual change in residual soil on the substrate, 487 which is consistent with the removal profiles.

488 The effect of alkali at 50°C is unexpected, as higher pH often accelerates cleaning of 489 proteinaceous food soils (Morison and Thorpe, 2002; Fryer and Asteriadou, 2009), 490 although some proteinaceous soils exhibit an optimal pH in alkaline cleaning (Mercade-491 Prieto et al., 2006). In the absence of surfactants the cleaning agents active in this case 492 are water (hydrating starch and proteins, dissolving soluble components), hydroxyl ions 493 (indicative of pH) and Na⁺ counterions (both of which contribute to ionic 494 strength/osmotic effects). Alkali conditions are known to cause unbaked protein layers 495 to swell and promote erosion at the soil-solution interface (Tuladhar et al, 2000; 496 Christian and Fryer, 2006). Swelling would be expected to enhance transport of water 497 to the substrate/soil interface and weaken the soil adhesion. Similarly, Otto et al. (2016) 498 reported that unbaked starch deposits are expected to become more negatively charged 499 at high pH and therefore be repelled from stainless steel surfaces which are similarly 500 charged under these condition (isoelectric points typically pH 4-5 for 304 stainless steel 501 (Lefevre et al., 2009) and 5.1 for starch from wheat flowers (Kemp, 1936).

The results indicate that the hydroxyl ions are retarding the weakening of the adhesive interactions, which could be due to hydrolysis of the fats or inhibiting the mobility of the mobile fat phase, thereby retarding the access of water to the soil-substrate interface. The material at the interface is a complex mixture which has been subject to the oven temperature for 7 minutes (as a result of fast conduction through the steel). Further work is required to identify the components and processes active at this interface.

508 Effect of surfactant

The effect of 1 wt% surfactant was studied at pH 9 at 20°C and 50°C, representing standard dishwasher operating conditions. Figure 11 shows that the non-ionic (TX-100) and anionic (SDBS) surfactants gave no enhancement in removal, with similar changes in F_w over the test period (linear decay rates of 0.14-0.15 ± 0.01 N m⁻¹ s⁻¹). This is consistent with Figure 7 (pH 10 and 20 °C). Detry (2007, 2009) and Bobe (2007) demonstrated a beneficial impact of LAS-type surfactant in similar conditions on unburnt soils. This finding could be explained by the LAS acting via an 516 erosive/emulsification cleaning mechanism. Erosive cleaning has been shown by 517 Gillham *et al.* (1999) and Chen *et al.* (2012) to be less effective for burnt materials due 518 to their increased cohesive strengths and cross-linked polymeric structures relative to 519 their unburnt counterparts.

520 In contrast the cationic agent, CTAB had immediate impact, giving almost exponential decay behaviour (initial decay rate 0.42 ± 0.01 N m⁻¹ s⁻¹), similar to pH 7 at 50°C, but 521 522 without an evident B/C transition. The latter transition could have occurred at t < 40 s. 523 suggesting that either (i) CTAB aided the penetration of water through the soil to the 524 substrate, or (ii) the reduction in adhesion was caused by ingress at the soil-substrate 525 interface via the many cracks present in the soil layer. The photograph of the cleared 526 region shows little residual material on the substrate, confirming that CTAB had 527 promoted adhesive failure. The ability of CTAB to promote removal at room 528 temperature brings immediate advantages in terms of energy consumption.

529 Figure 12 shows that all three surfactants promoted removal at 50°C at pH 9 compared 530 to a simple alkaline solution. The removal profile for CTAB (Figure 12(a)) is similar 531 to that at 20°C: fitting the data sets to simple exponential decay relationships gave D =532 213 ± 4 s and 238 ± 5 s at 20°C and 50°C, respectively. Temperature does not appear 533 to have affected the CTAB mechanism. Determining the mechanism involved requires 534 further work, but two possible explanations are (i) the cationic surfactant being attracted 535 to the negatively charged starch-based moieties within the soil at pH 9; and (ii) the 536 cationic surfactant having greater affinity for the stainless steel surface (which acquires 537 a negative charge at pH 9), disrupting the adhesive bonding between the soil and the 538 substrate at the interface and therefore lowering F_w even at room temperature. 539 Hypothesis (ii) could be tested by using substrates with a different IEP but similar 540 surface energy and heat conduction properties. In practice, hypothesis (ii) suggests that 541 the effectiveness of a CTAB-based formulation would vary between surfaces.

The removal profiles for TX-100 and SDBS are both similar to that for water at pH 7 (Figure 8(*b*)), but with earlier B/C transition: t_c for TX-100 is markedly shorter, at approximately 80 s, while F_w decays more rapidly than with CTAB, with $D = 139 \pm 3$ s. SDBS behaviour is very similar to the surfactant-free solution until $t_c = 200$ s, after which F_w decays exponentially, unlike the alkaline solution, with $D = 120 \pm 3$ s. The 547 final F_w values for TX-100 and SDBS (*i.e.* at t = 460 s) are both smaller than that 548 observed with CTAB.

549 The decay behaviours and decay rate parameters are summarised in Table 2. The 550 existence of the B/C transition, faster decays and lower final F_w values all indicate that 551 a different mechanism is involved in softening of the soil layer by the non-ionic and 552 anionic surfactants.

553 The reason why TX-100 and SDBS promote behaviour observed at pH 7, essentially 554 inhibiting the effect of higher pH, is now considered. SDBS will increase the solution 555 ionic strength, while TX-100 will have little effect on charge. The observation that these 556 surfactants are not effective at 20°C, when the fat phase is immobile, indicates that the 557 mechanism is linked to the solubilising of fat globules present in the soil. Non-ionic 558 surfactants are known to be effective at removing oily soils from synthetic fibres 559 (Williams, 2007), whereas anionic surfactants are effective at removing (positively 560 charged) particles. Since the fat prevents the ingress of water through the soil matrix, 561 agents which promote the removal of this phase will enhance penetration of water and 562 hydration at the soil-substrate interface. Removal of the oil phase will also affect the 563 rheology of the hydrated soil, which will be manifested in the cohesive contribution to 564 the force measured by the millimanipulation blade. This mechanism would not be 565 directly affected by the nature of the substrate to the same degree as that promoted by 566 CTAB. The substrate would have an indirect effect in terms of wetting characteristics 567 towards components in the soil, heat transfer etc. and therefore microstructure of the 568 fouling layer at the soil-substrate interface (see Magens et al., 2017).

These results demonstrate how the different agents effect cleaning, reducing the strength of the soil at the soil-substrate interface via different mechanisms. The same length of time may be required to remove the CMS layers studied here from a stainless steel surface, but knowledge of the mechanisms – whether ingress or penetration – allows one to gauge whether or not the agent will give similar efficacy for other soils on different substrates.

575 The cleaning mechanism and behaviour is ultimately determined by the nature and 576 microstructure of the soil. For example, Ali *et al.* (2015a) studied the cleaning of 577 polymerised lard soil layers on stainless steel and reported that solutions of TX-100 and 578 LAS at pH 10.4-11 promoted solution ingress and soil detachment at the soil-substrate 579 interface, while CTAB promoted penetration through the soil layer (rather than 580 promoting ingress as observed in this work). These differences illustrate how, like 581 coatings to prevent deposition and fouling, detergent solutions need to be matched to 582 the soil.

583

584 Conclusions

585 The millimanipulation technique has been extended to allow the forces at the soil-586 substrate interface to be measured whilst being immersed and soaked in cleaning 587 solutions in real time. The complex model food soil tested comprised burnt fats, starch 588 and proteins in a cracked layer on stainless steel: it was not possible to prepare uniform 589 soil layers. The adhesion forces decreased noticeably on hydration.

590 The soils exhibited cohesive or adhesive failure during removal, depending on the 591 cleaning solution chemistry. Temperature had a uniformly beneficial effect on cleaning, 592 with water at pH 7 at 50°C exhibiting a transition between cohesive and adhesive failure 593 after an initial soaking period. The length of this initial soaking period was reduced 594 when TX-100 or SDBS was present. This behaviour is attributed to the fat in the soil 595 being mobile at 50°C. CTAB, the cationic surfactant, promoted adhesive failure at 20°C 596 and 50°C, indicating that its action involved a different mechanism.

The pH of the solution impacts had little influence at 20 °C. At 50 °C, high pH gave 597 598 slower cleaning than at pH 6-8, even though alkaline conditions are expected to 599 promote swelling and weakening of proteins in the deposit. All three surfactants studied 600 promoted removal at high pH, with TX-100 giving greatest reduction in soil strength. 601 The results provide quantitative evidence that different cleaning mechanisms are 602 promoted by the different cleaning agents, and allow their role in Sinner's circle to be 603 quantified in terms of the extent and rate of change of the rheology of the soil at the 604 soil-substrate interface.

605

606 Acknowledgements

- 607 An iCASE PhD studentship for GLC from EPSRC and Procter & Gamble is gratefully
- acknowledged, as are helpful conversations with Ole Mathis Magens.

610 **Open Data**

- 611 The data presented in this study are available from the University of Cambridge's
- 612 Apollo data repository at doi 10.17863/CAM.26373.

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763	Nomenclature	
764	Roman	
765	D	characteristic decay time (s)
766	h	height of blade above substrate (m)
767	$F_{ m w}$	removal force per unit width (N m ⁻¹)
768	$R_{ m q}$	roughness parameter (m)
769	V	velocity of blade (m s ⁻¹)
770	t	time (s)
771	x	distance travelled by blade (m)
772	t_c	transition point in decay behaviour (s)
773	t _{soak}	soaking time (s)
774		
775	Greek	
776	γ^{LS}	surface energy between liquid and solid phases (J m ⁻²)
777	δ	soil layer thickness (m)
778		
779	Acronyms	
780	AFM	atomic force microscopy
781	CIP	clean in place
782	CMS	complex model soil
783	CTAB	hexadecyltrimethylammonium bromide
784	FDG	fluid dynamic gauging
785	LAS	linear alkyl sulfonate
786	MM3	millimanipulation mk 3
787	MM3-Flow	millimanipulation mk 3 with circulation system
788	SDBS	sodium dodecyl benzene sulfonate
789	SS	stainless steel
790	TX-100	t-octylphenoxypolyethoxyethanol
791		

792 Figure Captions

793	Figure	1. Photographs of $\delta = 300 \mu\text{m}$ CMS layer on 50×50 mm 316 stainless steel
794		plate (a) before drying, and (b) after baking for 7 min at 204°C; (c) Binary
795		image of (b) for calculating area of cracked soil; (d) image (b) with gridlines
796		used for calculating crack distribution.
797		
798	Figure	2: Side view of the millimanipulation device with flow chamber fitted. Labels:
799		A, Perspex viewing wall; B, blade; C, force transducer; D, counterweight; E,
800		sample mounting station; I, solution inlet; O, solution outlet. Dashed arrow
801		indicates direction of sample motion.
802	Figure	3: Conductivity of solution leaving test chamber before and after addition of
803		NaOH solution to the reservoir at $t = 10$ min. Data from three repeats. The
804		grey area indicates the section plotted in the inset. Solution flow rate 100 mL
805		min ⁻¹ .
806	Figure	4: Effect of contact with cleaning solution on residual soil on substrate. (a)
807		schematic of testing regions; (b) photograph of plate after testing with
808		(conditions for B: 5 minutes soaking in 1 wt% SDBS solution at room
809		temperature). All dimension in mm.
810	Figure	5: Side-on view of the removal of an example of (a) dry soil and (b) soil
811		immersed in surfactant solution. Identical CMS soils with differences in lighting
812		conditions and submersion in solution causing apparent colour differences.
813	Figure	6: F_W profiles (a) before (region A in Figure 4) and (b) after soaking in 1wt%
814		SDBS solution at pH 10 at room temperature (region B in Figure 4). The
815		transducer range sets a limit on F_W of 430 N m ⁻¹ which is evident in (<i>a</i>). Legend
816		denotes start time of the test.
817	Figure	7: Effect of soaking at pH 10 at room temperature with (solid circles) and
818		without 1 wt% SDBS (open circles). Insert: full data containing 60 min data
819		points. Error bars show time scale of averaged data points.
820	Figure	8: Effect of temperature on removal force following contact with pH 7 solution
821		at $t = 0$ at (a) 20°C; (b) 50 °C. Dashed vertical lines mark initial and final regions

822		subject to edge effects, repeated in subsequent plots. Dot-dashed lines mark the
823		transition in decay behaviour at t_c : photograph in (b) shows the plate after
824		testing. Solid line in in (b) shows fit to exponential decay $F_w = 920 \exp[-t^2/125]$.
825	Figure	9: Effect of pH on removal profiles at 20°C. Solid loci show linear regression to
826		data in the range $50 < t < 350$ s. Vertical dashed lines mark initial and final
827		regions subject to edge effects.
828	Figure	10: Effect of pH on removal profiles at 50 °C. (a) pH 9, (b) pH 12: pH 7 data
829		given in Figure 8(b). Vertical dashed lines mark region A and D (edge effects). Det dashed lines marks B/C transition observed at pU 7 at 220 s. Photographs
830 831		show substrate after testing.
832	Figure	11: Effect of surfactant on removal force at 20 °C. Soil is contacted with pH 9
833		solution at $t = 0$. Lines show linear regression to data in the range $50 < t < 350$
834		s. Vertical dashed lines mark initial and final regions subject to edge effects.
835		Photograph shows cleared region after testing with CTAB solution.
836	Figure	12: Effect of 1 wt% surfactant on removal profiles at pH 9 and 50°C. (a) CTAB,
837		(b) TX-100, (c) SDBS solution. Grey symbols show profile obtained without
838		surfactant (Figure 10(a)). Vertical dashed lines mark initial and final regions
839		subject to edge effects. Vertical dot-dash line marks B/C transition. Solid lines
840		show fit of data in stage C to a simple exponential decay.
841		

843 Supplementary Figure Captions

Figure S1: Schematic of sample spreading device. (*a*) front view; (*b*) section through
plane AA'; (*c*) photograph. M indicates micrometers used to set the substrateblade gap. Dimensions are in mm.

- Figure S2: DSC thermograms of (a) fresh and (b) fresh, dried and burnt CMS.
 Temperature ramped from -20 to 100 °C at 5 K min⁻¹ twice, as shown by inset
 in (a). Fresh; black scan 1, grey scan 2. Dried; blue scan 1, purple scan
 2. Burnt; orange scan 1, red scan 2.
- Figure S3: Shear viscosity of fat component of CMS (40 % emulsion of fat in water). Apparent viscosity measured at apparent shear rate of 0.1 s^{-1} . Open symbols indicate data with significant normal stress differences, indicating strongly non-Newtonian behaviour. Inset shows the shear rate dependency at 22°C: below 0.1 s^{-1} the gradient is close to -1, associated with yield stress behaviour.
- 856
- 857 Figure S4: Effect of pH on removal profiles at 50 °C. Blue pH 6 D ~ 230, Grey pH 8 D
- 858 ~ 220. Vertical dashed lines mark region A and D (edge effects). Dot-dashed 859 line marks B/C transition, observed at 200 s for both pH 6 and 8. Image shows 860 an example of the substrate after testing. Note: F_w in section B is lower than that 861 measured at pH 7 for a different CMS batch (Figure 8(*b*)).

863 Tables

Component	mass fraction	nature	Supplier/source		
	wet basis				
fat	0.18	mixture of saturated and unsaturated fats	margarine blend 'I can't believe it's not butter TM ', whole milk		
protein	0.057	milk protein	whole milk, Kraft cheese powder		
			pasta (cooked)		
carbohydrate	0.240	durum wheat starch	pasta (cooked)		
salt	0.003	NaCl, dissolved	Kraft cheese powder		
water	0.52	deionised water	pasta (cooked), whole milk		

864 Table 1: Model soil composition

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Table 2: Summary of rate of change of adhesion forces over 500 s testing. Values in
parentheses are the uncertainty in the parameters, based on one standard
deviation.

pН	surfactant	tc		linear decay rate		D	
	(1 wt%)	/s		$/N m^{-1}s^{-1}$		/s	
		20°C	50°C	20°C	50°C	20°C	50°C
7		-	220	0.06 ± 0.007	0.51±0.01	-	125±3
9		-	220	0.15 ± 0.02	0.26±0.01	-	-
12		-	300	0.11±0.01	0.26±0.01	-	-
9	SDBS	-	200	0.14±0.01	0.41±0.01	-	120±3
9	CTAB	40	40	0.42 ± 0.01	-	213±4	238±5
9	TX-100	_	80	0.15±0.01	-	-	139±3

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Figures





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Figure 2: Side view of the millimanipulation device with flow chamber fitted. Labels:
A, Perspex viewing wall outlined in red; B, blade; C, force transducer; D,
counterweight; E, sample mounting station; I, solution inlet; O, solution outlet.
Dashed arrow indicates direction of sample motion.



Figure 3: Conductivity of solution leaving test chamber before and after addition of NaOH solution to the reservoir at t = 10 min. Data from three repeats. The grey area indicates the section plotted in the inset. Solution flow rate 100 mL min⁻¹.

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5 mm

(b)

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899

Figure 4: Effect of contact with cleaning solution on residual soil on substrate. (a)
schematic of testing regions; (b) photograph of plate after testing with
(conditions for B: 5 minutes soaking in 1 wt% SDBS solution at room
temperature). All dimension in mm. Blade clearance: 50 μm.

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905

(a)



Figure 5: Side-on view of the removal of an example of (*a*) dry soil and (*b*) soil
immersed in surfactant solution. Identical CMS soils with differences in lighting
conditions and submersion in solution causing apparent colour differences.

mm





914Figure 6. F_W profiles (a) before (region A in Figure 4) and (b) after soaking in 1wt%915SDBS solution at pH 10 at room temperature (region B in Figure 4). The916transducer range sets a limit on F_W of 430 N m⁻¹ which is evident in (a). Legend917denotes start time of the test.



Figure 7: Effect of soaking at pH 10 at room temperature with (solid circles) and
without 1 wt.% SDBS (open circles). Insert: full data containing 60 min data
points. Error bars show time scale of averaged data points.



Figure 8: Effect of temperature on removal force following contact with pH 7 solution

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- 928 929
- subject to edge effects, repeated in subsequent plots. Dot-dashed lines mark the transition in decay behaviour at t_c : photograph in (b) shows the plate after testing. Solid line in in (b) shows fit to exponential decay $F_w = 920 \exp[-t^2/125]$.

at t = 0 at (a) 20°C; (b) 50 °C. Dashed vertical lines mark initial and final regions



934Figure 9: Effect of pH on removal profiles at 20°C. Solid loci show linear regression to935data in the range 50 < t < 350 s. Vertical dashed lines mark initial and final936regions subject to edge effects.



941 942 Figure 10: Effect of pH on removal profiles at 50 °C. (a) pH 9, (b) pH 12: pH 7 data given in Figure 8(b). Vertical dashed lines mark region A and D (edge effects). 943 944 Dot-dashed lines marks B/C transition observed at pH 7 at 220 s. Photographs 945 show substrate after testing.



947Figure 11: Effect of surfactant on removal force at 20 °C. Soil is contacted with pH 9948solution at t = 0. Lines show linear regression to data in the range 50 < t < 350949s. Vertical dashed lines mark initial and final regions subject to edge effects.950Photograph shows cleared region after testing with CTAB solution.

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- Figure 12: Effect of 1 wt% surfactant on removal profiles at pH 9 and 50°C. (*a*) CTAB,
- 960 (b) TX-100, (c) SDBS solution. Grey symbols show profile obtained without
- 961 surfactant (Figure 10(a)). Vertical dashed lines mark initial and final regions
- 962 subject to edge effects. Vertical dot-dash line marks B/C transition. Solid lines
- show fit of data in stage C to a simple exponential decay.
- 964

965 Supplementary Figures



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Figure S2: Schematic of sample spreading device. (a) front view; (b) section through
plane AA'; (c) photograph. M indicates micrometers used to set the substrateblade gap. Dimensions are in mm.

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974 *(a)*



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979 Figure S2: DSC thermograms of (a) fresh and (b) fresh, dried and burnt CMS. 980 Temperature ramped from -20 to 100 °C at 5 K min⁻¹ twice, as shown by inset 981 in (a). Fresh; black – scan 1, grey – scan 2. Dried; blue – scan 1, purple – scan 982 2. Burnt; orange – scan 1, red – scan 2.



Figure S3: Shear viscosity of fat component of CMS (40 % emulsion of fat in water).
Apparent viscosity measured at apparent shear rate of 0.1 s⁻¹. Open symbols
indicate data with significant normal stress differences, indicating strongly nonNewtonian behaviour. Inset shows the shear rate dependency at 22°C: below
0.1 s⁻¹ the gradient is close to -1, associated with yield stress behaviour.



Figure S4: Effect of pH on removal profiles at 50 °C. Blue pH 6 D ~ 230, Grey pH 8 D
~ 220. Vertical dashed lines mark region A and D (edge effects). Dot-dashed
line marks B/C transition, observed at 200 s for both pH 6 and 8. Image shows

an example of the substrate after testing. Note: F_w in section B is lower than that

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996 measured at pH 7 for a different CMS batch (Figure 8(*b*)).