Data Article

Supporting data for impact of filler composition on mechanical and dynamic response of 3-D printed silicone-based nanocomposite elastomers

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A R T I C L E   I N F O

Article history:
Received 21 August 2020
Accepted 25 August 2020
Available online 1 September 2020

Keywords:
3-D printing
Nanocomposite elastomer
Molecular dynamics simulation
Dynamic response
Silicone

A B S T R A C T

This research reports on the physical and mechanical effects of various filler materials used in direct ink write (DIW) 3-D printing resins. The data reported herein supports interpretation and discussion provided in the research article “Impact of Filler Composition on Mechanical and Dynamic Response of 3-D Printed Silicone-based Nanocomposite Elastomers” [1]. The datasheet describes the model structures and the interaction energies between the fillers and the other components by using Molecular Dynamics (MD) simulations. This report includes mechanical responses of single-cubic (SC) and face-centered tetragonal (FCT) structures printed using new DIW resin formulations (polydimethylsiloxane-based silicones filled with aluminum oxide, graphite, or titanium dioxide). Using MD simulations and mechanical data, the overall flexibility and interactions between resin components are fully characterized.

DOI of original article: 10.1016/j.compscitech.2020.108258
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https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2020.106240
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Specifications Table

| Subject                  | Materials Science                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Specific subject area    | Preparation and characterization of 3-D printed silicone-based nanocomposite elastomers |
| Type of data             | Image, Table, and Figure                   |
| How data were acquired   | Molecular dynamics simulations, Engineering stress-strain compression data, Storage and loss moduli and tan δ at low compressive strains as a function of oscillatory frequency |
| Data format              | Raw and analyzed                           |
| Parameters for data collection | We described “Parameters for data collection” in Experimental Design, Materials, and Methods section. |
| Description of data collection | We described “Parameters for data collection” in Experimental Design, Materials, and Methods section. |
| Data source location     | Los Alamos, New Mexico, United States of America |
| Data accessibility       | All data is accessible within this article  |
| Related research article | Samantha J. Talley, Brittany Branch, Cynthia F. Welch, Chi Hoon Park, John Watt, Lindsey Kuettner, Brian Patterson, Dana M. Dattelbaum, and Kwan-Soo Lee, Impact of Filler Composition on Mechanical and Dynamic Response of 3-D Printed Silicone-based Nanocomposite Elastomers, Composites Science and Technology, submitted [1] |

Value of the Data

- The data shows the mechanical responses of simple cubic (SC) and face-centered tetragonal (FCT) pads which are composed of polydimethylsiloxane-based polymers filled with aluminum oxide, graphite, or titanium dioxide.
- This data can benefit researchers of materials in the field of formulation chemistry, polymer process engineering, additive manufacturing, and molecular dynamics simulation.
- Guidelines for the mechanical characterization of hybrid composite materials are provided.

1. Data Description

This work provides the model structures acquired in molecular dynamics (MD) simulations to calculate the molecular interactions between the components in the composite resins, so that the two-layered models were built and equilibrated (Fig. 1 and Table 1), as well as the mechanical responses of the simple cubic (SC) and face-centered tetragonal (FCT) having three different formulations. (Figs. 4–8.) [1]. Six different model systems are explored by MD simulations: a) $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$-$\text{SiOH}$ (fumed silica; non-treated silica), graphite-$\text{SiOH}$, $\text{TiO}_2$-$\text{SiOH}$, $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$-PDMS (PDMS; polydimethylsiloxane), graphite-PDMS, and $\text{TiO}_2$-PDMS (Fig. 1 and Table 1).

2. Experimental Design, Materials, and Methods

2.1. Composite resins preparation

Three resins were specifically formulated for direct ink writing (DIW) printing [2]. These resins were composed of 65 wt% of polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS), 10 wt% of fumed silica, and 25 wt% of graphite (Alfa Aesar), $\text{TiO}_2$ (Evonik Industries), or $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ (Evonik Industries).
Fig. 1. Model structures for Molecular Dynamics (MD) simulations.

Table 1
The interaction energies between the fillers and the other components calculated by molecular dynamics (MD) simulations. To calculate the interaction energy per gram, the densities (Al₂O₃/Graphite/TiO₂ = 3.2/2.2/4.23 g/cc) and the primary particle sizes were used.

| Model          | Interaction Energy (kcal/mol) | Interaction Energy per area (kcal/mol Å²) | Interaction Energy per a particle (kcal/mol•ea) | Interaction Energy per gram (kcal/mol•g) |
|----------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Al₂O₃-SiOH      | −474.7                        | −0.8771                                  | −4.515 × 10⁴                                   | −1.285 × 10²⁵                            |
| Al₂O₃-PDMS      | −453.0                        | −0.8371                                  | −4.309 × 10⁴                                   | −1.226 × 10²⁵                            |
| Graphite-SiOH   | −194.1                        | −0.2536                                  | −3.187 × 10⁴                                   | −3.458 × 10²⁴                            |
| Graphite-PDMS   | −132.8                        | −0.2808                                  | −3.528 × 10⁴                                   | −3.829 × 10²⁴                            |
| TiO₂-SiOH       | −326.8                        | −0.3425                                  | −6.512 × 10⁴                                   | −1.975 × 10²⁴                            |
| TiO₂-PDMS       | −202.0                        | −0.3733                                  | −7.096 × 10⁴                                   | −2.152 × 10²⁴                            |

2.2. Molecular dynamics (MD) simulations

Amorphous Cell module was used as a model builder. The models were geometrically optimized until their energies were stable, and were equilibrated by MD simulation with NVT (constant number of atoms, volume, and temperature) ensemble, in which the temperature was slowly increased from 0 K to 298 K in stepwise to avoid the calculation failure. The final production run for the interaction energy calculation was performed with NVT ensemble at 298 K and for 100 ps. In this simulation, we used Materials studio program package (BIOVIA Software Inc., CA, USA) and COMPASS II (Condensed-phase Optimized Molecular Potentials for Atomistic Simulation Studies II) force field were used as a force-field and force-field types and charges of all atoms were set to the default values [3–5]. Ewald and atom based summation method were used for electrostatic and van der Waals interactions, respectively.
Fig. 2. Engineering stress as a function of the engineering strain for SC (solid lines) and FCT (dashed lines) DIW pads obtained at room temperature. Pads are filled with 25 wt.% aluminum oxide (red), 25 wt.% graphite (blue), and 25 wt.% titanium dioxide (black). All four loading cycles are represented. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

Fig. 3. Thickness in mm of 7-layer DIW printed pads where simple cubic (SC) are shown in blue, and face-centered tetragonal (FCT) are shown in red. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)
Fig. 4. (a) Storage and loss moduli and (b) tan δ at low compressive strains as a function of oscillatory frequency for Al/PDMS SC pads. The data for Al/PDMS FCT pads is described in reference [1].

Fig. 5. (a) Storage and loss moduli and (b) tan δ at low compressive strains as a function of oscillatory frequency for G/PDMS FCT pads.

Fig. 6. (a) Storage and loss moduli and (b) tan δ at low compressive strains as a function of oscillatory frequency for G/PDMS SC pads.
2.3. Uniaxial compression and dynamic mechanical analysis

The compression test was performed using an ADMET eXpert 7601 testing system. Samples with dimensions of 2 × 2 cm were compressed for 4 cycles to a maximum stress of 1.0 MPa at a strain rate of 0.5%/sec. Dynamic mechanical analysis was performed in compression mode with a TA Instruments Q800 Dynamic Mechanical Analyzer (DMA), using 15-mm compression plates at ambient temperature (~23 °C). Oscillatory strain sweeps were conducted at a frequency of 1 Hz to determine the linear viscoelastic regime for each sample. Subsequently, oscillatory frequency sweeps from 1 to 200 Hz were performed at strains within this regime; three cycles of each frequency sweep confirmed reproducibility.

Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships which have, or could be perceived to have, influenced the work reported in this article.
Acknowledgments

This work was performed under the US Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration contract DE-AC52-06NA25396 and supported by the Dynamic Materials Properties Campaign. Los Alamos National Laboratory is an affirmative action equal opportunity employer, managed by Triad National Security, LLC for the U.S. Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration, under contract 89233218CNA000001. Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International, Inc., for the U.S. DOE’s National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA-0003525. The views expressed in the article do not necessarily represent the views of the U.S. DOE or the United States Government. This work was partially supported by the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) Grant funded by the Korea Government (MSIT; Ministry of Science and Information and Communications Technology) (NRF-2017R1C1B3009270 and 2019R1A2C1087209).

Supplementary materials

Supplementary material associated with this article can be found, in the online version, at doi:10.1016/j.dib.2020.106240.

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