

SURFACE MODIFICATION FOR IMPROVING COMPOSITE IMPACT PERFORMANCE

X. Gao (PhDMSE), J. W. Gillespie, Jr., and R. E. Jensen (ARL)

University of Delaware • Center for Composite Materials • Department of Materials Science and Engineering

OBJECTIVES

Increase the energy absorption by texturizing the fiber surface for better mechanical interlocking

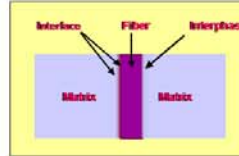
1. Tailor the interphase adhesion by varying the functional group on the fiber sizing
2. Develop various textures on the fiber surface to improve mechanical interlocking between fiber and matrix
3. Characterize the influence of texture on the energy absorption and optimize it
4. Identify the failure location and the mechanism of failure

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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BACKGROUND

Interphase: the region that forms in the vicinity of the fiber surface and possesses distinct properties compared to those of the bulk resin.



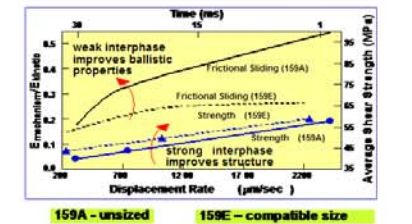
- Interphase Formation → Preferential adsorption of curing agent onto fiber coating (silane networks)
- Tailoring Interphase → Strength, Durability, Impact Resistance

PREVIOUS WORK

Strength → Adhesion → $(R-)_n-Si(O-R')_{4-n}$

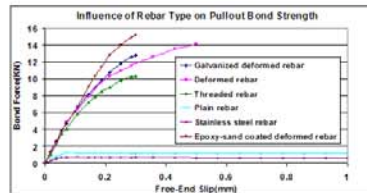
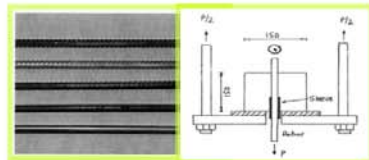
Energy Absorption Mechanisms:

- Fiber-matrix debonding
- Fictional Sliding

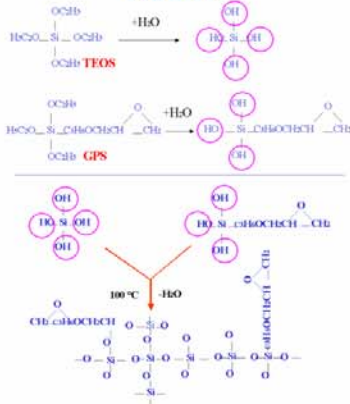


* M. Tawfik, S. H. McKnight, G. R. Palumbo and J. W. Gillespie Jr., "Composites Science and Technology", V. 61(7), 2001, Pages 205-220

REBAR ANALOGY - BENEFITS OF TEXTURING

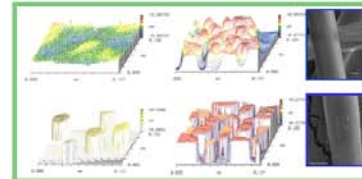
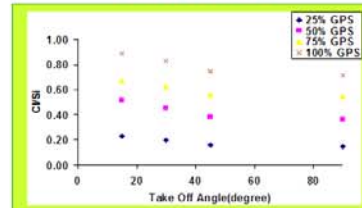


SILANE COUPLING AGENT

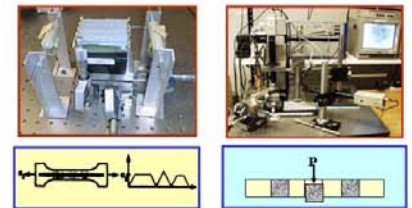


SURFACE MODIFICATION

Mechanism of Texturing



EXPERIMENTAL TECHNIQUES



MICRODROPLET TEST

Force vs Displacement graph showing a peak force F_c at displacement l_c .

$$r = \frac{F}{\pi d_f l_c}$$

$$E_{c, \text{fractured}} = \frac{\int F dl}{\pi d_f l_c}$$

MICRODROPLET SAMPLE PREPARATION

MICRODROPLET SIZE CALCULATION

The major problem: Fiber breakage before droplet sliding

$$\sigma_{IFSS} \times \pi \times d_f \times l_c < \sigma_{fiber} \times \frac{1}{4} \times \pi \times d_f^2$$

$$l_c < \frac{1}{4} \times d_f \times \frac{\sigma_{fiber}}{\sigma_{IFSS}}$$

$$P(\sigma_{fiber}) = 1 - \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{l_c}{l_k}\right)^{0.33} \left(\frac{\sigma_{fiber}}{3030}\right)^{1.43}\right\} \dots (1)$$

Microdroplet Size Chart showing Probability of fiber failure vs Droplet Size (um) for different IFSS values (50MPa, 70MPa, 90MPa).

© J. Asher, et al., "Class fiber strength distribution by common experimental methods", Composite Sci. and Tech. 62 (2002) 133-140

UNSIZED GLASS FIBER/DER 3353

USGF	Average	Std.
Drop Size(um)	238	26.6
Fiber free length(mm)	0.97	0.09
IFSS(Mpa)	28.9	3.8

SIZED GLASS FIBER/DER 353

G Series	Average	Std.
Drop Size(um)	149	27.3
Fiber free length(mm)	0.7	0.05
IFSS(Mpa)	44	9.5

COMPARISON BETWEEN SIZE AND UNSIZED SYSTEMS

Property	Unsize of DER303	Hi-TEC SGP sized of DER303
IFSS(Mpa)	~29	~44
Delat	~13	~20
Delaid + Delat (%)	~65	~62

CONCLUSIONS

- The XPS spectra proves phase separation existing between GPS and TEOS, which disclose the mechanism of texture formation and provide the information of the functional group distribution inside the coating.
- Various textures have been created using these novel silane blends on the model surface with the roughness value ranging from several nanometer to hundreds nanometer.
- The novel sizing system improves the IFSS by 52%, and the total energy absorption was increased by 52%. Sliding is proved to be the major mechanism for energy absorption, which absorbs more than 60% of the total energy during impact.
- This research has established a new method for improving the composite impact properties and will continue to optimize texture and tailor adhesion for better properties.

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