

Contents

preface — V

About the authors — XIII

Chapter 1

Introduction to composite materials — 1

Description of abbreviations — 1

- 1.1 Introduction — 1
 - 1.1.1 Classification of composites — 4
 - 1.1.2 Constituents of polymer composites — 5
- 1.2 Polymer matrices — 6
 - 1.2.1 Interpenetrating polymer network (IPN) — 6
 - 1.2.2 Ionomeric elastomers — 14
- 1.3 Reinforcement — 24
 - 1.3.1 Natural fibres — 26
- 1.4 Strength and toughness of composites — 37
 - 1.4.1 Tensile cracking — 37
 - 1.4.2 Interlaminar stresses — 40
 - 1.4.3 Prediction of strength and toughness — 42
- 1.5 Fracture mechanics — 49
 - 1.5.1 Fracture toughness — 50
 - 1.5.2 Environmental stress cracking (ESC) — 63
- References — 67

Chapter 2

Thermoplastic matrix composites (TMC) — 73

Abbreviations — 73

- 2.1 Thermoplastic polymer — 73
- 2.2 Particulate thermoplastic composite — 75
 - 2.2.1 Effect of filler: mechanical property — 77
 - 2.2.2 Effect of filler: thermal conductivity — 80
 - 2.2.3 Example — 80
 - 2.2.4 Electrical properties — 81
- 2.3 Short-fibre composite — 86
 - 2.3.1 Mathematical models — 87
 - 2.3.2 Example — 90
 - 2.3.3 Natural short-fibre composites — 96
 - 2.3.4 Bio-degradable composites — 97
- 2.4 Nanocomposite — 98
 - 2.4.1 Thermoplastic elastomer nanocomposite — 103

2.5	Rheological properties —	105
2.5.1	Thermoplastic melts —	105
2.5.2	Rheology of thermoplastic composites —	109
2.5.3	Mathematical models —	110
2.5.4	Example —	111
2.6	Processing —	116
2.6.1	Extrusion —	116
2.6.2	Blow moulding —	120
2.6.3	Fibre spinning —	122
2.6.4	Additive manufacturing —	124
2.7	Conclusion —	127
	References —	128

Chapter 3

Thermosetting polymer-based composites — 131

Description of abbreviations — 131

3.1	Thermoset matrix —	132
3.1.1	General-purpose resins —	133
3.1.2	High-temperature resin —	137
3.2	Kinetics of thermoset curing —	148
3.2.1	Isoconversion kinetics —	148
3.2.2	Integral form of model-free kinetics —	151
3.2.3	Advanced isoconversion models —	153
3.2.4	Prediction of T_g —	160
3.3	Classification of thermoset composites —	164
3.4	Processing of FRP composites —	165
3.4.1	Wet lay-up moulding —	165
3.4.2	Resin transfer moulding —	166
3.4.3	Pultrusion —	168
3.4.4	Filament winding —	170
3.4.5	Resin film infusion moulding —	172
3.4.6	Autoclave moulding —	173
3.5	Toughened thermoset composites —	176
3.6	Thermoset nanocomposites —	178
	References —	183

Chapter 4

Elastomer-based composites — 189

Description of abbreviations — 189

4.1	Elastomer matrices —	189
4.2	Particulate rubber composite —	192
4.2.1	Carbon black —	192

4.2.2	Graphite — 193
4.2.3	Mineral particulate fillers — 194
4.3	Properties of particulate composites — 197
4.3.1	Hardness — 198
4.3.2	Elastic modulus — 199
4.3.3	Filler effect on reinforcement — 202
4.4	Short fibre rubber composites — 206
4.4.1	Mathematical predictions — 209
4.4.2	Examples — 211
4.5	Steel chord reinforced rubber composite — 216
4.5.1	Adhesion of steel cord to rubber — 217
4.5.2	Mathematical models — 218
4.5.3	Examples — 219
4.6	Elastomer nanocomposite — 222
4.6.1	Elastomer /nanoclay composites — 223
4.6.2	Elastomer /carbon nanotube composites — 226
4.6.3	Elastomer /graphene nanocomposites — 227
4.7	Rheology of elastomer composites — 229
4.7.1	Viscoelastic properties — 230
4.7.2	Dynamic viscoelasticity — 234
4.7.3	Effect of filler inclusion — 237
4.8	Processing of elastomer composites — 243
4.9	Application of elastomer composite — 246
4.9.1	Vibration damping — 246
4.9.2	EMI shielding and absorbing elastomer — 248
4.9.3	Examples — 252
4.10	Conclusion — 254
	References — 255

Chapter 5

Smart composites — 262

Description of abbreviations — 262

5.1	Self-healing Composites — 263
5.2	Smart structural composites — 266
5.2.1	Passive constrained layer damping (PCLD) — 266
5.2.2	Magnetic CLD — 270
5.2.3	Structural health monitoring (SHM) — 271
5.3	Electrically conducting composites — 272
5.3.1	EMI shielding — 276
5.3.2	Microwave-absorbing composites — 283
5.4	Application of smart composites — 294
5.4.1	Biomedical application — 296

5.4.2	Industrial application —	297
5.4.3	Application in defence —	299
5.5	Conclusions —	301
	References —	302

Chapter 6

Experimental techniques — 306

Description of abbreviations — 306

6.1	Introduction —	307
6.2	Mechanical testing —	309
6.2.1	Universal testing machine (UTM) —	309
6.2.2	Tensile test —	311
6.2.3	Flexure test —	312
6.2.4	Compression test —	316
6.2.5	Shear test —	318
6.2.6	Stress, strain and modulus in shear —	321
6.3	Impact testing —	322
6.3.1	Izod and Charpy tests —	322
6.3.2	Drop weight impact test —	324
6.3.3	Post-impact testing —	326
6.4	Dynamic mechanical analysis —	329
6.5	Thermal analysis —	331
6.5.1	Differential thermal analysis (DTA) —	332
6.5.2	Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) —	333
6.5.3	Thermomechanical analysis (TMA) —	336
6.5.4	Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) —	338
6.5.5	Dielectric analysis (DEA) —	340
6.6	Morphological study —	342
6.6.1	Light microscopy —	342
6.6.2	Scanning electron microscopy —	344
6.6.3	Transmission electron microscope —	347
6.6.4	X-ray diffraction analysis —	349
6.7	Conclusion —	351
	References —	352

Chapter 7

Lifetime estimation of polymer matrix composite — 353

Description of abbreviations — 353

7.1	Introduction —	353
7.2	Physical ageing and life estimation —	355
7.2.1	Basic features —	356
7.2.2	Example of creep —	357

7.2.3	Relaxation spectra —	359
7.2.4	Theory of physical ageing —	360
7.2.5	Example —	368
7.2.6	Conclusion —	371
7.3	Chemical ageing —	371
7.3.1	Thermal degradation kinetics —	372
7.3.2	Isoconversion kinetics —	374
7.3.3	Differential form of isoconversion kinetics —	374
7.3.4	Peak rate method —	376
7.3.5	Integral form of isoconversion model-free kinetics —	378
7.3.6	Advanced isoconversion kinetics —	381
7.3.7	Accuracy of kinetics analysis —	385
7.3.8	Estimation of lifetime —	387
7.3.9	Example —	388
7.3.10	Conclusion on predictive Lifetime —	394
7.4	Lifetime estimation by creep and relaxation —	394
7.4.1	Stress relaxation and creep —	395
7.4.2	Time-temperature superposition models —	396
7.4.3	Time-temperature-stress superposition —	397
7.4.4	Time-temperature superposition in stress relaxation —	398
7.4.5	Shift factor —	399
7.4.6	Master curve —	399
7.4.7	Lifetime prediction —	401
7.4.8	Critical considerations —	401
7.4.9	Creep strain —	402
7.4.10	Creep study: master curve —	403
7.4.11	Life estimation from creep —	404
7.4.12	Ageing study under stress —	405
7.4.13	Bailey Criteria —	406
7.4.14	Lifetime estimation —	408
7.4.15	Example —	408
7.4.16	Solution —	409
7.4.17	Conclusion —	411
	References —	413