

Evaluation in Mechanical Properties of Aluminium Metal Matrix Reinforced with Titanium dioxide Composite via Stir casting

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Abstract: *In this present scenario metals are used for the Industries, Marine applications, Infrastructure and other daily utilities. So in the current demands of advanced engineering applications Aluminium based nano composites are the new generation of metals. Researchers have been observing that the addition of nano sized titanium dioxide (TiO₂) particles with aluminium metal matrix leads towards superior mechanical properties, physical properties and interfacial characteristics of nano composites. The image of scanning electron microscope of aluminium metal matrix nano composites indicate that the nano Titanium dioxide (TiO₂) reinforcing particles are uniformly distributed in the metal matrix. This paper tries to review the fabrication techniques and mechanical properties of aluminium/TiO₂ based metal matrix composites.*

Key words: *Aluminium Metal Matrix Nano Composite, Fabrication Technique, Scanning Electron Microscope, Mechanical, Metal Matrix Composite, TiO₂.*

I. INTRODUCTION

There is a tremendous demand for advanced engineering materials with high strength, light weight, and increased resistance to wear in aerospace, civil and sliding components of automobile sectors. This leads to the development of aluminium matrix composites (AMCs). Aluminium is principally reinforced with hard phases such as SiC, TiC, TiB₂ and Al₂O₃ and soft phases like graphite (Gr) and MoS₂. Aluminium metal matrix composite filled with nano particles featuring physical and mechanical properties very different from conventional metal.

The nano particles can improve the base material in terms of Tensile strength, compressive strength, hardness, wear resistance, damping properties, porosity, corrosion resistance and mechanical properties. The Exploitation of reinforcement of nano particles on metal matrix depends on the type of primary and secondary processing, matrix composition, size, volume fraction, morphology of reinforcement and heat treatment. Among all the investigated nano particles reinforce Titanium dioxide was found to be most effective in enhancing the strength properties of Aluminium when incorporated via ingot metallurgy process. Fabrication methods can be broadly classified into Two types, solid state processing and liquid state processing. In liquid state processing mechanical and electromagnetic stirring and ultrasonic based dispersion is

uses for the proper distribution of nano particle that have some advantages than solid state of processing that are high productivity, flexibility, easy to control on matrix structure and better bonding between matrix and particles etc. In solid state of processing mostly preferred method is powder metallurgy in which, the main drawback of liquid state processing technique can be overcome that is non-uniform dispersion of nano particles but this uniform dispersion of nano particles makes it costly and lengthy process. A. Fabrication Technique:

Processing of Aluminium metal matrix nano composite

1) Solid state

2) Liquid state

1) Solid state: In solid state Diffusion Bonding, Electroplating, Powder Metallurgy, Spray Deposition, Immersion Plating, etc.

2) Liquid state: In Liquid state processing includes Stir Casting, Squeeze Casting, Melt Infiltration, Compo Casting and Melt Oxidation processing etc.

But Powder Metallurgy, Stir Casting, High Energy Ball Milling, Squeeze Casting, Mechanical Alloying, Spark Plasma, Ultra sonic cavitation based solidification and Laser Deposition mostly used. The nano particles have tendency of agglomeration and clustering because of electrostatic, high surface energy, adhesiveness due to the moisture present. Out of these fabrication technique some are discuss below that are mostly prefer for reinforcement of ceramic nano particles metal matrix.

II. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDUR

A. Metal matrix method

The matrix material in present study is Al. The reinforcing material selected is Titanium oxide TiO₂ of different composition. The Titanium oxide is varied by 4%, 8%, 12% and 16% weight of Aluminium. The Aluminium alloy was used as the base matrix. This is melted at 585°C which is slightly more than 30°C above the liquids temperature. The reinforcing material used is TiO₂ powder of 4%, weight of Aluminium. The stir casting technique is adopted to fabricate the specimens in which a stir casting is created in the melt of the matrix alloy through a mechanical stirrer coated with aluminate and rotating at 550 rpm. The composites are fabricated with 4-16 weight % of the TiO₂ particle in steps of 2 weight %. The TiO₂ particles are added to the melted Aluminium. Aluminium alloy is first preheated

at 2000 for 2h before melting and TiO₂ is added to melted material which improves the wetting properties by removing the absorbed hydroxide and other gases. The composite melt is thoroughly stirred. The composite slurry is then reheated to a fully liquid state and mechanical mixing is carried out for 20 min at 200 rpm average stirring speed. Finally, the composite slurry is poured in permanent metallic mould. The composites are then cast in permanent moulds. Al alloy composites containing various TiO₂ contents, namely 4%, 8%, 12% and 16% by weight of Aluminium and similarly the composites are fabricated with 4-16 weight % of TiO₂. The TiO₂ particles are added to the melted Aluminium, were fabricated and tested and their properties. All tests are conducted in accordance with ASTM Standards. Tensile tests are performed at room temperature using a Tensile Testing Machine

B. Experimental Setup:

Initially Al was melting with the help of Crucible furnace. The furnace was heated for the reinforcement materials as Sic and Tio2 gradually raised the temperature up to 857 0C slightly more than the liquid temperature maintained at particular period of time. Vortex technique is used to disperse the reinforced matrix of Sic and Tio2 particle size 5- 30µm was used in FCC structure. This reinforcement material preheated at 200-350 0C of vortex was created to mix with the liquid metal at a rate of 150 g/min. To increase the wet ability of base material a small amount of ceramic was used. After the melting process, composite material has fully

III.RESULT AND DISCUSSION

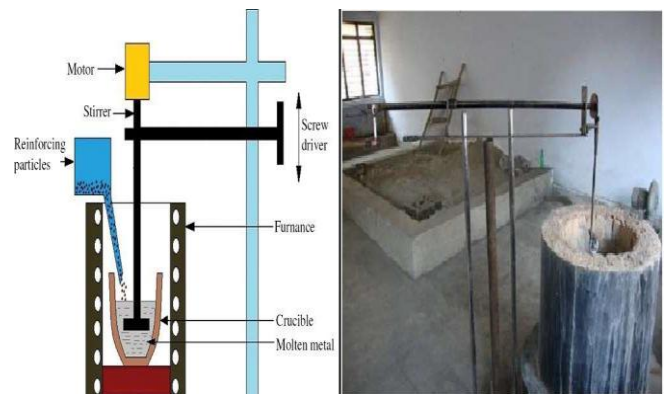
Various tests have been conducted on fabricated metal matrix composites samples to analyse the strength characteristics of aluminium / TiO₂ metal matrix composite. Mechanical properties such as tensile strength, compressive strength and torsional strength have been determined on fabricated metal matrix composite. The tensile strength is carried out at room temperature on Tensile testing machine. Compressive strength is carried out at room temperature on Compressive testing machine. Torsion test is carried out on a hydraulic Torsion testing machine.

A. Tensile strength

For evaluating the tensile strength the five samples were taken which are reinforced with the different TiO₂ compositions they are

Fig.2: Tensile specimen

stirred and to create a good binding capacity. Totally four specimens are prepared along the cylindrical die. It was machined named by universal testing machine .



- Gauge length (G)= 7 mm ,
- Distance between shoulders (B)=10mm,
- Length of reduced section (A)=9mm,
- Diameter of reduced section (D₁)=14mm
- Grip diameter(D₂)= 19mm,
- Radius of curvature (R)=4mm



Fig.3:Amsler tensile testing machine

1. Pure aluminum
2. Aluminium with 4% TiO₂
3. Aluminium with 8% TiO₂
4. Aluminium with 12% TiO₂
5. Aluminium with 16% TiO₂

The results show that the effect of TiO₂ content on tensile strength, compressive and Torsion strength of aluminium /TiO₂ metal matrix

composite. Figure 1 clearly shows that the effect of TiO₂ content on tensile stress of aluminium alloy composites. It can see that as the TiO₂ content increases the tensile strength of the composite material increases monotonically by signification amount if other factors are kept constant.

Increase in tensile strength is due to the uniform distribution of TiO₂ particles and strong bonding with

aluminium matrix.

Formulation:

$$\sigma_t = P/A$$

$$A = (\pi/4)D_2^2 = 153.86 \text{ mm}^2 \text{ (which is constant for all samples)}$$

Where,

σ_t = Tensile strength (Mpa)

P = Load (TON)

A = Cross-section area (mm²)

Therefore for

1. Sample (p₁) = 1.568 TON, σ_{t1} = 101.32 Mpa
2. Sample (p₂) = 1.863 TON, σ_{t2} = 121.33 Mpa
3. Sample (p₃) = 2.264 TON, σ_{t3} = 147.14 Mpa
4. Sample (p₄) = 2.642 TON, σ_{t4} = 171.71 Mpa
5. Sample (p₅) = 3.263 TON, σ_{t5} = 212.50 Mpa

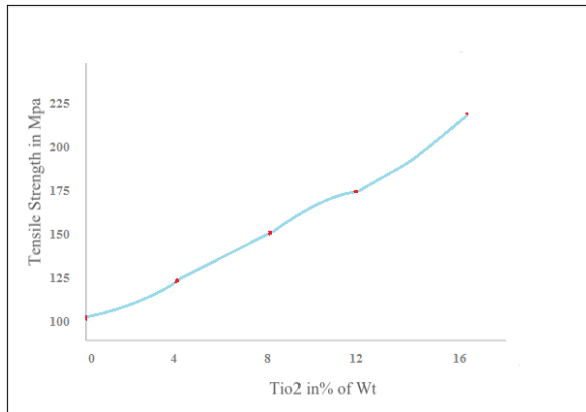


Fig.4. Tensile strength

A compression test determines the characteristics of materials under crushing loads. The sample is compressed and deformation at various loads is noted. Compression Test conducted requires the testing of 5 Specimens prepared by stirr casting of aluminium metal matrix and TiO₂ composite at different composition 4%, 8%, 12%, 16%. Specimen Specifications: L/Deff 1.6 for to assure a geometrical dimensional factor and homogeneous deformation.

L = Length of the Specimen 25

Deff = Effective Diameter of the Cross Section of the Specimen

Hence if Deff = 15 mm

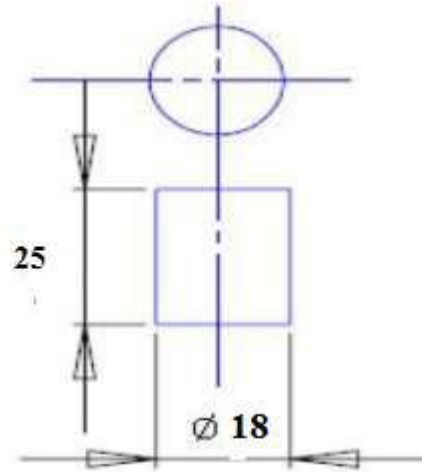


Fig.5: Compressive testing specimen

Formulation:

$$\sigma_c = P/A$$

A = Area of specimen

$$A = \pi r^2$$

$$= 3.14 * 9^2$$

$$= 254.34 \text{ mm}^2 \text{ (this would be same for every specimen)}$$

Therefore for,

1. Sample (p₁) = 24034.5 N, σ_{c1} = 94.49 N/mm²
2. Sample (p₂) = 25497.2 N, σ_{c2} = 100.24 N/mm²
3. Sample (p₃) = 28439.2 N, σ_{c3} = 111.81 N/mm²
4. Sample (p₄) = 33342.6 N, σ_{c4} = 131.09 N/mm²
5. Sample (p₅) = 41187.9 N, σ_{c5} = 161.94 N/mm²

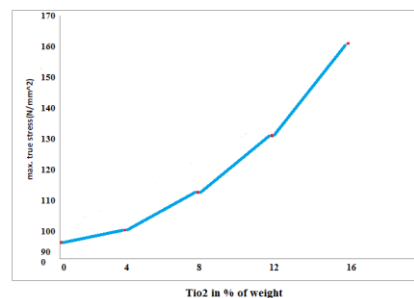


Fig.6, Compressive strength

C. Torsional Strength:

Torsion tests twist a material or test component to a specified degree, with a specified force, or until the material fails in torsion. The twisting force of a torsion test is applied to the test sample by anchoring one end so that it cannot move or rotate and applying a moment to the other end so that the sample is rotated about its axis. The rotating moment may also be applied to both ends of the sample but the ends must be rotated in opposite directions. The forces and mechanics found in this test are similar to those found in a piece of string that has one end held in a hand and the other end twisted by the other. The purpose of a torsion test is to determine the behavior a material or test sample exhibits when twisted or under torsional forces as a result of applied moments that cause shear stress about the axis. For the experiment the same type

samples of aluminium metal reinforced with TiO₂ at different % Measurable torsional fatigue life, These values are similar but not the same as those measured by a tensile test and are important in manufacturing as they may be used to simulate the service conditions, check the product's quality and design, and ensure that it was manufactured correctly.

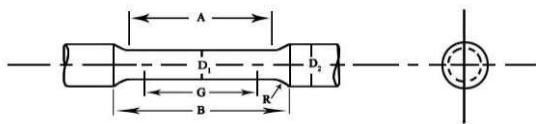


Fig.7: Tensile specimen

Gauge length (G)= 7 mm , Distance between shoulders (B)=10mm,
 Length of reduced section (A)=9mm, Diameter of reduced section (D₁)=14mm
 Grip diameter(D₂)= 19mm, Radius of curvature (R)=4m



Fig.8:Amsler torsion testing machine

Formulation:

The formula to calculate average shear stress is force per unit area.

$$\tau = F/A$$

where:

τ = the shear stress;
 F = the force applied;
 A = the cross-sectional area of material with area parallel to the applied force

Therefore,

A= Area of specimen

$$A = (\pi/4)D_2^2$$

=153.86 mm² (which is constant for all samples)

Torsional strength of specimen

$$\tau_{max} = Tr/J = 16T/\pi r^3$$

Where,

τ_{max} = maximum shear stress

T = Torque

r = Radius of reduced section

J = polar moment of inertia

So for,

1. Sample (T₁)=2600 Kgfmm , τ_1 =47.31 Mpa
2. Sample (T₂)=2800 Kgfmm , τ_2 =51.00 Mpa
3. Sample (T₃)=3200 Kgfmm , τ_3 =58.29 Mpa
4. Sample (T₄)=3500 Kgfmm , τ_4 =64.99 Mpa
5. Sample (T₅)= 3700 Kgfmm , τ_5 =67.40 Mpa

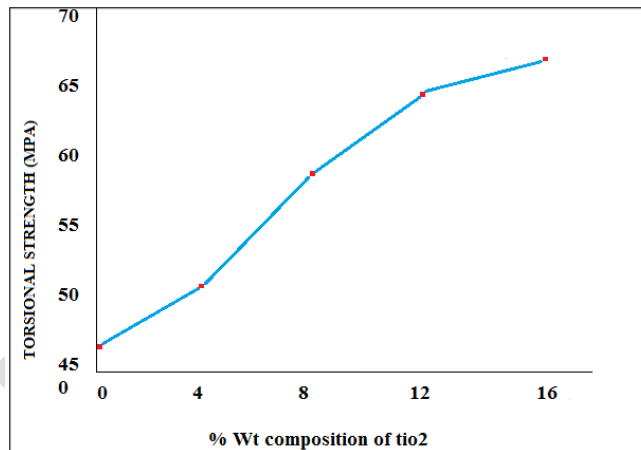


Fig. 9: Effect of content on Torsional Strength of material TiO₂

IV.CONCLUSION

The present investigations of mechanical behavior of Aluminum metal matrix revealed that the tensile strength, compressive strength and Torsional strength is greatly influenced by the Titanium Dioxide (TiO₂) content/ weight fraction of reinforcement in matrix. A reinforced composite shows more tensile, compressive strength and Torsional strength than unreinforced epoxy. With increase in 4%,8%,12%,16% of weight fraction of (TiO₂) over pure Aluminum, the following conclusion can be made....

- Stir casing is an easy and accurate method of fabricating aluminum composite with Titanium Dioxide (TiO₂).
- The percentage increase of reinforcement increases the tensile, compressive and torsional strength of the composite.
- Tensile, compressive, and torsional strength increases with the increase in % Of the reinforcement but between 12%-16% reinforcing of tio2 tensile strength increases tremendously. This concludes that higher the percentage of the tio2 higher the strength of the composite.
- The uniform distribution of TiO₂ particles and strong bonding with aluminium metal matrix are the causes for increase in tensile strength, compressive and torsional strength of the composite.
- Table showing the reinforcement conclusion

SPECIMEN	% increase in tensile strength of (AL) due to reinforcement of (TiO ₂)	% increase in compressive strength of (AL) due to reinforcement of (TiO ₂)	% increase in torsional strength of (AL) due to reinforcement of (TiO ₂)
Pure aluminium (Al)	$\sigma_1=101.32$ Mpa	$\sigma_2=94.49$ Mpa	$\tau_1=47.31$ Mpa
AL + 4% OF TiO ₂ (by wt.%)	$\sigma_2=121.33$ Mpa	$\sigma_2=100.24$ Mpa	$\tau_2=51.00$ Mpa
AL + 8% OF TiO ₂ (by wt.%)	$\sigma_3=147.14$ Mpa	$\sigma_3=111.81$ Mpa	$\tau_3=58.29$ Mpa
AL + 12% OF TiO ₂ (by wt.%)	$\sigma_4=171.71$ Mpa	$\sigma_4=131.09$ Mpa	$\tau_4=64.99$ Mpa
AL + 16% OF TiO ₂ (by wt.%)	$\sigma_5=212.50$ Mpa	$\sigma_5=161.94$ Mpa	$\tau_5=67.40$ Mpa
AL + 16% OF TiO ₂ (by wt.%)	$\sigma_5=212.50$ Mpa	$\sigma_5=161.94$ Mpa	$\tau_5=67.40$ Mpa

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