

THERMAL PROPERTIES OF ORGANIC-INORGANIC IPNs BASED ON
CROSSLINKED POLYURETHANE,
POLYHYDROXYETHYLMETHACRYLATE AND POLY(TITANIUM
OXIDE)

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Organic-inorganic polymers today are some of the most promising materials that combine the properties of both organic and inorganic components, which leads to a significant improvement in their complex properties. Sol-gel technology has undergone an intensive development as the most promising method of obtaining organic-inorganic materials with an inorganic nanoparticle phase at the molecular level.

Hybrid organic-inorganic interpenetrating polymer networks IPNs (OI IPNs) were prepared using the crosslinked polyurethane (PU) based on 2,4-2,6-toluene diisocyanate, poly(oxypropylene glycol) (POPG) ($M = 1000$) and trimethylolpropane (TMP) as a cross-linking agent, polyhydroxyethyl methacrylate (PHEMA) and poly(titanium oxide). Poly(titanium oxide) was formed by in-situ sol-gel method in an environment of POPG using titanium isopropoxide (TIP). The component ratio of PU/PHEMA in the initial and organo-inorganic IPNs was 70/30, 50/50, 30/70 wt % and the content of titanium isopropoxide was 0.5 wt %. Initial and OI IPNs have been investigated by the thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) and by testing samples for the mechanical strength at break point (σ , MPa) and determining values of relative lengthening (ε , %).

The results of the thermogravimetric analysis of OI IPNs have shown that these polymeric systems have three characteristic temperature regions of weight loss during thermo-oxidative destruction. The minimum mass loss was observed in the range of 200-400 °C. The increased resistance to the thermal oxidative destruction and an increase of the maximum decomposition temperature for 20 °C is due to an increase in the content of PHEMA-component.

Mechanical properties (strength at break and relative lengthening) depend on the variation of the ratio of PU / PHEMA. A specimen of organic-inorganic IPNs with the highest content of the acrylate component is characterized by the highest value of strength at break ($\sigma = 27,11$ MPa) and an insignificant relative lengthening.