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FABRICATION AND MECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF AL 7075 AND SiC

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Abstract. The automobile industry needs metals or composites with properties such as light weight, and an uncompromising strength & specific stiffness with higher wear-resistant and coefficient of thermal expansion. Various other areas like aerospace engineering need far more traditional material characteristics to maintain severe environmental conditions. The above-said qualities led to the use of Aluminum Matrix Composites (AMCs) which are a specific type of MMCs that are replacing conventional engineering materials in various engineering fields. In the present investigation, Aluminum based metal matrix composite is reinforced with 4%, 8%, 12%, 16%, and 20% weight percentage of silicon carbide nano particles, powder metallurgy technique is used to fabricate to achieve the desired composites

Keywords: Fabrication, Al 7075, SiC, Powder Metallurgy.

1 Introduction

1.1 Composites

In general, the discontinuous phase is harder and stronger than the continuous phase and is called the „reinforcement“; whereas continuous phase is termed as the „matrix“. The matrix holds reinforcement to form the desired shape and bears the major portion of an applied load, while the reinforcement improves overall mechanical properties of the matrix. Reinforcement increases the strength, stiffness, wear resistant and the temperature resistance capacity and lowers the density.

Ingen-

eral, composites are classified according to the type of matrix material and the nature of reinforcement at two distinct levels.

Based on type of matrix material

- Metal-matrix composites (MMC)
- Polymer-matrix composites (PMC)
- Ceramic-matrix composites (CMC)
- Carbon-carbon composites (CCC)

Based on size and shape dispersed phase as Particle-reinforced composites

- Fiber-reinforced composites
- Structural composites

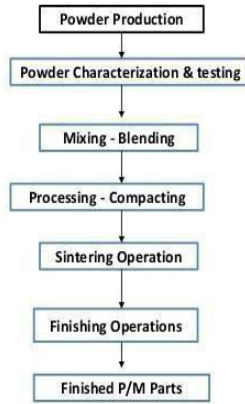
Literature Review

Aluminum Matrix Components (AMC) The need for engineering materials in the areas of aerospace and automotive industries had led to a rapid development of metal matrix composites (MMC). Researchers are turning to particulate-reinforced aluminum metal matrix components (AMC) because of the irrelatively low cost and isotropic properties. In AMC one constituent is aluminum/aluminum alloy termed as matrix phase. The other constituent is embedded in this aluminum/aluminum alloy matrix and serves as reinforcement. Mostly ceramic materials such as Sic, Al₂O₃, B₄C, etc. are used reinforcement. The major advantages of AMCs compared to unreinforced materials are, it gives greater strength, improved stiffness, reduced density (weight), improved high temperature properties, improved abrasion and wear resistance and enhanced and tailored electrical performance, etc. Aluminum 7075 is an aluminum alloy, in which zinc as the primary alloying element. Al7075 alloy's composition roughly includes 5.6–6.1% zinc, 2.1–2.5% magnesium, 1.2–1.6% copper, and less than half a percent of silicon, iron, manganese, titanium, chromium, and other metals. It is produced in many tempers, some of which are 7075-O, 7075-T6, 7075-T651. It has maximum tensile strength no more than 40,000 psi (276 MPa), and maximum yield strength no more than 21,000 psi (145 MPa). The material has an elongation (stretch before ultimate failure) of 9–10%. 7000 series alloys such as 7075 are often used in transport applications, including marine, automotive and aviation, due to their high strength-to-density ratio. Their strength and light weight are also desirable in other fields. Rock climbing equipment, bicycle components, and hang glider air frames are commonly made from 7075 aluminum alloy.

Powder Metallurgy

Powder metallurgy (PM) is a metal working process for forming precision metal components from metal powders. The metal powder is first pressed into product shape at room temperature. This is followed by heating (sintering) that causes the powder particles to fuse together without melting. The parts produced by PM have adequate physical and mechanical properties while completely meeting the functional performance characteristics. The cost of producing a component of given shape and the required dimensional tolerances by PM is generally lower than the cost of casting or making it as a wrought product, because of extremely low scrap and the fewer processing steps. The cost advantage is the main reason for selecting PM as a process of production for high – volume component which needs to be produced exactly to, or close to, final dimensions.

Process of Powder Metallurgy:



Experimental Pictures



Results

Hardness Result

Compositions	Hardnessvalue	RHN
Al7075+4%Sic	8	7.6
	6	
	9	

Al7075+8%Sic	8	9
	8	
	11	
Al 7075+12%Sic	12	14.33
	15	
	16	
Al 7075+16%Sic	18	20.33
	20	
	23	
Al 7075+20%Sic	23	22
	23	
	20	

Heat Treatment Results

Heat Treatment of Water

Compositions	Hardness-value	RHN
Al7075+4%Sic	12	14.33
	14	
	17	
Al7075+8%Sic	20	19.33
	18	
	20	
Al 7075+12%Sic	23	23
	22	
	24	
Al7075+16+%Sic	25	27
	27	
	29	
	30	
	32	

Al 7075+20% Sic	33	31.66
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Heat Treatment of OIL

Compositions	Hardness-value	RHN
Al7075+4% Sic	16	18.6
	18	
	22	
Al7075+8% Sic	25	25.3
	24	
	27	
Al 7075+12% Sic	28	30
	30	
	32	
Al 7075+16% Sic	34	33
	33	
	32	
Al 7075+20% Sic	36	37.33
	39	
	37	

Table Heat Treatment of ICE

Wear Results

Table Wear at 1Kg Load 200mts

S.NO	Material	InitialWeight	FinalWeight	LossOfWeight
1	Al7075+4% Sic	10.949	10.9418	0.0072
2	Al7075+8% Sic	10.968	10.9609	0.0071
3	Al7075+12% Sic	10.468	10.4611	0.0069
4	Al7075+16% Sic	10.548	10.5412	0.0068
5	Al7075+20% Sic	10.585	10.58	0.0058

Table Wear at 1Kg Load 400mts

S.NO	Material	InitialWeight	FinalWeight	LossOfWeight
1	Al7075+4% Sic	10.9418	10.9350	0.0068
2	Al7075+8% Sic	10.9609	10.9542	0.0067
3	Al7075+12% Sic	10.4611	10.4546	0.0065
4	Al7075+16% Sic	10.5412	10.5348	0.0064
5	Al7075+20% Sic	10.0453	10.0056	0.0057

Table Wear at 1Kg Load 600mts

S.NO	Material	InitialWeight	FinalWeight	LossOfWeight
1	Al7075+4% Sic	10.8243	10.8121	0.0122
2	Al7075+8% Sic	10.8440	10.8320	0.0119
3	Al7075+12% Sic	10.6348	10.6231	0.0117
4	Al7075+16% Sic	10.4238	01.4123	0.0115
5	Al7075+20% Sic	10.0581	10.0341	0.0112

Conclusion

- By using powder metallurgy technique hybrid composites were fabricated successfully.
- All the composites were exhibit higher hardness than base material.
- Hybrid composites the preference of graphite in hybrid composites will lose the strength because of soft and having much in ability.

- Micro structure of all composites were shown.
- FESEM for the hybrid composites were shown.
- By using software based electro chemical weld tester system was used to carry out potential dynamic polarization tests conducted.
- All the composites were shown better corrosive resistive than the base material.
- All the hybrid composites were good corrosive resistive than non-hybrid composites because of AL7075 and SiC were for a layer of protection to oxygen reaction.

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