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INFLUENCE OF GRAPHITE IN METAL MATRIX COMPOSITE FABRICATED BY STIR CASTING

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Abstract. Fiber reinforced Aluminum hybrid metal matrix composites have been widely used in automobile, aerospace and structural application because of their good tribological and mechanical properties. This work deals with the preparation of composites and evaluation of mechanical properties by introducing micro size reinforcement particle in the aluminum alloy. The reinforcement of Al alloy hybrid metal matrix composite with Al6061, B4C, Sic and Gr particles are produced by stir casting. After heat treatment process the casting materials are machined as per ASTM standard size. The mechanical properties such as tensile, hardness, impact test were conducted at room temperature. The mechanical properties are increased by increasing the weight percentage of reinforcement particles.

Keywords: Hybrid metal matrix composite, Aluminum, stir casting method, mechanical properties, Al6061, B4C, SiC& Gr.

1 Introduction

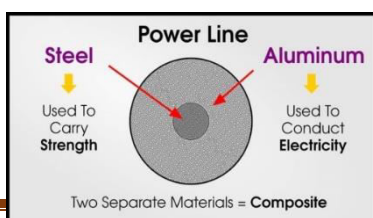
In general, the discontinuous phase is harder and stronger than the continuous phase and is called the 'reinforcement'; whereas continuous phase is termed as the 'matrix'. The matrix holds reinforcement to form the desired shape and bears the major portion of an applied load, while the reinforcement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

The term organic-matrix composite is generally assumed to include polymer Matrix composites (PMCs) and carbon matrix composites. The second classification refers to the reinforcement form; particulate reinforcements, whiskers, continuous fiber, laminated composites and woven composites.

Weight saving is one of the main reasons for using composite materials rather than conventional materials for components. While composites are lighter they can also be stronger than other materials, for example, reinforced carbon-fiber can be up to five times stronger than 1020 grade steel and only one fifth of the weight, making it perfect for structural purposes.

In recent years, aluminium alloy-based metal matrix composites (MMC) are gaining importance in several aerospace and automobile applications. But aluminium alloys having the low hardness and low strength compared to the other materials, so we choose the composition over the pure materials.

Why we choose aluminium over another materials aluminium was oftenly used material in the automobile shipping and another most industries so we choose aluminium as the matrix material





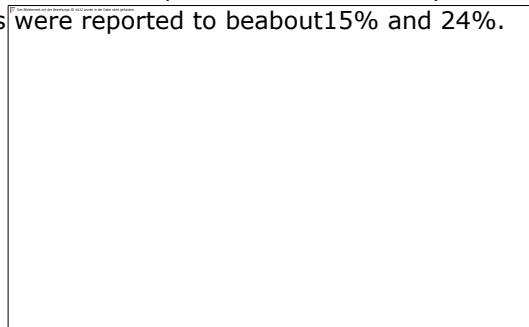
Literature Review

Keshava Murthy R et.al studied about Al7075-TiB₂ in-situ composite, processed by stir casting technique using commercially available Al-10%Ti and Al- 3%Br master alloys. Both matrix alloy and composite were subjected to microstructure analysis, micro hardness test, grain size studies and tensile test. Microstructure shows fairly uniform distribution of TiB₂ particles in matrix alloy. Average grain size of the composite was lower than unreinforced alloy. Micro hardness, yield strength and ultimate tensile strength of Al7075-TiB₂ composite, were considerably higher when compared with unreinforced alloy

Deepak Singla et al: He effectively created the Al 7075- fly fiery debris composites by utilizing mix casting course of action with legitimate conveyance of cinder particles all over the example. Moreover he included the Mg to make strides the wettability of fiery debris molecule by diminishing its surface pressure. He has given different conclusions from the different calculation based on the diff.exploratory testicles, he calculated the durability of the composites by utilizing izod and charpy tests. As the sum of fiery debris increments the sturdiness esteem continuously expanded up to a few level. Hardness and ductile quality of the composites moreover appeared the same comes about as like of sturdiness as the fortification was expanded. The thickness of the composites diminished with expanding cinder substance.

Anand Kumar et.al research work carried out by Addition of reinforcements such as TiC, SiC, Al₂O₃, TiO₂, Tin, etc. to Aluminum matrix for enhancing the mechanical properties has been a well-established fact. In-

situ method of reinforcement of the Aluminum matrix with ceramic phase-like Titanium Carbide (TiC) is well preferred over the Exist method. In the present investigation, Al- Cu alloy (series of 2014 Aluminum alloy) was used as matrix and reinforced with TiC using In-situ process. The Metal Matrix Composite (MMC) material, Al-.5%Cu/10%TiC developed exhibited its high yield strength, ultimate strength and hardness as compared to Al-4.5%Cu alloy. Percentage increase in yield and ultimate tensile strengths were reported to be about 15% and 24%.



Methodology and Experimental Work

Stir casting is a type of casting process in which a mechanical stirrer is introduced to form a vortex to mix reinforcement in the matrix material. It is a suitable process for production of metal matrix

composites due to its cost effectiveness, applicability to mass produc-

6061 Aluminum Alloy Composition by Mass% [4]

Al	Mg	Si	Fe	Cu	Cr	Zn	Ti	Mn	Remainder
95.85 - 98.56	0.8- 1.2	0.40- 0.8	0.0- 0.7	0.15- 0.40	0.04- 0.35	0.0- 0.25	0.0- 0.25	0.0- 0.15	0.05 each, 0.15 total

tion, simplicity, almost shaping and easier control of composite structure.



Boron carbide well known as a ceramic material with relatively high strength and durability as characterized by the relatively high values of its melting point, hardness, strength to density ratio, and wear resistance. B₄C is third hardest material which follows by diamond and cbn. Due to its high hardness, boron carbide powder is used as an abrasive in polishing and lapping applications, and also as a loose abrasive in cutting applications such as water jet cutting. It can also be used for dressing diamond tools. Silicon carbide (SiC), also known as carborundum is a semiconductor containing silicon and carbon.

Results

S.NO	COMPOSITION
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1	Al6061 94%+B4C2%+2%SiC+Gr 2%
2	Al6061 90%+4%B4C+4%SiC+Gr 2%
3	Al6061 86%+6%B4C+6%SiC+Gr 2%
4	Al6061 82%+8%B4C+8%SiC+Gr 2%

Table: Composition Names

Compositions	Trail1			Trail2			VHN
	D1	D2	VHN	D1	D2	VHN	
Al6061 94%+B4C2%+2% SiC+Gr 2%	78	88	290	67	76	296	293
Al6061 90%+4%B4C+4% SiC+Gr 2%	67	76	302	87	87	306	304
Al6061 86%+6%B4C+6% SiC+Gr 2%	89	76	325	67	67	326	325.5
Al6061 82%+8%B4C+8% SiC+Gr 2%	87	86	340	79	57	345	342.5

Table: Hardness Values

Compositions	Trail1			Trail2			VHN
	D1	D2	VHN	D1	D2	VHN	
Al6061 94%+B4C2%+2% SiC+Gr 2%	87	79	310	89	96	312	311
Al6061 90%+4%B4C+4% SiC+Gr 2%	76	67	323	98	94	345	334
Al6061 86%+6%B4C+6% SiC+Gr 2%	68	89	344	95	93	343	343.5
Al6061 82%+8%B4C+8% SiC+Gr 2%	59	67	357	96	92	356	356.5

Table: Heat Treatment of Water

Compositions	Trail1			Trail2			VHN
	D1	D2	VHN	D1	D2	VHN	

Al6061 94%+B4C2%+2% SiC+Gr 2%	69	79	337	78	67	341	339
Al6061 90%+4%B4C+4% SiC+Gr 2%	78	89	376	79	78	383	379.5
Al6061 86%+6%B4C+6% SiC+Gr 2%	79	98	397	67	90	403	400
Al6061 82%+8%B4C+8% SiC+Gr 2%	87	67	410	79	89	412	411

Table: Heat Treatment of ICE

S.no	Material	Initial weight	Finalweight	Lossofweight
1	Al6061 94%+B4C2%+2%Si C+Gr 2%	14.675	14.65	0.074
2	Al6061 90%+4%B4C+4%Si C+Gr 2%	15.876	15.876	0.068
3	Al6061 86%+6%B4C+6%Si C+Gr 2%	14.864	14.864	0.063
4	Al6061 82%+8%B4C+8%Si C+Gr 2%	15.897	14.675	0.056

Table: Wear at 1Kg load 200mts

S.no	Material	Initial weight	Finalweight	Lossofweight
1	Al6061 94%+B4C2%+2%Si C+Gr 2%	14.464	14.464	0.089
2	Al6061 90%+4%B4C+4%Si C+Gr 2%	13.567	13.567	0.081
3	Al6061 86%+6%B4C+6%Si C+Gr 2%	14.345	14.345	0.079
4	Al6061 82%+8%B4C+8%Si C+Gr 2%	14.434	14.434	0.071

Table: Wear at 1Kg load 400mts

S.no	Material	Initial weight	Finalweight	Lossofweight
1	Al6061 94%+B4C2%+2%SiC+Gr 2%	14.575	14.575	0.913
2	Al6061 90%+4%B4C+4%SiC+Gr 2%	15.675	15.675	0.891
3	Al6061 86%+6%B4C+6%SiC+Gr 2%	14.786	14.786	0.785
4	Al6061 82%+8%B4C+8%SiC+Gr 2%	14.567	15.567	0.657

Table: Wear at 1Kg load 600mts

Conclusion

- The AL6061-B₄C-sic-gr AND Sic metal matrix composite materials have been fabricated by stir casting method followed by extrusion process. Fabricated process further subjected to various testing's
- The B₄C, Sic and sic particulates are evenly dispersed in the matrix alloy. The microhardness of AL6061- B₄c-sic- Gr metal matrix composite material is superior than the matrix material which is less than previously fabricated AL6061- B₄c-sic
- As the percentage of reinforcement increases then the hardness also increased, by the addition of graphite hardness decreased
- With the results of hardness comparatively less than without graphite of same compositions.
- There was decreases of hardness 16% of in every composites with addition of graphite due graphite having machinability property
- Further composites subjected to the heat treatment process in order improve all the properties in different mediums like water, oil and ice.
- As the composites are subjected to the heating the upto 230°C in the muffle furnace and subjected to soaking for 2 hours
- In order to check the frictional behavior of composites it was further subjected to load conditions by the pin on disc. to evaluate the results of the here it self-taken different speeds, rpm and load

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