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MultiComp: Software Package for Multiscale Simulations

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the need for the design of new nanocomposites





what is polymer nanocomposites?

Combination of a polymer matrix and filler that have at least one dimension (i.e. length, width, or thickness) in the nanometer size range $(1 \text{ nm} = 10^{-9} \text{ m})$



Composites are materials consisting of two or more physically different phases, the combination of which leads to the emergence of new unique properties that differ from the characteristics of the original components.

why polymer nanocomposites?

- Possible to achieve combinations of properties not attainable with metals, ceramics, or polymers alone
- The key problem of polymers is low elastic modulus (polymers ~2GPa, glasses ~80, metals ~100GPa) , low termostability and etc.
- The nanoparticle provide reinforcement of polymer matrix
 - Example: tooth enamel (largely calcium phosphate) has the elastic modulus 83GPa





Tooth enamel at 1000X

computer simulations in new materials design





technological level

In the case of nanocomposites, it is impossible within the framework of a one-level approach to combine high accuracy and large scale of consideration.

- Atomistic level properties of nanosized filler and phase interaction
- Mesoscale the distribution of the filler in the matrix
- Macro level effective material properties



multi-scale modeling approach



software packages & nanocomposites

freeware

- PACKMOL
- OCTA Project
- CASTEP
- LAMMPS
- SCD Materials Modeling Software DL_POLY, DL_MESO
- Computational Soft Materials (COMSOFT) Workbench

commercial

- Materials Studio (BIOVIA) DIGIMAT (MC Software)
- Materials Science Suite (Schrodinger LLC)
- GeoDict (Math2Market Gmbh)
- COMSOL Multiphysics (COMSOL)
- MAPS (Material and Process Simulation) (Scienomics)
- ADF Modeling Suite (Software for Chemistry & Materials B.V. (SCM))
- Mode A Software (Materials Design Inc.)

The software package should have flexible capabilities for relatively fast construction of various variants of nanomaterial samples, depending on the input parameters.



Multicomp software package for multiscale modeling of the properties of polymer nanocomposites

Advantages Purpose Used for multilevel predictive 1. Effective scientific workflow for computing ۲ automation modeling of morphology, thermal 2. Integration of models for calculating the and mechanical properties of properties of nanocomposites with micro-, nanocomposites with a polymer meso- and macrolevels matrix 3. Client-server architecture for leveraging The package is specially designed for remote high performance computing high-throughput screening of (HPC) resources materials based on supercomputers 4. Open architecture: compute modules can be added, modified and replaced without Allows you to predict various developer assistance material properties: Flexibility in adaptation and configuration 5. structural 6. Convenient graphical user interface

mechanical

transport

•

thermophysical

 Visual 1D-2D-3D-visualization of calculations

multilevel modeling in the scientific workflow concept **Supercomputer**

Problems with old approaches

A large number of programs

- Atomistics (Lammps, Gromacs, DLPoly) Mesoscale (DPD)
- Macro Level (FEM)

Various means of processing results

- Excel
- Gnuplot, Matplotlib
- Jmol, Ovito

Incompatible formats

Script Sets



modules kit



Calculation scenario constructor

Benefits of the Scientific Workflow Concept

- Open architecture: the user can add, modify and replace computational modules without developer assistance
- Multi-user collaboration and data exchange
- Data exchange between modules based on templates
- Highly scalable performance
- Flexibility in adaptation and configuration
 - Isolating Modules: reduces risk and reduces impact on the whole system



modules kit



constructors

Nano/Meso tube Generator Atomistic Constructor (K23) Linear Meso-polymer Generator and Mixer

service tools

Simple Polymer Chain Generator Polymer Chain Generator Multiply System by copying Expand System by translation Join Systems. Sparse System into Separate Molecules Mix Systems Select and Split

simulations tools

Geometry relaxation CG/Fire Geometry relaxation MD Shrink system till target density **Meso Structure Relaxation MD Meso Structure Relaxation CG** calculation and analysis of properties **Mechanical properties Thermo properties Diffusion properties Structural properties** (density, RDF, XRD, SAED, porosity) **Clusterization Percolation Atomic Percolation Mesoscopic Percolation**

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data storage format

- Based on the analysis of the development and application of existing multiscale modeling packages, the developers of the package concluded that the XML format is the most convenient way of storing and exchanging data in the process of multilevel modeling.
- The data within the complex is stored in a structured form and saved in XML format.
- The graphical user interface of the complex allows you to view and edit these data, as well as add new ones.
- In addition, through the interface, it is possible to import data into the complex from the output files of external programs.





visualization

- The results are displayed using an interactive 1D / 2D / 3D visualization module consisting of 2 blocks: 1D visualization and 2D / 3D visualization.
- Block 1D visualization consists of an embedded window for displaying functional dependencies, a separate form containing a display window and a toolbar, a window for setting display parameters and auxiliary windows.
- The 2D / 3D visualization block consists of a built-in window for displaying 2D / 3D objects and grids and a separate form containing the display window, the main menu and the toolbar.

embeddable window for displaying functional dependencies



embedded 2D / 3D object and mesh display window



data exchange



- Calculation modules can directly support the XML format of the batch calculation script file as the format of their input and output files.
- For computational modules that do not support the XML format, the input / output data are converted from the package format to the module format using the conversion control programs (scripts).
- The exchange module provides the corresponding API for the scripts to generate and read files.

constructor of epoxy based polymers and composites

Construction of epoxy based polymers and composites.

Multilevel process running in one module:

- Construction of an atomistic structure with the specification of filler particles, a substrate, and up to three components of a polymer matrix.
- Conversion of atomistic structure into structure for modeling by dissipative dynamics method at the mesoscale.
- Dissipative dynamics for the implementation of matrix crosslinking with preliminary and subsequent relaxation (Setting the cell size; controlling the reaction rates, the final degree of crosslinking).



scheme of data transfer between computing units

mechanical properties

thermal conductivity



 Data transfer schemes provide the ability to carry out multilevel calculations of the physical properties of nanocomposites by transferring the calculation results between different levels of modeling. In this case, the data transfer formats developed at the previous stage are used.



calculation of the mechanical properties of crosslinked epoxy matrices

For crosslinked epoxy matrices, the literature shows a change in the modulus of elasticity depending on the degree of crosslinking [1].

The morphology of polymer networks can be studied at the atomistic scale [2].



Hardener





Reactive DPD + Relaxation





Calculation script

Using the constructor, it is convenient to study the dependence of physical properties on the degree of matrix crosslinking





1 - Li C., Strachan A. Molecular dynamics predictions of thermal and mechanical properties of thermoset polymer EPON862/DETDA //Polymer. – 2011. – T. 52. – №. 13. – C. 2920-2928. 2 - Komarov P. V. et al. Multiscale Simulations Approach: Crosslinked Polymer Matrices //Supercomputing Frontiers and Innovations. – 2018. – T. 5. – №. 3. – C. 55-59.

calculation of mechanical properties of organomodified montmorillonite intercalated with polyamide-6

Generation of the atomistic structure of clay nanoparticles

Creation of a composite structure (connection of clay and polymer structures) filler 15%



Generation of the atomistic structure of

a polymer matrix

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Elastic moduli obtained by calculation: EPA6 = 2.8 Gpa EMMT = 232 Gpa Ecomposite = 41 GPa

A B O R A T O R Y Skomorokhov A. S., Knizhnik A. A., Potapkin B. V. //The Journal of Physical Chemistry B. – 2019. – T. 123. – №. 12. – C. 2710-2718.

influence of the distribution of clay in the polymer matrix on the mechanical properties of the composite. simulation on three levels

Clay-filled polymer composites were obtained in the 1990s.

- They have improved mechanical properties.
- The properties depend on the dispersion of the filler in the matrix.
- Interest in them continues to this day, and it is common to consider them using multilevel approaches.





relaxation of structures and distribution of filler

Different parameters of the interaction between the matrix and the filler lead to different distribution of the filler in the matrix.





It is possible to predict the distribution of the filler depending on its interaction with the matrix

transition from mesoscale to macro level

- 1. Creates a surface mesh based on the mesoscale structure.
- 2. Building a volumetric mesh.
- 3. Calculation on the constructed volumetric mesh.





The procedure for the transition to the macro level is fully automated and universal for any form of filler

1 - Lorensen W. E., Cline H. E. Marching cubes: A high resolution 3D surface construction algorithm //ACM siggraph computer graphics. – 1987. – T. 21. – №. 4. – C. 163-169



calculation of the mechanical properties of a composite filled with spherical particles

Different distributions of the filler lead to different values of the elastic moduli at the same volumetric concentration of the filler, as well as anisotropy of properties. With percolation, the rigidity of the system in this direction increases significantly.



Aggregation E = 4.2 GPa

Homogeneous distribution (percolation along - x) E_v =11 GPa

Data transfer for structure conversion and calculation of effective properties at the macro level are carried out automatically.



Dependence of stresses on deformation (along x, direction of percolation in one of the structures)



conclusion

- The MULTICOMP software package enables predictive calculations of the properties of polymer matrix nanocomposites based on multilevel modeling, including:
 - Determination of the structure of composites, distribution of the filler in the matrix
 - Determination of Effective Macroscopic Properties of the Whole Composite
- The MULTICOMP package allows you to create flexible calculation scenarios using high-performance computing resources, providing automatic data transfer and control over the execution of calculations
- The MULTICOMP package can be used both for the practical development of new materials and for teaching students methods of computational materials science.
- The MULTICOMP software package is an open platform that implements the Scientific Workflow concept and allows users to create their own calculation scenarios and add new calculation modules

areas of practical application MULTICOMP

- Predicting the properties of polymer matrices depending on the chemical structure of monomers
- Prediction of changes in the glass transition temperature of a polymer matrix upon the introduction of a nanoscale filler
- Predicting changes in the mechanical properties of polymer matrices upon the introduction of a nanoscale filler (hardening of plastic, changing the properties of rubber products)
- Predicting changes in the thermal conductivity of polymer matrices upon the introduction of a nanoscale filler (insulating materials, membranes)
- Predicting changes in the gas permeability of polymer matrices upon the introduction of a nanoscale filler (film, membrane)

application of MULTICOMP in education

- The developed package can be used both for the practical development of new materials and for teaching students methods of computational materials science.
- With the help of MULTICOMP, students can master the basics of atomistic and mesoscopic modeling of polymer systems without the need to study specific modeling programs and direct work with remote computing resources (creating computer classes)
- Based on MULTICOMP, laboratory workshops can be developed for the introduction of composite materials based on polymer matrices with organic and inorganic fillers into physics and chemistry.
- Also, this Package can be useful for teaching the basics of multilevel modeling of composite materials (end-to-end modeling from atomistics to the macrolevel)

thank you for the attention

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Contact us: Kintech Lab Ltd. http://www.kintechlab.com <u>support@kintech.ru</u> : for general service and product information <u>info@kintech.ru</u>: for all questions concerning Kintech Lab software

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