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# Influence of high-modulus filler content on critical load on tribocouples made of microheterophase polymer composite materials

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# Abstract

The influence of the content of high-modulus filler on the assessment of the critical load on the conjugation of polymeric composite materials is theoretically substantiated from the tribological point of view. Various cases of destruction of polymeric composite materials are considered. The conditions under which the setting of polymeric composite materials is observed, as well as the conditions of their destruction are formulated. Both viscous and brittle fracture of polymeric composite materials are considered. The main focus is on critical loads and stresses depending on the content of high-modulus filler, taking into account the modulus of elasticity of the polymer matrix and filler and the nature of their destruction.

Key words: polymer composite material, microheterophase composite, high modulus filler, triad coupling of parts, critical load, setting, failure

## Introduction

When the influence of the structure and composition of polymer composite materials (PCM) on the value of the critical pressure should be considered in the contacts of different types of microheterophase composites. In this case, the size of the structural components of PCM is much smaller than the size of the contact spot, and therefore we can consider the contact of two PCM as the contact of homogeneous materials [1]. In such PCM, the physico-mechanical and tribological properties of the friction surfaces depend on a number of factors. Conditions for efficient operation of triad couplings of parts with PCM at a critical setting load depend on the following factors [2]:

- volume content of high-modulus filler of conjugated PCM of the same phase composition and with the same volume content;

- differences in the volumetric content of the high-modulus filler when contacting conjugate parts with PCM of the same phase composition;

- physical-mechanical and tribological properties of structural components of PCM conjugations with the same volume content of fillers;

- physical-mechanical and tribological properties of structural components of PCM conjugations at different volume content of fillers;

- bond strength of filler particles with the matrix in PCM;

– particle size of fillers.

Consideration of these factors will make it possible to design the PCM in accordance with the operating conditions of the moving couplings of machine parts, without reaching the critical values of the load and the observation of setting and failure.

## Literature review



By introducing particles of brittle high-modulus fillers into the plastic polymer matrix, the nature of deformation and destruction of PCM with increasing their bulk content  $c_f$  will change [1,2]. The low content (concentration) of high-modulus filler particles indicates that the yield strength  $\sigma_T$  PCM increases with  $c_f$  increase, and elongation at destruction  $\mathcal{E}_R$  – decreases. As the yield strength of PCM in contact increases, the critical  $\sigma_T$  setting pressure  $p_c$  for a single microroughness on the conjugate surfaces of the parts increases in accordance with the equation I.V. Kragelsky [3-6]:

$$p_c = C_u \sigma_T \,. \tag{1}$$

Since the geometry of roughness slightly depends on the properties of PCM [7-9] at low roughness of friction surfaces of conjugation of parts, it can be assumed that the geometry of their contact with increasing volume fraction of filler  $c_f$  remains unchanged.

With increasing  $c_f$  plastic properties of  $\mathcal{E}_R$  PCM decrease according to equation [10]:

$$N_{M_1 - M_2} + \sum_{j=1}^{m} N_{j_{M_1 - M_2}} = N$$
<sup>(2)</sup>

It was found that  $c_f > 0.15$  value  $\mathcal{E}_R$  changes  $c_f$  slightly with increasing. In this regard, for PCM with  $c_f > 0.15$  the ability of the irregularities of the conjugate surfaces of the parts to plastic deformation can be assumed to be almost the same [11,12]. The diameter of the contact spot for such PCM is about 1...5 µm. This indicates that the dislocation processes will not change dramatically with the change in the diameter of the contact spot. For PCM with  $c_f > 0.15$  the value of the coefficient of proportionality  $C_u$  can be assumed to be constant and in accordance with the recommendations of I.V. Kragelsky at a value equal to 3...4. The value of the critical pressure  $p_c$  in tribocouples with microheterophase PCM will mainly depend on the value of the yield strength of the material  $\sigma_T$ .

When strengthening polymeric materials with spherical incoherent filler particles, the yield strength is equal to:

$$\sigma_T = \sigma_{PM} + \gamma_{PCM} c_f^{1/n}, \tag{3}$$

where  $n = \overline{1,6}$ ;  $\gamma_{PCM}$  – coefficient that takes into account the shear modulus and Burgers vector of the polymer matrix, as well as the size and shape of the filler particles in PCM [13,14].

For PCM with a small value  $C_f$  when contacting irregularities of the same composition, the critical pressure in the triad couplings of the parts is:

$$p_c = C_u \Big( \sigma_{PM} + \gamma_{PCM} c_f^{1/n} \Big). \tag{4}$$

From the last equation it follows that at n>1 the increase in critical pressure  $p_c$  with increasing  $c_f$  gradually slows down. Note that the slowdown occurs the faster the value of n [15]. Despite the decrease in PCM elongation with increasing  $c_f$ , such composites have a viscous nature of fracture, and therefore setting when reaching the pressure in tribocouples  $p_c$  will occur mainly by the mechanism of active centers [16-18]. The destruction of the micro-irregularities of the conjugate surfaces of the gripping parts, when shifting one of them relative to the other will be cohesive in nature with the formation of growths on one of the surfaces, which in some cases can scratch or plow another surface. Note that the formation of such growths is possible with equal probability on both contacting directed surfaces of the parts and there are also traces of the process of plowing on the surfaces of the triad.

#### Purpose

The aim of this work is tribophysical theoretical substantiation of the influence of changes in the content of high modulus filler in polymer composite material on the magnitude and nature of changes in the critical pressure on the tribocoupling of materials and their critical stress when varying the modulus of elasticity of polymer matrix and filler.

# Results

As the filler content  $c_f$  in the polymer matrix of the material of the tribocouple parts with the considered type of contact of their working surfaces increases, the critical setting pressure will increase, and the wear at pressures close to  $p_c$  will decrease slightly. The latter suggests that with increasing value, the  $c_f$  efficiency of tribocoupling of parts with PCM should increase, which indicates an increase in their tribological efficiency.

It is possible to predict that in PCM there is such a filler content when the value of its yield strength exceeds the value of the yield strength. In this case, the viscous nature of the destruction of PCM will turn into brittle fracture [13]. In this case, equation (1) will change and take the form:

$$p_c = B\sigma_c, \tag{5}$$

where B – the coefficient that for fragile materials takes into account the same parameters as the coefficient  $C_u$ ;  $\sigma_c$  – tensile strength of PCM.

Since for this class of materials with a change in the  $c_f$  value of *B* is likely to change slightly, the value of  $p_c$ , as in the previous case, will mainly be determined by the value  $\sigma_c$ .

The dependence  $\sigma_c$  on  $c_f$  for PCM can be represented by the Kramer-Griffiths-Orovan equation:

$$\sigma_c^2 = AE_p (1 - c_f) + k_r, \qquad (6)$$

where  $E_{pM}$  – the modulus of elasticity of the polymeric material (PM), A and  $k_r$  are the coefficients characterizing the structural and phase state of PCM.

At high contents of the filler ( $c_f \ge 0.6$ ), taking into account the data [10-12] with a high probability we can assume that the modulus of elasticity of PCM can be estimated by the formula:

$$E_p = \beta E_f c_f, \tag{7}$$

where  $\beta$  – the coefficient experimentally determined for PCM or calculated from condition (2) for the lower limit, at  $c_f = 0.6$ :

$$E_{pM}H_{M}((1-c_{f})E_{pM}+C_{f}E_{pM}) \le E_{p} \le (1-c_{f})E_{pM}+c_{f}E_{pM}.$$
(8)

It is also possible to write the following equations:

$$\sigma_c^2 = \beta A E_{pf} c_f (1 - c_f) + k_r; \qquad (9)$$

$$p_{c} = B \left[ \beta A E_{pf} c_{f} \left( 1 - c_{f} \right) + k_{r} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$
 (10)

From equation (10) it follows that with increasing the  $c_f$  value of  $p_c$  critical pressure in the tribocouples of parts should decrease.

The moment of transition from the viscous nature of the destruction of PCM to brittle with increasing content of filler theoretically can not be estimated. At the same time, the value of  $p_c$  with increasing  $c_f$  passes through the maximum. This gives grounds to introduce the criterion of maximum bearing capacity of triad couplings of parts made of PCM. At the optimal value of the filler content  $c_{fopt}$ , at which  $\sigma_T = \sigma_c$ , and the

value  $C_u = B$ .

Equating the right parts of equations (4) and (10), we obtain:

$$\left(\sigma_T + \lambda c_{fopt}^{1/n}\right) = \left[\beta A E_{popt} (1 - c_{fopt}) + k_r\right]^{1/2}.$$
(11)

Hence we can find  $c_{fopt}$  at which  $p_c$  has a conditional maximum value of  $p_{c.opt}$ . Since the  $c_{fopt}$  values in  $\sigma_T$  the environment  $\sigma_B$  change smoothly, the value of  $p_c$  will also change smoothly and the effective performance of PCM in triad couplings of parts can be realized in some interval  $c_{fopt}$ . At friction of microroughness of conjugate surfaces of details can be in the conditions of comprehensive uneven compression that promotes manifestation of plasticity and effective values  $c_f$  should be a little more than  $c_{fopt}$ . Depending on the composition and particle size of the filler should be effective PCM with  $c_f = 0.6...0.9$ . With a relatively high content of brittle filler on conjugate surfaces, it is possible to observe cracks, and with less – traces of setting.

When contacting PCM with different contents of the same filler, as for single-phase materials, the value of  $p_c$  will depend on the nature of deformation and destruction of contacting PCM, as well as their modulus of elasticity. When contacting PCM with  $C_f > C_{fopt}$  value of  $p_c$  will be determined by the strength of the more fragile PCM and the ratio of their modulus of elasticity. At these values of  $p_c$ , the modulus of elasticity of PCM, with increasing  $C_f$ , increases in dependence close to rectilinear, and  $\sigma_c$  decreases along a smooth curve. In the case of a small increase in the filler content  $c_f$  compared to  $c_{fopt}$  can be expected to even increase the value of  $p_c$ . In this case, the probability of setting by the mechanism of active centers with increasing  $E_M$  of one of the materials of the parts will decrease, and the strength will decrease slightly. This is especially observed in conditions when the micro-irregularities of the conjugate surfaces of the parts are in uneven all-round compression, ie at small values of equilibrium roughness. In cases where the material of one of the parts  $C_f$  is

much more  $c_{fopt}$  and  $p_c$  will be lower than the pressure when the PCM has  $c_{fopt}$ .

When contacting PCM conjugate parts with  $c_f < c_{fopt}$  in case of increase  $c_f$  in one of the materials of the part, the value of  $p_c$  will increase in all cases, because the values of the modulus of elasticity  $E_p$  and  $\sigma_T$  PCM with large  $c_f$  will be higher, and accordingly will be lower and the probability of setting materials.

In tribocouple contacts of parts in which one of the PCM has  $C_f > C_{fopt}$  and conjugate  $-C_f < C_{fopt}$ , the value of  $p_c$  for tribocoupling will be determined by the same conditions as in the contacts of brittle single-phase polymeric material with plastic material. Since the values  $\sigma_T$  in  $\sigma_B$  these PCMs are higher than in the polymer matrix and the brittle filler, respectively, the  $p_c$  in such contacts will be higher than in the contact of the filler with the matrix. In addition, high values of the modulus of elasticity  $E_p$  PCM at  $C_f > C_{fopt}$  will reduce the probability of setting on the mechanism of active centers. Since the number of active centers increases with increasing  $c_f$  PCM under the condition  $c_f > c_{fopt}$ , the values of  $p_c$  will be higher the higher the content of filler  $c_f$  in this PCM. However, in PCM under the condition  $c_f < c_{fopt}$  we have: with increasing  $c_f$  the resistance of the dislocations will increase, and the number of dislocations in the cluster before the boundary of the contact surfaces will decrease. The maximum value of  $p_c$  in this type of contact will be when the value  $c_f$  in one of the conjugations of parts with PCM is slightly smaller, and in the other – slightly larger  $c_{fopt}$ .

Analyzing the results of the dependence of  $p_c$  on the content of high-modulus filler  $c_f$  in different materials of the tribocouple parts, it can be noted that the highest values of  $p_c$  should be expected when contacting them, provided that conjugate PCM have different filler content  $c_f$ . Moreover, in one of the PCM the value  $c_f$  should be close to  $c_{fopt}$ , and in the second - should be greater  $c_{fopt}$  by a value at which the effect of increasing the modulus of elasticity  $E_p$  in the tribocontact prevails over the effect of reduction  $\sigma_c$ . Approximately can be  $c_f$  taken equal to half the range of effective values when contacting PCM of the same composition ( $c_f = 0.75...0.85$ ).

Mechanical and tribological properties of matrix and filler materials, other things being equal, will also affect the value of  $p_c$ . In such PCMs, according to the Kramer-Griffiths-Orovan equation, the values of the modulus of elasticity and the  $\sigma_c$  PCM as a whole increase as the modulus of elasticity of the filler  $E_{pf}$  increases. The value of  $p_c$  will also increase with increasing  $E_{pf}$ . The maximum value of  $p_c$  will be in the PCM contacts, in which the same  $c_f$  modulus of elasticity of the filler is maximum. Contacts of two conjugate PCMs with a low

value of  $E_{pf}$  will be the least efficient.

When the PCM is strengthened by the Ansell and Lenel mechanism [3,13,16-18], the value  $\sigma_c$  of the three-coupled parts increases with increasing shear modulus of the reinforcing phase and the volume fraction of filler particles in this phase. Under conditions of uneven comprehensive compression PCM with small values of constant elasticity of the filler  $E_f$  will be more prone to setting. To reduce the adhesion of conjugate PCM it is necessary to increase  $c_f$  in both PCM; in contacts with such PCM the value of  $p_c$  with increasing  $c_f$  outside  $c_{fopt}$  will increase to large values  $c_f$  than in PCM with large modulus of elasticity of the filler  $E_{pf}$ . Values  $p_c$  for contacts in which one of the PCM has a filler content with a higher, and in the other – with a lower value of the modulus of elasticity  $E_{pf}$ , ie should acquire intermediate values. For this type of PCM contacts with a smaller modulus of elasticity, the values  $\sigma_c$  are smaller and to

For this type of FCM contacts with a smaller modulus of clasticity, the values  $O_c$  are smaller and to increase the efficiency of these PCM contacts with a smaller modulus of elasticity, the filler content should be closer to  $C_{fopt}$ . In the case of PCM with a large modulus of elasticity  $E_p$  can be taken with both smaller and larger  $C_{fopt}$ . Due to the fact that the probability of adhesion by the mechanism of active centers with increasing  $E_p$  decreases, it is more appropriate in such contacts in PCM with large  $E_{pf}$  should take the value  $c_f > c_{fopt}$ . The limit value  $c_f$  in these contacts may be greater than in the contacts of two conjugate PCM with a larger  $E_p$ . With a large difference between  $E_{p2}$  and  $E_{p1}$  for PCM with large  $E_p$  effective are the following values of filler  $c_f = 0.95...0.98$ .

Assuming that basically, the setting of the friction surfaces is determined by the mechanism of formation of the general step of microroughnesses, the value of  $p_c$  can be estimated by equations of the type:

$$\sigma_{c} = 2\overline{\sigma} \left(\frac{l_{\partial}}{l_{c}}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{3B_{T}\varepsilon rT}{V}\right)^{1/2} \exp(U_{0}/3rT) + \left(\frac{3B^{f}\varepsilon rT}{V^{f}}\right)^{1/2} \exp(U_{0}'/3rT) \left(1 - 2\left(\frac{l_{\partial}}{l_{c}}\right)^{1/2}\right).$$
(12)

Taking  $p_c$  proportional  $\overline{\sigma}$ , we have:

$$p_{c} = C_{u}\overline{\sigma} = 2C_{u} \left(\frac{l_{\partial}}{l_{c}}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{3B_{T}\varepsilon rT}{V}\right)^{1/2} \exp(U_{0}/3rT) - C_{u} \left(\frac{3B^{f}\varepsilon rT}{V^{f}}\right)^{1/2} \exp(U_{0}'/3rT) \left(1 - 2\left(\frac{l_{\partial}}{l_{c}}\right)^{1/2}\right).$$
(13)

Lack of data on the value of  $C_u$ ,  $l_o$ , B,  $U_0$  i  $U_0^f$  impossible to determine a specific value  $p_c$ . However, it is known that the value  $p_c$  is greater the greater  $U_0$  and  $U_0^f$ .

If we take into account the results of the study of the evolution of the structure of multiphase PCM, we can conclude that the deformation processes during friction PCM with fillers with low and medium modulus of elasticity more accurately describes the Ansell-Lenel mechanism [4-6]. Knowing the values of the average PCM stresses and fillers by the equations:

$$\overline{\sigma} = \sigma_T = \sigma_{TM} + \left(\frac{G_M G_f b}{2L_p c_p}\right)^{1/2}; \qquad \sigma_f = \sigma_T^f = \sigma_{TM}^f + \left(\frac{G_M^f G_f^f b^f}{2L_p c_p}\right)^{1/2}, \tag{14}$$

you can estimate the value of  $p_c$  when contacting two conjugate PCM:

$$p_{c} = B^{f} \sigma_{c} = 2B^{f} \left(\frac{l_{d}}{l_{c}}\right)^{1/2} \left(G_{TM} + \left(\frac{G_{M}^{f}G_{f}b}{2L_{p}c_{p}}\right)^{1/2}\right) + \left(1 - 2\left(\frac{l_{d}}{l_{c}}\right)^{1/2}\right) B^{f} \left(G_{TM}^{f} + \left(\frac{G_{M}^{f}G_{f}^{f}b^{f}}{2L_{p}c_{p}}\right)^{1/2}\right).$$
(15)

From equation (15) it follows that to increase  $p_c$  tribocoupled parts with PCM it is necessary to choose matrices with high  $\sigma_{TM}$  and shear modules  $G_M$ , and fillers – with high modulus of elasticity and such content that the distance between particles  $l_p$  close to its minimum value, in which the Ansell-Lenel mechanism still works. The value of  $l_p$  equal to  $1.5...2.5 \cdot 10^{-2} \mu m$ , at  $d_p = 0.5...2 \mu m$ , is observed if the volume fraction of binding is 1...5%.

For tribocouples of parts made of PCM with a fragile matrix, the amount of stress can be estimated by the formula:

$$\overline{\sigma_n} = \left(\frac{3B\dot{\varepsilon}kT}{V\exp\left(\frac{U_0k_B}{3T}\right)}\right)^{1/2}.$$
(16)

In this case:

$$\sigma_f = \sigma_{TM} + \left(\frac{G_M G_f b_B}{2l_p c_p}\right)^{1/2}.$$
(17)

Then the value of the critical filler can be estimated by the equation:

$$p_{c} = B^{f} \sigma_{c} = 2B^{f} \left(\frac{l_{d}}{l_{c}}\right) \left(\frac{3B\dot{\epsilon}kT}{V}\right)^{1/2} \exp\left(\frac{U_{0}}{3k_{B}T}\right) + \left(1 - 2\left(\frac{l_{d}}{l_{c}}\right)\right) B^{f} \left(\sigma_{TM} + \left(\frac{G_{M}G_{f}b_{B}}{2l_{p}c_{p}}\right)^{1/2}\right).$$
(18)

From equation (18) it follows that in triad couplings of parts with PCM with a fragile matrix must have a high value of  $U_0$ , and the filler is a high modulus of elasticity, ie high modulus. The volume fraction of binding should strive for its minimum allowable value (1...5%). At high values of  $U_0$ , the given tribocouples of parts with PCM on the value of the critical setting load may be more effective than tribocouples with a metal matrix. But by the criterion of fragile destruction, they will be inferior to tribocouples with a metal matrix.

The strength of PCM is significantly influenced by the strength of the interfacial boundaries. As noted, the destruction of the interfacial boundary leads to the development of cracks or chipping PCM, the formation of micropores, followed by their fusion in viscous fracture. During friction, due to the presence of sliding conjugate surfaces, the role of the boundaries will depend on the depth of the filler particles in the surface layer of the PCM material. All particles that do not come to the surface of the contact spot will perform the same role as under the volumetric load of PCM. The filler particles coming to the surface of the contact spot during friction will specifically affect the behavior of the material in the contact spot. In the case where the destruction of the interfacial boundaries leads to the appearance of cracking cracks, a network of microcracks will develop on the surface of the contact spot and the bearing capacity of PCM surfaces will be determined by brittle fracture rather than setting, which will reduce  $p_c$ .

If micropores are formed during the destruction of the interfacial boundary, then at  $d_p \approx 1 \mu m$  they can positively affect the process of friction of the conjugation of parts. The newly formed pores serve as reservoirs for lubrication, which improves the regeneration of the lubricating distribution film on the friction surfaces, reduce the coefficients of friction and heat release in the contact zone, and, accordingly, reduce the likelihood of setting materials of conjugated parts. In this regard, weak interfacial boundaries can be allowed in cases where the destruction of the boundaries do not develop cracking cracks, ie only when using plastic matrices and with such a content of filler particles, when contacts between them are absent. This structure of the material at  $d_p$ 

# $\approx$ 1µm can be provided in the manufacture of PCM with $c_f < c_{fopt}$ .

In addition to improving the lubrication, in case of loss of filler particles, their strengthening effect will be reduced and there will be a positive gradient of shear resistance, which will improve the performance of triad coupling parts with PCM. When using such PCM filler particles with a high modulus of elasticity in the event of loss of most particles from the surface layer on a high modulus substrate, a plastic coating with a thickness of 1  $\mu$ m is formed, which reduces friction and improves the performance of three-coupled parts. The value of  $p_c$  in this case should not be greatly reduced, because the presence of a solid substrate in PCM will limit the ability of Frank-Reed sources and generate dislocations in a thin surface layer, and, accordingly, removing filler particles from the surface layer In order to prevent setting on the mechanism of formation of the general step, from such PCM it is necessary to make only one detail of tribocoupling, and the second – with the high-modulus filler with strong interphase borders.

If we limit ourselves to the effect of improving the lubrication of surfaces due to the formation of micropores on them when the filler particles fall, it is more appropriate to create a combined PCM, when one part has strong interfacial boundaries and the other - weak. In such a PCM, particles with a strong interfacial boundary must have a high modulus of elasticity, and particles with a fragile boundary can have any value of the modulus of elasticity. This expands the number of materials that can be used as filler particles with weak interfacial boundaries and allows you to enter such particles not in one part, but in both conjugate parts, because the development of the setting process by both mechanisms will prevent filler particles with high modulus and elasticity high strength of interfacial boundaries.

The role of the size and shape of the filler particles can be determined by two factors [10-12]: cracking of

particles and their ability to inhibit the movement of dislocations. It was previously shown that on the spots of actual contact, larger filler particles crack at smaller values  $\sigma$ . However, the mechanism of hardening Orovana at  $C_f < c_{fopt}$  and at the same time  $C_f$  more effectively increase the size  $\sigma_T$  of the smaller filler particles. Therefore, from the position of cracking and setting at  $C_f < c_{fopt}$  more effective should be PCM with smaller reinforcing particles. However, due to the facilitation of the possibility of transverse sliding of the dislocation with decreasing  $r_p$ , with  $r_p$  slightly larger size of the dislocation nucleus  $r_0$ , too small particles will be an inefficient barrier to dislocation and will develop plastic deformation of irregularities on conjugate surfaces, and with it the probability of setting.

Since  $r_0 = 4b$  [15,18], the lower value of  $r_h$  should be of the order of  $5 \cdot 10^{-3} \mu m$ . Such particles are very difficult to obtain, so we can assume  $c_{fopt}$  that  $c_f$  with a decrease in the particle size of the filler, the critical setting load will often increase in the case of modern technological methods.

In PCM, the  $c_f$  value  $\sigma_c$  increases  $c_{fopt}$  when the plastic deformation that develops at the crack tip covers a large volume, ie with a large particle size of the filler. But here the value of  $r_p$  has its limits. When  $r_p$  increases to a certain value, the crack does not bypass this particle in the plastic phase, but goes through the body of a large particle of brittle material. As a result  $\gamma_p$ , the Griffiths-Orovan equation decreases and the value  $\sigma_c$  decreases. The maximum particle diameter of the filler should be at the level of 10...50 µm. From this analysis it follows that to increase the value of  $p_c$  in PCM with  $c_f < c_{fopt}$  particle size should be reduced, and in PCM with

 $C_f > C_{fopt}$  – increase to 1...2 µm. With large diameters of filler particles, the nature of contacting the surfaces changes, so the critical setting pressure will be subject to other laws close to the laws inherent in single-phase materials.

All of the above applies to PCM with a plastic matrix. Further, the possibility of increasing the value of  $p_c$  in contacts involving PCM with a brittle matrix should be analyzed, because at close values of the coefficient of thermal expansion of the matrix and filler, not very large difference  $E_p$  (not more than 5 times), low temperatures PCM, small diameter filler particles (about 3.5...11 µm) and their small content ( $C_f < 0.3$ ) can increase the strength of PCM.

#### Conclusions

1. Thus, based on the strength of the interfacial boundaries, the most effective should be considered three-coupled parts that are made of PCM with high-modulus filler particles with strong interfacial boundaries. When using filler particles with weak interfacial boundaries, good results can be expected in the case of using high-modulus filler particles or a mixture of high-modulus particles and particles with a small modulus of elasticity.

2. It was found that PCM of microheterophase type based on brittle matrices have a strength close to the strength of single-phase brittle materials. The critical setting pressure depends on the same parameters on which the critical pressure of single-phase brittle materials considered for different types of contacts depends.

3. According to the criterion of critical setting pressure, the most effective should be considered triadcoupling of parts in which PCM one of the working surfaces has  $c_f > c_{fopt}$  and the size of the filler particles

approaching the upper limit of the size of the reinforcing particles, and the other PCM has  $c_f < c_{fopt}$  and the particle size the size of the reinforcing particles of the filler.

4. The role and forms of particles of high-modulus filler, as well as its content in the polymer matrix in the formation of the value of the critical load on the moving conjugation of parts are theoretically substantiated.

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Аулін В.В., Лисенко С.В., Гриньків А.В., Деркач О.Д., Макаренко Д.О. Вплив вмісту високомодульного наповнювача на критичне навантаження на трибоспряження з мікрогетерофазних полімерних композиційних матеріалів

В роботі теоретично з трибологічної точки зору обгрунтовано вплив вмісту високомодульного наповнювача на оцінку критичного навантаження на спряження полімерних композитних матеріалів. При цьому розглядаються різні випадки руйнування полімерних композитних матеріалів. Сформульовані умови, при яких спостерігаються схоплювання полімерних композитних матеріалів, а також умови їх руйнування. Розглядається як в'язке, так і крихке руйнування полімерних композитних матеріалів. Основна увага зосереджена на критичних навантаженні і напруження в залежності від вмісту високомодульного наповнювача з урахуванням модулів пружності полімерної матриці і наповнювача та характеру їх руйнування.

Ключові слова: полімерний композитний матеріал, мікрогетерофазний композит, високомодульний наповнювач, трибоспряження деталей, критичне навантаження, схоплювання, руйнування.