

Supplementary information

Formulation of a covalently bonded hydroxyapatite and poly(ether ether ketone) composite

Erik A. B. Hughes ^{a,b*}, Andrew Parkes ^c, Richard L. Williams ^a, Mike J. Jenkins ^c, and Liam M. Grover ^a

^a School of Chemical Engineering, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, B15 2TT, U.K.

^b NIHR Surgical Reconstruction and Microbiology Research Centre, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, U.K.

^c School of Metallurgy and Materials, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, B15 2TT, U.K.

*Corresponding author: e.a.b.hughes@bham.ac.uk

Figures

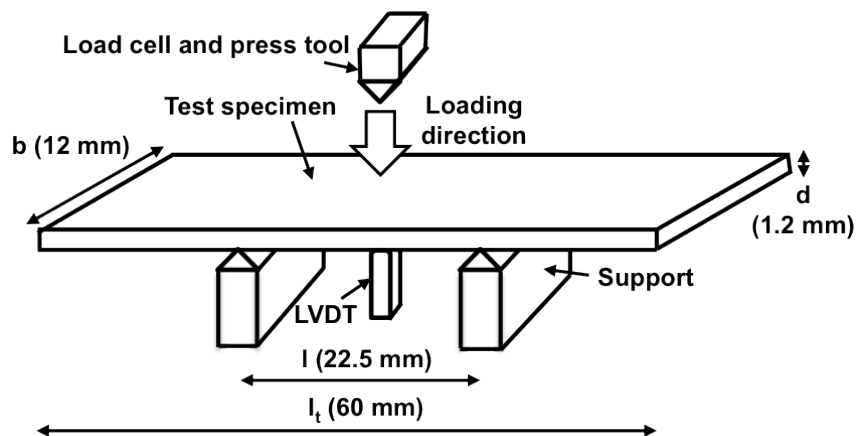


Figure S1 Schematic of mechanical 3-point bend testing set-up, where b = specimen width, d = specimen thickness, l = separation length between supports, l_t = total specimen length, and LVDT = linear variable displacement

transducer. Specimen dimensions and support separation distance comply with ASTM D790/ISO 178 standard.

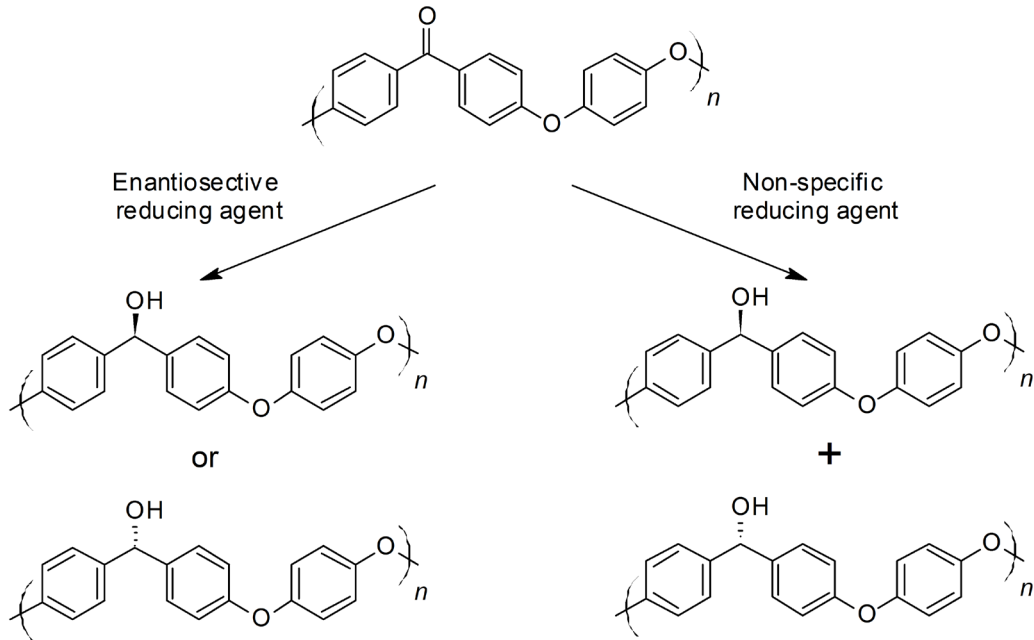


Figure S2 PEEK reduction to PEEK-OH by entioselective and non-specific reducing agents

Chirality is introduced when PEEK is chemically modified by reducing agents facilitating the conversion of =O groups to -OH groups. An enantioselective reducing agent may produce only one enantiomer of PEEK-OH, whereby the -OH groups are configured in one direction. Because NaBH_4 is non-selective, a mixture of PEEK-OH enantiomers is expected. The mixture of resulting -OH group configurations may disrupt forming crystallites of the material leading to an increase in the amorphous nature of PEEK-OH compared to PEEK.

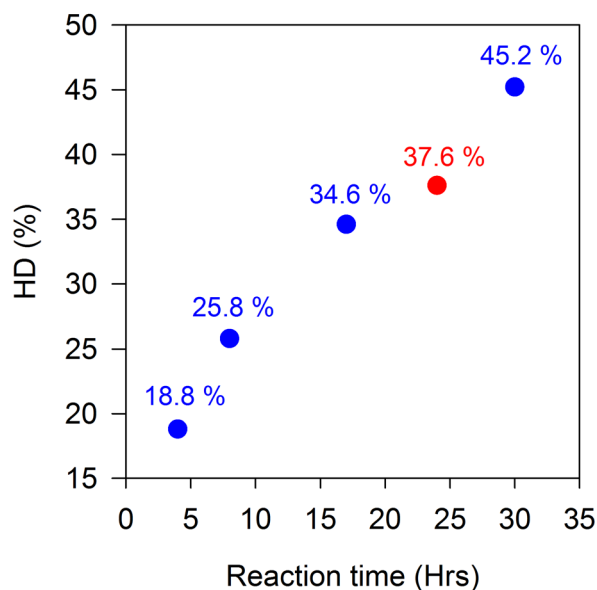


Figure S3 PEEK-OH hydroxylation degree (HD) resulting from the reaction of PEEK with NaBH_4 at various reaction times. Shown in red is the value for HD acquired in this work, whilst values shown in blue are those reported by Díez-Pascual and colleagues [1].

Equations

$$C = \frac{A}{Eb} \quad (\text{Equation S1})$$

$$M = 2.80 \text{ mL} \times \left(C \times \frac{1 \text{ L}}{1000 \text{ mL}} \right) \quad (\text{Equation S2})$$

$$C_{\text{sample}} = \left(\frac{M}{0.25 \text{ mL}} \right) \times \frac{1000 \text{ mL}}{1 \text{ L}} \quad (\text{Equation S3})$$

Where: C = -SH concentration as measured (mol L^{-1}), E = TNB molar absorption coefficient, $14150 \text{ (M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}\text{)}$, b = path length of cuvette (1 cm), M = -SH concentration as measured (mol), and C_{sample} = -SH concentration of the sampled volume 0.25 mL containing HA-SH (mol L^{-1}).

The concentration of –SH groups was converted from units of mol L⁻¹ to mol g⁻¹ by calculating the equivalent mass in grams of HA-SH sample in 1 L and dividing C_{sample} by this number (e.g. 20 g HA-SH in 1 L so 20).

$$M_{250^{\circ}C} = \left(\frac{M_s}{100}\right) \times \% M_{250^{\circ}C} \quad (\text{Equation S4})$$

$$M_{400^{\circ}C} = \left(\frac{M_s}{100}\right) \times \% M_{400^{\circ}C} \quad (\text{Equation S5})$$

$$M_{OH} = \% M_{400^{\circ}C} - M_{250^{\circ}C} \quad (\text{Equation S6})$$

$$mol_{OH} = \frac{M_{OH}}{Mr_{OH}} \quad (\text{Equation S7})$$

$$M_{PEEK-OH} = mol_{OH} \times Mr_{PEEK-OH} \quad (\text{Equation S8})$$

$$HD = \left(\frac{M_{PEEK-OH}}{M_{250^{\circ}C}}\right) \times 100 \quad (\text{Equation S9})$$

Where: M_s = TGA sample mass (g), $M_{250^{\circ}C}$ = TGA sample mass at 250 °C (g), $\% M_{250^{\circ}C}$ = % TGA sample mass remaining at 250 °C (%), $M_{400^{\circ}C}$ = TGA sample mass at 400 °C (g), $\% M_{400^{\circ}C}$ = % TGA sample mass remaining at 400 °C (%), M_{OH} = Mass of OH groups lost from PEEK-OH between 250 °C and 400 °C (g), mol_{OH} = Moles of OH groups lost from PEEK-OH between 250 °C - 400 °C (g), Mr_{OH} = Molar mass of OH group (g mol⁻¹), $M_{PEEK-OH}$ = Mass of PEEK-OH in sample (g), $Mr_{PEEK-OH}$ = Molar mass of PEEK-OH group (g mol⁻¹), and HD = PEEK-OH hydroxylation degree (%).

$$\sigma_f = \frac{3Fl}{2bd^2} \quad (\text{Equation S10})$$

Where: σ_f = Flexural strength (MPa), F = Max force before yielding or fracture (N), l = Test specimen support separation length (mm), b = Test specimen width (mm), and d = Test specimen thickness (mm).

$$E_f = \frac{Fl^3}{4bd^3\delta} \quad (\text{Equation S11})$$

Where: E_f = Flexural modulus (MPa), F = Force (N), l = Test specimen support separation length (mm), b = Test specimen width (mm), d = Test specimen thickness (mm), and δ = Test specimen displacement (V_{DC}).

References

[1] Díez-Pascual AM, Martínez G, Gómez MA. Synthesis and Characterization of Poly(ether ether ketone) Derivatives Obtained by Carbonyl Reduction. *Macromolecules*. 2009;42(18):6885-92.