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Study on tribological behaviors of Si₃N₄ based ceramics sliding

against POM under different solutions

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Abstract

Tribological behaviors of Si_3N_4 based ceramics against POM were investigated in distilled water and seawater as well as dry sliding condition, respectively. It was found that the effect of sliding speed on the tribological properties of system is greater than that of the load. During the drying-sliding condition, as the sliding speed raises, the amount of frictional heat is continuously output, resulting in the melting of POM. The melted polymer is transferred to the surface of ceramic to form a layer of transfer film, and the main wear is the adhesion-peeling off between the sliding surfaces. In aqueous solutions, abrasive wear is the main wear mechanism. Furthermore, due to the lubricity effect of seawater and tribochemical degradation of POM, the wear degree of Si_3N_4 is effectively reduced. *Key Words:* Si_3N_4 - POM sliding pairs; Transfer films; Water lubrication; Wear mechanism

1. Introduction

Silicon nitride (Si₃N₄) ceramic, one of the most important ceramic materials in the world [1], has attracted extensive attention from both academia and industry. Owing to its high hardness, high thermal conductivity, excellent thermal shock resistance as well as corrosion resistance [2, 3], Si₃N₄ is widely used as ball bearing, steam nozzle, electric glow plug, mechanical seal ring and other mechanical components [4, 5]. It is also one of the most important candidate materials which can be used in various environments, such as high temperature and marine environment. Some researchers found that when Si₃N₄ sliding against itself in water, the formation of the silica gel layer induced by Download English Version:

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