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Hyun-U Ko, Hyun Chan Kim, Jung Woong Kim, Jungho Park, Jaehwan Kim

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Soft piezoelectric polymer of poly[di(ethylene glycol) adipate] plasticized poly vinyl chloride and its strain sensing

Hyun-U Ko, Hyun Chan Kim, Jung Woong Kim, Jungho Park, Jaehwan Kim*

Creative Research Center for Nanocellulose Future Composites,

Department of Mechanical Engineering, Inha University,

100, Inha-ro, Nam-gu, Incheon 22212, South Korea

*Corresponding author: Jaehwan Kim (jaehwan@inha.ac.kr, +82-32-860-7326)

ABSTRACT

This letter reports that a plasticized poly vinyl chloride (PVC) exhibits high dielectric constant with low Young's modulus which drastically improves its piezoelectric property and strain sensing behavior. PVC was plasticized by poly[di(ethylene glycol) adipate] (PDEGA) and PDEGA-PVC was fabricated by simple solvent mixing process. As increasing the PDEGA content, the dielectric constant of PDEGA-PVC increases meanwhile its Young's modulus and yield strength decrease, which results in great improvement of the piezoelectric charge constant of PDEGA-PVC (51.2 pC/N), much higher than the pristine PVC (0.34 pC/N). A strain sensor with PDEGA-PVC was tested and its durable strain sensing behavior is demonstrated. The developed PDEGA-PVC is applicable for sensors of wearable and portable devices and soft actuators.

Keywords: Piezoelectric polymers, Poly vinyl chloride, Plasticizer, Strain sensor.

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