





Biomimetic Materials

- **Biomimetic materials** are materials developed using <u>inspiration from nature</u>. This may be useful in the design of <u>composite materials</u>. Natural structures have inspired and innovated human creations.
- Notable examples of these natural structures include: honeycomb structure of the beehive, strength of spider silks, bird flight mechanics, and <u>shark skin</u> water repellency.
- The etymological roots of the neologism "biomimetic" derive from Greek, since *bios* means "life" and *mimetikos* means "imitative".

Biomimetic Materials



- Bio-inspired materials engineering: applying biological principles to synthetize new materials Bio-mediated materials engineering: take advantages of biological materials properties by incorporation into another system
- *Biomimicry* : new science that **studies nature's models and then imitates or takes inspiration** from these designs and processes to solve human problems

Biomimetic materials

- Nature synthetize its materials under mild conditions:
- Ambient temperature
- Ambient pressure
- Near-neutral pH
- The idea behind the biomimetics are:
- Understand the parameters which control biological self-assembly and mineralization
- Understand both the synthesis-structure and structure-property relationship of biological materials
- Developing of next-generation high performance multifunctional materials

Plant: the energy reservoir www.gardeningoncloud9.com

Spider silk: tough materials

Termites mound the natural cooler

Flagellum: the mechanical motor Lotus leaf: hydrophobic surface

Brain: the super computer

Bird: the natural airplane

Eye: nature's best camera

Dolphins the best ship

Nacre-inspired materials

Bio-materials, such as mammalian bones, crustacean shells and reptile skins have unique properties that are intimately associated to their structure

Associated properties are often the result of a combination of two distinct components: a 'hard' component, and a 'soft' component, consisting of organic matter, such as collagen, elastin or cellulose.

Nacre consists of 95 wt% of aragonite, which is a crystalline form of CaCO₃ and 5 wt% organic materials, which are proteins and polysaccharides

Biomimetic artificial muscles

Artificial muscles are materials or devices that mimic natural muscles and can reversibly contract, expand, or rotate within one component due to an external stimulus (such as voltage, current, pressure or temperature)

Artificial muscles are divided in three major groups based on the actuation mechanism

- Electric actuation Electroactive polymers (EAPs)
- Pneumatic actuation (PAMs)
- Thermal actuation Shape memory alloy (SMA) Shape memory polymers (SMPs)

Pneumatic Artificial Muscles

Electroactive polymers (EPAs)

- EPAs = polymers that exhibit a change in size or shape when stimulated by an electric field
- Large deformation when a large force is applied over time
- EPAs are divided in two main groups: Dielectric and Ionic
- Dielectric = electrostatic forces between two electrodes squeeze the polymer. It is required high voltage to produce high electric fields.
- Ionic = the response is related by the displacement of the ions inside the polymers (e.g conductive polymers)

Shape Memory Polymers (SMPs)

- Polymers with ability to return from a deformed state (temporary shape) to their original (permanent) shape
- induced by an **external stimulus** (trigger) heat
- The classifications of SMP have been discussed widely. SMP have been reported to be thermally induced, light-induced, electro-active, water/moisture/solventinduced, pH-sensitive and magnetic-sensitive based on their external stimulus

-

.

-

chemical

Shape Memory Polymers (SMPs)

- Physical cross-linked polymers
- **Chemical** cross-linked polymers
- The thermal-induced SMPs as the most researched SMPs, can change their shape in a predefined way under the stimulus of heat

Shape Memory Polymers (SMPs)

possess not only shape memory properties but also other stimuliresponsive function, such as healing, drug delivery

Classification of Shape-memory Polymers

Examples of SMPs

Water-induced SMPs

- The absorbed water can be divided into
 - free water = cannot affect the properties of the SMPs = no changes of shape
 - bounded water = affect the shape = weaken the hydrogen bonds in polymer networks to increase the flexibility of the macromolecular chains

Poly(vinyl alcohol) (PVA)

- nontoxic nature and biocompatible material
- both the chemically and physically crosslinked networks
- good water induced shape memory effect

MCC = microscristalline cellulose

pH-induced SMPs

- Body compartments have variations in physiological pH values >
- In pathological conditions the pH is some body compartments can be different than in healthy conditions >

The pH-sensitive memory effect of polyurethane with pyridine rings

m

0 mir

5 min

 $F_{.} = 79\%$

Reversible SMPs

one-way SMEs materials can remember and recover shape in only one direction

two-way SMEs

the materials can reversibly **change** shapes between **temporary shape** and **permanent shape** under different external stimuli (reversible SME)

reversible bidirectional shape memory effect

Biomedical Applications

SMPs-based Biomaterials for Tissue Engineering

(a) compressed scaffold

(b) the scaffold implanted in the rabbit mandibular bone defect

(c) and (d) the scaffold cans recovery the original shape in vivo after 10 min of implantation

Physical properties of shape memory polymers and metal alloys

| Physical property | Polymers | Metal alloys |
|---|----------|--------------|
| Density (g/cm^3) | 0.9–1.1 | 6–8 |
| Deformation (%) | 250-800 | 6–7 |
| Recovery temperature (°C) | 2590 | - 10-100 |
| Force required for deformation (kgf/cm ²) | 10-30 | 500-2000 |
| Recovery stress (kgf/cm ²) | 10-30 | 1500-3000 |

Physical properties of shape memory polymers

| Property | Poly- norbornene | trans- Polyisoprene | Styrene-butadiene copolymer |
|---|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Deformation (%) | ~ 200 | ~ 400 | ~ 400 |
| Recovery temperature (°C) | 38 | 60–90 | 60–90 |
| Recovery stress (kgf/cm^2) | | 10-30 | 5-15 |
| Tensile strength (kgf/cm ²) | 350 | 250 | 100 |

Design criteria in Biomimetic Materials

- 1. Compensation for low reliability of various functions. This implies feedback, which is a dynamic way of providing high-quality performance; it also implies shielding against failure in various ways, leading to good damage control and toughness.
- 2. Varying properties and shapes over small distances thus giving rise to multifunctionality.
- 3. Merging of functions and morphology (which is another means of generating multifunctionality and hierarchy). This is a useful exercise in the later stages of a design, combining characteristics to see how they can supplement each other (the functionality of a mobile phone is an exemplar) and reduce the number of components. This is sometimes called trimming
- 4. Allow the material or structure to be more dynamic, relaxing the original design parameters so that the system can equilibrate to other energetic minima than may have been included in the original design.