

Contents

Chapter I Introduction

1.0	Introduction to rapid pace of polymers and polymer composites	2
1.1	Classification of composites	2
1.1.1	Classification based on reinforcements	3
1.1.2.	Classification Based on Matrix	3
1.2	Classification of polymer composites	4
1.2.1	Promising Applications of polymer composites/nanocomposites	5
1.2.1.1	Focussed or Novel application	5
(1)	Gas sensing	5
(2)	EMI shielding	6
1.3	Science with Ion Beam Irradiation	7
1.3.1	Ion solid interaction in materials	8
1.3.2	Energy losses	10
1.3.2.1	Nuclear energy loss	11
1.3.2.2	Electronic energy loss	11
1.3.2.3	Overview of the slowing down process	12
1.4	Overview on Ion beam induced modification	13
1.4.1	Low energy ions	13
1.4.2	Swift heavy ions	14
1.5	Ion beam induced modifications in polymeric films	14
1.5.1.	Dielectric properties and improvements due to ion beam irradiation	16

1.5.2	Structural changes in composite materials	18
1.5.3	Optical properties of materials upon irradiation	19
1.5.4	Thermal properties of materials with irradiation	20
1.5.5	Changes in Surface morphology	20
1.6	literature survey on selection of filler nanoparticles (Ag, Cu, Ni)	20
1.7	Reviews on selected polymers (PMMA/PS)	24
1.8	Objective of work	27
	References	29

Chapter II Materials and Experimental Techniques

2.0	Introduction	42
2.1	Materials	42
2.1.1	Selected polymers	42
	(a) Polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA)	42
	(b) Polystyrene	43
2.1.2	Fillers	44
	(a) Silver nanoparticles (Ag)	45
	(b) Nickel nanoparticles (Ni)	45
	(c) Copper nanoparticles (Cu)	46
2.1.3	Polymer nanocomposites	46
2.1.4	Thickness measurement of the composite films	47
2.2	Ion beam irradiation	47
2.2.1	The Pelletron accelerator	48
2.2.2	Calculation of range and energy loss by SRIM code	51
2.2.3	Irradiations	54
2.3	Experimental characterization techniques	56

2.3.1 X-ray Diffraction (XRD)	56
2.3.2 Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC)	59
2.3.3 UV-visible spectroscopy	61
2.3.4 Scanning Electron Microscope: (SEM)	64
2.3.5 Quantum Interference Device (SQUID)	67
2.3.7 Dielectric properties (Impedance phase-gain analyzer)	68
(a) AC electrical conductivity	70
(b) Dielectric Constant	73
(c) Dielectric Loss	74
References	76

Chapter – III Effect of swift heavy ions on physical properties of PMMA/Ag and PS/Ag nanocomposites

3.0 Introduction	80
3.1 Effect of swift heavy ions irradiation on PMMA + Ag nanocomposites	81
3.1.1 X-ray diffraction analysis	81
3.1.2 Thermal response (Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC))	85
3.1.3 Optical response	87
3.1.4 Surface morphology	90
3.1.5 AC Electrical Frequency Response	92
Conclusion	101
3.2 Effect of swift heavy ions irradiation on PS + Ag nanocomposites	102
3.2.1 X-ray diffraction analysis	102
3.2.2 Thermal response (Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC))	104
3.2.3 Optical response	106
3.2.4 Surface morphology	111
3.2.5 AC Electrical Frequency Response	113

Conclusion	122
3.3 Summary	123
References	127

Chapter – IV Effect of swift heavy ions on physical properties of PMMA/Cu and PS/Cu nanocomposites

4.0 Introduction	131
4.1 Effect of swift heavy ions irradiation on PMMA + Cu nanocomposites	132
4.1.1 X-ray diffraction analysis	132
4.1.2 Thermal response (Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC))	135
4.1.3 Optical response	137
4.1.4 Surface morphology	141
4.1.5 AC Electrical Frequency Response	142
Conclusion	151
4.2 Effect of swift heavy ions irradiation on PS + Cu nanocomposites	152
4.2.1 X-ray diffraction analysis	152
4.2.2 Thermal response (Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC))	154
4.2.3 Optical response	156
4.2.4 Surface morphology	160
4.2.5 AC Electrical Frequency Response	161
Conclusion	170
4.3 Summary	171
References	175

Chapter –V Effect of swift heavy ions on physical properties of PMMA/Ni and PS/Ni nanocomposites

5.0 Introduction	180
5.1 Effect of swift heavy ions irradiation on PMMA + Ni nanocomposites	181

5.1.1 X-ray diffraction analysis	181
5.1.2 Thermal response (Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC))	184
5.1.3 Optical response	186
5.1.4 Surface morphology	190
5.1.5 Magnetic properties	191
5.1.6 AC Electrical Frequency Response	194
Conclusion	203
5.2 Effect of swift heavy ions irradiation on PS + Ni nanocomposites	205
5.2.1 X-ray diffraction analysis	205
5.2.2 Thermal response (Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC))	207
5.2.3 Optical response	209
5.2.4 Surface morphology	213
5.2.5 Magnetic properties	214
5.2.6 AC Electrical Frequency Response	217
Conclusion	226
5.3 Summary	227
References	231
 Chapter –VI Summary and conclusion	 235
Future Plan	250