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Figure 1. Optical micrographs revealing the cross-sectional grain morphologies of (a) Pure Mg, (b) Mg-0.25 v/v % CNT, (c) Mg-0.5 v/v % CNT, and (d) Mg-0.75 v/v % CNT. Arrows are added to (a) to show the mechanical twins present in pure Mg.



Figure 2. Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) images of Mg-0.5 v/v % CNT. The higher-magnification image reveals an individual CNT fiber, indicated with an arrow.



Figure 3. Energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) performed on Mg-0.5 v/v % CNT sample for confirmation of sample composition.





Figure 4. Load–displacement curves displaying loading, holding, and unloading portions at different strain rates (0.01-10 /s) for: (a) Pure Mg, (b) Mg–0.25 vol. % CNT, (c) Mg–0.5 vol. % CNT, and (d) Mg–0.75 vol. % CNT.

Mg: magnesium; CNT: carbon nanotube.



b



Figure 5. Indentation stress versus displacement curve for the strain rate of: (a) 0.01 /s, (b) 0.1 /s, (c) 1.0 /s, and (d) 10 /s. The Indentation Size Effect (ISE) phenomenon is observed in all tests. Mg: Magnesium; CNT: carbon nanotube; ISE: indentation size effect.



Figure 6. Variation of indentation hardness as a function of CNT loading over four strain rates: (a) 0.01 s^{-1} , (b) 0.1 s^{-1} , (c), 1 s^{-1} , and (d) 10 s^{-1} .



a



b



Figure 7. Creep displacement and creep rate versus hold time (500s) for pure Mg and Mg-CNT nanocomposites at four distinct strain rates: (a) 0.01 /s, (b) 0.1 /s, (c) 1.0 /s, and (d) 10 /s. Transient and steady-state creep are observed in all curves. Mg: Magnesium; CNT: carbon nanotube.

С



b



d

Figure 8. Creep rate versus hold time (500s) for all four samples at the four strain rates: (a) 0.01 /s, (b) 0.1 /s, (c), 1.0 /s, and (d) 10 /s.



Figure 9. Creep stress exponent (n) values for all strain rates tested.



Figure 10. Creep rate versus indentation depth for pure magnesium and the Mg-CNT nanocomposites at the strain rate of 10 /s.