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Tribological studies of different bioimplant materials for orthopedic application using Taguchi experimental design

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ABSTRACT

In this research ball on disc wear tests have been carried out with ASTM G-99 standard at room temperature in simulated body fluid. The tribological property such as the coefficient of friction and wear weight loss was studied by using the Taguchi design of experiments. The design of the experiment was done using L8 orthogonal array to determine the collective contribution of the wear parameters. An analysis of variance demonstrated that the individual contribution of type of material factor was 97.15% and 66.66% for the coefficient of friction and wear weight loss respectively, which is the highest individual contribution as compared to other factors. It was concluded that the coefficient of friction and wear weight loss is mainly influenced by type of material factor. The analysis of the signal-to-noise ratio shows that the optimal coefficient of friction and wear weight loss was obtained with CoCrMo material at an applied normal load of 5 N with a sliding velocity of 0.05 m/s for a track diameter of 30 mm. To check the accuracy of results a confirmation test was carried out which indicates that predicted values are very close to the experimental values and the model is significant to predict the coefficient of friction. The results showed that the coefficient of friction and wear weight loss increases with increasing the applied load and sliding velocity. The microstructure of all substrates materials was analyzed using a scanning electron microscope. Wear track study showed that adhesive dominant wear mechanism for all four different substrate materials.

Keywords: Analysis of variance, Coefficient of friction, Pin on disc, Regression equation, Signal to noise ratio, Weight loss

1. Introduction

For improvement of research in the field of biomaterials engineering, it is necessary to study the tribological behavior of the material to improve the existing used biomaterials otherwise for the development of new virgin materials with exceptional properties [1]. Generally, the metal alloy has been used largely in the manufacturing of orthopedic implants. The highest quality and top superiority of orthopedic implants and instrumentation along with feasible cost are the demand of the 21st-century world. For safe and effective use of orthopedic implants that are left in vivo for a long period, it is necessary to study the tribology, mechanical and biological properties of orthopedic bio implant substrate materials. Implant materials subjected to sliding and rubbing contact action, the poor wear resistance material generates the wear debris which causes inflammation and pain at the joint. Wear is explained as the "loss of material in particulate form as a consequence of relative motion between two surfaces" [2]. Several factors contribute to the long-term survivorship in vivo of a biomedical implant. Out of this wear can be a major influencing factor for the proper performance of orthopedic bioimplant materials in an actual condition [3].

Bone and bone tissue suffer substantial loads during physical activity of the human body so it is mandatory to have a better load-bearing characteristic of artificial implants. Load-bearing orthopedic bioimplants material like knee and hip joints are made from stainless steels or titanium alloys because of their better corrosion and mechanical properties [4-5]. Ti-based alloys an important bioimplant material that is generally used in total hip joint replacement. These alloys when compared with Co-28Cr-6Mo exhibit more wear which is primarily due to abrasion and cracking [6]. For better durability in the human body, the superior wear mechanism and surface modification process was suggested for orthopedic implant material for long life and proper work functionality [7]. Generally, the modes of failure in engineering materials are corrosion failure, fatigue failure and wear failure, and wear failure is more prevailing in joint prostheses [8, 9, 10]. The tribological properties of material like wear rate, wear mechanism largely depends upon the manufacturing process of alloys. The heat treatment methods have more influence on the performance of bioimplant alloys [11]. So for the effectiveness of bioimplant material in the living body, it is necessary to study all aspects of bioimplant



Figure 1. Schematic arrangement of ball on disk wear machine.

material. A high and considerable wear rate is a serious problem in the orthopedic implant. Wearing or surface rubbing between two parts leads to the production of wear debris and the metal ions are released and these ions contact with blood and tissues which causes the serious problem. So to avoid this it is required to impart superior properties to the material [12]. Experimentation output is very important to validate and evaluate any process. The design of experiment of the Taguchi method is the plan and analyzed the results of experiments [13]. Sachin et al. implemented a Taguchi-simulated annealing approach to examine the wear behavior of biomedical implant material such as silicon nitride. This approach was successfully used to predict the optimal combination of input factors [14]. Babu et al. focuses on the tribological properties of Ti-3Al-2.5V titanium alloy by using the Taguchi method. Results revealed that the optimum process parameters were found by the Taguchi method using the regression equation [15].

In the reported data there is no information available about COF, wear weight loss values under wet conditions as per the process parameters given in table 2. The selection of wear parameters was based on the similar conditions of wear to which the femoral ball head is subjected inside the acetabular cup. Generally, during walking the stress produced in a hip prosthesis is in the range of 0.7 to 4 MPa [16, 17]. Metallic hip prosthesis is expected to sustain frictional forces for a minimum of 18 to 25 years [18]. Since it is not feasible to carry out wear studies for a period of 18 to 25 years, the high value of applied normal load in the order of 10 N is maintained during wear testing. For determining the average wear weight loss of bioimplant metallic samples, three repeat experiments were carried out and average values of three measurements was consider. Also from the literature, it has been noticed that no detailed findings are available on tribological behavior of different bioimplant materials by using the statistical approach. So in this research wear behavior of different bioimplant substrates materials investigated with the help of Taguchi design of experiment. The major aim of this study is to select and introduced the suitable material for an orthopedic loadbearing implant and investigate and analyzed the effect of input parameters on the tribological properties of materials.

2. Materials and method

2.1 Schematic arrangement of ball on disk machine.

Ball on disk wear machine (DUCOM, Bangalore, India) are used to determine the wear of materials during sliding contact. The flat disk is rotated against the stationary ball at a specified load. The wear between the specimen and ball was noted by the linear variable differential transformer sensor which was mounted on the machine. Wear ball on disk machine connected with a computer (ACER VERITON M200-H81 DESKTOP, PCI-E -6321 NI Card, DUCOM, Bangalore, India). The PC is loaded with WINDUCOM 2010 software for displaying the results in graphical form. The schematic arrangement of ball on disk wear machine is shown in figure 1.

2.2 Taguchi design of experiments for wear test

In this study wear ball on disk machine was used to study the COF and weight loss of different substrate materials. Specimen of 40 mm diameter and 6 mm thickness (Substrate material) were polished to a roughness value of 0.1 to 0.5 µm. A steel ball (indenter) of 8 mm diameter was used. The substrate materials were tested under wet conditions at different applied normal load (P), sliding velocity (V) and track diameter (TD) as per the ASTM G-99 standard. For wet condition, the specimen was immersed in SBF using the same test condition. The SBF is prepared using Kokubo's recipe. This solution contains various ions and have a common pH of 7.25 similar to human plasma [19, 20]. The chemical composition as presented below in table 1.

Table 1. Chemical ingredients of SBF

Ingredient of SBF	Amount (g/l)
NaCl	7.995
NaHCO ₃	0.351
KCl	0.223
K ₂ HPO ₄ .3H2O	0.229
MgCl ₂ .6H2O	0.304
$CaCl_2$	0.279
Na_2SO_4	0.072
(CH ₂ OH) ₃ CNH ₂	6.056
1 kmol/m ³ HCI	Adjust the pH - 7.25
Ultrapure water	Volume up to 1 litre

The wear tests were carried out by taking the Taguchi design of experiments to accomplish the objective of the experimental study. Mixed level type of design was used. In this study, four different parameters were used as the input source. Taguchi OA L8 was used, Generally OA reduced the number of experiments and increase the precision of experiments. Taguchi analysis was carried out with open source software Minitab 17. The influence of

Table 2. Taguchi design factors						
0	Name of factor		Level va	lues	Column	level
	Type of material	SS316	L,CoCrMo, T	TIGR2, TIGR5	1	4
	Load (P) in N		5,10		2	2
	Velocity (V) in m	ı/s	0.05, 0	.1	3	2
	Track diameter (TD) in mm	20, 30)	4	2
Table 3. L8 OA use	d in Taguchi metho	od				
	Experiment No	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Colı	ımn 4
	Experiment No.	Type of material	Load (P)	Velocity (V)	Track dia	meter (TD)
	1	SS316L	5	0.05		20
	2	SS316L	10	0.1	3	30
	3	CoCrMo	5	0.05	3	30
	4	CoCrMo	10	0.1	2	20
	5	TIGR2	5	0.1	- 	20
	6	TIGR2	10	0.05		30
	7	TIGR5	5	0.1	3	30
	8	TIGR5	10	0.05		20

Table 4. Design layout matrix and experimental results.

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Experimental No.	Type of material	Load (P)	Velocity (V)	Track diameter (TD)	COF	S/N ratio (dB)	Weight loss in gram	S/N ratio (dB)
1	SS316L	5	0.05	20	0.59	4.5829	0.00170	55.391
2	SS316L	10	0.1	30	0.62	4.1521	0.00340	49.370
3	CoCrMo	5	0.05	30	0.37	8.6359	0.00021	73.555
4	CoCrMo	10	0.1	20	0.40	7.9588	0.00060	64.436
5	TIGR2	5	0.1	20	0.48	6.3751	0.00310	50.172
6	TIGR2	10	0.05	30	0.51	5.8485	0.00670	43.478
7	TIGR5	5	0.1	30	0.43	7.3306	0.00280	51.056
8	TIGR5	10	0.05	20	0.45	6.9357	0.00540	45.352

each input parameter on the COF and weight loss was analyzed using ANOVA and S/N ratio. Taguchi design factors are shown in the table 2.

The wear test was performed using the four parameters or factors such as type of material, applied normal load, sliding velocity, and track diameter. According to the rule that degree of freedom for an OA should be greater than or equal to the sum of those wear parameters, an L8 OA which has 8 rows and 4 columns were selected, L8 OA used in Taguchi method as shown in table 3.

The obtained COF and weight loss values were transformed into S/N ratios for measuring the quality characteristics using Minitab 17 software. The S/N ratio for COF and weight loss using 'smaller the better' characteristics. The significance of the controllable factor is investigated using the S/N ratio approach which can be calculated as logarithmic transformation of the loss function is given as

$$S/N = -10 \times \log\left(\frac{\Sigma Y^2}{n}\right) \tag{1}$$

Where Y is the observed data (COF and weight loss) and n is the number of observations or experiments. Irrespective of the category of the performance characteristic, the higher value of S/N ratio corresponds to better

performance [21]. The maximization of S/N ratio signifies minimization of COF and weight loss. Observation of the response table of the S/N ratio gives an optimal combination of input parameters for the required output characteristic.

3. **Result and discussion**

Before start and end of every test, the weight of substrate materials was noted by Electronic Weighing machine (Contech Instruments Ltd., Navi Mumbai, India). Value of COF is obtained from the data recorded in the form of excel sheet from the WINDUCOM 2010 machine software. The experiments were conducted and the average values are taken into consideration. The average value of COF and weight loss was shown in table 4. From table 4 it observed maximum S/N ratio of 8.6359 dB with minimum 0.37 COF and a maximum S/N ratio of 73.555 dB with a minimum 0.00021 gm weight loss.

3.1 Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)

The experimental results were analyzed with ANOVA, which is used to investigate the influence of the considered wear parameters, namely, type of material, applied normal load, sliding velocity and sliding distance that significantly affects the performance measures. This analysis is carried



Figure 2. Percentage contribution of input variables on COF and wear weight loss

out for a significance of level $\alpha = 0.05$, i.e. for a confidence level of 95%. Sources with a P-Value less than 0.05 were considered to have a statistically significant contribution to the performance measures.

From table 5, it can be observed that the percentage contributions of input source applied normal load, sliding velocity, track diameter and type of material to COF were 2.77 %, 0.023 %, 0.022 % and, 97.15 % respectively. Based on this ANOVA data for COF, the most important input parameter influencing the COF was the type of material factor. The type of material was the most significant



Figure 3. Main effect plot for S/N ratio- COF



Figure 4. Main effect plot for S/N ratio- Wear weight loss

parameter having the highest statistical influence. The error rate was 0.022 %, it was considerably low. The statistical analysis is good and reliable when the error level should be less than 20 % [22]. The corresponding P-Values for COF were 0.058, 0.500, 0.500 and 0.020 for an applied normal load, sliding velocity, track diameter and type of material respectively. P-Values are more than 0.05 for input factors like applied normal load, sliding velocity and track diameter except for the type of material factor at the 95% confidence level. The P-Value in case of type of material is 0.020 which indicates a type of material is a significant factor for COF. Percentage contribution signifies individual contribution of a factor on the mean response. It is calculated by the following equation.

% Contribution =
$$\frac{\text{Seq SS factor}}{\text{Seq SS total}} X 100$$
 (2)

Form table 6 it was observed the most important input

Source	DF	Seq SS	Adj SS	Adj MS	F-Value	P-Value	Contribution (%)
Load (P)	1	0.001513	0.001513	0.001513	121	0.058	2.77
Velocity (V)	1	0.000013	0.000013	0.000013	1.00	0.500	0.023
Track diameter (TD)	1	0.000012	0.000012	0.000012	1.00	0.500	0.022
Type of material	3	0.052937	0.052937	0.017646	1411.67	0.020	97.15
Error	1	0.000012	0.000012	0.000012			0.022
Total	7	0.054487	0.054487				100

Table 5. ANOVA for S/N ratios- COF

Source	DF	Seq SS	Adj SS	Adj MS	F-Value	P-Value	Contribution (%)
Load (P)	1	0.000009	0.000009	0.000009	715.13	0.024	25.00
Velocity (V)	1	0.000002	0.000002	0.000002	175.78	0.048	5.55
Track diameter (TD)	1	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	55.53	0.085	2.77
Type of material	3	0.000024	0.000024	0.000008	652.43	0.029	66.66
Error	1	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000			0.00
Total	7	0.000036	0.000036				100

Table 6. ANOVA for S/N ratios- Wear weight loss

Table 7. Response table for S/N ratio- COF

Level	Type of material	Load (P)	Velocity (V)	Track diameter (TD)	 Level	Type of material	Load (P)	Velocity (V)	Track diameter (TD)
1	4.368	6.731	6.501	6.463	1	52.38	57.54	54.44	53.84
2	8.297	6.224	6.454	6.492	2	69.00	50.66	53.76	54.37
3	6.112				3	46.83			
4	7.133				4	48.20			
Delta	3.93	0.507	0.047	0.029	Delta	22.17	6.88	0.69	0.53
Rank	1	2	3	4	Rank	1	2	3	4

Table 9. Optimal values for COF and weight loss from response table for S/N ratios

Optimal values for COF from response table for S/N ratios			Optimal values for weight loss from response table for S/N ratios			
Input Factor	Level	S/N ratio (dB)	Input Factor	Level	S/N ratio (dB)	
Type of material	2	8.297	Type of material	2	69.00	
Load (P)	1	6.731	Load (P)	1	57.44	
Velocity (V)	1	6.501	Velocity (V)	1	54.44	
Track diameter (TD)	2	6.492	Track diameter (TD)	2	54.37	

source influencing the wear weight loss was the type of material factor which has a 66.66 % contribution as compared to other factors. The corresponding P-Values for weight loss were 0.024, 0.048, 0.085 and 0.029 for an applied normal load, sliding velocity, track diameter and type of material respectively. The P-Value in case of applied normal load and sliding velocity less than 0.05 as like type of material factor which indicates these input parameters also have a statistically significant contribution to the performance measures in case of weight loss. The percentage contributions of input variables that is wear parameters on the COF and wear weight loss are shown in figure 2.

Table 8. Response table for S/N ratio- Weight loss

3.2 Main effects plot and response table for S/N ratio of the COF and weight loss

The main plot for S/N ratios for the COF and weight loss is shown in figure 3 and figure 4. From both plots, the highest value for each input parameter in the S/N ratio obtained through the Taguchi method gives the optimal value of that input parameter [23]. It can be observed from both figure that the optimal input parameters for COF and



Figure 5. Main effect plot for Means- COF



Figure 6. Main effect plot for Means- Wear weight loss

weight loss during the wear testing are CoCrMo as type of material, applied normal load is 5 N, sliding velocity is 0.05 m/s and the track diameter is 30 mm. Response table for S/N ratio for the smaller is better characteristic in the Taguchi method for COF and wear weight loss is shown in table 7 and table 8 below.

The response table for S/N ratios for COF shows the optimal value of input factors for the lowest COF. From the response table, it was observed that for type of material, the level was 2 with S/N 8.297 dB, for the applied normal load, the level was 1 with S/N ratio 6.731 dB, for the sliding velocity the level was 1 with S/N ratio 6.501 dB and for track diameter the level was 2 with S/N ratio 6.492 dB. The bolded values in table 7 and 8 show the optimal input factors for obtaining the lowest COF and weight loss. The corresponding optimum values for wear weight loss concerning S/N ratio values obtained from the response table is shown in the table 9.

Response table for means for the COF and weight loss for the smaller is better characteristic shown in table 10 and 11.

Table 10. Response table for means- COF

Lovol	Type of	Load	Velocity	Track
Level	material	(P)	(V)	diameter (TD)
1	0.6050	0.4675	0.4800	0.4800
2	0.3852	0.4950	0.4825	0.4825
3	0.4950			
4	0.4400			
Delta	0.22	0.0275	0.0025	0.0025
Rank	1	2	3.5	3.5

Table 11.	Response	table for means-	- Wear weight loss
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Level	Type of material	Load (P)	Velocity (V)	Track diameter (TD)
1	0.002550	0.001952	0.003503	0.002700
2	0.000405	0.004025	0.002475	0.003278
3	0.004900			
4	0.004100			
Delta	0.004495	0.002073	0.001027	0.000577
Rank	1	2	3	4

Mean COF and weight loss values are shown in the main effects plot in figure 5 and figure 6. It can be observed that COF and weight loss increases as the applied normal load increases in a linear trend. The COF and weight loss of any substrates material increases with an increase in the load. Considering the input variables like sliding velocity and track diameter from figure 5, it was observed that both input parameter having a similar significant effect on the COF. From figure 5 and obtained P-Values in table 5 which indicates these two input factors influence the COF very weakly. Whereas from figure 6 and obtained P-Values in table 6, the weight loss was strongly influenced by the applied normal load, sliding velocity and type of material input factors. It can be noted that the COF is lowest when

using the CoCrMo material and highest when using the SS316Lmaterial. Low COF and weight loss obtained when using the CoCrMo material could be attributed to its good tribological properties. It was observed that the COF and weight loss values for the CoCrMo material are 0.37, 0.40 and 0.00021 gm, 0.0006 gm respectively for mentioned input process parameters in table 4.

3.3 Regression equation and Model summary

The regression equation for the desired output was obtained with the help of statistical software Minitab 17. The relationship between the COF and the input variables were modelled for different substrate materials used in the experiments. The different regression equation for the COF as follows:

Table 12. Regression equation- COF

Type of material	
SS316L	COF = 0.55375 + 0.005500 Load + 0.0500 Velocity + 0.000250 TD
CoCrMo	COF = 0.33375 + 0.005500 Load + 0.0500 Velocity + 0.000250 TD
TIGR2	COF = 0.44375 + 0.005500 Load + 0.0500 Velocity + 0.000250 TD
TIGR5	COF = 0.38875 + 0.005500 Load + 0.0500 Velocity + 0.000250 TD

Same as the relationship between the weight loss and the input variables were modelled for different substrate materials used in the experiments. The different regression equation for the weight loss as follows:

Table 13. Regression equation- Weight loss

Type of material	
SS316L	Weight loss = -0.000461 + 0.000415 Load - 0.02055 Velocity+ 0.000058 TD
CoCrMo	Weight loss = -0.002606 + 0.000415 Load - 0.02055 Velocity+ 0.000058 TD
TIGR2	Weight loss = 0.001889 + 0.000415 Load - 0.02055 Velocity + 0.000058 TD
TIGR5	Weight loss = 0.001089 + 0.000415 Load - 0.02055 Velocity + 0.000058 TD

From the model summery in table 14 and 15, it observe that the value of R-sq is 99.98% for COF and 99.97 % for weight loss which indicates this model can be considered for predicting the optimal process parameter combination.

3.4 Verification experiment

A confirmation experiment was conducted for optimal wear parameters. The experimental value of COF is 0.38 and predicted value of COF is 0.36. In case of weight loss, experimental value is 0.00021 gm and predicated value is 0.00020 gm. At the optimal condition the error was observed only 5.26% for COF and 4.76 % for weight loss,

f able 14. Mode	el summa	ry- COF		Т	Table15. Model summary- Weight loss			
S	R-sq	R-sq	(adj) R-sq	(pred)	S	R-sq	R-sq (adj)	R-sq (pred)
0.0035355	99.98%	99.8	98	.53%	0.0001096	99.97%	99.76%	97.80%
Fable 16. Expe	rimental	and Predi	cated value of	COF and weight lo	OSS			
Typ	pe of erial	Load (P)	Velocity (V)	Track diameter (TD)	Predicted v COF	alue of	Experimental COF	value of
CoC	CrMo	5 N	0.05 m/s	20 mm	0.36		0.38	
Typ mat	oe of erial	Load (P)	Velocity (V)	Track diameter (TD)	Predicted v weight loss	alue of in gram	Experimental weight loss i	value of n gram
CoC	CrMo	5 N	0.05 m/s	30 mm	0.0002	20	0.0002	1

which indicates predicted values is very close to the experimental values and model is significant to predict the COF and weight loss. From the confirmation test it is clear that tribological properties significantly depend upon the type of substrate material used for manufacturing the orthopedic bioimplant product. COF and weight loss model of the wear testing has been significantly improved by the optimal setting of wear parameters. Table 16 shows the experimental and predicated values of COF and weight loss.

The objective of the optimization is to find the best setting of wear parameters. The desirability of optimization has been calculated as 1 that means all wear parameters are within their working range. Figure 7 shows the optimizing graph that shows optimal value of wear parameters for minimum COF.

Figure 8 shows the optimizing graph that shows optimal value of wear parameters for minimum wear weight loss.

3.5 3-D Surface plots- COF and weight loss

In order to investigate the effect of independent parameters on COF and weight loss, three dimensional counter plot is drawn. This plot helps in predication of the COF and weight loss at any region of the experimental domain. This plot is generated based on the developed model equation by holding the one parameter as constant for each counter with respect different substrate materials. Figure 9 shows various 3-D plots for COF for the different substrate materials (applied load x sliding velocity, applied load x Track diameter, Velocity x Track diameter).

From figure 9 it shows that the COF increases with increase in applied normal load and sliding velocity,



Figure 7. Optimizing graph- COF

similarly figure 10 shows various counter plots same as figure 9. From figure 10 it shows that weight loss decreases with decrease in applied normal load and sliding velocity.

3.6 Microstructure study :

Figure 11 shows SEM images of different substrates under wet condition. SEM images were taken at MMMF lab, IIT Bombay (Carls Zeiss Microscopy Ltd. Cambridge CB 1 3JS, United Kingdom).SEM images of all substrates for wet test shows wrinkled and rough surfaces. A steel ball of 8 mm diameter was used as an indentor. This indenter rubbed against the flat surface of substrate materials under different applied normal load and sliding velocity. The formation of wear tracks formed on the flat surface increased with increasing load and velocity by using the rubbing action of the indentor. As increased the load, the material transfer to the contact surface of the indenter observed. The wear between the flat surface of specimen and indentor led to darkening at the contact surface of the indenter by material transfer. The contact surface of the indenters used in the testing of the TIGR2 and TIGR5 material was more markedly darkened as compared to other substrate materials.

The hardness of materials in the ascending order from high to low of CoCrMo, TIGR5, TIGR2, and SS316L [20]. The weight loss in SS 316L is less than TIGR5 and TIGR2 materials. This is because of the formation of oxide islands at some locations as evident from SEM. These oxidized surfaces of SS316L get fragmented or become stable to some extent. The formed fragmented oxide layer or particles sometimes acts as a lubricating agent and thus this oxide layer reduces weight loss. From literature, it was found that in titanium alloy at higher load and sliding



Figure 8. Optimizing graph- Wear weight loss



Figure 9. Counter plots - COF

distance there was the formation oxide islands or layers [24, 25, 26, 27]. But in this research, we did not see any metal oxide formation for mentioned process parameter except for SS316L material. The dominant wear mechanisms were identified as adhesive for all bioimplant substrate materials under wet conditions.

4. Conclusion

1. Pin on disc wear test revealed that CoCrMo material exhibits lower COF compared to other materials such as SS316L, TIGR2, and TIGR5. The CoCrMo material having superior wear resistance and low weight loss properties as compared to other materials by virtue of its hardness and wear resistance property.

2. ANOVA analysis provided the exact amount of percentage (%) contribution of each factor on COF and weight loss. From the ANOVA data, it shows that the most significant and influencing input factor affecting the COF and weight loss is the type of material factor.

Input Source /	% contribution	% contribution
Factor	for COF	for weight loss
Load (P)	2.77	25.00
Velocity (V)	0.023	5.55
Track diameter (TD)	0.022	2.77
Type of material	97.15	66.66
Error	0.022	0.00
Total	100	100

3. Experimental results show the minimum value of COF is 0.38 and weight loss is 0.00021 gm for CoCrMo substrate material. This minimum value of COF and weight loss observed at the highest S/N ratio (8.6359 dB and 73.555 dB) which identify the statistically significant parameters that is an applied normal load (P) 5 N with sliding velocity (V) 0.05 m/s for track diameter (TD) 30 mm.

4. In the verification test, the predicted values and experimental values are satisfactorily close to each other. The percentage error was observed only 5.26% for COF and 4.76 % for wear weight loss which indicates that the developed model can be effectively used for predicting the COF and weight loss of bioimplant substrate materials



Figure 10. Counter plots - Wear weight loss

with 95% confidential level. The predicated model will give the optimum results for COF and weight loss.

5. The dominant wear mechanisms were identified as adhesive for all bioimplant substrate materials under wet conditions. This is evident from SEM.

6. Weight loss values of CoCrMo substrate material observed less compared to TIGR5, TIGR2, and SS316L but considering the strength to weight factor which is important properties in biomedical implant material industry, we suggest the TIGR5 and TIGR2 suitable material for bioimplant material but the comparison between TIGR5 and TIGR2, weight loss of TIGR2 very close to TIGR5 material so as the economic and commercial availability point view, TIGR2 is the best material option for the orthopedic implant material.

7. The measured value of COF and wear weight loss with respect to different substrate materials for the input process parameters are very close to each other which indicates that experiments performed effectively and satisfactorily manner at ambient temperature. This research is congruous with data provided for orthopedic materials by some researchers previously.

8. For the superior performance of bioimplant material, this study demands the necessity of surface modification of various substrates by using different surface coating methods. Also, it is important to study the effect of surface coating and the surface topography generation process. *In* vitro and *In* vivo biocompatibility behavior of different coated substrates needs to be investigated.

Acknowledgment

The authors sincerely thank Plasma Biotal India Pvt. Ltd., Pune, India for providing the testing facility and support. I am equally thankful to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs - Government of India for providing financial support during the research work of my Ph.D. Course. The authors grateful to the General Engineering Department, ICT, Mumbai, India for availing the research support and direction to carried out the present research.



Figure 11. SEM images of different substrates.

Nomenclature

ANOVA	Analysis of variance
COF	coefficient of friction
CoCrMo	Cobalt chromium molybdenum (ASTM F75)
OA	Orthogonal array
SBF	Simulated body fluid
SEM	Scanning Electron Microscope
S/N	Signal to noise
SS316L	Stainless Steel 316L
TIGR5	Titanium Grade 5 (Ti6Al4V)
TIGR2	Titanium Grade 2

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