Author(s) | Department | Date
Steve Dellinges, Ken Chow | **Mechanical Engineering** | **05/20/03**

Program - Project - Job: Rapid Prototyping – Materials – UC3924

Title: Rapid Prototyping Materials Exposed to Ionizing Radiation

Introduction

Rapid prototyping refers to the fabrication of a physical, three-dimensional part of arbitrary shape directly from 3D computer-aided design (CAD) data. RP technology is an additive process that can generate free-form fabricated parts using powdered metals, polymers, paper, and other materials. RP machines fabricate 3-dimensional objects by depositing these materials layer by layer based on thin horizontal cross sections taken from a computer model.

Scope

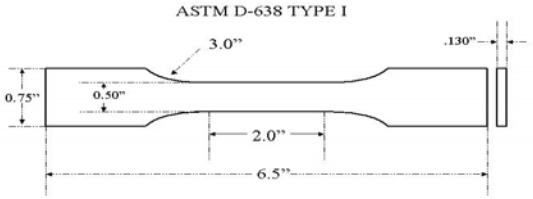
Fabricate tensile test samples on Fused Deposition Modeler (FDM) and Stereolithography (SLA) rapid prototyping machines. Tensile test samples that have been exposed to ionizing radiation and compare the results with control samples that have not been exposed to radiation.

Description

Make 10 samples of each desired material. Irradiate 5 samples from each material. Tensile test all samples to failure per ASTM Designation: D-638-97 "Standard Test Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics" and report the following:

Stress at Failure,MPa
Yield Strength,MPa
Elastic Modulus,MPa
Ultimate Strength,Mpa

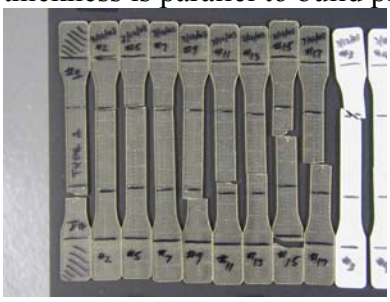
Sample geometry Compliant with ASTM D-638:



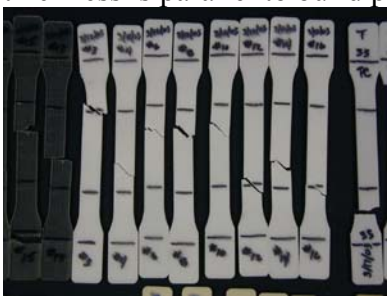
Author(s) | Department | Date
Steve Dellinges, Ken Chow | **Mechanical Engineering** | **05/20/03**

Materials

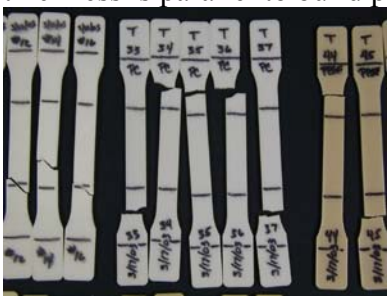
1.) **SLA -** Photo Epoxy Resin # 5170. Samples run in flat orientation where sample thickness is parallel to build platform. Built at LBNL RP lab.



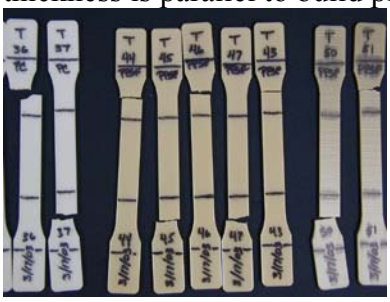
2.) **FDM –** ABS plastic # P-400. Samples run in flat orientation where sample thickness is parallel to build platform. Built at LBNL RP lab.



3.) **FDM –** PC (polycarbonate). Samples run in flat orientation where sample thickness is parallel to build platform. Built at Stratasys Inc. RP lab.



4.) **FDM –** PPSF (polyphenylsulfone). Samples run in flat orientation where sample thickness is parallel to build platform. Built at Stratasys Inc. RP lab.



Author(s) | Department | Date
Steve Dellinges, Ken Chow | **Mechanical Engineering** | **05/20/03**

5.) **FDM –** PPSF (polyphenylsulfone). Samples run on "edge orientation" where sample thickness is normal to build platform. Built at Stratasys Inc. RP lab.

Radiation

Ionizing radiation from a Cesium source. Sample exposure rate is 4.9 kRad/minute to a total of 50MRad.

Author(s) | Department | Date
Steve Dellinges, Ken Chow | **Mechanical Engineering** | **05/20/03**

Tensile test facility and parameters

Tensile test apparatus: Dillon Model: DTM serial #97028 with floating grips.

Load cell: Dillon "Weight-Tronix Inc." Model #0155, serial #98121, capacity - 5000lbs.

Extensometer: MTS Model #634.25E-24, serial #0388516 – 2.0" extension.

Control Software: Labview – Custom V.I. "Dillon DAQ two-axis 7.vi"
Scan rate: 100Hz
Pull Velocity: 0.204 in./min.

Author(s) | Department | Date
Steve Dellinges, Ken Chow | **Mechanical Engineering** | **05/20/03**



Tensile test results

See summary charts:

"elongation.xls", "failure.xls", "modulus.xls", "ultimate.xls", "yield.xls"

Stress-strain curves are calculated from displacements (measured by the extensometer) and force load (measured by the force transducer on the Dillon). Strain is calculated as engineering strain from the equation

$$strain = \frac{displacement}{griplength}$$

where *griplength* is the extensometer grip length (2 inches).

Stress is calculated from the equation

$$stress = \frac{load}{area}$$

where *area* is the measured cross sectional area of the test sample (generally about 0.0664 square inches).

Material elastic modulus is calculated using a least-squares fit between the straight portion of the data and a straight line. This "straight portion" of the stress strain curve varies slightly from sample to sample, and varies significantly between samples of different materials. For example, FDM ABS samples typically have straight sections of about 0.3% strain and SLA 5170 typically have straight sections of about 1.0%.

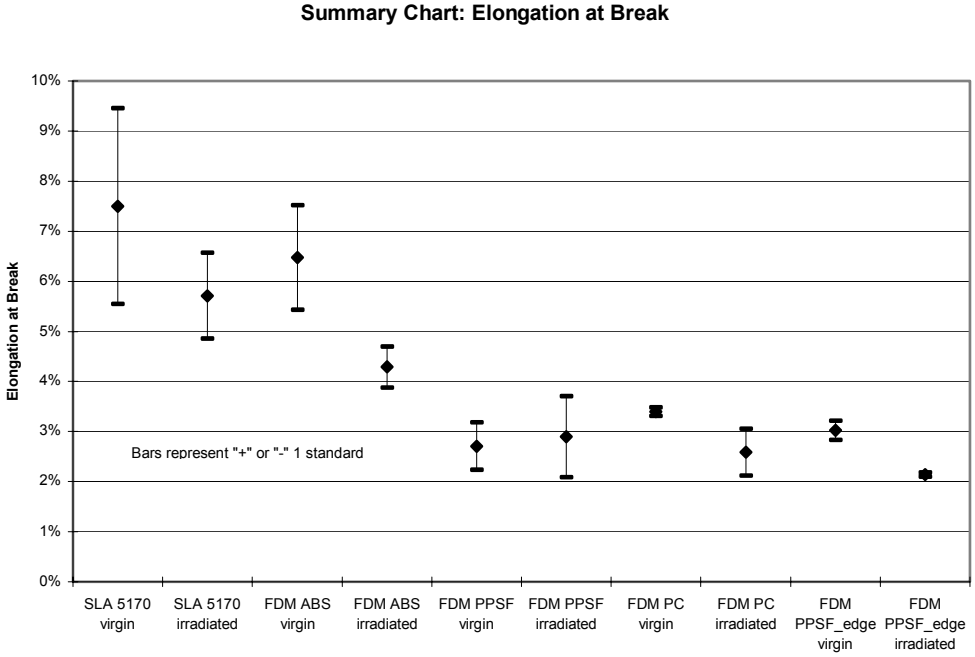
Yield strength is calculated as 0.2% offset to the elastic modulus. Ultimate strength is calculated as the peak stress. Failure strength is calculated as the stress at the final break point of the test sample. Elongation at break is calculated as the percentage increase in sample length (between the extensometer grips) at the time of sample break.

Author(s) | Department | Date
Steve Dellinges, Ken Chow | **Mechanical Engineering** | **05/20/03**

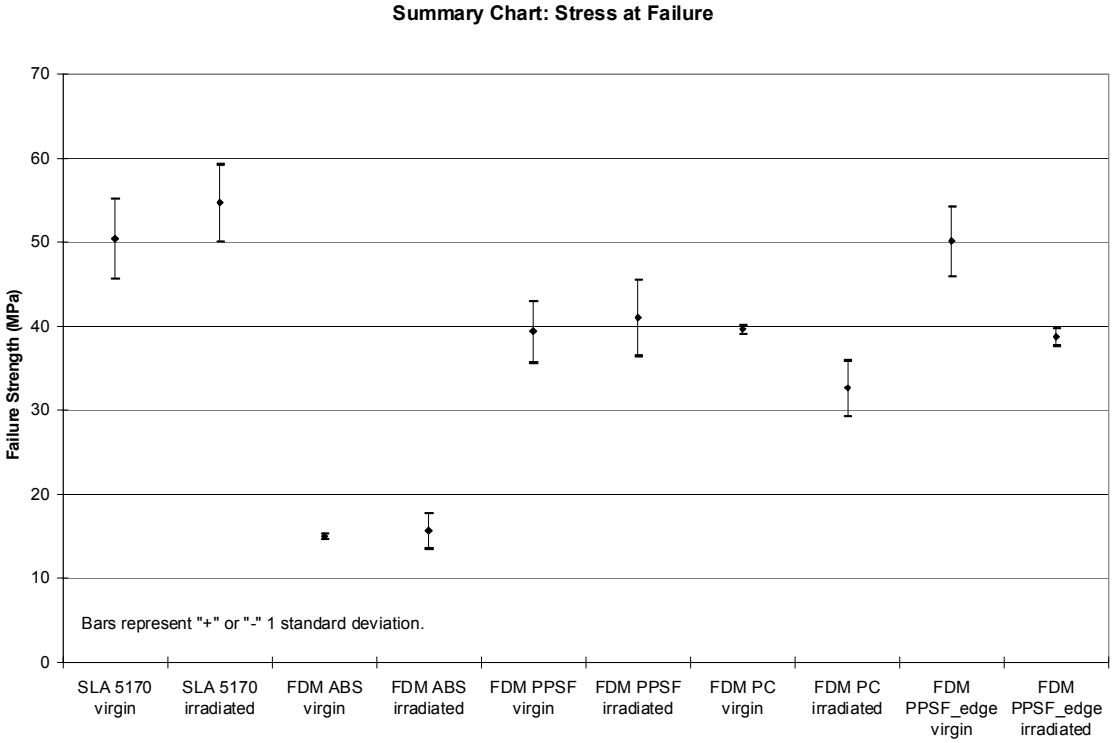
Observations / Comments

None of the samples show a significant change in material mechanical properties or physical dimensions at this level of radiation exposure. There was a significant change in material color on all samples except the PPSF material. It should be noted that the SLA epoxy and FDM ABS materials broke at or within the sample gauge length. The FDM PC, PPSF, and PPSF "edge" all broke outside of the sample gauge length near the "gauge / radius" transition.

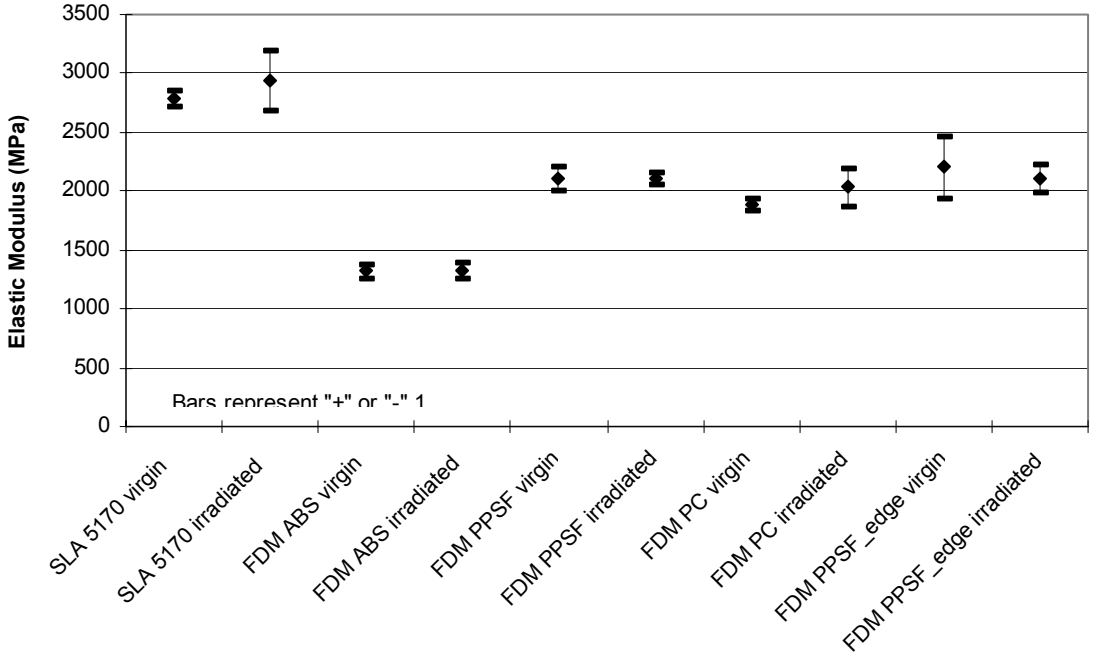
Summary charts – next page



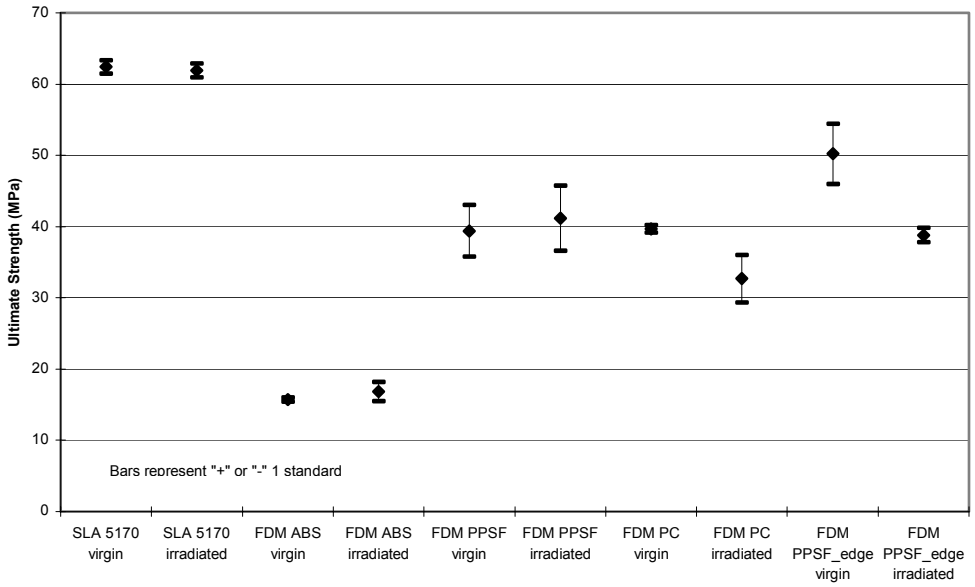
Author(s) | Department | Date
Steve Dellinges, Ken Chow | **Mechanical Engineering** | **05/20/03**



Summary Chart: Elastic Modulus



Summary Chart: Ultimate Strength



Author(s) | Department | Date
Steve Dellinges, Ken Chow | **Mechanical Engineering** | **05/20/03**