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Characteristics of Polymer irradiated by Low Energy Ion Beam

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Recently, low energy ion beam irradiation has been adopted for surface modification. Low energy ion beam irradiation has many advantages in polymer engineering such as weak damage, good adhesion, noticeably-enhanced wettability(less than 15 degree), good reproducibility, and so on. In this experiment, chemical reactions between free radicals and environment gas species have been investigated using angle-resolved XPS and TRIM code. In the case of low ion beam energy (around 1 keV), energy loss in polymer is mainly originated from atomic collisions instead of electronic interference. Atomic collisions could generate displaced atoms and free radicals. Cold cathode-ion source equipped with 5cm convex grid was used in an O_2 environment. Base and working pressure were 5×10^{-6} and 2.3×10^{-4} Torr. Flow rates of argon and oxygen were fixed at 1.2 and 8 sccm. Target materials are polyethylene polyvinylidenefluoride and polytetrafluoroethylene.