



Egg Shell Powder Reinforced Polypropylene (PP) Composite: Effect of Mechanical and Heat Capacity

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ABSTRACT

The mechanical properties of Polypropylene (PP): Egg Shell powder composite was assessed with respect to the effect of filler content shells powder Egg varying from 1% to 10% by weight of the composite, at particular size (<212) μm were investigated through several variables, such as, tensile strength (σ), tensile strain at break (ϵ_B) and Young's modulus (Y). Apparent amelioration in the mechanical parameters has recorded best ratios 5% and 7% weight. The mechanical properties of prepared film have examined through diverse parameters concerning the elastic deformity based on calculated the load – elongation properties. The conduct of the stress - strain curve was investigated in terms of the cold drawing model. The elastic behavior decreased at 5% composite Egg Shell powder. The specific heat capacity of Polypropylene, obvious an increase of the composite specific heat capacity using egg shell content.

1. Introduction

Polypropylene (PP) is widely used as a polymer in the world due to its widespread availability, and low cost of monomer, inexpensive of industrialization, and has distinct features. These characteristics can be enhanced to be suitable for a broad spectrum of applications. Commercial fabrication techniques can be used to modify Polypropylene. Examples of important applications of polypropylene involve possible usages to manufacture pipes, package films, tanks, monofilaments, seat covers, ropes and in washing machines. In 2001, approximately, 30,000,000 tons were consumed in the worldwide. [8, 9].

Polypropylene filled with particulate fillers has received much interest both in an academic research and industry due to the polypropylene has a feasibility to allow for accepting various kinds of natural and non-natural fillers. Fillers such as mica, kaolin, $\text{Ca}(\text{CO}_3)_2$ and talc have

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frequently applied to minimize both the productive costs and improvement the thermoplastic features such as strength, rigidity, flexural modulus, hardness, stability, electrical and thermal conductivity. Fillers can be affected by other some properties such as an impact merit and deformability. Features of filler such as type, content, size, interfacial adhesion, bond strength of matrix, surface properties and structure of filler can considerably influence on the filled system. In a highly filled polymer system, no uniformity can occur due to the weak dispersion of filler in system. A strong interfacial adhesion between filler and matrix probably improve the mechanical properties [1- 7, 10-12].

Recently, huge studies have published about addition of fillers to polymer matrixes to develop their properties and to reduce the productive cost. These fillers possess an adverse effect toward plastic properties and this effect leads to decrease the softy of polymer. Examples of known substances as fillers include organic or inorganic materials which are added to polymers either for increasing the volume of plastic material in order to reduce the price or probably improve some mechanical features [13-15]. It can be considered addition process of fillers to polymers easy, fast and inexpensive method to enhance of polymer properties [16, 17]. There have been several studies to use egg shell powder as filler in polymer composites [18-23]. The objective of this project is to inspection the influence of egg shell powder on the mechanical properties and heat capacity of polypropylene.

2. Experimental Procedure

2.1 Materials

The Polypropylene used for this study was supplied by Sabic (Saudi Arabia) and Table (1) presents properties of the polymer which was used in this paper. The used egg shells were bought from local market. Size of particle of egg shell which used in this project was almost (<212) μm . Five percentages of egg shell particles (1, 3, 5, 7 and 10 weight %) has used in the Polypropylene compounds.

Table (1): General properties of the Isotactic polypropylene

property	Value
Density, g/cm^3	0.908
Melt flow index (MFI) $\text{g}/10 \text{ min}$	11
Glass Transition temperature (T_g $^{\circ}\text{C}$)	0
Melting point (T_m $^{\circ}\text{C}$)	170
Degree of crystalline %	50 - 70

2.2 Sample preparation

In this study, five weight percents of egg shell powder (1wt%, 3wt%, 5wt%, 7wt% and 10wt%) were used in the Polypropylene composites. mixture of egg shell (fine

powder) with polypropylene were mixed using Rheomix mixer 600 instruments attached to the Haake Rheochard meter with the following conditions; time of mixing 15 min; temperature 160°C ; velocity 32 RPM. Next, the final template product was undergone to compress about 5 tons at 175°C for 180 seconds in a square frame. The pressure will increase gradually to be 15 tons during a six minutes then the sample sheet will be cooled down to room temperature. This sheet of final product is used to prepare dumbbell specimens as shown in Figure (1). The mechanical test done by instron instrument Zwick/Roel type (BT1-FR2.5 TN.D14) as shown in Figure (2) with these conditions; chart speed (10) mm/min., crosshead speed 50 mm/min. The test specimen was positioned vertically in the grips of device then the grips are tightened evenly and firmly to prevent any slippage. The relationship between elongation and load was obtained directly from the device. [24-26].

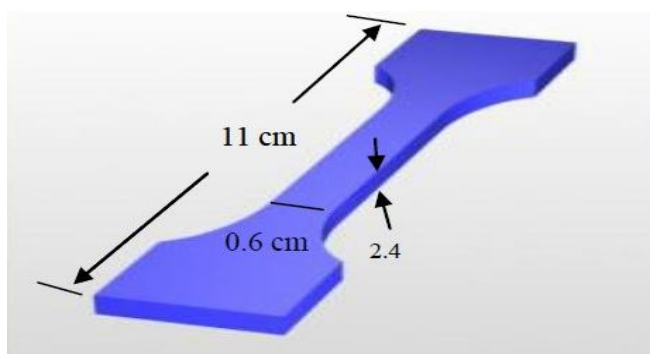


Figure 1: Shows the tensile specimen coupon dimensions centimeters.



Figure 2: Tensile test of the specimens was carried out with a Zwick/Roel type [BT1-FR2.5 TN.D14]

2.3 Tensile test

The tensile features have tested depending to the ASTM Standard D-638: Standard check method for tensile merits of materials [27]. The dimensions of the dumbbell-shaped pieces. The amount of strength (σ), tensile strain (ϵ) and Young's modulus (Y) were calculated by the following equation [28, 29]:

$$\sigma = F / A \quad \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

Where F = force (N), and A = area of sample (mm^2).

$$\epsilon\% = \frac{L-L_0}{L_0} * 100 \quad \dots\dots (2)$$

Where:

L : final length of sample, L_0 : original length of sample.

$$(\text{Young's modulus}) Y = \text{stress/strain} \quad \dots (3)$$

2.4 Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC) Analysis:

The DSC tests were performed using a Shimadzu apparatus DSC-60 model, made in Japan. The samples were sealed in aluminum pans under nitrogen gas in a temperature range (25-125) °C at a calefactory rate of 10°C per min.

3. Results and Discussion

Figure (3) and table (2) showed that the (stress - strain) curve of polypropylene that loaded with various percentages of egg shell powder was examined at a steady of loading rate at lab temperature. Stress- strain curve has based on the depiction instead of load elongation curve due to it depicts the material features and it was lower relied on the arbitrary select of specimen profile. Based to the break down classification, the stress-strain curve was representing the second behavior of the fracture which called cold drawing [30]. This type contains three parts can be recognized; firstly the linear region, secondly the yield region and thirdly the elongation area until the break. In the first area, the distortion was not very major, Hook's Law was obeyed which states that the immediate and recoverable deformity associated with the bending and stretching inter atomic bonds between the polymer chains. [31]. One of the most significant engineering parameters that reflect the material impedance against disfigurement, and have to be calculated before designing polymer is Young's modulus. Young's modulus can be evaluated from the slope of the portion of the first area, which was found a higher for a sample with a higher extension rate. The variation of Young's modulus against egg shells powder filler was depicted in Figure (4) Young's modulus varied between 256.017MPa to 426.357MPa for egg shell ratio between 1 - 10% respectively. It was observed from Figure (4) that Young's modulus decreased at percentages (1wt%, 5wt% and 7wt %), meanwhile, there is an increase in flexibility when hardness was decreased. When at the percentage (3%) it was noted that

increase the value Young's modulus and this pointed out that polymer has good hardness and less flexibility at this percentage. Young's modulus can indicate to high material resistance. Mechanical properties essentially depend upon the molecular behavior; include chemical composition and physical structure. It can be related to the shear component of the applied stress. In the region confined between the proportionality limit and the yield point the deformation in this region is not stantanuosely recoverable, but it's ultimately and can be characterized like straightening out of a coil portion of the molecular chains [32]. The uncoiling mechanism is known as a relatively slow mechanism.

The result of composition of tensile strain at break (ϵ_B) is shown in Figure (5). The maximum tensile comes from a typical homogeneity of filler distribution in the polymer system. The mechanical properties of polypropylene were investigated to show the relationship between the percentage of elongation and the additive concentration. The elongation of the polymer started at (1%) around (38.542%) which was decreased with increasing of filler ratio; around (3%) percentage (6.901%). At this point, the polymer offered a few flexibilities and high hardness from the role of egg shell powder which acts to fill the spaces between the main chains of polymer. This also led to limit the movement of the chains and decreased the elongation with increasing of filler ratio at (5%) percentage (51.115%). Polymeric backbones that were not constrained by any free movement were a short homogeneity in the mixture due to the rigid nature of egg shell powder. This property helps to increase the stiffness of the polymer and decrease elongation.

Figure (6) and table (2) that the maximum tensile strength (σ_M) at 7% is 27.691 MPa so that amount of load tensile strength (σ_M) reversible when increasing the concentration of additive which works egg shell powder to reach 27.228 MPa at 10% the hardness increases when the polymer and thus the polymeric chains are constrained to decrease its flexibility.

Table 2. Parameters of mechanical properties

Filler content (wt.%)	σ_M (MPa)	$\epsilon_B\%$	Young modulus (Mpa)
0	34.300	15.860	389.109
1	26.334	38.542	256.017
3	27.645	6.901	426.357
5	23.593	51.115	288.91
7	27.691	16.949	299.168
10	27.228	9.3681	379.643

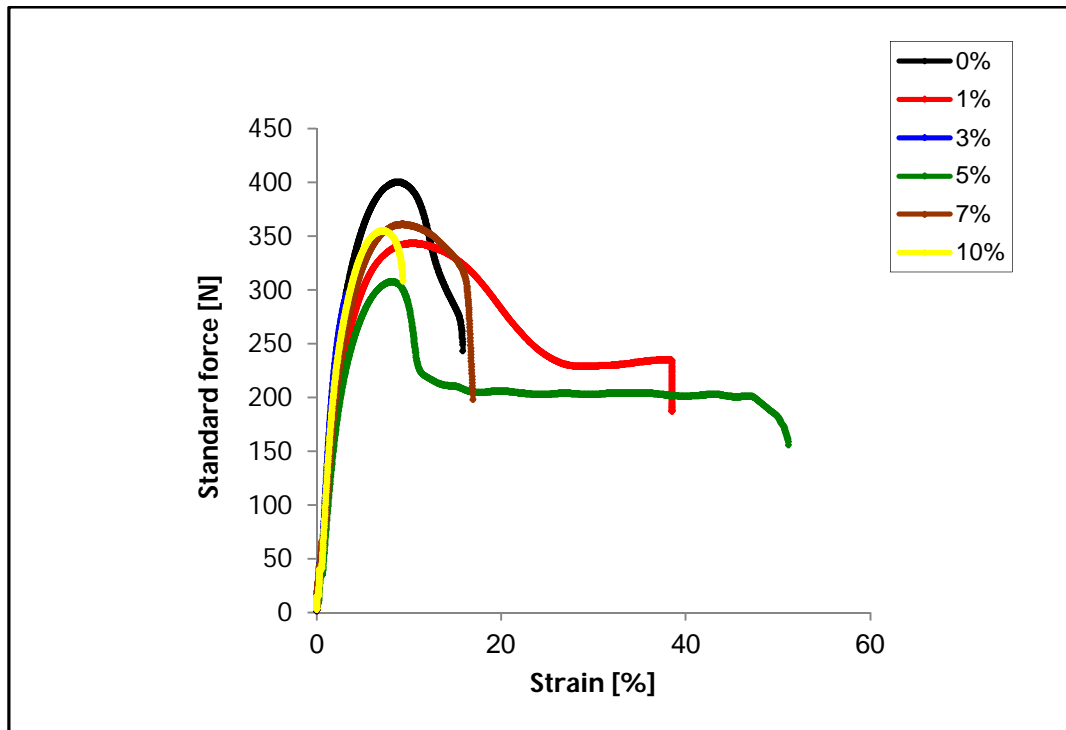


Figure. 3: The stress - strain curves of polypropylene composite with egg shell powder

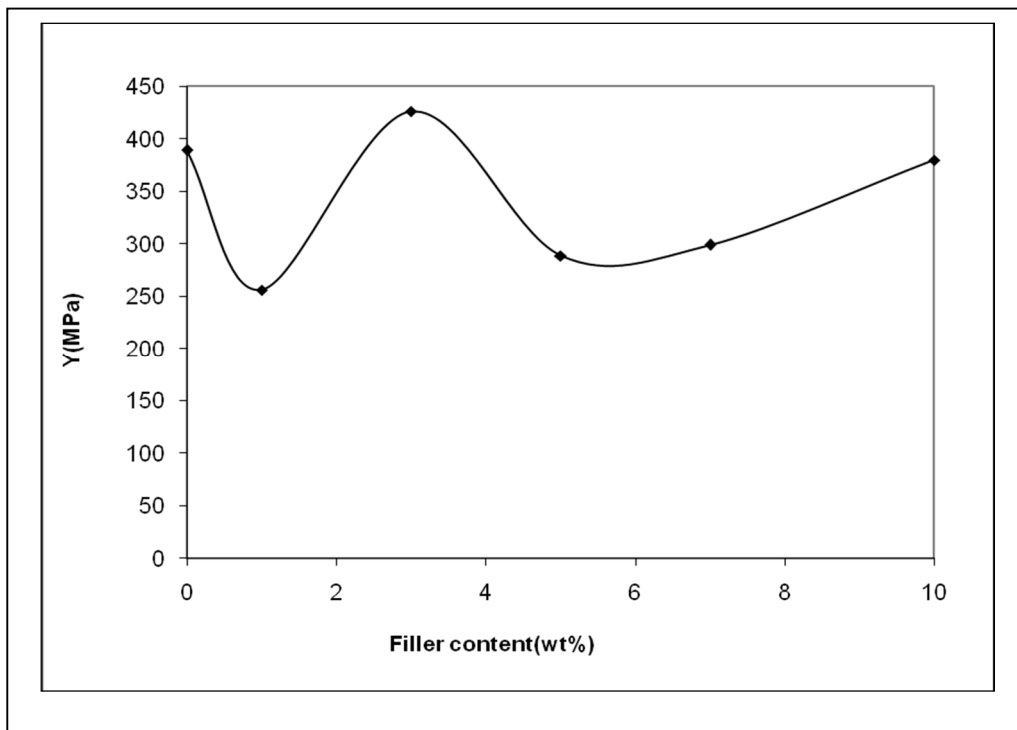


Figure.4: Variation between Young Modules and Filler content (wt.%).

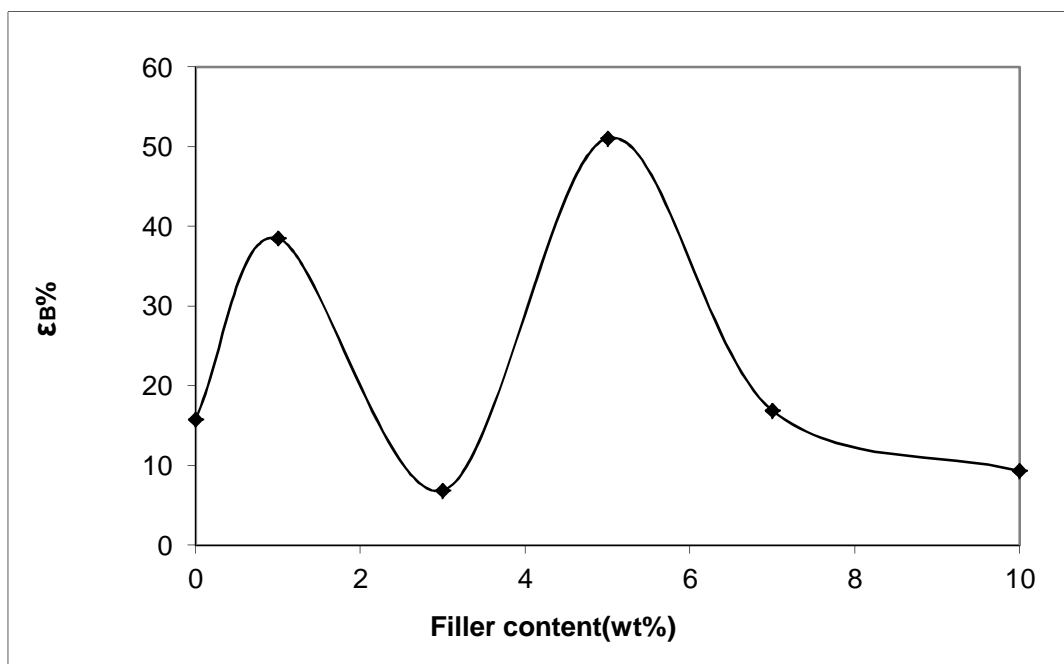


Figure.5: Variation between tensile strain at break and Filler content (wt%).

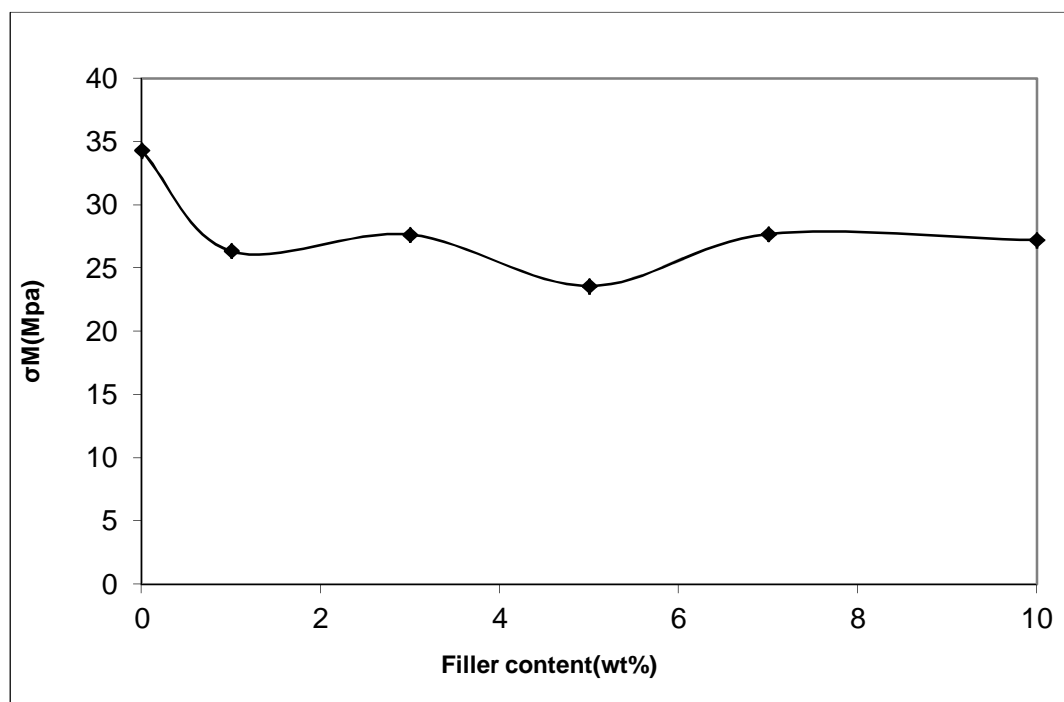


Figure.6: Variation between Tensile strength and Filler content (wt%).

The specific heat capacity of polymer composite with egg shell powder was measured and was shown in Table 3. This was associated to the high value of powder particles heat capacity. The specific heat capacity of compounds as a function of temperature in the range 40°C to 100 °C is plotted in Figure (7). The heat capacity increases with temperature for every composite. The specific heat capacity of polymer increases significantly with temperature. In crystalline composite, the heat capacity increases until reaches to a plateau according to the Dulong and Petit value, that is a good approximation for solids at room temperatures (300°K). In glasses, the heat dependence of heat capacity will be more evident as a result of the larger molecular movability. In our case, as the egg shell powder content increases, the heat capacity growth linearly with temperature. This practical conduct probably due to the increasing proportion of a disordered-like behavior for the highly loaded compounds. The effect of temperature on the specific heat capacity shows clearly the contribution of the egg shell particles network to the compounds specific heat capacity. Specific heat capacities of composites at 60 °C are shown on Figure(8) as a function of egg shell powder weight content. We perceive an increase of the composite specific heat capacity with egg shell content [33].

Table 3. Specific heat capacity at 60 °C

Filler %	C_p (J/kg.C) at 60 C
0	1485
1	1900
3	1503
5	1752
7	1963
10	1812

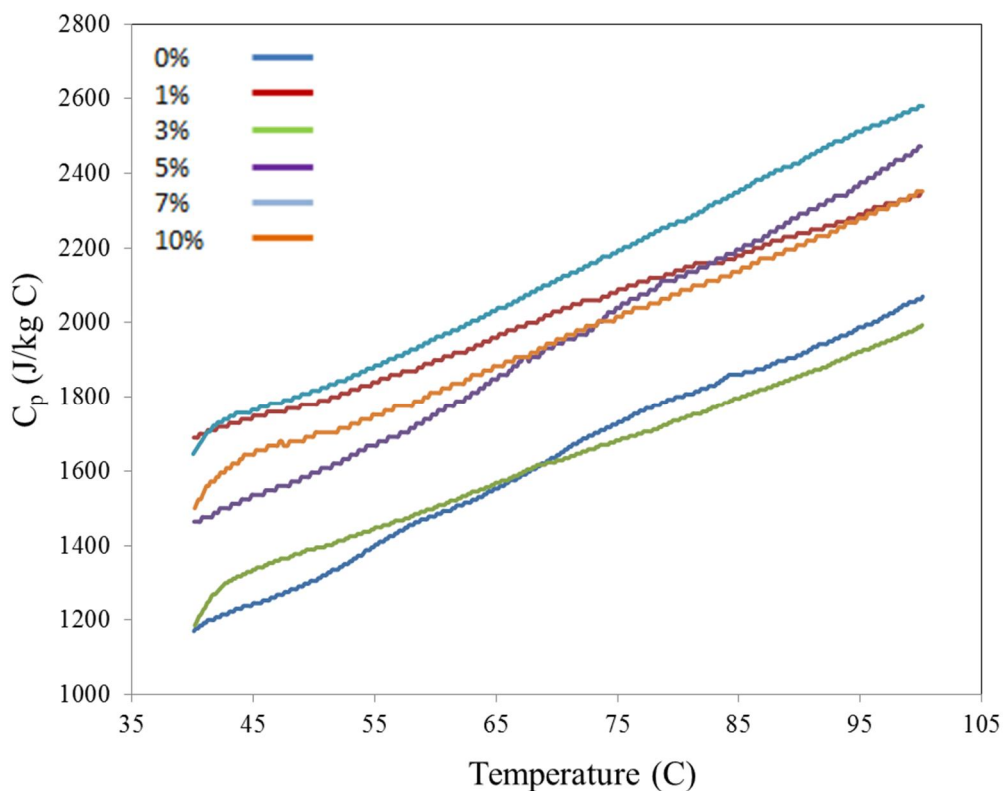


Figure.7: The composites specific heat capacity with temperature from 40°C to 100 °C.

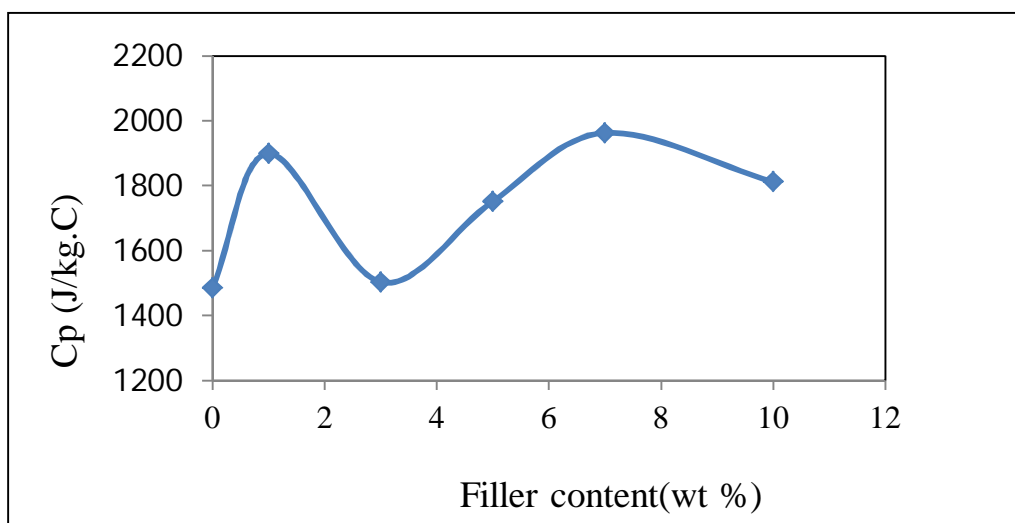


Figure.8: Specific heat capacity versus filler percentages

4. Conclusion

Mechanical properties of Polypropylene were changed by adding (egg shell powder) with different weight percentage. Polymer matrix was decreased by stiffer material (egg shells powder). This interprets the weekend perceived in mechanical features above than 7% percentage. Therefore, Polypropylene with 5% and 7% egg shell powder is recommended for industrial applications, and the high specific heat capacity at 7%.

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