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Study and modeling of thermomechanical properties of jute and Alfa fber‑reinforced polymer matrix hybrid biocomposite materials

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Abstract

In this paper, we have investigated and studied the efect of thermal stress on the fiber–matrix interface damage of three new hybrid biocomposite and biocomposite materials. Our genetic simulation based on Weibull probabilistic models showed that the jute–Alfa/PEEK (PEEK: thermoplastic matrix—polyetheretherketone) hybrid biocomposite material is more resistant to the mechanical and thermal stress applied comparing with the other biocomposites such as jute/PEEK and Alfa/PEEK with the same volume fraction used in our genetic model. Our results also show that natural fbers improve the physical properties of biocomposite materials, especially hybrid biocomposite materials. This fnding is similar to that found by Antoine Le Duigou et al. where they have shown experimentally that the natural reinforcements greatly improve the properties of composite materials and also they have a very low environmental impact.

Keywords Jute · Alfa · Damage · Interface · Biocomposite · PEEK · Thermal stress · Genetic algorithm

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Introduction

A composite material consists of at least two components, a reinforcement and matrix. The composite materials are light and resistant compared to traditional materials. Biocomposite materials based on natural fbers have better physical properties compared to composite materials and respond favorably to environ– mental requirements due to their biodegradability and recycling characteristics.

The biocomposites are composite materials which comprise one or more phases from a biological origin [[1](#page-21-0), [2](#page-21-1)]. The reinforcing phase in most cases is derived from plant fbers in crops such as cotton, fax, or hemp, or from recycled wood, waste paper, crop-processing by-products, or regenerated cellulose fbers such as sisal, starch, and viscose/rayon. The matrix phase within a biocomposite may often take the form of a natural polymer, possibly derived from vegetable oils or starches. More commonly, however, synthetic fossil-derived polymers (recycled thermoplastics) act as the matrices [[2\]](#page-21-1); among the natural fbers, we fnd the fber Alfa and the jute fber. The jute fber is obtained from the bark of the jute. It is long, soft, and brilliant and is used among other things to make jute bags or as geotextile. The word jute refers to both the fbers and the plant from which they come [\[3](#page-21-2)].

The Alfa fber (Fig. [1](#page-1-0)) is the Arabic name of the plant stipa tenacissima. It is a typical Mediterranean perennial; it grows in clumps of about 1 to 1.20 m high, thus forming large layers. It is widely distributed and grows spontaneously in arid and semiarid regions in northwestern Africa and southern Spain [\[4](#page-21-3)–[7\]](#page-22-0).

The stem of this plant is used in the industry of ropes and carpets. Also, the fber of this plant is mainly used in the production of paper, in composites and nonwovens.

In Algeria, large Alfa requirements are destined for paper mills and estimated at 200,000 tons/year and national production amounts to 70,000 tons/year [\[8](#page-22-1), [9\]](#page-22-2).

Fig. 1 Illustration of the plant of Alfa in the raw state

In general, the tensile mechanical properties of technical Alfa approach those of jute, flax, hemp, and sisal $[4-6]$ $[4-6]$ $[4-6]$.

The properties of composite and biocomposite materials are not limited to those of fber and matrix but also take into account the quality of the fber–matrix interface. Indeed, this interface has a vital role in transmitting the forces between the fbers and the matrix during a mechanical stress; if this interfacial adhesion is very strong at the microscopic scale, we will have a composite material with very important and interesting mechanical characteristics [[10\]](#page-22-4).

This interface initially depends on the wettability, when the melted matrix and the fber are brought into contact, but also on the adhesion once the fber–matrix system is in the solid state. For composite materials, the fber–matrix adhesion with thermosetting resins is essentially by chemical bonds, whereas the adhesion phenomenon with a thermoplastic matrix appears mainly through to the physical interactions [\[10–](#page-22-4)[12](#page-22-5)].

The adhesion is the parameter that characterizes the quality of the fber–matrix interface at the solid scale (damaged and undamaged interface). The multiscale studies (folds and REV: representative elementary volume) have been made on plant fber composites associated with epoxy, bio-epoxy, and polyester resin [[10,](#page-22-4) [13](#page-22-6)], but also thermoplastic polymers of PLA [\[10](#page-22-4), [14\]](#page-22-7). Many techniques exist to measure it at different scales [[10](#page-22-4), [15,](#page-22-8) [16](#page-22-9)]. The microscopic tests directly measure the shear strength of the interfacial shear strength (IFSS). The microscopic analysis has the advantage of directly evaluating the damage of the fber–matrix interface. Several micromechanical techniques for the determination of interfacial shear stress exist, but they are very expensive:

- 1. The loosening of a fber from a matrix pad [[10](#page-22-4), [17](#page-22-10), [18](#page-22-11)]
- 2. The fragmentation of a unit fiber $[10, 19-21]$ $[10, 19-21]$ $[10, 19-21]$ $[10, 19-21]$ $[10, 19-21]$
- 3. Matrix microdrop dropout [[22,](#page-22-14) [23\]](#page-22-15)
- 4. Micro-indentation (push-out) [\[10](#page-22-4), [24](#page-22-16), [25](#page-22-17)].

Few studies describe the properties of the interfacial zone of biocomposites, while the improvement in mechanical performance requires a better understand– ing of this area [\[14,](#page-22-7) [22](#page-22-14), [23\]](#page-22-15). The behavior of the fber–matrix interface is very complex, and experimental tests are very expensive to determine the resistance interface and therefore a resistant material. It is necessary to provide a numerical model to understand the mechanical behavior of the interface in as much detail as possible in order to provide the experimenters with a very rich theoretical data– base. In our knowledge, there are no theoretical works which have treated and discussed the fber–matrix interface damage of hybrid biocomposite jute–Alfa/ PEEK and biocomposite materials jute/PEEK and Alfa/PEEK. In this context, our contribution consists in developing a numerical model based on genetic approach to study the effect of thermal stress on the fiber–matrix interface dam– age of three new hybrid biocomposite jute–Alfa/PEEK and biocomposite mate– rials jute/PEEK and Alfa/PEEK. To determine the damage to the interface, we have used an analytical model based on Weibull probability formalism (fber and matrix damage) [[26](#page-22-18)[–30\]](#page-23-0). The objective function of our algorithm was based on the Cox mathematical model and Lebrun equation. The distance between fbers was determined by the concept of volume and mass fraction of reinforcement pre-sented by Antoine [[31](#page-23-1), [32\]](#page-23-2).

The characteristics of the materials used

The matrix PEEK

Given the wide range of thermoplastics, amorphous or semicrystalline, the choice of resin is made by eliminating the matrices that do not correspond to the specifcations (Table [1\)](#page-4-0). Indeed, to be used in a civil aircraft nacelle environment, they must meet the following specifcations [[33\]](#page-23-3):

- Maximum operating temperature greater than or equal to 120° C
- Good mechanical properties (tensile modulus greater than 2 GPa, tensile strength greater than 100 MPa)
- Density less than 1.5
- Compatibility of the carbon reinforcement (thermal expansion of the matrix as low as possible to be close to that of carbon and thus avoid the formation of internal stress)
- Resistance to the environment: good resistance to wet aging, aeronautical fluids (solvents, kerosene, hydraulic fuid, etc.)
- Use of the PEEK matrix: semicrystalline thermoplastic.

Polyetheretherketone (PEEK) is a so-called thermostable thermoplastic polymer. Its macromolecular skeleton consists of benzene rings and ketone bonds (Fig. [2](#page-5-0)) which give it an excellent resistance to both thermal and chemical aggression (Fig. [2\)](#page-5-0) [[34\]](#page-23-4).

Figure [3](#page-5-1) shows the normalized density resistance for the thermosetting and ther– moplastic matrices most used in the design of aeronautical parts based on their mass cost. It emerges that a thermoplastic, in particular the thermoplastic PEEK, could be an alternative solution for the manufacture of composite parts, in particular for aero– nautical applications at high temperatures [\[34](#page-23-4)].

Fibers

Alfa fbers

The Alfa is well known for papermaking applications as a noble raw material; however, it is not known in textile applications, except for the realization of handicrafts for which the strands are used without treatment. It has also been a source of inspiration for making green composites (for orthopedic prosthesis

Fig. 3 Cost-effective mechanical resistance for large families of polymer matrices [[34,](#page-23-4) [35\]](#page-23-8)

Fig. 4 SEM picture of untreated Alfa stem [[38\]](#page-23-7)

application) and has been used in combination with other natural fbers such as wool in the manufacture of nonwovens, but never for textile applications properly [\[4,](#page-21-3) [7](#page-22-0), [38\]](#page-23-7).

Figure [4](#page-5-2) shows a SEM image of an untreated Alfa stem [[38\]](#page-23-7).

Figure [5](#page-6-0) presents a SEM image of a facies of fracture of an Alfa fber after a tensile test [[38](#page-23-7)].

Fig. 5 SEM picture of a fracture facies of an Alfa fber after a tensile test [[38\]](#page-23-7)

Jute fber

The jute fiber is derived from the stem of the plant (Corchorus capsularis and Cor chorus olitorius). It is mainly found in the humid tropics, and its production is in China (35,500 t, FAO 2014) and especially in India (1,940,000 t, FAO 2014) and Bangladesh (1,391,000 t, FAO 2014). This production makes it the second most important fber produced after cotton. It is composed of 61–72% cellulose, 13.6–20% hemicellulose, and 11.8–13% lignin, and its mechanical properties are comparable to those of hemp. In addition, its fbers are long, 4 m, but provided with nodes. The fbrils possess a diameter of between 40 and 80 μm and an irregular lumen [[39\]](#page-23-9). The coarser fbers are used as strings, wrapping, and carpets, where these fbers can compete with polypropylene [[40\]](#page-23-10), while the fner fbers can be mixed with wool, cotton [[41\]](#page-23-11), or other natural fbers to form fabrics; its moisture-absorbing capacity is an advantage. Jute is found in geotextile coatings as a source of raw materials in the paper industry. Jute fiber is also used in combination with soy protein for biodegradable composites [[42,](#page-23-12) [43\]](#page-23-13).

Figure [6](#page-7-0) shows the SEM images of jute fibers (a) untreated, (b) alkali-treated, (c) bleached, (d) milled, (e) and (f) hydrolyzed with acid $[44]$ $[44]$.

In our study, we used two types of natural reinforcements—Alfa and jute fbers whose characteristics are mentioned in Table [2](#page-8-0).

Mathematical models

The nonlinear acoustic technique

The classical nonlinear acoustic behavior of materials is commonly described by the addition of a nonlinear term β in Hooke's law, which is written as

$$
\sigma = E\varepsilon (1 + \beta \varepsilon) \tag{1}
$$

Fig. 6 SEM images of jute fbers **a** untreated, **b** alkali-treated, **c** bleached, **d** milled, **e** and **f** acid-hydro‑ lyzed. "Reprinted with permission from Elsevier/Springer" [\[44](#page-23-14)]

In the last relation, σ and ε are the stress and strain, respectively [[47–](#page-23-15)[51\]](#page-23-16), *E* is the Young's modulus, and β is the parameter of nonlinearity. If $\beta = 0$, we say that the material is homogeneous. E and β can be determined from acoustic measure– ments [[52,](#page-23-17) [53](#page-23-18)]. The Young's modulus *E* is obtained by determining the rates of longitudinal and transverse propagation. The harmonic generation method is based on the distortion of a sine wave of a high intensity through a given material or medium. When the material does not exhibit heterogeneity, diferent areas excited by the ultrasonic agitation vibrate at the same speed, the ultrasonic wave

Fig. 7 Fourier spectrum of the received signal for nonlinear parameter determination

Fig. 8 Representation of the evolution of a resonance as a function of the excitation amplitude in an intact material **a** and damaged material **b** [\[60](#page-24-4)]

is then subjected to any perturbation and its shape is the same that is to say sinu– soidal. The presence of heterogeneity in the medium is observed at the source of the local increase or decrease of the density and the modulus during compression or expansion respectively [[52](#page-23-17), [53\]](#page-23-18). This results in the change in the wave shape of the spectral content (FFT) (Fig. [7\)](#page-9-0). As a result, the received wave is not sinusoidal but contains harmonics.

The resonance method (Figs. 8 and 9) consists in the resonance frequency shift and the modifcation of the quality factor of vibrating "bars" with the increase in the excitation amplitude $[54–56]$ $[54–56]$ $[54–56]$. The offset of the resonance frequency and the decrease in the quality factor are proportional to the amplitude of the wave. These observations were attributed to a hysteretic nonlinearity [[57–](#page-24-2)[59\]](#page-24-3)

Fig. 9 Resonance spectra corresponding to a 2.5-mm-thick polymer matrix base in the intact state **a** and in the damaged state **b** (the resonance frequency of the damaged state is typically around 1380 Hz) [\[61](#page-24-5)]

Volume and mass fraction of reinforcement

In a composite, we write $V_f + V_m + V_v = 1$, where the subscripts f, m, and v relate, respectively, to the fibers, matrix, and porosity. In practice, V_f and V_v are mainly conditioned by the nature of the reinforcement, the matrix, and the method of imple-mentation. The orders of magnitude are common [[31\]](#page-23-1):

$$
0.3 < V_{\rm f} < 0.65
$$
\n
$$
0.001 < V_{\rm v} < 0.1
$$
\n
$$
W_i = \frac{W_i}{W_{\rm c}} \tag{2}
$$

where W_i is the weight of component *i* and Wc is the total weight of the composite.

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{N} W_i = 1
$$
 (3)

The mass of the constituents of the composite is given by

$$
W_{c} = \rho_{c} V_{c};
$$

$$
W_{f} = \rho_{f} V_{f};
$$

$$
W_{m} = \rho_{m} V_{m},
$$

with ρ_c : the density of composite; ρ_f : density of fiber; $\rho_{\rm m}$: density of the matrix

The total mass of the composite is $\rho_c V_c = \rho_f V_f + \rho_m V_m$ which allows to derive the density of the composite as follows:

$$
\rho_{\rm c} = \frac{\rho_{\rm f} V_{\rm f} + \rho_{\rm m} V_{\rm m}}{V_{\rm c}} \tag{4}
$$

Similarly, one can express the density as a function of mass fraction on the basis of the total volume of the composite $V_c = V_m + V_f$:

$$
\rho_{\rm c} = \frac{\rho_{\rm f} V_{\rm f} + \rho_{\rm m} V_{\rm m}}{V_{\rm m} + V_{\rm f}}
$$
\n
$$
\rho_{\rm c} = \frac{W_{\rm f} + W_{\rm c}}{\frac{W_{\rm f}}{\rho_{\rm f}} + \frac{W_{\rm m}}{\rho_{\rm m}}}
$$
\n
$$
\rho_{\rm c} = \frac{1}{\frac{W_{\rm f}}{\rho_{\rm f}} + \frac{W_{\rm m}}{\rho_{\rm m}}}
$$
\n(5)

Thermal stress

The thermal stress feld which results from the diferential expansion of the fbers and the matrix during cooling after preparation of the composite at high temperature is given by the following equations: $[62]$ $[62]$

$$
\sigma_{\rm f}^t = E_{\rm f} \frac{a}{1+a} (M_2 - M_0) \tag{6}
$$

with

$$
M_0(T) = \int_{T_0}^{T_e} (\alpha_m - \alpha_f) dT
$$

$$
M_2(T) = \int_{T_e}^{T} (\alpha_m - \alpha_f) dT
$$

with T_0 , the room temperature; T_e , the temperature of development; and T , the test temperature. α_f and α_m are the expansion coefficients of the fiber and matrix [\[62](#page-24-6)].

The formalism probabilist of Weibull

When the stress is uniform, damage to the matrix is given by Formula [\(7](#page-12-0)) of Weibull [\[29](#page-22-19)]:

$$
D_{\rm m} = 1 - \exp\left\{-\frac{V_{\rm eff}}{V_0} \left(\frac{\sigma_{\rm f}}{\sigma_0}\right)^m\right\} \tag{7}
$$

with (σ_f) , the applied stress; (V_{eff}) , the volume of the matrix; $(m \text{ and } \sigma_0)$, the Weibull parameters; and V_0 , the initial volume of the matrix.

A broken fber is discharged over its entire length. In other words, it can only break once. The rupture obeys a law similar to that described for the matrix; damage to the fiber is given by Eq. (8) (8) :

$$
D_{\rm f} = 1 - \exp\left\{-A_{\rm f} \times L_{\rm equi} \times \left(\frac{\sigma_{\rm max}^{\rm f}}{\sigma_{\rm 0f}}\right)^{m_{\rm f}}\right\} \tag{8}
$$

with σ_{max}^f , the maximum stress applied to the fiber; σ_{0f} , the initial stress applied to the fiber; m_f , the Weibull parameter; and $A_f = \pi \times a^2$; L_{equi} , the length of the fiber at equilibrium.

The mathematical model of Cox

It is possible to describe the charge transfer processes by simplified micromechanical models considering, for example, a representative elemental volume (REV) consisting of a fber embedded in a cylinder of matrix on which a tensile stress is applied. The writing of the equilibrium elastic equation theoretically makes it possible to determine the profle of the tensile stress in the fber and that of shear at the interface. From these data, it is possible to evaluate the stress–strain curve of the composite $[63]$ $[63]$ $[63]$ (Fig. [10](#page-12-2)).

Depending on the assumed behavior of the interface, diferent responses can be simulated. In the Cox model, the connection between fber and matrix is assumed to be perfect and also the mechanical behavior of these elastic constituents [[63](#page-24-7)].

For the interface, their damage based on the model of Cox [\[63\]](#page-24-7) is defned by Eq. (9) (9) :

Fig. 10 Representative elemental volume (REV)

$$
\tau = \frac{E_f \times a \times \varepsilon}{2} \beta \left(\tanh \left(\beta \times \frac{l}{2} \right) \right) \tag{9}
$$

$$
\beta = \frac{2G_{\rm m}}{E_{\rm f} \times r_{\rm f}^2 \times \ln\left(\frac{R}{r_{\rm f}}\right)}
$$

with G_m , the shear modulus of the matrix; E_f , Young's modulus of the fiber; ε , the deformation; *a*, the radius of the fiber; *R*, the distance between fibers; τ , shear stress of the interface; and r_f , the distance between fiber and the matrix.

Modeling by genetic algorithm

The description of the implementation of the genetic model

In our genetic algorithm, the analytical model of Cox Eq. [\(9](#page-13-0)) and the Lebrun model Eq. [\(6](#page-11-0)) will be used to evaluate the objective function and to see the efect of the thermal stress on the damage to the interface of the three hybrid biocomposite and biocomposite materials. The damage of the fbers and the matrix will be calculated using the Weibull's Eqs. $(7 \text{ and } 8)$ $(7 \text{ and } 8)$ $(7 \text{ and } 8)$.

The interface damage is produced by the genetic operator crossing of the two damages of the constituents, fber and matrix, using a mutation probability equal to 0.25. The found individuals are ranked and positioned to get the best of them, these individuals are inserted in the frst row, and we have a new generation; the process is repeated until convergence (reach the maximum generation value Gmax). The applied tensile stress values are 90 N/m^2 , 115 N/m^2 , and 140 N/m^2 . The Young's modulus for both fbers is shown in Tables [1](#page-4-0) and [2](#page-8-0). The numerical calculations are performed using the MATLAB platform.

We validate the results obtained by genetic modeling using the nonlinear acoustic technique Eq. (1) (1) ; we have determined the different values of the nonlinear param– eter β for the three biocomposite materials using Eq. [\(1](#page-6-1)).

The fowchart of our program

The principle of this algorithm is based on the use of genetic operators (selection, crossover, mutation) to predict a population of 320 randomly generated individuals with a maximum output of 160 as a stopping criterion. The chromosome genes rep– resent the following variables defined by the analytical model of Cox: the mechanical stress, Young's modulus of the fber, modulus of shear of the matrix, radii of the fbers, and the distance between fbers. The damage to the interface is calculated by the crossing of the two damages, fber and matrix, using a mutation probability of 0.25.

In Fig. [11,](#page-14-0) we have presented the details of our genetic model which is developed with MATLAB platform.

Fig. 11 The fowchart of our program

We define below the cc our genetic program:

```
Crossing function
        function [enf1, enf2]=\csc(p1,p2)nbVar = length(p1);enfl = []:
        enf2 = [];
        a = rand;enf1 = p1 * a + p2 * (1-a);
        enf2 = p2*a + p1*(1-a);return
Mutation function
        function [enf1] = mutate(enf1,probMut)
        bound=[10 1000];
        [nbenf nbvr]=size(enf1);
        df = bound(2) - bound(1);for k=1:nbenf
        a = rand:
        if a \leq probMut
        indiv = enf1(k,:);
        mPoint = round(rand * nbenf);if mPoint \sim=0L=round(3*rand);
        if L \sim 0enfl(k,L) = bound(1) + rand*df;end
        end
        end
end
```
Discussion and interpretation of results

Our calculation was carried out on three types of hybrid biocomposite and bio‑ composite materials, Alfa/PEEK, jute/PEEK, and Alfa–jute/PEEK. Our genetic results have been presented in the figures by the blue cloud; the blue dots rep– resent the fber–matrix interface damage of the three hybrid biocomposite and biocomposite materials. We have examined the strength of our materials by the application of different mechanical tensile stress (90 N/m², 115 N/m², and

Fig. 12 The influence of the thermal stress on the damage of the interface for $\sigma = 140 \text{ N/m}^2$

Fig. 13 The influence of the thermal stress on the damage of the interface for $\sigma = 115$ N/m²

140 N/m²) and this at 0 °C (thermal stress = 0), and we have observed the evolution of the damage to interface when the thermal stress is varied between 0 and 110 N/m^2 ; we have observed a rapid growth in the fiber–matrix interface damage for the three studied materials.

To validate our results, we have introduced the nonlinear parameter β in our algorithm. The results were presented by the red curve in all figures using Eq. [1](#page-6-1).

Figures [12,](#page-16-0) [13,](#page-16-1) [14,](#page-17-0) [15,](#page-17-1) [16,](#page-18-0) [17,](#page-18-1) [18](#page-19-0), [19](#page-19-1), and [20](#page-20-0) show the level of damage to the interface for the three materials as a function of thermal stress.

In Table [3,](#page-20-1) we presented all the values of the physico-mechanical parameters used in our calculation program.

Fig. 14 The influence of the thermal stress on the damage of the interface for $\sigma = 90 \text{ N/m}^2$

Fig. 15 The influence of the thermal stress on the damage of the interface for $\sigma = 140 \text{ N/m}^2$

Jute/PEEK

Figures [12,](#page-16-0) [13](#page-16-1), and [14](#page-17-0) show that the damage "*D*" of the interface starts at the level of 0.325 on (90 N/m²) and then increases to a maximum value of 0.425 for (140 N/m²) m²) before the application of the thermal stress; we observed that when the thermal stress increases, the damage of the interface of the jute/PEEK increases and reaches its maximum of 0.7 for a value of the thermal stress 95 N/m^2 . It can also be said that

Fig. 16 The influence of the thermal stress on the damage of the interface for $\sigma = 115 \text{ N/m}^2$

Fig. 17 The influence of the thermal stress on the damage of the interface for $\sigma = 90 \text{ N/m}^2$

the increase in the thermal stress affects and gives a strong degradation to the interface by comparing with the applied mechanical stress.

Alfa/PEEK

Figures [15,](#page-17-1) [16,](#page-18-0) and [17](#page-18-1) show that the damage "*D*" of the interface starts at the level of 0.2 on (90 N/m²) and then increases to a maximum value of 0.31 for (140 N/m²)

Fig. 18 The influence of the thermal stress on the damage of the interface for $\sigma = 140 \text{ N/m}^2$

Fig. 19 The influence of the thermal stress on the damage of the interface for $\sigma = 115 \text{ N/m}^2$

 m^2) before the application of the thermal stress; we observed that when the thermal stress increases, the damage of the interface of the jute/PEEK increases and reaches its maximum of 0.45 for a value of the thermal stress of 95 $N/m²$. It can also be said that the increase in the thermal stress afects and gives a strong degradation to the interface by comparing with the applied mechanical stress. The results show that the Alfa/PEEK interface is more resistant to thermal and mechanical stress compared with the jute/PEEK interface.

Fig. 20 The influence of the thermal stress on the damage of the interface for $\sigma = 90 \text{ N/m}^2$

Materials	PEEK	Jute	Alfa
Young's modulus (GPa)	3.6	26.5	12.7
Density (g/cm^3)	1.3	1.44	1.51
Diameter (μm)		8.0	8.0
Length (mm)		20	20
Thermal stress	$0 - 110$	$0 - 110$	$0 - 110$
Tensile stress	$90 - 140$	$90 - 140$	$90 - 140$
Coefficient of thermal expansion α_i (1/C°)	0.021×10^{-5}	1.9×10^{-5}	1.9×10^{-5}
Weibull parameters (m)	1.2	1.3	1.3
Distance between fibers $R(\mu m)$	12		

Table 3 The values of the physico-mechanical parameters used in our calculation program

Alfa–jute/PEEK

Figures [18,](#page-19-0) [19,](#page-19-1) and [20](#page-20-0) show that the damage "*D*" of the interface starts at the level of 0.05 on (90 N/m²) and then increases to a maximum value of 0.125 for (140 N/ m^2) before the application of the thermal stress; we observed that when the thermal stress increases, the damage of the interface of the jute/PEEK increases and reaches its maximum of 0.21 for a value of the thermal stress of 95 $N/m²$. It can also be said that the increase in the thermal stress affects and gives a strong degradation to the interface by comparing with the applied mechanical stress. The results show that the interfaces of biocomposites hybrid Alfa–jute/PEEK are more resistant to thermal and mechanical stress compared with the jute/PEEK and Alfa/PEEK biocomposite materials.

Our genetic results are in very good agreement with the results obtained by the nonlinear acoustic technique which presents the fber–matrix interface damage by the graphs in red.

In our knowledge, there are no theoretical works which have treated and discussed the fiber–matrix interface damage of the three hybrid biocomposite and biocomposite materials, and in order to validate our results, we have used the analytical model of the nonlinear acoustic technique given by Eq. [\(1](#page-6-1)). The results of this model were presented by the fgures in red color. These results are similar and agree very well with our results found by genetic simulation presented by the blue cloud. The experimental work presented by Antoine Le Duigou et al. at diferent scales [[14,](#page-22-7) [22,](#page-22-14) $23, 65, 66$ $23, 65, 66$ $23, 65, 66$ $23, 65, 66$ $23, 65, 66$] and the work of Bodros et al. $[64]$ $[64]$ have shown that the use of natural fibers greatly improves the mechanical properties of composite materials and also they have a very low environmental impact.

Conclusion

In this theoretical work, we have studied the infuence of thermal stress on the fber–matrix interface damage of the three hybrid biocomposite and biocomposite materials (jute/PEEK, Alfa/PEEK, and Alfa–jute/PEEK). The results of our genetic simulation show that the hybrid biocomposite Alfa–jute/PEEK is more resistant to mechanical and thermal stress compared with the other two biocomposite materials and that the biocomposite Alfa/PEEK materials are much more resistant to the same constraints applied and with the same volume fraction as biocomposite jute/PEEK, and this is mainly due to the fact that Alfa fiber contains twice as much hemicellulose and lignin as jute fber. Our genetic results are in very good agreement with the results obtained by the nonlinear acoustic technique and the real behavior of the three materials as well as the results obtained in our modeling are in good agreement with the experimental results found by Antoine Le Duigou et al. which showed that the biocomposites have better physical and mechanical properties and are stronger than composite materials and also they have a very low environmental impact.

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