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Role of elastic modulus in triboelectrification of identical P(VDF-TrFE) polymers

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Abstract

• As the demand for charging portable and wearable electronic devices increases, energy harvests from mechanical vibrations wasted in everyday life have attracted considerable attention. However, we still don't understand the fundamental mechanisms of triboelectrification.

Triboelectric Result



- C- P(VDF-TrFE) had sparse particles, small elastic modulus and surface charge density, while A- P(VDF-TrFE) had dense particles, large elastic modulus and surface charge density.
- When the polymer comes into contact with the ITO electrode, the triboelectric output of C- P(VDF-TrFE) was greater than that of A-P(VDF-TrFE).





- Trivo Electric results show that the output from **CPVDF-TrFE**, which has a small elastic modulus, was slightly larger in the contact of ITO.
- In the contact of the same PVDF-trFE, the same modulus had a smaller output, but we confirmed that **the output from** different modulus was larger.

XPS Result



- The grain size was larger in the A-P (VDF-TrFE) sample and the **crystallinity was also higher**, but **the roughness** was similar.
- The elastic modulus is also larger in sample A-P(VDF-TrFE) than C-P(VDF-TrFE), as shown in the figure.



- Intriguingly, we could not observe any peaks in F1s XPS spectra of ITO, contacted C-P(VDF-TrFE) and A-P(VDF-TrFE). These results should imply that any materials within the P(VDF-TrFE) films did not move to ITO
- Since ITO has a significantly larger elastic modulus than P(VDF-TrFE), the absence of material-transfer between ITO and P(VDF-TrFE) should also imply the absence of materialtransfer between the two P(VDF-TrFE) polymers

Summary

- In summary, we have investigated the origin of triboelectrification behavior of identical P(VDF-TrFE) polymers.
- The C-P(VDF-TrFE) had low elastic modulus and large surface charge density, while the A-P(VDF-TrFE) had high elastic modulus and small surface charge density.
- We could not observe any trace of P(VDF-TrFE) in ITO after numerous contact-separation events, which contradicts a recent claim

• We proposed that roughness-induced frictional heat and elastic modulus differences may play an important role for the minute

material and/or ion transfer in the triboelectrification of identical P(VDF-TrFE) polymers.