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The effect of platinum content on the performance of superelastic Nitinol DFT[®] composite wire for medical devices

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Presentation overview

- Introduction/motivation
- Materials and methods used
- Results/discussion
 - Tensile
 - Bend and free recovery
 - Rotating bending fatigue
 - Fracture analysis
- Conclusions

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• Acknowledgements



Introduction

- Decreasing size of medical devices
- Radiopacity concerns of fine Nitinol wire under X-Ray
 - Previous efforts melting Nitinol with radiopaque elements [1]
- Fort Wayne Metals' Nitinol DFT[®] composite wire
 - Superelastic Nitinol tube assembled to inelastic platinum core
 - Combines the beneficial properties of two materials (Nitinol and platinum) into one wire product

[1] Boylan, John F. "The development of radiopaque nitinol." Guidant Corporation, Endovascular Solutions, Temecula, CA (2004): 1-6.



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Introduction



Motivation

- Finding the balance
 - Retention of superelastic/shape memory behavior
 - Superior radiopacity vs. effect on critical properties controlling medical device performance
 - i.e. transformation temperatures, tensile properties, and fatigue life

Materials

- Superelastic solid Nitinol wire and Nitinol DFT[®] composite wire with 10%, 20%, 30%, and 40% Pt fill percentages
- 0.10 mm nominal diameter
- 38% coldwork

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• Light oxide surface

Materials

 All Nitinol heats VAR melted from same supplier meeting ASTM F2063^[2]

	Solid Nitinol	Nitinol DFT [®] composite wire
Ingot A _s	-30°C	-32°C
Inclusion Area Fraction	<1%	<1%
Max Inclusion Size	5.8 μm (T) 16.4 μm (L)	9.2 μm (T) 15.6 μm (L)

- 99.99% Pt per ASTM B561^[3]
- Heat treatment in fluidized alumina bed
 - 500°C for 5 minutes followed by an immediate water quench

[2] "Standard Specification for Wrought Nickel-Titanium Shape Memory Alloys for Medical Devices and Surgical Implants" F2063-18, p. 1-6 [3] "Standard Specification for Refined Platinum" B561-12, p 1-2



Bend and free recovery - method

- ASTM F2082 using a BFR vision system [4]
- Cooled to -55°C in alcohol bath
- Deformed to 2-2.5% strain
- Heated at 0.5°C per minute
- Displacement measured using vision system

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Bend and free recovery - results





~6°C difference in Active A_f between solid wire and 40% platinum fill

Bend and free recovery - results

- Larger platinum core impedes the shape recovery of composite wire
- Evident by "sluggish" recovery and smaller recovery angle
- Higher temperature (more energy) needed to return the Nitinol DFT[®] composite wire back to original shape for higher fill percentages

Tensile testing - method

- ASTM F2516 [5]
- Two-cycle uniaxial test
- 150 mm gage length
- Strain determined using crosshead displacement
- 5 specimens tested per fill percentage
- All samples tested in environmental chamber at 37°C

[5] "Standard Test Method for Tension Testing of Nickel-Titanium Superelastic Materials" F2516-14, ASTM International, p. 1-6

Tensile testing - results



Tensile testing - results



Note: Results correlate with earlier work done by J. Schaffer and R. Gordon [6]

[6]Schaffer, Jeremy E., and Richard Gordon. "Engineering characteristics of drawn filled nitinol tube." SMST-2003: Proceedings of the International Conference on Shape Memory and Superelastic Technologies (ASM International). 2004.

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Tensile testing – results

- Tensile and plateau stresses all decreased linearly with increasing Pt core
- Expect decrease in crush/expansion forces of device with each increasing fill percentage
- Residual elongation increased with increasing Pt core
- Expect less shape recovery after deformation with increasing fill percentage

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Rotating bending fatigue - method

- ASTM E2948 [8]
- 0.9% to 1.5% strain
- Assuming central neutral axis at zero mean strain
- Wire subjected to various strain amplitudes and rotated at 3,600 RPM
- RO water bath at 37°C

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- Ten specimens per fill percentage tested at each strain level
- Runout at 10 million cycles

[8] "Standard Test Method for Conducting Rotating Bending Fatigue Tests of Solid Round Fine Wire" E2948-16a, ASTM International, p. 1-10 [9] Patel, Mitesh M. "Characterizing fatigue response of nickel-titanium alloys by rotary beam testing." *Journal of ASTM International* 4.6 (2007): 1-11.



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Rotating bending fatigue - results



Conclusions

- Platinum core impedes the strength, superelasticity, and shape recovery of DFT[®] composite wire compared to solid wire
 - Tensile stresses decrease with increasing Pt core
 - Residual elongation increases with increasing Pt core
 - The bend and free recovery curve displays more "sluggish" recovery and smaller recovery angle with increasing Pt core
 - More heat required to actuate composite wire against inelastic Pt core

Conclusions

- In this study, platinum core did not significantly alter rotating bending fatigue performance
 - All DFT[®] composite wire and solid Nitinol wires achieve high cycle (>10M) reunouts at 0.9% alternating, zero mean strain

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