

## Review Article

# Systematic Investigation of The Multiphysical Characteristics of Silicon-Carbide Composites

Manyu Xiao<sup>1\*</sup>; Zhiqin Chao<sup>1</sup>; Wenqing Zheng<sup>1</sup>; Xingang Luan<sup>2</sup>; Xinming Xu<sup>2</sup>; Weihong Zhang<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Mathematics and Statistics, Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xi'an, 710021, China

<sup>2</sup>Science and Technology on Thermostructural Composite Materials Laboratory, Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xi'an, 710021, China

<sup>3</sup>School of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xi'an, 710021, China

\*Corresponding author: Manyu Xiaoa

School of Mathematics and Statistics, Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xi'an, 710021, China.

Email: manyuxiao@nwpu.edu.cn

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## Abstract

With the exceptional properties of the low density, high strength and fracture toughness at high temperatures, fiber-reinforced matrix composites  $\text{SiC}_f/\text{SiC}$  are currently being applied for aircraft engine hot-section components. However, the oxidation and creep resistance of  $\text{SiC}_f/\text{SiC}$  still needs to be improved under complex service environments including simultaneously stress, high-temperature and atmosphere. This study employs a combination of experimental methods and data analysis techniques to accurately characterize and predict the damage and failure mechanisms, as well as the performance evolution of  $\text{SiC}_f/\text{SiC}$  in complex service environments. By utilizing performance data under different environments, a backpropagation neural network was used to characterize the influence of multi-field coupling on the mechanical performance. Additionally, an automatic construction of the oxidation kinetics model for  $\text{SiC}_f/\text{SiC}$  is developed with combination of both the physical model and available experimental data. The accuracy and effectiveness of models are experimentally verified for 2D and 3D composites.

## Introduction

$\text{SiC}$  fiber-reinforced  $\text{SiC}$  matrix composites ( $\text{SiC}_f/\text{SiC}$ ) are considered to be promising materials for future systems operating in extreme thermal and mechanical environments, due to their excellent properties including high temperature resistance, lightweight, high strength, low thermal expansion, and oxidation resistance [1, 2]. Investigating the mechanical performance evolution and damage failure mechanisms of  $\text{SiC}_f/\text{SiC}$  in multi-field coupled service environments is important for material design, performance evaluation, and application [3]. However, due to the non-uniformity, nonlinearity, anisotropy, and diverse failure modes of  $\text{SiC}_f/\text{SiC}$  materials, their damage and failure mechanisms are complex. Currently, research efforts focus on the performance evolution of  $\text{SiC}_f/\text{SiC}$  composites in thermal-stress or thermal-oxygen environments through experimental means [4, 5], while the research on the coupled performance is still very limited. Indeed, the expensive experimental equipment and the complex oxidative test conditions at high temperatures lead to high costs for data acquisition, and the available data resources are limited. On the other hand, due to the complexity of the material, including the types of interface phases, matrix preparation methods, and fiber types, it is difficult to obtain relevant performance evolution laws [6, 7, 8, 9, 10].

Moreover, due to multiphase heterogeneity, anisotropy, multilevel porosity, and microcracks of  $\text{SiC}_f/\text{SiC}$  composites, as well as the influence of service environments, numerous factors affect high temperature mechanical properties. Therefore, relying solely on experiments cannot meet the urgent need for high temperature performance analysis of  $\text{SiC}_f/\text{SiC}$  composites. Among theoretical models based on continuum damage mechanics (CDM) and micromechanics methods, Song Yingdong et al. [11] established a temperature-dependent constitutive model, well simulating the stress-strain curve of the material at room and high temperatures. Gao Xiguang et al. [12] established a constitutive model considering fiber bearing capacity and fracture, validated by experimental results, but not considering the effect of temperature [13]. In terms of micromechanics methods, Chen et al. [14] established a multi-scale progressive damage failure model for 2D woven  $\text{SiC}_f/\text{SiC}$  composites, using two damage variables to characterize the damage effects dominated by fibers and matrix, respectively. Anna Madra et al. [15] proposed a diffuse manifold learning based approach for constructing mesoscale geometric models of braided reinforcements in composites from X-ray micro-CT data to overcome ambiguities due to noise; At the same time, they also devised a stochastic characterisation method for textile-reinforced com-

posites based on X-ray microtomography scanning for assessing the uncertainty in the volume fraction of fibres in the composites[16].

However, the existing room temperature theoretical models cannot be directly applied to accurately characterize and predict the mechanical properties of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC composites in multi-field coupled service environments. In terms of predicting the mechanical properties of composite materials (basic mechanical properties, constitutive relationships, fatigue performance), based on a large number of data obtained through experimental testing and numerical simulation, combined with artificial intelligence to mine the complex relationships between high-dimensional variables, fast response from parameters to performance can be achieved[17, 18]. For example, in terms of predicting basic mechanical properties, Sabiston et al. [19] used CT scanning to obtain cross-sectional images of composite materials at selected positions and characterized the fiber orientation using a second-order tensor. They then built an artificial neural network to predict the fiber orientation tensor from position coordinates, and the trained artificial neural network can quickly and accurately predict the fiber orientation tensor at different positions of the molded composite material, laying a foundation for accurately predicting its mechanical properties. Anna Madra et al. [20] investigated a machine learning based approach to determine the morphology and spatial distribution of defects in composites through X-ray microtomography. In terms of constitutive model construction, Zobeiry et al. [21] built an asymptotic damage model for laminated plates with quasilinearly connected artificial neural networks based on multi-level connectivity, and obtained load-POD (pin opening displacement) curves that were highly consistent with experimental results. In terms of fatigue performance prediction, Tao et al. [22] used neural networks with ordinary differential equations and  $\beta$ -variational autoencoders to model the stiffening degradation behavior of fiber-reinforced composites and provided corresponding S-N curves. The prediction effect was significantly better than phenomenological models without the need to establish complex mechanical models.

In addition, artificial intelligence is widely used in multiple fields [23] such as composite material structure optimization design and intelligent manufacturing. For example, in composite material optimization design [24, 25, 26], does not rely on designers' experience and intuition, and can automatically iterate and update design strategies to achieve global optimization or precise reverse design. In composite material manufacturing [27, 28], identifies the impact of various manufacturing parameters on mechanical properties, improves manufacturing processes, and collaborates with precision robot systems to achieve new technologies for large complex structure forming. Also, in composite material health monitoring [29], artificial intelligence can associate multiple sensing signals with the relationship between composite material state and perform predictions and controls under complex loading conditions.

This study aims to analyze the influence of multiple coupling factors on the performance of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC in high temperature complex environments. By combining experimental methods with intelligent data analysis techniques, and collecting data on the mechanical performance evolution of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC materials in different environments, a numerical strategy based on machine learning is developed to analyze the data and construct a kinetic multi-field coupled model for the oxidation of composite materials.

The goal is to comprehensively analyze the mechanical performance and evolution laws of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC in multi-field coupled service environments, with a focus on improving oxidation resistance and creep performance.

The organization of this paper is as follows: Firstly, the paper introduces the method of constructing a prediction model for the mechanical performance parameters of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC using the backpropagation neural network (BPNN) principle. This model aims to predict the mechanical properties of these materials based on their composition and processing parameters. Next, the establishment of the oxidation kinetics model is emphasized. The proposed theoretical framework and method are developed to study the oxidation behavior of these materials under different conditions. Finally, the main findings and conclusions are summarized.

### BPNN-based mechanical performance parameter prediction for SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC

This section, focuses is on analyzing the influence of multiple coupled factors on the mechanical performance of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC in complex environment by utilizing the mechanical performance evolution data under various environments combined with a numerical strategy based on machine learning methods.

2D SiC/SiC and 3D SiC/SiC are two different types of SiC/SiC composite materials. 2D SiC/SiC is a composite material prepared using domestic SiC fiber fabric as a preform with BN as the interfacial phase and SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C multilayer ceramics as the matrix. 2D SiC/SiC weaves the silicon carbide fiber into a two-dimensional orthogonal woven fabric, which is then layered to form a two-dimensional fiber preform. On the other hand, 3D SiC/SiC is prepared using a three-dimensional four-directional method to create a three-dimensional fiber preform, with Hi-Nicalon silicon carbide as the toughening fiber. Additionally, SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC is a carbon-carbon composite material that incorporates continuous silicon carbide reinforcement into a silicon carbide ceramic matrix, encompassing both 2D SiC/SiC and 3D SiC/SiC.

The data is collected from various individual environments, including different temperatures, times, and atmospheres. The dynamic behavior curves of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC, such as mass loss, elastic modulus, and residual strength, are fitted under distinct temperature, time, and atmosphere conditions. The objective is to analyze the impact of multiple coupled factors on the mechanical performance of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC in complex environments utilizing machine learning methods and the fitted curves.

As summarized in Table 1, experimental data were collected for three aspects:

- Elastic modulus of 2D SiC/SiC was measured at various temperatures and exposure times in a wet oxygen environment providing information on how the modulus of the material changes under different conditions;
- Mass loss rates were determined when subjected to wet oxygen and argon environments for different durations;
- Mass changes were measured under different temperatures and exposure times in an environments of

$P_{H_2O}:O_2:Ar = 14 : 8 : 78$  kPa,  $P_{H_2O}:O_2:Ar = 21 : 21 : 58$  kPa, or in air.

**Table 1:** Fitting Cases.

| Fitting type          | Material type | Environment  | Temperature (°C) | Fitting curve             |
|-----------------------|---------------|--|------------------|---------------------------|
| Univariate fitting    | 2D SiC/SiC    | Wet oxygen and argon                                   | 1300             | Change of elastic modulus |
|                       |               | PH <sub>2</sub> O:O <sub>2</sub> :Ar = 12 : 8 : 80kPa  | 1300, 1200       | Oxidation rate            |
|                       |               | PH <sub>2</sub> O:O <sub>2</sub> :Ar = 14 : 8 : 78kPa  | 1000 - 1500      |                           |
| Multivariable fitting | 3D SiC/SiC    | PH <sub>2</sub> O:O <sub>2</sub> :Ar = 21 : 21 : 58kPa | 1000 - 1500      | Mass change rate          |
|                       |               | Air  | 1000 - 1400      |                           |

**Table 2:** BPNN training parameter setting.

| Name                 | Layer | Neuron   | Activation function        | Loss function | Training objectives | Training set, Verification set and Test set |
|----------------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|---------------|---------------------|---|
| Univariate fitting   | 3     | [1,8,1]  | [Purelin, Logsig, Purelin] | Mean square   | 0.0001              | 60%: 20%: 20%                               |
| Multivariate fitting | 3     | [2,10,1] | [Purelin, Logsig, Purelin] | Loss function |                     |   |

## Data source and BPNN architecture

### Data source

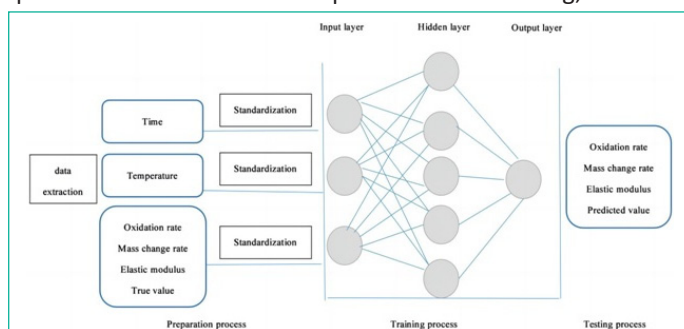
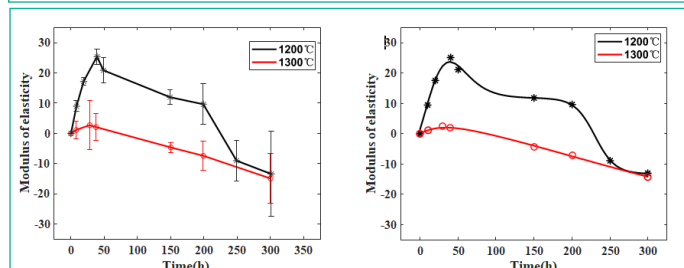
All the data used in this study were obtained through experiments conducted by the collaborative team of the superhigh temperature laboratory at Northwestern Poly-technical University. Using laboratory equipment, heat treatment experiments were conducted on SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC in a high-temperature tubular furnace, during which the weight change curve was recorded.

### BPNN architecture

Backpropagation neural network (BPNN), as a type of artificial neural network (ANN), allows for the simulation of complex relationships among various factors [30].

As shown in Figure 1, the BPNN model employed in this study consists of three layers: the input layer, hidden layer, and output layer. During the propagation process, the elastic modulus and mass change of the SiC/SiC composite material are input signals at the input layer, processed through the hidden layer using the sigmoid activation function, and then passed to the output layer. The total error between the expected output and the actual values in the output layer is calculated using the mean square loss function. By adjusting the network weights and thresholds, the BPNN aims to approximate the desired output for the elastic modulus and mass change [31].

The choice of the number of layers in a neural network is usually based on the complexity of data fitting and task requirements. In this article's experimental data fitting, we chose

**Figure 1:** Back propagation neural network model.**Figure 2:** Fitting curve of elastic modulus change of 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C materials with a self-healing matrix. a) Linear interpolation methods for fitting curves [32]. b) BPNN method for fitting curves.

a three-layer neural network due to the relatively simple data fitting relationship. Compared to a four-layer neural network, a three-layer neural network has the following advantages: Fewer parameters, easier training, reduced risk of overfitting, and improved generalization ability; Nonlinear activation functions (such as Sigmoid) enhance the network's expressive power and better fit nonlinear relationships; The regularization effect weakens in deep networks, while a three-layer network can better deal with overfitting problems. Therefore, a three-layer neural network was selected for data fitting in the experiment.

### Univariate fitting

#### Elastic modulus changes of 2D SiC/SiC composite materials in wet oxygen environment

To validate the BPNN, it was first used to test the univariate experimental data of 2D SiC/SiC composite material shown in Figure 2(a), with the fitting curve obtained from the scatterplot of observed value points. When using the BPNN method to fit the elastic modulus change of 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C materials, the experimental data is selected appropriately within the error range using the following equation:

As shown in Figure 3(a), the mean square errors for the training, validation, and testing sets are all less than  $7.5008 \times 10^{-4}$  after 211 iterations. The regression coefficient in Figure 3(b) is  $R=0.99789$ , indicating a good fit of the BPNN results. Additionally, the BPNN fitting curve in Figure 2(b) reveals important insights into the behavior of the 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C under oxidation conditions. The elastic modulus initially increases, indicating improved mechanical properties. However, after oxidation, the modulus starts to decrease. This decrease is more pronounced at 1200°C and

$$(y_k)_{new} = (y_k)_{original} + \alpha \times \sigma \quad (1)$$

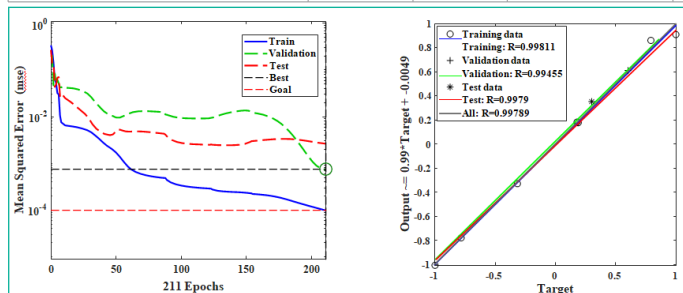
even faster at 1300°C, indicating a temperature dependent oxidation effect.

where  $(y_k)_{original}$  is the average value of the original experimental data,  $(y_k)_{new}$  is the new data generated based on Eq.(1),  $\alpha$  a random number from a Gaussian distribution between 1 and -1, and  $\sigma$  represents the standard deviation of the experimental data.

The elastic modulus variation over time was fitted using BPNN and ten data points were selected from Figure 2(a), corresponding to the red and black data points at 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, and 300 hours. The data set generated by Eq.(1) was used for neural network fitting. The BPNN fitting parameters were set as shown in Table 2. The fitting curve obtained using a 3-layer network is shown in Figure 2(b), and the mean square error and regression analysis for evaluating the fitting results are shown in Figure 3.

**Table 3:** Mass change prediction of 3D SiC/SiC composites.

| Environment  | Number | Time (h) | Temperature (°C) | Mass change true value (%) | Mass change predicted value (%) | Relative error |
|--|--------|----------|------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| PH <sub>2</sub> O: O <sub>2</sub> : Ar = 14 : 8 : 78kPa  | 1      | 4.138    | 1400             | 0.27218                    | 0.2657                          | 2.38%          |
|  | 2      | 6.185    | 1300             | 0.2603                     | 0.2641                          | 1.46%          |
|  | 3      | 8.1186   | 1200             | 0.1295                     | 0.1286                          | 0.69%          |
| PH <sub>2</sub> O: O <sub>2</sub> : Ar = 21 : 21 : 58kPa | 1      | 3.3777   | 1500             | 0.53643                    | 0.5428                          | 1.19%          |
|  | 2      | 5.0666   | 1400             | 0.4603                     | 0.4612                          | 0.20%          |
|  | 3      | 2.5333   | 1200             | 0.072471                   | 0.0804                          | 10.90%         |
| Air  | 1      | 5.05     | 1400             | 0.03141                    | 0.0322                          | 2.52%          |
|  | 2      | 8.35     | 1100             | -0.0205                    | -0.0204                         | 0.49%          |
|  | 3      | 5.05     | 1000             | -0.0541                    | -0.0542                         | 0.18%          |



**Figure 3:** The mean square error diagram and regression analysis diagram by BPNN. a) Mean square error. b) Regression analysis.

Moreover, the comparison between the BPNN and the linear interpolation highlights the interest of the BPNN approach yielding a smoother variation of the elastic modulus over time in agreement with experimental results.

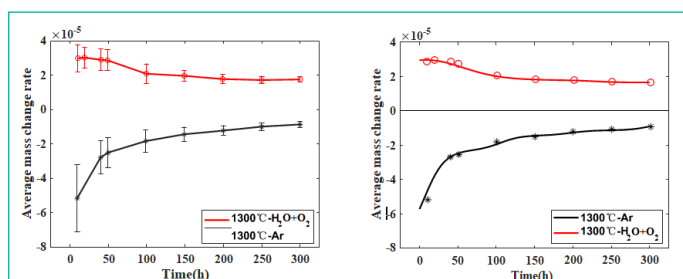
**Oxidation rate of 2D SiC/SiC compositematerials in wet oxygen environment**

To further verify the feasibility of BPNN for univariatefitting, we used BPNN to model the change relationship of the average mass loss rate per unit area of 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C with time as shown in Figure 4(a), and compared it with the linear interpolation fitting method.

According to Figure 4(a), data points are sampled at10, 40, 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, and 300 hours in a wet oxygen environment, as well as black data points with ahorizontal axis of 10, 20, 40, 500, 100, 150, 200, 250,and 300 hours in an argon environment. The new data set generated by Eq.(1) was used for neural network fitting. The BPNN fitting parameters are set according to Table 2. The obtained fitting curve is shown in Figure 4(b). The mean square error and regression analysis for evaluating the fittingresults are shown in Figure 5.

As shown in Figure 5(a), after 285 iterations, the mean square error for the training set, validation set, and testing set are all less than  $1.3666 \times 10^{-3}$ . Furthermore, the regression coefficient in Figure 5(b) is R=0.99636.

In summary, both the BPNN fitting curve and the con- ven-



**Figure 4:** Fitting curve of oxidation rate in argon of 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C materials with a self-healing matrix. a) Linear interpolation methods for fitting curves [32]. b) BPNN method for fitting curves.

tional fitting curve in this study effectively capture the relationship between the unit area average mass change rate. However, the BPNN fitting curve appears smoother to represent the variation of the average mass change rate overtime.

**Multivariable fitting**

We primarily use BPNN to fit the mass change of 3D SiC/SiC under different time and temperature conditions

in an environments of P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 14 : 8 : 78kPa, P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 21 : 21 : 58kPa and air respectively. The experimental data in Figure 6 is utilized to analyze the mass

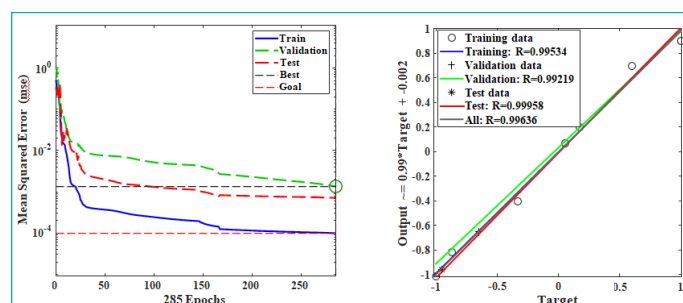
change at different times and temperatures.

**Mass variation of 3D SiC/SiC under**

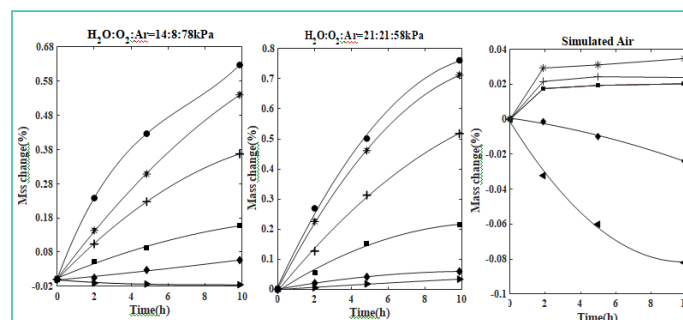
P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 14 : 8 : 78kPa **environment**

We extracted the mass change values of 3D SiC/SiC in

P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 14 : 8 : 78kPa environment from Figure 6, specifically within the time range of 0-10 hours and temperature range of 1000°C-1500°C. The BPNN method was employed to analyze the mass change pattern under different times and temperatures. The setting of BPNNfitting parameters



**Figure 5:** The mean square error diagram and regression analysis diagram by BPNN. a) Mean square error. b) Regression analysis.



**Figure 6:** Fitting data source [33].

is given in Table 2, The evolution of the mean squared error is presented in Figure 7(a), the epochs represent the number of iterations, the regression analysis is displayed in Figure 8(a), and the fitting surface is shown in Figure 9(a).

From Figure 7(a), we can observe that after 1246 iterations, the mean square error for the training set, validation set, and testing set is less than  $8.518 \times 10^{-4}$ , with a satisfactory regression coefficient value of  $R=0.9941$ .

To ensure the reliability of the fitting results and avoid overfitting of the BPNN, several randomly selected points were tested against the neural network fitting curve, as given in Table 3.

The predicted results indicate small errors between the actual and predicted values of mass change in the 3D SiC/SiC. This suggests that fitting by BPNN can effectively reflect the relationships among various multivariable factors.

From the BPNN, graph in Figure 9(a), it can be observed that when the temperature is  $1100^\circ\text{C}$ , due to the low temperature (temperatures range from  $1000^\circ\text{C}$ –  $1500^\circ\text{C}$ , so  $1100^\circ\text{C}$  is considered relatively low), the oxidation products of  $\text{B}_4\text{C}$  evaporate, resulting in slight mass loss of the material. However, as the reaction time prolongs, SiC is oxidized into SiO sealing defects, preventing  $\text{B}_4\text{C}$  from reacting with water and oxygen to become meteorological  $\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$  and volatilizing. Therefore, at lower temperatures ( $1000^\circ\text{C}$  and  $1100^\circ\text{C}$ ), the quality change of the material is controlled by the chemical reaction rate, and its evolution

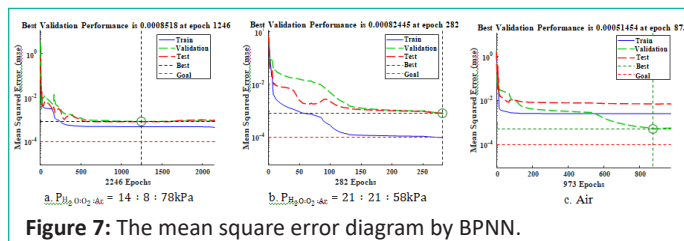


Figure 7: The mean square error diagram by BPNN.

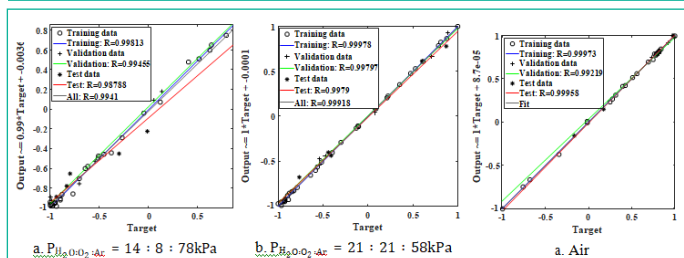


Figure 8: The regression analysis diagram by BPNN.

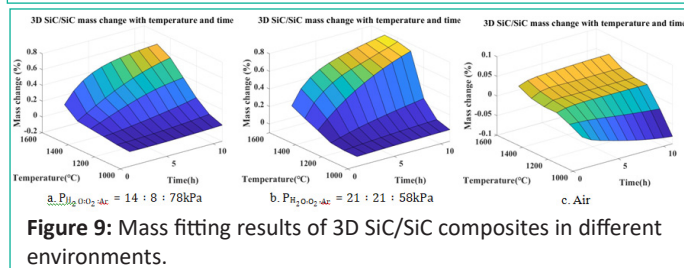


Figure 9: Mass fitting results of 3D SiC/SiC composites in different environments.

Table 4: Data description of SiCf/SiC composite material model construction.

| Material type                       | Environment   | Temperature ( $^\circ\text{C}$ )   | Model  |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|
| 2D SiC/BN/SiC- $\text{B}_4\text{C}$ | $\text{PH}_2\text{O}:\text{O}_2:\text{Ar} = 12:8:80\text{kPa}$  | 1300                               | Expression for the relationship between mass change and service time                       |
|                                     |   | 1200                               |  |
|                                     | $\text{PH}_2\text{O}:\text{O}_2:\text{Ar} = 21:21:58\text{kPa}$ | 1000, 1100, 1200, 1300, 1400, 1500 |  |
| 3D SiC/SiC                          | $\text{PH}_2\text{O}:\text{O}_2:\text{Ar} = 21:21:58\text{kPa}$ | 1000-1500                          | Expression for the relationship between mass change, service time, and service temperature |
|                                     | $\text{PH}_2\text{O}:\text{O}_2:\text{Ar} = 14:7:78\text{kPa}$  |                                    |  |
|                                     | Air   |                                    |  |

is linear. As the temperature increases from  $1200^\circ\text{C}$  to  $1500^\circ\text{C}$ , the reaction rate of oxidation of SiC to SiO gradually increases, leading to the quality change of the material being controlled by the diffusion rate in a wet oxygen atmosphere. Therefore, the quality change curve follows a parabolic growth pattern.

**Mass variation of 3D SiC/SiC under**

$$\text{P}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}:\text{O}_2:\text{Ar} = 21:21:58\text{kPa environment}$$

In an environment of  $\text{P}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}:\text{O}_2:\text{Ar} = 21:21:58\text{kPa}$ , we extracted the mass change values of the 3D SiC/SiC from Figure 6. The temperatures ranged from  $1000^\circ\text{C}$  to

$1500^\circ\text{C}$  and the time intervals were from 0 to 10 hours. The BPNN parameters were determined based on Table 2. The evolution of the mean squared error is presented in Figure 7(b), the epochs represent the number of iterations, the regression analysis is displayed in Figure 8(b), and the fitting surface is shown in Figure 9(b).

As shown in Figure 7(b), after 282 iterations, the mean square error for the training set, validation set, and test set is less than  $8.2445 \times 10^{-4}$ , and the regression coefficient value  $R=0.99918$ . To validate the reliability of the results and check for overfitting, we randomly select several data points. Table 3 shows small errors between the actual and the predicted values of the mass change in the 3D SiC/SiC. This indicates that BPNN effectively captures mutual influence patterns of various variables.

From Figure 9(b), it can be observed that between  $1000^\circ\text{C}$  and  $1100^\circ\text{C}$ , the mass change of the 3D SiC/SiC shows minimal variation over time. This is because at lower temperatures, the oxidation rate of SiC/SiC is low, and the material's quality change is primarily controlled by chemical reaction rates. On the other hand, at  $1200^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $1300^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $1400^\circ\text{C}$ , and  $1500^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively, the mass change continuously increases over time. This is due to the faster generation of  $\text{SiO}_2$  oxide layer above  $1200^\circ\text{C}$ , which results in the material's quality change being controlled by the reaction rate.

**Mass variation of 3D SiC/SiC in different temperatures and times in air environment**

We obtained the mass change values of the 3D SiC/SiC in the air environment from Figure 6, covering a time range of 0-10 hours and a temperature range of  $1000^\circ\text{C}$ –  $1400^\circ\text{C}$ .

The BPNN parameters are displayed in Table 2, the mean squared error can be observed in Figure 7(c), the regression analysis fitted surface in Figure 8(c), and finally, followed by the fitted surface in Figure 9(c).

As shown in Figure 7(c), after 873 iterations, the mean square error of the training set, verification set and test set is less than  $5.1454 \times 10^{-4}$ , and the regression coefficient value  $R=0.99965$ .

**Table 5:** Experimental data of the mass of 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C composite material over time.

|        |                          |   |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|--------|--------------------------|---|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1300°C | Time (h) Mass change (%) | 0 | 10.41 | 20.13 | 30.55 | 39.58  | 50.00 | 100.6 | 149.3 | 199.3 | 251.4 | 300.7 |
|        |                          | 0 | 0.056 | 0.171 | 0.341 | 0.473  | 0.525 | 0.761 | 1.129 | 1.504 | 1.693 | 1.967 |
| 1200°C | Time (h) Mass change (%) | 0 | 11.08 | 20.78 | 29.79 | 40.18  | 49.88 | 99.77 | 150.3 | 200.2 | 249.4 | 300.0 |
|        |                          | 0 | 0.217 | 0.417 | 0.600 | 0.8217 | 0.913 | 1.461 | 1.996 | 2.517 | 3.052 | 3.600 |

**Table 6:** Parameter settings required for solving the 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C and SiC/SiC composite material mode.

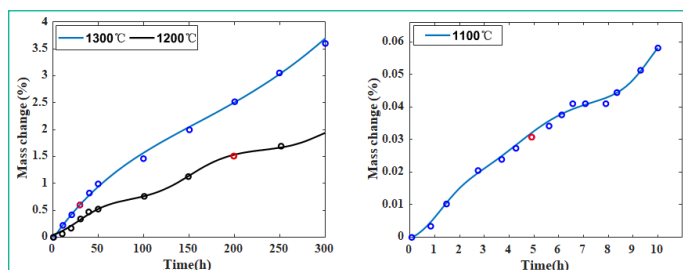
| Material type                  | Temperature (°C)          | Data classification             | Data normalizaion            |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B <sub>4</sub> C | 1300                      | Training Set: Test Set 80%: 20% | Score standardization        |
|                                | 1200                      |                                 |                              |
| 3D SiC/SiC                     | 1100                      |                                 |                              |
| Error function                 | Error function            | Initial parameter value         | Maximum number of iterations |
| Mean square Loss function      | Mean square Loss function | [1,-0.5,1.8,1,-1,1]             | 10000                        |
|                                |                           | [1,-1,2,1,-1.2,1]               |                              |
|                                |                           | [1,1,1.8,1,-1,1]                | 5000                         |

Similarly, to verify the reliability of the results and check for overfitting, several points were randomly selected. The predicted results in Table 3 show small error between the actual and predicted values of the mass change.

From the diagram of BPNN in Figure 9(c), it can be seen that in the early stage of oxidation, due to the volatilization of B<sub>4</sub>C oxidation products, the quality of SiC/SiC decreases. With the extension of oxidation time and the increase of temperature, its quality gradually increases. However, due to the absence of water in the air environment, the quality change of the material is only controlled by the diffusion rate of oxygen, so quality does not increase as much as in the water-oxygen environment.

In addition, the fitting and prediction of the quality change of 3D SiC/SiC under different environments reflect the influence of humidity on the quality of the material.

From dry air to  $P_{H_2O}:O_2:Ar = 21 : 21 : 58kPa$ , the water vapor pressure increases from 0 to 21%. At 1000°C and 1100°C and water vapor pressure of 0, some B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> products are formed due to the reaction between BN and O<sub>2</sub>, resulting in slight weight loss of the samples. However, when the water vapor pressure increases to 21% at low temperatures, SiC reacts with H<sub>2</sub>O to generate SiO<sub>2</sub>, and the weight gain of SiO<sub>2</sub> masks the weight loss caused by the reaction between O<sub>2</sub> and BN, resulting in an increase in the weight gain rate of the samples. As the temperature increases to 1200°C – 1400°C, at zero partial pressure, the material under goes a weight gain process. The weight gain rate is significant in the first 2 hours, but becomes very small after 2 hours. This is because the initial oxidation stage is controlled by chemical reactions and is temperature-dependent. A higher temperature leads to a faster reaction rate, resulting in a higher weight gain rate. As the reaction proceeds, SiO<sub>2</sub> is continuously formed, which acts as a barrier to prevent the contact between O<sub>2</sub> and the additives, leading to a decrease in the weight gain rate. Therefore, the change in material quality over time follows a parabolic pattern. When



**Figure 10:** Model construction diagram. a) 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C composite material at 1200°C and 1300°C. b) 3D SiC/SiC composite material at 1100°C

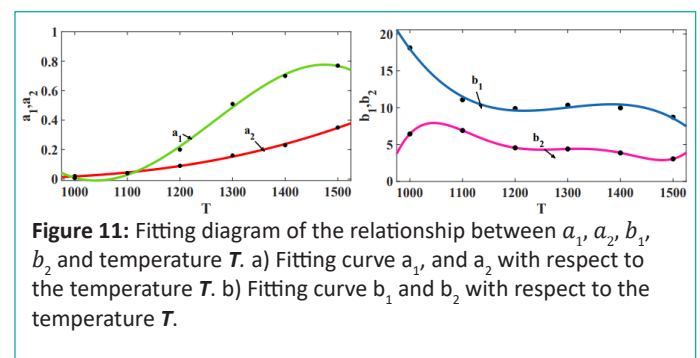
a water vapor pressure of 21% is added, the rate of reaction between H<sub>2</sub>O and SiC generating SiO<sub>2</sub> significantly increases. Furthermore, water vapor has a stronger ability to penetrate the silica layer compared to oxygen, resulting in a noticeably higher weight gain rate compared to when the water vapor pressure is 0. Therefore, the parabolic pattern formed by the change in material quality over time becomes steeper.

In this section, an analysis of a neural network-based numerical data fitting method was conducted to extract its parameter characteristics from experimental data. When the training data is limited, the neural network outperforms conventional data fitting methods in single-variable fitting. For multivariable fitting, the reconstructed curves obtained using the neural network not only reflect the direct influence of temperature and time on the mass change of SiC/SiC composite materials but also provide good predictions for critical points. Furthermore, similar effects have been observed for external factors such as temperature, time, and atmosphere on the mass, elastic modulus, and strength of SiC/SiC composite materials.

### Construction of the SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC composite material oxidation kinetics model

This section focuses on constructing the oxidation kinetics model of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC under a multifield-coupled environment. Firstly, the method for predicting unknown parameters in the kinetic model is presented. Then, the initial architecture of the oxidation kinetics model for SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC under a multifield-coupled environment is established. Finally, based on the method for predicting unknown parameters, the constructed oxidation kinetics model is adjusted using experimental data. The specific contents are summarized in Table 4 which include the expression indicating the relationship between the mass change and service time for:

a) 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C under high-temperature oxidation in a wet oxygen environment (at 1300°C and 1200°C, respectively).



**Figure 11:** Fitting diagram of the relationship between  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$  and temperature  $T$ . a) Fitting curve  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  with respect to the temperature  $T$ . b) Fitting curve  $b_1$  and  $b_2$  with respect to the temperature  $T$ .

b) 3D SiC/SiC under high-temperature oxidation in a wet oxygen environment.

c) 3D SiC/SiC under high-temperature oxidation in different environments, including  $\text{PH}_2\text{O}_2\text{O}_2\text{Ar} = 14: 8:$  data preparation, model definition, loss function definition, selection of optimization algorithms, and parameter prediction. The selection of data classification, feature standardization, loss function, and optimization algorithm can significantly affect the prediction results of the model, and therefore, reasonable choices should be made based on the specific problem.

### Two-dimensional oxidation kinetics model for

#### SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC

The two-dimensional oxidation kinetics model for SiC<sub>f</sub>

/SiC is established to express the relationship between the material's mechanical property parameters and service time involving two steps: the initial architecture of the oxidation kinetics model and the determination of unknown parameters and model adjustment based on experimental data.

Existing oxidation kinetics models of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC, constructed based on factor analysis methods, are derived from an extension of exponential functions [34]. In this section, numerical simulation of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC with BPNN, using the sigmoid activation function, which is the reciprocal form of the exponential function. This suggests that various factors influencing the internal mechanisms of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC (such as time, temperature, and mechanical property parameters) are likely to follow the form of exponential functions.

Gaussian functions are a special form of exponential functions and are widely used to simulate various natural phenomena in the fields of natural science, engineering, and social sciences. For example, Gaussian functions can be used in the kinetic studies of chemical reactions to calculate the relative energy differences between reactants and products and predict reaction rates and pathways [35]. In chemistry, Gaussian functions can be employed to represent the electron density, predicting the interaction between drug molecules and receptor molecules [36]. The changes in the mechanical properties of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC under high-temperature 78kPa,  $\text{P}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2\text{O}_2\text{Ar}} = 21: 21: 58\text{kPa}$ , and air.

### Estimation of unknown parameters of the model

When the initial architecture of the model is known, approximation algorithms such as moving least squares and nonlinear least squares are commonly used to solve for the unknown parameters. The specific process involves oxidation in different environments are, in fact, the result of interactions between various molecules, elements, and compounds.

Based on the above considerations, Gaussian functions are selected as the initial architecture of the oxidation kinetics

**Table 7:** Predicted parameters of 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C and 3C SiC/SiC composite material model.

| Material Type                  | Temperature (°C) | a1    | b1     | c1      | a2     | b2      | c2     | Goodness of fit R2 | Mean squared error |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B <sub>4</sub> C | 1300             | 1.893 | 2.2126 | 1.5271  | -4.808 | -2.6266 | 1.3889 | 0.9800             | 0.0021             |
|                                | 1200             | 1.744 | 1.7243 | -1.1618 | -1.202 | -1.0958 | 0.5314 | 0.9701             | 0.0123             |
| 3D SiC/SiC                     | 1500             | 0.77  | 8.71   | 4.85    | 0.35   | 3.06    | 2.1    | 0.98               | 0.04               |
|                                | 1400             | 0.7   | 9.98   | 5.04    | 0.23   | 3.87    | 2.67   | 0.99               | 0.02               |
|                                | 1300             | 0.51  | 10.34  | 4.86    | 0.16   | 4.4     | 2.9    | 0.99               | 0.013              |
|                                | 1200             | 0.2   | 9.88   | 4.47    | 0.09   | 4.56    | 2.6    | 0.965              | 0.006              |
|                                | 1100             | 0.04  | 11.08  | 2.07    | 0.04   | 6.91    | 4.44   | 0.99               | 0.002              |
|                                | 1000             | 0.007 | 18.11  | 7.34    | 0.02   | 6.44    | 3.1    | 0.95               | 0.002              |

model for SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC in a multifield-coupled environment. Using experimental data, it was found that the combination of two Gaussian functions can effectively represent the reaction behavior. Thus, the specific expression of the relationship between material mechanical properties and service time in a complex multifield-coupled environment is proposed as follows:

$2.1 \times 10^{-3}$ , which shows that the prediction results of model parameters are highly accurate.

To verify overfitting, we tested the model using data

with a service time of 29.79 hours. The model predicted a  $-\left[(t-b_1)\right]^2$

$$y t a_1 e^{c_1 - \left[(t-b_2)\right]^2}$$

$a_2 e^{c_2}$  (2) mass change value of 0.6076, with a small error of 0.0076 compared to the observed value of 0.6 further certifying the where  $y$  represents mechanical property parameters such as mass, stress, strength and modulus of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC composites,  $t$  represents high temperature oxidation service time,

$a_1, b_1, c_1, a_2, b_2$  and  $c_2$  are parameters to be identified.

In this section, 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C composite is taken as an example, and its mechanical properties evolution data is used to construct the expression of the relationship between the mechanical properties, parameters and service time of 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C composite.

### Relationship between mass change and service time of 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C at 1300 °C

The parameters are identified in the Eq.(2) of the relationship between mass change and service time of 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C composites after high temperature oxidation at 1300°C under wet oxygen environment. The experimental data are shown in Table 5, and the corresponding parameter settings are given in Table 6. The values of  $a_1, b_1, c_1, a_2, b_2$  and  $c_2$  are obtained by an optimization accuracy of the predicted value of the model parameters. From Figure 10 (a), we can observe that all experimental data denoted with dot points are well distributed along the fitting curve figured with proposed model, indicating that the model effectively captures the relationship between mass change and service time of 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C composites subjected to oxidation at 1300°C in a wet oxygen environment.

### Relationship model between mass change and service time of 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C at 1200 °C

According to the methodology introduced in Section 3.1, we consider experimental data (Table 5) and the parameters (Table 6). Similarly,  $a_1, b_1, c_1, a_2, b_2$  and  $c_2$  are identified as the mass changes over time after oxidation in a wet oxygen environment 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C at 1200°C shown in Table 7. The values of  $a_1, b_1, c_1, a_2, b_2$  and  $c_2$  are shown in Table 7, and the final expression of

**Table 8:** Parameter settings required for solving the 3D SiC/SiC composite material model.

| Environment   | Data classification                 | Data normalization    | Error function               |
|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| PH <sub>2</sub> O : O <sub>2</sub> : Ar = 21 : 21 : 58kPa | Training Set: Test Set 80%: 20%     | Score standardization | Mean square Loss function    |
| PH <sub>2</sub> O : O <sub>2</sub> : Ar = 14 : 8 : 78kPa  |                                     |                       |                              |
| Air   |                                     |                       |                              |
| Optimization  | Initial parameter value             |                       | Maximum number of iterations |
| Nonlinear Least Squares                                   | [1,-0.5,1.8,-1.2,1.5,1,1,1,2,1,1,]  |                       | 10000                        |
|   | [3,1,5,1,16,1,1,1,1,10,1,1,10,-0.5] |                       | 5000                         |
|   | [1,1,1,-1,-1,1,1,1,1,1,2,1,1,]      |                       | 10000                        |

the model is as follows: algorithm, as shown in Table 7, and the model is:  $y(t) = 1.744 \times e^{-(t-1.7243)^2} - 1.1618 - 1.202 \times e^{-0.5314(t-2.6266)^2} + 1.893 \times e^{1.5271t} - 4.808 \times e^{1.3889t}$  (4) The goodness of fit of the model is 0.9701, and the mean square loss value is  $1.23 \times 10^{-2}$ . To further verify overfitting, Goodness of fit  $R^2$  and mean square loss in Table 7 are used to judge the quality of results. The maximum value of  $R^2$  is 1, and the closer the value of  $R^2$  is to 1, the better the regression line fits the observed value. Conversely, the smaller the value of  $R^2$ , the worse the regression line fits the observed value. Among them, the goodness of fit  $R^2$  of this model is 0.9800, and the mean square loss value is data with service time of 199.3 hours is brought into the model for testing. The predicted value of the obtained mass change value is 1.5094, and the error between the predicted value and the true value of 1.504 is small, further indicating the accuracy.

From Figure 10(a), it can be said that the mass loss curve during the oxidation stage corresponds well with the

diffusion control. However, there is a small deviation in predicting the mass loss during the oxidation stage with reaction control in the initial phase. This is because reaction control should follow a linear equation.

To demonstrate the versatility of the proposed two-dimensional oxidation kinetics model for different types of composite materials, a similar expression was further developed to depict the relationship between the mass change and service time of 3D SiC/SiC composite materials after oxidation in a P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 21 : 21 : 58kPa environment.

#### **Relationship model between mass change and service time of 3D SiC/SiC in a P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 21 : 21 : 58kPa environment**

We utilized the initial model architecture of Eq.(2) with the specified parameter settings provided in Table 6 to solve the relationship between the mass change and service time

of 3D SiC/SiC after oxidation at P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 21 : 21 : 58kPa environment and 1100°C. The parameter values of

the model can be obtained as shown in Table 7, which can be carried into Eq.(2) to obtain: The model has a satisfying goodness of fit value of

0.99 and a mean square loss value of  $2 \times 10^{-3}$ . To further verify overfitting, data with a service time of 4.904 hours was introduced into the model. The predicted value of the obtained quality change value is 0.0314, and the error between the predicted value and the true value of 0.03077 is small, further confirming accuracy.

Figure 10(b) indicates that the model effectively captures the relationship between the mass change of 3D SiC/SiC composite material after oxidation at 1100°C and P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 21 : 21 : 58kPa environment and its service time.

After deriving the expression for the relationship between the mass change and service time of 3D SiC/SiC

composite materials after oxidation at P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 21 : 21 : 58kPa environment and 1100°C, we further employed

Eq.(2) to fit the relationship between the mass change and service time at temperatures of 1000°C, 1100°C, 1200°C, 1300°C, 1400°C, and 1500°C. Table 7 presents the predicted values of model parameters, the goodness of fit values of the model, and the mean square loss function values  $y(t) = 0.04 \times (t-11.08)^2$

$$2.07 + 0.04 \times e^{(t-6.91)^2} \quad (5)$$

at these temperatures. These results, combined with the

experimental data from Figure 10(b) demonstrate that the model fitting effectively captures the relationship between mass change of 3D SiC/SiC composites after oxidation in a

P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 21 : 21 : 58kPa environment and service time.

This section focuses on the development of a two-dimensional oxidation kinetics model for SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC. The model accurately represents the correlation between mechanical performance parameters and service time of 2D SiC/BN/SiC-B<sub>4</sub>C and 3D SiC/SiC composites. Moreover, the model architecture appears suitable for use within a specific temperature range.

#### **Three-dimensional oxidation kinetics model for SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC**

In this section, the main objective is to develop a three-dimensional oxidation kinetics model for SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC that can effectively analyze the correlation between mechanical property parameters, service time, and service temperature after oxidation in various environments. Two steps solve the initial structure of the model and the determination of unknown parameters, as well as model adjustment based on experimental data. resulting in  $p_1 = 1.894 \times 10^{-8}$ ,  $p_2 = 7.155 \times 10^{-5}$ ,

$p_3 = -0.08742$ ,  $p_4 = 34.81$ . The reconstruction error of the model is  $1.277 \times 10^{-3}$ , indicating that the polynomial function can accurately fit the relationship between  $a_1$  and

According to the relationship expression between  $a_1$  and  $T$ , the corresponding relation is plotted in Figure 11, confirming the accuracy of the selected polynomial approximation.

Similarly, it has been found through testing that the relationships between  $a_2$ ,  $b_1$ , and  $b_2$  with temperature also follow polynomial functions as shown in Figure 11. In the case of  $c_1$  and  $c_2$ , there is no direct relationship with temperature, indicating that they may be influenced by other factors such as the type of material. Therefore, they are currently disregarded.

Finally, by substituting the values of  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,  $b_1$ , and



**Table 9:** Predictive values of 3D SiC/SiC composite material model parameters.

| Environment   | Model parameters       |                         |                         |                         |                          |                        |                         |                        |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| P <sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub> :O <sub>2</sub> :Ar = 21 : 21 : 58kPa | P <sub>1</sub> 4.4736  | P <sub>2</sub> -0.6747  | P <sub>3</sub> -0.2557  | P <sub>4</sub> 5.7710   | P <sub>5</sub> 5.9697    | P <sub>6</sub> 6.9773  | P <sub>7</sub> -9.9377  | P <sub>8</sub> -3.6506 |
|   | P <sub>9</sub> -0.4641 | P <sub>10</sub> -5.7583 | P <sub>11</sub> 6.8424  | P <sub>12</sub> 10.0167 | P <sub>13</sub> -13.7337 |                        |                         |                        |
| P <sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub> :O <sub>2</sub> :Ar = 14 : 8 : 78kPa  | P <sub>1</sub> 1.6673  | P <sub>2</sub> -5.0126  | P <sub>3</sub> 2.6175   | P <sub>4</sub> 4.2476   | P <sub>5</sub> 0.5642    | P <sub>6</sub> 4.7362  | P <sub>7</sub> -1.7460  | P <sub>8</sub> 2.8732  |
|   | P <sub>9</sub> 3.0824  | P <sub>10</sub> -2.5671 | P <sub>11</sub> -3.9636 | P <sub>12</sub> -0.5690 | P <sub>13</sub> 4.5893   | P <sub>14</sub> 1.6817 | P <sub>15</sub> -3.3090 |                        |
| Air   | P <sub>1</sub> 0.3356  | P <sub>2</sub> 1.1536   | P <sub>3</sub> 0.0591   | P <sub>4</sub> -2.6083  | P <sub>5</sub> 2.5055    | P <sub>6</sub> -3.2702 | P <sub>7</sub> 5.3262   | P <sub>8</sub> -2.0571 |
|   | P <sub>9</sub> 1.1767  | P <sub>10</sub> -3.1350 | P <sub>11</sub> 3.4661  | P <sub>12</sub> 0.4553  | P <sub>13</sub> 4.0247   |                        |                         |                        |

$$a_1 = f(T, \theta) \tag{6}$$

**3D oxidation kinetic model of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC**

After obtaining the model describing the relationship between the mechanical properties of 2D SiC/SiC composite materials after oxidation in various environments and their service time and temperature, the method described in Section 3.1 is employed to predict the unknown parameters of the model.

Based on the parameter estimation and the settings detailed in Section 3.1 and Table 8, optimization algorithm can be utilized to obtain  $p_1 - p_{13}$  for the relationship expression between the mass variation of 3D SiC/SiC in a

P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 21 : 21 : 58kPa environment and its service time and temperature. The values of these parameters are presented in Table 9 and can be substituted into the final expression of the model:

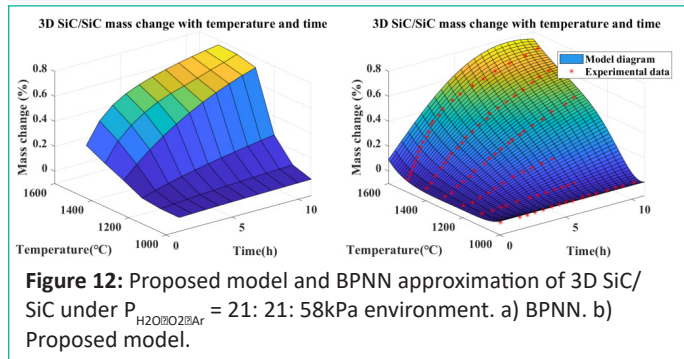
$$y(t, T) = (4.4736 \times T^3 - 0.6747 \times T^2 - 0.2557 \times T - [(5.9697 \times t - (-6.9773 \times T + 9.9377))]^2$$

where  $T$  represents temperature and  $\theta$  is an unknown + 5.771)  $\times eRT$  parameter. Based on Table 7, a data set is created for  $a_1$  and the + (-3.6506  $\times T^2 - 0.4641 \times T - 5.7587)$

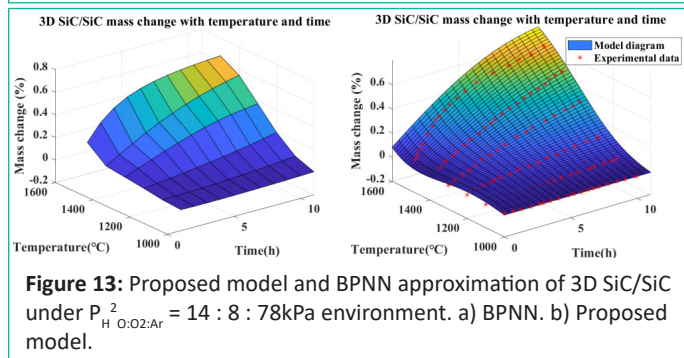
- [(6.8424  $\times t - (10.0167 \times T - 13.7337))]^2$  corresponding temperature  $T$ . Temperature is considered as the independent variable, while  $a_1$  is the dependent variable.  $\times eRT$  Upon analyzing and testing the data patterns, it is postulated that the relationship between  $a_1$  and temperature  $T$  can be represented by a polynomial function: The model has a predicted parameter error of  $4.8 \times 10^{-3}$ . To check overfitting, three-dimensional plots corresponding to the model's expressions are generated and compared with  $a_1(T) = p_1 \times T^3 + p_2 \times T^2 + p_3 \times T + p_4$  the neural network.

Figure 12 represents the neural network fitting on the According to Section 3.1, the parameter values of the model were obtained through nonlinear least squares fitting left (a) and model on the right (b) for the mass variation of 3D SiC/SiC in a P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 21 : 21 : 58kPa environment. It can be observed that the model and the neural network exhibit a consistent fitting trend, effectively reflecting the mass variation of 3D SiC/SiC with respect to temperature and time. Additionally, the model graph shows that experimental data are well covered, further confirming the rationality and accuracy.

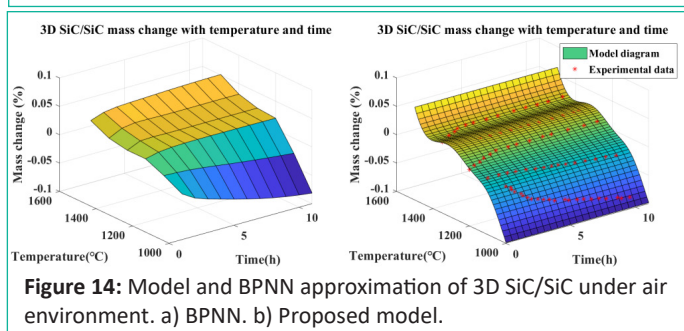
To demonstrate the applicability of the 3D SiC/SiC oxidation kinetics model to different environments, further expressions are constructed for the relationship between mass variation, service time, and service temperature of 3D SiC/SiC in two specific environments: P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 14 : 8 : 78kPa environment and air environment. Similarly, the relationship expression between mass variation, service time, and service temperature of 3D SiC/SiC in a P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 14 : 8 : 78kPa environment is proposed:  $y(t, T) = (p_1 \times T^4 + p_2 T^3 + p_3$



**Figure 12:** Proposed model and BPNN approximation of 3D SiC/SiC under P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 21: 21: 58kPa environment. a) BPNN. b) Proposed model.



**Figure 13:** Proposed model and BPNN approximation of 3D SiC/SiC under P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>:O<sub>2</sub>:Ar = 14 : 8 : 78kPa environment. a) BPNN. b) Proposed model.



**Figure 14:** Model and BPNN approximation of 3D SiC/SiC under air environment. a) BPNN. b) Proposed model.

$b_2$ , the relationship between mass change after oxidation in a environment and service time, as well as service temperature can be modified as follows:

$$y(t, T) = (p_1 \times T^3 + p_2 \times T^2 + p_3 \times T + p_4)$$

- [( $p_5 \times t - (p_6 \times T + p_7)$ )]<sup>2</sup>  $\times eRT$  (8) Initial architecture for the SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC composite material + ( $p_8 \times T^2 + p_9 \times T + p_{10}$ ) - [( $p_{11} \times t - (p_{12} \times T + p_{13})$ )]<sup>2</sup> The parameter prediction model of the two-dimensional  $\times eRT$  oxidation kinetics model for SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC primarily reflects the correlation between mechanical property parameters and the service time after oxidation in various environments. To expand the model into a three-dimensional framework, the temperature variable is incorporated. According to Table 7, the relationship between the performance parameters of strength of materials and the service time of 3D SiC/SiC composites after high-temperature oxidation in different environments was calculated in Section 3.2. The findings indicated that the initial structure of the model remained the same at temperatures of 1000°C, 1100°C, 1200°C, 1300°C, 1400°C, and 1500°C. However, the final values of the six parameters ( $a_1, b_1, c_1, a_2, b_2$  and  $c_2$ ) varied. Therefore, we make a hypothesis that some of these parameters are not constants but rather variables dependent on temperature:

$\times T^2$  respect to temperature and time. Additionally, it can be seen from Figure 13(b) that all the experimental data points are well covered, further confirming the rationality and accuracy of the model. Similarly, the expression for the relationship between the mass change in an air environment and the service time and service temperature is also postulated as follows:  $\times eRT$  According to Section 3.1, and considering the parameter settings provided in Table 8, the unknown parameters  $p_1 - y(t, T) = (p_1 \times T^3 + p_2 \times T^2 + p_3 \times T + p_4)$

$-\left[ (p_5 \times t - (p_6 \times T + p_7)) \right] \times eRT$  for the relationship expression between mass variation,  $\times eRT$  (12) service time, and service temperature of 3D SiC/SiC in the wet oxygen environment of  $P_{H_2O:O_2:Ar} = 14 : 8 : 78kPa + (p_8 \times T^2 + p_9 \times T + p_{10})$

$-\left[ (p_{11} \times t - (p_{12} \times T + p_{13})) \right] \times eRT$  can be obtained, as shown in Table 9. Substituting these values is (10) yields the final expression:  $\times eRT y(t, T) = (1.667 \times T^4 - 5.0126 \times T^3 + 2.6175 \times T^2 + 4.2476 \times T + 0.5742) - \left[ (4.7362 \times t - (-1.746 \times T + 2.8732)) \right] \times eRT$  According to the method and procedure for solving the unknown parameters of the model described in section 3.1, and considering the parameter settings in Table 8, the values of the unknown parameters  $p_1 - p_{13}$  can be identified through  $\times eRT$  (11) optimization. The obtained values of  $p_1 - p_{13}$  are shown in  $(3.0824 \times T^3 - 2.5671 \times T^2 + -3.9636 - \left[ (4.5893 \times t - (1.6817 \times T - 3.3090)) \right] \times eRT$  Table 9. Substituting these values into the model, the final expression is:  $\times T - 5.690) \times eRT y(t, T) = (0.3356 \times T^3 + 1.1536 \times T^2 + 0.0591$  The predicted error of the model parameters is  $3.1 \times - \left[ (2.5055 \times t - (-3.2702 \times T + 5.3262)) \right] \times eRT$  (13)  $10^{-3}$ . To further check for overfitting, three-dimensional  $\times T - 2.6083) \times eRT$  plots are generated based on the given equations. A comparison analysis is then performed between the model's plots and the plots obtained from the neural network fitting to evaluate the rationality and accuracy of the model.

Figure 13(a) shows the BPNN approximation, while Figure 13(b) illustrates the model of the mass variation of

3D SiC/SiC with temperature and time in a  $P_{H_2O:O_2:Ar} = 14 : 8 : 78kPa$  environment. By comparing the plot

with the neural network, it can be observed that the trend of Figure 13(b) is consistent with that of Figure 13(a), accurately reflecting the mass change of 3D SiC/SiC with  $(-2.0571 \times T^2 + 1.1767 \times T + 3.1350)$

The model has a prediction error of  $2.8 \times 10^{-3}$ . To further check for overfitting, we generate three-dimensional plots and compare them with the neural network fitting images. This analysis will provide further insights into the rationality and accuracy of the model.

Figure 14(a) illustrates the fitting of the BPNN, while Figure 14(b) presents the model that depicts the mass variation of 3D SiC/SiC with respect to temperature and time in air environment. Upon comparing Figure 14(a)

time changes. Moreover, Figure 14(b) illustrates that experimental data are well encompassed, further confirming the rationality of the model.

This section primarily focuses on the phenomenon of quality change in 3D SiC/SiC composite materials. While physical factors like temperature and gas flow may exert some influence

on the composite materials, their effects are fundamentally rooted in chemical reactions.

Chemical reactions typically assume control in the initial stage, but gradually transition to diffusion control over time. This transition is influenced by the oxidizing atmosphere, which triggers material oxidation, with the resulting oxide film serving as a barrier to further oxidation. The developed oxidation kinetics model accurately captures this change process in 3D SiC/SiC composite materials under the influence of multi-field coupling environments. By capturing the quality change resulting from the combination of multiple physical fields, the model offers a deeper understanding of the underlying mechanism of this change. In summary, the proposed oxidation kinetics model for SiC/SiC accurately represents the correlation between mechanical properties and their degradation over time and at varying temperatures. Furthermore, the model can be effectively applied in three different environments:  $P_{H_2O:O_2:Ar} = 21 : 21 : 58kPa$ ,  $P_{H_2O:O_2:Ar} = 14 : 8 : 78kPa$  and air.

tively applied in three different environments:  $P_{H_2O:O_2:Ar} = 21 : 21 : 58kPa$ ,  $P_{H_2O:O_2:Ar} = 14 : 8 : 78kPa$  and air.

### Conclusions and discussion

This study proposes an approach combining experimental methods and data analysis to investigate the effects of temperature, time, and atmosphere on the mechanical properties of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC. By employing BPNN, we accurately assess the influence of these factors on the mechanical properties based on experimental data. Results indicate that the neural network performs better than conventional data fitting methods, especially when the training data is limited.

Moreover, the reconstructed curves obtained through the neural network not only reflect the direct impact of temperature and time on the mechanical properties of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC composites but also allow reliable predictions at design points. Additionally, we construct a SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC composite material oxidation kinetics model using Gaussian functions and parameter optimization methods. This model accurately represents the relationship between the mechanical property parameters of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC composites after high-temperature oxidation in different environments and their service time. It can be further extended to three dimensions to accurately represent the relationship between the mechanical property parameters, service time, and service temperature.

There are still certain aspects that require attention.

Firstly, while the mechanical property prediction and oxidation kinetic models of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC have been supported by existing evidence, they have yet to be substantiated through specific experimental verification. Secondly, the oxidation kinetic model lacks a clear physical interpretation, which may pose challenges in comprehension. Lastly, there is no discussion regarding the applicability of the oxidation kinetics model in predicting the mechanical properties of other material types, potentially restricting its practical utility.

Future research will focus on addressing these three issues and continue to use machine learning methods and modeling theory to establish a robust SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC strength model. This model will contribute to a comprehensive analysis of the macroscopic mechanical properties of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC and is expected to improve the accuracy and practicality. We will verify the accuracy and applicability of the model through experiments, further explore its physical meaning and universality, and aim to provide more comprehensive and detailed guidance for the performance re-

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