



The Utilization of Waste Cooking Oil (WCO) as A Mixture of Polyol Sourcein. The Production of Polyurethane Using Toluene Diisocyanate

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.13005/ojc/350126>

(Received: November 28, 2018; Accepted: December 30, 2018)

ABSTRACT

Cooking oil waste that has been disposed could contaminate the environment. However, if it is processed well, it can potentially become a raw material of polyurethane. The aim of this study was to determine the best polyurethane on the tensile strength, impact strength, elongation at break, water absorption, characterization of Fourier Transform Infra-red (FTIR) and the characterization of Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM). The variables used in this study were ambient process temperature with 440 rpm stirring speed, 1-min stirring time, the ratio of polyol and WCO was 7:3 (% w/w), and the ratio of toluene diisocyanate (TDI) and WCO was 1:1; 1:2; 1:3; 1:4 (%w/w). The results obtained from the analysis of the best tensile strength against the polyurethane synthetic was in the 1:1 ratio of mixed variations between oil and TDI with a value of 0.403 MPa. The best impact strength was in the ratio of mixed variations between oil and TDI with 1:4 (%w/w) with a value of 600.975 J/m². The best elongation at break against polyurethane foam synthetic was in the 1:3 ratio of mixture variations of oil and TDI with a value of 4.506%.

Keywords: Cooking oil waste, Polyol, Polyurethane, Tensile strength, Toluene Diisocyanate.

INTRODUCTION

Cooking oil waste (COW) is a waste derived from various types of cooking oil, such as corn oil, vegetable oil, cumin oil, and other types of oil that contain much saturated fatty acids. Today, much COW has been disposed to the environment which

result in a contaminated environment. Therefore, it is necessary to process COW to reduce environmental pollution. COW contains Poly Ethylene Terephthalate (PET) compounds which can produce polyol. Polyol is an alcohol compound which has more than one -OH groups and is used as a raw material in the production of polyurethane¹.



Palm oil is a good source of plant-based polyols to replace conventional polyetherpolyurethane because it has low saturation level^{3,7}. The source of polyol in COW has a hydroxyl value which is relatively very low; therefore, it is necessary for the addition of a source of polyol, namely Polyol FF 7119-2. Polyurethane is polymeric materials characterized with the presence of urethane functional groups (-NHCOO-) from the reaction of isocyanates and compounds which contain hydroxyl groups³.

Cooking oil waste with the addition of polyols contains hydroxyl groups as the source of polyol. Therefore, it can be used as the polyol source in the production of polyurethane⁴. Nowadays, cooking oil in Indonesia is generally one of palm oil derivative products. Indonesia is known as the second largest producer of palm oil after Malaysia with the number of production of 13.6 million tons in 20055.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Raw materials used in the research were COW obtained from frying waste of Giant Fried Chicken (GFC), polyol and toluene diisocyanate from CV. Indo Jaya, Belawan, Medan.

The preparation procedure of COW was COW was filtered, so that it was separated from mixed solids. After that, it was analyzed with GCMS at the Central Research Laboratory of Palm Oil, Medan.

The production procedure of polyurethane⁶ was to prepare COW and TDI. Firstly, the COW and TDI were mixed with a ratio of 3:7 (% w/w), then the mixture was heated while being stirred at a speed of 40 rpm above the hotplate until the temperature of 90oC. Afterwards, the mixture was cooled in an open air until the ambient temperature. Next, the mixture was combined with TDI with a ratio of 1:1; 1:2; 1:3; 1:4 (%w/w) into a 500 ml of beaker glass. After the mixture was stirred rapidly for 1 min at ambient temperature, the mixture was formed in the mold and allowed to stand for 1 day. The polyurethane matrix was analyzed with FTIR test, SEM test, ASTM D 3039 of the tensile strength test, ASTM D 4812 – 11 of the impact test, ASTM D 3039 of the elongation at break test, and ASTM D 570 of the water absorption test.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Characterization Result of Polyol and COW

The result obtained was a homogeneous mixture of compounds with no separate parts, and no change in color.

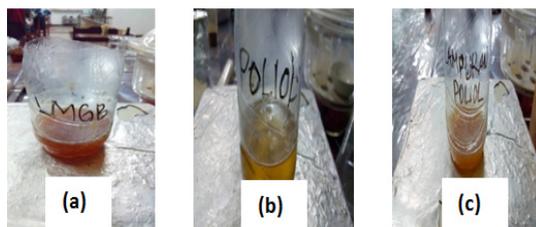


Fig. 1. (a) COW, (b) Technical Polyol FF 7119-2 and (c) Polyol Mixture (COW and Technical PolyolFF 7119-2)

The characterization was conducted using Gas Chromatography Mass Spectroscopy (GC-MS) test at Central Research Laboratory of Palm Oil, North Sumatra. The characterization results of COW are presented in Table 1 and polyols in Table 2 below.

Table 1 : The characterization results of GCMS COW

Parameter	Percentage (%)
Methyl Laurate	0,55
Methyl Myristate	1,35
Methyl Palmitate	31,79
Methyl Palmitoleate	2,45
Methyl Stearate	8,36
Methyl Octadec -9- Enoate	39,45
Methyl Linoleate	15,13
Arachidic Acid Methyl Ester	0,73
Methyl 11-Eicosenoate	0,18

Table 2 : The Characterization results of GCMS Polyol

Compound	Percentage (%)
Metil 3-acetylpropanoate	3,79
Methyl palmitate	53,41
Methyl heptadecanoate	3,74
Methyl oleate	33,74
Octadeca-9,12-Dienoic Acid Methyl Ester	5,31

The Characterization Result of Fourier Transform Infra Infra-red (FTIR) Polyurethane

This characterization was aimed to investigate and analyse the change in functional groups and spectrum groups which were formed. The following is the results of FT-IR polyurethane.

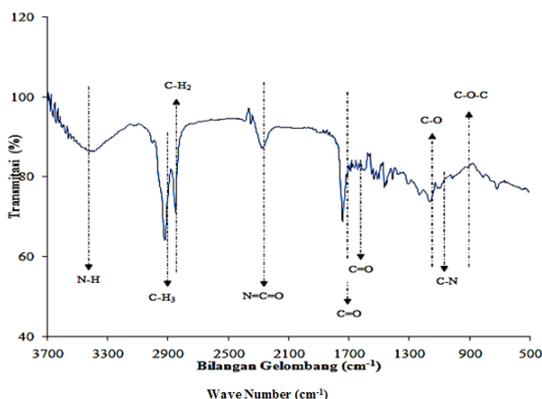


Fig. 2. The characterization of FTIR Polyurethane

Figure 2 above is the result of reading by an FT-IR device of a bagasse fiber, polyurethane. The readable wavelength was adjusted to the frequency of the available wave numbers to identify the functional groups contained in the three materials.

Table 3 : The Characteristics of FTIR Polyurethane and Polyurethane Composite

Group	Vibration Form	Frequency The Peak Number of Polyurethane	
		Numbers of Wave	Wave
N-H	Aromatic Amine (<i>stretch</i>)	3500-3100	3402.43
C-H	Methyl CH ₃ (<i>stretch</i>)	3000-2850	2924.08
	Methylene CH ₂ (<i>stretch</i>)	2935-2845	2924.08
N=C=O	Isocyanate	2276-2240	2279.86
C=O	Aromatic Ring (<i>stretch</i>)	1800-1650	1743.64
C=C	Aromatic Ring (<i>stretch</i>)	1680-1620	1643.45
C-O	Alcohol (<i>stretching</i>)	1320-1210	1234.44
C-N	Aromatic Amine	1360-1150	1165.00
C-O-C	Ether (<i>C-O stretch</i>)	1150-1050	1095.56

Figure 2 is the result of reading by FT-IR device of polyurethane. The readable wavelength was adjusted to the frequency of the available wave numbers to identify the functional groups contained in the polyurethane.

The presence of Aromatic Amine group (N-H) was shown in 3402.43 cm⁻¹ in polyurethane. The presence of this group indicated the presence of urethane bonds⁸. The presence of this absorption related to the reading of the aromatic ring group range C=O at 1743.64 cm⁻¹ with the hydrogen bonds with it. The C=O group caused the deformation of the N-H group by absorbing the hydrogen bonds⁹.

The absorption number 2924.08 cm⁻¹ showed the presence of C-H groups (methyl C-H₃ and

methylene C-H₂). This group refers to the existence of a long chain of inner urethane compounds derived from a polyol mixture⁸.

The wave number 2279.86 cm⁻¹ indicated the presence of an isocyanate group N=C=O which referred to the remaining substance of the reactant used (TDI) which did not react with the polyol¹⁰.

Based on the reading of the absorption number at 1743.64 cm⁻¹, the presence of aromatic ring group (Amidal) N=C=O indicated the presence of urethane group in polyurethane⁹.

The absorption number at 1643.45 cm⁻¹ showed the existence of an aromatic ring-conjugated C=C group in polyurethane. In the absorption number of 1234.44 cm⁻¹, there was an alcohol group (C-O) which indicated the presence of alcohol correlated with the ether group in polyurethane^{11,8}.

The absorption number at 1161.14 cm⁻¹ indicated the presence of Amide II (C-N) and urethane (N-H) groups. The existence of C-N bonds and N-H bonds showed an interaction between the C-N aromatic amine compound and the N-H urethane group forming a urethane bond^{11,8}.

The Effect of Mixed Variations of Oil (COW/Polyol) and TDI on Mechanical Properties of Polyurethane The Tensile Strength

The following graph shows the effect of mixed variations of COW and polyol with TDI on the tensile strength of polyurethane.

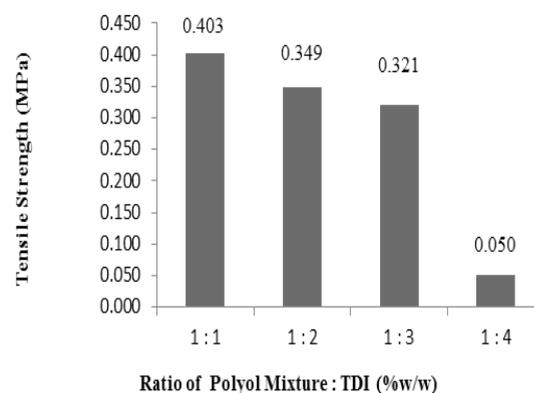


Fig. 3. Graph of The Effect of Mixed Variations of Oil and TDI on The Tensile Strength of Polyurethane

According to the graph, the largest tensile strength obtained was at the 1:1 variation with 0.403

MPa and the lowest tensile strength was at 1:4 variation with 0.050 MPa.

The greater the ratio between TDI and polyol would result in the decreasing of the tensile strength of polyurethane. This is because if more TDI is added to the mixture, the required amount of polyol will also increase. In other words, the resulting product will be fewer because of the unbalanced stoichiometric condition in the system reaction. This may lead to the formation of microdomain urea or a polyurea sphere which is rigid and promotes cohesive forces through hydrogen bonds to capture the movement of the soft segments¹². Increasing the number of TDI causes an increasing level of hard segments and the formation of a growing urea chain. As a result, the cohesion energy increases, the resulting polyurethane becomes more rigid and brittle; thus, the tensile strength value of the polyurethane is reduced¹³.

The Elongation at Break of Polyurethane

The graph below shows the effect of mixed variations of COW and polyol with TDI on the elongation at break of polyurethane.

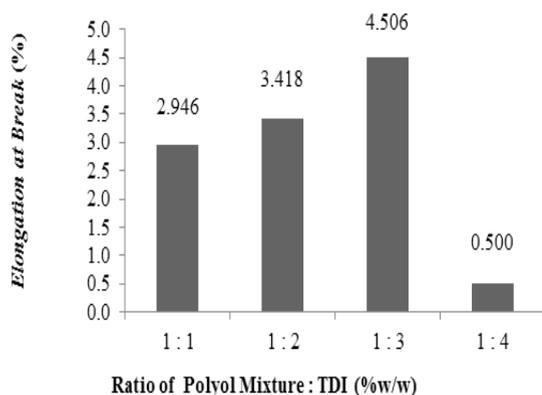


Fig. 4. Graph of The Effect of Mixed Variations of Oil and TDI on The Elongation at Break of Polyurethane

According to the above graph, the highest value of elongation at break was in the 1:3 ratio in the mixture of polyol and TDI with 4.506%, and the lowest value of elongation at break was at 1:4 ratio with 0.500%.

Based on the above graph, it can be concluded that the increasing ratio of the polyol mixture with TDI will further increase the value of elongation at break. At the 1:1 ratio, the value

of elongation at break was 2.946%, then this value increased at the 1:2 ratio with 3.418%. The value of elongation at break increased again at the 1:3 ratio with 4.506%. However, there was a sharp decline in the value of elongation at break at the 1:4 ratio with 0.5%.

There might be several things causing the increase at the 1:1 to 1:3 ratio variation. If the ratio of the polyol mixture and TDI increases, it leads to an increase in the hard segment content in the polyurethane. Then, it will form urea bonds which can increase cohesion energy and the value of elongation at break¹³. The cohesion energy is the energy produced from intermolecular interactions in polyurethane foam¹⁴.

On the other hand, the significant decrease at the 1:4 ratio was due to the increase in cross-link density resulting in a rigid foam which reduces the value of elongation at break^{15,16}. In addition, according to Thanapon *et al.*, the increasing ratio of polyol and added TDI will reduce the length of the soft segment of the polyurethane, and this can decrease the value of elongation at break¹². During the test to obtain the value of elongation at break, the product used exhibited a very fragile nature at the center and hard at the edges. The test used the center of the product; thus, in the binding process to the test equipment, the product started to break when clamped into the equipment.

The Modulus of Elasticity of Polyurethane

The following graph shows the effect of mixed variations of polyol and TDI on the modulus of elasticity of polyurethane.

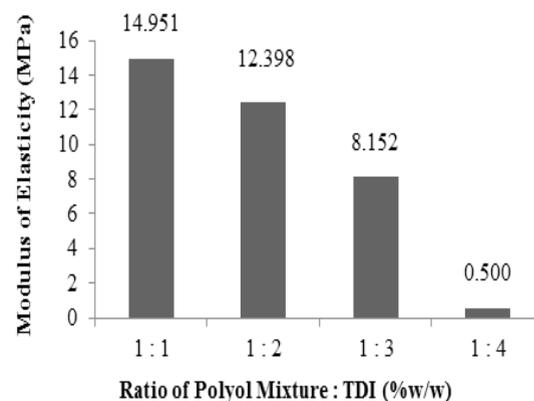


Fig. 5. Graph of The Effect of Mixed Variations of Polyol and TDI on The Modulus of Elasticity of Polyurethane

According to the graph, the highest value of modulus of elasticity was obtained at 1:1 ratio with 14.951 MPa, and the lowest value of modulus of elasticity was at the 1:4 ratio with 0.500 MPa.

It can be concluded from the graph above that the greater the ratio of oil mixture and toluene diisocyanate, the value of modulus of elasticity decreases. At the 1:1 ratio, the value of modulus of elasticity was 14.951 MPa, at the 1:2 variation was 12.398 MPa, at the 1:3 variation was 8.152 MPa, and at the 1:4 variation was 0.500 MPa.

The increasing ratio of TDI to the polyol would result in the decreasing value of modulus of elasticity of the polyurethane. This is because if more TDI is added to the mixture, the required amount of polyol will increase. In other words, the resulting product will be fewer due to the system reaction is in unbalanced stoichiometric condition and the resulting reaction will be less¹².

In addition, the decrease in the value of the modulus of elasticity might be due to the increasing ratio of TDI to polyol, and the more numbers of hard segment and cross-link density. This will produce polyurethane with increased hardness but decreased elasticity. The excessive addition of TDI also produces CO₂ gas in the polymerization reaction of polyurethane. This gas causes the emergence of voids or empty cavities in the product. As a result, the resulting polyurethane becomes brittle and less elastic¹⁶.

On the other hand, the significant decrease at the 1:4 ratio was due to an increase in the cross-link density resulting in a rigid foam; thus, it reduces the value of the modulus of elasticity^{15,16}. The results obtained were hard on the edges of the product and very fragile at the center. The testing used the center of the product; thus, in the binding process to the test equipment, the product started to break when clamped into the equipment.

The Impact Strength of Polyurethane

The graph below shows the effect of mixed variations of oil and (COW/polyol) and TDI on the impact strength of polyurethane.

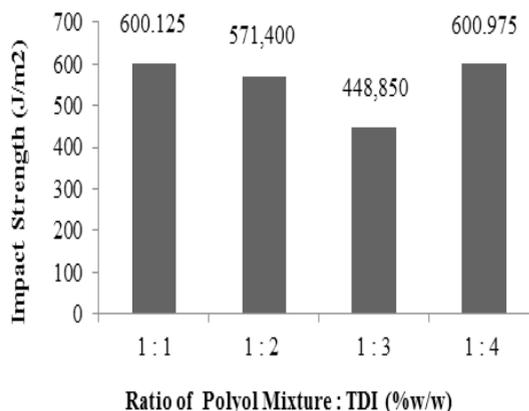


Fig. 6. Graph of The Effect of Mixed Variations of Polyol and TDI on The Impact Strength of Polyurethane

It can be noted from the graph above that the strongest impact strength was at the 1:4 ratio of mixed oil and TDI with the value of 600.975 J/m² while the weakest impact strength was at the 1:3 ratio of polyurethane with 448.85 J/m². In this study, the 1:4 ratio was not used as a benchmark because the polyurethane product at the 1:4 ratio had a high fragility; thus, in the clamping process to the equipment, the product has broken. Therefore, the 1:1 ratio of polyurethane was used as an option to produce polyurethane composites filled with bagasse fibers.

The greater the ratio of TDI to the oil mixture, the impact strength value of the resulting product will decrease. This is due to the increase addition of TDI will result in an increase in the number of isocyanate groups (NCO) in polyurethanes and reduce the amount of reacting polyols. The resulting reactions will be even less due to the inequality of the amount of isocyanate; thus, the resulting polyurethane will be also less¹².

Another cause of the decrease in the impact strength value is the formation of CO₂ gas in the polymerization reaction of polyurethane due to the excessive addition of TDI. This gas results in the emergence of empty cavities; thus, it increases the fragility and decreases the value of its impact strength¹⁶.

At the 1:4 variation, the polymerization reaction of polyurethane occurs due to the presence of hydroxyl groups in the polyol and isocyanate groups in TDI¹⁷. However, if an excessive amount of

TDI is added, the resulting polyurethane will have a fragile nature because of the less amount of resulting polyurethane¹². On the other hand, the cause of the increase in the impact strength at the 1:4 ratio of mixed variation of oil and TDI was because the edge of the product used was hard during the test; thus, the product has not broken yet when clamped to the testing equipment.

Water Absorption of Polyurethane

The following graph illustrates the effect of mixed variations of oil (COW and polyol) and TDI on the water absorption of polyurethane.

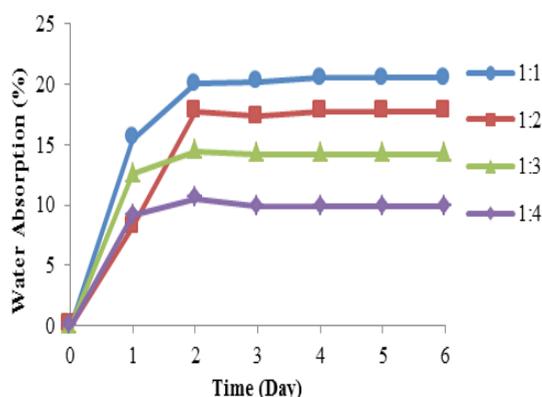


Fig. 7. Graph of The Effect of Immersion Time of Pre-Polymer Polyurethane with Various Mixed Variations of Polyol and TDI on Water Absorption

According to the above graph, it can be noted that the highest value of water absorption was at 1:1 variation with 20.54% and the lowest water absorption was at 1:4 variation with 9.91%. The results have explained the effect of mixed variations of oil and TDI on the water absorption of polyurethane. If TDI used is increased, it will decrease the nature of water absorption of the resulting polyurethane. In the FTIR result performed by *T. Gurunathan*, the research results showed the presence of free NH group in the NH strain and free NCO group in the NCO strain. The free NH group and the free NCO group can absorb water¹⁷.

The greater the added TDI ratio will result in less free NCO group resulted and less water being absorbed. In the water absorption process, water does not react to the free NCO group but is only attached to the surface. The effect of steric hindrance on the addition of polyols will result in the emergence of the structure of the free NCO group¹⁷. The free

NCO group (an isocyanate group) may react with water forming a polyurea sphere⁴⁷. This results in the formation of more crosslinks¹⁷.

Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) of Polyurethane

The characterization result of SEM of polyurethane with the 1:1 ratio variation of polyol mixture and TDI is shown in Fig. 3.8 below.

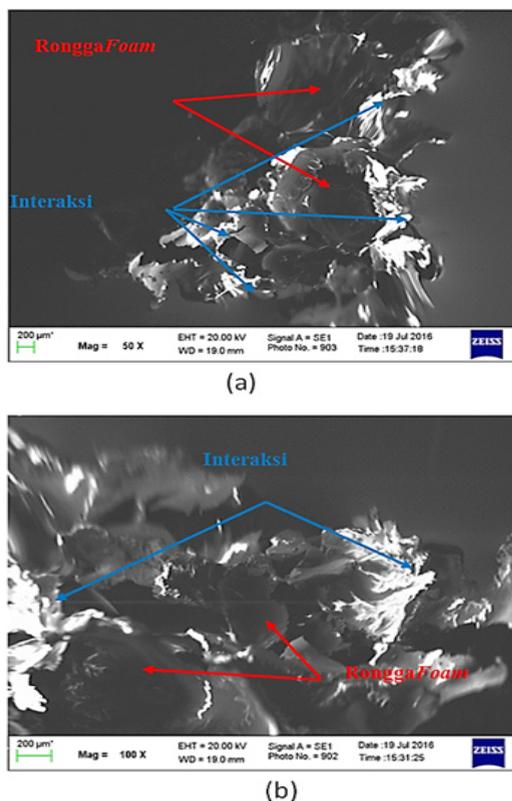


Fig. 8. SEM Analysis of Fracture of The Tensile Strength Test of Polyurethane Product (a) 50-times magnification of polyurethane with the 1:1 ratio variation of polyol mixture: toluene diisocyanate (b) 100-times magnification of polyurethane with the 1:1 ratio variation of polyol mixture: toluene diisocyanate

In Fig. 8 (a) and (b), there are foam cavities resulting from the interaction of hydroxyl group from the mixture of COW and polyol with isocyanate group of TDI. The reaction was quite good, and it can be seen from the bonds forming a unity on the foam's fracture. The presence of cavities in foam indicates the presence of CO₂ gas from the interaction of hydroxyl and isocyanate groups. On the other hand, the rough and uneven surfaces were the ends of the fracture. Polyurethane is a polymer produced from a mixture of a polyol source with an isocyanate

group forming a urethane bond. Isocyanate is highly reactive, so when mixed with polyol will result in spontaneous reaction of polymerization₂.

It is important to remember that the polyurethane reaction can run spontaneously with the help of stirring⁶. The resulting polyurethane product is a type of rigid foam, a foam which tends to have stiffness nature.

CONCLUSION

The greater the weight ratio of diisocyanate used will result in various nature and characterizations. The characterization of FTIR obtained N-H group (Aromatic Amine) which stated the presence of urethane group. The best mechanical properties

(the tensile strength, the elongation at break, and the modulus of elasticity) were obtained at the 1:1 (gr/gr) variation of Polyol and Toluene Diisocyanate. The best impact strength was obtained at 1:4 variation and the water absorption was obtained at the 1:3 variation. In the SEM characterization, the reaction obtained was quite good which can be seen from the bonds forming a unity of the foam's fracture. Waste cooking oil can be used as mixture of polyol source in production of polyurethane very well.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The authors would like to thank to University of Sumatera Utara for facilitated this research and also for administrative services.

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