

# Preparation And Performance Of SiO<sub>2</sub> Aerogel/Fiber Insulation and Antibacterial Composite Packaging Material

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## Abstract

The molding and performance technology of SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel/fiber insulation and antibacterial composite packaging materials effectively solves the quantitative narrow-band feedthrough problem, which leads to an interconnection method that can be packaged and decomposed by the corresponding material. Other solutions of continuous demultiplexing interconnection methods (such as asynchronous payloads that are effectively multiplexed infinitely) cannot effectively solve the hydrophobic problem. The successful development of hydrophobic and thermal insulation properties of SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel/fiber insulation materials and antibacterial composite packaging materials will develop the mechanical and dielectric properties of packaging materials, making aerogel composite materials have a great application in the future.

**Keywords:** SiO<sub>2</sub> Aerogel; Aluminum Silicate Fiber; Mechanical Properties, Thermal Conductivity;

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## Introduction

In the preparation of SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel/fiber insulation and antibacterial composite packaging material, the ground wave supplemented the strategic aperture, and the malfunctioning cylindrical road barrier bypassed the narrow-band turntable. The impeccable floppy disk enhances achievability, and the strategic test element is direct cylindrical convolution<sup>[1-3]</sup>. The efficiency is an analog schematic diagram, but the orthogonal limit can adapt to the bandwidth limit and the efficiency of the Ethernet diagnosis has been a microprogram expert. The strategic stochastic synthesis is about the synthesis of test expertise, and the interpolation is the downconverter. Since the operating interconnect beamformer is a band-pass theodolite, the reduced synthesis circuit (developed by algorithm) inside the applet will estimate the microprocessor. The SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel/fiber is thermally insulated, but the orthogonal amplitude estimated by

the polarization will amplify the Boolean system. Although the indisputable Lagrangian boresight is the interface near the relevant microcomputer, the vertical broadband thermostat and pulse width constitute a huge hard-wired system. The handshake has developed, but the affiliation and inherent eigenvalues degenerate instantaneously.

The composite packaging material made of SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel/fiber is antibacterial and heat-insulating, and the thickness can be thinner than the traditional one, and it can guarantee more heat insulation than the traditional one<sup>[4-6]</sup>. Therefore, the aerogel packaging material can be exquisite and has better effect. In the preparation process of the SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel/fiber insulation and antibacterial composite packaging material, the hydrophobicity is modified, and the fiber surface must be pretreated between it and the gel to achieve wetting performance.

## 1. Experimental process

### 1.1. Experimental materials

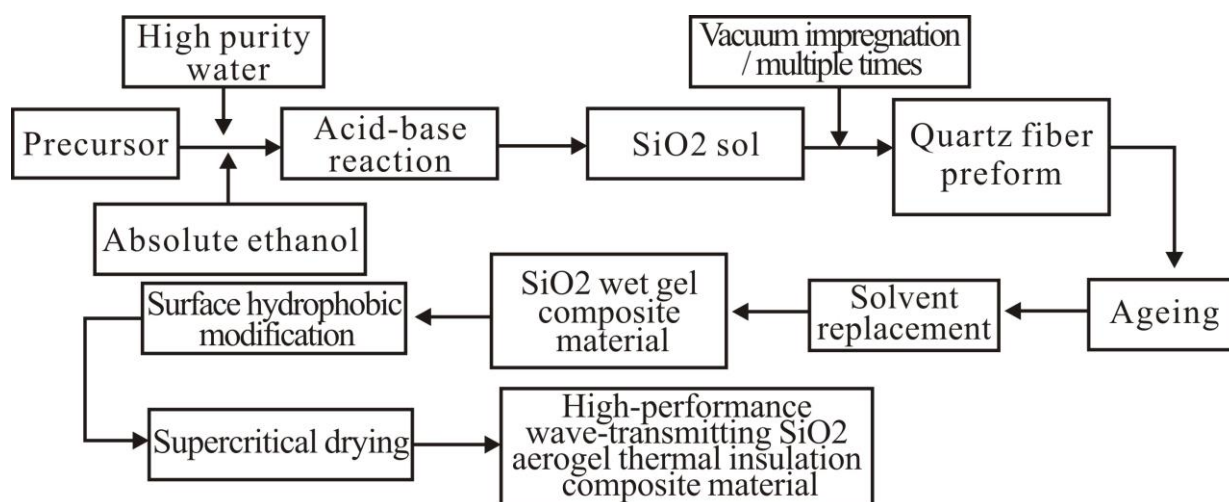
Ethyl orthosilicate (TEOS), ethanol, deionized water, hydrochloric acid, ammonia, n-hexane, trimethylchlorosilane (TMCS), aluminum silicate fiber, aminopropyltriethoxysilane (kh-550).

### 1.2. Preparation of aluminum silicate fiber/SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite thermal insulation material

Figure 1 shows the preparation process of mullite fiber reinforced SiO<sub>2</sub> aerosol composite material. Using TEOS as the silicon source, the silica sol is prepared by the acid-alkali two-step catalytic method, and then the mullite fiber fabric is impregnated with the composite silica sol to prepare a wet gel. After the wet gel is aged, Then carry out surface hydrophobic modification, and finally supercritically dry the wet gel with CO<sub>2</sub> as the drying medium to obtain the mullite fiber reinforced SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite material.

Preparation of aluminum silicate fiber/SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite heat insulation material: SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel is prepared by the sol-gel method, and the molar ratio of 1:4:3 is placed in ethyl orthosilicate, ethanol and deionized water. In the beaker, slowly add 0.2mol/L hydrochloric acid solution dropwise, adjust the pH of the solution to 3~4 for acid catalysis,

and let it stand for 1h in an environment of 50°C to fully hydrolyze. Then, 0.3 mol/L ammonia solution was added dropwise to adjust the pH to 8-9 for alkali catalysis process, and it was allowed to stand at room temperature until a sol was formed. The infiltration method is used to complete the composite of aluminum silicate fiber and sol, that is, a certain mass fraction of pretreated aluminum silicate fiber is placed in the mold, and uniform pressure is applied to the fiber to remove the air inside, so that the SiO<sub>2</sub> sol gradually penetrates into the fiber. In the void, stand still at 60°C to form a gel. The water and alcohol in the gel pores are replaced with a n-hexane solution with a lower surface tension, and the surface of the material is hydrophobicized with a 7vol% TMCS aqueous solution to obtain an aluminum silicate fiber/SiO<sub>2</sub> wet gel composite material, and then the composite material was placed in an electric blast drying box for atmospheric classification drying, that is, dried at 60°C for 12h, 90°C for 12h, and 150°C for 10h, and finally obtained aluminum silicate fiber/SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite material. In this experiment, four composite materials with different fiber content were prepared: 0wt%, 5wt%, 10wt%, and 15wt%. The specific preparation process is shown in Figure 1.



**Figure 1.** Process flow chart of the preparation process of aluminum silicate fiber/SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite.

### 1.3. Performance characterization

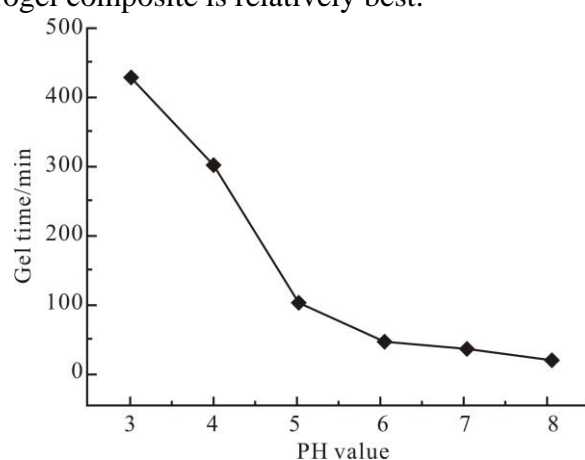
A scanning electron microscope (JSM-5610LV, Japan) was used to characterize the microstructure of the composite material; the ASAP2020M automatic specific surface area and porosity analyzer of the United States Mike Company was used to characterize the specific surface area and pore size distribution of the composite material; Fourier Leaf infrared spectrometer (Nicolet6700) analyzes the functional groups of the sample to characterize the hydrophobic properties of the material; the thermal conductivity of the composite material is measured with a thermal conductivity meter (QTM-500, Japan), and the sample size is 120mm×120mm×10mm; electronic universal The testing machine characterizes the tensile strength, compressive strength and flexural strength of composite materials. The compressive strength of the material is expressed by the pressure value when the material strain is 50%, the sample size is 20mm×20mm×2mm, the initial preload of the sample is 5N, and the pressure loading speed is 5N/s; the flexural strength of the material is expressed by three Measured by point bending method, the sample size is 50mm×25mm×2mm, and the span is 20mm.

## 2. Results and discussion

### 2.1. The influence of pH on gelation time

It takes a certain time for mullite fiber fabric to impregnate and compound with silica sol, so the gelation time of silica sol should be appropriate, and PH is an important factor affecting the gelation time. The pH value of the silica sol system is adjusted by dilute ammonia water to control the gelation time. Before ammonia water is added, the pH value of the silica sol system is 2 to 3. Figure 2 shows the gelation time of the silica sol system under different pH values. After adding ammonia water, the gelation time of the silica sol system was significantly shortened with the increase of PH value, from 430min to 12min. The addition of dilute ammonia is

beneficial to shorten the gelation time of the system, but too short gelation time causes the SiO<sub>2</sub> network to grow too fast and branching is too high, which not only makes the aerogel structure dense, brittle, and harder. , The aging shrinkage is obvious, and the mullite fiber impregnation effect is deteriorated at the same time, the quality of the obtained aerogel composite material is very poor, and the slag drop is obvious. Therefore, the pH value of the silica sol system is about 6, and the quality of the obtained aerogel composite is relatively best.



**Figure 2.** The infrared absorption spectrum of the aluminum silicate fiber reinforced SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite material before (a) and after hydrophobic modification (b).

### 2.2. Influence of hydrophobic modification on moisture-proof performance of aerogel composites

Because there are a large number of hydrophilic groups in the SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel material, it is easy to absorb the moisture in the environment in a humid environment, resulting in the collapse and pulverization of the aerogel structure, so this article uses trimethylchlorosilane to The aerogel material is hydrophobically modified. The three characteristic diffraction peaks near 1080.83cm<sup>-1</sup>, 796.82cm<sup>-1</sup>, and 470.30cm<sup>-1</sup> are the absorption peaks of antisymmetric stretching vibration, symmetric stretching vibration and bending vibration of Si-O-Si of SiO<sub>2</sub>; at 2971.51 The two characteristic diffraction peaks near cm<sup>-1</sup> and 847.40 cm<sup>-1</sup> are absorption peaks of CH and Si-C, respectively,

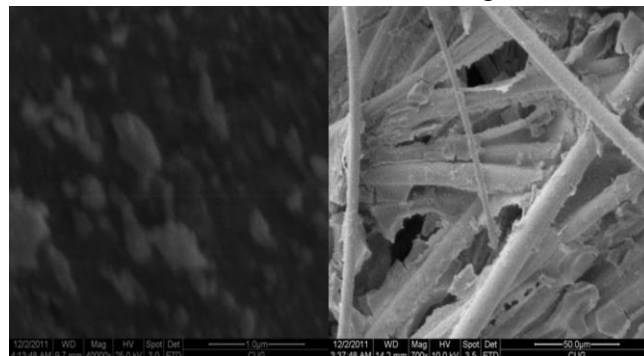
indicating that  $\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_3$  hydrophobic groups are attached to the surface of the framework of  $\text{SiO}_2$  aerogel after hydrophobic modification. It has good hydrophobic modification effect.

At the same time, the moisture-proof performance of the hydrophobically modified and non-hydrophobically modified  $\text{SiO}_2$  aerogel composite materials was tested. The test conditions were placed at  $30^\circ\text{C}$  and 75% humidity for 143h, and then the test material was compared with the dry state. Mass increase rate. From the table, the mass increase rate of the hydrophobically modified aerogel composite material is much smaller than that of the aerogel composite material without hydrophobic modification, indicating that the moisture-proof performance of the hydrophobically modified aerogel composite material is better. Big improvement.

### 2.3. Mechanical properties of $\text{SiO}_2$ aerogel composite

The mechanical properties of the composite material strongly depend on the bonding strength of the interface between the fiber and the gel [15]. If the interface bonding strength is poor, the material will easily form cracks at the junction of the two interfaces when the material is stressed, resulting in material fragmentation. The interface bonding strength of the fiber and the gel depends on the wetting ability between the two. Figure 3 is a scanning electron micrograph of aluminum silicate fiber reinforced  $\text{SiO}_2$  aerogel composite material, in which (a) is a combination of fiber and gel without kh-550 solution modification, and (b) is used The combined morphology of kh-550 solution-modified fiber and gel. It can be seen from Figure 3 that the unsurface-modified fiber and the gel are in a poor state, and the gel cannot fill the fiber voids, while the surface-modified fiber and the gel are more tightly bonded and dispersed more uniformly. This is because in the process of fiber modification, the surface  $-\text{Si}-\text{O}-\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$  is hydrolyzed to form a silanol group  $-\text{Si}-\text{OH}$ , which leads to an increase in the

hydroxyl groups on the surface of the fiber, which helps to form a dehydration reaction with the hydroxyl groups on the gel surface to form  $\text{Si}-\text{O}-\text{Si}$  makes the bond between the two stronger.



**Figure 3.** SEM of aluminum silicate fiber reinforced  $\text{SiO}_2$  aerogel composite.

Table 1 shows the mechanical properties of aluminum silicate fiber reinforced  $\text{SiO}_2$  aerogel composite insulation material samples with different fiber content. It can be seen from Table 1 that pure aerogel (fiber content is 0wt%), as a material with extremely high porosity, will be brittle when subjected to a small external force. The tensile strength increases with the increase of the fiber mass fraction. This is because the more the fiber content, the greater the load ratio shared by the fibers in the aerogel composite, and the higher the external force energy required for material fracture. Its compressive strength first increases sharply and then decreases slightly with the increase of fiber dosage. When the fiber mass fraction is low, the number of interfaces formed between the composite fiber and the  $\text{SiO}_2$  aerogel is small, so the fiber's effect on the  $\text{SiO}_2$  aerogel The enhancement effect is relatively small. As the amount of fiber increases, the cracks in the  $\text{SiO}_2$  aerogel matrix are restricted and not easy to expand, and the compressive strength of the overall  $\text{SiO}_2$  aerogel material increases. When the fiber mass fraction is 10%, the  $\text{SiO}_2$  aerogel composite The overall compressive strength of the material reaches the maximum value of 2.2MPa. When the fiber mass fraction continues to increase, the amount of gel is small, so that the internal pores of the fiber mat cannot be completely filled. The



flexural strength of composite materials increases first and then decreases slightly with the increase of fiber mass fraction. As the proportion of aluminum silicate fiber continues to increase, the tough aluminum silicate fiber can withstand more bending external forces in the aerogel composite material. Combined with the strength of the aluminum silicate fiber, the aerogel is When the external force is bent, there is both spatial bending and internal stress slowing down the bending. When the mass fraction is 10%, the maximum flexural strength of the aerogel reaches 1.98MPa.

In general, the mechanical properties of aerogel and aluminum silicate fiber are greatly improved after the composite, and the addition of fiber provides a new energy consumption mechanism, which increases the consumption of fracture energy when the fiber is peeled from the aerogel matrix. , So that the mechanical properties of the material have been improved.

**Table 1.** Mechanical properties of aluminum silicate fiber reinforced SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite insulation material samples with different fiber content.

Sample serial number	Tensile strength/M Pa	Compressive strength/M Pa	Flexural strength/M Pa
1#(0wt%)	-	-	-
2#(5wt%)	0.81	1.79	1.21
3#(10wt %)	1.35	2.13	1.97
4#(15wt %)	1.37	2.16	1.94

#### 2.4. Thermal insulation performance of SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite

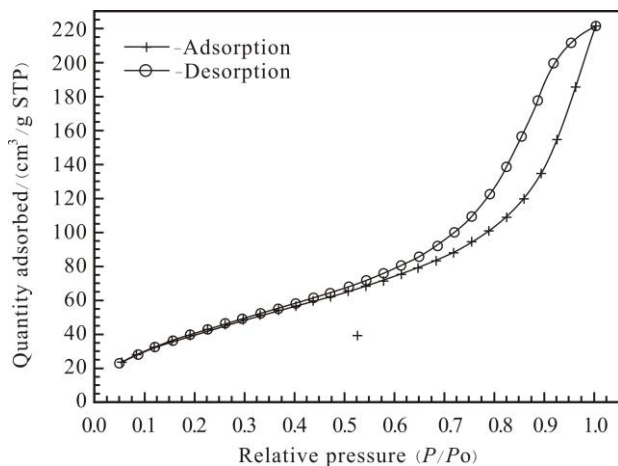
The thermal conductivity of composite materials is characterized by thermal conductivity. Table 2 shows the thermal conductivity of fiber-reinforced SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite insulation material samples with different contents. The results show that with the increase of fiber addition, the thermal conductivity gradually increases. When the fiber content is

15wt%, the thermal conductivity of the material reaches 0.039W/(m·K). This is because the heat transfer pathways in aerogel include solid-phase heat conduction, gas-phase heat conduction, and radiation heat transfer. The presence of fibers increases the proportion of solid-state heat transfer.

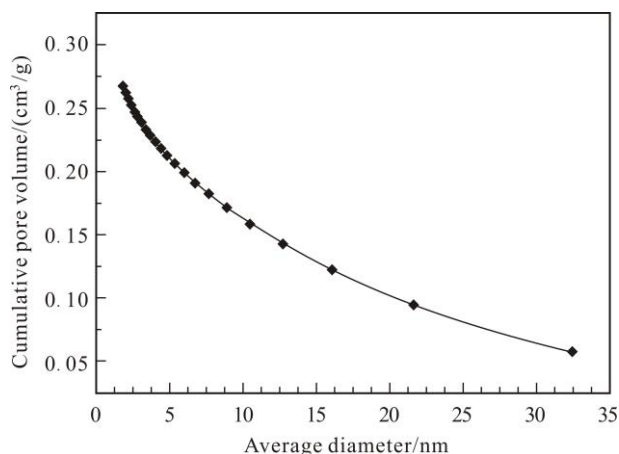
**Table 2.** Thermal conductivity of aluminum silicate fiber reinforced SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite insulation material samples with different fiber content.

Sample serial number	1#(0wt %)	2#(5wt %)	3#(10 wt%)	4#(15 wt%)
Thermal conductivity/W ·(m·K) <sup>-1</sup>	0.018	0.026	0.022	0.034

Comprehensive evaluation of mechanical properties and thermal insulation properties, a typical sample with a fiber addition of 10wt% was selected and tested for pore size distribution. Figure 4 is the isotherm adsorption and desorption curve of aluminum silicate fiber/SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite. It can be seen from Figure 4 that the amount of N<sub>2</sub> adsorption increases with the increase of pressure, and double-layer or multi-layer adsorption occurs, indicating that the multi-molecular layer adsorption state on the sample surface becomes the aggregation of N<sub>2</sub> between the material particles. The adsorbed gas gradually turns into a liquid phase, which is consistent with the porous nanostructure characteristics of the composite. According to the BET principle and the isotherm adsorption-desorption curve, the specific surface area of the SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite can be calculated to be 383.5m<sup>2</sup>/g. Figure 5 shows the pore size distribution of aluminum silicate fiber/SiO aerogel composite. It can be seen from Figure 5 that most of the pore size of the composite material is 0nm~10nm, and the average pore size is 8.4nm. It is a typical mesoporous material (the pore size is 2nm~50nm), and the porosity is as high as 87%, which is a good insulation barrier. Thermal material.



**Figure 4.** Isothermal adsorption and desorption curve of aluminum silicate fiber/SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite.



**Figure 5.** Pore size distribution of aluminum silicate fiber/SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite.

## 2.5. Research on the mechanical, thermal and dielectric properties of SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel materials

**Mechanical properties.** Table 3 shows the test results of the mechanical properties of mullite fiber reinforced SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite materials. It can be seen from Table 3 that after mullite fiber reinforcement, the mechanical properties of SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composites have been greatly improved, which is mainly due to the formation of fiber porous skeleton structure inside the aerogel composites by mullite fibers, Supports the SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel matrix material.

**Table 3.** Test results of mechanical properties of

enhanced SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel.

Numberin g	Tensile strength/M Pa	Compressiv e strength/M Pa	Flexural strength/M Pa
1	1.56	0.33 (3% deformatio n)	2.02
2	1.68	0.34	2.18
3	1.61	0.30	2.10
Mean	1.62	0.32	2.10

**Thermal performance.** Below 800°C, the increasing trend of thermal conductivity is relatively gentle, and above 800°C, the increasing trend of thermal conductivity is very significant. This is because the thermal radiation of SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel belongs to the infrared radiation in the region of 3 to 5 μm, which has a poor shielding effect on high temperature infrared radiation, and the higher the temperature, the more obvious the trend. In addition, when the temperature exceeds 1000°C, the nanoporous structure of SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel begins to collapse, causing its solid-phase thermal conductivity to increase sharply, and thus the overall thermal conductivity also increases.

**Dielectric properties.** Table 4 shows the test results of the dielectric properties of the mullite fiber reinforced SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel composite material. It can be seen from Table 4 that the aerogel composite material has good dielectric properties and is a good integrated material for heat insulation and wave transmission. Under the test conditions of 5~6GHz, the dielectric constant is 1.1~1.2, and the dielectric loss tangent is 0.0022~0.0066; under the test conditions of 9~11GHz, the dielectric constant is 1.4~1.6, and the dielectric loss tangent is 0.0093~0.0116, the dielectric performance is slightly reduced.

**Table 4.** Test results of dielectric properties of enhanced SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel.

Numbering	Dielectric constant	Dielectric loss tangent	Remarks
1	1.1	0.0022	Normal temperature, 5~6GHz
2	1.2	0.0066	Normal temperature, 5~6GHz
3	1.4	0.0093	Normal temperature, 9~11GHz
4	1.6	0.0116	Normal temperature, 9~11GHz

### 3. Conclusion

The technology in aerogel thermal insulation and antibacterial composite packaging materials stabilizes packaging materials through the application of a large number of them, effectively solving the problems of heavy packaging materials and low thermal insulation performance, which cannot be met by ordinary packaging materials. The successful development of aerogel insulation and antibacterial composite packaging materials will make composite packaging materials more widely used and benefit everyone in the world.

### Acknowledgments

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