

## Reprocessable polyurethane elastomers based on reversible ketal exchange: Dielectric properties and water resistance

Jianrong Dong<sup>1</sup>, Hongye Yan<sup>1\*</sup>, Xinhai Lv<sup>1</sup>, Zhenbang Wang<sup>1</sup>, Zixuan Rao<sup>1</sup>, Bailin Zhu<sup>2</sup>, Jun Wu<sup>2</sup>, Yu Zhou<sup>1</sup>, Hongxiang Chen<sup>1,3,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Wuhan University of Science and Technology, Wuhan 430081, China

<sup>2</sup> The State Key Laboratory of Refractory and Metallurgy, Wuhan University of Science and Technology, Wuhan 430081, China

<sup>3</sup> Key Laboratory of Catalysis and Energy Materials Chemistry of Ministry of Education & Hubei Key Laboratory of Catalysis and Materials Science, South-Central University for Nationalities, Wuhan 430074, China

Corresponding author.

E-mail address: hyyan@wust.edu.cn

E-mail address: chenhx\_916@hotmail.com; chenhongxiang@wust.edu.cn

### *Supplementary information*

1. Exchange reaction of ketal-containing model compounds .....	2
2. <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectra of reaction mixture .....	3
3. FTIR spectra of reaction mixture .....	4
4. Index of hydrogen bonding for polyurethane networks .....	5
5. Tensile strength, elongation at break, and Young's modulus of KCPU-x.....	6
6. Contact angles of KCPU-x .....	7
7. Comparison of KCPU-4 and other dielectric elastomers in the literature .....	8
8. Stress relaxation of KCPU-x at different temperatures.....	9
9. Difference in the gauge length before and after stress relaxation .....	10
10. Stress-strain curves of KCPU-x for three cyclic loading at high temperature .....	11
11. Stress-strain curves of KCPU-x for three cyclic loading at high temperature .....	12
12. Healing of KCPU-x .....	13
13. Recovery efficiency of reprocessing samples .....	14
References .....	15

## 1. Exchange reaction of ketal-containing model compounds

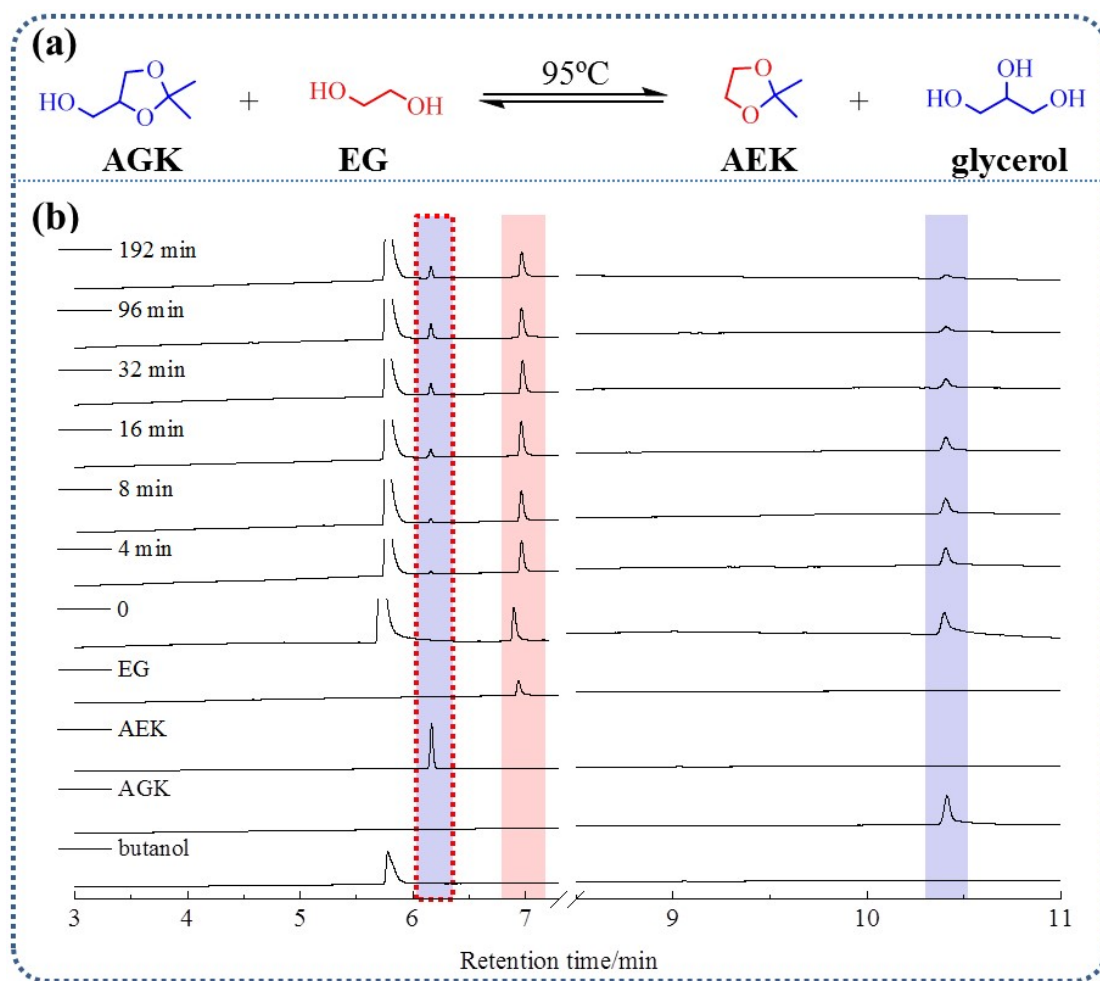


Figure S1 (a) Schematic diagram of exchange reaction between AGK and EG; (b) Gas chromatography of reaction mixtures at different time scales

## 2. $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectra of reaction mixture

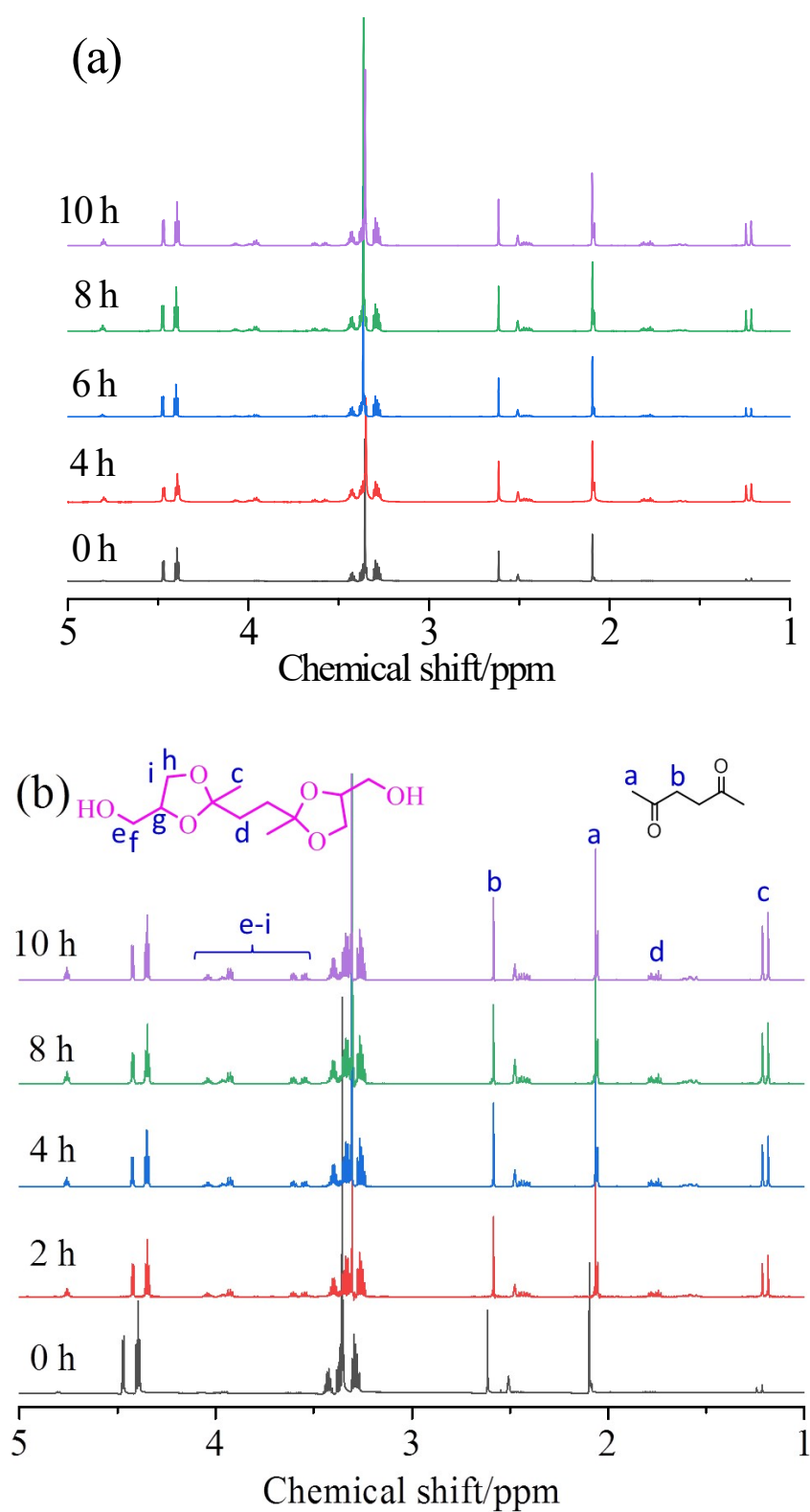
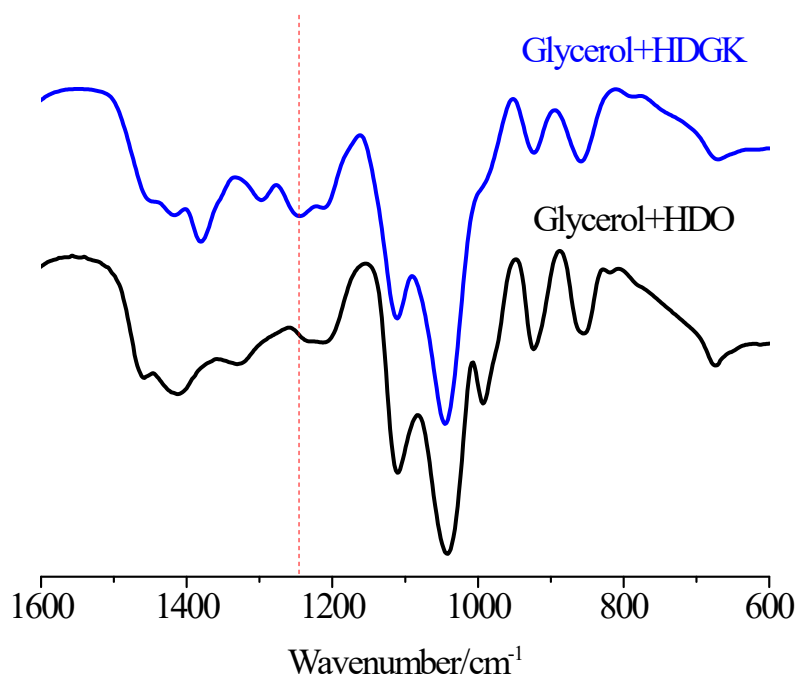


Figure S2  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of reaction mixture of HDO and glycerol at different time scales: (a) 80 °C; (b) 90 °C

### 3. FTIR spectra of reaction mixture



**Figure S3** FTIR spectra of the filtrate after 11 h of reaction, the mixture of glycerol and 2,5-hexadione

#### 4. Index of hydrogen bonding for polyurethane networks

Table S1 Bands, absorbance ratio of C=O stretching vibration, and index of hydrogen bonding ( $X_B$ ) for polyurethane networks

Samples	Free C=O	Bonded C=O	$A_F/A_B$	$X_B$
KCPU-0	1731	1708	0.43	0.68
KCPU-1	1732	1710	0.26	0.78
KCPU-2	1732	1709	0.21	0.81
KCPU-3	1732	1709	0.25	0.78
KCPU-4	1733	1711	0.31	0.74

## 5. Tensile strength, elongation at break, and Young's modulus of KCPU-x

Table S2 Tensile strength, elongation at break, Young's modulus, and healing efficiency of samples before and after healing at 100 °C for 5 h

Samples	Original samples			Healed samples			$\eta/\%$
	$\sigma/\text{MPa}$	$\varepsilon/\%$	$E/\text{MPa}$	$\sigma/\text{MPa}$	$\varepsilon/\%$	$E/\text{MPa}$	
KCPU-0	8.04±2.39	673±41	3.0±0.4	1.70±0.42	221±165	1.7±0.3	21.1
KCPU-1	11.79±0.79	724±80	5.0±0.5	1.81±0.18	147±18	4.4±0.6	15.4
KCPU-2	10.01±1.10	620±55	6.8±1.0	2.79±0.09	414±15	5.6±0.4	27.8
KCPU-3	9.78±1.45	596±67	3.8±0.2	4.86±0.37	424±58	3.7±0.9	49.6
KCPU-4	5.30±0.51	617±137	3.2±0.6	3.54±0.34	509±61	3.0±0.5	66.7

$\sigma$  is the tensile strength,  $\varepsilon$  is the elongation at break, and  $E$  is the Young's modulus.

## 6. Contact angles of KCPU-x

Table S3 Advancing angles and Receding angles of KCPU-x

Contact angle	KCPU-0	KCPU-1	KCPU-2	KCPU-3	KCPU-4
Advancing angle	99.3±0.8	93.3±0.6	96.5±0.8	95.5±0.5	102.8±1.3
Receding angle	101.0±1.2	94.3±2.5	97.5±1.4	95.7±1.1	102.5±1.1

## 7. Comparison of KCPU-4 and other dielectric elastomers in the literature

**Table S4** Dielectric constant, dielectric loss, and dielectric loss factor of acrylic and silicone elastomers in the literature

Dielectric Elastomers	Polymers	Dielectric properties at 10 <sup>3</sup> Hz			Reference
		$\epsilon'$	$\epsilon''$	$\tan \delta$	
PMMA-3	Acrylic polymer	4.3	0.044	0.01	1
MBM 104 TPEGs	Acrylic polymer	4.6			2
VHB 4905	Acrylic polymer	4.7			3
Wacker Elastosil® 2030/20	siloxane	2.8			3
BDDA	siloxane	4.6	0.1	0.022	4
Si-B_IN30	siloxane	4.3	0.047	0.011	5
TC5005-40	siloxane	4.4	0.11	0.025	6

**Table S5** Dielectric constant, dielectric loss, dielectric loss factor, and reprocessing temperature of polyurethane elastomers in the literature and KCPU-4 in this work

Dielectric Elastomers	Dielectric properties at 10 <sup>3</sup> Hz			Reprocessing temperature/°C	Reference
	$\epsilon'$	$\epsilon''$	$\tan \delta$		
6FDA-15-A	1.5	0.023	0.015	-	7
PU(26 h RT-cure in dried air)	3.2	0.202	0.063	-	8
PU(end of RT-cure)	3.0	0.45	0.15	-	9
PPG-MDI-TMP	8.6	1.032	0.12	-	10
p(BA-HEA)@MDI-1	7.1	0.284	0.04	-	11
Polyether-HDI-BD	8.1	0.203	0.025	-	12
PDET-MDI-BD	1.5	0.03	0.02	-	13
PU1400	7.0	0.7	0.1	-	14
BPU3	7.5	0.338	0.045	-	15
PU-41.03% PVP	5.5	0.385	0.07	-	16
Soybean Polyol-MDI	6.1	0.549	0.09	-	17
Polyol-MDI-Gly-BD	5.0	0.6	0.12	-	18
PU702	7.2	1.512	0.21	-	19
Polyether-HDI-CO-BD	10.2	1.02	0.1	-	20
Capa™2085	8.9	0.712	0.08	-	21
PU-7LNP	20.0	4.4	0.22	120	22
<b>KCPU-4</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>0.536</b>	<b>0.045</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>This work</b>

$\epsilon'$ , Dielectric constant;  $\epsilon''$ , dielectric loss;  $\tan \delta$ , dielectric loss factor.



## 8. Stress relaxation of KCPU-x at different temperatures

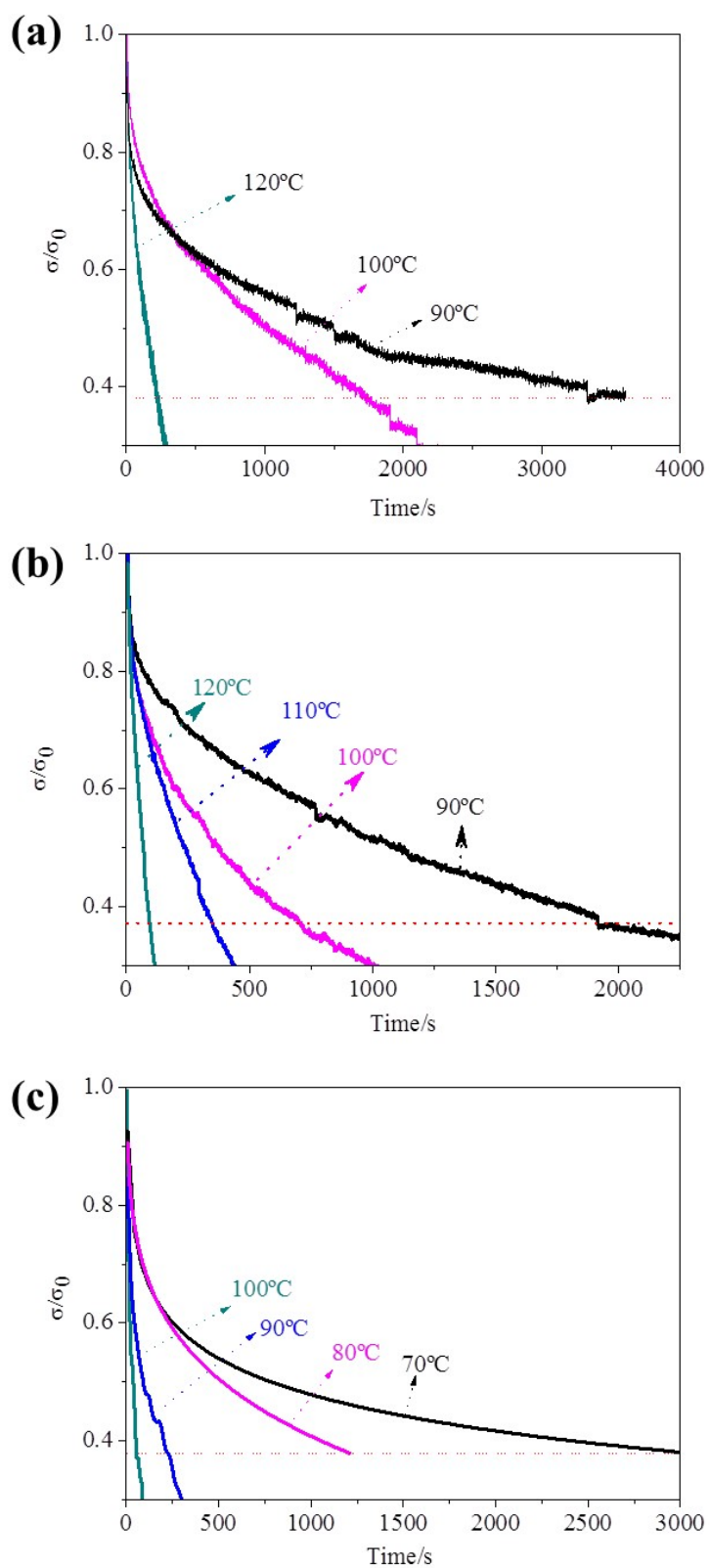
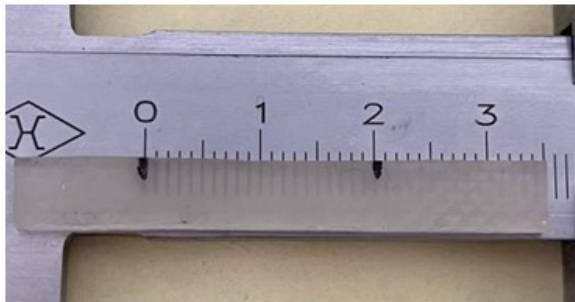


Figure S4 Stress relaxation curves of samples at different temperatures: (a) KCPU-1, (b) KCPU-2, (c) KCPU-4

## 9. Difference in the gauge length before and after stress relaxation

(a)



(b)



Figure S5 Length difference between two marked points: (a) the original KCPU-3 and (b) the cooled KCPU-3 after stress relaxation at 90 °C

## 10. Stress-strain curves of KCPU-x for three cyclic loading at high temperature

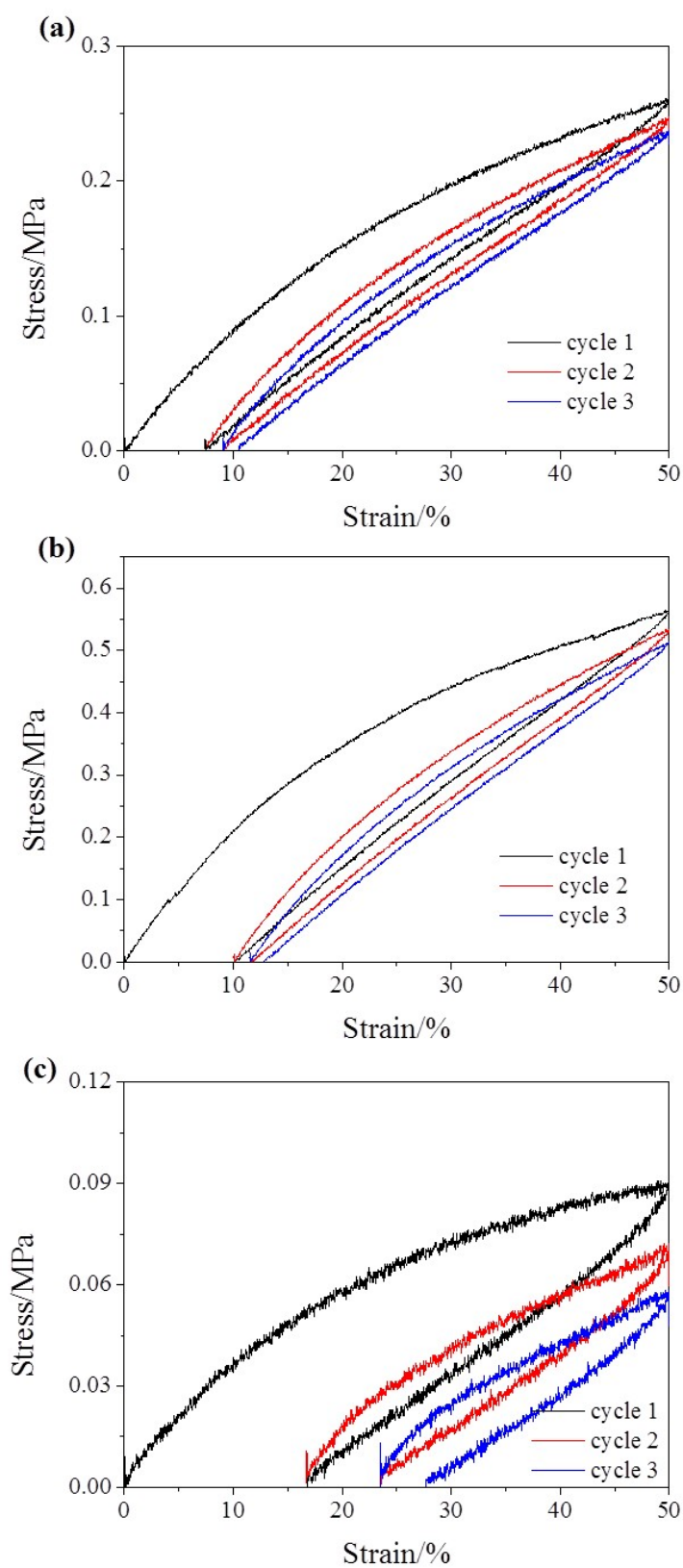


Figure S6 Stress-strain curves for three cyclic loading at 100 °C: (a) KCPU-1, (b) KCPU-2, and (c) KCPU-4

## 11. Stress-strain curves of KCPU-x for three cyclic loading at high temperature

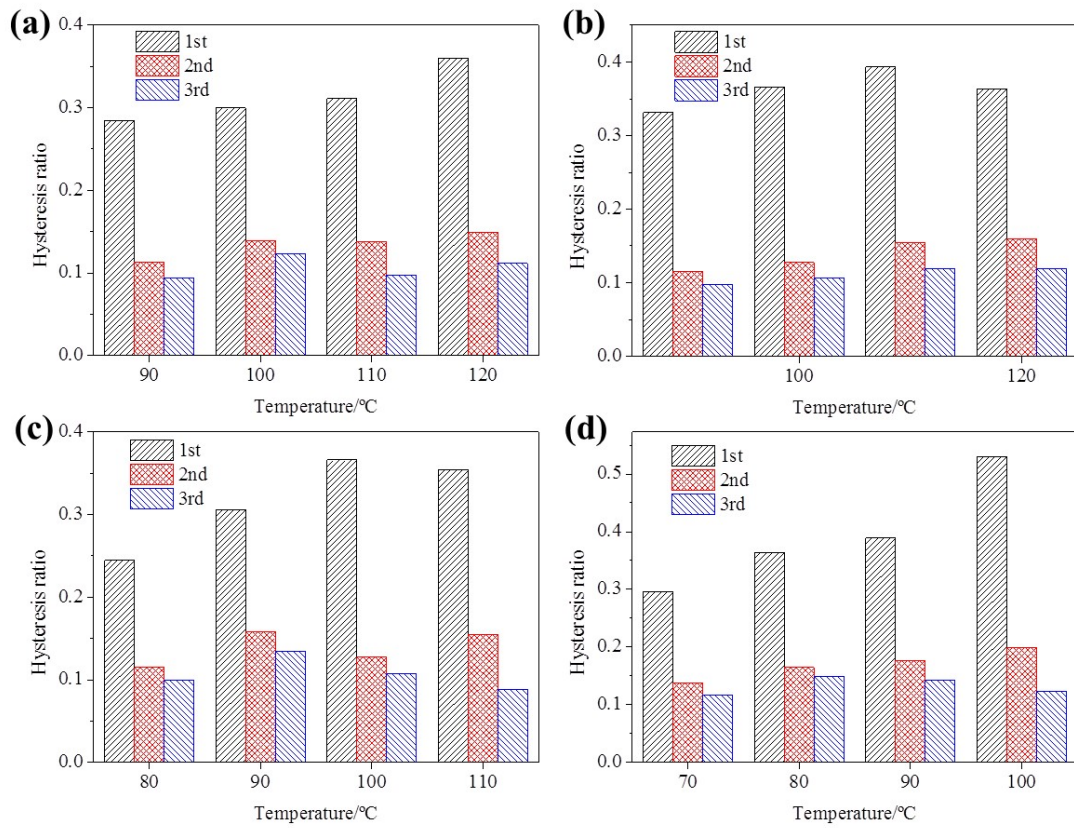


Figure S7 Temperature dependence of hysteresis loop area at different load-unload cycles: (a) KCPU-1, (b) KCPU-2, (c) KCPU-3, and (d) KCPU-4

## 12. Healing of KCPU-x

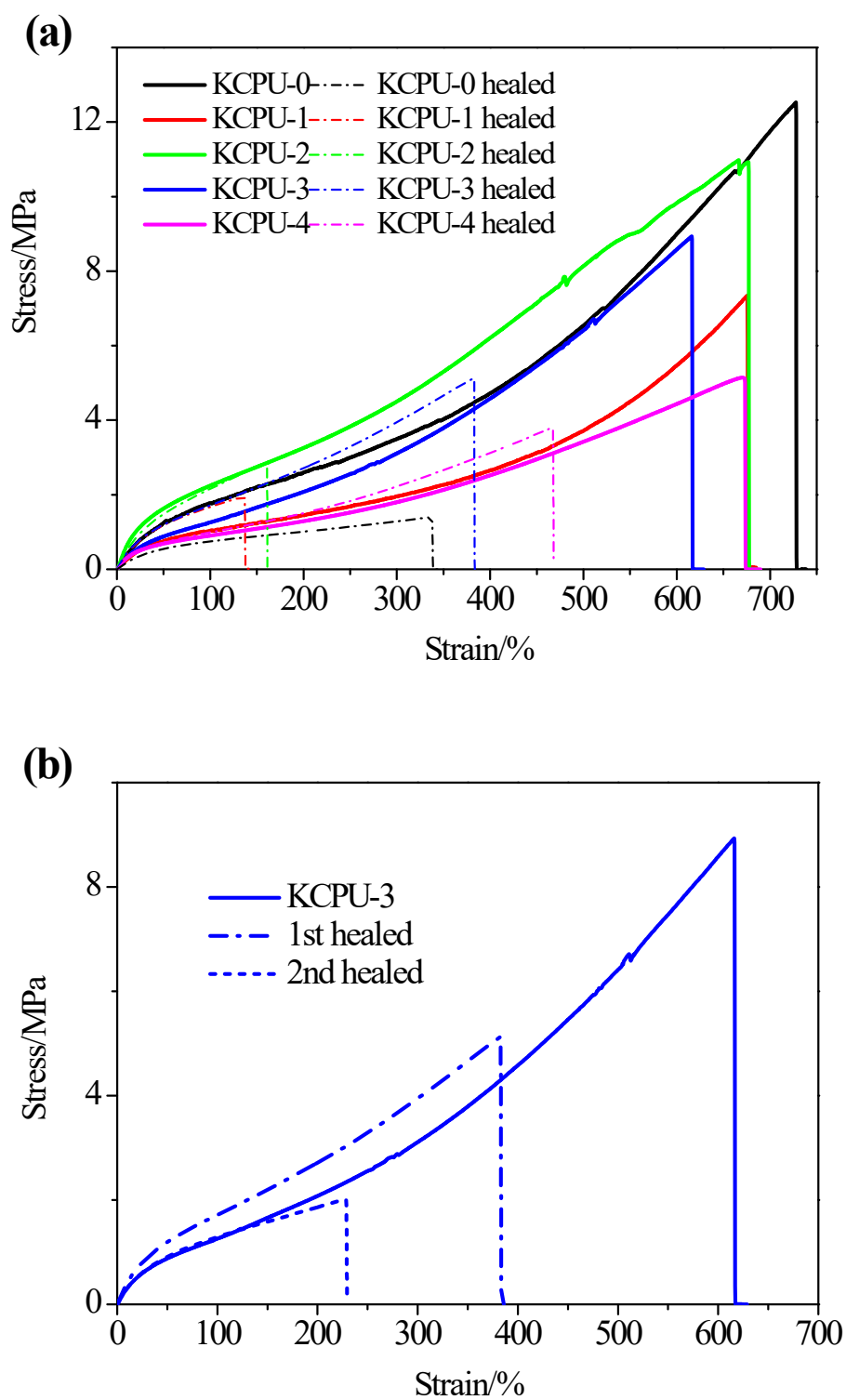


Figure S8 (a) Stress-strain curves of original and healed KCPU-x, (b) Stress-strain curves of KCPU-3 after repetitive healing experiments

### 13. Recovery efficiency of reprocessing samples

Table S6 Reprocessing temperature and recovery efficiency of KCPU-*x* samples in the tensile strength and elongation at break

Samples	Temperature of reprocessing/°C	Recovery efficiency of tensile strength/%	Recovery efficiency of elongation at break/%
KCPU-0	140	40.3±2.1	51.1±10.5
KCPU-1	120	24.3±0.8	33.8±2.5
KCPU-2	110	35.8±4.6	31.5±5.2
KCPU-3	100	23.8±1.7	39.7±3.5
KCPU-4	95	74.7±2.3	69.4±2.4

## References

1. J. Chen, Y. Wang and W. Chen, *J. Mater. Chem. C*, **2021**, 9, 5000-5007.
2. P. H. Vargantwar, A. E. Özçam, T. K. Ghosh, and R. J. Spontak, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, **2012**, 22, 2100-2113.
3. F. B. Albuquerque and H. Shea, *Smart Mater. Struct.*, **2019**, 28, 075042.
4. A. Chortos, E. Hajiesmaili, J. Morales, D. R. Clarke and J. A. Lewis, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, **2020**, 30, 1907375.
5. F. B. Madsen, L. Yu and A. L. Skov, *ACS Macro Lett.*, **2016**, 5, 1196-1200.
6. F. Galantini, F. Carpi and G. Gallone, *Smart Mater. Struct.*, **2013**, 22, 104020.
7. Y. Li, B. Ma, R. Zhang and X. Luo, *Polymer*, 2022, **253**, 125035.
8. B. Zimmer, C. Nies, C. Schmitt, C. Paulo and W. Possart, *Polymer*, 2018, **149**, 238-252.
9. B. Zimmer, C. Nies, C. Schmitt and W. Possart, *Polymer*, 2017, **115**, 77-95.
10. S. Desai, I.M. Thakore, B.D. Sarawade and S. Devi, *Eur. Polym. J.*, 2000, **36**, 711-725.
11. Y. Zhao, J. Zha, L. Yin, S. Li, Y. Wen and Z. Dang, *Polymer*, 2018, **149**, 39-44.
12. S. Oprea, O. Potolinca and V. Oprea, *High Perform. Polym.*, 2011, **23**, 49-58.
13. A. Marcos-Fernandez, R. Navarro, E. Benito, J. Guzman and L. Garrido, *Eur. Polym. J.*, 2021, **155**, 110576.
14. K. Raftopoulos, B. Janowski, L. Apekis, K. Pielichowski and P. Pissis, *Eur. Polym. J.*, 2011, **47**, 2120-2133.
15. S. Oprea, *J. Polym. Res.*, 2011, **18**, 1777-1785.
16. L. V. Karabanova, G. Boiteux, O. Gain, G. Seytre, L. M. Sergeeva, E. D. Lutsyk and P. A. Bondarenko, *J. Appl. Polym. Sci.*, 2003, **90**, 1191-1201.
17. A. Zlatanic, C. Lava, W. Zhang and Z. S. Petrovic, *J. Polym. Sci. B*, 2004, **42**, 809-819.
18. S. Oprea, V. Musteata and V. O. Potolinca, *J. Elastomers Plast.*, 2011, **43**, 559-575.
19. Z. S. Petrovic, I. Javni and G. Banhegy, *J. Polym. Sci. B*, 1998, **36**, 237-251.
20. S. Oprea, *J. Appl. Polym. Sci.*, 2011, **119**, 2196-2204.
21. M. Zajac, H. Kahl, B. Schade, T. Rodel, M. Dionisio and M. Beiner, *Polymer*, 2017, **111**, 83-90.
22. G. Qi, W. Yang, D. Puglia, H. Wang, P. Xu, W. Dong, T. Zheng and P. Ma, *Mater. Des.*, 2020, **196**, 109150.