## LIST OF ABBREVIATION AND SYMBOLS

% percentage

°C degree centigrade
0-D zero dimensional
1-D one dimensional
2-D two dimensional
3-D three dimensional
AC alternating current

APTES (3-Aminopropyl)triethoxysilane

ASTM American society for testing and materials

ATR attenuated total reflection

BD 1,4-butanediol

BET Brunauer-Emmett-Teller
BJH Barrett-Joyner-Halenda

BLPU bio-based linear polyurethane

BPA bisphenol-A

BTI bitolylene diisocyanate

ca. circa

CB conduction band

CBED convergent beam electron diffraction

CD carbon dot(s)
cm centimeter(s)

CNC cellulose nanocrystal(s)
CNT carbon nanotube(s)

CO castor oil

COMP castor oil modified polyol CQD carbon quantum dot(s)

DABCO 1,4-Diazabicyclo[2.2.2.]octane

DB degree of branching
DBTDL dibutyltin dilaurate
DBTDA dibutyltin diacetate

DBU 1,8-Diazabicyclo[5.4.0]unde-7-ene

DDI dimer acid diisocyanate

DEA diethanolamine

DGEBA diglycedylether epoxy of bisphenol A

DMAc dimethylacetamide
DMSO dimethyl sulfoxide
DMF dimethylformamide
DPP diphenyl phosphate

DSC differential scanning calorimetry

e- electron(s)

E. Coli Escherichia coli

EIS electrochemical impedance spectroscopy

EtOH ethanol

eV electron volt

fcc face centered cubic
FFT fast Fourier transform

FTIR Fourier transform infrared

g gram(s)

GC gas chromatography

g-CN graphitic-carbon nitride

g mol<sup>-1</sup> gram per mole(s)

GPC gel permeation chromatography

GO graphene oxide

h hour(s)
h+ hole(s)

HAp hydroxyapatite
H-bonding hydrogen bonding

HDI hexamethylene diisocyanate

HPLC high performance liquid chromatography

HPU hyperbranched polyurethane(s)

HPUNC hyperbranched polyurethane nanocomposite(s)
HRTEM high resolution transmission electron microscopy

HTPB hydroxyl-terminated polybutadiene glycol

Hz Hertz

ICP inductively coupled plasma
IFFT inverse fast Fourier transform

IPDI isophorone diisocyanate

*i*PrOH isopropanol IR infrared

J Joule

kg kilogram(s)
kJ kilo Joule
kV kilo Volt

LDI (S)-Lysine diisocyanate

LPU linear polyurethane

lux illuminance
MeCN acetonitrile

MDI methylene diphenyl diisocyanate

MGE monoglyceride

min minute(s)
mL milli litre(s)
mm milli meter(s)
mV milliVolt(s)

MMT montmorillonite

mol mole(s)

MPa mega Pascal

MPA 2,2-Bis(hydroxymethyl)propionic acid

MSA methane sulfonic acid

MW microwave

MWCNT multi-walled carbon nanotube(s)

N Newton

NBDI norbornane diisocyanate

NDI naphthalene diisocyanate

NHC N-heterocyclic carbene(s)

NIR near IR nm nanometer

NMR nuclear magnetic resonance

NP nanoparticle(s)
OD optical density

P. aeruginosa Pseudomonas aeruginosa
P. cepacia Pseudomonas cepacia

PBG poly(xixolydimet oxide) glycol

PCL poly(caprolactone)diol
PDI polydispersity index
PDMS polydimethylsiloxane

PEG polyethylene glycol

PhMe toluene

phr parts per hundred rubber

PL photoluminescence

PPG poly(propylene oxide) glycol

ppm parts per million

PHMEG poly(hexamethylene oxide) glycol

PTMEG poly(tetramethylene ether) glycol

PU polyurethane(s)

PUNC polyurethane nanocomposite(s)

rCD reduced carbon dot

rGO reduced graphene oxide

rpm rotations per minute
S. aureus Staphylococcus aureus

SAED selected area electron diffraction

SEM scanning electron microscopy

SHP self healing polymer(s)
SCP self cleaning polymer(s)

SFE surface free energy
SME shape memory effect

SMP shape memory polymer(s)

SO sunflower oil

SPR surface plasmon resonance

SWCNT single-walled carbon nanotube(s)
TBD 1,5,7-Triazabicyclo[4.4.0]dec-5-ene

TBHP *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide

TDI toluene diisocyanate

TEM transmission electron microscopy

TEMPO 2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl)oxyl

TGA thermogravimetric analysis

THF tetrahydrofuran

T<sub>g</sub> glass transition temperature

 $T_m$  melting temperature

TLC thin layer chromatography

TMS tetramethylsilane

TOF turnover frequency
TON turnover number

TPU thermoplastic polyurethane UTM universal testing machine

UV-Vis ultraviolet-visible

VB valence band

vol volume W Watt

WERSA water extract of rice straw ash

wt Weight

XDI *m*-Xylylene diisocyanate

XPS X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy

XRD X-ray diffraction

 $\delta$  ppm chemical shift in parts per million

 $\mu L$  micro litre(s)  $\mu m$  micro meter(s)

## LIST OF SCHEMES

Sl. No.	Scheme Legend	Pg. No.
1.1.	Schematic representation of one-shot polymerization technique of PU.	1-19
1.2.	Schematic representation of pre-polymerization technique of PU and	1-19
	HPU.	
1.3.	Preparative methods of nanomaterials.	1-21
2.1.	Synthesis of COMP.	2-9
2.2	Synthesis of HPU.	2-13
3.1	Probable scheme for the formation of AH@rGO nanohybrid.	3-7
3.2	Fabrication of HPU/AH@rGO nanocomposite.	3-11
4.1	Preparation of Si-GO.	4-6
4.2	Fabrication of HPU/Si-GO nanocomposite.	4-10
5A.1.	Synthesis of Pd-Ag@CQD nanohybrid.	5-6
5A.2.	Mechanism of UV-light assisted reduction and subsequent formation of	5-7
	Pd-Ag@CQD nanohybrid.	
5A.3.	Model reaction for Pd-Ag@CQD catalyzed Suzuki-Miyaura cross coupling.	5-11
5A.4	Synergistic role of Pd-Ag@CQD nanohybrid in the Suzuki-Miyaura	5-17
	cross coupling reaction.	
5B.1.	Fabrication of HPU/Pd-Ag@CQD nanocomposite.	5-38
5B.2.	HPUNC catalyzed <i>ipso</i> -hydroxylation of phenyl boronic acid with H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> .	5-43
5B.3.	Probable mechanism of oxidative ipso-hydroxylation of aryl boronic	5-48
	acid catalyzed by HPUNC.	
6.1.	Preparation of oxy-g-CND.	6-9
6.2.	Fabrication of HPU/oxy-g-CND nanocomposite.	6-14
6.3.	Possible pathways of oxy-g-CND@HPU nanocomposite as a	6-32
	heterogeneous photocatalyst under solar light.	

## LIST OF FIGURES

Sl. No.	Figure Legend	Pg. No.
1.1.	Different types of nanomaterials based on dimensions.	1-16
1.2.	Carbon based nanomaterials.	1-17
2.1.	FT-IR spectra of CO and COMP.	2-10
2.2.	<sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum of COMP.	2-11
2.3	<sup>13</sup> C NMR spectrum of COMP.	2-12
2.4	a) FT-IR spectrum of isocyanate-terminated pre-polymer, and b) FT-IR spectra of (i) HPU1, (ii) HPU2, (iii) HPU3, (iv) BLPU and (v) LPU.	2-14
2.5	<sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum of HPU.	2-15
2.6	XRD patterns of (i) LPU, (ii) BLPU, (iii) HPU1, (iv) HPU2 and (v) HPU3.	2-16
2.7	Stress-strain profile of PUs.	2-18
2.8	a) TG curves, and b) dTG curves of PUs.	2-19
2.9	DSC curves of HPUs.	2-20
2.10	a) Optical density (OD) plots showing growth of <i>P. aerugonisa</i> bacterial strain against time for PUs during initial 7 weeks, b) Weight losses of PU films after 7 weeks of exposure to <i>P. aerugonisa</i> strain, SEM micrographs of HPU film a) before and b) after biodegradation.	2-22
2.11	Histograms showing a) tensile strength, b) elongation at break, and c) toughness of PUs before and after UV-aging.	2-23
2.12	Digital images displaying the shape memory behaviour of HPU2: a) Original shape, b) temporary fixed shape at room temperature, c) to f) shapes at 50 °C in 5s, 10s, 15s, 20s and g) regained original shape at room temperature.	2-25
3.1	Digital image showing stable dispersion of GO and AH@rGO in DMF.	3-8
3.2	a) UV-Vis spectra of GO and AH@rGO, b) FT-IR spectra of GO and AH@rGO, c) Raman spectra of GO and AH@rGO, and d) EDX map of AH@rGO.	3-9
3.3	a) TEM image of AH@rGO showing Al(OH) <sub>3</sub> over rGO sheets, b) HR- TEM image of Al(OH) <sub>3</sub> phase (inset IFFT images showing inter-planar spacings of Al(OH) <sub>3</sub> phase), c) HR-TEM image of rGO sheets displaying	3-10

	lattice fringes (inset SAED pattern of rGO on left; inter-planar spacing of rGO phase on right), and d) SAED pattern of AH@rGO.	
3.4	a) FT-IR spectra of HPU/AH@rGO nanocomposites, and b) XRD patterns of HPU/AH@rGO nanocomposites.	3-13
3.5	SEM micrographs of HPU/AH@RGO0.5 at 10 $\mu$ m with a) 1000× magnification and b) 2000× magnification, TEM images of HPU/AH@RGO0.5 at magnification of c) 200 nm and d) 10 nm.	3-13
3.6	Stress-strain profiles of HPU/AH@RGO nanocomposites.	3-14
3.7	TG thermograms of HPU/AH@rGO nanocomposites.	3-16
3.8	DSC curves of (i) HPU/AH@rGO0.3, (ii) HPU/AH@rGO0.5, (iii) HPU/AH@rGO01.0, and (iv) HPU/AH@rGO2.0.	3-17
3.9	Shape memory behaviour of HPU-AH-rGO2.0 under thermal heating and sunlight.	3-19
4.1	a) FT-IR spectra of i) GO and ii) Si-GO. b) Deconvoluted region I and II of FT-IR spectrum of Si-GO.	4-7
4.2	a) Raman spectra of GO and Si-GO. b) XRD patterns of GO and Si-GO. c) EDX map of Si-GO. d) TG thermograms of GO and Si-GO (inset: dTG of GO and Si-GO).	4-9
4.3	FT-IR spectra of HPU/Si-GO nanocomposite.	4-11
4.4	SEM images of fractured surface of a) pristine HPU and, b) HPU/Si-GO0.5, and TEM images of HPU/Si-GO0.5 at magnification of c) 1 $\mu$ m and, d) 200 nm.	4-12
4.5	Stress-strain profiles of (i) HPU and (ii)-(iv) HPU/Si-GO nanocomposites.	4-13
4.6	a) TG thermograms, b) dTG curves, c) DSC curves and, d) Chemical resistance in different chemical media, of HPU and HPU/Si-GO nanocomposites.	4-15
4.7	Optical images displaying self healing behaviors of HPU/Si-GO0.5, HPU/Si-GO1.0 and HPU under exposure to direct sunlight.	4-16
4.8	a) Self healing mechanism of HPU/Si-GO nanocomposites, b) Healing efficiencies of HPU/Si-GO0.5 nanocomposite under MW and sunlight, and c) Stress-strain profiles of HPU/Si-GO0.5 before and after healing.	4-18
4.9	a)-d) Optical images displaying static water contact angles of HPU, HPU/Si-GO0.5, HPU/Si-GO1.0 and HPU/Si-GO2.0 respectively, e) 3D surface plot of HPU/Si-GO1.0, and f)-h) Self cleaning ability of dirt-	4-20

	film after cleaning).	
5A.1	a) UV spectra of CQD, Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> and Pd-Ag@CQD nanohybrid, b) FT-IR spectra of (i) CQD, (ii)Pd <sup>2+</sup> -Ag <sup>+</sup> -CQD complex and (iii) Pd-Ag@CQD nanohybrid, c) EDX map of Pd-Ag@CQD nanohybrid, and d) XRD patterns of Pd-Ag@CQD nanohybrid.	5-9
5A.2	a)-b) TEM images of Pd-Ag@CQD, c) size distribution of Pd-Ag@CQD, d) HRTEM of CQD phase (inset: IFFT image of selected area of CQD phase), e) HRTEM of Pd-Ag nanohybrid phase (inset: IFFT image of selected area of Pd-Ag hybrid phase), and f) SAED pattern of Pd-Ag@CQD.	5-10
5A.3	Catalyst reusability, in terms of yield and time.	5-13
5A.4	a) XRD patterns of recovered catalyst, and b) EDX map of recovered catalyst.	5-14
5A.5	a) Hot filtration test for heterogeneity of the catalyst, and b) $N_2$ adsorption-desorption isotherm of the catalyst.	5-14
5B.1	a) FT-IR spectra, and b) XRD patterns of HPUNCs.	5-39
5B.2	a)-b) TEM images of HPUNC2.0, c)-d) HRTEM images of Pd-Ag@CQD in HPUNC2.0 (inset: lattice fringes of CQD and Pd-Ag hybrid phase), and e) Particle size distribution of Pd-Ag@CQD in HPUNC2.0.	5-40
5B.3	Stress-strain profiles of (i) HPU, (ii) HPUNC0.5, (iii) HPUNC1.0 and (iv) HPUNC2.0.	5-41
5B.4	a) TG thermograms, and b) dTG curves of HPU and HPUNCs.	5-42
5B.5	DSC curves of HPUNCs.	5-43
5B.6	$N_2$ adsorption-desorption isotherm of HPUNC catalyst.	5-47
6.1	a) FT-IR spectrum, and b) XRD pattern of oxy-g-CND.	6-10
6.2	a) XPS survey spectrum of oxy-g-CND. Deconvoluted high resolution XPS spectra of b) C1s, c) O1s, and d) N1s of oxy-g-CND.	6-11
6.3	a) Aqueous dispersion of oxy-g-CNDs under UV light and visible light, b) UV-Vis absorbance (red line) and PL emission (blue line, $\lambda_{ex}$ = 360 nm) spectra of oxy-g-CNDs, c) PL emission spectra of oxy-g-CNDs at different excitation wavelengths, and d) Change in PL emission intensity upon exposure to continuous excitation at wavelength of 360 nm for 2 h.	6-12

a) TEM image of oxy-g-CNDs at magnification of 20 nm, b) HRTEM 6-13 6.4 image of oxy-g-CND at magnification of 1 nm (inset: IFFT image of oxyg-CND phase), c) SAED pattern of oxy-g-CND, and d) Particle size distribution of oxy-g-CND. a) ATR-FTIR spectra of (i) Pre-polymer, (ii) HPU, (iii) HPUNC0.5, (iv) 6.5 6-16 HPUNC1.0 and (v) HPUNC2.0 with magnification of 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup>-500 cm<sup>-1</sup> region, b) XRD patterns of HPUNCs, and c) HR-TEM image of HPUNC1.0 at magnification of 5 nm. a) Stress-strain profiles of HPU and HPUNCs, and Effect of nanomaterial 6.6 6-18 loading on b) tensile strength, c) elongation-at-break, and d) toughness. 6-19 6.7 TG curves of oxy-g-CND, HPU and HPUNCs. a) Photographs of dispersion of HPUNC in xylene under daylight and 6-20 6.8 long UV light (365 nm), (at top) handwritten characters with HPUNC ink on commercially available filter paper under daylight and long UV light (365 nm), (at bottom) handwritten characters with HPUNC ink on ordinary plastic sheet under daylight and long UV light (365 nm), and b) Stress-strain profile of HPUNC ink coated paper and uncoated paper. a) UV-Vis spectra of oxy-g-CND and HPUNC, b) Tauc plots of oxy-g-CND 6-22 6.9 and HPUNC, c) EIS plots of oxy-g-CND under simulated light and dark conditions in the frequency range from 10 mHz to 10  $\mu$ Hz with a 50 mV sinusoidal AC voltage, and d) Chronoamperometric curves of oxy-g-CND at a fixed potential of 0.5 V with intermittent irradiation cycles. a) FT-IR spectra of fresh catalyst and recovered spent catalyst after 6-30 6.10 oxidation reaction and reduction reaction, and b) TEM image of recovered catalyst at magnification of 5 nm. N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms of a) HPU (inset: Pore size 6-31 6.11 distribution in HPU), and b) HPUNC (inset: Pore size distribution in

HPUNC).

## LIST OF TABLES

Sl. No.	Table Legend	Pg. No.
1.1.	Example and properties of macroglycols used in PU	1-8
1.2.	Commonly used diisocyanates in PU	1-10
1.3.	Commonly used chain extenders in PU synthesis	1-12
1.4	Commonly used catalyst in PU synthesis	1-14
2.1.	Compositions of the reactants in mmol and other parameters in	2-6
	percentage for PUs	
2.2.	Mechanical properties of PUs	2-17
2.3	Thermal degradation temperatures of PUs	2-19
2.4	Glass transition and melting temperature of HPUs	2-20
2.5	Weight loss (%) of PUs in different chemical media	2-21
2.6	Retention (%) of mechanical properties of PUs after UV-aging	2-23
2.7	Shape memory behaviour of PUs	2-24
3.1	Mechanical properties of HPU and its nanocomposites	3-14
3.2	Thermal degradation temperatures of HPU/AH@rGO	3-16
	nanocomposites	
3.3	Thermal transition temperature of HPU/AH@rGO	3-18
	nanocomposites	
3.4	Shape memory features of the HPU/AH@rGO nanocomposites	3-19
4.1	Mechanical properties of HPU and its nanocomposites	4-12
4.2	Surface properties and static contact angles of model measuring	4-20
	liquids	
5A.1	Effect of catalyst loading on Suzuki-Miyaura coupling reaction	5-11
5A.2	Substrate study for Pd-Ag@CQD catalyzed Suzuki-Miyaura	5-12
	coupling reaction	
5A.3	Study of the role of components of the nanohybrid for Suzuki-	5-16
	Miyaura cross coupling	
5B.1	Mechanical properties of HPU and its nanocomposites	5-41

Optimization of catalyst loading using model reaction	5-44
Optimization of amount of oxidant using model reaction	5-44
Substrate study for oxidative <i>ipso</i> -hydroxylation of aryl boronic acids	5-45
Recovery and recyclability of catalyst using model reaction	5-46
Comparison of the components and compositions of HPUNC using model reaction	5-48
Mechanical properties of HPU and its nanocomposites	6-17
Optimization of reaction conditions for oxidation of benzylic alcohol	6-23
Substrate study for oxidation of benzylic alcohols	6-25
Optimization of reaction conditions for reduction of benzaldehyde	6-27
Substrate study for reduction of benzaldehydes	6-28
Recyclability of HPUNC photocatalyst	6-29
	Optimization of amount of oxidant using model reaction  Substrate study for oxidative <i>ipso</i> -hydroxylation of aryl boronic acids  Recovery and recyclability of catalyst using model reaction  Comparison of the components and compositions of HPUNC using model reaction  Mechanical properties of HPU and its nanocomposites  Optimization of reaction conditions for oxidation of benzylic alcohol  Substrate study for oxidation of benzylic alcohols  Optimization of reaction conditions for reduction of benzaldehyde  Substrate study for reduction of benzaldehydes