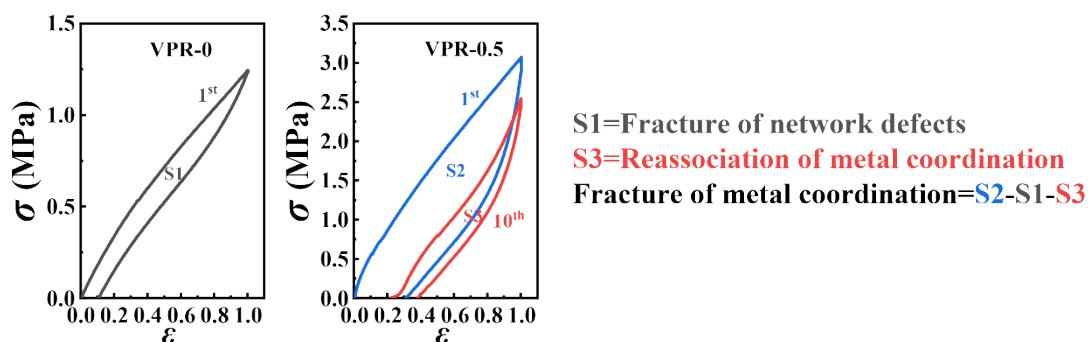


Supplementary Information for

Strain hysteresis and Mullins effect of rubber vulcanizates with reversible sacrificial network

Rongyan Hu, Xin Jiang, Yaxin Chen, Jinlong Wang, Yuhao Guo, Qiang Zheng*, Yonggang Shangguan*

MOE Key Laboratory of Macromolecule Synthesis and Functionalization, Department of Polymer Science and Engineering, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou 310027, P. R. China



Scheme S1. Schematic diagram of area division.

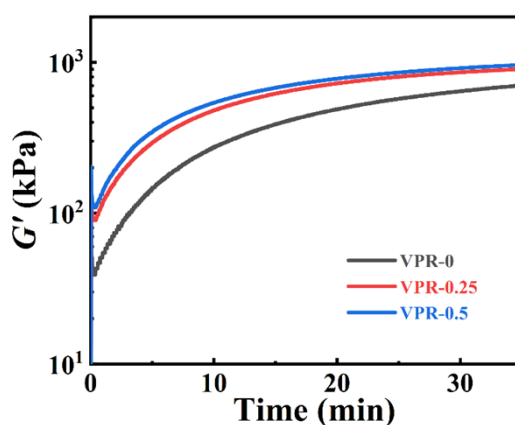


Fig. S1. Vulcanization curves of VPR-x at 150 °C.

*Corresponding authors. Department of Polymer Science and Engineering, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou 310027, PR China. Tel/fax: +86 0571 8795 3075.

E-mail addresses: shangguan@zju.edu.cn (YG. Shangguan).

Due to the absence of effective observation techniques for the sacrificial bond region, its existence can only be inferred through the distribution of ZnCl_2 . The following figure presents the TEM images of VPR-0.25, VPR-0.5, and VPR-0.67. Individual ions are not easily distinguishable. The dark regions in the TEM images represent aggregates of nanoparticles of different dimensions, suggesting the formation of sacrificial bond regions with varying sizes.

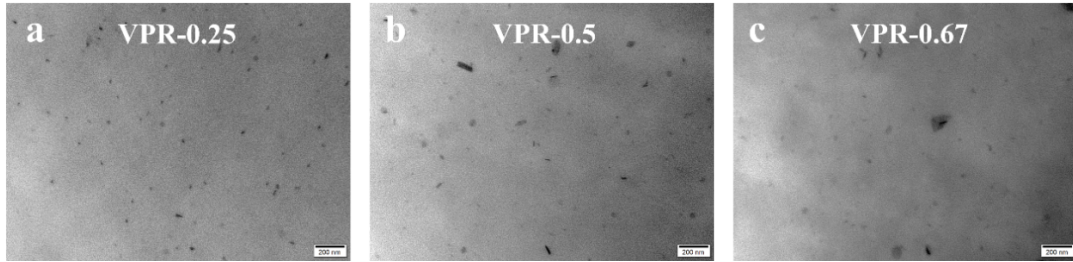


Fig. S2. TEM of (a) VPR-0 (b) VPR-0.5, and (b) VPR-0.67.

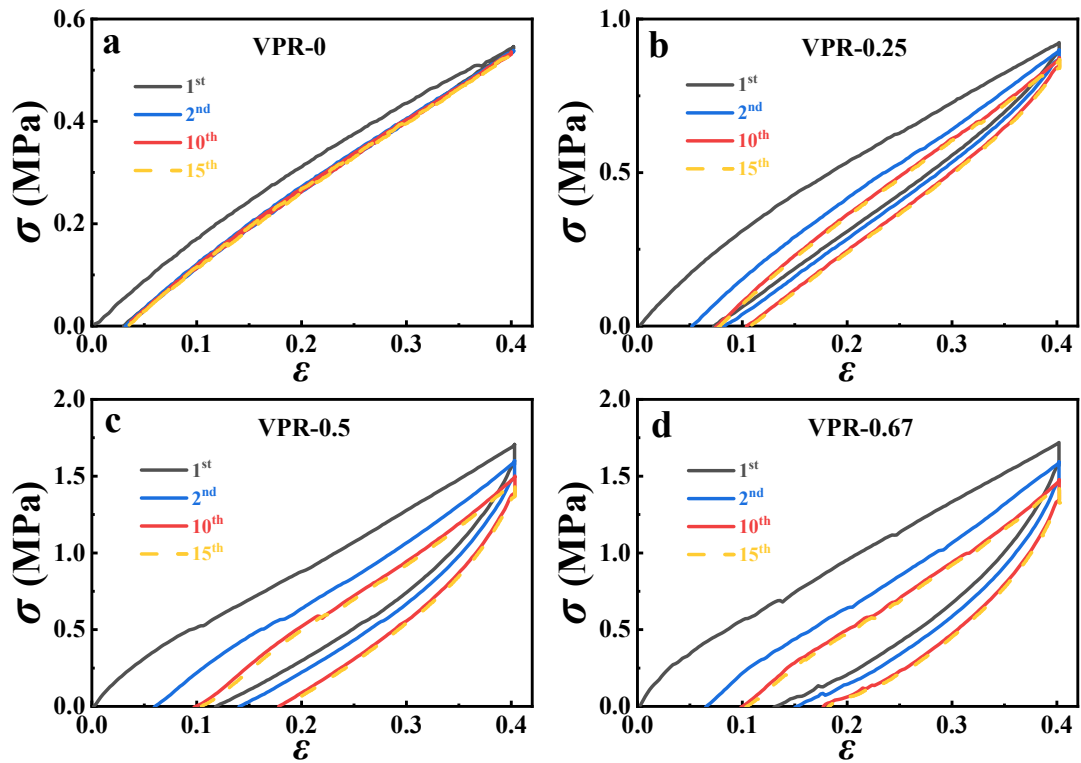


Fig. S3. Stress-strain curves of multiple cycles for (a)VPR-0, (b)VPR-0.25, (c) VPR-0.5 and (d) VPR-0.67 at $\epsilon=0.4$.

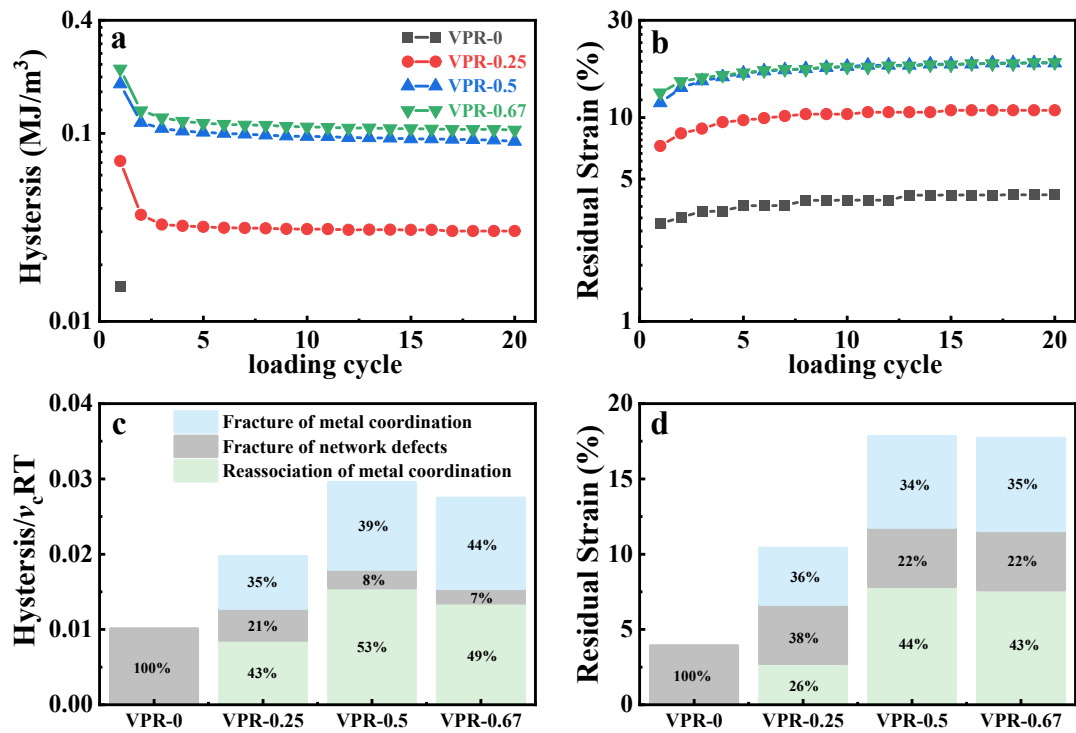


Fig. S4. (a) Area of hysteresis and (b) residual strain of multiple cycles for VPR- x at $\epsilon=0.4$.

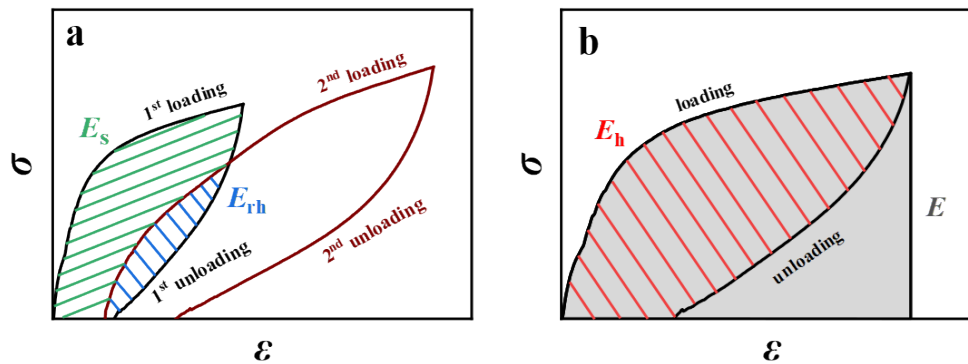


Fig. S5. Definition of energy losses.

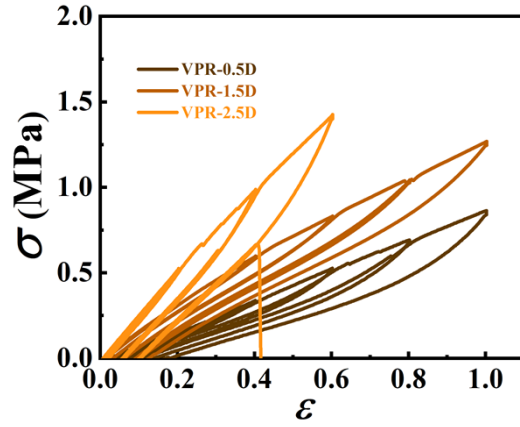


Fig. S6. Stress-strain curves of VPR-0 with covalent crosslinking density during sequential loading-unloading tensile tests at a series of different maximum applied strains.

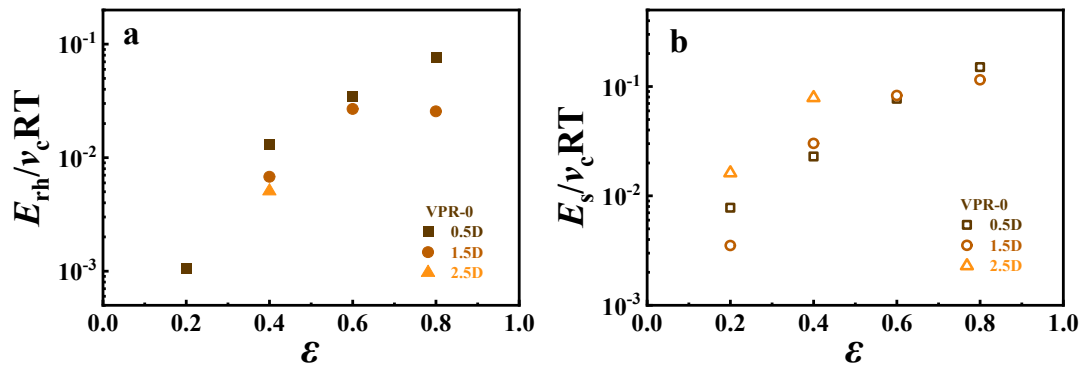


Fig. S7. Energy losses of recovery hysteresis (E_{rh} , a) and softening (E_s , b) as a function of prestrain.