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J-06-P POLY(URETHANE-ESTER-SILOXANE) NETWORKS

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Abstract

The waterproof performance and formation of hydrogen bonds in polyurethane (PU) networks based on Boltorn[®] hyperbranched polyester of the third pseudo generation (BH-30), α, ω -dihydroxy-(ethylene oxide-poly(dimethylsiloxane)-ethylene oxide) (EO-PDMS-EO) and 4,4'-methylenediphenyl diisocyanate (MDI) were studied in this work. Obtained results revealed that as the content of EO-PDMS-EO decreases, the degree of microphase separation increases, while the water resistance of the prepared PU networks decreases.

Introduction

The application of hyperbranched polyesters (HBP) or PDMS macrodiols for the preparation of polyurethanes has gained great attention over the last years, since these polymers have properties which can be applied to improve and modify performances of PUs for specific applications [1,2]. Besides, it has been shown that the combination of both, PDMS macrodiol and HBP, can also be used for the synthesis of PU networks [3]. Such networks are good candidates for coating applications, because numerous end functional groups in HBP provide fast curing and formation of highly crosslinked system with good mechanical properties, while the presence of PDMS improves thermal and surface properties and brings elasticity in such material, due to its low glass transition temperature. The aim of the present work is the investigation of the influence of EO-PDMS-EO content on the water resistance and the extent of hydrogen bonding in the polyurethane networks synthesized using Boltorn[®] hyperbranched polyester of the third pseudo generation, EO-PDMS-EO and MDI.

Experimental

PUs based on BH-30, EO-PDMS-EO and MDI were synthesized according to the procedure described elsewhere [3]. The last two numbers in the name of PUs represent EO-PDMS-EO content. FTIR spectra of the synthesized PUs were recorded using ATR NICOLET 380 FTIR spectrometer. Water absorption of the synthesized PUs was determined at room temperature by their immersion for 48 h in distilled water. The water contact angles of the synthesized PUs were determined on Krüss DSA100 instrument, using the sessile drop method, at 22 °C. **Results and Discussion**

The chemical structure of PUs was examined by FTIR spectroscopy. In the FTIR spectra of PUs (Figure 1a) absorption bands characteristic for the amide II and

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amide III vibrations (1258 cm⁻¹ and 1537 cm⁻¹), overlapped bands of Si-O-Si and C-O-C groups (1015 and 1080 cm⁻¹), Si-CH₃ linkage (790 cm⁻¹), symmetric and asymmetric -CH₂- and -CH₃ (2961, 2903 and 2875 cm⁻¹), aromatic C=C (1596 and 1412 cm⁻¹) and H-bonded –NH stretching vibration (3306 cm⁻¹) are visible. The formation of urethane bonds was confirmed from the absence of isocyanate peak at 2260 cm⁻¹.

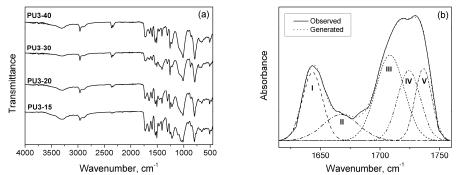


Figure 1. (a) FTIR spectra of PUs and (b) curve-fitting FTIR spectra of PU3-40.

Table 1. Curve numg results of the C=O stretching regions from the FOS FTIK spectra.						
	Area I	Area II	Area III	Area IV	Area V	
Sample	(CO _{ester-H}	(CO _{order urethane-H}	(CO _{disorder urethane-H}	(CO _{free}	(CO _{free}	
	_{bonding}), %	bonding), %	bonding), %	_{ester}), %	urethane), %	
PU3-40	16.7	14.2	31.3	22.3	15.5	
PU3-30	19.7	17.2	25.9	22.2	15.0	
PU3-20	21.5	38.4	10.1	16.8	13.2	

Table 1. Curve fitting results of the C=O stretching regions from the PUs FTIR spectra

To investigate the extent of hydrogen bonding in the synthesized PUs and to obtain individual spectral bands and areas in the overlapping spectra of C=O region, the Gaussian deconvolution method (OriginPro 8) was applied. The absorbance region of the C=O groups of PU3-40 is given in Figure 1b, while curve fitting results for selected PUs are listed in Table 1. Five absorbance peaks were observed in the C=O region corresponding to the: H-bonded C=O groups from ester bonds (1645 cm⁻¹), H-bonded urethane C=O groups in ordered hard domains (1680 cm⁻¹), H-bonded urethane C=O groups in disordered domains (1710 cm⁻¹), free C=O groups from ester bonds (1725 cm^{-1}) and free urethane C=O groups (1735 cm⁻¹) [4]. As the content of EO-PDMS-EO decreases, the possibility for Hbonding between urethane groups and H-bonding between urethane and ester carbonyl groups generally increases, while the fraction of H-bonding between -NH urethane and ether oxygen from EO-PDMS-EO, free ester and free urethane C=O decreases. It can be concluded that ordering of the hard segment domains, i.e. the tendency of H-bonds formation between hard segments is more pronounced in samples with lower EO-PDMS-EO content, resulting in higher degree of microphase separation.

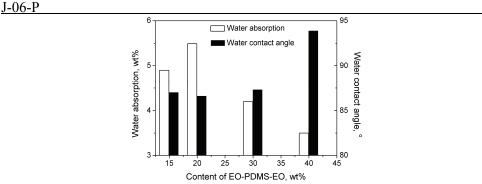


Figure 2. Values of the water absorption and water contact angles of the PU networks.

The waterproof performance of the PU networks was investigated by measuring their water absorption and water contact angle and obtained results are given in Figure 2. The weight percent of the water absorption decreases while the water contact angle increases as the EO-PDMS-EO content increases, due to the hydrophobic character of PDMS and possible migration of the EO-PDMS-EO to the surface of PUs.

Conclusions

The presented results revealed that the tendency of H-bonds formation between hard segments in prepared PU networks decreases with increasing EO-PDMS-EO content. The increase of EO-PDMS-EO content also induced better water resistance of PUs.

Acknowledgments

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