11<sup>th</sup> BROADBAND DIELECTRIC SPECTROSCOPY AND ITS APPLICATIONS DONOSTIA - SAN SEBASTIAN – SPAIN – SEPTEMBER, 2022

T.A. Ezquerra



Is the sub-glass temperature relaxation of furan-based polymers related to their high gas barrier properties?

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- Introduction to polyfuranoates : Outstanding gas barrier properties
- Broadband Dielectric Spectroscopy (BDS) of Poly(trimethylene 2,5-furanoate) (PTF) Poly(trimethylene terephthalate) (PTT)
- Fourier transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) of Poly(trimethylene 2,5-furanoate) PTF Poly(trimethylene terephthalate) (PTT)
- BDS versus FTIR



# Motivation

• Interest in Polymers based on renewable raw materials for potential applications in pharmacy, medicine, agriculture, tissue engineering, textile industry, packaging etc.



• Werpy T, Petersen G (2004) Top Value Added Chemicals from Biomass: Volume I – Results of Screening for Potential Candidates from Sugars and Synthesis Gas. Golden, CO (United States).

# Motivation

• The use of FDCA allows obtaining polymers with better properties than their counterparts based on TPA.



- Poly(ethylene 2,5-furanoate) (PEF), exhibit much better barrier properties (11 times lower O<sub>2</sub> permeability, 19 times lower CO<sub>2</sub> permeability) than polyethylene terephthalate (PET).
- Poly(trimethylene 2,5-furanoate) PTF presents as well superior gas barrier properties than PET. (16-times for O<sub>2</sub>, 48-times for CO<sub>2</sub>, and 2 times for H<sub>2</sub>O).
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- L. Genovese, M. Soccio, N. Lotti, A. Munari, A. Szymczyk, S. Paszkiewicz, A. Linares, A. Nogales, T.A. Ezquerra, Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics 2018, 20 (23), 15696-15706.
- G. Guidotti, M. Soccio, M.C. García-Gutiérrez, T.A. Ezquerra, V. Siracusa, E. Gutiérrez-Fernández, A. Munari and N. Lotti ACS Sustain. Chem. Eng., 2020, 8, 9558–9568.

**BDS** 



- Complex dielectric permittivity ( $\epsilon$ \*) measurements ( $\epsilon$ \* =  $\epsilon$ '  $\iota\epsilon$ '') were performed over a frequency range of  $10^{-1} < F/Hz < 10^6$  starting at T= 123 K up to room temperature by using a Novocontrol system integrating an ALPHA dielectric interface and QUATRO temperature control system (Novocontrol).
- Polymer films were sandwiched between the two metallic electrodes of the spectrometer. The dielectric relaxations were empirically described in terms of the Havriliak-Negami (HN) equation

# FTIR

- Fourier Transform IR (FTIR) spectra were acquired in vacuum (background pressure of 10<sup>-6</sup> mbar) with a Perkin Elmer, Frontier spectrometer in a 4500-500 cm<sup>-1</sup> range with a resolution in the wavenumber of 2 and 4 cm<sup>-1</sup>.
- The temperature range was varied between 20 K and 330 K by using a closed cycle He cryostat (CTI cryogenics).
- A spectrum for the background was taken at every temperature.
- The FTIR spectroscopy experiments were performed in polymer thin films prepared by spin-coating on special IR transparent silicon substrates (Si FZ 25.4mm Ø x 1mm polished window).

#### versus



- Genovese, L.; Soccio, M.; Lotti, N.; Munari, A.; Szymczyk, A.; Paszkiewicz, S.; Linares, A.; Nogales, A.; Ezquerra, T. A. Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics 2018, 20 (23), 15696-15706.
- Soccio, M.; Nogales, A.; Ezquerra, T. A.; Lotti, N.; Munari, A. Macromolecules 2012, 45 (1), 180-188
- Papadopoulos, P.; Kossack, W.; Kremer, F.; Soft Matter, 2013, 9, 1600–1603



- Araujo, C. F.; Nolasco, M. M.; Ribeiro-Claro, P. J. A.; Rudic, S.; Silvestre, A. J. D.; Vaz, P. D.; Sousa, A. F. Macromolecules 2018, 51 (9), 3515-3526
- Papamokos, G.; Dimitriadis, T; Bikiaris, D.N.; Papageorgiou, G.Z.; Floudas G.: Macromolecules 2019, 52, 6533–6546
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**FTIR** 

PTF amorphous

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FTIR

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#### Poly(trimethylene terephthalate) (PTT)

**FTIR** 

versus



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#### Poly(trimethylene 2,5-furanoate) (PTF) versus Poly(trimethylene terephthalate) (PTT)



- Araujo, C. F.; Nolasco, M. M.; Ribeiro-Claro, P. J. A.; Rudic, S.; Silvestre, A. J. D.; Vaz, P. D.; Sousa, A. F. Macromolecules 2018, 51 (9), 3515-3526
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#### versus



versus

#### Poly(trimethylene terephthalate) (PTT)

Hydrogen bonds



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### Poly(trimethylene 2,5-furanoate) (PTF): Quantum mechanical molecular dynamics simulation



- Energy calculations by the DFT method predicts the FDCA syn-syn configuration to be <1 kcal/mol less stable than anti-anti configuration.
- At 160 K, RT is around 0,32 kcal/mol suggesting that the internal conversion of anti-anti-gauche to syn-syn-trans conformations in PTF could occur even at low temperatures.
- We focus on the following modes: i) -C=O stretching (around 1722 cm<sup>-1</sup>)

ii) C=C stretching (1582 cm-1)

because these bands exhibit opposite tendencies in their temperature dependences



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Papamokos, G.; Dimitriadis, T.; Bikiaris, D. N.; Papageorgiou, G. Z.; Floudas, G. *Macromolecules* 2019, 52 (17)

# Poly(trimethylene 2,5-furanoate) (PTF): Quantum mechanical molecular dynamics simulation

	C=O stretching sym	C=O stretching asym	C=C stretching
FDCA (anti-anti)	1774	1765	1591
FDCA (syn-syn)	1801	1783	1578
FDCA <sub>2</sub> (HB)	1798	1775	1579
	1791	1772	1574

• We can hypothesize that as temperature increases, the observed blue-shift of the C=O stretching band and concurrent red-shift of the C=C stretching band would be expected if an increment of the syn-syn conformations takes place.



• Density-functional theory (DFT) method B3LYP (Becke's three parameter hybrid exchange functional plus the nonlocal correlation functional of Lee, Yang, and Parr. M06-2X functional (D3 version of Grimme's dispersion for dimers of FDCA. Gaussian 16 software.

FDCA<sub>2</sub>(HB)

#### Conclusions

- The temperature dependence of the FTIR bands of PTF and PTT exhibit a similar behavior (red shift) with exception of those related to hydrogen bonding(blue shift)
- Quantum mechanical simulation (Functional Density Theory (DFT)) for PTF reveals that syn-syn conformations and hydrogen bonding are likely to occur in the vitreous state.
- The existence of hydrogen bonding in PTF may affect the "shape" of the  $\beta$ -relaxation in comparison to that of PTT.
- More Quantum mechanical simulation is needed in order to compare PTT and PTF (Work in progress;;)

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$FDCA_2(\pi-\pi)$	<b>1813</b> , 1805	1783	<b>1576</b> , 1574
		1744	

• We can hypothesize that as temperature increases, the observed blue-shift of the C=O stretching band and concurrent red-shift of the C=C stretching band would be expected if an increment of the syn-syn conformations takes place.

#### FDCA<sub>2</sub> FDCA<sub>2</sub> (π-**(HB)** π) $\Delta E_{dimer}$ -4,29 -6,38 $d(C=O\cdots H)$ 2,328 3,330 $d(\pi \cdot \cdot \cdot \pi)$ **Crystal**<sup>a</sup> 2,47 3,39 FDCA<sub>2</sub>(HB) FDCA2 (π-π)

#### HB (hydrogen bonding)



#### • K.J. Kim, J.H. Bae, Y.H. Kim. Polymer 42 (2001) 1023-1033