

Solid State NMR Study of Polystyrene Nanolatex Particles(I) ¹³C Spin-Lattice Relaxation Time

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Abstract: ¹³C spin-lattice relaxation times for polystyrene nanolatex particles have been investigated. It was found that the dramatic increase at 80°C annealing temperature is well below the T_g temperature of bulk polystyrene, the increase of relaxation time of aromatic carbons is larger than that of for aliphatic carbons at transition annealing temperature.

Keywords: Polystyrene nanolatex particles, solid state NMR, spin-lattice relaxation time

A wide range of physical methods has been used for studying the sintering behavior of bulk polystyrene, which has been the subject of AFM imaging, DSC measurement, Dilatometer measurement, Fourier IR, and solid state NMR studies to investigate the physicochemical change and its relation to the electronic and magnetic performance. In recent years, more attention was paid to the size effect on annealing temperature for the latex particles with the diameter of less than 100 nm, which present some novel condensed properties¹⁻³. Liquid and solid state NMR spectroscopic studies have been undertaken on NMR measurement and some nanolatex particles⁴⁻⁶. However, there have been no NMR measurement and comparative study reported on the annealing temperature dependence of ¹³C spin-lattice relaxation of polystyrene nanolatex particles. In this paper we report the results of the ¹³C spin-lattice relaxation time over a range of annealing temperature on polystyrene nanolatex particles samples.

¹³C spin-lattice relaxation behavior has been measured for different annealing temperature samples by CPT₁ pulse sequence. The relaxation curves of individual carbon atoms of samples show a typical two-exponential characteristic. The values of long relaxation time T_{1L}, short relaxation time T_{1S}, and their contents P_L and P_S in both polystyrene nanolatex particles obtained from ¹³C spin-lattice relaxation curves are listed in **Table 1**.

Table 1 shows that C₄'s T_{1L} in nanolatex sample has a transition at 80°C which is well below the glass-transition temperature, T_g (*ca.* 105°C), it was thought to be that the overlap of phenyl rings leads to higher increase of ¹³C's T_{1L}. These experiment results are consistent with that AFM images and DSC measurements. AFM height images show that the particle boundary is clearly seen whenever the annealing temperature is below 80°C. The particle thermal behavior of nanolatex polystyrene particles, which was annealed for 1h at the different elected temperature below 95°C, was examined in

the DSC scan, an exothermic peak was found near T_g.

Table 1 ¹³C spin-lattice relaxation time of aromatic and aliphatic Carbons in polystyrene nanolatex particles after annealing at different temperature for 1 hour

		25°C	80°C	90°C	100°C	110°C	120°C
C1	T _{IL}	93.26	103.79	108.54	108.33	113.54	110.79
	P _L (%)	71.87	78.21	79.65	78.91	80.49	79.47
	T _{IS}	6.75	7.26	7.59	7.81	8.03	7.97
	P _S (%)	28.13	22.79	20.35	21.09	19.51	20.53
C4	T _{IL}	90.47	101.78	112.87	119.87	118.95	118.73
	P _L (%)	69.78	76.64	80.24	81.14	80.75	80.67
	T _{IS}	4.94	5.56	5.78	6.24	6.35	6.31
	P _S (%)	30.22	23.36	19.76	18.86	19.25	19.33
Methylene	T _{IL}	92.49	99.88	104.54	106.77	108.81	108.47
	P _L (%)	81.74	86.59	88.09	89.04	89.87	89.56
	T _{IS}	7.54	8.07	8.39	8.45	8.47	8.81
	P _S (%)	18.26	13.41	11.91	10.96	10.13	10.44
Methine	T _{IL}	98.38	107.14	112.43	114.44	116.27	115.94
	P _L (%)	83.66	87.24	89.12	89.78	90.08	89.97
	T _{IS}	9.69	10.03	10.21	11.09	10.87	11.04
	P _S (%)	16.34	12.76	10.88	10.22	9.92	10.03

It was proposed that rotation of the phenyl rings may be hindered because of entanglement. **Table 1** shows that the increase of T_{IL} value of aromatic carbons is larger than that of T_{IL}'s for aliphatic carbons in nanolatex particles at 80°C annealing temperature. Compared to bulk particles⁶, **Table 1** indicates that the T_{IL} values of aromatic carbons in nanolatex particles below 80°C are shorter than that in bulk polystyrene below T_g, while they become longer over 80°C than that in bulk polystyrene over T_g, it can be deduced that the phenyl rings in nanolatex particles are easier to overlap than in bulk polystyrene.

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