Novel Poly(azomethine-urethane)s and Their Polyphenol Derivatives Derived from Aliphatic Diisocyanate Compound: Synthesis and Thermal Characterization

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ABSTRACT: Until now, only a few kinds of poly(azomethine-urethane)s (PAMUs) including aromatic hydroxy benzaldehyde and aminophenol compounds were obtained and studied with thermal degradation steps. However, oligo/polyphenol-based PAMUs have not been synthesized yet. In this study, some kinds of this class of PAMUs were synthesized in three steps. At the first step polyurethane (PU) was synthesized by the copolymerization reaction of 2,4-dihydroxybenzaldehyde with hexamethylene diisocyanate (HDI) under argon atmosphere. At the second step, the poly(azomethine-urethane)s (PAMUs) were obtained by graft copolymerization of the preformed PU with aminophenols (2-aminophenol, 3-aminophenol, and 4-aminophenol). At the last step the obtained PAMUs were converted to the polyphenol derivatives via oxidative

INTRODUCTION

Polyurethanes (PUs) represent a class of polymers that have found a lot of application.¹ A number of studies have been carried out because of their singular properties and to understand their both chemical and physical properties and structures.² Several researches exist in the development of thermally stable polymers due to they use in very applications. A typical example of this polymers is polyurethanes, which are widely used in the aerospace, foam, elastomers and construction industries. Consequently, their thermal stability has been studied extensively in the literature for many years.^{3–5} Also, PUs have a lot of applications in furniture, automotive seat cushions and carpet cushion, in automobile seats, water vessels electronic components, and wheels.⁶

On the other hand, one attractive class of polymers is poly(azomethine)s (PAMs), which contain azomethine (-CH=N-) linkages in the main chain and are known to exhibit good thermal stability and

polycondensation reaction (OP). The structures of the obtained compounds were confirmed by FTIR, UV-vis, ¹H-NMR, and ¹³C-NMR techniques. The number-average molecular weight (M_n), weight average molecular weight (M_w) and polydispersity index (PDI) values of the synthesized compounds were determined by the size exclusion chromatography (SEC). The synthesized compounds were also characterized by solubility tests, TG-DTA, and DSC. Fluorescence measurements were carried out in various concentrated DMF solutions to determine the optimum concentrations to obtain the maximal PL intensities. © 2011 Wiley Periodicals, Inc. J Appl Polym Sci 125: 876–887, 2012

Key words: poly(azomethine-urethane)s; thermal degradation; fluorescence; aminophenols

have many desirable properties such as electrical conductivity, thermal stability, solubility, optical, and electrochemical band gaps.^{7,8} However, PAMs especially aromatic derivatives have low solubility. To solve this problem, a number of PAMs like poly(azomethine ether)s,⁹ poly(azomethine carbonate)s,¹⁰ poly(amide-azomethine-ester)s,¹¹ poly(azomethine-ester)s,¹² poly(amide-azomethine-ether)s,¹³ poly(azomethine sulfone)s,¹⁴ and poly(azomethine-amide)s¹⁵ have been synthesized so far. But poly(azomethine $ure than e)s^{16-18}$ have not been synthesized except a few studies. Especially, their polyphenol derivatives have not been synthesized yet. A few of these studies investigated the effect of the azomethine linkages on thermal stability.¹⁹ Also, Simionescu et al. were synthesized urethane compounds with Schiff base structure and characterized their thermal properties²⁰, Tang and Chang were synthesized novel poly(azomethine-urethane)s and investigated thermotropic liquid-crystalline properties²¹ and, Kaya et al. were synthesized new poly(azomethine-urethane)s including melamine and studied with thermal degradation step.22

Oligophenols and their azomethine derivatives had been previously synthesized by oxidative polycondensation method and presented in the literature

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Scheme 1 Syntheses of 2-DHBHDI, PAMUs, and polyphenol derivatives. [Color figure can be viewed in the online issue, which is available at wileyonlinelibrary.com.]

with their several useful properties. Such as the use of water as a medium, to be easy to apply and environmentally harmless.^{23–25} Also using cheap oxidants such as NaOCl, H_2O_2 and air is another advantage of this method.

At the first part of this study, we synthesized novel PAMUs including functional phenolic groups in main chain and then converted to their polyphenol derivatives using the oxidative polycondensation method in an aqueous alkaline media. At the second part, we characterized the synthesized compounds using FTIR, UV-vis spectra, ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR and SEC analyses. TG-DTA technique was used to determine the stabilities to degradation of thermal degradation. DSC analyses of the obtained compounds were carried out to determine the glass transition temperatures (T_g). The fluorescence spectra of synthesized compounds were also carried out to determine maximal emission–excitation intensities. The obtained PAMUs and their polyphenol derivatives have different aminophenols. The effects of various substituents on the properties of PAMUs and their polyphenol derivatives containing azomethine linkage were investigated. Different effects of this property were discussed affecting the thermal stability, solubility, and optical properties.

			5	5	1		
Solvents/ Compounds	2- DHBHDI	2-DHBHDI- 2AP	2-DHBHDI- 3AP	2-DHBHDI- 4AP	P-2-DHBHDI- 2AP	P-2-DHBHDI- 3AP	P-2-DHBHDI- 4AP
МеОН	_	Ţ	_	Ţ	Ţ	L	L
THF	_	+	_	\perp	\perp	_	\perp
Acetonitrile	_	\perp	_	\perp	\perp	\perp	\perp
Ethyl Acetate	_	\perp	_	\perp	_	_	_
CHCl ₃	\perp	\perp	_	_	\perp	\perp	\perp
Acetone	_	+	_	\perp	+	_	\perp
DMF	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
DMSO	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Toluene	—	_	_	—	_	—	—

 TABLE I

 Solubility Tests of the Synthesized Compounds

+, Soluble; –, Insoluble; \perp , partly soluble.

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Figure 1 FTIR spectra of HDI, 2,4-Dihydroxy benzaldehyde, 2-DHBHDI, 2-DHBHDI-2AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-2AP. [Color figure can be viewed in the online issue, which is available at wileyonlinelibrary.com.]

EXPERIMENTAL

Materials

2,4-dihydroxy benzaldehyde, hexamethylene diisocyanate (HDI), 2-aminophenol (2-AP), 3-aminophenol (3-AP), 4-aminophenol (4-AP), dimethylformamide (DMF), dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO), tetrahydrofuran (THF), methanol, acetonitrile, acetone, toluene, ethyl acetate, CHCl₃, H₂SO₄, KOH, and HCl were supplied by Merck Chemical Co. (Germany) and they were used as received. 30% aqueous solution of sodium hypo chloride, NaOCl, was supplied by Paksoy Chemical (Turkey).

Synthesis of the polyurethane

The polyurethane (4-formyl-3-methoxyphenyl-6-acetamidohexylcarbamate) (2-DHBHDI) was synthesized by copolymerization reaction of 2,4-dihydroxybenzaldehyde with hexamethylene diisocyanate (HDI) under argon atmosphere. Synthesis procedure of 2-DHBHDI is as follows: HDI (3.0 g, 1.8×10^{-2} mol) was dissolved in 50 mL THF and added into a 250 mL three-necked round-bottom flask which was fitted with condenser, magnetic stirrer, and inert argon gas supplier. Reaction mixture was heated up to 60°C and equivalent amount of 2,4-dihydroxybenzaldehyde (2.5 g, 1.8×10^{-2} mol) was added into the flask. Reaction was maintained for 6 h, cooled at the room temperature, and kept for 24 h. THF was removed using an evaporator. Obtained polyurethane, 2-DHBHDI, was washed with methanol (2 \times 50 mL), acetonitrile (2 \times 50 mL), and water (2 \times 100 mL) to remove the unreacted components. The product was dried in a vacuum oven at 75°C for 24 h (yields 64%).¹⁷



Figure 2 FTIR spectra of 2-DHBHDI-3AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, 2-DHBHDI-4AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP. [Color figure can be viewed in the online issue, which is available at wileyonlinelibrary.com.]

Syntheses of the poly(azomethine-urethane)s

Preformed 2-DHBHDI was used in synthesizing of the PAMUs (2-DHBHDI-2AP, 2-DHBHDI-3AP, and 2-DHBHDI-4AP). Reactions were carried out by grafting of the aminophenols onto 2-DHBHDI. Synthesis procedure of the PAMUs is as follows: 2-DHBHDI (1.23 g, 4×10^{-3} mol) was dissolved in 60 mL DMF/MeOH (1/3) mixture and added into a 250 mL three-necked round-bottom flask which was fitted with condenser, and magnetic stirrer. Reaction mixture was heated up to 60°C and equivalent amount of aminophenols (APs) (2-aminophenol, 3aminophenol and 4-aminophenol) (0.437 g, 4 imes 10⁻³ mol) was added into the flask. Reactions were maintained for 3 h, cooled at the room temperature. The obtained PAMUs were washed by methanol (2 \times 50 mL), acetonitrile (2 \times 50 mL), and distilled water (2 \times 100 mL) to remove the unreacted components. The products were dried in a vacuum oven at 75°C for 24 h. (yields 85, 65, and 96% for 2-DHBHDI-2AP, 2-DHBHDI-3AP, and 2-DHBHDI-4AP, respectively).²⁶

Syntheses of the polyphenols derivatives of the PAMUs

The polyphenol derivatives of the P-PAMUs (P-2-DHBHDI-2AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP) were synthesized via oxidative polycondensation of 2-DHBHDI-2AP, 2-DHBHDI-3AP, and 2-DHBHDI-4AP with aqueous solution of NaOCl (30%), respectively. Synthesis procedure of the P-PAMUs is as follows: P-2-DHBHDI-2AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP (0.8 g, 2 \times 10^{-3} mol) were dissolved in an aqueous solution of KOH (30%, 0.03 mol) and placed into a 50 mL threenecked round-bottom flask. They were fitted with a condenser, thermometer, and stirrer and an addition to funnel containing NaOCl (0.122 mol). NaOCl was added drop by drop over about 20 min. The reaction mixtures were heated to 80 °C. The reaction mixtures were cooled to room temperature, and then 0.03 mol HCl (37%) was added. For the separation of mineral salts, the mixture was filtered and washed in 25 mL of hot water for three times. Then, unreacted PAMUs were separated from the reaction products by washing with ethanol and dried in a vacuum oven at 60°C (yields 49, 36, and 66% for P-2-DHBHDI-2AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP, respectively).²⁷ All the synthesized procedures were summarized in Scheme 1.

Characterization techniques

The solubility tests were carried out in different solvents by using 1 mg sample and 1 mL solvent at 25°C. The infrared and ultraviolet-visible spectra



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Figure 3 UV-vis spectra of 2-DHBHDI, 2-DHBHDI-2AP, P-2-DHBHDI-2AP (a), 2-DHBHDI-3AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP (b), and 2-DHBHDI-4AP, P-2-DHBHDI-4AP (c). [Color figure can be viewed in the online issue, which is available at wileyonlinelibrary.com.]

were measured by Perkin Elmer FT-IR Spectrum one and Perkin Elmer Lambda 25, respectively. The FTIR spectra were recorded using universal ATR sampling accessory (4000–550 cm^{-1}). UV-vis spectra of the synthesized compounds were determined by using DMSO as the solvent. ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR spectra (Bruker AC FT-NMR spectrometer operating at 400 and 100.6 MHz, respectively) were also recorded by using deuterated DMSO- d_6 as a solvent at 25°C. Tetramethylsilane was used as internal standard. Thermal data were obtained by using Perkin Elmer Diamond Thermal Analysis. The TG-DTA measurements were made between 20 and 1000°C (in N₂, 10°C/min). DSC analyses were carried out between 25 and 420°C using Perkin Elmer Pyris Sapphire DSC. The number average molecular weight (M_n) , weight average molecular weight (M_w) and polydispersity index (PDI) were determined by size exclusion chromatography (SEC) techniques of Shimadzu For SEC investigations, an SGX (100 Å and 7 nm diameter loading material) 3.3 mm i.d. \times 300 mm columns was used; eluent: DMF (0.4 mL/min), polystyrene standards were used. Moreover, a UV detector



Figure 4 ¹H-NMR (a) and ¹³C-NMR (b) spectra of 2-DHBHDI.

was used to analyze the products at 25°C. The fluorescence spectra were recorded by using a Shimadzu RF-5301PC spectrofluorophotometer.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Solubilities and structures of the PU, PAMUs, and polyphenol derivatives

2-DHBHDI is light yellow colored while 2-DHBHDI-2AP and 2-DHBHDI-3AP are dark red colored, 2-DHBHDI-4AP and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP are black colored, P-2-DHBHDI-2AP and P-2-DHBHDI-3AP are dark brown colored. The solubility test results are shown in Table I. According to the obtained results all of the synthesized compounds completely soluble in only strong polar solvent like DMSO and DMF while they are all insoluble toluene. 2-DHBHDI is partly soluble in CHCl₃ while insoluble in THF,

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MeOH, acetonitrile, ethyl acetate, and acetone. 2-DHBHDI-2AP is completely soluble in THF and acetone whereas partly soluble in MeOH, acetonitrile, ethyl acetate, CHCl₃. 2-DHBHDI-3AP is insoluble all of used solvents expect for DMSO and DMF. 2-DHBHDI-4AP is partly soluble MeOH, THF, acetonitrile, ethyl acetate and acetone while insoluble in CHCl₃. P-2-DHBHDI-2AP is completely soluble in acetone, partly soluble in MeOH, THF, acetonitrile, and CHCl₃ but insoluble ethyl acetate. P-2-DHBHDI-3AP and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP are partly soluble in MeOH, acetonitrile, and CHCl₃ while insoluble in ethyl acetate and acetone.

FTIR spectra of HDI, 2,4-dihydroxy benzaldehyde, 2-DHBHDI, 2-DHBHDI-2AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-2AP are given in Figure 1. Similarly, FTIR spectra of 2-DHBHDI-3AP, 2-DHBHDI-4AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP are given in Figure 2. According to Figure 1, at the spectrum of HDI



Figure 5 ¹H-NMR spectra of 2-DHBHDI-2AP (a), and 2-DHBHDI-4AP (b). [Color figure can be viewed in the online issue, which is available at wileyonlinelibrary.com.]

characteristic isocyanate -N=C=O stretch vibration is observed at 2250 cm⁻¹, which agrees with the literature values.¹⁸ However, in the spectra of PAMUs this peak disappears as a result of the urethane formation. Also, in the spectrum of HDI aliphatic C-H stretch vibrations of isocyanate group are observed at 2938 and 2862 cm⁻¹, and isocyanate C=N peak is observed at 1584 cm⁻¹. In the spectra of 2,4-dihydroxy benzaldehyde -OH stretch vibration and aldehyde (-CHO) peaks are observed at 3098 and 1708 cm⁻¹, respectively, which also disappear as a result of urethane formation. In the spectrum of 2-DHBHDI a new peak is observed at 3321 cm⁻¹ which could be attributed urethane N-H stretch vibration. Also at the spectrum of 2-DHBHDI aliphatic C-H stretch vibrations are observed at 2936 and 2861 cm⁻¹, aldehyde peak is observed at 1705 cm⁻¹. Moreover, at the spectrum of 2-DHBHDI-2AP and P-2-DHBHDI-2AP spectra the new peaks appear at 3331-3317, and 1645-1658 cm⁻¹, which could be attributed to urethane N-H stretch and urethane carbonyl (C=O) stretch vibrations, respectively. At the spectra of 2-DHBHDI-3AP, 2-DHBHDI-4AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP the same



Figure 6 ¹H-NMR spectra of P-2-DHBHDI-2AP (a), and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP (b). [Color figure can be viewed in the online issue, which is available at wileyonlinelibrary.com.]

peaks are observed at 3318, 3307, 3325, and 3310; and 1720, 1718, 1722, and 1718 cm⁻¹, respectively. Also, at the spectra of 2-DHBHDI-2AP and P-2-DHBHDI-2AP aliphatic C-H stretch vibrations are observed at 2932 and 2858, 2933 and 2856 cm⁻¹, respectively. At the spectra of 2-DHBHDI-3AP, 2-DHBHDI-4AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP these peaks are observed at 2931 and 2853; 2930 and 2857; 2924 and 2853; 2931 and 2863 cm^{-1} , respectively. Azomethine bonds (C=N) in the structure of 2-DHBHDI-2AP and P-2-DHBHDI-2AP are observed at 1588 and 1615 cm⁻¹, respectively. The same peak is observed at 1649, 1651, 1653, and 1631 cm⁻¹ for 2-DHBHDI-3AP, 2-DHBHDI-4AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP, respectively. Additionally, the synthesized of polyphenol derivatives are a bit lower than PAMUs. This is probably due to electron withdrawing effect of the urethane groups in the polymer structures which decreases the electron density of imine carbon and consequently imine vibration, as observed in the previous studies.¹⁶ Obtained results clearly confirm the PU, PAMUs, and their polyphenol derivatives formation.

UV-vis spectra of the synthesized 2-DHBHDI, 2-DHBHDI-2AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-2AP are comparatively given in Figure 3(a). Similarly, 2-DHBHDI-3AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, and 2-DHBHDI-4AP, P-2-DHBHDI-4AP are given in Figure 3(b,c), respectively. As seen in Figure 3 lower conjugations of the synthesized PAMUs compare to PU cause a slight shift in absorption edges into lower wavelengths resulting in higher band gaps.²⁸ Similarly their polyphenol derivatives compare to PAMUs cause a slight shift in absorption as expected. According to Figure 3 absorption peak of 2-DHBHDI is appeared at 319 nm due to the urethane group in the structure. It's clearly observed that after the graft copolymerization onto 2-DHBHDI new peaks at around 320-350 nm and 285–300 nm appear indicating the azomethine π - π^* and benzene π - π^* transitions. Similar peaks are also observed at the polyphenols' spectra.

¹H- and ¹³C-NMR spectra of 2-DHBHDI are also given in Figure 4. According to Figure 4(a) urethane and aldehyde protons (-NHCO and –CHO) are observed at 6.76 and 10.93 ppm, respectively. Also, aliphatic protons are observed between 1.5 and 4.0 ppm. ¹³C-NMR spectrum of 2-DHBHDI at Figure 4(b) also confirms the structure by the peaks observed at 156.48 and 191.99 ppm which could be attributed to the urethane, and aldehyde carbons, respectively. Additionally, aliphatic -CH peaks are observed between 24 and 32 ppm. These results clearly show that the synthesized polyurethane is obtained with the proposed structures shown in Scheme 1.

¹H-NMR spectra of 2-DHBHDI-2AP and 2-DHBHDI-4AP and their polyphenol derivatives are

			%]		Ι	Ι	Ι	Ι	1 41	6 19			
		n IV	PDI	I	Ι	Ι	Ι	Ι	1.04	2.17			
		Fractic	M_w	I	Ι	Ι	Ι	Ι	15,100	7,400			
			M_n	Ι	Ι	Ι	Ι	Ι	14,500	3,400			
			%	I	Ι	Ι	Ι	4	20	29			
		u III n	PDI	Ι	Ι	Ι	Ι	1.312	1.115	2.472			
		Fraction	M_w	Ι	Ι	Ι	Ι	4,200	20,300	40,800			
anim			M_n	I	Ι	Ι	Ι	3,200	18,200	16,500			
j l	ers		%	I	21	Ι	Ι	39	23	33			
malyses Results of the Synthesized Co Molecular weight distribution paramete	paramete	n II	PDI	I	4.200	Ι	Ι	1.514	1.059	1.144			
	Iribution	Fractio	M_w	I	42,000	Ι	Ι	21,800	60,400	21,400			
	eight dis		M_n	Ι	10,000	Ι	Ι	14,400	57,000	18,700			
	ular w		%	100	79	100	100	57	16	19			
	Molec	n I	PDI	1.424	1.029	1.904	1.780	1.365	1.333	1.088			
)])		Fractio	M_w	4,700	21,100	8,000	9,750	44,800	78,000	77,000			
			M_n	3,300	20,500	4,200	5,500	27,400	58,500	70,800			
					PDI	1.424	1.393	1.904	1.772	1.606	1.144	1.325	
		Total	M_w	4,700	25,500	8,000	9,750	34,200	36,600	42,600			
			M_n	3,300	18,300	4,200	5,500	21,300	32,000	32,150			
			Compounds	2-DHBHDI	2-DHBHDI-2AP	2-DHBHDI-3AP	2-DHBHDI-4AP	P-2-DHBHDI-2AP	P-2-DHBHDI-3AP	P-2-DHBHDI-4AP			

TABLE II



Figure 7 Emission and excitation spectra of various concentrated solution of 2-DHBHDI, 2-DHBHDI-2AP, and 2-DHBHDI-4AP in DMF. Slit width: λ_{Ex} : 3 nm, λ_{Em} : 3 nm. [Color figure can be viewed in the online issue, which is available at wileyonlinelibrary.com.]

also given in Figures 5 and 6. According to Figure 5 –OH, imine (-CH=N) and urethane (-NHCO) protons are observed at 9.71–9.71, 8.44–8.36, and 6.77– 6.61 ppm for 2-DHBHDI-2AP and 2-DHBHDI-4AP, respectively. At the spectra of P-2-DHBHDI-2AP and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP the same peaks are observed at 9.83–8.01, 7.86–8.92, and 6.68–6.61 ppm, respectively. Also aliphatic –CH protons are observed between 1.0 and 3.5 ppm for 2-DHBHDI-2AP and 2-DHBHDI-4AP. At the spectra of P-2-DHBHDI-2AP and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP these peaks are observed between 1.0 and 3.0 ppm.

Size exclusion chromatography

According to the SEC chromatograms, the calculated number-average molecular weight (M_n) , weight average molecular weight (M_w) , and polydispersity index (PDI) values of the synthesized PU, PAMUs and their polyphenol derivatives measured using UV detector are given in Table II. According to Table II, the synthesized PAMUs (2-DHBHDI-2AP, 2-DHBHDI-3AP, and 2-DHBHDI-4AP) have higher molecular weights than the starting polyurethane (2-DHBHDI). Similarly, polyphenol derivatives of the P-PAMUs (P-2-DHBHDI-2AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP) have also higher molecular weight than the PAMUs as expected. This is the evi-

dence of the increasing molecular weights during the polymerization steps. According to the total values 2-DHBHDI-2AP, 2-DHBHDI-3AP, and 2-DHBHDI-4AP have 54–55, 12–13, and 16–17 repeated units, respectively. Similarly, P-2-DHBHDI-2AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP have 51–52, 77–78, and 77–78 repeated units, respectively.

Fluorescence characteristics

Fluorescence measurements of the synthesized compounds are carried out using DMF for the PU, PAMUs, and their polyphenol derivatives. Measurements were made for various concentrations to determine the optimal conditions. Figures 7 and 8 show the excitation and emission spectra of 2-DHBHDI, 2-DHBHDI-2AP, 2-DHBHDI-4AP, P-2-DHBHDI-2AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP in DMF. These figures also indicate the concentration-fluorescence intensity relationships of the compounds. As seen in these figures, the optimum concentration to obtain maximal emission-excitation intensities changes between 1.2 and 0.075 mg/L. The obtained results are also summarized in Table III. These results clearly indicate that the PU and PAMUs derived from 2-aminophenol, 2-DHBHDI-2AP and P-2-DHBHDI-2AP, have quite higher fluorescence wavelengths and intensities than the others.



Figure 8 Emission and excitation spectra of various concentrated solution of P-2-DHBHDI-2AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP in DMF. Slit width: λ_{Ex} : 3 nm, λ_{Em} : 3 nm. [Color figure can be viewed in the online issue, which is available at wileyonlinelibrary.com.]

Both 2-DHBHDI-2AP and P-2-DHBHDI-2AP give the emission peaks at 550 nm with the intensities of 460 and 67 nm, respectively, while the others show relatively lower peak wavelengths in the range of 375–460 nm and the intensities between 25 and 80 nm. Fluorescence characteristics of 2-DHBHDI-2-AP resembles those of "Acridine yellow" presented in the literature.²⁸ Acridine yellow has the excitation and emission peaks at 470 and 550 nm, respectively. Similarly, the new presented PAMU, 2-DHBHDI-2-AP, has the 503 nm excitation and 550 nm emission peaks. As a result, 2-DHBHDI-2-AP and P-2-DHBHDI-2-AP could be used as the alternative yellowish light emitting diodes with their high quantum yields as well as the suitable fluorescence wavelengths.

Thermal characterization

The result of TGA are summarized in Table IV. According to the obtained TG curves 2-DHBHDI-2AP decomposes in two steps while the others decompose in three steps between 20 and 1000°C. Table IV indicates that the PAMU derived from 3-aminophenol, 2-DHBHDI-3AP, has the highest onset temperatures (T_{on}). Also when compared the first

Fluorescence Spectral Data of the Synthesized Compounds									
Compound	Conc.(mg/L)	$^a\lambda_{\rm Ex}$	${}^b\lambda_{Em}$	^c λ _{max (Ex)}	^d λ _{max (Em)}	^e I _{Ex}	^f I _{Em}		
2-DHBHDI	1.200	415	448	373	458	129	33		
2-DHBHDI-2AP	0.600	504	558	503	550	428	460		
2-DHBHDI-4AP	0.150	343	396	328	381	28	26		
P-2-DHBHDI-AP	0.150	503	521	502	550	65	67		
P-2-DHBHDI-AP	0.075	377	466	374	460	36	35		
P-2-DHBHDI-AP	0.075	336	381	330	376	82	80		

TABLE III Fluorescence Spectral Data of the Synthesized Compound

^a Excitation wavelength for emission.

^b Emission wavelength for excitation.

^c Maximum emission wavelength.

^d Maximum excitation wavelength.

^e Maximum excitation intensity.

^f Maximum emission intensity.

	First d ste	legradation 3p (°C)			Second di step	egradatior (°C)	_		Third d ste	egradatior p (°C)	_	Char at	Losts of solvent/
Compounds ^a T _{on}	^b T _{max}	$^{c}T_{end}$	Weight loss (%)	$^{\rm d}T_{\rm start}$	$T_{\rm max}$	$T_{ m end}$	Weight loss (%)	T_{start}	T_{\max}	T_{end}	Weight loss (%)	1000°C (%)	absorbed water(%)
Philip Philip 163	190	250	16.70	250	288	390	20.60	390	445	1000	35.30	25.40	2.00
?-DHBHDI-2AP 161	234	345	50.70	345	449	1000	27.80	ı	,	ı	ı	19.50	2.00
Philippine in the image is the	213	230	10.90	230	267	300	18.10	300	438	1000	38.70	28.40	3.90
:-DHBHDI-4AP 158	158	189	8.90	189	269	309	27.70	309	440	1000	30.05	26.75	6.60
2-2-DHBHDI-2AP 188	231	300	23.50	300	365	410	19.60	410	449	1000	22.80	22.70	11.40
2-2-DHBHDI-3AP 195	357	400	30.70	400	448	1000	28.25	ı	·	ı	ı	30.05	11.00
2-2-DHBHDI-4AP 148	159	185	3.40	185	304	410	50.20	410	451	1000	26.40	15.00	7.00

^c Thermal degradation finished temperature. ^d Thermal degradation started temperature.

TABLE IV

	TABL	E V	
DTA and DSC Data	of the	Synthesized	Compounds

	DTA	ł	DSC		
Compounds	Endo peak (°C)	Exo peak (°C)	$\overline{T_g}$ (°C)	<u></u> Δ <i>Ср</i> (J/g K)	
2-DHBHDI	128, 448	178,272	160	0.144	
2-DHBHDI-2AP	173, 250, 450	303	158	0.143	
2-DHBHDI-3AP	207, 272	_	135	0.328	
2-DHBHDI-4AP	172, 261, 311	231	155	1.585	
P-2-DHBHDI-2AP	245	390	184	0.258	
P-2-DHBHDI-3AP	_	_	158	0.028	
P-2-DHBHDI-4AP	201, 312	495	144	0.407	

degradation steps the peak degradation temperatures of the PAMU derived from 2-aminophenol, 2-DHBHDI-2AP, is higher than the others PAMUs. On the other hand, polyphenol derivatives of PAMU derived from 3-aminophenol, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, is higher than the others of polyphenol derivatives of PAMUs. These differences probably depend on the steric effect of the substituted -OH groups. P-2-DHBHDI-3AP *m*-aminophenol while has P-DHBHDI-2AP and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP have o-aminophenol and *p*-aminophenol, respectively. The char residues of 2-DHBHDI, 2-DHBHDI-2AP, 2-DHBHDI-3AP, P-2-DHBHDI-2AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, and P-DHBHDI-4AP are 25.60, 20.80, 28.85, 27.00, 22.30, 30.00, and 15.10, respectively. According to these results P-2-DHBHDI-3AP has the highest resistance against thermal degradation.

Also, the obtained results from DSC traces are summarized in Table V. According to DSC traces, the glass transition temperatures (T_g) of 2-DHBHDI, 2-DHBHDI-2AP, 2-DHBHDI-3AP, 2-DHBHDI-4AP, P-2-DHBHDI-2AP, P-2-DHBHDI-3AP, and P-2-DHBHDI-4AP were found as 160, 158, 135, 155, 184, 158, and 144°C, respectively. The obtained results clearly indicate that the PAMU derived from 2-



Scheme 2 Thermal degradation step of the synthesized poly(azomethine-urethane)s. [Color figure can be viewed in the online issue, which is available at wileyonlinelibrary.com.]

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Figure 9 FT-IR spectra of 2-DHBHDI after heating until various temperature. [Color figure can be viewed in the online issue, which is available at wileyonlinelibrary.com.]

aminophenol, P-2-DHBHDI-2AP, has the highest T_g temperature. In addition a broad peak ranging from 25 to 135°C is clearly observed. This peak probably arises from removal of THF as adsorbed solvent.²⁹

Thermal degradation

As known, the thermal degradation of PUs occurs in two to three-step process.^{30–34} The first step is related to degradation of the hard segment, which results in the formation of isocyanate and alcohol, primary or secondary amine and olefin and carbon dioxide. The second and third steps of degradation include the decomposition of the soft segment by

dehydration process. The thermal stability of PUs depends primarily on the polymerization \leftrightarrow depolymerization equilibria of the functional groups in the polymer molecule.^{35,36} The isocyanate formed during thermal decomposition may be dimerized to carbodiimide. Carbodiimide can then react with urethane groups to form a crosslinked structure. Obtained results have been also confirmed by FTIR spectra of the thermodegradation products (Scheme 2).

To explain the thermodegradation steps of the synthesized 2-DHBHDI and 2-DHBHDI-4AP FTIR spectra of the products after heating until various temperatures are obtained and given in Figures 9

Figure 10 FT-IR spectra of 2-DHBHDI-4AP after heating until various temperatures. [Color figure can be viewed in the online issue, which is available at wileyonlinelibrary.com.]

and 10, respectively. In the spectra of 2-DHBHDI characteristic corbodiimide (-N=C=N) peak is observed at 2263 cm^{-1} for 250°C, 2202 cm^{-1} for 400°C, and 2156 cm⁻¹ for 500°C which agree with the literature values.³⁰ In the spectra of 2-DHBHDI-4AP the same peak is observed at 2172, 2268, and 2177 cm⁻¹ for 190, 310, and 500°C, respectively. Additionally, after the depolymerization step with heating up to higher temperatures -OH functionalized 2-DHBHDI and 2-DHBHDI-4AP are expected to form new ether-bridged structures with dehydration.30 As seen in Figure 9 when 2-DHBHDI is heated up to 250 and 500°C, respectively, new broad absorption bands appear at 1444, 1442, and 1408 cm⁻¹ for 250, 400, and 500°C, respectively, indicating the Ar-O-Ar ether bond formation. Also, the intensities of O-H stretch vibrations at 3333, 3380, and 3317 cm⁻¹ for 250, 400, and 500°C, respectively, decrease due to the dehydration. According to the these results, urethane -C=O peak was disappeared with increasing temperature both 2-DHBHDI and 2-DHBHDI-4-AP. Also, the intensity of carbodiimide (-N=C=N) vibration was increased with increasing temperature. These results clearly show that thermodegradation steps of the synthesized 2-DHBHDI and 2-DHBHDI-4AP are obtained with the proposed structures shown in Scheme 2.

Similarly, according to Figure 10, Ar–O–Ar ether bond and the intensity of O–H stretch vibrations of the 2-DHBHDI-4AP is observed at 3305, 3321, and 3337 cm⁻¹ and 1438, 1436, and 1390 cm⁻¹ for 190, 310, and 500°C, respectively.

CONCLUSIONS

Novel PU, PAMU, and their polyphenol derivatives were synthesized by copolymerization, graft copolymerization, and oxidative polycondensation reactions, respectively. The obtained compounds were characterized by UV-vis, FTIR, NMR, and SEC analyses. Photo luminescence (PL) spectra of the synthesized compounds were obtained in DMF solutions showing that the novel PAMUs derived by grafting of 2-aminophenol onto the PU are highly fluorescent and can be used in preparation of the alternative yellowish emitting diodes. SEC result showed that obtained polyphenol derivatives of PAMUs and 2-DHBDHI-2AP have quite high molecular weight between 18,300 and 42,600. The effects of different positions hydroxyl groups in aminophenol groups on thermal stability, solubility, and optical properties were also clarified. Thermal characterizations were carried out by TG-DTA and DSC techniques. Also, thermal degradation steps of the new PU, PAMUs, and their polyphenol derivative were clarified using the FTIR spectra of the degraded forms at various temperatures. Physical changes of the PAMUs were displayed at various

temperatures showing that the colors of the PAMUs change from light to dark forms as a result of the thermal degradation. According to thermal characterizations results, T_g values OF synthesized compounds have change from 135 to 184°C. Because of good thermal properties they can be promising candidates for aerospace application and they can be used to produce temperature-stable materials.

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