

A study of multisubstituted chain transfer agents on the kinetics of homopolymerisation of methylmethacrylate .

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الخلاصة

استمرارا لدراسة سابقة للعوامل الناقلة للسلسلة احادية التعويض من قبل نفس الباحث ، تم اجراء هذه الدراسة ووجد ان العوامل الناقلة للسلسلة مثل ثلاثي كلورو- حامض الخليك وثنائي وثلاثي برمومو -حامض الخليك قد لعبت دورا مهما في اختزال كل من سرعة البلمرة والوزن الجزيئي للبوليمرات المتجانسة للمثيل ميثا اكريليت ، ان مونوميرات فاينيلية اخرى تسلك نفس السلوك على الرغم من اختلافها في طبيعتها الكيميائية وبالاخص في ما يتعلق استقراريتها والتي تعزى ظاهرة تأثير الريزونانس .
كلمات مفتاحية : مونوميرات كبيرة , الجذور الحرة .

ABSTRACT :

A continuation to a previous study of monosubstituted transfer agents, carried out by the same author, this investigation had been done. It has been found that multisubstituted chain transfer agents, such as trichloro acetic acid, Di and Tribromo acetic acid, have played a significant role in the reduction of both the rate of polymerization and the molecular weights obtained of the homopolymers of methylmethacrylate, other vinylic monomers such as styrene, showed the same behavior, though they differ in their chemical nature especially that involved their stability due to the resonance effect .

Key word : Free radical-macromers

INTRODUCTION

2-Mercapto thyroxinone (TX-SH) as a chain transfer agent {CTA} was used in the homopolymerisation of both methylmethacrylate {MMA}, styrene {St.}, by inserting isobisazobutyronitrile {AIBN} as initiator at 70°C producing a polymer holding TX groups ⁽¹⁾ . Thioketones were used for the same purpose ⁽²⁾ . Though the thiols are considerably active compounds as CTA, but they have some disadvantages, such as bad smell, color and toxicity ⁽³⁾ .

Trichloro acetic acid currently is used to precipitate biomacromolecules such as proteins, strictly, Deoxynucleic acid (DNA) and Ribonucleic acid (RNA) ⁽⁴⁾ . Dichloro acetic acid now a days is used as antitumor agent besides its ability as (CTA) ⁽³⁾ This work aims at the investigation of some multisubstituted chain transfer agents like trichloro acetic acid (TCAA) , Tri and Dichloro acetic acid (T, DBAA) over the kinetics of the homopolymerisation (MMA) .

EXPERIMENTAL

A – Materials :

- 1- MMA (Aldrich, 99% purity) was distilled under vacuum (33-35 °C) and the central distillate was taken after the removal of the inhibitor by common procedures ⁽⁵⁾ .
- 2- Benzoyl peroxide (BP) was purified by recrystallisation from methanol. Melting point was 103 °C .
- 3- Trichloro, Tri and Di bromo acetic acid (BDH) of purity (98% , 97%, 99%) respectively were used as they are .

B- polymerization :

Serum-stopper tubes were used. Having insert the required amount of both the monomer and the initiator in the presence or absence of (CTA), the tube is stopped, and via a syringe, clean dry stream of nitrogen is let through the tube for a period of (5-10) minutes, then the tube was freed from the syringe and sealed off very well by gum, and introduced into a thermostated water bath at (70±1 °C).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Mass polymerization of MMA was carried out (70±1 °C) using B.P as initiator at different concentrations (0.6-3.3*10⁻²) mol/l, and different times (8-10) minutes, always working at conversions less than 10% to avoid the gel effect. The obtained results were tabulated in Table (1), showing reasonable accordance with that reported by Tulig and Tirrel ⁽⁶⁾ and Tobolsky ⁽⁷⁾ et.al., bearing in mind that the polymerization follows the classic scheme and values of the constants depend on the purity of materials, in addition to the polymerization conditions. (F) was given the value 0.6 and the molecular weights were calculated by Mark-Houwink equation, using benzene as solvent at 30 °C .

Subsequently the polymerization was done in the presence of constant amount of the multisubstituted CTA, with increasing the concentrations Of the initiator till reaching a point, that the obtained molecular weights became constant ,which imply that the initiator no more play a role at

controlling the molecular weight, but the CTA only dose as shown in tables(2-3-4) the concentration of the initiator was taken ($2-6 \times 10^{-2}$)mol /l and raising the concentrations of CTA till a constant molecular weights were got. These indicate an optimum conditions to prepare prepolymers holding a terminal group of CTA capable of transforming to a macromer structure. The rates of polymerization were taken as $\{\% \text{ conv.} \cdot t(\text{sec})\} \cdot \{M\}^{(8)}$. The CTA used were found to be of degraditive nature towards the rate of polymerization, in the following order TCAA> TBAA> DBAA as in Tables (5,6,7) indicated, below showed that the multisubstituted chain transfer agent are highly active in comparison with that monosubstituted.

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