# Synthesis of New Di(tri-n-butyltin) Citraconate and Its Copolymer

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Abstract. A new monomer of Di(tri-n-butyltin) citraconate has been synthesized by the reaction of citraconic anhydride and bis(tri-n-butyltin) oxide. This monomer was copolymerized with styrenc using 2,2azobisisobutyronitrile (AIBN) as a free radical initiator. The monomer and copolymer were indentified by elemental analysis, IR and NMR spectroscopy.

#### Introduction

It has been shown previously that organotin polymers are efficient marine antifouling substances and wood preservatives [1-7]. As part of our extended studies, recently we have synthesized a new organotin monomer Di(tri-n-butyltin) citraconate (DTBTC) by reacting citraconic anhydride (CA) and tri-butyltinoxide (TBTO). This monomer was then copolymerized with styrene (ST) to obtain a polymer derivative, which may have strong efficacy against marine fouling. As demonstrated previously, the tin atoms in the organotin monomer and its copolymer are attached to the backbone of the polymer through O-Sn bond [2].

First the two active tin alkyl groups were attached to citraconic anhydride as shown in scheme I below:



The organotin monomer was then reacted with styrene to obtain a stable solid product as demonstrated in scheme II below:



# (Scheme II)

### **Experimental** Design

The new Di(tri-n-butyltin) citraconate monomer was synthesized by reacting tri-nbutyltinoxide (TBTO) with the citraconic anhydride(CA) in the presence of benzene and refluxed for 4hr. The liquid monomer was purified by distillation under reduced pressure. Copolymerization was carried out at 80°C in a sealed tube under nitrogen atmosphere and in the presence of catalyst 2,2<sup>-</sup>azobisisobutyronitrile (AIBN; 1 mol %). After 8hrs, the reaction was stopped, product was dissolved in benzene and poured into excess petroleum ether. The copolymer was filtered, washed and dried vacuum at 50°C for 24hr until the weight was constant.

## **Results and Discussion**

The presence of active SnBu<sub>3</sub> group was characterized by <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum, which exhibited four peaks between 13.68 and 27.84 $\delta$  which was due to the proton moieties. There was a broad peak at 0.85 - 2.01  $\delta$  in <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum due to organotin moiety and -CH<sub>3</sub> group of the monomer (Fig. 1).

The analysis of the presence of tin atoms in the monomer and copolymer has been performed by the method of Gillman and Rosenberg [8]. The most striking signal, for the copolymer was detected in the I.R. spectrum (KBr disc): which gave an absorption band at 1645 Cm<sup>-1</sup> due to the carbonyl group. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of the copolymer (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) also showed a broad peak between 0.8 to 1.8  $\delta$  due to organotin moiety. The characteristic peak was due to the aromatic protons of styrene between 6.4 to 7.28  $\delta$ . (Fig. 1, 2).

There were no peaks noticeable for the vinyl groups of the monomers indicating that a copolymer has been formed. The monomer and copolymer will be tested for possible biological activity and will be the subject of a future publication.



Fig. 1. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of (DTBTC) monomer.



Fig. 2. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of (DTBTC)/(ST) copolymer.

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ملخص البحث . تم تحضير الأحادي الجديد ثنائي (ثلاثي – ن – بيوتيل القصدير) ستراكوئيت من تفاعل حامض الستراكونيك اللاماني مع مركب بس (ثلاثي – ن – بيوتيل أكسيد القصدير) والبلمرة المشتركة له مع الستايرين. وتمت دراسة الأحادي والبوليمر المشترك الجديدين بواسطة طيف الأشعة تحت الحمراء وطيف الرئين النووي المغناطيسي .

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