Modern Techniques in Polymerization: 4582-605

Instructor: Jeff Pyun Aspects of Step-Chain-Living Polymerizations International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC)

1) Polycondensation: condensation + step-reaction

Formation of low-mol-wt byproduct Step-reaction polymerization

2) Polyaddition: addition + step-reaction

No byproducts Step-reaction polymerization

3) Chain polymerization: addition + chain polymerization

No byproducts Chain-reaction polymerization

4) Condensative chain polymerization: condensation + chain-reaction

Formation of low-mol-wt byproduct Chain-reaction polymerization

# 1.7 Nomenclature

**IUPAC** name

1) The smallest constitutional repeating unit (CRU) is identified

- 2) Substituent groups are assigned the lowest possible numbers
- 3) The name is placed in parenthesis, and prefixed with poly

1.7.1 Vinyl polymers

poly + monomer name Source name = common name  $(-CH_2CH_2)$  polyethylene  $(-CH_2CH_2)$  polyethylene  $(-CF_2CF_2)$  polytetrafluoroethylene poly(difluoromethylene)  $(-CH_2-CH)$  polystyrene poly(1-phenylethylene) poly + (monomer name)

more than one word or letter or number

Source name = common name

**IUPAC** name

(сн₂сн)

poly(acrylic acid)

poly(1-carboxylatoethylene)



 $poly(\alpha$ -methylstyrene) poly(1-methyl-1-phenylethylene)



poly[1-(1-propyl)ethylene]

1.7.3. Nonvinyl Polymers Polyethers, polyesters, polyamides Heteroatoms Seniority: O, S, N, P

1) Polyethers



#### 2) Polyesters



# 3) Polycarbonate Heteroatoms Seniority: O, S, N, P (-0 - C - 0 - C - 0 - C + C + 3 - C + C + 3 - C + C + 3 - C + C + 3 - C + C + 3 - C + C + 3 - C + C + 3 - C + C + 3 - C + C + 3 - C + C + 3 - C + C + 3 - C + 2

1.9

# 1.7.4 Nonvinyl copolymers

IUPAC source-based nomenclature for nonvinyl copolymers

# 2:1:1 –molar ratio of the monomers ethylene glycol, terephthalic acid, and isophthalic acid

poly(ethylene terephthalate-co-ethylene isophthalate)



6-aminohexanoic acid + 11-aminoundecanoic acid

poly[(6-aminohexanoic acid)-co-(11-aminoundecanoic acid)] poly[(6-hexanoamide)-co-(11-undecanoamide)]

 $H_2N(CH_2)_5COOH + H_2N(CH_2)_{10}COOH$ 

$$\rightarrow$$
 (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>5</sub>CO-NH-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>10</sub>CO)

# 1.7.2. Vinyl Copolymers IUPAC recommends source-based nomenclature for copolymers. Systematic Concise

Poly[styrene-co-(methyl methacrylate)]	Copoly(styrene/methyl methacrylate)
Poly[styrene-alt-(methyl methacrylate)]	Alt-copoly(styrene/methyl methacrylate)
Polystyrene-block-poly(methyl methacrylate)	Block-copoly(styrene/methyl methacrylate)
Polystyrene-graft-poly(methyl methacrylate)	Graft-copoly(styrene/methyl methacrylate)
Poly(styrene-co-ethylene-co-propylene)	Copoly(styrene/ethylene/propylene)

# **MW Evolution of Step vs. Chain Growth Polymerization**



#### **Step Growth Evolution of MW**

Reaction of difunctional monomers With complementary functional groups  $(A_2 + B_2)$ 

High polymer formed only at very high conversion

Heteroatom backbones

#### **Chain Growth Evolution of MW**

4-Elementary reactions (initiation, propagation, termination, transfer) of reactive monomer + initiator (vinylic-  $\pi$ -systems, strained rings)

High polymer formed at low conversion

C-C bonds for vinylic monomers, Heteroatom backbones for cyclic monomers

Chem 542B: Step-Growth Polymerization

University of Arizona

# Requirements for Step-Growth Polymerization



- >High monomer purity
- Difunctionality
- Stoichiometry
- >Quantitative conversion of monomer to polymer!
- ➢No side Reactions

#### **Step Growth/Condensation Polymerization**

TABLE 2.1 A schematic illustration of the fundamental differences in reaction mechanism between step polymerization and chain polymerization\*

Formation of	Step polymerization	Chain polymerization
Dimer	o + o → o-o	$I + o \rightarrow I - o$ $I - o + o \rightarrow I - o - o$
Trimer	$o - o + o \rightarrow o - o - o$	$1-o-o + o \rightarrow 1-o-o-o$
Tetramer	$0 \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow$	I - 0 - 0 - 0 + 0 - 1 - 0 - 0 - 0
Pentamer	$0 - 0 - 0 - 0 + 0 \rightarrow 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 -$	$I  \circ  \circ \circ $
Hexamer	$0 - 0 - 0 - 0 + 0 \rightarrow 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 -$	I-0-0-0-0 + 0 → I-0-0-0-0-0
Heptamer	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	I-0-0-0-0-0 + 0 → I-0-0-0-0-0-0
Octomer	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	l-o-o-o-o-o-o + o → I-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

\* Definition of symbols used : o, molecule of monomer; -, chemical link; I, initiator species

[Young & Lovell, "Introduction to Polymers" 2nd ed.]



Time zero: 6 A monomers 6 B monomers



75% conversion 6/24 functional groups left oligomers



92% conversion 2/24 functional groups left polymer

# **Monomer Functionality and Polymer Architecture**

#### Step-Growth

Difunctional monomers: *linear polymers* 

A<sub>2</sub> + B<sub>2</sub>; AB monomers

multifunctional monomers: branched, network polymers

 $A_3 + B_2$ ;  $A_2 + B_3$ ;  $A_x + B_x$  -gelation AB<sub>2</sub>; AB<sub>x</sub> monomers: (hyper)branched

For multifunctional monomers Onset of gelation strongly dependent on functionality of crosslinkers

#### **Chain-Growth**

monofunctional monomers: *linear polymers* 

Vinylic: styrene, acrylates

Di-, multifunctional monomers: Crosslinked-networks

Dimethacrylates, divinylbenzene

multifunctional initiators: In living processes with fast Controlled initiation

Stars, branched polymers

# Carother's Theory for Molar Mass Prediction in Step-Growth Polymerization

 $\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\mathbf{n}}$ 

Ν

$$\overline{\mathbf{X}_{n}} = \frac{\mathbf{N}_{o}}{\mathbf{N}}$$
 (eq. 1)

$$p = \#$$
 of functional groups initially present

$$p = \frac{\mathbf{N_o} - \mathbf{N}}{\mathbf{N_o}} \qquad \frac{\mathbf{N_o}}{\mathbf{N}} = \frac{1}{1 - p}$$
(eq. 2)

Combine (eq's.1&2)



Defined as number average degree of polymerization

 $N_o$  Number of molecules present initially at T = 0 (i.e., monomers)

> Number of molecules present initially at T = t (both polymer and monomers)

*p* Extent of reaction (fractional, 100% = 1.0)
 *AND* the probability that any functional group has reacted (i.e., formed bonds)

Theory applicable to polymerizations of:  $A_2 + B_2$ ; AB,  $A_2$ -with stoichiometric balance

Requires perfect stoichiometric balance; high MW only at very high conversion!

# **MW distributions for Step-Growth**

Carother's theory only provides X<sub>n</sub>, M<sub>n</sub> average values, no MW distributions!

# Flory developed statistical theory to derive both number and weight fraction distributions

#### Mole fraction distributions

P(x) = probability distribution = number fraction distribution = mole fxn distrib. "probability of a molecule possessing **x** monomer units at some time = t and p, where p = extent of reactioni and probability of functional group reacted

 $P(x) = \frac{\text{# of polymers of } X_n = x}{\text{total # of macromolecules}}$ 

1000 total polymer chains 10 trimeric molecules P(trimer) = 0.010

#### Weight fraction distributions

total mass polymers of  $X_n = x$ 

W(x) total mass of macromolecules

1000g polymer chains 10g trimeric molecules W(trimer) = 0.010

# **Most Probable Distributions: Number Fraction**

p = extent of reaction and probability that functional groups have reacted p = probability of finding bonds between monomers



Probability of "finding" a monomer:P(1) = 1 - pProbability of "finding" a dimer:P(2) = p(1 - p)Probability of "finding" a trimer: $P(3) = p^2(1 - p)$ Probability of "finding" an x-mer: $P(x) = p^{x-1}(1 - p)$ 

This type of MW distribution referred to as a "most probable distribution" or "Flory-Schulz distribution"



P(x) decreases monotonically with DP Characteristic of step-growth polym.

 $P(x) = p^{x-1}(1 - p)$  is discrete distr.

 $P(x) = (1/X_n)e^{-x/Xn}$  continuous form

# **Most Probable Distributions with Higher Conversion**



# **Most Probable Distributions: Weight Fraction**

**Probability Distribution-Mole Fraction Distribution** 

$$W(x) = \frac{\text{total mass polymers of } X_n = x}{\text{total mass of macromolecules}} = \frac{N_x(X M_o)}{N_o M_o} \qquad M_o = \text{ave. MW}$$

$$W(x) = \frac{x N_x}{N_o} = x (1 - p)^2 p^{x-1}$$
 Other eq. which defines  
Flory-Schulz Distribution!

# Polydispersity in Step-Growth Polym.

Polydispersity =  $M_w/M_n$  index for MW distribution

$$\overline{M}_{n} = \Sigma P(x) \overline{M}_{x} = \Sigma x \overline{M}_{o} (1-p) p^{x-1}$$

$$\Sigma x p^{x-1} = (1-p)^{-2} \text{ when } p < 1$$

$$\overline{M}_{n} = \frac{\overline{M}_{o}}{(1-p)} = \overline{X}_{n} \overline{M}_{o}$$

$$\overline{M}_{w} = \Sigma W(x) \overline{M}_{x} = \Sigma x^{2} \overline{M}_{o} (1-p)^{2} p^{x-1}$$

$$\Sigma x^{2} p^{x-1} = (1+p)(1-p)^{-3} \text{ when } p < 1$$

$$\overline{M}_{w} = \overline{M}_{o} \frac{(1+p)}{(1-p)}$$

$$\overline{M}_{w} = \overline{M}_{o} \frac{(1+p)}{(1-p)}$$

$$\overline{M}_{w} = \overline{M}_{o} \frac{(1+p)}{(1-p)}$$

## **Examples of Step-Growth Polymers**

Polyester Dacron, Mylar



polycarbonate



Polyaromatic amide Kevlar



Polyamide Nylon 6,6



Polyurethane Spandex

#### Key Features of Step-Growth Polymers

More expensive than chain-growth poylmers Improved mechanical properties Wider range of optical, electronic magnetic properties

# **Examples of Monomers Chain-Growth Polymerization**



# **Definition and Criteria for Living Polymerizations**



**Definition:** Chain polymerization that proceeds in the absence of chain breaking processes (termination, transfer

Criteria\*: (Quirk et al., Polym. Int. 1992, 27, 359)

- Polymerization proceeds until all monomer consumed, further addition of monomer results in chain extension
- 2) Number average MW (M<sub>n</sub>, X<sub>n</sub>) linear relationship with monomer conversion
- 3) # of initiator molecules = # of polymer chains, which is constant throughout reaction
- 4)  $DP = [M]_o/[I]_o x$  conversion
- 5) Polymers of low polydispersity formed  $M_w/M_n = 1 + 1/DP_n$
- 6) Block Copolymers formed from sequential monomer addition to living polymer chain
- 7) Facile chain end functionalization
- 8) Linearity of Ln([M]<sub>o</sub>/[M]) vs. time (constant # of active centers

# **Controlled/Living Polymerizations**

<u>Living polymerization</u>:a chain growth process without chain-breaking reactions (termination, transfer) Anionic, Insertion (ROMP)

 $- \text{Li} \qquad H = -\text{H}$ 

<u>Features:</u> precise  $DP_n (\Delta[M]/[I]_o)$ Low polydispersity Active chain ends-Blocks Control of architecture Stringent reaction conditions



<u>Controlled/"Living" polymerization</u>:a chain growth process with chainbreaking reactions R<sub>propagation</sub> >> R<sub>termination</sub>, R<sub>transfer</sub>

**Reversible deactivation** 

<u>Features:</u> precise  $DP_n (\Delta[M]/[I]_o)$ Low polydispersity\* Active chain ends-Blocks Control of architecture



Free Radical Chemistry: 1990's

Greater functional group tolerance Range of monomers

# **Controlled/Living Polymerizations**

#### **Living Anionic Polymerization**

<u>Initiators</u>: ex. organolithium compounds (sec-butyl lithium; n-butyl lithium) Grignard reagents, alkali bases

<u>Monomers:</u> ex. Styrenes, dienes, (meth)acrylates, pyridines, epoxides: Functional monomer require protecting groups; alkyl esters cannot be polym

<u>Features:</u> exquisite control of MW, block copolymers, low functional group tolerance

#### **Controlled Cationic Polymerization**

Initiators: ex. Alkyl halides, acetates, inorganic/organic acids, water

<u>Monomers:</u> ex. Vinyl ethers, alkenes(butylene), styrene, cyclic ethers Functional monomer require protecting groups; alkyl esters cannot be polym

<u>Features:</u> highly reactive cation species susceptible to chain transfer Controlled MW, block copolymers

#### **Controlled Radical Polymerization**

Initiators: ex. Alkyl halides, alkoxyamines, thioesters

<u>Monomers:</u> ex. (meth)acrylates, (meth)acrylamides, styrenes, acrylonitrile, Pyridines, dienes,

High functional group tolerance, widest scope of polymerizable monomers

Features: controlled MW, blcck copoylmers, functionality, bimolecular termination

# **Ring-Opening Polymerization**

#### Coordination-Insertion Polym.

Ring-opening metathesis Polymerization (ROMP)

Initiators/catalysts: Transition metal alkyldenes (Ru, Mo)

#### Monomers:

Cyclic alkenes (norbornylene Cyclooctadiene, dicyclopentadienes)

# **Controlled/Living Polymerizations: Materials**



For the following polymerization reactions, indicate if linear, branched, or crosslinked polymer architectures are formed: (4 pts, ca)



AIBN = free radical initiator

Write out the chemical structure of syndiotactic polystyreneWhat thermal transitions would you expect for this polymer?If this polymer were made thru a living polymerization, describe the following:MW dependence of monomer to initiator stoichiometryMost probable vs. Poisson distributions

Describe the types of "structural heterogeneities discussed in class.

For each, provide any and all supporting info that was discussed in general terms

# **Fundamentals of Step-Growth Polymerization**

- Polymer nomenclature (traditional versus IUPAC systems)
- Kinetics of Polymerization
  - Equal reactivity of functional groups
  - Kinetics of polyesterification (self versus external catalysis)
  - Carother's equation
  - Nonequilvalence (example of polyurethanes)
  - Equilibrium polymerizations (closed versus open-driven systems)
  - Side reactions: cyclization
- Molecular Weight Evolution (M<sub>n</sub> vs. conversion) in Step-Growth
  - Carother's equation
  - MW control from stoichiometic imbalance
- Branching and Gelation
- Polyesters and Polyesterification
  - Examples and structure-property relationships
  - Bulk driven systems (direct polyesterification and transesterification)
  - Nonequilibrium polymerizations (acid chloride rxn's, activated polymerizations)
  - Applications

# Kinetics of Step-Growth Polymerization: Equal Reactivity of Functional Groups

Simplification of kinetic analysis: assumption of equal functional group reactivity

$$x + y - y$$
  $x + y - y$ 

Above critical chain length-reaction rates level off and are comparable

Rate constant independent of chain-length

#### MW and Step-Growth Polymerization: Carothers and Flory Eq.



Process approaches pdi = 2

# **Mechanism and Kinetics of Polyesterification**

Acid Catalyzed Polymerization



# **Equilibrium Polymerizations**



• Closed system (no removal of byproducts)  $K = \frac{p_e^2}{(1 - p_e)^2}$   $X_n = 1 + K^{1/2}$ 

TABLE 2-5 Effect of Equilibrium Constant on Extent of Reaction and Degree of Polymerization in Closed System		
Equilibrium Constant (K)	р	$\overline{X}_{s}$
0.0001	0.0099	1.01
0.01	0.0909	1.10
1	0.500	2
16	0.800	5
81	0.900	10
361	0.950	20
2,401	0.980	50
9,801	0.990	100
39,601	0.995	200
249,001	0.998	500
	TABLE 2-5         Effect of Equilibrium Co           Polymerization in Closed System           Equilibrium Constant (K)           0.0001           0.01           1           16           81           361           2,401           9,801           39,601           249,001	Description         Constant of Equilibrium Constant on Extent of Reaction and I           Polymerization in Closed System         p           Equilibrium Constant (K)         p           0.0001         0.0099           0.01         0.0909           1         0.500           16         0.800           81         0.900           361         0.950           2,401         0.980           9,801         0.990           39,601         0.995           249,001         0.998

Odian, "Principles of Polymerization,"

# **Equilibrium Polymerizations**



ĸ	$\overline{X}_{s}$	[H2O] <sup>a</sup> (moles/liter)
0.1	1.32*	1.18 <sup>b</sup>
0.1	20	$1.32 \times 10^{-3}$
	50	$2.04 \times 10^{-4}$
	100	5.05 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>
	200	$1.26 \times 10^{-3}$
	500	$2.00 \times 10^{-6}$
1	2 <sup>a</sup>	2.50 <sup>b</sup>
1	20	$1.32 \times 10^{-3}$
	50	$2.04 \times 10^{-1}$
	100	5.05 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>
	200	$1.26 \times 10^{-4}$
	500	$2.01 \times 10^{-1}$
16	5*	4.00 <sup>b</sup>
10	20	0.211
	50	$3.27 \times 10^{-1}$
	100	$8.10 \times 10^{-1}$
	200	$2.01 \times 10^{-1}$
	500	$3.21 \times 10^{-1}$
81	10 <sup>6</sup>	4.50 <sup>6</sup>
	20	1.07
	50	0.166
	100	$4.09 \times 10^{-1}$
	200	$1.02 \times 10^{-1}$
	500	$1.63 \times 10^{-1}$
361	20 <sup>b</sup>	4.75 <sup>b</sup>
	50	0.735
	100	0.183
	200	$4.54 \times 10^{-1}$
	500	7.25 × 10

TABLE 2-6 Effect of Water Concentration on Degree of Polymerization in Open, Driven System

"[H<sub>2</sub>O] values are for [M]<sub>0</sub> = 5.

"These values are for a closed reaction system at equilibrium.

Odian, "Principles of Polymerization,"

# **Side Reactions in Step-Growth Polymerization**

<u>Cyclization:</u> Competition between linear polym. vs. cyclization

More common in AB monomer homopolymerization



Interchange: e.g., Transesterification, transamidation



Scramble composition and MW of (co)polymers in reaction mixture

#### **Examples of Aliphatic, Aromatic-Aliphatic, Aromatic Polyesters**





O-(CH<sub>2</sub>)-O

Polylactide (PLA), Natureworks (Cargill-Dow)

n = 2; poly(ethylene terephthalate), PET, *Rymite, Mylar, Dacron (Dupont)* 

n = 3; poly(trimethylene terephthalate), PTT, Corterra (Shell), Sorona (Dupont)

n = 4; poly(butylene terephthalate), PBT, Ektar (Eastman), Pocan (Bayer), Valox (GE), Crastin (Dupont)

Poly(ethylene 2,6-naphthalate), PEN, Kaladex (Dupont), Pentex (Honeywell-Allied Signal)

Poly(2,2'-bis(1,4phenylene)propaneterephthalate-coisophthalte), PAR *Ardel* (*Amoco*)

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Comparisons of Thermal Properties of Poly(alkylene adipate)s Versus Poly(alkylene terephthalate)s



<u>n</u>	<u><b>T</b></u> <u>g</u>	<u>T</u> _m (°C)	<u>n</u>	<u>T</u> g	<u>T</u> _m(℃)
1	-	-	1	101	269
2	-63	50	2	69	265
3	-59	45	3	35	233
4	-74	56	4	17	232
6	-73	61	6	-9	154
8	-56	80			



Chem 542B: Step-Growth Polymerization

## Synthesis of Polyamides-Nylon 6,6





+ 2n Me<sub>3</sub>SiCl

## Synthesis of Polyaromatic amides/Aramids



Poly(imino-1,4-phenyleneiminoterephthaloyl) Kevlar



## **Synthesis of Polyurethanes and Polyureas**





Blowing agent (foams)

## **Crosslinking in Polyurethanes and Polyureas**



### Block Copolymers via Step-Growth Polym: Prepolymer Approach

#### "Two Prepolymer" Approach:

Separate synthesis of two different prepolymers via polymerization of telechelics thru end-groups.

(e.g.,  $\alpha, \omega$ -macrodiol with  $\alpha, \omega$ -macrodiisocynate = polyester-*block*-polyurethane )



homopolymers and segmented block copolymers depending on stoichiometry

### **Polyesterification: Equilibrium and Nonequilibrium Polymerization**

### **Equilibrium Polymerizations**

**Bulk-Direct Polyesterifications** 

Polytransesterifications-Ester Interchange

### **Nonequilibrium Polymerizations**

Acid chloride reactions

Activated polyesterifications (carbonyldimidazole, chlorophophates) Two-stage processes Catalysts (Sb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) Temperature

Irreversible reactions High polymer formed Mild conditions Expensive monomers

## Schotten-Baumann Polymerization: Interfacial Polyamidation



### Nonequilibrium Polyesterifications: 1,1'-Carbonyldiimidazole



### **Drug Delivery with Degradable Polyester Microparticles**



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## **Nonstoichiometric Conditions: MW Control**



**II.** A-A + B-B + B'  $r = N_A/(N_B + 2N_{B'}) =$  stoichiomeric imbalance

**III.** A-B + B'





Chem 542B: Step-Growth Polymerization

## **Gelation Theory**



### High Temperature Polymers: Replacement Materials for Metals-Ceramics











### **Shape-Persistent Polymers and Low-k Dielectric Materials**



J. Hedrick, C. Hawker, W. Volksen, V. Lee, E. Conner, R. Miller

## Synthesis of Polyimides: High Temperature Polymers



Polyimides prepared by "setting" polyamic precursor and annealing

Synthesis of Heterocyclic High Temperature Polymers: Polybenzimidazoles



Poly[(5,5'-bi-1*H*-benzimidazole]-2,2'-diyl)-1,3-phenylene

### Polybenzimidazoles: Two Stage Nucleophilic Substitution Mechanism





# **Nanoporous Materials – HOLES!!!**



\* Feature/line size is shrinking, ca. 100-200 nm

# **Nanoporous Materials – HOLES!!!**



\* Feature/line size is shrinking, ca. 100-200 nm

#### Synthesis of PMMA-block-Polyphenylquinoxalines-block-PMMA



Hedrick et al., Polymer 1993, 34, 4717

### Synthesis of Nanoporous Polyphenylquinoxalines Films



## **Dielectric Materials Overview**

Material	Dielectric Constant	Deposition Technique
	-	-
Silicon Dioxide	3.9 – 4.1	CVD
Fluorinated Oxide	3.4 - 4.1	CVD
Polyimides	3.0 - 3.6	Spin-on
Spin-on Glasses	2.7 - 3.1	Spin-on
Fluorinated polyimides	2.6 - 2.9	Spin-on
(DLC) Diamond like	2.8 - 3.0	CVD
glass		
Poly(arylene ethers)	2.6 - 2.9	Spin-on
Poly(arylenes)	2.6 - 2.8	Spin-on
Poly(norbornenes)	2.5 - 2.7	Spin-on

Ultra Low k Materials (< 2.2)

Teflon A-F	1.9 – 2.1	Spin-on
Teflon Microemulsion	1.9 - 2.1	Spin-on

#### **Porous Dielectrics**

Polyimide Nanofoams	2.2	Spin-on
Silica Aerogels	1.1 - 2.2	Spin-on
Silica Xerogels	1.5 - 2.2	Spin-on





→Concept: Introduction of AIR lowers Dielectric properties

## **Fuel Cell Applications: Clean Abundant Energy**









## **Fuel Cell Scheme: Role of membranes**



# Fuel Cell Composite Electrodes



•Transport of gases and ions through crowded polymer-solid interfaces where the electrolyte mobility is restricted.

- Polyelectrolytes close to glassy phase
- •Poor ion transport and dis-bondment.

•Ion activity?

## **Sulfonated Polybenzimidazoles**





### Ionic Conductivity Sulfonated Polybenzimidazoles



Fig. 3. Conductivity at 25°C of: (a) Nation<sup>TM</sup>-117; (b) benzylsulfonate-grafted PBI and (c) PBI as a function of the H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> concentration (immersion time \$h) [46,47].

**Desirable Membrane Properties** 

Materials-maximum ionic conducivity

Selectively permeable to H<sup>+</sup> Impermeable to MeOH other ions

Capable of higher use temperatures

Suppression of CO catalyst Poisoning of Pt electrodes

Jones et al., J. Membrane Sci. 2001, 185, 41

# **Liquid Crystals and Liquid Crystalline Polymers**



Mesogens in LC polymers



crystal: 3D-order solid LC: 1D, or 2D ordered liquid Isotropic liquid: disordered

LC's are *anisotropic* i.e., properties dependent on direction of measurement

Small molecule LC and Liquid Crystalline Polymers

Mesogen: rigid or rod-like groups that point along a common axis

In presence of solvent, or when heated Tendency of mesogens to align along One-axis gives rise to the mesogenic state, Or "liquid crystallinity"

Certain proteins, viruses, cellulose are LC due to rigid helical conformations

# **Nematic and Cholesteric Phases of LC's**



## **Smectic and Discotic Phases of LC's**



smectic



Molecules maintain general alignment similar to nematic but tend to align in layers,or planes







**Discotic Columnar** 

Mesogens are disc-like instead of rigid-rod like

Stacking of columns yields 2-D crystalline array



# **Characterization of LC Materials**

- X-ray diffraction: characteristic scattering of different mesostructures clearly identifies LC phase
- Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC): monitors each thermal transition

crystalline solid to smectic phase to nematic phase to isotropic liquid

- Birefringence: measure of different refractive indices from anisotropy from LC
- Microscopy: optical images of different crystal phases and morphology from polarized optical microscopy

## **General concept of DSC and Review of Thermal Transitions**



- 2 = amorphous glassy polymer
- 1 = crystalline solid (not crystalline polymer!)
### **DSC of Thermotropic Liquid Crystal**



### **Examples of LC Textures from Optical Microscopy**



Spherulite texture of a crystalline phase



Schlieren texture of a nematic phase



Cholesteric fingerprint texture



SmA fan-shaped texture

# **Possible Thermal Transitions on LC's**

#### Crystalline solid



#### Smectic phase



#### nematic phase



#### Isotropic liquid



decreasing temperature

Increasing temperature

# **Liquid Crystals Displays**

"on state" = current on



"off State" = current off



Numbers appear when electrodes induce twisting of LC



Blank screen with zero current

Only small molecule LC's have fast enough dynamics for LCD's Polymers rearrange to slowly on longer time scales

### **Main-Chain Thermotropic LC Polymers**



Processability improved with copolymerization with: Asymmetric monomers (*ortho*, -*meta* functional monomers) Monomers with longer spacers

### **Side-Chain Thermotropic LC Polymers**



Polymer Backbone Mesogen Spacer

Optimization of each Structural parameter affect final properties

#### Ex. Of Side Chain Thermotropic LC



## **Applications of Thermotropic LC Polymers**

High Strength Fibers: Kevlar



Polyaromatic amide Kevlar



• Photonics: Optical Storage Media



McGrath Group-University of Arizona



High  $T_g$  of LC polymers allows "memory" of optical data

## **Classifications of LC's : Thermotropic vs. Lyotropic**

- Thermotropic LC's: the liquid crystalline state is induced thermally form bulk material
  - Enatiotropic LC: LC state can be reached by either heating solid, or cooling liquid
  - Monotropic: LC state can be reached by heating solid, or cooling liquid, but not both
- Lyotropic LC's: LC stated occurs from influence of solvent, micellar structures from solvent induced aggregation
  - Lyotropic mesogens usually amphiphilic with both lyophilic (solvent attracting) and lyophobic (solvent repelling) segments

# Lyotropic LC Polymers



### **Concentration Dependent Lyotropic Phases**



Concentration of Amphiphilic Molecules

#### **Examples of Lyotropic LC Phases**



O'Brien et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1995**, *117*, 5573; O'Brien et al., *Acc. Chem. Res.***1998**, *31*, 861; O'Brien et al., *Chem. Rev.***2002**, *102*, 727

#### **Examples of Polymerizable Lipids**



O'Brien et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1995**, *117*, 5573; O'Brien et al., *Acc. Chem. Res.* **1998**, *31*, 861; O'Brien et al., *Chem. Rev.* **2002**, *102*, 727

#### **Polymerized of Hexagonal Lipid Assemblies**



O'Brien et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1995**, *117*, 5573; O'Brien et al., *Acc. Chem. Res.***1998**, *31*, 861; O'Brien et al., *Chem. Rev.***2002**, *102*, 727