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HIGH TEMPERATURE ELASTOMERS: THERMO-OXIDATIVE BEHAVIOR OF A SYSTEMATIC SERIES OF LINEAR POLY(CARBORANE-SILOXANE)S CONTAINING ICOSOHEDRAL -CB10H10C- CAGES

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June 1972

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ABSTRACT

A study of oxidative instability versus molecular structure for a systematic series of well defined linear poly(carbon anesiloxane)s is reported. These polymers form the backbone components of the most recently developed high temperature elastomers. The basic structure is:

$$\Lambda - 0 - \begin{bmatrix} R & R \\ Si - Z & Si - 0 \\ CH_3 & CH_3 \end{bmatrix}_{X} A$$

where 1) x = 1, 3, 4, 5, ∞ ; 2) A = end-groups (reactive and inert); 3) Z = meta-para-carborane (for x = 3); 4) R = -CH₃, R = -C₂H₄CF₃ (for x = 3); one in five R = -C₆H₅ with the remainder -CH₃ (for x = 4); 5) molecular weight = ∞ 10,000, ∞ 50,000 (for x = 3). Thermomechanical spectra in air (∞ 1 cps) from 130°C \Rightarrow 625°C \Rightarrow 130°C at 3.6°C/min, thermogravimetric data from 25°C \Rightarrow 800°C in air (3.6°C/ min) and differential thermal data from 25°C $\Rightarrow \sim$ 450°C in air (15°C/ min) are presented. Thermo-oxidative stability is discussed in terms of structure and broad catagories of behavior are defined. HTGH TEMPERATURE FLASTCMERS : THERMO-OXIDATIVE BEHAVICE OF A SYSTEMATIC SERTES OF LINEAP POLY (CARBORAME-STLOXANE) S CONTAINING ICOS(HEDRAL -CB10H10C- CAGES:

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recently. tlermomechanical properties the of a systematic series of linear poly(carborane-siloxane)s containing icosohedral $-CB_{10}H_{10}C$ - cages were reported (1), The report included physical properties of the materials (melting, crystallization, glass and glassy state secondary transitions) as determined by torsional braid analysis (TBA). It also reported a high degree of thermal stability (in nitrogen and argon) as detected by TBA, thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) and differential thermal analysis (DTA). The data indicated that in nitrogen, at a heating rate of ? 6 deg C/Min, several of these materials did not crosslink

or lose appreciable weight until temperatures greater than 500deg.C Expanding upon the previous report, this communication discusses the thermo-oxidative stability of the linear polymers in mechanical (by TBA:) and thermal (by DTA and T3A) terms.

EXPERIMENTAL.

<u>Materials</u>: The structures of the systematic series of linear carborane-siloxane polymers studied herein are shown in Table 14

Techniques: The thermomechanical spectra (Figures 1-3) were determined by torsional braid analysis(2,3,4), The spectra, in flowing air, cover the temperature range of 130 to 625 to 130deg.C at a programming rate of 3,6deg.C/Min. The specimens were solution-cast , glass hraid/polymer composites-All of the specimens, except 10-SiB-1, were prepared by drying (in ritrogen at 2 deg C/Min to 200deg.C) a braid soaked in a 10 percent (q polymer/ ml solvent) solution of polymer in benzene The 10-SiB-1 material was virtually insoluble in refluxing xylene. The 10-SiB-1 specimen was prepared from a 5 percent slurry in refluxing was dried in nitrogen to 280deg.C at xylene and ? deg.C/Min

The TGA curves (Figures 1-3) were generated on a

du Pont 950 thermogravimetric analyzer The specimens were cast from the same solutions used to make the mechanical specimens and were run at 3.6 deg.C/Min. About 75mg of solution were used for each run. Larger specimen weights (about 120mg solution) gave somewhat different results, which will be discussed later.

The DTA curves (Figures 4-6) were generated on a du Pont 900 thermoanalyzer. The specimens were bulk polymers taken as received. The heating rate was 15deg-C/Min-

The all the experiments, bottled inhalator air was used (one bottle for all the mechanical work and one for all the TGA and DTA work). The air was specified at 10 parts per million moisture.

FESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The <u>JO-SiB-X</u> series: This series includes polymers $T_{,,TV_{,}VTT_{,}XT}$ and XTT of Table ? The TGA data and the TBA relative rigidity data are in Figure 1; the DTA data are in Figure 4.

The TO-SiB-X TCA data indicate that, with the exception of pure silicone (TO-SiB- ∞ , XIT), these materials are thermogravimetrically stable. The onset of weight loss was about ROOded C for all these polymerus. Above REODER C all

the carborane polymers started to gain weight and at about 575 deg C all but 70-SiB-1 lost weight again. The latter temperature corresponds to the only region of weight loss for these materials in an inert atmosphere (1). The curves for V and VTJ were different when larger samples were used (about *20mg). In each case the increase in weight above 350 deg.C did not occur, although all other features remained intact. Tt is of interest to note that there appears to be no simple relationship between the degree of weight loss by 900 deg.C and the number of siloxane linkages per repeat unit. A linear relationship was found for the weight loss by 900 deg.C in argon(1). 10-SiB-1 seems the most oxidatively stable when examined via TGA

The 10-SiP-X DTA data revealed the melting point for 10-SiB-* as a sharp endotherm. All the 10-SiB-X polymers began to enter broad exothermic peaks in the range of 225 to 250 deg.C. With the exception of 10-SiB-4, the first peak occurred at higher temperatures when more siloxane groups were in the repeat unit. A further sharp well defined exotherm was present between 3°0 and 425 deg.C; again the peak temperatures increased with siloxane content. The data was boundy and not reproducible above approximately 430 deg C (this part is not shown) indicating a violent reaction

The "O-SiB-X TBA relative rigidity curves are in Figure All of the carborane-containing polymers experienced a ٩., mode of stiffening near 300 deg.C. The 10-SiB-1, 3, 4 and 5 polymers commenced stiffening at 300, 290, 290 and 270 deg C The 10-SiB-3, 4 and 5 polymers gave virtually respectively identical stiffening plots from 300 to about 400 deg.C, while 10-SiB-1 was shifted somewhat to higher temperatures (about 25 deg.C). Examining the data from the point of view of the inflection point of the rigidity rise, all the carborane polymers had this point at about 360 deg. C. Pure was considerably silicone more stable from an oxidative-mechanical point of view since it began to stiffen at about 350 deg C and had an inflection temperature of about 405 deg.C. The rigidity decreased above 400 deg.C for all the carborane polymers and above 540 deg.C it increased The maximum in the rigidity curve could indicate again. that there was a scission reaction competing successfully with the stiffening reaction or that the new material formed during the initial stiffening process was experiencing a physical transition (e.g. Ωn other Tg) , the hand, the pure silicone experienced only a one stage stiffening process The temperature for the maximum in rigidity for to correspond the carborane polymers seems £0 the temperatures of the final sharp exotherm seen by DTA in all

1

cases except 10-SiB-1. This would indicate that a reactive softening mechanism is more likely than a physical one (e q. **™**q) . On cooling from 625 deg.C; all the carborane polymers appeared to have broad glass transitions between 400 and 500 deg.C [The rigidity level, after curing to 625 deg C_p was dependent upon the fraction of polymer on the braid (braid loading)]. This type of behavior has been reported for other carborane-siloxane polymer systems which contained both B10 and B5 cages (5). The 10-SiB-X polymers began to stiffen at about the same temperature as the 5-SiB-1 polymer previously reported (5), but at a lower temporature than the 5-SiB-1, 20 mole percent 10-SiB-1 copolymer discussed therein (the higher temperature of oxidative degradation for the B10/B5 copolymer may have been the presence of catalyst residue ferric ion due to impurities acting as oxidative stablizers). Pure silicone appears the most oxidatively stable by both DTA and TEA studies.

The <u>10-SiB-3</u> series: This series includes polymers IT -V7 of Table 1. The TGA data and the TBA data are in Figure 2; the DTA data are in Figure 5.

The 10-SiB-3 TGA data indicate that all the methylated materials have a high degree of thermogravimetric stability and experienced the same multistep process seen in the 10-SiB-X series. The more organic fluorinated polymer(VI) did lose more than twice as much weight as the the totally methylated polymers, with the first major weight loss region occurring near 350 deg. C. As in the 10-SiB-X series, all the methylated materials commenced weight loss at about 300 deg.C. The 10-SiR-? para polymer had a final weight loss that was less than that for the meta-carborane polymers and the second stage of weight loss occurred about 40 deg.C higher-As before, the second stage weight loss in air for 10-SiB-3 para occurred at about the same temperature as the single stated weight loss in argon(*). The different weight loss levels for TV versus TT and TTT is most prohably due to different molecular weight distributions (1). The 10-SiB-3 para appears to be the most oxidatively stable of the 30-SiP-3 polymers when studied by TGA , although the first temperature region of major weight loss was higher for the fluorinated polymer,

The 10-SiB-3 D"7 data are very much like those for the 10-SiB-X series. The Tm's of Th, TTT and V were revealed by sharp endotherms at 47, 47, and 10P deg C, corresopnding well to the reported values(*). A two-stage process commencing between 225 and 250 deg C, except for the fluorinated polymer which entered an exotherm at about 300 deg. C, was indicated for all polymers. The first stage of

the exotherm for the fluorinated material was flatter than for the other 10-SiB-3 polymers, and the second exotherm peaked at 440 rather than 390 to 410 deg.C. The more organic fluorinated material appears more oxidatively stable when examined by DTA.

The 30-SiB-3 TBA data are almost identical in form to those of the 10-SiB-X series, excent for VT (the fluorinated polymer) -A11 the methylated polymers experience the initial stiffening at about 280 deg. C and a maximum near 400 deg.C. The fluorinated polymer was similar except that the line of increase of rigidity was shifted to higher temperatures by about 25 deg C and the maximum was at about 430 deg.C. All the methylated materials experienced a decrease in rigidity after the maximum and then stiffened again_a The para-carborane polymer experienced the second stiffening about 40 deg.C higher (as with the second weight The fluorinated polymer experienced two maxima 1055) · indicating a three staged stiffening/softening process. A11 the materials again displayed a Tg region in the 400 to 500 deg.C range on cooling from 625 deg.C, as seen for the 10-SiB-X series A ranking of thermomechanical oxidative stability is difficult to define within this series,

The <u>10-SiB-4</u> series: This series includes polymers VIT, TX and X (VIT) was not studied oxidatively). The TGA data and the TBA data are in Figure 3; the DTA data are in Figure 6.

The 10-SiB-4 TGA data indicate a relatively high degree The phenylated thermogravimetric oxidative stability. of polymers (TX and X) displayed small total weight losses by deg C, with the differences between them presumably 003 being due to differences in molecular weight distributions The phenvlated materials displayed a major and/or workup. mode of weight loss commencing at 350 deg.C rather than 300 All three polymers displayed a weight deg C for ^0-SiB-4. gain (350 deg.C for VIT, and 430 deg. C for IX and X) and the phenylated polymers. displayed a broader region of weight only the totally mothylated 10-SiB-4 experienced the gain. second mode of weight loss common to the methylated polymers In this series, the phenylated polymers discussed above. are the most thermogravimetrically stable in air.

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The 10-SiP-4 DMA data amplify the TGA results. Whereas the methylated #0-SiB-4 entered an exothermic region at 240 deg, C, the phenylated polymers IX and X entered about 300 and 290 deg C respectively. such a region at The exotherms themselves reflected the less abrupt nature of the the phenylated polymers. The exothermic weight loss for peaks for the methylated 10-SiB-4 polymer were sharp, while the phenylated polymers ware broad and diffuse. those of

The DTA data indicate high stability for the phenylated versus the totally methylated 10-SiB-4 polymers, both from the point of view of the onset of the oxidative exotherm and of the sharpness of the reaction region.

The 10-SiB-4 TPA data in Figure 3 include the plot of 10-SiB-∞ curve for comparison. The following ranking the can be established for the three classes of materials in The phenylated carborane-siloxane polymers and this figure. the pure silicone are significantly more stable than the totally methylated. 10-SiB-4 when monitored thermomechanically in air. Other interesting features are the 10 deg.C difference in the onset of catastrophic stiffening of the end-capped non-end-capped versus phenvlated polymers (the end-capped reacts first as was detected via DTA), and the non-softening of the phenylated This second feature is of polymers above 400 deg.C. interest since the two-stage stiffening process was still evident. This stiffening is also complementary to the broad reaction peak detected by DTA The phenylated materials appear to be more highly crosslinked than the other polymers (in all series) after the first stiffening process. This is apparent since all the other rigidity curves displayed very nearly the same value for relative rigidity at their respective maxima regardless of their braid loading, This

excess crosslink density may be due to the 430 deg.C stiffening observed thermally (in nitrogen) at the same programming rate (1), but not observed for the methylated polymers. On the other hand, the second stage of stiffening' in all the polymers occurred near the temperature region (530 to 570 deg.C) of catastrophic stiffening in nitrogen (¹).

Mone of the carborane polymer damping plots are shown because the data did no more than reflect the information derived from the rididity plots, In general terms each damping curve displayed a damping peak corresponding to each stage of the multistaged stiffening region. On cooling from 625 deg.C a large drop in damping occurred at about 400 The overall damping behavior was similar to that in deg.C of the 5-SiB-1 polymers previously reported $(5)_{2}$ air Several of the materials which began to stiffen below 300 deg, C displayed a damping peak at the onset of stiffening and another one in the region of catastrophic stiffening. The others displayed only one peak corresponding to the first reaction region Both types displayed further peaks higher temperatures corresponding to the stiffening at during later stages of reaction

The thermo-oxidative studies dicussed above, indicate

that the poly(carborane-siloxane)s listed in Table 1 fall into two classes of thermo-mechanical degradation, The first class, is composed of all the totally methylated carborane polymers (I-VIT and XT), and is defined by the 280 to 300 deg C temperature region for the onset of stiffening. The second class, defined by a 350 deg.C onset of stiffening, is composed of pure silicone and the phenylated polymers. Examination of the TGA data for pure silicone would discount any advantage derived from the 'increased temperature of onset of stiffening, while the TGA data for the phenylated materials would indicate a high degree of relative utility. The two-step nature of the TBA data for all of the carborane polymers indicated that the response of the polymers in air was a combination of purely oxidative and purely thermal events that could be separated upon examination of previously reported thermomechanical data (1) The rather close grouping of the curves into the two reaction regions has prompted the authors to consider isothermal oxidative studies to better define the close ranking of the materials in each class and to determine activation energies for the stiffening process.

Tt is of interest to note that with respect to thermomechanical stability, the incorporation of carborane cages into siloxane backhones decreases the threshold of

oxidative stiffening. Pelated work reported recently in the Russian literature (6) indicted that the incorporation of m-carborane cages into polyamido backbones resulted in the formation of $B_2 \cap_3$ upon long-term exposure to air at 230-250 deg. C. The oxidative attack of the carborane cage below 350 deg C leading to crosslinks appears reasonable. The nature of the stiffening processes for the pure silicone (one step) versus the carborane polymers (multistep) and the transition behavior of the oxidatively cured materials (Tg>625 deg.C for the silicone:Tq=400-500 deg C for the carborane polymers) further indicate that the carborane cage itself has some direct effect on the oxidation process, Puture work to determine the chemical structure of the pyrolytic products of oxidation is planned in order to provide a hetter understanding of the degradation mechanism,

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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TABLE CAPTIONS

Table * Structure and designation of 10-SiB polymers.

FIGURE CAPTIONS

Pigure 7. Torsional braid and thermogravimetric analyses of 10-SiP-X polymers in air.

Piqure 2. Torsional braid and thermogravimetric analyses of 10-SiB-3 polymers in air.

Figure ? Torsional braid and thermogravimetric analyses of 10-SiB+4 polymers in air-

Figure 4 Differential thermal analysis of 10-SiB-X polymers in air

Figure 5. Differential thermal analysis of 10-SiB-3 polymers in air.

Piguro 6 Differential thermal analysis of 10-SiB-4 polymers in air-

TABLE I

		STRUCTURE
I	10-SiB-1	но - <mark>сн₃ сн₃ сн₃ но - сн₃ но - сн₃ с</mark>
Π	10-SiB-3	но
ш	IO-SIB-3 END-CAPPED	{7] _{XYLENE} * 0.15 -0.20 d1/9 GPC PEAK MAX ~ 10-12,000 CH ₃ -Si-O-Si-O-Si-CB ₁₀ H ₁₀ C-Si-O-Si-O-Si-CH ₃ CH ₃ -Si-O-Si-O-Si-CB ₁₀ H ₁₀ C-Si-O-Si-O-Si-CH ₃ CH ₃ -CH ₃ -CH ₃ CH ₃ -CH ₃ -CH ₃ -CH ₃ (7) _{XYLENE} * 0.15 -0.20 d1/9
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¥	10-Si B-3 PARA	HO - CH3 CH3 CH3 CH3 HO - Si-O-Si-O-COCC-Si-O-Si-O-H CH3 CH3 BIOHO CH3 CH3 CH3 GPC PEAK MAX.~15,000
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VI	10-Si8-4	HO
T	IO-SIB-4 ¢ Random	$HO \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} CH_3 & CH_3 & CH_3 & CH_3 \\ Si - 0 - Si - CB_{10}H_{10}C - Si - 0 - Si - 0 \\ CH_3 & CH_3 & CH_3 & CH_3 \\ \end{bmatrix}_{0.5} \begin{bmatrix} CH_3 & CH_3 & CH_3 \\ CH_3 & CH_3 & CH_3 \\ \end{bmatrix}_{0.5} \begin{bmatrix} CH_3 & CH_3 \\ CH_3 & CH_3 \\ CH_3 & CH_3 \\ \end{bmatrix}_{0.5} \begin{bmatrix} CH_3 & CH_3 \\ CH_3$
IX	IO-SiB-4 ¢	RANDOM COPOLYMER HO
x	IO-SÍB-4 φ End-Capped	CH3 CH3 CH3 CH3 CH3 CH3 CH3 CH3 CH3-SI-O-SI-O-SI-CB10H10C-SI-O-SI-O-SI-O-SI-CH3 CH3 CH3 CH3 CH3 CH3 CH3 CH3 GPC PEAK MAX ~ 12-18,000 MADE FROM JX
n	10-518-5	HO - SI-O-SI-O-SI-CBIOHID C-SI-O-SI-O-SI-O-SI-O-SI-O-SI-O-SI-O-SI-
m	10-518 + 00 5 E - 30	$cH_3 - cH_3 - cH_3$ $MW > 10^6$

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