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Technical Report

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Contractor: The University of Texas at Arlington

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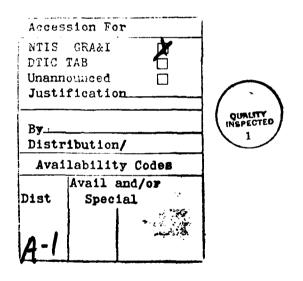
Cognizant ONR Scientific Officer: Dr. Kenneth J. Wynne

Contract No.: N00014-86-K-0769

Short Title of Work: "Electronic and Ionic Transport in Polymers"

Reporting Period: September 15, 1986-December 15, 1986

This is Technical Report No. 1 of 1986-1987



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Description of Progress:

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a) Electronically Conducting Polyheterocycles

In order to directly control electronic and ionic properties of conjugated heterocyclic polymers and to prepare such polymers which will be "self-doped" we have synthesized a variety of pyrrole monomers (substituted on the nitrogen and at the 3-position) and thiophene monomers (also substituted at the 3-position). A "self-doped" copolymer of pyrrole and potassium 3-(1-pyrrolyl) propane sulfonate has been prepared and studied by cyclic volommetry, chronocoulometry and diffuse reflectance FT-IR. Ionic mobilities for several cations, through a film of this copolymer, have been determined. A paper describing this work has been submitted to *J. Chem. Soc. Chemical Communications*. Preliminary ESCA results on this copolymer suggest that the relative composition of the monomer units at the surface (*ca.* 100 Å deep) can be determined. A complete study of the copolymers of pyrrole and N-(3-bromophenyl)pyrrole as a function of composition has shown that a 10⁵ decrease in conductivity can be achieved with only 12% incorporation of the N-(3-bromophenyl)pyrrole. A paper describing these results has been submitted to *Macromolecules*.

We have also examined proton mobility in polypyrrole during redox switching, by using a tosylate doped polypyrrole free standing film. Chemical exchange studies show that the outdiffusion of tosylate is very sensitive to pH. More importantly, concurrent measurements of the film resistance showed that the conductivity is also pH sensitive. Specifically, tosylate diffusion is rapid in basic medium and the film becomes insulating. If the film is then bathed in acid the conductivity is restored reversibly.

PRDDO molecular orbital calculations on oligomeric polypyrroles and their radical cations (1-17 rings) have been carried out and various properties of these species (such as spin density, HOMO-LUMO gap, charges and overlap populations) have been determined. Interestingly, in the N-phenylpyrrole-pyrrole dimer the phenyl is rotated ca. 60° out of the pyrrole ring plane while the second pyrrole is rotated about 40°. Pentapyrrole with a phenyl group on the central ring nitrogen

shows that four rings are essentially planar with the central pyrrole is twisted out of the plane. Calculations on other pyrrole systems have also been carried out, and these include the pyrrole trimer with a central N-phenyl substituent, and N-arylpyrroles with a variety of substituents in the aromatic ring.

b) Polymer Solid Electrolytes

A series of phosha- λ^5 -azene polymers of the type {[-N=P(Ph_2)-R-P(Ph_2)=N-C_6H_4-]}, where R is one of several different organic groups, has been prepared and studied by thermal analysis, FT-IR and solid state NMR spectroscopy as models for the ion conducting systems with polyether side chains. They show excellent thermal stability and only decompose at temperatures in excess of 300°C, with the temperature of maximum weight loss rate being over 400°C (the exception is where R=CH₂). Using ³¹P solid state NMR spectroscopy (CP/MAS) and end groups analysis, we can estimate that the molecular weights of two of these systems are about 4,000.

c) Novel Liquid Crystalline Conductors

Preliminary work has shown that in the phase transfer catalyzed polymerization of α, α' dibromoxylenes the nature of the isomer used drastically alters the course of the polymerization. Since the meta and para isomers give mainly polyethers (using OH⁻ in the reaction) and poly(pphenylenevinylene) respectively, it is very likely that the latter polymers are contaminated with ether units in the backbone. Solid state NMR spectroscopy (CP/MAS) is consistent with this suggestion. Further mechanistic studies are in progress.

d) High Energy Dielectric Materials

A family of alternating copolymers of 1,3-cyclohexadiene and 2-chloroacrylonitrile have been synthesized using various initiator systems and their structure analyzed using NMR (including DEPT and 2-D COSY experiments), FT-IR, TGA, GPC and elemental analysis. The polymerization has been shown to proceed through the formation of both 1,2 and 1,4 linkages through the cyclohexene ring. Bromination of these copolymers has been carried out to help in both structural elucidation and to serve as a precursor for the introduction of fluorine onto the polymer chain.

Personnel:

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Currently there are 2 postdoctoral associates, Dr. S. Krichene and Dr. E. Tsai, and 1 graduate student, Paul Poropatic along with 2 technical assistants, Douglas Black and Bella Khayt supported by the project. Six additional postdoctoral associates and 9 graduate students are involved in research relevent to the project. We have hired a full time administrative secretary as of Nov. 3, 1986. In addition 2 postdoctoral associates have been hired but have not arrived yet.

Summary of Meetings, Oral Presentations and Visitors:

On October 23 John Reynolds went to the DARPA meeting for URI principal investigations in Arlington, Virginia. There was a presentation by DARPA and a brief presentation by each of the various URI groups describing their programs.

On November 16 John Reynolds and Martin Pomerantz met in Atlanta, Georgia with the PI's involved with the two other DARPA-URI contracts on conducting polymers. The other PI's attending were Alan MacDiarmid (U. of Penn), Arthur Epstein (Ohio State U.), and David Tanner and Kenneth Wagener (U. of Florida). This was an excellent meeting where scientific details about the research of each group was discussed, there were many helpful suggestions concerning research problems and, more importantly, areas of mutual interest and areas where there will be collaboration were delineated.

An oral presentation of aspects of this work entitled "Copolymerization of 1,3-Cyclohexadiene with Polar Vinyl Monomers", was given at The Southwest Regional American Chemical Society Meeting in Houston, TX on November 19.

Another presentation, entitled "High Energy Density Dielectric Polymers", was presented at The Technical Achievments Symposium, Space Power Institute, Auburn University, December 4.

John Reynolds presented an invited talk entitled "Innovations in Conducting Polymers" to the Dallas-Fort Worth section of the American Chemical Society on December 11. Two papers, entitled "Conductive Polymers Containing Bound Dopant Ions" and

"Structural Control of the Electronic and Ionic Properties of Polyheterocycles" will be presented at

The National American Chemical Society Meeting in Denver, Colorado, April 5-10, 1987.

Visitors to the Chemistry Department at The University of Texas at Arlington, who

consulted with the PI's on research areas directly related to the URI Contract, and who presented

seminars are given below along with the title of the talk they presented.

Prof. Frank Karasz Polymer Science and Engineering Department University of Massachusetts Amherst, MA "Miscibility of Random Copolymers"

Prof. Lon Mathias Polymer Science Department University of Southern Mississippi Hattiesburg, MS "New Polymers and Composites: Synthesis and Characterization"

Dr. Patrick Cassoux

Director of Research

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Laboratory of Coordination Chemistry, CNRS and Universite Paul-Sabatier, Toulouse, France

"Synthesis, Properties and Structure of Conducting and Superconducting Molecular Complexes and Derived Organometallic Polymers."

