

Selective Vinyl Functionalization of Octakis(dimethylsiloxy)-octasilsesquioxane with Allylbenzene and 1,5-Hexadiene and Copolymerization of the Products with Bis(dimethylsilyl)benzene

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ABSTRACT: Vinyl-functionalized cubic silsesquioxanes were prepared from octakis(dimethylsiloxy)octasilsesquioxane *via* hydrosilylation with 6, 5, and 4 equiv. of allylbenzene followed by the reaction with excess 1,5-hexadiene. The content of hexenyl groups in the silsesquioxanes was determined by ¹H NMR and MALDI-TOF MS. Polyaddition by hydrosilylation of these compounds with bis(dimethylsilyl)benzene afforded polymers with moderate molecular weight soluble in common organic solvents. Chemical structure and thermal stability of the polymers were characterized by NMR, IR, and TGA. [DOI 10.1295/polymj.36.422]

KEY WORDS Octakis(dimethylsiloxy)octasilsesquioxane / Allylbenzene / 1,5-Hexadiene / Bis-(dimethylsilyl)benzene / Hydrosilylation / MALDI-TOF MS / Soluble Polymer /

Organic-inorganic hybrid materials with well-defined structure have attracted a great deal of attention as they show not only synergistic properties, but can also be tailored for specific technical applications. Polyhedral oligomeric silsesquioxane (POSS), particularly the cubic silsesquioxane is an interesting class of inorganic component. It has nanometer-size cubic structure with wide surface area and controlled porosity, and can be functionalized with a wide variety of organic groups as monomer in a typical polymerization. Use of POSS derivatives as monomer has been demonstrated to be an efficient method in the design of nanocomposite materials^{1–15} as well as in designing various hybrid polymers with POSS as side groups^{16–28} or as chain end,^{29–31} which exhibit desirable unique properties. Laine *et al.* reported the synthesis of multi-functional POSS as precursors of nanocomposite materials from commercially available typical silane-functionalized cubic silsesquioxane, octakis(dimethylsiloxy)octasilsesquioxane (Q₈M₈^H) by hydrosilylation.^{6,7,9–11}

Although many POSS-based nanocomposite materials or hybrid polymers have been prepared, only few papers have reported the synthesis of soluble polymer with POSS in main chain,^{32–36} since cubic silsesquioxane has eight corners, and it is difficult to control the number and position of the functional groups to be introduced. Even efforts to directly introduce two functional groups selectively to POSS succeeded insufficiently.

In this paper, we studied selective introduction of two polymerizable vinyl groups to Q₈M₈^H *via* hydro-

silylation with allylbenzene as capping reagent, followed by reaction of unreacted SiH groups with 1,5-hexadiene to introduce polymerizable groups. Copolymerization of the products with bis(dimethylsilyl)benzene was also investigated to obtain soluble hybrid polymer with POSS in main chain.

EXPERIMENTAL

General

NMR (¹H, 500 MHz; ¹³C, 125.5 MHz; ²⁹Si, 99.5 MHz) spectra were obtained in CDCl₃ on a Varian Unity INOVA. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to internal CHCl₃ (7.26, ¹H), CDCl₃ (77.00, ¹³C), and external tetramethylsilane (0.00, ²⁹Si). Analytical and preparative size exclusion chromatography (SEC) were performed on a JASCO chromatograph, model Gulliver 900. Combinations of Shodex KF-801 and KF-802 (exclusion limit $M_n = 5.0 \times 10^3$), KF-803L and KF-804 (exclusion limit $M_n = 4.0 \times 10^5$), and KF-805L and KF-806L (exclusion limit $M_n = 2.0 \times 10^7$) columns were used for molecular weight analyses, and two KF-2001 and KF-2002 (exclusion limit $M_n = 5.0 \times 10^3$) columns for isolation of the products. THF was used as an eluent at a flow rate of 1 mL/min for analysis and 2 mL/min for isolation of the products. IR spectra were obtained on a JASCO VALOR-III spectrophotometer. Matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time-of-flight mass spectra (MALDI-TOF MS) were taken on a Shimadzu Kratos Kompact MALDI III. The matrix 2,5-dihydroxybenzoic acid (DHBA) was dissolved in THF

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(50 mg/mL), and mixed with the sample solution (1 mg/mL in THF) in 1:1 v/v ratio. The samples were spotted onto the target and dried in air. The measurements were done in linear mode. Spectra were calibrated by the use of external calibration reagent, Bradykinin and Insulin B chain were used. The thermogravimetric analyses (TGA) were performed on a Seiko SSC/5200H instrument at a heating rate of 5 °C/min under nitrogen.

Materials

Solvents were dried by standard procedures and distilled before use. Allylbenzene and 1,5-hexadiene were purchased from Aldrich Chemical Co., Inc. and distilled from calcium hydride. Platinum 1,3-divinyl-1,1,3,3-tetramethyldisiloxane complex solution in xylene (2.1–2.4 wt%-Pt) [Pt(dvs)] and octakis(dimethylsiloxy)octasilsesquioxane ($Q_8M_8^H$) were purchased from AZmax Co., Ltd. 1,4-Bis(dimethylsilyl)benzene (BSB) was prepared from 1,4-dibromobenzene and dimethylchlorosilane by Grignard reaction. 2,5-Dihydroxybenzoic acid (DHBA) was purchased from Aldrich Chemical Co., Inc.

Synthesis of Phenylpropyldimethylsiloxy- and Hexenyl-dimethylsiloxy-substituted Cubic Silsesquioxane (**1a**)

To a 15 mL Schlenk flask were added $Q_8M_8^H$ (0.305 g, 0.3 mmol), allylbenzene (0.213 g, 1.8 mmol), and toluene (3 mL) under Argon. Pt(dvs) (10 μ L) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. After 1,5-hexadiene (2 mL) was added, the mixture was stirred for additional 24 h. The products were filtered through a short Florisil[®] column (Et₂O eluent), and isolated by preparative SEC. Removal of the solvent gave a viscous colorless liquid **1a** (0.370 g, yield 65%). ¹H NMR: δ 0.08–0.13 (m, 48H, SiCH₃), 0.56–0.60 (m, 4H, CH₂=CH(CH₂)₃-CH₂Si), 0.61–0.67 (m, 12H, Ph(CH₂)₂CH₂Si), 1.30–1.42 (m, 8H, CH₂=CHCH₂(CH₂)₂CH₂Si), 1.61–1.69 (m, 12H, PhCH₂CH₂CH₂Si), 2.02 (q, 4H, CH₂=CH-CH₂(CH₂)₃Si, $J = 7.5$ Hz), 2.60 (sext, 12H, PhCH₂-(CH₂)₂Si, $J = 7.5$ Hz), 4.91–4.99 (m, 4H, H₂C=CH), 5.74–5.83 (m, 2H, CH₂=CHCH₂), 7.13–7.17 (m, Ph, 18H), 7.23–7.27 (m, Ph, 12H). ¹³C NMR: δ -0.33, 17.46, 22.44, 24.99, 32.51, 33.49, 39.52, 114.20, 125.60, 128.21, 128.46, 138.97, 142.48. ²⁹Si NMR: δ -108.84, 12.67, 12.78. IR (neat, cm⁻¹): 3064, 3028, 2958, 2926, 2860, 1642, 1605, 1497, 1455, 1410, 1346, 1254, 1171, 1090, 841, 795, 764, 746, 698. MALDI-TOF MS (m/e): 1960, 1925, 1890, 1856, 1819, 1784, 1753.

1b (0.300 g, yield 54%) ([allylbenzene]/[$Q_8M_8^H$] = 5) and **1c** (0.234 g, yield 42%) ([allylbenzene]/[$Q_8M_8^H$] = 4) were prepared similarly. Their NMR and IR Data were similar to **1a**. MALDI-TOF MS

(m/e) for **1b**: 1961, 1926, 1889, 1854, 1819, 1784, 1747, 1712, 1674; for **1c**: 1960, 1925, 1889, 1853, 1817, 1780, 1733, 1698, 1662.

Polymerization

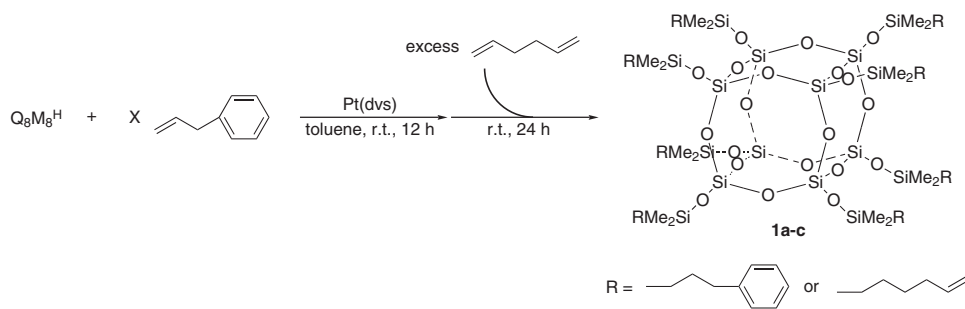
To a 15 mL Schlenk flask were added **1a** (0.370 g, 0.195 mmol), BSB (0.036 g, 0.187 mmol), and toluene (1.9 mL) under Argon. Pt(dvs) (10 μ L) was added, and the mixture was stirred for 18 h. The products were filtered through a short Florisil[®] column (Et₂O eluent). Removal of the solvent gave a yellowish materials **P1** [0.389 g, yield 96%, SEC (exclusion limit $M_n = 4.0 \times 10^5$): $M_w/M_n = 12900/3300$]. The higher molecular weight fraction was isolated by reprecipitation from Et₂O into methanol [0.180 g, yield 44%, SEC (exclusion limit $M_n = 4.0 \times 10^5$): $M_w/M_n = 16800/6000$]. ¹H NMR: δ 0.06–0.15 (br, 48H, -OSi(CH₃)₂-CH₂-), 0.23 (s, 12H, -C₆H₄Si(CH₃)₂CH₂-), 0.57 (br, 4H, -OSiMe₂CH₂CH₂-), 0.64 (br, 12H, Ph-(CH₂)₂CH₂Si), 0.72 (br, 4H, -C₆H₄SiMe₂CH₂CH₂-), 1.29 (br, 16H, -C₆H₄SiMe₂CH₂(CH₂)₄CH₂SiMe₂O-), 1.66 (br, 12H, PhCH₂CH₂CH₂Si), 2.61 (br, 12H, PhCH₂(CH₂)₂Si), 7.12–7.19 (br, Ph, 18H), 7.23–7.30 (br, Ph, 12H), 7.47 (s, C₆H₄, 4H). ¹³C NMR: δ -3.06, -0.32, 15.64, 17.45, 17.71, 22.93, 23.90, 24.99, 33.17, 33.44, 39.51, 125.60, 128.21, 128.47, 132.78, 140.19, 142.48. ²⁹Si NMR: δ -108.75, -3.26, 12.75, 12.89. IR (neat, cm⁻¹): 3063, 3028, 2957, 2923, 2857, 1605, 1497, 1455, 1409, 1379, 1346, 1253, 1171, 1090, 839, 796, 765, 746, 698.

P2 were prepared from **1b** (0.300 g, 0.161 mmol), BSB (0.043 g, 0.221 mmol), and toluene (2.2 mL) similarly [0.325 g, yield 95%, SEC (exclusion limit $M_n = 2.0 \times 10^7$): $M_w/M_n = 165000/6500$]. The higher molecular weight fraction was also isolated by reprecipitation [0.118 g, yield 34%, SEC (exclusion limit $M_n = 2.0 \times 10^7$): $M_w/M_n = 384700/15300$]. Their NMR and IR Data were similar to **P1**.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The POSS monomers with different content of vinyl groups (**1a–c**) were synthesized by two step hydrosilylation as shown in Scheme 1. In order to cap a part of the SiH groups, $Q_8M_8^H$ were reacted with 6, 5, and 4 equiv. of allylbenzene in toluene for 12 h with Pt(dvs) as catalysts. Subsequently, unreacted SiH groups were reacted with excess 1,5-hexadiene for 24 h for vinyl functionalization. The size exclusion chromatograms (SEC) of the products are shown in Figure 1.

In the chromatograms, the peaks of desired product **1a–c** were observed accompanied by oligomeric products depending on the feed ratio of allylbenzene to $Q_8M_8^H$. **1a–c** was isolated by preparative SEC. With



Scheme 1. Synthesis of vinyl-functionalized POSS monomers **1a** ($X = 6$), **1b** ($X = 5$) and **1c** ($X = 4$).^a The position of substituents are not specified.

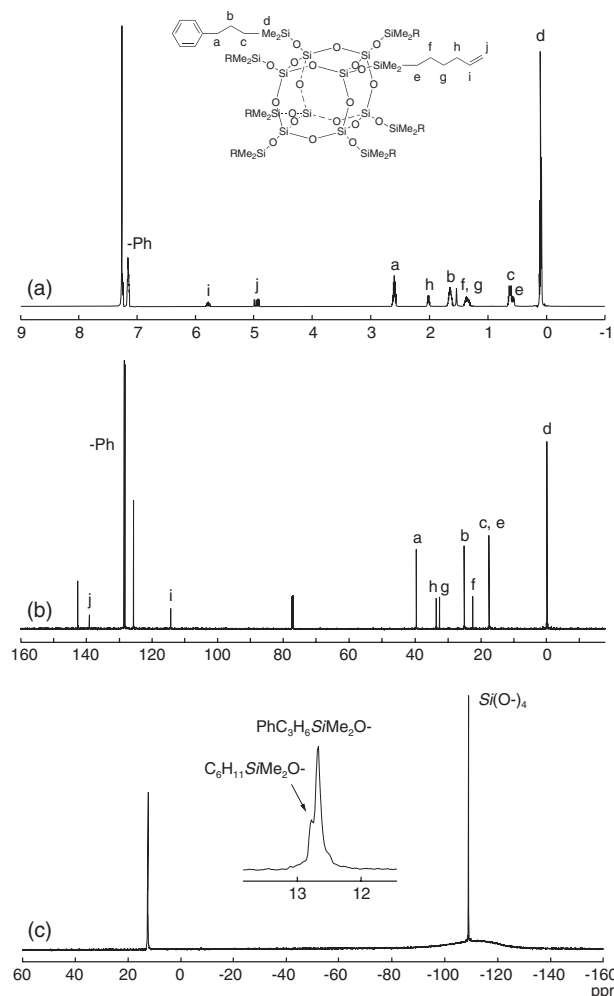
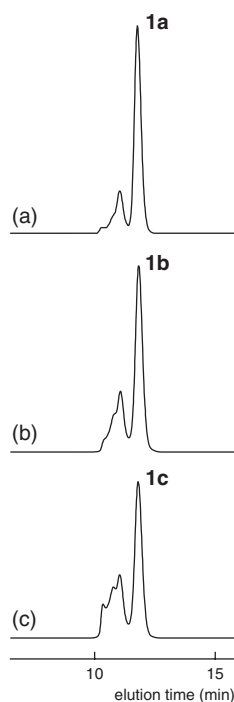


Figure 2. ^1H (a), ^{13}C (b), and ^{29}Si (c) NMR spectra of **1a**.

Figure 1. Change in SEC of the products with the feed ratio of allylbenzene to $\text{Q}_8\text{M}_8\text{H}$ (X): (a) $X = 6$, (b) $X = 5$, (c) $X = 4$.

the decrease of allylbenzene in the feed ratio, the oligomeric fractions increased. It is considered that oligomers are easily formed when higher concentration of unreacted SiH groups remains, where hexadiene acts as bi-functional compound to connect POSS groups.

^1H , ^{13}C , and ^{29}Si NMR spectra of **1a–c** exhibited clean signals reflecting chemical structure of the produced POSS derivatives. The spectra of **1a** are shown in Figure 2. In ^1H NMR (Figure 2a), vinyl protons were observed at 4.91–4.99 and 5.74–5.83 ppm. Aliphatic protons of 5-hexenyl groups were observed at 0.56–0.60, 1.30–1.42, and 2.02 ppm, and those of 3-phenylpropyl groups at 0.61–0.67, 1.61–1.69, and 2.60 ppm, respectively. Methyl proton of SiCH_3 appeared as complicated signals at 0.08–0.13 ppm, because **1a** is a mixture of POSS with the two substituents of various compositions at different positions.

The content of hexenyl groups was estimated by integral ratio of methylene protons at 2.02 ppm (hexenyl groups) and those at 2.60 ppm (phenylpropyl groups). Average molecular weights of **1a–c** were calculated as 1894 (**1a**), 1865 (**1b**), and 1840 (**1c**) by Eq 1. The contents of hexenyl groups, yields, and average molecular weights of **1a–c** are summarized in Table I. The content of hexenyl groups almost agrees with the feed ratio. When the feed ratio of allylbenzene was decreased, the content of hexenyl groups became smaller than

Table I. Compositions of substituents on POSS monomers (**1a–c**)

Monomer	X ^a	Ratio of hexenyl/phenylpropyl (A _h /A _p) ^b	Average molecular weight ^c	Yield ^d (%)
1a	6	1.92/6.08	1894	65
1b	5	2.74/5.26	1865	54
1c	4	3.42/4.58	1840	42

^a[allylbenzene]/[Q₈M₈^H]. ^bDetermined by ¹HNMR. ^cCalculated value by Eq 1. ^dIsolated yield by preparative SEC.

the theoretical value. It is probably caused by consumption of hexenyl groups in the formation of oligomers. The decrease in yield was similar.

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Molecular Weight (MW) of } \mathbf{1} \\ &= 1009.91 + 119.18 A_p + 83.15 A_h \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

1009.91: MW of Q₈M₈

119.18: MW of PhC₃H₆

83.15: MW of C₆H₁₁

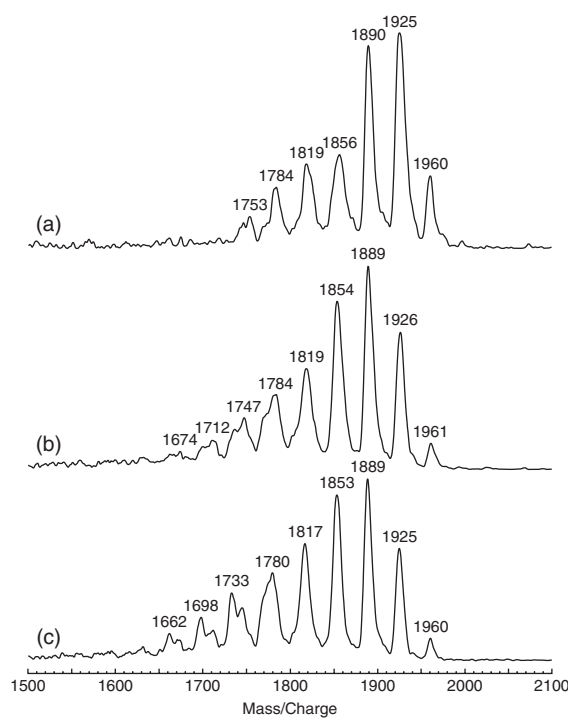
A_p: relative integral area of PhC₃H₆

A_h: relative integral area of C₆H₁₁

A_p + A_h = 8

The ¹³C NMR spectrum showed clear signals (Figure 2b). The signals at 114.20 and 138.97 ppm are vinyl carbon, and 17.46, 22.44, 32.51, and 33.49 ppm are aliphatic carbon of hexenyl groups. The signals of phenylpropyl groups were observed at 17.46, 24.99, 39.52, 125.60, 128.21, 128.46, and 142.48 ppm. Carbons of SiCH₂ of hexenyl groups appeared at 17.46 ppm as overlapped signal with those in phenylpropyl groups. The signal at –0.33 ppm is methyl carbon of SiCH₃. The DEPT spectrum did not show the existence of CH-carbon arisen from α-addition, indicating that hydrosilylation proceeded selectively *via* β-addition. The ²⁹Si NMR spectrum exhibited three signals (Figure 2c). The signals at 12.78 and 12.67 ppm are ascribed to C₆H₁₁SiMe₂(O–) and PhC₃H₆–SiMe₂(O–), and that at –108.84 ppm to silicon atom of cubic structure Si(O–)₄.

In addition to spectral investigations, **1a–c** were characterized by MALDI-TOF MS, which has become an extremely valuable tool for the investigation and characterization of silsesquioxane in the last few years.^{37–46} Figure 3 shows the mass spectra in the 1500–2100 *m/z* range, using DHBA as matrix. **1a–c** gave spectra corresponding to their [M + H]⁺ ions. In all case, several peaks were observed and could be ascribed to general formula of Q₈M₈(C₆H₁₁)_m–(C₃H₆Ph)_n. In the spectrum of **1a** (Figure 3a), although seven components (*m* = 0–6) were observed, those with one or two hexenyl (C₆H₁₁) groups (*m* = 1, 2) were formed as major components. The component with *m* = 1 was observed as the highest peak for **1a**. The intensity of the peak became weaker with the

**Figure 3.** MALDI-TOF MS of **1a–c**: (a) **1a**, (b) **1b**, (c) **1c**.

decrease of the feed of allylbenzene, and the peaks with *m* = 2–8 became stronger. In the spectra of **1b** and **1c** (Figure 3b, c), components with *m* = 1–4 were formed in similar concentration as major products. The assignments of the peaks are summarized in Table II. Agreement between calculated and experimental values was excellent and comprised within experimental error. These results indicated that intramolecular cyclization of SiH group and hexenyl group was not involved in the reaction. The change of the peak intensity of the products also agreed with the change in integral area of ¹HNMR.

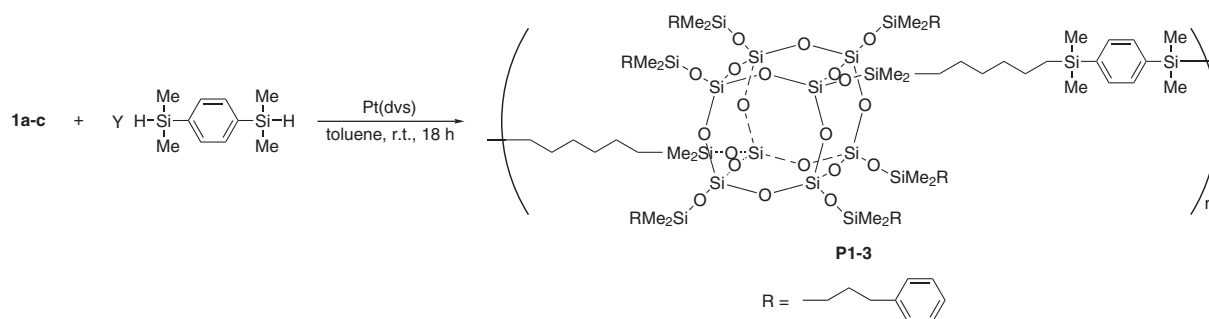
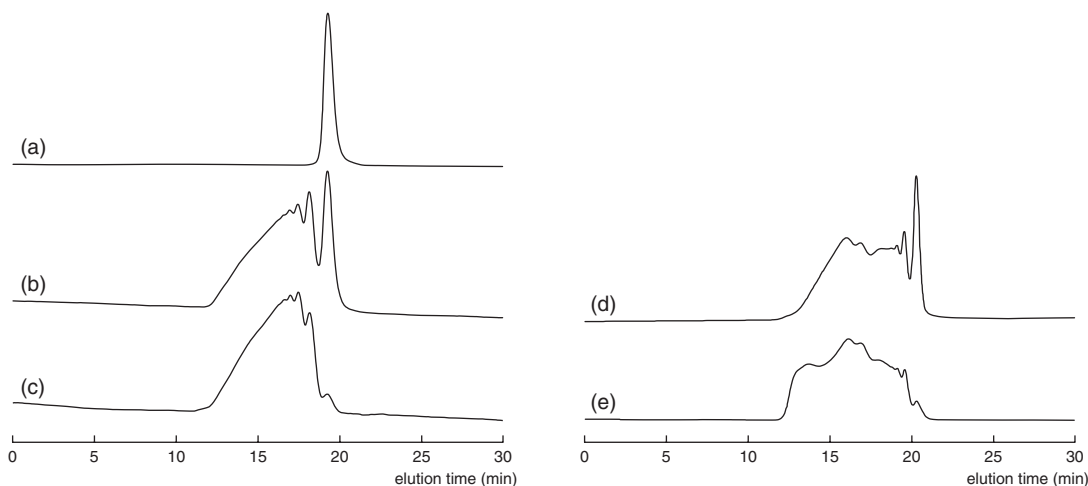
Polyaddition of **1a–c** with BSB by hydrosilylation was carried out in toluene (0.1 mol L^{–1}) at room temperature for 18 h with Pt(dvs) as shown in Scheme 2. With the higher concentration of **1a–c** and BSB, the reaction mixture became insoluble. The equivalency of BSB to **1** was calculated by Eq 2.

$$[\text{BSB}]/[\mathbf{1}] = A_h/2 \quad (2)$$

A_h is the same with Table I

Table II. Assignments of MALDI-TOF-MS of **1a-c**

Exptl m/z			Assignment	Calcd [M + H] ⁺
1a	1b	1c		
1960	1961	1960	Q ₈ M ₈ (C ₃ H ₆ Ph) ₈	1961
1925	1926	1925	Q ₈ M ₈ (C ₆ H ₁₁)(C ₃ H ₆ Ph) ₇	1925
1890	1889	1889	Q ₈ M ₈ (C ₆ H ₁₁) ₂ (C ₃ H ₆ Ph) ₆	1889
1856	1854	1853	Q ₈ M ₈ (C ₆ H ₁₁) ₃ (C ₃ H ₆ Ph) ₅	1853
1819	1819	1817	Q ₈ M ₈ (C ₆ H ₁₁) ₄ (C ₃ H ₆ Ph) ₄	1817
1784	1784	1780	Q ₈ M ₈ (C ₆ H ₁₁) ₅ (C ₃ H ₆ Ph) ₃	1781
1753	1747		Q ₈ M ₈ (C ₆ H ₁₁) ₆ (C ₃ H ₆ Ph) ₂	1745
	1712		Q ₈ M ₈ (C ₆ H ₁₁) ₇ (C ₃ H ₆ Ph)	1709
	1674		Q ₈ M ₈ (C ₆ H ₁₁) ₈	1673
		1733	Q ₈ M ₈ (C ₆ H ₁₁) ₆ (C ₃ H ₆ Ph) ₂ -Me	1730
		1698	Q ₈ M ₈ (C ₆ H ₁₁) ₇ (C ₃ H ₆ Ph)-Me	1694
		1662	Q ₈ M ₈ (C ₆ H ₁₁) ₈ -Me	1658

**Scheme 2.** Polyaddition by hydrosilylation of **1a-c** with BSB.**Figure 4.** SEC of polymers: (a) **1a**, (b) **P1** as produced, (c) **P1** after reprecipitation, (d) **P2** as produced, (e) **P2** after reprecipitation.

The SEC of the polymers are shown in Figure 4 (KF803L and KF804 columns for **P1**, KF805L and KF806L for **P2**), and the results of polymerization are summarized in Table III. **P1** was obtained in good yield as soluble products, but the molecular weight is not high and polydispersity is very broad with multimodal distribution ($M_w/M_n = 12900/3300$, Figure 4b). Apparent monomer fraction at 19.27 min in the product, presumably completely phenylpropyl-capped **1a**, could be removed by reprecipitation into metha-

nol, and the higher molecular weight fraction was isolated ($M_w/M_n = 16800/6000$, Figure 4c). **P1** was soluble in most common organic solvents, such as acetone, chloroform, methylene chloride, ethyl acetate, hexane, and toluene, except methanol.

P2 was also obtained in good yield. The molecular weight and polydispersity are higher and broader than **P1** ($M_w/M_n = 165000/6500$, Figure 4d). Branching degree might have increased with the increase in the content of vinyl groups in **1b** compared with **1a**, nev-

Table III. Polymerization conditions and the molecular weights

Polymer	Monomer	Y ^a	Yield ^b (%)	M _n ^c	M _w ^c	PD ^c
P1	1a	0.96	96 (44)	3300 (6000)	12900 (16800)	3.9 (2.8)
P2	1b	1.37	95 (34)	6500 (15300)	165000 (384700)	25.3 (25.1)
P3	1c	1.71	insoluble	—	—	—

^a[BSB]/[1] calculated by Eq 2. ^bIsolated yield before (after) reprecipitation. ^cDetermined by SEC with polystyrene standard.

ertheless the product was soluble in ethereal solvents. The higher molecular weight fraction of **P2** could be isolated by reprecipitation ($M_w/M_n = 384700/15300$, Figure 4e).

It should be noted that in the SEC of **P2** after reprecipitation (Figure 4e), a shoulder peak appeared in the higher molecular weight region, and **P2** became insoluble when left for a while after reprecipitation and drying. Few remaining vinyl and SiH groups in **P2** may have caused cross-linking. Condensation of silanol function formed during reprecipitation might be the most probable reason. In the case of **P1**, such change in solubility was not observed.

1c, having higher concentration of vinyl groups than **1b**, was used to react BSB under the similar condition, however, the reaction mixture became insoluble after 1 h. These results indicated that the solubility of the polymer is dependent on the content of vinyl groups in the POSS monomer.

The chemical structures of polymers were characterized by NMR and IR. ¹H, ¹³C, and ²⁹Si NMR of **P1** are shown in Figure 5. The ¹H NMR showed broad signals (Figure 5a). The signals of vinyl protons of **1a** completely disappeared. The signals of methyl and phenylene proton of BSB unit were observed at 0.23 and 7.47 ppm. In the ¹³C NMR spectrum (Figure 5b), the signal of vinyl carbons also disappeared and the signals of addition product were observed. The signal of methyl carbon of BSB unit was observed at -3.06 ppm and phenylene carbon at 132.78 and 140.19 ppm. The DEPT spectrum did not show CH-carbon signals, similarly as mentioned above. The ²⁹Si NMR showed clear signals (Figure 5c). In addition of three signals arisen from **1a**, the signal of silicon of BSB unit was observed at -3.26 ppm. These results indicated that the polymerization proceed without side reaction to produce polymer as shown in Scheme 2.

The thermal stability of monomer **1a–c**, polymers **P1** and **P2** were studied by thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) and the results are represented in Figure 6. Monomer **1a–c** showed on-set decomposition temperatures at 438, 437, and 436 °C and residue of 26.9, 27.2, and 25.8% at 1000 °C. Even with the different content of hexenyl groups, no obvious difference

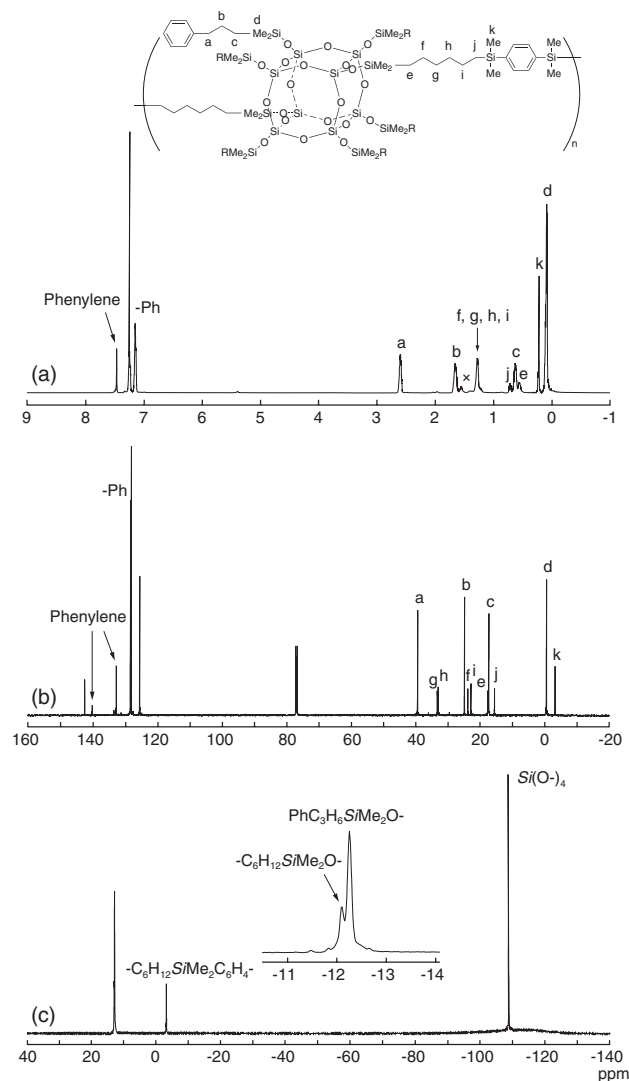


Figure 5. ¹H (a), ¹³C (b), and ²⁹Si (c) NMR spectra of **P1**.

was observed in their on-set decomposition temperatures. The thermal stability of the polymer **P1** and **P2** increased by about 10 °C compared to **1a–c**. **P1** and **P2** exhibited on-set decomposition temperatures at 446 and 449 °C and residues of 24.4 and 19.0%. The difference of thermal stability by the influence of the molecular weight was hardly observed.

CONCLUSIONS

Successful synthesis of a soluble organic–inorganic

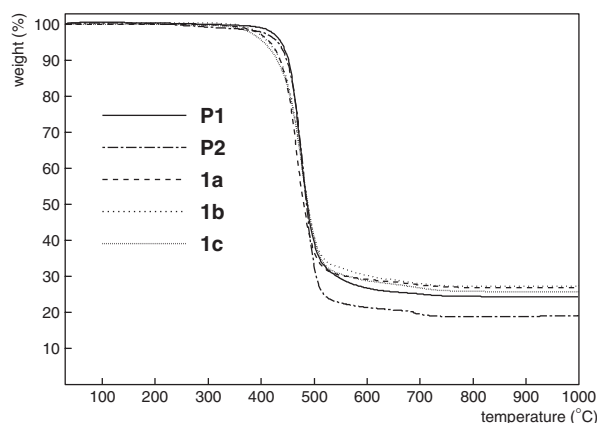


Figure 6. TGA of 1a–c, P1 and P2.

hybrid polymer with POSS units in backbone was described. The vinyl-functionalized POSS monomers were prepared from octakis(dimethylsiloxy)octasilsequioxane ($Q_8M_8^H$) via hydrosilylation with 6, 5, and 4 equiv. of allylbenzene, followed by reaction of unreacted SiH groups with excess hexadiene. The structural analysis of the monomers proved that reaction proceeded selectively in β -addition and did not involve any side reaction such as intramolecular cyclization of SiH group with hexenyl group to give monomers with general formula $Q_8M_8(C_6H_{11})_m(C_3H_6Ph)_n$. The content of hexenyl groups of POSS was determined by 1H NMR and MALDI-TOF MS. Polyaddition by hydrosilylation of these compounds with bis-(dimethylsilyl)benzene afforded moderate molecular weight polymers soluble in common organic solvents. Thermal property of the polymers was improved a little by the incorporation of POSS unit in the polymer structure.

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