Functional Polymers. XVIII. Radical Grafting of 2-(2-Hydroxy-5-vinylphenyl)-2H-benzotriazole onto Polybutadienes[†]

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ABSTRACT: 2-(2-Hydroxy-5-vinylphenyl)-2H-benzotriazole was grafted onto two types of butadiene polymers, 1,2-polybutadiene and cis-1,4-polybutadiene, using azobisisobutyronitrile as the initiator. 2-(2-Hydroxy-5-vinylphenyl)-2H-benzotriazole was grafted with a conversion of about 20%, and the efficiency exceeding 50%. The polybutadiene grafting efficiency depended on the structure of the polymer. For 1,2-polybutadiene, the grafting efficiency was 56%, while for cis-1,4-polybutadiene it was only 14%. For comparison, 2-(2-hydroxy-5-vinylphenyl)-2H-benzotriazole was also homopolymerized, not only with AIBN, but also with benzoyl peroxide as the initiator. In the latter case the yields were relatively low.

2-(2-Hydroxy-5-vinylphenyl)-2H-benzotriazole / Ultraviolet **KEY WORDS** Absorbers / Graft Copolymers / Polybutadiene Graft Copolymers / Grafting Efficiency / Radical Grafting / Photostabilizer / Functionalization of Polymers /

2-(2-Hydroxy-5-vinylphenyl)-2H-benzotriazole (2H5V) is an efficient, polymerizable ultraviolet stabilizer.¹⁻⁴ It is easily synthesized, polymerized, and also grafted onto aliphatic polymers.⁵ Grafting of monomers which introduced functionality into polymers has been used in the past; these functionalities include antioxidants and, most recently, ultraviolet stabilizing compounds.⁶ It was found that methyl 5-vinylsalicylate can be readily grafted onto polymers with unsaturated groups. The polymer backbones chosen were two types of polybutadienes: a) 1,2-polybutadiene (1,2-PBD) and b) cis-1,4-polybutadiene (cis-1,4-PBD). Benzoyl peroxide (BPO) or azobisisobutyronitrile (AIBN) were

$$\begin{array}{c} \sim \mathrm{CH}_2 - \mathrm{CH} \sim \underline{R} \cdot & \sim \mathrm{CH}_2 - \mathrm{CH} \sim \underline{2\mathrm{H5V}} & \sim \mathrm{CH}_2 - \mathrm{CH} \sim \\ \mathrm{CH} = \mathrm{CH}_2 & \cdot \mathrm{CH} - \mathrm{CH}_2 \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{CH} - \mathrm{CH}_2 \mathrm{R} \\ & \cdot \mathrm{CH} - \mathrm{CH}_2 \mathrm{R} & \cdot \mathrm{CH} - \mathrm{CH}_2 \mathrm{R} \\ & & \cdot \mathrm{CH} - \mathrm{CH}_2 \mathrm{R} \\ & & & \circ \mathrm{CH}_2 - \mathrm{CH} = \mathrm{CH} - \mathrm{CH}_2 \sim \underline{R} \cdot & \sim \mathrm{CH}_2 - \mathrm{CH} - \mathrm{CH}_2 \mathrm{CH}_2 \mathrm{CH} - \mathrm{CH}_2 \mathrm{CH}_2 \mathrm{CH} - \mathrm{CH}_2 \mathrm{CH}_$$

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used as the grafting initiators. It was shown that grafting occurs readily, with the grafting efficiency ranging from 23% to 65%, depending on the reaction conditions.

We have continued our efforts in developing general methods for the functionalization of polymers and in this paper report further functionalization of polybutadienes by grafting 2H5V onto the 1,2- and *cis*-1,4-isomer of polybutadiene with AIBN as the initiator. The following reaction scheme suggests a possible mechanism for the freeradical grafting of 2H5V onto 1,2-PBD and *cis*-1,4-PBD, initiated with AIBN (eq 1).

EXPERIMENTAL

Materials

Methanol, acetone, petroleum ether, chloroform, and toluene (Fisher Scientific Co.) were distilled at atmospheric pressure. Benzene (Fisher Scientific Co.) was washed with sulfuric acid, aqueous sodium hydroxide solution, water, and dried over phosphorous pentoxide before distillation.

Azobisisobutyronitrile (AIBN) (Eastman Kodak Co.) and benzoyl peroxide (BPO) (Fisher Scientific Co.) were recrystallized and dried at 0.1 mmHg and room temperature.

cis-1,4-Polybutadiene (Japan Synthetic Rubber Co.) (BR-01) had the following compositon: cis-1,4-(97.5%); trans-1,4- (1.2%); 1.2- (1.3%); 1.2-polybutadiene (BR-820) consisted of 1,2- (92%); cis-1,4-(8%). Both polybutadienes (PBD) were purified by being dissolved in benzene, filtering, precipitation of the polymer solution into methanol, filtering the suspension, and drying the polymer over phosphorous pentoxide at 0.1 mm.

2-(2-Hydroxy-5-vinylphenyl)-2H-benzotriazole (2H5V) was synthesized in this laboratory⁴ and purified before use. 2,2'-Methylenebis(6-*tert*-butyl-p-cresol) (MBC) (Pfaltz & Bauer, Inc.) was used as received.

Measurements

Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer spectrometer, model 727 or 283, in the form of films cast from chloroform solution.

¹H and ¹³ C NMR spectra were measured in 10% or 15% deuterated chloroform (Norell Co., Inc.) solutions on a 60 MHz Varian T-60 and a Varian CFT-20 spectrometer, respectively.

A Perkin-Elmer differential scanning calorimeter (DSC-2) was used for the determination of glass transition temperatures (T_g) and thermal behavior of the polymers. DSC scans were recorded at a rate of temperature increase of 20°C min⁻¹ with sample sizes of 6—7 mg. The temperature at which one-half of the ΔC_p transition was noted was registered as the T_g .

Procedures

Homopolymerization of 2-(2-Hydroxy-5-vinylphenyl)-2H-benzotriazole (2H5V). Polymerization of 2H5V was carried out with BPO as the initiator. A 15 ml polymerization tube was charged with BPO (3.5 mg, 0.014 mmol), 0.5 mol%, 2H5V (0.66 g, 2.8 mmol), and benzene (7 ml). The homogeneous mixture was degassed, sealed at 0.05 mm, and placed in a constant temperature bath of 60°C for 3 days. The homogeneous solution was poured into cold methanol (200 ml), the polymer precipitated and was collected on a sintered glass filter, washed and dried at 0.1 mmHg; poly(2H5V) (0.086 g) (13% yield) was obtained.

This polymer was identical in every respect with the polymer obtained by polymerization of 2H5V with AIBN as the initiator and which gave a 51% yield of poly(2H5V).

Grafting Procedures.

Grafting of 2H5V onto cis-1,4-PBD (BR-01) with AIBN as the grafting initiator. BR-01 (1.35g, 25 monomer mmol) was dissolved in benzene (45 ml) under dry nitrogen in a 100 ml polymerization tube. 2H5V (1.78 g, 7.5 mmol) and AIBN (3.3 mg, 0.020 mmol), 0.06 mol%, were then added, followed by benzene (5 ml). The homogeneous mixture was degassed, sealed at 0.05 mm and heated to 60°C for three days. The tube was opened and the homogeneous contents were poured into cold methanol (500 ml). The precipitated polymer was collected and purified by a careful separation procedure (see below). From the weight of the total polymer and the weight of BR-01 initially present, the amount of 2H5V polymerized was calculated as 0.28 g, (16% conversion).

Grafting onto 1,2-PBD (BR 820) was carried out in a similar manner and resulted in a 23% conversion of 2H5V to polymers.

Separation of Polymers. 2H5V homopolymer [poly(2H5V)] and residual polybutadiene (PBD) were extracted from the mixture of polymers by leaching them repeatedly with alternative cold solvents. The total polymer, cut into small pieces, was placed in a weighed Soxhlet thimble. First, the unchanged PBD was extracted by shaking the mixture mechanically in the dark at room temperature for at least 2 days with 100 ml of petroleum ether (bp 40-60°C) containing 2% of 2,2'-methylenebis(6tert-butyl-p-cresol) (MBC) as an antioxidant. The extract was concentrated to 10 ml and poured into methanol (100 ml). The precipitated polymer was collected in a weighed, sintered glass filter, washed and dried at 0.1 mm to a constant weight. Poly(2H5V) was then extracted by shaking the thimble in 100 ml of a 2% solution of MBC in acetone in the dark at room temperature for a minimum of 2 days. The extracted poly(2H5V) was recovered in the same manner as PBD. Both extractions were repeated until no more polymer could be detected in the extracts. The remaining graft copolymer [poly(BD-g-2H5V)] was isolated by repeated thimble extractions with 100 ml of toluene (containing 2% of MBC) in the dark at room temperature as described above. About ten extractions were required to obtain a pure graft copolymer.

Infrared spectra revealed that both fractions, the petroleum extract containing PBD and the acetone extract containing poly(2H5V), were contaminated with a small amount of graft copolymer.

2H5V could be grafted onto both PBD's, 1,2-PBD and *cis*-1,4-PBD with AIBN as the initiator. Poly(1,4-BD-*g*-2H5V)

Anal. Found: C, 80.68%; H, 8.36%; N, 8.04%. Calcd for $(-C_4H_6)_{0.84}(C_{14}H_{11}N_3O)_{0.16}$: C, 80.66%; H, 8.21%; N, 8.06%.

Poly(2,2-BD-g-2H5V).

Anal. Found: C, 82.34%; H, 9.66%; N, 4.16%. Calcd for $(-C_4H_{\overline{6}})_{0.93}(C_{14}H_{11}N_3O)_{0.07}$: C, 84.29%; H, 9.65%; N, 4.39%.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Grafting of 2H5V was carried out with AIBN as

PBD type	PBD concentration	Initiator	Initiator concentration		Monomer 2H5V concentration	
	monomer mol 1 ⁻¹		mmol 1 ⁻¹	mol%	mol l^{-1}	mol%
1,2-	0.42	AIBN	0.33	0.06	0.13	23
<i>cis</i> -1,4	0.50	AIBN	0.40	0.06	0.15	23
		AIBN	2.0	0.5	0.40	100
		BPO	2.0	0.5	0.40	100

Table I. Experimental conditions for graft- and homo-polymerizations^a

^a Temperature, 60°C; time, 3 days; solvent, benzene.

Table II. Results of graft- and homo-polymerization

PBD	2H5V	Poly(2H5V) grafting	PBD grafting	Poly(2H5V) content in poly(BD-g-2H5V		
type				— mol%	wt%	
	%	%	%			
1,2-	23	56	56	7	23	
cis-1,4-	16	51	13	16	45	
	51 (AIBN)					
	13 (BPO)			—	—	

Total wt of poly(2H5V)

 $\times 100.$

- PBD grafting efficiency = wt of PBD included in graft polymer
 - Original wt of PBD

Sample	–OH	Benzene ring	-CH = (1,2-PBD) and <i>cis</i> -1,4-PBD) $=CH_2 (1,2-PBD)$	-CH ₂ -[cis-1,4- and 1,2-PBD and poly(2H5V)] -CH-[(1,2-PBD and poly(2H5V)]	
Poly(BD-g-2H5V)	10.5—11.0	6.4—8.5	4.46.0	0.8—3.0	

Table III. ¹H NMR chemical shift data of poly(BD-g-2H5V)^a

^a In CDCl₃ (15%), 25°C.

the grafting initiator onto both, 1,2- and *cis*-1,4-PBD. The homopolymerization of 2H5V was also performed with either AIBN or BPO as the initiator to give poly(2H5V) in a 51% yield with AIBN and in a 13% yield with BPO. Beacuse of its greater efficiency in homopolymerization, AIBN was used for the grafting of 2H5V onto 1,2- or *cis*-1,4-PBD.

As described for the grafting of methyl 5-vinylsalicylate,⁶ the amount of initiator and the grafting conditions have to be carefully controlled in order to avoid crosslinking. These conditions were also very carefully followed in our grafting experiments of 2H5V onto the two PBD's. The initiator concentration for the grafting reaction was usually 0.06 mol%. The experimental conditions of the polymerization and grafting reactions are summarized in Table I and the results in Table II. In the case of grafting of 2H5V onto 1,2-PBD, a 23% conversion of 2H5V to the polymer was achieved, with 56% of the 2H5V grafted and 44% of it homopolymerized. The grafting efficiency onto PBD, the utilization of PBD in the grafting reaction, was also 56%. For the grafting reaction onto cis-1,4-PBD, the conversion of 2H5V was only 16%, with a poly(2H5V) grafting efficiency and a PBD grafting efficiency of 51% and 13%, respectively. As a result, the poly(2H5V) content in poly(BD-g-2H5V) was 7 mol% for 1,2-PBD and 16 mol% for the cis-1,4-PBD. The chemical shift data of both ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of poly(BD-q-2H5V) (Tables III and IV) confirm the proposed structures as do the elemental analyses, especially the nitrogen analyses. In our polymer samples, the molecular weight of the PBD backbone was high, causing a broadening in the ¹H NMR spectrum and requiring many transients in the ¹³C NMR spectrum. The proton signals due to the 2H5V moiety in the copolymer were weak relative to the proton signals due to the hydrocarbon backbone and their intensity ratios appeared to be consistent with the copolymer composition as calculated on the basis of the elemental analyses.

Table IV.¹³C NMR chemical shift
data for poly(BD-g-2H5V)^a

Poly 2H5V in poly(BD-g-2H5V)	Chemical shift (ppm downfield from TMS)	Assignment
$i \xrightarrow{h}_{h} g \xrightarrow{g}_{h} N \xrightarrow{f}_{e} d \xrightarrow{b}_{c} \xrightarrow{h}_{c} CH-CH$	$147.6 \\ 142.1 \\ 135.4 \\ 129.0 \\ 127.0 \\ 125.2 \\ 119.8 \\ 118.9 \\ 117.3$	g a d c i f e b h
1,2-PBD in poly(BD-g-2H5V) 1 2 $\sim CH_2-CH_2 $ $CH = CH_2 $ 3 4	142.9 130.6 127.6 114.8 114.4 41.4 38.8 35.7 27.4 25.0	3 3 4 ^b 4 ^c 2 1 1 1 1
<i>cis</i> -1,4-PBD in poly(BD- <i>g</i> -2H5V)	129.6 27.5	CH = CH ₂

^a In CDCl₃ (10%), 25°C.

^b Syndiotactic triads.

° Heterotactic triads.

However, the best indication of the incorporation of 2H5V were the infrared spectra (Figures 1 and 2) where the phenolic OH-absorption band of 2H5V is easily recognized at 3200 cm^{-1} .

Preliminary thermal characterization of our graft copolymers of 1,2-PBD and *cis*-1,4-PBD with 2H5V were carried out by DSC. Only one T_g was found for each of the graft polymers: a T_g of -10° C (1,2-PBD) and -107° C (*cis*-1,4-PBD) which correspond to the T_g for pure 1,2-PBD (-10° C, 263 K) and *cis*- Functional Polymers. XVIII.





1,4-PBD (-108° C, 165 K), respectively. No T_g was found at 109°C (402 K) which is the T_g of poly(2H5V) (Table V). This T_g would be difficult to observe, possibly because the poly(2H5V) units are present as short chains only. If so, they would not form a separate 2H5V-phase and hence no separate glass transition could be observed.

Blends of PBD with poly(2H5V) and poly(BD-g-2H5V) showed only the $T_{\rm g}$ s corresponding to the pure PBDs. A $T_{\rm g}$ at 109°C (402 K), corresponding to poly(2H5V), was observed only in the case of the highest concentration of poly(2H5V) in the blend (68 wt%) (Table VI).

We compared also the DSC scans of the graft copolymers of poly(BD-g-2H5V) with those of blends of PBD with poly(2H5V). The blends contained the same amounts of PBD and poly(2H5V) as the corresponding graft copolymers (Figure 3). The peak areas due to crystallization and melting are smaller in the graft copolymers than in the corresponding blends. This seems to indicate a short graft length of the grafted poly-(2H5V) and consequently no efficient compatibilization between the incompatible homopolymers

Table V. DSC^a data for transition temperatures of poly(BD-g-2H5V)

Sample	T _g ^b	T _{cr} ^c	T_m^{d}
Sample	K	K	K
Poly(2H5V)	— 402		
1,2-PBD:			
Original polymer	263 —		
Graft polymer	263 —		
cis-1,4-PBD:			
Original polymer	165 —	204	261
Graft polymer	166 —	207	269

^a Scanning rate, 20°C min⁻¹.

- ^b Glass transition temperature (one half of ΔC_p of transition).
- ^c Temperature of crystallization (peak temperature).
- ^d Melting temperature (peak temperature).

Blend con	Blend compositions, in proportions by weight			T _{cr}	T _m			
	1 · · · · · · · ·		K	K	K			
1,2-PBD	Poly(2H5V)	Poly(BD-g-2H5V)						
77	23	_	262 —	_	. —			
cis-1,4-PBD	Poly(2H5V)	Poly(BD-g-2H5V)						
55	45	—	166 —	212	262			
25	75	10	166, 404	216	260			
55	45	10	166 —	214	261			
75	25	10	166 —	210	262			

Table VI. DSC data for transition temperature of blends



Figure 3. DSC scans of poly(BD-g-2H5V) and of blends: A, poly(BD-g-2H5V); [55% (wt) of *cis*-1,4-PBD in poly(BD-g-2H5V)]; B, blend of *cis*-1,4-PBD/poly(2H5V) (55:45 wt/wt); C, blend of *cis*-1,4-PBD/poly(2H5V)/poly(BD-g-2H5V); (55:45:10 wt/wt/wt).

PBD and poly(2H5V) was achieved in the graft copolymer.

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