スピントラップ法によるポリウレタン素材の 熱機械劣化反応機構に関する研究

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Investigation of Thermo-Mechanical Degradation Mechanism of Polyurethane Materials by Spin-Trapping Method

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ABSTRACT

Generally, it is said that the polymer materials degradation is caused via a radical species by factors such as heat and light, oxygen, the mechanical stress. However, it has been very rare that the reaction intermediates were observed under a real condition so far. The indicated reaction schemes were actually determined inductively from the results of the product analysis after the reaction.

In this study, the thermo-mechanical degradation of the saturated hydrocarbon polyurethane was investigated using a Spin-Trapping Method, which prolongs the life time of the radical species long enough to be measured by common electron spin resonance (ESR) measurement. If the spin adduct by spin-trapping was detected by ESR, the molecular structure of the original radical can be assigned from the ESR spectrum of spin adduct. As a result, the milled polyurethane did not show any kinds of radical signals by ESR. It was thought that the enough stress was not applied on the main chain due to its low molecular weight. On the other hand, on heating between 140 °C and 180 °C, five spin adducts were successfully observed by ESR. Those spin adducts were derived from ·OCH₂- and ·CONH- radicals produced by dissociation of urethane O-CONH bonding, as well as -·CH- radical produced by dehydrogenation

on the main chain CH_2 and CH_2 - radical produced by β -scission on the main chain. Using spin-trapping method, we could clarify that the radical reactions occur on the thermal degradation of polyurethane, which had not been known until now, and show the usefulness of the spin-trapping method for the investigation of degradation analysis of polymer materials

要旨

一般に高分子材料は、熱や光、酸素、応力など の要因によって、ラジカル種を経由して劣化が起 こるとされている. しかし、実際の条件下で反応 中間体のラジカル種が観測された例はこれまでほ とんどなく, 提案されている反応式の多くは, 反 応後の生成物の解析結果から帰納的に求められた ものである. そこで本研究は. スピントラップ法 によりラジカル種の寿命を長くすることで、ラジ カル種を解析できる電子スピン共鳴(ESR)によ る測定を可能とし、飽和炭化水素系ポリウレタン の熱機械劣化の途中で生成する短寿命ラジカル種 の観測を試みた、結果として、振動型粉砕器に より粉砕したポリウレタンからはラジカル種を 観測することはできなかったが、試料を加熱す ると、140 ℃~180 ℃において、ウレタン結合の O-CONH 部位における均等開裂によって生じる ·OCH₂-ラジカルおよび·CONH-ラジカル、なら びに、水素引抜で生じる主鎖 - · CH- ラジカルおよ びその β 切断によって生成する ·CH₂- ラジカル に由来する計5種のスピンアダクトを観測するこ とに成功した. 我々は、ポリウレタンにおいて、 これまで知られていなかったラジカル的な反応経 路で熱劣化が起こることを明らかにし、スピント ラップ法による高分子材料の劣化反応解析におけ る有用性を示した.