

**Poly(vinylmethylsilane) and poly(vinyldimethylsilane):
synthesis and characterization.
Reaction of the latter with phenylacetylene[†]**

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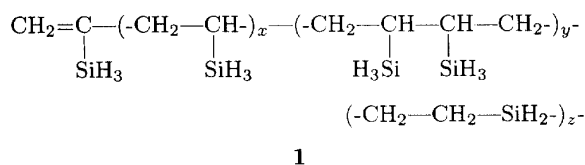
(received 18 October 1994, accepted 6 January 1995)

Summary — The ^{60}Co γ -radiation-induced polymerization of $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHSiMeCl}_2$ and $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHSiMe}_2\text{Cl}$ has been studied. The resulting poly(vinylmethyldichlorosilane) and poly(vinyl dimethylchlorosilane) were reduced with LiAlH_4 to the respective polymeric silicon hydrides, PVSiMe_2H and PVSiMe_2H , which were characterized by IR and ^1H , ^{13}C and ^{29}Si NMR spectroscopy and by GPC molecular weight determinations. A structure containing $[\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{SiR}_3)]$ and $[\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{SiR}_3)\text{CH}(\text{SiR}_3)\text{CH}_2]$ repeat units and $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}(\text{SiR}_3)$ end groups ($\text{R}_3\text{Si}=(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{Si}$ and $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{HSi}$) was deduced. The chloroplatinic acid-catalyzed addition of oligomeric PVSiMe_2H to phenylacetylene gave an oligomer containing *trans*- $\text{PhCH}=\text{CHSiMe}_2$ - and $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}(\text{Ph})\text{SiMe}_2$ - side chains.

⁶⁰Co γ-radiation / polymerization / polyvinylmethylchlorosilanes / reduction LiAlH₄

Introduction

In a previous paper [1] we reported the preparation of poly(vinylsilane), PVSiH_3 , by LiAlH_4 reduction of poly(vinyltrichlorosilane). The latter had been prepared by ^{60}Co γ -radiation-induced polymerization of vinyltrichlorosilane. The PVSiH_3 thus prepared was not the simple $[\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{SiH}_3)]_n$ that might have been expected. On the basis of ^1H and ^{29}Si NMR studies, its composition in terms of structural components was determined to be more complicated and formula **1** is a representation of the polymer that shows its constituent units but not how they are linked together.



It was of interest to extend this study to an investigation of the preparation of poly(vinylmethylsilane) and poly(vinyltrimethylsilane), ideally $[\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{SiCH}_3\text{H}_2)]_n$ and $[\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{H})]_n$. As in the case of poly(vinylsilane), our entry to these polymers was *via* the ^{60}Co γ -radiation-induced polymerization of the respective vinylchlorosilane. The polymerization of $\text{CH}_3\text{Cl}_2\text{SiCH}=\text{CH}_2$ had been studied previously by Japanese [2a,b] and Russian [2c] workers. An oligomeric

product of relatively low molecular weight (\overline{DP} (degree of polymerization) *ca* 2.5-3) was obtained.

Results and discussion

Poly(vinylmethysilane)

To prepare the required precursor for this polymer, vinylmethyldichlorosilane was charged into a thick-walled Pyrex tube with 1 wt% of di-*tert*-butyl peroxide, which had been found to accelerate the γ -ray-induced polymerization of vinyltrichlorosilane [1]. The tube was sealed *in vacuo* and placed in the ^{60}Co γ -ray reaction chamber which provided a dose rate of 1.03 MRad/day. After a total dose of 43 MRad, the polymer was isolated by removal of all volatile components at reduced pressure with heating. Poly(vinylmethyldichlorosilane), PVSiMeCl_2 , **2**, was obtained in 44% yield as a yellow-orange, translucent solid. As expected, the product is hydrolytically unstable, forming an insoluble white solid on exposure to moisture.

The IR and NMR spectra of PVS*i*MeCl₂ did not provide much information. A structure more complicated than that of the regular [CH₂CH(S*i*MeCl₂)]_{*n*} was suggested by the observation of three resonances in the ²⁹Si NMR spectrum of the product. However, its elemental analysis was in good agreement with this simple formula. The ¹H NMR spectrum (resonances at δ 5.85 and 5.90) and the ¹³C NMR spectrum (resonances at δ_C 132.2, 144.1 and 145.1) of PVS*i*MeCl₂ suggested that

[†] Dedicated to professor Raymond Calas, a pioneer of modern organosilicon chemistry.

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$\text{CH}_2=$ end groups are present (as has been the case with PVSiCl_3), equivalent to a DP of *ca.* 23.

Further information was gained when PVSiMeCl_2 was reduced to PVSiMeH_2 with LiAlH_4 . The Si-H-containing polymer obtained in this reaction was isolated as a mobile, pale yellow oil that is soluble in common organic solvents and is air- and moisture-stable. GPC molecular weight determinations gave $M_n = 1\,628$ and $M_w = 2\,742$ (polydispersity 1.7).

The ^1H (fig 1) and ^{29}Si (fig 2) NMR spectra of PVSiMeH_2 , provided useful information concerning this polymer. The peaks in the ^1H NMR spectrum are rather broad and no spin-spin coupling was observed. The CH_3Si signal is a single peak at 0.12 ppm. The SiH_2 proton signals appear as a singlet at δ 3.7. The rest of the peaks in the 0.5 to 2.3 ppm region look remarkably similar to the ^1H NMR pattern of PVSiH_3 [1]. There are three main resonances at δ 0.75, 1.15, and 1.50 ppm whose relative intensities also are very similar to the intensities of the corresponding resonances of PVSiH_3 . Accordingly, the resonances in this region are assigned as follows: δ 0.75 ($\text{MeH}_2\text{SiCHCH}(\text{SiMeH}_2)$), 1.15 $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{SiMeH}_2)$ and 1.50 $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{SiMeH}_2)$. The two resonances at δ 5.5 and 5.7 are due to the protons of the vinyl end groups, $\text{CH}_2=$. Their presence is confirmed by the ^{13}C NMR spectrum which shows resonances in the vinyl region at δ_{C} 128.4, 145.1 and 145.8. The ^{29}Si NMR spectrum has a large resonance at δ_{Si} -29.3 and a smaller one at -32.7. Both resonances are inverted when DEPT sequencing is used, which indicates that both resonances correspond to SiH_2 groups. These chemical shift values are in good agreement with literature values: ($\text{SiH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$) $_n$ [3], -30.4 and $\text{RCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{SiH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ [4] -31.8 ppm. Based on these data and on the relative intensities of these resonances in the ^{29}Si NMR spectrum of PVSiMeH_2 , the smaller resonance at -32.7 ppm can be assigned to a silicon atom attached to a vinyl end group. The major resonance at -29.3 ppm is assigned to the pendant - SiH_2CH_3 groups on the polyethylene backbone of the polymer. No resonances corresponding to SiH groups were observed in the ^{29}Si NMR spectrum of PVSiMeH_2 ,

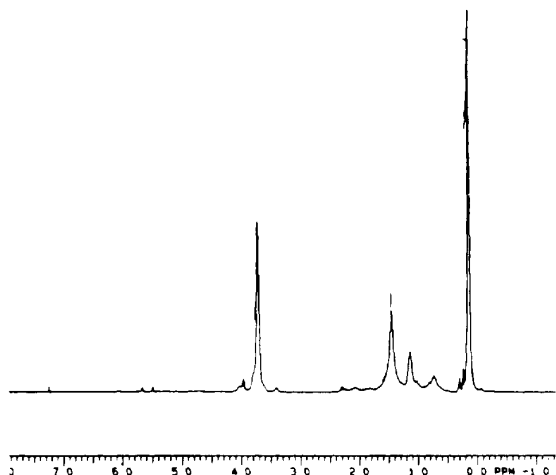


Fig 1. ^1H NMR spectrum of poly(vinylmethylsilane).

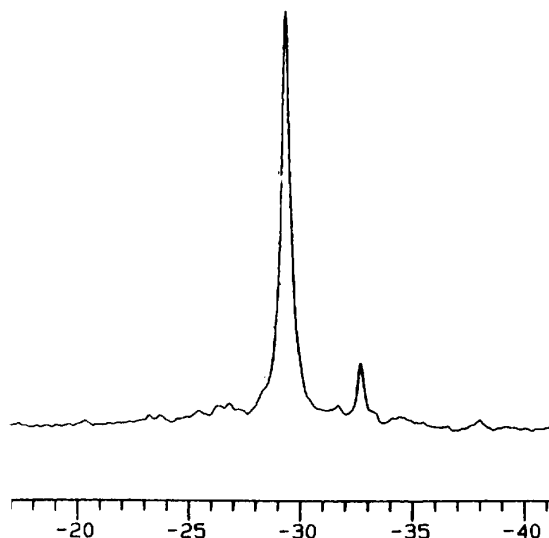
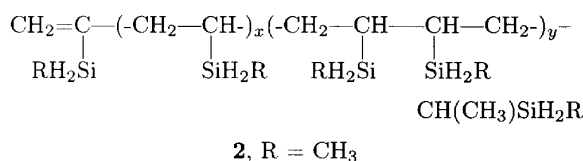


Fig 2. ^{29}Si NMR spectrum of poly(vinylmethylsilane).

which suggests that no chain transfer to polymer had occurred (as had been observed in the case of PVSiH_3). Based on all these data, the compositional formula (which implies no information on the connectivities of the component units) can be approximated as **2**.



Poly(vinyldimethylsilane)

The polymerization of the precursor, vinyldimethylchlorosilane, was carried out in a manner similar to that used for vinyltrichlorosilane [1] and vinylmethylchlorosilane. The tube containing the monomer was irradiated with a 1.03 MRad/day ^{60}Co γ -source in the presence of 1 wt% of di-*tert*-butyl peroxide with a total dose of 43 MRad. Removal of volatile components under reduced pressure left poly(vinyldimethylchlorosilane), PVSiMe_2Cl , as a viscous, yellow material in 28-32% yield in various experiments. The product forms an insoluble white solid on exposure to moisture. Its elemental analysis was in good agreement with the simple formula $[\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{SiMe}_2\text{Cl})]_n$. Here also, the ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra indicated the presence of vinylic end groups.

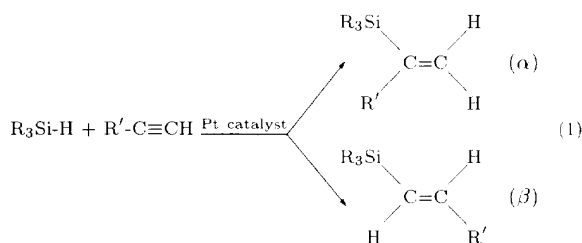
LiAlH_4 reduction of PVSiMe_2Cl gave PVSiMe_2H as a clear, pale yellow oil which was soluble in all common organic solvents and stable toward air and moisture. PVSiMe_2H is oligomeric rather than polymeric. GPC-derived molecular weight data, $M_n = 447$, $M_w = 483$ (polydispersity 1.1, indicated that there are only 5-6 units per chain.

The elemental analysis for C and H was in agreement with the simple formula $[\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{SiMe}_2\text{H})]_n$, but

compounds [8]. Several reports of organosilicon polymer functionalization by this means have been published. In one recent example, Polish workers [9] used the Pt-catalyzed addition of the Si-H bonds of a polycarbosilane, $((\text{CH}_3)\text{HSiCH}_2)_n$, to an appropriate terminal olefin to introduce mesogenic side chains into the polycarbosilane, thus forming a liquid crystalline organosilicon polymer.

The Si-H bonds of the pendant SiMe_2H groups of PVS SiMe_2H can be used in a similar manner to introduce functionality. Since the $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$ bond in general is more reactive than the $\text{C}=\text{C}$ bond in Pt-catalyzed hydrosilylation [10], phenylacetylene was chosen as the substrate for a brief study of a hydrosilylation reaction of PVS SiMe_2H .

The addition of an Si-H bond to the triple bond of a terminal acetylene can take place in either the α or the β sense (eq 1).

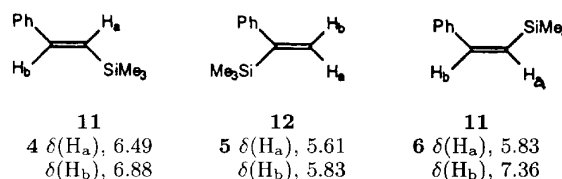


The vinyl protons in each case are distinguishable in the ^1H NMR spectrum. Usually, a mixture of both isomers is formed, with their ratio dependent on the alkyne and on the silane. The formation of the β isomer of only *trans* configuration is a characteristic feature of the platinum complex-catalyzed hydrosilylation [10]. Thus, Pt-catalyzed hydrosilylation of phenylacetylene with PVS SiMe_2H would be expected to give $\text{SiMe}_2\text{C}(\text{Ph})=\text{CH}_2$ and $\text{SiMe}_2\text{CH}=\text{CHPh}$ -*trans* substituents on the carbon atom backbone.

Reactions of phenylacetylene with PVS SiMe_2H in the presence of chloroplatinic acid (CPA) at room temperature or 50°C did not result in complete reaction of all Si-H bonds, giving about 30 and 69% conversion, respectively. Good results were obtained when the reaction mixture was stirred for 24 h at 75°C . The product was a brown, plastic-like material, obtained in 93% yield after removal of volatiles. Similar results were obtained when the reaction was carried out for 24 h at 75°C in toluene solution.

The IR spectrum of the hydrosilylation product showed only a very weak peak at 2157 cm^{-1} , showing that the reaction went essentially to completion. The near absence of Si-H bonds was confirmed by the ^1H NMR spectrum of the hydrosilylation product: the SiH proton signal in the spectrum of PVS SiMe_2H at δ 3.6-4.0 had virtually disappeared. Two pairs of broad multiplets were observed in the ^1H NMR spectrum of the hydrosilylation product; for one pair, resonances centered at δ 5.80 and 6.05; for the other, resonances centered at δ 6.70 and 7.10. In the assignment of these pairs of multiplets the ^1H NMR spectra of model compounds 4, 5 and 6 were useful. Based on these data,

the resonances in the ^1H NMR spectrum of the hydrosilylation product may be assigned. The resonances at δ 5.80 and 6.05 can be assigned to the α -addition product and those at δ 6.70 and 7.10 to the β -addition product. The hydrosilylation product does not contain an adduct similar to model compound 6; if such were present, a single broad resonance around δ 5.8 would have been observed for H_a and the signal for H_b would have been buried under the phenyl proton signal. The ratio of α -addition to β -addition was 0.91 based on integration of these resonances.



The GPC molecular weight data obtained for the hydrosilylation product are of some interest: $M_n = 939$; $M_w = 2147$, polydispersity = 2.3. Thus the number average molecular weight is roughly double that of PVS SiMe_2H . This is close to the expected ratio (2.1 experimental; 2.2 theoretical). However, the polydispersity is much greater (2.3 vs 1.1). It is apparent from the GPC trace that small amounts of higher molecular weight materials are present in the hydrosilylation product (fig 5). This most likely is due to the addition of some of the SiMe_2H groups in the polymer to $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}(\text{SiMe}_2\text{H})$ -end groups, which would lead to effective doubling of the molecular weight of the oligomer molecule involved. Support for this interpretation is provided by the fact that the vinylic end groups of PVS SiMe_2H no longer are present in the hydrosilylation product, as evidenced by the absence of the 5.7 ppm vinyl proton signal of PVS SiMe_2H .

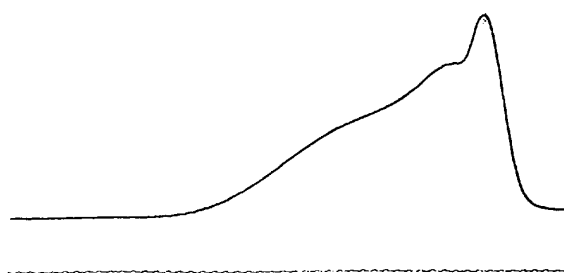


Fig 5. GPC trace of the product of the phenylacetylene/poly(vinyldimethylsilane) reaction.

Experimental section

All reactions were performed under an argon atmosphere. Solvents were dried by established procedures. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer 1600 FTIR spectrophotometer. All NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 250 or a Varian 300 instrument. GPC molecular weight determinations were made using a Waters Millipore 150-C ALC/GPC

chromatograph equipped with a Waters Millipore Ultrastaygel 10³ column with toluene as solvent. Elemental analyses were performed by Scandinavian Microanalytical Laboratory, Herlev, Denmark.

Polymerizations were carried out at 25°C with exposure to a ⁶⁰Co γ-source, dose rate 1.03 MRad/day. The samples were sealed *in vacuo* in thick-walled Pyrex tubes (2.5 cm od, 14 cm length, with a 10 cm, 8 mm od neck).

Vinylmethyldichlorosilane and vinyltrimethylchlorosilane were purchased from Hüls America and distilled from magnesium turnings and degassed before use.

Polymerization of vinylmethyldichlorosilane

A mixture of 57.6 g CH₂=CHSiMeCl₂ and 0.72 mL di-*tert*-butyl peroxide was irradiated for 42 days in the ⁶⁰Co γ-ray chamber (43 MRad total). The sealed tube was opened and the volatiles were distilled *in vacuo*, heating at 130°C for 3 h. The residue, PVSMeCl₂, a yellow-orange, translucent solid, was obtained in 44% yield.

IR (thin film, NaCl, cm⁻¹): 3 068w, 1 456m, 1 263s (ν SiCH₃), 1 059w, 947w, 788s, 746s.

¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.7–0.9 (broad), 1.0–2.8 (broad, unresolved), 5.85 and 5.90 (s).

¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 5.0, 19.9, 20.6, 27.4, 30.7, 32.9, 132.2, 144.1, 145.1.

²⁹Si NMR (59.59 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{Si} 17.7, 32.1, 33.5.

Anal calc for (C₃H₆Cl₂Si)_n: C, 25.55; H, 4.25; Cl, 50.28. Found: C, 25.43; H, 4.22; Cl, 49.96.

Reduction of poly(vinylmethyldichlorosilane)

A suspension of 6.21 g (0.164 mol) of LiAlH₄ in 500 mL of diethyl ether was prepared in a 2 L, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a reflux condenser topped with an inert gas inlet/outlet tube, a mechanical stirrer and a pressure equalizing addition funnel and cooled in an ice bath. To this mixture was added 23.09 g (0.164 mol, based on monomer) of PVSMeCl₂ in 150 mL of diethyl ether. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 17 h. The reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and the filtrate was added cautiously (!) to 600 mL of ice-cooled 2 N HCl. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted twice with Et₂O. The organic layers were combined, washed twice with distilled water and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. Volatile components were distilled *in vacuo* with heating to 120°C, leaving PVSMeH₂ (10.05 g, 85%) as a pale yellow, mobile oil.

IR (thin film, NaCl, cm⁻¹): 3 047w, 2 962m, 2 892s, 2 128s, 1 448m, 1 419m, 1 252s (νSiCH₃), 945s, 892s, 735m.

¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.0–0.2 (broad), 0.5–2.3 (broad), 3.3–3.4 (broad), 3.5–3.8 (broad), 4.0 (s), 5.5 (s), 5.7 (s); T₁ (3.69) = 2.0 sec.

¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C -10.3, -8.6, 9.4, 20.1, 33.9, 128.4, 145.1, 145.8.

²⁹Si NMR (59.59 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{Si} -32.7, -29.3 (J_{SiH} = 189 Hz).

Mol wt (GPC): M_n = 1 628, M_w = 2 742, polydispersity 1.7.

Anal calc for (C₃H₈Si)_n: C, 49.96; H, 11.09. Found: C, 49.83; H, 10.91.

Polymerization of vinyltrimethylchlorosilane

The same procedure was used in the polymerization of 46.9 g of CH₂=CHSiMe₂Cl in the presence of 0.59 mL of

di-*tert*-butyl peroxide using a total dose of 43 MRad of ⁶⁰Co γ-radiation. The product (13.5 g, 32%) was a viscous, yellow material.

IR (thin film, NaCl, cm⁻¹): 3 053w, 2 963s, 2 905s, 1 601w (ν C=C), 1 450m, 1 407s, 1 250s (ν Si-CH₃), 1 052m, 804 (broad)s.

¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.3–0.7 (broad), 0.7–2.6 (broad), 5.6 (s), 5.7 (s).

¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 1.5, 1.9, 17.5, 21.3, 28.5, 34.0, 128.7, 147.3.

²⁹Si NMR (59.59 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{Si} 19.8, 31.7, 33.8.

Anal calc for (C₄H₉ClSi)_n: C, 39.84; H, 7.46. Cl, 29.40. Found: C, 40.08; H, 7.67; Cl, 29.04.

Reduction of poly(vinyltrimethylchlorosilane)

The same procedure as above was used in the reaction of 2.1 g (0.056 mol) of LiAlH₄ in 200 mL of Et₂O with 13.5 g (0.11 mol as monomer) of PVSMe₂Cl in 100 mL of Et₂O. Distillation of the final organic layers at reduced pressure left 7.56 g (78%) of PVSMe₂H as a mobile, pale yellow oil.

IR (thin film, NaCl, cm⁻¹): 3 046w, 2 957s, 2 902m, 2 110s, 1 418w, 1 249s (ν Si-CH₃), 1 051w, 876s, 833s, 757m.

¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.0–0.3 (broad), 0.4–2.4 (broad), 3.6–4.0 (broad), 5.4 (s), 5.6 (s); T₁ (3.8) = 2.7 sec.

¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C -5.5, -4.5, 12.8, 21.7, 24.2, 25.7, 37.5, 126.2, 149.4.

²⁹Si NMR (59.59 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{Si} -19.3, -12.6, -11.0, -9.8 (J_{SiH} = 182 Hz).

Mol wt (GPC): M_n = 447, M_w = 483, polydispersity 1.1.

Anal calc for (C₄H₁₀Si)_n: C, 55.78; H, 11.61. Found: C, 54.74; H, 11.25.

Hydrosilylation of phenylacetylene with PVSMe₂H

A 25 mL two-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a reflux condenser topped with an inert gas inlet/outlet tube, a magnetic stirrer and a rubber septum was charged with 1.0 g (11.6 mmol as the monomer) of PVSMe₂H and 1.4 mL (12.8 mmol) of phenylacetylene. Three drops of CPA solution (0.1 M in isopropyl alcohol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred and heated at 75°C for 24 h. A brownish, viscous mixture resulted. Volatile components were removed *in vacuo* with heating at 100°C for 1 h, leaving 2.04 g (93%) of a brown, plastic-like residue.

IR (thin film, NaCl, cm⁻¹): 3 057m, 2 950s, 2 248w, 2 157w, 1 942w, 1 874w, 1 801w, 1 603m, 1 574m, 1 493s, 1 446m, 1 408m, 1 248s, 1 028m.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.38 (broad s), 0.6–2.7 (broad), 5.6–5.9 (m), 5.9–6.2 (m), 6.5–6.9 (m), 6.9–7.2 (m), 7.2–7.8 (broad).

¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C -3.1 (broad), 14.0, 23.0, 36.0, 126.6, 127.9, 128.1, 128.5, 138.4, 144.2, 144.6, 152.5.

Mol wt (GPC): M_n = 939, M_w = 2 147, polydispersity 2.3.

Anal calc for (C₁₂H₁₆Si)_n: C, 76.52; H, 8.56. Found: C, 73.59; H, 8.50.

The analysis indicates that the hydrosilylation reaction was not quite complete.

Acknowledgment

The authors are grateful to the National Science Foundation for support of this work.

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