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**Autor:** Luszczynski, K.  
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# Nuclear Motions in Polyisobutylene by NMR

by K. LUSZCZYNSKI

Physics Department, Queen Mary College (University of London)

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## *Résumé.*

Les mesures de temps de relaxation spin-réseau et spin-spin des protons dans le polyisobutylène sont interprétées ainsi que les valeurs des largeurs de raies et celles du second moment. Les résultats obtenus en résonance magnétique nucléaire sont reliés aux valeurs des pertes mécaniques et diélectriques ainsi qu'à la viscosité. On trouve que les résultats ne sont interprétés correctement que si on introduit deux mouvements moléculaires principaux, différant en fréquence par un facteur d'environ  $10^3$ . Chaque mouvement implique une distribution des fréquences de relaxation.

Les mesures de résonance magnétique nucléaire confirment l'opinion déduite des données de viscosité, de pertes diélectriques et mécaniques que la bande de fréquences de corrélation la plus élevée est associée à un mouvement des chaînes moléculaires, ne mettant en jeu qu'un petit nombre de chaînons. La fréquence la plus basse est probablement associée avec le mouvement de plus grandes sections de la chaîne de polyisobutylène.

Proton magnetic resonance relaxation in polyisobutylene has been measured in the temperature range —  $196^{\circ}$  C to  $220^{\circ}$  C. Steady state and transient signal nuclear magnetic resonance results are correlated with other relaxation measurements.

The sample of polyisobutylene (PIB) was part of a special batch [3], which has been used in a number of mechanical, dielectric and nuclear magnetic resonance studies [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7].

The low temperature region was investigated by means of a steady state nuclear magnetic resonance apparatus [5]. In the region above room temperature the pulse technique was used to measure  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  [6, 8]. The results obtained are summarised in figure 1. There is a minimum in  $T_1$  of 24.1 msec at  $50^{\circ}$  C.  $T_2$  is considerably smaller than  $T_1$  even at the highest temperatures. Also, in the high temperature region the decay of the transverse nuclear magnetisation is consistent with a two-term exponential decay,  $h_1 \exp(-t/T_{21}) + h_2 \exp(-t/T_{22})$ , where  $h_1 : h_2 \simeq 9 : 1$ ; and  $T_{21} : T_{22} \simeq 1 : 3$ . It is important to note that the ratio of  $(T_1/T_2)$  at the

minimum of  $T_1$  is 73 as opposed to 2.25 as predicted by the single relaxation time theory due to Bloembergen, Purcell and Pound [9] (called here the BPP theory). Values of  $T_2$  obtained from the line width and second moment measurements are also included in figure 1. In converting from

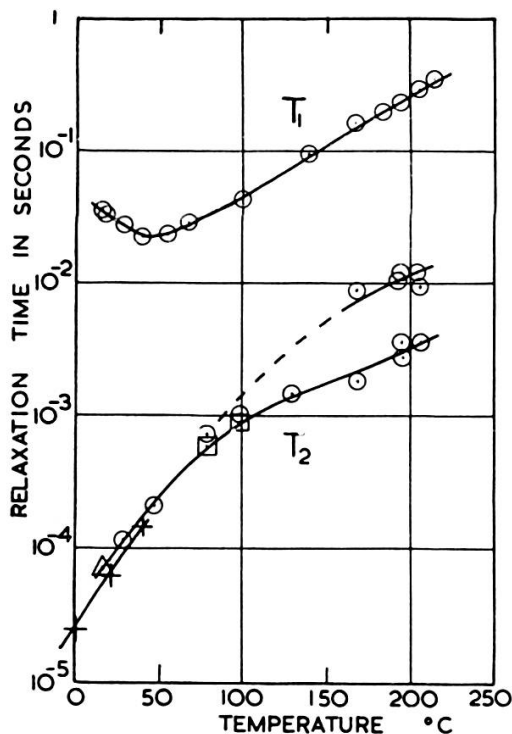


Fig. 1.

The experimental results.  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  versus temperature for PIB determined by the following methods [8].

- —  $T_2$  — from  $90^\circ$ ,  $\tau$ ,  $180^\circ$ ; pulse sequence.
- —  $T_1$  — from  $180^\circ$ ,  $\tau$ ,  $90^\circ$ ; pulse sequence.
- —  $T_2$  — from  $90^\circ$ ,  $\tau$ ,  $180^\circ$ ,  $2\tau$ ,  $180^\circ$ , etc. sequence.
- △ —  $T_2$  — from 'Bloch decay'.
- + —  $T_2$  — from line width measurements [5].

Above  $170^\circ\text{C}$  the decay of the transverse nuclear magnetisation is consistent with two  $T_2$ 's, as explained in the text.

the line width ( $\delta H$ ) to  $T_2$  it has been assumed, without much error, that the line shape is Lorentzian, in which case,

$$T_2 = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3} \gamma \delta H} \quad (1)$$

where  $\gamma$  is the proton gyromagnetic ratio.

Application of the BPP theory to our results reveals serious discrepancies between the correlation frequencies,  $\nu_c(T_1)$ ,  $\nu_c(T_2)$ , and  $\nu_c(\Delta H_2)$  derived independently from  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$  and the second moment  $(\Delta H_2^2)$  values respectively. We therefore concluded that  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  (or  $\Delta H_2$ ) are con-

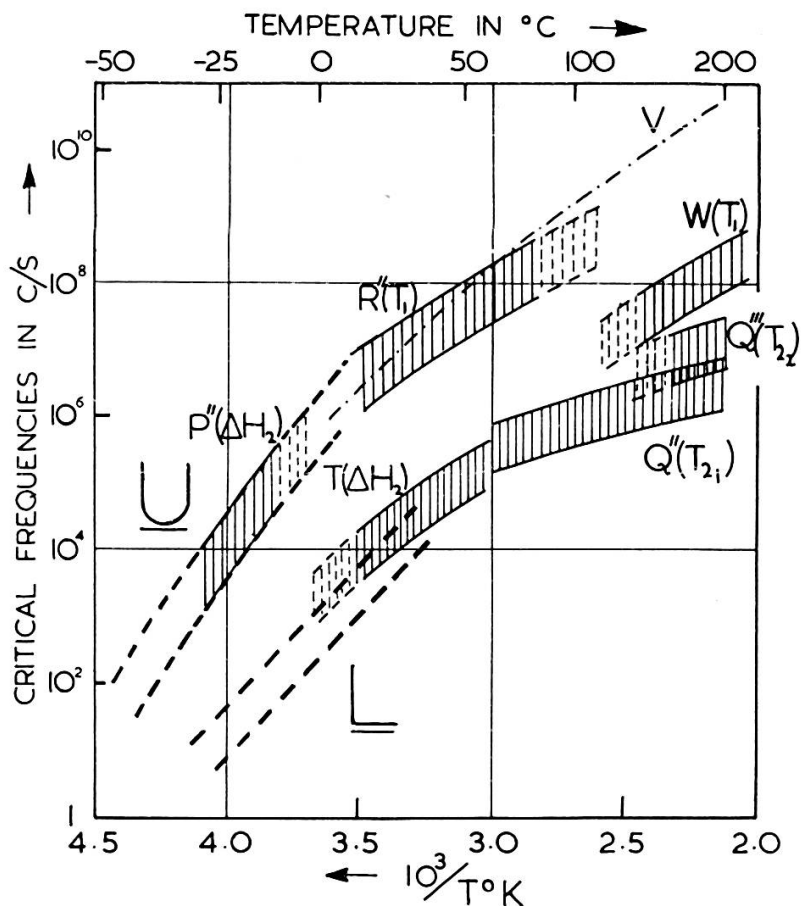


Fig. 2.

Transition map for PIB showing correlation of nuclear magnetic resonance results with mechanical, dielectric and flow viscosity measurements.

Bands  $P''(\Delta H_2)$  and  $T(\Delta H_2)$  are deduced from  $\Delta H_2$ .

Bands  $Q''(T_{21})$  and  $Q'''(T_{22})$  are deduced from  $T_{21}$  and  $T_{22}$  respectively.

Bands  $R''(T_1)$  and  $W(T_1)$  are deduced from  $T_1$ .

Mechanical and dielectric results fall into two bands  $U$  and  $L$ . Curve  $V$  represents a plot of  $(\frac{\eta}{T^\circ K})$  vs.  $\frac{1}{T^\circ K}$ , where  $\eta$  is the flow viscosity of PIB.

trolled by separate processes in some temperature ranges and we have called on other data on PIB in support of our hypothesis.

Our expectations were verified because, as shown in figure 2, the dielectric and mechanical measurements show two absorption bands,  $U$

and  $L$ , with their characteristic frequencies in the ratio of about 1000:1, at a given temperature. However, variation of critical frequency with temperature derived from the NMR results differs considerably from those of band  $U$  and  $L$  [6]. On further analysis we have concluded that there are at least two basic motions each with a distribution of relaxation frequencies, which correspond in their centre frequencies to bands  $U$  and  $L$  [6].

In the choice of certain parameters of the two motions we were guided by mechanical and dielectric measurements. Thus, the spectrum of each motion was taken to consist of two discrete lines of equal intensity, and in the frequency ratio of 9:1 for the fast process in band  $U$ , and 6:1 for the slow process in band  $L$ . Details of this type of distribution are discussed in reference 6, but it may be mentioned here that unambiguous results for  $\nu_c$  can only be obtained in temperature regions where one of the motions has a predominant influence on the nuclear signal. For example, below  $-10^\circ\text{C}$   $\Delta H_2$  is controlled mainly by the faster motion; this region corresponds to band  $P''$  ( $\Delta H_2$ ) in figure 2. On the other hand above  $+10^\circ\text{C}$  the slower motion determines  $\Delta H_2$ ; hence it is possible to deduce band  $T$  ( $\Delta H_2$ ). There is an analogous situation in the case of  $T_1$ . The result of this analysis is shown in figure 2 where the source of each frequency band in the figure is indicated by its symbol [6].

Figure 2 shows that bands  $P''$  ( $\Delta H_2$ ) and  $R''$  ( $T_1$ ) refer to the mechanism which is associated with band  $U$ , and with the flow viscosity curve  $V$ , and bands  $T$  ( $\Delta H_2$ ) and  $W$  ( $T_1$ ) belong to the lower frequency absorption band  $L$ . However  $Q''$  ( $T_{21}$ ) and  $Q'''$  ( $T_{22}$ ) show some divergence from the extrapolated band  $L$  and are not entirely consistent with  $W$  ( $T_1$ ). In spite of these discrepancies a reasonable explanation of the behaviour of  $\Delta H_2$ ,  $T_2$  and  $T_1$  has been achieved over a wide range of temperature. The large ratio of ( $T_1/T_2$ ) at the minimum of  $T_1$  is satisfactorily explained because at this particular temperature  $T_1$  is determined almost entirely by the fast motion, whereas  $T_2$  is governed by the slow process.

Line width and second moment measurements show that intensities of interaction expressed in terms of the second moment values for a rigid lattice are between 11 and 19 gauss<sup>2</sup> for the faster motion and about 2 gauss<sup>2</sup> for the slower motion. These figures suggest that at about  $-35^\circ\text{C}$  where narrowing of the line is observed the  $\text{CH}_3$  groups probably reorient very rapidly about their  $C_3$  axes and that this narrowing is produced by motion of links in the PIB chain and is that associated with the band  $U$ . The low intensity of interaction for the slower motion in band  $L$  indicates probably

that the nuclear magnetic interaction is external to the molecule and most likely takes place between separate chains, or parts of the same chain. The low frequency of the motion is taken to mean that the entities involved in the process are segments of the PIB chain considerably larger than one link.

A more precise interpretation of the present results would be possible if nuclear magnetic resonance measurements were extended into the high temperature region both with the pulse and the high resolution steady state apparatus. Mechanical and ultrasonic absorption data in this region would also be very valuable.

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