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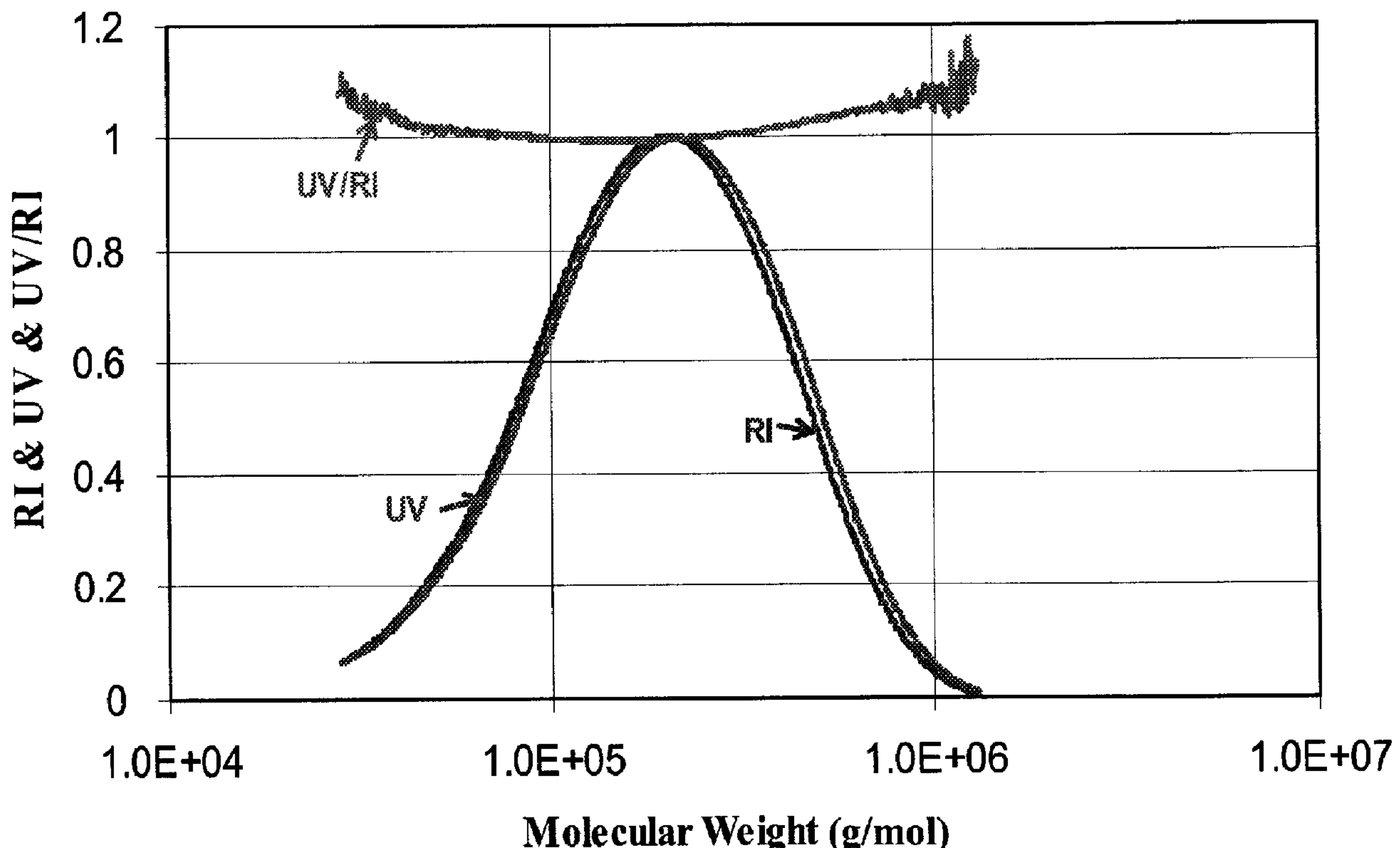
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(54) Titre : TERPOLYMERES HALOGENES COMPRENANT DE L'ISOBUTYLENE, DU MONOMERE DIOLEFINIQUE ET
DU MONOMERE STYRENIQUE

(54) Title: HALOGENATED TERPOLYMERS OF ISOBUTYLENE, DIOLEFIN MONOMER AND STYRENIC MONOMER

GPC Traces of IB/pMeSt/IP Terpolymer



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

A halogenated butyl polymer having improved properties, the butyl polymer derived from a monomer mixture comprising a C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, a C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and a styrenic monomer with a catalyst system to produce the butyl

(57) Abrégé(suite)/Abstract(continued):

polymer. The improved properties include faster cure, higher maximum torque, higher delta torque, relatively stable modulus over time, improved hot air aging properties and improved aged flexure properties. These improved properties are believed to result from direct interaction between the styrenic moieties in the polymer backbone with a crosslinking agent added to vulcanize the halogenated butyl rubber.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A halogenated butyl polymer having improved properties, the butyl polymer derived from a monomer mixture comprising a C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, a C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and a styrenic monomer with a catalyst system to produce the butyl polymer. The improved properties include faster cure, higher maximum torque, higher delta torque, relatively stable modulus over time, improved hot air aging properties and improved aged flexure properties. These improved properties are believed to result from direct interaction between the styrenic moieties in the polymer backbone with a crosslinking agent added to vulcanize the halogenated butyl rubber.

HALOGENATED TERPOLYMERS OF ISOBUTYLENE, DIOLEFIN
MONOMER AND STYRENIC MONOMER

In one of its aspects, the present invention relates to a halogenated butyl polymer.

5 In another of its aspects, the present invention relates to a process for production of a butyl polymer.

Butyl polymer or rubber is well known in the art, particularly in its application in the production of tires.

Further, the use of halogenated butyl rubbers is known since such rubbers have
10 particularly advantageous adhesion behaviour, flexural strength, service life and impermeability to air and water.

Despite this, there is room for improvement. Specifically, as manufacturer warranties for tires continue to increase in term, there is an ongoing desire and need to extend the useful service life of the tire. This projects into a need to improve the
15 properties of the components of the tire, including the rubber (e.g., halogenated butyl rubber) components. This is becoming especially important in tire retreading applications.

Thus, there is a continuing need in the art for halogenated butyl rubbers, inter alia, having improved curing and/or aging properties.

20 It is an object of the present invention to provide a novel halogenated butyl polymer.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a novel process for producing a halogenated butyl polymer.

25 It is yet another objection of the present invention to provide a novel vulcanizate derived from a halogenated butyl polymer.

Accordingly, in one of its aspects, the present invention provides a halogenated butyl polymer having improved curing and/or aging properties, the butyl polymer derived from a monomer mixture comprising a C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, a C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and a styrenic monomer.

30 In another of its aspects, the present invention provides a process for preparing a halogenated butyl polymer having improved curing and/or aging properties, the process comprising the steps of:

contacting a monomer mixture comprising a C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, a C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and a styrenic monomer with a catalyst system to produce a terpolymer; and

halogenating the terpolymer to produce the halogenated butyl polymer.

5 In another of its aspects, the present invention provides a vulcanizate derived from a vulcanizable mixture comprising: a halogenated butyl polymer derived from a monomer mixture comprising a C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, a C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and a styrenic monomer; a filler; and a vulcanization agent.

10 Thus, the present invention relates to butyl rubber polymers. The terms "butyl rubber", "butyl polymer" and "butyl rubber polymer" are used throughout this specification interchangeably and each is intended to denote polymers prepared by reacting a monomer mixture comprising a C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, a C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and a styrenic monomer.

15 It has been surprisingly and unexpectedly discovered that halogenating a terpolymer derived from a monomer mixture comprising a C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, a C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and a styrenic monomer results in a polymer having improved properties compared to a polymer produced by halogenating a copolymer derived from a monomer mixture comprising a C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer and a C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer. The improved properties include faster cure, 20 higher maximum torque, higher delta torque, relatively stable modulus over time, improved hot air aging properties and improved aged flexure properties. These improved properties are believed to result from direct interaction between the styrenic moieties in the polymer backbone with a crosslinking agent added to vulcanize the halogenated butyl rubber.

25 Embodiments of the present invention will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figures 1 and 2 illustrate the (Raman infrared) R.I. and (ultraviolet) U.V. (256 nm) traces of the GPC chromatogram of terpolymers in accordance with the present invention;

30 Figure 3 illustrates a depiction of various bromine containing structures;
Figure 4 illustrates the cure behaviour of a conventional polymer;

Figures 5 and 6 illustrate the cure behaviour of terpolymers in accordance with the present invention;

Figures 7 and 8 illustrate hot air aging properties of terpolymers in accordance with the present invention.

5 Thus, the present terpolymers are derived and the present process relates to the use of a monomer mixture comprising a C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, a C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and a styrenic monomer.

Preferably, the monomer mixture comprises from about 80% to about 99% by weight C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight C₄ to C₁₄ 10 multiolefin monomer and from about 0.5% to about 15% by weight styrenic monomer.

More preferably, the monomer mixture comprises from about 85% to about 99% by weight C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and from about 0.5% to about 10% by weight styrenic monomer.

Most preferably, the monomer mixture comprises from about 87% to about 94% by 15 weight C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, from about 1% to about 3% by weight C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and from about 5% to about 10% by weight styrenic monomer.

The preferred C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer may be selected from the group comprising isobutylene, 2-methylpropene-1, 3-methylbutene-1,4, methylpentene-1,2, 20 methylpentene-1,4, ethylbutene-1, 4-ethylpentene-1 and mixtures thereof. The most preferred C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer comprises isobutylene.

The preferred C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer may be selected from the group comprising isoprene, butadiene-1,3, 2,4-dimethylbutadiene-1,3, piperyline, 3-methylpentadiene-1,3, hexadiene-2,4, 2-neopentylbutadiene-1,3, 2-methylhexadiene-1,5, 2,5-dimethylhexadiene-2,4, 2-methylpentadiene-1,4, 2-methylheptadiene-1,6, 25 cyclopentadiene, methylcyclopentadiene, cyclohexadiene, 1-vinyl-cyclohexadiene and mixtures thereof. The most preferred C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer comprises isoprene.

The preferred styrenic monomer may be selected from the group comprising p-methylstyrene, styrene, α -methylstyrene, p-chlorostyrene, p-methoxystyrene, indene (including indene derivatives) and mixtures thereof. The most preferred styrenic 30 monomer may be selected from the group comprising styrene, p-methylstyrene and mixtures thereof.

As stated hereinabove, the butyl polymer is halogenated. Preferably, the butyl polymer is brominated or chlorinated. Preferably, the amount of halogen is in the range of from about 0.1 to about 8%, more preferably from about 0.5% to about 4%, most preferably from about 1.5% to about 3.0%, by weight of the polymer.

5 The halogenated butyl polymer may be produced by halogenating a previously produced butyl polymer derived from the monomer mixture described hereinabove. The manner by which the butyl polymer is produced is conventional and within the purview of a person of ordinary skill in the art. Thus, the process for producing the butyl polymer may be conducted at a temperature conventional in the production of butyl polymers
10 (e.g., in the range of from about -100°C to about +50°C; usually less than -90°C) in the presence of a conventional catalyst (e.g., aluminum trichloride). The butyl polymer may be produced in a conventional manner, by polymerization in solution or by a slurry polymerization method. Polymerization is preferably conducted in suspension (the slurry method). For more information on the production of butyl rubber, see, for example, any
15 of the following:

1. Ullmann's Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemistry (Fifth, Completely Revised Edition, Volume A23; Editors Elvers et al.).

20 2. "Cationic Polymerization of Olefins: A Critical Inventory" by Joseph P. Kennedy (John Wiley & Sons, Inc. © 1975); and

25 3. "Rubber Technology" (Third Edition) by Maurice Morton, Chapter 10 (Van Nostrand Reinhold Company © 1987).

25

The butyl polymer may then be halogenated in a conventional manner. See, for example, United States patent 5,886,106. Thus, the halogenated butyl rubber may be produced either by treating finely divided butyl rubber with a halogenating agent, such as chlorine or bromine, preferably bromine, or by producing brominated butyl rubber by intensive mixing, in a mixing apparatus, of brominating agents such as N-bromosuccinimide with a previously made butyl rubber. Alternatively, the halogenated butyl rubber may be produced by treating a solution or a dispersion in a suitable organic

solvent of a previously made butyl rubber with corresponding brominating agents. See, for more detail, Ullmann's Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemistry (Fifth, Completely Revised Edition, Volume A23; Editors Elvers et al.) and/or "Rubber Technology" (Third Edition) by Maurice Morton, Chapter 10 (Van Nostrand Reinhold Company © 1987) .

5 The amount of halogenation during this procedure may be controlled so that the final terpolymer has the preferred amounts of halogen described hereinabove. The specific mode of attaching the halogen to the polymer is not particularly restricted and those of skill in the art will recognize that modes other than those described above may be used while achieving the benefits of the invention.

10 The present halogenated butyl rubber may be used for the production of vulcanized rubber products. For example, useful vulcanizates may be produced by mixing the halogenated butyl rubber with carbon black and/or other known ingredients (additives) and crosslinking the mixture with a conventional curing agent in a conventional manner.

15 Embodiments of the present invention will be illustrated with reference to the following Examples, which should not be used to construe or limit the scope of the present invention. In the Examples, "pbw" means parts by weight and "phr" means parts by weight per 100 parts by weight rubber or polymer product.

20 EXAMPLES 1-7

In the Examples, isobutylene (IB, Matheson, 99%) and methyl chloride (MeCl, Matheson, 99%) were used as received. Isoprene (IP, Aldrich 99.9%), p-methyl styrene (p-MeSt, Aldrich 97%) and styrene (St, Aldrich 99%) were passed through a t-butyl catechol inhibitor remover prior to usage. Aluminum trichloride (Aldrich 99.99%), 25 stearic acid (NBS, technical grade) and zinc oxide (Midwest Zinc Co., technical grade) were used as received.

All polymerizations were carried out in an MBraun MB™ 150B-G-I dry box.

A saturated catalyst solution was prepared by combining approximately 1g of AlCl₃ with 100 mL of MeCl. This solution was stirred for a period of 30 minutes at a 30 temperature of -30°C.

IB, IP, p-MeSt and St were charged, according to the concentrations reported in Table 1, into a 2 litre baffled glass reactor which was equipped with a stainless steel

stirrer and a thermocouple. The reactor containing the monomers was cooled to -95°C, after which 10 mL of catalyst solution was introduced into the reactor. The polymerizations were carried out until a maximum temperature was reached. The polymerizations were terminated with the addition to the reactor of 10 mL of ethanol.

5 The polymer was recovered by dissolving in hexane, followed by ethanol coagulation. The polymer was then dried in a vacuum oven at 40°C until a constant weight was reached.

As will be apparent, neither p-MeSt nor St were used in Example 1. Accordingly, this Example is provided for comparative purposes only and is outside the scope of the

10 invention.

Molecular weight and molecular weight distribution were determined by GPC equipped with an ultraviolet (U.V.) and Raman infrared (R.I.) detector using 6 Waters Ultrastyragel columns (100, 500, 10³, 10⁴, 10⁵ and 10⁶ Å), thermostated at 35°C. The mobile phase was THF at 1 mL/min. flow rate. Flow rate was monitored by the use of

15 elementary sulfur as internal marker. The instrument was calibrated with 14 narrow MWD PS standards. Molecular weight averages were calculated using the Universal Calibration Principle using $K_{PS_t} = 1.12 \times 10^{-4}$ dl/g, $\alpha_{PS_t} = 0.725$, $K_{PIB} = 2.00 \times 10^{-4}$ dl/g and $\alpha_{PIB} = 0.67$. Calcium stearate, ESBO and EXO values were determined by FTIR. 500 MHz ¹H NMR spectra were obtained in a conventional manner and the evaluation of the

20 spectra obtained was done in a conventional manner - see, for example, (i) Chu et al., *Macromolecules* 18, 1423 (1985), and (ii) Chu et al., *Rubber Chem. Technol.* 60, 626 (1987). Bromine content was determined by Oxygen Flask Combustion and Tg values were determined by DSC. Hot air aging studies were carried out according to ASTM-D573-81.

25 Figures 1 and 2 illustrate the R.I. and U.V. (256 nm) traces of the GPC chromatogram of a p-MeSt terpolymer (Example 4) and a St terpolymer (Example 7), respectively. Comparison of the R.I. and U.V. traces provides information about the compositional homogeneity of the polymer as a function of molecular weight. The R.I. signal is proportional to the total mass of the polymer chain. The U.V. signal is

30 proportional to the number of aromatic monomer units incorporated into the chain, since U.V. absorption of IB and IP units are negligible at 256 nm compared to that of the aromatic ring.

The R.I. and U.V. traces of the pMeSt terpolymer show near complete overlapping. The U.V./R.I. ratio, which is proportional to the p-MeSt content of the given molecular weight fraction, is substantially constant over the entire molecular weight range. These results confirm that the reactivity of IB and p-MeSt is very similar toward 5 the isobutylene capped growing cation.

In contrast, the St terpolymer exhibits non-overlapping U.V. and R.I. traces. The U.V./R.I. ratio, i.e., the styrene content of the polymer increases by a factor of about four as molecular weight decreases (elution volume increases), which is an indication that St acts as a chain transfer agent and has lower reactivity toward the IB capped growing 10 cation than IB.

The foregoing analysis confirms the formation of a random copolymer.

Each batch of polymer product produced was brominated in the following manner.

The polymer product was dissolved in hexane to produce a polymer cement to 15 which 0.08 phr octylated diphenylamine (ODPA) and 0.017 phr IrganoxTM 1010 was added. Thereafter, the cement was solvent stripped and mill dried.

The resulting homogeneous rubber was once again cut into pieces and redissolved in hexane. The so-produced polymer cement was then transferred to a 12 litre baffled reactor equipped with a mechanical stirrer and two syringe ports. The cement container 20 was rinsed with hexane and dichloromethane. Water was then added to the reactor and the mixture was stirred for several minutes.

Bromination of the polymer product was started by injecting the appropriate amount of bromine into the reactor. After 4 minutes of reaction time, the reaction was terminated by the injection of caustic solution (6.4 wt% NaOH). The mixture was 25 allowed to stir for an additional 10 minutes and a stabilizer solution containing 0.25 phr epoxidized soybean oil (ESBO), 0.02 phr ODPA and 0.003 phr IrganoxTM 1076 was then added to the mixture. The brominated rubber mixture was then washed three times after which additional ESBO (0.65 phr) and calcium stearate (1.5 phr) were added to the cement prior to steam stripping. The polymer was finally dried on a hot mill.

30 Bromine concentration, rubber concentration (solids), water content and reaction time were all kept constant. During bromination, 30 vol% dichloromethane was used as a polar co-solvent in order to obtain improved control over the extent of reaction and,

thereby, to obtain the same concentration of brominated structures (approximately 1.0 mol%) in all brominated polymer products. Stabilizer and antioxidant levels of the brominated terpolymers were kept constant. Calcium stearate level was set at 1.5 phr and ESBO level at 0.9 phr.

5 Composition of the brominated terpolymers, determined by 500 MHz HNMR, is reported in Table 2. The p-MeSt and St content determined before and after bromination are substantially consistent with one another. According to the results, the amount of primary brominated structures was lower in the terpolymer than in the control and decreased with increasing p-MeSt or St content. This is believed to be an indication that
10 the aromatic ring underwent bromination in addition to the 1,4-IP enchainments. The presence of a brominated aromatic ring was estimated from a mass balance: total bromine content of the samples minus the amount of bromine attached to the 1,4-IP units. The total bromine content of the samples was determined by oxygen flask combustion. Further, the amount of bromine attached to the 1,4-IP units was calculated from the
15 HNMR results. Specifically, the calculation was derived from the sum of bromine containing structures: Exo. + Rearr.Exo. + Endo. + hydrobrominated - see Figure 3 for a depiction of these various bromine containing structures. The results are reported in Table 3.

With reference to Table 3, the two values for bromine content are reasonably
20 matched in Example 2, indicating that the bromination of the aromatic ring is negligible. With reference to Examples 3 and 4, respectively, the two values for bromine content deviate indicating that the aromatic ring underwent bromination. The deviation between the two values is even more pronounced in the case of the styrene terpolymers (i.e., Examples 5-7). This is not surprising since, from a steric hinderance viewpoint, the more
25 accessible para-position is not blocked in the case of styrene, and the ortho and para orienting affect of the alkyl group (polymer backbone).

For each Example, a gum vulcanizate was prepared by adding 1 phr of stearic acid and 5 phr of zinc oxide to the brominated polymer on a mill set to 40°C (i.e., no filler or oil was used during vulcanization). Cure behaviour was determined by ODR Monsanto
30 Rheometer (3 degree arc, 166°C). Full (6x6 inches) and half sized (3x3 inches) macro sheets were prepared from these compounds by curing the compound at 166°C for 30 minutes.

Figures 4, 5 and 6 show the cure behaviour of the polymers of Examples 1 (control), 2 (low p-MeSt content terpolymer) and 6 (medium St content terpolymer), respectively. Cure time and torque values obtained for all the compounds are listed in Table 4.

5 According to the rheometry charts, the rubber produced in Example 1 shows a large trough or long induction period before the onset of curing. Specifically, the copolymer produced in Example 1 reaches a Tc50 point (half cured state) in approximately 13 minutes and a Tc90 point in approximately ~20 minutes. On the other hand, the terpolymers produced in Examples 2 (low p-MeSt content terpolymer) and 6 10 (medium St content terpolymer) possess narrower torque curves and are observed to reach their Tc50 point in less than half the time in spite of the fact that the Examples 2 and 6 terpolymers contained 10 - 35 % less Exo than the Example 1 copolymer. This is evidence that the aromatic rings take part in the curing reaction.

15 The Mh and Mh-MI values of the terpolymers produced in Examples 2 (low p-MeSt content terpolymer) and 6 (medium St content terpolymer) decreased with increasing p-MeSt or St content due to the decreasing Exo content. However, the obtained torque values were at least the same or even higher than that of the control. The most meaningful comparison can be made by comparing the delta torque values of the Example 1 copolymer (Exo=0.97 mol%) with the Example 2 terpolymer (Exo=0.87 20 mol%, p-MeSt=2.69 mol%) and with the Example 6 terpolymer (Exo=0.85 mol%, St=1.81). By comparing the delta torque values, the effect of Mooney can be accounted for. According to the results reported in Table 4, both terpolymers gave higher delta torque values (14.0 dNm for Example 2 and 12.4 dNm for Example 6) than Example 1 25 (10.8 dNm). This difference again is evidence that the aromatic rings do participate in the crosslinking reaction.

30 In each of the Examples, the rubber was cured at 166°C for 30 minutes. The cured sheets were placed at room temperature for a period of sixteen hours prior to cutting them into tensile test pieces according to standard test methods (ASTM D412-68). Each vulcanize was subjected to hot air aging tests (ASTM D573-81) under two different conditions: 120°C for 168 hours and 140°C for 168 hours.

The hot air aging test results for the rubbers produced in Examples 1-3 and 5-7 are reported in Table 5. Further, Figure 7 illustrates the modulus at 100% elongation.

Unaged terpolymers show approximately 15% higher modulus over the control, which is consistent with the measured higher torque values. The 100% modulus of the control samples decreased by about 50% upon 168 hours hot air aging at 140 °C. The terpolymers displayed a better resistance to aging; 100% modulus decreased only by 5 about 25%. Figure 8 illustrates the modulus at 300% elongation before and after hot air aging for 168 hrs at 140 °C. The 300% modulus of the copolymer of the Examples shows a decrease of 36% upon aging. In contrast, 300% modulus of the terpolymers decreased only by about 2-5%.

Table 5 also summarizes the unaged stress strain results of the St terpolymers 10 and the results of the limited hot air aging study carried out using the low St content terpolymers (Example 5). Here again, the modulus of the terpolymers is somewhat higher than that of the control. The 100% modulus of the St terpolymers decreased by 30% and the 300% modulus by 16% as a result of 168 hrs/140 °C hot air aging, indicating a better aging resistance over the copolymer of Example 1.

15 While the present invention has been described with reference to preferred and specifically exemplified embodiments, it will of course be understood by those of skill in the art that various modification to these preferred and exemplified embodiments may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

Table 1

Example	[p-MeSt] ¹ (mol/L)	[St] ¹ (mol/L)	Mw, x 10 ³	Mw/Mn	[IP] (mol%)	[p-MeSt] ² (mol%)	[St] ² (mol%)
1	-	-	474	4.3	1.37	-	-
2	0.055	-	440	2.9	1.26	2.63	-
3	0.11	-	375	2.9	1.12	5.3	-
4	0.22	-	400	2.2	0.86	10.6	-
5	-	0.055	580	4.2	1.24	-	0.83
6	-	0.11	540	4.6	1.15	-	1.71
7	-	0.22	475	4.4	1.00	-	3.58

¹Concentration in polymerization reactor.

²Concentration in polymer product.

Notes: [IB] in monomer feed to polymerization reactor ≈ 1.95 mol/L
 [IP] in monomer feed to polymerization reactor ≈ 0.055 mol/L

Table 2

Example	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Before Bromination							
1,4-IP (mol %)	1.46	1.26	1.12	0.86	1.24	1.15	1
p-MeSt (mol %)	-	2.63	5.3	10.6	-	-	-
St (mol %)	-	-	-	-	0.83	1.71	3.6
After Bromination							
p-MeSt (mol %)	-	2.69	5.29	11.3	-	-	-
St (mol %)	-	-	-	-	0.97	1.81	4.05
1,4-IP (mol %)	0.39	0.21	0.16	0	0.44	0.3	0.3
Exo (mol %)	0.97	0.87	0.79	0.63	0.71	0.85	0.7
Endo (mol %)	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.03
Endo CDB (mol %)	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.03
Total primary (mol %)	1.05	0.93	0.85	0.68	0.77	0.93	0.76

Table 3

Example	pMeSt (mol%)	St (mol%)	Br Content from HNMR (mol%)	Br Content by Oxy. Flask (mol%)
1	-	-	1.02	1.16
2	2.69	-	1.02	1.04
3	5.29	-	0.95	1.13
4	11.26	-	0.84	1.33
5	-	0.97	0.78	1.3
6	-	1.81	0.9	1.49
7	-	4.05	0.73	1.54

10

Table 4

Example	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Exo (mol%)	0.97	0.87	0.79	0.63	0.71	0.85	0.7
pMeSt (mol%)	-	2.69	5.29	11.26	-	-	-
St (mol%)	-	-	-	-	0.97	1.81	4.05
Scorch 01 (min.)	10.26	2.71	2.89	4.24	4.84	3.63	4.18
Tc50 (min.)	13.36	4.03	4.12	5.78	6.59	5.02	5.77
Tc90 (min.)	21.31	6.74	10.25	20.91	9.69	10.75	9.71
Mh (dNm)	18.57	22.48	18.79	17.98	18.35	18.81	20.69
Ml (dNm)	7.77	8.51	6.35	7	8.97	6.47	8.4
Delta Torque (dNm)	10.81	13.96	12.43	10.98	9.37	12.35	12.29

Table 5

Example	1	2	3	5	6	7
Unaged						
Modulus @ 100% (MPa)	0.33	0.38	0.37	0.39	0.42	0.4
Modulus @ 300% (MPa)	0.45	0.56	0.52	0.56	0.6	0.63
Ultimate Tensile (MPa)	3.5	2.1	2.7	4.1	4	3.4
Ultimate Elongation (%)	1055	910	1020	965	880	850
Hardness Shore A2 (pts.)	23	26	28	25	24	25
Aged in air, 168 hours @ 120°C						
Modulus @ 100% (MPa)	0.36	0.41	0.4	-	-	-
Modulus @ 300% (MPa)	0.67	0.75	0.72	-	-	-
Ultimate Tensile (MPa)	2.6	1.9	1.9	-	-	-
Ultimate Elongation (%)	670	570	595	-	-	-
Hardness Shore A2 (pts.)	26	28	28	-	-	-

Table 5 (cont'd)

Example	1	2	3	5	6	7
Aged in air, 168 hours @ 140°C						
Aged in air, 168 hours @ 140°C						
Modulus @ 100% (MPa)	0.17	0.3		0.29		0.27
Modulus @ 300% (MPa)	0.29	0.53		0.51		0.47
Ultimate Tensile (MPa)	1.8	2.1		2.2		2.8
Ultimate Elongation (%)	805	670		725		850
Hardness Shore A2 (pts)	23	27		26		21

What is claimed is:

1. A butyl terpolymer comprising a C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, a C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and a styrenic monomer comprising p-methylstyrene, wherein the terpolymer is compositionally homogeneous as a function of molecular weight.
2. The butyl terpolymer defined in claim 1, wherein the C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer is selected from the group consisting of isobutylene, 2-methylpropene-1, 3-methylbutene-1, 4-methylpentene-1, 2-methylpentene-1, 4-ethylbutene-1, 4-ethylpentene-1 and mixtures thereof.
3. The butyl terpolymer defined in claim 1, wherein the C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer comprises isobutylene.
4. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer is selected from the group consisting of isoprene, butadiene-1,3, 2,4-dimethylbutadiene-1,3, piperyline, 3-methylpentadiene-1,3, hexadiene-2,4, 2-neopentylbutadiene-1,3, 2-methylhexadiene-1,5, 2,5-dimethylhexadiene-2,4, 2-methylpentadiene-1,4, 2-methylheptadiene-1,6, cyclopentadiene, methylcyclopentadiene, cyclohexadiene, 1-vinyl-cyclohexadiene and mixtures thereof.
5. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer comprises isoprene.
6. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the styrenic monomer further comprises alpha-methylstyrene, p-chlorostyrene, p-methoxystyrene or mixtures thereof.
7. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the styrenic monomer consists essentially of p-methylstyrene.
8. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the terpolymer is prepared from a monomer mixture comprising from about 80% to about

99% by weight C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and from about 0.5% to about 15% by weight styrenic monomer.

9. The butyl terpolymer defined in claim 8, wherein the monomer mixture comprises from about 85% to about 99% by weight C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and from about 0.5% to about 10% by weight styrenic monomer.

10. The butyl terpolymer defined in claim 8, wherein the monomer mixture comprises from about 87% to about 94% by weight C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, from about 1% to about 3% by weight C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and from about 5% to about 10% by weight styrenic monomer.

11. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the terpolymer is halogenated.

12. The butyl terpolymer defined in claim 11, wherein the terpolymer is brominated.

13. The butyl terpolymer defined in claim 11, wherein the terpolymer is chlorinated.

14. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 11 to 13, wherein the amount of halogen is in the range of from about 0.1 to about 8% by weight of the terpolymer.

15. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 11 to 13, wherein the amount of halogen is in the range of from about 0.5 to about 4% by weight of the terpolymer.

16. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 11 to 13, wherein the amount of halogen is in the range of from about 1.5 to about 3% by weight of the terpolymer.

17. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 11 to 16, further comprising a halogenated aromatic ring.

18. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 17, wherein the terpolymer is random.
19. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 18, wherein the content of styrenic monomer in the terpolymer is constant within the molecular weight range of 40,000 to 1,000,000 g/mol.
20. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 19, wherein the terpolymer has an Mw/Mn of 2.9.
21. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 19, wherein the terpolymer has an Mw/Mn of 2.2.
22. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 21, wherein the terpolymer has a molecular weight of 40,000 to 1,000,000 g/mol.
23. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 21, wherein the terpolymer has a molecular weight of 375,000 to 440,000 g/mol
24. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 21, wherein the terpolymer has an Mw of 375,000 g/mol.
25. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 21, wherein the terpolymer has an Mw of 400,000 g/mol.
26. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 21, wherein the terpolymer has an Mw of 440,000 g/mol.

27. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 1 to 26, wherein the terpolymer is cured.
28. The butyl terpolymer defined in claim 27, wherein the terpolymer is cured using a zinc oxide (ZnO) curing system.
29. The butyl terpolymer defined in claims 27 or 28, wherein the terpolymer forms a vulcanizate.
30. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 27 to 29, wherein the terpolymer comprises an aromatic ring that has taken part in curing.
31. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 27 to 30, wherein the modulus of the terpolymer at 100% elongation decreases by about 25% following hot air aging for 168 hrs at 140 °C.
32. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 27 to 31, wherein the modulus of the terpolymer at 300% elongation decreases by about 2-5% following hot air aging for 168 hrs at 140 °C.
33. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 27 to 30, wherein the modulus of the terpolymer at 100% elongation decreases by 30% following hot air aging for 168 hrs at 140 °C.
34. The butyl terpolymer defined in any one of claims 27 to 30 or 33, wherein the modulus of the terpolymer at 300% elongation decreases by 16% following hot air aging for 168 hrs at 140 °C.

35. A process for preparing a butyl terpolymer comprising contacting a monomer mixture comprising a C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, a C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and a styrenic monomer comprising p-methylstyrene with a catalyst system to produce the terpolymer, wherein the process is conducted such that the terpolymer produced is compositionally homogeneous as a function of molecular weight.
36. The process defined in claim 35, wherein the catalyst system comprises aluminum trichloride (AlCl₃).
37. The process defined in claims 35 or 36, wherein the catalyst system is combined with methyl chloride (MeCl).
38. The process defined in any one of claims 35 to 37, wherein the process is conducted at a temperature of from -100 °C to 50 °C.
39. The process defined in any one of claims 35 to 38, wherein the process is conducted at a temperature of less than -90 °C.
40. The process defined in any one of claims 35 to 39, wherein the process comprises slurry polymerization.
41. The process defined in any one of claims 35 to 39, wherein the process comprises solution polymerization.
42. The process defined in any one of claims 35 to 41, wherein the process is conducted such that the terpolymer produced is random.
43. The process defined any one of claims 35 to 42, wherein the C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer is selected from the group consisting of isobutylene, 2-methylpropene-1, 3-methylbutene-1, 4-methylpentene-1, 2-methylpentene-1, 4-ethylbutene-1, 4-ethylpentene-1 and mixtures thereof.

44. The process defined in any one of claims 35 to 42, wherein the C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer comprises isobutylene.
45. The process defined in any one of claims 35 to 44, wherein the C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer is selected from the group consisting of isoprene, butadiene-1,3, 2,4-dimethylbutadiene-1,3, piperyline, 3-methylpentadiene-1,3, hexadiene-2,4, 2-neopentylbutadiene-1,3, 2-methylhexadiene-1,5, 2,5-dimethylhexadiene-2,4, 2-methylpentadiene-1,4, 2-methylheptadiene-1,6, cyclopentadiene, methylcyclopentadiene, cyclohexadiene, 1-vinyl-cyclohexadiene and mixtures thereof.
46. The process defined in any one of claims 35 to 44, wherein the C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer comprises isoprene.
47. The process defined in any one of claims 35 to 46, wherein the styrenic monomer further comprises alpha-methylstyrene, p-chlorostyrene, p-methoxystyrene or mixtures thereof.
48. The process defined in any one of claims 35 to 46, wherein the styrenic monomer consists essentially of p-methylstyrene.
49. The process defined in any one of claims 35 to 48, wherein the monomer mixture comprises from about 80% to about 99% by weight C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and from about 0.5% to about 15% by weight styrenic monomer.
50. The process defined in any one of claims 35 to 48, wherein the monomer mixture comprises from about 85% to about 99% by weight C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and from about 0.5% to about 10% by weight styrenic monomer.
51. The process defined in any one of claims 35 to 48, wherein the monomer mixture comprises from about 87% to about 94% by weight C₄ to C₈ monoolefin

monomer, from about 1% to about 3% by weight C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and from about 5% to about 10% by weight styrenic monomer.

52. The process in any one of claims 35 to 51, wherein the process further comprises halogenating the terpolymer.

53. The process defined in claim 52, wherein the terpolymer is brominated.

54. The process defined in claim 52, wherein the terpolymer is chlorinated.

55. The process defined in any one of claims 52 to 54, wherein the amount of halogen is in the range of from about 0.1 to about 8% by weight of the terpolymer.

56. The process defined in any one of claims 52 to 54, wherein the amount of halogen is in the range of from about 0.5 to about 4% by weight of the terpolymer.

57. The process defined in any one of claims 52 to 54, wherein the amount of halogen is in the range of from about 1.5 to about 3% by weight of the terpolymer.

58. The process defined in any one of claims 52 to 57, further comprising a halogenated aromatic ring.

59. A process for improving the heat resistance of a polymer comprising: adding a styrenic monomer comprising p-methylstyrene to a mixture comprising a C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, a C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer; polymerizing the resulting monomer mixture in the presence of a catalyst system to produce a terpolymer that is compositionally homogeneous as a function of molecular weight; and, halogenating the terpolymer to produce a halogenated butyl polymer.

60. The process according to claim 59, wherein the C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer is selected from the group consisting of isobutylene, 2-methylpropene-1, 3-methylbutene-1, 4-methylpentene-1, 2-methylpentene-1, 4-ethylbutene-1, 4-ethylpentene-1 and mixtures thereof.

61. The process according to claim 59, wherein the C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer comprises isobutylene.

62. The process according to any one of claims 59 to 61, wherein the C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer is selected from the group consisting of isoprene, butadiene-1,3, 2,4-dimethylbutadiene-1,3, piperyline, 3-methylpentadiene-1,3, hexadiene-2,4, 2-neopentylbutadiene-1,3, 2-methylhexadiene-1,5, 2,5-dimethylhexadiene-2,4, 2-methylpentadiene-1,4, 2-methylheptadiene-1,6, cyclopentadiene, methylcyclopentadiene, cyclohexadiene, 1-vinyl-cyclohexadiene and mixtures thereof.

63. The process according to any one of claims 59 to 61, wherein the C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer comprises isoprene.

64. The process according to any one of claims 59 to 63, wherein the styrenic monomer further comprises alpha-methylstyrene, p-chlorostyrene, p-methoxystyrene and mixtures thereof.

65. The process according to any one of claims 59 to 63, wherein the styrenic monomer consists essentially of p-methylstyrene.

66. The process according to any one of claims 59 to 65, wherein the monomer mixture comprises from about 80% to about 99% by weight C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and from about 0.5% to about 15% by weight styrenic monomer.

67. The process according to claim 66, wherein the monomer mixture comprises from about 85% to about 99% by weight C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and from about 0.5% to about 10% by weight styrenic monomer.

68. The process according to claim 67, wherein the monomer mixture comprises from about 87% to about 94% by weight C₄ to C₈ monoolefin monomer, from about 1% to about 3% by weight C₄ to C₁₄ multiolefin monomer and from about 5% to about 10% by weight styrenic monomer.
69. The process according to any one of claims 59 to 68, wherein the halogenated butyl polymer is brominated.
70. The process according to any one of claims 59 to 68, wherein the halogenated butyl polymer is chlorinated.
71. The process according to any one of claims 59 to 70, wherein the amount of halogen in the halogenated butyl polymer is in the range of from about 0.1 to about 8% by weight of the polymer.
72. The process according to claim 71, wherein the amount of halogen in the halogenated butyl polymer is in the range of from about 0.5 to about 4% by weight of the polymer.
73. The process according to claim 72, wherein the amount of halogen in the halogenated butyl polymer is in the range of from about 1.5 to about 3% by weight of the polymer.

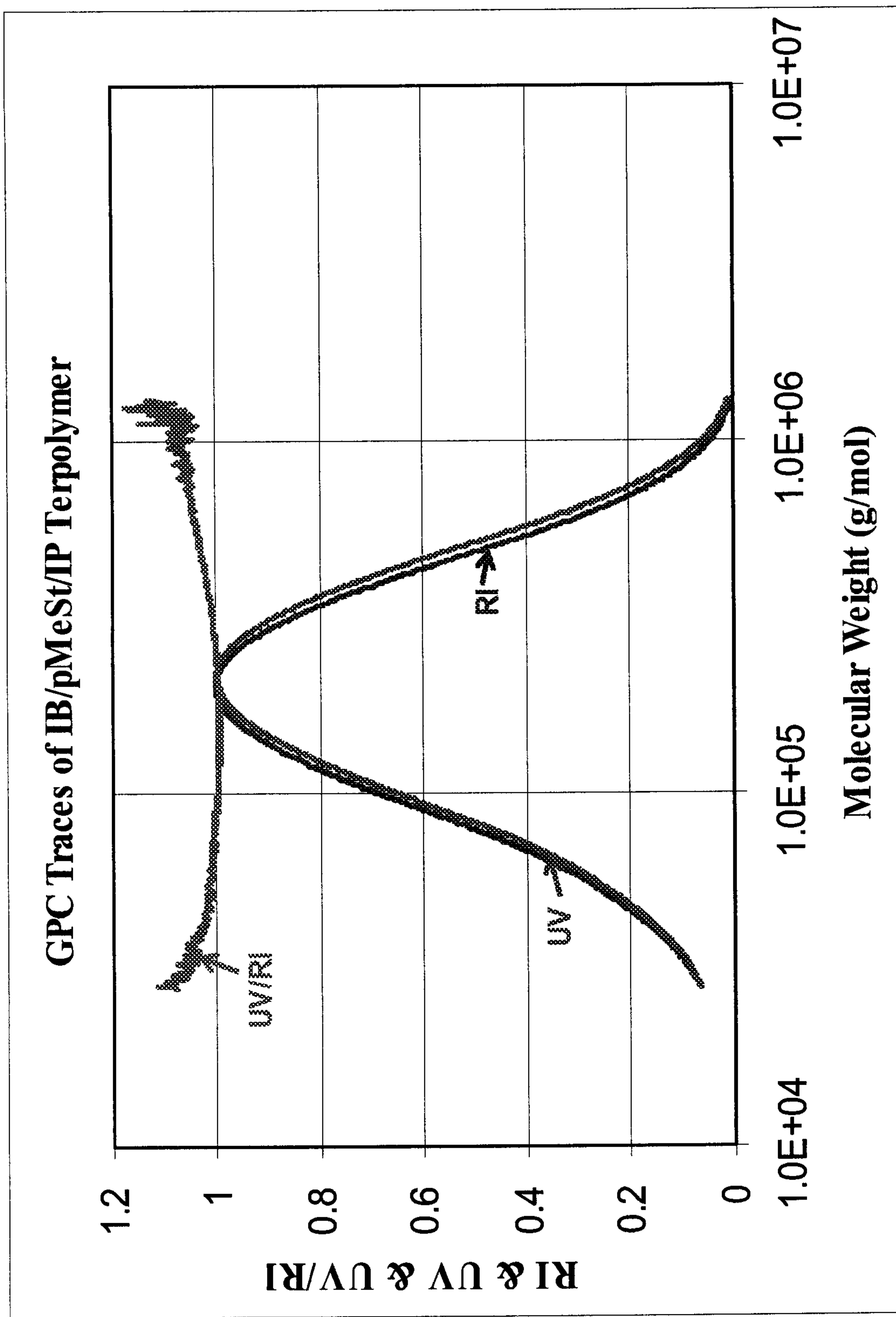


FIG. 1

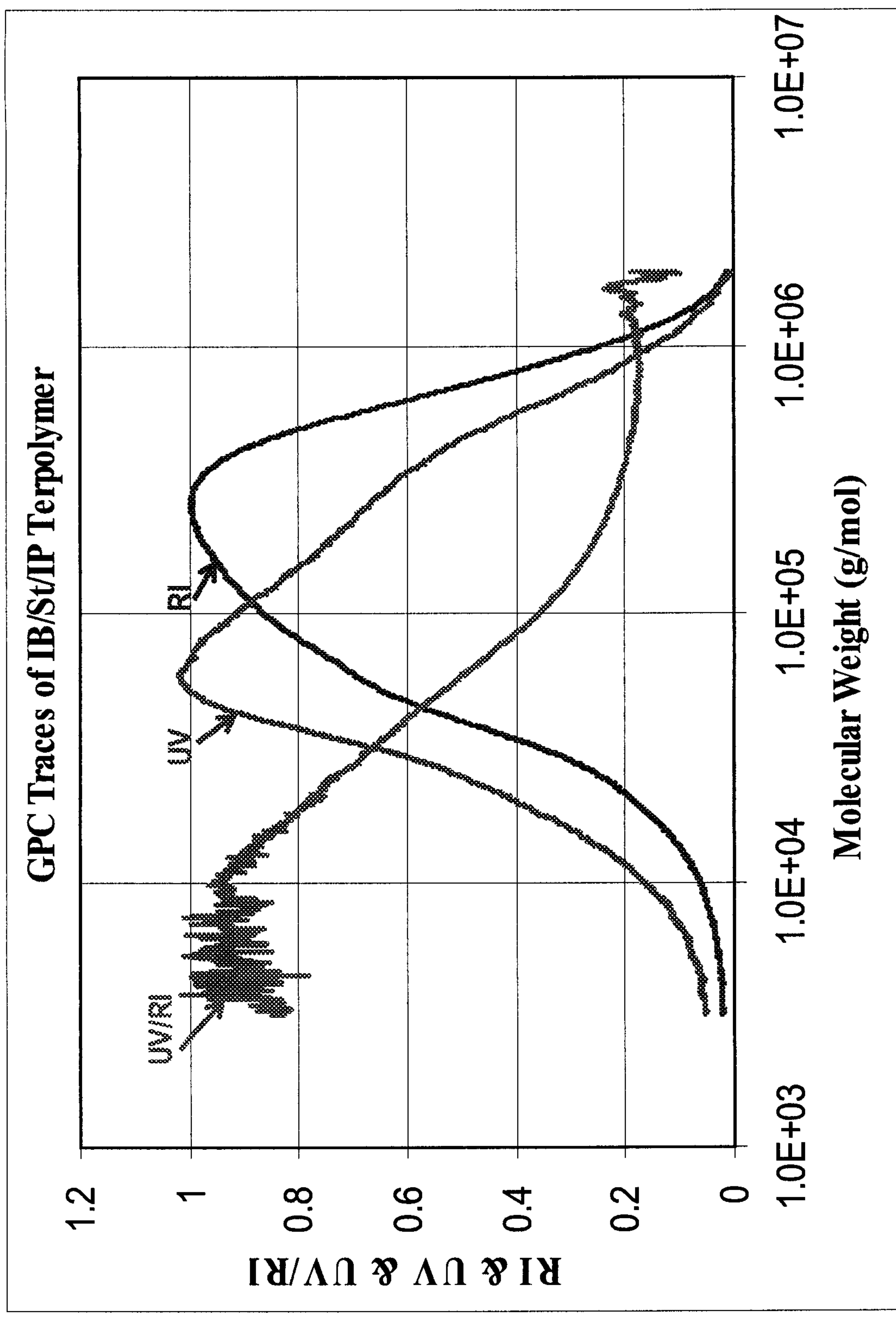


FIG. 2

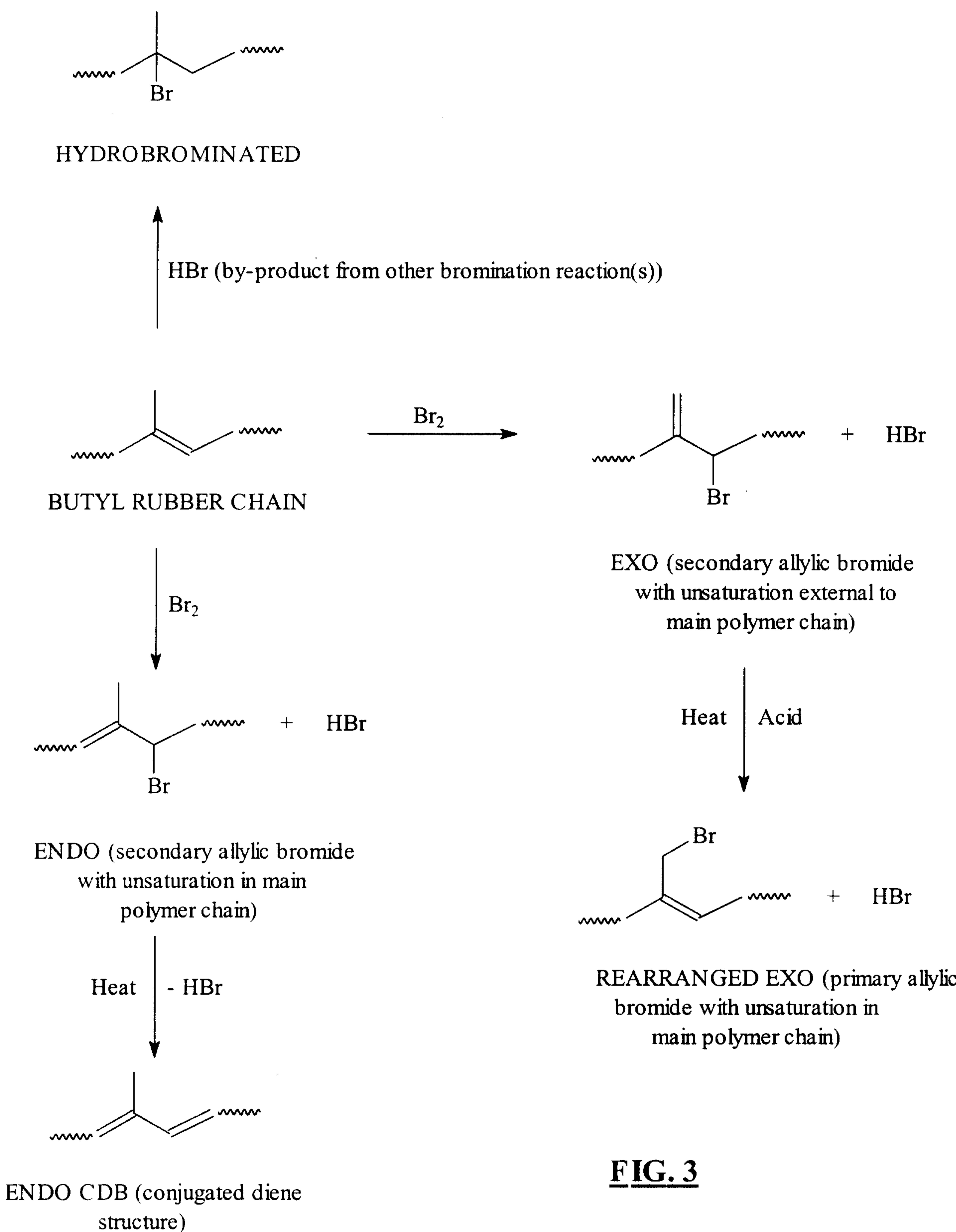
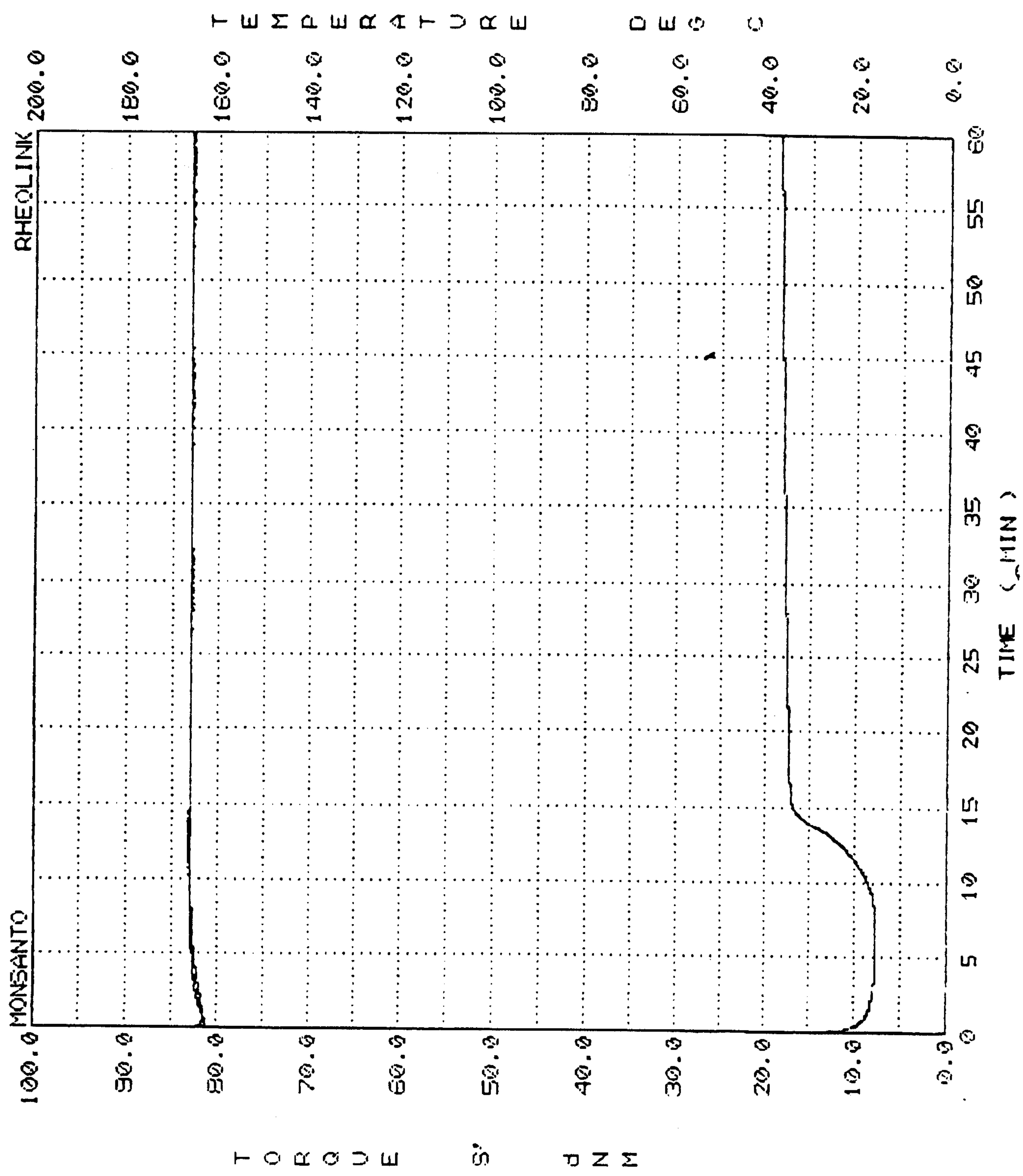


FIG. 3

**FIG. 4**

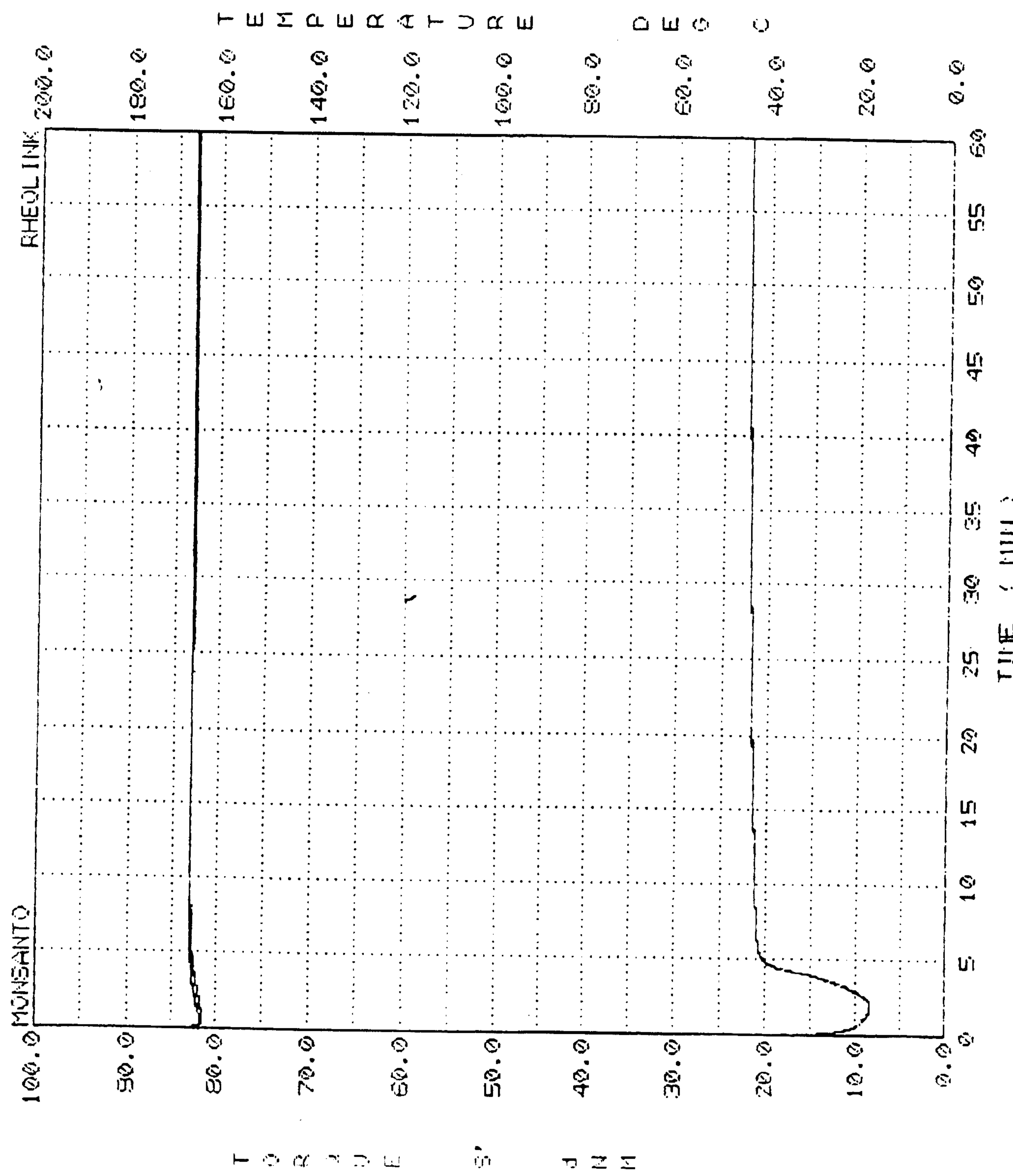
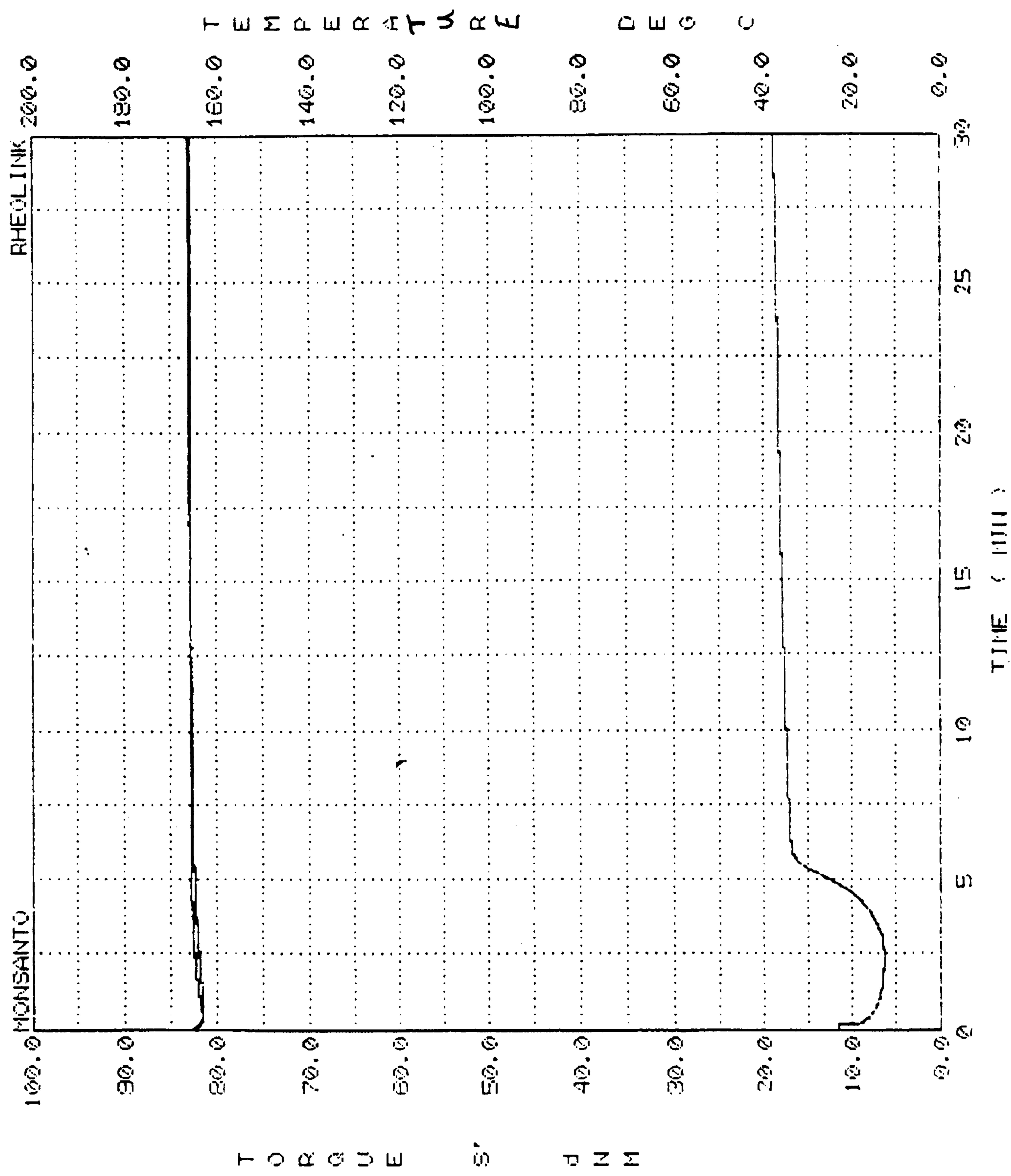
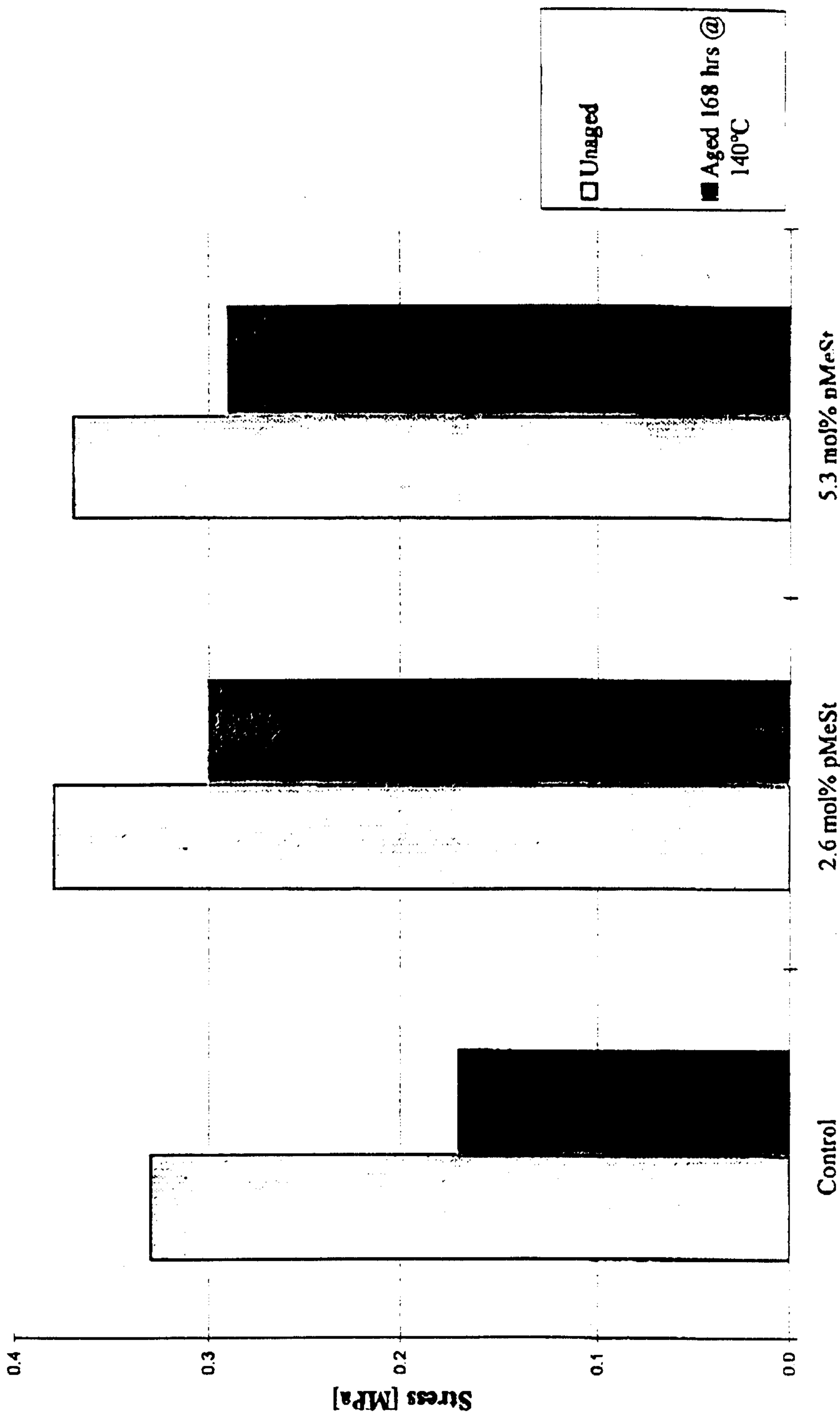
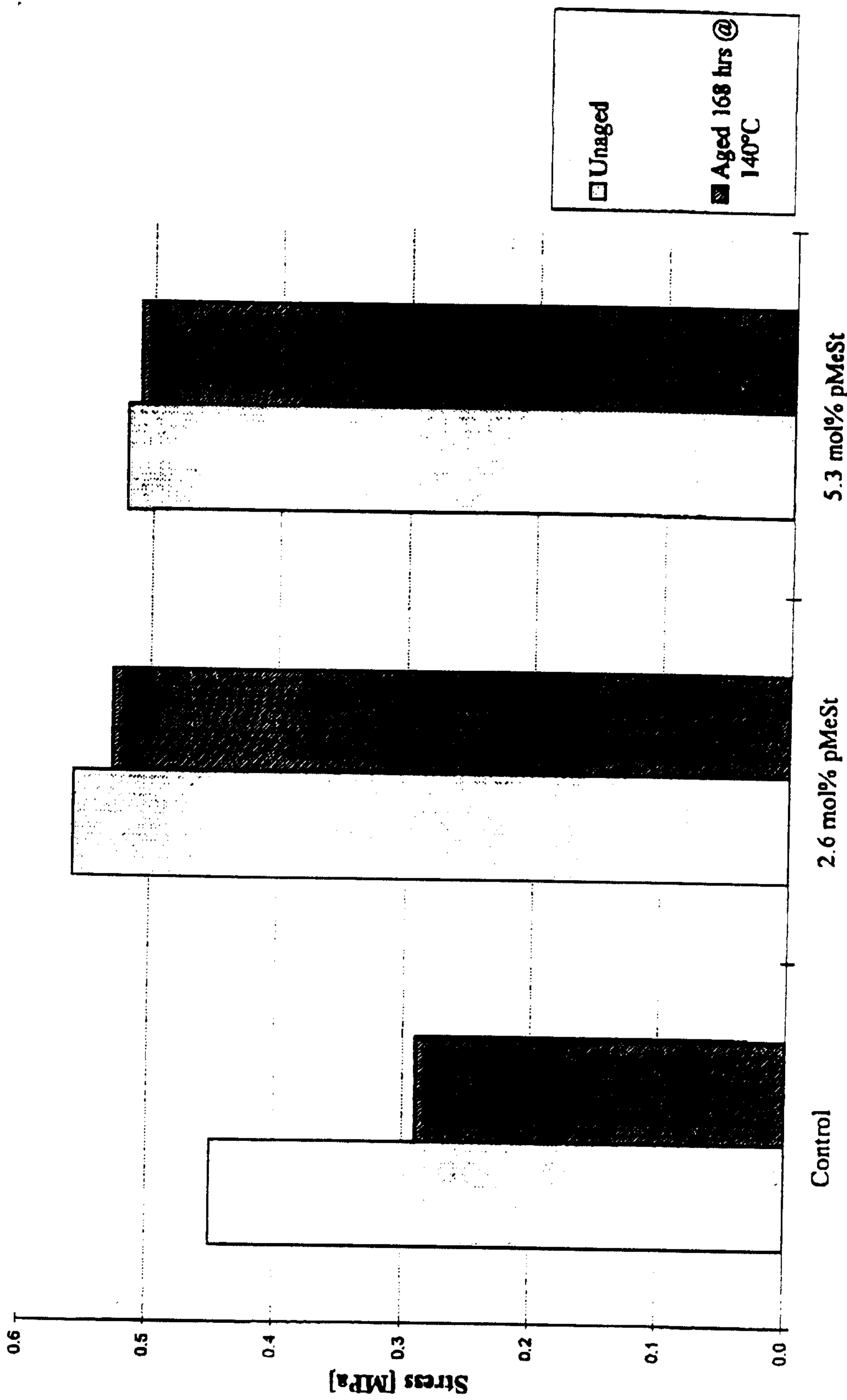


FIG. 5

**FIG. 6**

Hot Air Aging of Brominated IB/TIP/p-MeSt Terpolymer, 100% Modulus**FIG. 7**

Hot Air Aging of Brominated IB/IP/p-MeSt Terpolymer, 300% Modulus**FIG. 8**

GPC Traces of IB/pMeSt/IP Terpolymer

