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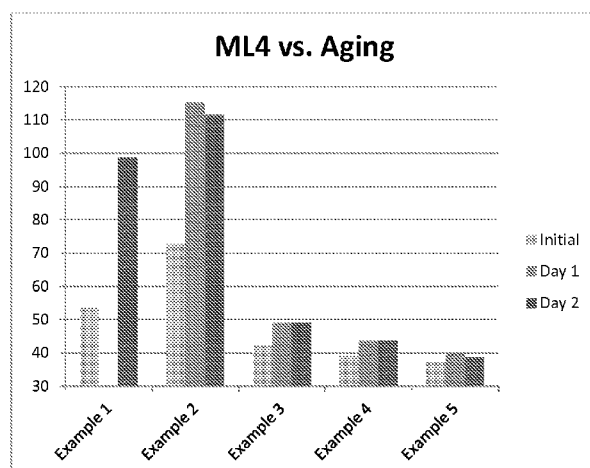
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(54) Title: METHOD OF MAKING POLYMERS, POLYMER COMPOSITIONS AND ARTICLES CONTAINING SUCH POLY-
 MERS

FIG. 1



(57) Abstract: A method of making a polymer with stable Mooney viscosity and molecular weight is described. A conjugated diolefin is reacted in a hydrocarbon solvent in the presence of an initiator to form a polymer. After forming the polymer, alkoxy silane terminal functionalizing groups are bonded to the polymer. A stabilizing agent having the formula $(R)_4Si(OH)_n$ wherein R is a C_1 to C_{18} alkyl, C_1 to C_{18} alkyl group containing a heteroatom such as nitrogen or oxygen, C_4 to C_8 cycloalkyl, or C_6 to C_{18} aromatic group is then added to the polymer, optionally in the presence of hydrocarbon oil. The polymer is then desolvating, resulting in a polymer with stable Mooney viscosity and molecular weight, even over prolonged periods of time. Compositions and articles containing the polymer are also described.



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