

PROCESS FOR MAKING Si-H FUNCTIONAL SILOXANE OLIGOMER

The present invention relates to a method of making Si-H functional siloxane oligomers from the reaction between a silicon hydride compound and a cyclic siloxane oligomer in the presence of a Lewis acid that is capable of interacting with the hydrogen of the silicon hydride to promote a ring opening of the cyclic siloxane oligomer thereby facilitating the insertion of a siloxane oligomer segment between Si and H atoms to form the Si-H functional siloxane oligomers.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Si-H functional siloxane oligomers are an important class of siloxane intermediates that have a broad range of industrial applications including, but not limited to, precursors for preparation of organofunctional siloxane oligomers, chain extenders and crosslinkers. Oligomers are generally a short chain polymer molecule consisting of only a small plurality of monomer units, e.g., dimer, trimer, and even dodecamer. Typical processes to make such Si-H functional siloxane oligomers include cohydrolysis of chlorosilanes, heterocondensation of organofunctional silanes, cationic polymerization of cyclosiloxanes in the presence of tetramethyldisiloxane as a chain stopper or by end-capping of silanol stopped oligosiloxanes with dimethylchlorosilane. Such current processes to make Si-H functional siloxane oligomers produce siloxane oligomers with high polydispersity. To date it has been difficult to prepare mono-Si-H functional or telechelic Si-H functional siloxane oligomers or siloxane oligomers with narrow polydispersity.

One process to produce Si-H functional siloxane oligomers with narrow polydispersity is an anionic ring opening polymerization of hexamethylcyclotrisiloxanes and subsequent quenching of lithium silanolate with chlorodimethylsilane. However, this process is very difficult to conduct at an industrial scale.

In spite of the foregoing developments, there is a continuing search for new reaction for preparing Si-H functional siloxane oligomers that will improve reaction's polydispersity.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a method of making a Si-H functional siloxane oligomers from the reaction between silicon hydride compounds and cyclic siloxane oligomer in the presence of a Lewis acid capable of interacting with the hydrogen of the silicon hydride and having the ability to promote the ring opening of the cyclic siloxane oligomer and its insertion between Si and H atoms to thereby form the Si-H functional siloxane oligomer.

Thus, the present invention provides for a process for making Si-H functional siloxane oligomer by a telomerization reaction. The telomerization reaction method includes providing: (a) a silicon hydride or Si-H functional siloxane, (b) a cyclic siloxane oligomer, and (c) a Lewis acid. The Lewis acid is capable of interacting with the H of the silicon hydride to promote the ring opening of the cyclic siloxane oligomer thereby facilitating the insertion of a siloxane oligomer segment between Si and H atoms to form the Si-H functional siloxane oligomer. The siloxane oligomer segment is generally a short chain polymer molecule including a small plurality of monomer units, e.g., dimer, trimer, tetramer, and even up to dodecamer.

Further, the processes for making the Si-H functional siloxane oligomers of the present invention may be used in or to provide for the production of compositions such as, for example, siloxane foams, siloxane coating, hyperbranched silicone polymers, cross-linked siloxane networks and gels as well as other silicone and siloxane molecules exemplified herein.

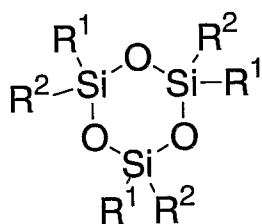
DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention represents the discovery of a new type of reaction for silicon hydride bearing molecules to produce a Si-H functional siloxane oligomer. Generally, the reaction may be characterized as between a silicon hydride moiety with a cyclic siloxane oligomer compound. This reaction may be characterized as a telomerization reaction.

Useful silicon hydride compounds for the present invention include but are not limited to trialkylsilanes, dialkylarylsilanes, alkyl diarylsilanes, triarylsilanes, dialkylsilanes, alkylarylsilanes, diarylsilanes, alkylsilanes, arylsilanes, and mixtures thereof, such as, for example, trimethylsilane (Me_3SiH), triethylsilane (Et_3SiH), diphenylmethylsilane (Ph_2MeSiH), phenyldimethylsilane (PhMe_2SiH), dimethylsilane (Me_2SiH_2), diethylsilane (Et_2SiH_2), diphenylsilane (Ph_2SiH_2), methylsilane (MeSiH_3), phenylsilane (PhSiH_3) and mixtures thereof. Useful siloxanes for the present invention include but are not limited to linear and/or branched alkylpolysiloxanes, arylpolysiloxanes, alkylarylpolysiloxanes, and mixtures thereof, such as, for example, 1,1,3,3-tetramethyldisiloxane ($\text{HSiMe}_2\text{OSiMe}_2\text{H}$), 1,1,3,3-tetraphenyldisiloxane ($\text{HSiPh}_2\text{OSiPh}_2\text{H}$), 1,1,5,5-tetramethyl-3,3-diphenyl-trisiloxane ($\text{HSiMe}_2\text{OSiPh}_2\text{OSiMe}_2\text{H}$), pentamethyldisiloxane ($\text{SiMe}_3\text{OSiMe}_2\text{H}$), tris(dimethylsiloxy)methylsilane ($\text{MeSi}(\text{OSiMe}_2\text{H})_3$), tris(dimethylsiloxy)phenylsilane ($\text{PhSi}(\text{OSiMe}_2\text{H})_3$), tetrakis(dimethylsiloxy)silane ($\text{Si}(\text{OSiMe}_2\text{H})_4$) and mixtures thereof.

Examples of cyclic siloxane oligomer compounds include, but are not limited to alkylcyclopolysiloxanes, arylcyclopolysiloxanes, alkylarylpolysiloxanes, and mixtures thereof, such as, for example, hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane, trimethylcyclotrisiloxane, triphenyl-trimethylcyclotrisiloxane, hexaphenylcyclotrisiloxane and trimethyl-tris(trifluoropropyl)cyclotrisiloxane.

Cyclic siloxane oligomers are generally represented as



where R^1 and R^2 may be independently selected from hydrogen or the group of one to twelve carbon atom monovalent hydrocarbon radicals that may or may not be substituted with halogens (halogen being F, Cl, Br and I), e.g., non limiting examples being fluoroalkyl substituted or chloroalkyl substituted.

The above reactions are generally accomplished in the presence of an appropriate catalyst. A useful catalyst for this reaction is a Lewis acid catalyst. For the purposes herein, a "Lewis acid" is any substance that will take up an electron pair to form a covalent bond (i.e., "electron- pair acceptor"). This concept of acidity also includes the "proton donor" concept of the Lowry-Bronsted definition of acids. A typical Lewis acid is boron trifluoride (BF₃) as it contains only six electrons in its outermost electron orbital shell. The ability of any particular Lewis acid to catalyze the new reaction of the present invention will be a function of acid strength, steric hindrance of both the acid and the substrate, chemical stability in the reaction medium and solubility of the Lewis acid and the substrate in the reaction medium. Generally the following Lewis acids: FeCl₃, AlCl₃, ZnCl₂, ZnBr₂, and BF₃ are only sparingly soluble in siloxane solvents and this low solubility tends to interfere with the ability of these particular Lewis acid catalysts to catalyze the desired reaction. Lewis acid catalysts having a greater solubility in siloxane media are more useful and include Lewis acid catalysts of Formula (I)



wherein M is B, Al, Ga, In or Tl; each R³ is independently the same (identical) or different and represent a monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon radical having from 6 to 14 carbon atoms, such monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon radicals may have at least one electron-withdrawing element or group such as, for example, -CF₃, -NO₂ or -CN, or substituted with at least two halogen atoms; X is a halogen atom; x is 1, 2, or 3; and y is 0, 1 or 2; with the proviso that x + y = 3. Particularly useful Lewis acid catalysts include Lewis acid catalysts of Formula (II)



wherein each R³ are independently the same (identical) or different and represent a monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon radical having from 6 to 14 carbon atoms, such monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon radicals preferably having at least one electron-withdrawing element or group such as -CF₃, -NO₂ or -CN, or substituted with at least two halogen atoms; X is a halogen atom; x is 1, 2, or 3; and y is 0, 1 or 2; with the

proviso that $x + y = 3$. To the end, applicants have been found that $B(C_6F_5)_3$ is suitable catalyst.

The process of the present invention utilizes a Lewis acid catalyst concentration that ranges from about 1 part per million by weight (wppm) to about 10 weight percent (based on the total weight of siloxanes being reacted and the equals 100,000 wppm). Thus, one suitable Lewis acid catalyst concentration range is from about 10 part per million by weight (wppm) to about 5 weight percent (50,000 wppm). Another suitable Lewis acid catalyst concentration range is from about 50 wppm to about 10,000 wppm. Yet another suitable Lewis acid catalyst concentration range is from about 50 wppm to about 5,000 wppm.

The telomerization reaction can be done without solvent or in the presence of solvents. The presence of solvents may be beneficial due to an increased ability to control viscosity, rate of the reaction and exothermicity of the process. Suitable solvents include aliphatic hydrocarbons, aromatic hydrocarbons, halogenated hydrocarbons, as well as oligomeric diorganosiloxanes such as hexamethyldisiloxane and octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane.

The telomerization reaction between the ($\equiv Si-H$) moiety and the cyclic siloxane moiety can be conducted at an ambient or at an elevated temperature depending on the chemical structures of reagents and catalysts, concentration of catalyst and used solvent.

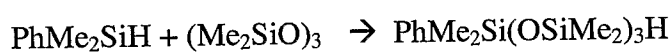
This telomerization reaction is generally accomplished in the presence of a Lewis acid catalyst, such as those described herein. Applicants have been found that $B(C_6F_5)_3$ is suitable catalyst. This process may occur at room temperature or at elevated temperatures. The catalyst concentration is as described previously.

The Si-H functional siloxane oligomer produced according to the method or process of this invention are useful intermediates in the field of siloxane elastomers, siloxane coatings, insulating materials and cosmetic products.

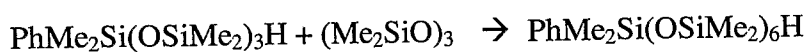
It is to be noted that silicon is a tetravalent element and for purposes of descriptive convenience herein, not all four bonds of the silicon atom have been described in some of the abbreviated chemical reaction scenarios used to explain the reaction chemistry involved in the formation of non-hydrolytic silicon oxygen bonds. Where silicon is hypovalent or hypervalent in terms of its customary stereochemistry, the full structure has been indicated.

The following is a general description of the telomerization of the reactant products of the present invention. The reaction between hydrosilanes and hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane proceeds as a complex telomerization process. Reaction of Et_3SiH proceeds slowly and eventually leads to many products because the first telomer is formed slowly and consecutive reactions of the first telomer dominates the pattern of the process.

In the case of more reactive PhMe_2SiH the reaction with hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane leads to a formation of relatively high concentration of the first telomer



The first telomer may further react with hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane giving a second telomer



EXPERIMENTAL

Experimental Procedure: Reactions of the following examples were performed in a glass 10 ml reactor equipped with magnetic stirrer and a three-way glass stopcock connected to a nitrogen gas circulating system fitted with bubbler. The reactor was thermostated on a silicone oil bath. The reactor was purged with nitrogen and known amounts of substrates and gas chromatographic standard were introduced by means of tight precision Hamilton syringes using the three-way stopcock through which nitrogen was flowing. The zero sample was withdrawn by a Hamilton syringe and known amount of the solution of $\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$ in toluene was introduced to reaction mixture. Samples were withdrawn at time interval and introduced to Eppendorfer

vessels containing 4-ethylpyridine used for the quenching of the reaction. Time of the introduction of the sample to the amine was considered as the time of reaction. The chemical composition of the reaction mixture was established by gas chromatography analysis.

Example 1. Reaction of hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane (D_3) with $PhMe_2SiH$. This reaction was carried out in substantially accordance with the Experimental Procedure described above. 1.60g of D_3 was sublimed on a high vacuum line into the reactor to which 2.93g of $PhMe_2SiH$ reagent. 0.0517 of toluene solution containing 1.01×10^{-4} mol of $B(C_6F_5)_3$ catalyst such that $[B(C_6F_5)_3]$ was 1.87×10^{-2} molkg $^{-1}$ solution was introduced by means of a precision Hamilton syringe. Temperature of the reaction was 24.2°C. Results are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 - Results of Example 1

	Time (s)	D_3 Rel Int	D_3 % conv	$PhMe_2SiH$ Rel Int	$PhMe_2SiH$ % conv	1 st Telomer $PhMe_2Si(OSi)_3H$ Rel Int
1	0	3.21	0	6.92	0	0
2	20	3.12	3	6.36	8	0.064
3	90	2.78	13.5	6.15	11	0.140
4	210	2.36	26.5	6.12	11.5	0.38
5	360	1.83	43	5.72	17.5	0.64
6	640	1.18	63	5.11	26	0.92
7	1200	0.451	86	4.29	38	0.84
8	2400	0.180	94.5	3.56	48.5	0.62
9	5000	0.045	98.6	3.49	49.0	0.397
10	22700	minor	>99.5	3.53	49.5	0.333
11	29500	minor	>99.5	3.14	55	0.315

Example 2. Reaction of hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane (D_3) with $PhMe_2SiH$. This reaction was carried out in substantially accordance with the Experimental Procedure described above. 1.19g of D_3 was sublimed on a high vacuum line into the reactor to

which 0.796g of PhMe_2SiH reagent and $2.42 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$ of $\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$ catalyst were added. Temperature of the reaction was 25°C . The reaction was monitored by GC and the results are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 – Results of Example 2

	Time (s)	D_3 Rel Int	D_3 % conv	PhMe_2SiH Rel Int	PhMe_2SiH % conv	1 st Telomer $\text{PhMe}_2\text{Si}(\text{OSi})_3\text{H}$ Rel Int	2nd Telomer $\text{PhMe}_2\text{Si}(\text{OSi})_6\text{H}$ Rel Int
1	0	3.08	0	2.53	0	0	0
2	29	2.86	7.1	2.13	15.9	0.041	0
3	110	2.67	13.4	2.02	20	0.111	0
4	200	2.44	20.6	1.96	22.4	0.204	0
5	320	2.33	24.4	1.72	32.1	0.345	0
6	540	1.98	35.8	1.53	39.5	0.501	minor
7	1200	1.24	59.7	1.03	59.4	0.661	0.092
8	2400	0.565	81.7	0.653	74.3	0.540	0.149
9	3600	0.235	92.4	0.522	79.4	0.312	0.164
10	6700	0.046	98.5	0.498	80.3	0.099	0.078
11	10800	0.045	98.5	0.496	80.4	0.100	0.079
12	22500	0.032	99.0	0.395	84.4	0.059	0.047

Example 3. Reaction of hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane (D_3) with 1,1,3,3-tetramethyldisiloxane ($^{\text{H}}\text{MM}^{\text{H}}$) The reaction of D_3 with $^{\text{H}}\text{MM}^{\text{H}}$ was performed in concentrated toluene solution using equimolar ratio of substrates and using an excess of D_3 . Amounts of the specific ingredients are set forth in Table 3 for Examples 3a and 3b. The reaction was carried out in room temperature under nitrogen in a 10 ml thermostated reactor equipped with magnetic stirrer and a three way glass stopcock connected to a nitrogen gas circulating system fitted with bubbler. An amount of D_3 was sublimed on a high vacuum line into the reactor which was then filled with nitrogen gas and an amount of $^{\text{H}}\text{MM}^{\text{H}}$, of ABCR(97%) purified by keeping

over fresh CaH_2 , dodecane and prepurified toluene were placed in the reactor by means of Hamilton syringes under positive pressure of nitrogen. An amount of the stock solution of the catalyst, $\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$, in toluene was introduced by a precision Hamilton syringe. The time of the catalyst introduction was considered as the zero time of the reaction. Samples were withdrawn by means of Hamilton syringe and analyzed by gas chromatography (GC). Results for Examples 3a and 3b are found in Tables 4 and 5.

Table 3 – Reactants composition for Examples 3a and 3b.

Example	D_3	$^{\text{H}}\text{MM}^{\text{H}}$	$\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{26}$	Toluene	$\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$
3a	2.92g 1.67 mol kg^{-1}	1.73g 1.64 mol kg^{-1}	0.17g 1.27 mol kg^{-1}	3.03g	$1.27 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$
3b	1.884g $1.904 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$	0.389g $0.651 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$	0.221g $0.292 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$	1.73g	$9.67 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$

Table 4 – Results of Example 3a.

	Time (s)	$[\text{D}_3]$ mol kg^{-1}	$[\text{MM}^{\text{H}}]$ mol kg^{-1}	$^{\text{H}}\text{MDM}^{\text{H}}$	$^{\text{H}}\text{MD}_2\text{M}^{\text{H}}$	$^{\text{H}}\text{MD}_3\text{M}^{\text{H}}$	cyclics
1	0	1.635	1.668	-	-	-	-
2	26	0.678	1.454	0.375	0.197	0.1086	0.0147
3	52	0.412	-	0.435	0.241	0.1511	0.0243
4	102	0.241	1.319	0.518	0.292	0.190	0.0312
5	156	0.1285	1.180	0.515	0.304	0.199	0.0362
6	232	0.1073	-	0.507	0.309	0.2021	0.0667
7	317	0.0725	1.104	0.405	0.268	0.1907	0.0927
8	539	0.0527	0.983	0.387	0.2775	0.1611	0.1148
9	800	0.0413	0.925	0.345	0.2626	0.1548	0.0156
10	1130	0.0447	0.899	0.328	0.2624	0.1310	0.188
11	3560	0.0281	0.497	0.1374	0.1964	0.0271	0.250
12	6200	0.0053	0.245	0.0053	0.1277	0.0105	0.276
13	84000	-	-	0.0006	0.0241	-	-

Table 5 – Results of Example 3b.

	Time (s)	[^H MM ^H] molkg ⁻¹	[D ₃] molkg ⁻¹	^H MDM ^H	^H MD ₂ M ^H	^H MD ₃ M ^H	^H MD ₄ M ^H	^H MD ₅ M ^H	^H MD ₆ M ^H
1	0	0.651	1.904	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	21	0.335	1.742	0.0494	0.0406	0.0415	0.0074	-	-
3	77	0.144	1.612	0.1188	0.0806	0.1112	0.0107	-	-
4	160	0.0629	1.547	0.1235	0.0895	0.1327	0.0160	0.0056	0.0042
5	265	0.0288	1.561	0.1365	0.1081	0.1421	0.0222	0.0093	0.0072
6	372	0.0226	1.413	0.107	0.0964	0.1246	0.0246	0.0120	0.0096
7	487	0.0150	1.369	0.1028	0.1031	0.1144	0.0281	0.0154	0.0121
8	782	0.0119	1.358	0.0949	0.1074	0.0848	0.0332	0.0222	0.0161
9	1105	0.0099	1.252	0.0781	0.1028	0.0590	0.0384	0.0301	0.0185
10	2130	-	1.355	0.0825	0.1276	0.0170	0.0504	0.0502	0.0204
11	50000	-	1.252	0.0781	0.1028	0.059	0.0284	0.0301	0.0185

Comparative Example 4. Reaction of octamethylcyclotrisiloxane (D₄) with PhMe₂SiH. This reaction was carried out substantially in accordance with the Experimental Procedure described above. 2.87g of D₄ and 1.31g of PhMe₂SiH were added by means of Hamilton syringes under positive pressure of nitrogen into the reactor. Subsequently, 0.0556g (2.17x10⁻² molkg⁻¹) of B(C₆F₅)₃ catalyst was added. Temperature of the reaction was 25°C. The reaction was monitored by GC. The conversions of Si-H and D₄ as well as the formation of the expected siloxane oligomers were not observed even after 20hrs.

The foregoing examples and description are merely illustrative of the invention, serving to illustrate only some of the features of the present invention. The appended claims are intended to claim the invention as broadly as it has been conceived and the examples herein presented are illustrative of selected embodiments from a manifold of all possible embodiments. Accordingly it is Applicants' intention that the appended claims are not to be limited by the choice of examples utilized to illustrate features of the present invention. As used in the claims, the word "comprises" and its

grammatical variants logically also subtend and include phrases of varying and differing extent such as for example, but not limited thereto, "consisting essentially of" and "consisting of." Where necessary, ranges have been supplied, those ranges are inclusive of all sub-ranges there between. It is to be expected that variations in these ranges will suggest themselves to a practitioner having ordinary skill in the art and where not already dedicated to the public, those variations should where possible be construed to be covered by the appended claims. It is also anticipated that advances in science and technology will make equivalents and substitutions possible that are not now contemplated by reason of the imprecision of language and these variations should also be construed where possible to be covered by the appended claims. All United States patents referenced herein, if any, are herewith and hereby specifically incorporated by reference.

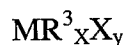
CLAIMS:

Having described the invention, that which is claimed is:

A process for making a Si-H functional siloxane oligomer, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a silicon hydride or Si-H functional siloxane;
- b) providing a cyclic siloxane oligomer; and
- c) providing a Lewis acid that is capable of interacting with the hydrogen of the silicon hydride to promote the ring opening of the cyclic siloxane oligomer thereby facilitating the insertion of polysiloxane segment between Si and H atoms to form the Si-H functional siloxane oligomer.

2. The process of claim 1 wherein the Lewis acid catalyst comprises a compound of the formula:



wherein M is selected from the group consisting of B, Al, Ga, In and Tl; each R^3 is independently selected from the group of monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon radicals having from 6 to 14 carbon atoms; X is a halogen atom selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, Br, and I; x is 1, 2, or 3; and y is 0, 1 or 2; subject to the requirement that $x + y = 3$.

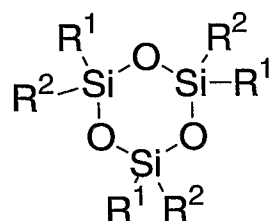
3. The process of claim 2 where M is boron.

4. The process claim 2 wherein each R^3 is C_6F_5 and $x = 3$.

5. The process of claim 1 wherein the Lewis acid catalyst is tri(pentafluorophenyl)boron.

6. The process of claim 1 wherein the concentration of the Lewis acid catalyst ranges from about 10 wppm to about 50,000 wppm.

7. The process of claim 1 wherein said cyclic siloxane oligomer has the formula

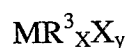


wherein R^1 and R^2 may be independently selected from hydrogen, a group of one to twelve carbon atom monovalent hydrocarbon radicals, a group of one to twelve carbon atom monovalent hydrocarbon radicals substituted with one or more halogens, and combinations thereof.

8. The process of claim 1 wherein said cyclic siloxane oligomer is selected from the group of cyclic trisiloxane oligomers.
9. The process of claim 1 wherein said cyclic siloxane oligomer is selected from the group consisting of hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane, triphenyltrimethylcyclotrisiloxane and trimethyl-tris(trifluoropropyl)cyclotrisiloxane, hexaphenylcyclotrisiloxane.
10. The process of claim 1 wherein said polysiloxane segment is a trisiloxane segment
11. The process of claim 7 wherein said polysiloxane segment is a trisiloxane segment.
12. The process of claim 1 wherein said process is activated by heat.
13. Si-H functional siloxane oligomer prepared by the method of claim 1.
14. Si-H functional siloxane oligomer prepared by the method of claim 4.
15. A method for making a Si-H functional siloxane oligomer by a telomerization reaction, the telomerization reaction method comprising the steps of:
- a) providing a silicon hydride or Si-H functional siloxane;

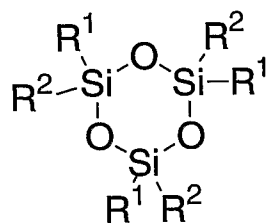
- b) providing a cyclic siloxane oligomer;
- c) providing a Lewis acid that is capable of interacting with the H of the silicon hydride to promote the ring opening of the cyclic siloxane oligomer thereby facilitating the insertion of polysiloxane segment between Si and H atom to thereby form the Si-H functional siloxane first telomer.
- d) reacting the first Si-H functional telomer of step a) with the cyclic siloxane oligomer of step b).

16. The process of claim 15 wherein the Lewis acid catalyst comprises a compound of the formula:



wherein M is selected from the group consisting of B, Al, Ga, In and Tl; each R^3 is independently selected from the group of monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon radicals having from 6 to 14 carbon atoms; X is a halogen atom selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, Br, and I; x is 1, 2, or 3; and y is 0, 1 or 2; subject to the requirement that $x + y = 3$.

- 17. The process of claim 16 where M is boron.
- 18. The process claim 16 wherein each R^3 is C_6F_5 and $x = 3$.
- 19. The process of claim 15 wherein the Lewis acid catalyst is tri(pentafluorophenyl)boron.
- 20. The process of claim 15 wherein the concentration of the Lewis acid catalyst ranges from about 10 wppm to about 50,000 wppm.
- 21. The process of claim 15 wherein said cyclic siloxane oligomer has the formula



wherein R¹ and R² may be independently selected from hydrogen, a group of one to twelve carbon atom monovalent hydrocarbon radicals, a group of one to twelve carbon atom monovalent hydrocarbon radicals substituted with one or more halogens, and combinations thereof.

22. The process of claim 15 wherein said cyclic siloxane oligomer is selected from the group of cyclic trisiloxane oligomers.

23. The process of claim 15 wherein said cyclic siloxane oligomer is selected from the group consisting of hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane, triphenyltrimethylcyclotrisiloxane and trimethyl-tris(trifluoropropyl)cyclotrisiloxane.

24. The process of claim 15 wherein said polysiloxane segment is a trisiloxane segment

25. The process of claim 21 wherein said polysiloxane segment is a trisiloxane segment

26. The process of claim 15 wherein said process is activated by heat.

27. A Si-H functional siloxane oligomer prepared by the method of claim 15.

28. A Si-H functional siloxane oligomer prepared by the method of claim 18.

29. A Si-H functional siloxane oligomer prepared by the method of claim 21.

30. Any one of an intermediate for a siloxane elastomers, a siloxane elastomers, an intermediate for an insulating material, an insulating material, an intermediate for a cosmetic product, a cosmetic product, siloxane foam, a siloxane coating, a hyperbranched silicone polymer, across-linked siloxane network, and a gel prepared by using the Si-H functional siloxane oligomer prepared by the method of claim 1.

31. Any one of an intermediate for a siloxane elastomers, a siloxane elastomers, an intermediate for an insulating material, an insulating material, an intermediate for a cosmetic product, a cosmetic product, a siloxane foam, a siloxane coating, a hyperbranched silicone polymer, across-linked siloxane network, and a gel prepared by using the Si-H functional siloxane oligomer prepared by the method of claim 4.

32. Any one of an intermediate for a siloxane elastomers, a siloxane elastomers, an intermediate for an insulating material, an insulating material, an intermediate for a cosmetic product, a cosmetic product, a siloxane foam, a siloxane coating, a hyperbranched silicone polymer, across-linked siloxane network, and a gel prepared by using the Si-H functional siloxane oligomer prepared by the method of claim 15.

33. Any one of an intermediate for a siloxane elastomers, a siloxane elastomers, an intermediate for an insulating material, an insulating material, an intermediate for a cosmetic product, a cosmetic product, a siloxane foam, a siloxane coating, a hyperbranched silicone polymer, across-linked siloxane network, and a gel prepared by using the Si-H functional siloxane oligomer prepared by the method of claim 18.

34. Any one of an intermediate for a siloxane elastomers, a siloxane elastomers, an intermediate for an insulating material, an insulating material, an intermediate for a cosmetic product, a cosmetic product, a siloxane foam, a siloxane coating, a hyperbranched silicone polymer, across-linked siloxane network, and a gel prepared by using the Si-H functional siloxane oligomer prepared by the method of claim 21.