

Description

This invention relates to thermoplastic polyimide, poly(esterimide) and polyamide acid compositions, and preparation thereof.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Many attempts have been made to modify the properties of polyimides or polyimide-containing compositions by incorporating various aromatic moieties in their molecular structure to provide improved processing characteristics and thermal stability. These polymers, however, have generally not been completely satisfactory in that they do not readily lend themselves to preparation or processing by hot melt procedures, are deficient in thermal stability or may lack other useful characteristics such as good adhesion or solvent resistance.

The preparation of polyimides which are stable at high temperatures is known. Thermally stable polyimides have been prepared by reacting various aromatic tetracarboxylic acids or their derivatives, such as dianhydrides, with aromatic diprimary amines to form polyamide-acids which are soluble in dipolar aprotic organic solvents. The polyamide-acids are then cyclized either by heat treatment or by chemical means to form the polyimides. Such polyimides, however, generally are intractable and infusible as well as being insoluble in most solvents making them difficult, if not impossible, to fabricate into molded parts. Moreover, when a polyamide-acid prepolymer solution is prepared and then heat cured in situ to the polyimide, the temperature required may be too high for the substrate coated and appreciable amounts of water are uncontrollably released in addition to evaporation of the solvent. This raises other limitations as to the type of uses for such materials.

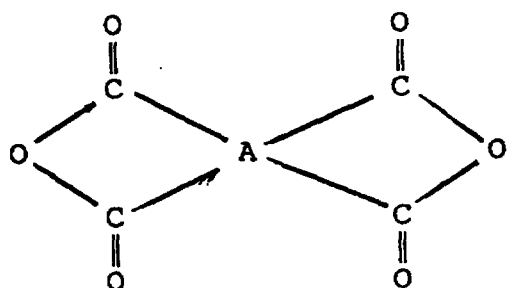
In recent years, various aromatic and heterocyclic materials have been investigated in attempts to obtain thermally stable polyimides that could be more readily prepared and fabricated. It is disclosed, for example, in U.S. Patents Nos. 3,699,075 and 3,812,159 to Lubowitz, U.S. Patent No. 3,847,867 to Heath et al and U.S. Patent No. 3,879,428 to Heath that aromatic diether polycarboxylic acids and anhydrides thereof could be reacted with aromatic diamines to prepare thermally stable, high molecular weight polyimides which are soluble in organic solvents and fusible. Such polyimides are suggested as being suitable for use in preparing coatings, adhesives, films and the like or for fabrication into useful parts by conventional molding equipment. However, known polyimides prepared in this manner appear to exhibit certain deficiencies such as low Tg, inadequate adhesion to many substrates, and generally poor solvent resistance.

It has also been suggested, for example, in U.S. Patents Nos. 4,017,459; 4,064,289; 4,239,880; and 4,405,770 that aromatic diether diamines can be reacted with tetracarboxylic acid and its derivative to prepare soluble poly(amide-imides) or polyimides which may also be melt processible. Further, in U.S. Patent No. 3,563,951 it is suggested that thermally stable polyimides which are fusible and soluble can be prepared by reacting high molecular weight diamine capped aromatic polyether oligomers with non-diether containing aromatic tetracarboxylic acid or an anhydride derivative thereof. The uncertainty of being able to prepare soluble and melt processible polyimide and poly(amide-imide) polymers from such aromatic diamines is shown by other researchers where, for example, in a paper by George L. Brode et al., published in Journal of Polymer Science, Vol. 12, pp. 575-587 (1974) it is reported that polymers prepared with aromatic diether diamines containing a sulfonyl linkage were more melt processible than polymers having a propane linkage and in a paper published in Makomolecular Science, Vol. 1, pp. 667-670 (1980) it is reported that the reaction of 2,2-bis[4-(p-aminophenoxy)phenyl]propane with pyromellitic dianhydride and 4,4'-carbonyldi(phthalic anhydride) resulted in the preparation of insoluble polyimides.

US-A-4444979 describes polyphenylene ethers with imide linking units, and incorporating oxygen and/or sulphur and/or sulphone linking units between aromatic rings in the molecular backbone. Thermoplastic and/or hot-melt flow properties are asserted. -CH₂- is also mentioned as a possible spacer group for aromatic rings.

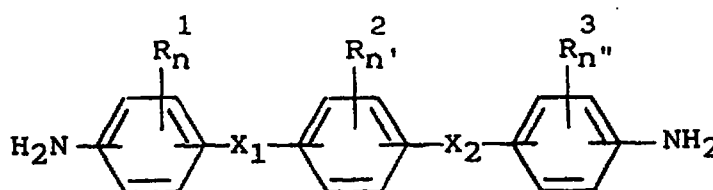
One aspect of the present invention provides a thermoplastic polyimide, poly(esterimide) or polyamide acid composition which contains at least 10mol% of the reaction product of

(a) aromatic or aliphatic tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride



and

(b) aromatic diamine of the formula

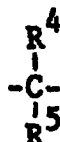


in which

R^1 , R^2 and R^3 are (independently) hydrogen, halogen or hydrocarbyl and n , n' and n'' are (independently) integers of 1 to 4, and

X_1 and X_2 are (independently) branched or cyclic alkylene, or linear, branched or cyclic alkenylene, of up to 30 carbon atoms.

Preferably X_1 and X_2 each is a divalent group of the formula



wherein

R^4 and R^5 is hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl having up to 12 carbon atoms, substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl having 2 to 12 carbon atoms, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl of 4 to 12 carbon atoms, substituted or unsubstituted carbocyclic aromatic or heterocyclic aromatic having 5 to 24 carbon atoms or mixtures thereof with the proviso that R^4 and R^5 may not both concurrently be hydrogen;

n , n' and n'' each independently is an integer of 1 to 4;

R^4 and R^5 each independently can be unsubstituted or substituted. When substituted, such substituents can be Br, Cl, I, F, alkoxy of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, alkyl of 1 to 8 carbon atoms.

In a preferred embodiment, R^4 and R^5 each independently is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, substituted alkenyl of 2 to 8 carbon atoms, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl of 4 to 8 carbon atoms or mixtures thereof.

Exemplary of suitable diamino compounds of formula (a) are

α,α' -(4,4'-diamino-diphenyl)-p-diisopropyl benzene;

3-(m-aminophenylthio) -(p-aminophenyl)cumene;

4-(p-aminophenoxy) -p-aminophenyl)cumene;

α,α' -(4,4'-di-N-methylamino-diphenyl)-p-diisopropyl benzene;

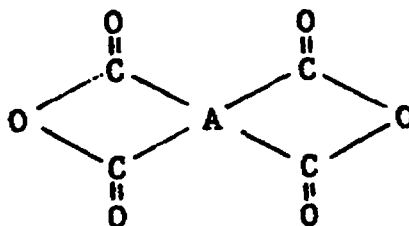
α,α' -(4,4'-diamino-diphenyl)-p-disecbutyl benzene;

α,α' -(4,4'-diamino-diphenyl)-m-diisopropyl benzene;

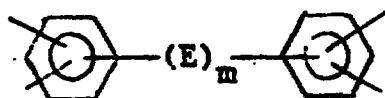
α,α' -bis(2-amino-5-methylphenyl)-p-diisopropyl benzene.

α,α' -(4,4'-diamino-diphenyl)-p-diisopropyl benzene;

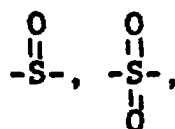
The dianhydrides useful for reaction with the aromatic diamines of formula (b) described hereinabove may be represented by the formula



wherein A is a tetravalent radical derived from substituted or unsubstituted aromatic or aliphatic dianhydrides. Thus, A can be a substituted or unsubstituted tetravalent group of formula



where m is 0 or 1 and E is -O-, -S-, -S-S-,



where R is a substituted or unsubstituted, linear or branched, alkylene or arylene of 1 to 30 carbon atoms,



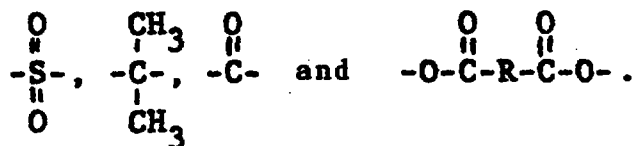
substituted or unsubstituted linear, branched or cyclic alkylene of 1 to 30 carbon atoms, or alkenylene of 2 to 30 carbon atoms.

Alternatively, A may be, for example, a substituted or unsubstituted benzene or naphthalene nucleus, an aliphatic radical such as cyclopentane, cyclohexane or butane.

Substituents on A may be one or more groups that do not interfere with the use of such dianhydrides in preparing the polymers of the invention.

Exemplary of radicals included in A are -O-, -S-,



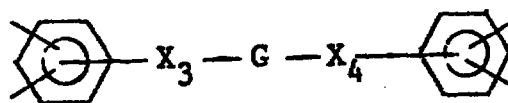


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Specific dianhydrides are, for example:

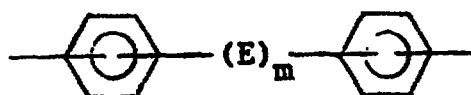
- 3,3',4,4'-benzophenone tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 2,2',3,3'-benzophenone tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 10 3,3',4,4'-diphenyl tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 2,2',3,3'-diphenyl tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 2,2-bis-(3,4-dicarboxyphenyl)propane dianhydride,
 2,2-bis-(2,3-dicarboxyphenyl)propane dianhydride,
 2,2'-bis(trimellitic oxyphenyl)propane dianhydride
 15 bis-(3,4-dicarboxyphenyl)ether dianhydride,
 bis-(3,4-dicarboxyphenyl)sulfone dianhydride,
 bis-(3,4-dicarboxyphenyl)sulfide dianhydride,
 1,1-bis-(2,3-dicarboxyphenyl)ethane dianhydride,
 1,1-bis-(3,4-dicarboxyphenyl)ethane dianhydride,
 20 bis-(2,3-dicarboxyphenyl)methane dianhydride,
 bis-(3,4-dicarboxyphenyl)methane dianhydride,
 2,3,6,7-naphthalene tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 1,2,4,5-naphthalene tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 1,2,5,6-naphthalene tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 25 benzene-1,2,4,5-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 benzene-1,2,3,4-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 perylene-3,4,9,10-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 pyrazine-2,3,5,6-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 thiophene-2,3,4,5-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 30 naphthalene-1,4,5,8-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 decahydronaphthalene-1,4,5,8-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 4,8-dimethyl-1,2,3,5,6,7-hexahydronaphthalene-1,2,5,6-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 2,6-dichloronaphthalene-1,4,5,8-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 2,7-dichloronaphthalene-1,4,5,8-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 35 2,3,6,7-tetrachloronaphthalene-1,4,5,8-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 phenanthrene-1,8,9,10-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 cyclopentane-1,2,3,4-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 pyrrolidine-2,3,4,5-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 pyrazine-2,3,5,6-tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 40 1,2,3,4-butane tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 3,4,3',4'-benzophenone tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 azobenzene tetracarboxylic dianhydride,
 2,3,4,5-tetrahydrofurane dianhydride,
 p-phenylene-bis-(trimellitate) anhydride,
 45 1,2-ethylene-bis-(trimellitate) anhydride,
 2,2-propane-bis-(p-phenylene trimellitate) anhydride,
 4,4'-[p-phenylene-bis-(phenylimino)carbonyl diphthalic] anhydride,
 4,4'-diphenylmethane-bis-(trimellitamide) anhydride and mixtures thereof.
 A can also be the tetravalent residue of formula

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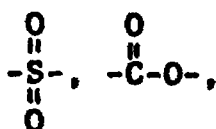
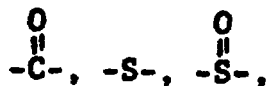


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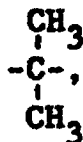
where G is phenylene or a substituted or unsubstituted group of formula



X_3 and X_4 each independently is $-\text{O}-$,

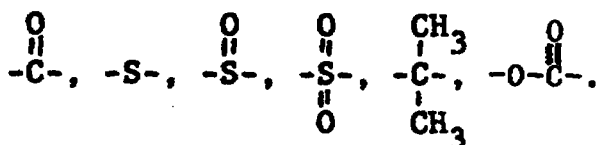


substituted linear or branched alkylene of 1 to 30 carbon atoms, such as



or alkenylene of 2 to 30 carbon atoms.

Exemplary of the radicals which X_3 and X_4 may independently be are $-\text{O}-$,



Similarly, and by analogy, the ether linkage can be replaced by $-\text{COO}-$ to provide useful dianhydrides.

Because of relative availability, some of the preferred species of aromatic dianhydrides are:

benzophenone tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride,

diphenyl tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride,

bis(3,4-dicarboxyphenyl)sulfone dianhydride,

2,2'-bis(trimellitic oxyphenyl)propane dianhydride

2,2-bis(3,4-dicarboxyphenyl)propane dianhydride,

2,2-bis[4,4'-di(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)phenyl]propane dianhydride,

p-bis(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)phenyl dianhydride,

4,4'-bis(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)biphenyl dianhydride,

bis-[4,4'-di(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)phenyl]sulfone dianhydride,

bis[4,4'-di(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)phenyl]sulfide dianhydride.

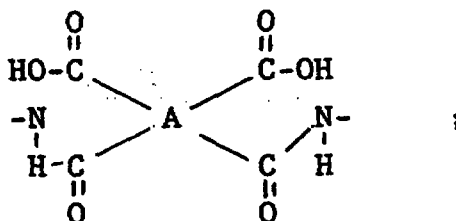
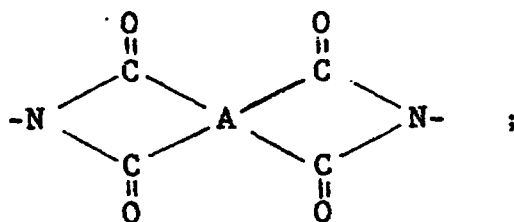
It has been discovered that polymers such as polyimides or poly(esterimides) which contain the reaction product of aromatic or aliphatic dianhydrides and aromatic diamines herein described or mixtures thereof with other diamines display properties that are totally surprising and unexpected. The polyimides of this invention are thermoplastic or hot melt processible and are generally soluble in many chlorinated hydrocarbon, dipolar aprotic, alkyl capped polyethylene glycol (alkyl capped glymes) solvents and mixtures thereof and mixtures of such solvents with various hydrocarbons. These polymers also display tenacious

adhesion to a variety of organic and inorganic substrates and exhibit excellent thermal stability and, thus, can be employed as adhesives, coatings, films, fibers, etc. The polyamide acids are readily suitable for conversion to thermoplastic and soluble polyamides, by heat or chemical cyclization means.

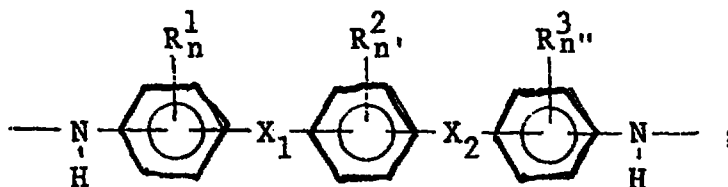
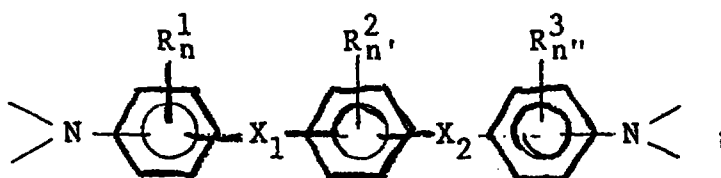
Also provided in a further aspect of the present invention is a method of preparing the composition which comprises reacting a dianhydride of the type described above with an aromatic diamine having the formula described above for the time necessary to prepare the desired polymer.

The polymers can generally be prepared using melt polymerization as well as solution polymerization techniques.

It has been found that polymers which contain at least 10 mole percent of the residue having the formulae

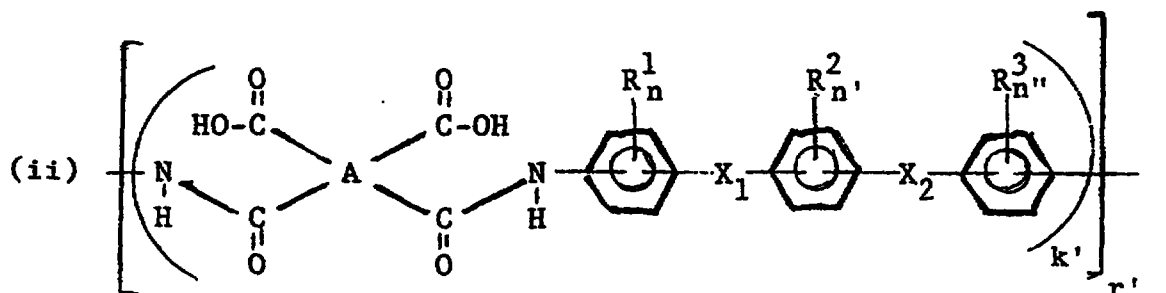
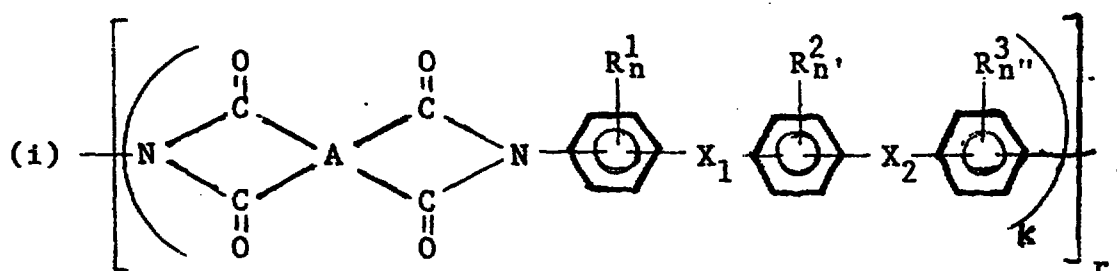


or mixtures thereof, have improved properties if said polymers also contain at least 10 mole percent of a residue of the formulae



or mixtures thereof; as defined above.

Polymers of this invention are generally composed of recurring units having the formulae



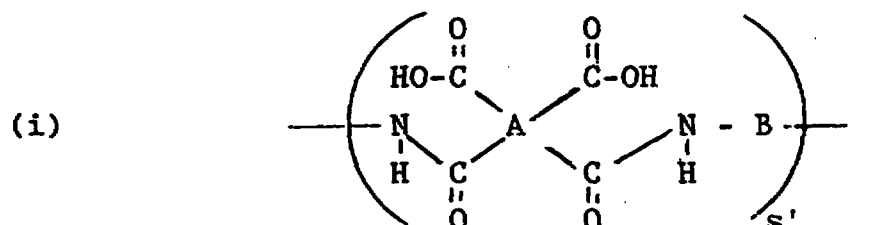
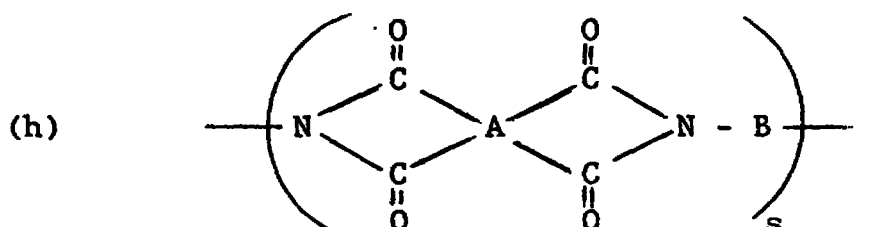
or mixtures thereof, wherein

A, R¹, R², R³, n, n', n'', X₁ and X₂ are as hereinabove defined;

k, k' are positive integers of one or more and represent the number of different polymer blocks in said polymer; and

r, r' are the same or different integers greater than 1; preferably they have values of from 10 to 10,000 or greater; r, r' represent the number of times the units are repeated in the polymer chain.

Polymers of this invention also include Polymers composed of recurring structural units of formula (i) or (ii) with up to 90 mole percent intercondensed recurring structural units of the formulae



wherein

A is as hereinabove defined;

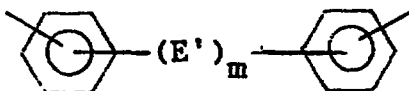
s, s' are the same or different integers greater than 1 and represent the number of times the units are repeated in the polymer chain; preferably they have values from 10 to 10,000 or greater;

B is a divalent radical derived from a diamine (hereinafter referred to as "other diamine") having the

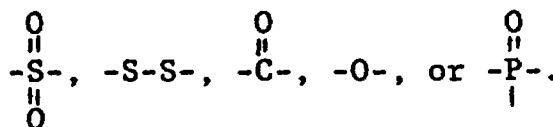
general formula $H_2N-B-NH_2$ where B can be aliphatic or cycloaliphatic, including alkylene or alkenylene, of from 2 to 20 carbon atoms, cycloalkylene of 4 to 8 carbon atoms, heterocycloalkylene of 4 to 20 carbon atoms including hetero atoms such as -N-, -S- and -O-; polyoxyalkylene of from 4 to 500 carbon atoms or, preferably, a carbocyclic aromatic of 6 to 40 carbon atoms.

Thus part or all of the diamine reactants which can be used to prepare the polymers can comprise one or more of the diamines (b) as described above, or the diamine(s) (b) may be present in an amount of as little as 10 mole percent and up to 90 mole percent of the total diamine requirements may be satisfied by one or more of the other diamines having the general formula $H_2N-B-NH_2$ as described hereinabove.

Suitably, the other diamine(s) are aromatic in nature such that B can be e.g. substituted or unsubstituted phenylene, biphenylene, naphthylene or anthracenylene, or a group of the formula



wherein m is 0 or 1, and E' is substituted or unsubstituted, branched or linear alkylene of 1 to 30 carbons, -S-,



Any of the aryl nuclei can be substituted by lower alkyl, lower alkoxy or other noninterfering substituent groups and alkylene groups can be substituted by halogen.

Among the other diamines that are useful are:

m-phenylenediamine,

p-phenylenediamine,

2,2-(4,4'-diaminodiphenyl)propane,

4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane (hereinafter referred to as "methylenedianiline"),

benzidine,

4,4'-diaminodiphenyl sulfide,

4,4'-diaminodiphenyl sulfone,

4,4'-diaminodiphenyl ether,

1,5-diaminonaphthalene,

3,3'-dimethylbenzidine,

3,3'-dimethoxybenzidine,

bis(p-β-methyl-α-aminopentyl)benzene,

1,3-diamino-4-isopropylbenzene,

1,2-bis(3-aminopropoxy)ethane,

m-xylylenediamine,

p-xylylenediamine,

bis(4-aminocyclohexyl)methane,

decamethylenediamine,

3-methylheptamethylenediamine,

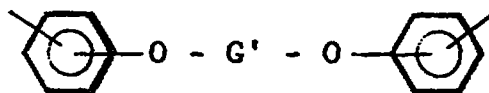
4,4'-dimethylheptamethylenediamine,

2,11-dodecanediamine,

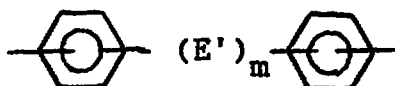
2,2-dimethylpropylenediamine,

octamethylenediamine,

3-methoxyhexamethylenediamine,
 2,5-dimethylhexamethylenediamine,
 2,5-dimethylheptamethylenediamine,
 3-methylheptamethylenediamine,
 5-methylnonamethylenediamine,
 1,4-cyclohexanediamine,
 1,12-octadecanediamine,
 bis(3-aminopropyl)sulfide,
 N-methyl-bis-(3-aminopropyl)amine,
 hexamethylenediamine,
 heptamethylenediamine,
 nonamethylenediamine, and mixtures thereof.
 B can also be the divalent residue of formula



wherein G' is a substituted or unsubstituted phenylene or group of the formula

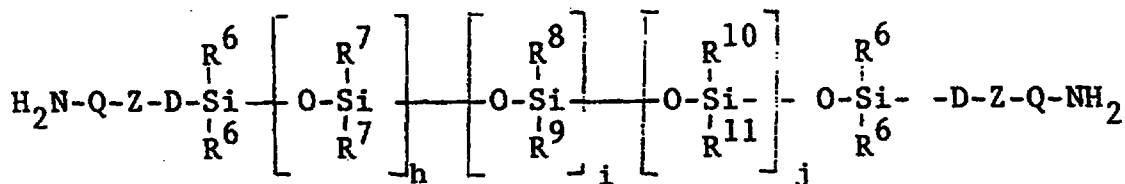


Suitably such other diamine is an aromatic diether diamine such as:

4,4'-bis-(p-aminophenoxy)diphenyl sulfide,
 4,4'-bis-(3''-aminophenoxy)diphenyl sulfide,
 4,4'-(3''-aminophenoxy,4'-aminophenoxy)-diphenyl sulfide,
 4,4'-bis-(p-aminophenoxy)diphenyl sulfone,
 4,4'-bis-(3''-aminophenoxy)diphenyl sulfone,
 2,2-bis-[4'-p-aminophenoxy]phenyl] propane,
 2,2-bis-[3'p-aminophenoxy]phenyl]propane,
 1,1-bis-[4'(p-aminophenoxy)phenyl]ethylbenzene.

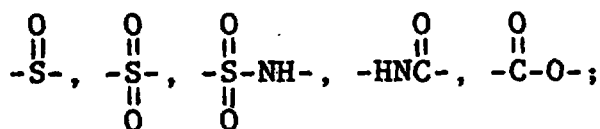
The residuum B can also be a heterocyclic aromatic of 6 to 20 carbon atoms while the hetero atoms are one or more of -N-, -O- and -S-, such as pyridine, pyrimidine, pyrazine, oxadiazine, oxathiazine, triazine, benzofuran, thionaphthene, indole, quinoline, benzoxazole, benzothiophene and carbazole.

B can also be the residue of a bis(amino)polysiloxane as disclosed and illustrated by US-A-4,395,527, of the formula



wherein

Q is a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic group
 Z is -O-, -S-,



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D is unsubstituted or substituted hydrocarbylene;

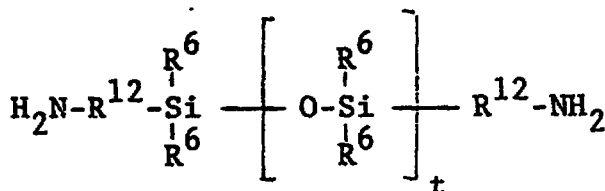
R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, R⁹, R¹⁰ and R¹¹ each independently is substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbyl;

h, i and j each independently has a value of 0 to 100.

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B can also be the residue of a di(aminoalkyl)polysiloxane of the general formula

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20 where

R⁶ is as hereinabove defined;

R¹² is a divalent hydrocarbon; and

t is 1 or greater.

It is apparent that in accordance with the practice of the invention there are a number of variables available to the chemist in formulating useful polyimides, polyamide acids and poly(esterimides).

The present polymers display excellent thermal stability as well as adhesion characteristics which are as good as or superior to those found with other known polyimides. Thus, they can be processed quite readily using conventional melt processing fabrication techniques into molded products that display high thermal stability or can be used for coating and adhesion applications where tenacious adhesion and thermal stability would be important.

The melt processible polymers of this invention are capable of being readily formed and shaped by conventional techniques such as molding, extrusion, calendaring, etc. Products fabricated from these polymers exhibit good thermal resistance as well as resistance to degradation caused by various environmental conditions. Solutions of these polymers in solvents such as those described above can be used to coat a variety of substrates including electrical and electronic components; such solutions can also be used to cast films or spin fibers. These polymer compositions also exhibit excellent adhesion to a variety of substrates including those prepared from polyimide, poly(amide-imide) and poly(esterimide) resins and thus can be used as primary or secondary adhesives or coatings for or between a number of different metallic and non-metallic materials.

Surprisingly, it has been found that the present polymers are soluble and thermoplastic or melt processible even when a substantial portion of the defined aromatic diamine (a) is replaced by one or more other diamines. Polyimides, poly(amide-acids) and poly(esterimides) of the invention which are melt processible and soluble e.g. in chlorinated hydrocarbon or dipolar aprotic solvents can be prepared with up to 90 mole percent of the diamine content being diamine other than that having formula (a).

Thus, the properties of the polymers of the invention can be varied over a very broad range, depending on the particular combination of reactants that are chosen. In addition to adjusting the reactants, one can also modify the properties of polymers of the invention by blending different polymers. Different polyimides, poly(amide-imides) and/or poly(esterimides) can be mixed and blended to provide desired properties.

The reaction between the dianhydride component and aromatic diamine component to prepare the polyamide acid and polyimide compositions of this invention may be effected in a suitable solvent and optionally in the presence of a condensation catalyst. The solvent should dissolve the reactants as well as the product.

Suitable solvents include, for example, a dipolar aprotic liquid such as N,N-dimethylformamide (DMF), dimethylacetamide, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, hexamethylphosphortriamide, dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) and tetramethyurea; chlorinated solvents such as chlorobenzene, dichlorobenzene and trichlorobenzene; glyme solvents such as ethylene glycol dimethyl ether and diethylene glycol dimethyl ether; and mixtures thereof.

Where combinations of reactants will be employed, e.g. combinations of anhydrides and/or amines, attention should be paid to the reactivity of the components. In synthesizing the polymers of the invention,

the total anhydride component and total amine are generally employed in equimolar amounts. While some excess of one of these is not detrimental to the condensation reaction, a considerable excess may result in the production of lower molecular weight products or undesirable by-products.

Since all or part of the diamine component employed to produce the polyimide, poly(esterimide) and polyamide acids of the invention can be the aromatic diamine compounds of formula (a), the polymer will contain from 10 mole percent of the residue of said aromatic diamine component in addition to one or more other diamines to 100 mole percent of said aromatic diamine component with no other diamine components. Thus, there can be used from 10 mole percent to 100 mole percent of the aromatic diamine component or mixtures thereof; however, the majority of applications will call for polymers containing from 15 mole percent to 85 mole percent of the specified aromatic amine component and from 15 to 85 mole percent of other diamine components.

Where the polyimide will contain 100 mole percent of the aromatic diamine of formula (a), the following sequence of reaction steps has been found to be effective:

(a) a reaction mixture of the selected dianhydride and the aromatic diamine is prepared and stirred in a suitable solvent.

(b) the reaction between the two reactants produces water in a refluxing reaction.

(c) the water produced by the refluxing reaction is removed by distillation.

(d) upon complete removal of the water, the resulting reaction product solution is cooled and polymer recovered by a suitable process such as, for example, by filtering and mixing the product solution with an excess of methanol to precipitate the reaction product;

(e) the precipitated polymer is separated by filtration, washed several times in fresh methanol and dried, preferably at an elevated temperature of 60°C to 80°C, preferably under vacuum to effect volatilization of the methanol and any adhering solvent.

Where the polyimide will contain a diamine component or components in addition to the aromatic diamine of formula (a), the polyimide may be prepared with a random molecular configuration, a block-block molecular configuration, a random-block-random molecular structure, a block-random molecular structure depending on the properties desired and the reactivity of the relative combination of reactants. Thus, the dianhydride component can be first reacted with the aromatic diamine component in a suitable solvent. The components may be either a single aromatic diamine or dianhydride or mixtures thereof. After completion of the reaction and removal of water that may be produced, the third component and/or fourth component, either another diamine, a different dianhydride or mixtures thereof is added to the reaction product mixture and the mixture is heated to an elevated temperature for a sufficient time to produce a polymeric solution of the polyimide which polymer may be recovered as described above or by other suitable method known in the art.

Where the desired product is a polyamide acid, the diamine component or combinations of such components are cooled to 0°C. The dianhydride component or components is thereafter added gradually, over an extended period of time with the temperature being maintained from 0°C to 100°C, and preferably from 20°C to 40°C. The polyamide acid forms readily without the application of heat and without catalysts. The polyamide acid thus formed can be readily converted to the polyimide by subjecting the polymer to cyclization. The cyclization can be effected using any of the methods known in the art for converting isolated polyamide acids or solutions thereof to polyimides. For example, cyclization of the polyamide acid can be effected by heating the polyamide acid at a temperature of from 150°C to 250°C.

Alternatively, the polyimides of the invention can also be prepared by hot melt polymerization, in the absence of solvents. The materials are simply combined in generally equimolar amounts, mixed and heated. One such method involves combining the materials in an extruder heated to about 300°C and extruding, on a continuous basis, the polyimide product.

It may also be desirable to add a chain stopper to the reaction mixture to control the molecular weight of the polymer produced. For example, phthalic anhydride or aniline may be used, preferably in an amount from 1 percent to 5 percent by weight.

Polyimides and poly(esterimides) of the invention have a variety of uses. They are melt processible and can be employed in the fabrication, by molding, of a variety of articles which possess structural strength and resistance to deformation or degradation at high temperatures. Because of their solubility, excellent high temperature characteristics and electrical qualities they are particularly suitable for use in a number of electrical and electronic applications.

The polymers of the invention are suitable for use in electronic applications such as wire enamels, as conformal, protective, junction and passivation coatings for electrical devices, printed circuit boards and semiconductor devices. The polymers can be easily applied and cured in place. They will not degrade in use, and will generally enhance the electrical characteristics of the device to which they are applied. They

adhere very tenaciously to the surface to which they are applied and prevent migration of ions on the surface of the device. When employed with semiconductor devices, they do not release any materials during drying cycles which are deleterious to the operating characteristics of the device.

5 The polymers are also capable of being applied in multiple layers to provide a thick coating when required and are able to bond well to itself as well as to many metallic and non-metallic substrates.

The polyimides and poly(esterimides) are translucent. Such materials, while retaining the other desirable characteristics, are useful to fabricate photovoltaic devices. They are desirable for bonding a light emitting diode to the surface of another semiconductor device to turn the device "on" and "off" in response to the operation of the light emitting diode. Copolymer materials of this invention are also applicable for use 10 in bonding protective covers to exposed surfaces of photovoltaic devices such as solar cells.

The dielectric strength of the polymer may be further enhanced by admixing suitable filler materials therein. Preferably, an electrically insulating material having a dielectric constant which is approximately the same as the polymer is admixed therein. The filler material is uniformly distributed throughout the coating as applied to a substrate. Other material suitable as a filler material are those materials known to have a 15 relatively good ability to resist electrical conduction although their dielectric constant is higher than that of the polymer. Suitable electrically insulating filler materials have been found to include aluminum oxide, silicon oxide, glass fibers, boron nitride, quartz, mica, magnesium oxide and activated polytetrafluorethylene in a finely divided, or pulverized form. Whether a filled or unfilled polyimide or poly(esterimide) is employed, the electrical properties of a given device are generally enhanced.

20 The polyimide or poly(esterimide) has an inherent elasticity to withstand repeated cycling from dipping into liquid gases at a temperature of approximately -100°C and back into a liquid gas for a temperature excursion range of about 200°C or more. Additionally, it has been found that the polyimides withstand short temperature excursion up to 350°C to 550°C without degradation of their electrical characteristics.

The polyimide or poly(esterimide) can be applied over electrically insulating layers of e.g. silicon oxide, 25 silicon nitride or aluminum nitride; it can also be applied as an insulating layer in place of those materials.

A thermoplastic polyimide, which is substantially inert, temperature resistant, capable of flowing upon heating, and having superior dielectric properties, finds application for example, as a passivation coating. Following application of the polyimide to the device, holes can be made in the polyimide, wires attached to the device and the device heated; the polyimide will flow to fill the voids around the wires, thus providing a 30 self-levelling passivation coating.

Because of their adhesive and dielectric properties, the polyimides or poly(esterimides) can be used to combine two or more layers of chips to provide multilayer semiconductor devices.

The thermoplastic polyimides and poly(esterimides) of the invention are processible by extrusion, compression and injection molding, film casting and solution fiber spinning techniques. Because of their 35 high elongation and toughness, they are particularly useful in thin-film products such as films, enamels, adhesives, coatings and fibers. Polyimides, moreover, can be molded into parts that retain high strength at 200°C and as high as 250°C for short periods, such as, for example, during processing of graphite and glass-fiber laminates. The polymers can be extruded e.g. into tubing or onto substrates such as conductive wire and can be co-extruded with other polymers to prepare multilayer tubing or insulated wire which 40 display good adhesion between layers to provide improved high temperature and electrical properties. Laminates, films and coatings display a minimum of voids or imperfections because no reaction products are formed at processing temperatures.

The thermoplastic polyimides and poly(esterimides) have the following general properties: they are molded simply by exceeding the glass transition temperature for sufficient time with application of pressure 45 for good flow; their elongation imparts good machineability with low brittleness; they require no postcure to develop full high-temperature properties; they can be reclaimed and used as required; they can be cast into film from solution using conventional casting machines, the films being useful in both supported and unsupported applications; the films adhere well by heat-sealing to themselves as well as to other polyimides or poly(esterimides); they can be solution-spun into fibers to produce flame resistant, high temperature 50 resistant fabrics; they can be molded with various fillers into parts having high strength at high service temperatures and flame resistance; unfilled molded parts have low coefficients of thermal expansion while glass, graphite and asbestos-filled parts give still lower coefficients of thermal expansion; they provide parts that wear well with low friction and molding compounds filled with graphite powder, molybdenum or tungsten disulfide or PTFE produce parts with self-lubricating wear surfaces such as piston rings, valve 55 seats, bearings, seals and thrust washers.

Laminates are made in high-pressure platen presses, low-pressure vacuum bags or moderate pressure vacuum autoclave bags. Solutions can be used as laminating varnish to impregnate e.g. glass, graphite or quartz cloth, or glass, boron, graphite or ARAMID fibers to produce laminates with flame-resistance, high

temperature strength and good electrical properties which have utility in radomes, printed circuit boards, radioactive waste containers, as well as for turbine blades and structural parts which are used close to the hot engine environment.

Polyimide film has good mechanical properties through a range from liquid helium temperature to 450 °C. It has high tensile and impact strength and high resistance to tear initiation. Room temperature properties are comparable to those of polyester film while at 200 °C, the film can be bent around a 1/4-inch (6.35 mm) mandrel without breaking and at 250 °C it has a tensile strength on the order of 3500-4000psi (24100-27600 kPa).

The foregoing specification has described a variety of molecular configurations and applications of a polyimide, a poly(esterimide) and a polyamide acid. The invention is further illustrated in the following examples. All parts and percentages are by weight unless otherwise indicated.

Example 1

Into a 250 ml, 3-neck flask fitted with a stirrer, a condenser, a Dean Stark trap, a thermometer, a thermowatch, a heating mantle and a nitrogen blanket, 3.44 grams (0.01 mole) of 1,4-bis(p-aminocumyl)-benzene were charged under a nitrogen atmosphere along with 50 grams of N-methyl pyrrolidone (NMP). The mixture was agitated until a clear solution was obtained. Then 5.10 grams (0.01 mole) of 4,4'-bis(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)diphenyl sulfide dianhydride were charged into the flask along with 77.10 grams of N-methyl pyrrolidone under a nitrogen atmosphere. 0.01 grams of p-toluene sulfonic acid (catalyst) were also charged in the flask. The reaction mixture was agitated until a clear solution was obtained and heat was applied until the reflux temperature was achieved. The reaction mixture was then maintained at reflux temperature for one hour. During this time about 50 grams of NMP was distilled off along with the water formed during the condensation reaction. The temperature of the reaction mass was then reduced to and controlled between 195 °C to 198 °C for about 4 hours. After completion of the reaction the heat was turned off and the reaction mass was allowed to cool to 50 °C.

A clear polymer solution was obtained which was poured into methanol to precipitate the polymer. The polymer was washed with fresh methanol and then dried at ambient temperature for 48 hours.

The polyimide polymer was dissolved in N-methylpyrrolidone to obtain a 10% solids clear solution. A film was cast on a glass plate treated with a TEFLON release agent and dried in an oven over a temperature range of 0 °C to 300 °C. A flexible, clear dark brown film was obtained. The glass transition temperature of the polyimide resin was determined to be 215 °C by Differential Scanning Colorimetry.

Example 2

Using the apparatus and procedure of Example 1, 3.44 grams (0.01 mole) of 1,4-bis(p-aminocumyl)-benzene were reacted with 3.2525 grams (0.01 mole) of 3,3',4,4'-benzophenonetetracarboxylic dianhydride. A clear polymeric product was recovered from the reaction mixture.

A 10% by weight solution of the polyimide in NMP was prepared which was cast on a pretreated glass plate and then dried in an oven over a temperature range of 0 °C to 300 °C. A flexible, clear dark brown film was obtained, which had a glass transition temperature of 257 °C as determined by Differential Scanning Colorimetry.

Example 3

A 1000 ml 3-neck flask fitted with a stirrer, a condenser, a Dean Stark trap, a thermometer, a heating mantle and a nitrogen blanket was charged under a nitrogen atmosphere with 17.2 grams (0.05 mole) of 1,4-bis(p-aminocumyl)benzene along with 300 grams of N-methylpyrrolidone. The mixture was agitated until a clear solution was obtained. Then 32.525 grams (0.1 mole) of 3,3',4,4'-benzophenone tetracarboxylic dianhydride in 300 grams of NMP and 22.5 grams (0.05 mole) of 4,4' sulfonylbis(p-phenyleneoxy)dianiline in 150.925 grams of NMP and 0.1 grams of p-toluene sulfonic acid were charged to the reactor under a nitrogen atmosphere. The reaction mixture was agitated while heat was applied at a constant rate until the reflux temperature was achieved. The reaction mixture was held at the reflux temperature for 1 hour during which time 110 grams of NMP was distilled off along with the water that was formed during the condensation reaction. The reaction mixture was then held at a temperature of 195 °C to 198 °C for 4 hours after which the heating unit was turned off and the temperature was allowed to cool to 100 °C.

The clear polymeric reaction mixture was filtered and then poured into methanol where the polyimide polymer precipitated. The polymer was then washed with methanol and air dried for 48 hours.

The polyimide was dissolved in NMP to obtain a 10% by weight solid, clear solution and a film was cast on a glass plate treated with a TEFLON release agent. The resin coated glass was dried in an oven for 45 minutes at 90 °C, 20 minutes at 150 °C, 20 minutes at 200 °C and then 15 minutes at 300 °C. A flexible, clear dark brown film was obtained. The polyimide was determined to have a glass transition temperature of 270 °C by Differential Scanning Colorimetry.

Example 4

Using the apparatus and procedure of Example 1, 1.72 grams (0.005 mole) of 1,4-bis(p-aminocumyl) benzene were reacted with 5.1 grams (0.01 mole) of bis[4,4'-di(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)phenyl]sulfide dianhydride and 2.25 grams (0.005 mole) of 4,4'-bis-(p-aminophenoxy)diphenylsulfone. A clear polymer solution was obtained which was poured into methanol to precipitate the polymer and the polymer was washed with fresh methanol and then dried at ambient temperature for 48 hours. A 10 percent by weight solution of the resultant polyimide polymer in NMP was prepared which was cast on a pretreated glass plate and then dried at a temperature range of 0 °C to 300 °C. to obtain a flexible, thermoplastic, clear dark brown film which had a glass transition temperature of 213 °C. obtained by Differential Scanning Colorimetry (D.S.C.).

Examples 5-10

Using the apparatus and procedure of Example 1, Examples 5-10 were carried out using the dianhydrides and diamines set forth in the Table below. The glass transition temperature of each such thermoplastic polymer which was obtained is also indicated in the Table.

TABLE

Example	Dianhydride	Diamine	Diamine	Glass Transition Temperature by D.S.C.
5	bis-[4,4'-di(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)-phenyl]sulfone dianhydride 5.47 g (0.01 mole)	1,4-bis(p-amino-cumyl)benzene 1.72 g (0.005 mole)	4,4'-sulfonyl-bis-(p-phenyleneoxy)-dianiline 2.25 g (0.005 mole)	177°C
6	4,4'-bis(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)-biphenyl dianhydride 4.78 g (0.01 mole)	1,4-bis(p-amino-cumyl)benzene 1.72 g (0.005 mole)	4,4'-sulfonyl-bis-(p-phenyleneoxy)-dianiline 2.25 g (0.005 mole)	247°C
7	2,2'-bis[4,4'(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)-phenyl]propane dianhydride 5.2 g (0.01 mole)	1,4-bis(p-amino-cumyl)benzene 1.72 g (0.005 mole)	4,4'-sulfonyl-bis-(p-phenyleneoxy)-dianiline 2.25 g (0.005 mole)	225°C
8	bis-[4,4'-di(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)-phenyl]sulfone dianhydride 5.47 g (0.01 mole)	1,4-bis(p-amino-cumyl)benzene 3.44 g (0.01 mole)	-	212°C
9	4,4'-bis(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)-biphenyl dianhydride 4.78 g (0.01 mole)	1,4-bis(p-amino-cumyl)benzene 3.44 g (0.01 mole)	-	237°C
10	2,2'-bis[4,4'(3,4-dicarboxyphenoxy)-phenyl]propane dianhydride 5.2 g (0.01 mole)	1,4-bis(p-amino-cumyl)benzene 3.44 g (0.01 mole)	-	212°C

Example 11

Using the apparatus and procedure of Example 1, 10.32 grams (0.03 mole) of 1,4-bis(p-aminocumyl)-benzene were reacted with 19.2 grams (0.03 mole) of 2,2-bis(trimellitic oxyphenyl)propane dianhydride. A clear polymeric product was recovered from the reaction mixture.

A 10% by weight solution of the resultant poly(esterimide) polymer in NMP was prepared and then cast on a treated glass plate which was then dried in an oven at a temperature range of 0°C-300°C. A flexible, clear, dark brown film was obtained which had a glass transition temperature of 200°C by D.S.C.

Examples 12

Example 11 was repeated, except that the quantity of 1,4-bis(p-aminocumyl)benzene was cut in half and replaced by 6.75 grams (0.015 mole) of 4,4'-sulfonylbis(p-phenyleneoxy)dianiline. Again, a clear polymeric product was obtained from the reaction mixture.

A 10% by weight solution of the resultant copolymer (esterimide) polymer in NMP was prepared and then cast on a treated glass plate and subsequently dried in an oven at a temperature range of 0°C to 300°C. A flexible, clear, dark brown film was obtained which had a glass transition temperature of 205°C.

Example 13

In a 500 ml 3-neck flask fitted with a high torque stirrer tap water cooling bath, thermometer and nitrogen blanket, 34.4 grams (0.1 mole) of 1,4-bis(p-aminocumyl)benzene were charged along with 103.2 grams of NMP under nitrogen atmosphere. Agitation was applied to obtain a clear solution and thereafter cooling was applied so as to maintain a temperature throughout the entire operation in the range of 20-35°C. To the cooled solution, 32.59 grams of 3,3', 4,4'-benzophenone tetracarboxylic dianhydride were charged in predetermined portions along with 97.8 grams of NMP in predetermined portions so as to maintain 25% solids concentration at any given time, under a nitrogen atmosphere, while continuing agitation at a constant steady speed. The addition was completed in about 35 minutes' time and then the reaction mass was allowed to agitate at room temperature for 16 hours to achieve completion of the reaction. Thereafter, the resultant polyamic acid was pressure filtered under nitrogen atmosphere and stored in a polypropylene bottle at 0-5°C.

A 20-gram portion of the polyamic acid was mixed with 10 grams of DMAC and this solution was then spread on a treated glass plate and subsequently subjected to a cure schedule in a forced air oven as follows:

- 75°C for 45 minutes,
- 100°C for 30 minutes,
- 150°C for 1 hour,
- 200°C for 1 hour, and
- 300°C for 30 minutes.

A thermoplastic, flexible yellow-colored polyimide film was obtained which had a glass transition temperature of 275°C.

Example 14

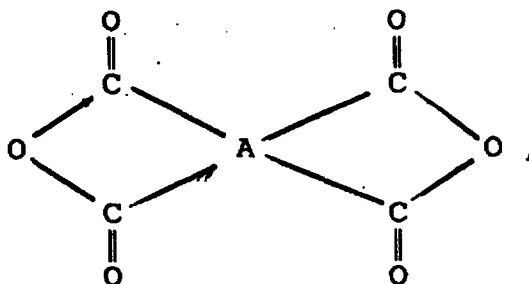
Example 13 was repeated, except half of the 1,4-bis(p-aminocumyl)benzene was replaced with 22.5 grams of 4,4'-sulphenylbis(p-phenyleneoxy)dianiline. After workup in the same manner, the resultant copolyimide polymer film exhibited a glass transition temperature of 273°C by D.M.C.

Claims

Claims for the following Contracting States : BE, CH, DE, FR, GB, IT, LI, NL, SE

1. A thermoplastic polyimide, poly(esterimide) or polyamide acid composition which contains at least 10mol% of the reaction product of

(a) aromatic or aliphatic tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride



and



Examples 12

Example 11 was repeated, except that the quantity of 1,4-bis(p-aminocumyl)benzene was cut in half and replaced by 6.75 grams (0.015 mole) of 4,4'-sulfonylbis(p-phenyleneoxy)dianiline. Again, a clear polymeric product was obtained from the reaction mixture.

A 10% by weight solution of the resultant copolymer (esterimide) polymer in NMP was prepared and then cast on a treated glass plate and subsequently dried in an oven at a temperature range of 0°C to 300°C. A flexible, clear, dark brown film was obtained which had a glass transition temperature of 205°C.

Example 13

In a 500 ml 3-neck flask fitted with a high torque stirrer tap water cooling bath, thermometer and nitrogen blanket, 34.4 grams (0.1 mole) of 1,4-bis(p-aminocumyl)benzene were charged along with 103.2 grams of NMP under nitrogen atmosphere. Agitation was applied to obtain a clear solution and thereafter cooling was applied so as to maintain a temperature throughout the entire operation in the range of 20-35°C. To the cooled solution, 32.59 grams of 3,3', 4,4'-benzophenone tetracarboxylic dianhydride were charged in predetermined portions along with 97.8 grams of NMP in predetermined portions so as to maintain 25% solids concentration at any given time, under a nitrogen atmosphere, while continuing agitation at a constant steady speed. The addition was completed in about 35 minutes' time and then the reaction mass was allowed to agitate at room temperature for 16 hours to achieve completion of the reaction. Thereafter, the resultant polyamic acid was pressure filtered under nitrogen atmosphere and stored in a polypropylene bottle at 0-5°C.

A 20-gram portion of the polyamic acid was mixed with 10 grams of DMAC and this solution was then spread on a treated glass plate and subsequently subjected to a cure schedule in a forced air oven as follows:

- 75°C for 45 minutes,
- 100°C for 30 minutes,
- 150°C for 1 hour,
- 200°C for 1 hour, and
- 300°C for 30 minutes.

A thermoplastic, flexible yellow-colored polyimide film was obtained which had a glass transition temperature of 275°C.

Example 14

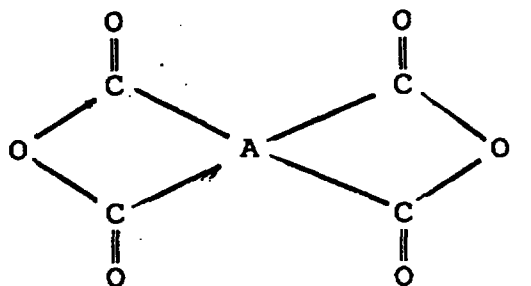
Example 13 was repeated, except half of the 1,4-bis(p-aminocumyl)benzene was replaced with 22.5 grams of 4,4'-sulphenylbis(p-phenyleneoxy)dianiline. After workup in the same manner, the resultant copolyimide polymer film exhibited a glass transition temperature of 273°C by D.M.C.

Claims

Claims for the following Contracting States : BE, CH, DE, FR, GB, IT, LI, NL, SE

1. A thermoplastic polyimide, poly(esterimide) or polyamide acid composition which contains at least 10mol% of the reaction product of

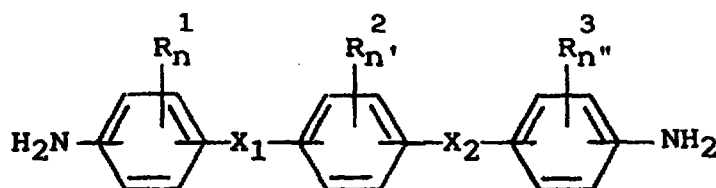
- (a) aromatic or aliphatic tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride



and



(b) aromatic diamine of the formula



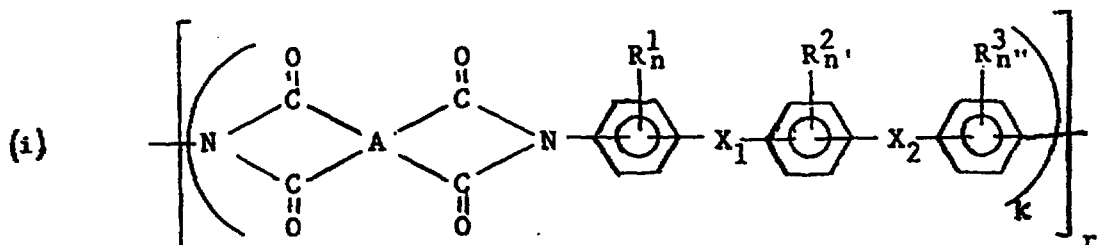
in which

A is a tetravalent radical derived from a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic or aliphatic dianhydride

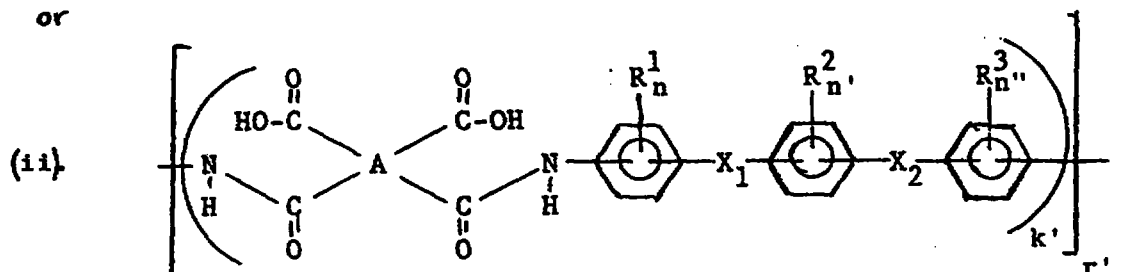
R¹, R² and R³ are (independently) hydrogen, halogen or hydrocarbyl and n, n' and n'' are (independently) integers of 1 to 4, and

X₁ and X₂ are (independently) branched or cyclic alkylene, or linear, branched or cyclic alkenylene, of up to 30 carbon atoms.

2. A composition according to claim 1 comprising recurring structural units of the formulae



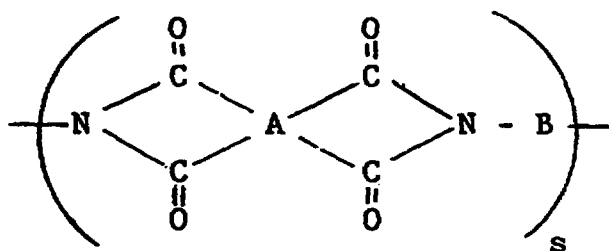
or



in which

k and k' are positive integers representing the number of polymer blocks in the polymer, and r and r' are the same or different integers greater than 1 representing a repeat number in the polymer chain.

3. A composition according to claim 2 which contains up to 90 mole percent intercondensed structural units of the formula

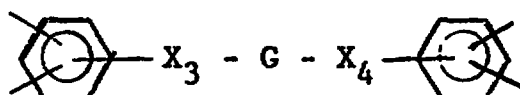
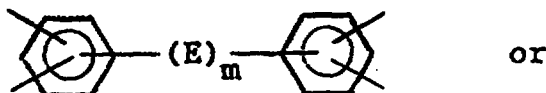




wherein B is a divalent radical derived from a diamine having the general formula $H_2N-B-NH_2$, wherein B is an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group of 2 to 20 carbon atoms, heterocyclic group of 6 to 20 carbon atoms, polyoxyalkylene group of from 4 to 500 carbon atoms, aromatic group of 6 to 40 carbon atoms, or is derived from a bis(aminofunctional) polysiloxane, or a combination thereof; and

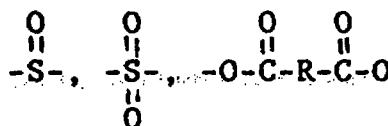
s is an integer greater than 1.

4. A composition of any one of the preceding claims wherein A is a tetravalent benzene or naphthalene nucleus or a substituted tetravalent group of formula



wherein m is 0 or 1;

E is -O-, -S-, -S-S-,

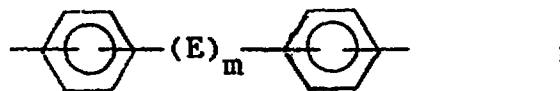


(where R is substituted or unsubstituted linear or branched alkylene or arylene of 1 to 30 carbon atoms)



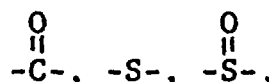
or substituted or unsubstituted linear, branched, or cyclic, alkylene of 1 to 30 carbon atoms, or alkenylene of 2 to 30 carbon atoms;

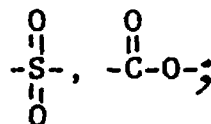
G is phenylene or a substituted or unsubstituted group of formula



and

X_3 and X_4 each independently is -O-,



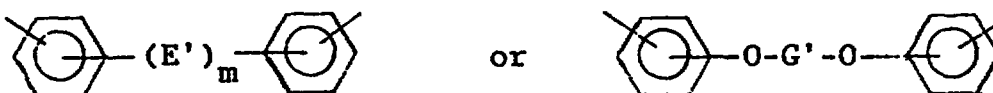


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linear or branched alkylene of 1 to 30 carbon atoms; or alkenylene of 2 to 30 carbon atoms.

5. A composition according to claim 3 in which B is substituted or unsubstituted phenylene, diphenylene, naphthylene or a group of the formula

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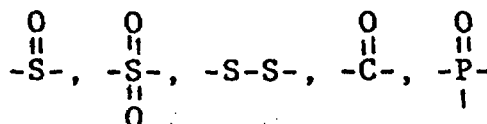


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wherein m is 0 or 1;

E' is -O-, -S-,

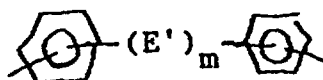
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or substituted or unsubstituted branched or linear alkylene of 1 to 30 carbon atoms; and G' is substituted or unsubstituted phenylene or a group of the formula

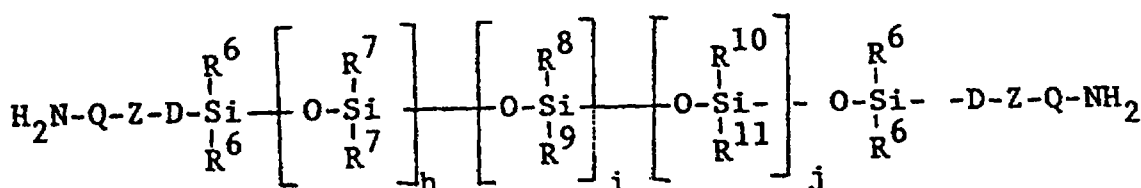
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6. A composition according to claim 3 wherein B is the residue of a bis(amino) polysiloxane of the formula

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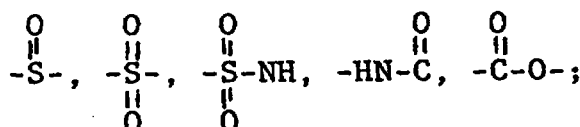


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wherein Q is a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic group;

Z is -O-, -S-,

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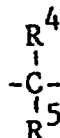
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D is substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbylene;

R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, R⁹, R¹⁰ and R¹¹ each independently is substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbyl; and h, i and j each independently has a value of 0 to 100.



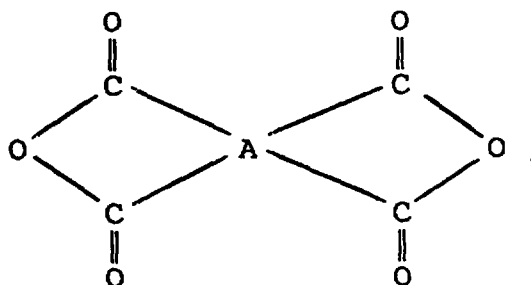
7. A composition of any one of the preceding claims wherein said composition contains between 15 and 85 mole percent of said reaction product.
8. A composition of any one of the preceding claims wherein X_1 and X_2 each is a divalent group of the formula



wherein

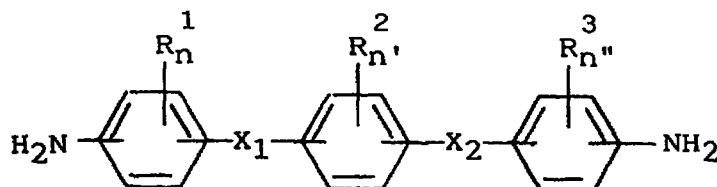
R^4 and R^5 each independently is hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl having up to 12 carbon atoms, substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl having 2 to 12 carbon atoms, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl of 4 to 12 carbon atoms, substituted or unsubstituted carbocyclic aromatic or heterocyclic aromatic having 5 to 24 carbon atoms, with the proviso that R^4 and R^5 may not both be hydrogen.

9. A composition according to claim 8 in which R^4 and R^5 are (independently) C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl, or C_{4-8} cycloalkyl.
10. A method of making a thermoplastic polyimide, poly(esterimide) or polyamide acid which comprises reacting
- (a) aromatic or aliphatic tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride



and

(b) aromatic diamine of the formula



in which

A is a tetravalent radical derived from a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic or aliphatic dianhydride

R^1 , R^2 and R^3 are (independently) hydrogen, halogen or hydrocarbyl and n , n' and n'' are (independently) integers of 1 to 4, and

X_1 and X_2 are (independently) branched or cyclic alkylene, or linear, branched or cyclic alkenylene, of up to 30 carbon atoms.



11. A method according to claim 10 in which the dianhydride is reacted with aromatic diamine (b) and one or more other diamines, the aromatic diamine (b) constituting at least 10mol% of diamine used.

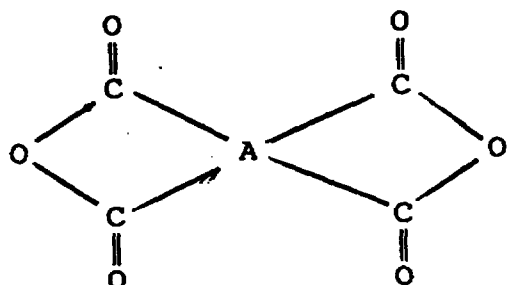
12. A method according to claim 10 or claim 11 comprising the following sequence of steps:

- (i) a reaction mixture of the dianhydride (a) and aromatic diamine (b) is prepared and stirred in a solvent;
- (ii) a refluxing reaction between (a) and (b) produces water;
- (iii) the water is removed by distillation, and
- (iv) after complete removal of the water, the resulting product solution is cooled and the desired polymer recovered.

13. A method according to any one of claims 10 to 12 in which every diamine used is aromatic.

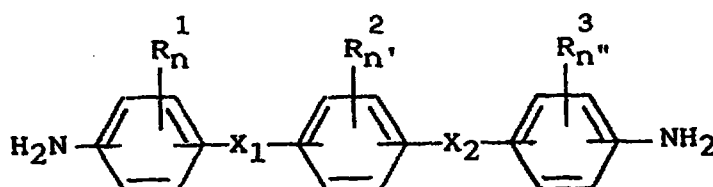
Claims for the following Contracting State : AT

1. A method of making a thermoplastic polyimide, poly(esterimide) or polyamide acid composition which contains at least 10mol% of the reaction product of
 - (a) aromatic or aliphatic tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride



and

(b) aromatic diamine of the formula



in which

A is a tetravalent radical derived from a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic or aliphatic dianhydride

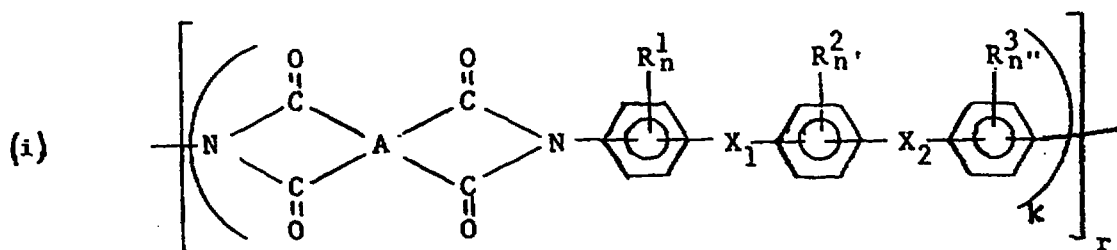
R¹, R² and R³ are (independently) hydrogen, halogen or hydrocarbyl and n, n' and n'' are (independently) integers of 1 to 4, and

X₁ and X₂ are (independently) branched or cyclic alkylene, or linear, branched or cyclic alkenylene, of up to 30 carbon atoms,

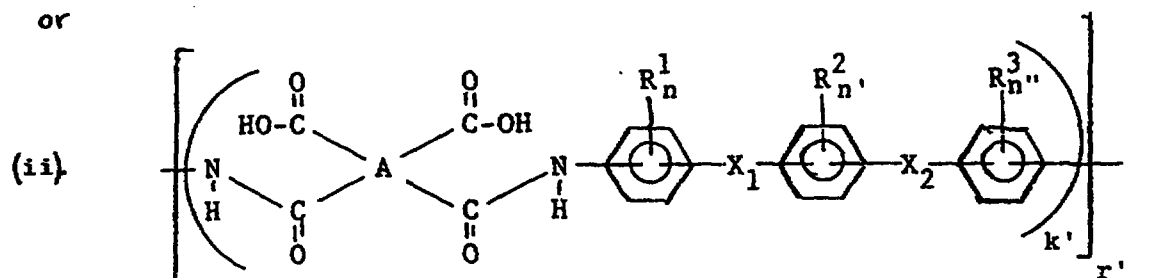
comprising reacting the dianhydride with the diamine.



2. A method according to claim 1 comprising forming recurring structural units of the formulae



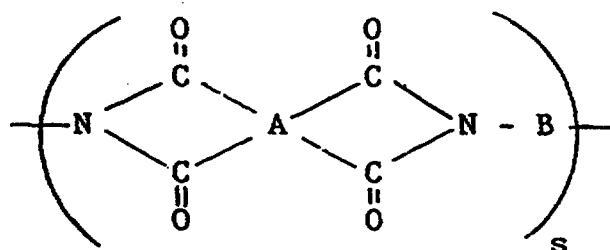
or



in which

k and k' are positive integers representing the number of polymer blocks in the polymer, and r and r' are the same or different integers greater than 1 representing a repeat number in the polymer chain.

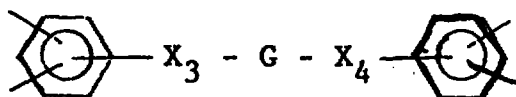
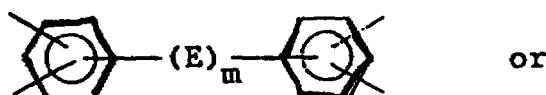
3. A method according to claim 2, in which the composition contains up to 90 mole percent intercondensed structural units of the formula



wherein B is a divalent radical derived from a diamine having the general formula $\text{H}_2\text{N}-\text{B}-\text{NH}_2$, wherein B is an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group of 2 to 20 carbon atoms, heterocyclic group of 6 to 20 carbon atoms, polyoxyalkylene group of from 4 to 500 carbon atoms, aromatic group of 6 to 40 carbon atoms, or is derived from a bis(aminofunctional) polysiloxane, or a combination thereof; and

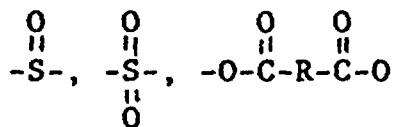
s is an integer greater than 1.

4. A method of any one of the preceding claims wherein A is a tetravalent benzene or naphthalene nucleus or a substituted tetravalent group of formula





wherein m is 0 or 1;
E is -O-, -S-, -S-S-,

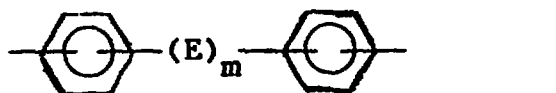


(where R is substituted or unsubstituted linear or branched alkylene or arylene of 1 to 30 carbon atoms)



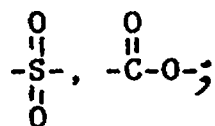
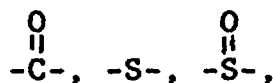
or substituted or unsubstituted linear, branched, or cyclic, alkylene of 1 to 30 carbon atoms, or alkenylene of 2 to 30 carbon atoms;

G is phenylene or a substituted or unsubstituted group of formula



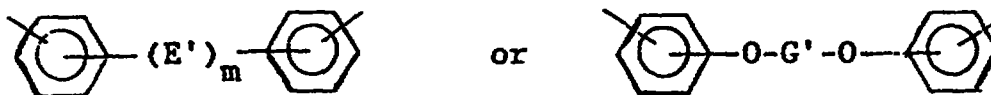
and

X₃ and X₄ each independently is -O-,

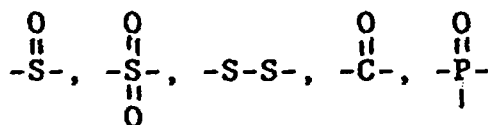


linear or branched alkylene of 1 to 30 carbon atoms; or alkenylene of 2 to 30 carbon atoms.

5. A method according to claim 3 in which B is substituted or unsubstituted phenylene, diphenylene, naphthylene or a group of the formula



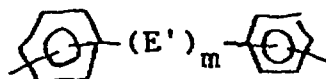
wherein m is 0 or 1;
E' is -O-, -S-,



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or substituted or unsubstituted branched or linear alkylene of 1 to 30 carbon atoms; and
G' is substituted or unsubstituted phenylene or a group of the formula

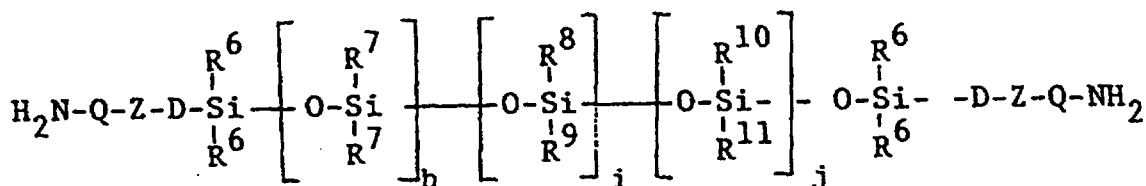
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6. A method according to claim 3 wherein B is the residue of a bis(amino) polysiloxane of the formula

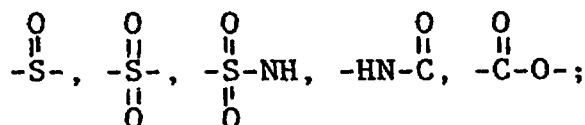
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wherein Q is a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic group;
Z is -O-, -S-,

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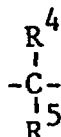
D is substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbylene;
R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, R⁹, R¹⁰ and R¹¹ each independently is substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbyl; and
h, i and j each independently has a value of 0 to 100.

40

7. A method of any one of the preceding claims wherein said composition contains between 15 and 85 mole percent of said reaction product.

8. A method of any one of the preceding claims wherein X₁ and X₂ each is a divalent group of the formula

45



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wherein

R⁴ and R⁵ each independently is hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl having up to 12 carbon atoms, substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl having 2 to 12 carbon atoms, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl of 4 to 12 carbon atoms, substituted or unsubstituted carbocyclic aromatic or heterocyclic aromatic having 5 to 24 carbon atoms, with the proviso that R⁴ and R⁵ may not both be hydrogen.

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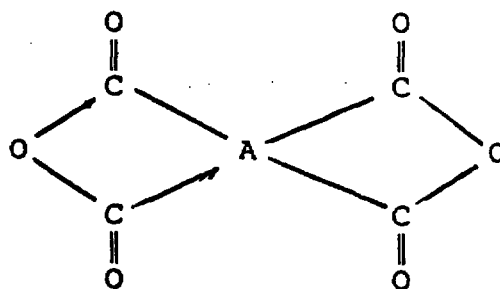


9. A method according to claim 8 in which R^4 and R^5 are (independently) C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl, or C_{4-8} cycloalkyl.
10. A method according any one of the preceding claims in which the dianhydride is reacted with aromatic diamine (b) and one or more other diamines, the aromatic diamine (b) constituting at least 10mol% of diamine used.
11. A method according to any one of the preceding claims comprising the following sequence of steps:
 (i) a reaction mixture of the dianhydride (a) and aromatic diamine (b) is prepared and stirred in a solvent;
 (ii) a refluxing reaction between (a) and (b) produces water;
 (iii) the water is removed by distillation, and
 (iv) after complete removal of the water, the resulting product solution is cooled and the desired polymer recovered.
12. A method according to any one of the preceding claims in which every diamine used is aromatic.

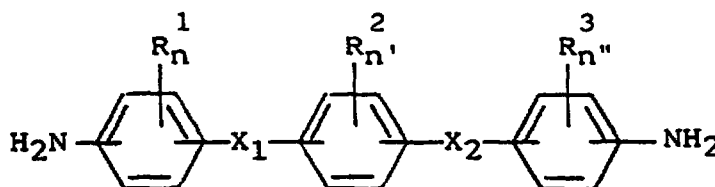
Patentansprüche

Patentansprüche für folgende Vertragsstaaten : BE, CH, DE, FR, GB, IT, LI, NL, SE

1. Thermoplastische Polyimid-, Poly(esterimid)- oder Polyamidsäurezusammensetzung, die zumindest 10 Mol-% des Reaktionsprodukts von
 (a) aromatischem oder aliphatischem Tetrakarbonsäuredianhydrid



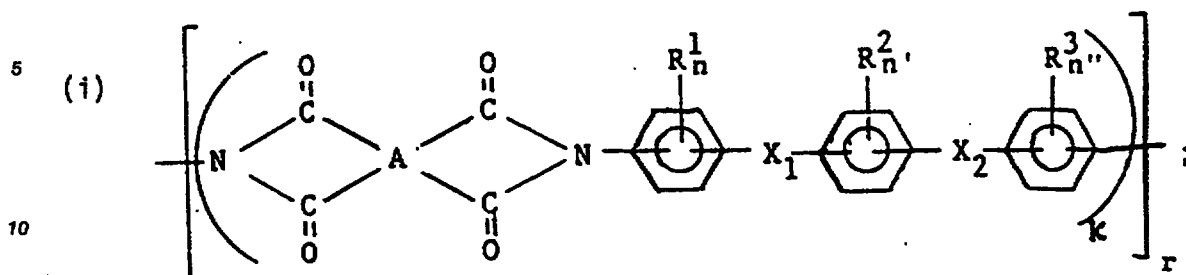
und
 (b) aromatischem Diamin der Formel



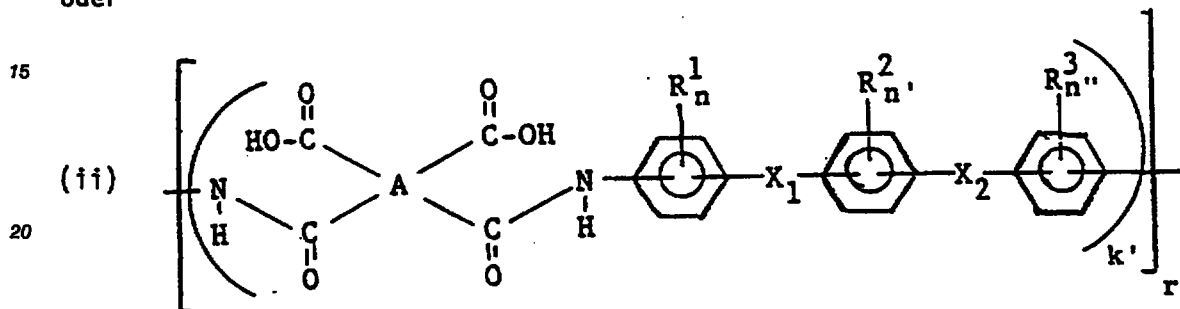
enthält, worin A ein vierwertiger Rest ist, der von einem substituierten oder unsubstituierten aromatischen oder aliphatischen Dianhydrid abgeleitet ist,
 R^1 , R^2 und R^3 (unabhängig voneinander) Wasserstoff, Halogen oder Hydrocarbyl sind und n , n' und n'' (unabhängig voneinander) ganze Zahlen von 1 bis 4 sind und
 X_1 und X_2 (unabhängig voneinander) verzweigtes oder zyklisches Alkylen oder lineares, verzweigtes oder zyklisches Alkenylen mit bis zu 30 C-Atomen sind.



2. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 1, umfassend wiederkehrende strukturelle Einheiten der Formeln

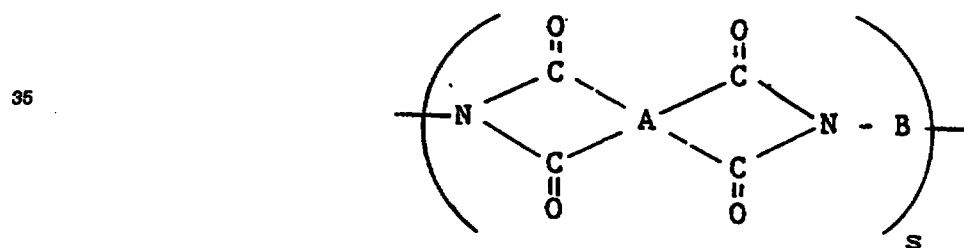


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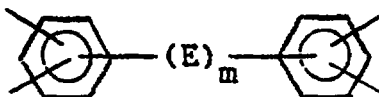
worin k und k' positive ganze Zahlen sind, die die Anzahl der Polymerblöcke im Polymer angeben, und r und r' gleiche oder verschiedene ganze Zahlen größer als 1 sind, die eine Wiederholungsanzahl in der Polymerkette angeben.

3. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 2, die bis zu 90 Mol-% interkondensierter struktureller Einheiten der Formel

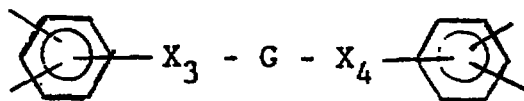


enthält, worin B ein zweiwertiger Rest ist, der von einem Diamin der allgemeinen Formel $\text{H}_2\text{N}-\text{B}-\text{NH}_2$ abgeleitet ist, worin B eine aliphatische oder zyklaliphatische Gruppe mit 2 bis 20 C-Atomen, heterozyklische Gruppe mit 6 bis 20 C-Atomen, Polyoxyalkylengruppe mit von 4 bis 500 C-Atomen, aromatische Gruppe mit 6 bis 40 C-Atomen ist, oder von einem bis(aminofunktionellen) Polysiloxan abgeleitet ist, oder eine Kombination daraus; und s eine ganze Zahl größer als 1 ist.

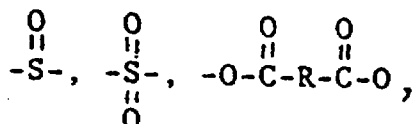
4. Zusammensetzung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, worin A ein vierwertiger Benzol- oder Naphthalinkern oder eine substituierte vierwertige Gruppe der Formel



oder



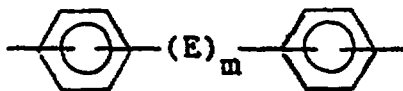
ist, worin m 0 oder 1 ist;
E -O-, -S-, -S-S-,



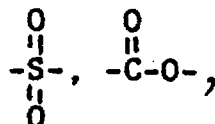
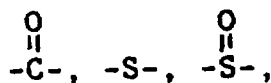
(worin R ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes lineares oder verzweigtes Alkylen oder Arylen mit 1 bis 30 C-Atomen ist),



oder ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes lineares, verzweigtes oder zyklisches Alkylen mit 1 bis 30 C-Atomen oder Alkenylen mit 2 bis 30 C-Atomen ist;
G Phenylen oder eine substituierte oder unsubstituierte Gruppe der Formel

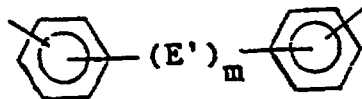


ist; und
X₃ und X₄ jeweils unabhängig voneinander -O-,

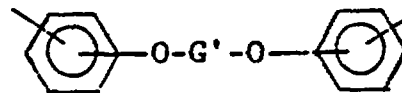


ein lineares oder verzweigtes Alkylen mit 1 bis 30 C-Atomen; oder Alkenylen mit 2 bis 30 C-Atomen sind.

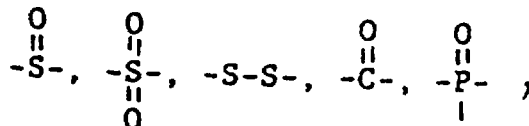
5. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 3, worin B ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes Phenylen, Diphenylen, Naphthylen oder eine Gruppe der Formel



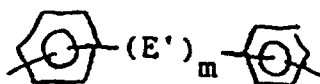
oder



ist, worin m 0 oder 1 ist;
E' -O-, -S-,

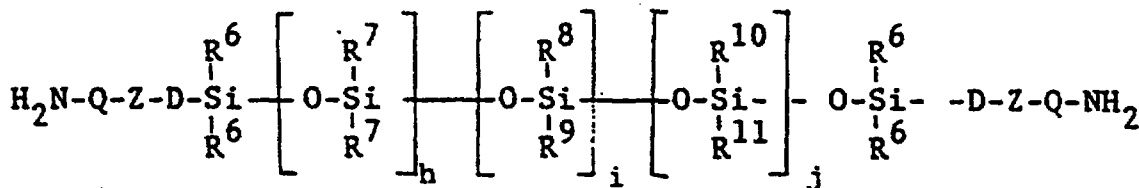


oder ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes verzweigtes oder lineares Alkyl mit 1 bis 30 C-Atomen ist; und
G' ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes Phenyl oder eine Gruppe der Formel

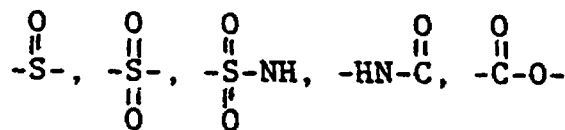


ist.

6. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 3, worin B der Rest eines bis(Amino)polysiloxans der Formel



ist, worin Q eine substituierte oder unsubstituierte aromatische Gruppe ist;
Z -O-, -S-,



ist;

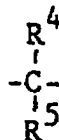
D ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes Hydrocarbylen ist;

R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, R⁹, R¹⁰ und R¹¹ jeweils unabhängig voneinander ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes Hydrocarbyl sind; und

h, i und j jeweils unabhängig voneinander einen Wert von 0 bis 100 haben.

7. Zusammensetzung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, worin die genannte Zusammensetzung zwischen 15 und 85 Mol-% des genannten Reaktionsprodukts enthält.

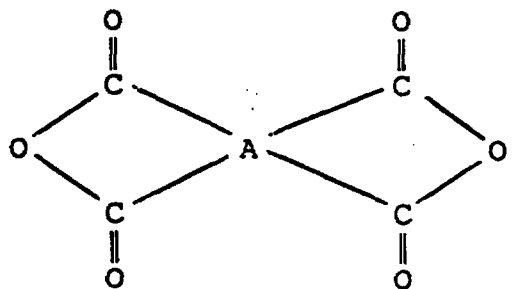
8. Zusammensetzung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, worin X₁ und X₂ jeweils eine divalente Gruppe der Formel



sind, worin

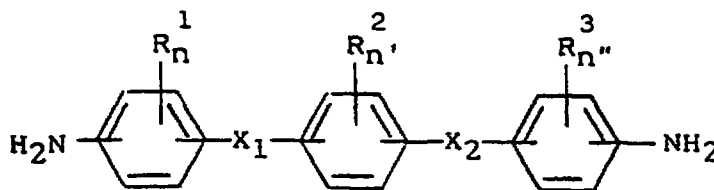
R^4 und R^5 jeweils unabhängig voneinander Wasserstoff, ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes Alkyl mit bis zu 12 C-Atomen, ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes Alkenyl mit 2 bis 12 C-Atomen, ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes Zykoalkyl mit 4 bis 12 C-Atomen, ein substituiertes oder unsubstituierter karbozyklischer Aromat oder heterozyklischer Aromat mit 5 bis 24 C-Atomen sind, mit der Maßgabe, daß R^4 und R^5 nicht beide Wasserstoff sein können.

9. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 8, worin R^4 und R^5 (unabhängig voneinander) C_{1-8} -Alkyl, C_{2-8} -Alkenyl oder C_{4-8} -Zykoalkyl sind.
10. Verfahren zur Herstellung einem thermoplastischen Polyimids, Poly(esterimid)s oder einer Polyamidsäure umfassend das Umsetzen von
- (a) aromatischem oder aliphatischem Tetracarbonsäuredianhydrid



und

(b) aromatischem Diamin der Formel



worin A ein vierwertiger Rest ist, der von einem substituierten oder unsubstituierten aromatischen oder aliphatischen Dianhydrid abgeleitet ist,

R^1 , R^2 und R^3 (unabhängig voneinander) Wasserstoff, Halogen oder Hydrocarbyl sind und n , n' und n'' (unabhängig voneinander) ganze Zahlen von 1 bis 4 sind, und

X_1 und X_2 (unabhängig voneinander) verzweigtes oder zyklisches Alkyl oder lineares, verzweigtes oder zyklisches Alkenyl mit bis zu 30 C-Atomen sind.

11. Verfahren nach Anspruch 10, bei dem das Dianhydrid mit dem aromatischen Diamin (b) und einem oder mehreren anderen Diaminen umgesetzt wird, wobei das aromatische Diamin (b) zumindest 10 Mol-% des verwendeten Diamins ausmacht.

12. Verfahren nach Anspruch 10 oder 11, die folgende Abfolge von Schritten umfassend:

- (i) eine Reaktionsmischung aus dem Dianhydrid (a) und aromatischen Diamin (b) wird hergestellt und in einem Lösungsmittel gerührt;
- (ii) eine Rückflußreaktion zwischen (a) und (b) erzeugt Wasser;

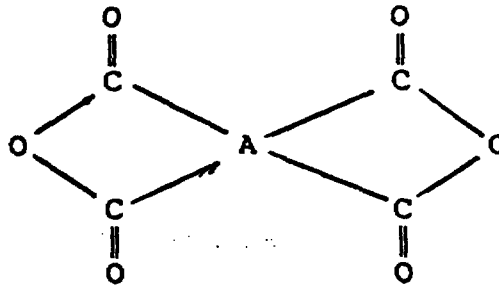


- (iii) das Wasser wird durch Destillation entfernt, und
 (iv) nach dem vollständigen Entfernen des Wassers wird die resultierende Produktlösung abgekühlt und das gewünschte Polymer wiedergewonnen.

5 13. Verfahren nach einem der Ansprüche 10 bis 12, bei dem jedes verwendete Diamin aromatisch ist.

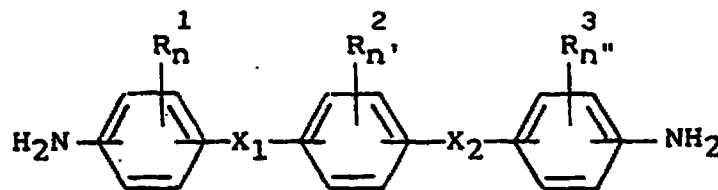
Patentansprüche für folgenden Vertragsstaat : AT

- 10 1. Verfahren zur Herstellung einer thermoplastischen Polyimid-, Poly(esterimid)- oder Polyamidsäurezusammensetzung, die zumindest 10 Mol-% des Reaktionsprodukts von
 (a) aromatischem oder aliphatischem Tetrakarbonsäuredianhydrid



und

25 (b) aromatischem Diamin der Formel



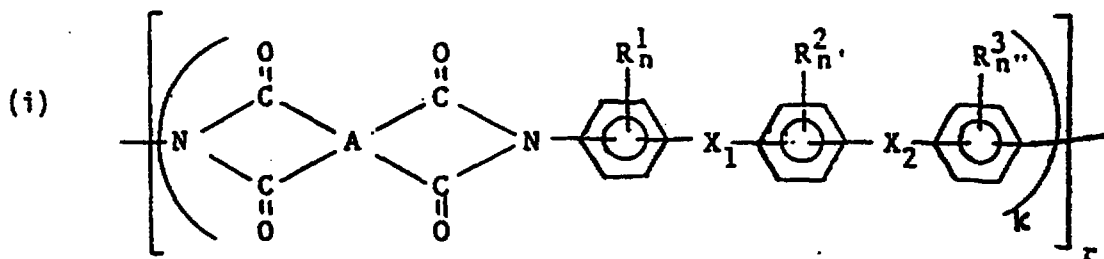
35 enthält, worin A ein vierwertiger Rest ist, der von einem substituierten oder unsubstituierten aromatischen oder aliphatischen Dianhydrid abgeleitet ist,

R¹, R² und R³ (unabhängig voneinander) Wasserstoff, Halogen oder Hydrocarbyl sind und n, n' und n'' (unabhängig voneinander) ganze Zahlen von 1 bis 4 sind und

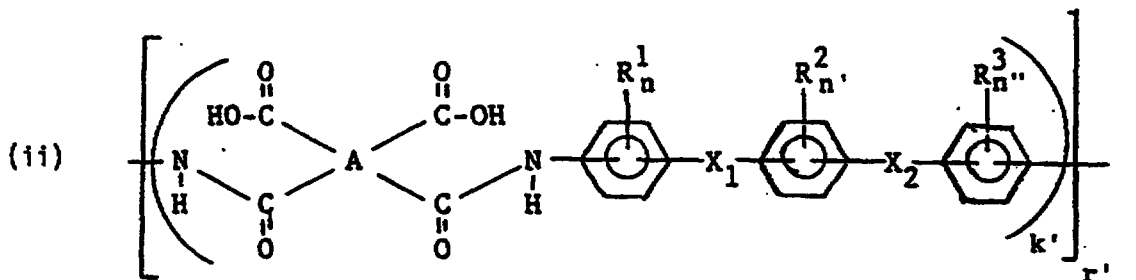
40 X₁ und X₂ (unabhängig voneinander) verzweigtes oder zyklisches Alkylen oder lineares, verzweigtes oder zyklisches Alkenylen mit bis zu 30 C-Atomen sind, bei dem das Dianhydrid mit dem Diamin umgesetzt wird.



2. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1, umfassend wiederkehrende strukturelle Einheiten der Formeln

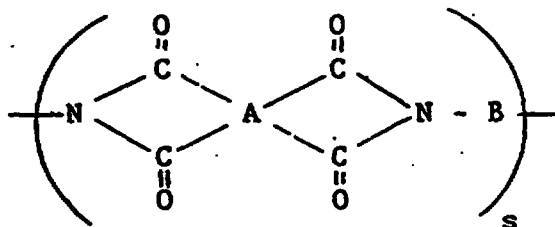


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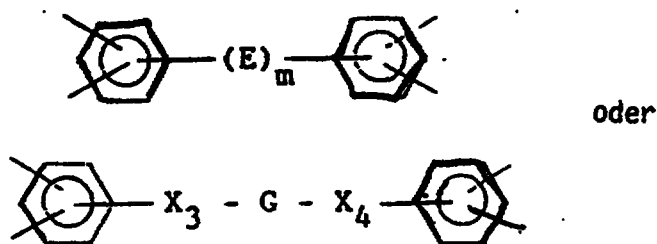
worin k und k' positive ganze Zahlen sind, die die Anzahl der Polymerblöcke im Polymer angegeben, und r und r' gleiche oder verschiedene ganze Zahlen größer als 1 sind, die eine Wiederholungsanzahl in der Polymerkette angeben.

3. Verfahren nach Anspruch 2, worin die Zusammensetzung bis zu 90 Mol-% interkondensierter struktureller Einheiten der Formel



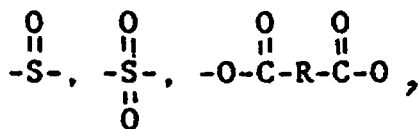
enthält, worin B ein zweiwertiger Rest ist, der von einem Diamin der allgemeinen Formel $\text{H}_2\text{N}-\text{B}-\text{NH}_2$ abgeleitet ist, worin B eine aliphatische oder zykoaliphatische Gruppe mit 2 bis 20 C-Atomen, heterozyklische Gruppe mit 6 bis 20 C-Atomen, Polyoxyalkylengruppe mit von 4 bis 500 C-Atomen, aromatische Gruppe mit 6 bis 40 C-Atomen ist, oder von einem bis(aminofunktionellen) Polysiloxan abgeleitet ist, oder eine Kombination daraus; und s eine ganze Zahl größer als 1 ist.

4. Verfahren nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, worin A ein vierwertiger Benzol- oder Naphthalinkern oder eine substituierte vierwertige Gruppe der Formel





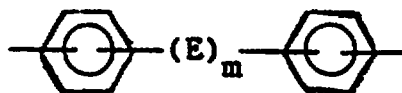
ist, worin m 0 oder 1 ist;
E -O-, -S-, -S-S-,



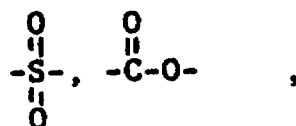
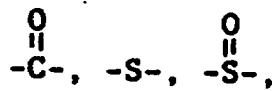
(worin R ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes lineares oder verzweigtes Alkylen oder Arylen mit 1 bis 30 C-Atomen ist),



oder ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes lineares, verzweigtes oder zyklisches Alkylen mit 1 bis 30 C-Atomen oder Alkenylen mit 2 bis 30 C-Atomen ist;
G Phenylen oder eine substituierte oder unsubstituierte Gruppe der Formel

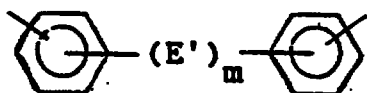


ist; und
X₃ und X₄ jeweils unabhängig voneinander -O-,

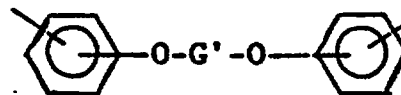


ein lineares oder verzweigtes Alkylen mit 1 bis 30 C-Atomen; oder Alkenylen mit 2 bis 30 C-Atomen ist.

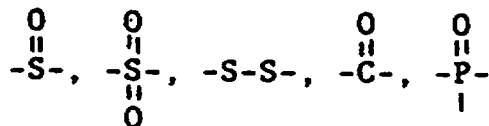
5. Verfahren nach Anspruch 3, worin B ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes Phenylen, Diphenylen, Naphthylen oder eine Gruppe der Formel



oder

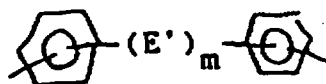


ist, worin m 0 oder 1 ist;
E' -O-, -S-,



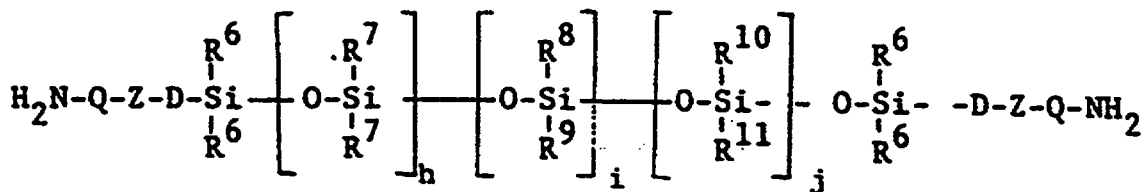
oder ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes verzweigtes oder lineares Alkylen mit 1 bis 30 C-Atomen ist; und

G' ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes Phenylen oder eine Gruppe der Formel



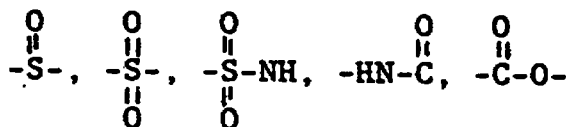
ist.

6. Verfahren nach Anspruch 3, worin B der Rest eines bis(Amino)polysiloxans der Formel



ist, worin Q eine substituierte oder unsubstituierte aromatische Gruppe ist;

Z -O-, -S-,



ist;

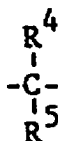
D ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes Hydrocarbylen ist;

R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, R⁹, R¹⁰ und R¹¹ jeweils unabhängig voneinander ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes Hydrocarbyl sind; und

h, i und j jeweils unabhängig voneinander einen Wert von 0 bis 100 haben.

7. Verfahren nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, worin die genannte Zusammensetzung zwischen 15 und 85 Mol-% des genannten Reaktionsprodukts enthält.

8. Verfahren nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, worin X₁ und X₂ jeweils eine divalente Gruppe der Formel



sind, worin



R^4 und R^5 jeweils unabhängig voneinander Wasserstoff, ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes Alkyl mit bis zu 12 C-Atomen, ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes Alkenyl mit 2 bis 12 C-Atomen, ein substituiertes oder unsubstituiertes Zykloalkyl mit 4 bis 12 C-Atomen, ein substituiertes oder unsubstituierter karbozyklischer Aromat oder heterozyklischer Aromat mit 5 bis 24 C-Atomen sind, mit der Maßgabe, daß R^4 und R^5 nicht beide Wasserstoff sein können.

9. Verfahren nach Anspruch 8, worin R^4 und R^5 (unabhängig voneinander) C_{1-8} -Alkyl, C_{2-8} -Alkenyl oder C_{4-8} -Zykloalkyl sind.

10. Verfahren nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, bei dem das Dianhydrid mit dem aromatischen Diamin (b) und einem oder mehreren anderen Diaminen umgesetzt wird, wobei das aromatische Diamin (b) zumindest 10 Mol-% des verwendeten Diamins ausmacht.

11. Verfahren nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, die folgende Abfolge von Schritten umfassend:

- (i) eine Reaktionsmischung aus dem Dianhydrid (a) und aromatischen Diamin (b) wird hergestellt und in einem Lösungsmittel gerührt;
- (ii) eine Rückflußreaktion zwischen (a) und (b) erzeugt Wasser;
- (iii) das Wasser wird durch Destillation entfernt, und
- (iv) nach dem vollständigen Entfernen des Wassers wird die resultierende Produktlösung abgekühlt und das gewünschte Polymer wiedergewonnen.

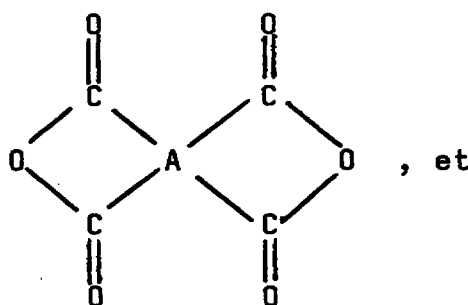
12. Verfahren nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, bei dem jedes verwendete Diamin aromatisch ist.

Revendications

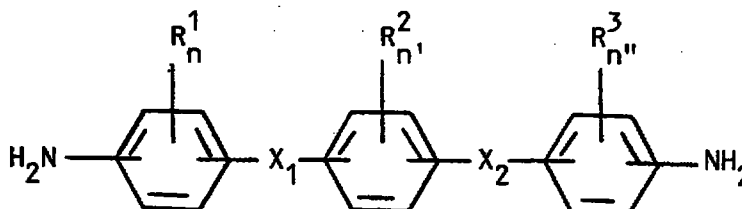
Revendications pour les Etats contractants suivants : BE, CH, DE, FR, GB, IT, LI, NL, SE

1. Composition thermoplastique de polyimide, poly(esterimide) ou polyamide acide qui contient au moins 10% en moles du produit réactionnel de

(a) un dianhydride d'acide tétracarboxylique aromatique ou aliphatique



(b) une diamine aromatique de la formule



où

A est un radical tétravalent dérivé d'un dianhydride aromatique ou aliphatique substitué ou non substitué,

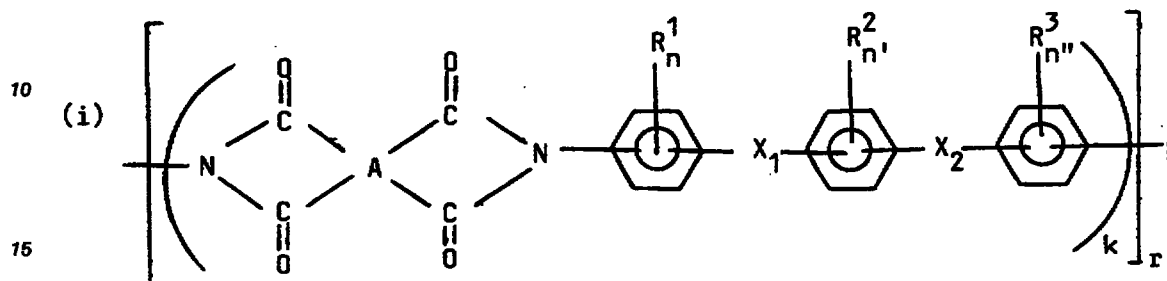
R^1 , R^2 et R^3 sont (indépendamment) hydrogène, halogène ou hydrocarbyle et n , n' et n'' sont



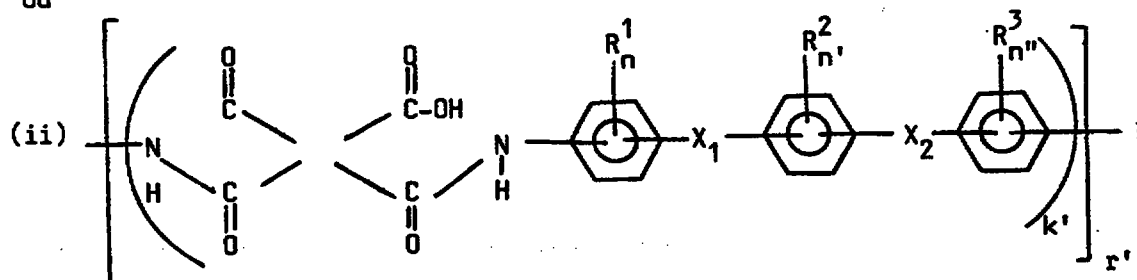
(indépendamment) des nombres entiers de 1 à 4 et

X_1 et X_2 sont (indépendamment) un alkylène ramifié ou cyclique ou bien un alkénylène linéaire, ramifié ou cyclique ayant jusqu'à 30 atomes de carbone.

- 5 2. Composition selon la revendication 1 comprenant des unités récurrentes de structure des formules



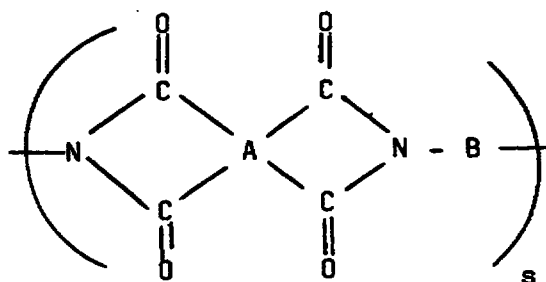
ou



où

30 k et k' sont des nombres entiers positifs représentant le nombre de blocs de polymère dans le polymère et r et r' sont des nombres entiers identiques ou différents plus grands que 1, représentant un nombre de répétitions dans la chaîne du polymère.

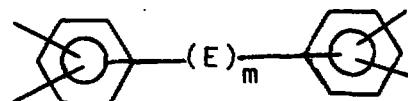
- 35 3. Composition selon la revendication 2, qui contient jusqu'à 90% en moles d'unités intercondensées de structure de la formule



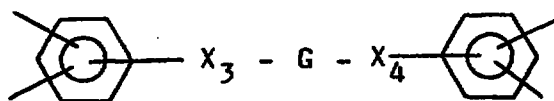
50 où B est un radical divalent dérivé d'une diamine ayant pour formule générale $H_2N-B-NH_2$, où B est un groupe aliphatique ou cycloaliphatique de 2 à 20 atomes de carbone un groupe hétérocyclique de 6 à 20 atomes de carbone, un groupe polyoxyalkylène de 4 à 500 atomes de carbone, un groupe aromatique de 6 à 40 atomes de carbone ou bien est dérivé d'un polysiloxane bis(amino-fonctionnel) ou une combinaison ; et

55 s est un nombre entier plus grand que 1.

4. Composition selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, où A est un noyau de benzène ou naphthalène tétravalent ou bien un groupe tétravalent substitué de la formule

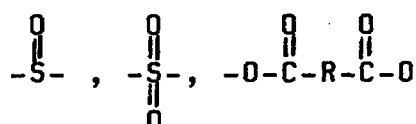


ou



où m est 0 ou 1 ;

E est -O-, -S-, -S-S-,

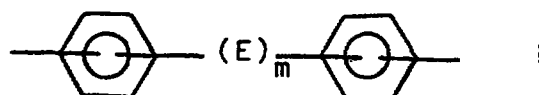


(où R est alkylène ou arylène linéaire ou ramifié substitué ou non substitué , de 1 à 30 atomes de carbone),



ou bien alkylène de 1 à 30 atomes de carbone, linéaire, ramifié ou cyclique, substitué ou non substitué, ou un alkénylène de 2 à 30 atomes de carbone ;

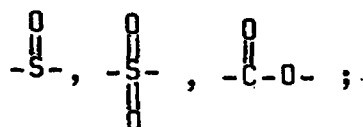
G est phénylène ou un groupe substitué ou non substitué de la formule



et

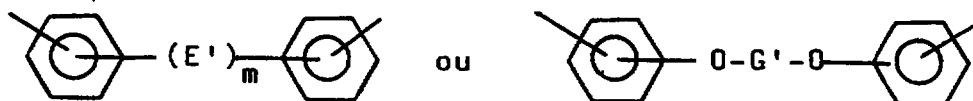
chacun de X_3 et X_4 est indépendamment -O-,

-S-,

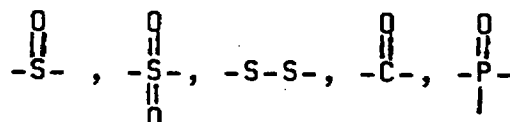


alkylène linéaire ou ramifié de 1 à 30 atomes de carbone ; ou alkénylène de 2 à 30 atomes de carbone.

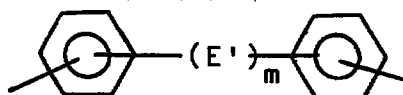
5. Composition selon la revendication 3, où B est phénylène, diphénylène, naphtylène, substitués ou non substitués ou un groupe de la formule



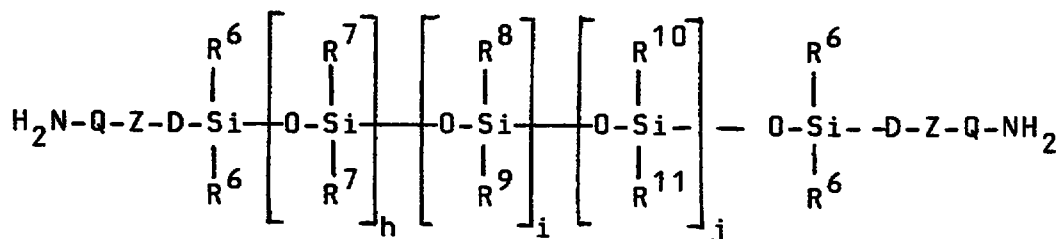
où m est 0 ou 1 ;
 E' est -O- , -S- ,



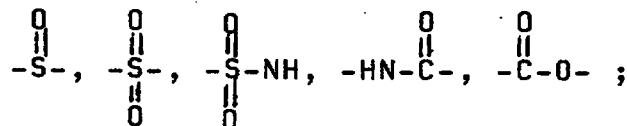
ou alkylène linéaire ou ramifié substitué ou non substitué de 1 à 30 atomes de carbone ; et
 G' est phénylène substitué ou non substitué ou un groupe de la formule



6. Composition selon la revendication 3, où B est le résidu d'un bis(amino)polysiloxane de la formule



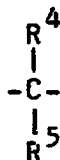
où Q est un groupe aromatique substitué ou non substitué ;
Z est -O- , -S- ,



D est hydrocarbyle substitué ou non substitué ;
chacun de R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , R^{10} et R^{11} est indépendamment hydrocarbyle substitué ou non substitué ; et
chacun de h , i et j a indépendamment une valeur de 0 à 100.

7. Composition selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, où ladite composition contient entre 15 et 85% en moles dudit produit réactionnel.

8. Composition selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, où chacun de X_1 et X_2 est un groupe divalent de la formule



5

où

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chacun de R^4 et R^5 est indépendamment hydrogène, alkyle substitué ou non substitué ayant jusqu'à 12 atomes de carbone, alkényle substitué ou non substitué ayant 2 à 12 atomes de carbone, cycloalkyle substitué ou non substitué de 4 à 12 atomes de carbone, carbocyclique aromatique ou hétérocyclique aromatique substitué ou non substitué ayant 5 à 24 atomes de carbone, à condition que R^4 et R^5 ne soient pas tous deux de l'hydrogène.

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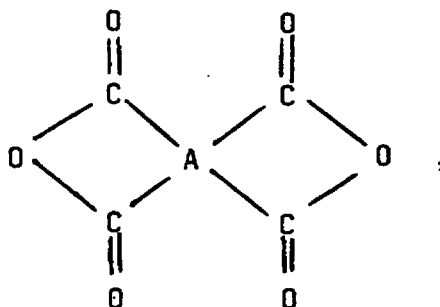
9. Composition selon la revendication 8, où R^4 et R^5 sont (indépendamment) alkyle C_{1-8} , alkényle C_{2-8} ou cycloalkyle C_{4-8} .

20

10. Méthode de production d'un polyamide, poly(esterimide) ou polyamide acide thermoplastique, qui consiste à faire réagir

(a) un dianhydride d'acide tétracarboxylique aromatique ou aliphatique

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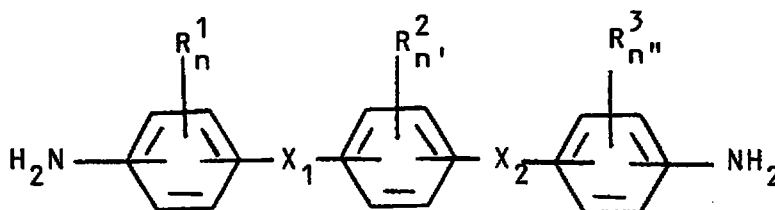
30

35

et

(b) une diamine aromatique de la formule

40



45

où

A est un radical tétravalent dérivé d'un dianhydride aromatique ou aliphatique substitué ou non substitué,

50

R^1 , R^2 et R^3 sont (indépendamment) hydrogène, halogène ou hydrocarbyle et n , n' et n'' sont (indépendamment) des nombres entiers de 1 à 4 et

X_1 et X_2 sont (indépendamment) alkylène ramifié ou cyclique ou bien alkénylène linéaire, ramifié ou cyclique ayant jusqu'à 30 atomes de carbone.

55

11. Méthode selon la revendication 10, où l'on fait réagir le dianhydride avec la diamine aromatique (b) et une ou plusieurs autres diamines, la diamine aromatique (b) constituant au moins 10% en moles de la diamine utilisée.

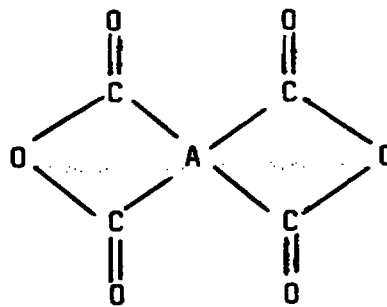


12. Méthode selon la revendication 10 ou la revendication 11 comprenant la séquence suivante d'étapes :
- (i) on prépare un mélange réactionnel de dianhydride (a) et de diamine aromatique (b) et on soumet à agitation dans un solvant ;
 - (ii) une réaction de reflux entre (a) et (b) donne de l'eau;
 - (iii) l'eau est éliminée par distillation et
 - (iv) après élimination complète de l'eau on refroidit la solution résultante du produit et on récupère le polymère souhaité.

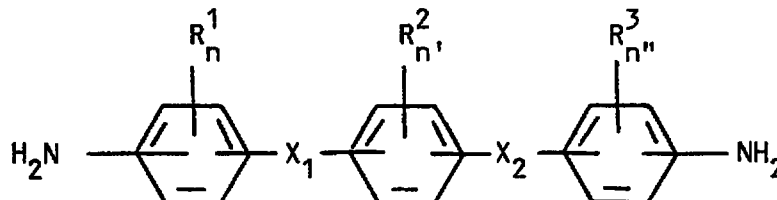
13. Méthode selon l'une quelconque des revendications 10 à 12, où chaque diamine utilisée est aromatique.

Revendications pour l'Etat contractant suivant : AT

1. Méthode de production d'une composition thermoplastique de polyamide poly(esterimide) ou polyamide-acide qui contient au moins 10% en moles du produit réactionnel de
- (a) un dianhydride d'acide tétracarboxylique aromatique ou aliphatique



et
(b) une diamine aromatique de la formule



où

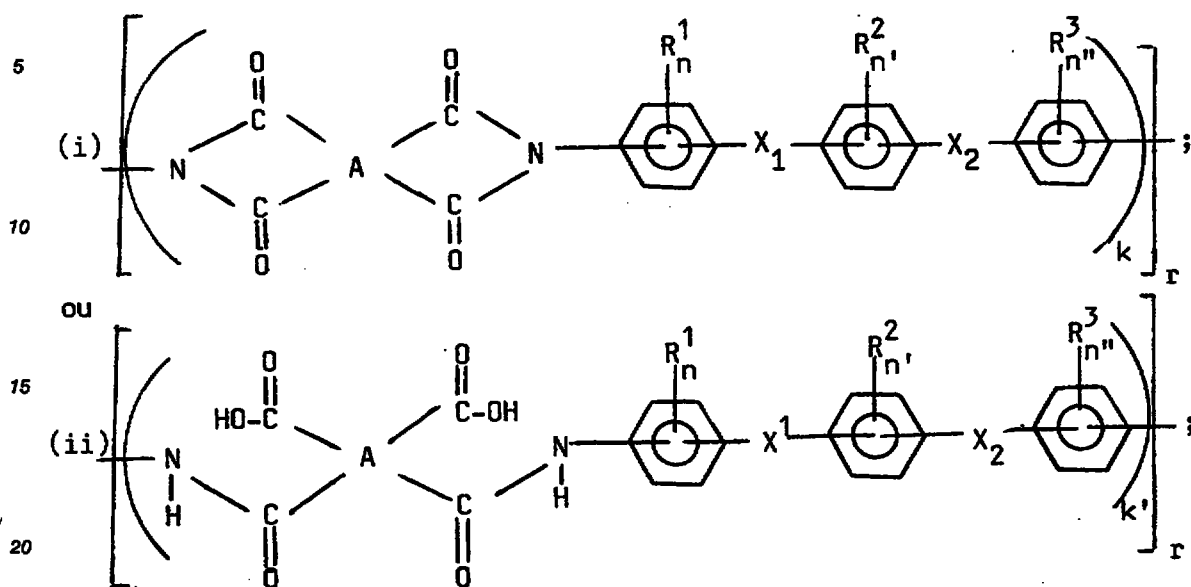
A est un radical tétravalent dérivé d'un dianhydride aromatique ou aliphatique substitué ou non substitué,

R¹, R² et R³ sont (indépendamment) hydrogène, halogène ou hydrocarbyle et n, n' et n'' sont (indépendamment) des nombres entiers de 1 à 4 et

X₁ et X₂ sont (indépendamment) un alkylène ramifié ou cyclique ou bien un alkénylène linéaire, ramifié ou cyclique ayant jusqu'à 30 atomes de carbone, consistant à faire réagir le dianhydride avec la diamine.



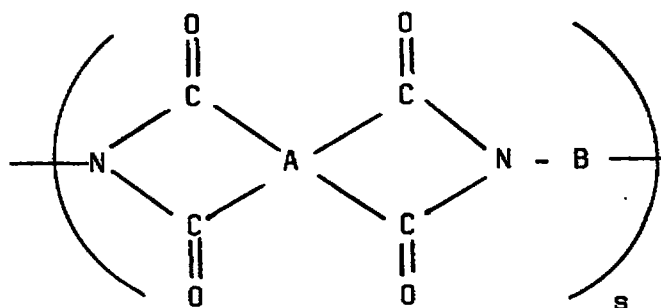
2. Méthode selon la revendication 1, consistant à former des unités récurrentes de structure des formules



où

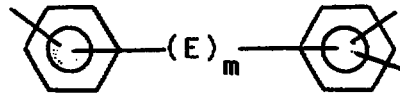
k et k' sont des nombres entiers positifs représentant le nombre de blocs de polymère dans le polymère et r et r' sont des nombres entiers identiques ou différents plus grands que 1, représentant un nombre de répétitions dans la chaîne du polymère.

3. Méthode selon la revendication 2, dans laquelle la composition contient jusqu'à 90% en moles d'unités intercondensées de structure de la formule

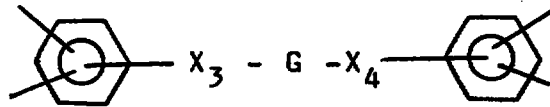


où B est un radical divalent dérivé d'une diamine ayant pour formule générale $H_2N-B-NH_2$, où B est un groupe aliphatique ou cycloaliphatique de 2 à 20 atomes de carbone, un groupe hétérocyclique de 6 à 20 atomes de carbone, un groupe polyoxyalkylène de 4 à 500 atomes de carbone un groupe aromatique de 6 à 40 atomes de carbone ou bien est dérivé d'un polysiloxane bis(amino-fonctionnel) ou une combinaison ; et s est un nombre entier plus grand que 1.

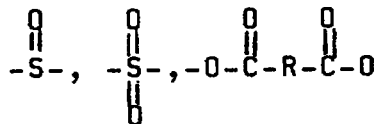
4. Méthode selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, où A est un noyau de benzène ou naphthalène tétravalent ou bien un groupe tétravalent substitué de la formule



ou



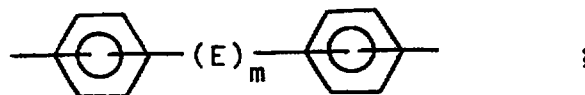
où m est 0 ou 1 ;
E est -O-, -S-, -S-S-,



(où R est alkylène ou arylène linéaire ou ramifié, substitué ou non substitué de 1 à 30 atomes de carbone),



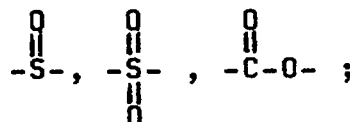
ou bien alkylène de 1 à 30 atomes de carbone, linéaire, ramifié ou cyclique, substitué ou non substitué
ou alkénylène de 2 à 30 atomes de carbone ;
G est phénylène ou un groupe substitué ou non substitué de la formule



et
chacun de X₃ et X₄ est indépendamment -O-,



-S-,

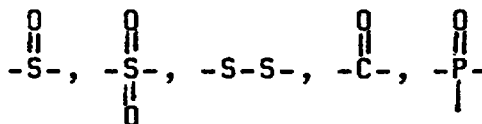


alkylène linéaire ou ramifié de 1 à 30 atomes de carbone ; ou alkénylène de 2 à 30 atomes de carbone.

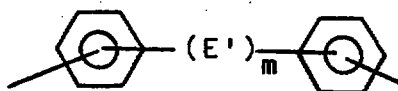
5. Méthode selon la revendication 3, où B est phénylène, diphenylène, naphtylène, substitués ou non substitués ou un groupe de la formule



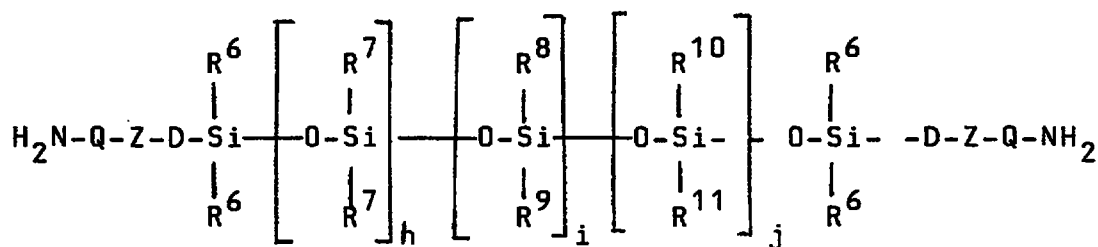
où m est 0 ou 1 ;
E' est -O-, -S-,



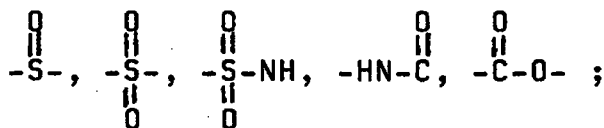
ou
alkylène linéaire ou ramifié, substitué ou non substitué de 1 à 30 atomes de carbone ; et
G' est un phénylène substitué ou non substitué ou un groupe de la formule



6. Méthode selon la revendication 3, où B est le résidu d'un bis(amino)polysiloxane de la formule



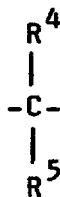
où Q est un groupe aromatique substitué ou non substitué ;
Z est -O-, -S-,



D est hydrocarbyle substitué ou non substitué ;
chacun de R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, R⁹, R¹⁰ et R¹¹ est indépendamment hydrocarbyle substitué ou non substitué ; et
chacun de h, i et j a indépendamment une valeur de 0 à 100.

7. Méthode selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, où ladite composition contient entre 15 et 85% en moles dudit produit réactionnel.

8. Méthode selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, où chacun de X₁ et X₂ est un groupe divalent de la formule



5

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où

chacun de R^4 et R^5 est indépendamment hydrogène, alkyle substitué ou non substitué ayant jusqu'à 12 atomes de carbone, alkényle substitué ou non substitué ayant 2 à 12 atomes de carbone, cycloalkyle substitué ou non substitué de 4 à 12 atomes de carbone, carbocyclique aromatique ou hétérocyclique substitué ou non substitué ayant 5 à 24 atomes de carbone, à condition que R^4 et R^5 ne soient pas tous deux de l'hydrogène.

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9. Méthode selon la revendication 8, où R^4 et R^5 sont (indépendamment) alkyle C_{1-8} , alkényle C_{2-8} ou cycloalkyle C_{4-8} .

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10. Méthode selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, où on fait réagir le dianhydride avec la diamine aromatique (b) et une ou plusieurs autres diamines, la diamine aromatique (b) constituant au moins 10% en moles de la diamine utilisée.

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11. Méthode selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, comprenant la séquence suivante des étapes:

(i) on prépare un mélange réactionnel de dianhydride (a) et de diamine aromatique (b) et on soumet à agitation dans un solvant ;

(ii) une réaction de reflux entre (a) et (b) donne de l'eau ;

(iii) l'eau est éliminée par distillation et

(iv) après élimination complète de l'eau, on refroidit la solution résultante du produit et on récupère le polymère souhaité.

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12. Méthode selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, où chaque diamine utilisée est aromatique.

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