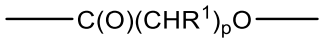
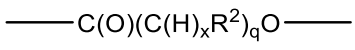
CLAIMS

1. An oil composition comprising at least 50 percent by mass, based on the mass of the composition of an oil and 0.01 to 25 percent by mass, based on the mass of the composition, of a block copolymer comprising at least one poly(lactone) segment; wherein the
block copolymer comprises units (a):



(a)

wherein p is an integer from 4 to 7; wherein in one, two or three, preferably one or two instances p, R^1 is a hydrocarbyl group or substituted hydrocarbyl group having from 4 to 24 carbon atoms, and in all other instances p, R^1 is hydrogen;
and, units (b):



(b)

wherein units (b) are different from units (a); wherein q is an integer from 4 to 15; and wherein either (i), in all instances q, R^2 is hydrogen, or (ii), wherein in one, two or three, preferably one or two instances q, R^2 is a hydrocarbyl group or substituted hydrocarbyl group having from 1 to 24 carbon atoms, and in all other instances q, R^2 is hydrogen; and wherein either in all instances q, x is 1, or for two contiguous moeities q, x is zero such that units (b) comprise one carbon-carbon double bond, and in all other instances q, x is 1.

2. An oil composition according to claim 1, wherein the polymer carries an inorganic or organic polymerisation terminating group (t), and an initiator group (i) being effective to initiate the ring-opening polymerisation of lactones.

3. An oil composition according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the polymer comprises units (a) only.

4. An oil composition according to claim 3, wherein p is 5.

5. An oil composition according to claim 1, wherein q is an integer from 4 to 10, preferably from 4 to 7, more preferably 5.

6. An oil composition according to claim 5, wherein p and q are both 5.

7. An oil composition according to any of claims 1 to 6, wherein the total number of units (a) and (b) in the polymer is from 10 to 1000, preferably from 25 to 400.

8. An oil composition according to any of claims 1 to 7, wherein the ratio of the number of units (a) to the number of units (b) in the polymer is from 1:200 to 200:1, more preferably from 1:100 to 100:1, or from 1:50 to 50:1, or from 1:25 to 25:1, or from 1:10 to 10:1, or from 1:5 to 5:1, for example 1:1.

9. An oil composition according to any of claims 1 to 8, wherein the polymer is a block-co-polymer.

10. An oil composition according to any preceding claim in the form of a lubricating oil composition, preferably a lubricating oil composition formulated for the lubrication of the crankcase of a spark-ignited or a compression-ignited internal combustion engine.

11. A method of lubricating the crankcase of an internal combustion engine comprising operating the engine and lubricating the crankcase with an oil composition according to claim 10.

12. The use of a polymer as defined in any of claims 1 to 9 as an additive in an oil composition to reduce friction between contacting surfaces lubricated by the composition.