# Macromolecular Chemistry







Lecture 13



#### Fr<del>ee</del> Radical Oo-polymerization **Free Radical Co-polymerization**



where  $k_{11}$  and  $k_{22}$ : self-propagation rate constant

 $\mathbf{k}_{12}$  and  $\mathbf{k}_{21}$ : cross-propagation rate constant **Assume chain end concentrations are constant at "steady state"** o Monomer reactivity ratio

$$
\frac{\mathbf{k}_{11}}{\mathbf{k}_{12}} = \mathbf{r}_1 \qquad \frac{\mathbf{k}_{22}}{\mathbf{k}_{21}} = \mathbf{r}_2
$$

. . . . . .<br>Ithan M means M**If r1 >1 this means that ~M1• adds M<sup>1</sup> more readily than M2. If r1 is zero then M<sup>1</sup> does not undergo homopolymerization!!**

o Copolymer (composition) equation  $\frac{d[M_1]}{d[M_2]} = \frac{[M_1]}{[M_2]} \left( \frac{r_1[M_1] + [M_2]}{[M_1] + r_2[M_2]} \right)$ 

*Chemistry 367L/392N***This important relationship can be expressed in terms of mole fractions rather than concentrations** o Instantaneous composition of feed and polymer

- $f_1$  = mole fraction of  $M_1$  in the feed
- $f_2$  = mole fraction of  $M_2$  in the feed
- $F_1$  = mole fraction of M<sub>1</sub> in the copolymer
- $F_2$  = mole fraction of M<sub>2</sub> in the copolymer

#### **Copolymerization Equation**

$$
F_1=\frac{{r_1}{f_1}^2+{f_1}{f_2}}{{r_1}{f_1}^2+2{f_1}{f_2}+{r_2}{f_2}^2}
$$

**This gives the Instantaneous mole fraction of M1 in the copolymer**



# Finemann-Ross Equation







 $\mathbf{u}$ 

# **Let's actually calculate r1 and r2 from some data**

We run the copolymerization for a very short time starting with different weight ratios of 2 monomers. The assumption is that f does not change in this experiment

We isolate the small amount of polymer generated and determine the ratio of monomers incorporated….by nmr, for example

We apply the Fineman-Ross analysis and extract the reactivity ratios.



#### 1)  $r_1 = r_2 = 1$

No preference for homopolymerization or copolymerization



 $F_1 = f$ 

e.g.  $M_1$  = ethylene  $M_2$  = vinyl acetate  $r_1 = 0.97$   $r_2 = 1.02$ 

2)  $r_1 = r_2 = 0$ 

**Alternating copolymer** 

$$
\boxed{\mathsf{F}_1 = 0.5}
$$

e.g.  $M_1$  = styrene  $M_2$  = maleic anhydride  $r_1 = 0.041$   $r_2 = 0.01$ 

### $r_1 > 1$ ,  $r_2 < 1$  or  $r_1 < 1$ ,  $r_2 > 1$



If  $r_1 > 1$  (k11 > k12) and  $r_2 < 1$  (k22 < k21) then  $M_1$  is more active than  $M_2$  whether either  $M_1^{\bullet}$  and  $M_2^{\bullet}$ .  $F_1^{\bullet}$  is always larger than  $f_1$  and the curve is always above the always larger than f<sub>1</sub> and the curve is always above the<br>diagonal.

*Chemistry 367L/392N*The situation is similar for  $r_1 \leq 1$ ,  $r_2 \geq 1$  but the curve is below the diagonal.

# **Ideal copolymerization**

as  $\rm r_1$  $r_1$  x  $r_2 = 1$  ( $r_2=1/r_1$ ), it becomes an "ideal copolymerization" $\left[ \mathrm{M}_2 \right]$  $r_1 \frac{[M_1]}{[M_2]}$  $d[M_2]$  $\frac{d[M_1]}{d\Omega}$ 21 $1 \cdot \cdot$  $2^{\perp}$ 1 $=$   $=$ Ff

In this case  $\sim M_1$ <sup>•</sup> and  $\sim M_2$  • have the same preference for adding either of the two monomers.



#### **Azeotropic copolymerization**



Condition under which F, the mole fraction of monomer in the polymer and f, the mole fraction in the feed remain constant through the whole polymerization….that is, these ratios are not a function conversion







#### **Rich in one monomer**



(composition of polymer)

(composition of polymer)





## **Poly(styrene-alt-maleic anhydride)**



## **Charge transfer complex polymerization(alternating copolymer).**





If  $r_1 > 1$  (k11 > k12) and  $r_2 < 1$  (k22 < k21) then  $M_1$  is more active than  $M_2$  whether either  $M_1^*$  and  $M_2^*$ .  $F_1^1$  is always larger than  $f_1$  and the curve is always above the always larger than f<sub>1</sub> and the curve is always above the<br>diagonal.

*Chemistry 367L/392N*The situation is similar for  $r_1 \leq 1$ ,  $r_2 \geq 1$  but the curve is below the diagonal.



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# **Estimating Reactivity Ratios**

measurement of  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  is possible by applying the Fineman Rose equation but it is a bit tedious!

copolymerization reactivity ratios  $(r_1, r_2)$  depend on:

- temperature
- solvent
- mechanism of polymerization
- pair of monomers

development of a more general system

Q-e-scheme of Alfrey and Price

allows estimation of (radical) copolymerization reactivity ratios of unknown pairs of monomers

## Q-e-scheme of Alfrey and Price

• allows estimation of (radical) copolymerization reactivity ratios of unknown comonomers

- two parameters:
	- $Q value$ resonance stabilisation of radical



- e value electro negativity of C=C-double bond
	- $e < 0$  electron rich  $e > 0$ electron poor
- styrene  $Q = 1$  e = -0.8  $\cdot$  reference:
- · calculation of reactivity ratios:

$$
r_1 = \frac{Q_1}{Q_2} \cdot e^{(-e_1(e_1 - e_2))} \qquad r_2 = \frac{Q_2}{Q_1} \cdot e^{(-e_2(e_2 - e_1))}
$$

# Q and e

- Generalizations:
	- –This is a purely empirical relationship
	- – $Q$  and e come from measurements of  $r_1$  and  $r_2$
	- –Ideal condition is same Q and e values
	- –Proceeds poorly if  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are very different
	- – Tends toward alternating if Q's are the same and <sup>e</sup>'s arelarge but of opposite sign.



### Q-e-scheme of Alfrey and Price





#### Reactivity (Q) and Polarity (e) of Monomer





# **Conclusions-radical copolymers**

- $\bullet$  **Co-polymers are important**
	- **Properties depend on composition**
- $\bullet$  **In general, these materials are heterogeneous**
- $\bullet$  **Mayo equation allows calculation of composition knowing r1 and r<sup>2</sup>**
- $\bullet$  **Finemann Ross approach allows determination of r1 and r<sup>2</sup>**
- $\bullet$ **Alfrey – Price allows estimate of r<sup>1</sup> and r<sup>2</sup>**



## **What about step growth copolymers??**

We discussed A B type step growth polymers -ABABABA- If  $N_A^{\circ}$  is the number of A molecules at the beginning of the polymerization and  $N^0_{\overline{B}}$  is the number if B molecules,  $N_A^0$ 

We define r, the stoichiometric imbalance as

$$
r = \frac{N_A^0}{N_B^0}
$$

If p is the conversion (as in Carothers equation) then fraction of B at p is p  $N_A^0$  or pr  $N_B^0$  and the number of  $N_B^0$ unreacted groups  $\mathcal{N}_\mathsf{A}$  and  $\mathcal{N}_\mathsf{B}$  is  $\ldots$ 

$$
N_A = (1 - p)N_A^0 \qquad NB = (1 - pr)N_B^0 = (1 - pr)\frac{N_A^0}{r}
$$



At this point, the number of A and B end groups is  $N_A + N_B$ , but 2 ends per chains...the number N of chains in the jar is….

$$
N = \frac{1}{2}(N_A + N_B)
$$

Which is... 
$$
N = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (1-p)N_A^0 + (1-pr)\frac{N_A^0}{r} \right]
$$

Or.... 
$$
N = \frac{N_A^0}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{r} - 2p \right)
$$

Now..the total number of repeat units,  $\mathcal{N}_{\mathsf{r}}$  is  $\,\dots$ 

*Chemistry 367L/39* ( $N_r = \frac{1}{2}(N_A^0 + N_B^0)$  One repeat unit formed per reaction

Remember... 
$$
r = \frac{N_A^0}{N_B^0}
$$
 So...  
\n
$$
N_r = \frac{1}{2} \left( N_A^o + \frac{N_A^o}{r} \right) = \frac{N_A^0}{2} \left( \frac{r+1}{r} \right)
$$

Which

DP is the number of monomer units divided by number of chains

$$
DP = \frac{N_r}{N} = \frac{\frac{N_A^0}{2} \left[ \frac{r+1}{r} \right]}{\frac{N_A^0}{2} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{r} - 2p \right]}
$$
 **Supplementary**  
However, the following follows: **Supplementary**  
Substituting  $P = \frac{1+r}{r+1-2p}$  and **Supplementary**  
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$$
DP = \frac{1+r}{r+1-2rp}
$$
 This is nice!!!

Note that if there is no stoichiometric imbalance,  $r = 1$ and we get…..

$$
DP = \frac{1}{1-p}
$$
 The Carothers  
Equation!!

When A is totally consumed  $(p = 1)$  then...

$$
DP = \frac{1+r}{1-r}
$$

