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POLYOLEFIN MICROSTRUCTURAL CHARACTERIZATIONS WITH NMR AND GPC-UV-RI

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Polyolefins, with their excellent cost/performance ratio, are by volume the most produced synthetic polymers with a predicted growth to 170 million tons by 2017. Understanding polyolefin molecular structure and property relationships are a key to improve catalyst systems and process technologies. NMR is one of the best techniques to achieve this goal, it can provide for example short chain branching/co-monomer content, sequence distribution/blockiness, regio-errors, chain end/unsaturation, long chain branching and tacticity. Recent

sensitivity improvements simplified measurements which were previously very difficult. This presentation includes unsaturation measurements, regio-error assignments with 2D INADEQUATE, high temperature liquid chromatography and thermal gradient interaction chromatography separation mechanisms and long chain branching as well as new techniques such as temperature gradient NMR¹² and GPC-UV-RI.¹³

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