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Research Details:

Research Title : <u>Photochromic properties of (E)-dicyclopropylmethylene-(2,5-</u>

dimethyl-3-furylethylidene)-succinic anhydride doped in PMMA

polymer film

<u>Photochromic properties of (E)-dicyclopropylmethylene-(2,5-dimethyl-3-furylethylidene)-succinic anhydride doped in PMMA</u>

polymer film

Description : A film of fulgide 1-E doped in a PMMA polymer film and spread

over a quartz plate was irradiated with ultraviolet light (366 nm), the film was turned pink. The later color was switched back to the original color when the film was irradiated with a white light. The photocoloration and photobleaching reactions obeyed first order rate equations with rate constants equal 1.49 x 10(-3) s(-1) and 5.75 x 10(-2) s(-1), respectively. Another two films were heated for four hours, one at 62 degrees C and the other at 82 degrees C. The fatigue resistant of the film was greatly improved when the annealing temperature increased to 82 degrees C. The UV-spectra of the films show two absorption maxima at lambda(max) = 360 and 300 nm. The UV-spectra of the annealed film at 82 degrees C show a decrease in the height of the second maximum absorbance band at), x = 300 nm. Similarly, the photocoloration and photobleaching reactions of the annealed films show first order rate equations. Interestingly, the rate of the photocoloration reaction increases with increasing the annealing temperature. On the other hand, the rate of the photobleaching reaction is almost similar for the three films. In conclusion, the Photochromic properties of fulgide 1-E doped in PMMA polymer film was improved significantly upon annealing at 82 degrees C, compared with other epoxy films we studied previously. (C) 2005 Elsevier

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