R. D. FROESE*, D.J. ARRIOLA, J. DEN DÖLDER, J. HOU, T. KASHYAP, K. LU,
L. MARTINETTI, B. D. STUBBERT (THE DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY, MIDLAND, USA)

A Commercially Viable Solution Process to Control Long-Chain Branching in Polyethylene
Science 2024, 383, 1223-1228, DOI: 10.1126/science.adn3067.

## Polyethylene with Laddered Long-Chain Branching



Mechanism of polymerization


Hf catalyst


Significance: Low-density polyolefin (LDPE) with long-chain branching (LCB) is an important type of commodity product, in which the LCB is usually introduced by a radical process under high-pressure conditions. In this work, a more cost-effective synthetic method is developed for LDPE with laddertype LCB, presenting similar rheological properties to conventional LDPE.

Comment: The imino-enamido Hf catalyst is selected for its advantageous dual active sites. Hence, two polymer chains can grow from a single catalytic center. With diene introduced as a co-monomer, laddered LCB can be achieved, and the unique polymer structure is confirmed by ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectroscopy.

## Category

Synthesis of
Materials and Unnatural Products

## Key words

low-density
polyethylene
long-chain
branching
ladder polymer
polyolefins

## Synfact <br> of the

Month

[^0]
[^0]:    SYNFACTS Contributors: Dahui Zhao, Pai Wang
    Synfacts 2024, 20(07), 0691 Published online: 14.06.2024
    DOI: 10.1055/s-0043-1775198; Reg-No.: S07324SF

