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

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 ladder-type 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 ¹³C NMR spectroscopy.

Category

Synthesis of Materials and Unnatural Products

Key words

low-density polyethylene long-chain branching ladder polymer polyolefins



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