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**Preparation of Sol-Gel Hybrid Materials from
 γ -Methacryloxypropyltrimethoxysilane and TetramethylOrthosilicate:
Study of the Hydrolysis and Condensation Reactions**

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Abstract. Organic-inorganic hybrid materials suitable for the development of sol-gel coatings for metallic surfaces were prepared by hydrolysis and condensation of γ -methacryloxypropyltrimethoxysilane (MAPTMS) and tetramethylorthosilicate (TMOS). The hydrolysis of MAPTMS/TMOS was carried out in an ethanol/water solution. The prehydrolysis stage of MAPTMS/TMOS system was monitored by Fourier Transformer Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) and liquid-state ²⁹Si and ¹³C Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (²⁹Si and ¹³C NMR). FTIR analysis indicated that the hydrolysis of MAPTMS/TMOS was accomplished as far as the (Si-OMe) band corresponds to unhydrolyzed silane disappeared. The concentration of the alkoxy groups and the extent of self-condensation of mono-, di-, and tri-substituted siloxanes (T species) in the sol were estimated by using liquid-state ²⁹Si NMR spectroscopy. The hydrolysis of the prepared sol was also evaluated by liquid state ¹³C NMR spectroscopy. The results indicated that under the adopted synthesis strategy conditions, the hydrolysis process requires four hours to be completed.

Keywords: sol-gel; silica; organic-inorganic materials; organopolysiloxane precursors; Si-29 and C-13 NMR; FTIR; structural characterization.

INTRODUCTION

The interest in developing novel organic-inorganic hybrid coatings in recent years is due to the unique properties derived from combining inorganic and organic components into a single system [1-7]. Inorganic and organic-inorganic sol-gel materials have many applications in diverse fields such as optics, electronics, ionics, mechanics, energy, environment and biology [8,9], separation, catalysis and sensing [10-15], electrochemistry [16-24], functional smart materials and corrosion protection coatings [8,9,25,26] or biomaterials and biomedical applications [9,27-30]. The sol-gel route, originally directed towards the

synthesis of purely inorganic materials, is increasingly being extended to the preparation of organic-inorganic hybrid materials. The organic-inorganic hybrids combine the desirable properties of organic polymers (toughness, elasticity) with those of inorganic solids (hardness, chemical resistance). The sol-gel method as a materials processing technique has attracted intense and growing interest of the researchers because of its advantages over the other traditional preparation methods. This route enables the obtaining of high reactivity, better purity, avoidance of corrosive by products, improved control of the product structure and provides an easy, cost-effective and excellent way to incorporate inorganic compounds into an organic one[31-33]. The organic-inorganic hybrid materials can be easily prepared at room temperature by hydrolysis and condensation of metal alkoxides of the type $M(OR)_n$, where M is Si, Ti, Al, Sn, Zr, etc. This method comprises a chemical synthesis of materials having an oxide backbone and an additional organic component as a network former. Starting from hydrolyzable molecular compounds, such as alkoxy compounds of silicon, for instance tetramethylorthosilicate (TMOS), the hydrolysis and condensation is induced by addition of water and a catalyst giving to the formation of an inorganic silica network. The organic silane precursor, for instance γ -methacryloxypropyltrimethoxysilane (MAPTMS), contains organic groups which act as network modifiers. Due to the presence of these modifiers, the final silicon network gains different properties (e.g. hydrophobicity, flexibility) depending on the nature of the organic group used [34]. The hydrolyzed Si-OH silanol groups are able to react with hydroxyl groups present on inorganic or metal surfaces, to form hydrogen bonds[35,36], followed by condensation to form oxane bonds[37,38]. Figure 1 shows a simplified view of the cascade reactions of hydrolytic deposition of silanes on inorganic or metal surfaces.

The excess Si-OH groups adsorbed on the surface can also condense among themselves to form Si-O-Si siloxane films[39]. Sol-gel coatings based on siloxane bonded units can be prepared starting from an organic-inorganic hybrid system. Thus the co-hydrolysis and polycondensation of the MAPTMS and TMOS mixture produce a polymeric structure (Figure 2), exhibiting properties of chemical compatibility and flexibility able to accommodate other species, as selected ionophores or corrosion inhibitors, without showing phase segregation neither cracking processes. We have used these precursors for multifunctional purposes, to develop electrode-membranes[40,41], ion selective sensors[42,43] and self-repairing coatings for delaying the corrosion advance in metals [44].

The aim of the current paper has been to study the structural changes which take place during the hydrolysis and condensation processes of a MAPTMS/TMOS solution after the addition of water and ethanol. FTIR and liquid-state ^{29}Si and ^{13}C NMR have been applied for this purpose.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sol preparation

As described in detail elsewhere [42-44], sols were prepared starting from a mixture of 4 mol of γ -methacryloxypropyltrimethoxysilane (MAPTMS, Aldrich) and 1 mol of tetramethoxysilane (TMOS, Fluka). Ethanol ($\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$, 99.8%) and water were added with the molar ratio silane/water/methanol of 1/3/3. The resulting sol solution was completely transparent and without phase separation.

Fourier Transforms Infrared Spectrometer (FTIR).

The prepared sol samples were analyzed by FTIR spectral analysis. Each sample was prepared by mixing about 0.5 ml of sol with 200 mg of CSI, which was subsequently pressed into pellet in an evacuated die. All the spectra were measured by using a Nicolet Magna 550 infrared spectrometer at room temperature, which covers the wavenumber range of $4000\text{-}400\text{ cm}^{-1}$.

Liquid-State Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR).

^{29}Si and ^{13}C NMR spectra of the liquid samples were recorded at 79.49 and 100.62 MHz respectively, in a Bruker AVANCE-400 spectrometer. The external magnetic field was 9.4 Tesla. The single pulse NMR spectra were obtained after excitations with a $\pi/2$ pulse length of $6\mu\text{s}$, for ^{29}Si and intervals between successive accumulations (recycle delay) of 5s for each type of signal. NMR spectra were registered for ^{13}C with a $\pi/2$ pulse length of $5\mu\text{s}$ and a recycle delay of 10s. The number of scans was 1600 in the case of ^{29}Si and 128 for ^{13}C . The ^{29}Si and ^{13}C chemical shift values are given relative to $\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_4$. The deconvolutions of the NMR spectra were carried out with the WINFIT program so that the different components, and their contributions, could be determined.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The reaction between silanes species in liquid media occurs, in general, by sol-gel process in which hydrolysis and condensation of the silane groups take place. In particular by mixing the two precursors

(MAPTMS/TMOS) with H₂O/ethanol at ambient temperature, the hydrolysis taking place in the solution must be considered[45].

In this sense, FTIR is a rapid, nondestructive and sensitive analytical method for identifying functional groups present. The FTIR spectrum of the MAPTMS/TMOS upon mixing with EtOH/H₂O solvent system can be seen in Figure 3. The corresponding band assignments are present in Table 1. The absorption bands around 2950 and 2840 cm⁻¹ are attributed to stretching vibrations of C-H bonds in alkyl and methoxy groups, respectively[46]. The band close to 1720 cm⁻¹ is associated to the stretching vibrations of C=O carbonyl groups of MAPTMS, while that one at 1640 cm⁻¹ is attributed to C=C groups of the methacrylate groups from the MAPTMS precursor[46-48].

The bands at 1450 and 1150 cm⁻¹ are attributed to deformation vibrations of C-H in CH₂ and CH₃ bonds[49,50]. The asymmetric and symmetric stretching vibrations of C-O of C-O-C bonds are attributed to bands at 1320 and 1300 cm⁻¹, respectively[49]. Finally, the bands at 941 and 822 cm⁻¹ are assigned to the C=C vibrations of the C=C-C=O group, while that assigned to C-C-O skeleton vibration for pure ethanol appear at 1090 cm⁻¹ [50]. All those bands (except the one at 2840 cm⁻¹) are related with the non-hydrolysable part of the MAPTMS-TMOS mixture, and should appear in the FTIR spectra carried out after the hydrolysis process.

The band at 1080 cm⁻¹ is attributed to stretching vibrations of Si-O-C bonds. Other authors have also made the same attribution in different silanes[51,52]. This band is the one that expected to be broken during the hydrolysis process. Presence of the very little bands assigned to Si-O-Si bonds at 980 cm⁻¹ indicates that certain condensation of the silane chains has taken place immediately upon mixing [53]. These bands prove the existence of condensation phenomena together with the hydrolysis one.

The FTIR spectra of the MAPTMS/TMOS aqueous mixture are shown in Figure 4, for hydrolysis time varying from 15 minutes up to 3.5 h. In these spectra it is clearly observed that the FTIR spectrum of 3.5 h spectrum is very similar to that after 1 minute of mixing (Figure 3), which would indicate the incomplete hydrolysis of the mixture.

As the hydrolysis time increases, 4 hours of hydrolysis, the spectra change substantially (Figure 5A). The band at 2841 cm⁻¹, associated to the methoxy group, which appeared upon mixing (Figure 3), disappears

for hydrolysis times of four hours (Figure 5A). This allows establishing the beginning of optimal hydrolysis conditions at about 4 hours. The same happens with the asymmetric stretching vibration of the Si-O-C, which was appeared at 1080 cm^{-1} (Figure 3). This bond is the one that must be broken during the hydrolysis, and its absence in Figure 5A implies the end of the hydrolysis process [53]. This band disappeared and replaced by two bands corresponding to Si-O-Si results from the condensation process. Disappearance of the band of Si-O-CH₃ groups at 2840 cm^{-1} were also evidenced together with the increase of a broad band at 3420 cm^{-1} , assigned to OH groups from SiOH formed through hydrolysis[53]. Figure 5 shows that for the hydrolysis time of 8 up to 24 hours, the slight broadening of Si-O-Si bands results from a highly cross linked network mainly consisting of linear polysiloxanes with a mixture of small and long chains.

The NMR nuclear magnetic resonance is a useful tool to study the silane hydrolysis; the NMR relaxation time measurements are sensitive to short-range interactions and can be used to estimate the scale of miscibility of an organic-inorganic hybrid[54]. This is due to the good resolution and quantitative assignment of the NMR peaks of silane molecules in comparison with the FTIR analysis[55].

Liquid-state ²⁹Si and ¹³C NMR have been applied to study the hydrolysis mechanism of the MAPTMS/TMOS mixture in EtOH-H₂O solution. In the ²⁹Si NMR spectroscopy, the chemical shift of silicon is determined by the chemical nature of their neighbours, namely T, and Q structures [56].

A Q species is one in which the Si atom is capable of producing four siloxane bonds, results from TMOS precursor, whereas a T can only achieve three siloxane bonds and results from MAPTMS[31]. According to the nomenclature, four T signals of different nature can be present (Tⁿ, where n=0; 1; 2; or 3, respectively)[32]. Figure 6 shows a schematic representation of Tⁿ silane structures. T⁰ appears in a spectral range from -37 to -39 ppm which is assigned to RSi(OCH₃)₃ unhydrolyzed species from MAPTMS. T¹ occurs in the range defined between -46 to -48 ppm, assigned to condensed silicon units bearing only one bridging oxygen atom (Si-O-Si), T² is defined in the spectral range defined between -53 to -57 ppm which is assigned to doubly condensed silicon centres (two bridging oxygen atoms), and T³ is defined into the -61 to -66 ppm range, fully condensed silicon units (three bridging oxygen atom) as sketched in the Figure 6[56].

The ^{29}Si spectra of MAPTMS /TMOS in EtOH-H₂O solution are shown in Figure 7. Upon mixing of the two precursors (Figure 7A), the $\text{RSi}(\text{OCH}_3)_3$ species from non-hydrolyzed MAPTMS (T^0 units) give a well detectable singlet signal at -42 ppm. The appearance of mono-, di-, and tri-substituted siloxanes T species (T^1 units at -50 ppm, T^2 units at -59 ppm, and T^3 units between -68 and -71 ppm) is a result of the self condensation. These observations are in agreement with the FTIR results which showed the presence of condensed siloxane species at 980 cm^{-1} upon mixing of the two precursors, indicated by presence of the Si-O-Si band (Figure 3). The $\text{Si}(\text{OCH}_3)_4$ unhydrolyzed species from TMOS were not detected in the ^{29}Si spectra upon mixing of the two precursors with H₂O/ethanol and this because TMOS was used in little amount and so has been hydrolyzed upon mixing.

After 1 hour of the reactive mixing, both the T^1 at 49.81 ppm and T^2 at 58 became clear and dominate the entire spectrum which indicates the progress of the hydrolysis process (Figure 7B). Also the T^3 of hydrolyzed MAPTMS and Q^2 and Q^3 of hydrolyzed TMOS appear as very small signals at 67.55, 91.78 and 101.66 ppm, respectively.

After 2 hours of hydrolysis and up to 3 hours (Figures 7C and 7D), there is not a significant change between these spectra and that of after 1 hour and the concentrations of condensed T^2 and T^1 species units remain constant (Figure 7B).

After 4 hours of hydrolysis, the T species in the form of T^1 , T^2 and T^3 at -50, -58 and -68 ppm dominate the entire spectrum (Figure 7E). These results shed light upon two important observations which indicate that 4 hours were enough for the hydrolysis of the of MAPTMS/TMOS mixture, in a similar way as the FTIR spectra has indicated. It can observe:

- The non existence of unhydrolyzed TMOS, $(\text{Si}(\text{OCH}_3)_4)$, as it hydrolyzed very rapidly.
- The disappearance of the signal T^0 corresponding to the initial unhydrolyzed MAPTMS (Figure 7A).
- The appearance of the signal T^3 , which correspond fully to condensed silicon units with three siloxane bonds (three bridging oxygen atom) dominated all the spectrum of 4 hours.

The ^{29}Si NMR spectra provide the proportions of T^n species ($n=1; 2; \text{ or } 3$), where T represents a Si atom oxygen bridged to another Si atoms. These allowed the quantification of the crosslinking degree within the silicate network. The T^1 , T^2 and T^3 units arose from the self-condensation reactions only. The T^1 units

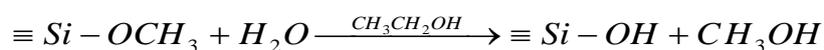
represented dimers or chain ends. The T^2 were associated with the linear siloxane sequences, and the T^3 units witnessed about the appearance of three-dimensional siloxane networks. In fact, the non-reacted silane molecules (T^0 units) from MAPTMS gave a well detectable singlet signal at -42 ppm (Figure 7A). This singlet disappeared from the spectrum after 1 hours of reactive mixing, indicating beginning of hydrolysis reaction.

As it was expected from the FTIR results, the maximum of self-condensed products was observed after 4 hours of reaction. The proportions of the T species in each hybrid system quoted in Table 2 were obtained from deconvolution of the ^{29}Si NMR spectra with the WINFIT software. The spectra were deconvolved into individual Gaussian line shapes, thus allowing a quantitative analysis of the spectra based on the peak areas of each species. From Figure 8, it can be seen that after 4 hours of hydrolysis the amount of T^3 silicon content increased while that of T^2 and T^3 silicon content decreased in the matrix of the Si-O-Si structure. That the hydrolysis was accompanied by a condensation reaction among the silanol groups to give oligomeric structures.

The ^{13}C NMR spectra of MAPTMS/TMOS in EtOH- H_2O is shown in Figures 9 and 10. This mixture was hydrolyzed for 4 hours in EtOH- H_2O solution. In comparison with the ^{29}Si NMR spectra, the patterns of the ^{13}C NMR peak positions are significantly exhibiting multiple peaks. This suggests that there are several chemical compounds within the hybrid systems containing carbon-bonding structures. Peaks assignments for carbon-bonding types which can be attributed to the MAPTMS and TMOS precursors are given in Table 3. The peaks from TMOS and MAPTMS in the ^{13}C NMR spectra are in good agreement with earlier reports[57]. The hydrolysis of the MAPTMS/TMOS system was followed by the evolution of the peaks corresponding to the methyl groups attached to the silane and those liberated during the hydrolysis ($\text{CH}_3\text{-OH}$ and $\text{CH}_3\text{-CH}_2\text{-OH}$).

Upon mixing of the two silane precursors with EtOH- H_2O solution, the peaks at 17.45 and 57.29 ppm are from ethoxy groups of ethanol and to $\text{CH}_3\text{-C}$ of MAPTMS[58] (Figures 9A and 10A). The peaks at 48.97 are ascribed to unhydrolyzed $\text{CH}_3\text{-O-Si}$ units of MAPTMS and TMOS. The peak at 67.10 ppm is attributable to $\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-O}$ units of MAPTMS while that appear at 22.47 ppm are due to $\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-Si}$ units of the same precursor. Finally, the peak at 9.18 ppm are attributed to Si-C of MAPTMS.

Upto 2 hour of reaction, no changes can be detected (Figures 9B-9C and Figures 10B-10C). Thus the spectrum exhibits the same peaks corresponding to the carbon within the hybrid systems containing carbon-bonding structures. After 3 hours of hydrolysis, the spectrum exhibit significant changes (Figures 9D and 10D). The peak that appear at 49 ppm corresponds to the release of methanol as a result of beginng of condensation process. The emergence of this peak indicates the hydrolysis of the methoxy group in (H₃C-O-Si) of both precursors. The hydrolysis of methoxy groups caused by water in ethanol, contributed to the yielding of methanol as a reaction product that it is seen in the liquid-state ¹³C NMR spectra[59]:



At the same time, during the hydrolysis of TMOS in ethanol, methoxy groups of TMOS are exchanged for alkoxy groups. This reaction is an equilibrium reaction. Almost all of methoxy groups are exchanged for ethoxy groups. This give a well developed band that newly emerged at 7.62 and 57.26 ppm in the spectrum of three hours hydrolysis (Figures 9D and 10D), corresponding to Si-O-CH₂-CH₃ units and methanol is released into the solution following the next reaction.

After 4 hours of hydrolysis it takes place, the disappearance of the methoxy groups of the initial silanes at 48.97 ppm and the concomitant formation of free methanol, as indicated by the peak growing at 49 ppm of hydrolyzed mixture[60] (Figure 10E). Thus the the disappearance of the resonances assigned to the CH₃-O-Si group is accompanied by the increase of the CH₃-OH signal. All these facts can confirm that four hours are enough for the hydrolysis reactions to be completed. These results indicated that the hydrolyzable Si-O-CH₃ groups of both precursors were hydrolyzed and forming silanol groups that could derive in Si-O-Si bonds due to subsequent condensation. This agrees well with the results obtained from ²⁹Si NMR, that showed that the hydrolysis was accompanied by a condensation reaction among the silanol groups to give oligomeric structures. The evidence of the presence of such structures was provided by the broadening of the different peaks in the ¹³C NMR spectra.

CONCLUSIONS

The sol-gel reaction of the MAPTMS/TMOS system in EtOH/H₂O solution was studied by FTIR and NMR. The aim of the study was to optimize the pre-hydrolysis times of both silanes and consequently their use as precursors for hybrid materials. The early step of the condensation process was studied by

collecting ^{29}Si NMR spectra and the quantitative analysis of the condensed species was calculated in terms of T^1 , T^2 and T^3 silicon units. It could be concluded that the hydrolysis of the two silane precursors under the adopted synthesis strategy conditions is completed after approximately, four hours at room temperature. The quantitative analysis of the NMR indicates that presence of self-condensation species after mixing of the two precursors which react between them as the time proceeds results in progress of the hydrolysis process. the hydrolysis was accompanied by a condensation reaction among the silanol groups to give oligomeric structures.

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Figure 1. Reaction and bonding mechanism of alkoxy silanes.

Figure 2. Schematic representation of the polymerization reaction of the MAPTMS and TMOS mixture producing a 3D organic-inorganic hybrid network.

Figure 3. FTIR spectrum of the MAPTMS/TMOS mixture in EtOH-H₂O solvent system upon mixing.

Figure 4. FTIR spectra of the MAPTMS/TMOS mixture in EtOH/H₂O solvent system. Hydrolysis time up to three hours and a half.

Figure 5. FTIR spectra of MAPTMS/TMOS mixture in EtOH/H₂O solvent system. Hydrolysis time up to twenty four hours. (A) 4 hours (B) 8 hour. (C) 12 hours (D) 24 hours.

Figure 6. Schematic representation of Tⁿ silane structures; n=1,2, or 3.

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Figure 8. Relationship of the signals, for species T⁰, T¹, T² and T³ in the MAPTMS/TMOS hybrid.

Figure 9. Liquid-state ¹³C NMR spectra (0-30 ppm range) of prehydrolyzed MAPTMS/TMOS mixture. (A) Upon mixing of MAPTMS and TMOS, (B) after 1 hour, (C) after 2 hours, (D) after 3 hours and, (E) after 4 hours.

Figure 10. Liquid-state ¹³C NMR spectra (40-70 ppm range) of the prehydrolyzed MAPTMS/TMOS mixture. (A) Upon mixing of MAPTMS and TMOS, (B) after 1 hour, (C) after 2 hours, (D) after 3 hours and, (E) after 4 hours.

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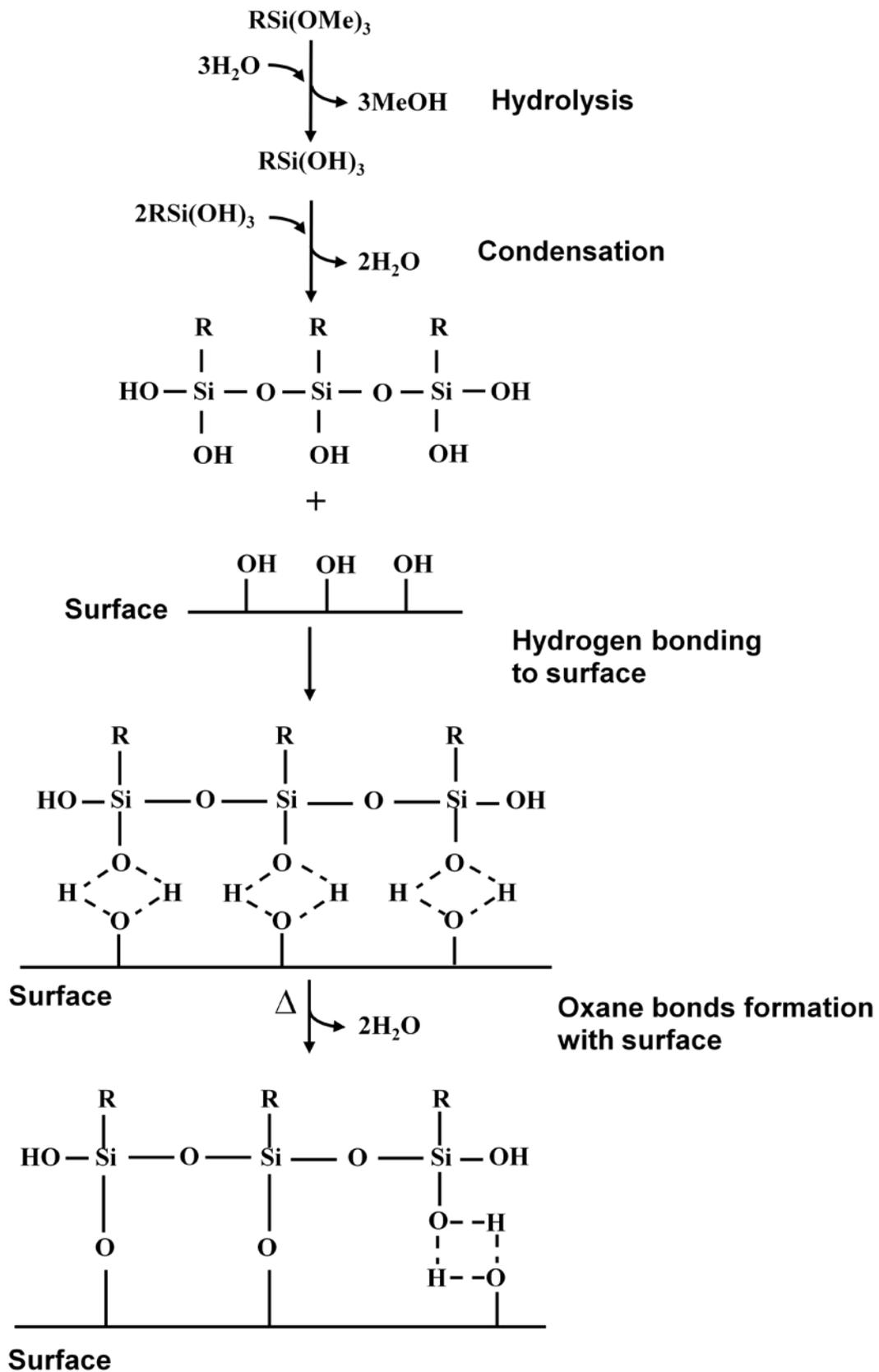
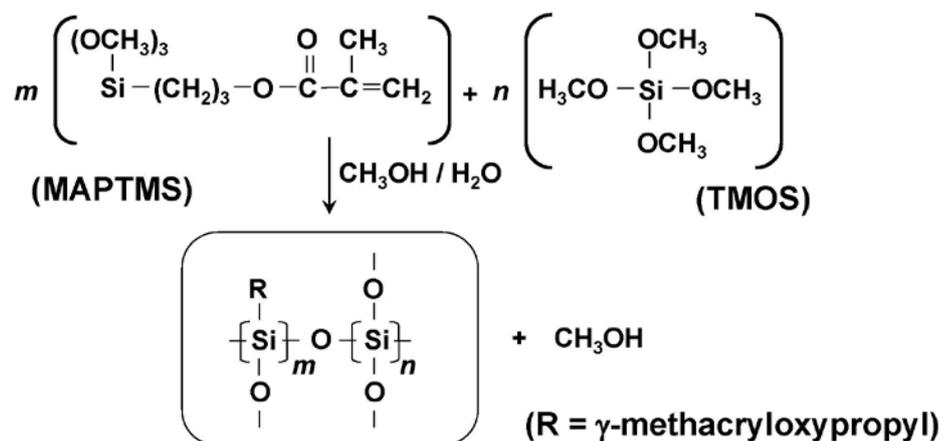


Figure 1. Reaction and bonding mechanism of alkoxy silanes

POLYMERIZATION:



Organic-inorganic hybrid network

Figure 2. Schematic representation of the polymerization reaction of the MAPTMS and TMOS mixture producing a 3D organic-inorganic hybrid network

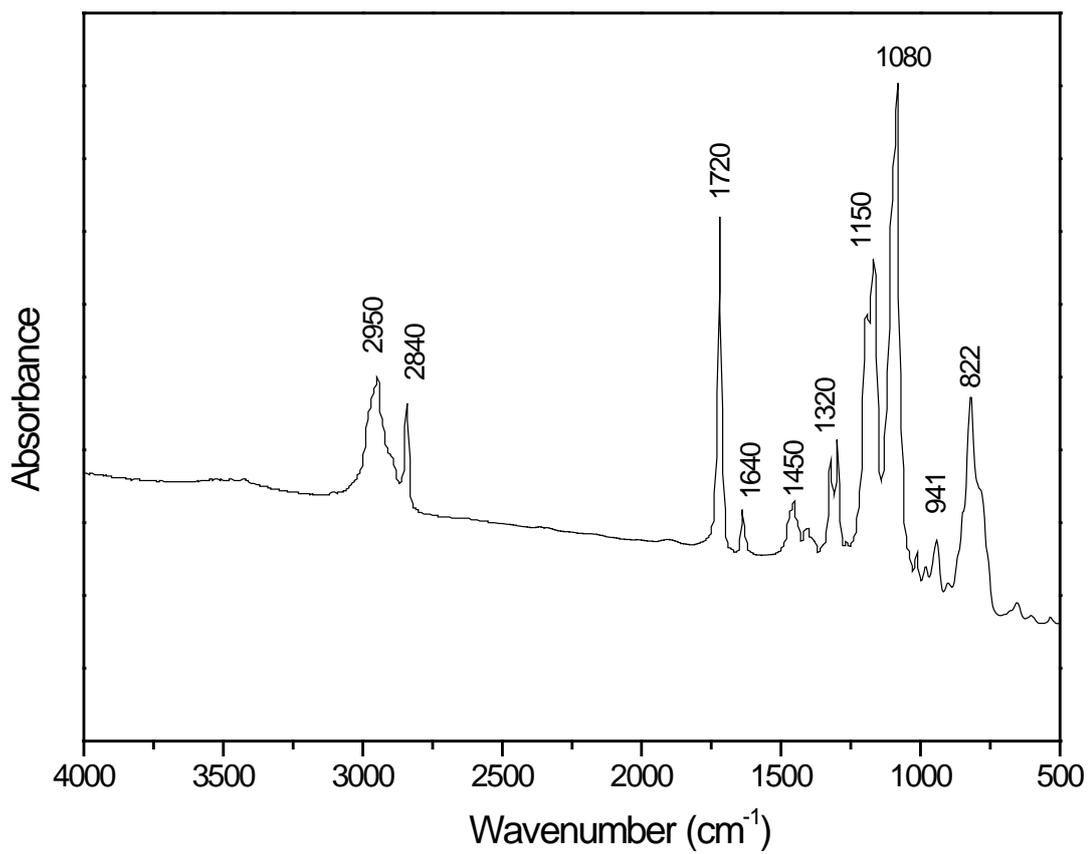


Figure 3. FTIR spectrum of the MAPTMS/TMOS mixture in EtOH-H₂O solvent system upon mixing

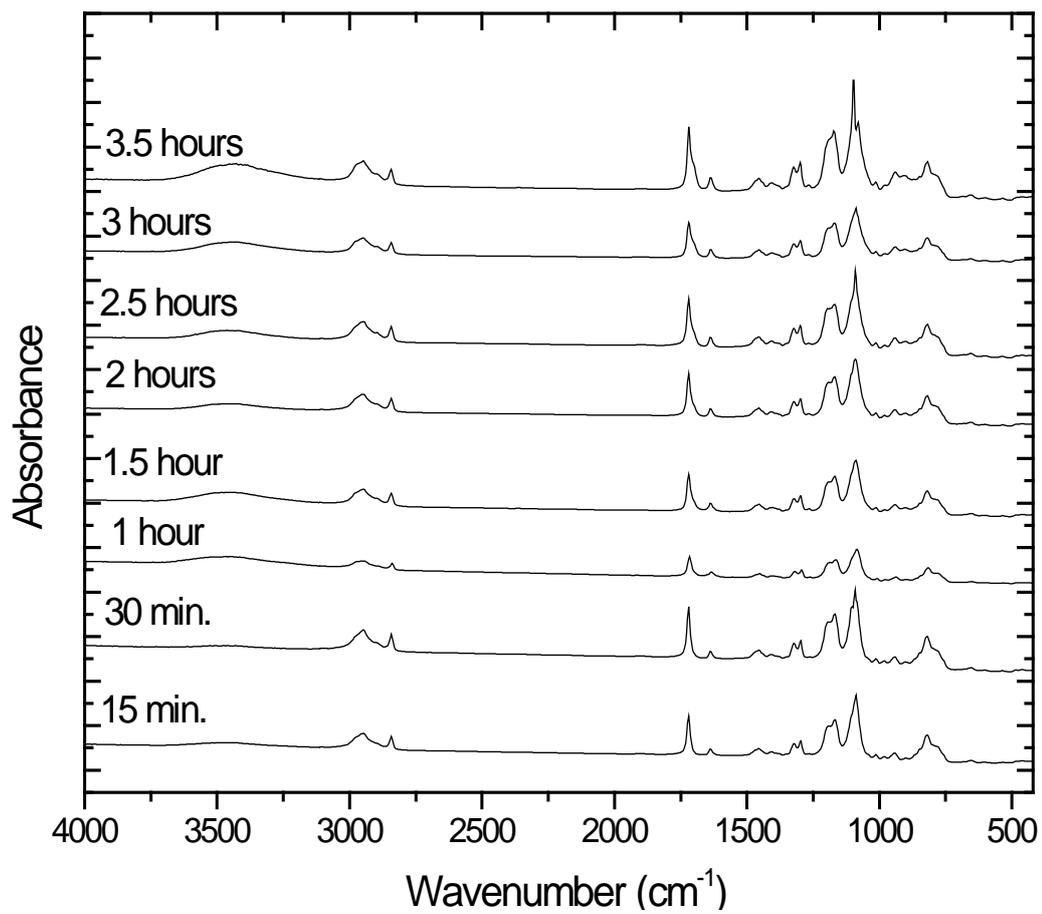


Figure 4. FTIR spectra of the MAPTMS/TMOS mixture in EtOH/H₂O solvent system. Hydrolysis time up to three hours and a half

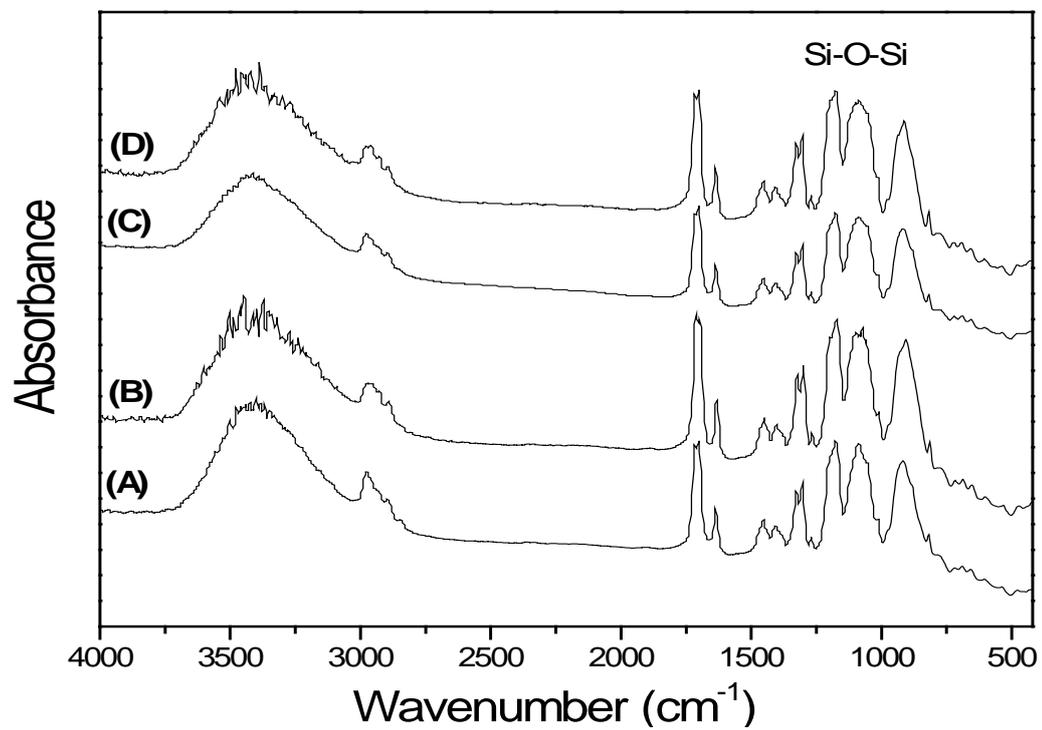
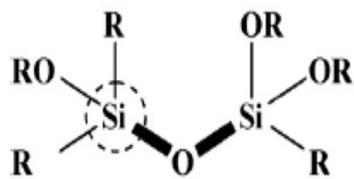
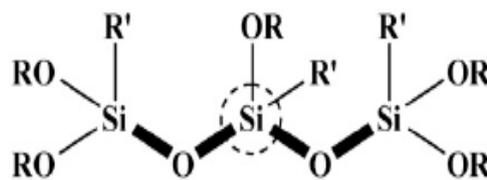


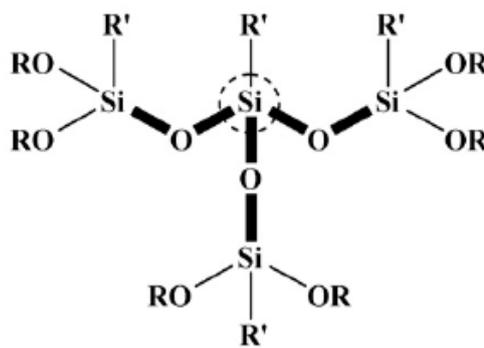
Figure 5. FTIR spectra of MAPTMS/TMOS mixture in EtOH/H₂O solvent system. Hydrolysis time up to twenty four hours. (A) 4 hours (B) 8 hour. (C) 12 hours (D) 24 hours



T¹ structure
Dimer or chain end



T² structure
Linear link



T³ structure
Three dimensional

Figure 6. Schematic representation of Tⁿ silane structures (n=1, 2, or 3)

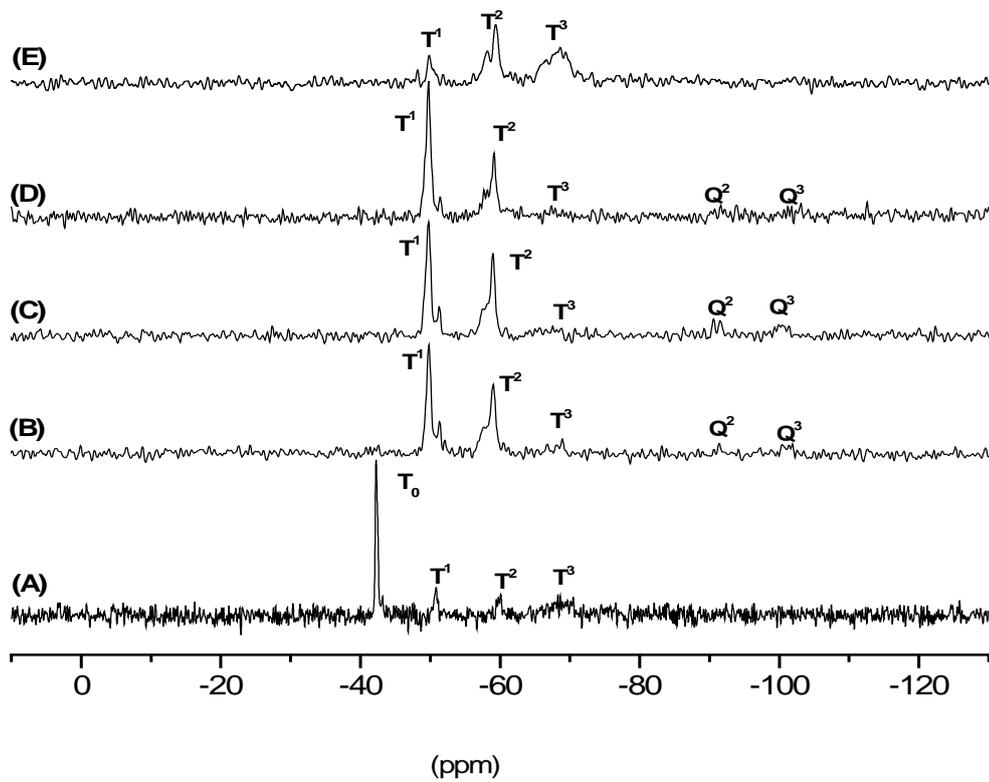


Figure 7. Liquid state ^{29}Si NMR spectra of MAPTMS/MOS mixture in EtOH- H_2O solvent system. (A) Upon mixing of MAPTMS and TMOS (B) After one hour. (C) after two hours (D) after three hours (E) after four hours

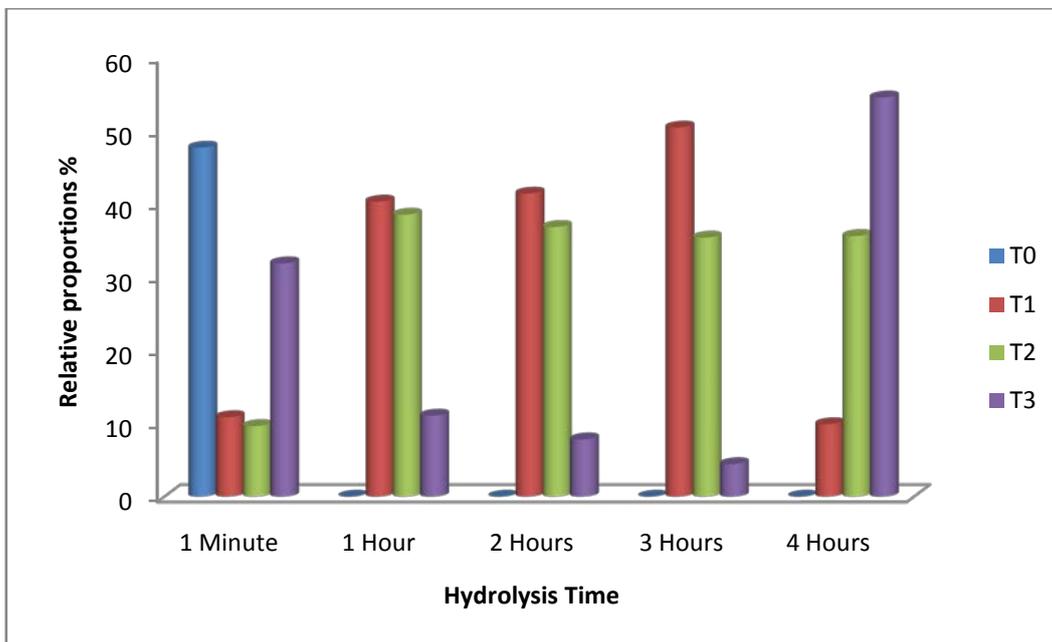


Figure 8. Relationship of the signals, for species T^0 , T^1 , T^2 and T^3 in the MAPTMS/TMOS hybrid

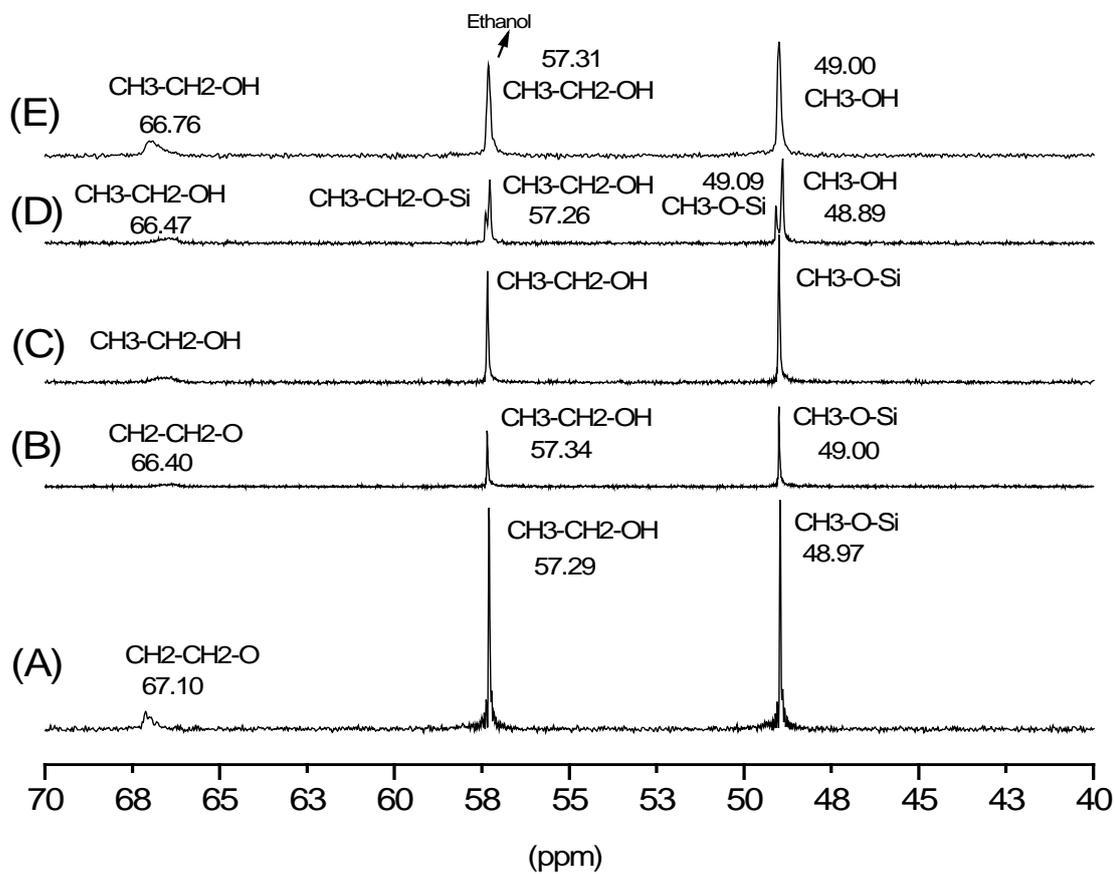


Figure 9. Liquid state ^{13}C NMR spectra (0-30 ppm range) of prehydrolyzed MAPTMS/TMOS mixture. (A) Upon mixing of MAPTMS and TMOS, (B) after 1 hour, (C) after 2 hours, (D) after 3 hours and, (E) after 4 hours

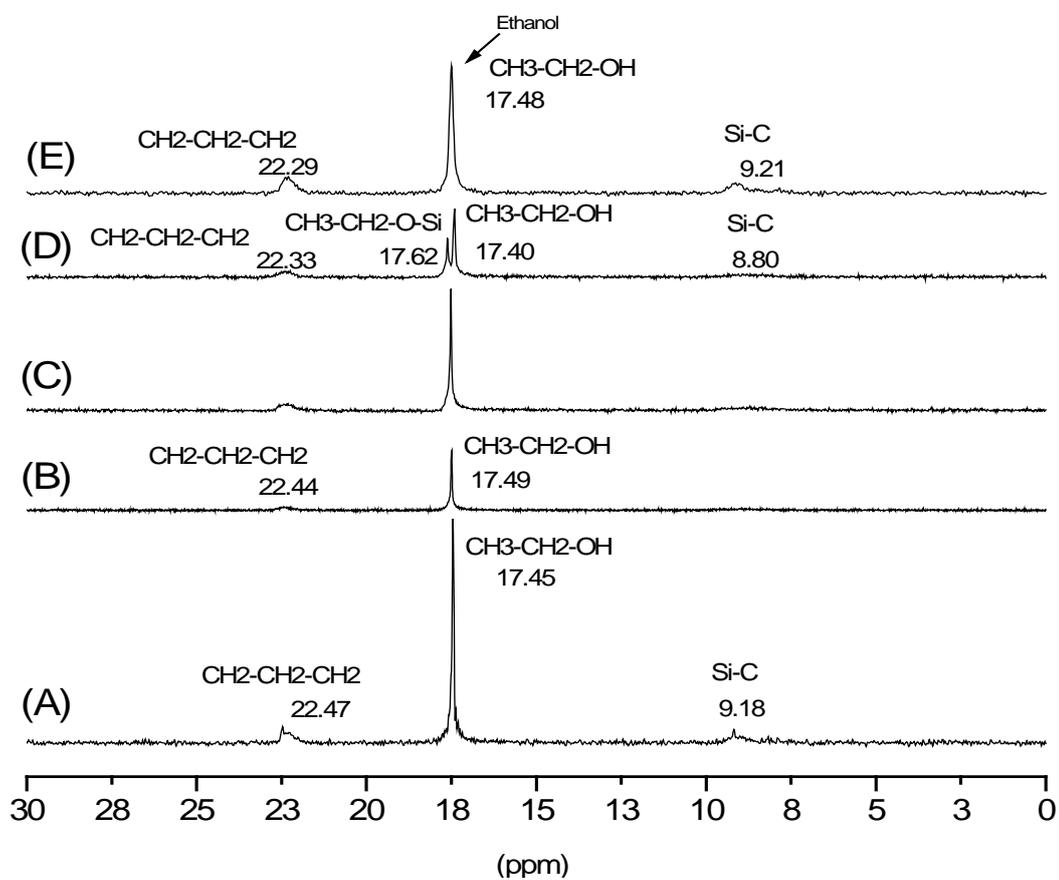


Figure 10. Liquid state ^{13}C NMR spectra (40-70 ppm range) of the prehydrolyzed MAPTMS/TMOS mixture. (A) Upon mixing of MAPTMS and TMOS, (B) after 1 hour, (C) after 2 hours, (D) after 3 hours and, (E) after 4 hours

Table 1. Assignment of the FTIR peaks shown in Figure 3

Wavenumber (cm ⁻¹)	Assignment	References
2950	$\nu_{\text{as C-H}}$ (CH ₃)	[46]
2840	$\nu_{\text{s C-H}}$ (O-CH ₃)	[46]
1720	$\nu_{\text{s C=O}}$ (methacryloxy group)	[46-48]
1640	$\nu_{\text{C=C}}$ (methacryloxy group)	[46-48]
1450	δ_{CH_2} (Si-R organic group)	[49,50]
1320	$\nu_{\text{as C-O}}$ (C–O–C bonds)	[49]
1300	$\nu_{\text{s C-O}}$ (C–O–C bonds)	[49]
1080	$\nu_{\text{as Si-O}}$ (Si-O-CH ₃)	[51]
1187	ν_{as} (Si–O–Si)	[53]
1085	ν_{s} (Si–O–Si)	[53]
3100-3600	$\nu_{\text{O-H}}$ (Si-OH)	[53]

s: symmetric; as: asymmetric

Table 2. Relative proportions of T and Q species in the organic–inorganic hybrid materials from the liquid-state ^{29}Si NMR spectra in Figure 7

Time in M	Proportions ^a (%)						Relative ^b proportions (%)				Relative proportions ^c (%)		Ratio ^d (%)	
	T ⁰	T ¹	T ²	T ³	Q ²	Q ³	T ⁰	T ¹	T ²	T ³	Q ²	Q ³	T ⁿ	Q ⁿ
	1	47.66	10.87	9.64	31.83	0	0	47.66	10.87	9.64	31.83	-	-	1
60	-	40.28	38.48	11.08	3.21	6.95	-	44.83	42.83	12.34	31.5	68.5	89.8	10.2
120	-	41.38	36.80	7.83	6.52	7.47	-	48.11	42.78	9.11	46.6	53.4	86	14
180	-	50.41	35.35	4.45	4.2	5.59	-	55.88	39.18	4.93	42.90	57.1	90	10
240	-	9.91	35.56	54.53	-	-	-	9.91	35.56	54.53	-	-	1	-

^a Proportions (%): these were calculated by the deconvolution technique. Error value assumed is $\pm 1\%$.

^b Relative proportions (%): (each T species/total T species) \cdot 100%.

^c Relative proportions (%): (each Q species/total Q species) \cdot 100%.

^d Ratio (%): $T_i = \{\text{total T species}/(\text{T species} + \text{Q species})\} \cdot 100\%$, $Q_j = \{\text{total Q species}/(\text{T species} + \text{Q species})\} \cdot 100\%$.

Table 3. Peaks assignments of liquid-state ^{13}C NMR spectra of both MAPTMS and TMOS according to peaks detected in Figure 9

MAPTMS (Aldrich)		TMOS (Aldrich)		Ethanol	
Nature of carbons	Ass.(ppm)	Nature of carbons	Ass.(ppm)	Nature of carbons	Ass.(ppm)
$\text{CH}_2\text{-}\underline{\text{C}}\text{H}_2\text{-O}$	67.10	$\underline{\text{C}}\text{H}_3\text{-O-Si}$	48.97	$\text{CH}_2\text{-OH}$	57.29
$\text{CH}_3\text{-O-Si}$	48.97			$\underline{\text{C}}\text{H}_3\text{-CH}_2$	17.45
$\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-Si}$	22.47				
$\underline{\text{C}}\text{H}_3\text{-C}$	17.45				
$\text{CH}_2\text{-Si}$	9.18				