

Fig. 1. Gel permeation chromatography analysis of BP, indicating the presence of low molecular weight fraction of BP.

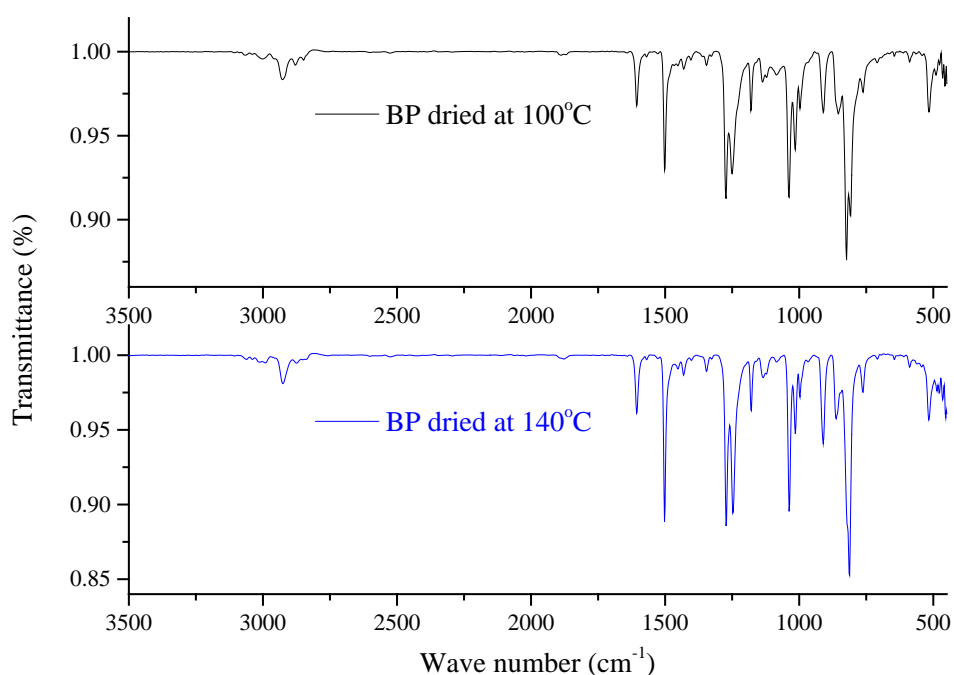


Fig. 2. FTIR spectra of BP after drying at 100°C and 140°C respectively.

| Wavenumber (cm ⁻¹) | Associated chemical groups |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 2927 | Stretching of (CH ₂) |
| 1606 | Stretching of (C=C) on aromatic rings |
| 1500 | Bending of (C=C) on aromatic rings |
| 1244 | Stretching of (C-O) on aromatic rings |
| 1037 | Stretching of (C-O) on aliphatic chain |
| 910 | Epoxy group |
| 814 | Bending of (C-H) on aromatic rings |

Table 1. Assignment of major peaks in the FTIR spectrum of BP.

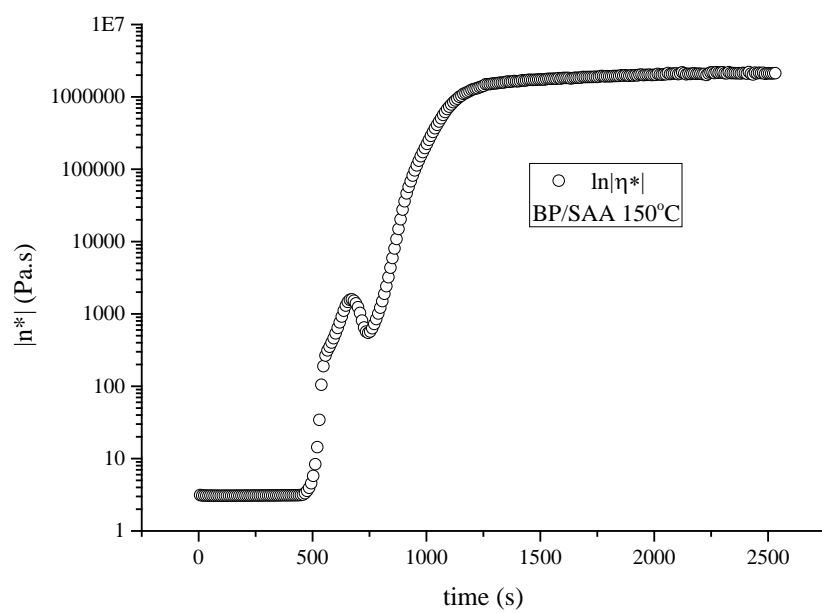


Fig. 3. The evolution of complex viscosity of BP/SAA cured at 150°C, indicating the decrease of viscosity when the reacting medium undergoes a transition from amorphous phase to liquid crystalline phase.