Fabrication and Analysis of Polymer Confined into AAO Nanopores

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Near the glass trnasitin region, a molecular behavior of high molecular weight polystyrene (PS, M_w =979800, PDI=1.03) in confined geometry was studied by AAO microcantilever. Anodic aluminum oxide (AAO) was used for nanoporous template to confine polymer in 2-dimensional geometry. AAO microcantilever was fabricated from PS inserted AAO structure by photolithography. Nanomechanical thermal analysis (NTA) was a promising method to observe confinement effect of polymer due to modulus and surface stress changes of the cantilever From this study, it was possible to observe a thermal behavior of polymer near the glass transition temperature (T_g) and expected to get a knowledge about the intrinsic nature of polymer in confined and bulk system.