
**Styrene-butadiene rubber (SBR) —
Determination of the microstructure
of solution-polymerized SBR —**

**Part 2:
FTIR with ATR method**

*Caoutchouc styrène-butadiène (SBR) — Détermination de la
microstructure du SBR polymérisé en solution —*

Partie 2: Méthode FTIR avec ATR

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 45, *Rubber and rubber products*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Testing and analysis*.

This first edition of ISO 21561-2 cancels and replaces ISO 21561:2005, which has been technically revised. It also incorporates Amendment ISO 21561:2005/Amd.1:2010.

ISO 21561 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Styrene-butadiene rubber (SBR) — Determination of the microstructure of solution-polymerized SBR*:

- *Part 1: ¹H-NMR and IR with cast-film method*
- *Part 2: FTIR with ATR method*

Styrene-butadiene rubber (SBR) — Determination of the microstructure of solution-polymerized SBR —

Part 2: FTIR with ATR method

WARNING — Persons using this part of ISO 21561 should be familiar with normal laboratory practice. This part of ISO 21561 does not purport to address all the safety problems, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user to establish appropriate safety and health practices and to ensure compliance with any national regulatory conditions.

CAUTION — Certain procedures specified in this part of ISO 21561 might involve the use or generation of substances, or the generation of waste, that could constitute a local environmental hazard. Reference should be made to appropriate documentation on safe handling and disposal after use.

1 Scope

This part of ISO 21561 specifies procedures for the quantitative determination of the microstructure of the butadiene and the content of styrene in solution-polymerized SBR (S-SBR) by Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrometry (FTIR) with Attenuated Total Reflection (ATR) method. The styrene content is expressed in mass % relative to the whole polymer. The vinyl, trans and cis contents are expressed in mol % relative to the butadiene content. This method is only applicable to raw rubbers.

NOTE 1 Precision as shown in [Annex A](#) may not be obtained for S-SBRs containing polystyrene block or styrene content more than 45 mass %.

NOTE 2 Only “vinyl”, “trans” and “cis”, are used in this part of ISO 21561. However, the expression of vinyl, trans and cis mean as follows in general:

- vinyl: vinyl unit, vinyl bond, 1,2-unit, 1,2-bond, 1,2-vinyl-unit or 1,2-vinyl-bond;
- trans: 1,4-trans unit, 1,4-trans bond, trans-1,4 unit or trans1,4 bond;
- cis: 1,4-cis unit, 1,4-cis bond, cis-1,4 unit or cis-1,4 bond.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 1795, *Rubber, raw natural and raw synthetic — Sampling and further preparative procedures*

3 Principle

The IR spectrum of the S-SBR sample is measured by FTIR with ATR. The absorbances that are characteristic of each microstructure component and styrene at the specified wavelengths are used to determine the content of each component by using the specific formulae presented in this part of ISO 21561.

4 Apparatus

4.1 FTIR, of the following specifications:

- Detector: Deuterium Tri-Glycine Sulfate (DTGS) or Tri-Glycine Sulfate (TGS);
- Number of scans: 32;
- Resolution: 2 cm⁻¹;
- Range of wavelength: 600 cm⁻¹ to 1 800 cm⁻¹.

4.2 ATR, of the following specifications:

- Type: Single bounce ATR;
- Crystal: Diamond;
- Angle of incidence: 45°;
- Sample pressure clamp: A concave or a flat-shaped clamp which is capable of maintaining a constant pressure on the sample. The use of a torque wrench is preferable.

5 Calibration

5.1 FTIR

Adjust the optical bench alignment of FTIR spectrometer according to the manufacturer's instruction manual.

5.2 ATR

Set ATR in the sample chamber of FTIR and adjust the optical alignment of ATR according to the manufacturer's instruction manual.

6 Sampling

6.1 Prepare the test sample in accordance with ISO 1795.

NOTE The extraction of ordinary extender oils by solvent is not necessary.

6.2 Cut out a test piece from the test sample. The test piece shall have a flat surface to give good contact with the ATR crystal and be approximately the same size as the crystal, usually a few square millimetres.

7 Procedure for measuring ATR spectrum

7.1 Set up FTIR according to the manufacturer's instruction manual.

7.2 Set ATR in a sample chamber of FTIR.

7.3 Measure the background spectrum with the conditions shown in [4.1](#).

7.4 Put the test piece on the ATR crystal and contact it as completely as possible to the crystal surface, preferably using the clamp specified in [4.2](#). The contact between the test piece and the crystal affects the absorbance of ATR spectra.

7.5 Measure the sample spectrum with the conditions shown in 4.1.

7.6 The atmosphere of the sample chamber for FTIR shall be kept consistent during the background and test piece measurements in order to avoid the influences of absorbance at 668 cm^{-1} and 723 cm^{-1} by CO_2 .

8 Determination of the microstructure of butadiene and the styrene content

8.1 Measurement of the absorbance for each microstructure component

Measure the absorbance values at the wave numbers corresponding to the microstructure components as specified in Table 1. For cis, the absorption peaks are weak and the wave number of the peaks is affected by the styrene content of the polymer.

Table 1 — Measurement of absorbances for each microstructure component of S-SBR

Notation for absorbance	Microstructure component	Remarks
A10	Styrene	Measure the absorbance at the peak maximum from 695 cm^{-1} to 700 cm^{-1} .
A20	Cis	The wave number at this peak maximum is affected by the nature of the polymer, such as the styrene content. When the peak maximum is visible, read off the absorbance at the peak maximum from 720 cm^{-1} to 730 cm^{-1} . If the styrene content is over 30 %, the peak of the cis bond is hidden between the two large styrene absorptions at around 758 cm^{-1} and around 698 cm^{-1} . In this case, measure the absorbance value at 726 cm^{-1} .
A30	Styrene	Measure the absorbance at the peak maximum from 755 cm^{-1} to 761 cm^{-1} .
A40	Vinyl	Measure the absorbance at the peak maximum from 905 cm^{-1} to 912 cm^{-1} .
A50	Trans	Measure the absorbance at the peak maximum from 962 cm^{-1} to 967 cm^{-1} .
A60	Vinyl	Measure the absorbance at the peak maximum from 991 cm^{-1} to 996 cm^{-1} .
A70	Base line	Measure the absorbance at $1\,200\text{ cm}^{-1}$ as zero point of each absorbance.