CO_2/CH_4 separation properties of alicyclic dianhydride based soluble copolyimide membranes

박채영[1,2], 장은총[1], 박희문[1], 장봉준[1], 김정훈[1,3,*]
[1]한국화학연구원; [2]충남대학교; [3]과학기술연합대학원대학교
(jhoonkim@krict.re.kr*)

CH_4 is emitted from landfills or during anaerobic digestion of activated sludge, food wastes and animal wastes. CH_4 has 21 times larger global warming potential than CO_2 and has the 2nd largest contribution to global warming. The upgrading of CH_4 is very important in terms of both prevention of global warming and security of renewable energy for vehicle fuels or gas grid injection. Biogas can be efficiently upgraded by removing CO_2 and H_2S via membrane process. The performance of membrane process depends mainly upon CO_2/CH_4 selectivity and CO_2 permeability of membrane materials.

The objective of this study is to develop good membrane materials with high CO2 permeability and high CO_2/CH_4 selectivity. We have developed novel alicyclic dianhydride-diamine (DOCDA-ODA) based copolyimides with different 20mol% of dianhydrides (6FDA, BPDA and BTDA) using m-cresol as a solvent, respectively. All synthesized copolyimides were characterized by NMR, FT-IR. The copolyimide gas permeability coefficients(P) and ideal selectivities for N2, O2, CO2 and CH4 were measured with a time-lag apparatus.