



# Synthesis and study of aroylethyl(ethyl)-xanthates as stabilizers of polymeric materials

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## Abstract

The number of aroylethyl (ethyl)xanthates have been synthesized by the reaction of the exchange decomposition of  $\beta$ -dimethylaminopropiophenone hydrochlorides with potassium xanthate containing several functional groups (C=O, C=S, C–OH), which determine the use of these xanthates as stabilizers with internal synergy to polymeric materials. It was shown that the thermal stability of the compounds, depending on the nature of the substituent in the benzene ring of the molecule was observed in the temperature range of 149–196 °C. It was revealed that aroylethyl(ethyl)xanthates had a stabilizing effect due to the suppression of thermo-oxidative destruction of polyethylene; they increased the induction period of polyethylene oxidation by 2–6 times, and the oxidation rate was reduced by about 3–9 times. Among the studied compounds, 4-hydroxybenzoylethyl (ethyl)xanthate had the greatest stabilizing effect. The study of the mechanism of the stabilizing action of the compounds showed that xanthates react with cumene hydroperoxide (CHP), which proceeded through the stage of formation of an intermediate product that actively decomposed CHP, i.e., the oxidation chain was terminated by the decomposition of the CHP not by the initial xanthates but by their transformation products.

**Keywords** Synthesis · Aroylethyl (ethyl)xanthate · Thermal stability · Polyethylene stabilizers · Mechanism of action

## Introduction

As stabilizers prevent degradation of polymers, it is inevitable to give a brief overview on the degradation of polymers before discussing the mechanism of action of stabilizers. Performance is one of the biggest factors to determine the choice for a stabilizer system. Besides the performance, there are many other factors that determine the choice for a stabilizer system. As stabilizers have to protect polymers for long times, it is important that these stabilizers stay in a polymer over the lifetime, which is related to several stabilizer-related physical factors. Stabilizers are normally added in mixtures or together with other additives; possible interaction between these additives might have an influence on the performance of stabilizers. Reactions with other chemicals from the environment of the plastic can lead to a deactivation of the stabilizer and a reduced lifetime. In many

cases, another requirement for stabilizers is that they are not colored or discolored. If polymers are used that can come into contact with food, an indirect food contact approval is required. As stabilizers have to be added to a polymer there are requirements for toxicity and disability [1, 2].

In connection with the increased operational requirements for polymeric materials and products [3, 4], it became necessary to develop effective and thermally resistant stabilizers. For the directed synthesis of this type of stabilizers, it is of great importance to identify the limits of their resistance to high temperatures.

Additives are essential to make polymers processable and to assure their end-use properties. The demands on additives have continued to evolve, not only because of changes in processing conditions and production techniques but also because polymers are being used in more demanding applications [5, 6]. This revised and updated edition, described earlier by one reviewer as the “bible” for anyone involved in the chemistry and technology of polymer additives, again provides an excellent overview of the complex science and technology of polymer additives and their industry. It offers guidance for all professionals involved in the development

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of new thermoplastic resin grades and novel end-use applications [4].

Derivatives of oxyaromatic ketones are compounds that can be used as polyolefin stabilizers [7].

Oxybenzophenone and its derivatives effectively protect polymers from light aging, and compounds containing sulfide sulfur from heat aging. On the other hand, alkaline xanthate, for example, potassium ethyl xanthate, is known as a heat stabilizer [8], but it is ineffective. The effectiveness of these compounds can be increased by the introduction of phenolic antioxidants [9, 10].

In this aspect, the synthesis and study of aroylethyl (ethyl) xanthates containing several functional groups, such as C=O, C=S, C–OH and others, are of interest as stabilizers with internal synergism [11].

At the same time it is known that xanthates are not stable compounds and their decomposition generates CS<sub>2</sub>, a substance that is considered toxic. These aspects have motivated the search for that polymer additives performance without the health, safety and environmental concerns associated with xanthates.

In addition, the generation of CS<sub>2</sub> is favored as time elapses and the pH of the solutions decreases from 10 to 6, regardless of the hydrocarbon chain length. Conversely, dithiophosphate and hydroxamic acids present greater chemical stability, although they form micelles at a certain concentration, a phenomenon that is not observed with xanthates. By not hydrolyzing, oxidizing, or decomposing into other chemical species, these compounds may be considered environmentally friendly reagents. In the above context, it is important to promote the adoption of these additives in polymer processing.

## Material and methods

### Measurements

The chemical structure of the synthesized compounds (1–8) was confirmed using <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra. NMR experiments have been performed on a Bruker FT NMR spectrometer AVANCE 300 (300 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H and 75 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C) with BVT 3200 variable-temperature unit in 5 mm sample tubes using Bruker Standard software (Topspin 3.1). The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts were referenced to internal tetramethylsilane (TMS). NMR grade DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> (99.7%, containing 0.3% H<sub>2</sub>O), CDCl<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> was used for the synthesized compounds. All spectra are given in Supporting Information (SI).

The preparation of β-dimethylaminopropiophenone hydrochlorides used in this work was described earlier [8]. β-dimethylamino-4-nitropropiophenone hydrochloride (M.P. 186 °C) was also obtained as described in the literature.

IR spectra of the synthesized compounds were recorded on IRS-10 spectrometer in the frequency range of 400–4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> (KBr pellets or films). The studies were carried out in a microlayer and in CCl<sub>4</sub> solution (5×10<sup>-3</sup> M).

The (C, H, N, S) microanalyses were performed on a Flash EA 1112 CHNS-O/MAS (CHN Analyzer) instrument. Melting points (uncorrected) were determined with melting point SMP3 (Stuart Scientific).

Aroylethyl (ethyl) xanthates can be identified through optical absorption peaks in the infrared (1179, 1160, 1115, 1085 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and ultraviolet (300 nm) ranges. Iodometric method relies on oxidation to dixanthogen by iodine, with the product detected with a starch indicator. This method, however, is not selective and suffers from interferences with other sulfur-containing chemicals.

Xanthate can react with a copper sulfate or copper tartrate resulting in a copper xanthate residue which is detected with iodine. This method has an advantage of being insensitive to sulfite, thiosulfate and carbonate impurities.

In the acid–base detection method, a dilute aqueous xanthate solution is reacted with a copious amount of 0.01 M hydrochloric acid yielding carbon disulfide and alcohol, which are evaluated. The excess acid and impurities are removed through filtering and titration.

Thermoanalytical studies of aroylethyl (ethyl) xanthates were carried out on OD-102 T derivatograph of the Paulik system (Hungary) in a dynamic heating mode with a heating rate of 5 °C/min. A weighed portion of a sample was 50 mg; calcined alumina served as a standard.

The single-valued parameters of thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) data were used as criteria for assessing the stability of the studied compounds against temperature influences, i.e. there are accepted temperatures corresponding to equal fractions of their mass loss with increasing temperature, determined on TGA data, for example, *T*<sub>10%</sub>, *T*<sub>50%</sub>; as well as the corresponding differential thermogravimetry (DTG) and differential thermal analysis (DTA) parameters. The thermal stability of the studied esters was also characterized by the temperature range of their thermochemical transformations, which makes it possible to more fully judge the possible performance of the compounds as polymer materials stabilizers in the given temperature conditions. The temperature at the beginning of the interval of thermochemical transformations corresponded to 5% of the weight loss of the sample from the initial sample, and the temperature of the end of this interval was determined at the point where the DTA and DTG data reached the baseline.

The thermal stability of the studied xanthates was evaluated by the temperatures at which the weight loss made 5% (*T*<sub>5%</sub>).

Studies of the interaction of the synthesized xanthates with CHP were also carried out by thermal analysis. The

xanthate:CHP ratio in thermoanalytical experiments ranged from 1:1 to 1:5.

The study of the synthesized compounds as polyethylene aging stabilizers was carried out according to the following procedure. The studied compounds, in a ratio of 0.5 wt %, were mixed with polyethylene Π-2006-B this purpose the studied compounds were dissolved in acetone and added with stirring to the calculated amount of powdered polyethylene. After evaporation of acetone and drying of the obtained mass in an oven at room temperature, a sample weight (1 g) was taken.

Thermooxidation of the stabilized polyethylene was carried out in Gaiman apparatus at 160 °C and a pressure of 200 mmHg in oxygen atmosphere. The effect of thermal oxidation of the studied compounds was determined by a change in the induction period of polyethylene oxidation subject to decrease in oxygen pressure.

## Experimental

**Benzoylethyl(ethyl)xanthate (comp. 1):** a mixture of 7.5 g of potassium ethylxanthate (PEX) and 10 g of β-dimethylaminopropiophenone in 50 ml of alcohol (70 wt% in water) were stirred for 5 h at 70 °C. The separated product was filtered off, washed with water, and after repeated re-crystallization a crystalline substance (M.P. 92 °C) was obtained.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ) 1.11 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.57 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.06 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-S-C-R)), 3.22 (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-C(=O))), 7.52, 7.63, 7.95 (m, H, Ar). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ) 14, 31.9, 40.6, 62.3, 128.7, 128.8, 133.2, 136.7, 200.1 (C=O), 215.3 (C=S).

The other aroylethyl (ethyl) xanthates were obtained similarly:

**4-Methylbenzoylethyl (ethyl) xanthate (comp.2):** by the interaction of 17.5 g of PEX and 25 g of β-dimethylamino-4-methylpropiophenone hydrochloride;

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ) 1.01 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.41 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.52 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.08 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-S-C-R)), 3.12 (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-C(=O))), 6.78, 7.41 (m, H, Ar). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ) 14.5, 24.3, 32, 41, 62, 128.7, 128.9, 134, 142.8, 201 (C=O), 215 (C=S).

**4-Methoxybenzoylethyl (ethyl)xanthate (comp.3):** by the interaction of 7.5 g of PEX and 10 g of β-dimethylamino-4-methoxypropiophenone hydrochloride;

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ) 1.09 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.85 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>-O-), 3.55 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.03 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-S-C-R)), 3.32 (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-C(=O))), 7.02, 7.95 (m, H, Ar). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ) 14.3, 31.9, 40.6, 55.8, 62.4, 114.2, 129.8, 165, 142.8, 203(C=O), 216 (C=S).

**4-Hydroxybenzoylethyl(ethyl)xanthate (comp.4):** by the interaction of 9.7 g of PEX and 14 g of β-dimethylamino-4-hydroxypropiophenone hydrochloride;

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ) 1.03 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.57 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.07 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-S-C-R)), 3.21 (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-C(=O))), 6.81, 7.87 (m, H, Ar), 9.83 (d, 1H, OH-Ph). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ) 14, 31, 40, 62, 115.8, 129.3, 130.2 (-C(=O)-C), 162.9, 200(C=O), 214 (C=S).

**4-Bromobenzoylethyl(ethyl)xanthate (comp.5):** by the interaction of 7.5 g of PEX and 10 g of β-dimethylamino-4-bromopropiophenone hydrochloride;

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ) 1.05 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.53 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.03 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-S-C-R)), 3.16 (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-C(=O))), 7.75, 7.98 (m, H, Ar). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ) 14.3, 31.5, 40.4, 62.2, 127.5, 131.0, 131.5, 135.7, 200.2 (C=O), 215.5 (C=S).

**2-Hydroxy-5-methylbenzoylethyl (ethyl) xanthate (comp.6):** by the interaction of 10 g of PEX and 15 g of β-dimethylamino-2-hydroxy-5-methylpropiophenone hydrochloride;

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ) 1.07 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.35 (m, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>-Ph), 3.51 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.05 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-S-C-R)), 3.20 (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-C(=O))), 6.69, 7.07, 7.52 (m, H, Ar), 9.83 (d, 1H, OH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ) 14.0, 24.3, 31.9, 40.43, 62.3, 115.7, 121.7, 130.4, 130.9, 131.5, 134.8, 157.7, 200 (C=O), 215.1 (C=S).

**2-Hydroxy-5-chlorobenzoylethyl (ethyl)xanthate (comp.7):** by the interaction of 4.8 g of PEX and 8 g of β-dimethylamino-2-hydroxy-5-chloropropiophenone hydrochloride;

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ) 1.05 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.54 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.01 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-S-C-R)), 3.21 (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-C(=O))), 6.75, 7.28, 7.73 (m, H, Ar), 9.78 (d, 1H, OH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ) 14.0, 32, 40, 62, 117.2, 121.7, 123.2, 126.8, 130.2, 134.6, 158.8, 200 (C=O), 215 (C=S).

**4-Nitrobenzoylethyl (ethyl) xanthate (comp.8):** by the interaction of 7.5 g of PEX and 12 g of β-dimethylamino-4-nitropropiophenone hydrochloride.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ) 1.08 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.52 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.06 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-S-C-R)), 3.24 (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>(-C(=O))), 8.15, 8.27 (m, H, Ar). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ) 14, 31.9, 40.6, 62.3, 117.2, 121.7, 123.8, 129.7, 142.8, 152.3, 200.1 (C=O), 215.3 (C=S).

## Results and discussion

The article presents the results of synthesis and studies of thermal stability, stabilizing efficiency, as well as some aspects of the mechanism of action of a number of aroylethyl(ethyl)xanthates (1–8) obtained by the reaction of exchange decomposition of β-dimethylaminopropiophenone hydrochlorides with potassium xanthate according to the Scheme 1.



**Scheme 1** Synthesis of aroylethyl (ethyl) xanthates (1–8)

The obtained aroylethyl (ethyl) xanthates (see Table 1) are crystalline substances, readily soluble in acetone, alcohol, toluene, and insoluble in water. The composition and structure of aroylethyl (ethyl) xanthates (1–8) were confirmed by elemental analysis and IR spectra.

According to modern data, the inhibiting effect of oxidation inhibitors on the oxidation process of hydrocarbons consists in the termination of oxidation chains carried out through the interaction of antioxidants or their conversion products with intermediate oxidation products—peroxide radicals and hydroperoxides. The reactions of oxidation inhibitors with intermediate products of hydrocarbon oxidation are widely used as model reactions in studying the mechanism of their antioxidant action.

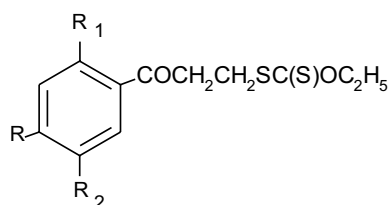
The most notable feature of the mechanism of the antioxidant action of previously studied such effective oxidation inhibitors as substituted oxyaryl sulfides is their ability to catalytically decompose hydroperoxides. Therefore, the aim of this work was to study the questions of the mechanism of decomposition of cumyl hydroperoxide by synthesized aroylethyl (ethyl) xanthates.

In the spectra of **com. 1–8** in the 1644–1690  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region there is an absorption band characteristic for

the stretching vibrations of the carbonyl group attached to the aromatic ring. A broad absorption band, in the 3360–2900  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region (**comp. 2**), characterizes the stretching vibrations of the hydroxyl group involved in the intermolecular hydrogen bond. In the case of **com. 6 and 7**, this absorption band shifts to the 3100–2600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region and does not change when using dilute solutions in carbon tetrachloride, which is explained by the presence of a relatively strong intramolecular hydrogen bond (IHB) in these compounds. The formation of IHB in these compounds also significantly reduces the frequency of stretching vibrations of the carbonyl group ( $\nu_{\text{C=O}}$  1635  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ). The absorption band in the 860–800  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region characterizes 1,4-substituted (**com. 2–5, 8**), and two absorption bands in the 820–800 and 900–860  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  regions describe 1,2,4-substituted benzene ring (**com. 6, 7**). It is known that stretching vibrations of the C–S bond appear in the form of bands of weak intensity in the 600–800  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region [12]. However, in the case of the studied aroylethyl (ethyl) xanthates, the total effect of electrons (the mutual influence of the *s*- and *p*-electron pairs of the C=S group) shifts this band to the 580–595  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region. In the 1100–1200  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region there are absorption bands of stretching vibrations of the C–S bond.

When synthesizing organic compounds proposed as potential stabilizers for polymeric materials, along with other operational properties, one should also take into account the need to ensure thermal stability of the stabilizers, which

**Table 1** Characteristics of aroylethyl(ethyl)xanthates (1–8) with the general formula of



№	R	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	Yield %	M.P.°C	M (exp.)	Elemental composition, %					
							Found			Calculated		
							C	H	S	C	H	S
1	H	H	H	65	92	252	56.57	5.48	25.16	56.74	5.55	25.24
2	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	H	71	120	263	58.22	6.11	23.80	58.25	6.01	23.92
3	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	H	82	97	280	55.02	5.64	22.48	54.97	5.07	22.55
4	OH	H	H	78	143	273	53.42	5.12	23.66	53.77	5.22	23.74
5	Br	H	H	56	155	329	43.40	3.42	–	43.27	3.33	–
6	H	OH	CH <sub>3</sub>	35	141	288	54.89	5.68	22.52	54.97	5.67	22.57
7	H	OH	Cl	42	156	300	48.30	4.20	–	48.16	4.35	–
8	NO <sub>2</sub>	H	H	43	104	303	44.35	3.66	21.50	44.52	3.71	21.44

allows them to operate in the required temperature conditions. In this regard, studies were carried out to identify the regularities linking the thermal stability of xanthates with their composition and structure, which was of interest in terms of predicting the optimal composition and structure of stabilizers with specified temperature properties.

Some data on thermochemical transformations of xanthates are given in Table 2. As can be seen from the table the thermal stability of the studied compounds lies within the temperature range of 149–196 °C.

A review of the parameters of thermal stability of the studied xanthates, depending on their composition and structure, showed that their stability under conditions of elevated temperatures depended on the nature and position of heteroatoms and functional groups in the benzene ring of the molecule.

As follows from the data of thermal studies, the introduction of a methyl radical, chlorine and bromine atoms, as well as functional groups such as methoxy-, hydroxyl-, or nitro- groups, leads to some decrease in the thermal stability of the corresponding derivatives of benzoylethyl(ethyl)xanthate. For example, the decomposition temperature ( $T_{5\%}$ ) of **com. 3, 4, 8** (see Table 2) containing methoxy-, hydroxyl- or nitro- groups was 174, 155, and 149 °C, respectively, versus 196 °C for benzoylethyl(ethyl)xanthate. (**com.1**). The study of the data of thermal analysis showed that with a further increase in temperature xanthates decomposed at different rates, and therefore the sequence in the series of temperature indicators of their thermochemical transformations slightly changed (see Table 2). Semi-destruction ( $T_{50\%}$ ) of the studied xanthates was achieved at 208–295 °C.

The studies of the synthesized compounds as polyethylene aging stabilizers showed that aroylethyl(ethyl)xanthate increased the induction period of polyethylene oxidation approximately by 2–6 times. So, if unstabilized, polyethylene begins to oxidize after 15 min, then with the addition of 0.5 mass% of **com.1, 7, 4** to it, the oxidation induction period increases to 30, 45, 90 min, respectively.

The studied compounds had an effect on the oxidation rate too. The study of the kinetics of the oxidation process showed that the decrease in oxygen pressure for unstabilized polyethylene made 10 mm Hg after 15 min, whereas with the introduction of the studied compounds into polyethylene, the rate of its oxidation decreased. For example, for **com.1**, a decrease in oxygen pressure was observed after 50, for **com.7**—after 80, for **com.4**—after 140 min.

To solve some problems in the field of polymer oxidation in the presence of the synthesized compounds, their thermo-analytical studies were carried out in a mixture with CHP to obtain information on the mechanism of hydroperoxide decomposition by the studied xanthates.

DTA data of CHP mixtures, for example, with **com.4** or **com.1** in the ratio 1: 1 at temperatures of 25 or 30 °C, an exothermic effect is recorded with a maximum at temperatures of 47 or 66° C, respectively, and heat is released without changing the mass of the mixtures. Further, on the DTA data at temperatures of 60 or 97 °C, respectively, the following exothermic effect is observed, accompanied by accelerated weight loss in a narrow temperature range. A further increase in temperature leads to multistage transformations of thermal decomposition products with a slower rate of weight loss and corresponding endothermic effects.

Analysis of the thermoanalytical data of mixtures of all synthesized compounds with CHP allowed us to conclude that the ongoing reaction of CHP with xanthate proceeds through the stage of the formation of some product (I exo effect without weight loss), which subsequently actively decomposes CHP (II exo effect).

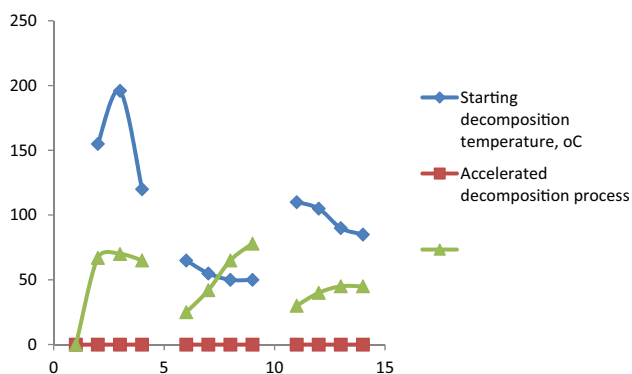
Table 3 shows the data of thermal analysis of **com. 4, 1**, CHP and mixtures of the indicated xanthates with CHP in a molar ratio from 1:1 to 1:5. Comparison of the data shows that a reaction proceeds between xanthate and CHP, since the parameters characterizing the process of thermal transformations of mixtures are much lower than for individual components of the mixture.

**Table 2** Thermal stability of aroylethyl(ethyl)xanthates

№	R	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	T <sub>5%</sub>	T <sub>10%</sub>	T <sub>20%</sub>	T <sub>50%</sub>	Decomposition temperature range
°C								
1	H	H	H	196	220	249	283	196–450
2	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	H	158	170	184	208	158–500
3	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	H	174	185	198	246	174–500
4	OH	H	H	155	170	177	210	155–500
5	Br	H	H	161	163	171	295	161–550
6	H	OH	CH <sub>3</sub>	155	164	176	237	155–500
7	H	OH	Cl	157	161	170	239	157–500
8	NO <sub>2</sub>	H	H	149	165	184	289	149–600

**Table 3** Thermal analysis data for 4-hydroxybenzoyl(ethyl) xanthate (com. 4), benzoyl(ethyl)xanthate (com.1), CHP and their mixtures

Samples	Starting decomposition temperature, °C	Accelerated decomposition process	
		Temperature range, °C	Weight loss, %
Com.4	155	170–210	67
Com.1	196	220–315	70
CHP	120	150–195	65
Com.4:CHP			
1:1	65	65–105	25
1:2	55	50–90	42
1:3	50	50–70	65
1:5	50	50–60	78
Com.1:CHP			
1:1	110	125–151	30
1:2	105	115–125	40
1:3	90	110–122	45
1:5	85	105–120	45



**Fig. 1** Thermal analysis of compound 1 and 4

The study of thermoanalytical data showed that the chemical activity of **com.4** in relation to CHP is significantly higher than **com.1**. Namely: **com.4** actively decomposes hydroperoxide in the entire range of its concentration; in case of **com.1**, with an increase in the concentration of hydroperoxide, a decrease in the rate of its decomposition is observed, which also proceeds at a higher temperature; in addition, the weight loss due to the decomposition of CHP in a mixture with **com.1**, with an increase in CHP concentration, slightly increases only to a ratio of 1:3, a further increase in CHP concentration has no effect on weight loss. The results of thermoanalytical studies coordinate with the above data on the stabilizing efficiency of the synthesized xanthates (Table 3, Fig. 1).

At the same time in this study, the chemical stability of eight xanthates of different alkyl-, aryl groups (aroylethyl (ethyl) xanthates (1–8)) was evaluated by spectroscopy, as a function of pH and time. Similarly, the chemical stability of three chelating collectors was evaluated. Likewise, the surface tension of their aqueous solutions was measured making use of the Du Noy method, to determine the critical micelle concentration. The results showed that the xanthate absorption spectra reflect the presence of a chemical reaction as the pH decreases from 4 to 2.5, which results in the formation of CS<sub>2</sub>.

## Conclusion

By the interaction of β-dimethylaminopropiophenone hydrochlorides with potassium xanthate there has been synthesized a new series of compounds—aroylethyl (ethyl) xanthate as stabilizers for polymeric materials.

Thermoanalytical studies of aroylethyl(ethyl)xanthates (1–8) showed: the thermal stability of the studied compounds, depending on the nature and position of the substituent in the benzene ring of the molecule, lies within the temperature range of 149–196 °C; Among the studied compounds, benzoyl(ethyl)xanthate (com.1) and p-methoxybenzoyl(ethyl)xanthate (com.3) have the highest thermal stability, the thermal stability of the other synthesized xanthates is within the range of 149–161 °C.

Thermal analysis data for mixtures of xanthates with CHP indicate a large weight loss proceeding at a high rate, which may indicate the catalytic decomposition of CHP by the studied xanthates.

The results of the studies of compounds as polymer stabilizers have shown that aroylethyl (ethyl) xanthates, having a stabilizing effect, prevent thermooxidative degradation of polyethylene. It was found that with the introduction of a hydroxyl group into the benzene ring of the xanthate molecule, the highest antioxidant efficiency of the compound was achieved; the induction period of polyethylene stabilized by it increased by 6 times, and the oxidation rate decreases by 9 times.

Thermoanalytical studies allowed to determine the chemical activity of aroylethyl (ethyl) xanthates as oxidation inhibitors in relation to CHP, i.e., to determine their comparative effectiveness as hydrogen peroxide breakers.

Thus, the synthesis and the results of studies to identify the dependence of the thermal stability of the studied aroylethyl (ethyl) xanthates on their composition and structure, as well as the study of their stabilizing properties and aspects of the mechanism of action, contribute to the creation of theoretical foundations for the directed synthesis of effective

stabilizers of polymeric materials with predetermined temperature and functional properties.

**Supplementary Information** The online version contains supplementary material available at <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13203-021-00281-z>.

## Declarations

**Conflict of interest** The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest.

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