

List of Contents

1	INTRODUCTION.....	5
1.1	Magnetically directed self-assembly in polymer composites	5
1.2	Thermo-mechanical properties of polymer nanocomposites	5
2	AIM OF THESIS.....	6
3	MATERIALS AND METHODS.....	7
3.1	Sample preparation.....	7
3.2	Structural analysis	7
3.3	Dynamic mechanical analysis	7
3.4	Magnetic properties	8
4	RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	8
4.1	Structure	8
4.1.1	Self-assembly aggregation, $B=0$ mT.....	8
4.1.2	Magnetically assembled structures.....	10
4.2	Thermo-mechanical properties.....	13
4.2.1	Glass transition.....	13
4.2.2	Mechanical properties in glassy region.....	13
4.2.3	Mechanical properties in rubbery region	15
4.2.4	Mechanical properties in transition region.....	16
4.2.5	Reinforcing mechanism.....	16
5	CONCLUSION	23
	REFERENCES.....	24
	AUTHOR'S CV	29
	ABSTRACT.....	30