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種別(和文)	要約
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# **Study on biosynthesis and characterization of polyhydroxyalkanoates with $\alpha$ -carbon side-chain**

## **(Thesis Outline)**

Innovative biodegradable polyhydroxyalkanoates (PHAs) with novel material properties was biosynthesized and characterized. In order to extend the possible application range of PHAs, various side-chain units were incorporated onto  $\alpha$ -carbon of existing structure of polymers. The result of PHAs composed with new monomer units showed modified material properties when comparing to their non- $\alpha$ -side-chain polymers. PHAs with 2-hydroxyalkanoate unit showed increased glass transition temperature ( $T_g$ ) up to 24 °C for homopolymer, while PHAs with other  $\alpha$ -carbon methylated units exhibit decreased  $T_g$ . All the samples showed enhanced mechanical performance where a very high elongation at break for PHA copolymer was observed. Notably, a unique biosynthesized homopolymer with high isotacticity was reported for the first time.