

## The concentration and origins of carboxylic acid groups in oil paint

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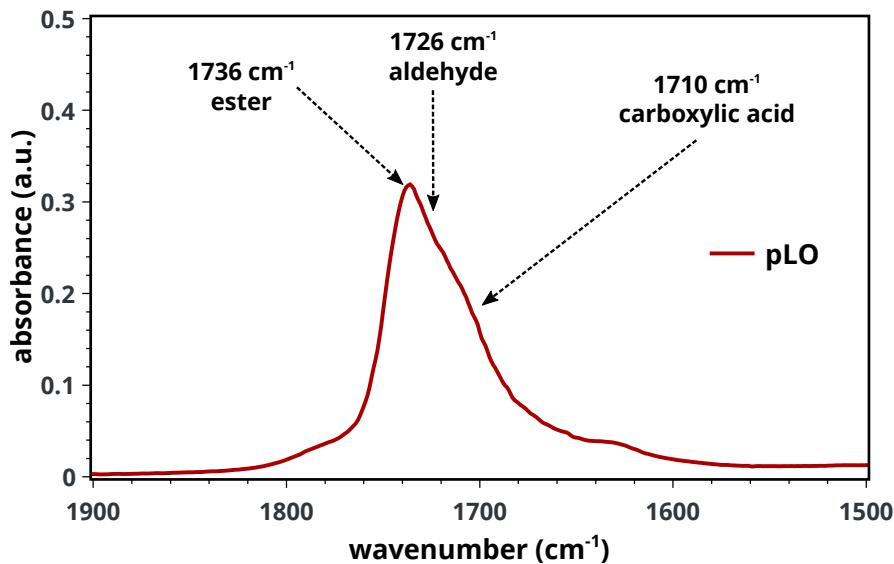
## List of Figures

S1	IR spectrum polymerised LO . . . . .	3
S2	Ester band subtraction procedure . . . . .	4
S3	TiO <sub>2</sub> background estimation and subtraction procedure . . . . .	5
S4	SEM images of pigment particles . . . . .	12
S5	BaSO <sub>4</sub> normalized XRD spectra for mixed ZnO/BaSO <sub>4</sub> paints . . . . .	13
S6	TiO <sub>2</sub> normalized XRD spectra for mixed ZnO/TiO <sub>2</sub> paints . . . . .	14
S7	FTIR spectrum of LO and reduced LO . . . . .	16
S8	FTIR spectrum of polymerised LO and polymerised reduced LO . . . . .	17
S9	FTIR spectrum of tristearin and tristearin-ZnO . . . . .	18

## List of Tables

1	Composition of LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> series 0.5–20% . . . . .	6
2	Composition of LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> series 0.5–20% . . . . .	7
3	Composition of rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> series 0.5–20% . . . . .	8
4	Composition of LO-ZnO-SA series 0–60% . . . . .	9
5	Composition of ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -LO series 30–90% . . . . .	10
6	Composition of rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> series 30–90% . . . . .	11

## FTIR spectrum polymerised LO

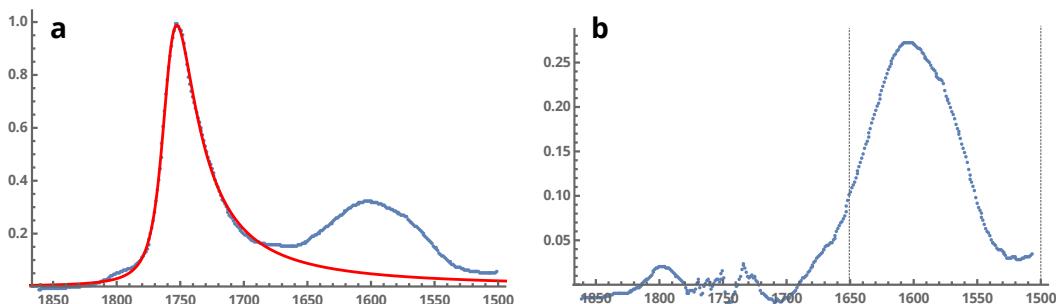


**Figure S1** Overlapping IR absorption bands of the asymmetric stretching vibration ( $\nu_a$  COO) of the ester (COOR,  $1738 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), aldehyde (COH,  $1726 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and carboxylic acid (COOH,  $1710 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) carbonyl function in polymerised LO.

## COOZn IR band integration method

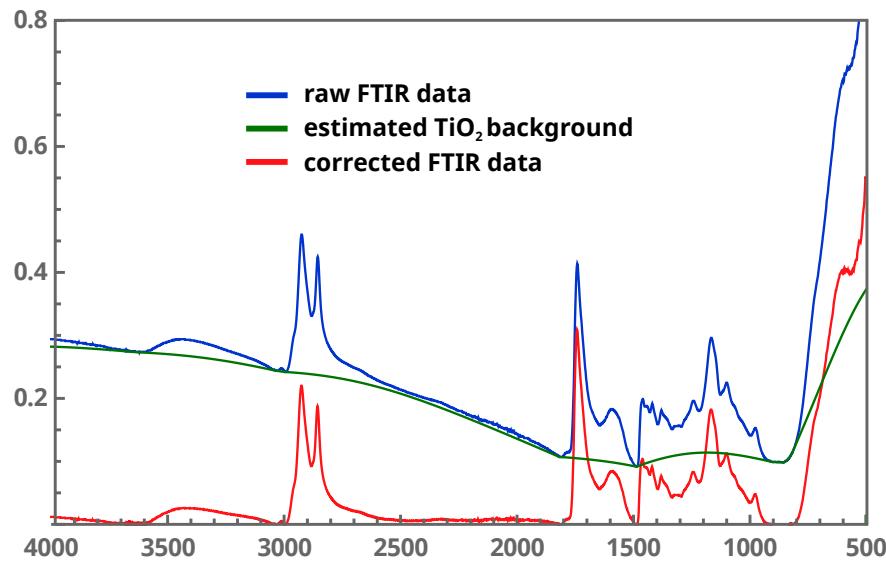
To integrate overlapping absorption bands accurately, data correction and integration algorithms were written in the Wolfram *Mathematica* software, which are available from the authors on request. Since the zinc carboxylate (COOZn) band present in ZnO-LO samples at  $1685\text{ cm}^{-1}$  overlaps with the ester carbonyl band (maximum at  $1738\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), a band fitting algorithm was applied to subtract the ester band and integrate the COO-Zn band accurately (see Figure S2a). After subtraction of the Pearson type IV band shape<sup>1</sup> fitted to the ester carbonyl band, the area of the COOZn band was calculated (Figure S2b, integration limits are indicated with a dashed line).

### Ester band subtraction procedure



**Figure S2** Subtraction procedure for the asymmetric stretching vibration ( $\nu_a$  CO) of the ester (COOR,  $1738\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) in polymerised LO. A Pearson type IV band shape<sup>1</sup> was fitted to the experimental data (a) and subtracted (b) before integration.

## TiO<sub>2</sub> background estimation and subtraction procedure



**Figure S3** Automated background subtraction procedure using *Mathematica* software. The changing concentration of TiO<sub>2</sub> along the LO-ZnO-TiO<sub>2</sub> samples requires a different background subtraction for every sample. After TiO<sub>2</sub> background estimation, the COO-Zn band area was calculated according to Figure S2.

## Composition of LO-ZnO-BaSO<sub>4</sub> series 0.5–20%

Sample	Mass LO (mg)	Mass ZnO (mg)	Mass BaSO <sub>4</sub> (mg)	[ZnO] mol/L
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -0.5	1000.2	4.80	995.0	0.045
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -1	1000.1	10.2	989.7	0.097
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -1.5	1000.6	15.2	985.2	0.14
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -2.5	1000.3	25.0	975.2	0.24
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -3	1000.3	30.1	970.0	0.28
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -3.5	999.70	34.9	965.1	0.33
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -4	1000.4	40.2	960.1	0.38
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -4.5	999.50	44.9	955.0	0.43
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -5	999.30	49.8	950.0	0.47
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -7.5	999.80	75.1	924.9	0.71
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -10	1000.5	100.3	900.4	0.95
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -12.5	999.70	124.8	874.8	1.2
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -15	1000.2	149.9	850.4	1.4
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -17.5	999.80	175.2	824.9	1.7
LO-ZnO-BaSO <sub>4</sub> -20	1000.2	200.0	799.7	1.9

**Table 1** Composition of LO-ZnO-BaSO<sub>4</sub> series 0.5–20% with a constant (1:1) pigment to oil ratio by weight and a PVC of 17–18%.

## Composition of LO-ZnO-TiO<sub>2</sub> series 0.5–20%

Name	Mass LO (g)	Mass ZnO (g)	Mass TiO <sub>2</sub> (g)	[ZnO] mol/L
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -0.5	999.8	5.2	994.7	0.049
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -1	1000.3	9.9	990.1	0.092
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -1.5	1000.3	15.1	985.0	0.14
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -2.5	1033.2	25.0	975.1	0.23
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -3.5	1033.2	35.3	965.0	0.33
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -4.5	1033.2	44.2	955.0	0.41
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -5	999.6	49.8	950.3	0.47
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -7.5	999.4	75.0	925.2	0.70
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -10	1000.3	100.3	900.0	0.94
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -12.5	1000.2	124.8	874.9	1.2
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -15	999.9	149.9	850.0	1.4
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -17.5	1000.6	174.9	825.1	1.6
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -20	1000.1	200.3	800.1	1.9

**Table 2** Composition of LO-ZnO-TiO<sub>2</sub> series 0.5–20% with a constant (1:1) pigment to oil ratio by weight and a PVC of 17–18%.

## Composition of rLO-ZnO-TiO<sub>2</sub> series 0.5–20%

Name	Mass LO (mg)	Mass ZnO (mg)	Mass TiO <sub>2</sub> (mg)	[ZnO] mol/L
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -0.5	199.5	1.3	198.4	0.059
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -1	200.4	2.1	197.8	0.10
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -1.5	666.4	10.0	646.3	0.14
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -2.5	500.2	12.4	483.8	0.23
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -3.5	500.1	17.5	481.7	0.33
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -4.5	333.4	14.8	321.7	0.41
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -5	332.8	16.6	321.5	0.47
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -7.5	333.3	24.8	319.6	0.69
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -10	251.4	25.4	239.8	0.94
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -12.5	250.2	31.3	238.4	1.2
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -15	200.7	30.1	191.0	1.4
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -17.5	200.1	35.0	190.2	1.6
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -20	200.7	40.1	189.4	1.8

**Table 3** Composition of LO-ZnO-TiO<sub>2</sub> series 0.5–20% with a PVC of of 17–19%

## **Composition of LO-ZnO-SoA series 0–60%**

Name	Mass LO (mg)	Mass ZnO (mg)	Mass SoA (mg)	[SoA] mol/L
LO-ZnO-SA-0	1033.2	1006.1	0	0
LO-ZnO-SA-10	1004.1	998.3	38.3	0.26
LO-ZnO-SA-20	1000.7	999.4	77.1	0.52
LO-ZnO-SA-30	999.4	1000.0	115.2	0.76
LO-ZnO-SA-40	1000.5	1000.2	153.8	0.99
LO-ZnO-SA-50	1000.6	1000.7	192.1	1.2
LO-ZnO-SA-60	999.7	1000.5	230.9	1.4

**Table 4** Composition of sorbic acid (LO-ZnO-SA) series 0–60% with a constant (1:1) pigment to oil ratio by weight.

## Composition of ZnO-TiO<sub>2</sub>-LO series 30–90%

Name	Mass LO (mg)	Mass ZnO (mg)	Mass TiO <sub>2</sub> (mg)	[ZnO] mol/L
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -30	1000.4	302.1	753.7	2.83
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -40	1000.2	401.3	682.0	3.76
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -50	1002.2	501.1	605.0	4.69
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -60	998.90	601.1	530.9	5.64
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -70	1000.6	703.1	457.9	6.59
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -80	1005.1	800.1	381.0	7.47
LO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -90	1001.1	902.2	308.0	8.45

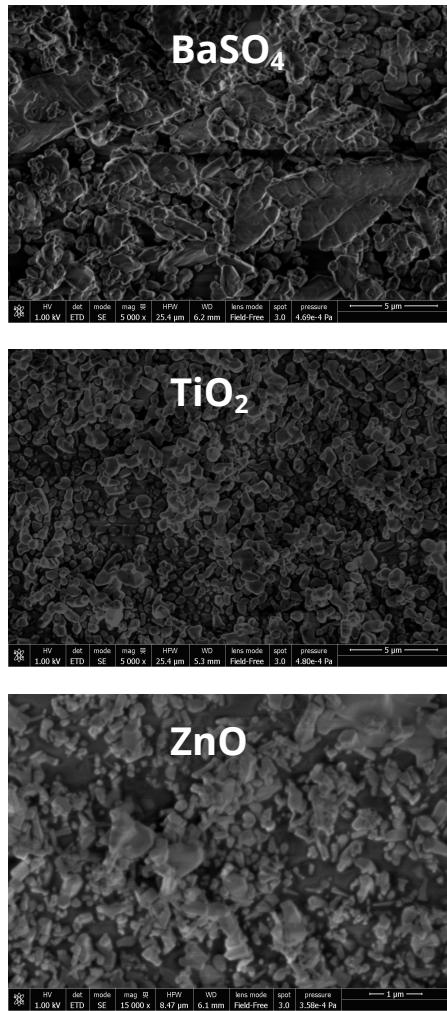
**Table 5** Composition of ZnO-TiO<sub>2</sub>-LO series 30–90% with a constant PVC of 18%.

## Composition of rLO-ZnO-TiO<sub>2</sub> series 30–90%

Name	Mass LO (mg)	Mass ZnO (mg)	Mass TiO <sub>2</sub> (mg)	[ZnO] mol/L
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -30	201.3	59.9	139.9	0.140829
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -40	201.2	78.7	120.2	0.231425
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -50	201.4	100.3	101.5	0.330388
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -60	201.0	120.1	81.0	0.413875
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -70	201.5	139.7	59.5	0.466398
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -80	199.7	159.0	40.3	0.703532
rLO-ZnO-TiO <sub>2</sub> -90	201.5	180.5	21.1	0.941005

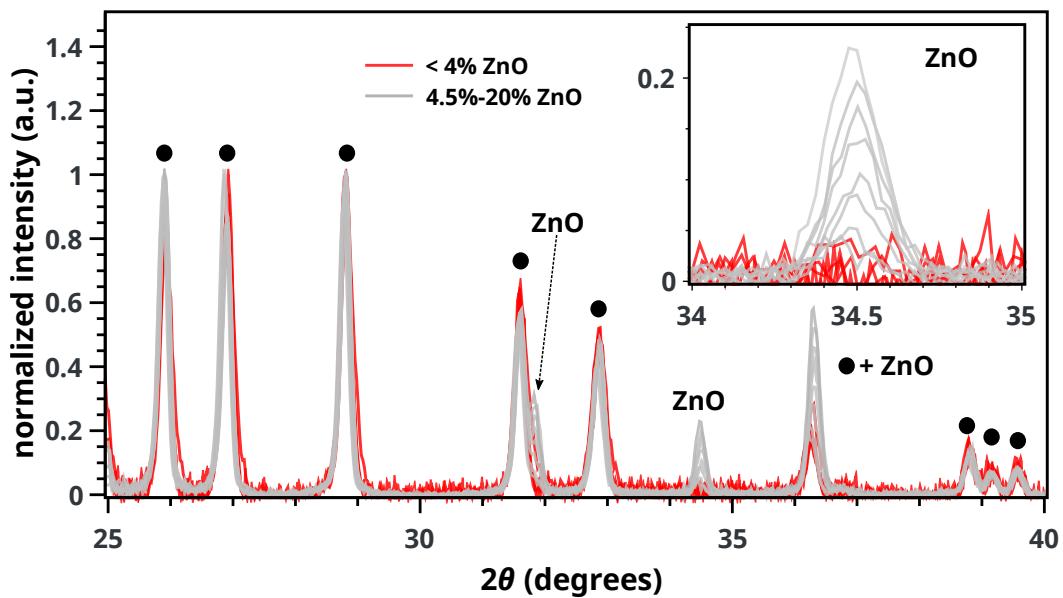
**Table 6** Composition of rLO-ZnO-TiO<sub>2</sub> series 30–90%. Pigment volume concentration 14–18%.

## SEM images of pigment particles



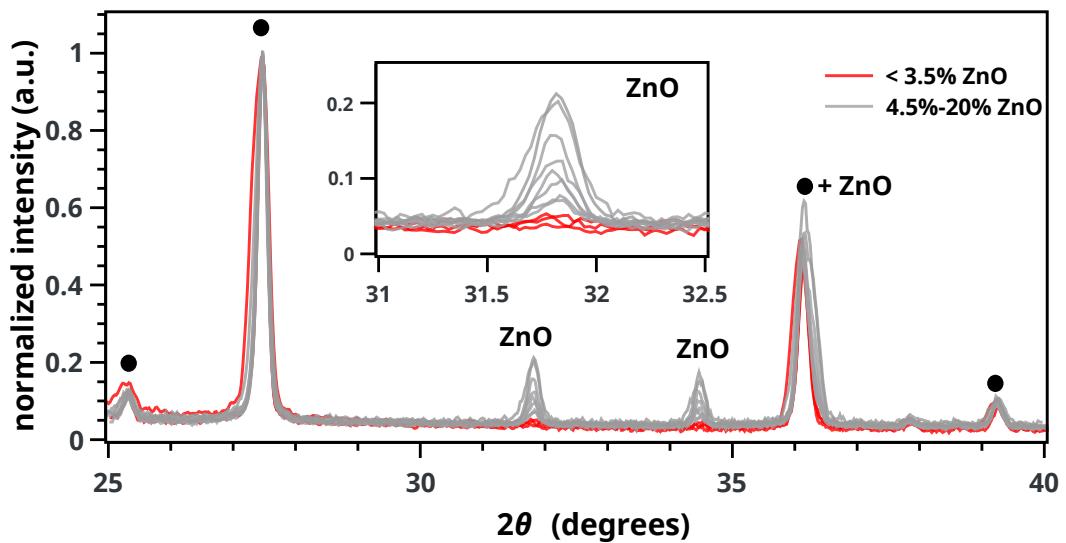
**Figure S4** SEM images of  $\text{BaSO}_4$ ,  $\text{TiO}_2$  and  $\text{ZnO}$  pigments.  $\text{BaSO}_4$  shows a more heterogeneous size distribution compared to  $\text{TiO}_2$  but in the same  $1 - 5 \mu\text{m}$  range,  $\text{ZnO}$  is smaller ( $\approx 0.5 \mu\text{m}$ ).

## BaSO<sub>4</sub> normalised XRD spectra for ZnO/BaSO<sub>4</sub> paints



**Figure S5** BaSO<sub>4</sub> normalised XRD spectra for mixed ZnO/BaSO<sub>4</sub> paints containing 0.5–20 wt % of ZnO. Inset shows that ZnO is completely consumed below  $\approx 4.5$  wt%. BaSO<sub>4</sub> peaks are marked with ●.

## TiO<sub>2</sub> normalised XRD spectra for ZnO/TiO<sub>2</sub> paints

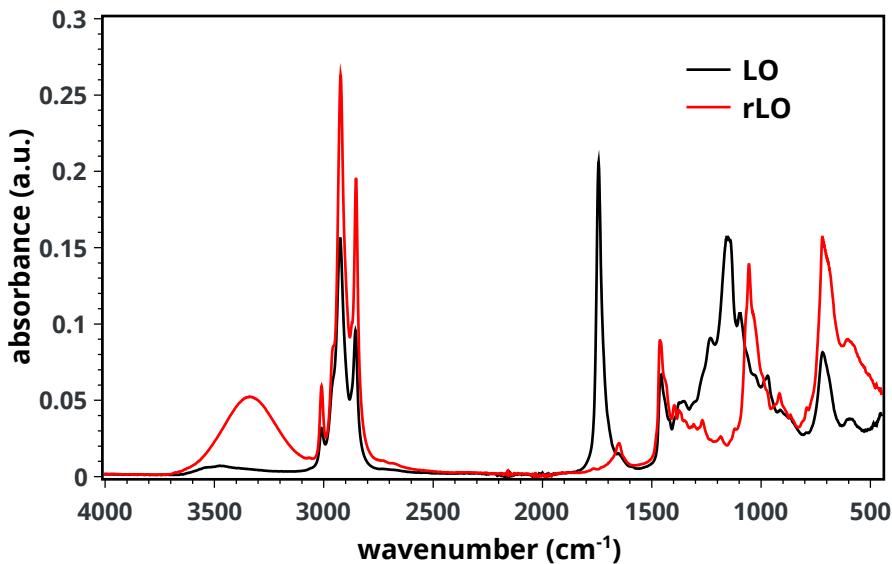


**Figure S6** TiO<sub>2</sub> normalised XRD spectra for mixed ZnO/TiO<sub>2</sub> paints containing 0.5–20 wt % of ZnO. Inset shows that ZnO is completely consumed below  $\approx 4.5$  wt%. TiO<sub>2</sub> peaks are marked with ●.

## Reduction of linseed oil with LiAlH<sub>4</sub>

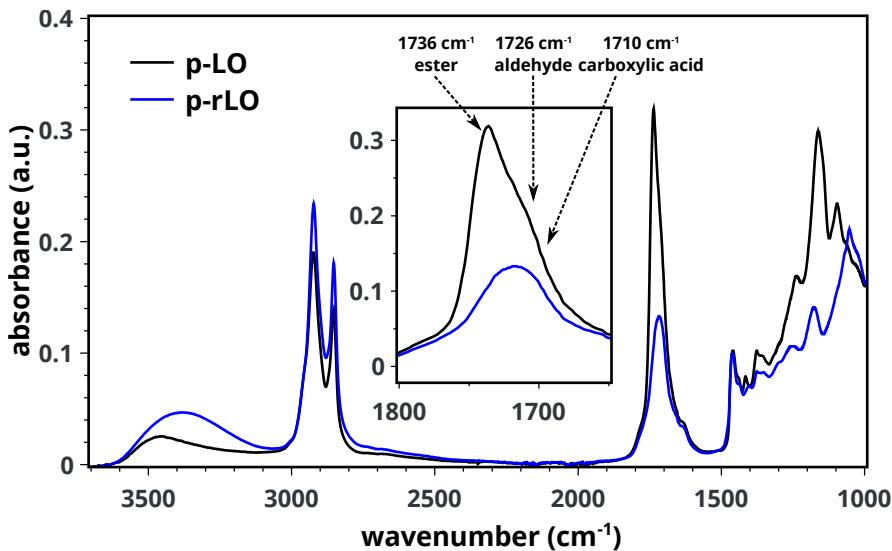
The reduction of linseed oil with lithium aluminium hydride LiAlH<sub>4</sub> was done according to slightly modified literature procedures.<sup>2,3</sup> LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (5.2 g, 138 mmol) was dispersed in 225 ml cold (0 °C) tetrahydrofuran (THF) under nitrogen atmosphere. Cold-pressed untreated linseed oil (LO, Kremer Pigmente, 15 g, 17 mmol) was added while stirring the reaction in a ice bath. The reaction mixture was then stirred continuously at allowed to reach room temperature. After 17 h, the mixture was cooled again to 0 °C and 40 ml of 2-propanol, ethanol and 20 ml of water was *slowly* added. The mixture was stirred for 15 min and filtered using a Büchner funnel. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, dissolved in dichloromethane and filtered over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give the mixture of alcohols (14 g, 93% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 5.50 – 5.21 (m, -CH=CH-), 3.64 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, –CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 2.81 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, –CH=CHCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH–), 2.17 – 1.96 (m, CH=CHCH<sub>2</sub>C<sup>-</sup>), 1.56 (s, –CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 1.37 – 1.28 (br, –CCH<sub>2</sub>C–), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>).

## FTIR spectrum of LO and reduced LO



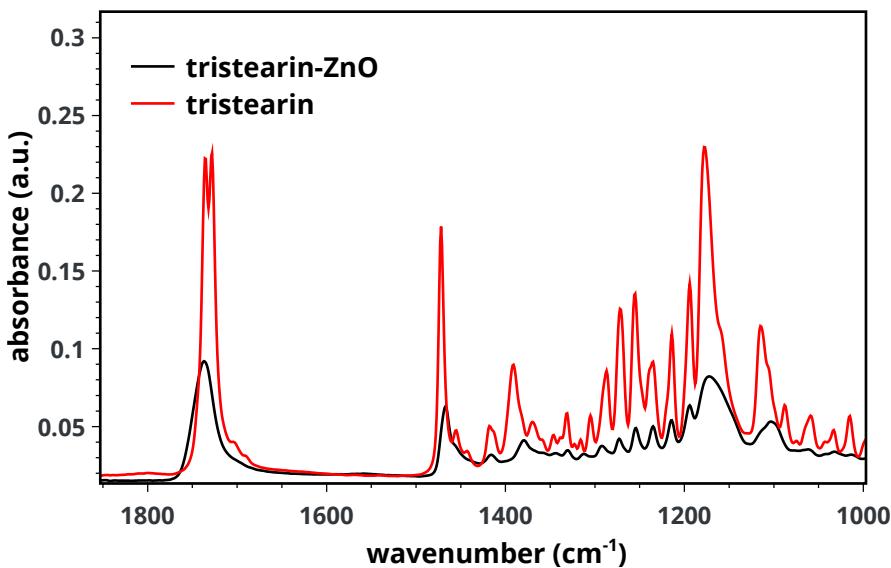
**Figure S7** FTIR spectrum of LO and reduced LO (rLO), clearly showing the reduction of all esters ( $1736 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) for rLO and the presence of the OH stretch ( $3400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , broad) in the mixture of alcohols.

## FTIR spectrum of polymerised LO and polymerised reduced LO



**Figure S8** FTIR spectrum of polymerised LO (p-LO) and polymerised reduced LO (p-rLO).

## FTIR spectrum of tristearin and tristearin-ZnO



**Figure S9** FTIR spectrum of tristearin and tristearin-ZnO, clearly showing that 1 week at 60°C and 12% RH did not lead to the formation of significant amounts of COOZn. A split ester carbonyl band is observed for tristearin due to the presence of different polymorphs.<sup>4,5</sup>

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