

70. Masaru Nakamura, Kyoko Komatsu, Yoshiko Gondo,
Kiyoko Ohta,*¹ and Yo Ueda*² : An Infrared
Study of the C=N Stretching Frequency
in N-Benzylideneaniline
Derivatives.

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A series of 131 N-benzylideneaniline derivatives was prepared, and their infrared spectra were measured in the same conditions.

Statistical tests showed that differences of substitution in benzene ring of benzylidene group affected acceptably on the region of C=N stretching absorption peak, but those in benzene ring of aniline group had smaller effect on it.

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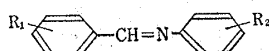
The infrared absorption band due to the stretching vibration of the C=N group in N-benzylideneaniline derivatives was assigned to the region 1626~1637 cm⁻¹ by Fabian, *et al.*,¹⁾ and 1613~1631 cm⁻¹ by Clougherty, *et al.*²⁾

Since the compounds studied were measured in various conditions, the effects of substituents on the band position have been remained uncertain.

The purpose of this investigation was to measure the infrared absorption spectra of N-benzylideneaniline derivatives in the same condition, and to clarify the effects of substituents on the absorption band due to C=N.

131 N-benzylideneaniline derivatives, including 43 new compounds, were prepared and their infrared spectra were measured in chloroform solutions and in potassium bromide tablets. Those compounds have no or only one substituent in each benzene ring of their molecules.

TABLE I. C=N Stretching Frequency in N-Benzylideneaniline Derivatives



R ₁	R ₂	in CHCl ₃ (cm ⁻¹)	in KBr (cm ⁻¹)	R ₁	R ₂	in CHCl ₃ (cm ⁻¹)	in KBr (cm ⁻¹)
2-Cl	2-OH	1621	1618	"	4-Br	1623	1616
"	4-OH		1616	—	2-Cl		1623
"	2-Cl	1629	1618	2-OH	"	1626	1616
"	3-Cl		1618	4-OH	"		1616
"	4-Cl		1621	3-Cl	"	1631	1623
"	2-CH ₃	1626	1613	4-Cl	"	1637	1623
"	4-CH ₃	1623	1616	2-NO ₂	"		1629
"	3-OCH ₃	1623	1621	3-NO ₂	"	1634	1631
"	4-OCH ₃	1621	1618	4-NO ₂	"	1629	1626
"	3-NO ₂	1626	1621				
"	2-Br		1621	3-Cl	2-OH	1631	1626
"	3-Br	1623	1616	"	4-OH		1621

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1) J. Fabian, M. Legrand, P. Poirier : Bull. soc. chim. France, **1956**, 1499.

2) L. E. Clougherty, J. A. Sousa, G. M. Wyman : J. Org. Chem., **22**, 462 (1957).

"	3-Cl		1626	"	4-OH		1623
"	4-Cl		1621	"	2-CH ₃	1637	1626
"	2-CH ₃	1631	1626	"	3-CH ₃	1631	1626
"	4-CH ₃	1631	1621	"	4-CH ₃	1637	1619
"	4-OCH ₃	1629	1621	"	3-OCH ₃	1634	1623
"	3-NO ₂	1634	1631	"	4-OCH ₃		1621
"	2-Br	1637	1629	"	3-NO ₂	1645	1639
"	3-Br	1634	1631	"	4-NO ₂	1642	1631
"	4-Br	1634	1626	"	3-Br	1637	1631
—	3-Cl	1634		"	4-Br	1631	1631
2-OH	"		1618	—	3-NO ₂	1634	1631
3-OH	"		1623	2-OH	"		1618
4-Cl	"		1626	3-OH	"		1626
2-NO ₂	"	1634	1629	4-OH	"		1623
3-NO ₂	"	1634	1621	4-NO ₂	"		1629
4-NO ₂	"	1634	1626				
				4-NO ₂	—	1629	1623
"	—	1634	1626	"	2-OH	1623	1626
"	2-OH	1626	1626	"	4-OH	1629	1623
"	4-OH		1621	"	2-CH ₃	1637	1629
"	4-Cl		1623	"	3-CH ₃	1634	1629
"	2-CH ₃		1629	"	4-CH ₃	1634	1626
"	3-CH ₃	1634	1626	"	2-OCH ₃	1631	1626
"	4-CH ₃	1631	1626	"	3-OCH ₃	1634	1629
"	2-OCH ₃	1631	1626	"	4-OCH ₃	1629	1623
"	3-OCH ₃		1626	"	4-NO ₂	1637	1629
"	4-OCH ₃		1618	"	2-Br		1629
"	3-NO ₂	1637	1626	"	3-Br	1634	1631
"	4-NO ₂	1634	1626	"	4-Br	1637	1631
"	2-Br	1637	1626	2-OH	4-NO ₂	1629	1616
"	3-Br	1634	1626				
"	4-Br		1623	2-OH	—	1631	1623
—	4-Cl	1631	1629	"	2-OH	(1624) ²⁾	1631
2-OH	"	1626	1616	"	3-OH		1623
3-OH	"		1623	"	4-OH		1621
2-NO ₂	"	1623	1618	"	2-CH ₃	1623	1613
3-NO ₂	"	1634	1623	"	3-CH ₃	1623	1616
4-NO ₂	"	1637	1623	"	4-CH ₃	1626	1621
				"	2-OCH ₃	1621	1616
				"	3-OCH ₃	1626	1616
				"	4-OCH ₃	1623	1621
2-NO ₂	—	1623 ^{a)}	1626	"	2-Br		1613
"	2-OH	1623	1616	"	3-Br	1623	1621
"	4-OH	1623	1626	"	4-Br	1626	1613
"	2-CH ₃	1623	1623	—	2-OH	1631	1623
"	3-CH ₃	1623	1626	4-OH	"		1613
"	4-CH ₃	1623	1618				
"	2-OCH ₃	1618					
"	3-OCH ₃	1623	1623	3-OH	—		1626
"	4-OCH ₃	1621	1618	"	4-CH ₃	1631	1626
"	2-NO ₂	1637		"	4-OCH ₃	1631	1626
"	3-NO ₂	1634	1623	"	3-Br		1618
"	4-NO ₂	1637	1623	"	4-Br		1621
"	2-Br	1629	1634				
"	3-Br	1626	1626				
"	4-Br	1626	1621				
3-NO ₂	2-NO ₂	1645	1637	4-OH	4-OH		1613
				"	2-OCH ₃		1621
				"	3-Br		1613
3-NO ₂	—	1637	1629	—	4-OH		1623
"	2-OH	1634	1629				

a) 1621 cm⁻¹ ²⁾

Results and Discussion

As shown in Table I, most of the compounds exhibited rather strong peaks in the region of $1618\sim 1645\text{ cm}^{-1}$ in chloroform solutions, and of $1613\sim 1639\text{ cm}^{-1}$ in solid states.

The assignment of C=N absorption band is not always simple, but the facts that the regions mentioned above coincided with the reported ones, and most of the N-benzylideneaniline derivatives didn't show any complex pattern in a range of $1610\sim 1650\text{ cm}^{-1}$ made us comparatively easy to assign these bands to C=N stretching mode of vibrations.

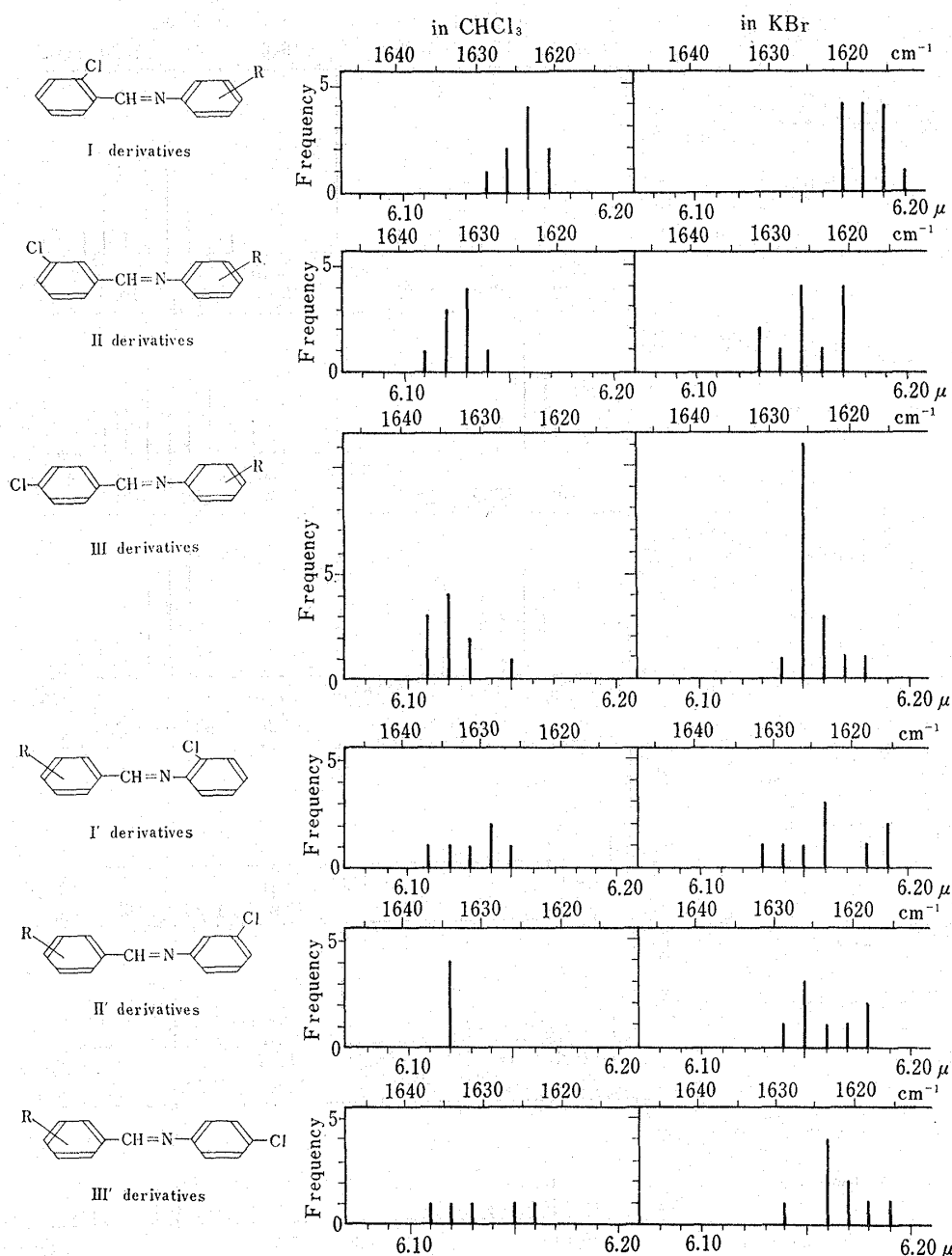


Fig. 1. Distributions of the Data of C=N Stretching Frequency in I, II, III, I', II', and III' Derivatives

N-(2-Chlorobenzylidene)aniline (I) derivatives showed the absorption peaks in lower frequency region than N-(3-chlorobenzylidene)aniline (II), and N-(4-chlorobenzylidene)aniline (III) derivatives as shown in Fig. 1.

Statistical tests of the differences between mean wave numbers of C=N stretching absorption bands of I, II, and III derivatives, using the table of Fisher's distribution and a 5% level of significance, showed that the population of the data of I derivatives was different from those of II and III derivatives, and that of II derivatives was not different from that of III derivatives. On the contrary, those of N-benzylidene-2-chloroaniline (I') derivatives, N-benzylidene-3-chloroaniline (II') derivatives, and N-benzylidene-4-chloroaniline (III') derivatives were not different from each other.

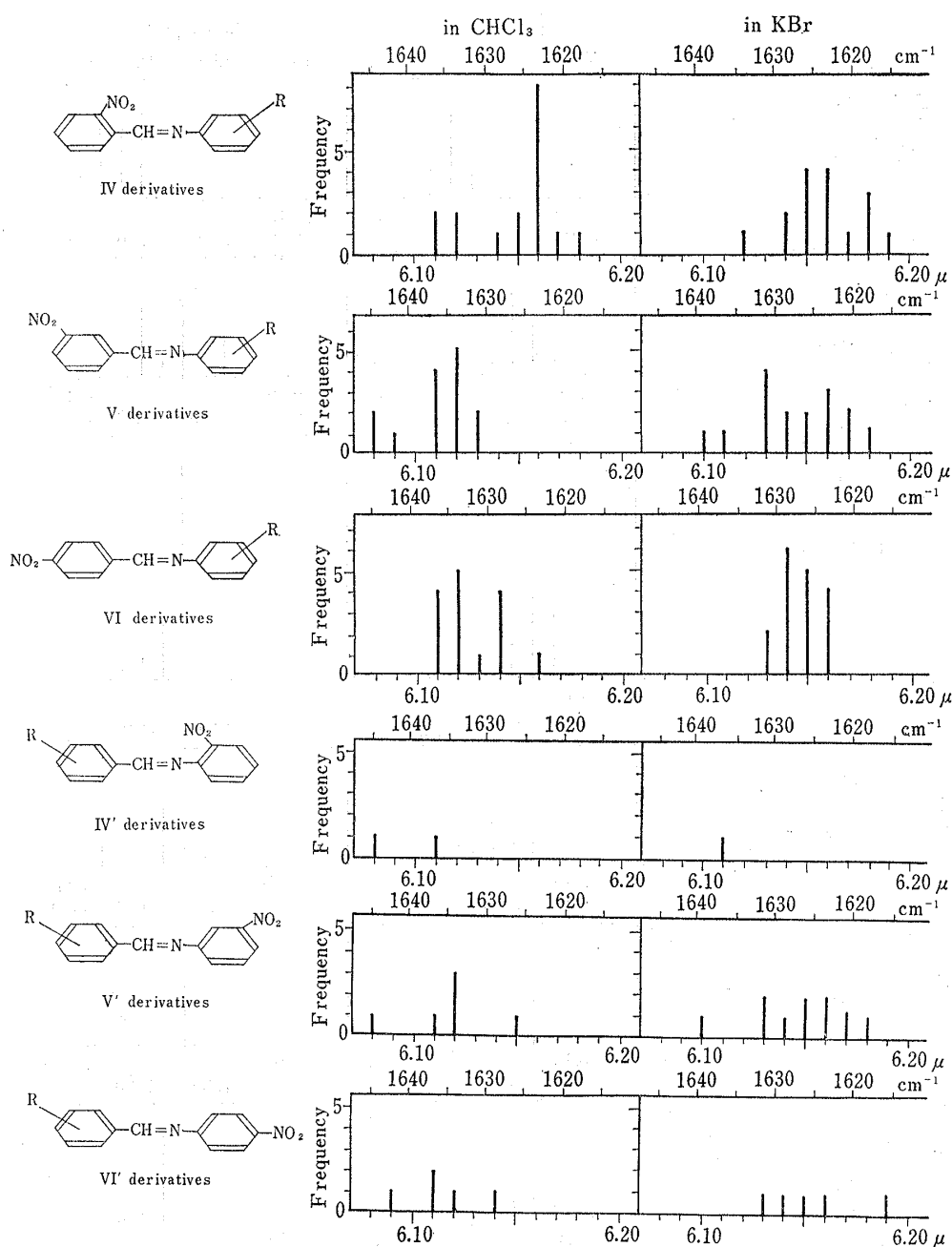


Fig. 2. Distributions of the Data of C=N Stretching Frequency in IV, V, VI, IV', V', and VI' Derivatives

Populations of the data of wave number of C=N stretching absorption bands in N-(2-nitrobenzylidene)aniline (IV) derivatives, N-(3-nitrobenzylidene)aniline (V) derivatives, and N-(4-nitrobenzylidene)aniline (VI) derivatives were different from each other, while those of the data of N-benzylidene-3-nitroaniline (V') derivatives and N-benzylidene-4-nitroaniline (VI') derivatives were not different. N-Benzylidene-2-nitroaniline (IV') derivatives available were not enough for calculation.

Distributions of the data of IV, V, VI, IV', V', and VI' derivatives are shown in Fig. 2.

As shown in Fig. 3, N-(3-hydroxybenzylidene)aniline (VIII) derivatives showed a C=N stretching absorption band in a comparatively higher frequency region than N-(2-hydroxybenzylidene)aniline (VII) derivatives and N-(4-hydroxybenzylidene)aniline (IX) derivatives. Population of the data of VIII derivatives was different from those of VII and IX derivatives, but that of VII derivatives was not different from that of IX

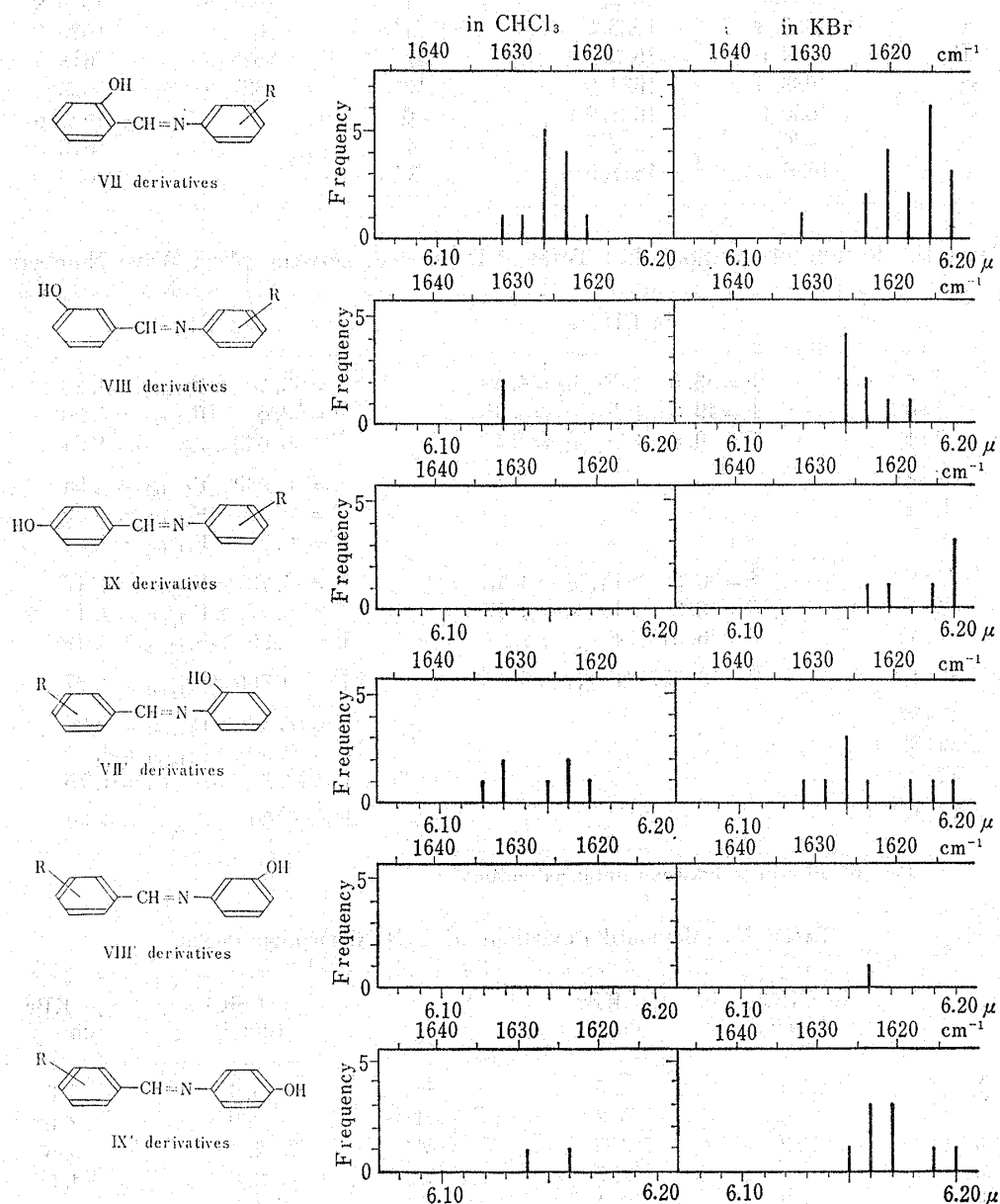


Fig. 3. Distributions of the Data of C=N Stretching Frequency in VII, VIII, IX, VII', VIII' and IX' Derivatives

derivatives. While, those of N-benzylidene-2-hydroxyaniline (VII') derivatives and N-benzylidene-4-hydroxyaniline (IX') derivatives were not different. N-Benzylidene-3-hydroxyaniline (VIII') derivatives available were not enough for calculation.

Thus, in I, II, ..., X derivatives the populations of the data were different in seven of nine calculated couples, while in I', II', ..., IX' derivatives there was no different couple in five calculated ones. The mean wave numbers and results of the statistical tests of differences between mean wave numbers are shown in Table II and III, respectively.

TABLE II. Mean Wave Numbers of C=N Absorption Peaks

	in CHCl ₃ (cm ⁻¹)	in KBr (cm ⁻¹)		in CHCl ₃ (cm ⁻¹)	in KBr (cm ⁻¹)
I	1623.9	1617.9	V'	1635.0	1626.7
I'	1631.0	1622.8	VI	1632.5	1626.9
II	1632.4	1625.2	VI'	1635.8	1625.0
II'	1634.0	1623.4	VII	1625.3	1618.4
III	1633.5	1624.9	VII'	1627.0	1623.1
III'	1630.2	1621.9	VIII		1623.6
IV	1626.2	1623.7	IX		1616.5
V	1636.6	1627.5	IX'		1620.8

TABLE III. Results of the Statistical Tests of Differences between Mean Wave Numbers

	in CHCl ₃	in KBr
I:II	$\bar{F}=53.5 > F_{(1,16)}=4.49$	$\bar{F}=33.2 > F_{(1,23)}=4.28$
I:III	$\bar{F}=49.3 > F_{(1,19)}=4.38$	$\bar{F}=62.6 > F_{(1,26)}=4.20$
II:III	$\bar{F}=0.65 < F_{(1,17)}=4.45$	$\bar{F}=0.049 < F_{(1,27)}=4.21$
I':II'		$\bar{F}=0.049 < F_{(1,15)}=4.54$
I':III'		$\bar{F}=0.22 < F_{(1,16)}=4.49$
II':III'		$\bar{F}=0.71 < F_{(1,15)}=4.54$
IV:V	$\bar{F}=30.2 > F_{(1,29)}=4.18$	$\bar{F}=4.73 > F_{(1,30)}=4.17$
IV:VI	$\bar{F}=12.2 > F_{(1,30)}=4.17$	$\bar{F}=6.57 > F_{(1,30)}=4.17$
V:VI	$\bar{F}=6.61 > F_{(1,27)}=4.21$	$\bar{F}=4.96 > F_{(12,16)}=2.42^a$
V':VI'	$\bar{F}=0.057 < F_{(1,9)}=5.12$	$\bar{F}=0.306 < F_{(1,13)}=4.67$
VII:VIII		$\bar{F}=8.32 > F_{(1,24)}=4.26$
VII:IX		$\bar{F}=0.901 < F_{(1,22)}=4.30$
VIII:IX		$\bar{F}=13.3 > F_{(1,12)}=4.75$
VI':IX'		$\bar{F}=0.90 < F_{(1,16)}=4.49$

a) Test of difference between unbiased estimates.

TABLE IV. Standard Deviations of C=N Absorption Peaks

	in CHCl ₃ (cm ⁻¹)	in KBr (cm ⁻¹)		in CHCl ₃ (cm ⁻¹)	in KBr (cm ⁻¹)
I	2.4	2.5	V'	5.5	5.8
I'	3.6	5.2	VI	3.9	2.6
II	2.2	3.7	VI'	4.4	5.5
II'		3.7	VII	2.6	4.6
III	3.2	2.4	VII'	4.7	5.9
III'	5.0	3.5	VIII		2.7
IV	5.5	4.6	IX		4.2
V	4.2	5.7	IX'		3.9

As shown in Table IV, most of the standard deviations of I, II,, X derivatives were smaller than corresponding values of I', II',, X' derivatives.

As shown in Fig. 4, a linear relation seemed to exist between Hammett's substituent constants, σ values, and mean wave numbers of C=N stretching absorption band measured in solid states for a series of compounds, of which benzylidene nucleus was substituted by Cl, NO₂, and OH, groups except 4-OH derivatives. However, the steep slope indicated that the effect of substituents on absorption bands was not so serious.

When σ values were plotted against mean absorption frequencies of a series of compounds, where aniline nucleus was substituted by Cl, NO₂, OH, CH₃, OCH₃, and Br groups no such linear relation was found.

These results revealed that differences of substitution in benzene ring of benzylidene group affected acceptably on the region of infrared absorption due to the C=N stretching vibration, but those in benzene ring of aniline moiety had smaller effect on it.

It is interesting that this conclusion is similar to a result of a polarographic investigation that substituents in benzylidene group of N-benzylideneaniline derivatives have significant effect on half wave potentials of C=N, while those in aniline group have no effect on them.³⁾

Experimental

The N-benzylideneaniline derivatives were prepared by standard procedures.

The purity of the compounds was checked by their melting points, data of elementary analyses and gas chromatographic tests on columns utilizing SE-30 at 200°. Appearances, melting points, and data of elementary analyses of new compounds are shown in Table V.

The infrared spectra were measured from 1667 to 1538 cm⁻¹ in chloroform solutions using Koken DS-301 Infrared Spectrophotometer, and from 5000 to 667 cm⁻¹ in potassium bromide tablets using Hitachi EPI-S Infrared Spectrophotometer.

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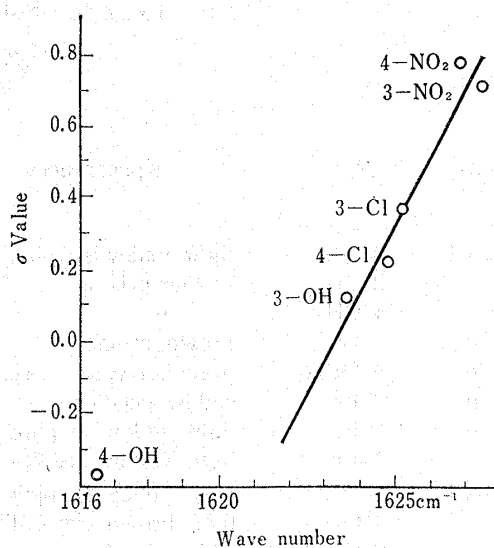
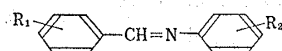


Fig. 4. Hammett's Substituent Constants, σ , plotted against the Mean Wave Numbers of C=N Stretching Absorption Bands

3) M. Uehara: Nippon Kagaku Zasshi **86**, 901 (1965).

TABLE V. N-Benzylideneaniline Derivatives



R ₁	R ₂	Appearances	m.p. (°C)	Formula	Analysis, N(%)	
					Calcd.	Found
2-Cl	4-OH	light yellowish pink prisms	145	C ₁₃ H ₁₀ ONCl	6.05	5.93
"	2-CH ₃	yellow prisms	77	C ₁₄ H ₁₂ NCl	6.11	6.10
"	4-CH ₃	"	52	"	6.11	6.03
"	3-OCH ₃	brown prisms	38	C ₁₄ H ₁₂ ONCl	5.71	5.68
"	4-OCH ₃	greenish yellow prisms	62	"	5.71	5.45
"	2-Br	yellow needles	119	C ₁₃ H ₉ NBrCl	4.76	4.62
"	3-Br	light yellowish pink needles	38	"	4.76	4.72
"	4-Br	light yellow needles	65	"	4.76	4.51
3-Cl	2-OH	light yellowish pink leaflets	83	C ₁₃ H ₁₀ ONCl	6.05	6.02
"	4-OH	light brown crystalline powder	143	"	6.05	5.83
"	2-Cl	white needles	52	C ₁₃ H ₉ NCl ₂	5.58	5.53
"	3-Cl	"	47	"	5.58	5.58
"	4-Cl	light brown needles	42	"	5.58	5.63
"	4-CH ₃	light brown plates	55	C ₁₄ H ₁₂ NCl	6.11	6.11
"	4-OCH ₃	light green leaflets	68	C ₁₄ H ₁₂ ONCl	5.71	5.68
"	3-NO ₂	light yellow needles	109	C ₁₃ H ₉ O ₂ N ₂ Cl	10.73	10.36
"	2-Br	light yellow prisms	65	C ₁₃ H ₉ NBrCl	4.76	4.82
"	3-Br	light yellowish pink needles	49	"	4.76	4.77
"	4-Br	light yellow needles	61	"	4.76	4.71
4-Cl	2-OH	yellowish brown needles	116	C ₁₃ H ₁₀ ONCl	6.05	5.94
"	4-OH	light brown prisms	179	"	6.05	5.88
"	2-OCH ₃	yellow plates	73	C ₁₄ H ₁₂ ONCl	5.71	5.75
"	3-OCH ₃	brown prisms	28	"	5.71	5.49
"	4-OCH ₃	light gray leaflets	122	"	5.71	5.80
"	3-NO ₂	light yellowish pink needles	125	C ₁₃ H ₉ O ₂ N ₂ Cl	10.73	10.73
"	4-NO ₂	yellow needles	161	"	10.73	10.62
"	2-Br	yellow plates	46	C ₁₃ H ₉ NBrCl	4.76	4.74
"	3-Br	white needles	71	"	4.76	4.74
"	4-Br	light yellow leaflets	120	"	4.76	4.91
2-NO ₂	3-NO ₂	light yellow needles	128	C ₁₃ H ₉ O ₄ N ₃	15.50	15.38
"	4-NO ₂	yellowish orange needles	144	"	15.50	15.41
3-NO ₂	2-Cl	yellow needles	102	C ₁₃ H ₉ O ₂ N ₂ Cl	10.72	10.72
"	3-OCH ₃	yellow plates	77	C ₁₄ H ₁₂ O ₃ N ₂	10.93	10.61
"	4-OCH ₃	yellow prisms	80	"	10.93	10.92
"	3-Br	white needles	124	C ₁₃ H ₉ O ₂ N ₂ Br	9.18	8.88
4-NO ₂	3-CH ₃	yellow plates	94	C ₁₄ H ₁₂ O ₂ N ₂	11.64	11.51
"	3-OCH ₃	yellowish orange prisms	96	C ₁₄ H ₁₂ O ₃ N ₂	10.93	10.62
3-OH	3-Cl	light yellowish pink prisms	124	C ₁₃ H ₁₀ ONCl	6.05	6.06
"	4-Cl	light brown needles	135	"	6.05	6.07
"	4-OCH ₃	"	122	C ₁₄ H ₁₃ O ₂ N	6.16	6.12
"	3-NO ₂	yellow prisms	148	C ₁₃ H ₁₀ O ₃ N ₂	11.11	11.32
"	3-Br	light orange prisms	138	C ₁₃ H ₁₀ ONBr	5.08	4.72
"	4-Br	light yellow needles	141	"	5.08	4.98