ULTRAVIOLET SPECTRA OF ALKALOIDS

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CONTENTS

The use of ultraviolet spectra in structural elucidation is a time-honored method, and particularly applicable value in giving leads to possible structural types (344). to many problems involving natural products. Althe many problems involving natural products. The area is not within the scope of this review to include data though there are many very useful collections of ultra- on alkaloids of unknown structure, and this omission violet spectral data which include some alkaloids (187, on alkaloids of diklown structure, and this omission
188, 205, 328), and also collections of a limited number
cludes cases where opinions as to the type of structure of alkaloids $(250, 255)$, there have been no serious at-
tempts to bring together these data for this class of com-
 $\frac{1}{100}$ and the ultraviolet spectra. This review has also not

 $\frac{1}{2}$ is californized to the matrice of the anti-column state in particle in p. K determinations.
a number of basic facts should be borne in mind. First, $\frac{1}{2}$ where are some instances where data have been there are a large number of alkaloids of varying struc-
tuned on alkaloid degradation products, since the tural types; for example, most of the pyrrolidine and diterpene alkaloids, which have no ultraviolet spectra *.^r* in the commonly recognized sense (see below) and so are not included in this review. Some structural types inclusions are somethings models are not included in this review. Some structural types ticular chromophoric feature.
are, however, included because of chromophore-containing substituents; for example, the pyrrolizidine and α **h** β **h** α *channel***, the pyrronzidic and a** α **b** α **classification** *f f*

Secondly, it should be recognized that the ultra-Secondly, it should be recognized that the ultra-
The definition of an alkaloid being a basic nitroge-
violet spectral method is only one of a large and growing nous compound occurring in plants and usually having number of physical methods for the determination of some physiological activity (276) seems to have been number of physical methods for the determination of some physiological activity (276) seems to have been

I. INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE molecular structure, and wherever possible these methods should be used in the particular structural investigation (295, 337). The plant source may also be of great

have been propounded on the basis of the plant origin being to bring together these trata for this class of com-
pounds as a whole. The examining the ultraviolet spectra of the alkaloids, spectra, such as the determination of molecular weight or its use in pK determinations.

> There are some instances where data have been inultraviolet spectra of these compc inds played sig n *ificant roles in structural elucidation. Nonalkaloidal* models are sometimes included to illustrate some par-

discarded. Several alkaloids have been isolated from animals; for example, samandarine (I) from *SaIamanda maculosa,* muscopyridine (II) from the musk deer, castoramine (III) from the Canadian beaver, and pyocyanine (IV) extracted from the bacteria *Pseudomonas aeruginosa.*

Some alkaloids are also nonbasic. The neutral alkaloids ricinine (V) and colchicine (VI) exemplify this exception. Some groups of compounds have also been classified as alkaloids by some authors and not as alkaloids by others. The purine bases *(e.g.,* caffeine) fall into this category. They have been included in classifications by Boit (56), Kirk and Othmer (213), but omitted by Henry (185) and Manske and Holmes (231). We have included these bases as genuine alkaloids. In this review the alkaloids have been grouped together in conventional structural lines. The presentation of these groups is fr ,m the simple to the more complex. Note should be taken of the fact that certain groups of alkaloids are discussed with others of similar chromophoric pattern. For example, the Lycopodium alkaloids are discussed with the pyridine-pyridone group, and certain sesquiterpene alkaloids included with the quinolizidines because of similar structural features. All the dihydroindole and indole alkaloids are subdivided with respect to their chromophores rather than the classification used by Boit, and so the indolylalkyl-

amine, physostigmine, calycanthine, canthine, yohimbine, corynanthine (alstonine, oxindole, strychnine, ibogaine, aspidospermine, eburnamine, ellipticine, mavacurine), fluorocurine, cryptolepine, some members of the cinchonamine group, and ergot alkaloids are to be found in this section.

The Amaryllidaceae alkaloids, although having several structural types, have been kept together for easy reference.

The isobutylamides have not been included in the review.

The miscellaneous group contains alkaloids which, because of their novel structures, are dissimilar to the recognized types.

B. DEFINITION OF TERMS

The review by Dorfman (114) of the ultraviolet spectra of steroids contains an excellent summary of spectroscopic terms. For convenience these are repeated here with modifications and expansion to comply with currently accepted nomenclature (312) .

ULTRAVIOLET.—This usually refers to the region of the electromagnetic spectrum from 200 to 380 m μ .

VISIBLE.—The spectral range visible to the human eye, that is, ca. 380 to 780 m μ .

CHROMOPHOBE.—A structural feature which results in ultraviolet light absorption or color in the visible.

ABSORBANCE, *A.*—Logarithm to the base 10 of the reciprocal of the transmittance: $A = \log (1/T)$ where *T =* transmittance.

ABSORPTIVITY, $a - a = A/bc$ where *b* is the sample path length in cm., and c is the concentration of the substance in g./l.

ABSORPTIVITY, Molar, e.—The product of the absorptivity and the molecular weight of the substance which replaces the former terms, molar absorbancy index, molar absorption coefficient, and molar extinction coefficient.

Log ABSORPTIVITY, Molar, ϵ . -Log ϵ .

WAVE LENGTH UNITS, λ —Millimicrons, 1 m μ = 10^{-7} cm.

AUXOCHROME.—A group which enhances the absorptivity of a chromophore.

BATHOCHROMIC SHIFT.—The shifting of an absorption band toward longer wave lengths.

HYPSOCHROMIC SHIFT.—The shifting of an absorption band towards shorter wave lengths.

HYPERCHROMIC SHIFT.—An increase in the e-value of an absorption band.

HYPOCHROMIC SHIFT.—A decrease in the $\epsilon\text{-value}$ of an absorption band.

The measurement of ultraviolet spectra until recently has been subject to instrumental limitation, so in this review an ultraviolet spectrum constitutes the measurement of absorptivity in the region from *ca.*

 $205 \text{ m}\mu$ into the visible. This range excludes most alkaloids that contain only an isolated double bond.

It should be remembered that an ultraviolet spectrum is characteristic of a certain chromophoric system or systems, rather than the molecule as a whole, and that structural changes involving the chromophore can make significant changes in the ultraviolet spectrum.

C. SPECTRAL PRESENTATION

There are many different ways of presenting ultraviolet spectra (141, 290), the most common being the plot of ϵ or log ϵ against wave length, λ (m μ). In the present review log *e* values are plotted or tabulated against λ (m μ). In the tables, the alkaloids are arranged alphabetically with λ_{max} and log ϵ values; also λ_{\min} and log ϵ values are given for some compounds including those compounds whose spectra have been shown. In a few examples, e-values are plotted to illustrate particular solvent effects. The $log \epsilon$ plot has the advantage of compressing the high e-values and enhancing the weaker values, thus avoiding the necessity in some cases for changes of scale. The following additional points should be noted.

(a) All the curves (log ϵ , λ) are plotted on the same scale.

(b) In many cases, the data used for tables or graphs were obtained from other graphs.

(c) The review attempts to be as exhaustive as possible of the different chromophoric types within a given group of alkaloids and includes data published up to April 1964. In much of the early classical work on alkaloids, no ultraviolet spectra are recorded. In several cases, however, authors have kindly sent us data from their own unpublished collections. We wish to acknowledge particularly the large number of spectra of indole and dihydroindole alkaloids from the Lilly collection (249).

(d) There are a few groups for which no graphs are given because of their simple chromophore pattern or because inadequate data prevented the plotting of a graph. The quinolizidine, imidazole, and pyrrolizidine groups are examples of the former case.

D. SOLVENT

Most of the spectra of the alkaloids or alkaloid salts have been determined in polar hydroxylic solvents (ethanol, methanol, or water). For this reason there is rarely any significant fine structure shown. The main interest has been in the effect of pH changes on the spectra. In many cases, variations in pH cause significant structural changes in the molecule which are reflected in changes of the ultraviolet spectra.

In a number of cases spectral differences due to solvent effects have also been discussed.

II. SIMPLE AMINE DERIVATIVES

There are a number of structural types which can be classified as aliphatic amines or phenylalkylamines. The ultraviolet spectra are generally due to either an α , β -unsaturated carbonyl function or an aromatic ring. In some cases the aromatic ring is conjugated with the side chain.

A. α , β -UNSATURATED CARBONYL AMINES

Some examples of this type are the *Erythrophleum* alkaloids (VII) which are amino alcohol esters of unsaturated diterpene acids.

The alkaloids (123, 289) and the free acids show (152) absorption maxima at \sim 220-225 m μ (log ϵ 4.2) due to the unsaturated ester or acid.

B. PHENYLALKYLAMINES

The aromatic ring may be either unconjugated as in VIII or conjugated with carbonyl or olefinic functions as in leonurine (IX) , sinapine (X) , and aegeline (XI) . The unconjugated types show a simple absorption envelope at \sim 260-280 m μ , the position and intensity depending on the auxochromic substituents (OH, OCH3) on the aromatic ring. In the conjugated types, the absorption band is bathochromically shifted and increased in intensity. Examples of these types are summarized in Table I.

TABLE I

^a In this and in other tables the following abbreviations have been used for solvents: $B =$ buffered solution and pH stated when available; Ch = chloroform; Cy = cyclohexane; D = dioxane; E = ethanol (95%-absolute); E% = ethanol of stated lower per cent; Eth = ether; H⁺ = acid solution (with normality (N) if given); H = hexane; I = isopropyl alcohol; M = methanol; OH⁻ = alkaline solution (with normality (N) if given); W = water.

III. TROPANE GROUP

Some members of this group of alkaloids have an ultraviolet spectrum simply because of chromophorecontaining substituents. Cocaine (XII) (Figure 1) shows an ultraviolet spectrum with maxima at 230, 274, and 281 m μ (log ϵ 4.19, 2.98, and 2.89) owing to the O-benzoyl substituent. The hydrochloride shows a merging of two maxima to give a spectrum with bands at 253 and 274 m μ (log ϵ 4.09 and 3.02). Dioscorine (XIII) shows a maximum at 217 m μ (log ϵ 4.20) owing to the unsaturated δ -lactone substituent on the tropane ring.

The sulfate of atropine (XIV), hyoscyamine (XIV), and the hydrobromide of *l*-scopolamine (XV) have similar ultraviolet spectra owing to the aromatic ring. These values are summarized in Table II.

IV. STEROIDAL ALKALOIDS

Solanidine, like many steroidal aglycones, contains only one isolated double bond and so displays only a weak general absorption in the ultraviolet (91), which is outside the range of most instruments. Cevadine, the natural occurring ester of cevine (XVI) (Figure 1) shows a band at 296 m μ (log ϵ 1.84) (25, 259). The fine structure which is normal for the benzene moiety is absent in the spectrum of veratramine (XVII) (Figure 1). Jervine (XVIII) (Figure 1), with bands at 250 (log ϵ 4.2) and 360 m μ (log ϵ 1.88) (199) shows a spectrum which is typical of a trisubstituted α, β -un-

^{*a*} E = ethanol (95%-absolute); $W =$ water.

saturated ketone (348, 349). See Table III for a summary of data of this group.

V. PYRROLIZIDINES

Complete structural elucidation of many pyrrolizidine alkaloids has been greatly aided by alkali hydrolysis to yield the "necine" (alkanolamine) fragment and "necic" acid or acids depending on whether the alkaloid contains a monoester with a monocarboxylic acid, a diester of necine with different monocarboxylic acids, or a cyclic diester with a dicarboxylic acid. Ul-

Figure 1.—Tropane and steroidal groups. Tropanes: cocaine (XII) in water. Steroidal group: (A) cevadine, the ester of cevine (XVI), in ethanol; veratramine (XVII) in ethanol; jervine (XVIII) in ethanol.

traviolet spectroscopy has been most useful in the identification of the necic acids and, where applicable, also gives information about the intact alkaloid structure.

The isolated double bond which is present in the pyrrolizidine ring of many senecio alkaloids, for example, usaramoensine (XIX) , absorbs below 200 m μ , and so the ultraviolet spectra of these alkaloids above 200 $m\mu$ (Table IV) depend upon the nature of the acid attached.

The ultraviolet spectra of the necic acids (Table V) may be useful in assigning geometrical configuration of the acid. The configuration of angelic acid (XX) was shown to be *cis* by comparing it with tiglic acid (XXI)

TABLE IV

^{*a*} E = ethanol (95%-absolute); $W =$ water.

(trans) (3). The absorptivity for tiglic acid $(6.13,500,$ 212 m μ) is much higher than that of angelic acid (ϵ 9500, 216 $m\mu$). It is, however, important to bear in mind that alkaline hydrolysis may cause a change in the geometrical configuration about an α, β carbon-carbon double bond in the acid fragments (224), and also that some acids isolated result from the rearrangement of primary products. Mikanecic acid (XXII), for example, is formed by the action of alkali on sarracenic acid (XXIII or XXIV) (104). Jacozine (XXV) with λ_{max} 233 m μ (log ϵ 3.24) has recently been shown to be the epoxide of seneciphylline.

VI. QUINOLIZIDINES

Consideration of the ultraviolet spectra of this group can be confined mainly to (a) the carbonyl-containing lupin alkaloids subdivided into (i) a carbonyl group adjacent to a tertiary nitrogen, (ii) the grouping $O=C=$ $C=C-N-$, (iii) a $C=C-N-C=0$ grouping, and (iv) a substituted 2-pyridone type system; and (b) no carbonyl groups (Table VI).

Oxysparteine (XXVI) and lupanine (XXVII) show a single maximum at \sim 214 m μ (log ϵ 3.8). It should be noted that the introduction of a single isolated double bond as exemplified by 5,6-dehydro-17-oxosparteine (XXVIII) and 2,3-dehydro-17-oxosparteine (XXIX) markedly alters the ultraviolet spectrum. Effects of this kind are usually due to some type of nonconjugated electronic interactions.

Multiflorine (XXX) with a $0=$ C $-C=$ C $-N$ grouping shows a maximum at 326 $m\mu$ and shows a hypsochromic shift of 6 m μ in 0.02 N hydrochloric acid.

Aphyllidine $(XXXI, R = OH)$ and argyrolobine $(XXXI, R = H)$ both have spectra characteristic of the $C=C-N-C=0$ grouping with a maximum at \sim 240 mu.

The fourth group contains cytisine $(XXXII, R =$ H), methylcytisine $(XXXII, R = CH₃)$, anagyrin $(XXXIII, R = H)$, and baptifoline $(XXXIII, R = H)$

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TABLE VI

^{*a*} E = ethanol (95%-absolute).

OH). All these alkaloids show spectra with two maxima, one at ca. 234 m μ and the other at 308-309 m μ . Spectra of these lupins and those of 2-pyridone alkaloids (e.g., β -obscurine) may be distinguished by the fact that for the former compounds, the band at lowest wave length has a lower ϵ -value than the second maximum, while in the latter compounds, the reverse is the case.

Certain sesquiterpene alkaloids, for example, desoxynupharidine (XXXIV) and nupharamine (XXXV), can be regarded as being derivatives of the quinolizidine ring and so might be included here.

The spectra of these compounds depend on the presence of a furan ring which shows a maximum at ca. 200 mµ (log ϵ 4.0). A point of some interest is that sparteine (XXXVI) and its $cis-cis$ isomer α -isosparteine both show a maximum above 200 m μ . In ether, sparteine has a maximum at 214 m μ (log ϵ 3.71) and α -isosparteine shows a band at 216 m μ (log ϵ 3.79) $(225).$

VII. IMIDAZOLES

The imidazoles (1,3-diazoles or glyoxalines) are a small group of alkaloids with no appreciable ultraviolet absorption above $220 \text{ m}\mu$ (108). The spectrum of imidazole (XXXVII) shows a maximum at 211 m μ (log ϵ 3.70) and a weak maximum at 250 m μ (log ϵ 1.78) (61, 314).

Figure 2.—Tropolone group: colchicine (XXXIX) in ethanol; isocholchicine (XL) in ethanol, colchiceine (XLVIa) in ethanol; allocolchicine (XLIV, R = CH₈) in ethanol; β - or γ -lumicolchicine (XLVIII and XLIX) in ethanol.

The maxima shown by casimiroedine (XXXVIII) (a derivative of N-cinnamoyl-N-methylhistamine) (272) at 219 and 280 $m\mu$ are essentially due to the extended aromatic chromophore. These values are summarized in Table VII.

VIII. TROPOLONE GROUP

The tropolone group of alkaloids can be classified into two main types: the colchicine (XXXIX)-isocolchicine (XL) group and the lumicolchicines (XLI, XLII). The ultraviolet spectra are significantly different. The lumicolchicines originally produced from colchicine have also been found naturally occurring. Although the lumicolchicines do not contain the tropolone ring system they are conveniently considered with this group.

A. COLCHICINE GROUP

Simple tropolones are characterized by two main regions of absorption showing marked fine structure in nonpolar solvents (253): (a) an intense absorption in the region 200-300 mu (ϵ 10,000-100,000); (b) a weaker absorption in the region 300-400 m μ (ϵ 1000-10,000). The latter band shows two maxima of about equal intensity at 300-350 and 350-400 *mix.*

In the case of tropolone (XLIII), the bands (in aqueous solution) occur at 228 (log *e* 4.36), 237 (4.36), 320 (3.83), and 351 $m\mu$ (3.76). There is more fine structure shown in cyclohexane solution (253).

The long wave length bands show a bathochromic shift in both acid and alkaline solution attributed (113, 258) to the formation of various resonance forms $(XLIIIa-d).$

The tropolone alkaloids possess an aromatic ring in conjugation with the tropolone ring and the ring-C hydroxyl is usually methylated (except in the colchiceine series).

Colchicine (XXXIX), the parent tropolone alkaloid, has maxima at 247 (log ϵ 4.45) and 355 m μ (4.20). The

long wave length band appears as a broad maximum. The spectrum of isocolchicine (XL) is similar to that of colchicine with the long wave maximum appearing at somewhat lower wave length, 345 *mp* (log e 4.28) (Figure 2). The difference is due to the differing bond structures in the two isomers.

The conjugative effect between rings A and C has been discussed with reference to the mutarotation of isocolchicine (275).

Colchicine and other colchicine alkaloids show a facile rearrangement in the presence of methanolic sodium methoxide to the allo series (XLIV). In these compounds the tropolone ring system is no longer present, and the spectrum only shows a maximum at 278 $m\mu$ (296), typical of a substituted biphenyl: (a) XLIV $(R = H)$, allocolchiceine; (b) XLIV $(R = CH_3)$, allo- $\text{color}(\textit{cf. Figure 2}).$

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TABLE VIII TROPOLONE CRO

 α See footnote in Table I for key to solvents. δ Structure not completely established.

The oxidation of colchicine to oxycolchicine (XLV) with acidified potassium dichromate also results in a loss of the tropolone ring absorption at $350 \text{ m}\mu$ (72).

The spectra of the demecolcine (XLVId) and isodemecolcine (XLVIIe) are similar to colchicine and isocolchicine, respectively.

Spectral data for the number of colchicines $(XLVIa-g)$ and isocolchicines (XLVIIa-f) are summarized in Table VIII.

B. LUMICOLCHICINES

These compounds occur naturally and are also produced by irradiation of colchicine with ultraviolet light. The valence tautomeric rearrangement reaction (254) gives rise to two stereoisomers containing a cyclobutane ring C (XLVIII). The two isomers known as β - and γ lumicolchicines show absorption maxima at 225, 266, 280 (sh), and 340 m μ . The shift of the maxima to shorter wave length compared with colchicine was one

Figure 3.—Pyridine group: pyridine (LIV) in ethanol; 2,3' dipyridine (LVII) in ethanol; N-methylhalfordinium chloride (LXIII) in ethanol; β -obscurine (LXVII) in ethanol.

of the early indications that the extended conjugation of the colchicine molecule had been interrupted (135).

The two isomers, β - and γ -lumicolchicine, have been assigned structures XLVIII and XLIX, respectively, and these structures have been confirmed by a study of the spectra of the tetrahydro derivatives. Weak intermolecular hydrogen bonding shows up with a decrease in e-values as the concentration is decreased in a nonpolar solvent even though the chromophore responsible for the maximum is not directly involved in the bonding. The change in ϵ -values for the two tetrahydro derivatives L (β) and LI (γ) have been studied, and the larger change is observed for the γ -isomer. This indicates that the β -isomer is significantly more intramolecularly hydrogen bonded (between the OH in ring D and the acetamido group in ring B) than the γ -isomer (147).

The photoisomerization of isocolchicine (XL) has also been reported. Of the two possible structures for the photoisomers (LII and LIII), the former is favored on the basis of ultraviolet and spectral data (83). The presence of a trimethoxystyrl chromophore in LII rather than in LIII is deduced on the basis of the similarity of its ultraviolet spectrum with that of the β - and

 γ -lumicolchicines (83), though the band present at 340 $m\mu$ in the β - and γ -lumicolchicines has not been reported in the lumiisocolchicine spectrum. Spectral data for these compounds are summarized in Table VIII.

IX. PYRIDINE, PYRIDONE, AND PIPERIDINE ALKALOIDS INCLUDING LYCOPODIUM ALKALOIDS

A. PYRIDINES

The ultraviolet spectrum of pyridine (LIV), λ_{max} 257 m μ (log ϵ 3.43) (Figure 3) in alcohol and hydrocarbon solvents shows a considerable degree of fine structure. This is lost in acid solution (324). The absorptivity of pyridine is increased in both acid and alkaline solutions (186). Spectral determinations of pyridine compounds are best done in 0.02 *N* ammonia so as to prevent the formation of pyridinium ions. The spectra of nicotine (LV, $R = CH_3$) and nornicotine $(LV, R = H)$ are similar to pyridine but with a loss of fine structure and a bathochromic shift of 5 $m\mu$ to 262 $m\mu$. Myosmine (LVI) with a dihydropyrrole conjugated with pyridine results in a further bathochromic shift $(266 \text{ m}\mu)$ and the appearance of a new strong band at $234 \text{ m}\mu$. The maxima of myosmine, nicotine, and nornicotine are little affected by dilute acid although the absorptivity is altered (324).

In 2,3'-dipyridine (isonicotine, LVII) (Figure 3), the above-mentioned shift is extended and this base has maxima at 237 and 275 m μ (log ϵ 4.06 and 4.00). According to Hakala and Schwert, the spectrum of trigonelline (LVIII) shows a dependence on hydrogen ion concentration which can be accounted for by the dissociation of the carboxyl group (175). No change was, however, noted in 0.5 *N* hydrochloric acid or in 0.05 *N* sodium hydroxide by other workers (194).

Mimosine (LIX) which has λ_{max} 282 m μ (log ϵ 4.23) in aqueous solution displays a hyposchromic shift at pH 2.2 to 276 m μ (log ϵ 3.97), and this shift in acid is common for hydroxypyridine derivatives (316).

Anibine (LX) with an α -pyrone ring conjugated with pyridine shows λ_{max} at 228.5 and 315 m μ and a shoulder

at 254 $m\mu$. The spectrum is little affected in 1 N ethanolic hydrochloric acid, but in 1 N potassium hydroxide the solution turns yellow and the bands are immediately shifted to 253, 282, and 381 m μ (log ϵ 3.84, 3.72, and 4.16); after 1 week the spectrum of the now almost colorless solution shows a band at 334 m μ (log ϵ) 3.36) (243). Analysis of this final product shows the loss of a methoxyl group, and the compound formed is formulated as LXI (243).

The ester alkaloid wilforine, which upon saponification yields the nitrogeneous dibasic acid LXII, is quite similar to myosmine (LVI) in spectral characteristics. N-Methylhalfordinium chloride (LXIII) [2,3'-pyridyl-5-(4"-hydroxyphenyl)oxazole] shows a spectrum with two maxima, one being as high as $360 \text{ m}\mu$ (log ϵ 4.10) as a result of chromophoric extensions of the pyridine system by conjugation with oxazole and aromatic rings.

The large ring substituent as is found in muscopyridine (LXIV) results in a spectrum with two maxima at 213 and 267 m μ . Gentianine (LXV) with a lactone and a conjugated double bond has two maxima, at 220 and 280 mu .

Lycodine (LXVI), a *Lycopodium* alkaloid (339), shows an ultraviolet spectrum characteristic of a substituted pyridine.

The elucidation of several alkaloid structures has been facilitated by degradation to pyridine products. The excellent review by Brody and Ruby lists degradative methods used and products obtained for several alkaloids (64). See Table IX for a summary of ultraviolet data on the pyridines.

B. PYRIDONES

 β -Obscurine (LXVII) (Figure 3) and selagine (LXVIII) which are *Lycopodium* alkaloids have ultraviolet spectra similar to model compounds, 2-pyridone (124) and 6-methyl-2-pyridone (242), except that the second maximum in these alkaloids displays a bathochromic shift of about 15 m μ . α -Obscurine (LXIX) has one maximum at 255 m μ (log ϵ 3.75).

2(lH)-Pyridones may have three different spectra depending on the pH of the solution (24).

In acid solution the aromatic system has an over-all positive charge, and the spectrum is similar to 2-ethoxypyridine, while in basic solution a proton can be lost to give the anion. The spectrum in neutral solution is found to be different from that of either acidic or basic solutions.

C. PIPERIDINES

Piperidine like other saturated six-membered heterocyclic compounds absorbs below 200 $m\mu$ and shows no absorption in the near-ultraviolet region. Some piperidine alkaloids, however, show ultraviolet spectra because of some other structural features. The hydrochloride of cassine (LXX) (189) shows λ_{max} at 276 m μ (log ϵ 1.52), and piperettine (LXXI), with an extended chromophore system, shows a broad band maximum at

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TABLE IX

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^a See footnote in Table I for key to solvents.

364 m μ (log ϵ 4.65). Piperine (LXXII) exhibits a similar broad band with λ_{max} 345 m μ (log ϵ 4.47). Isoorensine (LXXIII) has an ultraviolet spectrum with λ_{max} at 222 m μ which is shifted to 261 m μ in acid, a fact in keeping with its α,β -unsaturated ketone structure (282).

Julocrotine (LXXIV) has a piperidione structure, and the ultraviolet spectrum is due mainly to the benzene ring present. Catalytic hydrogenation shows the uptake of 3 moles of hydrogen, and the product is transparent in the ultraviolet. This is in agreement with an isolated benzene ring (245).

Tacomamine (LXXV), which has been degraded to a pyridine derivative, has λ_{max} 226 m μ (log ϵ 4.10) and in acidic ethanol shows a slight hypsochromic shift to 223 m μ (log ϵ 4.13) (203).

 (\pm) -Sedamine (LXXVI) and $(-)$ -sedinine (LXXVII) have almost identical spectra and display fine structure at 252, 258, and 264 nut (log *e* 2.17-2.19, 2.27- 2.28, and 2.16) owing to the aromatic ring. $(-)$ -Sedinine can be contrasted with arecoline (LXXVIII) which has a carboxylic ester conjugated with the ring unsaturation and results in a strong maximum at 214 m μ (log *e* 4.02).

The Lycopodium alkaloid lyconnotine with the novel structure LXXIX has a maximum at 235 m μ $(\log \epsilon 4.3)$ and indicates a *transoid* diene (9).

Figure 4.—Isoquinolines: 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (A) in ethanol; papavarine (LXXXV) in ethanol.

X. ISOQUINOLINE GROUP

A large number of alkaloids have isoquinoline or extended isoquinoline ring systems. In most cases the heterocyclic ring is reduced. The protopines while not being strictly isoquinolines are included on biogenetic grounds.

For the purposes of this review the alkaloids can be classified as follows: (A) simple isoquinolines (including tetrahydroisoquinolines, pavine, benzylisoquinolines, bisbenzylisoquinolines, cularine, and rotundine); (B) morphine alkaloids; (C) aporphines and proaporphines; (D) erythrina alkaloids; (E) ipecacuanha alkaloids; (E) protopines; (G) phthalideisoquinolines; and (H) protoberberines.

A. SIMPLE ISOQUINOLINES

The simple isoquinolines can be classified structurally as follows: (1) tetrahydroisoquinolines including diand triisoquinolines, (2) pavine type, (3) benzylisoquinolines, (4) bisbenzylisoquinolines, (5) cularine type, and (6) rotundine.

The term isoquinoline is often loosely used to denote the tetrahydroisoquinoline ring system. With the exception of papaverine all the alkaloids of these types are tetrahydroisoquinolines.

The ultraviolet spectra of these alkaloids are characteristic of one or more nonconjugated aromatic rings with maxima at \sim 285 m μ (log $\epsilon \sim$ 3.7); cf. tetrahydroisoquinoline (Figure 4). Where the aromatic rings are

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" See footnote in Table I for key to solvents.

joined through an oxygen atom, the spectra are not very different from nonconjugated-type spectra, indicating that the benzene rings are not significantly coupled. Papavarine with an isoquinoline ring and a noncon-

jugated benzene ring is more complex, and the spectrum is similar to that of isoquinoline.

Examples of the above types are discussed below and spectral data are summarized in Table X.

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TABLE XI

^a See footnote in Table I for key to solvents.

1. Tetrahudroisoguinolines

Examples are the alkaloids lophocerine (LXXX), isopilocereine (LXXXI), and pilocereine¹ (LXXXII).

2. Pavine Type

The alkaloid argemonine (LXXXIII) originally included with the aporphines (233) has recently been shown to be N-methylpavine (235, 315). Pavine, a well-known transformation product of papaverine, has been synthesized (28), but the isolation of the Nmethyl derivatives from natural sources illustrates a new type of naturally occurring ring system.

(1) Revised structure by Dierassi in ref. 107.

3. Benzylisoquinolines

The alkaloids of this group are practically all benzyltetrahydroisoquinolines, e.g., LXXXIV, so that although the spectra of quinolines and isoquinolines show marked differences (124), these differences are usually of little diagnostic value as most isoquinoline alkaloids occur as tetrahydro derivatives with maxima at \sim 283 m μ (log $\epsilon \sim 3.7$).

7

Papavarine (LXXXV) is an example of an unhydrogenated isoquinoline and has a fairly complex spectrum. with three main regions of absorption at 238 (log ϵ 4.8), 279 (386); and 313-327 m μ (\sim 3.6) (see Figure 4).

The variation of the wave length and absorptivity values of the $238-m\mu$ band with pH have been studied $(136).$

Figure 5.—Isoquinolines (morphines and apomorphines): morphine (XC) in ethanol; sinomenine (XCV) hydrochloride in water; boldine (XCIXa) in methanol; isocorydine (XCIXc) hydrobromide in methanol; xylopine (XCIXk) in ethanol.

^. *Bisbenzylisoquinolines*

There are a large number of types of these alkaloids depending on the points of attachment of the various aromatic rings, but their spectra are quite similar with maxima at \sim 283 m μ (log $\epsilon \sim$ 3.8). Examples are tubocurarine (LXXXVI) and daphnoline (LXXXVII). Spectral data for other members of this group are summarized in Table X.

5. Cularine Type

The spectrum of cularine (LXXXVIII), with maxima at 226 (log ϵ 4.38) and 285 m μ (3.92) (204), is similar to that of the simple benzoid systems previously mentioned.

6. Rotundine

Rotundine (LXXXIX) is the only known alkaloid of this type and shows a simple ultraviolet spectrum with a maximum at 288 m μ (log ϵ 3.8) (210).

B. MORPHINE ALKALOIDS

The morphine group of alkaloids may be classified as follows: (1) morphine type (aromatic ring plus an isolated double bond), (2) thebaine type (aromatic ring plus nonconjugated 1,3-dione), (3) sinomenine type (aromatic ring plus nonconjugated α,β -unsaturated ketone), (4) dimeric types (substituted diphenyl and nonconjugated diene or enone), and (5) dienone types (aromatic ring plus nonconjugated dienone system).

The spectra of a number of morphine alkaloids and their degradation products have been summarized (35, 36) (see Table XI).

1. Morphine Type

The spectra of this group (XC) are simple uncon-

jugated aromatic types with maxima at 285 m μ (log $\epsilon \sim$ 3.2) (Figure 5). The spectra are unchanged in acid,

but morphine shows a bathochromic shift in alkali associated with the ionization of the phenol (XCI \rightarrow

XCIII). The shift of \sim 14 m μ is consistent with the shifts obtained for unhindered phenols (93).

2. Thebaine Type

The baine (XCIV) has a maximum at 285 m μ (log ϵ 3.87) with higher absorbance values than morphine. The 1,3-diene system enhances the intensity of the spectrum at lower wave lengths.

3. Sinomenine Type

These alkaloids have an α,β -unsaturated ketone system isolated from the aromatic ring. The spectrum of sinomenine (XCV) is characterized by a maximum at 232 m μ (log ϵ 3.83) and a broad band at 265 m μ (log a 3.72) (255) (Figure 5).

4. Dimeric Types

The dimeric morphine (pseudomorphine) (XCVI) and sinomenine (disinomenine) (XCVII) coupled at positions 2-2' and 1-1', respectively, now have an extended diphenyl chromophore, and the spectrum bears evidence of this. Pseudomorphine has a maximum at 321 m μ with shoulders at 257 and 285 m μ , the latter being shifted to 306 m μ in the alkali (38).

5. Dienone Types

The dienone system (XCVIII), recently synthesized (26), also exists naturally in small quantities in the

Papavaceae.² The ultraviolet spectrum has not been reported, but it might be expected to show similarities to the proaporphines (see below).

C. APORPHINES AND PROAPORPHINES

The aporphines can be subdivided into the following chemical types: (1) the aporphines and noraporphines (XCIX), (2) aporphine-benzyltetrahydroisoquinoline (C), (3) oxyaporphines (CI), and (4) proaporphines (CII). The ultraviolet spectra of these types can be of great diagnostic value.

It is convenient to classify the simple aporphines into three main ultraviolet types, the spectra being more

(2) Private communication from Professor A. R. Battersby. (3) Ring numbering in structure XCIX is that in the "Ring Index" (see ref. 306); χ other common numbering used is

(4) The termination nor is restricted to des-N-methyl (see ref. 336).

Figure 6.—Isoquinolines (oxyaporphines): (A) liriodenine (Cl, 1,2-methylenedioxy) in ethanol; (B) liriodenine hydrochloride in ethanolic 0.1 *N* hydrochloric acid.

markedly dependent on the position of the substituent rather than on the nature of the substituent. The spectra may be regarded as derived from the basic biphenyl system with the added influence of several auxochromes. Biphenyl has a maximum at $264 \text{ m}\mu$ and 2methylbiphenyl has maxima at 245 and 282 m μ (140). When positions 10 and 11 are unsubstituted (aporphine-type (XCIX) $(R = CH_3)$) the spectra show one peak at 270-280 m μ (log $\epsilon \sim 4.3$) and a shoulder or smaller peak at 310-320 m μ (log $\epsilon \sim 3.3$) (see Figure 5). Most of the aporphine alkaloids are substituted at positions 10 or 11, and all the known alkaloids are invariably substituted at positions 1 and 2 (37). (Argemonine was incorrectly assigned a 2,3-dimethoxy structure (310), but was later shown not to be an aporphine alkaloid (see LXXXIII).) It was recognized (302, 305) that the spectra of the other aporphines fall into two characteristic types having maxima at 220 m_{μ} and two in the region 270-310 m_{μ} . The shapes of the curve and the intensity of the latter two maxima depend on the substitution in ring D.

Alkaloids with position 11 free (boldine type (XCIXa), Table XII) show maxima at 282 and 303-310 $m\mu$ of about equal intensity (log $\epsilon \sim 4.2$) (see Figure 5). The spectrum of michepressine (XCIXl) is anomalous. Alkaloids with position 11 substituted (corydine type, Table XII) show maxima at 268-272 m μ (log $\epsilon \sim 4.2$) and another maximum with lowered intensity at 303- 310 mu (log $\epsilon \sim 3.8$) (Figure 5). These differences have been related to the degree of strain in the biphenyl system. X-Ray analysis of the alkaloid bulbocapnine (15) shows that the biphenyl ring is appreciably strained.

The alkaloids can exist in two conformational forms (CIII and CIV).

Optical rotatory dispersion studies have also been used to confirm the substitution pattern (112), and the studies appear to confirm the assumption (37) that a positive specific rotation at the p-line (589 m) is associated with the configuration CIII. The spectra of the aporphines are unchanged in acid, but in basic solution the phenolic aporphines undergo a significant bathochromic shift (see 3,5-dihydroxy-6-methoxyaporphine). Examples of the three types of aporphine are shown in Table XII, and spectral data are summarized in Table $XIIA$ (*cf.* Figure 5).

2. Aporphine-Benzyltetrahydroisoquinoline (Dimeric Aporphines)

The spectrum of thalicarpine (221), the only member of the group recognized so far, has maxima at 282 (log ϵ 4.23) and 302 m μ (4.11). The spectrum is more like that of the 11-unsubstituted than of the 11-substituted aporphines.

S. Oxyaporphines

The yellowish colored alkaloids possess a highly unsaturated chromophoric system with extended absorption in the ultraviolet and visible. Liriodenine (CI) (1,2-methylenedioxy) (Figure 6) shows three main absorption bands at 245-270 (log *e* 4.1), 309 (3.6), and 413 m μ (3.8) (73). On acidification, the spectrum is shifted to longer wave lengths with a series of undulating maxima between 325 and 460 m μ (log $\epsilon \sim 3.5$).

4- Proaporphines

A number of alkaloids of this type have recently been isolated and characterized. The alkaloids show two main maxima at 230 (log $\epsilon \sim 4.4$) and 290 m μ (~ 3.5), with occasional splitting of the peaks. The spectra of the proaporphine system (CII) have been shown to be consistent with the addition of the spectra of homoveratrylamine and 4-methyl-3-allylcyclohexa-2,5-dien-1-one (41). The 290-m μ band shows a bathochromic shift in alkali. The known proaporphines rearrange to

^a This structure has been confirmed (180, 181). ^b Speculative structure.

TABLE XII TYPES OF APORPHINES

-R

Aporphine Type. Positions 10 and 11 Free XCIX

CH₃ $CH₃$

e Norisocorydine

f Pseudocorydine

g Pukateine

^a Quaternary salt. ^b Structure may be modified.

aporphines on acid treatment, the latter having the characteristic 11-unsubstituted aporphine spectra (154). Fugapavine has been assigned the aporphine structure CV (241), which is unlikely as this compound would exist as the phenolic form. It has been speculated (154) that the alkaloid is also a proaporphine of structure CIIb. The suggestion (306) that fugapavine and mecambrine are identical seems unlikely as the ultraviolet spectra recorded for these two compounds are quite different.

 \ldots

 $\bar{\psi}$.

 $\bar{\omega}$.

 $\bar{\omega}$, $\bar{\omega}$

OH

 $\bar{\psi}$.

 $OCH₃$ OH

 $OCH₃$

 $-OCH₂O-$

⁴ See footnote in Table I for key to solvents. ⁵ Structure uncertain.

D. ERYTHRINA ALKALOIDS

The erythrina alkaloids can be classified as follows: (1) aromatic types (erysodine type and erythramine type), and (2) erythroidines.

1. Aromatic Types

The aromatic types differ in that in the erysodine type CVI possesses a diene system isolated from the aromatic molecule. The erythramine type (CVII) has one of the double bonds saturated. Both types show maxima at \sim 235-240 (log ϵ 3.9-4.2) and \sim 285-290 m μ (log ϵ 3.6). Alkaloids with phenolic hydroxyl show a typical bathochromic shift in alkaline solution (267).

The aromatic alkaloids on acid treatment are demethylated at C_3 and can then be dehydrated (e.g., apoerysodine (CVIII)). The latter compounds show a

Figure 7.—Isoquinolines (erythrina group): erysodine (CVIa) in ethanolic 0.01 N hydrochloric acid; dihydroerysodine (CVIIa) in ethanolic 0.01 N hydrochloric acid; apoerysodine (CVIII) in ethanol.

bathochromic shift owing to the additional double bond. Stronger acid treatment (HBr) results in an expansion of ring B giving rise to a substituted biphenyl system $(e.g., apoerysopine (CIX) (Figure 7)).$

2. Erythroidines

The α - and β -erythroidines differ in the position of a double bond. In α -erythroidine (CX) the double bond is conjugated with the carbonyl group. In β -erythroidine (CXI) the double bond is not conjugated. Thus α -erythroidine has a somewhat higher absorbance than the β -isomer (see Figure 8).

Figure 8.—Isoquinolines (erythrina group): α -erythroidine (CX) hydrochloride in ethanol; β -erythrodine (CXI) hydrochloride in ethanol; apo- β -erythroidine (CXII) in ethanol; isoapo- β -erythroidine (CXIII) in ethanol.

The α - and β -erythroidines also show the ring expansion shown by the aromatic types. β -Erythroidine on treatment with concentrated HBr is converted to the apo- β -erythroidine (CXII) and isoapo- β -erythroidine (apo-a-erythroidine) (CXIII).

Isoapo-/3-erythroidine (CXIII) has extended conjugation between the aromatic ring and the lactone carbonyl, is yellow, and has a maximum beyond $360 \text{ m}\mu$ (53). Examples of the erythrine group of alkaloids are summarized in Table XIII (cf. Figure 8).

E. IPECACUANHA ALKALOIDS

There are a number of structurally related bases in this group with varying degrees of unsaturation. The group may be subdivided into the following types: (1) protoemetine-emetine group, (2) psychotrine group, and (3) emitamine group. These relationships are illustrated in structures (CXIVa-g).

TABLE XIII ERYTHRINA ALKALOIDS

" See footnote in Table I for key to solvents.

ULTRAVIOLET SPECTRA OF ALKALOIDS

TABLE XIV

 $R = CHO$

н

- $\bf a$ Protoemetine
- Emetine $\mathbf b$
- Isoemetine (re- \mathbf{c} verse configuration at C-1')
- d Cephaeline
- \mathbf{e} Psychotrine

 $OCH₃$ $\mathbf R$ OН $OCH₃$ $\mathbf R$

 $OCH₃$

OCH3

OCH₃

OН OCH₃ O-Methylpsychotrine $R =$ f OCH_s OCH₃ Emetamine ${\bf R}$ g

The alkaloids are also related through a series of common degradation products (see Table XIV).

1. Protoemetine-Emetine Group

The spectra of these alkaloids are quite simple with maxima at \sim 230 and 280 m μ associated with one or two nonconjugated aromatic rings. All the ipecacuanha alkaloids are readily dehydrogenated. Emetine (CXIVb) is dehydrogenated in a series of stages through O-methylpsychotrine (CXIVf), tetradehydroemetine (CXV) to the red rubremetinium salts (CXVI).

With increasing unsaturation in the dehydrogenation series, the spectra become more complex (see Figure 9). The spectra of a number of synthesized stereoisomers of emetine and isoemetine are essentially the same as emetine (66) .

Figure 9.—Isoquinolines (ipecacuanha group): emitamine (CXVIII) in ethanol; emetine (CXIVb) dihydrochloride in ethanol; O-methylpyschotrine (CXIVf) hydrogen oxalate in ethanol; rubremetine (CXVI) bromide in water; rubremetamine (CXX) bromide in water.

2. Psychotrine Group

O-Methylpsychotrine (CXIVf) has maxima at 241,290,305, and 360 *mu* (66,256) (Figure 9). The 360 mu maxima lies further towards the visible than the maximum of emetamine or papaverine (see below). The spectrum is consistent with the addition of a 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline and a tetrahydroisoquinoline system (256). Also tetradehydroemetine (CXVII) has maxima at 308 (log ϵ 4.17) and 358 m μ (4.17).

3. Emetamine Group

The alkaloid emetamine (CXVIII) is more highly unsaturated, with an isoquinoline ring system isolated from an aromatic ring. The spectrum should be approximately the summation of a l-alkyl-6,7-dimethoxyisoquinoline and a veratrole chromophore. In fact, the spectrum of emetamine is practically identical with that

Figure 10.—Isoquinolines. Protopines: allocryptopine (CXXIa) in ethanol; cryptopine (CXXIb) in 2 *N* acid. Phthalideisoquinoline: narcotine (CXXII, $R = CH_3$) in ethanol. Protoberberines: berberine (CXXV) hydrochloride in ethanol; tetrahydroberberine (CXXIX) in ethanol.

of papaverine (CXIX) with maxima at 236, 283, 314, and 327 m _µ (29) .

Emetamine (CXVIII) readily dehydrogenates to the rubremetamine salts (CXX) with characteristic ultraviolet spectra (Figure 9).

F. PROTOPINES

The protopine bases are to be found mainly in the Papaveraceae (232). The ultraviolet spectra of the following are considered.

These bases show an absorption spectrum with one main band (286-293 m μ) and a shoulder at or near 240 m μ . It has been shown for cryptopine that bonding of the type CH_3N ...CO strongly influences the carbonyl absorption frequency in the infrared spectrum (7), and this bonding can be expected to influence the ultraviolet spectral pattern of these bases (Figure 10).

In acid solution the absorption curve shows slightly lower extinction values, and the only marked change is in the accentuated lowering of the minimum near 260 $m\mu$.

Mercuric acetate oxidations in conjunction with ultraviolet spectral studies are of some diagnostic value. Protopine, for example, yielded oxyprotopine,

a 13-keto derivative, and the ultraviolet spectrum in ethanol shows bands at 288 and 317 $m\mu$ (log ϵ 3.97 and 3.93) (226). See Table XV for ultraviolet data in these compounds.

 $E =$ ethanol (95%-absolute).

G. PHTHALIDEISOQUINOLINES

Narcotine (CXXII, $R = CH_3$) is a typical representative of this group and shows an ultraviolet spectrum with maxima at 209, 291, and 309-310 m μ (log ϵ 4.06, 3.60, and 3.69), a shoulder at $ca. 235$ m μ , and minima at 263 and 294 m μ (log ϵ 3.25 and 3.59) in ethanol (255) (Figure 10).

Narcotine hydrochloride is similar to the free base. A solution of the alkaloid narcotoline (CXXII, $R =$ H) which has a free phenolic hydroxide goes yellow when heated with dilute alkali (260), and a study has been made of the spectrum with pH. A similar study has been made on narcotine (117).

The alkaloid narceine (CXXIII) has been included here because of its close structural relationship with the phthalideisoquinolines. In ethanol the ultraviolet spectrum has a single maximum at 270 m μ (log ϵ 3.98) and in dilute hydrochloric acid it shows two bands, one at 208 (log ϵ 4.76) and the other at 277 m μ (4.19) (227).

Opianic acid (CXXIV) is an important acid degradation product from some phthalideisoquinoline alkaloids, and the ultraviolet spectrum shows three maxima, 209, 229-231, and 282-289 m μ (log ϵ 4.18, 4.08, and 4.14).

For other spectral data, see Table XVI.

H. PROTOBERBERINE

This group can be subdivided into the following types (Table XVII): (1) protoberberines, (2) tetrahydroprotoberberines, (3) oxyprotoberberine, and (4) dihydroprotoberberine.

1. Protoberberines

The yellow alkaloid berberine (CXXV) is typical of this group. Berberine hydrochloride shows a spectrum with three maxima, 267, 347, and 426 m μ (log ϵ 4.45, 4.42, and 3.75) (Figure 10), and the band at $426 \text{ m}\mu$ is

in keeping with the fact that the alkaloid is yellow in the visible. In aqueous solution, the addition of sodium hydroxide up to a concentration of 0.25 *N* has no effect on the spectrum (308), but at higher concentrations a pink precipitate is formed which rapidly becomes orange because of the formation of oxyberberine $(CXXVII, R = 0)$ (145). In alcohol solution, however, even low concentrations of alkali change the spectrum, and at a concentration of $2 \times 10^{-3} N$ or stronger, berberinol (CXXVI) is believed to have formed. Berberinol

0 See footnote in Table I for key to solvents.

Tipre YVII

has λ_{max} 280 and 362 m μ , and in 0.25 N alcoholic potassium hydroxide, berberine shows maxima at 272 and 353 m μ which represent a 1:3 mixture of CXXV and CXXVI (308).

Berberastine (CXXVIII) has a spectrum with maxima at 228, 265, 344, and 424 m μ (λ_{min} 212, 250, 302.5, and 377 m μ) (252).

2. Tetrahydroprotoberberines

Limited reduction of berberine vields tetrahydroberberine (CXXIX) which shows maxima at 209 and 284 mµ (log ϵ 4.45 and 3.71) and a shoulder at 230 mµ $(\log \epsilon 4.07)$ (292). This spectrum (Figure 10) is characteristic for members of this group, and it is most likely that the band at 355 m μ (log ϵ 1.40), as recorded for dltetrahydrocoptisine (stylopine) (22), is due to traces of impurities.

3. Oxyprotoberberine

The only member so far known in this group is berlambine (CXXVII. $R = 0$) isolated from the Berberis genus and is identical with oxyberberine. The ultraviolet spectrum shows three maxima, 223.5, 290, and 340 m μ (log ϵ 4.72, 4.01, and 4.46) (89).

4. Dihydroprotoberberine

Lambertine (CXXVII, $R = H_2$) is the only representative in this group (89), and the spectrum in ethanol shows only a single band at 285 m μ (log ϵ 4.45).

XI. AMARYLLIDACEAE GROUP

The Amaryllidaceae alkaloids can be divided into seven main groups on the basis of their chemical structures and consideration of the ultraviolet spectra will be on this basis (Table XVIII).

A. PYRROLO [de] PHENANTHRIDINE DERIVATIVES

A member of this group, lycorine (CXXX, $R + R_1 =$ $CH₂$) (Figure 11), shows an ultraviolet spectrum with a maximum at 279 m μ (log ϵ 3.7) and of some diagnostic significance is a shoulder at 237 m μ (log ϵ 3.5) which occurs in most of these alkaloids containing a methylenedioxy substituent on the phenyl ring (343).

ULTRAVIOLET SPECTRA OF ALKALOIDS 95

 $E = \text{ethanol } (95\% - \text{absolute})$; $H^+ = \text{acid solution}$.

Methylpseudolycorine (CXXX, $R = R_1 = CH_3$), which has λ_{max} 285 m μ (log ϵ 3.58), shows two maxima in dilute acid solution, λ_{max} 235 and 283 (log ϵ 3.39 and 3.53).

B. $[2]$ BENZOPYRANO $[3,4-g]$ INDOLE DERIVATIVES

This group can be subdivided into alkaloids containing a benzylic hemiacetal function and those alkaloids with an aromatic δ -lactone system. Lycorenine

Figure 11.—Amaryllidaceae: lycorine (CXXX, R + R₁ = CH2) in ethanol; lycorenine (CXXXI) in ethanol; homolycorine (CXXXII) in ethanol.

(CXXXI) (Figure 11) which shows a single maximum at 285 m μ (log ϵ 3.51) is a typical example of the former group, and homolycorenine (CXXXII) (Figure 11), showing three maxima at 225, 267, and 305 m μ (log ϵ) 4.18, 3.91, and 3.69), exemplifies the latter group.

C. DIBENZOFURAN DERIVATIVES

Galanthamine (CXXXIII, $R = CH_3$) and narcissamine (CXXXIII, $R = H$) are examples in this group. Both show a single maximum at $287-288$ m μ owing to the aromatic ring. Galanthamine is characterized by the fact that it shows a flat maximum with a slight minimum between 283 and 288 m μ (212).

CXXXIII

D. $[2]$ BENZOPYRANO $[3,4-c]$ INDOLE DERIVATIVES

Tazettine, isotazettine, and criwelline (CXXXIV) are three members in this group. Tazettine shows an ultraviolet spectrum with two maxima at 242 and 295 $m\mu$ (log ϵ 3.69 and 3.65) and a minimum at 262 $m\mu$ (log *t* 2.62).

E. 5,106-ETHANOPHENANTHRIDINE DERIVATIVES

This group is also called the crinidine (CXXXV) type and although all the members contain methylenedioxy substituents, only some show a band or shoulder at or near 240 m μ . The band between 285 and 297 m μ . is due to the aromatic ring.

Haemanthamine (CXXXVI), λ_{max} 296 m μ (log ϵ 3.73), is converted to the demethoxy ether (CXXXVIA) in dilute acid and shows an unchanged ultraviolet spectrum (129).

F. N-BENZYL-N- $(\beta$ -PHENETHYLAMINE) DERIVATIVES

Belladine (CXXXVII) is the only known member in this group, and this alkaloid, which is a key product in the biogenesis of some other Amaryllidaceae alkaloids, shows an ultraviolet spectrum with λ_{max} 284 m μ (log ϵ 3.64) and a shoulder at 278 m μ (log ϵ 3.69).

G. 11H-DIBENZ $[b,e]$ AZEPINE DERIVATIVES

Montanine $(CXXXVIII, R = H)$, manthine $(CXXXVIII, R = CH₃)$, and coccinine $(CXXXIX)$ are known members of this group. Manthidine and brunvigine are also believed to be of a similar structural type (196). Their ultraviolet spectra have two maxima, at 240-244 and 294-297 $m\mu$. The ultraviolet spectra of dehydro products from these alkaloids represent two isolated benzenoid chromophores and not a biphenyl conjugation as is obtained from most of the previously known Amaryllidaceae ring systems and was important evidence in establishing this new structural type.

XII. QUINOLINE GROUP

This group of alkaloids, found largely in the Rubiacea and Rutacea, range in structural complexity from the simple tetrahydroquinolines to the more complex furoquinolines and cinchona alkaloids. The group may be classified into the following structural types: (A) tetrahydroquinolines (CXL, CXLI); (B) quinolines $(CXLII)$; (C) 2-quinolones $(CXLIII)$; (D) 4-quinolones (CXLIV) including the dihydrofuro-4-quinolones (CXLV) and the pyrano-4-quinolones (CXLVI); (E) furoquinolines (CXLVII)⁵ and the related dihydrofuro-

quinolines (CXLVIII) and dimethylpyranofuroquinolines (CXLIX or CL)⁶; (F) dehydropyrano-2-quinolones (CLI).⁷ The isofuroquinolones (CLII), isomeric transformation products of the furoquinolines (CXLVII), and the furo-2-quinolone (CLIII), a transformation product of the quinoline (CLIV), are also worthy of mention. Several of these groups show similarities in their ultraviolet spectra.

The ultraviolet spectral properties of these alkaloids have been very useful in structural elucidation, and spectral data are summarized in Table XIX, which is presented according to the classification above. Usually a reference compound is given for each group before the listed alkaloids and examples of the spectra are shown in Figures 12-18.

A. TETRAHYDROQUINOLINES

The tetrahydroquinolines fall into two classes depending on whether the aromatic or the heterocyclic ring is saturated. 1,2,3,4-Tetrahydroquinolines (CXL) show two maxima at 248 ($log \epsilon$ 3.86) and 303 m μ (3.48) not unlike substituted anilines (279). Cuspareine, the only example in this group (CXL, $R = CH_3$; $R_1 =$ $-CH_2CH_2[3,4-(CH_3O)_2Ph]$, might be expected to show a similar spectrum with somewhat higher intensity because of the presence of the additional nonconjugated benzene ring.

5,6,7,8-Tetrahydroquinoline shows two maxima at 215 (log ϵ 3.55) and 270 m μ (log ϵ 3.65) (155). Fabianine (CXLI) $(R = R_1 = CH_3; R_2 = -C(CH_3)_2OH)$ shows similar maxima (121).

B. QUINOLINES

The spectra of the alkaloids in this group depend to a large extent on the substitution of the quinoline ring. Quinoline itself is characterized by three main regions of absorption: the first at 227 m μ (log ϵ 4.56), the second a broad band at 280 m μ (log ϵ 3.56) with a side peak at 310 m μ (log ϵ 3.43), and the third at 314 m μ $(\log \epsilon 3.47)$ (Figure 12). The latter two regions of absorption become one band on acidification, the maximum now being at 312 $m\mu$ (log ϵ 3.84) (124). This bathochromic shift on acidification can be attributed to the large number of resonance structure (CLV-CLIX) which contribute to the stability of the protonated form. In nonpolar solvents the spectrum shows additional fine structures (140).

(5) The numbering of ring is as in ref. $6.$ line and its angular isomer is [3,2-c].

(6) Unpublished n.m.r. data of Drs. S. M. Goodwin and J. R. Price support structure CL (see ref. 269).

(7) CLI is a pyrano $[3,2-c]$ quinoline and its linear isomer is $[2,3-b]$.

Figure 12.—Quinoline group: graveolinine (CLXI) in ethanol; (A) quinoline (CXLII) in ethanol; (B) quinoline in 0.01 *N* hydrochloric acid.

Substituents on the quinoline ring may be nonconjugative (OH, OCH3, alkyl) as in the cinchona series, or conjugative *(e.g.,* phenyl) as illustrated by some of the Angostura alkaloids.

The spectra of the cinchona group of alkaloids fall into two categories, the cinchonine (CLXa) series and the quinine (CLXb) series. The cinchonine series

(cinchonine, cinchonidine, dihydrocinchonine, dihydrocinchonidine, etc.) have spectra which are quite similar to quinoline with a maximum at 280 m μ (log ϵ 3.7) and two smaller maxima at *ca*. 300 (log ϵ \sim 3.6) and 315 m μ (log ϵ \sim 3.4) (Figure 13). The quinine series (quinine, quinidine, epiquinine, epiquinidine, dihydroquinine, etc.) show maxima at *ca.* 280 $m\mu$ (log $\epsilon \sim 3.7$) and a broad bifurcated maxima at 320-335 m μ (log $\epsilon \sim 3.8$) (Figure 13). These differences are attributed to changes in electronic configuration in the quinoline ring, achieved either by introduction of an auxochrome, or

Figure 13.—Quinoline group: cinchonine (CLXa) in water at pH 8; quinine (CLXb) in water at pH 7.5.

by variation in the average planarity of the molecules as controlled by epimerization at C_8 and C_9 (317). The differences have been used to characterize the two series and have been used for quantitative measurements. The effect of pH changes on the spectra have also been studied. In the quinine series, increasing acidity (to pH 1) causes the disappearance of the 280-m μ band, and the 320-335-m μ bands are split into two peaks at 315 and $350 \text{ m}\mu$. In the cinchonine series, the addition of acid (to pH 1) causes the disappearance of the 280-m μ band, and the two smaller maxima are shifted hyperchromically to a broad partly bifurcated maximum at $305 - 315$ m μ (Figure 14).

Quinoline alkaloids of the Rutacea show spectra similar to quininoline, the positions of the maxima depending on the type of substituent. 4-Methoxy-2 phenylquinoline shows two maxima at 254 and 295 m μ , the latter being shifted to 316 m μ on acidification. Both these bands are at lower wave lengths than in

Fi ure 14.—Quinoline group: (A) cinchonine (CLXa) in wate at pH_2 : (B) cinchonine in acid at pH_1 ; (C) quinine (CLXb) in water at pH 7.5 and 9.5; (D) quinine in acid at pH 1.

TABLE XIX

ULTRAVIOLET SPECTRA OF ALKALOIDS

⁶ See footnote in Table I for key to solvents. ⁵ Spectra also recorded at other pH values. ⁶ e-Values plotted to illustrate solvent ^d Identical with lunacrine (see below). effects.

 $\mathbf a$

 $\mathbf b$

c

d

 $\mathbf{e}% _{t}\left(t\right)$

f

g

Figure 15.—Quinoline group: (A) 2-quinolones (CXLIII, R = OCH_3 ; $-CH_2CH_2CH_2OH$ at 2-position) in methanol; (B) in methanolic $0.2 N$ hydrochloric acid; (C) in hexane.

quinoline, but show higher $log \epsilon$ values. The spectrum of graveoline (CLXI) is similar (Figure 12).

2-QUINOLONES $C₁$

The 2-quinolones are characterized by three main regions of absorption at ca. 230-240 (log $\epsilon \sim 4.4$), 260-285 (\sim 4.1), and 315-335 m μ (\sim 3.8), the peaks often being bifurcated. The 2-quinolones can be distinguished from the 4-quinolones on the basis of a careful examination of their spectra. The 270-285-m μ band in the 2-quinolones is usually absent in the 4quinolones or present only as a shoulder (69, 172), though the presence of several other oxygen functions in the molecule may diminish the significance of the comparison. The spectra of the 2-quinoles are essentially unchanged on the addition of acid or alkali (in contrast to the 4-quinolones).

Another useful method for distinguishing between 2- and 4-quinolones is the difference in the spectra in n -hexane as opposed to methanol (274). In changing from methanol to hexane, the spectra of 2-quinolones are hardly changed at long wave lengths, but at shorter wave lengths there is a coalescence of bands to give one main band of high intensity at about 240 mu ($\epsilon \sim$ $40,000$ (Figure 15). In the case of the 4-quinolones, the long wave length band is not greatly changed, but

the short wave length band in addition to being hypochromically shifted (by about 15 $m\mu$) is also split into several unresolved maxima of lowered intensity at about 225 m μ (ϵ ~26,000) (cf. isobalfourodine) (CXLVI, $R = CH_3$; $R_1 = OH$) and Table XIX (Figure 16). The method has also been used to distinguish between the linear and angular dihydrofuroand pyranoquinolones of the types CLXII, CLXIII, CLXIV, and CLXV (274).

Examples of the 2-quinolone type alkaloids CXLIIIa-g are listed in Table XIX (see Figure 17).

D. 4-QUINOLONES

The 4-quinolone group can be subdivided into the simple 4-quinolones (CXLIV), the dihydrofuro-4-quinolones (CXLV), and the pyrano-4-quinolones (CXLV). The spectra of these three types are quite similar and consist of two principal bands in the region 230-260 (log $\epsilon \sim 4.4$) and 300-330 m μ (~ 3.8), the latter band often being split in alcoholic solutions. Another band is sometimes observed at *ca*. 215-220 m μ (log $\epsilon \sim 4.5$). These bands are often broad and complex depending on the type of substitution, particularly if the substituents are aromatic. The 300-330-m μ band in 4-quinolones is shifted hyperchromically to a single maximum at *ca.* $310 \text{ m}\mu$ in normal acid solution (156, 160, 274) though it had been found previously (124) that in more dilute acid solution (0.01 *N)* no such change occurred. The $230-260\text{-}m\mu$ band is shifted bathochromically on acidification. The pyrano-4-quinolone system has recently been shown to be present in alkaloids from *Hoplophyllum foliosum* species (126). The spectra of a number of 4-quinolone derivatives have been discussed from the molecular orbital point of view (69). The solvent effects discussed above under the 2-quinolones are illustrated with 1-methyl-3- $(\gamma$ -hydroxy)propyl-4,8dimethoxy-2-quinolone (a 2-quinolone) and isobalfouradine (CXLVIb) (a 4-quinolone) in Figure 16.

Examples of the 4-quinolones (CXLIV), dihydrofuro-4-quinolones (CXLV), and the pyrano-4-quinolones (CXLVI) are shown (see also Figure 17).

Figure 16.—Quinoline group. 4-Quinolones [isobalfourodine (CXLVI, $R = CH_3$; $R = OH$)]: (A) in methanol; (B) in methanolic 0.2 N hydrochloric acid; (C) in hexane.

Figure 17.—Quinoline group: lunamarine (CXLIVc) in ethanol; lunine (CXLVf) in ethanol; hydroxylunacridine (CXLIIIb, $R = OCH₃$) in ethanol.

The furoquinolines, which are related to dictamnine (CXLVII), have a double bond conjugated with the quinoline ring and absorb at longer wave lengths than the simple quinolines. The spectra of the furoquinolines show two maxima at *ca*. 245 m μ (log $\epsilon \sim 4.7$) and a very broad complex band in the region 290-330 $m\mu$ (log $\epsilon \sim 3.8$). On heating, the salts of 4-methoxyfuroquinolines are converted to the iso series (OCH₃ \rightarrow N-CH3). This is a useful rearrangement as the 4 quinolone system now present shows band at *ca.* 260 mu and a broad complex in the region 300-340 m μ (Figure 18). The former band is shifted bathochromically on acidification. The spectra of the dihydrofuroquinolines are quite similar to the quinolines (268). Examples of the furoquinolines are shown (CXLVIIa-g). Acronidine (CL, $R = H$), an extended furoquinoline, has maxima at 253 (log ϵ 4.7) and 335 m μ (4.2, broad band) (269).

The spectrum of 6-methoxydictamnine (CXLVIIh), recently published (338), has an unusually high log ϵ value (6.10) at 240 m μ . The dihydrofuroquinolines (CXLVIII) isolated as salts can be regarded as trans-

a Lunasine $R = H$ \mathbf{b} O-Methylbalfourodinium salts $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{0}$ H

Figure 18.—Quinoline group: (A) isokokusaginine (CLII, 7,8 methylenedioxy) in ethanol; kokusaginine (CXLVIIe) in ethanol; lunasine (CXLVIII) perchlorate in ethanol; flindersine (CLI) in ethanol.

formation products of the dihydrofuro-4-quinolones (273). The spectra with maxima at 254 (log ϵ 4.6) and at 303 m μ (log ϵ 3.8) (broad) are similar to the quinolines (Figure 18).

Other examples of the dihydrofuroquinolines are the alkaloids dubininine (CLXVI) and dubinidine (CLXVII).

The published ultraviolet spectra (46) have very high absorbance values which do not appear to be consistent with the substituted quinoline ring system.

F. DEHYDROPYRANO-2-QUINOLONES (FLINDERSINE)

The spectrum of flindersine (CLI) (Figure 18), is similar to that of the furoquinolines. Dihydroflindersine with maxima at 225, 272, 283, and 312 m μ is similar to 4-hydroxy- and 4-methoxy-2-quinolones (268).

The angular furoquinoline structures, *e.g.,* orixidine (CLXVIII, $R = H$) and orixidinine (CLXVIII, $R =$ OH), have been established (247) as degradation products of the alkaloid orixane (CLXIX). It is not unlikely that structures of this type will be found naturally occurring. The spectra of the angular furoquinolines are similar to the dehydropyrano-2-quinolones.

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XIII. ACRIDINE ALKALOIDS

The acridine alkaloids can be classified in two main types. These are the acridines (CLXX) and the acridones (CLXXI). Most of the alkaloids in this group

are of the acridone type (see Table XX).

A. ACRIDINES

The alkaloid dubamine has been assigned the structure of a 1,2-methylenedioxyacridine. Acridine (Figure 19) has a maximum at \sim 250 m μ (log ϵ 4.2) and a broad complex band from \sim 340 to 380 m μ (log $\epsilon \sim$ 2.8). On acidification, the latter band is broadened and shifted bathochromically. The spectra of the hydroxyacridines have also been described (6).

B. ACRIDONES

The spectra of the acridones (CLXXI) are characterized by two main regions of absorption, at 250-270 and $390-410$ m μ . There is generally a subsidiary band or shoulder at \sim 295-310 m μ .

Examples of the acridones are shown below and in Figure 20.

The spectra of the acridones bear similarities to the 4-quinolones, but with the long wave length band, how-

Figure 19.—Acridine: (A) acridine (CLXX) in ethanol; (B) acridine in $5 N$ hydrochloric acid.

ever, being observed at longer wave lengths in the acridones than in the 4-quinolones. On acidification the main short wave length band in evoxanthine (CLXXIc) shows a bathochromic shift, and the long wave length band shows a hypsochromic shift with increased intensity. The spectra of the group have been discussed from the molecular orbital point of view (68).

Acronycine, a dehydropyranoacridone (CLXXII or CLXXIII), with maxima at 280-290, 309 (sh), and 392 $m\mu$ is similar to the acridones.

Figure 20.—Acridones: acridone (CLXXIa) in ethanol: evoxanthine (CLXXIc) in methanol; melicopine (CLXXIf) in methanol; acronycine (CLXXII or CLXXIII) in ethanol.

CLXXIII

CLXXII

Members of this group are: cryptopleurine (CLXXIV); tylocrebrine (CLXXVa), $R = R_2 = H$, $R_1 = R_3 = OCH_3$; tylophorine (CLXXVb), $R = R_3 =$ H, $R_1 = R_2 = OCH_3$; and tylophorinine (CLXXVc),

Figure 21.-Phenanthroindolizidine: tylophorine (CLXXVb) in ethanol.

 $R = OH$, $R_1 = R_3 = H$, $R = OCH_3$. These alkaloids show the ultraviolet spectrum of a substituted phenthrene, as is exemplified by tylophorine which has maxima at 255, 290, 340, and 353 m μ (log ϵ 4.74, 4.49, 3.30 and 2.93) (Figure 21). From the values given in the Table XXI, a comparison of tylophorine and tylocrebine shows that the methoxyl-substitution pattern does have some effect on the ultraviolet spectra of these compounds. The spectrum of cryptopleurine is unaffected by dilute acid or alkali (151).

XV. INDOLE AND DIHYDROINDOLE ALKALOIDS

The indole and dihydroindole group contains the largest number of alkaloids and although divisions have been made on the basis of the plant source, for example, Ergot, Strychnos, Vinca, Rauwolfia, Iboga, and Aspidosperma species (298), it is preferable here to group these alkaloids into the different related chromophores, a

method used in reviews on indole and dihydroindole alkaloids (31, 40, 207, 298).

The related chromophores are: (A) indolines (or dihydroindole) (CLXXVI), (B) N-hydroxyalkylindoline or its ethers (CLXXVII), (C) indoles (CLXXVIII) (which includes some extended indoles but not indoles with the quinazoline group), (D) oxindoles (CLXXIX), (E) N-acylindolines (CLXXX), (F) indolenines (CLXXXI), (G) carbinolamines (CLXXXII), (H) methyleneindolines (CLXXXIII) and the akuammicine group (CLXXXIV), (I) vinylindoline (CLXXXV), (J) β -carboliniums (CLXXXVI), (K) ψ -indoxyls (CLXXXVII), (L) pyridocarbazoles (CLXXXVIII), and (M) quinindoles (or cryptolepine type) (CLXXXIX).

It is of interest to note the close correlation between the color reaction with eerie sulfate and the ultraviolet chromophore of the alkaloids of the *Calabash curare* and *Strychnos* species (31, 32). It should be pointed out that it is difficult to distinguish with certainty by spectroscopic methods between the chromophores CLXXVII and CLXXXII or between CLXXXIII and CLXXXV.

A. INDOLINES

These alkaloids usually have two distinct bands at about 245 and 295 $m\mu$, and desacetylaspidospermine (CXC) (Figure 22) is typical of this group. The effect of acid on the dihydroindole alkaloids depends on the distance between $N(a)$ and $N(b)$ (169). Where more than three carbon atoms separate $N(a)$ and $N(b)$ the

Figure 22.—Indoles and dihydroindoles: desacetylaspidospermine (CXC) in ethanol; ochropine (CXCIII) in ethanol; 3-epi-/3-yohimbine (CXCVIII) in ethanol; ergotamine (CCIV) in ethanol; uleine (CCV) in ethanol.

indoline absorption changes to a benzenoid type. This is due to the fact that the positive charge on the protonated $N(b)$ is sufficiently far away from $N(a)$ so as not to prevent it from being protonated in dilute acid. The indoline-type absorption is retained in acid solution if $N(a)$ and $N(b)$ are nearer than three carbon as $N(a)$ becomes practically nonbasic as a result of the positive charge on $N(b)$ (190).

Substitution on the aromatic ring may markedly affect the indoline-type ultraviolet absorption spectrum (82, 285).

The Calycanthaceous alkaloids calycanthidine (CXCI, $R = H$; $R_1 = CH_3$), folicanthine (CXCI, $R = R_1 =$ CH₃), and chimonanthine (CXCI, $R_1 = R = H$) are included here. Their ultraviolet spectra correspond to

I I I a Ph-N-C-N- chromophore but are similar to the indolines. Calycanthine (CXCII), which has a quinoloquinoline skeleton, is also included here because of its ultraviolet spectral similarities to the indolines.

Ochropine (CXCIII) is a special case of the indoline chromophore which is extended to 337 m μ (log ϵ 4.36) by the presence of an α , β -unsaturated keto acid ester in a seven-membered ring system adjacent to the dihydroindole (Figure 22).

B. N-HYDROXYALKYLINDOLINE OR ITS ETHERS

Caracurine V, with the aminohemiacetal structure CXCIV, caracurine II (CXCV), and C-alkaloid D (CXCVI) are members of this group. These alkaloids have quite similar ultraviolet spectra, and caracurine II with λ_{max} 246 and 291 m μ (log ϵ 4.22 and 3.73) is unaffected in 2 *N* hydrochloric acid-ethanol (33). C-Alkaloid D undergoes a bathochromic shift in alkali, a fact in keeping with its N-hydroxyalkylindoline chromophore. In 12 *N* hydrochloric acid, the ultraviolet spectrum is completely changed, and this is probably due to the formation of the chromophore CXCVII.

C. INDOLES

Four subdivisions have been made of the indole chromophore: (i) indoles with unsubstituted aromatic rings; (ii) a single substituent on the aromatic ring; (iii) two substituents on the aromatic ring; and (iv) extended indoles.

Most unsubstituted indole alkaloids show two major bands, one at \sim 226 m μ and a second band between 280 and $292 \text{ m}\mu$ with the latter maximum usually displaying fine structure. 3 -Epi- β -yohimbine (CXCVIII) (Figure 22) exemplifies a typical indole spectrum.

The nature of N(b) has an influence on the ultraviolet spectrum. For example the N(b) quaternary iodide of lochnerine (CXCIX) absorbs 9 to 10 $m\mu$ lower than the tertiary base (12). Substitution on the aromatic ring affects the indole chromophore. A single substituent in general shifts the long wave length band still higher, and two substituents increase this shift. Good models to illustrate this effect are 2,3-dimethylindole (CC, $R_1 = R_2 = H$), 2,3-dimethyl-6-methoxyindole (CC, $R_1 = H$; $R_2 = OCH_3$), 2,3-dimethyl-5,6-dimethoxyindole (CC, $R_1 = R_2 = OCH_3$), isoreserpine (CCI, $R = H$), and isoreserpiline (CCI, $R = OCH₃$) (see Table XXII for values).

The influence of alkali on the phenolic indole is exemplified by the bathochromic shift experienced by bufotenine (CCII). Bufotenine which has a λ_{max} 277 m μ with a shoulder at 295 m μ (λ_{\min} 249 m μ) in 0.1 *N* sodium hydroxide displays a shift of the shoulder to give a definite maximum at $322 \,\text{m}$ (322). The "dimeric" indole-indoline alkaloids vinblastine (CCIII, R_1 = $COOCH_3$; $R_2 = CH_3$; $R_3 = OCH_3$; $R_4 = COCH_3$) and vincristine (CCIII, $R_1 = COOCH_3$; $R_2 = CHO$; $R_3 =$ OCH_3 ; $R_4 = COCH_3$) are of considerable interest in medicine, and these recently elucidated structures (58, 251) have normal indole spectra. The ultraviolet spectra of some indoles have been discussed by Raymon-Hamet(277).

The effect of extending the basic indole chromophore in a variety of ways can be seen by considering the ultraviolet spectra of ergotamine (CCIV), uleine (CCV), (Figure 22), eburnamonine (CCVI), eburnamenine (CCVII), isovobasine (CCVIII, $R = R_1 = H$), harmaline (CCIX), hortiamine (CCXa), and hortiacine and alstoniline hydrochloride (CCXI) (see Figure 23). Hortiacine, like hortiamine, also contains a quinazoline

ULTRAVIOLET SPECTRA OF ALKALOIDS

TABLE $XXII^a$ INDOLES AND DIHYDROINDOLES

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TABLE XXII (Continued)

ULTRAVIOLET SPECTRA OF ALKALOIDS

TABLE XXII (Continued)

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TABLE XXII *(Continued)*

Kopsine

ULTRAVIOLET SPECTRA OF ALKALOIDS 113

TABLE XXII *(Continued)*

" Reference 249 is to the Eli Lilly collection of spectra of indole and dihydroindole alkaloids (N. Neuss, Ed.) Where a lettered superscript appears beside a compound, there is an acknowledgment of the source of the sample used for the determination. Where no superscript appears beside the compound, this is an uncredited spectrum in the collection. δ Anet, F. A. L. ϵ Badger, F. E. ϵ Bertho, A. *'* Boekelheide, V. *'* Chatterjee, A. ' Djerassi, C. * Djerassi, C, and George, T. * Elderfield, R. C. *¹* Gilbert, B. * Godtfredsen, W. O. ^{*i*} Goodwin, S. ^{*m*} Gorman, M. ^{*n*} Goutarel, R. *^o* Haack, E. *^p* Hochstein, F. A. ^{*a*} Hofmann, A. ^{*r*} Janot, M. M. *^{<i>r*} Janot, M. M., and Goutarel, R. ' Janot, M. M., Le Men, J., and Plat, M. " Karrer, P. " Kim, K. A. *^w* Klohs, M. W. *^x* Kump, C. » Kump, W. ² Le Men, J. ^{aa} Manske, R. H. ^{bb} Marion, L. ^{cc} Martin, R. H., and Pecher, J. ^{dd} Moore, B. P. ^{cc} Moza, B. K., and Trojanek, J. $''$ Müller, J. M. 99 Pachter, I. J. hh Pinar, M. 14 Popelak, A. 14 Prelog, V. kk Prins, D.A. 11 Rapala, R. T. mm Renner, U. ⁿⁿ Sandoval, A. ⁶⁰ Schlitter, E. ^{pp} Schmutz, J. ^a Smith, E. " Smith, G. F. ⁵⁵ Stoll, A. ¹¹ Stoll, W. G. ^{uu} Taylor, W. I. " Weisbach, J. A. *ww* Wenkert, E. *xx* Witkop, B.

Figure 23.—Indoles and dihydroindoles: eburnamonine (CCVI) in ethanol; eburnamenine (CCVII) picrate in ethanol, isovobasine (CCVIII, $R = R_1 = H$) in ethanol; harmaline (CCIX) in methanol; alstoniline (CCXI) hydrochloride in methanol.

structure, and the former will be considered with the quinazoline group of alkaloids. Ochropamine (CCVIII, $R = CH_3$; $R_1 = H$), ochropine (CCVIII, $R = CH_3$; $R_1 = OCH_3$) (115), isovobasine (CCVIII, $R = R_1 =$ H), and vobasine can be considered to form a distinct chromophoric subgroup, namely, the 2-acylindole group (CCXII). The methoxyl substituent on the aromatic ring of ochropine results in a strong bathochromic shift of the band at highest wave length, and this shift is further accentuated by the fact that the carbonyl group is in an eight-membered ring (115).

Hortiamine, a red-colored alkaloid, deserves special mention as it illustrates the marked effect of solvents on some chemical structure. In acetonitrile, hortiamine

Figure 24.-Indoles and dihydroindoles: gelsemine (CCXIII) in ethanol; diaboline (CCXIV) in ethanol; vomilenine (CCXVIII) in ethanol; C-calebassine (CCXIX, $R_1 = R_2 = H$) dichloride in ethanol.

exists as CCXa, $C_{20}H_{17}N_3O_3$, and in alcohol as CCXb, $C_{20}H_{19}N_3O_3$ (249).

D. OXINDOLES

Some authors (298) group the oxindole and N-acylindolines together as there is a marked similarity in their ultraviolet spectra. There is, however, an important diagnostic feature which justifies their separation. All the oxindoles with an unsubstituted aromatic ring have a maximum between 206 and $210 \,\mathrm{m}\mu$, while the N-acylinodolines show a corresponding maximum at higher wave length.

A typical oxindole, gelsemine (CCXIII), shows two bands (210 and 252 m μ , log ϵ 4.50 and 3.86) with a shoulder at $280 \text{ m}\mu$ (Figure 24). The acyldihydroindole or oxindole C-alkaloid M has a spectrum which is not significantly changed just after the addition of alkali, but the shoulder at $ca. 280 \text{ m}\mu$ becomes a well-defined maximum at 305 m μ (log ϵ 3.37) after standing with 0.1 *N* sodium hydroxide for 3 hr. (12).

E. N-ACYLINDOLINES

Division of alkaloids containing the N-acylindoline chromophore have been made strictly on the basis of their chemical structures (Table XXII), and no meaningful differentiation is possible on grounds of their ultraviolet spectra. The associated carbonyl group may be in a ring system, in a N-acetyl, N-carbomethoxy, N-formyl, or N-propanoyl group. When diaboline (CCXIV) (Figure 24) is deacetylated, the spectrum reverts to an indoline type, with maxima at 250 and 300 m μ . Brand and Scott (60) have drawn attention to the effect of conformation on the ultraviolet spectra of N-acylindolines. Strychnine (CCXV), with λ_{max} 254, 278, and 288 m μ (log ϵ 4.10, 3.63, and 4.54), has spectral similarities with hexahydrocarbazole (CCXVI) (λ_{max}) 257, 281, and 290; log « 4.20, 3.56, and 3.35), but is dissimilar to N-methylaceto-O-toluidide (CCXVII), λ_{max} 290 m μ (log ϵ 2.47), the difference being due to conformational dissimilarities.

F. INDOLENINES

The spectrum of vomilenine (CCXVIII) (Figure 24) is characteristic of the indolenine chromophore which has two maxima at 218 and 257 m μ (log ϵ 4.35 and 3.74).

G. CARBINOLAMINES

Chemical evidence for the presence of the carbinolamine structures comes from the reductive elimination with zinc and acetic acid to yield the deoxy compound

Figure 25.—Indoles and dihydroindoles: C-fluorocurarine (CCXX) chloride in ethanol; akummicine (CCXXI) in ethanol; C-curarine dichloride (CCXXIII) in ethanol; C-dihydrotoxiferine dichloride (CCXXIV) in ethanol.

(332). C-Calebassine (CCXIX, $R_1 = R_2 = H$) shows an ultraviolet spectrum which undergoes a bathochromic shift of 10 $m\mu$ in alkali which is supposed to be diagnostic of the 2-hydroxyindoline chromophore (142). C-Calebassine dichloride has three maxima, 214, 259, and 306 m μ (log ϵ 4.46, 4.35, and 3.74) (Figure 24), and in 10 *N* acid C-calebassine shows a band at \sim 320 m μ which is interpreted as the generation of a mesomeric cation (31, 43).

C-Alkaloid A (CCXIX, $R_1 = R_2 = OH$) and Calkaloid F, (CCXIX, $R_1 = H$; $R_2 = OH$) are also members of this group.

H. METHYLENEINDOLINES AND THE AKUAMMICINE GROUP

These two groups are considered together, as the akuammicine group is an extension of the methyleneindoline chromophore. C-Fluorocurarine dichloride (CCXX), λ_{max} 252, 298, and 361 m μ , and akummicine (CCXXI), λ_{max} 227, 300, and 330 m μ (Figure 25), illustrate the effect of slight structural changes on a particular chromophore. The bands at 252 and $361 \text{ m}\mu$ show a marked bathochromic shift with respect to the

Figure 26.—Indoles and dihydroindoles: melinonine F (CCXXX, C1 methyl) in ethanol; semperivirine (CCXXXIII) in methanol; canthinone (CCXXXIV) in dioxane; tuboflavine (CCXXXV) in methanol.

spectrum of akummicine. The quaternary nitrogen and hydrogen bonding are believed to play an important role in this effect.

In alkali, C-fluorocurarine undergoes a reversible bathochromic shift, and this is due to the formation of the mesomeric anion CCXXII (42).

I. VINYLINDOLINES

Structurally and spectroscopically the vinylindoline group can be divided into the C-curarine type and the C-dihydrotoxiferine type. The ultraviolet spectrum of C-curarine dichloride (CCXXIII) (Figure 25) like alkaloids of this type show two definite maxima at \sim 264 and at $291-300$ m μ . C-Dihydrotoxiferine dichloride (CCXXIV) (Figure 25) and similar alkaloids show only one band at \sim 290 m μ and a shoulder near 320 m μ . This proves useful in differentiating between both types of vinylindoline structures. The most likely explanation of this spectral difference is the fact that the central ring in C-curarine and similar structure is too rigid to allow full orbital overlap of the two enamine systems, and the spectrum is really only characteristic of CCXXV and does not represent the true vinylindoline chromophore (32).

The spectrum of C-curarine in 40-80% sulfuric acid undergoes a marked bathochromic shift especially of the 295-mu band which is shifted to 550 mu (log ϵ 4.0). In concentrated sulfuric acid, a yellow solution is formed. These color changes are best explained by the generation of mesomeric systems as indicated: $CCXXV \rightarrow CCXIX$ (240).

J. β -CARBOLINIUMS

The β -carbolinium chromophore shows three distinct maxima (Table XXII), and the characteristic shape of the ultraviolet absorption curve of melinonine F $(CCXXX, C₁ method)$ is seen in Figure 26.

Studies on partially hydrogenated pyridocolinium salts (171) and β -carboline degradative products from C-fluorocurine (31) illustrate the effect of alkali on this system. When $N(a)$ (CCXXX) is substituted, sodium hydroxide has no apparent effect on the spectrum, but with $N(a)$ as a secondary amine there is a bathochromic displacement of all three absorption maxima owing to the formation of the anhydro base (CCXXX-CCXXII).

The alkaloids semperivirine (CCXXXIII), canthinone (CCXXXIV), 4-methylthiocarthinone, and tubo-

flavine (CCXXXV) (Figure 26) are included in this group to illustrate the effect on the ultraviolet spectrum of extending the carboline chromophore (Figure 26).

The spectrum of tuboflavine shows very little change in 0.05 *N* methanolic potassium hydroxide, but in dilute acid bands with λ_{max} 277, 345 and 460 m μ (log ϵ 4.57, 4.01, and 3.52) were observed; this is quite similar to the spectrum of the methiodide in ethanol (λ_{max} 278, 340, and 455; log e 4.57, 3.13, and 3.63) (218). Alstonine (CCXXXVI) and similar alkaloids with the $OC=CCO₂Me$ system in ring E always show a selective absorption at $245 \text{ m}\mu$ which is masked by the absorption due to the indole or β -carboline nuclei.

Alkaloids with the *trans-fused* D/E ring junctions like ajmalicine and alstonine are more reactive than alkaloids with *cis* D/E ring junctions, and the ultraviolet spectra of irans-fused alkaloids only show relatively diffuse bands at $245 \text{ m}\mu$ (106, 250).

K. ψ -INDOXYLS

Fluorocurine (CCXXXVII) (Figure 27) and iboluteine are examples of the pseudoindoxyl chromophore. The ultraviolet spectrum is consistent with that of spiro(cyclopentane-l,2'-pseudoindoxyl) which has maxima at λ_{max} 235 and 400 (log ϵ 4.28 and 3.56) (346).

L. PYRIDOCARBAZOLES

Olivacine (CCXXXVIII) (Figure 27) and its isomer ellipticine display ultraviolet spectra characteristic of the pyridocarbazole chromophore. In acid, olivacine shows λ_{max} 242, 307, 351, and 412 m μ (log ϵ 4.45, 4.92, 3.78, and 3.59) (153). w-Alkaloid D (234) is quite

Figure 27.—Indoles and dihydroindoles: C-fluorocurine iodide (CCXXXVII) in water; olivacine (CCXXXVIII) in ethanol; 1,2-dihydroolivacine (CCXXXIX) in ethanol; cryptolepine (CCXL) methiodide in ethanol.

similar to 1,2-dihydro-lOH-pyrido [4,3-6]carbazole and has the identical spectrum as 1,2-dihydroolivacine (CCXXXIX) (234) (Figure 27).

In 0.05 *N* potassium hydroxide in ethanol, ellipticine methiodide shows a bathochromic shift of all the maxima to λ_{max} 276, 338, 375, 400, and 520 m μ (log ϵ 4.46, 4.74, 3.92, 3.92, and 3.87) (159).

The methyl iodide of cryptolepine (CCXLa) shows bands at 275, 280, and $450 \text{ m}\mu$ (log ϵ 4.81, 4.40, and 3.52) and like ellipticine displays a bathochromic shift in 0.01 *N* potassium hydroxide of all the absorption bands, while in neutral solution the methyl iodide gives an ultraviolet spectrum as shown in Figure 27 (150). On evidence of the ultraviolet spectrum the alkaloid exists as in the anhydronium (CCXLa) rather than the pseudobase form (CCXLb) (268).

XVI. QUINAZOLINE AND QUINAZOLONE ALKALOIDS

One of the simplest alkaloids of this group, which is reviewed by Price (268), is vasicine (CCXLI). Vasicine shows a single maximum at 303 m μ (log ϵ 3.92) and in dilute hydrochloric acid displays a hypsochromic shift

Figure 28.—Indoles and dihydroindoles: arborine (CCXLVII) in ethanol; rutaecarpine (CCXLII, $R = H$) in ethanol; febrifugine (CCXLIII) in ethanol.

to 284 m μ (log ϵ 3.51). Most of the other alkaloids in this group are 4-quinazolone derivatives and some compounds like rutaecarpine (CCXLII, $R = H$) (Figure 28) and hortiacine (CCXLII, $R = OCH₃$) also contain an indole nucleus.

The ultraviolet spectrum of febrifugine **(CCXLIII)** (Figure 28) shows a bathochromic shift in acid but not in alkali solution and so differs from 3-unsubstituted 4 quinazolones which show bathochromic shifts in both acid and basic solutions (216). Glycorine (CCXLIV) (l-methyI-4-quinazolone) has maxima at 269, 278, 306, and 317 m μ (183). In 0.01 N hydrochloric acid, the

maxima shift to 282, 295, and 304 *my.* (log e 3.68, 3.73, and 3.69) (257). Glycosmicine (CCXLV) is unaltered in 0.01 *N* hydrochloric acid, but in 0.01 *N* sodium hydroxide the band at 244 *my,* disappears and maxima appear at 223 and 313 m μ (log ϵ 4.70 and 3.75). This is characteristic of a diketo compound which is capable of existing in a keto-enol form (257).

It should be noted that quinazoline shows a hypsochromic shift of 45μ when it is converted into its cation (11).

Aegelenine (CCXLVI), which has a N-phenyl substituent, shows three distinct maxima at 248, 278, and 328 m μ (log ϵ 4.03, 3.93, and 4.35) while arborine

TABLE XXIII

" See footnote in Table I for key to solvents. * See footnote *gg* in Table XXII. *'* See footnote a in Table XXII.

(CCXLVII) (Figure 28) has maxima at 232, 277, and 306 *mn* (log e 4.31, 3.69, and 3.92). It is of interest to compare the spectrum of arborine with that of glycosminine (CCXLVIII) which shows four maxima, 225, 265, 303, and 312 mu (log ϵ 4.44, 3.95, 3.66, and 3.57). and to note that the values of the latter are closer to those of 4-hydroxyquinazoline than those of l-methyl-4 quinazolone (257) (see Table **XXIII).**

XVII. BENZOPHENANTHRIDINE GROUP

The ultraviolet spectra of the benzophenanthridine or α -naphthaphenanthridine alkaloids and their key transformation products are best divided into five sections: (A) benzophenanthridines, (B) dihydrobenzophenanthridines, (C) oxybenzophenanthridines, (D) hexahydrobenzophenanthridine derivatives, and (E) oxyhexahydrobenzophenanthridines.

A. BENZOPHENANTHRIDINES

Members of this group are chelerythrine (CCXLIX, $R = H$; $R_1 = R_2 = OCH_3$), sanguinarine (CCXLIX, $R = H$; $R_1 + R_2 = CH_2O_2$), avicine (CCXLIX, $R + R_1 = CH_2O_2$; $R_2 = H$), and nitidine (CCXLIX, $R = R_1 = OCH_3$; $R_2 = H$).

The complex spectrum of the N-nor compound is exemplified by norchelerythine (Figure 29) which shows bands at 215, 243, 256, 277, 324, and 384 m μ (log ϵ 4.24, 4.58, 4.57, 4.71, 4.16, and 3.47). This is a substituted benzenoid extension of the phenanthridine spectrum which shows bands at 250 (log *e* 4.65), 295 (3.76), 346 (3.29) , and at 450 m μ (1.85) (238). Spectral values for the unsubstituted benzophenanthridine molecule are given in Table XXIV.

Chelerythrine, sanguinarine, avicine, and nitidine are isolated as quarternary salts, and on being basined

Figure 29.—Benzophenanthridine group: (A) N-norchelerythrine (see chelerythrine (CCXLIX)) in ethanol.

undergo a disproportionation reaction to give dihydrobenzophenanthridines and oxybenzophenanthridines.

B. DIHYDROBENZOPHENANTHRIDINES

One product derived from the treatment of benzophenanthridines with ammonium hydroxide is a dihydrobenzophenanthridine derivative which has an absorption spectrum showing three bands, 228-232, 278, and 311-322 m μ . Dihydroavicine (CCL, R + R₁ = CH₂; $X = H_2$) and dihydronitidine (CCL, $R = R_1 = CH_3$; $X = H_2$) exemplify this group.

c. OXYBENZOPHENANTHRIDINES

The other product from alkali treatment of benzophenanthridine is the oxybenzophenanthridine derivative, for example, oxyavicine (CCL, $R + R_1 = \text{CH}_2$; $X = 0$) and oxynitidine (CCL, $R = R_1 = CH_3$; $X = 0$, and characteristic absorption bands are shown in Table XXIV.

 $E =$ ethanol (95%-absolute).

Figure 30.—Xanthines: (A) caffeine (CCLII, $R = R_1 = R_2$ $CH₃$) in buffer at pH 2-12; (B) 7-methylxanthine (CCLII, R = $R_1 = H$, $R_2 = CH_3$) in buffer at pH 6; (C) xanthine (CCLII, $R = R_1 = R_2 = H$) in buffer at pH 5; (D) isocaffeine (CCLIII, $R = R_1 = R_2 = CH_3$ in buffer at pH 6.

D. HEXAHYDROBENZOPHENANTHRIDINES

Chelidonine (CCLI, $R + R_1 = CH_2$; $R_2 = CH_3$: $X = H_2$), norchelidonine (CCLI, $R + R_1 = CH_2$;

 $R_2 = H$; $X = H_2$), and α -homochelidonine (CCLI, $R = R_1 = R_2 = CH_3$; $X = H_2$) are members of this group, and the ultraviolet spectrum should be that of a simple benzenoid system.

E. OXYHEXAHYDROBENZOPHENANTHRtDINES

Oxychelidonine (CCLI, $R + R_1 = CH_2$; $R_2 = CH_3$; $X = 0$) is the only representative so far known in this group, and the ultraviolet spectrum has not been reported.

XVIII. PURINE GROUP

The purine bases are of great biochemical interest because they are one of the major components of the nucleic acids. Only a few of these bases have been regarded as alkaloids in the classical sense. Many of these bases occur, however, in plants as well as in animals and are worthy of consideration. The ultraviolet spectra have been of great importance in the determination of the structures of these bases. The main structural types are (A) xanthine and isoxanthine derivatives (CCLII and CCLIII), and (B) purine derivatives and purine betaines (CCLIV and CCLV).

A. XANTHINE DERIVATIVES

Xanthine derivatives (CCLII and CCLIII) occur as the well-known alkaloids caffeine (1,3,7-trimethylxanthine), theobromine (3,7-dimethylxanthine), theophylline (1,3-dimethylxanthine), and heteroxanthine (7-methylxanthine). There has been a good deal of study of the effect of substitution on the ultraviolet spectra.

It has been postulated (79) that the spectra of xanthine derivatives are essentially due to the chromophore of the pyrimidine ring (CCLVIa or CCLVIb) and that the imidazole portion of the purine molecule makes little contribution. The 7- and 9-substituted xanthines

(CCLII and CCLIII) show, however, spectral differences in neutral or acidic solution which can be used to differentiate between the two types.

The following generalizations can be made about the ultraviolet spectra of the xanthines.

(a) 9-Substituted xanthines, *e.g.,* 9-methyl-, 3,9 dimethyl-, and 1,3,9-trimethylxanthines, show two bands of about equal intensity in neutral or acid solution at \sim 235 (log ϵ 4.0) and \sim 266 m μ (4.0). The other types *(e.g.,* xanthine, 1-, 3-, and 7-methyl-, 1,3-, 1,7-, and 3,7-dimethyl-, and 1,3,7-trimethylxanthines show one main band at \sim 265–270 m μ and sometimes a weaker band or shoulder at $225 \text{ m}\mu$. Thus the spectrum of caffeine (CCLII, $R = R_1 = R_2 = CH_3$) can be readily distinguished from isocaffeine (CCLIII, $R = R_1$ = $R_2 = CH_3$) (cf. Figure 30).

(b) The spectra of the monoanions of xanthines are also different. In alkaline solution (pH 9-12) the 3 and/or 7-substituted xanthines show one main band at \sim 275-290 m μ (log ϵ 4.0) and sometimes a weaker band

or shoulder at 230-245 $m\mu$ (log ϵ 3.7). Xanthine and the 1- and/or 9-substituted xanthines *(e.g.,* 1- and 9 methyl, 1,9-dimethyl-, and 1,3,9-trimethylxanthines) show two bands of approximately equal intensity at 242 (log ϵ 3.9) and 275 m μ (4.1) (Figure 31).

(c) Xanthines with the 3-position free show different spectra in alkaline solution from the 3-substituted xanthines. The 3-substituted xanthines show a slight bathochromic and hyperchromic effect in alkali. The spectra of the 3-unsubstituted xanthines show a significant bathochromic shift in alkali (81) due to transitions of the type CCLVIIa \rightarrow CCLVIIb. The sequence of

ionization in the xanthines has been determined by examination of the spectra of a series of compounds at different pH values. It was concluded that the uncharged xanthines occur principally as the carbonyl form and that the ionization takes place in the order N-3, N-2, N-I (81). Ultraviolet spectra showed (262) that in the neutral molecule, the labile hydrogen on the imidazole ring was located on N-7, and in monoanions on N-9. The spectra of a number of substituted xanthines are summarized in Table XXV.

B. PURINES

Purine derivatives occur in plants and also in the nucleoproteins of living cells. Alkaline hydrolysis of the nucleic acid gives the purine bases, a sugar residue, and phosphoric acid. Ultraviolet spectra have been of great assistance in determining the substitution pattern in the purine molecule. All the purines show strong absorption in the region $250-290$ m μ . Purine itself (CCLIV, $R = R_1 = R_2 = H$) shows bands below 220 $m\mu$ and at 263 m μ . Auxochromes such as OH and NH₂ shift the short wave length band above $220 \text{ m}\mu$ (237).

A large number of substituted guanines (2-amino-6 hydroxypurine derivatives (CCLVIIIa or CCLVIIIb) have been studied, and the dissociation sequence of the acid hydrogen atoms was established as N-I then N-7 (261). A comparison of the ultraviolet spectra of pyrimidine (CCLIX) derivatives and purine (CCLIV) derivatives show basic similarities. It was concluded that the imidazole ring makes little contribution to the ultraviolet spectra of purine and that the major chromo phore is the pyrimidine ring system $-\dot{C} = C - \dot{C} = N - \frac{C}{C}$

Figure 31.—Xanthines: (A) 1,3-dimethylxanthine (CCLII, $R = R_1 = CH_3$; $R_2 = H$) in buffer at pH 10.8; (B) 7-methylxanthine (CCLII, $R = R_1 = H$; $R_2 = CH_3$) in buffer at pH 11; (C) 3,7-dimethylxanthine (CCLII, $R = H$; $R_1 = R_2 = CH_3$) in buffer at pH 10; (D) xanthine (CCLII, $R = R_1 = R_2 = H$) in buffer at pH 10.

(80). The spectra of the neutral molecules of 1-, or 7-, or 9-methyl-substituted guanines (CCLX and CCLXI) are different, the 1- and 7-substituted having two bands and the 9-substituted having one band and a

shoulder (Figure 32).

The 9-methyl-substituted guanines show a bathochromic shift on protonation owing to the transition $CCLXI \rightarrow CCLXII$.

Figure 32.—Purines: (A) guanine (CCLX, $R = R_1 = H$) in buffer at pH 6; (B) 7-methylguanine (CCLX, R = H, R₁ = $CH₃$) in buffer at pH 6; (C) 1-methylguanine (CCLX, R = CH_3 , $R_1 = H$) in buffer at pH 6; (D) 9-methylguanine (CCLXI, $R = H, R_1 = CH_3$.

TABLE XXV XANTHINES AND PURINES

dropurinium cation

 $-$; dianion, $=$; monocation, $+$; zwitterion, \pm .

The long wave length band of the 1- or 7-substituted guanines show a hypsochromic shift associated with the transition CCLX to CCLXIII. The spectra of the monoanions of the guanines are similar with maxima at \sim 275 m μ (log ϵ 3.9) (Figure 33).

Herbipoline, a base isolated from the siliceous sponge *Geogia gigas,* has been assigned structure CCLXIV (7,9-dimethyl-2-amino-6-oxodihydropurinium betaine) on the basis of the ultraviolet spectral evidence (261). The ultraviolet spectral data of a number of purine derivatives are summarized in Table XXV.

XIX. MISCELLANEOUS ALKALOIDS

There are several alkaloids which are conveniently discussed in this group. Most of these alkaloids have been characterized fairly recently and do not conveniently fall into any of the classes previously discussed.

A. ANNULOLINE

Annuloline (CCLXV) has a maximum almost in the visible (354 m μ , log ϵ 4.48) and this is due to the extended chromophoric system present, which like Nmethylhalfordium chloride (LXIII) also contains an oxazole ring.

B. LUNARINE

Lunarine (CCLXVI) has a spectrum with maxima at 208, 224, 296, and 314 m μ (log ϵ 4.46, 4.41, 4.34, and 4.23). In 0.1 *N* sodium hydroxide, there are maxima at 224 and 355 m μ (log ϵ 4.39 and 4.43), and in 10 *N* hydrochloric acid, there is a similar bathochromic shift to give bands at 236 and 354 m μ (log ϵ 4.2 and 4.38) (264).

C. PERLOLINE

The alkaloid perloline, whose structure has recently been determined by X-ray methods, represents the first example of a natural product with the diazaphenanthrene ring system (201). The spectra of perloline

Figure 33.—Purines: (A) guanine (CCLX, $R = R_1 = H$) in buffer at pH 11; (B) 1-methylguanine (CCLX, $R = CH_3$; $R_1 = H$) in buffer at pH 13; (C) 7-methylguanine (CCLX, R = $H, R_1 = CH_3$) in buffer at pH 13.

(CCLXVII), methyl perloline, and perlolidine (CCLXVIII), the oxidation product of perloline, are similar in acid solution with maxima at 235-260 (log ϵ \sim 4.3) and 380–400 m μ (\sim 4.1). Perloline (CCLXVII) exists in two forms in water: as the free base and the positive charged ion.

The perloline salts have the structure CCLXIX (the protonated form of anhydroperloline).

The spectra of perloline solutions in 2-propanolwater mixtures have been studied, and the bathochromic shifts observed in 2-propanol solutions have been attributed to the replacement of constitutional water in perloline by 2-propanol (240), though it is not clear how this replacement should affect the ultraviolet chromophore. The spectra of perlolidine, which also occurs naturally, in neutral or alkaline solution are similar, but in acid solution the bathochromic shift observed is consistent with the quinoline ring system. Spectral data are summarized in Table XXVI and Figure 34.

Figure 34.—Miscellaneous alkaloids: (A) perloline (CCLXVII) in 0.01 *N* acid; (B) perloline in 0.01 *N* alkali; (C) methylperloline in 0.01 *N* acid; (D) perlolidine (CCLXVIII) in 0.01 *N* acid; (E) protostephanine (CCLXX) in methanol.

TABLE XXVI MISCELLANEOUS ALKALOIDS

^a See footnote in Table I for key to solvents. ^b Log e values calculated from absorptivity values using a molecular formula of C₂₁- $H_{20}N_2O_4$. Close values calculated from absorptivity values using a molecular formula of $C_{12}H_8N_2O$. Close values calculated from absorptivity values using molecular formula of $C_{20}H_{18}N_2O_4$.

D. PROTOSTEPHANINE

Protostephanine (CCLXX), a Menispermacae alkaloid, is a substituted biphenyl (325). The spectrum shows maxima at 220 (log ϵ 4.55) and 281 m μ (3.79)

(Figure 34). The tetrahydro, nitrogen-free substituted biphenyl degradation product (CCLXXI) has a similar spectrum typical of biphenyls (62).

E. STREPTOLYDIGIN

The effect of pH on the complex spectrum of the antibiotic alkaloid streptolydigin (CCLXXII) has been studied (119) and good correlations between different hydrogenation products and their ultraviolet spectra have been obtained (284). Conversion of streptolydigin to the enol acetate gives a spectrum with a single maximum at 329 m μ (log ϵ 4.47). This is in accord with a trienone $RCH=C(CH₃)CH=CHC=$ $C(OAc)C=O.$

F. THIOBINUPHARIDINE

Thiobinupharidine, isolated from *Nuphar luteum,* has been assigned structure CCLXXIII (1), which classes it with the small group of sulfur-containing alkaloids. Thiobinupharidine could be regarded as a

special type of quinolizidine alkaloid, and the maximum at 198 m μ (log ϵ 3.04) is in agreement with the isolated furan rings.

CCLXXIV

Virosecurinine (CCLXXIV) (246) is the optical enantiomorph of securinine (291, 263a). The alkaloid^{*}which can be regarded as a pyrrocoline derivative has a maximum at $256 \text{ m}\mu$ (log ϵ 4.27). This is consistent with a conjugated unsaturated lactone.

G. VIROSECURININE

CCLXXIII

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