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Synthesis and Spectral Properties of a Series of New α,ω -Diphenylpolyenes

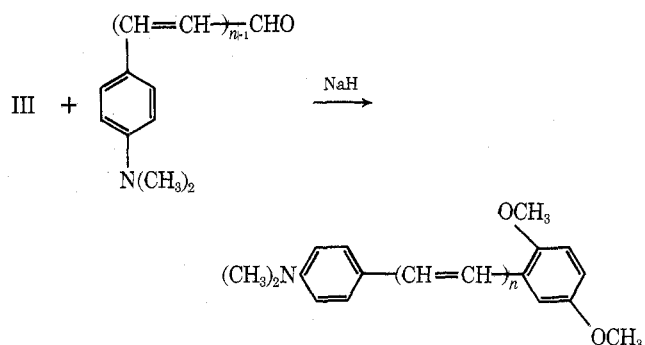
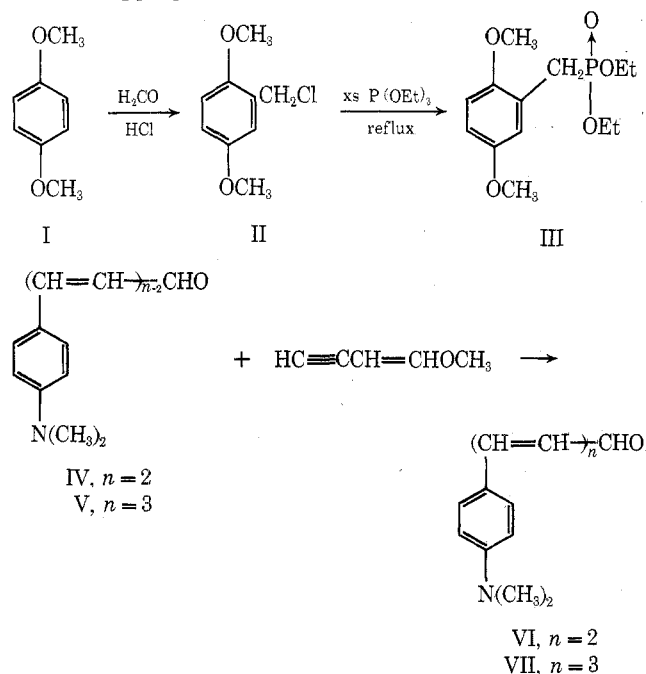
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It has been determined that substituted *trans*-stilbenes act as sensitizers for the photochemical decomposition of arenesulfonyl azides.¹ A series of new α,ω -diphenylpolyenes has been synthesized which extend the spectral sensitivity of the azide-sensitizer system into the visible region of the electromagnetic spectrum. The study of energy transfer and quantum yield determination will be the topic of a forthcoming paper.

The synthesis involves formation of aromatic polyenals (IV \rightarrow VII) which are subsequently converted to α,ω -diphenylpolyenes (VIII \rightarrow XI) via a phosphonate carbanion reaction with 2,5-dimethoxybenzyl phosphonate (III). Several methods are available for the extension of double bond conjugation in systems containing an aldehyde function: multiple aldol condensations with paraldehyde;² aldol condensation with crotonaldehyde³ or acetaldehyde;⁴ reaction of 1-methylaniline penta-1,3-dienal (Zincke aldehyde) with dimethylaniline in the presence of POCl_3 ⁵ and condensation of methoxybutenyne with either benzaldehyde or cinnamaldehyde followed by reduction with LiAlH_4 .⁶ The last method is a stepwise approach and was selected as being the most appropriate for the current work.



VIII, $n=1$
 IX, $n=2$
 X, $n=3$
 XI, $n=4$

It was desired to obtain the α,ω -diphenylpolyenes in the all-*trans* configuration to ensure the highest extinction coefficients and the longest wavelength absorption maxima. Several criteria were utilized in assigning the all-*trans* stereochemical configuration to the compounds synthesized: known stereochemistry of the chemical reactions involved; comparison of physical properties to those of similar compounds with known stereochemistry; analysis of the ultraviolet absorption spectra and analysis of the infrared spectra.

The reaction of the benzyl phosphonate III with an aldehyde produces an exclusively *trans* double bond.⁹ The intermediate step in which LiAlH_4 is used to reduce the acetylenic bond of methoxybutenyne also results in formation of an exclusively *trans* double bond.⁸ Finally, the *p*-dimethylaminocinnamaldehyde (V) was known to be the *trans* isomer. From these considerations we can assign the *trans* configuration to the stilbene VIII, both olefinic bonds in the butadiene IX, two of the three olefinic bonds in the hexatriene X, and three of the four olefinic bonds in the octatetraene XI. The double bonds remaining unassigned are due to the methoxybutenyne for which the configuration of the double bond is not certain.

Table I compares some physical properties of known isomers with those of the first two members of the α,ω -diphenylpolyene series. Only the all-*trans* isomers are crystalline, high melting point solids.

In a review by Lewis and Calvin⁷ it is reported that for a series of all-*trans* diphenylpolyenes the square of the ultraviolet absorbance maximum (λ_{max}^2) is related in a linear fashion to the number of olefinic bonds separating the aromatic rings (n). Plotting λ_{max}^2 vs. n for the current series of diphenylpolyenes (Figure 1) gives the linear relationship expected if the members of the homologous series are in the all-*trans* configuration.

The 650–1050- cm^{-1} region of the infrared spectrum has been used by some researchers^{6,11} to distinguish the out-of-plane vinyl C–H bonding of *cis* olefins (650–850 cm^{-1}) from that of *trans* olefins (950–1050 cm^{-1}). The presence of aromatic C–H bonding absorbances in the 700–800- cm^{-1} range¹² in the infrared spectra of the compounds under discussion, however, precludes the unambiguous assignment of any *cis* bond. The infrared spectrum of each α,ω -diphenylpolyene does contain a strong absorbance in the 950–1050- cm^{-1} region which could be assigned to a *trans* vinyl C–H bond.

In the present homologous α,ω -diphenylpolyene series each successive olefinic bond introduced into the system resulted in a bathochromic shift in the position of the ultraviolet absorbance maximum by about 17 nm and in an increase in the intensity of the absorption maximum.

Table I
Comparison of Physical Properties between
 α,ω -Diphenylpolyenes and Known
Cis, Trans Isomers

Compd	Isomer	Mp (bp), °C	λ_{\max} , nm	ϵ_{\max}
4-Methoxystilbene ⁹	Trans	136	306 ^a	29,000
Diphenylbutadiene ^{10, 16}	Cis	(98–100, 2 mm)	270 ^a	11,700
	Trans,trans	152–153	328 ^b	56,200
	Trans,cis	Oil	312 ^b	31,600
	Cis,cis	70.5	299 ^b	29,500
2,5-Dimethoxy-4'-dimethylamino-stilbene (VIII)	Trans	120–121	363 ^b	32,350
1-(2,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)-4(4'-dimethylaminophenyl)buta-1,3-diene (IX)	Trans,trans	121–121.5	380 ^c	49,500
1-(2,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)-6(4'-dimethylaminophenyl)hexa-1,3,5-triene (X)	All-trans	123–123.5	397 ^c	54,600
1-(2,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)-8(4'-dimethylaminophenyl)octa-1,3,5,7-tetraene (XI)	All-trans	146–147	413 ^c	70,150

^a 95% ethanol. ^b Hexane. ^c Acetonitrile.

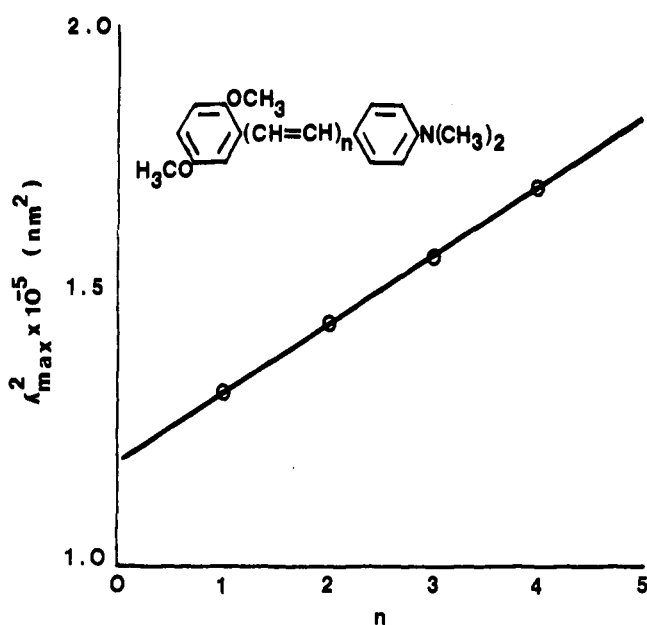


Figure 1. Linear relationship between λ_{\max}^2 and n for the trans polyene series.

These shifts were accompanied by a decrease in the energy of the lowest lying excited state singlet ($E_{0 \rightarrow 0}$) energy levels. A comparison of the ultraviolet absorbance spectra of these α,ω -diphenylpolyenes is shown in Figure 2.

Experimental Section

General. Melting points were measured on a Thomas-Hoover capillary apparatus and are uncorrected. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 621 spectrophotometer using KBr pellets. NMR spectra were measured on a Varian T-60 spectrometer. Ultraviolet absorption spectra were recorded on a Cary Model 14 spectrophotometer. Emission-excitation spectra were determined on an Aminco-Bowman spectrophotofluorometer. The NaH (50% in mineral oil) was washed with *n*-hexane prior to use. The elemental analyses were performed in these laboratories.

Starting Materials. The 2,5-dimethoxybenzyl phosphonate (III) was prepared by the Michaelis-Arbuzov reaction.¹³ The 2,5-dimethoxybenzyl chloride (II) was prepared by chloromethylation of hydroquinone dimethyl ether (I) according to the method of Mel'nikov and Prilutskaya.¹⁴

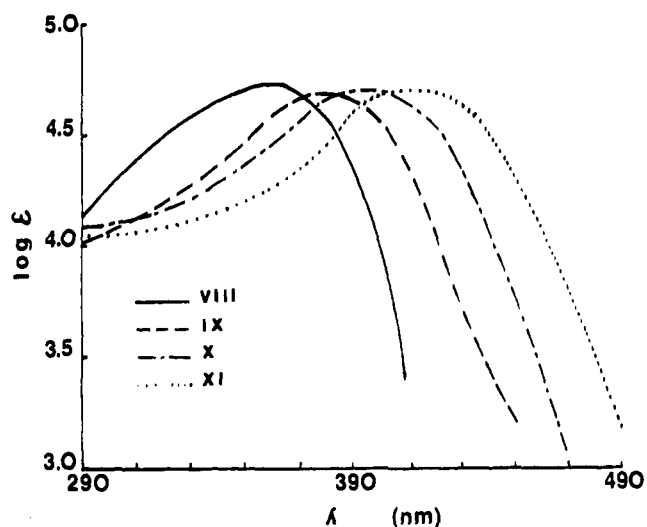


Figure 2. Ultraviolet absorption curves for the homologous polyene series.

5-(*p*-Dimethylaminophenyl)penta-2,4-dienal (VI). Using the method of Marshall and Whiting,⁸ 1.6 g (66.6 mmol) of magnesium turnings plus 45 ml of tetrahydrofuran (THF) (dried over tosyl isocyanate and distilled) together with a crystal of iodine were placed in a 250-ml three-neck flask fitted with a thermometer, reflux condenser, and addition funnel both topped with CaCl_2 drying tubes. To this mixture was added dropwise 7.2 g (66.0 mmol) of ethyl bromide in 10 ml of THF at a rate fast enough to ensure continued refluxing.¹⁵ The water-white reaction mixture was allowed to cool to 34–45°, then 7.3 g (89.0 mmol) of freshly distilled 1-methoxybut-1-en-3-yne in 10 ml of THF was added dropwise maintaining a temperature of 40–45°. Upon completion of this addition, the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 hr followed by cooling on an ice-salt bath and dropwise addition of 10 g (67.1 mmol) of *p*-dimethylaminobenzaldehyde in 10 ml of THF. A temperature of 0–5° was maintained during the aldehyde addition, then the mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and was stirred for an additional 2 hr. After this time the mixture was cooled to 0° and 5 ml of absolute ethanol was added followed by stirring for 20 min. Then 2.0 g (52.6 mmol) of LiAlH_4 powder was added to the cold solution over a 30-min period followed by stirring at room temperature for 3 hr. The mixture was again cooled to 0° and the following were added consecutively: 3 ml of ethyl acetate, 15 ml of H_2O , 75 ml of 4 *N* H_2SO_4 , and 100 ml of benzene. After stirring for 5–10 min the red benzene layer was separated, dried (sodium sulfate), and evaporated in vacuo to yield

a reddish-brown solid which after recrystallization from isopropyl alcohol afforded 6.7 g (50%) of yellow plates of VI: mp 153–155°; NMR (CDCl₃) 3.0 (s, *W* = 1.0 Hz, 2 CH₃), 9.58 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1 CHO), 6.0–7.5 ppm (m, 8 H); uv (acetonitrile) λ_{max} 405 nm (ε 24,500); ir (CHCl₃) 3025, 1665, 1590 cm⁻¹.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₁₅NO: C, 77.58; H, 7.51; N, 6.96. Found: C, 77.40; H, 7.44; N, 6.81.

7-(*p*-Dimethylaminophenyl)hepta-2,4,6-trienal (VII) was prepared similarly to IV from *p*-dimethylaminocinnamaldehyde. Recrystallization from ligroin (bp 90–120°) gave VII (2%) as a red powder: mp 177–179°; NMR (CDCl₃) 3.0 (s, *W* = 1.0 Hz, 2 CH₃), 5.9–7.4 (m, 10 H), 9.56 ppm (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1 CHO); uv (acetonitrile) λ_{max} 425 nm (ε 36,260); ir (CHCl₃) 3020, 1665, 1560 cm⁻¹.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₁₇NO: C, 79.26; H, 7.54; N, 6.16. Found: C, 79.17; H, 7.49; N, 6.03.

General Procedure for Synthesis of α,ω-Diphenylpolyenes (VIII → XI).¹³ Into the reaction vessel were charged 7 mmol of 2,5-dimethoxybenzyl phosphonate (III), 7 mmol of the appropriate aldehyde (IV → VII), and 25 ml of 1,2-dimethoxyethane (dried over Na). To this stirred solution was added in several portions 7 mmol of NaH followed by refluxing of the mixture for 0.5–1.5 hr. The reaction mixture was then cooled to room temperature and drowned in 150 ml of cold water followed by filtration (in the case of VIII) or extraction with benzene (in the case of IX, X, and XI) of the α,ω-diphenylpolyene.

2,5-Dimethoxy-4'-dimethylaminostilbene (VIII): yield 70%; yellow hexagonal crystals (acetone), mp 120–121°; NMR (CDCl₃) 2.90 (s, 2 NCH₃), 3.73 (s, -OCH₃), 3.77 (s, -OCH₃), 6.6–7.5 ppm (m, 9 H); ir 705 (m), 800 (s), 840 (m), 1045 cm⁻¹ (s); *E*_{o→o} = 70.6 ± 0.6 kcal/mol.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₂₁NO₂: C, 76.28; H, 7.48; N, 4.94. Found: C, 76.50; H, 7.36; N, 4.84.

1-(2,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)-4-(4'-dimethylaminophenyl)buta-1,3-diene (IX): yield 52%; yellow needles (ethanol), mp 121–121.5°; NMR (CDCl₃) 2.93 (s, 2 NCH₃), 3.73 (s, -OCH₃), 3.78 (s, -OCH₃), 6.6–7.4 ppm (m, 11 H); ir 715 (m), 810 (m), 860 (m), 985 cm⁻¹ (s); *E*_{o→o} = 66.0 ± 0.6 kcal/mol.

Anal. Calcd for C₂₀H₂₃NO₂: C, 77.62; H, 7.51; N, 4.53. Found: C, 77.80; H, 7.67; N, 4.45.

1-(2,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)-6-(4'-dimethylaminophenyl)hexa-1,3,5-triene (X): yield 40%; orange needles (isopropyl alcohol), mp 123–123.5°; NMR (CDCl₃) 2.90 (s, 2 NCH₃), 3.77 (s, -OCH₃), 3.80 (s, -OCH₃), 6.6–7.4 ppm (m, 13 H); ir 800 (s), 820 (s), 995 (s), 1045 cm⁻¹ (s); *E*_{o→o} = 61.2 ± 0.6 kcal/mol.

Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₂₅NO₂: C, 78.76; H, 7.53; N, 4.18. Found: C, 79.08; H, 7.78; N, 4.08.

1-(2,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)-8-(4'-dimethylaminophenyl)octa-1,3,5,7-tetraene (XI): yield 25%; shiny copper plates (acetone), mp 146–147°; NMR (CDCl₃) 2.95 (s, 2 NCH₃), 3.78 (s, -OCH₃), 3.80 (s, -OCH₃), 6.4–7.4 ppm (m, 15 H); ir 810 (s), 1000 cm⁻¹ (vs); *E*_{o→o} = 58.0 ± 0.6 kcal/mol.

Anal. Calcd for C₂₄H₂₇NO₂: C, 79.73; H, 7.54; N, 3.88. Found: C, 79.61; H, 7.72; N, 3.73.

Registry No.—III, 55298-76-5; IV, 100-10-7; V, 20432-35-3; VI, 20432-36-4; VII, 55298-77-6; VIII, 55298-78-7; IX, 55298-79-8; X, 55298-80-1; XI, 55298-81-2; 1-methoxybut-1-en-3-yne, 2798-73-4.

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Carbon-13 Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectra of 4-Phosphorinanones. Carbonyl Hydration in Oxides, Sulfides, and Quaternary Salts¹

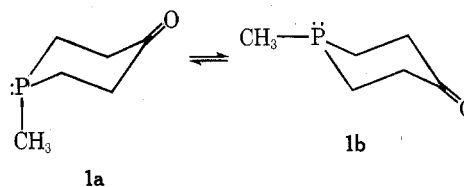
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We recently reported on the ¹³C NMR spectra of phosphorinanones² and their 4-hydroxy derivatives,^{2,3} pointing out especially the value of the technique for gaining information on conformational aspects of this ring system. The effect of a covalence change (addition of sulfur) at the phosphorus atom was also considered.^{2,4} We have extended our study to include some 4-keto derivatives of this series. On conducting ¹³C NMR measurements on the tetravalent species in water solution, we noted an important effect: extensive covalent hydration occurred at the carbonyl group. The present paper summarizes our observations on these compounds.

¹³C NMR Spectra of Keto Derivatives. The ¹³C NMR spectra of a family of *P*-methyl 4-phosphorinanone derivatives are given in Table I. In the trivalent compound 1, assignment of the ring carbons was easily made, since their signals were separated by 12.5 ppm through the shielding effect of the phosphino group on attached carbons,² and the deshielding effect of carbonyl on carbons attached to it.⁵ The carbonyl carbon was located in the same far-downfield position as seen for 4-methylcyclohexanone (δ 209⁶). The PCH₃ signal was in its expected high-field position. This carbon is particularly sensitive to conformational properties; the chemical shift observed is determined by the relative amounts at equilibrium of the conformer with axial (upfield) and with equatorial (downfield) methyl. Previous studies⁷ on this 4-phosphorinanone have indicat-



ed that the equilibrium lacks the very strong bias to the equatorial side that is so well known for 4-methylcyclohexanone. Indeed, there seems to be a small excess of the axial conformer, a property that has been recently confirmed for the 1-methylphosphorinane system.⁸ The sterically dependent ²J_{P-C} value for C_{3,5} in ketophosphine 1 is quite small (<2 Hz); for the corresponding phosphorinane it is 3 Hz. Rigid models in the latter series (*cis*- and *trans*-1-methyl-4-*tert*-butyl-4-phosphorinane) have provided³ values for the axial methyl case of 1 Hz, and for the equatorial of 7 Hz. The small ²J_{PC} value for 1 therefore is qualitatively consistent with some excess of 1a over 1b.

When sulfur or oxygen are added to phosphorus of 1, it is likely that these substituents adopt the axial position in preference to methyl, as has been demonstrated for the phosphorinane compounds.² These atoms generally cause downfield shifts at α carbons;^{2,9} this is seen in the spectrum for the sulfide (2) at both CH₃ and C_{2,6}, and in that of the oxide (3) at CH₃. On the other hand, quaternization of phosphines causes upfield shifts of attached carbons, and this is noted on comparing the data for the methiodide (4) to those for the phosphine (1).

We detect a small but significant upfield shift at C₄ on converting 1-methyl-4-phosphorinanone to any of its tetra-