pure by GLC $(\sim 5\%$ of the saturated alcohol); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.3-5.8 (2 H, vinyl, m), 4.2 (2 H, OCH₂, d, $J = 5$ Hz), 3.9 (4 H, $O(CH_2)_2O$, s), 2.1-2.4 (3 H, CH₂C=C, OH, m), 1.6-1.8 (4 H, 2CH₂, m), 1.3 (3 H, CH₃, s). Anal. Calcd for C₁₀H₁₈O₃: C, 64.49; H, 9.75. Found: C, 64.77; H, 10.13.

Preparation of **(Z)-7-Oxo-2-0cten-l-o1(6).** Three drops of concentrated H_2SO_4 were added to an acetone solution (350 mL) of **4** (15.0 g, 81 mmol). After the mixture was stirred for 2 h at 23 °C, anhydrous K_2CO_3 (\sim 2 g) was added and the stirring continued for a further 0.5 h. The reaction mixture was filtered and concentrated in vacuo. Vacuum distillation yielded 6: 10.1 g (88%); bp 100-102 °C (0.2 mmHg) [lit.¹⁰ bp 120-125 °C (0.5 mmHg)]; 98% pure.

Preparation of $(+)$ - $(1R,7R)$ -7- $(Hydroxymethyl)$ -5**methyl-6,8-dioxabicyclo[3.2.l]octane** ((+)-7). A 0.1 M solution of titanium tetraisopropoxide (510 mL, 51 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 at -30 °C (dry ice/CCl₄ bath) was treated with 11.3 g (55 mmol) of (-)-diethyl tartrate (Aldrich). After 10 min, alkene 6 (7.1 g, 50 mmol) was added followed by 27 mL (111 mmol) of a 4.1 M anhydrous solution of tert-butyl hydroperoxide in CH_2Cl_2 . The reaction mixture was kept at -25 **"C** for 4 days under argon. An aqueous tartaric acid solution (lo%, 150 mL) was added and the reaction mixture allowed to warm slowly to 0 "C. After 3 h at 0 °C and 1 h at 23 °C the CH₂Cl₂ phase was separated from the clear aqueous phase that was further extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3) \times 75 mL). The combined CH₂Cl₂ extracts were dried over anhydrous K₂CO₃, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo to yield a mixture of $(+)$ -7 and diethyl tartrate. This mixture was taken up in ether (300 mL) and shaken for *5* min with a 1 N NaOH solution (150 mL) in order to remove the diethyl tartrate by hydrolysis. The aqueous layer was extracted with ether (2 **X** 100 mL), and the combined ether extracta were dried over anhydrous $MgSO₄$. Removal of the solvent in vacuo and vacuum distillation yielded (+)-7: 6.5 g (82%); bp 65-72 "C (0.1 mmHg). GLC analysis revealed (+)-7 was 90% pure and contaminated with *6%* unreacted **6.** An analytical sample, purified by column chromatography (silica gel; hexane/ethyl acetate, (5:1) gave a sample that was 95% pure by GLC: $[\alpha]^{27}$ _D +53.7 ± 2.0° $(c$ 0.94, CHCl₃); mass spectrum, m/e (relative intensity) 125 (25), 112 (20), 98 (15), 83 (22),69 (31),67 (39), 59 (92), 54 (loo), 43 (57); 'H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.26 (1 H, C₁, br s), 4.12 (1 H, C₇, t, J = 7 Hz), 3.55 (2 H, CH₂O, overlapping dd, $J = 7$ Hz), 2.12 (1 H, OH, s), 1.45-2.00 (6 H, 3 CH₂, m), 1.43 (3 H, CH₃, s). Anal. Calcd for $C_8H_{14}O_3$: C, 60.74; H, 8.92. Found: C, 60.60; H, 8.99.

Preparation of $(-)$ -7. Chiral isomer 7 was prepared in 73% yield by using the same procedure for epoxidation of **6** with the exception that (+)-diethyl tartrate was employed: $[\alpha]^{27}$ _D -58.0 \pm 2.0° (*c* 1.0, CHCl₃). Anal. Calcd for C₈H₁₄O₃: C, 60.74; H, 8.92. Found: C, 60.71; H, 8.81.

Preparation of **(lR,7S)-7-(Bromomethy1)-5-methyl-6,8 dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octane** $((+)$ **-8).** To a solution of $(+)$ -7 (6.5) **g,** 41 mmol) in 30 mL of dry HMPA was added 11.0 g (42 mmol) of triphenylphosphine followed by 14.0 g (42 mmol) of carbon tetrabromide. An immediate exothermic reaction occurred that temporarily produced a homogeneous solution. The reaction mixture cooled to room temperature over 0.5 h and solidified. The reaction mixture was then reheated to 100 "C for 0.5 h and after cooling was triturated with pentane (5 **X** 100 mL). The combined pentane extracts were filtered, washed with water (100 mL) and brine (100 mL), dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. Vacuum distillation yielded 8.0 g (88%) of 99% pure by GLC; mass spectrum, m/e (relative intensity) 180/178 (7), 141 (95), 127 (21), 113 (17), 99 (73), 81 (48), 71 (10), 43 (100); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.44 (1 H, C₁, br), 4.23 (1 H, C7, dd, *J* = 10, 5 Hz), 3.32 (1 H, CHBr, dd, *J* = 10, 5 Hz), 3.22 (1 H, CHBr, $J = 10$ Hz), 1.40-2.00 (6 H, 3 CH₂, m), 1.42 (3) H, CH₃, s). Anal. Calcd for $C_8H_{13}O_2Br: C$, 43.46; H, 5.93. Found: C, 43.70; H, 6.08. $(+)$ -8: **bp 82-85 °C** (0.1 **mmHg);** $[\alpha]^{27}$ _D +0.9 \pm 0.5° (c 1.3, CHCl₃);

Preparation of $(-)$ -8. The same bromination procedure applied to $(-)$ -7 yielded $(-)$ -8: 85% yield; 95% pure by GLC; $[\alpha]^2$ $-0.6 \pm 0.5^{\circ}$ (c 1.4, CHCI₃). Anal. Calcd for C₈H₁₃O₂Br: C, 43.46; H, 5.93. Found: C, 43.65; H, 5.98.

Preparation of exo-(1R,7R)-7-Ethyl-5-methyl-6,8-dioxabicyclo[3.2.l]octane **[(+)-9, (lR,7R)-exo-Brevicomin].** An ether solution of MeLi (1.6 M, 65 mL, 104 mmol) was added dropwise to a slurry of CUI (9.5 g, 50 mol) in 200 mL of *dry* ether under argon at 10° C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min, and then a solution of $(+)$ -8 $(8.0 g, 36 mmol)$ in 50 mL of HMPA was added. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 24 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was poured into cold saturated $NH₄Cl$ solution (350 mL). The ether layer was separated and the aqueous phase extracted with ether (2 **X** 150 mL). The combined ether extracts were washed with water (100 mL) and brine (100 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. Filtration and removal of the solvent by distillation at atmospheric pressure yielded crude (+)-brevicomin that was purified by distillation to yield 3.5 g (62%) of *(+)-9:* bp 60-62 "C (15 mmHg) [lit.4f bp 70 "C (20 mmHg)]; $[\alpha]^{27}D + 59.0 \pm 0.5^{\circ}$ (c 2.5, CHCl₃) (lit. $[\alpha]D + 84.1^{\circ}$,^{4a} + 52°,^{4b} + 70°,^{4d} + 81.5°^{4e}). The ¹NMR and mass spectra were identical with those published.18 GLC of (+)-exo-brevicomin used for rotation revealed >99% chemical purity. Determination of optical purity by Profeessor **F.** V. Schurig by complexation chromatography revealed 95% ee. The results of the optical purity determinations are to be reported elsewhere.

Preparation of $(1S,7S)$ -exo-Brevicomin $(-)$ -9). Reaction of lithium dimethylcuprate with $(-)$ -8 yielded $(-)$ -9: 69% yield; $-60.6 \pm 0.5^{\circ}$ (c 2.3, CHCl₃) (lit. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} -80.6^{\circ}$,^{4a} -67.5° ,^{4b} $-66°$

Acknowledgment. We thank the NSERC of Canada for continued support of this work through Operating Grant **A0851,** a Strategic Grant (open), and a Postgraduate Fellowship (B.D.J.), the Simon Fraser University and the province of British Columbia for assistance in the acquisition of the **400-MHz** NMR spectrometer, and J. H. Borden for biological advice and encouragement.

Registry **NO,** 1,57558-50-6; 2,74066-96-9; 3,26330-18-7; **(2)-4,** 83732-30-3; (Z)-6,51580-48-4; (+)-7, 83732-31-4; (-)-7,83780-99-8; **(+)-8,** 83732-32-5; **(-)-8,** 83781-00-4; **(+)-9,** 20290-99-7; **(-)-9,** 64313-75-3; acetylene, 74-86-2; formaldehyde, *50-00-0.*

(18) R. M. Silverstein, *J. Chem.* Educ., **45,** 794 (1968).

Anion and Trianion Radicals of Aryl-Substituted Cy clooctatetraenes

Antonio Alegria,* Noemi Diaz, Luis Echegoyen,* Ren6 Maldonado, and James Thompson Col6n

Departments of Chemistry, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico 00931, and University *of* Puerto Rico, Humacao, Puerto Rico 00661

Received May *21,* 1982

The chemistry of cyclooctatetraene (COT) and its derivatives has been the subject of extensive research for many years.' In particular, electronic distributions in substituted COT's have been the subject of much study. $2,3$ Phenylcyclooctatetraene (PCOT) has been shown to reduce to an anion radical where significant spin density occurs in the phenyl group.4 Other substituted PCOT's were found to follow a reasonable Hammett correlation when the phenyl substituent parameters were compared with the measured orbital splitting (ϵ) as determined by ESR spectroscopy. 5 When two ortho substituents were

⁽¹⁾ Fray, G. I.; Saxton, R. G. 'The Chemistry of Cyclooctatetraene and

Its Derivatives"; Cambridge University Press: New York, 1978.

(2) Gream, G. E.; Mular, M. Aust. J. Chem. 1975, 28, 2227.

(3) (a) Cope, A. C.; Van Orden, H. O. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1952, 74, 175.

(b) Cope, A. C.; Kinter, M. *SOC.* **1974,** 96, 5452.

incorporated into the phenyl moiety, the aromatic group was transformed from an electron-withdrawing group by resonance to an electron-donating substituent by induction due to steric interactions.⁵

The orbital splitting parameter (ϵ) is defined as the energy difference of the degenerate nonbonding π molecular orbitals of planar COT brought about as a result of the introduction of a substituent on the COT ring (see Scheme I).⁶ Since ϵ is defined as the energy difference between ψ n⁺ and ψ n⁻, it will have positive values for electron-releasing substituents⁶ and negative values for electron-withdrawing substituents. The situation depicted in Scheme I is that where the substituent, **R,** is electron withdrawing. In either situation (releasing or withdrawing) $\sqrt[n]{n^+}$ remains essentially unperturbed while $\sqrt[n]{n^+}$ is destabilized by electron-releasing substituents and stabilized by electron-withdrawing groups. ϵ can be easily determined from the experimental values of the EPR coupling constants of the corresponding COT anion radicals as described elsewhere.⁴

We have measured the enthalpy changes associated with electron transfer between COT- and neutral polyacenes in hexamethylphosphoramide $(HMPA)$ and found that ΔH is very close to zero when the polyacene is tetracene (eq **l).7** The largest enthalpy change measured for the ex-

$$
COT^{-} + \text{polyacene} \rightleftharpoons COT + \text{polyacene}^{-}.
$$
 (1)

change reaction was that with naphthalene, as expected, which had a value of 16 kcal/mol. These results correlated well with the electron affinities of the polyacenes. It was of interest to measure the spin density distribution in molecules which contained both the polyacene and COT directly bonded. Furthermore, we were interested in the possibility of generating trianion radicals of these new molecules.

Experimental Section

Instrumentation. NMR spectra were obtained at 90 MHz (hydrogen) on a JEOL FX-9OQ spectrometer. ESR spectra were recorded by using the **X** band of a Varian E-9 spectrometer equipped for variable temperature and having a dual cavity. Mass spectra were obtained with a Hewlett-Packard 5995-A system, using the direct ion probe option. The ionization potential was set at *70* eV, and the probe temperature was varied from 90 to 260 °C at a rate of 15 °C/min.

1-Cyclooctatetraenyl- (I) and 2-Cyclooctatetraenylnaphthalene (11). The general procedure described in ref 8 was followed but was slightly modified according to ref 9. Bromonaphthalene (8 g, 38.6 mmol), 1- or 2-substituted, in 75 mL of dry ether was added to 1 g of finely divided Li (145 mmol) in 50 mL of ether over a period of 0.5 h. The reaction mixture was then refluxed while being vigorously stirred for an additional hour. Quenching and titration of a 0.5-mL aliquot with standardized acid showed that the reaction was 80% complete. The solution was then removed from the excess Li by siphoning the mixture through a fritted glass filter into another round-bottomed flask kept under a nitrogen atmosphere. COT (2.0 g, 19.2 mmol) in 15 mL of dry ether was then added dropwise to the organolithium solution. The reaction mixture was then refluxed for 1 h. The reflux condenser was replaced by a distillation column and the solvent evaporated from the reaction mixture. The resulting sludge was heated for 3 h at 100 °C. The mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature, 50 mL of anhydrous ether added, and oxygen bubbled through. The mixture was then hydrolyzed with 20 mL of saturated ammonium chloride and extracted with three 10-mL portions of ether. The combined extracts were dried and rotoevaporated. The crude product was placed under high vacuum $(2 \mu m)$ at 40 °C to separate naphthalene by sublimation. Low-pressure liquid chromatography on silica gel with hexane as the eluent afforded 0.48 g of pure I (11% yield). Similarly, liquid chromatography afforded 0.32 g of pure I1 (7% yield). Both I and I1 are pale yellow viscous liquids. The major impurities found in the crude products were the naphthalene dimers. Mass spectral analysis of I and I1 showed parent and base peaks at *m/e* 230: ¹H NMR analysis (CDCl₃) of I δ 6.00 (br s, COT H's, relative intensity 7), 7.31-7.62 (m), 7.74-8.00 (m), 8.34-8.48 (m), relative intensity of all aromatic H's = 7; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) of II δ 5.93 (br s), 6.15 (br s), 6.36 (br s), 7.23-7.90 (m), with COT vs. aromatic H's in a ratio of 1:l.

9-Cyclooctatetraenylanthracene (111). A 0.5-g sample of Mg (20.6 mmol) was placed in a three-necked, round-bottomed flask together with 10 mL of dry ether, all under a dry nitrogen atmosphere.¹⁰ 9-Bromoanthracene (1.8 g, 7.0 mmol) in 15 mL of dry ether was then added to the flask. The reaction mixture was refluxed overnight, before the ether was distilled out. After the ether was distilled, 50 mL of dry benzene (previously dried over P_2O_5) was added, and the resulting solution was stirred and refluxed overnight. Li₂CuCl₄¹¹ (1.0 mL of a 0.1 M solution in THF) was added and the reaction mixture stirred for an additional hour. COTBr (1.9 g) was then added and the mixture stirred overnight. The reaction mixture was hydrolyzed with a saturated ammonium chloride solution, extracted with hexane, and rotoevaporated. The crude product was purified by low-pressure liquid chromatography on silica gel with hexane as the eluent. A 0.21-g sample of the pure compound was isolated as a crystalline yellow solid: mp 136-137 "C; 10.5% yield based on 9-bromoanthracene. Mass spectral analysis showed the parent peak at m/e (relative intensity) 280 (45) and the base peak at m/e 202 (100): ¹H NMR (CDCl,) *6* 6.0 (br d, 7 H), 7.42 (m), 7.91 (m), 8.37 (m), relative intensity of the combined aromatic signals 9 H's.

1-Cyclooctatetraenylnaphthalene-d₇ and 9-Cyclooctatetraenylanthracene-d₉. The perdeurated aromatic analogues of I and III, $I-d_7$ and III- d_9 , were prepared exactly as described in 1 and 2 above, respectively, starting with the correspondingly perdeuterated bromopolyacenes. (Perdeuteration refers exclusively to the aromatic moiety, not to the COT group.)

I- d_7 was obtained in 16% yield. Mass spectral analysis of I- d_7 showed a base peak at *mle* 159 and the parent peak at *m/e* 237 (68%). ¹H NMR analysis (CDCl₃) of I- d_7 gave δ 6.00 (br s).

III- d_9 was obtained in 27% yield. Mass spectral analysis showed a base peak at m/e 211 and the parent peak at m/e 289 (64%). ¹H NMR analysis (CDCl₃) of III-d₉ gave δ 6.00 (br d).

ESR Sample Preparation. All ESR samples were prepared and sealed under high-vacuum conditions (10^{-4} mm) in an all-glass apparatus as described elsewhere.¹² The solvent, hexamethylphosphoramide (HMPA), was twice distilled from potassium

⁽⁵⁾ Stevenson, *G.* **R.; Echegoyen,** L. **J.** *Phys. Chem.* **1975, 79, 929.**

⁽⁶⁾ Stevenson, G. R.; Forch, B. E. *J. Phys. Chem.* **1981,85, 378.**

⁽⁷⁾ Echegoyen, L.; **Vassos, A.; Stevenson,** *G.* **R., unpublished results.** (8) **Miller, J. T.;** De **Kock,** C. **W.; Brault, M. A. J.** *Org. Chem.* **1979, 44, 3508.**

⁽⁹⁾ Cope, A. C.; Kinter, M. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1951, 73, 3424.
(10) (a) Bachmann, W. E.; Kloetzel, M. C. *J. Org. Chem.* 1938, 3, 55. **(b) Walker, P.** *Ibid.* **1961, 26, 2994.**

⁽¹¹⁾ Tamura, D. M.; Kochi, J. **K.** *Synthesis* **1971, 303.**

⁽¹²⁾ Stevenson, G. R.; **Echegoyen, L.; Lizardi, L. R. J.** *Phys. Chem.* **1972, 76, 1439.**

Figure 1. (a) ESR spectrum of I reduced with sodium in HMPA. (b) ESR spectrum of $I-d_7$ reduced under conditions identical to those in a. Note the resolution enhancement obtained upon deuteration.

under vacuum, the last distillation directly into the reaction **flask.** Reductions were accomplished by reacting the 5×10^{-3} M solution of the compound in HMPA with either a potassium or sodium mirror formed by vacuum sublimation of the purified metal.

Results and Discussion

The spectrum of $I-$ in HMPA is poorly resolved, but clearly consists of eight broad groups of lines (Figure la). We attribute the large line widths to unresolved hyperfine splittings which arise from small spin densities in the naphthyl group. **A** well-resolved spectrum was obtained from $(I-d_7)^{-1}$. (Figure 1b). This spectrum is easily interpreted in terms of a pentet splitting of **3.55** G corresponding to four equivalent hydrogens and a smaller quartet splitting of 2.80 G corresponding to three equivalent hydrogens. The pentet splitting arises from spin localization in the \sqrt{n} orbital and the consequent coupling of the unpaired electron with the four equivalent, nonnodal hydrogens in ψ n⁻. As a consequence of thermal mixing there is some spin density in ψ n⁺ which gives rise to the quartet splitting when the unpaired electron couples with the three equivalent, nonnodal hydrogens in ψ n⁺. Since the unpaired spin occupies a π molecular orbital which has a larger contribution from ψ n⁻ than from ψ n⁺ (the lowest energy configuration has two paired spins in ψ n⁺ and one unpaired spin in ψ n⁻), the observed pentet has a larger coupling constant than the quartet. The larger the value of ϵ the larger the difference between these splittings. These arguments clearly show that the orbital energy diagram presented in the introduction corresponds to that observed for $I^{\text{-}}$ and $(I-d_7)^{\text{-}}$, thus confirming that naphthyl is acting **as** an electron withdrawing group relative to COT. These hyperfine constants can be used to determine the orbital splitting energy,^{4,5} ϵ (Table I). The ϵ value calculated from the coupling constants for α -naphthyl is -0.14 kcal/mol, a more positive value than that previously calculated for phenyl, -0.26 kcal/mol.⁵ This is in direct contradiction to the expected result on the basis of gas-

compd	substituent	$a_{\rm H}$, G	ϵ , kcal/ $mol-1$	polyacene gas phase E_a , eV
I	н	3.12 (nonet)	0	
Ī	phenyl	3.68 (pentet),	-0.26	0.052
I	α -naphthyl	2.38 (quartet) 3.55 (pentet),	-0.14	0.152
п	α -naphthyl	2.80 (quartet) 4.1 (pentet), 2.2 (quartet)	-0.4	0.152
ш	9-anthracenyl	3.50 (octet)	0.00	0.552
	للمنتقل			

Figure 2. ESR spectrum of II⁻ generated by sodium reduction in **hexamethylphosphoramide.** Although resolution is relatively poor, the spectrum can be easily analyzed (see text).

phase electron-affmity values13 (Table I). Naphthyl should be more electron withdrawing than phenyl, yet the opposite result is observed. The reason for this behavior is the consequence of steric interaction between the COT hydrogens and the peri hydrogen on the 8-position of the naphthyl group. This interaction leads to substantial inhibition to conjugation. This interaction is similar to that consequence or steric interaction between the COT hydrogens and the peri hydrogen on the 8-position of the naphthyl group. This interaction leads to substantial in-
hibition to conjugation. This interaction is similar to t Man phenyl, yet the oppotential phenyl, yet the oppotential phenyl, yet the oppotential phenyl, yet the oppotential in-
on for this behavior is the COT hy-
on the 8-position of the
in leads to substantial in-
eraction is s

In order to check this explanation, I1 was prepared and reduced similarly. The ESR spectrum observed upon formation of the anion radical is shown in Figure **2.** This spectrum can be interpreted in terms of a large pentet splitting of 4.1 G and a smaller quartet of *2.2* G. Note that the magnitude of the pentet is approximately twice that of the quartet, indicating that this group is clearly acting as a strong electron-withdrawing substituent $(\epsilon = -0.4$ kcal/mol, Table I). This value is more negative than that of either 1-naphthyl or phenyl, indicating more electron delocalization onto this group than the others. Since the steric interaction of **I1** is similar to that of PCOT, the measured ϵ values should correlate well with the electron affinities of these groups. The values of Table I clearly show that this is the case.

Neither I nor I1 showed ESR spectral changes upon temperature variation of the samples, nor upon further alkali metal reduction. The signals only decreased in intensity as more alkali metal was reacted, presumably the result of dianion formation. No evidence for trianion radical formation was observed.

Alkali metal reduction of **I11** in HMPA results in the observation of a well-resolved ESR spectrum (see Figure 3a). Surprisingly, this ESR spectrum is composed of eight

Figure 3. (a) ESR spectrum of III⁻ generated by sodium reduction in HMPA. Note that the spectral lines are well resolved **as** opposed to the spectra in Figures la and 2. (b) ESR spectrum of III- d_9 - generated by sodium reduction in HMPA. Although the line widths are somewhat smaller than those in 3a, the improvement is hardly comparable to that observed in Figure 1.

Figure 4. (a) ESR spectrum observed after further sodium reduction of the solution, giving rise to spectrum 3a. Although not fully interpreted, this spectrum has been assigned to 111, with most of the spin density residing in the anthracenyl moiety. (b) ESR spectrum observed after further sodium reduction of the solution, **giving rise** to **spectrum** 3b. The observation of this broad line is consistent with spin localization in the deuterated anthracenyl moiety. This spectrum is assigned to $(III-d₉)³⁻$.

equally spaced lines of relatively small line width, indicative of an **t** value very close to zero. No separate pentets or quartets were detected as in the previous cases. The spectrum is thus composed of one single splitting by seven equivalent hydrogens $(a = 3.50 \text{ G})$, indicating equal spin populations in ψ n⁺ and ψ n⁻. The obvious explanation for this observation falls in line with the steric effect argument already presented. In 111, two peri hydrogen interactions are present, thus twisting the substituent out of planarity with the COT, much more so than in I. In order to try to resolve splittings, III- d_9 was generated and its ESR spectrum recorded (Figure 3b). The resulting octet pattern is much sharper than that of III^- , with a peak to peak line width of 0.15 G, but no further splittings can be detected. Therefore, COT orbital splitting by anthracenyl has $\epsilon \approx$ 0 (ϵ < 0.15 G).

Interestingly, further alkali metal reduction of I11 and $III-d₉$ resulted in the observation of different ESR spectra (see Figures 4a and 4b, respectively). Spectrum a of Figure 4 contains many hyperfine coupling constants and, although not fully interpreted, suggests spin localization primarily in the polyacene moiety (162 theoretical spectral lines). This observation can be explained by invoking the formation of a trianion radical. Spectrum b of Figure 4 is consistent with the formation of a trianion radical of $III-d_9$, where most of the spin density resides on the aryl moiety. Unresolved splittings from the many deuterons result in a single, relatively broad signal.

Formation of these trianion radicals of III and $III-d_9$ is only possible if the dihedral angle between the two bonded moieties is very close to 90°. If this is the case, the unpaired electron density can reside in an orbital which is essentially orthogonal to the dianionic COT moiety.

Acknowledgment is made to the donors of the Petroleum Research Fund, administered by the American Chemical Society, the National Science Foundation (Grant CHE-79-15201), and the National Institutes of Health (Grant RR-8102-07). We gratefully acknowledge the National Science Foundation (Grant CHE-79-1462) for funds used to purchase the JEOL FX-9OQ NMR spectrometer.

Registry No. 1, 83463-20-1; I⁻, 83463-22-3; I-d₇, 83463-21-2; $III^-, 83463-28-9; III^3-, 83463-19-8; III-d_9, 83463-27-8; (III-d_9)^-,$ 83463-29-0; $(III-d_9)^{3-}$, 83476-29-3; COT, 629-20-9; 1-bromonaphthalene, 90-11-9; 2-bromonaphthalene, 580-13-2; 9-bromoanthracene, 1564-64-3; naphthalene- d_8 , 1146-65-2; anthracene- d_{10} , $(I-d_7)^{-}$, 83463-23-4; II, 83463-24-5; II⁻, 83463-25-6; III, 83463-26-7; 17 19-06-8.

Nitration of s -Triazolo[3,4-a Iphthalazine

Gary H. Birnberg,* Andrew S. Tomcufcik, and Jeffery B. Press

Cardiovascular-CNS Disease Research Section, American Cyanamid Company, Medical Research Division, Lederle Laboratories, Pearl River, New York *10965*

Received June **7,** 1982

During the course of preparation of several derivatives of **s-triazol[3,4-a]phthalazine (l),** we had need of the &nitro

