

Figure 3. Stereoscopic views of a unit cell of 5, with b axis horizontal and c axis vertical.

actually present. The spectrum of 5 is unfortunately insensitive to the four-bond couplings, since $J_{6,7}$ is sufficiently close in value to $J_{6,7'}$ that no lines other than those expected from an A_2B_2 spectrum were observed.¹¹

(11) Günther, H. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* 1972, 11, 861.

The aromatic proton peaks of 4 and 5 (see Experimental Section) are almost all upfield of those in the spectrum of dihydro 1,¹² which might have suggested that 4 and 5 are syn. Assignments on this basis were not considered safe in the absence of a good model for the anti dimers of 1; 3 is not a good model as the electronic situation and geometry around the nitrogen are so different. Compared to those of 5, the indole protons (on C1-C5) of 4 all absorb downfield and most of the other aromatic protons absorb upfield; this suggests that in solution, as in the crystals, the aromatic systems in each half of 4 are more nearly coplanar with one another than are the corresponding systems in 5.

Acknowledgment. We thank the Public Health Service (Grants MH 31184 and NS 14997) for financial support and the University of Arizona Computer Center for computer time.

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Reactions of 2,3-Dimethylenebutadiene Dianion with Electrophiles. Synthesis and Conformations of 2,3-Disubstituted-1,3-butadienes

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Received January 27, 1984

Reactions of 2,3-dimethylenebutadiene dianion 1 with monofunctional electrophiles were found to provide the best routes to symmetrically substituted 1,3-butadienes such as 2c-n. Evidence that at least some of these reactions go by single electron-transfer mechanisms is presented. Possible mechanisms for the formation of some unusual byproducts are discussed. Reactions of 1 with dichlorides and dibromides were found to provide the best routes to most 1,2-dimethylenecycloalkanes 3, the corresponding dimers 4 and trimers 5, and 1,1-dimethyl-3,4-dimethylene-1-metallacyclopentanes 26. From their UV spectra, the dienes 2 contain about 60% transoid conformations, except 2,3-dimethyl-1,3-butadiene (2a) which shows about 100% and 2,3-dineopentyl-1,3-butadiene (2h) which shows about 30%. 1,2-Dimethylenecycloalkanes 3 display cisoid conformations in rings smaller than 9-membered and transoid conformations in rings larger than 11. When the ring size exceeds 15, the homoallylic methylene groups on both sides are also anti coplanar. With rings larger than about 30, the next methylene group on each side is also anti coplanar, and when the ring size exceeds about 45, an additional methylene on each side is anti coplanar.

Dianion 1 (Chart I) has been prepared in 70-80% yield by metalating 2,3-dimethyl-1,3-butadiene (2a) as judged by the conversion of 1 to 2b with D_2O and to 2d with diethyl sulfate.² We report that symmetrical 2,3-disubstituted 1,3-butadienes like 2-5 can be synthesized in two-step, one-pot reactions. The mechanisms by which these reactions occur, the byproducts which were found, and the preferred conformations of dienes 2-5 are discussed below.

Reactions of Dianion 1 with Monofunctional Electrophiles

As can be seen from the first four entries in Table I, sulfates give higher yields than the corresponding halides; this is presumably because the sulfates go by an S_N2

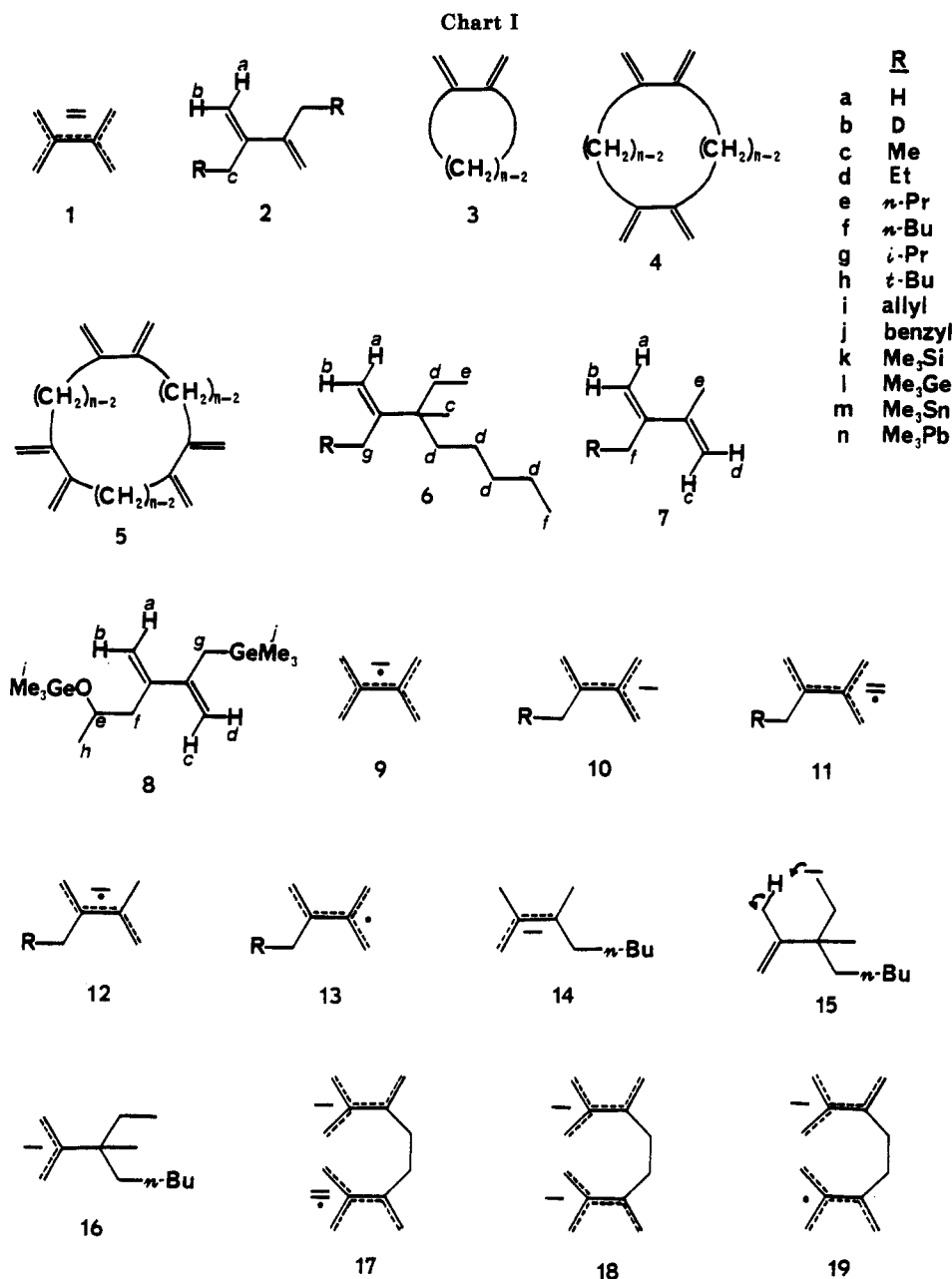
Table I. Yields of Products from Dianion 1 and Monofunctional Electrophiles

electrophile	products (yield from 2a)
MeI	2c (43)
Me ₂ SO ₄	2c (61)
EtBr	2d (43)
Et ₂ SO ₄	2d (71) ²
n-PrBr	2e (34)
n-BuBr	2f (30)
i-PrBr	2g (41); 6a (3); 7g (2)
t-BuBr	2h (15); 6a (12); 7h (15); 4, n = 4 (15)
t-BuI	2h (20); 6a (14); 7h (5); 4, n = 4 (16)
allyl chloride	2i (70); 6i (10)
PhCH ₂ Cl	2j (53); PhCH ₂ CH ₂ Ph (22)
PhCH ₂ Br	2j (21); PhCH ₂ CH ₂ Ph (30)
Me ₃ SiCl	2k (47)
Me ₃ GeBr	2l (54); 6l (5); 8 (4)
Me ₃ SnCl	2m (32); 6m (6)
Me ₃ PbCl	2n (30)

mechanism, whereas the halides go at least partly by single electron transfer (SET) which can lead to other than

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(2) Bahl, J. J.; Bates, R. B.; Gordon, B., III *J. Org. Chem.* 1979, 44, 2290.



substitution products.³ The yields with *n*-PrBr and *n*-BuBr were slightly lower than those with EtBr.

Isopropyl bromide reacted as well as the primary halides used. This reaction, like that of allyllithium with 2-bromooctane (which gave 100% inversion of configuration), probably goes largely by an S_N2 mechanism.⁴

tert-Butyl bromide and iodide reacted to give dialkylation product 2,3-dineopentyl-1,3-butadiene (**2h**), monoalkylation product **7h**, and oxidative dimer **4** (*n* = 4); *tert*-butyl chloride gave none of these. A few other carbanions have been *tert*-butylated successfully with *tert*-butyl bromide.⁵ S_N2 mechanisms are presumably ruled

out by steric considerations, as are S_N1 mechanisms (at least in the present case) since *tert*-butyl halides should not ionize appreciably under the conditions used (below 25 °C, nonpolar solvent); thus SET mechanisms are indicated. The finding of oxidative dimer **4** (*n* = 4) shows that some SET is occurring from dianion to *tert*-butyl bromide and iodide; the resulting *tert*-butyl halide anion radicals would decompose very rapidly to halide ions and *tert*-butyl radicals,⁴ which could couple with anion radical **9** to give **10h**,⁶ precursor of **2h** and **7h**, or perhaps combine, with the much more abundant dianion **1** to give **11h**,⁷ thereby initiating an S_{RN}1 generation of **10h**.⁸ The conversion of **10h** into **2h** involves as an intermediate either

(3) Primary alkyl iodides and bromides react with allyllithiums to give coupling products which show CIDNP effects, showing these products to result at least partly from SET mechanisms: Lawler, R. G. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1967, 89, 5519. Ward, H. R.; Lawler, R. G.; Cooper, R. A. *Ibid.* 1969, 91, 746. Lepley, A. R.; Landau, R. L. *Ibid.*, 1969, 91, 748.

(4) Guthrie, R. D. In Buncel, E.; Durst, D. "Comprehensive Carbanion Chemistry", New York: Elsevier, 1980 p 197.

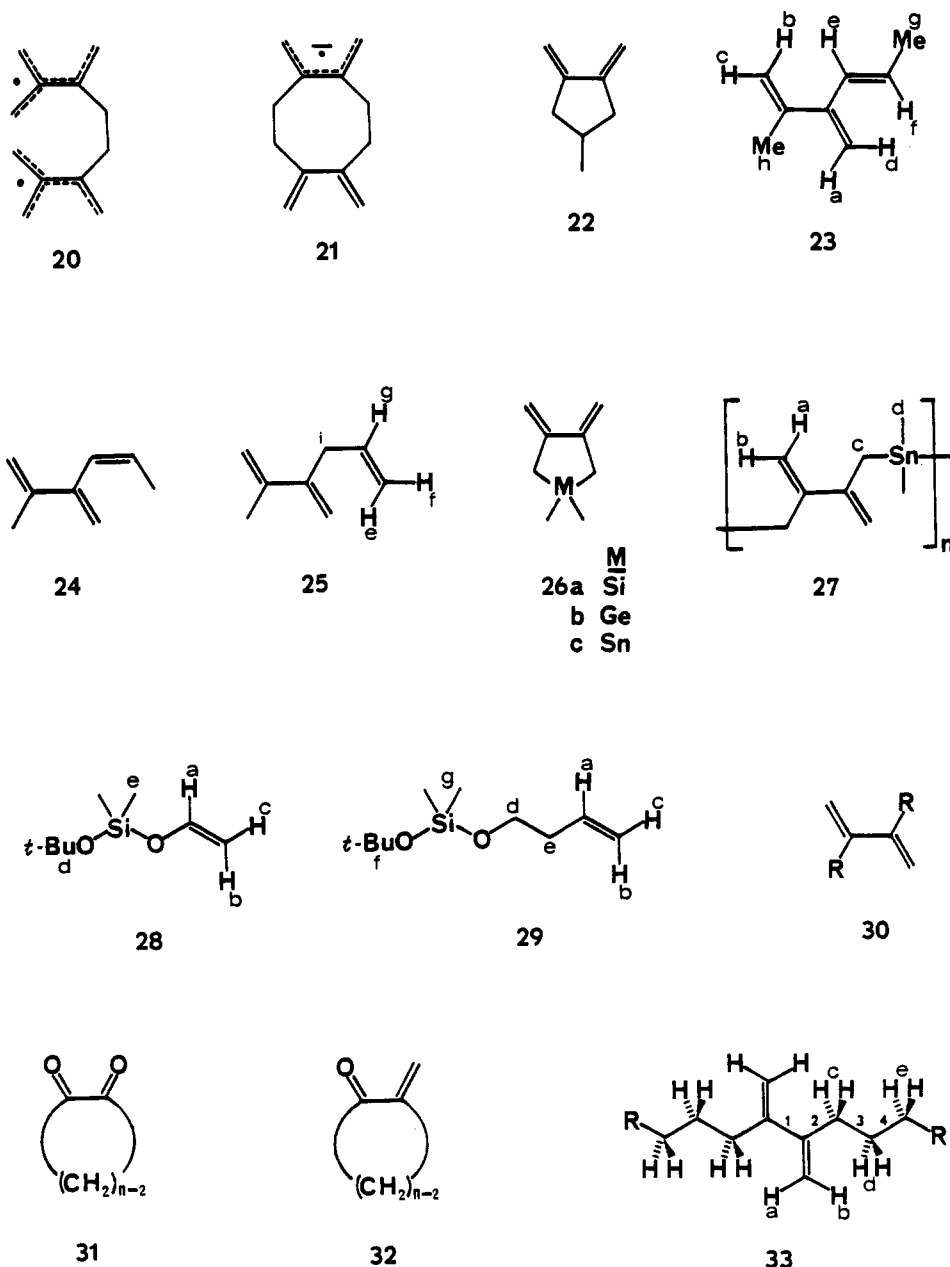
(5) (a) Cyclopentadienyl anion: Alder, K.; Ache, H. *J. Chem. Ber.* 1962, 95, 503. (b) Heteroatom-containing anions: Deuchert, K.; Herstenstein, U.; Hünig, S. *Synthesis* 1973, 777. Kristensen, L. H.; Lund, H. *Acta Chem. Scand. Ser. B* 1979, B33, 735. Ashe, A. J., III; Deiphouse, T. R.; El-Sheikh, M. Y. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1982, 104, 5693.

(6) 2-Vinylallyl anions, intermediates in several reactions,² have been recently prepared in high concentration (Ogle, C. A., private communication).

(7) Dianion radicals generated by addition of an electron to an anion (Bald, N. L.; Brown, M. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1967, 89, 5417) and by removal of an electron from a trianion (Bahl, J. J.; Bates, R. B.; Beavers, W. A.; Launder, C. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1977, 99, 6126) have been observed by ESR.

(8) Bunnett, J. F. *Acc. Chem. Res.* 1978, 11, 413. Alder, R. W. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* 1980, 1184.

Chart II



12h if the mechanism is $S_{RN}1$ or **13h** if it is radical-radical coupling. While we have no evidence to distinguish radical-radical couplings from $S_{RN}1$ paths, it should be noted that the latter should be more favorable in this case than in earlier cases involving less delocalized carbanions because this case involves a *diene* anion radical with resonance stabilization.

The coupling with allyl chloride to produce **2i** is virtually quantitative from dianion **1**.

Benzyl chloride gave much more dialkylation product **2j** than did benzyl bromide. The failure to find oxidative dimer **4** ($n = 4$) suggests that SET is not significant in these cases; we favor S_N2 , accompanied by some halogen-metal exchange⁹ to benzyl anion, which has a very high resonance energy.¹⁰ More benzyl anion is expected from the bromide;⁹ it can undergo S_N2 reactions with benzyl

halide to give bibenzyl or with an allylic halide to give **2j**.

Me_3SiCl , Me_3GeBr , Me_3SnCl , and Me_3PbCl all reacted in higher yield than Me_3CX , presumably by S_N2 -Si mechanisms.¹¹

Unexpected products **6a**, **6i**, **6l**, and **6m** were identified from the indicated reactions, and products of this type may have been present in the other reactions. We believe them to arise from initial *addition* of butyl anion to **2a**,² giving **14**, which adds to ethylene formed from cleavage of tetrahydrofuran (THF)¹² to give **15**. **15** undergoes intramolecular proton transfer to yield allyl anion **16**, which reacts with various electrophiles to give products **6**. An analogous radical pathway is also possible, but we favor the anion pathway depicted because there is precedent for an allyl anion with primary and tertiary end carbons reacting exclusively at the tertiary center.¹³

(9) Winkler, H. J. S.; Winkler, H. J. *Am. Chem. Soc.* **1966**, *88*, 964, 969.

(10) Benzyl anion has a calculated resonance energy per atom (REPA) of 0.092 (B. A. Hess, Jr., private communication). The REPA of **1** is 0.062 (Bates, R. B.; Hess, B. A., Jr.; Ogle, C. A.; Schaad, L. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1981**, *103*, 5052).

(11) Corriu, R. J. P.; Lanneau, G. F. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1974**, *67*, 243.

(12) Bates, R. B.; Kroposki, L. M.; Potter, D. E. *J. Org. Chem.* **1972**, *37*, 560.

Table II. Yields of Products from Dianion 1 and Dihalides

dihalide	products (yield from 2,3-dimethyl-1,3-butadiene ^a)
ClCH ₂ Cl	3, <i>n</i> = 5 (12)
BrCH ₂ Br ^b	3, <i>n</i> = 5 (5); 4, <i>n</i> = 4 (11)
Cl(CH ₂) ₂ Cl	3, <i>n</i> = 6 (19)
Br(CH ₂) ₂ Br	3, <i>n</i> = 6 (0); 4, <i>n</i> = 4 (0), 6a (12), 2f (7)
Br(CH ₂) ₃ Br	3, <i>n</i> = 7 (18); 4, <i>n</i> = 4 (1); 2i (6)
Br(CH ₂) ₄ Br	3, <i>n</i> = 8 (18); 6a (2)
Br(CH ₂) ₅ Br	3, <i>n</i> = 9 (15)
Br(CH ₂) ₆ Br ^b	3, <i>n</i> = 10 (20)
Br(CH ₂) ₇ Br ^b	3, <i>n</i> = 11 (2); 4, <i>n</i> = 11 (2)
Br(nCH ₂) ₈ Br ^b	3, <i>n</i> = 12 (2); 4, <i>n</i> = 12 (7); 5, <i>n</i> = 12 (3)
Br(CH ₂) ₉ Br ^b	3, <i>n</i> = 13 (4); 4, <i>n</i> = 13 (2); 5, <i>n</i> = 13 (1)
Br(CH ₂) ₁₀ Br ^b	3, <i>n</i> = 14 (5); 4, <i>n</i> = 14 (3); 5, <i>n</i> = 14 (1)
Br(CH ₂) ₁₂ Br ^b	3, <i>n</i> = 16 (8); 4, <i>n</i> = 16 (4); 5, <i>n</i> = 16 (2)
MeCHCl ₂	22 (6); 23 (7); 24 (1); 25 (2)
Me ₂ SiCl ₂	26a (30)
Me ₂ GeCl ₂	26b (32); 6a (3)
Me ₂ SnCl ₂	26c (30)

^a Products were separated by GC or LC; the yields given here were estimated by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture after a known amount of benzene or dichloromethane had been added. ^b Simultaneous addition was used in these cases and inverse addition in the other cases.

Oxidative dimer 4 (*n* = 4) is probably formed by SET pathways. Anion radical 9 can combine with dianion 1 to give 17 or dimerize to give 18; further oxidation gives 19, which may cyclize to 21 or oxidize further to 20 (Chart II) which then cyclizes to 1. Anion radical-anion radical coupling of 9 seems more likely for the first bond formation and S_{RN}1 coupling involving the sequence 18 → 19 → 21 → 4 (*n* = 4) appears better for the second bond formation.

Byproduct 8 may arise by the addition of 10l to the oxygen-bearing carbon of Me₃GeOCH=CH₂, formed from enolate ion from the cleavage of THF.¹²

Reactions of Dianion 1 with Dihalides

The yields of cyclic monomers 3 in Table II vary from 0% to 20%.¹⁴ From the first and third entries, dichlorides give substantially better yields than dibromides; presumably the yields of 3 (*n* = 7–14, 16) would also be higher if the dichlorides were used. The preparations of 3 (*n* = 5–14, 16) were all carried out at least twice, and the 2% yield reported for 3 (*n* = 12) represents the best of many efforts; this was the only example in which dimer 4 (*n* = 12) and even trimer 5 (*n* = 12) were obtained in greater yield than monomer 3 (*n* = 12). Dimers and trimers, which, except for 4 (*n* = 4),¹⁵ are new, were found when LC was used for isolation, and were probably formed but not detected in the cases where GC was used. The yield of cyclic monomer 3 drops dramatically when *n* reaches 11, is similarly low for *n* = 12, and slowly increases as ring size increases further through *n* = 16. Though our yields are low, the

(13) Seyferth, D.; Mammarella, R. E. *J. Organomet. Chem.* 1978, 156, 279.

(14) 1,2-Dimethylenecycloalkanes 3 have been prepared by a variety of methods, all involving numerous steps: (a) *n* = 3: Bloch, R.; LePechec, P.; Conia, J. M. *Angew. Chem.* 1970, 82, 810. (b) *n* = 4: Blomquist, A. T.; Verdol, J. A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1959, 84, 1257. Hoover, F.; Lindsay, R. *J. Org. Chem.* 1969, 34, 3051. (c) *n* = 4–6: Blomquist, A. T.; Verdol, J. A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1955, 77, 1806. Blomquist, A. T.; Wolinsky, J.; Meinwald, Y. C.; Longone, D. T. *Ibid.* 1956, 78, 6057. Blomquist, A. T.; Longone, D. T. *Ibid.* 1957, 79, 3916. (d) *n* = 6: Baldwin, J. E.; Chang, G. E. C. *J. Org. Chem.* 1982, 47, 848. (e) *n* = 6–8, 12: van Straten, J. W.; van Norden, J. J.; van Schalk, T. A. M.; Franke, G. T.; de Wolf, W. H.; Bickelhaupt, F. *Recl. Trav. Chim. Pays-Bas* 1978, 97, 105. (f) *n* = 12: Klein, E.; Thömel, F.; Roth, A.; Strume, H. *Liebigs Ann. Chem.* 1973, 11, 1797.

(15) 4 (*n* = 4) has been prepared in three steps from 3 (*n* = 4): Borden, W. T.; Sharpe, L.; Reich, I. L. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* 1970, 8, 461.

availability of starting materials and shortness of the procedure probably make this the method of choice for the preparation of 3 (*n* = 5–16) except for *n* = 6^{14d} and *n* = 12.^{14e,16}

Byproducts identified are also given in Table II. Oxidative dimer 4 (*n* = 4), a byproduct observed in the reaction of 1 with *tert*-butyl bromide, was formed in significant amounts only with BrCH₂Br. With Br(CH₂)₃Br, 2i, the product of 1 with allyl chloride, was obtained as a byproduct resulting from elimination. With MeCHCl₂, besides the desired product 22, elimination products 23–25 were observed; these probably result from concerted intramolecular eliminations from the monoanion intermediate, with five- and seven-membered ring transition states.

The desired heterocyclic products 26a–c were readily obtained from higher group IV dichlorides. The tin product 26c rapidly underwent spontaneous ring opening to homopolymer 27 after GC purification.

Byproduct 6a was observed in more than 3% yield only in the case of Br(CH₂)₂Br, which forms ethylene in addition to the ethylene formed by cleavage of THF.¹² An unexpected byproduct in the Br(CH₂)₂Br reaction was 2f.

When 30% excess KO-*t*-Bu was used in the reaction with Me₂SiCl₂, 28 (25%) and 29 (4%) were formed and the yield of 26a dropped to 22%. 28 and 29 arise from α- and β-cleavage products of THF,¹² respectively.

Conformations of 2,3-Disubstituted-1,3-butadienes

From their UV and NMR parameters (Table III), dienes 2 all have largely transoid conformations except for 2h, whose diene system is significantly twisted. All of the compounds in Table III have λ_{max} values of about 228 nm except 2k–m, whose heteroatoms cause bathochromic shifts, and 30h, which does not attain a *transoid* conformation for steric reasons. The ε_{max} of 21 900 of 2a indicates it to be *transoid* almost all of the time.¹⁹ The ε_{max} values of 2c–d, g of ~12 500 show roughly 60% *transoid* conformations. 2h, with neopentyl groups, has ε_{max} 6500, which suggests it to be *transoid* only about 30% of the time; it either does not easily attain a *cisoid* conformation or reaches a sterically hindered one, since it did not make a maleic anhydride adduct under conditions where 7h and 4 (*n* = 4) did. 30g and 30h, which have even more difficulty reaching the planar diene conformations, are included in Table III for comparison purposes. The heteroatom-containing compounds 2k–n with their long heteroatom to carbon bonds should not be as sterically hindered as 2h and thus should have higher percentages of *transoid* conformations, as indicated by their large extinction coefficients.

Of the NMR parameters, δH_a and δH_b are the most revealing. Their values are essentially constant for all structures 2 with R = *n*-alkyl groups larger than methyl. 2g, with isobutyl groups, has values only slightly different from the *n*-alkyl compounds, but the parameters of the neopentyl compound 2h differ greatly in the direction of those of the grossly twisted *tert*-butyl compound 30h: δH_a goes downfield and δH_b goes upfield. δH_b values for the

(16) Cyclododecanone, the starting material for Bickelhaupt's preparation of 3 (*n* = 12),^{14e} is readily available and gave the highest yield of the cyclic ketones used.

(17) DeGroot, A.; Evenhuis, B.; Wynberg, H. *J. Org. Chem.* 1968, 33, 2214.

(18) Wynberg, H.; DeGroot, A.; Davies, D. W. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1963, 17, 1083.

(19) Dienes constrained to *transoid* conformations by ring systems have ε_{max} ~20 000 (Silverstein, R. M.; Bassler, G. C.; Morrill, T. C. "Spectroscopic Identification of Organic Compounds", 4th ed.; New York: Wiley 1981; p 313.

Table III. UV and NMR Parameters for 2a, 2c-h, 2k-n, 30g, and 30h

	λ_{\max} , nm	ϵ_{\max}	δH_a	δH_b	δH_c	δH_d	δH_e	others	J_{ab} , Hz	J_{cd}	others
2a	228	21 900	5.05	4.96	1.91				1.0		
2c	228	12 800	5.07	4.94	2.27	1.07			1.0	7.4	
2d	228	12 600	5.05	4.90	2.21	1.46	0.90		1.0	7.2	$J_{de} = 7.3$
2e	229	12 000	5.05	4.91	2.23	1.43	1.33	$\delta H_f = 0.91$	1.1	7.3	$J_{ef} = 7.2$
2f			5.04	4.91	2.22	1.44	1.30	$\delta H_f = 1.29, \delta H_g = 0.89$	0.9	7.5	$J_{fg} = 6.8$
2g	231	11 700	5.04	4.86	2.09	1.74	0.86		0.9	6.7	$J_{ac} = 0.5, J_{de} = 6.6$
2h	228	6500	5.14	4.73	2.15		0.89		2.6		
2k	240	11 700	4.91	4.72	1.74		-0.01		1.1		
2l	241	13 800	4.85	4.74	1.88		0.12		1.0		
2m	247	12 700	4.75	4.75	1.95		0.05				a
2n			4.71	4.71	2.48		0.72				
30g ¹⁷	223	6180	4.91	4.82	2.37	1.05			1.2	6.0	
30h ¹⁸	185	6165	5.1	4.7		1.1			1.5		

^a $J_{117\text{Sn-H}_e} = 52.9, J_{119\text{Sn-H}_e} = 51.2, J_{117,119\text{Sn-H}_c} = 63.5, J_{117,119\text{Sn-H}_{ab}} = 19.0$ Hz.

Table IV. UV Data for 3 ($n = 3-10, 12$), 4 ($n = 4, 14$), 26b, and 2e

compd	λ_{\max} , nm	ϵ_{\max}	solvent	ref
3, $n = 3$	232	11 000	hexane	14a
3, $n = 4$	248	10 100	EtOH	22
3, $n = 5$	248	10 500	isooctane	14c
3, $n = 6$	220	5500	hexane	14c
	220	6400	EtOH	22
	220	6375	95% EtOH	23
3, $n = 7$	235	5800	EtOH	this work
3, $n = 8$	229	3700	hexane	14e
	233	5800	EtOH	this work
3, $n = 9$	225	7400	EtOH	this work
3, $n = 10$	233	6950	EtOH	this work
3, $n = 12$	230	7100	hexane	14e
4, $n = 4$	228	5000 ^a	hexane	15
4, $n = 14$	228	12 000 ^a	hexane	this work
26b	227	6400	hexane	this work
2e	228	12 000	hexane	this work

^a Per diene moiety.

series 2h,k-n remain essentially constant, whereas δH_a values for this series decrease unimformly; these trends probably result from a combination of inductive and through-space effects.

The preferred conformations of 1,2-cycloalkanediones 31²⁰ and 2-methylenecycloalkanones 32²¹ have been studied as a function of ring size by using dipole moments. Diketones 31 are approximately cisoid up to $n = 8$ and approximately transoid with $n \geq 11$, with $n = 9$ and 10 having intermediate conformations. Enones 32 are approximately cisoid up to $n = 9$ and approximately transoid with $n \geq 12$; $n = 10$ was intermediate and $n = 11$ was not studied. The conformations of 1,2-dimethylenecycloalkanes 3 had not been systematically studied, though from UV and NMR data Bickelhaupt noted that the conformation of 3 ($n = 12$) was different from that of 3 ($n = 6-8$).^{14e}

Table IV gives UV data for many 1,2-dimethylenecycloalkanes 3 and related compounds from the literature and from this work. 3 ($n = 3$) is probably very nearly coplanar cisoid, but the opening of the $\text{CH}_2=\text{CC}$ angles from 120° to about 150° makes it abnormal; similar opening of the corresponding angles in 3 ($n = 4$) to about 135° presumably lowers its λ_{\max} as well. 3 ($n = 4, 5$) have the highest λ_{\max} of the cisoid types; the $\text{CH}_2=\text{CC}$ angles are closer to 120° in the latter, but it is probably more twisted about the central diene bond. 3 ($n = 6$) is believed,

based on its low λ_{\max} and low ϵ_{\max} and its ^{13}C NMR parameters, to exist in a chair conformation with the central diene bond twisted about 55° from planar cisoid.²⁴ 26b, with a germanium atom incorporated into a five-membered ring, has a ring size intermediate between 3 ($n = 5$) and 3 ($n = 6$) and intermediate values of λ_{\max} and ϵ_{\max} as well. The λ_{\max} values of 3 ($n = 7, 8$) indicate them to be less twisted than 3 ($n = 6$). The λ_{\max} values of the medium-sized ring compounds 3 ($n = 9, 10, 12$) are not far from the 228 nm observed for acyclic model 2e and 28-membered ring dimer 4 ($n = 14$), but the extinction coefficients of these medium-sized ring compounds are significantly lower, indicating that they do not spend as much time in planar transoid conformations. Eight-membered ring dimer 4 ($n = 4$) is similar to twisted cisoid monomers 3 ($n = 6-8$) in its UV absorption.

The ^1H NMR spectra of these compounds (Table V) were more informative regarding their conformations, especially for the larger ring sizes. The smaller ring compounds 3 ($n = 3-10$) show considerable variation in many of the NMR parameters as a function of ring size; in the cases of 3 ($n = 3, 4$ and perhaps 5) this is partly due to opening of the $\text{CH}_2=\text{CC}$ angle. In view of the smooth trends in δH_a and δH_b for the series 26a-c, we have reversed the δH_a and δH_b values for 3 ($n = 6$) from the previously assigned values of δ 4.55 and 4.83, respectively,²¹ to those in Table V. 26a-c, with heteroatoms in the five-membered ring, can be considered to provide intermediate geometries between that of 3 ($n = 5$) and 3 ($n = 6$); δH_a and δH_b are strikingly similar for 3 ($n = 6$) and the tin compound 26c, suggesting similar geometries for the diene systems in these compounds.

Since examination of molecular models rules out transoid conformations for 3 ($n = 7, 8$), these evidently have twisted cisoid conformations. The large change in δH_a and δH_b in going to 3 ($n = 9$) indicates a conformational change at this point, but a smooth trend of all of the NMR parameters to the clearly transoid values of the large rings is not observed until 3 ($n = 13$).

As the ring size increases, an exact match of all NMR parameters with the values of acyclic model 2e is not reached until 5 ($n = 16$) with its 48-membered ring. This can be attributed to the requirement that the ring must be large enough to readily accommodate a segment 33, rotated as shown about bonds 1-4, i.e., with 10 coplanar carbons in an extended chain. A study of space-filling models suggests that a 22-membered ring can adopt such

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(21) Mühlstadt, W.; Zach, L.; Beowar-Reinhardt, H. *J. Prakt. Chem.* 1965, 29, 158.

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Table V. ¹H NMR Data for 3 (*n* = 3-14, 16), 4 (*n* = 4, 11-14, 16), 5 (*n* = 12-14, 16), 26a-c, and 2e

compd	ring size	δH _a ^a	δH _b	δH _c	δH _d	other δH	J _{ab} ^b	"J _{cd} " ^c	other J's	
3, <i>n</i> = 3 ^{1a}	3	5.50	5.27	1.56			0.9		J _{ac} = 2.6, J _{bc} = 1.7	
	4	5.15	4.71	2.63			0			
	5	5.35	4.89	2.43	1.67		0	7.2	J _{ac} = J _{bc} = 2.1	
	6	4.92	4.63	2.25	1.62		2.6	~5.7	J _{ac} = 1.3, J _{bc} = 1.1	
	7	5.14	4.71	2.33	1.59	1.57	2.6	~3.5	J _{bc} = 1.1	
	8	5.09	4.76	2.32	1.59	1.57	2.4	5.5	J _{bc} = 0.7	
	9	4.95	4.95	2.30	1.52	H _e = 1.44, H _f = 1.34	0	6.6	J _{bc} = 0.7	
	10	5.10	4.91	2.49	1.66	H _e = 1.45, H _f = 1.36	1.5	6.1	J _{ab'} = 0.9	
	11	5.07	5.01	2.35	1.57	1.22-1.31	0.9	5.9		
	12	5.08	4.98	2.36	1.38	1.23-1.34	1.1	5.6	J _{ab'} = 1.1	
	13	5.12	4.96	2.33	1.43	~1.28	1.0	6.2	J _{ab'} = 1.0	
	14	5.09	4.95	2.35	1.44	1.20-1.31	1.1	6.3	J _{ab'} = 1.1	
	16	5.03	4.93	2.29	1.44	~1.26	1.0	6.9		
	4, <i>n</i> = 4	8	4.89	4.81	2.39			2.2		
		11	5.02	4.93	2.29	1.40	1.21-1.31	1.0	7.0	
		12	5.01	4.91	2.27	1.40	H _e = 1.27, H _{fg} = 1.21	1.0	6.8	J _{ab'} = 1.0
13		5.02	4.92	2.27	1.41	~1.23		7.0		
14		5.02	4.91	2.26	1.41	~1.24	1.3	6.8	J _{ab'} = 1.3	
16		5.01	4.89	2.23	1.42	~1.23		7.2		
5, <i>n</i> = 12	36	5.03	4.90	2.23	1.41	~1.26		7.3		
	13	5.04	4.90	2.23	1.42	~1.26		7.3		
	14	5.04	4.90	2.23	1.42	~1.26		7.3		
	16	5.04	4.91	2.22	1.44	~1.26		7.3		
26a	5	5.21	4.73	1.61		0.14	1.8	J _{ac} = 1.8, J _{bc} = 1.6		
26b	5	5.12	4.70	1.74		0.32	2.1	J _{ac} = 1.8, J _{bc} = 1.8		
26c	5	4.90	4.63	1.80		0.30	1.6	J _{ac} = 1.3, J _{bc} = 1.9		
2e	∞	5.05	4.91	2.23	1.43	H _e = 1.33, H _f = 0.91	1.1	7.3	J _{ab'} = 1.1, J _{ef} = 7.2	

^aSee structure 33 for letter designations. ^bCoupling constants are in hertz. ^cThese values were estimated from the approximate triplets observed for H_c.

a conformation, but the NMR evidence indicates that a much larger ring is necessary before such a conformation predominates to the extent that it does in acyclics.

δH_d is the only parameter which changes between the 32-membered ring dimer 4 (*n* = 16) and the acyclic model 2e. Two further parameters, δH_c and J_{cd}, change noticeably between the 28- and 32-membered rings, indicating significant deviation from the acyclic model involving rotation about bond 3 in 33. Thus at a ring size of about 30, an extended chain two shorter than 33, with 8 coplanar carbons, remains intact.

From the 16-membered ring monomer 3 (*n* = 16) to larger ring sizes, little change occurs in δH_a, δH_b, and δH_c, suggesting that the conformations involving rotation about bonds 1 and 2 in 33 are similar to acyclic model 2e, i.e., the intact extended chain now consists of six carbons.

Examination of molecular models indicates that these 6-carbon extended chains are unlikely to be maintained in rings smaller than 16, and the much larger changes in δH_a and δH_c which occur in 3 as *n* decreases from 16 to 12 suggest that this is the case. In 3 (*n* = 12-14) the extended chain is now down to four carbons, i.e., rotation about bond 2 but not bond 1 in 33 is occurring.

Compounds 3 (*n* = 9-11) have widely varying NMR parameters indicating conformational differences. δH_d may be the best NMR parameter for distinguishing *transoid* from *cisoid* conformations: All of the compounds with *n* ≤ 11 have δH_d ≥ 1.52, and all with *n* ≥ 12 have δH_d ≤ 1.44. This parameter rules out appreciable amounts of *transoid* conformations for 3 (*n* ≤ 11); 3 (*n* = 9-11) thus apparently have twisted *cisoid* conformations. 3 (*n* = 9) from its low λ_{max} as mentioned above is twisted more than most of the other compounds in the series but less than 3 (*n* = 6); these UV results correlate well with these two compounds having by far the smallest values of δH_a. 3 (*n* = 10) for some reason has unusually high values for δH_c and δH_d.

In conclusion, the conformational preferences of the 1,2-dimethylenecycloalkanes 3-5 about bond 1 on 33 as a

function of ring size as determined by UV and ¹H NMR are similar to those determined for 1,2-cycloalkanediones 31 by dipole moment studies:²⁰ *cisoid* in rings smaller than 9-membered, and *transoid* in rings larger than 11. In addition, ¹H NMR evidence indicates that as the ring size increases to 16, 30, and 45, rotational preferences about bonds 2, 3, and 4, respectively, in 3-5 become within experimental error of those in acyclic model 2e.

Experimental Section

NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ on a Bruker WM-250 spectrometer. Mass spectra were run on a Finnigan 3300 Quadrupole GC/MS equipped with a column packed with 3% OV-17 on Chromosorb W-HP. UV spectra were measured on hexane solutions with a Varian Cary 219 spectrometer. Elemental analyses were performed by Atlantic Microlab Inc., Atlanta, or the University Analytical Center, Tucson. Melting points are uncorrected. GC was done on an Aerograph Model 700 using a column packed with 10% SE-30 on Chromosorb W-HP. For LC, a column peaked with LiChroprep Si60 was used with pentane as the solvent. THF was freshly distilled from Na/benzophenone. Pentane was washed with sulfuric acid and distilled from NaOH. Anion preparations and reactions were carried out under argon in oven-dried glassware. Anion transfers were done via syringe or cannula.

Dianion 1 was prepared as previously described² except that LiO-*t*-Bu was removed by filtration and washing several times with pentane.

Reactions of 1 with monofunctional electrophiles were carried out by dropwise addition of a suspension of 1 prepared from 15 mmol of 2a in 60 mL of THF at 0 °C to a stirred solution of electrophile (10% excess) in 200 mL of THF at 0 °C over 30 min. After warming to 25 °C, 100 mL of pentane was added and the solution was washed 5-10 times with water (or initially with NaCl or NaI solutions if emulsions formed) to remove salts and THF, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and evaporated. Product yields were estimated from the NMR spectrum of the residue with the aid of an internal standard of C₆H₆, CH₂Cl₂, or dioxane. Volatile products were isolated and purified by GC after preliminary bulb-to-bulb distillation. Nonvolatile products were isolated and purified by LC.

2c,²⁵ **2d**,² **2e**,²⁶ **2k**,²⁷ and **4** ($n = 4$)¹⁵ have been prepared previously. UV and NMR parameters of **2a**, **2c-h**, **2k-n**, **30g**, and **30h** are given in Table III. Mass spectra consistent with the assigned structures were obtained on all new compounds.²⁸ All of the new compounds were liquids at 25 °C. Other properties of the new compounds are listed below.

2f. Anal. Calcd for $C_{14}H_{26}$: C, 86.52; H, 13.48. Found: C, 86.54; H, 13.46.

2g. Anal. Calcd for $C_{12}H_{22}$: C, 86.7; H, 13.3. Found: C, 86.8; H, 13.2.

2h.²⁹ Anal. Calcd for $C_{14}H_{26}$: C, 86.52; H, 13.48. Found: C, 86.44; H, 13.49.

2i. 1H NMR $\delta H_a = 5.09$, $H_b = 4.95$, $H_c = 2.34$, $H_d = 2.21$, $H_e = 5.83$, $H_f = 5.02$, $H_g = 4.96$; $J_{ab} = 0.7$, $J_{cd} = 7.7$, $J_{de} = 6.5$, $J_{df} = 1.6$, $J_{ef} = 1.2$, $J_{fg} = 10.3$, $J_{gh} = 17.3$ $J_{fr} = 2.0$ Hz. Anal. Calcd for $C_{12}H_{18}$: C, 88.82; H, 11.18. Found: C, 88.79; H, 11.20.

2j: 1H NMR $\delta H_a = 5.16$, $H_b = 4.99$, $H_c = 2.78$, $H_d = 2.56$, $H_{aryl} = 7.18-7.34$; $J_{cd} = 8.0$ Hz.

2l. Anal. Calcd for $C_{12}H_{26}Ge_2$: C, 45.68; H, 8.31. Found: C, 45.76; H, 8.35.

2m: mp -9 to -7 °C. Anal. Calcd for $C_{12}H_{26}Sn_2$: C, 35.35; H, 6.43. Found: C, 35.53; H, 6.45.

6a: 1H NMR $\delta H_a = 4.63$, $H_b = 4.81$, $H_c = 0.95$, $H_d = 1.18-1.31$, $H_e = 0.71$, $H_f = 0.87$, $H_g = 1.63$; $J_{ab} = 0.9$, $J_{ag} = 0.6$, $J_{bg} = 1.6$, $J_{de} = 6.9$, $J_{df} = 7.5$ Hz.

6i: 1H NMR $\delta H_a = 4.79$, $H_b = 4.88$, $H_c = 0.96$, $H_d = 1.11-1.50$, $H_e = 0.70$, $H_f = 0.87$, $H_g = 1.97$, $H_h = 2.22$, $H_i = 5.87$, $H_j = 4.96$, $H_k = 4.99$; $J_{ab} = 0.7$, $J_{bg} = 1.3$, $J_{de} = 6.9$, $J_{df} = 7.0$, $J_{gh} = 7.5$, $J_{hi} = 6.5$, $J_{hj} = 1.1$, $J_{ij} = 1.6$, $J_{jk} = 10.1$, $J_{jl} = 17.2$, $J_{jm} = 2.0$ Hz.

6l: 1H NMR $\delta H_a = H_b = 4.64$, $H_c = 0.91$, $H_d = 1.14-1.34$, $H_e = 0.69$, $H_f = 0.85$, $H_g = 1.54$, $H_h = 0.15$; $J_{de} = 6.9$, $J_{df} = 7.5$ Hz.

6m: 1H NMR $\delta H_a = H_b = 4.57$, $H_c = 0.92$, $H_d = 1.12-1.38$, $H_e = 0.70$, $H_f = 0.85$, $H_g = 1.67$, $H_h = 0.08$; $J_{de} = 6.8$, $J_{df} = 7.5$, $J_{lm} = 53.0$, $J_{ln} = 51.2$, $J_{mn} = 70.0$, $J_{lmn} = 20.0$ Hz.

7g: 1H NMR $\delta H_a = 5.09$, $H_b = 4.90$, $H_c = 5.04$, $H_d = 4.96$, $H_e = 1.90$, $H_f = 2.13$, $H_g = 1.78$, $H_h = 0.87$, $J_{fg} = 6.8$, $J_{gh} = 6.6$ Hz.

7h: 1H NMR $\delta H_a = 5.19$, $H_b = 4.85$, $H_c = 5.08$, $H_d = 4.94$, $H_e = 1.91$, $H_f = 2.21$, $H_h = 0.89$.

8: 1H NMR $\delta H_a = 5.12$, $H_b = 5.01$, $H_c = 4.94$, $H_d = 4.78$, $H_e = 3.86$, $H_f = 2.57$, $H_g = 2.21$, $H_h = 1.88$, $H_i = 1.60$, $H_j = 0.16$, $H_k = 0.11$; $J_{ef} = 2.9$, $J_{fr} = 9.2$, $J_{fr} = 13.8$ Hz.

Reactions of Danion 1 with Dihalides. Inverse addition or simultaneous addition of dianion to dihalide was used; where both methods were tried, simultaneous addition gave equal or better yields of the desired products. A simultaneous addition procedure follows.

A suspension of dianion **1** (17.7 mmol) in THF (60 mL) was added dropwise via syringe or cannula to stirring THF (200 mL) while dihalide (17.7 mmol) in THF (50 mL) was added simultaneously at 0 °C via an addition funnel over about 40 min. The best results were obtained when addition of dihalide was slightly ahead (mixture yellow rather than orange). The mixture was allowed to warm to 25 °C with stirring, pentane (200 mL) was added, and the mixture was extracted with 2 × 350 mL of 1 M NaCl (or NaI, in cases of severe emulsions) to remove salts and THF. After filtering over Celite to remove polymers, the pentane solution was washed with 6 × 350 mL of water to remove further THF. After drying ($MgSO_4$), filtering, and evaporating, the residue was separated by LC ($n = 11-16$) or by evaporative distillation followed by GC.

3, **4**, and **5** for each value of $n > 6$ were cleanly separated from one another by LC. All of the monomers **3** ($n > 6$) had virtually the same LC retention time. The dimers **4** had the same (longer) retention time as one another; the same was true for trimers **5**.

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(28) Our extensive MS studies on 2,3-disubstituted-1,3-butadienes will be reported elsewhere.

(29) **2h** has the same GC retention time as **4** ($n = 4$), but distillation of the mixture from maleic anhydride cleanly removed **4** ($n = 4$).

Dimers **4** ($n = 12, 14, 16$) were all solids with mp 60-61 °C, and all of the other compounds were liquids. UV and 1H NMR data for **3-5**, **26**, and **2e** are given in Tables IV and V, respectively.^{28,30}

4-Methyl-1,2-dimethylenecyclopentane (22) was purified by GC: 1H NMR δ 5.34 (2 H, s, H_a), 4.86 (2 H, s, H_b), ~2.04 (4 H, m, H_c), 1.06 (1 H, m, H_d), 0.99 (3 H, d, $J = 5.9$ Hz, H_e); MS, calcd for C_8H_{12} 108, found 108. **23-25** occurred together in a later GC fraction but could be identified by their 1H NMR spectra. **(E)-4-Methylene-5-methyl-2,5-hexadiene (23)**: $\delta H_a = 5.04$, $H_b = 5.02$, $H_c = 4.99$, $H_d = 4.96$, $H_e = 6.14$, $H_f = 5.82$, $H_g = 1.78$, $H_h = 1.91$, $J_{ef} = 15.4$, $J_{eg} = 1.6$, $J_{fg} = 6.6$ Hz. *Z* isomer **24**: $\delta H_g = 1.70$, $H_h = 1.94$,³¹ $J_{eg} = 1.8$, $J_{fg} = 6.9$ Hz. **2-Methyl-3-methylene-1,5-hexadiene (25)**: $\delta H_a = 5.15$, $H_b = 5.10$, $H_c = H_d = 5.00$, $H_e = 5.07$, $H_f = 5.05$, $H_g = 5.90$, $H_h = 1.92$, $H_i = 3.03$, $J_{ad} = 0.5$, $J_{ai} = 1.3$, $J_{eg} = 17.3$, $J_{fg} = 10.4$, $J_{gi} = 6.6$ Hz; MS for mixture of **23-25**, calcd for C_8H_{12} 108, found 108.

1,1-Dimethyl-3,4-dimethylene-1-silacyclopentane (26a) after GC had MS: calcd for $C_8H_{14}Si$ 138, found 138.

Anal. Calcd for $C_8H_{14}Si$: C, 69.49; H, 10.20. Found: C, 69.26; H, 10.21.

1,1-Dimethyl-3,4-dimethylene-1-germacyclopentane (26b) purified by GC had MS, calcd for $C_8H_{14}Ge$ 184, found 184.

Anal. Calcd for $C_8H_{14}Ge$: C, 52.57; H, 7.72. Found: C, 52.72; H, 7.74.

1,1-Dimethyl-3,4-dimethylene-1-stannacyclopentane (26c) decomposed to polymer **27** slowly before GC and rapidly after GC. **26c** and **27**, a white solid, were characterized by 1H NMR, the latter by its close similarity to the spectrum of **2m**. **27**: 1H NMR $\delta H_a = H_b = 4.75$, $H_c = 1.96$, $H_d = 0.02$.

(tert-Butoxydimethylsiloxy)ethene (28) was separated from **26a** and **29** by GC: 1H NMR $\delta H_a = 6.45$, $H_b = 4.46$, $H_c = 4.14$, $H_d = 1.28$, $H_e = 0.18$, $J_{ab} = 13.6$, $J_{ac} = 5.9$, $J_{bc} = 0.7$ Hz; MS, calcd for $C_8H_{16}O_2Si$ 174, found 174. **4-(tert-Butoxydimethylsiloxy)-1-butene (29)**: 1H NMR $\delta H_a = 5.81$, $H_b = 5.06$, $H_c = 5.01$, $H_d = 3.69$, $H_e = 2.30$, $H_f = 1.27$, $H_g = 0.10$, $J_{ab} = 17.5$, $J_{ac} = 9.6$, $J_{ae} = 6.9$, $J_{bc} = 1.3$, $J_{be} = 1.5$, $J_{ce} = 1.1$, $J_{de} = 6.9$ Hz.

Acknowledgment. We thank Richard N. Burch and Beth A. Paape for running UV spectra and the National Science Foundation for financial support (CHE-8015306 and CHE-8306126).

Registry No. **1**, 69780-62-7; **2a**, 513-81-5; **2b**, 52221-66-6; **2c**, 16356-05-1; **2d**, 16356-06-2; **2e**, 5731-93-1; **2f**, 84652-75-5; **2g**, 90822-62-1; **2h**, 90822-63-2; **2i**, 90822-64-3; **2j**, 90822-65-4; **2k**, 82167-48-4; **2l**, 90822-66-5; **2m**, 90837-92-6; **2n**, 90822-67-6; **3** ($n = 5$), 20968-70-1; **3** ($n = 6$), 2819-48-9; **3** ($n = 7$), 58738-52-6; **3** ($n = 8$), 64306-16-7; **3** ($n = 9$), 90822-68-7; **3** ($n = 10$), 90822-69-8; **3** ($n = 11$), 90822-70-1; **3** ($n = 12$), 41613-91-6; **3** ($n = 13$), 90822-71-2; **3** ($n = 14$), 90822-72-3; **3** ($n = 16$), 90822-73-4; **4** ($n = 4$), 27567-69-7; **4** ($n = 11$), 90822-74-5; **4** ($n = 12$), 90822-75-6; **4** ($n = 13$), 90822-76-7; **4** ($n = 14$), 90837-93-7; **4** ($n = 16$), 90822-77-8; **5** ($n = 12$), 90822-78-9; **5** ($n = 13$), 90822-79-0; **5** ($n = 14$), 90822-80-3; **5** ($n = 16$), 90822-81-4; **6a**, 90822-82-5; **6i**, 90822-83-6; **6l**, 90822-84-7; **6m**, 90822-85-8; **7g**, 90822-86-9; **7h**, 90822-87-0; **8**, 90822-88-1; **22**, 90822-89-2; **23**, 90822-90-5; **24**, 90822-91-6; **25**, 61786-10-5; **26a**, 90822-92-7; **26b**, 90822-93-8; **26c**, 90822-94-9; **28**, 90822-95-0; **29**, 90822-96-1; MeI, 74-88-4; Me_2SO_4 , 77-78-1; EtBr, 74-96-4; Et_2SO_4 , 64-67-5; *n*-PrBr, 106-94-5; *n*-BuBr, 109-65-9; *i*-PrBr, 75-26-3; *t*-BuBr, 507-19-7; *t*-BuI, 558-17-8; $CH_2=CHCH_2Cl$, 107-05-1; $PhCH_2Cl$, 100-44-7; $PhCH_2Br$, 100-39-0; Me_3SiCl , 75-77-4; Me_3GeBr , 1066-37-1; Me_3SnCl , 1066-45-1; Me_3PbCl , 1520-78-1; $ClCH_2Cl$, 75-09-2; $BrCH_2Br$, 74-95-3; $Cl(C-H_2)_2Cl$, 107-06-2; $Br(CH_2)_2Br$, 106-93-4; $Br(CH_2)_3Br$, 109-64-8; $Br(CH_2)_4Br$, 110-52-1; $Br(CH_2)_5Br$, 111-24-0; $Br(CH_2)_6Br$, 629-03-8; $Br(CH_2)_7Br$, 4549-31-9; $Br(CH_2)_8Br$, 4549-32-0; $Br(CH_2)_9Br$, 4549-33-1; $Br(CH_2)_{10}Br$, 4101-68-2; $Br(CH_2)_{12}Br$, 3344-70-5; $MeCHCl_2$, 75-34-3; Me_2SiCl_2 , 75-78-5; Me_2GeCl_2 , 1529-48-2; Me_2SnCl_2 , 753-73-1.

(30) Elemental analyses were not obtained on the new members of the series as they would not distinguish between monomers **3**, dimers **4**, and trimers **5**; MS was used for this purpose.

(31) The vinyl hydrogen absorptions of **24** were obscured by those of **23** and **25**.