Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{27} \mathrm{NO}_{4}: \mathrm{C}, 64.62 ; \mathrm{H}, 9.15$. Found: C, 64.72 ; H, 9.21.
General Procedure for Selective Removal of One tertButoxycarbonyl Group. 1-[(tert-Butoxycarbonyl)-amino]- $2(E), 4(E)$-hexadiene ( 7 h ). Into a $25-\mathrm{mL}$ round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer were added the isomeric mixture of 5 h and $6 \mathrm{~h}(0.560 \mathrm{~g}, 1.88 \mathrm{mmol})$, methylene chloride $(20 \mathrm{~mL})$, and trifluoroacetic acid ( $0.322 \mathrm{~g}, 2.82 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.5$ equiv). The flask was fitted with a septum, and the solution was stirred at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 20 h . The solution was then poured into ether ( 70 mL ) and washed with $10 \%$ aqueous $\mathrm{NaOH}(1 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL})$ and saturated aqueous $\mathrm{NaCl}(1 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL})$. The colorless solution was dried $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}\right)$ and concentrated in vacuo to provide 0.362 g ( $98 \%$ ) of the monoprotected amine as a mixture of isomers. When this oil was dissolved in a minimal amount of hexane, transferred to a Craig tube, and cooled to $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, a white solid crystallized out of solution. Filtration and a second recrystallization provided 7 h as a white solid (in $60-80 \%$ yield): $\mathrm{mp} 51-53^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(300 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 6.11$ (ddt, $J_{2,3}=14.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{3,4}=10.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{1,3}$ $\left.=1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CHCH}_{2} \mathrm{~N}\right), 6.00\left(\mathrm{ddq}, J_{4,5}=14.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{3,4}=\right.$ $\left.10.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{4,6}=1.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CHCH}\right), 5.67\left(\mathrm{dq}, J_{4.5}=14.0\right.$ $\left.\mathrm{Hz}, J_{5,6}=6.57 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CH}\right), 5.54\left(\mathrm{dt}, J_{2,3}=14.5 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$, $\left.J_{1,2}=6.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CHCH}_{2} \mathrm{~N}\right), 4.65\left(\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{NHCOO}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right)$, $3.66\left(\mathrm{bt}, J_{1.2}=5.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CHCH}_{2} \mathrm{~N}\right), 1.77(\mathrm{~d}, J=6.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CH}$ ), $1.44\left(\mathrm{~s}, 9 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{NHCOOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( 50 MHz , $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 155.65\left(\mathrm{NCOOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right), 131.88,130.62,129.39$, and $126.84\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CHCH}=\mathrm{CH}\right), 79.21\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{~N}\right), 42.35(\mathrm{COOC}(\mathrm{C}-$ $\left.\left.\mathrm{H}_{3}\right)_{3}\right), 28.33\left(\mathrm{COOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right), 17.96\left(\mathrm{CHCH}_{3}\right)$; $\mathrm{IR}\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) 3420,1690$ $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$; mass spectrum (CI), $m / z$ (rel intensity) $197\left(2, \mathrm{M}^{+}\right), 141$ $\left(38, \mathrm{M}^{+}-\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{8}\right), 96\left(\mathrm{M}^{+}-\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{8}-\mathrm{CO}_{2}\right), 80(100)$.

Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{11} \mathrm{H}_{19} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$ : $\mathrm{C}, 66.97 ; \mathrm{H}, 9.71$. Found: $\mathrm{C}, 67.18$; H, 9.73.

3-[(tert-Butoxycarbonyl)amino]-1-hexene (7e). Following the same procedure as above, $4 \mathrm{e}(0.237 \mathrm{~g}, 0.79 \mathrm{mmol})$ in methylene chloride ( 10 mL ) was treated with trifluoroacetic acid $(0.135 \mathrm{~g}$, $1.19 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.5$ equiv) and stirred at $25^{\circ}, \mathrm{C}$ for 20 h to provide $0.142 \mathrm{~g}(90 \%)$ of 7 e as a colorless oil: ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(200 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ $\delta 5.73$ (ddd, $J_{1 z, 2}=17 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{1 \mathrm{E}, 2}=10.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2,3}=5.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{CHCH}=\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{E}}\right) \mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{Z}}\right), 5.13$ (ddd, $J_{1 \mathrm{z}, 2}=17.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{1 \mathrm{Z}, 1 \mathrm{E}}=1.4 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $\left.J_{1 Z, 3}=1.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CHCH}=\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{E}}\right) H_{\mathrm{z}}\right), 5.06$ (ddd, $J_{1 \mathrm{E}, 2}=10.2$ $\left.\mathrm{Hz}, J_{1 Z, 1 \mathrm{E}}=1.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{1 \mathrm{Z}, 3}=1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CHCH}=\mathrm{C}\left(H_{\mathrm{E}}\right) \mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{Z}}\right), 4.52$ (bs, $\left.\mathrm{NHCOOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right), 4.09\left(\mathrm{bt}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CHNHCOOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right.$ ), 2.10 $\left(\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 1.45\left(\mathrm{~s}, 9 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{NHCOOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right), 1.30(\mathrm{~m}$, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 0.92\left(\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}_{5,6}=6.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $\left.50 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) ~ \delta 155.33\left(\mathrm{COOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right), 139.14\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}-\right.$ $\left.\mathrm{H}(\mathrm{N}) \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 114.06\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}(\mathrm{N}) \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 79.10\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}-\right.$ $\left.\left.(\mathrm{N}) \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 52.60\left(\mathrm{COOC}_{\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)}\right)_{3}\right), 37.28\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CHN}\right)$, $28.33\left(\mathrm{COOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right), 18.85\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CHN}\right), 13.78\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}\right.$ $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CHN}$ ); IR (neat) $3350,1710 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$; mass spectrum (CI), $m / z$ (rel intensity) $199\left(2, \mathrm{M}^{+}\right), 156\left(42, \mathrm{M}+1-\mathrm{CO}_{2}\right), 143(38, \mathrm{M}-$ $\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{8}$ ), $100\left(100, \mathrm{M}+1-\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{8}-\mathrm{CO}_{2}\right)$.
Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{11} \mathrm{H}_{21} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$ : $\mathrm{C}, 66.29 ; \mathrm{H}, 10.62$. Found: C , 66.20; H, 10.84 .

1-[(tert-Butoxycarbonyl)amino]-2(E)-hexene (7f). Following the same procedure as above, $5 \mathbf{e}(0.626 \mathrm{~g}, 2.09 \mathrm{mmol})$, methylene chloride ( 15 mL ), and trifluoroacetic acid $(0.358 \mathrm{~g}, 3.14$ mmol, 1.5 equiv) were stirred at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 22 h . Workup as above provided $0.389 \mathrm{~g}(94 \%)$ of 7 f as a colorless oil: ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $(200 \mathrm{MHz}$, $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 5.49\left(\mathrm{dm}, J_{2,3}=15.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CHCH}_{2} \mathrm{~N}\right), 4.90$ (bs, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{NH}$ ), 3.66 (bt, $J_{1,2}=5.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CHCH}_{2} \mathrm{NH}$ ), 1.98 (m, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CH}\right), 1.44\left(\mathrm{~s}, 9 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{COOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right), 1.32(\mathrm{~m}, 2$ $\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), $0.89\left(\mathrm{t}, J_{5.6}=7.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( 50 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 155.53\left(\mathrm{COOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right), 132.31$ and $126.40(\mathrm{CH}=$ $\mathrm{CH}), 78.69\left(\mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{~N}\right), 42.32\left(\mathrm{COOC}^{2}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right), 34.00(\mathrm{C}-$ $\mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), $28.13\left(\mathrm{COOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right), 22.02\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 13.32$ $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$; IR (neat) $3360,1710 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$; mass spectrum (CI), $m / z$ (rel intensity) $199\left(2, \mathrm{M}^{+}\right), 143\left(82, \mathrm{M}^{+}-\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{8}\right), 100(100$, $\mathrm{M}+1-\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{8}-\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ ).

Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{11} \mathrm{H}_{21} \mathrm{NO}_{2}: \mathrm{C}, 66.29 ; \mathrm{H}, 10.62$. Found: C , 66.44; H, 10.68.

3-[(tert-Butoxycarbonyl)amino]-1-phenyl-1-propene (7g). Following the same procedure as above, $5 \mathrm{~g}(0.670 \mathrm{~g}, 2.01 \mathrm{mmol})$, methylene chloride ( 12 mL ), and trifluoroacetic acid ( $0.329 \mathrm{~g}, 2.88$ mmol ) were stirred at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 19 h . Workup as above provided $0.453 \mathrm{~g}(97 \%)$ of 7 g as a white solid: $\mathrm{mp} 83-85{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} ;^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 200 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 7.30(\mathrm{~m}, 5 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar} \mathrm{H}), 6.48\left(\mathrm{dt}, J_{2,3}=15.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{1,3}\right.$
$=1.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{PhCH}=\mathrm{CHCH}_{2} \mathrm{~N}$ ), $6.16\left(\mathrm{dt}, J_{2,3}=15.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{1,2}=6.1\right.$ $\left.\mathrm{Hz}, \mathrm{PhCH}=\mathrm{CHCH}_{2} \mathrm{~N}\right), 4.71(\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{NH}), 3.90(\mathrm{bt}, J=5.3 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $\mathrm{PhCH}=\mathrm{CHCH}_{2} \mathrm{NH}$ ), 1.46 ( $\mathrm{s}, 9 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{COOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}$ ) ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( 50 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 155.69\left(\mathrm{COOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right), 136.61,131.21,128.43$, 127.44, 126.30, 126.23, $79.29\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NH}\right), 42.63\left(\mathrm{COOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right), 28.32$ ( $\mathrm{COOC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}$ ); IR (neat) $3190,1690 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$; mass spectrum (CI), $m / z$ (rel intensity) $233\left(2, \mathrm{M}^{+}\right), 177\left(64, \mathrm{M}^{+}-\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{8}\right), 132\left(38, \mathrm{M}^{+}\right.$ $-\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{8}-\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ ), 116 (100).
Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{14} \mathrm{H}_{19} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$ : $\mathrm{C}, 72.07 ; \mathrm{H}, 8.21$. Found: C, 72.31; H, 7.95.

1-Amino-2(E),4(E)-hexadiene (8h). Into a $25-\mathrm{mL}$ roundbottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer were added 7 h ( $0.217 \mathrm{~g}, 1.09 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and ethyl ether ( 12 mL ). Trifluoroacetic acid ( $0.248 \mathrm{~g}, 2.18 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and concentrated $\mathrm{HCl}(5.0 \mu \mathrm{~L})$ were added, and the solution was stirred at $23^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 30 h . The yellow-orange solution was poured into ether ( 30 mL ) and extracted with saturated aqueous $\mathrm{NaHSO}_{4}(4 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL})$. The aqueous portion was made basic by the addition of a cold, saturated solution of aqueous $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}$ and extracted with methylene chloride ( $6 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The organic portion was dried $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}\right)$ and concentrated in vacuo to provide $0.085 \mathrm{~g}(80 \%)$ of 8 h as a yellow oil with spectral properties consistent with those reported earlier. ${ }^{8}$

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## Synthesis of 7,9-Diphenyl-8-tropyliumyl-8H-cyclopent[a]acenaphthylene Cation Having an Intramolecular Charge-Transfer Interaction and Its Transformation into the Sesquifulvalene Derivative

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During the course of our study of phenyl-substituted cyclopent[ $a$ ]acenaphthylenide ions $\mathbf{1 a}, \mathbf{b},{ }^{2}$ reactivities toward various stable carbocations were investigated. This

1a ( $\mathrm{R}=\mathrm{H}$ )
1b ( $\mathrm{R}=\mathrm{Ph}$ )

2

3

4
note describes the syntheses and properties of the title cation 2, obtained through the reaction of 1a with tropylium ion ( $\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}{ }^{+}$), and of the related sesquifulvalene derivative 3. Although 3 can be looked upon as a homologue of the known sesquifulvalene $4,{ }^{3}$ replacement of the two phenyl groups with a 1,8 -naphthylene unit has been found

[^0]Scheme I


Scheme II

to bring about a considerable change in the properties of the cation 2 as compared with the cation formed by protonation of $4 .^{3}$
Reaction of 1 a with $\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}{ }^{+}$in THF under vacuum afforded cycloheptatriene 5 as a single product. The attempted hydride abstraction directly from 5 using the trityl cation ( $\mathrm{Ph}_{3} \mathrm{C}^{+}$) resulted in a reaction apparently involving some homolytic pathway (Scheme I). In view of the ease in oxidation of the cyclopent[a]acenaphthylene $\pi$-system (vide infra), this reaction is believed to be initiated by single-electron transfer (SET) from 5 to $\mathrm{Ph}_{3} \mathrm{C}^{+}$followed by heterolytic cleavage of the cation radical 8 to $\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}^{+}$and 9: radical 9 has already been shown to give dimer $6^{2}$ and would also abstract hydrogen from the solvent to give 7,9-diphenyl-8H-cyclopent[ $a$ ]acenaphthylene (7).

In order to prevent this unfavorable cleavage, 5 was thermally isomerized at $230^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 0.5 min or at $150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 2 h . The 1,5 -hydrogen-shift product 10 was obtained together with comparable amounts of homolytic products (Scheme II). A similar competition of sigmatropy and homolytic dissociation has previously been observed in the thermolysis of 7-tritylcycloheptatriene. ${ }^{4}$ Since the cation radical generated from 10 can not release $\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}{ }^{+}$, reaction of 10 with $\mathrm{Ph}_{3} \mathrm{C}^{+}$smoothly afforded a salt of desired cation 2 as a black powder, which exhibits a deep blue color in polar solvents.
Although tropylium ions conjugated with a $\pi$-electronic system are known to absorb in the visible region, ${ }^{5}$ it seems quite peculiar that the cation substituted with a saturated carbon such as 2 has a maximum absorption at such a long wavelength as 637 nm in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ for example. Furthermore, this absorption shows remarkable solvatochromism

[^1]Table I. Data for $E_{0 x}$ and the CT Band with $\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}{ }^{+}$

| compd | $E_{\text {ox }}{ }^{a} / \mathrm{V} \mathrm{vs} \mathrm{Ag} / \mathrm{Ag}^{+}$ | $\lambda_{\mathrm{CT}_{\max }{ }^{b} / \mathrm{nm}}$ | $E_{\mathrm{CT} \max }{ }^{b} / \mathrm{eV}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7 | $+0.67_{5}$ | 620 | 1.999 |
| perylene | $+0.71_{8}$ | 610 | 2.032 |

${ }^{a}$ Anodic peak potentials $\left(E_{\text {pa }}\right)$ by CV in $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ at $0.1 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{s} .{ }^{b} \mathrm{In}$ $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} ;$ [donor $]=2 \times 10^{-2} \mathrm{M} ;\left[\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}{ }^{+}\right]=2 \times 10^{-3} \mathrm{M}$.
(see Experimental Section). In order to clarify the nature of this absorption, we examined the $\pi$-donor ability of 7 by determining the oxidation potential ( $E_{\mathrm{ox}}$ ) and chargetransfer (CT) transition energy with $\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}{ }^{+}$as an acceptor. As shown by the data in Table I, 7 has an even stronger $\pi$-basicity than perylene, which exhibits a CT absorption with $\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}{ }^{+}$at the longest wavelength among the polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons so far reported. ${ }^{6}$ Inspection of a molecular model indicates that the relative conformation of the central $\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}{ }^{+}$ring and each of the two benzene rings resembles that in the case of 1-phenyl-2-tropyliumylbenzene (11). ${ }^{7}$ Although each of the aromatic rings in 2

and in 11 retains freedom of rotation, the presence of a through-space CT interaction has clearly been demonstrated for cation $11 .{ }^{7}$ Thus, all these facts taken together support assigning the longest wavelength absorption of 2 to the intramolecular CT interaction between the tropylium ring and the two benzene rings that constitute a part of the strong $\pi$-donor system.

Upon treatment with $\mathrm{Et}_{3} \mathrm{~N}$, cation 2 was readily deprotonated to give sesquifulvalene derivative 3 as a fairly air-sensitive dark red-brown solid. In contrast to tetraphenyl derivative 4, which has been reported to be protonated at $\mathrm{C}-7$, giving the dienyl-conjugated tropylium ion, ${ }^{3}$ protonation of 3 quantitatively regenerates cation 2.

Comparison of the ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR chemical shifts for the seven-membered ring ( $\delta 140.9,136.3$, and 133.1 for C-1 to C-6 and $\delta 149.6$ for C-12) and C-11 ( $\delta 132.3$ ) in 3 with those reported for the parent sesquifulvalene ${ }^{8}$ suggests that 3 is considerably more polarized than the latter. The electronic state of the seven-membered ring and its steric arrangement relative to the two benzene rings in 3 appear to be quite similar to those in $4,{ }^{3}$ judging from the close resemblance of the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR chemical shifts for the seven-membered-ring protons in both of these compounds.

Finally, the redox properties of 3 were examined by the use of cyclic voltammetry (CV). As shown in Figure 1, 3 exhibits two oxidation waves ( $E_{1 / 2}=+0.348 \mathrm{~V}$ vs $\mathrm{Ag} / \mathrm{Ag}^{+}$ (reversible) and $E_{\mathrm{pa}}=+0.718 \mathrm{~V}$ (irreversible)) and one irreversible reduction wave ( $E_{\mathrm{pc}}=-1.272 \mathrm{~V}$ ). The observed difference in reversibility between the first oxidation and reduction waves is interpreted by the different stability of the produced cation radical 12 and anion radical 13 shown in Scheme III: in our previous study the fully substituted cyclopentadienyl radical, which is formed from anion 1 lb and is homologous to 12, has been shown to be persistent, ${ }^{2}$ whereas cation 2 in the present study is irreversibly reduced at $E_{\mathrm{pc}}=-0.532 \mathrm{~V}$ due to the facile dimerization of the monosubstituted cycloheptatrienyl radical similar to 13 .

[^2]

Figure 1. Cyclic voltammogram of $10^{-3} \mathrm{M} 3$ in $\mathrm{MeCN}(0.1 \mathrm{M}$ $\mathrm{Bu}_{4} \mathrm{~N}^{+} \mathrm{ClO}_{4}^{-}$) at $0.1 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{s}$. The dashed inset represents the scan between 0.0 and +0.60 V .


## Experimental Section

General. Elemental analyses were performed by the Microanalytical Center, Kyoto University, Kyoto. IR and UV-visible spectra were recorded on Hitachi 215 and Hitachi 200-10 spectrometers, respectively. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra were taken on a JEOL GX-400 ( 400 MHz ) or a Hitachi R-24 ( 60 MHz ) spectrometer. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra were taken on a JEOL FX-100 spectrometer ( 25 MHz ). Cyclic voltammetry was performed as has previously been described. ${ }^{9}$

7,9-Diphenyl-8-(2,4,6-cycloheptatrienyl)-8H-cyclopent[ $a$ ]acenaphthylene (5). Hydrocarbon $7^{2}(0.400 \mathrm{~g}, 1.17 \mathrm{mmol})$, $t$-BuOK ( $0.170 \mathrm{~g}, 1.52 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), and a stirring bar were placed in a flask having a side arm containing $\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}{ }^{+} \mathrm{BF}_{4}^{-}(0.313 \mathrm{~g}, 1.76$ mmol ). The flask was connected to a vacuum line and evacuated. After THF ( 12 mL ) was vacuum distilled into the flask to generate the anion $1 \mathrm{a}, \mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}{ }^{+} \mathrm{BF}_{4}^{-}$was added from the side arm to the stirred solution of la under vacuum. The mixture was stirred for 1 h and then treated with water and extracted with benzene. Recrystallization of the crude product from benzene afforded 5 ( $0.369 \mathrm{~g}, 73.0 \%$ ) as yellow plates: $\mathrm{mp} 211-212^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; $\mathrm{IR}(\mathrm{KBr}) 3045$, $3005,1598,1490,1440,1400,1353,827,780,740,700 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$; UV-vis (THF) $\lambda_{\text {max }}(\log \epsilon) 250(4.60), 280 \mathrm{sh}(4.43), 386 \mathrm{~nm}(4.29)$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 400 \mathrm{MHz}\right) \delta 7.82(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, \mathrm{H}-1,6), 7.70(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, \mathrm{H}-3,4), 7.67$ ( $4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}$, ortho H ), $7.45(6 \mathrm{H}$, dd and t, H-2,5 and meta H ), 7.32 ( $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}$, para H), 6.36 ( $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, \mathrm{H}-4^{\prime}, 5^{\prime}$ ), $5.90\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dm}, \mathrm{H}-3^{\prime}, 6^{\prime}\right), 5.12$ ( $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, \mathrm{H}-2^{\prime}, 7^{\prime}$ ), $5.11(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, \mathrm{H}-8), 2.05\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{H}-1^{\prime}\right)$; ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 147.5(1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}), 144.3(2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}), 140.1(2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}), 136.5(2 \mathrm{C}$, s), 132.4 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}$ ), 131.8 (1 C, s), 130.4 (2 C, d), 128.5 ( $4 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 128.4 ( $4 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 127.6 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 127.4 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 125.5 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 124.5 ( 2 C , d), 123.7 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 118.7 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 62.6 ( $1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 40.4 (1 C, d). Anal. Caled for $\mathrm{C}_{34} \mathrm{H}_{24}$ : C, 94.41; H, 5.59. Found: C, 94.13; H, 5.48.

Reaction of 5 with Trityl Perchlorate. To a stirred solution of $5(0.0480 \mathrm{~g}, 0.111 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}(1.5 \mathrm{~mL})$ and $\mathrm{MeCN}(1.5$ mL ) was added $\mathrm{Ph}_{3} \mathrm{C}^{+} \mathrm{ClO}_{4}^{-}(0.0492 \mathrm{~g}, 0.143 \mathrm{mmol})$ under nitrogen. After 20 min of stirring, ether ( 30 mL ) was added to cause the
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formation of a white precipitate, which was filtered and dried to give $\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}{ }^{+} \mathrm{ClO}_{4}^{-}(0.0168 \mathrm{~g}, 79.4 \%)$. The filtrate was evaporated and separated by the use of medium-pressure liquid chromatography (MPLC) (hexane ( $100 \%$ ) to hexane-benzene ( $50 \%: 50 \%$ )/Merck $\mathrm{SiO}_{2} 60$ ) to give $7(0.0134 \mathrm{~g}, 35.1 \%), 6^{2}(0.0136$ $\mathrm{g}, 35.9 \%$ ), and $\mathrm{Ph}_{3} \mathrm{COOCPh}_{3}(0.0124 \mathrm{~g}, 43.1 \%)$.

Thermal Isomerization of 5 . A solution of $5(0.612 \mathrm{~g}, 1.41$ mmol ) in $p$-xylene ( 7 mL ) was sealed in a Pyrex glass tube under vacuum and was heated in an oil bath at $150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 2 h . A mixture of the approximately same composition of products was obtained when the same amount of 5 was heated at $230^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 0.5 min in a vacuum-sealed tube without solvent. The latter products were separated by MPLC as described above to give bitropyl ( 0.0599 $\mathrm{g}, 46.6 \%$ ), 6 ( $0.198 \mathrm{~g}, 41.2 \%$ ), and 10 ( $0.302 \mathrm{~g}, 49.6 \%$ ): IR ( KBr ) $3045,3005,1598,1490,1440,1390,1355,1025,903,825,778,740$, $700 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$; UV-vis (THF) $\lambda_{\max }(\log \epsilon) 252(4.56), 283(4.42), 396$ $\mathrm{nm}(4.28) ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 60 \mathrm{MHz}\right) \delta 8.00-7.20(16 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}), 6.60$ ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}$ ), $5.93(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}), 5.73(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}), 5.23(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{H}-8), 5.10$ (2 $\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}), 1.67(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 144.4(1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}), 143.9(2$ $\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}), 141.6(1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}), 140.6(2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}), 135.7(2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}), 132.5(2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s})$, 131.9 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 131.2 ( $1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 128.2 ( $4 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 128.1 ( $4 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 127.6 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 127.2 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 126.1 ( $1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 125.5 ( $1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 125.4 ( 1 C , d), 122.2 ( $1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}$ ), 121.1 ( $1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 119.0 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 70.8 ( $1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 27.3 (1 C, t).

7,9-Diphenyl-8-tropyliumyl-8H-cyclopent[a]acenaphthylene Tetrafluoroborate ( $2 \cdot \mathrm{BF}_{4}{ }^{-}$). A solution of $\mathrm{Ph}_{3} \mathrm{C}^{+} \mathrm{BF}_{4}^{-}(0.190 \mathrm{~g}, 0.576 \mathrm{mmol})$ in MeCN ( 1 mL ) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of $10(0.223 \mathrm{~g}, 0.516 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ $(5 \mathrm{~mL})$ at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ under nitrogen. After 0.5 h of stirring, ether ( 80 mL ) was added. The resulting precipitates were filtered and washed with ether to give $2 \cdot \mathrm{BF}_{4}^{-}(0.225 \mathrm{~g}, 84.1 \%)$ as a black powder: mp $171^{\circ} \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{dec})$; $\mathrm{IR}(\mathrm{KBr}) 3050,1600,1520,1485,1442$, $1410,1260,1080,830,800,780,760,700 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$; UV-vis $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)$ $\lambda_{\max }(\log \epsilon) 237(4.65), 253 \mathrm{sh}(4.55), 284(4.41), 385(4.18), 637$ nm (3.83); UV-vis (MeCN) $\lambda_{\max }(\log \epsilon) 234$ (4.65), $248 \mathrm{sh}(4.56)$, 280 (4.43), 384 (4.20), 500 (3.64), 590 sh nm (3.56); ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}, 400 \mathrm{MHz}\right) \delta 8.97\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{br} \mathrm{m},-\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{6}{ }^{+}\right), 8.74(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{br} \mathrm{m}$, $-\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{6}{ }^{+}$), $8.08(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, \mathrm{H}-1,6), 7.93(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, \mathrm{H}-3,4), 7.79(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}$, ortho H), $7.63(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, \mathrm{H}-2,5), 7.45(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}$, meta H$), 7.32(2 \mathrm{H}$, t , para H$), 6.37(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{H}-8)$; ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right) \delta 174.0(1 \mathrm{C}$, s), 156.1 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 154.7 (2 C, d), 154.3 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 147.9 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}$ ), 145.7 (2 C, s), 145.3 ( $1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}$ ), 134.3 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}$ ), 132.9 ( $1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}$ ), 131.7 ( 2 C , s), 130.2 ( $4 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 129.7 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 129.2 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 128.8 ( $4 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 128.2 $(2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}), 121.5(2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}), 70.7(1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d})$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{34} \mathrm{H}_{23} \mathrm{BF}_{4}$ : C, 78.78; H, 4.47. Found: C, 78.29; H, 4.33 .

7,9-Diphenyl-8-cycloheptatrienylidene-8 $\boldsymbol{H}$-cyclopent [a]acenaphthylene (3). To a solution of $2 \cdot \mathrm{BF}_{4}^{-}(0.0300 \mathrm{~g}, 0.0579$ $\mathrm{mmol})$ in MeCN $(0.4 \mathrm{~mL})$ was added $\mathrm{Et}_{3} \mathrm{~N}(0.012 \mathrm{~g}, 0.12 \mathrm{mmol})$ by the use of a microsyringe. The resulting precipitates were filtered and washed with MeCN $(0.1 \mathrm{~mL})$ and with pentane ( 0.2 $\mathrm{mL} \times 2$ ) to give $3(0.0172 \mathrm{~g}, 69.0 \%)$ as a dark red-brown solid: $\mathrm{mp} 176-179^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; IR (KBr) $3050,1625,1600,1520,1485,1440,1410$, $1260,1198,830,780,720,700 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1} ;$ UV-vis $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right) \lambda_{\text {max }}(\log \epsilon)$ 258 (4.40), $299 \mathrm{sh}(4.07), 403$ (4.30) 468 nm (4.14); UV-vis (MeCN) $\lambda_{\max }(\log \epsilon) 255(4.46), 295 \mathrm{sh}(4.15), 399(4.35), 469 \mathrm{~nm}(4.18) ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ $\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 400 \mathrm{MHz}\right) \delta 7.58(4 \mathrm{H}$, d, ortho H$), 7.53(2 \mathrm{H}$, dd, $\mathrm{H}-2,5), 7.46(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}$, meta H$), 7.34(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}$, para H), $7.29(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}$, H-1,6), 7.28 ( $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, \mathrm{H}-3,4$ ), 6.66 ( $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=11.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-2^{\prime}, 7^{\prime}$ ), $6.17\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, J=5.4\right.$ and $\left.3.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-4^{\prime}, 5^{\prime}\right), 5.81(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{ddd}, J=$ $11.8,5.4$, and $3.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{H}-3^{\prime}, 6^{\prime}$ ); ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 149.6$ ( $1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}$ ), 143.4 ( $1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}$ ), 140.9 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 139.5 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}$ ), 136.3 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 134.4 (1 C, s), 133.1 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 132.3 ( $1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}$ ), 129.9 ( $4 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 129.7 ( 2 C , d), 129.1 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}$ ), 128.7 ( $4 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 127.6 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}$ ), 126.6 ( $2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{s}$ ), 125.3 $(2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d}), 118.5(2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{d})$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{34} \mathrm{H}_{22}: \mathrm{C}, 94.85$; H, 5.15. Found: C, 93.52; H, 5.16. Satisfactory analysis could not be obtained due to the air sensitivity of 3 .

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Registry No. 2. $\mathrm{BF}_{4}^{-}, 115226-97-6 ; 3,115205-67-9 ; 5,115205-$ 68-0; 6, 115205-69-1; 7, $33836-47-4 ; \mathbf{1 0}, 115226-95-4 ; \mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}{ }^{+} \mathrm{BF}_{4}{ }^{-}$, $27081-10-3 ; \mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}{ }^{+} \mathrm{ClO}_{4}^{-}, 25230-72-2 ; \mathrm{Ph}_{3} \mathrm{COOCPh}_{3}, 596-30-5$; $\mathrm{Ph}_{3} \mathrm{C}^{+} \mathrm{BF}_{4}^{-}$, 341-02-6; trityl perchlorate, 3058-33-1; bitropyl, 39473-62-6.


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