

CORRECTIONS

Kusay Al-Jumah and Jack E. Fernandez*: Synthesis of Conductive Polymers Containing Poly(*p*-phenylene methide) Units. Volume 20, Number 6, June 1987, p 1177.

The data presented fit the proposed poly(*p*-phenylene methide) structure quite closely; however, we have recently discovered that polymer I, which was said to contain poly(*p*-phenylene methide) units, is instead *p*-distyrylbenzene. The latter is formed in the reaction mixture by the action of the ylide on benzaldehyde. Benzaldehyde is produced by the reaction of PhLi with the solvent DMF.

We have confirmed distyrylbenzene in three ways: (1) Bromination of I led to a bromo derivative whose elemental analysis corresponds to brominated distyrylbenzene and not to brominated PPM. (2) Conducting the Wittig reaction in the absence of 1,4-cyclohexanedione led to the same product. (3) The infrared spectrum is identical in every way with that of *trans,trans-p*-distyrylbenzene (Sadtler Research Lab.).

We have repeated our Wittig synthesis using DMSO as solvent. The product is an oligomer of Ia with $n \simeq 3$ as determined by ^1H NMR and elemental analysis. We have dehydrogenated Ia with DDQ and have obtained an intractable product that shows a significant conductivity on doping with AsF_5 . The results of this work will be reported in the near future.