otherwise indicated), and sealed with a Teflon needle valve. The photolyses were effected without stirring at ambient temperature. The reaction course was followed by withdrawing the cuvette at convenient time intervals and examining spectrophotometrically after thorough agitation. The final concentration of *N*-halo imide was determined by iodometric titration.

Photolysis of *N*-Bromosuccinimide in CH₂Cl₂ in the Presence of 3,3-Dimethyl-1-butene at 313 nm. NBS (5.6×10^{-1} mmol), CH₂Cl₂ (54.6 mmol), and 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene (1.6×10^{-1} mmol) were irradiated for 1.5 h. (a) UV absorbances at λ_{313} (time, min): 1.52 (0), 1.47 (5), 1.27 (10), 1.07 (15), 0.96 (20), 0.79 (30), 0.64 (40), 0.39 (75), 0.32 (90). At 90 min, 18% of NBS remained. $\Phi = 66.7$ mol einstein⁻¹. (b) nondegassed UV absorbances at λ_{313} (time, min): 1.52 (0), 1.52 (5), 1.52 (15), 1.43 (30), 1.24 (45), 1.14 (60), 0.95 (90). At 90 min, 57% of NBS remained. $\Phi = 17.0$ mol einstein⁻¹. (c) in the presence of 2,6-di-*tert*butyl-*p*-cresol (1.0×10^{-2} mmol), 96% of NBS remained after 90 min (no brominated products).

Photolysis of N-Bromosuccinimide in CH₂Cl₂ in the Presence of 3,3-Dimethyl-1-butene and 2,2'-Azobis(isobutyronitrile) at 366 nm. NBS (5.6 $\times 10^{-1}$ mmol), CH₂Cl₂ (54.6 mmol), 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene (1.6 $\times 10^{-1}$ mmol), and AIBN (2.0 $\times 10^{-1}$ mmol) were irradiated for 7.0 h; UV absorbances at λ_{366} (time, min) 0.71 (0), 0.67 (420). At 420 min, 41% of NBS remained with 6% dissociated AIBN. The work of Hammond¹⁶ on the thermal decomposition of AIBN led to a value of 0.46 for the fraction of the total number of AIBN decompositions that yield kinetically "free" radicals. By utilization of this value, in conjunction with the amount of dissociated AIBN and consumed NBS, a chain length of 30 was obtained.

Photolysis of N-Bromosuccinimide in CH₂Cl₂ in the Presence of Neopentane and Bromine. NBS ($5.6 \times 10^{-1} \text{ mmol}$), CH₂Cl₂ (54.6 mmol), *neo*-C₅H₁₂ (2.0 mmol), and Br₂ ($6.65 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mmol}$) were irradiated for 2.0 h; (a) At 313 nm, UV absorbances at λ_{313} (time, min): 1.54 (0), 1.53 (5), 1.49 (25), 1.42 (50), 1.25 (95), 1.14 (120). At 120 min, 69% of NBS

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Registry No. 1, 72323-45-6; 2, 66633-57-6; 3, 82621-75-8; NBS, 128-08-5; NIS, 516-12-1; 2,2-Me₂-NCS, 82621-76-9; 2,2-Me₂-NBS, 82621-77-0; 2,3-Me2-NBS, 82621-78-1; 2-Me-NBG, 82621-79-2; 2,2-Me2-NBG, 82621-80-5; NCS, 128-09-6; 2,3-Me2-NCS, 82621-81-6; NCG, 82621-82-7; NBG, 3699-18-1; 3,3-Me2-NCG, 82621-83-8; 3,3-Me₂-NBG, 66393-63-3; neopentane, 463-82-1; 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene, 558-37-2; 2,2-dimethylsuccinimide, 3437-29-4; 2,2-dimethylglutarimide, 1194-33-8; 2-methylglutarimide, 29553-51-3; dl-2,3-dideuteriosuccinic acid, 21156-52-5; dl-2,3-dideuteriosuccinic anhydride, 80655-73-8; methyl dl-2,3-dideuteriosuccinamate, 82621-84-9; meso-2,3-dideuterio-N-bromosuccinimide, 66996-78-9; meso-2,3-dideuterio-N-chlorosuccinimide, 66996-79-0; *dl*-2,3-dideuterio-N-bromosuccinimide, 82621-85-0; β -bromopropionyl isocyanate, 18926-24-4; 1,1-dichloroethylene, 75-35-4; ethylene, 74-85-1; allene, 463-49-0; N-(2-chloro-1-ethyl)succinimide, 41212-96-8; 3-iodopropanoyl isocyanate, 82621-86-1; 3-bromo-3methylbutanoyl isocyanate, 82621-87-2; 3-chloro-3-methylbutanoyl isocyanate, 82621-88-3; methyl N-(3-chloro-3-methylbutanoyl)carbamate, 82621-89-4; 3-bromo-2-methylbutanoyl isocyanate, 82621-90-7; methyl N-(3-bromo-2-methylbutanoyl)carbamate, 82621-91-8; 4-bromo-4methylpentanoyl isocyanate, 82621-92-9; methyl N-(4-bromo-4-methylpentanoyl)carbamate, 82621-93-0; N-(2-bromo-3,3-dimethyl-1butyl)-2-methylglutarimide, 82621-94-1; 4-bromopentanoyl isocyanate, 82621-95-2; methyl N-(4-bromopentanoyl)carbamate, 82621-96-3; neopentyl bromide, 630-17-1; neopentyl iodide, 15501-33-4; neopentyl chloride, 753-89-9; 2,3-dideuterio-\beta-bromopropionyl isocyanate, 82621-97-4; methyl N-(2,3-dideuterio-β-bromopropionyl)carbamate, 82638-76-4.

Reactions of a Graded Set of Radicals with *N*-Bromosuccinimide; Two Transition States

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Abstract: The reactions of N-bromosuccinimide with a series of radicals have been studied. These reactions fall into two categories, the more reactive radicals producing σ -succinimidyl and the less reactive radicals producing π -succinimidyl. The threshold for the changeover from one reaction domain to the other occurs with radicals less reactive than secondary alkyls. These results are interpreted with two transition states, an in-line transition state for the more reactive radicals and an out-of-plane transition state for the less reactive radicals. An upper limit of 18 kcal/mol is established for the enthalpy difference, $H_{S_{\sigma}} - H_{S_{\sigma}}$. Two new methods for generating S_{π} radicals are indicated.

Radical chain reactions in systems containing N-bromosuccinimide can be carried out (1) in the presence of Br_2 or (2) in the absence of Br_2 by including small amounts of appropriate bromine-scavenging alkenes.^{1,2} With low-reactivity substrates (neopentane, *tert*-butyl chloride, methylene chloride), the substitution of Br for H must be attributed to a hydrogen abstractor that is far more reactive than Br· or R·, thus making succinimidyl(s) (1 and 2) the chain carrier(s). The two sets of reaction



conditions described above involve intermediates with distinctly

different selectivities in H abstractions for these low-reactivity substrates. Also, in the presence of Br₂, there is no accompanying ring-opening reaction producing β -bromopropionyl isocyanate (BPI, 3), whereas in the presence of bromine-scavenging alkenes, BPI is the major product.¹⁻³ These two lines of evidence led to the conclusion that the thermal chain reactions involving succinimidyl radicals operated with either the π or the σ states of the radical, depending only on which reaction (reaction 2 or 3) produced the succinimidyl.^{1,2}

with Br₂ present

$$1^{\circ} \mathbf{R} \cdot + \mathbf{Br}_2 \to \mathbf{RBr} + \mathbf{Br} \cdot \tag{1}$$

$$Br \cdot + NBS \rightarrow Br_2 + S_{\pi}$$
 (2)

with Br₂ scavenged

$$1^{\circ} R \cdot + NBS \rightarrow RBr + S_{\sigma}$$
(3)

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The reaction of Br with NBS produces S_{π} (no ring opening), whereas the reaction of 1° R with NBS produces S_{σ} (substantial ring opening). These reaction systems are remarkably clean, there being no indication of cross-contamination.



 S_{τ} or $S_{\sigma} + 1^{\circ} RH \rightarrow 1^{\circ} R \cdot + SH$ (succinimide)

If the best estimate of the N-Br bond strength of NBS⁴ is accepted at face value, reaction 2 is thermoneutral. Regardless of the accuracy of this value, reaction 3 would be 21.7 kcal/mol more exothermic if the identical succinimidyl radical (S_{π}) was produced (this value is the difference in dissociation energy for 1° R-Br and Br-Br). To avoid endothermic steps in the chain sequences the energy difference between S_{σ} and S_{τ} was arbitrarily chosen as ~ 15 kcal/mol⁵ (Figure 1; the energy diagram drawing Scheme III

SH + R•
$$\frac{RH}{e}$$
 S $_{\sigma}$ $\frac{a}{b}$ PI $\frac{NBS}{c}$ BPI + S $_{\sigma}$
NBS d cH_2Cl_2
RBr + S $_{\sigma}$ SH + CHCl_2 $\frac{NBS}{c}$ BrCHCl_2 + S $_{\sigma}$

is normalized by placing Br_2 and R-Br at the same level).

The striking feature of this system is that the reaction of 1° R. with NBS follows the less exothermic pathway to S_{σ} . While this behavior is not unprecedented (e.g., thermal processes leading to singlet O_2 or to chemiluminescent substances), it is unusual and deserves further comment.

Two-Transition-State Hypothesis

If the transition states leading to S_{π} and S_{σ} had identical structures, there would be no way to explain the formation of the high-energy intermediate. The transition state for 1° R + NBS \rightarrow RBr + S_{*} must have a higher energy than the transition state for 1° R + NBS \rightarrow RBr + S_{σ}. This reasoning had led to the postulation of two transition states:1,2



The out-of-plane attack by X \cdot involves the π electrons of the imide system and leads to the formation of S_{π} ; the in-line attack perturbs the σ electrons of the N-Br bond and leads to the formation of S_{σ} . The two schemes in Figure 2 give a consistent picture for generation of succinimidyl radicals (σ and π) from the reactions of NBS with a variety of radicals. These schemes are in accord with the known chemistry of this system.

Scheme I (Figure 2) describes the NBS-Br₂ system. The reaction of Br + NBS produces $Br_2 + S_{\pi}$ in a near-thermoneutral step (solid path). On energetic grounds alone, the pathway producing the higher energy S_{σ} is too endothermic to contribute significantly in the chain sequence of this system. The absence of BPI production and a distinctive set of H-abstraction selectivities^{1,2} are evidence for S_{π} as the exclusive succinimidyl chain carrier in the system in which Br_2 is present.

Scheme II (Figure 2) describes the system in which Br_2 is scavenged, thus making the relatively exothermic reaction of a primary alkyl radical with NBS the chain-propagating step for succinimidyl regeneration (R. of Scheme II). The activation energy involved in producing S_{σ} (solid path) must be less than that needed to produce S_{π} (dashed path). The following observations clearly suggest that S_{σ} is the sole succinimidyl intermediate involved in the system in which the Br₂-scavenging alkene is present: (a) BPI is formed as the major product, in some instances with >96% conversion,³ and (b) reaction products indicates a strikingly different set of H-abstraction selectivities^{1,2} than those observed for the NBS-Br₂ system.

The two schemes in Figure 2 exemplify in detail the hypothesis of two transition states required to rationalize succinimidyl radical chemistry.

Strategy for Testing the Two-Transition-State Hypothesis. A critical test of this hypothesis involves the introduction of different substrates (RH) into the NBS-alkene system, which upon reaction with succinimidyl form radicals of progressively greater stability

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Table I. Estimated ΔH Values for $\mathbf{R} \cdot + \mathbf{NBS} \rightarrow \mathbf{RBr} + \mathbf{S}_{\pi}^{a}$

R·	$D(R-Br)^b$	$-\Delta H^{b c}$	ref
1° R.	68.0	21.7	6
2° R∙	68.0	21.7	6
Cl_2CH 3° R·	65.7 ^d	19.4	6-8
3° [°] R∙	64.0	17.7	6
Cl ₃ C·	55.7	9.4	9
СЙ,=СНСН,∙	54.3 ^{d,e}	8.0	6, 8, 10
cyclohexadien-1,3-ylic-5	49.3 ^{d,f}	3.0	6,11
Br•	46.3	0.0	12

^a Obtained from the difference of D(N-Br) of NBS (~46 kcal/mol)⁴ and D(R-Br). ^b kcal/mol. ^c These values can be read as ΔH values since Skinner estimates the ΔH for the Br + NBS reaction to be zero.⁴ ^d Determined by the equation $\Delta H_{f}^{\circ}(R \cdot) + \Delta H_{f}^{\circ}(Br \cdot) - \Delta H_{f}^{\circ}(RBr)$. ^e A bond dissociation energy for 3-bromocyclohexene of 56 kcal/mol is calculated similar to that described in footnote f, except that the value for ΔH_{f}° (cyclohexen-3-yl) of 30 kcal/mol (see ref 11) is uncertain. This value is not a reasonable one since an R-Br bond weaker than the allyl bromide bond is expected. ^f The $\Delta H_{f}^{\circ}(R - Br)$ is calculated by using a value of +1.5 kcal/mol to convert C-H to C-Br (ref 6, pp 272, 280).

(Scheme II, R', R'', R'''). The heats of reactions associated with the attack of these alkyl radicals on NBS will decrease with increasing stability of the radical. This gradual change in energetics might affect the activation energies as shown by the solid and dashed paths in Scheme II. In this scheme, radicals above R'' will react with NBS to produce S_{σ} ; radicals below R'' react with NBS to produce S_{π} (solid paths). The radicals near R'' should react with NBS to give a mixture of S_{σ} and S_{π} .

Estimated ΔH values for reactions of a variety of alkyl radicals with NBS are given in Table I.

Since there is a probe for S_{σ} , it is possible to test this hypothesis. The S_{σ} radical undergoes a reversible ring opening to $\cdot CH_2CH_2C(O)NCO$ (PI), which is effectively trapped by NBS to produce BrCH₂CH₂C(O)NCO (BPI). The S_{π} radical does *not* undergo this ring-opening reaction.

The events that account for product formation in an S_{σ} system (NBS, alkene, CH_2Cl_2 solvent) are given in Scheme III. The rate of the interconversion $S_{\sigma} \rightleftharpoons PI$ is closely competitive with abstraction of hydrogen from substrate.^{3,13} The reactions (enclosed in the box) responsible for the formation of BPI (path a plus c) and the formation of BrCHCl₂ (path d) are in competition. Reactions outside the box, for example, reactions with additional substrate (path e), should have no influence on the competition within the box if S_{σ} is the sole succinimidyl involved. This scheme requires that if the initial [NBS] and [CH₂Cl₂] are kept constant for a series of experiments with different added substrates, the mole ratio BrCHCl₂/BPI (paths d/c) will remain constant regardless of how much S_{σ} is drained off by parasitic reactions, such as with RH.

The reaction conditions for testing this scheme were met by saturating CH_2Cl_2 solvent (78 mmol) with NBS (1.69 mmol, [NBS] = 0.22 M). The addition of small amounts of 1,1-dichloroethylene (0.07 M) to the solution scavenged adventitious bromine. Various substrates were present at concentrations from 0.20 to 0.78 M. The reactions were degassed and then irradiated at ~15 °C through Pyrex with a medium-pressure mercury arc. Internal standards were used to obtain absolute yields of products, utilizing a combination of gas chromatography and ¹H NMR. All analytical signals were accounted for by starting materials, products, BrCHCl₂, BPI, brominated substrates, and succinimide.

Reactions of NBS with ·CHCl₂ and 1° and 2° Alkyl Radicals. The validity of Scheme III was examined by studying the reactions without added substrates and with the addition of the substrates neopentane, *n*-butane, or cyclopentane, which serve to introduce •CHCl₂ and 1° and 2° alkyl radicals into the systems (Table II).

In spite of substantial and variable diversion of the succinimidyl radicals into reactions with the added hydrocarbons, the fraction $BrCHCl_2/BPI$ remained constant at ca. 0.022 ± 0.003, independent of the concentration of the added hydrocarbons (0.20–0.73 M).

Table II. Reactions^a with Neopentane, *n*-Butane, and Cyclopentane

expt	substrate (M) ^b	products (mmol)	BrCHCl ₂ / BPI ^c
1	CH ₂ Cl ₂ (15.6) CH ₂ CCl ₂ (0.075)	BPI (1.65) BrCHCl, (0.039)	0.024
		succinimide (0.039)	
2	CH,Cl, (15.3)	BPI (1.58)	0.021
	$neo C_{112} (0.20)$	BrCHC1, (0.033)	
	CH,CC1, (0.074)	$neo-C_5H_{11}Br (0.041)$	
	2 2	succinimide (0.075)	
3	CH ₂ Cl ₂ (15.0)	BPI (1.56)	0.020
	$neo-C_{5}H_{12}(0.38)$	BrCHCl ₂ (0.031)	
	$CH_2CCl_2(0.072)$	$neo-C_{5}H_{11}Br (0.079)$	
		succinimide (0.110)	
4	$CH_{2}Cl_{2}$ (14.2)	BPI (1.52)	0.020
	$neo-C_{5}H_{12}(0.73)$	BrCHCl ₂ (0.031)	
	CH_2CCl_2 (0.068)	$neo-C_{5}H_{11}Br (0.139)$	
		succinimide (0.170)	
5	$CH_{2}Cl_{2}$ (15.0)	BPI (1.47)	0.021
	<i>n</i> -butane (0.38)	BrCHCl ₂ (0.030)	
	$CH_2CCl_2 (0.072)$	1-bromobutane (0.034)	
		2-bromobutane (0.077)	
,		succinimide (0.140)	
6	CH ₂ Cl ₂ (14.2)	BPI (1.37)	0.021
	<i>n</i> -butane (0.73)	BrCHCl ₂ (0.029)	
	CH ₂ CCl ₂ (0.068)	1-bromobutane (0.081)	
		2-bromobutane (0.186)	
~		succinimide (0.300)	
7	CH ₂ Cl ₂ (15.0)	BPI (1.41)	0.025
	cyclopentane (0.38)	BrCHCl ₂ (0.035)	
	CH_2CCl_2 (0.072)	cyclopentyl bromide (0.25) succinimide (0.275)	
	0 I 6 CU 1 (0		

 $a 5.0 \text{ mL of CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$, 1.69 mmol of NBS. b Moles per liter. c Mole ratio.

Earlier work established that S_{π} reacts with CH_2Cl_2 to produce $BrCHCl_2^2$ without ring opening of the S_{π} . If the reaction of any R· with NBS had led to RBr and S_{π} , the fraction $BrCHCl_2/BPI$ would have increased from the value observed when no additional substrate was present; in the limit, the fraction would go to infinity for a pure S_{π} system since S_{π} does not lead to BPI. Consequently, Scheme III is confirmed in detail with experiments 1–7. The alkyl radicals ·CHCl₂, 1° R, and 2° R, as well as the 1° radical PI, react with NBS to produce S_{π} exclusively.

The addition of S_{σ} to 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene produces a 2° alkyl radical intermediate. In work reported elsewhere,³ 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene was used as the added substrate at concentrations of from 0.029 to 0.282 M,¹⁴ resulting in diversions (up to 20%) of NBS to the 1:1 NBS-olefin adduct, without significantly altering the BrCHCl₂/BPI ratio from the 0.022 value.

$$Cl_{2}CH \cdot + NBS \rightarrow RBr + S_{\sigma}$$

$$l^{\circ} R \cdot + NBS \rightarrow RBr + S_{\sigma}$$

$$2^{\circ} R \cdot + NBS \rightarrow RBr + S_{\sigma}$$

Reactions of NBS with Weaker Radicals. Shceme III is no longer valid if the added substrates, upon reaction with succinimidyl, produce radicals that are 3°, allylic, or cyclohexadienylic, such as isobutane, 2,3-dimethylbutane, cyclohexene, or benzene (Table III). In experiments 8–16, the BrCHCl₂/BPI ratios are larger than 0.022, the value characteristic of a pure S_a system.

Unfortunately, systems containing these substrates are not homogeneous in the sense that they contain a number of different reactive centers, thus leading also to 1° and 2° alkyl radicals and •CHCl₂, which produce S_{σ} on reaction with NBS. Nonetheless, in the presence of these substrates there is a loss of BPI relative to BrCHCl₂, a result that can be explained only if mixtures of S_{σ} and S_{π} were produced in the chain sequences (path e leading

⁽¹⁴⁾ For example, in the case of 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene (0.282 M), the products are BPI (1.11 mmol), $BrCHCl_2$ (0.024 mmol), and N-(2-bromo-3,3-dimethyl-1-butyl)succinimide (0.32 mmol); see ref 3.

Table III. Reactions^a with Isobutane, 2,3-Dimethylbutane, Cyclohexene, and Benzene

expt	substrate (M) ^b	products (mmol)	BrCHCl ₂ /BPI ^c
8	CH ₂ Cl ₂ (15.0)	BPI (1.35)	0.037
	isobutane (0.38)	$BrCHCl_{2}(0.050)$	
	CH_2CCl_2 (0.072)	isobutyl bromide (0.084)	
		tert-butyl bromide (0.133)	
		succinimide (0.265)	
9	CH_2Cl_2 (14.9)	BPI (1.25)	0.045
	2,3-dimethylbutane (0.38)	$BrCHCl_{2}$ (0.056)	
	CH_2CCl_2 (0.071)	1-bromo-2,3-dimethylbutane (0.079)	
		2-bromo-2,3-dimethylbutane (0.21)	
		succinimide (0.35)	
10	CH ₂ Cl ₂ (15.0)	BPI (0.62)	0.073
	cyclohexene (0.38)	$BrCHCl_{2}(0.045)$	
	CH ₂ CCl ₂ (0.072)	4-bromocyclohexene (0.022)	
	2 2	3-bromocyclohexene (0.110)	
		1-bromo-2-succinimidylcyclohexane (0.77)	
		succinimide (0.18)	
11	CH ₂ Cl ₂ (15.3)	BPI (0.71)	0.138
	benzene (0.20)	$BrCHCl_2(0.10)$	
	CH ₂ CCl ₂ (0.094)	N-phenylsuccinimide (0.14)	
	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	succinimide (0.32)	
		1,2-dibromo-1,1-dichloroethane (0.15)	
12	CH ₂ Cl ₂ (15.0)	BPI (0.34)	0.294
	benzene (0.40)	BrCHCl ₂ (0.10)	0.22
	CH ₂ CCl ₂ (0.092)	N-phenylsuccinimide (0.14)	
	01120012 (010) 2)	succinimide (0.31)	
		1,2-dibromo-1,1-dichloroethane (0.14)	
13	CH ₂ Cl ₂ (14.5)	BPI (0.23)	0.609
15	benzene (0.78)	$BrCHCl_{2}$ (0.14)	0.007
	CH ₂ CCl ₂ (0.11)	N-phenylsuccinimide (0.15)	
	$cm_2 ccm_2 (0.11)$	succinimide (0.28)	
		1,2-dibromo-1,1-dichloroethane (0.15)	
14	CH ₂ Cl ₂ (11.5)	BPI $(<0.09)^d$	>2.2 ^e
1 4	benzene (2.47)	BrCHCl ₂ (0.20)	2.1
	3,3-dimethyl-1-butene (0.34)	N-phenylsuccinimide (0.34)	
	5,5-dimension for $(0.5+)$	N-(2-bromo-3,3-dimethyl-1-butyl)-	
		succinimide (0.12)	
		succinimide (0.58)	
		1,2-dibromo-3,3-dimethylbutane (0.33)	
15	CH ₂ Cl ₂ (10.7)	BPI $(< 0.09)^d$	>1.4 ^e
10	benzene (2.30)	BrCHC1, (0.13)	~ 1.7
	$neo-C_5H_{12}(0.55)$	$neo-C_{5}H_{11}Br(0.040)$	
	3,3-dimethyl-1-butene (0.32)	N-phenylsuccinimide (0.28)	
	5,5 annemyr-1-butene (0.52)	N-(2-bromo-3,3-dimethyl-1-butyl)-	
		succinimide (0.11)	
		succinimide (0.46)	
		1,2-dibromo-3,3-dimethylbutane (0.28)	
16	CH_2Cl_2 (11.5)	$BPI (<0.09)^d$	>0.78 ^e
	benzene (2.47)	$BrCHCl_2$ (0.070)	
	1,3-butadiene (0.35)	N-phenylsuccinimide (0.070)	
	CH_2CCl_2 (0.094)	1,3-butadiene addition products (1.23)	
		succinimide (0.14)	

^a 5.0 mL of CH₂Cl₂, 1.69 mmol of NBS. ^b Moles per liter. ^c Mole ratio. ^d No BPI was detected. ^e The minimum value reflects the detection limit for BPI.

to pure S_{π} or a mixture of S_{π} and S_{σ}). The introduction of S_{π} into the system by way of path e adds an alternate route to BrCHCl₂, without perturbing the competition within the box in Scheme III. The result is an increase in the BrCHCl₂/BPI mole ratio.

Reactions of NBS with 3° Alkyl Radicals. In experiments 8 and 9, NBS is subjected to attack by 3° as well as 1° alkyl radicals. The increase in the BrCHCl₂/BPI ratio must be attributed to the presence of 3° alkyl radicals. Further, the value of this fraction increases as the ratio of 3° to 1° hydrogens increases in going from isobutane to 2,3-dimethylbutane.

Reactions of NBS with Allylic Radicals. Scheme IV gives the reaction pathways observed in experiment 10 (cyclohexene as added substrate). Hydrogen abstractions from both the 4- and 3-positions generate the 4-cyclohexenyl (2°) and 3-cyclohexenyl (allylic) radicals, respectively. Succinimidyl radicals add readily to certain olefins,¹⁵ this being the predominant reaction path

Scheme IV



observed with cyclohexene, generating the 2° alkyl radical 4. Since 2° alkyl radicals react with NBS to produce S_{σ} exclusively, the increase in the fraction BrCHCl₂/BPI must be attributed to the reaction of NBS with the 3-cyclohexenyl radical, a pathway that accounts for only 7% of the NBS.

To study the influence of the allylic radical further, we examined succinimidyl addition to 1,3-butadiene. Addition of the succinimidyl to 1,3-butadiene results in the formation of an allylic radical

⁽¹⁵⁾ Skell, P. S.; Day, J. C.; Katsaros, M. G.; Kocher, W. D.; Scott, A. E. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1978, 100, 1950.

Table IV. Reactions^a with 1,3-Butadiene

	substrates	
products (mmol)	CH ₂ =CHCH=CH ₂ (2.0 mmol, 0.38 M) ^b	$CH_2=CHCH=CH_2$ (2.4 mmol, 0.44 M) + (CH ₃) ₃ CCH=CH ₂ (2.0 mmol, 0.36 M)
BPI	< 0.09 ^c	0.22
BrCHC1,	0.029	0.020
BrCH ₂ CH=CHCH ₂ S + CH ₂ =CHCHBrCH ₂ S	0.95	0.86
(CH ₃) ₃ CCHBrCH ₂ S ²		0.10

^a 1.69 mmol of NBS, 78.1 mmol of CH₂Cl₂ (solvent). ^b 1,1dichloroethylene present at 0.075 M. ^c Detection limit.

intermediate (5), which is subsequently trapped by NBS to give predominantly the 1,4 adduct.



A reaction carried out with 1,3-butadiene as the added substrate (0.38 M), under the identical conditions as above, produces addition products (1,2 and 1,4), a small amount of $BrCHCl_2$, and no BPI (Table IV).

The absence of BPI in the 1,3-butadiene reaction can be interpreted as follows: (1) it is a pure S_{π} system or (2) 1,3-butadiene reacts rapidly enough with S_{σ} to preclude ring opening. The latter explanation can be rejected, since addition of 3,3-dimethyl-1butene to the above reaction mixture results in significant BPI formation, along with the formation of NBS adducts from both of the olefinic substrates (Table IV). For reactions with NBS in the presence of olefins such as 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene (or ethylene), addition occurs with $k_{addn}/k_{ro} = 0.59$,³ so that ring opening of S_{σ} and addition of S_{σ} to 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene are closely competitive pathways. The results of the experiment with both 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene and 1,3-butadiene present indicate



that the rates of addition of S_{σ} to these olefins are similar¹⁶ and that the rate of S_{σ} addition to 1,3-butadiene is not so fast as to

$$(k_{1,3-bu}/k_{3,3-Me_2-1-bu})_{S_{\sigma}} = \frac{0.39}{0.088} \times \frac{2.0}{2.4} = 3.7$$

(17) Hydrogen bromide is trapped rapidly by an ionic reaction with NBS to produce Br_2 and succinimide (Shea, K. J.; Lewis, D. C.; Skell, P. S. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1973, 95, 7768–7776 and earlier references therein). The reaction of Br_2 with alkene yields 1,2-dibromoalkane, the amount being equal to that of the N-phenylsuccinimide.



preclude ring opening of S_{σ} to PI. Consequently, the absence of BPI when 1,3-butadiene alone is present must be attributed to the reactions of allylic radical **5** with NBS producing exclusively S_{σ} .

Reactions of NBS with Cyclohexadienylic Radicals. In experiments 11-13 (Table III) with benzene as the added substrate, the products attributed to reactions of succinimidyl are BrCHCl₂, BPI, and N-phenylsuccinimide.^{1,14} A characteristic of these systems is that the ratio BrCHCl₂/BPI is much larger than the value of 0.022 for a pure S_{σ} system. The observed increase in the ratio must be caused by the generation of S_{π} in the system. However, it will be shown (vide infra) that S_{π} does not add to benzene, so that to continue the chain it is necessary to have present another substrate that can react readily with S_{π} and thus ultimately regenerate S_{σ} . For experiments 11-13, methylene chloride serves as this intermediary, and this explains the ratio of N-phenylsuccinimide to $BrCHCl_2$ being approximately 1.0. A reasonable candidate for the production of S_{π} is the cyclohexadienyl radical intermediate 6 (Scheme V). In experiments 14 and 15, 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene and neopentane react with S_{σ} to form 2° and 1° alkyl radicals, respectively, and these in turn regenerate S_{σ} upon reaction with NBS. In these experiments, the N-phenylsuccinimide yields are equal to the sum of the yields of BrCHCl₂, neopentyl bromide, and the NBS adduct of 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene. Unlike the experiments described in Table II (where the value of the ratio BrCHCl₂/BPI is independent of the substrate concentration), in experiments with benzene this ratio depends on the substrate concentration (the ratio increases with increasing benzene concentration). However, the ratio of all the brominated products (BrCHCl₂, neopentyl bromide, and N-(2bromo-3,3-dimethyl-1-butyl)succinimide) to the N-phenylsuccinimide remains 1.0. This dependence on the benzene concentration is consistent with (a) a rapid addition of S_{σ} to benzene and (b) the reaction of NBS with cyclohexadienylic radical intermediate 6, producing S_{π} (reaction 5). The S_{π} continues the chain by reacting with the other substrates that are present. In experiments 11-13, most of the BrCHCl₂ produced comes from the reaction of CH_2Cl_2 with S_{π} ; only a minor amount (0.022 × BPI) comes from the reaction with S_{σ} . Since benzene is an efficient trap for S_{σ} , the mole ratio BrCHCl₂/BPI increases as the benzene concentration is increased. In experiments 14 and 15, the benzene concentrations are high enough to reduce the BPI concentration to below the detection limit. Under conditions where all S_{σ} is trapped by benzene, experiments 14 and 15, brominated substrates must come from the reaction of these substrates with S_{π} only. This is precisely what is observed in experiment 15: the relative rate ratio $(k_{neo-C_3H_{12}}/k_{CH_2Cl_2})_H$ is characteristic of a pure S_{π} attack on these substrates, being equal to 1.04 (the value of this relative rate ratio, per hydrogen, is 1.0 ± 0.10 for S_{π} and 17 ± 2 for S_a).¹⁻³ These results suggest that in experiments 14 and 15 the additions to 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene should be attributed totally to S_{π} . Results to be presented elsewhere confirm this tentative suggestion.

A benzene-butadiene-CH₂Cl₂ reaction mixture (experiment 16) does not produce enough S_{σ} to make formation of *N*-phenylsuccinimide a major reaction channel, as does 3,3-di-

⁽¹⁶⁾ In the absence of 1,3-butadiene (1,3-bu), 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene (3,3-Me₂-1-bu) reacts by a pure S_o chain, giving BPI and N-(2-bromo-3,3-dimethyl-1-butyl)succinimide in a ratio of 2.5:1 when 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene and NBS are present at the same concentrations as in the 1,3-butadiene competition. Thus, in the competition with 1,3-butadiene, the amount of the 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene adduct resulting from S_o addition is 0.22/2.5 = 0.088 mmol. Consequently, 0.012 mmol of the 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene adduct results from S_x addition. It will be shown elsewhere that the ratio of rate constants for addition of S_x is $(k_{1,3-bu}/k_{3,3-Me_2-1-bu})S_x = 32.6$. Thus, the amount of 1,3-butadiene adducts from S_x addition. From this treatment, a relative rate for S_o additions to this pair of olefins can be derived:

methyl-1-butene (experiment 10), even though 1,3-butadiene is only 4 times more reactive than 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene in adding S_{σ} . The failure to form N-phenyl succinimide in experiment 16 is attributed to the pure S_{π} chain propagated by the 1,3-butadiene. In summary, allylic and cyclohexadienylic radicals react with NBS to produce S_{π} exclusively. While the results of experiments

allylic. or cyclohexadienylic. + NBS
$$\rightarrow$$
 RBr+ S_z

8 and 9 clearly indicate that the reactions of a 3° alkyl with NBS produce some S_{π} , the amount of reaction by this channel may be

$$3^{\circ} \text{R} \cdot + \text{NBS} \rightarrow \text{RBr} + S_{\sigma} + S_{\pi}$$

small. The next section lifts this ambiguity.

Reaction of NBS with a 3° Alkyl Radical: 2,2-Me₂NBS. Although it is evident that some S_{π} is produced in the reaction of NBS with a 3° alkyl radical, this appears to be a minor pathway since the ratio BrCHCl₂/BPI is only slightly elevated from the value for a pure S_{σ} system. Obtaining a better estimate from these reaction systems is probably not practicable without knowledge of the relative rates of the reactions of S_{π} and S_{σ} with each type of C-H bond in the system. For this reason, a different method was employed to examine the S_π to S_σ proportions resulting from the reaction of 3° alkyl radical with NBS.

When a reaction mixture of 2,2-Me₂NBS (1.45 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (78 mmol) containing neopentane (4.0 mmol) and 1,1dichloroethylene (0.06 M) is irradiated to complete conversion, the products are 3-bromo-3-methylbutanoyl isocyanate (7) (1.39 mmol), BrCHCl₂ (0.046 mmol), neopentyl bromide (0.015 mmol), and 2,2-dimethylsuccinimide (0.062 mmol). The progenitors of the bromodichloromethane and neopentyl bromide become apparent when the ratio of their formation is examined. This rate ratio (per H) is 1.1, characteristic of S_{π} reactions with methylene chloride-neopentane mixtures $(1.0 \pm 0.1 \text{ for } S_{\pi})$. These products, the result of S_{π} reactions with substrates, account for 4.3% of the *N*-bromo imide. Since it has been shown that only S_{σ} converts to acyl isocyanates, it follows that 95.7% of the 2,2-dimethylsuccinimidyl radicals were produced in the σ state. A part of these σ radicals (4.3%) comes from the reactions of the N-bromo imide with \cdot CHCl₂ and neo-C₄H₉; the remainder (91.4%) must come from the reaction of the open-chain 3° radical with the N-bromo imide. It is assumed that this partitioning between π and σ is also quantitatively characteristic of all 3° alkyl radicals.



Since NBS and alkyl-substituted NBS react at the same rate in trapping alkyl radicals, ^{13,18} the following describes the reactions of NBS with tertiary alkyl radicals:

$$3^{\circ} \text{ R} \cdot + \text{ NBS} \xrightarrow{95.5\%} 3^{\circ} \text{ RBr} + \text{S}_{\sigma} \qquad \Delta H = ?$$

3° R· + NBS $\xrightarrow{4.5\%}$ 3° RBr + S_{π} $\Delta H = -17.7$ kcal/mol

If, as seems reasonable, no endothermic steps are involved in forming S_{σ} , then the reaction leading to S_{σ} is approximately thermoneutral, and $H_{S_r} - H_{S_r} \approx 17.7$ kcal/mol; this value defines the upper limit for the enthalpy separation.

Reactions of NBS with Br. Radical. Earlier it was reported¹⁻³ that reaction mixtures of NBS in methylene chloride with molecular bromine present at concentrations greater than 10⁻³ M led to the formation of brominated substrate uncontaminated by BPI (Table V). This system required a mechanism in which bromine atom reacted with NBS and in which (a) the substrate radical is trapped by Br_2 instead of NBS and (b) S_{π} is the sole

Table V. Reaction^a with Molecular Bromine

expt	substrate (M) ^b	products (mmol)	BrCHCl ₂ / BPI ^c
17	$\frac{CH_2Cl_2 (15.6)}{Br_2 (>10^{-3})}$	$BrCHCl_2 (0.50)$ succinimide (0.50)	>5.0 ^d

^a 5.0 mL of CH₂Cl₂, 1.69 mmol of NBS. ^b Moles per liter. ^c Mole ratio. ^d No BPI was detected. The minimum value reflects the detection limit for BPI, 0.09 mmol.

Table VI. Reaction^{α} with Chloroform as Solvent

substrate (M) ^b	products (mmol)	BrCCl ₃ /BPI ^c
$CHCl_{3}(12.4)$	$BrCCl_3(0.60)$	>5.00 ^d
		CHCl ₃ (12.4) BrCCl ₃ (0.60)

^a 5.0 mL of CHCl₃, 1.69 mmol of NBS. ^b Moles per liter. ^c Mole ratio. ^d No BPI was detected. The minimum value reflects the detection limit for BPI, 0.09 mmol.

succinimidyl present, formed by the reaction of NBS with Br-(reaction 2). There are several independent lines of evidence that

$$S_{\pi} + CH_{2}Cl_{2} \rightarrow SH + \cdot CHCl_{2}$$
$$\cdot CHCl_{2} + Br_{2} \rightarrow BrCHCl_{2} + Br \cdot$$
$$Br \cdot + NBS \rightarrow Br_{2} + S_{\pi}$$
(2)

indicate that Br₂ is superior to NBS as a radical trapping agent,^{1,19} and the absence of BPI indicates that only S_{π} is produced. This conclusion is consistent with the observation that no N-phenylsuccinimide is produced when benzene is present.

It was shown that if BPI had been produced, it would have survived the reaction conditions by demonstrating that (a) irradiation of a methylene chloride solution of Br2 and BPI resulted in no loss of BPI and (b) added BPI survives unchanged in an experiment identical with experiment 17.

Reaction of NBS with •CCl₃ Radicals. Another reaction that produces pure S_{π} is that of NBS with trichloromethyl radical. If chloroform is substituted for methylene chloride, serving as both solvent and substrate, no BPI is obtained; only BrCCl₃ and succinimide are produced in equimolar amounts. The reaction was carried out analogously to experiment 1, with 1,1-dichloroethylene present to scavenge any molecular bromine that developed. The result is given in Table VI.

It is remarkable that in shifting from CH₂Cl₂ to CHCl₃, as solvent and reactant, in the presence of 1,1-dichloroethylene, the

$$S_{\pi} + CHCl_3 \rightarrow SH + \cdot CCl_3$$
 (6)

$$\cdot \text{CCl}_3 + \text{NBS} \to \text{BrCCl}_3 + \text{S}_{\pi} \tag{7}$$

yield of BPI goes from 97.5% to 0. This is a result that can be understood with Scheme II (Figure 2), \cdot CHCl₂ + NBS above the changeover value and $Cl_3C + NBS$ below.

Addition of benzene (0.81 M) to the NBS-CHCl₃ system has no effect on the course of the reaction, the products being BrCCl₃ and succinimide uncontaminated by N-phenylsuccinimide. The failure of S_{τ} to add to benzene is further demonstrated by this experiment. This experiment should be contrasted with experiment 13, identical except for methylene chloride solvent, in which N-phenylsuccinimide is the major product. This minor change in the nature of the solvent could produce this dramatic effect only if •CHCl₂ and •CCl₃ give different products on reaction with NBS.

Although chloroform would appear to be a solvent that would ensure S_{π} as the chain carrier, Johnson and Bublitz²⁰ reported good yields of BPI from NBS in chloroform solution in the presence of allyl chloride, evidence for S_{σ} involvement. Thus there appears to be an anomaly. We confirm this observation. The NBS-CHCl₃ system gives good yields of BPI in the presence of

⁽¹⁸⁾ Martin, J. C., private communication.

⁽¹⁹⁾ Tuleen, D. L.; Skell, P. S.; Readio, P. D. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1963, 85. 2850.

⁽²⁰⁾ Johnson, H. W.; Bublitz, D. E. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1958, 80, 3150.

3,3-dimethyl-1-butene; but there is no BPI in the presence of 1,1-dichloroethylene.

In the presence of 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene, both S_{π} and CCl₃ radicals are trapped by this alkene, leading to a 2° alkyl radical that reacts with NBS to form S_{σ} . The S_{σ} opens to PI and PI reacts with NBS to form BPI and S_{σ} , etc. Thus, the 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene scavenges the components that would make an S_{π} chain, exactly as in the Johnson and Bublitz experiment.

1,1-Dichloroethylene is apparently a poor trap for $\cdot \text{CCl}_3$ and S_{π} , so these radicals can carry on the S_{π} chain (eq 6 and 7).

An additional factor that accounts for good S_{σ} chains in the presence of CHCl₃ is the low rates of reaction of S_{σ} with chlorine-substituted methanes, $[k_{Me_4C}/k_{CH_2Cl_3}]_H = 17$; CHCl₃ is less reactive than CH₂Cl₂. On the other hand, for S_{π} , $[k_{Me_4C}/k_{CH_2Cl_3}/k_{CHCl_3}]_H = (1.0)/1.0/1.1$. Thus, S_{σ} chains are perpetuated because S_{σ} reacts poorly with CHCl₃; S_{π} chains are perpetuated because S_{π} reacts readily with CHCl₃ and thus regenerates S_{π} .

It is intriguing that S_{π} and S_{σ} chains operate independently in the same medium, crossovers occurring only with the aid of agents such as benzene, which reacts with S_{σ} but produces S_{π} , or CH_2Cl_2 , which reacts with S_{π} or S_{σ} to produce $\cdot CHCl_2$, which in turn leads only to S_{σ} .

Concluding Remarks

The behavior of the succinimidyls produced in experiments 1–16 can be explained by using Figure 2 (Scheme II). Both 1° and 2° alkyl and \cdot CHCl₂ radicals react with NBS to produce S_{σ} exclusively. These reactions lie above the threshold for the changeover from S_{σ} to S_{π} . The reaction of NBS with allylic, cyclohexadienylic, trichloromethyl, and Br radicals lies below this threshold, producing solely S_{π} . The reaction of the 3° alkyl radical with NBS seems to be on the border between the two reaction domains. In summary:

 \cdot CHCl₂, 1° R \cdot or 2° R \cdot + NBS \rightarrow RBr + S_{σ}

$$3^{\circ} \text{ R} \cdot + \text{ NBS} \rightarrow \text{ RBr} + \text{ S}_{\sigma} (95.5\%) + \text{ S}_{\pi} (4.5\%)$$

allylic, cyclohexadienylic, Br, or $CCl_3 + NBS \rightarrow RBr + S_{\pi}$

Two new systems for generating S_{π} , free of S_{σ} , have become available: (1) NBS-CHCl₃ in the presence of 1,1-dichloroethylene, which produces S_{π} only, and (2) NBS-CH₂Cl₂ with sufficient benzene to trap all the S_{σ} and produce S_{π} . The detailed examination of S_{π} chemistry will be reported elsewhere.

For reactions of R· with NBS, the concept of a high-energy route to S_{σ} and a low-energy route to S_{π} appears to be valid, and further, two distinctly different structures for the transition states leading to these succinimidyl radicals are required: an in-line structure for S_{σ} production and an out-of-plane structure for S_{π} are proposed. The reaction of 3° alkyl radical with NBS is on the border between these reaction domains, and this leads to the conclusion that $H_{S_{\sigma}} - H_{S_{\pi}} \leq 18$ kcal/mol.

The hypothesis that the selective conversions of NBS to S_{π} or S_{σ} involved out-of-plane and in-line transition states, respectively, which was proposed earlier,^{1,2} may prove useful in extending the concepts to related systems.^{1,21}

Although energetics alone may explain why stronger radicals react with NBS to produce S_{σ} and weaker ones S_{π} . Clark²² has suggested an additional intriguing factor by pointing out that the in-line mode should be preferred by nucleophilic radicals and the out-of-plane mode by electrophilic radicals. Electron-transfer processes in the operation of these modes might be a concept nearly equivalent to Clark's suggestion.

Experimental Section

General. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian EM-360 spectrometer with chemical shifts reported on the δ scale relative to Me₄Si. Infrared analyses were carried out on a Perkin-Elmer 580 or 727 spectrometer. Gas chromatography analyses were carried out on a Varian 1400 FID with a 60/80 Carbopak B 1% SP-1000 6 ft × 2 mm or a 100/120 Supelcoport 10% Silar 10 6 ft × 2 mm column. Mass spectra

were taken on a Finnigan 3200 $CI(CH_4)$ at low resolution or an AEI-MS 902 run at 70 eV.

Materials. N-Bromosuccinimide was obtained from Aldrich Chemical Co. The preparation of 2,2-dimethyl-N-bromosuccinimide has been described previously.³ Methylene chloride was purified by successive extraction with concentrated H₂SO₄, distilled water, and 5% aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution, dried with anhydrous calcium chloride, and distilled from phosphorus pentoxide. Chloroform was purified by successive extraction with concentrated H2SO4 and distilled water, dried with anhydrous calcium chloride, and distilled from phosphorus pentoxide. 3,3-Dimethyl-1-butene and 1,1-dichloroethylene were obtained from Aldrich Chemical Co.; the former was used as received and the latter was vacuum distilled directly into the reaction vessel. The bromine employed in this work was Mallinckrodt Analyzed Reagent Grade and was used without further purification. Neopentane, Phillips (99%), was used without further purification. n-Butane and isobutane, Matheson (99%), were used as received. Cyclopentane and 2,3-dimethylbutane, Aldrich Chemical Co., were each distilled prior to use. Cyclohexene was obtained from J. T. Baker Chemical Co. and was distilled before use. Benzene was distilled (Na-K alloy) prior to use. 1,3-Butadiene was obtained from Matheson (99%) and dried with anhydrous CaSO₄ prior to use.

Photolysis Experiments. All reactions were carried out in 30-mL Pyrex pressure tubes sealed with Teflon (Du Pont fluorocarbon) needle valves. Reactant mixtures were degassed 3 times by a freeze-thaw technique, with freezing and evacuating at -196 °C and thawing at ambient temperature. The sealed pressure tube, in a Pyrex water-circulating bath maintained at 14-15 °C, was irradiated with a 400-W medium-pressure mercury arc.

Compositions of individual reaction mixtures are given in either Tables II-VI or the text. Irradiation times of 1.0-2.5 h were employed. Product yields were obtained from direct ¹H NMR integrations with an internal standard (hexamethyldisiloxane). Alternatively, yields of brominated substrates were determined by gas chromatography after addition of internal standard (chlorobenzene) and workup (aqueous NaHSO₃, aqueous NaHCO₃, and Na₂SO₄ drying). A third method involved the separation of the volatile and nonvolatile materials by vacuum trap-to-trap distillation (room temperature, 1 mm) into a -196 °C trap. The nonvolatile materials were analyzed by ¹H NMR and the volatile materials by GC without a workup. Products were identified by comparison of GC retention times and/or to spectra of authentic samples. Absolute product compositions for each experiment are given in Tables II-VI or the text. Detailed product analysis for analogous experiments have been described previously.³

β-Bromopropionyl isocyanate was prepared as an authentic sample by the procedure described by Johnson and Bublitz.²⁰ Pure β-bromopropionyl isocyanate was also isolated from product mixtures by vacuum trap-to-trap distillation (1 mm) at ambient temperature into a -10 °C trap (ethylene glycol-N₂): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) AA'XX' with triplets at δ 3.05, 3.55 (J = 1, 3 Hz, 4 H); IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) most prominent band at 2245 (s, NCO), 1735 (m), 1400 (m), 1070 (m). ¹H NMR integrations were used to determine the absolute yield in product mixtures.

N-Phenylsuccinimide was prepared as an authentic sample by the condensation of succinic anhydride and aniline and subsequent recrystallization from absolute ethanol, mp 150–152 °C (lit.²³ mp 150 °C). Pure *N*-phenylsuccinimide was also isolated from the reaction of benzene with NBS by chromatographing the product mixture on neutral alumina (pentane-methylene chloride): mp 150–152 °C, undepressed by admixture with the authentic sample; ¹H NMR (CH₂Cl₂) δ 2.75 (s, 4 H), 7.05–7.5 (m, 5 H). ¹H NMR integrations were used to determine the absolute yield in product mixtures.

1-Bromo-2-succinimidylcyclohexane was isolated as a liquid from the reaction of cyclohexene with NBS by (a) removal of volatile materials in vacuo, (b) extraction of nonvolatile products with CCl₄, and (c) evaporation of CCl₄ in vacuo: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.15–2.1 (m, 8 H), 2.7 (s, 4 H), 3.8–5.0 (m, 2 H); MS (Cl), *m/e* 260, 262 (1:1, M⁺ + H), 180 (M + H – Br). H¹ NMR integrations were used to determine the absolute yield in product mixtures.

The addition products resulting from the experiments with 1,3-butadiene present were isolated by chromatographing the product mixture on silica gel (hexane-ethyl acetate).

1-Bromo-4-succinimidyl-2-butene: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.7 (s, 4 H), 3.3–4.4 (M, 4 H), 5.5–5.9 (m, 2 H); MS (CI), m/e 232, 234 (1:1, M⁺ + H), 153 (M⁺ + H – Br).

3-Bromo-4-succinimidyl-1-butene: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.8 (s, 4 H), 3.3–3.7 (m, 2 H), 5.5–5.9 (m, 3 H), 6.4–6.6 (m, 1 H). ¹H NMR integrations were used to determine the absolute yields in product mixtures.

N-(2-Bromo-3,3-dimethyl-1-butyl)succinimide was isolated from product mixtures as described previously:³ mp 84-86 °C; ¹H NMR

 ⁽²¹⁾ May, D. D.; Skell, P. S. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1981, 103, 967.
 (22) Clark, T. R. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1979, 101, 7746.

(CCl₄) δ 1.1 (s, 9 H), 2.65 (s, 4 H), 3.6-4.4 (m, 3 H); MS (EI), m/e 261, 263 (1:1, M⁺), 204, 206 (1:1, M⁺ - C₄H₉), 182 (M⁺ - Br). ¹H NMR integrations were used to determine the absolute yield in product mixtures.

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Registry No. Neopentane, 463-82-1; n-butane, 106-97-8; cyclopentane, 287-92-3; isobutane, 75-28-5; 2,3-dimethylbutane, 79-29-8; cyclohexane, 110-83-8; benzene, 71-43-2; 1,3-butadiene, 106-99-0; bromine, 7726-95-6; chloroform, 67-66-3; N-bromosuccinimide, 128-08-5; 1-bromo-2-succinimidylcyclohexane, 82469-57-6; 1-bromo-4-succinimidyl-2-butene, 82469-58-7; 3-bromo-4-succinimidyl-1-butene, 82469-59-8; N-(2bromo-3,3-dimethyl-1-butyl)succinimide, 72323-45-6.

Polyether Biosynthesis. 2. Origin of the Oxygen Atoms of Monensin A

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Abstract: Feeding of [1-13C] acetate to cultures of Streptomyces cinnamonensis gave monensin A labeled at carbons 7, 9, 13, 19, and 25, as established by ¹³C NMR analysis. Similarly, incorporation of $[1-^{13}C]$ propionate resulted in enrichment of carbons 1, 3, 5, 11, 17, 21, and 23. Further incorporations of $[1,2-^{13}C_2]$ acetate, $[1,2-^{13}C_2]$ propionate, $[2-^{13}C]$ propionate, $[2-^{13}C_2]$ and [2,3-13C2] succinate and analysis by 13C NMR, including extensive homonuclear 13C[13C] decoupling, established the biosynthetic origins of all the carbon atoms of monensin, while allowing a complete assignment of the ¹³C NMR spectrum. When [1-¹³C,1-¹⁸O₂] propionate was fed, isotopically shifted peaks indicating the presence of oxygen-18 at C-1, C-3, and C-5 were observed, whereas feeding of [1-13C,1-18O₂]acetate gave rise to excess oxygen-18 at C-7, C-9, and C-25. Three of the remaining ether oxygens, O(7), O(8), and O(9), were shown to be derived from molecular oxygen by growth of S. cinnamonensis in an atmosphere of ¹⁸O₂ and ¹³C NMR analysis of the resulting labeled monensin A. These results are consistent with initial formation of the all-E-triene 7, which can be converted to monensin by cyclization of the triepoxide 8.

The polyether antibiotics, a group of more than 60 naturally occurring ionophores,² have attracted intense chemical and biochemical attention since the determination of the structure of monensin A (1) only 15 years ago.³ Two of these compounds, monensin and lasalocid (2),⁴ have found important veterinary applications in the control of coccidiosis in poultry and as agents for the improvement of feed utilization in ruminant livestock. The



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Scheme I



vast majority of these polyoxygenated, branched-chain fatty acids are produced by species of the genus Streptomyces. Recent investigations in several laboratories of the biosynthesis of these substances have focussed on identification of the simple precursors acetate, propionate, and butyrate and suggested an analogy to the well-understood formation of saturated fatty acids as well as to the biosynthesis of a second major class of polyoxygenated Streptomyces metabolites, the macrolide antibiotics.⁵ In our own work we have been interested in establishing the details of the pathways by which both macrolides⁶ and polyethers are formed from their simple precursors. Our initial efforts have concentrated on determining the extent to which the implied analogy to classical fatty acid biosynthesis is in fact applicable to the formation of these functionally and stereochemically far more complex analogues. To address this question, we have recently determined the origin of the oxygen atoms of monensin, and our results are described below.7

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