

36-64 Preparation and photoisomerization of cis- and trans-[2.1.2.1]metacyclophanedienes

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McMurry reaction of bis(2-methyl, and 2-methoxy-3-formyl-4-t-butylphenyl)methane gave a mixture of cis- and trans-tetramethyl-, tetramethoxy[2.1.2.1]-metacyclophanedienes (MCPD) (**1**, and **2**, respectively). X-ray crystallographic analysis revealed that the isolated cis- and trans-isomers of **1**, and **2** had 1,3-alternate and 1,2-alternate structure, respectively (Fig. 1). Cis- and trans-isomerizations were observed on exposure to ultraviolet irradiation.

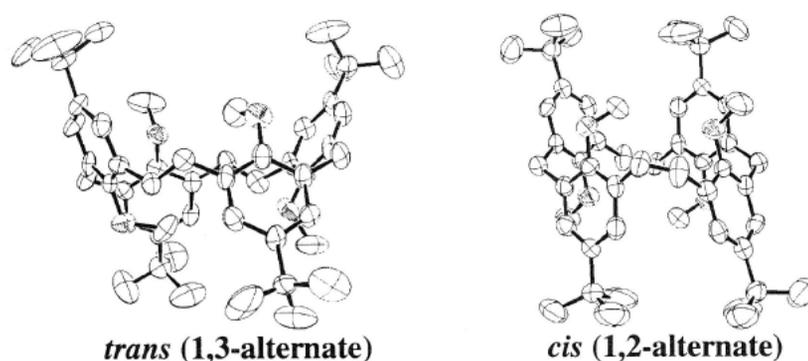


Fig.1 ORTEP drawing of MCPD **2**

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