FOURIER TRANSFORM MICROWAVE SPECTRA OF cis-3-HEXENAL, trans-3-HEXENAL, cis-2-HEXENAL AND trans-2-HEXENAL: STRUCTURAL ISOMERS AND ISOMERIZATION

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cis-3-Hexenal (c3-HA; O=CH-CH₂-CH=CH-CH₂-CH₃) is known as an odor molecule of grass and the c3-HA easily isomerizes to trans-2-hexenal (t2-HA). Rotational spectra of the c3-HA and its structural isomers were observed by Fourier transform microwave (FTMW) spectroscopy in the frequency region 4.8-23 GHz. We reported that two conformers of the c3-HA, SG'cS and CScS, were assigned^a: in SG'cS, S, G', c, and S in order denote the skew, gauche', cis and skew around the dihedral angles OC(1)C(2)C(3), C(1)C(2)C(3)=C(4), C(2)C(3)=C(4)C(5) and C(3)=C(4)C(5)C(6), respectively. We found other four conformers which were assigned to the SStS and S'S'tS conformers of trans-3-hexenal (t3-HA), and the TcSG' and TcST conformers of cis-2-hexenal (c2-HA) by comparing from the results of ab initio calculation. We also observed the rotational spectra of the t2-HA which had been reported in 2015^b. The spectra of the c3-HA and t3-HA were observed in room temperature. When the nozzle temperature increased, the maximum of spectral intensities of the c3-HA and t3-HA reach at around 350 K while the intensities of the t2-HA and c2-HA are stronger. This evidence shows that the c3-HA and t3-HA isomerized into the t2-HA and c2-HA.

^aS. Yoshizawa, N. Kuze and Y. Kawashima, ISMS2019, P3866 (2019).

^bR. Yokoyama, Y. Kawashima, and E Hirota, 9th Annual Meeting on Molecular Science, Tokyo, 4P008 (2015).