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Polyacetylene: Myth, reality and a way forward

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Biography

Bruce S Hudson received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Biophysical Chemistry from the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, California and his PhD degree in Physical Chemistry from Harvard University where he worked for Bryan E Kohler on the peculiar electronic spectroscopy of linear conjugated polyenes. As part of his PhD thesis he proposed that the lowest excited electronic state of linear polyenes has the same symmetry as the ground electronic state involving doubly excited configurations. It is the merging of this excited state with the ground state for very long linear polyenes that gives rise to the double minimum potential of polyacetylene. He is a fellow of the American Physical Society.

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