

# RESEARCH ACTIVITIES I

## Department of Theoretical Studies

### I-A Theoretical Study and Design of New Bonding, Structures, and Reactions

It is an important subject to develop molecules with novel bonding and structures. Thus, new bonds containing heavier atoms are investigated, which are the focus of interest as new building block for molecular design. In addition, cage-like molecules and clusters are investigated to characterize guest-host interactions, which serve as molecular containers and recognition. Efficient computational methods are also investigated to perform calculations of large molecular systems.

#### I-A-1 Theoretical Investigation of Triple Bonding between Transition Metal and Main Group Elements in $(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)(\text{CO})_2\text{M}=\text{ER}$ (M = Cr, Mo, W; E = Si, Ge, Sn, Pb; R = Terphenyl Groups)

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[*Bull. Korean Chem. Soc. (a special issue)* **24**, 832–836 (2003)]

To extend the knowledge of triple bonding between group 6 transition metal and heavier group 14 elements, the structural and bonding aspects of  $(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)(\text{CO})_2\text{M}=\text{ER}$  (M = Cr, Mo, W; E = Si, Ge, Sn, Pb) are investigated by hybrid density functional calculations at the B3PW91 level. Substituent effects are also investigated with R = H, Me, SiH<sub>3</sub>, Ph, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>-2,6-Ph<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>-2,6-(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>-2,4,6-Me<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, and C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>-2,6-(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>-2,4,6-*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.

#### I-A-2 Synthesis and Characterization of Cyclic Silicon Compounds of Fullerenes

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[*Curr. Org. Chem.* **7**, 927–943 (2003)]

Organosilicon compounds are among the most important inter-element compounds, as exemplified by disilanes and polysilanes. Since the availability of C<sub>60</sub> in preparatively useful quantities, the chemical functionalization has attracted considerable interest, which leads to new cyclic silicon compounds. It is experimentally and theoretically investigated how silylenes, which are derived from a variety of disilanes under thermal and photochemical conditions, react with fullerenes and endohedral metallofullerenes. Mono-, bis-, and even multi-silylation of fullerenes lead to a new class of silicon compounds that are useful in material applications.

#### I-A-3 Calculation of Packing Structure of Methanol Solid using Ab Initio Lattice Energy at the MP2 Level

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[*Chem. Phys. Lett.* **369**, 597–604 (2003)]

An ab initio MO based lattice energy minimization method is applied to the calculation of packing structures of methanol crystal,  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -phases. The second order Møller-Plesset perturbation theory (MP2) is employed to calculate lattice energies. The lattice parameters optimized at the MP2/6-31G++G(*d,p*) level for  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -phases are in good and moderate agreement with the experimental values, respectively. The average relative errors of calculated cell lengths are 0.9 and 6.2% for  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -phases, respectively.

#### I-A-4 Computational Procedure of Lattice Energy using the Ab Initio MO Method

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[*J. Theor. Comput. Chem.* **2**, 233–244 (2003)]

Recently, we have proposed a computational procedure for calculations of lattice energies of molecular crystals using the *ab initio* MO method. This procedure does not use potential functions and is applicable to a variety of molecular crystals. The procedure has been successfully applied to calculation of packing structure of electron donor-acceptor complex, H<sub>3</sub>N-BF<sub>3</sub>, and hydrogen bonding crystal, CH<sub>3</sub>OH. In this work, we present a full account of the computational procedure. This method is applied to the packing structure calculations of hydrocarbon crystals, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> and C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>. The lattice parameters optimized at the MP2/6-311++G\*\* level are in good agreement with the experimental values. The basis set dependence of the lattice constants

is also discussed for several crystals.

#### I-A-5 La<sub>2</sub>@C<sub>80</sub>: Is the Circular Motion of Two La Atoms Controllable by Exohedral Addition?

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[*Chem. Phys. Lett.* **374**, 562–566 (2003)]

Density functional calculations are carried out for the La<sub>2</sub>@C<sub>80</sub> derivatives to investigate whether the motion of metals encapsulated inside fullerenes is controlled by exohedral addition. It is shown that the three-dimensional random motion of two La atoms in La<sub>2</sub>@C<sub>80</sub> can be restricted to the circular motion in a plane by attaching electron-donating molecules on the outer surface of the C<sub>80</sub> cage. It is expected that the two-dimensional circular motion will help to induce a unique electronic or magnetic field.

#### I-A-6 A Theoretical Study of Spin Density Distributions and Isotropic Hyperfine Couplings of N and P atoms in N@C<sub>60</sub>, P@C<sub>60</sub>, N@C<sub>70</sub>, N@C<sub>60</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>6</sub>, and N@C<sub>60</sub>(SiH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>6</sub>

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[*Chem. Phys. Lett.* **377**, 93–98 (2003)]

Spin density distributions and isotropic hyperfine coupling constants of N@C<sub>60</sub>, P@C<sub>60</sub>, N@C<sub>70</sub>, N@C<sub>60</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>6</sub>, and N@C<sub>60</sub>(SiH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>6</sub> are theoretically investigated by testing B3LYP and MP2 methods for the free N and P atoms. When N is encapsulated inside C<sub>60</sub>, the calculated spin density at nucleus N increases. In P@C<sub>60</sub>, the corresponding increase is much larger. N@C<sub>60</sub> has a slightly larger spin density at N than N@C<sub>70</sub>. These agree well with the observed isotropic hyperfine coupling constants. Upon addition of CH<sub>2</sub> groups on the N@C<sub>60</sub> cage, the spin density at N is slightly decreased. However, addition of SiH<sub>2</sub> groups increases significantly the spin density at the nitrogen nucleus.

#### I-A-7 Theoretical Identification of C<sub>20</sub> Carbon Clusters

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[*Phys. Rev. B* **67**, 125415 (7 pages) (2003)]

Free energies, electron affinities and vibrational modes are theoretically investigated for several C<sub>20</sub> isomers. The dominant C<sub>20</sub> species generated by vaporizing graphite is first clarified. It turns out to be the

monocyclic ring, followed by a tadpole (a short chain attached to a monocyclic ring), linear chain, and a bicyclic ring. On this basis, the two recently synthesized C<sub>20</sub> isomers [*Nature* **407**, 60 (2000)] may be exclusively attributed to fullerene and bowl structures. Therefore, the existence of the smallest fullerene and C<sub>20</sub> bowl isomer appear to be fully confirmed.

#### I-A-8 Structural and Electronic Properties of Metal-Encapsulated Silicon Clusters in a Large Size Range

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[*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **90**, 115506 (4 pages) (2003)]

Structural and electronic properties of metal-doped silicon clusters MSi<sub>n</sub> (M = W, Zr, Os, Pt, etc.) in a large size range  $8 \leq n \leq 20$  are theoretically investigated. In contrast to a recent experiment suggesting that a metal atom is encapsulated inside the Si<sub>n</sub> cluster, we reveal that the formation of endohedral structures depends strongly on the size of silicon clusters. Two novel structures of chemically stable endohedral species are manifested. The suitable M@Si<sub>n</sub> building blocks of self-assembly materials vary in the range  $10 \leq n \leq 16$ . The thermodynamical magic numbers are found to coincide with the chemical magic numbers for five clusters.

#### I-A-9 Metal-Doped Germanium Clusters MGe<sub>n</sub> at the Sizes of $n = 12$ and $10$ : Divergence of Growth Patterns from the MSi<sub>n</sub> Clusters

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[*Chem. Phys. Lett.* **372**, 394–398 (2003)]

Structural and electronic properties of metal-doped germanium clusters MGe<sub>n</sub> (M = Hf, W, Os, Ni, and Zn) in the sizes of  $n = 12$  and  $10$  are investigated using hybrid density functional theory calculations. It is found that the growth patterns are different from those of M@Si<sub>n</sub> clusters, though the pure Ge<sub>n</sub> and Si<sub>n</sub> clusters have identical geometries in the two sizes. The MGe<sub>12</sub> (M = W and Os) and ZnGe<sub>12</sub> clusters have endohedral distorted hexagonal prismatic and endohedral perfect icosahedral structures, respectively, and show higher chemical stability among these checked MGe<sub>n</sub> clusters. This makes them attractive for cluster-assembled materials.

#### I-A-10 Ca@C<sub>72</sub> IPR and Non-IPR Structures; Computed Temperature Development of their Relative Concentrations

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[*Chem. Phys. Lett.* **372**, 810–814 (2003)]

Relative concentrations of four isomers of Ca@C<sub>72</sub>

(one species with isolated pentagons, two isomers with a pentagon-pentagon junction, one structure with a heptagon) are computed using the Gibbs energy in a broad temperature interval. It is shown that both isomers with pentagon-pentagon junction are relatively close in concentrations at higher temperatures while the structure with isolated pentagons comes as a minor isomer (though it is the highest in potential energy) and the structure with heptagon is always negligible.

not always agree on the separation energetics. The present B3LYP/6-31G\* computations support the observation of just three species. However, the computed energetics must still be adjusted in order to reproduce the observed concentration ratios.

#### **I-A-11 Photochemical Bissilylation of C<sub>70</sub> with Disilane**

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[*ITE Lett. Batt. New Tech. Med.* **4**, 60–66 (2003)]

The photochemical reaction of C<sub>70</sub> with disilane affords bisadducts and monoadducts as major and minor products, respectively, which are successfully isolated. Theoretical calculations are carried out to disclose the structural features. The reaction patterns are characterized by calculating spin density distributions. It is expected that the silicon derivatives will play an important role in material and catalytic applications.

#### **I-A-12 Redox Properties of Carbosilylated and Hydrosilylated Fullerene Derivatives**

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[*ITE Lett. Batt. New Tech. Med.* **4**, 67–73 (2003)]

Experimental results and theoretical calculations suggest that the electrochemical properties of fullerenes, such as reduction and oxidation potentials, are significantly modified by attaching exohedrally silicon atoms on carbon cages. Among these, hydrosilylation and carbosilylation of C<sub>60</sub> are useful to produce electronegative fullerene derivatives. It is expected that the derivatives with highly low oxidation potentials will open up a new application of C<sub>60</sub> as a unique electron-donor.

#### **I-A-13 B3LYP/6-31G\* Computations of C<sub>60</sub>F<sub>36</sub> (g) Isomers**

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Three isomers of C<sub>60</sub>F<sub>36</sub> have been known from experiment. Previous computations however suggested five low-energy isomers though different methods do