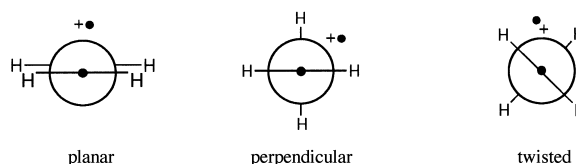


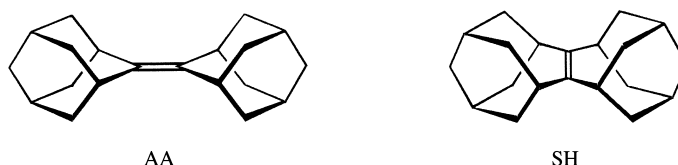
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Scheme 1. Predicted structures of the parent ethylene cation radical.

Owing to the importance of ethylene as a precursor in polyethylene production, its cation radical has been subject to scrutiny in great detail using highly sophisticated theoretical methods including extended basis sets.^[5] Experimentally, vacuum ultraviolet studies^[6] and photoelectron spectroscopy^[7] in the gas phase support a nonplanar structure of ethylene cation radical with a twist of 25°. On the other hand, more recent EPR studies^[8] in frozen matrices at 4 K conclude that it can be almost planar (8°). In the last two decades, a number of sterically rigid olefinic cation radicals such as those from adamantylideneadamantane, and pagodadiene have been characterized in solution by using a variety of spectroscopic techniques.^[9–11] However, despite enormous theoretical and experimental effort,^[12] there is a singular lack of definitive X-ray crystallographic information on the structure of any alkyl-substituted olefinic cation radical.^[13]

Herein, we report the successful isolation of the novel cation radical derived from the olefinic donor sesquihomoadamantene (SH), an isomer of the well-known adamantylideneadamantane (AA). Sesquihomoadamantene was originally prepared by Wynberg et al.^[14] and it contains a



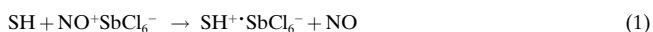
Structural Characterization of Novel Olefinic Cation Radicals: X-ray Crystallographic Evidence of σ – π Hyperconjugation**

Jay K. Kochi*, Rajendra Rathore, Chengjian Zhu, and Sergey V. Lindeman

Alkyl-substituted ethylene cation radicals are highly reactive intermediates that occur when a variety of electrophilic addition reactions such as epoxidation, hydroxylation, ozonation, oxidative cleavage, dimerization, and cationic polymerization^[1–3] proceed by prior electron transfer. As early as 1947, Mulliken and Roothaane^[4] predicted the structure of the parent ethylene cation radical to be twisted by 30° due to the contributions from both the planar structure (normal π bonding) and the perpendicular structure (hyperconjugative bonding) (Scheme 1).

tetrasubstituted double bond with rigid cyclic (cage) substituents.^[15] Most importantly, sesquihomoadamantene is planar and singularly nonstrained. Therefore its conversion to the cation radical could reveal the typical structural changes that can be expected upon the oxidative conversion of an olefinic donor.

The one-electron oxidation of sesquihomoadamantene (SH) in dichloromethane at –78 °C either electrochemically^[16] or chemically (using the well-known one-electron oxidant nitrosonium hexachloroantimonate)^[17] yielded a dark purple solution of the corresponding cation radical, the quantitative formation of which was established spectrophotometrically [Eq. (1)].^[18]



The purple salt was isolated as a microcrystalline powder by slow diffusion of toluene into the solution of $\text{SH}^{+\bullet}\text{SbCl}_6^-$ in dichloromethane at –78 °C; and the purity of the highly colored precipitate was determined to be greater than 98 % by iodometric titration.^[17] The identity of the isolated cation

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[**] We thank the National Science Foundation and the Robert A. Welch Foundation for financial support.

radical $\text{SH}^{+\bullet}$ was further confirmed by its ready ability to quantitatively oxidize a variety of electron-rich organic donors^[19] to the corresponding cation radicals. For example, if a solution of $\text{SH}^{+\bullet}$ cation radical in dichloromethane ($\lambda_{\text{max}} = 360$ and 485 nm, $\epsilon_{360} = 4000 \pm 200 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$)^[20] was treated with incremental amounts of neutral CRET,^[17] the resulting (UV/Vis) spectral changes (with well-defined isosbestic points at $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 335$, 449 , and 538 nm, see Figure 1) clearly estab-

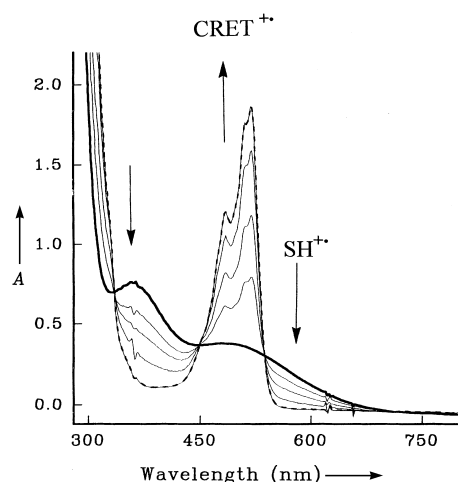
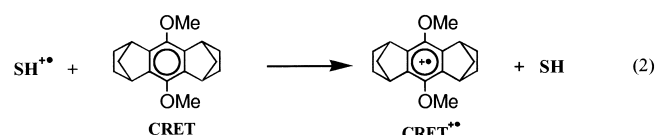


Figure 1. Spectral titration of $0.2 \text{ mM } \text{SH}^{+\bullet}\text{SbCl}_6^-$ ($7.3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mmol}$) by incremental additions of neutral CRET ($7.3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mmol}$) in dichloromethane at -78°C . Note that the $\text{CRET}^{+\bullet}$ spectrum (---) remains unchanged upon addition of excess CRET. A = absorbance.

lished the concomitant reduction of sesquihomoadamantene cation radical and oxidation of neutral CRET [Eq. (2)]. It should be noted that the highly robust cation radical $\text{CRET}^{+\bullet}$ has been well characterized by UV/Vis spectroscopy ($\lambda_{\text{max}} = 486$ and 518 nm, $\epsilon_{518} = 7300 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) as well as by X-ray crystallography.^[17]



After repeated attempts to crystallize the powdered salt (especially by varying the solvent and temperature), we have now successfully isolated dark purple (single) crystals by the slow diffusion of hexane into a solution of pure $\text{SH}^{+\bullet}\text{SbCl}_6^-$ in dichloromethane at -50°C . Single-crystal analysis by X-ray crystallography at -150°C establishes its molecular structure, which clearly shows the central olefinic bond in the $\text{SH}^{+\bullet}$ cation radical to be twisted by 29° ,^[13] as shown by the sideways ORTEP diagrams in Figure 2 of both $\text{SH}^{+\bullet}$ (left) and SH (right). Moreover, a careful comparison of the precise X-ray structures of both neutral SH and its cation radical under identical conditions (see Experimental Section) demonstrates that the pronounced twist cannot be due to relief of steric strain, and thus provides us with the unique opportunity to

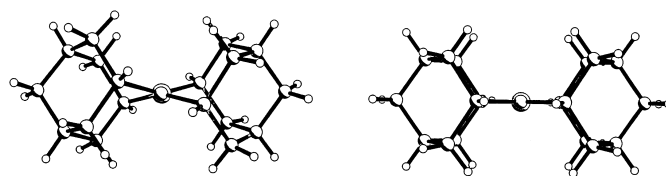


Figure 2. Left) Molecular structure of the cation radical salt $\text{SH}^{+\bullet}\text{SbCl}_6^-$ showing the twist around the central C–C bond. Hexachloroantimonate anion and the solvent molecule omitted for clarity. Right) In comparison, the molecular structure of the neutral SH donor is completely planar.

examine other more subtle structural changes that occur when a single electron is removed from the neutral olefinic donor.

Table 1 summarizes the systematic changes in the bond lengths as well as angular reorganization in sesquihomoadamantene cation radical ($\text{SH}^{+\bullet}$) as compared to the neutral olefin. Thus, the central C–C double bond expectedly lengthens by 5 pm. Most notably, however, the four C–C single bonds (α bonds denoted by a) directly attached to the olefinic

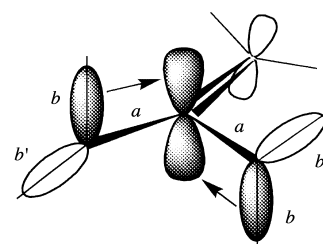
Table 1. Comparison of the principal geometrical parameters of the neutral SH and its cation radical $\text{SH}^{+\bullet}$.

Parameter	SH	$\text{SH}^{+\bullet}$	$\Delta (\text{SH} \rightarrow \text{SH}^{+\bullet})$
d [Å]	1.345(1)	1.397(3)	+0.052
a [Å]	1.526(1)	1.491(3)	−0.035
b [Å]	1.542(1)	1.558(3)	+0.016
b' [Å]	1.542(1)	1.541(3)	−0.001
α [°]	113.3(1)	108.1(2)	−5.2
α' [°]	113.3(1)	115.2(2)	+1.9
ϕ [°]	0.5(1)	29.0(2)	+28.5
τ [°] ^[a]	63.7(1)	82.3(2)	+18.6
τ' [°] ^[a]	−63.7(1)	−43.1(2)	+20.6

[a] τ and τ' are dihedral angles between planes determined by bonds $dalab$ and $da'ab'$ respectively.

carbon atoms *shorten* by 3 pm each, and only one of the two C–C bonds (β bonds denoted by b) attached to each allylic carbon atom is elongated by 1.5 pm. (Note that the other C–C bond (denoted by b') remains unchanged.) Moreover, the angles at the allylic carbon atoms undergo significant changes which are accompanied by an increase in the twist ($\sim 18^\circ\text{C}$) around the a bonds. As a result, the lengthened b bonds position themselves approximately *periplanar* to the (partially occupied) olefinic p orbitals, in a way different from those in the neutral olefin (Scheme 2).^[21]

The latter observation of distinct changes in the bond lengths of the remote β bonds (which lie *periplanar* to the cationic p orbi-



Scheme 2. Arrangement of the olefinic p orbitals in the sesquihomoadamantene cation radical ($\text{SH}^{+\bullet}$).

tals), coupled with the substantial shortening of the α bonds represents the first direct experimental evidence for the (classical) hyperconjugative stabilization of cationic charges.^[22] We believe that these definitive structural changes in SH^{+} will also be generally applicable to the characterization of cation radical structures of other olefin donors. As such, we are currently inquiring into the origin and generality of the structural twist and hyperconjugative stabilization in various olefinic cation radicals and carbocations using high-level theoretical calculations.^[23]

Experimental Section

A mixture of adamantlylideneadamantane (AA) and isomeric sesquihomoadamantene (SH) was prepared according to literature procedures^[14] and subjected to the standard conditions of epoxidation using *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid in dichloromethane for 1 h at 0 °C. Aqueous workup followed by chromatographic purification yielded pure sesquihomoadamantene SH (24 %) and adamantlylidene–adamantane oxide^[14] (51 %). Recrystallization from anhydrous diethyl ether at –20 °C afforded analytically pure SH, m.p. 202–203 °C (lit.^[14a] m.p. 199–201 °C).

X-ray crystallography: The intensity data were collected at –150 °C on a Siemens SMART diffractometer equipped with a CCD detector using $\text{MoK}\alpha$ radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å). The structures were solved by direct methods^[24] and refined by full-matrix least-squares procedures.

Crystal data for sesquihomoadamantene cation radical ($\text{SH}^{+}\cdot\text{SbCl}_6^{-}$): Brutto formula: $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_4\cdot\text{SbCl}_6\cdot\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$, $M_r = 687.80$, monoclinic $P2_1/n$, $a = 10.4473(4)$, $b = 15.9754(6)$, $c = 15.6397(6)$ Å, $\beta = 93.396(1)^\circ$, $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.753$ g cm^{–3}, $V = 2605.7(2)$ Å³, $Z = 4$. The total number of reflections measured was 37186, of which 11429 reflections were symmetrically nonequivalent. Final residuals were $R1 = 0.0339$ and $wR2 = 0.0625$ for 7397 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$.

Crystal data for neutral sesquihomoadamantene (SH): Brutto formula: $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{28}$, $M_r = 268.42$, monoclinic, $P2_1/n$, $a = 6.4547(3)$, $b = 11.9580(6)$, $c = 9.6301(5)$ Å, $\beta = 91.772(1)^\circ$, $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.200$ g cm^{–3}, $V = 742.95(6)$ Å³, $Z = 2$. The total number of reflections measured was 10380, of which 3266 reflections were symmetrically nonequivalent. Final residuals were $R1 = 0.0421$ and $wR2 = 0.1203$ for 2926 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structures reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC-143380 (neutral SH) and CCDC-143381 ($\text{SH}^{+}\cdot$ cation radical). Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (fax: (+44) 1223-336-033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

Received: April 19, 2000 [Z15014]

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The First Templated Borogermanate (C₂N₂H₁₀)₂[(BO_{2.5})₂(GeO₂)₃]: Linkage of Tetrahedra of Significantly Different Sizes**

Mike S. Dadachov,* Kai Sun, Tony Conradsson, and Xiaodong Zou*

The classes of microporous materials—tetrahedral- and mixed-framework compounds—with open structures continue to expand in terms of framework-forming elements.^[1] The most accomplished and also largest classes of tetrahedral-framework compounds are aluminosilicates (Al-Si-O),^[2] aluminophosphates (Al-P-O)^[3] as well as their isomorphic substituted forms. Attempts to synthesize frameworks with elements other than Al, Si, and P, especially with transition metals, have resulted in many new classes, such as gallophosphates,^[4] titanosilicates,^[5] beryllium,^[6] zinc,^[7] cobalt,^[8] iron,^[9] vanadium,^[10] nickel,^[11] and molybdenum^[12] phosphates. Since most transition metal atoms are too large to fit comfortably into the hole formed by a van der Waals oxygen tetrahedron, they are often coordinated by additional terminal OH and F groups, forming trigonal bipyramids, square bipyramids, or octahedra in open framework structures. As a consequence, the Me–O bonds become weaker and thus most of these compounds are thermally unstable. Besides the framework compounds containing oxygen, other compounds such as sulfides^[13] and a phosphonitride^[14] have been reported.

During recent years, attempts have been made to include boron atoms into the ZSM-*n* frameworks. However, very little aluminum/silicon could be replaced by boron.^[15] Furthermore, a few templated metal borophosphates were reported.^[16]

Open framework germanates are an interesting and expanding class of microporous materials. Germanium forms oxygen polyhedra with 4-, 5-, and 6-coordination, and

germanates consisting of both purely tetrahedrally coordinated frameworks^[17] and mixed polyhedral frameworks^[18] have been reported.

Herein we report the synthesis and structure determination of the first templated borogermanate (C₂N₂H₁₀)₂[(BO_{2.5})₂(GeO₂)₃]. The hydrothermal reaction of ethylenediamine, boric acid, germanium dioxide, hydrofluoric acid, and pyridine gave transparent platelike crystals of (C₂N₂H₁₀)₂[(BO_{2.5})₂(GeO₂)₃] in high yield. X-ray analysis of these crystals^[19] revealed a layered structure with large openings in the layers and organic templates between the layers.

There are three unique Ge and two unique B atoms in the structure, all of them tetrahedrally coordinated by oxygen atoms (Figure 1). The structure can be described as undulating borogermanate layers, each one constructed of isolated

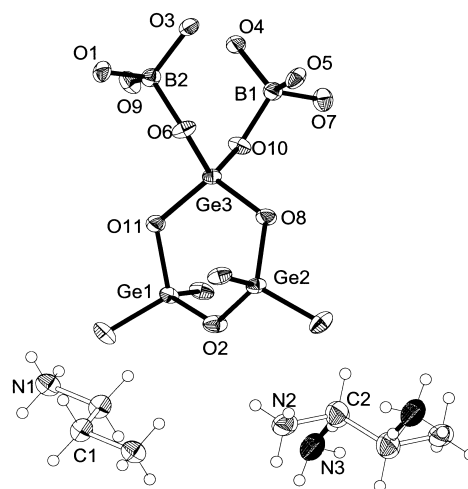


Figure 1. Atom-labeling scheme for all the non-hydrogen atoms of the asymmetric unit of (C₂N₂H₁₀)₂[(BO_{2.5})₂(GeO₂)₃] (ORTEP plot; 50% probability ellipsoids). The NH₃ terminal groups (N2 and N3) bonded to C2 are the two different conformations of the diprotonated ethylenediamine.

3-rings of germanium tetrahedra, [GeO₂]₃, connected by pairs of boron tetrahedra, [BO_{2.5}]₂ (Figure 2). The borogermanate layers can also be described in terms of large 9-rings formed by alternating two-corner-linked germanium tetrahedra (six in total) and one pair of boron tetrahedra (three pairs in total) (Figure 2). The layers are connected by hydrogen bonding through the two unique charge-compensating diprotonated ethylenediamine cations. One of those cations was found to have two different conformations (Figure 1). Such behavior is not uncommon in this type of structure, since the cations reside in large cavities and possess a considerable freedom of motion.

The bond lengths and angles for both the framework atoms and the guests are unexceptional. All Ge–O distances are between 1.719 and 1.768 Å and the O–Ge–O angles are between 104.27 and 115.18°. All oxygen atoms of the germanium coordination polyhedra are shared either between Ge and Ge or between Ge and B atoms. Three of the four oxygen atoms of each BO₄ tetrahedron are shared between boron and germanium, and one acts as a terminal oxygen atom pointing towards the interlayer. As a consequence, the B–O distances fall into two categories. The three bridging

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[**] This work was supported by the Swedish Natural Science Research Council (NFR).