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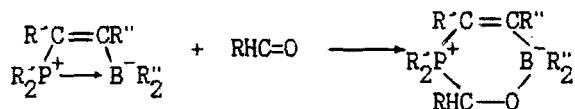
## THEORETICAL STUDY OF THE P—B BOND NATURE IN CIS-BORYLPHOSPHINOETHENES AND ITS CYCLIZATION WITH DOUBLE BONDS

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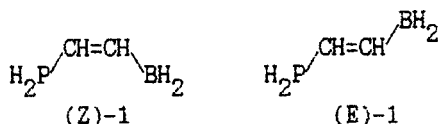
**Abstract** Structures, energies, and electronic properties of  $H_2PCH=CHBH_2$  (1) have been studied with ab initio molecular orbital theory by using STO-3G and 3-21G (d(P)) basis sets. The Z-1 isomer with the perpendicular arrangement of  $BH_2$  group is less stable than Z-1 and E-1 ones with the planar orientation of  $BH_2$  group. The short P-B contact of the former is obtained only at STO-3G level. It's bond critical point data, binding energy, localized molecular orbital suggest the presence of weak covalent bonding between the phosphorus and boron atom.

The short P-B contact in cis-borilphosphinoethenes ( $R_2P-CR'=CR''-BR_2$ ) has been determined by various physical methods.<sup>1-3</sup> The dipolar structure  $R_2P^+ \rightarrow CR'=CR'' \leftarrow BR_2^-$  was suggested by Köster.<sup>1</sup> However, oxygen, sulfur, selenium and  $CS_2$  can easily insert into the P-B bond.<sup>4,5</sup> The latter undergoes a cleavage under pyridine.<sup>2</sup> A cyclic phosphenoborane and aldehydes react with exothermic effect.<sup>6</sup> The addition proceeds on the contrary to the charge density on the  $P^+-B^-$  bond:



The weak P-B bonding is in accordance to it's chemical properties, and the strong P-B interaction is pointed out by physical data.

To analyse these features in more detail we have performed calculations of the model structures Z and E-1:



Two conformations have been considered in each case: the conformation A with the orthogonal  $\text{BH}_2$  orientation, and the conformation B with planar  $\text{C}=\text{C}-\text{BH}_2$  fragment, the lone electron pair of the P atom ( $\text{LP}(\text{P})$ ) eclipsing the  $\text{C}=\text{C}$  bond. Geometry optimization was performed with the STO-3G and 3-21 G ( $\text{d}(\text{P})$ ) basis set.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION** The total energies and geometrical parameters of  $\text{P}=\text{C}=\text{B}$  fragment are given in Table I. We also report here available experimental determinations.<sup>8-9</sup> The STO-3G bond lengths agree with experiment within 0.03 Å. Bond angles were reproduced within 3.4°. It is quite reasonable agreement with experimental structural data, if take into account substituent effects. The 3-21G ( $\text{d}(\text{P})$ ) geometry of Z-1A is in a poor agreement with experiment. This method does not reproduce the short P-B distance in this form, and thus we chose the HF/STO-3G level to optimize the geometries of model structures.

TABLE I Energies(a.u.) and selected bond lengths (Å) and bond angles in the Z and E isomers of  $\text{PH}_2-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{BH}_2(\text{I})$  for two forms: A - the  $\text{BH}_2$  group is perpendicular to the double bond plane; B - the  $\text{BH}_2$  group lies in the double bond plane. Values are at the STO-3G and 3-21G ( $\text{d}(\text{P})$ ) levels (in parentheses).

Form	Total Energy	P-B	C=C	P-C	B-C	PCC	BCC
Z-1 A	-439.52607	2.074	1.320	1.793	1.612	99.5	106.0
A	(-442.37226)	2.875	(1.328)	(1.818)	(1.581)	(114.4)	(119.6)
exptl <sup>a</sup> A		2.104	1.353	1.802	1.608	96.1	109.3
B	-439.52702		1.326	1.836	1.542	126.4	125.1
E-1 A	-439.52022		1.313	1.826	1.564	124.7	123.9
B	-439.52966		1.325	1.833	1.540	124.4	122.3
exptl <sup>a</sup> B			1.345	1.810	1.561	128.9	121.8

<sup>a</sup>Experimental data for  $\text{PhP}=\text{CPh}=\text{CBu}-\text{BBu}_2$ ,<sup>8</sup> and  $\text{E-Ph-CH}=\text{CH-B}(\text{Mes})_2$ .<sup>9</sup>

The most stable is E-isomer in B conformation. It is favorable than the A by 5.0 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>. A cyclic form of Z-1A has been predicted

theoretically to lie over 2.3 and 0.6 kcal.mol<sup>-1</sup> above a global minimum and a conjugated conformation of Z-1, respectively. The calculated data clearly indicate the preference of B conformation with  $p(\text{BH}_2)-\pi(\text{C}=\text{C})$  conjugation. An energy difference between A and B conformation of the Z-1 is small. One can expect that sterically hindered substituents at boron atom result in a destabilization of Z-1B with respect to Z-1A. In the latter  $\text{LP}(\text{P})$  and  $p(\text{BH}_2)$  lies in the same plane. Their overlap is enough to reduce the P-B distance and P-C=C, B-C=C angles up to 2.074 Å, 99°, 106°, respectively (Table I). Both theoretical and experimental P-B distances are greater than sum of its covalent radii (1.9 Å). To investigate in more detail the P-B bonding we have calculated the electron distribution in Z-1A.

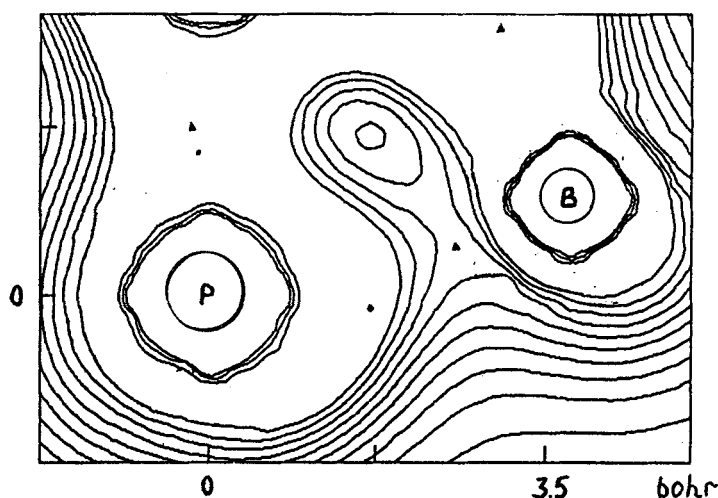


Figure 1 Display of the counter charge density in the P-C=C-B plane ( $\text{e} \cdot \text{bohr}^{-3}$ ). (•) - the localized MO centroids, (•) - the bond critical point

The electron distribution has a bond critical point ( $\rho_c(r)=0.523 \text{ e} \cdot \text{\AA}^{-3}$ ,  $\nabla^2 \rho(r)=-16.3 \text{ e} \cdot \text{\AA}^{-5}$ ) between P and B atoms and a minimum inside the four-membered ring. The critical bond is outside of the ring and is shifted from the midpoint of the P-B straight line by 0.1 (perpendicular to it) and 0.33 Å (along the line towards to B atom). It reflects a charge transfer from P to B atom. A negative value of  $\nabla^2 \rho_c(r)$  indicates the covalent bonding.<sup>10</sup>

We also carried out a calculation of the localized molecular orbitals (LMO).<sup>11</sup> All LMO are bonding in Z-1A. LMO(P-B) is localized (80%) at

phosphorus atom mainly and 10% at boron. The centroid of this LMO lies at 1.01 Å from the P atom and at 0.26 Å from the point, which is the LP(P) centroid in E-1B. Both approach show a charge transfer, resulting from the LP(P)-p(BH<sub>2</sub>) interaction. The interaction energy was evaluated by the quantitative PMO procedure.<sup>11</sup> The molecule was subdivided into three fragments: the double bond, PH<sub>2</sub> and BH<sub>2</sub> group. The energy effect of the LP(P)-p(BH<sub>2</sub>) interaction ( $\Delta E$ ) is 16 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>. On the other hand, an energy difference between the E-1A and the Z-1A (2.7 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>) may be considered as the total energy effect due to the P-B bonding accompanied by the distortion of the bond angles. The weakness of the P-B bond is illustrated by the lower  $\rho_c(r)$  in the comparison with a corresponding data for the P-C (1.046) and B-C (1.012 e · Å<sup>-3</sup>) bonds.

The charge redistribution due to the P-B coordination takes place in the Z-1A: the B atom accepts 0.2 e and the P atom loses 0.1 e. This charge shift leads to the increasing of a total dipole moment (by 2.9 D). A theoretical value (3.6 D) of the latter is the same order as experimental one (R=R'=Ph; R''=Bu, DM=4.6 D).<sup>2</sup>

Thus, the P-B bond is a weak dative one in spite of the rather short distance and noticeable charge transfer. Chemical behavior of borylphosphinoethenes proves this conclusion. Recently borylphosphinoethenes were shown to undergo [4+2]-cycloaddition reactions with heterocumulenes, which result in the formation of heterosubstituted 1-aza-5-phosphonia-2-boratacyclohexa-3-enes.<sup>5,12</sup>

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