

CONTRIBUTION FROM THE MALLINCKRODT LABORATORY, DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY,
HARVARD UNIVERSITY, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

The Crystal and Molecular Structure of Bis(fulvalene)diiron

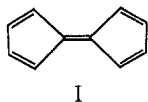
BY MELVYN R. CHURCHILL¹ AND JOHN WORMALD

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Bis(fulvalene)diiron, $(C_{10}H_8)_2Fe_2$, crystallizes in the centrosymmetric monoclinic space group $P2_1/n$ (C_{2h}^5 ; no. 14) with $a = 9.517 \pm 0.006 \text{ \AA}$, $b = 7.561 \pm 0.005 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 10.604 \pm 0.009 \text{ \AA}$, $\beta = 112.07 \pm 0.08^\circ$, and $Z = 2$. Observed and calculated densities are 1.76 ± 0.03 and 1.728 g cm^{-3} , respectively. A single-crystal X-ray diffraction study of this complex has been completed, using counter data to $\sin \theta = 0.42$ (Mo $K\alpha$ radiation). All atoms (including hydrogens) have been located, the final discrepancy index being $R_F = 7.63\%$ for the 1088 independent, nonzero reflections. A study of the intermolecular contacts ($H \cdots H \geq 2.39 \text{ \AA}$, $C \cdots H \geq 2.93 \text{ \AA}$) confirms the monomeric nature of the complex. The $(C_{10}H_8)_2Fe_2$ molecule possesses a crystallographic center of symmetry. The dihedral angle between the two five-membered rings of the fulvalene system is $2^\circ 37'$. The molecule may be regarded as 1,1'-biferrocenylene, in which each of the ferrocenylene (*i.e.*, $-C_5H_4FeC_5H_4-$) moieties takes up a conformation which is only $1^\circ 48'$ from the perfectly eclipsed arrangement. The two iron atoms are 3.984 \AA apart.

Introduction

Although a number of phenyl-²⁻⁴ and halogen-substituted⁵⁻⁸ fulvalenes have been prepared, the parent compound (I) has been detected only in dilute solu-



tion.⁹⁻¹⁴ It is interesting, therefore, that fulvalene has recently been stabilized in the complex bis(fulvalene)diiron (otherwise named as 1,1'-biferrocenylene).^{15,16} This complex is of interest as a potential source both of fulvalene and of substituted fulvalenes, since it undergoes such reactions as Friedel-Crafts benzylation.¹⁵

It has been suggested that the proton resonance spectrum of bis(fulvalene)diiron (two triplets at 3.77 and 5.27 ppm from TMS) is consistent with a structure in which "the [two] iron atoms are located off-center in their respective ferrocenylene moieties."¹⁶ We have therefore undertaken a single-crystal X-ray diffraction study of this complex in order to establish its stereochemistry unequivocally.

Unit Cell and Space Group

A 10-mg sample of the complex was generously supplied by Professor M. D. Rausch. Crystals suitable for an X-ray diffraction study were obtained by slow cooling of a saturated solution of the complex in boiling

benzene.¹⁷ The crystals thus obtained are air stable and are not X-ray sensitive. Optical examination and the observed symmetry of the reciprocal lattice (C_{2h} ; $2/m$) indicated that the crystals belonged to the monoclinic system. Unit cell dimensions, obtained by a least-squares analysis of high-angle precession data, taken with Mo $K\alpha$ radiation ($\bar{\lambda} 0.7107 \text{ \AA}$) and calibrated with sodium chloride ($a = 5.640 \text{ \AA}$) at $23 \pm 2^\circ$, are $a = 9.517 \pm 0.006 \text{ \AA}$, $b = 7.561 \pm 0.005 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 10.604 \pm 0.009 \text{ \AA}$, and $\beta = 112.07 \pm 0.08^\circ$. The unit cell volume is 707.2 \AA^3 .

A survey of $0kl$ and $1kl$ Weissenberg photographs and of $h0l$, $h1l$, $hk0$, and $hk1$ precession photographs revealed the systematic absences $h0l$ for $h + l = 2n + 1$ and $0k0$ for $k = 2n + 1$, compatible only with space group $P2_1/n$ (C_{2h}^5 ; no. 14).¹⁸ The observed density ($\rho_{\text{obsd}} = 1.76 \pm 0.03 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ by flotation in aqueous zinc iodide) is consistent with the presence of two molecules per unit cell ($\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.728 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ for $M = 368.03$, $Z = 2$). Thus, in the absence of disorder, the molecule is required to possess a center of symmetry.

Collection and Reduction of the X-Ray Diffraction Data

Two crystals were used during the course of data collection. Crystal I, a regular parallelepiped of dimensions $0.44 \times 0.10 \times 0.12 \text{ mm}$ (referred to the $[100]$, $[011]$, $[0\bar{1}1]$ axes), was mounted along its extended a direction. Crystal II, an irregular plate of dimensions $0.08 \times 0.22 \times 0.26 \text{ mm}$ (referred to the $[100]$, $[011]$, $[0\bar{1}1]$ axes), was mounted along its b axis. Each crystal was sealed into a 0.3-mm diameter thin-walled lithium borate capillary tube.

Intensity data were collected with Mo $K\alpha$ radiation ($\bar{\lambda} 0.7107 \text{ \AA}$) on a 0.01° -incrementing Supper-Pace Buerger automated diffractometer. Details of the "stationary-background, ω scan, stationary-background" counting sequence have been described pre-

- (1) Research Fellow of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, 1968-1970.
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- (4) P. L. Pauson and B. J. Williams, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 4153 (1961).
- (5) V. Mark, *Tetrahedron Letters*, 333 (1961).
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- (7) P. T. Kwitowski and R. West, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **88**, 4541 (1966).
- (8) R. West and P. T. Kwitowski, *ibid.*, **90**, 4697 (1968).
- (9) E. Matzner, Ph.D. Thesis, Yale University, 1958.
- (10) W. von E. Doering, "Theoretical Organic Chemistry—The Kekulé Symposium," Butterworth and Co. Ltd., London, 1959, p 35.
- (11) W. B. DeMore, H. O. Pritchard, and N. Davidson, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **81**, 5874 (1959).
- (12) E. M. Kosower and B. G. Ramsey, *ibid.*, **81**, 856 (1959).
- (13) K. V. Scherer, *ibid.*, **85**, 1550 (1963).
- (14) E. D. Bergmann, *Chem. Rev.*, **68**, 41 (1968).
- (15) M. D. Rausch, R. F. Kovar, and C. S. Kraihanzel, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **91**, 1259 (1969).
- (16) F. L. Hedberg and H. Rosenberg, *ibid.*, **91**, 1258 (1969).

(17) The complex has a remarkably low solubility. Professor M. D. Rausch has estimated its solubility in boiling benzene as approximately 0.5 g/1000 ml. [Hedberg and Rosenberg¹⁶ claimed a solubility of ca. 0.2 g/1000 ml in cold benzene.]

(18) "International Tables for X-Ray Crystallography," Vol. I, The Kynoch Press, Birmingham, England, 1965, p 99.

viously.¹⁹ Experimental details specific to the present structural investigation include the following. (i) The X-ray generator was operated at 49.0 kV/19.0 mA. (ii) The angle scanned was chosen as $\omega = [2.0 + (1.0/L)]^\circ$, where $(1/L)$ is the Lorentz factor. (iii) The speed of the ω scan was $2^\circ/\text{min}$. (iv) Initial and final backgrounds (B_1 and B_2 counts, respectively) were measured for one-fourth the time of the ω scan (C counts). (v) Within each level, a carefully preselected check reflection was remeasured after each batch of 20 reflections had been collected. [The absence of significant (*i.e.*, $>1-2\%$) deviations from the mean value confirmed the stability of the crystal, the stability of the crystal toward X-rays, and the continued alignment of the crystal.] (vi) The intensity of a reflection hkl was calculated as: $I(hkl) = C(hkl) - 2[B_1(hkl) + B_2(hkl)]$.

Equiinclination Weissenberg geometry was used in collecting data for the quadrants Hkl and $H\bar{k}l$ ($H = 0-9$) from the a -mounted crystal I and for quadrants hKl and $\bar{h}Kl$ ($K = 0-8$) from the b -mounted crystal II. [The set of data collected from crystal II is complete to $\sin \theta = 0.42$ (the limit of observable reflections on long-exposure Weissenberg photographs) save for the few reflections with $\theta \leq 4^\circ$, which are shielded from the counter by a Pb backstop.]

Data were assigned standard deviations according to the following scheme, where $\delta(hkl) = 3[C(hkl) + B_1(hkl) + B_2(hkl)]^{1/2}$: $I(hkl) \geq 1225$, $\sigma\{I(hkl)\} = 0.1[I(hkl)]$; $1225 > I(hkl) \geq \delta(hkl)$, $\sigma\{I(hkl)\} = 3.5[I(hkl)]^{1/2}$; $I(hkl) < \delta(hkl)$, reflection rejected.

Of the 1237 reflections collected from crystal I, 158 were rejected; of the 1277 reflections collected from crystal II, 206 were rejected. Intensities were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects [$(Lp)^{-1} = 2 \cos^2 \mu \sin \Upsilon / (1 + \cos^2 2\theta)$],²⁰ and absorption corrections were applied²¹ ($\mu = 21.30 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ for Mo $K\alpha$ radiation). Transmission coefficients were found to range from 0.766 to 0.819 for data from crystal I (volume 0.0055 mm^3) and from 0.752 to 0.855 for data from crystal II (volume 0.0020 mm^3). A least-squares analysis of common reflections²² was used to merge the 19 zones of data to a common scale. The resulting 1088 independent, nonzero reflections were used in a Wilson plot,²³ which yielded the approximate absolute scale and the over-all isotropic thermal parameter ($B = 1.41 \text{ \AA}^2$).

Elucidation and Refinement of the Structure

A three-dimensional Patterson synthesis,²⁴ which had been sharpened such that the average intensity was no longer θ dependent, revealed a set of vectors consistent with an iron atom at $x = 0.1995$, $y = 0.0423$, $z = 0.4710$. A three-dimensional Fourier synthesis, phased

only by the iron atom ($R_F = 40.4\%$)²⁵ yielded the approximate positions of all ten carbon atoms in the asymmetric unit. Four cycles of full-matrix least-squares refinement²⁶ of individual positional and isotropic thermal parameters for the eleven independent nonhydrogen atoms resulted in convergence at $R_F = 12.09\%$ and $R_{wF^2} = 7.35\%$. A further cycle of refinement, in which the thermal motion of the iron atom was considered anisotropic, led to the reduced discrepancy indices $R_F = 10.41\%$ and $R_{wF^2} = 5.39\%$. Hydrogen atoms were now introduced in calculated positions,²⁷ and a structure factor calculation showed significantly better agreement with $R_F = 9.85\%$ and $R_{wF^2} = 4.80\%$. Four cycles of full-matrix refinement of positional and anisotropic thermal parameters for all nonhydrogen atoms led to convergence ((suggested shift)/ $\sigma < 0.07$ for each parameter) at $R_F = 7.63\%$ and $R_{wF^2} = 3.20\%$.

Finally, a difference-Fourier synthesis calculated by omitting hydrogen atoms ($R_F = 8.51\%$, $R_{wF^2} = 4.29\%$) revealed peaks of height $0.47-0.82 \text{ e}^- \text{ \AA}^{-3}$ close to each of the calculated positions for hydrogen atoms. A final F_o electron density synthesis showed carbon atoms to have maxima ranging from 5.87 to $7.26 \text{ e}^- \text{ \AA}^{-3}$.

It should be noted that Hamilton R -factor ratio tests²⁸ confirm that (i) anisotropic thermal parameter refinement for the iron atom, (ii) anisotropic thermal parameter refinement for the carbon atoms, and (iii) the inclusion of hydrogen atoms each results in an improvement which is significant at a confidence level greater than 99.5%. At the completion of the analysis, the standard error in an observation of unit weight was 1.9.

Scattering factors for neutral carbon and hydrogen^{29a} were used throughout the analysis; the Thomas-Fermi-Dirac values for neutral iron^{29b} were corrected for dispersion ($\Delta f' = +0.4 \text{ e}^-$, $\Delta f'' = +1.0 \text{ e}^-$).^{29c} Observed and calculated structure factors are collected in Table I. Final atomic coordinates are shown in Table II. Thermal parameters are given in Table III; the associated atomic vibration ellipsoids are listed in Table IV and displayed pictorially³⁰ in Figure 1.

The Molecular Structure

Interatomic distances with their estimated standard deviations (esd's) are collected in Table V; bond angles (with esd's) are shown in Table VI. The stereochemistry of the bis(fulvalene)diiron molecule and the system for labeling atoms are each illustrated in Figure 1. [Hydrogen atoms, omitted from this figure for the sake of clarity, bear the same numbers as the carbon atoms to which they are bonded. Atoms in the basic asym-

(25) $R_F = \Sigma(|F_o| - |F_c|)/\Sigma|F_o|$; $R_{wF^2} = \Sigma w(|F_o|^2 - |F_c|^2)/\Sigma w|F_o|^4$.

(26) The over-all scale parameter for F_o was refined in all least-squares refinement processes. Throughout the analysis, the residual minimized was $\Sigma w(|F_o|^2 - |F_c|^2)^2$, where $w(hkl) = [\sigma\{F^2(hkl)\}]^{-2}$.

(27) Hydrogen atom positions were calculated with $d(\text{C-H}) = 1.080 \text{ \AA}$ and the idealized geometry for attachment to a planar pentagonal ring. Each hydrogen atom was assigned an isotropic thermal parameter of $B = 4.0 \text{ \AA}^2$. Neither positions nor thermal parameters were refined. Positions were, however, redefined with respect to the up-dated carbon positions at the end of the refinement procedure.

(28) W. C. Hamilton, *Acta Cryst.*, **18**, 502 (1965).

(29) "International Tables for X-Ray Crystallography," Vol. III, The Kynoch Press, Birmingham, England, 1962: (a) p 202; (b) p 211; (c) p 216.

(30) Atomic vibration ellipsoids have been drawn using OTLIPS, a program for the IBM 1620 (with on-line CALCOMP plotter) written by Dr. P. H. Bird.

(19) M. R. Churchill and J. P. Fennessey, *Inorg. Chem.*, **7**, 1123 (1968).

(20) μ is the equiinclination angle, Υ is the vertical Weissenberg coordinate, and θ is the Bragg angle (all in degrees).

(21) Using a local modification of the IBM 7004 program GNABS; see C. W. Burnham, *Am. Mineralogist*, **51**, 159 (1966).

(22) A. D. Rae, *Acta Cryst.*, **19**, 683 (1965).

(23) A. J. C. Wilson, *Nature*, **150**, 152 (1942).

(24) All crystallographic computations were (unless otherwise stated) performed under the CRYM system. CRYM is an integrated sequence of crystallographic routines for the IBM 7094, written by Professor R. E. Marsh and his coworkers at the California Institute of Technology.

TABLE I
OBSERVED AND CALCULATED STRUCTURE FACTORS (IN ELECTRONS × 10.00) FOR BIS(FULVALENE)DIIRON

K	L	FO	FC	K	L	FO	FC	K	L	FO	FC	K	L	FO	FC	K	L	FO	FC	K	L	FO	FC	K	L	FO	FC	K	L	FO	FC	K	L	FO	FC	K	L	FO	FC	K	L	FO	FC	K	L	FO	FC																																																																												
0	0	1.00	1.00	1	1	1.00	1.00	2	2	1.00	1.00	3	3	1.00	1.00	4	4	1.00	1.00	5	5	1.00	1.00	6	6	1.00	1.00	7	7	1.00	1.00	8	8	1.00	1.00	9	9	1.00	1.00	10	10	1.00	1.00	11	11	1.00	1.00	12	12	1.00	1.00	13	13	1.00	1.00	14	14	1.00	1.00	15	15	1.00	1.00	16	16	1.00	1.00	17	17	1.00	1.00	18	18	1.00	1.00	19	19	1.00	1.00	20	20	1.00	1.00	21	21	1.00	1.00	22	22	1.00	1.00	23	23	1.00	1.00	24	24	1.00	1.00	25	25	1.00	1.00	26	26	1.00	1.00	27	27	1.00	1.00	28	28	1.00	1.00	29	29	1.00	1.00	30	30	1.00	1.00

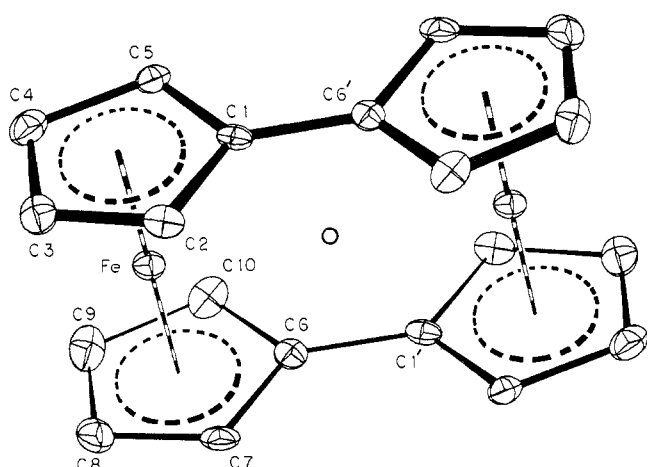


Figure 1.—Numbering of atoms in the bis(fulvalene)diiron molecule. The center of symmetry of the molecule (at 0, 0, 1/2) is indicated by a small circle. The diagram also shows the 68% probability envelopes for the atomic vibration ellipsoids (OTLIPS²¹ diagram).

metric unit are labeled without superscripts; those atoms in the other half of the molecule, related to the basic unit by the transformation ($x' = -x, y' = -y, z' = 1 - z$), are labeled with a prime.]

As had been anticipated^{15,16} the molecule consists of two ferrocenylene (*i.e.*, $-C_5H_4FeC_5H_4-$) units. These are linked to each other by the bonds C(1)–C(6') and C(6)–C(1') and are related to each other *via* a crystallographically imposed center of symmetry. The molecule may also be named 1,1'-biferrocenylene. The two iron atoms in the molecule are $3.984 \pm 0.004 \text{ \AA}$ apart [*cf.* the longest reported covalent iron–iron bond distance of 2.88 \AA in the $Fe_2(CO)_8^{2-}$ dianion^{31,31a}]. Contrary to the suggestion of Hedberg and Rosenberg,¹⁶ the two iron atoms in bis(fulvalene)diiron apparently do not interact to any appreciable extent; the two iron atoms are symmetrically located in the center of their respective ferrocenylene moieties.

The π -cyclopentadienyl system defined by C(1)–C(2)–C(3)–C(4)–C(5) has a root-mean-square (rms) deviation of 0.007 \AA from the least-squares plane $0.1539X - 0.7294Y + 0.6665Z - 4.5832 = 0$ ³² [see Table VII]. The other crystallographically independent π -cyclopentadienyl system, defined by C(6)–

(31) O. S. Mills, personal communication—reported in *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **84**, 4639 (1962).
 (31a) NOTE ADDED IN PROOF.—An Fe–Fe bond length of 3.05 \AA (average) has recently been found in $[Fe(NO)_2]_2$: L. F. Dahl, E. R. de Gil, and R. D. Feltham, *ibid.*, **91**, 1653 (1969).
 (32) Cartesian coordinates; see Table VII.

TABLE II
FINAL ATOMIC COORDINATES (WITH ESD'S)
FOR BIS(FULVALENE)DIIRON^{a-c}

Atom	x	y	z
Fe	0.19883 (11)	0.03975 (13)	0.48254 (10)
C(1)	0.1494 (8)	-0.1430 (8)	0.6038 (7)
C(2)	0.2652 (9)	-0.0232 (10)	0.6840 (7)
C(3)	0.3899 (9)	-0.0371 (11)	0.6413 (9)
C(4)	0.3543 (9)	-0.1625 (11)	0.5346 (9)
C(5)	0.2008 (8)	-0.2287 (9)	0.5085 (7)
C(6)	-0.0016 (8)	0.1710 (9)	0.3838 (7)
C(7)	0.1150 (8)	0.2923 (9)	0.4645 (8)
C(8)	0.2364 (9)	0.2844 (11)	0.4154 (10)
C(9)	0.1985 (9)	0.1585 (12)	0.3074 (8)
C(10)	0.0504 (9)	0.0879 (11)	0.2870 (8)
H(2)	0.2592	0.0614	0.7639
H(3)	0.4950	0.0358	0.6830
H(4)	0.4261	-0.2013	0.4812
H(5)	0.1390	-0.3256	0.4332
H(7)	0.1104	0.3747	0.5461
H(8)	0.3401	0.3601	0.4546
H(9)	0.2675	0.1229	0.2506
H(10)	-0.0108	-0.0099	0.2123

^a ESD's appear in parentheses after each parameter; they are right-adjusted to the least significant digit of the preceding number. ^b Only atoms of the basic asymmetric unit are listed. Atoms in the other half of the molecule are related to these by inversion through the center of symmetry at (0, 0, 1/2) such that $x' = -x$, $y' = -y$, $z' = 1 - z$. ^c A hydrogen atom is numbered similarly to the carbon atom to which it is attached.²⁷

C(7)-C(8)-C(9)-C(10), has an rms deviation of only 0.004 Å from the least-squares plane $0.1951X - 0.7276Y + 0.6575Z - 1.2410 = 0$. The dihedral angle between these planes is $2^\circ 37'$ —*i.e.*, they are very close to being parallel. [As a result of the center of symmetry in the molecule, it follows that the angle between the two five-membered rings in either fulvalene system is also $2^\circ 37'$.]

Individual carbon-carbon bond lengths within the two five-membered rings range from 1.416 ± 0.012 Å [for C(3)-C(4)] to 1.468 ± 0.011 Å [for C(4)-C(5)]. The average value for the ten independent measurements is 1.436 Å. [Wheatley³³ has made a survey of such carbon-carbon bond lengths in π -cyclopentadienyl complexes as have been determined by X-ray diffraction techniques. The mean value (from a total of 23 compounds) is 1.419 Å. However, it is believed that this "X-ray value" is systematically reduced from the true value because of librational motions of the π -cyclopentadienyl system about its C_5 axis. An electron diffraction study of ferrocene shows a carbon-carbon bond distance of 1.431 Å.³⁴ Similarly, more recent X-ray diffraction studies on complexes in which libration of the π -cyclopentadienyl system is restrained by bulky and inflexible substituents show carbon-carbon bond

TABLE III
ANISOTROPIC THERMAL PARAMETERS (WITH ESD'S) FOR BIS(FULVALENE)DIIRON^{a,b}

Atom	β_{11}	β_{22}	β_{33}	β_{12}	β_{13}	β_{23}
Fe	82.1 (1.7)	85.2 (2.2)	52.5 (1.3)	4.6 (2.6)	50.5 (2.0)	16.6 (2.3)
C(1)	93 (10)	65 (11)	54 (7)	-2 (17)	37 (14)	32 (15)
C(2)	115 (11)	109 (13)	49 (8)	-16 (20)	38 (15)	3 (16)
C(3)	93 (11)	162 (16)	32 (9)	35 (22)	49 (16)	72 (21)
C(4)	120 (11)	124 (16)	98 (10)	84 (21)	97 (18)	50 (19)
C(5)	97 (10)	81 (12)	69 (8)	38 (17)	78 (16)	15 (16)
C(6)	89 (9)	94 (12)	51 (7)	14 (17)	60 (14)	48 (15)
C(7)	101 (10)	61 (11)	90 (9)	15 (19)	31 (16)	51 (17)
C(8)	105 (11)	129 (14)	127 (12)	5 (22)	86 (19)	97 (22)
C(9)	112 (11)	227 (20)	87 (9)	74 (24)	105 (17)	127 (22)
C(10)	119 (12)	176 (16)	49 (8)	77 (22)	58 (16)	27 (18)

^a The anisotropic thermal parameter (T) is defined as: $T = \exp[-(\beta_{11}h^2 + \beta_{22}k^2 + \beta_{33}l^2 + \beta_{12}hk + \beta_{13}hl + \beta_{23}kl)]$. ^b ESD's are shown in parentheses.

TABLE IV
VIBRATION ELLIPSOIDS FOR ATOMS IN THE
BIS(FULVALENE)DIIRON MOLECULE^{a,b}

Atom	B_{maj} , Å ²	B_{med} , Å ²	B_{min} , Å ²
Fe	2.57	2.22	1.72
C(1)	3.23	2.29	1.21
C(2)	3.94	2.45	1.90
C(3)	4.55	3.24	2.21
C(4)	4.67	3.36	2.06
C(5)	3.27	2.39	1.66
C(6)	2.89	2.58	1.28
C(7)	4.59	2.94	1.14
C(8)	5.79	3.25	2.12
C(9)	6.36	3.02	1.82
C(10)	4.93	2.93	1.80

^a Major, median, and minor axes of the atomic vibration ellipsoid are defined in terms of the isotropic thermal parameter, B . The transformation to root-mean-square displacement, $(\bar{U}^2)^{1/2}$, is: $(\bar{U}^2)^{1/2} = [B/8\pi^2]^{1/2}$. ^b The atomic vibration ellipsoids are illustrated in Figure 1.

distances which are increased from Wheatley's mean value. Thus, the average carbon-carbon bond distance in the π -cyclopentadienyl system of $(C_{10}H_8)_2Fe_2(CO)_{10}$ is 1.423 Å,^{36,36} in $C_{10}H_8Fe_2(CO)_5$ it is 1.427 Å,^{37,38} and in $(C_{10}H_8)_2Fe$ it is 1.430 Å.^{39,40}

C-C-C bond angles within the five-membered rings vary from 106.9 to 109.0° and from 107.6 to 108.8°, averaging 108.0, the value appropriate to a regular planar pentagon, in each case. None of the observed bond

(33) P. J. Wheatley in "Perspectives in Structural Chemistry," Vol. I, J. D. Dunitz and J. A. Ibers, Ed., John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, N. Y., 1967, p. 9.

(34) R. K. Bohn and A. Haaland, *J. Organometal. Chem.* (Amsterdam), **5**, 470 (1966).

(35) M. R. Churchill and P. H. Bird, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **90**, 3241 (1968).

(36) M. R. Churchill and P. H. Bird, *Inorg. Chem.*, **8**, 1941 (1969).

(37) M. R. Churchill, *Chem. Commun.*, 450 (1966).

(38) M. R. Churchill, *Inorg. Chem.*, **6**, 190 (1967).

(39) M. R. Churchill and J. Wormald, *Chem. Commun.*, 1033 (1968).

(40) M. R. Churchill and J. Wormald, *Inorg. Chem.*, **8**, 716 (1969).

TABLE V
INTERATOMIC DISTANCES WITHIN THE
BIS(FULVALENE)DIIRON MOLECULE^a

Atoms	Dist, Å	Atoms	Dist, Å
Fe-C(1)	2.058 (6)	Fe-C(6)	2.053 (7)
Fe-C(2)	2.043 (7)	Fe-C(7)	2.050 (7)
Fe-C(3)	2.044 (8)	Fe-C(8)	2.060 (9)
Fe-C(4)	2.053 (8)	Fe-C(9)	2.061 (8)
Fe-C(5)	2.047 (7)	Fe-C(10)	2.056 (8)
C(1)-C(2)	1.433 (10)	C(6)-C(7)	1.446 (10)
C(2)-C(3)	1.423 (11)	C(7)-C(8)	1.436 (11)
C(3)-C(4)	1.416 (12)	C(8)-C(9)	1.427 (12)
C(4)-C(5)	1.468 (11)	C(9)-C(10)	1.445 (12)
C(5)-C(1)	1.432 (10)	C(10)-C(6)	1.440 (10)
C(1)-C(6')	1.476 (9)	Fe...Fe'	3.984 (4)

^a Esd's, shown in parentheses, are right-adjusted to the least significant digit of the preceding number. They include contributions from errors in the unit cell dimensions.

TABLE VI
BOND ANGLES WITHIN THE BIS(FULVALENE)DIIRON MOLECULE^a

Atoms	Angle, deg	Atoms	Angle, deg
C(1)-Fe-C(2)	40.9 (0.3)	C(6)-Fe-C(7)	41.3 (0.3)
C(2)-Fe-C(3)	40.8 (0.3)	C(7)-Fe-C(8)	40.9 (0.3)
C(3)-Fe-C(4)	40.5 (0.3)	C(8)-Fe-C(9)	40.5 (0.4)
C(4)-Fe-C(5)	42.0 (0.3)	C(9)-Fe-C(10)	41.1 (0.3)
C(5)-Fe-C(1)	40.8 (0.3)	C(10)-Fe-C(6)	41.0 (0.3)
C(1)-C(2)-C(3)	108.2 (0.7)	C(6)-C(7)-C(8)	107.6 (0.7)
C(2)-C(3)-C(4)	109.0 (0.7)	C(7)-C(8)-C(9)	108.8 (0.8)
C(3)-C(4)-C(5)	107.6 (0.7)	C(8)-C(9)-C(10)	107.8 (0.8)
C(4)-C(5)-C(1)	106.9 (0.6)	C(9)-C(10)-C(6)	107.9 (0.7)
C(5)-C(1)-C(2)	108.3 (0.6)	C(10)-C(6)-C(7)	107.8 (0.6)
C(2)-C(1)-C(6')	125.7 (0.7)	C(7)-C(6)-C(1')	125.7 (0.6)
C(5)-C(1)-C(6')	125.9 (0.6)	C(10)-C(6)-C(1')	126.5 (0.7)

^a See footnote *a* to Table V.

TABLE VII
LEAST-SQUARES PLANES WITHIN THE ASYMMETRIC UNIT OF
BIS(FULVALENE)DIIRON^{a-c}

Atom	Dist, Å	Atom	Dist, Å
(A)	$0.1539X - 0.7294Y + 0.6665Z - 4.5832 = 0$		
C(1)*	+0.009 (7)	C(4)*	+0.006 (9)
C(2)*	-0.006 (8)	C(5)*	-0.009 (7)
C(3)*	0.000 (9)	Fe	-1.646 (1)

$$(B) \quad 0.1951X - 0.7276Y + 0.6575Z - 1.2410 = 0$$

C(6)*	-0.003 (7)	C(9)*	-0.003 (9)
C(7)*	+0.005 (8)	C(10)*	0.000 (8)
C(8)*	-0.005 (9)	Fe	+1.652 (1)

^a All planes are expressed in Cartesian coordinates. The transformations are: $X = xa + zc \cos \beta$, $Y = yb$, $Z = zc \sin \beta$.

^b A plane is derived using unit weights for atoms with asterisks and zero weights for other atoms. ^c The angle between planes A and B is $2^\circ 37'$.

distances or bond angles within the five-membered ring is significantly different (at the 3σ level) from the mean values. Thus the carbon skeleton of each five-membered ring has D_{5h} symmetry within the limits of experimental error.

Individual iron-carbon distances vary from 2.043 ± 0.007 to 2.058 ± 0.006 Å for atoms of plane A [C(1) through C(5)] and from 2.050 ± 0.007 to 2.061 ± 0.008 Å for atoms of plane B [C(6) through C(10)].

The mean of the ten independent distances is 2.053 Å (*cf.* the iron-carbon distance of 2.058 ± 0.002 Å obtained from an electron diffraction study of ferrocene).³⁴ The iron atom in bis(fulvalene)diiron lies 1.646 Å from plane A and 1.652 Å from plane B (see Table VII).

The two π -cyclopentadienyl rings are forced to adopt an almost perfectly eclipsed conformation, the mean rotational displacement of one ring from the other (ω) being 1.8° . [Although ferrocene is known to have a perfectly staggered conformation (*i.e.*, $\omega = 36^\circ$) in the solid state, the various substituted ferrocenes take up a variety of different conformations.⁴¹]

Finally, it may be noted that the symmetry-related bridging bonds, C(1)-C(6') and C(6)-C(1'), are each 1.476 ± 0.009 Å in length. This is in good agreement with the accepted sp^2 - sp^2 single-bond distance of 1.465 ± 0.005 Å⁴² and with the bridging bond distance of 1.48 Å found by Kaluski⁴³ for bisferrocenyl, (π -C₅H₅)Fe(C₅H₄C₅H₄)Fe(π -C₅H₅).

Crystal Packing

Figure 2 illustrates the packing of molecules in the bis(fulvalene)diiron crystal, projected onto (010). The

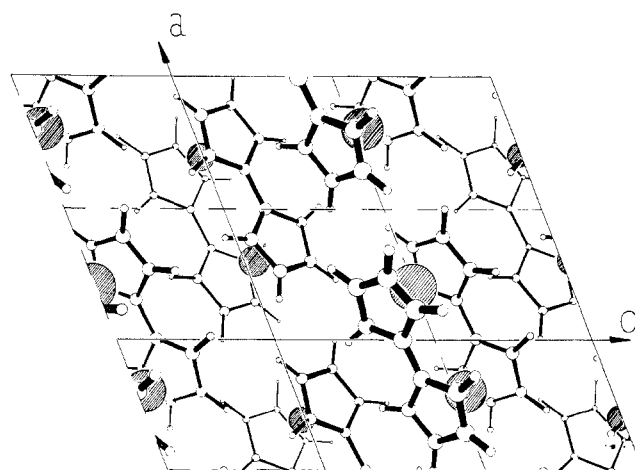


Figure 2.—Packing of molecules within the bis(fulvalene)diiron crystal. The crystal structure is viewed down *b*.

closest contacts (of each type) are 2.39 Å for a hydrogen...hydrogen and 2.93 Å for a carbon...hydrogen interaction, thus confirming the monomeric nature of the complex.

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(41) The known conformations of ferrocene derivatives have recently been tabulated—see Table VIII of ref 40.

(42) "Tables of Interatomic Distances and Configuration in Molecules and Ions, Supplement 1956–1959," Special Publication No. 18, The Chemical Society, London, England, 1965, p S15.

(43) Z. Kaluski, *Bull. Acad. Polon. Sci., Ser. Sci. Chim.*, **12**, 873 (1964).