

Protonated and Methylated Dimethyl Sulfoxide Cations and Dications. DFT/GIAO-MP2 NMR Studies and Comparison with Experimental Data¹

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Energies, electronic structures, and thermodynamics of protonated and methylated dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) cations and dications were calculated using the density functional theory (DFT) method. The O-protonated structure **2** was found to be 37.0 kcal/mol more stable than the S-protonated **3**. For diprotonated DMSO dication, the O,O-diprotonated form **6** was found to be the global minimum, more stable by 20.8 kcal/mol than O,S-diprotonated **7**. Interestingly, for dimethylated DMSO dication, O,O-dimethylated **11** and O,S-dimethylated **12** are isoenergetic. ¹³C, ¹⁷O, and ³³S NMR chemical shifts of the cations and dications were calculated using the GIAO-MP2 method and compared with the available experimental data.

Introduction

In 1978, Olah et al. studied² protonation and methylation of dimethyl sulfoxide in superacid media. When dimethyl sulfoxide was dissolved in HSO₃F–SbF₅–SO₂ at –100 °C, a broad singlet peak at δ ¹H 6.53 was observed that indicated the formation of long-lived protonated dimethyl sulfoxide. However, the site of protonation was difficult to ascertain on the basis of ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shifts. Also, since the absorption at δ ¹H 6.53 is broadened, it could indicate the possibility of an exchanging system in HSO₃F–SbF₅–SO₂ media involving diprotonated dimethyl sulfoxide. Similarly, when dimethyl sulfoxide was treated with an equimolar amount of CH₃F–SbF₅ in SO₂ at –30 °C, O-methylated dimethyl sulfoxide was observed.² Olah et al. also calculated the possible protonated and diprotonated dimethyl sulfoxide structures by the semiempirical MINDO/3 method.² Recently, Turecek reported³ a theoretical study on the relative stabilities of several C₂H₆OS molecules and protonated C₂H₇OS⁺ ions. Among C₂H₆OS isomers dimethyl sulfoxide is the most stable species, followed by methyl methanesulfonate. Among C₂H₇OS⁺ ions O-protonated dimethyl sulfoxide was found to be most stable, while S-protonated dimethyl sulfoxide is significantly less stable.

In the course of our continuing studies on the protosolvolytic activation of electrophiles to give superelectrophiles⁴ we have previously shown that it is possible to protonate nonbonded electron pairs of onium ions. Moreover, even the parent hydronium ion (H₃O⁺) can be further protonated to form the corresponding *gtonic* onium dication.⁵ In the present study we report density functional theory (DFT)⁶ calculational studies of proto-

nated (methylated) and diprotonated (methylated) dimethyl sulfoxide ions to establish their structures and relative stabilities. We also report the calculated NMR chemical shifts of these ions by ab initio correlated GIAO-MP2 method and their comparison with the available experimental results.

Calculations

Calculations were performed by using the Gaussian 98 program.⁷ The geometry optimizations were carried out using the DFT⁶ method at the B3LYP⁸/6-311+G** level.^{9a} Vibrational frequencies at the B3LYP/6-311+G**//B3LYP/6-311+G** level were used to characterize stationary points as minima (number of imaginary frequency (NIMAG) = 0) and to evaluate zero-point vibrational energies (ZPE), which were scaled by a factor of 0.96. Final energies were calculated at the B3LYP/6-311+G**//B3LYP/6-311+G** + ZPE level. Calculated energies are given in Table 1. B3LYP/6-311+G** geometrical parameters and final energies will be discussed throughout, unless stated otherwise. NMR chemical shifts were calculated by the GIAO method.^{9b} GIAO-MP2¹⁰ calcula-

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Table 1. Total Energies (–au), ZPE,^a and Relative Energies (kcal/mol)^b

| no. | B3LYP/6-311+G**// B3LYP/6-311+G** | ZPE | rel energy (kcal/mol) |
|-----|--------------------------------------|------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 553.267 72 | 47.5 | 214.8 |
| 2 | 553.621 44 | 54.7 | 0.0 |
| 3 | 553.561 92 | 54.3 | 37.0 |
| 4 | 592.938 12 | 71.5 | 0.0 |
| 5 | 592.915 20 | 71.5 | 14.4 |
| 6 | 553.705 54 | 59.5 | 0.0 |
| 7 | 553.672 43 | 59.5 | 20.8 |
| 8 | 593.048 05 | 77.1 | 0.0 |
| 9 | 593.047 73 | 76.9 | 0.0 |
| 10 | 593.010 54 | 76.5 | 22.9 |
| 11 | 632.380 79 | 94.3 | 0.0 |
| 12 | 632.380 21 | 93.9 | 0.0 |

^a Zero point vibrational energies (ZPE) at B3LYP/6-311+G**//B3LYP/6-311+G** scaled by a factor of 0.96. ^b Relative energies at the B3LYP/6-311+G**//B3LYP/6-311+G** + ZPE level.

tions using the tzp/dz basis set^{10,11} have been performed with the ACES II program.¹² The ¹³C, ¹⁷O, and ³³S NMR chemical shifts were referenced to TMS [calculated absolute shift i.e. $\sigma(\text{C}) = 198.7$], H₂O [$\sigma(\text{O}) = 349.2$], and CS₂ [$\sigma(\text{S}) = 564.5$]. For comparison, GIAO-SCF calculations using the tzp/dz basis set have also been performed with the ACES II program. The ¹³C, ¹⁷O, and ³³S NMR chemical shifts were referenced to TMS [calculated absolute shift i.e. $\sigma(\text{C}) = 192.9$], H₂O [$\sigma(\text{O}) = 3324.8$], and CS₂ [$\sigma(\text{S}) = 496.9$]. Calculated chemical shifts are listed in Table 2.

Results and Discussion

Calculated structures of dimethyl sulfoxide **1** and O- and S-protonated dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) **2** and **3** (Figure 1) agree well with those recently reported.² The O-protonated structure **2** is 37.0 kcal/mol more stable than S-protonated **3**. Deprotonation of **2** was found unfavorable by 214.8 kcal/mol (Table 3). We also calculated O- and S-methylated DMSO **4** and **5**, respectively (Figure 1). Again the O-methylated form **4** is more stable than the S-methylated form **5**. However, the difference of 14.4 kcal/mol is significantly less than that of between **2** and **3**. Dissociation of **4** into DMSO and CH₃⁺ is also calculated to be endothermic by 107.1 kcal/mol (Table 3). Ion **4** has been prepared by Olah et al. by treating DMSO with an equimolecular solution of CH₃F–SbF₅ in SO₂ at –30° C. Ion **5** also has been experimentally observed.¹³

The ¹³C, ¹⁷O, and ³³S NMR chemical shifts of **1–5** were calculated at the correlated GIAO-MP2 method using DFT optimized geometries (Table 2). Calculated $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of neutral DMSO **1** is 43.5 and matches with the experimental value of 37.1 ppm. The calculated $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of O-protonated DMSO **2** (40.0) also matches well with the experimental value of 34.3.² On the other hand, the calculated $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of S-protonated DMSO **3** is slightly deshielded at $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ 43.4 compared to that of O-protonated DMSO **2**. The calculated $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of –SCH₃ and –OCH₃ carbons of methylated DMSO **4** are 39.0 and 70.0, respectively, and can be compared with experimental

Table 2. Experimental and Calculated NMR Chemical Shifts^a

| no. | atom | GIAO-SCF | GIAO-MP2 | expt |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------|
| 1 | ¹³ C | 37.4 | 43.5 | 37.1 |
| | ¹⁷ O | 17.5 | 54.5 | |
| | ³³ S | 222.3 | 332.0 | |
| 2 | ¹³ C | 35.0 | 40.0 | 34.3 |
| | ¹⁷ O | 30.1 | 42.4 | |
| | ³³ S | 253.6 | 356.9 | |
| 3 | ¹³ C | 36.9 | 43.4 | |
| | ¹⁷ O | 50.2 | 83.5 | |
| | ³³ S | 204.7 | 275.9 | |
| 4 | ¹³ C (SCH ₃) | 33.9 | 39.0 | 32.7 |
| | ¹³ C (OCH ₃) | 63.9 | 70.7 | |
| | ¹⁷ O | 24.3 | 47.9 | |
| 5 | ¹³ C | 262.6 | 373.5 | |
| | ¹⁷ O | 38.6 | 45.8 | |
| | ³³ S | 61.3 | 102.5 | |
| 6 | ¹³ C | 226.0 | 311.6 | |
| | ¹⁷ O | 49.7 | 56.0 | |
| | ³³ S | 30.5 | 53.2 | |
| 7 | ¹³ C | 814.7 | 856.2 | |
| | ¹⁷ O | 42.2 ^b | 47.8 ^b | |
| | ³³ S | 41.9 | 55.9 | |
| 8 | ¹³ C (SCH ₃) | 251.7 | 342.5 | |
| | ¹³ C (OCH ₃) | 43.6 ^b | 49.6 ^b | |
| | ¹⁷ O | 105.6 | 113.4 | |
| 9 | ¹⁷ O | 30.7 | 59.6 | |
| | ³³ S | 586.6 | 672.1 | |
| | ¹³ C | 42.0 ^c | 49.0 ^c | |
| 10 | ¹⁷ O | 59.5 | 81.6 | |
| | ³³ S | 287.7 | 395.4 | |
| | ¹³ C (SCH ₃) | 39.3 ^b | 45.2 ^b | |
| 11 | ¹³ C (OCH ₃) | 91.5 | 98.8 | |
| | ¹⁷ O | 31.8 | 57.3 | |
| | ³³ S | 251.8 | 346.2 | |
| 12 | ¹³ C (SCH ₃) | 38.7 ^b | 44.4 ^b | |
| | ¹³ C (OCH ₃) | 89.6 | 98.2 ^c | |
| | ¹⁷ O | 21.6 | 58.2 | |
| 12 | ³³ S | 532.5 | 640.2 | |
| | ¹³ C (SCH ₃) | 38.9 ^c | 45.6 ^c | |
| | ¹³ C (OCH ₃) | 78.9 | 85.5 | |
| 12 | ¹⁷ O | 45.7 | 138.7 | |
| | ³³ S | 281.3 | 393.4 | |

^a Experimental and calculated ¹³C, ¹⁷O, and ³³S NMR chemical shifts were referenced to TMS, H₂O, and CS₂, respectively. ^b Average of the two carbons. ^c Average of the three carbons.

values of 32.7 and 60.4. Similarly, the calculated $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of **5** (45.8) compares well with the experimental value of 39.8.^{2,13}

The second protonation of O-protonated DMSO **2** can take place either on oxygen or on sulfur. Both O,O-diprotonated DMSO dication **6** and O,S-diprotonated DMSO dication **7** are minima on the potential energy surface. Interestingly, the O,O-diprotonated structure **6** is significantly more stable than the O,S-diprotonated structure **7** by 20.8 kcal/mol. This shows that in cation **2** the oxygen atom is a much better electron donor than the sulfur atom. A significant increase of S–O bond length in **6** (1.817 Å) compared to **2** (1.641 Å) is observed on second protonation. Deprotonation of dication **6** is substantially endothermic by 48.0 kcal/mol. Similar to protonated dications when O-protonated, O-methylated dication **8** and O-protonated, S-methylated dication **9** were calculated, in contrast to diprotonated dications, methylated dications **8** and **9** are comparable energetically. Deprotonation of **8** is endothermic by 63.4 kcal/mol. Dissociation of **8** into **2** and CH₃⁺ is also endothermic but by only 37.1 kcal/mol (Table 3). The isomeric O-methylated, S-protonated DMSO dication **10** was calculated to be 22.9 kcal/mol less stable than **8**.

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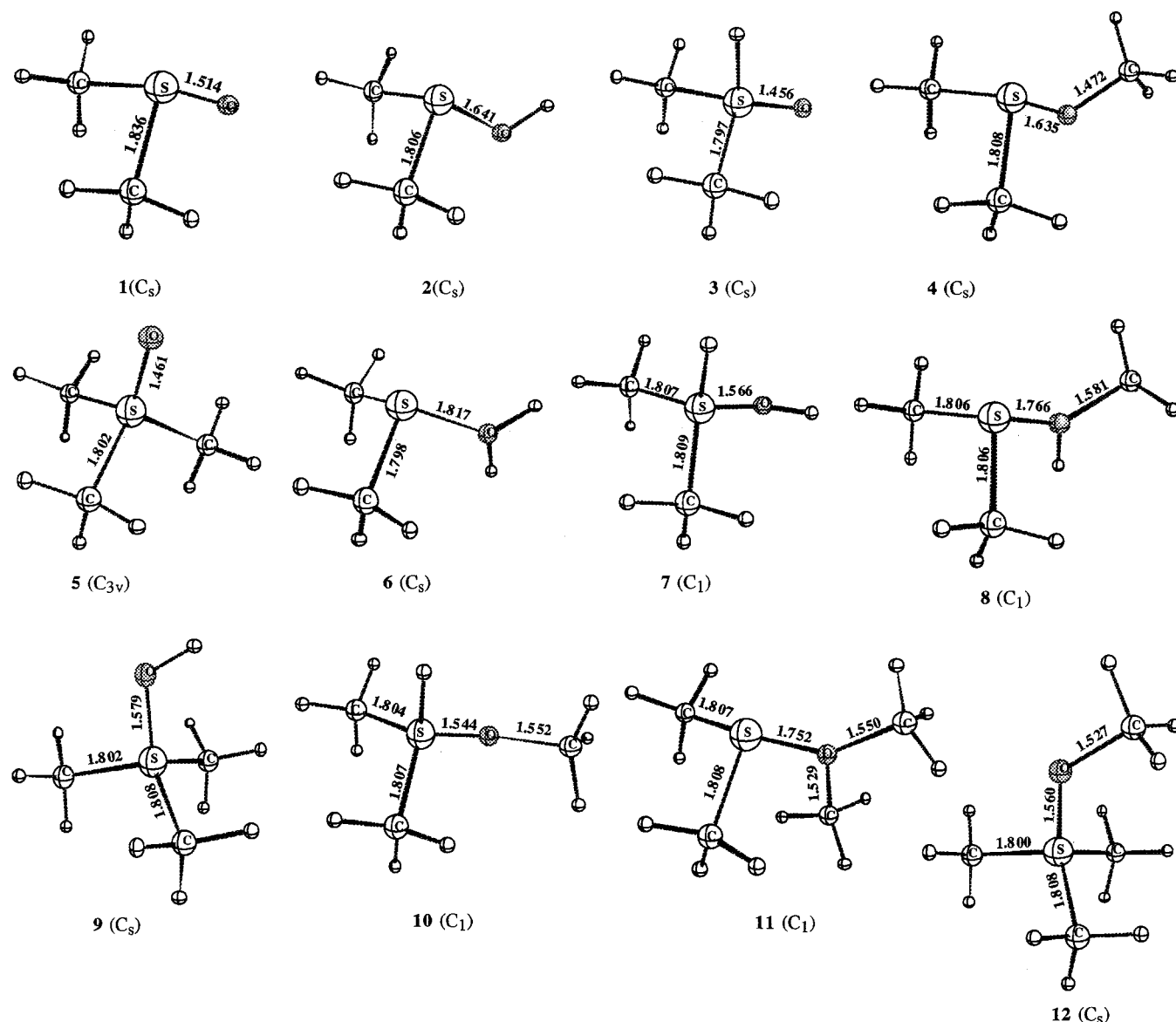


Figure 1. B3LYP/6-311+G** structures of **1**–**12**.

Table 3. Thermodynamics of the Dissociation of **1**–**5b**^a

| dissociation process | ΔH (kcal/mol) |
|---|-----------------------|
| 2 → 1 + H ⁺ | 214.8 |
| 4 → 1 + CH ₃ ⁺ | 107.1 |
| 6 → 2 + H ⁺ | 48.0 |
| 8 → 4 + H ⁺ | 63.4 |
| 8 → 2 + CH ₃ ⁺ | 37.1 |
| 11 → 4 + CH ₃ ⁺ | –34.6 |

^a At the B3LYP/6-311+G**//B3LYP/6-311+G** + ZPE level.

¹³C, ¹⁷O, and ³³S NMR chemical shifts of **6**–**10** were also calculated (Table 2). The calculated $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of dication **6** is 56.0, 16.0 ppm more deshielded than that of monocation **2**. The calculated $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of the –SCH₃ and –OCH₃ carbons of **8** are 49.6 and 113.5, respectively. The calculated $\delta^{33}\text{S}$ of dication **6** was found to be extremely deshielded at 856.2 ppm.

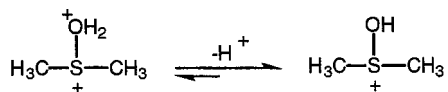
Structures of O,O-dimethylated DMSO dication **11** and O,S-dimethylated DMSO dication **12** were calculated. The dications **11** and **12** were found to be energetically similar. Unlike dissociation of other dications, dissociation of **11** into **4** and CH₃⁺ is exothermic by 34.6 kcal/

mol. Calculated ¹³C, ¹⁷O, and ³³S NMR chemical shifts of **11** and **12** are listed in Table 2. Structure **11** can also be considered a tetramethylthioperoxonium dication. The related tetramethylperoxonium dication (CH₃)₂OO(CH₃)₂²⁺ was calculated to be a kinetically stable species at the MP2/6-31G* level but was not yet observed experimentally as a persistent ion.¹⁴ The parent trimethylperoxonium ion, CH₃OO(CH₃)₂⁺, has been prepared by the reaction of CH₃OOCH₃ and CH₃F–SbF₅ in SO₂ at –78 °C and characterized by ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectroscopy.¹⁴

The present work helps to reveal the nature of interaction of DMSO, an important dipolar aprotic solvent, with acids, superacids, and electrophiles. Olah et al. in their studies reported² dimethyl sulfoxide in HSO₃F–SbF₅–SO₂ at –100 °C to give a broadened singlet peak at $\delta^1\text{H}$ 6.53. This broad peak indicates that either a proton exchange process is occurring at the NMR time scale between the protonated DMSO cation and the acid or, based on our present study, more probably an exchange involving a

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small equilibrium concentration of diprotonated DMSO dication (or protosolvated⁴ dication) with the monocation is taking place. Similar monocationic intermediates are involved in DMSO-based oxidation chemistry (Moffatt, Swern, and related chemistry). The O,O-diprotonated DMSO dication **6** is the most probable candidate to be involved in such an equilibrium.



Conclusions

Structures and energies of protonated and methylated dimethyl sulfoxide cations and dications were calculated using the density functional theory method. The O-

protonated structure **2** is 37.0 kcal/mol more stable than the S-protonated **3**. For dications, O,O-diprotonated DMSO **6** and O,S-diprotonated DMSO **7** were found to be energy minima. Structure **6** is 20.8 kcal/mol more stable than **7**. On the other hand, O,O-dimethylated DMSO dication **11** and O,S-dimethylated **12** are energetically identical. ¹³C, ¹⁷O, and ³³S NMR chemical shifts of the studied ions were also calculated using the GIAO-MP2 method. Calculated ¹³C NMR chemical shifts of DMSO **1**, protonated DMSO **2**, and methylated DMSO **4** and **5** agree well with the experimental data.

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