

Figure 4. van't Hoff plot. $K = N_G/N_A$.

has been removed from S_G° . The van't Hoff plot shown in Figure 4 yields the results $\Delta E^\circ = 2.2$ ($2\sigma = 1.1$) kcal mol⁻¹ and $\Delta S^\circ + R \ln 2 = +0.35$ ($2\sigma = 2.2$) cal mol⁻¹ K⁻¹.

To the extent that torsion around the conjugated single bond is a good representation of one of the normal coordinates in DCB, our parameter σ_A provides a crude estimate of the wavenumber for the torsional mode.¹¹ The result, calculated from the formula $\omega = (2\pi c)^{-1}(k/\mu_1)^{1/2}$ with $k = 0.24$ ($2\sigma = 0.06$) aJ rad⁻² ($k = V^*/2 = RT/\sigma_A^2$; the value is a weighted average), is 87 ($2\sigma = 11$) cm⁻¹, in excellent agreement with the observed 80 cm⁻¹.

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Registry No. 2,3-Dichloro-1,3-butadiene, 1653-19-6.

Supplementary Material Available: Tables of total intensities, final background, and average molecular intensities for three temperatures, symmetry coordinates, force constants, and observed wavenumbers, and figures of total intensities with backgrounds for 395 and 593 K experiments (24 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

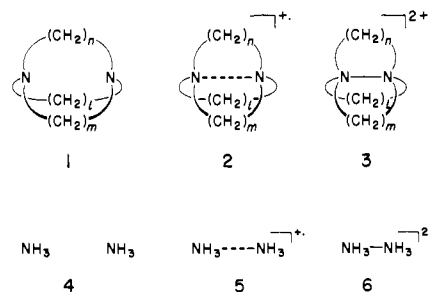
Hydrazinium Radical Cation ($\text{NH}_3\text{NH}_3^{\cdot+}$) and Dication ($\text{NH}_3\text{NH}_3^{2+}$): Prototypes for the Ionized Forms of Medium-Ring Bicyclic Compounds

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Abstract: Ab initio molecular orbital theory has been used to study the hydrazinium radical cation ($\text{NH}_3\text{NH}_3^{\cdot+}$, **5**) and dication ($\text{NH}_3\text{NH}_3^{2+}$, **6**) as prototypes for the ionized forms of medium-ring bicyclic compounds. The radical cation **5** is characterized by a long N...N bond (2.164 Å) but is nevertheless bound by 134 kJ mol⁻¹ with respect to $\text{NH}_3 + \text{NH}_3^+$. In the dication **6**, the N-N bond is markedly reduced (to 1.442 Å). Although dissociation of **6** to 2NH_3^+ is exothermic by 249 kJ mol⁻¹, this process involves a large activation barrier (194 kJ mol⁻¹). The results suggest that suitably constructed propellane analogues of **6** involving appropriate-sized bridges might exhibit bond-stretch isomerism.

The chemistry of medium-ring bicyclic compounds has flourished recently in the hands of Alder and co-workers.¹⁻⁵ In particular, they have been able to synthesize a variety of bicyclic diamines (**1**) and the corresponding radical cations (**2**) and dications (**3**). These systems are of theoretical interest since they



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include constrained interbridgehead interactions involving four, three, and two electrons, respectively. The characterization of the resulting rather unusual bonds is a tempting target for theoretical investigation. The medium-ring bicyclic systems themselves (**1-3**) are rather too large to lend themselves to reliable ab

Table I. Calculated Total Energies (hartrees) and Zero-Point Vibrational Energies (ZPVE, kJ mol⁻¹)^a

	3-21G ^b	6-31G*	6-31G**	MP3/6-31G*	ZPVE ^b
NH ₃ NH ₃ ⁺ , 5	-111.499 52	-112.096 13	-112.118 21	-112.443 89	206.7
NH ₄ NH ₂ ⁺ , 7	-111.529 89	-122.124 09	-112.146 00	-112.457 27	200.9
NH ₃	-55.872 20	-56.184 36	-56.195 53	-56.365 44	94.6
NH ₃ ⁺	-55.576 26	-55.873 24	-55.884 89	-56.019 18	89.5
NH ₄ ⁺	-56.233 86	-56.530 77	-56.545 52	-56.712 90	138.1
NH ₂ ⁺	-55.245 38	-55.557 70	-55.564 82	-55.705 47	51.4
NH ₃ NH ₃ ²⁺ , 6	-111.016 23	-111.613 30	-111.635 71	-112.010 79 ^d	223.2
TS(6 → 2NH ₃ ⁺), ^c 8	-110.973 81	-111.560 67	-111.583 43	-111.929 05 ^d	199.8
TS(6 → NH ₃ NH ₂ ⁺ + H ⁺), 9	-110.812 58	-111.419 55	-111.437 23	-111.811 57 ^d	192.3
NH ₃ ⁺	-55.576 26	-55.873 24	-55.884 89	-56.045 14 ^d	89.5
NH ₃ NH ₂ ⁺	-110.910 20	-111.518 33	-111.536 32	-111.909 07 ^d	187.7

^a6-31G*-optimized structures unless otherwise noted. ^b3-21G-optimized structures. ^cUHF solution. ^dMP3/6-31G** values.

initio calculations with currently available resources. However, the prototype systems **4**–**6** may be studied. In the case of the neutral system **4**, nitrogen-to-nitrogen approach of the two ammonia molecules is repulsive, and so **4** cannot serve as a structural model for **1**; the latter is held together by the bicyclic backbone. On the other hand, the hydrazinium radical cation (**5**) and dication (**6**) are well bound and can serve as useful models for **2** and **3** with appropriate bridges. Accordingly, and as part of our continuing interest in radical cations and dications,⁶ we report results in this paper of a study of the structures and stabilities of the hydrazinium radical cation (**5**) and dication (**6**).

Method and Results

Standard ab initio molecular orbital calculations were carried out by using a modified version⁷ of the GAUSSIAN 80 system of programs.⁸ Optimized structures were obtained with the split-valence 3-21G⁹ and split-valence-plus d polarization 6-31G*¹⁰ basis sets. Improved relative energies were obtained for the 6-31G*-optimized structures with the split-valence-plus dp polarization 6-31G** basis set¹⁰ and with electron correlation incorporated via Møller-Plesset perturbation theory terminated at third order (MP3).¹¹ Harmonic vibrational frequencies were calculated¹² at the 3-21G//3-21G level in order to characterize stationary points as minima (representing equilibrium structures) or saddle points (representing transition structures) and to evaluate zero-point vibrational energies. For some of the species investigated, frequencies were also evaluated at the 6-31G**//6-31G* level. The frequencies were scaled by 0.9 to account for their overestimation by ~10% at these levels of theory.¹³ The spin-unrestricted formalism (UHF, UMP) was used for odd-electron species and for transition structures linking even- and odd-electron species.

Optimized structures for NH₃NH₃⁺ (**5**), NH₃NH₃²⁺ (**6**), and related transition structures and fragmentation products are displayed in Figure 1 (bond lengths in angstroms, bond angles in degrees). Corresponding total energies and zero-point vibrational energies are listed in Table I, while relative energies are shown in Table II. Calculated (6-31G**//6-31G*) frequencies for NH₃NH₃⁺ and NH₃NH₃²⁺ are listed in Table III. A schematic energy profile showing possible fragmentation reactions of NH₃NH₃²⁺ (**6**) is presented in Figure 2.

Discussion

Hydrazinium Radical Cation (NH₃NH₃⁺, **5).** We are not aware of any experimental studies reported to date involving the hy-

Table II. Calculated Relative Energies (kJ mol⁻¹)^a

	3-21G ^b	6-31G*	6-31G**	MP3/ 6-31G**	MP3/ 6-31G** ^c
NH ₃ NH ₃ ⁺ , 5	0	0	0	0	0
NH ₄ NH ₂ ⁺ , 7	-80	-73	-73	-35 ^d	-40
NH ₃ + NH ₃ ⁺	134	101	99	154 ^d	134
NH ₄ ⁺ + NH ₂ ⁺	53	20	21	68 ^d	53
NH ₃ NH ₃ ²⁺ , 6	0	0	0	0	0
TS(6 → 2NH ₃ ⁺), ^c 8	111	138	137	215	194
TS(6 → NH ₃ NH ₂ ⁺ + H ⁺), 9	535	509	521	523	495
NH ₃ ⁺ + NH ₃ ⁺	-358	-350	-352	-209	-249
NH ₃ NH ₂ ⁺ + H ⁺	278	249	261	267	235

^a6-31G*-optimized structures unless otherwise noted. ^b3-21G-optimized structures. ^cIncluding zero-point vibrational contribution. ^dEvaluated using the additivity relationship $\Delta E(\text{MP3}/6-31\text{G}^{**}) = \Delta E(\text{MP3}/6-31\text{G}^*) + \Delta E(\text{HF}/6-31\text{G}^{**}) - \Delta E(\text{HF}/6-31\text{G}^*)$ (cf.: Nobes, R. H.; Bouma, W. J.; Radom, L. *Chem. Phys. Lett.* **1982**, *89*, 497). ^eUHF solution.

Table III. Calculated^a and Experimental^b Vibrational Frequencies (cm⁻¹) for NH₃NH₃⁺ (**5**) and NH₃NH₃²⁺ (**6**)

classification ^b	NH ₃ NH ₃ ⁺ calcd	NH ₃ NH ₃ ²⁺	
		calcd	exptl
a _{1u} torsion	79	272	<260 ^c
a _{1g} ν _{NN}	426	996	1027
e _u ρ _{NH₃}	508	1036	1096
e _g ρ _{NH₃}	544	1315	1105
a _{2u} δ _{NH₃}	446	1558	1485
e _u δ _{NH₃}	1594	1578	1613
a _{1g} δ _{NH₃}	1098	1609	1524
e _g δ _{NH₃}	1607	1629	1599
a _{2u} ν _{NH}	3310	3092	2600
a _{1g} ν _{NH}	3327	3127	2650
e _g ν _{NH}	3475	3183	2745
e _u ν _{NH}	3475	3188	2739

^a6-31G**//6-31G* values, scaled by 0.9. ^bFrom ref 17a,b unless otherwise noted. ^cEstimated value for free ion, taken from ref 17c.

drazinium radical cation (NH₃NH₃⁺, **5**). Our calculations indicate a preferred staggered conformation for **5** with D_{3d} symmetry. The most striking feature of the structure of the hydrazinium radical cation (Figure 1) is the very long N...N bond: 2.164 Å with 6-31G*. This corresponds formally to a three-electron (two σ plus one σ*) σ bond. A similarly long bond (2.16 Å) was obtained for the 4-31G optimized structure for **5**.¹⁴ The parameters within the NH₃ groups have values intermediate between those in NH₃ and NH₃⁺, as might have been expected. No crystal structural data, either for **5** or for any of the bicyclic compounds **2**, are currently available.

Despite the long N...N bond in **5**, the calculated binding energy with respect to dissociation to NH₃ + NH₃⁺ is quite large at 134

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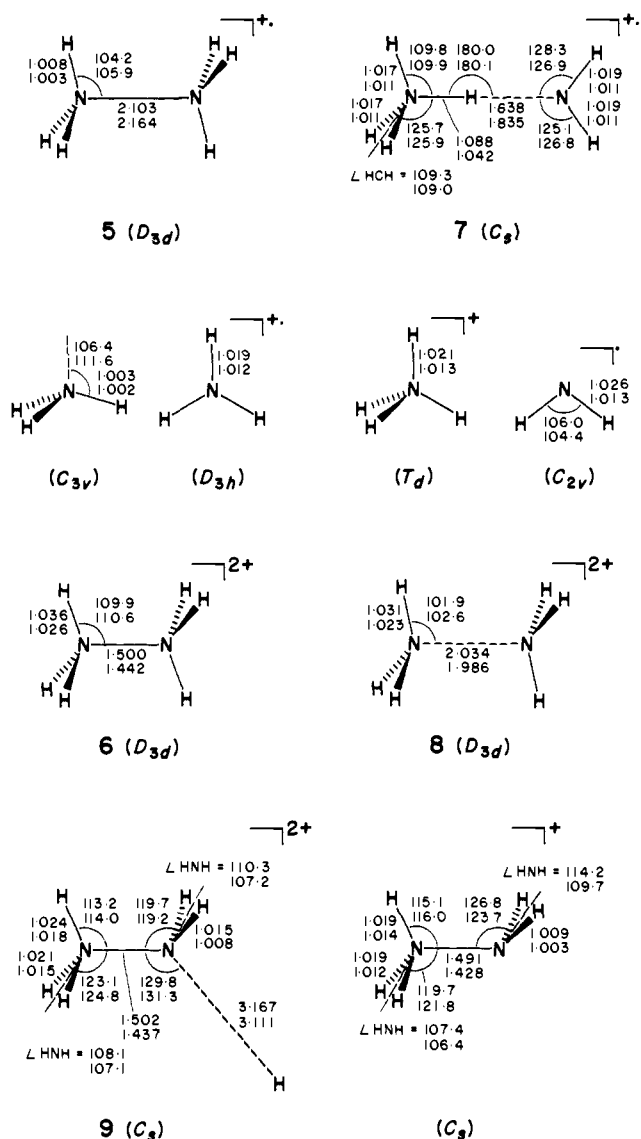


Figure 1. Optimized structural parameters (in the order 3-21G, 6-31G*) for the hydrazinium radical cation (5), dication (6), and related systems.

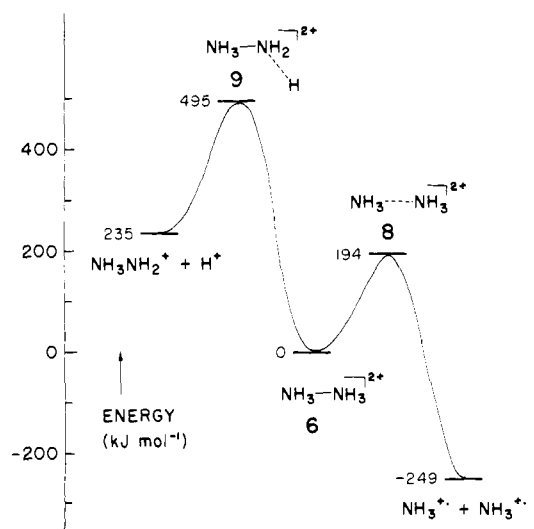
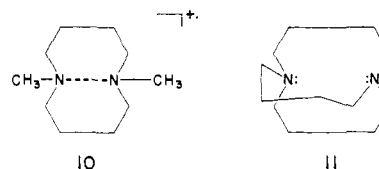


Figure 2. Schematic potential energy profile (MP3/6-31G**//6-31G* including zero-period vibrational contribution) for possible dissociation processes of the hydrazinium radical cation (5).

kJ mol⁻¹. Indirect experimental estimates⁵ of the strength of the three-electron σ N...N bond in the ring systems **2** are somewhat lower: 61 kJ mol⁻¹ from the free energy of activation for disso-

ciation of **10** and 45-90 kJ mol⁻¹ from gas-phase proton affinity and ionization energy measurements for **11**.



Although formation of NH_3NH_3^+ (**5**) from NH_3 and NH_3^+ is exothermic by 134 kJ mol⁻¹, the gas-phase ion-molecule reaction of NH_3^+ with NH_3 is unlikely to produce **5**. Instead, the hydrogen-bonded complex $\text{NH}_4^+\cdots\text{NH}_2^+$ (**7**), lying 40 kJ mol⁻¹ below **5**, is likely to be formed.¹⁵ The binding energy of **7** with respect to $\text{NH}_4^+ + \text{NH}_2^+$ is 93 kJ mol⁻¹.

Hydrazinium Dication ($\text{NH}_3\text{NH}_3^{2+}$, **6)**. The hydrazinium dication (**6**), as well as serving as a model for the propellane **3**, has also attracted considerable previous attention in its own right. Of particular relevance to the present study are X-ray and neutron diffraction studies of the crystal structures of a number of hydrazinium salts (e.g., $\text{N}_2\text{H}_6\text{F}_2$).¹⁶ In addition, infrared spectra and normal coordinate analyses have been reported,¹⁷ and both experimental¹⁸ and theoretical¹⁹ aspects of the NMR spectrum have been investigated.

Our own calculations show that removal of an electron from the hydrazinium radical cation (**5**) to give the dication (**6**) leads to a dramatic reduction in the N-N bond length from 2.164 to 1.442 Å. This is associated with the change from a three-electron σ bond in **5** to a two-electron σ bond in **6**. The available crystal structures for a number of hydrazinium salts¹⁶ show N-N bond lengths of 1.41-1.44 Å, in close agreement with our calculated value. A previous 4-31G calculation¹⁴ yielded 1.46 Å.

Alder^{1,5} has noted that diamines of the type **1** are among the most easily ionized of all saturated compounds and that in solution they are also readily oxidized, producing dications (**3**) via very long-lived radical cations (**2**). Our calculations are consistent with such observations. Thus, adiabatic ionization from a pair of NH_3 molecules to give $\text{NH}_3\cdots\text{NH}_3^+$ (**5**) requires 7.8 eV (MP3/6-31G**//6-31G*), somewhat less than the corresponding IE_a for $\text{NH}_3 \rightarrow \text{NH}_3^+$ (9.4 eV). Subsequent ionization to give the dication requires 13.2 eV in the case of $\text{NH}_3\cdots\text{NH}_3^+$ (**5**) \rightarrow $\text{NH}_3\text{NH}_3^{2+}$ (**6**), which is considerably lower than the 23.1 eV calculated²⁰ for the process $\text{NH}_3^+ \rightarrow \text{NH}_3^{2+}$. Ionization of **4** and **5** formally involves removal of σ^* electrons from the N-N bond, and it is not surprising, therefore, that it is relatively facile.

Harmonic vibrational frequencies calculated (6-31G**//6-31G* scaled by 0.9) for $\text{NH}_3\text{NH}_3^{2+}$ (**6**) are compared with experimental values (for $\text{NH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{Cl}_2$)^{17a,b} in Table III. The discrepancy between the theoretical and experimental values (see, for example,

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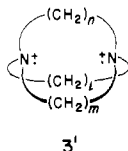
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(20) Relevant calculated total energies (MP3/6-31G**//6-31G*) not included in Table I are NH_3^{2+} , -55.16848, and $\text{NH}_3\text{NH}_3^{2+}$, -111.96042 hartrees.

the N-H stretching frequencies) is larger than normally found at this level of theory and suggests the likelihood of intermolecular association, contributing to the experimental frequencies. Intermolecular hydrogen bonding weakens the N-H bonds, leading to a reduction in the observed vibrational frequencies. Yamaguchi and Schaefer²¹ have noted a similar poor agreement between calculated and experimental (solid state) N-H frequencies for the NH_4^+ ion. The immediate environment of the NH_3^+ groups in $\text{NH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{Cl}_2$ is quite similar to that of the NH_4^+ in NH_4F , the acceptor ions being placed so as to maintain local symmetry.²² Accordingly, the experimental²³ N-H stretching frequencies in NH_4F of 2870 (a_1) and 2815 (t_2) cm^{-1} are again considerably lower than (and in the reverse order of) our scaled 6-31G* values of 3214 and 3343 cm^{-1} , respectively.²⁴ Better agreement (and the correct ordering) is found²¹ between calculated and experimental frequencies in less strongly hydrogen-bonding environments.²⁵ Recently, a gas-phase value (3335 cm^{-1}) has been determined²⁶ for the t_2 vibration of NH_4^+ and this is close to our calculated value (3343 cm^{-1}).

Dissociation of **6** to two molecules of NH_3^+ is exothermic by 249 kJ mol^{-1} . However, the activation energy for this process, which proceeds via transition structure **8**, is also large at 194 kJ mol^{-1} . These results suggest the intriguing possibility that for appropriate-sized rings, it may be possible to generate not only the closed propellane dication of the type **3** but also the isomeric open ions **3'**. This would represent an elegant example of



bond-stretch isomerism.²⁷ The ring sizes (i.e., values of l , m , and n in **3'**) would need to be sufficiently large to accommodate an N...N distance which exceeds the value in transition structure **8** (1.986 Å) by a comfortable margin. Bond-stretch isomerism generally involves the subtle interplay of through-space (favoring the closed isomer) and through-bond (favoring the open isomer)

interactions.²⁷ It has been found, however, that in the bicyclic compounds with trimethylene and tetramethylene bridges, through-bond interaction is unimportant.⁵ Accordingly, an alternative driving force is necessary to create the preconditions for bond-stretch isomerism in such systems. The driving force for formation in our case of the open isomer **3'** is the desire, once the N...N bond is broken, for the nitrogen-centered radical cation moieties to separate as far as possible (cf. Figure 2).

An additional point of interest from Figure 2 is the formation of $\text{NH}_3\text{NH}_3^{2+}$ (**6**) by protonation of protonated hydrazine (NH_3NH_2^+).²⁸ This process is exothermic by 235 kJ mol^{-1} , but it needs to overcome a barrier, presumably electrostatic in origin, of 260 kJ mol^{-1} . We note in passing that the calculated N-N length in NH_3NH_2^+ (1.428 Å) compares favorably with values obtained (1.42–1.44 Å)²⁹ for crystalline salts.

Dications have recently become accessible in the gas phase through charge-stripping mass spectrometry experiments.³⁰ Can $\text{NH}_3\text{NH}_3^{2+}$ be generated in this way? Our calculations predict that this is not likely to be the case. Vertical ionization from NH_3NH_3^+ with its long N...N bond (2.164 Å) will yield the dication with an N...N bond longer than that in the transition structure for dissociation (1.986 Å in **8**). Charge stripping from NH_3NH_3^+ is thus likely to be accompanied by dissociation of the resulting dication.

Conclusions

Several important points emerge from this study.

(i) The hydrazinium radical cation (NH_3NH_3^+ , **5**) and dication ($\text{NH}_3\text{NH}_3^{2+}$, **6**) provide information which may prove useful in studies of corresponding medium-ring bicyclic and propellane structures **2** and **3**.

(ii) The hydrazinium radical cation (NH_3NH_3^+ , **5**) has a long N...N bond (2.164 Å) but is well bound (by 134 kJ mol^{-1}) with respect to $\text{NH}_3 + \text{NH}_3^+$.

(iii) The hydrazinium dication ($\text{NH}_3\text{NH}_3^{2+}$, **6**) has a much shorter N-N bond (1.442 Å).

(iv) Dissociation of **6** to 2NH_3^+ is strongly exothermic (by 249 kJ mol^{-1}) but requires a large barrier (194 kJ mol^{-1}). These results suggest the possibility of bond-stretch isomerism in propellane analogues of **6** with appropriate-sized bridges.

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