

## 512. Molecular Polarisability. The Anisotropies of the Molecules $\text{PCl}_3$ , $\text{OPCl}_3$ , $\text{NMe}_3$ , and $\text{ONMe}_3$ .

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The increase of molecular refractivity from trimethylamine to the oxide and the decrease from phosphorus trichloride to oxychloride have been investigated by determining the principal polarisabilities of these molecules. The polarisability of trimethylamine becomes greater, both along and across the direction of action of the resultant molecular dipole moment, when the oxide is formed. With phosphorus trichloride, addition of an oxygen atom notably reduces the polarisability across  $\mu_{\text{resultant}}$ . Attempts to calculate principal polarisabilities by using empirical equations involving bond lengths, stretching frequencies, etc., are reasonably satisfactory in three cases, but for phosphorus oxychloride,  $b_1$  emerges *ca.* 20% too large, although a contraction in  $b_2 = b_3$  from phosphorus trichloride is qualitatively predicted.

MOLAR Kerr constants at infinite dilution,  ${}_{\infty}(\text{m}K_2)$ , are here recorded at 25° for phosphorus trichloride and oxychloride in benzene and for trimethylamine oxide in dioxan. From the observed dipole moments, molecular refractions, etc., and with an assumption that these molecules have rotational symmetry about the direction of action of  $\mu_{\text{resultant}}$ , estimates of the principal polarisabilities follow, as in Table 1.

TABLE 1. *Molar Kerr constants, moments, and principal polarisabilities.*

Solute	Solvent	$10^{12} {}_{\infty}(\text{m}K_2)$	$\mu, \text{D}^*$	$10^{23}(b_1 + 2b_2)$	$10^{23}b_1$	$10^{23}(b_2 = b_3)$
$\text{PCl}_3$	Benzene	-10.9 <sub>2</sub>	0.89 <sub>0</sub>	3.012	0.914	1.049
$\text{OPCl}_3$	"	-73.8 <sub>4</sub>	2.42 <sub>5</sub>	2.936	0.902	1.017
$\text{ONMe}_3$	Dioxan	210.0	5.03	2.505	0.885	0.810

\* Calc. by taking the distortion polarisation as  $1.05R_D$ .

*Discussion.*—None of these three compounds has previously been examined in this way, nor does the literature indicate the degrees of anisotropy to be expected for the bonds between phosphorus and chlorine or oxygen, or between nitrogen and oxygen. It has, however, been noted<sup>1</sup> with phosphorus trichloride and oxychloride that the smaller molecule has the larger molecular refraction, *i.e.* that the addition of an oxygen atom to the trichloride *reduces* the average polarisability. The results in Table 1 suggest that the diminution occurs more in  $b_2$  than in  $b_1$ . Unfortunately, owing to the smallness of  $\mu_{\text{resultant}}$  for phosphorus trichloride, its precise value is much affected by the distortion polarisation,  ${}_D P$ , used in its extraction from the  ${}_{\infty}P_2$  observed. A moment of 0.89 D is given when  ${}_D P = 1.05R_D = 27.6$  c.c. Grassi,<sup>2</sup> from a study of the total polarisation of phosphorus trichloride as a vapour, records the temperature-invariant term in the Debye equation  $P = A + B/T$  as 32.2 c.c.; taking 32.2 c.c. as  ${}_D P$  yields  $\mu_{\text{PCl}_3} = 0.75_3$  D, and in consequence  $10^{23}b_1 = 0.858$  and  $10^{23}(b_2 = b_3) = 1.077$ . Nevertheless, although  $b_1$  for  $\text{OPCl}_3$  now appears larger than that for  $\text{PCl}_3$ , we see that diminution of  $b_2$  from  $\text{PCl}_3$  to  $\text{OPCl}_3$  is still the preponderant change, and evidently that which makes  $R_{\text{PCl}_3}$  greater than  $R_{\text{OPCl}_3}$ .

The cases of trimethylamine and its oxide differ from those of the phosphorus halides. Aroney and Le Fèvre<sup>3</sup> found for trimethylamine  $10^{23}b_1 = 0.774$  and  $10^{23}(b_2 = b_3) = 0.763$ ; addition of oxygen therefore increases *both*  $b_1$  and  $b_2$ , the former ( $\Delta b_1 = 0.111$ ) more than the latter ( $\Delta b_2 = 0.047$ ), consistently with  $R_{\text{ONMe}_3}$  exceeding  $R_{\text{NMe}_3}$ .

The causes of these changes in polarisability seem unlikely to be entirely structural in origin because the Y-X bonds in the  $\text{YX}_3$  portions of the two oxygenated molecules are,

<sup>1</sup> Ingold, "Structure and Mechanism in Organic Chemistry," Cornell University Press, New York, 1953.

<sup>2</sup> Grassi, *Nuovo Cimento*, 1933, 10, 3.

<sup>3</sup> Aroney and Le Fèvre, *J.*, 1958 3002.



the refractivities of the P-Cl and the PO links in phosphorus oxychloride, we assume that the ratio  $b_L^{P-Cl}/b_T^{P-Cl}$  is the same in phosphorus trichloride and oxychloride; accordingly  $b_L^{P-Cl}$  in  $OPCl_3$  appears as  $0.164 \times 10^{-23}$ . If  $(b_L + 2b_T)$  for C-N is the same in trimethylamine as in the oxide, the values of  $b_L^{C-N}$  in Table 2 correspond to values of  $b_T^{C-N}$  of  $0.07_2$  and  $0.06_6 \times 10^{-23}$ , respectively. (In this paragraph, for want of guiding information, we presume the two transverse polarisabilities of the P-Cl, PO, and NO bonds to be equal, e.g.,  $b_T^{P-Cl} = b_V^{P-Cl}$ .)

*Predictions of molecular polarisabilities.* With the geometrical details appropriate for these molecules, their principal polarisabilities may be estimated. The Cl·P·Cl angles are  $4^\circ 100.1^\circ$  in phosphorus trichloride and  $103.6^\circ$  in the oxychloride. By symmetry the resultant dipole moment  $\mu_{res}$  in each structure will act along the rotational axis, parallel to which also one of the principal molecular polarisabilities,  $b_1$ , is measured;  $b_2$  and  $b_3$ , the two other polarisabilities, relate to directions which are mutually perpendicular, and also perpendicular to that of  $b_1$ . The angles between  $\mu_{res}$  and a P-Cl bond follow as  $62^\circ 16'$  in phosphorus trichloride and  $65^\circ 10'$  in the oxychloride. Introduction of the appropriate polarisabilities for PCl and PO therefore yields:

$$10^{23}b_1^{PCl_3} = 0.856 \text{ and } 10^{23}b_1^{OPCl_3} = 1.133.$$

From  $R_\infty$ , we know  $(b_1 + 2b_2)$ , so that

$$10^{23}b_2^{PCl_3} = 1.078 \text{ and } 10^{23}b_2^{OPCl_3} = 0.901_5.$$

In trimethylamine oxide the C·N·C angle is reported by Lister and Sutton<sup>13</sup> as  $109.5^\circ$ , i.e., within the limits ( $108^\circ \pm 4^\circ$ ) given in ref. 4 for trimethylamine itself;  $(b_1 + 2b_2)$  for trimethylamine is  $2.299_5$  and for trimethylamine oxide is  $2.505 \times 10^{-23}$ . Calculated values follow as in Table 3.

TABLE 3. *Predicted and found principal molecular polarisabilities.*

	$10^{23}b_1$ calc.	$10^{23}(b_2 = b_3)$ calc.	$10^{23}b_1$ found	$10^{23}(b_2 = b_3)$ found
$PCl_3$ .....	0.856	1.078	0.914 (0.858) *	1.049 (1.077) *
$OPCl_3$ .....	1.133	0.902	0.902	1.017
$NMe_3$ .....	0.785	0.757	0.774 †	0.763 †
$ONMe_3$ .....	0.879	0.813	0.885	0.810

\* Bracketed values are obtained if  $\mu$  is taken as  $0.75_3$  D; see discussion above.

† From ref. 3.

The only seriously incorrect prediction is that for phosphorus oxychloride. Perhaps the empirical equations are inapplicable to bonds—such as PO—involving *d*-orbitals; alternatively,  $1290 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  may not be the appropriate frequency in this case. To obtain  $b_1^{OPCl_3} = 0.902 \times 10^{-23}$  requires  $\nu_{PO}$  to be  $964 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$ .

## EXPERIMENTAL

*Materials, Methods, etc.*—The two phosphorus halides were B.D.H. products, redistilled as required, fractions with b. p.  $75-76^\circ$  (trichloride) and  $106-107^\circ$  (oxychloride) at 760 mm. being taken. Trimethylamine oxide hydrate, prepared according to Meisenheimer,<sup>14</sup> was dehydrated by sublimation at  $150^\circ/5 \text{ mm.}$ , and stored *in vacuo* over phosphorus pentoxide; it had m. p.  $220^\circ$ . Benzene and dioxan were purified by refluxing them over, and then distilling them from, sodium-potassium alloy or sodium, respectively, immediately before making up solutions. Obvious precautions against moist air were taken in all transference operations; unless the dioxan solutions were kept thoroughly dry the insoluble hydrate of trimethylamine oxide was gradually precipitated and prevented electric birefringence measurements.

Apparatus, techniques, symbols used, and methods of calculation, have been as described before.<sup>15,16</sup> Observations are recorded in Table 4 and results summarised in Table 5. The

<sup>13</sup> Lister and Sutton, *Trans. Faraday Soc.*, 1939, **35**, 495.

<sup>14</sup> Meisenheimer, *Annalen*, 1913, **397**, 286.

<sup>15</sup> Le Fèvre and Le Fèvre, *J.*, 1953, 4041; 1954, 1577; *Rev. Pure Appl. Chem.*, 1955, **5**, 261.

<sup>16</sup> Le Fèvre, "Dipole Moments," Methuen, London, 3rd Edn., 1953, Chap. 2.

quantities  $\Delta\epsilon$ ,  $\Delta d$ ,  $\Delta n$ , and  $\Delta B$  are the differences found between the dielectric constants, densities, refractive indexes, and Kerr effects, respectively, of the solvents and of solutions containing weight fractions  $w_2$  of solute. The following data apply at 25° to the two solvents involved:

	$\epsilon_1$	$d_1$	$(n_1)_D$	$p_1$ (c.c.)	$C$	$H$	$J$	$B_1 \times 10^7$	${}_sK_1 \times 10^{12}$
Dioxan...	2.2090	1.0280	1.4202	0.27942	0.16473	2.008	0.4752	0.068	0.01162
Benzene	2.2725	0.87378	1.4973	0.34086	0.18809	2.114	0.4681	0.410	0.0756

TABLE 4. Dielectric-constant, density, etc., increments from solvent to solutions.

Phosphorus trichloride in benzene													
$10^5 w_2$	1530	3823	6055	6708	7757	9278	9568	10,602	10,665	11,912	14,452	16,788	20,141
$10^4 \Delta\epsilon$	—	—	—	469	545	685	—	—	761	847	1039	1175	1434
$10^5 \Delta d$	611	1509	2380	—	—	—	3831	4278	—	—	—	—	—
$10^5 w_2$	4082	5747	8567	11,634	12,045	16,033	21,039	26,770	27,802	29,725	31,808	32,264	—
$10^{10} \Delta B$	-22	-27	-43	-56	-62	-82	-102	-137	-143	-161	-168	-171	—

whence  $\Sigma\Delta\epsilon/\Sigma w_2 = 0.712$ ;  $\Sigma\Delta d/\Sigma w_2 = 0.399$ ;  $\Sigma\Delta b/\Sigma w_2 = -0.516 \times 10^{-7}$ .

Phosphorus oxychloride in benzene													
$10^5 w_2$ .....	2272	3393	4497	6951	9223	12,700	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
$10^4 \Delta\epsilon$ .....	955	1425	1949	2977	4012	5670	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
$10^5 \Delta d$ .....	954	1439	1912	2994	4020	5639	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
$10^5 w_2$ .....	1369	1433	1541	2637	3936	4359	—	—	5447	—	—	—	5483
$10^{10} \Delta B$ .....	-28	-30	-31	-58	-85	-94	—	—	-120	—	—	—	-122

whence  $\Delta\epsilon = 4.13w_2 + 0.219_2^2$ ;  $\Delta d = 0.415w_2 + 0.0195w_2^2$ ;  $10^7 \Delta B = -2.041w_2 - 3.12w_2^2$ .

Trimethylamine oxide in dioxan													
$10^5 w_2$ .....	122	181	237	307	392	446	494	532	—	—	—	—	—
$10^4 \Delta\epsilon$ .....	521	781	975	1303	1654	1884	2073	2173	—	—	—	—	—
$10^5 \Delta d$ .....	-10	-11	-16	-22	-25	-29	-31	-37	—	—	—	—	—
$10^5 w_2$ .....	101	104	133	141	142	170	185	201	242	—	—	—	—
$10^{10} \Delta B$ .....	19	19	23	26	24	30	35	31	45	—	—	—	—
$10^5 w_2$ .....	249	264	269	330	337	345	371	395	—	—	—	—	—
$10^{10} \Delta B$ .....	45	47	48	57	59	61	65	67	—	—	—	—	—
$10^5 w_2$ .....	237	392	494	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
$10^5 \Delta n$ .....	10	19	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

whence  $\Sigma\Delta\epsilon/\Sigma w_2 = 41.9$ ;  $\Sigma\Delta d/\Sigma w_2 = -0.0668$ ;  $\Sigma\Delta B/\Sigma w_2 = 17.64$ ;  $\Sigma\Delta n/\Sigma w_2 = 0.0516$ .

TABLE 5. Calculation of results.

Solute	Solvent	$\alpha\epsilon_1$	$\beta$	$\gamma$	$\delta$	$\infty ({}_mK_2) \times 10^{12}$
$\text{PCl}_3$ .....	Benzene	0.71 <sub>2</sub>	0.399	0.003	-1.25 <sub>85</sub>	-10.9 <sub>2</sub>
$\text{OPCl}_3$	"	4.13	0.475	-0.015	-4.97 <sub>8</sub>	-73.8 <sub>4</sub>
$\text{ONMe}_3$	Dioxan	41.9	-0.065	0.036	259.5	210.0
	$\infty P_2$ (c.c.)	$D^P$ (c.c.)	$\mu$ (D)	$(\theta_1 + \theta_2) \times 10^{85}$	$R^P$ (c.c.)	
$\text{PCl}_3$	43.8	27.6 <sup>a</sup>	0.89 <sub>0</sub>	-2.59 <sub>6</sub>	25.33 <sup>b</sup>	
"	"	32.2 <sup>c</sup>	0.75 <sub>3</sub>	"	"	
$\text{OPCl}_3$	146.6	26.3 <sup>a</sup>	2.42 <sub>8</sub>	-17.5 <sub>3</sub>	24.69 <sup>b</sup>	
$\text{ONMe}_3$	540.8	22.7 <sup>a</sup>	5.03	49.9 <sub>4</sub>	21.07 <sup>d</sup>	

*a*, i.e. 1.05  $R_D$ ; *b* extrapolated from  $R$ 's given by Vogel<sup>12</sup>; *c* from Grassi<sup>2</sup>; *d* i.e. 0.97  $R_D$ .

*Previous Determinations of Dipole Moments.*—Wesson<sup>17</sup> lists values, obtained in benzene or carbon tetrachloride, from 0.70 to 0.90 D for phosphorus trichloride, and between 2.36 and 2.42 D for the oxychloride; the trichloride is stated to show  $\mu = 1.89$  D in dioxan. Change of solvent does not affect trimethylamine oxide so markedly, Linton<sup>18</sup> reporting 5.02 D in dioxan, against Phillips, Hunter, and Sutton's moment of 4.87 D in benzene.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> Wesson, "Tables of Electric Dipole Moments," Technology Press, M.I.T., 1948.

<sup>18</sup> Linton, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 1940, **62**, 1945.

<sup>19</sup> Phillips, Hunter, and Sutton, *J.*, 1945, 146.