

Table III. Comparison of Theoretical Data for Lattice and Gas-Phase Water Molecules

	θ	r_{OH}	Q_H^b	Q_O^a	a_0^c	c_0^c	Stabilization energy, ^d kcal/mol
Crystal	110.5	1.038	0.8279, 0.8208	6.3513	4.32	7.06	-4.5
Isolated	104.7 ^a	1.029 ^a	0.8584, 0.8584	6.2832			

^a CNDO/2 theoretical values. ^b Calculated assuming $c_0 = 7.335$, $a_0 = 4.491752 \text{ \AA}$. ^c Experimental values⁸ at -186° : $a_0 = 4.4968$, $c_0 = 7.3198 \text{ \AA}$. ^d Experimental value¹⁸ = -11 kcal/mol .

molecules and the symmetrical centering of the molecules in the lattice, both serve to increase the (negative) binding energy.

Summary and Conclusions

In the foregoing sections, we have reported molecular orbital calculation, based on the CNDO/2 method, for the ice-Ih crystal. The more interesting results from these calculations are collected in Table III. The agreement between theory and experiment is encouraging and suggests that the CNDO/2 method will

prove useful for the theoretical study of hydrogen-bonded systems.

The present calculation also provides some interesting insight into the nature of the hydrogen-bonded interaction within large molecular aggregates. According to the present calculations, the change in the HOH bond angle of water that accompanies crystallization is not due to a nearest neighbor effect as generally supposed, but rather is the result of long-range interaction between the polarized charge densities of the lattice molecules.

The Reactions of Sulfur Atoms. XIV.

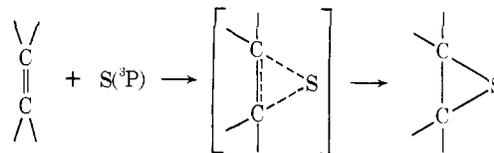
Ab Initio Molecular Orbital Calculations on the Ethylene Episulfide Molecule and the $S + C_2H_4$ Reaction Path

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Abstract: A nonempirical SCF molecular orbital study has been made on thiirane and the thiirane-forming addition of sulfur atoms to ethylene. All the lower lying triplet and singlet excited states of thiirane have a ring distorted equilibrium conformation in which the terminal methylene plane is orthogonal to the CCS plane and the considerable energy barrier with respect to rotation of the terminal methylene is responsible for the maintenance of the stereochemical information content of the addition reaction. Since all the vertical excited states lie at higher energies than the sum of the enthalpy change and activation energy of the reaction, a ring distorted triplet state activated complex is implicated which, in the $C_2H_4 + S(^3P)$ system, correlates with the third vertical triplet state of thiirane. The reaction product, the lowest nonvertical $^3\Sigma(12\sigma \rightarrow 13\sigma^*)$ excited state of thiirane, arises *via* the sequence: $C_2H_4(^1A_1) + S(^3P) \rightarrow C_2H_4S[^3B_2(4\pi \rightarrow 14\sigma^*)] \rightarrow C_2H_4S[^3A_2(4\pi \rightarrow 13\sigma^*)] \rightarrow C_2H_4S[^3\Sigma(12\sigma \rightarrow 13\sigma^*)]$. The ultimate fate of the triplet C_2H_4S is collision-induced intersystem crossing to the ground state. The $C_2H_4 + S(^1D_2)$ system correlates with the electronic ground state of thiirane; therefore the addition is a simple concerted process.

The experimental observation that the addition of ground triplet state sulfur atoms to olefins follows a unique stereospecific path² may be rationalized by assuming that the product thiirane is formed essentially in its final nuclear configuration *via* a symmetric transition state.³



To conserve spin and orbital symmetry the thiirane should be in one of its low lying triplet states. According to Hoffmann and coworkers' extended Hückel MO calculation,³ this triplet (n, σ^*) thiirane retains CC bonding but is unstable with respect to CS ring opening. The ring-opened intermediate has a computed CCS bond angle of 110° and the plane of the terminal meth-

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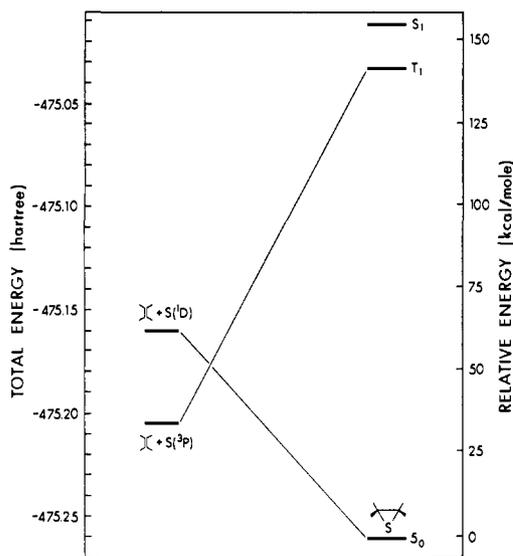


Figure 1. Comparison of some low-lying electronic configuration energies for the initial and final states of the reaction $C_2H_4 + S \rightarrow C_2H_4S$ as computed with the 32 sp basis set.

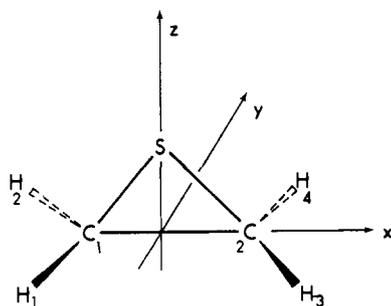


Figure 2. Cartesian right-handed coordinate system for C_2H_4S .

ylene group is perpendicular to the CCS plane. The calculated energy barrier for rotation of the methylene is 5 kcal/mol.

We now wish to report the results of a recent non-empirical SCF-MO calculation which sheds light on the details of the reaction path and reflects the nature of the primary reaction product.

Method

The individual atomic orbitals used were built up by contraction from primitive Gaussian-type functions, and the molecular orbitals were obtained from a 32 contracted s,p basis set by linear transformations.⁴ A previous study on thiirane and its isomers indicated⁵ that such a basis set (32 sp) gives sufficiently reliable numerical results. The computations were carried out on an IBM 360/65 computer using IBMOL-IV.^{6,7} The sulfur basis set used was that of Veillard⁸ ($12s, 9p$) con-

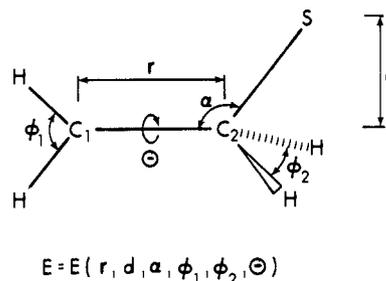
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$$E = E(r, d, \alpha, \phi_1, \phi_2, \theta)$$

Figure 3. Internal geometrical parameters of C_2H_4S varied.

tracted to [$6s, 4p$] while the basis orbitals associated with the carbon ($8s, 3p$) contracted to [$2s, 1p$] and hydrogen atoms ($3s$) contracted to [$1s$] were originally suggested by Klessinger.⁹ Total energy values associated with the lowest singlet and triplet excited configurations of thiirane were computed by the virtual orbital technique.¹⁰

Results and Discussion

As pointed out earlier,⁵ the addition of $S(3P)$ atoms to ethylene is energetically an unfavorable process if the spin momentum is to be conserved. The energetics of this process are recomputed with the present basis set and summarized in Table I and Figure 1. For this cal-

Table I. Computed Energy Values for Some Low-Lying States of Thiirane and Its Fragments^a $C_2H_4 + S$

Ethylene + sulfur ^b	Energy	Thiirane	Energy
$^1A_1 + ^3P$	-475.20548	$^1A_1(S_0)$	-475.26221
$^1A_1 + ^1D$	-475.16024	$^3A_2(T_1)$	-475.03492
		$^1A_2(S_1)$	-475.01379

^a All energy values were computed using a 32 sp basis.^b Individual values were reported in ref 5.

ulation the same molecular geometry,¹¹ Figure 2, was used as before.⁵

Theoretical studies of chemical processes may commence from the forward or the reverse direction owing to the principle of microscopic reversibility. In the present case it is more convenient to proceed by considering the product episulfide and to examine the dissociation or distortion of the three-membered ring leading to dissociation.

A complete study of the problem would require the generation of a hypersurface: $E(r, d, \alpha, \phi_1, \phi_2, \theta)$ as illustrated in Figure 3. However, in the present initial study, only a limited number of two- and three-dimensional cross sections could be investigated.

Three modes of motion were examined: (i) symmetric ring distortion $E(r, d)$, (ii) asymmetric ring distortion $E(\alpha)$, and (iii) methylene torsion $E(\theta)$, as illustrated in Figure 4.

In the case of symmetric ring distortion (C-S stretch) eight points were chosen to form a path, Figure 5, which might be assumed to be reasonably close to that reaction coordinate which passes through the equilibrium geometry.

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Table II. Variation of Total Energy of the Ground and Low-Lying Excited States of Open Thiirane^a with θ (C-C Rotational Angle)

State	Total energy, hartrees		Rotational barrier, kcal/mol
	$\theta = 0^\circ$ ^b	$\theta = 90^\circ$ ^c	
S ₀	-475.19455	-475.10711	54.9
T ₁	-475.18772	-475.15105	23.0
S ₁	-475.11198	-475.10024	7.4
T ₂	-475.13020	-475.10923	13.2
S ₂	-475.00231	-475.05565	-33.5
T ₃	-475.01585	-474.99052	15.9
S ₃	-474.93127	-474.98262	-32.2
T ₄	-474.92066	-474.87805	26.7
S ₄	-474.88433	-474.83998	27.8
T ₅	-474.90403	-474.87623	17.5
S ₅	-474.88249	-474.83472	30.0

^a The CCS bond angle is 100°. ^b Nuclear repulsion = +91.86389. ^c Nuclear repulsion = +92.12807.

tribution of products is temperature dependent^{17,18} indicating restricted rotation around the CC bond.

The C₂H₄ + S(¹D₂) system correlates with the ¹A₁ ground state of thiirane and the reaction proceeds along a suprafacial, concerted least motion path as has been described in the literature.^{2,3} The enthalpy change of the reaction is 85 kcal/mol, while the calculated CC rotational energy barrier is 54.9 kcal/mol. From this, the rotational rate constant can be estimated to be $\sim 10^8$ l. mol⁻¹ sec⁻¹, and geometrical isomerization is predicted to be effectively suppressed at atmospheric pressures, in agreement with experiment.

The present calculations are also consistent with the available spectroscopic data on thiirane. The uv spectra display two broad, overlapping long wavelength bands with maxima around 39,000 and 41,000

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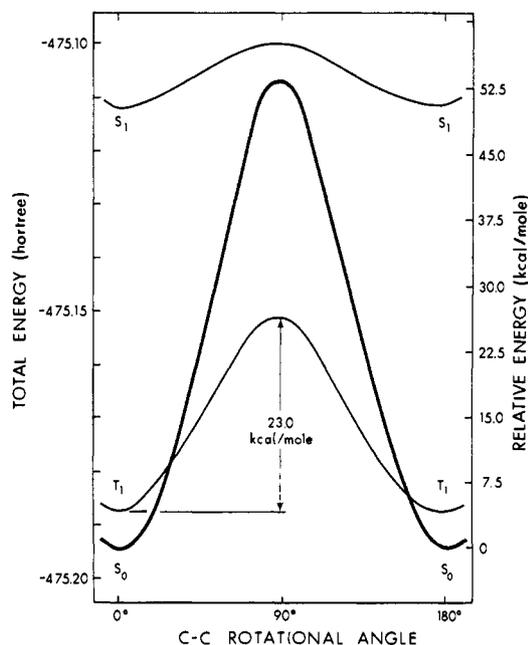


Figure 10. Calculated total energy variation as a function of CC rotational angle for the ground state (S₀), lowest triplet (T₁), and lowest singlet state (S₁) of the thiirane molecule at a CCS angle of 100°.

cm⁻¹. The first of these weak bands may be assigned to the nonvertical S₀ → S₁ transition with a calculated excitation energy of 32,970 cm⁻¹.

Further studies on the ethylene plus sulfur and ethylene plus oxygen systems are in progress and will be reported at a later date.

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An Example of Mechanistic Similarity between Oxidative Addition and Classical Donor Coordination

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Abstract: A kinetic study of the reactions $\text{H}(\text{CO})(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_2\text{Ir} + \text{Ph}_3\text{P} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}(\text{CO})(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_3\text{Ir}$ (k_{+P} , k_{-P}) and $\text{H}(\text{CO})(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_2\text{Ir} + (\text{CH}_3)_n(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O})_{3-n}\text{SiH} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2(\text{CO})[(\text{CH}_3)_n(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O})_{3-n}\text{Si}](\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_2\text{Ir}$ (k_{+Si} , k_{-Si}) is reported. For the case where $n = 3$, the kinetic parameters for the phosphine and silane reactions were almost identical: $\Delta H^\ddagger_{-P} = \Delta H^\ddagger_{-Si} \approx 23$ kcal/mol, $\Delta S^\ddagger_{-P} = \Delta S^\ddagger_{-Si} \approx 16$ eu, $\Delta H^\ddagger_P - \Delta H^\ddagger_{Si} = 0$ kcal/mol, $\Delta S^\ddagger_P - \Delta S^\ddagger_{Si} = 13$ eu. For the case where $n = 1$ and $n = 0$, the activation enthalpies for addition were again 23 kcal/mol, but for the elimination reactions substantially larger values of ΔH^\ddagger_{Si} were observed (for $n = 1$, $\Delta H^\ddagger_{Si} = 28$ kcal/mol), in agreement with results reported previously. The results are interpreted to mean that phosphine addition and silane addition are mechanistically similar processes and that the observed activation enthalpies are largely due to a prerequisite deformation of the square-planar iridium complex.

The class of reactions, known as "oxidative addition" reactions, has attracted a great deal of attention in the recent past. In addition to providing useful insight into the functioning of a variety of coordination catalysts, oxidative additions are of considerable in-

terest because some of them at least seem to represent a major new mechanistic class of reaction.^{1,2}

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