

germanium and tin polymers become progressively larger. Since the transport properties of $MPCl_x$ compounds are largely ligand-dominated and relatively insensitive to M ,^{3,3c,21} it appears reasonable to relate a significant portion of the conductivity trend in the $\{[M(Pc)O]I_x\}_n$ series to differences in the plane-plane separation.

Further studies of these and other linked metallomacrocycle systems are in progress.²²

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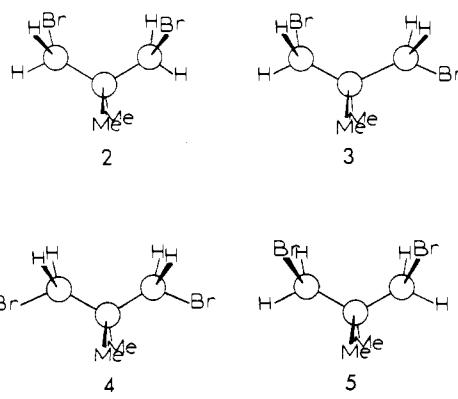
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1,3-Dipolar Interactions in Acyclic Systems. NMR Evidence for a Strong Conformational Preference in 1,3-Dibromo-2,2-dimethylpropane

Sir:

Over the past several years, variable-temperature or "dynamic" NMR (DNMR) spectroscopy¹ has been used extensively to probe conformational preferences involving polar vicinal substituents in simple and moderately complex acyclic systems.¹⁻³ However, there is only a small amount of information available regarding 1,3 interactions between two polar substituents in simple acyclic molecules,⁴ although analogous data is available for the more constrained cyclic systems.⁵ This report concerns an ¹H DNMR study of 1,3-dibromo-2,2-dimethylpropane and evidence for a strong preference for one molecular geometry.

A previous ¹H DNMR study of neopentyl bromide⁶ in our laboratory suggested that the barrier to rotation about the C(1)-C(2) and C(2)-C(3) bonds of 1,3-dibromo-2,2-dimethylpropane (**1**) should be high enough to be detectable by the DNMR method. The ¹H DNMR spectrum (270 MHz) of **1** (2% v/v in $CBrF_3$) at 170 K shows a singlet at δ 3.39 (CH_2Br) and singlet at 1.19 (CMe_2). At lower temperatures (Figure 1), no changes are observed for the CMe_2 resonance, but the CH_2Br singlet broadens and is separated into one AB spectrum (δ_A 3.61, δ_B 3.19 (J_{AB} = -10.2 Hz)) at 121 K (Figure 1). Assuming essential staggering along all of the carbon-carbon bonds of **1**, four reasonable molecular geometries exist (**2**, **3**, **4**, **5**). However, the spectrum of **1** at 121



K (Figure 1) is consistent only with **2**. In **2** (C_2 symmetry), the *gem*-dimethyl groups are equivalent and will give a singlet

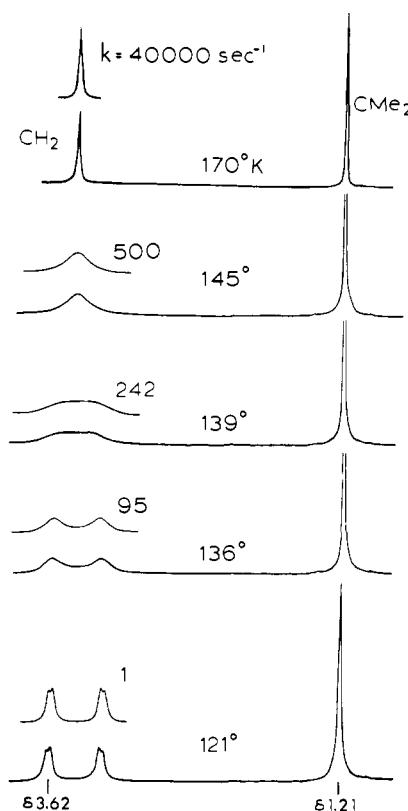


Figure 1. The ^1H DNMR spectra (270 MHz) of 1,3-dibromo-2,2-dimethylpropane (**1**, 2% v/v in CBrF_3) at various temperatures. Computed spectra using an AB to BA exchange model for the CH_2Br resonance are illustrated above the experimental spectra (k is the first-order rate constant for AB to BA exchange).

while the two methylene groups will give rise to the same AB spectrum as observed. The two protons on a given methylene group of **2** are indeed nonequivalent. Conformer **3** (C_1 symmetry) will show a doublet for CMe_2 and two different AB spectra for CH_2Br ; **4** (C_{2v} symmetry) will give singlets for both CMe_2 and CH_2Br groups; **5** (C_s symmetry) will give a doublet for CMe_2 and one AB spectrum for the CH_2Br groups. Based on the observed ^1H NMR chemical-shift difference between the different methyl groups of neopentyl bromide at 105 K (0.10 ppm),⁶ it would be anticipated that various methyl protons signals due to conformers **3**, **4**, or **5** would indeed be sufficiently shifted from that due to **2** to be detectable. In addition, the width at half-height of the methyl protons signal for **1** at 121 K (7.0 Hz; see Figure 1) is essentially identical with that for the tetramethylsilane reference signal. This speaks for no DNMR effect for the methyl groups of **1** and for magnetic equivalence of the methyl protons of **1** which is of course consistent with the symmetry of **2**.

It is interesting to note that, within the limits of NMR detection, **2** is the *only* conformer observed. Conformers **3** and **4** are more or less reasonable on steric grounds but are not observed. The geometry **5** is intuitively less stable than **2**, **3**, and **4**. The essentially parallel C-Br bonds in **5** lead to a significant dipole moment and substantial repulsions between the two proximate bromine atoms. The increased stability of **2** compared with that of **3** or **4** may result from optimized electrostatic attractions⁵ between the respective oppositely charged monopoles of the two C-Br bond moments. These results for **1** are qualitatively consistent with IR data for 1,3-dibromopropane which indicate a preference in the *crystal* for a geometry which is analogous to **2**.^{4a} However, the IR data for 1,3-dibromopropane in *solution* reveal the presence of geometries which are analogous to **2**, **3**, and **4** but not **5**.^{4a} The

strong preference for conformer **2** is also analogous to the preference for the gauche-gauche conformation in dimethoxymethane.⁷

The DNMR behavior observed for the CH_2Br groups of **1** can be simulated using a simple AB to BA exchange model (Figure 1). The preliminary activation parameters for exchange are $\Delta H^\ddagger = 6.2 \pm 0.6 \text{ kcal/mol}$, $\Delta S^\ddagger = -1 \pm 3 \text{ eu}$, and $\Delta G^\ddagger = 6.4 \pm 0.2 \text{ kcal/mol}$ at 139 K. The process detected by the DNMR method involves conversion of **2** into its enantiomeric form which of course involves rotation about two carbon-carbon bonds. The nature of the DNMR data in Figure 1 does not allow a distinction between a concerted double rotation or stepwise separate rotations.

Thus, it is apparent that the ^1H DNMR method will be useful in probing the effects of 1,3 interactions in relatively simple molecular systems and a systematic evaluation of steric, electronic, and solvent effects is planned.

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Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Studies of the Effects of Pressure on the Heme Environmental Structure of Hemoproteins

Sir:

The effect of pressure on the physicochemical properties of hemoproteins has been the subject of considerable investigation in recent years.¹ These studies have been dealt with changes in the functional properties, the thermodynamic properties associated with the binding of ligands, and the denaturation of the protein. Visible and Soret spectra were used to follow the changes of the heme crevice structure of hemoproteins when these molecules were subjected to high hydrostatic pressures.¹⁻⁵ We report here the effect of pressure on the ^1H , NMR spectra of metmyoglobin, methemoglobin, and their