

(1) Ab initio Hartree-Fock calculations at the double- $\zeta$  level show all hexahalogenated benzenes to be planar. It is highly unlikely that this result is an artifact of the approximations used.

(2) Deviations from planarity observed in the solid state are well within the range of crystal packing forces and are not caused by steric overcrowding.

(3) Spectroscopic investigations indicate that the deviation from planarity in vapor should be no larger than in the solid state.

(4) Electron diffraction investigations claim  $C_6Br_6$  to be significantly nonplanar in the gas phase, contrary to our conclusions above. We suggest a redetermination of this structure with

present-day tools. A GED investigation on  $C_6I_6$ , hitherto not attempted, is also within reach and would provide data of vital interest for the subject studied here.

**Acknowledgment.** We thank Dr. Tor Strand for many valuable discussions regarding the conformations of hexahalobenzenes. We are also indebted to Dr. R. Johansen and Dr. K. Løchsen at Norsk Data A/S and to Dr. B. Schilling at this institute for assistance with some of the calculations.

**Registry No.**  $C_6H_6$ , 71-43-2;  $C_6F_6$ , 392-56-3;  $C_6Cl_6$ , 118-74-1;  $C_6Br_6$ , 87-82-1;  $C_6I_6$ , 608-74-2.

## Photoelectron Spectroscopy of the Allenyl Ion $CH_2=C=CH^-$

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**Abstract:** We have studied the photodetachment spectra of  $CH_2=C=CH^-$ ,  $CD_2=C=CH^-$ , and  $CH_2=C=CD^-$ . By comparing the photoelectron spectra of these selectively labeled species, we conclude that the ion has an allenyl (rather than propargyl) structure. The electron affinities (EA) of a set of propargyl radicals are as follows:  $EA(CH_2C\equiv CH) = 0.893 \pm 0.025$  eV,  $EA(CD_2C\equiv CH) = 0.907 \pm 0.023$  eV, and  $EA(CH_2C\equiv CD) = 0.88 \pm 0.15$  eV. A single active vibration is observed in the photoelectron spectra of  $CH_2=C=CH^-$  and  $CD_2=C=CH^-$ . This mode has a frequency of  $510\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and is assigned as an out-of-plane bend of the acetylenic hydrogen of the propargyl radical (either  $CH_2C\equiv CH$  or  $CD_2C\equiv CH$ ). The gas-phase acidity of allene and methylacetylene are reported as  $\Delta H_{\text{acid}}^\circ(H-CH_2CCH) = 382.3 \pm 1.2$  kcal/mol and  $\Delta H_{\text{acid}}^\circ(H-CH=C=CH_2) = 380.7 \pm 1.2$  kcal/mol. The  $\Delta H_f^\circ_{298}(CH_2=C=CH^-)$  is  $59.4 \pm 1.2$  kcal/mol.

### Introduction

The propargyl radical ( $CH_2C\equiv CH$ ) is of great interest to many chemists because it is one of the simplest conjugated organic radicals. For this reason, there has been much effort to determine its "resonance energy" and heat of formation.<sup>1-4</sup> The radical  $C_3H_3$  was first observed, and its ionization potential measured, by Farmer and Lossing<sup>5</sup> in 1955 from the thermal decomposition of propargyl iodide ( $HC\equiv CCH_2I$ ). In addition, the electronic absorption spectrum of  $C_3H_3$  has been observed<sup>6</sup> in gas-phase flash photolysis, as well as in matrix isolation<sup>7</sup> experiments. From the electronic spectra, several vibrational modes were extracted, although not definitely assigned.

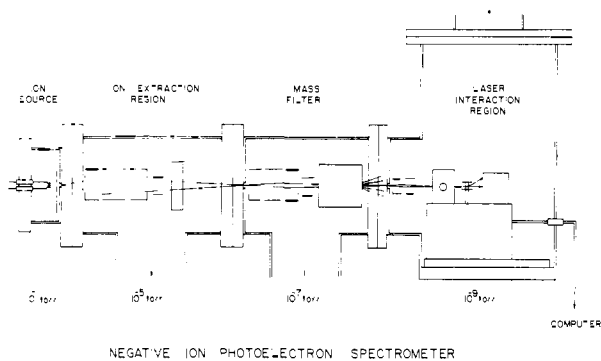
Relatively little is known about the corresponding anion,  $C_3H_3^-$ . The gas-phase acidity of methylacetylene ( $CH_3C\equiv CH$ ) has been measured<sup>8,9</sup> as  $379.6 \pm 2$  kcal/mol. However, due to the coincidentally close acidities of the methyl hydrogens and the acetylenic hydrogen,<sup>10</sup> it was difficult to be sure which of the  $C_3H_3^-$  isomers

was produced in the experiment. In fact, attack by a base on  $CD_3C\equiv CH$  has been shown<sup>11,12</sup> in the gas phase to produce both  $CD_2CCH^-$  and  $CD_3C\equiv C^-$ . Fluoride ion displacement on  $(C-H_3)_2SiC\equiv CCH_3$  and  $HC\equiv CCH_2Si(CH_3)_3$  in a flowing after-glow<sup>13</sup> has separately produced the  $CH_3C\equiv C^-$  and  $CH_2CCH^-$  ions. The chemistry of these isomeric ions has been shown to differ.<sup>14</sup>

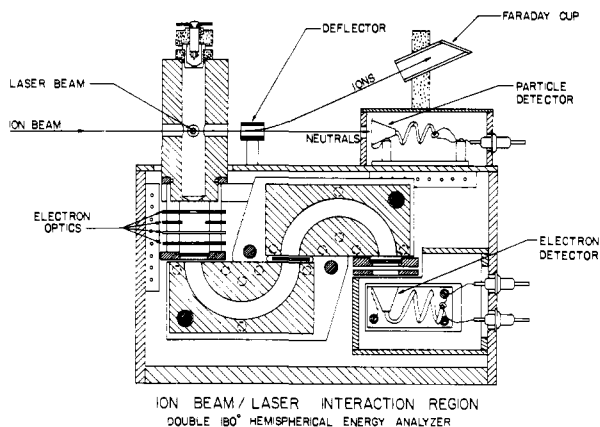
We have used the method of negative ion photoelectron spectroscopy<sup>15</sup> to study the photodetachment of a mass-selected ( $m/z$  39) negative ion beam produced by using methylacetylene or allene as ion precursors. In this experiment, a fixed-frequency argon ion laser is crossed with the ion beam, and the kinetic energy of the resulting detached electrons is measured. In order to determine which of the two possible isomers of the  $m/z$  39 ion (i.e.,  $CH_3C\equiv C^-$  or  $CH_2CCH^-$ ) is being observed in detachment, we have also used  $CH_3C\equiv CD$  and  $CD_3C\equiv CH$  as ion precursors. If hydrogen/deuterium (H/D) scrambling does not occur, we can separate the two isomers [e.g.,  $CH_3C\equiv CD \rightarrow CH_3C\equiv C^-$  ( $m/z$  39) and  $CH_2CCD^-$  ( $m/z$  40)] to decide which species is detaching. We conclude that the observed photodetachment spectrum results exclusively from  $CH_2CCH^-$ . In addition, by observing the effect

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**Figure 1.** Schematic diagram of the negative ion photoelectron spectrometer used for this experiment.



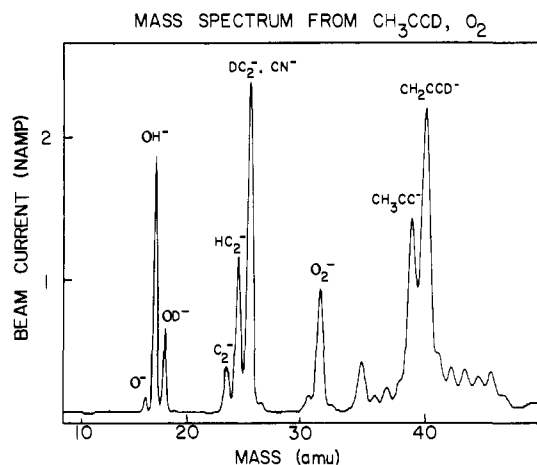
**Figure 2.** Cross-sectional diagram of the electron-energy analyzer and the laser/ion beam interaction region.

of selective deuteration on the photodetachment spectrum of this ion, we have gained insight into its structure. We find it to be allenyl ( $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}^-$ ), rather than propargyl ( $-\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$ ). Finally, we are able to determine the electron affinities of the molecules  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCD}$ , and  $\text{CD}_2\text{CCH}$ , as well as other resulting thermodynamic information.

### Experimental Section

The apparatus used to collect the photodetachment data has been carefully described previously.<sup>16</sup> Figure 1 shows a schematic diagram of the machine. Briefly, a mixture of parent gases is allowed to flow into a high-pressure (roughly 0.1 torr), magnetically confined discharge ion source. This source is floated at the desired beam energy (600 V in this experiment). The negative ions that are extracted through a 1-mm aperture are formed into a beam in the first high-vacuum region ( $10^{-5}$  torr). A set of perpendicular deflectors directs the beam through a 2-mm aperture into the second high-vacuum region ( $10^{-7}$  torr). The beam is refocused and passed through a Wien filter, which disperses the ion beam according to velocity. Because all of the ions are born at  $-600$  V, this velocity selection results in mass selection. The dispersed beam is incident upon a  $0.5 \text{ mm} \times 2 \text{ mm}$  slit, giving a mass resolution of approximately  $m/\Delta m = 50$ . This mass selected beam then centers the final high-vacuum region ( $10^{-9}$  torr) where a final einzel lens focuses it into the laser/ion beam interaction region.

The mass selected ion beam is intersected at a  $90^\circ$  angle by a fixed, single-frequency laser beam from an argon ion laser (Spectra Physics Model 170). The laser is used in an intracavity mode, giving approximately 75 W of continuous power at  $\lambda_0 = 488 \text{ nm}$ . Those electrons resulting from laser-induced detachment which are scattered at  $90^\circ$  to both the laser and ion beams enter the electron-energy analyzer (see Figure 2). The aperture accepts approximately  $4\pi/1500$  of the total number of electrons detached. The electrons entering the analyzer are focused and deflected onto a  $0.5\text{-mm}$  slit. The electrons then enter the double-hemispherical energy analyzer. The kinetic energy (KE) of the electron at this point is given by  $\text{KE} = \text{KE}_{\text{init}} + V_{\text{slit}}$ , where  $\text{KE}_{\text{init}}$  is the kinetic energy of the detached electron ( $0 \leq \text{KE}_{\text{init}} \leq \hbar\omega_0$ , where  $\hbar\omega_0$  is the laser energy, usually 2.540 eV), and  $V_{\text{slit}}$  is the voltage on the slit



**Figure 3.** Typical mass spectrum obtained from the Wien filter. The mass resolution is approximately  $m/\Delta m = 50$ .

at the entrance to the hemispheres. The voltage across the hemispheres is constant, giving a set transmission energy (roughly 4.0 eV). Those electrons passing through both hemispheres and the final slit enter a Ceratron electron multiplier. In order to scan the electron spectrum, a computer is used to successively ramp  $V_{\text{slit}}$  and count the number of pulses from the electron multiplier. Many successive scans are performed until a sufficient signal-to-noise ratio is obtained (1–3 h). The energy resolution (fwhm) of our electron-energy analyzer is 20–25 meV.

A small correction (of the order of 10 meV) must be made to our raw data due to a center of mass transformation. Our measurements are performed in the laboratory frame, but detachment occurs in the center of mass (COM) frame. In order to extract the COM kinetic energy from the slit voltages read by the computer, we use eq 1,<sup>15</sup> here KE is the COM

$$\text{KE} = \text{KE}_{\text{cal}} + \gamma(V - V_{\text{cal}}) + mW(1/M_{\text{cal}} - 1/M) \quad (1)$$

kinetic energy (eV) of an electron detached from an ion of mass  $M$  (amu),  $V$  is the slit voltage at which the electron passes through the analyzer, and  $\text{KE}_{\text{cal}}$  is the COM kinetic energy of the calibration ion of mass  $M_{\text{cal}}$ . The slit voltage at the center of the peak in the PES of the calibration ion is  $V_{\text{cal}}$ , while  $\gamma$  is a unitless energy-scale compression factor measured from the PES<sup>17</sup> of  $\text{NH}^-$ . Normally we measure  $\gamma$  to be  $1.00 \pm 0.03$ .  $W$  is the ion beam energy (600 V), and  $m$  is the mass of the electron.

For the experiment in question, an approximately 1:1 mixture of the desired hydrocarbon and  $\text{O}_2$  was used, along with a 0.015-in. tungsten filament. The allene ( $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}_2$ ) and methylacetylene ( $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$ ) were supplied by Air Products, and the methylacetylene- $d_3$  ( $\text{CD}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$ ) was supplied by Merck, Sharpe and Dohme. All were used as supplied. Indeed, one nice feature of this experiment is that highly pure ion precursors are not normally necessary because in the process of ion mass selection, any unwanted ions resulting from impurities are generally eliminated.

The methylacetylene- $d_1$  ( $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CD}$ ) was synthesized by adding methylacetylene to  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  at  $-78^\circ\text{C}$  followed by a stoichiometric amount of  $\text{CH}_3\text{Li}$ . At ambient temperature,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  was added, and evolved methylacetylene- $d_1$  was collected at  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ . This product was bulb-to-bulb distilled to remove  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , and several freeze-pump-thaw cycles were performed to remove volatile impurities. The purity was confirmed<sup>18</sup> by the disappearance of the acetylenic hydrogen infrared absorption at  $3334 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and the appearance of the corresponding deuterium stretch at  $2616 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

Because identification of the  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_n\text{D}_{3-n}^-$  ions is so important to this experiment, some discussion of our mass spectra is called for. From methylacetylene and  $\text{O}_2$ , approximately 3 nA of an ion of  $m/z$  39 is obtained. The mass resolution is good enough to rule out interference in the spectrum from large amounts of an ion of  $m/z$  40 or 38. The Wien filter is set to the top of the peak corresponding to  $m/z$  39, and a photoelectron spectrum (PES) is taken. Calibration of the mass spectrum is achieved by looking on the same day at the PES of the ions of  $m/z$  43 ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}^-$ ) and  $m/z$  45 ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O}^-$ ). Both of these may be identified according to their photoelectron spectra.<sup>19</sup> In addition, a PES of  $\text{OH}^-$  ( $m/z$

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Table I. Ion Identification Scheme

precursor	ion	$m/z$	detachment?
CH <sub>3</sub> C≡CH	CH <sub>2</sub> CCH <sup>-</sup>	39	yes
	CH <sub>3</sub> CC <sup>-</sup>		
CH <sub>2</sub> =C=CH <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub> CCH <sup>-</sup>	39	yes
	CH <sub>3</sub> CC(?)		
CH <sub>3</sub> C≡CD	CH <sub>2</sub> CCD <sup>-</sup>	40	yes
	CH <sub>3</sub> CC <sup>-</sup>	39	no
CD <sub>3</sub> C≡CH	CD <sub>2</sub> CCH <sup>-</sup>	41	yes
	CD <sub>3</sub> CC <sup>-</sup>	42	no

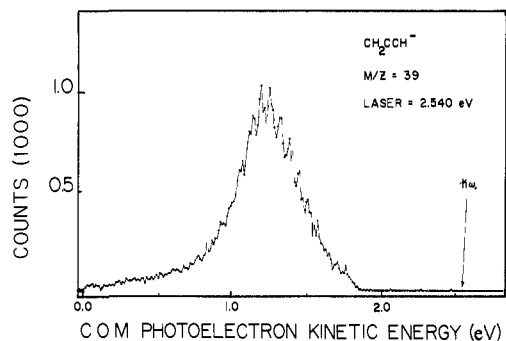


Figure 4. Low-resolution (11.0 meV per data point) photoelectron spectrum of the ion CH<sub>2</sub>CCH<sup>-</sup> obtained from CH<sub>3</sub>C≡CH/O<sub>2</sub>.

17) and O<sup>-</sup> ( $m/z$  16) is taken in order to calibrate the electron spectrometer for C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> (see Results) and help identify the mass of the ion in question. There is also an O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> ( $m/z$  32) peak, which can be used to calibrate our mass spectrum as well, because its photoelectron spectrum is well-known.<sup>20</sup>

A typical mass spectrum from CH<sub>3</sub>C≡CD and O<sub>2</sub> is shown in Figure 3. The same ions are used to calibrate the masses in this spectrum as described for CH<sub>3</sub>C≡CH/O<sub>2</sub> above. In addition, a peak is seen from OD<sup>-</sup> ( $m/z$  18), as expected. The mass peaks of interest in this spectrum are those at  $m/z$  39, preliminarily assigned as CH<sub>3</sub>CC<sup>-</sup>, and at  $m/z$  40, preliminarily assigned as CH<sub>2</sub>CCD<sup>-</sup>. If no H/D scrambling occurs within the source, these are the most probable structural formulas for these ions. In order to confirm this,  $V_{\text{slit}}$  is set manually to a peak where it is known that C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> detachment affords a considerable count rate. The number of electron counts per second per nanoamperes of ions per watt of laser power (count·s<sup>-1</sup>·nA<sup>-1</sup>·W<sup>-1</sup>) for the two peaks ( $m/z$  39 and 40) is recorded. We will demonstrate below that essentially only one of the C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> isomers detaches. This provides us with a means to investigate the degree of H/D scrambling. Note in Figure 3 that the mass resolution is sufficient for separation of the  $m/z$  39 and 40 components.

The mass spectrum obtained from CD<sub>3</sub>C≡CH and O<sub>2</sub> is very similar in overall appearance to that from CH<sub>3</sub>C≡CD, with the exception that the two important ions are now  $m/z$  40 and 41, preliminarily assigned as CD<sub>2</sub>CCH<sup>-</sup> and CD<sub>3</sub>CC<sup>-</sup>, respectively.

## Results

As mentioned earlier, an absolute identity of the ions being detached in this experiment is essential. The results of attempts to estimate the degree of H/D exchange in our ion source follow. Beginning with the results from CH<sub>3</sub>C≡CD, we measured the electron count rate at a set  $V_{\text{slit}}$  and laser power. The result was that a 2-nA beam of the ions of  $m/z$  40 gave 100 counts/s, while a 1.3-nA beam of the ions of  $m/z$  39 gave 12 counts/s. Note that the background counting rate, with the ion beam off and the laser on is roughly 1 count/s. Assuming that the ion CH<sub>2</sub>CCH<sup>-</sup> and its deuterated isomers have the same cross section for photodetachment, we conclude that the degree of H/D scrambling within the molecules is ≤15%, i.e., that the ion current corresponding to  $m/z$  39 from CH<sub>3</sub>C≡CD is ≥85% CH<sub>3</sub>CC<sup>-</sup> and that the ion current corresponding to  $m/z$  40 from the same precursor is ≥85% CH<sub>2</sub>CCD<sup>-</sup>. This is probably a conservative estimate because most

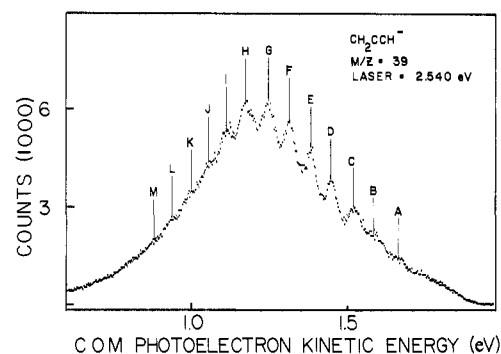


Figure 5. High resolution (2.7 meV per data point) photoelectron spectrum of the ion CH<sub>2</sub>CCH<sup>-</sup> obtained from CH<sub>3</sub>C≡CH/O<sub>2</sub>.

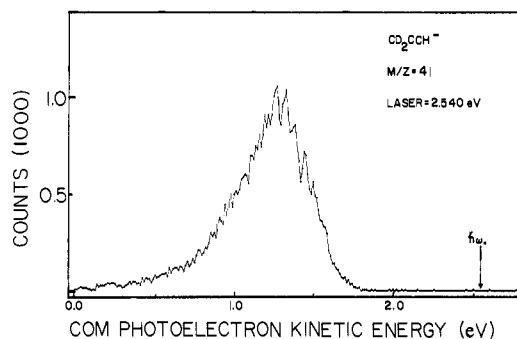


Figure 6. Low-resolution (11.0 meV per data point) photoelectron spectrum of the ion CD<sub>2</sub>CCH<sup>-</sup> obtained from CD<sub>3</sub>C≡CH/O<sub>2</sub>.

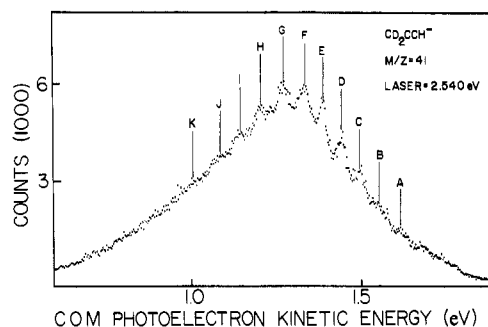


Figure 7. High-resolution (2.7 meV per data point) photoelectron spectrum of the ion CD<sub>2</sub>CCH<sup>-</sup> obtained from CD<sub>3</sub>C≡CH/O<sub>2</sub>.

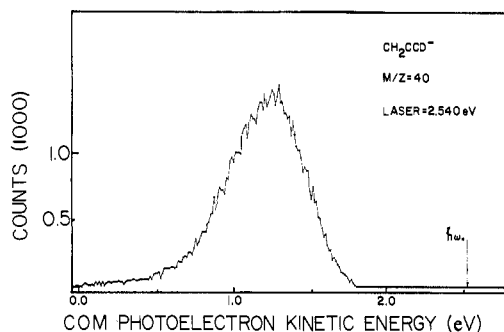


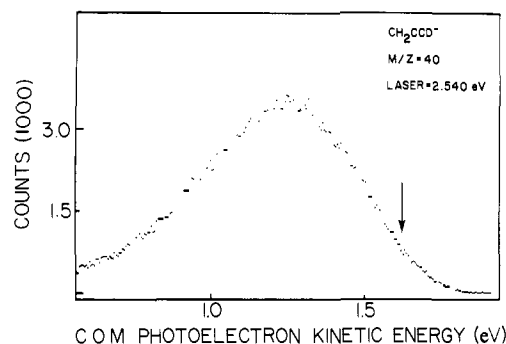
Figure 8. Low-resolution (11.0 meV per data point) photoelectron spectrum of the ion CH<sub>2</sub>CCD<sup>-</sup> obtained from CH<sub>3</sub>C≡CD/O<sub>2</sub>.

of the 12 counts/s in the  $m/z$  39 peak could be explained as contamination in the  $m/z$  39 beam from ions of  $m/z$  40 due to imperfect mass selection.

It is concluded that all of the detachment in our spectrum can be attributed to the CH<sub>2</sub>CCH<sup>-</sup> ion and that the methylacetylide ion (CH<sub>3</sub>CC<sup>-</sup>) does not detach with 488-nm photons. We have seen no evidence for detachment of the methylacetylide ion. This might be expected, because the methylacetylide radical is estimated to have a relatively high electron affinity (EA). The electron

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**Figure 9.** High-resolution (5.5 meV per data point) photoelectron spectrum of the ion  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCD}^-$  obtained from  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CD}/\text{O}_2$ .

affinity of this radical is probably not greatly different from that of  $\text{HC}\equiv\text{C}$ , the only difference being the substitution of a methyl group for hydrogen. The EA of  $\text{HC}\equiv\text{C}$  has been measured<sup>21</sup> and is  $2.94 \pm 0.10$  eV.

To help confirm the high EA of  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$ , we examined the  $m/z$  39 ion from  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CD}/\text{O}_2$  with the highest energy laser line available to us (457.9 nm, or 2.707 eV). No detachment was detected. This laser line was approximately one-fifth of the power of the 488-nm (2.540 eV) line we normally use. Nevertheless, the power is high enough to demonstrate conclusively that methylacetylide radical has an electron affinity that is greater than 2.60 eV, i.e.,  $\text{EA}(\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{C}) \geq 2.60$  eV.

We have also considered the degree of scrambling using  $\text{CD}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$  as the ion precursor. Again, the mass resolution is similar to that in Figure 3. As before, we fix laser power and the value of  $V_{\text{slit}}$ . From 2.0 nA of the ion of  $m/z$  41, we record an electron count rate of 160/s. From 1.6 nA of the ion of  $m/z$  42, we see 23 counts/s. We conclude that the peak corresponding to  $m/z$  41 is  $\geq 85\%$   $\text{CD}_2\text{CCH}^-$  and that corresponding to  $m/z$  42 is  $\geq 85\%$   $\text{CD}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{C}^-$ . A summary of our ion separation and identification scheme may be seen in Table I.

The photodetachment spectra of the series of anions  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}^-$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCD}^-$ , and  $\text{CD}_2\text{CCH}^-$  are presented in Figures 4–9. For all three ions, low-resolution spectra are shown over the entire (0.0–2.54 eV) electron-energy range in order to establish that there is only one electronic state of the propargyl radical accessed upon detachment. The high-resolution spectra are over a smaller energy range and show the spectral features more clearly. Figure 4 shows a low-resolution PES of  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}^-$  obtained by using  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}/\text{O}_2$  as the ion source gas. Plotted is the total number of electrons counted vs. the center of mass (COM) kinetic energy of the detached electrons. Note that in the spectrum, kinetic energy increases to the right, with the highest possible value of electron COM kinetic energy equal to the laser energy (in this case 2.540 eV). It can be seen in Figure 4 that there is an apparent vibrational progression in the  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}^-$  spectrum. Figure 5, a high-resolution PES of the same ion, shows this vibrational progression more clearly. The details of this spectrum are quite complicated. Of the 12 normal modes of  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3^-$ , any of the  $a'$  vibrations could be excited. We find clear evidence for only one active mode, however. Other vibrational modes and numerous rotations are excited as well but cannot be resolved or fit into a progression. The resolution of our spectrometer is roughly 200  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and even the sharpest feature in Figure 5, peak D, is not simple. We notice that the first peaks in Figure 5 are quite broadened followed by a sharpening up at features D–F. We do not understand this. No features to the right of A are ever resolved, and the spectrum in this region varies markedly with our ion source conditions. The features in this spectrum are labeled A–M. The COM kinetic energies and splittings between these peaks are recorded in Table II.

Preliminary results from this data give a raw EA for  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}^-$  of  $2.540 - 1.647$  eV, or  $0.893 \pm 0.019$  eV, where it is conjectured

**Table II.** Peak Positions from  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}^-$  and  $\text{CD}_2\text{CCH}^-$  Photodetachment Spectra

peak	$\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}^- \rightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{CCH}$		$\text{CD}_2\text{CCH}^- \rightarrow \text{CD}_2\text{CCH}$	
	COM kinetic energy, eV	$\Delta E$ , $\text{cm}^{-1}$	COM kinetic energy, eV	$\Delta E$ , $\text{cm}^{-1}$
A	$1.647 \pm 0.019$	$550 \pm 220$	$1.633 \pm 0.016$	$530 \pm 180$
B	$1.578 \pm 0.019$	$460 \pm 190$	$1.567 \pm 0.016$	$500 \pm 180$
C	$1.521 \pm 0.014$	$540 \pm 150$	$1.506 \pm 0.014$	$530 \pm 160$
D	$1.454 \pm 0.013$	$480 \pm 150$	$1.441 \pm 0.014$	$500 \pm 160$
E	$1.395 \pm 0.013$	$550 \pm 150$	$1.379 \pm 0.014$	$480 \pm 140$
F	$1.327 \pm 0.013$	$510 \pm 150$	$1.320 \pm 0.012$	$520 \pm 140$
G	$1.264 \pm 0.013$	$550 \pm 160$	$1.256 \pm 0.014$	$550 \pm 160$
H	$1.196 \pm 0.015$	$460 \pm 170$	$1.188 \pm 0.014$	$500 \pm 160$
I	$1.139 \pm 0.015$	$540 \pm 170$	$1.126 \pm 0.014$	$480 \pm 180$
J	$1.072 \pm 0.015$	$480 \pm 170$	$1.067 \pm 0.017$	$540 \pm 200$
K	$1.013 \pm 0.015$	$580 \pm 190$	$1.000 \pm 0.019$	
L	$0.941 \pm 0.018$	$530 \pm 220$		
M	$0.876 \pm 0.021$			

that peak A corresponds to a transition from the ground vibrational state of the ion to the ground vibrational state of the neutral molecule. This conclusion implies the electrons detached with higher kinetic energy (i.e., to the right of peak A in Figure 5) are due to detachment from vibrationally or rotationally excited ions. In addition, because the splittings between peaks A–M are approximately constant, we assign these to a single vibrational progression in an as yet unidentified mode in the radical  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}$ . We have fit this set of features as an anharmonic potential. This function,  $G(v) = \omega_e(v + 0.5) + \omega_e x_e(v + 0.5)^2$ , gives an excellent fit to peaks A–K with  $\omega_e = 510 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $\omega_e x_e = 0.6 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Given the widths of the peaks in Figure 5 (see Table II), we see no reason not to treat this progression as arising from a simple harmonic oscillator. Using peaks A–K and assuming no anharmonicity, we find a vibrational splitting of  $0.063 \pm 0.001$  eV ( $510 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). We have only used peaks A–K since peaks L and M are increasingly difficult to identify and because we will be comparing these results to those for  $\text{CD}_2\text{CCH}^-$ , for which only peaks A–K are clearly visible.

It should be pointed out that we have taken spectra for the ion of  $m/z$  39 resulting from a  $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}_2/\text{O}_2$  mixture as well as from  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}/\text{O}_2$ . The PES of the  $m/z$  39 ion from allene is identical with that from methylacetylene (Figure 5). This supplies additional evidence that the ion we are looking at is indeed  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}^-$ , since it is difficult to imagine producing  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{C}^-$  from allene.

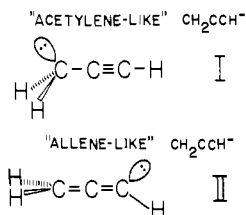
Figures 6 and 7 show low- and high-resolution photodetachment spectra for the ion  $\text{CD}_2\text{CCH}^-$  generated from a  $\text{CD}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}/\text{O}_2$  mixture. Both spectra are remarkably similar to those from  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}^-$ . The high-resolution spectrum shows a comparable vibrational progression, with peaks labeled A–K. Their COM kinetic energies and splittings are also collected in Table II. The preliminary results from this spectrum give an EA for  $\text{CD}_2\text{CCH}^-$  of  $2.540 - 1.633$  eV, or  $0.907 \pm 0.016$  eV. In addition, the vibrational mode in  $\text{CD}_2\text{CCH}^-$  has a harmonic frequency of  $0.063 \pm 0.001$  eV ( $510 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). It can be seen in Table II that all of the peaks in the  $\text{CD}_2\text{CCH}^-$  spectrum are lower in COM kinetic energy than the corresponding ones in the  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}^-$  spectrum. This shift probably results from changes in zero-point energies.

In Figures 8 and 9 are depicted low- and high-resolution PES of the ion  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCD}^-$  obtained from a mixture of  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CD}$  and  $\text{O}_2$ . It is immediately obvious that this spectrum is quite different from those of  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}^-$  and  $\text{CD}_2\text{CCH}^-$ . This will be very important in our discussion of the ion geometry. Although some hint of a vibrational structure can be seen in the high-resolution spectrum, we consider it not well-enough resolved to be analyzed. Therefore, only an approximate EA for  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCD}^-$  of  $2.540 - 1.66$  eV, or  $0.88 \pm 0.15$  eV, is assigned. The point used for this value is shown by the arrow in Figure 9.

## Discussion

From the appearance of the vibrational structure of the photodetachment spectra of the series  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}^-$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCD}^-$ , and

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**Figure 10.** Proposed valence structures for the  $C_3H_3^-$  ion. Ion I is the "acetylene-like" structure, while ion II is the "allene-like" structure.

$CD_2CCH^-$ , we would like to consider the geometric structure of these anions. In order to proceed, the structure of the corresponding radical ( $CH_2CCH$ ) must be established. In fact, since photoelectron spectroscopy only shows geometry differences, information about the structure of either the radical or the anion must be known before conclusions concerning the geometry of the other can be deduced. A brief discussion of the structure of the  $CH_2CCH$  radical follows.

The possible valence structures of  $CH_2CCH$  are  $CH_2C\equiv CH$ , an acetylene-like structure (presumably  $C_{2v}$  and planar), and  $CH_2=C=CH$ , an allene-like structure (of  $C_s$  symmetry and nonplanar). If the structure is indeed planar and acetylene-like, we would expect considerable resonance stabilization due to delocalization of the lone electron into the  $\pi$  system. Collin and Lossing<sup>22</sup> prepared the  $C_3H_3$  radical from Hg-photosensitized decomposition of allene ( $Hg^* + CH_2=C=CH_2$ ) and allowed it to react with methyl radical ( $CH_3$ ). The only product they detected was  $CH_3CH_2C\equiv CH$ . This is strong evidence that  $CH_2CCH$  has the structure  $CH_2-C\equiv CH$ , since the allene-like structure ( $CH_2=C=CH$ ) would have been expected to yield primarily  $CH_2=C=CHCH_3$ . In addition, several authors have measured the "resonance energy" of the propargyl radical<sup>1-3</sup> as approximately 8.7–9.6 kcal/mol. This implies delocalization of the  $b_1$  "p-like" electron of the  $CH_2$  group into the  $\pi$  system and thus a nearly planar structure for the propargyl radical. Jacox and Milligan<sup>7</sup> report a C–H stretching frequency for the  $C_3H_3$  radical generated from allene of 3310  $cm^{-1}$ . The only hydrocarbon C–H stretch normally found at these high frequencies are acetylenic hydrogens. For comparison,<sup>18</sup> the C–H stretch in methylacetylene is 3334  $cm^{-1}$ . This is another argument in favor of the acetylene-like structure for  $CH_2CCH$ . In addition, an ab initio molecular orbital calculation done by Bernardi et al.<sup>23</sup> has predicted a planar structure  $CH_2C\equiv CH$  for the  $C_3H_3$  radical. For the purposes of our discussion, then, we will assume that  $C_3H_3$  has a planar, acetylene-like structure, i.e., the propargyl radical. The ground state of the propargyl radical is  $\tilde{X}^2B_1$ .

In an analogous fashion, the  $CH_2CCH^-$  ion has two likely structures (see Figure 10). One is acetylene-like,  $CH_2C\equiv CH$  (I), with  $C_1$  having  $sp^3$  hybridization and  $C_3$  having  $sp$  hybridization. [For clarity of discussion, we will refer to the methylene carbon ( $CH_2$ ) as  $C_1$  and the methylene hydrogens as  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ . The middle carbon atom is called  $C_2$ , while the terminal carbon is  $C_3$ , and the hydrogen on it is  $H_3$ ]. The other is allene-like,  $CH_2=C=CH^-$  (II), with both  $C_1$  and  $C_3$  having  $sp^2$  hybridization. Several theoretical treatments<sup>24-27</sup> predict the allenic structure (II) to be the more stable. Hopkinson et al.<sup>24</sup> on the basis of a split-valence shell 4-31G basis set Hartree-Fock calculation, find structure I to be 9 kcal/mol higher in energy than the allenic structure (II). The acetylenic structure (I) did not show a minimum on the potential surface. Bushby et al.<sup>25</sup> have also used a self-consistent field (SCF) method and likewise concluded

structure II to be more stable. Constraining the  $CH_2$  moiety to lie in the plane of the carbon skeleton, they<sup>25</sup> found  $H_3$  to be out of the plane by 55°. Wilmhurst and Dykstra,<sup>26</sup> in a very careful study using SCF and correlated self-consistent electron pair (SCEP) methods, came to a similar conclusion, except that they allowed the  $CH_2-C-C$  angle to vary. They found the two hydrogens to vary from planarity by 3°, a  $C_1-C_2-C_3$  angle of 176°, and a  $C_2-C_3-H_3$  angle of 121°. Finally, an experimental  $^{13}C$  NMR study<sup>28</sup> of  $C_3H_3^-Li^+$  in  $CCl_4$  solution gave strong evidence that the carbanion in solution was allenic (II) and not propargyl (I).

Because of the large Franck–Condon envelope observed for each of our PES (Figure 5, 7, and 9), we conclude that there is a significant geometry change between the equilibrium structures of  $CH_2CCH^-$  and the propargyl radical. Both proposed structures for the anion  $C_3H_3^-$ , I and II, differ from that of propargyl  $C_3H_3$  and therefore fit this criterion.

Should the propargyl anion possess a flat,  $C_{2v}$  structure like the neutral molecule, we would expect to find a structureless, vertical transition in the photodetachment spectrum. This is not observed (Figure 5). On the other hand if the ion I featured a pyramidal C (like that<sup>29</sup> of  $CH_3^-$ ), it would differ from that of the propargyl radical primarily due to bending of the methylene hydrogens out-of-plane. If this is the case, we would predict that the vibrational structure observed in Figure 5 (for  $C_3H_3^-$ ) is due to excitation in a  $CH_2$  wag in the neutral molecule (just like  $CH_3^-$ ). This mode might be expected to lie somewhere in the range of 500–1000  $cm^{-1}$ , by comparison to other  $CH_2$  wags (e.g.,  $CH_2$  wag in allene<sup>18</sup> is 841.8  $cm^{-1}$ ). The vibronic splittings we observe (510  $cm^{-1}$ ) seem possible for this mode. However, upon deuteration of the  $CH_2$  moiety, we expect a significant shift in the frequency of this mode. Typically deuterium substitution causes an energy shift of about 25% for a bend. As an illustrative example<sup>18</sup> of this, the  $b_{1u}$   $CH_2$  wag in  $CH_2=CH_2$  has a frequency of 949  $cm^{-1}$ , while the frequency of the  $b_{1u}$   $CD_2$  wag in  $CD_2=CD_2$  is 720  $cm^{-1}$ ; an energy difference of 24%. Inspection of the data from the PES of  $CD_2CCH^-$  extracted from  $CD_3C\equiv CH$  (Table II and Figure 7) clearly shows no such isotope shift. Note that the vibrational spacings are virtually identical with those from  $C_3H_3^-$ . We conclude that the structure of the anion  $C_3H_3^-$  is not similar to structure I.

The allenic structure (II) differs from that of the propargyl radical by an out-of-plane deformation of  $H_3$ . If this is the case in the anion, we expect that the vibrational structure evident in Figure 5 is due to a  $C_2-C_3-H_3$  out-of-plane bend in the final propargyl radical. Again, the vibrational frequency we have observed (510  $cm^{-1}$ ) is not unreasonable by comparison with other C–H bends (e.g., the  $C\equiv C-H$  bend,  $\omega_9$ , reported<sup>18</sup> in  $CH_3C\equiv CH$  is 633  $cm^{-1}$ ). Upon deuteration of the C–H moiety in  $CH_2CCH^-$ , we expect an isotopic shift in the vibronic spacing exhibited in our PES of about 25%. [The vibrational frequency<sup>18</sup> of the C–D bend ( $\omega_9$ ) in  $CH_3C\equiv C-D$  is 498  $cm^{-1}$ .] Inspection of the data obtained for  $CH_2CCD^-$  prepared from  $CH_3C\equiv CD$  (see Figure 9) shows a large change from that for  $CH_2CCH^-$  (Figure 5). The frequency of the active vibrational mode has apparently decreased upon deuteration of the C–H moiety. We can no longer discern a vibrational progression even though our instrumental resolution is about 200  $cm^{-1}$ . Another reasonable assignment for the 510- $cm^{-1}$  mode is some sort of carbon skeletal motion. Because we have observed a significant shift in the photoelectron spectrum upon deuteration, we are able to exclude this type of motion as a possibility in assigning the active vibrational mode.

We conclude that the major change upon electron detachment from  $CH_2CCH^-$  is the excitation of a low-frequency C–H vibration involving  $H_3$ . This is consistent with the evidence from matrix isolation spectroscopy<sup>7</sup> of  $C_3H_3$ . Two modes at 548 and 688  $cm^{-1}$

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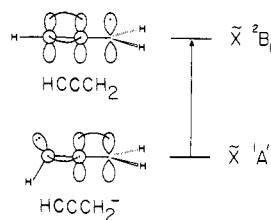
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**Figure 11.** Qualitative picture of the  $\tilde{X}^1A'$  ( $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}^-$ )  $\rightarrow$   $\tilde{X}^2B_1$  ( $\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$ ) transition using generalized valence bond (GVB) ideas (see ref 30 and 31).

were considered as C–H deformations in the propargyl radical. These arguments favor an allenic structure (II) for the  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}^-$  ion. The ground state of this ion is  $\tilde{X}^1A'$ . Upon detachment, the system makes a transition from the bent  $\tilde{X}^1A'$  state of  $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}^-$  to the flat  $\tilde{X}^2B_1$  state of the propargyl radical,  $\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$ . Figure 11 depicts this process with diagrams based on generalized valence bond (GVB) ideas<sup>30,31</sup> for  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3^-$  and  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3$ .

We now turn to some of the thermodynamic information derivable from the photoelectron spectra. First consider the raw electron affinities. For both  $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}^-$  and  $\text{CD}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}^-$  (Figure 5 and 7), we have assigned the peaks labeled A as the origin, i.e., as corresponding to  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3^- \tilde{X}^1A' (v''=0) \rightarrow \text{C}_3\text{H}_3 \tilde{X}^2B_1 (v'=0)$ . Peaks in the progression (B, C, ...) then correspond to overtones in  $v' (v'=1, 2, \dots)$ . From Figure 5 for  $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}^-$  (allenyl anion), it is seen that peak A is the first clearly distinguishable feature in the spectrum. Because no break in the vibrational spacing is seen, it is reasonable to conjecture that peaks A–M all result from an excitation of a single mode. The detached electrons detected to the high-electron-energy side of feature A (Figures 5 and 7) are then assignable as unresolved transitions originating from vibrationally excited ions ("hot bands"). Thus they are from some vibrational mode(s) in the negative ion with  $v'' \neq 0$ . Our ion source has been characterized<sup>16</sup> by a vibrational temperature of roughly 450 K. It is quite likely that a number of low-frequency modes in  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3^-$  are populated. Detachment from a distribution of rotationally and vibrationally excited ions would lead to a set of convoluted features to the high-energy side of the origin, peak A. We should stress that we cannot absolutely identify the origin peak, but given that there is a long harmonic vibrational progression (A–M) and no anomalous break in the shape of the Franck–Condon envelope, peak A is the most reasonable origin. As will be seen below, the  $\Delta H^\circ_{\text{acid}}(\text{H}-\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})$  derived by using the EA from peak A corresponds well with all other thermodynamic data for  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$ .

Our assignment of the peak labeled A as the origin in the spectrum for  $\text{CD}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}^- \tilde{X}^1A' \rightarrow \text{CD}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CH} \tilde{X}^2B_1$  (Figure 7) is not as obvious as it was in the spectrum in Figure 5 for  $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}^-$ . We have recorded this photoelectron spectrum several times, and peak A is always present. What may appear to be an additional peak to the right of peak A is not observed consistently. Therefore we assign all the electron detachment to the high side of peak A in Figure 7 as hot bands. An additional argument to support this conclusion is that the difference in EA between  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}$  to  $\text{CD}_2\text{CCH}$  should only result from differences in the zero-point energies (roughly 10–20 meV). Choosing peak A as the origin in Figure 7 results in a small (0.014 eV) difference in EA for the two radicals.

The peak for  $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CD}^- \tilde{X}^1A' (v''=0) \rightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CD} \tilde{X}^2B_1 (v'=0)$  cannot be picked out at all (Figure 9). Consequently we report an origin of  $1.66 \pm 0.15$  eV, with rather wide error bars. The origin is depicted by the arrow in Figure 9.

Now, we will discuss the corrections to the raw electron affinities derived from our data. It has already been mentioned that the peaks seen in the spectra are certainly wider than our instrumental

**Table III.** Final Experimental Values

species	EA, eV	C≡C–H bending frequency, $\text{cm}^{-1}$
$\text{CH}_2-\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$	$0.893 \pm 0.025$	510
$\text{CD}_2-\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$	$0.907 \pm 0.023$	510
$\text{CH}_2-\text{C}\equiv\text{CD}$	$0.88 \pm 0.15$	

fwhm (0.020–0.025 eV). The peak width may be attributed to the presence of many unresolved rotational bands, possible spin-orbit multiplicities, and sequence hot bands. The EA of a molecule is, by definition, the energy difference between the lowest rovibronic level of the lowest spin-orbit component of the ion and the corresponding state of the neutral molecule. For asymmetric tops such as the propargyl radical and the allenic ion, little is known of the rotational constants or vibrational frequencies. As a result we can only estimate most of these corrections and the corresponding errors. The contribution to our final error bars from each of these factors is as follows: rotational correction  $\pm 0.005$  eV, vibrational sequence band correction  $\pm 0.015$ , and spin-orbit correction  $\pm 0.001$  eV. The couplings of spin to other angular momenta are considered to be negligible. Table III collects the final values for the electron affinities and vibrational frequencies for  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3$  and its deuterated isomers.

The enthalpy for the process  $\text{HA} \rightarrow \text{A}^- + \text{H}^+$  is defined as the gas-phase acidity ( $\Delta H^\circ_{\text{acid}}$ ). From this definition, the thermodynamic cycle

$$\Delta H^\circ_{\text{acid}}(\text{HA}) = \text{IP}(\text{H}) + \text{DH}^\circ(\text{HA}) - \text{EA}(\text{A}) \quad (2)$$

can be derived, where the ionization potential of hydrogen<sup>32</sup> is known to be 313.6 kcal/mol. If either  $\text{DH}^\circ$ , the A–H bond strength, or  $\Delta H^\circ_{\text{acid}}$  is known, the other may be derived if  $\text{EA}(\text{A})$  is available.

The heat of formation of the propargyl radical has been studied extensively; in a shock tube study,<sup>1</sup> by very low-pressure pyrolysis (VLPP),<sup>2,3</sup> and by appearance potential–kinetic energy analysis upon electron impact.<sup>4</sup> King<sup>2,3</sup> summarized this to arrive at  $\Delta H^\circ_{f,298}(\text{propargyl}) = 81.5 \pm 1.0$  kcal/mol. Because<sup>33</sup> the  $\Delta H^\circ_{f,298}(\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}_2)$  is 45.92 kcal/mol and  $\Delta H^\circ_{f,298}(\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})$  is 44.32 kcal/mol, the heats of formation of  $\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$  and H have been used to calculate bond-dissociation energies for  $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}_2$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$ . These are  $\text{DH}^\circ(\text{H}-\text{CHCCH}_2) = 87.7 \pm 1.0$  kcal/mol and  $\text{DH}^\circ(\text{H}-\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}) = 89.3 \pm 1.0$  kcal/mol. The ion heat of formation is obtained<sup>34</sup> from the EA as follows:

$$\Delta H^\circ_{f,298}(\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}) - \Delta H^\circ_{f,298}(\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}^-) = \text{EA}(\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}) + \frac{1}{2}RT \quad (3)$$

In (3)  $\frac{1}{2}RT$  is the heat capacity of the electron, 1.481 kcal/mol. Then it follows from our  $\text{EA}(\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})$  of  $0.893 \pm 0.025$  eV that the heat of formation of the allenic ion,  $\Delta H^\circ_{f,298}(\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}^-)$ , is  $59.4 \pm 1.2$  kcal/mol.

Using these results and our values for the electron affinities, one calculates a gas-phase acidity of allene  $\Delta H^\circ_{\text{acid}}(\text{H}-\text{CH}=\text{C}=\text{CH}_2) = 380.7 \pm 1.2$  kcal/mol, and that of methylacetylene  $\Delta H^\circ_{\text{acid}}(\text{H}-\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}) = 382.3 \pm 1.2$  kcal/mol. As was pointed out earlier, Bartmess et al.<sup>8</sup> have measured  $\Delta H^\circ_{\text{acid}}(\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-\text{H}) = 379.6 \pm 2$  kcal/mol. It has been estimated<sup>10</sup> that  $\Delta H^\circ_{\text{acid}}(\text{H}-\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})$  is greater than  $\Delta H^\circ_{\text{acid}}(\text{H}-\text{C}\equiv\text{CCH}_3)$  by roughly 3 kcal/mol. As mentioned earlier,  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{C}^-$  does not detach with 2.707-eV photons. Because it is difficult for us to detect electrons with energies less than 0.1 eV, we can say that  $\text{EA}(\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{C}) > 2.60$  eV. Using this fact and  $\Delta H^\circ_{\text{acid}}$  of 379 kcal/mol in (2), we find  $\text{DH}^\circ(\text{H}-\text{C}\equiv\text{CCH}_3) > 125$  kcal/mol.

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## Conclusion

A number of results can be summarized here. By employing deuterated ion precursors we are able to prepare selectively  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}^-$  or  $\text{CH}_3\text{CC}^-$ . An ion beam of the former is photodetached by 488-nm laser light, while a beam of the latter species is not. Examination of the photoelectron spectra of  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}^-$ ,  $\text{CD}_2\text{CCH}^-$ , and  $\text{CH}_2\text{CCD}^-$  allows us to deduce the structures of the ions. On the basis of present evidence for the structure of the propargyl radical,  $\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$ , and isotope effects observed in our spectra, we conclude that the detaching species is  $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}^-$  and not  $^-\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$ . The vibration excited in the resulting  $\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$  resulting from detachment is a harmonic mode ( $510\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and is most likely the  $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-\text{H}$  out-of-plane deformation. The electron affinities of several isotopically substituted propargyl radicals are collected together in Table III. Gas-phase acidities of  $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}_2$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$  are computed. We are unable to detach  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{C}^-$  and conclude that  $\text{EA}(\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{C}^-) > 2.60\text{ eV}$ . On the basis of this and a conjecture

for the  $\Delta H^\circ_{\text{acid}}(\text{H}-\text{CCCH}_3)$ , we conclude that  $DH^\circ(\text{H}-\text{CCCH}_3) > 125\text{ kcal/mol}$ .

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**Registry No.**  $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}^-$ , 64066-06-4;  $\text{CD}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}^-$ , 85048-63-1;  $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CD}^-$ , 85048-64-2;  $\text{HC}\equiv\text{CCH}_2^-$ , 2932-78-7;  $\text{HC}\equiv\text{CCD}_2^-$ , 15650-79-0;  $\text{DC}\equiv\text{CCH}_2^-$ , 85048-65-3;  $\text{CH}_3\text{CCH}^-$ , 74-99-7;  $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{CH}_2$ , 463-49-0;  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CD}$ , 7299-37-8;  $\text{CD}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$ , 13025-73-5;  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{C}^-$ , 36147-87-2.

## Dynamic and Structural Properties of Polymerized Phosphatidylcholine Vesicle Membranes

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**Abstract:** The phase transition, fluidity, and polarity properties of polymerized and nonpolymerized vesicle membranes derived from 1-palmitoyl-2-[12(methacryloyloxy)dodecanoyl]-L- $\alpha$ -phosphatidylcholine (**1**), bis[12-(methacryloyloxy)dodecanoyl]-L- $\alpha$ -phosphatidylcholine (**2**), and 1,2-dipalmitoyl[N-2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]-DL- $\alpha$ -phosphatidylcholine (**3**) have been examined by means of differential scanning calorimetry and by the spin-labeling technique. Above 5 °C aqueous multilamellar dispersions of **1**, **2**, and **3** show a broad-phase transition, no phase change, and a sharp transition, respectively. Polymerization of the methacrylate group causes a decrease in membrane fluidity in each case and an increase in the temperature of the gross phase change for **1** and **3**. Membrane fluidity in copolymerized vesicles of **1** and **2** decreases linearly with the mole fraction of **2** used. The polarity gradient in membranes of **3** is small; polarity gradients in membranes of **1** and **2** are large. Polymerization has no noticeable effect on these gradients. Fluidity gradients are also present in membranes of **1**, **2**, and **3** above 20 °C. Polymerization alters the fluidity gradients in a manner which is comparable to lowering the temperature; it also reduces the ability of each membrane to bind [<sup>15</sup>N]perdeuteriotemponone. These results are compared directly with the dynamic and structural properties found in conventional liposomes derived from dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine and egg yolk phosphatidylcholine.

Polymerized forms of lipid bilayer vesicles have recently been described by several laboratories.<sup>2-9</sup> Because of their enhanced stability, this unique class of polymers offers an attractive alternative to conventional liposomes as models for biological membranes, devices for solar energy conversion, and carriers of drugs.<sup>10-18</sup> While considerable interest has centered around their synthetic design, polymerization behavior, gross morphology, entrapment efficiency, permeability, and stability, relatively little attention has focused on the dynamic and structural features of the membrane network.

In this paper we report the results of a spin-labeling study and a differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) analysis aimed at characterizing the phase transition, fluidity, and polarity properties of polymerized and nonpolymerized vesicle membranes derived from 1-palmitoyl-2-[12-(methacryloyloxy)dodecanoyl]-L- $\alpha$ -phosphatidylcholine (**1**), bis[12-(methacryloyloxy)dodecanoyl]-

L- $\alpha$ -phosphatidylcholine (**2**), and 1,2-dipalmitoyl[N-2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]-DL- $\alpha$ -phosphatidylcholine (**3**). Our reasons

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