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## Endohedral Cluster Compounds: Inclusion of Helium within C<sub>60</sub><sup>+</sup> and C<sub>70</sub><sup>+</sup> through Collision Experiments\*\*

By Thomas Weiske, Diethard K. Böhme, Jan Hrušák, Wolfgang Krätschmer, and Helmut Schwarz\*

Dedicated to Dr. Curt Brunnée

Of all the C<sub>x</sub> carbon clusters,<sup>[1]</sup> the fullerene C<sub>60</sub> (the "third allotropic form of carbon"<sup>[2]</sup>) is currently of greatest interest, largely because it can be produced in macroscopic

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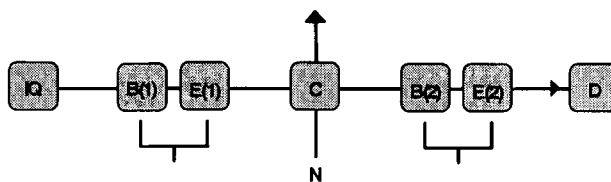
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quantities with the convenient method developed by Krätschmer, Huffman, et al.<sup>[3]</sup> Not long thereafter sufficient experimental evidence had been reported<sup>[1–3]</sup> to verify the visionary suggestion<sup>[4, 5]</sup> that C<sub>60</sub> was the celebrated icosahedron of the I<sub>h</sub>-point group.

What are the physico-chemical properties of C<sub>60</sub>? Early results suggest, for example, that doped C<sub>60</sub> can be regarded as a three-dimensional organic superconductor,<sup>[6]</sup> that it can be hydrogenated by the Birch-reduction to produce C<sub>60</sub>H<sub>36</sub>,<sup>[7]</sup> and that up to 24 methyl groups can be added to the polyanions of C<sub>60</sub> as has just been reported.<sup>[8]</sup> Is an "endohedral chemistry", i.e. a chemistry which proceeds inside the cage of C<sub>60</sub> or its radical cation, C<sub>60</sub><sup>•+</sup> also possible? While theory has postulated a variety of endohedral cluster compounds for C<sub>60</sub> with interesting properties,<sup>[9]</sup> experimental findings for the production of C<sub>x</sub>M-clusters (*x* ≥ 60; M = La, Cu, Ba, Sr) from the laser-induced vaporization of a mixture of salt and graphite have been interpreted more diversely: Smalley et al.<sup>[10]</sup> indicate that their experimental results point to the production of a spherically-constructed C<sub>x</sub> cluster with a metal atom inside it; on the other hand, Kaldor et al.<sup>[11]</sup> are of the opinion that C<sub>60</sub>La, for example, is an empty C<sub>60</sub> cluster which has "custody" of the metal on its outside surface.

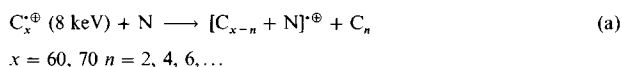
Here we report results of a molecular-beam experiment in which mass-selected ions of C<sub>60</sub><sup>•+</sup> and C<sub>70</sub><sup>•+</sup> produced by electron-impact ionization at 70 eV collide with a stationary neutral gas N; products are observed which are dependent on the nature of the collision gas and which leave no doubt about the incorporation of N.<sup>[12]</sup>

Earlier experiments have already shown<sup>[13]</sup> that highly accelerated C<sub>60</sub><sup>•+</sup> and C<sub>70</sub><sup>•+</sup> ions lose C<sub>2</sub> unimolecularly and even-numbered C<sub>n</sub> units (*n* = 2, 4, 6 etc.) upon collisional activation (CA);<sup>[14]</sup> however, nothing has been reported about the incorporation of N. Perhaps this is a consequence of the limited performance parameters of the mass spectrometers which have been employed, which do not allow certain experiments to be performed. The four-sector machine used by us (Scheme 1) records measurements which demonstrate



Scheme 1. Sketch of the tandem mass spectrometers used in this study: IQ = ion source, B = magnetic sector, C = collision chamber, E = electric sector, D = ion detector, N = neutral gas. For a complete description of the machine see Ref. [15].

the incorporation of N according to the collision-induced reaction [Eq. (a)].



For this purpose C<sub>x</sub><sup>•+</sup> ions (*x* = 60 or 70) were accelerated up to 8 keV, were mass-selected in the B(1)E(1) sector (resolution  $m/\Delta m = 1500$ ), and then were allowed to react with various gases N in the collision cell C with ca. 75% reduction of the primary ion beam. The products of this high-energy

reaction were detected and identified with a combined momentum and energy analysis ("linked scan":  $B(2)/E(2) = \text{constant}$ <sup>[16]</sup>). With  $H_2$ ,  $D_2$ , Ar, and  $SF_6$ , the experiments show exclusive production of fragments in which  $C_n$  ( $n = 2, 4, 6, 8$ ) or, less likely,<sup>[13b]</sup> multiple units of  $C_2$  have been split off. A typical example is shown in Figure 1 for  $N = D_2$ . The same processes were observed for the other gases, but the relative intensities are somewhat different because of differences in "center-of-mass" energy,  $E_{cm}$ .<sup>[17]</sup>

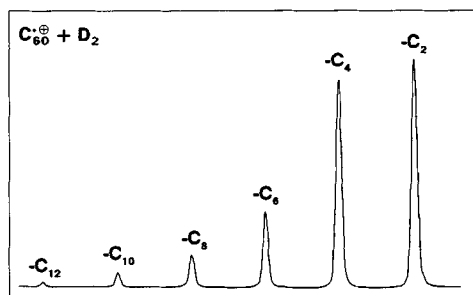


Fig. 1. CA mass spectrum for  $C_{60}^{\oplus}/D_2$ ;  $E_{cm} = 44.2$  eV.

A fundamentally different result is obtained when helium is used as a collision gas (Fig. 2). New signals appear at higher masses at all signals, corresponding to the loss of  $C_n$ ; the mass difference  $\Delta m$  is equal to 4 when  $^4\text{He}$  is used (Fig. 2, top) and 3 when  $^3\text{He}$  is used (Fig. 2, bottom). The differences

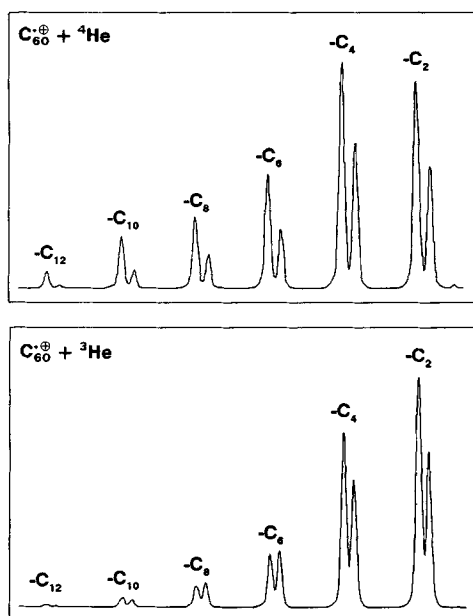


Fig. 2. CA mass spectra for  $C_{60}^{\oplus}$  with  $^4\text{He}$  ( $E_{cm} = 44.2$  eV) (top) and  $^3\text{He}$  ( $E_{cm} = 33.2$  eV) (bottom).

which appear with  $D_2$  and He cannot be accounted for by energy since  $E_{cm}$  is identical for these two gases; other factors (presumably size and shape of N) must be responsible. Totally analogous results are obtained with  $C_{70}^{\oplus}$ : while helium is incorporated (appearance of  $[C_{70-n}\text{He}]^{\oplus}$ ), the other collision partners only lead to collision-induced elimination (loss of  $C_n$ ). The observation that the  $C_{60}^{\oplus}/\text{He}$  fragment arises

from  $C_{70}^{\oplus}/\text{He}$  (Fig. 4) is particularly noteworthy. If Smalley's argument<sup>[5d]</sup> that loss of  $C_2$  units is accompanied by a "repair" of the cluster-cage applies, this  $C_{60}^{\oplus}/\text{He}$  is the fullerene-gas complex which has been sought for a long time.<sup>[18]</sup>

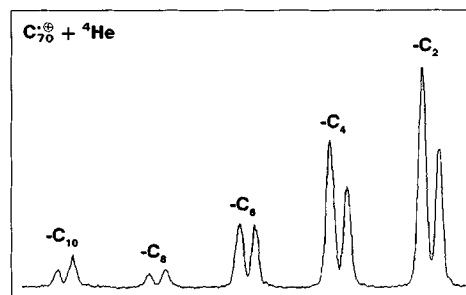


Fig. 3. CA mass spectrum for  $C_{70}^{\oplus}$  with  $^4\text{He}$  ( $E_{cm} = 37.9$  eV).

The location of the helium atom in the  $[C_x-n\text{He}]^{\oplus}$  clusters of course cannot be determined with the experiments described here, but there are indirect indications that we are almost certainly dealing with intra-cavity bonding rather than with cluster ions in which helium is fixed to the outer wall. The process  $C_{60}^{\oplus} \rightarrow C_{58}^{\oplus} + C_2$  requires at least 4–5 eV according to Lifshitz et al.<sup>[13e]</sup> and Smalley et al.<sup>[19]</sup> while the binding energy of He to  $C_6H_6^{\oplus}$ , for example, is less than 0.2 eV according to ab initio MO calculations.<sup>[20]</sup> If the helium was not incorporated by the cage during the collision process, it would have had to leave the complex on energetic and kinetic grounds before a  $C_2$  unit splits off. Accordingly an increase in mass,  $\Delta m = 3$  and 4, would not have appeared. Furthermore mass-selected  $[C_x\text{He}]^{\oplus}$  ions lose not He, but  $C_2$  unimolecularly.

How much energy is required to bring a helium atom inside the  $C_x^{\oplus}$  cages ( $x = 60, 70$ )? We have obtained an upper limit of less than 10 eV in model calculations in which He is forced through a  $C_6H_6$  or  $C_6H_6^{\oplus}$  plane.<sup>[20]</sup> This energy barrier,<sup>[21]</sup> whose accuracy should not be overemphasized, is clearly smaller than the kinetic energy of greater than 30 eV which is available to the collision complexes  $C_x^{\oplus}/\text{He}$  ( $x = 60, 70$ ). Consequently, the inclusion of a helium atom into the cluster is energetically possible. *There is no doubt that a He atom is incorporated into the  $C_x^{\oplus}$  ( $x = 60, 70$ ) cluster in the course of the collision.*

The experiments and thoughts presented here provide a first item in the cornucopia of endohedral bonded (ionized)  $C_x$  fullerenes.<sup>[2, 9, 22]</sup>

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- [17] The "center of mass"-energy ( $E_{cm}$ ) determines the maximum energy which can be transferred in a collision of a projectile A with a stationary particle N. The following relationship holds:  $E_{cm} = E_A[m_N/(m_A + m_N)]$ , where  $E_A$  = kinetic energy of A (corresponding to 8000 eV in the experiments described here) and  $m_i$  the masses of A and N.
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## BOOK REVIEWS

Book Reviews are written by invitation from the editor. Suggestions for books to be reviewed and for book reviewers are welcome. Publishers should send brochures or (better) books to the following address: Redaktion Angewandte Chemie, Postfach 10 11 61, D-6940 Weinheim, Federal Republic of Germany. The editor reserves the right of selecting which books will be reviewed. Uninvited books not chosen for review will not be returned.

**Comprehensive Medicinal Chemistry. The Rational Design, Mechanistic Study and Therapeutic Application of Chemical Compounds.** Six volumes. Edited by C. Hansch, P. G. Sammes and J. B. Taylor. Pergamon, Oxford 1990. Hardcover \$ 1995.00. (Individual volume: \$ 350.00 each).—ISBN 0-08-032530-0 (complete work)

**Volume 1: General Principles.** Volume Editor: P. D. Kennewell. xv, 811 pp.—ISBN 0-08-037057-8

The first section of this volume is very heterogeneous in content; it sets out to describe the development of medicinal chemistry by giving a chronology of drug introductions and tracing the history of the pharmaceutical industry. It shows how the different initial conditions and environments existing in German-speaking countries, in Great Britain and in the USA have led to the industry developing in different ways. The important role of legislation and of public regulatory

agencies such as the FDA in imposing quality standards is emphasized, and it is shown how this led to a strengthening of the German and North American pharmaceutical companies even before the First World War.

The account of drug introductions is not in chronological order, nor is it complete. Admittedly it would not be possible to cover this subject exhaustively within the space allowed, but it is surprising that some important milestones such as the introduction of antihyperlipidemic aryloxy-carboxylic acids ("Fibrates"), HMG-CoA-reductase inhibitors ("Lovastatin") and calcium antagonists of the dihydropyridine type are not included. On the other hand the space devoted to compounds such as LSD, tetrahydrocannabinol and chloramin-T is disproportionately large in relation to their importance. Antibacterial agents and their development are discussed in detail, but only penicillins and cephalosporins are covered. Neither quinolones nor carbapenemes are mentioned. The important contribution of the azoles in antifungal therapy is also ignored. This not entirely successful historical introduction ends with brief accounts of Egyptian, Greek and Arabic medicine, plus two separate chapters on traditional Chinese and Indian medicine.

The second section on "Targets of Biological Active Molecules" follows a logical sequence, starting with the essentials of anatomy and physiology and proceeding via cell architecture to the identification of specific macromolecular targets. Principles of general pharmacology, such as the receptor theory, are derived in the course of the discussion.

Although the introduction to anatomy and physiology is pleasingly concise, this means that the non-biologists for whom this chapter is mainly intended will find that their needs are not fully satisfied here; it would have been useful to include references to suitable books covering these topics.