

Fig. 2. Reactions of benzaldehyde with the DINOL derivative **2** of different enantiopurity. The molarity of Et_2Zn refers to the reaction mixture. Aliquots of (*R,R*)- and (*S,S*)-**3**, aryl = $2\text{-C}_{10}\text{H}_7$, $\text{R} = \text{R}' = \text{CH}_3$ were mixed for the preparation of **2** (see procedure). The numbers in brackets in the diagram were calculated from GC integrations measured with the samples of **4** obtained.

Experiments with aldehydes and zinc derivatives containing additional functional groups are under way.

Typical Procedure

8: Diol **3** (aryl = $2\text{-C}_{10}\text{H}_7$, $\text{R} = \text{R}' = \text{Me}$)^[4], 0.933 g (1.4 mmol) is placed under argon in a dry 100 mL flask with side arm (serum cap). $\text{Ti}(\text{OCHMe}_2)_4$ (0.48 g, 1.7 mmol) and PhCH_3 (10 mL) are added by syringe, and after stirring at room temperature for 5 h the PhCH_3 and isopropanol are removed ($40^\circ\text{C}/100\text{-}3 \times 10^{-2}$ Torr). The solid residue is combined at room temperature with PhCH_3 (20 mL) and $\text{Ti}(\text{OCHMe}_2)_4$ (2.5 mL, 2.4 g, 8.4 mmol), and the solution cooled to -25°C (cryostat). Et_2Zn (4.2 mL, 8.4 mmol, 2 M in PhCH_3), and then 3-phenylpropanal (0.92 mL, 0.94 g, 7.0 mmol) are added dropwise. After 15 h at -22°C (TLC sampling) the reaction mixture is quenched with saturated aqueous NH_4Cl (10 mL), and Et_2O (40 mL) is added. Stirring for 30 min is followed by filtration through Celite, washing with saturated aqueous NaCl , drying over Na_2SO_4 , and removal of the solvent. The residue is chromatographed through a short SiO_2 column ($\text{C}_6\text{H}_{14}/\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ 3:1), and the resulting mixture of **3** and **8** heated in a Kugelrohr oven (100°C air temp./0.3 mbar) to expel the alcohol **8**, the absence of which in the residue [14] is ascertained by NMR spectroscopy: 1.0 g colorless crystals, m.p. 40°C .

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- [8] Cf. also P. A. Chaloner, E. Langadianou, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 31 (1990) 5185.
- [9] So far only mixtures of (*rac*-**5** and *epi*-**5**) and (*rac*-**6** and *epi*-**6**) have been described [6]. We determined the following properties ($[\alpha]_D^{25}$ in CHCl_3): **5** M.p. 51°C , $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -59.5$; *epi*-**5**: *meso*-configuration, m.p. 114°C , $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +0.3$; **6**: M.p. 59°C , $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -59.7$.
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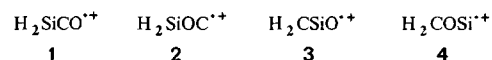
Chem. Soc. 74 (1952) 5828. See also: J. Mulzer, H.-J. Altenbach, M. Braun, K. Krohn, H.-U. Reissig: *Organic Synthesis Highlights*, VCH, Weinheim 1991, p. 3–8, and references cited therein.

- [12] **14** was freshly prepared by Swern oxidation from the corresponding alcohol; the enantiopurity of **14** was $\geq 85\%$ (GC). Since all four stereoisomeric products could be separated on a chiral capillary GC column [1 b, 7], the ratio **15**:**16** could be accurately determined, and extrapolated for enantiopure aldehyde. The isolated sample of **15** is levorotatory, that of **16** dextrorotatory.
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The Radical Cations of Silaketene and Several Isomers of $[\text{C}_2\text{H}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}]^{\oplus}$: An Ab Initio MO Investigation**

By Jan Hrušák, Ragampeta Srinivas, Diethard K. Böhme, and Helmut Schwarz*

Recently, during systematic studies of the gas-phase chemistry of unsaturated silicon molecules,^[1] we produced a radical cation with the elemental composition $[\text{C}_2\text{H}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}]^{\oplus}$ by the electron-impact ionization of $\text{Si}(\text{OCH}_3)_4$.^[2] Although it was possible in analogous cases to establish ion connectivities by using tandem mass spectrometry,^[1] the $[\text{C}_2\text{H}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}]^{\oplus}$ ion derived from $\text{Si}(\text{OCH}_3)_4$ could not be characterized in this way with certainty. The analysis of the collisional-activation spectra pointed toward the presence of several structures such as **1** and **4**, and ab initio calculations revealed an



energy surface rich in isomers. Here we present structures **1** to **4** which exhibit unusual structural features and show differences in geometry, symmetry, electronic structure, and order of stability from the "analogous" radical cations $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}=\text{O}^{\oplus}$ and $\text{CH}_2=\text{O}=\text{C}^{\oplus}$. These differences are also seen for the corresponding neutral molecules, and are much more pronounced than is implied by the similarities in Lewis structures.^[3, 4]

[*] Prof. Dr. H. Schwarz
Institut für Organische Chemie der Technischen Universität
Strasse des 17. Juni 135, W-1000 Berlin 12 (FRG)

Dr. J. Hrušák
Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry
Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences
Heyrovsky Square 2, CS-16 202 Prague (Czechoslovakia)

Dr. R. Srinivas
Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
Indian Institute of Chemical Technology
Hyderabad (AP) 500007 (India)

Prof. D. K. Böhme
Department of Chemistry and
Centre for Research in Earth and Space Science
York University
North York, Ontario M3J 1P3 (Canada)

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All MO calculations were carried out with the GAUSSIAN 88 program package^[5] within the unrestricted Hartree–Fock (UHF) formalism.^[6] Stationary points were characterized by analyzing the force constant matrix. Complete geometry optimizations were accomplished with a 6-31G** basis set^[7] and second-order Møller-Plesset perturbation theory (MP2).^[8] Zero-point vibrational energies (ZPVE) were derived from harmonic frequencies calculated at the MP2/6-31G** level. The ZPVE were scaled by a factor of 0.89. The data for the energies obtained in this way (MP2/6-31G**//MP2/6-31G** + ZPVE) for **1** to **4** are summarized in Table 1, and the geometric and electronic structures, as well

Table 1. Absolute [in Hartree] and relative energies [kcal mol⁻¹] for isomers of [C, H₂, Si, O][•] [a].

isomer	symmetry/ state	MP2/6-31 G**// MP2/6-31 G**	MP2/6-31 G***// MP2/6-31 G** + ZPE [b]
1	C _s / ² A'	-402.876262 (5.7)	-402.855192 (1.1)
1' [c]	C _{2v} / ² B ₁	-402.865087 (12.7)	-402.840662 (10.1)
2	C _s / ² A'	-402.839944 (28.5)	-402.817705 (24.5)
3	C _{2v} / ² A ₁	-402.838988 (29.1)	-402.819463 (23.4)
4	C _{2v} / ² A ₁	-402.885364 (0.0)	-402.856762 (0.0)

[a] For structural details see text and Scheme 1. [b] ZPVE: Zero-point vibrational energy. [c] The planar structure **1'** corresponds to a transition state (one imaginary frequency) for the degenerate transformation **1** ⇌ **1'** ⇌ **1**.

as the relative stabilities of the [C,H₂,Si,O][•] radical ions, are adequately described^[9] at this level of theory. This also follows from a comparison of calculated bond dissociation energies with experimentally available data.^[2] Inconsistent results are obtained with smaller basis sets or when correlation effects are not included. On the other hand, an increase in the basis sets beyond 6-31G** does not seem necessary.

From many points of view, the radical cation of 1-silaketene (H₂SiCO^{•+}, **1**) is related to the neutral silaketene

recently calculated by *Hamilton and Schaefer*.^[10] The ketene-like planar C_{2v} structure **1'** (Scheme 1) is in both cases not a minimum but corresponds to a transition state of the degenerate isomerization **1** ⇌ **1'** ⇌ **1**. While for the neutral species an activation energy of 18.5 kcal mol⁻¹ was calculated,^[10] for the radical cations the energy difference between **1'** and **1** amounts to 9.0 kcal mol⁻¹ (see Table 1). The imaginary frequency of the out-of-plane deformation is 598 cm⁻¹ for the radical cation **1'** (Table 2) and 592 cm⁻¹ for the neutral molecule.^[10] Both the radical cation and the neutral form of **1** have a nonplanar C_s structure at the minimum. From a comparison of the vibrational frequencies (Table 2), the formal charges derived from the Mulliken population analysis and the geometrical details (Scheme 1) it follows that **1** corresponds to a complex of SiH₂^{•+} and a largely “unperturbed” CO molecule. As is the case for the neutral species,^[11] the Si–C bond can be understood in terms of an interaction between the empty p orbital of the silicon that is perpendicular to the SiH₂ plane and the pair of electrons on the carbon. A relatively long Si–C bond (1.979 Å) results. As expected, the unpaired electron occupies the sp²-hybridized orbital of SiH₂^{•+}. In **1** Si is both the radical site (spin

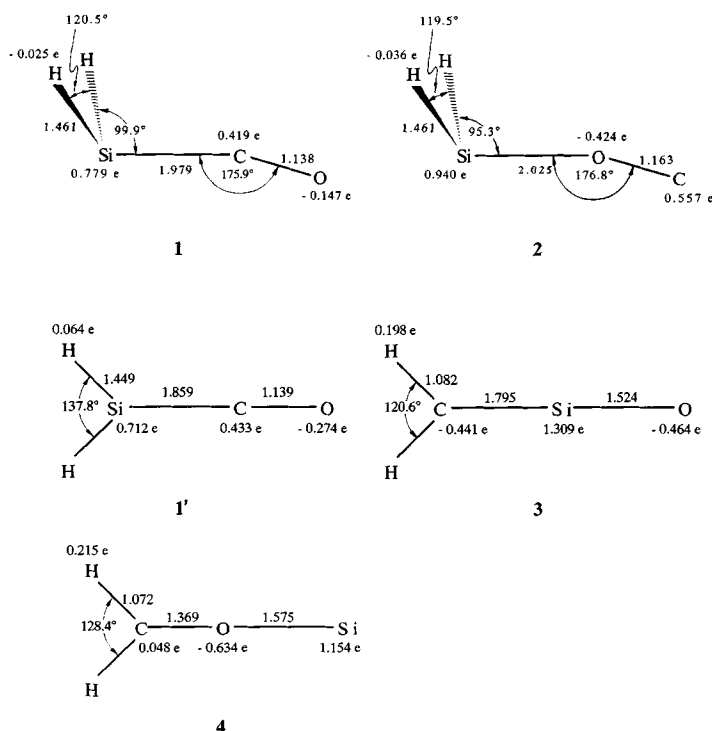
Table 2. Comparison of the vibrational frequencies of the planar and nonplanar silaketene radical cations (**1**) calculated at the MP2/6-31 G***//MP2/6-31 G** level with the CCSD results [10] for the neutral system [a].

system	vibration	cation ω _i [cm ⁻¹]	neutral ω _i [cm ⁻¹]
H ₂ Si–CO	torsion	271	270
	SiCO bending	293	280
	SiC stretching	410	410
	SiH ₂ twisting	681	791
1	SiH ₂ wagging	710	744
	SiH ₂ scissoring	906	1021
	CO stretching	2261	2252
	SiH ₂ asymm. stretching	2388	2200
	SiH ₂ symm. stretching	2446	2200
	out-of-plane	-598	-592
H ₂ Si–CO	in-plane linear bending	299	356
	out-of-plane linear bending	371	511
	Si–C stretching	551	732
	SiH ₂ rocking	633	710
1a	SiH ₂ scissoring	849	906
	CO stretching	2422	2202
	SiH ₂ symm. stretching	2439	2448
	SiH ₂ asymm. stretching	2516	2488
	CO stretching	2124	2245
	SiH ₂ [b]	SiH ₂ bending	951
SiH ₂ asymm. stretching		2334	2144
SiH ₂ symm. stretching		2414	2146

[a] For structural details see text and Scheme 1. [b] Calculated for the isolated cation and neutral species, respectively.

density ρ = 1.01 e) and the center of charge (q = 0.78 e). The changes in structure which result as a consequence of the “complexation” of the SiH₂^{•+} and CO parts are quite small compared with the structures of the separate building blocks: the C–O bond distance of 1.138 Å in **1** is not significantly shorter than that of the free CO (1.150 Å), and the Si–H bond is shortened by 0.008 Å and the HSiH angle is opened by 0.56 degrees. The vibrational frequencies summarized in Table 2 are also consistent with these changes in geometry. The energy for the dissociation of **1** into SiH₂^{•+} and CO is 41.1 kcal mol⁻¹.

The coordination of SiH₂^{•+} with the oxygen end of CO also results in a minimum in the energy surface for a nonplanar structure **2**. Although the isomer **2** is 23.4 kcal mol⁻¹ less stable than **1**, the bond relationships and the geometries are



Scheme 1. The structural parameters and charge distribution calculated for the [C, H₂, Si, O][•] isomers **1**–**4**.

quite similar. The radical site and the charge are again mainly localized on the silicon ($q = 0.98 e$; $q = 0.94 e$). The SiH_2^\oplus segment is strongly bent (95.3°), and the Si—H and C—O bond lengths of 1.461 and 1.163 Å, respectively, are very similar to those found for **1**. Furthermore, the analysis of the vibrational frequencies supports a description of **2** as a complex of SiH_2^\oplus and OC. The normal vibration of CO for **2** (2047 cm^{-1}) points towards an “unperturbed” CO bond, which is also consistent with the observed increase in the C—O bond length in **2** by 0.025 Å compared to **1**. The long Si—O separation of 2.025 Å and the low-lying frequency of 298 cm^{-1} for the SiO vibration correspond to a small perturbation. The symmetric and asymmetric SiH vibrations of 2383 and 2454 cm^{-1} , respectively, for **2** are very close to the vibrations of the free SiH_2^\oplus (2334 and 2414 cm^{-1} , respectively). We obtain a value for the energy of dissociation of **2** into SiH_2^\oplus and CO of $17.7 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$. As expected, the interaction of the empty p orbital of the SiH_2^\oplus fragment with a free electron pair on the oxygen is energetically less attractive than the interaction with the electron pair on the carbon atom of CO.

The radical cation of 2-silaketene ($\text{H}_2\text{CSiO}^{\oplus}$, **3**) is a minimum on the energy surface. The energy of **3** is comparable to that of **2**. Several structural details deserve to be emphasized: 1) In contrast to **1** and **2**, the minimum in **3** can be described by a planar form with C_{2v} symmetry. 2) The Si—O bond in **3** of 1.524 Å is somewhat shorter than in the isolated ${}^2\Sigma^+ \text{SiO}^{\oplus}$ (1.542 Å). This corresponds to an increase in the SiO vibrational frequency (1321 cm^{-1}) of 271 cm^{-1} compared to SiO^{\oplus} . 3) The Si—C distance in **3**, 1.795 Å, lies between those of a Si—C bond in methylsilane (1.867 Å) and a Si—C double bond in silavinylidene (1.709 Å).^[12] All of these data indicate that **3** formally corresponds to a silaketene derivative in which an electron has been removed from the Si—C double bond. The centers of spin and charge are formally separated in the resulting radical ion (a “dystonic” ion^[13]). The carbon atom carries the unpaired electron ($q = 1.08 e$) and the silicon the charge ($q = 1.30 e$).

That the global minimum on the $[\text{C}, \text{H}_2, \text{Si}, \text{O}]^{\oplus}$ energy surface corresponds to a planar C_{2v} structure $\text{H}_2\text{COSi}^{\oplus}$ (**4**) is surprising, because in the ketene analogue the $\text{H}_2\text{COC}^{\oplus}$ structure is about 63 kcal mol^{-1} more energetic than $\text{H}_2\text{CCO}^{\oplus}$.^[4c] It follows from the analysis of the geometry data and the charge distribution that **4** is not really a complex of $\text{CH}_2\text{O}/\text{Si}^{\oplus}$ but a combination of $\text{CH}_2/\text{OSi}^{\oplus}$. For example, the C—O separation in **4** of 1.369 Å clearly is larger than in a typical C—O double bond (H_2CO : 1.208 Å), while the Si—O bond in **4** is only 0.033 Å longer than in isolated ${}^2\Sigma^+ \text{SiO}^{\oplus}$. The C—H bond length and the HCH angle are also much closer to the parameters calculated for ${}^3\text{CH}_2$ (1.073 Å and 131° , respectively). Like **3**, structure **4** represents a dystonic ion. The carbon carries the spin (1.292 e) and the silicon the charge ($q = 1.154 e$). Attempts to localize a bent form for **4** were unsuccessful; the C_s structure found at the UHF level does not correspond to a stationary point at the MP2/6-31G** level.

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1, 136034-35-0; **3**, 136034-36-1; **4**, 136034-37-2; SiH_2 , 13825-90-6; SiH_2^+ , 28149-31-7; CO, 630-08-0; CO^+ , 12144-04-6.

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$\text{K}_2\text{Cu}_5\text{Te}_5$, a Novel Mixed-Valence Layered Compound with Metallic Properties**

By Younbong Park, Donald C. Degroot, Jon Schindler, Carl R. Kannewurf, and Mercouri G. Kanatzidis*

Since the discovery of high temperature superconductivity, mixed-valence Cu compounds have received considerable attention with the aim of discovering related materials with even higher transition temperatures. Although mixed-valence solid state Cu-chalcogenide compounds have been known for some time, they remain relatively rare. For example, the only mixed-valence compounds known so far are $\text{Na}_3\text{Cu}_4\text{S}_4$,^[1] ACu_4Q_3 (A = K, Rb, Cs, Tl; Q = S, Se),^[2] $\text{A}_3\text{Cu}_8\text{S}_6$ (A = K, Rb),^[3] $\text{A}_3\text{Cu}_8\text{Se}_6$ (A = Rb, Cs),^[4] $\text{Cs}_2\text{Cu}_5\text{Se}_4$,^[5] TlCu_2Q_2 (Q = S, Se),^[6] TlCu_6S_4 ,^[7] $\text{Tl}_5\text{Cu}_{14}\text{Se}_{10}$.^[8] Even though the a priori design of a superconducting material that has a high T_c is not yet possible, it is still worthwhile to pursue the synthesis of mixed-valence Cu compounds, since their electronic features generally play an important role for high electrical conductivity. Furthermore, compared with ternary sulfides and selenides, tellurides are even rarer. To the best of our knowledge, there are

*] Prof. M. G. Kanatzidis, Y. Park
Department of Chemistry and
Center for Fundamental Materials Research
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824 (USA)

Prof. C. R. Kannewurf, D. C. Degroot, J. Schindler
Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Northwestern University

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