

College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Xiamen University

# Probing Structure-Stability Relationship of Mono BN-doped Phenanthrene Isomers

Speaker: Yuanyuan Li Advisor: Jun Zhu Date: 2018.11.20

# Outline



## 1. Introduction-----The Application of BN-containing compounds



S. Y. Liu, J. et. al. Am. Chem. Soc. 2016, 138, 14566-14569

### 1. Introduction-----The history of BN aromatic compounds



M. J. S. Dewar, et. al. J. Chem. Soc. 1958, 3073–3076.
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S. Y. Liu , et. al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2009, 121, 991-995.
S. Y. Liu , et. al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2015, 137, 8932–8935
S. Y. Liu , et. al. Chem. Eur. J. 2016, 22, 12972.

# 1. Introduction------Theoretical study for BN aromatic compounds

Mono BN-substituted analogues of naphthalene: a theoretical analysis of the effect of BN position on stability, aromaticity and frontier orbital energies

Compound	$\bigcirc$	N,BH H	B-NH H	B.N.H	BH 		N.B H
Isomer		1,2	2,1	1,10	2,3	5,10	10,1
$E_{\rm rel}$		0.00	0.40	7.87	10.68	12.85	17.96
ELUMO	-1.40	-1.51	-1.04	-1.87	-1.83	-1.33	-1.56
E <sub>HOMO</sub>	-6.15	-6.45	-5.97	-5.89	-5.59	-6.28	-5.55
$\Delta E_{\text{HOMO-LUMO}}$	4.75	4.93	4.93	4.02	3.76	4.94	3.99
$NICS(0)_{\pi zz}$	-33.62/-33.62	-35.75/-19.46	-35.65/-18.67	-22.30/-28.78	-25.75/-28.73	-25.52/-25.51	-24.97/-30.37
HOMA	0.782/0.782	0.906/0.617	0.872/0.561	0.490/0.782	0.517/0.731	0.636/0.636	0.673/0.814
PDI	0.076/0.076	0.082/0.052	0.085/0.053	0.062/0.067	0.064/0.074	0.068/0.068	0.063/0.068

✓ The orientational isomers have similar aromaticity, HOMO-LUMO gaps and stability.

- Placing the BN pair in one ring results in better stability and larger HOMO-LUMO gaps than it in separate rings.
- The aromaticity of heterocyclic rings is more or less reduced relative to naphthalene.

## 1. Introduction------Theoretical study for BN aromatic compounds

#### Boron-nitrogen- and boron-substituted anthracenes and -phenanthrenes as models for doped carbon-based materials



# 2. Motivation



Phenanthrene

- Which is the most stable isomer?
- Which is the least stable isomer?
- Is there a general rule of stability?
- What factors affect the stability?

- Package: Gaussian 09 D.01
- Optimization and frequency: M06-2X/6-311G(d,p)
- Single-point energy: CCSD(T)/6-311G(d,p)

# 4. Results and Discussion



Figure 1 Numbering system for phenanthrene in this study.



# 4. Results and Discussion



Based on the relative positions of B and N, the 91 isomers are classified into seven series:

1, 2-series (1,2, 1,11, 2,1, 2,3, 3,2, 3,4, 4,3, 4,12, 10,9, 10,11, 11,1, 11,10, 11,12, 12,4, 12,11 and 12,13)

1, 3-series (1,3, 1,10, 1,12, 2,4, 2,11, 3,1, 3,12, 4,2, 4,11, 4,13, 10,1, 10,12, 10,14, 11,2, 11,4, 11,9,

**11,13**, **12,1**, **12,3**, **12,5**, **12,10** and **12,14** )

1, 4-series (1,4, 1,9, 1,13, 2,10, 2,12, 3,11, 3,13, 4,1, 4,5, 4,10, 4,14, 10,2, 10,4, 10,8, 10,13, 11,3, 11,5, 11,14, 12,2, 12,6, 12,8, and 12,9)

1, 5-series (1,5, 1,14, 2,9, 2,13, 3,5, 3,10, 3,14, 4,6, 4,8, 4,9, 10,3, 10,5, 10,7, 11,6, 11,8, and 12,7)

- **1**, **6**-series (**1**,**6**, **1**,**8**, **2**,**5**, **2**,**14**, **3**,**6**, **3**,**8**, **3**,**9**, **4**,**7**, **10**,**6**, and **11**,**7**)
- 1, 7-series (1,7, 2,6, 2,8 and 3,7)
- 1, 8-series (2,7)

1,2-series	HN-BH	HB-NH	НИ-ВН	М. ВН	₩ NH	
Isomer	10,9	4,3	3,4	2,1	1,2	12,4
$\Delta E_a$	0.0	3.7	4.1	4.4	4.4	6.0
ΔE <sub>b</sub>	0.0	3.7	4.1	4.4	4.4	6.0
	-0.34	-0.45	-0.59	-0.65	-0.48	-0.75
EHOMO	-7.28	-7.03	-7.07	-7.08	-6.85	-6.73
	6.93	6.58	6.48	6.43	6.38	5.98
NICS(1)zz	-27.9/-8.5/-29.5	-30.0/-25.1/-16.9	-29.7/-24.8/-17.1	-29.8/-24.4/-17.4	-30.2/-25.4/-16.6	-30.3/-10.9/-23.6
	B-NH	N-B	NH BH	ВН		⟨NH B
	11,1	12,11	3,2	2,3	11,12	11,10
	7.4	10.4	11.2	11.6	14.4	16.6
	7.4	10.4	11.2	11.6	14.4	16.6
	-0.74	-0.31	-0.70	-0.75	-0.50	-1.20
	-6.93	-7.17	-6.70	-6.82	-7.31	-6.46
	6.19	6.86	6.00	6.07	6.81	5.26
	-29.0/-11.0/-23.5	-30.7/-13.4/-20.3	-28.9/-10.7/-23.9	-28.5/-10.7/-24.3	-29.6/-13.6/-19.6	-24.4/-26.9/-25.5
	N-BH	N HB	N-B			
	1,11	4,12	12,13	10,11		
	19.2	21.4	23.7	27.8		
	19.2	21.4	23.7	27.8		
	-0.68	-0.82	-1.02	-0.96		
	-6.75	-6.71	-6.48	-6.21		
	6.07	5.89	5.46	5.25		
	-27.9/-8.0/-23.4	-28.0/-7.4/-23.2	-19.1/-25.8/-24.3	-23.8/-26.1/-21.2		
	-					

Increasing stability

The  $\Delta E_a$  (kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>) is the relative energy of each series for comparison.

The  $\Delta E_b$  (kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>) is the energy relative to the most stable isomer.

HOMO/LUMO energies (eV), and NICS(1)zz values (ppm) of BN doped phenanthrene.

1,3-series			→ B → HN	Ø NH	⊖ NH HB= NH	₩H −B
Isomer	12,1	12,3	11,4	11,2	4,2	12,10
ΔE <sub>a</sub>	0.0	1.3	2.1	3.2	4.6	4.8
Ешмо	3∠.3 -0.96	-0.74	34.5 -0.98	35.5	-0.64	37.1 -1.22
EHOMO	-6.52	-6.60	-6.73	-6.68	-6.68	-6.40
$\Delta E_{LUMO-HOMO}$	5.56	5.85	5.75	5.96	6.04	5.18
NICS(1)zz	-31.2/-16.2/-27.8	-31.3/-16.4/-28.2	-29.2/-16.5/-27.5	-29.6/-16.4/-27.8	-30.1/-20.4/-26.0	-29.4/-25.3/-26.0
	→ → → → → → → → → → → → → →	⊖ BH ⊕ NH	(→) ⊕ HN→BH			
	3,1	1,3	2,4	11,9	12,5	4,11
	5.6	5.6	5.9	6.3	12.3	13.6
	37.9	38.0	38.2	38.6	44.6 -1.36	45.9
	-6.71	-6.63	-6.86	-6.67	-6.19	-6.52
	5.83	5.90	5.98	5.57	4.82	5.70
	-30.2/-18.3/-27.4	-30.2/-20.8/-26.1	-29.3/-18.6/-27.5	-28.9/-24.5/-27.6 ⊖	-27.7/-25.7/-29.2	-28.2/-12.8/-27.0
		NH OBH	N SH BH	BH ®	⊕ → BH N	() N BH
	12,14	1,10	2,11	10,1	1,12	3,12
	14.7	15.1	15.5	15.5	15.8	16.8
	47.0	47.4	47.8	47.9	48.1 -1 15	49.2
	-6.38	-6.14	-6.79	-5.93	-6.49	-6.71
	5.34	4.64	5.90	4.54	5.35	5.64
	-21.8/-26.9/-27.3	-27.4/-16.5/-31.7	-27.9/-12.6/-27.7	-27.9/-24.5/-27.8	-28.1/-13.7/-27.7	-28.2/-13.1/-28.0
	⊕ = BH		→ N⊕			
	10,14	11,13	10,12	4,13		
	17.8	18.2	20.4	25.7		
	50.2	50.5	52.8	58.0		
	-0.82	-1.19	-1.25	-1.36		
	-0.45 5.62	-0.40	-0.22	-0.U0 173		
	-20.7/-22.5/-30.6	-21.9/-26.8/-25.8	-25.3/-25.7/-23.9	-21.8/-17.2/-32.5		

1,4-series	NH HB	-B-NH	HN_BH	B-NH	HN B	
Isomer	4,1	12,2	1,4	11,3	12,9	3,11
ΔEa	0.0	0.3	0.8	2.4	3.5	14.4
ΔE <sub>b</sub> Europ	27.2	27.6	28.0	29.6	30.7	41.6
	-0.40	-0.41	-0.50	-0.47	-0.80	-0.54
	6.72	6.31	6.57	6.65	6.02	6.49
NICS(1)zz	-30.2/-23.6/-17.8	-30.3/-17.2/-22.0	-29.9/-24.3/-17.5	-28.9/-10.7/-21.9	-30.6/-18.6/-18.2	-28.1/-6.7/-21.6
	HN	НК-ВН	ВН	-BH	< → B → B →	
					<sup>™</sup> H	HN_/ \_/
	10,8	1,9	2,12	10,13	11,5	12,6
	14.5	15.2	16.3	18.9	19.1	19.3
	41.7	42.4	43.6	46.2	46.3	46.5
	-6.49	-1.03	-0.89	-0.86	-1.32	-1.10
	5.46	-5.43	6.23	5.85	5.08	5.04
	-15.3/-13.1/-30.7	-27.8/-8.2/-22.0	-26.7/-6.1/-22.6	-12.4/-17.2/-29.2	-22.3/-20.9/-21.1	-20.8/-26.7/-25.2
	HN-B		NH HB	NH	NH NH	NH HB
	12,8	11,14	4,5	2,10	10,2	4,10
	20.0	20.6	21.6	24.0	24.6	24.6
	47.3	47.9	48.8	51.3	51.8	51.8
	-1.32	-0.93	-1.54	-1.63	-1.20	-1.58
	-0.10	-0.54	-5.98	-6.30	-5.61	-6.04
	4.64 -23.8/-24.8/-25.9	-16.4/-24.7/-22.0	-18.6/-13.4/-26.6	4.67 -19.7/-19.1/-28.3	-21.3/-27.0/-22.5	-21.3/-17.2/-31.1
	BH HN		N	М-ВН		
	10,4	4,14	3,13	1,13		
	25.3	30.8	32.4	34.1		
	52.5	58.1	59.6	61.3		
	-1.45	-1.09	-1.31	-1.33		
	-5.88	-6.09	-6.34	-6.16		
	4.43 -21 4/-25 2/-25 8	5.00 -14 6/-13 6/-28 3	5.03 -17 6/-19 8/-25 4	4.03 -20 2/-18 2/-25 8		
		-1-1.0/-10.0/-20.0	11.0/ 10.0/ 20.7			



1,6-series		HN BH		⟨BH	HN	HN-BH
Isomer	3,9	10,6	11,7	2,5	4,7	1,8
$\Delta E_a$	0.0	0.6	5.5	12.8	12.8	16.9
$\Delta E_b$	44.6	45.2	50.1	57.4	57.4	61.5
E <sub>LUMO</sub>	-1.00	-0.62	-1.03	-1.62	-1.24	-1.71
E <sub>HOMO</sub>	-6.76	-6.45	-6.25	-6.21	-5.81	-5.77
∆E <sub>LUMO-HOMO</sub>	5.76	5.83	5.22	4.59	4.58	4.06
NICS(1)zz	-28.0/-9.2/-19.4	-12.2/-14.2/-30.8	-19.0/-22.3/-19.6	-15.3/-12.7/-22.9	-13.9/-11.9/-24.7	-18.4/-10.7/-27.6
	HN-BH	HN	М ВН	ни Ни		
	3,6	3,8	2,14	1,6		
	17.0	17.2	17.5	18.3		
	61.7	61.9	62.1	62.9		
	-1.46	-1.68	-1.20	-1.49		
	-5.94	-5.94	-6.36	-5.75		
	4.48	4.26	5.16	4.26		
	-17.0/-15.0/-26.0	-19.0/-12.8/-25.8	-12.0/-15.0/-25.6	-16.7/-12.6/-28.1		
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Increasing stability



## The most/least stable isomers of each series

	1,2-series	1,4-series	1,3-series	1,6-series	1,5-series	1,8-series	1,7-series
The most stable compound	HN-BH		NH −B⊖ NH	HN BH	HNB	н	HN SH
Isomer	10,9	4,1	12,1	3,9	12,7	2,7	2,8
$\Delta E_b$	0.0	27.2	32.3	44.6	51.6	60.3	66.5
E <sub>LUMO</sub>	-0.34	-0.48	-0.96	-1.00	-1.19	-1.27	-1.85
Е <sub>НОМО</sub>	-7.28	-7.20	-6.52	-6.76	-6.00	-6.11	-5.81
$\Delta E_{LUMO-HOMO}$	6.93	6.72	5.56	5.76	4.81	4.85	3.95
NICS(1)zz	-27.9/-8.5/-29.5	-30.2/-23.6/-17.8	-31.2/-16.2/-27.8	-28.0/-9.2/-19.4	-25.4/-28.3/-28.9	-11.8/-12.6/-21.6	-19.6/-16.5/-30.9
	1,2-series	1,3-series	1,4-series	1,6-series	1,5-series	1,7-series	
The least stable compound	₩ N N		М	BH	N BH	HN BH	-
Isomer	10,11	4,13	1,13	1,6	2,13	2,6	
$\Delta E_b$	27.8	58.0	61.3	62.9	66.5	66.8	
E <sub>LUMO</sub>	-0.96	-1.36	-1.33	-1.49	-1.49	-1.69	
Е <sub>НОМО</sub>	-6.21	-6.08	-6.16	-5.75	-6.22	-5.78	
$\Delta E_{LUMO-HOMO}$	5.25	4.73	4.83	4.26	4.73	4.09	
NICS(1)zz	-23.8/-26.1/-21.2	-21.8/-17.2/-32.5	-20.2/-18.2/-25.8	-16.7/-12.6/-28.1	-18.9/-19.3/-32.0	-19.5/-18.5/-32.6	

The stability trend of the most isomers of each series are :

1, 2-series > 1, 4-series > 1, 3-series > 1, 6-series > 1, 5-series > 1, 8-series > 1, 7-series.

Separating the BN unit into two rings instead of the BN pair in one ring reduces stability.

#### **Orientational isomers**





#### Non-bridge substituted isomers



The energy differences between the two corresponding non-bridge substituted isomers are very small (0.0-1.8 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>).

#### Bridgehead substituted isomers



The energy differences between the two corresponding bridgehead substituted isomers are much large (10.9-16.0 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>).

A feature of the more stable isomer always contains B atom at bridgehead position.

### The ADCH charges



The atomic dipole moment corrected Hirshfeld population (ADCH) charge of phenanthrene.

- Negative charges are similar on the non-bridge carbon atom and much more than the bridgehead carbon atom.
- ✓ The difference in stability between the non-bridge substituted isomers is small.
- ✓ The bridgehead substituted isomers have a large energy difference due to one heteroatom at the bridgehead position.
- ✓ Placing a highly electronegative nitrogen atom at the non-bridge part and a weakly electronegative boron atom at the bridgehead part would be more stable.

### **NBO** charges



NBO charges of phenanthrene. (a) without adding H atomic charges. (b) H atomic added.

- Without adding H atomic charges, the NBO charges are consistent with ADCH charges.
- ✓ H atomic added, the NBO charges of non-bridged carbon atoms are positive and the bridgehead carbon atoms are negative.
- ✓ The carbon atoms at the 1, 4 and 10 positions have similar NBO charges and are larger than the carbon atoms at positions 2 and 3.

#### HOMO-LUMO energy gap of Bridgehead substituted isomers

Black/Red line represents lower/higher energy isomers of the two orientational isomers.



The one with lower energy has a larger HOMO-LUMO energy gap (except for 11,9/10,14).

#### HOMO-LUMO energy gap of Non-bridge substituted isomers

Black/Red line represents lower/higher energy isomers of the two orientational isomers.



Except for several pairs of isomers(3,1/1,3, 3,7/2,6, 3,2/2,3, 3,9/10,6 do not follow the rule, and the values of 3,5/4,6 and 3,8/1,6 are almost equal), most non-bridge substituted isomers also follow this rule.

# 5. Conclusions

The orientational isomers have similar stability, HOMO-LUMO gaps and aromaticity



- BN in one ring > BN in two rings
- The non-bridge isomers have similar stability.
- B at bridgehead position > N at bridgehead position

More stable isomers have larger HOMO-LUMO energy gaps

#### Aromaticity

HOMO/LUMO

The aromaticity of heterocyclic rings is more or less reduced relative to naphthalene

# Thanks for your kind attention!

# Question

Determine the valence electron count of the following complexes:



