

CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIÓN Y DE ESTUDIOS AVANZADOS DEL INSTITUTO POLITÉCNICO NACIONAL

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"Exploración sistemática de las Superficies de Energía Potencial de las estequiometrías $C_6H_{6-n}Li_n$ (n = 1 – 6) y C_6E_6 (E = Li - Cs)"

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"A Systematic Exploration of the Potential Energy Surface of $C_6H_{6-n}Li_n$ (n = 1 – 6) and C_6E_6 (E = Li - Cs) stoichiometries"

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Gilbert Newton Lewis

Resumen

Los compuestos organolitiados suelen presentar geometrías y estructuras completamente diferentes con respecto a sus análogos en los hidrocarburos. Ejemplo de ello es la supuesta síntesis del hexalitiobenceno, que en un principio se asumió que la estructura era similar a la del benceno, pero tras posteriores revisiones y estudios teóricos, se llegó a la conclusión que la estructura bencenoide de la estequiometría C₆Li₆ es de muy alta energía y hallándose un cúmulo asimétrico de tres fragmentos C₂Li₂ como el mínimo global para este sistema molecular. Dados el comportamiento del litio para favorecer estructuras no clásicas; así como diversas aplicaciones en síntesis, catálisis y en la elaboración de las baterías recargables, es nuestro interés explorar las superficies de energía potencial (PES por sus siglas en inglés) de los sistemas esteguiométricos $C_6H_{6-n}Li_n$ (n = 1 - 6) y C₆E₆ (E = Li - Cs). Las exploraciones se llevaron a cabo de forma sistemática y exhaustiva empleando GLOMOS (Global Optimization of Molecular Systems) con un barrido inicial a PBE0/def2-SVP para localizar las estructuras más estables para cada sistema. Dichas estructuras fueron reoptimizadas a TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP incluyendo las correcciones de la energía en el punto cero (ZPE por sus siglas en inglés). La discusión energética de las tres estructuras más estables en cada sistema se realizó a CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP//TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP, mientras que los enlaces fueron estudiados bajo el esquema de Orbitales Naturales de Enlace (NBO por sus siglas en inglés) y con la metodología de la Partición Adaptativa de la Densidad Natural (AdNDP por sus siglas en inglés). Los resultados muestran que la baja sustitución de los hidrógenos del benceno por litio (n = 1 o 2) no afectan la estructura del anillo, por otro lado, los litios transfieren de manera efectiva su carga a los carbonos del benceno y contribuyen a la estabilización de la carga para formar aniones $C_6H_5^-$ y $C_6H_4^{2-}$. Al aumentar el grado de sustitución (n = 3 – 6) la ruptura del enlace C-C es promovida por la inserción de los átomos de litio en el anillo, lo que promueve la apertura del sistema anillado y la formación de fragmentos organolitiados más pequeños que tienden a parecerse a C₂Li₂. Los sistemas C₆Li₆ y C₆Na₆ prácticamente muestran las mismas estructuras estables, diferenciándose solo en el tamaño de enlace C-E (E = Li, Na). En cambio, los sistemas C₆E₆ de los metales alcalinos más pesados (K, Rb y Cs) presentan un comportamiento totalmente distinto, en donde las estructuras más estables presentan iones alcaluros (E^{-}) y enlaces E-E (E = K, Rb y Cs). El tamaño relativo de los iones de litio y sodio permiten que exista contacto directo con los átomos de carbono y por lo tanto la transferencia de carga es efectiva. En contraste, no todos los átomos de los metales alcalinos son capaces de establecer contacto directo con los átomos de carbono, en cambio transfieren parte de su carga a los átomos metálicos vecinos,

promoviendo la estabilización de los enlaces E-E (K, Rb y Cs) y la formación de los iones E⁻.

Abstract

The organolithium compounds usually have different structures and geometries with respect their hydrocarbons analogues. An example of this is the supposed synthesis of hexalithiobenzene, compound whose structure was assumed to be like benzene, but after several revisions and theoretical studies it was concluded that the benzenoid structure with C₆Li₆ stoichiometry is very high in energy, and an asymmetrical cluster of three C_2Li_2 units was found as the global minimum for this molecular system. Given the tendency of lithium to favour *non classical* structures, as well its applications in organic synthesis, catalysis and its importance in rechargeable batteries; it is our interest to explore the Potential Energy Surfaces (PES) of $C_6H_{6-n}Li_n$ (n = 1 - 6) and C_6E_6 (E = Li - Cs) stoichiometries. The systematic and exhaustive explorations were carried out with GLOMOS (Global Optimization of Molecular Systems) with an initial screening at PBE0/def2-SVP level, to locate the most stable structures. Then such structures were refined at TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level of theory, including the Zero-Point Energy corrections (ZPE). The energetic discussion of the three lowest-lying energy structures for each system was at CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP//TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level, meanwhile the bonding pattern was studied in terms of Natural Bonding Orbitals (NBO), and with the Adaptative Natural Density Partitioning (AdNDP) methodology. Our results show that a lower rate of hydrogen substitution by lithium atoms (n = 1 or 2) in benzene molecule does not affect the structure of the ring, the lithium atoms transfer all its charge to the skeletal carbons and contribute to the stabilization of $C_6H_5^-$ and $C_6H_4^{2-}$ anions. Increasing the rate of substitution (n = 3 - 6) the cleavage of C-C bonds is favoured by the insertion of lithium atoms, which promotes the breaking of the ring and the formation of smaller organic fragments that leads to C_2Li_2 units. The lithium and sodium stoichiometries (C_6Li_6 and C_6Na_6) present the same lowest-lying energy structures, where only the C-E distance is different (E = LI or Na). Instead the heavier alkali metal stoichiometries C_6E_6 (E = K, Rb and Cs) present different lowest-lying energy structures, which alkalides ions (E⁻) and E-E bonds are stabilized. The relatively small size of the lithium and sodium ions allow a direct contact with the skeletal carbon atoms, hence an effective charge transfer. On the other hand, not all the heavier alkaline metal atoms are able a direct contact with the carbon atoms, instead they transfer part of its charge to vicinal metal atoms, therefore promoting the formation of alkalide ions (E^{-}) and the stabilization of E-E bonds.

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General introduction

Organolithium structures do not follow classical rules: the replacement of a hydrogen by lithium atom in an organic molecule almost always leads to a major change in geometry, electronic state, or both.¹ For instance, several computations indicate that dilithiomethane CH₂Li₂ contains a planar tetracoordinate carbon rather than tetrahedral, with similar energies for both singlet and triplet; or dilithioethylene is predicted to have double bridged structure rather than a planar one (**Figure 1-a**).^{2,3} West showed that perlithiated propyne in butyllithium excess gives one of the most stable lithiocarbons, C₃Li₄. Although there is still no detailed experimental information available, his computations indicate a remarkable structure with a W-shaped Li-CCC-Li backbone and two symmetrical bridging lithiums (**Figure 1-b**).⁴ Another exciting study case is C₅Li₄, a compound obtained by West and Klein experimentally by perlithiation of penta-1,3-diyne. There are a high number of possible ways in which four lithium atoms can be arranged around a C atom. After examined all possible arrangements (cages, clusters, planar structures, etc.), they found that the most stable structure is compromised by C₂Li₂ and C₃Li₄ units sharing two lithium atoms in common (Figure 1-d), followed 37 kcal/mol above by Li-CCCCC-Li system with a five-coordinated central lithium ion (Figure 1-c).⁴



Figure 1. Some bonding representations in organolithium compounds: a) vicinal bonding, b) 1,3-arrangement, c) multiple bonding, and d) two organic fragments arrangement.

The formation of such nonclassical structures is induced, in part, for the type of bond between carbon and lithium. The electronegativity difference between C and Li strongly suggests that the C-E bond (E = Li -Cs) is ionic. However, the solubility of some organolithium compounds in nonpolar solvents, such as benzene, indicates a covalent character.⁵ Efforts have been made to model and understand the nature of the C-E bond, both experimental and theoretical approaches. One of the simplest models to study the C-E bond is using methyl derivatives. In 1996, Bickelhaupt and coworkers investigated the monomers, dimers, and tetramers of CH₃Li using Density Functional Theory (DFT) and conventional ab initio Molecular Orbital Theory.⁶ This study highlighted the role of a covalent component in the C-Li bond, especially in the CH₃Li tetramer, explaining the experimental large coupling constants observed in NMR spectroscopy.⁷ However, some studies advocate the ionic character of the C-Li bond. Kwon et al. reported the Natural Population Analysis (NPA), charges, and dipole moments of CH₃Li, t-BuLi, and PhLi oligomers, indicating an ionic character of the organolithium bond in such systems.⁸

One of the most representative cases is hexalithiobenzene, which was allegedly synthesized by Lagow in 1990. In their report, they proposed a benzene-type structure for the compound although scarce or no evidence was provided. It was until 2013, after several revisions and theoretical studies that a structure more stable than the assumed benzene-type was proposed.

Given the tendency of lithium and the rest of the alkali metals to favor non classical structures, it is our interest to identify the most stable structures of some representative organoalkalimetal compounds. This work focuses on the systematic exploration of the potential energy surface (PES) of the $C_6H_{6-n}Li_n$ (n = 1 - 6) and C_6E_6 (E = Na – Cs) systems. We decided on these systems as a milestone towards future research on lithium batteries.

The thesis is organized as follows: In **Chapter 1** (Theoretical background) - the computational details are specified. In **Chapter 2** (lithium stoichiometries) - our computations show that if the rate of lithium substitution in benzene is low (1 or 2), the ring shape is maintained. In all the $C_6H_{6-n}Li_n$ systems, the lithium atoms transfer their charge almost entirely to the carbon atoms, so increasing the rate of substitution (3 to 6) induces the ring breaking and the charge from lithium atoms is distributed among several smaller organic fragments and hydride ions. In **Chapter 3** (hexaalkali stoichiometries) - two tendencies were identified. The first one

is that the lighter alkali metals (Li and Na) share similar arrangements. The second one is that the heavier alkali metals (K, Rb and Cs) tend to partially transfer their charge to the carbon atoms, thus favoring alkalide-type structures and triplets as global minima. **Chapter 4** (Conclusions) - chemical and structural similarities of the studied systems are further discussed; conclusions and future perspectives to include $C_6H_{6-x}E_x$ (E = Na to Cs, x = 1 - 6) in future works are given.

Chapter 1. Theoretical background

Potential Energy Surface (PES)

The Potential Energy Surface (PES) is an abstract concept in chemistry. This mathematical function relates the energy of a molecular system to the different spatial arrangements of its atoms. Consider a polyatomic molecule made up of *n* atoms, whose spatial coordinates are $q_n = (x_n, y_n, z_n)$ and assume that the molecule behaves like balls (atoms) held together by springs (chemical bonds), we can define a function $E = f(q_1, q_2, q_3, ..., q_n)$, which depicts a *n*-dimensional surface of the potential energy of the molecule, that is, the Potential Energy Surface (PES). Thus, every possible arrangement is associated with a point on the surface.⁹

Among them, the stationary points are of particular interest in chemistry. Mathematically, a stationary point is one when the first derivative of the potential energy with respect each spatial coordinate is zero:

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial q_1} = \frac{\partial E}{\partial q_2} = \frac{\partial E}{\partial q_3} = \dots = \frac{\partial E}{\partial q_n} = 0$$

Stationary points where the second derivative is positive, independently of the direction, are known as a *minima*. Whereas those points where the second derivative is negative on the path that connects two minima are known as saddle points.

Once a stationary point has been found, a calculation of the vibrational frequencies is done to determine if that point corresponds to a minimum or a saddle point. Such calculation requires: a) the use of the second derivatives of the energy with the spatial coordinate *q* as force constants, and b) the PES have to be quadratically curved along each geometric coordinate, which is only true in the vicinity of a stationary point. A minimum on the PES has all the normal-mode force constants positive: for each vibrational mode there is a restoring force, like that of a spring. But for a transition state, just one of the vibrations, corresponding along the path that connects two minima is different. Since the force constants are related to the second derivatives of the energy and they are negative only on the reaction path, the force constant for this mode is negative. So, a transition state (a first-order saddle point) has one and only one negative normal-mode force constant, and since the frequency calculation involves taking the square root of a force constant, that gives an imaginary number.

Thus, a transition state has one imaginary frequency corresponding to the reaction coordinate. 10



Figure 2. Qualitative 3D representation of a potential energy surface, where the saddle and minima points are indicated.

In this work, we explored the PES in order to locate and characterize the most stable structures, lowest-lying minima, for the $C_6H_{6-n}Li_n$ (n = 1 - 6) and C_6E_6 (E = Li - Cs) molecular clusters using a heuristic search algorithm (GLOMOS).¹¹

GLOMOS – Global Optimization of Molecular Systems

In computer science, a heuristic (from Greek $\varepsilon \circ p i \sigma \kappa \omega$ "I find" or "discover") is a technique designed for solving a problem more quickly when classical methods are too slow, or for finding an approximate solution when conventional methods fail to find an exact solution.

Among them, Genetic Algorithms (GA) achieved enough popularity as a method of optimization and machine learning.¹² The GAs are search algorithms based on Darwinian natural selection and mimic the genetic mechanisms present in organisms. GLOMOS is a suite of heuristic search algorithms, written in python, that includes a set of methodologies to find the putative global minimum in molecular systems, where the DFT local optimizations are solved using electronic structure codes such as *Gaussian* $16.^{13}$

The adopted procedure in GLOMOS is as follows: the algorithm generates the first batch of families of structures (according to pre-

established geometrical patterns), which are optimized at a low level of theory, then an energy fitness parameter is defined in terms of the potential energy and dictates how well adapted is each individual of each family. Next, the algorithm selects the most adapted structures of each family, and a simple one-point crossover accomplishes the exchange of genetic information. This part of the procedure distinguishes the GAs from other stochastic strategies. The new structures (children) will give birth to new families, some random mutations are introduced, and the algorithm repeats itself until the optimal structure (lowest potential energy) is achieved (**Figure 3**).¹⁴



Figure 3. Flow chart of a standard genetic algorithm.

Computational details

The PESs of the $C_6H_{6-n}Li_n$ (n = 1 - 6) clusters were explored systematically using a genetic algorithm (GA) implemented in the GLOMOS program. As already explained in the previous section, it is our interest to locate the stationary points associated particularly, the putative global minima, Thus, the search was not limited to ring structures, but includes linear, branched and cluster arrangements.

First, the case in which a single lithium substitutes a hydrogen atom in the C_6H_6 stoichiometry was examined. Subsequently, systems derived from the progressive increase of the number of lithium atoms, as well as

 C_6E_6 (E = Na - Cs) were considered. An initial screening search was performed at the PBE0/def2-SVP level, this hybrid functional includes a quarter of the exact HF exchange energy with three quarters of the PBE GGA exchange energy. This functional was chosen because it reproduces with enough accuracy molecular structures and properties of the majority of the elements of the periodic table.¹⁵ On the other hand, the def2-SVP basis set, developed by Ahlrichs and coworkers, contains polarizing and diffuse functions for a wide range of *p* and *d* elements. This basis set has successfully been used to obtain qualitatively correct results.¹⁶

The structures obtained by the exploration and whose relative energies did not exceed 40 kcal/mol with respect the putative global minimum were further re-optimized at the TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level, including the Grimme's D3 dispersion approach. The functional TPSS is a GGA method which generally gives excellent results for a wide range of systems and has a good performance at predicting bond lengths in organic molecules, hydrogen-bonded complexes and ionic solids.¹⁷ Although PBE0 also gives comparable results to TPSS, the latter has a practical advantage since it is not a hybrid functional and does not depend on parametrizations. The def2-TZVP is a larger set used mainly for optimization purposes, since the errors in computed bond lengths typically are smaller than one pm and that in bond angles smaller than one degree for most DFT methods.

One disadvantage of DFT methods is its inability to describe longsufficiently. However, range correlations such interactions are indispensable to obtain interaction energies with errors less than the common chemical accuracy of 1 kcal/mol, particularly for non-covalently bond systems. Therefore, semiclassical dispersion corrections to DFT have been developed in the past years and are meanwhile used routinely in many quantum chemistry codes. Some of these correction schemes accurately incorporate London dispersion into DFT at very small computational costs. A variety of different dispersion correction schemes has been proposed. In this work, we considered the dispersion forces through the Grimme D3 approximation with the Becke-Johnson (BJ) damping function.¹⁸

Single point energies of the lowest structures were estimated at the CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP//TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level. The CCSD(T) method is now well-established as a highly accurate and cost-effective technique for the calculation of the structures and properties of atoms and molecules. It is mainly used to predict with high accuracy structural data and chemical properties. So, the discussion of energies will correspond to those obtained at this level.¹⁹ For each structure, a frequency analysis was done and none of them has any imaginary frequency.

The chemical bonding was studied by Natural Bond Orbital (NBO) scheme and the Adaptive Natural Density Partitioning (AdNDP) methodology. The NBO is a sequence of natural localized orbital sets that include natural atomic, hybrid and semi-localized molecular orbital (NLMO) sets, that is intermediate between basis atomic orbitals and canonical molecular orbitals (MOs). Such NBOs provide the most accurate possible *natural Lewis structure* picture of the structure because all orbital details coefficients, atomic (polarization hybrid compositions, etc.) are mathematically chosen to include the highest possible percentage of the electron density.²⁰ On the other hand, the AdNDP is a method of description of the chemical bonding with an intuitive simplicity of Lewis theory and generality of canonical orbital theory. It is based on the concept of the electron pair as the main element of chemical bonding, thus it represents the electronic structure in terms of $nc - 2e^{-1}$ bonds, where n is the total number of atoms where the bond is taking place. One feature of the AdNDP analysis is that it recovers Lewis bonding and delocalized bonding elements.²¹ Finally, all the computations were made using the Gaussian 16 version.¹³

Chapter 2. Lithium stoichiometries

C₆H₅Li stoichiometry

Our computations at the CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP//TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level show that the global minimum for such stoichiometry is **A-01**, phenyllithium (**Figure 4**), which is basically the direct lithium substitution of one hydrogen atom in benzene. It adopts C_{2v} symmetry, where all C-C (1.395 - 1.416 Å) and C-H bonds (1.088 - 1.093 Å) are quite similar to those in benzene (1.390 Å and 1.090 Å, respectively). The WBI value of 0.184 for the C-Li bond indicates a predominantly ionic character, which is also supported by the computed NPA charges at Li and C (+0.89 and -0.62 |e⁻|, respectively). So, the structure could be visualized as the interaction between the C₆H₅⁻ carbanion with a Li⁺ cation. The calculated C-Li bond (1.965 Å) is in excellent agreement with the reported 1.970 Å for the monomer at B3LYP/6-31+G* level.⁸



Figure 4. Bond lengths are given in Å, Wiberg bond index and NPA charges in $|e^{-}|$.

Phenyllithium is known to be a tetramer in diethyl ether, but a dimer without any Lewis-base ligand. In 1998, Dinnebier et al. resolved the structure of the phenyllithium in the solid state and it is also a tetramer (**Figure 5**).²² Two kinds of C-Li interactions can be distinguished, one is the C_{aryl} – Li σ -bond of 2.242 Å and the second is the C_{phenyl} – Li π bonds of 2.401 - 2.862 Å. Note that both C-Li distances are longer than those computed in the gas phase.



Figure 5. Crystal structure of the solid-state phenyllithium. In the image on the right, the hydrogen atoms were removed to improve the appreciation of the structure. The pink spheres represent lithium atoms and the black ones carbon atoms.²²

Our AdNDP analysis in **A-01** (**Figure 6**)shows an electron pair with an occupation number (ON) of 1.82 |e⁻|, localized at C1, 6 C-C σ -bonds (ON = 1.98 | e⁻|), 5 C-H σ -bonds (ON = 1.98 | e⁻|), and 3 π -bonds (ON = 1.94 | e⁻|). The recovered Lewis structure is aromatic since it meets the Hückel rule (6 π -electrons).²³ Thus we can assume that the lithium practically transfers all its charge directly to the carbon skeleton, without inducing any significant geometrical change in the ring.



Figure 6. AdNDP analysis for A-01 (ON is the occupation number).

The second lowest-lying energy form is **A-02**. The energy difference between **A-02** and the global minimum is 11.4 kcal/mol (CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP//TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP). In this arrangement the six-membered ring is preserved (**Figure 7**). The lithium atom is located above the ring with C-Li bonds with lengths of 2.165 to 2.261 Å, which are closer to the experimental value in the crystal of 2.242 Å for the C_{aryl} – Li σ bond in (PhLi)₄.²² The WBI for the C-Li bonds are less than 0.100 threshold, which also indicates that the C-Li interaction is essentially ionic. The charge of the lithium is slightly higher (+0.92 |e⁻|) than in **A-01**, indicating that the location above the ring improves the charge transfer from the lithium to the carbon atoms. Meanwhile charges of the carbons are in -0.29 to -0.37 |e⁻|, suggesting that the lithium atom behaves as a cation interacting with the π -cloud of the carboanion skeleton.



Figure 7. Bond lengths are given in Å, Wiberg bond index and NPA charges in $|e^{-}|$.

The exhaustive exploration was carried out up to 40 kcal/mol, where the stable structures (**Figure 8**) can be organized as follows: (a) up to 10 kcal/mol above from the global minimum, only benzene-type arrangements were found (**A-01** and **A-02**), (b) between 10 and 30 kcal/mol fulvenetype structures ($C_5H_4CH^-$) were located (**A-03** and **A-04**) (c) between 30 and 40 kcal/mol, linear and branched geometries (**A-05**, **A-07** and **A-08**, respectively) compete with fulvene-type structures (**A-06**), and the first triplet is located at 41.2 kcal/mol (**A-09**).



Figure 8. Lower-lying energy structures up to 40 kcal/mol above the global minimum for C₆H₅Li stoichiometry. The relative energies are given by the **bolded blue (singlets)** and **red values (triplets)** in kcal/mol. Relative energies are at the TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level including the zero-point energy (ZPE) corrections.

C₆H₄Li₂ stoichiometry

The putative global minimum **B-01** adopts a C_s symmetry with one of the lithiums bridging two carbon atoms with the shorter C-Li bonds (1.913 Å). The Li above the ring is coordinated with the entire ring (**Figure 9**), showing larger C-Li bond lengths (2.124 - 2.210 Å). The computed charges are +0.93 |e⁻| for the lithium above the ring, and +0.88 |e⁻| for the lithium bonded to both carbon atoms with -0.67 |e⁻|. The low WBI values (less than 0.100) corroborate that the larger C-Li bonds have more ionic character than the shorter ones (0.103).



Figure 9. Bond lengths are given in Å, Wiberg bond index and NPA charges in |e-|.

The AdNDP analysis for **B-01** shows two electron pair localised on both C2 (ON = 1.84 |e-|), 6 C-C σ -bonds (ON = 1.98 |e-|), 4 C-H σ -bonds (ON = 1.98 |e-|) and 3 π -bonds (ON = 1.94 |e-|). Therefore, both lithiums virtually transfer all their charge to the carbon ring and the structure can be understood as C6H42- carbanion with two Li+ stabilizing the charge (**Figure 10**).



Figure 10. AdNDP analysis for **B-01** (ON is the occupation number).

B-02 has $C_{2\nu}$ symmetry and is located 4.45 kcal/mol (CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP//TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP) above the global minimum. Both lithiums are bonded out of the plane to both C1 atoms while interacting with each other. The C-Li bonds are 1.978 Å with a WBI value of 0.114, indicating that they have an important ionic character (**Figure 11**). The charge of both lithium atoms is slightly lower (+0.86 |e⁻|) than those in **B-01**, suggesting that such geometry affects the charge transfer from the lithiums to the carbon atoms. Also, our computations show that the organolithium carbon charge is -0.77 |e⁻| meanwhile the carbons are -0.24 and -0.23 |e⁻|. Unlike the previous structure, the charge transfer from the lithiums to the carbon atoms seems affected due to the position of the second Li⁺ since it cannot interact with the π -cloud of the carbon ring.



Figure 11. Bond lengths are given in Å, Wiberg bond index and NPA charges in $|e^{-}|$.

The next isomer **B-03** is located 8.1 kcal/mol above the global minimum and adopts C_s symmetry where all atoms lie on the plane (**Figure 12**). The lithium bonded to both carbons have different lengths (1.877 and 1.974 Å) but similar WBI (0.112 and 0.121) indicating that all the C-Li have a predominant ionic character. The charges for both lithiums are quite similar (+0.82 and +0.86 |e⁻| respectively) but for the carbons change drastically according to the proximity with the lithium atoms. At C5, C4 and C6 are -0.76, -0.34 and -0.57 |e⁻| respectively; and for the remaining three carbons are -0.22 and -0.23 |e⁻|.



Figure 12. Bond lengths are given in Å, Wiberg bond index and NPA charges in $|e^-|$.

Although synthesis of dilithiobenzene has been reported since the end of the 1950's,²⁴ and its isomers (*ortho-*, *meta-*, and *para-*

dilithiobenzene),^{25,26} the assumption of the formation of these species was based on the results of derivatization with several electrophiles.²⁷⁻²⁹ Theoretical studies about the electronic structure of dilithiobenzene are scarce in the literature, and a few DFT studies only considered a few forms containing six-membered rings. In such study, Bachrach and Miller examine the structures of all the possible polylithiated benzenes compounds using computational techniques.^{30,31} For dilithiobenzene they examined ortho-, meta-, and para- substitution positions (Figure 13) as well as locations where the lithium atoms can bridge two or six carbons atoms. They reported a structure, which corresponds to **B-02**, as the global minimum for dilithiobenzene. These classical structures (such as presented in Figure 13) were located within our exhaustive exploration: para- (B-07, 13.9) kcal/mol), meta- (B-11, 14.7 kcal/mol) and ortho-dilithiobenzene (B-19, 21.2 kcal/mol). These results show that neither of these structures correspond to the global minimum for dilithiobenzene, since lithium atoms prefer to bridge several carbon atoms or interact with the π -cloud of the ring system, hence the importance to carry out extensive explorations.



Figure 13. Isomers of dilithiobenzene.

The assumption of the formation of these species was based on the results of derivatization with several electrophiles. Still, such conclusions may be erroneous since the electrophiles and lithiating reagent (generally *tert*-butyllithium) may co-exist to some extent with the dilithiated species and hence the formation of a di-functionalized product may be the result of a double consecutive lithium exchange reaction (**Scheme 1**).³²



Scheme 1. Mechanism for the halogen-metal exchange of 1,2dibromobenzene, where a dilithiobenzene intermediary (blue) is possible.³²

Some patterns can be appreciated among the lower-lying energy structures up to 40 kcal/mol above the global minimum. (a) within the 20 kcal/mol, the 75% of the geometries are benzene-type structures (**Figure 14**), (b) between 20 and 40 kcal/mol most of the structures are linear or branched geometries (about 75%) and the few benzene-shaped ones are triplets (more results and structures are located in the supplementary section of this work).



Figure 14. Ten lowest-lying energy structures for $C_6H_4Li_2$ stoichiometry. The relative energies are given by the bolded blue values (singlets) in kcal/mol. Relative energies are at the TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level of theory including the zero-point energy (ZPE) corrections.

C₆H₃Li₃ stoichiometry

The exploration for such a combination shows a hydride-type compound **C-01** as the global minimum. In this structure, the lithiums promote the cleavage of C-C and C-H bonds, then one of them locates at the center of the figure, making it quasi-planar, and the other two lithium atoms stabilize the hydride ion. This arrangement adopts a C_s symmetry where the plane cuts the figure in half (**Figure 15**).



Figure 15. Zenith view of *C-01* with the symmetry plane that cuts in half the structure.

This form has two triple C-C bonds (1.245 Å, WBI = 2.746), two single C-C bonds (1.416 Å, WBI = 1.178) and one double C-C bond (1.367 Å, WBI = 1.678). The Li-H bonds (1.784 and 1.931Å) are longer than the reported for lithium hydride (1.595 Å).^{33,34} The central C-Li bonds are longer (2.101 and 2.250 Å) than the perimeter ones (1.989 Å), whose WBI are less than 0.100 and 0.111, respectively. Which indicates that the central C-Li bonds are again essentially ionic. The charge on the terminal carbons is -0.61 |e⁻|, for the hydride is -0.82 |e⁻| and for the central lithium is +0.82 |e⁻| and +0.89 |e⁻| for the perimeter ones, and +0.22 |e⁻| at H2. (**Figure 16**)



Figure 16. Bond lengths (Å), Wiberg bond index and NPA charges $|e^-|$ of **C-01** for $C_6H_3Li_3$ stoichiometry.

The AdNDP analysis shows and electron pair localized in H1 (ON = 1.82 |e⁻|), which corroborates its hydride character, two electron pairs on both C1 (ON = 1.87 |e⁻|), five C-C σ -bonds (ON = 1.98 |e⁻|), two C-H σ -bonds (ON = 1.97 |e⁻|), three C-C π -bonds (ON = 1.88 |e⁻|) and two C-C π -bonds (ON = 1.95 |e⁻|). For this structure, the charge transfer from the lithiums induces the cleavage of one C-C bond in the benzene, followed by the insertion of the lithium cations to stabilize a hydride ion (H⁻) and the organic fragment C₆H₂²⁻ (**Figure 17**).



Figure 17. AdNDP analysis for C-01 (ON is the occupation number).

Located at 4.9 kcal/mol (at CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP level) above the global minimum is **C-02**, a benzene-type arrangement with C_s symmetry, where one of the lithiums is above the ring and a pentacoordinate carbon atom (C1). The C-C and C-H bonds (1.412 - 1.448 Å for C-C and 1.092 Å for C-H) are quite similar to those in benzene, the C-Li bonds above the ring are longer (2.097 - 2.187 Å) than those on the plane (1.893 and 1.962 Å). The WBI for the C-Li is less than 0.100 for the longer bonds. The computed NPA charges on Li1 and both Li2 are +0.83 and +0.93 [e⁻], respectively. In this structure, the overall charge transfer from the lithiums to the carbons is slightly higher than in C-01 (+2.59 and +2.53 [e⁻], respectively), although the energy required to maintain the benzene ring makes **C-02** the second lowest-energy structure (**Figure 18**).



Figure 18. Bond lengths (Å), Wiberg bond index and NPA charges $|e^-|$ of **C-02** for C₆H₃Li₃ stoichiometry.

Due to their high value as synthetic intermediaries, several attempts had been made to obtain highly polylithiated benzenes, but most have failed to count a few exceptions, such as the reports of the synthesis of 1,3,5-trilithiobenzene by halogen/metal exchange reaction in extreme conditions,³⁵ and the claimed synthesis of the hexalithiobenzene. In this regard, it is worth mentioning the work carried out by Schlosser and coworkers in which they made several attempts to obtain trilithiobenzene by the triple substitution of trifluorobenzene but were able to only interchange at most two.³⁵ For trilithiobenzene, Bachrach and Miller examined 1,2,3-; 1,3,5-; 1,2,4- substitution positions as well as one or two lithium bridging all the carbon atoms.^{30,31} They claimed **C-02** as the global minimum for the C₆H₃Li₃ combination, and concluded that any attempt to substitute three or more halogens by lithium in halobenzene will fail. Thus, as the degree of substitution increases, disproportionation reactions begin to compete and therefore the exchange reaction becomes unfavorable.

In contrast, our results show that the charge transfer from the lithium atoms to carbon skeleton promotes the cleavage of C-C bonds by the insertion of one or all the lithium atoms into the ring. Most of them present linear or branched geometries, as well as arrangements of two organic fragments (C_2H^- and $C_4H_2^{2-}$) or H^- ions (**Figure 19**). Benzene shaped triplets were located at 35 kcal/mol or higher energies with respect to the global minimum (see supplementary section).



Figure 19. Ten lowest-lying energy structures for C₃H₃Li₃ stoichiometry. The relative energies are given by the bolded blue values (singlets) in kcal/mol. Relative energies are at the TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level of theory including the zero-point energy (ZPE) corrections.
C₆H₂Li₄ stoichiometry

The global minimum for such stoichiometry is **D-01** with C_s symmetry, where the two organic fragments share all four lithium atoms in common. The calculated C-C bond for the C_2^{2-} fragment is 1.259 Å, where its WBI indicates a carbon triple bond (2.935). The distances for the C-C bond is in excellent agreement with the reported 1.258 Å by Moreno et al.³⁶ for the monomer C₂Li₂. The presence of smaller organolithium fragments is not uncommon, Lagow has shown that pyrolysis of lithium compounds will lead to cleavage of C-C bonds by insertion of lithium atoms and the formation of smaller organic fragments, which eventually end in C₂Li₂ units.¹ On the other hand, the calculated C-C bonds for the $C_4H_2^{2-}$ are 1.248 Å for C4-C3 (WBI = 2.740), 1.441 Å for C3-C2 (WBI = 1.441) and 1.370 Å for C2-C1 (WBI = 1.860). The central C-Li bonds are longer (2.205 - 2.394 Å) than the perimeter ones (1.971 - 2.026 Å) and their WBI suggest that the central bonds have more ionic character (less than 0.100) than the perimeter ones (0.101 and 0.114). The computed NPA charges at the central and perimeter lithiums are +0.86 and +0.88 \sim +0.89 |e⁻|, respectively (**Figure 20**).



Figure 20. Bond lengths (Å), Wiberg bond index and NPA charges $|e^-|$ of D-01 for C₆H₂Li₄ stoichiometry.

The AdNDP analysis indicates the presence of four electron pairs (ON = 1.85 |e⁻|) localized at C1, C4, C5 and C6; four C-C σ -bonds (ON = 1.98 |e⁻|), two C-H σ -bonds (ON = 1.96 |e⁻|), three C-C π -bonds (ON = 1.92 |e⁻|), and two C-C π -bonds (ON = 1.95 |e⁻|). Therefore, we can visualize **D-01** as C₂Li₂ and C₄H₂Li₂ units, in which each of the bridging

lithium atoms links carbon atoms from the other organic fragment (**Figure 21**).



Figure 21. AdNDP analysis for **D-01** (ON is the occupation number).

The **D-02** structure is a slightly higher-energy isomer of **D-01** located at 2.1 kcal/mol (at CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP level) above the global minimum. This structure can be obtained from **D-01** by rotating the C₂Li₂ unit and redistributing the remaining lithium atoms, while retaining the C₂Li₂ unit and redistributing the remaining lithium atoms, while retaining the C₅ symmetry (**Figure 22**). The C-C bonds for the C₂²⁻ fragment (1.260 Å, WBI = 2.969) and for the C₄H₂²⁻ fragment (1.249, 1.445 and 1.375 Å; WBI = 2.745, 1.141 and 1.853, respectively) practically are the same to those in the previous one. The C-Li bonds are longer for the central lithiums (2.158 - 2.456 Å) than for the perimeter ones (2.048 - 2.161 Å), where the WBI are less than 0.100 and in the range of 0.100 to 0.114, respectively. The charges are -0.85 |e⁻| for C1 and C5, and -0.56 |e⁻| for C4, instead for the central lithiums are +0.87 |e⁻|, and +0.85 and +0.87 |e⁻| for the perimeter ones. These results indicate that the overall charge transfer from the lithium atoms to the carbons in the organic fragments increases from **D-01** to **D-02**.



Figure 22. Bond lengths (Å), Wiberg bond index and NPA charges $|e^-|$ of **D-02** for C₆H₂Li₄ stoichiometry.

The third lowest-energy form is **D-03**. The energy difference between **D-03** and the global minimum is 7.3 kcal/mol (at CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP level). The C-C bond for the $C_2^{2^-}$ fragment (1.261 Å, WBI = 2.932) does not change from the previous structures, but the $C_4H_2^{2^-}$ fragment presents subtle changes (1.260, 1.428 and 1.355 Å; WBI = 2.645, 1.271 and 1.869, respectively). The central C-Li bonds are longer (2.144 - 2.265 Å) than the perimeter ones (2.048 - 2.216) but the overall WBI is less than 0.100 (**Figure 23**). The highest computed charges are in the $C_2^{2^-}$ fragment (-0.90 and -0.85 |e⁻|), meanwhile for the $C_4H_2^{2^-}$ are -0.65 and -0.66 |e⁻| at C3 and C5, respectively. The charges of the lithiums are in the range of +0.86 to +0.89 |e⁻|. In overall the charge transfer from the lithiums to the carbons are practically the same as in **D-01**.



Figure 23. Bond lengths (Å), Wiberg bond index and NPA charges $|e^-|$ of **D-03** for C₆H₂Li₄ stoichiometry.

Increasing the degree of lithium substitution in benzene leads to further fragmentation instead to classical forms accordingly to our results (**Figure 24**). Although the lowest-lying energy structures are composed of $C_4H_2^{2-}$ and C_2^{2-} fragments, most of the geometries present C_2H^- and C_2^{2-} fragments. Arrangements of C_3H^{2-} fragments were also found but they correspond to high energy triplet structures (See supplementary section).



Figure 24. Ten lowest-lying energy structures for $C_6H_2Li_4$ stoichiometry. The relative energies are given by the bolded blue values (singlets) in kcal/mol. Relative energies are at the TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level, including the zero-point energy (ZPE) corrections.

C₆HLi₅ stoichiometry

The **E-01** structure was found as the global minimum for this system. It is composed of two $C_2^{2^-}$ and one C_2H^- fragments sharing all five lithium atoms in common. The calculated C-C bonds for $C_2^{2^-}$ and C_2H^- are 1.257 and 1.234 Å, respectively. Their WBI (2.961 - 2.964) indicates a carbon triple bond (**Figure 25**). The C-Li bonds are between 1.968 and 2.334 Å and most of them are ionic in nature (WBI 0.121 and below 0.100). The charges of both $C_2^{2^-}$ fragments are -0.80 and -0.93 |e⁻|, for the C_2H^- fragment are -0.44 and -0.65 |e⁻|, and for the lithiums are between +0.81 and +0.89 |e⁻|.



Figure 25. Bond lengths (Å), Wiberg bond index and NPA charges $|e^-|$ of **E-01** for C₆HLi₅ stoichiometry.

The AdNDP analysis shows five electron pairs (ON = 1.86 $|e^-|$) localized at C1, C2, C4, C5 and C6; three C-C σ -bonds (ON = 1.99 $|e^-|$), one C-H σ -bond (ON = 1.99 $|e^-|$), and six C-C π -bonds (ON = 1.97 $|e^-|$). Thus **E-01** structure can be understood as two C₂Li₂ units sharing both lithiums with Li⁺ cations that connect both C₂Li₂ with the C₂HLi fragment (**Figure 26**).



Figure 26. AdNDP analysis for E-01 (ON is the occupation number).

The isomer **E-02** is located 3.01 kcal/mol (at CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP level) above the global minimum. This structure can be obtained from **E-01** by rotating one C₂Li₂ unit and redistributing the remaining lithium atoms (**Figure 27**). The C-C bonds for both C₂²⁻ fragments and for the C₂H⁻ fragment basically are the same to those in the previous structure. The C-Li bonds are between 1.974 and 2.331 Å, their WBI suggests that most of them are basically ionic (0.117 and below 0.100). The charges for C₂²⁻ fragments are slightly different: at C5 and C6 are -0.83 and -0.88 |e⁻|, meanwhile at C3 and C4 are -0.92 and -0.79 |e⁻|, respectively. For the C₂H⁻ fragment are -0.45 and -0.65 |e⁻|, and for the lithiums are between +0.80 and +0.89 |e⁻|. These results indicate that the overall charge transfer from the lithium atoms to the carbons in the organic fragments decreases from **E-01** to **E-02**.



Figure 27. Bond lengths (Å), Wiberg bond index and NPA charges $|e^-|$ of **E-02** for C₆HLi₅ stoichiometry.

Our results indicate that the tendency to favor smaller fragments that lead to C_2^{2-} carbanions is maintained (**Figure 28**). Besides several stable structures are hydride-type compounds and the triplets are located at relative energies above the 35 kcal/mol (see supplementary section).



Figure 28. Ten Lowest-lying energy structures for C₆HLi₅ stoichiometry. The relative energies are given by the bolded blue values (singlets) in kcal/mol. Relative energies are at the TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level, including the zero-point energy (ZPE) corrections.

C₆Li₆ stoichiometry

In 1990, Baran and Lagow claimed the synthesis of hexalithiobenzene.^{37,38} and assumed a benzene-like structure for this compound. Due to their inconclusive data about the C₆Li₆ structure, and scarce theoretical and experimental information, Xie and Schaefer decided to carry out a preliminary theoretical study of this molecule using ab initio quantum-mechanical methods.³⁸ They restricted the search just to those molecular structures in which the carbon atoms are arranged in ring or cages. From that work we can highlight two structures: a benzene-like and a star-like structure (**Figure 29**).



Figure 29. Benzene-like stationary point (left) and star-like structure (right) for C_6Li_6 . The benzene-like structure lies 122 kcal/mol above the star-like structure.

At first, it was assumed that the structure of C_6Li_6 should be similar to the benzene, but Xie found that it has several imaginary frequencies at MP2/TZP level of theory, which means this stationary point is a saddle point and not a stable structure. The star-like structure was studied because it is known that lithium prefers bridging positions, as has been reported for alkyl lithium compounds.³ This D_{6h} structure was located 122 kcal/mol below the benzene-like structure and compared with some acyclic C_6Li_6 structures, but still the star-like structure was below them.

Shortly after, Smith reported a structure of C_6Li_6 whose energy lies substantially lower than the star-like one using early DFT methods.³⁹ Smith re-examined the previous structures and extended the search to include tightly clustered trimmers of C_2Li_2 units. With this approach, Smith was able to find several structures whose energy lies appreciably lower than that of the star-like structure. Among them, the lowest energy (80 kcal/mol below the star-like structure) is a D_3 symmetry structure, where each lithium connects carbon atoms of another C_2Li_2 unit.

In 2013, the group of Merino carried out an exhaustive examination of the C₆Li₆ PES using a genetic algorithm,³⁶ in which some of us reported a new asymmetrical minimum whose energy is 6 kcal/mol lower than the D_3 structure (**Figure 30**).



Figure 30. Low-lying structures of C_6Li_6 . From left to right their relative energies (at CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP level) are 82.9, 6.3 and 0.0 kcal/mol.³⁶

Our results support that the minimum suggested by Moreno et al. (**F-01**) is the most stable one for this stoichiometry. The calculated C-C (1.258 - 1.260 Å, WBI = 2.958 - 2.943) and C-Li bonds (2.030 - 2.233 Å, WBI less than 0.100 threshold) are in excellent agreement with what been already reported (**Figure 31**).³⁶ The computed NPA charges for the carbons are in the range of -0.83 to -0.89 |e⁻|, and for the lithium atoms are between +0.85 and +0.89 |e⁻| except for Li6, which has a significant lower charge (+0.78 |e⁻|)

	Bond	Length (Å)	WBI	Natural charge e ⁻
	$C_2 - C_1$	1.258	2.958	$C_1 = -0.83$
	C ₃ – C ₆	1.259	2.950	$C_2 = -0.88$
C ₅	C ₄ - C ₅	1.260	2.943	$C_3 = -0.84$
	C ₂ – Li ₃	2.090	0.077	$C_4 = -0.89$
Li ₃	C ₂ – Li ₆	2.233	0.065	$C_5 = -0.85$
	C ₂ – Li ₅	2.030	0.098	$C_6 = -0.87$
C ₂ C ₂	C ₁ – Li ₃	2.216	0.073	$Li_1 = +0.86$
	C ₁ – Li ₆	2.177	0.072	$Li_2 = +0.88$
C ₁ C ₃	C ₁ – Li ₂	2.044	0.104	$Li_3 = +0.85$
Li ₂	C ₃ – Li ₁	2.168	0.075	$Li_4 = +0.88$
F-01	C ₃ – Li ₆	2.199	0.071	$Li_5 = +0.89$
	C ₃ – Li ₂	2.048	0.103	$Li_6 = +0.78$

Figure 31. Bond lengths (Å), Wiberg bond index and NPA charges $|e^-|$ of **F-01** for C₆Li₆ stoichiometry.

The AdNDP analysis shows six electron pairs (ON = 1.86 $|e^-|$) localized at the carbon atoms; three C-C σ -bonds (ON = 1.99 $|e^-|$), and six C-C π -bonds (ON = 1.97 $|e^-|$). Therefore **F-01** structure can be visualized as three C₂Li₂ units sharing lithiums in common (**Figure 32**).



Figure 32. AdNDP analysis for F-01 (ON is the occupation number).

The second lowest-lying energy structure is **F-02**, this form adopts a D_3 symmetry and is located 6.3 kcal/mol (at CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP level) above the global minimum (**Figure 33**). All C-C bonds have the same length (1.258 Å) whereas two kinds of C-Li bonds can be distinguished: the shorter 2.045 Å corresponds to the distance from the lithium of one C₂Li₂ unit to the carbon of another unit; and the longer ones (2.146 and 2.180 Å) that correspond to the distance from the lithium atoms to the carbon

within the C₂Li₂ unit. The WBI for C-C and C-Li bonds are 2.977 and less than 0.100, respectively. Which suggests the important ionic character of the C-Li bonds. The NPA charges at carbons and lithiums are ± 0.85 |e⁻|, respectively. Which corroborates the ionic nature of the organolithium bonds. These results are in excellent agreement with what have been reported by Smith and Moreno.^{36,39}



Figure 33. Bond lengths (Å), Wiberg bond index and NPA charges $|e^-|$ of **F-02** for C₆Li₆ stoichiometry.

F-03 is the third lowest-lying energy form, whose calculated relative energy is 8.1 kcal/mol (at CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP level) with respect to the global minimum. It is composed of three C₂Li₂ units sharing several lithium atoms in common, in such a shape that reminiscences of a bell with C_s symmetry. All the C-C bonds are virtually the same (1.257 and 1.259 Å)with WBI of 2.960, indicating carbon triple bonds (Figure 34). The Li4 and Li5 present the shorter C-Li bonds (2.014 and 1.978 Å, WBI = 0.100 and 0.117, respectively) that connects two C₂Li₂ units, meanwhile the longer ones (2.014 - 2.412 Å) corresponds to the organolithium bonds within the C₂Li₂ unit. Their WBI for the longer C-Li bonds are less than 0.100, suggesting the predominant ionic character. The charges at C1, C2 and C3 are -0.81, -0.91 and -0.87 |e⁻|, respectively; for the central lithiums the charge is slightly lower (+0.85 and +0.80 $|e^{-}|$) than the perimeter ones $(+0.88 \text{ and } +0.90 |e^{-}|)$. These results indicate that the overall charge transfer from the lithiums to the carbon fragments is maintained throughout all the previous structures.

	Bond	Length (Å)	WBI	Natural charge e ⁻
Li	$C_1 - C_2$	1.257	2.960	$C_1 = -0.81$
	C ₃ – C ₃	1.259	2.960	$C_2 = -0.91$
	$C_1 - Li_1$	2.014	0.100	$C_3 = -0.87$
C_1 Li_2	$C_1 - Li_2$	2.149	0.066	$Li_1 = +0.88$
C_2	C ₁ – Li ₃	2.412	0.049	$Li_2 = +0.85$
Li ₃	$C_2 - Li_2$	2.258	0.064	$Li_3 = +0.80$
	C ₂ – Li ₃	2.263	0.067	$Li_4 = +0.90$
Li ₅	C ₂ – Li ₅	1.978	0.117	$Li_5 = +0.88$
C ₃	C ₃ – Li ₅	2.036	0.093	
Lia	C ₃ – Li ₃	2.374	0.052	
F 00	C ₃ – Li ₄	2.014	0.091	
F-03	Li ₂ – Li ₃	2.445	0.013	

Figure 34. Bond lengths (Å), Wiberg bond index and NPA charges $|e^-|$ of **F-03** for C₆Li₆ stoichiometry.

The exploration found several minima where most of them are composed by C_2Li_2 units and tend to form cage-shaped geometries (**Figure 35**). The first triplet structure is located at 46.1 kcal/mol above the global minimum (see the supplementary section).



Figure 35. Ten Lowest-lying energy structures for C_6Li_6 stoichiometry. The relative energies are given by the bolded blue values (singlets) in kcal/mol. Relative energies are at the TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level, including the zero-point energy (ZPE) corrections.

Chapter 3. Hexaalkali stoichiometries

Organolithium compounds are widely used in organic synthesis due to their great versatility as key intermediaries in organic synthesis. They are more reactive than the typical Grignard reagents,⁴⁰ an excellent alkylation reagents, and are used as initiators for some economically important polymerizations (styrene, isoprene, butadiene, etc).⁴¹⁻⁴⁶ All these applications have shadowed the chemistry of organometallic compounds of the heavier alkali metals, since these compounds are difficult to isolate and high reactivity that make them unsuitable for being present a intermediaries in synthesis.⁴⁷ Information on the structure and bonding in alkali-metal species has been mainly focused on lithium derivatives, while the heavier analogues have dealt with limited extent. For example, in a 2004 review article,⁴⁸ a search in the Cambridge Structural Database (CSD) revealed 778 structures with a C-Li bond, 197 with a C-Na bond, 235 with a C-K bond, 57 with a C-Rb bond, and just 31 with a C-Cs bond. Interestingly, there are more reports about compounds with C-K bond than C-Na bond, despite the increasing reactivity of the compounds as descending the group of alkali-metals. As frequently observed potassium, rubidium, and cesium compounds display somewhat similar chemistry, which typically differs from that of the lithium and sodium analogues.

As mentioned before, the slow development of heavy alkali organometallic chemistry is due to high reactivity, as rationalized by the increase of polar character of the metal – ligand bond due to the reduced polarizing ability of the metals. The increase in ionic character on descending the group of alkali-metals is clearly indicated by the increase in ionic radii:

- a) Li⁺ (0.69 Å)
- b) Na⁺ (0.97 Å)
- c) K⁺ (1.33 Å)
- d) Rb⁺ (1.47 Å)
- e) Cs⁺ (1.67 Å)

Further information supporting the similarity of organolithium and sodium compounds is the structural data on the solvent-free CH₃M (M = Li, Na). Using high-precision spectroscopy, a study revealed similar tetrahedral structures between the monomers of the methyl derivatives in gas phase, where they reported a 1.959 and 2.299 Å for the distances of C-Li and C-Na, respectively.⁴⁹ These data agree well with ab initio computations. Both CH₃Na and CH₃Li crystallize as tetramer, with the four

metal atoms at the corners of a tetrahedral and the methyl groups capping the faces. Instead potassium, rubidium and cesium methyl derivatives adopt the ionic lattice of the NiAs structure, in which the methyl groups are surrounded in trigonal prismatic fashion by the alkali-metals, while the metal coordination spheres are comprised of an octahedral environment provided by six methyl groups.^{50–52}

One of the most emblematic alkali organometallic compounds, due to their versatility and theory implications, is the alkali phenyl. The synthesis of C₆H₅M (M = Li, Na, K, Rb, and Cs) were already reported,⁵³ but crystallographic and electronic data is scarce. That is why several theoretical studies proposed alkali-based structures to create new lines of investigation. Tang et al. conducted a generalized gradient approximation (GGA) DFT study of the structure, electronic properties, and hydrogen storage capabilities of alkali atom coated clusters C₆M₆ (M = Li and Na).⁵⁴ One of their conclusions was that the most stable site for the alkali-metal is to bridge the C-C bond and form the star-like structure, which seems unlikely based on the results discussed in the previous Chapter.

So, we decided to explore the PES of C_6E_6 systems (E = Na, K, Rb, Cs) and locate the most stable structures, not only ring-based ones but also clustered trimers of C_2E_2 units, or any other type.

C₆Na₆ stoichiometry

The three lowest-lying structures are similar to their lithium analogues. The **G-01** is located as the global minimum, then **G-02**, which adopts a D_3 symmetry, and **G-03** are at 3.8 and 4.5 kcal/mol above (at CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP level), respectively. The calculated C-Na bonds are in the range of 2.419 - 2.700 Å (**Figure 36**). The WBI for all the C-Na bonds is less than 0.100 threshold, which indicates their ionic character. The presence of C₂²⁻ fragments in the structures is confirmed by their C-C bonds (1.262 - 1.264 Å, WBI = 2.983 - 2.990).

	Bond	Length (Å)	WBI	Natural charge e ⁻
	$C_2 - C_3$	1.262	2.987	$C_1 = -0.84$
C	$C_4 - C_1$	1.263	2.983	$C_2 = -0.85$
$Na_5 C_9 C_5 Na_3$	$C_{5} - C_{6}$	1.263	2.985	$C_3 = -0.84$
	$C_2 - Na_2$	2.448	0.080	$C_4 = -0.85$
	C ₂ – Na ₄	2.578	0.063	$C_5 = -0.86$
	$C_2 - Na_5$	2.399	0.111	$C_6 = -0.86$
Na ₄ C ₁	$C_3 - Na_2$	2.515	0.083	$Na_1 = +0.85$
	$C_3 - Na_4$	2.532	0.066	$Na_2 = +0.84$
	C ₃ – Na ₆	2.419	0.106	$Na_3 = +0.87$
Na	$C_4 - Na_1$	2.474	0.087	$Na_4 = +0.79$
Na ₆	$C_4 - Na_4$	2.534	0.067	$Na_5 = +0.88$
G-01	C ₄ – Na ₆	2.427	0.104	$Na_6 = +0.87$

Figure 36. Bond lengths (Å), Wiberg bond index and NPA charges $|e^-|$ of **G-01** for C₆Na₆ stoichiometry.

The AdNDP analysis shows six electron pairs (ON = 1.77 $|e^-|$) localized at the carbon atoms; three C-C σ -bonds (ON = 1.99 $|e^-|$), and six C-C π -bonds (ON = 1.96 $|e^-|$). This data shows that **G-O1** has similar bonding as in **F-O1** (**Figure 37**).



Figure 37. AdNDP analysis for G-01 (ON is the occupation number).

The computed NPA charges for **G-01** and **G-02** are: at the carbons between -0.84 and -0.86 |e⁻|, and at the sodium atoms +0.84 and +0.88 |e⁻| except for Na4 in **G-01**, which is lower (+0.79 |e⁻|). Both structures (**G-01** and **G-02**) have similar C-C bonds and charges as those in **F-01** and **F-02**, respectively (**Figure 38**). Given the larger size of sodium, the C-E distances are different to the lithium structures, nevertheless both lithium and sodium transfer virtually all their charge to the skeletal carbons.



Figure 38. Bond lengths (Å), Wiberg bond index and NPA charges $|e^-|$ of **G-02** for C₆Na₆ stoichiometry.

The **G-03** structure can be obtained from **G-01** by rotating one C_2^{2-} unit and redistributing all the sodium atoms. Such rotation does not affect the overall charge transfer from the sodium atoms to the carbons in C_2^{2-} units. Such structure is unique to the C_6Na_6 stoichiometry given that the longer C-Na distance can help to overcome the electrostatic repulsion between the Na⁺ cations (**Figure 39**).



Figure 39. Bond lengths (Å), Wiberg bond index and NPA charges $|e^-|$ of **G-03** for C₆Na₆ stoichiometry.

Most of the lower-lying structures (up to 7 kcal/mol) have the same geometry as their lithium counterparts. I. e. **G-04** and **F-07** both adopt $C_{2\nu}$

symmetry and the same shape, and only differ their C-E distances. At higher energies (above 7 kcal/mol) new geometries appear, like **G-09** which presents Na-Na bonds and the possible presence of a natride (Na⁻) anion (**Figure 40**). Another important difference is the lower relative energies for triplet structures, where the first triplet (**G-33**) is located at 17.7 kcal/mol above the global minimum. Instead the first triplet for C6Li6 stoichiometry (**F-12**) is located at 46.1 kcal/mol (see supplementary section).



Figure 40. Ten lowest-lying energy structures for C_6Na_6 stoichiometry. The relative energies are given by the bolded blue values (singlets) in kcal/mol. Relative energies are at the TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level, including the zero-point energy (ZPE) corrections.

C_6E_6 (E = K - Cs) stoichiometries

Unlike the lighter alkali metal stoichiometries, the heavier ones exhibit different structures (**Figure 41**). These systems present similar arrangements for their three lowest-energy structures, most of them are alkalide-type arrangements, and their triplets are close to the global minimum (below 5 kcal/mol).

Stoichiometry

Potassium	H-01	H-02	H-03
C ₆ K ₆	0.0 <i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A	1.7 C ₁ ¹ A	3.1 <i>C</i> ₁ ³ A
Rubidium	I-01	I-02	I-03
C ₆ Rb ₆	0.0 <i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A	0.9 C ₁ ¹ A	1.7 <i>C</i> _s ³ A'
Cesium	J-01	J-02	J-03
C ₆ Cs ₆	0.0 Cs ¹ A'	0.6 C1 ¹ A	0.7 C1 ³ A

Figure 41. Three lowest-lying energy structures for the C_6E_6 stoichiometries (E = K - Cs). The relative energies are given by the **bolded blue (singlets)** and **red values (triplets)** in kcal/mol. Relative energies are at the TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level, including the zero-point energy (ZPE) corrections.

The previous structures are composed of two dianionic fragments: C_2^{2-} and C_4^{2-} , where four metallic cations bridge and link each fragment. Due to having more metallic atoms than the necessary to stabilize both

organic fragments, some of them transfer part of their charge to another metallic atom, therefore stabilizing an alkalide-type ion (E^-) by metal-metal bonds. The computed NPA charges for $C_2^{2^-}$ and $C_4^{2^-}$ are in the ranges of [-1.70 to -1.87 | e^- |] and [-1.86 to -1.96 | e^- |], respectively. Throughout the lowest-lying energy structures of K, Rb and Cs stoichiometries, those fragments present the same data (**Table 1**).

Table 1. Bond lengths (Å), WBI and NPA charges of the organic fragments and alkali metal ions for the lowest-lying structures of the C_6E_6 stoichiometries (E = K - Cs).

	Length (Å)	WBI	NPA charge e ⁻
C ₂ ²⁻ bond			
C-C	1.265 - 1.266	3.001 - 2.968	-1.70 to -1.87
C4 ²⁻ bonds			
C _{term} – C _{int}	1.255 - 1.266	2.597 - 2.638	-1.86 to -1.06
C _{int} – C _{int}	1.372 - 1.379	1.237 - 1.376	-1.00 t0 -1.90
C-E bonds			E+
C-K	2.713 - 3.017	< 0.100	+0.57 to +0.93
C-Rb	2.873 - 3.117	< 0.100	+0.46 to +0.94
C-Cs	2.987 - 3.205	< 0.100	+0.57 to +0.95
E-E bonds			E
K-K	4.444 - 4.980	0.150 - 0.457	-0.35 to -0.40
Rb-Rb	4.315 - 5.362	0.164 - 0.451	-0.29 to -0.43
Cs-Cs	4.549 - 5.932	0.126 - 0.631	-0.02 to -0.24

The shape and charges are independent of the nature of the alkali metal. The calculated NPA charges (+0.46 and +0.57 $|e^-|$ for K, Rb and Cs) indicate that the alkali metal atoms do not transfer all their charge to the skeletal carbons and the charge of the alkalide ion is roughly the same.



Figure 42. AdNDP analysis for H-01 (ON is the occupation number).

Our AdNDP analysis of **H-01** (**Figure 42**) shows four electron pairs with an occupation number (ON) of 1.80 |e⁻|, four C-C σ -bonds (ON = 1.98 |e⁻|), 6 C-C π -bonds (ON = 1.98 |e⁻|), and one 4c-2e metallic bond (ON = 1.99 |e⁻|). Same bonding and similar ONs were obtained also in the AdNDP analysis of **I-01**. In the case of **J-01** was not possible to perform an AdNDP analysis due to the *multifwn*⁵⁵ program cannot support f orbitals for the cesium atoms.

The **H-02** and **I-02** structures present the same geometry and similar relative energies with respect to their global minimum (1.4 and 0.9 kcal/mol at CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP for potassium and rubidium, respectively), where the $C_2^{2^-}$ fragment is rotated circa 90° with respect to the plane formed by the $C_4^{2^-}$ and several alkali metal atoms. Such arrangement increases the length of the E-E bonds and makes the alkalide ion pointing out of the plane. **J-02** structure is related to the previous geometry since $C_4^{2^-}$ an extra C-Cs bond and pulls the alkalide ion closer to the organic fragment.

The heavier stoichiometries present triplet structures closer to the global minimum (3.7, 1.7 and 0.7 kcal/mol for first triplet of C_6K_6 , C_6Rb_6 and C_6Cs_6 stoichiometries, respectively) (**Figure 43**). Arrangements with only $C_2^{2^-}$ fragments are located at 5.5, 12.4 and 8.5 kcal/mol for **H-19**,

I-22 and **J-22**, respectively. Analogues related to **F-01** were found for potassium (**H-35** at 9.3 kcal/mol), rubidium (**I-26** at 18.7 kcal/mol) and cesium (**J-32** at 16.3 kcal/mol) stoichiometries. Only a D_3 symmetry analogue to **F-02** was found within the 20 kcal/mol for the potassium molecular system (**H-52** at 13.2 kcal/mol) (see supplementary section).



Figure 43. Ten lowest-lying energy structures for the C_6K_6 stoichiometry. The relative energies are given by the **bolded blue (singlets)** and **red values (triplets)** in kcal/mol. Relative energies are at the TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level, including the zero-point energy (ZPE) corrections.

Chapter 4. Conclusions

In this work the PESs of $C_6H_{6-n}Li_n$ (n = 1 - 6) and C_6E_6 (E = Li - Cs) stoichiometries were explored systematically using GLOMOS, where our results show that phenyllithium (A-01) as the global minimum for the C_6H_5Li stoichiometry, which is in agreement with what have been already reported in the literature. The AdNDP analysis and computed NPA charges indicate that the aromaticity of the ring is not affected because the lone pair at the *ipso* carbon is perpendicular to the π -system, so this structure can be visualized as a $C_6H_5^-$ anion interacting with a Li⁺ cation. For the $C_6H_4Li_2$ stoichiometry, we proposed a new global minimum (**B-01**) which is 4.4 kcal/mol (at CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP) below than the one reported by Bachrach et al. One of the lithium atoms in **B-01** structure bridge both carbon atoms with lone pairs, meanwhile the other lithium interacts with the π -cloud of the ring, hence stabilizing the C₆H₄²⁻ anion. The lowest-lying energy structure **C-01** for $C_6H_3Li_3$ stoichiometry is interesting, not only because it is located 4.9 kcal/mol (at CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP) below the former global minimum, but also presents a H^{-} anion. In this arrangement the lithium transfers virtually all their charge to the skeletal carbons, but a $C_6H_3^{3-}$ is not stable, thus the organic fragment redistributes their charge between H⁻ and $C_6H_2^{2-}$ anions. As the rate of lithium substitution in the benzene increases (n = 4 - 6) the lithium atoms promote the cleavage of the C-C bonds that lead to the formation of C_2H^- and C_2^{2-} fragments, as can be seen in **D-01**, **E-01** and **F-01**, respectively.

On the other hand, the lowest-lying structures for C_6Na_6 stoichiometry have similar shapes and symmetries as those in the C_6Li_6 system, i. e. **G-01** has similar arrangement and charges as **F-01**. But for the heavier alkali C_6E_6 stoichiometries (E = K, Rb and Cs) the most stable structures present two dianions (C_2^{2-} and C_4^{2-}) and an alkalide ion (E⁻). One requirement for the alkali metal to transfer its charge to the carbon atom is to be in direct contact with the organic fragment, which both lithium and sodium meet due to their relative small ionic radii (0.69 and 0.97 Å, respectively) and the compact structures they adopt. Instead, the heavier alkali metals (K, Rb and Cs) have longer ionic radii (1.33, 1.47 and 1.67 Å, respectively) which make that only few of them close enough to transfer their charge to the carbon atoms and those who are further retain their charge and establish E-E metallic bonds. The AdNDP analysis and computed NPA charges corroborate the formation of C_4^{2-} fragment and the stabilization of such E⁻ anion.

Few DFT calculations for polylithiathed benzenes have been reported in the literature, but such studies are limited to benzene-shaped arrangements and classical structures. Therefore, in this work we proposed lower-lying energy structures than those reported for the C₆H_{6-n}Li_n stoichiometries. Also, our results indicate that charge transfer between the sodium and lithium is practically the same, and the arrangements they present are similar, therefore sodium has a promising potential as an alternative for lithium ion batteries. So, the computations performed in this thesis are a milestone toward the possible application of sodium ions as a substitute in future battery generation. Also, we are interested in the chemistry and structures of C₆H_{6-x}E_x stoichiometries (x = 1 - 6, E = Na -Cs) as possible substitutes as intermediaries in organic synthesis or as new materials for hydrogen storage.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

All the structures found in each exploration are showed next. The relative energies calculated at TPSS+D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP including the ZPE correction are given in bolded blue for singlets and red for triplets.



C₆H₄Li₂ stoichiometry



		The second		<pre>/</pre>
B-21 21.8 C ₁ ¹ A	B-22 22.7 $C_{2\nu}$ ¹ A ₁	B-23 24.4 <i>C</i> _s ¹ A'	B-24 25.5 <i>Cs</i> ¹ A'	B-25 25.9 <i>Cs</i> ¹ A'
y tot	y and		y ty to	¥.
B-26 26.2 Cs ¹ A'	B-27 26.4 <i>Cs</i> ¹ A'	B-28 27.1 <i>C</i> s ¹ A'	B-29 27.5 <i>C</i> s ¹ A'	B-30 27.6 C ₁ ³ A
		XA		
B-31 27.6 C ₁ ¹ A	Β-32 27.9 C _s ¹ Α'	B-33 28.3 C _s ¹ A'	B-34 29.4 <i>Cs</i> ¹ A'	B-35 29.5 C ₁ ¹ A
			÷,	
B-36 29.7	B-37 29.7	B-38 29.8	B-39 31.1	B-40 31.2
C_1 ¹ A	C_1 ¹ A	<i>Cs</i> ³ A″	C_1 ¹ A	C_1 ¹ A



B-41

31.9

 C_1 ¹A



B-42

32.1

 C_1 ¹A







 B-43
 B-44
 B-45

 32.4
 32.9
 33.1

 C1 1A
 C1 1A
 C1 1A









B-46B-47B-48B-49B-5033.133.133.133.333.4 C_1 1A C_1 1A C_1 1A C_1 1A C_s $^1A'$



B-51

33.4

 C_1 ¹A



















B-56
34.9B-57
35.4B-58
36.0B-59
36.1B-60
36.1 C_1 1A C_s $^1A'$ C_s $^1A'$ C_1 3A C_1 3A











B-61	B-62	B-63	B-64	B-65
<mark>36.6</mark>	36.7	36.8	37.6	<mark>37.8</mark>
C_1 ¹ A	C_1 ¹ A	<i>C</i> _{2v} ³ A ₁	C_1 ¹ A	C_1 ¹ A









B-66	B-67	B-68	B-69
38.7	38.8	39.8	<mark>40.0</mark>
C_1 ¹ A	<i>Cs</i> ³ A′	<i>Cs</i> ¹ A′	<i>Cs</i> ¹ A′

C₆H₃Li₃ stoichiometry

X			\rightarrow	
C-01	C-02	C-03	C-04	C-05
0.0	6.7	14.9	15.2	15.7
<i>Cs</i> ¹ A'	<i>Cs</i> ¹ A'	C ₁ ¹ A	<i>Cs</i> ¹ A'	<i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A
Y A		X		
C-06	C-07	C-08	C-09	C-10
16.2	16.2	17.8	18.6	20.4
<i>C</i> ₅ ¹ A′	<i>C</i> _s ¹ A'	<i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A	<i>C</i> _s ¹ A'	<i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A
		\sim		
C-11	C-12	C-13	C-14	C-15
20.5	21.1	21.2	21.8	22.0
<i>C</i> _s ¹ A'	<i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A	C_1 ¹ A	<i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A	<i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A
C-16	C-17	C-18	C-19	C-20
22.5	22.6	22.7	22.8	23.0
C ₁ ¹ A	C ₁ ¹ A	<i>C</i> _s ¹ A'	C ₁ ¹ A	<i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A





C-32

26.9

 C_s ¹A'







C-21
23.1C-22
23.2C-23
23.2C-24
23.5C-25
24.1 C_1 'A C_1 'A C_s 'A' C_1 'A

-\



C-26C-27C-28C-29C-3024.625.226.126.126.2 $C_s \ ^1A'$ $C_1 \ ^1A$ $C_s \ ^1A'$ $C_1 \ ^1A$ $C_s \ ^1A'$

C-33

27.4

 C_1 ¹A



C-31

26.7

 C_1 ¹A







 C-34
 C-35

 27.6
 29.6

 C1 ¹A
 C1 ¹A



C-36

29.7

 C_1 ¹A





 C-37
 C-38
 C-39
 C-40

 30.0
 30.1
 30.2
 31.9

 C₁ ¹A
 C₁ ¹A
 C₁ ¹A
 C₁ ¹A

	~	À		×,
C-41 32.0 C_1 ¹ A	C-42 32.1 C_s ¹ A'	C-43 32.8 C_1 ¹ A	C-44 32.9 C_1 ¹ A	C-45 33.3 <i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A
¥A				
C-46 33.6 <i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A	C-47 33.8 C_1 ¹ A	C-48 33.9 C ₁ ¹ A	C-49 33.9 <i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A	C-50 34.0 C_1 ¹ A
••••	for a			
C-51 34.3 $C_{2\nu}$ ¹ A ₁	C-52 34.6 <i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A	C-53 34.6 <i>C</i> s ¹ A'	C-54 34.9 C ₁ ¹ A	C-55 35.1 <i>C</i> _s ¹ A'
		-		
C-56 35.1	C-57 35.1	C-58 35.2	C-59 35.4	C-60 35.4
C_1 ¹ A	Cs ¹ A'	C_1 ¹ A	<i>C</i> ₁ ³ A	C_1 ³ A

C-61 35.9 C₅ ³ A″	C-62 36.0 C1 ¹ A	C-63 36.0 C1 ¹ A	C-64 36.3 Cs ³ A''	C-65 36.7 C1 ¹ A
C-66 36.8 C ₁ ¹ A	C-67 36.8 C ₁ ³ A	C-68 36.9 C1 ¹ A	C-69 37.0 <i>Cs</i> ¹ A'	C-70 37.5 <i>Cs</i> ³ A''
		A.		Jose H
C-71 37.8 C ₁ ¹ A	C-72 38.0 C ₁ ¹ A	C-73 38.1 C ₁ ³ A	C-74 38.4 C ₁ ¹ A	C-75 38.7 Cs ¹ A'
C-76 38.7	C-77 38.9	C-78 38.9	C-79 39.4	C-80 40.0
C_1 ¹ A	<i>Cs</i> ¹ A′	C_1 ¹ A	<i>C</i> ₁ ³ A	<i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A

C₆H₂Li₄ stoichiometry






D-26 18.9	D-27 19.0	D-28 19.1	D-29 21.1	D-30 22.2
<i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A	C_1 ¹ A	C_1 ¹ A	C_1 ¹ A	<i>C</i> ₂ ¹ A
×				×,
D-31 22.3	D-32 23.0	D-33 23.7	D-34 24.2	D-35 25.2
<i>C</i> ₁ ³ A	C_2 ¹ A	C_1 ¹ A	<i>Cs</i> ¹ A′	C_1 ¹ A
				-
D-36 25.3	D-37 26.1	D-38 26.4	D-39 26.5	D-40 28.2

 $C_1 \ ^1 A$ $C_1 \ ^1 A$ $C_1 \ ^1 A$ $C_s \ ^1 A'$ $C_1 \ ^1 A$





D-42

30.1

D-47

33.4

 C_1 ¹A

D-52

35.7

C₂ ³B



D-43

30.6

 C_1 ¹A



D-44

30.8

*C*₁ ³A

D-49

35.0

 C_1 ¹A



D-45

31.4

 C_1 ¹A

D-41 29.4 C₁ ¹A





D-48

33.9

 C_1 ¹A





D-46 32.2 C_1 ¹A



D-51

35.6

 C_s ¹A'

D-56 36.4

 $C_1 {}^{3}A$







D-50

35.1

D-54 D-55 36.1 36.2 C_1 ¹A C_1 ¹A





D-53

35.8

 C_1 ¹A







D-57	D-58	D-59	D-60
36.8	38.2	38.3	<mark>38.5</mark>
<i>C</i> ₁ ³ A	C_{2v} ³ B ₁	C ₂ ³ B	<i>Cs</i> ³ A"











 D-61
 D-62
 D-63
 D-64
 D-65

 38.6
 38.7
 38.9
 39.3
 39.4

 C1 ¹A
 C1 ¹A
 C1 ¹A
 Cs ¹A'
 C1 ¹A











.

	D-66 39 4	D-67	D-68	D-69	D-70
$L_1 \stackrel{\bullet}{\rightarrow} A \qquad L_1 \stackrel{\bullet}{\rightarrow} A \qquad L_1 \stackrel{\bullet}{\rightarrow} A \qquad L_2 \stackrel{\circ}{\rightarrow} A \qquad L_2 \stackrel{\sim}{\rightarrow} A \rightarrow L_2 \stackrel{\sim}{\rightarrow} $	C_1 ¹ A	$C_1 {}^3A$	C_1 ¹ A	C_1 ¹ A	C_2 ³ B

C₆HLi₅ stoichiometry







E-22

22.0



E-23

23.3



E-24

24.6

 C_s ¹A'



E-25

25.1

 C_1 ¹A

E-21 21.3 C₁ ¹A







E-26
25.8E-27
26.8E-28
27.5E-29
27.6E-30
28.0 $C_1 \ {}^1A$ $C_s \ {}^1A'$ $C_{2v} \ {}^1A_1$ $C_1 \ {}^1A$ $C_s \ {}^1A'$





E-31
29.2E-32
29.8E-33
30.1E-34
30.1E-35
30.6 C_1 1A C_1 1A C_1 1A C_s $^1A'$ C_1 1A





E-37

35.9

Cs ³A′



E-38 <mark>36.0</mark>

 C_{2v} ¹A₁





E-36 30.9

Cs ¹A′



E-41

40.6

*C*₁ ³A



E-39

36.6

E-40	
39.0	

Cs ¹A′



E-42 41.0

*C*₁ ³A

C₆Li₆ stoichiometry









F-04

12.4

 C_1 ¹A



F-05 12.7

 C_1 ¹A

F-01 0.0 C_1 ¹A

F-02 <mark>8.5</mark> *D*₃ ¹A₁

F-03 10.7 C_s ¹A'





F-06	F-07
13.4	15.8
<i>Cs</i> ¹ A′	C_{2v} ¹ A ₁

Cs ¹A′



F-09		F-3	10
33.0		37	'.5
Cs	¹ A′	C_1	¹ A



F-07

F-11 37.5 C_1 ¹A







F-12

*C*₁ ³A

C₆Na₆ stoichiometry

















G-41	G-42	G-43	G-44
19.3	19.5	19.7	20.0
<i>C</i> ₁ ³ A	C_1 ³ A	C_1 ¹ A	<i>Cs</i> ¹ A′

C₆K₆ stoichiometry









9.3 *Cs* ¹A' H-38 9.9 C₁ ³A

H-37

9.5

 C_1 ¹A













H-41
10.6H-42
10.6H-43
10.6H-44
10.7H-45
11.0 $C_s \ ^1A'$ $C_s \ ^1A'$ $C_1 \ ^3A$ $C_1 \ ^1A$ $C_1 \ ^3A$



H-46	H-47	H-48	H-49	H-50
11.5	<mark>11.6</mark>	12.0	12.2	12.3
<i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A	<i>Cs</i> ¹ A′	<i>Cs</i> ³ A′	<i>C</i> ₁ ¹ A	C_1 ¹ A



 C_1







H-51 13.2	H-52 13.2	H-53 13.3	H-54 13.5	H-55 <mark>13.6</mark>
<i>Cs</i> ¹ A′	<i>C</i> ₂ ¹ A	<i>Cs</i> ¹ A′	<i>Cs</i> ¹ A′	<i>Cs</i> ¹ A′

H-56	H-57	H-58
15.3	<mark>18.8</mark>	<mark>19.7</mark>
<i>Cs</i> ¹ A′	<i>C</i> ₂ ¹ A	<i>Cs</i> ¹ A′

C₆Rb₆ stoichiometry





I-	16
4	. <mark>3</mark>
C_1	^{1}A

4.5 C₁ ³A

I-17

I-18 5.0 *C*₁ ³A

I-19 I-20

5.4

 $C_1 \, {}^{3}A$

11.0 C_{2v} ¹A₁





I-22

12.4

 C_{2v} $^{1}A_{1}$







I-: 11	21 <mark>6</mark>	
C_1	^{1}A	

 C_{2h} ¹A_g

I-23

12.7

I-25 17.3

 C_1 ¹A



I-24

16.1

 C_1 ¹A

I-26	I-27
18.7	20.6

 $C_1 \quad {}^1\mathsf{A} \qquad \qquad C_s \quad {}^1\mathsf{A}'$

C₆Cs₆ stoichiometry













J-16	J-17	J-18	J-19	J-20
<mark>4.1</mark>	<mark>4.5</mark>	<mark>5.8</mark>	<mark>6.3</mark>	<mark>6.3</mark>
C1 ³ A	<i>C</i> ₁ ³ A			











J-21	J-22	J-23	J-24	J-25
7.4	<mark>8.5</mark>	<mark>8.9</mark>	<mark>9.7</mark>	<mark>10.3</mark>
<i>C</i> ₁ ³ A	C_{2v} ${}^{1}A_{1}$	<i>C</i> ₁ ³ A	<i>C</i> ₁ ³ A	<i>Cs</i> ¹ A′











J-26 J-27 J-28 J-29 J-30 11.4 12.0 12.7 13.5 14.3 C_s ¹A' C_s ¹A' C_1 ¹A $C_1 {}^{3}A$ $C_1 {}^{3}A$



J-31		J-32	
14.8		<mark>16.3</mark>	
Cs	¹ A′	C_1	^{1}A

J-34	J-35	
17.8	18.4	
C _s ¹ A'	C_1 ³ A	



J-33 17.1

Cs ¹A'

J-36 <mark>19.0</mark>

*C*₁ ³A

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