## The Structural Dichotomy of Substituted $1,3\lambda^4\sigma^2,2,4$ -Benzodithiadiazines

Irina Yu. Bagryanskaya, Alexander Yu. Makarov, Yuri V. Gatilov

N.N. Vorozhtsov Novosibirsk Institute of Organic Chemistry, Sibirian Branch Russian, 630090, Novosibirsk, Russia Fax: +7 (383 2) 34 4752. E-mail: <u>bagryan@nioch.nsc.ru</u>

 $1,3\lambda^4\sigma^2,2,4$ -Benzodithiadiazines, hyperelectronic ( $\pi$ - and  $\sigma$ -excessive) and antiaromatic (12 $\pi$ -electron) heterocycles, reveal high and varied heteroatom reactivity



along with interesting structural dichotomy. According to X-ray crystallography and gas electron diffraction, as well as post-HF and DFT calculations, these compounds are structurally non-rigid because they posses a low-energy vibrational mode that allows the molecule to be deformed easily upon going from the gas phase to the solid. As a consequence, two types of molecular geometry, one

perfectly planar and another significantly bent along the  $S^1...N^4$  line, are observed both for free molecules and those packed in the crystal.

This work presents X-ray molecular geometries for a number of variously substituted  $1,3\lambda^4\sigma^2,2,4$ -benzodithiadiazines. For the parent compound [1] and its substituted derivatives with R = 7-OCH<sub>3</sub>, 5-CF<sub>3</sub>, 6-F, 7-Br, 5,6,8-F<sub>3</sub> and 5,6,7-F<sub>3</sub> the molecules are planar in the solid state, whilst in the case of R = 6,8-F<sub>2</sub>, 6-CH<sub>3</sub>, 5-OCH<sub>3</sub>, 5-Br, 8-Br, 5,6,7,8-F<sub>4</sub> and 5,7-t-Bu<sub>2</sub> they are bent along the S<sup>1</sup>...N<sup>4</sup> line by up to 25.2° (for 5,7-t-Bu<sub>2</sub> derivative). Of the two crystallographically independent molecules of the 6-Br derivative, one is perfectly planar whereas the other is bent by 3.1°, which directly indicates the importance of packing effects of the crystal lattice.



The bond lengths in studied compounds are typical. In the  $N^2 = S^3 = N^4$  fragment, the bond lengths are nearly identical for R = 7-OCH<sub>3</sub>, 5-CF<sub>3</sub>, 6-F, 8-Br and 5,6,7-F<sub>3</sub>, whilst for R = 6,8-F<sub>2</sub>, 6-CH<sub>3</sub>, 5- OCH<sub>3</sub>, 5-Br, 6-Br, 7-Br, 5,6,8-F<sub>3</sub> and 5,7-t-Bu<sub>2</sub> they are markedly different. Thus, the S=N double bonds' length position does not depend on the type of molecular geometry - planar or bent.

The X-ray solid-state geometries of  $1,3\lambda^4\sigma^2,2,4$ -benzodithiadiazines are also compared with those from gas electron diffraction experiments and non-empirical quantum chemical calculations.

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