

A NOVEL FORMULA FOR THE TOTAL π -ELECTRON
ENERGY OF ALTERNANT HYDROCARBONS

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Abstract. A novel total π -electron energy formula for alternant hydrocarbons is derived which is equivalent to the smaller root of a parabolic function of E in parametric form. The topological parameter, R , is found to be confined into a narrow range. An upper bound for E which is linear in form is obtained.

1. Introduction

The total π -electron energy (E) of conjugated hydrocarbons varies depending on topological variations occurring among them. So far, very many topological formulas have been suggested (1-15) for E (or bounds for E) of conjugated systems, especially for alternant hydrocarbons. The topic has been frequently appeared in the literature (9,16).

Various theoretical considerations of the total π -electron energy, using quite dissimilar approaches

resulted in topological formulas of the McClelland-type (1) and it has been unequivocally established that the gross part of E is determined by only two topological invariants, namely the number of carbon atoms (N) and the number of carbon-carbon bonds (e) (9,16). The role of other graph invariants is much more obscure and their effects are collectively included in the angle of total π -electron energy (13,17). Many years ago, Hall reported (10,11) a formula for E of benzenoid hydrocarbons which exhibits a linear dependence on N , e and the number of Kekule structures. Obviously, it is different from the McClelland-type formulas which are nonlinear in N and e .

In the present study, within the Hückel molecular orbital (HMO) approach a parametric formula for the total π -electron energy of alternant hydrocarbons has been derived which is linear in N and e .

2. Theory

Let $G(2n, e)$ be the graph of a conjugated hydrocarbon represented in the usual manner (18). Let $X_1 \geq X_2 \geq \dots \geq X_n$ be the eigenvalues of the adjacency matrix (standing for the occupied molecular orbitals (19)). The total π -electron energy (in β units) conforms to the relation

$$E = 2 \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \quad (1)$$

where n is half the number of carbon atoms .

Now , let vectors A and B in an n -dimensional Euclidean

linear space be defined as

$$A(1,1,\dots,1) \quad \text{and} \quad B(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$$

Then, the scalar product (20) of these vectors is equal to $E/2$, hence it yields (13)

$$E = 2(en)^{1/2} \cos O_\pi \quad (2)$$

where O_π is the angle between vectors A and B (Fig.1).

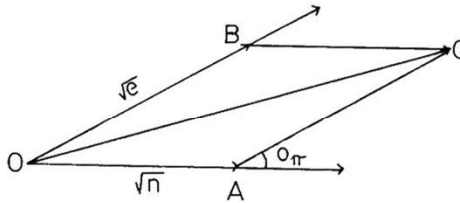


Fig.1 . The relation between e, n and O_π .

By using the cosine theorem one gets

$$\overline{OC}^2 = n + e + 2(ne)^{1/2} \cos O_\pi \quad (3)$$

$$\overline{AB}^2 = n + e - 2(ne)^{1/2} \cos O_\pi \quad (4)$$

then by adding eqs.3 and 4 one obtains

$$\overline{OC}^2 + \overline{AB}^2 = 2(e+n) \quad (5)$$

whereas subtracting eq.4 from eq.3 and considering eq.2, eq.6 is produced.

$$\overline{OC}^2 - \overline{AB}^2 = 4(en)^{1/2} \cos O_{\Pi} = 2E \quad (6)$$

Now , construct a right angle triangle which possesses \overline{OC} as the base, $\hat{C} = \beta$ (Fig.2) and $\overline{BC} = (2(e+n))^{1/2}$. Then, evidently due to the theorem of Pythagoras the height, \overline{OB} , is equal to \overline{AB} because of eqs.3 and 5. Finally, construct another right angle triangle such that \overline{OC} , this time is the hypotenus , $\hat{C} = \alpha$ and $\overline{CB'} = (2E)^{1/2}$ (Fig.2) . Then, obviously, eq.6 necessitates $\overline{OB'} = \overline{AB}$. Note that $\overline{AB}^2 = n + e - E$, $\overline{OC}^2 = n + e + E$ (see eqs.2,3 and 4) and from Fig.2, evidently $\sin \alpha = \tan \beta$.

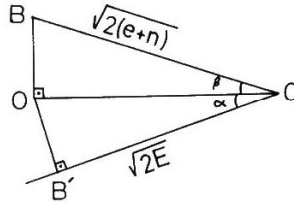


Fig.2 A different geometrical relation between e,n and E.

Since, in triangle OCB , $\tan \beta = \overline{OB}/\overline{OC}$, inserting the equivalents of \overline{OB} and \overline{OC} (eqs. 3 and 4) into the above expression for $\tan \beta$ and then squaring both sides of the equation one gets

$$\tan^2 \beta = (e + n - E)/(e + n + E) \quad (7)$$

solving for E results in

$$E = (e + n)(1 - \tan^2 \beta)/(1 + \tan^2 \beta) \quad (8)$$

or

$$E = (e + n)(1 - \tan^2 \beta) / \sec^2 \beta \quad (9)$$

Note that $\tan^2 \beta \leq 1$ due to eq.7 .

On the other hand, squaring both sides of eq.7 and then adding the denominator to the numerator and subtracting numerator from the denominator , one gets

$$\frac{(\tan^4 \beta + 1)}{(1 - \tan^4 \beta)} = \frac{(e + n)^2 + E^2}{2E(e + n)} \equiv R \quad (10)$$

Note that $R \geq 1$. By rearranging eq.10, one obtains an equation for a parabola in the parametric form.

$$E^2 - 2(e + n)RE + (e + n)^2 = 0 \quad (11)$$

and

$$\tan \beta = ((R - 1)/(R + 1))^{1/4} \quad (12)$$

Eq.11 yields

$$E = (e + n)(R - (R^2 - 1)^{1/2}) \quad (13)$$

Note that the other solution of eq.11 has to be discarded for E (see the appendix).

A Lower Bound For R.

Combining eqs.2 and 13, solving for $\cos \theta_{\pi}$ and using the property that $\cos \theta_{\pi} \leq 1$ one obtains

$$\cos \theta_{\pi} = ((e+n)/2(en)^{1/2})(1-(1-1/R^2)^{1/2})R \leq 1 \quad (14)$$

Rearranging ineq.14 yields

$$R \leq (2(ne)^{1/2}/(e+n))(1-(1-1/R^2)^{1/2})^{-1} \quad (15)$$

Note that $R \geq 1$ (see eq.10). Hence, the right hand side of ineq.15 becomes

$$(2(ne)^{1/2}/(e+n))(1-(1-1/R^2)^{1/2})^{-1} \geq 1 \quad (16)$$

Solving for R yields

$$R \geq (1-(1-2(en)^{1/2}/(e+n))^2)^{-1/2} \quad (17)$$

An Upper Bound For R.

Since, for alternant hydrocarbons $\cos O_{\pi} \geq 0.5$ (13,14), ineq.14 can be modified to yield

$$\cos O_{\pi} = ((e+n)/2(en)^{1/2})(1-(1-1/R^2)^{1/2})R \geq 0.5 \quad (18)$$

Solving ineq.18 for R one obtains

$$R \leq ((e+n)^2 + en)/2(e+n)(en)^{1/2} \quad (19)$$

Estimation of E.

Since, $R \geq 1$, let $R = 1+a$ where a represents a small perturbation. Then, express eq.13 in terms of a .

$$E = (e+n)(1+a - (a^2 + 2a)^{1/2}) \quad (20)$$

Taking the first derivative it can be shown that eq.20 is monotonically decreasing function of a and its maximum value is for $a=0$. Thus, an upper bound for E is obtained .

$$E \leq (e+n) \quad (21)$$

Hence, one can estimate E as

$$E \approx (e+n)P \quad (22)$$

where $0 < P \leq 1$.

3. Results and Discussion

Eq.11 represents a parabola where R is a parameter characteristic for the molecule being considered. The solution of eq.11 is highly dependent on R . For instance , ethylene possesses $R=1$ and double roots are produced. For other alternant hydrocarbons two distinct roots exist. Of these, the smaller root yields E value. The other root is a complementary one (E_c) (see the appendix).

Table 1. tabulates the upper and the lower bounds for R as e/n ratio changes between 1 through 3. As it is seen, the variation of R is very limited.

Table 1.

The upper and the lower bounds for R as e/n varies.

<u>e/n</u>	<u>Upper bound (Eq.19)</u>	<u>Lower bound (Eq.17)</u>
1	1.2500	1.0000
2	1.2963	1.0016
3	1.3712	1.0090

A search for R values of various alternant hydrocarbons revealed that R is closer to its lower bound expressed by ineq.17. For instance, a set of benzenoid hydrocarbons (21) possesses the mean value of R as 1.01781 (SDEV: 1.80074

10^{-3}). For annulenes of up to $2n=30$, R varies between 1.0069 (benzene) and 1.0833 (cyclobutadiene). In the case of homologous annulenes R alternately increases or decreases depending on whether $4m$ or $4m+2$ type annulene being considered.

On the other hand, the value of P is close to 1. A set of benzenoid hydrocarbons (21) possesses 0.828535 (SDEV: 0.008752) as the mean of P . In general, P is comparable to McClelland's factor, 0.92 which is suitable for the nonlinear E formula (eq.2) and stands for $\cos O_H$.

4. Conclusion

In the present study, a parabolic function of E is derived which gives E of the alternant hydrocarbons as a function of e, n and R . The later one is a parameter and its variation produces E of the isomers if e and n are kept constant. Actually, R changes in a rather narrow range, hence it stands for very fine topological contributions into E . On the other hand, the physical importance of E_c , the other root of eq.11, ought to be investigated.

Appendix

The other root of eq.13 is not a proper value for E because E_c is equal to

$$E_c = (e+n)(R+(R^2-1)^{1/2}) \quad (23)$$

Since, $R \geq 1$ (see eq.10) then eq.23 requires

$$E_c \geq e+n \quad (24)$$

On the other hand, McClelland's bound ($E \leq 2(ne)^{1/2}$) holds for E . Hence, $E = E_c$ requires that

$$e+n \leq E_c \leq 2(ne)^{1/2} \quad (25)$$

Squaring the right and leftmost sides of ineq.25 and then rearranging one obtains

$$(e-n)^2 \leq 0 \quad (26)$$

Obviously, ineq.26 is invalid for real numbers. Hence, the possibility of $E = E_c$ has to be discarded.

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