The Standard Enthalpy of Formation of Diphenylborinic Acid

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THE value of the standard enthalpy of formation, ΔH_f^0, of diphenylborinic acid, Ph_2BOH, is of peculiar importance, since the acid results from the simple hydrolysis of many diphenylboron compounds:

$$Ph_2B{\cdot}R \xrightarrow[\text{step 1}]{\text{hydrolysis}} Ph_2BOH \xrightarrow[\text{step 2}]{\text{aq. oxidation}} PhOH + B(OH)_3$$

R = halogen, ester, thioester, *etc.*

Hence if ΔH_f^0 of Ph_2BOH is known, a knowledge of the enthalpy of reaction of step 1 permits evaluation of the standard enthalpy of formation of any appropriate parent boron compound; thermochemically, therefore, diphenylborinic acid is a "key" compound in arylboron chemistry.

Previous work[1] on diphenylboron compounds, and relevant (*e.g.*, bond-energy) calculations, relied on an *estimate* of ΔH_f^0 for Ph_2BOH. This Communication summarises the experimental determination of this quantity using solution–reaction-calorimetric techniques described elsewhere.[2]

Two reactions were studied thermochemically at 75°: (i) hydrolysis of diphenylboron chloride in a saturated aqueous solution of diphenylborinic acid (step 1), and (ii) oxidative hydrolysis

of diphenylboron chloride in a solution 0·1M with respect both to hydrogen peroxide and to sodium hydroxide (steps 1 and 2). Using standard ancillary data,[3] the following results were derived:

$\Delta H_f^0[Ph_2BOH]_{(l)} = \pm 77{\cdot}4 \pm 1{\cdot}8$ kcal.mole^{-1}

$\Delta H_f^0[Ph_2BCl]_{(l)} = -31{\cdot}9 \pm 1{\cdot}8$ kcal.mole^{-1}

At 25°, diphenylborinic acid is an intractable oil;[4] this is the standard state.

From previously reported experiments[1] on the heat of reaction of diphenylboron bromide with water we also derive:

$\Delta H_f^0[PhBBr]_{(l)} = -16{\cdot}1 \pm 1{\cdot}9$ kcal.mole^{-1}

It is interesting to note that the value of $\Delta H_f^0[Ph_2BOH_{(l)}]$ reported here is in good agreement with a previous estimate (−78 kcal.mole^{-1}). The latent heats of vaporization of both diphenylborinic chloride and diphenylborinic bromide are known,[1] and hence, assuming the B–X bond-energies found in the trihalides, the bond energies of the boron–carbon bond in the diphenylboron halides are also calculable:

E(B–C) in $Ph_2BBr = 109{\cdot}1 \pm 2{\cdot}4$ kcal.mole^{-1}

E(B–C) in $Ph_2BCl = 111{\cdot}3 \pm 2{\cdot}4$ kcal.mole^{-1}

Thanks are due to the Science Research Council for a studentship to one of us (G.B.W.).

(*Received, September 4th*, 1967; *Com.* 949.)

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[3] See *e.g.*, A. Finch and P. J. Gardner, *Trans. Faraday Soc.*, 1966, **62**, 3314.
[4] G. N. Chremos, H. Weidmann, and H. K. Zimmerman, *J. Org. Chem.*, 1961, **26**, 1683.