Modernizing and Accelerating the Development of Benson Group Values for Reliable Thermodynamic Characterizations

Benson Groups:

- The idea is to decompose molecular properties (ΔH_f , ΔS_f , ΔC_p) as the sum of "group" contributions.
- Group contributions are calculated based on trusted experimental or computational data, and transferability is assumed.

Experimental: -5.15 ± 0.34 kcal/mol

Problems we want to address:

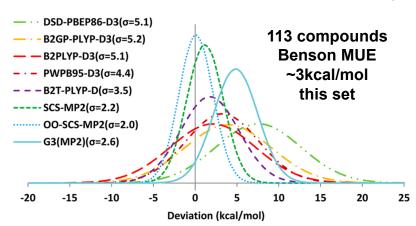
- **Provenance:** inconsistent thermodynamic data is available/used to determine group contributions.
- **Specificity:** the definition of a "group" has never been formalized and inconsistent granularity is applied. Limited information on group interactions.
- Extensibility: because of the provenance and specificity problems, it isn't possible to develop new groups in a consistent way.

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ΔH_f from modern quantum chemistry



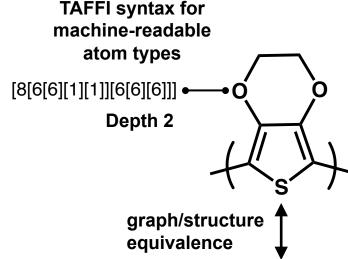
Minenkov, Y.; Wang, H.; Wang, Z.; Sarathy, S. M.; Cavallo, L. *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* **2017**, *13* (8), 3537–3560.

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The fundamental idea:

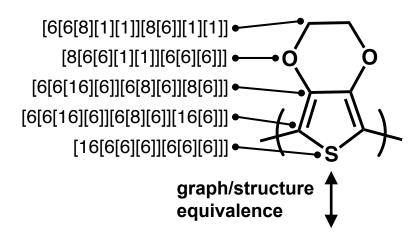
• Systematize group-definitions and model compound selection with rigorous graph-based atom-typing.



Adjacency matrix for pedot monomer

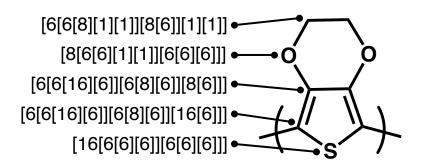
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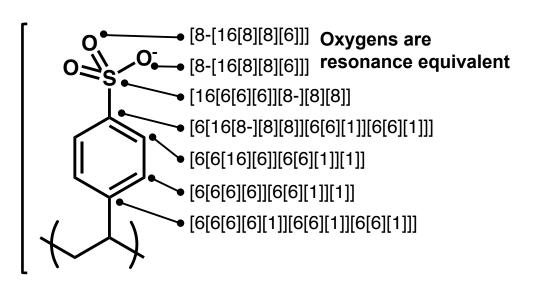


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Extending the methodology to charged species requires a local definition of charge identify and resonance equivalent atoms

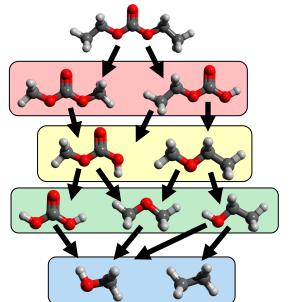


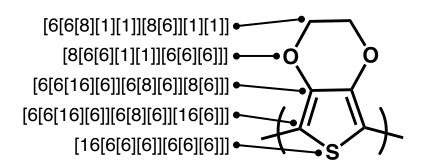
We utilize formal charges and resonance structures to identify charged atoms for type assignment

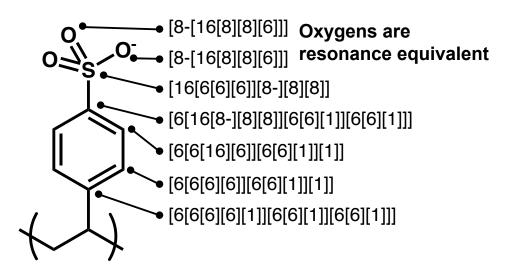
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Compounds in the dependency tree for diethyl carbonate:







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Proposed activities:

- Perform G4 and B97x-D3 level ΔH_f calculations on ~1 million molecules, curated to have combinations of common organic functional groups.
- Build a database infrastructure for data reuse and parameter fitting.
- Guarantee internal consistency by performing group and atom increment parameterizations to *the whole dataset*. This will be periodically redone as the dataset grows.
- Prioritize new chemistries based on important reference calibrations and industrial input.

$$X_1 \setminus X_2 \setminus X_3$$

$$L = \left\{ CH_2 - = \bigcirc \right\}$$