

Pamukkale Üniversitesi Mühendislik Bilimleri Dergisi

Pamukkale University Journal of Engineering Sciences



# Conformational and FTIR analyses of 2,3-dimethoxyphenylboronic acid

2,3-dimetoksifenilboronik asit molekülünün konformasyon ve FTIR analizi

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Received/Geliş Tarihi: 07.09.2018, Accepted/Kabul Tarihi: 26.10.2018 \* Corresponding author/Yazışılan Yazar doi: 10.5505/pajes.2018.70431 Research Article/Araștırma Makalesi

#### Abstract

The experimental and theoretical investigations of solvent effect on conformational structure and the hydroxyl stretching vibration of 2,3-dimethoxyphenylboronic acid (2,3-dmpba;  $C_6H_3(OCH_3)_2B(OH)_2$ ) molecule were studied by Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectroscopy and density functional theory (DFT). Calculations were performed by four conformational isomers of the title compound in eighteen different organic solvents by the polarizable continuum model (PCM). Scaled quantum mechanical (SQM) method was performed for the vibrational analysis. Most stable conformational isomer of the compound is independent of the solvent effect. Results of SQM method are very successful in determining the solvent effect on vibrational frequency. Experimental and theoretical findings from the present search will be useful to understand structural characteristics of phenylboronic acid derivatives.

Keywords: Phenylboronic acid derivatives, FTIR, DFT, SQM, Solvent effect

## 1 Introduction

Boronic acid is a compound related to boric acid in which one of the three hydroxyl groups is replaced by an alkyl or aryl group. Boron and boronic acid-based include large number of potentials of related application in medicine, biology, material science and supramolecular or analytical chemistry [1]-[2]. A variety of typical properties of boronic acids enable them to be well suitable for practices in biomedicine [2]. Polymers including boronic acid have a wide range of uses in various biomedical applications such as management of HIV, obesity, diabetes, and cancer [3].

Phenylboronic acid (PBA) containing a phenyl substituent is an example of boronic acid. PBA and its derivatives have also attracted much attention as modifier of layer by layer films or microcapsules [4]. Molecular characteristics of PBA and its some derivatives have been studied for years. Crystal and molecular structures or some spectroscopic properties of PBA [5] and its dimer [6], diphenyl phenylboronate [7], 3-fluorophenylboronic acid [8], 4-chloro-or-bromophenylboronic acid [9], 2- and 4-iodo-phenylboronic acid [9], 2,4-difluorophenylboronic acid [10], 3-formylphenylboronic acid [11], 3-aminophenylboronic acid [12] were investigated.

There are many theoretical and experimental structural investigations on boronic acid derivatives such as 4-pyridineboronic acid [13], methylboronic acid [14], acenaphthene-5-boronic acid [15] and 2-thienylboronic acid [16]. Furthermore, conformational, vibrational or electronic properties of phenylboronic acid derivatives such as 4-chloroor -bromo-phenylboronic acid [17], 3,4-dichlorophenylboronic acid [18], 2,4- or 2,6-dimethoxy phenylboronic acids [19],[20], Öz

2,3-dimetoksifenil (2,3-*dmpba*; horonik asit molekülünün yapısı ve hidroksil (OH)  $C_6H_3(OCH_3)_2B(OH)_2$ konformasyonel gerilmeleri titreşimi üzerindeki çözücü etkisi Fourier dönüşümlü kızılötesi spektroskopisi (FTIR) ve yoğunluk fonksiyonel teorisi (YFT) ile birlikte hem deneysel hem de teorik olarak araştırılmıştır. Hesaplamalar polarize süreklilik modeli (PCM) kullanılarak on sekiz farklı organik çözücüde ve bileşiğin dört konformasyonel izomeri üzerinde odaklanmıştır. Titreşim analizleri için skalanmış kuantum mekanik model (SQM) kullanılmıştır. Ele alınan molekülün en kararlı konformasyonel izomeri çözücü etkisinden bağımsızdır. SQM metodu titreşim frekansları üzerindeki çözücü etkisini belirlemede oldukça başarılıdır. Bu çalışmadan elde edilen deneysel ve teorik tüm bulgular fenil boronik asit türevlerinin yapısal karakteristiklerini anlamada favdalı olacaktır.

Anahtar kelimeler: Fenilboronik asit türevleri, FTIR, DFT, SQM, Çözücü etkisi

2,3-difluorophenylboronic [21], 3-bromophenylboronic acid 3,5-difluorophenylboronic acid [22]. [23], 3-fluorophenylboronic acid [24], 4-mercaptophenylboronic acid [25], 4-carboxy phenylboronic acid [26], 5-bromo-2-3-(acrylamido)phenylboronic acid [27], ethoxyphenylboronic acid [28] and pentafluorophenylboronic acid [29] were reported by combining both experimental and theoretical works. This research is a continuation of these previous studies [17]-[29] and according to the detailed literature survey there is no any theoretical or experimental studies on the structural and vibrational properties of 2,3-dmpba. The detailed analysis was performed to examine the solvent effect on conformational isomerism of 2,3-dmpba. Further, the frequencies of hydroxyl stretch vibrations of the compound were reported by FTIR and DFT studies.

## 2 Experimental

2,3-dmpba was commercially obtained from Sigma Aldrich and chloroform, methanol, ethanol and dichloromethane solvents were procured from Merck. FTIR spectrum of free and solid 2,3-dmpba wereoptimi reported via Potassium Bromide (KBr) pellet technique by Perkin Elmer Frontier FT-IR spectrophotometer at a resolution of 2 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Infrared spectra of 2,3-dmpba in solutions were recorded by a deuterated triglycine sulfate detector. Concentrations of 2,3-dmpba in the pure solvents ranged from 0.28 to 0.31 mol/l. Solvents of 25  $\mu$ l were placed between CaF<sub>2</sub> windows whose cell thickness was 12  $\mu$ m.

# 3 Calculational details

Many possible conformational isomers could be proposed for 2,3-dmpba molecule. However, the discussion in this research is limited to cis-cis (*CC*), cis-trans (*CT*), trans-cis (*TC*) and transtrans (*TT*) forms (Figure 1). Gaussian 09 was used for all calculations [30]. The optimized molecular structures were viewed with the GaussView program [31]. Calculations were performed by DFT method at B3LYP/6-31++G\*\* in the gas phase and solutions. PCM model was employed to assess the solvent effect [32]. After, optimization processes were repeated with no geometric constraints until imaginary frequencies were not seen, calculations were performed for vibrational frequency under the same theory. Harmonic vibrational frequencies were scaled according to 0.955 [33] and SQM [34],[35]. Mole fractions for the isomers were calculated as given before [36],[37].



Figure 1: Conformational isomers of 2,3-dmpba.

## 4 Results and discussion

Optimization energies of four isomers of the compound in eighteen different solvents are given in Table 1. Optimization energy vs. solvent dielectric constant plot of 2,3-dmpba in *CT* form are also depicted in Figure 2.



Figure 2: Plot of optimized energy and OH stretching frequency vs. dielectric constant.

Solvation is the process of interaction between solvent and solute molecules and is in part due to the attraction of a charge for a dipole. If the solute has polarity, solvent molecules will be thus drawn to the solute molecules. The greater the polarity of the solvent, the more the attraction is and therefore the more close attraction of the solvent molecules to the solute molecules is. Thus more electrostatic work is performed and so is more energy lost by the system, which inevitably turns more stable [38]. As seen from Table 1 and Figure 2, since dielectric constant of the solvent increases for the all forms, the molecule becomes more stable.

According to direction of various substituents in the gas phase, 3,4-dichloro [18], 2,4-dimethoxy [19], 2,3-difluoro [21] and 3,5-difluoro phenylboronic acid [23] prefer to *CT* form whereas the *CC* conformer is the most stable for 2,6-dimethoxy phenylboronic acid [20]. Optimized relative energies and mole fractions for all forms of 2,3-dmpba in different medium are listed in Table 2. Computed optimize energies indicate that the *CT* form is more stable than *CC*, *TC* and *TT* forms by 7.77-9.57 kcal/mol, 9.11-10.63 kcal/mol and 10.10-13.97 kcal/mol correspondingly. According to results of mole fraction computations of isomers, the title molecule prefers to *CT* conformational isomer with the probability of 100% for all medium (Table 2).

Table 3 presents the calculated lengths of hydroxyl bond and dipole moments of 2,3-dmpba, from which the OH bond lengths in *CT* form are seen to exhibit a linear correlations with the hydroxyl stretching frequencies of the compound as  $R^2$ =0.99484 (C) and 0.99554 (T). Dipole moment of the compound increases gradually by solvent polarity. It is in agreement with the literature. However, it is inversely proportional with the hydroxyl stretching frequencies. As seen from Figure 3, there is good and linear correlation between OH stretching frequencies and dipole moments ( $R^2$ =0.99466).



Figure 3: Plot of OH bond length and stretching frequency vs. dipole moment.

Length of OH bond increases as the polarity of the solvent does. Hydroxyl stretching frequency should therefore decrease. It follows from Table 3 that this requirement is significantly fulfilled for the compound and OH frequencies decreases by increases in the bond lengths ( $R^2$ =0.99956). Hydroxyl stretching frequencies are inversely proportional to the polarity of the solvent (Figure 2).

OH stretching vibrations of the investigated molecule needs to special attention. Once these bands of some PBA derivatives are investigated, they are comprehensible and this suggests that the intramolecular hydrogen bondings occur in different environments of boronic acids [25]. The hydroxyl stretching bands in the infrared spectra of free 3,4-dichlorophenylboronic acid [18], 2,4- and 2,6-dimethoxyphenylboronic acid [19],[20], 2,3-difluorophenylboronic acid [21] and 5-bromo-2-ethoxyphenylboronic acid [28] were observed at 3465/3425, 3480/3339, 3335 and 3400/3332 and 3371 cm<sup>-1</sup> correspondingly. However, there is no any peak for 3,5-difluorophenylboronic acid [14]. OH stretching band of free 2,3-dmpba is shown at 3368 cm<sup>-1</sup> for the solid phase. This observation is consistent with previously reported paper

[18]-[21],[28]. As seen from Table 4, they are observed at 3468 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 3351 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 3350 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 3351 cm<sup>-1</sup> in chloroform, dichloromethane, ethanol and methanol, respectively, as one strong and broad band. These experimental OH stretching frequencies also decrease by increasing of the dielectric constant of the solvent.

In Table 4, theoretical OH stretching vibrations scaled by literature coefficient and SQM are also given together with their experimental values. Correlation values between the experimental and computed vibrational frequencies are found

to be 0.76684 for scaling factor and 0.99872 for SQM. The biggest difference between the experimental and theoretical frequencies is 133 cm<sup>-1</sup> for scaling factor in literature and 29 cm<sup>-1</sup> for SQM. Hence, there is a poor agreement between the theoretically scaled frequencies by scaling factor of the B3LYP/6-31++G<sup>\*\*</sup> and those obtained experimentally. However, the predicted values by SQM show a good correlation with experimental data and this method constitutes a reliable complement the understanding of vibrational bands of the investigated compound.

	Гable 1: О	ptimization energy	(Hartree)	of 2.3-dmpba i	n various medium.
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Madiana	2,3-dmpba								
Medium	CC			TT		СТ		ТС	
Gas phase	-637.34875320		-637.34	-637.34173799		-637.36400100		-637.34706046	
n-hexane	-637.35	319394	-637.34	4696008	-637.36	5762019	-637.352	111167	
n-heptane	-637.35329185		-637.34	4707820	-637.36	5769830	-637.352	120243	
Cyclohexane	-637.35362546		-637.34	4748170	-637.36	5796394	-637.35151230		
1,4-dioxane	-637.35	5417813	-637.34	-637.34815308		-637.36840238		202775	
Tetrachloromethane	-637.35422626		-637.34	-637.34821172		-637.36844044		-637.35207277	
Benzene	-637.35	433731	-637.34	-637.34834717		-637.36852819		-637.35217673	
Toluene	-637.35	6459477	-637.34	-637.34866174		-637.36873128		241822	
Diethylether	-637.35	5743615	-637.3	-637.35235039		-637.37094067		-637.35514797	
Chloroform	-637.35	5785270	-637.3	5288547	-637.37125964		-637.35556333		
Tetrahydrofuran	-637.35	5933333	-637.3	5480220	-637.37238275		-637.35706528		
Dichloromethane	-637.35	5980249	-637.3	5541587	-637.37273492		-637.35754950		
2-butanol	-637.36	6088794	-637.3	-637.35684683		7354195	-637.35868563		
2-propanol	-637.36	5113953	-637.3	-637.35718054		-637.37372740		-637.35895230	
Acetone	-637.36	5121295	-637.3	-637.35727806		-637.37378141		-637.35903041	
Ethanol	-637.36141711		-637.3	-637.35754951		-637.37393128		-637.35924822	
Methanol	-637.36	5164963	-637.3	-637.35785914		-637.37410146		949737	
Acetonitrile -637.36171457		-637.3	-637.35794572		-637.37414888		956717		
Dimethylsulfoxide	-637.36	5187993	-637.3	-637.35816643		-637.37426945		974535	
	Table 2. Re	lative energy a	and mole fra	ction for 2 3-d	nnha in vari	ious medium			
	Polativo oporgy (kcal /mal)			n	Mole fraction (%)				
Medium				1 <u>)</u> TC	<i>CC</i>			TC	
Casphase	0.57	12.07	ιI	10.62	0	0	100	10	
Gas pliase	9.57	13.97	-	10.05	0	0	100	0	
n-nexane	9.05	12.90	-	10.30	0	0	100	0	
Guelehouene	9.04	12.94	-	10.33	0	0	100	0	
	9.00	12.03	-	10.32	0	0	100	0	
1,4-dioxane	0.93	12.71	-	10.20	0	0	100	0	
Remaine	0.92	12.70	-	10.27	0	0	100	0	
Taluana	0.90	12.00	-	10.20	0	0	100	0	
l'oluene	0.07	12.59	-	10.24	0	0	100	0	
Chloroform	0.47		-	9.91	0	0	100	0	
Chloroform	8.41	11.53	-	9.85	0	0	100	0	
Tetranydrofuran	8.19	11.03	-	9.61	0	0	100	0	
Dichloromethane	8.12	10.87	-	9.53	0	0	100	0	
2-butanol	7.94	10.48	-	9.32	0	0	100	0	
2-propanol	7.90	10.38	-	9.27	U	U	100	U	
Acetone	/.89	10.36	-	9.26	U	0	100	U	
Ethanol	7.85	10.28	-	9.21	U	0	100	0	
Methanol	7.81	10.19	-	9.16	0	0	100	0	
Acetonitrile	7.80	10.17	-	9.15	0	0	100	0	
Dimethylsulfoxide	7.77	10.10	-	9.11	0	0	100	0	

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Medium	μ (Debye)	0-H: <i>C</i> (Å)	v <sub>он</sub> : <i>С</i> (ст <sup>-1</sup> )	0-Н: <i>Т</i> (Å)	ν <sub>0H</sub> : <i>T</i> (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
Gas phase	3.513	0.97345	3696	0.96613	3846
n-hexane	3.915	0.97446	3675	0.96653	3841
n-heptane	3.924	0.97448	3674	0.96653	3840
Cyclohexane	3.953	0.97455	3673	0.96656	3840
1-4-dioxane	4.003	0.97472	3670	0.96669	3838
Tetrachlorometha	4.007	0.97473	3670	0.96670	3838
Benzene	4.017	0.97475	3669	0.96671	3838
Toluene	4.039	0.97480	3668	0.96673	3838
Diethylether	4.283	0.97539	3656	0.96704	3833
Chloroform	4.318	0.97546	3655	0.96709	3833
Tetrahydrofuran	4.440	0.97571	3650	0.96723	3831
Dichloromethane	4.479	0.97578	3648	0.96727	3830
2-butanol	4.567	0.97594	3645	0.96737	3829
2-propanol	4.587	0.97597	3644	0.96739	3828
Acetone	4.593	0.97598	3644	0.96739	3828
Ethanol	4.610	0.97601	3644	0.96741	3828
Methanol	4.628	0.97604	3643	0.96743	3828
Acetonitrile	4.634	0.97604	3643	0.96744	3828
Dimethylsulfoxide	4.647	0.97606	3642	0.96745	3827

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rubic 5. Di	poic moment	0 II Stictening	una bona.	icingtii oi	2,5 um	յուլ	<b>U</b> 1 J	

Table 4: Comparison of OH stretching frequencies (cm <sup>-1</sup> ).						
Medium	Ехр. vон	voн <sup>1</sup> ( <i>С</i> )	voн <sup>2</sup> ( <i>С</i> )			
Chloroform	3468	3491	3440			
Dichloromethane	3351	3484	3380			
Ethanol	3350	3480	3379			
Methanol	3351	3479	3375			

 $\nu_{0H^1}$  (C) and  $\nu_{0H^2}$  (C) are scaled frequencies by 0.955 [33] and SQM [34, 35].

## **5** Conclusions

Theoretical and experimental works have been performed by using DFT and FTIR to investigate solvent effect on the structure and hydroxyl stretching vibration of 2,3-dmpba as phenylboronic acid derivatives. There is no solvent effect on conformational isomers of the compound. Solvent induced OH frequencies are inversely proportional with the dipole moment, bond length and dielectric constant. Unscaled and scaled frequencies by B3LYP/6-31++G\*\* have poor correlations with experimental data whereas SQM results are in excellent agreement and it is very successful in revealing the dielectric-induced solvent effect on the vibrational frequency.

#### 6 Acknowledgements

This work was supported by Research Fund of the Ege University (Project Number: 2016-FEN-032).

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