

# Blue-shifted dihydrogen bonds

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**ABSTRACT:** Blue-shifted dihydrogen bonds were predicted to be present in a number of non-covalent complexes including  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{X}$ ,  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Mg}-\text{X}$ ,  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}_4\text{Si}$ ,  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{X}$ ,  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Mg}-\text{X}$ , and  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}_4\text{Si}$  ( $\text{X} = \text{H}, \text{F}, \text{Cl}$  and  $\text{CH}_3$ ). Pauli and nuclei–nuclei repulsions between the protonic hydrogen and hydridic hydrogen are proposed as the cause of the blue shift. Copyright © 2004 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

**KEYWORDS:** hydrogen bond; dihydrogen bond; blue shift; *ab initio*

## INTRODUCTION

Hydrogen bonding is an important type of non-covalent interaction that is present in many chemical and biological processes.<sup>1</sup> The major driving forces for hydrogen bonding ( $\text{X}-\text{H}\cdots\text{Y}$ ) are usually believed to be electrostatic and charge-transfer interactions. Both of these interactions weaken the  $\text{X}-\text{H}$  bond and, consequently, increase the  $\text{X}-\text{H}$  bond length and decrease the  $\text{X}-\text{H}$  stretching vibration frequency. The latter is called a red shift. It represents the most important, easily detectable manifestation of the formation of a hydrogen bond.

However, some recent experimental and theoretical studies have indicated the existence of blue-shifted hydrogen bonds in which hydrogen bond formation leads to  $\text{X}-\text{H}$  bond contraction and to a blue shift of the  $\text{X}-\text{H}$  stretching frequency.<sup>2,3</sup> Initial examples included some  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{X}$  systems (e.g.  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{OH}_2$ ) in which the central carbon atom is connected to a few highly electronegative substituents such as F and Cl. This led to a suggestion that charge transfer from the proton acceptor to the remote electronegative moieties (e.g. F in  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}$ ) is the cause of the blue shift.<sup>2</sup> Recent studies, however, have shown that N—H, O—H, Si—H and P—H bonds may also form blue-shifted hydrogen bonds, in which the central atom does not necessarily carry any electronegative substituents.<sup>4–7</sup> Therefore, the long-range charge transfer theory is not adequate for blue-shifted hydrogen bonds.

A better theoretical model for blue-shifted hydrogen bonding has been proposed recently.<sup>8</sup> According to this theoretical model, there is a balance between the  $\text{X}-\text{H}$  elongation effect due to the orbital interactions and the  $\text{X}-\text{H}$  contraction effect due to Pauli and nuclei–nuclei repulsions. If the former effect is dominant, a red shift will occur, otherwise, a blue shift occurs. So far, this theoretical model has been successfully applied to many types of blue-shifted hydrogen bonds that have been reported.<sup>8,9</sup> A recent study demonstrated that this theoretical model can also account for the blue-shifted hydrogen bonds in  $\text{F}-\text{He}-\text{H}\cdots\text{X}$  systems.<sup>10</sup> It worth noting that another recent theoretical model, which attributes the blue shift to an increase in the s-character of the  $\text{X}-\text{H}$  bond,<sup>7</sup> has difficulty in explaining the  $\text{F}-\text{He}-\text{H}\cdots\text{X}$  systems where the rehybridization of He is elusive.<sup>10</sup>

In this paper, we report a special group of blue-shifted hydrogen bonds, blue-shifted dihydrogen bonds. We believe that this study is valuable for the following three reasons. (1) The dihydrogen bond is an unusual and intriguing type of hydrogen bond, which has attracted considerable attention recently.<sup>11–13</sup> It has been demonstrated to be able to influence structure, reactivity and selectivity in solution and the solid state, thus finding potential utility in catalysis, crystal engineering and materials chemistry. (2) So far N-, O-, F-, P-, S- and Cl-centered proton acceptors have been found in blue-shifted hydrogen bonds. However, it remains unknown whether an H-centered proton acceptor can also be used to construct blue-shifted hydrogen bonds. (3) It has been demonstrated that the polarization, charge transfer, correlation and higher order energy components are larger in dihydrogen-bonded complexes than classical hydrogen-bonded complexes.<sup>14</sup> Hence the study of blue-shifted dihydrogen bonds may provide novel and important insights into the mechanism of the blue shift.

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## METHOD

All calculations were performed with the Gaussian 98 suite of programs.<sup>15</sup> A number of theoretical methods, including MP2/6–31+G(d), MP2/6–311++G(d,p), MP2/6–311++G(2d,2p), MP2/cc-pVDZ and QCISD/6–31+G(d), were used for geometry optimization. The optimized structure was confirmed by a frequency calculation at the MP2/6–311++G(d,p) level to be a real minimum without any imaginary vibration. The dihydrogen bonding energy was calculated as the difference between the total energy of the complex and the sum of the total energies of the monomers. This energy was corrected with the zero point energies (ZPEs) (unscaled) and basis set superposition errors (BSSEs) estimated using Boys and Bernardi's counterpoise technique.<sup>16</sup>

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Effects of the computational methods on the calculation results

In order to examine the effects of the theoretical methods on the calculation results, we utilized a number of theoretical methods, including MP2/6–31+G(d), MP2/6–311++G(d,p), MP2/6–311++G(2d,dp), MP2/cc-pVDZ,

and QCISD/6–31+G(d), to study a particular complex,  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$ . The results are shown in Table 1.

The results show that there are two minima for the complex between  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}$  and  $\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$ . One of them is a linear complex between C—H and H—Be bonds, whereas the other exhibits both  $\text{H}\cdots\text{H}$  and  $\text{F}\cdots\text{Be}$  interactions. (One of the referees suggested that the double-interaction complex should not be named as a hydrogen bonding complex, because it seems there exists a repulsion between the hydrogen atoms belonging to its constituents which causes it to bent). According to all levels of theory, the linear complex has a lower energy than the double-interaction complex. Nevertheless, the interaction energies of the two complexes are both predicted to be positive by all the theoretical methods. The reason for the positive interaction energy could be the overestimation of BSSE by the counterpoise method,<sup>16</sup> because the interaction energy becomes negative for some methods when the BSSE correction is not applied<sup>17</sup> (stable dihydrogen bonds of  $\text{BeH}_2$  have been reported<sup>18</sup>). Overestimation of the ZPE may also be the reason for the calculated interaction energy, because all the interaction energies are negative when ZPE correction is not utilized. Certainly it is also possible that the complex between  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}$  and  $\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$  is intrinsically unstable. Anyhow, because we shall show in the following section that there are blue-shifted dihydrogen bonds with definitely negative interaction energy, we decided not to

**Table 1.** Blue-shifted dihydrogen bonds between  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}$  and  $\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$  predicted by the various theoretical methods

Method	Structure	$\Delta d_{\text{C}-\text{H}}$ (Å)	$\Delta\nu_{\text{C}-\text{H}}$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	$\Delta E$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	$\Delta E$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>b</sup>	$\Delta E$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>c</sup>
MP2/6–31+G(d)		−0.0009 −0.0010	+16.6 +17.0	+2.8 +1.4	−0.4 +0.0	−5.3 −4.7
MP2/6–311++G(d,p)		−0.0020 −0.0011	+32.7 +16.1	+7.1 +1.7	−1.1 +0.1	−2.9 −4.9
MP2/6–311++G(2d,2p)		−0.0015 −0.0007	+24.8 +12.8	+4.1 +1.1	−2.2 −0.2	−4.8 −5.4
MP2/cc-pVDZ		−0.0037 −0.0019	+57.2 +25.6	+7.5 +2.6	−1.2 +1.5	−3.1 −3.5
QCISD/6–31+G(d)		−0.0010 −0.0011	+17.2 +21.2	+2.7 +1.4	−0.6 −0.1	−5.1 −4.5

<sup>a</sup> With both ZPE and BSSE corrections.

<sup>b</sup> With ZPE but not BSSE correction.

<sup>c</sup> With BSSE but not ZPE correction.

spend more time on the positive interaction energy problem of  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$ .

The results in Table 1 also demonstrate that all the methods provide similar results for the complex between  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}$  and  $\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$ . For the linear structure, all the methods also suggest that the  $\text{C}-\text{H}$  bond of  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}$  should be shortened by about 0.001–0.002 Å owing to the complex formation. Furthermore, all the methods predict that the blue shift of the  $\text{C}-\text{H}$  stretching frequency in the linear  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$  complex is about  $+20\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Therefore, the blue shift in  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$  should be a real effect. This blue shift effect is not very sensitive to how the electron correlation is treated. Also, it is not strongly sensitive to the size of the basis set. Hence it should reliable enough to use a modestly high level theoretical method such as MP2/6-311++G(d,p) to study the blue shift in dihydrogen bonds.

### Blue-shifted $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}$ and $\text{Si}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}$ dihydrogen bonds

Using the MP2/6-311++G(d,p) method, we studied the complexes of  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}$  and  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}$  with  $\text{H}-\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$ ,  $\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{F}$ ,  $\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{Cl}$ ,  $\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{CH}_3$ ,  $\text{H}-\text{Mg}-\text{H}$ ,  $\text{H}-\text{Mg}-\text{F}$ ,  $\text{H}-\text{Mg}-\text{Cl}$ ,  $\text{H}-\text{Mg}-\text{CH}_3$  and  $\text{SiH}_4$ . The results are given in Tables 2 and 3.

The results in Tables 2 and 3 suggest that all the dihydrogen bonding complexes should have two minima except for  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$ . One of the two minima is a linear complex between  $\text{X}-\text{H}$  and  $\text{H}-\text{Y}$  bonds, except for silane, where there is a bifurcated dihydrogen bond. The other minimum, which in the following will be named the double-interaction complex, exhibits both  $\text{H}\cdots\text{H}$  and the F-metal interactions. For the complexes of  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}$  with  $\text{H}-\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SiH}_4$  and  $\text{H}-\text{MgX}$  ( $\text{X}=\text{H}, \text{F}, \text{Cl}, \text{CH}_3$ ) and the complexes of  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}$  with  $\text{SiH}_4$ ,  $\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{F}$ , and  $\text{H}-\text{Mg}-\text{X}$  ( $\text{X}=\text{H}, \text{F}, \text{Cl}, \text{CH}_3$ ), the double-interaction structure is the global minimum. For the remaining complexes, the linear structure is the global minimum.

Despite the complicated structures of the dihydrogen bonds, except for one case (i.e. linear  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$ ), all the complexes exhibit contraction of the  $\text{C}-\text{H}$  or  $\text{Si}-\text{H}$  bond and blue shift of the  $\text{C}-\text{H}$  or  $\text{Si}-\text{H}$  stretching vibration. For the complexes of  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}$  with  $\text{H}-\text{BeX}$  and  $\text{H}-\text{MgX}$ , the double-interaction complexes ( $\Delta d \approx -0.002\text{ \AA}$ ,  $\Delta\nu \approx +30\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) show more significant blue shifts than the linear complexes ( $\Delta d \approx -0.001\text{ \AA}$ ,  $\Delta\nu \approx +15\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). For the complex of  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}$  with  $\text{H}-\text{Li}$ , the double-interaction complex ( $\Delta d = -0.0004\text{ \AA}$ ,  $\Delta\nu = +9.9\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) is blue shifted whereas the linear complex is red shifted ( $\Delta d = +0.0004\text{ \AA}$ ,  $\Delta\nu = -20.6\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). Finally, the double-interaction complex of  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{SiH}_4$  ( $\Delta d = -0.0004\text{ \AA}$ ,  $\Delta\nu = +5.1\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) shows less blue shift than the bifurcated dihydrogen-bonded complex ( $\Delta d = -0.0009\text{ \AA}$ ,  $\Delta\nu = +13.5\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). The interaction energies for  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{SiH}_4$  and  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-$

$\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{X}$  ( $\text{X}=\text{H}, \text{F}$ , or  $\text{Cl}$ ) are positive after BSSE correction. Nevertheless, the interaction energies for  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$  ( $-29.9\text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ),  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{CH}_3$  ( $-4.2\text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ) and  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Mg}-\text{X}$  ( $\text{X}=\text{H}, \text{F}, \text{Cl}$ , or  $\text{CH}_3$ ) (ca  $-11$ – $13\text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ) are definitely negative. Therefore, stable blue-shifted dihydrogen bonds do exist.

For the complexes of  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}$  with  $\text{H}-\text{BeX}$  and  $\text{H}-\text{MgX}$ , the double-interaction complexes ( $\Delta d \approx -0.006\text{ \AA}$ ,  $\Delta\nu \approx +35\text{ m}^{-1}$ ) also show more significant blue shifts than the linear complexes ( $\Delta d \approx -0.001\text{ \AA}$ ,  $\Delta\nu \approx +6\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). For the complex of  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}$  with  $\text{H}-\text{Li}$ , the double-interaction complex is not a minimum whereas the linear complex is blue shifted ( $\Delta d = -0.002\text{ \AA}$ ,  $\Delta\nu = +1.8\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). Finally the double-interaction complex of  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}\cdots\text{SiH}_4$  ( $\Delta d = -0.0003\text{ \AA}$ ,  $\Delta\nu = +1.8\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) shows less blue shift than the bifurcated dihydrogen bonded complex ( $\Delta d = -0.0002\text{ \AA}$ ,  $\Delta\nu = +4.2\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). The interaction energies for  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}\cdots\text{SiH}_4$  and  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{X}$  ( $\text{X}=\text{H}, \text{F}$ , or  $\text{Cl}$ ) are positive after BSSE correction. Nevertheless, the interaction energies for  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$  ( $-7.9\text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ),  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{CH}_3$  ( $-1.2\text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ) and  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Mg}-\text{X}$  ( $\text{X}=\text{H}, \text{F}, \text{Cl}$ , or  $\text{CH}_3$ ) (ca  $-15$ – $20\text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ) are definitely negative. Again, stable blue-shifted dihydrogen bonds do exist.

### NBO analysis of dihydrogen bonding

The above results suggest that both the linear and double-interaction structures should be considered for the dihydrogen bonding complexes. In the linear complexes the major interaction is clearly the  $\text{H}\cdots\text{H}$  interaction only as evidenced from the three-dimensional structures. On the other hand, in the double-interaction complexes we have to consider the  $\text{F}\cdots\text{metal}$  interaction in addition to the  $\text{H}\cdots\text{H}$  interaction. Since the linear complexes can show a blue shift, in the following mechanistic studies we shall consider the linear complexes only in order to simplify the analyses.

Firstly, the natural bond orbital (NBO) partitioning technique developed by Reed *et al.*<sup>19</sup> was used to analyze the dihydrogen bonding involved in linear  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$  and  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$  complexes (Fig. 1). The MP2/6-311++G(d,p) method was used in the NBO analyses.

The NBO analysis results for the monomers suggest that in  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}$  the H atom carries a certain amount of positive charge. On the other hand, in both  $\text{H}-\text{Li}$  and  $\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$  the H atoms carry a significant amount of negative charge. Therefore, hydridic-to-protonic interaction should take place in both  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$  and  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$ . This means that the non-covalent interaction involved in  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$  and  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$  can be defined as dihydrogen bonding.

**Table 2.** Blue-shifted dihydrogen bonds between  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}$  and various types of hydrogen-centered proton acceptors predicted by the MP2/6-311++G(d,p) method

Proton acceptor	Structure	$d_{\text{C}-\text{H}}$ (Å)	$\Delta d_{\text{C}-\text{H}}$ (Å)	$\nu_{\text{C}-\text{H}}$ (cm $^{-1}$ )	$\Delta\nu_{\text{C}-\text{H}}$ (cm $^{-1}$ )	$\Delta E$ (kJ mol $^{-1}$ )
$\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}$		1.0877	—	3223.3	—	—
$\text{H}-\text{Li}$		1.0873	-0.0004	3233.2	+9.9	-29.9
		1.0881	+0.0004	3202.7	-20.6	-19.9
$\text{SiH}_4$		1.0873	-0.0004	3228.4	+5.1	+0.5
		1.0868	-0.0009	3236.8	+13.5	+0.9
$\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$		1.0857	-0.0020	3255.2	+31.9	+7.1
		1.0865	-0.0012	3239.4	+16.1	+1.7
$\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{F}$		1.0861	-0.0016	3250.6	+27.3	+3.2
		1.0865	-0.0012	3238.9	+15.6	+2.3
$\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{Cl}$		1.0859	-0.0018	3253.9	+30.6	+5.4
		1.0865	-0.0012	3239.0	+15.7	+1.3
$\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{CH}_3$		1.0864	-0.0013	3244.1	+20.8	-2.4
		1.0863	-0.0014	3241.6	+18.3	-4.2
$\text{H}-\text{Mg}-\text{H}$		1.0860	-0.0017	3250.8	+27.5	-11.3
		1.0866	-0.0011	3234.1	+10.8	-4.4
$\text{H}-\text{Mg}-\text{F}$		1.0863	-0.0014	3249.3	+26.0	-13.7
		1.0866	-0.0011	3235.7	+12.4	-2.2
$\text{H}-\text{Mg}-\text{Cl}$		1.0864	-0.0013	3248.7	+25.4	-13.4
		1.0865	-0.0012	3235.8	+12.5	-2.7
$\text{H}-\text{Mg}-\text{CH}_3$		1.0861	-0.0016	3250.3	+27.0	-12.0
		1.0866	-0.0011	3233.5	+10.2	-8.2

Further analyses suggest that charges transfer should occur from the proton acceptor to the proton donor in both  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$  and  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$ . In the linear  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$  complex the positive charge carried by the  $\text{H}-\text{Li}$  moiety amounts to +0.02 e. In the linear  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$  complex the positive charge carried by the  $\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$  is +0.004 e. A similar magnitude of charge transfer has also been found in other

$\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}$  dihydrogen-bonded systems such as  $\text{HCCH}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$  ( $\Delta q=0.014$  e) and  $\text{NCH}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$  ( $\Delta q=0.033$  e).<sup>20</sup>

Hence both the  $\text{H}(\delta+)\cdots\text{H}(\delta-)$  electrostatic interaction and the charge transfer from the proton acceptor to proton donor should be important driving forces for the formation of the dihydrogen bond. However, it is worth mentioning that the  $\text{H}(\delta+)\cdots\text{H}(\delta-)$  electrostatic

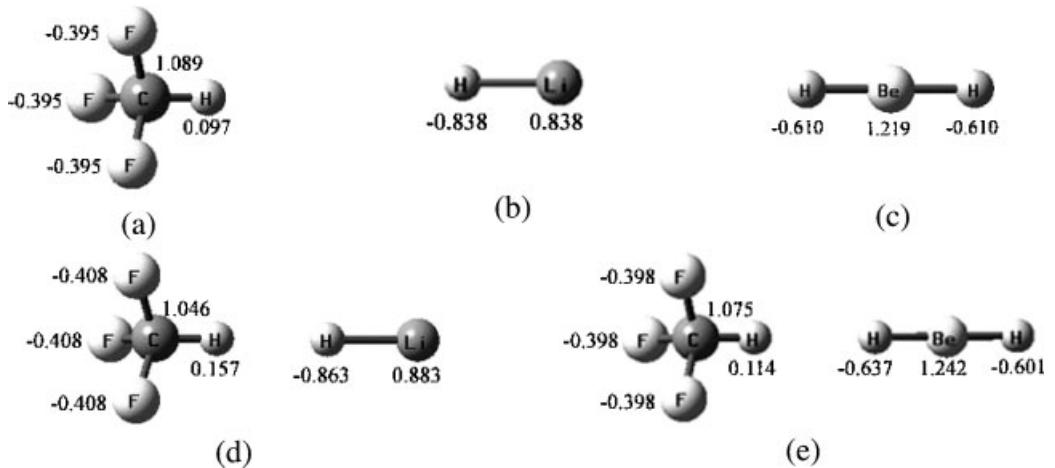
**Table 3.** Blue-shifted dihydrogen bonds between  $\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}$  and various types of hydrogen-centered proton acceptors predicted by the MP2/6-311++G(d,p) method

Proton acceptor	Structure	$d_{\text{Si}-\text{H}}$ (Å)	$\Delta d_{\text{Si}-\text{H}}$ (Å)	$\nu_{\text{Si}-\text{H}}$ (cm $^{-1}$ )	$\Delta\nu_{\text{Si}-\text{H}}$ (cm $^{-1}$ )	$\Delta E$ (kJ mol $^{-1}$ )
$\text{F}_3\text{Si}-\text{H}$		1.4489	—	2456.2	—	—
H—Li		1.4469	-0.0020	2458.0	+1.8	-7.9
SiH <sub>4</sub>		1.4486 1.4487	-0.0003 -0.0002	2458.0 2460.4	+1.8 +4.2	+0.7 +0.7
H—Be—H		1.4428 1.4481	-0.0061 -0.0008	2491.3 2462.3	+35.1 +6.1	+7.1 +4.2
H—Be—F		1.4440 1.4485	-0.0049 -0.0004	2485.6 2460.4	+29.4 +4.2	+2.7 +3.5
H—Be—Cl		1.4434 1.4484	-0.0055 -0.0005	2489.0 2461.1	+32.8 +4.9	+4.1 +2.8
H—Be—CH <sub>3</sub>		1.4434 1.4479	-0.0055 -0.0010	2487.9 2463.4	+31.7 +7.2	+4.3 -1.2
H—Mg—H		1.4423 1.4476	-0.0066 -0.0013	2493.8 2462.9	+37.6 +6.7	-15.4 +1.8
H—Mg—F		1.4439 1.4478	-0.0050 -0.0011	2486.8 2462.6	+30.6 +6.4	-20.7 +1.5
H—Mg—Cl		1.4439 1.4481	-0.0050 -0.0008	2486.4 2461.1	+30.2 +4.9	-20.4 +1.7
H—Mg—CH <sub>3</sub>		1.4420 1.4475	-0.0069 -0.0014	2494.8 2463.1	+38.6 +6.9	-15.3 -2.4

interaction should weaken the C—H bond by pulling the  $\text{H}(\delta+)$  atom from the C atom to the  $\text{H}(\delta-)$  atom.<sup>21</sup> In addition, the charge transfer from the proton acceptor to proton donor should also weaken the C—H bond because the transferred charge goes to the C—H antibonding  $\sigma^*$  orbital.<sup>22</sup> Therefore, both the electrostatic interaction and charge transfer effect can only increase the C—H bond length and red shift the C—H stretching frequency.

### Physical origin of the blue shift

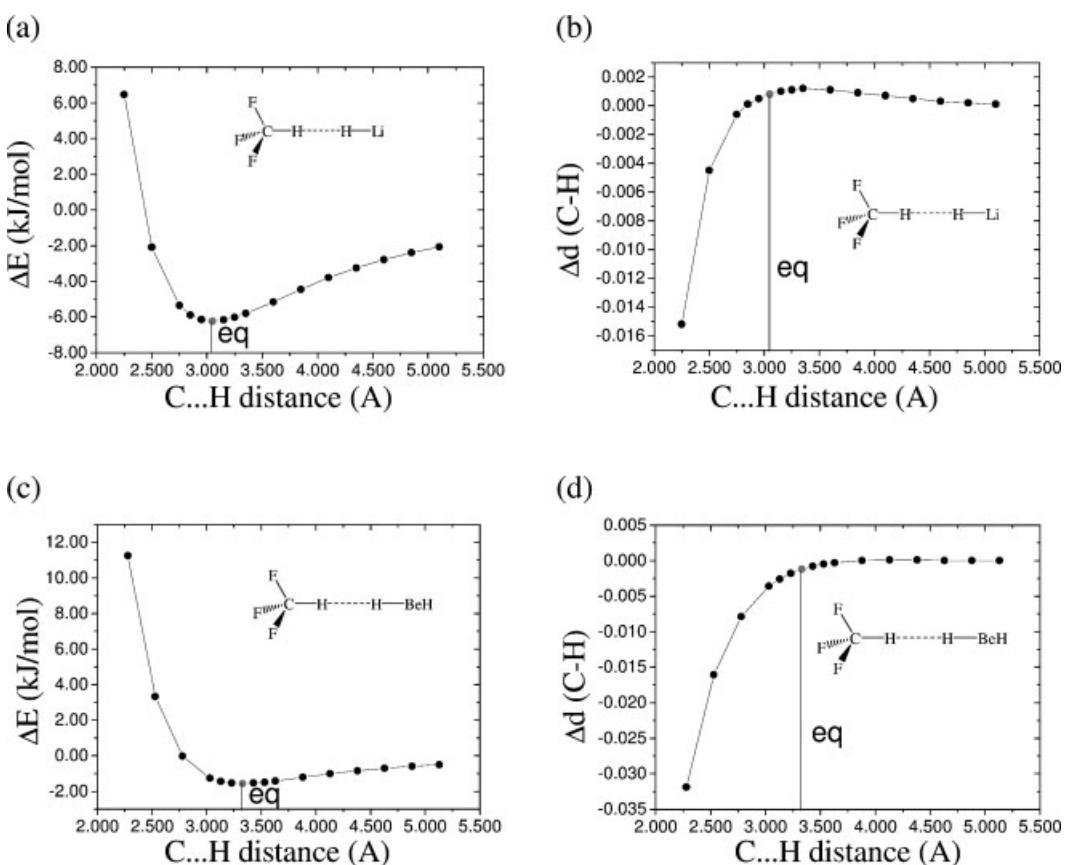
In order to understand the physical origin of the blue-shifted dihydrogen bonds, we studied two linear dihydrogen-bonded complexes:  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$  and  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$ . The former complex has a red shift whereas the latter has a blue shift. By fixing the C—H distances in  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$  and  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$ ,



**Figure 1.** NBO charge distributions in (a)  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}$ , (b)  $\text{H}-\text{Li}$ , (c)  $\text{H}-\text{Be}-\text{H}$ , (d)  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$  ( $\text{C}_{3v}$ , linear) and (e)  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{BeH}$  ( $\text{C}_{3v}$ , linear)

Be—H and by optimizing the remaining coordinates of the complexes, we obtained curves of the interaction energies (not corrected with BSSE) and the optimized C—H bond lengths as functions of the C···H distance (Fig. 2).

The potential energy curves of the two complexes are very similar in shape, regardless of whether the hydrogen bond is blue-shifted or red-shifted. At long distances, the interaction energy becomes more negative as the C···H distance decreases. This behavior is undoubtedly caused



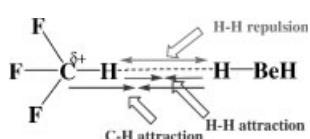
**Figure 2.** Interaction energy ( $\Delta E$ ) and change of C—H bond length ( $\Delta d$ ) as a function of the distance between the proton donor and acceptor: (a) and (b)  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{Li}$  ( $\text{C}_{3v}$ , linear), (c) and (d)  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{H}-\text{BeH}$  ( $\text{C}_{3v}$ , linear) (equilibrium C···H distances are indicated by the line labeled 'eq')

by the electrostatic interaction between the proton donor and acceptor. On the other hand, at short distances the interaction energy becomes less and less negative as the C $\cdots$ H distance decreases. This behavior is clearly due to the Pauli and nuclei–nuclei repulsions between the proton donor and acceptor, which are significant only when the proton donor and acceptor are sufficiently close to each other.

The curves for the change of C–H bond length as a function of the distance between the proton donor and acceptor are also very similar in shape for the two complexes. At long distances, the C–H bond is elongated for both F<sub>3</sub>C–H $\cdots$ H–Li and F<sub>3</sub>C–H $\cdots$ H–Be–H. This elongation can only be explained by either electrostatic attractions or orbital interactions (i.e. charge-transfer interactions). On the other hand, the C–H bond is shortened for both F<sub>3</sub>C–H $\cdots$ H–Li and F<sub>3</sub>C–H $\cdots$ H–Be–H at very short C $\cdots$ H distances. The contraction can only be explained as a result of Pauli and nuclei–nuclei repulsions.

Nevertheless, the equilibrium position (i.e. the position where the interaction energy is the most negative) for F<sub>3</sub>C–H $\cdots$ H–Li is in the elongation region of the curve so that F<sub>3</sub>C–H $\cdots$ H–Li is red shifted. In comparison, the equilibrium position for F<sub>3</sub>C–H $\cdots$ H–Be–H is in the contraction region and consequently, F<sub>3</sub>C–H $\cdots$ H–Be–H is blue shifted. Therefore, the difference between blue and red-shifted dihydrogen bonds is simple. For the blue-shifted bonds, the bond shortening effect is greater than the bond lengthening effect when the energy reaches a minimum. On the other hand, for the red-shifted dihydrogen bonds, there is an additional bond lengthening effect due to orbital interactions that is not overcome by the modest bond compression resulting from the repulsive interactions.

At this point, one may wonder why there is strong Pauli and nuclei–nuclei repulsion (i.e. bond shortening effect) at the energy minimum of a blue-shifted dihydrogen bond. For F<sub>3</sub>C–H $\cdots$ H–Be–H we suggest that this bond shortening effect stems from the electrostatic attraction between the positively charged carbon in F<sub>3</sub>C–H and the negatively charged hydrogen in H–Be–H (see Scheme 1). Because of this C $\cdots$ H attraction, the H $\cdots$ H distance in the complex is so short that H $\cdots$ H repulsion is significant. Although the energetic effect of this H $\cdots$ H repulsion is completely compensated by that of the H $\cdots$ H and C $\cdots$ H attraction resulting in a stable complex, the H $\cdots$ H repulsion forces the C–H bond to contract upon the complex formation.



Scheme 1

## CONCLUSION

There are two valuable outcomes of this study. First, blue-shifted dihydrogen bonds, including some conventional linear ones and some unconventional double-interacting ones, were predicted to be present in a variety of non-covalent complexes including F<sub>3</sub>C–H $\cdots$ H–Be–X, F<sub>3</sub>C–H $\cdots$ H–Mg–X, F<sub>3</sub>C–H $\cdots$ H–Si–X, F<sub>3</sub>Si–H $\cdots$ H–Li, F<sub>3</sub>Si–H $\cdots$ H–Be–X, F<sub>3</sub>Si–H $\cdots$ H–Mg–X and F<sub>3</sub>Si–H $\cdots$ H–Si (X = H, F, Cl, and CH<sub>3</sub>). Second, on the basis of state-of-art NBO analyses and potential energy surface analyses, it was demonstrated that Pauli and nuclei–nuclei repulsions between the protonic hydrogen and hydridic hydrogen are the cause of the blue shift.

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