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To cite this article: Carmen E. Stoenoiu, Mihai V. Putz & Lorentz Jäntschi (2024) Is triple crossed  $C_{28}$  cyclic polyynes cluster a stable conformation?, Fullerene, Nanotubes and Carbon Nanostructures, 32:1, 55-67, DOI: [10.1080/1536383X.2023.2261573](https://doi.org/10.1080/1536383X.2023.2261573)

To link to this article: <https://doi.org/10.1080/1536383X.2023.2261573>



Published online: 06 Nov 2023.



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## Is triple crossed $C_{28}$ cyclic polyyne cluster a stable conformation?

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### ABSTRACT

Polyynes sometimes referred to as oligoynes or carbinoids, and their resonance cumulene form are valuable precursors to a whole series of more complex organic derivatives. Motivated by a series of studies that explore the stabilization of polyynes, in different ways, the possibility of their stabilization through the formation of crossed cycles is explored in this article. It is easy to notice that the cyclic conformations represent a special case, in that they possess an increased symmetry. The stability of the polyene molecule can be enhanced by building cross-clusters. In this article, the molecular modeling tools were employed in order to provide insights about the construction and stability of  $3C_{28}$  triple crossed  $C_{28}$  cyclic polyyne cluster. It has been shown that  $C_{28}$  and  $3C_{28}$  triple crossed  $C_{28}$  are very similar energetically. HOMO–LUMO gap suggests a metallic conductivity. The angles between the planes of the molecular rings shows almost an axial alignment of the rings. A symmetry-constrained optimization was conducted using Z-matrix internal coordinates and Gaussian software, and it revealed that the geometrical conformation of  $C_{28}$  polyyne as triple crossed cluster is a stable conformation, since in all investigated scenarios the convergence is assured and it is to nearly optimum local points.

### ARTICLE HISTORY

Received 6 August 2023  
Accepted 15 September 2023

### KEYWORDS

Polyynes; molecular clusters; density functional theory (DFT)

## 1. Introduction

Even if polyynes have been isolated from a wide variety of cultures of higher fungi,<sup>[1]</sup> different plant species,<sup>[2–6]</sup> bacteria,<sup>[7]</sup> marine sponges,<sup>[8,9]</sup> and even corals,<sup>[10]</sup> and they represent a unique class of compounds with antibacterial,<sup>[11]</sup> anticancer,<sup>[12]</sup> antimicrobial,<sup>[13]</sup> antifeedant<sup>[14]</sup> antifungal,<sup>[15]</sup> anti-HIV,<sup>[16,17]</sup> antitumor,<sup>[18]</sup> and pesticidal<sup>[19]</sup> activities, their full potential in the pharmaceutical and medical fields has not yet been exhaustively explored (for instance, as vitamins carriers<sup>[20]</sup>). The conjugation of the triple bonds appears to be a very effective inhibitor of transient receptor potential channels of ankyrin type-1 for some endemic plants,<sup>[21]</sup> but recent discoveries of the role of some polyynes produced by bacteria as chemical weapons against hosts and competitors<sup>[22]</sup> put the research of polyynes into a new light for medical use.

All biologically produced polyynes and most of the synthetic ones are small, because the stability of the linear polyynes decreases with their length.

The recent rediscovery of polyyne molecules<sup>[23]</sup> (carbine in Ref. [24]) is due to their unique features of single and triple bond alternation. Oligomeric cousins of carbene are of

scientific interest as well, as linear or cyclic complexes.<sup>[25]</sup> If a single C–C bond has an average distance of 1.53–1.54 Å and dissociation energy of 3.6–3.9 eV, then the presence of a double or triple bond updates these values to about 1.33 Å and 7.4 eV and to about 1.20 Å and 10 eV, respectively.<sup>[26]</sup> With an average of 22% in length compared to a single bond and of 13% compared to an aromatic bond, and a 167% average increase in energy compared to a single bond and of 83% compared to aromatic bond, the triple bonds between Carbon atoms are very attractive for applications requiring dense materials<sup>[27]</sup> with very good compressibility.<sup>[28]</sup> The space inside polyyne, carbene, carbene, and other planar and approximately planar rings may facilitate formation of complexes.<sup>[29]</sup> A series of more polar compounds results when Boron and Nitrogen replaces Carbon in a regular manner.<sup>[30,31]</sup>

The resonance between open-shell biradical structure (polyyne form) and closed-shell Kekulé structure (cumulene form) is the key to getting an entire series of derivatives.<sup>[32,33]</sup> Its immediate use is to arrive to poly-functionalized compounds<sup>[34]</sup> and  $\pi$ -conjugated polymers,<sup>[35,36]</sup> but,

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nevertheless, polyne form  $((-C\equiv)_n)$  structure is favored<sup>[37]</sup> over cumulene  $((=C=)_n)$ .

Experimental,<sup>[38–40]</sup> theoretical,<sup>[37,41–43]</sup> and review<sup>[44–46]</sup> studies were dedicated to characterize polyne.

While synthesizing an abundance of small and medium-sized chains ( $n \leq 32$ ) was reported some time ago,<sup>[47]</sup> very good yields (72%, 36%, and 51% for  $n=20, 24$ , and 28, respectively) were more recently reported.<sup>[48]</sup> A long chain ( $n > 300$ ) was reportedly being synthesized as well.<sup>[49]</sup> Separation techniques made progress as well.

The tendency of the polyynes to form rings was observed (when  $22 \leq n \leq 46$ ) at laser vaporization of graphite as a secondary product in the synthesis of fullerenes in Ref. [50]. Meanwhile, the separation techniques have progressed.<sup>[51]</sup> Since cumulenes may act as reactive intermediates,<sup>[52]</sup> synthetic routes to cyclic compounds may simply require a conformational lock.<sup>[53]</sup>

Cyclization of polyynes ( $n = 10, 14$  and 18 in Ref. [54]; 24 in Ref. [55];  $n = 18, 22, 26$  and 30 in Ref. [56]) may provide further insight into their stabilization, and the same applies for cumulenes.<sup>[57,58]</sup> Moreover, old<sup>[59,60]</sup> and new<sup>[46,55]</sup> studies are in support of the fact that certain rings are more stable than linear chains. Specifically, in Ref. [55] it is noted that rings are more likely to appear when  $n \geq 14$  and  $n = 4 \cdot k$  ( $n = 16, 20, 24, 28, \dots$ ).

Pieces of evidence that crosslinking of the chains stabilizes molecules as a cluster are Refs. [61,62] and [63].

The stability of the unsaturated polyyne/cumulenic configuration can be further increased by condensation. In this article, results about the stability of  $C_{28}$  are communicated, as well as the potential of further increase for its stability by condensing as a triple crossed cluster.

## 2. Methods

For selecting the appropriate method of further optimization, a comparison study was conducted on a much simpler molecule ( $N\equiv N$ , see Table 1).

The study was conducted in a much deeper extent (among others also Møller Plesset's MP2) but Table 1 contains, for simplification, only the methods significant in connection with the results (BP) along with three others. As Table 1 reveals (see entry BP/6-311G\* in Table 1;  $\Delta_r = \frac{191.61-191.61}{191.61} + \frac{20.81-20.80}{20.81} + \frac{14.01-13.94}{14.01} + \frac{110.8-109.8}{109.8} = 1.5\%$ ), the lowest departure between the model and experiment for the selected set of properties appears first at DFT BP 6-311G\* (theory level, exchange and correlation functional, basis set), which was selected as the final working package of the optimization for the cluster.

### 2.1. Cluster topology analysis

Cluster topology can be characterized by the crosses between the rings. In a way, crossing two rings in a cluster is similar to connecting two atoms with a bond in a molecule: once crossed (respectively connected), the reverse can be obtained only if the bond is disconnected. Considering cluster topology is specified by the crosses between rings, it is a

**Table 1.** Experimental vs. calculated (at two theory levels) values for Four properties at  $N\equiv N$ .

Basis set	M1	M2	M3	M4	$\Delta_r$
Experimental data					
	191.61	20.81	13.94	109.8	0.0
Method: HF					
STO-3G	191.99	20.79	15.97	113.4	18.1
3-21G	191.23	20.79	15.62	108.3	13.7
6-31G*	191.16	20.79	16.49	107.8	20.4
6-31G**	191.16	20.79	16.49	107.8	20.4
6-31 + G*	191.16	20.79	16.46	107.8	20.2
6-311G*	191.03	20.79	16.39	107.0	20.5
6-311 + G**	191.04	20.79	16.35	107.1	20.1
Method: BP					
6-31G*	191.75	20.8	14.05	111.8	2.7
6-31G**	191.75	20.8	14.05	111.8	2.7
6-31 + G*	191.74	20.8	14.05	111.7	2.6
6-311G*	191.61	20.8	14.01	110.8	1.5
6-311 + G**	191.61	20.8	14.01	110.8	1.5
6-311++G**	191.61	20.8	14.01	110.8	1.5
Method: BLYP					
6-31G*	191.95	24.96	13.35	111.8	26.2
6-31G**	191.95	24.96	13.35	111.8	26.2
6-31 + G*	191.95	24.96	13.31	111.8	26.5
6-311G*	191.95	24.97	12.81	110.8	29.2
6-311 + G**	191.95	24.97	12.81	110.8	29.2
6-311++G**	191.95	24.97	12.81	110.8	29.2
Method: B3LYP					
6-31G*	191.95	24.96	13.42	110.6	24.6
6-31G**	191.95	24.96	13.42	110.6	24.6
6-31 + G*	191.95	24.96	13.38	110.5	24.8
6-311G*	191.95	24.97	12.90	109.5	27.9
6-311 + G**	191.95	24.97	12.89	109.6	27.9
6-311++G**	191.95	24.97	12.89	109.6	27.9

Note: All data is given at normal ( $T=298.15$  K and  $p=101,325$  N · m<sup>-2</sup>) temperature ( $T$ ) and pressure ( $p$ ). M1 =  $S^\circ$  (J · mol<sup>-1</sup> · K<sup>-1</sup>); M2 =  $C_V$  (J · mol<sup>-1</sup> · K<sup>-1</sup>); M3 = ZPE (kJ · mol<sup>-1</sup>); M4 =  $d_{N,N}$  (pm);  $\Delta_r = \sum_{i=1}^4 \Delta_{r,i}$ , in %.  $\Delta_{r,i} = \frac{|Value_{Experimental,M_i} - Value_{Method,M_i}|}{Value_{Experimental,M_i}}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ .

HF: Restricted Hartree-Fock [64–67]; BP: Density Functional Theory (DFT, [68,69]) BP86 (with Exchange = Becke [70], Correlation = Perdew [71]); BLYP: DFT BLYP (with Exchange = Becke [70], Correlation = LYP [72]); DFT B3LYP (with Exchange = 0.2 Hartree-Fock + 0.08 Slater + 0.72 Becke [73], Correlation = 0.81 LYP + 0.19 VWN1RPA [73,74]). Ref. for experimental data: [75]. Spartan'14 software was used [76] for calculations.

distinct possibility to keep two rings together by crossing-over the rings, which is similar to connecting two atoms by a bond (see Figure 1). But the bunch of van der Waals effects acting in the interlocked rings follow a different physics than the nominal bond, so one can see the similarity more like a convention for the sake of topological language.

If a molecular topology ([77]; table 2 in Ref. [78]) is defined by a series of bonds (general case in Equation (1) with  $v_i$  atoms and  $e_j$  bond orders) which is 1, 2, 1 for the diatomic molecule depicted in Figure 1 then a cluster topology ([79]; figure 10 in Ref. [43]) is defined by a series of crosses (general case in the same Equation (1), only with the meanings changed:  $v_i$  molecules and  $e_j$  number of in-between crosses).

$$v_1, v_2, e_1 \quad (1)$$

...

### 2.2. Cluster geometry analysis

Each polyne is the cyclic version of the linear one (see Figures 2 and 3) having the capping hydrogens removed.

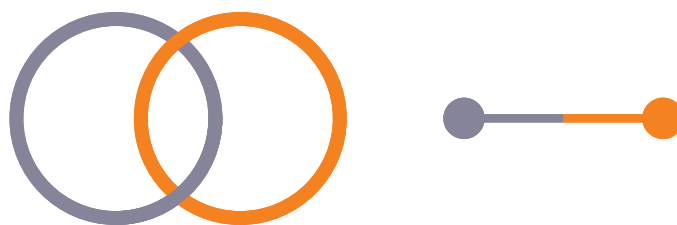


Figure 1. Crossing of two molecular rings (left) and the chemical bond (right).



Figure 2. Hydrogen capped  $C_{28}H_6$  (linear) polyynes.



Figure 3. Hydrogen capped  $C_{28}H_2$  (linear) polyynes.

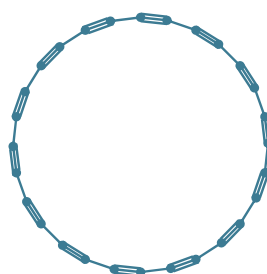


Figure 4. Cyclic  $C_{28}$  polyynes.

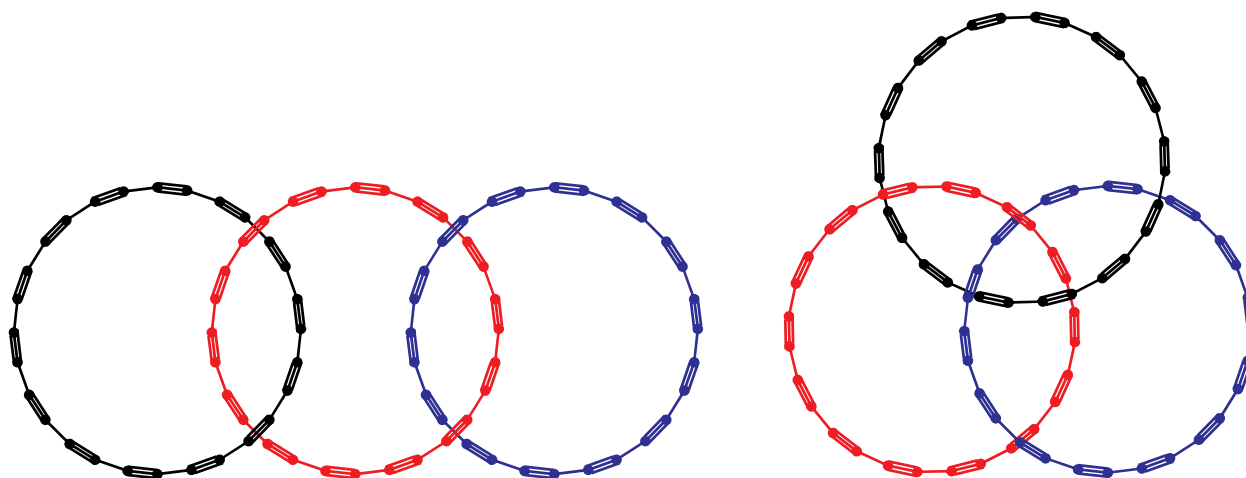


Figure 5. Cluster topology for two (left) and three (right) crosses of three cyclic polyynes.

Bending the polyynane is expected to be costly regarding the stability, but the formation of another bond is expected to at least partly compensate. For this reason, the energies were calculated and given for comparison (see § 3).

A separate study was employed, in which the stable geometric conformation of  $C_{28}$  polyynane (in Figure 4) was optimized.

Optimizing the geometry of a cluster is much more complex than that of a simple ring. After topology was defined (see § 2.1), the initial cluster geometry was optimized using the software reported in §3 of Ref. [43]. In this stage, the atoms were frozen inside of the molecule, and for each molecule, 7 degrees of freedom (3 for the center of the molecule, 3 for defining the plane of the molecule, and 1 for

rotation for the molecule around its symmetry axis) were subject of finding; minimizing the sum of the inverses of the fourth power of the distances between atoms was found to be suitable for solving the problem (for more details please see<sup>[43]</sup>).

Next, the geometry optimization (energy minimization) was applied (until convergence) for DFT BP 6-311G\* (178 + 38 optimization steps).

In the case of the cyclic  $C_{28}$  polyynane (see Figure 4), the analysis using DFT BP 6-311G\* model has revealed that the bonds are approximately equal (C–C (single) bonds: 1.3256 Å with a standard deviation of  $4 \cdot 10^{-5}$  Å; C≡C (triple) bond: 1.2534 Å with a standard deviation of  $8 \cdot 10^{-6}$  Å). The fluctuation inside each type is very small, so with a

**Table 2.** DFT BP 6-311G\* minimized energy data.

Object	Value	Remark
Total energy (in Hartree):		
H <sub>2</sub>	-1.17505	DFT BP 6-311 G* value
C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	-1070.17173	Represented in Figure 2
C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	-1067.68073	Represented in Figure 3
C <sub>28</sub>	-1066.45763	Represented in Figure 4
3C <sub>28</sub> (3×)	-3199.36045	Represented 2D in Figure 5 bottom
C—C bond length (in Å):		
C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	1.341	Bonds: 2×1.31, 6×1.32, 2×1.33, 2×1.34, 2×1.45
C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	1.321	Bonds: 5×1.31, 6×1.32, 2×1.33, 2×1.34, 0×1.45
C <sub>28</sub>	1.3256	Standard deviation: 4 · 10 <sup>-5</sup> Å
3C <sub>28</sub> (3×)	1.3257	Standard deviation: 1 · 10 <sup>-4</sup> Å
C≡C bond length (in Å):		
C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	1.2523	Bonds: 2×1.23, 0×1.24, 4×1.25, 7×1.26
C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	1.2514	Bonds: 2×1.23, 2×1.24, 2×1.25, 8×1.26
C <sub>28</sub>	1.2534	Standard deviation: 8 · 10 <sup>-6</sup> Å
3C <sub>28</sub> (3×)	1.2535	Standard deviation: 8 · 10 <sup>-5</sup> Å
Highest occupied molecular orbital energy (HOMO, in eV):		
C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	-5.40	LUMO energy: -4.26 eV
C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	-5.65	LUMO energy: -4.56 eV
C <sub>28</sub>	-5.55	LUMO energy: -4.93 eV
3C <sub>28</sub> (3×)	-5.52	LUMO energy: -4.92 eV

certain confidence it can be said that the bonds of each type are of the same length.

### 3. Results and discussion

#### 3.1. General data for 3C<sub>28</sub> triple crossed C<sub>28</sub> cyclic polylyne cluster

Figure 5 gives (the) two different topologies of crossing three cyclic polylynes: with two and with three crosses.

In terms of topology (see Equation (1)), the double crossed 3C<sub>28</sub> polylyne (Figure 5 left) is defined by {(1, 2, 1), (2, 3, 1)}, and corresponds to the molecular topology of propene (<), while the triple crossed 3C<sub>28</sub> polylyne (Figure 5 right) is defined by {(1, 2, 1), (1, 3, 1), (2, 3, 1)}, and corresponds to the molecular topology of cyclopropene (C).

The total energy data obtained from DFT BP 6-311G\* (see Table 2) shows a loss of about 0.19 Hartree to bend C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>6</sub> and form from it the C<sub>28</sub> polylyne ( $E(\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_6) - E(\text{C}_{28}) - 3E(\text{H}_2) = 0.19$  Hartree), and even less than that, 0.05 Hartree, when starting from C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>2</sub> ( $E(\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_2) - E(\text{C}_{28}) - E(\text{H}_2) = 0.05$  Hartree). The values above ( $3 \cdot 0.05$  Hartree < 0.19 Hartree) are in line with expectations; the polylynic system (like the cumulenenic one) is highly unsaturated (in deficit of electrons, which can be partly gained from Hydrogen atoms), and the addition of a larger number of hydrogen atoms brings the system closer to its most energetically favorable state. On the other hand, the same values suggest that C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>2</sub> is in a closer energy state to the cyclic polylyne, and therefore is more likely to bend and cyclize.

When expressed per proton (or per electron), the total energy of the triple-crossed 3C<sub>28</sub> cyclic polylyne is greater than the one of C<sub>28</sub> with about 10<sup>-5</sup> Hartree, which indicates a good potential to get a condensed state of C<sub>28</sub> as triple crossed 3C<sub>28</sub>. The difference is slightly higher than the one for 3C<sub>26</sub>(3×). Bond lengths reveal that the increase in length of the double bond by condensation of the C<sub>26</sub> into the triple crossed 3C<sub>28</sub> cluster is insignificant (0.001 Å for

both single and triple bonds), but it exists; it may be caused by a slightly sterical constraint in the cluster. Two comments are to be made here. First, in some instances it is beneficial to be slightly constrained, such as when changing the allotropic state is intended; one should remember that artificial diamonds are obtainable from high pressure shocks on graphite grains. Second, if 3C<sub>28</sub>(3×) cluster is slightly constrained, then perhaps its next congener, 3C<sub>30</sub>(3×) better accommodates clusters of Carbon atoms. The HOMO–LUMO gap is systematically decreased (see Table 3) from 1.14 eV (at C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>6</sub>) to 1.09 eV (at C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>2</sub>), to 0.62 eV (to C<sub>28</sub>), and to 0.60 eV (to 3C<sub>28</sub>(3×)). Noticing that compounds with less than 0.5 eV reveal metallic conductivity in the solid state [80] makes 3C<sub>28</sub>(3×) a desirable target for electronics applications.

#### 3.2. Further characterization of 3C<sub>28</sub> triple crossed C<sub>28</sub> cyclic polylyne cluster

The geometry of 3C<sub>28</sub> triple crossed C<sub>28</sub> polylyne cluster (3C<sub>28</sub>(3×)) has been subjected to geometry optimization using DFT BP 6-311G\*. A large amount of time is required for the calculation. The optimized geometry is depicted in Figure 6 and the electronic density is depicted in Figure 7, while the Cartesian geometric coordinates of the atoms are given in the Appendix A.3.

Since all the above are purely informative and did not provide a characterization, a further investigation has been conducted.

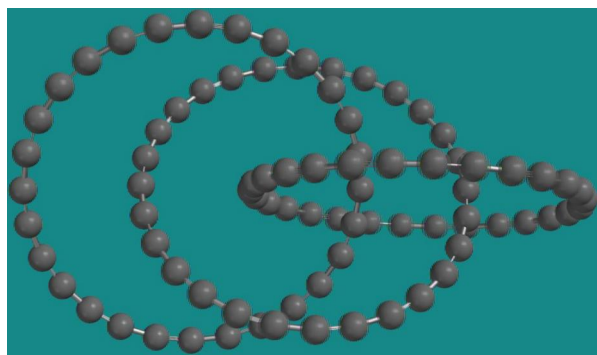
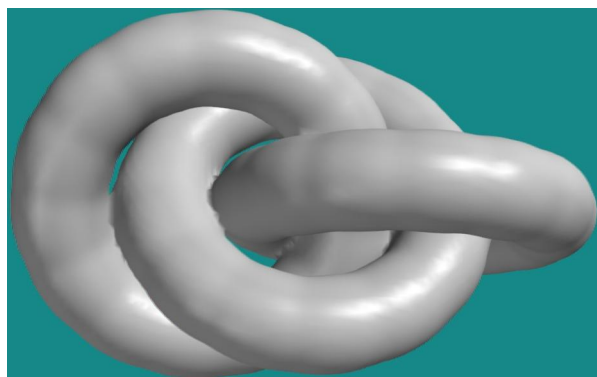
The 3C<sub>28</sub>(3×) cluster possesses both RAMAN and IR active vibrations. A relatively large number of vibrations can be listed ( $3 \cdot 3 \cdot 28 - 6$  are expected), however, of interest are the most intense ones (see Figure 8).

Please note that the vibration analysis should be conducted on the same level of theory and with the same basis set as the geometry optimization, otherwise, the obtained frequencies have no meaning since the first derivatives of the energy with respect to displacement of the atoms are zero only in that instance.

**Table 3.** Cluster conformation from DFT BP 6-311G\* minimized energy data.

Parameter	Value
Center coordinates ((x,y,z), in Å, ± standard deviation):	
mol 1	(+3.846±0.006, -0.115±0.006, -0.040±0.006)
mol 2	(-0.024±0.035, +0.220±0.035, +0.069±0.035)
mol 3	(-3.824±0.035, -0.121±0.006, -0.025±0.035)
Molecular torus radius (in Å, ± standard deviation):	
mol 1	5.759 ±0.011
mol 2	5.758 ±0.061
mol 3	5.759 ±0.011
Versors ((v <sub>x</sub> , v <sub>y</sub> , v <sub>z</sub> ), in Å, ± standard deviation):	
mol 1	(-0.029±0.024, -0.873±0.011, -0.487±0.018)
mol 2	(+0.039±0.023, -0.999±0.022, +0.023±0.001)
mol 3	(+0.031±0.020, -0.874±0.009, +0.484±0.016)
Rotation angle on Oz, in °, to get first atom on Ox:	
mol 1	2.40
mol 2	-13.48
mol 3	1.76
In between angles, in °, ± standard deviation):	
mol 1 vs. mol 2	60.5±0.06
mol 1 vs. mol 3	58.2±0.05
mol 2 vs. mol 3	61.7±0.05

Note: All atoms have the coordinates given in Appendix 4: mol 1 is defined by the first 28 lines; mol 2 is defined by lines 29–56; mol 3 is defined by lines 57–84.

**Figure 6.** 3D perspective of 3C<sub>28</sub>(3×) cluster.**Figure 7.** Electronic density at 3C<sub>28</sub>(3×) cluster at 0.001 e<sup>0</sup>/Å<sup>3</sup>.

Since the cluster is big and the molecules are disconnected, it is expected to be difficult to reach a minimum stationary point so the computation of the vibrations produces some imaginary frequencies. It is known that accuracy of the computation may produce false positive imaginary frequencies, so calculations were run with very high accuracy (SCFTolerance=VeryHigh in Spartan, equivalent of Opt=VeryTight in Gaussian). However, for a very small basis set (STO-3G), optimization followed by vibration analysis of 3C<sub>28</sub>(3×) produced 0 imaginary frequencies and a

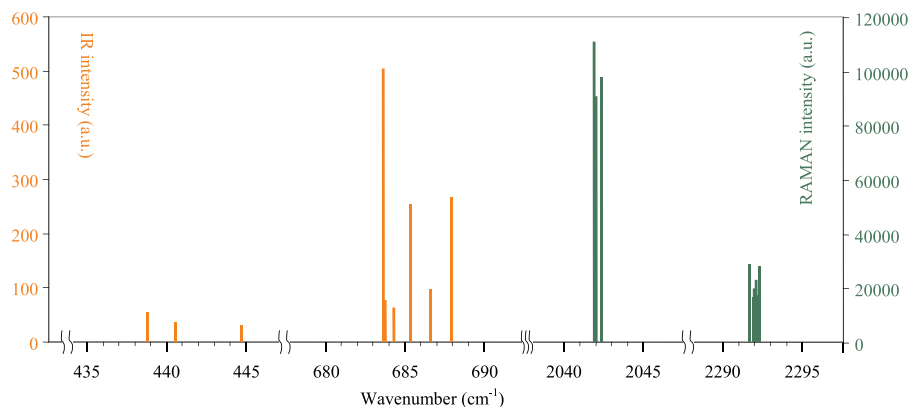
total of 241 distinct ones. Moving on to the next basis set (3-21G), there appeared 1 imaginary frequency and a total of 242 distinct ones, and in the next (6-31G), there appeared 2 imaginary frequencies and a total of 243 distinct ones (from 246 expected). Other authors have observed similar behaviors.<sup>[81,82]</sup> One may argue it is expected that, using bigger and bigger basis sets, at a certain point all expected frequencies appear, but, according to the trend, all surplus ones are expected to appear imaginary. Going further, this suggests that 3C<sub>28</sub>(3×) cluster is energetically in a saddle point and easily may break apart or, more likely, convert into a more stable configuration. Note that there are 24 isomers for C<sub>84</sub> fullerene<sup>[83]</sup> in which 3C<sub>28</sub>(3×) may convert. There are several ways that can explore the stability of the cluster in more detail, including further *ab initio* calculations<sup>[84]</sup> and the calculation of phonon dispersion.<sup>[85,86]</sup>

Calculating coordinates of the centers of the rings and of the versors perpendicular to their planes allows the evaluation of the radii of the rings, as well as of the angles between them (see Table 3).

The relative position of the rings and their orientation, along with the topology of the cluster are probably the key topological and geometrical invariants. Formally, the cluster topology is defined by molecules' composition in atoms as well as by the crosses between the rods (Equation (2)):

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{mol 1} &: \text{atom}_1, \dots, \text{atom}_{28} \\
 \text{mol 2} &: \text{atom}_{29}, \dots, \text{atom}_{56} \\
 \text{mol 3} &: \text{atom}_{57}, \dots, \text{atom}_{78} \\
 \text{cross 1} &: \text{mol 1, mol 2} \\
 \text{cross 2} &: \text{mol 1, mol 3} \\
 \text{cross 3} &: \text{mol 2, mol 3}
 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

It should be noticed that the values of the angles between the molecular rings of the cluster (see Table 3) are close to the values of a perfect split of a full rotation (60°) while, again, the topology of the cluster corresponds to the molecular topology of cyclopropene (C).



**Figure 8.** RAMAN and IR vibrations having at least 5% relative Intensity (from the most intense line).

**Table 4.** Z-matrix specification of symmetry constrained  $C_{28}$  cyclic polyyne.

Topology						
C						
C	1	$c_0$				
C	2	$c_1$	1	$c_2$		
...						
C	$2k + 1$	$c_0$	$2k$	$c_2$	$2k - 1$	$c_3$
C	$2k + 2$	$c_1$	$2k + 1$	$c_2$	$2k$	$c_3$
...						
C	1	$c_1$	2	$c_2$	3	$c_3$

Note:  $c_0$ ,  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$ , and  $c_3$  are numeric floating point values and  $k = 1, 2, \dots, 12$ .

### 3.3. The symmetrical alignment of atoms and molecules

Revealed in Figure 6, but more evident in Figure 7, is that the arrangement of the molecules is with the coordinates of the approximately axial centers and their molecular planes twisted. The analysis presented in Table 3 shows that these angles are approximately 60 degrees (60.5, 58.2, and 61.7 in Table 3).

One can therefore see the natural situation in which each molecule is considered approximately flat, in which case the number of degrees of freedom is dramatically reduced (from  $3 \times 28 - 28$  to  $3 + 3 + 1$ ). Once this assumption is accepted, that the molecule can be planar, the geometric optimization should follow this constraint. It is possible to make a new optimization of the molecular geometry, taking into account this constraint. In this case, the molecular topology must be specified so as to take into account the constraint. One possibility is using the Z-matrix syntax, which is an elegant way to represent the molecule in a delocalized internal coordinate system.<sup>[87]</sup>

It is relatively simple to specify a single molecule that is subject to constraints due to chemical bonds. Thus, the  $C_{28}$  cyclic polyyne can be specified as in Table 4.

The closest symmetrical conformation to the asymmetrical one is the one in which  $c_0 = 1.3257 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c_1 = 1.2535 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c_2 = 167.10^\circ$ , and  $c_3 = 0.06^\circ$ , but this is not optimal.

In the Table 4 topology, the condition for the molecule to be planar is  $c_3 = 0^\circ$ , so for an optimization in which the planarity of the molecule is a constraint,  $c_3 = 0^\circ$  is a constant.

The Table 4 topology can be used to obtain the symmetrical molecular conformation relatively quickly. Starting from the values  $c_0 = 1.3257 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c_1 = 1.2535 \text{ \AA}$ , and  $c_2 = 167.10^\circ$ , with  $c_3 = 0.0^\circ$  set as constant, BP 3-21 G identifies

as the minimum energy conformation the one in which  $c_0 = 1.3257 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c_1 = 1.2548 \text{ \AA}$ , and  $c_2 = 167.14^\circ$  (after 105 steps with Gaussian 09w<sup>[88]</sup>).

Specifying the  $C_{28}$  cyclic polyyne in internal coordinates by using the Z-matrix file provided a natural way to express and constrain the symmetry of the molecule. Upon taking a closer look to the Z-matrix in Table 4, only four variables are there ( $c_0$  to  $c_3$ , two distances –  $c_0$  and  $c_1$  – and two angles –  $c_2$  and  $c_3$ ) instead of  $3 \times 28$  if one refers to the Cartesian, or  $3 \times 28 - 28$  considering the constrains given by the bonds.

To specify the positioning of the second molecule in relation to the first and respectively of the third in relation to the second (Table 5) is slightly more difficult.

As in the case of cyclic  $C_{28}$  polyyne, in the case of  $3C_{28}$  there are two constraints that can be set constant:  $a_0 = 167.14^\circ$  and  $d_0 = 0.0$ .

The  $3C_{28}(3 \times)$  cluster can be subjected to constrained optimization with the above given topology. Gaussian 09w<sup>[88]</sup> was used starting from various initial values and the results are given in Tables 6 and 7.

In the previous list  $r_1$ ,  $r_2$ ,  $b_1$  and  $b_3$  are distances (in  $\text{\AA}$ ),  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,  $a_3$  and  $a_4$  are bond angles (in  $^\circ$ , between  $0^\circ$  and  $180^\circ$ ) and  $d_1$ ,  $d_2$ ,  $d_3$ ,  $d_4$ ,  $d_5$  and  $d_6$  are dihedral angles (in  $^\circ$ , between  $0^\circ$  and  $360^\circ$ ). All the optimizations listed in Tables 6 and 7 were convergent (see as proof HF 3-21 G and BP 3-21G Gaussian outputs in Appendix A.4) and support the hypothesis of the of the stability of the  $3C_{28}(3 \times)$  polyynic system. Optimum values proposed by the different optimization methods (see *Optimized values* columns in Tables 6 and 7) are very close to each other, suggesting that the difference is only due to method and basis set refinement levels.

An even greater benefit is the use of the symmetry constrains expressed in the terms of the Z-matrix to optimize the geometry of the cluster (Table 5) than it was for optimizing the geometry of the molecule (Table 4). Please note also that the use of the symmetry dramatically reduces the complexity of the cluster optimization problem, to 16 variables instead of  $3 \times 3 \times 28$  (without bond constrains) or  $3 \times (3 \times 28 - 28)$  with bond constrains.

It must be recognized that, for most applications, the levels of theory used here (HF and BP) are considered crude,

**Table 5.** Z-matrix specification of symmetry constrained  $3C_{28}(3\times)$  cyclic polyene cluster.

	Topology					
C1						
C2	1	$b_1$				
C3	2	$b_3$	1	$a_0$		
C4	3	$b_1$	2	$a_0$	1	$d_0$
C5	4	$b_3$	3	$a_0$	2	$d_0$
C6	5	$b_1$	4	$a_0$	3	$d_0$
C7	6	$b_3$	5	$a_0$	4	$d_0$
C8	7	$b_1$	6	$a_0$	5	$d_0$
C9	8	$b_3$	7	$a_0$	6	$d_0$
C10	9	$b_1$	8	$a_0$	7	$d_0$
C11	10	$b_3$	9	$a_0$	8	$d_0$
C12	11	$b_1$	10	$a_0$	9	$d_0$
C13	12	$b_3$	11	$a_0$	10	$d_0$
C14	13	$b_1$	12	$a_0$	11	$d_0$
C15	14	$b_3$	13	$a_0$	12	$d_0$
C16	15	$b_1$	14	$a_0$	13	$d_0$
C17	16	$b_3$	15	$a_0$	14	$d_0$
C18	17	$b_1$	16	$a_0$	15	$d_0$
C19	18	$b_3$	17	$a_0$	16	$d_0$
C20	19	$b_1$	18	$a_0$	17	$d_0$
C21	20	$b_3$	19	$a_0$	18	$d_0$
C22	21	$b_1$	20	$a_0$	19	$d_0$
C23	22	$b_3$	21	$a_0$	20	$d_0$
C24	23	$b_1$	22	$a_0$	21	$d_0$
C25	24	$b_3$	23	$a_0$	22	$d_0$
C26	25	$b_1$	24	$a_0$	23	$d_0$
C27	26	$b_3$	25	$a_0$	24	$d_0$
C28	27	$b_1$	26	$a_0$	25	$d_0$
C29	28	$r_1$	27	$a_1$	26	$d_1$
C30	29	$b_1$	28	$a_2$	27	$d_2$
C31	30	$b_3$	29	$a_0$	28	$d_5$
C32	31	$b_1$	30	$a_0$	29	$d_0$
C33	32	$b_3$	31	$a_0$	30	$d_0$
C34	33	$b_1$	32	$a_0$	31	$d_0$
C35	34	$b_3$	33	$a_0$	32	$d_0$
C36	35	$b_1$	34	$a_0$	33	$d_0$
C37	36	$b_3$	35	$a_0$	34	$d_0$
C38	37	$b_1$	36	$a_0$	35	$d_0$
C39	38	$b_3$	37	$a_0$	36	$d_0$
C40	39	$b_1$	38	$a_0$	37	$d_0$
C41	40	$b_3$	39	$a_0$	38	$d_0$
C42	41	$b_1$	40	$a_0$	39	$d_0$
C43	42	$b_3$	41	$a_0$	40	$d_0$
C44	43	$b_1$	42	$a_0$	41	$d_0$
C45	44	$b_3$	43	$a_0$	42	$d_0$
C46	45	$b_1$	44	$a_0$	43	$d_0$
C47	46	$b_3$	45	$a_0$	44	$d_0$
C48	47	$b_1$	46	$a_0$	45	$d_0$
C49	48	$b_3$	47	$a_0$	46	$d_0$
C50	49	$b_1$	48	$a_0$	47	$d_0$
C51	50	$b_3$	49	$a_0$	48	$d_0$
C52	51	$b_1$	50	$a_0$	49	$d_0$
C53	52	$b_3$	51	$a_0$	50	$d_0$
C54	53	$b_1$	52	$a_0$	51	$d_0$
C55	54	$b_3$	53	$a_0$	52	$d_0$
C56	55	$b_1$	54	$a_0$	53	$d_0$
C57	56	$r_2$	55	$a_3$	54	$d_3$
C58	57	$b_1$	56	$a_4$	55	$d_4$
C59	58	$b_3$	57	$a_0$	29	$d_6$
C60	59	$b_1$	58	$a_0$	57	$d_0$
C61	60	$b_3$	59	$a_0$	58	$d_0$
C62	61	$b_1$	60	$a_0$	59	$d_0$
C63	62	$b_3$	61	$a_0$	60	$d_0$
C64	63	$b_1$	62	$a_0$	61	$d_0$
C65	64	$b_3$	63	$a_0$	62	$d_0$
C66	65	$b_1$	64	$a_0$	63	$d_0$
C67	66	$b_3$	65	$a_0$	64	$d_0$
C68	67	$b_1$	66	$a_0$	65	$d_0$
C69	68	$b_3$	67	$a_0$	66	$d_0$
C70	69	$b_1$	68	$a_0$	67	$d_0$
C71	70	$b_3$	69	$a_0$	68	$d_0$
C72	71	$b_1$	70	$a_0$	69	$d_0$
C73	72	$b_3$	71	$a_0$	70	$d_0$

(continued)

**Table 5.** Continued.

	Topology					
C74	73	$b_1$	72	$a_0$	71	$d_0$
C75	74	$b_3$	73	$a_0$	72	$d_0$
C76	75	$b_1$	74	$a_0$	73	$d_0$
C77	76	$b_3$	75	$a_0$	74	$d_0$
C78	77	$b_1$	76	$a_0$	75	$d_0$
C79	78	$b_3$	77	$a_0$	76	$d_0$
C80	79	$b_1$	78	$a_0$	77	$d_0$
C81	80	$b_3$	79	$a_0$	78	$d_0$
C82	81	$b_1$	80	$a_0$	79	$d_0$
C83	82	$b_3$	81	$a_0$	80	$d_0$
C84	83	$b_1$	82	$a_0$	81	$d_0$

Note:  $a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, d_0, d_1, d_2, d_3, d_4, d_5, d_6, r_1, r_2, b_1,$  and  $b_3$  are numeric (floating point) values.

**Table 6.** HF optimization of symmetry constrained  $3C_{28}(3\times)$  cyclic polyene cluster.

Variable	Initial values			Optimized values			
	Basis set	STO-3G	STO-6G	3-21G	STO-3G	STO-6G	3-21G
$a_1$ (°)		62.3	66.79	67.5572	66.79	67.5572	68.8227
$a_2$ (°)		32.6	31.525	30.7715	31.525	30.7715	31.103
$a_3$ (°)		93.9	99.8835	100.7864	99.8835	100.7864	101.8435
$a_4$ (°)		73.4	67.8085	66.3221	67.8085	66.3221	73.1824
$d_1$ (°)		9.2	20.8758	21.8711	20.8758	21.8711	18.7214
$d_2$ (°)		264.5	288.0992	293.8228	288.0992	293.8228	304.1934
$d_3$ (°)		336	352.3978	352.396	352.3978	352.396	350.0585
$d_4$ (°)		101.7	79.8583	80.3866	79.8583	80.3866	86.638
$d_5$ (°)		252.1	259.5932	264.1909	259.5932	264.1909	282.1058
$d_6$ (°)		9.2	41.8704	44.3725	41.8704	44.3725	45.0033
$r_1$ (Å)		5.9	6.6069	6.8445	6.6069	6.8445	7.3985
$r_2$ (Å)		4.9	4.5177	4.6059	4.5177	4.6059	4.5938
$b_1$ (Å)		1.3586	1.3974	1.397	1.3974	1.397	1.3616
$b_3$ (Å)		1.2188	1.1866	1.1849	1.1866	1.1849	1.1969

Note: In each subsequent basis set, the initial values for the *ab-initio* optimization are taken from the optimized values of the previous basis set.

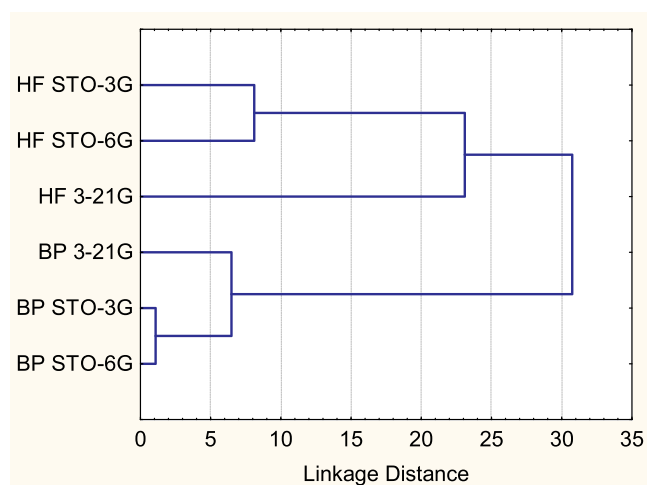
**Table 7.** BP optimization of symmetry constrained  $3C_{28}(3\times)$  cyclic polyene cluster.

Variable	Initial values			Optimized values			
	Basis set	STO-3G	STO-6G	3-21G	STO-3G	STO-6G	3-21G
$a_1$ (°)		62.3	65.1494	65.0223	65.1494	65.0223	65.7197
$a_2$ (°)		32.6	43.8036	44.0403	43.8036	44.0403	45.0451
$a_3$ (°)		93.9	99.3011	98.9842	99.3011	98.9842	98.1413
$a_4$ (°)		73.4	66.8137	66.5817	66.8137	66.5817	65.6638
$d_1$ (°)		9.2	12.9403	13.0418	12.9403	13.0418	13.9321
$d_2$ (°)		264.5	273.2732	273.1815	273.2732	273.1815	274.306
$d_3$ (°)		336	350.7954	350.9283	350.7954	350.9283	356.6947
$d_4$ (°)		101.7	72.9921	72.3379	72.9921	72.3379	71.3572
$d_5$ (°)		252.1	254.6475	254.4274	254.6475	254.4274	252.8502
$d_6$ (°)		9.2	21.0582	20.4029	21.0582	20.4029	20.8467
$r_1$ (Å)		5.9	5.9349	5.9037	5.9349	5.9037	5.8302
$r_2$ (Å)		4.9	4.3368	4.3552	4.3368	4.3552	4.1621
$b_1$ (Å)		1.3586	1.3535	1.3533	1.3535	1.3533	1.326
$b_3$ (Å)		1.2188	1.2637	1.2637	1.2637	1.2637	1.2555

Note: In each subsequent basis set, the initial values for the DFT optimization are taken from the optimized values of the previous basis set.

unrefined, and this represents, on one hand, a limitation of the study, and offers the possibility of its further research on the other hand. Since the level of theory used in this study is limited to *ab-initio* HF and DFT BP, it is an ongoing project to submit the cluster for Møller Plesset methods (MP2 to MP4).

The study conducted on the systematic symmetry constrained optimization provides useful information. Data



**Figure 9.** Clustering of classical ab-initio and DFT methods by euclidean distances of the symmetry constrained  $3C_{28}(3\times)$  optimized values (data from Tables 6 and 7).

from Tables 6 and 7 has been used to obtain the Figure 9 plot.

Figure 9 shows that, both in the case of the HF method and in the case of the BP method, the increase in the number of basis functions (from 3 Gaussians to 6 Gaussians) does not produce significant changes in the values of the optimized parameters (therefore of the cluster location), while the polarization (3-21G in Figure 9) in both cases (HF and BP) brings a significant change. It is then expected that further increasing of the basis set (to cc-pVDZ<sup>[89]</sup>) shall produce new information.

However, the solution proposed by BP 3-21G and HF 3-21G differs the most of all (see the grouping in Figure 9) even if, as mentioned above, the values are very similar (the correlation between their values is 0.995).

$3 C_{28}(3\times)$  cluster is expected to have a good stability. Due to the presence of a large number of unsaturated bonds, it can be a precursor for hard materials. It is an interesting case [3] catenane. Since the rings are not actually connected, they are also expected to have great flexibility. Tuning a variety of properties and functionalization makes materials to be attractive for special applications, especially the ones from medicine and pharmacy.<sup>[90]</sup> Other applications include the ones covered in Refs. [91–93].

#### 4. Conclusions

Bending of polyynes is a difficult task, and crossing rings of polyynes is even more challenging; modeling of the  $3C_{28}$  triple crossed  $C_{28}$  cyclic polyyne cluster proved it. However, the total energy of  $3C_{28}(3\times)$  differs from the total energy of a system of 3 isolated  $C_{28}$  by about 0.01 Hartree, suggesting that  $3C_{28}(3\times)$  is a stable configuration as well. The angles between the planes of the molecular rings ( $60.5^\circ$ ,  $58.2^\circ$ , and  $61.7^\circ$ ) reveal almost an axial alignment of the rings (best visible at electronic densities in Figure 7) very close to a  $C_3$  symmetry. The symmetry constrained optimization studies conducted using Z-matrix internal coordinates with Gaussian software have shown that the geometrical

conformation of  $C_{28}$  polyyne as triple crossed cluster is a stable conformation, since in all scenarios the convergence is to nearby optimum local points, but only with small basis sets. Further studies with larger basis sets and upper theory level are required to validate these findings.

#### Acknowledgments

Help from the reviewers in improving the work was highly appreciated. This contribution was submitted and presented in behalf of NANOMOD (2023): NANO-SCI(ENCE) & NANO-TECH(NOLOGY) MANAGEMENT IN THE DIGITAL AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENT ERA, Research International Workshop – Third Edition, Hosted by SIM 2023: REINVENTING MANAGEMENT IN TURBULENT TIMES, 20–21 October 2023, Timisoara, Romania.

#### Author contributions

C.E.S.: formal analysis, investigation, resources, validation, writing—review and editing; M.V.P.: writing—original draft preparation; L.J.: conceptualization, drawings, methodology, supervision.

#### Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

#### Funding

This research received no external funding.

#### Data availability statement

Appendix A.3 contains atoms coordinates for  $3C_{28}(3\times)$  cluster. Appendices A.4 and A.5 contain optimization output from symmetry constrained optimization of  $3C_{28}(3\times)$  cluster (Appendix A.4 for *ab initio* and Appendix A.5 for *DFT*).

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## A. Appendix

### A.1. Abbreviations

DFT	Density functional theory
Å	ångström (or angstrom), 1 Å = 10 <sup>-10</sup> m
eV	electronvolt (or electron-volt or electron volt), 1 eV = 1.602176634 × 10 <sup>-19</sup> kg m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-2</sup>
Hartree	Hartree atomic units, 1 Hartree = 27.211386245988 eV
°	angle degrees, 1° = $\frac{\pi}{180}$ rad

HOMO	Highest occupied molecular orbital
LUMO	Lowest unoccupied molecular orbital
RAMAN	Spectroscopic method named after Indian physicist C. V. Raman
IR	Infrared
STO	Slater type orbital (basis set)
STO-G	(or GTO) Gaussian type orbital (basis set; STO-3G is implicit)
STO-n G	STO-G with n Gaussian primitive functions used to represent each Slater type orbital
HF	Hartree-Fock method (see Table 1)
BP	Becke-Perdew (BP86) method (see Table 1)
BLYP	Becke-Lee-Yang-Parr method (see Table 1)
B3LYP	Becke-3-Lee-Yang-Parr method (see Table 1)

### A.2. Cartesian coordinates (in Å) of carbon atoms contained in C<sub>28</sub> cyclic polyynes having DFT BP 6-311G\* optimal geometry.

Molecule is planar, so only two Coordinates are given for simplicity. Spartan (software, v.14) has been used for getting the optimal geometry. Spartan manual can be consulted.

-3.779433103	-4.343710375
-4.631142557	-3.424159706
-5.292669253	-2.275493266
-5.660491878	-1.077310991
-5.757281127	0.244671659
-5.567718465	1.483622890
-5.079987547	2.716151210
-4.370856022	3.749620297
-3.396630015	4.648470698
-2.309363985	5.272030334
-1.041697758	5.659675350
0.208355728	5.750858847
1.518865689	5.551242431
2.684879472	5.091495646
3.779433103	4.343710375
4.631142557	3.424159706
5.292669253	2.275493266
5.660491878	1.077310991
5.757281127	-0.244671659
5.567718465	-1.483622890
5.079987547	-2.716151210
4.370856022	-3.749620297
3.396630015	-4.648470698
2.309363985	-5.272030334
1.041697758	-5.659675350
-0.208355728	-5.750858847
-1.518865689	-5.551242431
-2.684879472	-5.091495646

### A.3. Cartesian coordinates (in Å) of Carbon atoms contained in the triple crossed 3C<sub>28</sub> cyclic polyyne having DFT BP 6-311 G\* optimal geometry.

Spartan (software, v.14) has been used for getting the optimal geometry. Spartan manual can be consulted.

0.1081099	-2.1978698	3.8124512
1.2056420	-2.5713773	4.4555381
2.3745993	-2.8035879	4.8441297
3.6863887	-2.9116560	5.0033492
4.9358079	-2.8791816	4.9069525
6.2001238	-2.7066612	4.5470617
7.2807209	-2.4215462	3.9791452
8.2436938	-2.0052123	3.1684376
8.9398554	-1.5232311	2.2440214
9.4139513	-0.9437117	1.1498015
9.5900473	-0.3560606	0.0565915
9.4818781	0.2758469	-1.1039324
9.1042923	0.8544556	-2.1498199
8.4366822	1.4200845	-3.1459362
7.5785190	1.8828667	-3.9337875
6.4809132	2.2755954	-4.5652008
5.3131904	2.5363976	-4.9388127
4.0031279	2.6808997	-5.0827568
2.7549156	2.6839583	-4.9677454
1.4903046	2.5439170	-4.5953856
0.4105097	2.2777469	-4.0170021
-0.5524150	1.8656063	-3.2043640
-1.2444176	1.3681746	-2.2853310
-1.7137480	0.7556803	-1.2074914
-1.8873110	0.1254540	-0.1381240
-1.7816684	-0.5500088	0.9975765
-1.4101103	-1.1594220	2.0278757
-0.7462742	-1.7384596	3.0186326
-4.4606433	3.8686637	-0.1870985
-5.1464851	2.7343337	-0.1948037
-5.5451295	1.5460553	-0.1810954
-5.6882972	0.2287257	-0.1496552
-5.5577526	-1.0173385	-0.1084324
-5.1442587	-2.2758050	-0.0611870
-4.5083814	-3.3551146	-0.0165263
-3.5980836	-4.3179593	0.0252508
-2.5542884	-5.0113564	0.0586056
-1.3111197	-5.4712020	0.0877242
-0.0671116	-5.6239169	0.1109824
1.2499365	-5.4734415	0.1347020
2.4289644	-5.0484925	0.1574144
3.5403005	-4.3261955	0.1862500
4.4102730	-3.4241556	0.2141999
5.0963185	-2.2903338	0.2476081
5.4988420	-1.1035063	0.2751556
5.6455254	0.2138363	0.2955182
5.5173109	1.4607760	0.3022932
5.1015330	2.7194560	0.2929751
4.4614119	3.7969227	0.2662062
3.5472692	4.7560978	0.2213098
2.5023265	5.4461309	0.1632029
1.2599976	5.9038618	0.0934927
0.0179730	6.0576835	0.0223661
-1.2975432	5.9095744	-0.0507637
-2.4766433	5.4884201	-0.1105259
-3.5894027	4.7694705	-0.1599784
1.8648041	0.3702204	0.4728939
1.8727378	-0.2960981	-0.6729266
1.6101058	-0.9152399	-1.7305072
1.0470566	-1.5210852	-2.7665952
0.2743915	-2.0173245	-3.6196773
-0.7586990	-2.4366183	-4.3368480
-1.8868965	-2.7171376	-4.8056120
-3.1795975	-2.8774223	-5.0523258
-4.4328297	-2.8973257	-5.0399323
-5.7246598	-2.7775973	-4.7671401
-6.8540821	-2.5413744	-4.2773276
-7.8906754	-2.1707457	-3.5385499
-8.6746229	-1.7247151	-2.6679795

(continued)

-9.2532276	-1.1705672	-1.6114549
-9.5350084	-0.5971144	-0.5329807
-9.5394582	0.0329792	0.6335454
-9.2641033	0.6220048	1.7053265
-8.6923268	1.2069386	2.7489075
-7.9127070	1.6970728	3.5994907
-6.8796315	2.1262970	4.3109862
-5.7527731	2.4280803	4.7700155
-4.4629543	2.6220539	5.0078198
-3.2106523	2.6755248	4.9844929
-1.9183921	2.5886917	4.7013097
-0.7891786	2.3717444	4.2016114
0.2458454	2.0093422	3.4567272
1.0225097	1.5539361	2.5846084
1.5903183	0.9769541	1.5348453

### A.4. Gaussian HF 3-21G optimization output

```

1|1|UNPC-LORI1-D61F37D5A|POpt|RHF|3-21G|C84|LORI1|24-Jun-
2022|1|#P rhf/3-21g int=ultrafine opt=(Z-matrix,maxcycle =
1000)|3C28 polyyne optimization|0,1|C|C,1,b1|C,2,b3,1,a0|C,3,b1,2,a0,
1,d0|C,4,b3,3,a0,2,d0|C,5,b1,4,a0,3,d0|C,6,b3,5,a0,4,d0|C,7,b1,6,-
a0,5,d0|C,8,b3,7,a0,6,d0|C,9,b1,8,a0,7,d0|C,10,b3,9,a0,8,d0|C,11,-
b1,10,a0,9,d0 0|C,12,b3,11,a0,10,d0|C,13,b1,12,a0,11,d0|C,14, b3,13,
a0,12,d0|C,15,b1,14,a0,13,d0|C,16,b3,15,a0,14,d0|C,17,b1,16,a0,15,-
d0|C,18,b3,17,a0,16,d0|C,19,b1,18,a0,17,d0|C,20,b3,19,a0,18,d0,
0|C,21,b1,20,a0,19,d0|C,22,b3,21,a0,20,d0|C,23,b1,22,a0,21,d0|C,24,-
b3,23,a0,22,d0 0|C,25,b1,24,a0,23,d0|C,26,b3,25,a0,24,d0|C,27,b1,26,
a0,25,d0|C,28,r1,27,a1,26,d1|C,29,b1,28,a2,27,d2|C,30,b3,29,a0,28,
d5,0|C,31,b1,30,a0,29,d0|C,32,b3,31,a0,30,d0|C,33,b1,32,a0,31,d0|C,
34,b3,33,a0,32,d0|C,35,b1,34,a0,33,d0|C,36,b3,35,a0,34,d0|C,37,
b1,36,a0,35,d0|C,38,b3,37,a0,36,d0|C,39,b1,38,a0,37,d0|C,40,b3,39,
a0,38,d0|C,41,b1,40,a0,39,d0|C,42,b3,41,a0,40,d0|C,43,b1,42,a0,41,
d0|C,44,b3,43,a0,42,d0|C,45,b1,44,a0,43,d0|C,46,b3,45,a0,44,d0|C,
47,b1,46,a0,45,d0|C,48,b3,47,a0,46,d0|C,49,b1,48,a0,47,d0|C,50,
b3,49,a0,48,d0|C,51,b1,50,a0,49,d0|C,52,b3,51,a0,50,d0|C,53,b1,52,
a0,51,d0|C,54,b3,53,a0,52,d0|C,55,b1,54,a0,53,d0|C,56,r2,55,a3,54,
d3,0|C,57,b1,56,a4,55,d4,0|C,58,b3,57,a0,29,d6,0|C,59,b1,58,a0,57,
d0|C,60,b3,59,a0,58,d0|C,61,b1,60,a0,59,d0|C,62,b3,61,a0,60,d0|C,
63,b1,62,a0,61,d0|C,64,b3,63,a0,62,d0|C,65,b1,64,a0,63,d0|C,66,
b3,65,a0,64,d0|C,67,b1,66,a0,65,d0|C,68,b3,67,a0,66,d0|C,69,b1,68,
a0,67,d0|C,70,b3,69,a0,68,d0|C,71,b1,70,a0,69,d0|C,72,b3,71,a
0,70,d0|C,73,b1,72,a0,71,d0|C,74,b3,73,a0,72,d0|C,75,b1,74,a0,73,
d0|C,76,b3,75,a0,74,d0|C,77,b1,76,a0,75,d0|C,78,b3,77,a0,76,d0,
0|C,79,b1,78,a0,77,d0|C,80,b3,79,a0,78,d0|C,81,b1,80,a0,79,d0|C,
82,b3,81,a0,80,d0|C,83,b1,82,a0,81,d0,0|a1 = 68.82269519|a2 = -
31.10297214|a3 = 101.84348727|a4 = 73.18241043|d1 = 18.721 39501|
d2 = 304.19338238|d3 = 350.05847216|d4 = 86.63802695|d5 = 282.10579
528|d6 = 45.0031832|r1 = 7.39854905|r2 = 4.59380302|b1 = 1.36155233|
b3 = 1.1969261 |a0 = 167.14|d0 = 0.0|Version = IA32W-G09RevD. 01|
State = 1-A|HF=-3160.7111467|RMSD = 6.693e-009|RMSF = 2.698e-
003|Dipole=-0.002818,0.0012891,-0.0008313|Quadrupole = 0.0197528,-
2.5311908,2.511438,0.0189819,0.5778629,-0.040869|PG = C01
[X(C84)]|@

```

### A.5. Gaussian BP 3-21 G optimization output

```

1|1|UNPC-LORI2-168025F00|POpt|RBP86|3-21G|C84|LORI2|21-Jun-
2022|1|#Pbp86/3-21g opt=(Z-matrix,maxcycle = 1000)|3C28 polyyne
optimization|0,1|C|C,1,b1|C,2,b3,1,a0|C,3,b1,2,a0,1,d0|C,4,b3, 3,
a0,2,d0|C,5,b1,4,a0,3,d0|C,6,b3,5,a0,4,d0|C,7,b1,6,a0,5,d0|C,8,-
b3,7,a0,6,d0|C,9,b1,8,a0,7,d0|C,10,b3,9,a0,8,d0|C,11,b1,10,a0,9,d0,
0|C,12,b3,11,a0,10,d0|C,13,b1,12,a0,11,d0|C,14,b3,13,a0,12,d0|C,15,
b1,14,a0,13,d0|C,16,b3,15,a0,14,d0|C,17,b1,16,a0,15,d0|C,18,b3,17,
a0,16,d0|C,19,b1,18,a0,17,d0|C,20,b3,19,a0,18,d0|C,21,b1,20,a0,19,
d0|C,22,b3,21,a0,20,d0|C,23,b1,22,a0,21,d0|C,24,b3,23,a0,22,d0|C,
25,b1,24,a0,23,d0|C,26,b3,25,a0,24,d0|C,27,b1,26,a0,25,d0|C,28,-
r1,27,a1,26,d1|C,29,b1,28,a2,27,d2|C,30,b3,29,a0,28,d5,0|C,31,b1,30,
a0,29,d0|C,32,b3,31,a0,30,d0|C,33,b1,32,a0,31,d0|C,34,b3,33,a0,32,
d0|C,35,b1,34,a0,33,d0|C,36,b3,35,a0,34,d0|C,37,b1,36,a0,35,d0|C,
38,b3,37,a0,36,d0|C,39,b1,38,a0,37,d0|C,40,b3,39,a0,38,d0|C,41,

```

b1,40,a0,39,d0,0|C,42,b3,41,a0,40,d0,0|C,43,b1,42,a0,41,d0,0|C,44,b3,43,  
a0,42,d0,0|C,45,b1,44,a0,43,d0,0|C,46,b3,45,a0,44,d0,0|C,47,b1,46,a0,45,  
d0,0|C,48,b3,47,a0,46,d0,0|C,49,b1,48,a0,47,d0,0|C,50,b3,49,a0,48,d0,0|  
C,51,b1,50,a0,49,d0,0|C,52,b3,51,a0,50,d0,0|C,53,b1,52,a0,51,d0,0|C,54,  
b3,53,a0,52,d0,0|C,55,b1,54,a0,53,d0,0|C,56,r2,55,a3,54,d3,0|C,57,b1,56,  
a4,55,d4,0|C,58,b3,57,a0,29,d6,0|C,59,b1,58,a0,57,d0,0|C,60,b3,59,a0,58,  
d0,0|C,61,b1,60,a0,59,d0,0|C,62,b3,61,a0,60,d0,0|C,63,b1,62,a0,61,d0,0|  
C,64,b3,63,a0,62,d0,0|C,65,b1,64,a0,63,d0,0|C,66,b3,65,a0,64,d0,0|C,67,  
b1,66,a0,65,d0,0|C,68,b3,67,a0,66,d0,0|C,69,b1,68,a0,67,d0,0|C,70,b3,69,  
a0,68,d0,0|C,71,b1,70,a0,69,d0,0|C,72,b3,71,a0,70,d0,0|C,73,b1,72,a0,71,  
d0,0|C,74,b3,73,a0,72,d0,0|C,75,b1,74,a0,73,d0,0|C,76,b3,75,a0,74,d0,0|

C,77,b1,76,a0,75,d0,0|C,78,b3,77,a0,76,d0,0|C,79,b1,78,a0,77,d0,0|C,80,  
b3,79,a0,78,d0,0|C,81,b1,80,a0,79,d0,0|C,82,b3,81,a0,80,d0,0|C,83,b1,82,  
a0,81,d0,0||a1 = 65.71968059|a2 = 45.04512007|a3 = 98.1413297|a4 =  
65.66384224|d1 = 13.93209615|d2 = 274.30604399|d3 = 356.69473231|  
d4=71.35717573|d5 = 252.85024743|d6 = 20.84669559|r1 = 5.83023522|  
r2 = 4.1621058 5|b1= 1.32601129|b3 = 1.25554015|a0 = 167.14|d0 = 0.||  
Version = IA32W-G09RevD.01|State = 1-A|HF=-3180.9495537|RMSD  
= 5.289e-009|RMSF = 1.780e-003|Dipole=-0.0051594,0.0004384,-0.002  
094|Quadrupole=-0.3168178,-1.1323997,1.4492175,0.0081239,0.7021836,  
-0.0101094|PG = C01 [X(C84)]||@