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# Applying *ab initio* Hartree-Fock methods to exobiological nano-molecules

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The core of the work is based on the replacement of carbon atoms by silicon atoms, on the basis of four standard bases of DNA: A, C, G and T (adenine, cytosine, guanine, thymine). Determining with minimum computational methods via "ab initio" Hartree-Fock methods, infrared spectrum and their peak absorbance frequencies. The option for simple replacement of carbon by silicon is due to the peculiar characteristics between both. Atomic interactions under non-carbon conditions were studied, with only the Hydrogen, Silicon, Nitrogen and Oxygen atoms, in STP (Standard Temperature and Pressure), for the four standard bases of DNA, A, C, G and T, thus obtaining by quantum chemistry four new compounds, named here as: ASi, CSi, GSi and TSi. Computational calculations admit the possibility of the formation of such molecules, their existence being possible via quantum chemistry. Calculations obtained in the "ab initio" Unrestricted and Restricted Hartree-Fock method, (UHF and RHF) in the set of basis used Effective core potential (ECP) minimal basis, UHF CEP-31G (ECP split valance) and UHF CEP-121G (ECP triple-split basis), CC-pVTZ (Correlation-consistent valence-only basis sets triple-zeta) and 6-311G\*\* (3df, 3pd) (Gaussian functions quadruple-zeta basis sets).

## 1 Introduction

The Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) is a molecule composed of two polynucleotide chains that coil around each other to form a double helix carrying genetic instructions for the development, functioning, growth and reproduction of all known organisms and many viruses. The A, C, G, and T, - adenine, cytosine, guanine and thymine, respectively, representing the four nucleotide bases of a DNA strand – adenine, cytosine, guanine, thymine – covalently linked to a phosphodiester backbone. [1]

The core of the work is based on the replacement of carbon atoms by silicon atoms, on the basis of four standard bases of DNA: A, C, G and T (adenine, cytosine, guanine, thymine). Determining with minimum computational methods via ab initio Hartree-Fock methods, infrared spectrum and their peak absorbance frequencies [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14].

The option for simple replacement of carbon by silicon [15, 16] is due to the peculiar characteristics between both. Atomic interactions under non-carbon conditions were studied, with only the Hydrogen, Silicon, Nitrogen and Oxygen atoms, in STP (Standard Temperature and Pressure), for the four standard bases of DNA, A, C, G and T, thus obtaining by quantum chemistry four new compounds, named here

as: ASi, CSi, GSi and TSi.

In comparing the carbon and silicon has: the Si lies in the same column of the periodic table of the elements, and it has been investigated as a possible alternative for building up biological molecules in exobiology. [17, 18]

Silicon based chemistry, however, is by far less flexible than carbon chemistry, not able to form double covalent bonds with the same easiness as C does. Other fact is the larger volume occupied by the external electronic orbitals of silicon tend to reduce the superposition of p orbitals. [17, 18]

Through the chemical abundances of biological elements in the earth crust, terrestrial life has chosen carbon instead of silicon, in spite of the larger abundance of silicon. This fact suggests that carbon is better suited to form biological molecules. [17, 18]

However, this paper assumes conditions without the presence of Carbon.

Calculations obtained in the *ab initio* Unrestricted and Restricted Hartree-Fock method, (UHF and RHF). The set of basis used Effective core potential (ECP) minimal basis, UHF CEP-31G (ECP split valance) and UHF CEP-121G (ECP triple-split basis), CC-pVTZ (Correlation-consistent valence-only basis sets triple-zeta) and 6-311G\*\* (3df, 3pd) (Gaussian functions quadruple-zeta basis sets). [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14]

Studies did not reveal any works with characteristics studied here. There is an absence of a referential of the theme, finding only one work in (Gobato et al., 2017-2021) [19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30].

## 2 Methods

Hartree-Fock Methods. [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14]

The vast literature associated with these methods suggests that the following is a plausible hierarchy:

$$HF \ll MP2 < CISD < CCSD < CCSD(T) < FCI \quad (1)$$

The extremes of 'best', FCI, and 'worst', HF, are irrefutable, but the intermediate methods are less clear and depend on the type of chemical problem being addressed. The use of HF [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14] in the case of FCI was due to the computational cost.

## 3 Hardware and Software

For calculations the computer used for MD (molecular Dynamics) was a Desktop with SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop, AMD Ryzen 7 1800X processor, ASUS Prime A320M-K motherboard, 16GB of RAM, with 500GB SSD. [31]

The *ab initio* calculations have been performed to study the equilibrium configuration of ASi, CSi, GSi and TSi molecules. The set of programs GaussView 5.0.8 [32], Mercury 3.8 [33], HyperChem 8.0.6 Evaluation [34]. are the advanced semantic chemical editor, visualization, and analysis platform and GAMESS [15, 35] is a computational chemistry software program and stands for General Atomic and Molecular Electronic Structure System [15, 35], OriginLab 2018 Evaluation [36], BIOVIA Draw 2017 [37], CHARMM22 [38] set of programs were used.

## 4 Results

The *ab initio* calculations have been performed to study the equilibrium configuration the molecules using the GAMESS. The names of the new molecules obtained ASi, CSi, GSi and TSi, are:

2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9-octahydro-1H-[1,3,2,4,5]diazatrisilolo[4,5-d][1,3,2,4,5,6]diazatetrasilin-8-amine;

2-hydroxy-1,3,2,4,5,6-diazatetrasilinan-4-amine;

8-oxo-3,7-dihydro-[1,3,2,4,5]diazatrisilolo[4,5-d][1,3,2,4,5,6]diazatetrasilin-6-amine and

(2,4-dihydroxy-1,3,2,4,5,6-diazatetrasilinan-5-yl)silane,

respectively.

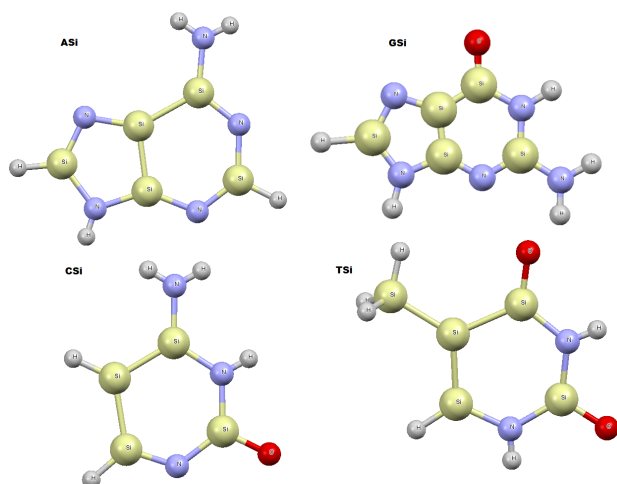
Studies did not reveal any works with characteristics studied here. There is an absence of a referential of the theme, finding only one work in (Gobato et al., 2017-2021) [19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30].

### 4.1 Properties of nano-molecules ASi, CSi, GSi and TSi

#### 4.1.1 ASi

Properties of molecule Asi:

IUPAC name:  
2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9-octahydro-1H-[1,3,2,4,5]diazatrisilolo[4,5-d][1,3,2,4,5,6]diazatetrasilin-8-amine;



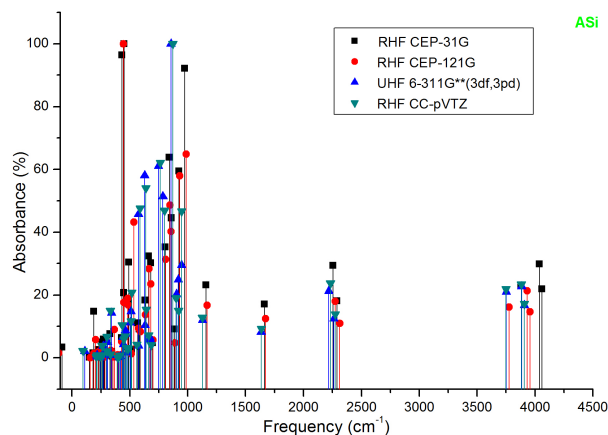
**Figure 1:** Representation of the molecular structure of ASi, CSi, GSi and TSi molecules, obtained through computer via *ab initio* calculation method RHF/UHF [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14] sets basis obtained using computer programs GAMESS [15, 35]. Images obtained in the software Mercury 3.8 [33]. Represented in bluish gray color the atom of silicon, in the purple color lithium, in the lemon yellow color beryllium, in the orange the selenium, in dark gray color carbon and in light gray color hydrogen. [15, 33, 35]

PSA(Polar Surface Area): 74.14;  
 ALogP: 7.1232;  
 Stereo Center Count: 3;  
 Hydrogen Acceptor Count: 5;  
 Hydrogen Donor Count: 5;  
 Composition: H: 5.9% N: 31.3% Si: 62.8%;  
 Formula Weight: 223.56421;  
 Exact Mass: 223.001728116;  
 Molecular Formula:  $H_{13}N_5Si_5$ .

#### 4.1.2 CSi

Properties of molecule CSi:

IUPAC name:  
 2-hydroxy-1,3,2,4,5,6-diazatetrasilinan-4-amine;  
 PSA: 70.31;  
 ALogP: 6.022;  
 Stereo Center Count: 2;  
 Hydrogen Acceptor Count: 4;  
 Hydrogen Donor Count: 4;  
 Composition: H: 6.1% N: 23.2% O: 8.8% Si: 61.9%;  
 Formula Weight: 181.44883;  
 Exact Mass: 180.997918122;  
 Molecular Formula:  $H_{11}N_3OSi_4$ .



**Figure 2:** Representation of the normalized infrared spectrum of ASi - Frequency ( $cm^{-1}$ ) for Absorbance (%). Using computer programs GAMESS, the calculations obtained in the *ab initio* HF, in a set of CEP-31G, CEP-121G, CC-pVTZ and 6-311G\*\*(3df, 3pd). Graphic edited in Origin software, for comparison of the spectra obtained in the set of bases used.

#### 4.1.3 GSi

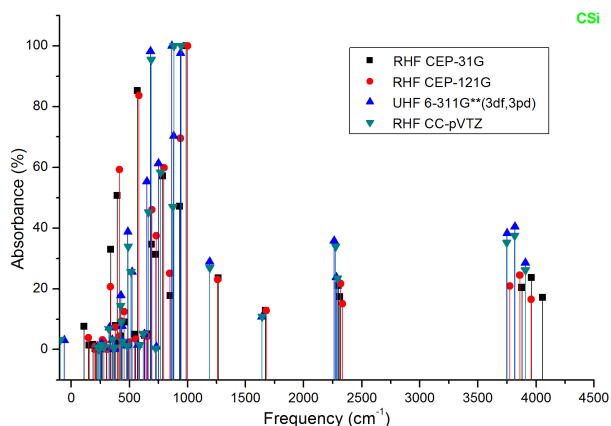
Properties of molecule GSi:

IUPAC name:  
 8-oxo-3,7-dihydro-[1,3,2,4,5]diazatrisilolo[4,5-d][1,3,2,4,5,6]diazatetrasilinan-6-amine;  
 PSA: 96.16;  
 ALogP: 5.1999;  
 Stereo Center Count: 0;  
 Hydrogen Acceptor Count: 4;  
 Hydrogen Donor Count: 3;  
 Composition: H: 2.2% N: 30.3% O: 6.9% Si: 60.7%;  
 Formula Weight: 231.50009;  
 Exact Mass: 230.93404248;  
 Molecular Formula:  $H_5N_5OSi_5$ .

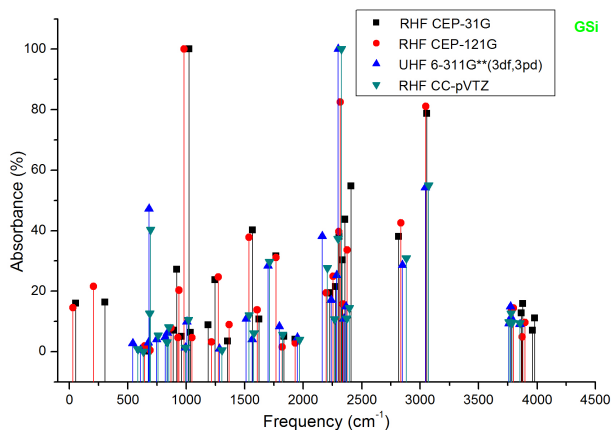
#### 4.1.4 TSi

Properties of molecule TSi:

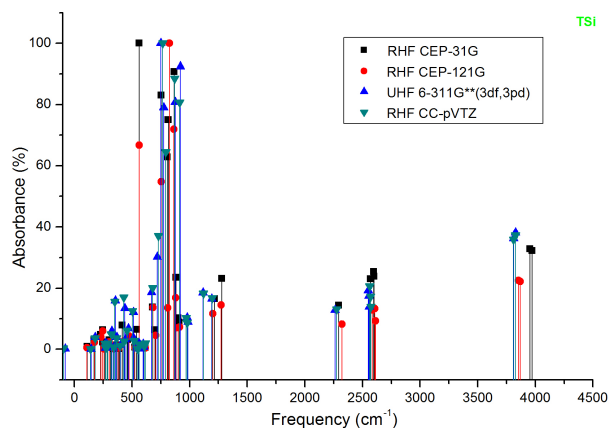
IUPAC name:  
 (2,4-dihydroxy-1,3,2,4,5,6-diazatetrasilinan-5-yl)silane;  
 PSA: 64.52;  
 ALogP: 8.6476;  
 Stereo Center Count: 3;  
 Hydrogen Acceptor Count: 4;  
 Hydrogen Donor Count: 4;  
 Composition: H: 5.7% N: 13.2% O: 15.1% Si: 66.1%;  
 Formula Weight: 212.53497;  
 Exact Mass: 211.974510294;  
 Molecular Formula:  $H_{12}N_2O_2Si_5$ .



**Figure 3:** Representation of the normalized infrared spectrum of CSi - Frequency ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) for Absorbance (%). Using computer programs GAMESS, the calculations obtained in the *ab initio* HF, in a set of CEP-31G, CEP-121G, CC-pVTZ and 6-311G\*\*(3df, 3pd). Graphic edited in Origin software, for comparison of the spectra obtained in the set of bases used.



**Figure 4:** Representation of the normalized infrared spectrum of GSi - Frequency ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) for Absorbance (%). Using computer programs GAMESS, the calculations obtained in the *ab initio* HF, in a set of CEP-31G, CEP-121G, CC-pVTZ and 6-311G\*\*(3df, 3pd). Graphic edited in Origin software, for comparison of the spectra obtained in the set of bases used.



**Figure 5:** Representation of the normalized infrared spectrum of TSi - Frequency ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) for Absorbance (%). Using computer programs GAMESS, the calculations obtained in the *ab initio* HF, in a set of CEP-31G, CEP-121G, CC-pVTZ and 6-311G\*\*(3df, 3pd). Graphic edited in Origin software, for comparison of the spectra obtained in the set of bases used.

## 5 Conclusions and challenges

The absorbance peaks for Asi in the set of bases then used between 400 to 1000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , 2250  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 3750 to 4100  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , Figure (2).

The absorbance peaks for Csi in the set of bases then used between 400 to 1000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , 2250 to 2300  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 3750 to 4100  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , Figure (3).

The absorbance peaks for Gsi in the set of bases then used between 1000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , 2300  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and 3000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , Figure (4).

The absorbance peaks for Tsi in the set of bases then used between 660 to 950  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , 2250 to 2600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 3500 to 4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , Figure (5).

The fingerprint of the molecules ASi, CSi, GSi and TSi, are demonstrated in the Figures (2-5). The infrared spectrum was calculated, indicating the characteristic of the nano-molecule genesis. Characterized its infrared spectrum, quantically calculated, accepted by quantum chemistry parameters, with *ab initio* methods, in the bases CC-pVTZ and 6-311G\*\*(3df, 3pd). An experimental challenge to chemists.

Going beyond imagination, now the challenge is to build the basic structure of is the simulation for building a “new DNA helix”, based now on the ASi, CSi, GSi and TSi molecules.

Limitations our study has so far been limited to computational simulation via quantum mechanics e molecular mechanics (QM/MM), an applied theory. Our results and calculations are compatible and with

the theory of QM/MM, but their physical experimental verification depend on advanced techniques for their synthesis, obtaining laboratory for experimental biochemical.

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