Structure, Dynamics, and Phase Transitions in the Fullerene Derivatives $C_{60}O$ and $C_{61}H_2$

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Citation Details
Structure, dynamics, and phase transitions in the fullerene derivatives C_{60}O and C_{61}H_{2}

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(Received 3 November 1995)

The effect of perturbing the icosahedral symmetry of C_{60} by the addition of the side groups -O and -CH_{2}  
upon orientational order-disorder and glass transitions in solid C_{60} has been studied by a combination of  
high-resolution capacitance dilatometry and single-crystal x-ray and powder inelastic neutron scattering.  
Both fullerene derivatives C_{60}O (epoxide) and C_{61}H_{2} (6,5-annulene) are shown to undergo a sequence of transitions  
similar to that found in pure C_{60}, i.e., a first-order orientational ordering transition just below room temperature  
followed by an orientational glass transition at lower temperatures. Although the exact origin of the glass  
transition in C_{61}H_{2} is unclear, the glass transition in C_{60}O has the same origin as that in C_{60}, with a significantly  
higher degree of order due to a larger energy difference between pentagon and hexagon orientations.  
The dilatometric data at the glass transition indicate that, in contrast to C_{60}, the ground-state orientation of both  
C_{60}O and C_{61}H_{2} molecules is that with the smallest volume, also demonstrating a significant influence of the  
side groups upon the details of the structure. A possible explanation of these differences in terms of steric  
effects is proposed. [S0163-1829(96)04125-2]

I. INTRODUCTION

Crystalline C_{60} and other fullerene compounds continue to attract considerable attention due to their interesting solid-state properties. At high temperatures, pristine C_{60} is a prototypical plastic crystal; i.e., the molecules show dynamical orientational disorder, while their centers of mass form a well-ordered face-centered-cubic lattice.\textsuperscript{1–3} At 260 K, C_{60} undergoes a structural phase transition where the molecules develop orientational order.\textsuperscript{1–4} However, the low-temperature phase is not totally ordered, as each molecule can take on one of two energetically nearly equivalent orientations.\textsuperscript{4,5} These two orientations are such that double bonds (short 6-6 bonds) of one molecule point toward pentagons (ground state) or hexagons (excited state) of adjacent molecules. As the temperature is lowered, more and more molecules take on the energetically favorable pentagon orientation. However, below 90 K the reorientational kinetics becomes extremely slow because of an energy barrier of ~250–300 meV between the two orientations, so that the remaining disorder is frozen in. This freezing-in process is seen quite prominently in thermal expansion measurements\textsuperscript{6} and has many of the features of a conventional glass transition.\textsuperscript{7}

This “glass transition” in C_{60} is unusual and has attracted considerable attention because it involves the conformational dynamics of a single, highly symmetric molecule, which interacts only weakly with its neighbors and results in particularly simple structural relaxation properties.\textsuperscript{7} This is in contrast with multicomponent systems, such as KBr, or strongly linked network systems, such as silicate glasses, in which the relaxation is much more complex. Under these circumstances, it is instructive to ask what the effect would be of perturbing the symmetry of C_{60} and hindering its rotational dynamics by the addition of a side group such as -O or -CH_{2}. Surprisingly, previous structural studies\textsuperscript{8–11} have already shown that both C_{60}O and C_{61}H_{2} undergo order-disorder phase transitions very similar to the one found in pure C_{60} and that, therefore, these modifications do not substantially affect the long-range crystalline order of these fullerene solids. Molecular dynamics calculations for C_{60}O are in good agreement with these structural data.\textsuperscript{12} Apparently, the extra O atom and the CH_{2} group simply occupy the largest available space between molecules, and the structure is still determined largely by the C-C interactions. Up to now, it was not known whether these derivatives also have an orientational glass transition as found in pure C_{60}. In addition to the possible glass transition due to pentagon-hexagon disorder, it is also conceivable that there will be either an ordering transition or a glass transition due to the disorder of the side groups.

In this paper, we address the effect of these substituents on the glass transition and structure by a combination of high-resolution dilatometry and x-ray diffraction. As our previous studies on pure C_{60} have shown,\textsuperscript{6} dilatometry is a powerful method not only for detecting a glass transition, but
also for extracting the activation energy of the relaxation process. In addition, we performed inelastic neutron scattering experiments on C$_{60}$O to explore the rotational dynamics above and below $T_x$, from which we obtain information about the reorientational barriers.

The paper is organized as follows. The sample preparation and characterization are presented in Sec. II. Next, we discuss the single-crystal x-ray diffraction (XRD) results on C$_{60}$O (Sec. III) followed by the dilatometry results of both C$_{60}$O and C$_{61}$H$_2$ (Sec. IV). The neutron scattering data are shown in Sec. V, and finally a discussion and conclusions are given in Sec. VI. A short version of the dilatometry results has been published previously.\textsuperscript{13}

II. SAMPLE PREPARATION

C$_{60}$O was produced by ozonolysis of C$_{60}$ in toluene solution.\textsuperscript{14} In this procedure, ozone gas was bubbled through a solution of 30 mg C$_{60}$ (Hoechst gold grade) and 50 ml toluene at room temperature with a flow rate of 20 ml/min for approximately 30 s. The solution was observed to rapidly change color from magenta to brown, coupled with the formation of some insoluble material. After standing for one night, the insoluble material was filtered off, and separation and purification was carried out on the soluble fraction of the reaction products via a semipreparative high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) procedure. We made use of a HPLC system already described elsewhere\textsuperscript{15} equipped with a Nucleosil-5-PAH column (10 mm×250 mm, Macherey-Nagel), which provides fast two-cycle separation. For this column, high throughputs and loading were obtained with a three-component eluent (60% toluene, 30% hexane, 10% dichloromethane at 5 ml/min). After the second cycle, the purity was checked to be >99% by HPLC analysis at 330 nm assuming similar extinction coefficients of C$_{60}$O and C$_{60}$O$_x$ (x=2). The solution was stored at 8°C in toluene under air until use. Single crystals of C$_{60}$O (100–300 μm) for x-ray and dilatometry investigations were grown from both toluene and benzene solutions. Details of the crystal quality will be given in Sec. III. The C$_{61}$H$_2$ was prepared and purified by treating a C$_{60}$ toluene solution with ethereal diazomethane and drying under vacuum, as described previously.\textsuperscript{8} No residual C$_{60}$ or toluene could be detected by chromatography or infrared reflectance (we estimate that there is less than 1% C$_{60}$ in the sample), and differential scanning calorimetry showed a sharp peak with an onset at 290 K, indicating a high degree of purity. The resulting powder was pressed into a 4 mm×2 mm pellet for the dilatometry measurements.

III. SINGLE-CRYSTAL X-RAY DIFFRACTION OF C$_{60}$O

Several single crystals of C$_{60}$O were examined with a four-circle diffractometer using Mo Kα radiation and a graphite monochromator. Full data sets were taken at 296, 260, 190, and 120 K. At 296 K, the symmetry is Fm$ar{3}$m and the data look very similar to those of pure C$_{60}$ at room temperature, where, to a very good approximation, they are described by a homogenous hollow sphere. We find no clear evidence from difference Fourier synthesis for O occupation of octahedral or tetrahedral voids in the high-T phase, as suggested by the powder data.\textsuperscript{18}

Figure 1 shows the lattice parameters versus temperature for several C$_{60}$O crystals (C$_{60}$ data are also plotted). Noticeable is a sharp decrease in the lattice parameter of comparable size as found in pure C$_{60}$, indicating a similar kind of phase transition. The transition temperature (midpoint) varies between 267 and 277 K and appears to inversely correlate with the value of the lattice parameter above the transition. This effect may be attributed to a small amount of solvent being incorporated into the crystals, and the crystal with the highest transition temperature presumably has the least amount of solvent. The small size of the crystals prevented us from a quantitative analysis of solvent impurities.

The low-temperature phase has P$\bar{4}$m symmetry, in agreement with the results of a powder diffraction study.\textsuperscript{8} The crystals were found to be merohedrally twinned like crystals of pure C$_{60}$. There is clear evidence that the majority of the C$_{60}$O molecules occupy the pentagon orientation like in pure C$_{60}$. On the other hand, it is not possible to identify the minority orientation from Fourier-difference-synthesis. However, a refinement using the pentagon and hexagon orientations gives reasonable results. Figure 2 shows that the qualitative dependence of the fraction of pentagon orientations, $f_p$, above 100 K is similar to that in C$_{60}$: $f_p$ is higher at any given temperature, but $f_p$ decreases with increasing temperature and a curve interpolated through the data points has positive curvature. Also, like C$_{60}$, the data point at 20 K (from Ref. 8) is clearly out of line with the other points at higher temperature. A simple two-state model $f_p = 1 - 1/[e^{\Delta/kT} + 1]$, with an energy difference $\Delta$ of ∼20 meV (dashed line in Fig. 2), provides a reasonable description of the data above 100 K. Note that this energy difference is significantly larger than in pure C$_{60}$ (∼11 meV, dotted line in Fig. 2). If we provisionally assume from the similarity of the low- and high-temperature data that C$_{60}$ has a glass transition similar to that in C$_{60}$, we can estimate the glass-transition temperature by extrapolating the low- and high-temperature data, as shown by the solid lines in Fig. 2. This suggests that if there is a glass transition it is shifted to about 100 K in
C$_{60}$O. Our dilatometry results (Sec. IV) confirm that this is indeed the case.

The positions of the O atoms found by difference-Fourier synthesis are the same as those proposed on the basis of powder data. All short bonds pointing more or less into voids are partially occupied. The high crystal symmetry (P$\bar{a}$3$\bar{m}$) and low molecular symmetry (mm2 [C$_{5v}$]) lead to statistical occupation by the oxygen atom of multiple sites on the C$_{60}$ shell, and the apparent bond lengths result from a superposition of epoxy and nonepoxo bonds. This has as a consequence that no useful information can be obtained on the bridged C-$\bar{C}$ and C-O bond lengths.

Unfortunately, it was not possible to obtain much more information from the single-crystal diffraction data than had already been obtained from powder measurements, probably for the following reasons. First, as seen in Fig. 1, both the lattice parameters and transitions temperatures of the C$_{60}$O crystals depend on the growth conditions, suggesting that some solvent is being incorporated into the crystals. In contrast to C$_{60}$, C$_{60}$O cannot be grown by sublimation due to the some solvent is being incorporated into the crystals. Depending on the growth conditions, suggesting that even the as-grown crystals already contain a very small percentage of (C$_{60}$O)$_n$, which would further complicate the interpretation of the single-crystal x-ray data.

### IV. THERMAL EXPANSION OF C$_{60}$O AND C$_{61}$H$_2$

The thermal expansion was measured with a high-resolution capacitance dilatometer capable of measuring length changes as small as 0.1 Å. The systematic errors in the expansion measurements, which are largely determined by the uncertainty in the length of the sample, are about ±10% and ±2% for C$_{60}$O and C$_{61}$H$_2$, respectively. The measurements were made both upon cooling and heating at constant rates of the order of 1–20 mK/s. The inset in Fig. 3(a) shows the relative length changes ($\Delta L/L_{290}$ K) of several solution-grown C$_{60}$O crystals around the order-disorder transition. For comparison, the data from a sublimation-grown C$_{60}$ crystal are also shown (dashed curve). Noticeable is that $T_x$ of the transition varies between ~273 and 285 K for C$_{60}$O, as was already discussed in the previous section. In the following, we concentrate on the data of crystal 3 grown in toluene, which we believe to have the highest quality of the three as the transition is sharpest and $T_x$ is highest.

The relative thermal expansion and corresponding expansivity, $\alpha(T) = 1/L \, dL/dT$, of this C$_{60}$O crystal are shown in Figs. 3(a) and 3(b), respectively. Again for comparison, the data for pure C$_{60}$ are also plotted. The total expansion of C$_{60}$O between 10 and 300 K agrees quite well with the values determined by x rays and is slightly larger than for pure C$_{60}$ (we were unable to measure the expansion below 70 K due to a technical problem and have assumed that the expansion of C$_{60}$O and C$_{60}$ are the same below 70 K). The behavior of the expansivity of C$_{60}$O and C$_{60}$ at $T_x$ is very similar, both curves exhibit significant precursors below the transition, which in this kind of plot makes the curve appear to have a λ shape. Above the transition, $\alpha$ of C$_{60}$O is nearly 2 times as large as that for pure C$_{60}$. A possible reason for this is that as the temperature increases the O atoms spend on average less time in interstitial sites and more time between these sites; this is expected to result in an increase of the lattice parameter or larger thermal expansivity. The orientational glass transition, which in the data for pure C$_{60}$ appears as a change of slope near 90 K, seems to be absent in the C$_{60}$O data. However, a closer inspection of the expansivity data in Fig. 3(b) shows a small anomaly in $\alpha(T)$ around 100 K. The other crystals investigated also showed this anomaly, and, as discussed in more detail below, this transition is indicative of a glass transition. We also observed small anomalies at 150 and 200 K in some of the crystals, but were unable to identify the nature of these.

A glass transition can be identified by performing measurements on different time scales, since glass transitions are of purely kinetic origin. The time scale in our dilatometry experiment is easily changed by making measurements at different cooling and heating rates. Figure 3(c) shows the

![Graph showing the fraction of majority (pentagon) orientation vs temperature for C$_{60}$O as determined from x-ray analysis (the 20 K data point was obtained from Ref. 8). The dashed and dotted lines are the equilibrium fractions for a two-level system with an energy difference of 20 and 11 meV, respectively. Also plotted are the data for pure C$_{60}$ (Ref. 4) and for C$_{60}$H$_2$ (Ref. 10).]
details of expansivity near 100 K upon cooling and heating at a rate of 2 mK/s and upon heating at rate of 10 mK/s (after cooling also at 10 mK/s). These curves exhibit the typical signs of a kinetic transition, i.e., a hysteresis between cooling and heating curves (±2 mK/s data) and a shifting of the transition temperature to higher temperatures for larger cooling (heating) rates (+2 vs +10 mK/s data). The glass transition temperature T_g is increased by about 8 K relative to that in pure C_{60} for the same cooling (heating) rates. What is quite surprising is that the sign of the expansivity change at T_g is opposite to that in C_{60}; i.e., for C_{60}O, α(T) increases, rather than decreases, above T_g. A possible explanation of this behavior will be presented later. In C_{60} the relaxation time τ(T) is, to a good approximation, given by a simple Arrhenius law

\[ \tau(T) = \frac{1}{\nu} e^{E_a/k_B T} \]

where \( \nu=10^{14} \text{ s}^{-1} \) is an attempt frequency and \( E_a=290 \text{ meV} \) the activation energy.\(^6\) The relaxation times for C_{60}O can be obtained from the data in Fig. 3 by fitting the curves with a simple model.\(^6\) The results are plotted in Fig. 4. The data do not cover a sufficiently large time interval in order to accurately determine both \( \nu \) and \( E_a \), and we have, therefore, fixed \( \nu \) at \( 10^{14} \text{ s}^{-1} \), which we believe is a reasonable assumption. In this way we obtain \( E_a=320 \text{ meV} \) for C_{60}O, which is 11% higher than for pure C_{60}.

The thermal expansion data for C_{61}H_2 are presented in Fig. 5. Since these measurements were made on a pressed-powder pellet and not a single-crystalline sample, we also show, for comparison, the data of a pressed-powder pellet of pure C_{60}.\(^20\) As can be seen from the C_{60} data, the pellet pressing process lowers and broadens the order-disorder transition and also reduces the size of the expansivity anomaly at the glass transition. This is presumably due to a large density of stacking faults generated during the nonuniform pressure treatment, which interferes with the collective nature of the order-disorder transition. The same features are seen in the C_{61}H_2 data. The order-disorder transition, which has an onset (from high T) near 300 K, is significantly broadened by ~50 K. Differential scanning calorimetry measurements before and after the pellet pressing also clearly show that the transition is broadened by the pressing. Nevertheless, the integrated length change at the transition (~0.29% as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 5(a)) is close to what is found in both pure C_{60} and C_{60}O. As in C_{60}O, the total ex-
The comparison indicates that the orientational potential in 
the expanded region of C$_{61}$H$_2$ between 10 and 300 K is slightly larger 
than for pure C$_{60}$, and $\alpha(T>T_s)$ is roughly twice that of C$_{60}$. 
Evident in Fig. 5(b) is a small anomaly in $\alpha(T)$ near 130 K, 
which is shown in more detail in Fig. 5(c). A linear term fit 
the data below the transition has been subtracted in order 
to make the anomaly clearer. Again, measurements per-
formed at different cooling (heating) rates clearly demonstrate that this is a glass transition. The two cooling curves 
($-1$ and $-20$ mK/s) are shifted relative to each other by about 10 K. There is only a very small hysteresis between cooling and heating curves, and the transition is quite broad ($\sim 50$ K). Simulations of these data with the simple relaxation model$^6$ indicate that both of these features can be qualitatively explained if one includes a broad distribution of relaxation times. The average relaxation times obtained from these curves are plotted in Fig. 4. Again, using a fixed $\nu=10^{14}$ s$^{-1}$, we find an $E_a$=435 meV for C$_{60}$H$_2$, which is $\sim 50\%$ higher than in C$_{60}$. As in C$_{60}$O, $\alpha$ increases above $T_g$ in C$_{61}$H$_2$. There is no evidence for any further transition between 10 and 320 K in the expansivity data.

V. INELASTIC NEUTRON SCATTERING EXPERIMENTS 
ON C$_{60}$O

Inelastic neutron scattering experiments of powder samples are usually performed on samples with masses of one to several grams. For our investigations of C$_{60}$O, however, only a much smaller quantity was available, i.e., 5 mg.

As a consequence, the investigations were restricted to low-energy transfers associated with the rotational dynamics.

The experiments were performed on the 2-T triple-axis spectrometer located at the ORPHEE reactor, Saclay, using horizontally and vertically focusing pyrolithic graphite crystals as monochromator and analyzer, respectively. The final energy was fixed to $E_f=14.7$ meV, and a pyrolithic graphite filter was placed in the scattered beam to suppress higher-order contamination. The energy resolution was between 0.8 meV ($\hbar \omega=0$) and 1 meV ($\hbar \omega=4$ meV). The accessible $Q$ range was $Q \leq 4.8$ Å$^{-1}$. The temperature was varied between $T=70$ and 275 K.

Spectra taken below and just above $T_s$ are shown in Fig. 6(a). The momentum transfer chosen was $Q=3.4$ Å$^{-1}$ in order to maximize the scattering contributions associated with the rotational degrees of freedom. When choosing this particular momentum transfer, we assumed that the $Q$ dependence of the scattering of C$_{60}$O is similar to that of pure C$_{60}$.$^{21,22}$ An assumption which is fully consistent with further measurements at different $Q$ values. Above $T_s$ there is a broad quasielastic feature centered at zero energy characteristic of rapid diffusive motion (we attribute the sharp component at $E=0$ to scattering from the sample holder). At $T=200$ K, two differences are apparent: First, the sharp component centered at $E=0$ increases, attributable to a freezing of orientational disorder. Second, a peak is observed at $E \approx 2.7$ meV, which we assign to hindered rotational motion, i.e., librations.

Very similar phenomena were observed on pure C$_{60}$.$^{21,22}$ as well as on C$_{61}$H$_2$. When trying to make a more quantitative comparison, one has to bear in mind that interpretation of neutron spectra like those shown in Fig. 6(a) is not straightforward as the scattering contains contributions not only from librational phonons, but also from translational ones, from multiphonons, and, of course, a background. What makes a comparison of peak positions as that shown in Fig. 6(b) defensible is the fact that the spectra for all the compounds in question were obtained under similar conditions. The comparison indicates that the orientational potential in

![Image](https://via.placeholder.com/150)

**FIG. 5.** Dilatometry data of a pressed pellet of C$_{60}$H$_2$. (a) Linear thermal expansion and (b) expansivity [$\alpha(T) = \partial L / \partial (LdT)$]. (c) Details of the expansivity around the glass transition (see text for details). For comparison, expansion data of a pressed pellet of C$_{60}$ (dotted lines) are also shown and indicate that pressing broadens the high-$T$ transition and reduces the size of the glass transition anomaly (from Ref. 20).
C\(_{60}\)O is significantly stiffer than in pure C\(_{60}\), presumably due to the steric hindrance produced by the O atom.

### VI. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The above results indicate that, qualitatively speaking, crystalline C\(_{60}\), C\(_{60}\)O (epoxide), and C\(_{61}\)H\(_2\) (6,5-annulene) all behave very similarly. All undergo an orientational ordering transition just below room temperature and then an orientational glass transition between 90 and 140 K. Both the ordering and glass transitions in the derivatives are shifted to higher temperatures, which is most probably due to the higher reorientational potential barrier, as found in both the dilatometric and inelastic neutron data [see Figs. 4 and 6(b)]. However, distinct differences also exist between the three materials, which cannot be explained by just an increase in barrier height. The pentagon fraction for C\(_{60}\)O exhibits a similar temperature dependence as found in C\(_{60}\), but is significantly higher. For C\(_{61}\)H\(_2\) this fraction appears to be temperature independent,\(^\text{10}\) possibly indicating that the glass transition in C\(_{61}\)H\(_2\) has a different origin than in pure C\(_{60}\).

Also, the expansivities increase above the glass transitions in both C\(_{60}\)O and C\(_{61}\)H\(_2\), whereas it decreases in pure C\(_{60}\). In the following we discuss these similarities and differences in more detail.

The fact that the pentagon fraction for C\(_{60}\)O increases as the temperature decreases is a strong indication that the glass transition observed near 100 K is due to the freezing in of the pentagon-hexagon disorder, just as in pure C\(_{60}\). The reorientational barrier height, or activation energy, determined from dilatometry is only slightly larger (11%) than in pure C\(_{60}\), suggesting that the reorientational jump mechanism is also similar for both C\(_{60}\)O and C\(_{60}\). For C\(_{60}\), 42° jumps around \(\langle 110 \rangle\) axes\(^2\) have been suggested as having the smallest barrier height. A simple geometrical consideration shows that these same jumps are also possible in C\(_{60}\)O even for the case that the O atom remains in a particular tetrahedral or octahedral site.

One can also roughly estimate the increase in reorientational barrier height from the increase in librational energy [see Fig. 6(b)] if one assumes a simple sinusoidal potential,\(^2\) and this gives a barrier height increase of about 30%, which is significantly larger than the value derived from our dilatometry results. This difference can be understood when considering the molecular dynamics simulations of Cheng and Klein\(^\text{12}\) which showed that the reorientational potential in C\(_{60}\)O is more anisotropic than in pure C\(_{60}\). In particular, the potential in which an O atom remains in a particular interstitial site was found to have a much smaller barrier than one for which the O atom changes sites.\(^\text{12}\) Because the increase in barrier height derived from dilatometry is significantly smaller than the average one derived from our neutron study, this is also consistent with a reorientational mechanism at the glass transition where the O atom remains in a particular interstitial site.

What differentiates C\(_{60}\)O from pure C\(_{60}\) is the higher pentagon order and the change in sign of the expansivity anomaly at the glass transition, both of which we believe are related to simple steric effects. Since the orientations of the molecules are governed by the Pa\(_{3}\) structure, the steric hindrance for an O atom sitting in a particular interstitial site will be different for the pentagon and hexagon orientations. We have tried to address the question of how well the O and CH\(_2\) units fit into the interstitial sites by simply rotating rotating the central molecule in a three-dimensional (3D) model from pentagon to hexagon orientations and qualitatively assessing how well the adducts fit into the different sites. Our qualitative result is that the pentagon orientation in C\(_{60}\)O is less disturbed by the steric hindrance,\(^\text{33}\) which is expected to have several consequences. First, the energy difference between pentagon and hexagon orientations should increase, resulting in a higher pentagon fraction at low temperatures, as is observed (see Fig. 2). Also, the effective volume of the hexagon orientation should be increased more than that of the pentagon one. Our expansivity results suggest that this steric effect more than cancels the \(~1\%\) greater volume of the pentagon orientation (relative to the hexagon one) seen in pure C\(_{60}\) (Ref. 6) and actually results in a slightly smaller volume for the pentagon orientation. Of course, more detailed calculations of the importance of the steric effects in C\(_{60}\)O would be of great value.

For C\(_{61}\)H\(_2\) things appear to be quite different. Here the increase in reorientational barrier height from dilatometry (\(~50\%)\) is actually larger than that deduced from the neutron data (\(~25\%)\),\(^\text{10}\) suggesting a much different jump mechanism at the glass transition than in C\(_{60}\) and C\(_{60}\)O. This is in accord with the fact that it is not possible to go from a hexagon to a pentagon orientation via 42° jumps in C\(_{61}\)H\(_2\) with the methylene group remaining in an interstitial site. This
difference between C₆₀H₂ and C₆₀O is due to the lower symmetry of the C₆₀H₂ molecule (the methylene group is attached to a 6-5 bond, whereas the O is attached to a 6-6 bond). A rotation of ~150° about an axis parallel to a [100] direction has been suggested as a possible way to go from one orientation to the other,¹⁰ for which the potential is, however, expected to be much larger than for the simple 42° rotation and also contain several other minima. The real path a molecule takes between pentagon and hexagon orientations probably involves several small jumps around different axes and also significant residence in local minima. Thus one expects a distribution of barrier heights, some of which may be quite high, for this reorientation process. This may explain both the quite broad glass transition and the large barrier height we extract from the dilatometry measurements.

The only problem with the above interpretation is that the pentagon fraction, as determined from neutron data, shows little or no temperature dependence.¹⁰ The magnitude of the anomaly in the expansivity at the glass transition, which is quite small, is proportional to the temperature derivative of the pentagon fraction in the simple model for C₆₀,⁶ and it may be possible that there exists a small temperature dependence, which has gone undetected in the neutron experiment. In this case the origin of the glass transition would also be due to pentagon-hexagon disorder. Alternative explanations of the glass transition in C₆₀H₂ are (1) that it is due to reorientation between some other orientations of the C₆₀ cage or (2) that it is due to a rearrangement of the CH₂ groups in the available interstitial sites such that the C₆₀ cage ends up in an equivalent orientation. Neumann et al. found evidence for two different hexagon orientations,¹⁰ which differ in the position of the CH₂ group. Possibly, the relative fractions of these two different hexagon orientations are temperature dependent, thereby leading to glassy behavior.

As in C₆₀O, the expansivity of C₆₀H₂ increases above T_g, implying that the ground state has a smaller volume than the energetically less favorable state. This is actually what one usually finds for glass transitions, and maybe the behavior of C₆₀ should be viewed as being anomalous, because here the energetically more favorable pentagon orientation has a larger effective volume than the less favorable hexagon orientation.

In conclusion, the structure and dynamics of the C₆₀ derivatives C₆₀O and C₆₀H₂ have been investigated with XRD, high-resolution dilatometry, and inelastic neutron scattering. To first order, the O and methylene groups only provide a steric hindrance to reorientation and the interesting physics (order-disorder transition and orientational glass transition) remains qualitatively unchanged. However, the details of the glass transition are strongly affected by the molecular additions. Especially, for C₆₁H₂ it remains unclear if this transition has the same origin as in pure C₆₀.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

M.M.K. acknowledges the support of the Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF). Research at the University of Pennsylvania was supported in part by National Science Foundation Grant No. DMR-MRL-92-20668; acknowledgement is also made to the Donors of the Petroleum Research Fund, administered by the American Chemical Society, for partial support of this research.

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¹⁶ In the low-temperature phase of C₆₀O[Fe(C₆H₅)₂]₂, the C₆₀O molecules are ordered, which makes it possible to accurately determine both the C-O and bridged C-C bond lengths [G. Roth et al. (unpublished)].
¹⁷ A. B. Smith III, H. Tokuyama, R. M. Strongin, G. T. Furst, and
23 There are 6 octahedral and 8 tetrahedral sites around each molecule. The octahedral sites are all equivalent, whereas there are two different kinds of tetrahedral sites, TET1 and TET2, of which there are 6 and 2, respectively. For $C_{60}O$, we find 6 “excellent” (TET1) and 18 “good” (2×OCT+3×TET2) positions for the pentagon orientation. This is significantly better than the 6 “good” (OCT) and 12 “fair” (2×TET1) positions for the hexagon orientation and, thus, favors the pentagon orientation.