

Quantum chemical investigation of polychlorinated dibenzodioxins, dibenzofurans and biphenyls

Sopant Datta and Taweetham Limpanuparb*

Mahidol University International College, Mahidol University, Salaya, Phutthamonthon, Nakhon Pathom 73170, Thailand

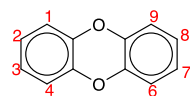
*corresponding author's email: taweetham.lim@mahidol.edu

Supplementary Table S1 Summary of computational data and analyses on PCDDs, PCDFs and PCBs in the literature

Compound		PCDD	PCDF	PCB
Property				
Energetic/Thermodynamic data	For all compounds	Results based on B3LYP/6-31G(d,p)[1,2], B3LYP/6-31G(2df,p)[3], B3LYP/6-311G(d,p)[4], B3LYP/6-311G++(3df,3pd)[3], G3XMP2//B3LYP/6-31G(2df,p)[3]	Results based on B3LYP/6-31G(2df,p)[5], B3LYP/6-311G(d,p)[6], B3LYP/6-311+G(3df,p)//B3LYP/6-31G(d)[7], B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd)[5], MP2/G3MP3Large, G3MP2, G3XMP2[5]	Results based on B3LYP/6-31G(d)[8], B3LYP/6-31G(d,p)[9] (possible atropisomers not treated by QM methods)
	For selected compounds	Results based on B3LYP/6-311G(d,p)//B3LYP/6-31G(d,p)[1], B3LYP/cc-pVTZ//B3LYP/6-31G(d,p)[1], B3LYP/6-311+G(3df,2p)//B3LYP/6-31G(d)[10] B3LYP/6-311+G(3df,2p)//B3LYP/6-31G(d,p)[11], B3LYP, B3P86, B3W91 on aug'-cc-pVDZ basis[12]	Results based on B3LYP/6-31G(d), B3LYP/6-311G(d,p), B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p) B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,2p)[13], B3LYP/6-311+G(3df,p)//B3LYP/6-31G(d)[14] (with additional prediction for others)	Results based on B3LYP/6-31G(d)[15], B3LYP/6-311G(d,p)[16], B3LYP/cc-pVTZ (for biphenyl only)[17]
Structural data	For all compounds			Results based on B3LYP/6-31G(d)[9]
	For selected compounds	Results based on B3LYP/6-31G(d)[10], B3W91/aug'-cc-pVDZ[12]	Results based on B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,2p)[13]	Results based on B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,2p)[18]
Others	Electron affinities	Results based on B3LYP/6-31G(d,p), B3LYP/aug-cc-pVDZ, B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ//B3LYP/6-31G(d,p)[19], HF, B3LYP, B3P86, B3PW91 on aug'-cc-pVDZ basis[12]	Results based on B3LYP/6-31G(d), B3LYP/6-311G(d,p), B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p), B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,2p)[13]	Results based on B3LYP/6-311G(d,p), B3LYP/6-311+G-(2d,2p)[18]
	Orbitals/potentials	HOMO and LUMO energies, ionization potential, and natural bond orbital analysis based on B3LYP/6-31G(d)[10]		Electrostatic potential based on B3LYP/6-31G(d) (possible atropisomers not treated by QM methods)[9]
	Reaction mechanisms	- Formation of PCDD/Fs from PCB oxidation based on M062X/6-311+G(d,p)[20]		
		- Destruction by singlet oxygen based on B3LYP/6-311+g(d,p)[21]		
	Analysis of MWI isomer distribution patterns	- Dissociation based on DFT+vdW/SVP[22] - Detection by metal-doped graphene based on PBE/DNP[23]	- Reaction with hydrogen peroxide based on B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p)[24]	
		- Do not follow chlorination models.[25,26] - <i>Meta</i> substituent pairs are influential, suggests chlorophenols as precursors.[27]	- Chlorination-based models[5,25,26] predict well, specifically, substitutions at positions 1 or 9 are highly influential.[27]	- Chlorination model predicts well,[25] substitution pattern parameters are more influential than physicochemical properties.[28]
	Analysis of toxicity	- PCDD/Fs are electron acceptors in charge transfer complexes with aryl hydrocarbon receptors, based on QSAR modeling.[10,29] - For PCDDs, molecular dynamics simulation can predict interaction energy between TCDD and AhR and rank of TEF in avian species.[30]		Toxicity is associated with - high electrostatic potential[9] - high chance to adopt coplanar conformation[9,18] - high chemical potential (Gibbs energy of formation per Cl atom).[31]

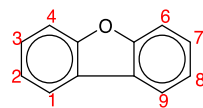
		Low polarity or hydrophobicity potentially leads to bioaccumulation.[9,32,33]		
	Method assessment	Structural data obtained from B3PW91 calculations are closer to experimental values than those from B3LYP calculations.[12]	Compared to G3XMP2 and MP2, B3LYP energy calculations underbind the significance of substitutions at positions 1 and 4.[5]	
		Compared to G3XMP2, B3LYP calculations overbind vicinal Cl-atoms repulsions.[3]		

Supplementary Table S2 List of all PCDDs by substitution positions and numbering, proposed by Ballschmiter *et al.*, [34] revised by Dorofeeva *et al.* [2] (For simplicity and completeness, number 0 of each class stands for non-substituted compound.)



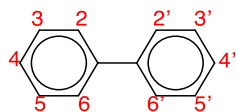
No.	Compound	No.	Compound	No.	Compound
1	1	26	2,3,7	51	1,2,3,6,7
2	2	27	1,2,3,4	52	1,2,3,6,8
3	1,2	28	1,2,3,6	53	1,2,3,6,9
4	1,3	29	1,2,3,7	54	1,2,3,7,8
5	1,4	30	1,2,3,8	55	1,2,3,7,9
6	1,6	31	1,2,3,9	56	1,2,3,8,9
7	1,7	32	1,2,4,6	57	1,2,4,6,7
8	1,8	33	1,2,4,7	58	1,2,4,6,8
9	1,9	34	1,2,4,8	59	1,2,4,6,9
10	2,3	35	1,2,4,9	60	1,2,4,7,8
11	2,7	36	1,2,6,7	61	1,2,4,7,9
12	2,8	37	1,2,6,8	62	1,2,4,8,9
13	1,2,3	38	1,2,6,9	63	1,2,3,4,6,7
14	1,2,4	39	1,2,7,8	64	1,2,3,4,6,8
15	1,2,6	40	1,2,7,9	65	1,2,3,4,6,9
16	1,2,7	41	1,2,8,9	66	1,2,3,4,7,8
17	1,2,8	42	1,3,6,8	67	1,2,3,6,7,8
18	1,2,9	43	1,3,6,9	68	1,2,3,6,7,9
19	1,3,6	44	1,3,7,8	69	1,2,3,6,8,9
20	1,3,7	45	1,3,7,9	70	1,2,3,7,8,9
21	1,3,8	46	1,4,6,9	71	1,2,4,6,7,9
22	1,3,9	47	1,4,7,8	72	1,2,4,6,8,9
23	1,4,6	48	2,3,7,8	73	1,2,3,4,6,7,8
24	1,4,7	49	1,2,3,4,6	74	1,2,3,4,6,7,9
25	1,7,8	50	1,2,3,4,7	75	1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9

Supplementary Table S3 List of all PCDFs by substitution positions and numbering, proposed by Ballschmiter *et al.* [34] (For simplicity and completeness, number 0 of each class stands for non-substituted compound.)



No.	Compound	No.	Compound	No.	Compound
1	1	46	2,6,7	91	1,2,3,6,7
2	2	47	3,4,6	92	1,2,3,6,8
3	3	48	3,4,7	93	1,2,3,6,9
4	4	49	1,2,3,4	94	1,2,3,7,8
5	1,2	50	1,2,3,6	95	1,2,3,7,9
6	1,3	51	1,2,3,7	96	1,2,3,8,9
7	1,4	52	1,2,3,8	97	1,2,4,6,7
8	1,6	53	1,2,3,9	98	1,2,4,6,8
9	1,7	54	1,2,4,6	99	1,2,4,6,9
10	1,8	55	1,2,4,7	100	1,2,4,7,8
11	1,9	56	1,2,4,8	101	1,2,4,7,9
12	2,3	57	1,2,4,9	102	1,2,4,8,9
13	2,4	58	1,2,6,7	103	1,2,6,7,8
14	2,6	59	1,2,6,8	104	1,2,6,7,9
15	2,7	60	1,2,6,9	105	1,3,4,6,7
16	2,8	61	1,2,7,8	106	1,3,4,6,8
17	3,4	62	1,2,7,9	107	1,3,4,6,9
18	3,6	63	1,2,8,9	108	1,3,4,7,8
19	3,7	64	1,3,4,6	109	1,3,4,7,9
20	4,6	65	1,3,4,7	110	1,3,6,7,8
21	1,2,3	66	1,3,4,8	111	1,4,6,7,8
22	1,2,4	67	1,3,4,9	112	2,3,4,6,7
23	1,2,6	68	1,3,6,7	113	2,3,4,6,8
24	1,2,7	69	1,3,6,8	114	2,3,4,7,8
25	1,2,8	70	1,3,6,9	115	1,2,3,4,6,7
26	1,2,9	71	1,3,7,8	116	1,2,3,4,6,8
27	1,3,4	72	1,3,7,9	117	1,2,3,4,6,9
28	1,3,6	73	1,4,6,7	118	1,2,3,4,7,8
29	1,3,7	74	1,4,6,8	119	1,2,3,4,7,9
30	1,3,8	75	1,4,6,9	120	1,2,3,4,8,9
31	1,3,9	76	1,4,7,8	121	1,2,3,6,7,8
32	1,4,6	77	1,6,7,8	122	1,2,3,6,7,9
33	1,4,7	78	2,3,4,6	123	1,2,3,6,8,9
34	1,4,8	79	2,3,4,7	124	1,2,3,7,8,9
35	1,4,9	80	2,3,4,8	125	1,2,4,6,7,8
36	1,6,7	81	2,3,6,7	126	1,2,4,6,7,9
37	1,6,8	82	2,3,6,8	127	1,2,4,6,8,9
38	1,7,8	83	2,3,7,8	128	1,3,4,6,7,8
39	2,3,4	84	2,4,6,7	129	1,3,4,6,7,9
40	2,3,6	85	2,4,6,8	130	2,3,4,6,7,8
41	2,3,7	86	3,4,6,7	131	1,2,3,4,6,7,8
42	2,3,8	87	1,2,3,4,6	132	1,2,3,4,6,7,9
43	2,4,6	88	1,2,3,4,7	133	1,2,3,4,6,8,9
44	2,4,7	89	1,2,3,4,8	134	1,2,3,4,7,8,9
45	2,4,8	90	1,2,3,4,9	135	1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9

Supplementary Table S4 List of all PCBs by substitution positions and numbering, first proposed by Ballschmiter *et al.*[35], later revised by IUPAC.[36] (For simplicity and completeness, number 0 of each class stands for non-substituted compound.)



No.	Compound	No.	Compound	No.	Compound	No.	Compound	No.	Compound
1	2	43	2,2',3,5	85	2,2',3,4,4'	127	3,3',4,5,5'	169	3,3',4,4',5,5'
2	3	44	2,2',3,5'	86	2,2',3,4,5	128	2,2',3,3',4,4'	170	2,2',3,3',4,4',5
3	4	45	2,2',3,6	87	2,2',3,4,5'	129	2,2',3,3',4,5	171	2,2',3,3',4,4',6
4	2,2'	46	2,2',3,6'	88	2,2',3,4,6	130	2,2',3,3',4,5'	172	2,2',3,3',4,5,5'
5	2,3	47	2,2',4,4'	89	2,2',3,4,6'	131	2,2',3,3',4,6	173	2,2',3,3',4,5,6
6	2,3'	48	2,2',4,5	90	2,2',3,4,5	132	2,2',3,3',4,6'	174	2,2',3,3',4,5,6'
7	2,4	49	2,2',4,5'	91	2,2',3,4,6	133	2,2',3,3',5,5'	175	2,2',3,3',4,5',6
8	2,4'	50	2,2',4,6	92	2,2',3,5,5'	134	2,2',3,3',5,6	176	2,2',3,3',4,6,6'
9	2,5	51	2,2',4,6'	93	2,2',3,5,6	135	2,2',3,3',5,6'	177	2,2',3,3',4,5',6'
10	2,6	52	2,2',5,5'	94	2,2',3,5,6'	136	2,2',3,3',6,6'	178	2,2',3,3',5,5',6
11	3,3'	53	2,2',5,6'	95	2,2',3,5',6	137	2,2',3,4,4',5	179	2,2',3,3',5,6,6'
12	3,4	54	2,2',6,6'	96	2,2',3,6,6'	138	2,2',3,4,4',5'	180	2,2',3,4,4',5,5'
13	3,4'	55	2,3,3',4	97	2,2',3,4',5'	139	2,2',3,4,4',6	181	2,2',3,4,4',5,6
14	3,5	56	2,3,3',4'	98	2,2',3,4',6'	140	2,2',3,4,4',6'	182	2,2',3,4,4',5,6'
15	4,4'	57	2,3,3',5	99	2,2',4,4',5	141	2,2',3,4,5,5'	183	2,2',3,4,4',5',6
16	2,2',3	58	2,3,3',5'	100	2,2',4,4',6	142	2,2',3,4,5,6	184	2,2',3,4,4',6,6'
17	2,2',4	59	2,3,3',6	101	2,2',4,5,5'	143	2,2',3,4,5,6'	185	2,2',3,4,5,5',6
18	2,2',5	60	2,3,4,4'	102	2,2',4,5,6'	144	2,2',3,4,5',6	186	2,2',3,4,5,6,6'
19	2,2',6	61	2,3,4,5	103	2,2',4,5',6	145	2,2',3,4,6,6'	187	2,2',3,4',5,5',6
20	2,3,3'	62	2,3,4,6	104	2,2',4,6,6'	146	2,2',3,4',5,5'	188	2,2',3,4',5,6,6'
21	2,3,4	63	2,3,4',5	105	2,3,3',4,4'	147	2,2',3,4',5,6	189	2,3,3',4,4',5,5'
22	2,3,4'	64	2,3,4',6	106	2,3,3',4,5	148	2,2',3,4',5,6'	190	2,3,3',4,4',5,6
23	2,3,5	65	2,3,5,6	107	2,3,3',4,5'	149	2,2',3,4',5',6	191	2,3,3',4,4',5',6
24	2,3,6	66	2,3',4,4'	108	2,3,3',4,6	150	2,2',3,4',6,6'	192	2,3,3',4,5,5',6
25	2,3',4	67	2,3',4,5	109	2,3,3',4',5	151	2,2',3,5,5',6	193	2,3,3',4',5,5',6
26	2,3',5	68	2,3',4,5'	110	2,3,3',4',6	152	2,2',3,5,6,6'	194	2,2',3,3',4,4',5,5'
27	2,3',6	69	2,3',4,6	111	2,3,3',5,5'	153	2,2',4,4',5,5'	195	2,2',3,3',4,4',5,6
28	2,4,4'	70	2,3',4',5	112	2,3,3',5,6	154	2,2',4,4',5,6'	196	2,2',3,3',4,4',5,6'
29	2,4,5	71	2,3',4',6	113	2,3,3',5',6	155	2,2',4,4',6,6'	197	2,2',3,3',4,4',6,6'
30	2,4,6	72	2,3',5,5'	114	2,3,4,4',5	156	2,3,3',4,4',5	198	2,2',3,3',4,5,5',6
31	2,4',5	73	2,3',5',6	115	2,3,4,4',6	157	2,3,3',4,4',5'	199	2,2',3,3',4,5,5',6'
32	2,4',6	74	2,4,4',5	116	2,3,4,5,6	158	2,3,3',4,4',6	200	2,2',3,3',4,5,6,6'
33	2,3',4'	75	2,4,4',6	117	2,3,4',5,6	159	2,3,3',4,5,5'	201	2,2',3,3',4,5',6,6'
34	2,3',5'	76	2,3',4',5'	118	2,3',4,4',5	160	2,3,3',4,5,6	202	2,2',3,3',5,5',6,6'
35	3,3',4	77	3,3',4,4'	119	2,3',4,4',6	161	2,3,3',4,5',6	203	2,2',3,4,4',5,5',6
36	3,3',5	78	3,3',4,5	120	2,3',4,5,5'	162	2,3,3',4',5,5'	204	2,2',3,4,4',5,6,6'
37	3,4,4'	79	3,3',4,5'	121	2,3',4,5',6	163	2,3,3',4',5,6	205	2,3,3',4,4',5,5',6
38	3,4,5	80	3,3',5,5'	122	2,3,3',4',5'	164	2,3,3',4',5',6	206	2,2',3,3',4,4',5,5',6
39	3,4',5	81	3,4,4',5	123	2,3',4,4',5'	165	2,3,3',5,5',6	207	2,2',3,3',4,4',5,6,6'
40	2,2',3,3'	82	2,2',3,3',4	124	2,3',4',5,5'	166	2,3,4,4',5,6	208	2,2',3,3',4,5,5',6,6'
41	2,2',3,4	83	2,2',3,3',5	125	2,3',4',5',6	167	2,3',4,4',5,5'	209	2,2',3,3',4,4',5,5',6,6'
42	2,2',3,4'	84	2,2',3,3',6	126	3,3',4,4',5	168	2,3',4,4',5',6		

Supplementary Table S5 List of congener groups of PCDDs, PCDFs and PCBs by degree of substitution. The number of toxic congeners (See Table S10.) is given in red in a pair of parentheses. The number of congeners is doubled when moved from PCDDs to PCDFs for odd degree of substitution.

Degree of chlorination	PCDDs	PCDFs	PCBs
0	1	1	1
1	2	4	3
2	10	16	12
3	14	28	24
4	22 (1)	38 (1)	42 (2)
5	14 (1)	28 (2)	46 (5)
6	10 (3)	16 (4)	42 (4)
7	2 (1)	4 (2)	24 (1)
8	1 (1)	1 (1)	12
9	N/A	N/A	3
10	N/A	N/A	1
Total	76 (7)	136 (10)	210 (12)

Supplementary Table S6 Values for constant C_0 and coefficients C_1, C_2, C_3, \dots , parameters x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots and correlation coefficients for energy prediction model $E = C_0 + C_1x_1 + C_2x_2 + C_3x_3 + \dots$, where E is the predicted ΔG at 300K in Hartree from HF, B3LYP and electronic energy in Hartree from MP2. Pearson's correlation coefficient (R) = 1.000 for all models.

		HF		B3LYP		MP2	
PCDD	i	C_i	x_i	C_i	x_i	C_i	x_i
	0	-4280.30		-4289.65		-4284.25	
	1	458.92	total H	459.62	total H	459.12	total H
	2	3.44×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - total	3.41×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - total	1.89×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - total
	3	2.45×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - Cl-Cl	1.33×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - Cl-Cl	9.37×10^{-4}	<i>o</i> - Cl-Cl
	4	1.33×10^{-3}	<i>m</i> - Cl-Cl	1.07×10^{-3}	<i>m</i> - Cl-Cl	5.50×10^{-4}	<i>p</i> - Cl-Cl
	5	8.48×10^{-4}	<i>p</i> - Cl-Cl			7.01×10^{-4}	<i>m</i> - Cl-Cl
	ρ	0.9998		0.9995		0.9997	
PCDF	i	C_i	x_i	C_i	x_i	C_i	x_i
	0	-4205.40		-4214.39		-4209.16	
	1	458.93	total H	459.63	total H	459.12	total H
	2	1.30×10^{-2}	CR - C	1.11×10^{-2}	CR - C	1.19×10^{-2}	CR - C
	3	6.28×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - Cl-Cl	1.01×10^{-4}	<i>o</i> - total	3.14×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - Cl-Cl
	4	2.39×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - Cl-O	5.25×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - Cl-Cl	1.15×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - Cl-O
	5	1.23×10^{-3}	<i>m</i> - Cl-Cl	2.14×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - Cl-O	-1.65×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - Cl-C
	6	8.40×10^{-4}	<i>p</i> - Cl-C	9.90×10^{-4}	<i>m</i> - Cl-Cl	-8.46×10^{-4}	<i>m</i> - Cl-O
	7			-8.96×10^{-4}	<i>m</i> - Cl-O	6.51×10^{-4}	<i>m</i> - Cl-Cl
	8			1.09×10^{-3}	<i>p</i> - Cl-Cl	6.36×10^{-4}	<i>p</i> - Cl-Cl
	ρ	0.9997		0.9997		0.9997	
PCB	i	C_i	x_i	C_i	x_i	C_i	x_i
	0	-5049.56		-5059.63		-5053.47	
	1	458.94	total H	459.64	total H	459.12	total H
	2	4.36×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - total	4.06×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - total	3.11×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - Cl-Cl
	3	2.10×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - Cl-Cl	1.21×10^{-3}	<i>o</i> - Cl-Cl	4.18×10^{-4}	<i>m</i> - total
	4	1.45×10^{-3}	<i>m</i> - total	1.11×10^{-3}	<i>m</i> - total	5.05×10^{-4}	<i>p</i> - total
	5	1.06×10^{-3}	<i>p</i> - total	-6.19×10^{-4}	CR - C		
	6			8.06×10^{-4}	<i>p</i> - total		
	ρ	0.9998		0.9995		0.9977	

Supplementary Table S7 Summary of experimental data on abundance of PCDDs, PCDFs and PCBs in the literature

Compound		PCDD and PCDF		PCB	
Classification		PCDD and PCDF		PCB	
Source	Incineration	Incineration plant emissions (Germany[34,37,38], Japan[39], Sweden[27]) Iron ore sinter plant (UK) and sinter plot (Swinden laboratories, Moorgate, Rotherham, UK)[40] Pine wood combustion (USA)[41] Automobile exhaust (Germany)[34]		Flue gas (Japan[42,43], Sweden[28])	
	Commercial product	Aroclor (USA)[36] Phenoclor (France)[36] Clophen (Germany)[36]		Aroclor (USA)[35,36,44-46] Clophen (Germany)[35] Kaneclor (Japan)[43]	
Accumulation	Environmental	Urban dust (Washington D.C., USA)[34] Sediment (Baltic sea)[47] Water, soil, sediment (Japan)[39] Air, water, soil, sediment*[48]		Air, water, soil, sediment*[48]	
		Residential dust (Australia)[49]			
	Biotic and food	Human tissue (New York, USA[34],*[48]) Herring (Baltic sea)[34]		Human milk*[46] Food and animal feed*[48]	
		Zucchini (Chile)[50] Pine needles (Tokyo bay)[51] Human milk (Guangdong, China)[52]			

*Review from multiple locations

Supplementary Table S8 Rank correlation coefficients (ρ values) for association between predicted distribution (using Boltzmann distribution) of PCDDs and PCDFs based on relative stability and observed distribution from MWI fly ash samples.[39] Values used for relative stability are HF, B3LYP ΔG at 600K and MP2 electronic energy. As abundance values were derived from GC/MS chromatograms, values from co-eluting peaks were discarded from calculations.

Congener group		Number of data points	Sample ^a	HF	B3LYP	MP2
PCDDs	Tetrachlorodibenzodioxin (C ₁₂ H ₄ O ₂ Cl ₄)	10	4	0.7048	0.6585	0.6810
			5	0.4956	0.4499	0.5077
			6	0.9428	0.8550	0.8882
			7	0.4576	0.3547	0.3969
	Pentachlorodibenzodioxin (C ₁₂ H ₃ O ₂ Cl ₅)	10	4	0.6414	0.5988	0.6563
			5	0.5833	0.6341	0.6667
			6	N/A	N/A	N/A
			7	0.7871	0.6031	0.7550
	Hexachlorodibenzodioxin (C ₁₂ H ₂ O ₂ Cl ₆)	5	4	0.4104	0.5526	0.6316
			5	0.5000	0.6156	0.6669
			6	0.8000	0.8721	0.8721
			7	0.5000	0.6156	0.6669
	Heptachlorodibenzodioxin (C ₁₂ HO ₂ Cl ₇)	2	4	-1.0000	-1.0000	-1.0000
			5	-1.0000	-1.0000	-1.0000
			6	-1.0000	-1.0000	-1.0000
7			-1.0000	-1.0000	-1.0000	
Median for each method (<i>n</i> =15)			All	0.5000	0.5988	0.6563
PCDFs	Tetrachlorodibenzofuran (C ₁₂ H ₄ OCl ₄)	6	4	-0.3714	-0.3714	-0.3143
			5	-0.6571	-0.6571	-0.6000
			6	0.3714	0.3714	0.4286
			7	0.0857	0.0857	0.1429
	Pentachlorodibenzofuran (C ₁₂ H ₃ OCl ₅)	8	4	0.0120	0.0120	0.2515
			5	-0.0238	-0.0238	0.1905
			6	0.7306	0.7306	0.7545
			7	0.0238	0.0238	0.2619
	Hexachlorodibenzofuran (C ₁₂ H ₂ OCl ₆)	10	4	0.7697	0.7091	0.8061
			5	0.7295	0.6383	0.7599
			6	0.8632	0.7781	0.8268
			7	0.7939	0.6727	0.7697
	Heptachlorodibenzofuran (C ₁₂ HOCl ₇)	4	4	0.8000	0.8000	0.8000
			5	0.8000	0.8000	0.8000
			6	1.0000	0.4000	1.0000
			7	1.0000	0.4000	1.0000
Median for each method (<i>n</i> =16)			All	0.7300	0.4000	0.7572

^aSee sample descriptions in the reference

For PCBs, data were compared to observed distribution from 6 combustion experiments.[28] ρ values are provided in an excel file (PCB/PCB_isomerdist_correlation.xlsx).

Supplementary Table S9 Values for constant C_0 , coefficients C_1 , C_2 and correlation coefficients for the PCDF coplanarity prediction model: $A = C_0 + (x_1x_9)C_1 + (x_2x_8)C_2$, where A is the predicted angle value (see manuscript for further description) and x_i is 1 if compound is chlorinated at the position i and 0 if otherwise. Predictors are all statistically significant ($p < .05$). Models based on HF calculations are not given as according to HF results, only two PCDFs are nonplanar.

	Angle group	Coefficients			R	ρ
		C_0	C_1	C_2		
B3LYP	1	-0.0649	0.3029	0.2595	0.6446	0.4481
	2	-0.3591	1.6806	1.4366	0.6457	0.4481
MP2	1	-0.0440	0.1808	0.1760	0.6100	0.5385
	2	-0.2317	0.9508	0.9267	0.6117	0.5385

Supplementary Table S10 List of toxic equivalency factor (TEF) values of 7 PCDDs, 10 PCDFs and 12 PCBs adapted from Van den Berg *et al.*[53]

	Compound No.	(Substitution positions)	WHO 1998 TEF	WHO 2005 TEF
PCDDs (Table S2)	48	(2,3,7,8)	1	1
	54	(1,2,3,7,8)	1	1
	66	(1,2,3,4,7,8)	0.1	0.1
	67	(1,2,3,6,7,8)	0.1	0.1
	70	(1,2,3,7,8,9)	0.1	0.1
	73	(1,2,3,4,6,7,8)	0.01	0.01
	75	(1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9)	0.0001	0.0003
PCDFs (Table S3)	83	(2,3,7,8)	0.1	0.1
	94	(1,2,3,7,8)	0.05	0.03
	114	(2,3,4,7,8)	0.5	0.3
	118	(1,2,3,4,7,8)	0.1	0.1
	121	(1,2,3,6,7,8)	0.1	0.1
	124	(1,2,3,7,8,9)	0.1	0.1
	130	(2,3,4,6,7,8)	0.1	0.1
	131	(1,2,3,4,6,7,8)	0.01	0.01
	134	(1,2,3,4,7,8,9)	0.01	0.01
	135	(1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9)	0.0001	0.0003
PCBs (Table S4)	77	(3,3',4,4')	0.0001	0.0001
	81	(3,4,4',5)	0.0001	0.0003
	105	(2,3,3',4,4')	0.0001	0.00003
	114	(2,3,4,4',5)	0.0005	0.00003
	118	(2,3',4,4',5)	0.0001	0.00003
	123	(2,3',4,4',5')	0.0001	0.00003
	126	(3,3',4,4',5)	0.1	0.1
	156	(2,3,3',4,4',5)	0.0005	0.00003
	157	(2,3,3',4,4',5')	0.0005	0.00003
	167	(2,3',4,4',5,5')	0.00001	0.00003
	169	(3,3',4,4',5,5')	0.01	0.03
	189	(2,3,3',4,4',5,5')	0.0001	0.00003

References

- Lee, J.E.; Choi, W.; Min, B.J. DFT Calculation on the Thermodynamic Properties of Polychlorinated Dibenzo-p-dioxins: Intramolecular Cl-Cl Repulsion Effects and Their Thermochemical Implications. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A* **2003**, *107*, 2693-2699, doi:10.1021/jp027133m.
- Dorofeeva, O.V.; Yungman, V.S. Enthalpies of Formation of Dibenzo-p-dioxin and Polychlorinated Dibenzo-p-dioxins Calculated by Density Functional Theory. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A* **2003**, *107*, 2848-2854, doi:10.1021/jp026973y.
- Wang, L.; Heard, D.E.; Pilling, M.J.; Seakins, P. A Gaussian-3X Prediction on the Enthalpies of Formation of Chlorinated Phenols and Dibenzo-p-dioxins. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A* **2008**, *112*, 1832-1840, doi:10.1021/jp077478a.
- Wang, Z.-Y.; Zhai, Z.-C.; Wang, L.-S.; Chen, J.-L.; Kikuchi, O.; Watanabe, T. Prediction of gas phase thermodynamic function of polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins using DFT. *Journal of Molecular Structure: THEOCHEM* **2004**, *672*, 97-104, doi:10.1016/j.theochem.2003.11.030.
- Wang, L.; He, Y.-L. The Enthalpies of Formation for Polychlorinated Dibenzofurans with Use of G3XMP2 Model Chemistry and Density Functional Theory. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A* **2009**, *113*, 238-245, doi:10.1021/jp802091z.
- Wang, Z.-Y.; Zhai, Z.-C.; Wang, L.-S. Prediction of gas phase thermodynamic properties of polychlorinated dibenzo-furans by DFT. *Journal of Molecular Structure: THEOCHEM* **2005**, *725*, 55-62, doi:10.1016/j.theochem.2005.01.037.
- Ewan, B.C.R.; Thompson, D. Predicted specific heat behaviour of the polychlorinated dibenzofuran family from DFT analysis. *Thermochimica Acta* **2013**, *558*, 46-52, doi:10.1016/j.tca.2013.02.012.
- Wang, Z.Y.; Han, X.Y.; Zhai, Z.C.; Wang, L.S. Study on the thermodynamic property and relative stability of a series of polychlorinated biphenyls by density functional theory. *Acta Chimica Sinica* **2005**, *63*, 964-972.
- Chana, A.; Concejero, M.A.; de Frutos, M.; González, M.J.; Herradón, B. Computational Studies on Biphenyl Derivatives. Analysis of the Conformational Mobility, Molecular Electrostatic Potential, and Dipole Moment of Chlorinated Biphenyl: Searching for the Rationalization of the Selective Toxicity of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs). *Chemical Research in Toxicology* **2002**, *15*, 1514-1526, doi:10.1021/tx025596d.
- León, L.A.; Notario, R.; Quijano, J.; Sánchez, C. Structures and Enthalpies of Formation in the Gas Phase of the Most Toxic Polychlorinated Dibenzo-p-dioxins. A DFT Study. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A* **2002**, *106*, 6618-6627, doi:10.1021/jp025602e.
- Dorofeeva, O.V.; Vishnevskiy, Y.V.; Moiseeva, N.F. Assessment of Gaussian-3X theory for chlorinated organic molecules. Enthalpies of formation of chlorobenzenes and predictions for polychlorinated aromatic compounds. *Structural Chemistry* **2006**, *17*, 383-392, doi:10.1007/s11224-006-9047-8.
- Arulmozhiraja, S.; Fujii, T.; Tokiwa, H. Electron Affinity for the Most Toxic 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD): A Density Functional Theory Study. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A* **2000**, *104*, 7068-7072, doi:10.1021/jp994237x.
- Arulmozhiraja, S.; Morita, M. Electron Affinities and Reductive Dechlorination of Toxic Polychlorinated Dibenzofurans: A Density Functional Theory Study. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A* **2004**, *108*, 3499-3508, doi:10.1021/jp037620h.
- Thompson, D.; Ewan, B.C.R. A Group Additivity Algorithm for Polychlorinated Dibenzofurans Derived from Selected DFT Analyses. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A* **2007**, *111*, 5043-5047, doi:10.1021/jp0709499.
- Zhai, Z.-C.; Wang, Z.-Y.; Chen, X.-H.; Wang, L.-S. DFT calculation on 204 polychlorinated biphenyls: their thermodynamic function and implication of Cl substitute position. *Journal of Molecular Structure: THEOCHEM* **2005**, *714*, 123-131, doi:10.1016/j.theochem.2004.08.060.
- Dorofeeva, O.V.; Moiseeva, N.F.; Yungman, V.S. Thermodynamic Properties of Polychlorinated Biphenyls in the Gas Phase. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A* **2004**, *108*, 8324-8332, doi:10.1021/jp0477710.
- Dorofeeva, O.V.; Moiseeva, N.F.; Yungman, V.S.; Novikov, V.P. Ideal gas thermodynamic properties of biphenyl. *Thermochimica Acta* **2001**, *374*, 7-11, doi:10.1016/S0040-6031(01)00492-0.
- Arulmozhiraja, S.; Fujii, T.; Morita, M. Density Functional Theory Studies on Radical Ions of Selected Polychlorinated Biphenyls. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A* **2002**, *106*, 10590-10595, doi:10.1021/jp021014p.
- Lee, J.-E.; Choi, W. DFT Calculation on the Electron Affinity of Polychlorinated Dibenzo-p-dioxins. *Bulletin of the Korean Chemical Society* **2003**, *24*, 792-796, doi:10.5012/BKCS.2003.24.6.792.
- Hou, S.; Altarawneh, M.; Kennedy, E.M.; Mackie, J.C.; Weber, R.; Dlugogorski, B.Z. Formation of polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and dibenzofurans (PCDD/F) from oxidation of 4,4'-dichlorobiphenyl (4,4'-DCB). *Proceedings of the Combustion Institute* **2019**, *37*, 1075-1082, doi:10.1016/j.proci.2018.05.045.
- Zeinali, N.; Oluwoye, I.; Altarawneh, M.; Dlugogorski, B.Z. Destruction of dioxin and furan pollutants via electrophilic attack of singlet oxygen. *Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety* **2019**, *184*, 109605, doi:10.1016/j.ecoenv.2019.109605.
- Behjatmanesh-Ardakani, R.; Heydari, A. Molecular and dissociative adsorption of tetrachlorodibenzodioxin on M-doped graphenes (M = B, Al, N, P): pure DFT and DFT + VdW calculations. *Journal of Molecular Modeling* **2020**, *26*, 164, doi:10.1007/s00894-020-04387-4.
- Zhou, Q.; Su, X.; Yong, Y.; Ju, W.; Fu, Z.; Li, X. Adsorption of 2, 3, 7, 8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD) on graphene decorated with Ni and Cu: A DFT study. *Vacuum* **2018**, *149*, 53-59, doi:10.1016/j.vacuum.2017.12.016.
- Bai, N.; Wang, W.; Zhao, Y.; Feng, W.; Li, P. Theoretical Insights into the Reaction Mechanism between 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzofuran and Hydrogen Peroxide: A DFT Study. *ACS Omega* **2019**, *4*, 358-367, doi:10.1021/acsomega.8b00724.
- Iino, F.; Tsuchiya, K.; Imagawa, T.; Gullett, B.K. An Isomer Prediction Model for PCNs, PCDD/Fs, and PCBs from Municipal Waste Incinerators. *Environmental Science & Technology* **2001**, *35*, 3175-3181, doi:10.1021/es001857z.
- Ryu, J.-Y.; Mulholland, J.A.; Dunn, J.E.; Iino, F.; Gullett, B.K. Potential Role of Chlorination Pathways in PCDD/F Formation in a Municipal Waste Incinerator. *Environmental Science & Technology* **2004**, *38*, 5112-5119, doi:10.1021/es0497227.
- Jansson, S.; Antti, H.; Marklund, S.; Tysklind, M. Multivariate Relationships between Molecular Descriptors and Isomer Distribution Patterns of PCDD/Fs Formed during MSW Combustion. *Environmental Science & Technology* **2009**, *43*, 7032-7038, doi:10.1021/es901202w.
- Jansson, S.; Grabic, R. Multivariate relationships between molecular descriptors and isomer distribution patterns of PCBs formed during household waste incineration. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research* **2014**, *21*, 3082-3090, doi:10.1007/s11356-013-2257-x.
- Larsson, M.; Kumar Mishra, B.; Tysklind, M.; Linusson, A.; Andersson, P.L. On the use of electronic descriptors for QSAR modelling of PCDDs, PCDFs and dioxin-like PCBs. *SAR and QSAR in Environmental Research* **2013**, *24*, 461-479, doi:10.1080/1062936X.2013.791719.

30. Hirano, M.; Hwang, J.-H.; Park, H.-J.; Bak, S.-M.; Iwata, H.; Kim, E.-Y. In Silico Analysis of the Interaction of Avian Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptors and Dioxins to Decipher Isoform-, Ligand-, and Species-Specific Activations. *Environmental Science & Technology* **2015**, *49*, 3795-3804, doi:10.1021/es505733f.
31. Abronin, I.A.; Volkova, L.V. On the relationship between the energy characteristics of the isodesmic reactions of polychlorinated dioxins and their toxicity. *Russian Chemical Bulletin* **2019**, *68*, 867-869, doi:10.1007/s11172-019-2498-z.
32. Larsson, M.; Fraccalvieri, D.; Andersson, C.D.; Bonati, L.; Linusson, A.; Andersson, P.L. Identification of potential aryl hydrocarbon receptor ligands by virtual screening of industrial chemicals. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research* **2018**, *25*, 2436-2449, doi:10.1007/s11356-017-0437-9.
33. Diao, J.; Li, Y.; Shi, S.; Sun, Y.; Sun, Y. QSAR Models for Predicting Toxicity of Polychlorinated Dibenzo-p-dioxins and Dibenzofurans Using Quantum Chemical Descriptors. *Bulletin of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology* **2010**, *85*, 109-115, doi:10.1007/s00128-010-0065-2.
34. Ballschmiter, K.; Buchert, H.; Niemczyk, R.; Munder, A.; Swerev, M. Automobile exhausts versus municipal-waste incineration as sources of the polychloro-dibenzodioxins (PCDD) and -furans (PCDF) found in the environment. *Chemosphere* **1986**, *15*, 901-915, doi:[https://doi.org/10.1016/0045-6535\(86\)90055-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/0045-6535(86)90055-X).
35. Ballschmiter, K.; Zell, M. Analysis of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) by glass capillary gas chromatography. *Fresenius Z. Anal. Chem.* **1980**, *302*, 20-31, doi:10.1007/BF00469758.
36. Agudo, A.; Aronson, K.J.; Bonefeld-Jorgensen, E.C.; Cocco, P.; Coglian, V.; Cravedi, J.-P.; Esch, H.; Fiedler, H.; Glauert, H.P.; Guo, Y.-L.L. *Polychlorinated biphenyls and polybrominated biphenyls*; 2016.
37. Ballschmiter, K.; Swerev, M. Reaction pathways for the formation of polychlorodibenzodioxins (PCDD) and -furans (PCDF) in combustion processes I. *Fresenius' Zeitschrift für analytische Chemie* **1987**, *328*, 125-127, doi:10.1007/BF00560966.
38. Dickson, L.C.; Lenoir, D.; Hutzinger, O. Quantitative comparison of de novo and precursor formation of polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins under simulated municipal solid waste incinerator postcombustion conditions. *Environmental Science & Technology* **1992**, *26*, 1822-1828, doi:10.1021/es00033a017.
39. Yasuhara, A.; Ito, H.; Morita, M. Isomer-Specific Determination of polychlorinated Dibenzo-p -dioxins and Dibenzofurans in Incinerator-Related Environmental Samples. *Environmental Science & Technology* **1987**, *21*, 971-979, doi:10.1021/es50001a010.
40. Thompson, D.; Ooi, T.C.; Anderson, D.R.; Fisher, R.; Ewan, B.C.R. The polychlorinated dibenzofuran fingerprint of iron ore sinter plant: Its persistence with suppressant and alternative fuel addition. *Chemosphere* **2016**, *154*, 138-147, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2016.03.066>.
41. Tiernan, T.O.; Taylor, M.L.; Garrett, J.H.; VanNess, G.F.; Solch, J.G.; Deis, D.A.; Wagel, D.J. Chlorodibenzodioxins, chlorodibenzofurans and related compounds in the effluents from combustion processes. *Chemosphere* **1983**, *12*, 595-606, doi:[https://doi.org/10.1016/0045-6535\(83\)90217-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/0045-6535(83)90217-5).
42. Ishikawa, Y.; Noma, Y.; Yamamoto, T.; Mori, Y.; Sakai, S.-i. PCB decomposition and formation in thermal treatment plant equipment. *Chemosphere* **2007**, *67*, 1383-1393, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2006.10.022>.
43. Kim, K.S.; Hirai, Y.; Kato, M.; Urano, K.; Masunaga, S. Detailed PCB congener patterns in incinerator flue gas and commercial PCB formulations (Kanechlor). *Chemosphere* **2004**, *55*, 539-553, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2003.11.056>.
44. Jansson, S.; Lundin, L.; Grabic, R. Characterisation and fingerprinting of PCBs in flue gas and ash from waste incineration and in technical mixtures. *Chemosphere* **2011**, *85*, 509-515, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2011.08.012>.
45. Schwartz, T.R.; Campbell, R.D.; Stalling, D.L.; Little, R.L.; Petty, J.D.; Hogan, J.W.; Kaiser, E.M. Laboratory data base for isomer-specific determination of polychlorinated biphenyls. *Analytical Chemistry* **1984**, *56*, 1303-1308, doi:10.1021/ac00272a025.
46. Faroon, O.M.; Samuel Keith, L.; Smith-Simon, C.; De Rosa, C.T.; World Health Organization. *Polychlorinated biphenyls: human health aspects*; World Health Organization: 2003.
47. Sundqvist, K.L.; Tysklind, M.; Geladi, P.; Hopke, P.K.; Wiberg, K. PCDD/F Source Apportionment in the Baltic Sea Using Positive Matrix Factorization. *Environmental Science & Technology* **2010**, *44*, 1690-1697, doi:10.1021/es9030084.
48. Srogi, K. Levels and congener distributions of PCDDs, PCDFs and dioxin-like PCBs in environmental and human samples: a review. *Environmental Chemistry Letters* **2008**, *6*, 1-28, doi:10.1007/s10311-007-0105-2.
49. Hinwood, A.L.; Callan, A.C.; Heyworth, J.; Rogic, D.; de Araujo, J.; Crough, R.; Mamahit, G.; Piro, N.; Yates, A.; Stevenson, G., et al. Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) and dioxin concentrations in residential dust of pregnant women. *Environmental Science: Processes & Impacts* **2014**, *16*, 2758-2763, doi:10.1039/C4EM00383G.
50. Barahona-Urbina, C.; Nunez-Gonzalez, S.; Gomez-Jeria, J.S. Model-based quantum-chemical study of the uptake of some polychlorinated pollutant compounds by Zucchini subspecies. *Journal of the Chilean Chemical Society* **2012**, *57*, 1497-1503.
51. Hanari, N.; Horii, Y.; Okazawa, T.; Falandysz, J.; Bochentin, I.; Orlikowska, A.; Puzyn, T.; Wyrzykowska, B.; Yamashita, N. Dioxin-like compounds in pine needles around Tokyo Bay, Japan in 1999. *Journal of Environmental Monitoring* **2004**, *6*, 305-312, doi:10.1039/B311176H.
52. Huang, R.; Wang, P.; Zhang, J.; Chen, S.; Zhu, P.; Huo, W.; Jiang, Y.; Chen, Z.; Peng, J. The human body burden of polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins/furans (PCDD/Fs) and dioxin-like polychlorinated biphenyls (DL-PCBs) in residents' human milk from Guangdong Province, China. *Toxicology Research* **2019**, *8*, 552-559, doi:10.1039/c8tx00337h.
53. Van den Berg, M.; Birnbaum, L.S.; Denison, M.; De Vito, M.; Farland, W.; Feeley, M.; Fiedler, H.; Hakansson, H.; Hanberg, A.; Haws, L., et al. The 2005 World Health Organization Reevaluation of Human and Mammalian Toxic Equivalency Factors for Dioxins and Dioxin-Like Compounds. *Toxicological Sciences* **2006**, *93*, 223-241, doi:10.1093/toxsci/kfl055.