

Characteristic Effects of 4,5-Disubstituted Pyridazin-3-one Derivatives with Various Functional Groups: *Ab initio* Study

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The geometrical structures of pyridazin-3-one derivatives (4,5-dihalo- and 4-halo-5-alkoxy- and 5-alkoxy- derivatives) with various functional and substituent groups were fully optimized using the *ab initio* Hartree-Fock (HF) and second order Møller-Plesset perturbation (MP2) methods. At the N2-, C4-, and C5-positions on the pyridazin-3-one rings, the structural and electronic features pertaining to the variations of the functional and substituent groups were analyzed, respectively. The trends in the variation of the bond lengths, atomic charges, and energetics (relative energy, binding energy) of the derivatives induced by changing the electron donating functional groups (X1 = OMe, OEt) to electron withdrawing groups (X1 = Cl, NO₂) were examined. The variations of the bond lengths, atomic charges, and binding energies with the electron withdrawing strength of the substituent groups (Y = Me → F) were also investigated.

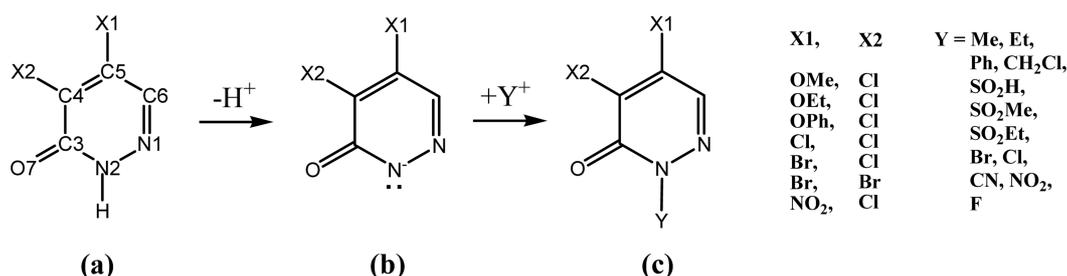
Key Words: Geometrical structure, Bond length, Atomic charge, Electron donating/withdrawing group, Binding energy

Introduction

The synthesis and properties of pyridazine derivatives have been studied with various experimental techniques.¹⁻²¹ Since pyridazine nucleosides were recognized as having biological activity^{1,2} and as being useful as synthetic auxiliary materials,^{3,4} many studies have focused on their synthesis⁵⁻¹⁵ and applications.¹⁶⁻²¹ Particularly, much effort has been made to develop convenient and efficient routes for their synthesis. Pyridazin-3(2H)-one derivatives are ambident anions under basic conditions,^{3,4} acting as stable anions and good leaving groups. That is, pyridazin-3(2H)-one is a useful intermediate for the synthesis of pyridazine derivatives. The nucleophilic/electrophilic substitution reactions at the N2-position of the pyridazin-3(2H)-one ring depend greatly on the electron donating and/or withdrawing groups at the C4- and C5-positions.

In the synthesis of pyridazine derivatives by Yoon's group,⁶⁻¹⁶ the nucleophilic substitution reactions of the pyridazine derivatives rely on both structural and electronic

condition factors. The structural factors are the positions and numbers of the substituent groups. The carbon (C5) at the 5-position and the nitrogen (N2) at the 2-position on the pyridazine derivatives are the most reactive sites. The electronic condition factors are the electronic characteristics of the substituted functional groups. The product yields of the substitution reaction depend on the electron donating and/or withdrawing groups.^{6-16,20-23} Multisubstituted pyridazin-3(2H)-one derivatives are also useful materials (as intermediates) for the synthesis of some bi- and tricyclic heterocycles and fused ring derivatives.¹⁰⁻¹⁶ For *N*-nitration substitution reactions,¹⁰ the N2-atom of 4,5-dihalo- and 4-halo-5-alkoxy- and 5-alkoxy- derivatives reacts well with *N*-nitrating reagents such as Cu(NO₃)₂ under neutral conditions, whereas the reaction does not take place under acidic conditions. 4-chloro-5-alkoxy- and 5-alkoxy- derivatives do not react well with *N*-nitrating reagents such as Cu(NO₃)₂. Meanwhile, in the *N*-nitration of *N*-methylbenzylamine as a secondary amine with 2-nitropyridazin-3-one, the 5-alkoxy derivatives show excellent *N*-nitro transfer potentiality to secondary amines, while the 5-halo derivatives



Scheme 1. The substitution reactions at the N2-position of the pyridazin-3(2H)-one derivatives.

show poor *N*-nitro transfer potentiality. Particularly, the electronic effects of various inorganic materials have been theoretically investigated by Whangbo's group.^{24,25}

Although the synthesis and applications of multisubstituted pyridazin-3(2H)-one derivatives have already been studied by several groups,¹⁻²¹ further investigations seem to be worth carrying out, in order to answer the following questions: (i) The N2-atom of multisubstituted pyridazin-3-one derivatives with electron withdrawing groups reacts well with *N*-nitrating reagents such as Cu(NO₃)₂ under neutral conditions, whereas the reaction of these derivatives with electron donating groups does not show good yields under acidic conditions. Is there any relationship between the electron donating and/or withdrawing groups? (ii) Does the *N*-substitution reaction depend on the 4,5-disubstituted pyridazin-3(2H)-one anions as useful intermediates for the synthesis? (iii) Does the *N*-substitution reaction depend on the position and the bulky size of the functional and substituent groups? (iv) Does the charge transfer from the functional group at the 4,5-positions to the N2-position take place well? (v) The relative stabilities of the pyridazin-3(2H)-one isomers are different from each other. Do the functional and substituent groups of the C4-, C5-, and N2-positions influence the relative stability? To answer these questions, we optimized the geometrical structures of 4,5-disubstituted pyridazine-3-one derivatives and analyzed the variations of the atomic charges, bond lengths, and binding energies with the electron withdrawing groups.

Computational Methods

The equilibrium geometrical structures of the pyridazin-3-one derivatives (4,5-dihalopyridazin-3-ones and 4-halo-5-alkoxy pyridazin-3-ones) with various functional (X1, X2 = OMe, Cl; OEt, Cl; OPh, Cl; Cl, Cl; Br, Cl; Br, Br; NO₂, Cl) and substituent (Y = Me, Et, Ph, H, CH₂Cl, SO₂H, SO₂Me, SO₂Et, Br, Cl, CN, NO₂, F) groups were fully optimized using the *ab initio* Hartree-Fock (HF) and second order Möller-Plesset perturbation (MP2) methods with large standard basis sets (6-31G**, 6-311+G**) using the Gaussian 03.²⁶ To confirm the existence of stable structures, the harmonic vibrational frequencies of the species were analyzed at the HF/6-311+G** level. The bond lengths, atomic charges, and energetics (relative energy, binding energy) of the 4,5-disubstituted pyridazin-3-one derivatives induced by the changes from electron donating to electron withdrawing groups (the functional groups at the C5-position and substituent groups at the N2-position) were investigated in detail. In addition, the neutrals and anions of the 4,5-disubstituted pyridazin-3-one derivatives were also optimized. The variations of the bond lengths, atomic charges (NBO), and binding energies of the neutrals and anions were also analyzed, in order to investigate the relationship between the electron withdrawing and donating groups. The potential energy barrier and relative energies of the proton transfer reaction from the (N-H) bond at the N2-position to the oxygen atom (O7-H) of the ketone group

were calculated at the MP2/6-311+G** level. The relative energy between the isomers and the deprotonation energies of the pyridazin-3-one derivatives were calculated at the MP2/6-311+G** level.

Results and Discussion

The equilibrium geometrical structures of the 4,5-disubstituted pyridazin-3-one derivatives with the various functional (X1, X2 = OMe, Cl; OEt, Cl; OPh, Cl; Cl, Cl; Br, Cl; Br, Br; NO₂, Cl) and substituent (Y = Me, Et, Ph, H, CH₂Cl, SO₂H, SO₂Me, SO₂Et, Br, Cl, CN, NO₂, F; N₂⁻, N1-H, N1-NO₂, O7-H) groups were fully optimized at the MP2/6-311+G** levels and the variations of the bond lengths are represented in Figure 1. To investigate the structural and electronic effects induced by the donating/withdrawing groups of the functional and substituent groups, the summations of two hammett substituent constants [$\sigma_{\text{para-OPh}} (-0.320) + \sigma_{\text{meta-Cl}} (0.373) = \mathbf{0.053}$; $\sigma_{\text{para-OMe}} (-0.268) + \sigma_{\text{meta-Cl}} (0.373) = \mathbf{0.105}$; $\sigma_{\text{para-OEt}} (-0.250) + \sigma_{\text{meta-Cl}} (0.373) = \mathbf{0.123}$; $\sigma_{\text{para-Cl}} (0.227) + \sigma_{\text{meta-Cl}} (0.373) = \mathbf{0.600}$; $\sigma_{\text{para-Br}} (0.232) + \sigma_{\text{meta-Cl}} (0.373) = \mathbf{0.605}$; $\sigma_{\text{para-Br}} (0.232) + \sigma_{\text{meta-Br}} (0.391) = \mathbf{0.623}$; $\sigma_{\text{para-NO}_2} (0.778) + \sigma_{\text{meta-Cl}} (0.373) = \mathbf{1.151}$] of the *para*- and *meta*-substituents are scaled on the X-axis.²⁷ Due to the change from the electron donating group of OMe to the electron withdrawing group of NO₂, the variations in the lengths of R₍₁₋₂₎, R₍₂₋₃₎, and R₍₃₋₄₎ increase, and the variations of R₍₄₋₅₎ and R₍₅₋₆₎ decrease. Due to the change in the substituent groups (Y), the bond length of (1.26~1.36 Å) at R₍₁₋₂₎ is shorter than the others, while the bond length of (1.4~1.48 Å) at R₍₃₋₄₎ is the longest. The optimized bond lengths of the six-membered ring of the pyridazin-3-one derivatives are similar to the bond length (R_{(C-C)} = 1.34 Å) of the double bond. Although the geometric structures of the pyridazin-3-one derivatives are represented in the form of the alternative double bond in Scheme 1, the six membered ring has aromaticity constituted of π -bonds such as those of the benzene ring. Therefore, the electronic effect induced by the donating/withdrawing groups of the functional and substituent groups influences the bond lengths of the six-membered ring through these π -bonds. When the electron donating (X1 = OMe and Y = Me) groups are bonded to the C5 and N2 atoms, the bond lengths on the derivative rings decrease. On the other hand, when the electron withdrawing (X1 = NO₂ and Y = NO₂) groups are bonded to C5 and N2, the bond lengths increase.}

Meanwhile, the (N2-Y) bond dissociations at the N2 position of the 4,5-disubstituted pyridazin-3-one derivatives give the corresponding derivative anions of (b). Therefore, the derivative anions without the substituent groups are optimized as stable structures. At the five bond lengths of [R₍₁₋₂₎, R₍₂₋₃₎, R₍₃₋₄₎, R₍₄₋₅₎, R₍₅₋₆₎], the variations of the bond length of the derivative anions without the substituent (Y) groups are more linear than the others. These bond lengths are closer to that of the double bond of (R_{(C-C)} = 1.34 Å). The other isomers formed by the bond formations of (N1-H and}

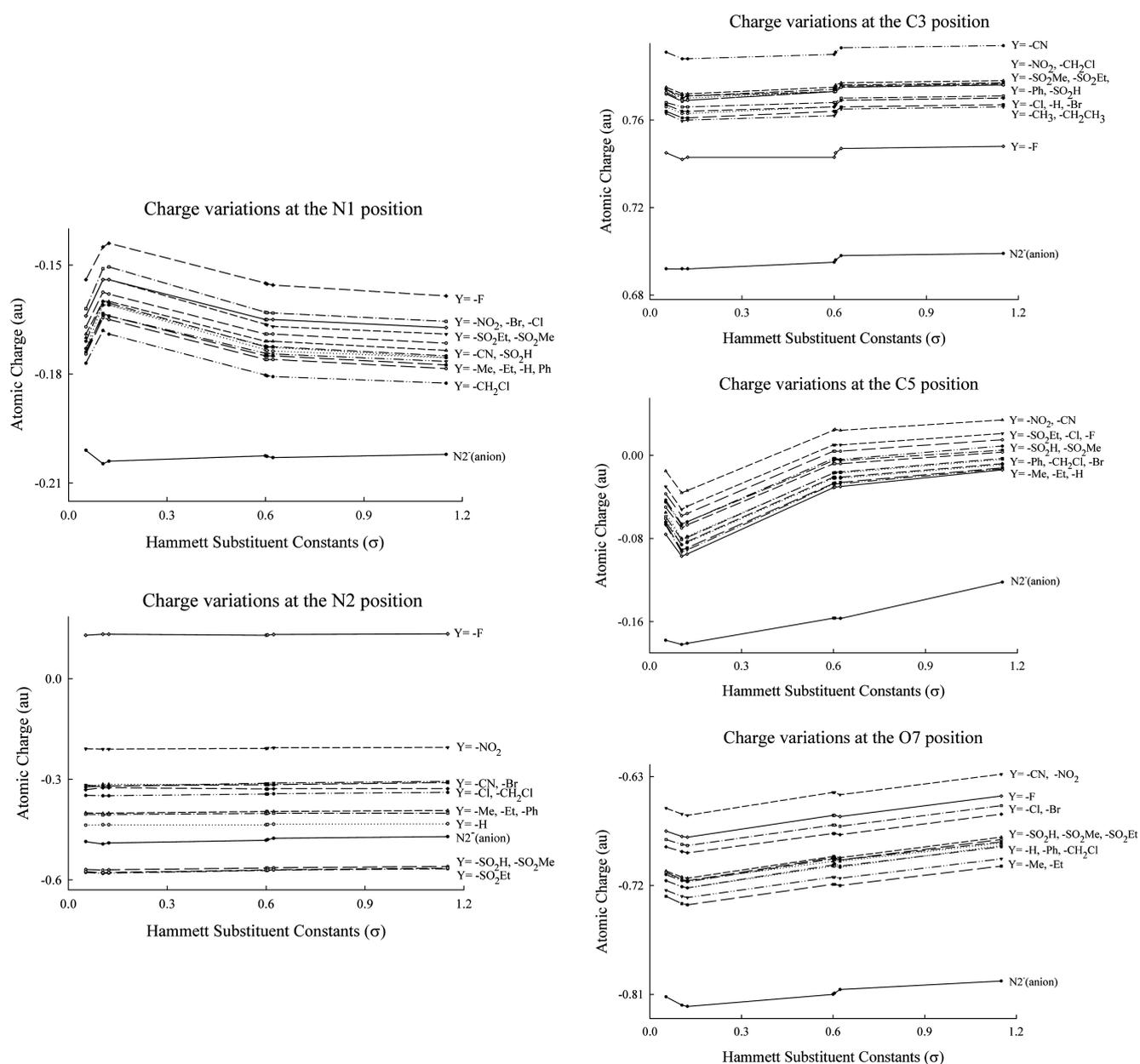


Figure 2. The atomic charges (NBO, au) of the 4,5-disubstituted pyridazin-3-one derivatives with various functional groups at the MP2/6-311+G** levels. The summations of two hammett substituent constants ($\sigma_{\text{para-OPh}} + \sigma_{\text{meta-Cl}} = 0.053$; $\sigma_{\text{para-OMe}} + \sigma_{\text{meta-Cl}} = 0.105$; $\sigma_{\text{para-OEt}} + \sigma_{\text{meta-Cl}} = 0.123$; $\sigma_{\text{para-Cl}} + \sigma_{\text{meta-Cl}} = 0.60$; $\sigma_{\text{para-Br}} + \sigma_{\text{meta-Cl}} = 0.605$; $\sigma_{\text{para-Br}} + \sigma_{\text{meta-Br}} = 0.623$; $\sigma_{\text{para-NO}_2} + \sigma_{\text{meta-Cl}} = 1.151$) of *para*- and *meta*-substituents are scaled on the X-axis.

are more positive. As a result, the electronic effect induced by the donating/withdrawing groups influences the atomic charges of the six-membered rings. Meanwhile, due to the deprotonation [(N2-H) bond dissociation] at their N2 position, the 4,5-disubstituted pyridazin-3-one derivatives become the corresponding anions. As shown in Figure 2, the atomic charges of the derivative anions have large negative values. As the electron withdrawing strength is increased, the increase of the variations of the atomic charge at the N1, N2, C3, C5, and O7 positions become more positive than any of the others.

At the N1 position, the variations of the atomic charge of

the 4,5-disubstituted pyridazin-3-one anions [(b)] are more positive, while those of the neutral derivatives [(c)] are more negative. Particularly, at OMe and OEt on the X-axis, the atomic charges of the anionic and neutral derivatives are more negative and positive, respectively. The atomic charge at the N1 position is in the range of $-0.20 \sim -0.13$ au. At the N2 position, the atomic charges, except for that of $Y = F$, have large negative values. The variation of the atomic charge induced by the electronic effect increases stepwise from OPh to NO_2 with successively increasing step size. The values of the atomic charge are in the range of $0.1 \sim -0.6$ au. Due to the negatively large atomic charge (-0.5 au) of the

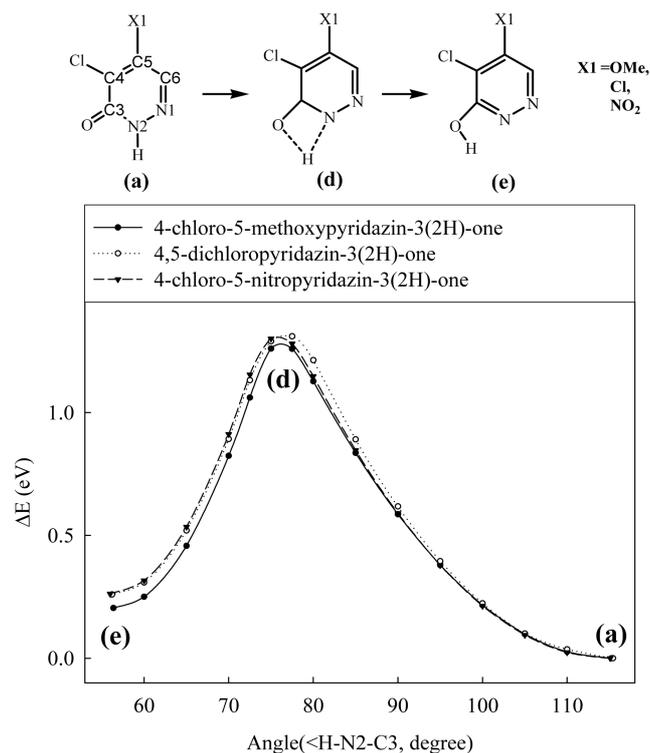


Figure 3. The energy barrier (eV) for the proton transfer ($\angle\text{H-N2-C3} = 56\sim 115$ degree) from (N2-H) at the 2-position to C=O on the 4,5-disubstituted pyridazin-3-one derivatives at the MP2/6-311+G** level.

derivative anion [(b)], the anionic nitrogen (N2⁻) of the derivatives may act as electrophilic agents allowing them to react well with the substituent cations ($Y^+ = \text{Me, Et, Ph, H, CH}_2\text{Cl, SO}_2\text{H, SO}_2\text{Me, SO}_2\text{Et, Br, Cl, CN, NO}_2, \text{F}$). Although the functional groups are bonded to the C5 position, the atomic charges of the C5 position have relatively small negative values. At the C3 and O7 position of the C=O group, the atomic charges have large positive and negative values, respectively.

According to the experimental results of Yoon *et al.*, the multisubstituted pyridazin-3-one derivatives are good leaving groups and useful intermediates for the synthesis of the secondary amine derivatives. The *N*-substitution reaction at the N2-position of the 4,5-disubstituted pyridazin-3-one derivatives gave the corresponding *N*-substituted-products in good yields. Particularly, the functional group at the C4 and C5 positions depends greatly on the *N*-substitution reaction at the N2-position. That is, when electron donating groups are bonded to the C4 and C5 positions, the *N*-substitution reaction at the N2-position of the pyridazin-3-one derivatives gave the corresponding products in good yields. On the other hand, when withdrawing groups are bonded to the C4 and C5 positions, the *N*-substitution reaction gave very low yields. These experimental^{15,22-29} results for the atomic charges are in good agreement with our results.

The relative energy barriers (eV) for the proton transfer from (a) to (e) of the pyridazin-3(2H)-one derivatives with three functional groups (X1 = OMe, Cl, NO₂) are repre-

sented in Figure 3. The structures of (a) are more stable than those of (e). The relative energy between the two conformers is about 0.20~0.26 eV. In the case of 4-chloro-5-methoxy-pyridazin-3(2H)-one with X1 = OMe, the relative energy from (a) to (e) is 0.20 eV. Due to the presence of the electron donating group, the atomic charges on the 4-chloro-5-methoxypyridazin-3(2H)-one are more negative. The deprotonation by the (N2-H) bond dissociation at (a) is relatively difficult. Therefore, the energy gap [(a) and (e)] for the proton transfer is relatively small. On the other hand, in the case of 4-chloro-5-nitropyridazin-3(2H)-one with the electron withdrawing group (X1 = NO₂), the relative energy between (a) and (e) is 0.26 eV. Due to the presence of the electron withdrawing group, the atomic charges on the derivative rings are more positive. By the relatively small deprotonation energy at (a), the energy gap between (a) and (e) is relatively large. The transition state of the potential curves appears at $\phi = 76.2$ degrees. The transition energy from (a) to the transition state of (d) is about 1.30 eV.

The deprotonation energies [(A): $\Delta E_{(a-b)}$, (B): $\Delta E_{(f-b)}$, (C): $\Delta E_{(e-b)}$], the relative energies between the two isomers [(D): $\Delta E_{(a-f)}$, (E): $\Delta E_{(a-e)}$, (F): $\Delta E_{(e-f)}$, (G): $\Delta E_{(g-h)}$], and the electronic affinities [(H): $\Delta E_{(b\text{-neutral})}$] of the pyridazin-3-one derivatives toward various functional groups are represented in Figure 4. On the X-axis, [X1 = OMe and X2 = Cl], [X1 = OEt and X2 = Cl], [X1 = OPh and X2 = Cl], [X1 = Cl and X2 = Cl], [X1 = Br and X2 = Cl], [X1 = Br and X2 = Br], and [X1 = NO₂ and X2 = Cl] are denoted as **1**, **2**, **3**, **4**, **5**, **6**, and **7**, respectively. Due to the changes from **1** to **7**, the deprotonation energies of (A), (B), and (C) decrease. As the withdrawing character increases, the charge density at the N2 position becomes more positive. That is, the (N2-H) bond strength between N2 and H become weaker. The deprotonation of the (N2-H) bonds at the N2 position easily occurs and, consequently, the proton (H⁺) can move to the nitrogen atom (N1) or the oxygen atom (O7). The compounds (f) and (e) can be formed. The relative stability of the three isomers is in the order of (A) > (C) > (B). The decreasing trends of the deprotonation energies at the (A), (B), and (C) plots are similar to each other. The energy gap from X1 = OCH₃ to X1 = NO₂ at the MP2/6-311+G** levels is in the range of 0.59~0.67 eV. The energy gap between the two basis sets is about 0.5 eV.

Except for [(E): $\Delta E_{(a-e)}$], the relative energies of [(D): $\Delta E_{(a-f)}$, (F): $\Delta E_{(e-f)}$, (G): $\Delta E_{(g-h)}$] decrease stepwise. From X1 = OCH₃ to X1 = NO₂, the decrease ($\Delta E = 0.03\sim 0.08$ eV) in the relative energies at the MP2/6-311+G** levels is relatively small. As the withdrawing effect ($Y = \text{OMe} \rightarrow \text{NO}_2$) increases, the potential energy of the (e) molecule increase substantially, while the potential energy of (a) and (f) decrease. The increase in the potential energy gap of (e) is larger than those of (a) and (f). As a result, the relative energies of [(D) and (F)] decrease, while that of (E) increases. Meanwhile, as the electron withdrawing effect increases, the potential energies of the anions and neutrals become more unstable. Therefore, the energy gap of [(H): $\Delta E_{(b\text{-neutral})}$] increases.

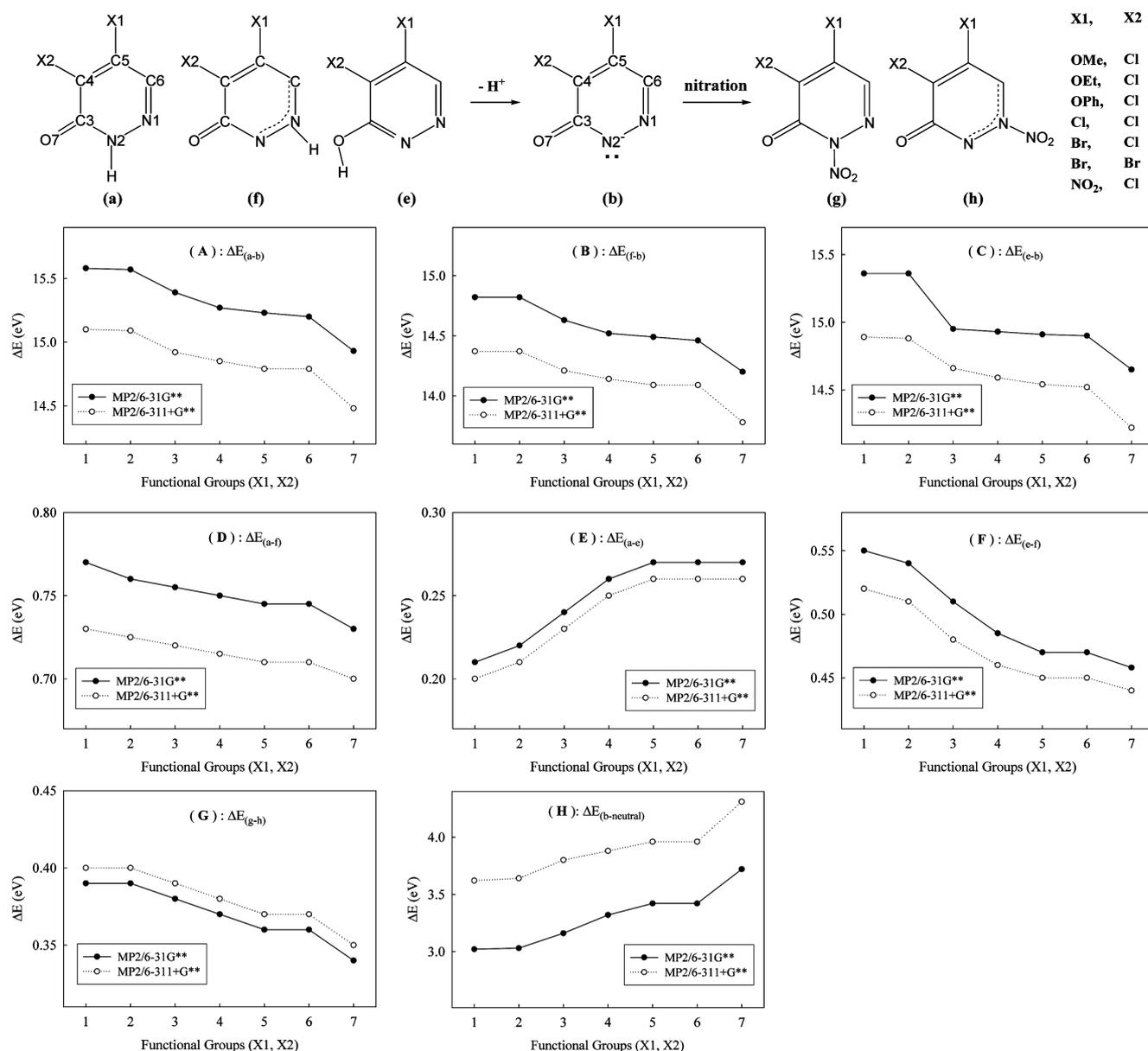


Figure 4. The deprotonation energies (eV) and relative energies (eV) of the pyridazin-3-one derivatives with various functional groups (X1 = OMe and X2 = Cl: 1; X1 = OEt and X2 = Cl: 2; X1 = OPh and X2 = Cl: 3; X1 = Cl and X2 = Cl: 4; X1 = Br and X2 = Cl: 5; X1 = Br and X2 = Br: 6; X1 = NO₂ and X2 = Cl: 7 on the X-axis.) at the MP2/6-311+G** (6-31G**) levels.

The binding energy (eV) between the 4,5-disubstituted pyridazin-3-one derivative anions [(b)] and the Y cations at the MP2/6-311+G** (6-31G**) levels are listed in Table 1. The binding energy between the derivative anion and the Y cation decreases stepwise from (X1 = OCH₃, X2 = Cl) to (X1 = NO₂, X2 = Cl). Due to the electron donating effect of (X1 = OCH₃, X2 = Cl), the negative charges on the derivative anions relatively increase. Particularly, the negative charge on the N2⁻ atom increases. Therefore, the binding interaction between the derivative anion with (X1 = OCH₃) and the Y cation is relatively strong and the binding energy is larger than those of the others. On the other hand, due to the electron withdrawing effect of (X1 = NO₂, X2 = Cl), the negative charge on the anions decreases. The binding

interaction between the anion with (X1 = NO₂) and the Y cation is relatively weak and the binding energy is smaller than the others. Meanwhile, in the case of the donating substituent (Y = Me) group, the relative gaps of the binding energy between the anions from (X1 = OCH₃) to (X1 = NO₂) and the cation is smaller than those of the others, while in the case of the withdrawing substituent (Y = NO₂), the relative gap of the binding energy is larger than those of the others. As a result, in the case of both donating groups (X1 = OCH₃, Y = Me), the binding energy between the anions and the cation is larger, while in the case of both withdrawing groups (X1 = NO₂, Y = NO₂), the binding energy is smaller. In the case of the (Y = F) cation, the absolute value of the binding energy is larger than those of the others. The values of the

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