

Comparison between experimental and theoretical scales of electrophilicity based on reactivity indexes

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A comparative study between a relative experimental scale of electrophilicity and a theoretical absolute scale based on electronic reactivity indexes is presented. The theoretical scale correctly predicts the experimental electrophilicity within the dihalogen and inter-halogen subseries (XY) including F₂, Cl₂, Br₂, BrCl, and ClF and the HX (X = F, Cl, Br) series. It is shown that the best correlation is obtained for the local electrophilic index that encompasses the global electrophilicity power weighted by a local factor described by the electrophilic Fukui function. This result is in agreement with the electrostatic model of Legon (*Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* 1999, 38, 2686), as the electrophilic power of molecules is mainly determined by the local properties of the electrophilic ends of HX and XY species. We also evaluated the electrophilicity of Li₂, LiH, LiF, and LiCl species for which experimental data are not available. Whereas LiH is predicted to have an electrophilic potential