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RE-EVALUATION OF THE STANDARD THERMOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES OF THE Al_2 CLUSTER ON THE BASIS OF CBS THERMOCHEMISTRY OF ISOGYRIC REACTIONS AND CORRELATION DEPENDENCIES

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Abstract. In the present study, the value of $\Delta_f H_{298.15}^{\circ}({}^3\text{Al}_2({}^3\Pi_u))_{\text{atom}} = 518.4, 521, 521.4, 521.3$ and 517.7 kJ/mol have been calculated using, respectively, CBS-QB3, ROCBS-QB3, W1U, W1RO and CBS-Q approaches. The slightly lower values of $\Delta_f H_{298.15}^{\circ}({}^3\text{Al}_2)_{\text{isog}} = 495\pm 15, 513\pm 7, 503\pm 17, 513\pm 9$ and 507 ± 8 kJ/mol have been determined, respectively, by the same quantum mechanical approaches, but on the basis of thermochemistry of the isogyric reactions. The higher values of $\Delta_f H_{298.15}^{\circ}({}^3\text{Al}_2)_{\text{CORR}} = 522.8$ (CBS-QB3), 521 (ROCBS-QB3), 520.4 (W1U), 521.3 (W1RO) and 519.7 (CBS-Q) kJ/mol have been determined on the basis of the correlation dependence between tabulated and calculated values of the bond dissociation energy (*BDE*) of compounds contained double and triple bonds. The close value of $\Delta_f H_{298.15}^{\circ}({}^3\text{Al}_2) = 525$ kJ/mol have also been determined within ROCBS-QB3 approach, on the basis of the perfectly linear correlation dependence between tabulated and calculated values of the *BDE* of dimers, formed by elements of the third row of the periodic table of elements. In contrast, the significantly higher value of $\Delta_f H_{298.15}^{\circ}({}^3\text{Al}_2)_{\text{CORR}} = 549.9$ kJ/mol have been determined on the basis of the correlation dependence between tabulated and theoretical values of *BDE* calculated for the lowest triplet states of B_2 , Al_2 and Ga_2 . Such high difference, observed in the last case, has been attributed to the high uncertainty in the tabulated/experimental values of $\Delta_f H_{298.15}^{\circ}({}^3\text{B}_2)$ and $\Delta_f H_{298.15}^{\circ}({}^3\text{Ga}_2)$. As a result, the lowest limit of the experimental values of $\Delta_f H_{298.15}^{\circ}({}^3\text{Al}_2) = 525$ kJ/mol and $\Delta_f H_{298.15}^{\circ}({}^3\text{Ga}_2) = 430$ kJ/mol, as well as the upper limit of the value of $\Delta_f H_{298.15}^{\circ}({}^3\text{B}_2) = 851.2$ kJ/mol have been accepted as the best available estimate.

The temperature dependence of $\Delta_f H_{298.15}^{\circ}({}^3\text{Al}_2)$, has been calculated using the ROCBS-QB3 approach.

The value of energy gap $E(\text{S-T}) = 31.8, 29.6$ and 29.1 kJ/mol between the lowest triplet (${}^3\Pi_u$) and singlet (${}^1\Sigma_g^+$) states of Al_2 have been determined using, respectively, CBS-Q, ROCBS-QB3 and W1RO calculations. The slightly different values of $E(\text{S-T}) = 32.1\pm 6, 28.9\pm 7$ and 25.6 ± 4 kJ/mol have also been determined using correlation dependencies. The last of these values has been considered as the most accurate.

The values of $S_{298.15}^{\circ}({}^3\text{Al}_2) = 236.6\pm 0.1$ J/(mol K) and its temperature dependence, calculated in the present work, agree with those reported previously.

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