Pseudo-Jahn-Teller Effect in Deprotonated Dimethyl Amino Phenyl Substituted Phthalocyanine

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Breloy *et al.* [1] synthesized a new dimethyl amino phenyl substituted phthalocyanine (dmaphPcH₂) and its Ag(II) complex ([dmaphPcAg]⁰, see Fig. 1) used as a visible light-absorbing photoinitiator for free-radical and cationic polymerizations. Irradiation of the [dmaphPcAg]⁰ solution led to the reduction of Ag(II) to Ag(I) and simultaneously generated the nitrogen-centered radical. In the next step, Ag nanoparticles and aromatic carbon-centered radicals were formed. The proposed photoinitiation mechanisms under light irradiation suppose the existence of [dmaphPc]⁰, Ag⁰ and [dmaphPcAg]^q, q = -1, 0 and + 1, entities. DFT calculations indicate a D₄ \rightarrow D₂ symmetry descent due to the Jahn-Teller effect in Ag complexes.

The aim of our recent study is to extend the DFT studies to free ligands. We have optimized the geometries of the $[dmaphPc]^q$ species, $q = -2 \rightarrow 0$, and performed TD-DFT calculations within the D₄ symmetry group and its subgroups. Using a group-theoretical treatment, the consequences of a pseudo-Jahn-Teller effect in these systems were explained in terms of the epikernel principle method [2, 3].



Figure 1. Structure of [dmaphPcAg]⁰ [1].

- [2] A. Ceulemans; L.G. Vanquickenborne; Struct. Bonding 71, 125 (1989).
- [3] M. Breza; Progr. Theor. Chem. Phys. 23, 59 (2012).

^[1] L. Breloy, et al.; Polym. Chem. 12, 1273 (2021).