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Exploring the excited state character of nitroarylcarbazole derivatives using wavefunction analysis

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Kimber, Patrick, Iain Wright, and Felix Plasser. 2020. “Exploring the Excited State Character of Nitroarylcarbazole Derivatives Using Wavefunction Analysis”. Loughborough University. https://hdl.handle.net/2134/11913945.v1.

Exploring the excited state character of nitroarylcarbazole derivatives using wavefunction analysis

P. Kimber[1], I. A. Wright[1], F. Plasser[1]

[1]Department of Chemistry, Loughborough University, UK

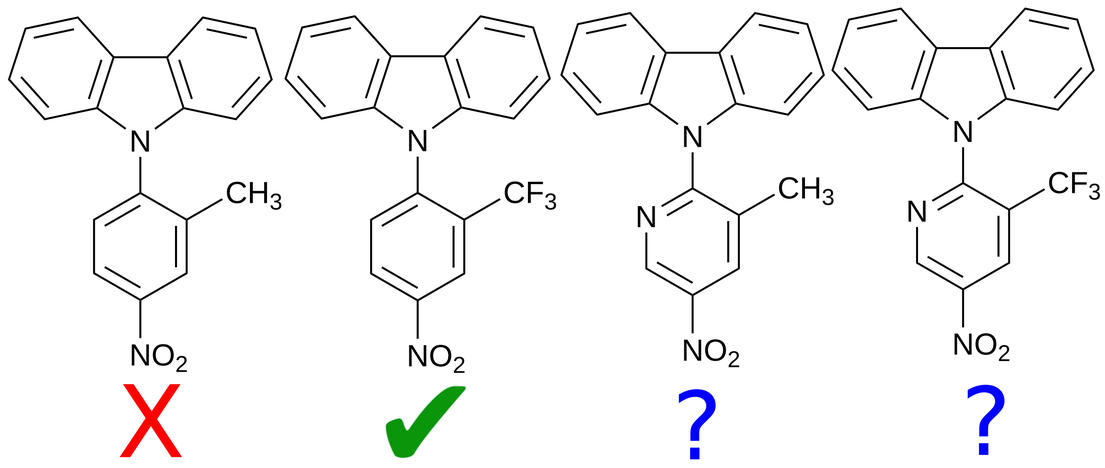
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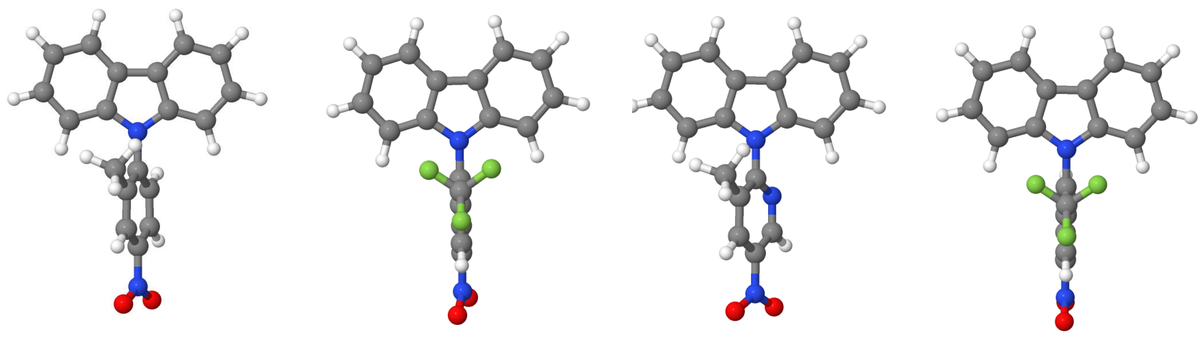
Introduction

- Nitroarylcarbazoles can display aggregation induced emission behaviour[1]
- Can we understand this behaviour in terms of the electronic transitions which occur on excitation?

Solid state emissive?



1. Ground state optimised structures

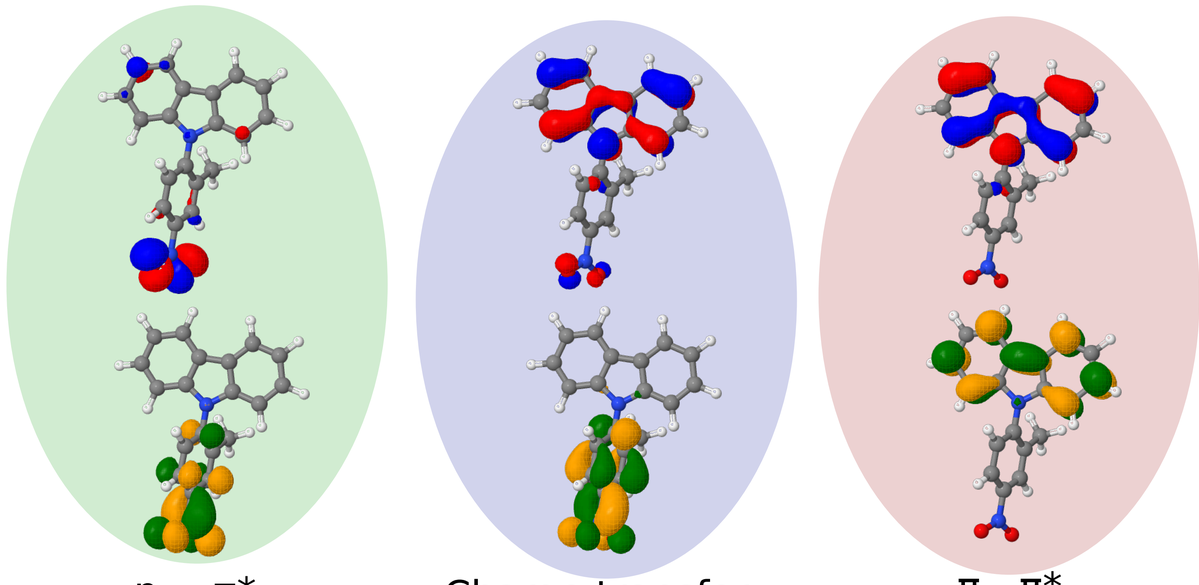


Methyl containing aryl groups → twisted

Trifluoro containing aryl groups → orthogonal

Calculate vertical excitations and use fragment decomposition to analyse the excited states

2. Excited state characterisation



$n_{NO2}\pi^*$

Charge transfer

π - π^*
(Local excitation)

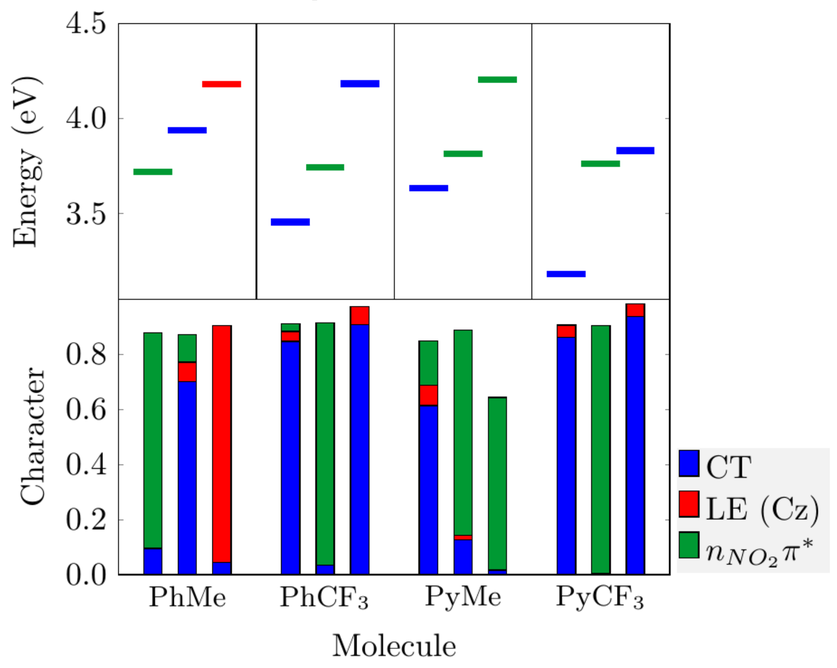
4. $PhCF_3$ - a closer look

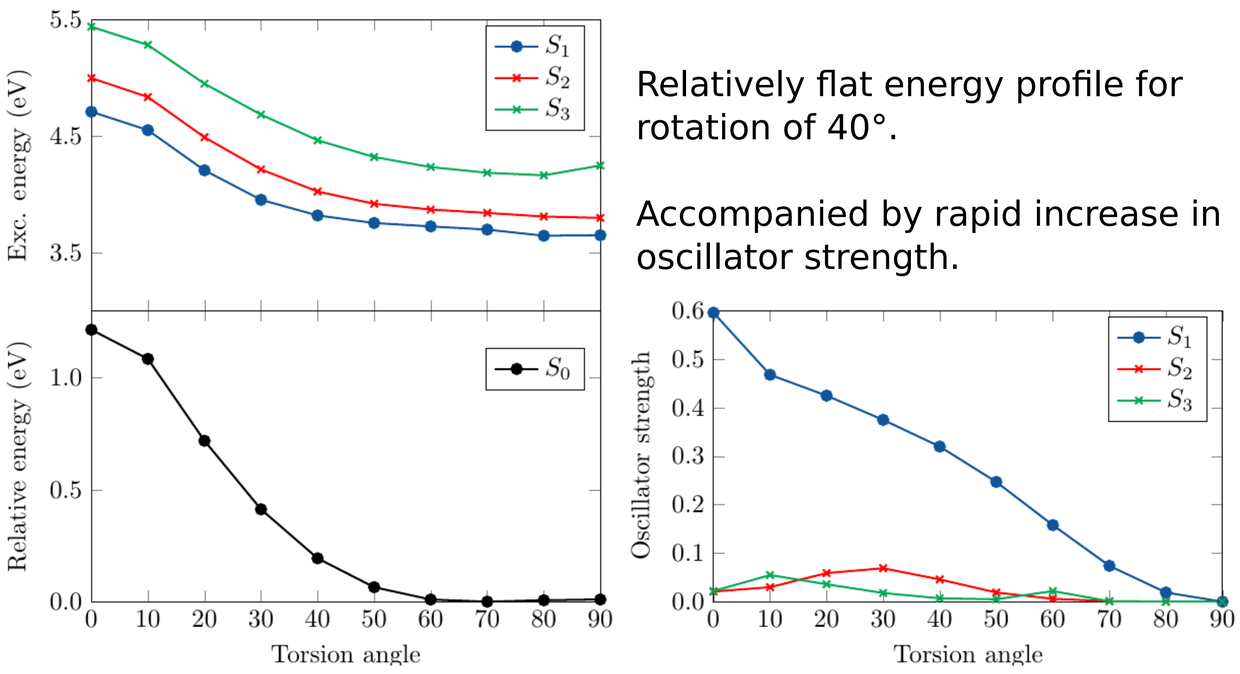
State	ΔE(eV)	f	CT	Character
S_1	3.455	0.000	0.887	CT
S_2	3.744	0.000	0.045	$n_{NO_2}\pi^*$
S_3	4.183	0.000	0.932	CT

Zero oscillator strength but solid state emissive - how?

Rotation from the orthogonal conformation to a planar one.

3. Bar representation





Relatively flat energy profile for rotation of 40°.

Accompanied by rapid increase in oscillator strength.

5. Conclusions

We propose that provided:

1. The barrier to reach a conformation with appreciable oscillator strength is small
2. The first excited state is a charge transfer state

The molecule will be solid state emissive.

Computational details

Turbomole 7.4 using MP2/def2-SV(P) for geometry optimisations and ADC(2)/def2-SV(P) for vertical excitations.

TheoDORE 2.0.2 for wavefunction analysis and decomposition of excited states.[2]

REFERENCES

1. Mater. Chem. Front., 2017,1, 1125-1129. DOI: 10.1039/C6QM00343E

2. F. Plasser, TheoDORE: a package for theoretical density, orbital relaxation and exciton analysis; available from http://theodore-qc.sourceforge.net/

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank Dr Felix Plasser for his ongoing support with this work. Additional thanks to Dr Iain Wright for helpful discussions at the beginning of this project.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Chemistry
Loughborough University
Leicestershire LE11 3TU UK
E: P.Kimber@lboro.ac.uk
W: fplasser.sci-public.lboro.ac.uk