Theoretical Studies on the Electronic Structures and Spectroscopic Properties of a Series of Dioxoosmium (VI) Complex

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Abstract – The electronic structures and spectroscopic properties of a series of *trans*-dioxoosmium complex ions $[Os(VI)O_2(L)_4]^2$ (L = CN, z = 2- (1); L = CO, z = 2+ (2); L = CCH, z = 2- (3)) were investigated using quantum chemistry method. The geometry structures of the complexes were fully optimized at the B3LYP level for the ground state and the CIS level for the lower-lying excited state with the LANL2DZ basis sets along with two f-type (for Os) and two d-type (for C, N, and O) polarization function, respectively. The calculations revealed that the bond lengths of Os=O in the excited state are elongated relative to those in the ground state for the three complexes. The calculation results show that the dipole-allowed absorptions of the three complexes are in the region of λ >230 nm. The calculated phosphorescence at 617 nm /638 nm and 553 nm originate from ${}^3[(\pi^*(Os=O))^1(Os(d_{xy})+\pi(CN/CCH))^1]$ and ${}^3[(\pi^*(Os=O))^1(p_z(O))^1]$ excited state for 1/3 and 2, respectively. The phosphorescence energies are in the order of 2>1>3, therefore the emission can be influenced and tuned by the attached ligands.

Trans-dioxo transition metal complexes have the interesting structural, spectroscopic, photochemical, and electrochemical properties, and can be used as materials of catalysts and reagents for oxidation reactions [1]. For example, *trans*-dioxo complexes of Mo, Mn, Cr, Ru, and Os are quite well-known catalyzer for the stoichiometric oxidation reactions of organic substrates. To these dioxo transition metal complexes, ones identically believed that the active centers as a powerful oxidant are mainly concentrated on the MO₂ segment, which can induce photochemical or electrochemical reaction, therefore excited extensively to investigation experimentally and theoretically on this type of complex.

For the complex $[OsO_2(CN)_4]^{2^-}$, in experiment, Preetz and coworkers [2] have observed absorption and emission spectrum of the solid tetramethyl-ammonium salt at 10 K, the electronic origin is deduced and verified by characteristic isotopic shifts by ¹⁸O and ¹³C, and concluded Os=O bond length elongation 10-13 pm in excited state via Frank-Condon theory. At the same time, Che et. al [3] found $[Ph_4As]_2[OsO_2(CN)_4]$ emit at 700 nm in MeCN at room temperature and the Os-O band is weakened in the ³E_g excited state. The rich optical properties of $[OsO_2(CN)_4]^{2^-}$ has attracted the attention of theorists. Hummel et. al [4] have studied the geometry structures of $[OsO_2(CN)_4]^{2^-}$ employing DFT method. For the complex $[OsO_2(CO)_4]^{2^+}$, Bernhardt et al [5] attempted experimentally to obtain $[OsO_2(CO)_4][Sb_2F_{11}]_2$, however, they are failed in purifying the product. The -C≡CH⁻ which is isoelectronic to C≡O and C≡N⁻, and also typical π-bonding ligand, However, up to now, no reports on complex $[OsO_2(C=CH)_4]^{2^-}$.

In this work, the geometry and electronic structures of the three trans-dioxo Osmium (VI) complexes in the ground and excited states together with their photophysical properties are theoretically explored. The elongated Os=O bond indicates that it is more possible for the Os=O bond to suffer broken in the excited state. This is favorable as the photo-catalyst and photo-reaction reagent. The calculated lower-lying absorptions and luminescence for the complex 1 and 3 with the $-C\equiv N$ and $-C\equiv CH$ ligands arise from the metal-centered d-d transition but assisted by the ligand to acquire the transition intensity. Compared to 1 and 3, the stronger π -accepting CO ligand in 2 leads to the dipole-allowed lower-lying excited state, consequently the blue-shifted phosphorescence. Conclusively, the π -acidity ligands ligated to the dioxo-osmium block affect their electronic structures and optical properties.





Fig. 1. The geometry structure of the complexes.

Fig. 2. The single electron transition for the emission at 617 nm of 1 (a) and 553 nm of 2 (b) under the TD-DFT calculation.

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