

New photophysical properties of nitropyridine N-oxide derivative revealed by theoretical calculations, crystal structure and time-resolved spectroscopy

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In this paper, we present molecular dynamics results of 3-methylamino-4-nitropyridine N-oxide (3M4N) in n-propanol obtained using femtosecond fluorescence conversion and time-correlated single photon counting (TCSPC) techniques. Our main goal was to identify the photoinduced pathways of 3M4N caused by the ortho-substitution of its alkylamino group (-NHCH₃) with respect to the nitro group as electron acceptor. Fluorescence up-conversion signals in n-propanol allowed the determination of an ultrafast (200 ~ 300 fs) intersystem crossing (ISC) between the S_1^{FC} ($\pi\pi^*$) state and the upper ($n\pi^*$) triplet state (T_3). We believe that an efficient ultrafast ISC is strongly influenced by the torsion of the nitro group, isoenergetics of the S_1 state with the triplet (T_3), spin change that takes place simultaneously with the change of electronic configurations [S_1 ($\pi - \pi^*$) \rightarrow T_3 ($n - \pi^*$)] and significant spin-orbit coupling of T_3 with the S_1 state [the value of $H_{SO}(S_1, T_3)$ is 6.94 cm^{-1}]. The time constants of the three minima found by TD DFT calculations on the potential energy surface are for the $n - \pi^*$ type $S_1(NP) \rightarrow S_0$ transition (0.6 ps), the planar bright structure of the locally excited state S_1 (LE) (3.2 ps) of $\pi - \pi^*$ character, and the final dark form TICT (8.0 ps), formed from the $S_1(LE)$ state.

Słowa kluczowe

Crystal structure, 4-nitropyridine N-Oxide derivatives, Fluorescence up-conversion dynamics, TD-DFT calculations, Ultrafast intersystem crossing

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