

Vibrational Spectroscopic Analysis with Chemical Computations for NLO Molecule Benzilic Acid

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Abstract - Benzilic acid has biological significance and hence is used in the manufacture of glycollate pharmaceuticals including Clidinium, Dilantin, and Flutropium. Experimental findings are added to the quantum chemical studies performed with DFT (B3LYP) method using 6-311+G (d, p) basis sets. Observed FT-IR and FT-Raman spectra have been compared with the theoretical data. Bond length, bond angle and dihedral angle have been calculated using the Gaussian'09 software package wherein experimental values are compared with the theoretical values. Predicted electronic absorption spectrum from TD-DFT calculation has been compared with the UV-vis spectrum. Molecular orbitals and natural bond analysis of the compound have been calculated by Density Functional Theory calculations. HOMO -LUMO energy gap and Molecular Electrostatic Potential values propose the possibility of charge transfer in the molecule.

Index terms: FT-Raman, FT-IR, UV, NMR

1. Introduction

Benzilic acid (C₁₄H₁₂O₃) [1], an orthorhombic crystal is used in the manufacture of glycollate pharmaceuticals including Clidinium, Dilantin, and Flutropium, which are antagonists of the muscarinic acetylcholine receptors. It is used in manufacture of the incapacitating agent 3-quinuclidinyl benzilate (BZ) which is regulated by the Chemical Weapons Convention. It is also monitored by law enforcement agencies of many countries, because of its use in the manufacture in hallucinogenic drugs [2]. There has been a growing interest in organic materials for nonlinear optical (NLO) applications in devices such as second harmonic generators, electro-optic modulators, etc. because of their high potential.

Organic and polymeric materials have shown great interest in NLO applications [3, 4]. The large nonlinear optical effect found in some organic crystals makes the materials attractive for applications like frequency conversion [5]. Organic NLO crystals with aromatic rings have high non-linearity, fast response, tailor-made flexibility, low mobility, large bandgap, high nonlinear coefficients and higher laser damage threshold when compared to inorganic NLO materials [6]

2. Experimental Details

FT-IR and FT-Raman spectra are recorded using PerkinElmer one: FT-IR Spectrometer and Bruker RFS 27: Standalone FT-Raman Spectrometer with resolution of 1 and 2 cm⁻¹ respectively. UV-visible absorption spectrum of the sample is measured, using UV-Vis JASCO (V-570) UV/VIS/NIR spectrometer.

3. Computational Details

Density Functional Theoretical (DFT) computations have been enclosed using Gaussian'09 program package [7] at B3LYP/6-311+G (d,p) level. Characterization of normal modes using potential energy distribution (PED) has been performed with MOLVIB - 7.0 written by Sundius [8, 9]. To improve agreement between predicted and observed frequencies, the computed harmonic frequencies have been scaled according to SQMFF procedure [10]. Cartesian representation of force constants have been transferred to non

redundant set of symmetry coordinates, chosen in accordance with the recommendations of Pulay et al. [11].

4. Results and Discussion

4.1 OPTIMIZED GEOMETRY

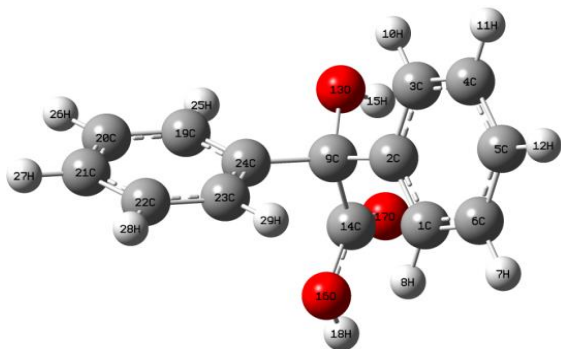


Fig 1: Optimized Structure of Benziic Acid

Optimized geometry of Benziic aid with numbering scheme of the atoms is presented in Fig1 and optimized structural parameters such as bond length and bond angle along with the compared experimental data are presented in Table1. There are some deviations in the theoretically computed values from the experimental value which may due to the intramolecular interactions in the crystalline state. Structural optimization geometry has been performed at the B3LYP/6-311+G(d, P) basis set for the title compound. Bond lengths $C_1-C_6 = 1.3955\text{\AA}$, $C_2-C_3 = 1.3993\text{\AA}$, $C_3-C_4 = 1.3921\text{\AA}$ and $C_5-C_6 = 1.3917\text{\AA}$ is due to the inductive effect caused by electron withdrawing through sigma bond and electron donating through pi bond carbon atoms.[12,13] Bond length $C_{14}-O_{16}(1.3424\text{\AA})$ is less than that of persuaded value (1.014\AA) [12] due to the presence of carbonyl group leading to redistribution of electron cloud. It is observed that the influence of the substituent on the molecular parameters, particularly in the C-C bond distance of ring carbon atoms is negligibly small, where the $C_{14}-O_{16}$ is in the range of 1.3424-1.014 Å because of the negative oxygen atoms attached to the carbon atoms.

Presence of strong intramolecular hydrogen bond interactions $C_{19}-H_{25}\dots O_{13}$ and $C_3-H_{10}\dots O_{13}$ have been confirmed by the measured distances of $H_{25}\dots O_{13}$ and $H_{10}\dots O_{13}$ bonds which are 2.40 Å and 2.38 Å, and this length is significantly shorter than the van der Waals separation between the O atom and the H atom lying within the range $<3\text{\AA}$ for hydrogen interaction [14]. The $C_9-C_2-C_3-C_4$ and $C_9-C_{14}-O_{16}-H_{18}$ dihedral angles are 178 and 179 respectively. This is due to the charge delocalization from donor to acceptor group and steric repulsion between the O_{13} and O_{16} atoms [15]

Table1: Optimized Bond lengths (Å), Bond angles (Å) and Dihedral angle(Å) of Benziic acid by b3lyp/6-311G(d,p) basis sets

Bond Length	Theo.	Exp.	Bond Angle	Theo.	Exp.	Dihedral angle	Theo.	Exp.
C_2-C_3	1.39	1.42	$C_{19}-C_{20}-C_{21}$	120.2	121.05	$C_1-C_2-C_3-H_{10}$	179.3	179.1
C_5-C_6	1.39	1.38	$C_{19}-C_{20}-H_{26}$	119.5	119.49	$C_9-C_{14}-O_{16}-H_{18}$	179.5203	175.8
$C_{14}-O_{16}$	1.3	1.01	$C_{21}-C_{20}-H_{26}$	120.1	119.46	$H_{25}-C_{19}-C_{20}-C_{21}$	178.7	177.33
$C_{22}-C_{23}$	1.39	1.38	$C_{20}-C_{21}-C_{22}$	119.4	119.08	$H_{25}-C_{19}-C_{24}-C_{23}$	178.5	177.5
$C_{22}-H_{28}$	1.08	0.92	$C_{20}-C_{21}-H_{27}$	120.2	120.47	$C_{19}-C_{20}-C_{21}-H_{27}$	179.7	178.3
$C_{23}-C_{24}$	1.39	1.37	$C_{22}-C_{21}-H_{27}$	120.2	120.45	$H_{26}-C_{20}-C_{21}-C_{22}$	179.5	178.2
$C_{23}-H_{29}$	1.08	0.93	$C_{21}-C_{22}-H_{28}$	120.1	120.45	$C_{20}-C_{21}-C_{22}-H_{28}$	179.4	177.4
			$C_{23}-C_{22}-H_{28}$	119.5	120.44	$H_{27}-C_{21}-C_{22}-C_{23}$	179.7	176.5
			$C_{22}-C_{23}-C_{24}$	120.4	121.38	$C_{21}-C_{22}-C_{23}-H_{29}$	179.4	177.6
						$H_{28}-C_{22}-C_{23}-C_{24}$	179.6	175.6
						$C_{22}-C_{23}-C_{24}-C_9$	178.3	175.465
						$H_{29}-C_{23}-C_{24}-C_{19}$	179.2	178.6

5. UV-Visible Spectra

In order to understand electronic transitions, UV-Vis absorption spectrum of PDCA recorded in DMSO is portrayed in Fig. 2. TD-DFT/B3PW91/6-311G(d) calculations have been used to determine the low-lying excited states of Benziic acid. Calculated excitation energies, absorbance and oscillator strength (f) for the Benziic acid have been compared with the experimental values and are tabulated in Table 6. It is contingent from

Fig. 4 that the maximum intensity peak at 266 nm and 235 is mainly due to $\pi-\pi^*$ transition [16]. Presence of carboxylic acid group and aromatic ring is mainly responsible for $\pi-\pi^*$ transitions. Electronic transition from the HOMO-1 to LUMO is with 43% contribution, from HOMO to LUMO is with 24% contribution and HOMO to LUMO+1 is with 16% contribution.

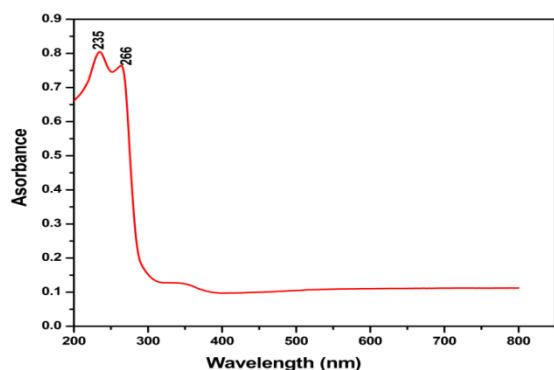


Fig 2: UV-Vis absorption spectrum Table 2: UV-vis excitation energy and oscillator strength for Benzilic Acid

Table 5.2: UV-Vis excitation energy and oscillator strength for Benzilic Acid

No.	Energy (cm ⁻¹)	Wavelength (nm)		Osc. Strength	Symmetry	Major contribs
		Theo.	Exp.			
1	41092.618	243.3	266	0.022	Singlet-A	H-1->LUMO (44%), HOMO->LUMO (24%), HOMO->L+1 (16%)
2	42104.851	237.5	235	0.002	Singlet-A	H-3->L+1 (15%), H-2->LUMO (38%), H-1->L+1 (10%)
3	42694.447	234.2		0.034	Singlet-A	H-3->LUMO (16%), H-2->LUMO (10%), HOMO->LUMO (34%), HOMO->L+1 (12%)
4	43250.166	231.2		0.040	Singlet-A	H-3->LUMO (12%), H-1->LUMO (39%), HOMO->LUMO (25%)
5	45097.995	221.7		0.0601	Singlet-A	H-3->LUMO (51%), H-2->L+2 (12%)
6	45250.435	220.9		0.0087	Singlet-A	H-3->L+1 (12%), H-2->LUMO (29%), H-1->L+2 (16%)

6. ¹³C NMR Spectra

Appearance of distinct carbon signals in ¹³C NMR confirms the molecular structure of the compound. The ranges of ¹³C NMR chemical shifts for organic molecules are observed between 0 ppm and 200 ppm [17] and the accuracy ensures reliable interpretation of spectroscopic parameters. ¹³C NMR chemical shifts are tabulated in Table 3.

¹³C NMR spectrum unambiguously reveals nine distinct carbon signals indicating different carbon environments present in the compound. Presence of three signals for C₉, C₂, C₁₄ is highly deshielded indicating the presence of carboxylic

carbon in the compound. Between these two carbonyl carbon signals, the carbon C₉ is highly deshielded, because of its neighborhood electronegative oxygen. Appearance of high intensity signals in the region δ 120–140 ppm indicates the presence of carbons of the aromatic ring. Signal at δ 139.77 ppm is assigned to phenyl ring carbon atoms C₁ and C₄ and the signal at δ 133.41 ppm is due to identical aromatic carbons C₄ and C₅ respectively. Other aromatic carbon signals appear at δ 130.24, δ 124.09 and δ 126.59 ppm for C_{19,22}, C_{23,24} and C_{20,21} respectively.

Table 3: Absorbed and predicted ¹³C NMR Spectra isotropic chemical shift for benzilic acid

Atom (¹³ C)	Theoretical	Experimental
C ₁	148.3515	139.77
C ₂	166.4376	166.76
C ₃	150.0509	148.6
C ₄	152.0603	139.77
C ₅	150.8884	133.41
C ₆	149.962	133.41
C ₉	102.9253	40.56
C ₁₄	200.0158	168.18
C ₁₉	149.1016	130.24
C ₂₀	150.2236	126.57
C ₂₁	150.7114	126.57
C ₂₂	140.3363	130.24
C ₂₃	152.3412	124.09
C ₂₄	152.3412	124.09

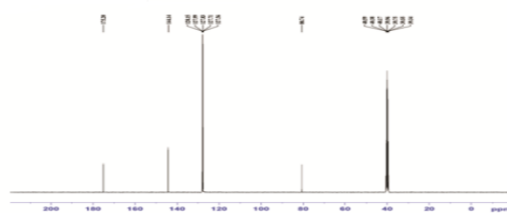


Fig 3: ¹³C NMR spectra of Benzilic acid

7. ¹H NMR spectra

Hydrogen atoms are mostly localized on the periphery of the molecules and their chemical shifts would be more susceptible to intramolecular interactions in the aqueous solutions as compared to that for other heavier atoms. Signals of aromatic protons are observed between 2-13 ppm and proton signal is deshielded for H₂₆ and H₂₉ due to the carboxylic group as observed at 7.315 ppm.

Table 4: Absorbed and predicted ¹H NMR Spectra isotropic chemical shift for benzoic acid

Atom (¹ H)	Theoretical	Experimental
H7	8.4874	13.25
H8	8.9655	7.404
H10	8.9221	13.25
H11	8.4762	13.24
H12	8.3822	13.24
H15	4.5432	2.511
H18	7.6804	2.511
H25	8.9579	6.364
H26	8.4405	7.315
H27	8.3272	7.298
H28	8.252	7.298
H29	7.9239	7.315

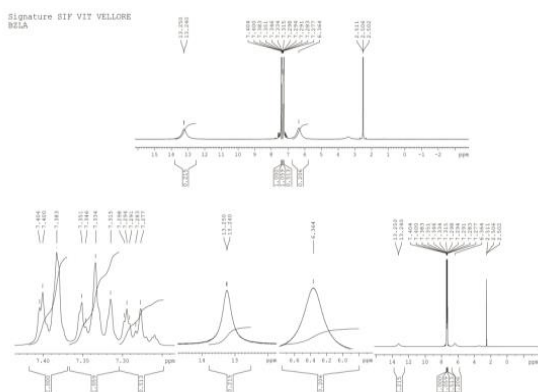


Fig 4: ¹H NMR spectra of Benzoic acid

8. VIBRATIONAL SPECTRAL ANALYSIS

8.1 Phenyl ring vibrations

Aromatic structure shows the presence of C-H stretching vibrations in the characteristic region 3100–3000 cm⁻¹ [18]. For the title compound, these bands were observed at 3059 cm⁻¹ and 3073 cm⁻¹ in FT-IR and FT-Raman spectra respectively. Intensity of the FT-IR spectral band at 3059 cm⁻¹ is very small, and this striking discrepancy is due to the formation of intramolecular C-H...O interaction. Since the bands are mixed in a very broad profile, the bands observed are very weak shoulder in that region. Theoretically computed values for C-H stretching vibrations are scaled at 3069 and 3066 cm⁻¹ with 75-99% contribution in PED. C-H in-plane bending vibrations normally occurs as a strong to weak intense bands in the region 1000–1520 cm⁻¹ [19,20]. The C-H in-plane bending vibrations of the compound are computed at 1322, 1168 cm⁻¹ in FT-IR and 1171 cm⁻¹ in FT-Raman.

C-C stretching frequencies are generally predicted in the region 650–1650 cm⁻¹ [21, 22]. Several ring modes are affected by substitution in the aromatic ring; with heavy substituents, the bands tend to shift somewhat to lower wavenumbers and greater the number of substituents on the ring, broader is the absorption region [19,20]. Weak and strong bands of C-C stretching vibrations are observed at 1608 in FT-Raman and at 1619, 1488 and 1435 cm⁻¹ in FT-IR with the scaled values at 1621, 1497, 1454 and 1618 cm⁻¹ where these modes are pure stretching modes as manifested from the PED value 40-70%.

8.2 Carboxylic acid group vibrations

Vibrational analysis of carboxylic acid was carried out giving preferences to carbonyl and hydroxyl groups wherein stretching vibrations are generally observed in the region around 3500 cm⁻¹ [23]. Most important spectral feature of COOH group is -OH hydroxyl group that connects the molecules and is likely to be more sensitive to the environment which causes pronounced shifts in the hydrogen-bonded species. Weak and very strong bands observed at 3387 in FT-IR and at 3390 cm⁻¹ in FT-Raman are assigned to O-H stretching vibration. Theoretically predicted wavenumbers (3385 cm⁻¹ and 3387 cm⁻¹) coincide exactly with the experimental wavenumbers and these modes are pure stretching modes as evident from the PED value (93 and 100 %).

Carbonyl stretching C=O vibration [24] expected in the region 1715-1680 cm⁻¹, appears at 1708 cm⁻¹ and 1710 cm⁻¹ in FT-IR and FT-Raman spectra while PED calculations locate it at 1720 cm⁻¹. Formation of hydrogen bond can increase the intensity of the carbonyl group because of conjugation and so conjugation leads to the intensification of Raman as well as the infrared band intensities. C=O stretching mode is found to be simultaneously active in both IR and Raman spectra.

Infrared and Raman spectra are complementary in most cases and so the strongest band in the Raman spectrum is weak in the IR spectrum and vice versa

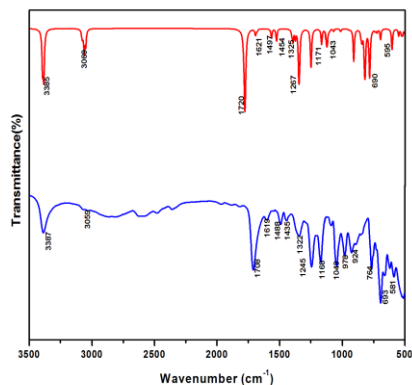


Fig 5a: Experimental and stimulated FT-IR spectra of Benzoic acid

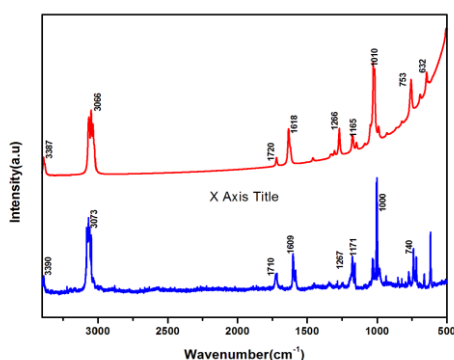


Fig 5b: Experimental and stimulated FT-Raman spectra of Benzoic acid

9. NBO Analysis

NBO analysis has been performed to identify and confirm the possible intra and intermolecular interactions between units that will form proper and improper hydrogen bonding [25]. Electronic interactions within these orbitals, deviation from Lewis electronic structure and delocalization effect can be interpreted as charge transfer between filled Lewis orbitals (donors) and theoretically empty non-Lewis orbitals (acceptors). Magnitude of these delocalization effects can be determined from an analysis of the off diagonal elements in Fock matrix of NBO basis by taking into account all possible donor-acceptor interactions and then by calculating strength of them by second order theory. Second-order perturbation theory of Fock matrix in NBO shows strong intramolecular hyperconjugative interaction which are presented in Table 5.

Table 5: Second order perturbation theory analysis of Fock matrix in NBO analysis

Donor (i)	ED(i)(e)	Acceptor (j)	ED (j) (e)	E (2) ^a (kJ mol ⁻¹)	E (j)-E(i) ^b (a.u)	F (i,j) ^c (a.u)
π C ₁ -C ₂	1.67135	π^* C ₃ -C ₄	0.31008	19.50	0.29	0.068
		π^* C ₅ -C ₆	0.32669	19.98	0.29	0.068
π C ₃ -C ₄	1.65383	π^* C ₁ -C ₂	0.35583	21.16	0.28	0.069
		π^* C ₅ -C ₆	0.32669	20.83	0.28	0.068
σ C ₅ -C ₆	1.97950	π^* C ₁ -C ₂	0.35583	20.41	0.28	0.068
		π^* C ₃ -C ₄	0.31008	19.53	0.29	0.067
π C ₁₉ -C ₂₀	1.65754	π^* C ₂₁ -C ₂₂	0.33052	20.81	0.28	0.068
		π^* C ₂₃ -C ₂₄	0.35039	20.60	0.28	0.068
π C ₂₁ -C ₂₂	1.66286	π^* C ₁₉ -C ₂₀	0.31706	19.74	0.28	0.067
		π^* C ₂₃ -C ₂₄	0.35039	20.71	0.29	0.069
π C ₂₃ -C ₂₄	1.65985	π^* C ₁₉ -C ₂₀	0.31706	20.33	0.29	0.068
		π^* C ₂₁ -C ₂₂	0.33052	19.96	0.28	0.067
LP ₂ -O ₁₆	1.81459	σ^* C ₁₄ -O ₁₇	0.02164	46.45	0.35	0.114
LP ₂ -O ₁₇	1.84203	σ^* C ₉ -C ₁₄	0.09097	18.76	0.62	0.098
		σ^* C ₁₄ -O ₁₆	0.09099	30.98	0.63	0.127

E(2)^a means energy of hyper conjugative interaction

E (j)-E(i)^b Energy difference between donor and acceptor i and j NBO orbitals

F (i,j) ^c is the Fock matrix element between i and j NBO orbitals

Intramolecular hyperconjugative interactions are formed by the orbital overlap between π (C₁-C₂), π (C₃-C₄), π (C₁₉-C₂₀), π (C₂₁-C₂₂), π (C₂₃-C₂₄) and π^* (C₃-C₄), π^* (C₅-C₆), π^* (C₁-C₂), π^* (C₅-C₆), π^* (C₂₁-C₂₂), π^* (C₂₃-C₂₄), π^* (C₁₉-C₂₀), π^* (C₂₃-C₂₄), π^* (C₁₉-C₂₀), π^* (C₂₁-C₂₂) bond orbitals which results in intramolecular charge transfer (ICT) causing stabilization of the system [26,27]. This strong ICT is one of the causes of the NLO activity. Energy contribution of LP₂O₁₆ → σ^* (C₁₄-O₁₇), LP₂O₁₇ → σ^* (C₉-C₁₄), LP₂O₁₇ → σ^* (C₁₄-O₁₆), values are 46.45, 18.76 and 30.98 kcal mol⁻¹ respectively. This increase in hyperconjugative interaction energies compared to that of other lone pair interaction energies gives evidence for resonance and this is due to the presence of electron donating oxygen atoms. Strengthening and contraction of C-H bonds is due to rehybridization, [28] which is revealed by the low value of electron density (0.01476e, 0.01380e) in σ^* (C₃-H₁₀) and σ^* (C₆ - H₇) orbitals, respectively.

10. HOMO LUMO ANALYSIS

The highest occupied molecular orbitals (HOMOs) and lowest unoccupied molecular orbitals (LUMOs) play an important

role in the optical and electronic properties. The HOMO energy characterizes the ability of electron giving; LUMO energy characterizes the ability of electron accepting [29]. Recently, energy gap between HOMO and LUMO has been used to prove bioactivity from intramolecular charge transfer [30,31,32].

HOMO, of π nature (i.e., aromatic ring), is delocalized over whole C–C bond and LUMO is located over aromatic ring. Consequently, HOMO-LUMO transition implies an electron density transfer to COOH and OCH₃ group from the aromatic ring [33].

Calculated energies and energy gap are:

$$\text{HOMO energy} = -6.594681\text{eV}$$

$$\text{LUMO energy} = -0.9823314\text{eV}$$

$$\text{Band gap energy} = -5.612350\text{eV}$$

Lower HOMO–LUMO energy gap shows the possibility of intramolecular charge transfer analysis and confirms the bioactivity of the molecule. Molecular orbital plots of the frontier orbitals for the ground state of Benzilic Acid molecule including HOMO and LUMO are shown in Fig.6a & 6b

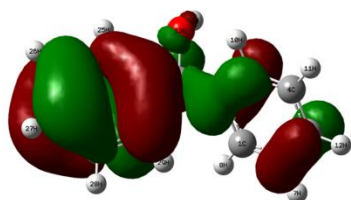


Fig 6a: HOMO

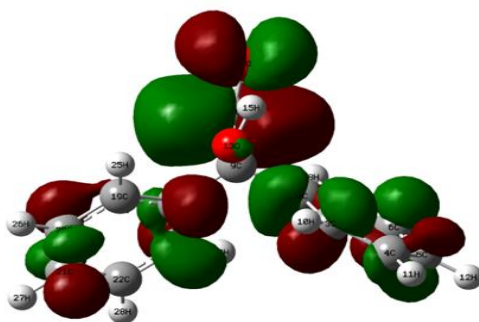


Fig 6b: LUMO

11. MOLECULAR ELECTROSTATIC POTENTIAL (MEP)

3D plot of molecular electrostatic potential of the title compound by B3LYP/6-311+G (d,p) is shown in Fig 7. MEP is a plot of electrostatic potential mapped onto the constant electron density surface and simultaneously displays the molecular size, shape and electrostatic potential value in terms of color coding. MEP is employed to distinguish regions on the surface which are electron poor (electrophilic attack) from those which are electron rich nucleophilic attack).

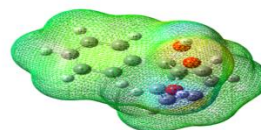


Fig 7: Molecular electrostatic potential map of Benzilic acid calculated at B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p)

Different values of the electrostatic potential at the surface are represented by different colors; red represents the region of the most electronegative electrostatic potential, blue represents the region of the most positive electrostatic potential, green represents the region of zero potential and yellow represents slightly electron rich region [34]. From Fig 3 it is seen that negative regions are associated with the lone pair of oxygen atoms, showing red colour indicating the site is rich in negative potential, while the blue colour indicates the site is rich in positive potential due to the presence of the hydrogen atoms. Strongest attraction will be seen in the nucleophilic site due to the balancing of both hydrogen and lone pair atoms. Strongest repulsion will be seen in the electrophilic site due to the presence of abundant positive atoms [35]. From MEP studies it is found that the distribution of the charge will be in the range of -7.345×10^{-2} and 7.345×10^{-2} . This figure provides a visual representation of the chemically active sites and comparative reactivity of atoms.

12. Conclusion

Detailed analyses of the spectroscopic parameters using quantum chemical computations have been performed for the title compound. Molecular geometry analysis of benzoic acid shows slight variations in the bond lengths of C₁–C₆ = 1.3955 Å, C₂–C₃ = 1.3993 Å, C₃–C₄ = 1.3921 Å and C₅–C₆ = 1.3917 Å which is due to the inductive effect caused by electron withdrawing through sigma bond and electron donating through pi bond carbon atoms. UV analysis reveals that π – π^* transitions is due to the presence of carboxylic acid group and aromatic ring. ¹³C NMR spectral analysis indicates that carbon C₉ is highly deshielded, because of its

neighborhood electronegative oxygen. MEP has been performed to distinguish regions on the surface which are electron poor and electron rich.

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