## Push-Pull Porphyrins as Non-Linear Optical Materials

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**Final Seminar** 

Porphyrins and metalloporphyrins provide a versatile synthetic base from which to design molecules with specific physical and chemical properties. The successes of such molecular engineering include the design of reversible O<sub>2</sub> binders [1], shape selective catalysts [2], molecular receptors [3], one-dimensional conductors and semiconductors [4], and models for the photosynthetic reaction center [5]. The development of metalloporphyrins as materials with electric, magnetic or optical field-responsive properties, however, has been extremely limited. We have been interested in the exploration of porphyrin and metalloporphyrin assemblies as ferroelectric [6] and as non-linear optical materials. Molecules with non-linear optical (NLO) properties have been extensively investigated due to their potential applications for optical communication, data storage, and electrooptical signal processing [7].

Donor-acceptor unsymmetrically substituted porphyrins,  $H_2(an_3Por)$ ,  $H_2(cis-a_2n_2Por)$ , and  $H_2(a_3nPor)$  (where a = p-aminophenyl; n = p-nitrophenyl; Por = 5,10,15,20-substituted porphyrin) have been prepared with  $\approx 25\%$  isolate yield each. The synthesis does not involve the traditional cross-condensation for multi-substituted porphyrins, which usually results in low yield (<10%). Instead, these porphyrins were synthesized through the incomplete reduction of four nitro substituents on  $H_2(n_4Por)$  by SnCl<sub>2</sub> in concentrated HCl. Products were separated by chromatography and fully characterized by various spectroscopic methods.

Their second-order non-linear optical properties have been measured by the electric field-induced second-harmonic generation (EFISH) technique [8] giving second-order molecular hyperpolarizability ( $\beta$ ) in the range of 10 to 30 x 10<sup>-30</sup> esu (see table below). The  $\beta$  values of these "push-pull" porphyrins are substantial and are comparable to those of nitro and amino substituted biphenyl and terphenyl compounds. The hyperpolarizabilities, however, are relatively small considering the total size of the  $\pi$  system of porphyrins. This is due to the shape of the  $\pi$ -conjugation of porphyrins. In addition, the dihedral twist of the phenyl groups out of the porphyrin plane may further inhibit efficient intramolecular charge-transfer (ICT) across the porphyrin ring between the donor and acceptor groups.

	Compound (in CHCl <sub>3</sub> )	μ(10 <sup>-18</sup> esu)	β(10 <sup>-30</sup> esu)	Compound (in CHCly)	μ(10 <sup>-18</sup> esu)	β(10 <sup>-30</sup> esu)
Т	H <sub>2</sub> N -	1.5°	0.55	VII O2N NH,	5.1	40
1	0 <sub>2</sub> N -	4.0°	1.9°			
		6.2 <sup>b</sup> 7.8 <sup>c</sup>	9.2 <sup>b</sup> 10 <sup>c</sup>		9	190± 50
V		5.0 7.8°	24 24 <sup>c</sup>	H <sub>2</sub> (an <sub>3</sub> Por)		≤10
v		7.6 <sup>c</sup>	16 <sup>°</sup>	$H_2(cis - a_2 \Pi_2 Por)$	7±1	30 ± 10
v		10 <sup>c</sup>	11 <sup>c</sup>	H <sub>2</sub> (a <sub>3</sub> nPor)	5±1	20 ± 10

EFISH (	λ=	1908 nm)	DATA OF	PUSH-PULL	PORPHYRINS
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a. neat b. in acetone c. in NMP

Moderate to strong solvatochromic effects have been observed in several *cis* isomers of "push-pull" porphyrins,  $H_2(cis-a_{2}n_2Por)$ ,  $H_2[cis-(Ocda)_{2}n_2Por]$ , and  $H_2[cis-h_2(Ocdpy)_2Por]$ -(I)<sub>2</sub> [where Ocda = *p*-(N-octadecylamino)phenyl; h = *p*-hydroxyphenyl; Ocdpy = *p*-(N-octadecyl)pyridiniumyl]. This is also an indication of the existence of ICT in these porphyrins.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR can detect the non-symmetric ring current on *cis* isomers of "push-pull" porphyrins. The relative polarization of their  $\pi$ -electron density can be ordered as H<sub>2</sub>[*cis*-h<sub>2</sub>(Ocdpy)<sub>2</sub>Por]<sup>2+</sup>  $\approx$  H<sub>2</sub>[*cis*-m<sub>2</sub>(Mpy)<sub>2</sub>Por]<sup>2+</sup> > H<sub>2</sub>[*cis*-(Ocda)<sub>2</sub>n<sub>2</sub>Por]  $\approx$  H<sub>2</sub>(*cis*-a<sub>2</sub>n<sub>2</sub>Por) > H<sub>2</sub>(*cis*-h<sub>2</sub>py<sub>2</sub>Por)  $\approx$  H<sub>2</sub>(*cis*-m<sub>2</sub>py<sub>2</sub>Por) > H<sub>2</sub>[*cis*-(S-Clprmd)<sub>2</sub>n<sub>2</sub>Por] - H<sub>2</sub>[*cis*-(Ocdmd)<sub>2</sub>n<sub>2</sub>Por] (where Mpy = *p*-N-methylpyridiniumyl; py = *p*-pyridyl; m = *p*-methoxyphenyl; *s*-Clprmd = *p*-(*s*-2-chloropropinoylamido)phenyl; Ocdmd = *p*-(octadecanoylamido)phenyl].

A wide range of  $\beta$ -active derivatives were prepared from H<sub>2</sub>(a<sub>x</sub>n<sub>4-x</sub>Por). Particularly, those with hydrophobic moleties are used in Langmuir-Blodgett films. The isotherms (see figure below) of the first complete set of amphiphilic porphyrins, *i.e.*, H<sub>2</sub>[(Ocdmd)<sub>x</sub>n<sub>4-x</sub>Por], with various numbers (*i.e.*, x = 1 to 4) of aliphatic chain substituents were studied [9]. We found that porphyrins with one or two aliphatic substituents adopt a perpendicular orientation to the water surfaced with A<sub>0</sub> (the mean molecular area extrapolated to zero pressure) less than 120 Å<sup>2</sup>; those with three or four aliphatic substituents have a parallel orientation to the water surface with A<sub>0</sub> > 190 Å<sup>2</sup>. We were successful in aligning the *cis* isomer of "push-pull" porphyrins in a monolayer with a perpendicular orientation to the water surface. The mean molecular area of H<sub>2</sub>[*cis*-(Ocdmd)<sub>2</sub>n<sub>2</sub>Por], H<sub>2</sub>[*cis*-(Ocda)<sub>2</sub>n<sub>2</sub>Por], and H<sub>2</sub>[*cis*-h<sub>2</sub>(Ocdpy)<sub>2</sub>-Por](NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> were found to be 112 ± 5, 108 ± 5, and 142 ± 5 Å<sup>2</sup>, respectively, in Langmuir films. Second-order non-linear optical susceptibilities ( $\chi^{(2)}$ ) can be expected from such monolayers.



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