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Optical properties of bilayer quantum dot models based on coronene and its BN analogues with a BODIPY dye: Theoretical TD-CAM-B3LYP-D3 investigation

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Abstract

Quantum dots (QD) belong to a class of materials considered technologically important for their tunable absorption and emission properties and a huge application potential in optoelectronic technologies. To date, only simplified monolayer models of QDs and their dimers have been considered when modeling their absorption and/or emission spectra and effects of edge functionalization.

Here, we analyze the optical properties of new type electron donor-acceptor bilayer quantum dot models based on coronene and its boron-nitride analogues (an electron donors) with a 4,4-difluoro-4-bora-3a,4a-diaza-s-indacene dye (**Bdp**, an electron acceptor) dye by using time-dependent density functional theory. To understand the nature of transition shifts in electronic spectra, we use BN models with strong modification of the HOMO and LUMO: **m-BNC** (middle hexagonal ring CC bonds are substituted by BN), **p-BNC** (all peripheral CC bonds are substituted by BN), and **f-BNC** (all C atoms are replaced by B and N in an alternate manner). Adiabatic ionization potentials of all coronenes were also calculated.

The obtained results show that significant interlayer charge transfer (CT) on excitation of bilayer QDs in S_1 , S_2 , and S_3 states from strong electron donors, coronene (6.93 eV) and **m-BNC** (6.52 eV), to **Bdp** will occur. As a result, one can observe only very weak absorption of CT-character in the low-energy spectrum region as well as strong fluorescence quenching of **Bdp**. On the contrary, for the weak electron donors, **p-BNC** (7.22 eV) and **f-BNC** (8.22 eV), strong **Bdp**-like absorption and fluorescence bands of local excitation character in the low-energy region are expected.

Correlation of optical properties of bilayer QDs with ionization potentials of coronene monolayers has been founded. The obtained results can be useful for future graphene-based optoelectronic applications.

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