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PII:	S0009-2614(16)30417-1
DOI:	http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cplett.2016.06.022
Reference:	CPLETT 33931
To appear in:	Chemical Physics Letters
Received Date:	19 February 2016
Accepted Date:	7 June 2016



Please cite this article as: J-y. Sorimachi, S. Okada, Electrostatic properties of fullerenes under an external electric field: First-principles calculations of energetics for all IPR isomers from C_{60} to C_{78} , *Chemical Physics Letters* (2016), doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cplett.2016.06.022

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Electrostatic properties of fullerenes under an external electric field: First-principles calculations of energetics for all IPR isomers from C_{60} to C_{78}

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Abstract

Based on first-principles total energy calculations, we analyze the energetics of the fullerene isomers from C_{60} to C_{78} , all of which satisfy the isolated pentagon rule, under a parallel electric field. Our calculations show that the total energy of the fullerene is proportional to the square of the external electric field. On the other hand, the coefficient of the quadratic energy profile is sensitive to the fullerene species and their orientation. Furthermore, fullerenes possessing lower symmetry exhibit asymmetric quadratic energy profiles with respect to the field, indicating that they possess intrinsic polarization along particular molecular orientations.

Keywords: Fullerene, Electric field, Spherical dielectric, Intrinsic polarization

1. Introduction

For the past three decades, fullerenes have maintained a premier position in the fields of nanoscience and nanotechnology as representatives of nanometer-scale materials exhibiting unusual chemical and physical properties not seen in conventional carbon allotropes [1]. Because of the huge number of possible arrangements of 12 pentagonal rings and the appropriate

Preprint submitted to Chemical Physics Letters

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