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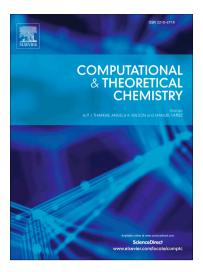
PII: S2210-271X(17)30406-1

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.comptc.2017.09.009

Reference: COMPTC 2624

To appear in: Computational & Theoretical Chemistry

Received Date: 12 July 2017
Revised Date: 6 September 2017
Accepted Date: 9 September 2017



Please cite this article as: G. Krishna Chaitanya, A.L. Puyad, K. Bhanuprakash, The Extent of Charge Transfer: A Qualitative Computational Study on Electronic Transitions of Unsymmetrical Squarylium Dyes, *Computational & Theoretical Chemistry* (2017), doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.comptc.2017.09.009

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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

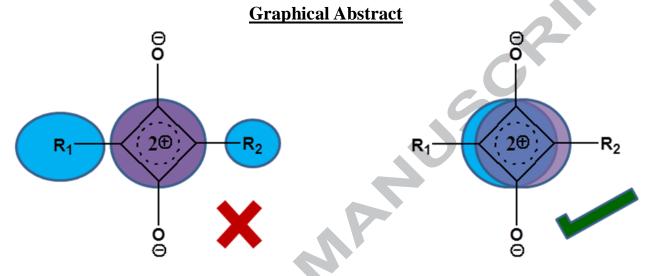
# The Extent of Charge Transfer: A Qualitative Computational Study on Electronic Transitions of Unsymmetrical Squarylium Dyes

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 $R_1$  and  $R_2$ : different electron rich aromatic groups



#### **Highlights**

- The impact of different electron rich aromatic substituent side groups attached to central SQ moiety is limited to structural effects.
- No significant charge transfer (CT) is seen in UNSQ derivatives during lowest energy absorption.
- Le Bahers's diagnosing indexes obtained with (TD)DFT and SAC-CI levels are almost similar though absorption maximum is different from both methodologies.
- No additional advantage of USQ when compared with symmetrical SQ analogs is found in terms of CT whereas only charge reorganization is seen in both the cases.

#### **Abstract:**

The nature of lowest energy electron transitions of unsymmetric squarylium (USQ) dyes has been studied through ab-initio and DFT methods with Le Bahers's diagnosing indexes. Soliton structure of atomic charge alternation and bond length alternation data indicates the

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