Study of spectral and NLO properties of (2E)-1-(2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3- (4-hydroxyphenyl) prop-2-en-1-one by DFT

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Theoretical calculations of (2*E*)-1-(2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl) prop-2-en-1-one have been performed using Gaussian 09 software package. The geometry optimization and vibrational frequency determinations of the molecule have been developed using DFT/B3LYP/6-31G (d, p). Substituents at aliphatic double bond are Trans to each other. The standard thermodynamic functions: heat capacity (CV), entropy (S), and enthalpy (E) were obtained at B3LYP/6-31G (d, p) level. DFT has been used to calculate the total dipole moment (μ), the mean linear polarizability (α), the anisotropic polarizability ($\Delta \alpha$), the first-order hyperpolarizability (β) and the second-order hyperpolarizability (γ) in terms of x, y, z components. Simultaneously UV-Vis absorption spectra, electronic transitions, vertical excitation energies and oscillator strengths of the same molecule were computed with the Time Dependent DFT (TD-DFT) method using the same basis sets. FMO, ESP study were also carried out using the same basis set.

Keywords: DFT, TD-DFT, Mulliken atomic charge, FMO, ECD, ESP

1 Introduction

Chalcones or 1, 3-diaryl-2-propen-1-ones, are natural compounds that are largely distributed in plants, fruits, and vegetables and belong to the flavonoid family. Chemically they consist two aromatic rings $(A & B)$ joined by a three-carbon α, β-unsaturated carbonyl system with various substituents on the two aromatic rings. General Structure of Chalcones is shown in Fig. 1.

Due to the extended conjugation, the complete delocalisation of π -electrons on both the benzene rings makes it good for wide range of applications in the fields of biology such as antitumor $1,2$, antiinflammatory³⁻⁵, and antimalarial⁶ agents. Literature survey reveals that chalcones have been used as Langmuir film⁷ nonlinear optical material^{8,9}, electrochemical sensing¹⁰, optical limiting material¹¹, etc. The chemistry of chalcone has been recognized as a significant field of study. The phenomenal growth of publications in this area reflects interest in this field throughout the world. These findings motivated us to carry out computational study of chalcone molecule.

2 Material and Methods

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All theoretical calculations of (2*E*)-1-(2, 4 dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl) prop-2-en-1(Fig. 2) have been performed using Gaussian 09 software package¹². The molecule under consideration was explored at Density Functional Theory (DFT), and the Becke three-parameter exchange functions in combination with the LYP correlation function of the Lee, Yang and Parr (B3LYP) method. The geometry optimization and vibrational frequency determinations of the molecule have been developed using DFT/B3LYP/6-31G (d,p). Simulated UV–Vis absorption spectra, electronic transitions, vertical excitation energies and oscillator strengths of the

Fig. 1 – General Structure of Chalcones.

Fig. $2 - (2E)$ -1-(2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl) prop-2-en-1-one.

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same molecule were computed with the Time Dependent DFT (TD-DFT) method using the same basis sets.

3 Results and Discussion

3.1 Geometrical analysis

The molecular structure of (2*E*)-1-(2, 4 dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl) prop-2-en-1 oneempherical formula $C_1₅H₁₂O₄$, Molecular mass: 256.07356 amu is an asymmetric top type molecule with 87 degrees of freedom.The optimised molecular structure of the title chalcone is obtained from Gaussian 09 and Gauss view programme with the atom numbering scheme as shown in Fig. 3. The optimised geometrical parameters (bond length,bond angle and dihedral angle) calculated by B3LYP/ 6-31G(d.p) level basis set are listed in Table 1.

In the present study, the molecule consists of two rings (Ring A and Ring B) which are planar, with dihedral angles $D(4, 6, 8, 11) = 179.8304$ and D(177.8693). At the aliphatic double bond substituents are trans to each other with dihedral angles $D(3,2,4,5) = -173.6553,D(3,2,4,6) = 4.146,D$ $(1,2,4,5)$ =-4.4914,D $(1,2,4,6)$ =173.3099°. As oxygen is more electronegative than carbon, the electrons in the C=O bond are drawn towards the oxygen. This means that carbonyl compounds are polar and have substantial dipole moments. The C=O bond has bond length of 1.2523 Å.

3.2 Vibrational assignment

The fundamental vibration of a non-linear molecule which contains N atoms is equal to (3N-6), apart from three translational and three rotational degrees of freedom^{13,14}. The studied molecule belongs to

asymmetric top group symmetry and has 31 atoms; hence 87 normal modes of vibrations are possible. As mentioned above, IR vibrational properties of the studied molecule has been done using B3LYP by DFT at 6-31G (d, p) Basis level set shown in fig. 4 and the frequencies, intensities and their corresponding assignments for the theoretical spectra are tabulated in Table 2. The vibrational assignments were made by visual inspection of modes animated by using the Gauss view program standard values reported 13 .

3.3 Aromatic hydrocarbon-

The most prominent and most informative bands in the spectra of aromatic hydrocarbon occur in the low frequency range between 900 and 675 cm^{-1} . These strong absorption bands results from the out-of-plane bending of the ring C-H bonds. In-plane bending bands appear in the $1300-1000$ cm⁻¹ region. Skeletal vibrations, involving carbon-carbon stretching with in the ring absorb in the 1600-1585 and 1500-14000 cm^{-1} region. The skeletal band vibrations frequently appear as doublets, depending on the nature of the ring substituents. Aromatic C-H stretching bands occur between 3100 and 3000 cm⁻¹. In-phase out-of-plane bending of ring hydrogen atom appear at 900 to 675 $cm⁻¹$ and are frequently intense. The absorption band that frequently appears in the spectra of substituted benzene near 600 to 420 cm⁻¹ is attributed to out-of-plane ring bonding.

3.4 Phenol

The non-hydrogen bonded -OH group of phenol absorbs strongly in the 3700 to 3584 cm⁻¹ region and this is due to O-H stretching vibrations. A strong band in 1260 to 1000cm^{-1} region of the spectrum is due to C-O stretching vibration in phenol. The O-H in-plane bending vibration occurs in the general region $1420 - 1330$ cm⁻¹.

3.5 Ketone

Ketones show a strong absorption band in the region $1870-1540$ cm⁻¹ due to C=O stretching Fig. 3 – Optimised Geometry. vibration. Here C=O group is in conjugation with

Fig. 4 – Theoretical IR spectra of $(2E)$ -1-(2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)prop-2- en-1-one.

Table 1 – Optimized geometrical Parameters of (2*E*)-1-(2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)prop-2-en-1-one as calculated

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Table 2 – The frequencies, intensities and their corresponding assignments for the theoretical spectra of (2*E*)-1-(2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3- (4-hydroxyphenyl)prop-2- en-1-one (*Contd*.)

(4-hydroxyphenyl)prop-2- en-1-one (Contd.)									
Mode	Frequency Unscaled $cm-1$	Frequency Scaled cm ⁻¹	Intensity Epsilon M^{-1} cm ⁻¹	Vibrational assignment					
73	1663.43	1598.22	309.5252	\geq C=O stretching vibration of ketone group					
74	1684.49	1618.46	183.9307	$=$ C-H stretching vibration of alkene					
75	1698.78	1632.19	227.6343	$=$ C-H stretching vibration of alkene					
76	3169.14	3044.91	21.6467						
77	3170.17	3045.90	7.5132						
78	3177.81	3053.24	9.1562						
79	3183.31	3058.52	2.6031						
80	3185.09	3060.23	5.2050						
81	3189.66	3064.62	510.6961	Aromatic C-H bending vibration					
82	3205.37	3079.72	9.3979						
83	3217.71	3091.58	6.2682						
84	3226.33	3099.86	3.8038						
85	3232.45	3105.74	2.2145						
86	3818.94	3669.23	88.6034	O-H stretching vibration of non-bonded O-H group					
87	3819.20	3669.49	61.1431	O-H stretching vibration of non-bonded O-H group					

Table 2 – The frequencies, intensities and their corresponding assignments for the theoretical spectra of (2*E*)-1-(2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3- (4-hydroxyphenyl)prop-2- en-1-one (*Contd*.)

benzene ring and a double bond and thus there is delocalisation of Π electrons reduces double bond character of C=O bond, causing absorption at a lower wave number or longer wavelength. Conjugation with an alkene or phenyl group causes absorption in the 1685-1666 cm-1 region. Additional conjugation may further cause slight reduction in frequency. Ketone show C-C $(=0)$ -C stretching and bending vibration in the region $1300-1100$ cm⁻¹.

3.6 Aliphatic double bond

Alkenes show C=C stretching, C-H stretching vibrations and in-plane &out-of-plane bending of C-H bond. Disubstituted trans alkenes, tri and tetra substituted alkenes absorb at or near 1670 cm^{-1} . Conjugation of an alkene double bond with aromatic ring produces enhanced alkene absorption near 1925 cm-1.The most characteristic vibrational modes of alkenes are the out of plane C-H bending vibrations between $1000 - 650$ cm^{-1.}

3.7 Thermochemical properties

The statistical thermo chemical analysis of (2*E*)-1- (2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl) prop-2 en-1-one is carried out considering the molecule to be at room temperature of 300 K and one atmospheric pressure. The standard thermodynamic functions: heat capacity (CV), entropy (S), and enthalpy (E) have been obtained at B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) level and are listed in Table 3.Thermodynamic properties helps to understand energetic, structural and reactivity of a molecule . The frequency calculations compute the zero point energies, thermal correction to internal energy and entropy as well as the heat capacity for a

Table 3 – Thermochemical properties of (2*E*)-1-

molecular system. These functions describe the thermodynamic stability of the system at the given conditions of pressure and temperature.

3.8 Nonlinear properties

Quantum chemical calculations have been very useful for predicting the molecular NLO properties of active compounds^{15,16}. Hyperpolarizability is useful in understanding the relationship between the molecular structure and nonlinear optical properties. DFT has been used to calculate the total dipole moment (μ) , the mean linear polarizability (α) , the anisotropic polarizability ($\Delta \alpha$), the first-order hyperpolarizability (β) and the second-order hyperpolarizability (γ) in terms of x,y,z components by Gaussian 09 package for (2*E*)-1-(2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl) prop-2-en-1-oneThe mentioned NLO properties have

been calculated by using the following equations $17,18$ and are summarized in Table 4.

$$
\mu = (\mu_{x}^{2} + \mu_{y}^{2} + \mu_{z}^{2})^{\frac{1}{2}}
$$
 ... (1)

$$
\alpha = \frac{1}{3}(\alpha_{xx} + \alpha_{yy} + \alpha_{zz}) \qquad \qquad \dots (2)
$$

$$
\Delta \alpha = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[(\alpha_{xx} - \alpha_{yy})^2 + (\alpha_{yy} - \alpha_{zz})^2 + (\alpha_{zz} - \alpha_{xx})^2 + \right. \\ \left. + (6(\alpha_{xy}^2 + \alpha_{yz}^2 + \alpha_{zx}^2)) \right]^{1/2} \quad \dots (3)
$$

$$
\beta = [(\beta_{xxx} + \beta_{xyy} + \beta_{xzz})^2 + (\beta_{yyy} + \beta_{yzz} + \beta_{yxx})^2 + (\beta_{zzz} + \beta_{zxx} + \beta_{zyy})^2]^{1/2} \dots (4)
$$

$$
\gamma = \frac{1}{5} [\gamma_{xxxx} + \gamma_{yyyy} + \gamma_{zzzz} + 2(\gamma_{xxyy} + \gamma_{xxzz} + \gamma_{yyzz})] \qquad \dots (5)
$$

The conversion factor of α , β and γ in atomic unit are 1 atomic unit (a.u.) = 0.1482×10^{-24} electrostatic unit (esu) for α , 1 a.u. = 8.6393x10⁻³³esu for β and 1 a.u. = 5.0367×10^{-40} esu for γ .

The above functions of the molecular system is calculated using B3LY/6-31G (d, p) method, based on (field-independent basis). Urea is one of the prototype molecules used in the study of the NLO properties of molecular systems and used as a threshold value for comparative purposes. The computed hyperpolarizability β is 1.568×10^{-30} esu and is about five times greater than urea β of urea is 0.3728×10^{-30} esu). Thus this molecule must acts as a prospective building block for nonlinear optical materials.

3.9 Mulliken atomic charges

We know that the atomic charges are very much dependent on how the atoms are defined. It also plays

Table 4 – Dipole moment (μ) in Debye, Mean Linear Polarizability (α) in a.u First order Hyperpolarizability (β) ina.u Second order Hyperpolarizability(γ) in a.u as calculated by DFT

an important role in the application of quantum chemical calculations to molecular systems. B3LYP level with 6-31G (d, p) basis set was used to calculate the Mulliken atomic charges. Calculated values of Natural, Mulliken and APT charges are given in Table 5 and plotted in Fig. 5. As seen in Table 5 and

Fig. 5 – Natural, Mulliken, APT charges of (2*E*)-1-(2, 4 dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl) prop-2-en-1-one.

Fig. 5 because of phenolic group on both the benzene rings α, β-unsaturated carbonyl group in aliphatic carbon chain the atomic charge distribution is different. All the four oxygen atoms are negatively charged but oxygen atom present at ortho position in phenyl ring A has maximum negative charge. This can be attributed to electron delocalisation due to carbonyl group. All the hydrogen atoms have positive charge. Of all the carbon atoms carbon atom number 1 has maximum positive charge indicating that at this carbon atom nucleophiles can easily attack.

3.10 UV-VISIBLE Spectral Studies and Electronic Properties

TD-DFT calculations facilitates quantum chemists a better understanding of observed electronic absorption spectrum in terms of Excitation energies (E), absorption wavelength (λ) , oscillator strengths (f), molecular orbitals undergoing transitions, electronic transitions etc. Molecular orbitals undergoing excitation transition, transition energy and assignments of electronic transitions have been calculated and gathered in Table 6 and the UV –Visible spectra of title compound as obtained from TD-DFT calculations is shown in Fig. 6(a).

The maximum absorption wavelength corresponds to the electronic transition from the HOMO→LUMO contribution, which implies an electron density transfer as $n-\pi^*$ transition. This electronic absorption corresponds to the transition from ground to the first excited state and is mainly described by electron excitation from HOMO→LUMO. The λ_{max} is a function of substitution; the stronger is the donor character of the substitution, the more electrons are pushed into the molecule, and the larger is $λ$. The π- π^* transitions are expected to occur relatively at lower wavelength, due to the consequence of the extended aromaticity of the benzene ring.

3.11 ECD spectroscopy

An optically active compound rotates the plane of linearly polarized light at a wavelength in which the chromophore of a molecule absorbs. Linearly polarized light may be decomposed to left and right circularly polarized waves and an optically active compound absorbs these lights differentially. The transmitted light is elliptically polarized and the difference in the absorption coefficient of the circular polarized waves is called circular dichroism $(CD)^{23,24}$. The electronic circular dichroism (ECD) measurement of an optically active compound yields a value and a sign as a function of wavelength characterizing the optical transition, and contains information about the

Absorption wavelength(λ) and Oscillator strengths (1)									
ExcitedState	Excitation energies (E)	Absorptionwavelength oscillator strengths (λ)	(f)	Excitation Transition(MO)	Transition energy (MO) Singlet A	assignments of electronic transitions			
	3.3460 ev	370.54 nm	0.0008	$63 - 68$ $66 - 68$ $67 - 68$ $67 - 69$	0.11349 0.28894 0.60761 0.14418	$n-\Pi^*$			
2	3.4831 ev	355.95 nm	0.0001	$62 \div 68$ $63 \div 68$ $65 \div 68$ $66 \ge 68$ $67 \div 68$	0.17215 0.21702 0.13096 0.53231 -0.31658				
3	3.7114 ev	334.07 nm	0.0226	$65 \div 68$ $65 \div 69$ $66 \div 69$ $67 \div 69$	-0.20187 0.40572 0.22752 0.45212				

Table 6 – Theoretical absorption spectrum of (2*E*)-1-(2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)prop-2-en-1-oneExcitationenergies (E), Absorption wavelength (λ) and Oscillator strengths (f)

Total Energy, E(TD-HF/TD-KS) = -879.314866842 Hartree

Fig. 6 – (a) UV-Visible spectra of (2*E*)-1-(2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3- (4-hydroxyphenyl)prop-2-en-1-one and (b) ECD spectra of (2*E*)-1- (2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl) prop-2-en-1-one.

absolute configuration or conformation of the compound25. Common chromophores in chalcones are two aromatic rings and a carbonyl group. The absorption bands of aromatic $\pi-\pi^*$ transitions lie in the UV range of 200−290 nm and the n– π^* transitions of some carbonyl groups between 280 and 340 nm and the absorption range will further extend due to conjugation. Aryl and carbonyl groups are achiral chromophores. For (2*E*)-1-(2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)- 3-(4-hydroxyphenyl) prop-2-en-1-one a positive CE at 334 nm corresponds to R configuration. The ECD spectra for (2*E*)-1-(2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3- (4-hydroxyphenyl) prop-2-en-1-one as obtained from DFT calculations have been shown in Fig. $6(b)$.

3.12 Frontier molecular orbital (FMO) analysis

HOMO and LUMO collectively form frontier molecular orbitals (FMOs).The highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) have higher energy and are rich in electrons, therefore have a good electron donating ability. On the contrary, lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) indicates the electron accepting capability due to lower energy and deficiency of electrons. FMOs play a crucial role during molecular interactions. Furthermore, FMOs provide important information about the optical properties, electronic properties and reactivity of the molecule under investigation $15,16$. In this context, FMO analyses were carried out to predict the electronic properties of (2*E*)-1-(2,4 dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)prop-2-en-1 one at B3LYP level and 6-31G(d,p) basis set at DFT and has been shown in Fig. 7. Results of FMOs analysis consists of four important molecular orbital pairs, their gap energies (ΔE) and are presented in Table 7.

In terms of chemical hardness, if a molecule has a large HOMO–LUMO gap, it is hard. Conversely, if

Fig. 7

the HOMO–LUMO gap is small, it is soft. One can also relate molecular stability to hardness, which means that the molecule with smaller HOMO–LUMO gap is more reactive.

Energies of HOMO, LUMO and their energy gaps are further used to describe the stability and reactivity by forecasting global reactivity descriptors $19-22$. The calculated values of reactive descriptors are gathered in Table 8.

3.13 Electrostatic potential and electron density surfaces

The electrostatic potential and electron density surfaces for(2*E*)-1-(2,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)prop-2-en-1-one was computed using with B3LYP level and 6-31G(d,p) basis set at DFT and are shown in fig. 8 & 9.The distribution of electrostatic potential and electron density surfaces depends on the type of substitution atoms and also depend on negative & positive charges. From this figure, the density distribution on the molecule varies from

Fig. $8 - P(0, 0, 1, 0)$ Electron Density from Total SCF density (Isovalue=0.020000, Density=0.000400).

Fig. $9 - P(0, 0, 1, 0)$ Charge Density from Total SCF density (Isovalue=0.020000, Density=0.000400) ; Red negative and green positive charge.

negative charge on oxygen atoms to positive charge on hydrogen atoms.

4 Conclusions

To understand the structure and reactivityof(2*E*)-1- (2,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)prop-2 en-1-onewe have carried out an extensive study of the geometry, dipole moment, electrostatic potential (ESP), atomic charge distribution, polarizability, hyperpolarizability, chemical potential, electrophilicity, chemical hardness and chemical softnesses for (2*E*)-1-(2,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl) prop-2-en-1-one using the B3LYP/6-31G(d) level of theory. The differences between the observed and scaled frequencies of the most of the fundamentals are

very small. Electrostatic potential (ESP), Mulliken population Analysis (MPA) and Natural population Analysis (NPA) reveal that the most possible sites for nucleophilic attack are C_2 C_{13} C_{17} and C_{22} and for electrophilic attack are O_{25} , O_{26} O_{27} and O_{28} among the atoms of(2*E*)-1-(2, 4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3- (4-hydroxyphenyl)prop-2-en-1-one. The magnitude of the molecular hyperpolarizability (β) shows that the Chalcone studied has much greater than that of the urea hence this molecule has better NLO activity.

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