Bond Distortion and Electron States in Charged C_{60}^{2-}

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Received July 16, 1993

By considering both electron-electron and electron-lattice interactions, the effect of charge transfer on the bond structure and electronic states of C_{60} is studied without configuration limitation. The results show that the electron-electron interaction does not eliminate the layer structure of the bond distortion and the self-trapping of transferred electrons. For charged C_{60}^{2-}, there exist two localized electronic states, which possess laminar wave functions, and four nonequivalent groups of carbon atoms, which induce a fine-structure in the NMR spectrum line.

Introduction

One of the most prominent features of fullerene is its relevance to the superconductivity. Although fulleride (solid C_{60}) itself is not a superconductor, the doped fulleride M_{x}C_{60} with alkali metals M=K, Rb, Cs becomes superconductor with fairly high transition temperature T_{c}=18 K for K_{x}C_{60}, 28 K for Rb_{x}C_{60}, and 33 K for Cs_{x}C_{60}.

Since the ionization energy of alkali metals is lower than other elements in doped C_{60}, the electrons are easy to be transferred from the alkali metal to C_{60}. An interesting question is raised: where will the transferred electrons stay? Will they spread over the whole ball or be localized in some small area? Obviously the answer depends on the rigidity of C_{60}'s bonds as well as the competition between electron-lattice and electron-electron interactions. If the bonds are rigid, the transferred electrons will directly go to the lowest unoccupied molecular orbitals (LUMO), which wave functions are extended. Otherwise, if the bonds are soft enough, the lattice can be distorted by the transferred electrons to form some self-trapping states, then the electrons will be localized.

Recently several groups studied this problem. Harigaya et al. and Friedman et al. find that the doped C_{60} can form string polaron, in which the dimerization is suppressed along a meridian. Fu et al. and Lee et al. find that both the bond distortion and self-trapping electron states possess layer structure with symmetry D_{6h}. Lee et al. further find that the bond distortion depends on electron-lattice interaction and can be D_{6h}, C_{6v}, or C_{i}. However, in these studies, only the electron-lattice interaction considered, and the electron-electron interaction is neglected. Since the Coulomb repulsion usually resists electrons concentrating, and the electron-lattice interaction favors bond distortion and self-trapping, the competition between the electron-electron and electron-lattice interactions is an important fact to determine the formation of the self-trapping states. Coulon and his coworkers also studied this problem by using the local-spin density approximation of density functional method. However, for the sake of simplifying the calculation, they limit the distortion to the configuration with symmetry D_{6h}, and it can't be verified that such configuration is more stable than others. Therefore, in order to answer the above question more reliably, it is needed to make two improvements: 1. Both electron-electron and electron-lattice interactions are considered. 2. The symmetry limitation imposed on the distortion should be lifted. Then the most stable distortion can be found. These improvements are carried out in the following section.

Formulation

In this paper, the electron-lattice interaction is described by the tight-binding model of n electrons with as bond-length dependent hopping coefficient h_{b}:

\[ h_{b} = h_{0} + a(d_{i} - d_{j}) \]  \hspace{1cm} (1)

where h_{0} is the hopping constant, a the electron-lattice coupling, d_{i} the bond length between the neighboring atoms sitting at \( r_{i} \) and \( r_{j} \), and \( d_{0} = 1.54 \) Å the bond length of diamond. Meanwhile the electron-electron interaction is depicted by the Hubbard model as follows:

\[ \frac{U}{2} \sum_{i} \left( n_{i} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \left( n_{i} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \]  \hspace{1cm} (2)

Here \( n_{i} = \langle C_{i}^{+} C_{i} \rangle \), where \( C_{i}^{+} \) and \( C_{i} \) are creation and annihilation operators of electron at atom i with spin s, and the interaction parameter U is taken to be h_{0}.

By using the unrestricted Hartree-Fock approximation for the electron-electron interaction, the Hamiltonian is given by

\[ H = - \sum_{t \alpha} h_{b} \langle C_{i}^{+} C_{i}^{+} C_{i} C_{i}^{+} + h.c. \rangle + \frac{K}{2} \sum_{t \alpha} \left( d_{i} - d_{j} \right)^{2} \]

\[ + U \sum_{t \alpha} \left( X_{i} - \frac{1}{2} \right) C_{i}^{+} C_{i}^{+} - \frac{U}{2} \sum_{t \alpha} X_{i} X_{i} \]  \hspace{1cm} (3)

Here K is the elastic constant and

\[ X_{i} = \langle C_{i}^{+} C_{i} \rangle. \]  \hspace{1cm} (4)

We follow the method described in Ref. 9 to calculate self-consistently the electron states and lattice distortion.

The eigen-equation of the Hamiltonian (3) is

\[ \varepsilon \mathbf{Z}_{\alpha} = - \sum_{t \alpha} h_{b} \mathbf{Z}_{\alpha} + U \left( X_{\alpha} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \mathbf{Z}_{\alpha}, \]  \hspace{1cm} (5)

where \( \varepsilon \) and \( \mathbf{Z}_{\alpha} \) are n-th energy level and wave function.
Bond Distortion and Electron States in $C_{60}^-$

Figure 1. Layer structure of $C_{60}$. Here the numerals in the right column indicate the layer's numbers.

The total energy is

$$E = \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} \epsilon_{\alpha} - \frac{U}{2} \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} X_{\alpha \beta} X_{\alpha \beta} + \frac{K}{2} \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} (d_{\alpha \beta} - d_0)^2. \quad (6)$$

The stable distorted configuration of carbon atoms is determined by minimizing the total energy in Eq. (6) with respect to the atom's position $\mathbf{r}_\alpha$. In this step, we do not impose any limitation on the configuration variation. It is different from Ref. 8, where the distortion configuration was limited in the symmetry $D_{3h}$. When we consider the charged $C_{60}^-$ with two transferred electrons, the computation is reduced by the spin symmetry.

Before studying the bond distortion and self-trapping caused by the charge transfer, the parameters $h_0$, $\alpha$, and $K$ should be figured out first. This can be done by fitting the experimental data of the pristine $C_{60}$. The X-ray diffraction$^{19}$ shows that the pentagon edge (long bond) is 1.432 Å and the hexagon-hexagon border (short bond) is 1.388 Å, and the NMR$^{11}$ gives the long bond 1.455 ± 0.015 Å and short bond 1.40 ± 0.015 Å. Meanwhile the photoemission$^{12}$ shows the energy separation between LUMO and HOMO is about 1.9 eV. Our numerical calculation tells that when $h_0=1.8$ eV, $\alpha=3.5$ eV/Å, and $K=600$ eV/Å$^2$ in the case of 60 electrons, the resultant long-bond length is 1.432 Å, the short one is 1.385 Å and the level of the LUMO is 1.85 eV higher than the HOMO. These theoretical values are very close to the experimental data.

**Bond distortion and self-trapping**

The stable configuration of the charged $C_{60}^-$ can be obtained by minimizing the energy in Eq. (6) with 62 electrons. Since we do not impose any limitation on the distortion, the resultant configuration should be the most stable structure of the $C_{60}^-$, and then it is possible to tell what symmetry the charged $C_{60}^-$ should have.

Our results show that, after the electron-electron interaction is switched on, there still exist two self-trapping electronic states localized in equator area, and both the bond distortion and the wave functions of self-trapping states remain to have the layer structures. It means that the electron interaction does not eliminate the self-trapping and layer structure. The features of the bond distortion and self-trapping can be distinctly displayed if the buckyball is oriented in such a way that its top and bottom are pentagons, which is shown in Figure 1 where the dots are in the front side of the ball and the circles in the back side.

In this disposal, the Buckyball apparently consists of eight layers. Meanwhile the 90 bonds are divided into 13 layers as shown in Figure 2.

The pristine $C_{60}$ has dimerization structure with only two kinds of bonds, the long bond and short bond. Such dimerization structure is distorted by the transferred electrons; some bonds are stretched and others shrunk. The bond distortion possesses the following features:

1. The bonds in the same layer have same change in their bond lengths. The layer-dependent changes of the bond length are shown in the Figure 3.
2. For the distorted bond structure, the upper half and lower half have inversion symmetry.
3. The changes of the bond length in the middle layers are much larger than the other layers. It means that the bond distortion is localized in the equator area.

The first two features indicate that the charged $C_{60}^-$ pos-
Table 1. Energy levels $E_k$ molecular orbitals $k$ and degeneracies $g_k$ of pristine $C_{60}$ and charged $C_{60}^\pm$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$C_{60}$</th>
<th>$C_{60}^\pm$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$E_k$ (eV)</td>
<td>$k$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.7350</td>
<td>$T_{2g}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.6082</td>
<td>$G_u$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3484</td>
<td>$G_u$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4869</td>
<td>$H_u$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.0522</td>
<td>$T_{2g}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7470</td>
<td>$H_u$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8615</td>
<td>$T_{2g}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3191</td>
<td>$T_{2g}$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(HOMO)

| $-0.5074$ | $H_u$ | 5 | -0.3372 | $A_{1u}$ | 1 |
| $-0.1327$ | $H_u$ | 5 | -0.2252 | $E_{2u}$ | 2 |
| $-1.3669$ | $G_u$ | 4 | -1.2930 | $E_{2u}$ | 2 |
| $-2.6287$ | $G_u$ | 4 | -2.5319 | $E_{2u}$ | 2 |
| $-3.0846$ | $T_{2g}$ | 3 | -3.0394 | $E_{2u}$ | 2 |
| $-4.2114$ | $H_u$ | 5 | -4.1391 | $A_{1u}$ | 1 |
| $-5.2251$ | $T_{2g}$ | 3 | -5.1588 | $A_{1u}$ | 1 |
| $-5.7675$ | $A_g$ | 1 | -5.7039 | $A_{1u}$ | 1 |

consists the symmetry $D_{6d}$. So our calculation proves that the distortion with the symmetry $D_{6d}$ is the most stable.

The distortion of bond structure brings about some observable effects. One is the fine-structure of the NMR spectrum line. In pristine $C_{60}$ all the 60 carbon atoms are equivalent and the spectrum of NMR has only one line at 142.68 ppm\(^{1}\). Now the bond structure of charged $C_{60}^\pm$ is distorted and the atoms are no longer equivalent. However the bond distortion does not completely destroy the equivalence of the atoms. Since the bond distortion has $D_{6d}$ symmetry, the atoms in the first and eighth layers (shown on Figure 1) are equivalent to each other. Similarly, the atoms in the second and seventh layers, third and sixth, fourth and fifth are equivalent respectively. Hence, there are four groups of atoms in charged $C_{60}^\pm$. The numbers of atoms in these four groups are 10, 20, 20, 10. Since the atoms in different groups are nonequivalent, the spectrum in the NMR of charged $C_{60}^\pm$ should have a fine-structure with 4 sublines, whose intensity ratio is 1:2:2:1. Since the resolution of NMR can reach $10^{-2}$ ppm, it is good enough to find the fine-structure.

The above distortion reduces the symmetry from $I_h$ to $D_{6d}$ and, accordingly, lifts some degeneracies.

The detail of the level splits is given in Table 1, where the left part is the pristine $C_{60}$, the right part is charged $C_{60}^\pm$. $E_k$ denotes energy level, $k$ the representation of molecular orbital, $g_k$ degeneracy. It can be seen from this table that, except the HOMO and the LUMO, the splits of $C_{60}$ after the charge transfer are very small. However, the splits in the HOMO and the LUMO much bigger. The five-fold degenerate HOMO level $H_u$ is split into three levels $E_{2u}$, $E_{2u}$, and $A_{1u}$, which wave function denoted as $\psi(a_{1u})$, is apparently raised up to 0.12 eV. At the same time, the three-fold degenerate LUMO level $T_{2g}$ is split into two levels $E_{2u}$ and $A_{1u}$, which wave function denoted as $\psi(a_{2u})$, is apparently pulled down to 0.1 eV. It means that the distortion produces only two states $\psi(a_{1u})$ and $\psi(a_{2u})$ which levels are distinctly shifted from the original levels. These two states possess some peculiar characteristics:

1. Both $\psi(a_{1u})$ and $\psi(a_{2u})$ have layer structure. Their wave functions are shown in Figure 4 and 5. In each layer, different sites have the same absolute value of the wave function. Such layer structure is understandable, since these two states are produced by the bond distortion, and the bond distortion itself has layer structure. Due to the symmetry of these two states have a symmetry plane through the polar axis. Here the polar axis means $C_3$ axis in the $D_{6d}$ point group. With respect to this plane, $\psi(a_{1u})$ is antisymmetric and $\psi(a_{2u})$ has layer symmetry.
Reaction of Lithium Tris(diethylamino)aluminum Hydride

\[ \psi_{\text{H}_{\text{al}}}(n_{\text{al}}) \]

\[ \psi_{\text{H}_{\text{al}}}(n_{\text{al}}) \]

\[ t = 0.191, \quad a = 0.115 \]

Figure 5. Self trapping state \( \psi_{H_{al}}(n_{al}) \). Here the number in each site indicates the value of the wave function \( \psi_{H_{al}}(n_{al}) \).

symmetric.

2. These two states are localized in the equator area.

These features manifest that \( \psi_{H_{al}}(n_{al}) \) and \( \psi_{H_{al}}(n_{al}) \) are the self-trapping electronic bound states associated with the bond distortion induced by the charge transfer.

**Acknowledgement.** This work was supported by the Korea Science and Engineering Foundation and the National Science Foundation of China.

**References**


**Selective Reduction by Lithium Bis- or Tris(dialkylamino)aluminum Hydrides. VII. Reaction of Lithium Tris(diethylamino)aluminum Hydride with Selected Organic Compounds Containing Representative Functional Groups**

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Received July 23, 1993

The approximate rates and stoichiometry of the reaction of excess lithium tris(diethylamino)aluminum hydride(LTDHA) with selected organic compounds containing representative functional groups under the standardized conditions (tetrahydrofuran, 0°C) were studied in order to define the reducing characteristics of the reagent for selective reductions. The reducing ability of LTDHA was also compared with those of the parent lithium aluminum hydride(LAH), lithium tris(diethylamino)aluminum hydride(LTDEA), and lithium tris(dibutylamino)aluminum hydride(LTDGA). In general, the reactivity toward organic functionalities is in order of LAH > LTDGA > LTDHA > LTDDEA > LTDTHA. LTDHA shows a unique reducing characteristics. Thus, the reagent reduces aldehydes, ketones, esters, epoxides, and tertiary amides readily. Anthraquinone is cleanly reduced to 9,10-dihydro-9,10-anthraquinone without hydrogen evolution, whereas p-benzoquinone is inert to LTDHA. In addition to that, disulfides are also readily reduced to thiols without hydrogen evolution. However, carboxylic acids, anhydrides, nitriles, and primary amides are reduced slowly. Especially, this reagent reduces aromatic nitriles to the corresponding aldehydes in good yields.

**Introduction**

Lithium aluminum hydride (LAH), a very powerful reducing agent, has been widely used for the reduction of functional groups. The introduction of alkoxy groups into lithium aluminum hydride modifies its reducing characteristics and has made possible a number of selective reductions of considerable utility in synthetic work.

Similarly, the dialkylamino-substituted derivatives of lithium aluminum hydride seem to exhibit reducing properties.