# Time-Resolved Electron Spin Resonance of Gallium and Germanium Porphyrins in the Excited Triplet State

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Gallium and germanium porphyrin complexes in the lowest excited triplet (T<sub>1</sub>) state have been studied by timeresolved electron spin resonance (TRESR). It is found that for Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> (TPP = dianion of tetraphenylporphyrin) intersystem crossing (ISC) from the lowest excited singlet (S<sub>1</sub>) state to the T<sub>1x</sub> and T<sub>1y</sub> sublevels is faster than that to the T<sub>1z</sub> sublevel (T<sub>1x</sub>, T<sub>1y</sub>, and T<sub>1z</sub> are sublevels of the T<sub>1</sub> state), while the ISC of ZnTPP and Ga-(TPP)(OH) is selective to the T<sub>1z</sub> sublevel. This is interpreted by a weak interaction between the d<sub>π</sub> orbital of germanium and LUMO (e<sub>g</sub>) of the porphyrin ligand, resulting in small spin-orbit coupling (SOC). The interpretation is supported by molecular orbital calculations. The ISC of Ge(OEP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> (OEP = dianion of octaethylporphyrin) and Ge(Pc)(OH)<sub>2</sub> (Pc = dianion of tetra-*tert*-butylphthalocyanine) is found to be selective to the T<sub>1z</sub> sublevel in contrast to Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub>. This dependence on the porphyrin ligand is reasonably explained by a difference between the <sup>3</sup>(a<sub>1u</sub>e<sub>g</sub>) (the OEP and Pc complexes) and <sup>3</sup>(a<sub>2u</sub>e<sub>g</sub>) (the TPP complex) configurations. This is the first observation of a difference in selective ISC between the <sup>3</sup>(a<sub>1u</sub>e<sub>g</sub>) and <sup>3</sup>(a<sub>2u</sub>e<sub>g</sub>) configurations. The TRESR spectrum of Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> is different from those of Ge(TPP)Cl<sub>2</sub> and Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub>, and is interpreted by SOC between the T<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>2</sub> states. From ESR parameters the square of the coefficient of the e<sub>g</sub> orbital on bromine is evaluated as 0.018 in the T<sub>1</sub> state.

## Introduction

Photophysical properties of porphyrin complexes have been investigated, for example, in relation to photosynthesis, photonic devices, photodynamic therapy, and photocatalysis. It has been shown for *regular porphyrins* that intersystem crossing (ISC) from the lowest excited singlet (S<sub>1</sub>) state to the lowest excited triplet (T<sub>1</sub>) state or from the T<sub>1</sub> state to the singlet ground (S<sub>0</sub>) state varies dramatically with the central atom and axial ligands.<sup>1–3</sup> In other words, the photophysical properties of porphyrin complexes are controlled by spin—orbit coupling (SOC) of the central atom and axial ligand, which stimulates ISC. A time-resolved electron spin resonance (TRESR) technique is a useful method for investigating SOC of porphyrin complexes in the excited states as described below.<sup>4–8</sup>

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Selective ISC occurs from the S1 state to three sublevels in the  $T_1$  state ( $T_{1x}$ ,  $T_{1y}$ , and  $T_{1z}$ ). For regular porphyrins the  $S_1$ and T<sub>1</sub> states are a ( $\pi$ ,  $\pi^*$ ) configuration, and selectivities of ISC are divided into two groups depending on the type of the central atom. Metal-free and Mg complexes belong to the first group.<sup>5–9</sup> In this case, ISC to the  $T_{1x}$  and  $T_{1y}$  sublevels is faster than that to the  $T_{1z}$  sublevel because of the *x* and *y* components of SOC. This SOC is produced by orbital angular momentum between  $p_z$  and  $p_x$  ( $p_y$ ) orbitals (Figure 1), since the S<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>1</sub> states are admixed with  $(\sigma, \pi^*)$ ,  $(\pi, \sigma^*)$ , and  $(n, \pi^*)$  configurations via vibronic coupling. The second group is porphyrins with a heavy central atom or axial ligands.<sup>4-10</sup> The LUMO of the porphyrin ligand, an  $e_{gx}$  ( $e_{gy}$ ) orbital, interacts with the  $d_{xz}$  ( $d_{yz}$ ) orbital of the central atom and  $p_x(p_y)$  orbital of axial ligands. Since the  ${}^{1,3}E_{ux}$  and  ${}^{1,3}E_{uy}$  states are degenerate in the  $S_1$  and  $T_1$ regions, ISC from the  ${}^{1}E_{ux}$  ( ${}^{1}E_{uy}$ ) state is selective to the z sublevel in the  ${}^{3}E_{uv}$  ( ${}^{3}E_{ux}$ ) state due to a z component of SOC between the  $d_{xz}$  and  $d_{yz}$  orbitals of the central atom or between

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**Figure 1.** Selective ISC and *y* and *z* components of SOC. Full and dotted arrows indicate ISC promoted by the *z* component of SOC and by the *x* and *y* components of SOC, respectively. The *y* and *z* components of SOC originate from orbital angular momentum between the  $a_{2u}$  and  $e_u$  orbitals and between the  $e_{gx}$  and  $e_{gy}$  orbitals, respectively.

Chart 1



the  $p_x$  and  $p_y$  orbitals of axial ligands (Figure 1). Since a difference among sublevel populations, which is generated by selective ISC, reflects a competition among these components of SOC, the sublevel population ratio observed by TRESR is a good parameter for evaluating SOC of the central and axial atoms.

ESR parameters in the T<sub>1</sub> state, i.e., g and zero field splitting (zfs) parameter D (= $-3E_z/2$ ) values, also reflect the SOC of porphyrin complexes. Several porphyrin complexes with a heavy central atom have negatively larger D and smaller  $g_{zz}$  values originating from the z component of SOC between the T<sub>1</sub> ( $^{3}E_{uy}$ ) and T<sub>2</sub> ( $^{3}E_{ux}$ ) states, which are split by the Jahn–Teller distortion.<sup>10</sup> Analysis of the ESR parameters provides the SOC matrix element, which is important not only for investigating the T<sub>1</sub>–T<sub>2</sub> interaction but also in relation to the  ${}^{1.3}E_{ux}-{}^{3.1}E_{uy}$  interaction.

In this paper, we describe the study of several gallium and germanium porphyrin complexes (Chart 1) using the TRESR method,<sup>11</sup> focusing on two areas: (1) Zinc, gallium, and germanium porphyrins are compared. For gallium and germanium porphyrins, hydroxyl groups are selected as axial ligands, since the small SOC constant of oxygen makes it easy to extract SOC of the central atom. Although the germanium ion has the heavier atomic weight and larger SOC constant than the zinc ion, the ISC of Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> is found to be selective to the  $T_{1x}$  and  $T_{1y}$  sublevels in contrast to ZnTPP.<sup>5,10c</sup> Furthermore, the ISC of Ge(Pc)(OH)<sub>2</sub> and Ge(OEP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> is shown to be selective to the  $T_{1z}$  sublevel in opposition to Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub>. These central metal and porphyrin ligand dependences are

(11) TPP = dianion of tetraphenylporphyrin. OEP = dianion of octaethylporphyrin. Pc = dianion of tetra-*tert*-butylphthalocyanine.

discussed from the viewpoints of the interaction between the central metal and porphyrin ligand and the difference in the electronic configurations, respectively. (2) Interactions between the porphyrin and axial ligands are investigated for Ge(TPP)- $X_2$  (X = OH, Cl, and Br). It is found that a TRESR spectrum of Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> is obviously different from those of Ge(TPP)-(OH)<sub>2</sub> and Ge(TPP)Cl<sub>2</sub>. The ESR parameters of Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> are analyzed in terms of the SOC between the T<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>2</sub> states.

### **Experimental Section**

All complexes were synthesized following the methods previously reported.<sup>2,3,12</sup> Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> was synthesized from Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> with reference to the synthesis of Ge(OEP)Br<sub>2</sub>.<sup>3</sup> It exhibited absorption bands at 436, 565, and 607 nm in chloroform. A 1:1 mixture of toluene and chloroform of spectral grades was used as a solvent. The concentrations of the samples were ca.  $10^{-3}-10^{-5}$  M.

TRESR and steady-state ESR measurements were carried out at 10-20 K on a Bruker ESP 300E spectrometer.<sup>13</sup> An Oxford ESR 900 cold gas flow system was used for controlling temperature. Samples were excited at 570-585 nm by a Lumonics HD 500 dye laser pumped with a Lumonics EX 500 excimer laser. The TRESR signals from the ESR unit were integrated by a LeCroy 9450A oscilloscope.

The spin Hamiltonian for the  $T_1$  TRESR spectra is represented as follows:

$$H_{\text{spin}} = \mathbf{g}\beta \mathbf{BS} + \mathbf{SDS} = \mathbf{g}\beta \mathbf{BS} + D[S_z^2 - S(S+1)/3] + E(S_x^2 - S_y^2)$$
(1)

Here, the first term is the electronic Zeeman interaction, and *D* and *E* (= $|E_x - E_y|/2$ ) are zfs parameters. Simulations of the T<sub>1</sub> spectra were calculated following the procedure already reported.<sup>14</sup> Zero field energies of the triplet sublevels ( $E_x$ ,  $E_y$ , and  $E_z$ ), sublevel population ratios ( $P_x$ : $P_y$ : $P_z$ ), *g* values ( $g_{xx}$ ,  $g_{yy}$ , and  $g_{zz}$ ), and line width parameters were required in the simulations, where the **g** tensor was assumed to be parallel to the **D** tensor.

#### **Results and Interpretations**

TRESR spectra of ZnTPP, Ga(TPP)(OH), and  $Ge(TPP)(OH)_2$  are shown in Figure 2, and those of ZnPc, Ga(Pc)(OH), and Ge-

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g=2.002

**Figure 2.** TRESR spectra of ZnTPP (a), Ga(TPP)(OH) (b), and Ge-(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> (c) together with their simulations (lower spectra). These spectra were observed at 0.5 (a), 0.9 (b), and 0.8 (c)  $\mu$ s after laser excitation, respectively. Simulation spectra were calculated using the parameters summarized in Table 1.

(Pc)(OH)<sub>2</sub> are shown in Figure 3. The TRESR spectra, other than Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub>, exhibit an AAA/EEE polarization pattern, which is a characteristic of porphyrin complexes with a heavy central atom.<sup>4–8,10c</sup> Here, the A and E polarizations denote absorption and emission of the microwaves, respectively, and are due to nonequilibrium population of the triplet sublevels. The AAA/EEE polarization pattern is reproduced by selective ISC to the  $T_{1z}$  sublevel. On the other hand, the polarization pattern of Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> is EEE/AAA, which originates from selective ISC to the  $T_{1x}$  and  $T_{1y}$  sublevels. The selectivity of ISC for Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> is contrary to those for ZnTPP and Ge-(Pc)(OH)<sub>2</sub>, and is similar to those for metal-free and Mg complexes.<sup>5-9</sup> To investigate the selectivity dependence on the porphyrin ligand, a TRESR measurement was carried out for Ge(OEP)(OH)<sub>2</sub>. It is found that a polarization pattern (AAA/ *EEE*) of Ge(OEP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> is similar to that of Ge(Pc)(OH)<sub>2</sub> and contrary to that of Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub>.<sup>15</sup>

Zfs parameters, D and E values, of the TPP and Pc complexes are summarized in Table 1. The D values are independent of the central atom. For the TPP and Pc complexes, deviations of D values from ZnTPP and ZnPc are within 6% and 13% (except for metal-free compounds), respectively.<sup>16</sup> This indicates that the D values are almost due to the magnetic dipole–dipole

**Figure 3.** TRESR spectra of ZnPc (a), Ga(Pc)(OH) (b), and Ge(Pc)-(OH)<sub>2</sub> (c) together with their simulations (lower spectra). These spectra were observed at 1.0 (a) and 0.8 (b, c)  $\mu$ s after laser excitation, respectively. Simulation spectra were calculated using the parameters summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. Zfs Parameters and Sublevel Population Ratios

compd	D <sup>a</sup> /GHz	E <sup>b</sup> /GHz	$P_y:P_x:P_z$
$H_2TPP^c$	1.15	0.240	1:0.6:0.3
MgTPP <sup>d</sup>	0.930	0.275	0.5:0.5:0
ZnTPP	0.920	0.292	0:0:1
Ga(TPP)(OH)	0.975	0.315	0:0.1:0.9
Ge(TPP)(OH) <sub>2</sub>	0.945	0.295	0.5:0.5:0
Ge(TPP)Cl <sub>2</sub>	0.870	0.290	0.5:0.5:0
Ge(TPP)Br <sub>2</sub>	-1.31	0.160	0:0:1
Y(TPP)(acac) <sup>e</sup>	0.870	0.290	0:0:1
$H_2Pc^f$	0.758	0.070	0.46:0.54:0
MgPc <sup>g</sup>	0.713	0.168	0.46:0.54:0
Si(Pc)(OH) <sub>2</sub> <sup>h</sup>	0.623	0.158	0:0:1
ZnPc	0.713	0.163	0:0.1:0.9
Ga(Pc)(OH)	0.660	0.110	0:0:1
Ge(Pc)(OH) <sub>2</sub>	0.630	0.183	0:0.1:0.9
$Y(Pc)(oac)^i$	0.650	0.140	0:0:1

<sup>*a*</sup>  $D = -3E_z/2$ . Errors of *D* values are within 0.016 GHz. <sup>*b*</sup>  $E = |E_x - E_y|/2$ . <sup>*c*</sup> From ref 5b. <sup>*d*</sup> From ref 6b. <sup>*e*</sup> From ref 10c. <sup>*f*</sup> From ref 8e. <sup>*g*</sup> From ref 8f. <sup>*h*</sup> From ref 8d. <sup>*i*</sup> From ref 8b.

interaction between  $\pi$  and  $\pi^*$  electrons of the porphyrin ligand.<sup>16</sup> The *D* values of Pc complexes are smaller than those of TPP complexes. These are interpreted as an expansion of the delocalization of unpaired  $\pi$  electrons in the T<sub>1</sub> state.

To clarify a role of axial ligands, TRESR measurements were carried out for Ge(TPP)Cl<sub>2</sub> and Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub>, and their spectra are shown in Figure 4. The zfs parameters and sublevel population ratios of Ge(TPP)Cl<sub>2</sub> are similar to those of Ge-(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> (Table 1). On the other hand, the TRESR spectrum of Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> is obviously different from those of Ge(TPP)-(OH)<sub>2</sub> and Ge(TPP)Cl<sub>2</sub>, indicating the heavy atom effect of bromine. The TRESR spectrum of Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> could be reproduced by two sets of parameters. First, D = 1.31 GHz, E

<sup>(15)</sup> ESR parameters of Ge(OEP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> are evaluated as D = 1.10 GHz, E = 0.103 GHz, and  $P_y:P_x:P_z = 0.15:0:0.85$ .

<sup>(16)</sup> The *D* values of metal-free porphyrins are larger than those of corresponding metalloporphyrins. Gouterman et al. have proposed that the larger *D* values of metal-free porphyrins originate from configuration interactions between the  $(a_{1u}e_g)$  and  $(a_{2u}e_g)$  configurations for low symmetry: Langhoff, S. R.; Davidson, E. R.; Gouterman, M.; Leenstra, W. R.; Kwiram, A. L. J. Chem. Phys. **1975**, *62*, 169.



**Figure 4.** TRESR spectra of Ge(TPP)Cl<sub>2</sub> (a) and Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> (b) together with their simulations (lower spectra). These spectra were observed at 0.7 (a) and 0.9 (b)  $\mu$ s after laser excitation, respectively. Simulation spectra were calculated using the parameters summarized in Table 1.

= 0.16 GHz,  $g_{zz}$  = 1.995, and  $P_x$ ,  $P_y > P_z$ . Second, D = -1.31GHz, E = 0.16 GHz,  $g_{zz} = 1.995$ , and  $P_x$ ,  $P_y < P_z$ . It is found that the |D| value of Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> (=1.31 GHz) is larger than those of Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> (=0.945 GHz) and Ge(TPP)Cl<sub>2</sub> (=0.870 GHz). The D value is constituted by the magnetic dipole-dipole interaction and SOC. The only candidate for changing the magnetic dipole-dipole interaction is a charge transfer (CT) between the porphyrin and axial ligands. However, the larger |D| value of Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> cannot be explained by the CT character, which reduces the |D| value. On the other hand, a contribution of SOC is reasonable, since the SOC constant of bromine  $(2460 \text{ cm}^{-1})$  is much larger than those of oxygen (150  $cm^{-1}$ ) and chlorine (587  $cm^{-1}$ ).<sup>3</sup> The negatively larger D and smaller  $g_{zz}$  values are characteristic of the z component of SOC between the  $T_1$  (<sup>3</sup>E<sub>uv</sub>) and  $T_2$  (<sup>3</sup>E<sub>ux</sub>) states, as observed for PdP (P = dianion of porphyrin), PtP, and Y(OEP)(acac) (acac = acetylacetate).<sup>10</sup> Furthermore, selective ISC to the T<sub>1z</sub> sublevel  $(P_x, P_y \leq P_z)$  is also interpreted by the z component of SOC between the  ${}^{1,3}E_{ux}$  and  ${}^{3,1}E_{uy}$  states, which is similar to that between the  $T_1$  ( ${}^{3}E_{uv}$ ) and  $T_2$  ( ${}^{3}E_{ux}$ ) states. Therefore, the ESR parameters of Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> are reasonably evaluated as D =-1.31 GHz, E = 0.16 GHz,  $g_{zz} = 1.995$ , and  $P_y:P_x:P_z = 0:0$ :  $1.^{17}$ 

## Discussion

**Central Metal and Porphyrin Ligand Dependences.** As summarized in Table 1, the *D* and *E* values of  $Ge(TPP)(OH)_2$  and Ga(TPP)(OH) are almost identical with those of ZnTPP, MgTPP, and Y(TPP)(acac). In a similar manner, the *D* values of Pc complexes are independent of the central atom. These results indicate that the zfs is almost due to the magnetic dipole—

dipole interaction, and that these  $T_1$  states are a  $(\pi, \pi^*)$  configuration localized on the porphyrin ligand.

Spectral simulations reveal that the ISC of Ge(Pc)(OH)<sub>2</sub> and Ga(Pc)(OH) is selective to the  $T_{1z}$  sublevel similar to ZnPc, Si(Pc)(OH)<sub>2</sub>, and Y(Pc)(oac) (oac = acetate). In contrast, the ISC of Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> is selective to the  $T_{1x}$  and  $T_{1y}$  sublevels similar to H<sub>2</sub>TPP and MgTPP, while ISC of Ga(TPP)(OH), ZnTPP, and Y(TPP)(acac) is selective to the  $T_{1z}$  sublevel. Since the germanium ion has the heavier atomic weight and larger SOC constant (1800 cm<sup>-1</sup>)<sup>3a</sup> than the zinc ion (1100 cm<sup>-1</sup>)<sup>18</sup>, the difference between Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> and ZnTPP is unusual. Furthermore, since this type of porphyrin ligand dependence has not been observed previously,<sup>4–10</sup> it is interesting to note that the selectivity of ISC for Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> is contrary to those for Ge(Pc)(OH)<sub>2</sub> and Ge(OEP)(OH)<sub>2</sub>. Therefore, a selection rule of germanium porphyrins has to be clarified.

For metalloporphyrins, origins of ISC are divided into two groups. The first is ISC to the  $T_{1x}$  and  $T_{1y}$  sublevels. This selective ISC is due to the *x* and *y* components of SOC between  $p_z$  and  $p_x$  ( $p_y$ ) orbitals (Figure 1), since the  $S_1$  and  $T_1$  states are admixed with ( $\sigma$ ,  $\pi^*$ ), ( $\pi$ ,  $\sigma^*$ ), and (n,  $\pi^*$ ) configurations via vibronic coupling.<sup>1.9b</sup> The second group is selective ISC to the  $T_{1z}$  sublevel, which originates from the *z* component of SOC. Since the LUMO of the porphyrin ligand, the  $e_{gx}$  ( $e_{gy}$ ) orbital, is admixed with the  $d_{xz}$  ( $d_{yz}$ ) orbital of the central metal and the  $p_x$  ( $p_y$ ) orbital of axial ligands, selective ISC from the <sup>1</sup>E<sub>ux</sub> (<sup>1</sup>E<sub>uy</sub>) state to the *z* sublevel of the <sup>3</sup>E<sub>uy</sub> (<sup>3</sup>E<sub>ux</sub>) state is promoted by SOC between the  $d_{xz}$  and  $d_{yz}$  orbitals of the central metal or between the  $p_x$  and  $p_y$  orbitals of axial ligands (Figure 1).<sup>1.9b</sup> Therefore, the selectivities of ISC depend on these components of SOC.

The difference between Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> and ZnTPP will be explained. Gouterman discussed the origin of the *x* and *y* components of SOC.<sup>1</sup> It has been shown that the T<sub>1</sub> state of TPP complexes is an  $(a_{2u}e_g)$  configuration,<sup>16</sup> and that an  $(e_u^{\sigma}e_g)$ configuration (an  $e_u^{\sigma}$  orbital is a bonding orbital between the central atom and pyrrole nitrogens) is the best candidate of SOC in the  $(\sigma, \pi^*)$  and  $(\pi, \sigma^*)$  configurations.<sup>1</sup> Since both  $a_{2u}$  and  $e_u^{\sigma}$  orbitals have large MO coefficients on the pyrrole nitrogens, SOC between  $(a_{2u}e_g)$  and  $(e_u^{\sigma}e_g)$  is possible, and is almost produced on the porphyrin ligand.<sup>19,20</sup> In other words, the *x* and *y* components of SOC for Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> are almost the same as those for ZnTPP, and the selective ISC of Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> originates from a decrease in the *z* component of SOC.

This small SOC is interpreted by a weak interaction between the LUMO of the porphyrin ligand and the  $d_{\pi}$  orbital of germanium. The ionization potential (93.5 eV) of the Ge<sup>4+</sup> ion, which denotes an energy of 3d orbitals, is much larger than that (39.722 eV) of the Zn<sup>2+</sup> ion, indicating that the energy difference between the LUMO of the porphyrin ligand and  $d_{\pi}$ orbital of germanium is much larger than that of zinc. Further, the extent of the  $d_{\pi}$  orbital of the Ge<sup>4+</sup> ion is smaller than that of the Zn<sup>2+</sup> ion, since effective nuclear charge (10.85) for the  $d_{\pi}$  orbital of germanium is larger than that (8.85) of zinc. These differences indicate that the interaction between the LUMO of the porphyrin ligand and the  $d_{\pi}$  orbital of germanium is smaller

<sup>(17)</sup> The line width of a single transition used for the simulation of Ge-(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> is larger than those of Ge(TPP)Cl<sub>2</sub> and Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub>. This larger line width is considered to originate from the distribution of the *D* value. The *D* value due to SOC is inversely proportional to the energy difference between the T<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>2</sub> states, which are split by the Jahn–Teller distortion. Since the Jahn–Teller distortion depends on the environment, the *D* value of Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> is considered to be distributed somewhat depending on the sites.

<sup>(18)</sup> Ake, R. L.; Gouterman, M. Theor. Chim. Acta 1969, 15, 20.

<sup>(19)</sup> For ZnP, Ga(P)(OH), and Ge(P)(OH)<sub>2</sub>, *ab initio* calculations were carried out by means of the program Hyper Chem R 5.1. These complexes were calculated on the basis of STO-3G.

<sup>(20)</sup> Ab initio calculations suggest that the square of the coefficient of the  $a_{2u}$  MO in the  $4p_z$  orbital (~2.3 × 10<sup>-2</sup>) of zinc is small, but larger than that (<10<sup>-4</sup>) of germanium. This indicates that the *x* and *y* components of SOC of zinc are small, but larger than those of germanium.

than that of zinc. This consideration is confirmed by MO calculations,<sup>19</sup> where the square of the coefficient of the  $e_g$  MO in the  $d_{\pi}$  orbital (<10<sup>-4</sup>) of germanium is much smaller than that (~1.6 × 10<sup>-3</sup>) of zinc. Using the MO coefficients and SOC constant, the *z* component of SOC of germanium is calculated as <0.2 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and is much smaller than that (~1.8 cm<sup>-1</sup>) of zinc.<sup>21</sup> Because of the smaller SOC, the ISC of Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> becomes selective to the T<sub>1x</sub> and T<sub>1y</sub> sublevels.

With respect to the dependence on the porphyrin ligand, the differences among the TPP, OEP, and Pc complexes need to be clarified. It has been shown that the  $T_1$  state of Pc and OEP complexes is an  $(a_{1u}e_{\rm g})$  configuration, while that of TPP complexes is the  $(a_{2u}e_g)$  configuration.<sup>16</sup> The SOC between  $(a_{1u}e_{g})$  and  $(e_{u}\sigma e_{g})$  configurations is impossible contrary to the  $(a_{2u}e_g)$  configuration, since the  $a_{1u}$  orbital has no MO coefficient on the pyrrole nitrogens. In the case of Pc complexes, an (eu-<sup>n</sup>e<sub>g</sub>) configuration (an e<sub>u</sub><sup>n</sup> orbital denotes a nonbonding orbital on imino nitrogens) must also be considered.<sup>22</sup> However, SOC with the (e<sub>u</sub><sup>n</sup>e<sub>g</sub>) configuration is ineffective, since the imino nitrogens are on the  $a_{1u}$  symmetry nodes. That is, the  $(a_{1u}e_g)$ configuration has to couple with the other ( $\sigma$ ,  $\pi^*$ ) and ( $\pi$ ,  $\sigma^*$ ) configurations. Consequently, the x and y components of SOC for the TPP complexes are larger than those for the OEP and Pc complexes. Since the z component of SOC is small, the porphyrin ligand dependence is observed for germanium porphyrins.

In the case of gallium porphyrins, ISC from the S<sub>1</sub> state is selective to the T<sub>1z</sub> sublevel. Because of the pentacoordinated geometry, the gallium atom deviates from the porphyrin plane, promoting an interaction between the  $e_{gx}$  ( $e_{gy}$ ) orbital of the porphyrin ligand and the  $4p_x$  ( $4p_y$ ) orbital of gallium. In fact, an MO calculation of Ga(P)(OH) indicates that the square of the coefficient of the  $e_g$  MO ( $\sim 1.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ) in the  $p_x$  and  $p_y$  orbitals of gallium.<sup>19</sup> Therefore, selective ISC to the T<sub>1z</sub> sublevel is mainly due to the SOC between the  $p_x$  and  $p_y$  orbitals of gallium.

**Axial Ligand Dependence.** It is found that the *D* value of Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> is negatively larger than those of Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> and Ge(TPP)Cl<sub>2</sub>, and that the  $g_{zz}$  value of Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> is smaller than that of a free electron. These *D* and  $g_{zz}$  values of Ge(TPP)-Br<sub>2</sub> are explained by the contribution of SOC between the T<sub>1</sub> (<sup>3</sup>(a<sub>2u</sub>e<sub>gy</sub>)) and T<sub>2</sub> (<sup>3</sup>(a<sub>2u</sub>e<sub>gx</sub>)) states. In this case, the *D* value is expressed as follows:

$$D = D_{\rm SS} - D_{\rm SO} \tag{2}$$

Here,  $D_{SS}$  denotes the magnetic dipole–dipole interaction between the triplet spins. We assume that  $D_{SO}$  originates from the SOC between the T<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>2</sub> states, and that the one-center terms on heavy atoms, germanium and bromine, are important for the SOC. Under the second-order perturbation theory, the  $D_{SO}$  is represented as follows:

$$D_{\rm SO} = Z'^2 / 4\Delta E_{\rm TT} \tag{3a}$$

$$iZ' = iqZ = (C_{\text{Ge}}^{2} \langle \mathbf{d}_{yz} | \boldsymbol{\xi}_{\text{Ge}} \mathbf{l}_{z} | \mathbf{d}_{xz} \rangle + 2C_{\text{Br}}^{2} \langle \mathbf{p}_{y} | \boldsymbol{\xi}_{\text{Br}} \mathbf{l}_{z} | \mathbf{p}_{x} \rangle) \langle \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{T}_{1}) | \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{T}_{2}) \rangle$$
(3b)

$$\Delta E_{\rm TT} = E(T_2) - E(T_1) \tag{3c}$$

Here,  $q (=\langle \phi(T_1) | \phi(T_2) \rangle)$  is the vibrational overlap between the  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  states. *Z* is a matrix element of SOC.  $C_{Ge}$  and  $C_{Br}$  are the  $e_g$  orbital coefficients of germanium and bromine, respectively. In a similar manner, the change in the  $g_{zz}$  value,  $\Delta g_{zz}$ , is expressed as follows:

$$\Delta g_{zz} = Z' \Lambda' / \Delta E_{\rm TT} \tag{4a}$$

$$i\Lambda' = iq\Lambda = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{T}_1) | \mathbf{l}_z | \Phi(\mathbf{T}_2) \rangle \langle \phi(\mathbf{T}_1) | \phi(\mathbf{T}_2) \rangle$$
(4b)

A is a matrix element of an orbital Zeeman interaction. In eq 3b, the SOC of germanium is negligibly small, since the *D* (=0.945 GHz) and  $g_{zz}$  (=2.002) values of Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> are almost the same as the *D* value of MTPP (M = Mg, Zn) and *g* value of a free electron, respectively. In this case, the *Z* value is represented as follows:

$$Z = 4\Lambda D_{\rm SO} / \Delta g_{zz} = 2C_{\rm Br}^{2} \langle \mathbf{p}_{\rm y} | \boldsymbol{\xi}_{\rm Br} \mathbf{l}_{z} | \mathbf{p}_{\rm x} \rangle \tag{5}$$

The  $D_{SO}$  is estimated as 2.26 GHz from a difference between Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> and Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub>. Using  $\Delta g_{zz}$  (=0.007) and  $\Lambda$  (=2.1), which was calculated for the T<sub>1</sub> state,<sup>23</sup> the Z value is evaluated as 88 cm<sup>-1</sup>, being much larger than those calculated for zinc (~1.8 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and germanium (<0.2 cm<sup>-1</sup>). Using  $\xi_{Br}$  = 2460 cm<sup>-1</sup>, the  $C_{Br}^2$  is estimated as 0.018 in the T<sub>1</sub> state, and is similar to that (=0.022) calculated for Sn(P)Br<sub>2</sub>.<sup>3a</sup>

## Conclusions

In this study, gallium and germanium porphyrin complexes have been investigated by TRESR. It is found that the ISC of  $Ge(TPP)(OH)_2$  is selective to the  $T_{1x}$  and  $T_{1y}$  sublevels, while that of ZnTPP and Ga(TPP)(OH) is selective to the  $T_{1z}$  sublevel. This is interpreted by a weak interaction between the  $d_{\pi}$  orbital of germanium and the LUMO of the porphyrin ligand. The ISC of Ge(Pc)(OH)<sub>2</sub> and Ge(OEP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> is shown to be selective to the  $T_{1z}$  sublevel in good contrast to Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub>. This selectivity dependence on the porphyrin ligand is interpreted by the difference in the electronic configurations. This is the first observation of the difference in selective ISC between the  $^{3}(a_{1u}e_{g})$  and  $^{3}(a_{2u}e_{g})$  configurations. The TRESR spectrum of Ge(TPP)Br<sub>2</sub> is obviously different from those of Ge(TPP)(OH)<sub>2</sub> and  $Ge(TPP)Cl_2$ , and is explained by the *z* component of SOC between the  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  states. From the  $g_{zz}$  and D values, the square of the coefficient of the eg MO on bromine can be estimated as 0.018 in the  $T_1$  state.

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<sup>(21)</sup> The SOC is calculated by multiplying the square of the coefficient of the e<sub>g</sub> MO on the central atom by the SOC constant.<sup>3,10</sup>

<sup>(22)</sup> Mack, J.; Stillman, M. J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1994**, 116, 1292.

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(b) Gouterman, M. *Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci.* **1973**, 206, 70.