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## Molecular Origin of Long-Wavelength Forms of Hydrated Chlorophyll a

Sir:

There has been a longstanding interest in the aggregation of hydrated Chl a.<sup>1,2</sup> Recent work has established that Chl a exists in three states of hydration.<sup>2-9</sup> Each of these three states gives rise to aggregate species that probably correspond to frequently encountered long-wavelength forms of in vivo and in vitro Chl a.9b It is believed<sup>2-4,6-13</sup> that the photoactive aggregate P700<sup>14</sup> (an in vivo Chl a complex that absorbs at 700 nm) in photosystem I is probably a  $C_2$  symmetrical dimer of the monohydrate, (Chl a·H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>, On aggregation, the dihydrate yields the polymeric species  $(Chl a \cdot 2H_2O)_n$  that has a red absorption maximum at 743 nm.<sup>3,4,15</sup> Much of the current work has been concerned with the in vitro preparation and characterization of 700 nm-absorbing Chl a aggregates.<sup>3,9,10-13</sup> Special attention has been focused on the specific roles of the C-9 keto<sup>9,10-13</sup> and C-10 carbomethoxy carbonyl<sup>4,7-9</sup> groups in bonding interactions in  $(Chl a \cdot H_2O)_2$  and on the photoactivity<sup>16,17</sup> of dimeric and polymeric hydrated Chl a,

One of the major unresolved problems is the question of the origin of absorption red shifts observed in Chl a aggregates. This question has been a subject of considerable speculation for some time<sup>18</sup> and has defied analysis on the basis of simple exciton theory.<sup>19</sup> The red shift in the A743 polymer (Chl a- $2H_2O_n$  has been attributed<sup>15</sup> to transition dipole-transition dipole interactions according to the McRae and Kasha model.<sup>20</sup> However, the recently determined exciton splitting  $(\sim 10^2 \text{ cm}^{-1})$  in the lowest excited singlet<sup>9</sup> of (Chl a·H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub> suggests that wavelength shifts due to transition dipole interactions are probably far too small to account for the sizable shift (~1500 cm<sup>-1</sup>) found in A743. The attribution<sup>12</sup> of "environmental" red shifts to " $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking" of neighboring chlorin planes in (Chl a·HOC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and (Chl a·2H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>n</sub> appears to be inconsistent with the appreciably smaller red shift  $(\sim 288 \text{ cm}^{-1})$  observed in the anhydrous dimer Chl  $a_2^{4,7}$  (with a red absorption maximum at 678 nm) in which  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking occurs to a much larger extent than in the proposed structures for (Chl a·HOC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and (Chl a·2H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>n</sub>. (Compare Figure 1 of ref 4 with Figure 3 of ref 12 and Figure 6 of ref 15.) The purpose of this communication is to present a systematic interpretation of exciton interactions in molecular aggregates in standard perturbation theory.<sup>21</sup> We delineate possible sources for the observed optical frequency shifts in Chl a aggregates, and identify the molecular interaction responsible for the optical frequency shifts characteristic of the various hydrated Chl a aggregates.

We consider a polymeric system consisting of  $N_0$  identical

monomeric units. The position vector  $\mathbf{R}_n$  of unit *n* is given by integral multiples of the unit vector **a**, i.e.,  $\mathbf{R}_n = n\mathbf{a}$ . The total Hamiltonian may be written

$$\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{M}} = \sum_{n=1}^{N_0} \mathbf{H}(n) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n,m}' \mathbf{V}(n,m)$$
(1)

where H(n) is the Hamiltonian operator for the *n*th molecular unit, and V(n,m) is the pairwise interaction between the *n*th and mth units. In Chl a<sub>2</sub>, (Chl a $\cdot$ H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub> and (Chl a $\cdot$ 2H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>n</sub>, the monomeric units are Chl a, Chl a $\cdot$ H<sub>2</sub>O, and Chl a $\cdot$ 2H<sub>2</sub>O, respectively. In the following discussion monomeric units are referred to as "molecules", whereas the aggregate is designated as the "system". The molecular eigenstates and the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{H}(n)$  are given by  $|\Phi_{\lambda}(n)\rangle$  and  $\epsilon_{\lambda}$ , respectively. The eigenstates  $|\Psi_k\rangle$  and eigenvalues  $E_k$  of the system are determined by the Schrödinger equation

$$\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{M}}|\Psi_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle = E_{\mathbf{k}}|\Psi_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle \tag{2}$$

In zeroth-order approximation, the ground state of the system is given as the product state

$$|\Psi_0\rangle = \prod_n |\Phi_0(n)\rangle \tag{3}$$

The ground state energy of the system is accordingly written

$$E_0 = N_0 \epsilon_0 + \delta_0 \tag{4}$$

where the energy of aggregation

$$\delta_0 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n,m'} \langle \Phi_0(n) \Phi_0(m) | V(n,m) | \Phi_0(n) \Phi_0(m) \rangle$$
 (5)

is the total of attractive interactions that stabilize the system in its ground state. A zeroth order excited state of the system may likewise be written

$$|X_{\beta}(n)\rangle = |\Phi_{\beta}(n)\rangle \prod_{m \neq n} |\Phi_{0}(m)\rangle$$
(6)

in which the *n*th unit is prepared in the  $\beta$ th molecular state. Each excited eigenlevel of the aggregate is composed of  $N_0$ components

$$|\Psi_{\beta \mathbf{k}_{\nu}}\rangle = N_0^{-1} \sum_{n=0}^{N_0^{-1}} \exp[i\mathbf{k}_{\nu} \cdot \mathbf{R}_n] |X_{\beta}(n)\rangle$$
(7)

where the wave vector is given by

$$\mathbf{k}_{\nu} = 2\pi\nu/N_0\hat{a} \tag{8}$$

with

$$\nu = -(N_0 - 1)/2, -(N_0 - 1)/2 + 1, \dots, (N_0 - 1)/2$$
 (9)

and

$$\nu = -N_0/2 + 1, -N_0/2 + 2, \dots, N_0/2$$
 (10)

for systems with an odd and even number of molecules, respectively. On substitution of eq 7 in eq 2, we obtain the eigenvalues

$$E_{\beta \mathbf{k}_{\nu}} = \epsilon_{\beta} + (N_0 - 1)\epsilon_0 + \delta_{\beta} + M_{\beta}\cos\left(k_{\nu}a\right)$$
(11)

where the aggregation energy of the excited-state system

$$\delta_{\beta} = \sum_{m}' \langle \Phi_0(m) \Phi_{\beta}(n) | \mathbf{V}(n,m) | \Phi_{\beta}(n) \Phi_0(m) \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m,s \neq n}' \langle \Phi_0(m) \Phi_0(s) | \mathbf{V}(m,s) | \Phi_0(s) \Phi_0(m) \rangle$$
(12)

differs from  $\delta_0$  in eq 5 in that the intermolecular interactions are of two types—those occurring between  $(N_0 - 1)$  ground state molecules and those between these ground state molecules and the remaining excited molecule, and

$$M_{\beta} = \sum_{i=1,2,\dots} \langle \Phi_0(n) \Phi_{\beta}(n \pm i) \\ \times |\mathbf{V}(n,n \pm i)| \Phi_{\beta}(n) \Phi_0(n \pm i) \rangle \quad (13)$$

is the energy shift due to various neighbor exciton interactions. In the case of  $(Chl a \cdot H_2O)_2$ , eq 13 may be explicitly rewritten in the point-dipole approximation<sup>9</sup>

$$M_{\beta} = \frac{e\mu^2}{R_{12}^3} \left[ 1 - \left(\frac{3R_{\perp}^2}{R_{12}^2} - 1\right) \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \right]$$
(14)

where  $\mu$ ,  $R_{\perp}$ ,  $R_{12}$ , and  $\theta$  are the monomeric transition dipole moment, the perpendicular distance between the two chlorin planes, the distance between, and the angle subtended by the transition dipoles, respectively.

The energies  $\epsilon_0$  and  $\epsilon_\beta$  include all solvent interactions between the molecules and the surrounding medium. The difference between eq 11 and eq 4

$$\Delta E = \Delta \epsilon_{\beta 0} + \Delta \delta_{\beta 0} + M_{\beta} \cos(k_{\nu} a)$$
(15)

yields the energy gap between the ground state and the  $k_{\nu}$ th exciton component of the  $\beta$ th excited level. In eq 15  $\Delta \epsilon_{\beta 0} = \epsilon_{\beta}$  $-\epsilon_0$  corresponds to the transition energy gap of the monomeric unit. The  $\Delta \delta_{\beta 0} = \delta_{\beta} - \delta_0$  term signifies the difference between the aggregation energy of the excited state  $\beta$  and that of the ground state due to the change in permanent dipole moment in the excited molecule. For Chl a (and all polar molecules) the leading terms in eq 5 and eq 12 are of dipole-dipole origin.<sup>22</sup> For  $(\mu_{\beta} - \mu_0) > 0$ , we have  $\Delta \delta_{\beta 0} < 0$  and a corresponding red shift in the aggregate absorption is obtained.

In a systematic analysis of exciton effects,<sup>9</sup> we find that  $\Delta \delta_{\beta 0}$ is primarily responsible for the observed Chl a aggregation red shifts. The peak positions of monomeric hydrated Chl a, (Chl  $a \cdot 2H_2O_2$ , (Chl  $a \cdot H_2O_2$ , and (Chl  $a \cdot 2H_2O_n$ ) are respectively given 665 nm<sup>3,9b</sup> (A665), 695 nm<sup>9b</sup> (A695), 700 nm,<sup>3,9b</sup> and 743 nm<sup>3,4</sup> (A743) in 1:1 *n*-pentane:methylcyclohexane.<sup>23</sup> Assuming the red shift between A665 and A695,  $\Delta v_{A695} =$  $-649 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , to be a unit of nearest neighbor dipole-dipole shift difference in (Chl a·2H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>n</sub>, the frequency shift for A743 can be computed according to the formula

$$\Delta \nu_{A743} = \Delta \delta_{S_1 - S_0} (A743)$$
$$= \sum_{i,1,2,\dots} \frac{2\Delta \nu_{A695}}{i^3} = -1559 \text{ cm}^{-1} \quad (16)$$

which gives 742 nm for the expected red-shifted (with respect to A665) absorption maximum position for (Chl a·2H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>n</sub>, in excellent agreement with experiment. In eq 16 the summation over *i* converges rapidly in view of the cube dependence on the separation distance in dipole-dipole interaction. The factor of 2 in eq 16 reflects the translation symmetry in (Chl  $a \cdot 2H_2O_n$  as represented in Figure 6 of ref 15. The *m*th excited monomeric unit in (Chl  $a \cdot 2H_2O$ )<sub>n</sub> sees pairs of identical interactions with units at  $m \pm 1$ ,  $m \pm 2$ ,  $m \pm 3$ , . .

We attribute the relatively large red shift in hydrated Chl a aggregates compared to that in Chl a<sub>2</sub> to hydrogen bonding of the water proton to a Chl a carbonyl. The presence of the proton enhances the excited-state electronic redistribution in favor of the electronegative end of the C=O bond. The close proximity of the peak positions in (Chl a·H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub> and (pyroChl·H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub><sup>9,10</sup> suggests that the same effect may be operative when either of the two ring V carbonyl groups is involved. Current frequency shift studies in this laboratory are concerned with the effect of  $\pi$ -conjugation involving the chlorin macrocycle and with the consequences of geometrical differences in the proposed structures for  $(Chl a \cdot H_2O)_2$  and  $(pyroChl \cdot H_2O)$ , as well as the inclusion of the relatively minor frequency shift due to exciton interaction in eq 13.

Acknowledgment. This research was supported by the National Science Foundation.

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## Tricoordinate Hypervalent Sulfur Compounds

Sir:

Molecular multicenter bonding which occurs when a given atom has more bonds than atomic orbitals as defined by the octet rule is termed hypervalent, and many examples are found