Supplementary Information

Holstein-Peirls-Hubbard Trimer as a model for quadrupolar two-photon absorbing dyes

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TABLES

Table S-1. Expressions and energies of the complete (6 state) basis set. Symmetry of the eigenstates: ''g'' stands for gerade and ''u'' stands for ungerade.

Basis State	Energy	Eigenstate	Symmetry
$\left \mathbf{S}_{1}\right\rangle \!=\!\hat{a}_{2\uparrow}^{+}\hat{a}_{2\downarrow}^{+}\right 0\rangle$	U _d	1 angle	g
$\left \mathbf{S}_{2}\right\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\hat{a}_{1\uparrow}^{+} \hat{a}_{2\downarrow}^{+} + \hat{a}_{2\uparrow}^{+} \hat{a}_{1\downarrow}^{+} \right] 0$	з (0	$\mid 2 angle$	u
$ \mathbf{S}_{3}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\hat{a}_{3\uparrow}^{+} \hat{a}_{2\downarrow}^{+} + \hat{a}_{2\uparrow}^{+} \hat{a}_{3\downarrow}^{+} \right] 0$	3 $\langle 0$	3>	g
$ \mathbf{S}_{4}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\hat{a}_{1\uparrow}^{+} \hat{a}_{3\downarrow}^{+} + \hat{a}_{3\uparrow}^{+} \hat{a}_{1\downarrow}^{+} \right] 0$	\rangle 2 ε	$ 4\rangle$	g
$\left \mathbf{S}_{5}\right\rangle\!=\!\hat{a}_{3\uparrow}^{+}\hat{a}_{3\downarrow}^{+}\right 0\rangle$	$2\varepsilon + U$	$J_a \qquad 5\rangle$	u
$\left \mathbf{S}_{6}\right\rangle \!=\!\hat{a}_{1\uparrow}^{+}\hat{a}_{1\downarrow}^{+}\right 0\rangle$	$2\varepsilon + U$	$J_a \qquad 6\rangle$	g

Table S-2. Exact eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the reduced Hamiltonian Eq. (5).

Eigenvector ^a	Eigenvalue ^b	Transition Energy ^b
$\left 1\right\rangle = \sum_{i} a_{i} \left S_{i}\right\rangle$	$E_1 = \frac{\left(U_d + \varepsilon\right) - \sqrt{\Delta^2 + 16t^2}}{2}$	$E_{21} = \frac{\Delta + \sqrt{\Delta^2 + 16t^2}}{2}$
$\left 2\right\rangle = \sum_{i} b_{i} \left \mathbf{S}_{i}\right\rangle$	$E_2 = \epsilon$	$E_{32} = \frac{-\Delta + \sqrt{\Delta^2 + 16t^2}}{2}$
$\left 3\right\rangle = \sum_{i} c_{i} \left S_{i}\right\rangle$	$E_3 = \frac{\left(U_d + \varepsilon\right) + \sqrt{\Delta^2 + 16t^2}}{2}$	$E_{31} = \sqrt{\Delta^2 + 16t^2}$

^aEigenvectors coefficients:

$$a_{1} = \frac{E_{21}}{\sqrt{E_{21}^{2} + 4t^{2}}} \qquad b_{1} = 0 \qquad c_{1} = \frac{-E_{32}}{\sqrt{E_{32}^{2} + 4t^{2}}}$$
$$a_{2} = a_{3} = \frac{\sqrt{2}t}{\sqrt{E_{21}^{2} + 4t^{2}}} \qquad b_{2} = -b_{3} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \qquad c_{2} = c_{3} = \frac{\sqrt{2}t}{\sqrt{E_{32}^{2} + 4t^{2}}}$$
$$b_{4} = \epsilon - U_{d}$$

Table S-3. Analytical expression of $\alpha(-\omega_1;+\omega_1)$ for the dimer and the trimer without electron-phonon coupling. Data concerning the dimer are from Ref. 32.

	DIMER	TRIMER
Level Diagram))
Expression for α		
	$\alpha(-\omega_{1};\omega_{1}) = \frac{-2}{\varepsilon_{0}} \frac{R_{12}^{2} E_{21}^{2}}{(\hbar\omega_{1} + i\Gamma)^{2} - E_{21}^{2}}$	
Transition Dipoles		
	$R_{12}^2 = (edc_1)^2$	$R_{12}^2 = (eda_2b_2)^2$
Transition energies		
	$E_{21} = \frac{U + \sqrt{U^2 + 16t^2}}{2}$	$E_{21} = \frac{\Delta + \sqrt{\Delta^2 + 16t^2}}{2}$
	$E_{32} = \frac{-U + \sqrt{U^2 + 16t^2}}{2}$	$E_{32} = \frac{-\Delta + \sqrt{\Delta^2 + 16t^2}}{2}$
Coefficient Expressions	$c_1 = \frac{E_{32}}{\sqrt{E_{32}^2 + 4t^2}}$	$a_2 b_2 = \frac{t}{\sqrt{E_{21}^2 + 4t^2}}$

FIGURES



Fig. S-1. Enlargment of $Im[\gamma(-3\omega_1;\omega_1,\omega_1,\omega_1)]$ in the vibrational region.

APPENDIXES

APPENDIX 1

Definition of the BOV modes

We recognise four BOV modes in the system under investigation (3N-5, N=3), but we are only interested in the symmetric and antisymmetric stretching modes which modulate the distance between A and D. The modes are respectively written as follows:

$$Q_{S}^{BOV} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (q_{3} - q_{1}) \qquad \qquad Q_{AS}^{BOV} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2m}} (\sqrt{m_{1}}q_{3} - 2\sqrt{m_{2}}q_{2} + \sqrt{m_{1}}q_{1}) \qquad (A1-1)$$

where m_i is the mass of the i-site, $m = 2m_1 + m_2$ and q_i are the spectroscopic mass-weighted coordinates. The subscripts "S" and "AS" to Q^e specify if the coordinate is symmetric or antisymetric with respect to the exchange of the sites 1 and 3. The BOV modes can also be treated as in-phase and out-of-phase combinations of a "left" and a "right" coordinate:

$$Q_{S}^{BOV} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(Q_{L}^{BOV} + Q_{R}^{BOV} \right) \qquad \qquad Q_{AS}^{BOV} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{\frac{m_{1}}{m}} \left(Q_{L}^{BOV} - Q_{R}^{BOV} \right) \qquad (A1-2)$$

where $Q_L^{BOV} = \sqrt{\frac{m_2}{m_1}} q_2 - q_1$ and $Q_R^{BOV} = q_3 - \sqrt{\frac{m_2}{m_1}} q_2$: the former affects only the distance between

the sites 1 and 2 and the latter between the sites 2 and 3. In terms of dimensionless modes we finally have

$$u_{+} \equiv u_{S} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (u_{L} + u_{R}) \qquad u_{-} \equiv u_{AS} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} R_{m} (u_{L} - u_{R})$$
 (A1-3)

$$u_{L,R} = \sqrt{\frac{2\omega_{+}}{\hbar}} Q_{L,R}^{BOV} \qquad \qquad R_{m} = \sqrt{\frac{\omega_{-}}{\omega_{+}}} \sqrt{\frac{m_{1}}{m}} \qquad (A1-4)$$

Derivation of the vibronic coupling Hamiltonian $H_{\rm EMV}$

The vibronic coupling Hamiltonian can be derived by considering the site-energies as linearly dependent on the SEV modes: to perform this expansion, Eq. (5) needs recasting in a more useful way, so that all site-energies are shown explicitly:

$$\begin{split} \hat{H}_{H} &= \epsilon_{LUMO}^{Acceptor\,1} \hat{n}_{1} + \epsilon_{LUMO}^{Acceptor\,3} \hat{n}_{3} + \epsilon_{HOMO}^{Donor} \hat{n}_{2} \\ &+ U_{d} \hat{n}_{2\uparrow} \hat{n}_{2\downarrow} + U_{a} \left(\hat{n}_{1\uparrow} \hat{n}_{1\downarrow} + \hat{n}_{3\uparrow} \hat{n}_{3\downarrow} \right) \\ &- t_{AD} \hat{T}_{AD} - t_{DA} \hat{T}_{DA} \end{split}$$
(A1-5)

The first row is equivalent to the term $\varepsilon(\hat{n}_1 + \hat{n}_3)$ since $\varepsilon_{LUMO}^{Acceptor 1} = \varepsilon_{LUMO}^{Acceptor 3}$ and $\varepsilon_{HOMO}^{Donor}$ can be set to zero (as considered in the main text) without loss of generality. All site-energies are therefore developed in power series as a function of the corresponding SEV modes up to the first order:

$$\varepsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 1}} = \left(\varepsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 1}}\right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\frac{\partial \varepsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 1}}}{\partial Q_{i1}}\right)_{0} Q_{i1}$$
(A1-6)

$$\varepsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 3}} = \left(\varepsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 3}}\right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\frac{\partial \varepsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 3}}}{\partial Q_{i3}}\right)_{0} Q_{i3}$$
(A1-7)

$$\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} = \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}}\right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\frac{\partial \varepsilon_{\text{D}}}{Q_{i2}}\right) Q_{i2}$$
(A1-8)

Considering only the first row in (A1-5) and inserting the previous expressions, the following equation is obtained:

$$\varepsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 1}} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{1} + \varepsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 3}} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{2} = \left(\left(\varepsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 1}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\frac{\partial \varepsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 3}}}{\partial Q_{i1}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\varepsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 3}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\frac{\partial \varepsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 3}}}{\partial Q_{i3}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\frac{\partial \varepsilon_{\text{Donor}}}{\partial Q_{i3}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\frac{\partial \varepsilon_{\text{Donor}}}{\partial Q_{i3}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\frac{\partial \varepsilon_{\text{Donor}}}{\partial Q_{i3}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\frac{\partial \varepsilon_{\text{Donor}}}{\partial Q_{i3}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\frac{\partial \varepsilon_{\text{Donor}}}{\partial Q_{i3}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} + \sum_{i} \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \right)^{0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} + \left(\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Do$$

On the right hand side we then set $(\epsilon_{HOMO}^{Donor})^0 = 0$ and define $(\epsilon_{LUMO}^{Acceptorl})^0 - (\epsilon_{HOMO}^{Donor})^0 = \epsilon$, so that we obtain:

$$\epsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 1}} \hat{n}_{1} + \epsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 3}} \hat{n}_{3} + \epsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \hat{n}_{2} = \\ \epsilon (\hat{n}_{1} + \hat{n}_{3}) + \hat{n}_{1} \sum_{i} \left(\frac{\partial \epsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 1}}}{\partial Q_{i1}} \right)_{0} Q_{i1} + \hat{n}_{3} \sum_{i} \left(\frac{\partial \epsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 3}}}{\partial Q_{i3}} \right)_{0} Q_{i3} + \hat{n}_{2} \sum_{i} \left(\frac{\partial \epsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}}}{Q_{iD}} \right) Q_{i2}$$
(A1-10)

Making use of the definitions in Eq. (10) and (13), the following equation can be written down:

$$\epsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 1}} \hat{n}_{1} + \epsilon_{\text{LUMO}}^{\text{Acceptor 3}} \hat{n}_{3} + \epsilon_{\text{HOMO}}^{\text{Donor}} \hat{n}_{2} = \epsilon (\hat{n}_{1} + \hat{n}_{3}) + \sum_{i} \left\{ \frac{g_{iA}}{\sqrt{2}} \left[R_{i+} \hat{N}^{+} + R_{i-} \hat{N}^{-} \right] + g_{iD} Q_{i2} \hat{n}_{2} \right\}$$
(A1-11)

where
$$\sum_{i} \left\{ \frac{g_{iA}}{\sqrt{2}} \left[R_{i+} \hat{N}^{+} + R_{i-} \hat{N}^{-} \right] + g_{iD} Q_{i2} \hat{n}_{2} \right\}$$
 is the definition of \hat{H}_{EMV} in Eq. (6).

Derivation of the vibrational coupling Hamiltonian H_{EIP}

In this case we develop the charge transfer integrals (in the last two terms in Eq. (5) or in the last row in Eq. (A1-5)) in power series as a function of the BOV modes:

$$t'_{AD} = t_{AD} + \left(\frac{\partial t_{AD}}{\partial u_L}\right)_0 u_L \text{ and } t'_{DA} = t_{DA} + \left(\frac{\partial t_{DA}}{\partial u_R}\right)_0 u_R$$
 (A1-12)

Notice that in the electronic Hamiltonian \hat{H}_{H} the charge transfer integrals indicated with t are considered to be "unperturbed": once the vibronic coupling is introduced, the unperturbed ones are still named t and the coupled ones are named t'.

The term $t_{AD}\hat{T}_{AD} + t_{DA}\hat{T}_{DA}$ in Eq. (5) can be rewritten including the expansion (A1-12) and making use of the definitions (A1-3), (11) and (13):

$$t'_{AD}\hat{T}_{AD} + t'_{DA}\hat{T}_{DA} = t_{AD}\hat{T}_{AD} + t_{DA}\hat{T}_{DA} - \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \left[u_{+}\hat{T}^{+} + R_{m}u_{-}\hat{T}^{-} \right]$$
(A1-13)

where $\frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \left[u_{+} \hat{T}^{+} + R_{m} u_{-} \hat{T}^{-} \right]$ is the definition of \hat{H}_{EP} in Eq. (7).

Derivation of the vibronic Hamiltonian $\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{V}}$

Starting from the vibrational Hamiltonian:

$$\hat{H}_{V} = \sum_{i} \left\{ \frac{\hbar \omega_{iA}}{4} \left[\left(Q_{i1}^{2} + P_{i1}^{2} \right) + \left(Q_{i3}^{2} + P_{i3}^{2} \right) \right] + \frac{\hbar \omega_{iD}}{4} \left[P_{i2}^{2} + Q_{i2}^{2} \right] \right\}$$
(A1-14)

It can be easily rewritten in the form of Eq. (8), by using the Eq. (10)-(12).

The expressions for the vibrational operators can be worked out by solving the Heisenberg equation of the motion:

$$i\hbar \frac{d\hat{A}^{H}(t)}{dt} = \left[\hat{A}^{H}(t), \hat{H}^{H}(t)\right]$$
 (A2-1)

The superscript H specifies that the operator is in the Heisenberg picture; $\hat{A}^{H}(t)$ represents any of the vibrational operators or the corresponding momenta. $\hat{H}^{H}(t)$ is the Heisenberg representation of the total Hamiltonian defined in Eq. (1). As an example, the equation of motion for $\hat{R}^{H}_{i+}(t)$ is worked out in the following: Eq. (A2-1) is solved for $\hat{A}^{H}_{i+}(t) = \hat{S}^{H}_{i+}(t)$ providing:

$$i\hbar \frac{d\hat{S}_{i+}^{H}(t)}{dt} = \left[\hat{S}_{i+}^{H}(t), \hat{H}^{H}(t)\right] = \left[\hat{S}_{i+}^{H}(t), \hat{H}_{EMV}^{H}(t)\right] + \left[\hat{S}_{i+}^{H}(t), \hat{H}_{V}^{H}(t)\right]$$
(A2-2)

By substituting the expressions for $\hat{H}^{H}_{EMV}(t)$ and $\hat{H}^{H}_{V}(t)$ we have:

$$\hbar \frac{d\hat{S}_{i+}^{H}(t)}{dt} = -\sqrt{2}g_{iA}[\hat{N}^{+H}(t)] - \hbar \omega_{iA}\hat{R}_{i+}^{H}(t)$$
(A2-3)

The relation $\left[\left(\hat{R}_{i+}^{H}(t)\right)^{2}, \hat{S}_{i+}^{H}(t)\right] = 4i\hat{R}_{i+}^{H}(t)$ has been used. Finally, considering the expression $\frac{1}{\omega_{iA}}\frac{d\hat{R}_{i+}^{H}(t)}{dt} = \hat{R}_{i+}^{H}(t)$, we achieve in the time domain:

$$\hat{\ddot{R}}_{i+}^{H}(t) + \omega_{iA}^{2}\hat{\dot{R}}_{i+}^{H}(t) = \frac{-\sqrt{2}g_{iA}\omega_{iA}}{\hbar}\hat{N}^{+H}(t)$$
(A2-4)

In the frequency domain (i.e. performing a Fourier transform on the previous equation) we have:

$$\hat{\mathbf{R}}_{i+}^{\mathrm{H}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \mathbf{D}_{\mathrm{A}}^{i}(\boldsymbol{\omega})\hat{\mathbf{N}}^{\mathrm{+H}}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$$
(A2-5)

Where $D_{A}^{i}(\omega) = \frac{-\sqrt{2}g_{iA}\omega_{iA}}{\hbar \left[\omega_{iA}^{2} - (\omega + i\gamma_{A})^{2}\right]}$.

The calculation outlined above, can be repeated for all vibrational operators: in the following the expressions for all of them are summarized:

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$$\hat{\mathbf{R}}_{i+}^{\mathrm{H}}(\omega) = \mathbf{D}_{\mathrm{A}}^{\mathrm{i}}(\omega)\hat{\mathbf{N}}^{\mathrm{+H}}(\omega) \qquad \hat{\mathbf{Q}}_{i2}^{\mathrm{H}}(\omega) = \mathbf{D}_{\mathrm{D}}^{\mathrm{i}}(\omega)\hat{\mathbf{n}}_{2}^{\mathrm{H}}(\omega)$$
(A2-6)

$$\hat{\mathbf{R}}_{i+}^{\mathrm{H}}(\omega) = \mathbf{D}_{\mathrm{A}}^{i}(\omega)\hat{\mathbf{N}}^{\mathrm{+H}}(\omega) \qquad \hat{\mathbf{R}}_{i-}^{\mathrm{H}}(\omega) = \mathbf{D}_{\mathrm{A}}^{i}(\omega)\hat{\mathbf{N}}^{\mathrm{-H}}(\omega)$$
(A2-7)

$$\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{-}^{\mathrm{H}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \mathbf{F}_{-}(\boldsymbol{\omega})\hat{\mathbf{T}}^{-\mathrm{H}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) + \mathbf{G}_{-}(\boldsymbol{\omega})\Im\left\{\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{t})\hat{\mathbf{N}}^{+\mathrm{H}}(\mathbf{t})\right\}$$
(A2-8)

$$\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{+}^{\mathrm{H}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \mathbf{F}_{+}(\boldsymbol{\omega})\hat{\mathbf{T}}^{+\mathrm{H}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) + \mathbf{G}_{+}(\boldsymbol{\omega})\Im\{\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{t})\hat{\mathbf{N}}^{-\mathrm{H}}(\mathbf{t})\}$$
(A2-9)

where

$$D_{D}^{i}(\omega) = \frac{-2g_{iD}\omega_{iD}}{\hbar \left[\omega_{iD}^{2} - (\omega + i\gamma_{D})^{2}\right]} \qquad D_{A}^{i}(\omega) = \frac{-\sqrt{2}g_{iA}\omega_{iA}}{\hbar \left[\omega_{iA}^{2} - (\omega + i\gamma_{A})^{2}\right]} \qquad (A2-10)$$

$$F_{-}(\omega) = \frac{R_{m}\sqrt{2}g\omega_{-}}{\hbar[\omega_{-}^{2} - (\omega + i\gamma)^{2}]} \qquad F_{+}(\omega) = \frac{\sqrt{2}g\omega_{+}}{\hbar[\omega_{+}^{2} - (\omega + i\gamma)^{2}]} \qquad (A2-11)$$

$$G_{-}(\omega) = \frac{-e\sqrt{2}h_{Z}\omega_{-}R_{m}}{\hbar[\omega_{-}^{2} - (\omega + i\gamma)^{2}]} \qquad \qquad G_{+}(\omega) = \frac{e\sqrt{2}h_{Z}\omega_{+}}{\hbar[\omega_{+}^{2} - (\omega + i\gamma)^{2}]} \qquad (A2-12)$$

$$D_{D}(\omega) = \sum_{i} g_{iD} D_{D}^{i}(\omega) \qquad \qquad D_{A}(\omega) = \sum_{i} \frac{g_{iA}}{\sqrt{2}} D_{A}^{i}(\omega) \qquad (A2-13)$$

 $\Im{f(t)}$ is the Fourier transform of f(t); γ are the damping parameters for the vibrational transitions. The Fourier transform and its inverse have been respectively performed with the relations

$$z(\omega) = \Im\{z(t)\} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} z(t) e^{i\omega t} dt \qquad (A2-14a)$$

and

$$z(t) = \mathfrak{I}^{-1}\{z(\omega)\} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} z(\omega) e^{-i\omega t} d\omega$$
 (A2-14b)

The quantities $F(\omega)$, $G(\omega)$ and $D(\omega)$ are usually called propagators: the first and the second are respectively originated by the dependence of t and d on the BOV coordinates, whereas $D(\omega)$ derives from the dependence of the site energies on the SEV modes. The subscripts of $D(\omega)$, A and D, specify if it has been expanded the Donor or the Acceptor site energy; the subscripts of $F(\omega)$ and $G(\omega)$, + and –, indicate that we are dealing with the coupling with u_+ and u_- .

Random phase approximation

The RPA requires that vibrational operators are replaced by their expectation values. The expression for the expectation values in the time and in the frequency domain are:

$$\langle \hat{\mathbf{Q}}_{i2}(\omega) \rangle = \mathbf{D}_{\mathrm{D}}^{i}(\omega) \langle \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{2}(\omega) \rangle$$
 (A2-15)

$$\langle \hat{\mathbf{R}}_{i+}(\omega) \rangle = \mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{A}}^{i}(\omega) \langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{+}(\omega) \rangle \quad \langle \hat{\mathbf{R}}_{i-}(\omega) \rangle = \mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{A}}^{i}(\omega) \langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{-}(\omega) \rangle$$
(A2-16)

$$\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{-}(\omega) \rangle = \mathbf{F}_{-}(\omega) \langle \hat{\mathbf{T}}^{-}(\omega) \rangle + \mathbf{G}_{-}(\omega) \Im \left\{ \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{t}) \langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{+}(\mathbf{t}) \rangle \right\}$$
 (A2-17)

$$\left\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{+}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \right\rangle = \mathbf{F}_{+}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{T}}^{+}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \right\rangle + \mathbf{G}_{+}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \Im \left\langle \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{t}) \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{-}(\mathbf{t}) \right\rangle \right\}$$
(A2-18)

$$\left\langle \hat{\mathbf{Q}}_{i2}(t) \right\rangle = \mathfrak{I}^{-1} \left\{ D_{\mathrm{D}}^{i}(\omega) \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{2}(\omega) \right\rangle \right\}$$
 (A2-19)

$$\left\langle \hat{\mathbf{R}}_{i+}(t) \right\rangle = \mathfrak{I}^{-1} \left\{ \mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{A}}^{i}(\omega) \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{+}(\omega) \right\rangle \right\} \qquad \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{R}}_{i-}(t) \right\rangle = \mathfrak{I}^{-1} \left\{ \mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{A}}^{i}(\omega) \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{-}(\omega) \right\rangle \right\} \qquad (A2-20)$$

$$\left\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{-}(t) \right\rangle = \mathfrak{I}^{-1} \left\{ F_{-}(\omega) \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{T}}^{+}(\omega) \right\rangle \right\} + \mathfrak{I}^{-1} \left\{ G_{-}(\omega) \mathfrak{I} \left\{ E(t) \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{-}(t) \right\rangle \right\} \right\}$$
(A2-21)

$$\left\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{+}(t) \right\rangle = \mathfrak{I}^{-1} \left\langle F_{+}(\omega) \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{T}}^{+}(\omega) \right\rangle \right\} + \mathfrak{I}^{-1} \left\langle G_{+}(\omega) \mathfrak{I} \left\langle E(t) \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{-}(t) \right\rangle \right\rangle \right\rangle \quad (A2-22)$$

We are interested in comparing $\hat{h}_{T}^{(0)}$ and \hat{h}_{H} ; considering the six level system the expressions are the following

$$\hat{\mathbf{h}}_{\mathrm{H}} = \varepsilon \left(\hat{\mathbf{n}}_{1} + \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3} \right) + U_{\mathrm{d}} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{2\uparrow} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{2\downarrow} + U_{\mathrm{a}} \left(\hat{\mathbf{n}}_{1\uparrow} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{1\downarrow} + \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3\uparrow} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3\downarrow} \right) - t \hat{\mathbf{T}}^{+}$$
(A3-1)

$$\hat{h}_{T}^{(0)} = \hat{h}_{H} + \hat{h}_{EMV}^{(0)} + \hat{h}_{EIP}^{(0)} = \\ \left[\epsilon + \sum_{i} \frac{g_{iA}}{\sqrt{2}} \left\langle \hat{R}_{i+} \right\rangle^{(0)} \right] \hat{N}^{+} + \sum_{i} g_{iD} \left\langle \hat{Q}_{i2} \right\rangle^{(0)} \hat{n}_{2} + \left[-t - \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \left\langle \hat{u}_{+} \right\rangle^{(0)} \right] \hat{T}^{+} + \\ U_{d} \hat{n}_{2\uparrow} \hat{n}_{2\downarrow} + U_{a} \left(\hat{n}_{1\uparrow} \hat{n}_{1\downarrow} + \hat{n}_{3\uparrow} \hat{n}_{3\downarrow} \right)$$
(A3-2)

It is now clear that $\hat{h}_{T}^{(0)}$ is different from \hat{h}_{H} and then their eigenvectors are not the same. However, exploiting the relation $\hat{N}^{+} + \hat{n}_{2} = \hat{n}_{1} + \hat{n}_{2} + \hat{n}_{3} = 2$ the equation (A3-2) can be recast in the form

$$\hat{\mathbf{h}}_{\mathrm{T}}^{(0)} = \hat{\mathbf{h}}_{\mathrm{H}} + \hat{\mathbf{h}}_{\mathrm{EMV}}^{(0)} + \hat{\mathbf{h}}_{\mathrm{EIP}}^{(0)} = \varepsilon' \,\hat{\mathbf{N}}^{+} - t' \,\hat{\mathbf{T}}^{+} + \mathbf{U}_{\mathrm{d}} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{2\uparrow} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{2\downarrow} + \mathbf{U}_{\mathrm{a}} \left(\hat{\mathbf{n}}_{1\uparrow} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{1\downarrow} + \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3\uparrow} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{3\downarrow} \right)$$
(A3-3)

where

$$\varepsilon' = \varepsilon + \sum_{i} \frac{4g_{iD}^{2}}{\hbar\omega_{iD}} - \left(\frac{g_{iA}^{2}}{\hbar\omega_{iA}} + \frac{2g_{iD}^{2}}{\hbar\omega_{iD}}\right) \left\langle \hat{N}^{+} \right\rangle \qquad t' = t + \frac{g^{2}}{\hbar\omega_{+}} \left\langle \hat{T}^{+} \right\rangle^{(0)}$$
(A3-4)

Thus, the eigenvectors (and the eigenvalues) of $\hat{h}_{T}^{(0)}$ can be formally derived from that ones of \hat{h}_{H} by swapping the parameters ϵ and t with ϵ' and t'.

First of all, it is worth working out some relations in the time and frequency domain for a general function z(t) which depends on the electrical field E(t). The power series expansion of z(t) results

$$z(t) = z^{(1)}(t) + z^{(2)}(t) + z^{(3)}(t)...$$
 (A4-1)

where $z^{(n)}(t)$ depends on $\mathbf{E}^{(n)}(t)$.

Choosing a monochromatic electrical field as

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{t}) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\mathbf{E}_{\omega_1} e^{-i\omega_1 t} + \mathbf{E}_{-\omega_1} e^{i\omega_1 t} \right]$$
(A4-2)

where $\mathbf{E}_{\omega_1} = \mathbf{E}_{-\omega_1}^* = \mathbf{E}_1$, the following expressions are achieved at the first three orders

TIME DOMAIN

$$z^{(1)}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left[\tilde{z}^{(1)}(-\omega_1; +\omega_1) e^{-i\omega_1 t} + \tilde{z}^{(1)}(\omega_1; -\omega_1) e^{i\omega_1 t} \right]$$
(A4-3)

$$z^{(2)}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left[\tilde{z}^{(2)}(-2\omega_{1};\omega_{1},\omega_{1}) e^{-i2\omega_{1}t} + \tilde{z}^{(2)}(0;\omega_{1},-\omega_{1}) + \tilde{z}^{(2)}(+2\omega_{1};-\omega_{1},-\omega_{1}) e^{i2\omega_{1}t} \right] (A4-4)$$

$$z^{(3)}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \Big[\widetilde{z}^{(3)}(-3\omega_{1};\omega_{1},\omega_{1},\omega_{1}) e^{-3i\omega_{1}t} + \widetilde{z}^{(3)}(-\omega_{1};\omega_{1},\omega_{1},-\omega_{1}) e^{-i\omega_{1}t} + \widetilde{z}^{(3)}(\omega_{1};-\omega_{1},-\omega_{1},\omega_{1}) e^{i\omega_{1}t} + \widetilde{z}^{(3)}(+3\omega_{1};-\omega_{1},-\omega_{1},-\omega_{1}) e^{3i\omega_{1}t} \Big]$$
(A4-5)

FREQUENCY DOMAIN

$$z^{(1)}(\omega) = \tilde{z}^{(1)}(-\omega_1;\omega_1)\delta(\omega-\omega_1) + \tilde{z}^{(1)}(\omega_1;-\omega_1)\delta(\omega+\omega_1)$$
(A4-6)

$$z^{(2)}(\omega) = \tilde{z}^{(2)}(-2\omega_{1};\omega_{1},\omega_{1})\delta(\omega-2\omega_{1}) + \tilde{z}^{(2)}(0;\omega_{1},-\omega_{1})\delta(\omega) + \tilde{z}^{(2)}(+2\omega_{1};-\omega_{1},-\omega_{1})\delta(\omega+2\omega_{1})$$
(A4-7)

$$z^{(3)}(\omega) = \tilde{z}^{(3)}(-3\omega_{1};\omega_{1},\omega_{1},\omega_{1},\omega_{1})\delta(\omega-3\omega_{1}) + \tilde{z}^{(3)}(-\omega_{1};\omega_{1},\omega_{1},-\omega_{1})\delta(\omega-\omega_{1}) + \tilde{z}^{(3)}(\omega_{1};-\omega_{1},-\omega_{1},\omega_{1})\delta(\omega+\omega_{1}) + \tilde{z}^{(3)}(+3\omega_{1};-\omega_{1},-\omega_{1},-\omega_{1})\delta(\omega+3\omega_{1})$$
(A4-8)

The Fourier transform and its inverse have been defined in Eq. (A2-14).

The solution of the equation of motion for the density operator, Eq. (19)

Let's first recast $\hat{h}_{T}(t)$ in Eq. 19 as the sum of two components:

$$\hat{h}_{T}(t) = \hat{h}(t) + \hat{f}(t)$$
 (A4-9)

where $\hat{h}(t)$ collects all the terms that do not show any explicit dependence on the electrical field and $\hat{f}(t)$ collects the others.

Eq. (19) is solved in a perturbative way by expanding the density matrix in a power series of E:

$$\hat{\rho}(t) = \hat{\rho}^{(0)} + \hat{\rho}^{(1)}(t) + \hat{\rho}^{(2)}(t) + \dots$$
(A4-10)

The Hamiltonian $\hat{h}_{T}(t)$ contains $\hat{\rho}(t)$ in the expectation values of the vibrational operators which are consequently expanded in power series:

$$\left\langle \hat{\mathbf{O}} \right\rangle = \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{O}} \right\rangle^{(0)} + \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{O}} \right\rangle^{(1)} + \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{O}} \right\rangle^{(2)} + \dots$$
 (A4-11)

where $\langle \hat{O} \rangle^{(n)} = Tr [\hat{O} \hat{\rho}^{(n)}]$ and \hat{O} is any of the vibrational operators.

Working in the Liouville space instead of the Hilbert one, and substituting the expansions in the electrical field of Eq. (A4-9) into the equation of motion, Eq. (19), the following expressions for the first three orders are obtained:

$$i\hbar\hat{\rho}^{(1)}(t) = L\hat{\rho}^{(1)}(t) + \left[\hat{f}^{(1)}(t), \hat{\rho}^{(0)}\right]$$
(A4-12)

$$i\hbar\hat{\rho}^{(2)}(t) = L\hat{\rho}^{(2)}(t) + \left[\hat{h}^{(1)}(t) + \hat{f}^{(1)}(t), \hat{\rho}^{(1)}(t)\right] + \left[\hat{f}^{(2)}(t), \hat{\rho}^{(0)}\right]$$
(A4-13)

$$i\hbar\hat{\rho}^{(3)}(t) = L\hat{\rho}^{(3)}(t) + \left[\hat{h}^{(1)}(t) + \hat{f}^{(1)}(t), \hat{\rho}^{(2)}\right] \\ + \left[\hat{h}^{(2)}(t) + \hat{f}^{(2)}(t), \hat{\rho}^{(1)}\right] + \left[\hat{f}^{(3)}(t), \hat{\rho}^{(0)}\right]$$
(A4-14)

Solution of Eq. (A4-12) provides $\hat{\rho}^{(1)}$ and consequently any first order term: inserting it into Eq. (A4-13), second order quantities can be worked out and so on Further detail is given in Ref. 32: here we just remind that to solve previous Equations we need to perform a Fourier transform and therefore we get as a solution the density operator in the frequency domain. ³² We remind that the superscript in round brackets at the top of operators and expectation values correspond to the order in electrical field.

L is the Liouville operator and it is defined, in the frequency domain, as

$$\sum_{nm} \mathsf{L}_{ij,nm}(\omega) \rho_{nm}^{(n)}(\omega) = \left[\hat{h}^{(n)}(\omega), \hat{\rho}^{(0)} \right]_{ij} + \left[\hat{h}^{(0)}, \hat{\rho}^{(n)}(\omega) \right]_{ij}$$
(A4-15)

The expression of h_T at the first three orders.

Here we show the Fourier components for $\hat{h}(t)$ and $\hat{f}(t)$ up to the third order. The ones belonging to $\hat{h}_{T}(t)$ can be calculated from Eq. (A4-9). \hat{h}_{T} in the frequency and time domain can be reconstructed from Eq. (A4-3)-(A4-5) and Eq. (A4-6)-(A4-8) respectively.

$$\hat{\tilde{\mathbf{h}}}^{(1)}(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}) = \mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{A}}(\mp \omega_{1}) \langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{-}(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}) \rangle^{(1)} \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{-} - \frac{g\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{m}}}{\sqrt{2}} \mathbf{F}_{-}(\mp \omega_{1}) \langle \hat{\mathbf{T}}^{-}(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}) \rangle^{(1)} \hat{\mathbf{T}}^{-}$$
(A4-16)

$$\hat{\tilde{h}}^{(2)}(\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp\omega_{1}, \mp\omega_{1}) = D_{A}(\mp 2\omega_{1}) \langle \hat{N}^{+}(\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp\omega_{1}, \mp\omega_{1}) \rangle^{(2)} \hat{N}^{+} + D_{D}(\mp 2\omega_{1}) \langle \hat{n}_{2}(\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp\omega_{1}, \mp\omega_{1}) \rangle^{(2)} \hat{n}_{2} - \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} F_{+}(\mp 2\omega_{1}) \langle \hat{T}^{+}(\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp\omega_{1}, \mp\omega_{1}) \rangle^{(2)} \hat{T}^{+}$$
(A4-17)

$$\hat{\tilde{h}}^{(2)}(0; \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1}) = D_{A}(0) \langle \hat{N}^{+}(0; \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1}) \rangle^{(2)} \hat{N}^{+} + D_{D}(0) \langle \hat{n}_{2}(0; \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1}) \rangle^{(2)} \hat{n}_{2} \\ - \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} F_{+}(0) \langle \hat{T}^{+}(0; \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1}) \rangle^{(2)} \hat{T}^{+}$$
(A4-18)

$$\hat{\tilde{\mathbf{h}}}^{(3)}(\pm 3\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}) = \mathbf{D}_{A}(\mp 3\omega_{1}) \langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{-}(\pm 3\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}) \rangle^{(3)} \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{-} \\ - \frac{gR_{m}}{\sqrt{2}} F_{-}(\mp 3\omega_{1}) \langle \hat{\mathbf{T}}^{-}(\pm 3\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}) \rangle^{(3)} \hat{\mathbf{T}}^{-}$$
(A4-19)

$$\hat{\tilde{h}}^{(3)}(\pm \omega_1; \mp \omega_1, \mp \omega_1, \pm \omega_1) = D_A(\mp \omega_1) \langle \hat{N}^-(\pm \omega_1; \mp \omega_1, \mp \omega_1, \pm \omega_1) \rangle^{(3)} \hat{N}^- - \frac{gR_m}{\sqrt{2}} F_-(\mp \omega_1) \langle \hat{T}^-(\pm \omega_1; \mp \omega_1, \mp \omega_1, \pm \omega_1) \rangle^{(3)} \hat{T}^-$$

(A4-20)

$$\hat{\tilde{f}}^{(1)}(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}) = -\frac{\sqrt{\pi}gR_{m}}{2}G_{-}(\mp \omega_{1})\langle \hat{N}^{+} \rangle^{(0)}E_{\mp \omega_{1}}\hat{T}^{-} -e\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}}\left[\frac{d_{0}}{2} + \frac{h_{z}}{2}F_{+}(0)\langle \hat{T}^{+} \rangle^{(0)}\right]E_{\mp \omega_{1}}\hat{N}^{-}$$
(A4-21)

$$\hat{\tilde{f}}^{(2)}(\pm 2\omega_{1};\pm\omega_{1},\pm\omega_{1}) = -\frac{g}{2\sqrt{2}}G_{+}(\mp 2\omega_{1})E_{\mp\omega_{1}}\langle\hat{N}^{-}(\pm\omega_{1};\mp\omega_{1})\rangle^{(1)}\hat{T}^{+} + \frac{eh_{z}R_{m}}{2\sqrt{2}}E_{\mp\omega_{1}}\langle\hat{u}_{-}(\pm\omega_{1};\mp\omega_{1})\rangle^{(1)}\hat{N}^{+}$$
(A4-22)

$$\begin{split} \hat{\tilde{f}}^{(2)}(0; \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1}) &= -\frac{g}{2\sqrt{2}} G_{+}(0) E_{\mp \omega_{1}} \bigg[E_{\mp \omega_{1}} \left\langle \hat{N}^{-} (\mp \omega_{1}; \pm \omega_{1}) \right\rangle^{(1)} + E_{\pm \omega_{1}} \left\langle \hat{N}^{-} (\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}) \right\rangle^{(1)} \bigg] \hat{T}^{+} \\ &+ \frac{e h_{z} R_{m}}{2\sqrt{2}} \bigg[E_{\mp \omega_{1}} \left\langle \hat{u}_{-} (\mp \omega_{1}; \pm \omega_{1}) \right\rangle^{(1)} + E_{\pm \omega_{1}} \left\langle \hat{u}_{-} (\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}) \right\rangle^{(1)} \bigg] \hat{N}^{+} \end{split}$$

$$(A4-23)$$

$$\hat{\tilde{f}}^{(3)}(\pm 3\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}) = -\frac{gR_{m}}{2\sqrt{2}}G_{-}(\mp 3\omega_{1})\left[\left\langle\hat{N}^{+}(\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1})\right\rangle^{(2)}E_{\mp \omega_{1}}\right]\hat{T}^{-} \\ -\frac{eh_{z}}{2\sqrt{2}}\left[\left\langle\hat{u}^{+}(\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1})\right\rangle^{(2)}E_{\mp \omega_{1}}\right]\hat{N}^{-}$$
(A4-24)

$$\begin{split} \hat{f}^{(3)}(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1}) &= \\ & -\frac{gR_{m}}{2\sqrt{2}} G_{-}(\mp \omega_{1}) \bigg[\left\langle \hat{N}^{+}(0; \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1}) \right\rangle^{(2)} E_{\mp \omega_{1}} + \left\langle \hat{N}^{+}(\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}) \right\rangle^{(2)} E_{\pm \omega_{1}} \bigg] \hat{T}^{-} \\ & -\frac{eh_{z}}{2\sqrt{2}} \bigg[\left\langle \hat{u}_{+}(0; \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1}) \right\rangle^{(2)} E_{\mp \omega_{1}} + \left\langle \hat{u}_{+}(\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}) \right\rangle^{(2)} E_{\pm \omega_{1}} \bigg] \hat{N}^{-} \end{split}$$

$$(A4-25)$$

In the following, the expectation values for the BOV vibrational operators in the frequency domain are shown, in explicit form, from the first to the third order in the electrical field:

$$\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{-}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \rangle^{(0)} = 0$$
 $\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{+}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \rangle^{(0)} = \mathbf{F}_{+}(\mathbf{0}) \langle \hat{\mathbf{T}}^{+} \rangle^{(0)}$ (A4-26)

$$\left\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{-}(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}) \right\rangle^{(1)} = \mathbf{F}_{-}(\mp \omega_{1}) \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{T}}^{-}(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}) \right\rangle^{(1)} + \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \mathbf{G}_{-}(\mp \omega_{1}) \mathbf{E}_{\mp \omega_{1}} \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{+} \right\rangle^{(0)}$$
(A4-27)

$$\left\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{+}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \right\rangle^{(1)} = 0$$
 (A4-28)

$$\left\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{-}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \right\rangle^{(2)} = 0$$
 (A4-29)

$$\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{+} (\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}) \rangle^{(2)} = \mathbf{F}_{+} (\mp 2\omega_{1}) \langle \hat{\mathbf{T}}^{+} (\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}) \rangle^{(2)}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{G}_{+} (\mp 2\omega_{1}) \langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{-} (\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}) \rangle^{(1)} \mathbf{E}_{\mp \omega_{1}}$$
(A4-30)

$$\begin{split} \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{+} \left(0; \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(2)} &= \mathbf{F}_{+} \left(0 \right) \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{T}}^{+} \left(0; \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(2)} \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{G}_{+} \left(0 \right) \left[\left\langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{-} \left(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(1)} \mathbf{E}_{\pm \omega_{1}} + \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{-} \left(\mp \omega_{1}; \pm \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(1)} \mathbf{E}_{\mp \omega_{1}} \right] \end{split}$$

$$(A4-31)$$

$$\left\langle \hat{u}_{-} \left(\pm 3\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(3)} = F_{-} \left(\mp 3\omega_{1} \right) \left\langle \hat{T}^{+} \left(\pm 3\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(3)}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} G_{-} \left(\mp 3\omega_{1} \right) \left\langle \hat{N}^{+} \left(\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(2)} E_{\mp \omega_{1}}$$

$$(A4-32)$$

$$\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{+}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \rangle^{(3)} = 0$$
 (A4-33)

$$\begin{split} \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{-} \left(\pm \omega_{1} ; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(3)} &= \mathbf{F}_{-} \left(\mp \omega_{1} \right) \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{T}}^{-} \left(\pm \omega_{1} ; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(3)} \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{G}_{-} \left(\mp \omega_{1} \right) \left[\left\langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{+} \left(\pm 2\omega_{1} ; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(2)} \mathbf{E}_{\pm \omega_{1}} + \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{+} \left(\mathbf{0}_{1} ; \omega_{1}, -\omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(2)} \mathbf{E}_{\mp \omega_{1}} \right] \end{split}$$

$$(A4-34)$$

Making use of the response theory, the following expressions are achieved for the polarizabilities and hyperpolarizabilities³²:

$$\alpha(\pm \omega_1; \mp \omega_1) = \frac{2}{\varepsilon_0 \sqrt{2\pi} E_1} \left\langle \hat{R}(\pm \omega_1; \mp \omega_1) \right\rangle^{(1)}$$
(A5-1)

$$\gamma(\pm 3\omega_1; \mp\omega_1, \mp\omega_1, \mp\omega_1) = \frac{8}{\varepsilon_0 \sqrt{2\pi} E_1^3} \left\langle \hat{R}(\pm 3\omega_1; \mp\omega_1, \mp\omega_1, \mp\omega_1) \right\rangle^{(3)}$$
(A5-2)

$$\gamma(\pm \omega_1; \mp \omega_1, \mp \omega_1, \pm \omega_1) = \frac{8}{3\epsilon_0 \sqrt{2\pi} E_1^3} \left\langle \hat{R}(\pm \omega_1; \mp \omega_1, \mp \omega_1, \pm \omega_1) \right\rangle^{(3)}.$$
(A5-3)

To write the expressions for the polarizabilities more than one convention is found in the literature. We followed the same convention as in the textbook by Butcher and Cotter.³⁵ The electrical field is defined in Eq. (A4-2).

The Fourier components of $\hat{R}(t)$ at the first and third order are:

$$\left\langle \hat{\mathbf{R}}^{(1)}(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}) \right\rangle = e \left[\frac{\mathbf{d}_{0}}{2} + \frac{\mathbf{h}_{z}}{\sqrt{2}} \left\langle \mathbf{u}_{+} \right\rangle^{(0)} \right] \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{-}(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}) \right\rangle^{(1)} - \frac{\mathbf{e} \, \mathbf{h}_{z} \, \mathbf{R}_{m}}{\sqrt{2}} \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{-}(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}) \right\rangle^{(1)} \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{N}}^{+} \right\rangle^{(0)}$$
(A5-4)

$$\begin{split} \left\langle \hat{R} \left(\pm 3\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(3)} &= e \left[\frac{d_{0}}{2} + \frac{h_{z}}{\sqrt{2}} \left\langle \hat{u}_{+} \right\rangle^{(0)} \right] \left\langle \hat{N}^{-} \left(\pm 3\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(3)} \\ &- e \frac{h_{z}}{\sqrt{2}} \left\langle \hat{N}^{+} \right\rangle^{(0)} \left\langle \hat{u}_{-} \left(\pm 3\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(3)} \\ &+ e \frac{h_{z}}{\sqrt{2}} \left\langle \hat{u}_{+} \left(\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(2)} \left\langle \hat{N}^{-} \left(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(1)} \\ &- e \frac{h_{z}}{\sqrt{2}} \left\langle \hat{N}^{+} \left(\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(2)} \left\langle \hat{u}_{-} \left(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(1)} \end{split}$$

$$(A5-5)$$

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$$\begin{split} \left\langle \hat{R} \left(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(3)} &= e \left[\frac{d_{0}}{2} + \frac{h_{z}}{\sqrt{2}} \left\langle \hat{u}_{+} \right\rangle^{(0)} \right] \left\langle \hat{N}^{-} \left(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(3)} \\ &- e \frac{h_{z} R_{m}}{\sqrt{2}} \left\langle \hat{N}^{+} \right\rangle^{(0)} \left\langle \hat{u}_{-} \left(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(3)} \\ &+ e \frac{h_{z}}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\left\langle \hat{u}_{+} \left(0; \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(2)} \left\langle \hat{N}^{-} \left(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(1)} + \left\langle \hat{u}_{+} \left(\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(0)} \left\langle \hat{N}^{-} \left(\mp \omega_{1}; \pm \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(1)} \right] \\ &- e \frac{h_{z} R_{m}}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\left\langle \hat{N}^{+} \left(0; \mp \omega_{1}, \pm \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(2)} \left\langle \hat{u}_{-} \left(\pm \omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(1)} \left\langle \hat{N}^{+} \left(\pm 2\omega_{1}; \mp \omega_{1}, \mp \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(2)} \left\langle \hat{u}_{-} \left(\mp \omega_{1}; \pm \omega_{1} \right) \right\rangle^{(1)} \right] \end{split}$$
(A5-6)

TPA is often expressed in terms of absorption cross section, σ_2 :

$$\sigma_2 = \frac{\hbar\omega_1}{N} a_2 \tag{A6-1}$$

where N is the number of molecules per unit volume and

$$a_{2} = \frac{3\omega_{1} \operatorname{Im} \chi^{(3)} (-\omega_{1}; \omega_{1}, \omega_{1}, -\omega_{1})}{2\varepsilon_{0} c^{2} \eta_{0}^{2}}$$
(SI units) (A6-2)

$$a_{2} = \frac{24\pi^{2}\omega_{1}\operatorname{Im}\chi^{(3)}(-\omega_{1};\omega_{1},\omega_{1},-\omega_{1})}{c^{2}\eta_{0}^{2}} \qquad (\text{esu units}) \qquad (A6-3)$$

 η_0 is the linear refractive index and c the speed of light.