

## Supporting Information

### Vibronic Spectra of the *p*-Benzoquinone Radical Anion and Cation: A Matrix Isolation and Computational Study.

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#### Full quotation of Reference 43 (Gaussian program)

M. J. Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, G. Scalmani, V. Barone, B. Mennucci, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, M. Caricato, X. Li, H. P. Hratchian, A. F. Izmaylov, J. Bloino, G. Zheng, J. L. Sonnenberg, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, T. Vreven, J. A. Montgomery, Jr., J. E. Peralta, F. Ogliaro, M. Bearpark, J. J. Heyd, E. Brothers, K. N. Kudin, V. N. Staroverov, T. Keith, R. Kobayashi, J. Normand, K. Raghavachari, A. Rendell, J. C. Burant, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, M. Cossi, N. Rega, J. M. Millam, M. Klene, J. E. Knox, J. B. Cross, V. Bakken, C. Adamo, J. Jaramillo, R. Gomperts, R. E. Stratmann, O. Yazyev, A. J. Austin, R. Cammi, C. Pomelli, J. W. Ochterski, R. L. Martin, K. Morokuma, V. G. Zakrzewski, G. A. Voth, P. Salvador, J. J. Dannenberg, S. Dapprich, A. D. Daniels, O. Farkas, J. B. Foresman, J. V. Ortiz, J. Cioslowski, and D. J. Fox, Gaussian 09, Revision C.01, Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2010.

### B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,p) cartesian coordinates of PBQ

Center Number	Atomic Number	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
		X	Y	Z
1	6	0.000000	0.000000	1.438709
2	6	0.000000	1.267043	0.667870
3	6	0.000000	1.267043	-0.667870
4	6	0.000000	0.000000	-1.438709
5	6	0.000000	-1.267043	-0.667870
6	6	0.000000	-1.267043	0.667870
7	1	0.000000	2.177069	1.256376
8	1	0.000000	2.177069	-1.256376
9	1	0.000000	-2.177069	-1.256376
10	1	0.000000	-2.177069	1.256376
11	8	0.000000	0.000000	2.656604
12	8	0.000000	0.000000	-2.656604

Low freq. -8.4805 -1.7853 -0.0011 -0.0010 -0.0008 8.8918

### B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,p) cartesian coordinates of PBQ<sup>-</sup>

Center Number	Atomic Number	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
		X	Y	Z
1	6	0.000000	0.000000	1.465572
2	6	0.000000	1.219844	0.683154
3	6	0.000000	1.219844	-0.683154
4	6	0.000000	0.000000	-1.465572
5	6	0.000000	-1.219844	-0.683154
6	6	0.000000	-1.219844	0.683154
7	1	0.000000	2.149490	1.246991
8	1	0.000000	2.149490	-1.246991
9	1	0.000000	-2.149490	-1.246991
10	1	0.000000	-2.149490	1.246991
11	8	0.000000	0.000000	2.726726
12	8	0.000000	0.000000	-2.726726

Low freq. -2.6665 0.0006 0.0006 0.0007 8.3816 17.8805

### B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,p) cartesian coordinates of PBQ<sup>+</sup>

Center Number	Atomic Number	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
		X	Y	Z
1	6	0.000000	0.000000	1.444523
2	6	0.000000	1.288339	0.658885
3	6	0.000000	1.288339	-0.658885
4	6	0.000000	0.000000	-1.444523
5	6	0.000000	-1.288339	-0.658885
6	6	0.000000	-1.288339	0.658885
7	1	0.000000	2.187567	1.264322
8	1	0.000000	2.187567	-1.264322
9	1	0.000000	-2.187567	-1.264322
10	1	0.000000	-2.187567	1.264322
11	8	0.000000	0.000000	2.642429
12	8	0.000000	0.000000	-2.642429

Low freq. -10.9031 -4.9197 -0.0006 -0.0005 0.0003 9.1984

### results of TD-DFT calculations on PBQ<sup>-</sup> with B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,p)

Excitation energies and oscillator strengths (SOMO = 29A):  
leading configurations in blue, observed excited states in red

Excited State	1:	?Spin -B1G	2.2280 eV	556.48 nm	f=0.0000
		27B -> 39B	-0.11193		
		28B -> 29B	0.99887		
Excited State	2:	?Spin -AU	2.2476 eV	551.63 nm	f=0.0000
		27B -> 29B	1.00016		
		28B -> 39B	-0.11287		
Excited State	3:	?Spin -B2U	3.0150 eV	411.22 nm	f=0.0459
		29A -> 30A	0.97326		
		25B -> 39B	-0.10643		
Excited State	4:	?Spin -B1U	3.0393 eV	407.94 nm	f=0.0654
		26A -> 30A	-0.19714		
		29A -> 35A	0.50035		
		29A -> 38A	0.21502		
		26B -> 29B	0.88932		
Excited State	5:	?Spin -B2G	3.2031 eV	387.07 nm	f=0.0000
		29A -> 31A	0.99911		
Excited State	6:	?Spin -B3G	3.2742 eV	378.68 nm	f=0.0000
		20A -> 30A	0.11079		
		25A -> 30A	-0.20351		
		26A -> 53A	-0.10759		
		25B -> 29B	0.99315		
		26B -> 32B	0.14141		
Excited State	7:	?Spin -AU	3.4264 eV	361.85 nm	f=0.0000
		29A -> 32A	1.00045		
Excited State	8:	?Spin -B3U	3.8870 eV	318.97 nm	f=0.0004
		29A -> 33A	0.99873		
Excited State	9:	?Spin -B1U	4.1731 eV	297.11 nm	f=0.1409
		26A -> 30A	0.59994		
		29A -> 35A	0.71760		
		21B -> 29B	0.10484		
		25B -> 32B	-0.31325		
		26B -> 29B	-0.23579		

... followed by forbidden or very weak transition to 6 more states above 250 nm.

### results of TD-DFT calculations on PBQ<sup>+</sup> with B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,p)

Excited State	1:	?Spin -B1U	0.4638 eV	2673.48 nm	f=0.0159
		26A -> 29A	-0.41254		
		25B -> 29B	-0.27819		
		27B -> 28B	0.96808		

... followed by 12 forbidden transitions above 260 nm and a very strong (and strongly mixed) one at 247 nm (f=0.1651)