Glossary of terms in the Crystal Violet Quantum Theory documents

alkaline Aqueous solution with pH > 7, where $[OH^{-}]$ is greater than $[H_3O^{+}]$

basis set The collection of atomic orbital functions, such as s, p, or d, on all atoms that are

combined to form the molecular orbital functions (Ψ) of the molecule.

bleaching A chemical reaction resulting in the reactant molecule's loss of color.

electrostatic potential Force that an electron "feels" at a given position near a molecule, which results

from the combination of attraction to nuclei and repulsion from nearby electron

clouds.

HOMO Highest Occupied Molecular Orbital. MO with highest energy content that

contains 1 or 2 electrons.

hydroxide OH⁻ion

infrared Electromagnetic radiation with wavelengths between 750 and 1000 nm. Radiant

heat given off by a hot object.

isosurface Surface around a molecule where a parameter, such as electron density, has all

equal values.

lambda max (\lambda_{max}) Wavelength of maximum absorption of UV or visible light.

lobe (of MO) A region of a molecular orbital (Ψ) where its value is much greater than, or less

than, zero. Analogous to the peak or trough of a sine wave.

LUMO Lowest Unoccupied Molecular Orbital. MO containing zero electrons, whose

energy level is just above the HOMO.

microwave Electromagnetic radiation with wavelengths between 2 and 1000 mm.

multiplicity In a molecule, the number of possible spin states (m) due to one or more unpaired

electrons (n): m = n + 1

nanometer (nm) 10⁻⁹ meter

occupancy How many electrons inhabit an orbital, which can be 0, 1 or 2.

pigment A color-producing molecule.

radio wave Electromagnetic radiation with wavelengths between 1 inch and 100 miles.

resonance Bonding in a molecule where one Lewis formula does not correctly describe the

structure, but the best description is a hybrid of 2 or more formulas. Often this is

due to a multi-atom π -bond such as the one in formate ion.

single point energy Quantum energy calculation based on a single molecular geometry.

spectrophotometer An instrument to measure light intensity at a certain wavelength, comparing the

intensity going into a sample with the (lower) intensity exiting the opposite side.

triarylmethane dye Carbon cation (+) carrying three aromatic substituents, such as the

dimethylamino phenyl groups in crystal violet.

ultraviolet Electromagnetic radiation with wavelengths between 100 and 350 nm.

visible Electromagnetic radiation with wavelengths between 350 and 750 nm.

The following are defined in the Glossary of Burdge and Overby, 4th Ed.

absorbance

absorption

activation energy

alcohol

Angstrom

aromatic

atomic orbital

cation

dipole moment

electron

electronegativity

electrophilic

endothermic

exothermic

formal charge

frequency

hydrogen bonding

ion

Joule

kilocalorie (kcal)

kinetic energy

Lewis formula

lone pair

molecular orbital

molecule

nucleus, nuclei

рΗ

photon

pi-bond (π -bond)

p-orbital

significant figure

thermal energy

transition state

transmit

x-ray