

Supporting Information

A DFT assisted mechanism evolution of the Carbonylation of Ethylene glycol to ethylene carbonate by urea over $\text{Zn(NCO)}_2 \cdot (\text{NH}_3)_2$ catalyst.

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Table-S1. Optimized geometrical parameter of Zn(NCO)₂ 2NH₃.

| S.No. | Atom | Calculated Bond Length | Atoms | Calculated Bond Angle |
|-------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | r _{Zn-NH3} | 2.106 | β _{N2-Zn1-N3} | 127.2 |
| 2 | r _{Zn-NH3} | 2.108 | β _{N2-Zn1-N'8} | 102.8 |
| 3 | r _{Zn-NCO} | 1.895 | β _{N2-Zn1-N'12} | 102.7 |
| 4 | r _{Zn-NCO} | 1.894 | β _{Zn1-N2-C5} | 174.7 |
| 5 | r _{NH} | 1.018 | β _{N3-Zn1-N'8} | 102.7 |
| 6 | r _{NH} | 1.019 | β _{NC3-Zn1-N'12} | 102.8 |
| 7 | r _{NH} | 1.018 | β _{Zn1-NC3-C4} | 174.7 |
| 8 | r _{NH} | 1.019 | β _{N'8-Zn1-N'12} | 120.5 |
| 9 | r _{NH} | 1.019 | β _{Zn1-N'8-H9} | 103.4 |
| 10 | r _{NH} | 1.017 | β _{Zn1-N'8-H10} | 103.5 |
| 11 | r _{N=C} | 1.225 | β _{Zn1-N'8-H11} | 122.1 |
| 12 | r _{N=C} | 1.225 | β _{Zn1-N'12-H13} | 122.1 |
| 13 | r _{C=O} | 1.223 | β _{Zn1-N'12-H14} | 103.4 |
| 14 | r _{C=O} | 1.223 | β _{Zn1-N'12-H15} | 103.5 |
| 15 | | | β _{N2-C5-O7} | 179.2 |
| 16 | | | β _{N3-C4-O6} | 179.2 |
| 17 | | | β _{H9-N8-H10} | 109.4 |
| 18 | | | β _{H9-N8-H11} | 109 |
| 19 | | | β _{H10-N8-H11} | 109 |
| 20 | | | β _{H13-N12-H14} | 109 |
| 21 | | | β _{H13-N12-H15} | 109 |
| 22 | | | β _{H14-N12-H15} | 109.4 |

r =Bond length in Angstrom, Beta=Bond angle in degree, N="N" atom of NCO group, N'="N"atom of NH₃ group

Table-S2. Mullikan atomic charges in cis-cis and cis-trans conformers of 2-HEC.

| S.No. | Atom | 2-HEC (S-Trans) | 2-HEC (S-cis) |
|-------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Amino "N" | -0.733 | -0.819 |
| 2 | Carbonyl "C" | 0.686 | 0.621 |
| 3 | Hydroxyl "O" | -0.605 | -0.633 |
| 4 | Hydroxyl "H" | 0.379 | 0.417 |

Table-S3. Charge distribution in HNCO, EG and -NCO group in catalyst.

| S.No. | Atom | HNCO | EG | NCO ⁻ in catalyst |
|-------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------|
| 1 | H | 0.364 | 0.368 | |
| 2 | N | -0.474 | | -.732 |
| 3 | C | 0.416 | -0.093 | .651 |
| 4 | O | -0.306 | -0.617 | -.512 |

Table-S4. Charge distribution in associative mechanism when 2-HEC adsorbed via both ammonia group of the catalyst.

| S.No. | Atom | 2-HEC | 2-HEC on Catalyst Via NH ₃ |
|-------|--------------|--------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Amino "N" | -0.723 | -0.704 |
| 2 | Carbonyl "C" | 0.683 | 0.726 |
| 3 | Hydroxyl "O" | -0.618 | -0.637 |
| 4 | Hydroxyl "H" | 0.365 | 0.410 |

Table-S5 The electronic energies of optimized structure of 2-HEC adsorbed through different functional groups.

| S.No. | Adsorption via Functional Group Atom | Energy of optimized Geometry (a.u.) | Dipole Moment (Debye) |
|-------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Amino "N" Atom | -2570.66940275 | 4.9496 |
| 2 | Carbonyl "O" Atom | -2570.68679039 | 9.9923 |
| 3 | Hydroxyl "O" Atom | -2570.67393107 | 11.1311 |
| 4 | Bidentate | -2514.1040531 | 7.3975 |

Table-S6 The charge distributions on various atoms in different mode of adsorptions.

| Atom | 2-HEC (Gaseous Phase) | | 2-HEC (Adsorbed Via Ammino N site) | | 2-HEC (Adsorbed Via Carbonyl O site) | | 2-HEC (Adsorbed Via Hydroxy O site) | | 2-HEC (Adsorbed as bidentate ligand) |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--------|------------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------------------|
| | Trans | Cis | Trans | Cis | Trans | Cis | Trans | Cis | |
| N(Amino) | -0.733 | -0.671 | -0.892 | -0.948 | -0.452 | -0.635 | -0.727 | -0.766 | -0.815 |
| C(Carbonyl) | 0.686 | 0.707 | 0.683 | 0.702 | 0.613 | 0.768 | 0.681 | 0.556 | 0.672 |
| O(Carbonyl) | -0.425 | -0.465 | -0.404 | -0.44 | -0.565 | -0.565 | -0.411 | -0.366 | -0.362 |
| O(Alkoxy) | -0.524 | -0.503 | -0.451 | -0.48 | -0.332 | -0.482 | -0.536 | -0.473 | -0.484 |
| C(Alkyl) | -0.057 | -0.107 | -0.208 | -0.018 | -0.116 | -0.052 | -0.054 | -0.072 | 0.083 |
| C(Alkyl) | -0.021 | -0.081 | -0.083 | -0.216 | -0.014 | -0.087 | -0.023 | -0.051 | 0.008 |
| O(Hydroxy) | -0.605 | -0.568 | -0.578 | -0.561 | -0.398 | -0.633 | -0.678 | -0.688 | -0.684 |

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