

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

# Unraveling the electric field-induced second harmonic generation responses of stilbazolium ion pairs complexes in solution using a multiscale simulation method

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**Table S1.** Basis set effects on the  $[\mu\beta_{//}]_{eff}$  ( $10^{-48}$  esu) response at 1907 nm as determined at the IEFPCM/TD-DFT/M06-2X for complexes **1-4** and different counterion positions.

Basis set	<b>1</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>4</b>	
	In plane	Out of plane						
6-311+G(d)	227.3	58.6	520.3	151.8	2206.3	1061.1	2285.1	1301.5
6-311+G(d,p)	225.4	58.0	522.0	153.6	2227.1	1074.6	2308.1	1317.4
aug-cc-pVDZ	219.1	60.4	516.7	155.6	2256.3	1096.4	2345.8	1352.3

**Table S2.** Root-mean-square deviations (RMSD) between the atomic positions of the minimum energy geometries evaluated at the  $\omega$ B97X-D level and those obtained at the MP2 and re-parameterized OPLS-AA (in parenthesis) levels. BLA and the  $d_{NA}$  values obtained from MP2,  $\omega$ B97X-D and OPLS-AA optimized geometries. All values are given in Å. The molecules were aligned using the quaternion algorithm.

Complex	Atomic positions	BLA			$d_{NA}$		
		RMSD	MP2	$\omega$ B97X-D	OPLS-AA	MP2	$\omega$ B97X-D
<b>1</b>	0.04 (0.14)	0.111	0.117	0.117	4.35	4.50	4.49
<b>2</b>	0.05 (0.13)	0.099	0.115	0.115	4.35	4.50	4.58
<b>3</b>	0.19 (0.16)	0.090	0.098	0.096	4.35	4.51	4.58
<b>4</b>	(0.23)	-	0.095	0.096	-	4.51	4.49
<b>4.1</b>	(0.19)	-	0.095	0.096	-	3.37	3.45
<b>4.2</b>	(0.20)	-	0.098	0.101	-	3.49	3.50
<b>4.3</b>	(0.22)	-	0.098	0.099	-	3.49	3.58
<b>4.4</b>	(0.21)	-	0.101	0.102	-	3.53	3.46

**Table S3.** IEFPCM/TD-DFT/M06-2X/6-311+G(d) EFISHG and HRS first hyperpolarizabilities at 1907 nm as a function of method to optimize the geometry and of the position of the anion. The reported quantities are  $\mu\beta_{//}$  (10<sup>3</sup> a.u.),  $\beta_{//}$  (a.u.),  $\mu$  (a.u.), the  $\theta_{(\mu,\beta)}$  is angle between the  $\mu$  and  $\beta$  vectors (deg),  $\beta_{HRS}$  (a.u.) and its depolarization ratio (DR).

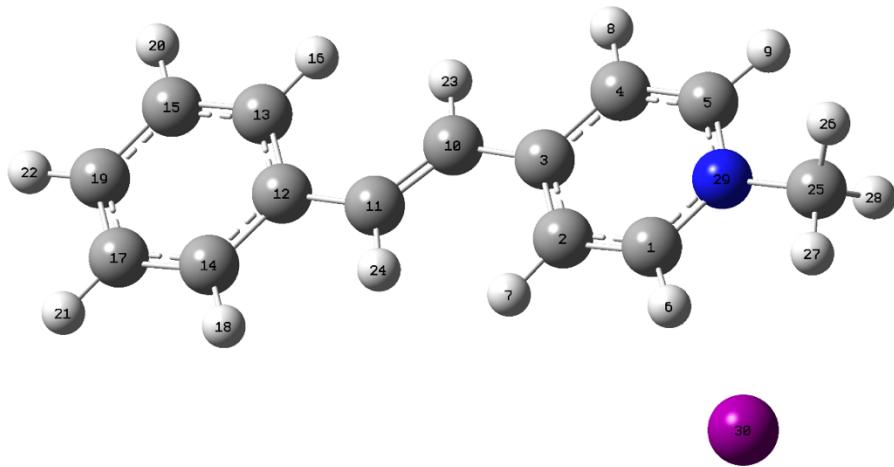
Complex	Geometry optimization	Anion position	$\mu\beta_{//}$	$\beta_{//}$	$\mu$	$\theta_{(\mu,\beta)}$	$\beta_{HRS}$	DR
<b>1</b>	MP2	In plane	25.00	2954	8.46	58.8	4080	4.48
	MP2	Out of plane	4.71	769	6.13	81.1	3629	4.26
	$\omega$ B97X-D	In plane	23.48	2659	8.83	60.1	3822	4.46
	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	4.93	750	6.57	81.0	3485	4.31
<b>2</b>	MP2	In plane	57.54	6270	9.18	44.6	6232	4.64
	MP2	Out of plane	13.42	2151	6.24	74.1	5615	4.51
	$\omega$ B97X-D	In plane	54.72	5744	9.53	45.5	5796	4.63
	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	14.45	2141	6.75	73.4	5354	4.51
<b>3</b>	MP2	In plane	196.69	19071	10.31	37.1	16746	4.78
	MP2	Out of plane	82.76	11392	7.27	58.0	15108	4.72
	$\omega$ B97X-D	In plane	235.21	21326	11.03	36.5	18586	4.78
	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	110.30	14194	7.77	54.9	17320	4.76
<b>4</b>	$\omega$ B97X-D	In plane	242.48	22975	10.55	44.5	22477	4.82
	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	135.20	17348	7.79	54.4	20867	4.80
<b>4.1</b>	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	155.23	20424	7.60	45.4	20259	4.86
<b>4.2</b>	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	135.47	18054	7.50	51.7	20305	4.86
<b>4.3</b>	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	94.25	13996	6.73	60.3	19770	4.78
<b>4.4</b>	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	114.97	20308	5.66	41.1	18804	4.83

**Table S4.** Analyses of EFISHG responses at 1907 nm as determined at the IEFPCM/TD-DFT/M06-2X/6-311+G(d) level as a function of method to optimize the geometry and of the position of the anion. The following quantities are considered:  $\mu\beta_{//}/kT$ ,  $\gamma_{//}$  and  $\gamma_{EFISHG}$  ( $10^4$  a.u.);  $[\mu\beta_{//}]_{eff}$  ( $10^{-48}$  esu),  $R_{3/2} = (3kT \times \gamma_{//})/\mu\beta_{//}$ . T=298.15 K,  $3kT=2.833 \times 10^{-3}$  a.u.

Complex	Geometry optimization	Anion position	$\mu\beta_{//}/3kT$	$\gamma_{//}$	$\gamma_{EFISHG}$	$R_{3/2}$	$[\mu\beta_{//}]_{eff}$
1	MP2	In plane	883	52.1	935	0.06	242.2
	MP2	Out of plane	166	56.7	223	0.34	57.8
	$\omega$ B97X-D	In plane	829	48.3	877	0.06	227.3
	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	174	52.0	226	0.30	58.6
2	MP2	In plane	2031	82.2	2114	0.04	547.8
	MP2	Out of plane	474	82.0	556	0.17	144
	$\omega$ B97X-D	In plane	1931	75.6	2007	0.04	520.3
	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	510	75.7	586	0.15	151.8
3	MP2	In plane	6944	200.1	7144	0.03	1851.5
	MP2	Out of plane	2922	189.6	3111	0.06	806.4
	$\omega$ B97X-D	In plane	8304	208.8	8513	0.03	2206.3
	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	3894	200.5	4094	0.05	1061.1
4	$\omega$ B97X-D	In plane	8560	256.7	8817	0.03	2285.1
	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	4773	248.7	5022	0.05	1301.5
4.1	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	5480	227.5	5708	0.04	1420.3
4.2	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	4783	230.1	5013	0.05	1239.5
4.3	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	3327	228.4	3556	0.07	862.3
4.4	$\omega$ B97X-D	Out of plane	4059	221.5	4280	0.05	1051.9

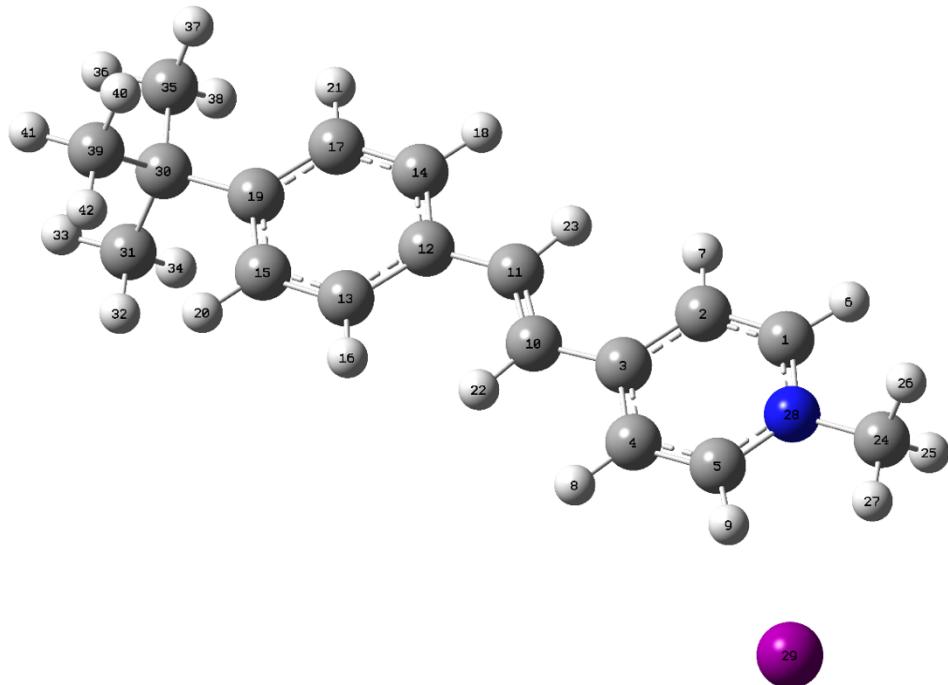
**Table S5.** Charge analysis for complex **1** as a function of the method for geometry optimization (MP2 versus  $\omega$ B97X-D) where the anion lies in the same plane as the cation ring. All results were obtained employing IEFPCM/M06-2X/aug-cc-pVDZ/CHELPG and are given in  $e$ .

	Atom	MP2	$\omega$ B97X-D	$\Delta(\text{MP2} - \omega\text{B97X-D})$
1	C	0.14	0.11	0.03
2	C	-0.33	-0.28	-0.06
3	C	0.42	0.36	0.06
4	C	-0.32	-0.29	-0.03
5	C	0.10	0.08	0.02
6	H	0.12	0.13	0.00
7	H	0.20	0.18	0.02
8	H	0.18	0.18	0.00
9	H	0.15	0.15	0.00
10	C	-0.31	-0.25	-0.06
11	C	-0.13	-0.17	0.03
12	C	0.20	0.25	-0.05
13	C	-0.19	-0.23	0.03
14	C	-0.21	-0.24	0.04
15	C	-0.06	-0.03	-0.03
16	H	0.13	0.13	-0.01
17	C	-0.05	-0.01	-0.04
18	H	0.13	0.14	0.00
19	C	-0.10	-0.14	0.04
20	H	0.10	0.10	0.00
21	H	0.10	0.09	0.01
22	H	0.10	0.11	-0.01
23	H	0.17	0.15	0.02
24	H	0.15	0.15	0.00
25	C	-0.11	-0.09	-0.01
26	H	0.09	0.09	0.00
27	H	0.12	0.11	0.01
28	H	0.10	0.09	0.00
29	N	0.02	0.04	-0.02
30	I	-0.90	-0.91	0.01



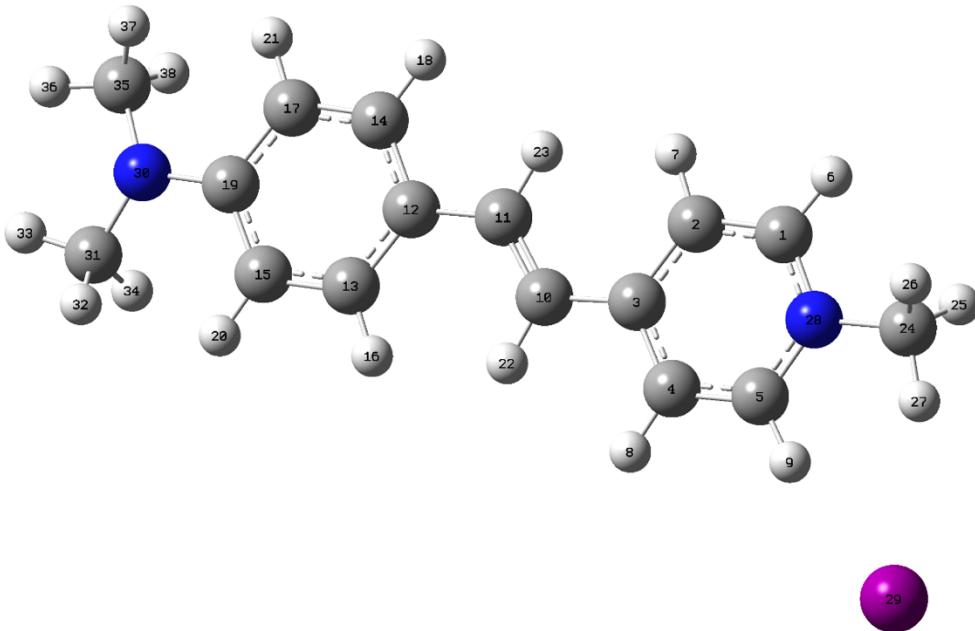
**Table S6.** Charge analysis for complex **2** as a function of the method for geometry optimization (MP2 versus  $\omega$ B97X-D) where the anion lies in the same plane as the cation ring. All results were obtained employing IEFPCM/M06-2X/aug-cc-pVDZ/CHELPG and are given in  $e$ .

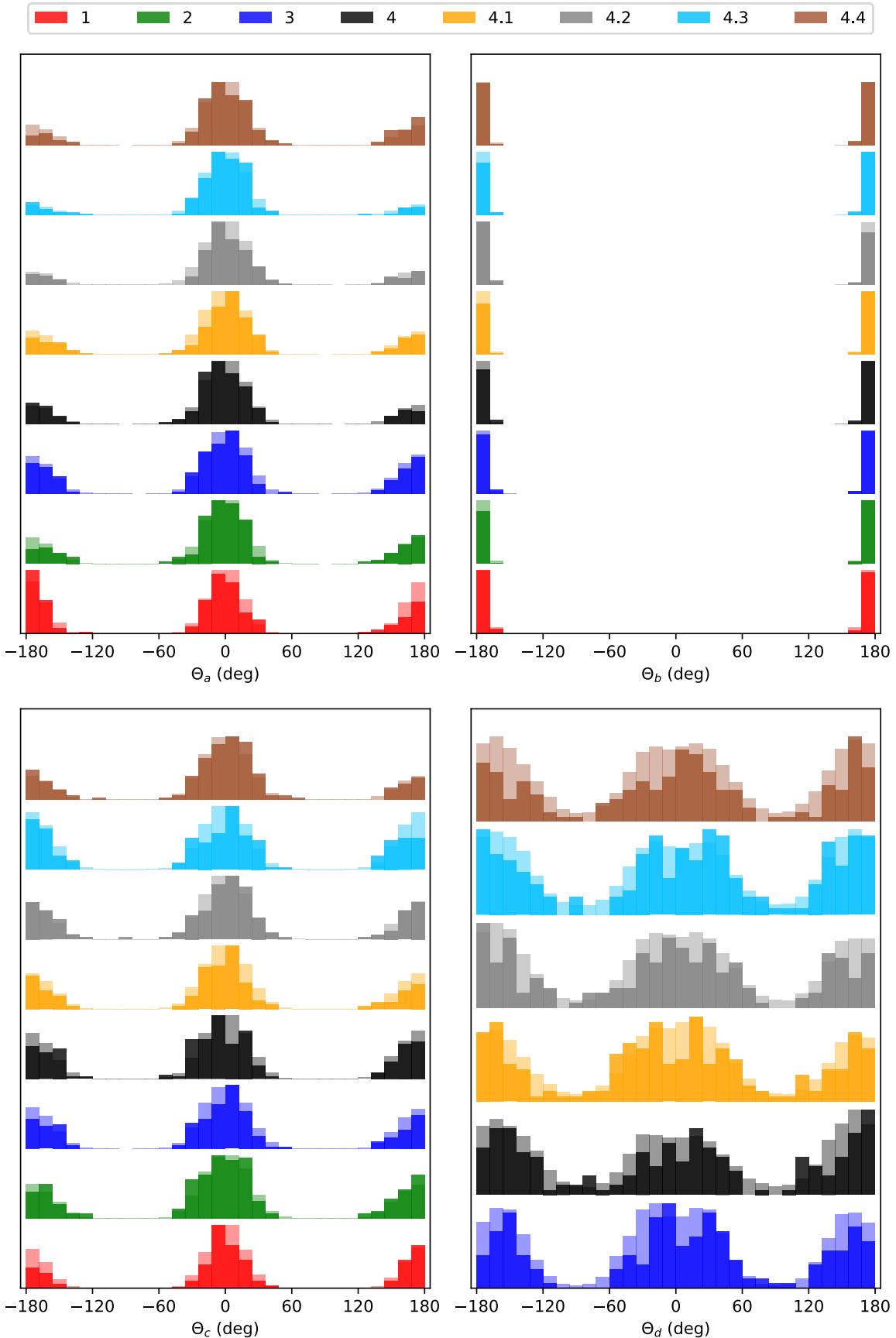
	Atom	MP2	$\omega$ B97X-D	$\Delta(\text{MP2} - \omega\text{B97X-D})$		Atom	MP2	$\omega$ B97X-D	$\Delta(\text{MP2} - \omega\text{B97X-D})$	
1	C	0.07	0.08	-0.01		22	H	0.17	0.17	0.00
2	C	-0.28	-0.29	0.01		23	H	0.14	0.13	0.01
3	C	0.36	0.37	-0.01		24	C	-0.11	-0.09	-0.02
4	C	-0.29	-0.30	0.01		25	H	0.10	0.10	0.00
5	C	0.14	0.15	-0.01		26	H	0.10	0.09	0.00
6	H	0.15	0.14	0.01		27	H	0.12	0.10	0.01
7	H	0.18	0.18	0.00		28	N	0.02	0.02	0.00
8	H	0.18	0.18	0.00		29	I	-0.89	-0.91	0.01
9	H	0.12	0.12	0.01		30	C	0.37	0.36	0.01
10	C	-0.28	-0.29	0.01		31	C	-0.26	-0.23	-0.03
11	C	-0.14	-0.12	-0.02		32	H	0.04	0.04	0.01
12	C	0.18	0.19	-0.01		33	H	0.07	0.07	0.01
13	C	-0.16	-0.17	0.01		34	H	0.03	0.02	0.01
14	C	-0.20	-0.20	0.00		35	C	-0.22	-0.28	0.06
15	C	-0.18	-0.18	0.00		36	H	0.05	0.07	-0.02
16	H	0.12	0.12	0.00		37	H	0.04	0.06	-0.02
17	C	-0.12	-0.15	0.02		38	H	0.04	0.06	-0.02
18	H	0.13	0.13	0.00		39	C	-0.22	-0.22	0.00
19	C	0.03	0.07	-0.03		40	H	0.02	0.02	0.00
20	H	0.15	0.15	0.00		41	H	0.06	0.06	0.00
21	H	0.12	0.12	0.00		42	H	0.04	0.04	0.00



**Table S7.** Charge analysis for complex **3** as a function of the method for geometry optimization (MP2 versus  $\omega$ B97X-D) where the anion lies in the same plane as the cation ring. All results were obtained employing IEFPCM/M06-2X/aug-cc-pVDZ/CHELPG and are given in  $e$ .

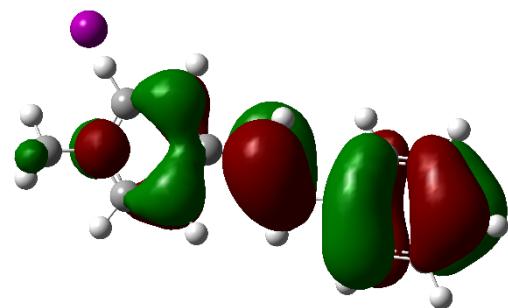
	Atom	MP2	$\omega$ B97X-D	$\Delta(\text{MP2} - \omega\text{B97X-D})$			Atom	MP2	$\omega$ B97X-D	$\Delta(\text{MP2} - \omega\text{B97X-D})$	
1	C	0.06	0.06	0.00			20	H	0.16	0.15	0.01
2	C	-0.29	-0.30	0.01			21	H	0.16	0.15	0.01
3	C	0.38	0.39	-0.01			22	H	0.17	0.16	0.00
4	C	-0.30	-0.31	0.01			23	H	0.13	0.13	0.00
5	C	0.12	0.13	-0.01			24	C	-0.08	-0.10	0.02
6	H	0.15	0.15	0.00			25	H	0.09	0.09	0.00
7	H	0.18	0.18	0.00			26	H	0.09	0.09	-0.01
8	H	0.17	0.18	0.00			27	H	0.11	0.11	0.00
9	H	0.13	0.12	0.01			28	N	0.02	0.03	-0.02
10	C	-0.32	-0.32	0.00			29	I	-0.90	-0.91	0.01
11	C	-0.12	-0.12	0.00			30	N	-0.41	-0.25	-0.17
12	C	0.14	0.14	0.00			31	C	0.15	0.05	0.10
13	C	-0.15	-0.15	0.00			32	H	0.00	0.02	-0.02
14	C	-0.19	-0.19	0.00			33	H	0.05	0.07	-0.02
15	C	-0.28	-0.25	-0.03			34	H	0.00	0.02	-0.02
16	H	0.13	0.13	0.00			35	C	0.09	0.04	0.05
17	C	-0.25	-0.23	-0.02			36	H	0.06	0.07	-0.01
18	H	0.14	0.13	0.01			37	H	0.01	0.02	0.00
19	C	0.39	0.30	0.09			38	H	0.01	0.02	-0.01



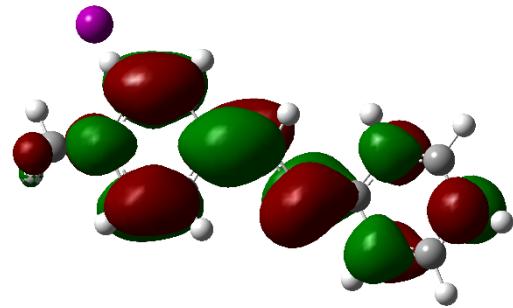


**Figure S1.** Distribution of the angles  $\theta_a$ ,  $\theta_b$ ,  $\theta_c$ , and  $\theta_d$  of the whole simulation (translucent) and of the 200 sampled configurations (opaque).

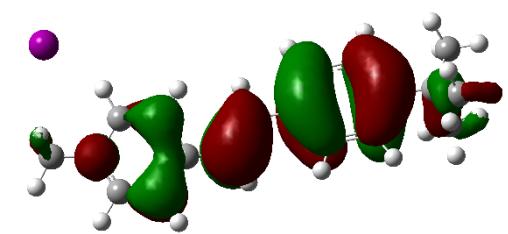
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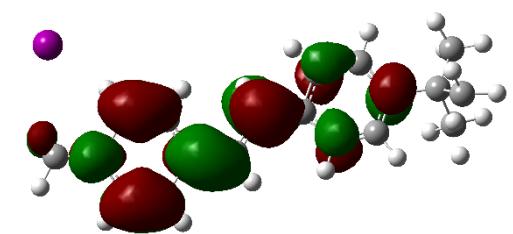
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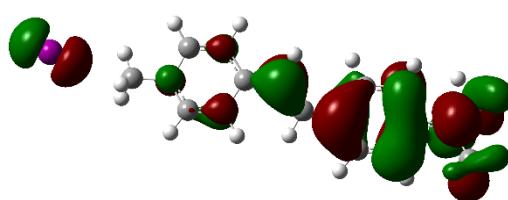
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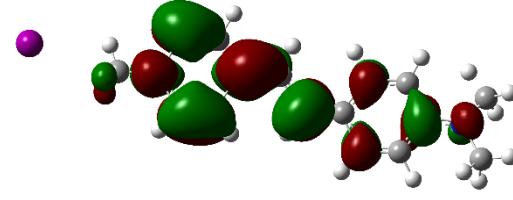
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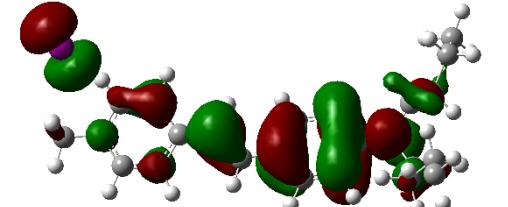
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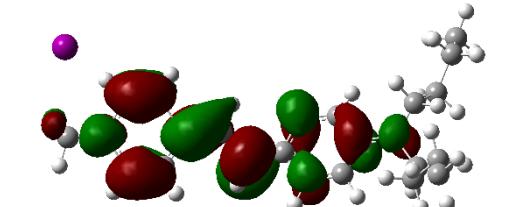
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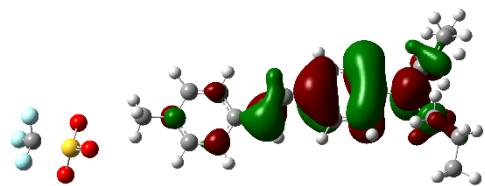


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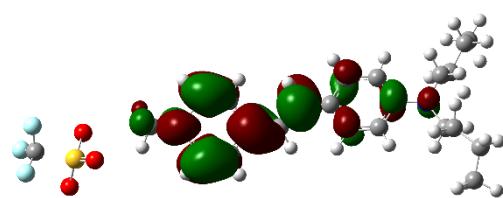
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**Complex 4.1**

HOMO

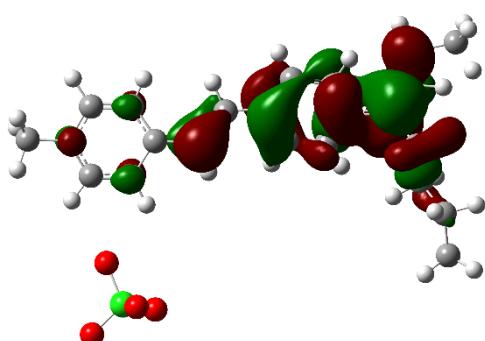


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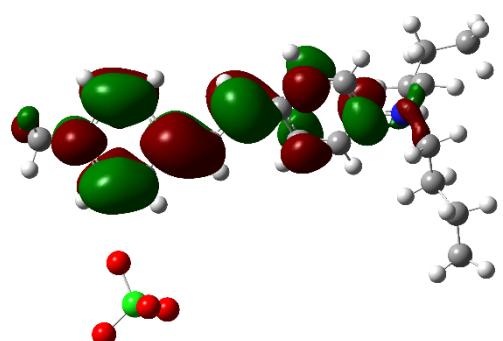


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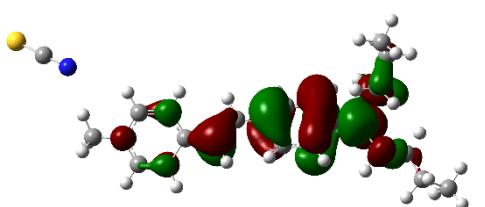


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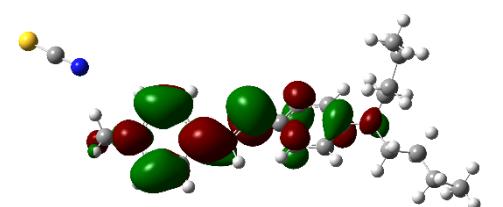


**Complex 4.3**

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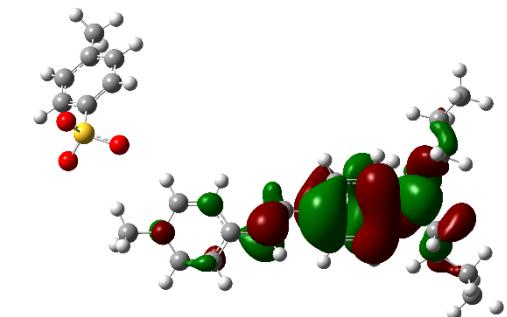


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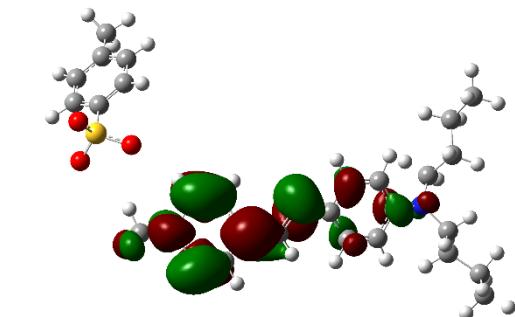


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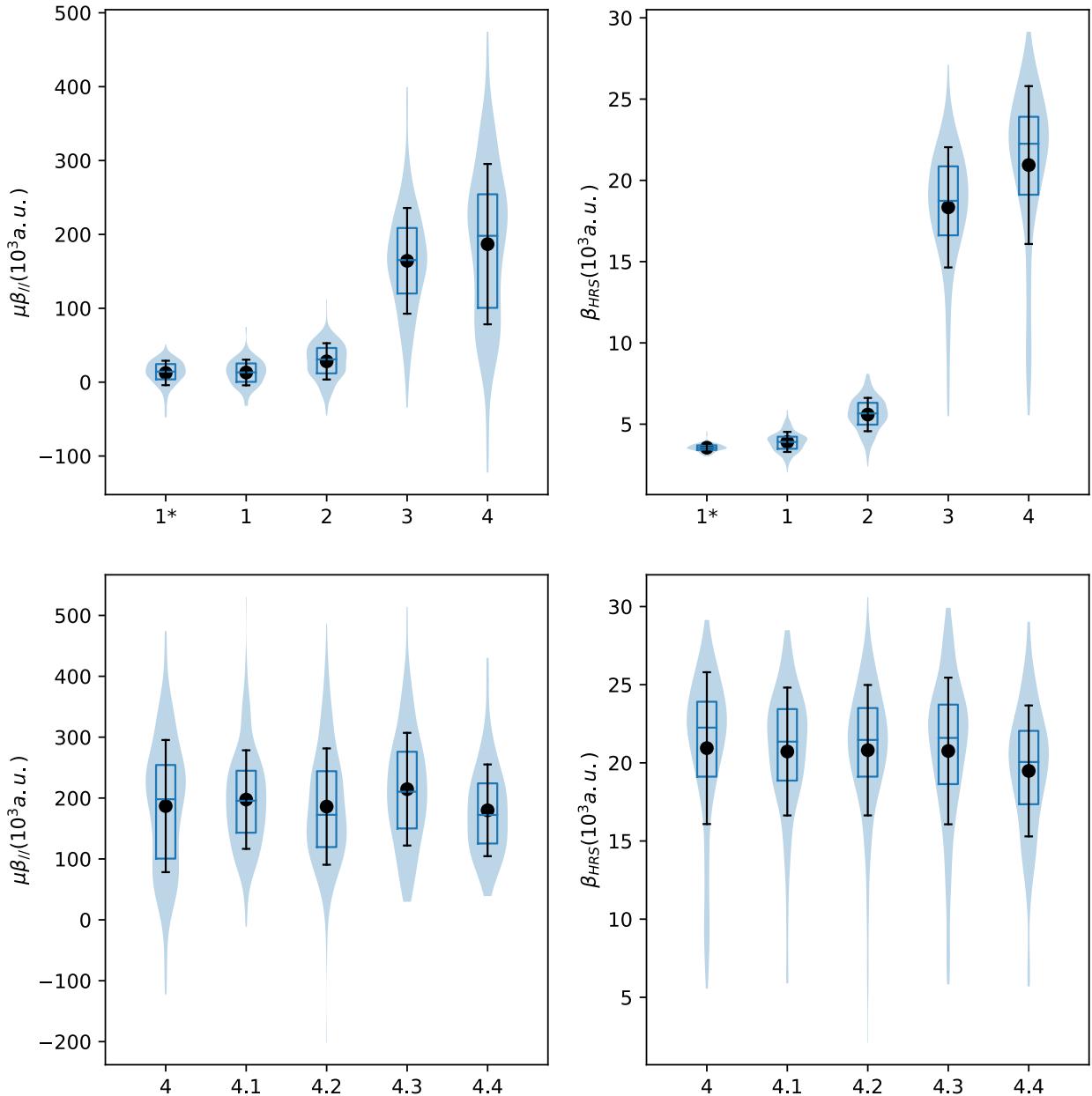
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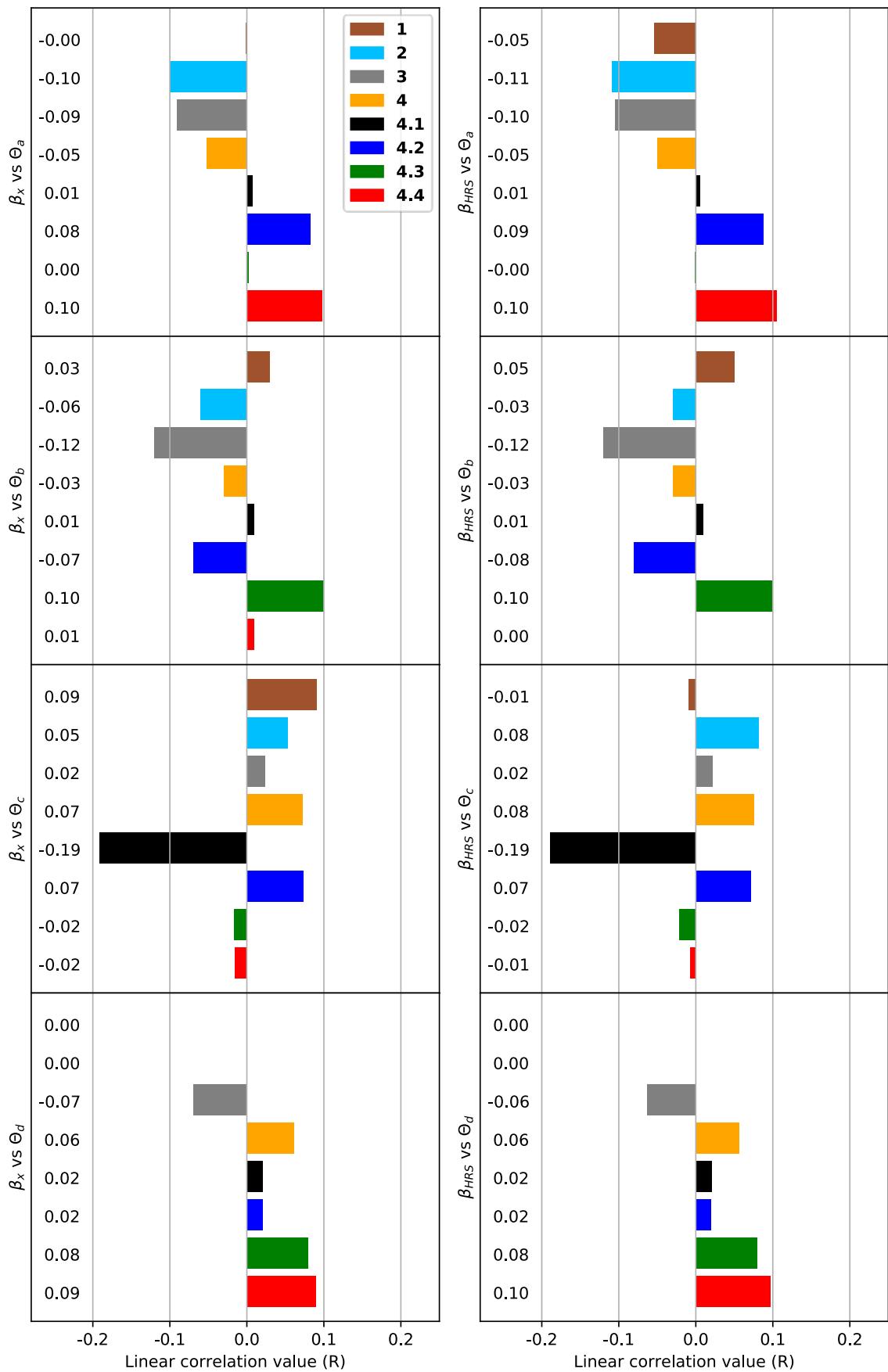
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**Figure S2.** Main molecular orbitals involved in the dominant low-energy excitation obtained at the IEFPCM/TD-DFT/M06-2X/6-311+G(d) level. The snapshots were selected randomly from the sampled configurations.



**Figure S3.** Violin distribution plots for  $\mu\beta_{//}$  and  $\beta_{HRS}$ , including the average (black point), the standard deviation (black lines) and the boxplot (blue lines indicating the first quartile at 25%, the median and the third quartile at 75%). The calculations were performed at the IEFPCM/TD-DFT/M06-2X/6-311+G(d) level.



**Figure S4** Linear correlation analyses for  $\beta_x$  and  $\beta_{HRS}$  versus the  $\theta_a$ ,  $\theta_b$ ,  $\theta_c$ , and  $\theta_d$  torsion angles.