Supplementary Material

Contents

1 Optimized cartesian geometry of adenine

```
C         -1.970585      -1.395137      -0.045467
N         -1.881922      -0.101178      -0.187746
C         -0.530036       0.162042      -0.075212
C          0.194518      -1.008769       0.138884
N         -0.752839      -2.003591       0.155019
H         -0.575304      -2.985001       0.288894
H         -2.887084      -1.963704      -0.076026
C          0.220821       1.350420      -0.134877
N          1.548880       1.275830       0.014725
C          2.109044       0.076787       0.214691
N          1.515353      -1.110912       0.290953
H          3.187892       0.080293       0.328711
N         -0.350021       2.556054      -0.336758
H         -1.344255       2.632817      -0.451219
H          0.231906       3.373853      -0.370895
```

2   Optimized cartesian geometry of thymine

```
C        -1.246495      0.412642     -0.003573
C        -2.507237      1.217084     -0.011848
H        -3.117873      1.004161     -0.892346
H        -2.252332      2.276314     -0.024950
H        -3.115843      1.025528      0.874939
C        -1.217630     -0.931441      0.012635
N        -0.056489     -1.654192      0.020052
C         1.197028     -1.083944      0.011743
N         1.154191      0.288466     -0.004799
C         0.033038      1.117787     -0.013561
H         2.050520      0.753906     -0.011435
O         0.171793      2.321663     -0.028248
O         2.217898     -1.730464      0.018397
H        -2.125375     -1.524102      0.020825
H        -0.070123     -2.660021      0.032219
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3 Thymine Oxygen K-Edge

Table S1 Calculated and experimental thymine oxygen core excitation energies in eV are shown in the table. All computations are performed using the def2-TZVP basis set and B3LYP functional. The largest contribution to the particle orbital (ϕ_p) with reference to the ground state valence set is reported along with the hole orbital (ϕ_h) for each transition. Relative oscillator strengths (f_{rel}) are also reported

	OCDFT			Experiment	
ϕ_h	ϕ_p	ω_{fi}	f_{rel}	Peak	ω_{fi}
O_2	81.8% π_1^*	531.05	1.000	A	531.4
O_1	64.0% π_2^*	532.08	0.968	B	532.3
O_1	71.2% π_1^*	533.38	0.146	B$'$	$\approx$ 533.8
O_2	78.3% π_2^*	533.75	0.162		
O_1	77.0% D_1	534.74	0.008		
O_2	65.9% D_1	534.85	0.042		
O_2	44.1% D_3	535.28	0.020		
O_1	69.5% D_3	535.46	0.098		
O_2	60.8% D_2	535.53	0.085	C	535.7
O_1	76.0% π_3^*	536.12	0.222		
O_2	69.0% π_3^*	536.24	0.104		
O_2	86.3% D_4	536.34	0.052		
O_1	76.3% D_2	536.60	0.039		
O_2	44.4% D_6	537.02	0.024		
O_1	83.5% D_4	537.10	0.047		
O_2	63.7% D_5	537.21	0.021	D	537.1
O_1	35.6% D_7	537.45	0.054		
O_2	44.0% D_7	537.67	0.073		
O_1	43.6% D_5	537.72	0.036		
O_1	70.7% D_6	538.49	0.058		

4 Thymine Nitrogen K-Edge

Table S2 Calculated and experimental thymine nitrogen core excitation energies in eV are shown in the table. All computations are performed using the def2-TZVP basis set and B3LYP functional. The largest contribution to the particle orbital (ϕ_p) with reference to the ground state valence set is reported along with the hole orbital (ϕ_h) for each transition. Relative oscillator strengths (f$_{rel}$) are also reported

	OCDFT			Experiment	
ϕ_h	ϕ_p	ω_{fi}	f$_{rel}$	Peak	ω_{fi}
N_4	81.8% π_1^*	401.18	1.000	A	401.7
N_3	64.0% π_2^*	401.76	0.805		
N_4	78.3% π_2^*	402.50	0.087		
N_3	77.0% D_1	403.09	0.863	B	402.7
N_4	65.9% D_1	403.33	0.765		
N_4	44.1% D_3	404.17	0.912	C	404.1
N_4	60.8% D_2	404.94	0.144		
N_3	69.5% D_3	405.09	0.374		
N_4	86.3% D_4	405.31	0.864		405.5
N_3	76.0% π_3^*	405.41	0.333	D	
N_4	69.0% π_3^*	405.62	0.183		
N_3	71.2% π_1^*	405.67	0.490		
N_3	76.3% D_2	405.76	0.177		

5 Thymine Carbon K-Edge

Table S3 Calculated and experimental thymine carbon core excitation energies in eV are shown in the table. All computations are performed using the def2-TZVP basis set and B3LYP functional. The largest contribution to the particle orbital (ϕ_p) with reference to the ground state valence set is reported along with the hole orbital (ϕ_h) for each transition. Relative oscillator strengths (f_{rel}) are also reported

	OCDFT			Experiment	
ϕ_h	ϕ_p	ω_{fi}	f_{rel}	Peak	ω_{fi}
C_8	92.1% π_1^*	284.90	0.372	A	284.9
C_7	95.9% π_1^*	285.98	0.698	B	285.9
C_9	75.4% π_2^*	286.56	0.036		
C_8	97.6% π_2^*	287.33	0.171		
C_6	81.8% π_1^*	287.68	0.792	C	287.8
C_9	89.9% π_1^*	287.92	0.117		
C_8	48.1% D_3	288.19	0.006		
C_9	87.7% D_1	288.46	0.229		
C_8	53.9% D_1	288.94	0.037		
C_9	85.1% D_3	289.01	0.158		
C_7	94.2% π_2^*	289.06	0.289		
C_5	64.0% π_2^*	289.14	1.000	D	289.4
C_8	32.5% D_3	289.17	0.017		
C_7	90.3% D_1	289.22	0.001		
C_9	63.1% π_3^*	289.26	0.333		
C_9	49.5% D_2	289.31	0.375		
C_8	67.1% D_2	289.67	0.082		
C_8	77.0% D_4	289.68	0.105		
C_6	78.3% π_2^*	289.94	0.135		
C_9	75.4% D_4	290.14	0.023		
C_8	33.3% D_5	290.31	0.119		
C_5	71.2% π_1^*	290.33	0.029	E	290.7
C_9	30.5% D_5	290.43	0.047		
C_7	71.6% D_3	290.44	0.050		
C_7	41.5% D_2	290.54	0.041		
C_8	38.1% D_6	290.80	0.093		
C_9	24.4% D_6	291.12	0.076		
C_8	61.2% D_7	291.13	0.024		
C_7	45.5% π_3^*	291.42	0.018		
C_7	83.1% D_4	291.44	0.001		
C_9	24.8% D_5	291.45	0.289		
C_6	65.9% D_1	291.59	0.036		
C_7	44.3% D_5	291.83	0.055		

6 Adenine Nitrogen K-Edge

Table S4 Calculated and experimental adenine nitrogen core excitation energies in eV are shown in the table. All computations are performed using the def2-TZVP basis set and B3LYP functional. The largest contribution to the particle orbital (ϕ_p) with reference to the ground state valence set is reported along with the hole orbital (ϕ_h) for each transition. Relative oscillator strengths (f_{rel}) are also reported

	OCDFT			Experiment	
ϕ_h	ϕ_p	ω_{fi}	f_{rel}	Peak	ω_{fi}
N_4	81.0% π_1^*	399.14	0.851		
N_3	63.7% π_1^*	399.28	0.926	A	399.5
N_5	92.6% π_2^*	399.42	1.000		
N_5	92.4% π_1^*	399.69	0.002	A'	≈ 400.4
N_4	98.9% π_2^*	400.39	0.022		
N_3	81.6% π_2^*	401.21	0.109	B'	401.3
N_2	82.1% π_1^*	401.43	0.364		
N_3	66.2% π_3^*	401.79	0.145		
N_1	69.3% π_1^*	401.81	0.594		
N_4	77.4% π_3^*	401.95	0.184		
N_5	56.7% π_3^*	402.10	0.017	B	401.9
N_5	34.7% π_3^*	402.15	0.013		
N_2	78.4% D_3	402.27	0.204		
N_4	80.2% D_2	402.36	0.003		
N_3	90.2% D_2	402.42	0.012		
N_4	83.4% D_3	402.73	0.038		
N_3	69.0% D_3	402.80	0.008		
N_5	36.4% D_3	402.80	0.049		
N_1	74.8% π_2^*	403.08	0.122		
N_5	39.1% D_5	403.18	0.030	C	403.0
N_4	48.5% D_4	403.22	0.033		
N_1	87.2% D_2	403.25	0.418		
N_3	80.4% D_4	403.32	0.074		
N_2	57.1% D_6	403.34	0.918		
N_5	91.1% D_6	403.38	0.052		
N_2	94.8% π_3^*	404.33	0.038		
N_3	42.3% D_8	404.44	0.023		
N_2	87.1% π_2^*	404.55	0.011		
N_3	59.8% D_6	404.71	0.059		
N_5	29.0% D_5	404.73	0.031		
N_4	91.9% D_{10}	404.79	0.253		
N_2	56.6% D_2	404.97	0.115		

7 Adenine Carbon K-Edge

Table S5 Calculated and experimental adenine carbon core excitation energies in eV are shown in the table. All computations are performed using the def2-TZVP basis set and B3LYP functional. The largest contribution to the particle orbital (ϕ_p) with reference to the ground state valence set is reported along with the hole orbital (ϕ_h) for each transition. Relative oscillator strengths (f_{rel}) are also reported

	OCDFT			Experiment	
ϕ_h	ϕ_p	ω_{fi}	f_{rel}	Peak	ω_{fi}
C_{10}	92.6% π_2^*	286.32	0.298	A	286.4
C_9	81.0% π_1^*	286.46	0.936		
C_{10}	92.4% π_1^*	286.71	0.260	B	286.8
C_7	82.1% π_1^*	286.86	0.893		
C_6	69.3% π_1^*	287.27	1.000	C	287.4
C_8	63.7% π_1^*	287.41	0.961		
C_8	81.6% π_2^*	287.86	0.000	C'	≈ 288.0
C_{10}	34.7% π_3^*	287.93	0.092		
C_9	98.9% π_2^*	288.02	0.026		
C_6	74.8% π_2^*	288.78	0.008	D	289.0
C_{10}	56.7% π_3^*	288.89	0.006		
C_7	78.4% D_3	288.91	0.001		
C_{10}	36.4% D_3	289.16	0.038		
C_8	66.2% π_3^*	289.21	0.014		
C_9	77.4% π_3^*	289.41	0.016	E	
C_7	87.1% π_2^*	289.43	0.042		
C_7	57.1% D_6	289.66	0.329		
C_{10}	39.1% D_5	289.82	0.029	F	
C_9	80.2% D_2	289.98	0.266		
C_8	90.2% D_2	290.06	0.044		
C_9	83.4% D_3	290.14	0.166		
C_6	87.2% D_2	290.15	0.035		
C_7	94.8% π_3^*	290.36	0.086	G	
C_{10}	91.1% D_6	290.37	0.020		
C_{10}	61.6% D_7	290.42	0.031		
C_9	48.5% D_4	290.45	0.014		
C_8	69.0% D_3	290.61	0.010		
C_6	77.2% π_3^*	290.66	0.060		
C_7	56.6% D_2	290.77	0.064		
C_9	61.7% D_6	290.94	0.018		