

Supporting Information for
Up-conversion Intersystem Crossing Rates in Organic Emitters for
Thermally Activated Delayed Fluorescence (TADF):
Impact of the Nature of Singlet vs. Triplet Excited States

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1. Theoretical Backgrounds

1. Optical Excitation

The excitation energies are calculated within the Tamm-Dancoff Approximation (TDA) with the 6-31+G(d) basis set. The recent development of optimally tuned range-separated (OT-RS) exchange functional allows the reliable calculations of the charge-transfer (CT) excited-state properties of molecules or complexes.¹⁻⁶ In range-separated exchange-correlation functional, the Coulomb operator is split into local and non-local regions:

$$\frac{1}{r_{12}} = \frac{1 - \text{erf}(\omega r_{12})}{r_{12}} + \frac{\text{erf}(\omega r_{12})}{r_{12}} \quad (\text{S1})$$

The range-separation parameter ω determines where the exchange term switches from short-range region (DFT exchange) to the long-range region (Hartree-Fock exchange). The ω value is optimized based on the principle that the vertical ionization potential (IP_v) must be equal to the negative of the HOMO energy (ϵ_H) in exact Kohn-Sham (KS) or generalized KS (GKS) theory;⁷ for the gap-tuned functionals, the optimal ω value is obtained by minimizing the J^2 value.^{3, 8-9}

$$J^2 = \sum_{i=0}^1 [\epsilon_H(N + i) + \text{IP}(N + i)]^2 \quad (\text{S2})$$

The optimal ω values for the LC- ω PBE functional are listed in Table S4 for all the molecules considered in this study. Note that we refer to the LC- ω PBE functional with the optimal ω value as LC- ω^* PBE.

2. Local excitation (LE) vs charge transfer (CT) contributions

The Natural Transition Orbital (NTO) analysis of a given excited state can be conducted *via* the singular-value decomposition of the 1-particle transition density matrix, \mathbf{T} , *i.e.*,

$$\left| (\mathbf{U}^\dagger \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V})_{ij} \right| = \delta_{ij} \alpha_i \quad (\text{S3})$$

where α is the singular value; δ_{ij} is the Kronecker delta; \mathbf{U} and \mathbf{V} are unitary square matrices that transform the canonical occupied and virtual molecular orbitals (MOs) into hole and particle NTOs, respectively. The Löwdin population on atom μ for the hole and electron NTOs can be given using the density matrix for the NTOs, \mathbf{D}_{NTO} , *i.e.*,

$$P_{\text{NTO}}^\mu = \sum_{i \in \mu} (\mathbf{S}^{1/2} \mathbf{D}_{\text{NTO}} \mathbf{S}^{1/2})_{ii} \quad (\text{S4})$$

where \mathbf{S} is the overlap matrix in the AO basis; $\mathbf{D}_{\text{NTO}} = \mathbf{C}_{\text{NTO}}^\dagger \mathbf{C}_{\text{NTO}}$, and \mathbf{C}_{NTO} denotes a coefficient matrix for either a hole or electron NTO in the AO basis, respectively. The local-excitation (LE) and charge-transfer (CT) contributions to a given excited state are computed as:

$$f = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{occ}}} \alpha_i^2 P_{h\text{NTO}}^\mu P_{e\text{NTO}}^\nu \quad (\text{S5})$$

When atoms μ and ν belong to the same fragment, the f value above points to the LE contribution to the state; otherwise, it is related to CT contribution.

3. *Extent of overlap between hole and electron wave functions*

The extent of overlap between the hole and electron wave function, ξ , is calculated using Multiwfn-3.3.8:¹⁰

$$\xi = \int \min(\rho_h(\mathbf{r}), \rho_e(\mathbf{r})) d\mathbf{r} \quad (\text{S6})$$

where $\rho_h(\mathbf{r})$ and $\rho_e(\mathbf{r})$ are the density of hole and electron, respectively, at position \mathbf{r} .

4. *Singlet-triplet Energy Gap, ΔE_{ST}*

Figure S1(a) shows the comparison between the experimental and computational values of ΔE_{ST} for all the molecules studied in this report. As the theoretical results appear to be reliable, we can base our discussion on the theoretical values.⁸ As mentioned earlier, the overlap between the hole and electron wave functions can be taken qualitatively as a measure of K .¹¹ Thus, in Figure S1(b), we also plotted the calculated ΔE_{ST} values as a function of the sum of the overlaps between the hole and electron NTOs for both S_1 and T_1 states. The correlation is rather poor, which again reflects the fact that the molecules often have singlet and triplet excited states of different characters, and hence K is not the sole factor determining ΔE_{ST} . It is thus desirable to gain a better understanding of the factors governing ΔE_{ST} .

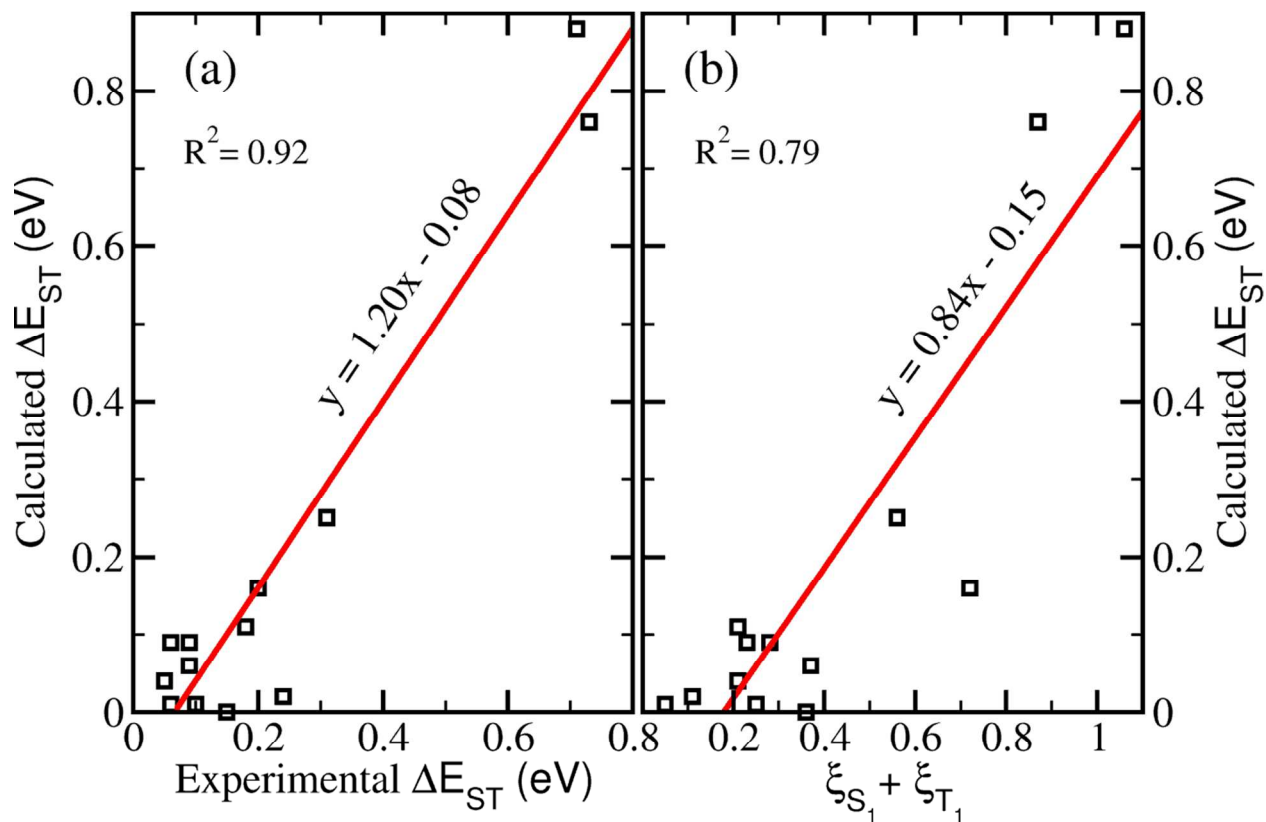


Figure S1. (a) Comparison between experimental and computational values of ΔE_{ST} ; (b) ΔE_{ST} as a function of the sum of the overlaps between hole and electron wave functions (ξ) in the S_1 and T_1 states (ξ_{S_1} and ξ_{T_1} are calculated at the optimized geometries of the respective states; see Table S1) for all the molecules studied in this report.

5. Reorganization energy:

In the evaluation of k_{UISC} (see Eqs 1 and 2) the reorganization energy (λ) and related Huang-Rhys factors must be estimated. The reorganization energy can be represented as a sum of the contributions from the surroundings, λ_s , and those from intramolecular vibrations, λ_{intra} . The latter can be defined as:

$$\lambda_{intra} = E_{S_1}^* - E_{S_1}^0 \quad (S7)$$

where $E_{S_1}^*$ is the S_1 state energy at the T_1 -state (or sometimes T_2 -state) geometry, and $E_{S_1}^0$ is the one at the S_1 -state geometry. We note that λ_{intra} can be divided into a part arising from low-frequency modes, which can be treated in a classical way, and a part associated with high-frequency modes.¹²⁻¹³ The sum of reorganization energy due to intramolecular low-frequency vibrations and that from surroundings (λ_s) is denoted in Eq. 2 as λ_M . Many high-frequency modes, in general, contribute to the reorganization energy. In Marcus-Levich-Jortner model, in order to simplify the calculations of the Franck-Condon-weighted density of states (Eq. 2) the effect of all contributing modes is represented via an effective mode with an effective frequency, ω_{eff} , and effective Huang-Rhys factor, S_{eff} .

Upon an electronic transition, the geometry of the system changes via vibrational relaxations. The total intramolecular reorganization energy, λ_{intra} , can be represented as a sum of contributions from individual vibrational normal modes, i , as:

$$\lambda_{intra} = \sum \lambda_i = \sum \hbar \omega_i S_i \quad (S8)$$

$$\lambda_i = \frac{k_i}{2} \Delta Q_i^2 \quad (S9)$$

$$S_i = \frac{\lambda_i}{\hbar \omega_i} \quad (\text{S10})$$

where k_i and ΔQ_i denote the force constant for the normal mode i and the coordinate displacement from the T₁-state equilibrium position to the S₁-state one along the mode i , respectively.

The ω_{eff} and S_{eff} are obtained by means of Eqs. (S11) and (S12) where the summation is performed only over the high-frequency vibrational modes (not included in λ_M):¹⁴

$$\hbar \omega_{eff} = \frac{\sum \hbar \omega_j S_j}{\sum S_j} \quad (\text{S11})$$

$$S_{eff} = \sum S_j \quad (\text{S12})$$

For example, in case of 2CzPN we found three vibrational normal modes with significant S values. The frequencies of such normal modes are 1543, 1564, and 1574 cm⁻¹, and S factors for those modes are 0.10, 0.03 and 0.23, respectively. Thus the computed effective normal mode is 1565 cm⁻¹ (0.19 eV) and effective S is calculated to be 0.36.

On the other hand, a vibrational mode is determined to be low-frequency one if its energy is smaller than the thermal energy. We found that such modes correspond to the one less than ca. 200 cm⁻¹ at 300 K and the associated S factors are less than 0.1. Hence, their contribution to λ would be very small; for example, given the thermal energy of ca. 26 meV at 300K and S factor of 0.1, the contribution from the low-frequency mode of ca. 200 cm⁻¹ is approximately 2.6 meV.

For a few representative molecules, the vibration relaxation energy of the S_1 state and the associated S factor were calculated using the DUSHIN program developed by Reimers.¹⁵ The computed effective reorganization energies due to high-frequency, nonclassical intramolecular vibrations ($S\hbar\omega_{eff}$) are found to be in the range of 0.01 eV to 0.19 eV (Table S2). Thus, overall, the Marcus reorganization energy due to low-frequency intramolecular vibrations and the surrounding medium-induced relaxations can be expected to fall in the range ~ 0.1 -0.2 eV.^{13, 16} Given that a rigorous evaluation of λ_M values for the large molecules in our study would be a difficult task, we simply considered effective values of 0.1 and 0.2 eV for λ_M in the calculation of the k_{UISC} rates. In addition, the high-frequency effective reorganization energy ($S\hbar\omega_{eff}$) turned out to have only limited impact. For instance, in the case of 2CzPN for which the $S\hbar\omega_{eff}$ value is 0.07 eV (Table S2), k_{UISC} with and without taking high-frequency modes into account are estimated to be $2.1 \times 10^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $3.0 \times 10^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$, respectively, when λ_M is set as 0.1 eV; similarly, in the case of PXZ-TRZ for which $S\hbar\omega_{eff}$ is even larger (0.19 eV), the corresponding rates are $1.4 \times 10^7 \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $3.2 \times 10^7 \text{ s}^{-1}$, with the same λ_M ; see Table S3. Such small differences overall mean that the impact of S can be neglected in the evaluation of k_{UISC} for the molecules where S was not explicitly computed.

Table S1. Calculated Overlap (ξ) of Hole and Electron Wave Functions in the S_1 and T_1 states at Various Geometries.

Molecules	S ₀ -geometry		S ₁ -geometry		T ₁ -geometry		$\frac{\xi_{S_1} + \xi_{T_1}}{2}^a$
	ξ_{S_1}	ξ_{T_1}	ξ_{S_1}	ξ_{T_1}	ξ_{S_1}	ξ_{T_1}	
CBP	0.37	0.56	0.43	0.59	0.45	0.62	0.53
α -NPD	0.24	0.56	0.25	0.55	0.36	0.61	0.43
2CzPN	0.17	0.40	0.05	0.05	0.23	0.51	0.28
CC2TA	0.31	0.51	0.09	0.13	0.34	0.63	0.36
PIC-TRZ	0.19	0.38	0.08	0.11	0.09	0.11	0.10
PXZ-TRZ	0.07	0.13	0.05	0.05	0.10	0.18	0.11
ACRFLCN	0.04	0.63	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.64	0.34
Spiro-CN	0.01	0.51	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.02
4CzIPN	0.13	0.15	0.06	0.07	0.13	0.17	0.12
4CzIPN-Me	0.13	0.15	0.07	0.08	0.11	0.13	0.10
4CzPN	0.11	0.16	0.05	0.07	0.08	0.29	0.17
4CzTPN	0.12	0.17	0.11	0.15	0.17	0.25	0.18
4CzTPN-Me	0.11	0.16	0.11	0.14	0.12	0.16	0.13

^a ξ_{S_1} [ξ_{T_1}] corresponds to the wave function overlap for the S_1 [T_1] state at the S_1 - [T_1 -] state geometry.

Table S2. Calculated Intramolecular Reorganization Energies (λ_{intra}) and Effective Reorganization Energies ($S \cdot \hbar\omega_{\text{eff}}$) from High-frequency Vibrations ($\hbar\omega_{\text{eff}}$) and Associated Huang-Rhys Factor (S) for Representative Molecules, in the case of Up-Conversion Intersystem Crossing (UISC).

Molecules	λ_{intra} (eV)	Huang-Rhys factor (S)	$\hbar\omega_{\text{eff}}$ (eV)	$S \cdot \hbar\omega_{\text{eff}}$ (eV)
CBP	0.077	0.08	0.21	0.017
α -NPD	0.115	0.06	0.21	0.013
2CzPN	0.243	0.36	0.19	0.068
CC2TA	0.599	-- ^a	--	--
PIC-TRZ	0.011	-- ^a	--	--
PIC-TRZ ^b	0.433 ^b	-- ^a	--	--
PXZ-TRZ	0.031	0.00	0.21	0.000
PXZ-TRZ ^b	0.389 ^b	0.91 ^b	0.21 ^b	0.191 ^b
ACRFLCN	0.004	0.00	0.20	0.000
Spiro-CN	0.003	-- ^a	--	--
Spiro-CN ^b	0.400 ^b	-- ^a	--	--
4CzIPN	0.080	-- ^a	--	--
4CzIPN-Me	0.049	-- ^a	--	--
4CzPN	0.158	-- ^a	--	--
4CzTPN	0.135	-- ^a	--	--
4CzTPN-Me	0.049	-- ^a	--	--

^aEffective Huang-Rhys factor not taken into account, see Methodology Section in the main text.

^bThe values correspond to the transitions from the T₂ to the S₁ state.

Table S3. Comparison of the k_{UISC} (s^{-1}) Rates Calculated with and without Consideration of the Associated Huang-Rhys Factor (S), for 2CzPN and PXZ-TRZ.

Molecules	Huang-Rhys factor (S)	k_{UISC}	
		$\lambda_M=0.10$ eV	$\lambda_M=0.20$ eV
2CzPN	0.36	2.08×10^3	1.16×10^4
	0.00	2.98×10^3	1.67×10^4
PXZ-TRZ	0.91^a	1.37×10^{7a}	3.91×10^{6a}
	0.00^a	3.16×10^{7a}	8.67×10^{6a}

^a The values correspond to the UISC from the T₂ to S₁ state.

Table S4. Calculated (LC- ω *PBE/6-31+G(d)) and Experimental Vertical Excitation Energies for the S₁ State, E_{VA}(S₁), and Adiabatic Singlet (S₁)-Triplet (T₁) Energy Differences, ΔE_{ST} .^a

Molecules	ω^*	$E_{VA}(S_1)$		ΔE_{ST}	
	Bohr ⁻¹	Calculated	Expt. ^b	Calculated	Expt. ^b
<u>$\Delta E_{ST} > 0.70$ eV</u>					
CBP	0.173	3.94	3.80	0.88	0.71
α -NPD	0.170	3.29	3.31	0.76	0.73
<u>$\Delta E_{ST} = 0.10 \sim 0.50$ eV</u>					
2CzPN	0.176	3.22	3.19	0.25	0.31
CC2TA	0.159	3.66	3.64	0.16	0.20
PIC-TRZ	0.141	3.17	3.35	0.11	0.18
<u>$\Delta E_{ST} < 0.10$ eV</u>					
PXZ-TRZ	0.183	2.94	2.73	0.09	0.06
ACRFLCN	0.174	3.03	3.05	0.02	0.24
Spiro-CN	0.168	2.73	2.69	0.01	0.06
4CzIPN	0.142	2.52	2.85	0.01	0.10
4CzIPN-Me	0.132	2.36	-	0.04	0.05
4CzPN	0.146	2.55	2.82	0.00	0.15
4CzTPN	0.147	2.32	2.61	0.06	0.09
4CzTPN-Me	0.143	2.28	2.49	0.09	0.09

^aAll values are in eV. ^bExperimental values are taken from Ref. 17.

Table S5. Calculated Vertical Transition Energies for the S₁ State, E_{VA}(S₁), and Vertical Singlet (S₁)-Triplet (T₁) Energy Differences, ΔE_{ST-v} at the Ground-state Geometry, using Various DFT Functionals.^a

Molecules	LC-ω [*] PBE		B3LYP		M06-2X	
	E _{VA} (S ₁)	ΔE _{ST-v}	E _{VA} (S ₁)	ΔE _{ST-v}	E _{VA} (S ₁)	ΔE _{ST-v}
CBP	3.94	0.66	3.52	0.50	4.04	2.23
α-NPD	3.29	0.57	2.98	0.43	3.55	2.36
2CzPN	3.22	0.41	2.79	0.27	3.52	1.90
CC2TA	3.66	0.35	3.06	0.08	4.00	2.14
PIC-TRZ	3.17	0.22	2.89	0.08	3.75	2.00
PXZ-TRZ	2.94	0.07	2.23	0.03	3.24	1.51
ACRFLCN	3.03	0.07	2.50	0.01	3.52	2.12
Spiro-CN	2.73	0.07	1.93	0.00	3.10	1.70
4CzIPN	2.52	0.12	2.36	0.10	3.09	1.56
4CzIPN-Me	2.36	0.12	2.24	0.10	2.98	1.44
4CzPN	2.55	0.13	2.34	0.15	3.15	1.70
4CzTPN	2.32	0.14	2.09	0.10	2.85	1.43
4CzTPN-Me	2.28	0.12	2.01	0.09	2.84	1.38
MAD ^b	0.00	0.00	0.39	0.09	0.43	1.57

	PBE0		BHandLYP	
	E _{VA} (S ₁)	ΔE _{ST-v}	E _{VA} (S ₁)	ΔE _{ST-v}
CBP	3.68	0.63	4.26	1.76
α-NPD	3.13	0.57	3.76	1.80
2CzPN	2.95	0.34	3.66	1.36
CC2TA	3.29	0.17	4.21	1.71
PIC-TRZ	3.09	0.19	3.94	1.62
PXZ-TRZ	2.41	0.03	3.43	0.98
ACRFLCN	2.68	0.01	3.62	1.51
Spiro-CN	2.14	0.00	3.09	1.00
4CzIPN	2.51	0.12	3.24	1.02
4CzIPN-Me	2.39	0.12	3.13	0.91
4CzPN	2.50	0.19	3.27	1.14
4CzTPN	2.25	0.11	2.98	0.85
4CzTPN-Me	2.18	0.10	2.94	0.79
MAD ^b	0.22	0.05	0.58	1.03

^aAll the values are in eV. The calculations were conducted at the COSMO(toluene)-TDDFT level with TZP basis sets using various exchange-correlation functionals; in the case of the LC-ω^{*}PBE functional, calculations were carried out using the PCM(toluene) model with the 6-31+G(d) basis set within the Tamm-Dancoff approximation. ^bThe mean absolute deviations (MAD) values were evaluated by taking the LC-ω^{*}PBE results as reference.

Table S6. Calculated Spin-orbit Coupling Matrix Elements between the S₁ and T₁ States at the T₁ Geometry using Various DFT Functionals for Representative Molecules.^a

Molecules	B3LYP	M06-2X	PBE0	BHandLYP
CBP	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
α -NPD	0.68	0.86	0.68	0.83
2CzPN	0.66	1.64	0.74	1.16
PXZ-TRZ	0.22	1.14	0.26	1.09
ACRFLCN	0.50	0.54	0.46	0.51
Spiro-CN	0.01	0.08	0.01	0.07
4CzIPN	0.23	1.10	0.27	0.83
4CzPN	0.51	1.97	0.61	1.36
4CzTPN	0.65	3.74	0.81	2.45

^aAll values are in cm⁻¹. The calculations were conducted at the COSMO(toluene)-TDDFT/TZP level.

Table S7: Natures of Representative Excited States at T₁-state Geometry as a Function of DFT Functionals and Basis Sets[†]

Molecules	Excited States	LC- ω *PBE/6-31+G(d)	PBE0/TZP
		Energy (eV)	Energy (eV)
CBP	S ₁	3.17 (H => L)	2.89 (H => L)
	S ₂	3.83 (H-1 => L)	3.43 (H-1 => L)
	T ₁	2.19 (H => L)	1.95 (H => L)
	T ₂	3.37 (H-1 => L)	3.14 (H-1 => L)
α -NPD	S ₁	2.94 (H => L)	2.74 (H => L)
	S ₂	3.36 (H-1 => L+1; H => L+1)	3.18 (H=> L+1; H-1 => L+1)
	T ₁	1.95 (H => L)	1.74 (H => L)
	T ₂	2.80 (H-1 => L+1)	2.65 (H-1 => L+1)
2CzPN	S ₁	2.96 (H => L)	2.68 (H => L)
	S ₂	3.15 (H-1 => L)	2.89 (H-1 => L)
	T ₁	2.34 (H => L)	2.15 (H => L)
	T ₂	2.80 (H-1 => L)	2.60 (H-1 => L)
CC2TA	S ₁	3.54 (H-1 => L; H-1 => L+1)	3.27 (H -1=> L)
	S ₂	3.75 (H-5 => L)	3.34 (H => L)
	T ₁	2.69 (H-4 => L+1)	2.46 (H-2 => L+1)
	T ₂	3.21 (H-7 => L)	3.13 (H-1 => L; H-1 => L+1)
PIC-TRZ	S ₁	2.31 (H => L)	2.17 (H => L)
	S ₂	2.68 (H-1 => L)	2.54 (H-1 => L)

	T ₁	2.19 (H => L)	2.09 (H => L)
	T ₂	2.56 (H-1 => L)	2.46 (H-1 => L)
PXZ-TRZ	S ₁	2.48 (H => L)	1.98 (H => L)
	S ₂	3.47 (H => L+3)	2.78 (H => L+1)
	T ₁	2.34 (H => L)	1.88 (H => L)
	T ₂	2.78 (H => L+3; H => L+4)	2.69 (H => L+3; H => L+4)
ACRFLCN	S ₁	2.60 (H => L)	2.26 (H=> L)
	S ₂	3.72 (H-1 => L)	3.44 (H-1=> L)
	T ₁	2.578 (H-1 => L)	2.24 (H=> L)
	T ₂	2.580 (H => L)	2.34 (H-1=> L)
Spiro-CN	S ₁	2.05 (H => L)	1.56 (H => L)
	S ₂	3.17 (H-1 => L)	2.56 (H-1 => L)
	T ₁	2.04 (H => L)	1.56 (H => L)
	T ₂	2.45 (H => L+1)	2.28 (H => L+2)
4CzIPN	S ₁	2.18 (H => L)	2.13 (H => L)
	S ₂	2.42 (H-1 => L)	2.35 (H-1 => L)
	T ₁	2.02 (H => L)	1.96 (H => L)
	T ₂	2.24 (H-1 => L)	2.18 (H-1 => L)
4CzIPN-Me	S ₁	2.00 (H => L)	1.98 (H => L)
	S ₂	2.24 (H-1 => L)	2.21 (H-1 => L)
	T ₁	1.87 (H => L)	1.85 (H => L)
	T ₂	2.08 (H-1 => L)	2.06 (H-1 => L)
4CzPN	S ₁	2.34 (H => L)	2.19 (H => L)

	S ₂	2.35 (H-1 => L)	2.27 (H-1 => L)
	T ₁	2.08 (H => L)	1.92 (H => L)
	T ₂	2.22 (H-1 => L)	2.17 (H-1 => L)
4CzTPN	S ₁	2.02 (H => L)	1.93 (H => L)
	S ₂	2.35 (H-1 => L)	2.21 (H-1 => L)
	T ₁	1.77 (H => L)	1.70 (H => L)
	T ₂	2.10 (H-1 => L)	1.97 (H-1 => L)
4CzTPN-Me	S ₁	1.80 (H => L)	1.69 (H => L)
	S ₂	2.09 (H-1 => L)	1.95 (H-1 => L)
	T ₁	1.65 (H => L)	1.57 (H => L)
	T ₂	1.95 (H-1 => L)	1.83 (H-1 => L)

[†]H and L are highest occupied molecular orbital and lowest unoccupied molecular orbital, respectively.

Table S8. Comparison of Calculated Adiabatic Singlet-Triplet Energy Differences (ΔE_{ST} in eV) using Different T_1 -state Geometries Obtained from either Unrestricted DFT (UDFT) or TD-DFT calculations.

Molecules	UDFT	TD-DFT
α -NPD	0.76	0.77
2CzPN	0.25	0.24
CC2TA	0.16	0.15
PIC-TRZ ^a	0.11	0.10
PXZ-TRZ	0.09	0.15
4CzIPN	0.01	-0.04
4CzPN	0.00	-0.03
4CzTPN	0.05	0.06

^a The orderings between the T_1 and T_2 states are different for UDFT and TD-DFT, which is acceptable given the negligible energy difference between them (ca. 9 meV).

Table S9. Calculated HOMO-LUMO Energy Gaps (in eV) for Representative Molecules (ΔE_{H-L}^{CT}) and their Respective Moieties Associated with the Lowest Triplet LE State (ΔE_{H-L}^{LE}) at their T_1 -state Geometries.^a

Molecules	ΔE_{H-L}^{CT}	ΔE_{H-L}^{LE}	$\Delta E_{H-L}^{CT} / \Delta E_{H-L}^{LE}$
CBP	5.79	6.63	0.873
α -NPD	5.77	5.91	0.976
2CzPN	5.65	7.43	0.760
CC2TA	6.03	6.97	0.865
PIC-TRZ	5.04	6.55	0.789
PXZ-TRZ	4.88	6.86	0.711
ACRFLCN	5.25	6.56	0.801
Spiro-CN	4.44	5.70	0.779
4CzPN	5.30	7.51	0.705

^a The calculations were performed at the LC- ω PBE/6-31G(d) level with the range-separation parameter ω set at 0.17 bohr⁻¹; this is the mean value over all the molecules (among which the actual tuned ω values vary from 0.141 to 0.183). We note that the exact ΔE_{H-L} values depend on ω .

Table S10. Calculated Vertical Excitation Energies (in eV) at the Ground-state Geometries Using the Tamm-Dancoff Approximation with the LC- ω^* PBE Functional, 6-31+G(d) Basis Set, and PCM Model ($\epsilon=2.37$).

CBP		α -NPD		2CzPN		CC2TA		PIC-TRZ	
State	Energy	State	Energy	State	Energy	State	Energy	State	Energy
T ₁	3.28	T ₁	2.72	T ₁	2.81	T ₁	3.30	T ₁	2.95
T ₂	3.37	T ₂	2.74	T ₂	3.04	T ₂	3.32	T ₂	2.96
T ₃	3.37	T ₃	2.96	S ₁	3.22	T ₃	3.32	T ₃	3.07
T ₄	3.47	S ₁	3.29	S ₂	3.30	T ₄	3.33	T ₄	3.07
T ₅	3.47	T ₄	3.34	T ₃	3.42	T ₅	3.41	T ₅	3.13
T ₆	3.75	S ₂	3.35	S ₃	3.68	T ₆	3.42	S ₁	3.16
S ₁	3.94	T ₅	3.44			S ₁	3.65	T ₆	3.17
T ₇	4.00	T ₆	3.45			S ₂	3.78	T ₇	3.17
T ₈	4.01							S ₂	3.23
T ₉	4.05								
S ₂	4.05								
PXZ-TRZ		ACRFLCN		Spiro-CN		4CzIPN		4CzIPN-Me	
State	Energy	State	Energy	State	Energy	State	Energy	State	Energy
T ₁	2.87	T ₁	2.96	T ₁	2.66	T ₁	2.40	T ₁	2.24
S ₁	2.94	T ₂	3.02	T ₂	2.70	S ₁	2.52	S ₁	2.36
T ₂	2.95	S ₁	3.03	S ₁	2.71	T ₂	2.53	T ₂	2.39
T ₃	3.36	T ₃	3.36	T ₃	2.97	T ₃	2.67	T ₃	2.50
T ₄	3.38	T ₄	3.46	T ₄	3.06	T ₄	2.68	T ₄	2.55
T ₅	3.47	S ₂	3.98	T ₅	3.24	T ₅	2.72	T ₅	2.57
S ₂	3.61			T ₆	3.26	S ₂	2.75	S ₂	2.59
S ₃	3.74			S ₂	3.29				
4CzPN		4CzTPN		4CzTPN-Me					
State	Energy	State	Energy	State	Energy				
T ₁	2.42	T ₁	2.18	T ₁	2.16				
T ₂	2.44	S ₁	2.32	T ₂	2.18				
S ₁	2.55	T ₂	2.42	T ₃	2.26				
S ₂	2.61	T ₃	2.49	S ₁	2.28				
T ₃	2.63	T ₄	2.53	S ₂	2.29				
		S ₂	2.55	S ₃	2.36				

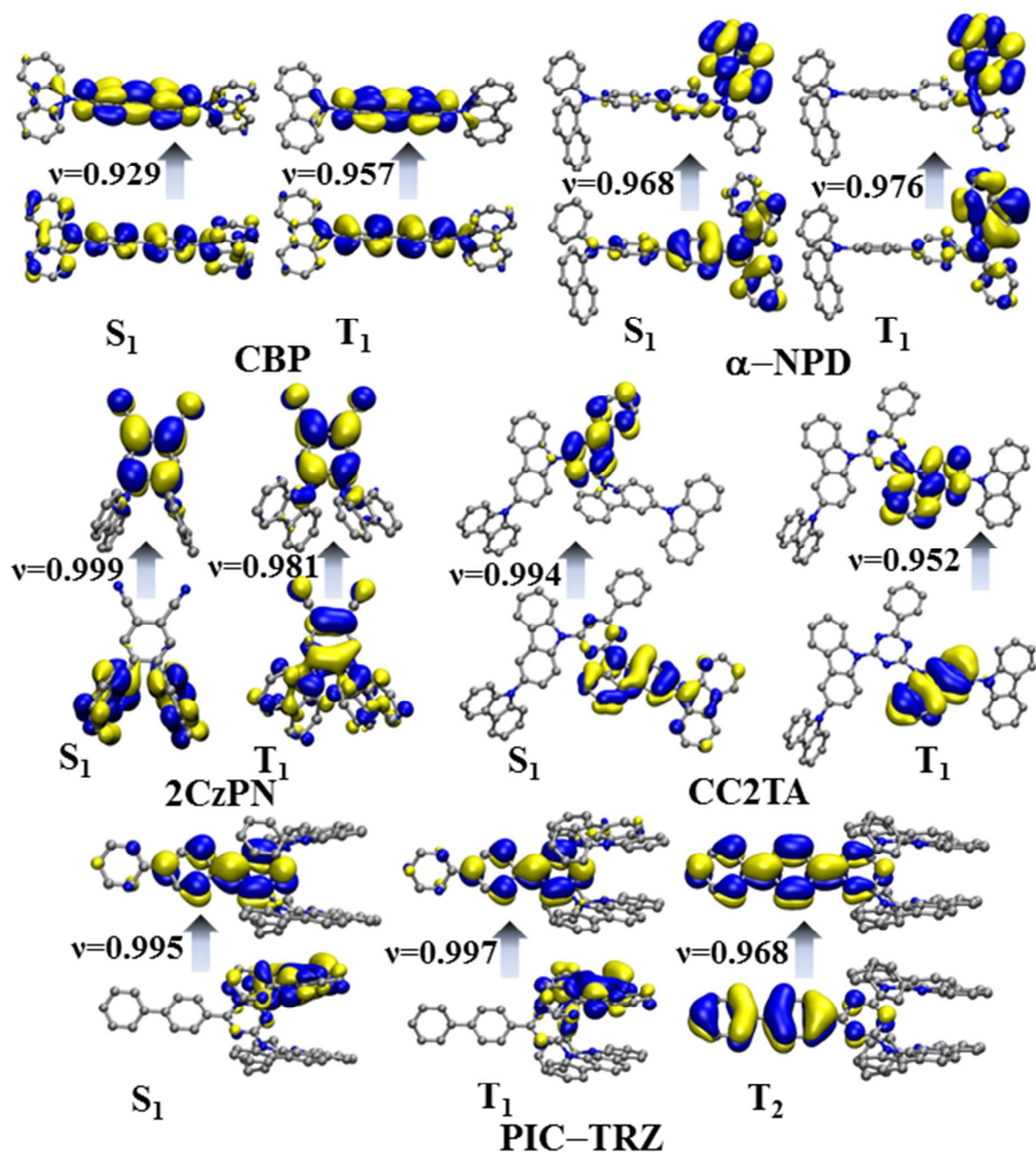


Figure S2. Natural Transition Orbitals of CBP, α -NPD, 2CzPN, CC2TA, and PIC-TRZ corresponding to the S_1 and T_1 states at their respective optimized geometry (the T_2 state is also included for PIC-TRZ). Hole and electron wave functions with the largest weight, v , are illustrated below and above the arrows, respectively. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for the sake of clarity.

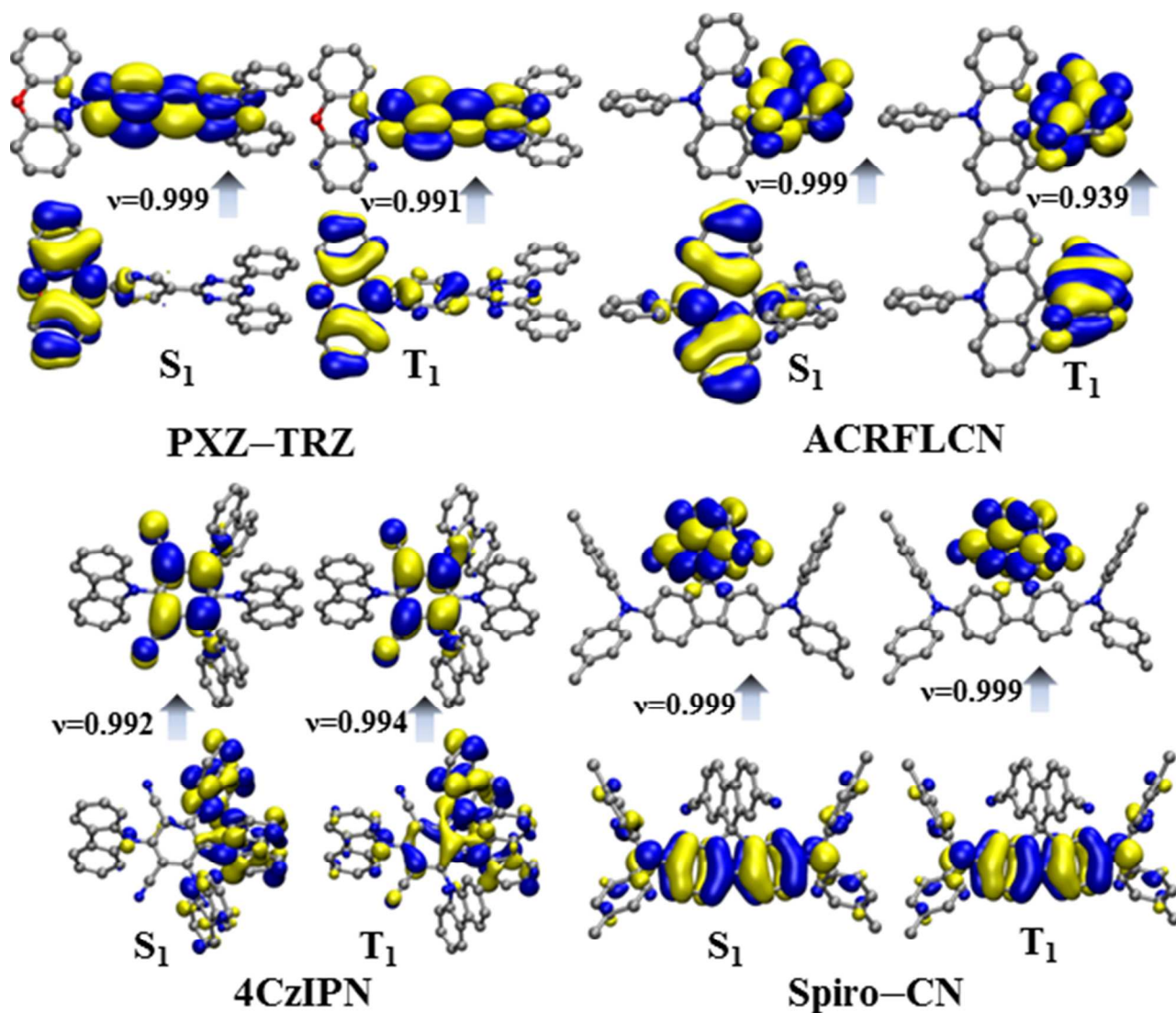


Figure S3. Natural transition orbitals of PXZ-TRZ, ACRFLCN, 4CzIPN, and Spiro-CN corresponding to the S_1 and T_1 states at their respective optimized geometry. Hole and electron wave functions with the largest weight, v , are illustrated below and above the arrows, respectively. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for the sake of clarity.

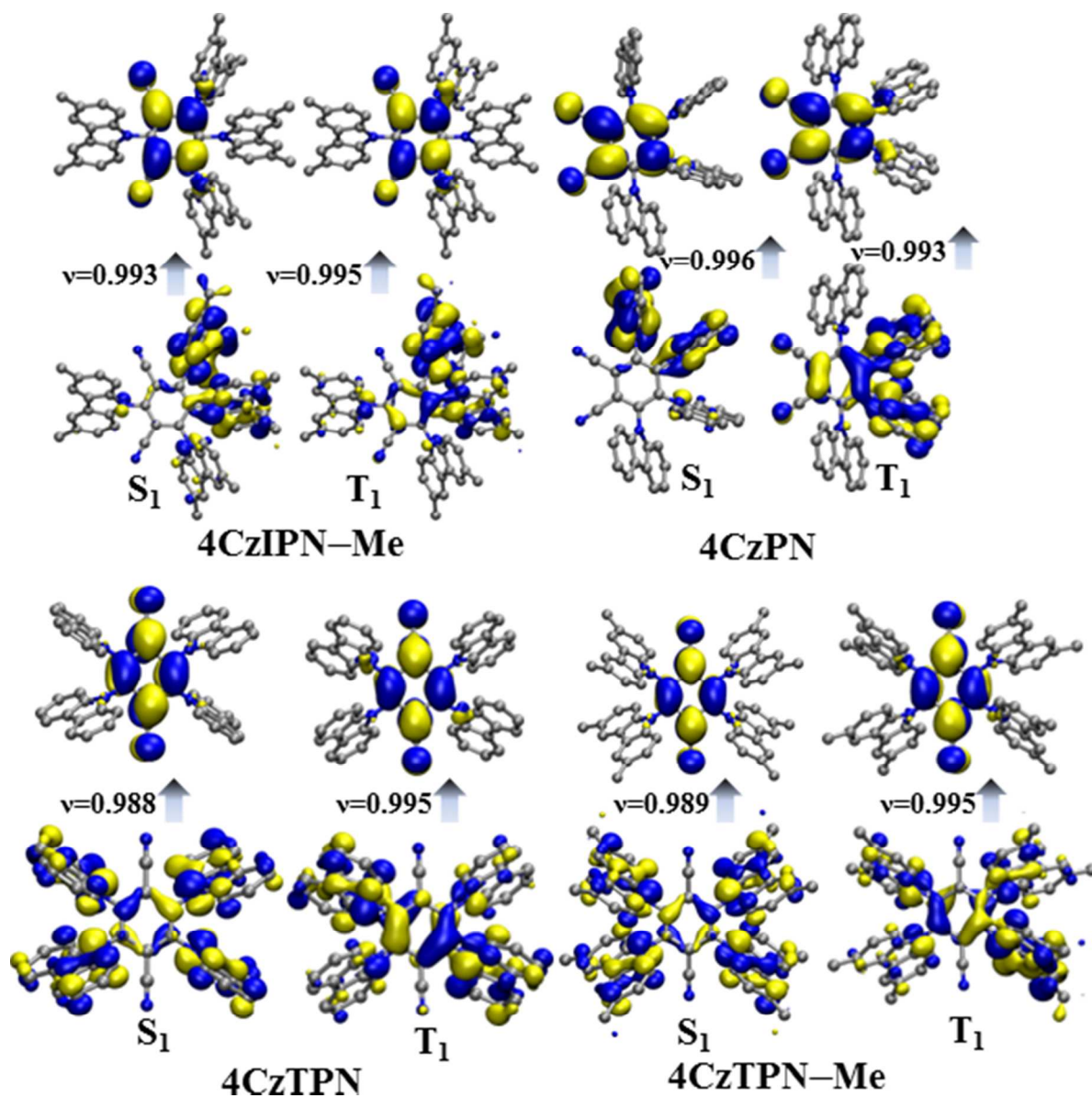


Figure S4. Natural transition orbitals of 4CzIPN-Me, 4CzPN, 4CzTPN, and 4CzTPN-Me corresponding to the S_1 and T_1 states at their respective optimized geometry. Hole and electron wave functions with the largest weight, v , are illustrated below and above the arrows, respectively. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for the sake of clarity.

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