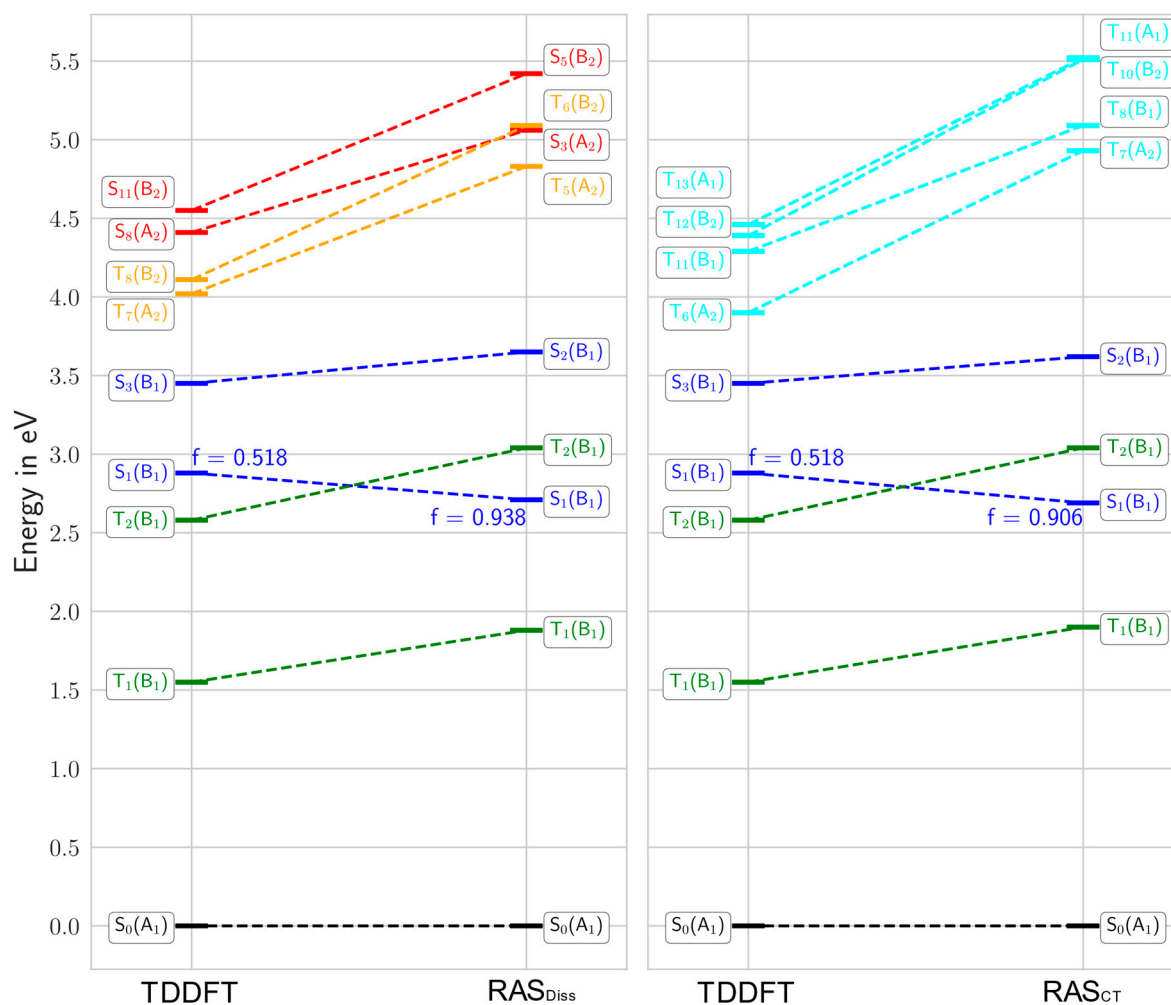


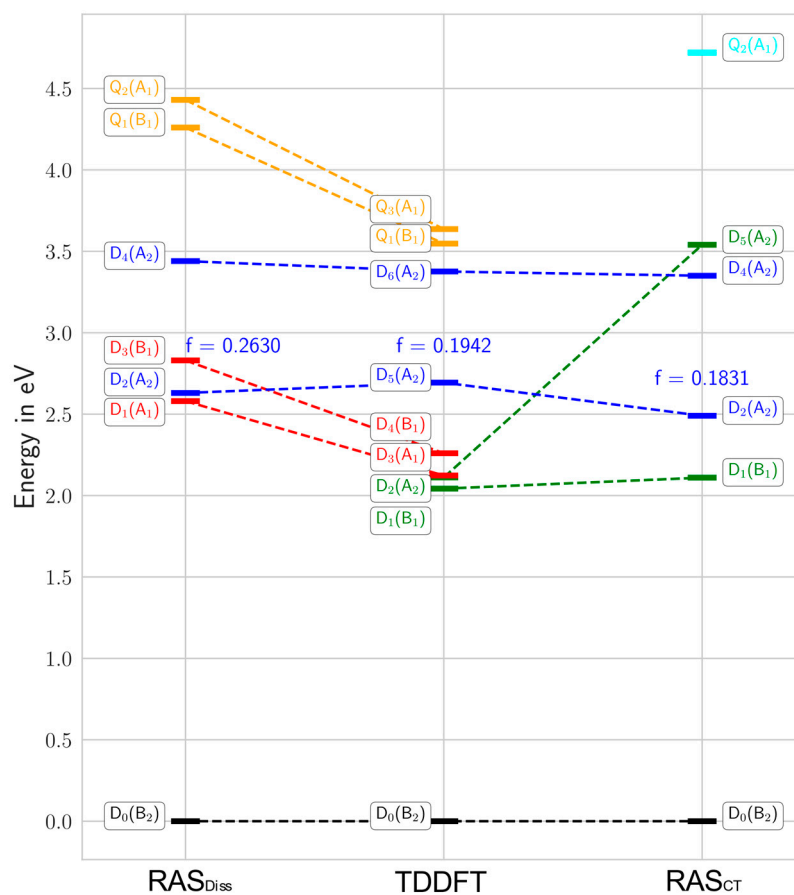
# Supplementary Materials: Photo-induced Charge Separation vs. Degradation of a BODIPY-Based Photosensitizer Assessed by TDDFT and RASPT2

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## 1. Preliminary benchmark



**Figure S1.** Comparison of TDDFT and MS-RASPT2 at GS  $S_0$  geometry  $11^0$  for the non-reduced dye. Left: comparison for dissociative states with RAS<sub>Diss</sub>. Right: comparison for CT states with RAS<sub>CT</sub>. Colour code: singlet ground state (black), excited singlet state (blue), dissociative singlet state (red), triplet state (green), dissociative triplet state (orange), triplet CT state (cyan).



**Figure S2.** Comparison of TDDFT and MS-RASPT2 (RAS<sub>Diss</sub> and RAS<sub>CT</sub>) states at singly reduced GS D<sub>0</sub> geometry  $^2\mathbf{1}^{-1}$ . Colour code: doublet ground state (black), excited doublet state (blue), dissociative doublet state (red), CT doublet state (green), dissociative quartet state (orange), CT quartet state (cyan).

**Table S1.** TDDFT calculated vertical excitation energies ( $E$ ), wavelengths ( $\lambda$ ), oscillator strengths ( $f$ ), and singly-excited configurations of the main excited singlet-singlet and singlet-triplet transitions involved in the initial absorption of  $11^0$  within the Franck-Condon region.

|                                   | Transition                                 | Weight / % | $E$ / eV | $\lambda$ / nm | $f$    | Character                 |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------|----------|----------------|--------|---------------------------|
| S <sub>0</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> )  | HF   | -          | -        | -              | -      | HF                        |
| S <sub>1</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> )  | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 89         | 2.88     | 430            | 0.5183 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   |
|                                   | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 11         |          |                |        | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO |
| S <sub>2</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> )  | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 98         | 3.44     | 360            | 0.0454 |                           |
| S <sub>3</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> )  | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 88         | 3.45     | 359            | 0.3113 | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO |
|                                   | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 12         |          |                |        | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   |
| S <sub>8</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> )  | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$     | 93         | 4.41     | 281            | 0.0000 | Diss                      |
| S <sub>11</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$     | 87         | 4.55     | 272            | 0.0001 | Diss                      |
| T <sub>1</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> )  | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 96         | 1.55     | 800            | -      | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   |
| T <sub>2</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> )  | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 89         | 2.58     | 480            | -      | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO |
| T <sub>3</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> )  | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 90         | 2.75     | 451            | -      |                           |
| T <sub>4</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> )  | $\pi_3(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 80         | 3.36     | 369            | -      |                           |
|                                   | $p(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$          | 12         |          |                |        |                           |
| T <sub>6</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> )  | $\pi_{ph,2}(b_1) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$ | 82         | 3.90     | 318            | -      | CT                        |
| T <sub>7</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> )  | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$     | 70         | 4.02     | 308            | -      | Diss                      |
|                                   | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$     | 17         |          |                |        |                           |
|                                   | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$     | 10         |          |                |        |                           |
| T <sub>8</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> )  | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$     | 58         | 4.11     | 302            | -      | Diss                      |
|                                   | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$     | 26         |          |                |        |                           |
|                                   | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$     | 11         |          |                |        |                           |
| T <sub>11</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_{ph,3}(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$ | 100        | 4.29     | 289            | -      | CT                        |
| T <sub>12</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,5^*}(b_1)$ | 94         | 4.39     | 282            | -      | CT                        |
| T <sub>13</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,4^*}(a_2)$ | 85         | 4.46     | 278            | -      | CT                        |

**Table S2.** Vertical excitation energies ( $E$ ), wavelengths ( $\lambda$ ), oscillator strengths ( $f$ ), and singly-excited configurations of the main excited singlet-singlet and singlet-triplet transitions involved in the initial absorption of  ${}^1\mathbf{1}^0$  within the Franck-Condon region. Calculated at the MS-RASPT2 level of theory using RAS<sub>Diss</sub> and a level shift of 0.3 a.u. Double excitations are indicated by DE.

|                                  | Transition                                 | Weight / % | $E$ / eV | $\lambda$ / nm | $f$    | Character                 |
|----------------------------------|--|------------|----------|----------------|--------|---------------------------|
| S <sub>0</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | -  | 83         | -        | -              | -      | HF                        |
| S <sub>1</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 76         | 2.71     | 457            | 0.9383 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   |
| S <sub>2</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 75         | 3.65     | 340            | 0.0939 | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO |
| S <sub>3</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$     | 74         | 5.06     | 245            | 0.0000 | Diss                      |
| S <sub>4</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | DE: $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$  | 59         | 5.06     | 245            | 0.0030 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   |
|                                  | $\pi_3(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 13         |          |                |        |                           |
| S <sub>5</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$     | 77         | 5.52     | 229            | 0.0012 | Diss                      |
| S <sub>6</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_{ph,2}(b_1) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$ | 86         | 5.91     | 210            | 0.0000 | CT                        |
| S <sub>7</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$     | 64         | 5.93     | 209            | 0.0000 | Diss                      |
| S <sub>8</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,5}^*(b_1)$ | 84         | 6.33     | 196            | 0.0000 | CT                        |
| T <sub>1</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 82         | 1.88     | 658            | -      | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   |
| T <sub>2</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 78         | 3.04     | 408            | -      | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO |
| T <sub>3</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 47         | 4.09     | 303            | -      |                           |
|                                  | $\pi_3(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 24         |          |                |        |                           |
| T <sub>4</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_3(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 49         | 4.78     | 260            | -      |                           |
|                                  | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 24         |          |                |        |                           |
| T <sub>5</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$     | 72         | 4.83     | 257            | -      | Diss                      |
| T <sub>6</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$     | 60         | 5.09     | 244            | -      | Diss                      |
|                                  | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$     | 14         |          |                |        |                           |
| T <sub>7</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$     | 62         | 5.83     | 213            | -      | Diss                      |
| T <sub>8</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_{ph,2}(b_1) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$ | 86         | 5.95     | 208            | -      | CT                        |
| T <sub>9</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$     | 49         | 5.99     | 207            | -      | Diss                      |
|                                  | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$     | 16         |          |                |        |                           |

**Table S3.** Vertical excitation energies ( $E$ ), wavelengths ( $\lambda$ ), oscillator strengths ( $f$ ), and singly-excited configurations of the main excited singlet-singlet and singlet-triplet transitions involved in the initial absorption of  ${}^1\mathbf{1}^0$  within the Franck-Condon region. Calculated at the MS-RASPT2 level of theory using RASCT and a level shift of 0.3 a.u.

|                            | Transition                                      | Weight / % | $E$ / eV | $\lambda$ / nm | $f$    | Character                 |
|----------------------------|---|------------|----------|----------------|--------|---------------------------|
| $S_0$ (A <sub>1</sub> )    | -   | 79         | -        | -              | -      | HF                        |
| $S_1$ (B <sub>1</sub> )    | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$           | 73         | 2.69     | 460            | 0.9059 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   |
| $S_2$ (B <sub>1</sub> )    | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$           | 68         | 3.62     | 342            | 0.0987 | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO |
| $S_3$ (A <sub>1</sub> )    | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$           | 53         | 4.52     | 275            | 0.0562 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   |
|                            | DE: $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$       | 17         |          |                |        |                           |
| $T_1$ (B <sub>1</sub> )    | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$           | 72         | 1.90     | 654            | -      | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   |
| $T_2$ (B <sub>1</sub> )    | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$           | 75         | 3.04     | 408            | -      | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO |
| $T_3$ (A <sub>1</sub> )    | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$           | 64         | 4.16     | 298            | -      |                           |
| $T_4$ (A <sub>1</sub> )    | $\pi_{ph,3}(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,4}^*(a_2)$ | 40         | 4.45     | 279            | -      | Intra Ph                  |
|                            | $\pi_{ph,2}(b_1) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,5}^*(b_1)$ | 31         |          |                |        |                           |
| $T_5$ (B <sub>2</sub> )    | $\pi_{ph,3}(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,5}^*(b_1)$ | 39         | 4.84     | 256            | -      | Intra Ph                  |
|                            | $\pi_{ph,2}(b_1) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,4}^*(a_2)$ | 36         |          |                |        |                           |
| $T_6$ (A <sub>1</sub> )    | $\pi_3(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$           | 65         | 4.85     | 256            | -      |                           |
| $T_7$ (A <sub>2</sub> )    | $\pi_{ph,2}(b_1) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 81         | 4.93     | 252            | -      | CT                        |
| $T_8$ (B <sub>1</sub> )    | $\pi_{ph,3}(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 72         | 5.09     | 243            | -      | CT                        |
| $T_9$ (A <sub>1</sub> )    | $\pi_{ph,2}(b_1) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,5}^*(b_1)$ | 43         | 5.23     | 237            | -      | Intra Ph                  |
|                            | $\pi_{ph,3}(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,4}^*(a_2)$ | 21         |          |                |        |                           |
| $T_{10}$ (B <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,5}^*(b_1)$      | 68         | 5.51     | 225            | -      | CT                        |
| $T_{11}$ (A <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,4}^*(a_2)$      | 68         | 5.52     | 225            | -      | CT                        |
| $T_{12}$ (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$          | 42         | 5.54     | 224            | -      | Diss                      |
|                            | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$          | 50         |          |                |        |                           |
|                            | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$          | 15         |          |                |        |                           |
| $T_{13}$ (B <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$          | 56         | 5.82     | 213            | -      | Diss                      |
|                            | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$          | 11         |          |                |        |                           |

**Table S4.** TDDFT calculated vertical excitation energies ( $E$ ), wavelengths ( $\lambda$ ), oscillator strengths ( $f$ ), spin ( $2S + 1$ ) and singly-excited configurations of the main excited doublet-doublet and doublet-quartet transitions involved in the initial absorption of  ${}^2\mathbf{1}^{-1}$  within the Franck-Condon region.

|                                  | Transition  | Weight / % | $E / \text{eV}$ | $\lambda / \text{nm}$ | $f$    | Spin | Character                 |
|----------------------------------|---|------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------|------|---------------------------|
| D <sub>0</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) | HF  | -          | -               | -                     | -      | 2.02 | HF                        |
| D <sub>1</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_4^*(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_{\text{ph},5}^*(b_1)$           | 99         | 2.04            | 607                   | 0.0000 | 2.03 |                           |
| D <sub>2</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_4^*(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_{\text{ph},4}^*(a_2)$           | 98         | 2.11            | 587                   | 0.0000 | 2.03 |                           |
| D <sub>3</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_4^*(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$                      | 95         | 2.12            | 584                   | 0.0000 | 2.11 |                           |
| D <sub>4</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_4^*(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$                      | 94         | 2.26            | 549                   | 0.0000 | 2.12 |                           |
| D <sub>5</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$                         | 87         | 2.69            | 460                   | 0.1942 | 2.05 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   |
| D <sub>6</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$                         | 93         | 3.38            | 367                   | 0.0034 | 2.08 | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO |
| Q <sub>1</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$                        | 60         | 3.55            | 350                   | -      | 3.25 | Diss                      |
|                                  | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$                        | 10         |                 |                       |        |      |                           |
| Q <sub>2</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_{\text{ph},2}(b_1) \rightarrow \pi_{\text{ph},5}^*(b_1)$ | 52         | 3.62            | 342                   | -      | 3.46 | Intra Ph                  |
|                                  | $\pi_{\text{ph},3}(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{\text{ph},4}^*(a_2)$ | 38         |                 |                       |        |      |                           |
| Q <sub>3</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$                        | 52         | 3.64            | 341                   | -      | 3.27 | Diss                      |
|                                  | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$                        | 15         |                 |                       |        |      |                           |
|                                  | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$                        | 11         |                 |                       |        |      |                           |
| Q <sub>4</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_{\text{ph},2}(b_1) \rightarrow \pi_{\text{ph},4}^*(a_2)$ | 81         | 4.68            | 265                   | -      | 3.47 | Intra Ph                  |
|                                  | $\pi_{\text{ph},3}(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{\text{ph},5}^*(b_1)$ | 17         |                 |                       |        |      |                           |
| Q <sub>5</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_{\text{ph},3}(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{\text{ph},4}^*(a_2)$ | 60         | 4.73            | 262                   | -      | 3.46 | Intra Ph                  |
|                                  | $\pi_{\text{ph},2}(b_1) \rightarrow \pi_{\text{ph},5}^*(b_1)$ | 37         |                 |                       |        |      |                           |

**Table S5.** Vertical excitation energies ( $E$ ), wavelengths ( $\lambda$ ), oscillator strengths ( $f$ ), and singly-excited configurations of the main excited doublet-doublet and doublet-quartet transitions involved in the initial absorption of  ${}^2\mathbf{1}^{-1}$  within the Franck-Condon region. Calculated at the MS-RASPT2 level of theory using RAS<sub>Diss</sub> and a level shift of 0.3 a.u.

|                                  | Transition                                   | Weight / % | $E$ / eV | $\lambda$ / nm | $f$    | Character                 |
|----------------------------------|--|------------|----------|----------------|--------|---------------------------|
| D <sub>0</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) | HF   | 83         | -        | -              | -      | HF                        |
| D <sub>1</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_4^*(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$     | 70         | 2.58     | 480            | 0.0001 | Diss                      |
| D <sub>2</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$        | 47         | 2.63     | 471            | 0.2630 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   |
|                                  | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$        | 30         |          |                |        | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO |
| D <sub>3</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_4^*(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$     | 73         | 2.83     | 438            | 0.0000 | Diss                      |
| D <sub>4</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$        | 46         | 3.44     | 360            | 0.0006 | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO |
|                                  | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$        | 32         |          |                |        | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   |
| D <sub>5</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_4^*(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,5}^*(b_1)$ | 86         | 3.64     | 341            | 0.0000 | CT                        |
| D <sub>6</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$       | 54         | 4.61     | 269            | 0.0009 | Diss                      |
| Q <sub>1</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$       | 58         | 4.26     | 291            | -      | Diss                      |
|                                  | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$       | 17         |          |                |        |                           |
| Q <sub>2</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$       | 55         | 4.43     | 280            | -      | Diss                      |
|                                  | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$       | 18         |          |                |        |                           |
| Q <sub>3</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$       | 48         | 4.96     | 250            | -      | Diss                      |
|                                  | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$       | 21         |          |                |        |                           |
|                                  | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$       | 11         |          |                |        |                           |
| Q <sub>4</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$       | 45         | 5.13     | 242            | -      | Diss                      |
|                                  | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$       | 23         |          |                |        |                           |
|                                  | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$       | 11         |          |                |        |                           |

**Table S6.** Vertical excitation energies ( $E$ ), wavelengths ( $\lambda$ ), oscillator strengths ( $f$ ), and singly-excited configurations of the main excited doublet-doublet and doublet-quartet transitions involved in the initial absorption of  ${}^2\mathbf{1}^{-1}$  within the Franck-Condon region. Calculated at the MS-RASPT2 level of theory using RAS<sub>CT</sub> and a level shift of 0.3 a.u.

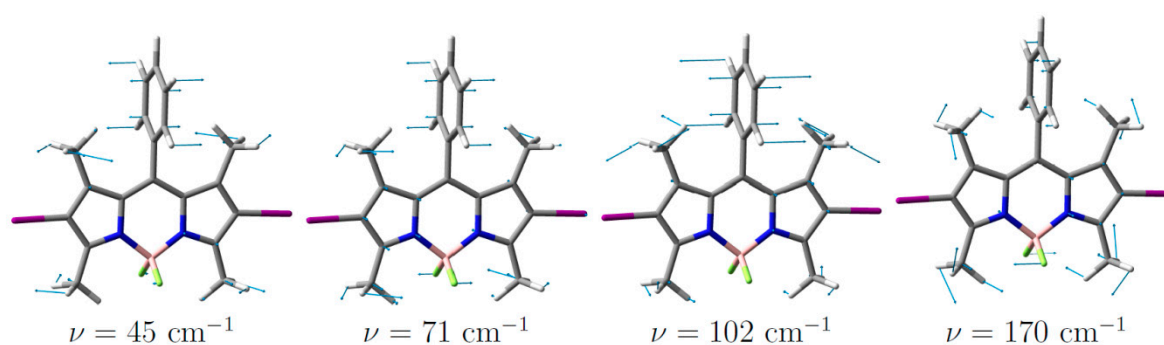
|                                  | Transition                                      | Weight / % | $E$ / eV | $\lambda$ / nm | $f$    | Character                 |
|----------------------------------|---|------------|----------|----------------|--------|---------------------------|
| D <sub>0</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) | HF  | 81         | -        | -              | -      | HF                        |
| D <sub>1</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_4^*(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,5}^*(b_1)$    | 83         | 2.11     | 587            | 0.0000 | CT                        |
| D <sub>2</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$           | 72         | 2.49     | 497            | 0.1831 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   |
| D <sub>3</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_4^*(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$        | 67         | 3.03     | 409            | 0.0000 | Diss                      |
| D <sub>4</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$           | 66         | 3.35     | 370            | 0.0101 | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO |
| D <sub>5</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_4^*(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(a_2)$         | 38         | 3.54     | 350            | 0.1503 | CT                        |
|                                  | $\pi_4^*(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,5}^*(b_1)$    | 29         |          |                |        |                           |
| D <sub>6</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_4^*(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,4}^*(a_2)$    | 50         | 4.36     | 284            | 0.1501 | CT                        |
|                                  | $\pi_4^*(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(a_2)$         | 23         |          |                |        |                           |
| Q <sub>1</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_{ph,3}(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,4}^*(a_2)$ | 60         | 4.38     | 283            | -      | Intra Ph                  |
|                                  | $\pi_{ph,2}(b_1) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,5}^*(b_1)$ | 23         |          |                |        |                           |
| Q <sub>2</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,5}^*(b_1)$      | 82         | 4.72     | 262            | -      | Intra Ph                  |
| Q <sub>3</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$          | 34         | 4.89     | 254            | -      | Diss                      |
|                                  | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(a_1)$          | 23         |          |                |        |                           |
|                                  | $\pi_2(b_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(b_1)$          | 13         |          |                |        |                           |
| Q <sub>4</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_{ph,3}(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,5}^*(b_1)$ | 41         | 5.06     | 245            | -      | Intra Ph                  |
|                                  | $\pi_{ph,2}(b_1) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,4}^*(a_2)$ | 39         |          |                |        |                           |
| Q <sub>5</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_{ph,2}(b_1) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,5}^*(b_1)$ | 57         | 5.23     | 237            |        | Intra Ph                  |
|                                  | $\pi_{ph,3}(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,4}^*(a_2)$ | 20         |          |                |        |                           |



## 2. Light-induced charging of the PS

**Table S7.** SOC between the bright  $S_1$  and CT states. Calculated at the MS-RASPT2 level of theory using RAS<sub>CT</sub> in  ${}^1A_0$  geometry.

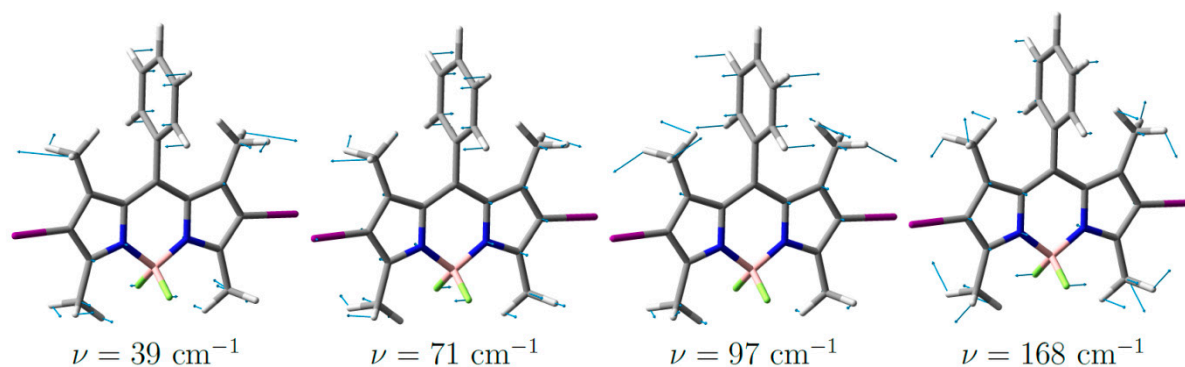
|                                   | Transition                                 | $E / eV$ | Character                 | SOC with $S_1 / cm^{-1}$ |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| T <sub>1</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> )  | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 1.90     | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   | -                        |
| T <sub>2</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> )  | $\pi_2(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$      | 3.04     | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO | -                        |
| T <sub>7</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> )  | $\pi_{ph,2}(b_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$ | 4.93     | CT                        | 5.3                      |
| T <sub>8</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> )  | $\pi_{ph,3}(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b_2)$ | 5.09     | CT                        | -                        |
| T <sub>10</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,5}^*(b_1)$ | 5.51     | CT                        | 0.0                      |
| T <sub>11</sub> (A <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_3(a_2) \rightarrow \pi_{ph,4}^*(a_2)$ | 5.52     | CT                        | 0.5                      |



**Figure S3.** Vibrational modes at GS geometry  ${}^1A_0$  corresponding to a torsion around the main/side ring dihedral.

**Table S8.** SOC for  ${}^1A_0$  at a torsion of  $55^\circ$  ( $C_2$  symmetry) obtained by RASPT2 with RAS<sub>CT</sub> and a level shift of 0.3 a.u.

|                    | Transition                             | $E / eV$ | Character                 | SOC with $S_1 / cm^{-1}$ |
|--------------------|--|----------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| S <sub>1</sub> (B) | $\pi_3(a) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b)$      | 2.68     | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   | -                        |
| T <sub>1</sub> (B) | $\pi_3(a) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b)$      | 0.90     | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   | 0.1                      |
| T <sub>2</sub> (B) | $\pi_2(a) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b)$      | 2.03     | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO | 0.4                      |
| T <sub>3</sub> (A) | $\pi_{ph,2}(b) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(b)$ | 3.62     | CT                        | 4.0                      |

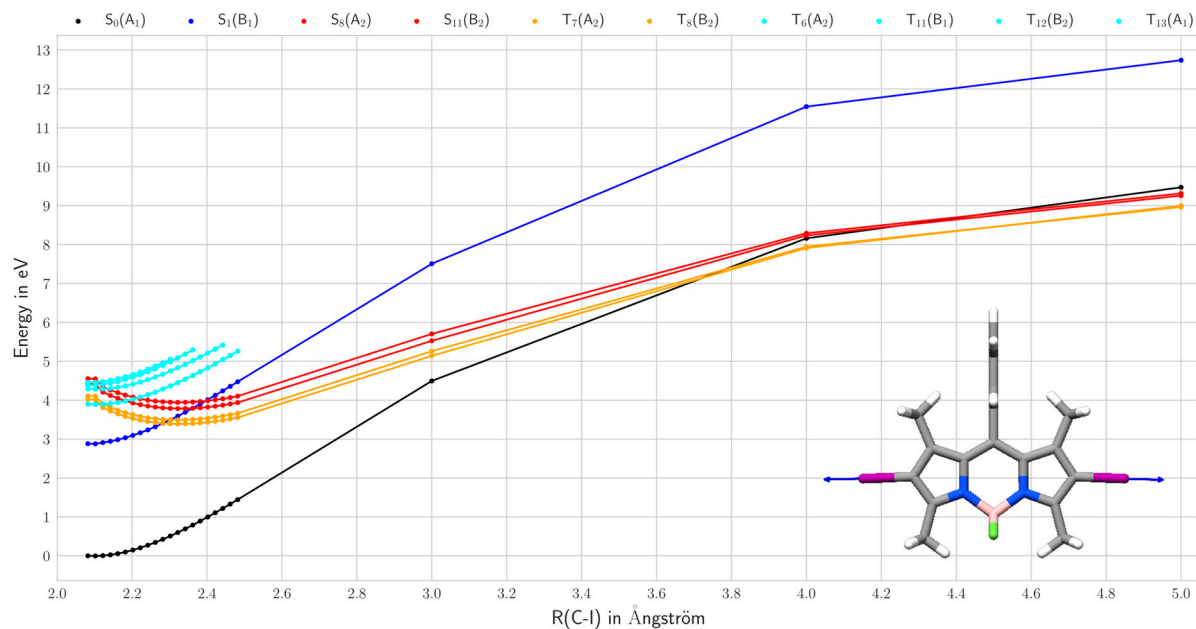


**Figure S4.** Vibrational modes at GS geometry  ${}^2\mathbf{1}^{-1}$  corresponding to a torsion around the main/side ring dihedral.

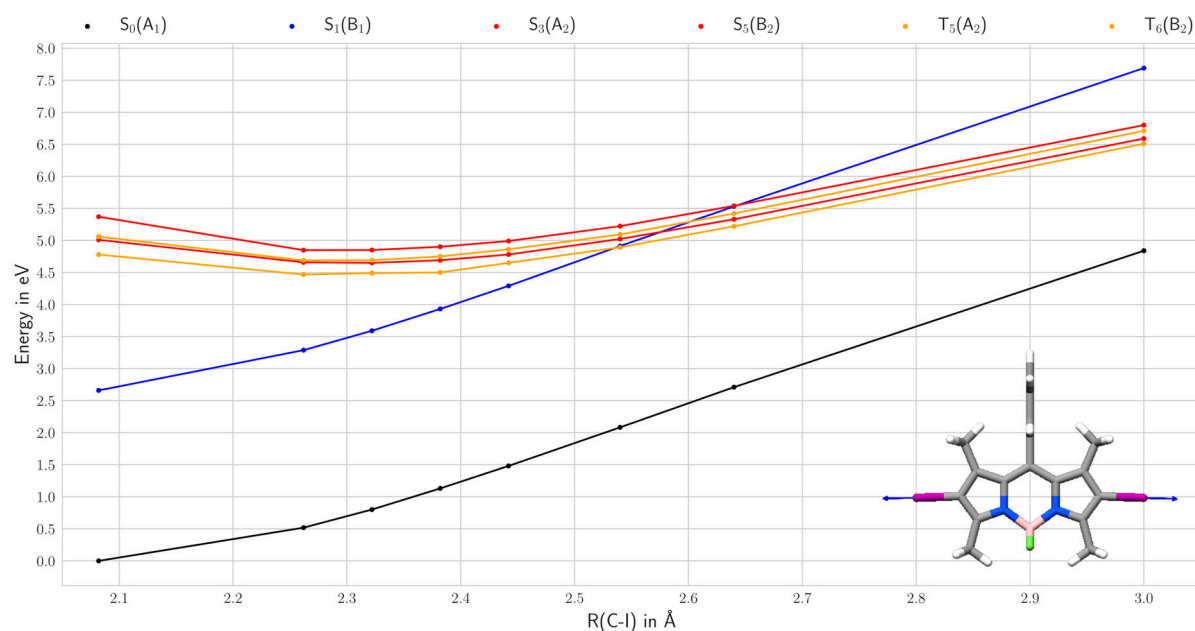
**Table S9.** SOC between the bright  $S_1$  and dissociative states. Calculated at the MS-RASPT2 level of theory using RAS<sub>Diss</sub> in  ${}^1\mathbf{1}^0$  geometry.

|                      | Transition   | $E / \text{eV}$ | Character                 | SOC with $S_1 / \text{cm}^{-1}$ |
|----------------------|--|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| T1 (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_3(\text{a}_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(\text{b}_2)$  | 1.88            | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO   | -                               |
| T2 (B <sub>1</sub> ) | $\pi_2(\text{a}_2) \rightarrow \pi_4^*(\text{b}_2)$  | 3.02            | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO | -                               |
| T5 (A <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(\text{a}_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(\text{a}_1)$ | 4.78            | Diss                      | 0.6                             |
| T6 (B <sub>2</sub> ) | $\pi_3(\text{a}_2) \rightarrow \sigma^*(\text{b}_1)$ | 5.06            | Diss                      | 39.2                            |

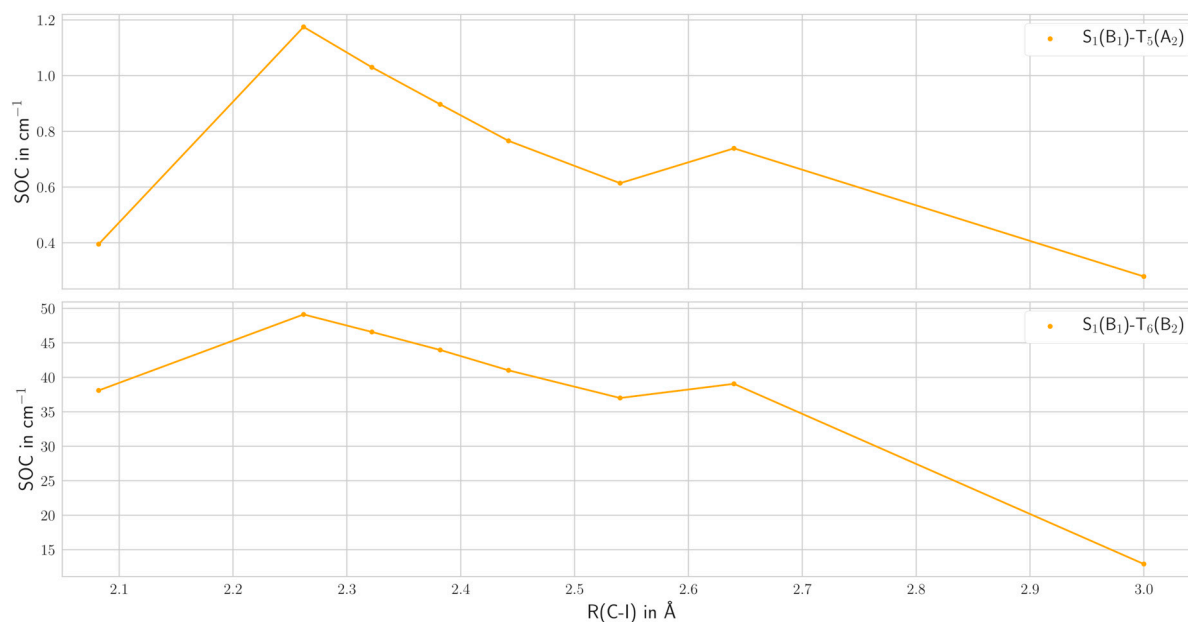
### 3. Photo-degradation



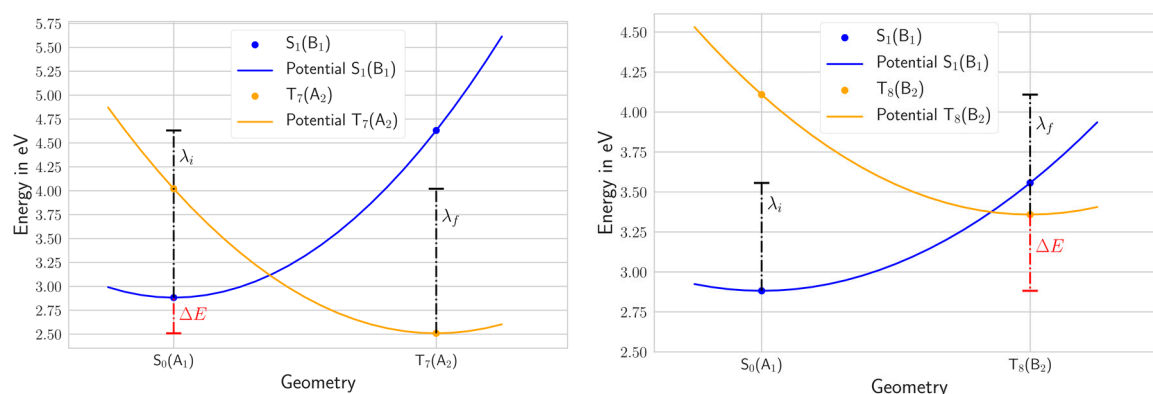
**Figure S5.** TDDFT PESs along the doubly dissociative (C-I) coordinate for the non-reduced dye. No dissociative behaviour can be observed. Colour code: singlet ground state (black), excited singlet state (blue), dissociative singlet state (red), triplet state (green), dissociative triplet state (orange), triplet CT state (cyan).



**Figure S6.** PESs along the unrelaxed doubly dissociative (C-I) coordinate for the non-reduced dye. These potentials were calculated at the MS-RASPT2 level of theory using RAS<sub>Diss</sub> and a level shift of 0.1 a.u. The unrelaxed coordinate was chosen to maintain the  $C_{2v}$  symmetry and thus reduce the computational costs. The reported energetic shift between RASPT2 and TDDFT can best be seen through the shift of the crossing point between  $S_1$  and the dissociative states towards higher excitation energies and longer elongations compared to the TDDFT results in Figure S5. Colour code: singlet ground state (black), excited singlet state (blue), dissociative singlet state (red), triplet state (green), dissociative triplet state (orange).



**Figure S7.** SOC for the diabatic potentials along the unrelaxed doubly dissociative (C-I) coordinate between the  $S_1(B_1)$  state and the two dissociative triplet states,  $T_5(A_2)$  (above) and  $T_6(B_2)$  (below); calculated at the MS-RASPT2 level of theory using RAS<sub>Diss</sub>.



**Figure S8.** Quadratic potentials according to Marcus theory with energy difference ( $\Delta E$ ), and reorganization energy for initial ( $\lambda_i$ ) and final ( $\lambda_f$ ) geometry. Left: For an ISC from S<sub>1</sub> at GS geometry <sup>11</sup>0 to T<sub>7</sub> at its excited state geometry; mono-dissociation. Right: For an ISC from S<sub>1</sub> at GS geometry <sup>11</sup>0 to T<sub>8</sub> at its excited state geometry; di-dissociation.

**Table S10.** Results for ISC between S<sub>1</sub> / T<sub>7</sub> and S<sub>1</sub> / T<sub>8</sub> based on Marcus theory and Equation 1. f = final and i = initial, representing the geometry from which the reorganization energy was taken.

| S <sub>1</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) | to T <sub>7</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) | to T <sub>8</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| $\Delta E$ / eV                  | -0.37                               | 0.48                                |
| $\lambda(f)$ / eV                | 1.75                                | 0.67                                |
| $\lambda(i)$ / eV                | 1.51                                | 0.75                                |
| SOC / cm <sup>-1</sup>           | 0.58                                | 39.22                               |
| $t_{isc}(f)$ / s                 | $5.63 \times 10^4$                  | $4.19 \times 10^4$                  |
| $t_{isc}(i)$ / s                 | $5.92 \times 10^5$                  | $6.62 \times 10^4$                  |
| $k_{isc}(f)$ / s <sup>-1</sup>   | $1.78 \times 10^3$                  | $2.39 \times 10^3$                  |
| $k_{isc}(i)$ / s <sup>-1</sup>   | $1.69 \times 10^4$                  | $1.51 \times 10^3$                  |

**Table S11.** SOCs at the geometry derived from the crossing point of the S<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>8</sub> potentials obtained by RASPT2 with RAS<sub>Diss</sub> and a level shift of 0.3 a.u.

| Transition   | E / eV | Character   | SOC with S <sub>1</sub> / cm <sup>-1</sup> |
|--|--------|-------------|--|
| S <sub>1</sub> (B <sub>1</sub> ) π <sub>3</sub> (a) → π <sub>4</sub> <sup>*</sup> (b)                | 2.72   | HOMO → LUMO | -  |
| T <sub>5</sub> (A <sub>2</sub> ) π <sub>3</sub> (a <sub>2</sub> ) → σ <sup>*</sup> (a <sub>1</sub> ) | 3.72   | Diss        | 1.7  |
| T <sub>6</sub> (B <sub>2</sub> ) π <sub>3</sub> (a <sub>2</sub> ) → σ <sup>*</sup> (b <sub>1</sub> ) | 3.91   | Diss        | 53.0                                       |