Supporting Information

## The impact of molecular stacking interactions on the electronic structure and charge transport properties in distyrylbenzene-(DSB) based D-A complexes: a theoretical study

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**Fig. S1** Schematic diagram of the displacement patterns in cofacial D-A pair.



Fig. S2 HOMOs and LUMOs of D1 and A1 with the  $C_1$  symmetrical structure (ground state) and  $C_{2h}$  symmetrical structure.



Fig. S3 Molecular packing crystal structure of top view for D-A complexes in experiment.



**Fig. S4** Evolution of the HOMO (a), LUMO (b) and HOMO-LUMO gap energy (c) for D1-A1 pair as a function of the horizontal displacement S for the fixed vertical separation Z of 3.2 Å, 3.4 Å and 3.6 Å.



**Fig. S5** HOMOs and LUMOs of D2 and A2 with the C1 symmetrical structure (in ground state) and C2h symmetrical structure.



**Fig. S6** Visualization of the weak interactions for D2-A2 pair, D2-A2' pair in real space at the configuration of S=0 Å and S=1.2 Å with fixed Z=3.6 Å, and for D1-A1 pair at the configuration of S=1.2 Å, Z= 3.4 Å. The scale runs from -0.01 (min) to 0.01 (max).



Fig. S7 Evolution of the HOMO energies and LUMO energies for D2-A2 pair (a) and D2-A2' pair (b) as a function of the horizontal displacement S for the fixed vertical separation Z of 3.4 Å, 3.6 Å and 3.8 Å.



**Fig. S8** The visualization of intermolecular orbital (HOMO and LUMO) overlap between (a) D2 and A2 (b) D2 and A2' molecules. Green/Blue isosurface refers to the overlap in the way of same/opposite phase.



**Fig. S9** Computed UV-vis absorption spectra of D1 and A1 monomers with C1 and C2h geometry, respectively.

**Table S1** Bond lengths (Å), torsion angles (°), the highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) energies (eV), the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) energies (eV) and potential difference ( $\Delta E$ , kcal/mol) in different optimized geometry of **D1** and **A1** and the experimental values.



	D1			A1			
	C <sub>1</sub> (Ground state)	$C_{2h}$	Exp	C <sub>1</sub> (Ground state)	$C_{2h}$	Exp	
1	1.510	1.510	1.508	1.507	1.508	1.496	
2	1.389	1.391	1.387	1.393	1.389	1.379	
3	1.408	1.406	1.403	1.399	1.403	1.399	
4	1.464	1.464	1.461	1.488	1.489	1.473	
5	1.347	1.347	1.331	1.360	1.361	1.349	
6	1.461	1.461	1.461	1.456	1.456	1.448	
7	1.408	1.408	1.396	1.411	1.412	1.400	
8	1.385	1.384	1.381	1.383	1.382	1.371	
9	1.406	1.406	1.398	1.409	1.409	1.405	
10				1.429	1.430	1.444	

θ1	-7.5	0.0 0.6	-31.1	0.0 1.7
θ2	-7.4	0.0 -1.3	-5.6	0.0 -4.7
HOMO	-5.303	-5.278	-6.908	-6.858
LUMO	-1.921	-1.946	-3.621	-3.697
$\Delta E$	0.10		84.37	

**Table S2** Bond lengths (Å), torsion angles (°), the highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) energies (eV), the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) energies (eV) and potential difference ( $\Delta E$ , kcal/mol) in different optimized geometry of D2, A2 and A2'.

H <sub>3</sub> C		$-CH_{3} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} \theta \\ 2 \\ \end{array}} F_{3}C \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \end{array}} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 2 \\ \end{array}} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 3 \\ \end{array}} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} 0 \end{array}} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \end{array}} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} 0 \end{array}} \xrightarrow{\end{array}} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} 0 \end{array}} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} 0 \end{array}} \xrightarrow{\end{array}} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} 0 \end{array}} \xrightarrow{\end{array}} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} 0 \end{array}} \xrightarrow{\end{array}} \xrightarrow{\end{array} \end{array}$		<sup>3</sup> F <sub>3</sub> C	$\mathbf{NC}_{5} \overset{6}{4}$	CN		
	D2	A2	A2			A2'		
	C <sub>2h</sub> (Ground state)	C <sub>1</sub> (Ground state)	C <sub>2h</sub>	C	(Ground state)	$C_{2h}$		
1	1.508	1.504	1.504		1.505	1.505		
2	1.408	1.404	1.406		1.409	1.411		
3	1.463	1.487	1.488		1.460	1.460		
4	1.347	1.360	1.361		1.359	1.360		
5	1.461	1.456	1.456		1.485	1.486		
6	1.408	1.411	1.410		1.403	1.406		
7		1.429	1.431		1.431	1.432		
θ1	0.0	30.7	0.0		-8.5	0.0		
θ2	0.0	6.2	0.0		-29.5	0.0		
HOMO	-5.271	-6.631	-6.568		-6.629	-6.518		
LUMO	-1.942	-3.390	-3.469		-3.076	-3.281		
ΔΕ		1.27			1.13			