

**Theoretical Background.** The chemical reaction parameters can be obtained from the following formula [1-3]:

$$IP = E_+ - E_0 \quad (1)$$

$$EA = E_0 - E_- \quad (2)$$

$$h = \frac{IP - EA}{2} \quad (3)$$

$$W = \frac{(IP + EA)^2}{4(IP - EA)} \quad (4)$$

$$W^+ = \frac{(IP + 3EA)^2}{16(IP - EA)} \quad (5)$$

Where  $E_+$  is the energy of the cation, and  $E_-$  is the energy of the anion, and  $E_0$  is the energy calculated from the optimized structure of the neutral molecule.

The intramolecular charge transfer characteristics can be obtained from the following formula [4-6]:

$$D_{ct} = \sqrt{D_X^2 + D_Y^2 + D_Z^2} \quad (6)$$

$$\Delta q = \int \rho_+(r) dr = \int \rho_-(r) dr \quad (7)$$

Where  $D_{ct}$  is the charge transfer distance, and  $D_X$ ,  $D_Y$ ,  $D_Z$  represent the distance in three different directions; the overlap condition,  $\rho_+(r)$  and  $\rho_-(r)$  are increment and depletion of the density.

The essence of the nonlinear optics (NLO) property is to describe the response of a system in an applied electric field, which in turn affects intramolecular charge delocalization based upon asymmetric polarization caused by the donor and receptor segments in  $\pi$ -conjugated molecules, The molecular polarizability is calculated by Taylor expansion of energy  $E$  to uniform external electric field  $F$ :

$$\begin{aligned} E(F) &= E(0) + \frac{\partial E}{\partial F} \Big|_{F=0} F + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial F^2} \Big|_{F=0} F^2 + \frac{1}{6} \frac{\partial^3 E}{\partial F^3} \Big|_{F=0} F^3 + \dots \\ &= E(0) - \mu_0 F - \frac{1}{2} \alpha F^2 - \frac{1}{6} \beta F^3 - \dots \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

$$\alpha = -\frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial F^2} \Big|_{F=0} \quad (9)$$

$$\beta = -\frac{\partial^3 E}{\partial F^3} \Big|_{F=0} \quad (10)$$

$\mu_0$  is the vector of the molecule's permanent dipole moment (the dipole moment in the absence of an external field).  $\alpha$  is the molecular polarizability, also known as the linear optical coefficient.  $\beta$  is the first hyperpolarizability, or the NLO coefficient of the molecule. The polarizability is calculated by the following formula [7]:

$$\alpha = (\alpha_{xx} + \alpha_{yy} + \alpha_{zz}) / 3 \quad (11)$$

Where  $\alpha_{xx}$ ,  $\alpha_{yy}$ , and  $\alpha_{zz}$  denote the tensor components of polarizability, respectively. The tensor of the  $\beta$  represents a result of the third derivative of the energy, which is written as [8]:

$$\beta_{tot} = \sqrt{(\beta_{xxx} + \beta_{xyy} + \beta_{xzz})^2 + (\beta_{yyy} + \beta_{xxy} + \beta_{yzz})^2 + (\beta_{zzz} + \beta_{xxz} + \beta_{yyz})^2} \quad (12)$$

The electron injection driving force and electron regeneration driving force are obtained from the following formula [9-10]:

$$\Delta G^{inject} = E_{CB} - E_{OX}^* = E_{CB} - E_{OX} - E_{00} \quad (13)$$

$$\Delta G^{reg} = E_{redox} - E_{OX} \quad (14)$$

Here,  $E_{CB}$  refers to the  $\text{TiO}_2$  CB lying at -4.0 eV, and  $E_{OX}$  and  $E_{OX}^*$  represent the dye oxidation potential in its ground state and excited state, respectively, and  $E_{00}$  refers to the vertical transition energy.  $E_{redox}$  is the Fermi levels of electrolyte iodine/iodide. According to Koopman's theorem,  $E_{OX}$  can be calculated by taking negative of the dye HOMO.

$$\lambda_h = (E_0^+ - E_+) + (E_+^0 - E_0) \quad (15)$$

$$\lambda_e = (E_0^- - E_-) + (E_-^0 - E_0) \quad (16)$$

$$\lambda_{tot} = \lambda_h + \lambda_e \quad (17)$$

Here,  $E_0$ , the neutral molecule's energy in the ground state;  $E_+/E_-$ , the energy of the cationic (anionic) optimized under the cationic (anionic) structure;  $E_+^0/E_-^0$ , the cation (anion)'s energy with the geometry of the neutral molecule;  $E_0^+/E_0^-$ , the

neutral's energy with the geometry of the cationic (anionic) state [11].

The Newns-Anderson method was adopted to simulate the mixing of the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) on dye with the manifold virtual orbitals on TiO<sub>2</sub>. The simulation was based on the shift in energy of the LUMO after grafting the TiO<sub>2</sub> surface and broadening width ( $\hbar\Gamma$ ), which is defined by the Lorentzian distribution [12]:

$$L_{LUMO}(E) = \frac{1}{(E - E_{LUMO(ads)})^2 + \left(\frac{\hbar\Gamma}{2}\right)^2} \quad (18)$$

The broadening width  $\hbar\Gamma$  is derived from the mean deviation of the LUMO (adsorbate) levels, which is evaluated as follows [13]:

$$\hbar\Gamma = \sum_i p_i |\varepsilon_i - E_{LUMO(ads)}| \quad (19)$$

$$\tau(fs) = \frac{658}{\hbar\Gamma} \quad (20)$$

where  $p_i$  and  $\varepsilon_i$  are the adsorbed portion of the  $i$ th molecular orbital and its corresponding orbital energy, respectively.

The above content has been added to the supporting documents.

## Reference:

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**Table S1.** The polarizability of the dye (a. u.).

<b>Dye</b>	<b><math>\alpha_{xx}</math></b>	<b><math>\alpha_{xy}</math></b>	<b><math>\alpha_{yy}</math></b>	<b><math>\alpha_{xz}</math></b>	<b><math>\alpha_{yz}</math></b>	<b><math>\alpha_{zz}</math></b>	<b><math>\alpha</math></b>
TY6	1601	16	656	12	164	745	1001
CXC22	2614	-6	689	26	59	1154	1486
CHL7	1193	-98	1062	-128	-27	329	861

**Table S2.** Hyperpolarizabilities of three dyes (a.u).

Dye	$\beta_{xxx}$	$\beta_{xyy}$	$\beta_{xzz}$	$\beta_{yyy}$	$\beta_{xyx}$	$\beta_{yzz}$	$\beta_{zzz}$	$\beta_{xxz}$	$\beta_{yyz}$	$B_{tot}$
TY6	100684	1083	495	55	625	-470	-58	611	-122	101795
CXC22	204765	786	754	53	2415	-396	27	929	35	206449
CHL7	1207	3689	212	-2493	-505	-903	230	37	108	1419

**Table S3.** Excited states information of three co-sensitive configurations.

Dye	State	E(ev)	$\lambda_{\max}$ (nm)	f	CI (main)
H-H	S1	2.10	589.89	0.187	H-1→L+1 (0.63)
	S2	2.25	549.84	1.830	H→L (0.61)
	S3	2.45	505.76	0.035	H-2→L+1 (0.58)
	S4	2.71	456.32	0.052	H-2→L (0.50)
	S5	2.85	433.77	0.010	H-1→L (0.66)
	S6	3.13	395.66	0.003	H-2→L (0.64)
	S7	3.13	395.01	0.009	H→L+1 (0.57)
	S8	3.18	389.06	0.047	H-4→L (0.41)
	S9	3.32	372.49	0.730	H-1→L+3 (0.49)
	S10	3.36	368.57	0.156	H-4→L (0.37)
	S11	3.42	362.30	0.629	H-2→L+3 (0.52)
	S12	3.54	349.33	1.145	H-5→L (0.33)
H-T	S1	2.10	588.51	0.186	H-1→L+1 (0.63)
	S2	2.26	547.74	1.722	H→L (0.60)
	S3	2.45	505.56	0.041	H-2→L+1 (0.58)
	S4	2.71	456.97	0.066	H-2→L (0.50)
	S5	3.05	406.27	0.010	H-1→L (0.67)
	S6	3.19	387.64	0.027	H-4→L (0.41)
	S7	3.27	378.12	0.000	H→L+1 (0.61)
	S8	3.29	375.87	0.001	H-2→L (0.67)
	S9	3.34	370.81	0.746	H-1→L+3 (0.47)
	S10	3.35	369.41	0.382	H-4→L (0.34)
	S11	3.42	361.52	0.633	H-2→L+3 (0.53)
	S12	3.53	350.68	1.012	H-5→L (0.33)
S-S	S1	2.10	589.15	0.273	H-1→L+1 (0.63)
	S2	2.25	548.63	1.917	H→L (0.60)
	S3	2.45	504.59	0.040	H-3→L+1 (0.59)
	S4	2.71	456.04	0.104	H-2→L (0.50)
	S5	3.19	387.61	0.011	H-4→L (0.41)
	S6	3.34	370.95	0.055	H-4→L (0.35)
	S7	3.35	369.32	1.462	H-1→L+3 (0.57)
	S8	3.44	360.02	1.194	H-2→L+3 (0.57)
	S9	3.51	353.08	0.359	H-5→L (0.35)
	S10	3.69	335.19	0.287	H-7→L+1 (0.62)
	S11	3.75	330.28	0.000	H-1→L (0.70)
	S12	3.84	322.62	0.000	H→L+1 (0.69)

**Table S4.** The charge and hole contents are distributed in different parts of the three co-sensitive configurations (where D represents the CXC22 donor, P represents the CXC22 conjugate bridge, and A represents the CXC22 receptor).

Type	State	D	P	A	CHL	D	P	A	CHL
		Hole				Electron			
H-H	S1	0.11%	0.08%	0.05%	99.76%	0.01%	0.34%	0.20%	99.45%
	S2	11.83%	79.51%	8.49%	0.17%	1.72%	87.96%	9.80%	0.51%
	S3	0.05%	0.06%	0.07%	98.82%	0.01%	0.32%	0.18%	99.49%
	S4	42.83%	47.28%	7.83%	1.06%	1.97%	88.21%	9.42%	0.40%
	S5	0.14%	0.08%	0.04%	99.73%	0.35%	62.22%	36.85%	0.58%
H-T	S1	0.02%	0.01%	0.05%	99.91%	0.00%	0.04%	0.09%	99.87%
	S2	16.20%	75.75%	7.92%	0.13%	1.59%	85.09%	13.22%	0.10%
	S3	0.04%	0.04%	0.13%	99.80%	0.00%	0.06%	0.08%	99.86%
	S4	46.75%	45.82%	7.30%	0.13%	2.07%	90.03%	7.77%	0.13%
	S5	0.01%	0.01%	0.03%	99.96%	0.39%	66.77%	33.72%	0.13%
S-S	S1	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%	99.99%
	S2	11.97%	79.75%	8.28%	0.00%	1.71%	87.99%	10.29%	0.01%
	S3	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%	99.99%
	S4	45.95%	46.73%	7.31%	0.00%	2.09%	89.75%	8.16%	0.00%
	S5	25.12%	71.85%	3.03%	0.00%	2.86%	86.70%	10.43%	0.00%



**Table S5.** The amount of intermolecular charge transfer in the first five excited states of the three configurations (where D represents the CXC22 donor, P represents the CXC22 conjugate bridge, and A represents the CXC22 receptor).

Typ	State	D	P	A	CHL	Net charge
	e					
H-H	S1	-0.00108	0.00265	0.00149	-0.00306	-0.00306
	S2	-0.10104	0.08447	0.01313	0.00344	0.00344
	S3	-0.00048	0.00259	0.00116	-0.00327	-0.00327
	S4	-0.41859	0.40930	0.01590	-0.00660	-0.00660
	S5	0.00217	0.62134	0.36802	-0.99153	-0.99153
H-T	S1	-0.00016	0.00030	0.00035	-0.00049	-0.00049
	S2	-0.14610	0.09342	0.05296	-0.00027	-0.00027
	S3	-0.00035	0.00022	-0.00047	0.00060	0.00060
	S4	-0.44680	0.44207	0.00472	0.0001	0.00001
	S5	0.00379	0.63760	0.35691	-0.99830	-0.99830
S-S	S1	0.00000	0.00004	0.00004	-0.00008	-0.0008
	S2	-0.10256	0.08243	0.02007	0.00006	0.0006
	S3	0.00000	0.00004	0.00003	-0.00006	-0.0006
	S4	-0.43868	0.43021	0.00843	0.0004	0.00004
	S5	-0.22256	0.14849	0.07402	0.00005	0.00005

**Table S6.** D/A Interfaces critical parameters (transition dipole moment ( $\mu_{tr}$ ), dipole moment difference ( $\Delta\mu$ ), electronic coupling ( $V_{DA}$ ), reorganization energy  $\lambda_{in}$  and  $\lambda$  (eV), Gibbs Free Energy change  $\Delta G_{CR}$  (eV), Gibbs Free Energy charge in Charge separation  $\Delta G_{CS}$  (eV), charge recombination rate  $K_{CR}$  ( $s^{-1}$ ) and charge separation rate  $K_{CS}$  ( $s^{-1}$ )).

$\mu_{tr}$	$\Delta\mu$	$V_{DA}$	$\lambda_{in}$	$\lambda$	$\Delta G_{CR}$	$\Delta G_{CS}$	$\Delta K_{CR}$	$\Delta K_{CS}$
0.058	0.107	0.039	0.278	0.578	-2.07	-1.26	6.28	$2.48 \times 10^8$

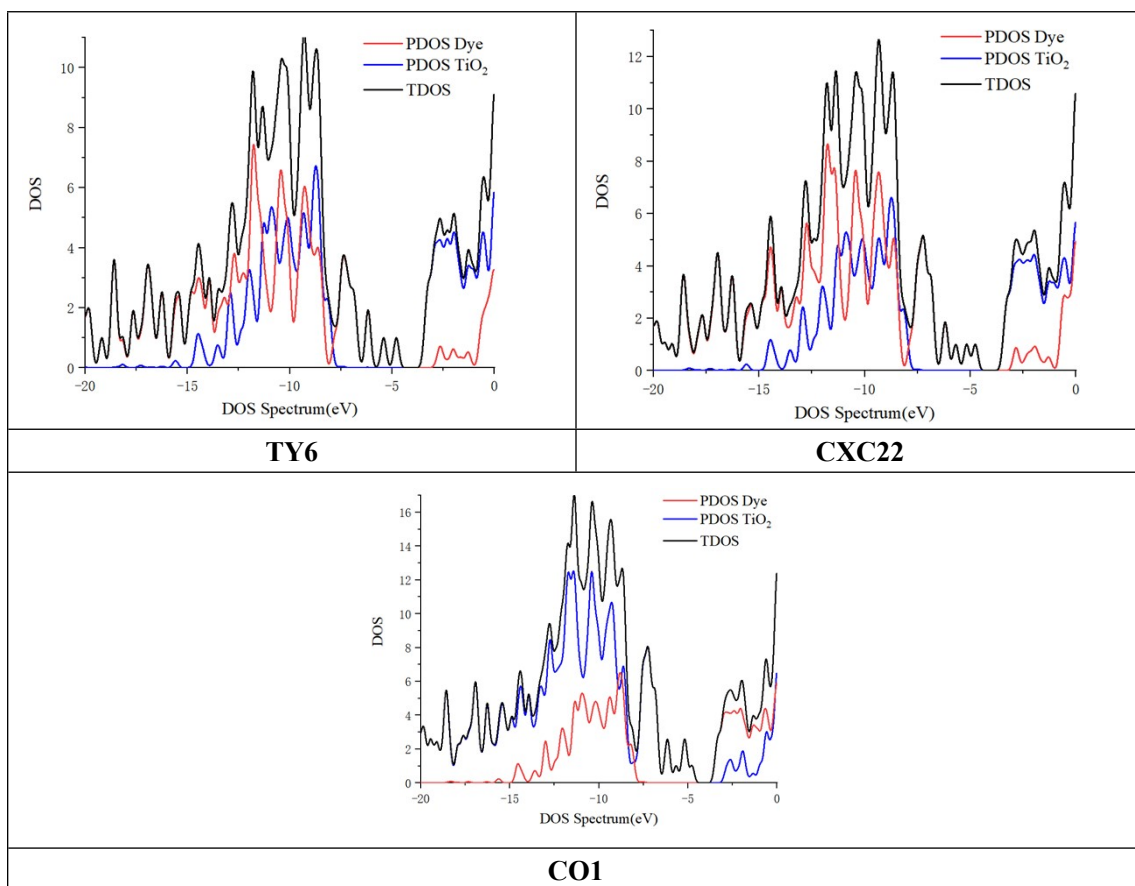
**Figure captions:**

**Figure S1.** The partial density of states of investigated dye/TiO<sub>2</sub> complexes.

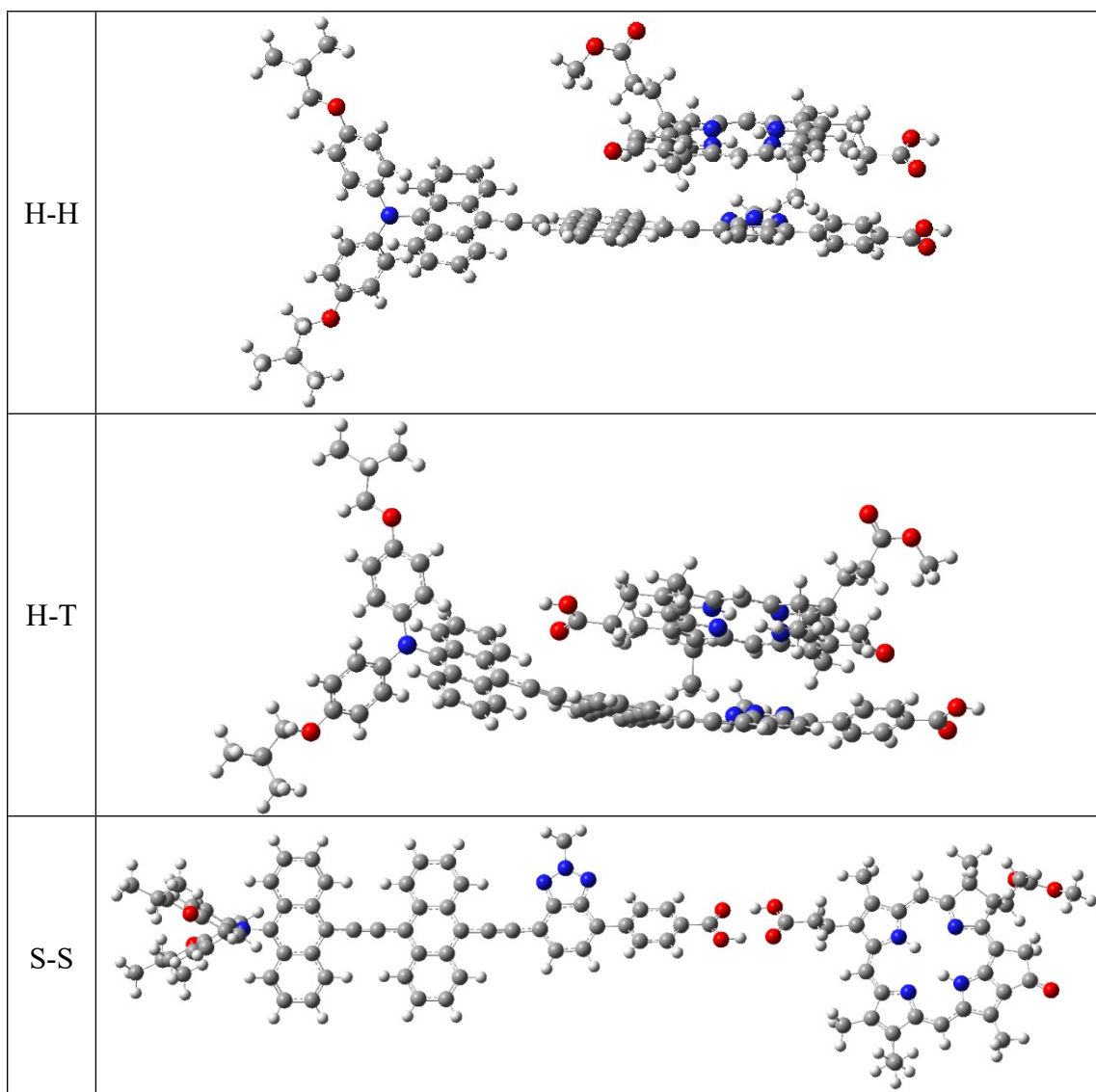
**Figure S2.** The head-to-head (H-H), head-to-toe (H-T) and side-by-side type (S-S) configuration of the co-sensitization system.

**Figure S3.** Absorption spectra of three co-sensitive configurations.

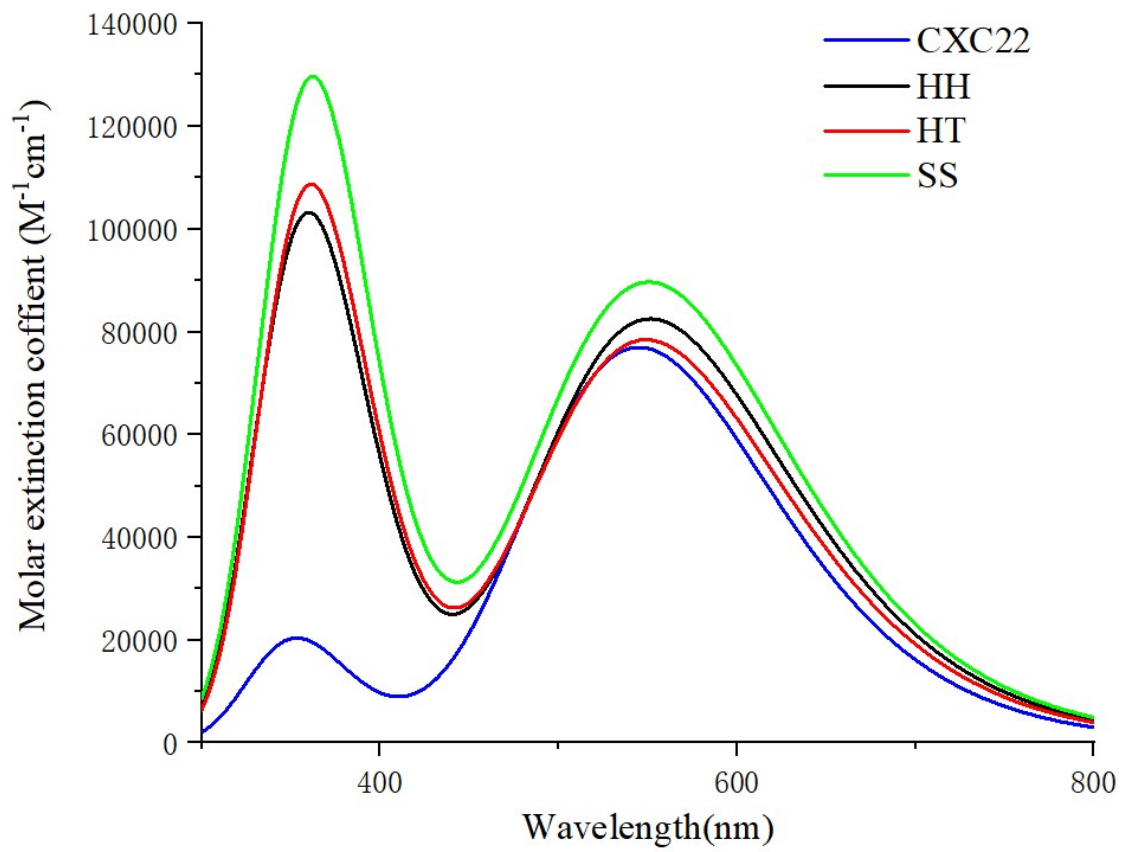
**Figure S4.** CDD diagram of dye co-sensitized adsorption on TiO<sub>2</sub>.



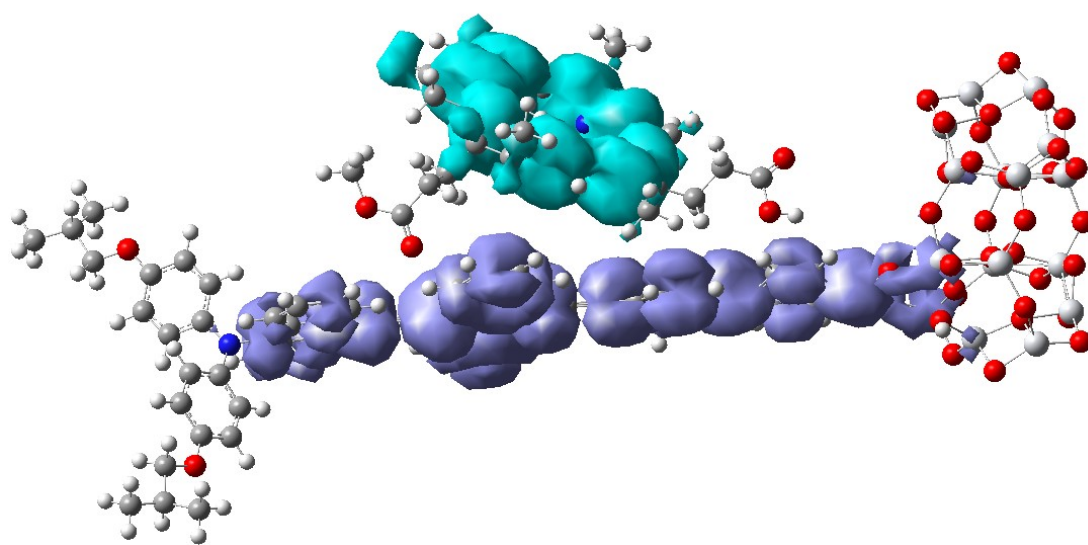
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