

## **Gas Phase Electronic Structure of the DTDCTB Small-Molecule Donor for Vacuum-Processed Organic Photovoltaics Compared to Its Constituent Building Blocks**

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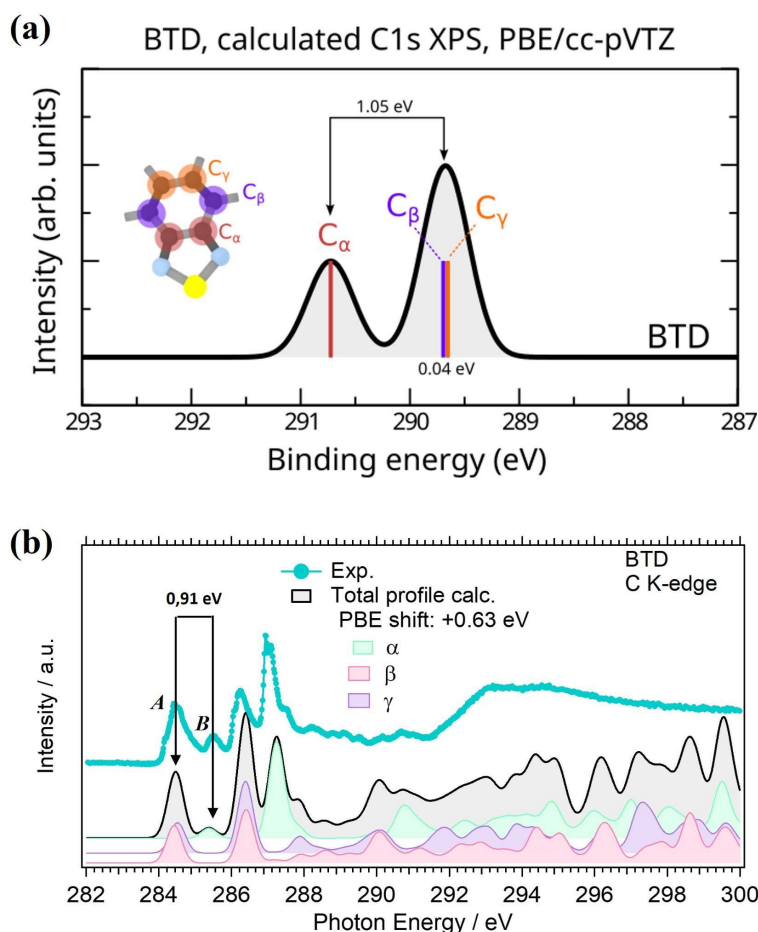
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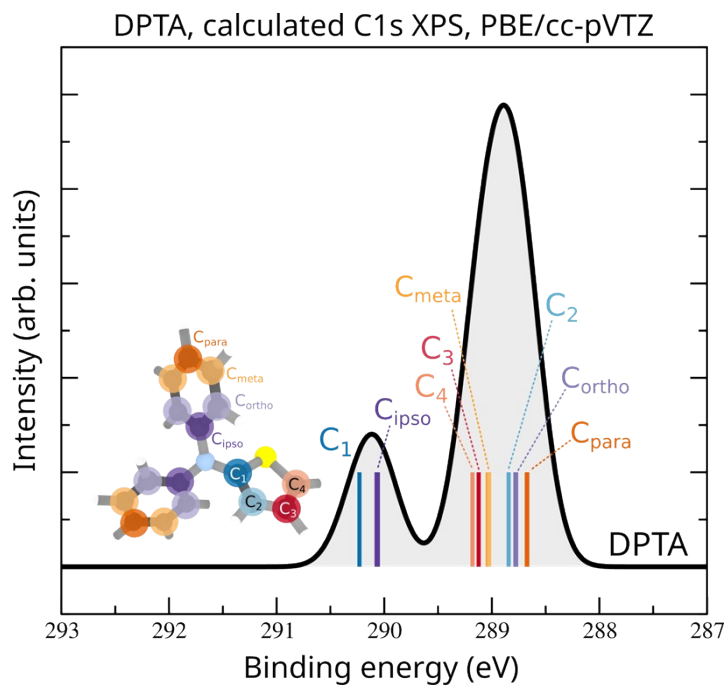
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## C 1s ionization energies for $\alpha$ , $\beta$ , $\gamma$ carbons in the BTD building block molecule

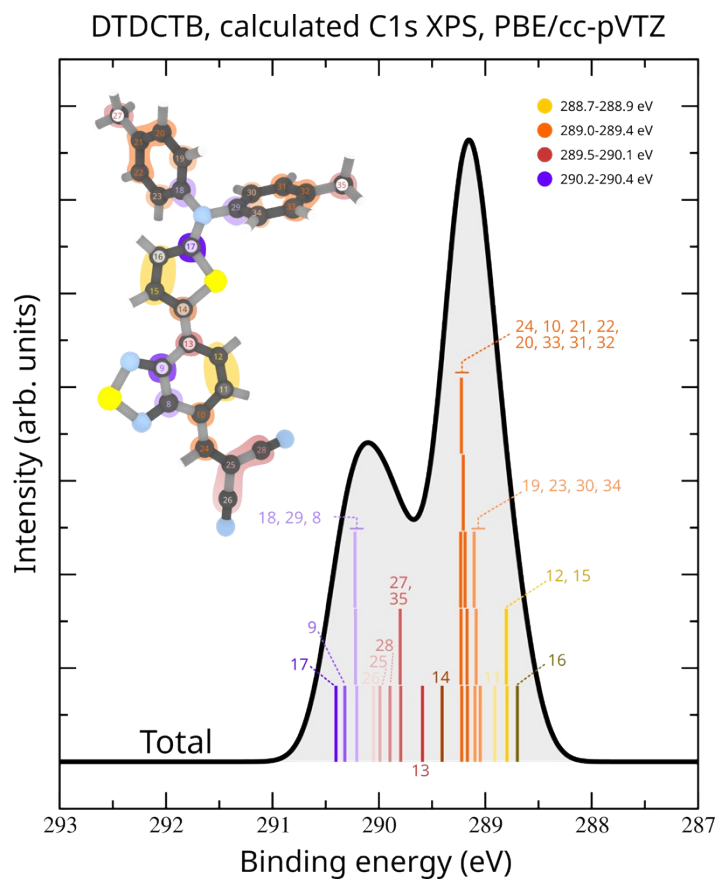
The origin of the different C1s ionization energies of the  $C_\alpha$ ,  $C_\beta$ , and  $C_\gamma$  atoms of the BTD molecule, are due to their chemically inequivalence, *i.e.*, the different chemical environment that these Carbon atoms experience. Figure S1(a) provides the calculated C 1s XPS spectrum for the BTD building block molecule. The core binding energies (BEs) were calculated as the total energy difference between the molecule with a full core hole (FCH) on a specific C atom and the ground state (GS) molecule in a  $\Delta$ Kohn-Sham approach. The GS and FCH energies were calculated using the StoBe software package and the same functional and basis sets as described in the Computational Details section of the manuscript. The BE for  $C_\alpha$  is calculated at 290.73 eV, while the BEs for  $C_\beta$ , and  $C_\gamma$  are quite close to each other and are calculated at about 289.69 eV and 289.65 eV, respectively. The energy shift between the  $C_\alpha$  and  $C_\beta$ ,  $C_\gamma$  1s BEs (XPS peaks) is equal to 1.05 eV and is very similar to the shift between the experimental NEXAFS peaks A ( $C_\beta$ , and  $C_\gamma$ ) and B ( $C_\alpha$ ) of BTD that is about 0.91 eV (Figure S1(b)). The C1s XPS of DPTA (Figure S2) and DTDCTB (Figure S3) are provided for completeness.



**Figure S1:** (a) Calculated (PBE/cc-pVTZ) C 1s XPS spectrum and (b) experimental C K-edge NEXAFS of BTD building block molecule.



**Figure S2:** Calculated C 1s XPS spectrum of DPTA.



**Figure S3:** Calculated C 1s XPS spectrum of DTDCTB.