

**Supporting information for “Time-dependent density-functional
description of the $^1\text{L}_a$ state in polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons:
Charge-transfer character in disguise?”**

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Abstract

This document tabulates TD-DFT excitation energies for the various PAHs and density functionals that are considered in this work. For easy comparison, both experimental as well as CC2 excitation energies, taken from the work of Grimme and Parac, are reproduced here. Values of the Λ metric for the nonlinear PAHs are also tabulated here. Cartesian coordinates for each of the PAHs are available in a separate document.

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L _a															
Number of Rings	Exp.	B3LYP	LRC- ω PBE	LRC- ω PBEh	B3LYP †	LRC- ω PBE †	LRC- ω PBEh †	BP86	CC2	LRC- μ BLYP	LRC- μ BLYP †	LRC- μ BLYP* b	LRC- μ BLYP* †	LRC- μ BOP	
2	4.66(266)	4.35(285)	4.76(261)	4.66(266)	4.54(273)	5.01(248)	4.89(254)	4.11(302)	4.88(254)	4.38(283)	4.60(270)	4.73(262)	4.97(249)	4.86(255)	5.11(243)
3	3.60(344)	3.18(390)	3.64(341)	3.53(351)	3.40(365)	3.92(316)	3.80(3.26)	2.95(420)	3.69(336)	3.28(378)	3.54(350)	3.61(343)	3.89(319)	3.75(331)	4.04(307)
4	2.88(431)	2.41(515)	2.88(431)	2.78(446)	2.64(470)	3.19(389)	3.07(404)	2.17(571)	2.90(428)	2.56(484)	2.86(434)	2.86(434)	3.17(391)	2.99(415)	3.30(376)
5	2.37(523)	1.86(667)	2.35(528)	2.26(549)	2.11(588)	2.69(461)	2.57(482)	1.63(761)	2.35(528)	2.07(589)	2.38(519)	2.38(532)	2.66(466)	2.43(510)	2.76(449)
6	2.02(614)	1.47(844)	1.97(629)	1.88(660)	1.72(721)	2.31(537)	2.21(561)	1.23(1008)	1.95(636)	1.72(721)	2.06(602)	1.95(636)	2.29(541)	2.03(611)	2.37(523)
MAE	0.00(0)	N/A ^c	0.04(5.9)	0.08(18.7)	N/A	0.27(33.3)	0.19(28.7)	N/A	0.08(10.0)	0.30(57.5)	0.04(5.7)	0.04(8.0)	0.29(42.2)	0.16(11)	0.41(55.8)
L _b															
Number of Rings	Exp.	B3LYP	LRC- ω PBE	LRC- ω PBEh	B3LYP †	LRC- ω PBE †	LRC- ω PBEh †	BP86	CC2	LRC- μ BLYP	LRC- μ BLYP †	LRC- μ BLYP*	LRC- μ BLYP* †	LRC- μ BOP	
2	4.13(300)	4.44(279)	4.57(271)	4.59(270)	4.46(278)	4.65(267)	4.65(267)	4.26(291)	4.46(278)	4.38(283)	4.40(282)	4.55(273)	4.62(268)	4.65(267)	4.78(259)
3	3.64(341)	3.83(324)	4.00(310)	4.02(308)	3.85(322)	4.09(303)	4.08(304)	3.64(341)	3.89(319)	3.83(324)	3.85(322)	3.98(312)	4.07(305)	4.06(305)	4.21(295)
4	3.39(366)	3.45(359)	3.63(342)	3.65(340)	3.46 (358)	3.49(355)	3.48(356)	3.24(383)	3.52(352)	3.49(355)	3.51(353)	3.62(343)	3.71(334)	3.67(338)	3.83(324)
5	3.12(397)	3.18(390)	3.38(367)	3.41(364)	3.20(388)	3.49(355)	3.48(356)	2.96(419)	3.27(379)	3.26(381)	3.29(377)	3.37(368)	3.47(357)	3.40(365)	3.58(346)
6	2.87(432)	3.00(413)	3.20(388)	3.23(384)	3.01(412)	3.32(373)	3.31(375)	2.76(449)	3.09(401)	3.11(399)	3.14(395)	3.19(389)	3.30(376)	3.20(388)	3.39(366)
MAE	0.00(0)	0.15(14.0)	0.33(31.8)	0.35(34.1)	0.17(15.6)	0.43(41.0)	0.42(40.3)	0.11(13.0)	0.22(21.3)	0.18(18.8)	0.21(21.4)	0.31(30.6)	0.40(39.0)	0.37(34.8)	0.53(49.3)

^a“↑” indicates the use of the Tamm-Dancoff approximation

^b“*” indicates the use of a Coloumb attenuation parameter of 0.30 a.u.⁻¹

^c An MAE of ‘N/A’ means the MAE was omitted because the data fails to properly predict the experimental trend

TABLE S1: Vertical excitation energies for both the L_a and L_b states, in eV. (Values in nm are given in parenthesis.) CC2 and TD-BP86 values are from Grimme and Parac. (Grimme, S.; Parac, M. *ChemPhysChem* **2003**, *4*, 292.) Experimental values are from Biernmann and Schidt.(Biernmann, D.; Schmidt, J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1980**, *102*, 3163.)

Molecule ^a	Expt.	TD-DFT		
		B3LYP	LRC-	LRC-
		ω PBE	ω PBEh	
1	4.24	4.18	4.63	4.53
2	3.71	3.65	4.06	3.96
3	4.54	4.15	4.61	4.52
4	3.89	3.79	4.28	4.18
5	3.63	3.31	3.83	3.72
6	2.85	2.79	3.25	3.13
7	3.73	3.69	4.18	4.07
8	3.22	3.12	3.56	3.46
9	3.80	3.69	4.22	4.12
10	3.84	3.42	4.00	3.88
11	3.84	3.45	4.02	3.90
12	3.86	3.48	4.03	3.92
13	3.40	3.07	3.63	3.51
14	2.86	2.80	3.18	3.09
15	3.72	3.41	3.87	3.77
MAE	—	0.21	0.28	0.18

^aSee the labels in the main paper.

TABLE S2: Vertical excitation energies (in eV) and mean absolute errors (MAEs) for the $^1\text{L}_a$ state in various PAHs. Experimental band maxima in non-polar solvents (from Birks, J. B. *Photophysics of Aromatic Molecules*; Wiley: New York, 1970.)

Molecule ^a	Expt.	TD-DFT		
		B3LYP	LRC-	LRC-
		ω PBE	ω PBEh	
1	3.76	3.94	4.25	4.23
2	3.53	3.72	3.93	3.93
3	3.89	3.95	4.33	4.29
4	3.43	3.72	4.06	4.03
5	3.22	3.54	3.91	3.87
6	—	3.58	4.00	3.95
7	3.37	3.60	3.95	3.92
8	3.06	3.39	3.69	3.67
9	3.30	3.53	3.92	3.89
10	3.32	3.37	3.80	3.75
11	3.31	3.61	4.04	4.00
12	3.14	3.38	3.83	3.77
13	3.23	3.45	3.82	3.79
14	—	3.26	3.49	3.48
15	—	3.19	3.48	3.46
MAE	—	0.22	0.58	0.55

^aSee the labels in the main paper.

TABLE S3: Vertical excitation energies (in eV) and mean absolute errors (MAEs) for the ${}^1\text{L}_b$ state in various PAHs. Experimental band maxima in non-polar solvents (from Birks, J. B. *Photophysics of Aromatic Molecules*; Wiley: New York, 1970.)

PAH	$\Lambda(^1\text{L}_a)$				$\Lambda(^1\text{L}_b)$			
	B3LYP		LRC-	LRC-	B3LYP		LRC-	LRC-
	ωPBE	ωPBEh			ωPBE	ωPBEh		
1	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.68	0.70	0.69	
2	0.90	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.70	0.70	0.70	
3	0.86	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.72	0.71	0.71	
4	0.74	0.79	0.78	0.78	0.72	0.66	0.67	
5	0.80	0.78	0.80	0.80	0.64	0.67	0.65	
6	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.61	0.61	0.62	
7	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.58	0.61	0.61	
8	0.84	0.83	0.84	0.84	0.66	0.68	0.67	
9	0.78	0.78	0.79	0.79	0.68	0.71	0.71	
10	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.67	0.67	0.67	
11	0.83	0.83	0.83	0.83	0.67	0.67	0.67	
12	0.73	0.77	0.76	0.76	0.73	0.69	0.70	
13	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.63	0.63	0.63	
14	0.95	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.70	0.71	0.71	
15	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.66	0.66	0.66	

TABLE S4: Values of the CT metric, Λ , for the nonlinear PAHs.