

# The Mechanism of Excimer Formation: An Experimental and Theoretical Study on the Pyrene Dimer: Supplementary Material

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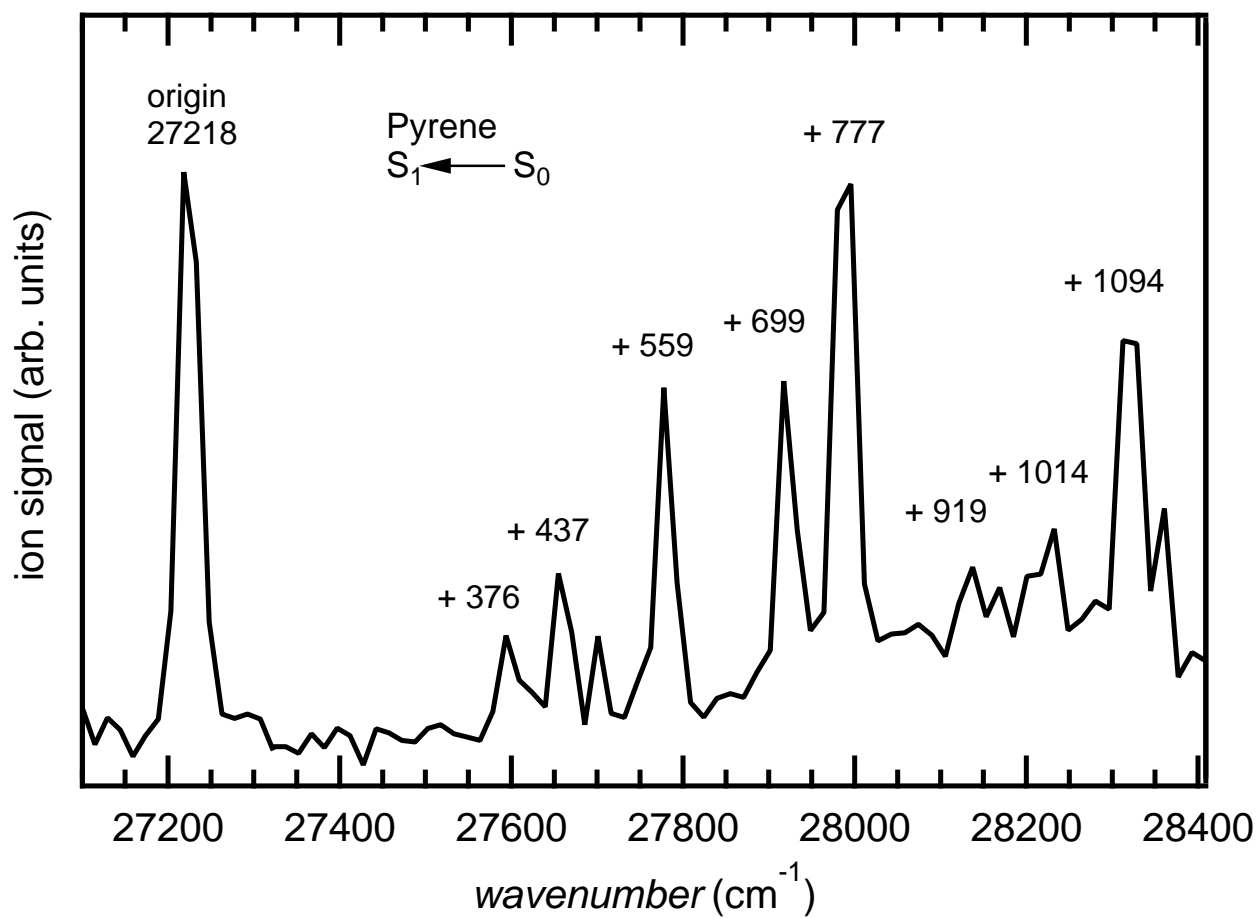


Fig. S1:  $[1 + 2']$ -REMPI of the  $S_1$  state of pyrene using 527 nm as the probe pulses. The origin was found to be  $27218 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Several well-resolved vibronic transitions are visible which indicate sufficient cooling in the molecular beam.

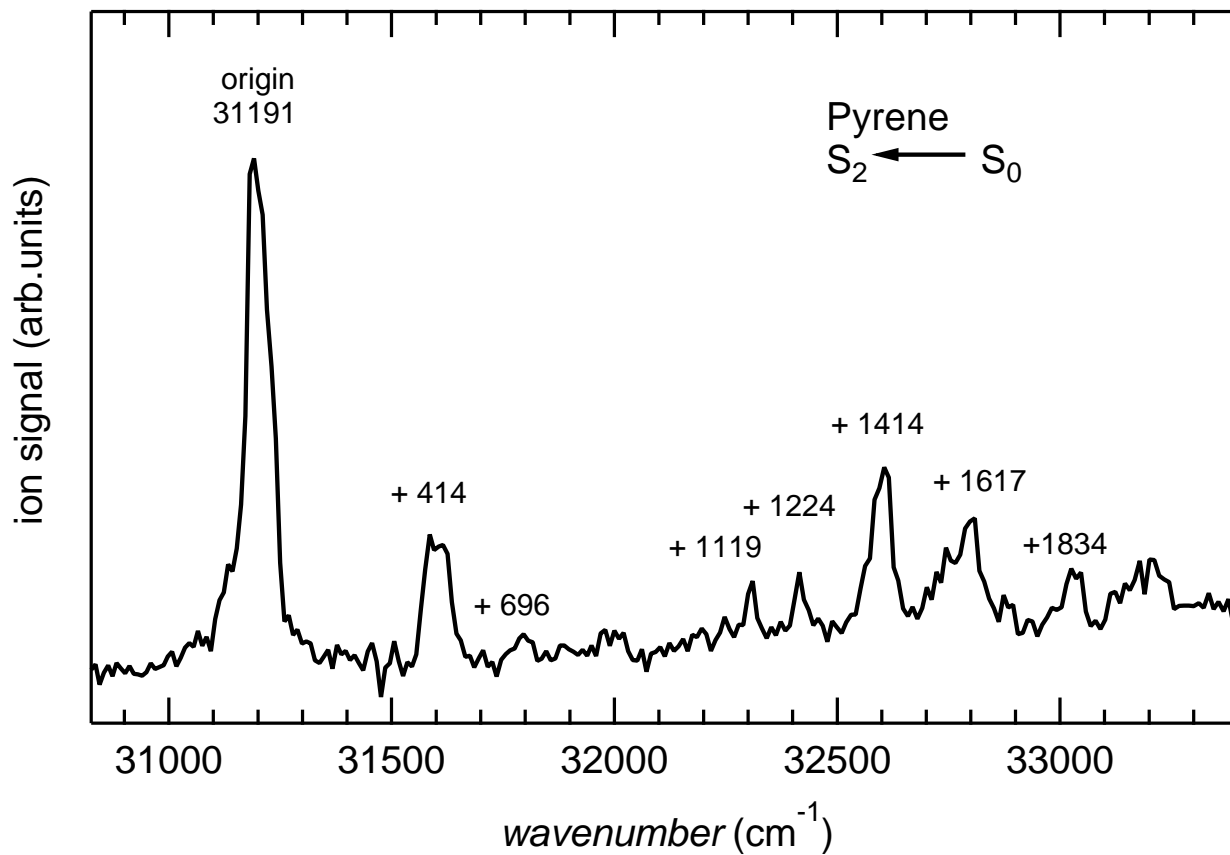


Fig. S2:  $[1 + 2']$ -REMPI of the  $S_2$  state of pyrene using 351 nm as the probe pulses. The origin was found to be 31191  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Again several vibronic transitions are visible.

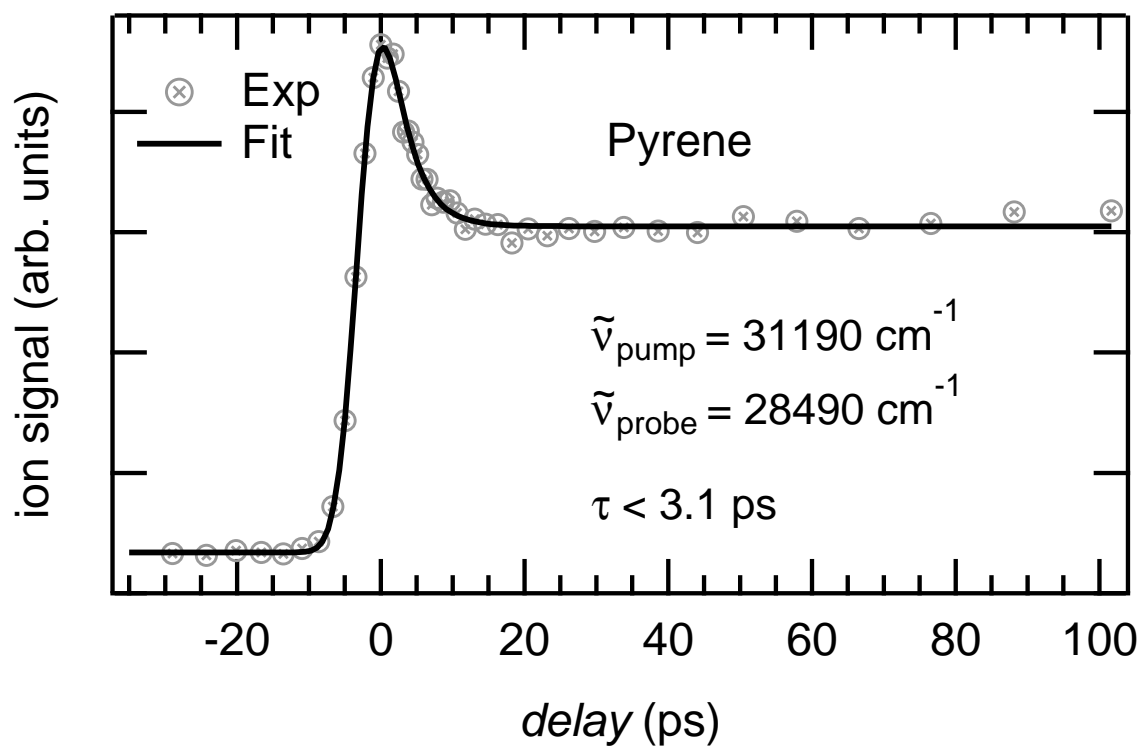


Fig. S3: Delay scan of the pyrene Monomer obtained at the origin (320.6 nm) of the  $S_2$  state using 351 nm as the probe pulses. The signal decays rapidly ( $<3.1$  ps) to a constant level due to IVR from the  $S_2$  zero order state to the coupled  $S_1$  levels.

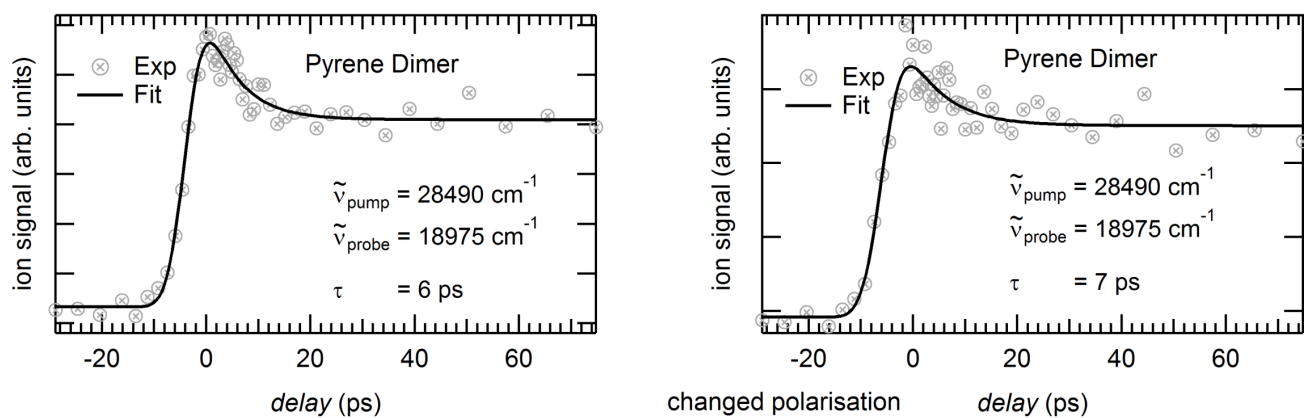


Fig. S4: Delay scans of the pyrene Dimer obtained at 351 nm excitation. The two spectra recorded with parallel (left) and perpendicular (right) polarization of pump- and probe(527 nm)-laser show very similar lifetimes. This indicates that the observed transient is not related to molecular rotation.

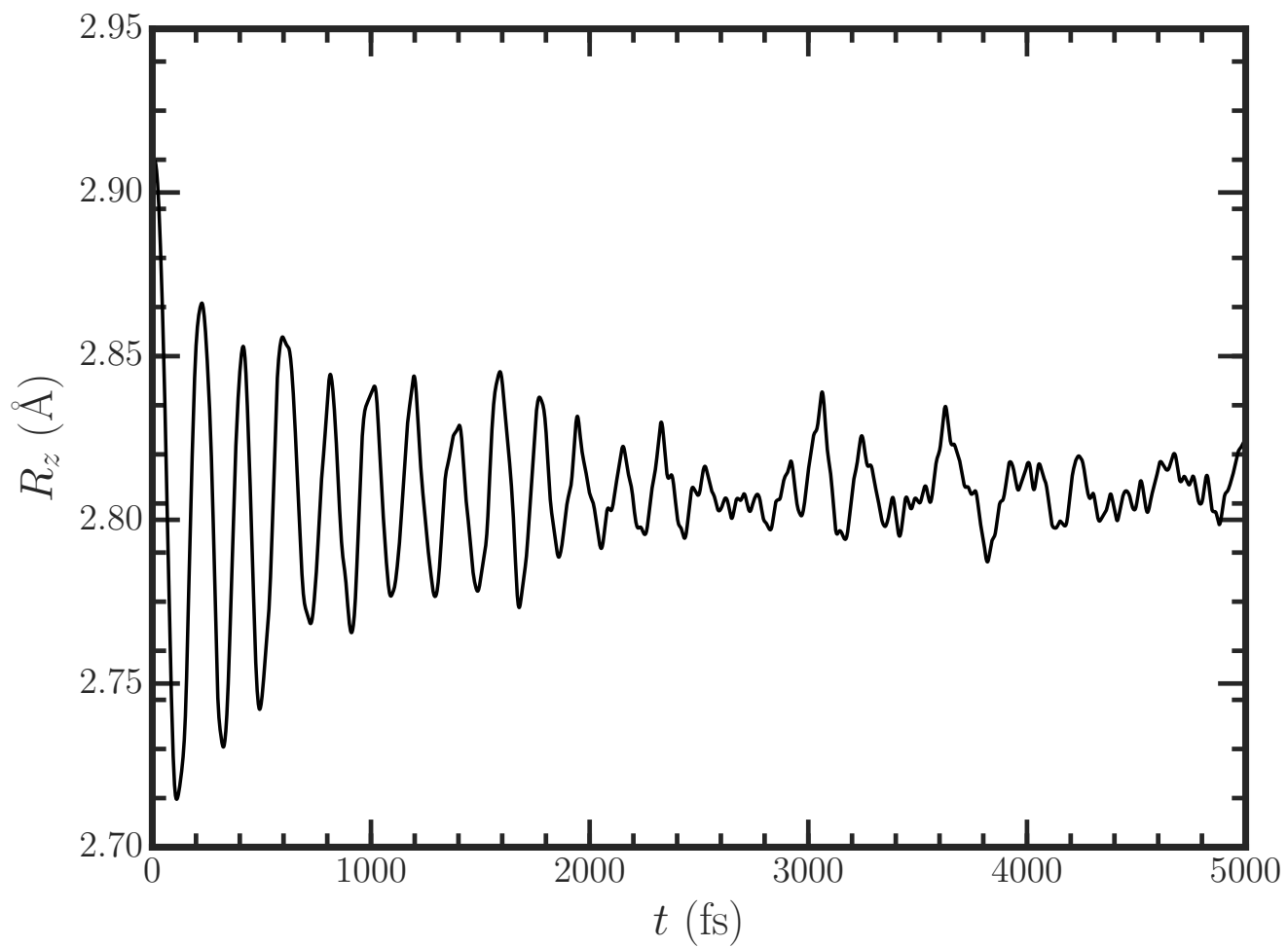


Fig. S5: Stacking distance between the pyrene monomers as a function of time averaged over an ensemble of surface hopping trajectories.

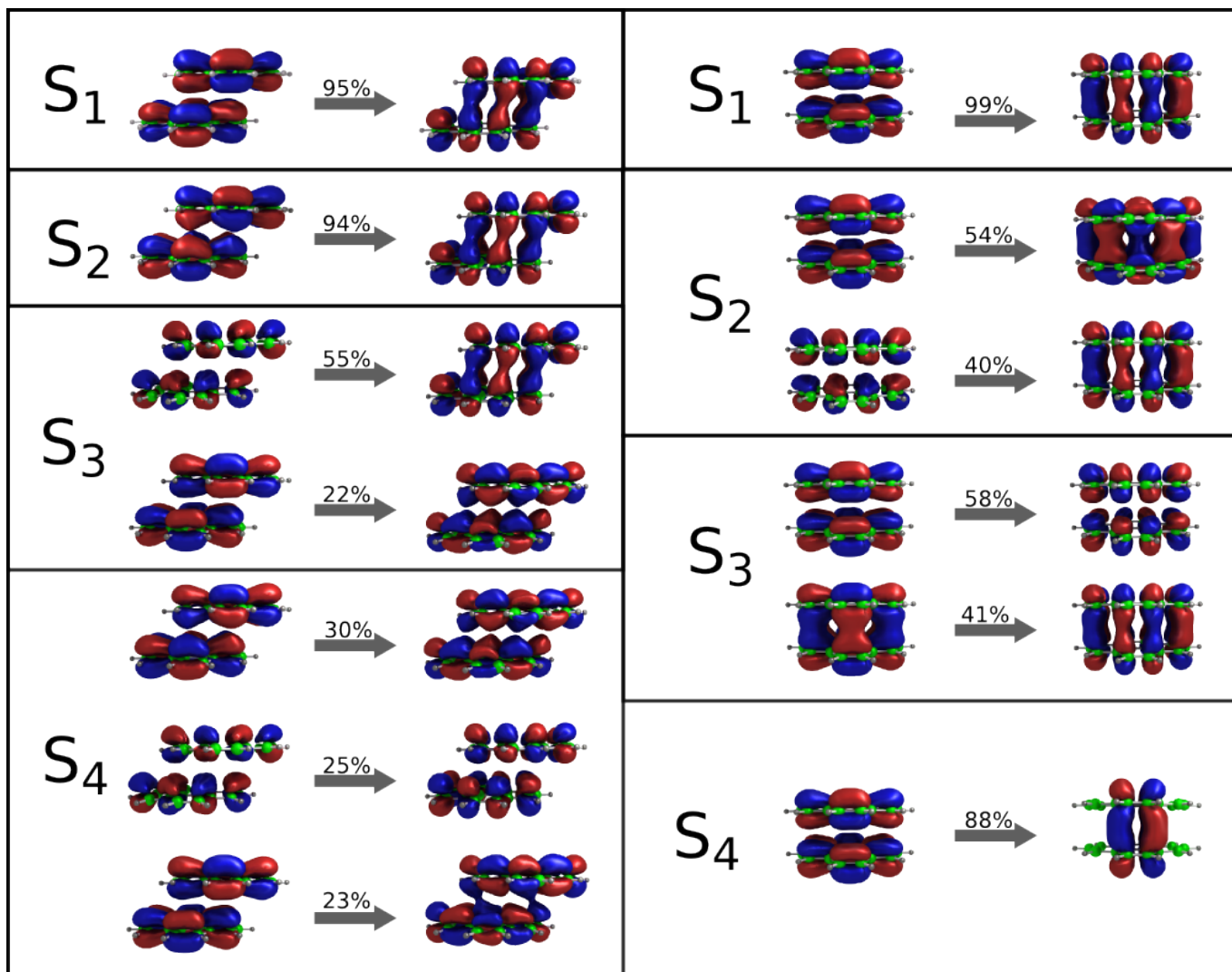


Fig. S6: Natural transition orbitals of the parallel shifted ground state geometry (left) and the fully stacked excimer structure (right) in the framework of TDDFT CAM-B3LYP/def-2SVP.

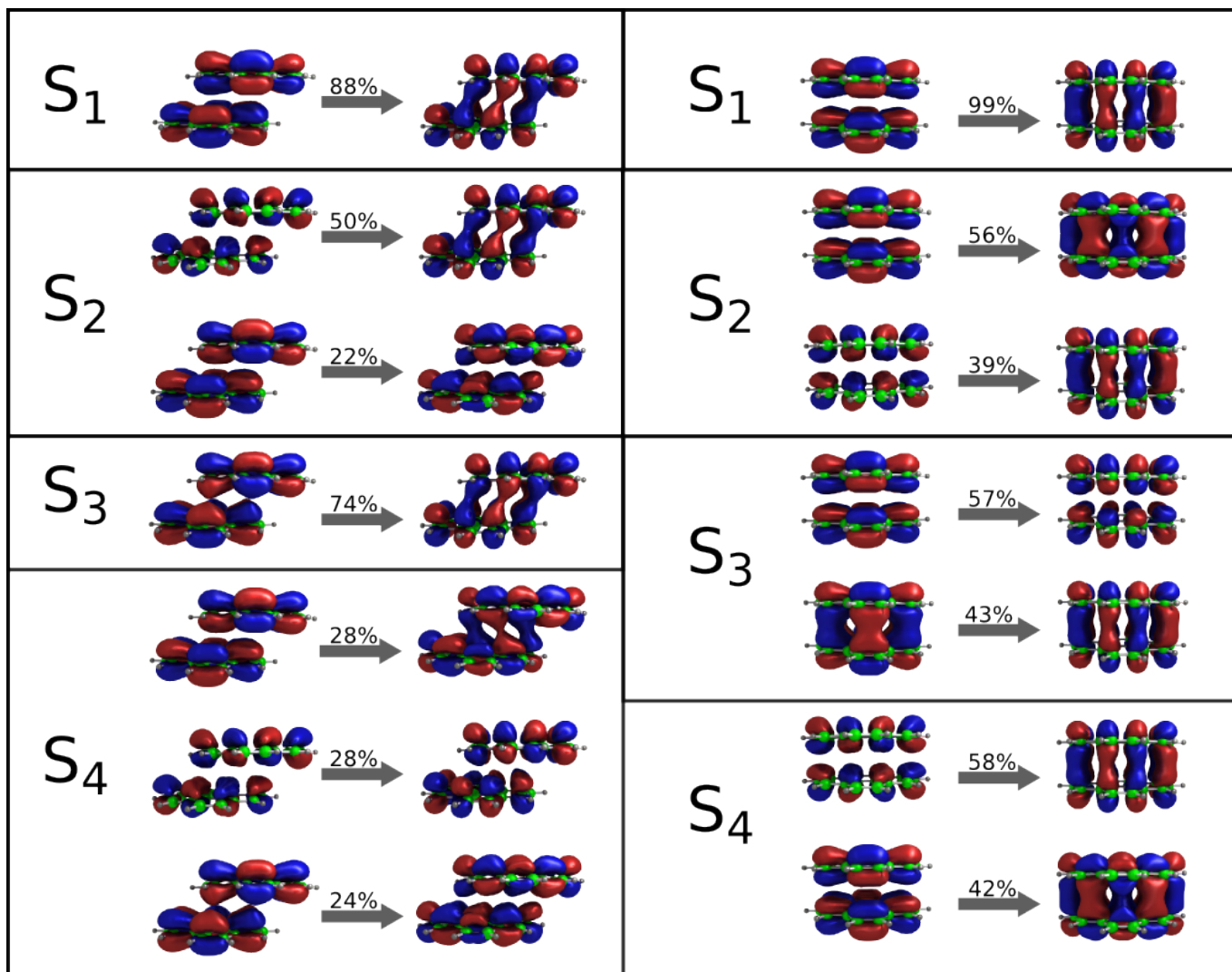


Fig. S7: Natural transition orbitals of the parallel shifted ground state geometry (left) and the fully stacked excimer structure (right) in the framework of TDDFT BHLYP/def2-SVP.



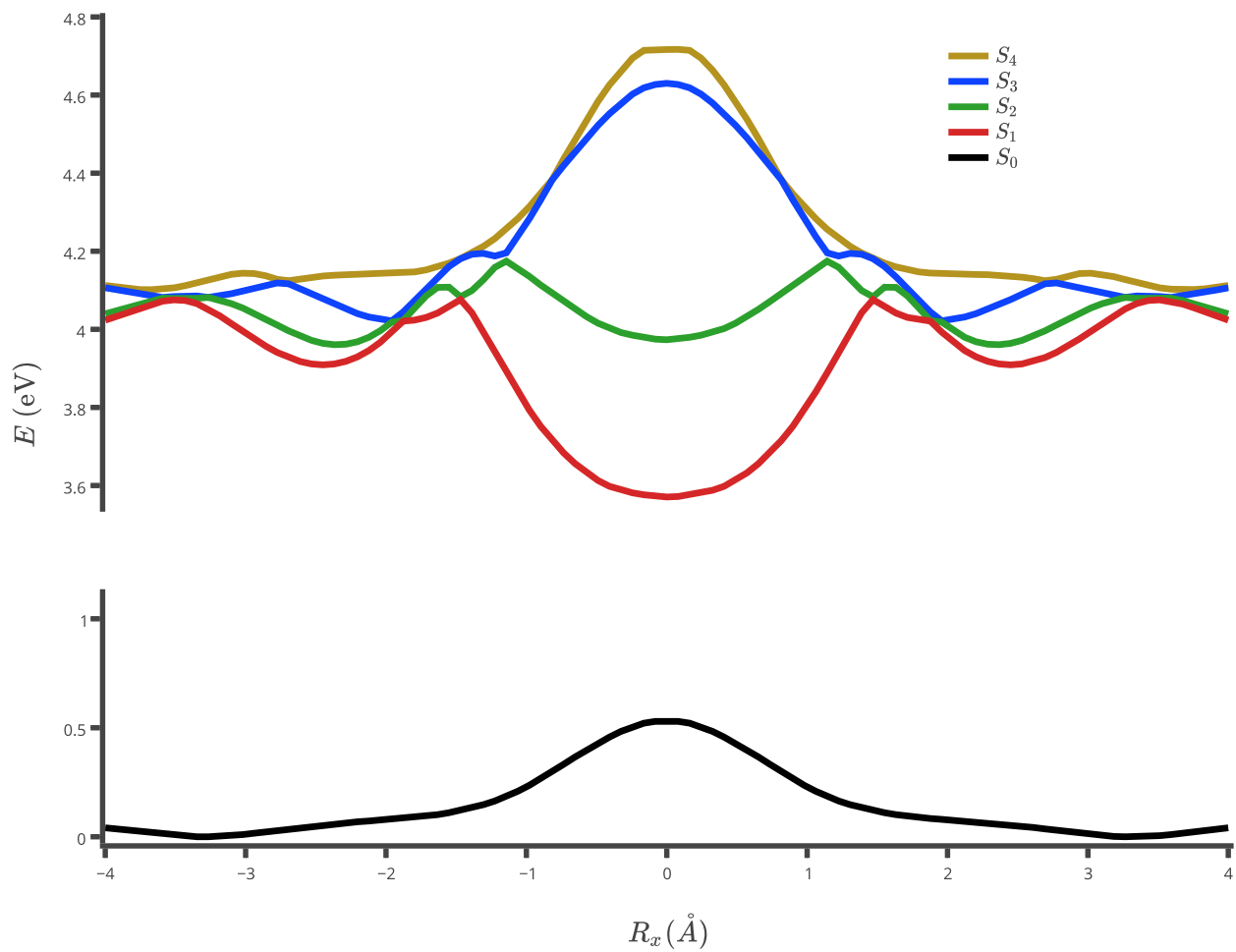


Fig. S8: Energies of the ground ( $S_0$ ) and the four lowest ( $S_1 - S_4$ ) excited states of the pyrene dimer along the parallel shift coordinate ( $R_x$ ) at an interplanar distance ( $R_z$ ) of 3.3 Å. (CAM-B3LYP/def2-SVP)

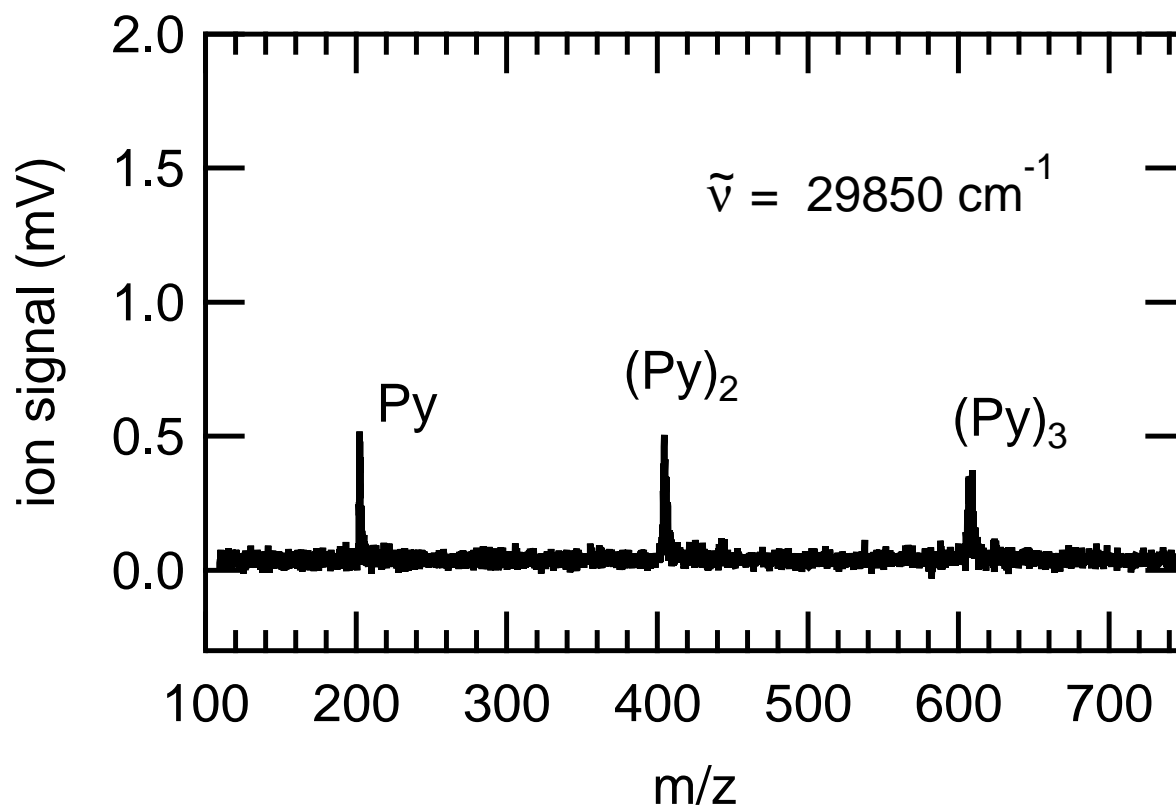


Fig. S9: Mass spectra measured at 335 nm, which corresponds to band maximum of the dimer absorption.

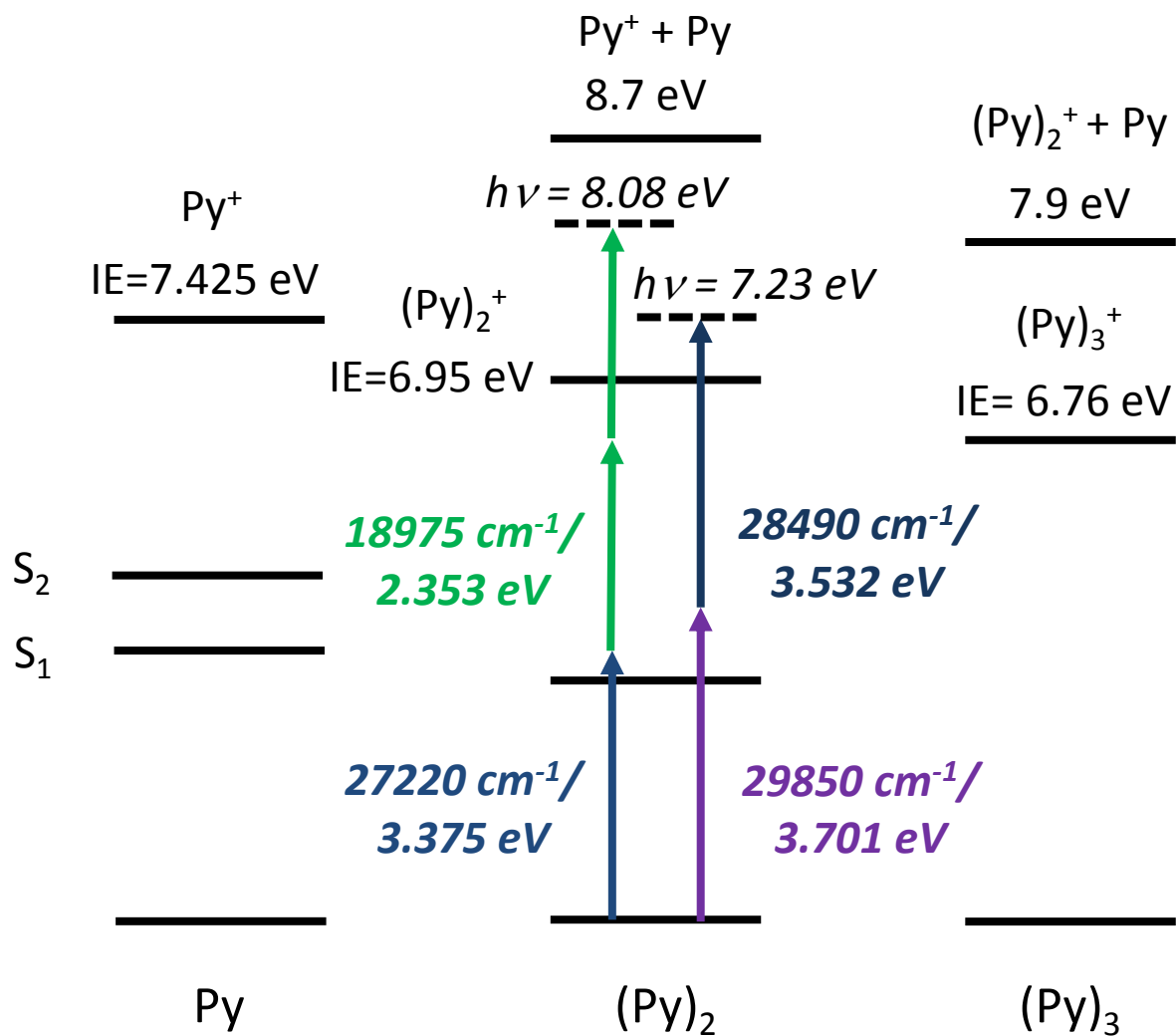


Fig. S10: Ionization and fragmentation thresholds of the pyrene monomer, dimer and trimer.

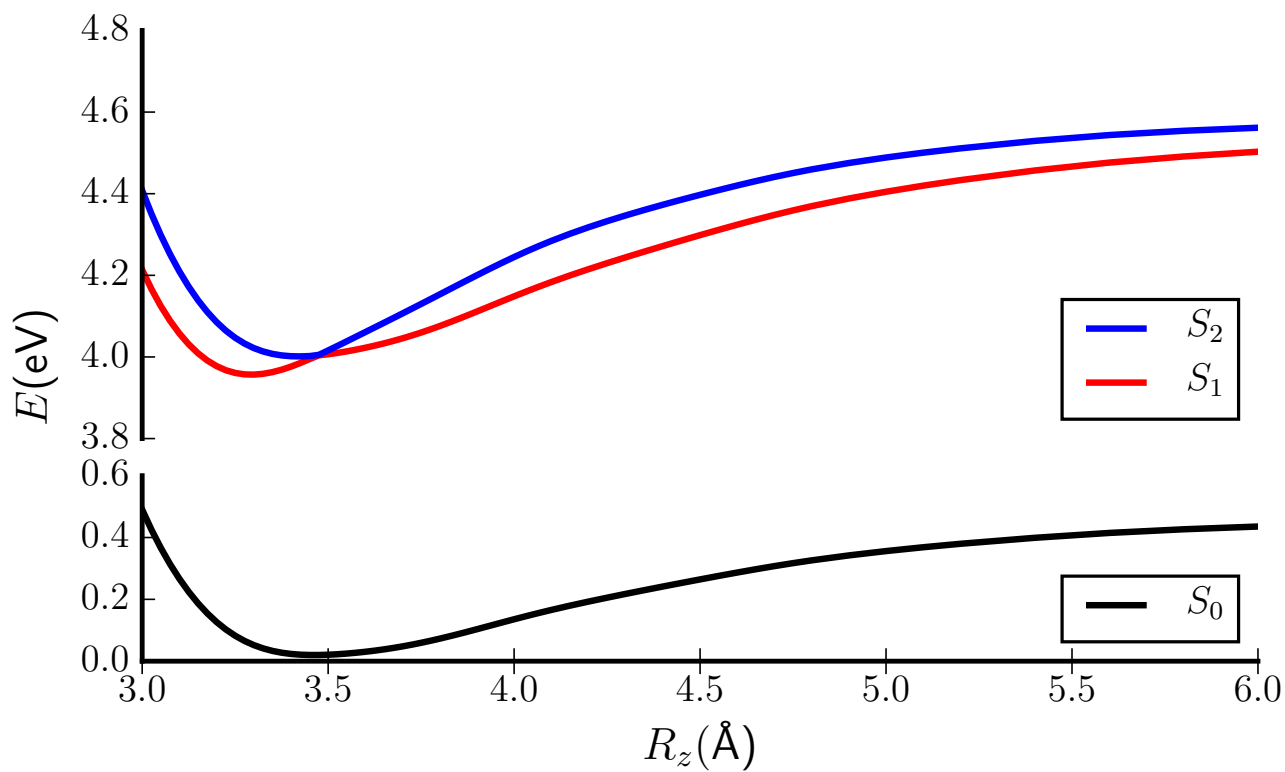


Fig. S11: Energies of the ground ( $S_0$ ) and the two lowest ( $S_1, S_2$ ) excited states of the pyrene dimer along the interplanar distance ( $R_z$ ) in the frame of TDDFT (BH-LYP/TZVP).

Table S1: Calculated vertical transition energies of the ground state minimum of the pyrene dimer and monomer.

	Dimer S <sub>1</sub> (eV)	Dimer S <sub>2</sub> (eV)	Monomer AE (eV)
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TDDFT BH-LYP <sup>a</sup>			
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def2-SVP	3.95	3.98	4.09
6-31G*	4.01	4.04	4.14
TZVP	3.99	3.99	4.10
TDDFT CAM-B3LYP <sup>a</sup>			
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def2-SVP	3.51	3.73	4.07
TZVP	3.57	3.82	4.08
TDDFTB <sup>a</sup>	3.50	3.59	3.53
MCQDPT <sup>b</sup>			
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6-31G(d)			3.66
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<sup>a</sup> present work

<sup>b</sup> Reference 66.