## Supplementary data for

How to design more efficient hole-transporting materials for perovskite solar cells? Rational tailoring of the triphenylamine-based electron donor

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## **Computational details**

The geometry optimizations of the HTM/MAPbI<sub>3</sub> complexes were performed by the CP2K/QUICKSTEP program<sup>1-3</sup> combined with a hybrid Gaussian and plane wave basis set. The generalized-gradient approximation(GGA)<sup>4</sup> of Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (PBE)<sup>5</sup> exchange correlation functional was employed together with norm-conserving Goedecker-Teter-Hutter (GTH)<sup>6</sup> pseudopotentials, and when forces were less than 45 meV Å<sup>-1</sup> (default value), the structures were considered as relaxed. Based on the optimized HTM/MAPbI<sub>3</sub> geometries, single-point DFT calculations were carried out with Gaussian 09 package to gain the electronic and energetic properties of HTM adsorbed systems at the theoretical level of B3LYP/6-31G\*, coupled with the LANL2DZ potentials.<sup>7</sup> Herein, the (MAPbI<sub>3</sub>)<sub>64</sub> cluster was obtained by appropriately cutting a tetragonal phase slab with the (001) surface exposed,<sup>8</sup> which was believed to favor the hole injection from MAPbI<sub>3</sub> to HTMs. Meanwhile, the parallel adsorption configuration<sup>9</sup> was reported to be energetic favorable for HTMs with big  $\pi$ -conjugated cores, and thus this adsorption model was employed for the new designed NTT-4TPA.

## References

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**Fig. S1** Calculated HOMO levels of investigated molecules with the functional B3LYP and PBE33, and the B3LYP-R represents the data revised by a semi-rational formula.



**Fig. S2** Total electronic energy evolutions of the investigated dimers (T1~T6) as a function of simulation time.



**Fig. S3** Total electronic energy evolutions of the investigated dimers (T7~T9) as a function of simulation time.



Fig. S4 Conjectural synthetic pathways for predicted molecules.



Fig. S5 Experimental synthetic pathways for the NTT core.



Fig. S6 Unrelaxed structure of the  $(MAPbI_3)_{64}$  cluster with (001) surface exposed.



Fig. S7 Optimized geometry of the Spiro-OMeTAD/(MAPbI<sub>3</sub>)<sub>64</sub> complex.



**Fig. S8** Optimized geometry of the NTT-4TPA/(MAPbI<sub>3</sub>)<sub>64</sub> complex.