

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### Stable photoinduced charge separation in heptacene

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## Experimental and Computational Details

The  $\alpha$ -diketone **2** was synthesized as described previously.<sup>[1]</sup> Matrix experiments were carried out according to standard techniques<sup>[2]</sup> with APD CSW-20 dispex closed-cycle helium cryostats. The photopresursor **2** was sublimed out of a quartz tube, which was resistively heated to 220–227 °C by Ta wire coiled around it, onto cold CsI (IR experiments) or sapphire windows with a large excess of argon, nitrogen (both Messer Griesheim, 99.9999%), or xenon (Air Liquide, 4.0), which were dosed to 2.0 sccm by a mass flow controller (MKS Mass Flo Type 247 four-channel read out). The windows were kept at 30 K, 28 K, or 55 K during deposition of argon, nitrogen, or xenon, respectively by resistive heating using an Oxford ITC 503 temperature controller. IR spectra were measured on Bruker IFS 66 and IFS 66/S spectrometers using a resolution of 0.5 cm<sup>−1</sup>, while electronic spectra were measured using a Cary 5000 spectrometer.

The computational investigations used the B3LYP<sup>[3, 4]</sup> hybrid functional as implemented in Gaussian<sup>[5]</sup> for the optimization of the geometry and computation of harmonic vibrational frequencies of heptacene and its singly charged radical ions in conjunction with the 6-31G\* basis set. All B3LYP computations were performed with Gaussian 03.<sup>[5]</sup> Electronic excitations of heptacene were computed using the RICC2<sup>[6, 7]</sup> method in conjunction with the TZVP<sup>[8]</sup> basis set employing the Turbomole<sup>[9]</sup> program. For the radical ions, time-dependent B3LYP was used in conjunction with the 6-31G\* basis set for obtaining excitation energies, as the D<sub>1</sub> values of CC2 theory were unacceptably large (>0.08).

### IR Spectral Data of Heptacene

Table S1. Mid-IR spectroscopic data of heptacene measured in an argon matrix at 15 K. For comparison theoretical data obtained at the RB3LYP/6-31G\* level of theory is given. Due to the large number of IR active modes only those having a computed relative intensity larger than 5% are given.

Symmetry	Mode Number	$\nu_{\text{exp}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$	rel. Intensity/%	$\omega_{\text{theor}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$	rel. Intensity/%
B <sub>2u</sub>	137	3085, 3054, 3039 <sup>a</sup>	combined: 116.3 <sup>a</sup>	3209.6	113.5
B <sub>1u</sub>	136			3197.3	59.3
B <sub>2u</sub>	133			3183.6	12.8
B <sub>1u</sub>	131			3180.5	65.8
B <sub>2u</sub>	130			3179.8	6.8
B <sub>1u</sub>	119			1689.8	8.2
B <sub>2u</sub>	95	1319	5.1	1362.5	8.9
B <sub>1u</sub>	93	1309	13.1	1333.4	46.7
B <sub>1u</sub>	77	1129	3.1	1160.4	5.6
B <sub>3u</sub>	70	953	6.4	963.5	5.6
B <sub>3u</sub>	65	901	100.0	922.1	100.0 <sup>b</sup>
B <sub>3u</sub>	59	863	6.7	880.6	12.5
B <sub>3u</sub>	51	799	4.3	812.4	6.1
B <sub>3u</sub>	43	741, 733	78.3	751.5	44.5
B <sub>2u</sub>	40			749.0	6.7
B <sub>2u</sub>	33	602	4.7	615.7	9.5
B <sub>3u</sub>	25	468	2.6	475.6	9.7
B <sub>3u</sub>	23	461	2.7	472.7	10.3

<sup>a</sup> The bands due to the  $\nu(\text{CH})$  stretching vibrations are broad and not resolved. The three maxima are given and the entire feature was integrated. <sup>b</sup> Absolute intensity: 127.1  $\text{km mol}^{-1}$ .

### UV/vis Data of Heptacene

Table S2. Tentative assignment of experimental and comparison with computed (RICC2/TZVP//B3LYP/6-31G\*) electronic transition energies and oscillator strengths f (in a.u.) for heptacene.

State	Experiment, Ar 10 K			RICC2/TZVP		
	$\lambda/\text{nm}$	$\omega/\text{eV}$	$\Delta\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$	$\lambda/\text{nm}$	$\omega/\text{eV}$	f
	211	5.88	0	---	---	---
$4^1\text{B}_{2u}$	243	5.09	0	232	5.35	0.003
$3^1\text{B}_{2u}$	not obs.	not obs.	not obs.	265	4.67	0.001
$4^1\text{B}_{1u}$	268	4.63	0	289	4.29	0.064
	320	3.88	1705.1			
	326 <sup>a</sup>	3.80	1130.0			
	329	3.77	850.2			
$2^1\text{B}_{2u}$	338	3.66	0	310	3.99	5.407
$3^1\text{B}_{1u}$	355	3.49	0	338	3.67	0.030
$2^1\text{B}_{1u}$	not obs.	not obs.	not obs.	362	3.42	0.002
	414	2.99	1405.4			
$1^1\text{B}_{2u}$	440 <sup>a</sup>	2.82	0	416	2.98	0.010
	601	2.06	3632.6			
	610	2.03	3403.5			
	657	1.89	2222.9			
	670	1.85	1919.6			
	690	1.80	1485.9			
	704	1.76	1202.0			
	728 <sup>a</sup>	1.70	735.5			
$1^1\text{B}_{1u}$	769	1.61	0	736	1.68	0.049

<sup>a</sup> Most intensive feature within a system.

### Spectral Data of Radical Ions and Tentative Assignments

Table S3. Experimental and computed (TD-UB3LYP/6-31G\*//UB3LYP/6-31G\*) transition wavelengths ( $\lambda$  in nm) and oscillator strengths (in a.u.) for heptacene radical ions.

Heptacene Radical Cation, ${}^2\text{B}_{2g}$				Heptacene Radical Anion, ${}^2\text{B}_{3u}$			
State	Ar, 10 K	Theory	f	State	Ar, 10 K	Theory	f
	407						
	449						
	466						
$3^2\text{B}_{3u}$	not obs.	491.4	0.002	$2^2\text{B}_{1g}$	472	466.0	0.151
$2^2\text{A}_u$	480	495.9	0.217	$3^2\text{B}_{2g}$	not obs.	474.2	0.001
$2^2\text{B}_{3u}$	not obs.	628.9	0.000	$2^2\text{B}_{2g}$	not obs.	604.6	0.000
	971				991		
	1060						
	1087						
	1117						
	1146						
$1^2\text{A}_u$	1248 <sup>a</sup>	1023.9	0.391	$1^2\text{B}_{1g}$	1152	942.2	0.445
$1^2\text{B}_{3u}$	2134	1908.3	0.009	$1^2\text{B}_{2g}$	not obs.	2101.4	0.009

<sup>a</sup> Most intense band within a system.

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