

ESI

**Comparison of the non-radiative decay mechanisms of 4-pyrimidinone
and uracil: an *ab initio* study**

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Table S1 Vertical excitation energies of 4Py and U (eV), calculated with the ground state geometries of the compounds, studied at CASPT2//CASSCF level

| State | Ur | | | | Exp. |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|---------|-------------|------|
| | CASPT2(10,9) | | CC2 | | |
| | cc-pVDZ | aug-cc-pVDZ | cc-pVDZ | aug-cc-pVDZ | |
| $^1n_O\pi^*$ | 4.930 | 4.740 | 4.914 | 4.706 | 5.08 |
| $^1\pi\pi^*$ | 5.301 | 4.826 | 5.540 | 5.226 | |
| $^1\pi\sigma^*$ | 7.109 | 5.690 | 7.221 | 5.814 | |
| | 4Py | | | | |
| | CASPT2(8,7) | | CC2 | | |
| $^1n_O\pi^*$ | 4.903 | 4.679 | 4.770 | 4.594 | 4.51 |
| $^1\pi\pi^*$ | 5.028 | 4.515 | 4.879 | 4.672 | |
| $^1\pi\sigma^*$ | 7.504 | 5.936 | 7.519 | 5.882 | |

Table S2 Vertical excitation energies of 4Py and U (eV), calculated with the ground state geometries of the compounds, studied at CASPT2//MP2 level

| State | U | | | | Exp. |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|---------|-------------|------|
| | CASPT2(10,9) | | CC2 | | |
| | cc-pVDZ | aug-cc-pVDZ | cc-pVDZ | aug-cc-pVDZ | |
| $^1n_O\pi^*$ | 4.77 | 4.74 | 4.91 | 4.71 | 5.08 |
| $^1\pi\pi^*$ | 5.18 | 4.80 | 5.54 | 5.23 | |
| $^1\pi\sigma^*$ | - | 5.66 | - | 5.81 | |
| | 4Py | | | | |
| | CASPT2(8,7) | | CC2 | | |
| $^1n_O\pi^*$ | 4.87 | 4.77 | 4.77 | 4.59 | 4.51 |
| $^1\pi\pi^*$ | 4.47 | 4.30 | 4.88 | 4.67 | |
| $^1\pi\sigma^*$ | - | 5.84 | - | 5.88 | |

Table S3 Adiabatic excitation energies (in eV) of the ${}^1n_O\pi^*$ (A''), ${}^1\pi\pi^*$ (A'), and ${}^1\pi\sigma^*$ (A'') states of U and 4Py, studied at CASPT2//CASSCF level.

| State | U | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | CASPT2(10,9)/aug-cc-pVDZ | CC2/aug-cc-pVDZ |
| ${}^1n_O\pi^*$ | 3.06 | 2.37 |
| ${}^1\pi\pi^*$ | 3.72 | 4.34 |
| ${}^1\pi\sigma^*$ | 5.15 | 5.31 |
| 4Py | | |
| | CASPT2(8,7)/aug-cc-pVDZ | CC2/aug-cc-pVDZ |
| | | |
| ${}^1n_O\pi^*$ | 3.18 | 2.09 |
| ${}^1\pi\pi^*$ | 2.77 | 2.85 |
| ${}^1\pi\sigma^*$ | 5.22 | 5.24 |

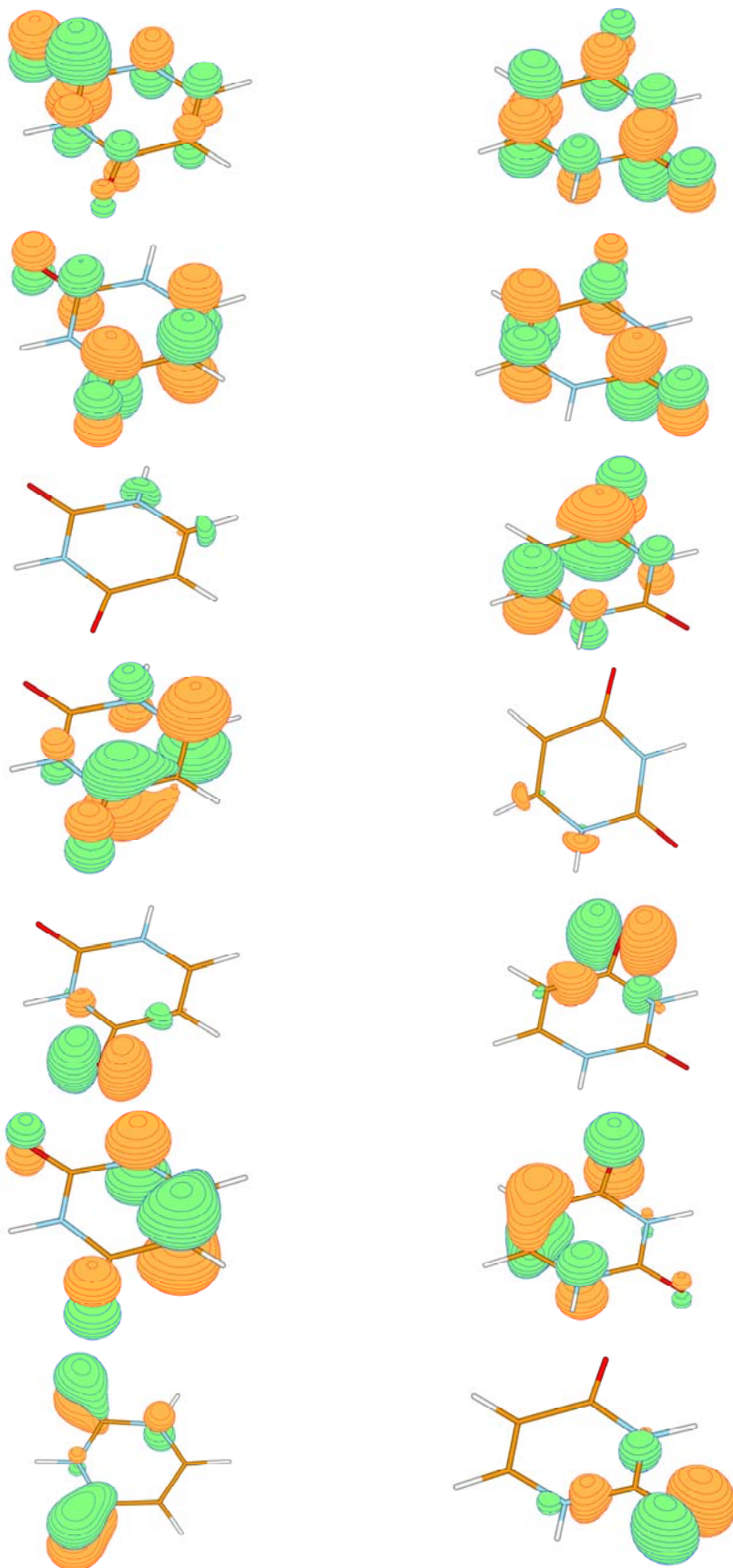


Fig. S1

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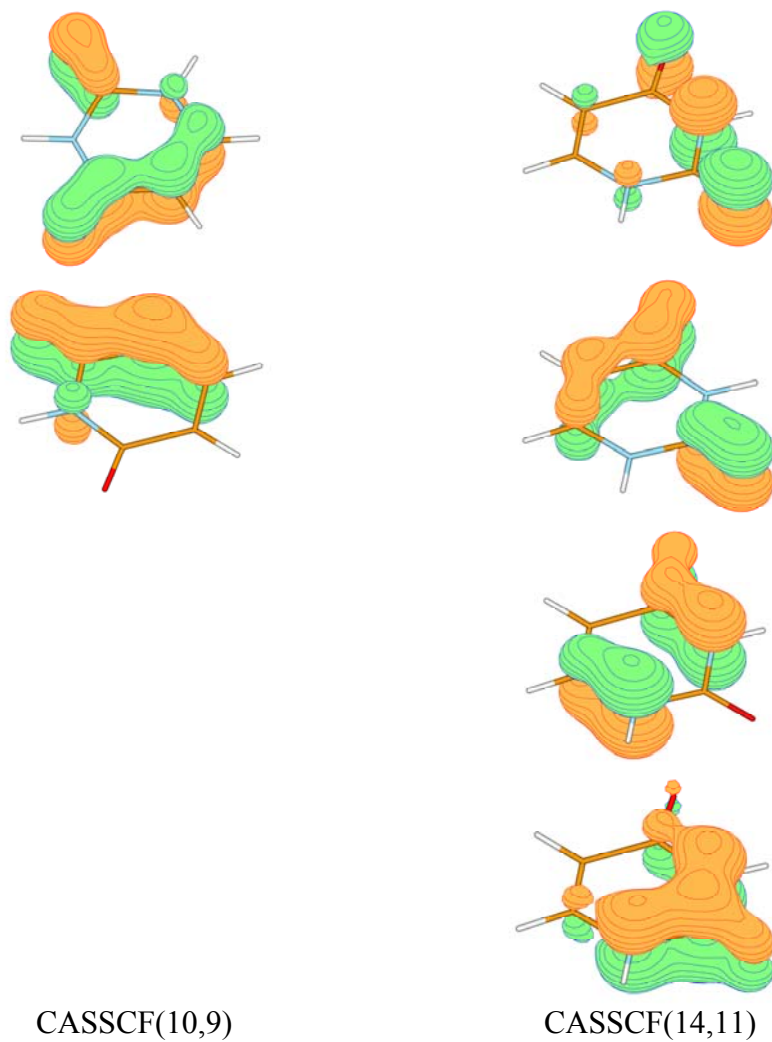


Fig. S1 State-averaged active molecular orbitals of U, obtained with the aug-cc-pVDZ basis set at the ground-state equilibrium geometry.

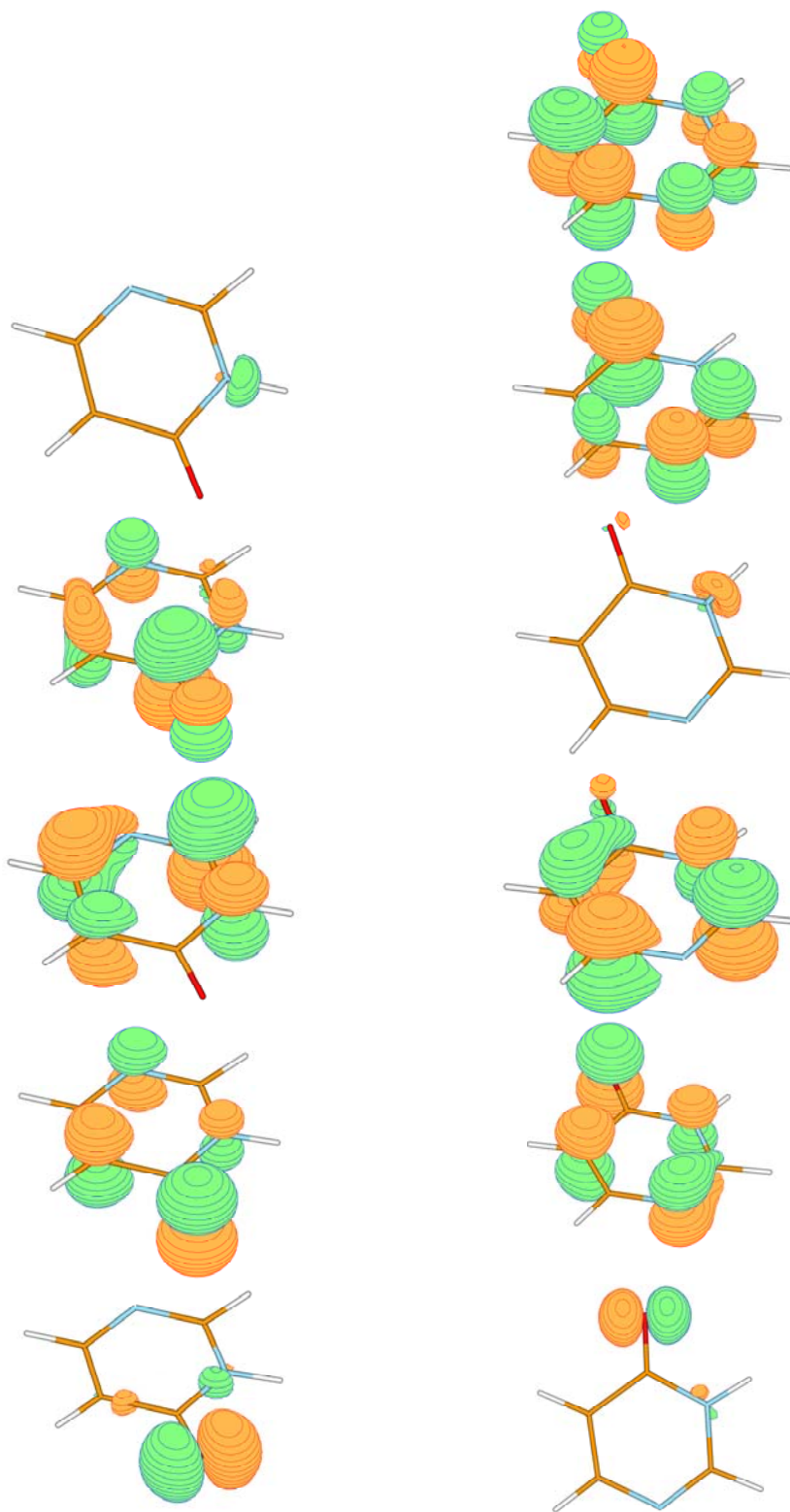


Fig. S2

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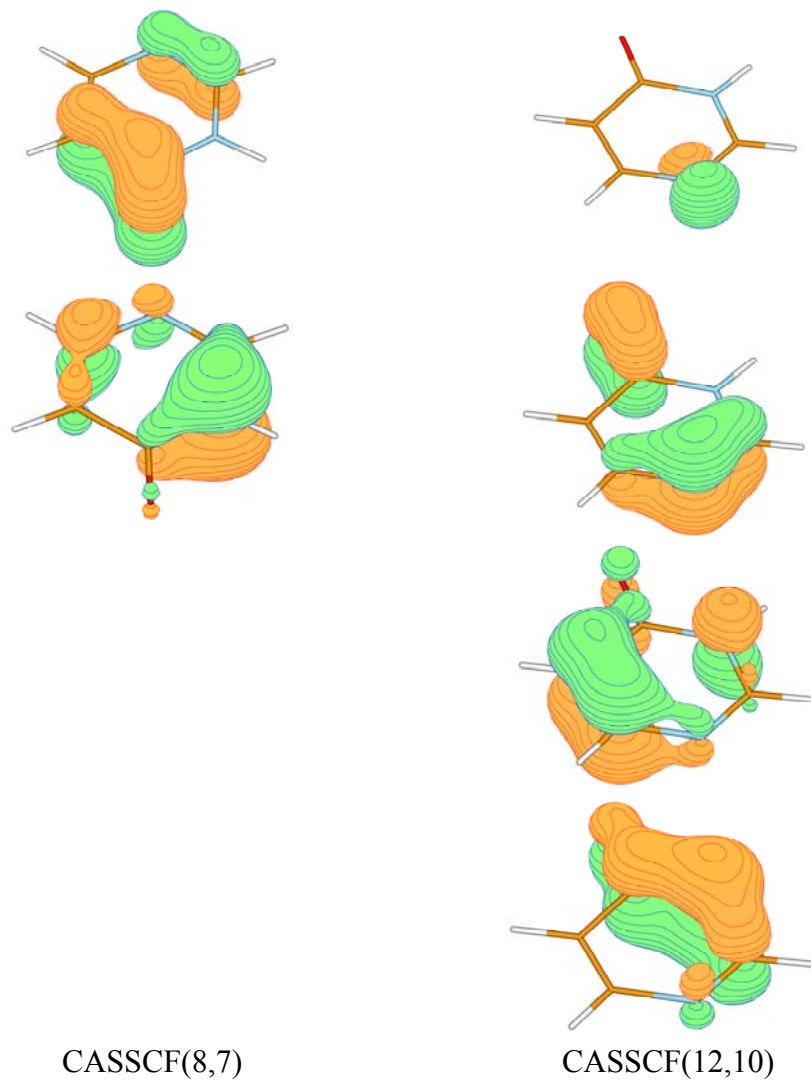


Fig. S2 State-averaged active molecular orbitals of 4Py, obtained with the aug-cc-pVDZ basis set at the ground-state equilibrium geometry.

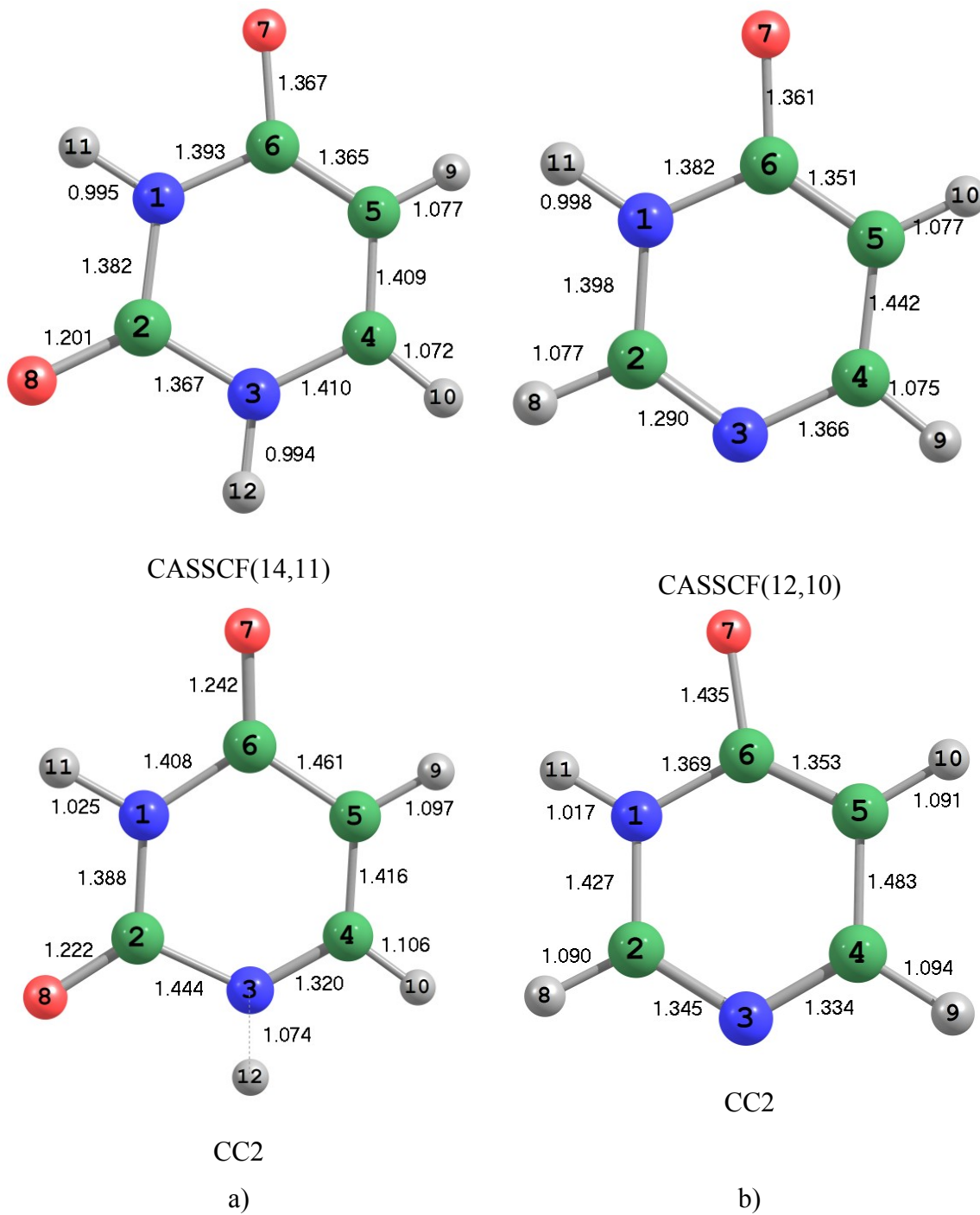


Fig. S3 Optimized structures (C_s) of the $^1n_0\pi^*$ state of a) U and b) 4Py at CASSCF and CC2 levels

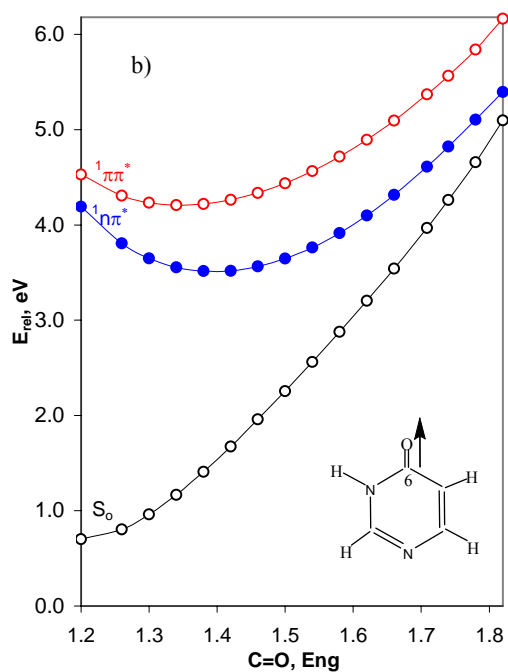
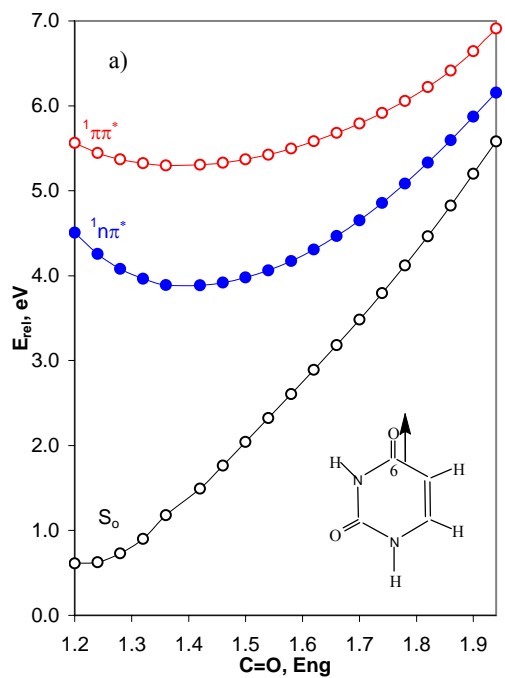


Fig. S4 Potential-energy profiles of C=O elongation for U (a) and 4Py (b). The geometry optimization was carried out for the $^1n_0\pi^*$ state (closed circles) at the CC2/cc-pVDZ level. The energies are referred to the energies of the ground-state equilibrium geometries

Optimized {CASSCF(6,6)/6-31G*} S_0/S_1 conical intersection related to C=C twisting in U

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 7 | 0.120612 | -0.924401 | -0.115620 |
| 6 | -0.055799 | -0.460961 | 1.143920 |
| 7 | -0.004618 | 0.962440 | 1.264188 |
| 6 | 0.174602 | 1.708526 | 0.187361 |
| 6 | -0.357699 | 1.250583 | -1.076020 |
| 6 | 0.043700 | -0.157785 | -1.330198 |
| 8 | 0.183143 | -0.746980 | -2.359037 |
| 8 | -0.137486 | -1.118454 | 2.129435 |
| 1 | 0.696608 | 2.641091 | 0.348150 |
| 1 | -1.436063 | 1.162349 | -0.904285 |
| 1 | 0.232926 | -1.914219 | -0.192377 |
| 1 | 0.194028 | 1.275015 | 2.196521 |

Optimized {CASSCF(6,6)/6-31G*} S_0/S_1 conical intersection related to the C=C twisting in 4Py

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 7 | 0.074145 | -0.236734 | 0.044290 |
| 6 | 0.133579 | 0.074344 | 1.333842 |
| 7 | 1.276734 | 0.310605 | 2.036448 |
| 6 | 2.311535 | 0.078145 | 1.228061 |
| 6 | 2.287488 | 0.601684 | -0.093378 |
| 6 | 1.156572 | 0.286916 | -0.853795 |
| 8 | 0.803968 | 0.663421 | -1.934718 |
| 1 | -0.792407 | 0.005772 | 1.901816 |
| 1 | 2.230592 | 1.663752 | -0.079058 |
| 1 | 3.047316 | -0.680390 | 1.521392 |
| 1 | -0.798099 | -0.469258 | -0.393829 |

Optimized {CASSCF(6,6)/6-31G*} S_0/S_1 conical intersection related to C=N twisting in 4Py

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 7 | -0.039747 | 0.056397 | 0.037884 |
| 6 | -0.019370 | -0.034925 | 1.423154 |
| 7 | 1.239930 | -0.021464 | 1.945563 |
| 6 | 1.629789 | 1.215610 | 1.846764 |
| 6 | 0.967414 | 2.055815 | 0.922523 |
| 6 | 0.355954 | 1.441207 | -0.205115 |
| 8 | 0.031249 | 1.984366 | -1.228644 |
| 1 | -0.913376 | -0.149606 | 2.063582 |
| 1 | 1.252557 | 3.070419 | 0.789150 |
| 1 | 2.506168 | 1.536212 | 2.391990 |
| 1 | -0.874469 | -0.145426 | -0.485191 |