

## Supplementary information

Theoretical study of photo-physical properties of indolylmaleimide derivatives

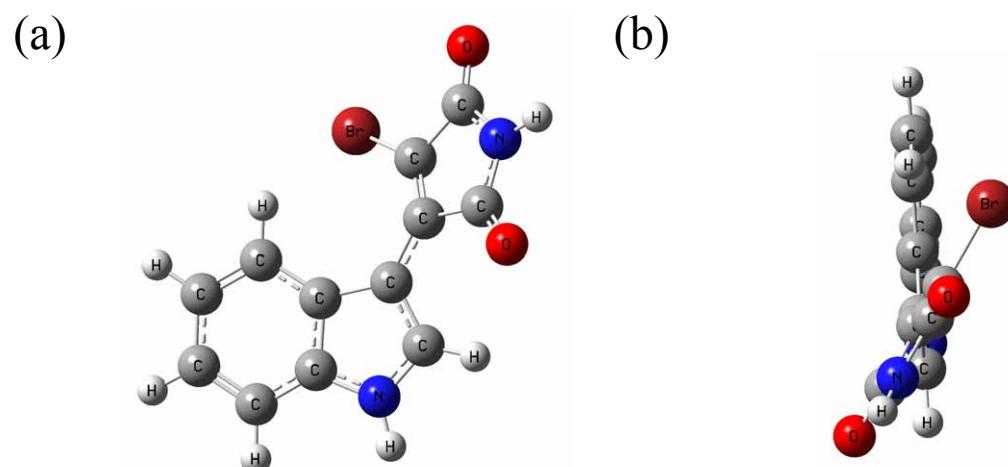
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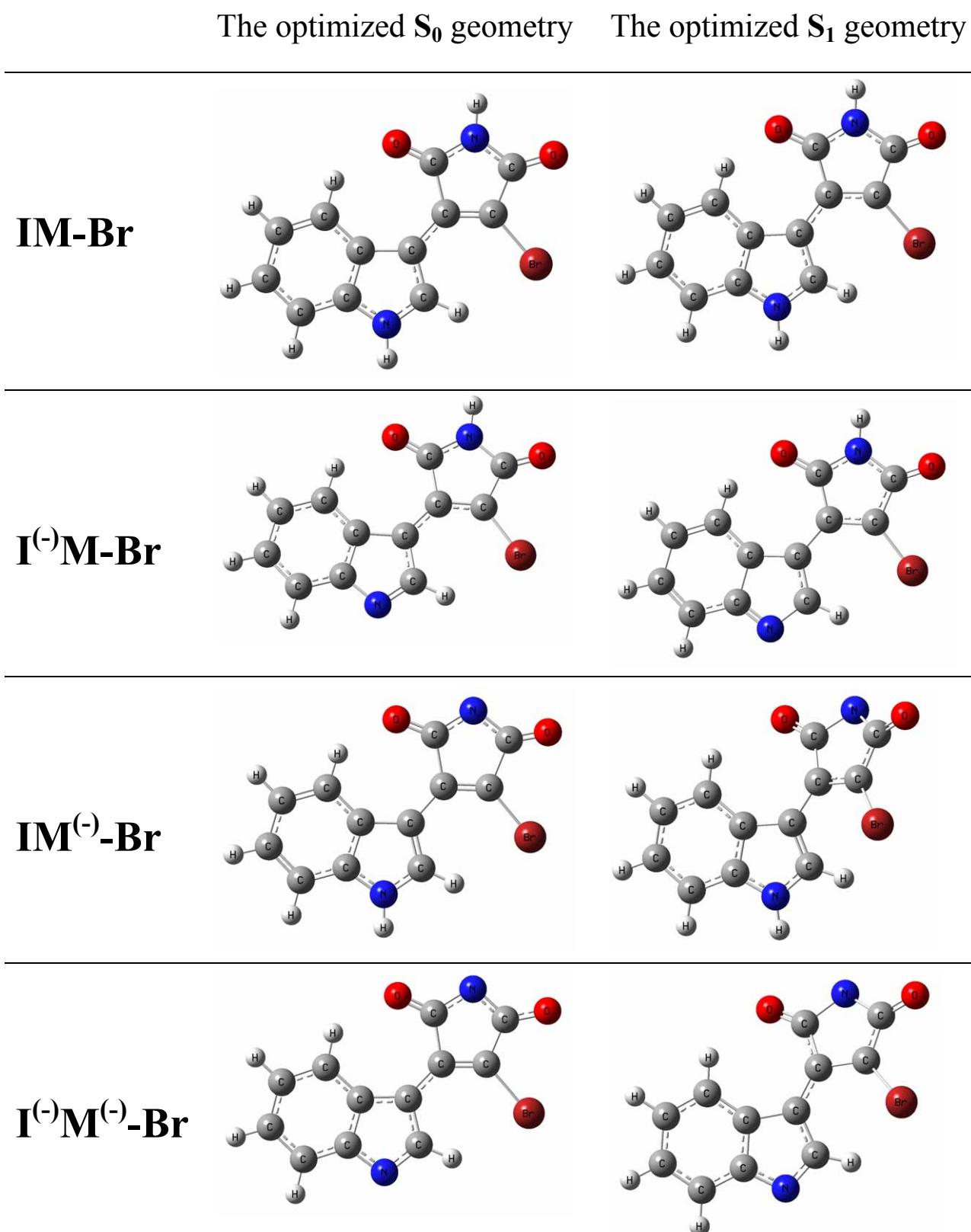
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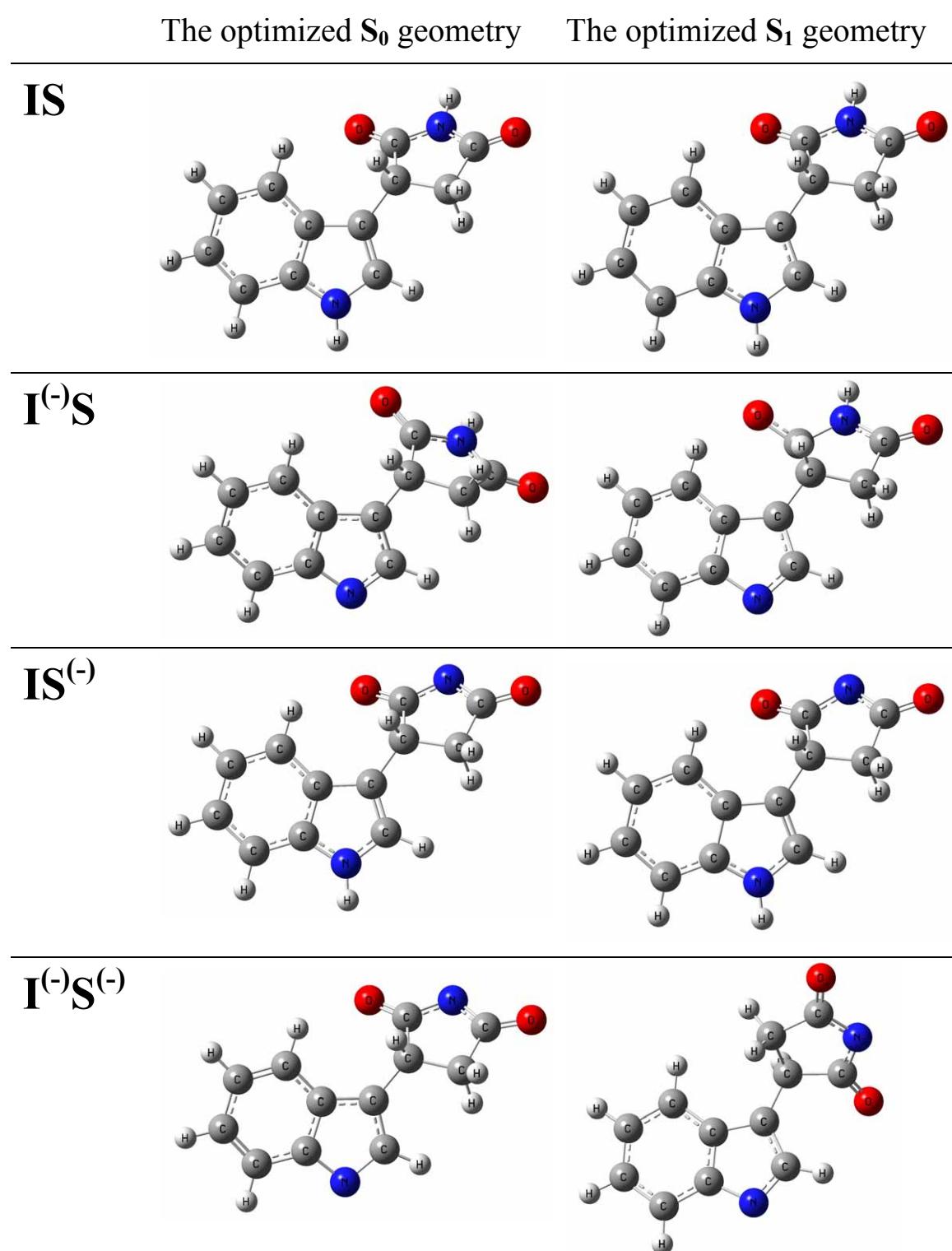
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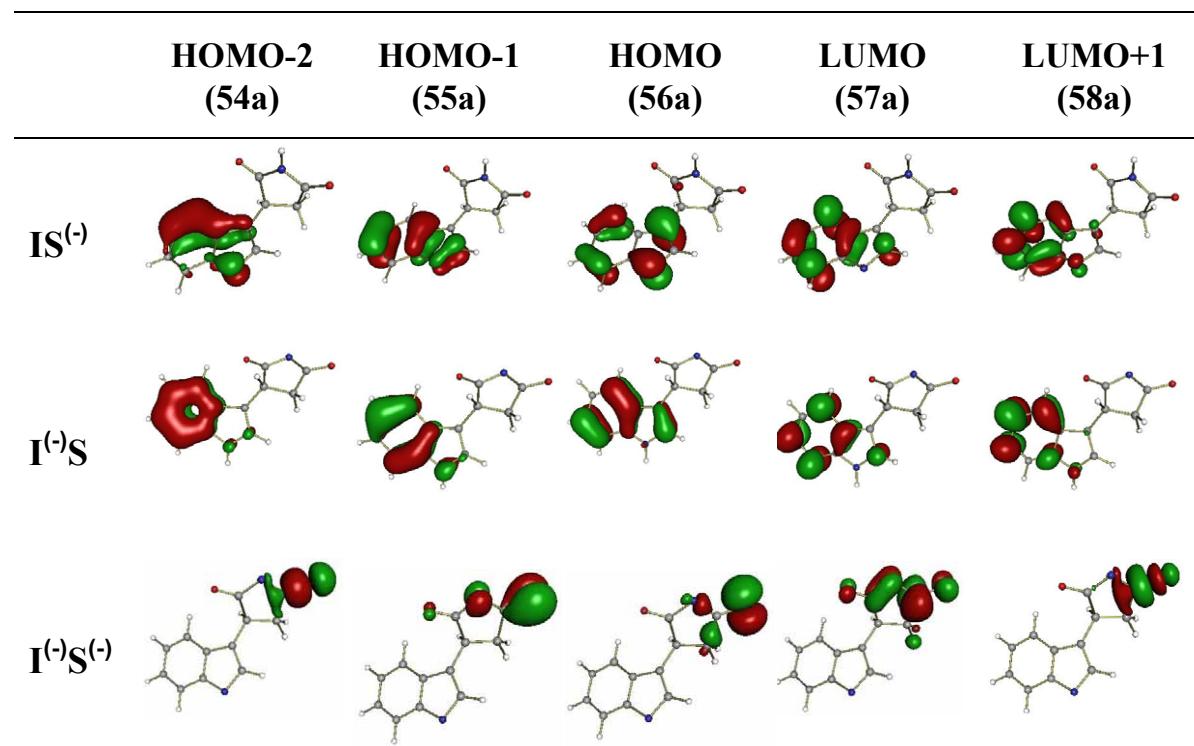
**Figure S1.** The x-ray measured geometry of the bromo-indolylmaleimides (**IMBr**).  
(a) Side view (b) Top view



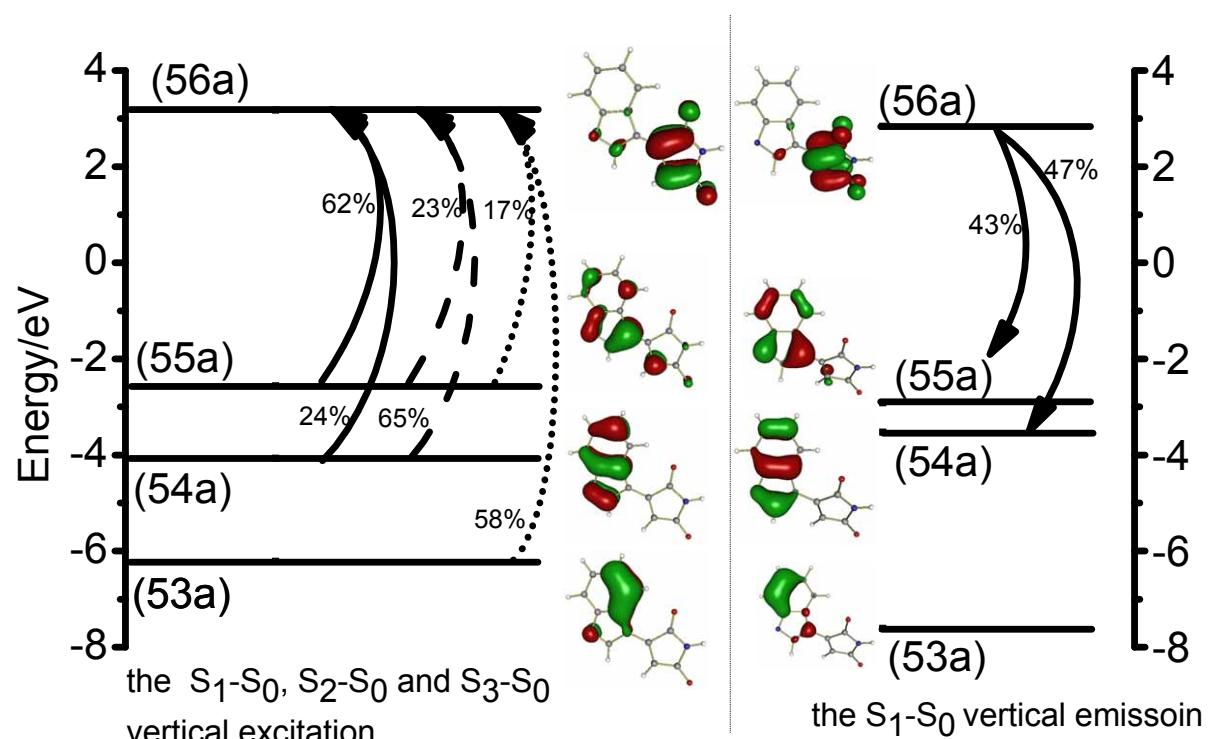
**Figure S2.** The geometry of neutral **IM-Br** and its anions. The left and right sides are the optimized  $S_0$  and  $S_1$  geometries, respectively.



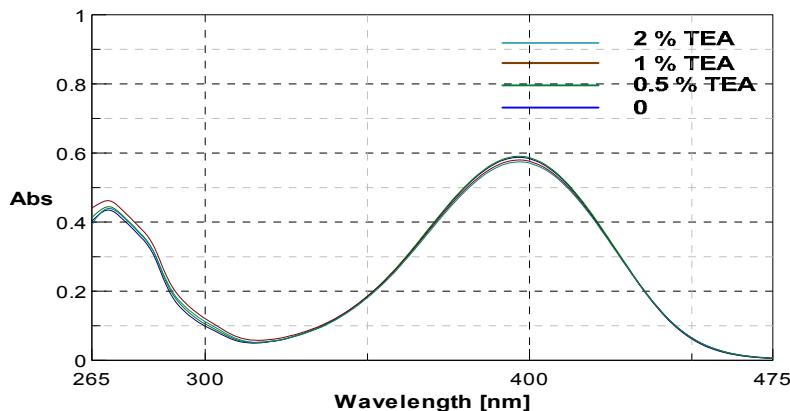
**Figure S3.** The geometry of neutral indole-succinimide (IS) and its anions. The left and right sides are the optimized  $S_0$  and  $S_1$  geometries, respectively.



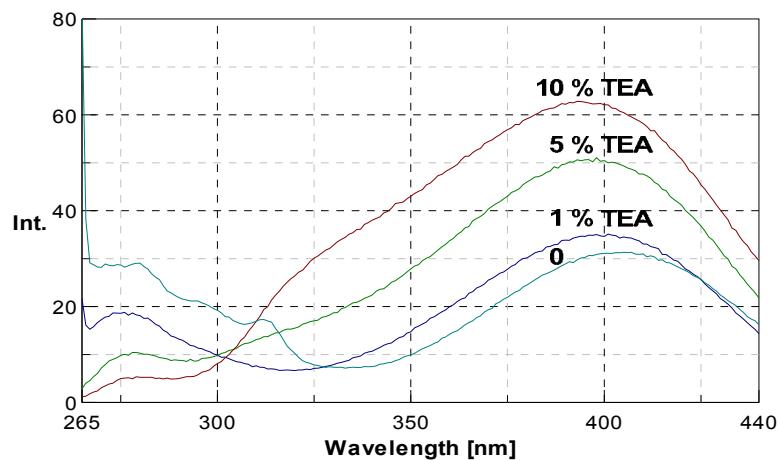
**Figure S4.** Natural molecular orbitals for anions of IS.



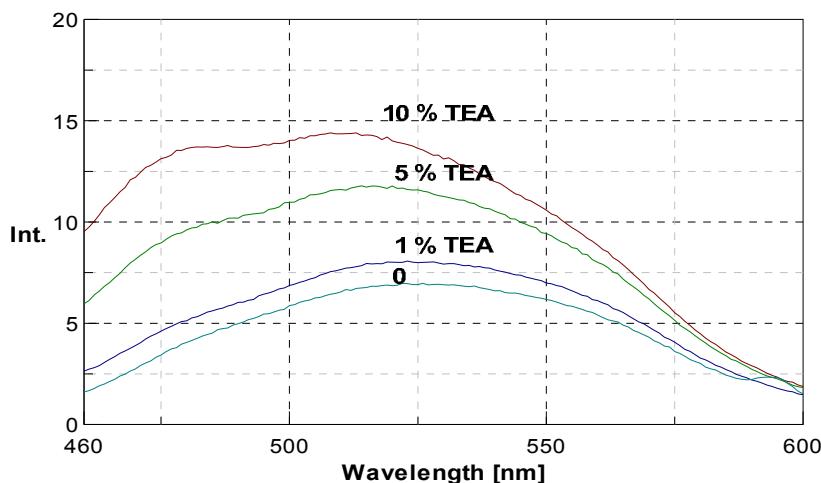
**Figure S5.** Natural molecular orbitals of  $I^-(M)$ . The left side is for  $S_1 \leftarrow S_0$  ( solid line ),  $S_2 \leftarrow S_0$  ( dash line ) and  $S_3 \leftarrow S_0$  ( short dot line ) vertical excitations at the optimized  $S_0$  geometry, and the right side is  $S_1 \rightarrow S_0$  vertical emission at the optimized  $S_1$  geometry.



**Figure S6.** Absorption spectra of **IM** (0.05 mM) in 0, 0.5 1 or 2 % triethylamine (TEA)-CH<sub>3</sub>CN solution



**Figure S7.** The fluorescence excitation spectra of **IM** (10 μM) in 0, 1, 5 or 10 % triethylamine (TEA)- CH<sub>3</sub>CN solution



**Figure S8.** The fluorescence emission spectra of **IM** (10 μM) in 0, 1, 5 or 10 % triethylamine (TEA)-CH<sub>3</sub>CN solution.

**Table S1.** The excitation energy of **I<sup>(-)</sup>M-Br**, **IS** and **I<sup>(-)</sup>M**.

Molecule	Excitation energy (cm <sup>-1</sup> )		
	Theoretical result		Experiment data
	Vdz(Basis set)	Pople(Basis set)	
<b>I<sup>(-)</sup>M-Br</b>	23873, 31207	21958, 29189	24054
<b>IS</b>	37974, 47370	37389, 46317	35780, 45583
<b>I<sup>(-)</sup>M</b>	22935, 29409, 39598	24553, 25129, 35518	25209, 36973

**Table S2.** The emission energy of **I<sup>(-)</sup>M-Br**, **IS** and **I<sup>(-)</sup>M**.

Molecule	Emission energy(cm <sup>-1</sup> )		
	Theoretical result		Experimental data
	Vdz(Basis set)	Pople(Basis set)	
<b>I<sup>(-)</sup>M-Br</b>	15556	14863	17731
<b>IS</b>	33363	36491	30159
<b>I<sup>(-)</sup>M</b>	18512	16509	19497