

# **Supporting Information**

## **Towards Developing Efficient**

## **Metalloporphyrin-Based Hybrid Photocatalysts**

## **for CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction; An Ab Initio Study**

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Table S1. Functional optimization for the CoPor complex. Comparison is carried out between previous experimental bond lengths ( $d$ ) and the calculated ones. All structures were relaxed with LANL2DZ for metal-ion and the 6-31+G(d,p) basis set for the rest of atoms. The  $C_\alpha$  and  $C_\beta$  positions are shown in Figure S1a.

| Functional                | $d(\text{Co-N})/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{N-C}_\alpha)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\alpha\text{-C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\beta\text{-C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | RMSE/ $\text{\AA}$ |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| B3LYP                     | 1.98                        | 1.39                              | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.013              |
| OPBE                      | 1.98                        | 1.40                              | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.017              |
| PBEPBE                    | 1.99                        | 1.41                              | 1.45                                           | 1.38                                          | 0.025              |
| CAM-B3LYP                 | 1.98                        | 1.40                              | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.017              |
| M06                       | 1.98                        | 1.39                              | 1.44                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.012              |
| $\omega$ B97XD            | 1.99                        | 1.39                              | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.017              |
| Experimental <sup>1</sup> | 1.97                        | 1.37                              | 1.44                                           | 1.36                                          | —                  |

Table S2. Functional optimization for the NiPor complex. Comparison is carried out between previous experimental bond lengths ( $d$ ) and the calculated ones. All structures were relaxed with LANL2DZ for metal-ion and the 6-31+G(d,p) basis set for the rest of atoms. The  $C_\alpha$  and  $C_\beta$  positions are shown in Figure S1b.

| Functional                | $d(\text{Ni}-\text{N})/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{N}-\text{C}_\alpha)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\alpha-\text{C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\beta-\text{C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | RMSE/ $\text{\AA}$ |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| B3LYP                     | 1.98                               | 1.40                                     | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.021              |
| OPBE                      | 1.98                               | 1.40                                     | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.021              |
| PBEPBE                    | 1.98                               | 1.41                                     | 1.45                                           | 1.40                                          | 0.021              |
| CAM-B3LYP                 | 1.97                               | 1.40                                     | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.021              |
| M06                       | 1.96                               | 1.39                                     | 1.44                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.012              |
| Experimental <sup>2</sup> | 1.95                               | 1.38                                     | 1.44                                           | 1.35                                          | —                  |

Table S3. Functional optimization for the CuPor complex. Comparison is carried out between previous experimental bond lengths ( $d$ ) and the calculated ones. All structures were relaxed with LANL2DZ for metal-ion and the 6-31+G(d,p) basis set for the rest of atoms. The  $C_\alpha$  and  $C_\beta$  positions are shown in Figure S1c.

| Functional                | $d(\text{Cu-N})/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{N-C}_\alpha)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\alpha\text{-C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\beta\text{-C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | RMSE/ $\text{\AA}$ |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| B3LYP                     | 2.03                        | 1.39                              | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.025              |
| OPBE                      | 2.04                        | 1.39                              | 1.45                                           | 1.38                                          | 0.032              |
| PBEPBE                    | 2.04                        | 1.40                              | 1.46                                           | 1.38                                          | 0.032              |
| CAM-B3LYP                 | 2.02                        | 1.38                              | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.022              |
| M06                       | 2.01                        | 1.39                              | 1.44                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.017              |
| $\omega$ B97XD            | 2.09                        | 1.37                              | 1.46                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.045              |
| Experimental <sup>3</sup> | 1.98                        | 1.39                              | 1.45                                           | 1.36                                          | —                  |

Table S4. Functional optimization for the ZnPor complex. Comparison is carried out between previous experimental bond lengths ( $d$ ) and the calculated ones. All structures were relaxed with LANL2DZ for metal-ion and the 6-31+G(d,p) basis set for the rest of atoms. The  $C_\alpha$  and  $C_\beta$  positions are shown in Figure S1d.

| Functional                | $d(\text{Zn}-\text{N})/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{N}-\text{C}_\alpha)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\alpha-\text{C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\beta-\text{C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | RMSE/ $\text{\AA}$ |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| B3LYP                     | 2.04                               | 1.38                                     | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.007              |
| OPBE                      | 2.05                               | 1.39                                     | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.011              |
| PBEPBE                    | 2.05                               | 1.39                                     | 1.45                                           | 1.38                                          | 0.012              |
| CAM-B3LYP                 | 2.03                               | 1.38                                     | 1.45                                           | 1.36                                          | 0.009              |
| M06                       | 2.03                               | 1.38                                     | 1.44                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.009              |
| $\omega$ B97XD            | 2.04                               | 1.38                                     | 1.45                                           | 1.36                                          | 0.009              |
| Experimental <sup>4</sup> | 2.04                               | 1.37                                     | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | —                  |

Table S5. Comparison between required time for geometry optimization of isolated parts and its constructed hybrid photocatalyst using both B3LYP and M06 functionals. The calculation times ( $t$ , h:min) are obtained using the same 16-core node for all structure relaxations.

| Functional | $t(\text{ED})/\text{h:min}$ | $t(\text{ZnPor})/\text{h:min}$ | $t(\text{ZnPor}(\text{ED})_4)/\text{h:min}$ |
|------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| B3LYP      | 1:07                        | 2:11                           | 12:03                                       |
| M06        | 2:01                        | 3:39                           | 30:18                                       |

Table S6. Basis set optimization for the CoPor. Comparison is carried out between previous experimental bond lengths ( $d$ ) and the calculated ones. All structures were relaxed using B3LYP functional. The  $C_\alpha$  and  $C_\beta$  positions are shown in Figure S1a.

| Basis set                 | $d(\text{Co-N})/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{N-C}_\alpha)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\alpha\text{-C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\beta\text{-C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | RMSE/ $\text{\AA}$ |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| LANL2DZ/6-31+G(d,p)       | 1.98                        | 1.39                              | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.013              |
| LACV3P/6-31++G(d,p)       | 1.97                        | 1.39                              | 1.44                                           | 1.36                                          | 0.010              |
| Experimental <sup>1</sup> | 1.97                        | 1.37                              | 1.44                                           | 1.36                                          | —                  |

Table S7. Basis set optimization for the NiPor. Comparison is carried out between previous experimental bond lengths ( $d$ ) and the calculated ones. All structures were relaxed using B3LYP functional. The  $C_\alpha$  and  $C_\beta$  positions are shown in Figure S1b.

| Basis set                 | $d(\text{Ni-N})/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{N-C}_\alpha)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\alpha\text{-C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\beta\text{-C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | RMSE/ $\text{\AA}$ |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| LANL2DZ/6-31+G(d,p)       | 1.98                        | 1.40                              | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.021              |
| LACV3P/6-31++G(d,p)       | 1.97                        | 1.39                              | 1.44                                           | 1.36                                          | 0.012              |
| Experimental <sup>2</sup> | 1.95                        | 1.38                              | 1.44                                           | 1.35                                          | —                  |

Table S8. Basis set optimization for the CuPor. Comparison is carried out between previous experimental bond lengths ( $d$ ) and the calculated ones. All structures were relaxed using B3LYP functional. The  $C_\alpha$  and  $C_\beta$  positions are shown in Figure S1c.

| Basis set                 | $d(\text{Cu-N})/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{N-C}_\alpha)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\alpha\text{-C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\beta\text{-C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | RMSE/ $\text{\AA}$ |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| LANL2DZ/6-31+G(d,p)       | 2.03                        | 1.39                              | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.025              |
| LACV3P/6-31++G(d,p)       | 2.02                        | 1.39                              | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.021              |
| Experimental <sup>3</sup> | 1.98                        | 1.39                              | 1.45                                           | 1.36                                          | —                  |

Table S9. Basis set optimization for the ZnPor. Comparison is carried out between previous experimental bond lengths ( $d$ ) and the calculated ones. All structures were relaxed using B3LYP functional. The  $C_\alpha$  and  $C_\beta$  positions are shown in Figure S1d.

| Basis set                 | $d(\text{Zn}-\text{N})/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{N}-\text{C}_\alpha)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\alpha-\text{C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | $d(\text{C}_\beta-\text{C}_\beta)/\text{\AA}$ | RMSE/ $\text{\AA}$ |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| LANL2DZ/6-31+G(d,p)       | 2.04                               | 1.38                                     | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.007              |
| LACV3P/6-31++G(d,p)       | 2.05                               | 1.39                                     | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | 0.01               |
| Experimental <sup>4</sup> | 2.04                               | 1.37                                     | 1.45                                           | 1.37                                          | —                  |

Table S10. Calculated maximum wavelength ( $\lambda_{max}$ , nm) of the CoPor using different functionals.

|                          |           |                  |                |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Functional               | CAM-B3LYP | LC- $\omega$ PBE | $\omega$ B97XD | BHandHLYP |
|                          | 344.40    | 335.34           | 321.11         | 322.50    |
| Theoretical <sup>5</sup> | 492       |                  |                |           |

Table S11. Calculated maximum wavelength ( $\lambda_{max}$ , nm) of the NiPor using different long-range corrected functionals.

| Functional               | CAM-B3LYP | LC- $\omega$ PBE | $\omega$ B97XD | BHandHLYP |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------------|----------------|-----------|
|                          | 349.69    | 348.42           | 348.15         | 323.33    |
| Theoretical <sup>5</sup> | 354       |                  |                |           |

Table S12. Calculated maximum wavelength ( $\lambda_{max}$ , nm) of the CuPor using different long-range corrected functionals.

|                           |           |                  |                |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Functional                | CAM-B3LYP | LC- $\omega$ PBE | $\omega$ B97XD | BHandHLYP |
|                           | 353.22    | 349.32           | 350.31         | 322.35    |
| Experimental <sup>6</sup> | 421       |                  |                |           |

Table S13. Calculated maximum wavelength ( $\lambda_{max}$ , nm) of the ZnPor using different long-range corrected functionals.

|                           |           |                  |                |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Functional                | CAM-B3LYP | LC- $\omega$ PBE | $\omega$ B97XD | BHandHLYP |
|                           | 360.86    | 351.48           | 360.80         | 327.73    |
| Experimental <sup>6</sup> | 429       |                  |                |           |

Table S14. Calculated optical properties of ED using different long-range corrected functionals in comparison with previous experimental work.

| Functional                | $E_{HOMO}$ (eV) | $E_{LUMO}$ (eV) | $E_g$ (eV) | $E_{opt}$ (eV) | $\lambda_{max}$ (nm) |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|----------------|----------------------|
| CAM-B3LYP                 | —               | —               | —          | 2.65           | 290.13, 467.75       |
| LC- $\omega$ PBE          | —               | —               | —          | 2.99           | 260.52, 414.03       |
| $\omega$ B97XD            | —               | —               | —          | 2.71           | 284.6, 456.65        |
| Experimental <sup>7</sup> | -3.4            | -5.8            | 2.4        | 2.44           | 310, 445             |

Table S15. Calculated maximum wavelength ( $\lambda_{max}$ ) of the ZnPor(ED) $_n$  with  $n = 1 - 4$ .

| Photocatalyst        | $\lambda_{max}$ (nm) |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| ZnPorED <sub>1</sub> | 375.76               |
| ZnPorED <sub>2</sub> | 394.41               |
| ZnPorED <sub>3</sub> | 492.42               |
| ZnPorED <sub>4</sub> | 500.12               |

Table S16. The calculated relative stability energies (kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>) of photocatalyst active site (MPor with M=Co, Ni, Cu and Zn) at their first three spin-states.

| Photocatalyst active site | Singlet | Doublet | Triplet | Quartet | Quintet | Sexted |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| CoPor                     | —       | 0.00    | —       | 6.90    | —       | 17.72  |
| NiPor                     | 0.00    | —       | 4.98    | —       | 20.01   | —      |
| CuPor                     | —       | 0.00    | —       | 13.76   | —       | 28.33  |
| ZnPor                     | 0.00    | —       | 14.67   | —       | 31.36   | —      |

Table S17. The calculated HOMO and LUMO energy levels and associated bandgaps ( $E_g$ , eV) for MPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalysts with M=Co, Ni, Cu and Zn.

| Photocatalysts         | $E_{HOMO}$ (eV) | $E_{LUMO}$ (eV) | $E_g$ (eV) |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
| CoPor(ED) <sub>4</sub> | -4.74           | -3.00           | 1.74       |
| NiPor(ED) <sub>4</sub> | -4.69           | -2.98           | 1.71       |
| CuPor(ED) <sub>4</sub> | -4.65           | -2.99           | 1.66       |
| ZnPor(ED) <sub>4</sub> | -4.62           | -2.99           | 1.63       |

Table S18. The calculated HOMO and LUMO energy levels and associated bandgaps ( $E_g$ ) for base MPors with M=Co, Ni, Cu and Zn.

| MPor  | $E_{HOMO}$ (eV) | $E_{LUMO}$ (eV) | $E_g$ (eV) |
|-------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
| CoPor | -5.26           | -2.08           | 3.18       |
| NiPor | -5.28           | -2.12           | 3.16       |
| CuPor | -5.22           | -2.16           | 3.06       |
| ZnPor | -5.14           | -2.16           | 2.98       |

Table S19. The evaluated nature of transition associated with  $\lambda_{max}$  of CoPor(ED)<sub>4</sub>.

| CoPor(ED) <sub>4</sub>                              | configuration coefficient |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| HOMO-5( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\alpha$ ) | -0.15274                  |
| HOMO-4( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO( $\alpha$ )   | 0.22471                   |
| HOMO-4( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\alpha$ ) | 0.10192                   |
| HOMO-3( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+2( $\alpha$ ) | 0.23511                   |
| HOMO-2( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+3( $\alpha$ ) | 0.22507                   |
| HOMO-1( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO( $\alpha$ )   | 0.29469                   |
| HOMO-1( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\alpha$ ) | -0.18096                  |
| HOMO( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\alpha$ )   | -0.21965                  |
| HOMO( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+4( $\alpha$ )   | -0.31891                  |
| HOMO( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\alpha$ )   | 0.12859                   |
| HOMO-5( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO( $\beta$ )     | -0.13876                  |
| HOMO-4( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\beta$ )   | -0.21424                  |
| HOMO-4( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\beta$ )   | -0.11463                  |
| HOMO-3( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+2( $\beta$ )   | -0.22767                  |
| HOMO-2( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+3( $\beta$ )   | 0.22683                   |
| HOMO-1( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\beta$ )   | -0.28602                  |
| HOMO-1( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\beta$ )   | 0.20212                   |
| HOMO( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO( $\beta$ )       | -0.18239                  |
| HOMO( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+4( $\beta$ )     | 0.32426                   |

Table S20. The evaluated nature of transition associated with  $\lambda_{max}$  of NiPor(ED)<sub>4</sub>.

| NiPor(ED) <sub>4</sub>                              | configuration coefficient |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| HOMO-5( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\alpha$ ) | -0.15274                  |
| HOMO-4( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO( $\alpha$ )   | 0.22471                   |
| HOMO-4( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\alpha$ ) | 0.10192                   |
| HOMO-3( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+2( $\alpha$ ) | 0.23511                   |
| HOMO-2( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+3( $\alpha$ ) | 0.22507                   |
| HOMO-1( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO( $\alpha$ )   | 0.29469                   |
| HOMO-1( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\alpha$ ) | -0.18096                  |
| HOMO( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\alpha$ )   | -0.21965                  |
| HOMO( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+4( $\alpha$ )   | -0.31891                  |
| HOMO( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\alpha$ )   | 0.12859                   |
| HOMO-5( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO( $\beta$ )     | -0.13876                  |
| HOMO-4( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\beta$ )   | -0.21424                  |
| HOMO-4( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\beta$ )   | -0.11463                  |
| HOMO-3( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+2( $\beta$ )   | -0.22767                  |
| HOMO-2( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+3( $\beta$ )   | 0.22683                   |
| HOMO-1( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\beta$ )   | -0.28602                  |
| HOMO-1( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\beta$ )   | 0.20212                   |
| HOMO( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO( $\beta$ )       | -0.18239                  |
| HOMO( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+4( $\beta$ )     | 0.32426                   |

Table S21. The evaluated nature of transition associated with  $\lambda_{max}$  of CuPor(ED)<sub>4</sub>.

| CuPor(ED) <sub>4</sub>                              | configuration coefficient |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| HOMO-5( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO( $\alpha$ )   | -0.14828                  |
| HOMO-4( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO( $\alpha$ )   | 0.23296                   |
| HOMO-4( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\alpha$ ) | -0.10424                  |
| HOMO-2( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+2( $\alpha$ ) | 0.23312                   |
| HOMO-2( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+3( $\alpha$ ) | -0.22186                  |
| HOMO-1( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\alpha$ ) | 0.29428                   |
| HOMO-1( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+4( $\alpha$ ) | -0.19547                  |
| HOMO( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO( $\alpha$ )     | -0.19493                  |
| HOMO( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\alpha$ )   | 0.33454                   |
| HOMO-5( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\beta$ )   | 0.14682                   |
| HOMO-4( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\beta$ )   | -0.22555                  |
| HOMO-4( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\beta$ )   | -0.10621                  |
| HOMO-2( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+2( $\beta$ )   | 0.22891                   |
| HOMO-2( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+3( $\beta$ )   | -0.22087                  |
| HOMO-1( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO( $\beta$ )     | 0.30519                   |
| HOMO-1( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+4( $\beta$ )   | -0.20990                  |
| HOMO( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\beta$ )     | 0.21280                   |
| HOMO( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\beta$ )     | 0.34087                   |

Table S22. The evaluated nature of transition associated with  $\lambda_{max}$  of ZnPor(ED)<sub>4</sub>.

| ZnPor(ED) <sub>4</sub>                              | configuration coefficient |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| HOMO-5( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\alpha$ ) | 0.14228                   |
| HOMO-4( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\alpha$ ) | -0.22092                  |
| HOMO-4( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\alpha$ ) | -0.10445                  |
| HOMO-2( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+2( $\alpha$ ) | -0.22352                  |
| HOMO-2( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+3( $\alpha$ ) | 0.21577                   |
| HOMO-1( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO( $\alpha$ )   | 0.29352                   |
| HOMO-1( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+4( $\alpha$ ) | 0.19030                   |
| HOMO( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\alpha$ )   | 0.19983                   |
| HOMO( $\alpha$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\alpha$ )   | 0.35232                   |
| HOMO-5( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\beta$ )   | 0.14228                   |
| HOMO-4( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\beta$ )   | -0.22092                  |
| HOMO-4( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\beta$ )   | -0.10445                  |
| HOMO-2( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+2( $\beta$ )   | -0.22352                  |
| HOMO-2( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+3( $\beta$ )   | 0.21577                   |
| HOMO-1( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO( $\beta$ )     | 0.29352                   |
| HOMO-1( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+4( $\beta$ )   | 0.19030                   |
| HOMO( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1( $\beta$ )     | 0.19983                   |
| HOMO( $\beta$ ) $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5( $\beta$ )     | 0.35232                   |

Table S23. Calculated lifetime ( $\tau$ , ns) of MPor using CAM-B3LYP functionals.

|             | CoPor | NiPor | CuPor | ZnPor |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $\tau$ (ns) | 0.10  | 0.11  | 0.12  | 0.12  |

Table S24. Calculated relative stabilization energy ( $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) of various states of  $\text{CO}_2$  adsorption on studied photocatalysts. The states in the parentheses represent the final states of coordination.

| Photocatalyst          | CA        | CB        | OA        | OB        |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| CoPor(ED) <sub>4</sub> | 2.00 (OA) | 0.23 (OB) | 1.83 (OA) | 0.00 (OB) |
| NiPor(ED) <sub>4</sub> | 2.43 (CA) | 0.31 (CB) | 2.19 (OA) | 0.00 (OB) |
| CuPor(ED) <sub>4</sub> | 1.88 (CA) | 0.11 (CB) | 1.59 (OA) | 0.00 (OB) |
| ZnPor(ED) <sub>4</sub> | 2.12 (OA) | 0.89 (OB) | 1.54 (OA) | 0.00 (OB) |

Table S25. Covalent atomic radii ( $d_C$ , Å) of Co, Ni, Cu , Zn, and O atom.<sup>8</sup>

| Atom type | $d_C$ (Å) |
|-----------|-----------|
| Co        | 1.26      |
| Ni        | 1.24      |
| Cu        | 1.32      |
| Zn        | 1.22      |
| O         | 0.66      |

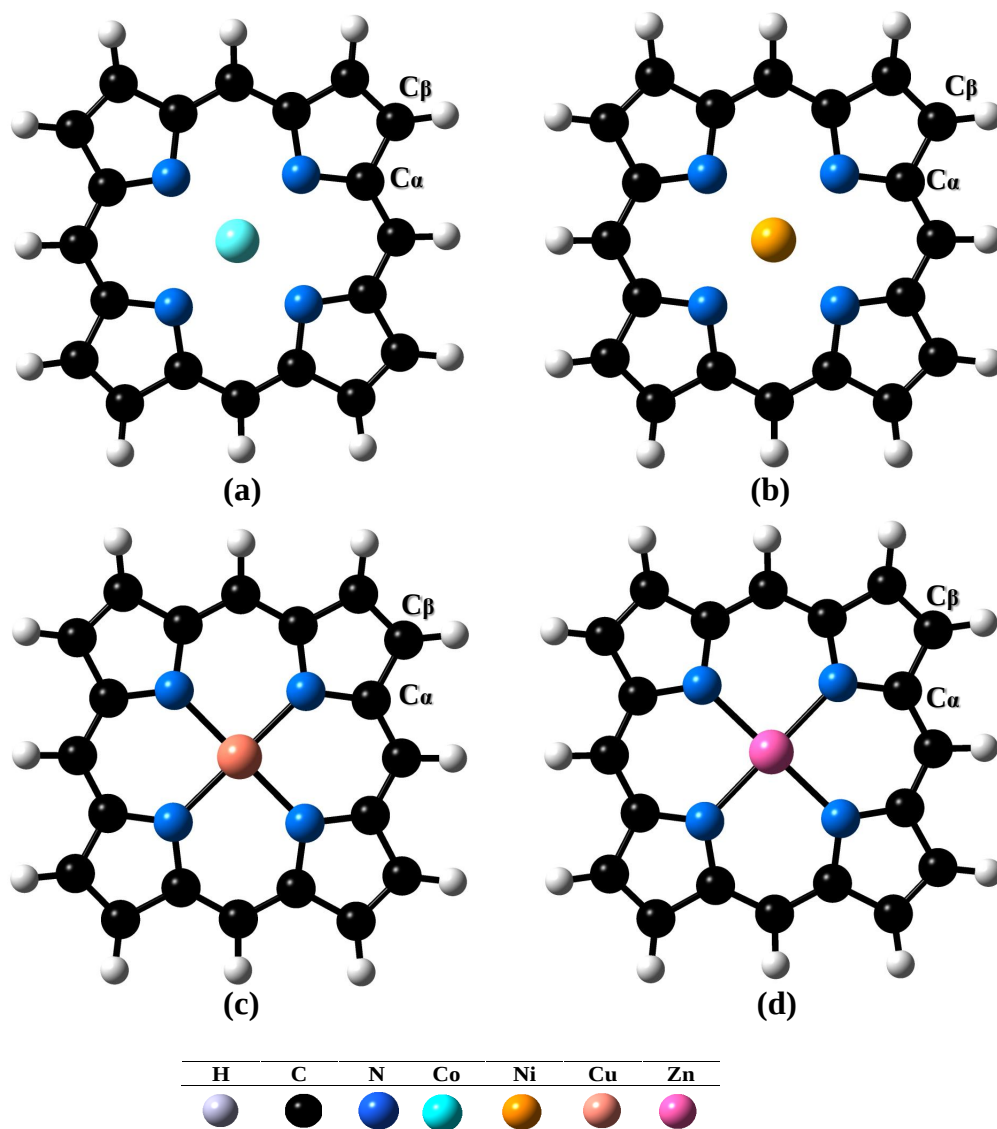


Figure S1. The relaxed geometric structures of four catalysts active sites (a) CoPor (b) NiPor (c) CuPor, and (d) ZnPor are used in this study.

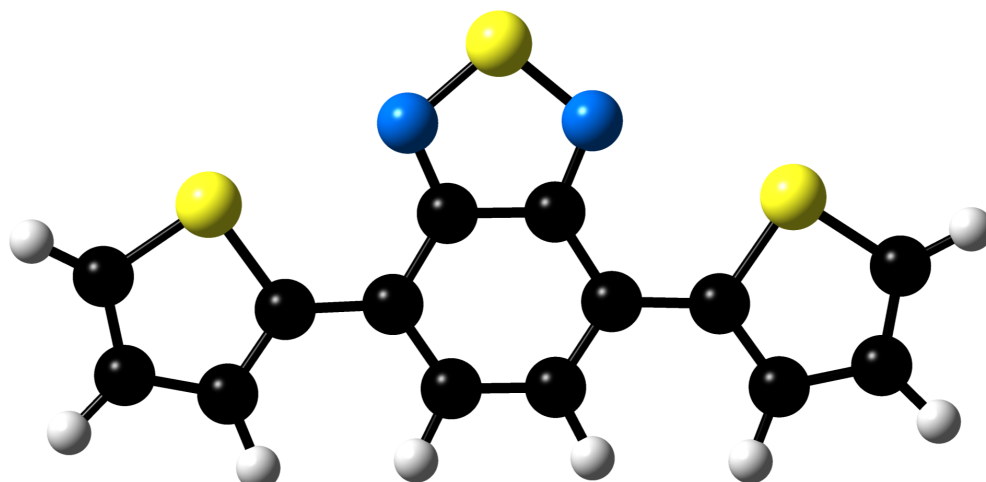


Figure S2. The relaxed geometric structures of the ED is used in this study.

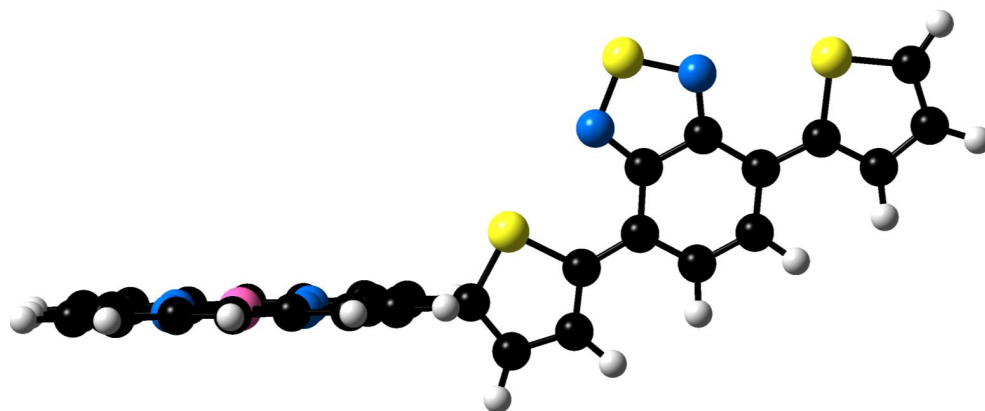


Figure S3. The relaxed geometric structures of the ZnPor–ED. In this structure the catalyst active site and ED are connected directly.

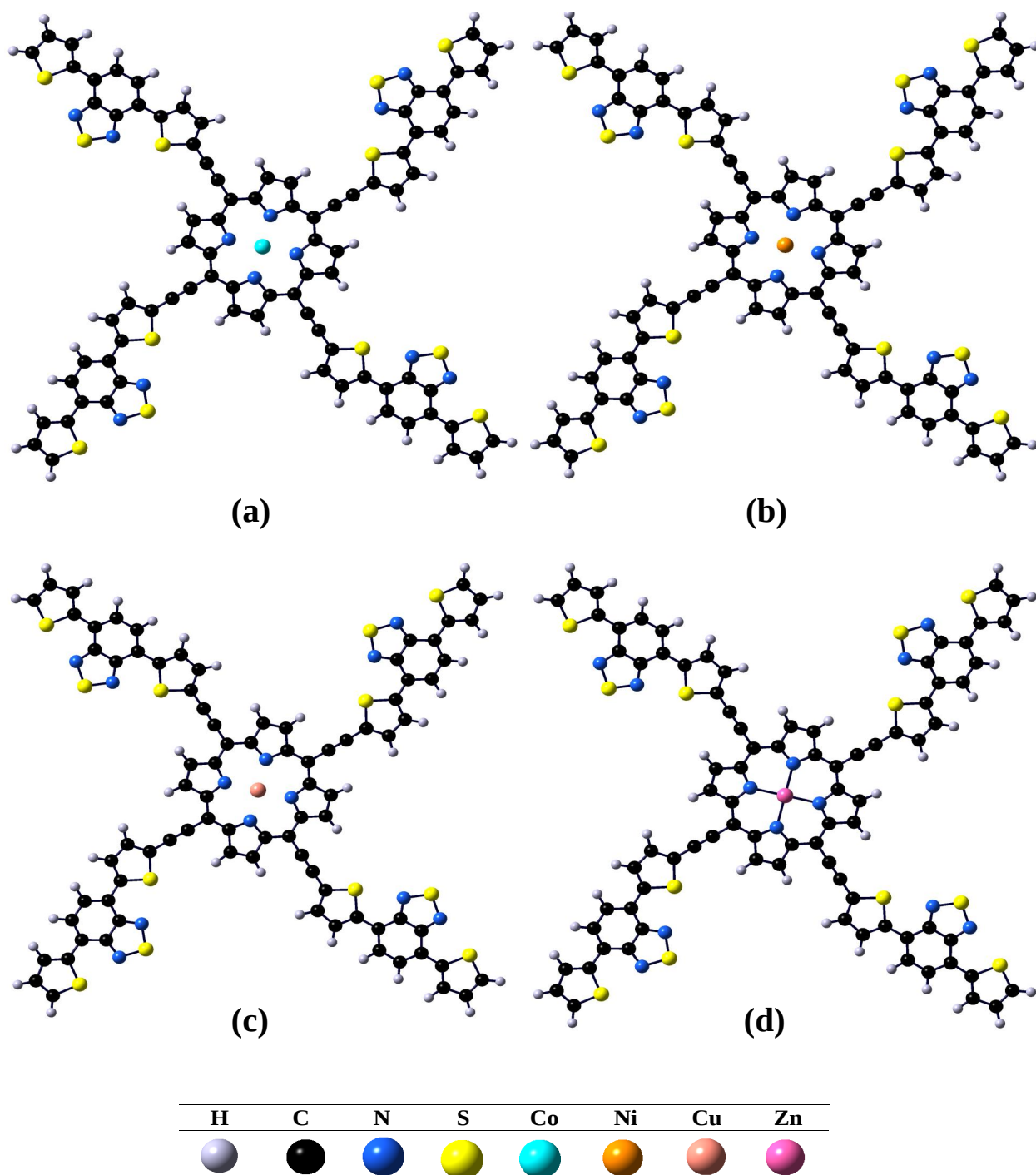


Figure S4. The relaxed geometric structures of (a) CoPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> (b) NiPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> (c) CuPor(ED)<sub>4</sub>, and (d) ZnPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> catalysts are used in this study.

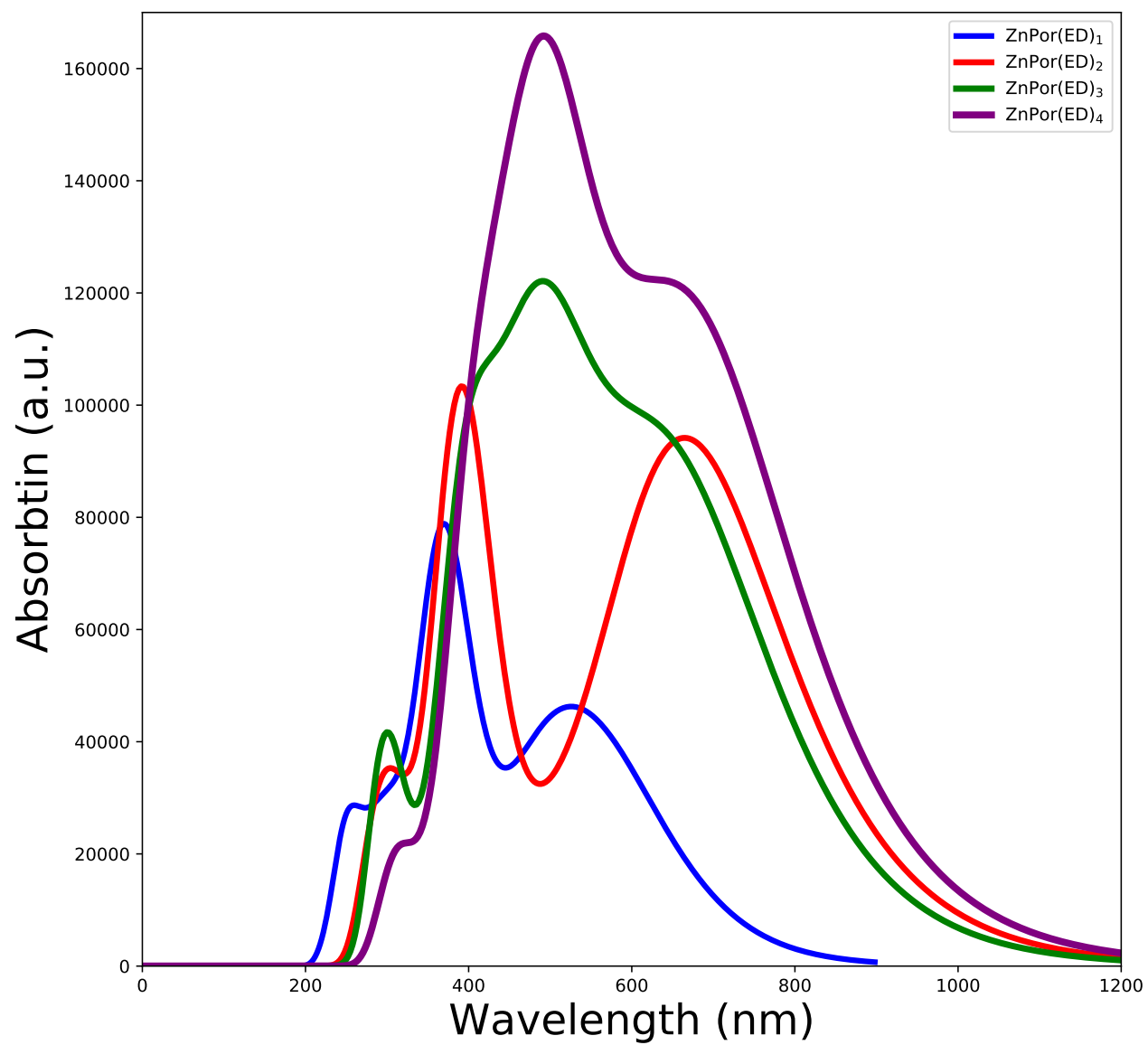


Figure S5. UV-Vis spectra of the ZnPor(ED)<sub>n</sub> with  $n = 1 - 4$ .

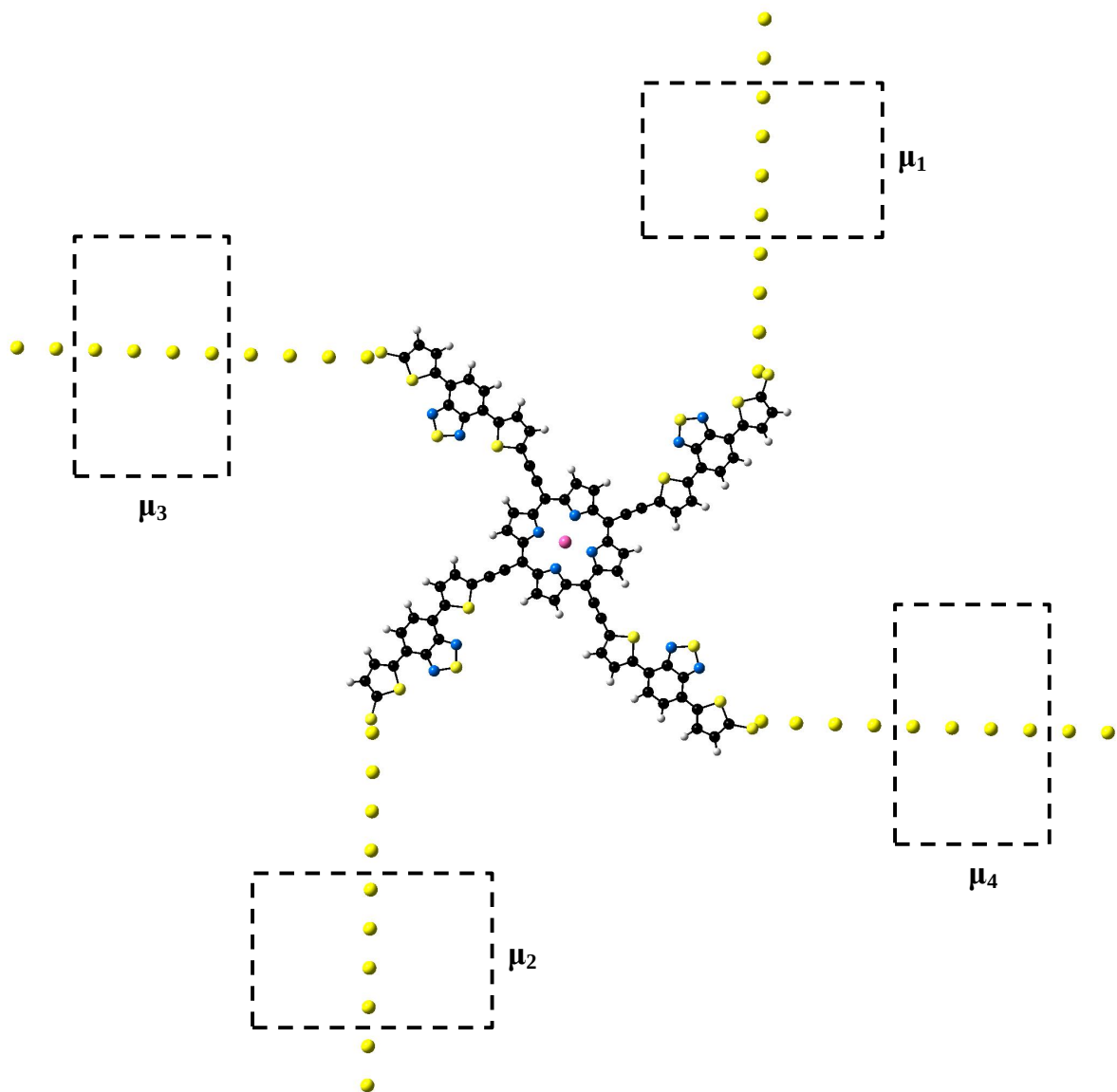
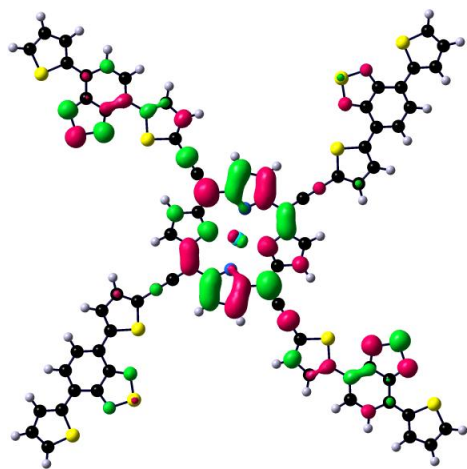


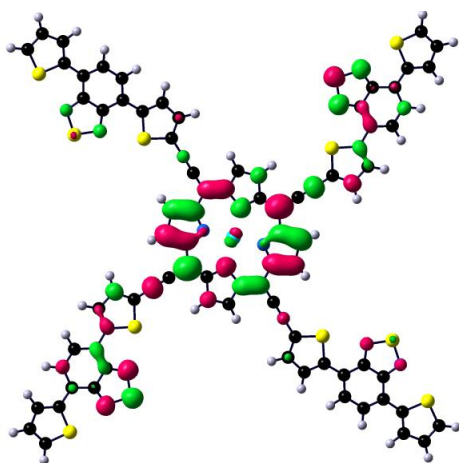
Figure S6. Structure of four-terminal ZnPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> devices before CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption. The boxed regions indicated four semi-infinite GNWs electrodes. The  $\mu_1$ ,  $\mu_2$ ,  $\mu_3$  and  $\mu_4$  represent the electrode chemical potential. A buffer regions is located behind each electrode act as additional screening region when calculating the initial NEGF guess.



LUMO+5( $\alpha$ )



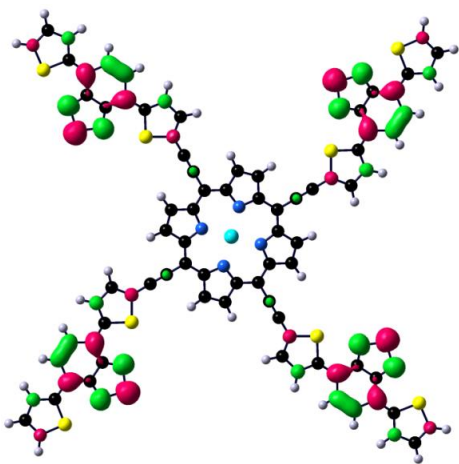
LUMO+5( $\beta$ )



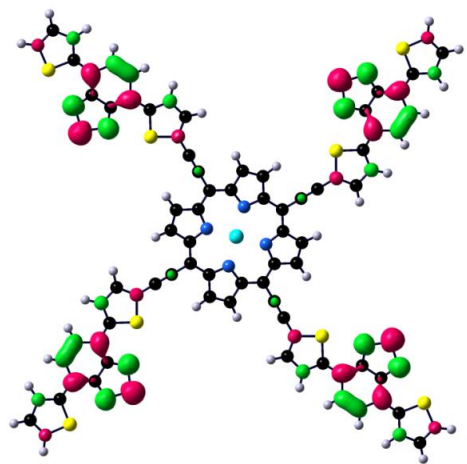
LUMO+4( $\alpha$ )



LUMO+4( $\beta$ )

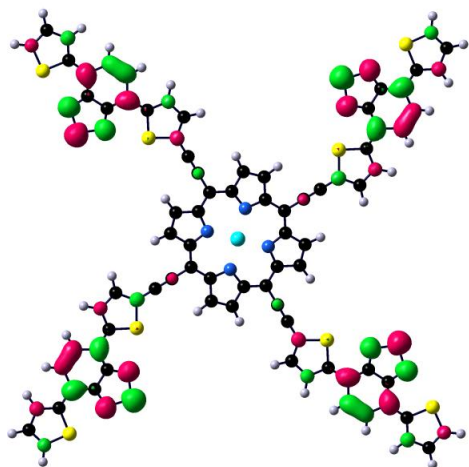


LUMO+3( $\alpha$ )

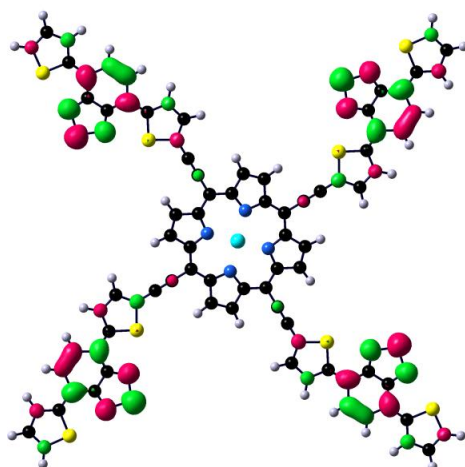


LUMO+3( $\beta$ )

Figure S7. Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the CoPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



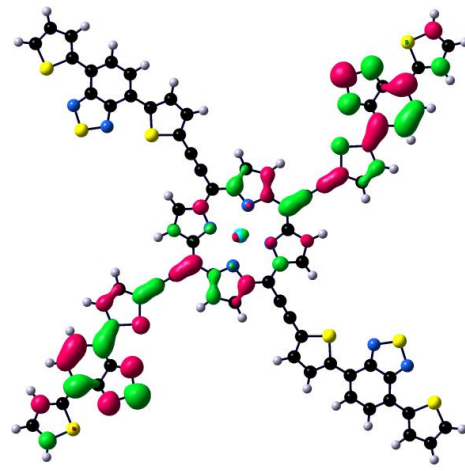
LUMO+2( $\alpha$ )



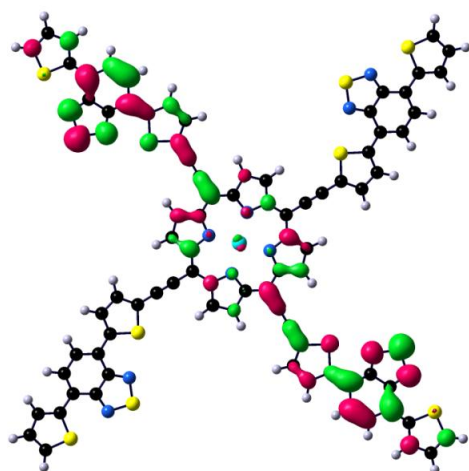
LUMO+2( $\beta$ )



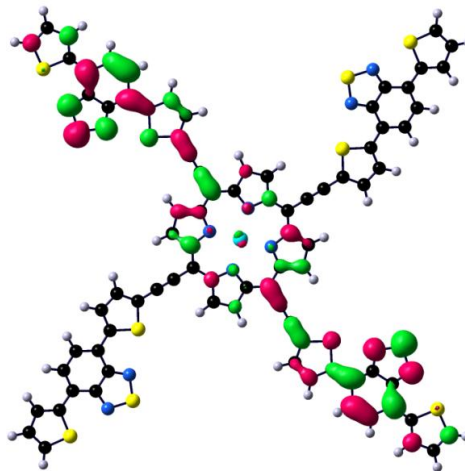
LUMO+1( $\alpha$ )



LUMO+1( $\beta$ )



LUMO( $\alpha$ )

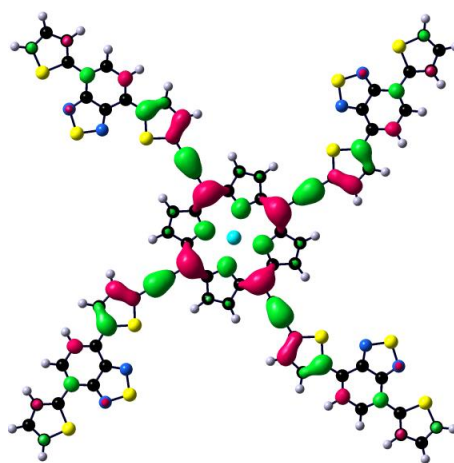


LUMO( $\beta$ )

Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the CoPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



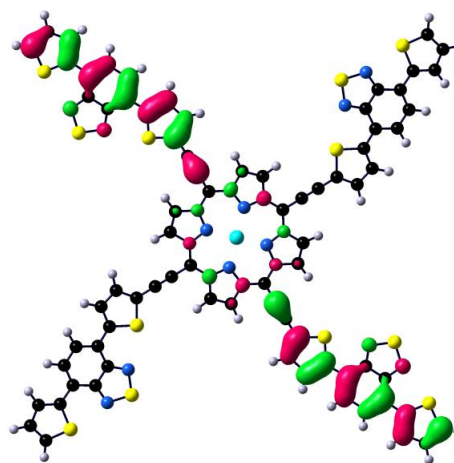
SOMO( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO( $\alpha$ )]



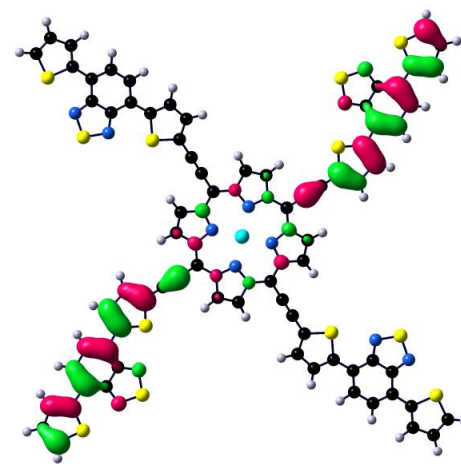
SOMO( $\beta$ ) [HOMO( $\beta$ )]



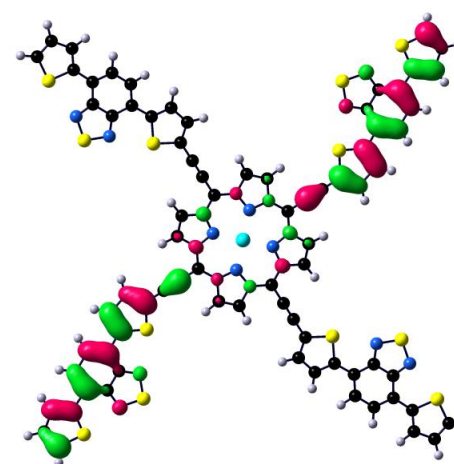
SOMO-1( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-1( $\alpha$ )]



SOMO-1( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-1( $\beta$ )]



SOMO-2( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-2( $\alpha$ )]

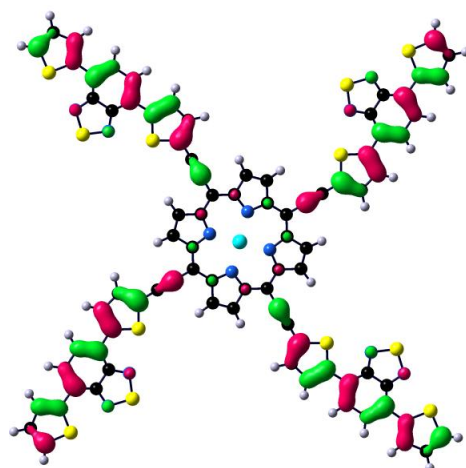


SOMO-2( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-2( $\beta$ )]

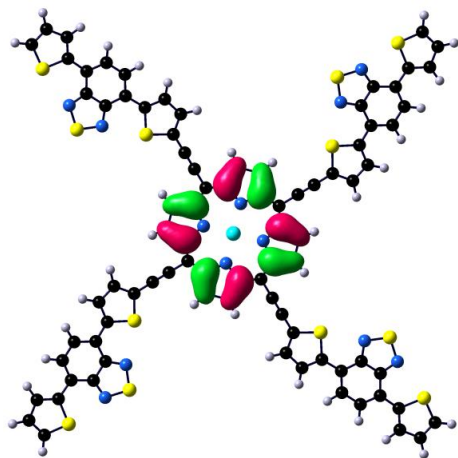
Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the CoPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



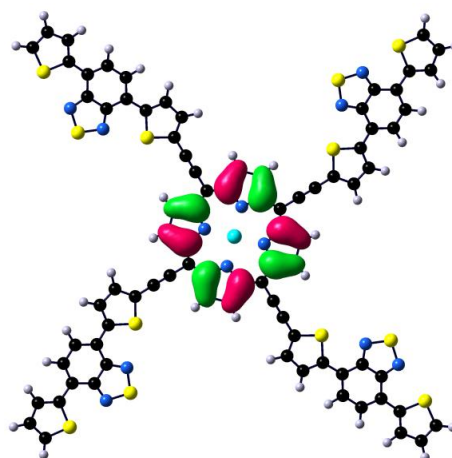
SOMO-3( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-3( $\alpha$ )]



SOMO-3( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-3( $\beta$ )]



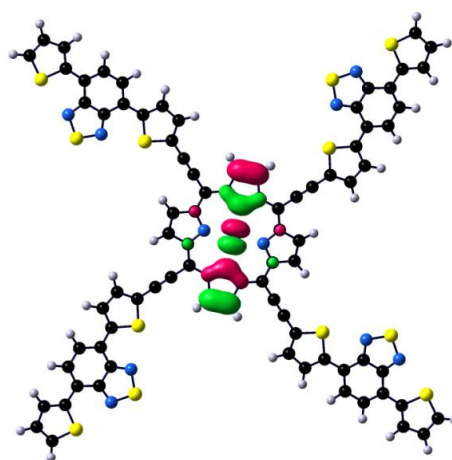
SOMO-4( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-4( $\alpha$ )]



SOMO-4( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-4( $\beta$ )]

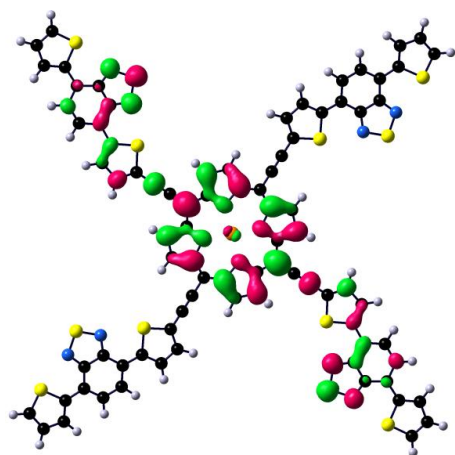


SOMO-5( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-5( $\alpha$ )]

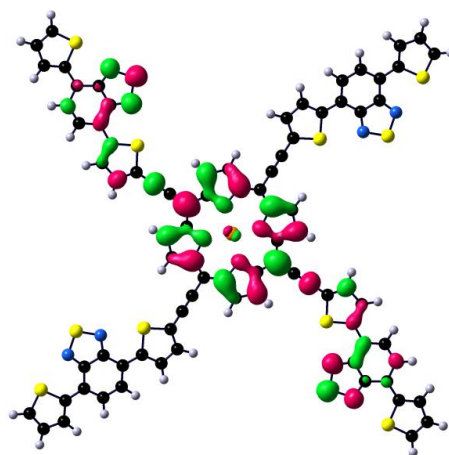


SOMO-5( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-5( $\beta$ )]

Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the CoPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



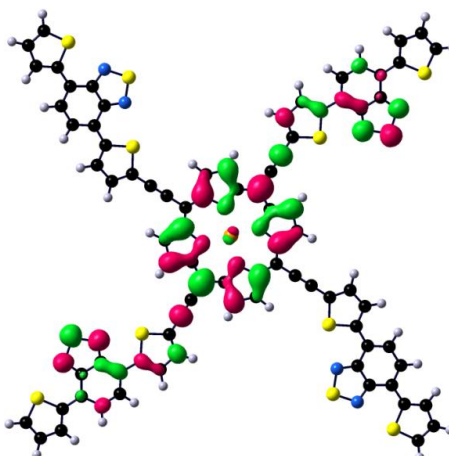
LUMO+5( $\alpha$ )



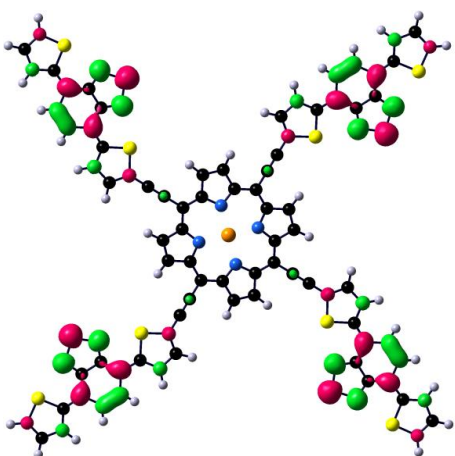
LUMO+5( $\beta$ )



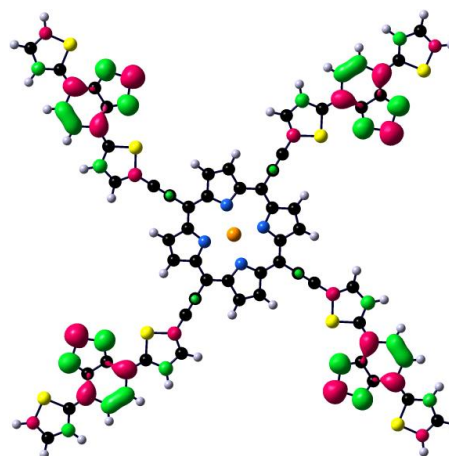
LUMO+4( $\alpha$ )



LUMO+4( $\beta$ )

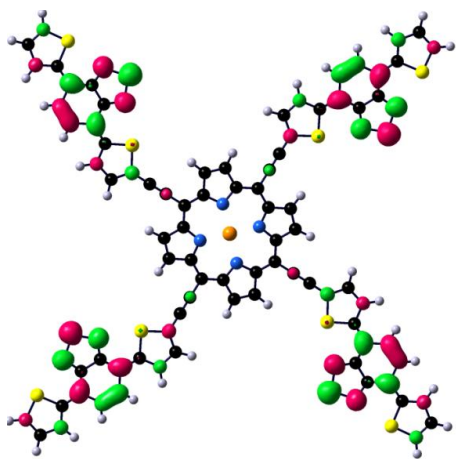


LUMO+3( $\alpha$ )

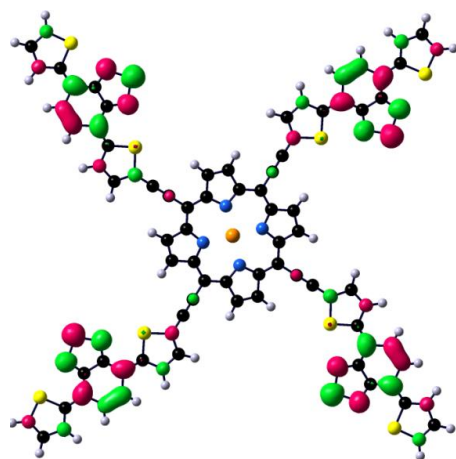


LUMO+3( $\beta$ )

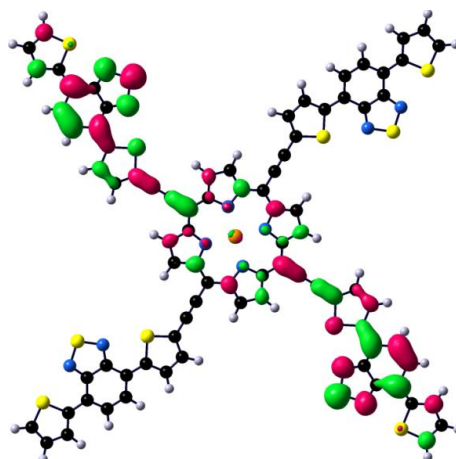
Figure S8. Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the NiPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



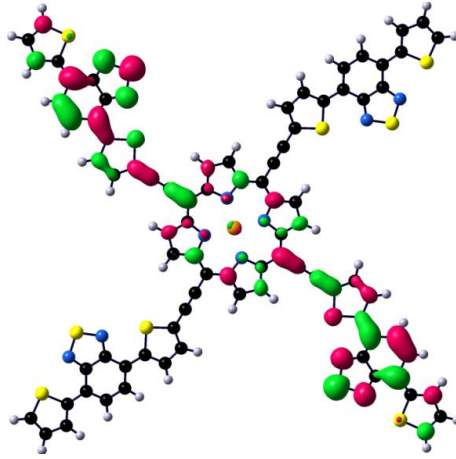
LUMO+2( $\alpha$ )



LUMO+2( $\beta$ )



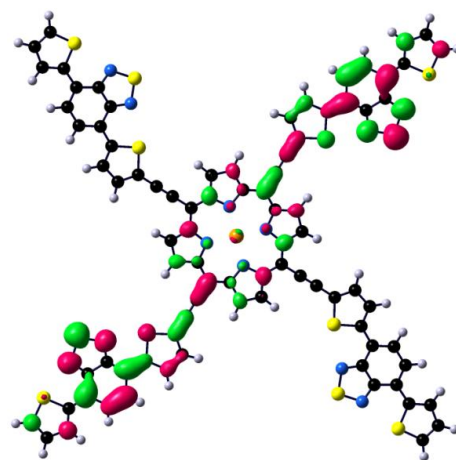
LUMO+1( $\alpha$ )



LUMO+1( $\beta$ )

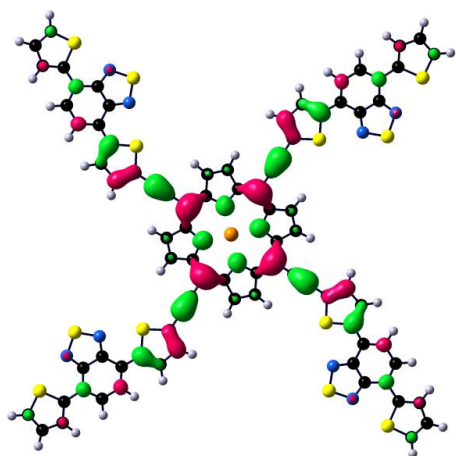


LUMO( $\alpha$ )

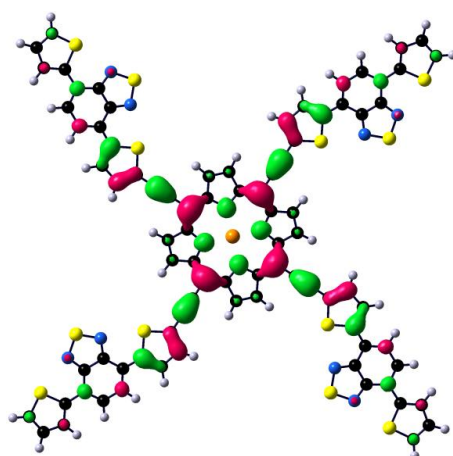


LUMO( $\beta$ )

Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the NiPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



SOMO( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO( $\alpha$ )]



SOMO( $\beta$ ) [HOMO( $\beta$ )]



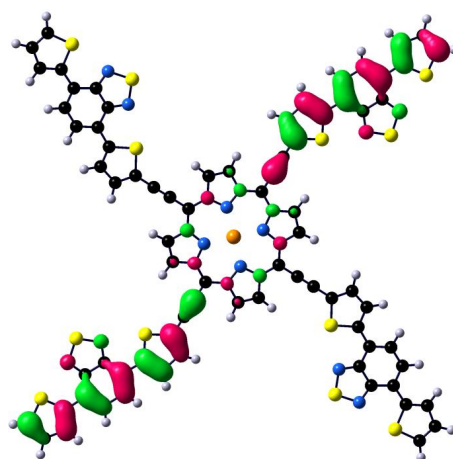
SOMO-1( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-1( $\alpha$ )]



SOMO-1( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-1( $\beta$ )]

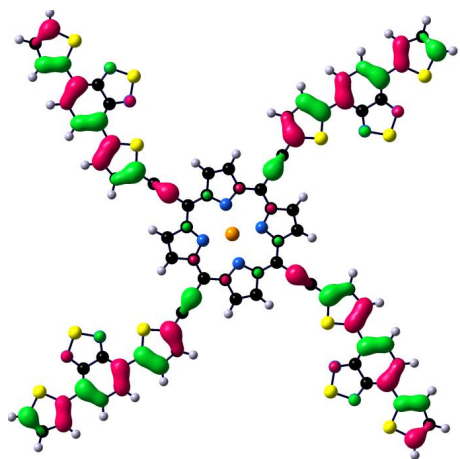


SOMO-2( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-2( $\alpha$ )]

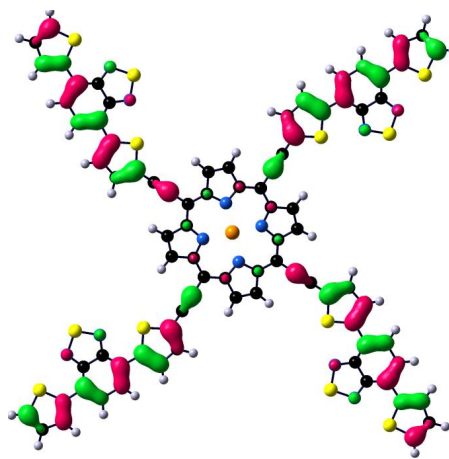


SOMO-2( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-2( $\beta$ )]

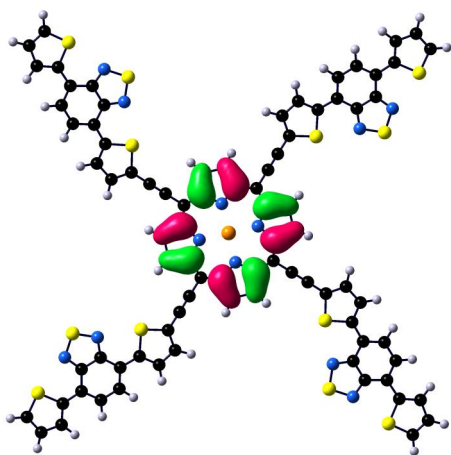
Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the NiPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



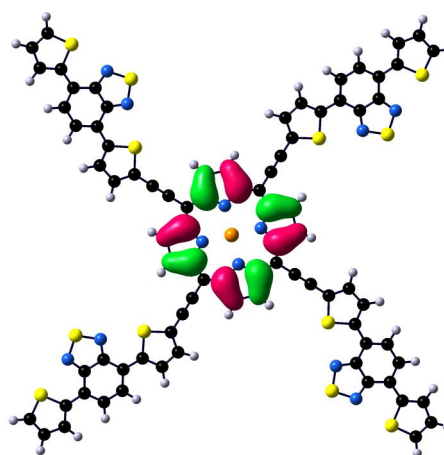
SOMO-3( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-3( $\alpha$ )]



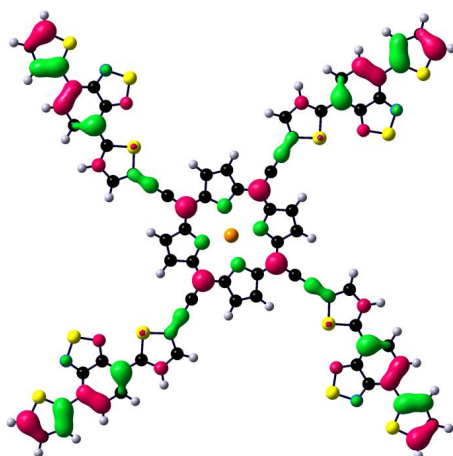
SOMO-3( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-3( $\beta$ )]



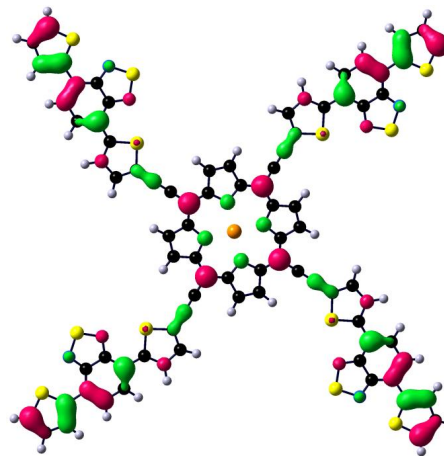
SOMO-4( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-4( $\alpha$ )]



SOMO-4( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-4( $\beta$ )]

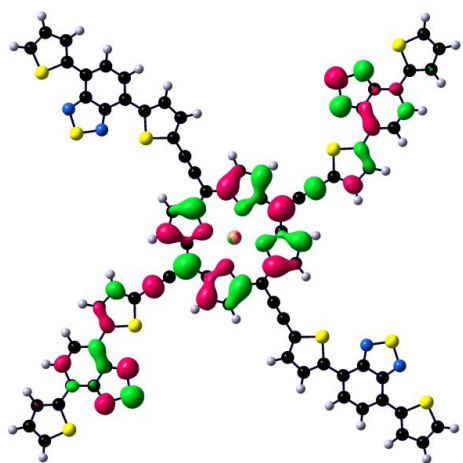


SOMO-5( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-5( $\alpha$ )]

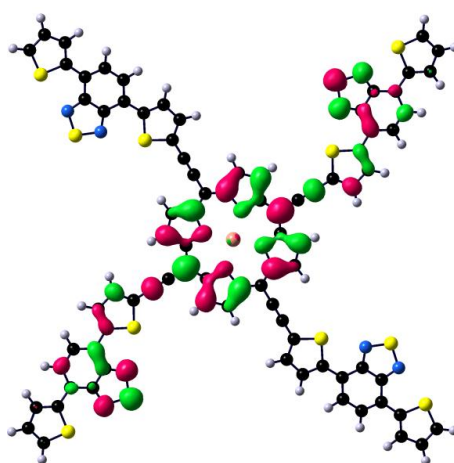


SOMO-5( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-5( $\beta$ )]

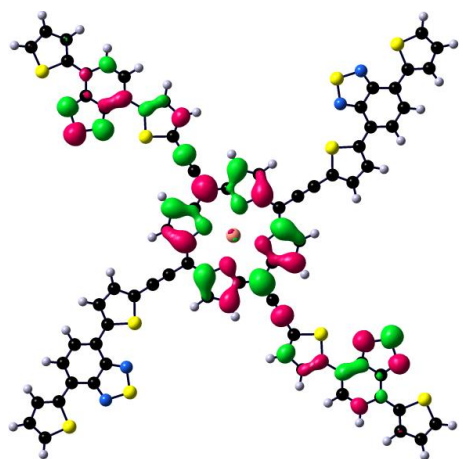
Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the NiPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



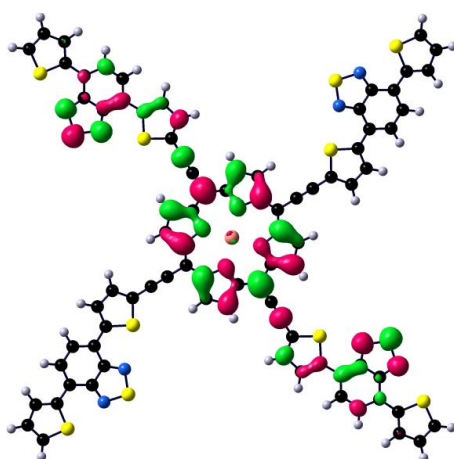
LUMO+5( $\alpha$ )



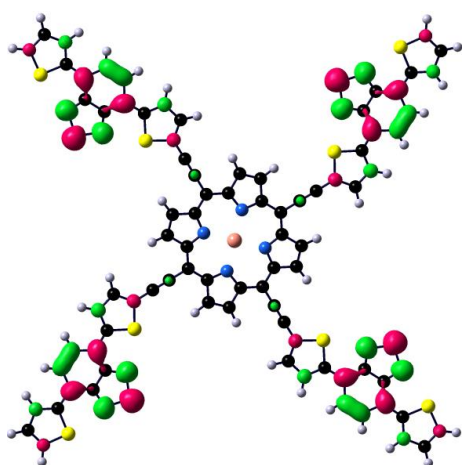
LUMO+5( $\beta$ )



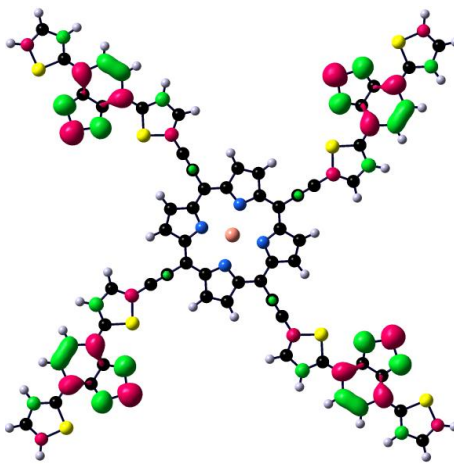
LUMO+4( $\alpha$ )



LUMO+4( $\beta$ )

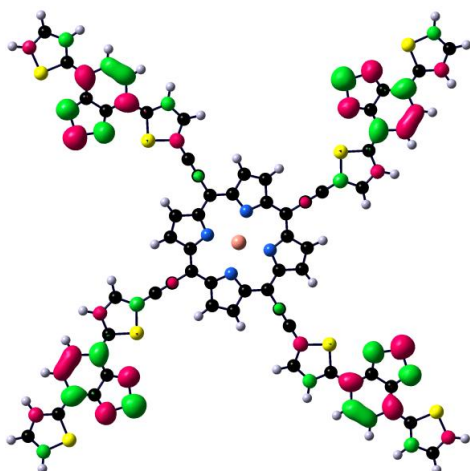


LUMO+3( $\alpha$ )

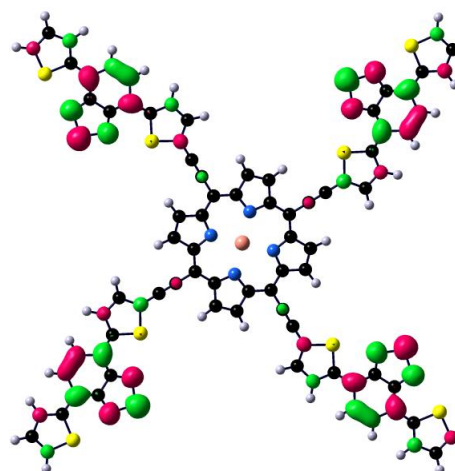


LUMO+3( $\beta$ )

Figure S9. Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the CuPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



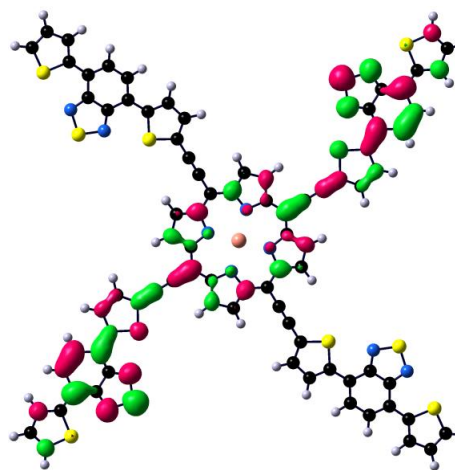
LUMO+2( $\alpha$ )



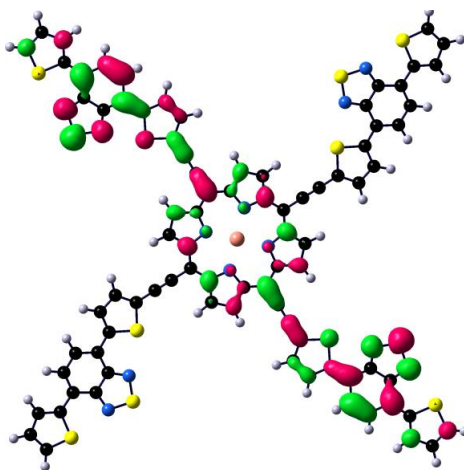
LUMO+2( $\beta$ )



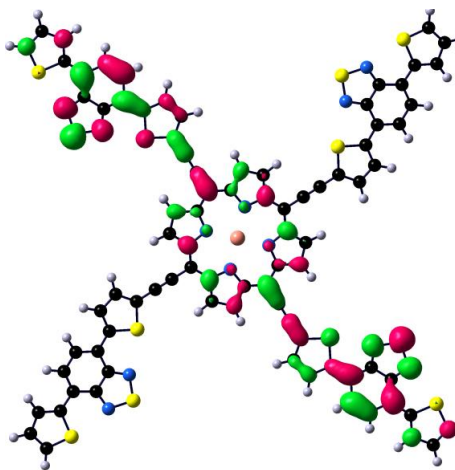
LUMO+1( $\alpha$ )



LUMO+1( $\beta$ )

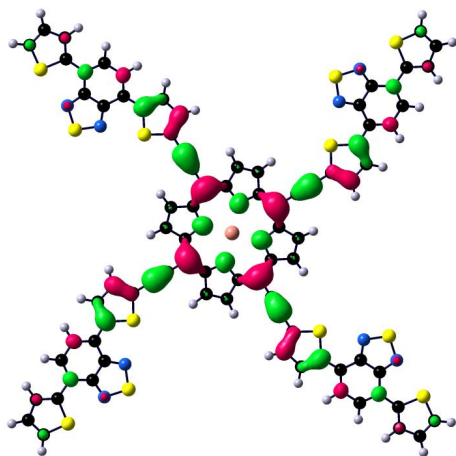


LUMO( $\alpha$ )

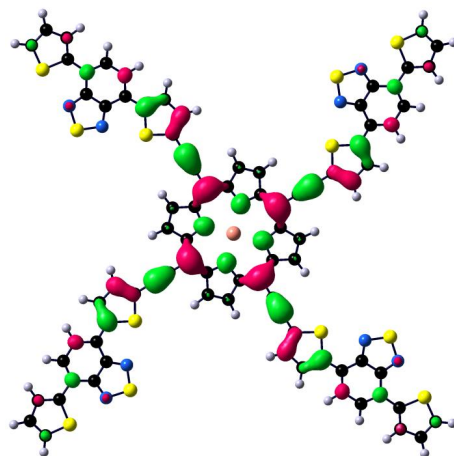


LUMO( $\beta$ )

Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the CuPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



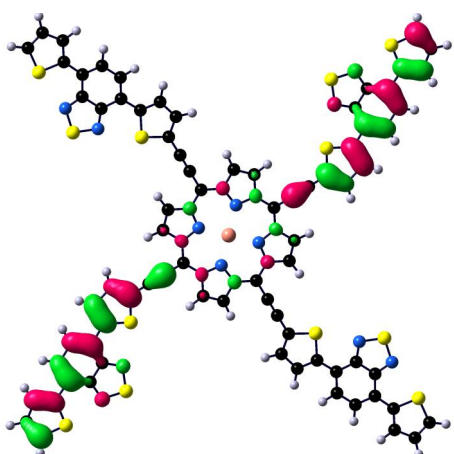
SOMO( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO( $\alpha$ )]



SOMO( $\beta$ ) [HOMO( $\beta$ )]



SOMO-1( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-1( $\alpha$ )]



SOMO-1( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-1( $\beta$ )]

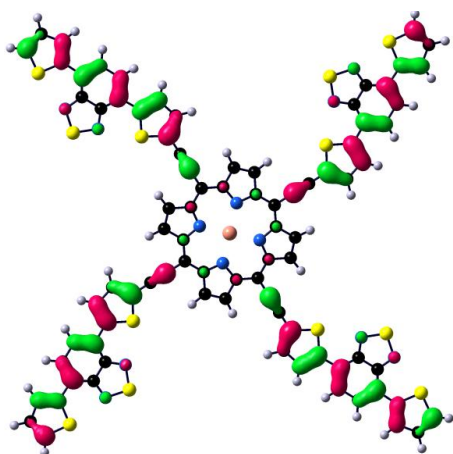


SOMO-2( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-2( $\alpha$ )]

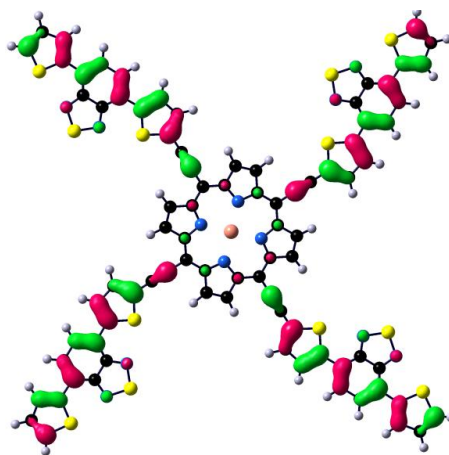


SOMO-2( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-2( $\beta$ )]

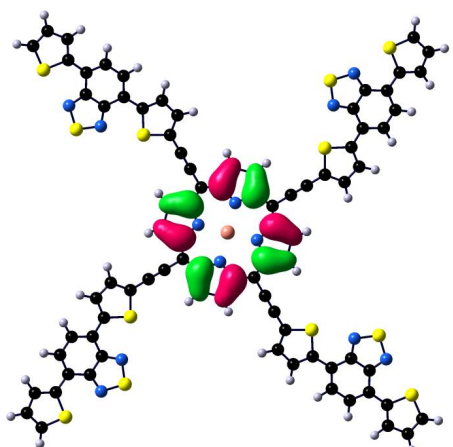
Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the CuPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



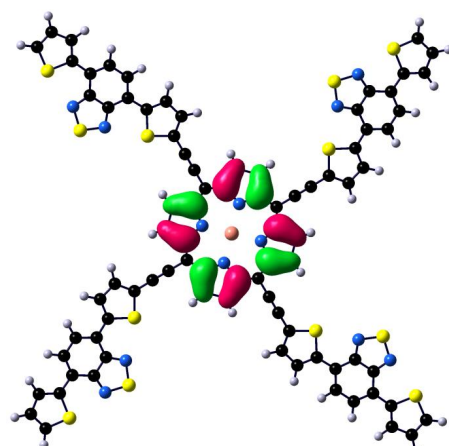
SOMO-3( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-3( $\alpha$ )]



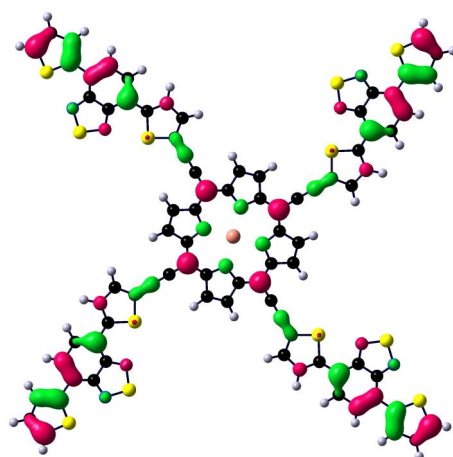
SOMO-3( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-3( $\beta$ )]



SOMO-4( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-4( $\alpha$ )]



SOMO-4( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-4( $\beta$ )]

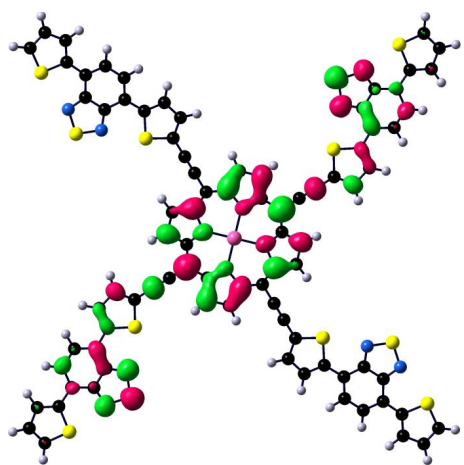


SOMO-5( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-5( $\alpha$ )]

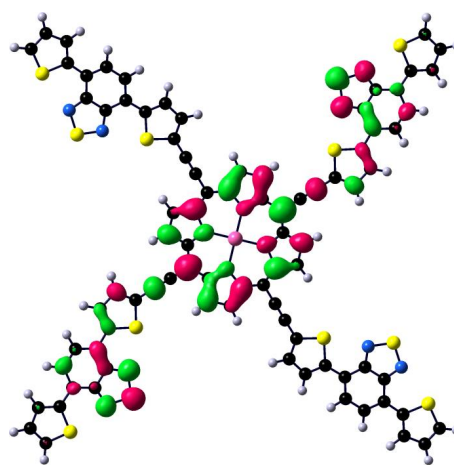


SOMO-5( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-5( $\beta$ )]

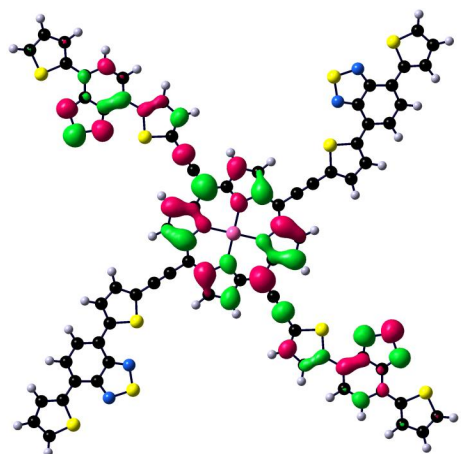
Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the CuPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



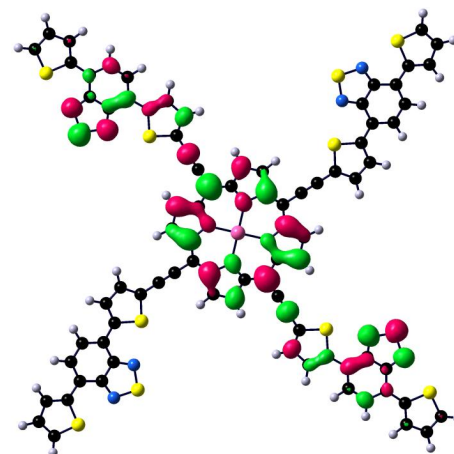
LUMO+5( $\alpha$ )



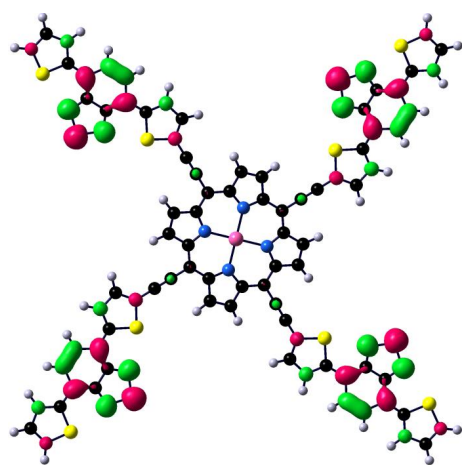
LUMO+5( $\beta$ )



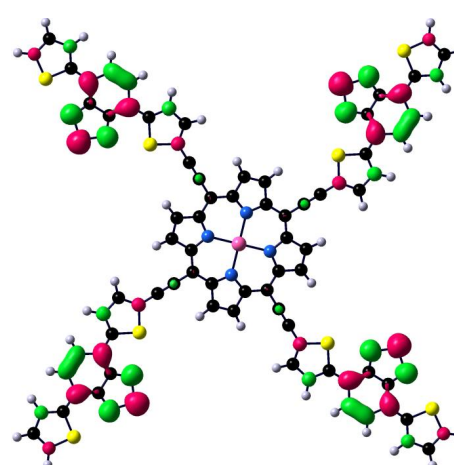
LUMO+4( $\alpha$ )



LUMO+4( $\beta$ )

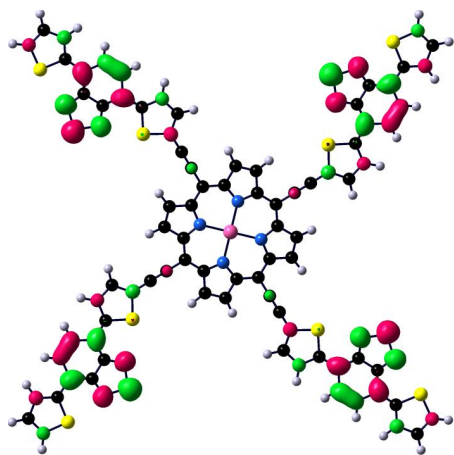


LUMO+3( $\alpha$ )

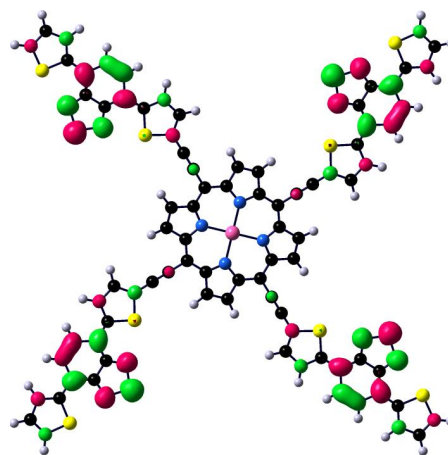


LUMO+3( $\beta$ )

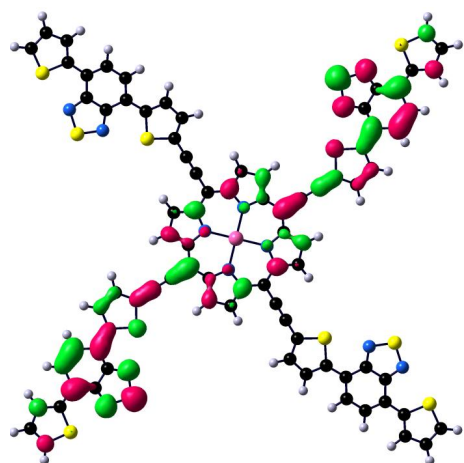
Figure S10. Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the ZnPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



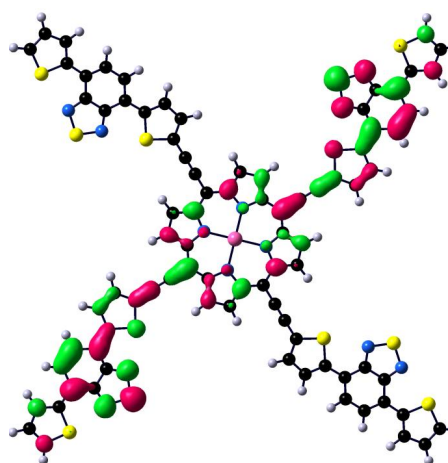
LUMO+2( $\alpha$ )



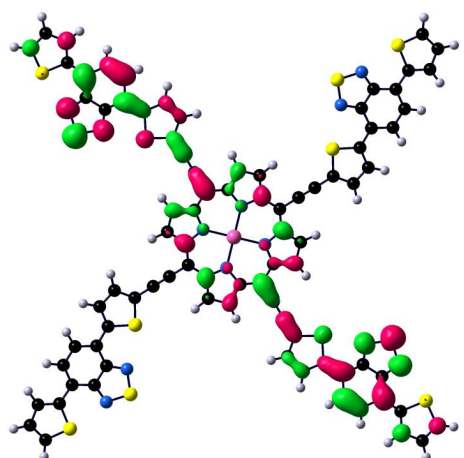
LUMO+2( $\beta$ )



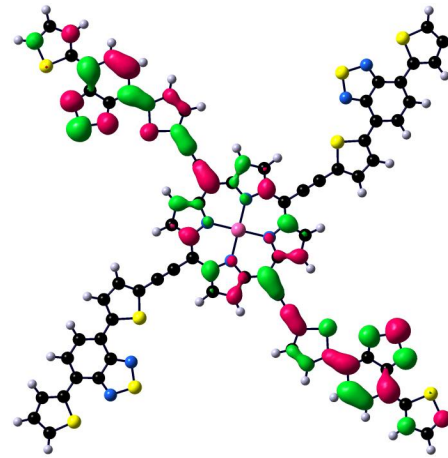
LUMO+1( $\alpha$ )



LUMO+1( $\beta$ )



LUMO( $\alpha$ )



LUMO( $\beta$ )

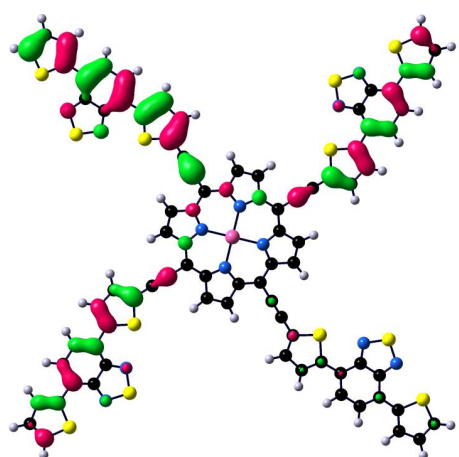
Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the ZnPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



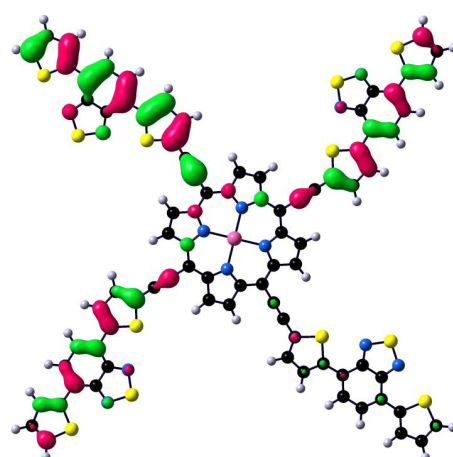
SOMO( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO( $\alpha$ )]



SOMO( $\beta$ ) [HOMO( $\beta$ )]



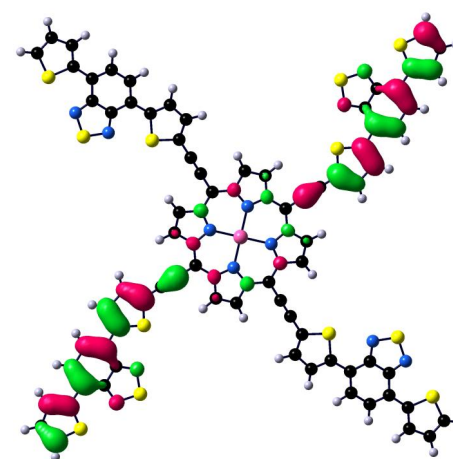
SOMO-1( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-1( $\alpha$ )]



SOMO-1( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-1( $\beta$ )]

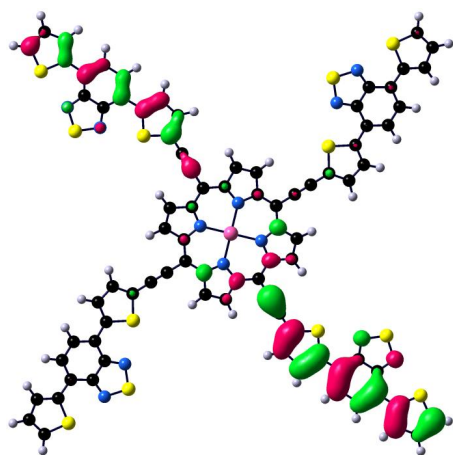


SOMO-2( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-2( $\alpha$ )]



SOMO-2( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-2( $\beta$ )]

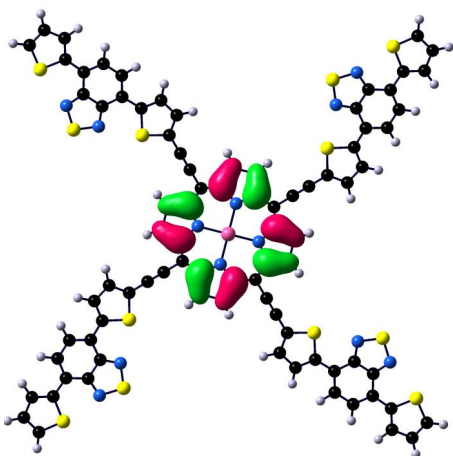
Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the ZnPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



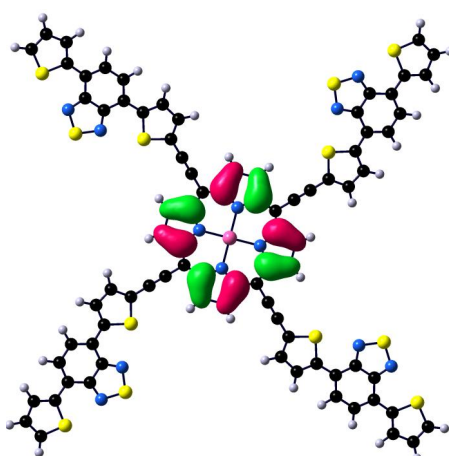
SOMO-3( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-3( $\alpha$ )]



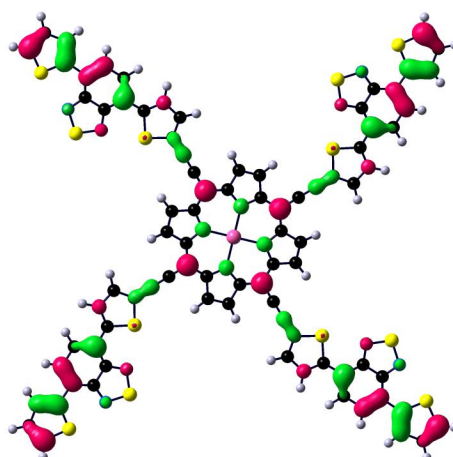
SOMO-3( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-3( $\beta$ )]



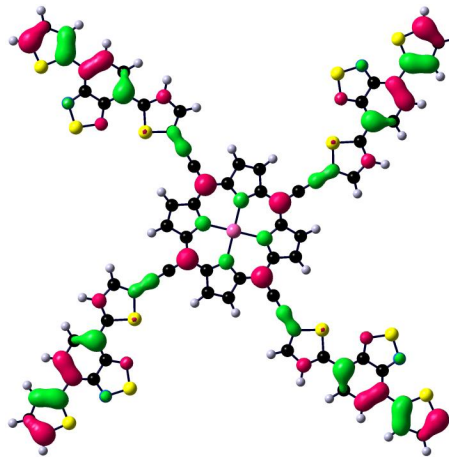
SOMO-4( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-4( $\alpha$ )]



SOMO-4( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-4( $\beta$ )]

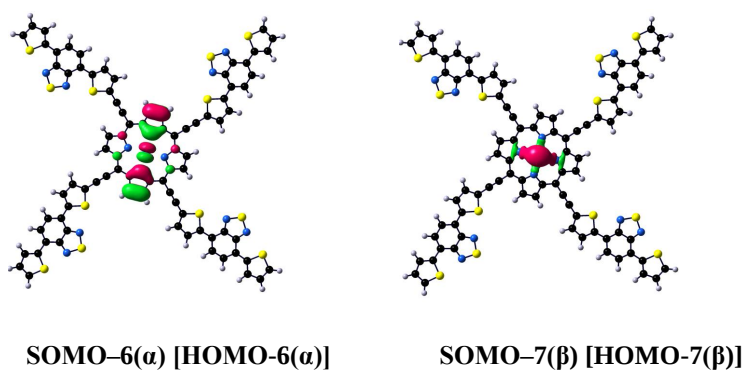


SOMO-5( $\alpha$ ) [HOMO-5( $\alpha$ )]

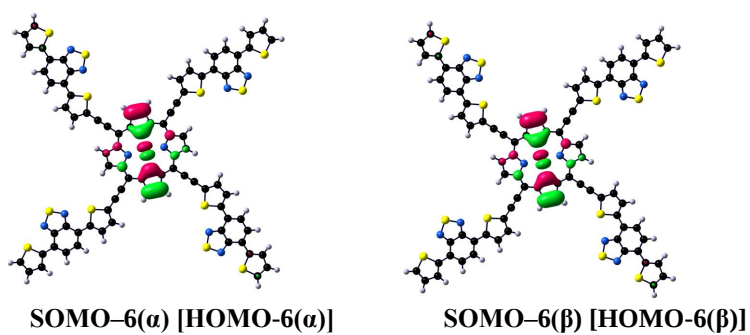


SOMO-5( $\beta$ ) [HOMO-5( $\beta$ )]

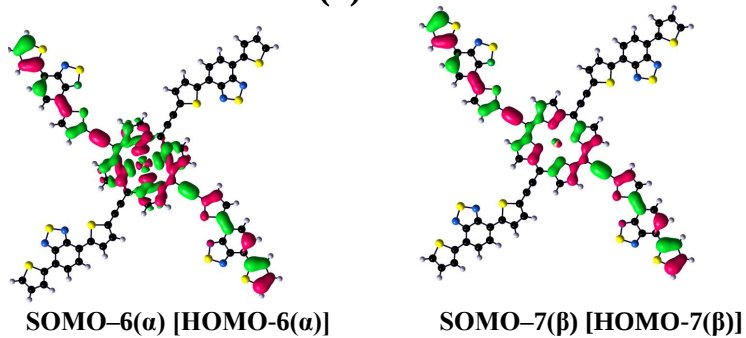
Frontier and subfrontier MOs of the ZnPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> photocatalyst.



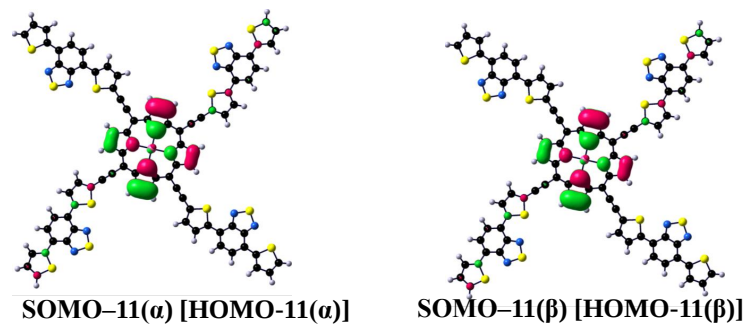
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Figure S11. The HOMO energy level of studied photocatalysts with metal contribution (a) CoPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> (b) NiPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> (c) CuPor(ED)<sub>4</sub> and (d) ZnPor(ED)<sub>4</sub>

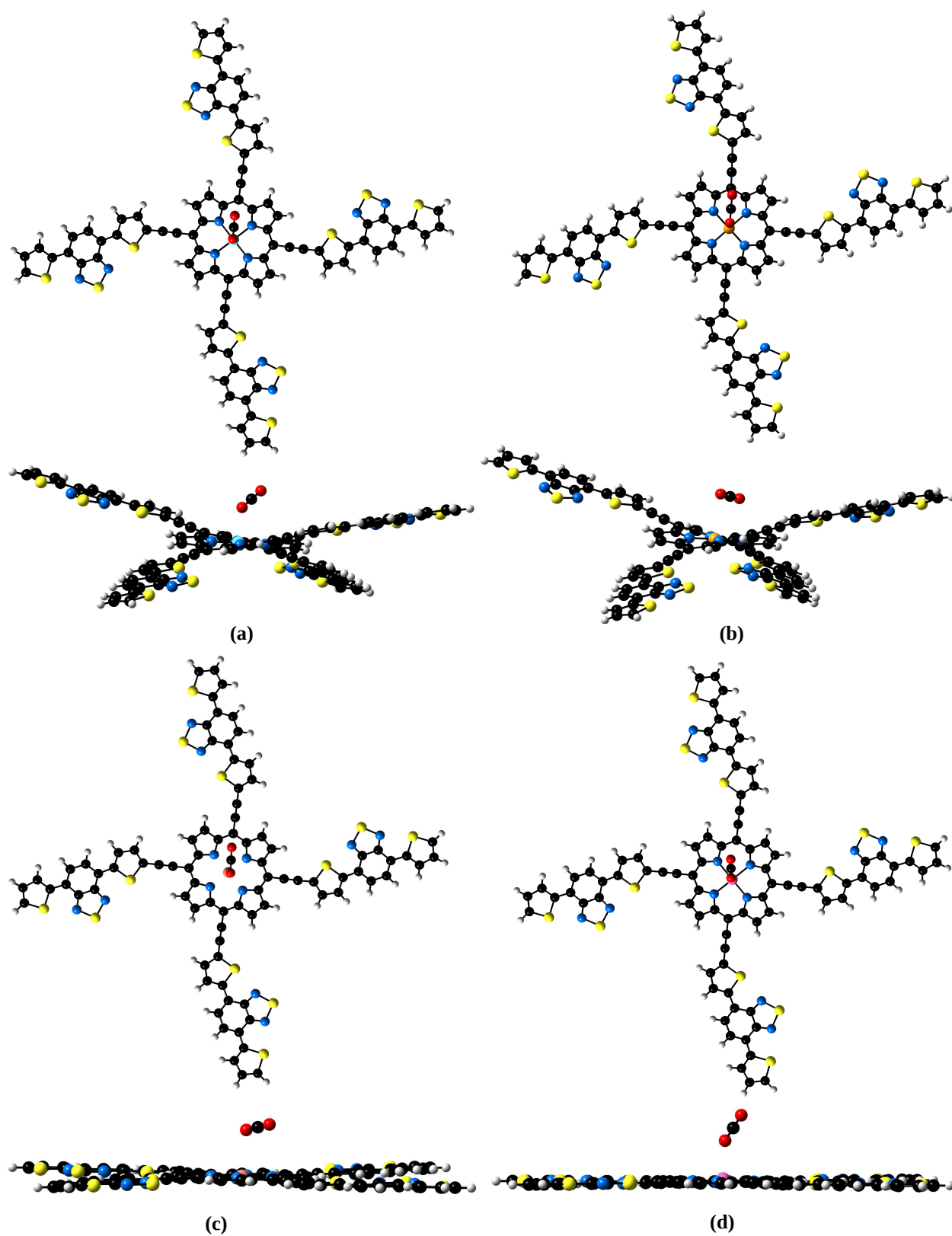


Figure S12. The relaxed geometric structure of the most stable states in  $\text{CO}_2$  adsorption (a)  $\text{CoPor(ED)}_4$ , (b)  $\text{NiPor(ED)}_4$ , (c)  $\text{CuPor(ED)}_4$ , and (d)  $\text{ZnPor(ED)}_4$  nanoreactors. The top and side views of each photocatalyst are shown in corresponding part.

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