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# A photoelectron imaging study of the deprotonated GFP chromophore anion and RNA fluorescent tags<sup>†</sup>

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Supplementary Information

#### EOM-IP-CCSD $D_{1n}$ VDEs and Orbital Holes

Table S1: B3LYP/6-311G++(3df,3pd) optimised structures, EOM-IP-CCSD VDEs and corresponding  $D_{1n}$  hole orbitals for *p*-HBDI<sup>-</sup>, DF-HBDI<sup>-</sup> and all possible rotamers of DM-HBDI<sup>-</sup>. For *p*-HBDI<sup>-</sup> and DF-HBDI<sup>-</sup>, the EOM-IP-CCSD calculations were carried out using the aug-cc-pVDZ basis set whereas a smaller 6-311G++(d,p) basis set was used for DM-HBDI<sup>-</sup>. The  $D_{1n}$  hole orbitals correspond to the Fock orbitals which contribute most strongly to the  $S_0-D_{1n}$  detachment transition.

Anion	Structure	$rac{E_{ m rel}}{ m eV}$	${f D_{1n}}\ {f VDE/\ eV}$	$\mathbf{D}_{1n}$ Hole
<i>p</i> -HBDI⁻		-	4.50	
DF-HBDI <sup>-</sup>		-	5.06	
syn-DM- HBDI <sup>_</sup>		0	4.48	
anti-DM- HBDI <sup>-</sup>		0	4.52	
DM-HBDI <sup>-</sup> (1 H-bond)		0.06	4.54	
DM-HBDI <sup>-</sup> (No H-bonds)		0.09	4.64	

#### EOM-IP-CCSD $D_1$ VDEs and Orbital Holes

Table S2: B3LYP/6-311G++(3df,3pd) optimised structures, EOM-IP-CCSD VDEs and corresponding  $D_1$  hole orbitals for *p*-HBDI<sup>-</sup>, DF-HBDI<sup>-</sup> and all possible rotamers of DM-HBDI<sup>-</sup>. For *p*-HBDI<sup>-</sup> and DF-HBDI<sup>-</sup>, the EOM-IP-CCSD calculations were carried out using the aug-cc-pVDZ basis set whereas a smaller 6-311G++(d,p) basis set was used for DM-HBDI<sup>-</sup>. The  $D_1$  hole orbitals correspond to the Fock orbitals which contribute most strongly to the  $S_0-D_1$  detachment transition.

Anion	Structure	$rac{E_{ m rel}}{ m eV}$	$\begin{array}{c} D_1 \ VDE / \\ eV \end{array}$	$D_1$ Hole
<i>p</i> -HBDI⁻		-	4.90	the state
DF-HBDI <sup>-</sup>	the state	-	5.18	
syn-DM- HBDI <sup>–</sup>		0	4.79	
anti-DM- HBDI <sup>-</sup>		0	4.78	
DM-HBDI <sup>-</sup> (1 H-bond)		0.06	4.70	
DM-HBDI⁻ (No H-bonds)		0.09	4.63	the second secon

#### Indirect detachment signal: p-HBDI<sup>-</sup> in Ar



Figure S1: Difference photoelectron spectra of p-HBDI<sup>-</sup> created by subtracting the 364 nm spectral profile from the photoelectron spectra at the specified wavelengths. As such, these spectra highlight indirect detachment processes. The red lines mark the assigned eKEs corresponding to approximate AEEs of the resonant features referred to in the paper. The black line marks the maximum in the signal. Data recorded using Ar collision gas.

#### Indirect detachment signal: p-HBDI<sup>-</sup> in He



Figure S2: Difference photoelectron spectra of p-HBDI<sup>-</sup> created by subtracting the 364 nm spectral profile from the photoelectron spectra at the specified wavelengths. As such, these spectra highlight indirect detachment processes. The red lines mark the assigned eKEs corresponding to approximate AEEs of the resonant features referred to in the paper. Data recorded using He collision gas.

### Indirect detachment signal: $DF-HBDI^-$ in Ar



Figure S3: Difference photoelectron spectra of DF-HBDI<sup>-</sup> created by subtracting the 364 nm spectral profile from the photoelectron spectra at the specified wavelengths. As such, these spectra highlight indirect detachment processes. The red lines mark the assigned eKEs corresponding to approximate AEEs of the resonant features referred to in the paper. Data recorded using Ar collision gas.

#### Indirect detachment signal: DM-HBDI<sup>-</sup> in Ar



Figure S4: Difference photoelectron spectra of DM-HBDI<sup>-</sup> created by subtracting the 364 nm spectral profile from the photoelectron spectra at the specified wavelengths. As such, these spectra highlight indirect detachment processes. The red lines mark the assigned eKEs corresponding to approximate AEEs of the resonant features referred to in the paper. Data recorded using Ar collision gas.

## Benchmarking of 6-311G++(d,p) basis set for EOM-IP-CCSD and ezDyson Calculations

EOM-IP-CCSD/6-311G++(d,p) and EOM-IP-CCSD/aug-cc-pVDZ calculations were run using the B3LYP/6-311G++(3df,3pd) optimised structure of PhO<sup>-</sup> which yielded consistent vertical detachment energies to D<sub>0</sub> of 1.99 eV and 2.06 eV, respectively. The resulting Dyson orbitals were used as inputs to the ezDyson program, the resulting  $\beta_2$  parameters as a function of eKE are presented in Fig. S5. It can be seen that, while the results are not exactly the same, the magnitude and the expected trend in  $\beta_2$  as a function of eKE is consistent between the two basis sets, with the largest discrepancy between individual  $\beta_2$  values being ~0.05.

EOM-IP-CCSD/6-311G++(d,p) and EOM-IP-CCSD/aug-cc-pVDZ calculations were run using the B3LYP/6-311G++(3df,3pd) optimised structure of p-HBDI<sup>-</sup> which yielded consistent vertical detachment energies to D<sub>0</sub> of 2.61 eV and 2.66 eV, respectively. The resulting Dyson orbitals were used as inputs to the ezDyson program, the resulting  $\beta_2$ parameters as a function of eKE are presented in Fig. S5. It can be seen that the magnitude and expected trend in  $\beta_2$  as a function of eKE is similarly consistent between the two basis sets, with the largest discrepancy between individual  $\beta_2$  values being ~0.05.



Figure S5: ezDyson calculated  $\beta_2$  parameters as a function of electron eKE for PhO<sup>-</sup> (left) and *p*-HBDI<sup>-</sup> (right). The ezDyson culculation used Dyson orbitals from EOM-IP-CCSD calculations with the specified basis sets and  $l_{\text{max}} = 5$ .

#### Beta Parameters for DF-HBDI $^-$ at 346 nm - 364 nm



Figure S6: Photoelectron images and photoelectron spectra of the DF*p*-HBDI<sup>-</sup> anion produced by electrospray ionisation at the specified wavelengths plotted as a function of eKE (black line). The  $\beta_2$  values were averaged over every five data points and are plotted to coincide with the corresponding eKEs (blue squares); the error bars give the standard deviation.  $\beta_2 = 0$  has been marked with a horizontal red line for comparison. The photoelectron images have been oriented such that the vertical axis is parallel with the polarisation vector of the laser light.

#### Beta Parameters for DM-HBDI $^-$ at 346 nm - 364 nm



Figure S7: Photoelectron images and photoelectron spectra of the DM*p*-HBDI<sup>-</sup> anion produced by electrospray ionisation at the specified wavelengths plotted as a function of eKE (black line). The  $\beta_2$  values were averaged over every five data points and are plotted to coincide with the corresponding eKEs (blue squares); the error bars give the standard deviation.  $\beta_2 = 0$  has been marked with a horizontal red line for comparison. The photoelectron images have been oriented such that the vertical axis is parallel with the polarisation vector of the laser light.

#### ez Dyson calculation for all DM-HBDI $^-$ rotamers



Figure S8: ezDyson calculated  $\beta_2$  parameters for S<sub>0</sub>-D<sub>0</sub> direct detachment process for the four rotamers of DM-HBDI<sup>-</sup> as a function of eKE. EOM-IP-CCSD/6-311G++(d,p) orbitals were used as input.