

**Electronic Supplementary Information for:**

**Photoprotective Properties of Eumelanin: Computational Insights into the  
Photophysics of a Catechol:Quinone Heterodimer Model System**

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## Cartesian coordinates associated with

a) Ground state optimized parent C:Q heterodimer

| Atom | X         | Y         | Z         |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C    | -2.302152 | -1.463135 | -0.029785 |
| C    | -2.361266 | -0.084422 | -0.162334 |
| C    | -1.522786 | 0.724499  | 0.613029  |
| C    | -0.647346 | 0.153228  | 1.527472  |
| C    | -0.583542 | -1.23156  | 1.65119   |
| C    | -1.406419 | -2.033542 | 0.870464  |
| H    | -2.953534 | -2.075146 | -0.642513 |
| H    | -0.019095 | 0.798969  | 2.131866  |
| H    | 0.106323  | -1.676185 | 2.358302  |
| H    | -1.364401 | -3.112318 | 0.96855   |
| C    | 0.686213  | 0.147927  | -1.602996 |
| C    | 0.987913  | -1.156665 | -1.667019 |
| C    | 2.007228  | -1.770904 | -0.816293 |
| C    | 2.698115  | -1.073597 | 0.095141  |
| C    | 2.436875  | 0.362091  | 0.288016  |
| C    | 1.350437  | 1.013593  | -0.62145  |
| H    | -0.074245 | 0.599282  | -2.229371 |
| H    | 0.465463  | -1.796389 | -2.369453 |
| H    | 2.193945  | -2.831776 | -0.943697 |
| H    | 3.453818  | -1.524766 | 0.727298  |
| O    | 1.078384  | 2.185563  | -0.474726 |
| O    | 3.007171  | 1.035372  | 1.108938  |
| O    | -3.199122 | 0.481608  | -1.061512 |
| O    | -1.638659 | 2.072017  | 0.408046  |
| H    | -3.08764  | 1.437259  | -0.991602 |
| H    | -0.76245  | 2.459515  | 0.272031  |

b) The optimized geometry of the biradical tautomer

| Atom | X         | Y         | Z         |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C    | -4.061963 | -0.239459 | -0.719075 |
| C    | -3.251965 | 0.587891  | 0.047399  |
| C    | -1.92416  | 0.160192  | 0.481477  |
| C    | -1.484484 | -1.15174  | 0.094089  |
| C    | -2.301592 | -1.941794 | -0.658313 |
| C    | -3.586164 | -1.490052 | -1.066422 |
| H    | -5.041041 | 0.104762  | -1.02756  |
| H    | -0.505728 | -1.481184 | 0.422484  |
| H    | -1.974981 | -2.931991 | -0.952698 |
| H    | -4.207918 | -2.146457 | -1.663976 |
| C    | 1.671963  | 1.152915  | -0.392762 |
| C    | 2.507015  | 1.340431  | -1.484185 |
| C    | 3.696955  | 0.592046  | -1.632533 |
| C    | 4.042826  | -0.338402 | -0.695764 |
| C    | 3.214763  | -0.596143 | 0.465405  |
| C    | 1.994635  | 0.213812  | 0.584166  |
| H    | 0.767169  | 1.741239  | -0.28504  |
| H    | 2.243167  | 2.078844  | -2.232832 |
| H    | 4.331186  | 0.764984  | -2.494549 |
| H    | 4.947775  | -0.929169 | -0.779117 |
| O    | 1.243836  | -0.01729  | 1.652137  |
| O    | 3.503279  | -1.454447 | 1.309991  |
| O    | -3.634968 | 1.79716   | 0.419083  |
| O    | -1.257634 | 0.977407  | 1.160824  |
| H    | -2.902376 | 2.164549  | 0.944584  |
| H    | 0.399674  | 0.47359   | 1.591535  |

**(Harmonic) normal mode wavenumbers (in cm<sup>-1</sup>) of the C:Q heterodimer and the C monomer at the respective minimum energy geometries. The O–H stretch normal modes are indicated in red, and labelled to indicate the free, intra- or inter-chromophore nature of the motion.**

| C:Q Heterodimer |                  | C Monomer |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------|------------------|
| mode            | cm <sup>-1</sup> | mode      | cm <sup>-1</sup> |
| 1               | 21.56            | 1         | 156.38           |
| 2               | 39.34            | 2         | 193.02           |
| 3               | 58.08            | 3         | 298.87           |
| 4               | 69.28            | 4         | 299.74           |
| 5               | 80.52            | 5         | 417.28           |
| 6               | 107.96           | 6         | 455.93           |
| 7               | 143.41           | 7         | 462.16           |
| 8               | 213.41           | 8         | 566.25           |
| 9               | 236.81           | 9         | 576.72           |
| 10              | 312.72           | 10        | 595.6            |
| 11              | 325.01           | 11        | 719.89           |
| 12              | 356.65           | 12        | 762.13           |
| 13              | 400.07           | 13        | 794.08           |
| 14              | 411.99           | 14        | 858.73           |
| 15              | 443.04           | 15        | 870.03           |
| 16              | 459.01           | 16        | 944.06           |
| 17              | 468.99           | 17        | 988.81           |
| 18              | 480.1            | 18        | 1064.26          |
| 19              | 545.2            | 19        | 1121.17          |
| 20              | 553.23           | 20        | 1175.38          |
| 21              | 565.57           | 21        | 1185.21          |
| 22              | 576.77           | 22        | 1213.3           |
| 23              | 581.16           | 23        | 1288.59          |
| 24              | 593.04           | 24        | 1320.12          |
| 25              | 686.04           | 25        | 1365.94          |
| 26              | 741.95           | 26        | 1399.32          |
| 27              | 743.07           | 27        | 1520.89          |
| 28              | 777.21           | 28        | 1567.91          |
| 29              | 785.95           | 29        | 1686.25          |
| 30              | 799.73           | 30        | 1688.99          |
| 31              | 875.57           | 31        | 3176.18          |
| 32              | 882.29           | 32        | 3198.5           |
| 33              | 886.46           | 33        | 3212.46          |
| 34              | 891.27           | 34        | 3222.21          |
| 35              | 965.52           | 35(intra) | 3867.87          |
| 36              | 969.57           | 36(free)  | 3935.24          |
| 37              | 999.82           |           |                  |
| 38              | 1022.14          |           |                  |
| 39              | 1030.95          |           |                  |

|    |                |  |
|----|----------------|--|
| 40 | 1061.55        |  |
| 41 | 1126.18        |  |
| 42 | 1142.47        |  |
| 43 | 1171.99        |  |
| 44 | 1183.36        |  |
| 45 | 1198.06        |  |
| 46 | 1212.47        |  |
| 47 | 1245.78        |  |
| 48 | 1292.68        |  |
| 49 | 1303.89        |  |
| 50 | 1318.43        |  |
| 51 | 1363.7         |  |
| 52 | 1396.76        |  |
| 53 | 1407.5         |  |
| 54 | 1445.32        |  |
| 55 | 1516.82        |  |
| 56 | 1562.23        |  |
| 57 | 1661.83        |  |
| 58 | 1672.14        |  |
| 59 | 1684.63        |  |
| 60 | 1714.53        |  |
| 61 | 1784.97        |  |
| 62 | 1817.49        |  |
| 63 | 3190.97        |  |
| 64 | 3191.53        |  |
| 65 | 3198.41        |  |
| 66 | 3202.35        |  |
| 67 | 3211.31        |  |
| 68 | 3217.42        |  |
| 69 | 3219.51        |  |
| 70 | 3221.96        |  |
| 71 | 3755.75(inter) |  |
| 72 | 3821.59(intra) |  |