

**Supplement SC: Topological analysis**

**Comprehensive empirical model of substitution –  
influence on hydrogen bonding in aromatic Schiff bases**

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**Table SC1.** QTAIM Bond Critical Point (BCP) properties for selected bonds in the nonsubstituted para isomer.

BCP	Gas Phase		PCM	
	$\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-3}]$	$\nabla^2\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-5}]$	$\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-3}]$	$\nabla^2\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-5}]$
<b>Molecular form</b>				
O-H	0.345	-2.621	0.340	-2.566
H...N	0.046	0.108	0.050	0.110
<b>Proton-transferred form</b>				
O...H	0.026	0.082	0.026	0.081
H-N	0.353	-2.152	0.354	-2.160

**Table SC2.** QTAIM Bond Critical Point (BCP) properties for selected bonds in the para isomer monosubstituted with the NH<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 1.

BCP	Gas Phase		PCM	
	$\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-3}]$	$\nabla^2\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-5}]$	$\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-3}]$	$\nabla^2\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-5}]$
<b>Molecular form</b>				
O-H	0.342	-2.586	0.337	-2.519
H...N	0.051	0.112	0.056	0.113
<b>Proton-transferred form</b>				
O...H	0.026	0.082	0.025	0.081
H-N	0.356	-2.172	0.357	-2.182

**Table SC3.** QTAIM Bond Critical Point (BCP) properties for selected bonds in the para isomer monosubstituted with the NH<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 4.

BCP	Gas Phase		PCM	
	$\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-3}]$	$\nabla^2\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-5}]$	$\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-3}]$	$\nabla^2\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-5}]$
<b>Molecular form</b>				
O-H	0.343	-2.605	0.340	-2.562
H...N	0.047	0.108	0.050	0.109
<b>Proton-transferred form</b>				
O...H	0.026	0.083	0.025	0.082
H-N	0.354	-2.154	0.355	-2.162

**Table SC4.** QTAIM Bond Critical Point (BCP) properties for selected bonds in the para isomer monosubstituted with the NO<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 1.

BCP	Gas Phase		PCM	
	$\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-3}]$	$\nabla^2\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-5}]$	$\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-3}]$	$\nabla^2\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-5}]$
<b>Molecular form</b>				
O-H	0.336	-2.525	0.333	-2.492
H...N	0.056	0.112	0.058	0.112
<b>Proton-transferred form</b>				
O...H	0.025	0.082	0.025	0.081
H-N	0.357	-2.206	0.358	-2.210

**Table SC5.** QTAIM Bond Critical Point (BCP) properties for selected bonds in the para isomer monosubstituted with the NO<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 4.

BCP	Gas Phase		PCM	
	$\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-3}]$	$\nabla^2\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-5}]$	$\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-3}]$	$\nabla^2\rho_{BCP} [e^*a^{-5}]$
<b>Molecular form</b>				
O-H	0.338	-2.549	0.329	-2.444
H...N	0.052	0.109	0.058	0.109
<b>Proton-transferred form</b>				
O...H	0.025	0.081	0.025	0.079
H-N	0.355	-2.181	0.357	-2.195

**Table SC6.** QTAIM Bond Critical Point (BCP) properties for selected bonds in the para isomer monosubstituted with the Br atom in the proximal position 1.

BCP	Gas Phase		PCM	
	$\rho_{BCP} [e \cdot a^{-3}]$	$\nabla^2 \rho_{BCP} [e \cdot a^{-5}]$	$\rho_{BCP} [e \cdot a^{-3}]$	$\nabla^2 \rho_{BCP} [e \cdot a^{-5}]$
<b>Molecular form</b>				
O-H	0.338	-2.547	0.334	-2.499
H...N	0.054	0.112	0.057	0.112
<b>Proton-transferred form</b>				
O...H	0.025	0.082	0.025	0.081
H-N	0.358	-2.203	0.358	-2.210

**Table SC7.** QTAIM Bond Critical Point (BCP) properties for selected bonds in the para isomer monosubstituted with the Br atom in the proximal position 4.

BCP	Gas Phase		PCM	
	$\rho_{BCP} [e \cdot a^{-3}]$	$\nabla^2 \rho_{BCP} [e \cdot a^{-5}]$	$\rho_{BCP} [e \cdot a^{-3}]$	$\nabla^2 \rho_{BCP} [e \cdot a^{-5}]$
<b>Molecular form</b>				
O-H	0.341	-2.586	0.335	-2.508
H...N	0.049	0.109	0.054	0.110
<b>Proton-transferred form</b>				
O...H	0.026	0.082	0.025	0.081
H-N	0.355	-2.173	0.356	-2.184

**Table SC8.** QTAIM net atomic charges for atoms forming quasi-ring in the nonsubstituted para isomer.

Net atomic charge [e]	Gas Phase	PCM
<b>Molecular form</b>		
O	-1.200	-1.198
H	0.667	0.666
N	-1.133	-1.128
C <sub>B</sub>	0.626	0.628
C6	-0.028	-0.028
C5	0.601	0.580
SUM	-0.467	-0.480
<b>Proton-transferred form</b>		
O	-1.156	-1.151
H	0.512	0.509
N	-1.208	-1.203
C <sub>B</sub>	0.479	0.485
C6	-0.044	-0.047
C5	0.900	0.894
SUM	-0.517	-0.513

**Table SC9.** QTAIM net atomic charges for atoms forming quasi-ring in the para isomer monosubstituted with the NH<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 1.

Net atomic charge [e]	Gas Phase	PCM
<b>Molecular form</b>		
O	-1.205	-1.188
H	0.664	0.660
N	-1.138	-1.115
C <sub>B</sub>	0.626	0.617
C6	-0.052	-0.043
C5	0.617	0.580
SUM	-0.488	-0.489
<b>Proton-transferred form</b>		
O	-1.151	-1.149
H	0.505	0.502
N	-1.200	-1.188
C <sub>B</sub>	0.507	0.480
C6	-0.068	-0.070
C5	0.889	0.890
SUM	-0.518	-0.535

**Table SC10.** QTAIM net atomic charges for atoms forming quasi-ring in the para isomer monosubstituted with the NH<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 4.

Net atomic charge [e]	Gas Phase	PCM
<b>Molecular form</b>		
O	-1.196	-1.185
H	0.648	0.653
N	-1.139	-1.132
C <sub>B</sub>	0.650	0.657
C6	-0.021	-0.030
C5	0.578	0.591
SUM	-0.480	-0.446
<b>Proton-transferred form</b>		
O	-1.168	-1.155
H	0.479	0.512
N	-1.181	-1.231
C <sub>B</sub>	0.508	0.511
C6	-0.037	-0.051
C5	0.869	0.845
SUM	-0.530	-0.569

**Table SC11.** QTAIM net atomic charges for atoms forming quasi-ring in the para isomer monosubstituted with the NO<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 1.

Net atomic charge [e]	Gas Phase	PCM
<b>Molecular form</b>		
O	-1.202	-1.187
H	0.664	0.650
N	-1.111	-1.123
C <sub>B</sub>	0.613	0.651
C6	-0.019	-0.011
C5	0.651	0.634
SUM	-0.404	-0.386
<b>Proton-transferred form</b>		
O	-1.146	-1.143
H	0.503	0.505
N	-1.184	-1.184
C <sub>B</sub>	0.529	0.529
C6	-0.038	-0.041
C5	0.899	0.898
SUM	-0.437	-0.436

**Table SC12.** QTAIM net atomic charges for atoms forming quasi-ring in the para isomer monosubstituted with the NO<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 4.

Net atomic charge [e]	Gas Phase	PCM
<b>Molecular form</b>		
O	-1.173	-1.180
H	0.654	0.676
N	-1.136	-1.163
C <sub>B</sub>	0.655	0.646
C6	-0.020	-0.027
C5	0.700	0.656
SUM	-0.320	-0.392
<b>Proton-transferred form</b>		
O	-1.127	-1.116
H	0.508	0.509
N	-1.245	-1.220
C <sub>B</sub>	0.526	0.500
C6	-0.042	-0.039
C5	0.955	0.938
SUM	-0.425	-0.428

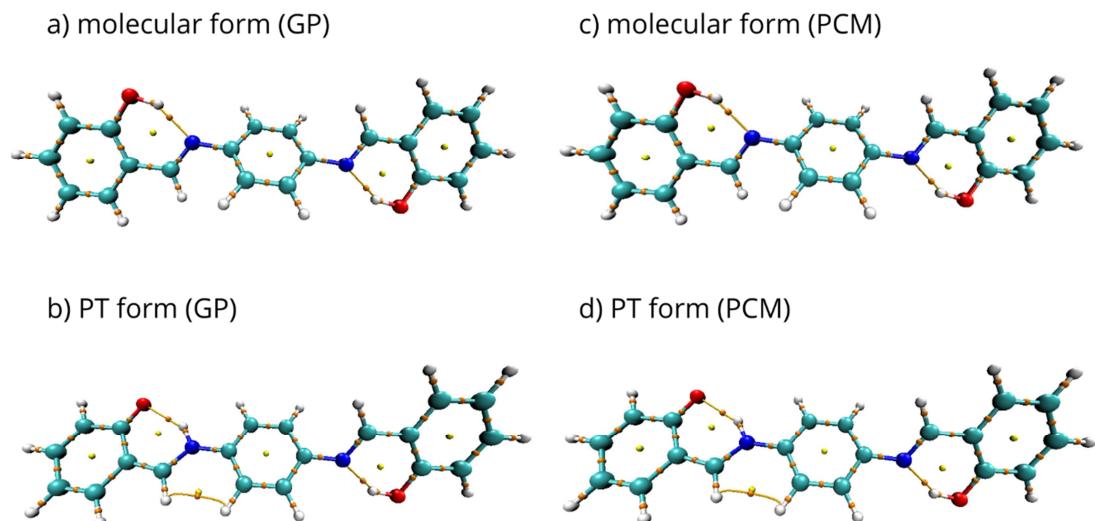
**Table SC13.** QTAIM net atomic charges for atoms forming quasi-ring in the para isomer monosubstituted with the Br atom in the proximal position 1.

Net atomic charge [e]	Gas Phase	PCM
<b>Molecular form</b>		
O	-1.189	-1.196
H	0.649	0.663
N	-1.127	-1.146
C <sub>B</sub>	0.636	0.648
C6	-0.005	-0.028
C5	0.629	0.620
SUM	-0.407	-0.439
<b>Proton-transferred form</b>		
O	-1.148	-1.148
H	0.497	0.502
N	-1.200	-1.201
C <sub>B</sub>	0.524	0.524
C6	-0.042	-0.043
C5	0.891	0.891
SUM	-0.478	-0.475

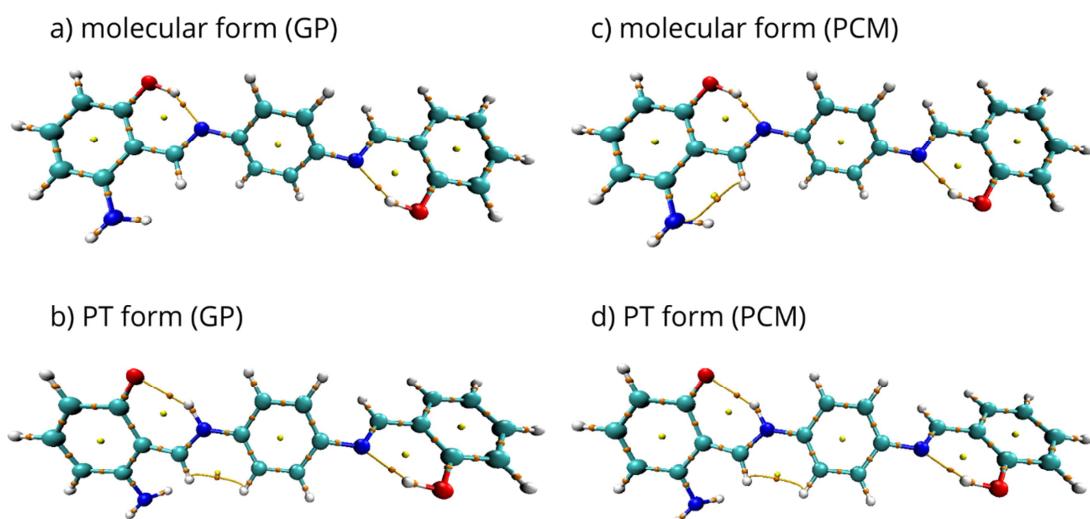
**Table SC14.** QTAIM net atomic charges for atoms forming quasi-ring in the para isomer monosubstituted with the Br atom in the proximal position 4.

Net atomic charge [e]	Gas Phase	PCM
<b>Molecular form</b>		
O	-1.186	-1.178
H	0.651	0.647
N	-1.140	-1.137
C <sub>B</sub>	0.653	0.645
C6	-0.022	-0.014
C5	0.634	0.679
SUM	-0.410	-0.358
<b>Proton-transferred form</b>		
O	-1.132	-1.116
H	0.512	0.509
N	-1.178	-1.220
C <sub>B</sub>	0.484	0.450
C6	-0.019	-0.039
C5	0.913	0.938
SUM	-0.420	-0.478

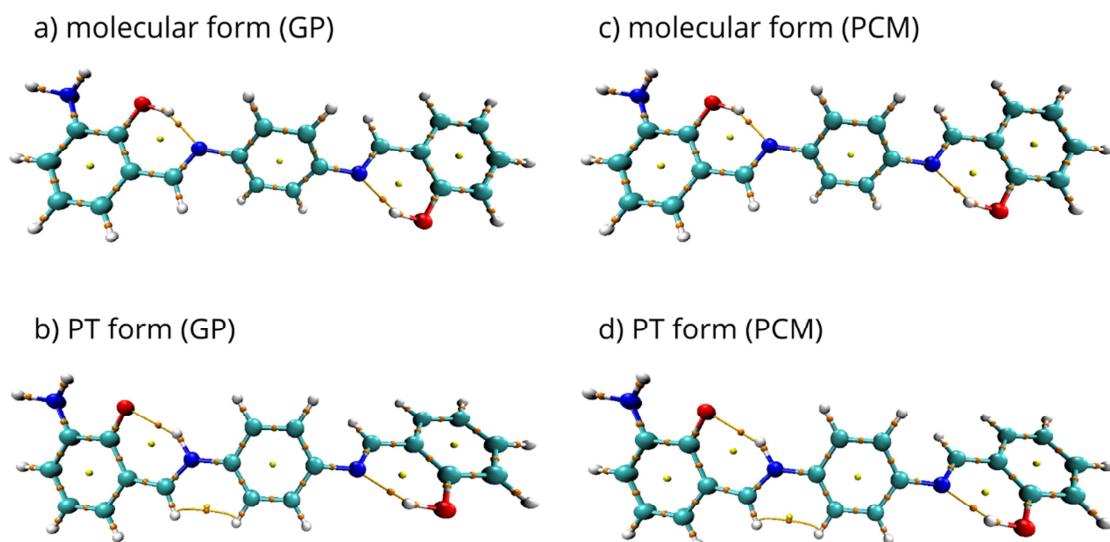
**Figure SC1.** QTAIM topology maps for the nonsubstituted para isomer: a) molecular form in the gas phase, b) proton-transferred form in the gas phase, c) molecular form in PCM, d) proton-transferred form in PCM. The orange and yellow dots mark the BCPs and RCPs, respectively. Yellow lines pinpoint the intramolecular interaction paths.



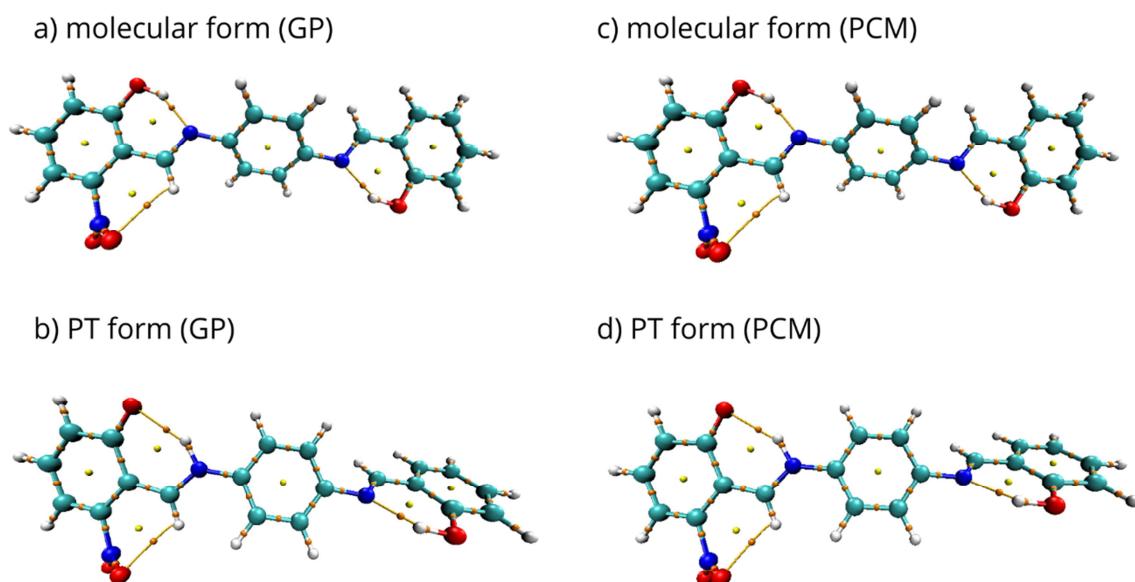
**Figure SC2.** QTAIM topology maps for the para isomer monosubstituted with the NH<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 1: a) molecular form in the gas phase, b) proton-transferred form in the gas phase, c) molecular form in PCM, d) proton-transferred form in PCM. The orange and yellow dots mark the BCPs and RCPs, respectively. Yellow lines pinpoint the intramolecular interaction paths.



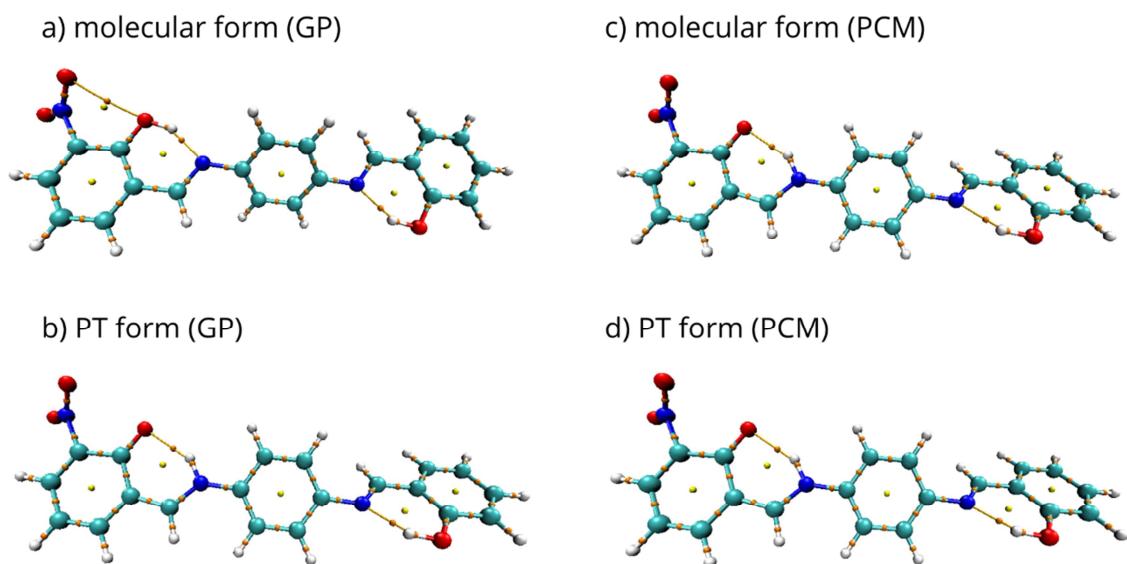
**Figure SC3.** QTAIM topology maps for the para isomer monosubstituted with the NH<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 4: a) molecular form in the gas phase, b) proton-transferred form in the gas phase, c) molecular form in PCM, d) proton-transferred form in PCM. The orange and yellow dots mark the BCPs and RCPs, respectively. Yellow lines pinpoint the intramolecular interaction paths.



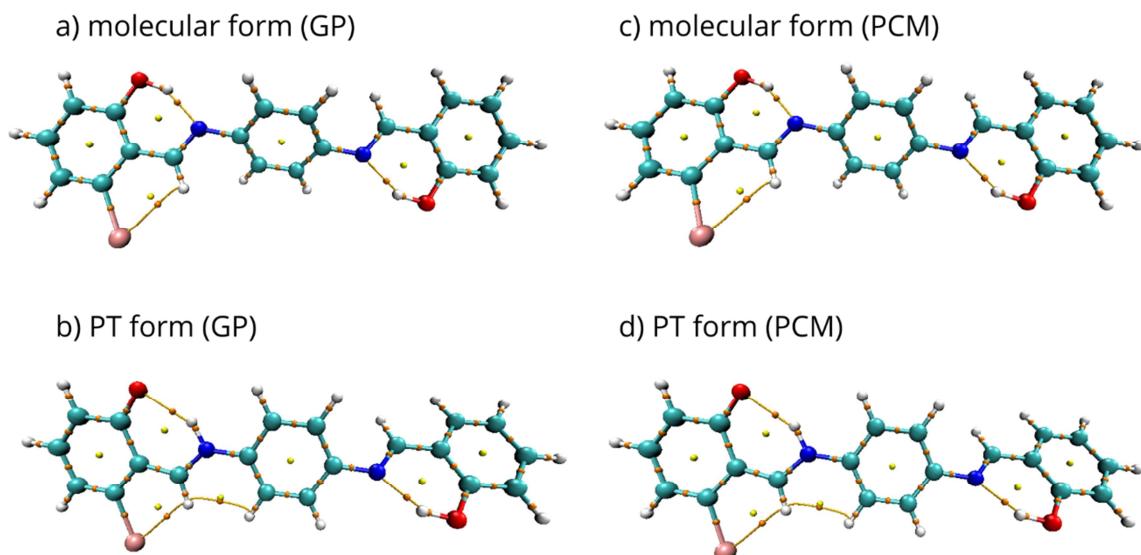
**Figure SC4.** QTAIM topology maps for the para isomer monosubstituted with the NO<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 1: a) molecular form in the gas phase, b) proton-transferred form in the gas phase, c) molecular form in PCM, d) proton-transferred form in PCM. The orange and yellow dots mark the BCPs and RCPs, respectively. Yellow lines pinpoint the intramolecular interaction paths.



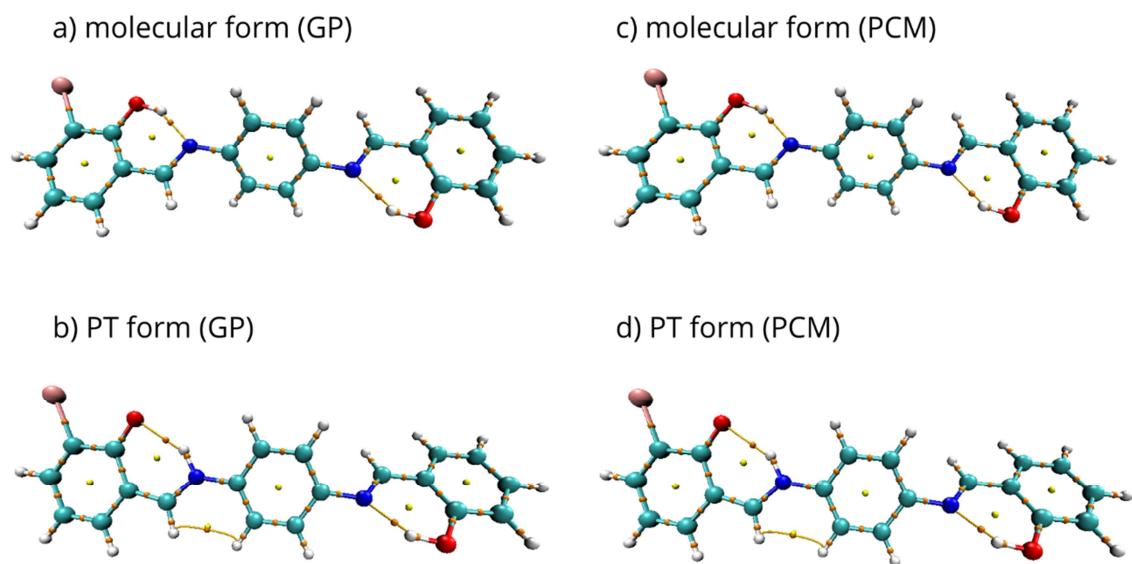
**Figure SC5.** QTAIM topology maps for para the isomer monosubstituted with the NO<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 4: a) molecular form in the gas phase, b) proton-transferred form in the gas phase, c) molecular form in PCM, d) proton-transferred form in PCM. The orange and yellow dots mark the BCPs and RCPs, respectively. Yellow lines pinpoint the intramolecular interaction paths.



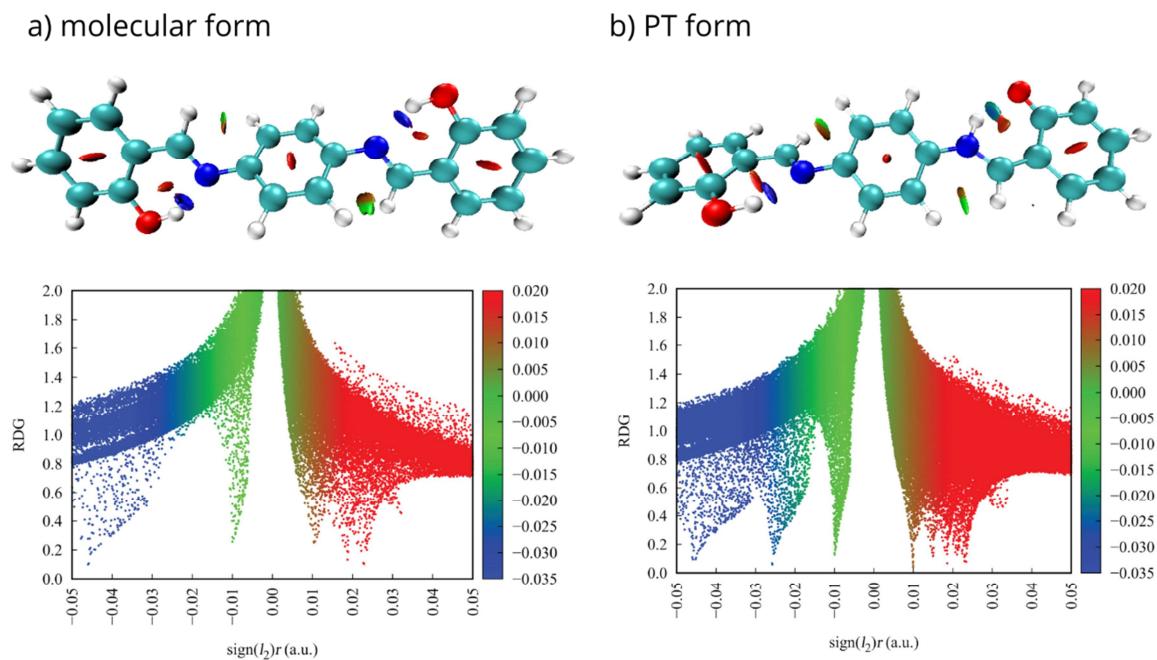
**Figure SC6.** QTAIM topology maps for the para isomer monosubstituted with the Br atom in the proximal position 1: a) molecular form in the gas phase, b) proton-transferred form in the gas phase, c) molecular form in PCM, d) proton-transferred form in PCM. The orange and yellow dots mark the BCPs and RCPs, respectively. Yellow lines pinpoint the intramolecular interaction paths.



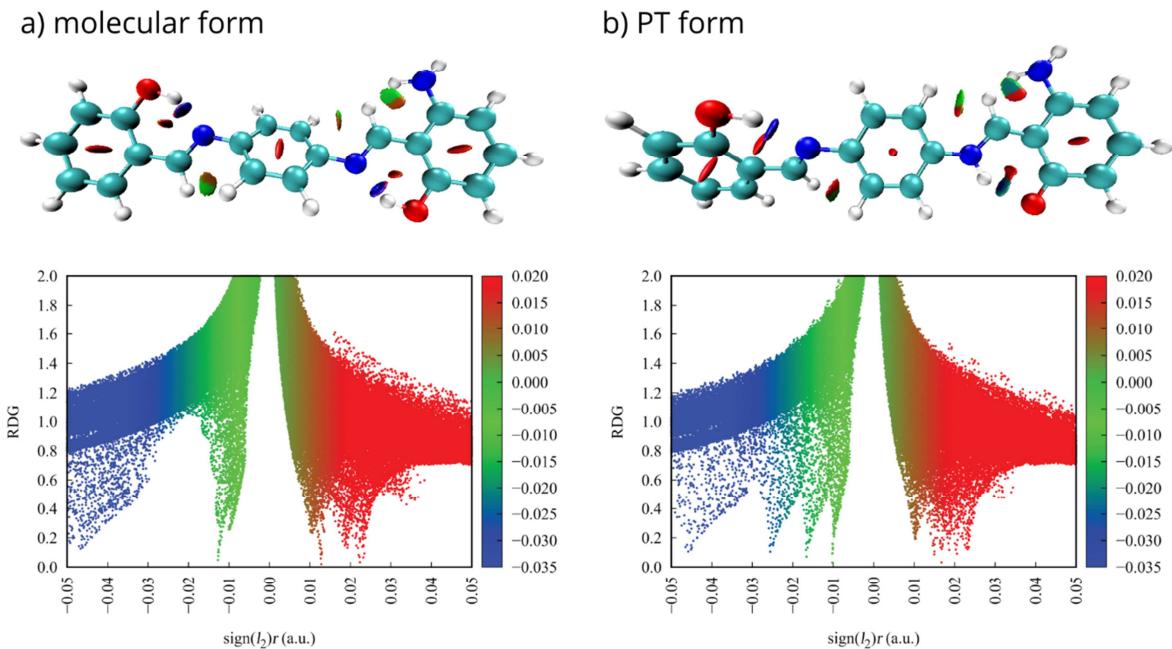
**Figure SC7.** QTAIM topology maps for the para isomer monosubstituted with the Br atom in the proximal position 4: a) molecular form in the gas phase, b) proton-transferred form in the gas phase, c) molecular form in PCM, d) proton-transferred form in PCM. The orange and yellow dots mark the BCPs and RCPs, respectively. Yellow lines pinpoint the intramolecular interaction paths.



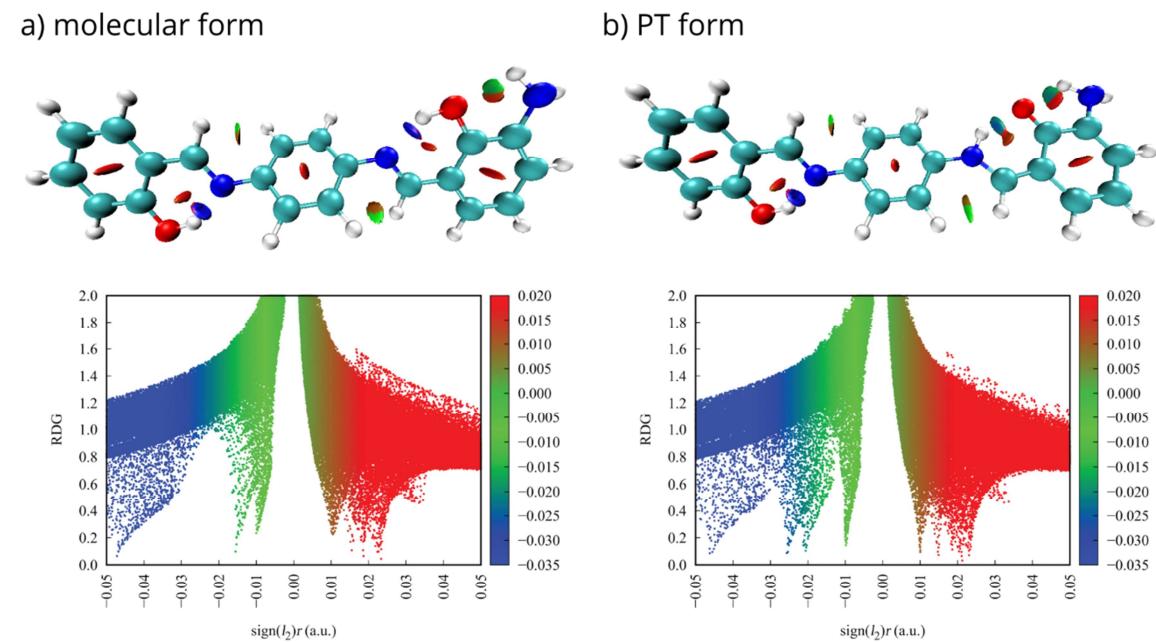
**Figure SC8.** NCI gradient isosurfaces and scatter graphs for the nonsubstituted para isomer in the gas phase: a) molecular form, b) proton-transferred form.



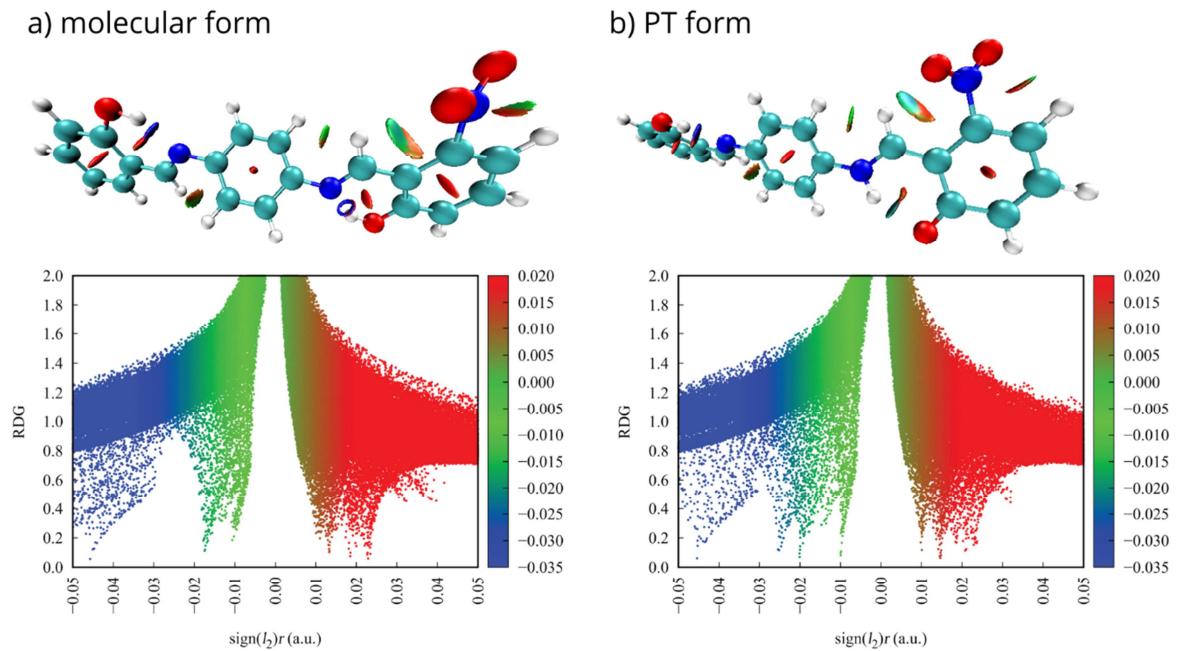
**Figure SC9.** NCI gradient isosurfaces and scatter graphs for the para isomer monosubstituted with the NH<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 1 in the gas phase: a) molecular form, b) proton-transferred form.



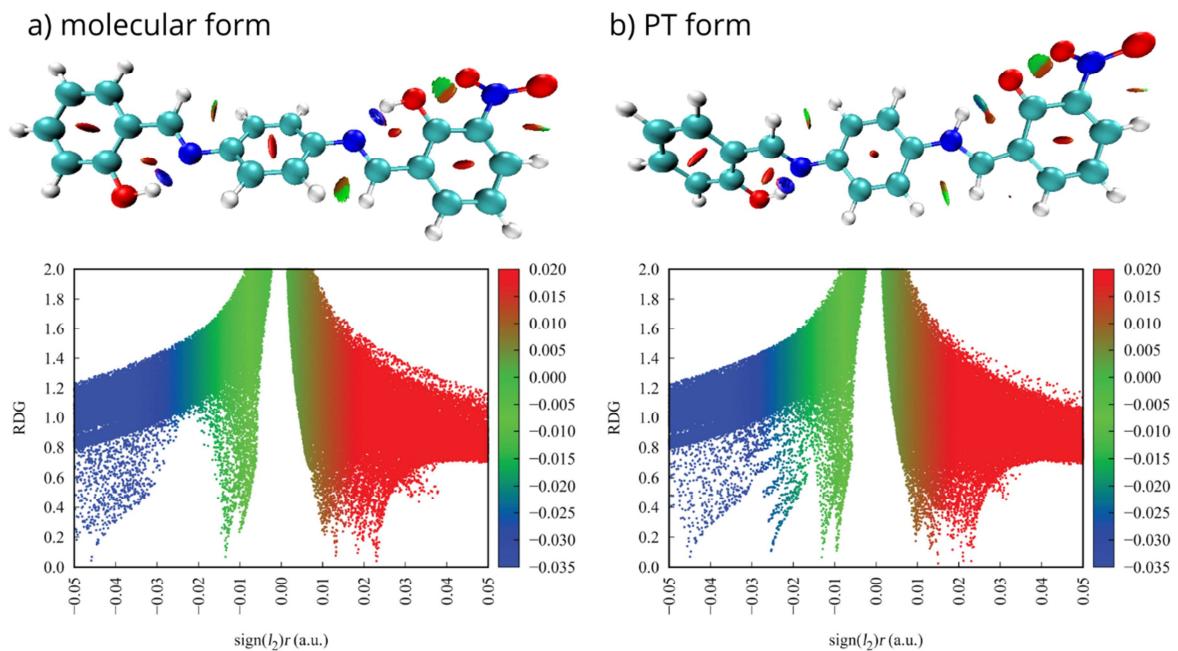
**Figure SC10.** NCI gradient isosurfaces and scatter graphs for the para isomer monosubstituted with the NH<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 4 in the gas phase: a) molecular form, b) proton-transferred form.



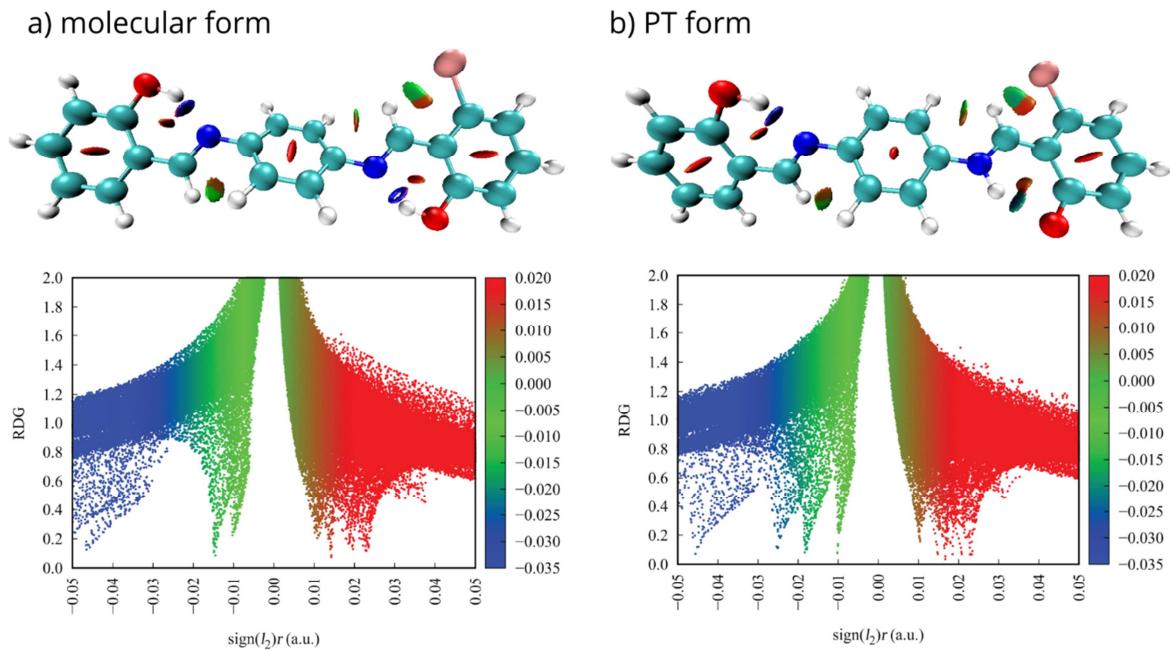
**Figure SC11.** NCI gradient isosurfaces and scatter graphs for the para isomer monosubstituted with the NO<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 1 in the gas phase: a) molecular form, b) proton-transferred form.



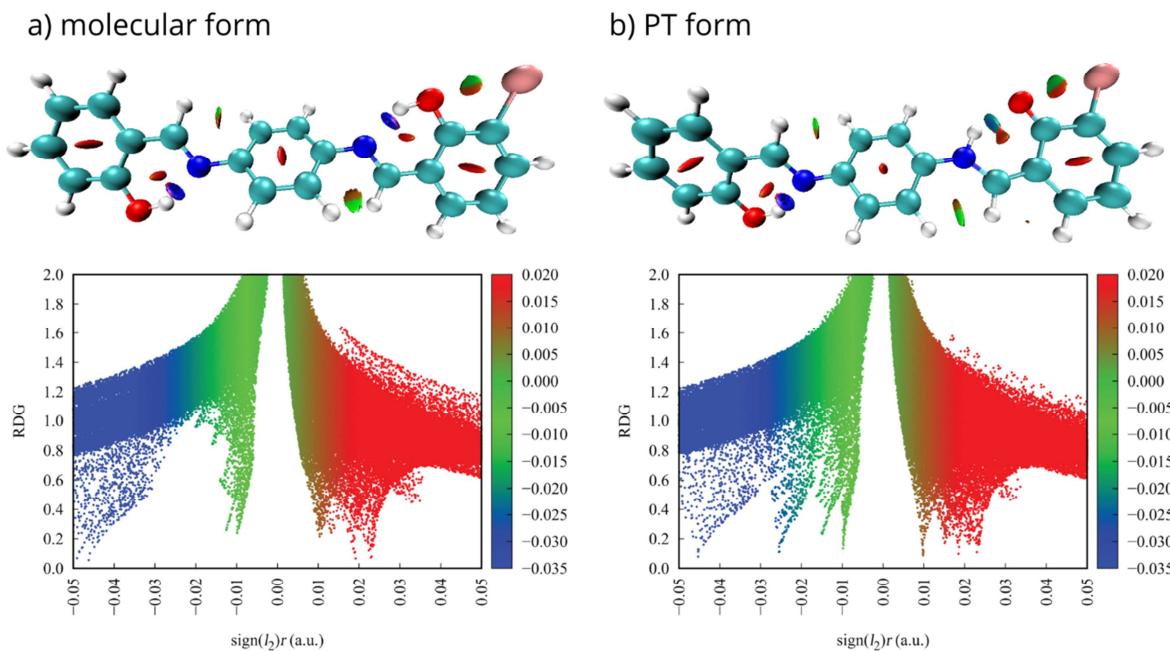
**Figure SC12.** NCI gradient isosurfaces and scatter graphs for the para isomer monosubstituted with the NO<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 4 in the gas phase: a) molecular form, b) proton-transferred form.



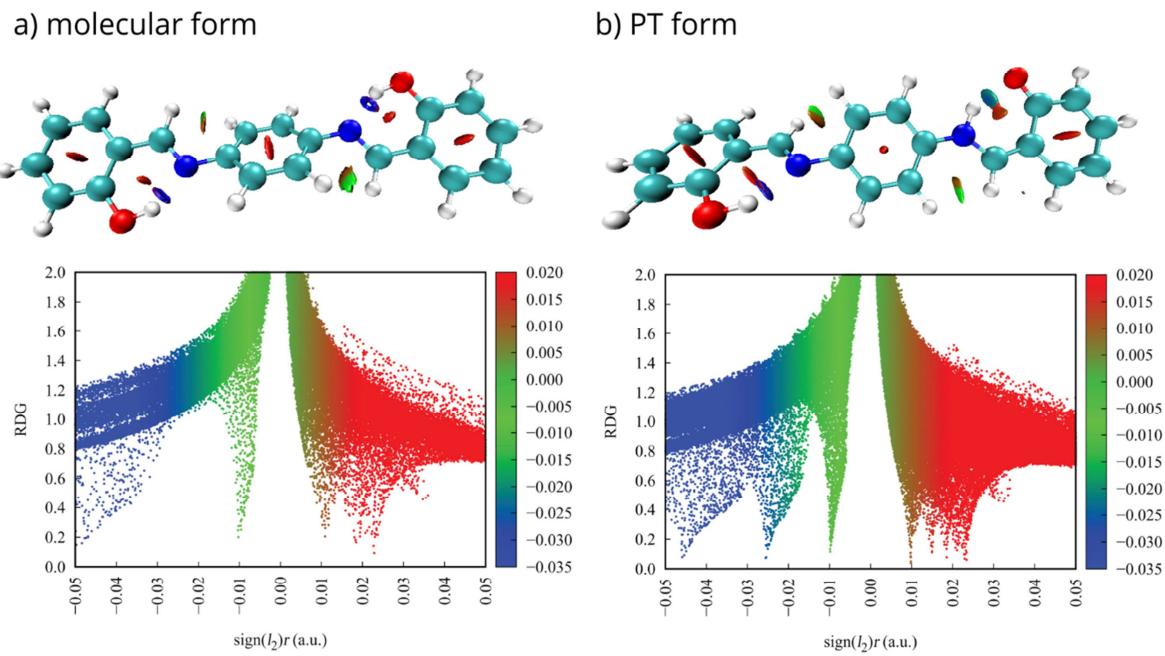
**Figure SC13.** NCI gradient isosurfaces and scatter graphs for the para isomer monosubstituted with the Br atom in the proximal position 1 in the gas phase: a) molecular form, b) proton-transferred form.



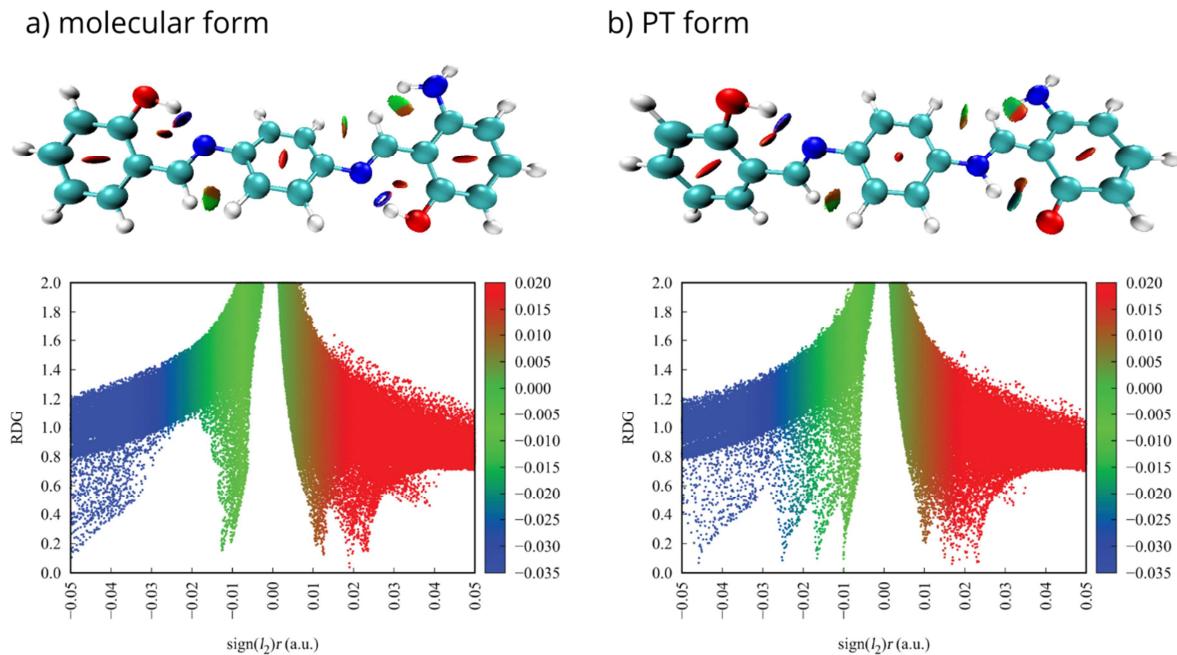
**Figure SC14.** NCI gradient isosurfaces and scatter graphs for the para isomer monosubstituted with the Br atom in the proximal position 4 in the gas phase: a) molecular form, b) proton-transferred form.



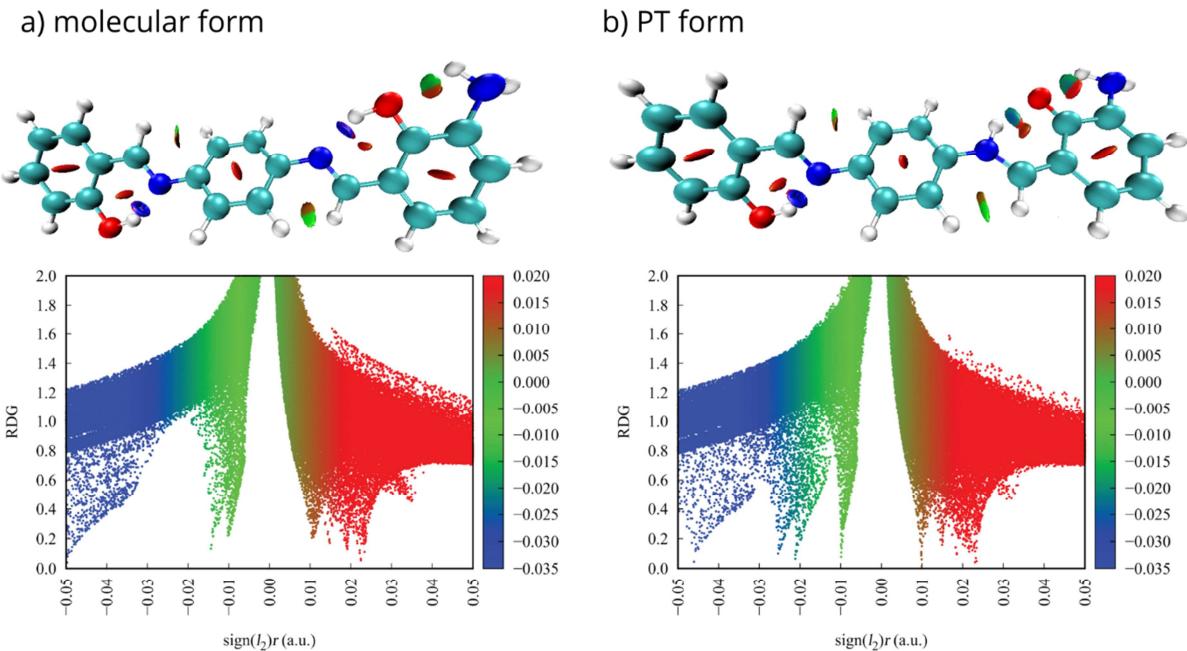
**Figure SC15.** NCI gradient isosurfaces and scatter graphs for the nonsubstituted para isomer in PCM: a) molecular form, b) proton-transferred form.



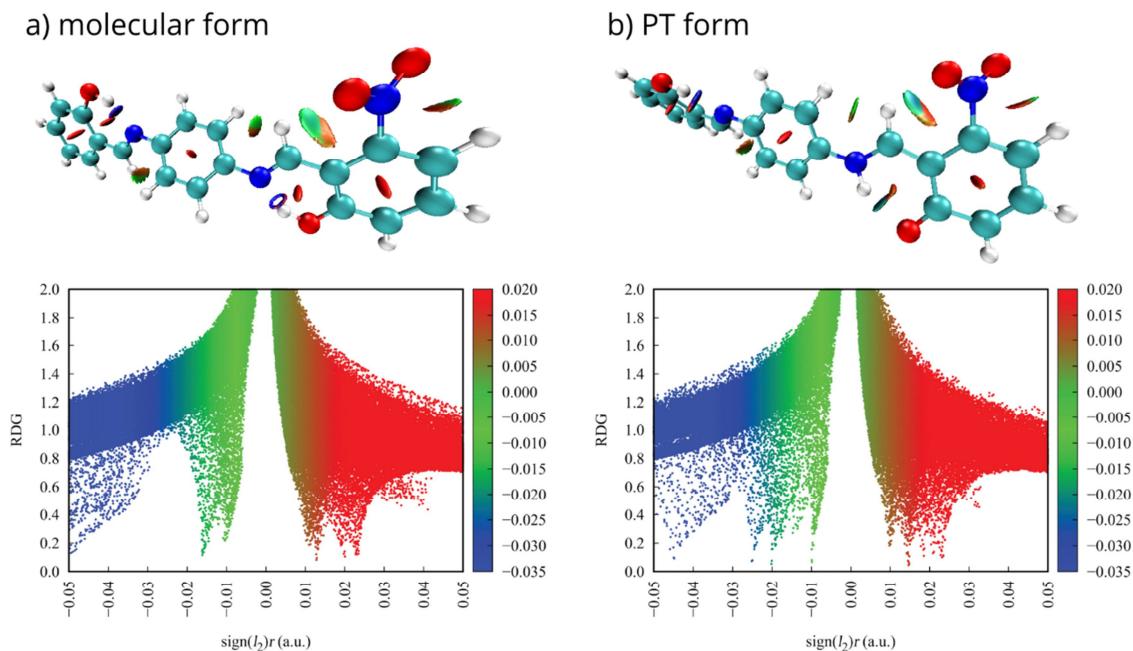
**Figure SC16.** NCI gradient isosurfaces and scatter graphs for the para isomer monosubstituted with the  $\text{NH}_2$  group in the proximal position 1 in PCM: a) molecular form, b) proton-transferred form.



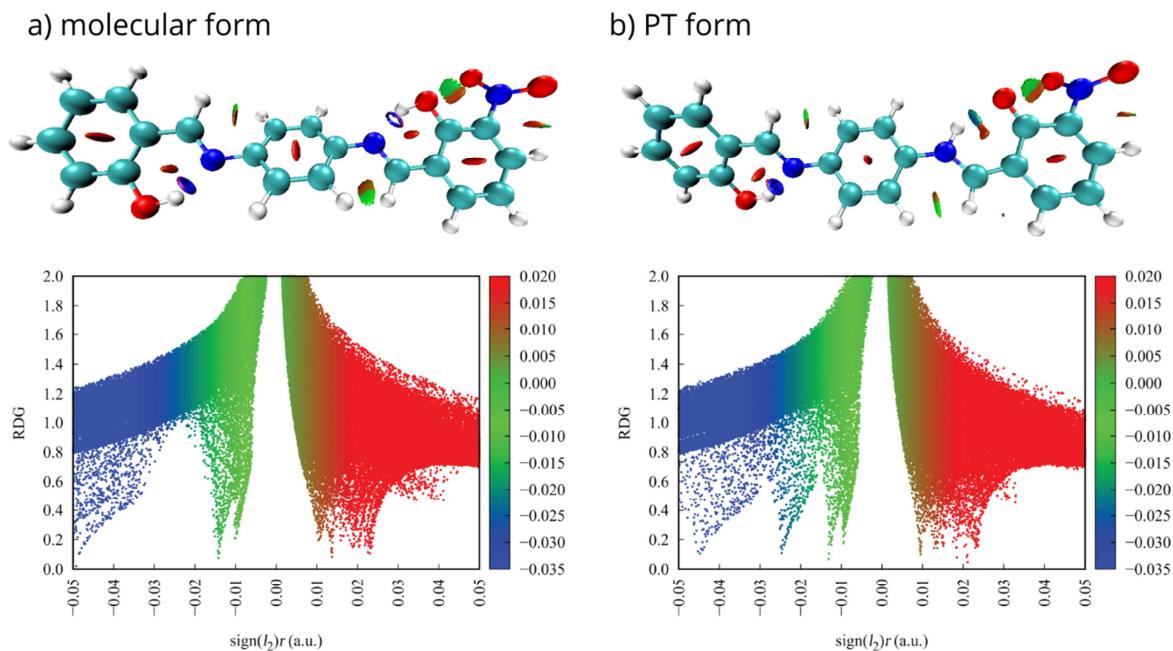
**Figure SC17.** NCI gradient isosurfaces and scatter graphs for the para isomer monosubstituted with the NH<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 4 in PCM: a) molecular form, b) proton-transferred form.



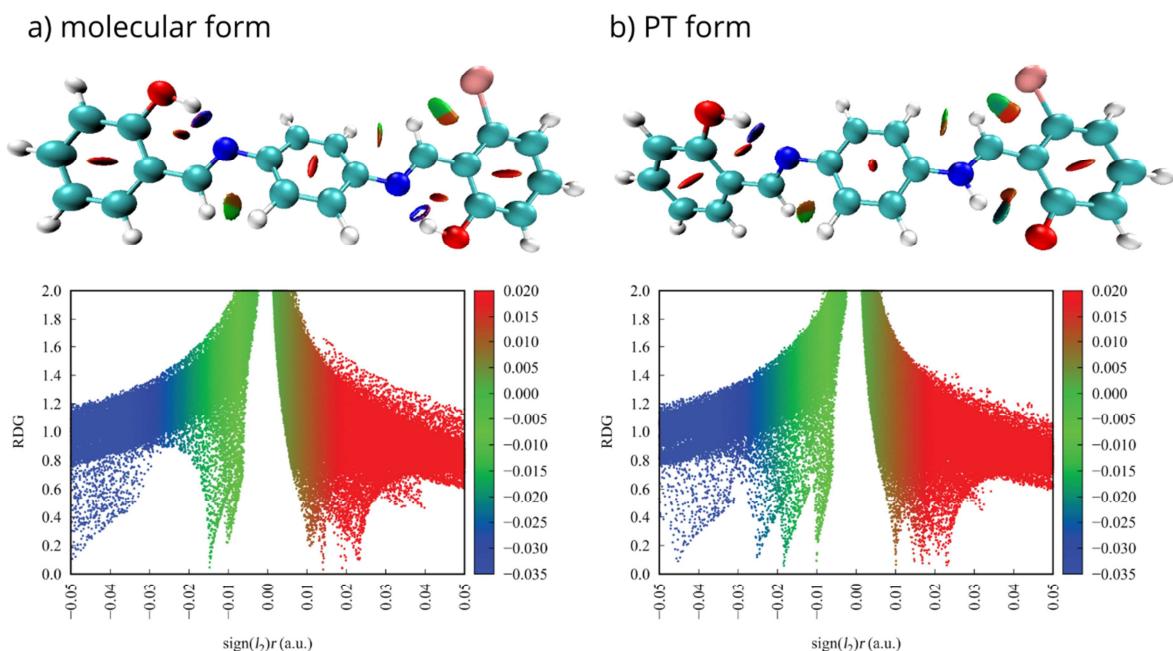
**Figure SC18.** NCI gradient isosurfaces and scatter graphs for the para isomer monosubstituted with the NO<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 1 in PCM: a) molecular form, b) proton-transferred form.



**Figure SC19.** NCI gradient isosurfaces and scatter graphs for the para isomer monosubstituted with the NO<sub>2</sub> group in the proximal position 4 in PCM: a) molecular form, b) proton-transferred form.



**Figure SC20.** NCI gradient isosurfaces and scatter graphs for the para isomer monosubstituted with the Br atom in the proximal position 1 in PCM: a) molecular form, b) proton-transferred form.



**Figure SC21.** NCI gradient isosurfaces and scatter graphs for the para isomer monosubstituted with the Br atom in the proximal position 4 in PCM: a) molecular form, b) proton-transferred form.

