

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

# Ultrafast charge-transfer-induced spin transition in cobalt-tungstate molecular photomagnets

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## Supplementary Note 1: Characterization of CsCoW and CoW

### Measurements

Elemental analyses were performed using the standard microanalytical method for C, H, and N.

Magnetic properties were studied with a superconducting quantum interference device (SQUID) magnetometer (Quantum Design MPMS). The temperature-dependent magnetic susceptibility measurement was conducted under an externally applied magnetic field of 1000 Oe.

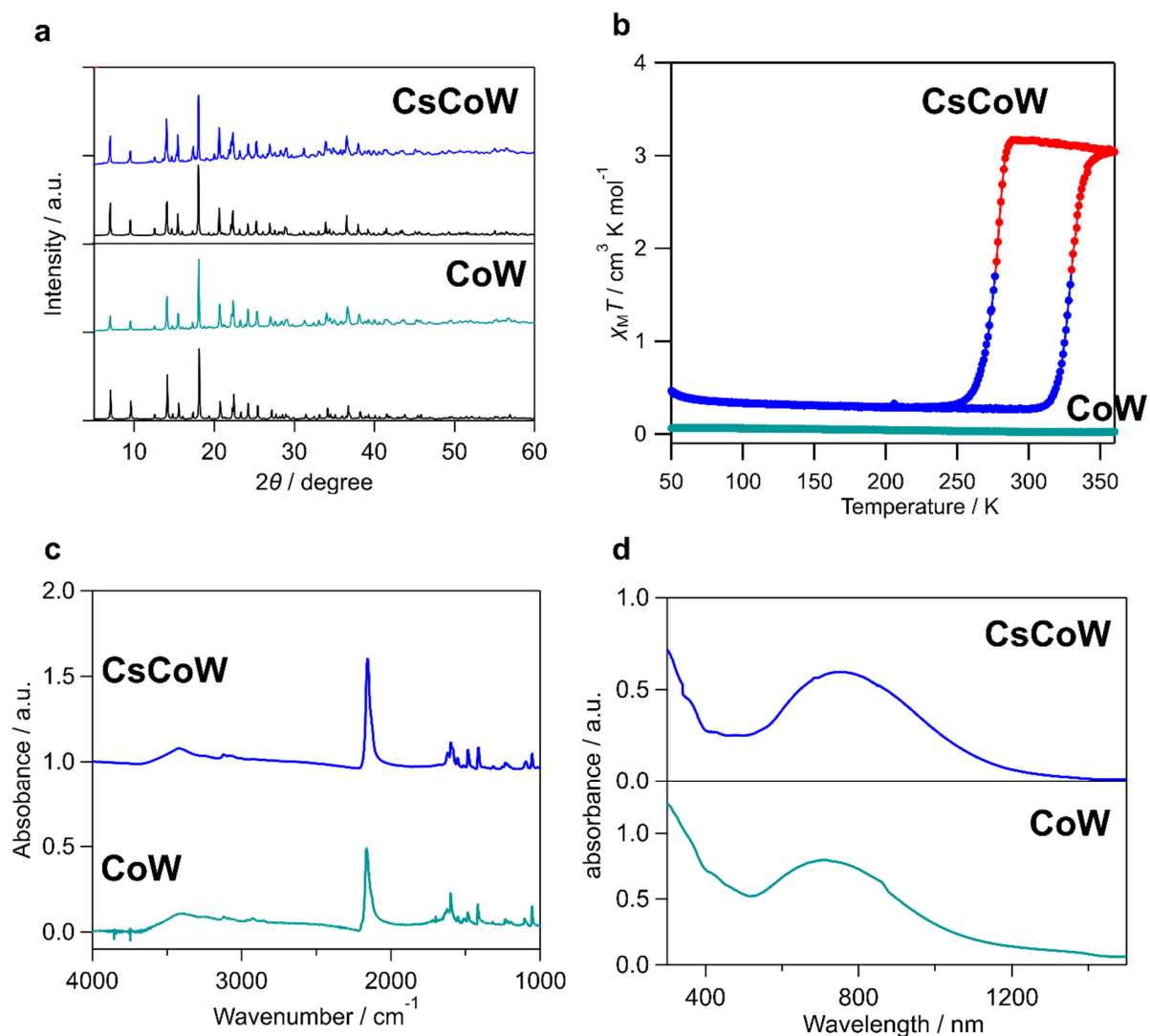
Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) measurements were performed using a Rigaku Miniflex diffractometer equipped with Cu K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.5406 \text{ \AA}$ ). The diffraction patterns were recorded in the 5-60° angle range in 0.02° steps with an exposure time of 1° min<sup>-1</sup>.

The IR spectra at RT were measured by using a spectrometer (JASCO FT/IR-4100). The powder samples were prepared by dispersing powder in KBr.

THz time-domain spectroscopy (TDS) measurements at RT were obtained in the LT state of CsCoW and CoW using Advantest TAS7400TS THz-TDS in the transmittance mode.

UV-vis-NIR spectra at RT were performed by using a spectrometer (JASCO V-670). The sample was prepared by dispersing powder in BaSO<sub>4</sub>. Photo-induced UV-vis-NIR absorption spectra were measured using a Shimadzu UV-3600 plus spectrometer with an Oxford Instruments Microstate-He cryostat and a continuous wave (cw) diode laser of 785 nm and 532 nm. The sample was prepared by dispersing powder in paraffin oil sandwiched between quartz plates.

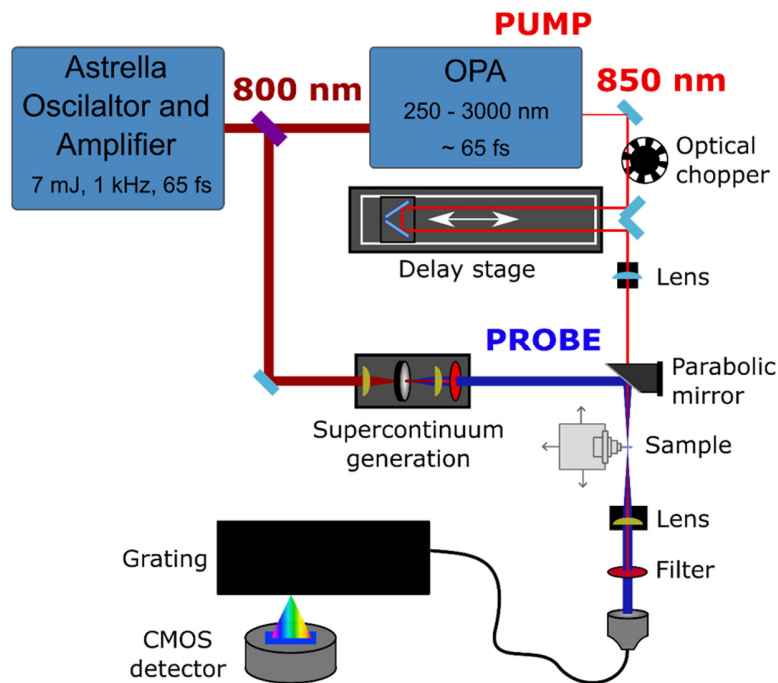
Photomagnetic measurements were conducted using SQUID equipped with an optical fiber of which the edge has connected the sample and cw diode lasers at 785 nm and 532 nm. The sample for photomagnetism was prepared by dispersing the CsCoW powder in the tape.



**Supplementary Fig. 1. Characterization of CsCoW and CoW.** **a** PXRD pattern for CsCoW (top) and CoW (bottom) at RT. The blue and light blue indicate experimental data for CsCoW and CoW. Black lines present calculated patterns. **b**  $\chi_M T$ - $T$  plots under 1000 Oe. The Light blue is the CoW in the LT state and the other dataset corresponds to the CsCoW in the LT (blue) and HT (red) state. **c** IR spectra at RT. **d** UV-vis spectra at RT. The blue and light blue lines show the LT state of CsCoW and CoW, respectively.

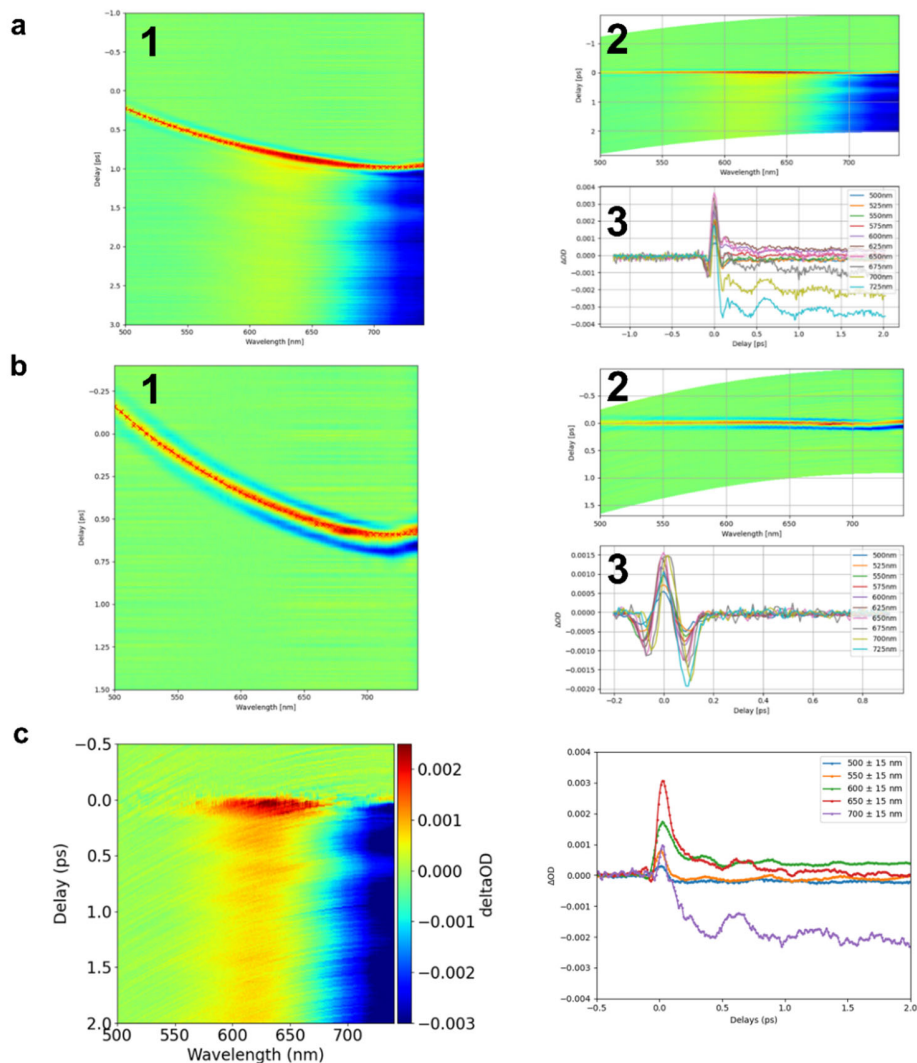
## Supplementary Note 2: Experimental configuration

The photoinduced dynamics were studied with a time-resolved experiment based on the typical pump-probe technique. First, an amplified Ti:sapphire femtosecond laser (Astrella) delivers a powerful 800 nm beam (7 mJ, 65 fs) at 1 kHz repetition rate, which is the core of the optical setup. Then, this pulse is split in two to seed the pump and probe beams. Regarding the pump pulse, we first tune the beam wavelength from 800 nm to 850 nm with an optical parametric amplifier. Then, the pump repetition rate is set to 500 Hz, by an optical chopper, to enable the shot-to-shot detection system. Regarding the probe, the supercontinuum is generated through a sapphire plate and covers the full visible range. This pulse is then homogeneously focalized by a silver parabolic mirror on the sample, with a beam size of  $150 \times 150 \text{ } \mu\text{m}^2$  (FWHM) measured by the typical knife-edge technique. Whereas the pump is focalized ( $450 \times 450 \text{ } \mu\text{m}^2$ ) by a lens and pass through the parabolic mirror, resulting in only a few degrees of angle difference between both beams. After the sample, the pump beam is cut by an iris and a long pass filter 750 nm. Finally, for the detection system, the supercontinuum is collected by a coupler and send on a spectrometer (Princeton Instruments ACTION SP2500). The grating selectively spread out the probe spatially as a function of the wavelength, which is then read by a 2D CMOS detector (Basler aca2440-20gm). Moreover, as the probe repetition rate of the camera is set the same as the probe (1 kHz), we can record the photoinduced dynamics between each two consecutive shots, this for multiple images (from 1000 to 20000) and multiple trips (1 to 15). Overall, this experimental configuration enables to perform ultrafast time-resolved measurements with 65 femtosecond time resolution, on a broadband wavelength region spanning from 500 to 750 nm, with a shot-to-shot detection system and reaching, at best, a noise floor of  $1 \times 10^{-5}$ .



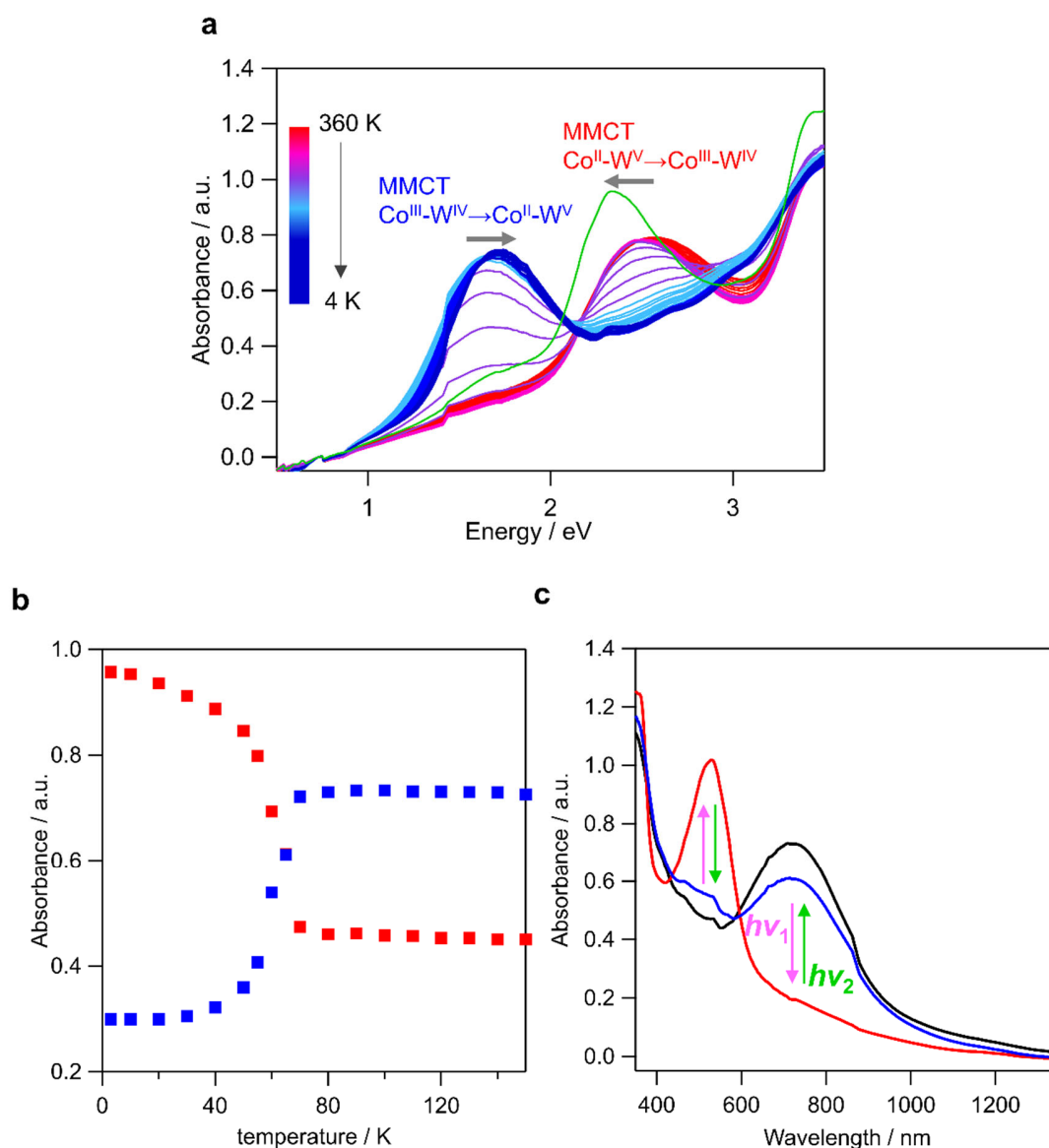
Supplementary Fig. 2. Schematic representation of the time-resolved optical layout.

For sub-ps timescales, the sample contribution signal data were obtained in two steps: First we corrected the pulse chirping of each 2D time-resolved maps, for the raw measurements with the samples (CsCoW or CoW) as presented in the example of Supplementary Fig. 3a1, and for the substrate (only the glass and liquid paraffin) as displayed in Supplementary Fig. 3b1. This correction is using a simple quadratic polynomial function to fit the maximum signal of the time-zero artefact from each wavelength. The corrected maps are then shown in Supplementary Fig. 3a2 and 3b2 for the sample and the substrate, respectively. The second step corresponds to the removal of the time-zero artefact, we subtracted Supplementary Fig. 3b2 to 3a2 and obtained 3c map, after scaling the substrate 2D map to the sample's map (from 0.8 to 1.1). One of the reason behind this scaling might be due to difference between the sample and substrate thickness.



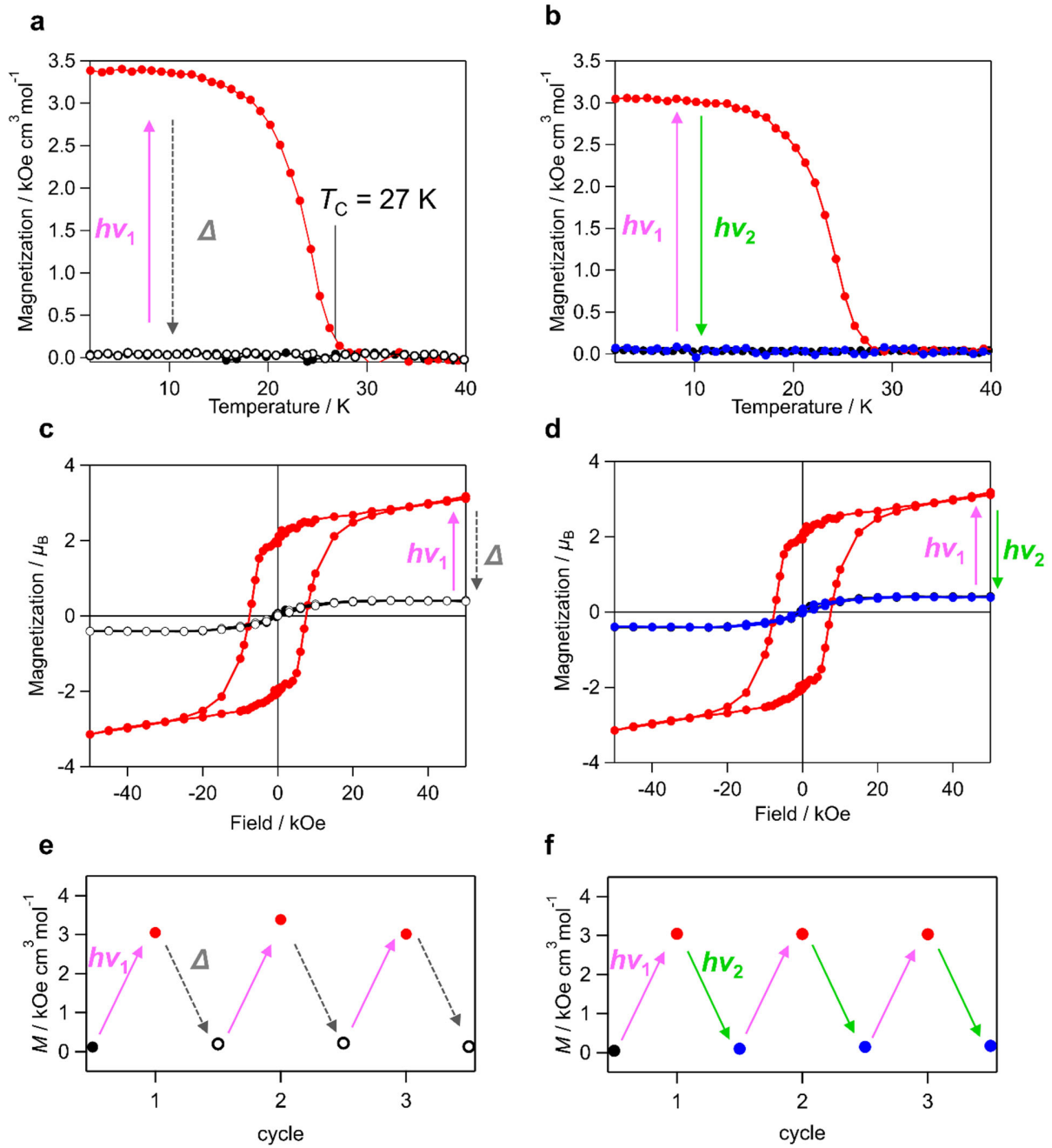
**Supplementary Fig. 3. Raw data treatment.** **a, b** Chirp correction for sample and substrate, respectively. The data of CsCoW at RT is employed as example. (1) Transient 2D map uncorrected. (2) Chirp corrected 2D maps. (3) Time trace for multiple wavelengths (in legends) after chirp correction. **c** Resultant 2D map after subtraction (left) and corresponding time trace (right).

# Supplementary Note 3: PIPT at low temperature of UV-vis spectra of CsCoW



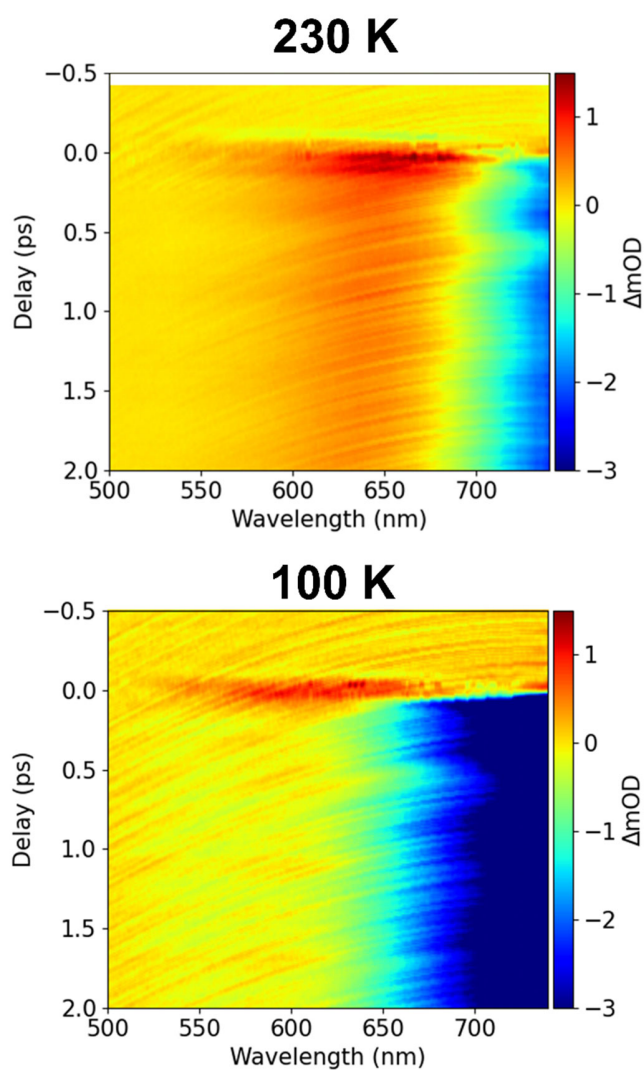
**Supplementary Fig. 4 PIPT at low temperature of UV-vis spectra.** **a** Comparison of the thermal and PIPT absorption spectra. Red to blue lines present the temperature dependence experimental data from 360 K to 4 K, and green line show the PI state at 4 K after photo irradiation (785 nm, 160 mW cm<sup>-2</sup>). Each state shows the energy shift by temperature, and the PI state located the lower energy than HT state. **b** Thermal relaxation after photo irradiation in the UV-vis spectra. Red and blue squares indicate the absorption intensity of the peak at 530 nm and 760 nm, respectively. **c** Reverse-CTIST in the UV-vis spectra. Absorption spectra of CsCoW: in the ground LT at 4 K (black), after photo irradiation (red) by a cw laser at 785 nm (160 mW cm<sup>-2</sup>) from LT to PI state, and after photo irradiation at 532 nm (145 mW cm<sup>-2</sup>) from PI to LT state.

# Supplementary Note 4: Photomagnetism of CsCoW



**Supplementary Fig. 5. Photomagnetic measurements for CsCoW.** Photo-thermal phase transition (left) and reverse-PIPT (right). **a, b** FCM curves under 20 Oe. **c, d**  $M-H$  curves at 2 K. **e, f** Magnetization vs cycle plots. Paramagnetic LT state (Black circle), photomagnetic PI state induced at 785 nm ( $240 \text{ mW cm}^{-2}$ ) and 3 K (red), which thermally relaxes ( $\Delta$ ) to the LT state above 100 K (open black circle). Photoexcitation at 532 nm ( $145 \text{ mW cm}^{-2}$ ) and 3 K of the photomagnetic PI state switches back the system to the paramagnetic LT state (blue).

Supplementary Note 5: Sub-ps time delay  $\Delta OD$  map of CsCoW at 230 K and 100 K



**Supplementary Fig. 6. Time delay  $\Delta mOD$  ( $\Delta OD \times 10^{-3}$ ) maps. 230 K (top) and 100 K (bottom).**



## Supplementary Note 6: Data analysis of sub-ps time measurements

Optical data in the sub-ps timescale was fitted by separating two components which are the population and oscillation components.

### (1) Population component

We fitted the evolution of the population Delta  $\Delta OD_{Population}(t)$  by using the convolution of  $\Delta OD_p(t)$  with the IRF function ( $S_{IRF}$ ) :

$$\Delta OD_{Population}(t) = S_{IRF} \otimes \Delta OD_p(t) \quad (S1)$$

$$S_{IRF}(t) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{t-t_0}{\sigma}\right)^2} \quad (S2)$$

$\sigma$  and  $t_0$  corresponds to the laser pulse width ( $\sim 65$  fs) and relative time delay corresponding to the time zero event.  $\Delta OD_p(t)$  is composed of the two components which are  $\Delta OD_{Decay}(t)$  and  $\Delta OD_{Pop}(t)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta OD_p(t) &= \Delta OD_{Decay}(t) + \Delta OD_{Pop}(t) \\ &= A_d \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{t-t_0}{\tau_{Decay}}\right) + A_p \cdot \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{t-t_0}{\tau_{Decay}}\right)\right] + A_T t + A_{CST} \quad (S3) \end{aligned}$$

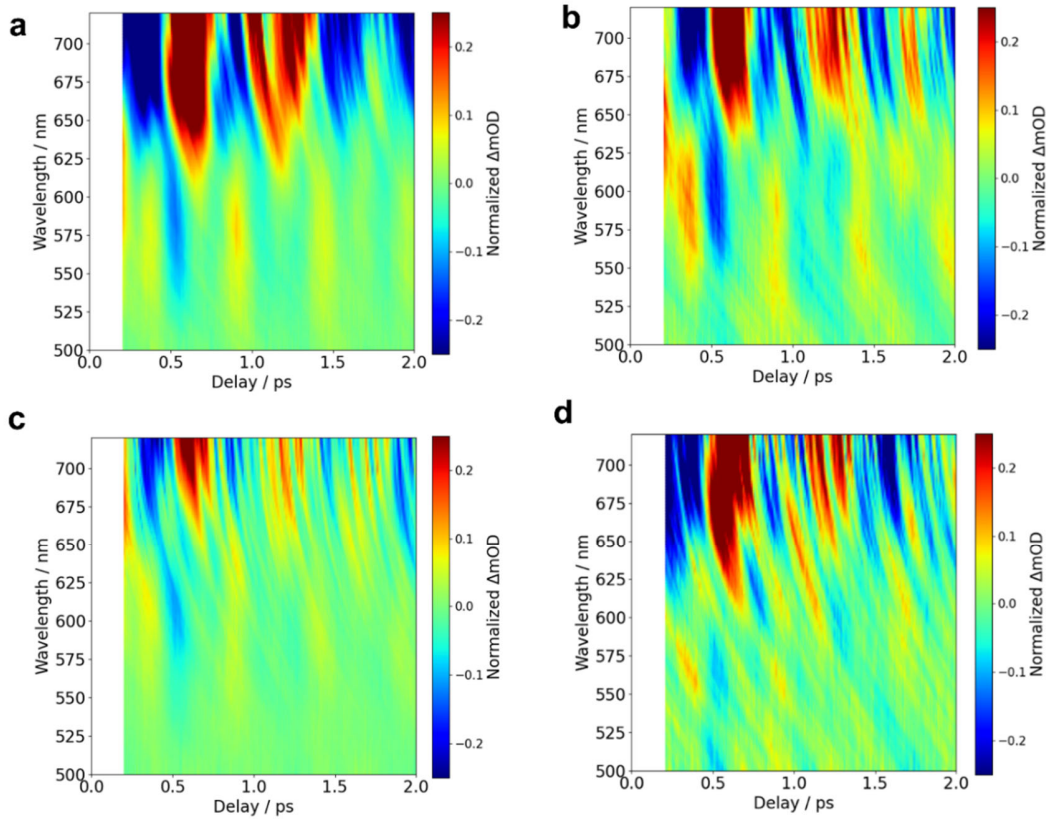
$A_d$ ,  $A_p$ ,  $\tau_{Decay}$ , indicate the amplitude of decay function and population function, and the decay timescale. The linear function  $A_T t + A_{CST}$  represents the approximation of the population function by the thermo-elastic conversion.

**Supplementary Table 1. Summary of the fit results at 600 nm and 700 nm.**

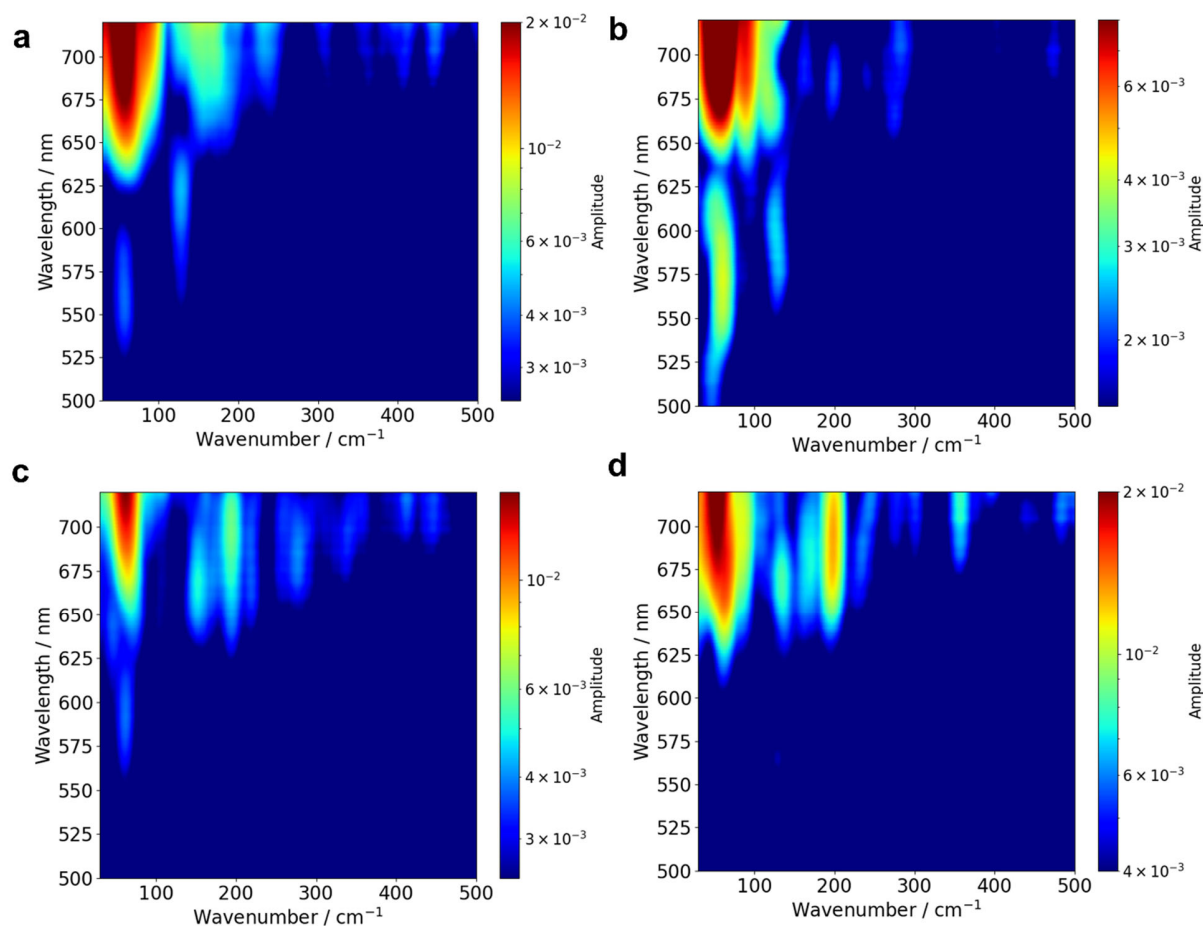
	CoW	CsCoW			Average
Temperature	RT	RT	230 K	100 K	
Decay (600 nm) / fs	121 (4)	136 (5)	123 (3)	135 (5)	129 (8)
Decay (700 nm) / fs	115 (6)	137 (3)	139 (9)	115 (9)	127 (12)

## (2) Oscillation component

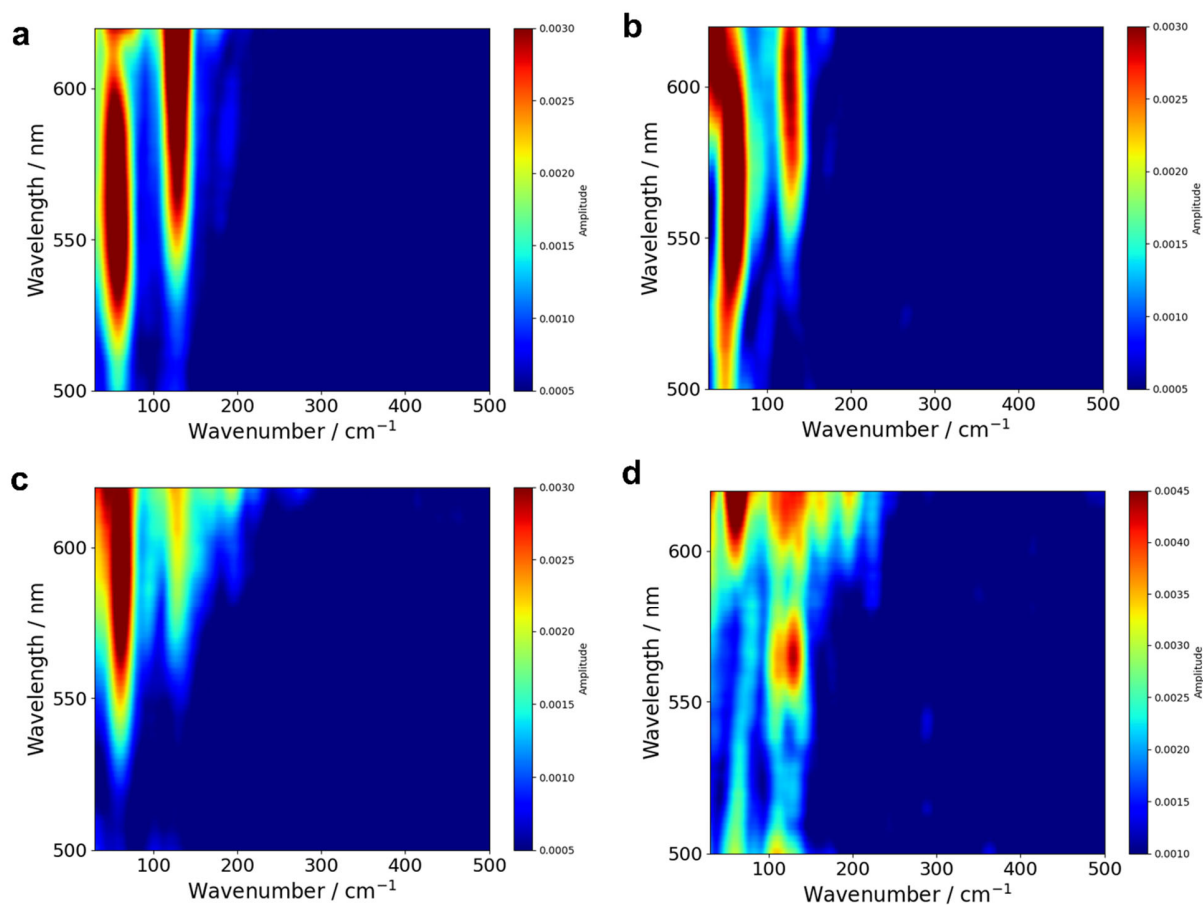
In order to isolate the oscillations, we subtracted the fitted population components to the chirp corrected data and focus our attention to the residual signal after 300 fs (Supplementary Fig. 7). Because the time-zero artefact from the substrate does not impact the sample's signal as it does not display any photoinduced response 300 fs after photoexcitation. Supplementary Fig. 7a, 7b, 7c, and 7d corresponds to the transient 2D maps of the CoW, CsCoW at RT, 230 K and 100 K, respectively, after application of the data analysis previously explained. Supplementary Figure 8 corresponds to the computed global FFT of Supplementary Figs. 7, 9) is a zoom of Supplementary Fig. 8 between 500 to 620 nm. The frequency range was limited to  $500\text{ cm}^{-1}$  due to the laser pulse width ( $65\text{ fs} \approx 513\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). The FFT amplitudes around 700 nm in Supplementary Fig. 8 are much stronger than the one around 600 nm because the population signal is stronger. Overall, the signal for CsCoW at 230 K and 100 K are less stable compared with the 300 K ones because the cryogun might disturb the signal and the photoinduced signal is smaller (population and amplitude of the oscillations). From those results, around 600 and 700 nm, one can distinguish two predominant frequencies around 130 and  $58\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , that we assigned in Supplementary Table 2.



**Supplementary Fig. 7. Oscillation components of the time-resolved 2D maps after removing the population fitting. a** CoW at RT. **b, c, d** CsCoW at RT, 230 K, and 100 K, respectively.



**Supplementary Fig. 8. Global FFT maps for oscillation components. a** CoW at RT. **b, c, d** CsCoW at RT, 230 K and 100 K, respectively, in the range of 500 nm - 720 nm.



**Supplementary Fig. 9. Global FFT maps for oscillation components. a** CoW at RT. **b, c, d** CsCoW at RT, 230 K and 100 K, respectively, in the range of 500 nm - 620 nm.

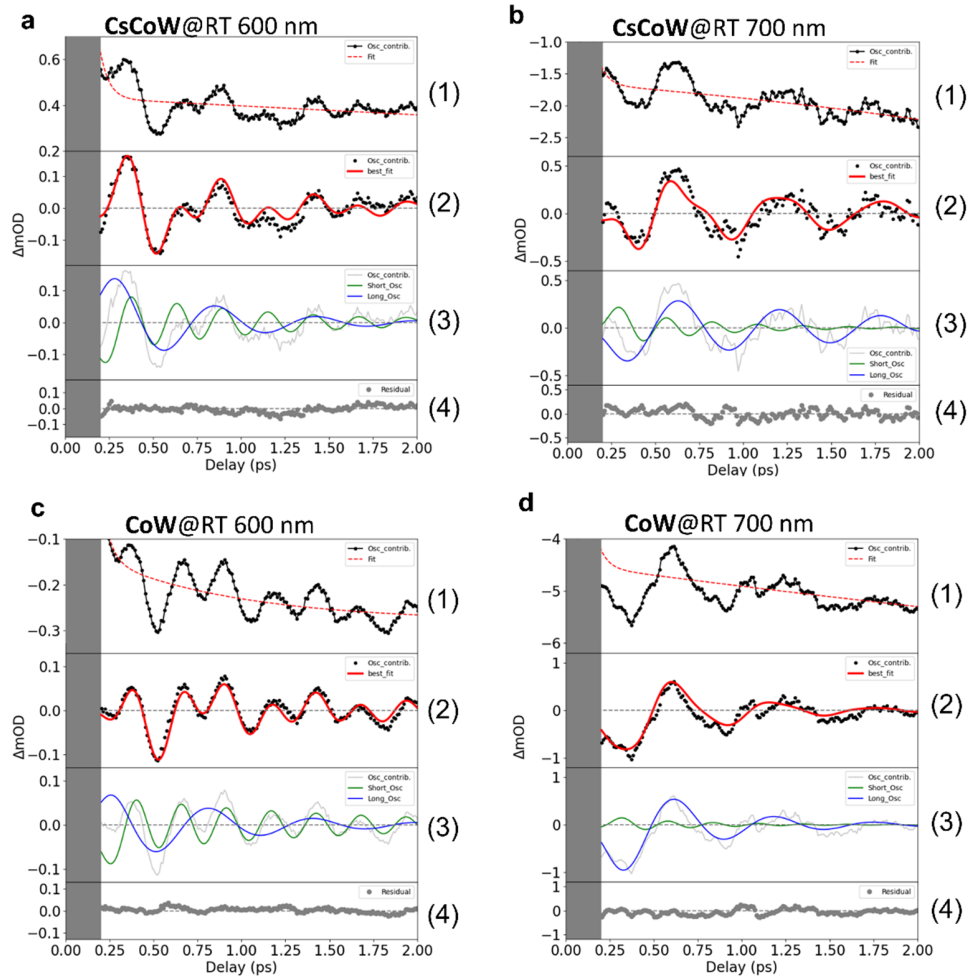
**Supplementary Table 2. Assigned frequencies of the main oscillations from the FFT maps at 600 nm and 700 nm.**

	CoW	CsCoW			Average
Temperature	RT	RT	230 K	100 K	
Short Osc. / $\text{cm}^{-1}$	129 (3)	130 (4)	128 (2)	130 (4)	129 (2)
Long Osc. / $\text{cm}^{-1}$	55 (3)	60 (3)	62 (5)	53 (6)	58 (5)

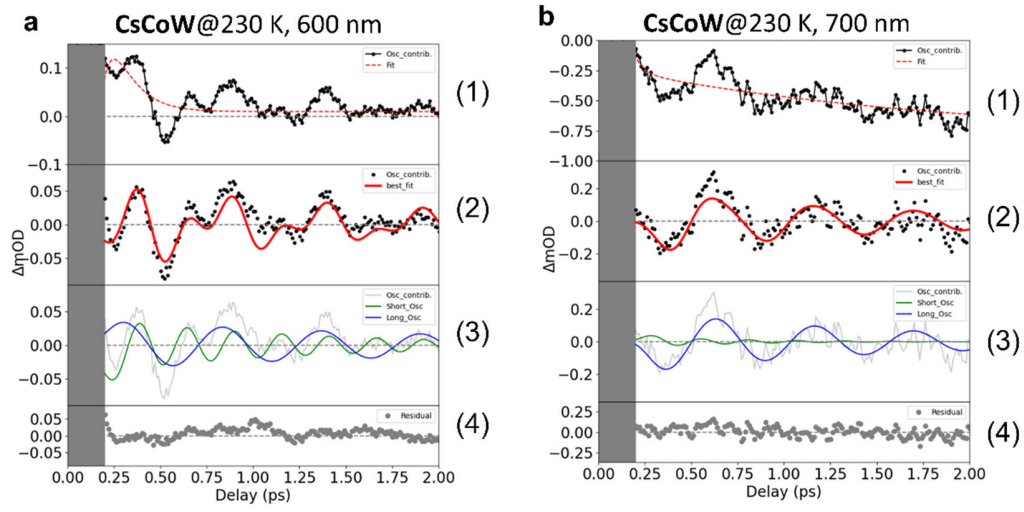
The fit of the transient oscillating components were performed by using two damped oscillations with the following equation:

$$\Delta OD_{oscfit} = \sum_{i=1}^2 \Delta OD_{osc}^i = \sum_{i=1}^2 A_{osci} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau_{dampi}}\right) \cdot \cos(\omega_i t + \phi_i) \quad (S4)$$

Where  $A_{OSC}$ ,  $\tau_{damp}$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\Phi$  indicate the amplitude, decay constant, oscillation period and phase of the damped oscillation. For the fit, we fixed the frequency of the oscillations based on the 2D FFT results (Supplementary Table 2). Since only the data of CsCoW at 100 K has stronger noise than other data which affect to oscillation components, we decided not to treat it for oscillation fitting.



**Supplementary Fig. 10. Oscillation fitting.** **a, b** CsCoW at RT at 600 nm and 700 nm. **c, d** CoW at RT at 600 nm, and 700 nm. For each Supplementary Fig. (1) Transmission transient (**T**) in black dots, fit of the population in red dot line (**P**). (2) Transient oscillating part (**R<sub>0</sub>**) in black dots (obtained with **R<sub>0</sub>** = **T** — **P**), sum of the two oscillations in red (**F<sub>0</sub>**). (3) The two damped oscillations (shorter: green, longer: blue) of **F<sub>0</sub>**, compared with **R<sub>0</sub>** in grey line. (4) Residual signal from **R<sub>0</sub>** — **F<sub>0</sub>**. The grey area corresponds to the time-zero artefact not taken into account.



**Supplementary Fig. 11. Oscillation fitting.** **a, b** CsCoW at 230 K at 600 nm, and 700 nm. For each Supplementary Figs., (1) Transmission transient ( $T$ ) in black dots, fit of the population in red dot line ( $P$ ). (2) Transient oscillating part ( $R_0$ ) in black dots (obtained with  $R_0 = R - P$ ), sum of the two oscillations in red ( $F_0$ ). (3) The two damped oscillations (shorter: green, longer: blue) of  $F_0$ , compared with  $R_0$  in grey line. (4) Residual signal from  $R_0 - F_0$ . The grey area corresponds to the time-zero artefact not taken into account.

## Supplementary Note 7:DFT calculation

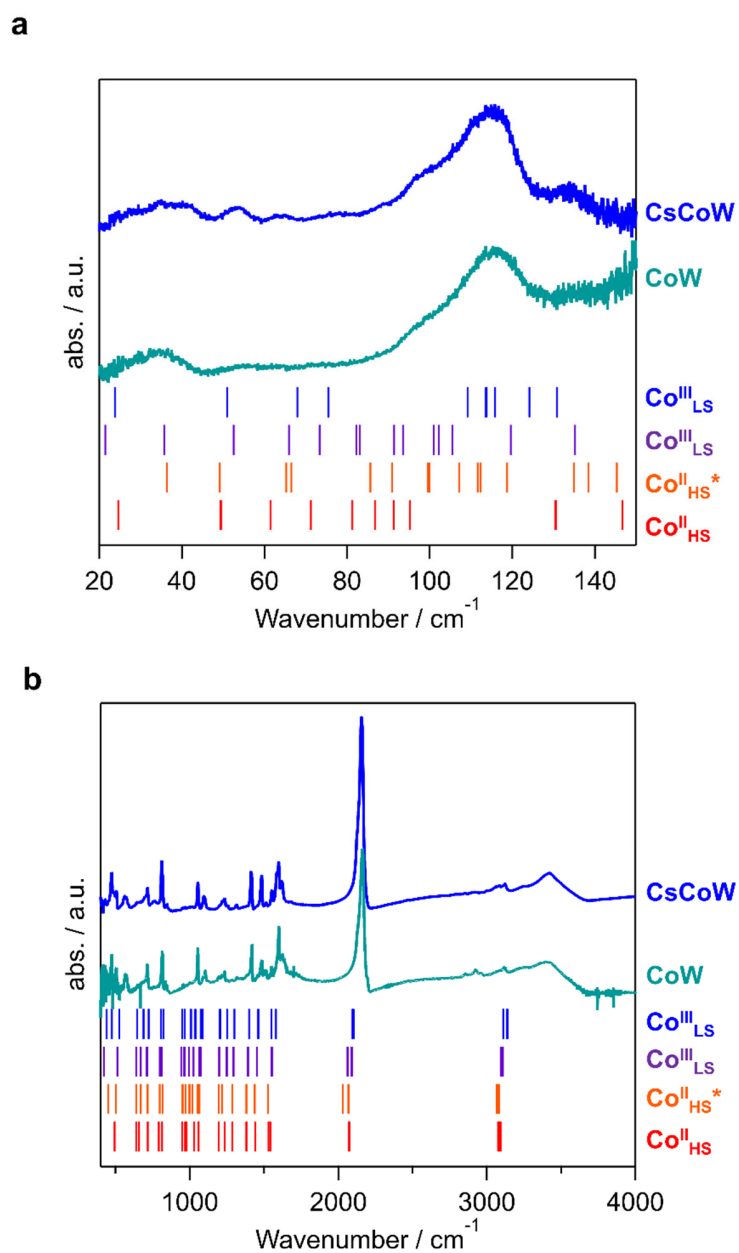
**Supplementary Table 3. Phonon modes obtained by DFT calculations in each electronic state of Co.**

Co<sup>II</sup><sub>HS</sub>\* indicates the result of phonon mode calculation by using the structural optimization of Co<sup>II</sup><sub>LS</sub>.

Frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )					Frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )				
No.	Co <sup>III</sup> <sub>LS</sub>	Co <sup>II</sup> <sub>LS</sub>	Co <sup>II</sup> <sub>HS</sub> *	Co <sup>II</sup> <sub>HS</sub>	No.	Co <sup>III</sup> <sub>LS</sub>	Co <sup>II</sup> <sub>LS</sub>	Co <sup>II</sup> <sub>HS</sub> *	Co <sup>II</sup> <sub>HS</sub>
1	23.7	16.7	-70.9	14.7	23	332.8	221.6	225.4	232.5
2	23.7	17.4	-39.2	15.0	24	332.8	247.3	245.2	232.6
3	50.9	21.4	19.7	18.1	25	346.5	269.8	249.4	249.3
4	67.9	35.8	36.4	24.6	26	351.5	289.3	251.0	249.4
5	75.5	52.5	49.2	49.3	27	351.5	292.1	265.1	257.7
6	75.5	65.9	65.3	49.6	28	352.1	298.7	277.1	259.7
7	109.1	73.3	66.5	61.5	29	356.0	311.9	281.5	259.8
8	113.6	82.3	85.7	71.2	30	357.8	326.7	305.3	273.1
9	113.6	83.1	90.9	81.2	31	371.7	338.9	313.3	273.5
10	113.8	91.4	99.6	81.3	32	375.3	342.8	330.9	277.6
11	115.8	93.6	99.9	86.8	33	394.6	367.0	364.7	282.5
12	124.1	101.0	107.2	91.3	34	398.1	383.0	371.9	317.7
13	130.8	102.2	111.6	91.3	35	442.1	387.0	382.3	318.1
14	130.8	105.5	112.4	95.2	36	476.2	399.3	383.8	375.0
15	177.2	119.6	118.7	130.4	37	476.2	420.4	451.3	376.6
16	177.2	135.2	134.9	130.6	38	526.3	511.1	501.9	493.1
17	204.4	153.7	138.5	146.7	39	526.3	514.3	502.2	493.3
18	241.1	176.0	145.3	184.3	40	643.9	640.7	639.5	641.0
19	263.5	183.8	192.5	187.5	41	643.9	641.6	640.0	641.1
20	263.5	191.8	198.8	200.4	42	688.4	670.2	669.5	657.9
21	302.7	192.3	210.1	200.6	43	688.5	671.3	670.6	658.7
22	302.7	216.1	224.4	226.5	44	722.4	709.7	715.4	717.6

Frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )					Frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )				
No.	Co <sup>III</sup> <sub>LS</sub>	Co <sup>II</sup> <sub>LS</sub>	Co <sup>II</sup> <sub>HS</sub> *	Co <sup>II</sup> <sub>HS</sub>	No.	Co <sup>III</sup> <sub>LS</sub>	Co <sup>II</sup> <sub>LS</sub>	Co <sup>II</sup> <sub>HS</sub> *	Co <sup>II</sup> <sub>HS</sub>
45	722.4	712.3	716.9	717.6	67	1301.4	1295.5	1288.0	1286.1
46	808.6	798.2	797.0	791.4	68	1398.8	1391.2	1380.7	1380.6
47	808.6	798.8	797.2	791.5	69	1398.8	1392.4	1381.0	1380.8
48	822.3	811.1	817.2	814.2	70	1460.5	1451.7	1436.0	1440.4
49	822.8	811.8	817.7	814.5	71	1462.4	1452.1	1437.2	1440.8
50	947.5	943.2	951.6	947.5	72	1549.6	1550.9	1525.7	1529.5
51	947.5	943.8	952.3	947.5	73	1549.6	1552.5	1526.0	1529.8
52	964.6	963.0	970.3	968.4	74	1579.6	1556.0	1526.3	1544.5
53	965.6	965.8	972.4	969.5	75	1580.0	1556.2	1527.3	1544.5
54	1007.7	995.0	997.5	978.0	76	2095.2	2061.6	2031.3	2071.7
55	1008.3	995.1	999.1	979.1	77	2095.2	2062.9	2032.1	2073.4
56	1034.6	1025.6	1016.1	1027.6	78	2099.3	2090.3	2067.6	2073.5
57	1039.9	1025.7	1017.0	1028.0	79	2105.1	2092.8	2068.5	2077.0
58	1073.7	1065.1	1054.1	1059.6	80	3109.7	3096.1	3068.1	3075.9
59	1073.8	1065.2	1054.1	1059.7	81	3109.8	3096.2	3068.5	3075.9
60	1087.8	1072.0	1063.7	1060.1	82	3110.0	3096.6	3068.5	3076.9
61	1087.8	1073.8	1065.0	1060.2	83	3110.0	3096.6	3068.8	3076.9
62	1202.8	1198.0	1193.7	1195.6	84	3136.0	3105.0	3078.5	3089.9
63	1204.7	1198.6	1194.2	1196.4	85	3136.0	3105.4	3078.7	3089.9
64	1251.4	1249.2	1216.1	1236.6	86	3138.0	3107.3	3081.0	3092.0
65	1251.4	1249.8	1216.6	1236.7	87	3138.7	3107.8	3081.3	3092.1
66	1301.4	1294.6	1286.9	1286.0					

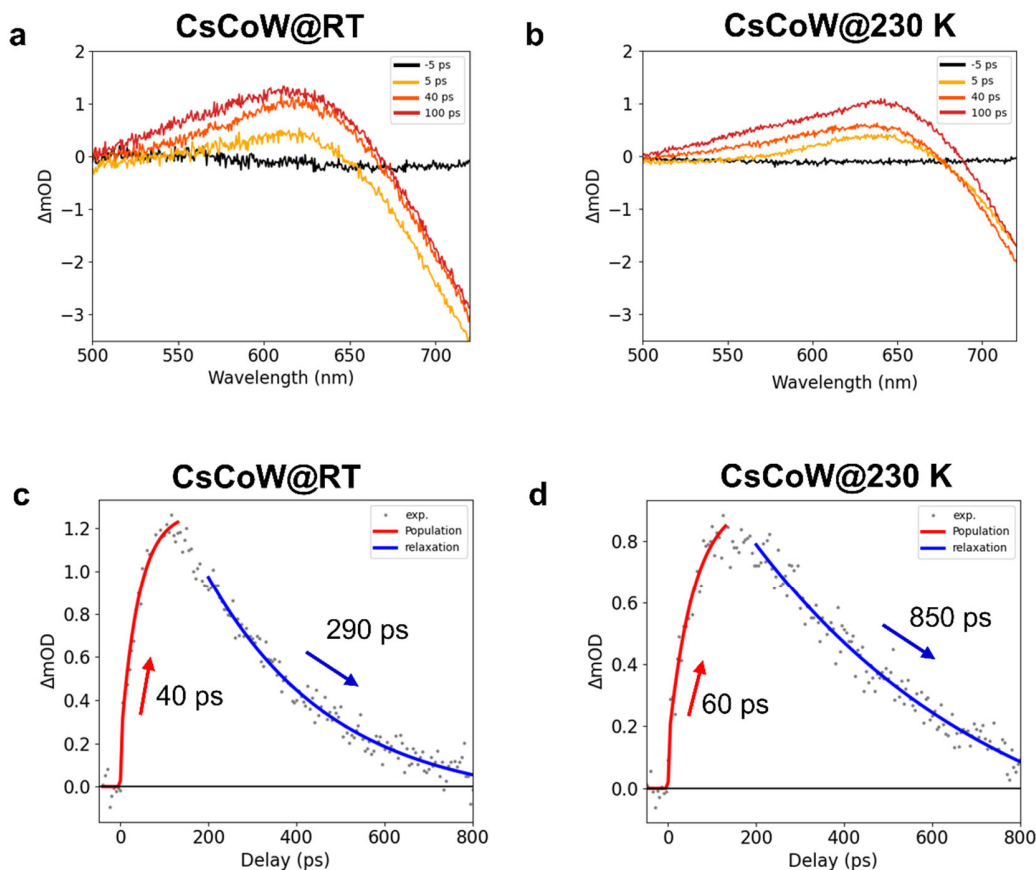




**Supplementary Fig. 12. Vibrational spectra. a** THz absorbance spectra at RT. **b** IR spectra at RT. Blue and light blue lines indicate the experimental data of the LT state of CsCoW and CoW, whereas blue, purple, orange, and red bars correspond to calculated phonon modes of  $\text{Co}^{\text{III}}_{\text{LS}}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}_{\text{LS}}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}_{\text{HS}}^*$ , and  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}_{\text{HS}}$ , respectively.  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}_{\text{HS}}^*$  represents the calculated frequencies after the structural optimization as  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}_{\text{LS}}$ .

## Supplementary Note 8: Data analysis of long-picosecond time scale

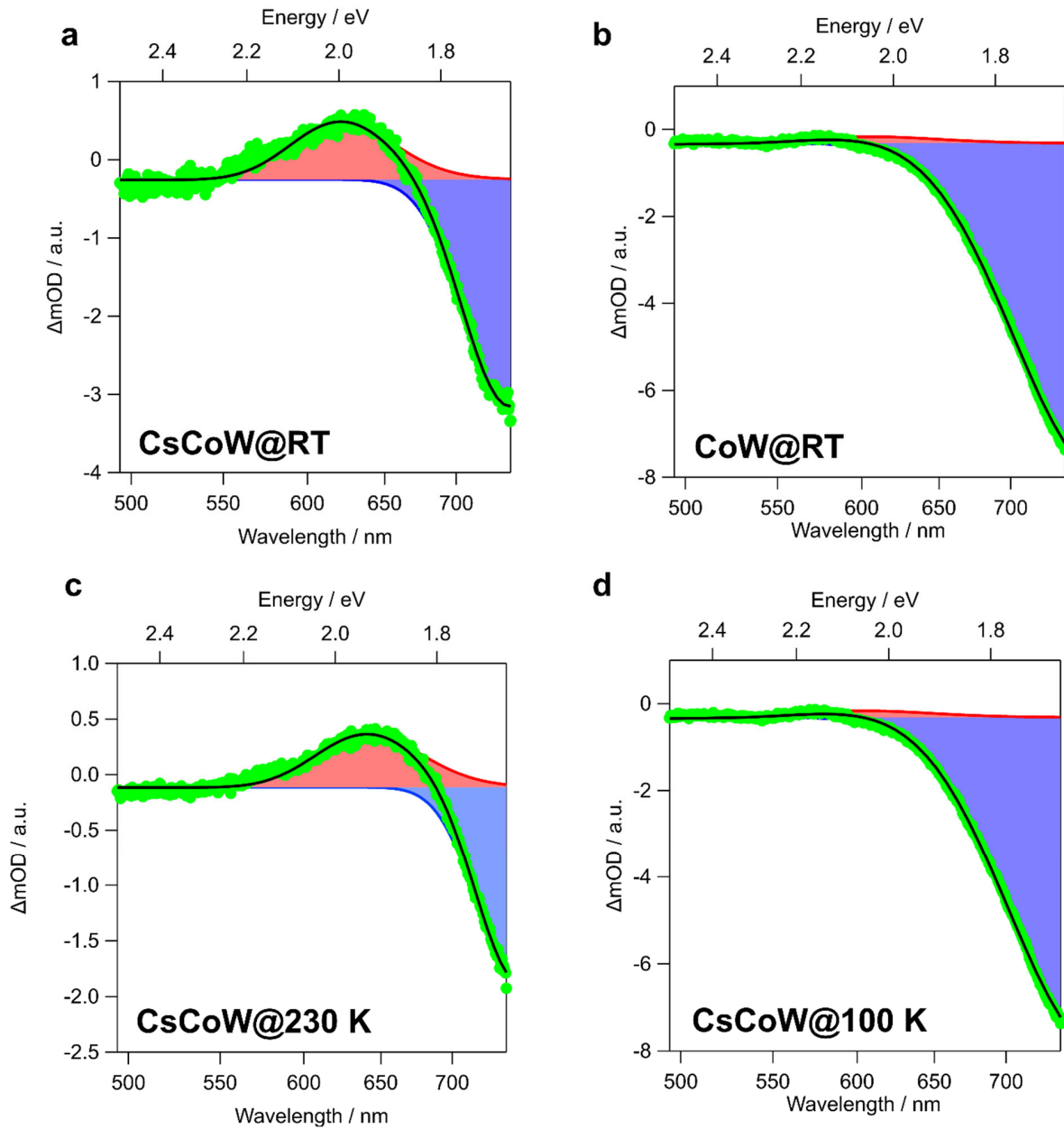
The fitting of CsCoW at RT and 230 K was conducted with two population functions. The first population describes the appearance of photoexcited local PI state within 40 to 60 ps relying on the sample initial temperature. While the second population appears after the first one and corresponds to the lattice relaxation.



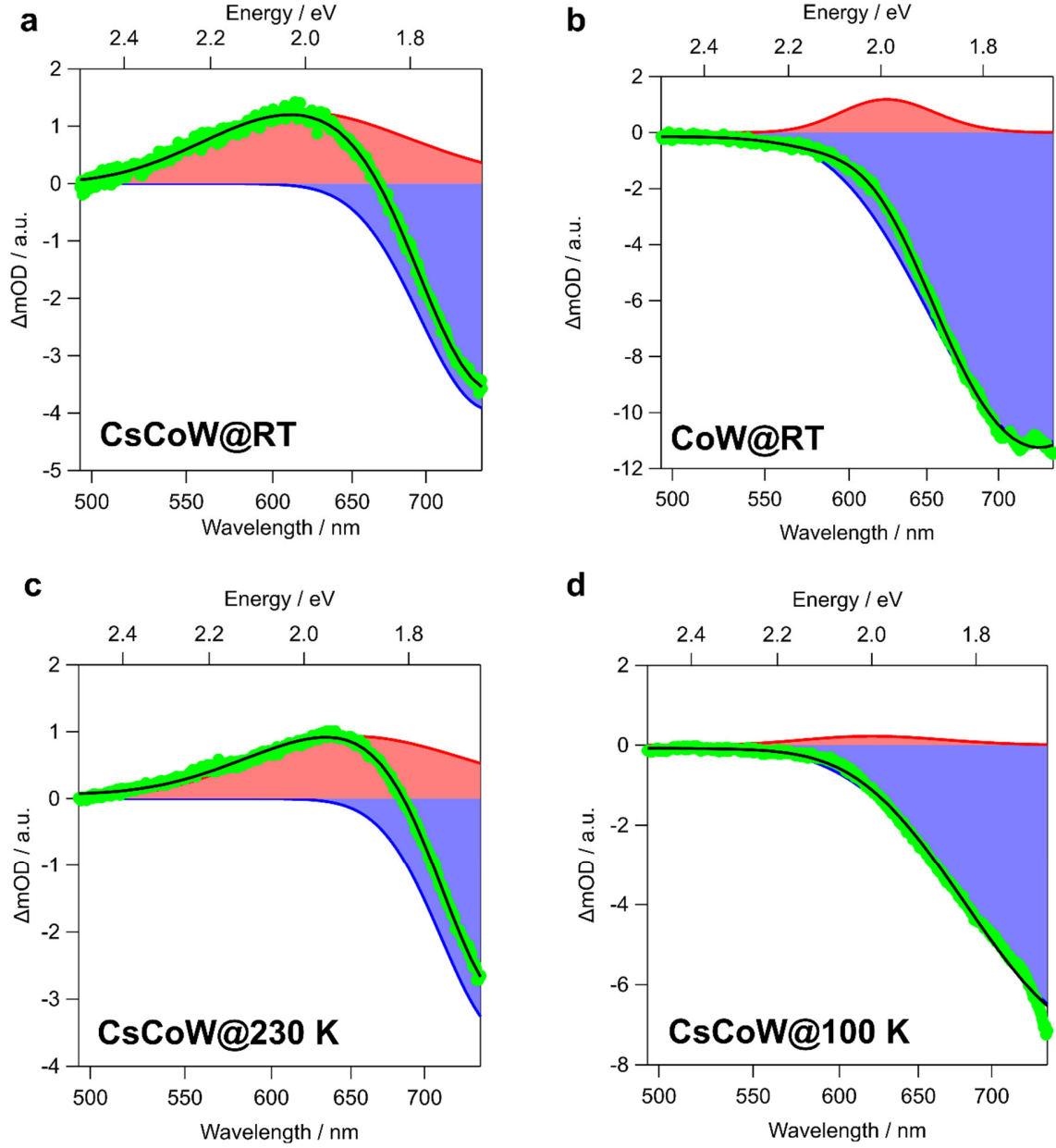
**Supplementary Fig. 13. Time-resolved optical spectroscopy in ps timescale. a, b** Photoinduced spectral change of CsCoW for four different delays at RT, and 230 K. **c, d** Transient dynamics at 580 nm ( $\pm 20$  nm) of CsCoW at RT c and 230 K, respectively. The measured dataset are in gray dot, whereas the red and blue lines indicate fitting of the population and relaxation, respectively.

### Supplementary Note 9: Gaussian fitting for spectral trace

The Gaussian fitting for CsCoW and CoW at 1.5 ps and 100 ps was conducted with two Gaussian functions to confirm the existence of the PI state, which is similar to the HT state.



**Supplementary Fig. 14. Spectral trace at 1.5 ps ( $\pm 0.1$  ps) with Gaussian fitting. a** CsCoW at RT. **b** CoW at RT. **c** CsCoW at 230 K. **d** CsCoW at 100 K. Green, black, red, and blue lines indicate the experimental data, fitting result, and Gaussian of the HT and LT state in the fit, respectively.



**Supplementary Fig. S15. Spectral trace at 100 ps ( $\pm 10$  ps) with Gaussian fitting.** **a** CsCoW at RT. **b** CoW at RT. **c** CsCoW at 230 K. **d** CsCoW at 100 K. Green, black, red, and blue lines indicate the experimental data, fitting result, and Gaussian of the HT and LT state in the fit, respectively.

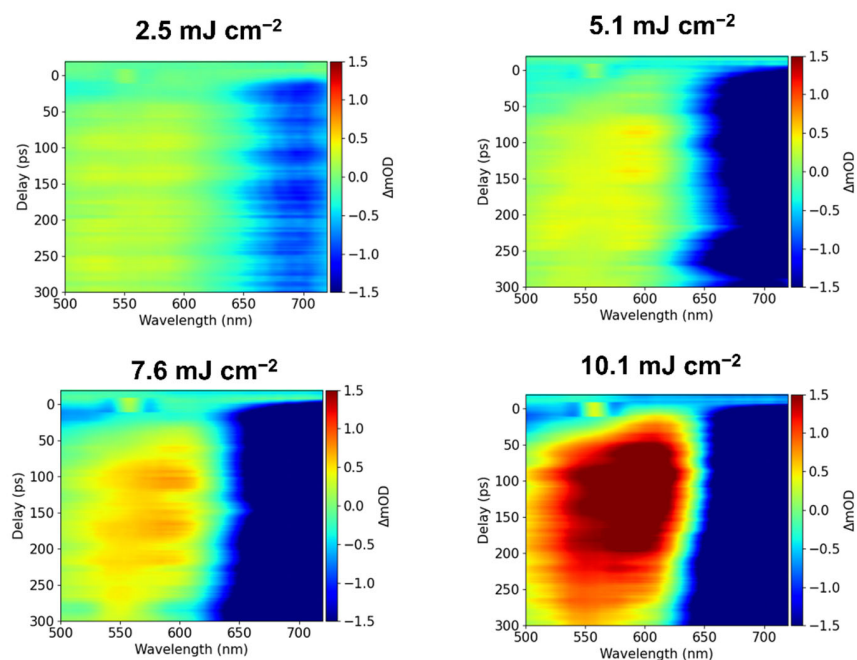
**Supplementary Table 4. Fitting parameters of two Gaussian functions in Supplementary Fig. 14.**

1.5 ps	sample	CsCoW			CoW
	Temperature	RT	230 K	100 K	RT
LT state	Position (eV)	1.67	1.65	1.60	1.60
	Height	-2.90	-1.78	-4.72	-7.69
	FWHM	0.19	0.17	0.36	0.37
PI state (HT state)	Position (eV)	2.00	1.93	1.85	2.05
	Height	0.74	0.48	0.10	0.15
	FWHM	0.25	0.25	0.20	0.33

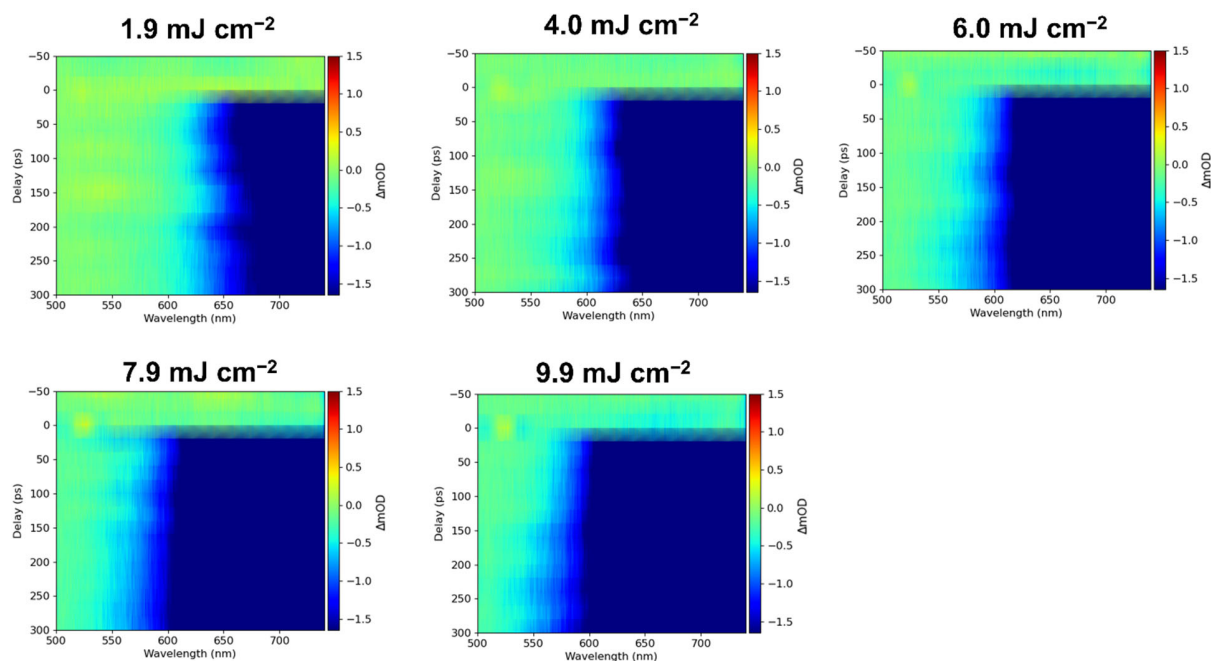
**Supplementary Table 5. Fitting parameters of two Gaussian functions in Supplementary Fig. 15.**

100 ps	sample	CsCoW			CoW
	Temperature	RT	230 K	100 K	RT
LT state	Position (eV)	1.66	1.63	1.57	1.70
	Height	-3.94	-3.56	-7.18	-11.1
	FWHM	0.28	0.26	0.54	0.46
PI state (HT state)	Position (eV)	2.00	1.90	2.00	1.99
	Height	1.25	0.93	0.23	1.19
	FWHM	0.49	0.50	0.33	0.23

## Supplementary Note 10: Fluence dependence at RT



Supplementary Fig. 16. Delay vs wavelength vs  $\Delta mOD$  maps with different fluences for CsCoW at RT.



Supplementary Fig. 17. Delay vs wavelength vs  $\Delta mOD$  maps with different fluences for CoW at RT.