

Supplementary Information

**Exploiting Directional Long Range Secondary Forces for Regulating
Electrostatics Dominated Noncovalent Interactions**

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Table S1. Electrostatic Forces along the lines making angles 0°, 30°, 60°, 90°, up to 360° from the line connecting center of geometries of frontier atoms of hydrogen bonding partners for a sample set of 16 representative complexes of the planar hydrogen bond family

		0°	30°	60°	90°	120°	150°	180°	210°	240°	270°	300°	330°	360°
X-1	a	-163.4	-122.2	-48.3	38.6	115.1	160.8	163.4	122.2	48.3	-38.6	-115.1	-160.8	-163.4
	b	-451.8	-354.8	-162.8	72.9	289.0	427.7	451.8	354.8	162.8	-72.9	-289.0	-427.7	-451.8
	c	-101.3	-77.8	-33.5	19.8	67.8	97.6	101.3	77.8	33.5	-19.8	-67.8	-97.6	-101.3
X-2	a	-280.2	-207.8	-79.8	69.6	200.4	277.5	280.2	207.8	79.8	-69.6	-200.4	-277.5	-280.2
	b	-634.9	-524.8	-274.2	49.9	360.7	574.8	634.9	524.8	274.2	-49.9	-360.7	-574.8	-634.9
	c	-152.7	-120.1	-55.3	24.3	97.4	144.4	152.7	120.1	55.3	-24.3	-97.4	-144.4	-152.7
X-3	a	-253.6	-190.0	-75.6	59.1	178.0	249.1	253.6	190.0	75.6	-59.1	-178.0	-249.1	-253.6
	b	-541.1	-436.2	-241.5	17.9	272.5	454.1	514.1	436.2	241.5	-17.9	-272.5	-454.1	-514.1
	c	-133.8	-106.6	-51.1	18.2	82.7	125.0	133.8	106.6	51.1	-18.2	-82.7	-125.0	-133.8
X-4	a	-135.1	-96.6	-32.3	40.7	102.8	137.4	135.1	96.6	32.3	-40.7	-102.8	-137.4	-135.1
	b	-609.9	-447.7	-165.6	160.9	444.3	608.7	609.9	447.7	165.6	-160.9	-444.3	-608.7	-609.9
	c	-81.8	-59.7	-21.6	22.3	60.2	82.0	81.8	59.7	21.6	-22.3	-60.2	-82.0	-81.8
X-5	a	-326.4	-242.7	-93.9	80.0	232.5	322.7	326.4	242.7	93.9	-80.0	-232.5	-322.7	-326.4
	b	-667.5	-562.9	-307.6	30.2	359.9	593.1	667.5	562.9	307.6	-30.2	-359.9	-593.1	-667.5
	c	-161.8	-130.8	-64.8	18.6	97.1	149.5	161.8	130.8	64.8	-18.6	-97.1	-149.5	-161.8
X-6	a	-202.8	-148.4	-54.3	54.4	148.5	202.8	202.8	148.4	54.3	-54.4	-148.5	-202.8	-202.8
	b	-487.3	-409.9	-222.7	24.3	264.7	434.2	487.3	409.9	222.7	-24.3	-264.7	-434.2	-487.3
	c	-117.0	-93.1	-44.2	16.5	72.8	109.6	117.0	93.1	44.2	-16.5	-72.8	-109.6	-117.0
X-7	a	-267.0	-195.1	-71.0	72.2	196.0	267.3	267.0	195.1	71.0	-72.2	-196.0	-267.3	-267.0
	b	-568.4	-484.9	-271.5	14.7	296.9	499.6	568.4	484.9	271.5	-14.7	-296.9	-499.6	-568.4
	c	-151.3	-120.1	-56.7	21.9	94.7	142.0	151.3	120.1	56.7	-21.9	-94.7	-142.0	-151.3
X-8	a	-450.8	-333.7	-127.2	113.4	323.6	447.1	450.8	333.7	127.2	-113.4	-323.6	-447.1	-450.8
	b	-812.1	-680.5	-366.6	45.6	445.5	726.1	812.1	680.5	366.6	-45.6	-445.5	-726.1	-812.1
	c	-245.9	-193.6	-89.3	38.8	156.6	232.4	245.9	193.6	89.3	-38.8	-156.6	-232.4	-245.9
X-9	a	-75.8	-51.6	-13.5	28.2	62.3	79.7	75.8	51.6	13.5	-28.2	-62.3	-79.7	-75.8
	b	-321.0	-256.2	-122.7	43.7	198.3	299.8	321.0	256.2	122.7	-43.7	-198.3	-299.8	-321.0
	c	-66.1	-51.1	-22.4	12.3	43.7	63.4	66.1	51.1	22.4	-12.3	-43.7	-63.4	-66.1
X-10	a	-95.5	-58.4	-5.7	48.5	89.8	107.0	95.5	58.4	5.7	-48.5	-89.8	-107.0	-95.5
	b	-307.7	-262.0	-146.1	9.0	161.7	271.0	307.7	262.0	146.1	-9.0	-161.7	-271.0	-307.7
	c	-89.3	-70.7	-33.1	13.3	56.2	84.0	89.3	70.7	33.1	-13.3	-56.2	-84.0	-89.3
X-11	a	-521.1	-399.3	-170.6	103.9	350.5	503.2	521.1	399.3	170.6	-103.9	-350.5	-503.2	-521.1
	b	-	-931.5	-440.1	169.2	733.2	1100.7	1173.3	931.5	440.1	-169.2	-733.2	-	-
	c	1173.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1100.7	1173.3
X-12	a	-241.0	-190.4	-88.7	36.7	152.3	227.1	241.0	190.4	88.7	-36.7	-152.3	-227.1	-241.0
	b	-273.3	-212.8	-96.2	46.1	176.0	258.8	272.3	212.8	96.2	-46.1	-176.0	-258.8	-273.3
	c	-869.5	-684.0	-315.2	138.1	554.3	822.0	869.5	684.0	315.2	-138.1	-554.3	-822.0	-869.5
X-13	a	-163.2	-129.9	-61.8	22.9	101.4	152.8	163.2	129.9	61.8	-22.9	-101.4	-152.8	-163.2
	b	-301.8	-208.6	-59.5	105.5	242.2	314.1	301.8	208.6	59.5	-105.5	-242.2	-314.1	-301.8
	c	-674.3	-455.8	-115.1	256.4	559.2	712.2	674.3	455.8	115.1	-256.4	-559.2	-712.2	-674.3
X-14	a	-160.0	-107.8	-26.8	61.5	133.2	169.3	160.0	107.8	26.8	-61.5	-133.2	-169.3	-160.0
	b	-167.9	-135.3	-66.4	20.3	101.6	155.6	167.9	135.3	66.4	-20.3	-101.6	-155.6	-167.9
	c	-680.4	-547.3	-267.6	83.9	412.8	631.2	680.4	547.3	267.6	-83.9	-412.8	-631.2	-680.4
X-15	a	-164.7	-139.6	-77.0	6.1	87.7	145.7	164.7	139.6	77.0	-6.1	-87.7	-145.7	-164.7
	b	-243.8	-185.2	-77.0	51.8	166.8	237.0	243.8	185.2	77.0	-51.8	-166.8	-237.0	-243.8
	c	-846.0	-670.8	-315.8	123.8	530.3	794.6	846.0	670.8	315.8	-123.8	-530.3	-794.6	-846.0
X-	a	-166.2	-126.8	-53.4	34.3	112.8	161.1	166.2	126.8	53.4	-34.3	-112.8	-161.1	-166.2
	b	-105.0	-74.5	-24.0	32.9	81.0	107.4	105.0	74.5	24.0	-32.9	-81.0	-107.4	-105.0

16	b	-621.9	-459.1	-173.4	158.9	448.5	618.0	621.9	459.1	173.4	-158.9	-448.5	-618.0	-621.9
	c	-108.0	-78.5	-28.1	29.9	79.9	108.5	108.0	78.5	28.1	-29.9	-79.9	-108.5	-108.0

a = computed electrostatic force using Mulliken Charges; b = computed electrostatic force using NBO Charges; c = computed electrostatic force using Lowdin Charges; All forces are in pN; Please see the Figure S3 below for the optimized geometry of X-1 to X-16.

Table S2. Binding Energies and Electrostatic Forces for planar hydrogen bonded complexes optimized at the COSMO (CHCl₃)/PBE/TZVP level of theory using Turbomole 6.4.

Planar hydrogen bonded complex	Binding Energy	EF (with Mulliken Charges analysis)	EF (with NBO Charges analysis)
X-1	-15.4	-163.4	-451.8
X-2	-29.2	-280.2	-634.9
X-3	-19.3	-253.6	-514.1
X-4	-14.9	-135.1	-609.9
X-5	-29.4	-326.4	-667.5
X-6	-18.0	-202.8	-487.3
X-7	-22.3	-267.0	-568.4
X-8	-42.9	-450.8	-812.1
X-9	-14.3	-75.8	-321.0
X-10	-17.3	-167.6	-307.7
X-11	-43.4	-521.1	-1173.3
X-12	-26.4	-272.3	-869.5
X-13	-33.9	-301.8	-674.3
X-14	-20.7	-167.9	-680.4
X-15	-30.9	-243.8	-846.0
X-16	-20.6	-105.0	-621.9

EF=Electrostatic Force

All forces are in pN

All energies are in kcal/mol.

Please see the Figure S3 below for the optimized geometry of X-1 to X-16.

Table S3. Binding Energies and Electrostatic Forces for planar hydrogen bonded complexes optimized at the CPCM(CHCl₃)/M06-2X/6-31G level of theory using Gaussian 09.**

Planar hydrogen bonded complex	Binding Energy	EF (with Mulliken Charges analysis)	EF (with NBO Charges analysis)
Y-1	-15.8	-183.1	-468.1
Y-2	-28.3	-418.3	-689.8
Y-3	-19.3	-154.1	-242.4
Y-4	-16.0	-338.4	-489.7
Y-5	-28.3	-360.3	-648.5
Y-6	-20.0	-272.8	-526.9
Y-7	-23.6	-297.2	-415.1
Y-8	-17.3	-125.8	-391.4
Y-9	-41.1	-801.4	-1283.8
Y-10	-28.3	-446.1	-889.2
Y-11	-28.3	-575.7	-635.0
Y-12	-30.2	-555.2	-1021.6
Y-13	-18.7	-315.1	-613.8
Y-14	-28.0	-598.4	-1111.4
Y-15	-20.3	-387.9	-699.0
Y-16	-18.0	-165.7	-614.4

EF=Electrostatic Force

All forces are in pN

All energies are in kcal/mol.

Please see Figure S4 below for the optimized geometries of Y-1 to Y-16.

Table S4. Binding Energy, Interaction Energy and Electrostatic Forces for Nitrogenous Base Complexes optimized at the COSMO(CHCl₃)/PBE/TZVP level of theory using Turbomole 6.4.

Molecule Name	Binding Energy	Interaction Energy	EF (with Mulliken Charges analysis)	EF (with NBO Charges analysis)
AA1	-11.8	-13.1	-297.2	-275.5
AA2	-11.3	-12.5	-154.5	-451.8
AA3	-10.0	-11.0	-17.2	-471.1
AC1	-13.0	-14.4	-360.2	-448.8
AC2	-12.7	-14.0	-230.4	-608.4
AT (H)	-11.6	-14.4	-270.3	-772.0
AT (RH)	-12.5	-14.0	-289.9	-733.8
AT (RWC)	-11.1	-14.1	-330.7	-520.0
AT (WC)	-12.7	-14.6	-408.8	-554.5
CC	-14.9	-16.6	-409.0	-607.4
GA1	-14.0	-15.7	-381.3	-702.2
GA2	-10.1	-11.4	-146.9	-424.6
GA3	-13.4	-15.0	-244.7	-716.4
GA4	-11.2	-12.6	-266.1	-340.7
GC	-21.5	-23.8	-577.0	-1110.0
GC1	-12.0	-12.7	-316.7	-823.1
GC2	-12.6	-14.1	-335.2	-374.4
GG1	-18.3	-20.7	-535.3	-1620.0
GG3	-15.2	-16.1	-304.3	-707.7
GG4	-9.7	-10.9	-227.2	-315.5
GT1	-13.2	-14.9	-412.7	-608.4
GT2	-11.1	-13.7	-343.8	-462.7
TC1	-9.6	-11.1	-272.6	-340.7
TC2	-8.9	-10.2	-239.0	-351.4
TT1	-8.7	-11.0	-309.1	-438.6
TT2	-10.4	-11.8	-343.1	-455.6
TT3	-8.2	-10.4	-255.8	-370.8
U-DAP	-14.6	-17.1	-440.1	-884.0

EF=Electrostatic Force

All forces are in pN

All energies are in kcal/mol.

Representation of molecular complexes has been taken from the Popelier's paper cited into the manuscript. The optimized geometries are provided into Figure S8 below.

Table S5. Binding Energies and Electrostatic Forces for contact ion-pairs at the COSMO(CHCl₃)/PBE/TZVP level of theory using Turbomole 6.4.

Anion	Binding Energy	EF (with Mulliken Charges analysis)	EF (with NBO Charges analysis)
Z-1	-35.1	-300.5	-400.0
Z-2	-35.2	-215.1	-242.4
Z-3	-56.9	-393.4	-510.8
Z-4	-51.3	-288.3	-332.2
Z-8	-56.8	-500.9	-975.2
Z-6	-34	-220.0	-268.7
Z-4	-30.8	-140.4	-201.0
Z-5	-30.7	-94.1	-185.7

EF=Electrostatic Force

All forces are in pN

All energies are in kcal/mol.

Please see the Figure S5 below for the optimized geometries of **Z-1** to **Z-8**.

Table S6. Binding Energies and Electrostatic Forces for hypothetical newly designed cationic AAAA-DDDD complexes obtained at the COSMO(CHCl₃)/PBE/TZVP level of theory using Turbomole 6.4.

Designed planar AAAA-DDDD cationic complex	Binding Energy	EF (with Mulliken Charges analysis)	EF (with NBO Charges analysis)
A-1	-49.6	-675.119	-1501.921
A-2	-49.2	-802.126	-1535.602
A-3	-55.7	-828.445	-1868.424
A-4	-60.2	-1264.118	-2202.395
B-1	-50.2	-641.838	-1313.852
B-2	-50.8	-524.964	-1127.156
C	-69.6	-1411.299	-2795.471

EF=Electrostatic Force

All forces are in pN

All energies are in kcal/mol.

Please refer Figures S9, S11 and S12 below to see the optimized geometries **A-1** to **C**.

Table S7. Binding Energies for hypothetical newly designed planer hydrogen bonded complexes obtained at the COSMO(CHCl₃)/PBE/TZVP level of theory using Turbomole 6.4.

Designed planar AAAA-DDDD cationic complex	Binding Energy	ΔE^a
D-1	-17.3	1.9
D-2	-37.2	8.0
D-3	-23.8	4.5
D-4	-45.2	11.3

a= increase in binding strength, which was compared with respect to the corresponding synthesized parental complexes wherefrom they are derived.

All energies are in kcal/mol.

Please refer Figure S13 below to for the structures of **D-1** to **D-4**.

Table S8. Binding Energies for hypothetical newly designed planer hydrogen bonded complexes obtained at the COSMO/PBE/TZVP level of theory using Turbomole 6.4.

Designed planar AAAA-DDDD cationic complex	Binding Energy	ΔE^a
E-1	-47.3	3.9
E-2	-45.9	2.5
E-3	-46.4	3.0
E-4	-45.3	1.9

a= increase in binding strength, which was compared with respect to the corresponding synthesized parental complexes wherefrom they are derived.

All energies are in kcal/mol.

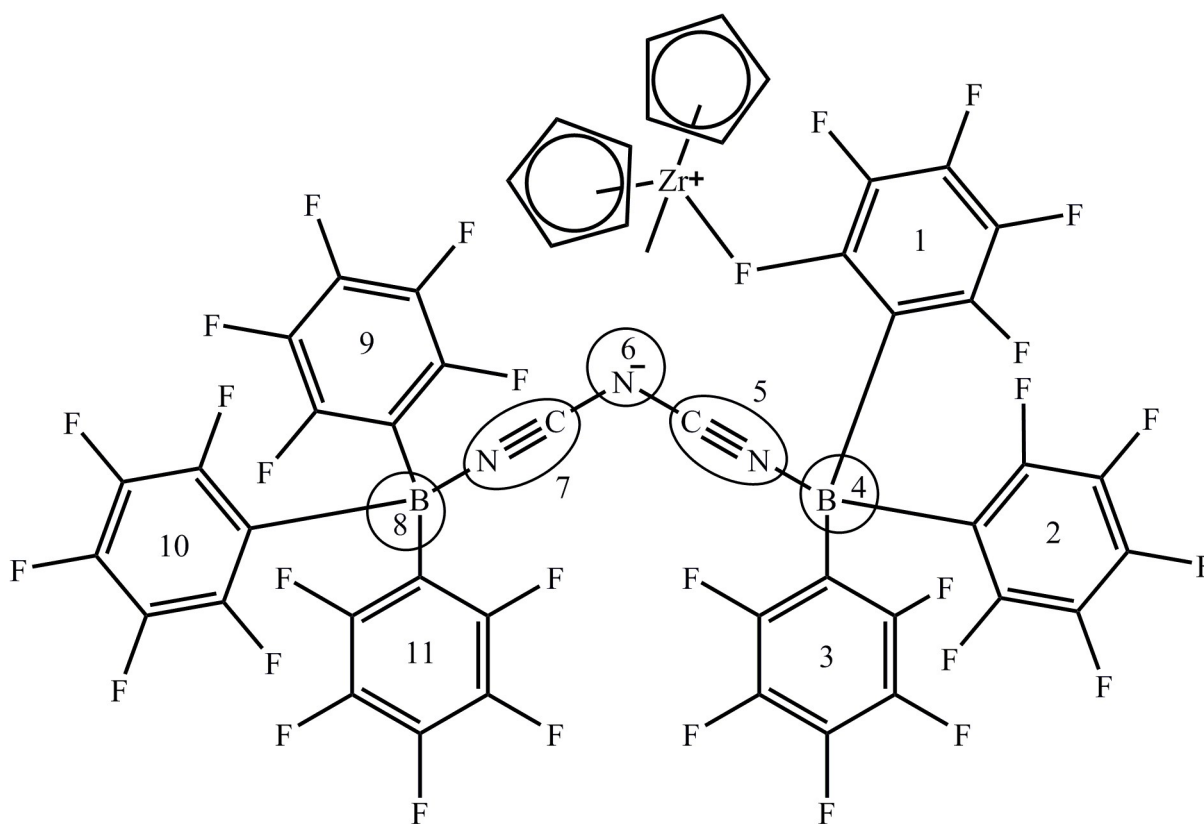
Please refer Figure S14 below for the structures of **E-1** to **E-4**.

Table S9. Electrostatic Forces analysis for zirconocene complex with best Bochmann's anion on Mulliken charge analysis for the geometry obtained at the COSMO/PBE/TZVP level of theory using Turbomole 6.4.

Region	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Force	-90.5	-2.1	-9.6	22.6	38.4	-56.4	31.5	6.0	-6.9	-14.9	-12.2

All the Forces are in pN.

Please see the following attached structure to refer the corresponding regions of the molecule.



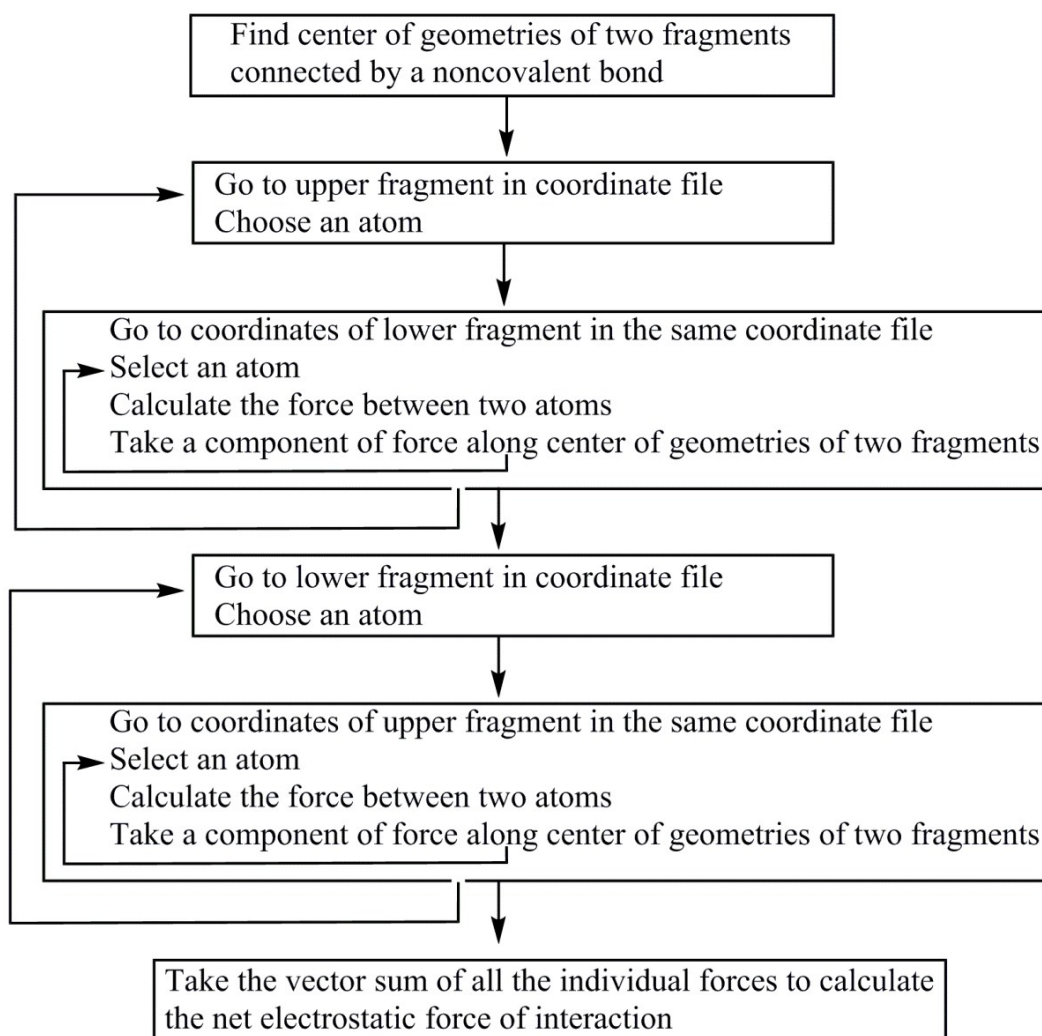


Figure S1. Flow chart of the Fortran 90 code used for calculating net force between two partners in hydrogen bonded complexes.

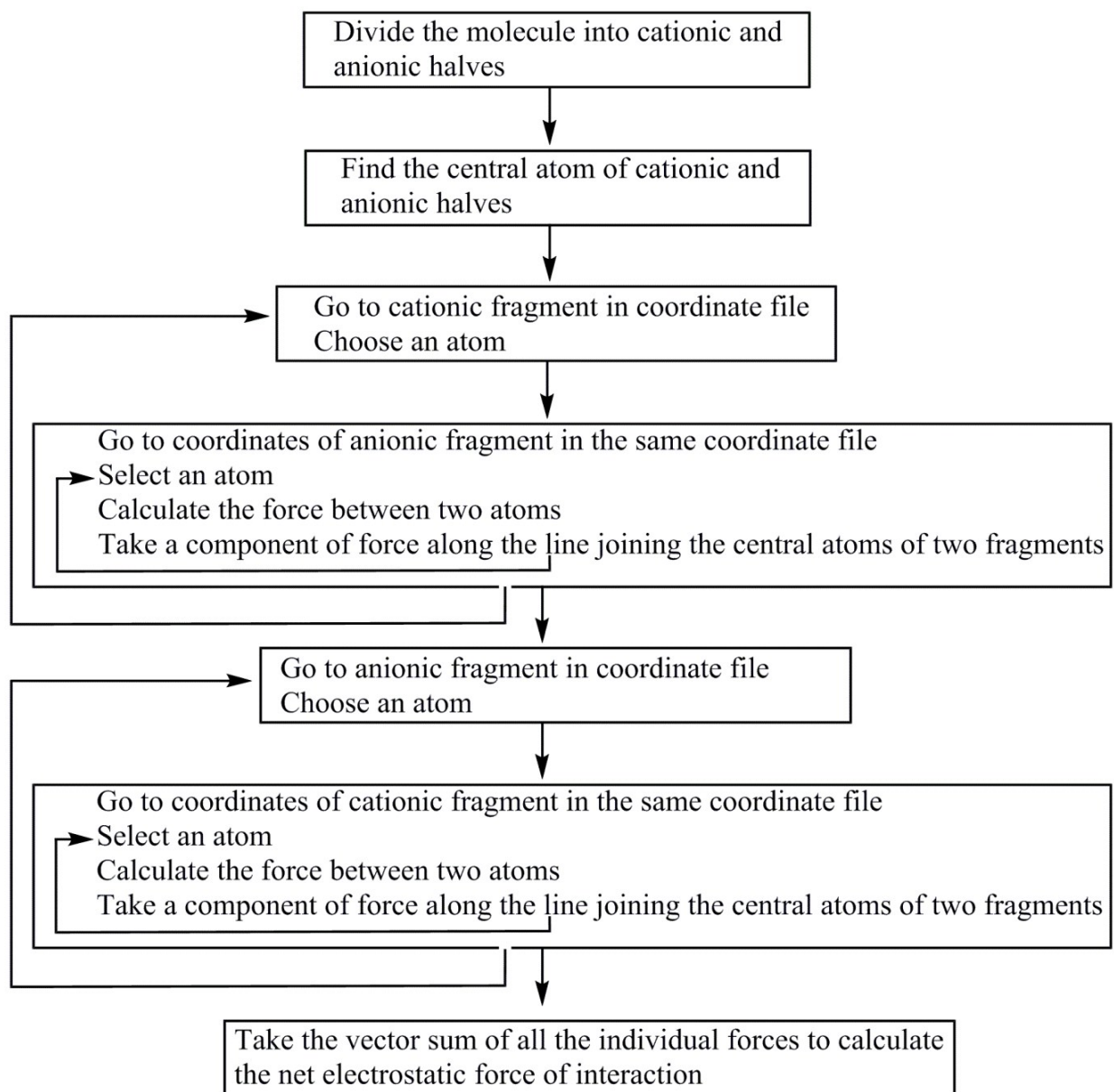
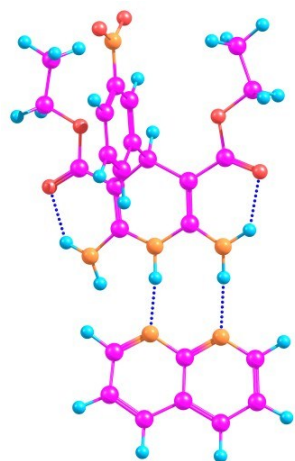
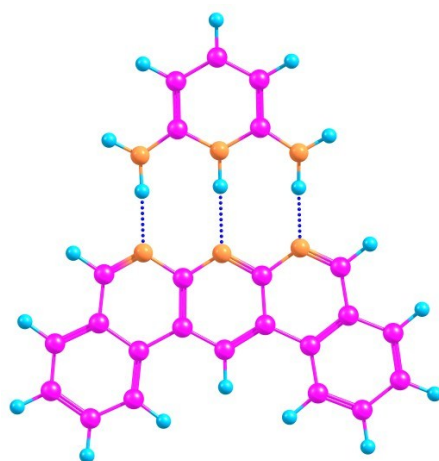


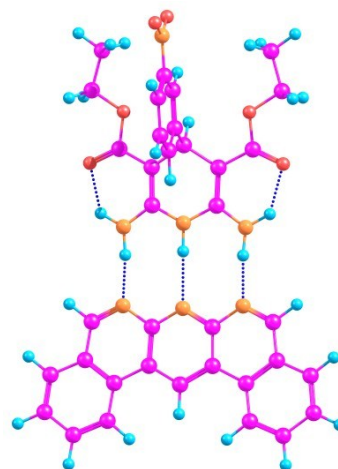
Figure S2. Flow chart of the Fortran 90 code used for calculating net force between two partners in Contact ion-pairs case.



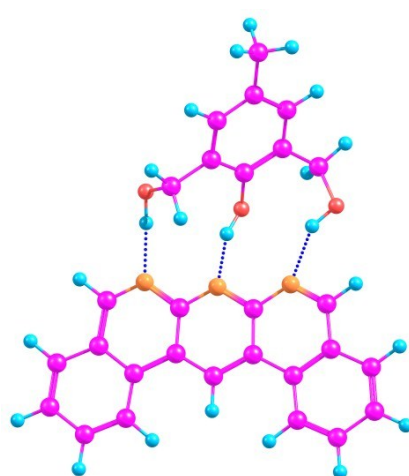
X-1



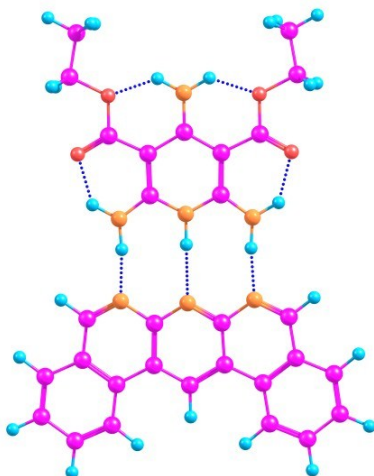
X-2



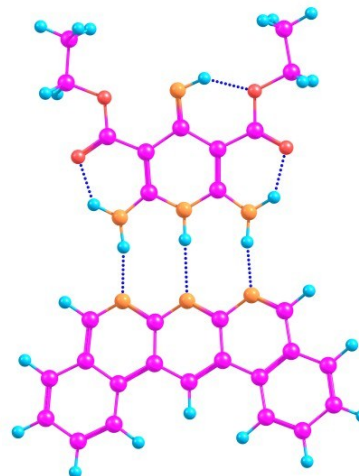
X-3



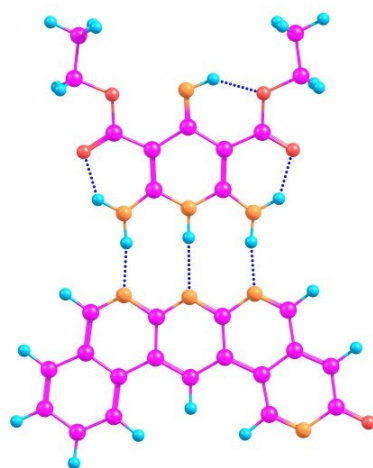
X-4



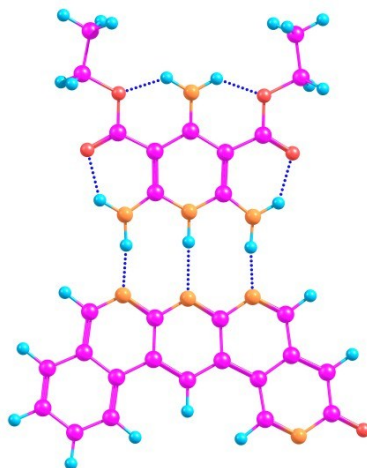
X-5



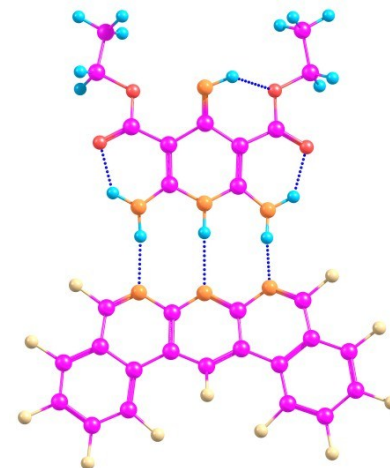
X-6



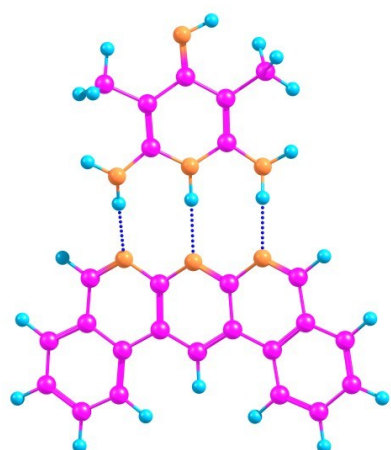
X-7



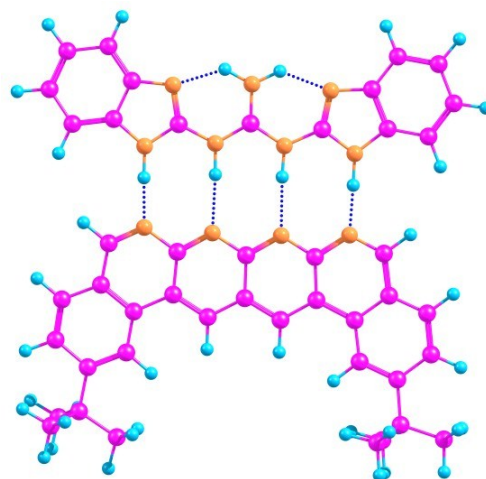
X-8



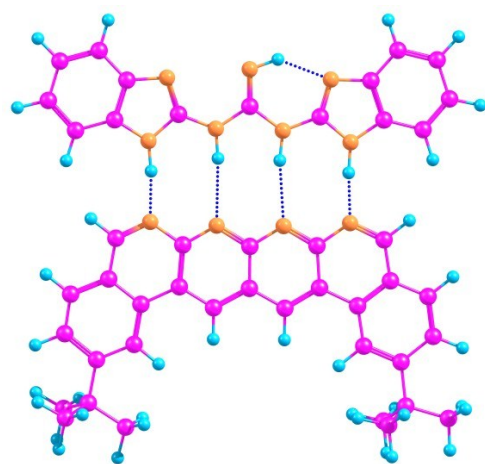
X-9 (continued)



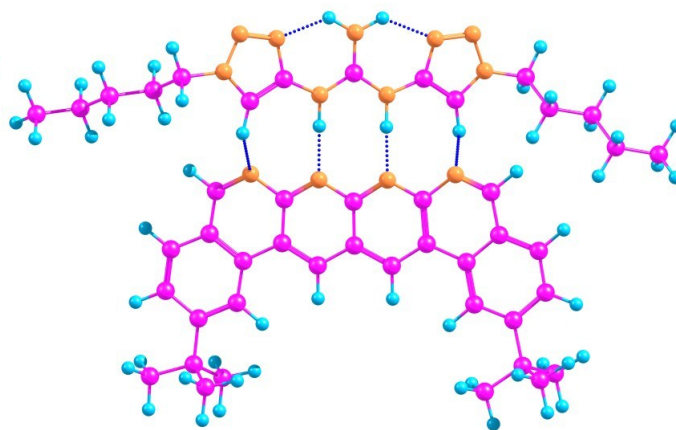
X-10



X-11

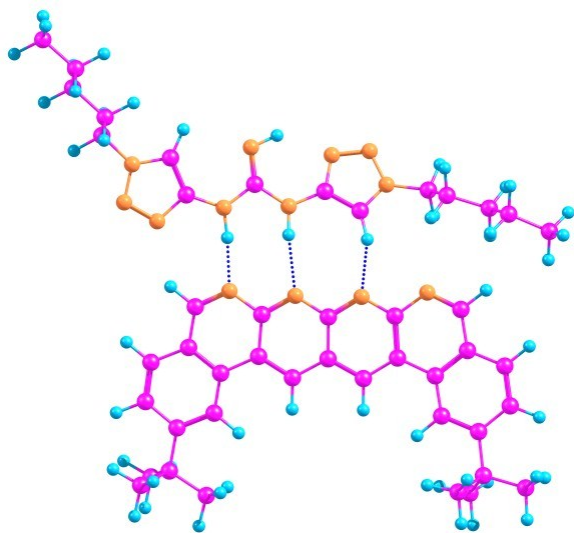


X-12

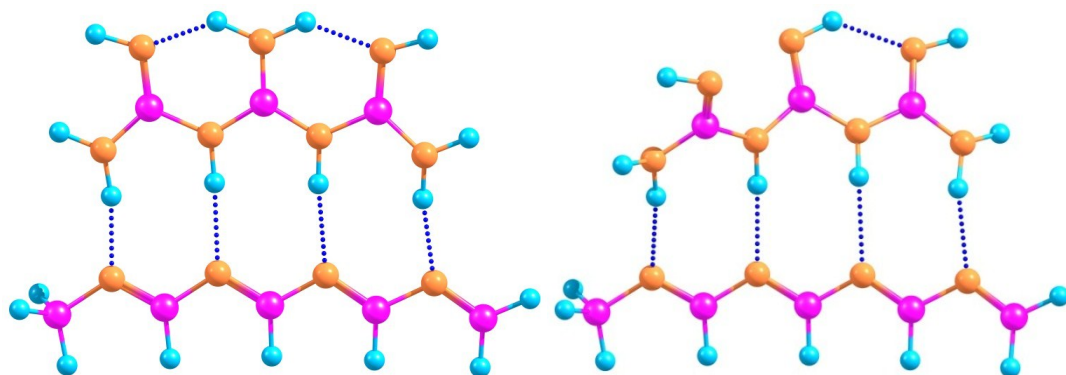


X-13

(Figure continued)



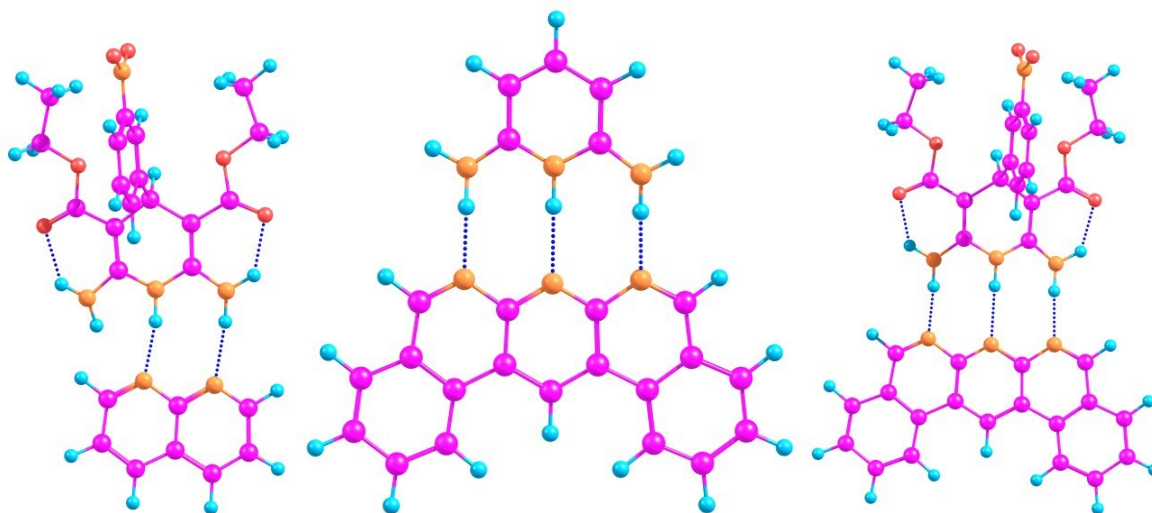
X-14



X-15

X-16

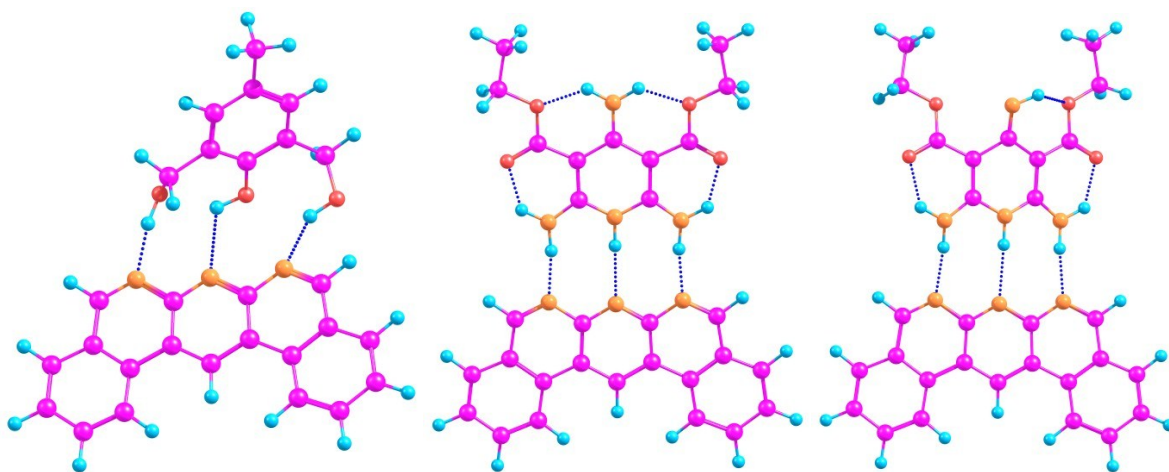
Figure S3. The optimized geometries of planar hydrogen bonded complexes at the COSMO(CHCl_3)/PBE/TZVP level of theory. Pink, cyan, brown and white colors represent carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen and fluorine atoms respectively, whereas, dotted blue lines represent hydrogen bonds. **X-5** to **X-10**, **X-15** and **X-16** are optimized geometries of modeled complexes that are obtained after modification on non-frontier region of corresponding Leigh's complexes.



Y-1

Y-2

Y-3

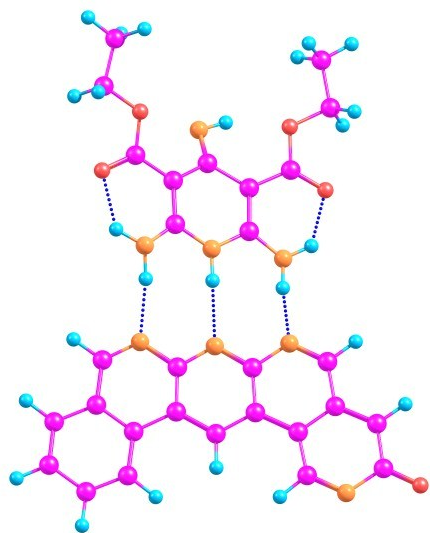


Y-4

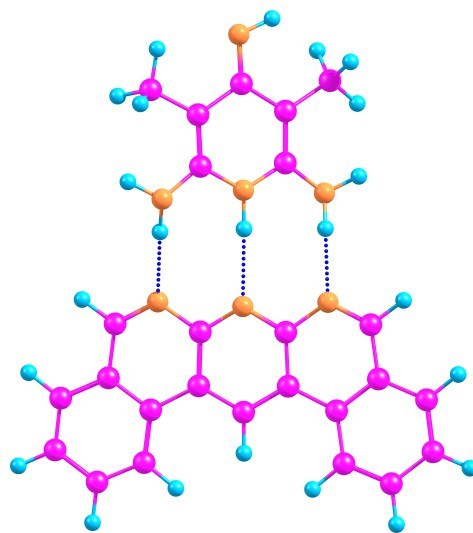
Y-5

Y-6

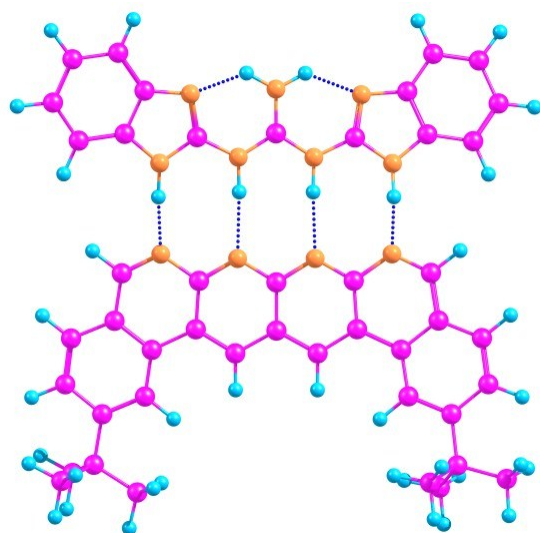
(Figure Continued)



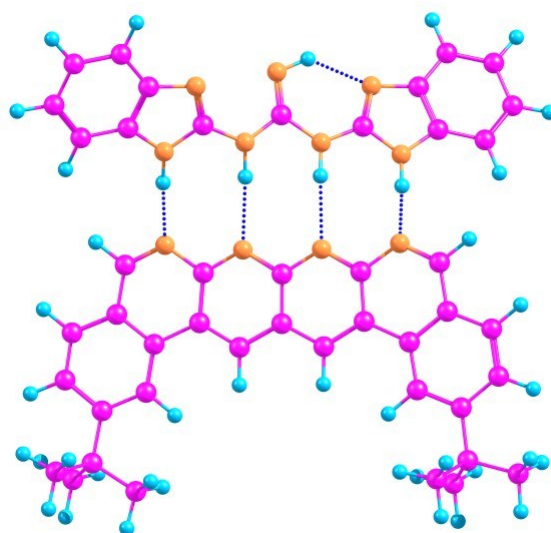
Y-7



Y-8

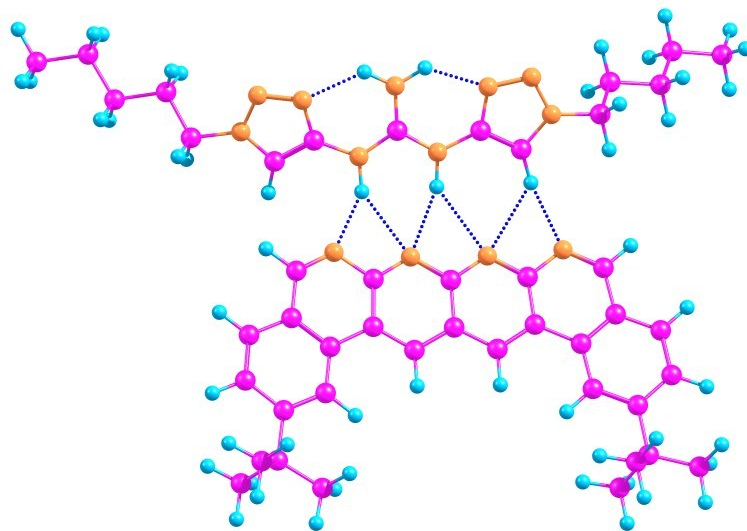


Y-9

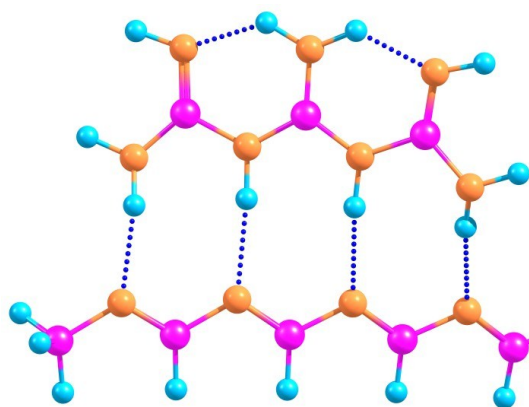


Y-10

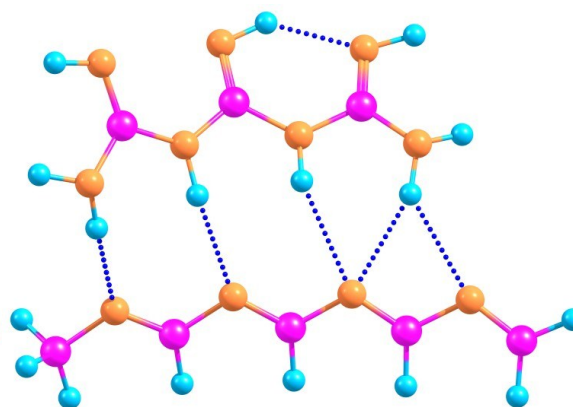
(Figure Continued)



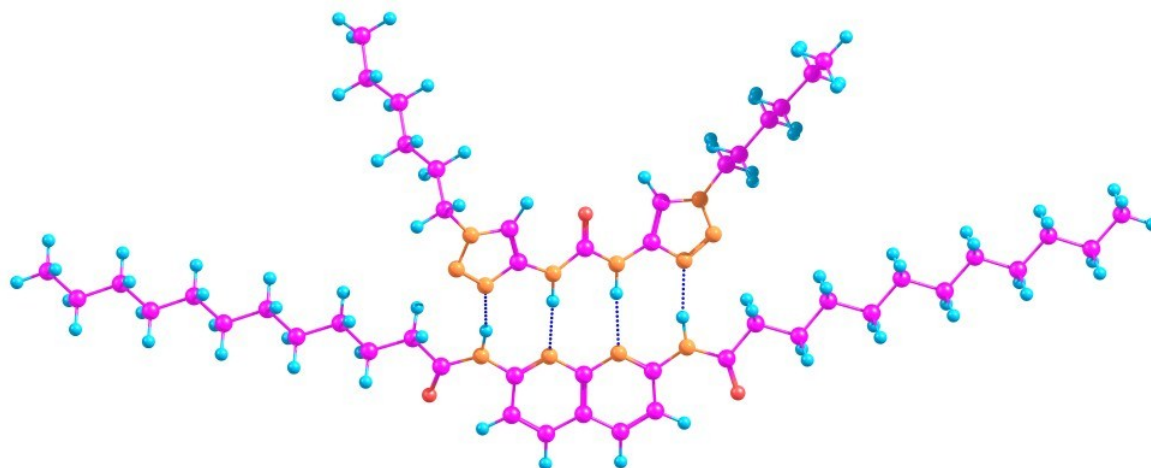
Y-11



Y-12



Y-13



Y-14 (Figure continued)

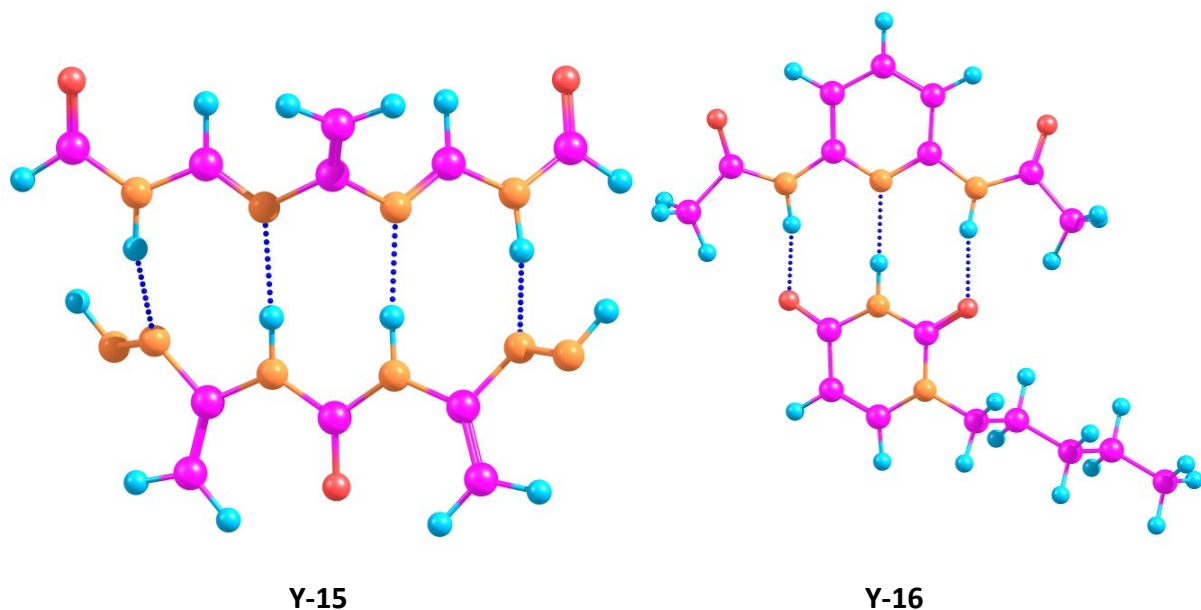
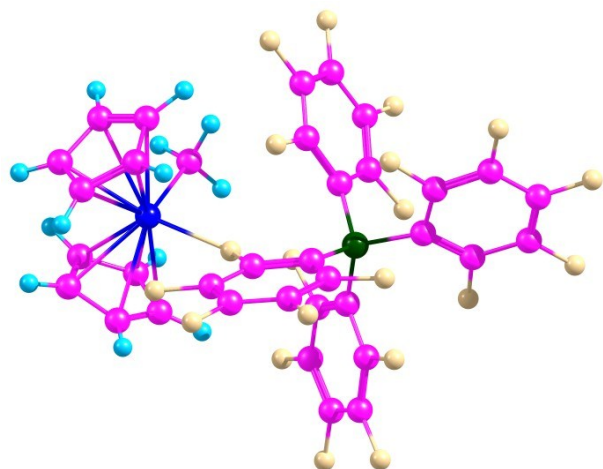
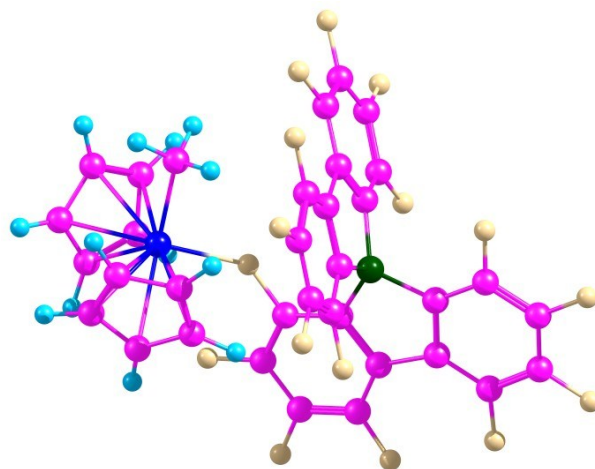


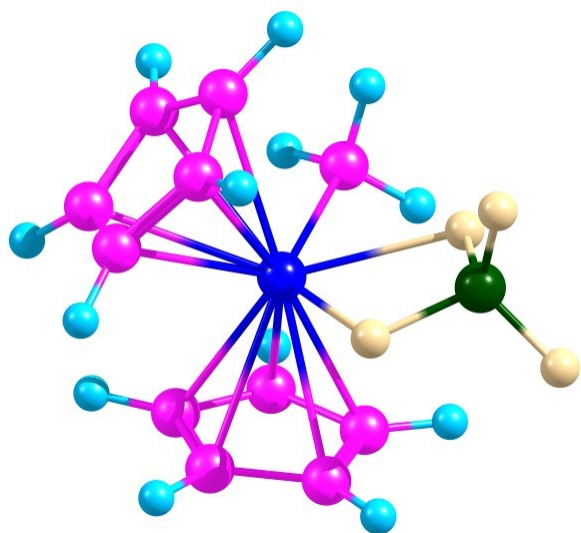
Figure S4. The optimized geometries of planar hydrogen bonded complexes at the CPCM(CHCl_3)/M06-2X/6-31G** level of theory. Pink, cyan, brown and white colors represent carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen and fluorine atoms respectively, whereas, dotted blue lines represent hydrogen bonds. **Y-5** and **Y-12** to **Y-14** are optimized geometries of modeled complexes that are obtained after modification on non-frontier region of corresponding Leigh's or Yosuke complexes.



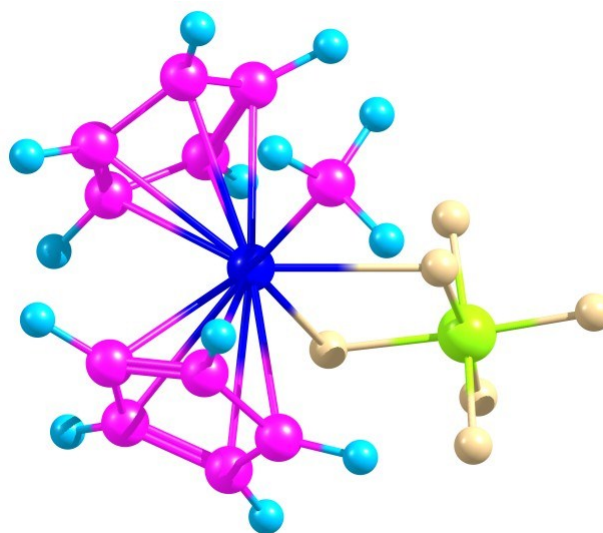
Z-1



Z-2



Z-3



Z-4

(Figure Continued)

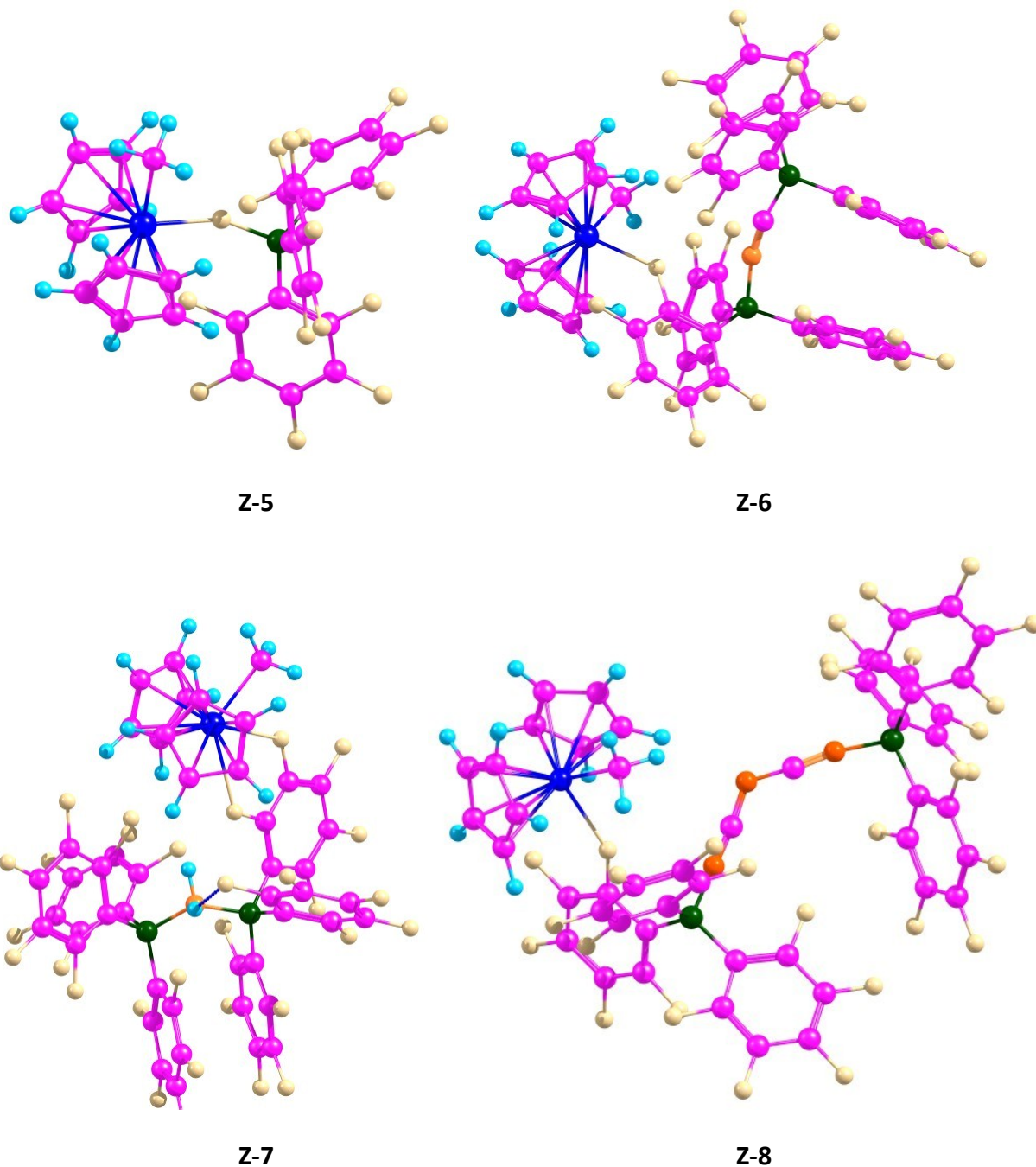


Figure S5. The optimized geometries of ion-pair complexes at the COSMO(CHCl_3)/PBE/TZVP level of theory using Turbomole 6.4. Pink, cyan, brown, green, blue, lime and white colors represent carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, boron, zirconium, phosphorous and fluorine atoms respectively, whereas, dotted blue lines represent hydrogen bonds.

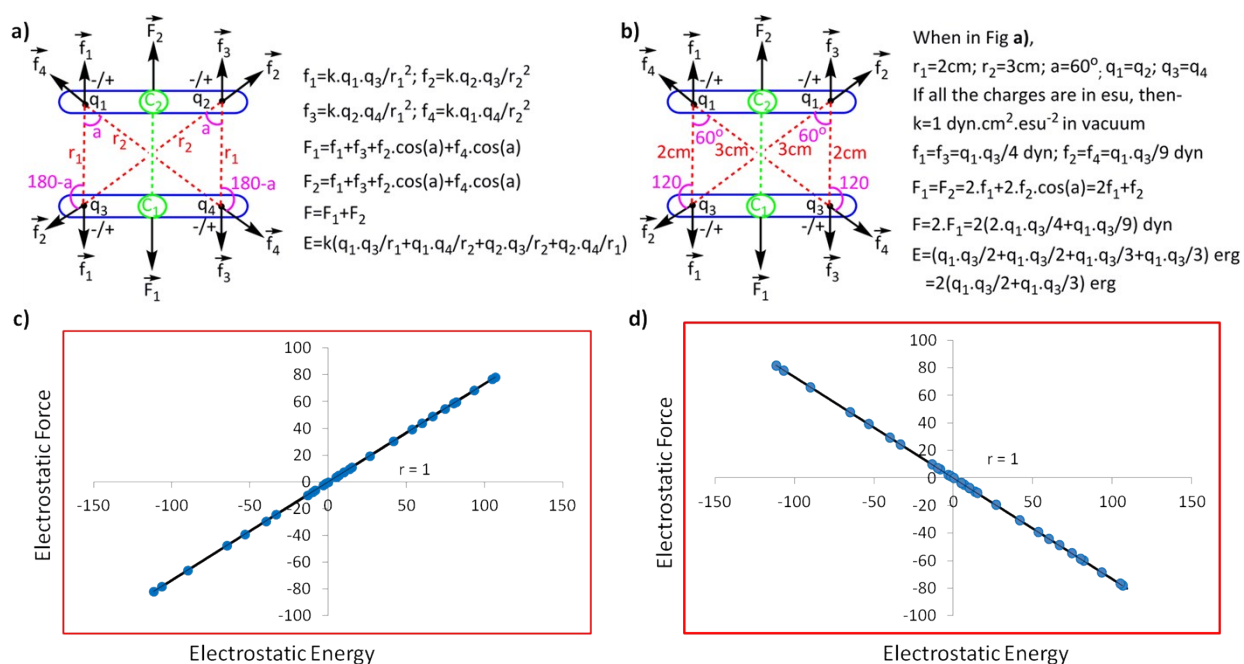


Figure S6. a) A simple model representing the electrostatic interaction between the two partners, each made up of two point charges of the same nature, in a two dimensional plane. f_1 , f_2 , f_3 , f_4 represent the magnitude of forces experienced by the corresponding charged particles due to the charges on the other partner. C_1 and C_2 are the center of geometries of the two particles on the respective partners. The line joining C_1 and C_2 is the line of direction. F_1 and F_2 are the magnitude of forces experienced by the respective partners. F is the magnitude of the force of interaction between two partners. E is the electrostatic energy of interaction. b) A further simplified model when magnitude and nature of both the charges on each fragment are the same. c) The Pearson correlation graph between the electrostatic force of interaction along the direction of approach of the two partners and the electrostatic energy of interaction under the conditions described in b) for a set of 30 different values of q_1 and q_2 . The forces are in dyn and the energies are in erg. d) The Pearson correlation graph between the electrostatic force of interaction along the direction opposite to the direction of approach of the two partners and the electrostatic energy of interaction under the conditions described in b) for the same set of 30 different values of q_1 and q_2 .

The values of the force and the energies obtained for different values of q_1 and q_2 are provided below:

q1	q3	E	F (at 0°)	F (at 180°)
3	-18	-90.0	-66.0	66.0
2	-4	-13.3	-9.8	9.8
3	-13	-65.0	-47.7	47.66666667
4	4	26.66666667	19.55555556	-19.55555556
5	5	41.66666667	30.55555556	-30.55555556
6	6	60.0	44.0	-44.0
7	7	81.66666667	59.88888889	-59.88888889
8	8	106.6666667	78.22222222	-78.22222222
8	1	13.33333333	9.77777778	-9.77777778
8	-4	-53.33333333	-39.11111111	39.11111111
8	-3	-40.0	-29.33333333	29.33333333
8	4	53.33333333	39.11111111	-39.11111111
8	5	66.66666667	48.88888889	-48.88888889
8	6	80.0	58.66666667	-58.66666667
8	7	93.33333333	68.44444444	-68.44444444
8	-8	-106.6666667	-78.22222222	78.22222222
5	-1	-8.33333333	-6.11111111	6.11111111
-1	6	-10.0	-7.33333333	7.33333333
-1	-3	5.0	3.66666667	-3.66666667
-2	10	-33.33333333	-24.44444444	24.44444444
-2	-2	6.66666667	4.88888889	-4.88888889
-2	-3	10.00000000	7.33333333	-7.33333333
-3	-1	5.0	3.66666667	-3.66666667
-3	-2	10.0	7.33333333	-7.33333333
-3	-3	15.0	11.0	-11.0
1	-2	-3.33333333	-2.44444444	2.44444444
-1	1	-1.66666667	-1.22222222	1.22222222
0.2	0.1	0.03333333	0.02444444	-0.02444444
10.3	6.1	104.7166667	76.79222222	-76.79222222
5.2	8.6	74.53333333	54.65777778	-54.65777778
9.7	-6.9	-111.55	-81.80333333	81.80333333

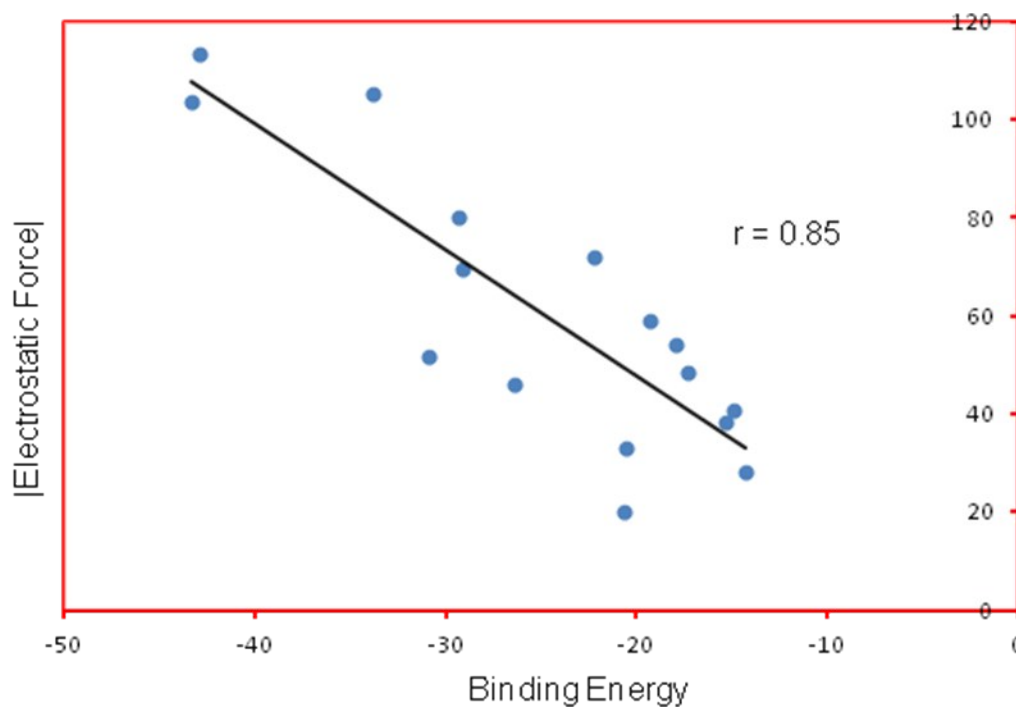
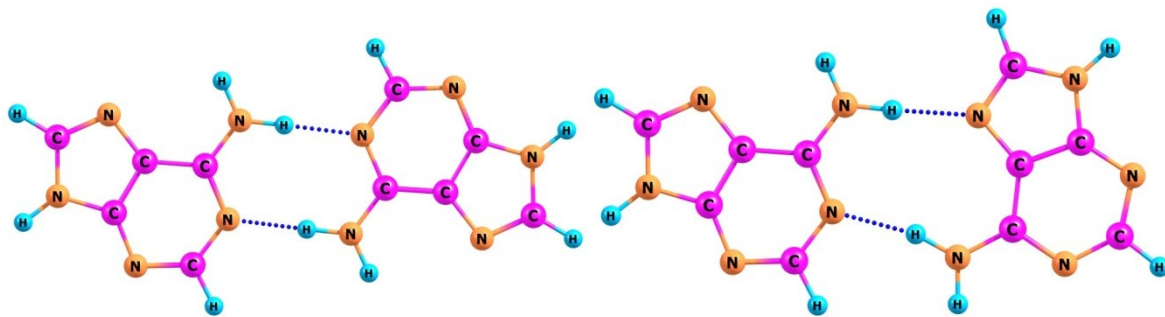
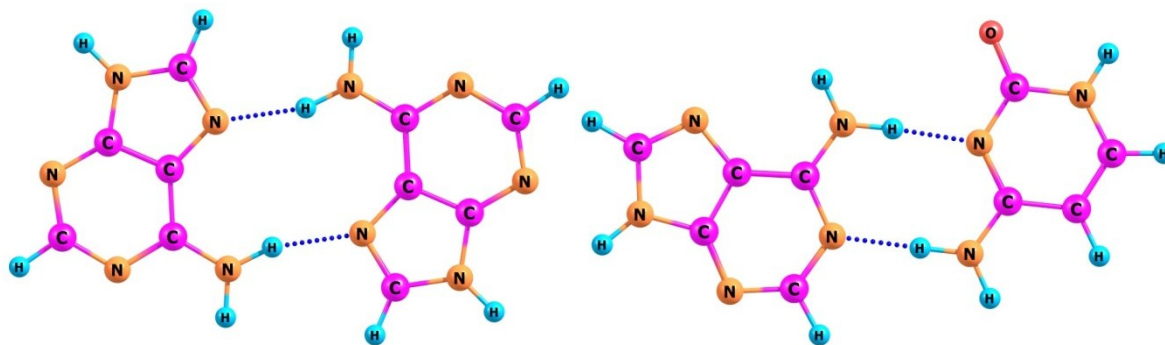


Figure S7. The EF vs. E_b Pearson Correlation graph for planar hydrogen bonded molecules for forces calculated along a line perpendicular to the line of direction of hydrogen bonds, by employing Mulliken charges for the geometries obtained at the COSMO(CHCl_3)/PBE/TZVP level of theory using Turbomole 6.4 package.



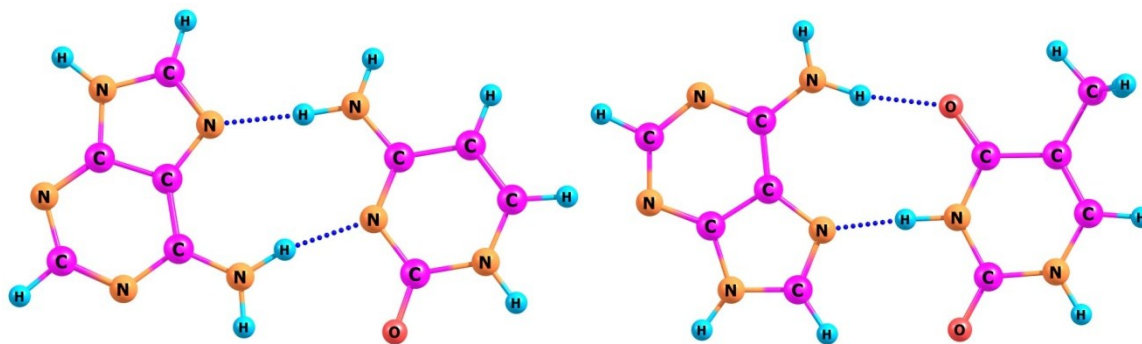
AA1

AA2



AA3

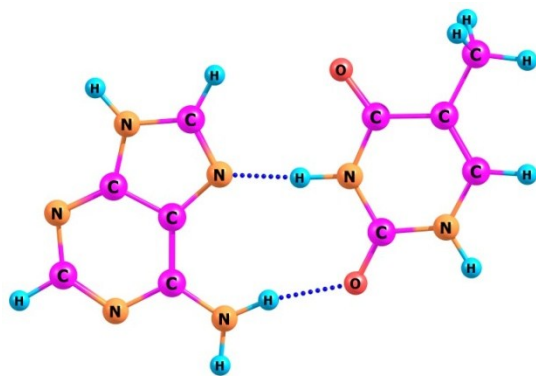
AC1



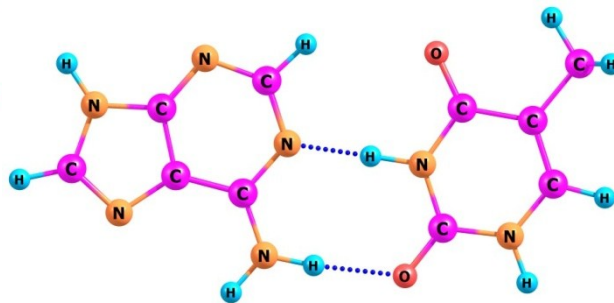
AC2

AT (H)

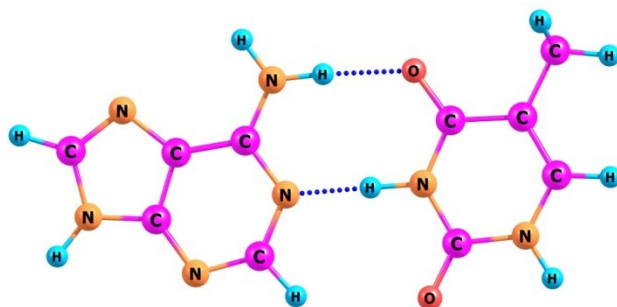
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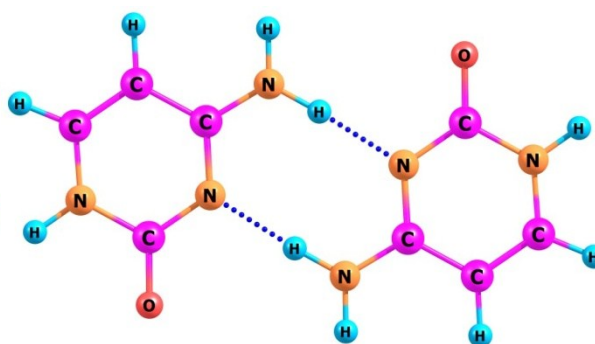
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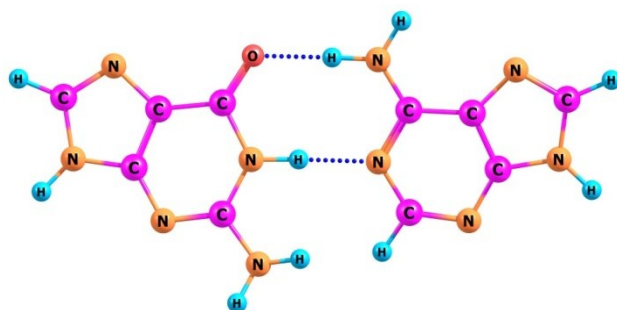
AT (RWC)



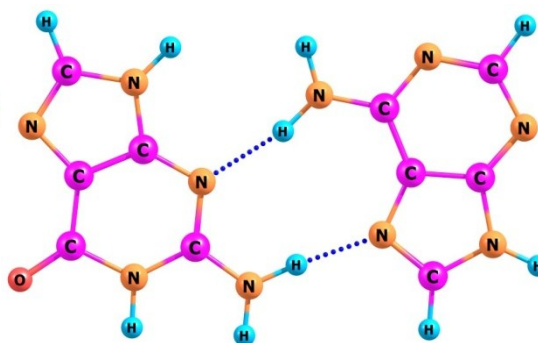
AT (WC)



CC

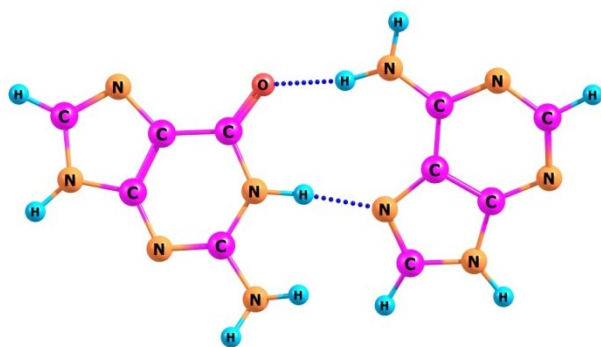


GA1

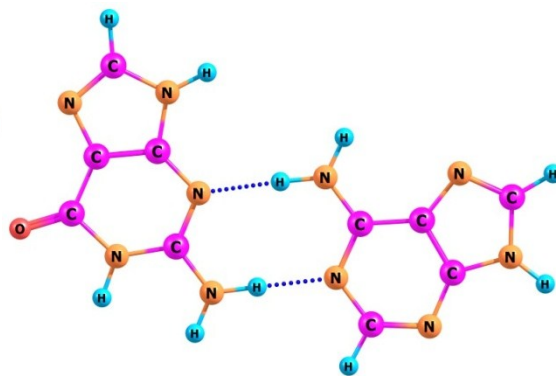


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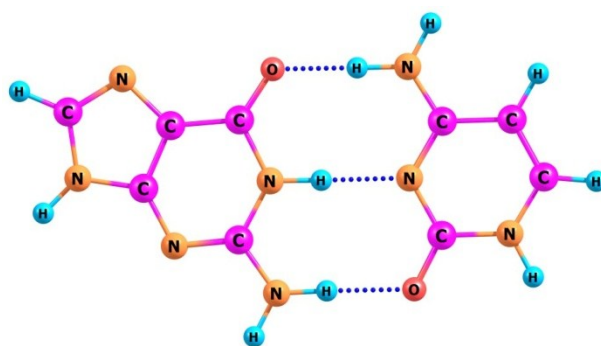
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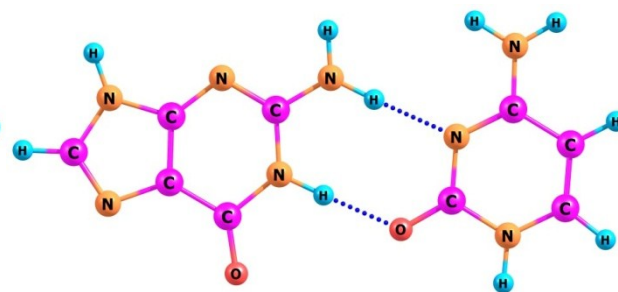
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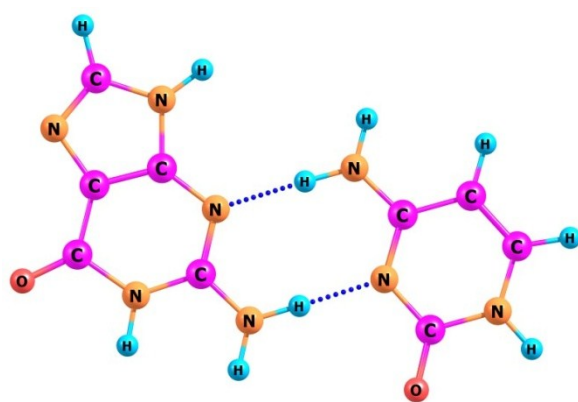
GA4



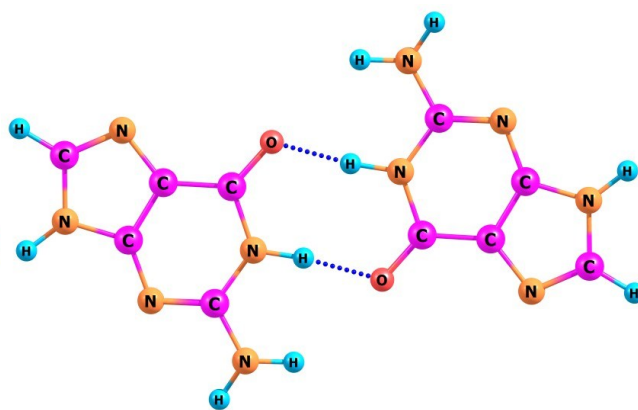
GC



GC1

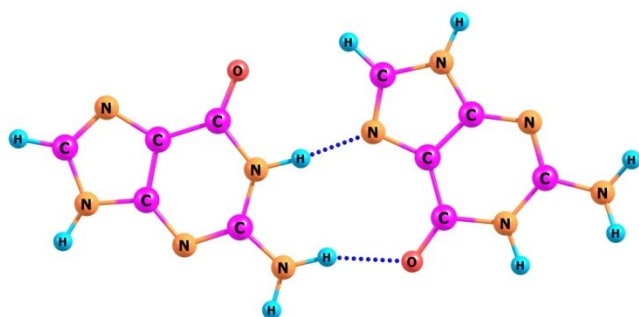


GC2

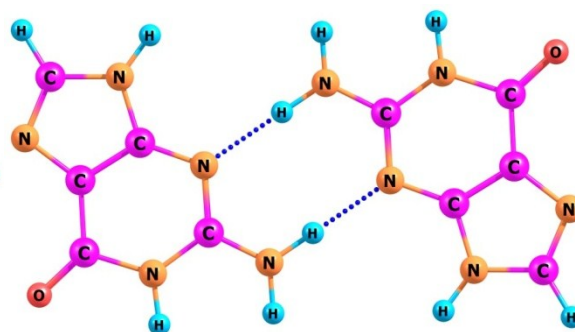


GG1

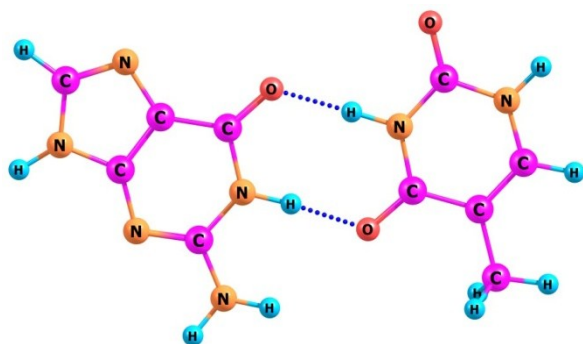
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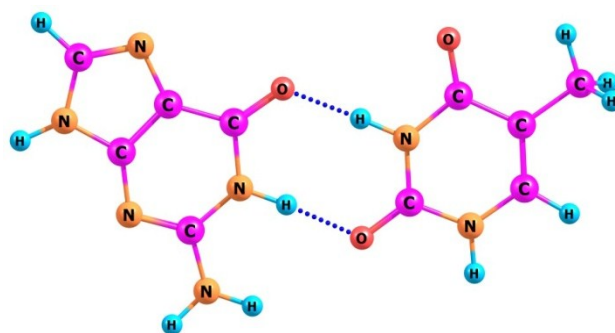
GG3



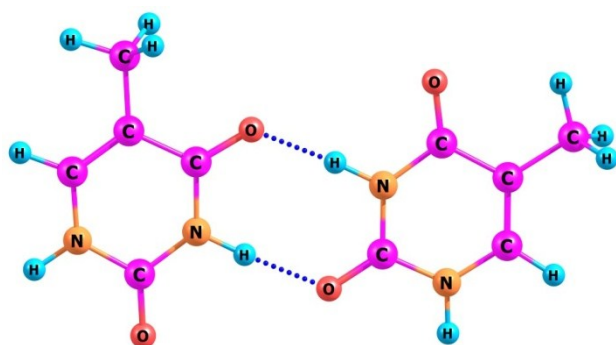
GG4



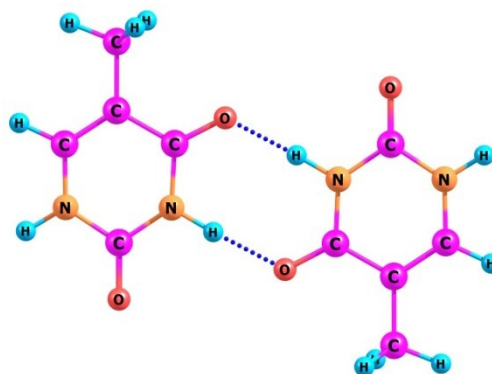
GT1



GT2



TT1



TT2

(Figure Continued)

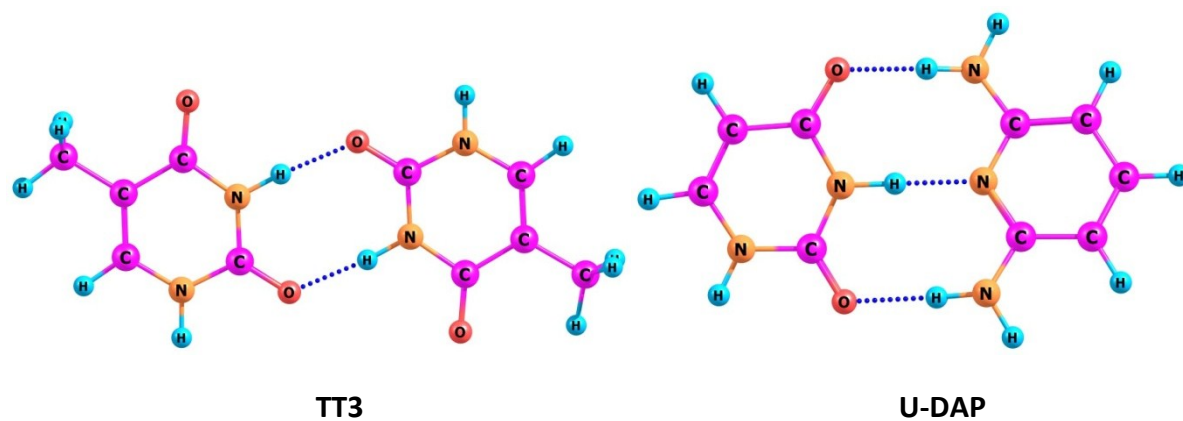


Figure S8. The optimized geometries of 28 base pairs considered by Popelier *et al.* in their QTAIM studies. The same convention of nomenclature of base pairs is followed. Dotted blue lines represent hydrogen bonds.

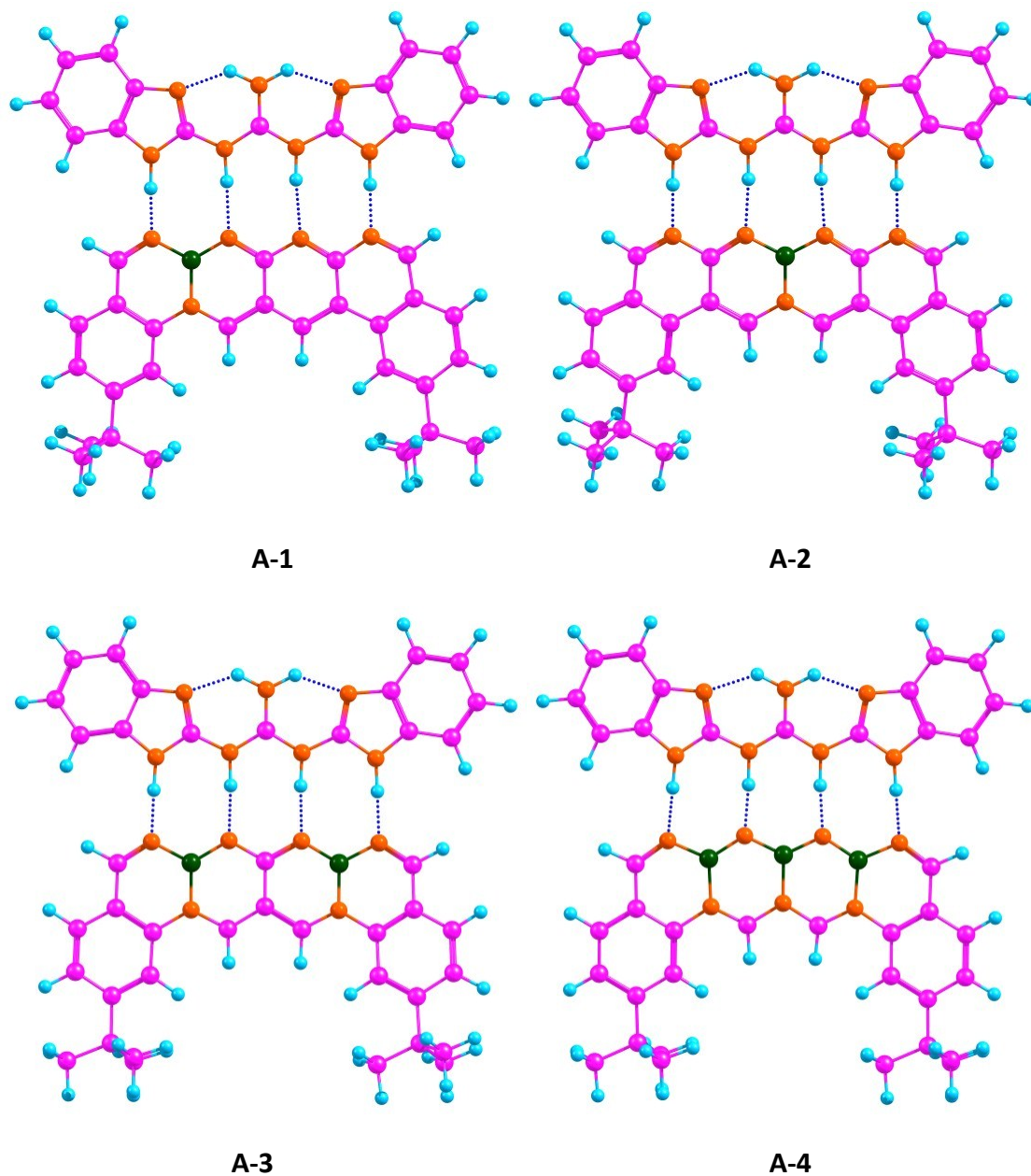
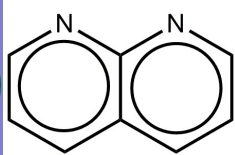
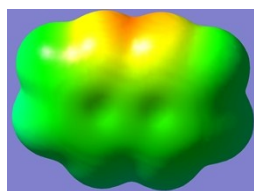
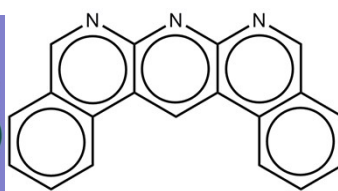
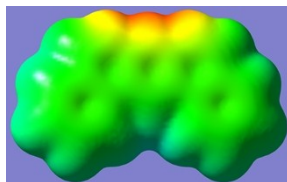


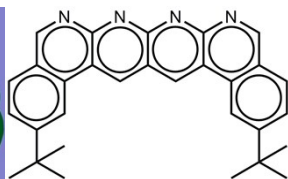
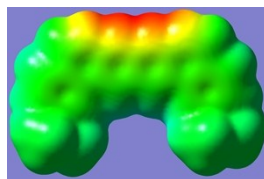
Figure S9. The optimized geometries of newly designed cationic AAAA-DDDD hydrogen bonded complexes, where C-C bond on the middle region of acceptor partner is replaced with the isoelectronic B-N bonds. Pink, cyan, brown and green colors represent carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen and boron atoms respectively, whereas, dotted blue lines represent hydrogen bonds.



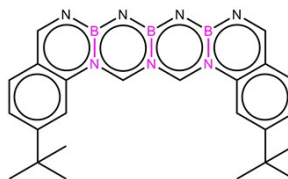
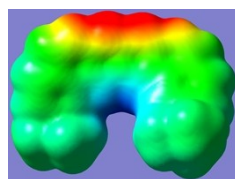
(a)



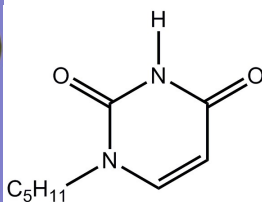
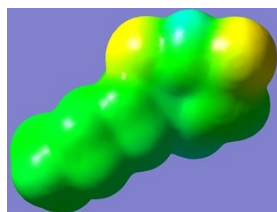
(b)



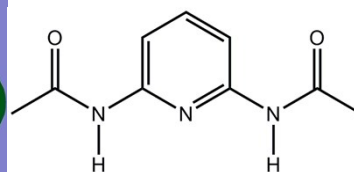
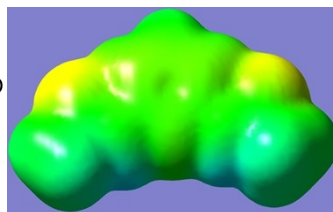
(c)



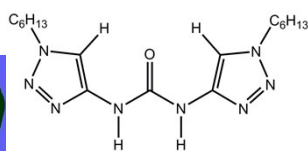
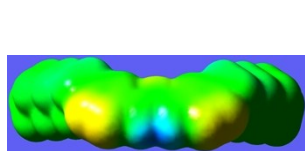
(d)



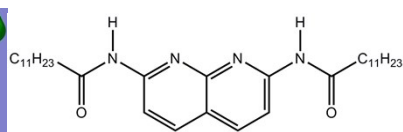
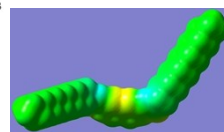
(e)



(f)



(g)



(h)

(Figure continued)

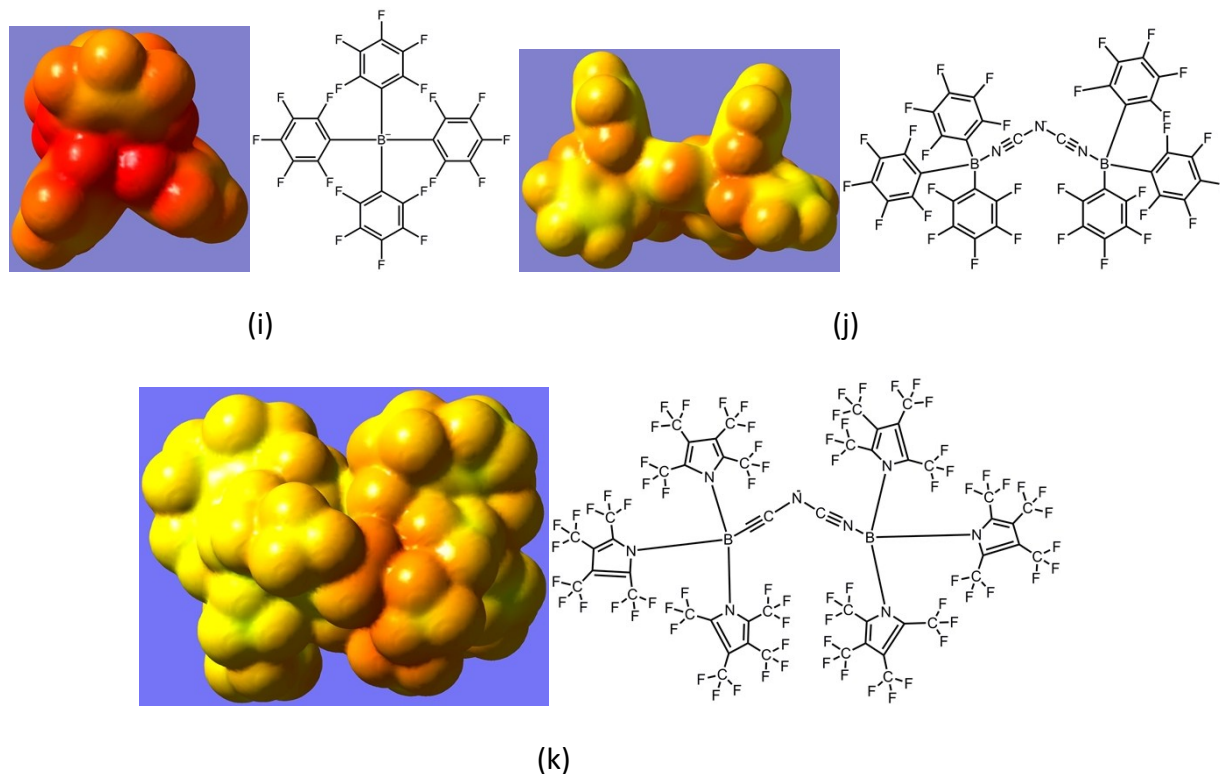


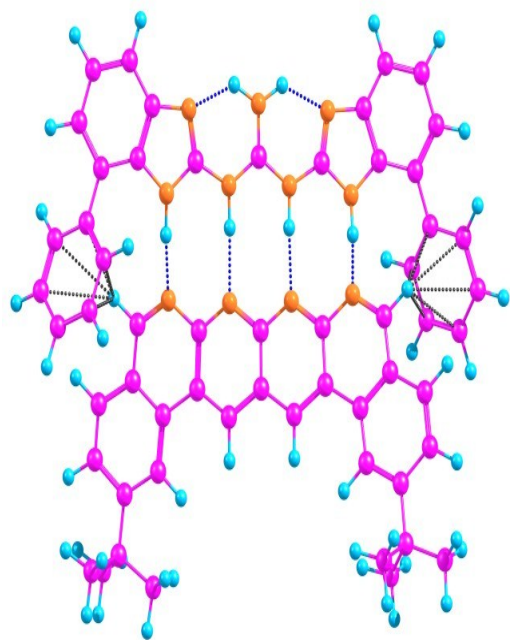
Figure S10. The Molecular Surface electrostatic potential in Hartrees, computed on the 0.0004 au contour of the electron density, using the GaussView software at the CPCM(CHCl_3)/M062X/6-31G** of theory. The blue color indicates positive electrostatic potential and the red color indicates negative electrostatic potential, whereas, the intermediate colors indicate intermediate electrostatic potential. The color scale was kept uniform in all the cases.

The Molecular surface electrostatic potential map was constructed for a set of representative noncovalent bonding partners containing nitrogen and fluorine on their interactive sites (Figure S10 above), in order to examine whether they possess σ -holes on their potential surface. The obtained electrostatic potential surfaces reveal that none of the moieties considered in this study possess σ -holes on their surface, suggesting that additional treatment of putting extra point charges on the σ -holes positions is not required for an accurate treatment of electrostatic properties in these molecules, as have been proposed in recent studies (see references 63 and 64 in the main manuscript).

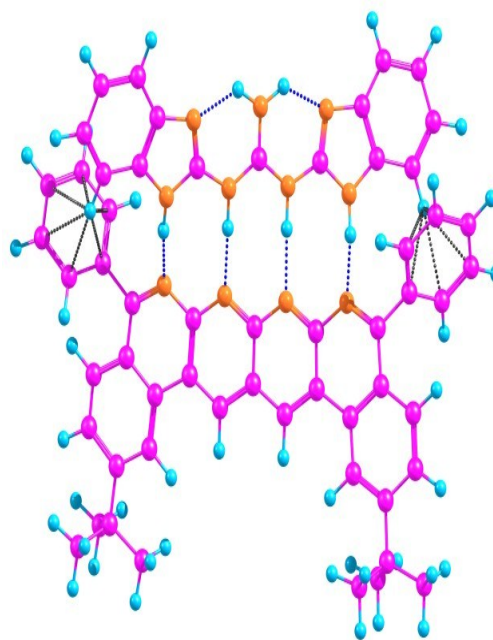
A perusal of Figure S10 (above) suggests that the red region of negative potential becomes intensified from (a) to (c), which indicates that the electrostatic attraction for a specific hydrogen bond donor would become increasingly stronger from (a) to (c), which is what has been reported experimentally by Leigh *et al.* (references 23, 25, 26 in the main manuscript). A

comparison of electrostatic potential surfaces of (c) and (d) further indicates an increase in the negative potential on the binding sites of (d), the newly designed acceptor moiety. This suggests that the binding strength would get stronger for the same donor in (d) in comparison to (c), as obtained in our analysis.

A closer inspection of (i), (j) and (k) in Figure S10 shows increased deterioration of negative potential on the surfaces of these anions on going from (i) to (k), which indicates increasing weaker electrostatic attraction with the cationic zirconocene species. This is reflected in the binding energies of anions with the zirconocene cation. This is what has been observed experimentally by Bochmann et al. (reference 36 in the main manuscript) for (j), and has been obtained by us based on our analysis for (k).

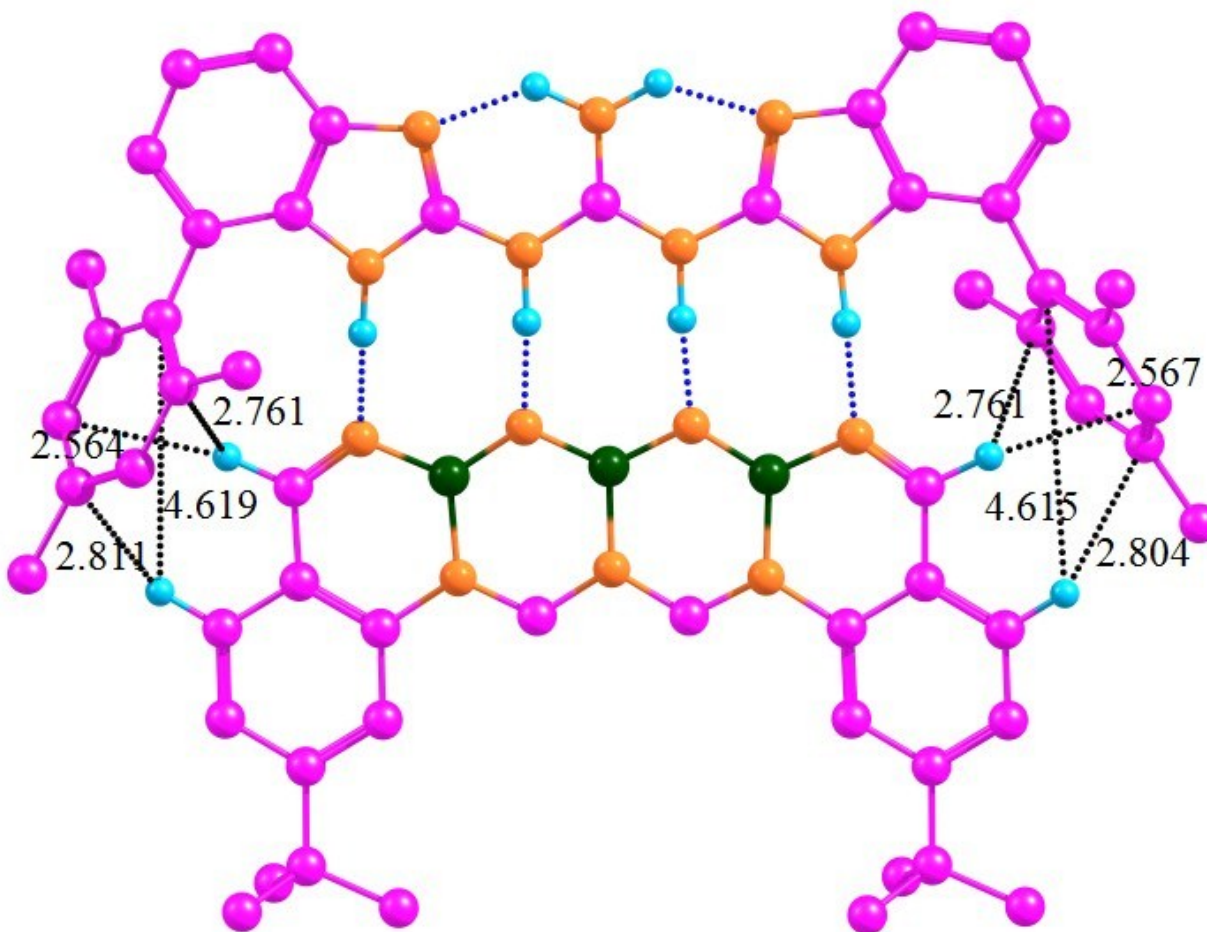


B-1



B-2

Figure S11. The optimized geometries of newly designed cationic AAAA-DDDD hydrogen bonded complexes, where hydrogen atoms in frontier lines are replaced with the phenyl groups. Pink, cyan, brown and green colors represent carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen and boron atoms respectively, whereas, dotted blue and black lines represent hydrogen and CH- π bonds respectively.



c

Figure S12. The optimized geometry of hypothetical best case designed cationic AAAA-DDDD hydrogen bonded complex, where hydrogen atoms in frontier lines are replaced with the 2,4,6-trimethylphenyl groups and three C-C bonds in the middle region of acceptor partner is replaced with the isoelectronic B-N bonds. Pink, cyan, brown and green colors represent carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen and boron atoms respectively, whereas, dotted blue and black lines represent hydrogen bond and CH- π interactions respectively. Hydrogen atoms other than those involved in hydrogen bonding and CH- π interactions have been deleted for clarity. The distances shown are the maximum and minimum CH- π distances for each hydrogens.

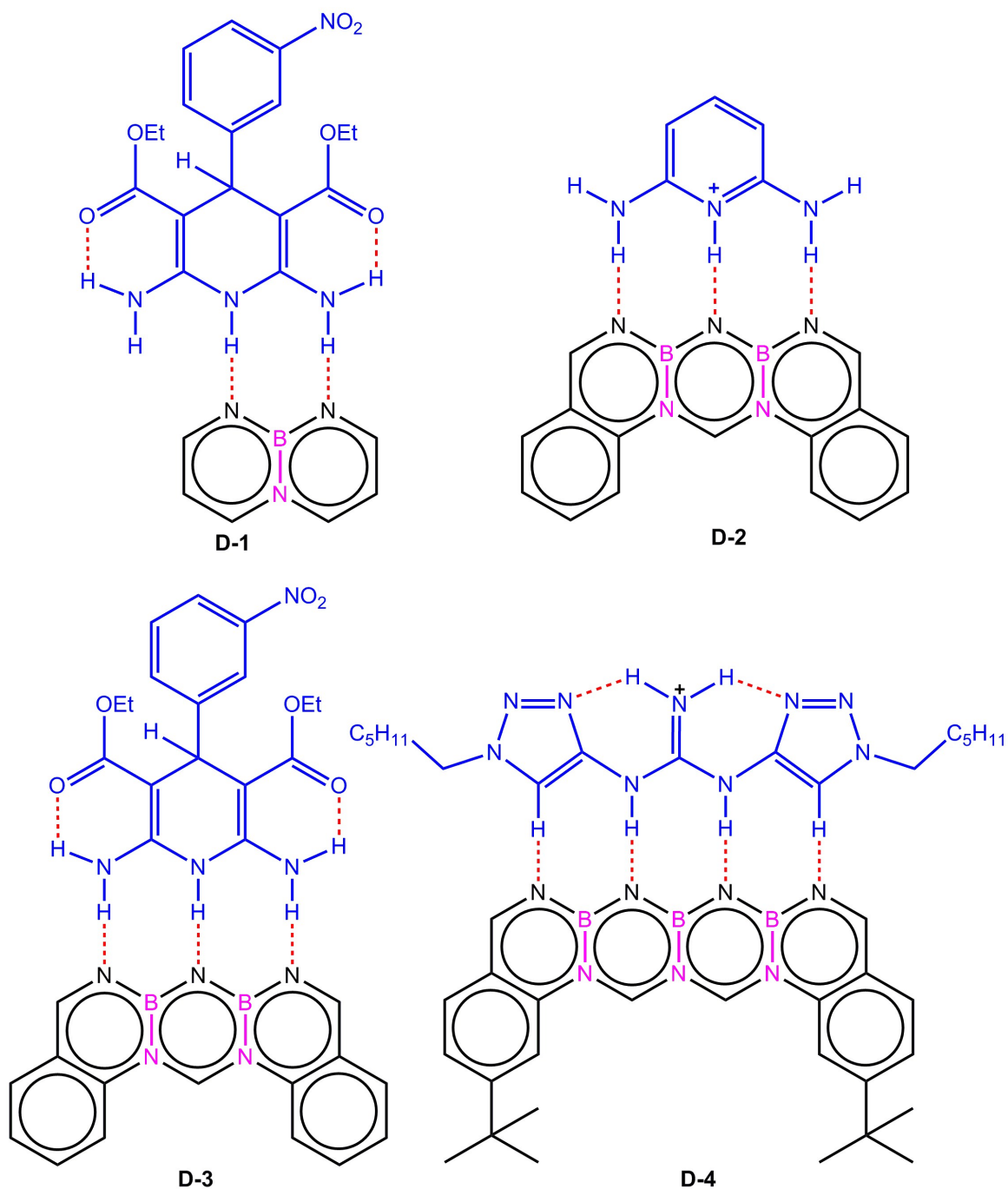


Figure S13. A schematic picture of some newly designed acceptor-donor planar hydrogen bonded complexes based on our electrostatic force analysis, where central C-C bonds on acceptor moieties are replaced by B-N bonds. These complexes have shown improved binding over their parental complexes from where they are derived. Coordinates of optimized geometries are provided in the corresponding section below.

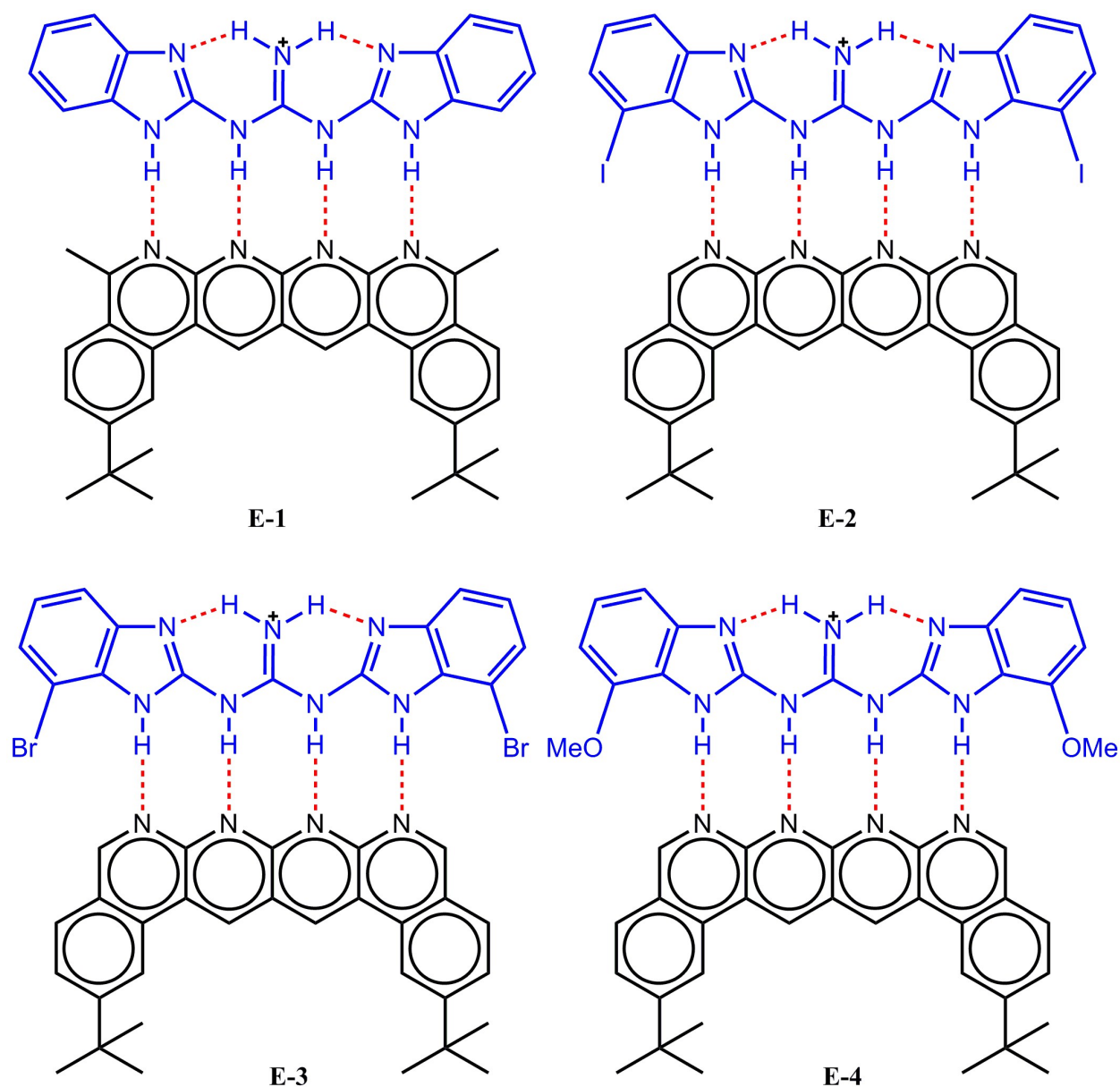


Figure S14. A schematic picture of some newly designed acceptor-donor planer hydrogen bonded complexes, where attractive non-directional dispersive force was exploited for improved binding. These complexes have shown improved binding over their parental complexes from where they are derived. Coordinates of optimized geometries are provided in the corresponding section below.

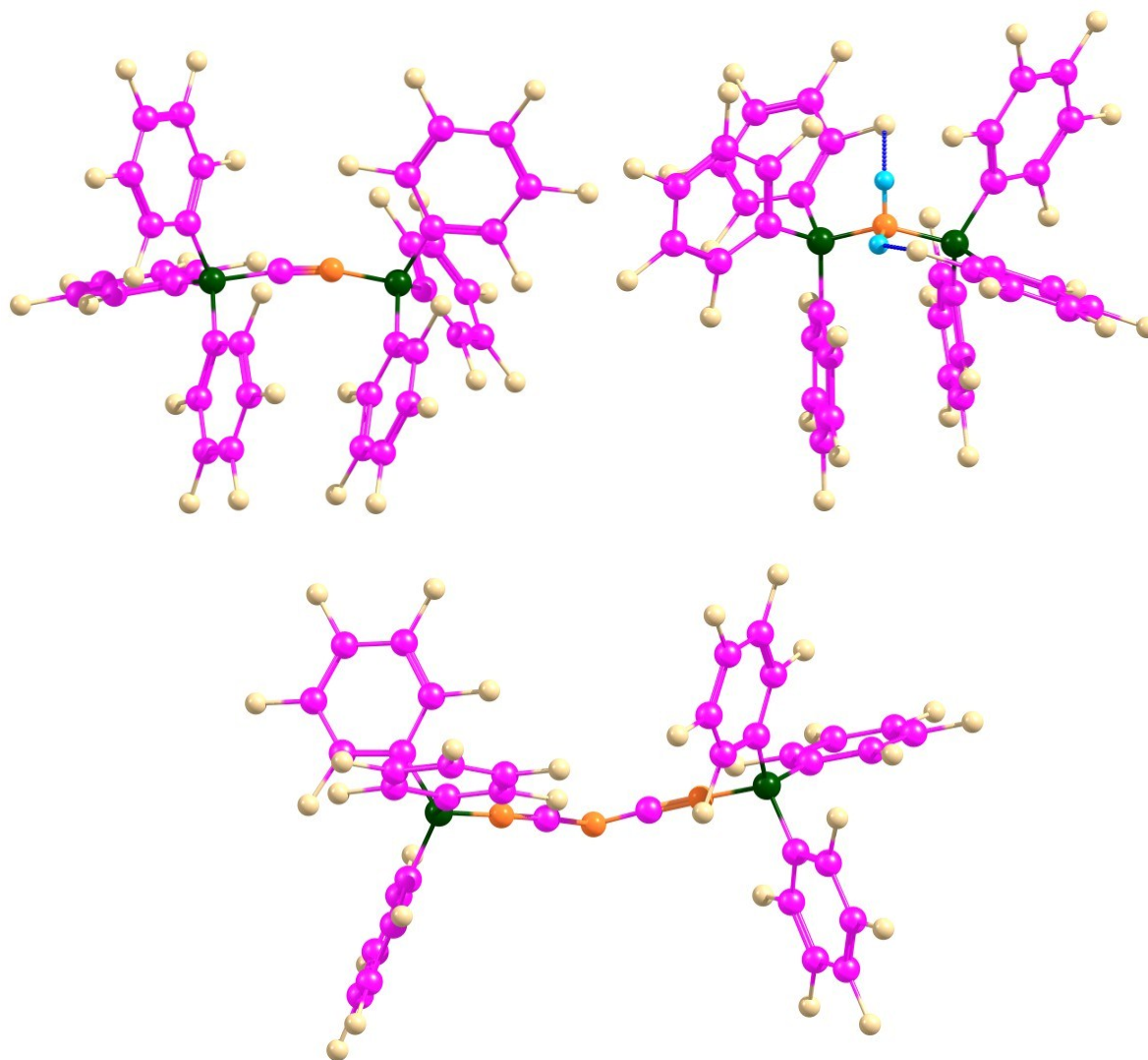
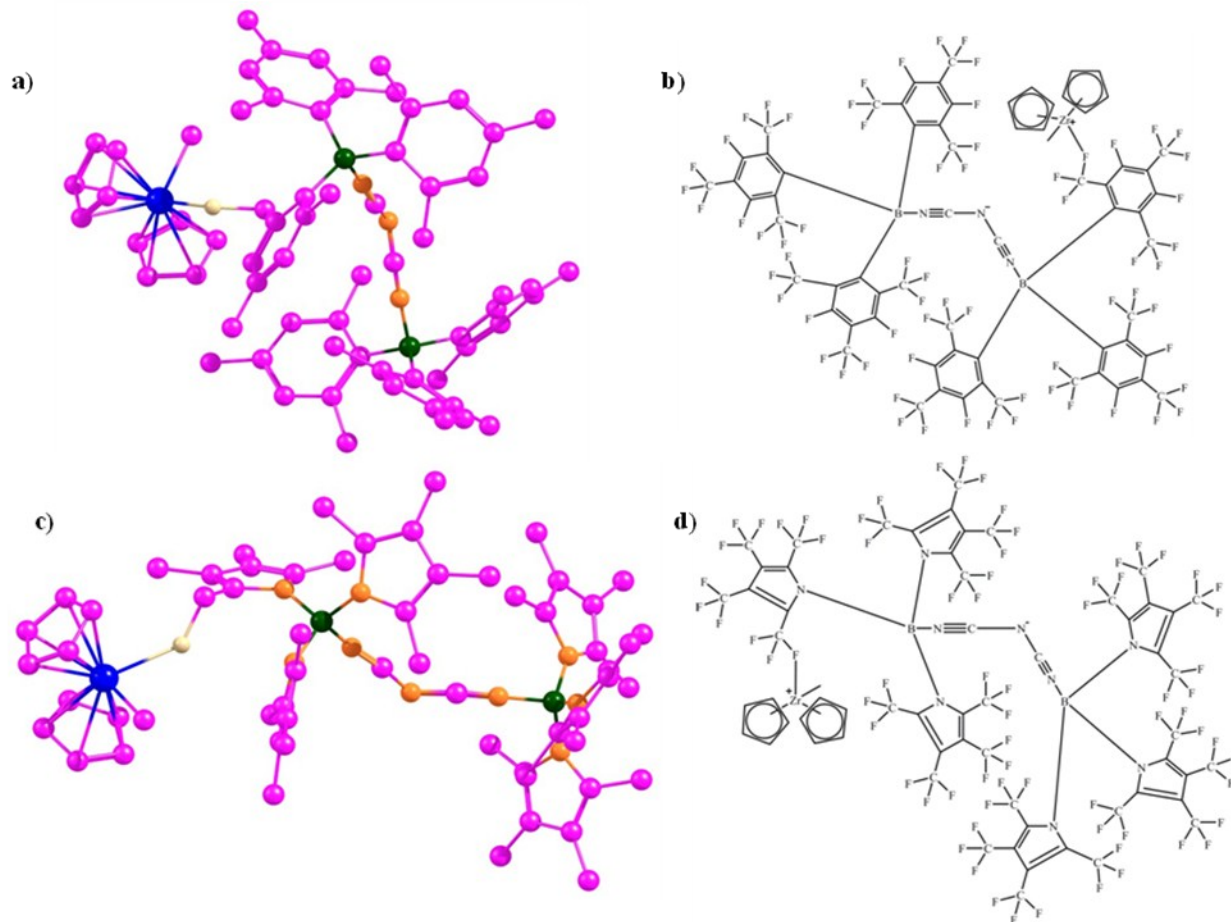


Figure S15. The optimized geometries of Bochmann's anions at the COSMO(CHCl_3)/PBE/TZVP level of theory using Turbomole 6.4. Pink, cyan, brown, green and white colors represent carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, boron and fluorine atoms respectively, whereas, dotted blue lines represent hydrogen bonds.



XYZ coordinates of all the stationary points obtained after full optimization in solvent chloroform.

Turbomole 6.4 geometries

AA-DD (X-1)

C -3.044305 1.949485 14.204892
C -1.857839 2.355735 14.815898
C -0.635427 2.038292 14.204340
C -0.592268 1.326720 13.000630
C -1.775243 0.915635 12.383558
C -2.986178 1.236195 13.004688
C -1.886314 3.118603 16.138312
C -1.213443 4.473520 15.990874
C 0.073590 4.657191 16.473404
N 0.696032 3.673552 17.208644
C 0.037003 2.547351 17.668801
C -1.261689 2.278313 17.241434
N 0.841297 5.767187 16.240311
C -1.880116 5.532924 15.274963
O -3.134177 5.165730 14.869785
C -3.870330 6.135280 14.081147
C -5.163370 5.470228 13.653364
C -1.963467 1.134119 17.755411
O -3.222109 1.018764 17.220542
C -3.983312 -0.152865 17.605517
C -5.297203 -0.098469 16.850435
N 0.755740 1.774211 18.512667
N -4.248798 0.805524 12.373672
O -4.190336 0.215439 11.283921
O -1.421871 6.664352 15.016973
O -1.536372 0.302613 18.582620
O -5.311845 1.052196 12.963481
N 3.330998 2.819993 19.602276
C 4.114768 3.586253 18.792399
C 5.514210 3.776358 19.038666
C 6.080892 3.145947 20.175087
C 5.271793 2.379656 20.987209
C 3.901147 2.245166 20.653984
N 3.488049 4.160434 17.725693
C 4.210572 4.901899 16.894615
C 5.596544 5.142858 17.053311
C 6.248511 4.580464 18.131088
H 6.122665 5.764408 16.328361
H 5.664346 1.875145 21.870527
H 3.247873 1.632711 21.282468
H 3.671935 5.337842 16.046988
H 1.705762 3.807446 17.449528
H -2.944719 3.283330 16.382998
H 1.611720 2.148170 18.952840
H 0.245446 0.981208 18.910488
H -3.403116 -1.054496 17.353050
H -4.136287 -0.142961 18.696104
H -5.905429 -0.978938 17.107568
H -5.865307 0.805314 17.117302
H -5.126855 -0.096466 15.763607
H 0.314505 6.538311 15.814029
H 1.521595 6.012447 16.955903
H -4.052097 7.032868 14.693155
H -3.256343 6.432760 13.216696
H -5.753865 6.172876 13.046218
H -4.960501 4.572916 13.050104
H -5.763224 5.177079 14.527728
H 0.294395 2.355770 14.682899
H 0.367299 1.088373 12.538606
H -1.770853 0.359253 11.447346
H -4.004971 2.182993 14.660662
H 7.145024 3.273930 20.386652
H 7.316656 4.739384 18.296912

AAA-DDD, cation, Leigh (X-2)

C 29.643894 11.311791 6.628046

C 30.977919 11.382164 7.081568
C 31.237497 11.156749 8.464138
C 30.179892 10.871996 9.356506
C 28.877654 10.808379 8.886579
C 28.615249 11.029183 7.518391
C 32.591569 11.226685 8.923364
N 33.629354 11.480570 8.164057
C 33.426952 11.702660 6.816850
C 32.116170 11.670752 6.229730
C 32.019512 11.924195 4.859226
C 33.161926 12.192317 4.100914
C 34.425329 12.186948 4.785252
N 34.541343 11.948726 6.104307
N 35.614177 12.429227 4.126592
C 35.581232 12.682542 2.840848
C 34.392526 12.726181 2.044077
C 33.142022 12.470761 2.677119
C 31.972064 12.500488 1.889332
C 32.049965 12.772626 0.528701
C 33.290810 13.025343 -0.092676
C 34.454236 13.003633 0.660136
N 38.169579 11.941342 5.276707
C 38.368453 11.838814 6.601957
N 37.252305 11.807717 7.407372
C 37.316803 11.689711 8.777589
C 38.578433 11.592203 9.387541
C 39.717093 11.622945 8.585674
C 39.635611 11.745214 7.200665
N 36.153866 11.695158 9.452045
H 32.789043 11.057310 9.988342
H 30.404948 10.704008 10.412250
H 28.055546 10.587997 9.569226
H 27.588380 10.976647 7.152387
H 29.406957 11.477241 5.576751
H 31.042533 11.912672 4.376138
H 30.996863 12.310360 2.338525
H 31.136147 12.790192 -0.067867
H 33.330674 13.234989 -1.162560
H 35.425648 13.195895 0.199177
H 36.543504 12.867701 2.349583
H 36.308235 11.873098 6.955391
H 35.231980 11.629291 8.960508
H 36.190290 11.539288 10.453581
H 38.637762 11.495630 10.470511
H 40.699733 11.549701 9.055687
H 40.522881 11.772074 6.570187
H 37.223284 12.132489 4.874278
H 38.986432 12.026306 4.681746

AAA-DDD, neutral, Leigh (X-3)

C 6.272532 4.942383 18.665328
C 5.623274 3.806798 19.156864
C 4.246636 3.620761 18.787377
N 3.575941 4.483753 18.005718
C 4.217618 5.572464 17.549275
C 5.594845 5.853516 17.851068
C 6.252892 2.816537 20.009648
C 5.456174 1.711835 20.425416
C 4.093975 1.646079 19.982421
N 3.512568 2.532715 19.215301
C 6.195865 7.053050 17.298282
C 5.999779 0.708207 21.257100
H 3.482809 0.794707 20.304794
N 3.453160 6.410918 16.762768
C 7.592755 2.881442 20.447682
H 7.317817 5.118956 18.919342
C 4.007657 7.490436 16.272782
H 3.373295 8.133340 15.651216

C 5.369644 7.883532 16.488420
C 5.884809 9.066085 15.912847
C 7.205326 9.425333 16.133536
H 5.228936 9.685181 15.296300
H 7.610173 10.336905 15.690811
C 8.028339 8.606866 16.935105
C 7.536282 7.441025 17.509423
H 9.067663 8.892698 17.106917
H 8.197231 6.829514 18.124734
C 7.318898 0.793780 21.674149
H 5.366153 -0.127758 21.562082
H 7.745114 0.021937 22.316992
C 8.112591 1.885566 21.265218
H 8.231623 3.713491 20.149686
H 9.150873 1.950218 21.595986
N 0.725496 2.087924 18.546716
C 0.020579 2.764289 17.619631
N 0.677023 3.837253 17.034185
C 0.026622 4.760917 16.228804
C -1.282998 4.524833 15.806304
C -1.949196 3.192369 16.095972
C -1.286913 2.451053 17.242301
C -1.956946 2.323375 14.839370
C -3.158733 1.962461 14.230069
C -3.132647 1.164860 13.082800
C -1.937906 0.708642 12.517052
C -0.739265 1.075231 13.131722
C -0.751148 1.874400 14.280216
N -4.410306 0.793835 12.447043
O -5.461138 1.223005 12.948546
C -1.953696 5.488207 14.979608
O -1.499783 6.579089 14.571400
N 0.743539 5.852675 15.902710
C -1.952734 1.324815 17.833896
O -1.497825 0.549105 18.701980
O -3.222035 5.083209 14.642293
C -3.954684 5.939438 13.733535
C -5.265496 5.242446 13.425360
O -3.216061 1.149224 17.324346
C -3.937537 -0.022237 17.774807
C -5.254822 -0.050193 17.023963
O -4.379256 0.071057 11.438422
H 1.631061 4.063422 17.363565
H -3.001268 3.375479 16.356152
H 1.712104 2.314585 18.766362
H 0.249040 1.270759 18.939291
H -3.331322 -0.918450 17.568318
H -4.088446 0.039959 18.864167
H -5.832818 -0.936271 17.327739
H -5.851485 0.847183 17.244930
H -5.085882 -0.098509 15.937933
H 0.251988 6.532218 15.314582
H -4.114075 6.920970 14.208232
H -3.352539 6.097994 12.824944
H -5.855091 5.858883 12.729903
H -5.089259 4.261109 12.959760
H -5.854967 5.092145 14.342228
H 0.190479 2.155313 14.758270
H 0.208092 0.733457 17.110888
H -1.958259 0.087572 11.622666
H -4.106860 2.299111 14.645981
H 1.693636 6.023271 16.278912

AAA-DDD, OH, Leigh (X-4)

N 1.076790 0.696409 18.874651
C 1.741923 -0.049032 19.829593
C 1.100787 -1.094483 20.575574
C -0.291394 -1.388634 20.296532

