

Mercurophilic Interactions: A Theoretical Study on the Importance of the Ligands

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

| Refcode | X | Y | Hg...Hg (Å) | | τ (°) | Supp. contacts | d (Å) |
|----------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------|------------|----------------|-------------|
| doyfig* | SR | Me | 3.099 | Hg1...Hg1 | 81.8 | | |
| tmsihg01 | SiMe ₃ | SiMe ₃ | 3.146 | Hg1...Hg1 | 83.5 | H...H | 2.5 - 2.6 |
| pehgme10 | RNH ₂ ⁺ | Me | 3.346 | Hg2...Hg2 | 75.1 | | |
| duvkio | N-het [†] | Me | 3.347 | Hg2...Hg2 | 60.5 | | |
| lasraz | SR | SR | 3.485 | Hg1...Hg1 | 73.8 | stacking | 3.52 |
| jespec | N-het | Me | 3.510 | Hg2...Hg3 | 86.6 | 1 N...Hg | 2.82 |
| ricliy | N-het | Ph | 3.519 | Hg1...Hg4 | 60.0 | | |
| dbezhg | Bz | Bz | 3.538 | Hg1...Hg1 | 90.0 | 2 Ph...Hg | 3.20 |
| hahqen | Cl | R | 3.275 | Hg1...Hg2 | 76.7 | 4 O...Hg | 2.8 - 2.9 |
| dojsaw | N-het | Me | 3.514 | Hg1...Hg2 | 41.9 | 2 O...Hg | 2.99 |
| evojad | Cb [‡] | Cb | 3.524 | Hg1...Hg2 | 73.9 | 4 O...Hg | 2.8 |
| nevdat | OOCR | OOCR | 3.557 | Hg5...Hg9 | 42.9 | 2 O...Hg | 2.9 - 3.0 |
| bespaq | Imino | Ph | 3.582 | Hg1...Hg2 | 86.5 | 2 O...Hg | 2.92 |
| kapwut | SR | Me | 3.671 | Hg1...Hg1 | 53.7 | 1 N...Hg | 2.76 |
| kayreh | OOCR | Ph | 3.859 | Hg1...Hg1 | 61.1 | 2 O...Hg | 2.88 |
| eyojeh | Cb | Cb | 3.872 | Hg1...Hg2 | 76.1 | 4 O...Hg | 2.9 |
| nevdat | OOCR | R | 3.891 | Hg4...Hg9 | 35.3 | 2 O...Hg | 3.0 |
| joptud | R | Cl | 3.900 | Hg1...Hg1 | 31.0 | 4 Cl...Hg | 3.26, 3.87 |
| duvkio | N-het | Me | 3.924 | Hg1...Hg1 | 38.3 | 2 O...Hg | 3.0 |
| eyojil | Cb | Cb | 3.976 | Hg1...Hg2 | 87.9 | 4 O...Hg | 2.79 - 2.89 |
| cizvem | Amido | Ph | 4.096 | Hg1...Hg1 | 79.8 | 1 O...Hg | 2.87 |
| nevdat | OOCR | R | 4.103 | Hg2...Hg6 | 38.2 | 2 O...Hg | 2.9 |
| jucfes | N-het | Me | 4.114 | Hg1...Hg1 | 72.0 | 2 N...Hg | 3.08 |

*In the same compound one can find an intermolecular interaction of type **2b** (see Table 1) at 3.805 Å between two Hg2 atoms. † N-heterocycle. ‡ Carbene.

TableS1. Bimolecular association of [XHgY] complexes of type **2a**. Non-equivalent crystallographic Hg atoms are labelled with numbers.

| Refcode | Xa | Yb | Ya | Xb | Xa-Yb (Å) | Ya-Xb (Å) | Hg | Hg' | Hg...Hg (Å) |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|-----------|-----|-----|-------------|
| ocifem | C18 | C17 | C17 | C18 | 3.691 | 3.691 | Hg2 | Hg2 | 3.621 |
| volfor | S2 | S1 | S1 | S2 | 3.641 | 3.641 | Hg1 | Hg1 | 3.691 |
| mirlaa | C1 | S1 | S1 | C1 | 3.531 | 3.531 | Hg1 | Hg1 | 3.697 |
| admehh | C9 | N9 | N9 | C9 | 3.676 | 3.676 | Hg9 | Hg9 | 3.701 |
| yulfao | C1 | C9 | Se1 | Se2 | 3.984 | 3.637 | Hg1 | Hg2 | 3.721 |
| vewtia | C6 | C6 | N4 | N4 | 3.761 | 3.761 | Hg1 | Hg1 | 3.761 |
| rocgiz | C5 | N5 | N5 | C5 | 3.675 | 3.675 | Hg1 | Hg1 | 3.764 |
| mehgcn01 | C2 | C1 | C1 | C2 | 3.839 | 3.839 | Hg1 | Hg1 | 3.771 |
| qugvod | C1 | C15 | S1 | S2 | 4.024 | 3.617 | Hg1 | Hg2 | 3.773 |
| faknag | C7 | N5 | N5 | C7 | 3.763 | 3.763 | Hg2 | Hg2 | 3.796 |
| kabgoj | C7 | N1 | N1 | C7 | 3.747 | 3.747 | Hg1 | Hg1 | 3.796 |
| bzhgcl | Cl2 | C8 | C8 | Cl2 | 3.817 | 3.846 | Hg2 | Hg2 | 3.805 |
| doyfig | C6 | S1 | S1 | C6 | 3.840 | 3.840 | Hg1 | Hg1 | 3.805 |
| pucdew | C15 | N3 | N3 | C15 | 3.801 | 3.801 | Hg1 | Hg1 | 3.814 |
| bzhgcl | Cl1 | C1 | C1 | Cl1 | 3.857 | 3.910 | Hg1 | Hg1 | 3.817 |
| penkup | C1 | C15 | C2 | C14 | 3.881 | 3.727 | Hg1 | Hg2 | 3.866 |
| xemtug | Cl5 | C12 | C12 | Cl5 | 3.983 | 3.983 | Hg3 | Hg3 | 3.890 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|-----|-----|-------|
| penmHg10 | C6 | C6 | S1 | S1 | 3.804 | 3.956 | Hg1 | Hg1 | 3.917 |
| yevcim | C1 | C15 | C2 | C14 | 3.728 | 3.978 | Hg1 | Hg2 | 3.963 |
| jagyar | C7 | N5 | N5 | C7 | 3.881 | 3.881 | Hg2 | Hg2 | 3.964 |
| cavhem10 | C16 | N6 | N6 | C16 | 4.136 | 4.136 | Hg4 | Hg4 | 3.969 |
| yikzex | C19 | C17 | C17 | C19 | 3.924 | 3.924 | Hg2 | Hg2 | 4.009 |
| dofniw | C1 | C1 | S1 | S1 | 4.193 | 3.642 | Hg1 | Hg1 | 4.013 |
| fadvai | C12 | S2 | S2 | C12 | 3.721 | 4.376 | Hg2 | Hg2 | 4.108 |
| xujluj | C14 | C13 | C13 | C14 | 4.110 | 4.110 | Hg2 | Hg2 | 4.115 |

Table S2. Structures showing unsupported Hg...Hg contacts with the parallel conformation **2b**.

| Refcode | Hg1...X2 | Hg2...X1 | Hg...Hg | Hg1 | X1 | Hg2 | X2 | XHg-HgX |
|----------|----------|----------|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| BUCNUJ | 3.112 | 3.112 | 3.669 | Hg1 | S2 | Hg1 | S2 | 0.56 |
| FEZLIF | 2.923 | 2.934 | 3.732 | Hg1 | O1 | Hg2 | O3 | 0.80 |
| LILWEI | 3.111 | 3.111 | 3.791 | Hg1 | Cl2 | Hg1 | Cl2 | 0.68 |
| FMHGIC | 2.880 | 2.880 | 3.833 | Hg1 | N1 | Hg1 | N1 | 0.95 |
| ISICES | 2.689 | 2.689 | 3.843 | Hg1 | O1 | Hg1 | O1 | 1.15 |
| AQAMOV | 3.135 | 3.135 | 3.857 | Hg1 | N2 | Hg1 | N2 | 0.72 |
| CBPPHG | 2.858 | 2.858 | 3.857 | Hg1 | O1 | Hg1 | O1 | 1.00 |
| FMHGAZ | 2.739 | 2.739 | 3.859 | Hg1 | N1 | Hg1 | N1 | 1.12 |
| BUCNUJ | 3.037 | 3.037 | 3.869 | Hg1 | S1 | Hg1 | S1 | 0.83 |
| VUDSUJ | 2.953 | 3.060 | 3.889 | Hg2 | Cl4 | Hg3 | Cl5 | 0.83 |
| VUDSUJ | 3.044 | 3.104 | 3.890 | Hg3 | Cl6 | Hg2 | Cl3 | 0.79 |
| CPCOMC | 3.141 | 3.141 | 3.918 | Hg1 | Cl1 | Hg1 | Cl1 | 0.78 |
| UJUHIR | 2.989 | 3.062 | 3.937 | Hg5 | Se9 | Hg4 | Se6 | 0.88 |
| VOFTEQ | 2.798 | 2.798 | 3.939 | Hg1 | O1 | Hg1 | O1 | 1.14 |
| ISICAO | 2.885 | 2.794 | 3.958 | Hg1 | O1 | Hg2 | O3 | 1.16 |
| HGCETS | 3.058 | 3.058 | 3.963 | Hg2 | Cl2 | Hg2 | Cl2 | 0.91 |
| KELWED | 3.172 | 3.172 | 3.972 | Hg1 | S2 | Hg1 | S2 | 0.80 |
| BITHIV10 | 3.102 | 3.102 | 4.000 | Hg1 | Cl2 | Hg1 | Cl2 | 0.90 |
| VAVGAA | 3.105 | 3.105 | 4.002 | Hg1 | Cl1 | Hg1 | Cl1 | 0.90 |
| FAWKUJ | 3.106 | 3.106 | 4.003 | Hg4 | O14 | Hg4 | O14 | 0.90 |
| XOBTEP | 3.145 | 3.145 | 4.024 | Hg1 | Cl1 | Hg1 | Cl1 | 0.88 |
| PHHGAC01 | 2.994 | 2.994 | 4.028 | Hg1 | O1 | Hg1 | O1 | 1.03 |
| PHHGAC | 2.943 | 2.943 | 4.032 | Hg1 | O1 | Hg1 | O1 | 1.09 |
| XAWXUP | 2.907 | 2.907 | 4.074 | Hg1 | O1 | Hg1 | O1 | 1.17 |
| KEZGUS | 3.127 | 3.127 | 4.077 | Hg1 | Cl1 | Hg1 | Cl1 | 0.95 |
| AXUDUT | 3.178 | 3.137 | 4.077 | Hg2 | Cl2 | Hg3 | Cl3 | 0.94 |
| ZOPZIN | 2.916 | 2.916 | 4.081 | Hg1 | O3 | Hg1 | O3 | 1.17 |
| JOTXIZ | 3.177 | 3.177 | 4.087 | Hg1 | Cl2 | Hg1 | Cl2 | 0.91 |
| VAVGAA | 3.177 | 3.177 | 4.100 | Hg2 | Cl2 | Hg2 | Cl2 | 0.92 |
| TEVQOA01 | 3.135 | 3.135 | 4.104 | Hg1 | S1 | Hg1 | S1 | 0.97 |
| LEZFEB | 3.123 | 3.123 | 4.122 | Hg1 | Cl1 | Hg1 | Cl1 | 1.00 |
| PIFNAT | 3.000 | 3.000 | 4.122 | Hg1 | O2 | Hg1 | O2 | 1.12 |
| QUGVAP | 3.146 | 3.146 | 4.124 | Hg1 | S1 | Hg1 | S1 | 0.98 |
| PHGTFA01 | 2.951 | 2.951 | 4.131 | Hg1 | O1 | Hg1 | O1 | 1.18 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| GUKHEZ | 3.163 | 3.163 | 4.139 | Hg1 | Cl1 | Hg1 | Cl1 | 0.98 |
| BIJDAZ | 3.136 | 3.143 | 4.143 | Hg2 | Cl2 | Hg4 | Cl4 | 1.00 |
| BZHGCL | 3.190 | 3.176 | 4.144 | Hg1 | Cl1 | Hg2 | Cl2 | 0.97 |
| CIDZOF | 3.095 | 3.095 | 4.177 | Hg2 | Cl2 | Hg2 | Cl2 | 1.08 |
| HALCIG | 3.188 | 3.188 | 4.183 | Hg1 | Cl1 | Hg1 | Cl1 | 0.99 |
| CIDZOF | 3.173 | 3.173 | 4.192 | Hg1 | Cl1 | Hg1 | Cl1 | 1.02 |
| KASDAJ01 | 3.129 | 3.129 | 4.199 | Hg1 | P2 | Hg1 | P2 | 1.07 |
| KASDAJ | 3.162 | 3.162 | 4.221 | Hg1 | P2 | Hg1 | P2 | 1.06 |
| WUZWAP | 3.156 | 3.156 | 4.245 | Hg2 | Cl2 | Hg2 | Cl2 | 1.09 |
| KAYREH | 3.057 | 3.057 | 4.263 | Hg1 | O1 | Hg1 | O1 | 1.21 |
| HEHKEM | 3.072 | 3.072 | 4.364 | Hg1 | O1 | Hg1 | O1 | 1.29 |
| REWTES | 2.899 | 2.899 | 4.379 | Hg4 | O10 | Hg4 | O10 | 1.48 |

Table S3. Structures showing Hg...Hg contacts with the slipped conformation **2c**. Distances are given in Angstroms and angles in degrees.

| Topology | Basis set | $d_{\text{Hg}\cdots\text{Hg}}$ (Å) | $d_{\text{H}\cdots\text{Hg}}$ (Å) | DE (kcal/mol) |
|-----------|-------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 2a | Def2-TZVPD | 3.240 | 3.625 | 1.41 |
| | Def2-TZVPPD | 3.205 | 3.590 | 2.18 |
| | Def2-QZVPD | 3.141 | 3.534 | 2.68 |
| | Def2-QZVPPD | 3.078 | 3.479 | 3.01 |
| 2b | Def2-TZVPD | 3.536 | 3.891 | 0.48 |
| | Def2-TZVPPD | 3.507 | 3.861 | 0.94 |
| | Def2-QZVPD | 3.442 | 3.801 | 1.24 |
| | Def2-QZVPPD | 3.361 | 3.731 | 1.42 |
| 2c | Def2-TZVPD | 3.535 | 3.038 | 1.53 |
| | Def2-TZVPPD | 3.463 | 2.949 | 2.21 |
| | Def2-QZVPD | 3.393 | 2.880 | 2.69 |
| | Def2-QZVPPD | 3.333 | 2.837 | 2.94 |

Table S4. Dissociation energies and key structural parameters of (HgH₂)₂ dimers with topologies **2a-c** calculated at the MP2 level of theory (All reported energies are BSSE corrected).

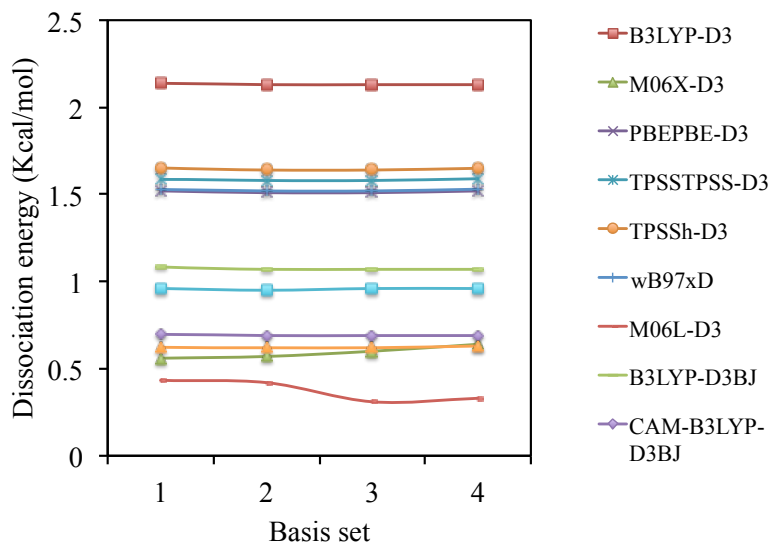


Figure S1. Effect of the basis sets on the dissociation energies for HgH_2 parallel dimers calculated at the DFT level with several functionals. Basis set 1: Def2-TZVPPD; Basis set 2: Def2-TZVPPD; Basis set 3: Def2-QZVPD; Basis set 4: Def2-QZVPPD.

| Method | DE (kcal/mol) | $d_{\text{Hg}\cdots\text{Hg}}$ (Å) |
|----------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| B3LYP-D3 | 2.99 | 3.707 |
| B3LYP-D3BJ | 1.46 | 3.532 |
| PBEPBE-D3 | 2.43 | 3.495 |
| PBEPBE-D3BJ | 2.48 | 3.305 |
| TPSSTPSS-D3 | 2.37 | 3.644 |
| TPSSh-D3 | 2.45 | 3.663 |
| wB97xD | 2.27 | 3.612 |
| M06L-D3 | 1.72 | 3.340 |
| M062X-D3 | 1.99 | 3.385 |
| LC-wPBE-D3BJ | 1.23 | 3.470 |
| CAM-B3LYP-D3BJ | 1.28 | 3.498 |

Table S5. Dissociation energies and key structural parameters of $(\text{HgH}_2)_2$ dimers with topology **2a** calculated at DFT level of theory (BSSE corrected). The basis set Def2-TZVPPD was used for all functionals.

| Method | DE (kcal/mol) | $d_{\text{Hg}\cdots\text{Hg}}$ (Å) |
|-------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| B3LYP-D3 | 2.13 | 3.822 |
| B3LYP-D3BJ | 1.07 | 3.838 |
| PBEPBE-D3 | 1.51 | 3.783 |
| PBEPBE-D3BJ | 0.95 | 3.764 |
| TPSSTPSS-D3 | 1.58 | 3.849 |
| TPSSh-D3 | 1.64 | 3.840 |
| wB97xD | 1.52 | 4.015 |
| M06L-D3 | 0.42 | 3.616 |

| | | |
|----------------|------|-------|
| M062X-D3 | 0.57 | 3.655 |
| LC-wPBE-D3BJ | 0.62 | 3.980 |
| CAM-B3LYP-D3BJ | 0.69 | 3.968 |

Table S6. Dissociation energies and key structural parameters of (HgH₂)₂ dimers with topology **2b** calculated at the DFT level of theory (BSSE corrected). The basis set Def2-TZVPPD was used for all functionals.

| Method | DE (kcal/mol) | d _{Hg...Hg} (Å) | Angle H-Hg...Hg (deg.) |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| B3LYP-D3 | 4.38 | 3.738 | 52.439 |
| B3LYP-D3BJ | 2.07 | 3.783 | 54.657 |
| PBEPBE-D3 | 3.47 | 3.677 | 53.231 |
| PBEPBE-D3BJ | 3.07 | 3.588 | 54.138 |
| TPSSTPSS-D3 | 3.89 | 3.691 | 52.120 |
| TPSSh-D3 | 4.05 | 3.678 | 52.093 |
| wB97xD | 3.44 | 3.889 | 54.424 |
| M06L-D3 | 2.65 | 3.585 | 54.062 |
| M062X-D3 | 2.93 | 3.601 | 54.667 |
| LC-wPBE-D3BJ | 2.34 | 3.612 | 54.587 |
| CAM-B3LYP-D3BJ | 1.98 | 3.756 | 54.777 |

Table S7. Dissociation energies and key structural parameters of (HgH₂)₂ dimers with topology **2c** calculated at the DFT level of theory (BSSE corrected). The basis set Def2-TZVPPD was used for all functionals.

Topology **2a**

| Method | DE (kcal/mol) | d _{Hg...Hg} (Å) |
|-----------|---------------|--------------------------|
| B3LYP | 0.01 | > 10 |
| PBEPBE | 0.00 | 4.261 |
| TPSSTPSS | 0.01 | > 10 |
| TPSSh | 0.01 | > 10 |
| M06L | 0.35 | 3.612 |
| M062X | 0.51 | 3.646 |
| LC-wPBE | 0.01 | > 10 |
| CAM-B3LYP | 0.01 | > 10 |

Topology **2b**

| Method | DE (kcal/mol) | d _{Hg...Hg} (Å) |
|----------|---------------|--------------------------|
| B3LYP | 0.21 | 3.993 |
| PBEPBE | 0.85 | 3.402 |
| TPSSTPSS | 0.04 | 3.533 |
| TPSSh | 0.00 | 3.535 |
| M06L | 1.64 | 3.337 |
| M062X | 1.95 | 3.382 |

| | | |
|-----------|------|-------|
| LC-wPBE | 0.00 | 3.651 |
| CAM-B3LYP | 0.20 | 3.595 |

Topology **2c**

| Method | DE (kcal/mol) | $d_{\text{Hg}\cdots\text{Hg}}$ (Å) |
|-----------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| B3LYP | 0.39 | 4.069 |
| PBEPBE | 1.48 | 3.684 |
| TPSSTPSS | 0.85 | 3.715 |
| TPSSh | 0.88 | 3.716 |
| M06L | 2.59 | 3.585 |
| M062X | 2.88 | 3.600 |
| LC-wPBE | 1.08 | 3.700 |
| CAM-B3LYP | 0.94 | 3.826 |

Table S8. Dissociation energies and key structural parameters of $(\text{HgH}_2)_2$ dimers with topology **2a**, **2b** and **2c** fully optimized at the DFT level of theory (BSSE corrected) without dispersion correction term.

OPTIMIZED STRUCTURES

Table S9. Optimized cartesian coordinates of $(\text{HgH}_2)_2$ dimers with topologies **2a**, **2b** and **2c**.

2a

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Hg | 0.0181830 | -0.000047 | 0.0005597 |
| H | 0.0188209 | -1.645563 | -0.0003879 |
| H | 0.0191229 | 1.645468 | -0.0003879 |
| Hg | 3.5158170 | -0.000367 | 0.0000720 |
| H | 3.5152582 | 0.000254 | 1.6455883 |
| H | 3.5147979 | 0.000254 | -1.6454442 |

2b

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Hg | 0.216992 | 0.000000 | 0.000000 |
| H | -0.215016 | -1.644959 | 0.000000 |
| H | -0.215016 | 1.644959 | 0.000000 |
| Hg | 3.750991 | 0.000000 | 0.000001 |
| H | 3.749016 | -1.644959 | 0.000000 |
| H | 3.749016 | 1.644959 | 0.000000 |

2c

| | | | |
|----|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Hg | -0.107536 | -0.1128713 | -0.000014 |
| H | 0.901819 | -1.4201582 | 0.000014 |
| H | -1.133615 | 1.1693399 | 0.000000 |
| Hg | 3.641536 | 0.1128713 | 0.000014 |
| H | 4.667613 | -1.1693409 | -0.000014 |
| H | 2.632181 | 1.4201591 | -0.000000 |

Table S10. Optimized cartesian coordinates of $(\text{Hg}(\text{CH}_3)_2)_2$ dimers with topologies **2a**, **2b** and **2c**.

2a

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Hg | 0.577677 | -0.342599 | -0.057568 |
| C | 0.577999 | -0.329760 | -2.132742 |
| H | 1.459804 | 0.183590 | -2.516909 |
| H | 0.577980 | -1.342889 | -2.534645 |
| H | -0.303656 | 0.183701 | -2.517101 |
| C | 0.577884 | -0.321700 | 2.017540 |
| H | -0.303793 | 0.193249 | 2.399853 |
| H | 0.577842 | -1.333260 | 2.423375 |
| H | 1.459668 | 0.193137 | 2.399761 |
| Hg | 0.577631 | 3.031801 | -0.064305 |
| C | -1.497512 | 3.015008 | -0.064304 |
| H | -1.880780 | 2.499151 | -0.945036 |
| H | -1.880798 | 2.502594 | 0.818428 |
| H | -1.901349 | 4.027367 | -0.066285 |
| C | 2.652776 | 3.014879 | -0.064270 |
| H | 3.036025 | 2.502440 | 0.818461 |
| H | 3.036034 | 2.498994 | -0.944988 |
| H | 3.056674 | 4.027213 | -0.066247 |

2b

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Hg | 0.577694 | -0.541939 | -0.057197 |
| C | -1.496271 | -0.547816 | -0.057360 |
| H | -1.889205 | -0.040975 | -0.938380 |
| H | -1.882112 | -1.567392 | -0.055412 |
| H | -1.889368 | -0.037545 | 0.821605 |
| C | 2.651658 | -0.547816 | -0.057359 |
| H | 3.044755 | -0.037547 | 0.821606 |
| H | 3.037499 | -1.567392 | -0.055413 |
| H | 3.044593 | -0.040974 | -0.938379 |
| Hg | 0.577694 | 3.231128 | -0.064584 |
| C | -1.496269 | 3.237030 | -0.064694 |
| H | -1.889233 | 2.726772 | -0.943727 |
| H | -1.889343 | 2.730100 | 0.816258 |
| H | -1.882102 | 4.256609 | -0.066698 |
| C | 2.651657 | 3.237030 | -0.064695 |
| H | 3.044730 | 2.730100 | 0.816257 |
| H | 3.044620 | 2.726772 | -0.943727 |
| H | 3.037489 | 4.256609 | -0.066698 |

2c

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Hg | 0.818260 | -0.574498 | -0.057358 |
| C | -0.981234 | -1.603993 | -0.054738 |
| H | -1.571934 | -1.352509 | -0.935722 |
| H | -0.822179 | -2.682308 | -0.052067 |
| H | -1.571874 | -1.348139 | 0.825027 |
| C | 2.631301 | 0.439441 | -0.059946 |
| H | 2.736494 | 1.075428 | 0.819346 |
| H | 3.461569 | -0.267402 | -0.058842 |
| H | 2.735908 | 1.071983 | -0.941790 |
| Hg | 0.337130 | 3.263686 | -0.064660 |
| C | -1.475850 | 2.249634 | -0.063275 |
| H | -1.580455 | 1.613682 | -0.942664 |
| H | -1.580975 | 1.617042 | 0.818470 |
| H | -2.306159 | 2.956428 | -0.064872 |
| C | 2.136562 | 4.293292 | -0.066071 |
| H | 2.726939 | 4.041408 | 0.815015 |
| H | 2.727554 | 4.037910 | -0.945736 |
| H | 1.977440 | 5.371597 | -0.068264 |

Table S11. Optimized cartesian coordinates of $(\text{Hg}(\text{CN})_2)_2$ dimers with topologies **2a** and **2c**.

2a

| | | | |
|----|----------|-----------|-----------|
| C | 0.321825 | -0.492275 | -0.137642 |
| Hg | 0.282298 | -0.502278 | -2.134980 |
| Hg | 3.792960 | 1.534609 | -2.091802 |
| C | 2.738078 | 3.231101 | -2.082195 |
| C | 0.347269 | -0.451662 | -4.131030 |
| C | 4.743533 | -0.222460 | -2.102702 |
| N | 0.430097 | -0.396247 | -5.272534 |
| N | 0.390064 | -0.460115 | 1.005718 |
| N | 5.241878 | -1.254240 | -2.109532 |
| N | 2.088899 | 4.175296 | -2.077225 |

2c

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C | 1.219098 | -0.038505 | -0.520125 |
| Hg | -0.347508 | -1.207365 | -0.109110 |
| C | -1.969843 | -2.360165 | 0.230232 |
| C | -0.391759 | -3.139557 | 2.750917 |
| Hg | -2.013878 | -4.292730 | 3.089941 |
| C | -3.580196 | -5.461992 | 3.500715 |
| N | 2.106659 | 0.639168 | -0.776004 |
| N | -2.811518 | -3.063476 | 0.564493 |
| N | 0.449753 | -2.435996 | 2.416770 |
| N | -4.467929 | -6.139307 | 3.756946 |

Table S12. Optimized cartesian coordinates of (Hg(Cl)₂)₂ dimers with topologies **2a** and **2c**.

2a

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Hg | 0.000009 | 0.000006 | 1.793913 |
| Hg | -0.000006 | -0.000009 | -1.793913 |
| Cl | -0.000003 | 2.235907 | 1.733897 |
| Cl | 0.000011 | -2.235896 | 1.733912 |
| Cl | -2.235907 | 0.000003 | -1.733897 |
| Cl | 2.235897 | -0.000011 | -1.733912 |

2b

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cl | 0.740295 | -0.699296 | 0.216317 |
| Hg | -1.494556 | -0.719863 | 0.241149 |
| Hg | -1.513760 | 1.508972 | -3.624466 |
| Cl | -3.748614 | 1.488505 | -3.599576 |
| Cl | -3.729598 | -0.717679 | 0.226424 |
| Cl | 0.721284 | 1.506705 | -3.609786 |

2c

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cl | 1.091208 | -0.197288 | -0.389036 |
| Hg | -0.699791 | -1.482397 | 0.002669 |
| Cl | -2.574982 | -2.724875 | 0.262410 |
| Cl | 0.213585 | -2.775150 | 2.718544 |
| Hg | -1.661634 | -4.017586 | 2.978291 |
| Cl | -3.452662 | -5.302659 | 3.369989 |

Table S13. Optimized cartesian coordinates of (Hg(Br)₂)₂ dimers with topologies **2a**, **2b** and **2c**.

2a

| | | | |
|----|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Br | 0.560547 | -0.355030 | 0.235237 |
| Hg | 0.513469 | -0.366789 | -2.133590 |
| Hg | 3.561951 | 1.399088 | -2.093246 |
| Br | 2.310640 | 3.410967 | -2.082022 |
| Br | 0.593769 | -0.304829 | -4.500731 |
| Br | 4.685898 | -0.686619 | -2.106178 |

2b

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Br | 0.872040 | -0.689857 | 0.200722 |
| Hg | -1.494853 | -0.711061 | 0.225990 |
| Hg | -1.513463 | 1.500172 | -3.609303 |
| Br | -3.880356 | 1.479018 | -3.584009 |
| Br | -3.861936 | -0.709605 | 0.212029 |
| Br | 0.853620 | 1.498676 | -3.595367 |

2c

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Br | 1.213231 | -0.098648 | -0.434322 |
| Hg | -0.689580 | -1.456324 | -0.025819 |
| Br | -2.694935 | -2.749656 | 0.196996 |
| Br | 0.333472 | -2.750267 | 2.784024 |
| Hg | -1.671885 | -4.043583 | 3.006844 |
| Br | -3.574578 | -5.401477 | 3.415144 |

Table S14. Optimized cartesian coordinates of (HgI₂)₂ dimers with topologies **2a**, **2b** and **2c**.**2a**

| | | | |
|----|----------|-----------|-----------|
| I | 0.593120 | -0.336822 | 0.413651 |
| Hg | 0.535468 | -0.354312 | -2.133233 |
| Hg | 3.539815 | 1.386367 | -2.093501 |
| I | 2.187504 | 3.545405 | -2.081229 |
| I | 0.629522 | -0.283517 | -4.678094 |
| I | 4.740845 | -0.860333 | -2.108124 |

2b

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| I | 1.049854 | -0.720181 | 0.254202 |
| Hg | -1.494722 | -0.735718 | 0.268720 |
| Hg | -1.513594 | 1.524841 | -3.652026 |
| I | -4.058170 | 1.509339 | -3.637491 |
| I | -4.039378 | -0.741513 | 0.266536 |
| I | 1.031062 | 1.530576 | -3.649879 |

2c

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| I | 1.381440 | 0.053723 | -0.518175 |
| Hg | -0.663684 | -1.408082 | -0.076317 |
| I | -2.839665 | -2.770834 | 0.104167 |
| I | 0.478226 | -2.729116 | 2.876820 |
| Hg | -1.697747 | -4.091886 | 3.057305 |
| I | -3.742845 | -5.553759 | 3.499066 |

Table S15. Optimized cartesian coordinates of $(\text{Hg}(\text{CF}_3)_2)_2$ dimers with topologies **2a** and **2c**.

2a

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Hg | 0.738556 | -0.424882 | 0.066396 |
| C | 0.746609 | -0.523976 | -2.028871 |
| F | 1.872273 | -1.056358 | -2.534324 |
| F | -0.278325 | -1.231534 | -2.533503 |
| F | 0.644794 | 0.723659 | -2.558714 |
| C | 0.717464 | -0.172995 | 2.149072 |
| F | 0.604732 | 1.145917 | 2.461862 |
| F | -0.312539 | -0.790570 | 2.751593 |
| F | 1.837250 | -0.606935 | 2.751544 |
| Hg | 0.415917 | 3.112708 | -0.186930 |
| C | -1.662403 | 2.827089 | -0.195233 |
| F | -2.259957 | 3.279287 | -1.310494 |
| F | -1.955181 | 1.501271 | -0.118334 |
| F | -2.285344 | 3.409651 | 0.843070 |
| C | 2.509098 | 3.247861 | -0.168317 |
| F | 3.059874 | 2.007723 | -0.087887 |
| F | 3.017876 | 3.814008 | -1.275866 |
| F | 2.989412 | 3.940991 | 0.877951 |

2c

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Hg | 0.343658 | -1.004668 | -0.056429 |
| C | -1.367994 | -2.213143 | -0.053947 |
| F | -2.146490 | -1.999273 | -1.132370 |
| F | -1.066521 | -3.528387 | -0.054977 |
| F | -2.142661 | -2.000091 | 1.027422 |
| C | 2.075723 | 0.188747 | -0.058889 |
| F | 2.139394 | 1.013751 | 1.018130 |
| F | 3.215646 | -0.518911 | -0.057248 |
| F | 2.139498 | 1.008957 | -1.139536 |
| Hg | 0.811733 | 3.693837 | -0.065486 |
| C | -0.920308 | 2.500399 | -0.063606 |
| F | -0.983935 | 1.675998 | -1.141070 |
| F | -0.984109 | 1.679583 | 1.016599 |
| F | -2.060240 | 3.208043 | -0.064855 |
| C | 2.523361 | 4.902366 | -0.067592 |
| F | 3.297084 | 4.694865 | 1.015529 |
| F | 3.302811 | 4.683029 | -1.144227 |
| F | 2.221844 | 6.217577 | -0.075594 |

Table S16. Optimized cartesian coordinates of $(\text{Hg}(\text{SiH}_3)_2)_2$ dimers with topologies **2a**, **2b** and **2c**.

2a

| | | | |
|----|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Hg | 0.578004 | -0.251717 | -0.057734 |
| Si | 0.578021 | -0.211901 | -2.523345 |

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| H | 1.774657 | 0.494774 | -3.045919 |
| H | 0.577931 | -1.581268 | -3.096862 |
| H | -0.618503 | 0.494942 | -3.045954 |
| Si | 0.577546 | -0.202065 | 2.407712 |
| H | -0.619079 | 0.506828 | 2.927303 |
| H | 0.577350 | -1.569140 | 2.986664 |
| H | 1.774073 | 0.506671 | 2.927738 |
| Hg | 0.577787 | 2.940938 | -0.064191 |
| Si | -1.887743 | 2.896121 | -0.063928 |
| H | -2.409014 | 2.186407 | -1.259333 |
| H | -2.408819 | 2.190218 | 1.133819 |
| H | -2.464032 | 4.264321 | -0.066058 |
| Si | 3.043322 | 2.896274 | -0.064226 |
| H | 3.564596 | 2.190410 | 1.133458 |
| H | 3.564491 | 2.186591 | -1.259693 |
| H | 3.619519 | 4.264512 | -0.066433 |

2b

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Hg | 0.577694 | -0.637832 | -0.057293 |
| Si | -1.885688 | -0.703897 | -0.057055 |
| H | -2.462153 | -0.048209 | -1.256683 |
| H | -2.353397 | -2.114386 | -0.054318 |
| H | -2.462081 | -0.043556 | 1.140053 |
| Si | 3.041076 | -0.703898 | -0.057056 |
| H | 3.617470 | -0.043559 | 1.140053 |
| H | 3.508785 | -2.114387 | -0.054321 |
| H | 3.617541 | -0.048208 | -1.256683 |
| Hg | 0.577693 | 3.327034 | -0.064879 |
| Si | -1.885689 | 3.393095 | -0.064991 |
| H | -2.462081 | 2.732783 | -1.262116 |
| H | -2.462149 | 2.737369 | 1.134620 |
| H | -2.353405 | 4.803582 | -0.067722 |
| Si | 3.041075 | 3.393094 | -0.064990 |
| H | 3.617535 | 2.737366 | 1.134620 |
| H | 3.617468 | 2.732784 | -1.262116 |
| H | 3.508792 | 4.803581 | -0.067720 |

2c

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Hg | 0.303291 | -0.967514 | -0.056418 |
| Si | -1.690087 | -2.404262 | -0.050724 |
| H | -2.533696 | -2.154517 | -1.247051 |
| H | -1.338327 | -3.847473 | -0.048955 |
| H | -2.530364 | -2.150825 | 1.147204 |
| Si | 2.310027 | 0.464277 | -0.062416 |
| H | 2.344474 | 1.368074 | 1.122470 |
| H | 3.586544 | -0.292871 | -0.060284 |
| H | 2.343562 | 1.360346 | -1.253097 |
| Hg | 0.852066 | 3.656749 | -0.065398 |
| Si | -1.154769 | 2.225083 | -0.065872 |
| H | -1.188316 | 1.324400 | -1.253062 |

| | | | |
|----|-----------|----------|-----------|
| H | -1.189346 | 1.325900 | 1.122518 |
| H | -2.431233 | 2.982325 | -0.066754 |
| Si | 2.845601 | 5.093289 | -0.065047 |
| H | 3.684375 | 4.846257 | 1.135265 |
| H | 3.690644 | 4.836906 | -1.258964 |
| H | 2.494050 | 6.536536 | -0.071560 |

Table S17. Optimized cartesian coordinates of $(\text{Hg}(\text{SiMe}_3)_2)_2$ dimers with topologies **2a** and **2c**.

2a

| | | | |
|---|-----------|------------|-----------|
| C | 18.866075 | -11.621055 | 14.773972 |
| C | 16.662888 | -8.539042 | 13.246504 |
| C | 22.987708 | -8.704818 | 14.646081 |
| C | 20.656940 | -5.476480 | 13.733488 |
| C | 18.684602 | -12.106537 | 11.789627 |
| C | 15.973853 | -8.691964 | 16.191216 |
| C | 22.484865 | -7.242122 | 17.249954 |
| C | 22.020575 | -6.280641 | 11.152011 |
| C | 21.370374 | -12.266107 | 13.203220 |
| C | 16.693122 | -6.023335 | 14.927822 |
| C | 22.073072 | -10.248065 | 17.082259 |
| C | 19.022573 | -5.785666 | 11.206073 |
| H | 18.679193 | -12.687537 | 14.915988 |
| H | 15.601654 | -8.381085 | 13.043105 |
| H | 24.025098 | -8.834922 | 14.961356 |
| H | 20.861490 | -4.436484 | 13.470633 |
| H | 19.469113 | -11.277617 | 15.615782 |
| H | 17.227027 | -8.041088 | 12.456475 |
| H | 22.733553 | -9.543506 | 13.996224 |
| H | 19.750220 | -5.490330 | 14.340147 |
| H | 17.905907 | -11.106315 | 14.815044 |
| H | 16.858738 | -9.609376 | 13.177833 |
| H | 22.931780 | -7.790857 | 14.054333 |
| H | 21.481533 | -5.832012 | 14.351604 |
| H | 17.712215 | -11.618045 | 11.717435 |
| H | 16.147225 | -9.768075 | 16.226914 |
| H | 22.409230 | -6.274927 | 16.751826 |
| H | 22.898847 | -6.658445 | 11.676671 |
| H | 19.166846 | -12.029844 | 10.814517 |
| H | 16.133310 | -8.297379 | 17.195268 |
| H | 21.912146 | -7.183207 | 18.176126 |
| H | 21.950752 | -6.808612 | 10.200373 |
| H | 18.514129 | -13.164745 | 11.997721 |
| H | 14.926491 | -8.529501 | 15.928899 |
| H | 23.532340 | -7.403365 | 17.512554 |
| H | 22.186753 | -5.222965 | 10.937853 |
| H | 21.192143 | -13.329669 | 13.374232 |
| H | 15.636174 | -5.870593 | 14.700445 |
| H | 23.115143 | -10.382086 | 17.379425 |
| H | 19.213622 | -4.737708 | 10.966314 |
| H | 21.927605 | -12.165420 | 12.271241 |

| | | | |
|----|-----------|------------|-----------|
| H | 16.898214 | -5.561270 | 15.894088 |
| H | 21.461489 | -10.271790 | 17.984816 |
| H | 18.863024 | -6.320153 | 10.269016 |
| H | 22.005299 | -11.900967 | 14.010947 |
| H | 17.275881 | -5.491669 | 14.175166 |
| H | 21.790217 | -11.102334 | 16.466551 |
| H | 18.095103 | -5.832639 | 11.777372 |
| Hg | 20.101886 | -8.920565 | 12.656636 |
| Hg | 19.481970 | -8.243330 | 15.545805 |
| Si | 19.742145 | -11.333104 | 13.135158 |
| Si | 17.101223 | -7.856149 | 14.943089 |
| Si | 21.861726 | -8.631398 | 16.150475 |
| Si | 20.460896 | -6.508089 | 12.173319 |

2c

| | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|
| C | -13.728758 | -9.298642 | -16.262308 |
| C | -19.412831 | -12.680525 | -16.741858 |
| C | -20.253089 | -4.786820 | -19.081324 |
| C | -25.935284 | -8.168780 | -19.570844 |
| C | -14.986053 | -7.080442 | -17.906345 |
| C | -19.098794 | -7.076684 | -17.473106 |
| C | -20.567499 | -10.392212 | -18.352076 |
| C | -24.681580 | -10.387269 | -17.924498 |
| C | -23.858401 | -9.991733 | -20.822244 |
| C | -21.081685 | -5.185455 | -16.186154 |
| C | -15.803999 | -7.476422 | -15.007170 |
| C | -18.585587 | -12.285220 | -19.637857 |
| H | -12.945380 | -8.606172 | -15.947474 |
| H | -19.428741 | -4.155466 | -18.743529 |
| H | -20.237468 | -13.312099 | -17.078536 |
| H | -26.718318 | -8.861024 | -19.887028 |
| H | -13.853122 | -10.043308 | -15.475276 |
| H | -18.557628 | -13.326335 | -16.539725 |
| H | -25.809321 | -7.424174 | -20.357679 |
| H | -21.108303 | -4.140946 | -19.283204 |
| H | -13.378909 | -9.815175 | -17.156859 |
| H | -19.709025 | -12.217222 | -15.799971 |
| H | -19.956316 | -5.249051 | -20.023555 |
| H | -26.286541 | -7.652117 | -18.676920 |
| H | -14.653143 | -7.542401 | -18.836598 |
| H | -18.780648 | -7.592835 | -18.380528 |
| H | -20.885317 | -9.875202 | -17.445031 |
| H | -25.015964 | -9.925155 | -16.994851 |
| H | -15.875394 | -6.489959 | -18.128452 |
| H | -19.262885 | -7.825713 | -16.696509 |
| H | -20.403545 | -9.643907 | -19.129402 |
| H | -23.792839 | -10.978054 | -17.700802 |
| H | -14.202814 | -6.396123 | -17.573828 |
| H | -18.284337 | -6.426256 | -17.150084 |
| H | -21.382127 | -11.042829 | -18.674287 |
| H | -25.464472 | -11.071328 | -18.258367 |
| H | -24.649727 | -10.681956 | -21.121740 |

| | | | |
|----|------------|------------|------------|
| H | -20.249928 | -4.550084 | -15.875037 |
| H | -15.012359 | -6.785969 | -14.709035 |
| H | -19.417600 | -12.920806 | -19.947847 |
| H | -22.941545 | -10.567592 | -20.693706 |
| H | -21.285961 | -5.888914 | -15.378079 |
| H | -16.721265 | -6.900839 | -15.134016 |
| H | -18.381608 | -11.582695 | -20.446819 |
| H | -23.698218 | -9.290838 | -21.642408 |
| H | -21.961035 | -4.551365 | -16.304420 |
| H | -15.962492 | -8.177425 | -14.186772 |
| H | -17.706278 | -12.919317 | -19.519329 |
| Hg | -22.514334 | -7.569976 | -18.516155 |
| Hg | -17.151301 | -9.898433 | -17.311250 |
| Si | -24.333274 | -9.093343 | -19.241756 |
| Si | -20.664991 | -6.080974 | -17.783834 |
| Si | -15.331626 | -8.374559 | -16.588553 |
| Si | -19.001338 | -11.387861 | -18.040962 |