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Electronic supplementary information for

# Adaptive Responses of Sterically Confined Intramolecular Chalcogen Bonds

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### **S1.** Measurement of cone angles

The space filling model for the coordinates of 2-formyl-6-methylphenylselenenyl bromide was generated in ChemCraft software.<sup>1</sup> Then, dummies were introduced to calculate the cone angle. The positions of the dummies were adjusted to form a cone at the periphery of atoms forming the cone as in illustrated Figure S1.



**Figure S1**. Showing the two half cone angles formed at the edges of van der Walls spheres of hydrogen atoms.

XYZ coordinates:

6	2.144500000	5.322800000	-0.001000000
6	2.136900000	3.822800000	0.000000000
6	3.404500000	3.083100000	0.000600000
6	3.398000000	1.750300000	0.000600000

6	2.122900000	1.022600000	0.000300000
6	0.971700000	1.694900000	0.000100000
6	0.979100000	3.162400000	-0.000100000
1	1.203600000	5.661400000	-0.001300000
1	2.617600000	5.653800000	-0.817500000
1	2.617300000	5.654800000	0.815300000
1	4.272900000	3.579000000	0.001000000
1	4.261500000	1.246000000	0.000900000
1	2.117900000	0.022600000	0.000100000
1	0.103200000	1.199200000	0.000100000
1	0.115600000	3.666900000	-0.000300000
0	-1.400600000	6.566900000	-0.000300000
0	3.337300000	6.654800000	3.455300000

#### **S2.** Computation of electrostatic surface potential (ESP)

All computational calculations were performed in Gaussian 09, Revision A.02.<sup>2</sup> The structures were optimized at B3LYP-D2/6-31g(d) level. The dispersion correction were requested using command iop(3/124=3). Atoms in molecules analysis (AIM)<sup>3</sup> were on these geometries using the key words #p B3LYP/6-311++G(2df,2p) iop(3/124=3) density=current output=wfn. The electrostatic potential (using file.wfn) were obtained using Multiwfn software,<sup>4</sup> and the pictures were drawn using VMD package.<sup>5</sup> ESPs were computed on isodensity surface,  $\rho(r)=0.001$  au. Figure S2 shows the interaction of positive electrostatic potentials of "H" atom of formyl group in **9a** 

with the negative electrostatic potential of "Se". Due to this interaction, "Se" of the "ArSe" do not have any blue color region (Negative ESP). Whereas "Se" of the "SeMe" has blue color regions.



**Figure S2**. ESP map of **9a** (anti, anti) conformer showing the  $H_{(CHO)}$ . Se interaction, isodensity surface,  $\rho(r)=0.001$  au.

#### S3. Calculation of E<sub>IChB</sub> for 2-substituted systems

The structures of **2b**, **4b**, **8b**, **36** and **37** were optimized at B3LYP-D2/6-31g(d) level. The dispersion correction were requested using command iop(3/124=3). The key words used for this calculation is #p opt freq b3lyp/6-31g(d) iop(3/124=3). Computed structures do not have any imaginary frequencies. The IChB energy ( $E_{IChB} = \Delta E$ ) is the net energy of the homodesmic reaction ( $E_{IChB} =$  Sum of the product energy- Sum of reactant energy). The calculated electronic energies for the reactants and products are provides in Table S1 and computed  $E_{IChB}$  are provided in Table 2 of main manuscript..



**Table S1**.Provides the computed electronic energies of the reactant and products for

 homodesmic reactions of 2-substituted systems

Entry	Energy (Hartree)	Entry	Energy (Hartree)
PhCHO	-345.583824551	2b	-5183.69766908
PhCOOMe	-460.143180986	4b	-5184.89289257
Benzene	-232.255735693	8	-5316.1004815
PhCH <sub>2</sub> OH	-346.780184001	36	-5298.25517387
PhSeBr	-5202.75998457	37	-5430.65692443
PhSeSeMe	-5070.36424726	-	-





PhCHO

Benzene





PhCOOMe

PhCH<sub>2</sub>OH



PhSeBr

PhSeSeMe





2b



4b



36



8



## S4. Computation of strain energy

The structures of 2,6-disubstituted model systems X (9b, 10b, 16b, 17b, and 22b) and their 2,4disubstituted isomers X' (9b', 10b', 16b', 17b', and 22b') were optimized at B3LYP-D2/6-31g(d) level. Computed structures do not have any imaginary frequencies. The energy difference between the two isomers is referred as the strain energy (E<sub>st</sub> = Energy of the 2,4-disubstituted system - Energy of the 2,6-disubstituted system). The E<sub>st</sub> are tabulated in Table S2.

Entry	Energy of X	Entry	Energy X'	$Est=(E_{\mathbf{x}'}-E_{\mathbf{x}})\times$
	(Hartree)		(Hartree)	627.509 (kcal/mol)
9b	-5297.01548289	9b'	-5297.02499745	5.97
10b	-5526.13231653	10b'	-5526.1427186	6.53
16b	-5658.53065283	16b'	-5658.54399431	8.47
17b	-5299.42092146	17b'	-5299.41762039	-2.07
22b	-5429.41376412	22b'	-5429.4267831	8.17

Table S2. Provides the electronic energies of entries and the  $E_{st}$ 



9b



9b′

<mark>2.611</mark>









10b′



















16b′

#### S5. Calculation of E<sub>IChB</sub> for 2,4-disubstituted systems

Electronic energies of the 2,4-disubstituted isomers X' (9b', 10b', 16b', 17b', and 22b') and their homodesmic reaction partners and products were computed at B3LYP-D2/6-31g(d) level (Table S3). Computed structures do not have any imaginary frequencies. The  $E_{IChB}$  is the net energy of the homodesmic reaction ( $E_{IChB}$  = Sum of the product energy- Sum of reactant energy). The  $E_{IChB}$  are tabulated in Table 1 of the main manuscript.



17b''

Table S3. Provides the sum of computed electronic energies the reactant and products of

homodesmic reactions 2,4-disubstituted systems

Entry	Sum of reactant Energy ( $\Sigma E_R$ )	Sum of product Energy	$\Delta E = \Sigma E_P - \Sigma E_R$	$\Delta E = \Sigma E_P - \Sigma E_R$
	(Hartree)	$(\Sigma E_P)$ (Hartree)	(Hartree)	(kcal/mol)
	5642 600022	5640 60000	0.005024	2 (5 4 2 2 0
90'	-5642.608822	-5642.602998	-0.005824	-3.654328
10b'	-5986.285900	-5986.282224	-0.003675	-2.306341
16b'	-6118.687175	-6118.675536	-0.011639	-7.303735
17b'	-5646.197804	-5646.192202	-0.005602	-3.515433
22b'	-5775.010608	-5774.995449	-0.015159	-9.512464





Isophthalaldehyde

Dimethyl isophthalate



1,3-phenylenedimethanol





9b''

10b''

16b″

Briz



17b''

Se11 Cs Cs Hu

22b''

#### **S6.** Calculations of rotational energy barrier

The structures of benzaldehyde, methyl benzoate, and N-methylbenzamide systems were computed at B3LYP-D2/6-31 g(d) level. The one-dimensional potential energy surface was screened by rotating the carbonyl function around aryl plane. The keywords used for this calculation is #p opt=modredundant b3lyp/6-31g(d) iop(3/124=3). The functional groups (formyl, ester, and amide) were allowed to rotate around aryl plane and the energies were computed at every 10° interval of torsion angle. Then, the variation of electronic energy as a function of dihedral angle (=CH=CH-C=O) is plotted. Table S4 provides the rotational energy barriers.



R = H, OMe, NHMe



#### Torsion

Energy Barrier (kcal/mol)		
9.847353		
7.560001		
4.559326		

Table S4. Shows the rotational energy barrier for the rotors

# S7. Computation of reaction coordinates for the hydrolysis of arylselenenyl bromides models 16b and 22b

The structures of reaction complexes (RC), transition states (TS), and the product complexes (PC) were optimized at B3LYP-D2/6-31 g(d) level. The frequency calculations indicates that the reactant complexes (16-RC and 22-RC) and product complexes (16b-PC and 22b-PC) does not show any imaginary frequencies. However, the transition states (16b-TS and 22b-TS) showed one imaginary frequency along the reaction path. Table S5 provides the computed free energy along the reaction path.





# Table S5.

Entry	Sum of electronic and	$\Delta G^{\#}$
	thermal Free Energies	(kcal/mol)
22b-RC	-5505.724647	27.09
22b-TS	-5505.681470	
22b-PC	-5505.701324	
16b-RC	-5734.769893	32.239
16b-TS	-5734.718516	
16b-PC	-5734.745691	

#### **S8.** Dispersion contribution to $E_{net}$ and $E_{IChB}$

The  $E_{net}$  values for the systems (**2b**, **4b**, **8**, **36**, **37**, **9b**, **10b**, **16b**, **17b**, and **22b**) were computed using dispersion included (Grimme D2 and D3) and dispersion not included DFT methods at B3LYP/6-31G(d) level.<sup>6</sup> The correlation plots between  $E_{net}$  obtained using dispersion not included and included DFT methods are shown in Figure S3 and S4. The correlation plots between  $E_{IChB}$  for 2,6-disubstitued system is shown in figure S5. The computed  $E_{net}$  values are provided in Table S6.

**Table S6.** Table provides net stabilization energies ( $E_{net}$ ) computed for the systems (**2b**, **4b**, **8**, **36**, **37**, **9b**, **10b**, **16b**, **17b**, and **22b**) using dispersion not included and dispersion included DFT methods.

Entry	B3LYP/6-31g(d)	DFT-D2	DFT-D3	%E <sub>Dis</sub> *
	(kcal/mol)	(kcal/mol)	(kcal/mol)	
2b	-3.38276	-3.34648	-3.4718	3
4b	-1.90577	-2.63366	-2.58639	26
8	-7.88995	-7.78618	-7.96924	0
36	-2.12671	-2.18456	-2.34819	9
37	-5.79342	-5.95793	-6.03724	4
9b	3.8076	2.31614	2.104189	45
10b	7.110189	4.221052	3.936324	45
16b	3.694356	1.068164	0.87494	76
17b	-2.57865	-5.58688	-5.03563	49
22b	-0.37532	-1.34294	-1.6939	78

 $*E_{dis} = E_{net}(DFT) - E_{net}(DFT-D3)$ 



Figure S3. (a) The plot of  $E_{net}$  (DFT) Vs  $E_{net}$  (DFT-D2) for 2-substituted systems; (b) The plot of

 $E_{net}$  (DFT) Vs  $E_{net}$  (DFT-D3) for 2-substituted systems



**Figure S4.** (a) The plot of  $E_{net}$  (DFT) Vs  $E_{net}$  (DFT-D2) for 2,6-substituted systems; (b) The plot of  $E_{net}$  (DFT) Vs  $E_{net}$  (DFT-D3) for 2,6-disubstituted systems



**Figure S5**. (a) The plot of  $E_{IChB}$  (DFT) Vs  $E_{IChB}$  (DFT-D2) for 2,6-substituted systems; (b)The plot of  $E_{IChB}$  (DFT) Vs  $E_{IChB}$  (DFT-D3) for 2,6-disubstituted systems.

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