

## Supporting Information

### Altering CO binding on Gold Cluster Cations by Pd-doping

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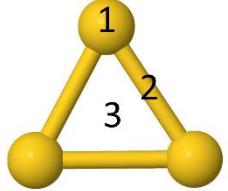
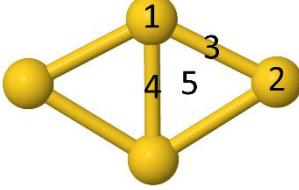
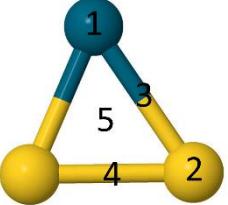
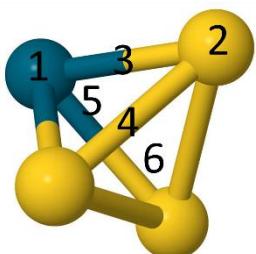
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#### Content

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**1. Adsorption sites and their relative binding energies  $\Delta E_b$  and the corresponding calculated frequencies for CO molecule on  $\text{Au}_N^+(\text{CO})$  and  $\text{PdAu}_{N-1}^+(\text{CO})$ ,  $N=3$  and  $4$ , clusters**

**Table S1:** Adsorption sites and their relative binding energies  $\Delta E_b$ , together with the corresponding calculated frequencies for a CO molecule on  $\text{Au}_N^+(\text{CO})$  and  $\text{PdAu}_{N-1}^+(\text{CO})$ ,  $N=3$  and  $4$ , clusters. The most favourable site for each cluster (having  $\Delta E_b = 0.00$  eV and nearest  $\nu_{\text{CO}}$  to the corresponding measured value) is shown in bold.

Model	Site	$\Delta E_b / \text{eV}$	$\nu_{\text{CO}} / \text{cm}^{-1}$
	<b>1 (atop)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2198.77</b>
	2 (bridge)	0.11	2074.08
	3 (hollow)	0.13	1962.13
	<b>1 (atop)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2184.57</b>
	2 (atop)	0.18	2192.81
	3 (bridge)	0.19	1961.22
	4 (bridge)	0.21	1893.45
	5 (hollow)	0.18	1969.51
	1 (atop)	0.23	2018.67
	<b>2 (atop)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2196.14</b>
	3 (bridge)	0.14	1938.70
	4 (bridge)	0.11	1959.22
	5 (hollow)	0.18	1880.78
	1 (atop)	0.25	1950.11
	<b>2 (atop)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2180.24</b>
	3 (bridge)	0.18	1992.02
	4 (bridge)	0.14	2030.27
	5 (hollow)	0.20	1971.10
	6 (hollow)	0.16	1997.76

## 2. Cluster-CO binding energies, CO stretching frequencies, and average bond lengths

**Table S2:** Cluster-CO binding energies, CO stretching frequencies, and average bond lengths of putative global minima of  $\text{Au}_N^+(\text{CO})$  and  $\text{PdAu}_{N-1}^+(\text{CO})$ ,  $N=2-11$ , clusters.

Species	Average Bond Length (Å)				$E_b$ / eV	$\nu_{\text{CO}}$ / cm <sup>-1</sup>
	Au-Au	Au-Pd	M-C	C-O		
$\text{Au}_2^+(\text{CO})$	2.61	-----	1.93	1.12	1.93	2215.09
$\text{Au}_3^+(\text{CO})$	2.63	-----	1.95	1.12	1.76	2198.78
$\text{Au}_4^+(\text{CO})$	2.68	-----	1.95	1.12	1.62	2184.57
$\text{Au}_5^+(\text{CO})$	2.64	-----	1.94	1.12	1.40	2180.69
$\text{Au}_6^+(\text{CO})$	2.66	-----	1.96	1.12	1.46	2189.97
$\text{Au}_7^+(\text{CO})$	2.70	-----	1.96	1.12	1.78	2170.97
$\text{Au}_8^+(\text{CO})$	2.67	-----	1.96	1.12	1.38	2175.98
$\text{Au}_9^+(\text{CO})$	2.74	----	1.98	1.12	1.62	2173.18
$\text{Au}_{10}^+(\text{CO})$	2.62	-----	1.96	1.12	1.47	2171.06
$\text{Au}_{11}^+(\text{CO})$	2.71	----	1.97	1.12	1.60	2169.51
$\text{PdAu}^+(\text{CO})$	-----	2.59	(Au-C=2.0980), (Pd-C=1.8576)	1.14	5.93	2035.40
$\text{PdAu}_2^+(\text{CO})$	2.57	2.68	1.95	1.12	1.99	2196.14
$\text{PdAu}_3^+(\text{CO})$	2.75	2.61	1.94	1.12	1.66	2180.25
$\text{PdAu}_4^+(\text{CO})$	2.75	2.69	1.94	1.12	1.67	2172.35
$\text{PdAu}_5^+(\text{CO})$	2.75	2.73	1.89	1.13	1.71	2119.99
$\text{PdAu}_6^+(\text{CO})$	2.69	2.77	1.90	1.12	1.81	2132.16
$\text{PdAu}_7^+(\text{CO})$	2.72	2.73	1.5	1.2	1.86	2113.70
$\text{PdAu}_8^+(\text{CO})$	2.69	2.77	1.90	1.13	1.85	2112.78
$\text{PdAu}_9^+(\text{CO})$	2.78	2.70	1.90	1.15	1.80	2114.21
$\text{PdAu}_{10}^+(\text{CO})$	2.75	2.70	1.94	1.12	1.78	2150.22

### 3. Electronic distribution

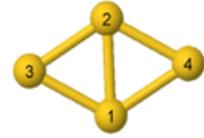
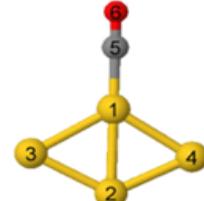
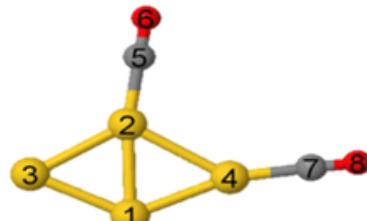
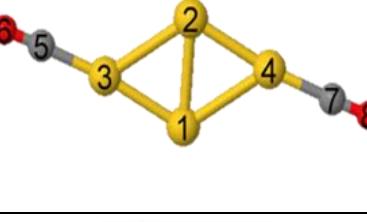
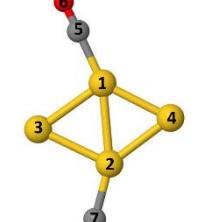
**Table S3:** Partial charge distributions calculated with both the Mulliken and Löwdin partitioning methods for  $\text{Au}_N^+(\text{CO})$  and  $\text{PdAu}_N^+(\text{CO})$ ,  $N=2$  and 4, clusters and their corresponding free clusters.

Species	Numbering of the atoms	Type of atom	Charge Population Analysis		Structure
			Mulliken	Löwdin	
$\text{Au}_2^+$	1	Au	0.50	0.50	
	2	Au	0.50	0.50	
$\text{Au}_2^+(\text{CO})$	1	Au	0.54	0.45	
	2	Au	0.37	0.43	
	3	C	-0.09	-0.14	
	4	O	0.18	0.26	
$\text{PdAu}^+$	1	Au	0.45	0.40	
	2	Pd	0.55	0.60	
$\text{PdAu}^+(\text{CO})$	1	Au	0.68	0.62	
	2	Pd	0.36	0.44	
	3	C	-0.16	-0.27	
	4	O	0.12	0.21	
$\text{Au}_4^+$	1	Au	0.23	0.13	
	2	Au	0.23	0.13	
	3	Au	0.27	0.37	
	4	Au	0.27	0.37	
$\text{Au}_4^+(\text{CO})$	1	Au	0.03	0.29	
	2	Au	0.23	0.18	
	3	Au	0.34	0.22	
	4	Au	0.34	0.22	
	5	C	-0.09	-0.16	
	6	O	0.15	0.23	
$\text{PdAu}_3^+$	1	Au	0.37	0.33	
	2	Au	0.37	0.33	
	3	Au	0.37	0.33	
	4	Pd	-0.12	0.02	
$\text{PdAu}_3^+(\text{CO})$	1	Au	0.19	0.41	
	2	Au	0.40	0.22	
	3	Au	0.40	0.25	
	4	Pd	-0.07	0.03	
	5	C	-0.07	-0.15	
	6	O	0.15	0.24	

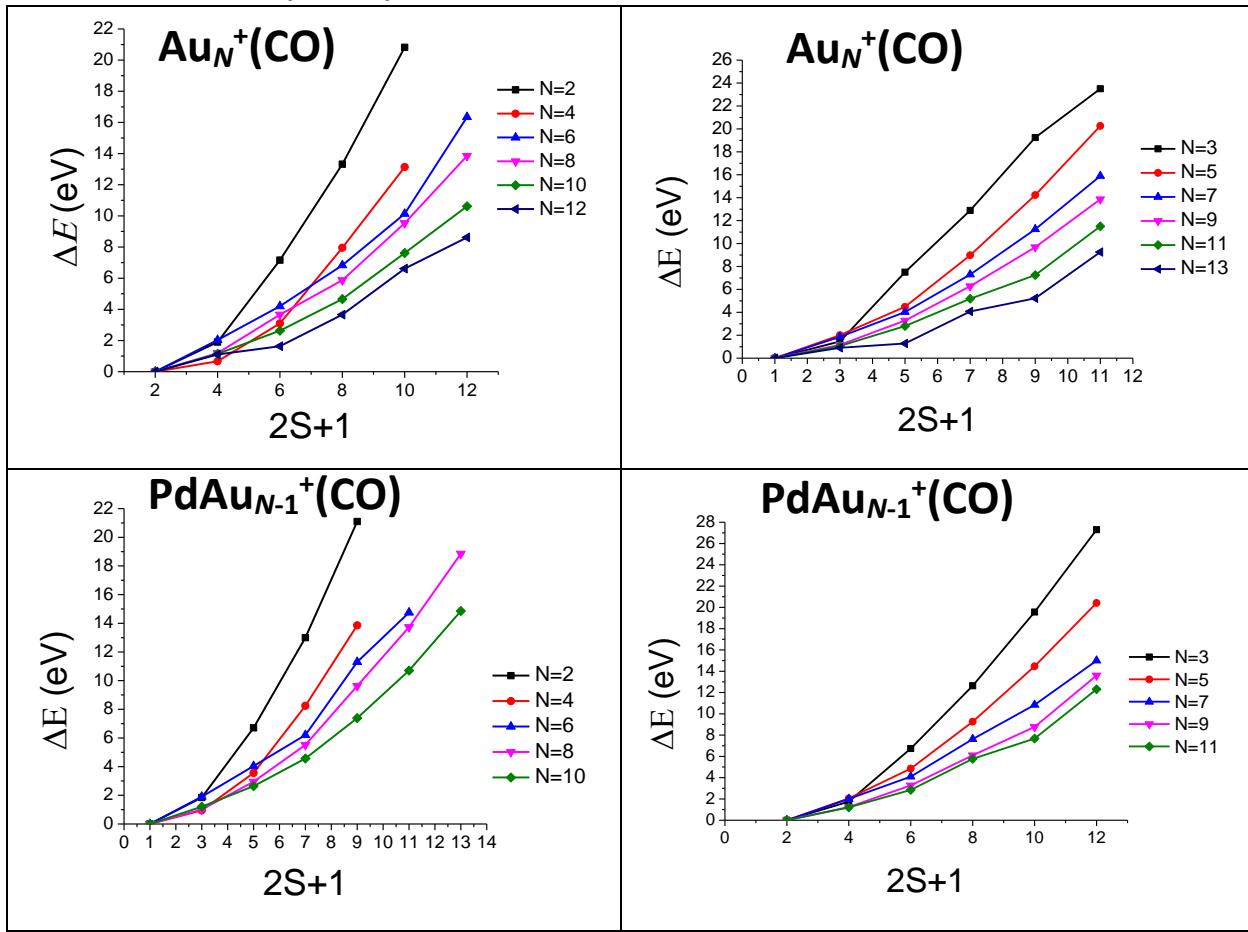
**Table S4:** Partial charge distributions calculated with both the Mulliken and Löwdin partitioning methods for  $\text{Au}_N^+(\text{CO})$  and  $\text{PdAu}_{N-1}^+(\text{CO})$ ,  $N=6$ , clusters and their corresponding free clusters.

Species	Numbering of the atoms	Type of atom	Charge Population Analysis		Structure
			Mulliken	Löwdin	
$\text{Au}_6^+$	1	Au	0.78	0.24	
	2	Au	-0.35	0.07	
	3	Au	-0.53	0.14	
	4	Au	-0.53	0.14	
	5	Au	0.78	0.24	
	6	Au	0.85	0.17	
$\text{Au}_6^+(\text{CO})$	1	Au	0.19	0.32	
	2	Au	-0.15	0.06	
	3	Au	-0.15	0.06	
	4	Au	-0.38	0.13	
	5	Au	0.71	0.17	
	6	Au	0.71	0.17	
	7	C	-0.07	-0.14	
	8	O	0.15	0.24	
$\text{PdAu}_5^+$	1	Au	0.30	0.23	
	2	Au	0.31	0.24	
	3	Au	0.29	0.24	
	4	Au	0.28	0.22	
	5	Au	0.29	0.21	
	6	Pd	-0.47	-0.15	
$\text{PdAu}_5^+(\text{CO})$	1	Au	0.12	0.16	
	2	Au	0.11	0.15	
	3	Au	0.10	0.17	
	4	Au	0.26	0.19	
	5	Au	0.27	0.19	
	6	Pd	0.12	0.02	
	7	C	-0.07	-0.13	
	8	O	0.15	0.25	

**Table S5:** Partial charge distributions calculated with both the Mulliken and Löwdin partitioning methods for  $\text{Au}_4^+(\text{CO})_{1,2}$  clusters and their energetically competitive isomers (labelled by \*) and their corresponding free cluster.

Species	Numbering of the atoms	Type of atom	Charge Population Analysis		Structure
			Mulliken	Löwdin	
$\text{Au}_4^+$	1	Au	0.23	0.13	
	2	Au	0.23	0.13	
	3	Au	0.27	0.37	
	4	Au	0.27	0.37	
$\text{Au}_4^+(\text{CO})$	1	Au	0.03	0.29	
	2	Au	0.23	0.18	
	3	Au	0.34	0.22	
	4	Au	0.34	0.22	
	5	C	-0.09	-0.16	
	6	O	0.15	0.23	
$\text{Au}_4^+(\text{CO})^*$	1	Au	0.25	0.23	
	2	Au	0.28	0.18	
	3	Au	0.28	0.18	
	4	Au	0.12	0.32	
	5	C	-0.08	-0.15	
	6	O	0.16	0.24	
$\text{Au}_4^+(\text{CO})_2$	1	Au	0.33	0.13	
	2	Au	0.13	0.29	
	3	Au	0.27	0.15	
	4	Au	0.13	0.29	
	5	C	-0.09	-0.17	
	6	O	0.14	0.23	
	7	C	-0.07	-0.15	
	8	O	0.15	0.23	
$\text{Au}_4^+(\text{CO})_2^*$	1	Au	0.21	0.09	
	2	Au	0.21	0.09	
	3	Au	0.24	0.34	
	4	Au	0.24	0.34	
	5	C	-0.1	-0.16	
	6	O	0.15	0.23	
	7	C	-0.1	-0.16	
	8	O	0.15	0.23	
$\text{Au}_4^+(\text{CO})_2^*$	1	Au	0.17	0.29	
	2	Au	0.17	0.29	
	3	Au	0.26	0.14	
	4	Au	0.27	0.13	
	5	C	-0.07	-0.15	
	6	O	0.15	0.23	
	7	C	-0.09	-0.16	
	8	O	0.14	0.23	

#### 4. Determination of optimal spin states



**Fig S1.** Relative energies as a function of spin state for  $\text{Au}_N^+(\text{CO})$  ( $N=2\text{-}13$ ) and  $\text{PdAu}_{N-1}^+(\text{CO})$  ( $N=2\text{-}11$ ) clusters.

#### 5. PBE calculations

**Table S6:** Cluster-CO binding energies for putative global minima of  $\text{Au}_N^+(\text{CO})$  and  $\text{PdAu}_{N-1}^+(\text{CO})$ ,  $N=3\text{-}6$ , clusters.

Species	$E_b$ / eV
$\text{Au}_3^+(\text{CO})$	1.94
$\text{Au}_4^+(\text{CO})$	1.72
$\text{Au}_5^+(\text{CO})$	1.80
$\text{Au}_6^+(\text{CO})$	1.48
$\text{PdAu}_2^+(\text{CO})$	1.93
$\text{PdAu}_3^+(\text{CO})$	1.84
$\text{PdAu}_4^+(\text{CO})$	1.86
$\text{PdAu}_5^+(\text{CO})$	1.96