

## Supplementary Material to: Density Functional Study of Aurophilic Interaction in $[X(\text{AuPH}_3)_2^+]_2$ (X=F, Cl, Br, I)

Hua Fang<sup>1\*</sup>, Xiao-Gang Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Shu-Guang Wang<sup>2</sup>,

<sup>1</sup>College of Material Science & Technology, Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Nanjing 210016, PR China

<sup>2</sup>School of Chemistry and Chemical Technology, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai 200240, PR China

E-mail: [susanfang@nuaa.edu.cn](mailto:susanfang@nuaa.edu.cn)

**Table S1** Bonding energy  $\Delta E$  (in kJ/mol) decomposition of  $[X(\text{AuPH}_3)_2^+]_2$  (X=F, Cl, Br, I) with different DF potentials;  $\Delta E_1$  for  $[\text{F}(\text{AuPH}_3)_2^+]_2$ ;  $\Delta E_2$  for  $[\text{Cl}(\text{AuPH}_3)_2^+]_2$ ;  $\Delta E_3$  for  $[\text{Br}(\text{AuPH}_3)_2^+]_2$ ;  $\Delta E_4$  for  $[\text{I}(\text{AuPH}_3)_2^+]_2$

$\Delta E_1$							
	X $\alpha$	BLYP	VWN	BP	PW91	PBE	B3LYP
$E_{\text{pauli}}$	407.94	447.23	320.19	392.90	387.97	392.55	400.83
$E_{\text{ele.}}$	-108.45	-57.00	-54.82	-34.37	-41.60	-41.14	-25.18
$E_{\text{ster.}}$	299.50	390.22	265.38	358.53	346.37	351.41	375.65
$E_{\text{orb.}}$	-177.21	-153.98	-173.72	-163.14	-163.89	-163.75	-143.52
$E_{\text{tot}}$	122.29	236.24	91.66	195.39	182.47	187.67	232.13
$\Delta E_2$							
	X $\alpha$	BLYP	VWN	BP	PW91	PBE	B3LYP
$E_{\text{pauli}}$	456.18	500.98	365.54	441.95	433.64	437.90	455.97
$E_{\text{ele.}}$	-144.32	-90.37	-91.60	-68.76	-74.54	-73.53	-61.34
$E_{\text{ster.}}$	311.86	410.61	273.94	373.19	359.10	364.37	394.63
$E_{\text{orb.}}$	-186.67	-162.76	-182.36	-171.53	-172.63	-172.49	-152.79
$E_{\text{tot}}$	125.20	247.85	91.57	201.66	186.47	191.88	241.83
$\Delta E_3$							
	X $\alpha$	BLYP	VWN	BP	PW91	PBE	B3LYP

$E_{\text{pauli}}$	512.75	561.90	412.78	496.02	487.02	491.52	514.54
$E_{\text{ele.}}$	-188.38	-130.37	-129.46	-105.80	-112.73	-111.52	-99.85
$E_{\text{ster.}}$	324.38	431.53	283.33	390.22	374.29	380.00	414.69
$E_{\text{orb.}}$	-207.28	-181.78	-202.29	-190.73	-192.07	-192.01	-171.79
$E_{\text{tot}}$	117.10	249.75	81.03	199.49	182.22	187.99	242.90

---

$\Delta E_4$

	$X\alpha$	BLYP	VWN	BP	PW91	PBE	B3LYP
$E_{\text{pauli}}$	541.12	593.98	435.04	523.66	511.40	517.27	547.57
$E_{\text{ele.}}$	-212.22	-151.02	-150.00	-126.04	-131.35	-131.44	-122.29
$E_{\text{ster.}}$	328.90	442.97	285.05	397.61	380.04	385.83	425.28
$E_{\text{orb.}}$	-216.97	-190.50	-211.45	-199.47	-201.13	-201.05	-181.32
$E_{\text{tot}}$	111.93	252.47	73.60	198.14	178.91	184.78	243.96

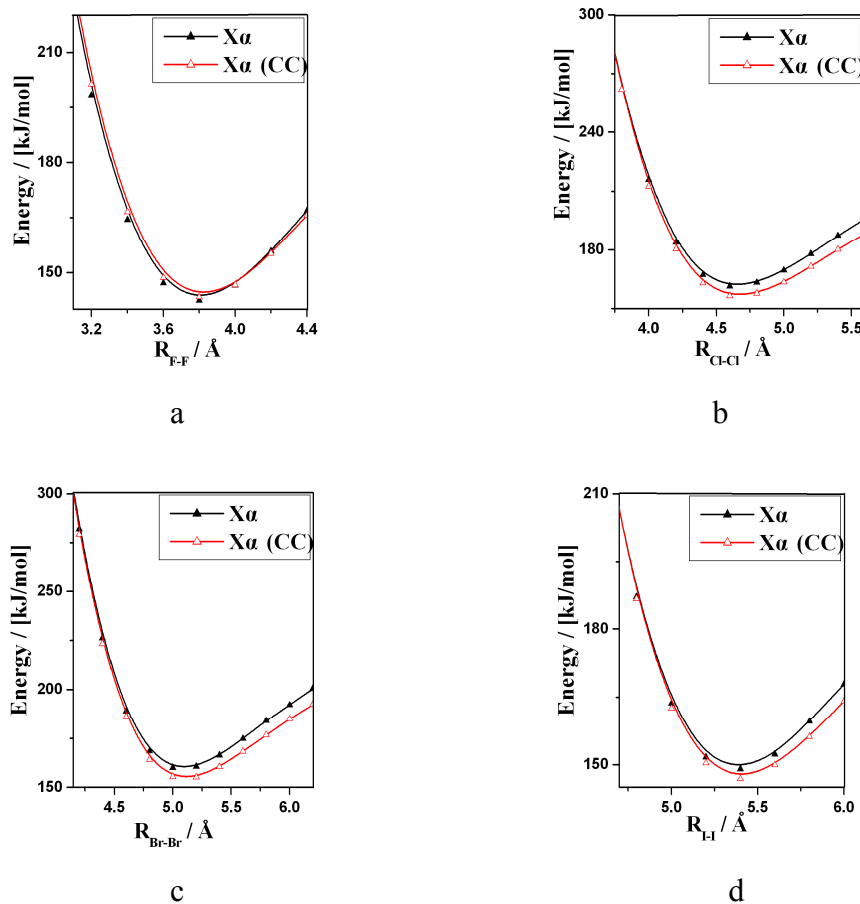
$E_{\text{pauli}}$ : Including exchange-correlation, i.e., the simulated dispersion attraction.

$E_{\text{ele.}}$ : Hybridization, polarization, charge transfer, orbital interference.

$E_{\text{ster.}}$ : Including Pauli repulsion and electrostatic interaction.

$E_{\text{orb.}}$ : With respect to the monomeric structures as in the dimer.

$E_{\text{tot}}$ : Calculated binding energy.



**Fig. S1** The calculated binding energy (BE) (in kJ/mol) potential line between two relaxed  $X(AuPH_3)_2^+$  units, with BSS-error: Xa, and corrected by the CC: Xa (CC), versus the X...X distance (in Å). a:  $[F(AuPH_3)_2^+]_2$  b:  $[Cl(AuPH_3)_2^+]_2$  c:  $[Br(AuPH_3)_2^+]_2$  d:  $[I(AuPH_3)_2^+]_2$ .