

Electronic Supplementary Information:

Photoelectron spectroscopy of aromatic compound clusters of the B_{12} all-boron benzene: B_{12}Au^- and $\text{B}_{12}(\text{BO})^-$ [†]

Hui Bai,^a Hua-Jin Zhai,^{ab} Si-Dian Li,^a and Lai-Sheng Wang^b

^a Institute of Molecular Science, Shanxi University, Taiyuan 030006, China

^b Department of Chemistry, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island 02912, United States

Table S1. Analysis of the occupied molecular orbitals (MOs) for the B_{12}^- ($C_s, ^2\text{A}'$), B_{12}H^- (**31**, $C_1, ^1\text{A}$), B_{12}Au^- (**1**, $C_1, ^1\text{A}$), and B_{13}O^- (**16**, $C_1, ^1\text{A}$) clusters. The MOs are depicted in Figures S6–S8.

Table S2. Vibrational frequencies of the ($C_1, ^2\text{A}$) ground-state structures of B_{12}Au (**13**), $\text{B}_{12}(\text{BO})$ (**28**), and B_{12}H (**43**) calculated at the B3LYP/6-311G(d,p) level.

Table S3. Cartesian coordinates and the total energies (in a.u.) at the B3LYP/6-311G(d,p) level for anion global minima (**1** for B_{12}Au^- and **16** for B_{13}O^-) and low-lying structures (**2** and **3** for B_{12}Au^- ; **17** and **18** for B_{13}O^-) and their corresponding neutral structures (**13–15** for B_{12}Au and **28–30** for B_{13}O).

Figures S1–S3. Optimized anion cluster structures for B_{12}Au^- (**1–12**), B_{13}O^- (**16–27**), and B_{12}H^- (**31–42**), and their selected neutral structures (**13–15**, **28–30**, and **43–46**) at the B3LYP level. The lowest vibrational frequency (ν_{\min}) and relative energy (ΔE) are labeled under each structure. Relative energies of the four lowest energy anion isomers at single-point CCSD(T) level are shown in square brackets.

Figure S4. Comparison of the potential energy surfaces of B_{12}H^- , B_{12}Au^- , and B_{13}O^- clusters.

Figure S5. Simulated photoelectron spectra based on the C_1 global minimum structures of B_{12}H^- (**31**), B_{12}Au^- (**1**), and B_{13}O^- (**16**) clusters. The simulations were done by fitting the distribution of the calculated vertical detachment energies with unit-area Gaussian functions of 0.05 eV halfwidth.

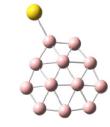
Figures S6–S8. Occupied molecular orbitals for B_{12}^- ($C_s, ^2\text{A}'$), B_{12}H^- (**31**), B_{12}Au^- (**1**), and B_{13}O^- (**16**) clusters.

Table S1. Analysis of the occupied molecular orbitals (MOs) for the B_{12}^- ($C_s, ^2\text{A}'$), B_{12}H^- (**31**, $C_1, ^1\text{A}$), B_{12}Au^- (**1**, $C_1, ^1\text{A}$), and B_{13}O^- (**16**, $C_1, ^1\text{A}$) clusters. The MOs are depicted in Figures S6–S8.

B_{12}X^-	B_{12}^-	B_{12}H^-	B_{12}Au^-	$\text{B}_{12}(\text{BO})^-$
Bonds or lone-pairs in X			<i>Au d¹⁰ lone-pairs:</i> HOMO-5 (a) HOMO-7 (a) HOMO-8 (a) HOMO-9 (a) HOMO-13 (a)	$\text{B}\equiv\text{O}$ triple bond: HOMO-9 (a) HOMO-10 (a) HOMO-14 (a) O 2s lone-pair: HOMO-22 (a)
SOMO or X-B ₁₂ single bond	SOMO (a')	HOMO-11 (a)	HOMO (a)	HOMO-15 (a)
Peripheral B-B σ bonds <i>(nine 2c-2e σbonds)</i>	HOMO-8 (a') HOMO-9 (a') HOMO-11 (a'') HOMO-12 (a') HOMO-14 (a') HOMO-15 (a') HOMO-16 (a'') HOMO-17 (a') HOMO-18 (a')	HOMO-6 (a) HOMO-9 (a) HOMO-10 (a) HOMO-13 (a) HOMO-14 (a) HOMO-15 (a) HOMO-16 (a) HOMO-17 (a) HOMO-18 (a)	HOMO-12 (a) HOMO-15 (a) HOMO-16 (a) HOMO-17 (a) HOMO-19 (a) HOMO-20 (a) HOMO-21 (a) HOMO-22 (a) HOMO-23 (a)	HOMO-5 (a) HOMO-8 (a) HOMO-12 (a) HOMO-13 (a) HOMO-17 (a) HOMO-18 (a) HOMO-19 (a) HOMO-20 (a) HOMO-21 (a)
Inner triangle B-B σ bonds <i>(three σbonds)^a</i>	HOMO-6 (a') HOMO-7 (a'') HOMO-13 (a'')	HOMO-5 (a) HOMO-7 (a) HOMO-12 (a)	HOMO-10 (a) HOMO-11 (a) HOMO-18 (a)	HOMO-6 (a) HOMO-7 (a) HOMO-16 (a)
Delocalized σ orbitals <i>(six σelectrons; 4n + 2)</i>	HOMO-1 (a'') HOMO-2 (a') HOMO-5 (a'')	HOMO (a) HOMO-1 (a) HOMO-4 (a)	HOMO-1 (a) HOMO-2 (a) HOMO-6 (a)	HOMO (a) HOMO-1 (a) HOMO-4 (a)
Delocalized π orbitals <i>(six πelectrons; 4n + 2)</i>	HOMO-3 (a'') HOMO-4 (a') HOMO-10 (a')	HOMO-2 (a) HOMO-3 (a) HOMO-8 (a)	HOMO-3 (a) HOMO-4 (a) HOMO-14 (a)	HOMO-2 (a) HOMO-3 (a) HOMO-11 (a)

^a Tentative and rough assignment. AdNDP analyses reach a slightly different conclusion; see Fig. 5 and the text.

Table S2. Vibrational frequencies of the (C_1 , 2A) ground-state structures of $B_{12}Au$ (**13**), $B_{12}(BO)$ (**28**), and $B_{12}H$ (**43**) calculated at the B3LYP/6-311G(d,p) level.

ω_i	$B_{12}Au$ (13) 	$B_{12}(BO)$ (28) 	$B_{12}H$ (43) 
ω_1	1323(a)	1995(a) ^a	2601(a) ^a
ω_2	1263(a)	1331(a)	1328(a)
ω_3	1233(a)	1263(a)	1258(a)
ω_4	1162(a)	1227(a)	1227(a)
ω_5	1147(a)	1177(a)	1165(a)
ω_6	1111(a)	1142(a)	1146(a)
ω_7	1087(a)	1130(a)	1095(a)
ω_8	946(a)	1067(a)	1061(a)
ω_9	932(a)	997(a)	945(a)
ω_{10}	909(a)	927(a)	920(a)
ω_{11}	858(a)	889(a)	895(a)
ω_{12}	814(a)	842(a)	829(a)
ω_{13}	694(a) ^b	816(a)	803(a)
ω_{14}	663(a)	729(a)	743(a)
ω_{15}	623(a)	687(a) ^b	676(a) ^b
ω_{16}	599(a)	635(a)	655(a)
ω_{17}	577(a)	610(a)	642(a)
ω_{18}	554(a)	593(a)	617(a)
ω_{19}	519(a)	564(a)	603(a)
ω_{20}	502(a)	542(a)	582(a)
ω_{21}	498(a)	504(a)	527(a)
ω_{22}	470(a)	496(a)	500(a)
ω_{23}	452(a)	468(a)	476(a)
ω_{24}	441(a)	456(a)	470(a)
ω_{25}	402(a)	445(a)	450(a)
ω_{26}	376(a)	428(a)	426(a)
ω_{27}	363(a)	404(a)	414(a)
ω_{28}	262(a)	389(a)	390(a)
ω_{29}	214(a)	359(a)	362(a)
ω_{30}	193(a)	335(a)	336(a)
ω_{31}	147(a) ^a	321(a)	219(a)
ω_{32}	62(a)	229(a)	191(a)
ω_{33}	40(a)	196(a)	175(a)
ω_{34}		182(a)	
ω_{35}		71(a)	
ω_{36}		69(a)	

^a B-Au stretching; B=O stretching; B-H stretching.

^b B_{12} breathing.

Figure S1. Optimized structures for B_{12}Au^- (**1–12**) and B_{12}Au (**13–15**) at the B3LYP level. The lowest vibrational frequency (v_{\min}) and relative energy (ΔE) are labeled under each structure. Relative energy of the four lowest energy anion isomers at single-point CCSD(T) level is shown in square brackets. Structure **14** is a first order saddle point.

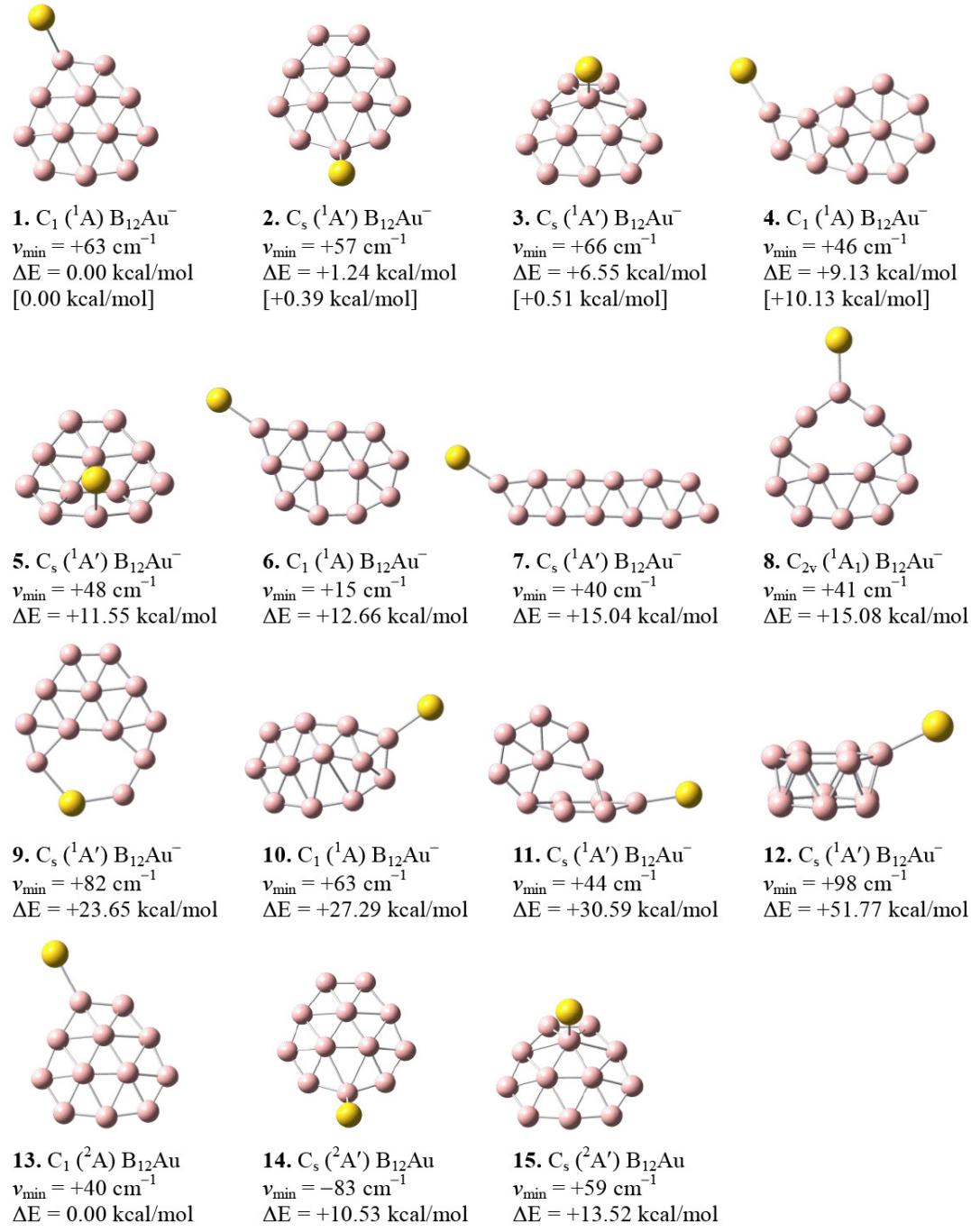


Figure S2. Optimized structures for B_{13}O^- (**16–27**) and B_{13}O (**28–30**) at the B3LYP level. The lowest vibrational frequency (v_{\min}) and relative energy (ΔE) are labeled under each structure. Relative energy of the four lowest energy anion isomers at single-point CCSD(T) level is shown in square brackets. Number of imaginary frequencies is also shown in parentheses for structure **26**, which is a second order saddle point.

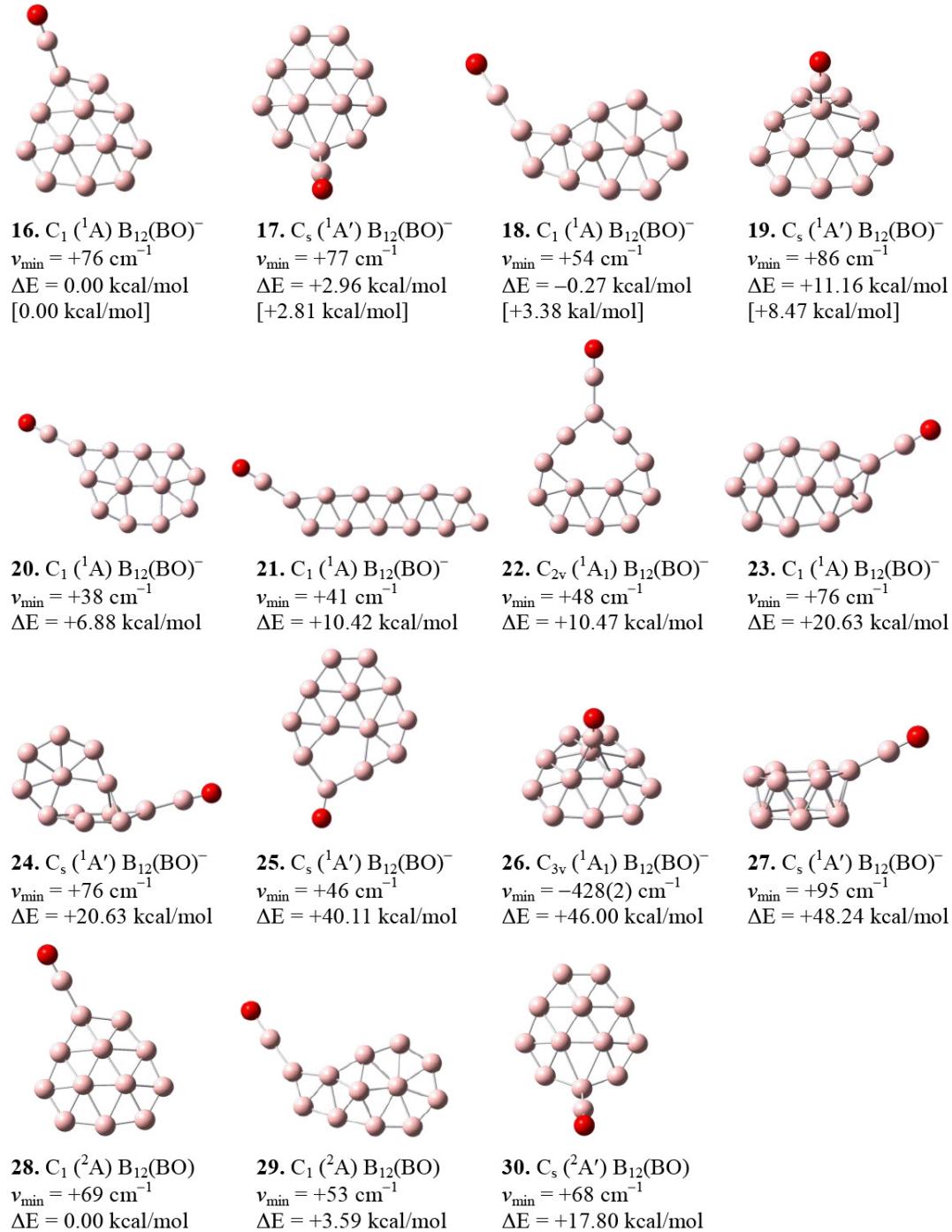


Figure S3. Optimized structures for B_{12}H^- (**31–42**) and B_{12}H (**43–46**) at the B3LYP level. The lowest vibrational frequency (v_{\min}) and relative energy (ΔE) are labeled under each structure. Relative energy of the four lowest energy anion isomers at single-point CCSD(T) level is shown in square brackets. Number of imaginary frequencies is also shown in parentheses for structure **40**, which is a second order saddle point.

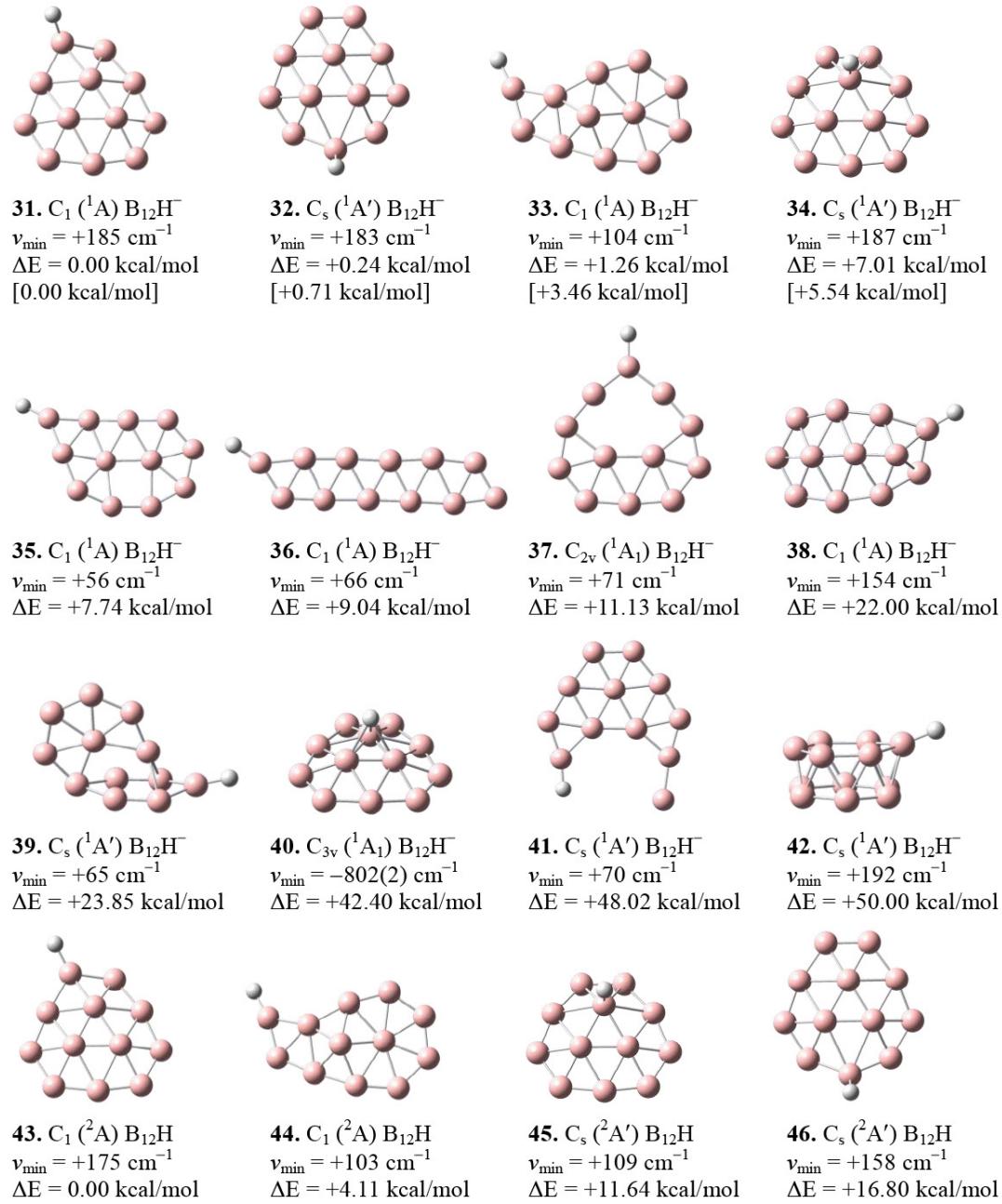


Figure S4. Comparison of the potential energy surfaces of B_{12}H^- , B_{12}Au^- , and B_{13}O^- clusters. The relative energies are at the single-point CCSD(T) level and the isomers are numbered the same as in Fig. 3 and Figs. S1–S3.

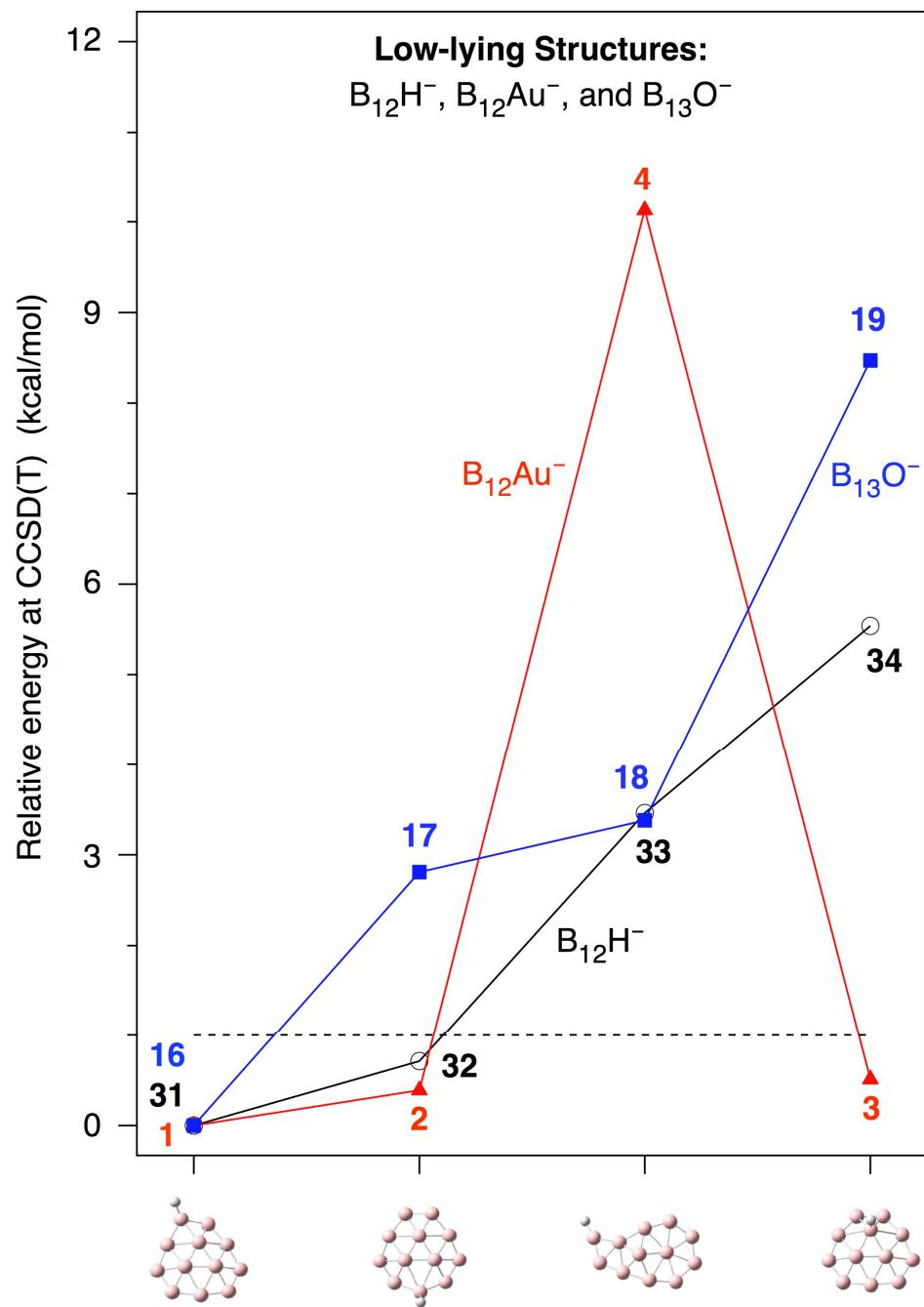


Figure S5. Simulated photoelectron spectra based on the C_1 global minimum structures of $B_{12}H^-$ (31), $B_{12}Au^-$ (1), and $B_{12}O^-$ (16) clusters. The simulations were done by fitting the distribution of the calculated vertical detachment energies with unit-area Gaussian functions of 0.05 eV halfwidth.

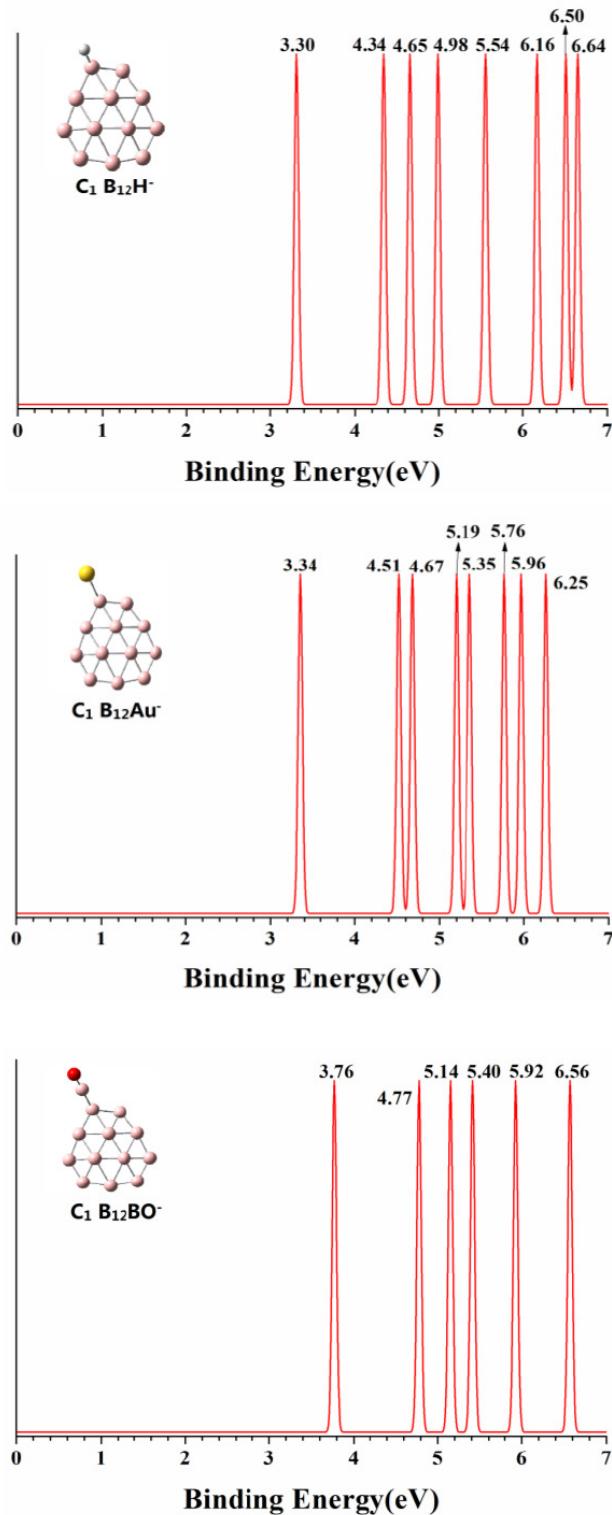


Figure S6. Occupied molecular orbitals for B_{12}^- (C_s , $^2\text{A}'$).

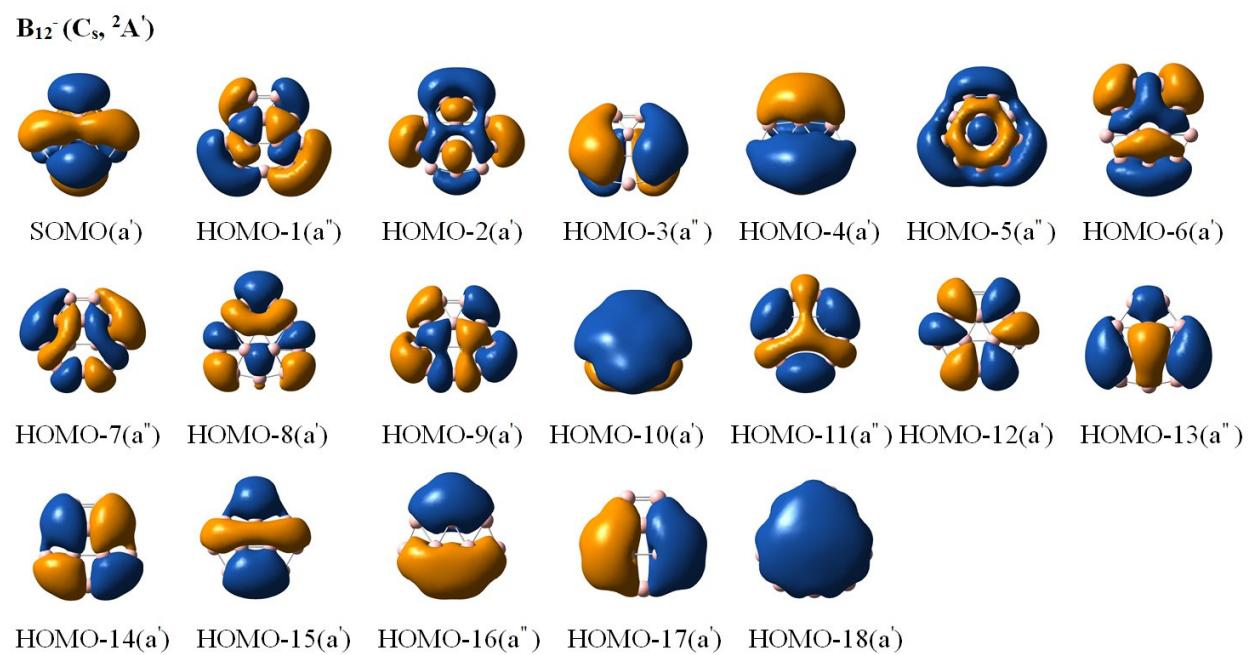


Figure S7. Occupied molecular orbitals for B_{12}H^- (C_1 , ^1A).

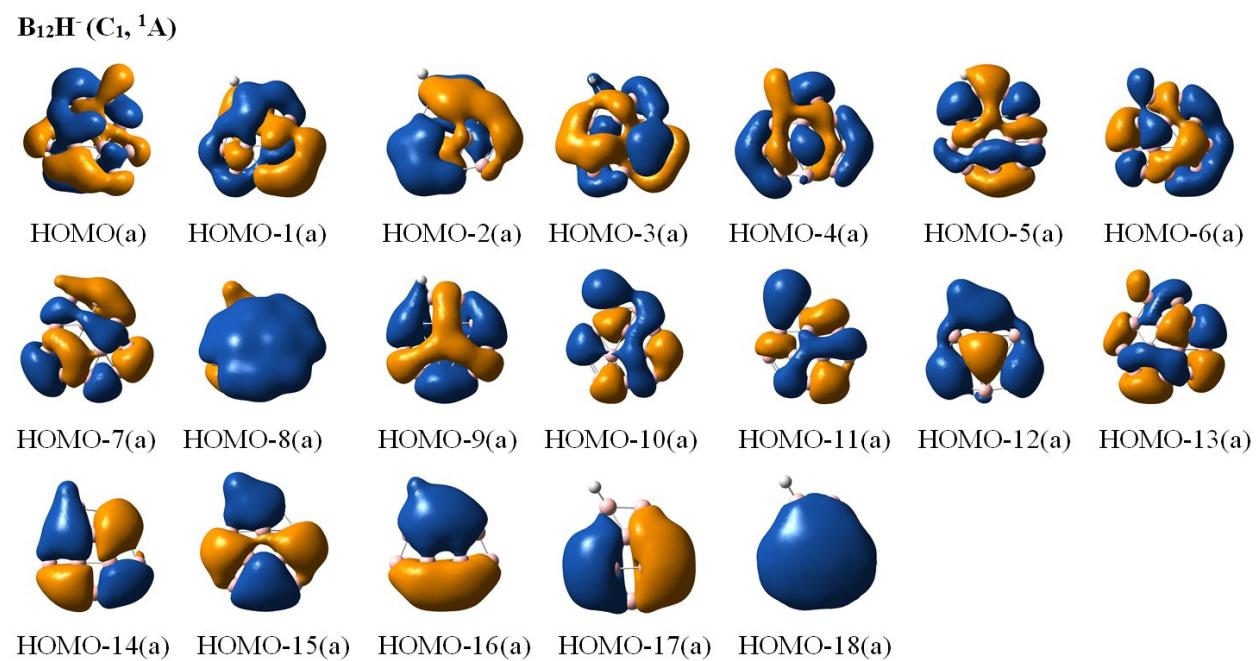
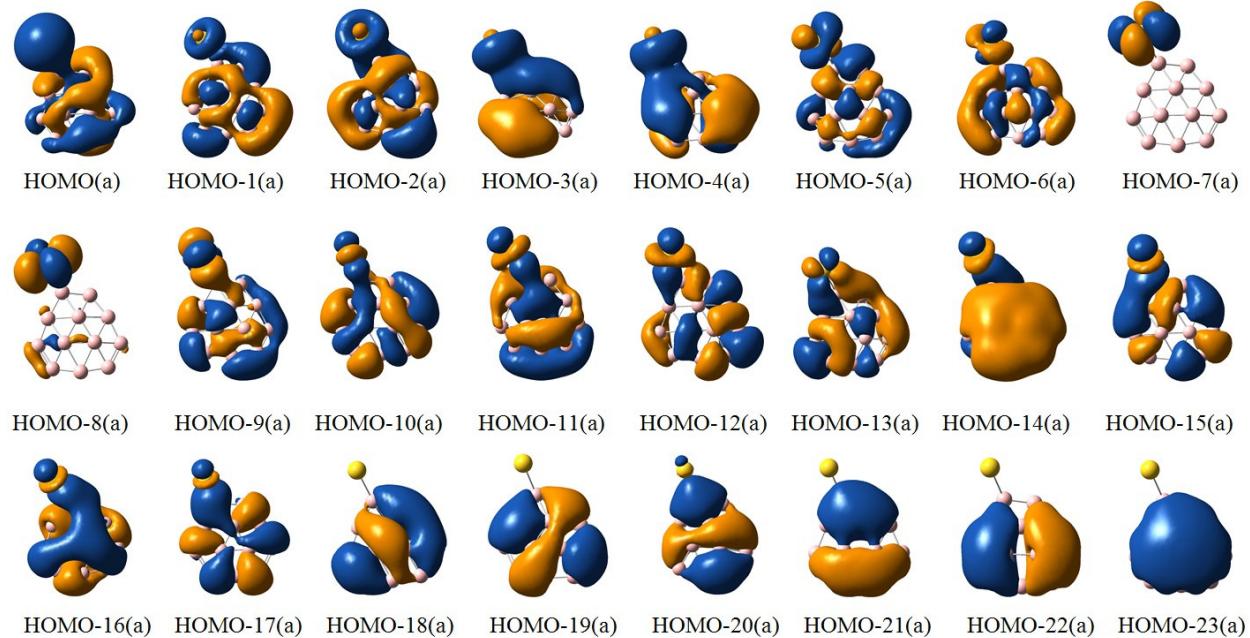


Figure S8. Occupied molecular orbitals for (a) B_{12}Au^- (C_1 , ^1A) and (b) $\text{B}_{12}(\text{BO})^-$ (C_1 , ^1A).

(a) B_{12}Au^- (C_1 , ^1A)



(b) $\text{B}_{12}(\text{BO})^-$ (C_1 , ^1A)

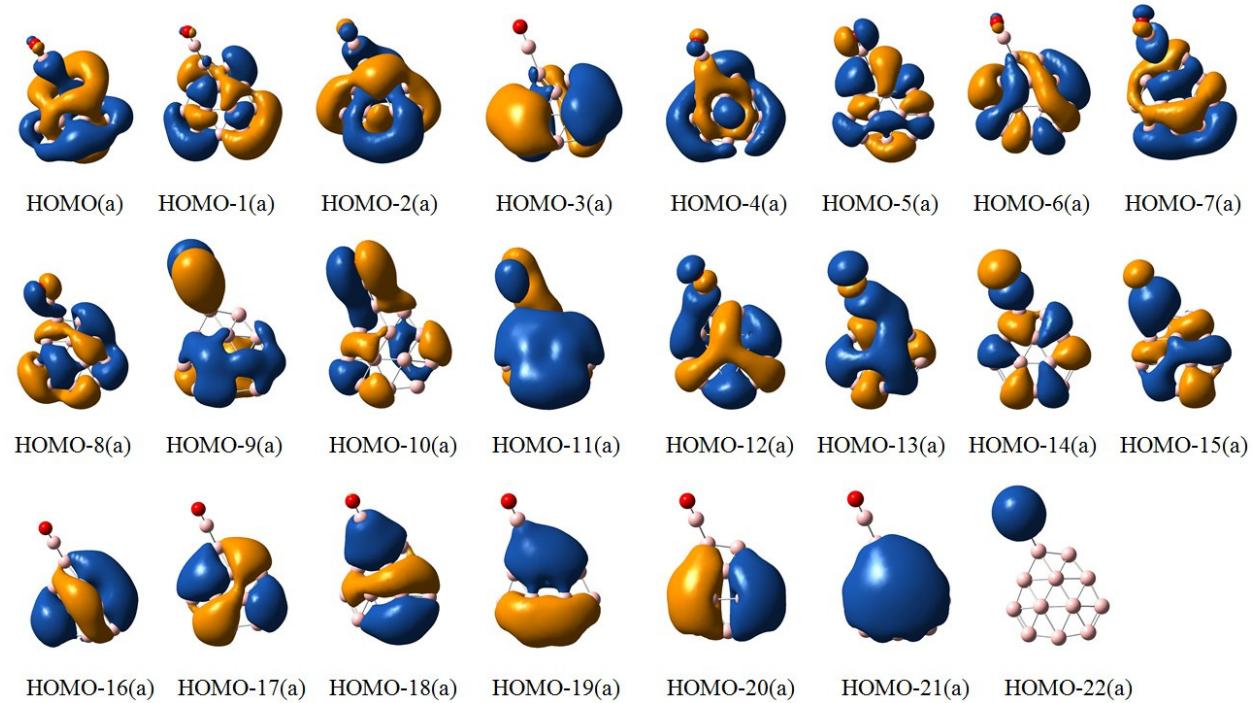


Table S3. Cartesian coordinates and the total energies (in a.u.) at the B3LYP/6-311G(d,p) level for anion global minima (**1** for B_{12}Au^- and **16** for B_{13}O^-) and low-lying structures (**2** and **3** for B_{12}Au^- ; **17** and **18** for B_{13}O^-) and their corresponding neutral structures (**13–15** for B_{12}Au and **28–30** for B_{13}O).

1. $\text{C}_1 \text{B}_{12}\text{Au}^-$

Total energy=-434.0880699a.u.

Atomic Number	X	Y	Z
5	4.373936	0.761290	-0.404336
5	2.281914	-1.932103	0.311190
5	1.014743	1.179813	0.650628
5	1.540109	-0.393081	-0.060916
5	3.150060	-0.609531	-0.531864
5	2.518369	0.938021	-0.263204
5	3.619374	2.128007	-0.003891
5	2.168974	2.313690	0.520263
5	0.010267	-0.141393	0.743891
5	0.815414	-1.532762	0.866794
5	3.880232	-1.977687	0.003493
5	4.781624	-0.770022	-0.374971
79	-1.908545	0.002263	-0.092220

2. $\text{C}_s \text{B}_{12}\text{Au}^-$

Total energy=-434.0860913a.u.

Atomic Number	X	Y	Z
5	0.930966	0.080419	0.000000
5	-0.136021	3.255803	1.727524
5	-0.136021	3.255803	-1.727524
5	-0.568033	3.061591	0.000000
5	-0.038458	1.709956	0.850679
5	-0.038458	1.709956	-0.850679
5	1.122981	0.729538	-1.503235
5	0.641675	1.975254	-2.297129
5	-0.613994	4.492917	-0.770063
5	-0.613994	4.492917	0.770063
5	0.641675	1.975254	2.297129
5	1.122981	0.729538	1.503235
79	-0.146538	-1.738541	0.000000

3. $\text{C}_s \text{B}_{12}\text{Au}^-$

Total energy=-434.0776283a.u.

Atomic Number	X	Y	Z
5	0.804997	0.602209	0.000000
5	-0.056795	2.152052	2.353338
5	-0.056795	2.152052	-2.353338
5	-1.275474	2.701357	1.580511
5	-1.275474	2.701357	-1.580511
5	2.354759	0.962302	0.763011
5	-0.367829	1.537691	-0.847112

5	-1.523892	2.657981	0.000000
5	-0.367829	1.537691	0.847112
5	1.210959	1.382302	1.773009
5	1.210959	1.382302	-1.773009
5	2.354759	0.962302	-0.763011
79	-0.190655	-1.312127	0.000000

13. C₁ B₁₂Au

Total energy=-433.9718797a.u.

Atomic Number	X	Y	Z
5	4.469491	0.786876	-0.103560
5	2.344227	-1.981999	0.137624
5	1.017295	1.196873	0.242466
5	1.620251	-0.369922	-0.257730
5	3.307289	-0.593284	-0.433040
5	2.647846	0.948672	-0.339356
5	3.660350	2.166337	0.115533
5	2.128782	2.358207	0.297350
5	0.056916	-0.182812	0.329053
5	0.806970	-1.614299	0.421602
5	3.959873	-1.992174	0.096355
5	4.892163	-0.759271	-0.021173
79	-1.956421	0.002329	-0.030704

14. C_s B₁₂Au

Total energy=-433.9550973a.u.

Atomic Number	X	Y	Z
5	0.804631	0.210361	0.000000
5	-0.117032	3.220596	1.754928
5	-0.117032	3.220596	-1.754928
5	-0.486225	3.035774	0.000000
5	-0.092420	1.655819	0.852132
5	-0.092420	1.655819	-0.852132
5	0.949048	0.609760	-1.583039
5	0.491553	1.868450	-2.369918
5	-0.433738	4.480747	-0.775722
5	-0.433738	4.480747	0.775722
5	0.491553	1.868450	2.369918
5	0.949048	0.609760	1.583039
79	-0.121090	-1.703600	0.000000

15. C_s B₁₂Au

Total energy=-433.9503413a.u.

Atomic Number	X	Y	Z
5	0.666739	0.567050	0.000000
5	-0.010658	2.177109	2.401652
5	-0.010658	2.177109	-2.401652
5	-1.034400	2.997822	1.591505
5	-1.034400	2.997822	-1.591505
5	2.234892	0.735074	0.771760
5	-0.323785	1.704005	-0.845849
5	-1.238692	3.037460	0.000000

5	-0.323785	1.704005	0.845849
5	1.135999	1.241358	1.815339
5	1.135999	1.241358	-1.815339
5	2.234892	0.735074	-0.771760
79	-0.217224	-1.349066	0.000000

16. C₁ B₁₂(BO)⁻

Total energy=-398.3161629a.u.

Atomic Number	X	Y	Z
5	2.730575	0.731993	-0.405973
5	0.585022	-1.894994	0.326350
5	-0.630969	1.177219	0.594555
5	-0.139209	-0.380216	-0.142490
5	1.479771	-0.635003	-0.578525
5	0.875835	0.927681	-0.288099
5	1.993743	2.099212	0.001080
5	0.544503	2.289717	0.526284
5	-1.724665	-0.098387	0.571508
5	-0.885940	-1.466294	0.844480
5	2.185227	-1.979213	0.051823
5	3.107683	-0.801709	-0.352488
5	-3.211603	-0.025191	-0.136811
8	-4.318734	0.034490	-0.632308

17. C_s B₁₂(BO)⁻

Total energy=-398.31114384a.u.

Atomic Number	X	Y	Z
5	-0.683390	1.538125	0.000000
5	0.113325	-1.748830	1.718773
5	0.113325	-1.748830	-1.718773
5	0.582920	-1.558235	0.000000
5	0.125368	-0.180738	0.857461
5	0.125368	-0.180738	-0.857461
5	-1.037647	0.826313	-1.465150
5	-0.646522	-0.447029	-2.257062
5	0.566708	-2.993309	-0.768824
5	0.566708	-2.993309	0.768824
5	-0.646522	-0.447029	2.257062
5	-1.037647	0.826313	1.465150
5	0.292666	2.886771	0.000000
8	0.978337	3.887827	0.000000

18. C₁ B₁₂(BO)⁻

Total energy=-398.3166008a.u.

Atomic Number	X	Y	Z
5	3.592173	0.488172	-0.590481
5	1.964152	0.331197	0.018923
5	2.851078	1.795350	-0.310801
5	-1.451414	-1.777421	-0.169597
5	-2.394371	-0.601530	-0.035541
5	0.115700	-1.777665	-0.020564
5	3.118005	-0.972804	-0.412379

5	-0.790596	-0.271425	0.319745
5	0.334067	1.001024	0.656687
5	0.778373	-0.540785	0.903484
5	1.752653	-1.567893	0.018617
5	1.424438	2.018907	0.263236
5	-3.723823	0.308750	-0.183483
8	-4.731522	0.978827	-0.286153

28. C₁ B₁₂(BO)

Total energy=-398.1854876a.u.

Atomic Number	X	Y	Z
5	2.762299	0.801823	-0.140455
5	0.655377	-1.968072	0.164184
5	-0.668937	1.172627	0.286542
5	-0.107241	-0.369066	-0.262689
5	1.587566	-0.596519	-0.472265
5	0.925354	0.943622	-0.332799
5	1.947700	2.168653	0.106426
5	0.420783	2.345891	0.335555
5	-1.684623	-0.204303	0.310447
5	-0.872661	-1.615538	0.491171
5	2.264672	-1.975591	0.077667
5	3.184816	-0.741436	-0.070090
5	-3.282711	-0.057003	-0.041447
8	-4.457746	0.059320	-0.282654

29. C₁ B₁₂(BO)

Total energy=-398.1797704a.u.

Atomic Number	X	Y	Z
5	3.672872	0.426370	-0.425723
5	2.001461	0.333904	0.057142
5	2.934678	1.769709	-0.257902
5	-1.458060	-1.788898	-0.164812
5	-2.424485	-0.600178	-0.052205
5	0.117377	-1.780652	-0.027294
5	3.157227	-1.028949	-0.267582
5	-0.791488	-0.197098	0.233728
5	0.291082	1.083935	0.407002
5	0.733404	-0.481619	0.778368
5	1.746648	-1.599247	0.012382
5	1.462817	2.055378	0.142835
5	-3.782897	0.286701	-0.134206
8	-4.787897	0.950403	-0.188584

30. C_s B₁₂(BO)

Total energy=-398.1571161a.u.

Atomic Number	X	Y	Z
5	-0.626932	1.434836	0.000000
5	0.109532	-1.755207	1.753123
5	0.109532	-1.755207	-1.753123
5	0.463140	-1.558739	0.000000
5	0.210027	-0.174477	0.866386

5	0.210027	-0.174477	-0.866386
5	-0.919156	0.854182	-1.520966
5	-0.519851	-0.409060	-2.329659
5	0.428859	-3.018939	-0.779432
5	0.428859	-3.018939	0.779432
5	-0.519851	-0.409060	2.329659
5	-0.919156	0.854182	1.520966
5	0.222244	2.870267	0.000000
8	0.826705	3.912898	0.000000