

Supporting information

for

SO₂ – Yet Another Two-Faced Ligand

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Our pilot calculations revealed two different conformers of both adducts, $[L(\text{CH}_3)\text{Pt}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$ and $[L'(\text{CH}_3)\text{Ir}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$, which are differed by the dihedral angle between S–O and M–C bonds. In order to get better understanding of the energetics of these systems, we have performed potential energy scan for the rotation of SO_2 moiety in $[L(\text{CH}_3)\text{Pt}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$ around S–O bond (Fig. S1). Two local minima were localized. The lowest one was found to correspond to the experimentally observed geometry of the target molecule. Nevertheless, we decided to investigate the electronic structure of both adducts. Hereafter, the energetically higher lying isomer is called as *i*- $[L(\text{CH}_3)\text{Pt}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$. The same situation was observed for Ir-based system.

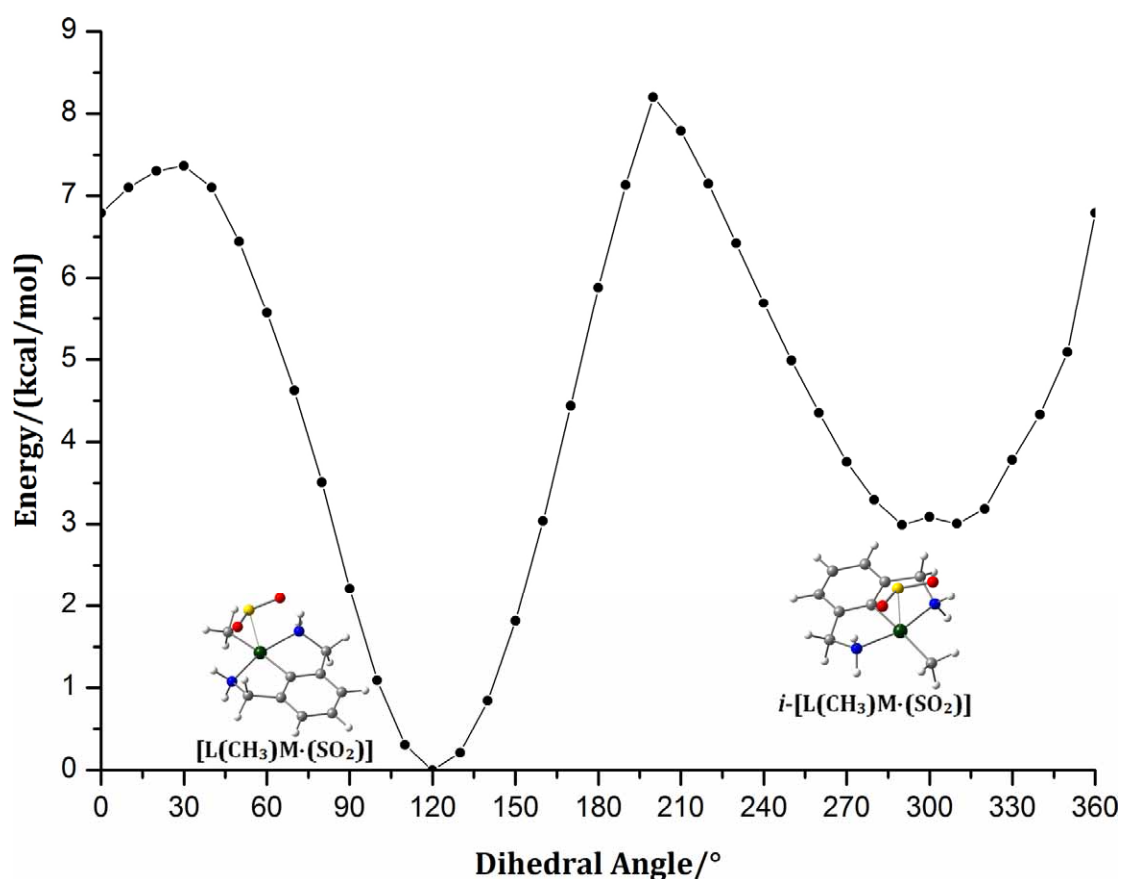


Figure S1. Potential energy surface (PES) scan for the rotation of the SO_2 fragment around the Pt–S bond in $[L(\text{CH}_3)\text{Pt}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$ adduct.

Table S1. Absolute energies of model adducts of SO₂ (in Hartree).

| Compound | Energy |
|--|---------------------|
| [L(CH ₃)Pt·(SO ₂)] | -20049.791818465896 |
| <i>i</i> -[L(CH ₃)Pt·(SO ₂)] | -20049.787022596614 |
| [L(CH ₃)Pt] | -19499.481833309470 |
| [L'(CH ₃)Ir·(SO ₂)] | -19443.638070171699 |
| <i>i</i> -[L'(CH ₃)Ir·(SO ₂)] | -19443.627381455728 |
| [L'(CH ₃)Ir] | -18893.287360560771 |
| [(P(CH ₃) ₃) ₂ Pt·(SO ₂)] | -20513.556258759090 |
| [(P(CH ₃) ₃) ₂ Pt] | -19963.235012413752 |
| [(P(CH ₃) ₃) ₂ Pd·(SO ₂)] | -6578.502645078634 |
| [(P(CH ₃) ₃) ₂ Pd] | -6028.183740141637 |
| SO ₂ | -550.271733265001 |

Table S2. Cartesian coordinates for [L(CH₃)Pt].

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C | 0.130249 | 0.400660 | -5.204403 |
| C | -1.008248 | -0.183134 | -4.649078 |
| C | 1.300917 | 0.557814 | -4.461742 |
| H | -1.896390 | -0.305677 | -5.263371 |
| H | 2.174397 | 1.001068 | -4.932651 |
| C | -0.978764 | -0.597057 | -3.323189 |
| C | 1.322779 | 0.140500 | -3.137172 |
| C | 0.177925 | -0.412835 | -2.573025 |
| H | 0.107401 | 0.732436 | -6.236354 |
| C | -2.071924 | -1.325925 | -2.586649 |
| H | -3.066681 | -0.905094 | -2.763684 |
| H | -2.101969 | -2.371015 | -2.907796 |
| C | 2.513035 | 0.137838 | -2.213957 |
| H | 3.172924 | -0.697725 | -2.464366 |
| H | 3.111257 | 1.052330 | -2.275491 |
| N | -1.789022 | -1.338615 | -1.101639 |
| H | -2.340265 | -0.618795 | -0.643704 |
| H | 0.015208 | -2.445135 | 1.560963 |
| N | 2.068101 | -0.080367 | -0.786796 |
| H | 2.761039 | -0.627852 | -0.286584 |
| H | 2.007896 | 0.812744 | -0.306412 |
| Pt | 0.169509 | -0.868217 | -0.670146 |
| C | 0.144552 | -1.363826 | 1.405288 |
| H | 1.062625 | -1.097009 | 1.949055 |
| H | -2.085589 | -2.222768 | -0.701693 |
| H | -0.673044 | -0.877378 | 1.957063 |

Table S3. Cartesian coordinates for [L(CH₃)Pt·(SO₂)].

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C | 0.341821 | 0.199731 | -5.241845 |
| C | -0.869735 | -0.215145 | -4.689847 |
| C | 1.490547 | 0.339562 | -4.464266 |
| H | -1.742660 | -0.308744 | -5.329361 |
| H | 2.414762 | 0.668780 | -4.929910 |
| C | -0.929504 | -0.504923 | -3.332485 |
| C | 1.420423 | 0.065443 | -3.103914 |
| C | 0.212721 | -0.351378 | -2.560681 |

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| H | 0.390814 | 0.419254 | -6.302535 |
| C | -2.117177 | -1.032307 | -2.572737 |
| H | -3.050554 | -0.522982 | -2.831111 |
| H | -2.254831 | -2.097473 | -2.779248 |
| C | 2.499082 | 0.250838 | -2.077383 |
| H | 3.506631 | 0.037127 | -2.445316 |
| H | 2.471494 | 1.281498 | -1.711092 |
| N | -1.868334 | -0.897028 | -1.093818 |
| H | -2.149772 | 0.040071 | -0.788124 |
| H | 0.286763 | -2.845082 | 1.208239 |
| N | 2.204714 | -0.603706 | -0.867257 |
| H | 2.598802 | -0.152092 | -0.046613 |
| H | 2.652729 | -1.510193 | -0.963297 |
| Pt | 0.161039 | -0.881670 | -0.653076 |
| C | 0.150254 | -1.759350 | 1.295239 |
| H | 0.946727 | -1.388270 | 1.951499 |
| H | -2.429541 | -1.569802 | -0.581868 |
| H | -0.788637 | -1.597555 | 1.838072 |
| S | -0.110034 | 1.258950 | 0.576018 |
| O | -1.364429 | 1.743774 | -0.077277 |
| O | 1.127115 | 1.971663 | 0.146330 |

Table S4. Cartesian coordinates for *i*-[L(CH₃)Pt·(SO₂)].

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C | 0.213354 | 0.275683 | -5.237662 |
| C | -0.969576 | -0.202343 | -4.675010 |
| C | 1.376029 | 0.429921 | -4.482234 |
| H | -1.852081 | -0.306337 | -5.299666 |
| H | 2.275616 | 0.808431 | -4.959041 |
| C | -0.988425 | -0.538257 | -3.325944 |
| C | 1.349489 | 0.106305 | -3.131301 |
| C | 0.169759 | -0.374255 | -2.582656 |
| H | 0.229923 | 0.534393 | -6.290274 |
| C | -2.143889 | -1.134999 | -2.559847 |
| H | -3.090315 | -0.620747 | -2.749794 |
| H | -2.280390 | -2.181926 | -2.844882 |
| C | 2.465296 | 0.289188 | -2.133265 |
| H | 3.442030 | -0.014027 | -2.519704 |
| H | 2.542067 | 1.342907 | -1.849910 |
| N | -1.859733 | -1.119607 | -1.076075 |
| H | -2.275449 | -0.298357 | -0.631564 |
| H | 0.342263 | -2.801250 | 1.262791 |
| N | 2.173623 | -0.469319 | -0.856563 |
| H | 2.436005 | 0.099826 | -0.053130 |
| H | 2.720679 | -1.323106 | -0.820753 |
| Pt | 0.160723 | -0.908885 | -0.682082 |
| C | 0.194014 | -1.712430 | 1.289976 |
| H | 0.993728 | -1.298898 | 1.914066 |
| H | -2.279719 | -1.929578 | -0.631937 |
| H | -0.737189 | -1.533246 | 1.838825 |
| S | -0.201557 | 1.485414 | -0.087378 |
| O | 0.949506 | 1.696672 | 0.831742 |
| O | -1.538045 | 1.368151 | 0.561119 |

Table S5. Cartesian coordinates for [L'(CH₃)Ir].

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C | 0.194981 | 0.352833 | -5.216361 |
| C | -0.968394 | -0.147647 | -4.632579 |
| C | 1.349909 | 0.462246 | -4.441677 |
| H | -1.878665 | -0.244834 | -5.214031 |
| H | 2.267152 | 0.849225 | -4.871822 |

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C | -0.945159 | -0.543027 | -3.312688 |
| C | 1.309121 | 0.096434 | -3.113816 |
| N | 0.177657 | -0.409680 | -2.566933 |
| H | 0.201603 | 0.651592 | -6.256767 |
| C | -2.048022 | -1.238281 | -2.562891 |
| H | -3.035218 | -0.892377 | -2.885869 |
| H | -1.980196 | -2.309000 | -2.774940 |
| C | 2.399691 | 0.281259 | -2.094701 |
| H | 3.392281 | 0.166199 | -2.541802 |
| H | 2.323121 | 1.297013 | -1.697065 |
| N | -1.865827 | -1.098140 | -1.085482 |
| H | -2.302827 | -0.240766 | -0.755194 |
| H | 0.118774 | -2.662448 | 1.365997 |
| N | 2.205475 | -0.633336 | -0.927977 |
| H | 2.661633 | -0.238258 | -0.110551 |
| H | 2.646764 | -1.532710 | -1.107257 |
| Ir | 0.170665 | -0.954578 | -0.708147 |
| C | 0.171887 | -1.562680 | 1.293237 |
| H | 1.063168 | -1.273160 | 1.874128 |
| H | -2.334856 | -1.867212 | -0.616651 |
| H | -0.686886 | -1.189580 | 1.874201 |

Table S6. Cartesian coordinates for [L'(CH₃)Ir·(SO₂)].

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C | 0.248710 | 0.141957 | -5.290443 |
| C | -0.936629 | -0.286682 | -4.701542 |
| C | 1.389208 | 0.320584 | -4.516680 |
| H | -1.831076 | -0.430704 | -5.295676 |
| H | 2.318224 | 0.652727 | -4.963952 |
| C | -0.946380 | -0.539570 | -3.343337 |
| C | 1.310267 | 0.085423 | -3.155797 |
| N | 0.158485 | -0.336175 | -2.616068 |
| H | 0.283158 | 0.332580 | -6.356274 |
| C | -2.092528 | -1.128333 | -2.558932 |
| H | -3.045187 | -0.707199 | -2.893077 |
| H | -2.118465 | -2.204558 | -2.756772 |
| C | 2.377887 | 0.345199 | -2.135961 |
| H | 3.381163 | 0.237597 | -2.554231 |
| H | 2.226947 | 1.374453 | -1.781957 |
| N | -1.904605 | -0.940670 | -1.096228 |
| H | -2.183593 | 0.022927 | -0.836676 |
| H | 0.386432 | -2.804990 | 1.139496 |
| N | 2.196252 | -0.499432 | -0.913674 |
| H | 2.549117 | 0.030784 | -0.121032 |
| H | 2.740926 | -1.354702 | -0.978625 |
| Ir | 0.147642 | -0.859125 | -0.681530 |
| C | 0.228756 | -1.717387 | 1.221704 |
| H | 1.046702 | -1.337067 | 1.849431 |
| H | -2.483541 | -1.603024 | -0.590490 |
| H | -0.685592 | -1.585664 | 1.815108 |
| S | -0.218451 | 1.270839 | 0.175482 |
| O | -1.505856 | 1.686079 | -0.530785 |
| O | 0.975905 | 2.082440 | -0.289960 |

Table S7. Cartesian coordinates for *i*-[L'(CH₃)Ir·(SO₂)].

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C | 0.197286 | 0.312310 | -5.208656 |
| C | -0.976535 | -0.157695 | -4.629557 |
| C | 1.359165 | 0.422040 | -4.451365 |
| H | -1.890852 | -0.224317 | -5.207042 |
| H | 2.271410 | 0.808150 | -4.890689 |

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C | -0.950721 | -0.539307 | -3.300096 |
| C | 1.316952 | 0.056315 | -3.118145 |
| N | 0.184461 | -0.432833 | -2.601107 |
| H | 0.203907 | 0.605745 | -6.251420 |
| C | -2.100356 | -1.140208 | -2.521634 |
| H | -3.042311 | -0.657712 | -2.796772 |
| H | -2.178995 | -2.194426 | -2.803898 |
| C | 2.430026 | 0.247963 | -2.110208 |
| H | 3.395172 | -0.029240 | -2.540793 |
| H | 2.473676 | 1.314853 | -1.873149 |
| N | -1.877451 | -1.092687 | -1.048006 |
| H | -2.224546 | -0.219201 | -0.623491 |
| H | 0.302888 | -2.806924 | 1.237946 |
| N | 2.193643 | -0.471371 | -0.820046 |
| H | 2.339527 | 0.184765 | -0.046394 |
| H | 2.835480 | -1.249604 | -0.715703 |
| Ir | 0.168595 | -0.949560 | -0.671988 |
| C | 0.198883 | -1.708442 | 1.265432 |
| H | 1.026119 | -1.331495 | 1.878821 |
| H | -2.372116 | -1.860564 | -0.605721 |
| H | -0.715543 | -1.497349 | 1.832548 |
| S | -0.166036 | 1.337013 | -0.249234 |
| O | 0.965982 | 1.622173 | 0.715082 |
| O | -1.549974 | 1.320931 | 0.373131 |

Table S8. Cartesian coordinates for $[(P(CH_3)_3)_2Pt]$.

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Pt | -1.339055 | 0.665845 | 1.640786 |
| P | -3.088108 | -0.742639 | 1.524521 |
| P | 0.359766 | 2.132839 | 1.533077 |
| C | 1.882523 | 1.552562 | 0.675201 |
| H | 2.283607 | 0.687070 | 1.203902 |
| H | 1.624009 | 1.239061 | -0.336921 |
| H | 2.641147 | 2.338913 | 0.632163 |
| C | 1.049277 | 2.800034 | 3.105628 |
| H | 0.253703 | 3.296604 | 3.662230 |
| H | 1.421715 | 1.974218 | 3.713043 |
| H | 1.859898 | 3.509104 | 2.916637 |
| C | -0.014829 | 3.684301 | 0.612857 |
| H | 0.855990 | 4.344491 | 0.570379 |
| H | -0.331125 | 3.431652 | -0.399964 |
| H | -0.840620 | 4.200235 | 1.103942 |
| C | -3.770567 | -0.979764 | -0.169698 |
| H | -2.984540 | -1.365719 | -0.819985 |
| H | -4.615566 | -1.673645 | -0.166498 |
| H | -4.091613 | -0.014808 | -0.563286 |
| C | -4.601992 | -0.280873 | 2.466691 |
| H | -5.400886 | -1.013217 | 2.323101 |
| H | -4.357669 | -0.211330 | 3.527282 |
| H | -4.942971 | 0.699966 | 2.132949 |
| C | -2.825249 | -2.483005 | 2.066892 |
| H | -3.732569 | -3.080980 | 1.947941 |
| H | -2.019852 | -2.922128 | 1.476724 |
| H | -2.519472 | -2.488892 | 3.113730 |

Table S9. Cartesian coordinates for $[(P(CH_3)_3)_2Pt \cdot (SO_2)]$.

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Pt | -1.128286 | 0.401059 | 1.391933 |
| P | -3.028714 | -0.898986 | 1.360207 |
| P | 0.505549 | 2.013085 | 1.357238 |
| S | -0.026582 | -1.051392 | 2.892347 |

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| O | -1.044808 | -1.297498 | 3.962990 |
| O | 1.177128 | -0.302465 | 3.374840 |
| C | 2.179837 | 1.480125 | 0.840740 |
| H | 2.514376 | 0.715721 | 1.542750 |
| H | 2.136553 | 1.051279 | -0.161180 |
| H | 2.875503 | 2.322413 | 0.847418 |
| C | 0.791787 | 2.825576 | 2.971459 |
| H | -0.133148 | 3.292787 | 3.311229 |
| H | 1.084067 | 2.053883 | 3.684504 |
| H | 1.576085 | 3.581982 | 2.891874 |
| C | 0.145508 | 3.422716 | 0.234425 |
| H | 0.943427 | 4.168136 | 0.277772 |
| H | 0.046297 | 3.061072 | -0.789768 |
| H | -0.796706 | 3.886692 | 0.528462 |
| C | -4.176220 | -0.561221 | -0.034407 |
| H | -3.671877 | -0.769922 | -0.978790 |
| H | -5.073605 | -1.179697 | 0.040298 |
| H | -4.461663 | 0.491383 | -0.023161 |
| C | -4.064926 | -0.677725 | 2.851869 |
| H | -4.935556 | -1.337048 | 2.828808 |
| H | -3.441067 | -0.903639 | 3.718258 |
| H | -4.392572 | 0.360565 | 2.915320 |
| C | -2.798530 | -2.715779 | 1.276526 |
| H | -3.762153 | -3.229233 | 1.240134 |
| H | -2.213417 | -2.973042 | 0.392635 |
| H | -2.251628 | -3.033087 | 2.165170 |

Table S10. Cartesian coordinates for $[(P(CH_3)_3)_2Pd]$.

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Pd | -1.341144 | 0.669422 | 1.538608 |
| P | -3.111854 | -0.755349 | 1.498613 |
| P | 0.380746 | 2.151958 | 1.481605 |
| C | 1.970428 | 1.564454 | 0.753386 |
| H | 2.333959 | 0.711982 | 1.329080 |
| H | 1.793188 | 1.226083 | -0.268517 |
| H | 2.731871 | 2.349942 | 0.748399 |
| C | 0.967293 | 2.854873 | 3.082809 |
| H | 0.135440 | 3.355333 | 3.580522 |
| H | 1.303811 | 2.042842 | 3.728981 |
| H | 1.785196 | 3.566966 | 2.938873 |
| C | 0.089820 | 3.691733 | 0.508845 |
| H | 0.964422 | 4.349041 | 0.513238 |
| H | -0.158592 | 3.425525 | -0.519527 |
| H | -0.763920 | 4.223626 | 0.931366 |
| C | -3.932639 | -0.990078 | -0.135980 |
| H | -3.203678 | -1.377404 | -0.849324 |
| H | -4.779597 | -1.679490 | -0.071918 |
| H | -4.279097 | -0.023474 | -0.504468 |
| C | -4.557311 | -0.321454 | 2.558318 |
| H | -5.364115 | -1.054484 | 2.466416 |
| H | -4.236050 | -0.265422 | 3.599309 |
| H | -4.928040 | 0.663042 | 2.269201 |
| C | -2.818482 | -2.506028 | 2.000176 |
| H | -3.730277 | -3.106812 | 1.935359 |
| H | -2.052732 | -2.939767 | 1.355412 |
| H | -2.443693 | -2.527163 | 3.024543 |

Table S11. Cartesian coordinates for $[(P(CH_3)_3)_2Pd \cdot (SO_2)]$.

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Pd | -1.083399 | 0.351256 | 1.374007 |
| P | -3.051492 | -0.927159 | 1.348811 |

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| P | 0.530252 | 2.030899 | 1.337377 |
| S | 0.008218 | -1.065672 | 2.899917 |
| O | -1.009631 | -1.282526 | 3.973215 |
| O | 1.230575 | -0.343259 | 3.365563 |
| C | 2.222120 | 1.535179 | 0.830203 |
| H | 2.560797 | 0.756885 | 1.514985 |
| H | 2.199424 | 1.130427 | -0.182641 |
| H | 2.909551 | 2.384045 | 0.866076 |
| C | 0.813224 | 2.829701 | 2.962397 |
| H | -0.111861 | 3.293393 | 3.307404 |
| H | 1.105780 | 2.053357 | 3.670969 |
| H | 1.597747 | 3.587688 | 2.896574 |
| C | 0.178590 | 3.462535 | 0.234222 |
| H | 0.971577 | 4.212528 | 0.294240 |
| H | 0.089758 | 3.117737 | -0.797055 |
| H | -0.768910 | 3.919442 | 0.523459 |
| C | -4.221391 | -0.619655 | -0.039141 |
| H | -3.733300 | -0.857295 | -0.985505 |
| H | -5.124695 | -1.226776 | 0.061219 |
| H | -4.498378 | 0.435395 | -0.055367 |
| C | -4.085622 | -0.662109 | 2.839046 |
| H | -4.961482 | -1.315664 | 2.838313 |
| H | -3.465793 | -0.868197 | 3.713266 |
| H | -4.408399 | 0.379239 | 2.876738 |
| C | -2.866521 | -2.753329 | 1.312742 |
| H | -3.839808 | -3.249827 | 1.322930 |
| H | -2.317368 | -3.050655 | 0.418212 |
| H | -2.294902 | -3.059840 | 2.189724 |

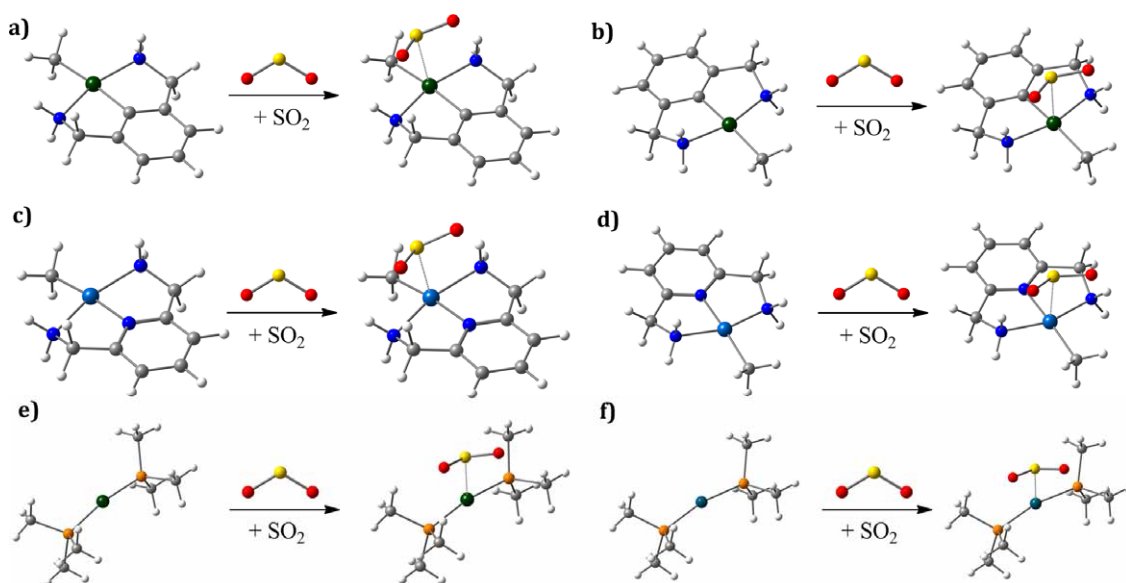


Figure S2. The optimized equilibrium geometries for model adducts (along with its parent metal fragments): (a) $[L(CH_3)Pt \cdot (SO_2)]$, (b) $i-[L(CH_3)Pt \cdot (SO_2)]$ (c) $[L'(CH_3)Ir \cdot (SO_2)]$, (d) $i-[L'(CH_3)Ir \cdot (SO_2)]$, (e) $[(P(CH_3)_3)_2Pt \cdot (SO_2)]$, and (f) $[(P(CH_3)_3)_2Pd \cdot (SO_2)]$.

Table S12. NBO charges in [L(CH₃)Pt·(SO₂)].

| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------|----------|---------|-----------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |
| C 1 | -0.21665 | 1.99928 | 4.20194 | 0.01542 | 6.21665 |
| C 2 | -0.21139 | 1.99912 | 4.19786 | 0.01440 | 6.21139 |
| C 3 | -0.21190 | 1.99912 | 4.19837 | 0.01440 | 6.21190 |
| H 4 | 0.21194 | 0.00000 | 0.78654 | 0.00152 | 0.78806 |
| H 5 | 0.21267 | 0.00000 | 0.78582 | 0.00152 | 0.78733 |
| C 6 | -0.08588 | 1.99908 | 4.06872 | 0.01807 | 6.08588 |
| C 7 | -0.08393 | 1.99909 | 4.06642 | 0.01842 | 6.08393 |
| C 8 | -0.25733 | 1.99899 | 4.22371 | 0.03463 | 6.25733 |
| H 9 | 0.21473 | 0.00000 | 0.78386 | 0.00140 | 0.78527 |
| C 10 | -0.23950 | 1.99933 | 4.22731 | 0.01286 | 6.23950 |
| H 11 | 0.20832 | 0.00000 | 0.78980 | 0.00188 | 0.79168 |
| H 12 | 0.20993 | 0.00000 | 0.78814 | 0.00194 | 0.79007 |
| C 13 | -0.25088 | 1.99931 | 4.23823 | 0.01334 | 6.25088 |
| H 14 | 0.20137 | 0.00000 | 0.79687 | 0.00176 | 0.79863 |
| H 15 | 0.25186 | 0.00000 | 0.74590 | 0.00223 | 0.74814 |
| N 16 | -0.72595 | 1.99960 | 5.70674 | 0.01961 | 7.72595 |
| H 17 | 0.43878 | 0.00000 | 0.55897 | 0.00225 | 0.56122 |
| H 18 | 0.19570 | 0.00000 | 0.80315 | 0.00115 | 0.80430 |
| N 19 | -0.71663 | 1.99961 | 5.69733 | 0.01969 | 7.71663 |
| H 20 | 0.41895 | 0.00000 | 0.57918 | 0.00186 | 0.58105 |
| H 21 | 0.39976 | 0.00000 | 0.59861 | 0.00162 | 0.60024 |
| Pt 22 | 0.64214 | 67.98878 | 9.32561 | 0.04347 | 77.35786 |
| C 23 | -1.06917 | 1.99950 | 5.05169 | 0.01798 | 7.06917 |
| H 24 | 0.19356 | 0.00000 | 0.80508 | 0.00136 | 0.80644 |
| H 25 | 0.40178 | 0.00000 | 0.59665 | 0.00157 | 0.59822 |
| H 26 | 0.19496 | 0.00000 | 0.80370 | 0.00134 | 0.80504 |
| S 27 | 1.44937 | 9.99942 | 4.36576 | 0.18546 | 14.55063 |
| O 28 | -0.89533 | 1.99987 | 6.88100 | 0.01446 | 8.89533 |
| O 29 | -0.88130 | 1.99988 | 6.86673 | 0.01468 | 8.88130 |
| * Total * | 0.00000 | 103.97998 | 87.53973 | 0.48029 | 192.00000 |

Table S13. NBO charges in *i*-[L(CH₃)Pt·(SO₂)].

| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|---------|----------------|--------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |
| C 1 | -0.22269 | 1.99928 | 4.20792 | 0.01549 | 6.22269 |
| C 2 | -0.20985 | 1.99913 | 4.19631 | 0.01441 | 6.20985 |
| C 3 | -0.21085 | 1.99912 | 4.19732 | 0.01441 | 6.21085 |
| H 4 | 0.21213 | 0.00000 | 0.78637 | 0.00151 | 0.78787 |
| H 5 | 0.21227 | 0.00000 | 0.78622 | 0.00151 | 0.78773 |
| C 6 | -0.09641 | 1.99906 | 4.07904 | 0.01830 | 6.09641 |
| C 7 | -0.09503 | 1.99906 | 4.07736 | 0.01860 | 6.09503 |
| C 8 | -0.25248 | 1.99900 | 4.21767 | 0.03582 | 6.25248 |
| H 9 | 0.21539 | 0.00000 | 0.78321 | 0.00140 | 0.78461 |
| C 10 | -0.24119 | 1.99932 | 4.22894 | 0.01293 | 6.24119 |
| H 11 | 0.21021 | 0.00000 | 0.78804 | 0.00175 | 0.78979 |
| H 12 | 0.21143 | 0.00000 | 0.78662 | 0.00194 | 0.78857 |
| C 13 | -0.24598 | 1.99932 | 4.23312 | 0.01355 | 6.24598 |
| H 14 | 0.20836 | 0.00000 | 0.78991 | 0.00173 | 0.79164 |
| H 15 | 0.22389 | 0.00000 | 0.77388 | 0.00223 | 0.77611 |
| N 16 | -0.72373 | 1.99961 | 5.70472 | 0.01940 | 7.72373 |
| H 17 | 0.43294 | 0.00000 | 0.56500 | 0.00206 | 0.56706 |
| H 18 | 0.19211 | 0.00000 | 0.80670 | 0.00119 | 0.80789 |
| N 19 | -0.72239 | 1.99961 | 5.70289 | 0.01989 | 7.72239 |
| H 20 | 0.43286 | 0.00000 | 0.56530 | 0.00184 | 0.56714 |
| H 21 | 0.40327 | 0.00000 | 0.59523 | 0.00150 | 0.59673 |
| Pt 22 | 0.65101 | 67.98852 | 9.31789 | 0.04258 | 77.34899 |
| C 23 | -1.09372 | 1.99952 | 5.07716 | 0.01704 | 7.09372 |

| | | | | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|-----------|
| H 24 | 0.20302 | 0.00000 | 0.79579 | 0.00119 | 0.79698 |
| H 25 | 0.40652 | 0.00000 | 0.59195 | 0.00153 | 0.59348 |
| H 26 | 0.20424 | 0.00000 | 0.79456 | 0.00120 | 0.79576 |
| S 27 | 1.44082 | 9.99941 | 4.37149 | 0.18828 | 14.55918 |
| O 28 | -0.86993 | 1.99988 | 6.85562 | 0.01442 | 8.86993 |
| O 29 | -0.87623 | 1.99988 | 6.86214 | 0.01422 | 8.87623 |
| ===== | | | | | |
| * Total * | 0.00000 | 103.97972 | 87.53838 | 0.48190 | 192.00000 |

Table S14. NBO charges in [L'(CH₃)Ir·(SO₂)].

| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------|----------|---------|-----------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |
| C 1 | -0.17510 | 1.99927 | 4.16082 | 0.01501 | 6.17510 |
| C 2 | -0.23872 | 1.99911 | 4.22662 | 0.01299 | 6.23872 |
| C 3 | -0.23651 | 1.99911 | 4.22433 | 0.01306 | 6.23651 |
| H 4 | 0.22886 | 0.00000 | 0.76982 | 0.00132 | 0.77114 |
| H 5 | 0.22965 | 0.00000 | 0.76904 | 0.00131 | 0.77035 |
| C 6 | 0.20510 | 1.99921 | 3.77556 | 0.02013 | 5.79490 |
| C 7 | 0.20186 | 1.99922 | 3.77831 | 0.02060 | 5.79814 |
| N 8 | -0.41383 | 1.99938 | 5.38077 | 0.03368 | 7.41383 |
| H 9 | 0.22638 | 0.00000 | 0.77228 | 0.00134 | 0.77362 |
| C 10 | -0.26494 | 1.99934 | 4.25284 | 0.01276 | 6.26494 |
| H 11 | 0.21732 | 0.00000 | 0.78099 | 0.00169 | 0.78268 |
| H 12 | 0.22022 | 0.00000 | 0.77798 | 0.00180 | 0.77978 |
| C 13 | -0.29367 | 1.99930 | 4.28123 | 0.01314 | 6.29367 |
| H 14 | 0.20605 | 0.00000 | 0.79237 | 0.00158 | 0.79395 |
| H 15 | 0.29552 | 0.00000 | 0.70221 | 0.00227 | 0.70448 |
| N 16 | -0.72786 | 1.99962 | 5.70874 | 0.01950 | 7.72786 |
| H 17 | 0.44705 | 0.00000 | 0.54980 | 0.00315 | 0.55295 |
| H 18 | 0.18727 | 0.00000 | 0.81138 | 0.00135 | 0.81273 |
| N 19 | -0.70913 | 1.99963 | 5.69002 | 0.01947 | 7.70913 |
| H 20 | 0.42235 | 0.00000 | 0.57533 | 0.00232 | 0.57765 |
| H 21 | 0.39180 | 0.00000 | 0.60619 | 0.00201 | 0.60820 |
| Ir 22 | 0.33023 | 67.98816 | 8.63015 | 0.05146 | 76.66977 |
| C 23 | -0.97602 | 1.99955 | 4.96163 | 0.01485 | 6.97602 |
| H 24 | 0.18884 | 0.00000 | 0.80967 | 0.00150 | 0.81116 |
| H 25 | 0.39670 | 0.00000 | 0.60138 | 0.00192 | 0.60330 |
| H 26 | 0.19436 | 0.00000 | 0.80419 | 0.00145 | 0.80564 |
| S 27 | 1.37000 | 9.99940 | 4.44835 | 0.18224 | 14.63000 |
| O 28 | -0.96701 | 1.99988 | 6.95346 | 0.01367 | 8.96701 |
| O 29 | -0.95679 | 1.99989 | 6.94294 | 0.01397 | 8.95679 |
| ===== | | | | | |
| * Total * | 0.00000 | 103.98006 | 87.53839 | 0.48155 | 192.00000 |

Table S15. NBO charges in *i*-[L'(CH₃)Ir·(SO₂)].

| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|---------|----------------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |
| C 1 | -0.17732 | 1.99927 | 4.16315 | 0.01490 | 6.17732 |
| C 2 | -0.23664 | 1.99911 | 4.22455 | 0.01298 | 6.23664 |
| C 3 | -0.23800 | 1.99911 | 4.22592 | 0.01297 | 6.23800 |
| H 4 | 0.22980 | 0.00000 | 0.76889 | 0.00131 | 0.77020 |
| H 5 | 0.22973 | 0.00000 | 0.76896 | 0.00131 | 0.77027 |
| C 6 | 0.19557 | 1.99921 | 3.78417 | 0.02105 | 5.80443 |
| C 7 | 0.19897 | 1.99920 | 3.77952 | 0.02231 | 5.80103 |
| N 8 | -0.40641 | 1.99937 | 5.37359 | 0.03345 | 7.40641 |
| H 9 | 0.22757 | 0.00000 | 0.77111 | 0.00132 | 0.77243 |
| C 10 | -0.26724 | 1.99933 | 4.25503 | 0.01287 | 6.26724 |
| H 11 | 0.21854 | 0.00000 | 0.77981 | 0.00165 | 0.78146 |
| H 12 | 0.22321 | 0.00000 | 0.77495 | 0.00185 | 0.77679 |

| | | | | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|-----------|
| C 13 | -0.27711 | 1.99932 | 4.26408 | 0.01370 | 6.27711 |
| H 14 | 0.21658 | 0.00000 | 0.78183 | 0.00159 | 0.78342 |
| H 15 | 0.24746 | 0.00000 | 0.75025 | 0.00229 | 0.75254 |
| N 16 | -0.72461 | 1.99962 | 5.70557 | 0.01941 | 7.72461 |
| H 17 | 0.44568 | 0.00000 | 0.55133 | 0.00299 | 0.55432 |
| H 18 | 0.18465 | 0.00000 | 0.81392 | 0.00143 | 0.81535 |
| N 19 | -0.72494 | 1.99963 | 5.70530 | 0.02002 | 7.72494 |
| H 20 | 0.44808 | 0.00000 | 0.54932 | 0.00260 | 0.55192 |
| H 21 | 0.39542 | 0.00000 | 0.60259 | 0.00199 | 0.60458 |
| Ir 22 | 0.33293 | 67.98838 | 8.62747 | 0.05122 | 76.66707 |
| C 23 | -0.98208 | 1.99956 | 4.96825 | 0.01427 | 6.98208 |
| H 24 | 0.19995 | 0.00000 | 0.79872 | 0.00133 | 0.80005 |
| H 25 | 0.40047 | 0.00000 | 0.59754 | 0.00200 | 0.59953 |
| H 26 | 0.20531 | 0.00000 | 0.79336 | 0.00133 | 0.79469 |
| S 27 | 1.32332 | 9.99942 | 4.48665 | 0.19061 | 14.67668 |
| O 28 | -0.94265 | 1.99989 | 6.92870 | 0.01406 | 8.94265 |
| O 29 | -0.94621 | 1.99988 | 6.93248 | 0.01385 | 8.94621 |
| ===== | | | | | |
| * Total * | 0.00000 | 103.98029 | 87.52704 | 0.49267 | 192.00000 |

Table S16. NBO charges in $[(P(CH_3)_3)_2Pt \cdot (SO_2)]$.

| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------|----------|---------|-----------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |
| Pt 1 | -0.25907 | 67.99070 | 10.22947 | 0.03890 | 78.25907 |
| P 2 | 0.95494 | 9.99892 | 3.98930 | 0.05684 | 14.04506 |
| P 3 | 0.96578 | 9.99891 | 3.97856 | 0.05675 | 14.03422 |
| S 4 | 1.37729 | 9.99939 | 4.42512 | 0.19821 | 14.62271 |
| O 5 | -0.89462 | 1.99989 | 6.87924 | 0.01550 | 8.89462 |
| O 6 | -0.90137 | 1.99989 | 6.88570 | 0.01578 | 8.90137 |
| C 7 | -0.94348 | 1.99948 | 4.93283 | 0.01117 | 6.94348 |
| H 8 | 0.27631 | 0.00000 | 0.72244 | 0.00125 | 0.72369 |
| H 9 | 0.24048 | 0.00000 | 0.75843 | 0.00109 | 0.75952 |
| H 10 | 0.22516 | 0.00000 | 0.77268 | 0.00217 | 0.77484 |
| C 11 | -0.94442 | 1.99948 | 4.93354 | 0.01140 | 6.94442 |
| H 12 | 0.24210 | 0.00000 | 0.75681 | 0.00109 | 0.75790 |
| H 13 | 0.28236 | 0.00000 | 0.71607 | 0.00157 | 0.71764 |
| H 14 | 0.22461 | 0.00000 | 0.77330 | 0.00209 | 0.77539 |
| C 15 | -0.93842 | 1.99949 | 4.92816 | 0.01077 | 6.93842 |
| H 16 | 0.22818 | 0.00000 | 0.76956 | 0.00226 | 0.77182 |
| H 17 | 0.24240 | 0.00000 | 0.75648 | 0.00112 | 0.75760 |
| H 18 | 0.24345 | 0.00000 | 0.75540 | 0.00115 | 0.75655 |
| C 19 | -0.93629 | 1.99949 | 4.92615 | 0.01065 | 6.93629 |
| H 20 | 0.24414 | 0.00000 | 0.75476 | 0.00111 | 0.75586 |
| H 21 | 0.22851 | 0.00000 | 0.76924 | 0.00225 | 0.77149 |
| H 22 | 0.24409 | 0.00000 | 0.75479 | 0.00112 | 0.75591 |
| C 23 | -0.94395 | 1.99948 | 4.93316 | 0.01131 | 6.94395 |
| H 24 | 0.22477 | 0.00000 | 0.77314 | 0.00209 | 0.77523 |
| H 25 | 0.28264 | 0.00000 | 0.71605 | 0.00131 | 0.71736 |
| H 26 | 0.24200 | 0.00000 | 0.75691 | 0.00109 | 0.75800 |
| C 27 | -0.94324 | 1.99949 | 4.93178 | 0.01197 | 6.94324 |
| H 28 | 0.22762 | 0.00000 | 0.77022 | 0.00216 | 0.77238 |
| H 29 | 0.24398 | 0.00000 | 0.75494 | 0.00108 | 0.75602 |
| H 30 | 0.26407 | 0.00000 | 0.73425 | 0.00168 | 0.73593 |
| ===== | | | | | |
| * Total * | 0.00000 | 113.98459 | 79.53849 | 0.47692 | 194.00000 |

Table S17. NBO charges in $[(P(CH_3)_3)_2Pd \cdot (SO_2)]$.

| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|---------|----------------|--------------------|---------|---------|-------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|----|----------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|
| Pd | 1 | -0.06738 | 35.99227 | 10.04081 | 0.03430 | 46.06738 |
| P | 2 | 0.86430 | 9.99892 | 4.08237 | 0.05441 | 14.13570 |
| P | 3 | 0.87803 | 9.99892 | 4.06902 | 0.05403 | 14.12197 |
| S | 4 | 1.36762 | 9.99937 | 4.44152 | 0.19149 | 14.63238 |
| O | 5 | -0.87790 | 1.99989 | 6.86226 | 0.01576 | 8.87790 |
| O | 6 | -0.88382 | 1.99989 | 6.86799 | 0.01595 | 8.88382 |
| C | 7 | -0.94054 | 1.99949 | 4.92920 | 0.01185 | 6.94054 |
| H | 8 | 0.27215 | 0.00000 | 0.72666 | 0.00119 | 0.72785 |
| H | 9 | 0.23725 | 0.00000 | 0.76168 | 0.00107 | 0.76275 |
| H | 10 | 0.22291 | 0.00000 | 0.77468 | 0.00241 | 0.77709 |
| C | 11 | -0.94169 | 1.99948 | 4.93006 | 0.01215 | 6.94169 |
| H | 12 | 0.23897 | 0.00000 | 0.75993 | 0.00111 | 0.76103 |
| H | 13 | 0.27751 | 0.00000 | 0.72100 | 0.00149 | 0.72249 |
| H | 14 | 0.22286 | 0.00000 | 0.77484 | 0.00230 | 0.77714 |
| C | 15 | -0.93558 | 1.99949 | 4.92477 | 0.01132 | 6.93558 |
| H | 16 | 0.22595 | 0.00000 | 0.77158 | 0.00247 | 0.77405 |
| H | 17 | 0.23979 | 0.00000 | 0.75911 | 0.00111 | 0.76021 |
| H | 18 | 0.24052 | 0.00000 | 0.75832 | 0.00115 | 0.75948 |
| C | 19 | -0.93346 | 1.99949 | 4.92276 | 0.01121 | 6.93346 |
| H | 20 | 0.24105 | 0.00000 | 0.75788 | 0.00108 | 0.75895 |
| H | 21 | 0.22598 | 0.00000 | 0.77156 | 0.00246 | 0.77402 |
| H | 22 | 0.24116 | 0.00000 | 0.75773 | 0.00111 | 0.75884 |
| C | 23 | -0.94025 | 1.99949 | 4.92888 | 0.01188 | 6.94025 |
| H | 24 | 0.22278 | 0.00000 | 0.77487 | 0.00235 | 0.77722 |
| H | 25 | 0.27675 | 0.00000 | 0.72203 | 0.00122 | 0.72325 |
| H | 26 | 0.23870 | 0.00000 | 0.76020 | 0.00110 | 0.76130 |
| C | 27 | -0.93967 | 1.99949 | 4.92775 | 0.01243 | 6.93967 |
| H | 28 | 0.22544 | 0.00000 | 0.77219 | 0.00238 | 0.77456 |
| H | 29 | 0.24049 | 0.00000 | 0.75844 | 0.00107 | 0.75951 |
| H | 30 | 0.26009 | 0.00000 | 0.73835 | 0.00156 | 0.73991 |
| ===== | | | | | | |
| * Total * | | 0.00000 | 81.98619 | 79.54843 | 0.46538 | 162.00000 |

Table S18. Selected calculated geometrical parameters for [L(CH₃)Pt·(SO₂)], *i*-[L(CH₃)Pt·(SO₂)], [L'(CH₃)Ir·(SO₂)] adducts and their parent complexes.^a

| Parameter | SO ₂ | [L(CH ₃)Pt] | [L'(CH ₃)Ir] | [L(CH ₃)Pt·(SO ₂)] | | [L'(CH ₃)Ir·(SO ₂)] | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|
| | | | | <i>n</i> ^b | <i>i</i> ^b | <i>n</i> ^b | <i>i</i> ^b |
| M ^c -C | | 1.96 | 1.937 | 1.98 | 1.97 | 2.004 | 2.00 |
| M ^c -N | | 2.06 | 2.074 | 2.07 | 2.07 | 2.094 | 2.08 |
| M ^c -CH ₃ | | 2.13 | 2.092 | 2.14 | 2.13 | 2.089 | 2.08 |
| M ^c -S | | | | 2.48 | 2.49 | 2.349 | 2.35 |
| ∠C-M ^c -C | | 180° | 179° | 171° | 173° | 170° | 173° |
| ∠N-M ^c -N | | 162° | 163° | 160° | 163° | 161° | 163° |
| ∠C-M ^c -S | | | | 104° | 88° | 97° | 86° |
| S-O | 1.46 | | | 1.49 | 1.49 | 1.52 | 1.52 |
| ∠O-S-O | 118° | | | 114° | 116° | 112° | 115° |
| ∠M ^c -plane ^d | | | | 108° | 108° | 115° | 111° |

^aAll bond lengths are in angstroms; angles are in degrees. ^b*n* and *i* here mean “normal” and “isomeric” conformer of SO₂ adduct. ^cM=Pt for Y=C, M=Ir for Y=N ^dThis parameter designates the angle between M-S vector and plane formed by three atoms of SO₂.

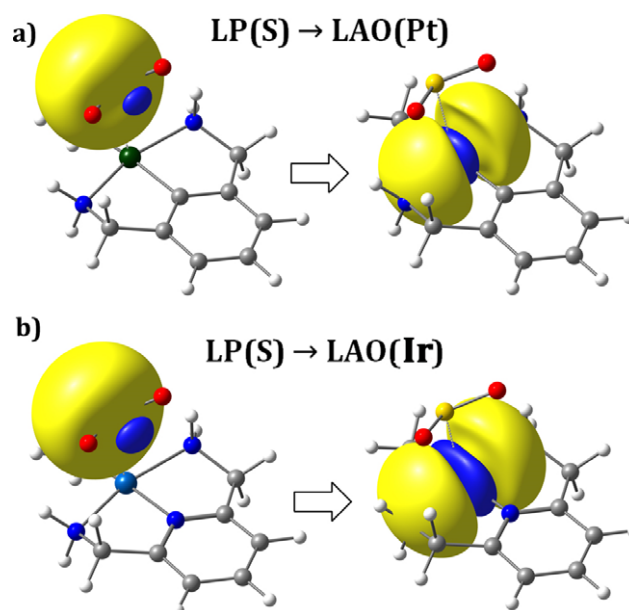


Figure S3. The major contribution to the $SO_2 \rightarrow M$ component of the bonding in: (a) $[L(CH_3)Pt \cdot (SO_2)]$, and (b) $[L'(CH_3)Ir \cdot (SO_2)]$.

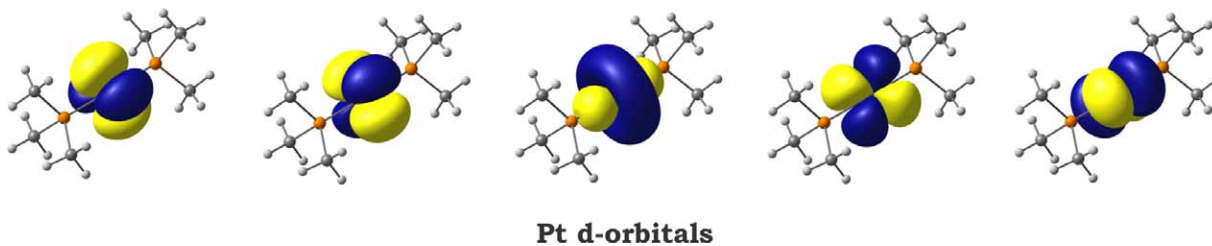


Figure S4. Selected NBOs of $[(P(CH_3)_3)_2Pt]$ (PBE0/TZVP/ZORA, analogous orbitals for the Pd-complex can be found in SI).

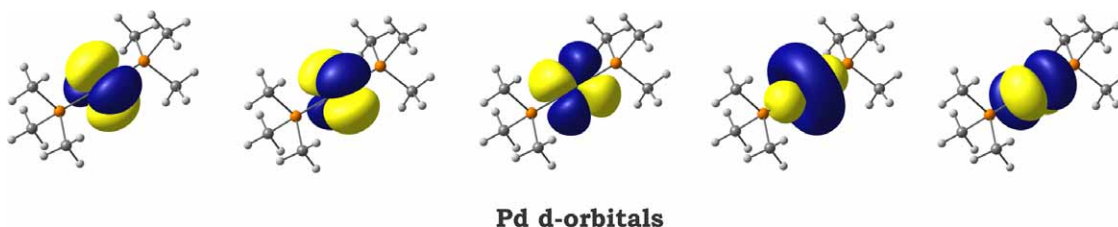


Figure S5. Selected d-type NBOs of $[(P(CH_3)_3)_2Pd]$.

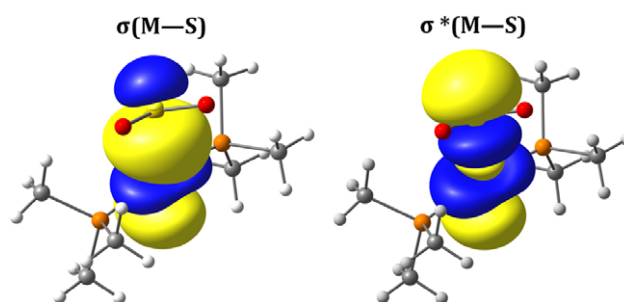


Figure S6. The bonding and anti-bonding NBOs for $[(\text{P}(\text{CH}_3)_3)_2\text{Pd}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$ adduct.

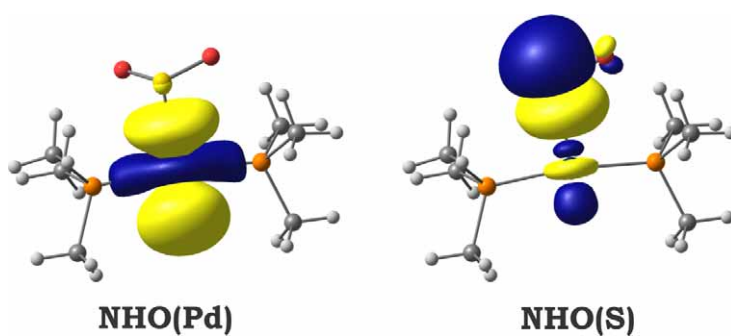


Figure S7. Two NHOs, which take part in formation of the bonding NBO in $[(\text{P}(\text{CH}_3)_3)_2\text{Pd}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$.

Adducts of SO₂ with pure organic donors

Table S19. Absolute energies of model adducts of SO₂ (in Hartree).

| Compound | Energy, a.u. |
|--|-------------------|
| [(C ₇ H ₁₃ N)·(SO ₂)] | -879.549119172807 |
| [C ₇ H ₁₃ N] | -329.251572173780 |
| [(C ₅ H ₈ N ₂)·(SO ₂)] | -855.062253607391 |
| [C ₅ H ₈ N ₂] | -304.760143903783 |
| [(NH ₃)·(SO ₂)] | -606.846989972469 |
| [NH ₃] | -56.560712083653 |
| [(N(CH ₃) ₃)·(SO ₂)] | -724.736430821009 |
| N(CH ₃) ₃ | -174.440217030339 |

Table S20. Cartesian coordinates for [C₇H₁₃N].

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| N | 0.759765 | 0.332993 | -4.145253 |
| C | 2.104734 | 0.501774 | -3.603957 |
| C | 0.828764 | -0.454297 | -5.372410 |
| C | -0.070540 | -0.365055 | -3.168457 |
| C | 2.777786 | -0.859864 | -3.299390 |
| C | 0.510346 | -1.754778 | -2.806333 |
| C | 1.415720 | -1.865774 | -5.119596 |
| C | 1.777168 | -1.966398 | -3.636879 |
| H | 2.211044 | -2.945334 | -3.419774 |
| H | 3.688734 | -0.988268 | -3.892047 |
| H | 3.069575 | -0.927349 | -2.246923 |
| H | 0.750260 | -1.814515 | -1.740317 |
| H | -0.211404 | -2.550155 | -3.015363 |
| H | 2.304873 | -2.037160 | -5.733999 |
| H | 0.692422 | -2.644466 | -5.380571 |
| H | -0.180015 | -0.516122 | -5.789641 |
| H | 1.436644 | 0.101025 | -6.092144 |
| H | -1.075674 | -0.455621 | -3.589317 |
| H | -0.153036 | 0.271004 | -2.282863 |
| H | 2.026573 | 1.113555 | -2.700970 |
| H | 2.688869 | 1.076929 | -4.327661 |

Table S21. Cartesian coordinates for [(C₇H₁₃N)·(SO₂)].

| | | | |
|---|----------|-----------|-----------|
| N | 1.329166 | 0.413237 | -3.777033 |
| C | 2.616174 | 0.079565 | -3.160559 |
| C | 1.280507 | -0.095519 | -5.152003 |
| C | 0.223943 | -0.144052 | -2.991857 |
| C | 2.864445 | -1.440740 | -3.254005 |
| C | 0.428511 | -1.663506 | -2.803009 |
| C | 1.261836 | -1.637781 | -5.141159 |
| C | 1.569631 | -2.109692 | -3.719387 |
| H | 1.673396 | -3.196385 | -3.692813 |
| H | 3.669437 | -1.656772 | -3.961581 |

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| H | 3.175067 | -1.836452 | -2.283872 |
| H | 0.672925 | -1.895484 | -1.762620 |
| H | -0.489784 | -2.204432 | -3.044192 |
| H | 1.999418 | -2.030661 | -5.845033 |
| H | 0.285083 | -2.015564 | -5.456007 |
| H | 0.398451 | 0.334015 | -5.631361 |
| H | 2.155442 | 0.301836 | -5.669966 |
| H | -0.700153 | 0.080729 | -3.527757 |
| H | 0.185792 | 0.382364 | -2.035216 |
| H | 2.579257 | 0.419537 | -2.122497 |
| H | 3.384737 | 0.663490 | -3.670170 |
| S | 1.156556 | 2.659091 | -3.980122 |
| O | 2.517955 | 2.870725 | -4.519315 |
| O | 0.073704 | 2.651743 | -4.987811 |

Table S22. Cartesian coordinates for [MeNHC].

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C | -0.591951 | 0.088503 | -4.991740 |
| N | 0.462476 | 0.408745 | -4.196438 |
| C | 0.079807 | 0.875444 | -2.954321 |
| C | -1.270093 | 0.855289 | -2.948777 |
| N | -1.648915 | 0.377438 | -4.187889 |
| H | 0.780491 | 1.175973 | -2.192371 |
| H | -1.973093 | 1.134849 | -2.181007 |
| C | -3.018208 | 0.199292 | -4.606064 |
| H | -2.998598 | -0.209589 | -5.613644 |
| H | -3.540202 | -0.495814 | -3.944213 |
| H | -3.551949 | 1.152710 | -4.614559 |
| C | 1.832842 | 0.273766 | -4.626914 |
| H | 2.385411 | -0.394973 | -3.962741 |
| H | 1.817451 | -0.147239 | -5.629570 |
| H | 2.332951 | 1.244957 | -4.651852 |

Table S23. Cartesian coordinates for [MeNHC·(SO₂)].

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C | -0.823565 | 0.687508 | -5.038174 |
| N | 0.309045 | 0.964557 | -4.374023 |
| C | 0.070369 | 1.008783 | -3.019309 |
| C | -1.246061 | 0.754922 | -2.848401 |
| N | -1.778044 | 0.562595 | -4.103252 |
| H | 0.850571 | 1.203173 | -2.302591 |
| H | -1.840335 | 0.683321 | -1.952982 |
| S | -1.079360 | 0.618499 | -7.112274 |
| O | -2.162746 | -0.409989 | -7.178839 |
| O | 0.271461 | 0.102824 | -7.494336 |
| C | -3.179622 | 0.263371 | -4.358249 |
| H | -3.281550 | -0.043569 | -5.397992 |
| H | -3.495112 | -0.550484 | -3.705615 |
| H | -3.787520 | 1.147456 | -4.160054 |
| C | 1.613650 | 1.188060 | -4.980298 |
| H | 2.361409 | 0.609509 | -4.438408 |
| H | 1.571275 | 0.856688 | -6.016745 |
| H | 1.865814 | 2.248572 | -4.931756 |

Table S24. Cartesian coordinates for [NH₃].

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| N | -0.195295 | -2.057929 | -3.711234 |
| H | 0.257175 | -2.799343 | -3.192234 |
| H | 0.175142 | -2.072625 | -4.652604 |
| H | 0.076663 | -1.179449 | -3.289163 |

Table S25. Cartesian coordinates for [H₃N·(SO₂)].

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| N | -0.077112 | -1.928616 | -3.634213 |
| H | 0.670278 | -2.608578 | -3.703022 |
| H | -0.244178 | -1.536979 | -4.554240 |
| H | 0.211856 | -1.180228 | -3.016321 |
| S | -2.328722 | -2.982978 | -3.202478 |
| O | -3.077948 | -1.900189 | -3.852159 |
| O | -2.081046 | -4.180082 | -4.015012 |

Table S26. Cartesian coordinates for [(CH₃)₃N].

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| N | 0.172280 | -0.222775 | -3.483098 |
| C | -0.688964 | -0.701062 | -2.427206 |
| H | -1.290538 | -1.538175 | -2.788809 |
| H | -0.128019 | -1.042412 | -1.536565 |
| H | -1.370192 | 0.093318 | -2.114208 |
| C | 0.927038 | 0.935386 | -3.065918 |
| H | 1.614641 | 0.722067 | -2.225518 |
| H | 1.521412 | 1.313719 | -3.900735 |
| H | 0.245101 | 1.728828 | -2.751849 |
| C | 1.036671 | -1.269999 | -3.974289 |
| H | 1.725705 | -1.658615 | -3.200399 |
| H | 0.437074 | -2.105837 | -4.341871 |
| H | 1.638966 | -0.896045 | -4.805357 |

Table S27. Cartesian coordinates for [(CH₃)₃N·(SO₂)].

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| N | 0.612601 | -1.111996 | -3.945495 |
| C | -0.364319 | -1.663374 | -3.022713 |
| H | -0.650564 | -2.660773 | -3.359429 |
| H | 0.039961 | -1.721394 | -2.004539 |
| H | -1.252499 | -1.029568 | -3.024436 |
| C | 0.941926 | 0.271706 | -3.654068 |
| H | 1.428046 | 0.371775 | -2.675457 |
| H | 1.614900 | 0.655653 | -4.422999 |
| H | 0.026030 | 0.863651 | -3.666267 |
| C | 1.778330 | -1.962592 | -4.105420 |
| H | 2.342538 | -2.052651 | -3.168397 |
| H | 1.455748 | -2.954138 | -4.425652 |
| H | 2.433700 | -1.542698 | -4.870642 |
| S | -0.498360 | -1.108048 | -5.943653 |
| O | -1.537604 | -0.135019 | -5.546587 |
| O | -0.905309 | -2.528028 | -5.899089 |

Table S28. NBO charges in $[(C_7H_{13}N) \cdot (SO_2)]$.

| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------|----------|---------|----------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |
| N 1 | -0.37402 | 1.99953 | 5.34130 | 0.03318 | 7.37402 |
| C 2 | -0.25586 | 1.99940 | 4.24189 | 0.01458 | 6.25586 |
| C 3 | -0.26757 | 1.99939 | 4.25199 | 0.01619 | 6.26757 |
| C 4 | -0.25119 | 1.99940 | 4.23695 | 0.01484 | 6.25119 |
| C 5 | -0.43106 | 1.99943 | 4.42200 | 0.00963 | 6.43106 |
| C 6 | -0.43087 | 1.99944 | 4.42178 | 0.00965 | 6.43087 |
| C 7 | -0.42887 | 1.99943 | 4.41982 | 0.00961 | 6.42887 |
| C 8 | -0.21442 | 1.99942 | 4.20378 | 0.01122 | 6.21442 |
| H 9 | 0.22652 | 0.00000 | 0.77192 | 0.00156 | 0.77348 |
| H 10 | 0.21534 | 0.00000 | 0.78314 | 0.00152 | 0.78466 |
| H 11 | 0.21846 | 0.00000 | 0.78013 | 0.00142 | 0.78154 |
| H 12 | 0.21287 | 0.00000 | 0.78561 | 0.00152 | 0.78713 |
| H 13 | 0.22020 | 0.00000 | 0.77838 | 0.00142 | 0.77980 |
| H 14 | 0.22030 | 0.00000 | 0.77830 | 0.00140 | 0.77970 |
| H 15 | 0.21334 | 0.00000 | 0.78513 | 0.00152 | 0.78666 |
| H 16 | 0.24074 | 0.00000 | 0.75723 | 0.00204 | 0.75926 |
| H 17 | 0.22536 | 0.00000 | 0.77244 | 0.00220 | 0.77464 |
| H 18 | 0.22219 | 0.00000 | 0.77590 | 0.00192 | 0.77781 |
| H 19 | 0.21220 | 0.00000 | 0.78530 | 0.00250 | 0.78780 |
| H 20 | 0.20747 | 0.00000 | 0.79046 | 0.00207 | 0.79253 |
| H 21 | 0.24005 | 0.00000 | 0.75805 | 0.00190 | 0.75995 |
| S 22 | 1.52432 | 9.99935 | 4.29091 | 0.18542 | 14.47568 |
| O 23 | -0.87344 | 1.99989 | 6.85909 | 0.01447 | 8.87344 |
| O 24 | -0.87206 | 1.99989 | 6.85773 | 0.01445 | 8.87206 |
| * Total * | 0.00000 | 29.99457 | 63.64922 | 0.35621 | 94.00000 |

Table S29. NBO charges in $[MeNHC \cdot (SO_2)]$.

| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------|----------|---------|----------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |
| C 1 | 0.15232 | 1.99911 | 3.81072 | 0.03785 | 5.84768 |
| N 2 | -0.49776 | 1.99940 | 5.48199 | 0.01638 | 7.49776 |
| C 3 | -0.08294 | 1.99918 | 4.06622 | 0.01754 | 6.08294 |
| C 4 | -0.09422 | 1.99919 | 4.07731 | 0.01772 | 6.09422 |
| N 5 | -0.49345 | 1.99944 | 5.47912 | 0.01489 | 7.49345 |
| H 6 | 0.24141 | 0.00000 | 0.75731 | 0.00129 | 0.75859 |
| H 7 | 0.23801 | 0.00000 | 0.76065 | 0.00134 | 0.76199 |
| H 8 | 0.43331 | 0.00000 | 0.56524 | 0.00145 | 0.56669 |
| H 9 | 0.47229 | 0.00000 | 0.52494 | 0.00277 | 0.52771 |
| S 10 | 1.46905 | 9.99935 | 4.35309 | 0.17851 | 14.53095 |
| O 11 | -0.88708 | 1.99989 | 6.87264 | 0.01455 | 8.88708 |
| O 12 | -0.95096 | 1.99988 | 6.93700 | 0.01407 | 8.95096 |
| * Total * | 0.00000 | 23.99544 | 43.68622 | 0.31835 | 68.00000 |

Table S30. NBO charges in $[H_3N \cdot (SO_2)]$.

| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|---------|----------------|--------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |
| N 1 | -1.03768 | 1.99966 | 6.01596 | 0.02206 | 8.03768 |
| H 2 | 0.37900 | 0.00000 | 0.61942 | 0.00158 | 0.62100 |
| H 3 | 0.38145 | 0.00000 | 0.61598 | 0.00257 | 0.61855 |
| H 4 | 0.37658 | 0.00000 | 0.62184 | 0.00158 | 0.62342 |
| S 5 | 1.52999 | 9.99935 | 4.28447 | 0.18618 | 14.47001 |

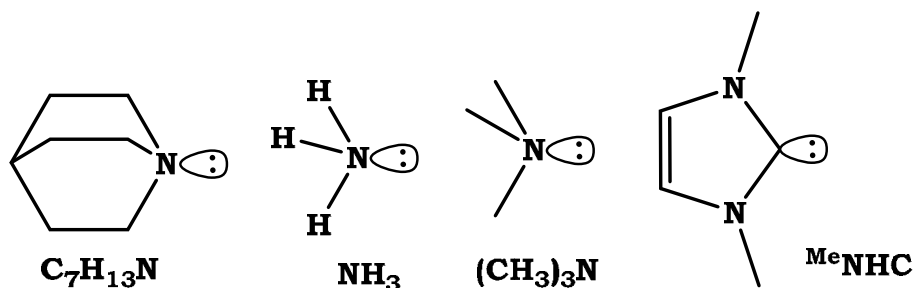
| | | | | | |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|----------|
| O 6 | -0.81628 | 1.99989 | 6.80108 | 0.01531 | 8.81628 |
| O 7 | -0.81305 | 1.99989 | 6.79782 | 0.01535 | 8.81305 |
| ===== | | | | | |
| * Total * | 0.00000 | 15.99879 | 25.75658 | 0.24463 | 42.00000 |

Table S31. NBO charges in $[(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$.

| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------|----------|---------|----------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |
| N 1 | -0.38156 | 1.99958 | 5.35342 | 0.02857 | 7.38156 |
| C 2 | -0.45471 | 1.99941 | 4.44010 | 0.01521 | 6.45471 |
| H 3 | 0.23595 | 0.00000 | 0.76236 | 0.00168 | 0.76405 |
| H 4 | 0.19405 | 0.00000 | 0.80316 | 0.00279 | 0.80595 |
| H 5 | 0.23254 | 0.00000 | 0.76562 | 0.00184 | 0.76746 |
| C 6 | -0.44223 | 1.99941 | 4.42921 | 0.01360 | 6.44223 |
| H 7 | 0.19248 | 0.00000 | 0.80448 | 0.00305 | 0.80752 |
| H 8 | 0.21253 | 0.00000 | 0.78571 | 0.00176 | 0.78747 |
| H 9 | 0.23593 | 0.00000 | 0.76255 | 0.00152 | 0.76407 |
| C 10 | -0.44139 | 1.99941 | 4.42820 | 0.01378 | 6.44139 |
| H 11 | 0.19334 | 0.00000 | 0.80362 | 0.00304 | 0.80666 |
| H 12 | 0.23108 | 0.00000 | 0.76736 | 0.00156 | 0.76892 |
| H 13 | 0.21295 | 0.00000 | 0.78520 | 0.00186 | 0.78705 |
| S 14 | 1.51076 | 9.99936 | 4.30312 | 0.18676 | 14.48924 |
| O 15 | -0.86587 | 1.99989 | 6.85136 | 0.01463 | 8.86587 |
| O 16 | -0.86583 | 1.99989 | 6.85126 | 0.01468 | 8.86583 |
| ===== | | | | | |
| * Total * | 0.00000 | 21.99694 | 43.69672 | 0.30634 | 66.00000 |

NBO analysis of SO₂-adducts with organic donors. The final step in the part about acceptor behavior of the SO₂ molecule was to investigate its reactions with pure donors, which are not expected to show any acceptor properties. This should provide the final piece of information in order to complete the picture of the binding of sulfur dioxide with available donor and help to quantify the strength of such interactions. The specific donor systems include ammonia (NH₃), trimethylamine ((CH₃)₃N), azabicyclooctane (C₇H₁₃N), and methyl-substituted N-heterocyclic carbene (^{Me}NHC). ChemDraw representation of all model systems is given in Scheme 1.

Scheme 1



The bent coordination mode of the SO₂ moiety is well reproduced in all optimized equilibrium geometries (Fig. S8). Such adducts are well-known experimentally and their bent shape is established.¹ Selected calculated geometrical parameters are collected in Table S32. The shortest bond between donor atom (N in amines and C in ^{Me}NHC) was expectedly found in the case of [^{Me}NHC·(SO₂)]. In contrast, the adduct with unsubstituted ammonia showed the longest N-S bond. This fully agrees with the total bonding energy, which was calculated to be the largest for [^{Me}NHC·(SO₂)] (-18 kcal/mol) and the smallest for [H₃N·(SO₂)] (-10 kcal/mol). Interestingly, the bonding energies for the amine adducts are smaller than those for complexes with any organometallic fragment considered in this paper (Table S32). The lower stability is also supported by the Wiberg bond orders (see Fig. S9).

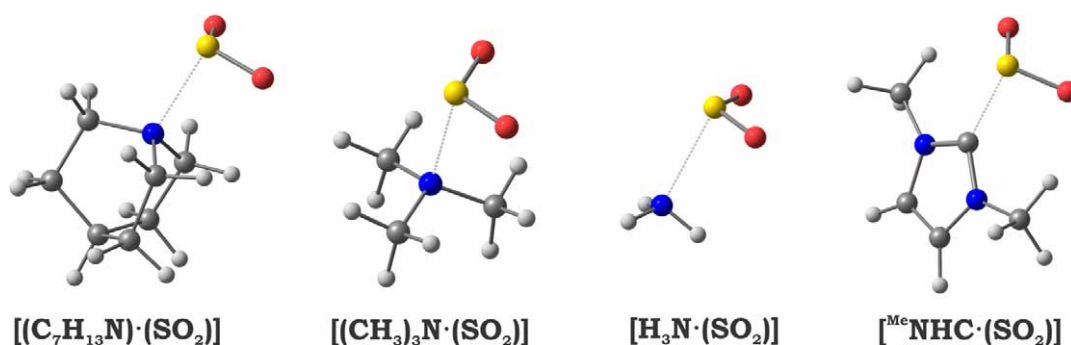


Figure S8. The optimized geometries (PBE0/TZVP/ZORA) for model adducts $[(\text{C}_7\text{H}_{13}\text{N})\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$, $[(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$, $[\text{H}_3\text{N}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$, $[\text{MeNHC}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$.

Table S32. Selected calculated parameters of adducts of SO_2 with pure organic donors (PBE0/TZVP/ZORA).^a

| Parameter | $[(\text{C}_7\text{H}_{13}\text{N})\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$ | $[\text{MeNHC}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$ | $[\text{H}_3\text{N}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$ | $[(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$ |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|---|
| N-S | 2.26 | 2.09 ^b | 2.52 | 2.27 |
| S-O | 1.48 | 1.50 | 1.47 | 1.48 |
| $\angle\text{O-S-O}$ | 115° | 114° | 117° | 116° |
| $\angle\text{N-plane}^c$ | 102° | 107° ^b | 99° | 102° |
| $E^{(2)}_{i\rightarrow j}{}^d$ | 49 | - | 22 | 44 |
| E_{bonding} | -17 | -18 | -10 | -16 |

^a All bond lengths are in angstroms; angles are in degrees. ^b Carbon atom is used instead of nitrogen in adducts with MeNHC . ^c $\angle\text{N-plane}$ is the angle between N-S bond and plane of attached SO_2 (analogous to $\angle\text{M-plane}$ in adducts with metal fragments). ^d $E^{(2)}_{i\rightarrow j}$ designates the major donor $\rightarrow\text{SO}_2$ contribution to the acceptor-donor interaction (LP(N) \rightarrow LAO(S) term), estimated by second order perturbation theory.

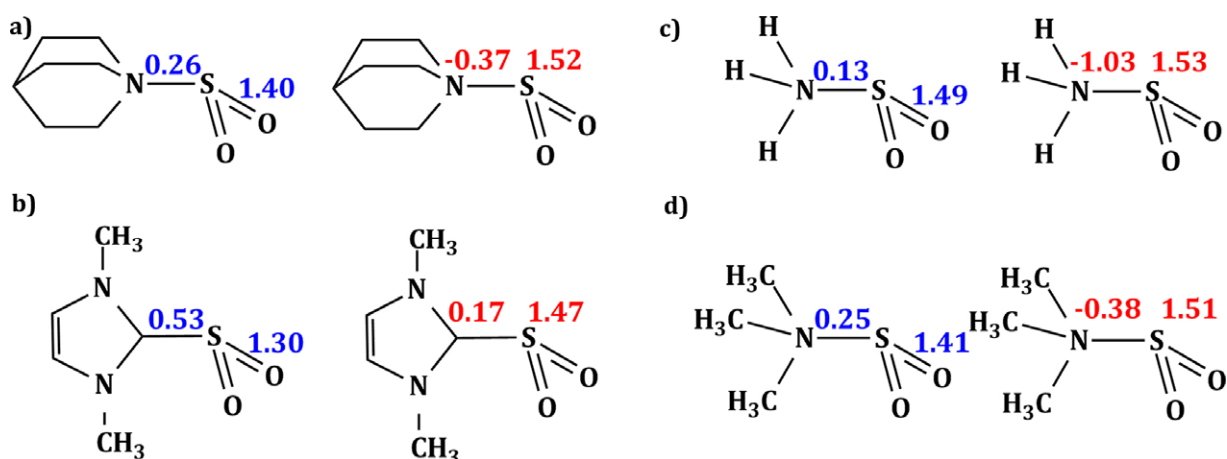


Figure S9. The Wiberg bond orders and atomic charges in the SO₂ adducts with pure organic donors (PBE0/TZVP/ZORA). Blue color is for bond orders, red – for charges.

The nature of the bonding between pure organic donors and SO₂ was found to be essentially the same as revealed by NBO and EDA analysis (Table S32 and Table S33). Estimations of the strength of donor-acceptor interaction through an NBO perturbation analysis are in good agreement with the trend observed from analysis of Wiberg bond indexes and bond dissociation energies. Indeed, in all adducts of SO₂ with substituted amines it shows the leading (amine)→(SO₂) term to be equal to 46±3 kcal/mol, whereas for the adduct with ammonia it is half the magnitude (22 kcal/mol). This component of the bonding corresponds to electron donation from the lone pair of amine (LP(N)) to the empty acceptor orbital of SO₂ (LAO(S)). Graphically it is depicted in Fig. S10a. The calculated values are much smaller than that in [L(CH₃)Pt·(SO₂)], the least stable adduct with a metal fragment. One may also note the mixing with p-orbitals of one of oxygen atoms to the acceptor

LAO(S). Such mixing was found to be most pronounced for unperturbed SO₂ molecule.

Table S33. Results of EDA analysis of the bonding between SO₂ and pure organic donors (in kcal/mol, PBE0/TZ2P/ZORA).

| Parameter | [[C ₇ H ₁₃ N]·(SO ₂)] | [^{Me} NHC·(SO ₂)] | [H ₃ N·(SO ₂)] | [[CH ₃] ₃ N·(SO ₂)] |
|----------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| ΔE_{int} | -17 | -24 | -7 | -16 |
| ΔE_{elstat} | -52(54%) | -117(53%) | -23(59%) | -47(53%) |
| ΔE_{Pauli} | 80 | 195 | 32 | 73 |
| ΔE_{orb} | -45(46%) | -102(47%) | -16(41%) | -42(47%) |
| $-D_e$ | -14 | -17 | -6 | -13 |
| ΔE_{prep} | 3 | 7 | 1 | 3 |

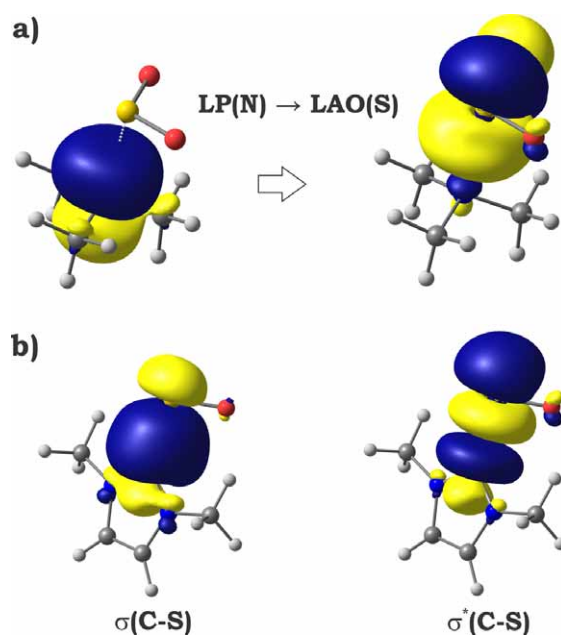


Figure S10. (a) The major contribution to the (amine) \rightarrow (SO₂) interaction in NBO analysis of [[CH₃]₃N·(SO₂)] (PBE0/TZVP/ZORA, analogous for other adducts of amines); (b) bonding and anti-bonding NBOs in the case of [^{Me}NHC·(SO₂)].

High stability of the adduct [$\text{MeNHC}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)$] prevented analysis of the bonding in terms of NBO second order perturbation theory. Instead, we turned to an analysis of localized bonding and anti-bonding NBOs (Fig. S10b), describing this interaction. This bond can be considered as a result of interaction of two NHOs (Fig. S11), localized on different fragments:

$$\text{NBO} = 0.84 \cdot h(\text{C}) + 0.55 \cdot h(\text{S}) = 70\%h(\text{C}) + 30\%h(\text{S})$$

where $h(\text{C})$ has 65% of p-character and 35% of s-orbital, whereas $h(\text{S})$ is mainly formed by the p_x -orbital of S (95%) with a small ($\sim 4\%$) contribution from an s-orbital. The anti-bonding NBO corresponds to an opposite combination of these NHOs.

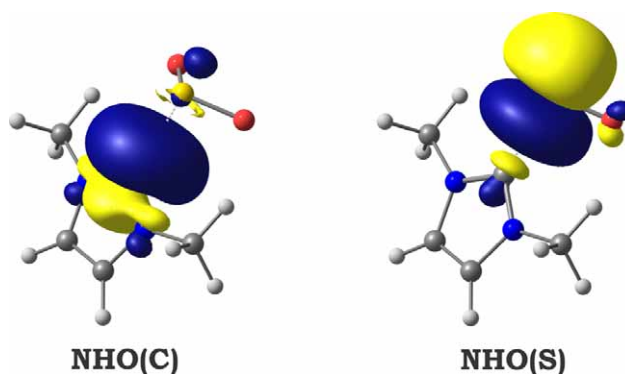


Figure S11. Two NHOs, which take part in formation of the bonding NBO in [$\text{MeNHC}\cdot(\text{SO}_2)$] (PBE0/TZVP/ZORA).

Adducts of SO₂-donor

Table S34. Absolute energies of model adducts of SO₂ (in Hartree).

| Compound | Energy, a.u. |
|---|---------------------|
| [Rh ₂ (O ₂ CCF ₃) ₄ ·(SO ₂)] | -12330.246233883241 |
| [Rh ₂ (O ₂ CCF ₃) ₄] | -11779.961889362379 |
| [Cr(CO) ₅ ·(SO ₂)] | -2171.443384593723 |
| [Cr(CO) ₅] | -1621.131063475442 |
| [W(CO) ₅ ·(SO ₂)] | -17747.981959948123 |
| [W(CO) ₅] | -17197.667280303882 |

Table S35. Cartesian coordinates for [Rh₂(O₂CCF₃)₄].

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Rh | 0.040670 | -0.154140 | -3.129612 |
| Rh | 0.036193 | -0.131574 | -0.749247 |
| O | -1.990598 | -0.292416 | -3.069174 |
| O | 0.202299 | -2.183858 | -3.042032 |
| O | -0.108343 | 1.878292 | -3.085970 |
| O | 2.070298 | -0.003108 | -3.068809 |
| O | -0.108186 | 1.897334 | -0.832348 |
| O | 0.189336 | -2.161882 | -0.788564 |
| O | -1.998131 | -0.266639 | -0.815793 |
| O | 2.067990 | 0.012427 | -0.815388 |
| C | -2.538452 | -0.302075 | -1.943442 |
| C | -0.144056 | 2.430960 | -1.963852 |
| C | 0.255456 | -2.713929 | -1.909774 |
| C | 2.612026 | 0.048901 | -1.942597 |
| C | -0.202012 | 3.977871 | -1.965961 |
| F | -0.922402 | 4.420807 | -0.944363 |
| F | 1.039758 | 4.454705 | -1.850261 |
| F | -0.728990 | 4.435603 | -3.091492 |
| C | 4.153652 | 0.191813 | -1.922322 |
| F | 4.477585 | 1.383912 | -1.421057 |
| F | 4.686984 | -0.753322 | -1.153930 |
| F | 4.665185 | 0.089371 | -3.138318 |
| C | -4.087000 | -0.327922 | -1.972520 |
| F | -4.530898 | 0.859014 | -2.390682 |
| F | -4.519273 | -1.260030 | -2.815272 |
| F | -4.589601 | -0.570062 | -0.772505 |
| C | 0.479107 | -4.245680 | -1.884095 |
| F | 1.781419 | -4.482517 | -1.707739 |
| F | -0.190416 | -4.805712 | -0.884899 |
| F | 0.097559 | -4.803815 | -3.022911 |

Table S36. Cartesian coordinates for [Rh₂(O₂CCF₃)₄·(SO₂)].

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Rh | 0.031559 | -0.114159 | -3.138528 |
| Rh | 0.106420 | -0.095752 | -0.736886 |
| O | -1.999690 | -0.236483 | -3.011065 |
| O | 0.171266 | -2.145179 | -3.063711 |
| O | -0.079166 | 1.921787 | -3.092232 |

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| O | 2.064272 | 0.006660 | -3.145669 |
| O | -0.013368 | 1.941531 | -0.840022 |
| O | 0.239038 | -2.134543 | -0.811101 |
| O | -1.932634 | -0.227653 | -0.759320 |
| O | 2.141811 | 0.026227 | -0.893401 |
| C | -2.508160 | -0.271039 | -1.871144 |
| C | -0.063837 | 2.474911 | -1.974028 |
| C | 0.260580 | -2.680287 | -1.939647 |
| C | 2.645119 | 0.048269 | -2.042013 |
| C | -0.080493 | 4.024448 | -1.957089 |
| F | -1.033922 | 4.465297 | -1.143178 |
| F | 1.096208 | 4.466185 | -1.510930 |
| F | -0.288103 | 4.517306 | -3.167083 |
| C | 4.190600 | 0.153319 | -2.071458 |
| F | 4.561815 | 1.326120 | -1.557886 |
| F | 4.724629 | -0.821630 | -1.342113 |
| F | 4.656339 | 0.063845 | -3.306138 |
| C | -4.052011 | -0.399913 | -1.838634 |
| F | -4.601554 | 0.559270 | -2.576955 |
| F | -4.402791 | -1.583215 | -2.343174 |
| F | -4.521485 | -0.308442 | -0.605395 |
| C | 0.471559 | -4.214772 | -1.924809 |
| F | 1.772543 | -4.463265 | -1.759230 |
| F | -0.196964 | -4.774744 | -0.924658 |
| F | 0.076874 | -4.760717 | -3.064396 |
| S | 0.094842 | -0.048364 | 1.685336 |
| O | -0.854957 | 0.841134 | 2.332335 |
| O | 0.962526 | -0.905573 | 2.476081 |

Table S37. Cartesian coordinates for $[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5]$.

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Cr | 0.056931 | -0.888869 | 3.481694 |
| C | -0.985919 | -0.125287 | 4.870349 |
| C | 1.100380 | -1.651812 | 2.092013 |
| C | -0.629347 | -2.605794 | 3.909742 |
| C | 0.734444 | 0.831710 | 3.057126 |
| C | 1.437485 | -1.140239 | 4.653845 |
| O | 2.302270 | -1.294480 | 5.389809 |
| O | -1.572778 | 0.327845 | 5.735851 |
| O | -1.002792 | -3.641765 | 4.203457 |
| O | 1.773409 | -2.117476 | 1.298696 |
| O | 1.182063 | 1.857653 | 2.842667 |

Table S38. Cartesian coordinates for $[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5 \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]$.

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Cr | 0.001490 | -0.885121 | 3.432150 |
| C | -1.025664 | -0.080461 | 4.816533 |
| C | 1.049052 | -1.706104 | 2.073492 |
| C | -0.652390 | -2.601780 | 3.934926 |
| C | 0.716937 | 0.830881 | 3.026368 |
| C | 1.427676 | -1.125516 | 4.632941 |
| O | 2.295776 | -1.271380 | 5.354653 |
| O | -1.615313 | 0.398411 | 5.661236 |
| O | -1.024565 | -3.626893 | 4.254246 |
| O | 1.695429 | -2.205969 | 1.284576 |
| O | 1.154582 | 1.857409 | 2.811938 |
| S | -1.648118 | -0.581247 | 1.963764 |
| O | -2.599884 | 0.522247 | 2.105593 |
| O | -1.804481 | -1.452085 | 0.796994 |

Table S39. Cartesian coordinates for $[W(CO)_5]$.

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|----------|
| W | 0.031669 | -0.882724 | 3.454961 |
| C | -1.076770 | -0.066168 | 4.960615 |
| C | 1.169470 | -1.708237 | 1.975892 |
| C | -0.695033 | -2.729437 | 3.932625 |
| C | 0.777680 | 0.965604 | 3.019749 |
| C | 1.485027 | -1.151323 | 4.690846 |
| O | 2.354043 | -1.311152 | 5.427740 |
| O | -1.660316 | 0.383543 | 5.831820 |
| O | -1.067344 | -3.764034 | 4.236858 |
| O | 1.846108 | -2.177239 | 1.186049 |
| O | 1.231614 | 1.992652 | 2.818095 |

Table S40. Cartesian coordinates for $[W(CO)_5 \cdot (SO_2)]$.

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|----------|
| W | 0.009069 | -0.893253 | 3.453951 |
| C | -1.104378 | -0.017034 | 4.933820 |
| C | 1.117987 | -1.779375 | 1.976368 |
| C | -0.694067 | -2.748449 | 3.986428 |
| C | 0.767819 | 0.964613 | 3.023494 |
| C | 1.552662 | -1.144106 | 4.725196 |
| O | 2.438027 | -1.281819 | 5.429814 |
| O | -1.705356 | 0.472545 | 5.765931 |
| O | -1.064317 | -3.776844 | 4.299063 |
| O | 1.742586 | -2.280730 | 1.169333 |
| O | 1.195355 | 1.997377 | 2.815115 |
| S | -1.734647 | -0.561428 | 1.871359 |
| O | -2.686854 | 0.543507 | 2.006442 |
| O | -1.863358 | -1.422611 | 0.693095 |

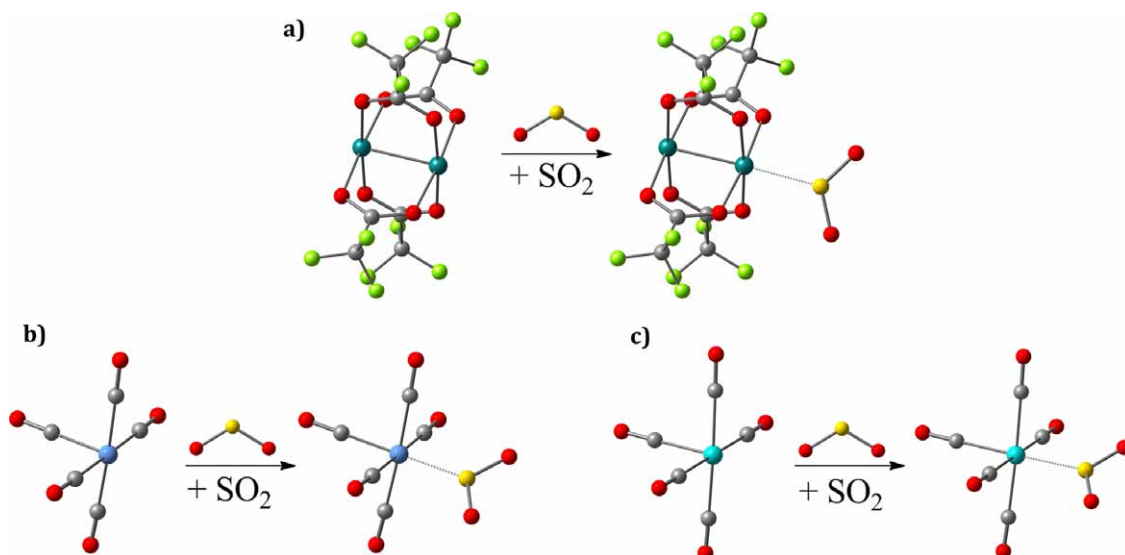


Table S41. NBO charges in $[\text{Rh}_2(\text{O}_2\text{CCF}_3)_4 \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]$.

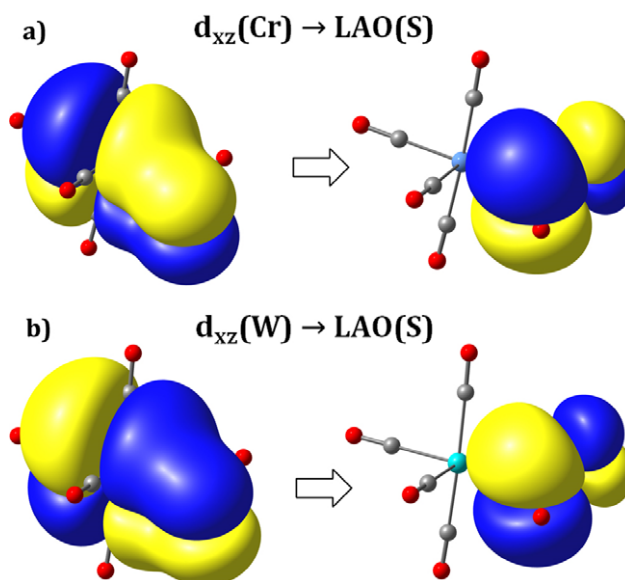
| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |
| Rh 1 | 0.86341 | 35.99000 | 8.11070 | 0.03590 | 44.13659 |
| Rh 2 | 0.75633 | 35.99211 | 8.19780 | 0.05376 | 44.24367 |
| O 3 | -0.56892 | 1.99970 | 6.55328 | 0.01595 | 8.56892 |
| O 4 | -0.56449 | 1.99970 | 6.54879 | 0.01601 | 8.56449 |
| O 5 | -0.56331 | 1.99970 | 6.54761 | 0.01600 | 8.56331 |
| O 6 | -0.56320 | 1.99970 | 6.54745 | 0.01606 | 8.56320 |
| O 7 | -0.56919 | 1.99970 | 6.55301 | 0.01648 | 8.56919 |
| O 8 | -0.56725 | 1.99971 | 6.55109 | 0.01645 | 8.56725 |
| O 9 | -0.56445 | 1.99970 | 6.54820 | 0.01655 | 8.56445 |
| O 10 | -0.56849 | 1.99970 | 6.55241 | 0.01638 | 8.56849 |
| C 11 | 0.67925 | 1.99953 | 3.27381 | 0.04740 | 5.32075 |
| C 12 | 0.67880 | 1.99953 | 3.27420 | 0.04747 | 5.32120 |
| C 13 | 0.67835 | 1.99953 | 3.27465 | 0.04746 | 5.32165 |
| C 14 | 0.67842 | 1.99953 | 3.27459 | 0.04745 | 5.32158 |
| C 15 | 0.85561 | 1.99946 | 3.08872 | 0.05621 | 5.14439 |
| F 16 | -0.28390 | 1.99992 | 7.27696 | 0.00701 | 9.28390 |
| F 17 | -0.28816 | 1.99992 | 7.28143 | 0.00681 | 9.28816 |
| F 18 | -0.27881 | 1.99992 | 7.27167 | 0.00722 | 9.27881 |
| C 19 | 0.85563 | 1.99946 | 3.08870 | 0.05621 | 5.14437 |
| F 20 | -0.28752 | 1.99992 | 7.28077 | 0.00683 | 9.28752 |
| F 21 | -0.28432 | 1.99992 | 7.27741 | 0.00698 | 9.28432 |
| F 22 | -0.27879 | 1.99992 | 7.27164 | 0.00723 | 9.27879 |
| C 23 | 0.85572 | 1.99946 | 3.08861 | 0.05621 | 5.14428 |
| F 24 | -0.28447 | 1.99992 | 7.27757 | 0.00698 | 9.28447 |
| F 25 | -0.28761 | 1.99992 | 7.28087 | 0.00681 | 9.28761 |
| F 26 | -0.27895 | 1.99992 | 7.27179 | 0.00725 | 9.27895 |
| C 27 | 0.85568 | 1.99946 | 3.08871 | 0.05615 | 5.14432 |
| F 28 | -0.28844 | 1.99992 | 7.28176 | 0.00675 | 9.28844 |
| F 29 | -0.28275 | 1.99992 | 7.27574 | 0.00708 | 9.28275 |
| F 30 | -0.27961 | 1.99992 | 7.27249 | 0.00720 | 9.27961 |
| S 31 | 1.58572 | 9.99919 | 4.22168 | 0.19342 | 14.41428 |
| O 32 | -0.70478 | 1.99988 | 6.68888 | 0.01602 | 8.70478 |
| O 33 | -0.70553 | 1.99988 | 6.68985 | 0.01580 | 8.70553 |
| * Total * | 0.00000 | 141.97365 | 199.08286 | 0.94349 | 342.00000 |

Table S42. NBO charges in $[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5 \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]$.

| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------|----------|---------|-----------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |
| Cr 1 | -1.67096 | 17.96839 | 7.65151 | 0.05105 | 25.67096 |
| C 2 | 0.70737 | 1.99930 | 3.23266 | 0.06068 | 5.29263 |
| C 3 | 0.70688 | 1.99930 | 3.23297 | 0.06085 | 5.29312 |
| C 4 | 0.70144 | 1.99930 | 3.23863 | 0.06063 | 5.29856 |
| C 5 | 0.70089 | 1.99929 | 3.23906 | 0.06076 | 5.29911 |
| C 6 | 0.71965 | 1.99929 | 3.21537 | 0.06569 | 5.28035 |
| O 7 | -0.43199 | 1.99976 | 6.40955 | 0.02268 | 8.43199 |
| O 8 | -0.42249 | 1.99976 | 6.40023 | 0.02251 | 8.42249 |
| O 9 | -0.42388 | 1.99976 | 6.40145 | 0.02267 | 8.42388 |
| O 10 | -0.42241 | 1.99976 | 6.40001 | 0.02265 | 8.42241 |
| O 11 | -0.42407 | 1.99976 | 6.40149 | 0.02281 | 8.42407 |
| S 12 | 1.78368 | 9.99824 | 4.05107 | 0.16701 | 14.21632 |
| O 13 | -0.76217 | 1.99988 | 6.74714 | 0.01515 | 8.76217 |
| O 14 | -0.76193 | 1.99988 | 6.74693 | 0.01513 | 8.76193 |
| * Total * | 0.00000 | 51.96166 | 73.36808 | 0.67026 | 126.00000 |

Table S43. NBO charges in $[\text{W}(\text{CO})_5 \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]$.

| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------|----------|---------|-----------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |
| W 1 | -1.16190 | 67.95853 | 7.13640 | 0.06697 | 75.16190 |
| C 2 | 0.60494 | 1.99938 | 3.34222 | 0.05345 | 5.39506 |
| C 3 | 0.60566 | 1.99938 | 3.34120 | 0.05376 | 5.39434 |
| C 4 | 0.60263 | 1.99939 | 3.34415 | 0.05383 | 5.39737 |
| C 5 | 0.60313 | 1.99939 | 3.34334 | 0.05415 | 5.39687 |
| C 6 | 0.61172 | 1.99939 | 3.33043 | 0.05845 | 5.38828 |
| O 7 | -0.41551 | 1.99976 | 6.39342 | 0.02234 | 8.41551 |
| O 8 | -0.40875 | 1.99976 | 6.38684 | 0.02215 | 8.40875 |
| O 9 | -0.40751 | 1.99976 | 6.38539 | 0.02236 | 8.40751 |
| O 10 | -0.40843 | 1.99976 | 6.38633 | 0.02234 | 8.40843 |
| O 11 | -0.40834 | 1.99976 | 6.38607 | 0.02251 | 8.40834 |
| S 12 | 1.70424 | 9.99852 | 4.12735 | 0.16990 | 14.29576 |
| O 13 | -0.76070 | 1.99988 | 6.74568 | 0.01514 | 8.76070 |
| O 14 | -0.76120 | 1.99988 | 6.74617 | 0.01515 | 8.76120 |
| * Total * | 0.00000 | 101.95252 | 73.39499 | 0.65248 | 176.00000 |

**Figure S13.** The major contribution to $\text{M} \rightarrow (\text{SO}_2)$ interaction in (a) $[\text{Rh}_2(\text{O}_2\text{CCF}_4) \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]$ and (b) $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_5 \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]$ ($\text{M} = \text{Cr}, \text{W}$).

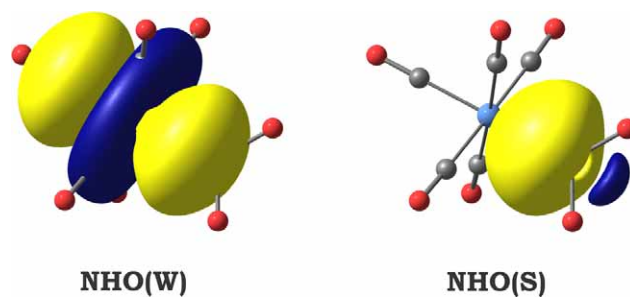


Figure S14. Two NHOs, which take part in formation of the bonding NBO in $[\text{W}(\text{CO})_5 \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]$.

Adducts of SO₂ with pure organic acceptor

Table S44. Absolute energies of model adducts of SO₂ with pure acceptors (in Hartree).

| Compound | Energy, a.u. |
|--|--------------------|
| [(BH ₃)·(SO ₂)] | -576.861805667299 |
| [BH ₃] | -26.577348364588 |
| [(B(CF ₃) ₃)·(SO ₂)] | -1588.815859823129 |
| [B(CF ₃) ₃] | -1038.540852762250 |

Table S45. Cartesian coordinates for [BH₃].

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| B | 0.086477 | 0.020051 | -2.319699 |
| H | 0.931960 | 0.841770 | -2.132892 |
| H | -1.063735 | 0.339384 | -2.330156 |
| H | 0.390699 | -1.120781 | -2.497132 |

Table S46. Cartesian coordinates for [(BH₃)·(SO₂)].

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| S | -1.694891 | -1.297486 | -2.297901 |
| O | -2.083755 | -0.077225 | -1.613935 |
| O | -1.359565 | -2.485529 | -1.532702 |
| B | -1.593039 | -1.290801 | -4.225598 |
| H | -0.746543 | -0.435159 | -4.332100 |
| H | -1.301540 | -2.421506 | -4.473957 |
| H | -2.700148 | -0.886121 | -4.474282 |

Table S47. Cartesian coordinates for [B(CF₃)₃].

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| B | -2.011941 | -0.314082 | -0.492423 |
| C | -2.770224 | -0.583248 | -1.882675 |
| F | -2.311371 | 0.326311 | -2.765457 |
| F | -2.565856 | -1.793411 | -2.404408 |
| F | -4.092608 | -0.418071 | -1.756449 |
| C | -2.318159 | 1.017296 | 0.353212 |
| F | -3.249137 | 1.814778 | -0.171795 |
| F | -2.732565 | 0.664699 | 1.582000 |
| F | -1.191288 | 1.737237 | 0.474966 |
| C | -0.933509 | -1.376372 | 0.047212 |
| F | -0.272197 | -0.999381 | 1.142478 |
| F | -1.585273 | -2.516769 | 0.339897 |
| F | -0.024615 | -1.639615 | -0.903179 |

Table S48. Cartesian coordinates for $[(B(CF_3)_3) \cdot (SO_2)]$.

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| B | -1.818666 | -0.157594 | -0.602229 |
| C | -2.786402 | -0.555308 | -1.852785 |
| F | -3.113545 | 0.505285 | -2.615328 |
| F | -2.234136 | -1.459249 | -2.679057 |
| F | -3.919850 | -1.079372 | -1.376537 |
| C | -2.421519 | 0.953548 | 0.432201 |
| F | -3.165743 | 1.893873 | -0.160915 |
| F | -3.185169 | 0.348990 | 1.346651 |
| F | -1.436042 | 1.603798 | 1.094666 |
| C | -1.029370 | -1.391318 | 0.109824 |
| F | -0.158997 | -0.964570 | 1.044469 |
| F | -1.923019 | -2.182565 | 0.716782 |
| F | -0.333192 | -2.155392 | -0.744410 |
| S | -0.286141 | 0.939542 | -1.532296 |
| O | -0.572103 | 2.301410 | -1.916140 |
| O | 0.994911 | 0.309234 | -1.746100 |

Table S49. NBO charges in $[(BH_3) \cdot (SO_2)]$.

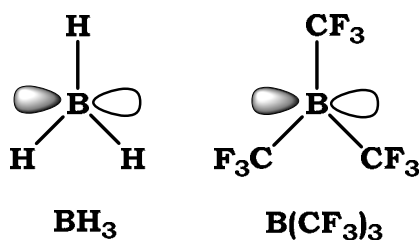
| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------|----------|---------|----------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |
| S 1 | 1.87395 | 9.99870 | 3.96302 | 0.16433 | 14.12605 |
| O 2 | -0.72219 | 1.99987 | 6.70661 | 0.01571 | 8.72219 |
| O 3 | -0.71756 | 1.99987 | 6.70199 | 0.01569 | 8.71756 |
| B 4 | -0.59831 | 1.99944 | 3.58884 | 0.01004 | 5.59831 |
| H 5 | 0.06541 | 0.00000 | 0.93292 | 0.00167 | 0.93459 |
| H 6 | 0.03795 | 0.00000 | 0.96024 | 0.00181 | 0.96205 |
| H 7 | 0.06075 | 0.00000 | 0.93756 | 0.00168 | 0.93925 |
| * Total * | 0.00000 | 15.99788 | 23.79118 | 0.21094 | 40.00000 |

Table S50. NBO charges in $[(B(CF_3)_3) \cdot (SO_2)]$.

| Atom No | Natural Charge | Natural Population | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------|----------|---------|-----------|
| | | Core | Valence | Rydberg | Total |
| B 1 | -0.01713 | 1.99899 | 2.99369 | 0.02445 | 5.01713 |
| C 2 | 0.74189 | 1.99873 | 3.20530 | 0.05408 | 5.25811 |
| F 3 | -0.31143 | 1.99993 | 7.30401 | 0.00750 | 9.31143 |
| F 4 | -0.30740 | 1.99993 | 7.29994 | 0.00753 | 9.30740 |
| F 5 | -0.28978 | 1.99992 | 7.28201 | 0.00785 | 9.28978 |
| C 6 | 0.74036 | 1.99875 | 3.20651 | 0.05438 | 5.25964 |
| F 7 | -0.30024 | 1.99993 | 7.29263 | 0.00768 | 9.30024 |
| F 8 | -0.28982 | 1.99992 | 7.28214 | 0.00776 | 9.28982 |
| F 9 | -0.32061 | 1.99993 | 7.31345 | 0.00722 | 9.32061 |
| C 10 | 0.73633 | 1.99873 | 3.21064 | 0.05430 | 5.26367 |
| F 11 | -0.31183 | 1.99993 | 7.30449 | 0.00741 | 9.31183 |
| F 12 | -0.29259 | 1.99992 | 7.28501 | 0.00765 | 9.29259 |
| F 13 | -0.30438 | 1.99993 | 7.29690 | 0.00755 | 9.30438 |
| S 14 | 1.84417 | 9.99887 | 3.99324 | 0.16371 | 14.15583 |
| O 15 | -0.65836 | 1.99987 | 6.64202 | 0.01647 | 8.65836 |
| O 16 | -0.65920 | 1.99987 | 6.64289 | 0.01644 | 8.65920 |
| * Total * | 0.00000 | 39.99316 | 95.55488 | 0.45196 | 136.00000 |

NBO analysis of SO₂-adducts with organic acceptors. Might the donor behavior of SO₂ also emerge in bonding with other molecules as we have just seen in adducts with Lewis acidic organometallic fragments? We are going now to answer this question. The final logical step to complete our investigation of the donor-acceptor behavior of the SO₂ molecule was to consider it in complexes with systems expected to be pure acceptors. These specific acceptor systems are borane (BH₃) and tris-trifluoromethylborane, B(CF₃)₃ (Scheme 2), both having available empty orbitals of p-type.

Scheme 2



The linear coordination mode of SO₂ is well-reproduced in optimized equilibrium geometries of both [(BH₃)·(SO₂)] and [(B(CF₃)₃)·(SO₂)] (Fig. S15), with the angle between the B–S bond vector and the plane of SO₂ moiety being equal to ~180°. The B–S bond length was found to be shorter in the former (Table S51). It agrees with larger bonding energy between fragments in [(BH₃)·(SO₂)] (-9 kcal/mol) in comparison with that in [(B(CF₃)₃)·(SO₂)] (-3 kcal/mol). The lower stability of the latter is also supported by the smaller Wiberg bond orders (Fig. S16). It is important to note here that the stability (as estimated by the bonding or bond dissociation energy) of adducts with pure acceptors is, in general, significantly lower than those of adducts with pure organic donors (Table S32). This finding supports

the previous conclusion that the SO₂ molecule is a strong acceptor rather than a strong donor species. However, the Wiberg bond orders show an opposite trend, being notably smaller for the adducts of pure organic donors (Fig. S9). This seeming disagreement prompted us to perform a detailed study of the bonding in the adducts.

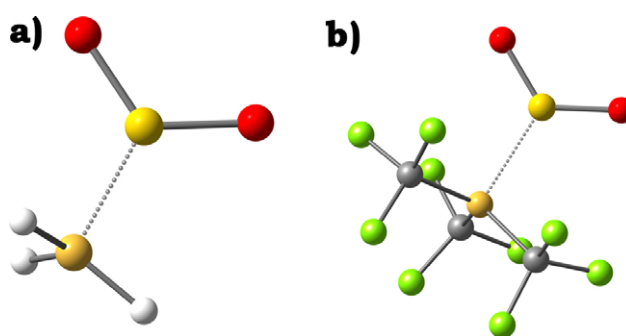


Figure S15. The optimized geometries for [(BH₃)·(SO₂)] (a) and [(B(CF₃)₃)·(SO₂)] (b) adducts (PBE0/TZVP/ZORA).

Table S51. Selected calculated geometrical parameters of adducts of SO₂ with pure organic acceptors (PBE0/TZVP/ZORA).^a

| Parameter | [(BH ₃)·(SO ₂)] | [(B(CF ₃) ₃)·(SO ₂)] |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| B-S ^b | 1.93 | 2.10 |
| S-O | 1.45 | 1.44 |
| ∠O-S-O | 120° | 123° |
| ∠B-plane ^c | 179° | 180° |
| <i>E</i> _{bonding} | -9 | -3 |

^a All bond lengths are in angstroms; angles are in degrees. ^c ∠B-plane parameter designates the angle between B-S vector and plane formed by three atoms of SO₂ (analogous to previously used ∠M-plane and ∠N-plane parameters).

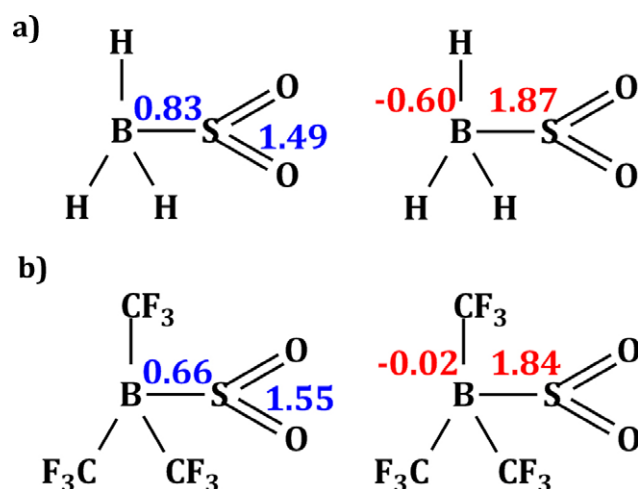


Figure S16. The Wiberg bond orders and NBO atomic charges for the adducts of SO₂ with pure organic acceptors (PBE0/TZVP/ZORA). Blue color is for bond orders and red is for charges.

The bonding between the SO₂ molecule and the acceptor organic species can be described as a polar covalent bond as provided by NBO analysis (Fig. S17). The bonding orbitals are mainly formed by the lone pair of SO₂ moiety, whereas the anti-bonding NBOs have a major contribution from the borane fragment. This conclusion clearly arrives from analysis of bonding (anti-bonding) NBOs in terms of hybrid orbitals (Fig. S18):

$$[(\text{BH}_3) \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]: \quad \text{NBO} = 0.52 \cdot h(\text{B}) + 0.85 \cdot h(\text{S}) = 27\%h(\text{B}) + 73\%h(\text{S})$$

$$[(\text{B}(\text{CF}_3)_3) \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]: \quad \text{NBO} = 0.51 \cdot h(\text{B}) + 0.86 \cdot h(\text{S}) = 26\%h(\text{B}) + 74\%h(\text{S})$$

where $h(\text{B})$ has 89% and 87% of p-character and 10% and 13% of s-orbital for $[(\text{BH}_3) \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]$ and $[(\text{B}(\text{CF}_3)_3) \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]$, respectively. The $h(\text{S})$ is formed by s-orbital

(~50%) and p-orbital (~50%) of S in both cases. The anti-bonding partners have an opposite combination of these hybrid orbitals.

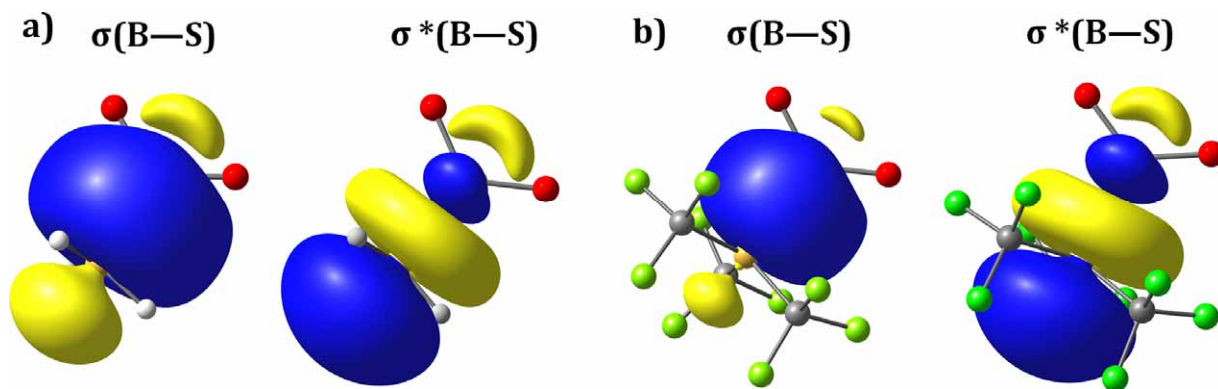


Figure S17. Bonding and anti-bonding NBOs for (a) $[(\text{BH}_3) \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]$ and (b) $[(\text{B}(\text{CF}_3)_3) \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]$ (PBE0/TZVP/ZORA).

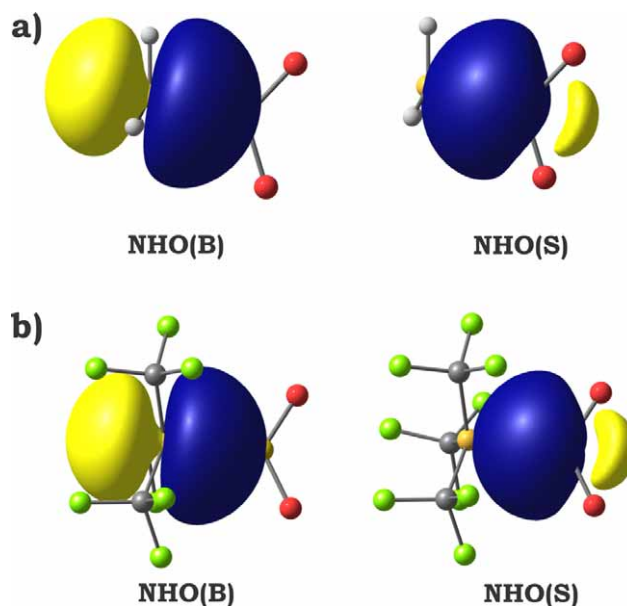


Figure S18. Two NHOs, which take part in formation of the bonding NBO in (a) $[(\text{BH}_3) \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]$ and (b) $[(\text{B}(\text{CF}_3)_3) \cdot (\text{SO}_2)]$ (PBE0/TZVP/ZORA).

Subsequent *EDA analysis* revealed significant dominance of the orbital component over the electrostatic one, which was found to be ~ 2.5 times smaller in magnitude (Table S52). These findings are in opposite to what was observed for adducts of SO₂ with pure organic donors (Table S33), where the balance $\Delta E_{\text{elstat}}:\Delta E_{\text{orb}}=55:45$ was established. Thus, the ionic contribution in the latter is significantly larger. Considering that almost all techniques for bond order calculation (including Wiberg scheme) are based on orbital overlap, and, thus, on the orbital component of the bonding, rather than on the classic electrostatic one, it is now possible to resolve the aforementioned inconsistency between bond orders and bonding energy. Larger contribution of the electrostatic term makes adducts of SO₂ with pure donors more stable (as estimated by the bonding energy) without increasing N-S bond order. On the other hand, the adducts of sulfur dioxide with pure acceptors have a relatively large contribution from ΔE_{orb} (reflected in calculated bond order) and small participation of the ΔE_{elstat} (Table S52). Altogether, it leads to a smaller stability of the final adducts. Thus, one can make two conclusions: (i) both components orbital and electrostatic are of equal importance for the total stability of the adduct, and (ii) complexes of SO₂ with pure organic donors represent an unusual case, where the higher bond order does not correspond to higher stability of the final product.

Table S52. Results of EDA analysis of the bonding in $[(\text{BH}_3)\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$ and $[(\text{B}(\text{CF}_3)_3)\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$ (in kcal/mol, PBE0/TZ2P/ZORA).

| Parameter | $[(\text{BH}_3)\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$ | $[(\text{B}(\text{CF}_3)_3)\cdot(\text{SO}_2)]$ |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| ΔE_{int} | -15 | -12 |
| ΔE_{elstat} | -28(28%) | -13(19%) |
| ΔE_{Pauli} | 86 | 59 |
| ΔE_{orb} | -73(72%) | -57(81%) |
| $-D_e$ | -10 | -2 |
| ΔE_{prep} | 5 | 10 |

ⁱ See for instance: (a) Oh, J.J.; LaBarge, M.S.; Matos, J.; Kampf, J.W.; Hilling II, K.W.; Kuczkowski, R.L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **1991**, *113*, 4732. (b) Denk, M.K.; Hatano, K.; Lough, A.J. *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.*, **2003**, 224.