

## C-H $\cdots$ Au interaction and optical properties in [(P,P)<sub>4</sub>Au<sub>6</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> molecular gold nanoclusters.

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### Supplementary Material

Table S1. Main geometrical features (in Å and °) of the [core+exo] Au<sub>6</sub> units together with PP distance and PAuP bond angle of the main systems studied here.

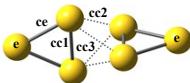
	<i>cc1</i>	<i>cc2</i>	<i>cc3</i>	<i>ce</i>	<i>ee</i>	<b>d(PP)</b>	<b>PAu<sub>e</sub>P</b>
<b>1</b>	2.689	2.964	2.989	2.885	7.394	5.527	137.5
<b>1 (gas phase)</b>	2.687	2.957	3.010	2.880	7.396	5.535	137.4
<b>1<sub>Me-op</sub></b>	2.665	2.964	3.029	2.882	7.441	5.511	142.7
<b>1<sub>H-op</sub></b>	2.647	2.994	3.063	2.872	7.479	5.490	144.2
<b>2</b>	2.669	2.987	3.043	2.901	7.502	5.550	139.7
<b>2 (gas phase)</b>	2.670	2.948	3.064	2.889	7.461	5.555	138.0
<b>2<sub>Me-op</sub></b>	2.655	2.981	3.011	2.893	7.475	5.519	143.0
<b>2<sub>H-op</sub></b>	2.643	3.001	3.002	2.873	7.450	5.456	143.8
<b>[Au<sub>6</sub>]<sup>2+</sup></b>	2.722	2.876	2.876	2.680	6.754	---	---
<b>[Au<sub>6</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> (gas phase)</b>	2.690	2.942	2.944	2.703	6.933	---	---

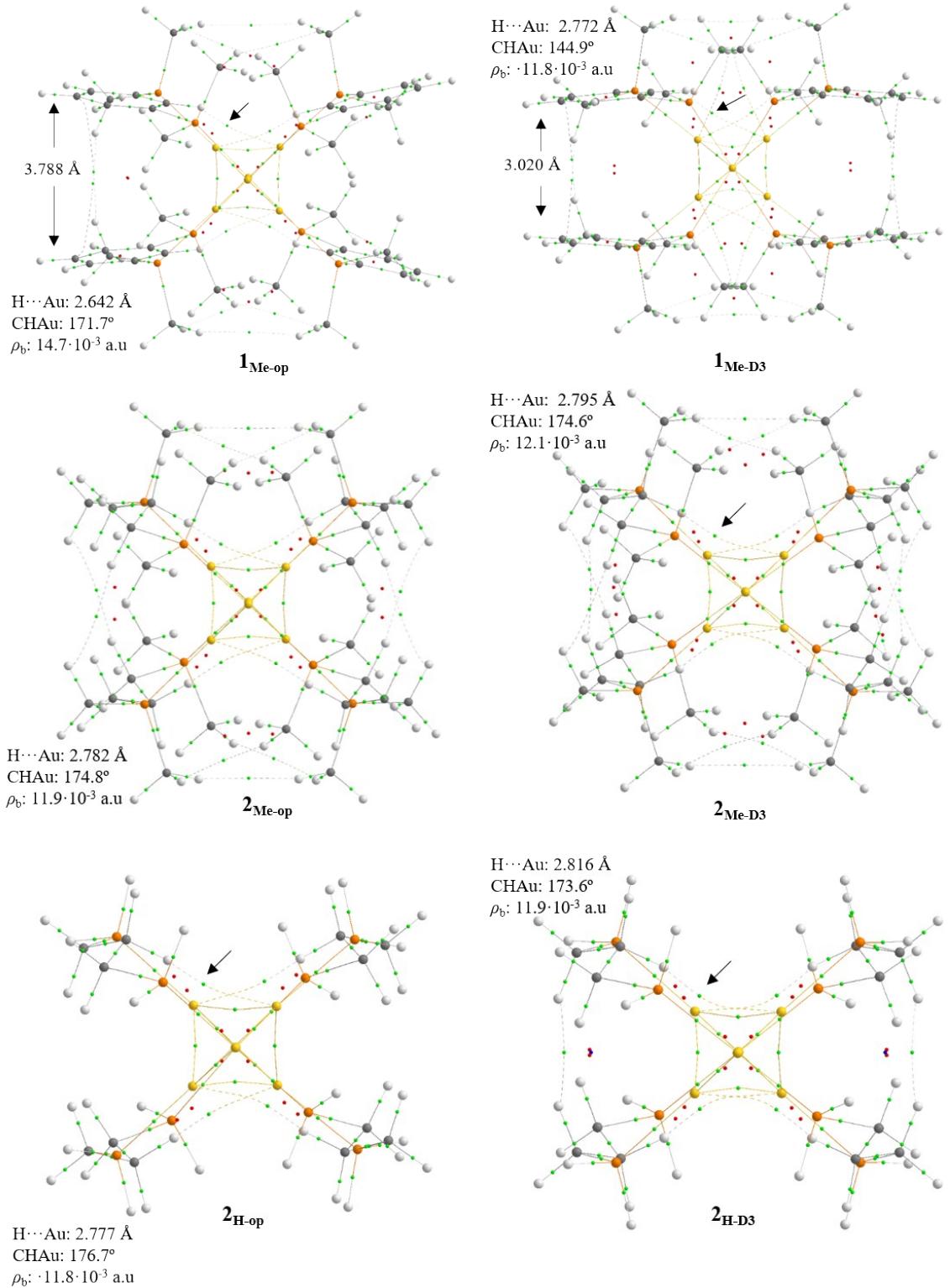
Table S2. Main geometry features of the C-H $\cdots$ Au interaction in optimized geometries of **1** and **2** in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and in the gas phase.

Cluster	Distances (Å)				Angle (°)
	C-H	H $\cdots$ Au	BPL	$\Delta_{\text{BPL-d(H}\cdots\text{Au)}}$	CHAu
<b>1 (gas phase)</b>	1.088	2.636	2.675	0.039	174.8
<b>1</b>	1.088	2.630	2.669	0.038	175.2
<b>2 (gas phase)</b>	1.098	2.829	2.948	0.119	173.0
<b>2</b>	1.098	2.777	2.828	0.051	175.3

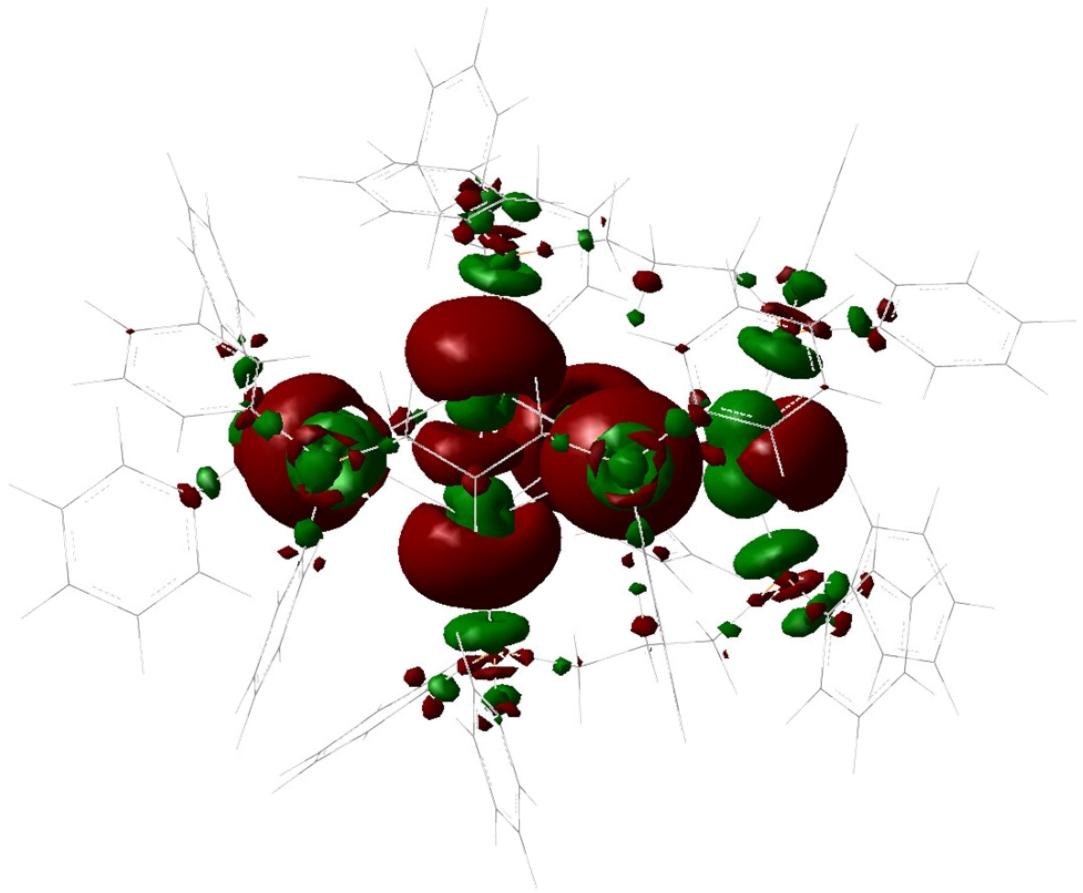
BPL: Bond path length.

Table S3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR chemical shifts (reference to TMS).

	<b>1</b>	mPhDP	<b>1<sub>H</sub></b>	<b>1<sub>H-op</sub></b>
H2	12.07	8.37	11.04	10.73
H4, H6	7.52, 7.27	7.36, 7.19	8.22, 7.98	8.18, 7.92
H5	7.70	7.51	7.75	7.70
	<b>2</b>	TMDP	<b>2<sub>H</sub></b>	<b>2<sub>H-op</sub></b>
H2	4.47	1.55	3.87	3.82
H1, H3	2.53	2.49	1.84	1.89
H2'	1.51	1.50	1.36	1.41



**Figure S1.** QTAIM plots of **1<sub>Me</sub>**, **1<sub>Me</sub>-D3**, **2<sub>Me</sub>**, **2<sub>Me</sub>-D3**, **2<sub>H</sub>** and **2<sub>H</sub>-D3**. An arrow is shown to locate one of the four equivalent CH···Au BCP's.



**Figure S2.**  $\Delta\rho^{\text{def}}(r)$  of cluster 2 where red and green denote, respectively, enhancement and depletion of the electron density upon L-Au<sub>6</sub> binding (cutoff 0.0003 a.u.).