

**Electronic supporting information for manuscript**

**Unprecedented  $[d^9]\text{Cu}\cdots [d^{10}]\text{Au}$  Coinage Bonding Interactions in  $\{\text{Cu}(\text{NH}_3)_4[\text{Au}(\text{CN})_2]\}^+[\text{Au}(\text{CN})_2]^-$  salt**

by

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## 1. X ray crystallography

Single-crystal data were collected with a Gemini R Ultra diffractometer with graphite-monochromatized Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ) for **(1)** with  $\omega$ -scan method at 150 K. Data collection, data reduction and multi-scan absorption collection were performed the CrysAlisPro software [CrysAlis PRO 1.171.38.46 (Rigaku OD, 2015)]. Using the program Olex<sup>2,1</sup>, all structures were solved with Direct Methods with SHELXS-14 solution program <sup>2</sup>and refined with full-matrix least-squares techniques on F<sup>2</sup> with SHELXL-14 refinement program<sup>3</sup>. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms positions were calculated and refined riding on the corresponding bonded atoms. CCDC code 2085287 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for **1**. These data can be obtained free of charge via <http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html>, or from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: (+44) 1223-336-033; or e-mail: [deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk](mailto:deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

**Table S1** Crystal data and structure refinement for Cu-Au.

Empirical formula	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>12</sub> Au <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>1</sub> N <sub>4</sub>
Formula weight	629.71
Temperature/K	100
Crystal system	orthorhombic
Space group	Pnma
a/ $\text{\AA}$	11.2665(4)
b/ $\text{\AA}$	7.2480(3)
c/ $\text{\AA}$	15.2490(6)
$\alpha/^\circ$	90
$\beta/^\circ$	90
$\gamma/^\circ$	90
Volume/ $\text{\AA}^3$	1245.22(8)
Z	5
$\rho_{\text{calc}} \text{ g/cm}^3$	3.3585
$\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$	25.182
F(000)	1116.0
Crystal size/ $\text{mm}^3$	0.5 × 0.3 × 0.25
Radiation	Mo K $\alpha$ ( $\lambda = 0.71073$ )
2 $\Theta$ range for data collection/ $^\circ$	4.5 to 64.2
Index ranges	-16 ≤ h ≤ 15, -10 ≤ k ≤ 10, -22 ≤ l ≤ 21
Reflections collected	16746
Independent reflections	2240 [ $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0575$ , $R_{\text{sigma}} = 0.0245$ ]
Data/restraints/parameters	2240/0/87
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.022
Final R indexes [ $ I  >= 2\sigma( I )$ ]	$R_1 = 0.0299$ , $wR_2 = 0.0787$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0348$ , $wR_2 = 0.0815$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e $\text{\AA}^{-3}$	2.29/-2.03

**Table S2** Bond Lengths for Cu-Au.

Atom	Atom	Length/ $\text{\AA}$	Atom	Atom	Length/ $\text{\AA}$
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Au1	C1	1.991(7)		Cu1	N6 <sup>2</sup>	2.028(4)
Au1	C2	1.992(7)		Cu1	N6	2.028(4)
Au2	C3	1.995(7)		N1	C1	1.134(10)
Au2	C4	1.990(7)		N2	C2	1.140(9)
Cu1	N4 <sup>1</sup>	2.231(7)		N3	C3	1.128(10)
Cu1	N5 <sup>2</sup>	2.041(4)		N4	C4	1.132(10)
Cu1	N5	2.041(4)				

<sup>1</sup>-1/2+X,1/2-Y,1/2-Z; <sup>2</sup>+X,1/2-Y,+Z

**Table S3** Bond Angles for Cu-Au.

Atom	Atom	Atom	Angle/ <sup>°</sup>	Atom	Atom	Atom	Angle/ <sup>°</sup>	
C2	Au1	C1	174.1(3)		N6 <sup>1</sup>	Cu1	N5 <sup>1</sup>	171.66(18)
C4	Au2	C3	172.3(3)		N6	Cu1	N5 <sup>1</sup>	89.95(17)
N5 <sup>1</sup>	Cu1	N4 <sup>2</sup>	96.90(17)		N6	Cu1	N6 <sup>1</sup>	89.5(2)
N5	Cu1	N4 <sup>2</sup>	96.90(17)		C4	N4	Cu1 <sup>3</sup>	172.4(6)
N5 <sup>1</sup>	Cu1	N5	89.4(2)		N1	C1	Au1	176.2(7)
N6 <sup>1</sup>	Cu1	N4 <sup>2</sup>	91.43(17)		N2	C2	Au1	177.5(6)
N6	Cu1	N4 <sup>2</sup>	91.43(17)		N3	C3	Au2	175.2(7)
N6	Cu1	N5	171.66(18)		N4	C4	Au2	171.6(7)
N6 <sup>1</sup>	Cu1	N5	89.95(17)					

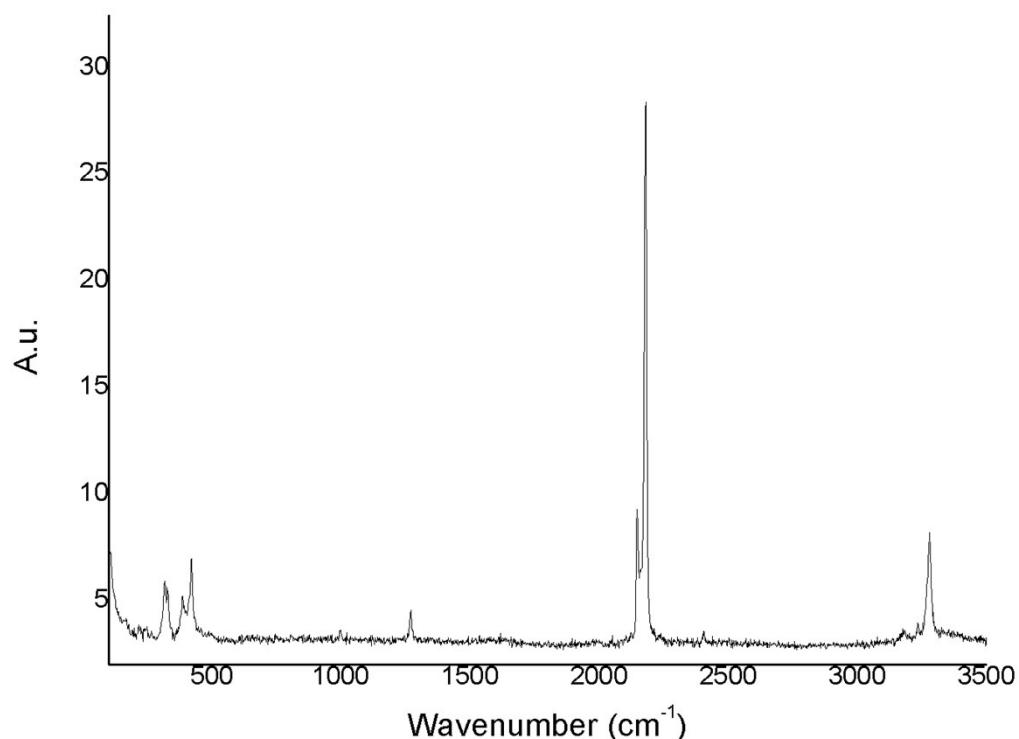
<sup>1</sup>+X,1/2-Y,+Z; <sup>2</sup>-1/2+X,1/2-Y,1/2-Z; <sup>3</sup>1/2+X,1/2-Y,1/2-Z

**Table S4** Hydrogen bonding Bond Lengths for Cu-Au.

Atom1	Atom2	Length	Length-VdW	Symm. op. 1	Symm. op. 2
C1	H5b	2.811	-0.089	x,y,z	x,1/2-y,z
N2	H5a	2.345	-0.405	x,y,z	1/2+x,1/2-y,1/2-z
N2	H6b	2.279	-0.471	x,y,z	1/2+x,y,1/2-z
N1	H5c	2.336	-0.414	x,y,z	-x,1/2+y,1-z
N1	H6a	2.376	-0.374	x,y,z	1/2-x,1-y,1/2+z
C3	H5b	2.826	-0.074	x,y,z	-1/2+x,1/2-y,1/2-z
C4	H6c	2.719	-0.181	x,y,z	-1/2+x,1/2-y,1/2-z

## 2. Experimental details

**Synthesis of  $\{\text{Cu}(\text{NH}_3)_4[\text{Au}(\text{CN})_2]\}[\text{Au}(\text{CN})_2]$ :** 20 mg  $\text{CuNO}_3 \cdot 5/2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  has been dissolved in 5 ml of water. Addition of 2 ml of concentrated ammonia brings to the immediate formation of  $[\text{Cu}(\text{NH}_3)_4]^{2+}$  complex. After complete reaction, 50 mg of  $\text{K}[\text{Au}(\text{CN})_2]$  have been added, forming a deep blue solution. This solution has been tapped and refrigerated to 10 °C. After one day, deep blue crystals start crystallizing. These crystals are not stable outside to the mother liquor after few ours, and after the choice of a suitable crystal for SCXRD, the measurement has been done at low temperature, to prevent decomposition. This is probably due to loss of ammonia. (Yield: 99.9 %, Elemental analysis (%): Calcd for  $\text{C}_4\text{H}_{12}\text{Au}_2\text{CuN}_8$ : C, 7.63%; H, 1.92%; N, 17.79%; Found: C, 7.57%; H, 1.98%; N, 17.75%).



**Fig. S** Raman Spectrum of Cu-Au.

**Table S5:** Raman and IR modes assignation of Cu-Au.

Assignation	IR	Raman
$\nu(\text{Cu-N})$	324	324
$\delta(\text{Au-C})$	395	395
$\nu(\text{Au-C})$	423	423
$\delta(\text{N-H})$	1277	1277
$\nu(\text{C-N})$	2144	2144
$\nu(\text{C-N})$	2179	2179
$\nu(\text{N-H})$	3282	3282

### 3. Theoretical Methods.

The energetic features of the adducts analyzed in this work were calculated at the PBE0<sup>4</sup>-D3<sup>5</sup>/def2-TZVP<sup>6</sup> level of theory using the crystallographic coordinates. For Gold, the inner shell electrons are modelled by ECPs (ECP-60 scheme),<sup>7</sup> which also accounts for scalar relativistic effects. The GAUSSIAN-16 program has been used for the energetic calculations and NBO analysis.<sup>8</sup> The basis set superposition error for the calculation of interaction energies has been corrected using the counterpoise method.<sup>9</sup> Molecular electrostatic potential (MEP) surfaces have been computed at the same level of theory and represented using several isovalue of electron density to map the electrostatic potential. The QTAIM analysis<sup>10</sup> has been performed using the AIMAll program<sup>11</sup> at the same level of theory.

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