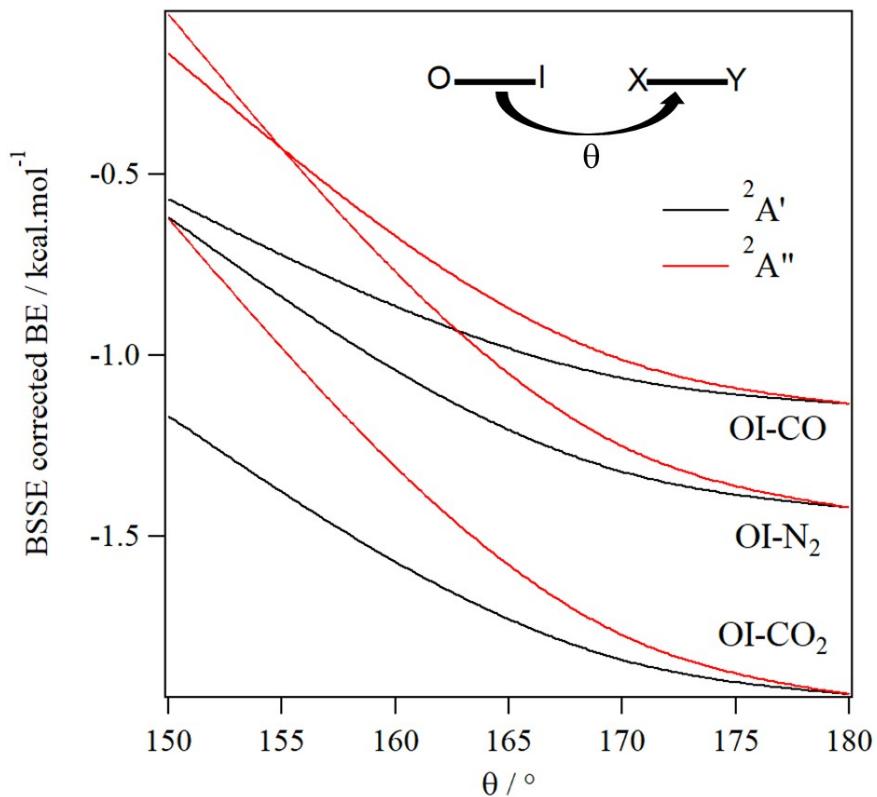


## Supplementary Material

### Theoretical Treatment of IO-X ( $X = N_2, CO, CO_2, H_2O$ ) complexes

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**Figure S1:** RCCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ(PP) one-dimensional cuts of the potential energy surfaces of the OI-XY (XY = CO, N<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>) complexes along the  $\theta$  angle as defined in this figure. At linearity all complexes have a  $^2\Pi$  symmetry. The reference energy is that of the separated monomers.

**Table S1:** Optimized equilibrium geometric parameters ( $R_i$  in Å and  $\theta_i$  degree) of the I-bonded complexes between IO and N<sub>2</sub>, CO, CO<sub>2</sub> or H<sub>2</sub>O as computed using PBE0(+D3) and M05-2X(+D3) DFTs in conjunction with the aug-cc-pVTZ(PP) basis set.

	PBE0	PBE0-D3	M05-2X	M05-2X-D3		PBE0	PBE0-D3	M05-2X	M05-2X-D3
<b>OI-N<sub>2</sub></b>					<b>OI-CO</b>				
R <sub>1</sub>	1.879	1.880	1.903	1.903	R <sub>1</sub>	1.125	1.125	1.122	1.122
R <sub>2</sub>	3.326	3.326	3.173	3.229	R <sub>2</sub>	3.349	3.348	3.388	3.383
R <sub>3</sub>	1.089	1.089	1.083	1.083	R <sub>3</sub>	1.878	1.879	1.902	1.902
$\theta_1$	180.0	180.0	179.7	179.9	$\theta_1$	180.0	180.0	179.9	179.9
<b>OI-CO<sub>2</sub></b>					<b>OI-H<sub>2</sub>O</b>				
R <sub>1</sub>	1.157	1.157	1.154	1.154	R <sub>1</sub>	- a)	- a)	2.804	2.796
R <sub>2</sub>	3.234	3.239	3.100	3.102	R <sub>2</sub>	- a)	- a)	0.958	0.958
R <sub>3</sub>	1.879	1.879	1.903	1.903	R <sub>3</sub>	- a)	- a)	1.909	1.910
$\theta_1$	180.0	180.0	180.0	180.0	$\theta_1$	- a)	- a)	126.5	126.4
$\theta_2$	179.5	179.5	187.8	188.0	$\theta_2$	- a)	- a)	180.0	180.0
$\theta_3$	180.0	179.9	180.0	180.0					

a) No convergence.

**Table S2:** Optimized equilibrium geometric parameters ( $R_i$  in Å and  $\theta_i$  degree) of the O-bonded complexes between IO and N<sub>2</sub>, CO, CO<sub>2</sub> or H<sub>2</sub>O as computed using PBE0(+D3) and M05-2X(+D3) DFTs in conjunction with the aug-cc-pVTZ(PP) basis set.

	PBE0	PBE0-D3	M05-2X	M05-2X-D3		PBE0	PBE0-D3	M05-2X	M05-2X-D3
<b>IO-N<sub>2</sub></b>					<b>IO-CO</b>				
R <sub>1</sub>	1.878	1.877	1.899	1.899	R <sub>1</sub>	1.877	1.877	1.904	1.904
R <sub>2</sub>	3.483	3.287	3.322	3.167	R <sub>2</sub>	3.207	3.116	3.087	3.030
R <sub>3</sub>	1.090	1.090	1.084	1.084	R <sub>3</sub>	1.124	1.1243	1.120	1.120
θ <sub>1</sub>	100.0	94.4	87.4	91.1	θ <sub>1</sub>	101.3	99.1	108.1	105.8
θ <sub>2</sub>	95.9	100.0	88.6	88.2	θ <sub>2</sub>	101.8	101.9	97.4	97.8
<b>IO-CO<sub>2</sub></b>					<b>IO-H<sub>2</sub>O</b>				
R <sub>1</sub>	2.968	2.909	2.797	2.802	R <sub>1</sub>	0.962	0.962	0.960	0.960
R <sub>2</sub>	1.158	1.158	1.155	1.155	R <sub>2</sub>	1.970	1.958	2.030	2.022
R <sub>3</sub>	1.876	1.876	1.896	1.896	R <sub>3</sub>	1.874	1.875	1.8930	1.893
θ <sub>1</sub>	90.7	90.7	90.8	90.7	θ <sub>1</sub>	105.1	105.0	105.5	105.4
θ <sub>2</sub>	119.8	116.0	115.6	113.8	θ <sub>2</sub>	167.7	166.1	170.5	172.3
					θ <sub>3</sub>	111.4	107.5	106.4	103.6

**Table S3:** Non-vanishing spin-orbit integrals (SO, cm<sup>-1</sup>) in Cartesian coordinates of OI-CO(X<sup>2</sup>Π), OI-N<sub>2</sub>(X<sup>2</sup>Π), OI-H<sub>2</sub>O and IO-H<sub>2</sub>O complexes at equilibrium.

Complex	Integral	SO
OI-CO (X <sup>2</sup> Π)	$i \langle X^2\Pi   \mathbf{L}_z \mathbf{S}_z   X^2\Pi \rangle$	-33.4 a)
OI-N <sub>2</sub> (X <sup>2</sup> Π)	$i \langle X^2\Pi   \mathbf{L}_z \mathbf{S}_z   X^2\Pi \rangle$	-7.4 a)
IO-N <sub>2</sub>	$i \langle 1^2A''   \mathbf{L}_x \mathbf{S}_x   1^2A'' \rangle$	-0.1 a)
	$\langle 1^2A'   \mathbf{L}_y \mathbf{S}_y   1^2A'' \rangle$	6.6 a)
	$i \langle 1^2A'   \mathbf{L}_z \mathbf{S}_z   1^2A'' \rangle$	-1.75 a)
IO-H <sub>2</sub> O	$i \langle 1^2A'   \mathbf{L}_x \mathbf{S}_x   1^2A' \rangle$	-49.3 b)
	$i \langle 1^2A''   \mathbf{L}_x \mathbf{S}_x   1^2A'' \rangle$	-1.2 b)
	$\langle 1^2A'   \mathbf{L}_y \mathbf{S}_y   1^2A'' \rangle$	8.1 b)
	$i \langle 1^2A'   \mathbf{L}_z \mathbf{S}_z   1^2A'' \rangle$	-47.4 b)
OI-H <sub>2</sub> O	$i \langle 1^2B_1   \mathbf{L}_z \mathbf{S}_z   1^2B_2 \rangle$	-5.8 b)

a) Computed at the full valence CASSCF/aug-cc-pVTZ(PP) level.

b) Computed at the full valence CASSCF/aug-cc-pVDZ(PP) level.

**Table S4:** Vibrational frequencies ( $\nu_i$  in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of the I-bonded complexes between IO and X (X =  $\text{N}_2$ ,  $\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) as computed using PBE0(+D3) and M05-2X(+D3) DFTs in conjunction with the aug-cc-pVTZ(PP) basis set. For sake of simplicity, the modes are numbered by increasing energy.

Mode	PBE0	PBE0-D3	M05-2X	M05-2X-D3	Mode	PBE0	PBE0-D3	M05-2X	M05-2X-D3
<b>OI-N<sub>2</sub></b>					<b>OI-CO</b>				
$\nu_1$	32	30	- a)	- a)	$\nu_1$	24	23.80	- a)	- a)
$\nu_2$	32	31	23	17	$\nu_2$	28	27	20	37
$\nu_3$	53	58	66	62	$\nu_3$	50	55	22	37
$\nu_4$	84	79	102	93	$\nu_4$	57	57	61	61
$\nu_5$	88	88	107	98	$\nu_5$	65	65	115	134
$\nu_6$	691	691	650	648	$\nu_6$	691	694	642	643
$\nu_7$	2482	2483	2556	2556	$\nu_7$	2224	2224	2267	2268
<b>OI-CO<sub>2</sub></b>					<b>OI-H<sub>2</sub>O</b>				
$\nu_1$	21	20	- a)	- a)	$\nu_1$	- b)	- b)	74	69
$\nu_2$	21	20	16	16	$\nu_2$	- b)	- b)	82	84
$\nu_3$	48	47	33	30	$\nu_3$	- b)	- b)	149	151
$\nu_4$	48	49	46	45	$\nu_4$	- b)	- b)	201	182
$\nu_5$	60	59	71	72	$\nu_5$	- b)	- b)	293	290
$\nu_6$	681	682	653	652	$\nu_6$	- b)	- b)	636	638
$\nu_7$	682	682	697	697	$\nu_7$	- b)	- b)	1612	1608
$\nu_8$	693	692	697	697	$\nu_8$	- b)	- b)	3860	3862
$\nu_9$	1395	1394	1410	1410	$\nu_9$	- b)	- b)	3960	3963
$\nu_{10}$	2449	2449	2443	2443					

a) Imaginary frequency.

b) No convergence.

**Table S5:** Vibrational frequencies ( $\nu_i$  in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of the O-bonded complexes between IO and X (X =  $\text{N}_2$ ,  $\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) as computed using PBE0(+D3) and M05-2X(+D3) DFTs in conjunction with the aug-cc-pVTZ(PP) basis set. For sake of simplicity, the modes are numbered by increasing energy.

Mode	PBE0	PBE0-D3	M05-2X	M05-2X-D3	Mode	PBE0	PBE0-D3	M05-2X	M05-2X-D3
<b>IO-N<sub>2</sub></b>					<b>IO-CO</b>				
$\nu_1$	12	20	29	34	$\nu_1$	24	24	20	37
$\nu_2$	16	32	43	48	$\nu_2$	26	40	22	37
$\nu_3$	24	33	54	73	$\nu_3$	42	51	61	61
$\nu_4$	39	54	66	95	$\nu_4$	88	100	115	134
$\nu_5$	697	696	648	652	$\nu_5$	698	698	642	643
$\nu_6$	2480	2480	2549	2551	$\nu_6$	2233	2233	2267	2268
<b>IO-CO<sub>2</sub></b>					<b>IO-H<sub>2</sub>O</b>				
$\nu_1$	16	24	41	52	$\nu_1$	35	41	38	39
$\nu_2$	31	34	66	70	$\nu_2$	158	165	157	161
$\nu_3$	59	71	88	93	$\nu_3$	260	266	311	319
$\nu_4$	100	111	137	138	$\nu_4$	299	303	329	323
$\nu_5$	673	671	642	645	$\nu_5$	335	346	397	383
$\nu_6$	685	686	688	689	$\nu_6$	708	707	625	624
$\nu_7$	702	701	704	705	$\nu_7$	1650	1653	1635	1636
$\nu_8$	1390	1390	1405	1405	$\nu_8$	3778	3773	3812	3812
$\nu_9$	2442	2441	2433	2432	$\nu_9$	3892	3888	3910	3910

a) Low frequency mode.