

Supporting Information – T. Wulf, J. Warneke, T. Heine, *RSC Advances*, **2021**, doi:[10.1039/d1ra06322g](https://doi.org/10.1039/d1ra06322g)
B₁₂X₁₁[−]: exploring the limits of isotopologue selectivity of hydrogen adsorption

Table S1: Gibbs energy of attachment (kJ mol^{-1}) of $^1\text{H}_2$ and separation factors (unit: 1) of interest between different isotopologues.

300 K	$\Delta G(^1\text{H}_2)$	D_2 / H_2	HD / H_2	T_2 / H_2	HT / H_2	T_2 / D_2	DT / D_2	D_2 / HT
CN	-80.0	2.1	1.5	2.6	1.7	1.21	1.11	1.23
F	-79.8	1.6	1.4	1.7	1.5	1.06	1.05	1.04
Cl	-72.5	2.1	1.5	2.5	1.7	1.20	1.10	1.21
Br	-70.1	2.0	1.5	2.4	1.7	1.20	1.10	1.22
I	-62.0	2.0	1.4	2.3	1.6	1.18	1.09	1.21
H	-9.1	2.0	1.5	2.4	1.7	1.19	1.10	1.17

250 K	$\Delta G(^1\text{H}_2)$	D_2 / H_2	HD / H_2	T_2 / H_2	HT / H_2	T_2 / D_2	DT / D_2	D_2 / HT
CN	-85.8	3.1	1.8	4.3	2.3	1.41	1.20	1.34
F	-85.8	2.2	1.6	2.6	2.0	1.19	1.12	1.10
Cl	-78.3	3.0	1.8	4.1	2.3	1.39	1.19	1.31
Br	-75.8	2.9	1.8	4.0	2.2	1.38	1.19	1.32
I	-67.8	2.8	1.7	3.8	2.1	1.36	1.18	1.31
H	-14.8	2.8	1.8	3.8	2.2	1.36	1.18	1.26

200 K	$\Delta G(^1\text{H}_2)$	D_2 / H_2	HD / H_2	T_2 / H_2	HT / H_2	T_2 / D_2	DT / D_2	D_2 / HT
CN	-91.5	5.5	2.5	9.8	3.6	1.79	1.36	1.52
F	-91.7	3.6	2.1	5.2	3.0	1.45	1.24	1.20
Cl	-84.0	5.2	2.4	9.0	3.5	1.74	1.34	1.47
Br	-81.4	5.1	2.4	8.9	3.4	1.74	1.34	1.49
I	-73.3	4.8	2.3	8.2	3.3	1.70	1.32	1.47
H	-20.2	4.7	2.4	8.0	3.3	1.69	1.33	1.42

Table S2: Wavenumbers (cm^{-1}) of characteristic high-frequency vibrations for different $\text{B}_{12}\text{X}_{11}\text{H}_2^-$ species (see Figure 4 of the article) at the PBE0-D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level.

	$\text{B}_{12}\text{X}_{11}(\text{H}_2)^-$			$(\text{B}_{12}\text{H})\text{X}_{11}\text{H}^-$		$\text{B}_{12}\text{X}_{10}(\text{XH})\text{H}^-$	
	H–H	B–H asym	B–H sym	B–H	$\text{B}_{12}\text{–H}$	B–H	X–H
CN	3190	1960	1400	2690	1810	2720	3800
F	2630	2260	1320	2650	2070	2540	3690
Cl	3070	2060	1410	2680	1840	2680	
Br	3140	2010	1400	2690	1730	2680	
I	3170	1950	1370	2690	1600	2690	
H	3060	2090	1280	2610	1760		

Table S3: Zero-point energy differences (kJ mol^{-1}), Gibbs free energies (kJ mol^{-1}) and equilibrium constants (unit: 1) for the exchange of the H nuclei in the global minimum structures of $\text{B}_{12}\text{X}_{11}\text{H}_2^-$ with heterolytically dissociated heteronuclear H_2 . Energies are positive (equilibrium constants < 1) when the heavier nucleus is preferred in the positively polarized position.

X=	ΔE_0			$\Delta G(300 \text{ K})$			$K(300 \text{ K})$		
	HD / DH	HT / TH	DT / TD	HD / DH	HT / TH	DT / TD	HD / DH	HT / TH	DT / TD
CN	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.9	0.3	0.8	0.7	0.9
F	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	1.1	1.1	1.0
Cl	-3.0	-4.3	-1.3	-2.7	-3.9	-1.1	3.0	4.7	1.6
Br	-3.1	-4.4	-1.3	-2.9	-4.1	-1.2	3.2	5.1	1.6
I	-3.5	-5.0	-1.5	-3.2	-4.5	-1.3	3.7	6.2	1.7
H	-0.3	-0.3	-0.1	-0.4	-0.6	-0.2	1.2	1.3	1.1

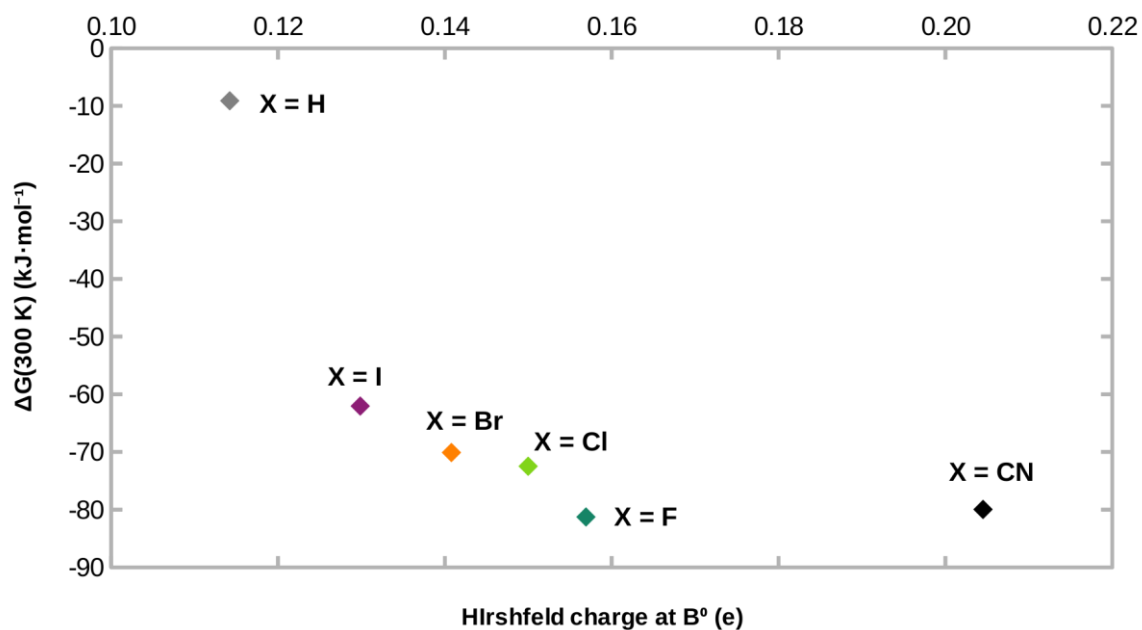


Figure S1: Gibbs free energy of attachment of H_2 at $B_{12}X_{11}^-$ and its correlation with the Hirshfeld charge.

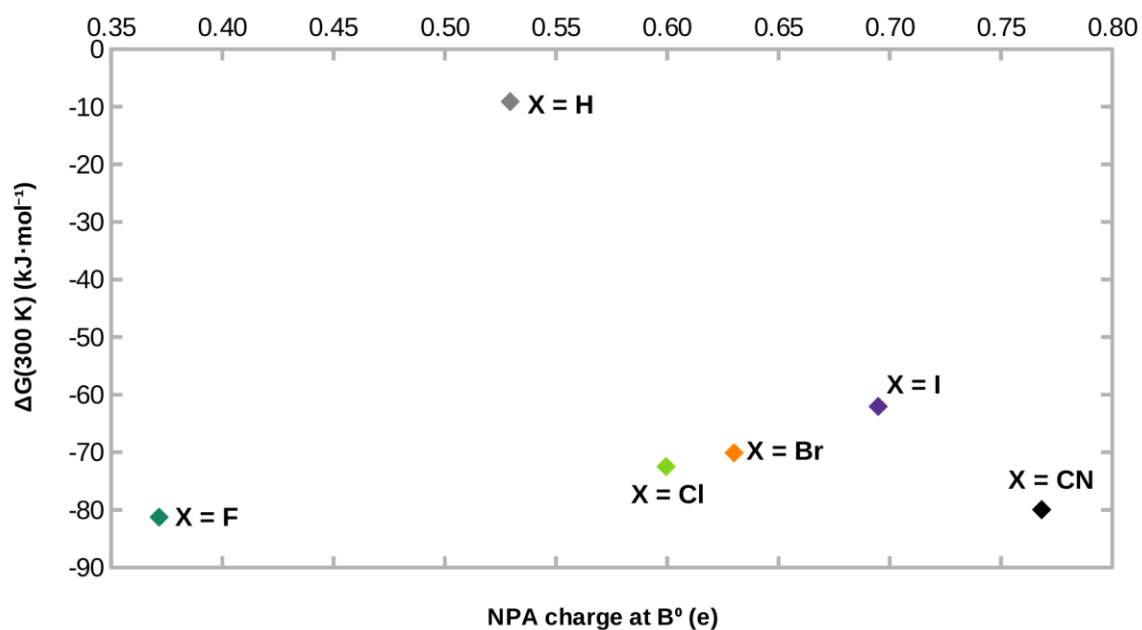


Figure S2: Gibbs free energy of attachment of H_2 at $B_{12}X_{11}^-$ and its correlation with the NPA charge.

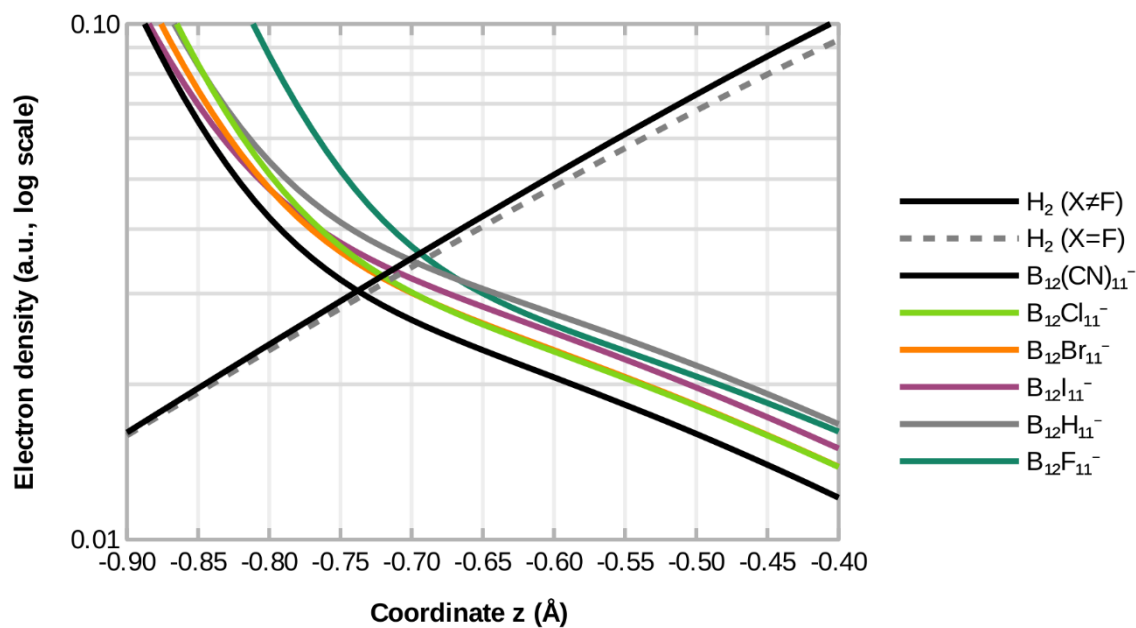


Figure S3: Electron density along z axis if the center of H_2 is placed at the origin and B^0 is placed on the z axis (at approximately $z = -1.25 \text{ \AA}$ depending on z). Excluding $X = F$, the $B_{12}X_{11}^-$ electron density is consistently lowest for $X = CN$ and highest for $X = H$ for all distances, which is in line with the weakest and strongest Pauli repulsion, respectively. For $X = F$, the $H-H$ bond is more elongated (resulting in a more delocalized and overall lower electron density), but H_2 is also much closer to B^0 resulting in a different shape of the electron density with more overlap between $B_{12}X_{11}^-$ and H_2 , leading to an overall high Pauli repulsion.