

## Supplementary information

# Hydride-containing Ag- and Au-rich 8-electron superatomic icosahedral Cores: A DFT investigation

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**Table S1.** Selected (averaged) computed data for the 8-electron cores [(MH)@Ag<sub>12</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> and [(MH)@Au<sub>12</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> (M = Mo-Pd, W-Pt). Interatomic distances are given in Å. WBI = Wiberg bond index; ΔE<sub>H/L</sub> = HOMO-LUMO gap; q<sub>M</sub>, q<sub>Ag</sub> and q<sub>Au</sub> are atomic natural charges.

| [(MH)@Ag <sub>12</sub> ] <sup>2+</sup> |       |       |       |       |       | [(MH)@Au <sub>12</sub> ] <sup>2+</sup> |       |       |       |                 |                 |
|----------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
| M                                      | Mo    | Tc    | Ru    | Rh    | Pd    | M                                      | Mo    | Tc    | Ru    | Rh <sup>a</sup> | Pd <sup>a</sup> |
| x                                      | 1     | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5     | x                                      | 1     | 2     | 3     | 4               | 5               |
| CSM                                    | 0.62  | 0.57  | 0.52  | 0.44  | 0.31  | CSM                                    | 1.03  | 1.09  | 1.09  | n/a             | n/a             |
| ΔE <sub>H/L</sub> (eV)                 | 1.56  | 1.71  | 1.85  | 2.20  | 2.51  | ΔE <sub>H/L</sub> (eV)                 | 1.25  | 1.26  | 1.28  | 1.10            | 1.25            |
| M-Ag                                   | 2.813 | 2.814 | 2.829 | 2.863 | 2.920 | M-Au                                   | 2.820 | 2.824 | 2.837 | 2.793           | 2.860           |
| WBI                                    | 0.403 | 0.355 | 0.300 | 0.234 | 0.209 | WBI                                    | 0.436 | 0.380 | 0.311 | 0.249           | 0.183           |
| Ag-Ag                                  | 2.876 | 2.880 | 2.790 | 2.937 | 3.008 | Au-Au                                  | 2.868 | 2.868 | 2.753 | 2.849           | 2.867           |
| WBI                                    | 0.094 | 0.092 | 0.090 | 0.089 | 0.083 | WBI                                    | 0.106 | 0.110 | 0.116 | 0.164           | 0.190           |
| M-H                                    | 1.837 | 1.742 | 1.679 | 1.658 | 1.703 | M-H                                    | 1.821 | 1.719 | 1.657 | 1.637           | 1.692           |
| WBI                                    | 0.471 | 0.428 | 0.371 | 0.297 | 0.206 | WBI                                    | 0.487 | 0.460 | 0.417 | 0.424           | 0.344           |
| Ag-H                                   | 2.085 | 2.084 | 2.090 | 2.099 | 2.089 | Au-H                                   | 2.168 | 2.191 | 2.211 | 2.137           | 1.717           |
| WBI                                    | 0.102 | 0.105 | 0.109 | 0.116 | 0.123 | WBI                                    | 0.099 | 0.099 | 0.107 | 0.171           | 0.418           |
| q <sub>M</sub>                         | -2.42 | -2.13 | -1.94 | -1.78 | -1.38 | q <sub>M</sub>                         | -1.05 | -1.54 | -1.80 | -2.11           | -0.36           |
| q <sub>Ag</sub>                        | 0.30  | 0.35  | 0.43  | 0.50  | 0.56  | q <sub>Au</sub>                        | 0.27  | 0.32  | 0.38  | 0.42            | 0.45            |
| q <sub>H</sub>                         | -0.20 | -0.20 | -0.21 | -0.27 | -0.38 | q <sub>H</sub>                         | -0.07 | -0.05 | -0.05 | 0.01            | 0.02            |
| M                                      | W     | Re    | Os    | Ir    | Pt    | M                                      | W     | Re    | Os    | Ir              | Pt <sup>a</sup> |
| x                                      | 1     | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5     | x                                      | 1     | 2     | 3     | 4               | 5               |
| CSM                                    | 0.69  | 0.67  | 0.64  | 0.63  | 0.66  | CSM                                    | 1.10  | 1.28  | 1.39  | 1.79            | n/a             |
| ΔE <sub>H/L</sub> (eV)                 | 1.45  | 1.78  | 2.01  | 2.35  | 2.64  | ΔE <sub>H/L</sub> (eV)                 | 1.25  | 1.41  | 1.41  | 1.57            | 1.20            |
| M-Ag                                   | 2.816 | 2.820 | 2.837 | 2.872 | 2.934 | M-Au                                   | 2.821 | 2.830 | 2.850 | 2.892           | 2.839           |
| WBI                                    | 0.381 | 0.332 | 0.284 | 0.242 | 0.209 | WBI                                    | 0.424 | 0.371 | 0.307 | 0.249           | 0.182           |
| Ag-Ag                                  | 2.876 | 2.880 | 2.897 | 2.931 | 2.993 | Au-Au                                  | 2.866 | 2.867 | 2.878 | 2.899           | 2.880           |
| WBI                                    | 0.091 | 0.080 | 0.088 | 0.087 | 0.084 | WBI                                    | 0.105 | 0.108 | 0.114 | 0.125           | 0.200           |
| M-H                                    | 1.843 | 1.754 | 1.694 | 1.655 | 1.651 | M-H                                    | 1.833 | 1.729 | 1.665 | 1.615           | 1.561           |
| WBI                                    | 0.490 | 0.457 | 0.403 | 0.356 | 0.306 | WBI                                    | 0.504 | 0.489 | 0.451 | 0.438           | 0.584           |
| Ag-H                                   | 2.106 | 2.114 | 2.133 | 2.168 | 2.234 | Au-H                                   | 2.184 | 2.233 | 2.278 | 2.376           | 3.085           |
| WBI                                    | 0.092 | 0.092 | 0.088 | 0.094 | 0.090 | WBI                                    | 0.091 | 0.085 | 0.087 | 0.083           | 0.030           |
| q <sub>M</sub>                         | -3.00 | -2.64 | -2.36 | -1.94 | -1.49 | q <sub>M</sub>                         | -2.59 | -2.26 | -1.96 | -1.51           | -0.66           |
| q <sub>Ag</sub>                        | 0.35  | 0.40  | 0.46  | 0.51  | 0.57  | q <sub>Au</sub>                        | 0.31  | 0.36  | 0.42  | 0.46            | 0.46            |
| q <sub>H</sub>                         | -0.22 | -0.20 | -0.21 | -0.24 | -0.31 | q <sub>H</sub>                         | -0.11 | -0.07 | -0.04 | -0.02           | 0.18            |

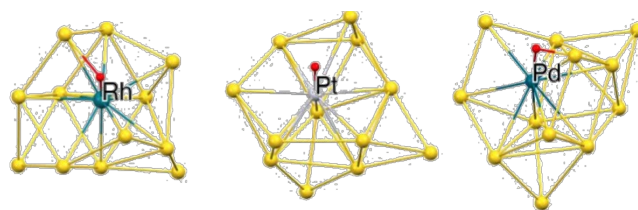
(a) Optimized structure having lost its icosahedral parentage

**Table S2.** Selected (averaged) computed data for the icosahedral 8-electron superatomic cores  $[(MH_2)@Ag_{12}]^{*+}$  (M = Mo-Rh, W-Ir) and  $[(MH_2)@Au_{12}]^{*+}$  (M = Mo-Ru, W-Os). Interatomic distances are given in Å. WBI = Wiberg bond index;  $\Delta E_{H/L}$  = HOMO-LUMO gap;  $q_M$ ,  $q_{Ag}$  and  $q_{Au}$  are atomic natural charges.

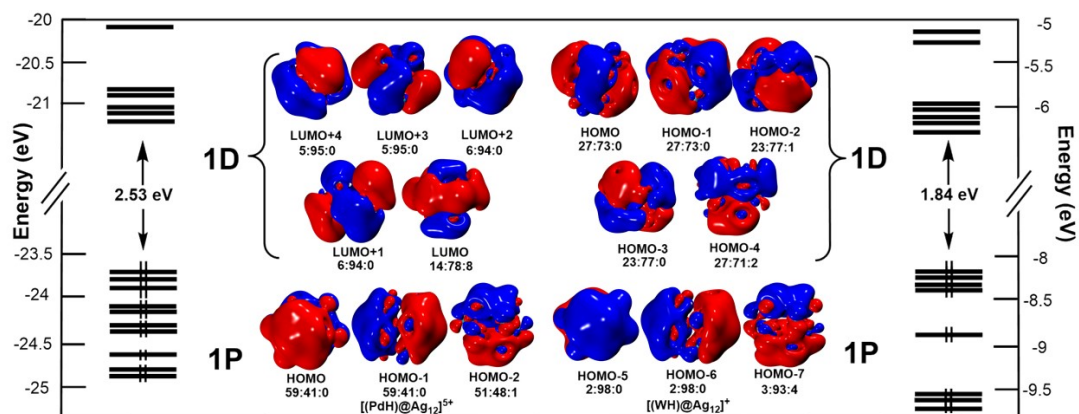
| $[(MH_2)@Ag_{12}]^{*+}$ |       |       |       |       | $[(MH_2)@Au_{12}]^{*+}$ |       |       |       |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| M                       | W     | Re    | Os    | Ir    | M                       | W     | Re    | Os    |
| x                       | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5     | x                       | 2     | 3     | 4     |
| CSM                     | 1.58  | 1.55  | 1.43  | 1.37  | CSM                     | 1.67  | 2.11  | 2.68  |
| $\Delta E_{H/L}$ (eV)   | 1.53  | 1.79  | 1.72  | 2.53  | $\Delta E_{H/L}$ (eV)   | 1.39  | 1.27  | 1.36  |
| M-Ag                    | 2.876 | 2.889 | 2.918 | 2.976 | M-Au                    | 2.859 | 2.898 | 2.940 |
| WBI                     | 0.358 | 0.311 | 0.260 | 0.202 | WBI                     | 0.404 | 0.339 | 0.274 |
| Ag-Ag                   | 2.864 | 2.877 | 2.985 | 2.981 | Au-Au                   | 2.845 | 2.839 | 2.856 |
| WBI                     | 0.096 | 0.093 | 0.083 | 0.083 | WBI                     | 0.111 | 0.121 | 0.128 |
| M-H                     | 1.809 | 1.718 | 1.663 | 1.658 | M-H                     | 1.990 | 1.750 | 1.686 |
| WBI                     | 0.483 | 0.440 | 0.377 | 0.296 | WBI                     | 0.384 | 0.432 | 0.396 |
| Ag-H                    | 2.151 | 2.164 | 2.669 | 2.050 | Au-H                    | 1.871 | 2.036 | 1.890 |
| WBI                     | 0.092 | 0.093 | 0.097 | 0.123 | WBI                     | 0.198 | 0.145 | 0.221 |
| H-M-H (°)               | 70    | 71    | 75    | 84    | H-M-H (°)               | 69    | 68    | 70    |
| $q_M$                   | -2.36 | -2.05 | -1.81 | -1.53 | $q_M$                   | -2.12 | -1.71 | -1.36 |
| $q_{Ag}$                | 0.39  | 0.45  | 0.51  | 0.59  | $q_{Au}$                | 0.36  | 0.40  | 0.45  |
| $q_H$                   | -0.16 | -0.15 | -0.18 | -0.26 | $q_H$                   | -0.08 | -0.03 | -0.02 |
| M                       | W     | Re    | Os    | Ir    | M                       | W     | Re    | Os    |
| x                       | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5     | x                       | 2     | 3     | 4     |
| CSM                     | 1.71  | 1.74  | 1.69  | 1.72  | CSM                     | 3.41  | 2.37  | 2.83  |
| $\Delta E_{H/L}$ (eV)   | 1.46  | 1.79  | 2.18  | 2.60  | $\Delta E_{H/L}$ (eV)   | 1.28  | 1.07  | 1.48  |
| M-Ag                    | 2.881 | 2.896 | 2.928 | 2.987 | M-Au                    | 2.893 | 2.927 | 2.956 |
| WBI                     | 0.345 | 0.298 | 0.252 | 0.211 | WBI                     | 0.391 | 0.337 | 0.271 |
| Ag-Ag                   | 2.861 | 2.875 | 2.906 | 2.971 | Au-Au                   | 2.837 | 2.826 | 2.850 |
| WBI                     | 0.092 | 0.090 | 0.086 | 0.082 | WBI                     | 0.113 | 0.124 | 0.132 |
| M-H                     | 1.818 | 1.733 | 1.677 | 1.651 | M-H                     | 1.837 | 1.722 | 1.677 |
| WBI                     | 0.503 | 0.469 | 0.413 | 0.358 | WBI                     | 0.463 | 0.483 | 0.449 |
| Ag-H                    | 2.175 | 2.198 | 2.225 | 2.138 | Au-H                    | 1.998 | 1.957 | 2.084 |
| WBI                     | 0.082 | 0.081 | 0.082 | 0.095 | WBI                     | 0.148 | 0.156 | 0.137 |
| H-M-H (°)               | 69    | 70    | 73    | 80    | H-M-H (°)               | 51    | 57    | 69    |
| $q_M$                   | -2.81 | -2.45 | -2.15 | -1.67 | $q_M$                   | -2.42 | -2.02 | -1.70 |
| $q_{Ag}$                | 0.43  | 0.48  | 0.54  | 0.59  | $q_{Au}$                | 0.37  | 0.42  | 0.48  |
| $q_H$                   | -0.18 | -0.16 | -0.17 | -0.22 | $q_H$                   | -0.03 | 0.00  | 0.00  |

**Table S3.** Selected (averaged) computed data for the 8-electron superatomic cores  $[(\text{MH}_3)\text{@Ag}_{12}]^{x+}$  (M = Mo-Ru, W-Os). Interatomic distances are given in Å. WBI = Wiberg bond index;  $\Delta E_{\text{H/L}}$  = HOMO-LUMO gap;  $\Delta E$  = isomer relative energy;  $q_{\text{M}}$ ,  $q_{\text{Ag}}$  and  $q_{\text{Au}}$  are atomic natural charges.

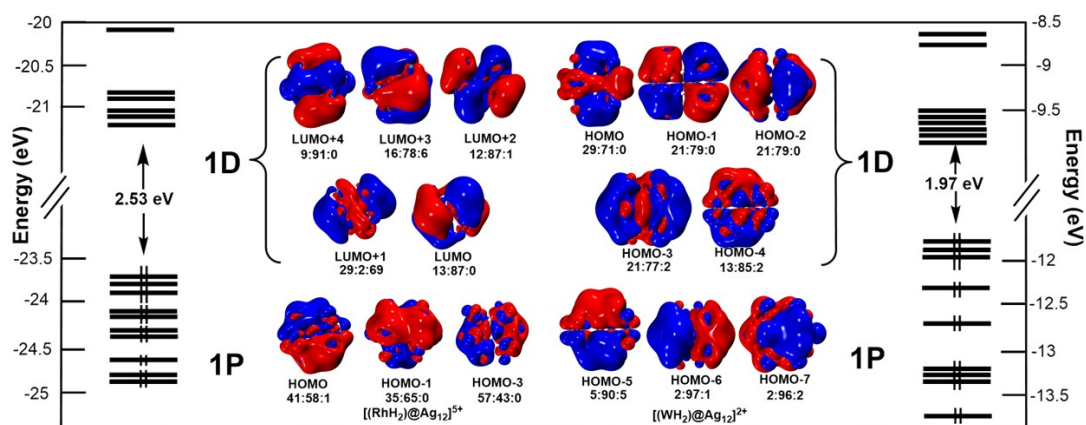
| M<br>x                       |       | Mo<br>3 |       |       |       | Tc<br>4 |       |       |       |       | Ru<br>5 |
|------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| Structure type               | A     | B       | C     | D     | E     | A       | B     | C     | D     | E     | B       |
| CSM                          | 2.32  | 2.41    | 1.88  | 6.40  | 4.91  | 2.55    | 2.37  | 1.93  | 6.49  | 6.95  | 2.25    |
| $\Delta E_{\text{H/L}}$ (eV) | 1.36  | 2.22    | 2.13  | 2.01  | 2.04  | 2.18    | 2.20  | 2.14  | 2.04  | 1.89  | 2.24    |
| $\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)        | 0.0   | 2.9     | 3.1   | 7.4   | 11.5  | 0.0     | 2.1   | 2.1   | 8.0   | 10.5  |         |
| M-Ag                         | 2.950 | 2.946   | 2.946 | 2.960 | 2.937 | 2.980   | 2.975 | 2.985 | 2.973 | 2.972 | 3.025   |
| WBI                          | 0.318 | 0.315   | 0.314 | 0.317 | 0.309 | 0.278   | 0.268 | 0.276 | 0.268 | 0.271 | 0.469   |
| Ag-Ag                        | 2.853 | 2.850   | 2.858 | 2.840 | 2.855 | 2.874   | 2.881 | 2.864 | 2.891 | 2.876 | 2.931   |
| WBI                          | 0.100 | 0.100   | 0.953 | 0.102 | 0.098 | 0.096   | 0.092 | 0.096 | 0.096 | 0.095 | 0.295   |
| M-H                          | 1.791 | 1.798   | 1.797 | 1.794 | 1.808 | 1.703   | 1.707 | 1.717 | 1.733 | 1.711 | 1.659   |
| WBI                          | 0.492 | 0.481   | 0.481 | 0.494 | 0.489 | 0.442   | 0.436 | 0.446 | 0.435 | 0.434 | 0.615   |
| Ag-H                         | 2.074 | 2.085   | 2.153 | 2.055 | 2.168 | 2.065   | 2.214 | 2.167 | 2.148 | 2.067 | 2.138   |
| WBI                          | 0.097 | 0.098   | 0.091 | 0.113 | 0.091 | 0.098   | 0.082 | 0.096 | 0.100 | 0.093 | 0.301   |
| $q_{\text{M}}$               | -2.27 | -2.30   | -2.18 | -2.30 | -2.27 | -1.97   | -1.99 | -1.93 | -1.92 | -1.97 | -1.70   |
| $q_{\text{Ag}}$              | 0.47  | 0.48    | 0.48  | 0.46  | 0.48  | 0.52    | 0.53  | 0.52  | 0.54  | 0.53  | 0.60    |
| $q_{\text{H}}$               | -0.12 | -0.15   | -0.15 | -0.13 | -0.16 | -0.10   | -0.13 | -0.13 | -0.17 | -0.13 | -0.15   |
| M<br>x                       |       | W<br>3  |       |       |       | Re<br>4 |       |       |       |       | Os<br>5 |
| Structure type               | A     | B       | C     | D     | E     | A       | B     | C     | D     | E     | B       |
| CSM                          | 2.43  | 2.66    | 2.17  | 6.49  | 5.28  | 2.54    | 2.75  | 2.44  | 6.64  | 5.27  | 2.98    |
| $\Delta E_{\text{H/L}}$ (eV) | 2.29  | 2.21    | 2.04  | 2.12  | 1.59  | 1.32    | 2.40  | 2.24  | 2.06  | 2.17  | 2.43    |
| $\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)        | 0.0   | 2.8     | 3.3   | 7.2   | 11.3  | 0.0     | 1.9   | 2.1   | 7.7   | 10.4  |         |
| M-Ag                         | 2.954 | 2.954   | 2.964 | 2.954 | 2.953 | 2.984   | 2.992 | 2.992 | 2.970 | 2.985 | 3.047   |
| WBI                          | 0.312 | 0.308   | 0.311 | 0.308 | 0.308 | 0.270   | 0.263 | 0.269 | 0.259 | 0.265 | 0.222   |
| Ag-Ag                        | 2.836 | 2.713   | 2.839 | 2.845 | 2.844 | 2.869   | 2.873 | 2.864 | 2.887 | 2.869 | 2.907   |
| WBI                          | 0.100 | 0.918   | 0.097 | 0.096 | 0.096 | 0.093   | 0.089 | 0.091 | 0.087 | 0.092 | 0.092   |
| M-H                          | 1.804 | 1.801   | 1.807 | 1.809 | 1.809 | 1.724   | 1.718 | 1.734 | 1.739 | 1.726 | 1.671   |
| WBI                          | 0.516 | 0.508   | 0.519 | 0.508 | 0.508 | 0.473   | 0.477 | 0.478 | 0.481 | 0.471 | 0.420   |
| Ag-H                         | 2.063 | 2.103   | 2.146 | 2.060 | 2.103 | 2.121   | 2.203 | 2.196 | 2.194 | 2.225 | 2.220   |
| WBI                          | 0.091 | 0.085   | 0.086 | 0.089 | 0.086 | 0.085   | 0.085 | 0.097 | 0.085 | 0.071 | 0.074   |
| $q_{\text{M}}$               | -2.61 | -2.59   | -2.51 | -2.59 | -2.59 | -2.27   | -2.27 | -2.18 | -2.23 | -2.26 | -1.94   |
| $q_{\text{Ag}}$              | 0.50  | 0.51    | 0.50  | 0.51  | 0.51  | 0.55    | 0.55  | 0.55  | 0.56  | 0.56  | 0.61    |
| $q_{\text{H}}$               | -0.14 | -0.17   | -0.16 | -0.17 | -0.17 | -0.12   | -0.13 | -0.14 | -0.18 | -0.14 | -0.12   |



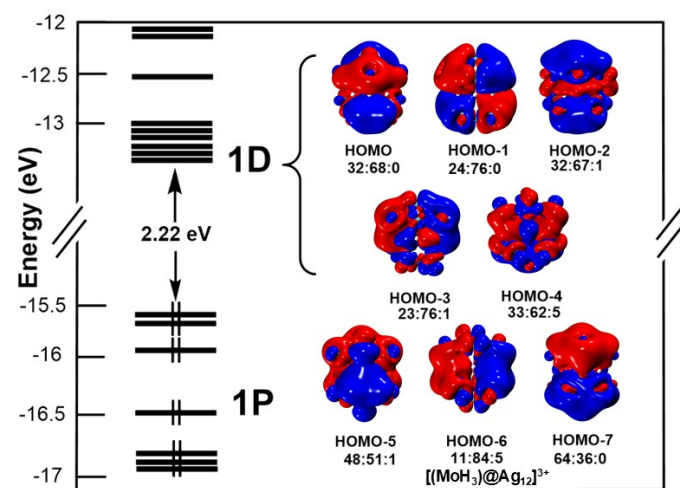
**Figure S1.** The non-icosahedral optimized geometries of  $[\text{RhHAu}_{12}]^{4+}$  and  $[\text{PtHAu}_{12}]^{5+}$ ,  $[\text{PdHAu}_{12}]^{5+}$ .



**Figure S2.** The Kohn-Sham orbital diagram of  $[(\text{PdH})@\text{Ag}_{12}]^{5+}$  and  $[(\text{WH})@\text{Ag}_{12}]^{+}$ . Orbital localization (%) is given in the order Pd/Ag/H and W/Ag/H, respectively.



**Figure S3.** The Kohn-Sham orbital diagram of  $[(\text{RhH}_2)@\text{Ag}_{12}]^{5+}$  and  $[(\text{WH}_2)@\text{Ag}_{12}]^{2+}$ . Orbital localization (%) is given in the order Rh/Ag/H and W/Ag/H, respectively.



**Figure S4.** The Kohn-Sham orbital diagram of  $[(\text{MoH}_3)@Ag_{12}]^{3+}$ . Orbital localization (%) is given in the order Mo/Ag/H.