## Evolution of structure and properties of neutral and negatively charged transition metal-coronene complexes: A comprehensive analysis

## Supplementary Information

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**Table S1** The calculated vertical electron affinities (eV) for the coronene molecule at

 different levels, and compared with the experiment values.

Methods	PW91	B3PW91	B3LYP	BP86	TPSS	PBE	wB97XD	Exp.
LANL2DZ	0.46	0.33	0.26	0.53	0.34	0.43	0.04	
CEP-121G	0.56	0.20	0.34	0.62	0.46	0.56	0.18	
6-311+G	0.61	0.42	0.39	0.66	0.45	0.56	0.15	$0.54{\pm}0.1^{b}$
6-31+G	0.58	0.39	0.36	0.62	0.42	0.54	0.21	
6-31+G*	0.63	0.44	0.40	0.67	0.45	0.59	0.17	

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Fig. S1 Optimized structures of the low-lying neutral and anionic  $V_n(\text{coronene})_m$  complexes.



Fig. S2 Optimized structures of the low-lying neutral and anionic  $Ti_n(coronene)_m$  complexes.

**Fig. S3** Photoelectron spectra of V(coronene)<sup>-</sup> and V<sub>2</sub> (coronene)<sup>-</sup> clusters.



**Fig. S4** The HOMO-1 and HOMO-2 of the ground state structures of  $V_n(\text{coronene})_m^{0/-}$ . The first column corresponds to  $\alpha$  molecular orbitals, while the second corresponds to  $\beta$  MOs.



**Fig. S5** The HOMO-1 and HOMO-2 of the ground state structures of  $\text{Ti}_n(\text{coronene})_m^{0/-}$ . The first column corresponds to  $\alpha$  molecular orbitals, while the second corresponds to  $\beta$  MOs.

