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5-29-2006

Evidence of hollow golden cages: Supplementary Materials and Supporting Information

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Bulusu, Satya S.; Li, Xi; Wang, Lai-Sheng; and Zeng, Xiao Cheng, "Evidence of hollow golden cages: Supplementary Materials and Supporting Information" (2006). *Xiao Cheng Zeng Publications*. 18. https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/chemzeng/18

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Supplementary Materials for

Evidence of hollow golden cages

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Not published in the printed edition; presented online at: http://www.pnas.org/cgi/content/full/0600637103/DC1

Paper published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, vol. 103, no. 22 (May 30, 2006), pp. 8326–8330. Published online May 19, 2006: http://www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.0600637103 Copyright © 2006 by The National Academy of Sciences of the USA. Used by permission.

Fig. 3. Simulated anion photoelectron spectra [based on the density-functional theory (DFT) calculation with the PBEPBE/LANL2DZ functional and basis set] for all of the candidate lowest-energy isomers of $Au_{15}^{-}(A)$, $Au_{16}^{-}(B)$, $Au_{17}^{-}(C)$, and $Au_{18}^{-}(D)$ identified in Fig. 3 A-D, respectively.

[follows]

Simulated Anion Photoelectron Spectra



Au₁₅- (top 5)

Figure 4A



Au₁₆- (top 5)

Figure 4B



Au₁₇- (top 6)

Figure 4C



Au₁₈- (top 6)

Figure 4D

Fig. 4. Top-10 lowest-energy isomers of Au_{15} (*A*), Au_{16} (*B*), Au_{17} (*C*), Au_{18} (*D*), and Au_{19} (*E*) obtained from a basin-hopping global search combined with DFT optimization and total-energy calculation. The energy values (in eV) given beneath each isomer are the relative energy with respective to the leading lowest-energy isomer. The energy values in black are based on the PBE exchange-correlation functional (1), and the double numerical basis set with polarization functions, implemented in the DMOL³ package (2). Those isomers with their energy value within 0.2 eV from the leading lowest-energy isomer are all regarded as candidates for the lowest-energy isomers are further evaluated by using a modest and a large basis sets. The energy values in blue are based on optimization with the PBEPBE/LANL2DZ functional/basis set, implemented in the GAUSSIAN 03 package (3), and the energy values in red are based on single-point calculations at the PBEPBE/SDD+Au(2f)//PBEPBE/LANL2DZ level of theory, implemented inthe GAUSSIAN 03 package (3). Here "SDD+Au(2f)" denotes the Stuttgart/Dresden ECP valence basis (4, 5) augmented by two sets of *f* polarization functions (exponents = 1.425, 0.468). The isomers enclosed by a black frame also are highlighted in Fig. 1*B*.

Notes

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Au₁₅- (top10)

Figure 3A



Au₁₆- (top10)

Figure 3B



Figure 3C

Figure 3D

Figure 3E

Table 2. The experimental adiabatic detachment energies (ADEs) for Au_n⁻ (n = 15–19) measured from the threshold of the first photoelectron band

Isomer	ADE, eV
Au ₁₅ ⁻	3.61 ± 0.03
Au ₁₆	3.99 ± 0.03
Au ₁₇ ⁻	4.03 ± 0.03
Au ₁₈ ⁻	3.24 ± 0.03
Au ₁₉ ⁻	3.71 ± 0.03