

**Supplementary Information: Collective Interactions Among Organometallics Are  
Exotic Bonds Hidden on Lab Shelves** Cina Foroutan-Nejad et al.

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**Supplementary Table 1.** The dissociation energies defined as the energy differences between relaxed fragments and complexes,  $D_0$ , deformation,  $E_{\text{Def}}$ , and promotion energies,  $E_{\text{Pro}}$ , in  $\text{kcal}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ . All energies are computed for dissociation of the complexes to a neutral  $\text{AX}_3$  and an anionic  $\text{AX}_3^-$  at DFT level. Lower dissociation energies for dissociation to a neutral  $\text{AX}_3$  in all cases suggest that in gas-phase the species tend to follow this reaction path. Furthermore, negative promotion energies in anionic dissociation suggests instability of the chosen fragment compared to those in neutral pathway. On the other hand, lower deformation energies for the anionic dissociation prove that the  $\text{AX}_3$  species are closer to an anionic form in their complexes.

| Dissociation<br>Molecules     | Anionic $\text{AX}_3^-$ |                  |                  | Neutral $\text{AX}_3$ |                  |                  |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                               | $D_0$                   | $E_{\text{Def}}$ | $E_{\text{Pro}}$ | $D_0$                 | $E_{\text{Def}}$ | $E_{\text{Pro}}$ |
| $\text{LiBH}_3^-$             | -35.1                   | 0.4              | 41.3             | -22.3                 | 3.2              | 51.3             |
| $\text{NaBH}_3^-$             | -34.9                   | 0.3              | 12.4             | -18.0                 | 2.0              | 27.5             |
| $\text{KBH}_3^-$              | -33.0                   | 0.2              | 3.9              | -15.8                 | 0.3              | 20.9             |
| $\text{MgBH}_3$               | -193.6                  | 0.2              | -83.8            | -8.5                  | 0.7              | 100.8            |
| $\text{CaBH}_3$               | -161.5                  | 0.1              | -36.7            | -11.7                 | 0.5              | 112.8            |
| $\text{LiAlH}_3^-$            | -30.6                   | 0.2              | 83.3             | -28.3                 | 12.6             | 73.2             |
| $\text{NaAlH}_3^-$            | -29.6                   | 0.6              | 21.8             | -23.2                 | 9.7              | 19.0             |
| $\text{KAlH}_3^-$             | -26.4                   | 1.3              | 4.4              | -19.7                 | 6.9              | 5.5              |
| $\text{MgAlH}_3$              | -180.4                  | 4.3              | -145.7           | -5.8                  | 0.4              | 32.8             |
| $\text{CaAlH}_3$              | -146.2                  | 4.0              | -95.5            | -6.8                  | 0.7              | 47.3             |
| $i\text{-CaAlH}_3^{a,b,d}$    | -155.0                  | 22.1             | 53.8             | -15.6                 | 75.5             | 139.8            |
| $\text{LiCF}_3$               | -152.3                  | 3.5              | 10.5             | -61.7                 | 14.8             | 89.7             |
| $\text{NaCF}_3$               | -132.6                  | 3.2              | -0.1             | -48.6                 | 15.4             | 71.7             |
| $\text{BeCF}_3^+$             | -440.6                  | 26.1             | -98.8            | -52.1                 | 0.5              | 315.4            |
| $\text{MgCF}_3^{+c}$          | -344.9                  | 23.3             | -157.6           | -30.5                 | 1.0              | 179.1            |
| $i\text{-LiCF}_3^{b,c,d}$     | -153.4                  | 2.8              | 16.9             | -62.8                 | 52.0             | 58.3             |
| $i\text{-NaCF}_3^{b,c,d}$     | -134.0                  | 1.2              | 18.7             | -50.0                 | 44.4             | 59.4             |
| $i\text{-KCF}_3^{b,d}$        | -118.7                  | 0.7              | 27.5             | -54.5                 | 41.9             | 50.6             |
| $i\text{-MgCF}_3^{+b,d}$      | -332.5                  | 5.6              | 21.3             | -18.1                 | 62.8             | 278.5            |
| $i\text{-CaCF}_3^{+b,d}$      | -282.7                  | 8.4              | 17.6             | -44.8                 | 70.1             | 193.7            |
| $i\text{-SrCF}_3^{+b,d}$      | -263.6                  | 4.6              | 31.9             | -44.5                 | 59.4             | 196.2            |
| $\text{MgC(CN)}_3^{+b}$       | -285.5                  | 49.0             | 27.1             | -33.5                 | 50.6             | 277.4            |
| $\text{CaC(CN)}_3^{+b}$       | -243.9                  | 29.2             | 5.9              | -68.4                 | 27.9             | 182.6            |
| $\text{SrC(CN)}_3^{+b}$       | -227.9                  | 24.0             | 14.4             | -71.2                 | 23.0             | 172.1            |
| $\text{LiCH}_3$               | -181.8                  | 0.2              | 10.3             | -50.3                 | 9.7              | 132.3            |
| $\text{NaCH}_3$               | -160.6                  | 0.4              | -18.4            | -35.7                 | 7.7              | 99.2             |
| $\text{KCH}_3$                | -135.8                  | 0.2              | -1.2             | -30.7                 | 9.1              | 95.1             |
| $\text{BeCH}_3^+$             | -514.2                  | 0.7              | -57.3            | -84.7                 | 5.8              | 367.1            |
| $\text{MgCH}_3^+$             | -406.4                  | 1.4              | -175.6           | -51.2                 | 3.8              | 177.3            |
| $\text{CaCH}_3^+$             | -328.4                  | 0.2              | -62.6            | -49.6                 | 8.9              | 207.5            |
| $\text{SrCH}_3^+$             | -307.5                  | 0.2              | -52.1            | -47.5                 | 9.3              | 198.8            |
| $\text{LiC(Ph)}_3$            | -135.9                  | 4.1              | 30.1             | -45.3                 | 4.8              | 120.0            |
| $\text{NaC(Ph)}_3$            | -116.6                  | 2.7              | 27.5             | -32.6                 | 4.1              | 110.1            |
| $\text{KC(Ph)}_3$             | -105.9                  | 1.8              | 31.9             | -41.6                 | 3.4              | 94.6             |
| $\text{MgC(Ph)}_3^+$          | -357.1                  | 9.5              | -181.9           | -42.7                 | 7.7              | 134.2            |
| $\text{CaC(Ph)}_3^+$          | -307.2                  | 8.0              | 1.1              | -69.3                 | 8.1              | 238.9            |
| $\text{SrC(Ph)}_3^+$          | -285.6                  | 5.9              | 8.7              | -66.4                 | 6.1              | 227.6            |
| $\text{LiC(CH}_3)_3^c$        | -167.0                  | 0.9              | 13.0             | -33.6                 | 11.5             | 135.8            |
| $\text{NaC(CH}_3)_3^c$        | -147.3                  | 0.9              | -17.7            | -20.5                 | 9.8              | 100.3            |
| $\text{KC(CH}_3)_3^c$         | -123.2                  | 0.6              | 2.8              | -16.1                 | 11.1             | 99.3             |
| $\text{MgC(CH}_3)_3^+$        | -403.8                  | 6.7              | -238.5           | -46.6                 | 15.2             | 110.2            |
| $\text{CaC(CH}_3)_3^+$        | -316.4                  | 2.6              | -66.1            | -35.7                 | 7.4              | 209.8            |
| $i\text{-LiC(CH}_3)_3^d$      | -160.7                  | 5.6              | 6.6              | -27.3                 | 7.7              | 137.9            |
| $i\text{-NaC(CH}_3)_3^{b,d}$  | -131.5                  | 6.9              | -2.8             | -4.7                  | 6.7              | 124.1            |
| $i\text{-KC(CH}_3)_3^{b,d}$   | -115.4                  | 9.9              | 12.4             | -8.4                  | 5.4              | 124.0            |
| $i\text{-BeC(CH}_3)_3^{+c,d}$ | -520.8                  | -1.1             | -26.7            | -89.5                 | 3.3              | 400.2            |
| $i\text{-MgC(CH}_3)_3^{+b,d}$ | -388.3                  | 27.1             | -359.8           | -31.1                 | 9.6              | 15.0             |
| $i\text{-CaC(CH}_3)_3^{+c,d}$ | -320.1                  | 13.8             | -69.9            | -39.4                 | 6.3              | 218.3            |
| $i\text{-SrC(CH}_3)_3^{+e,d}$ | -298.9                  | 15.1             | -57.0            | -36.9                 | 5.5              | 214.5            |

<sup>a</sup>. Data are obtained from the BS-DFT calculation.

<sup>b</sup>. The metal forms a multicenter bond within the context of QTAIM.

<sup>c</sup>. The global minimum of the molecule.

<sup>d</sup>. *i*- represents inverted structures.

<sup>e</sup>. The global minimum of the molecule has a  $C_s$  point group, 1.6  $\text{kcal}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$  lower in energy; therefore, it is not discussed here.

**Supplementary Table 2.** The magnitudes of  $V_{XC}(A, B)$  and  $V_C(A, B)$  sorted from the most to the least stabilizing for M–A bonds in group **1** and **2** molecules as well as for specified bonds in our test set. To assess the bond type, *i.e.*, covalency-ionicity, the  $V_{XC}(A, B)$  values are used. From  $N_2$  ( $V_{xc} = -586.4 \text{ kcal.mol}^{-1}$ ) to SeSe bond in  $H_2Se_2$  ( $V_{xc} = -94.4 \text{ kcal.mol}^{-1}$ ) is chosen as the domain of covalent bonds. The conventionally pure ionic bonds from LiF/KCl with  $V_{XC} = -31.0 \text{ kcal.mol}^{-1}$  to virtually zero is marked by a blue line. Besides, the border between the stabilizing and destabilizing  $V_C(A, B)$  values are marked by a black line. The red, blue, and black lines are shown in **Figure 1** as well.

| $V_{XC}(A,B)$ | Bond                     | $V_{XC}(A,B)$ | Bond                     | $V_C(A,B)$ | Bond                     | $V_C(A,B)$ | Bond                     |
|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| -586.4        | $N_2$                    | -47.2         | $CaCl_2$                 | -851.0     | $CO$                     | -27.1      | $i\text{-LiC(CH}_3)_3$   |
| -499.0        | $NO^+$                   | -45.8         | $CaC(CH_3)_3^+$          | -699.1     | $BeO$                    | -22.7      | $KC(Ph)_3$               |
| -481.4        | $CC^a$                   | -44.8         | $BeF_2$                  | -669.0     | $CN^-$                   | -16.4      | $i\text{-KC(CH}_3)_3$    |
| -448.8        | $NO$                     | -42.1         | $Na_2O$                  | -637.7     | $BF_3$                   | -15.2      | $SeH^a$                  |
| -427.3        | $O_2$                    | -42.1         | $MgF_2$                  | -490.5     | $NB^d$                   | -9.6       | $i\text{-NaC(CH}_3)_3$   |
| -374.1        | $CN^-$                   | -41.6         | $MgCl_2$                 | -476.9     | $BeCH_3^+$               | -0.9       | $KAlH_3^-$               |
| -368.6        | $NO^-$                   | -41.4         | $BeCl_2$                 | -399.2     | $BeF_2$                  | 1.1        | $i\text{-MgC(CH}_3)_3^+$ |
| -330.4        | $CC^b$                   | -40.1         | $NaCH_3$                 | -396.9     | $BCl_3$                  | 1.4        | $H_2S$                   |
| -296.2        | $CO$                     | -39.1         | $NaAlH_3^-$              | -368.9     | $BH^d$                   | 3.5        | $NaAlH_3^-$              |
| -226.8        | $F_2$                    | -38.76        | $NaC(CH_3)_3$            | -355.4     | $BeCl_2$                 | 6.9        | $SH^a$                   |
| -224.9        | $OO^a$                   | -38.1         | $KF$                     | -341.1     | $MgO$                    | 7.0        | $SeSe^a$                 |
| -219.9        | $NN^b$                   | -36.6         | $Li_2O$                  | -340.9     | $CaO$                    | 13.8       | $KBH_3^-$                |
| -195.0        | $Cl_2$                   | -35.3         | $KCH_3$                  | -310.5     | $PH_3$                   | 15.7       | $CC^c$                   |
| -189.6        | $CC^c$                   | -33.6         | $MgBH_3$                 | -310.1     | $MgF_2$                  | 19.3       | $NaBH_3^-$               |
| -179.9        | $CH^b$                   | -32.8         | $SrC(Ph)_3^+$            | -306.7     | $NO^+$                   | 20.8       | $CH^c$                   |
| -179.9        | $CH^a$                   | -32.2         | $KC(CH_3)_3$             | -254.9     | $MgCl_2$                 | 20.8       | $SS^a$                   |
| -179.1        | $H_2S$                   | -31.2         | $LiF$                    | -242.5     | $CaF_2$                  | 21.3       | $Br_2$                   |
| -177.3        | $SH^a$                   | -31.0         | $KCl$                    | -216.2     | $H_2O$                   | 22.0       | $H_2Se$                  |
| -177.1        | $CH^c$                   | -29.8         | $CaC(Ph)_3^+$            | -205.4     | $K_2O$                   | 22.6       | $NO^-$                   |
| -172.5        | $SS^a$                   | -28.3         | $NaCl$                   | -201.3     | $CaCH_3^+$               | 23.6       | $LiAlH_3^-$              |
| -166.5        | $NH_3$                   | -27.8         | $NaCF_3$                 | -198.3     | $CaCl_2$                 | 23.6       | $CH^b$                   |
| -165.2        | $Br_2$                   | -25.5         | $i\text{-BeC(CH}_3)_3^+$ | -196.6     | $MgCH_3^+$               | 23.9       | $H_2$                    |
| -165.2        | $NH^b$                   | -25.2         | $LiCH_3$                 | -183.5     | $SrCH_3^+$               | 26.3       | $CH^a$                   |
| -164.9        | $H_2$                    | -25.0         | $CaAlH_3$                | -174.5     | $LiF$                    | 28.9       | $Cl_2$                   |
| -161.0        | $SeH^a$                  | -24.8         | $LiC(CH_3)_3$            | -153.6     | $CaC(CH_3)_3^+$          | 29.4       | $SrC(CN)_3^+$            |
| -156.6        | $NH^d$                   | -24.6         | $CaBH_3$                 | -148.9     | $NH_4^+$                 | 37.1       | $F_2$                    |
| -154.3        | $CaO$                    | -24.3         | $LiCl$                   | -146.1     | $LiCl$                   | 39.5       | $CaC(CN)_3^+$            |
| -152.9        | $H_2Se$                  | -24.1         | $KAlH_3^-$               | -141.8     | $LiCH_3$                 | 41.5       | $MgAlH_3$                |
| -138.43       | $NH_4^+$                 | -21.3         | $LiCF_3$                 | -134.0     | $OH^a$                   | 41.9       | $LiBH_3^-$               |
| -130.86       | $PH_3$                   | -20.8         | $LiBH_3^-$               | -132.8     | $KF$                     | 42.1       | $CC^b$                   |
| -124.3        | $H_2O$                   | -18.7         | $NaBH_3^-$               | -130.6     | $i\text{-BeC(CH}_3)_3$   | 43.4       | $OO^a$                   |
| -119.0        | $OH^a$                   | -18.6         | $KCF_3$                  | -130.2     | $MgC(CH_3)_3^+$          | 63.0       | $MgC(CN)_3^+$            |
| -110.4        | $MgO$                    | -17.9         | $MgAlH_3$                | -125.9     | $LiC(CH_3)_3$            | 67.1       | $NN^b$                   |
| -99.81        | $BeO$                    | -14.1         | $i\text{-LiC(CH}_3)_3$   | -120.9     | $MgC(Ph)_3^+$            | 71.6       | $CaAlH_3$                |
| -94.4         | $SeSe^a$                 | -13.7         | $KBH_3^-$                | -116.7     | $NaCl$                   | 80.2       | $CC^a$                   |
| -89.4         | $BCl_3$                  | -13.7         | $i\text{-KC(CH}_3)_3$    | -114.8     | $NH^d$                   | 84.1       | $LiCF_3$                 |
| -89.1         | $BH^d$                   | -11.3         | $CaAlH_3$                | -104.7     | $KCl$                    | 93.8       | $NaCF_3$                 |
| -78.9         | $MgCH_3^+$               | -10.8         | $KC(Ph)_3$               | -86.3      | $NaCH_3$                 | 98.8       | $O_2$                    |
| -72.2         | $MgC(CH_3)_3^+$          | -10.69        | $LiC(Ph)_3$              | -81.8      | $NH_3$                   | 100.5      | $KCF_3$                  |
| -71.9         | $SrCH_3^+$               | -10.55        | $SrC(CN)_3^+$            | -77.8      | $KCH_3$                  | 114.3      | $MgBH_3$                 |
| -71.5         | $CaC(CH_3)_3^+$          | -10.14        | $CaC(CN)_3^+$            | -77.8      | $Li_2O$                  | 133.9      | $N_2$                    |
| -71.1         | $CaCH_3^+$               | -9.3          | $i\text{-NaC(CH}_3)_3$   | -74.3      | $i\text{-SrC(CH}_3)_3^+$ | 149.3      | $BeCF_3^+$               |
| -68.5         | $BeCH_3^+$               | -8.8          | $NaC(Ph)_3$              | -68.3      | $CaC(CH_3)_3^+$          | 157.8      | $CaBH_3$                 |
| -63.3         | $BF_3$                   | -7.1          | $i\text{-MgC(CH}_3)_3^+$ | -67.6      | $NO$                     | 168        | $i\text{-KCF}_3$         |
| -62.9         | $MgCF_3^+$               | -2.6          | $MgC(CN)_3^+$            | -65.8      | $NaC(CH_3)_3$            | 188.8      | $i\text{-NaCF}_3$        |
| -61.6         | $BeCF_3^+$               | -2.3          | $i\text{-MgCF}_3^+$      | -65.4      | $CaC(Ph)_3^+$            | 223.2      | $i\text{-LiCF}_3$        |
| -56.3         | $MgC(Ph)_3^+$            | -2.1          | $i\text{-CaCF}_3^+$      | -64.5      | $SrC(Ph)_3^+$            | 163.7      | $MgCF_3^+$               |
| -56.2         | $NB^d$                   | -1.8          | $i\text{-SrCF}_3^+$      | -58.8      | $KC(CH_3)_3$             | 239.5      | $CaAlH_3$                |
| -54.0         | $CaF_2$                  | -0.9          | $i\text{-NaCF}_3$        | -58.4      | $Na_2O$                  | 338.3      | $i\text{-SrCF}_3^+$      |
| -53.1         | $i\text{-SrC(CH}_3)_3^+$ | -0.9          | $i\text{-KCF}_3$         | -49.6      | $LiC(Ph)_3$              | 351.1      | $i\text{-CaCF}_3^+$      |
| -49.3         | $K_2O$                   | 0.6           | $i\text{-LiCF}_3$        | -49.1      | $NH^b$                   | 403.1      | $i\text{-MgCF}_3^+$      |
| -48.3         | $LiAlH_3^-$              |               |                          | -29.0      | $NaC(Ph)_3$              |            |                          |

<sup>a</sup> in  $H_2X_2$  ( $X = O, S, Se$ )

<sup>b</sup> in  $H_4X_2$  ( $X = C, N$ )

<sup>c</sup> in  $C_2H_6$

<sup>d</sup> in  $NH_3BH_3$

**Supplementary Table 3.** Atomic charges of M and A in MAX<sub>3</sub> systems, Q(M) and Q(A), the interatomic exchange-correlation and Coulombic energy components of IQA interaction energy between metal and Al, B, or central C atoms in the studied systems, V<sub>xc</sub>(M, A) and V<sub>c</sub>(M, A), and those of the metals with the substituents on the central atom, V<sub>xc</sub>(M, X) and V<sub>c</sub>(M, X), in kcal.mol<sup>-1</sup>. All data are computed at CASSCF level.

| Molecules                        | Angle | Q(M)   | Q(A)  | V <sub>xc</sub> (M,A) | V <sub>xc</sub> (M,T) | V <sub>c</sub> (M,A) | V <sub>c</sub> (M,T) | V <sub>int</sub> (M,A) | V <sub>int</sub> (M,T) | ICl <sub>xc</sub> | ICl <sub>c</sub> |
|----------------------------------|-------|--------|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| LiBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup>  | 7.61  | -0.007 | 1.561 | -16.7                 | -29.9                 | 44.2                 | -39.4                | 27.4                   | -69.3                  | 0.559             | -1.122           |
| NaBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup>  | 5.38  | -0.161 | 1.756 | -12.4                 | -29.8                 | 27.4                 | -13.2                | 15.0                   | -42.9                  | 0.417             | -2.081           |
| KBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup>   | 3.52  | -0.685 | 2.046 | -3.8                  | -23.5                 | -46.1                | 11.1                 | -49.9                  | -12.4                  | 0.160             | -4.161           |
| MgBH <sub>3</sub>                | 3.13  | 0.450  | 1.891 | -20.7                 | -53.1                 | 151.3                | -33.9                | 130.6                  | -87.1                  | 0.390             | -4.458           |
| CaBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>   | 2.40  | 0.596  | 1.842 | -17.2                 | -46.6                 | 171.2                | -55.9                | 154.0                  | -102.6                 | 0.368             | -3.061           |
| NaAlH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup> | 13.51 | -0.103 | 1.687 | -25.1                 | -30.9                 | 9.4                  | -12.2                | -15.7                  | -43.2                  | 0.811             | -0.768           |
| KAlH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup>  | 12.21 | -0.140 | 1.764 | -19.8                 | -26.2                 | 10.1                 | -7.1                 | -9.7                   | -33.3                  | 0.755             | -1.428           |

**Supplementary Table 4.** Atomic charges of M and A in MAX<sub>3</sub> systems, Q(M) and Q(A), the interatomic exchange-correlation and Coulombic energy components of IQA interaction energy between metal and Al, B, or central C atoms in the studied systems, V<sub>xc</sub>(M, A) and V<sub>c</sub>(M, A), and those of the metals with the substituents on the central atom, V<sub>xc</sub>(M, X) and V<sub>c</sub>(M, X), in kcal.mol<sup>-1</sup>. All data are computed at CCSD level.

| Molecules                        | Angle | Q(M)   | Q(A)  | V <sub>xc</sub> (M,A) | V <sub>xc</sub> (M,T) | V <sub>c</sub> (M,A) | V <sub>c</sub> (M,T) | V <sub>int</sub> (M,A) | V <sub>int</sub> (M,T) | ICl <sub>xc</sub> | ICl <sub>c</sub> |
|----------------------------------|-------|--------|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| LiBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup>  | 7.61  | -0.041 | 1.548 | -22.7                 | -40.0                 | 37.5                 | -31.8                | 14.8                   | -71.8                  | 0.569             | -1.178           |
| NaBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup>  | 5.38  | -0.231 | 1.767 | -14.2                 | -36.9                 | 14.1                 | -4.4                 | -0.1                   | -41.3                  | 0.384             | -3.214           |
| KBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup>   | 3.52  | -0.353 | 1.862 | -10.0                 | -32.8                 | -2.5                 | 2.8                  | -12.5                  | -30.0                  | 0.305             | -0.882           |
| MgBH <sub>3</sub>                | 3.13  | 0.415  | 1.844 | -21.6                 | -55.0                 | 137.3                | -28.7                | 115.7                  | -83.8                  | 0.393             | -4.782           |
| CaBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>   | 2.40  | 0.499  | 1.843 | -16.4                 | -49.2                 | 151.2                | -37.7                | 134.8                  | -86.9                  | 0.334             | -4.011           |
| NaAlH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup> | 13.51 | -0.169 | 1.732 | -30.9                 | -40.5                 | 1.1                  | -1.1                 | -29.7                  | -41.6                  | 0.762             | -1.006           |
| KAlH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup>  | 12.21 | -0.221 | 1.811 | -23.5                 | -33.7                 | -2.8                 | 1.8                  | -26.3                  | -31.8                  | 0.697             | -1.526           |

**Supplementary Table 5.** Atomic charges of M and A in MAX<sub>3</sub> systems, Q(M) and Q(A), the interatomic exchange-correlation and Coulombic energy components of IQA interaction energy between metal and Al, B, or central C atoms in the studied systems, V<sub>xc</sub>(M, A) and V<sub>c</sub>(M, A), and those of the metals with the substituents on the central atom, V<sub>xc</sub>(M, X) and V<sub>c</sub>(M, X), in kcal.mol<sup>-1</sup>. All data are computed at DFT-CCSD level.

| Molecules                        | Q(M)   | Q(A)  | V <sub>xc</sub> (M,A) | V <sub>xc</sub> (M,T) | V <sub>c</sub> (M,A) | V <sub>c</sub> (M,T) | V <sub>int</sub> (M,A) | V <sub>int</sub> (M,T) | ICl <sub>xc</sub> | ICl <sub>c</sub> |
|----------------------------------|--------|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| LiBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup>  | 0.007  | 1.243 | -36.8                 | -55.6                 | 28.4                 | -39.1                | -8.4                   | -94.7                  | 0.662             | -0.726           |
| NaBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup>  | -0.301 | 1.565 | -24.5                 | -49.5                 | -5.3                 | 3.2                  | -29.7                  | -46.3                  | 0.494             | -1.656           |
| KBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup>   | -0.467 | 1.717 | -12.9                 | -35.9                 | -24.9                | 9.6                  | -37.8                  | -26.3                  | 0.358             | -2.594           |
| MgBH <sub>3</sub>                | 0.395  | 1.664 | -28.4                 | -60.8                 | 112.0                | -26.6                | 83.7                   | -87.4                  | 0.466             | -4.211           |
| CaBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>   | 0.497  | 1.641 | -24.0                 | -55.9                 | 128.5                | -42.2                | 104.5                  | -98.1                  | 0.429             | -3.045           |
| NaAlH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup> | -0.236 | 1.673 | -39.3                 | -51.0                 | 12.3                 | 5.8                  | -51.6                  | -45.3                  | 0.771             | 2.121            |
| KAlH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-a</sup>  | -0.300 | 1.756 | -29.8                 | -41.6                 | -18.5                | 8.1                  | -48.4                  | -33.5                  | 0.716             | -2.284           |

**Supplementary Table 6.** Fuzzy atom partitioning: atomic charges of M and A in MAX<sub>3</sub> systems, Q(M) and Q(A), the interatomic exchange-correlation and Coulombic energy components of IQA interaction energy between metal and Al, B, or central C atoms in the studied systems, V<sub>XC</sub>(M, A) and V<sub>C</sub>(M, A), and those of the metals with the substituents on the central atom, V<sub>XC</sub>(M, X) and V<sub>C</sub>(M, X), in kcal.mol<sup>-1</sup>.

| Molecules  | Q(M)   | Q(A)   | V <sub>XC</sub> (M,A) | V <sub>C</sub> (M,A) | V <sub>Int</sub> (M,A) | V <sub>XC</sub> (M,T) | V <sub>C</sub> (M,T) | V <sub>Int</sub> (M,T) | IC <sub>I</sub> <sub>Xc</sub> | IC <sub>I</sub> <sub>C</sub> |
|--|--------|--------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| LiBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>                               | -0.291 | 1.462  | -49.0                 | -10.7                | -59.8                  | -99.3                 | 4.6                  | -94.7                  | 0.494                         | -2.322                       |
| NaBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>                               | -0.432 | 1.590  | -51.1                 | -44.8                | -95.9                  | -111.0                | 11.5                 | -99.4                  | 0.460                         | -3.881                       |
| KBH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>                                | -0.408 | 1.655  | -37.2                 | -36.8                | -74.0                  | -90.5                 | 9.3                  | -81.2                  | 0.411                         | -3.951                       |
| MgBH <sub>3</sub>  | 0.230  | 1.584  | -94.2                 | 49.1                 | -45.0                  | -190.6                | -9.9                 | -200.5                 | 0.494                         | -4.944                       |
| CaBH <sub>3</sub>  | 0.332  | 1.613  | -74.1                 | 71.8                 | -2.3                   | -181.8                | -16.7                | -198.6                 | 0.408                         | -4.292                       |
| LiAlH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>                              | 0.021  | 1.071  | -114.7                | 3.8                  | -110.8                 | -135.0                | -22.8                | -157.8                 | 0.849                         | -0.168                       |
| NaAlH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>                              | -0.241 | 1.330  | -98.8                 | -24.6                | -123.4                 | -122.2                | -1.0                 | -123.2                 | 0.808                         | 25.471                       |
| KAlH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>                               | -0.277 | 1.432  | -67.3                 | -25.4                | -92.7                  | -86.7                 | -2.3                 | -89.1                  | 0.776                         | 10.868                       |
| MgAlH <sub>3</sub>   | -0.018 | 1.781  | -62.5                 | -33.7                | -96.2                  | -135.2                | -11.3                | -146.5                 | 0.462                         | 2.984                        |
| CaAlH <sub>3</sub>   | 0.263  | 1.632  | -75.5                 | 30.6                 | -44.9                  | -121.4                | -11.7                | -133.1                 | 0.622                         | -2.619                       |
| <i>i</i> -CaAlH <sub>3</sub> <sup>a,b,d</sup>                | 1.087  | 1.334  | -21.3                 | 228.9                | 207.6                  | -178.2                | -208.4               | -386.6                 | 0.120                         | -1.098                       |
| LiCF <sub>3</sub>  | 0.718  | 1.435  | -59.1                 | 97.7                 | 38.7                   | -71.9                 | -82.2                | -154.2                 | 0.821                         | -1.189                       |
| NaCF <sub>3</sub>  | 0.657  | 1.600  | -75.2                 | 81.2                 | 6.0                    | -94.1                 | -65.2                | -159.3                 | 0.799                         | -1.246                       |
| BeCF <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>                               | 1.306  | 1.466  | -103.7                | 191.5                | 87.8                   | -129.2                | -125.9               | -255.2                 | 0.802                         | -1.520                       |
| MgCF <sub>3</sub> <sup>c</sup>                               | 1.180  | 1.763  | -102.4                | 204.1                | 101.7                  | -137.9                | -60.0                | -197.9                 | 0.743                         | -3.400                       |
| <i>i</i> -LiCF <sub>3</sub> <sup>b,c,d</sup>                 | 0.870  | 1.826  | -0.8                  | 280.0                | 279.2                  | -64.7                 | -126.7               | -191.4                 | 0.013                         | -2.209                       |
| <i>i</i> -NaCF <sub>3</sub> <sup>b,c,d</sup>                 | 0.902  | 1.847  | -1.1                  | 243.3                | 242.2                  | -88.4                 | -127.2               | -215.6                 | 0.012                         | -1.913                       |
| <i>i</i> -KCF <sub>3</sub> <sup>b,d</sup>                    | 0.979  | 1.838  | -0.9                  | 233.8                | 232.8                  | -102.4                | -140.6               | -243.1                 | 0.009                         | -1.663                       |
| <i>i</i> -MgCF <sub>3</sub> <sup>+b,d</sup>                  | 1.740  | 1.748  | -2.6                  | 495.7                | 493.1                  | -150.3                | -285.4               | -435.7                 | 0.017                         | -1.737                       |
| <i>i</i> -CaCF <sub>3</sub> <sup>+b,d</sup>                  | 1.807  | 1.739  | -2.2                  | 451.4                | 449.2                  | -185.3                | -276.4               | -461.6                 | 0.012                         | -1.634                       |
| <i>i</i> -SrCF <sub>3</sub> <sup>+b,d</sup>                  | 3.356  | 1.731  | -0.6                  | 859.4                | 858.9                  | -471.9                | -2613.7              | -3085.6                | 0.001                         | -0.329                       |
| MgC(CN) <sub>3</sub> <sup>+b</sup>                           | 1.199  | 0.584  | -24.6                 | 72.8                 | 48.2                   | -247.6                | -119.3               | -366.9                 | 0.099                         | -0.610                       |
| CaC(CN) <sub>3</sub> <sup>+b</sup>                           | 1.041  | 0.447  | -12.6                 | 61.5                 | 48.9                   | -265.3                | -3.1                 | -268.4                 | 0.048                         | -19.992                      |
| SrC(CN) <sub>3</sub> <sup>+b</sup>                           | 2.317  | 0.434  | -7.0                  | 132.1                | 125.1                  | -188.5                | -653.0               | -841.5                 | 0.037                         | -0.202                       |
| LiCH <sub>3</sub>  | 0.721  | -0.291 | -61.5                 | -75.6                | -137.1                 | -68.1                 | -107.5               | -175.6                 | 0.903                         | 0.703                        |
| NaCH <sub>3</sub>  | 0.619  | -0.173 | -83.7                 | -52.1                | -135.9                 | -93.4                 | -78.4                | -171.8                 | 0.896                         | 0.665                        |
| KCH <sub>3</sub>   | 0.733  | -0.163 | -82.5                 | -52.9                | -135.4                 | -91.6                 | -90.3                | -181.8                 | 0.901                         | 0.587                        |
| BeCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>                               | 1.430  | -0.562 | -116.0                | -274.2               | -390.2                 | -127.0                | -236.3               | -363.3                 | 0.914                         | 1.160                        |
| MgCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>                               | 1.267  | -0.327 | -121.7                | -143.6               | -265.3                 | -134.3                | -127.1               | -261.4                 | 0.906                         | 1.130                        |
| CaCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>                               | 1.500  | -0.283 | -135.4                | -141.1               | -276.6                 | -150.1                | -170.3               | -320.4                 | 0.902                         | 0.829                        |
| SrCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>                               | 1.863  | -0.435 | -106.0                | -273.3               | -379.3                 | -116.4                | -375.7               | -492.1                 | 0.911                         | 0.728                        |
| LiC(Ph) <sub>3</sub>   | -0.700 | -0.378 | -54.7                 | 35.9                 | -18.8                  | -428.6                | -184.2               | -612.8                 | 0.128                         | -0.195                       |
| NaC(Ph) <sub>3</sub>   | -0.447 | -0.192 | -46.8                 | 11.3                 | -35.5                  | -365.2                | -106.8               | -471.9                 | 0.128                         | -0.106                       |
| KC(Ph) <sub>3</sub>  | -0.190 | -0.102 | -43.1                 | 1.7                  | -41.4                  | -301.5                | -51.0                | -352.5                 | 0.143                         | -0.033                       |
| MgC(Ph) <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>                            | 0.472  | -0.522 | -97.3                 | -78.8                | -176.1                 | -225.8                | -20.5                | -246.3                 | 0.431                         | 3.841                        |
| CaC(Ph) <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>                            | -0.400 | -0.198 | -87.1                 | 2.1                  | -85.0                  | -584.2                | -212.1               | -796.3                 | 0.149                         | -0.010                       |
| SrC(Ph) <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>                            | 3.190  | -0.589 | -149.5                | -803.3               | -952.9                 | -431.2                | -2227.1              | -2658.2                | 0.347                         | 0.361                        |
| LiC(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>c</sup>              | 0.629  | -0.477 | -64.8                 | -85.4                | -150.2                 | -81.7                 | -81.1                | -162.8                 | 0.793                         | 1.053                        |
| NaC(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>c</sup>              | 0.488  | -0.297 | -84.0                 | -51.5                | -135.5                 | -108.6                | -52.5                | -161.0                 | 0.773                         | 0.982                        |
| KC(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>c</sup>               | 0.640  | -0.211 | -79.5                 | -49.5                | -129.0                 | -101.5                | -65.6                | -167.1                 | 0.783                         | 0.755                        |
| BeC(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>              | 1.170  | -0.696 | -112.8                | -252.9               | -365.6                 | -137.3                | -157.0               | -294.4                 | 0.821                         | 1.611                        |
| MgC(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>              | 0.893  | -0.536 | -109.7                | -126.7               | -236.4                 | -150.0                | -49.6                | -199.7                 | 0.731                         | 2.553                        |
| CaC(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>              | 1.241  | -0.405 | -140.0                | -138.4               | -278.4                 | -190.5                | -103.2               | -293.8                 | 0.735                         | 1.341                        |
| <i>i</i> -LiC(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>d</sup>    | -0.414 | -0.306 | -68.6                 | 17.0                 | -51.6                  | -352.4                | -94.3                | -446.7                 | 0.195                         | -0.180                       |
| <i>i</i> -NaC(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>b,d</sup>  | 0.597  | -0.128 | -19.8                 | -13.5                | -33.3                  | -105.6                | -55.2                | -160.9                 | 0.187                         | 0.244                        |
| <i>i</i> -KC(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>b,d</sup>   | 0.664  | -0.089 | -28.0                 | -10.8                | -38.8                  | -123.6                | -60.5                | -184.1                 | 0.227                         | 0.178                        |
| <i>i</i> -BeC(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>c,d</sup>  | 0.037  | -0.235 | -86.6                 | -24.1                | -110.7                 | -470.4                | 1.2                  | -469.3                 | 0.184                         | -20.836                      |
| <i>i</i> -MgC(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>+b,d</sup> | 0.353  | -0.036 | -7.1                  | -0.7                 | -7.7                   | -53.1                 | 13.6                 | -39.5                  | 0.133                         | -0.049                       |
| <i>i</i> -CaC(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>+c,d</sup> | 0.592  | -0.180 | -104.3                | -30.7                | -135.0                 | -337.8                | -2.5                 | -340.3                 | 0.309                         | 12.155                       |
| <i>i</i> -SrC(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>+e,d</sup> | 3.417  | -0.735 | -190.6                | -1151.3              | -1341.9                | -531.0                | -2839.6              | -3370.5                | 0.359                         | 0.405                        |

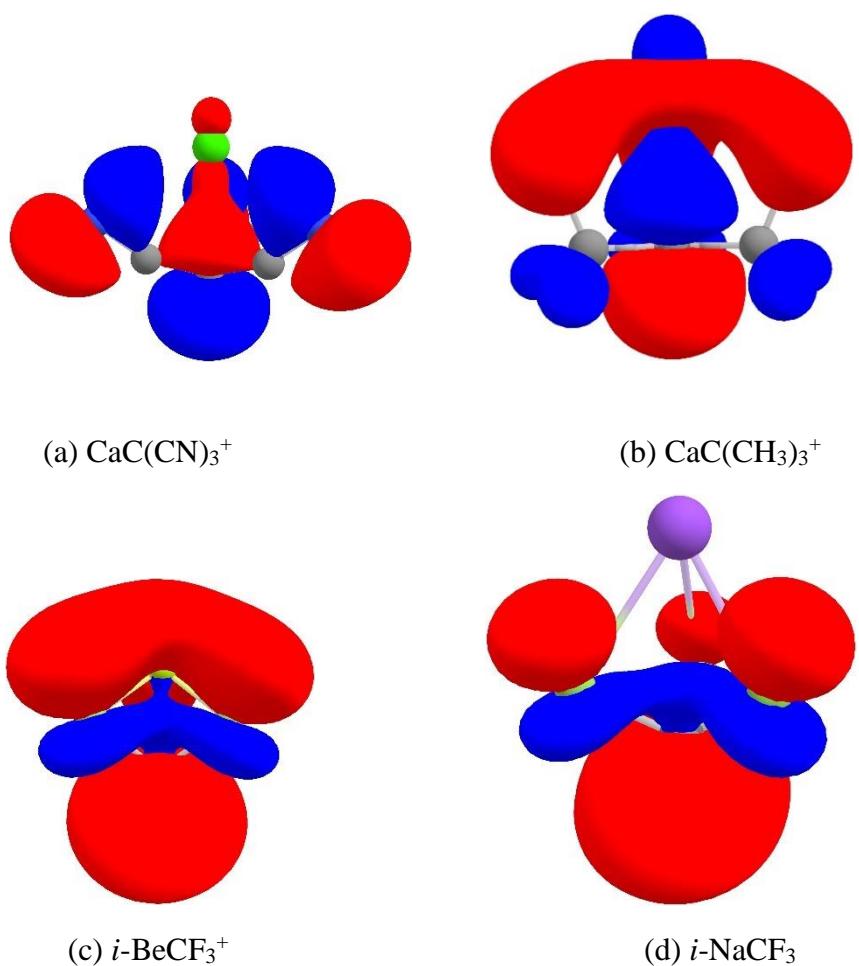
<sup>a</sup>. Data are obtained from the BS-DFT calculation.

<sup>b</sup>. The metal forms a multicenter bond within the context of QTAIM.

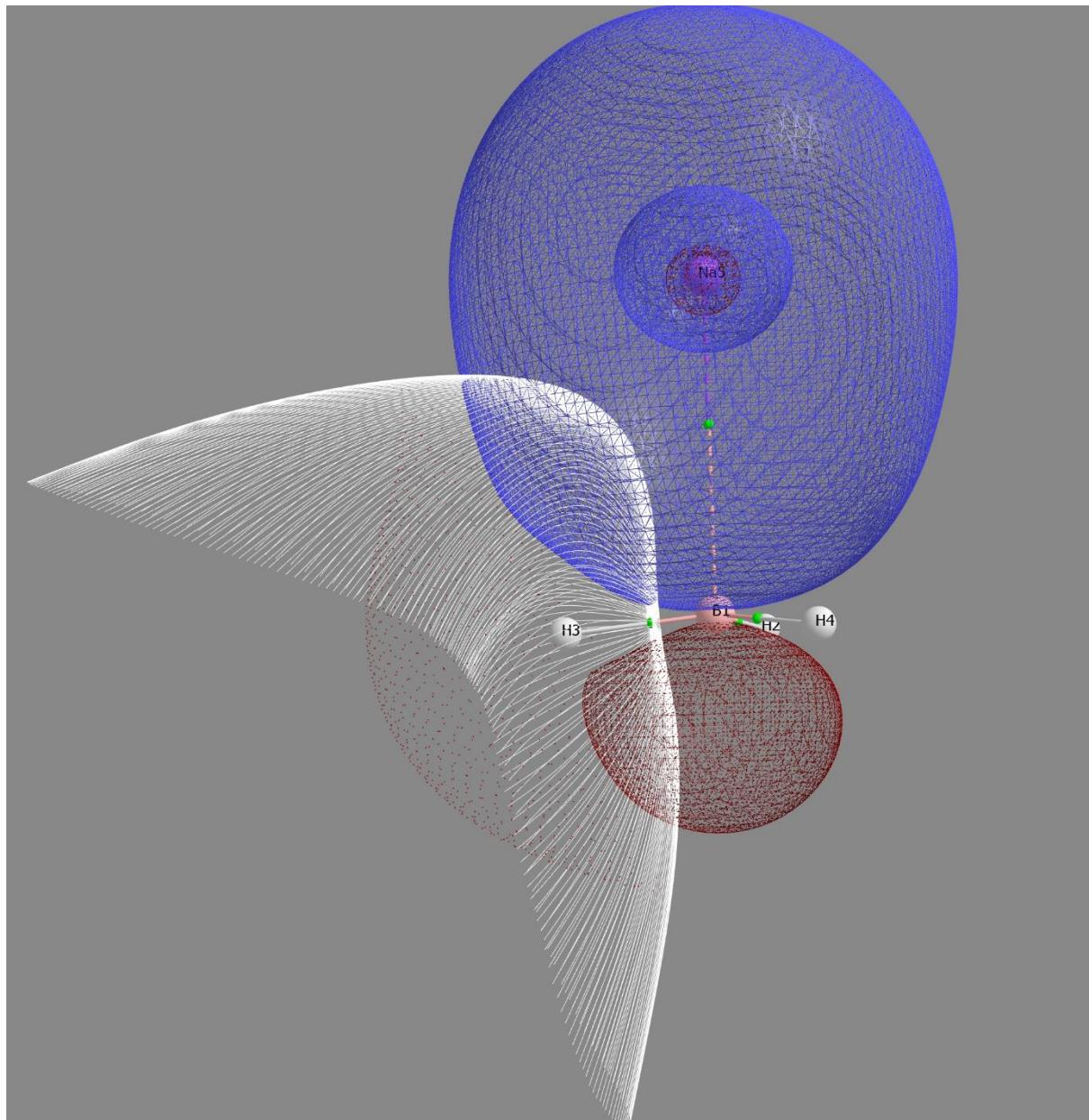
<sup>c</sup>. The global minimum of the molecule.

<sup>d</sup>. *i*- represents inverted structures.

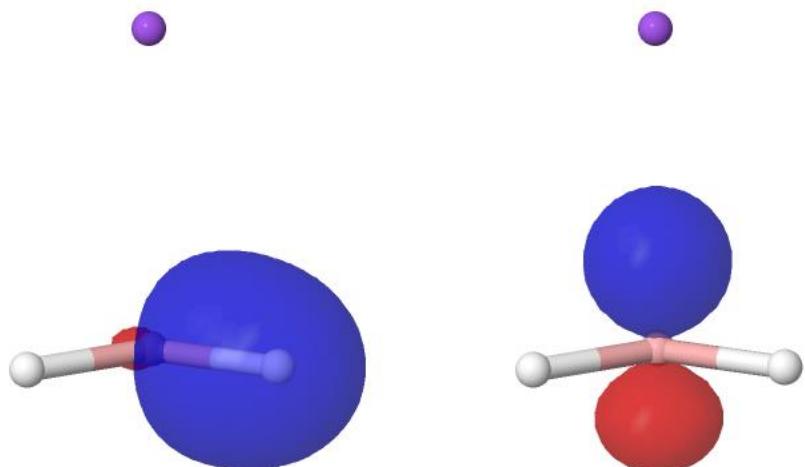
<sup>e</sup>. The global minimum of the molecule has a Cs point group, 1.6 kcal.mol<sup>-1</sup> lower in energy; therefore, it is not discussed here.



**Supplementary Figure 1.** Examples of HOMOs for systems with (a) 2e-2c bonds between M and C, (b) and (c) 2e-multicenter MOs, and (d) nonbonding MOs between M and  $\text{AX}_3$  fragments.



**Supplementary Figure 2.** The H basin is shown with white lines that encompass a large portion of the bonding MO between boron and sodium in  $\text{NaBH}_3^-$  complex.



(a) B–H 2c-2e AdNDP bond

(b) B–Na 2c-2e AdNDP bond

**Supplementary Figure 3.** Valence real space AdNDP orbitals in  $\text{NaBH}_3^-$ . The Lewis structure is well described by three B–H (a, only one non-equivalent orbital shown), and one B–Na (b) 2c-2e contributions. The domain overlap of the latter in each of the H basins is 0.12.