AM1* parameters for gold

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Abstract: We report the parameterization of AM1* for gold. The basis set for gold contains one set each of s-, p- and d orbitals. AM1* parameters are now available for H, C, N, O and F (which use the original AM1 parameters), Al, Si, P, S, Cl, Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Br, Zr, Mo, I and Au. The performance and typical errors of AM1* are discussed for gold.

Response to Reviewers: First of all, I would like to thank referees to much for very valuable comments.

Corrections done:

- 1) On the bottom of page 6 and the top of page 7, relative energies of isomers are modified as kcal/mol (instead of eV).
- 2) In the first sentence of the Discussion, two subject-verb agreement errors with "have/has" and "provide/provides" are corrected.

Many thanks again for the comments.

AM1* parameters for gold

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Dedicated to Professor Tim Clark on the occasion of his 60th birthday

Abstract

We report the parameterization of AM1* for gold. The basis set for gold contains one set each of *s*-, *p*- and *d*-orbitals. AM1* parameters are now available for H, C, N, O and F (which use the original AM1 parameters), Al, Si, P, S, Cl, Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Br, Zr, Mo, I and Au. The performance and typical errors of AM1* are discussed for gold.

Keywords AM1* · Gold parameters · NDDO · Semiempirical MO-theory

Introduction

AM1* [1-7] is an extension of AM1 [8] that uses d -orbitals for the elements P, S, Cl [1], Al, Si, Ti and Zr [2], Cu and Zn [3], Br and I [4], V and Cr [5], Co and Ni [6], Mn and Fe [7]. The AM1* molybdenum parameters are a slight modification of Voityuk and Rösch's AM1(d) parameter set [9]. AM1* retains the original AM1 parameters for the elements H, C, N, O and F. The intention is to provide a technique that has the advantages of AM1 for first-row elements, such as good energies for hydrogen bonds, higher rotation barriers for π -systems than MNDO [10, 11] or PM3 [12-14] but performs better for heavier elements and to be applicable to transition metals. As a continuation of this work, new AM1* parameters for gold are now reported. Gold is important in the chemistry of catalysts and it is also very promising for biochemical and biomedical applications [15, 16]. Because the experimental data for heats of formation of compounds of gold are relatively sparse, we have also used a series of model compounds whose heats of formation we have derived from DFT calculations [17].

Theory

AM1* for the new element gold uses the same basic theory as outlined previously [1, 2]. As for other element-H interactions, the core-core repulsion potential for the Au-H interaction used a distance-dependent term δ_{ij} , rather than the constant term used for core-core potentials for most other interactions in AM1*. [1] This distance-dependent δ_{ij} was also used for the Mo-H and interaction in AM1(d) [8] and for Ti-H, V-H, Cr-H, Co-H, Ni-H, Cu-H, Zn-H, Br-H, Zr-H, Mo-H and I-H in AM1* [2-7]. The core-core term for Au-H is thus:

$$E^{core}(i-j) = Z_i Z_j \rho_{ss}^0 \left[1 + r_{ij} \delta_{ij} \exp(-\alpha_{ij} r_{ij}) \right] \quad (1)$$

where all terms have the same meaning as given in reference [1].

And, the standard MNDO/d formula is used for all other core-core interactions:

$$E^{core}(i-j) = Z_i Z_j \rho_{ss}^0 \left[1 + \delta_{ij} \exp(-\alpha_{ij} r_{ij}) \right] \quad (2)$$

The parameterization techniques were those reported in references [1] and [2] and will not be described further here.

Parameterization data

The target values used for parameterization and their sources are defined in Tables S1, S2 and S3 of the Supplementary Material. For the parameterization of the gold, we have used heats of formation, Koopmans' ionization potentials, dipole moments and geometrical variables as we did for the Ti and Zr [2], Cu and Zn [3], Br and I [4], V and Cr [5], Co and Ni [6], Mn and Fe [7] parameterizations. Parameterization data were extended with a small series of compounds whose target values derived from DFT calculations. As before [1-7], we also checked that experimental values for heats of formation were reasonable using DFT calculations.

DFT calculations used the Gaussian 03 suite of programs [18] with the LANL2DZ basis set and standard effective core potentials [19-22] augmented by a set of polarization functions [23] (designated LANL2DZ+pol) and the B3LYP hybrid functional [24-26].

Experimental parameterization data for gold were taken largely from the NIST Webbook [27], but also from the OpenMopac collection [28] and the other experimental and theoretical sources given in the Supplementary Material.

The energetic parameterization data and their sources are given in Table S1 of the Supplementary Material. In addition to the energetic data, geometries, dipole moments and ionization potentials taken from the above sources, crystal structures from the Cambridge Structural Database (CSD) [29] were used in the parameterization to ensure that not only the energetic and electronic properties for the "prototype" compounds, but also the structures of large gold compounds are well produced.

Results

The optimized AM1* parameters are shown in Table 1. Geometries were optimized with the new AM1* parameterization using VAMP 10.0 [30], while the PM6 calculations used MOPAC2007 [31]. The two programs give essentially identical results for the Hamiltonians that are available in both.

- Table 1 about here -

Heats of formation

The calculated heats of formation for our training set of gold compounds are shown in Table 2. Results have been compared with the only comparable method available Stewart's PM6 [32].

- Table 2 about here -

AM1* reproduces the heats of formation of the training set, which consists of 49 gold compounds, used in parameterization better than PM6. AM1* shows no significant systematic error trend with a mean signed error (MSE) of $-0.7 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$, whereas PM6 tends to overestimate heats of formation to gold compounds by $7.5 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$. The mean unsigned error (MUE) between experimental and AM1*-calculated heats of formation is only $11.4 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$ and the root mean square deviation (RMSD) is $19.4 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$. These values are smaller than those given by PM6 (MUE = $23.1 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$ and RMSD = $33.7 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$). PM6 produces large errors for the compounds that were not included in its original training set. For example, PM6 gives errors in heats of formation of more than 50 kcal mol^{-1} for the compounds AuAlH_2 , AuPH_3^+ , AuV , AuNi and AuCu . However, Table 2 also shows the performance of AM1* and PM6 for only the PM6 parameterization dataset, which consists of 32 gold-containing compounds [32]. The AM1* mean unsigned error of only $10.7 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$ and RMSD of $15.6 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$ compared with $12.8 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$ (MUE) and $15.9 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$ (RMSD) for PM6 are very respectable and suggest that AM1* is parameterized well and also performs better than PM6 for the PM6 parameterization subset.

The large positive errors for AM1* are found for $\text{Au}(\text{CH}_3)\text{F}_2$ ($47.0 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$), AuCl_2^- ($31.6 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$) and $\text{Au}(\text{CO})_4^+$ ($27.4 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$). The largest negative errors are found for AuZrH ($-81.9 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$), AuPH_3^+ ($-48.2 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$) and AuMo ($-35.4 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$). The large errors with $\text{Au}(\text{CH}_3)\text{F}_2$ and $\text{Au}(\text{CO})_4^+$ are not very surprising, since AM1* uses the unchanged AM1 parameterization for the elements H, C, N, O and F, and this limits the possible accuracy of the parameterization. However, this does not explain the large error with AuCl_2^- , AuZrH , AuPH_3^+ and AuMo . With the exception of the hydrogen in AuZrH and AuPH_3^+ , these compounds contain only pure AM1* elements. As found for other metals, the large errors in these pure AM1* element-containing compounds is likely to be a consequence of our

sequential parameterization strategy, in contrast to the simultaneous parameterization used for PM6 [32].

Ionization potentials and dipole moments

Table 3 shows a comparison of the calculated and experimental Koopmans' theorem ionization potentials and dipole moments for AM1* and PM6.

- Table 3 about here -

AM1* performs marginally better than PM6 for the ionization potentials with an MUE of 0.38 eV comparing with 1.19 eV for PM6. Here, one must notice that all the experimental ionization potential data taken from NIST Webbook [27] and that no details of the performance for ionization potentials of gold compounds was given in the original PM6 parameterization of gold [32]. On the other hand, only Au and Au₂ were used in the training set of AM1* parameterization and the remaining compounds were used for the test step. The largest AM1* errors, more than 0.5 eV, are found for AuAl, AuAl₂ and Au₂Al (0.63, 0.51 and 0.70 eV, respectively). Both AM1* and PM6 tend to give positive systematic errors for ionization potentials of gold-containing compounds with MSEs of 0.13 and 0.25 eV, respectively.

The AM1* training set for dipole moments consists of 14 compounds taken directly from the PM6 parameterization dataset and was not extended. AM1* underestimates the dipole moments of gold-containing compounds by -0.33 Debye for this dataset, whereas PM6 tends to give positive systematic errors with an MSE of 0.21 Debye. The performance of the two methods is comparable for dipole moments. The mean unsigned errors are found to be 0.77 Debye and 0.78 Debye for AM1* and PM6, respectively. AM1* errors larger than 1.0 Debye, are found for the compounds Au(NH₂)₃ (-2.06 Debye), AuI (1.53 Debye), Au(CH₃)F₂ (-1.50 Debye), AuF (1.19 Debye), Au(CH₃)₃ (-1.13 Debye), Au(CH₃)₂(OH) (-1.10 Debye). With the sole exception of AuI, these compounds contain the original AM1 elements H, C, N, O and F, which limits the possible accuracy of the parameterization. The large error with AuI is also not very surprising as it is a result of the known weakness of AM1* parameterization for iodine in reproducing dipole moments [4].

Geometries

The geometrical parameters used to parameterize AM1* for gold and a comparison and statistical analysis of the AM1* and PM6 results are shown in Table 4.

- Table 4 about here -

AM1* shows no significant systematic error for gold with an MSE of 0.01 Å. In contrast to AM1*, PM6 with an MSE of 0.10 Å, predicts the bond lengths of the gold-containing compounds to be too long. AM1* with an MUE of 0.07 Å performs far better than PM6 (MUE=0.28 Å) for the training set, which consists of 75 compounds. Once again, as in heats of formations, large errors for PM6 originated from the compounds not included in the original PM6 parameterization dataset. For the bond angles, AM1* performs quite well (MUE=6.9°) compared to PM6 (MUE=10.4°). AM1* overestimates bond angles at gold systematically with an MSE of 3.7°, whereas PM6 underestimates them by -2.1°. However, AM1* not only performs well for its own extended dataset, it also performs better for the PM6 parameterization subset which consists of 50 compounds [32]. For the PM6 training set, AM1* gives MUEs of 0.08 Å for bond lengths and 7.5° for bond angles, whereas PM6 gives MUEs of 0.15 Å and 12.4° for bond lengths and angles, respectively.

- Fig.1 about here -

The AM1* and PM6 optimized ground state structures of neutral gold clusters with 4 to 9 atoms are shown in Fig. 1. PM6 predicts neutral gold clusters up to 9 atoms to be planar as reported earlier by Stewart. [32] AM1* gives planar structures up to 7 atoms. AM1* finds non-planar 3D structures for gold clusters with more than 8 atoms, in good agreement with Häkkinen and Landman's results obtained from density-functional theory with scalar-relativistic *ab initio* pseudopotentials and a generalized gradient correction. [33] On the other hand, Gruene *et al.* [34] proposed a planar edge-capped triangle with C_s symmetry to be lowest in energy for neutral Au₇ on the strength of experimental vibrational spectra and DFT calculations within the generalized gradient approximation, in contrast to Häkkinen and Landman's hexagonal planar structure [33] and Wang *et al.*'s 3D pentagonal bipyramidal structure from DFT with local density approximation [35].

- Fig.2 about here -

As shown in Fig. 2, AM1* reproduces the planar edge-capped triangle Au₇ structure very well, but finds it to be 7.38 kcal mol⁻¹ higher in energy than the hexagonal structure. PM6 does not reproduce the structure of this isomer structure very well, but finds it to be 0.23 kcal mol⁻¹ lower in energy than the hexagonal structure.

Very recently Botana *et al.* [36] performed an LCGTO-KSDFM density-functional theory [37] study and found that the global energy minimum for Au₈ is a planar D_{4h} tetra-capped square structure. A non-planar D_{2d} bi-capped octahedron structure was found to be the second lowest energy structure. Wang *et al.* [35] proposed a T_d bicapped octahedron structure using relativistic effective core potentials (ECP) and a double numerical basis with *d*-polarization functions. Their results are consistent with Häkkinen and Landman’s generalized gradient approximation (GGA) results [33]. On the other hand, Olson and Gordon [38] found that a non-planar D_{2d} bi-capped octahedron structure is the lowest energy neutral Au₈ isomer, using Møller-Plesset perturbation theory (MP2) [39] regardless of basis set or contributions from core-valence correlation. They also found that CCSD [40] calculations (with some exceptions due to core-valence correlation effects) give tetra-capped square structure as the minimum energy structure.

Since there are many different proposals originating from different level of calculations, both AM1* and PM6 perform reasonably as well as far as we can tell.

Discussion

The new AM1* parameterization for gold, for which the parameterization dataset has been extended by including results from DFT calculations to produce a parameter set that is more robust and more reliable, provides an important additional element especially for catalytic chemistry and biochemistry applications. AM1* parameterization for gold gives very good results for energetic, electronic and structural properties. AM1* performs very well for its own training set and also for PM6 parameterization subset. In addition, for small neutral gold clusters, AM1* performs very well especially for the structural properties. Naturally, as for all semiempirical methods, there can be some cases that both AM1* and PM6 might show large deviations from experiment. As published NDDO-based methods including *d*-orbitals, both AM1* and PM6 provide opportunity to perform comparative calculations for different applications and good starting points for reaction specific local parameterizations.

Acknowledgments

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Supplementary material

The values and the sources of the parameterization data.

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Table 1 AM1* parameters for Au

Parameter	Au
U_{ss} [eV]	-87.9070798
U_{pp} [eV]	-105.2325082
U_{dd} [eV]	-86.3002150
ζ_s [bohr ⁻¹]	2.9612383
ζ_p [bohr ⁻¹]	2.0921916
ζ_d [bohr ⁻¹]	4.2954046
β_s [eV]	-10.5044093
β_p [eV]	-2.9212915
β_d [eV]	-26.0306918
g_{ss} [eV]	12.8779541
g_{pp} [eV]	41.6610633
g_{sp} [eV]	10.4094935
g_{p2} [eV]	37.2533670
h_{sp} [eV]	0.2611095
z_{sn} [bohr ⁻¹]	3.3536714
z_{pn} [bohr ⁻¹]	7.8813347
z_{dn} [bohr ⁻¹]	1.7991401
$\rho(\text{core})$ [bohr ⁻¹]	1.3923445
$\Delta H_f^{\circ}(\text{atom})$ [kcal mol ⁻¹]	88.0
F_{sd}^0 [eV]	7.7583836
G_{sd}^2 [eV]	6.0090661
$\alpha(ij)$	
H	2.6891239
C	3.1012172
N	2.5099816
O	3.3201280
F	2.5990722
Al	1.9195605
Si	1.4489186
P	3.3822499
S	2.4757345
Cl	2.5963772
Ti	0.8968304
V	3.9464525
Cr	2.0645066
Mn	3.0829513
Fe	2.8842586
Co	2.4940667
Ni	3.9231603
Cu	2.2444292
Zn	4.3646875
Br	2.2685919
Zr	1.3454899
Mo	1.3740902
I	4.3466246
Au	2.7869271
$\delta(ij)$	
H	-2.3071373
C	7.7686410
N	2.0238749

O	8.1526001
F	2.0413648
Al	1.6916486
Si	0.2684171
P	22.0561933
S	2.0695945
Cl	3.0310645
Ti	0.2436297
V	195.3767955
Cr	1.7484764
Mn	10.1393842
Fe	7.0870550
Co	3.7260808
Ni	51.9934681
Cu	1.4743149
Zn	51.6768894
Br	1.2652966
Zr	0.5332656
Mo	0.6104390
I	178.8807263
Au	6.0750313

Table 2 Calculated AM1* and PM6 heats of formation and errors compared with our target values for the gold-containing compounds used to parameterize AM1* (all values kcal mol⁻¹). Errors are classified by coloring the boxes in which they appear. Green indicates errors lower than 10 kcal mol⁻¹, yellow 10-20 kcal mol⁻¹ and pink those greater than 20 kcal mol⁻¹. The codenames within parentheses indicate the CSD-names of the compounds

Compound	Target	AM1*		PM6	
	ΔH°_f	ΔH°_f	Error	ΔH°_f	Error
Au	88.0	88.0	0.0	77.5	-10.5
Au ⁻	20.0	8.3	-11.7	33.0	13.0
Au ⁺	300.7	286.0	-14.7	286.6	-14.1
Au ₂	87.0	114.1	27.1	84.7	-2.3
AuH	78.7	82.5	3.8	67.5	-11.2
AuH ₃	149.1	128.7	-20.5	136.5	-12.6
AuCH ₃	67.3	73.1	5.8	77.4	10.1
Au(CH ₃) ₃	84.7	88.1	3.4	61.8	-22.9
AuNH ₂	93.9	96.1	2.2	95.8	1.9
Au(CH ₃) ₂ (NH ₂)	83.9	98.8	14.9	99.7	15.8
Au(CN) ₂ ⁻	54.9	50.5	-4.5	65.5	10.6
Au(NH ₂) ₃	126.0	121.9	-4.1	131.3	5.3
Au(NH ₃) ₄ ⁺	154.5	174.1	19.6	166.6	12.1
Au(NH ₃) ₆ ²⁺	355.1	346.9	-8.2	367.0	11.9
(Au(CH ₃) ₂ (CN)) ₄	362.7	361.3	-1.4	364.2	1.5
AuO ⁻	57.1	54.4	-2.7	46.0	-11.1
AuOH	57.8	46.0	-11.8	50.2	-7.6
Au(CH ₃) ₂ (OH)	45.7	45.2	-0.5	66.9	21.2
Au(H ₂ O) ₄ ⁺	-37.8	-43.7	-5.9	9.7	47.5
Au(CO) ₄ ⁺	141.1	168.5	27.4	108.8	-32.3
AuF	50.0	55.4	5.4	83.6	33.6
AuF ₃	12.7	12.7	0.0	39.1	26.4
AuF ₄ ⁻	-79.7	-82.5	-2.8	-113.5	-33.8
Au(CH ₃)F ₂	-10.0	37.0	47.0	25.4	35.4
AuAlH ₂	90.6	90.5	-0.1	163.8	73.2
AuSiH ₃	84.1	84.1	0.0	125.1	41.0
AuPH ₃ ⁺	260.8	212.6	-48.2	192.6	-68.2
AuSH ₂ ⁺	269.1	246.6	-22.5	243.2	-25.9
AuF ₂ (SH)	7.6	17.0	9.4	23.2	15.6
Au(Me ₂ S) ₂	148.8	148.6	-0.2	154.6	5.8

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AuCl	60.2	67.6	7.4	69.5	9.3
AuCl ₂ ⁻	-67.1	-35.5	31.6	-70.4	-3.3
AuCl ₃	65.1	51.4	-13.7	58.0	-7.1
AuCl ₄ ⁻	-89.7	-89.7	0.0	-92.9	-3.2
AuTi	145.7	145.7	0.0	111.2	-34.5
AuV	100.2	107.0	6.8	203.3	103.1
AuCr	137.0	136.1	-0.9	173.2	36.2
AuCo	141.5	141.6	0.1	132.4	-9.1
AuNi	77.8	77.8	0.0	178.8	101.0
AuCu	117.7	117.7	0.0	200.1	82.4
AuZnH	94.5	94.5	0.0	82.7	-11.8
AuBr	62.8	68.7	5.9	68.9	6.1
AuBr ₂ ⁻	-56.3	-50.9	5.4	-50.1	6.2
AuBr ₄ ⁻	-66.4	-71.5	-5.1	-70.0	-3.6
AuZrH	173.0	91.1	-81.9	166.7	-6.3
AuMo	251.5	216.1	-35.4	209.6	-41.9
AuI	69.0	92.5	23.5	79.0	10.0
AuI ₂ ⁻	-38.1	-22.5	15.6	-24.5	13.6
AuI ₄ ⁻	-26.8	-27.9	-1.1	-37.5	-10.7

AM1*

PM6

N=49**Most positive error****Most negative error****MSE****MUE****RMSD**

47.0	103.1
-81.9	-68.2
-0.7	7.5
11.4	23.1
19.4	33.7

Results for the PM6 parameterization set (N=32)**MSE****MUE****RMSD**

5.2	2.4
10.7	12.8
15.6	15.9

Table 3 Calculated AM1* and PM6 Koopmans' theorem ionization potentials and dipole moments for gold-containing compounds. The errors are color coded as follows: green up to 0.5 eV or 0.5 Debye; yellow between 0.5 and 1.0; pink larger than 1.0

Compound	Target	AM1*	Error	PM6	Error
Koopmans' Theorem Ionization Potentials for Cobalt Compounds (eV)					
Au	9.22	9.42	0.20	9.07	-0.15
Au ₂	8.70	8.69	-0.01	11.42	2.72
AuAl	7.60	8.23	0.63	8.01	0.41
AuAl ₂	6.20	6.71	0.51	5.79	-0.41
Au ₂ Al	7.70	8.40	0.70	8.89	1.19
AuSi	9.50	9.17	-0.33	7.72	-1.78
Au(CH ₃)P(CH ₃) ₃	7.70	7.26	-0.44	6.27	-1.43
Au(CH ₃) ₃ P(CH ₃) ₃	7.80	7.55	-0.25	9.23	1.43
		AM1*		PM6	
N=8					
MSE		0.13		0.25	
MUE		0.38		1.19	
Dipole Moments for Cobalt Compounds (Debye)					
AuH	0.95	1.16	0.21	0.08	-0.87
AuCH ₃	0.46	0.05	-0.41	0.38	-0.08
Au(CH ₃) ₃	1.78	0.65	-1.13	0.41	-1.37
AuNH ₂	1.63	1.70	0.07	2.73	1.10
Au(CH ₃) ₂ (NH ₂)	0.34	0.42	0.08	1.19	0.85
Au(NH ₂) ₃	3.02	0.96	-2.06	5.76	2.74
AuOH	2.53	3.31	0.78	2.62	0.09
Au(CH ₃) ₂ (OH)	3.74	2.64	-1.10	3.04	-0.70
AuF	4.04	2.85	-1.19	5.47	1.43
Au(CH ₃)F ₂	2.46	0.96	-1.50	2.85	0.39
AuF ₂ (SH)	1.60	1.32	-0.28	1.93	0.33
AuCl	3.48	3.86	0.38	3.35	-0.13
AuBr	2.87	2.89	0.02	2.11	-0.76
AuI	2.21	3.74	1.53	2.11	-0.10
		AM1*		PM6	
N=14					
MSE		-0.33		0.21	
MUE		0.77		0.78	

Table 4 Calculated AM1* and PM6 bond lengths and angles for gold- containing compounds. The codenames within parentheses indicate the CSD- names of the compounds. The errors are color coded as follows: green up to 0.05 Å or 0.5°; yellow between 0.05-0.1 Å or 0.5-1.0°; pink larger than 0.1 Å or 1°

Compound	Variable	Target	AM1*		PM6	
				Error		Error
Au ₂	Au-Au	2.63	2.63	0.00	2.24	-0.39
Au ₂ ⁻	Au-Au	2.73	2.67	-0.07	2.49	-0.24
AuH	Au-H	1.52	1.52	0.00	1.53	0.01
AuH ₃	Au-H	1.70	1.58	-0.13	1.71	0.01
	H-Au-H	120.0	119.4	-0.6	120.0	0.0
AuCH ₃	Au-C	2.08	2.11	0.03	2.07	-0.01
	H-C-Au	107.2	107.3	0.1	107.1	-0.1
Au(CH ₃) ₃	Au-C	2.06	2.10	0.04	2.00	-0.06
	Au-C'	2.12	2.11	-0.01	2.02	-0.11
	C-Au-C	176.1	160.1	-16.0	169.4	-6.7
AuNH ₂	Au-N	2.09	2.00	-0.09	1.53	-0.56
Au(CH ₃) ₂ (NH ₂)	Au-C	2.13	2.10	-0.03	2.06	-0.07
	C-Au-C	80.1	86.5	6.4	105.3	25.2
	Au-N	2.04	1.99	-0.05	1.60	-0.44
Au(CN) ₂ ⁻	Au-C	2.04	2.08	0.04	2.09	0.05
	C-Au-C	180.0	180.0	0.0	180.0	0.0
Au(CN) ₂ ⁻ (JEYXAM)	Au-C	2.02	2.05	0.03	2.09	0.07
	C-N	1.11	1.16	0.05	1.15	0.04
AuC ₃ N ₂ H ₃ (CYMIAU)	Au-C(N)	2.00	2.13	0.13	2.05	0.05
	Au-C(NCH3)	1.98	2.05	0.07	2.15	0.17
	Au-N	2.08	1.99	-0.09	1.42	-0.66
Au(NH ₂) ₃	N-Au-N	158.1	156.0	-2.1	139.3	-18.9
	Au-N'	2.11	2.05	-0.06	2.03	-0.08
	Au-N	2.17	2.17	0.00	2.14	-0.03
Au(NH ₃) ₄ ³⁺	Au-N	2.50	2.56	0.06	2.35	-0.15
Au(NH ₃) ₄ ⁺	Au-N	1.99	2.03	0.04	2.14	0.15
AuC ₁₄ N ₄ H ₂₂ ⁺ (AZEGIV)	Au-N	1.97	2.03	0.06	2.02	0.05
	Au-N'	95.6	94.7	-0.9	86.2	-9.4
	N-Au-N	2.67	2.47	-0.20	2.47	-0.20
Au(NH ₃) ₆ ²⁺	Au-N	2.24	2.45	0.21	2.61	0.37
	Au-N'	2.14	2.21	0.07	2.18	0.04
Au ₂ C ₆ N ₂ H ₂ O (DEVLUL)	Au-N	2.04	2.10	0.06	2.00	-0.04
	Au-C					

(Au(CH ₃) ₂ (CN)) ₄	C-Au-N	97.1	93.2	-3.9	95.2	-1.9
	Au-Au	5.50	5.53	0.03	5.53	0.03
	Au-C(CN)	2.03	2.10	0.07	2.11	0.08
	Au-N	2.14	2.22	0.08	2.28	0.14
AuO ⁻	Au-C(Me)	2.11	2.15	0.04	1.98	-0.13
	Au-O	1.98	1.98	0.00	1.43	-0.55
	Au-O	1.98	2.08	0.10	1.42	-0.56
	Au-O	2.09	2.10	0.01	1.88	-0.21
AuOH	Au-C	2.10	2.10	0.00	2.00	-0.10
	O-Au-C	106.0	135.1	29.1	98.2	-7.8
	O-Au-O	176.8	172.1	-4.7	176.9	0.1
	Au-O	2.46	2.46	0.00	2.39	-0.07
Au(CH ₃) ₂ (OH)	Au-O'	2.45	2.45	0.00	2.36	-0.09
	Au-C	2.28	2.34	0.06	2.30	0.02
	Au-F	2.07	1.95	-0.12	1.92	-0.15
	Au-F	1.96	1.98	0.02	2.06	0.11
Au(H ₂ O) ₂ ⁺	Au-C	2.05	2.04	-0.01	1.94	-0.11
	C-Au-F	91.6	99.7	8.1	96.7	5.1
	Au-F	2.01	2.04	0.03	2.04	0.03
	Au-F'	2.02	1.98	-0.04	1.94	-0.08
Au(H ₂ O) ₄ ⁺	F-Au-F'	95.0	99.2	4.2	102.5	7.5
	Au-F	1.97	2.00	0.03	2.03	0.07
	Au-Al	2.38	2.42	0.03	3.01	0.63
	Au-Si	2.32	2.32	0.00	3.38	1.06
Au(CO) ₄ ⁺	Au-P	2.28	2.39	0.11	2.11	-0.17
	Au-P	2.33	2.28	-0.05	2.09	-0.24
	Au≡P	2.28	2.20	-0.08	1.59	-0.69
	Au-P	2.38	2.34	-0.04	2.20	-0.18
AuF	Au-P	2.30	2.39	0.09	2.39	0.09
	P-Au-P	176.8	177.0	0.3	91.0	-85.8
	Au-S	2.30	2.29	-0.01	2.18	-0.12
	Au-S	2.37	2.48	0.12	2.13	-0.24
Au(CH ₃)F ₂	Au-Au	3.46	3.59	0.13	3.51	0.05
	Au-S	2.41	2.42	0.01	2.32	-0.09
	Au-C	2.13	2.11	-0.02	2.00	-0.13
	C-Au-Au	134.8	131.2	-3.6	132.8	-1.9
AuF ₃	Au-S	2.34	2.26	-0.08	2.16	-0.18
	Au-F	2.02	1.99	-0.03	2.04	0.02
	S-Au-F	89.4	97.3	7.9	87.0	-2.3
AuF ₄ ⁻						
AuAlH ₂						
AuSiH ₃						
AuPH ₃ ⁺						
AuPH ₂						
AuP ²⁻						
Au(PH ₃) ₂ ⁺						
Au ₂ C ₁₀ P ₄ H ₂₈ ⁺ (DUKREG01)						
AuSH						
AuSH ₂ ⁺						
Au ₂ C ₈ H ₂₂ S ₂ (CULYIR)						
AuF ₂ (SH)						

AuC ₂ N ₄ H ₈ S ₂ ⁺ (AFAWUZ)	Au-S	2.28	2.25	-0.03	2.28	0.00
AuC ₁₂ H ₈ S ₄ (JEKGAH)	Au-S	2.30	2.27	-0.03	2.25	-0.05
	S-Au-S	89.9	92.7	2.9	92.9	3.0
Au(Me ₂ S) ₂ ⁺	Au-S	2.40	2.36	-0.04	2.30	-0.10
AuCl	Au-Cl	2.33	2.26	-0.07	2.34	0.01
AuCl ₂ ⁻ (GANJOU)	Au-Cl	2.28	2.28	0.00	2.42	0.14
AuCl ₃	Au-Cl	2.32	2.22	-0.10	2.20	-0.12
	Au-Cl	2.30	2.23	-0.07	2.06	-0.25
AuCl ₄ ⁻ (BENYAU)	Au-Cl	2.27	2.25	-0.02	2.27	0.00
AuC ₄ N ₃ H ₁₃ Cl ²⁺ (AEMAUP)	Au-Cl	2.27	2.20	-0.07	2.13	-0.14
	Au-N	1.97	2.20	0.23	2.21	0.24
	N-Au-Cl	93.7	99.1	5.4	90.5	-3.2
	Au-N'	2.05	2.26	0.21	2.06	0.01
AuC ₂ H ₆ SCl (GOJLAS)	Au-S	2.27	2.35	0.08	2.33	0.06
	Au-Cl	2.29	2.25	-0.04	2.38	0.09
Au(CH ₃)Cl ₂	Au-Cl	2.35	2.23	-0.12	2.31	-0.04
	C-Au-Cl	93.0	93.6	0.6	93.8	0.8
	Cl-Au-Cl	177.9	175.7	-2.2	177.9	0.0
AuC ₁₁ N ₂ H ₁₀ Cl ₂ O ₂ ⁺ (BATTOF)	Au-Cl	2.26	2.31	0.05	2.16	-0.10
	Cl-Au-Cl	89.6	138.6	49.0	99.3	9.7
	Au-N	2.08	2.36	0.28	2.19	0.11
AuC ₆ NH ₃ Cl ₂ O ₃ (KUDNAY)	Au-Cl	2.25	2.23	-0.02	2.41	0.16
	Au-N	2.04	2.04	0.00	2.35	0.31
	Au-O	1.99	2.07	0.08	1.42	-0.57
AuC ₅ NH ₅ Cl ₃ (PYAUCL10)	Au-Cl	2.29	2.25	-0.04	2.28	-0.01
	Au-Cl	2.26	2.22	-0.04	2.16	-0.10
	Au-Cl	2.28	2.24	-0.04	2.27	-0.01
	Au-N	2.00	2.25	0.25	2.17	0.17
AuC ₆ NH ₇ Cl ₃ O (HIHCIK)	Au-Cl	2.27	2.31	0.04	2.26	-0.01
	Au-N	2.02	2.07	0.05	2.13	0.11
Au ₂ C ₁₂ P ₂ H ₂₈ Cl ₂ (EMPLAU)	Au-Cl	2.38	2.32	-0.06	2.45	0.07
	Au-C	2.05	2.17	0.12	2.23	0.18
	Cl-Au-C	85.8	88.4	2.7	93.1	7.3
	Au-Au	2.59	2.65	0.06	3.13	0.54
AuTi	Au-Ti	2.52	2.52	0.00	3.60	1.07
AuV	Au-V	2.53	2.53	0.00	3.60	1.07
AuCr	Au-Cr	2.54	2.54	0.00	5.54	3.00
AuCo	Au-Co	2.44	2.43	0.00	3.51	1.08
AuNi	Au-Ni	2.41	2.40	-0.01	6.34	3.93

AuCu	Au-Cu	2.39	2.40	0.00	3.78	1.39
AuZn	Au-Zn	2.50	2.58	0.08	2.80	0.30
AuZnH	Au-Zn	2.42	2.36	-0.06	2.80	0.38
AuBr	Au-Br	2.44	2.30	-0.15	2.26	-0.18
AuBr ₂ ⁻ (DOYMAF)	Au-Br	2.38	2.33	-0.05	2.43	0.05
AuBr ₄ ⁻	Au-Br	2.55	2.35	-0.20	2.28	-0.27
AuC ₂ H ₆ SBr (GIGWAU)	Au-Br	2.40	2.30	-0.10	2.34	-0.06
	Au-S	2.28	2.35	0.07	2.32	0.04
AuC ₃ PH ₉ Br ₃ (BRMPAU)	Au-Br	2.51	2.82	0.31	2.49	-0.02
	Au-Br'	2.48	2.29	-0.19	2.97	0.49
	Au-P	2.48	2.54	0.06	2.08	-0.40
AuC ₂ H ₆ SBr ₃ (GIGWEY)	Au-Br	2.42	2.42	0.00	2.84	0.42
	Au-S	2.35	2.32	-0.03	2.39	0.04
AuZrH	Au-Zr	2.70	2.70	0.00	3.19	0.49
AuMo	Au-Mo	2.62	2.62	0.00	3.70	1.08
AuI	Au-I	2.61	2.80	0.19	2.57	-0.04
AuI ₂ ⁻ (GANJUA)	Au-I	2.53	2.54	0.01	2.67	0.14
AuI ₄ ⁻ (GEJQUH)	Au-I	2.63	2.55	-0.08	2.91	0.28
Au ₂ C ₉ P ₂ H ₂₃ I (BIBPIL)	Au-Au	2.70	3.16	0.46	3.22	0.52
	Au-I	2.89	2.53	-0.36	2.67	-0.22
	Au-C	2.13	2.12	-0.01	2.11	-0.02
	Au-C(P)	2.09	2.17	0.08	2.11	0.02
	C-Au-Au	88.8	87.3	-1.5	121.3	32.5
Au ₂ C ₆ P ₂ H ₁₈ I ₂ (FUWFIM)	Au-I	2.58	2.53	-0.06	2.65	0.07
	Au-P	2.26	2.39	0.13	2.32	0.06

AM1*

PM6

N=113**MSE bond length****MUE bond length****N=22****MSE bond angle****MUE bond angle**

0.01	0.10
0.07	0.28
3.7	-2.1
6.9	10.4

14 **Figure captions**

15 **Fig. 1** AM1* (upper row) and PM6 (lower row) optimized structures of neutral gold
16 clusters with 4 to 9 atoms

17

18 **Fig. 2** AM1* (a) and PM6 (b) optimized structure of planar edge-capped triangle Au₇ with
19 C_s symmetry

Figure 1
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Figure 2
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(a)

(b)

AM1* parameters for gold

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Supplementary Material

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Table S1: Sources and calculation details for the heats of formation used to parameterize.

Heats of Formation For Gold Containing Compounds			
Compound	Target (kcal mol ⁻¹)	Source	Total Energy (a.u.)
Au	88.0	1	
Au ⁻	20.0	2	
Au ⁺	300.7	3	
Au ₂	87.0	3	
AuH	78.7	3	
AuH ₃	149.1	4	-137.1181929
AuCH ₃	67.3	3	
Au(CH ₃) ₃	84.7	3	
AuNH ₂	93.9	3	
Au(CH ₃) ₂ (NH ₂)	83.9	3	
Au(CN) ₂ ⁻	54.9	3	
Au(NH ₂) ₃	126.0	3	
Au(NH ₃) ₄ ⁺	154.5	3	
Au(NH ₃) ₆ ²⁺	355.1	3	
(Au(CH ₃) ₂ (CN)) ₄	362.7	3	
AuO ⁻	57.1	3	
AuOH	57.8	3	
Au(CH ₃) ₂ (OH)	45.7	3	
Au(H ₂ O) ₄ ⁺	-37.8	4	-441.0047270
Au(CO) ₄ ⁺	141.1	3	
AuF	50.0	3	
AuF ₃	12.7	4	-434.9204586
AuF ₄ ⁻	-79.7	2	
Au(CH ₃)F ₂	-10.0	3	
AuAlH ₂	90.6	4	-138.6910003
AuSiH ₃	84.1	4	-141.1827166
AuPH ₃ ⁺	260.8	4	-143.5124721
AuSH ₂ ⁺	269.1	4	-146.5020438
AuF ₂ (SH)	7.6	3	
Au(Me ₂ S) ₂	148.8	3	
AuCl	60.2	3	
AuCl ₂ ⁻	-67.1	3	
AuCl ₃	65.1	4	-180.3208113
AuCl ₄ ⁻	-89.7	3	
AuTi	145.7	4	-193.4954244
AuV	100.2	4	-206.7655279
AuCr	137.0	4	-221.7864528
AuCo	141.5	4	-280.5419878
AuNi	77.8	4	-304.7746291
AuCu	117.7	4	-331.6454290
AuZnH	94.5	4	-201.6731244
AuBr	62.8	3	
AuBr ₂ ⁻	-56.3	3	
AuBr ₄ ⁻	-66.4	3	
AuZrH	173.0	4	-182.5525394
AuMo	251.5	4	-202.8576504

AuI	69.0	3	
AuI ₂ ⁻	-38.1	3	
AuI ₄ ⁻	-26.8	3	

Table S2: Sources and calculation details for the ionization potentials and dipole moments used to parameterize.

Koopmans' Theorem Ionization Potentials for Gold Containing Compounds		
Compound	Target (eV)	Source
Au	9.22	2
Au ₂	8.70	2
AuAl	7.60	2
AuAl ₂	6.20	2
Au ₂ Al	7.70	2
AuSi	9.50	2
Au(CH ₃)P(CH ₃) ₃	7.70	2
Au(CH ₃) ₃ P(CH ₃) ₃	7.80	2
Dipole Moments for Gold Containing Compounds		
Compound	Target (Debye)	Source
AuH	0.95	3
AuCH ₃	0.46	3
Au(CH ₃) ₃	1.78	3
AuNH ₂	1.63	3
Au(CH ₃) ₂ (NH ₂)	0.34	3
Au(NH ₂) ₃	3.02	3
AuOH	2.53	3
Au(CH ₃) ₂ (OH)	3.74	3
AuF	4.04	3
Au(CH ₃)F ₂	2.46	3
AuF ₂ (SH)	1.60	3
AuCl	3.48	3
AuBr	2.87	3
AuI	2.21	3

Table S3: Sources and calculation details for the geometrical variables used to parameterize.

Geometrical Variables for Gold Containing Compounds			
Compound	Variable	Target	Source
Au ₂	Au-Au	2.63	3
Au ₂ ⁻	Au-Au	2.73	4
AuH	Au-H	1.52	3
AuH ₃	Au-H	1.70	4
	H-Au-H	120.0	4
AuCH ₃	Au-C	2.08	3
	H-C-Au	107.2	4
Au(CH ₃) ₃	Au-C	2.06	4
	Au-C'	2.12	4
	C-Au-C	176.1	4
AuNH ₂	Au-N	2.09	3
Au(CH ₃) ₂ (NH ₂)	Au-C	2.13	3
	C-Au-C	80.1	3
	Au-N	2.04	3
Au(CN) ₂ ⁻	Au-C	2.04	3
	C-Au-C	180.0	4
Au(CN) ₂ ⁻ (JEYXAM)	Au-C	2.02	5
	C-N	1.11	5
AuC ₃ N ₂ H ₃ (CYMIAU)	Au-C(N)	2.00	5
	Au-C(NCH ₃)	1.98	5
Au(NH ₂) ₃	Au-N	2.08	3
	N-Au-N	158.1	3
	Au-N'	2.11	3
Au(NH ₃) ₄ ³⁺	Au-N	2.17	3
Au(NH ₃) ₄ ⁺	Au-N	2.50	3
AuC ₁₄ N ₄ H ₂₂ ⁺ (AZEGIV)	Au-N	1.99	5
	Au-N'	1.97	5
	N-Au-N	95.6	5
Au(NH ₃) ₆ ²⁺	Au-N	2.67	3
	Au-N'	2.24	3
Au ₂ C ₆ N ₂ H ₂ O (DEVLUL)	Au-N	2.14	5
	Au-C	2.04	5
	C-Au-N	97.1	5
(Au(CH ₃) ₂ (CN)) ₄	Au-Au	5.50	3
	Au-C(CN)	2.03	3
	Au-N	2.14	3
	Au-C(Me)	2.11	3
AuO ⁻	Au-O	1.98	3
AuOH	Au-O	1.98	4
Au(CH ₃) ₂ (OH)	Au-O	2.09	3
	Au-C	2.10	3
	O-Au-C	106.0	3
Au(H ₂ O) ₂ ⁺	O-Au-O	176.8	3
Au(H ₂ O) ₄ ⁺	Au-O	2.46	4
	Au-O'	2.45	4
Au(CO) ₄ ⁺	Au-C	2.28	3
AuF	Au-F	2.07	3

Au(CH ₃)F ₂	Au-F	1.96	4
	Au-C	2.05	4
	C-Au-F	91.6	4
AuF ₃	Au-F	2.01	3
	Au-F'	2.02	3
	F-Au-F'	95.0	3
AuF ₄ ⁻	Au-F	1.97	4
AuAlH ₂	Au-Al	2.38	4
AuSiH ₃	Au-Si	2.32	4
AuPH ₃ ⁺	Au-P	2.28	4
AuPH ₂	Au-P	2.33	4
AuP ²⁻	Au≡P	2.28	4
Au(PH ₃) ₂ ⁺	Au-P	2.38	4
Au ₂ C ₁₀ P ₄ H ₂₈ ⁺ (DUKREG01)	Au-P	2.30	5
	P-Au-P	176.8	5
AuSH	Au-S	2.30	4
AuSH ₂ ⁺	Au-S	2.37	4
Au ₂ C ₈ H ₂₂ S ₂ (CULYIR)	Au-Au	3.46	5
	Au-S	2.41	5
	Au-C	2.13	5
	C-Au-Au	134.8	5
AuF ₂ (SH)	Au-S	2.34	3
	Au-F	2.02	3
	S-Au-F	89.4	3
AuC ₂ N ₄ H ₈ S ₂ ⁺ (AFWUZ)	Au-S	2.28	5
AuC ₁₂ H ₈ S ₄ (JEKGAH)	Au-S	2.30	5
	S-Au-S	89.9	5
Au(Me ₂ S) ₂ ⁺	Au-S	2.40	3
AuCl	Au-Cl	2.33	3
AuCl ₂ ⁻ (GANJOU)	Au-Cl	2.28	5
AuCl ₃	Au-Cl	2.32	4
	Au-Cl	2.30	4
AuCl ₄ ⁻ (BENYAU)	Au-Cl	2.27	5
AuC ₄ N ₃ H ₁₃ Cl ²⁺ (AEMAUP)	Au-Cl	2.27	5
	Au-N	1.97	5
	N-Au-Cl	93.7	5
	Au-N'	2.05	5
AuC ₂ H ₆ SCI (GOJLAS)	Au-S	2.27	5
	Au-Cl	2.29	5
Au(CH ₃)Cl ₂	Au-Cl	2.35	3
	C-Au-Cl	93.0	3
	Cl-Au-Cl	177.9	3
AuC ₁₁ N ₂ H ₁₀ Cl ₂ O ₂ ⁺ (BATTOF)	Au-Cl	2.26	5
	Cl-Au-Cl	89.6	5
	Au-N	2.08	5
AuC ₆ NH ₃ Cl ₂ O ₃ (KUDNAY)	Au-Cl	2.25	5
	Au-N	2.04	5
	Au-O	1.99	5
AuC ₅ NH ₅ Cl ₃ (PYAUCL10)	Au-Cl	2.29	5
	Au-Cl	2.26	5
	Au-Cl	2.28	5
	Au-N	2.00	5
AuC ₆ NH ₇ Cl ₃ O (HIHCHK)	Au-Cl	2.27	5

	Au-N	2.02	5
Au ₂ C ₁₂ P ₂ H ₂₈ Cl ₂ (EMPLAU)	Au-Cl	2.38	5
	Au-C	2.05	5
	Cl-Au-C	85.8	5
	Au-Au	2.59	5
AuTi	Au-Ti	2.52	4
AuV	Au-V	2.53	4
AuCr	Au-Cr	2.54	4
AuCo	Au-Co	2.44	4
AuNi	Au-Ni	2.41	4
AuCu	Au-Cu	2.39	4
AuZn	Au-Zn	2.50	4
AuZnH	Au-Zn	2.42	4
AuBr	Au-Br	2.44	3
AuBr ₂ ⁻ (DOYMAF)	Au-Br	2.38	5
AuBr ₄ ⁻	Au-Br	2.55	4
AuC ₂ H ₆ SBr (GIGWAU)	Au-Br	2.40	5
	Au-S	2.28	5
AuC ₃ PH ₉ Br ₃ (BRMPAU)	Au-Br	2.51	5
	Au-Br'	2.48	5
	Au-P	2.48	5
AuC ₂ H ₆ SBr ₃ (GIGWEY)	Au-Br	2.42	5
	Au-S	2.35	5
AuZrH	Au-Zr	2.70	4
AuMo	Au-Mo	2.62	4
AuI	Au-I	2.61	3
AuI ₂ ⁻ (GANJUA)	Au-I	2.53	5
AuI ₄ ⁻ (GEJQUH)	Au-I	2.63	5
Au ₂ C ₉ P ₂ H ₂₃ I (BIBPIL)	Au-Au	2.70	5
	Au-I	2.89	5
	Au-C	2.13	5
	Au-C(P)	2.09	5
	C-Au-Au	88.8	5
Au ₂ C ₆ P ₂ H ₁₈ I ₂ (FUWFIM)	Au-I	2.58	5
	Au-P	2.26	5

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