## Supporting Information

# Dihydrogen bonding vs. metal-sigma interaction in complexes between $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ and metal hydride 

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Pg. 2 Table S1. Geometrical parameters (in $\AA$ ) for complexes with two hydrogen molecules, $\mathrm{H}_{2}(\cdots \mathrm{M})$ designates the $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{H}$ bond length for $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ molecule that are in contact with the metal centre, $\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{M}$ is the hydrogen-metal distance, $\mathrm{H}_{2}(\cdots \mathrm{H})$ concerns the $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{H}$ bond distance involved in DHB while $\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{H}$ is the intermolecular distance for DHB . Bolded values correspond to trimers while non-bolded (in the second line) concern dimers.

Pg. 3 Table S2. The NBO charges (in au), A and C designate $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ molecules, A that one being in contact with Me while C that one participating in DHB, B is the metal hydride, NBO energies (in $\mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ ) are also included, bolded values concern trimers while those in the second line (non-bolded) concern dimmers.

Table S1. Geometrical parameters (in $\AA$ ) for complexes with two hydrogen molecules, $\mathrm{H}_{2}(\cdots \mathrm{M})$ designates the $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{H}$ bond length for $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ molecule that are in contact with the metal centre, $\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{M}$ is the hydrogen-metal distance, $\mathrm{H}_{2}(\cdots \mathrm{H})$ concerns the H-H bond distance involved in DHB while $\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{H}$ is the intermolecular distance for DHB. Bolded values correspond to trimers while non-bolded (in the second line) concern dimers.

| The level | $\mathrm{H}_{2}(\cdots \mathrm{M})$ | $\mathrm{Me}-\mathrm{H}^{\wedge *}$ | $\mathrm{H}^{\prime} \cdots \mathrm{M}^{*}$ | $\mathrm{H}_{2}(\cdots \mathrm{H})$ | $\mathrm{Me}-\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{N} *}$ | $\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{H}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{H}_{2} \cdots \mathrm{LiH} \cdots \mathrm{H}_{2}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| MP2/aug-cc- | $\mathbf{0 . 7 4 1 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 6 0 6 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 1 8 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 7 4 0 4}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 6 0 6 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 6 0 3 6}$ |
| pVTZ | 0.7412 | 1.6071 | 2.1809 | 0.7403 | 1.6039 | 2.6000 |
| MP2/aug-cc- | $\mathbf{0 . 7 4 0 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 6 0 5 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 1 7 8 9}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 7 3 9 3}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 6 0 5 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 6 0 6 1}$ |
| pQTZ | 0.7401 | 1.6060 | 2.1812 | 0.7392 | 1.6025 | 2.6004 |
| CCSD/aug-cc- | $\mathbf{0 . 7 4 6 7}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 6 1 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 1 8 5 9}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 7 4 5 6}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 6 1 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 6 2 4 6}$ |
| pVTZ | 0.7467 | 1.6123 | 2.1858 | 0.7455 | 1.6097 | 2.6366 |
| $\mathrm{H}_{2} \cdots \mathrm{NaH}^{\prime} \cdots \mathrm{H}_{2}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| MP2/aug-cc- | $\mathbf{0 . 7 3 9 5}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 9 2 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 7 5 8 0}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 7 4 0 9}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 9 2 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 5 9 7 8}$ |
| pVTZ | 0.7394 | 1.9219 | 2.7626 | 0.7407 | 1.9187 | 2.6030 |
| MP2/aug-cc- | $\mathbf{0 . 7 3 8 3}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 9 2 1 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 7 5 5 5}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 7 3 9 8}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 9 2 1 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 6 0 0 1}$ |
| pQTZ | 0.7383 | 1.9214 | 2.7626 | 0.7397 | 1.9178 | 2.6037 |
| CCSD/aug-cc- | $\mathbf{0 . 7 4 4 9}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 9 2 9 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 7 7 6 7}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 7 4 5 8}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 9 2 9 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 6 5 5 6}$ |
| pVTZ | 0.7450 | 1.9294 | 2.7614 | 0.7457 | 1.9262 | 2.6609 |
| $\mathrm{H}_{2} \cdots \mathrm{HBeH} \cdots \mathrm{H}_{2}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| MP2/aug-cc- | $\mathbf{0 . 7 3 9 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 3 2 9 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 8 9 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 7 3 8 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 3 2 9 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 6 5 9 6}$ |
| pVTZ | 0.7391 | 1.3301 | 2.8975 | 0.7381 | 1.3292 | 2.6718 |
| MP2/aug-cc- | $\mathbf{0 . 7 3 8 3}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 3 2 8 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 8 6 1 9}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 7 3 7 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 3 2 8 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 7 6 7 4}$ |
| pQTZ | 0.7380 | 1.3280 | 2.8975 | 0.7370 | 1.3274 | 2.6736 |
| CCSD/aug-cc- | $\mathbf{0 . 7 4 4 4}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 3 3 3 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 9 2 7 6}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 7 4 3 5}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 3 3 3 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 6 7 7 6}$ |
| pVTZ | 0.7445 | 1.3337 | 2.8981 | 0.7435 | 1.3328 | 2.6863 |

* mean values are included for $\mathrm{H}_{2} \cdots \mathrm{HBeH} \cdots \mathrm{H}_{2}$ complex where two $\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{M}$ contacts and $\mathrm{Be}-\mathrm{H}$ bonds are not always equivalent
non-bolded value for a complex with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \cdots \mathrm{M}$ interaction
^non-bolded value for a complex with $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{M}$ interaction

Table S2. The NBO charges (in au), A and C designate $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ molecules, A that one being in contact with Me while C that one participating in DHB, B is the metal hydride, NBO energies (in $\mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ ) are also included, bolded values concern trimers while those in the second line (non-bolded) concern dimers.

|  |  |  |  | NBO energy | NBO energy |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Complex | Charge - A | Charge - B | Charge - C | AB | BC |
|  | $\mathbf{0 . 0 2 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{- 0 . 0 1 6 5}$ | $\mathbf{- 0 . 0 0 5 1}$ | $\mathbf{6 . 6 5}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 7 6}$ |
| $\mathrm{H}_{2} \cdots \mathrm{LiH} \cdots \mathrm{H}_{2}$ | 0.0216 |  | -0.0050 | 6.61 | 1.65 |
|  | $\mathbf{0 . 0 0 8 0}$ | $\mathbf{- 0 . 0 0 0 1}$ | $\mathbf{- 0 . 0 0 7 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 7 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 1 9}$ |
| $\mathrm{H}_{2} \cdots \mathrm{NaH} \cdots \mathrm{H}_{2}$ | 0.0080 |  | -0.0077 | 2.74 | 2.10 |
|  | $\mathbf{0 . 0 4 7}$ | $\mathbf{- 0 . 0 0 4 3}$ | $\mathbf{- 0 . 0 0 0 5}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 8 0}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 7 7}$ |
| $\mathrm{H}_{2} \cdots \mathrm{HBeH} \cdots \mathrm{H}_{2}$ | 0.0046 |  | -0.0007 | 1.77 | 0.23 |

