

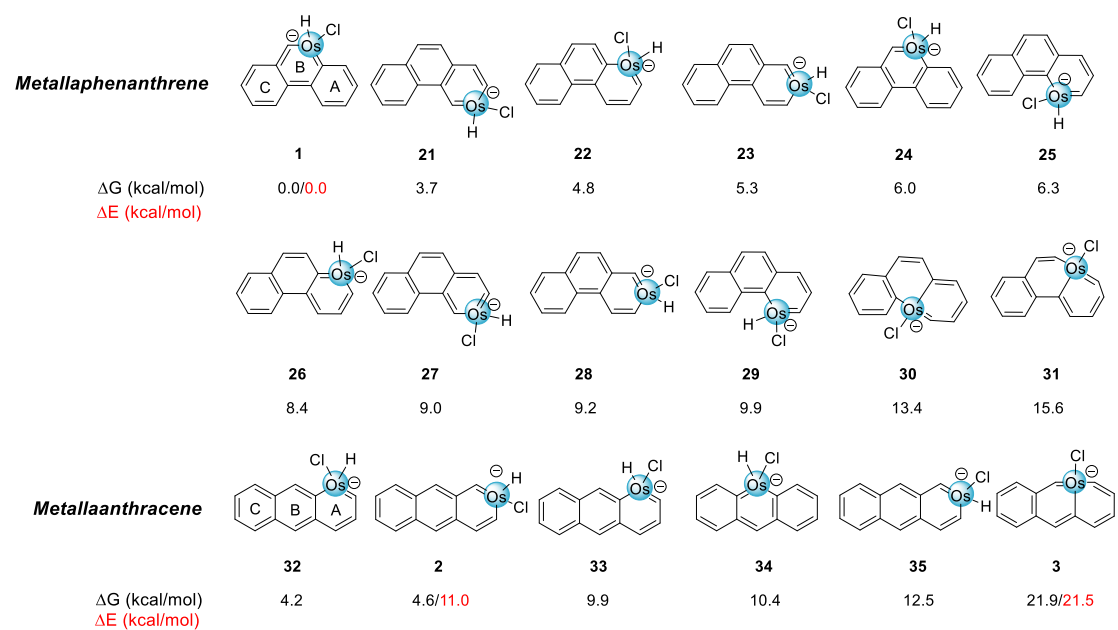
## Supporting Information

### **Probing the Aromaticity and Stability of Metallatricycles by DFT Calculations: Toward Clar Structure in Organometallic Chemistry**

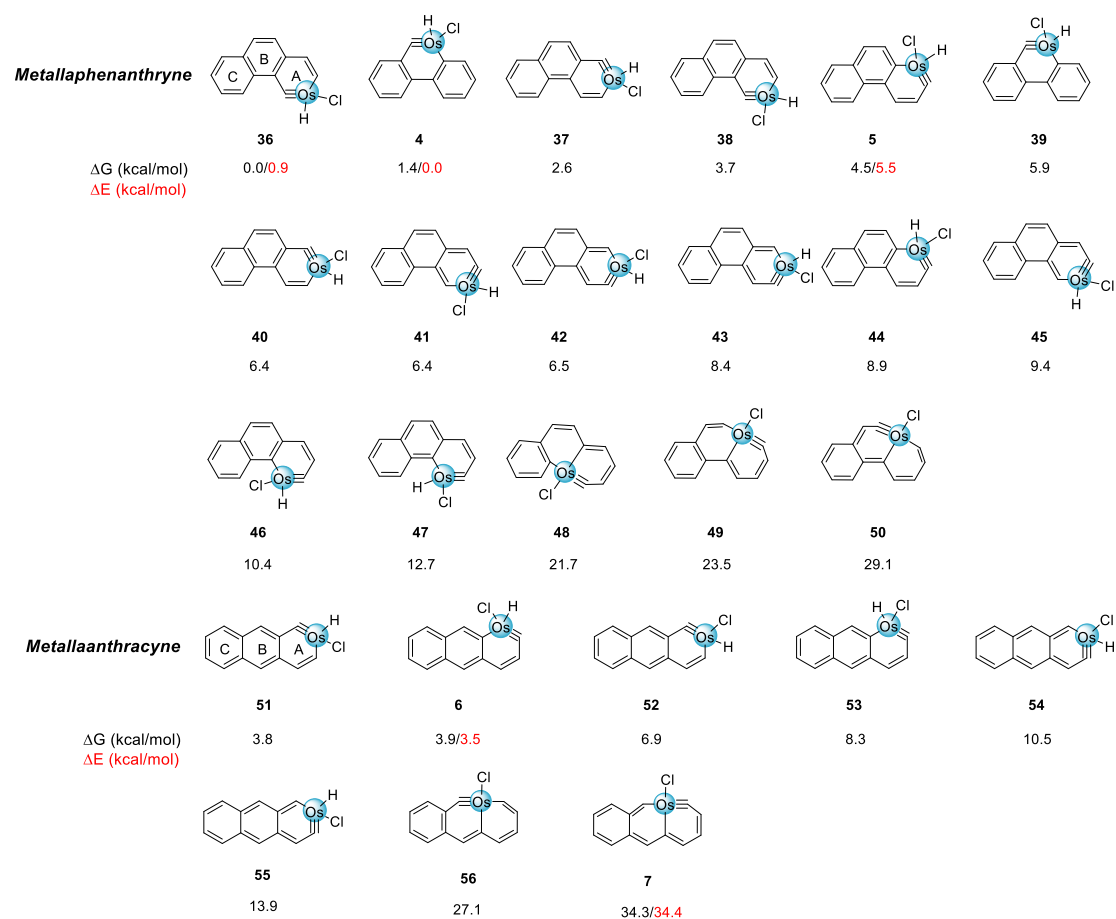
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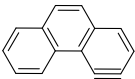
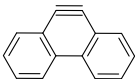
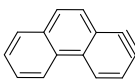
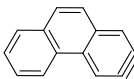
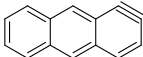
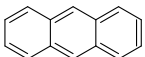
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**Figure S1.** The relative Gibbs free energy (black, Mo6/6-311++G(d,p)-LANL2TZ(f)//Mo6/6-31G(d)-LANL2DZ) and electronic energy (red, CCSD(T)/6-311++G(d,p)-LANL2TZ(f)//Mo6/6-31G(d)-LANL2DZ) of metallaphenanthrenes and metallaanthracenes.



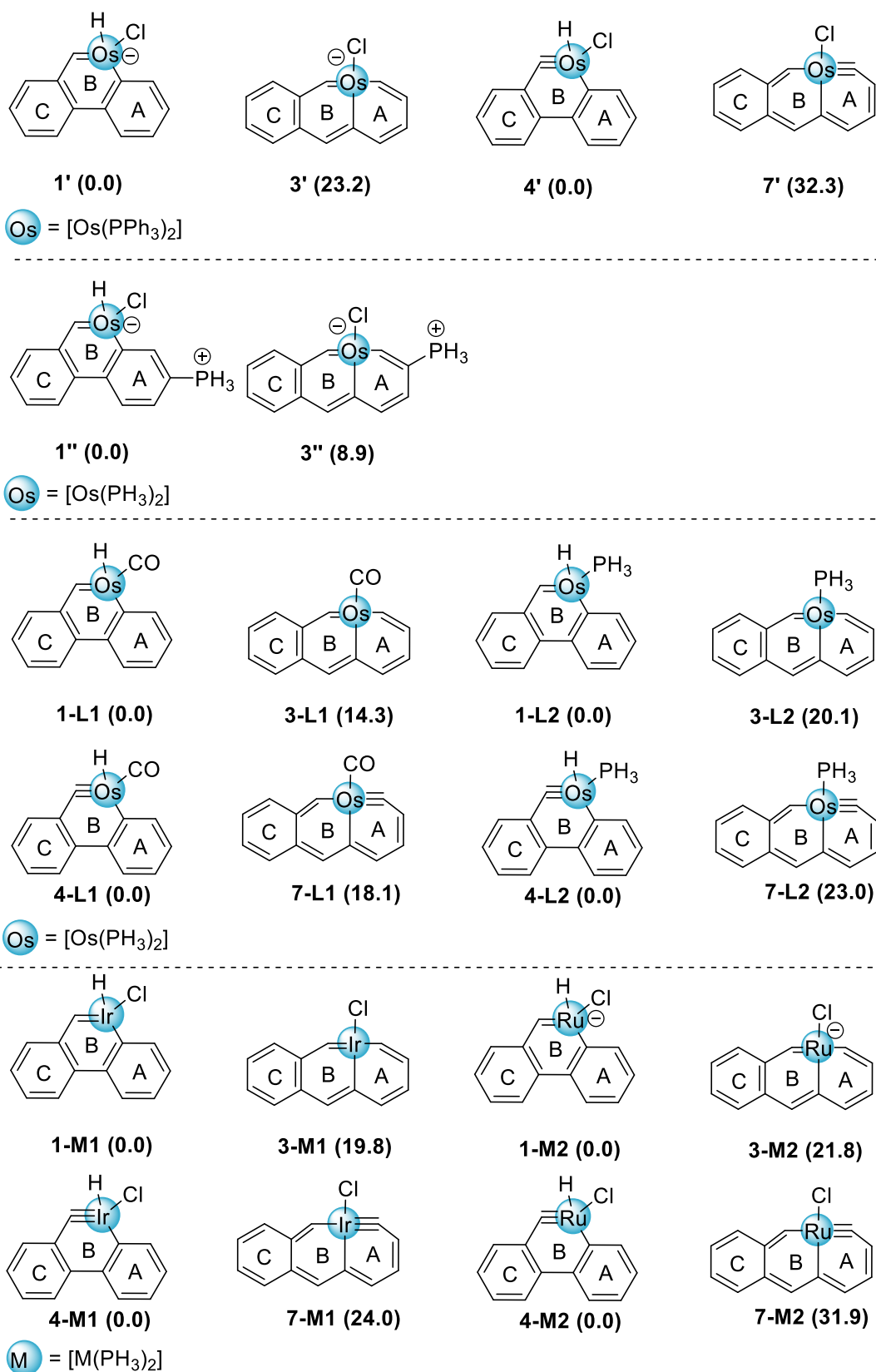
**Figure S2.** The relative Gibbs free energy (black, Mo6/6-311++G(d,p)-LANL2TZ(f)//Mo6/6-31G(d)-LANL2DZ) and electronic energy (red, CCSD(T)/6-311++G(d,p)-LANL2TZ(f)//Mo6/6-31G(d)-LANL2DZ) of metallaphenanthrynes and metallaanthracynes.

<b>Phenanthryne</b>				
	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>58</b>
$\Delta G$ (kcal/mol)	0.0/0.0	0.3/0.1	2.6	4.4
$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)				
<b>Anthracyne</b>				
	<b>12</b>	<b>59</b>		
$\Delta G$ (kcal/mol)	6.7/6.6	10.0		
$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)				

**Figure S3.** The relative Gibbs free energy (black, Mo6/6-311++G(d,p)-LANL2TZ(f)//Mo6/6-31G(d)-LANL2DZ) and electronic energy (red, CCSD(T)/6-311++G(d,p)-LANL2TZ(f)//Mo6/6-31G(d)-LANL2DZ) of organic system.

**Table S1.** The NICS(1)<sub>zz</sub> values (ppm) and the normalized multi-centered indices (MCI<sup>1/6</sup>, 6 is the number of centers) of 1-7.

Species	NICS(1) <sub>zz</sub>			MCI <sup>1/6</sup>		
	A	B	C	A	B	C
1	-18.5	-5.6	-23.6	0.640	0.410	0.639
2	-8.1	-25.7	-24.6	0.454	0.582	0.602
3	4.8	-1.4	-14.2	0.473	0.514	0.608
4	-24.4	-1.3	-22.5	0.641	0.429	0.627
5	-6.5	-21.6	-28.1	0.519	0.569	0.619
6	-2.8	-26.4	-26.2	0.462	0.580	0.602
7	42.3	39.5	4.5	0.446	0.492	0.589



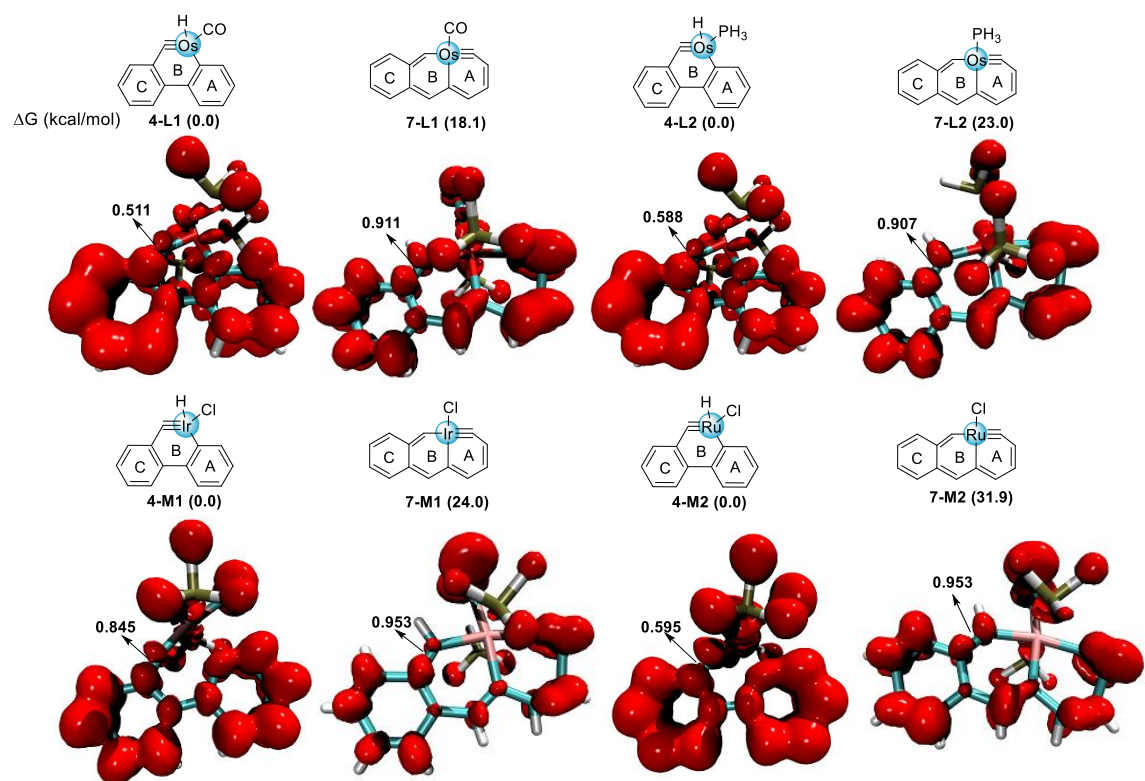
**Figure S4.** The relative Gibbs free energies (in kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>) of metallatricycles with different metal centers and ligands computed at the Mo6 level (Mo6/6-311++G(d,p)-LANL2TZ(f)//Mo6/6-31G(d)-LANL2DZ).

**Table S2. The NICS(1)<sub>zz</sub> values (the center of the rings, ppm)**

Species	NICS(1) <sub>zz</sub>		
	A	B	C
<b>1'</b>	-25.2	-5.7	-25.4
<b>3'</b>	9.4	2.5	-12.3
<b>4'</b>	-28.7	-3.7	-24.6
<b>7'</b>	38.2	38.1	4.8
<b>1''</b>	-16.7	-6.2	-23.7
<b>3''</b>	4.8	-4.2	-17.8
<b>1-L1</b>	-18.8	-8.2	-23.4
<b>3-L1</b>	26.8	20.5	-11.2
<b>1-L2</b>	-19.0	-9.1	-23.9
<b>3-L2</b>	20.9	15.1	-12.4
<b>1-M1</b>	-20.0	-1.4	-21.8
<b>3-M1</b>	21.5	16.6	-8.5
<b>1-M2</b>	-19.5	-7.4	-23.1
<b>3-M2</b>	11.6	6.3	-11.0
<b>4-L1</b>	-24.0	-3.3	-18.8
<b>7-L1</b>	38.1	40.2	1.7
<b>4-L2</b>	-23.6	-1.9	-19.6
<b>7-L2</b>	44.0	45.6	4.5
<b>4-M1</b>	-23.7	0.5	-17.4
<b>7-M1</b>	24.2	24.3	-2.4
<b>4-M2</b>	-24.5	-1.0	-21.7
<b>7-M2</b>	31.0	28.7	-0.7

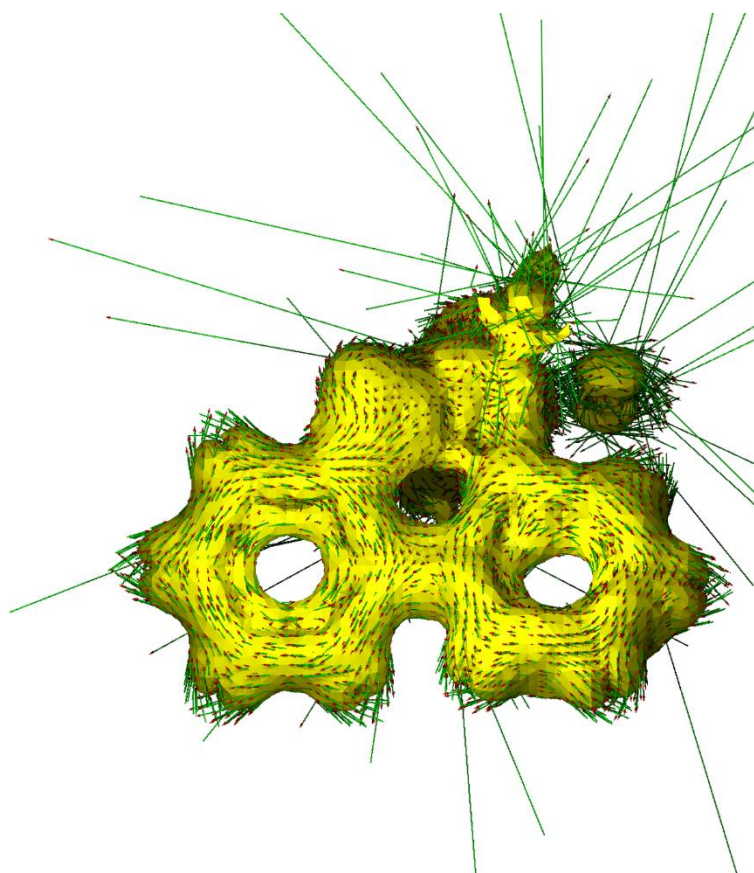


**Figure S5.** Key  $\pi$  molecular orbitals of compounds 4-12. The isovalue is 0.030 a.u.

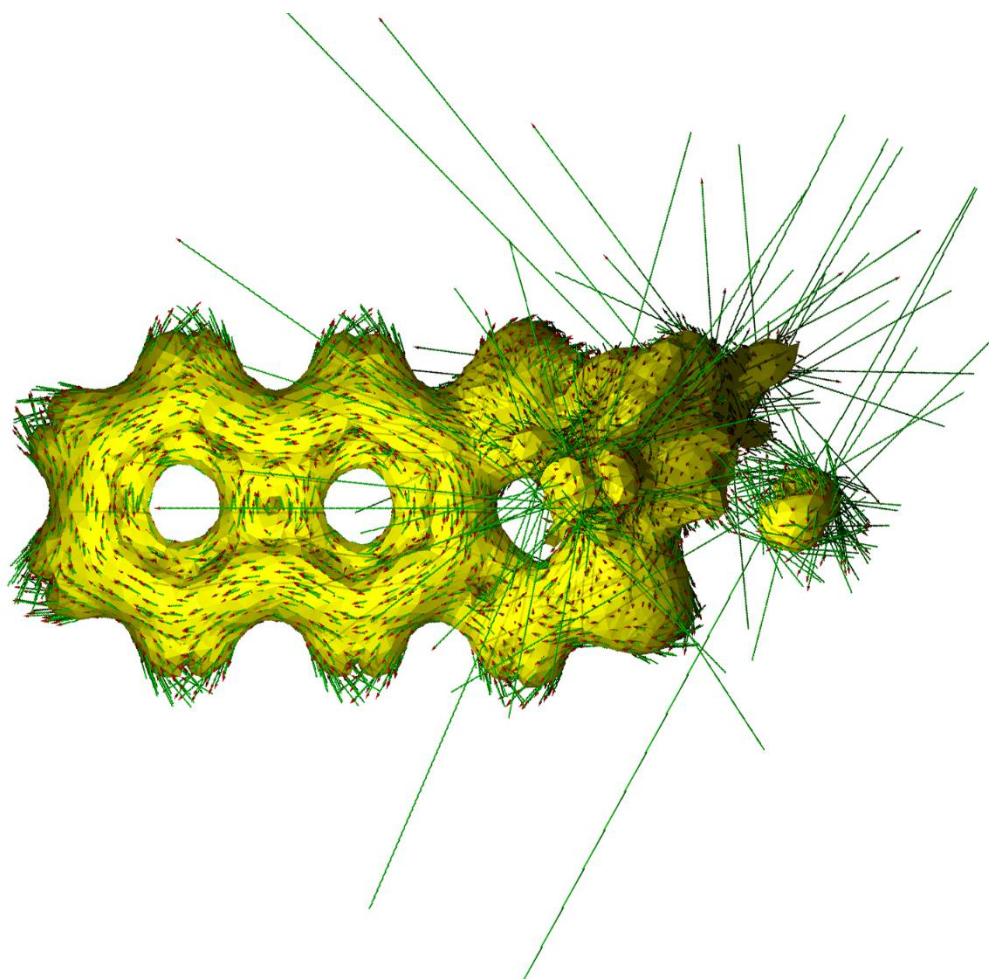


**Figure S6.** The Clar structure and BV(ELF<sub>π</sub>) values in some metallatrimetallacyclics.

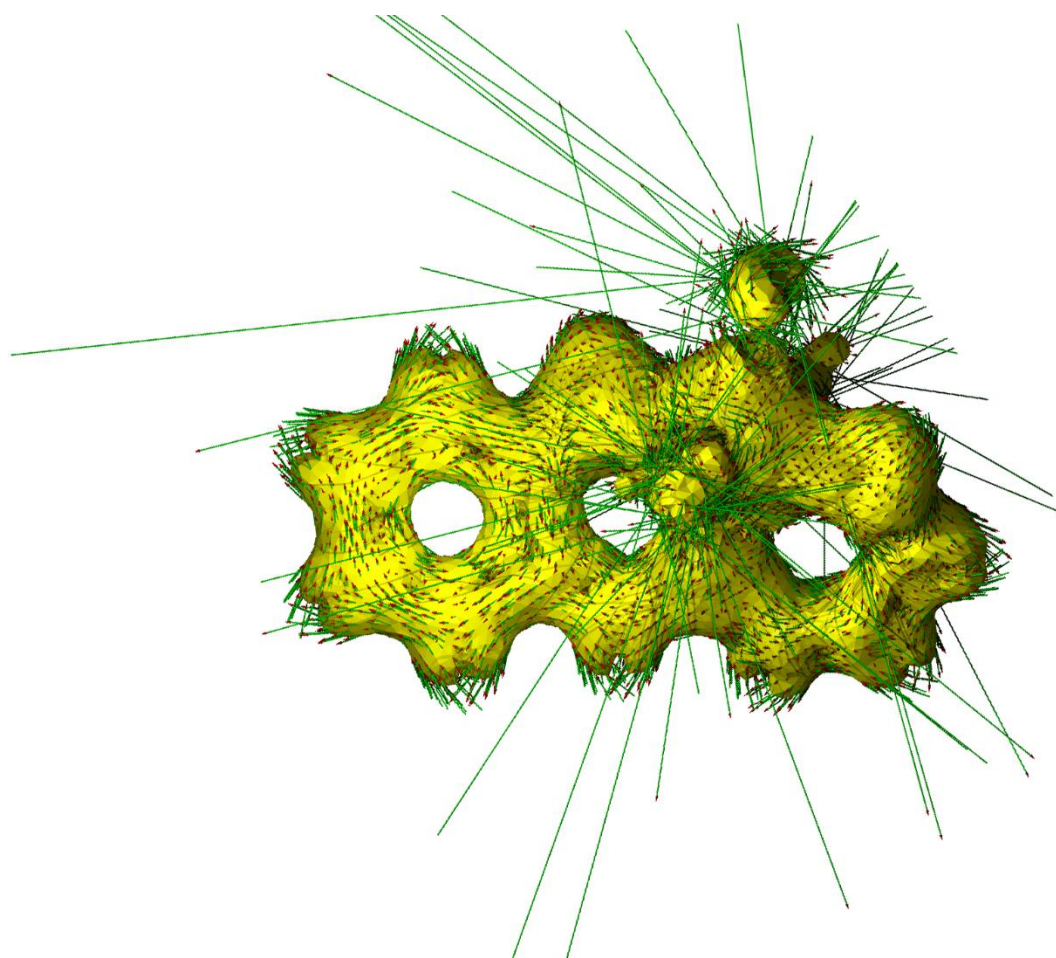




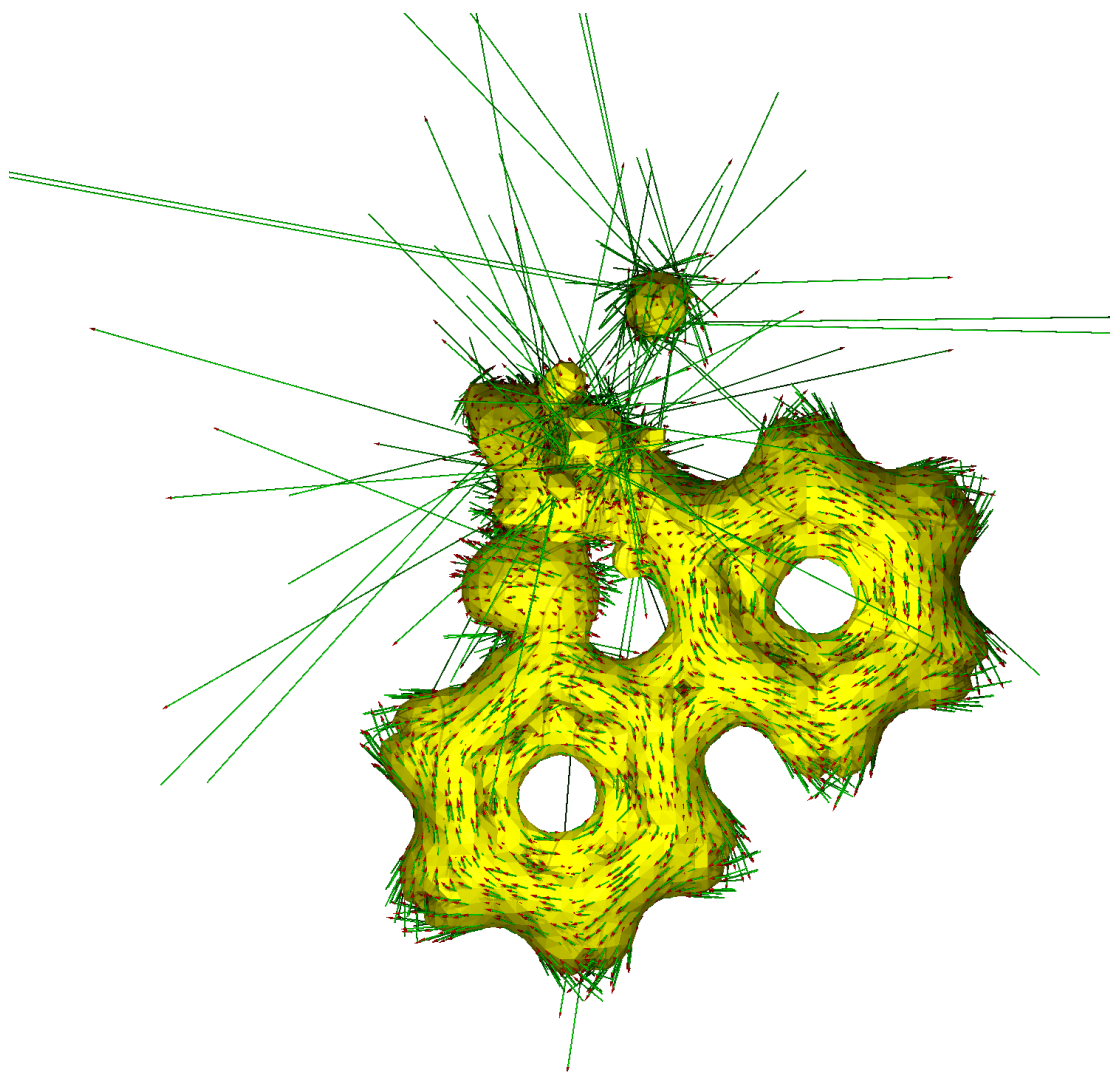
**Figure S7.** Computed ACID plot of **1** from the total contribution with isosurface value of 0.030 a.u.



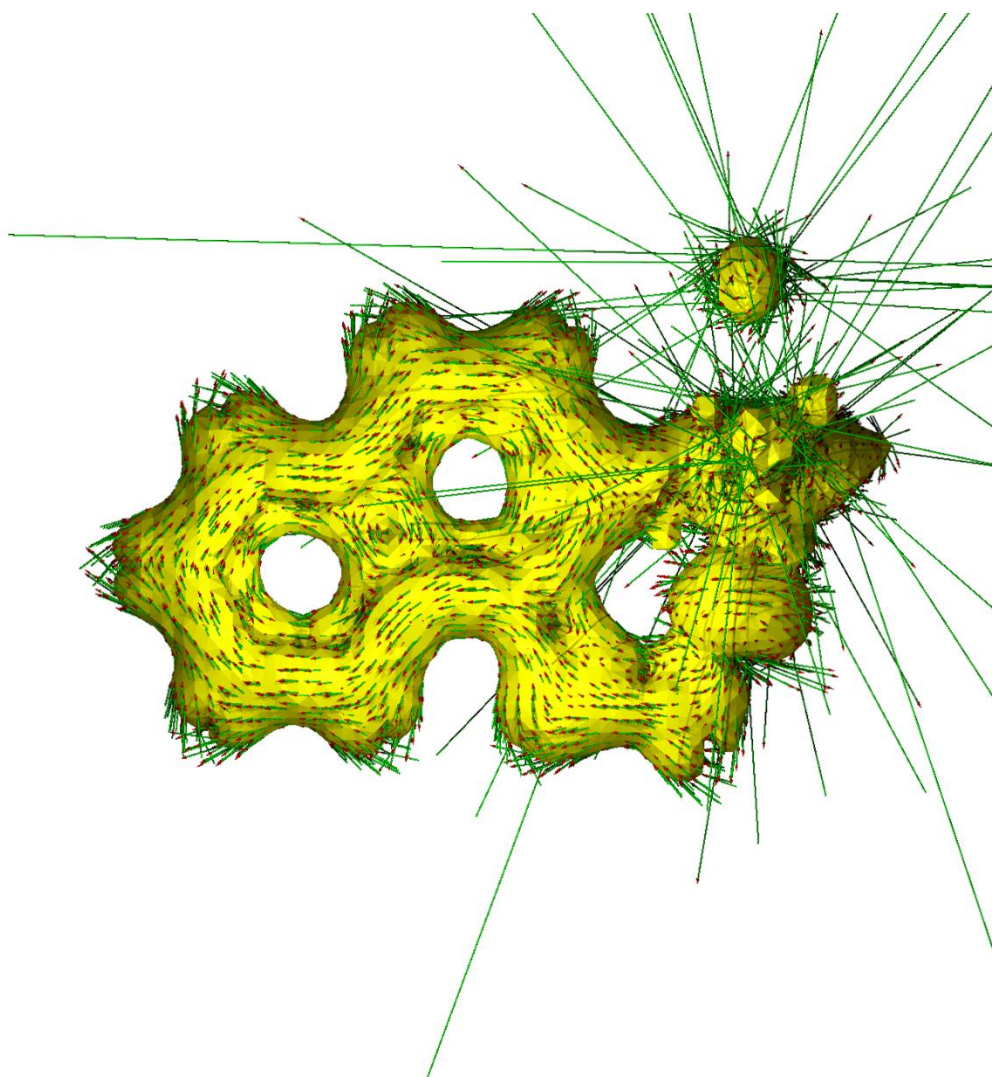
**Figure S8.** Computed ACID plot of  $\mathbf{z}$  from the total contribution with isosurfacevalue of 0.030 a.u.



**Figure S9.** Computed ACID plot of  $\mathbf{z}$  from the total contribution with isosurfacevalue of 0.030 a.u.

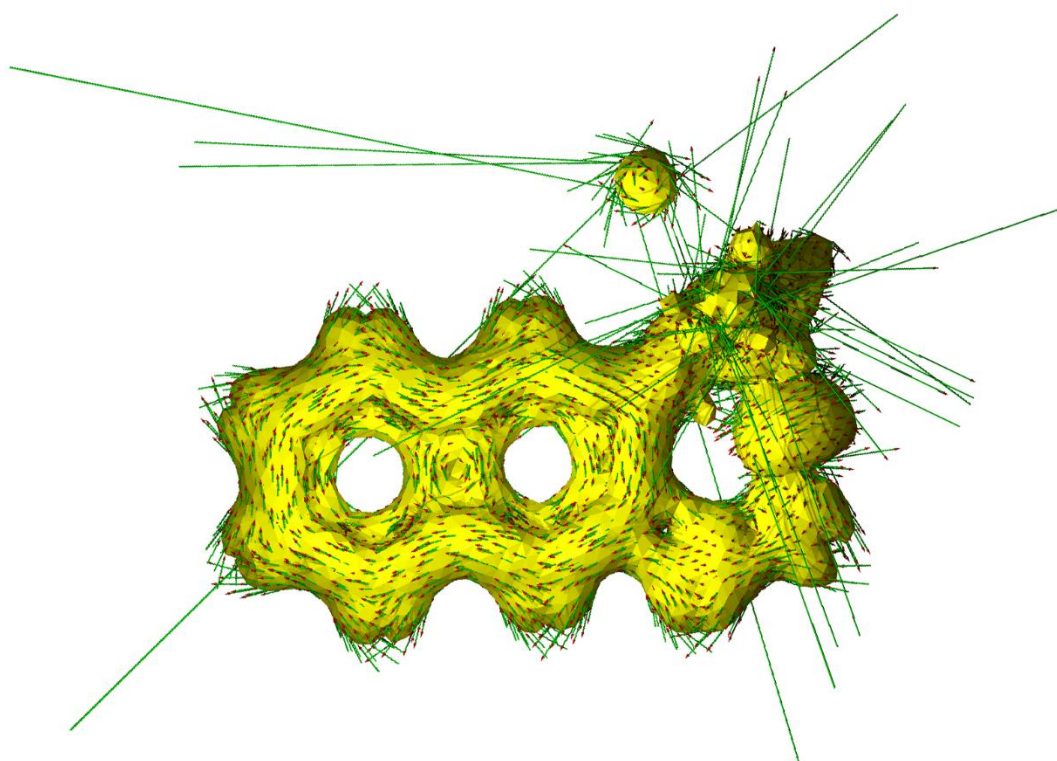


**Figure S10.** Computed ACID plot of **4** from the total contribution with isosurfacevalue of 0.030 a.u.

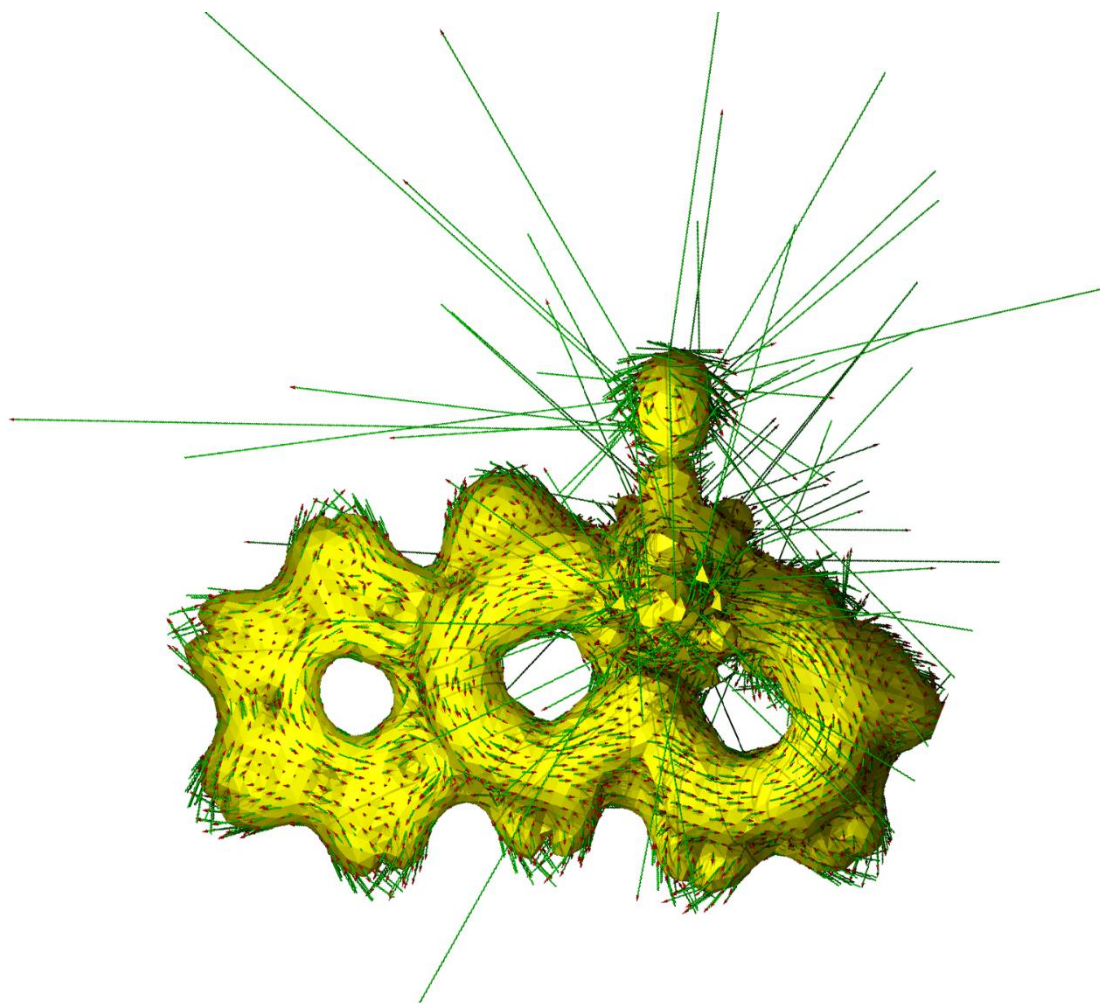


**Figure S11.** Computed ACID plot of **5** from the total contribution with isosurface value of 0.030 a.u.





**Figure S12.** Computed ACID plot of **6** from the total contribution with isosurface value of 0.030 a.u.



**Figure S13.** Computed ACID plot of **7** from the total contribution with isosurfacevalue of 0.030 a.u.