# SUPPORTING INFORMATION

# Mechanistic Insights about Electrochemical Proton-Coupled Electron Transfer Derived from a Vibrational Probe

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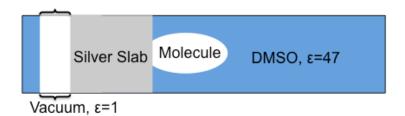
and Triethyl Ammonium Redox Couple

# **Computational Methods**

We performed periodic DFT calculations on Ag slabs interacting with a MAMBN or MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> molecule using Quantum ESPRESSO.<sup>1-2</sup> We used the PBE<sup>3</sup> functional both with and without the D3 dispersion correction for these calculations.<sup>4</sup> We find that the computed CN frequencies are similar between the two functionals, but that MAMBN binds more strongly to Ag using the dispersion-corrected PBE-D3 functional, in agreement with trends from previous reports.<sup>5</sup> The core electronic states were treated using the optimized norm-conserving Vanderbilt (ONCV) pseudopotentials,<sup>6-7</sup> and the valence states were expanded in a plane wave basis set up to wave function and charge density energy cutoffs of 60 Ry and 240 Ry, respectively. We employed first-order Methfessel-Paxton smearing<sup>8</sup> of the electronic states with a smearing width of 0.01 Ry. Total energies were converged to  $10^{-6}$  Ry, and the forces on all unconstrained atoms were converged to  $10^{-3}$  Ry/Bohr for geometry optimizations. Since all species in the calculations are closed shell, the results were not sensitive to spin polarization, and all calculations were performed without spin polarization to reduce the computational expense. We found that the nitrile vibrational frequencies were insensitive to reciprocal space sampling, so a single k-point ( $\Gamma$ ) was used to generate the potential energy surfaces used in the vibrational analysis. However, we used increased k-point densities in the periodic directions for the adsorption energy, density of states, and crystal orbital Hamilton population (COHP) calculations.

We modeled the solvent using the self-consistent continuum solvation (SCCS) method with the Environ module<sup>2, 9</sup> of Quantum ESPRESSO. In the SCCS method, dielectric continuum solvent is included outside the solute cavity around the surface and molecule in the regions where explicit electron density is not detected. The solvation contribution to the energy is determined by solving the Poisson equation self-consistently with the Kohn-Sham equations. Note that the effects of counterions and ionic strength are not included. In addition to dielectric embedding using the DMSO bulk dielectric constant of 47 for the solvent-exposed side of the slab,<sup>10</sup> a region with  $\varepsilon = 1$  corresponding to vacuum was added to the back side of the slab to ensure that charges added or removed from the system were primarily localized on the solvated side

of the slab, where the MAMBN and MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> molecules were located. We also calculated CN vibrational frequencies for chemisorbed MAMBN on Ag(100) using a region of low dielectric constant ( $\varepsilon$  = 2.8) near the electrode surface to represent more ordered solvent molecules at the interface.<sup>11-12</sup> The calculated frequencies varied by less than 1 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and thus we employed dielectric continuum solvation using only the bulk dielectric constant of DMSO. A general schematic of this unit cell setup is shown in Figure S1, and sample Quantum ESPRESSO and Environ input files are provided below.



**Figure S1.** General setup of the dielectric regions in the computational unit cell. Note that the calculation is periodic in all three directions. The side of the slab where the molecule is placed is embedded in dielectric continuum DMSO solvent using the SCCS method. A region of vacuum is added to the back (left) side of the Ag slab to ensure that excess charge localizes on the solvated (right) side.

### Models of MAMBN and MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> near Ag surfaces

We constructed periodic slabs from an optimized bulk Ag structure with a calculated lattice constant of 4.16 Å, in close agreement with the experimentally measured value of 4.08 Å.<sup>13</sup> We used a 4×4 supercell for the Ag(111) and Ag(100) slabs, and a 4×5 supercell for the Ag(322) slab. All slabs were four layers thick, with the bottom two layers fixed to their bulk positions. After the surface was optimized in implicit solvent, the MAMBN or MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> molecule was optimized in implicit solvent starting from initial configurations at top, bridge, hcp, and fcc sites on the surface. As discussed in the main text, MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> did not adsorb to the surface, presumably due to the lack of a lone pair on its sp<sup>3</sup> nitrogen. MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> always optimized to Ag-N distances of 2.9 Å or longer, with a selected geometry shown in Figure S2. MAMBN adsorption, however, is more sensitive to the structure of the slab. For Ag(100) and Ag(322), chemisorbed configurations were observed at top sites with ~2.5 Å distance between the amine

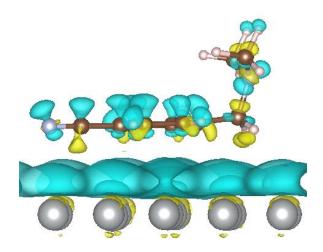
N and the nearest Ag atom. These distances are qualitatively consistent with previous calculations<sup>14-15</sup> and are consistent between the PBE and PBE-D3 functionals used in the present work. Since we did not find a chemisorbed MAMBN species on the Ag(111) surface, we proceeded using the Ag(100) and Ag(322) surfaces for our analysis. The specific configurations considered in this work on Ag(100) and Ag(322) are shown in Figures S2 and S3, respectively. We also computed configurations involving  $\pi$  interactions between the benzonitrile of MAMBN and Ag(100), as shown in Figure S4. These structures optimized to a distance of ~3.3 Å between the benzonitrile and the surface and have a similar adsorption energy (-0.75 eV with PBE-D3) compared to the chemisorbed configuration in Figure S2 (-0.79 eV with PBE-D3. However, this structure is not the configuration that would correspond to the product directly after proton transfer, which requires orientations such as those in Figure S2.

	MAMBN-H⁺, physisorbed	MAMBN, physisorbed	MAMBN, chemisorbed
Ag-N distance (Å)	3.5	4.1	2.5
Ag-Bz distance (Å)	6.4	7.1	5.9
Ag-CN midpoint (Å)	9.7	11.1	10
Ag-H distance (Å)	2.6	N/A	N/A

**Figure S2.** Geometries of physisorbed MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> (left), physisorbed MAMBN (center), and chemisorbed MAMBN (right) on Ag(100) computed using the PBE functional. As mentioned in the text, these geometries are similar to those computed using the PBE-D3 functional. The distances from different functional groups of the molecules to the plane of the surface Ag atoms are shown in the accompanying table. The Ag-Bz distance was determined from the center of the ring.

	MAMBN-H <sup>+</sup> , physisorbed	MAMBN, chemisorbed
Ag-N distance (Å)	4.9	2.5
Ag-Bz distance (Å)	7.3	3.9
Ag-CN midpoint (Å)	10.7	6.0
Ag-H distance (Å)	3.9	N/A

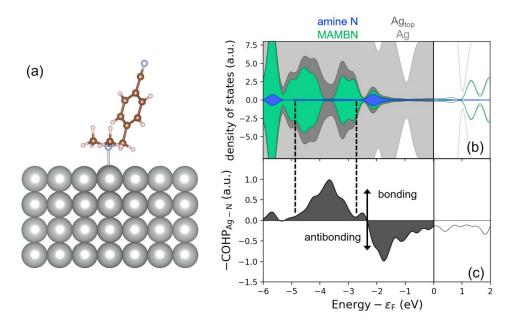
**Figure S3.** Geometries of physisorbed MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> (left) and chemisorbed MAMBN (right) on Ag(322) computed using the PBE functional. The perpendicular distances from different functional groups of the molecules to the surface plane (indicated by a black line) are shown in the accompanying table.



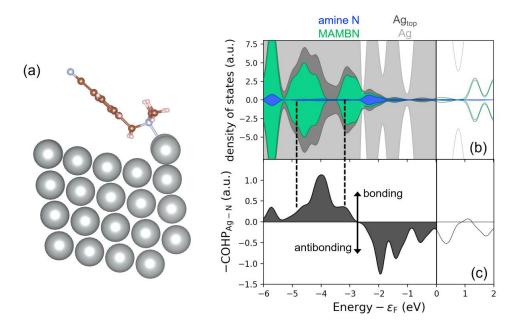
**Figure S4.**  $\pi$  interactions between Ag(100) and MAMBN. Charge density difference isosurface is shown relative to PZFC at an electrode potential of -0.59 V vs. PZFC at an isosurface level of 0.00025 e<sup>-</sup>/Bohr<sup>3</sup>. The negatively charged Ag electrode causes charge polarization in the benzonitrile group of MAMBN,

leading to a vibrational Stark shift of  $3.8 \text{ cm}^{-1}/\text{V}$  of the nitrile frequency despite it being oriented parallel to the electrode surface.

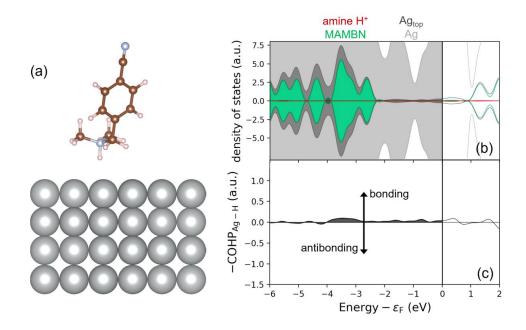
In addition to the Ag–N bond lengths of ~2.5 Å for the chemisorbed MAMBN configurations on Ag(100) and Ag(322), we performed additional analyses to confirm that these configurations correspond to a chemical bond between the amine N and surface Ag atoms. These results are summarized in Figures S5 and S6 for Ag(100) and Ag(322), respectively. As discussed in the main text, we computed MAMBN adsorption energies of -0.79 eV and -0.98 eV for Ag(100) and Ag(322), respectively, suggesting that MAMBN is weakly bound to these surfaces. The configurations associated with these adsorption energies are shown in Figures S5a and S6a. We also computed the projected density of states (shown in Figures S5b and S6b) and performed COHP analyses using the LOBSTER code<sup>16-20</sup> (shown in Figures S5c and S6c). The COHP analysis projects the Kohn-Sham wave functions from periodic DFT calculations onto localized basis functions representing molecular orbitals. Here, we perform the COHP analysis on the amine N and the Ag atom to which it is coordinated in order to evaluate the electronic populations of Ag-N bonding and antibonding molecular orbitals. Note that a positive value of  $-COHP_{Ag-N}$  corresponds to population of a bonding molecular orbital, whereas a negative value corresponds to antibonding molecular orbitals. The overlap in the projected density of states for the amine N and the Ag top site (Figures S5b and S6b) and positive -COHPAg-N values (Figures S5c and S6c) at similar energy levels suggest that a covalent Ag-N chemical bond is present in these configurations. In both figures, the population of a Ag-N bonding orbital (Figures S5c and S6c) corresponds with occupation of the amine N electronic states (broad blue shaded region between dashed lines in Figures S5b and S6b) and the Ag top site electronic states (dark gray). In contrast, the analogous analysis for the physisorbed MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> configuration on Ag(100) shown in Figure S2 indicates that a covalent Ag-N chemical bond is not present in this configuration (Figure S7).



**Figure S5.** Chemical bonding analysis of MAMBN adsorbed on Ag(100). (a) Configuration of MAMBN adsorbed on the surface, which has an adsorption energy of -0.79 eV. Ag atoms are gray, N atoms are light blue, C atoms are brown, and H atoms are light pink. (b) Atom projected density of states and (c) COHP of the molecular orbital between Ag and the amine N. Ag<sub>top</sub> denotes the Ag atom that is forming a bond to N, shown in dark gray, and the other Ag atoms are shown in light gray. The energies in (b) and (c) are plotted relative to the Fermi energy  $\varepsilon_F$  (vertical solid black line). The dashed lines between (b) and (c) are drawn to highlight analogous features associated with the electronic populations of bonding Ag–N molecular orbitals (positive –COHP<sub>Ag–N</sub> values) and the density of electronic states projected onto these atoms.



**Figure S6.** Chemical bonding analysis of MAMBN adsorbed on Ag(322). (a) Configuration of MAMBN adsorbed on the surface, which has an adsorption energy of -0.98 eV. Ag atoms are gray, N atoms are light blue, C atoms are brown, and H atoms are light pink. (b) Atom projected density of states and (c) COHP of the molecular orbital between Ag and the amine N. Ag<sub>top</sub> denotes the Ag atom that is forming a bond to N, shown in dark gray, and the other Ag atoms are shown in light gray. The energies in (b) and (c) are plotted relative to the Fermi energy  $\varepsilon_F$  (vertical solid black line). The dashed lines between (b) and (c) are drawn to highlight analogous features associated with the electronic populations of bonding Ag–N molecular orbitals (positive –COHP<sub>Ag–N</sub> values) and the density of electronic states projected onto these atoms.



**Figure S7.** Chemical bonding analysis of MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> on Ag(100). (a) Configuration of MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> near Ag(100). Ag atoms are gray, N atoms are light blue, C atoms are brown, and H atoms are light pink. (b) Atom projected density of states and (c) COHP of the molecular orbital between Ag and the H atom of the terminal amine N. The energies in (b) and (c) are plotted relative to the Fermi energy  $\varepsilon_F$  (vertical solid black line). The plot in (b) indicates minimal electronic density of states on the H<sup>+</sup> of the amine (red data), and the COHP analysis indicates minimal population of Ag–H bonding orbitals. These data suggest that there is no bond formed between Ag and H, and that MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> is physisorbed.

# Electrode Potential Calculations and Estimated Reference to Saturated Ag/AgCl Electrode

In this work, we modified the electrode potential by adding and removing electrons from the unit cell. These variable charge calculations are compensated by a homogeneous background charge. In this work, the electrode potential of zero free charge (PZFC) corresponds to conditions where the net charge on the Ag slab is zero. For example, in calculations that contain physisorbed MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup>, the total charge at PZFC is +1; given that the positive charge is localized mainly on MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup>, the Ag slab is approximately charge neutral.

To calculate electrode potentials, we reference the Fermi energy,  $\varepsilon_{\rm F}$ , to the electrostatic potential in bulk implicit solvent  $\phi_{\rm implicit}$ . However, there is a potential offset between  $\phi_{\rm implicit}$ , the vacuum level  $\phi_{\rm vacuum}$ , and reference electrode potentials (e.g., saturated Ag/AgCl used in the experimental portion of this work). Hörmann et al. have recently carried out *ab initio* molecular dynamics simulations in implicit H<sub>2</sub>O and have shown that there is an intrinsic potential offset of -0.33 V for implicit water versus vacuum.<sup>21</sup> Since our calculations are performed in implicit DMSO, this offset is likely different than that of water. Here, we estimate the analogous offset for implicit DMSO by calculating the difference between  $\phi_{implicit}$  and  $\phi_{vacuum}$ for relaxed Ag(100) surfaces in implicit solvent and in vacuum. This procedure assumes that  $\varepsilon_{F}$  is unchanged between solution and vacuum. With these assumptions, we calculate that the intrinsic offset between implicit DMSO and vacuum is ~ -0.76 V. While this approximation may not lead to a quantitatively accurate determination of the offset between  $\phi_{implicit}$  and  $\phi_{vacuum}$ , application of this correction may facilitate comparisons to experimental data. Accounting for the offset between  $\phi_{implicit}$  and  $\phi_{vacuum}$ , as well as the offset between the saturated Ag/AgCl electrode potential<sup>22</sup> and  $\phi_{vacuum}$  of -4.243 V,<sup>23-26</sup> enables estimation of the electrode potentials vs. Ag/AgCl. Overall, this corresponds to an adjustment of the electrode potentials computed in implicit solvent by -3.48 V to put them on the Ag/AgCl scale. The figures in this paper are plotted versus PZFC, but this analysis enables the reader to shift the calculated results to the Ag/AgCl scale. For reference, the computed PZFC values with respect to implicit solvent are 3.38 V, 3.42 V, and 3.56 V for the chemisorbed MAMBN, physisorbed MAMBN, and physisorbed MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup>, respectively.

### **Computational Vibrational Analysis of Nitrile Stretch**

For benchmarking purposes, we calculated the nitrile stretch vibrational frequencies within the harmonic approximation by computing and diagonalizing the Hessian. The Hessian calculations were performed on gas phase MAMBN and MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> molecules using the PBE functional and the phonon module in Quantum ESPRESSO. After each geometry was optimized, we verified that all eigenvalues corresponding to vibrations were positive to confirm that the geometry corresponds to a minimum. The normal mode vectors were obtained from Hessian calculations using the PBE functional, but these normal mode vectors were found to be virtually identical to those obtained using the PBE-D3 functional (i.e., the dot product of the normal mode vectors computed using PBE and PBE-D3 in Quantum ESPRESSO were

nearly unity (> 0.99). These frequencies were compared to analogous Hessian calculations using the 6-31+G\*\* basis set and the B3LYP-D3<sup>4, 27-28</sup> and  $\omega$ B97XD<sup>29</sup> functionals computed in implicit solvent with the Gaussian16 code<sup>30</sup> We found that the relative nitrile vibrational frequencies (Table S1) and the corresponding normal mode coordinates for MAMBN and MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> are qualitatively similar at these various levels of theory. The normal modes from the gas phase PBE calculations in Quantum ESPRESSO are given in Tables S2 and S3, respectively. Example input files are also provided below.

		V <sub>CN</sub>	$v_{ m CN}$	$\Delta v_{\rm CN}$
		unprotonated	protonated	
Experimental (Pure)		2229	2236	+7
Computation				
B3LYP-D3/6-31+G**	Harmonic	2319	2330	+11
implicit DMSO	FGH	2292	2303	+11
ωB97XD/6-31+G**	Harmonic	2367	2376	+11
implicit DMSO	FGH	2341	2351	+10
PBE	Harmonic	2222	2236	+11
vacuum	FGH	2209	2215	+6
PBE implicit DMSO	FGH	2191	2209	+18
PBE-D3	Harmonic	2226	2239	+13
vacuum	FGH	2209	2227	+18
PBE-D3 implicit DMSO	FGH	2191	2206	+15
PBE physisorbed near Ag(100) in DMSO	FGH	2191	2200	+9
PBE chemisorbed on Ag(100) in DMSO	FGH	2193	N/A	N/A
PBE-D3 physisorbed near Ag(100) in DMSO	FGH	2195	2203	+8
PBE-D3 chemisorbed on Ag(100) in DMSO	FGH	2193	N/A	N/A
PBE-D3 $\pi$ interaction between benzonitrile and Ag(100)	FGH	2184	2191	+7

**Table S1**. Nitrile Stretch Frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>) of MAMBN and MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> Obtained Experimentally and Computationally

Normal Mode Reduced Mass:		12.67 au	
		Normal Mode	e Coordinates
Atom Type	Х	Y	Z
С	0.004268	-0.018339	0.123311
С	-0.0053	-0.001589	0.014514
С	-0.002111	0.001623	-0.010309
С	0.000071	-0.000759	0.004831
С	0.001374	0.001313	-0.010421
С	0.006572	-0.002599	0.013755
Н	0.007357	0.000207	-0.00318
Н	0.005132	-0.000065	-0.004325
Н	-0.005526	0.001152	-0.003848
Н	-0.007663	0.000452	-0.000552
С	-0.028899	0.118759	-0.79612
С	0.000066	0.000767	0.00000
Н	-0.000747	0.000245	-0.000854
Н	0.00065	0.000031	-0.000813
Ν	-0.000006	0.000139	-0.000657
С	0.000531	-0.000041	0.000011
Н	-0.000565	-0.001938	-0.00207
Н	-0.000196	-0.000773	0.000542
Н	-0.000938	-0.000437	0.00294
С	-0.000429	0.000002	0.000088
Н	0.000402	-0.000892	0.000389
Н	-0.000385	-0.001741	-0.002185
Н	-0.000241	0.000328	0.000594

**Table S2**. Normal Mode Coordinates and Reduced Mass for MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> Nitrile Stretching Mode Calculated in Vacuum with PBE Functional

Normal Mode Redu	iced Mass:		12.64 au
	Noi	rmal Mode Coordin	ates
Atom Type	Х	Y	Z
С	0.002355	0.018598	0.126907
С	0.005644	0.000151	0.012124
С	0.00207	-0.001915	-0.009053
С	-0.000533	0.000696	0.004491
С	-0.001928	-0.000831	-0.008571
С	-0.006082	0.003163	0.011036
Н	-0.011733	0.001196	-0.008227
Н	-0.002008	-0.000631	-0.012367
Н	0.00328	-0.005315	-0.010733
Н	0.017424	-0.004322	-0.012792
С	-0.01132	-0.114077	-0.795745
С	-0.000485	-0.001394	0.001601
Н	-0.004592	0.006831	-0.005362
Н	0.007463	-0.004379	-0.004555
Ν	0.000455	0.001278	0.001846
С	0.00012	0.001121	0.002224
Н	-0.005869	0.006534	-0.006925
Н	-0.002579	-0.011456	0.001564
Н	-0.006012	0.010426	-0.013609
С	-0.001134	0.00233	0.001002
Н	-0.018679	-0.005997	0.004988
Н	0.002778	0.001292	-0.008635
Н	0.006578	-0.011797	-0.001696
Ν	0.007885	0.080444	0.572095
Н	-0.003774	-0.016243	-0.007439

**Table S3.** Normal Mode Coordinates and Reduced Mass for MAMBN NitrileStretching Mode Calculated in Vacuum with PBE Functional

For comparison to the experimental data, we calculated the nitrile stretch vibrational frequencies using a grid-based method that includes anharmonic effects. The grid for the surface-molecule system was generated along the normal mode vector corresponding to the nitrile stretch computed from the Hessian calculations described above for the gas phase molecules (Tables S2 and S3). In practice, these gas phase normal modes were defined in Cartesian coordinates relative to the gas phase optimized geometry. To superimpose the gas phase geometry onto the MAMBN or MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> geometry optimized near the model

Ag surface, we translated the gas phase molecule so that the benzene carbon atom bound to the nitrile carbon was overlaid on its surface-molecule counterpart. Then we rotated the nitrile carbon of the gas phase molecule and the carbon alpha to the nitrile into their respective surface-molecule counterparts. The product of these two rotational transformations defines a rotation matrix, which was used to rotate the gas phase normal mode coordinates to be consistent with the orientation of MAMBN or MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> near the Ag surface.

A series of single-point energy calculations were performed for grid points along this normal mode vector to generate the anharmonic potential energy curve corresponding to the nitrile stretch. Nine grid points separated by 0.05 Å, corresponding to a total sampling length of 0.4 Å, were used to generate this potential energy curve. Each grid point used a single k-point in all directions, as including more k-points was determined to have an impact of less than 1 cm<sup>-1</sup> on the nitrile stretching frequency (Table S4). A spline procedure was then used to generate a potential energy curve represented by 801 grid points over this length (convergence information in Table S5). After generating this potential energy curve, the Fourier grid Hamiltonian (FGH) method<sup>31</sup> was used to solve the one-dimensional Schrödinger equation using the mass associated with the nitrile stretch normal mode computed for the gas phase molecule. The vibrational frequencies reported are the energy differences between the ground and first excited vibrational states. Doubling the number of computed points within the same sampling length (i.e., doubling the density) or doubling the total sampling length with the same grid point separation changed the vibrational frequencies by less than 1 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Table S4).

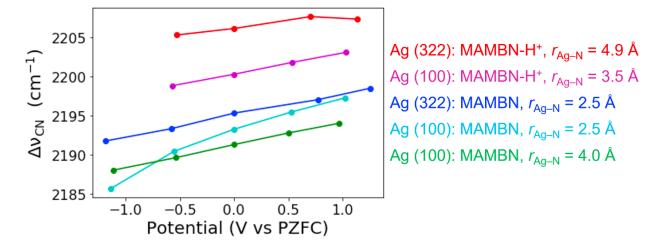
Sampling Length (Å)	Grid Spacing (Å)	k-points	Nitrile Frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
0.4	0.05	(1 1 1)	2193.3
0.4	0.025	(1 1 1)	2193.32
0.8	0.05	(1 1 1)	2193.3
0.4	0.05	(2 2 1)	2193
0.4	0.05	(3 3 1)	2192.82

**Table S4**. Benchmarking for the FGH Calculations of the Nitrile Frequencies for Chemisorbed MAMBN on Ag(100) with Respect to the Number of Computed Grid Points and k-Points

**Table S5**. Benchmarking for the FGH Calculations of the Nitrile Frequencies for Chemisorbed MAMBN on Ag(100) with Respect to the Number of Grid Points after the Spline Procedure

Number of Grid Points after Spline	Nitrile Frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
81	2188
801	2193
8001	2193

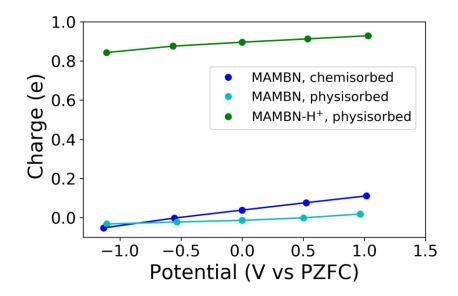
To evaluate the Stark shifts of the MAMBN and MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> molecules near the Ag surfaces, we computed the nitrile stretch frequencies as a function of applied potential. As described above, we applied a potential bias to the electrode by adding or removing electrons, where any net charge on the unit cell is compensated by a homogeneous background charge. For any given electrode potential, the charge of the unit cell is constant. Therefore, any energetic corrections associated with a charged unit cell will be effectively constant for all CN distances along the potential energy curve and will not affect the calculated CN vibrational frequencies. In addition to the Stark shift calculations presented in Figure 7 (left panel) of the main text, Figure S8 shows analogous results for additional configurations for MAMBN and MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> near Ag(100) and Ag(322).



**Figure S8**. Calculated vibrational frequencies (PBE) versus potential for different MAMBN and MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> configurations near Ag(100) and Ag(322). For equivalent structures, the slope is smaller when  $r_{Ag-N}$  is larger (compare cyan and green curves). The chemisorbed MAMBN on Ag(322) has a smaller slope than expected because of its tilted orientation (Figure S3).

# **Bader Charge Analysis**

To ensure that added charge is localized on the Ag slab and not the molecule, we performed Bader charge analyses<sup>32-34</sup> on three Ag(100) systems using the PBE functional: MAMBN chemisorbed, MAMBN physisorbed, and MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> physisorbed. The analyses are shown in Figure S9, corresponding to the configurations shown above in Figure S2. Figure S9 shows that there is minimal charge transfer to the physisorbed MAMBN, implying that all excess charge is localized on Ag. This analysis indicates some charge transfer between Ag(100) and chemisorbed MAMBN with applied potential. As discussed in the main text, this small degree of charge transfer is presumably because the amine nitrogen is covalently bound to the Ag surface (also shown in Figure S5). At more negative potentials, there is charge transfer to the physisorbed MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup>, suggesting that the proton is likely to be discharged to the Ag surface at these potentials, i.e., MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> is not reductively stable. This analysis further suggests that the changes in the charge density difference isosurfaces across the benzene and nitrile in Figure 5 of the main text are primarily due to polarization of the charge by the interfacial field, and not charge transfer from Ag to the molecule.



**Figure S9.** Bader charges of MAMBN chemisorbed and physisorbed and MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> physisorbed configurations on Ag(100) for different applied potentials.

# Sample Input Files and Selected Geometric Coordinates

```
Calculation input file of MAMBN-H^+ on Ag(100) at PZFC
&control
  calculation = 'scf'
  pseudo_dir = '/home/wl447/project/planewave_setup/pseudo/ONCV/'
  outdir = './'
  title = 'proton_sur_scf'
  prefix = 'proton_sur_scf'
  ! wf_collect = .true.
  nstep = 499
  tefield = .false.
  ! dipfield = .true.
&SYSTEM
  ntyp = 4,
  nat = 89,
  ibrav = 0
  ecutwfc = 60,
  tot_charge = 1
  nspin = 1
  starting_magnetization(1) = 0.0
  smearing = 'mp'
  degauss = 0.01
  occupations = 'smearing'
  input_dft = 'pbe'
  nosym = .true.
/
&electrons
  startingpot = 'file'
  ! startingwfc = 'file'
  ! mixing_mode = 'local-TF'
  mixing_beta = 0.1,
  mixing ndim = 12,
  mixing fixed ns = 12,
  electron_maxstep=50000,
  conv thr = 1.0d-6
  diago_full_acc =.true.
  adaptive_thr = .true.
/
&ions
  ion_dynamics= 'bfgs'
/
K POINTS<sup>7</sup>
221000
ATOMIC_SPECIES
Ag 107.87 Ag_ONCV_PBE-1.0.upf
N 14.01 N_ONCV_PBE-1.0.upf
C 12.01 C_ONCV_PBE-1.0.upf
H 1.01 H_ONCV_PBE-1.0.upf
CELL_PARAMETERS (angstrom)
```

11.	7286387582 0.0	0.0 00000000	00000000			
0.0	00000000 11.72	286387582 0.0	00000000			
0.0	00000000 0.000	0000000 50.0	0000000			
ATO	MIC_POSITION	NS (angstrom)				
Ag	1.466079840	1.466079840	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	4.398239530	1.466079840	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	7.330399220	1.466079840	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	10.262558910	1.466079840	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	1.466079840	4.398239530	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	4.398239530	4.398239530	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	7.330399220	4.398239530	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	10.262558910	4.398239530	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	1.466079840	7.330399220	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	4.398239530	7.330399220	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	7.330399220	7.330399220	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	10.262558910	7.330399220	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	1.466079840	10.262558910	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	4.398239530	10.262558910	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	7.330399220	10.262558910	10.000000000	0	0	0
Ag	10.262558910	10.262558910		0	0	0
Ag	0.000000000	0.000000000	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	2.932159690	0.000000000	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	5.864319380	0.000000000	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	8.796479070	0.000000000	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	0.000000000	2.932159690	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	2.932159690	2.932159690	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	5.864319380	2.932159690	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	8.796479070	2.932159690	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	0.000000000	5.864319380	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	2.932159690	5.864319380	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	5.864319380	5.864319380	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	8.796479070	5.864319380	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	0.000000000	8.796479070	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	2.932159690	8.796479070	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	5.864319380	8.796479070	12.073350000	0	0	0
Ag	8.796479070		12.073350000	-	0	
Ag	1.465706325		14.129159791	Ŭ	0	0
Ag	4.396730356		14.131358297			
Ag	7.330456988		14.130907046			
Ag	10.261888674		14.129745512			
Ag	1.465143363		14.130620037			
Ag	4.392464650		14.118632793			
Ag	7.339828093		14.117183402			
Ag	10.266663419		14.131218378			
Ag	1.465492740		14.130964675			
Ag	4.392592315		14.118780008			
Ag	7.340129642		14.117506765			
Ag			14.131623527			
Ag			14.129374014			
Ag	4.396903102		14.131276163			
Ag	7.331113242		14.131124177			
••6	,	10.200102040				

10.262512300 10.262266801 14.130155353 Ag Ag -0.001205839 0.000086232 16.133526254 Ag 2.927155465 0.000408049 16.134257275 5.861358290 0.000836479 16.130975282 Ag 8.796990599 0.000323162 16.133109212 Ag Ag 0.000782577 2.929226338 16.133446393 2.932227548 2.931323076 16.136853540 Ag Ag 5.865972070 2.943372322 16.126058739 Ag 8.797705506 2.931825294 16.136900123 0.002703582 5.864247443 16.131398176 Ag 2.945415581 5.863924863 16.121753503 Ag 5.871981701 5.863689377 16.096847795 Ag Ag 8.787947465 5.864111101 16.124995450 Ag 0.002144757 8.799472083 16.134517052 2.933140827 8.797658295 16.137016713 Ag 5.866341522 8.785892050 16.124499179 Ag Ag 8.798726418 8.796614115 16.137070110 С 3.50828920 6.51672238 24.01533590 С 3.48978064 5.25741514 23.39451118 С 3.87575047 5.14490988 22.06499096 С 4.28800031 6.27205095 21.34148310 С 4.28306677 7.52615571 21.96613289 С 3.90060389 7.65616083 23.29489507 Η 3.17040342 4.38013294 23.95147953 Η 3.84256166 4.16906208 21.58333469 Η 4.57012149 8.41550641 21.40669068 Η 3.89851301 8.63172644 23.77516683 C 3.12022136 6.63734195 25.38199752 С 4.67581313 6.14634175 19.89609445 Η 4.14586830 5.31761814 19.41378178 Η 4.45832427 7.07050227 19.34882232 Ν 6.16052261 5.87592160 19.66040190 С 7.04360001 6.99501297 20.11396165 Η 6.99740288 7.05625127 21.20328130 Η 8.06615769 6.77441206 19.79713046 Η 6.69689928 7.92802301 19.66161985 С 6.61901817 4.55846569 20.20199197 H 7.65070474 4.39736329 19.87934220 Η 6.57237896 4.59294907 21.29234016 Η 5.97093632 3.76825395 19.81400997 Ν 2.80683820 6.73162450 26.49897322 Η 6.25183262 5.82262130 18.62450966

### Geometry of MAMBN- $H^+$ on Ag(111)

Ag	0.000000000	0.000000000	10.00000000 0 0 0
Ag	2.892066740	0.000000000	10.00000000 0 0 0 0
Ag	5.784133470	0.000000000	10.00000000 0 0 0 0
Ag	8.676200210	0.000000000	10.00000000 0 0 0
Ag	1.446033370	2.504603260	10.00000000 0 0 0
Ag	4.338100100	2.504603260	10.00000000 0 0 0
Ag	7.230166840	2.504603260	10.00000000 0 0 0

Ag 10.122233570 2.504603260 10.0000000000000
Ag 0.000000000 5.009206520 10.00000000 0 0
Ag 2.892066740 5.009206520 10.00000000 0 0
Ag 5.784133470 5.009206520 10.00000000 0 0
Ag 8.676200210 5.009206520 10.00000000 0 0
Ag 1.446033370 7.513809790 10.00000000 0 0
Ag 4.338100100 7.513809790 10.000000000 0 0
Ag 7.230166840 7.513809790 10.00000000 0 0
Ag 10.122233570 7.513809790 10.00000000 0 0
Ag 1.446033370 0.834867750 12.361362600 0 0 0
Ag 4.338100100 0.834867750 12.361362600 0 0 0
Ag 7.230166840 0.834867750 12.361362600 0 0 0
Ag 10.122233570 0.834867750 12.361362600 0 0 0
Ag 0.000000000 3.339471020 12.361362600 0 0 0
Ag 2.892066740 3.339471020 12.361362600 0 0 0
Ag 5.784133470 3.339471020 12.361362600 0 0 0
Ag 8.676200210 3.339471020 12.361362600 0 0 0
Ag 1.446033370 5.844074280 12.361362600 0 0
Ag 4.338100100 5.844074280 12.361362600 0 0
Ag 7.230166840 5.844074280 12.361362600 0 0
Ag 10.122233570 5.844074280 12.361362600 0 0 0
Ag 0.00000000 8.348677540 12.361362600 0 0
Ag 2.892066740 8.348677540 12.361362600 0 0
Ag 5.784133470 8.348677540 12.361362600 0 0
Ag 8.676200210 8.348677540 12.361362600 0 0
Ag 0.00000000 1.66973551 14.72272520
Ag 2.89206674 1.66973551 14.72272520
Ag 5.78413347 1.66973551 14.72272520
Ag 8.67620021 1.66973551 14.72272520
Ag 1.44603337 4.17433877 14.72272520
Ag 4.33810010 4.17433877 14.72272520
Ag 7.23016684 4.17433877 14.72272520
Ag 10.12223357 4.17433877 14.72272520
Ag 0.00000000 6.67894203 14.72272520
Ag 2.89206674 6.67894203 14.72272520
Ag 5.78413347 6.67894203 14.72272520
Ag 8.67620021 6.67894203 14.72272520
Ag 1.44603337 9.18354529 14.72272520
Ag 4.33810010 9.18354529 14.72272520
Ag 7.23016684 9.18354529 14.72272520
Ag 10.12223357 9.18354529 14.72272520
Ag 0.0000000 0.00000000 17.08408780
Ag 2.89206674 0.00000000 17.08408780
Ag 5.78413347 0.00000000 17.08408780
Ag 8.67620021 0.00000000 17.08408780
Ag 1.44603337 2.50460326 17.08408780
Ag 4.33810010 2.50460326 17.08408780 Ag 7.23016684 2.50460326 17.08408780
Ag 10.12223357 2.50460326 17.08408780 Ag 0.00000000 5.00920652 17.08408780
Ag 2.89206674 5.00920652 17.08408780
115 2.07200017 3.00720032 11.00400100

Ag 5.78413347 5.00920652 17.08408780 Ag 8.67620021 5.00920652 17.08408780 Ag 1.44603337 7.51380979 17.08408780 Ag 4.33810010 7.51380979 17.08408780 Ag 7.23016684 7.51380979 17.08408780 Ag 10.12223357 7.51380979 17.08408780 C 3.56448510 5.61413947 24.31630402 C 3.47476023 4.36900216 23.67354871 C 3.74227420 4.27381826 22.31443847 C 4.10809069 5.40777277 21.57464455 C 4.17145125 6.65130875 22.22047158 C 3.90791416 6.75898292 23.57960786 H 3.18435176 3.48872628 24.24333883 H 3.64005213 3.30623651 21.82194286 H 4.40494540 7.55351313 21.65418259 H 3.95186404 7.72591440 24.07662051 C 3.29203247 5.71908133 25.71217053 C 4.37062328 5.30055870 20.10431952 H 3.81262610 4.47121090 19.65297028 H 4.11161719 6.22674560 19.57691906 N 5.84907736 5.03281916 19.73832750 C 6.76173524 6.15578687 20.12903954 H 6.76154504 6.24228616 21.21870050 H 7.76971413 5.92892057 19.76947626 H 6.40169732 7.08425202 19.67606670 C 6.34992320 3.71805225 20.25537457 H 7.37153894 3.56650608 19.89466949 H 6.33629796 3.74511293 21.34800376 H 5.69990537 2.91801187 19.88901011 N 3.07563314 5.80459890 26.85131937 H 5.86235939 4.97780446 18.71252238

### *Geometry of MAMBN-H*<sup>+</sup> *on* Ag(322)

Ag	5.230262120	3.448978770 10.000128290	0 0 0
Ag	3.505068410	1.077927380 10.000128290	0 0 0
Ag	8.105566330	3.170048290 10.502853740	0 0 0
Ag	6.380372620	0.798996900 10.502853740	0 0 0
Ag	10.980836030	2.891070380 11.005874730	$0 \ 0 \ 0$
Ag	9.255642330	0.520018990 11.005874730	0 0 0
Ag	13.856289760	2.612139900 11.508600180	$0 \ 0 \ 0$
Ag	12.131096050	0.241088510 11.508600180	$0 \ 0 \ 0$
Ag	1.779859460	2.333161990 12.011621170	0 0 0
Ag	3.505053170	4.704213380 12.011621170	0 0 0
Ag	4.655163670	2.054231500 12.514346620	0 0 0
Ag	6.380357380	4.425282890 12.514346620	0 0 0
Ag	7.530467880	1.775301020 13.017367620	0 0 0
Ag	9.255661590	4.146352410 13.017367620	0 0 0
Ag	10.405737580	1.496323110 13.520093060	$0 \ 0 \ 0$
Ag	12.130931290	3.867374500 13.520093060	$0 \ 0 \ 0$
Ag	13.281191310	1.217392630 14.023114060	$0 \ 0 \ 0$
Ag	15.006385020	3.588444020 14.023114060	0 0 0

Ag	1.204795520	0.938462140 14.525839500 0 0 0	
Ag	2.929989230	3.309513530 14.525839500 0 0 0	
Ag	8.680649540	8.191081550 10.000128290 0 0 0	
Ag	6.955455830	5.820030160 10.000128290 0 0 0	
Ag	11.555953750	7.912151070 10.502853740 0 0 0	
Ag	9.830760040	5.541099680 10.502853740 0 0 0	
Ag	14.431223450	7.633173160 11.005874730 0 0 0	
Ag		5.262121770 11.005874730 0 0 0	
Ag		7.354242680 11.508600180 0 0 0	
Ag	15.581483470	4.983191290 11.508600180 0 0 0	
Ag	5.230246880	7.075264770 12.011621170 0 0 0	
Ag	6.955440590	9.446316160 12.011621170 0 0 0	
Ag	8.105551090	6.796334280 12.514346620 0 0 0	
Ag	9.830744800	9.167385670 12.514346620 0 0 0	
Ag	10.980855300	6.517403800 13.017367620 0 0 0	
Ag	12.706049010	8.888455190 13.017367620 0 0 0	
Ag	13.856125000	6.238425890 13.520093060 0 0 0	
Ag	15.581318710		
Ag	16.731578730		
Ag	18.456772440	8.330546800 14.023114060 0 0 0	
Ag	4.655182940	5.680564920 14.525839500 0 0 0	
Ag	6.380376650	8.051616310 14.525839500 0 0 0	
Ag	4.087272004	0.655547242 15.008613359	
Ag	5.820192635	3.021576507 15.000188153	
Ag	6.947213376	0.381754414 15.515694786	
Ag	8.667201217	2.753709113 15.510784350	
Ag	9.820296068	0.094841503 15.993390709	
Ag	11.552243283	2.462845940 15.994728738	
Ag	16.157785737	4.553557174 16.500742264	
Ag	14.424434357	2.183212180 16.505790104	
Ag	4.091790434	4.263476528 16.999897624	
Ag	2.371884874	1.893886158 16.992582101	
Ag	6.957886031	3.999853696 17.591499159	
Ag	5.237378625	1.628568859 17.580340703	
Ag	9.828674420	3.723634007 18.006836101	
Ag	8.092048628	1.348065770 18.016435350	
Ag	12.667532999	3.468117108 18.511839122	
Ag	10.927156941	1.097807392 18.514399124	
Ag	15.488452930	3.217535420 19.034772590	
Ag	13.756723678	0.860465245 19.033999072	
Ag	3.376322417	2.976958984 19.421712356	
Ag	1.641910572	0.607875624 19.405150472	
Ag	7.532189195	5.397175134 15.007122805	
Ag	9.261352476	7.770085600 15.007163036	
Ag	10.392805626	5.126502121 15.517063525	
Ag	12.121433461	7.493529741 15.516245698	
Ag	13.286991061	4.830482190 16.004583765	
Ag	14.996339471	7.204561223 15.998763283	
Ag	19.596307538	9.298762676 16.500274603	
Ag	17.875917580	6.936966466 16.502423784	
Ag	7.543354238	9.018308759 16.989218672	

Ag	5.821703181 6	.646238665 16.995725305
Ag	10.410640679 8	3.744844256 17.574015771
Ag	8.687811067 6	.376472609 17.586097543
Ag	13.266805128 8	8.465990309 18.019632950
Ag	11.559544338	5.103087599 18.018527988
Ag	16.106030729 8	8.219225319 18.519498786
Ag	14.388602357	5.839825206 18.516094629
Ag	18.927683721	7.983627022 19.049712052
Ag	17.199660683	5.599837655 19.041828797
Ag	6.806102941 7	.720308053 19.420080444
Ag	5.061173455 5	.361225800 19.368484385
C	11.788470373 4	.052988724 23.826319518
С	11.492010053 5	.341170754 23.346492343
С	10.421136438 5	.511285188 22.481535551
С	9.635345305 4.	418563495 22.089882332
С	9.961949440 3.	133699987 22.549909487
С	11.030113741 2	.943786742 23.415614552
Η	12.101300662 6	.192232456 23.651430266
Η	10.204238293 6	.503935347 22.088223210
Η	9.386370945 2.	274314379 22.211698385
Η	11.284066029 1	.944940259 23.771228725
С		.872536543 24.741224150
С	8.499515035 4.	611207981 21.133888122
Η	8.684990153 5.	471111946 20.471772204
Η	8.355425441 3.	720508108 20.502954701
Ν	7.154711885 4.	879087991 21.793680355
С	6.625431240 3.	714574273 22.562787979
Н		548974395 23.430639880
Н		947498274 22.883162957
Н		833509462 21.918820459
С		135372780 22.602064071
Η		314954251 22.918645814
Η		015201248 23.464692696
Η		965674488 21.974755458
Ν		.726131499 25.486080337
Η	6.498321597 5.	032133117 20.984288064

# *Geometry of MAMBN on Ag(100)*

Ag 4.39823953 10.26255891 10.00000000 000 Ag 7.33039922 10.26255891 10.00000000 0 0 0 Ag 10.26255891 10.26255891 10.00000000 0 0 0 Ag 0.0000000 0.0000000 12.07335000 0 0 0 Ag 2.93215969 0.00000000 12.07335000 000 Ag 5.86431938 0.00000000 12.07335000 000 Ag 8.79647907 0.00000000 12.07335000 000 Ag 0.0000000 2.93215969 12.07335000 000 Ag 2.93215969 2.93215969 12.07335000 000 Ag 5.86431938 2.93215969 12.07335000 000 Ag 8.79647907 2.93215969 12.07335000 000 Ag 0.0000000 5.86431938 12.07335000 0 0 0 Ag 2.93215969 5.86431938 12.07335000 000 Ag 5.86431938 5.86431938 12.07335000 000 Ag 8.79647907 5.86431938 12.07335000 000 Ag 0.0000000 8.79647907 12.07335000 0 0 0 Ag 2.93215969 8.79647907 12.07335000 000 Ag 5.86431938 8.79647907 12.07335000 000 Ag 8.79647907 8.79647907 12.07335000 000 Ag 1.466629510 1.465613914 14.185146457 4.397875463 1.463661875 14.185979442 Ag Ag 7.330845055 1.464581761 14.187247515 10.263272505 1.465730998 14.185232845 Ag 1.469751761 4.397554259 14.187658626 Ag 4.403127021 4.397237483 14.188038701 Ag 7.331018554 4.397780331 14.188875071 Ag 10.264483876 4.398150591 14.186620101 Ag 1.469644014 7.330972334 14.187037070 Ag Ag 4.403099178 7.325920074 14.187457667 Ag 7.331307559 7.325615443 14.188041752 10.264908283 7.330537995 14.186145566 Ag 1.466899774 10.261876232 14.185406498 Ag Ag 4.397811452 10.259802267 14.186095794 7.331073604 10.259140502 14.187541116 Ag Ag 10.263259039 10.262007427 14.185430965 Ag -0.000432065 0.000637704 16.299150593 2.935970187 -0.001748895 16.301920701 Ag Ag 5.865471260 -0.007854020 16.304759938 Ag 8.794352256 -0.001588836 16.302525934 0.001408694 2.934337558 16.302030865 Ag 2.934105249 2.931047466 16.305752088 Ag 5.864684423 2.919209777 16.303161352 Ag 8.799317190 2.929385420 16.305478865 Ag Ag 0.008860579 5.863696629 16.304745655 2.933296057 5.862725672 16.304576336 Ag Ag 5.870071860 5.858756826 16.312588496 8.810088991 5.863188168 16.302694046 Ag 0.001616440 8.793126052 16.301839655 Ag Ag 2.935342054 8.793590947 16.306231729 5.865062867 8.795453619 16.303339021 Ag 8.798635196 8.795782160 16.305838392 Ag

```
С
   3.37814179 6.39239217 24.88549987
С
  3.36984357 5.13109555 24.26478657
С
  3.73586065 5.02312103 22.92847463
C 4.11658181 6.14977698 22.18543343
C 4.12968665 7.39905626 22.82355632
С
   3.76730245 7.53040938 24.15857723
Η
  3.06654171 4.25219039 24.82947752
  3.70531734 4.04513479 22.44722725
Η
Η
  4.40945130 8.28875455 22.25917483
Η
  3.77152115 8.50583749 24.64048186
С
  2.96439325 6.52155016 26.24150919
С
  4.52217354 6.02223647 20.72821349
H 3.95266067 5.20182610 20.26833580
H 4.25431582 6.94948387 20.20118452
N 5.94527713 5.76604622 20.47346079
C 6.82793612 6.84838788 20.88199073
H 6.90345464 6.97086848 21.98214195
  7.83905956 6.65162923 20.50076695
Η
H 6.476183267.7977924020.45580265
C 6.41010143 4.46732628 20.93672436
H 7.42419859 4.29113124 20.55325195
H 6.44974769 4.37466175 22.04183919
H 5.75295919 3.67689332 20.54937237
N 2.61756589 6.62860632 27.34855249
```

```
Environ input file, Ag (100)
&ENVIRON
verbose = 2
environ_thr = 1.d-1
environ_type = 'input'
! env_electrostatic = .true.
env static permittivity = 47.0D0
```

```
env_dielectric_regions = 1
```

&BOUNDARY

```
solvent_mode = 'electronic'
/
&ELECTROSTATIC
!
```

```
pbc_correction = 'none'
pbc_dim = 3
! pbc_axis = 3
!
tol = 1.d-11
mix = 0.6
solver = 'iterative'
auxiliary = 'full'
!
```

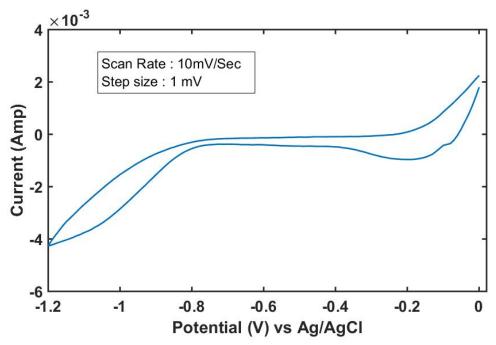
```
DIELECTRIC_REGIONS {angstrom}
1.0 1.0 5.5 5.5 8.2800 8.00 0.5 2 3
Environ input file, Ag (111)
&ENVIRON
 verbose = 2
 environ_thr = 1.d-1
 environ_type = 'input'
 env_static_permittivity = 47.0D0
 env_dielectric_regions = 1
/
&BOUNDARY
 solvent_mode = 'electronic'
/
&ELECTROSTATIC
 !
 pbc_correction = 'none'
 pbc_dim = 3
 ! pbc_axis = 3
  !
 tol = 1.d-11
 mix = 0.6
 solver = 'iterative'
 auxiliary = 'full'
 !
DIELECTRIC_REGIONS {angstrom}
1.0 \ 1.0 \ 5.5 \ 5.5 \ 8.2800 \ 8.00 \ 0.5 \ 2 \ 3
Environ input file, Ag (322)
&ENVIRON
 verbose = 2
 environ_thr = 1.d-1
 environ_type = 'input'
 ! env_electrostatic = .true.
 env_static_permittivity = 47.0D0
 env_dielectric_regions = 1
/
&BOUNDARY
 solvent_mode = 'electronic'
/
&ELECTROSTATIC
 pbc correction = 'none'
 pbc dim = 3
 ! pbc_axis = 3
  ١
 tol = 1.d-11
 mix = 0.6
 solver = 'iterative'
 auxiliary = 'full'
```

! / DIELECTRIC\_REGIONS {angstrom} 1.0 1.0 5.5 5.5 8.2800 8.00 0.5 2 3

# Phonon input file, MAMBN

Vibrational modes of molecule (gamma pt phonon calc) &inputph outdir='./', prefix='teah', amass(1)=14.007, amass(2)=12.011, amass(3)=1.008, fildyn='teah.dynG', trans=.true. nogg = .true. asr = .true. tr2\_ph=1d-17 / 0.0 0.0 0.0

# **Cyclic Voltammetry**



**Figure S10**. Cyclic voltammogram (10 mV s<sup>-1</sup>) of polycrystalline silver recorded in DMSO containing 100 mM MAMBN-H<sup>+</sup> (reactant), and 300mM tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (supporting electrolyte)

# **Open Circuit Potential (OCP) Measurement to Determine the Equilibrium Potential of Triethyl Amine and Triethyl Ammonium Redox Couple**

We followed the procedure described previously<sup>35</sup> to measure the equilibrium potential for the triethylamine/triethylammonium couple, which is closely related to the redox couple studied in this work. 50 mM Triethylamine and 125 mM triethyl ammonium chloride were used as stock solution. 300 mM tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (as supporting electrolyte), 2.5 M 1:1 Pyridine: Pyridinium chloride (as buffer, to overcome the hydrogen bonding effect within the redox couple) were added to both the stock solutions. DMSO was used as solvent. To a 10 ml solution of 50 mM triethyl amine, 500  $\mu$ l of 125 mM triethyl ammonium chloride solution was added successively, and open circuit potential was measured after each addition using Gamry Reference 3000 potentiostat. In this measurement, Ag/AgCl was used as reference electrode and 250  $\mu$ m silver foil as working electrode. Data was recorded every 1 second over a duration of 10 minutes for each addition of the protonated species. Stability of the measurements was set such that the drift of the potential is not more than 0.005 mV/s. There was continuous N<sub>2</sub> flow and stirring at a constant rate during the experiment. Before using as the working electrode in the OCP experiment, the silver foil was held at -0.5 V for ~3 minutes in 3 M KCl solution to remove trace amount of silver oxide, if any.

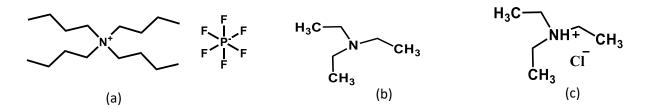


Figure S11. (a) The supporting electrolyte. (b,c) The redox couple.

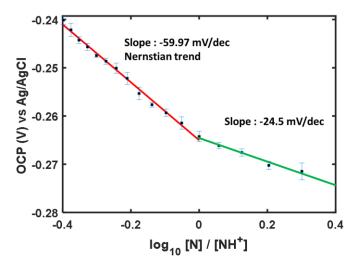


Figure S12. The open circuit potential as a function of the log of concentration ratio of the deprotonated and protonated species.

From each of the OCP vs time plots, potential values are averaged over last 5 minutes and used to make OCP vs mole-ratio plot (Figure S12). The reaction potential can be obtained using the following:<sup>35</sup>

$$E = E^{0} - \frac{0.0592}{n} \log \frac{[Et_{3}N]}{[Et_{3}N^{+}]} - \frac{0.0592}{n} \log \frac{[Pyr]}{[PyrH^{+}]} - 0.0592 \, pK_{a}$$

The potential at 1:1 mole ratio of the protonated and deprotonated species represents the Y-intercept of Figure S12:

 $E = E^0 - 0.0592 \, pK_a$ 

The Nernstian portion of the data in the figure and the  $pK_a$  of pyridine/pyridinium buffer in DMSO<sup>36</sup> was used to estimate  $E^0$ .

 $E^0 = 0.05997pK_a + \text{Y-intercept} = 0.05997*3.4 - 0.26501 = -0.0611 \text{ V}$ 

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