

# Reactivity of Aluminum Cluster Anions with Water: Origins of Reactivity and Mechanisms for H<sub>2</sub> Release.

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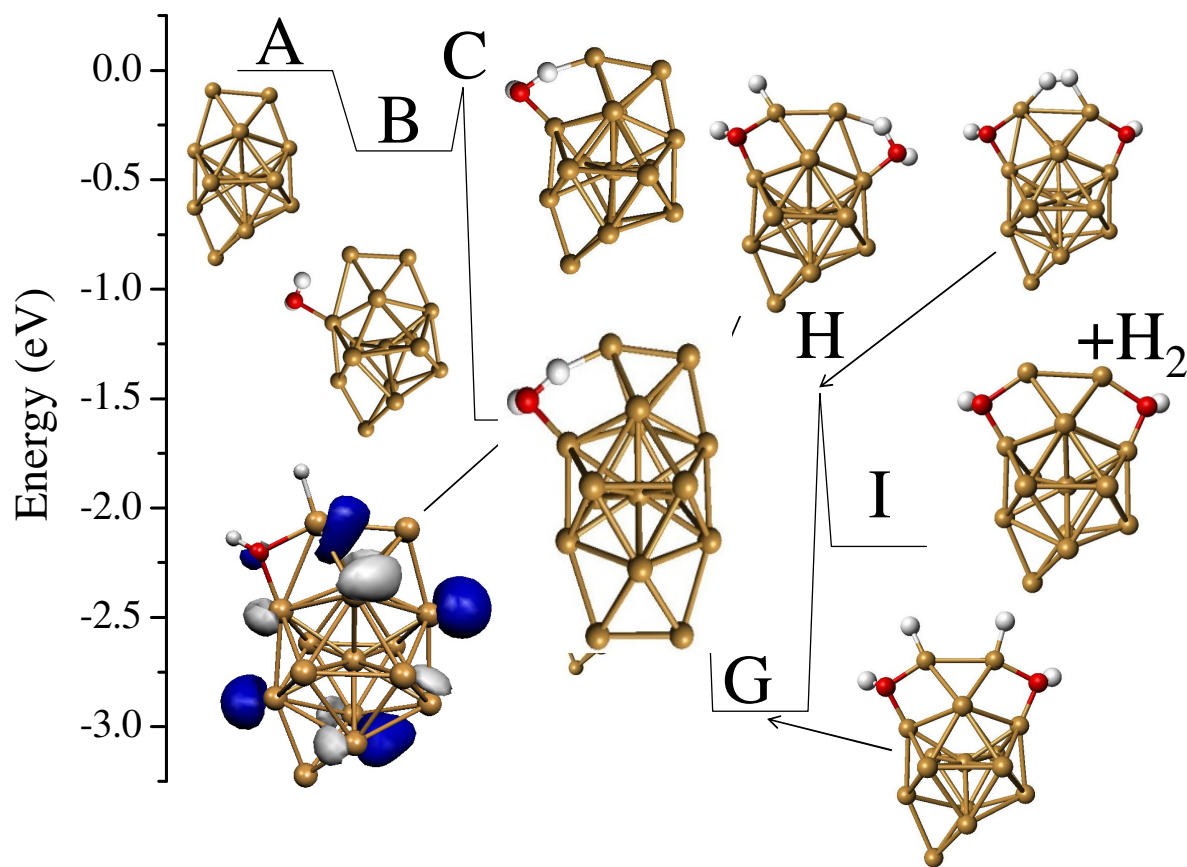
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Figure S1. Reaction coordinate for the formation of  $\text{H}_2$  from  $\text{Al}_{16}^-$  and  $2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecules. A) is  $\text{Al}_{16}^-$ , B) is with an intact water molecule bound to the cluster, C) is the transition state for splitting the first water, D) is cluster after water is split, with the LUMO+4 charge density to show the induced Lewis acid site. E) is after the second water is bound, F) is the transition state for splitting the second water, G) is after the breaking of the second O-H bond, H) is the transition state for releasing  $\text{H}_2$ , and J) is the final cluster after  $\text{H}_2$  is released.

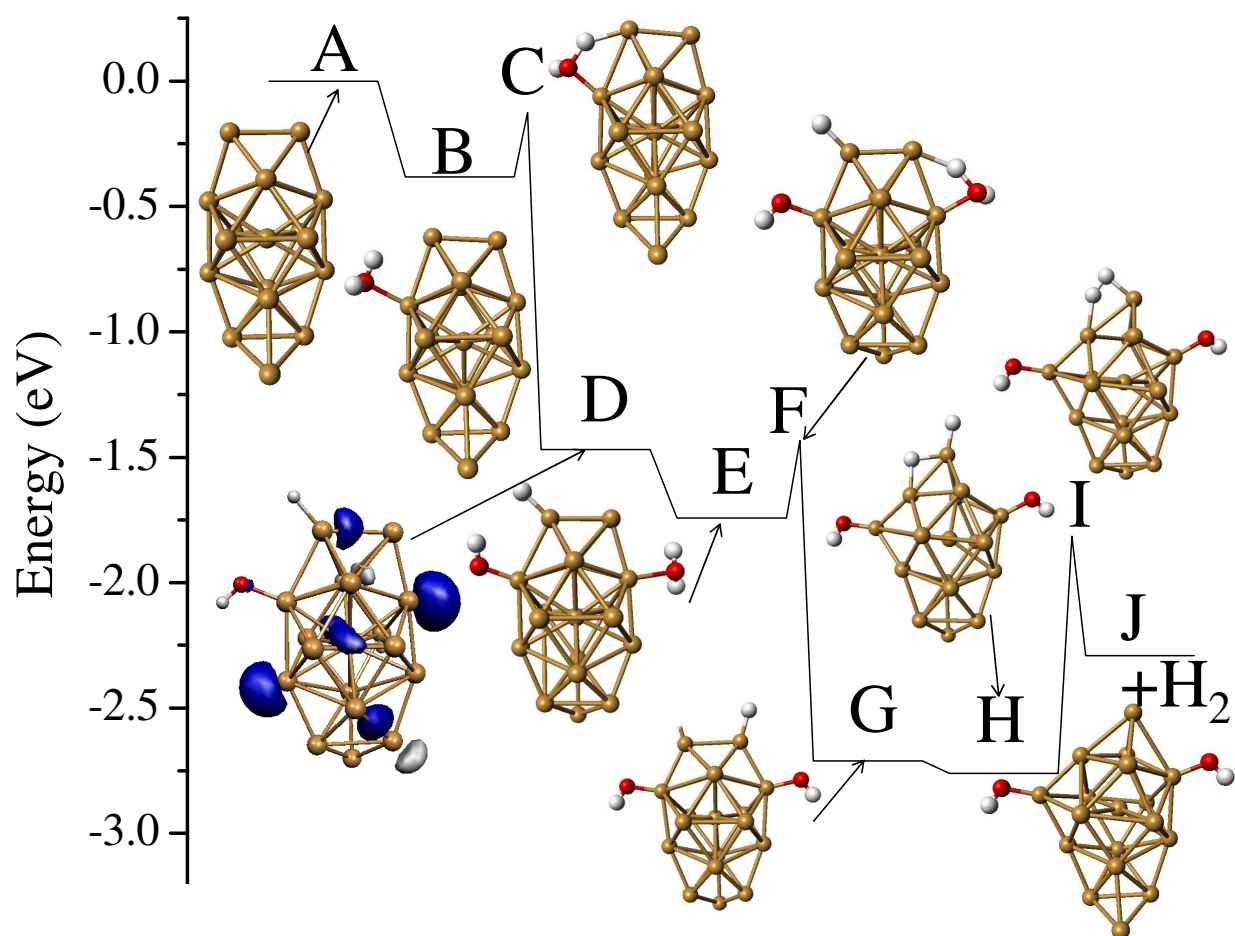


Figure S2. Reaction coordinate for the formation of  $\text{H}_2$  from  $\text{Al}_{18}^-$  and  $2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecules. A) is  $\text{Al}_{18}^-$ , B) is with an intact water molecule bound to the cluster, C) is the transition state for splitting the first water, D) is cluster after water is split, with the LUMO+4 charge density to show the induced Lewis acid site. E) is after the second water is bound, F) is the transition state for splitting the second water, G) is after the breaking of the second O-H bond, H) is a rearrangement of the cluster to facilitate the release of  $\text{H}_2$ , I) is the transition state for releasing  $\text{H}_2$ , and J) is the final cluster after  $\text{H}_2$  is released.