Supporting Information

## **Correlating Orbital Overlap Area and Vibrational Frequency Shift of**

## Isocyanide Moiety Adsorbed on Pt and Pd Covered Au(111) Surfaces

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Fig. S1 Density of states (DOS) of PIC molecule adsorption on the top site of (a) Pt<sub>6</sub>,
(b) Pd<sub>6</sub>, (c) Pt<sub>2</sub>Au<sub>4</sub>, and (d) Pd<sub>2</sub>Au<sub>4</sub> clusters. The black and red line represent the DOS of absorbed Pt/Pd atom, and PIC molecule, respectively.

Fig. S1 shows the DOS of PIC adsorption on top site of four different clusters. Although a strong bonding interaction of metal atom and PIC can be found, the large overlap of unoccupied orbital (antibonding) is also apparent. The band gap of Pt<sub>6</sub> and Pd<sub>6</sub> clusters are smaller than that of Pd<sub>2</sub>Au<sub>4</sub> and Pd<sub>2</sub>Au<sub>4</sub> clusters, suggesting that the pure Pt and Pd clusters can form antibonding interaction with C=N more easily than Pt and Pd alloyed with Au, respectively. This may be the main reason of the smaller  $v_{C=N}$  frequency shift for PIC adsorbed on pure Pt and Pd clusters compared to the respective alloy ones.

Table S1. Main orbitals of extended charge decomposition analysis for PIC adsorption on Pd<sub>6</sub>, Pt<sub>6</sub>, Pd<sub>2</sub>Au<sub>4</sub>, Pt<sub>2</sub>Au<sub>4</sub> clusters based on PBE1PBE functional. The d, b, and r represent charge transfer from metal to PIC, PIC to metal, and charge polarization, respectively.

| cluster                         | orbital | d         | b         | r         |
|---------------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Pd <sub>6</sub>                 | 80      | 0.003943  | 0.096214  | -0.227154 |
|                                 | 76      | 0.029549  | -0.000503 | -0.040383 |
|                                 | 74      | 0.024007  | -0.000955 | -0.027486 |
|                                 | 71      | 0.015707  | 0.009200  | -0.063112 |
|                                 | 65      | 0.202452  | -0.046360 | 0.029389  |
|                                 | 58      | -0.034232 | -0.070371 | 0.007202  |
|                                 | 56      | -0.019701 | -0.027769 | -0.001632 |
|                                 | 51      | 0.011471  | 0.000379  | 0.016543  |
|                                 | 50      | -0.047084 | -0.047936 | -0.002819 |
|                                 | 45      | -0.086376 | 0.180354  | 0.196562  |
|                                 | 42      | -0.014286 | 0.004968  | 0.007264  |
|                                 | 40      | -0.027440 | 0.002410  | -0.000481 |
|                                 | 37      | -0.001879 | 0.010324  | 0.003384  |
|                                 | 33      | -0.001212 | -0.055255 | -0.003178 |
| Pt <sub>6</sub>                 | 78      | -0.086811 | 0.004648  | -0.571108 |
|                                 | 75      | 0.043878  | -0.001520 | -0.075504 |
|                                 | 74      | 0.040739  | -0.002197 | -0.051272 |
|                                 | 69      | -0.006733 | -0.289978 | -0.373341 |
|                                 | 57      | -0.254817 | -0.016644 | -0.009620 |
|                                 | 55      | -0.751941 | -0.550892 | -0.842085 |
|                                 | 48      | -0.034597 | -0.021414 | -0.023793 |
|                                 | 47      | -0.579313 | -0.471612 | -0.554431 |
|                                 | 41      | -0.112284 | -0.294001 | -0.026536 |
|                                 | 40      | -0.021504 | -0.099551 | 0.002551  |
|                                 | 15      | -0.023190 | -0.023348 | -0.090552 |
| Pd <sub>2</sub> Au <sub>4</sub> | 83      | -0.072519 | 0.019661  | -0.024125 |
|                                 | 78      | 0.015701  | 0.000053  | -0.020685 |
|                                 | 77      | -0.066243 | 0.017338  | -0.011750 |
|                                 | 76      | 0.012470  | 0.001047  | -0.033093 |
|                                 | 75      | 0.010593  | 0.002139  | -0.033185 |
|                                 | 71      | 0.019772  | 0.000438  | -0.023211 |
|                                 | 68      | -0.019793 | -0.008728 | -0.041976 |
|                                 | 65      | 0.011943  | -0.003246 | -0.007492 |
|                                 | 61      | 0.038536  | -0.001743 | -0.000483 |
|                                 | 59      | -0.117145 | -0.009934 | -0.010782 |
|                                 | 58      | -0.048397 | -0.004395 | 0.001737  |
|                                 | 56      | -0.095475 | -0.042110 | -0.007333 |

|            | 54 | -0.007077 | -0.048160 | -0.004946 |
|------------|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|            | 53 | -0.015429 | -0.012450 | -0.004433 |
|            | 52 | -0.015419 | 0.004801  | 0.001123  |
|            | 50 | 0.099956  | -0.007472 | -0.009822 |
|            | 49 | 0.012861  | -0.007161 | 0.029265  |
|            | 43 | -0.133506 | 0.102742  | 0.119383  |
|            | 42 | -0.117370 | 0.050122  | 0.069771  |
|            | 40 | -0.036027 | 0.007556  | 0.002953  |
|            | 33 | -0.000237 | -0.018752 | -0.000834 |
|            | 27 | -0.016844 | -0.010155 | 0.042349  |
|            | 13 | 0.012574  | -0.001272 | 0.016059  |
| $Pt_2Au_4$ | 83 | 0.014999  | -0.001265 | -0.031751 |
|            | 82 | 0.016627  | -0.000889 | -0.006666 |
|            | 81 | 0.015965  | -0.002688 | 0.003047  |
|            | 80 | 0.018068  | -0.011410 | 0.000928  |
|            | 79 | 0.013005  | 0.000003  | -0.027809 |
|            | 78 | 0.010742  | -0.001381 | -0.049019 |
|            | 77 | 0.039324  | -0.004447 | -0.035554 |
|            | 75 | -0.682798 | -0.727869 | -1.454780 |
|            | 74 | -0.014623 | 0.002432  | -0.003582 |
|            | 73 | 0.035463  | 0.000171  | -0.081389 |
|            | 70 | -0.017372 | -0.004159 | -0.007083 |
|            | 68 | -0.061412 | -0.051771 | -0.073997 |
|            | 67 | -0.326870 | -0.172237 | -0.278385 |
|            | 66 | 0.011626  | 0.000058  | 0.019531  |
|            | 64 | -0.007787 | -0.091934 | -0.085901 |
|            | 62 | -0.021156 | -0.027896 | -0.035923 |
|            | 61 | -0.064526 | -0.113166 | -0.153268 |
|            | 59 | -0.011546 | -0.010298 | -0.026405 |
|            | 57 | -0.048142 | -0.067412 | -0.082907 |
|            | 54 | -0.071117 | -0.002601 | -0.007256 |
|            | 53 | -0.611753 | -0.406705 | -0.612022 |
|            | 50 | -0.230687 | -0.166030 | -0.230650 |
|            | 47 | -0.239581 | -0.172734 | -0.196062 |
|            | 46 | -0.012550 | -0.010589 | 0.044722  |
|            | 41 | -0.125193 | -0.181780 | -0.181151 |
|            | 40 | -0.030253 | -0.077972 | -0.055462 |
|            | 39 | -0.010567 | -0.019225 | -0.016400 |
|            | 33 | -0.004333 | -0.037287 | -0.011699 |
|            | 27 | -0.031388 | -0.026330 | -0.102783 |
|            | 13 | 0.022430  | -0.003913 | 0.030087  |



Fig. S2 Orbital interaction diagram of PIC adsorption on  $Pd_2Au_4$  cluster, three columns are the orbital of  $Pd_2Au_4$  fragment, complex of PIC- $Pd_2Au_4$ , and PIC molecule, respectively. (b) and (c) are the zoom-in of the energy region of (a) from -6.90 to -5.40 eV and -8.42 to -7.00 eV, respectively, and the contribution from  $Pd_2Au_4$  fragment to complex is set to 30%.



Fig. S3 Orbital interaction diagram of PIC adsorption on  $Pt_2Au_4$  cluster, three columns are the orbital of  $Pt_2Au_4$  fragment, complex of PIC- $Pt_2Au_4$ , and PIC molecule, respectively. (b) and (c) are the zoom-in of the energy region of (a) from -7.22 to -5.95 eV and -8.42 to -7.25 eV, respectively, and the contribution from  $Pt_2Au_4$  fragment to complex is set to 30%.



Fig. S4 Orbital interaction diagram of PIC before and after adsorption on top site of mono-layer Pd/Au(111) (a) and Pt/Au(111) (b) surface, the black and orange lines are d orbital Pd (Pt) atom and orbital molecular of PIC, respectively. The energy is referred to the Fermi energy level.



Fig. S5 *d*-electrons DOS of surface atoms of (a) clean Pd(111), (b) Pd<sub>ML</sub>/Au(111), (c)  $Pd_{BL}/Au(111)$ , (d) Pt(111), (e)  $Pt_{ML}/Au(111)$ , and (f)  $Pt_{BL}/Au(111)$ .

Table S2. Bond lengths (Å) of C-Pd(Pt) for PIC adsorbed on the top site of Pt/Au(111) and Pt/Au(111) surfaces.

|            | PIC   |       | Cl-   | C1-PIC |  | NH <sub>2</sub> -PIC |       |   | CF <sub>3</sub> -PIC |       |  |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--|----------------------|-------|---|----------------------|-------|--|
|            | Pd    | Pt    | Pd    | Pt     |  | Pd                   | Pt    | - | Pd                   | Pt    |  |
| Mono-layer | 1.883 | 1.860 | 1.881 | 1.859  |  | 1.885                | 1.862 |   | 1.879                | 1.858 |  |
| Bi-layer   | 1.878 | 1.857 | 1.878 | 1.857  |  | 1.882                | 1.860 |   | 1.876                | 1.855 |  |

Table S3. N=C-Ph bond angle (degree) of PIC adsorbed on the top site of Pt/Au(111) and Pt/Au(111) surfaces.

|            | PIC   |       | Cl-   | Cl-PIC |     | NH <sub>2</sub> -PIC | CF <sub>3</sub> -PIC |       |  |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-----|----------------------|----------------------|-------|--|
|            | Pd    | Pt    | Pd    | Pt     | Pd  | Pt                   | Pd                   | Pt    |  |
| Mono-layer | 179.9 | 178.8 | 179.9 | 179.8  | 178 | 8.9 178.6            | 179.4                | 178.6 |  |
| Bi-layer   | 179.5 | 178.8 | 179.7 | 179.4  | 179 | 0.3 178.6            | 179.3                | 179.0 |  |
| Free       | 180.0 |       | 179.9 |        | 179 | 0.2                  | 179.3                |       |  |

|      | PIC   |       | Cl-   | PIC   | NH2   | 2-PIC | CH    | CF <sub>3</sub> -PIC |  |  |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------------|--|--|
|      | Pd    | Pt    | Pd    | Pt    | Pd    | Pt    | Pd    | Pt                   |  |  |
| ML   | 1.187 | 1.184 | 1.188 | 1.185 | 1.187 | 1.184 | 1.189 | 1.186                |  |  |
| BL   | 1.188 | 1.185 | 1.189 | 1.186 | 1.187 | 1.184 | 1.189 | 1.187                |  |  |
| Free | 1.900 |       | 1.186 |       | 1.185 |       | 1.186 |                      |  |  |

Table S4. C=N bond lengths (Å) of PIC and its derivatives adsorbed on the top site of Pt/Au(111) and Pt/Au(111) surfaces.

Table S5. NC-Ph bond lengths (Å) of PIC adsorbed on the top site of Pt/Au(111) and Pt/Au(111) surfaces.

|      | PIC   |       | Cl-   | PIC   | NH <sub>2</sub> | 2-PIC | CF <sub>3</sub> | CF <sub>3</sub> -PIC |  |  |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------|-------|-----------------|----------------------|--|--|
|      | Pd    | Pt    | Pd    | Pd Pt |                 | Pt    | Pd              | Pt                   |  |  |
| ML   | 1.372 | 1.371 | 1.369 | 1.369 | 1.370           | 1.370 | 1.369           | 1.369                |  |  |
| BL   | 1.372 | 1.370 | 1.370 | 1.368 | 1.371           | 1.368 | 1.370           | 1.367                |  |  |
| Free | 1.378 |       | 1.379 |       | 1.378           |       | 1.379           |                      |  |  |

Table S6. Bonding energies (Ry) of molecular adsorption on Pd/Au(111) and Pt/Au(111) surfaces.

|    | PIC    |        | C Cl-PIC |        | NH <sub>2</sub> -PIC |        | CF <sub>3</sub> -PIC |        | HCN    |        | СО     |        |
|----|--------|--------|----------|--------|----------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|    | Pd     | Pt     | Pd       | Pt     | Pd                   | Pt     | Pd                   | Pt     | Pd     | Pt     | Pd     | Pt     |
| ML | -0.169 | -0.184 | -0.121   | -0.135 | -0.121               | -0.136 | -0.120               | -0.134 | -0.123 | -0.144 | -0.108 | -0.122 |
| BL | -0.178 | -0.208 | -0.129   | -0.159 | -0.128               | -0.160 | -0.128               | -0.158 | -0.131 | -0.170 | -0.116 | -0.148 |

Table S7. Calculated *d*-band center in eV for the  $Pd_{ML}/Au(111)$ ,  $Pd_{BL}/Au(111)$ ,  $Pt_{ML}/Au(111)$ ,  $Pt_{BL}/Au(111)$ , Pd(111), and Pt(111) surfaces.

| $Pd_{ML}/Au(111)$ | $Pd_{BL}/Au(111)$ | Pt <sub>ML</sub> /Au(111) | $Pt_{BL}/Au(111)$ | Pd(111) | Pt(111) |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------|---------|
| -1.405            | -1.386            | -1.646                    | -1.852            | -1.677  | -2.127  |

Table S8.  $v_{C=N}$  frequency (cm<sup>-1</sup>) of molecules with and without adsorption on the top site of Pd/Au(111) and Pt/Au(111) surfaces.

|      | PIC  |      | PIC C1-PIC |      | NH <sub>2</sub> -PIC |      | CF <sub>3</sub> -PIC |      | HCN  |      | СО   |      |
|------|------|------|------------|------|----------------------|------|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
|      | Pd   | Pt   | Pd         | Pt   | Pd                   | Pt   | Pd                   | Pt   | Pd   | Pt   | Pd   | Pt   |
| ML   | 2122 | 2179 | 2129       | 2175 | 2132                 | 2178 | 2125                 | 2164 | 1991 | 2021 | 2045 | 2073 |
| BL   | 2129 | 2170 | 2122       | 2157 | 2128                 | 2171 | 2122                 | 2159 | 1992 | 2011 | 2044 | 2050 |
| free | 2118 |      | 2119       |      | 2115                 |      | 2119                 |      | 2017 |      | 2147 |      |



Fig. S6  $d_{z2}$ -electrons project DOS of surface Pd and Pt atom for (a) Pd/Au(111) and (b) Pt/Au(111) surfaces.



Fig. S7 DOS of Cl-PIC adsorption on the top site of (a)  $Pd_{ML}/Au(111)$ , (b)  $Pt_{ML}/Au(111)$ , (c)  $Pd_{BL}/Au(111)$ , and (d)  $Pt_{BL}/Au(111)$  surfaces. The energy is relative to the Fermi level, and black, red, and orange lines represent the DOS of *d* orbital of adsorbed metal atom,  $\sigma$  orbital and  $\pi^*$  orbital of adsorbed Cl-PIC, respectively.



Fig. S8 DOS of NH<sub>2</sub>-PIC adsorption on the top site of (a)  $Pd_{ML}/Au(111)$ , (b)  $Pt_{ML}/Au(111)$ , (c)  $Pd_{BL}/Au(111)$ , and (d)  $Pt_{BL}/Au(111)$  surfaces. The energy is relative to the Fermi level, and black, red, and orange lines represent the DOS of *d* orbital of adsorbed metal atom,  $\sigma$  orbital and  $\pi^*$  orbital of adsorbed NH<sub>2</sub>-PIC, respectively.



Fig. S9 DOS of CF<sub>3</sub>-PIC adsorption on the top site of (a)  $Pd_{ML}/Au(111)$ , (b)  $Pt_{ML}/Au(111)$ , (c)  $Pd_{BL}/Au(111)$ , and (d)  $Pt_{BL}/Au(111)$  surfaces. The energy is relative to the Fermi level, and black, red, and orange lines represent the DOS of *d* orbital of adsorbed metal atom,  $\sigma$  orbital and  $\pi^*$  orbital of adsorbed CO, respectively.



Fig. S10 DOS of CO adsorption on the top site of (a)  $Pd_{ML}/Au(111)$ , (b)  $Pt_{ML}/Au(111)$ , (c)  $Pd_{BL}/Au(111)$ , and (d)  $Pt_{BL}/Au(111)$  surfaces. The energy is relative to the Fermi level, and black, red, and orange lines represent the DOS of *d* orbital of adsorbed metal atom,  $\sigma$  orbital and  $\pi^*$  orbital of adsorbed CO, respectively.