

## Supporting Information

### Chemical Oxidation of a Double-Twisted Nanographene

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## 1. General

The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR measurements were carried out with a Bruker AVANCE NEO 600 MHz instrument. The NMR chemical shifts are reported in ppm with reference to residual protons and carbons of  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  ( $\delta$  5.32 ppm in  $^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $\delta$  53.84 ppm in  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR) and  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  ( $\delta$  118.26 ppm in  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR). Centrifugation was performed on a Herexi TD5A centrifuge. The UV-vis-NIR absorption spectra were measured with a Shimadzu UV-3600i Plus spectrometer. The circular dichroism (CD) spectrum was recorded on a JASCO-J-1700 Circular Dichroism Spectrophotometer.

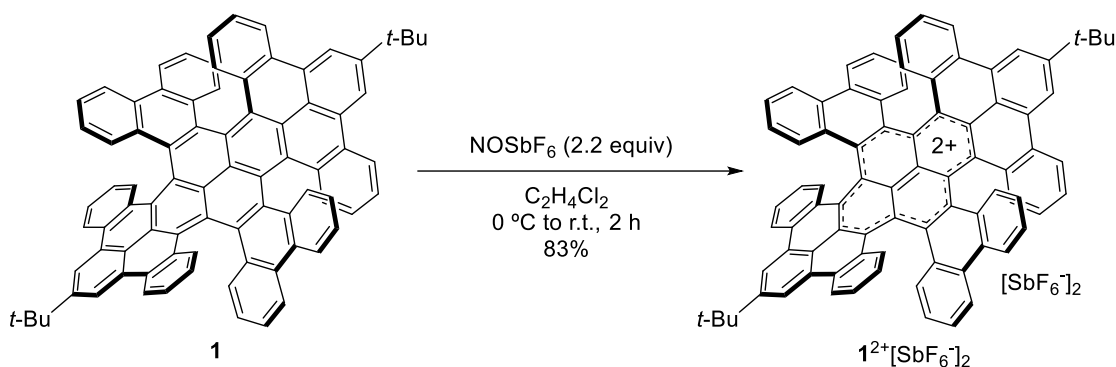
Dry  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{Cl}_2$  (1,2-dichloroethane) was purchased from Beijing InnoChem Science & Technology Co.  $\text{NOSbF}_6$  was purchased from Shanghai Aladdin Biochemical Technology Co., Ltd. *n*-Hexane was purchased from Shanghai Titan Scientific Co., Ltd. Unless otherwise noted, all commercial reagents and solvents were used as received and no further purification was performed.

A double-twisted nanographene (**1**)<sup>1</sup> was prepared according to literature procedures. The reaction was carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere.

## 2. Computational Methods

All calculations were performed using the Gaussian 09 program. All structures at the stationary states were optimized at the B3LYP-D3 level of theory with basis sets of SDD for Sb and 6-31G(d) for the rest without any symmetry assumptions and confirmed by frequency analysis at the same level of theory. The NMR chemical shifts were calculated at the GIAO-B3LYP-D3/6-311+G(2d,p) level of theory using the structure optimized at the aforementioned level. The NICS (nucleus-independent chemical shift) and ICSS (iso-chemical shielding surfaces) calculations were performed at the HF/6-31+G(d,p) level of theory using structures optimized at the aforementioned level, the latter of which was computed by Multiwfn 3.8-dev program.<sup>2,3</sup> ACID (anisotropy of current-induced density) plots were generated at the B3LYP-D3/6-31G(d) level of theory using structures optimized at the aforementioned level. Optical transitions were calculated at the TD-CAM-B3LYP-D3 level of theory with basis sets of SDD for Sb and 6-31G(d) for the rest using the structure optimized at the aforementioned level.

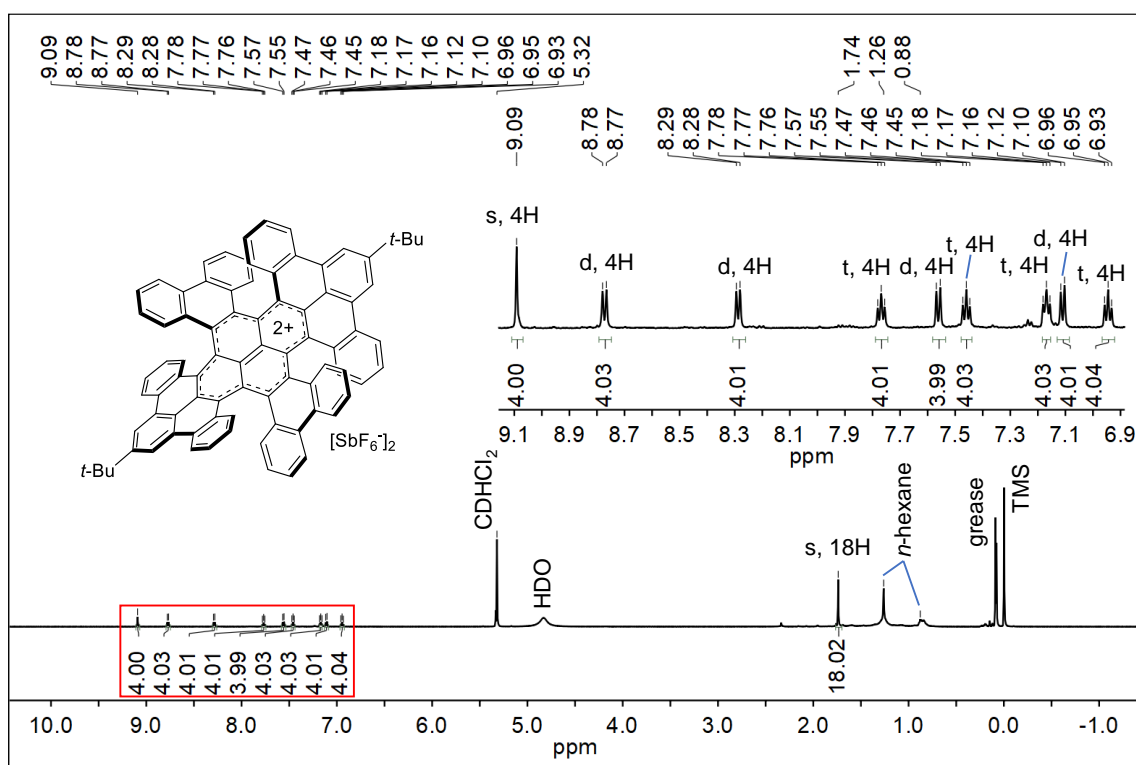
### 3. Synthesis of $1^{2+}[\text{SbF}_6^-]_2$



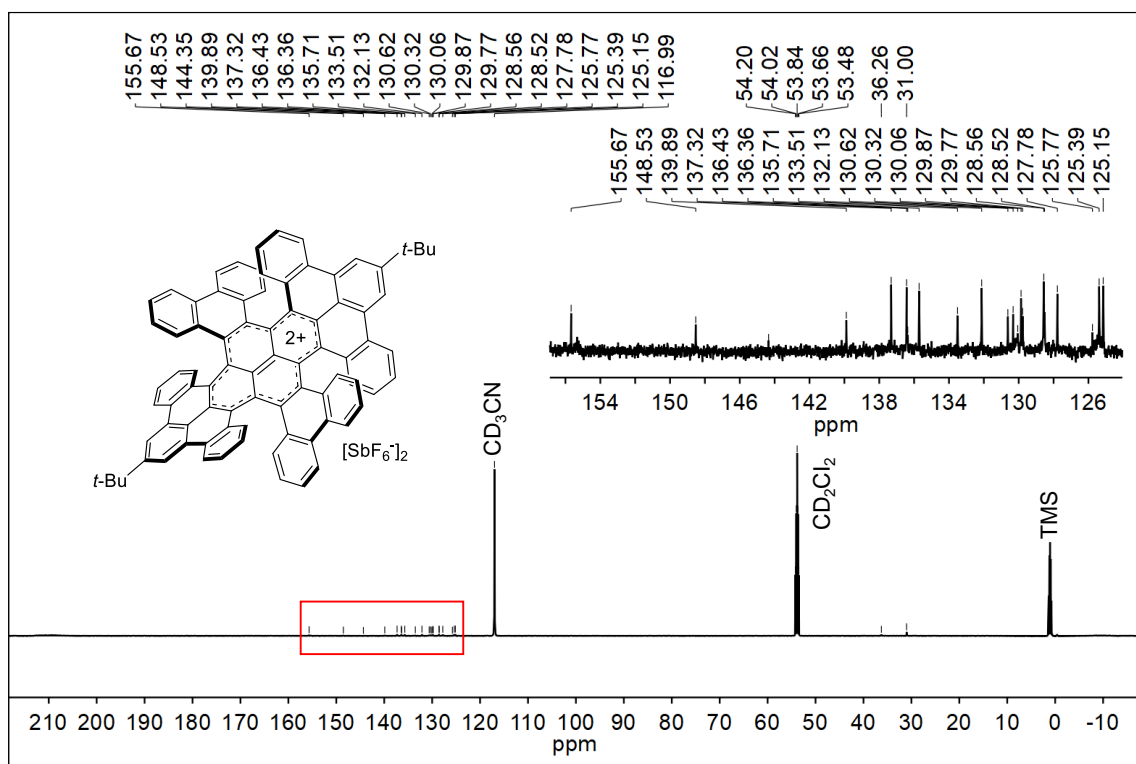
Powdery **1** (10 mg, 9.4  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) and  $\text{NOSbF}_6$  (5.5 mg, 0.021 mmol, 2.2 equiv) were added into a 50 mL two-neck flask and degassed through three vacuum- $\text{N}_2$  cycles. Dry  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{Cl}_2$  (10 mL) was added at  $0\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ . During the process that the solution was allowed to warm up to room temperature for 2 h, the compounds were mostly precipitated. The resulting solid was collected by centrifugation (3000 rpm, 10 min) using  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{Cl}_2/n\text{-hexane}$  (1:20) for three times ( $21\text{ mL} \times 3$ ) to give  $1^{2+}[\text{SbF}_6^-]_2$  (12 mg, 7.8  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 83%) as a brown powder.

$(MM,MMMM)\text{-}1^{2+}[\text{SbF}_6^-]_2$  was prepared in a similar manner using  $(MM,MMMM)\text{-}1$ .

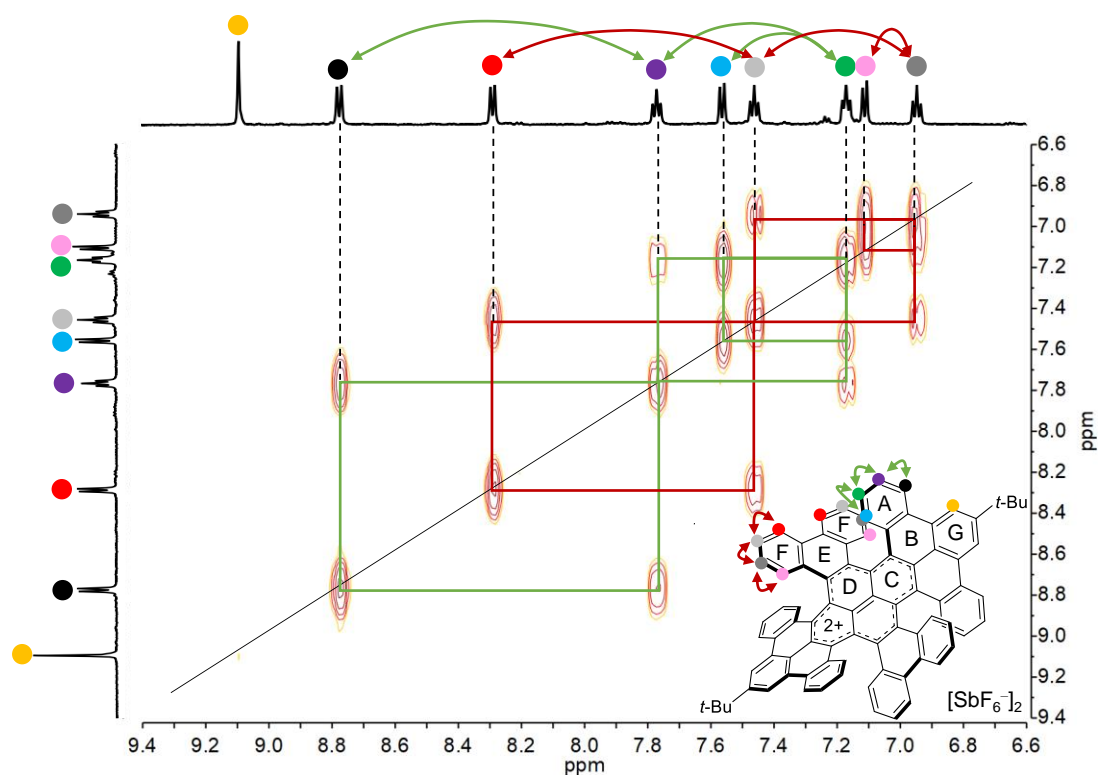
$1^{2+}[\text{SbF}_6^-]_2$ :  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  9.10 (s, 4H), 8.77 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 8.29 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 4H), 7.77 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.56 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.46 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 4H), 7.17 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.11 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 4H), 6.95 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 4H), 1.73 (s, 18H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  (5:1))  $\delta$  155.67, 158.53, 144.35, 139.89, 137.32, 136.43, 136.36, 135.71, 133.51, 132.13, 130.62, 130.32, 130.06, 129.87, 129.77, 128.56, 128.52, 127.78, 125.77, 125.39, 125.15, 36.26, 31.00 (The sum of carbon signals must be 23 in theory. Observed 23).



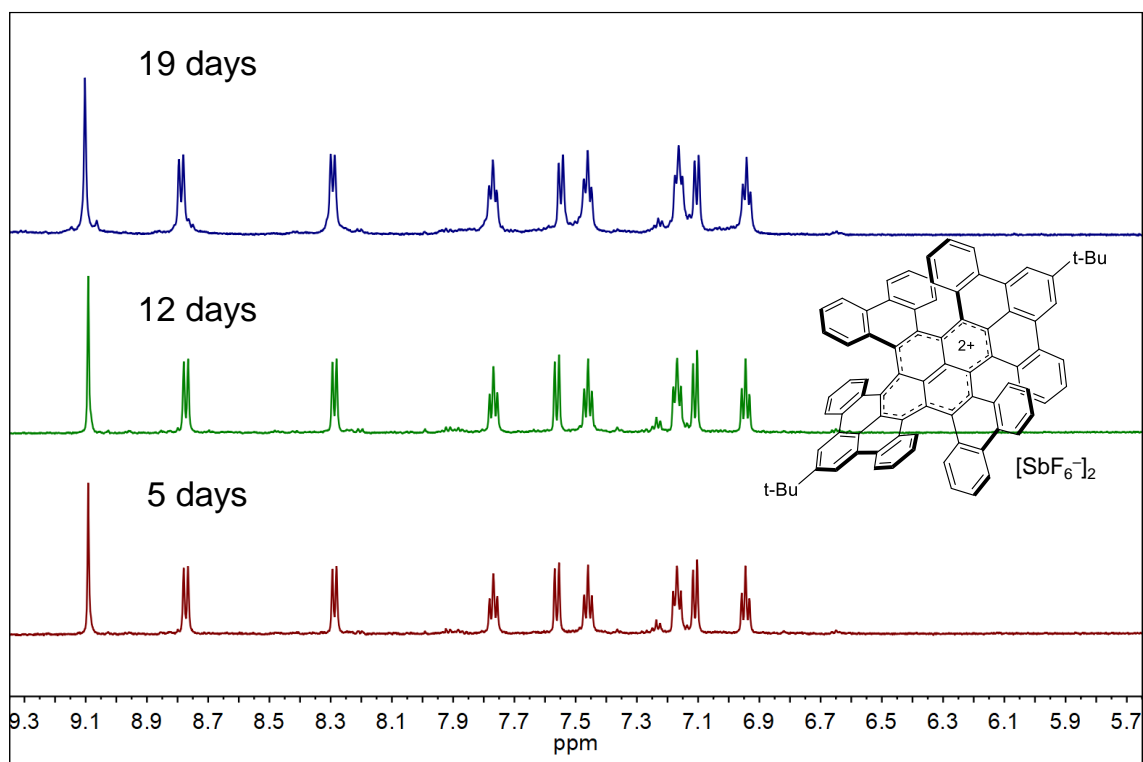
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) of  $1^{2+}[\text{SbF}_6^-]_2$ .



**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra (151 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  (5:1)) of  $1^{2+}[\text{SbF}_6^-]_2$ .

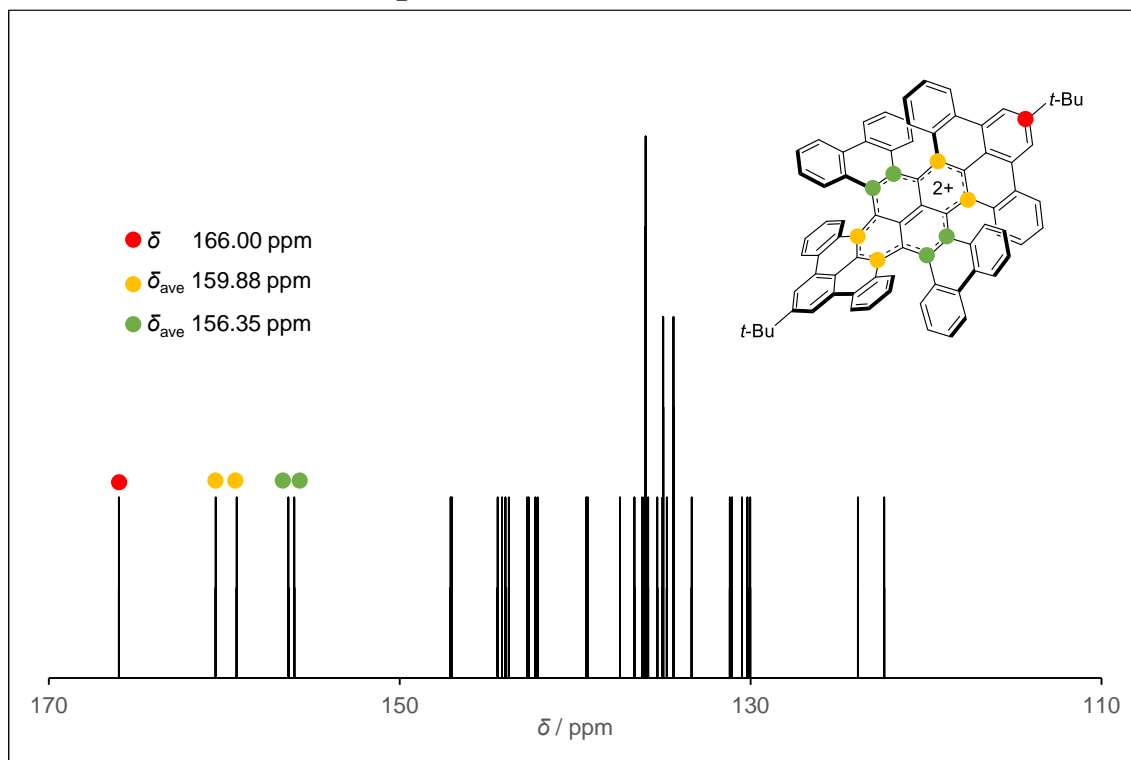


**Figure S3.** COSY spectrum (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 298K) of  $1^{2+}[\text{SbF}_6^-]_2$ .



**Figure S4.** Spectral change in  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) of  $1^{2+}[\text{SbF}_6^-]_2$ .

## 4. Simulated $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR Spectrum



**Figure S5.** Simulated  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of  $1^{2+}$  (GIAO-B3LYP-D3/6-311+G(2d,p)//B3LYP-D3/6-31G(d)).

**Table S1.** Optimized structure of  $1^{2+}$  (B3LYP-D3/6-31G(d))

Center Number	Atomic Number	Atomic Type	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
			X	Y	Z
6	6	0	0.033072	7.732707	-0.026250
7	6	0	-1.726073	4.852540	1.753152
8	6	0	1.776971	4.827065	-1.765950
9	6	0	-2.452192	5.447777	2.800069
10	6	0	-3.152898	4.675428	3.719440
11	6	0	-3.139175	3.272689	3.643755
12	6	0	-2.476291	2.653240	2.604163
13	6	0	-1.796000	3.426866	1.632612
14	6	0	1.836531	3.400987	-1.636912
15	6	0	2.514548	2.617082	-2.602410
16	6	0	3.185099	3.225559	-3.642900
17	6	0	3.210003	4.628209	-3.726063
18	6	0	2.512335	5.410830	-2.813968
19	6	0	-1.036942	2.779468	0.608509
20	6	0	-1.211235	1.402028	0.181553
21	6	0	0.004372	0.703359	0.000629
22	6	0	1.228539	1.386799	-0.180520
23	6	0	1.071152	2.765870	-0.611094
24	6	0	0.021641	3.482882	-0.002013
25	6	0	-2.447588	0.730974	0.017575
26	6	0	-2.456242	-0.701579	-0.012988
27	6	0	-1.228539	-1.386799	-0.180520
28	6	0	-0.004372	-0.703359	0.000629
29	6	0	-1.071152	-2.765870	-0.611094
30	6	0	-0.021641	-3.482882	-0.002013
31	6	0	1.036942	-2.779468	0.608509
32	6	0	1.211235	-1.402028	0.181553
33	6	0	2.447588	-0.730974	0.017575
34	6	0	2.456242	0.701579	-0.012988
35	6	0	-3.696232	1.426826	-0.289183

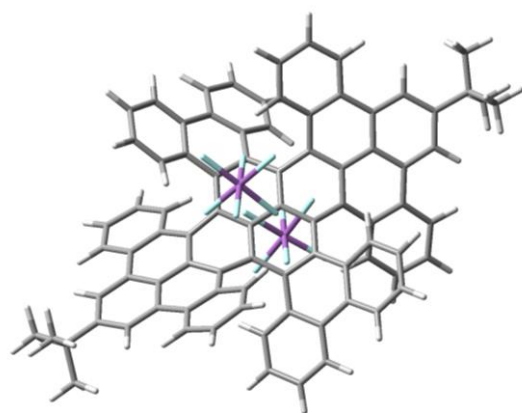
Standard orientation:



36	6	0	-4.931060	0.727221	-0.218988	96	1	0	-4.827148	4.389842	-1.568021
37	6	0	-4.939209	-0.667795	0.227692	97	1	0	-7.011479	3.198750	-1.333520
38	6	0	-3.713093	-1.382792	0.294267	98	1	0	-7.058477	0.872139	-0.571846
39	6	0	-3.689615	2.740087	-0.810739	99	1	0	-7.067319	-0.785803	0.586592
40	6	0	-4.863981	3.383466	-1.162145	100	1	0	-7.047737	-3.113404	1.346632
41	6	0	-6.086209	2.710955	-1.040472	101	1	0	-4.878101	-4.332629	1.572674
42	6	0	-6.110194	1.396920	-0.595289	102	1	0	-2.785499	-3.209660	0.991706
43	6	0	-6.125737	-1.322641	0.606990	103	1	0	7.067319	0.785803	0.586592
44	6	0	-6.117225	-2.637148	1.051225	104	1	0	7.047737	3.113404	1.346632
45	6	0	-4.903311	-3.325294	1.168271	105	1	0	4.878101	4.332629	1.572674
46	6	0	-3.721810	-2.696722	0.813776	106	1	0	2.785499	3.209660	0.991706
47	6	0	3.696232	-1.426826	-0.289183	107	1	0	2.747266	-3.240302	-0.992986
48	6	0	4.931060	-0.727221	-0.218988	108	1	0	4.827148	-4.389842	-1.568021
49	6	0	4.939209	0.667795	0.227692	109	1	0	7.011479	-3.198750	-1.333520
50	6	0	3.713093	1.382792	0.294267	110	1	0	7.058477	-0.872139	-0.571846
51	6	0	6.125737	1.322641	0.606990	111	1	0	-1.609793	-7.544227	-1.465486
52	6	0	6.117225	2.637148	1.051225	112	1	0	1.544209	-7.571325	1.417803
53	6	0	4.903311	3.325294	1.168271	113	1	0	-2.411872	-1.539491	-2.586392
54	6	0	3.721810	2.696722	0.813776	114	1	0	-3.645547	-2.613086	-4.410838
55	6	0	3.689615	-2.740087	-0.810739	115	1	0	-3.740949	-5.110992	-4.541917
56	6	0	4.863981	-3.383466	-1.162145	116	1	0	-2.503359	-6.486465	-2.951647
57	6	0	6.086209	-2.710955	-1.040472	117	1	0	2.433637	-6.524153	2.931554
58	6	0	6.110194	-1.396920	-0.595289	118	1	0	3.677014	-5.166885	4.534523
59	6	0	-0.932460	-5.603793	-0.853531	119	1	0	3.602024	-2.667630	4.416113
60	6	0	-0.916775	-7.008643	-0.831553	120	1	0	2.382050	-1.574806	2.593462
61	6	0	-0.033072	-7.732707	-0.026250	121	1	0	1.318818	9.428769	1.743846
62	6	0	0.855519	-7.017146	0.790952	122	1	0	0.307820	10.861177	1.462596
63	6	0	0.878824	-5.617953	0.831776	123	1	0	-0.401825	9.397474	2.158229
64	6	0	-0.026528	-4.913970	-0.007922	124	1	0	-1.435287	10.860177	-0.407039
65	6	0	-1.776971	-4.827065	-1.765950	125	1	0	-1.647515	9.426015	-1.432593
66	6	0	1.726073	-4.852540	1.753152	126	1	0	-2.179160	9.399294	0.256445
67	6	0	-1.836531	-3.400987	-1.636912	127	1	0	0.846817	9.601723	-2.007242
68	6	0	-2.514548	-2.617082	-2.602410	128	1	0	2.061246	9.604804	-0.707674
69	6	0	-3.185099	-3.225559	-3.642900	129	1	0	0.976175	10.983894	-0.913501
70	6	0	-3.210003	-4.628209	-3.726063	130	1	0	-0.846817	-9.601723	-2.007242
71	6	0	-2.512335	-5.410830	-2.813968	131	1	0	-0.976175	-10.983894	-0.913501
72	6	0	2.452192	-5.447777	2.800069	132	1	0	-2.061246	-9.604804	-0.707674
73	6	0	3.152898	-4.675428	3.719440	133	1	0	-0.307820	-10.861177	1.462596
74	6	0	3.139175	-3.272689	3.643755	134	1	0	0.401825	-9.397474	2.158229
75	6	0	2.476291	-2.653240	2.604163	135	1	0	-1.318818	-9.428769	1.743846
76	6	0	1.796000	-3.426866	1.632612	136	1	0	1.647515	-9.426015	-1.432593
77	6	0	0.006186	9.271086	-0.004129	137	1	0	2.179160	-9.399294	0.256445
78	6	0	0.325300	9.765401	1.426766	138	1	0	1.435287	-10.860177	-0.407039
79	6	0	-1.399536	9.764398	-0.420252	139	51	0	0.000000	0.000000	4.407569
80	6	0	1.035651	9.891547	-0.967121	140	51	0	0.000000	0.000000	-4.404251
81	6	0	-0.006186	-9.271086	-0.004129	141	9	0	-1.899453	-0.077402	-4.327786
82	6	0	-1.035651	-9.891547	-0.967121	142	9	0	0.000000	0.000000	-2.498909
83	6	0	-0.325300	-9.765401	1.426766	143	9	0	1.899453	0.077402	-4.327786
84	6	0	1.399536	-9.764398	-0.420252	144	9	0	0.000000	0.000000	-6.282824
85	1	0	-1.544209	7.571325	1.417803	145	9	0	-0.048629	1.888355	-4.326276
86	1	0	1.609793	7.544227	-1.465486	146	9	0	0.048629	-1.888355	-4.326276
87	1	0	-2.433637	6.524153	2.931554	147	9	0	0.000000	0.000000	2.502236
88	1	0	-3.677014	5.166885	4.534523	148	9	0	0.000000	0.000000	6.286119
89	1	0	-3.602024	2.667630	4.416113	149	9	0	-1.898202	0.103962	4.331260
90	1	0	-2.382050	1.574806	2.593462	150	9	0	-0.074524	-1.887480	4.329408
91	1	0	2.411872	1.539491	-2.586392	151	9	0	1.898202	-0.103962	4.331260
92	1	0	3.645547	2.613086	-4.410838	152	9	0	0.074524	1.887480	4.329408
93	1	0	3.740949	5.110992	-4.541917						
94	1	0	2.503359	6.486465	-2.951647						
95	1	0	-2.747266	3.240302	-0.992986						

The total electronic energy was calculated to be -3233.366415 Hartree.

**Table S2.** Optimized structure of  $1^{2+}[\text{SbF}_6^-]_2$  (B3LYP-D3 with SDD for Sb and 6-31G(d) for the rest)



Standard orientation:						
Center Number	Atomic Number	Atomic Type	Coordinates (Angstroms)			
			X	Y	Z	
1	6	0	-7.770102	-0.114799	-0.577357	
2	6	0	-7.024684	0.950968	-1.081345	
3	6	0	-5.621791	0.997890	-0.993338	
4	6	0	-7.076961	-1.153693	0.058448	
5	6	0	-5.685619	-1.152496	0.205547	
6	6	0	-4.947491	-0.071417	-0.350630	
7	6	0	-3.515365	-0.061142	-0.255652	
8	6	0	-2.784340	1.091021	-0.617794	
9	6	0	-3.414066	2.088277	-1.444812	
10	6	0	-4.836109	2.071398	-1.600532	
11	6	0	-5.424915	3.091160	-2.377618	
12	6	0	-4.655139	4.048190	-3.018055	
13	6	0	-3.252496	3.998877	-2.943473	
14	6	0	-2.642360	3.028664	-2.176336	
15	6	0	-0.706041	-0.067080	-0.063513	
16	6	0	-1.409023	1.161071	-0.169816	
17	6	0	-0.709267	2.364413	0.066837	
18	6	0	-1.314737	3.593620	0.550614	
19	6	0	-2.479661	3.536700	1.342427	
20	6	0	-3.019709	4.699401	1.873390	
21	6	0	-2.387638	5.928342	1.647264	
22	6	0	-1.199781	5.986090	0.922605	
23	6	0	-0.632598	4.826865	0.372361	
24	6	0	0.632856	4.826738	-0.373325	
25	6	0	1.200107	5.985792	-0.923854	
26	6	0	2.387929	5.927792	-1.648556	
27	6	0	3.019894	4.698754	-1.874436	
28	6	0	2.479785	3.536215	-1.343174	
29	6	0	1.314909	3.593404	-0.551310	
30	6	0	0.709375	2.364353	-0.067213	
31	6	0	1.409099	1.161046	0.169717	
32	6	0	2.784398	1.091056	0.617712	
33	6	0	3.414169	2.088471	1.444525	
34	6	0	4.836200	2.071526	1.600314	
35	6	0	5.425032	3.091321	2.377323	
36	6	0	4.655283	4.048504	3.017582	
37	6	0	3.252650	3.999315	2.942876	
38	6	0	2.642488	3.029037	2.175825	
39	6	0	-9.897894	1.039370	-1.407600	
40	6	0	-9.303086	-0.184136	-0.685631	
41	6	0	-9.914193	-0.249478	0.734199	
42	6	0	-9.700715	-1.451609	-1.478129	
43	6	0	7.770140	-0.114814	0.577261	
44	6	0	7.076969	-1.153751	-0.058440	
45	6	0	5.685619	-1.152560	-0.205468	
46	6	0	7.024751	0.951016	1.081169	
47	6	0	5.621858	0.997920	0.993243	
48	6	0	4.947522	-0.071459	0.350699	
49	6	0	3.515386	-0.061217	0.255832	
50	6	0	2.830694	-1.195861	-0.238663	
51	6	0	3.550517	-2.139257	-1.050475	
52	6	0	4.977115	-2.159172	-0.998154	
53	6	0	5.648637	-3.121331	-1.777209	
54	6	0	4.954923	-3.974198	-2.622961	
55	6	0	3.560299	-3.870341	-2.753763	
56	6	0	2.867083	-2.963325	-1.979371	
57	6	0	0.706805	-0.067104	0.063670	
58	6	0	1.410459	-1.292180	0.038080	
59	6	0	0.697134	-2.518790	0.134947	
60	6	0	1.291807	-3.763853	0.610192	
61	6	0	2.450192	-3.749902	1.416713	
62	6	0	2.982289	-4.921794	1.927373	
63	6	0	2.344807	-6.143450	1.672161	
64	6	0	1.173083	-6.171969	0.928681	
65	6	0	0.620802	-4.995771	0.388358	
66	6	0	-0.620986	-4.995770	-0.387621	
67	6	0	-1.173317	-6.171974	-0.927874	
68	6	0	-2.344998	-6.143440	-1.671427	
69	6	0	-2.982371	-4.921762	-1.926799	
70	6	0	-2.450227	-3.749863	-1.416203	
71	6	0	-1.291911	-3.763832	-0.609583	
72	6	0	-0.697205	-2.518768	-0.134394	
73	6	0	-1.410475	-1.292106	-0.037633	
74	6	0	-2.830703	-1.195722	0.239042	
75	6	0	-3.550576	-2.139098	1.058088	
76	6	0	-4.977169	-2.159107	0.998285	
77	6	0	-5.648722	-3.121390	1.777157	
78	6	0	-4.955060	-3.974291	2.622921	
79	6	0	-3.560468	-3.870307	2.753963	
80	6	0	-2.867217	-2.963143	1.979770	
81	6	0	9.914213	-0.249532	-0.734341	
82	6	0	9.303127	-0.184127	0.685494	
83	6	0	9.700807	-1.451549	1.478064	
84	6	0	9.897915	1.039429	1.407388	
85	1	0	-7.542779	1.764689	-1.567595	
86	1	0	-7.647311	-1.980542	0.463370	
87	1	0	-6.500426	3.124012	-2.506243	
88	1	0	-5.141318	4.813679	-3.616557	
89	1	0	-2.647179	4.700894	-3.508460	
90	1	0	-1.564856	2.932994	-2.189045	
91	1	0	-2.894924	2.569289	1.601962	
92	1	0	-3.906029	4.645568	2.498080	
93	1	0	-2.799312	6.838537	2.074531	
94	1	0	-0.692517	6.939227	0.813139	
95	1	0	0.692924	6.938996	-0.814589	
96	1	0	2.799646	6.837864	-2.076043	
97	1	0	3.906176	4.644706	-2.499163	
98	1	0	2.894960	2.568712	-1.602510	
99	1	0	6.500534	3.124081	2.506049	
100	1	0	5.141486	4.814013	3.616037	
101	1	0	2.647340	4.701462	3.507707	
102	1	0	1.564973	2.933460	2.188483	
103	1	0	-9.524920	1.127354	-2.434503	
104	1	0	-10.987657	0.940770	-1.460118	
105	1	0	-9.676957	1.972651	-0.876925	
106	1	0	-9.644076	0.638174	1.317157	
107	1	0	-11.007868	-0.299990	0.673501	
108	1	0	-9.571167	-1.129916	1.287668	
109	1	0	-9.344059	-2.366220	-0.992856	
110	1	0	-10.792027	-1.521691	-1.558567	
111	1	0	-9.283890	-1.424950	-2.491315	
112	1	0	7.647289	-1.980631	-0.463343	
113	1	0	7.542878	1.764813	1.567262	
114	1	0	6.730964	-3.177942	-1.758980	
115	1	0	5.504497	-4.691618	-3.226137	
116	1	0	3.030774	-4.473223	-3.484388	
117	1	0	1.807530	-2.810777	-2.137856	
118	1	0	2.905092	-2.801725	1.676811	
119	1	0	3.869603	-4.885150	2.552248	
120	1	0	2.744279	-7.065266	2.085474	
121	1	0	0.661922	-7.118610	0.791079	
122	1	0	-0.662230	-7.118640	-0.790168	
123	1	0	-2.744506	-7.065268	-2.084677	
124	1	0	-3.869627	-4.885103	-2.551756	
125	1	0	-2.905025	-2.801672	-1.676429	
126	1	0	-6.731040	-3.178103	1.758772	
127	1	0	-5.504665	-4.691834	3.225921	
128	1	0	-3.030999	-4.473223	3.484603	
129	1	0	-1.807728	-2.810410	2.138515	

130	1	0	9.644040	0.638067	-1.317354	143	9	0	0.064192	1.467679	-2.697248
131	1	0	11.007893	-0.299982	-0.673662	144	9	0	0.272903	-1.171370	-2.636678
132	1	0	9.571221	-1.130025	-1.287740	145	9	0	2.439836	0.397360	-2.410250
133	1	0	9.344197	-2.366202	0.992836	146	51	0	-1.058050	0.197795	3.717952
134	1	0	10.792121	-1.521574	1.558512	147	9	0	0.359326	0.038427	4.940222
135	1	0	9.283972	-1.424854	2.491244	148	9	0	-2.086397	-1.139125	4.555626
136	1	0	9.525017	1.127414	2.434318	149	9	0	-1.852080	1.584685	4.706815
137	1	0	10.987690	0.940902	1.459818	150	9	0	-2.439974	0.397840	2.410446
138	1	0	9.676876	1.972686	0.876710	151	9	0	-0.273239	-1.170785	2.637241
139	51	0	1.057964	0.196806	-3.717732	152	9	0	-0.064103	1.468207	2.697054
140	9	0	-0.359558	0.037354	-4.939825						
141	9	0	2.086266	-1.140584	-4.554743						
142	9	0	1.852409	1.582958	-4.707302						

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The total electronic energy was calculated to be -4442.9477363 Hartree.

## 5. References

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