

## Electronic Supplementary Information

# On assessing the carbon capture performance of graphynes with particle swarm optimization

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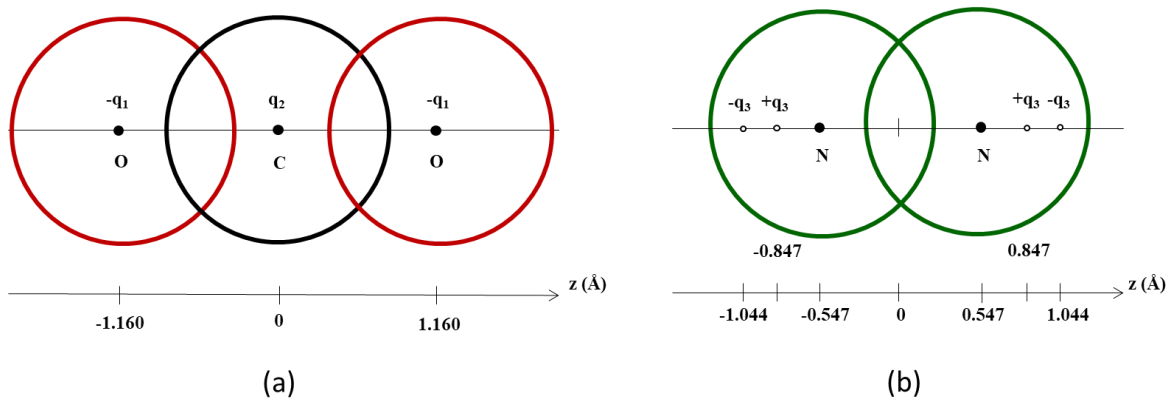


Figure S1. Partial charge distributions in CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> molecules ( $q_1=0.350 |e|$ ,  $q_2=0.700 |e|$ ,  $q_3=0.373 |e|$ ).

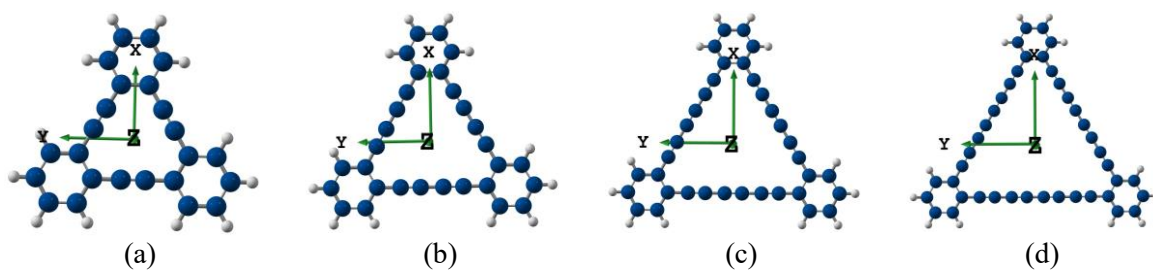
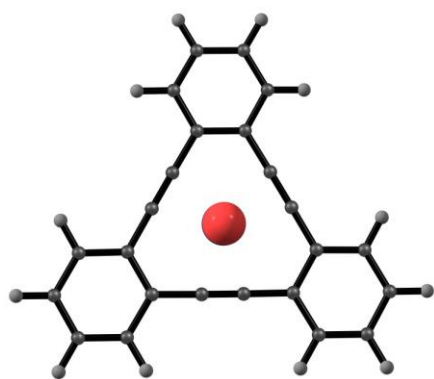
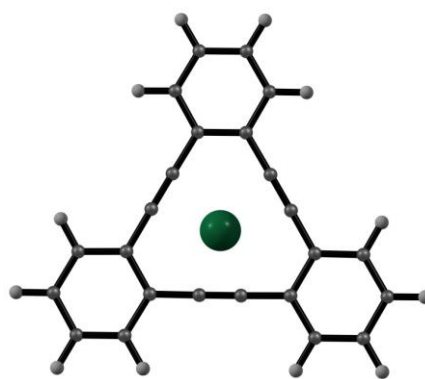


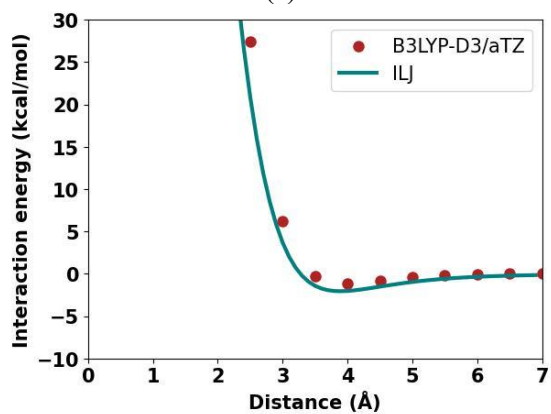
Figure S2. Single-pore model systems of (a)  $\gamma$ -GY-1, (b)  $\gamma$ -GY-2, (c)  $\gamma$ -GY-3, and (d)  $\gamma$ -GY-4 along with a representation of the Cartesian axes used to define the orientations of the molecules.



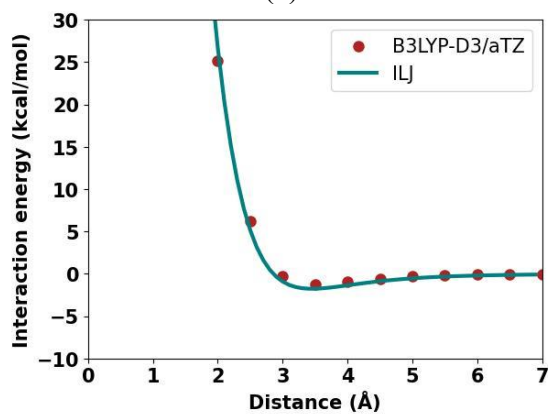
(a)



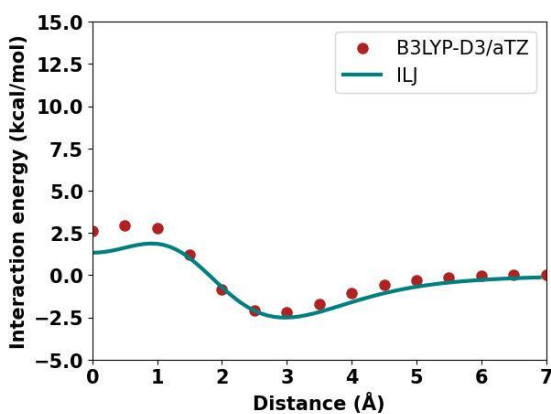
(b)



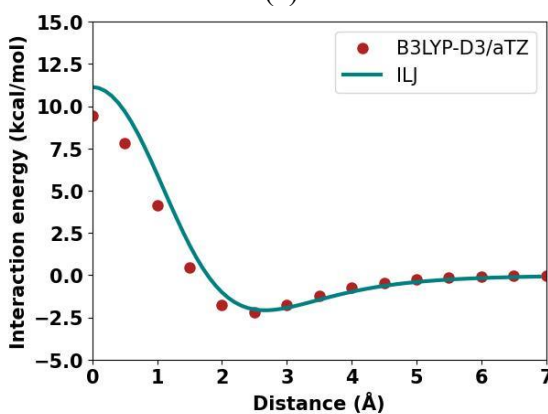
(c)



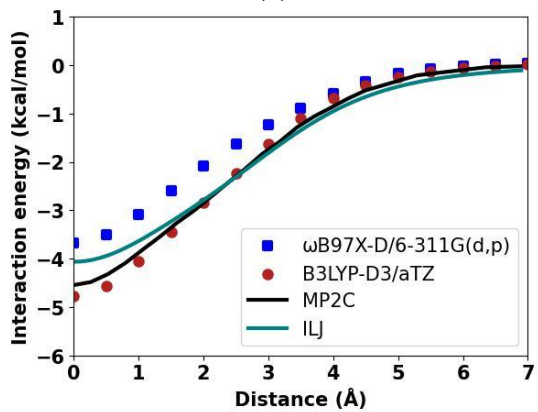
(d)



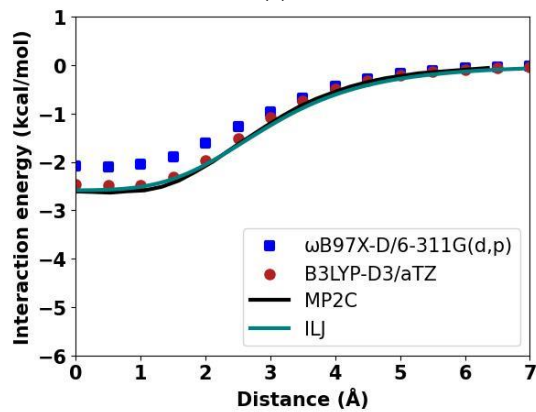
(e)



(f)



(g)



(h)

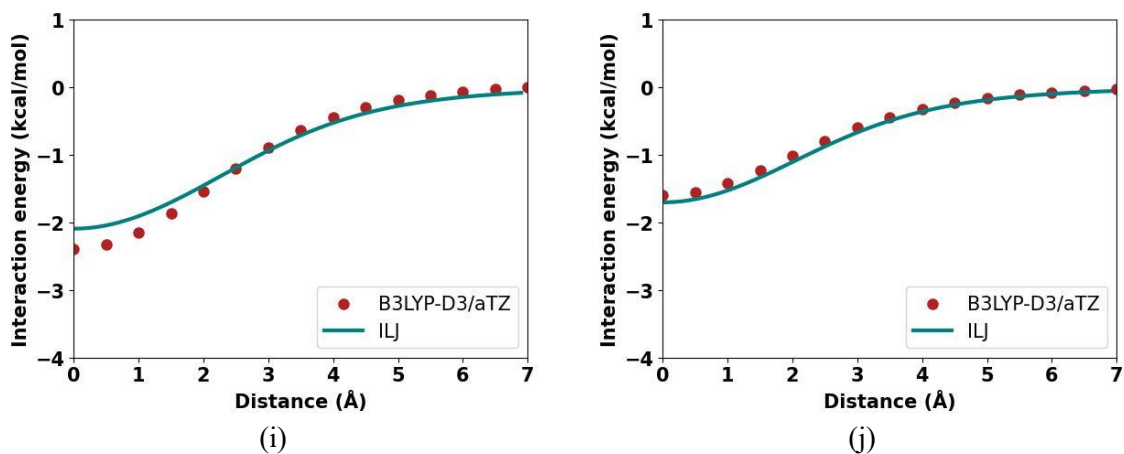
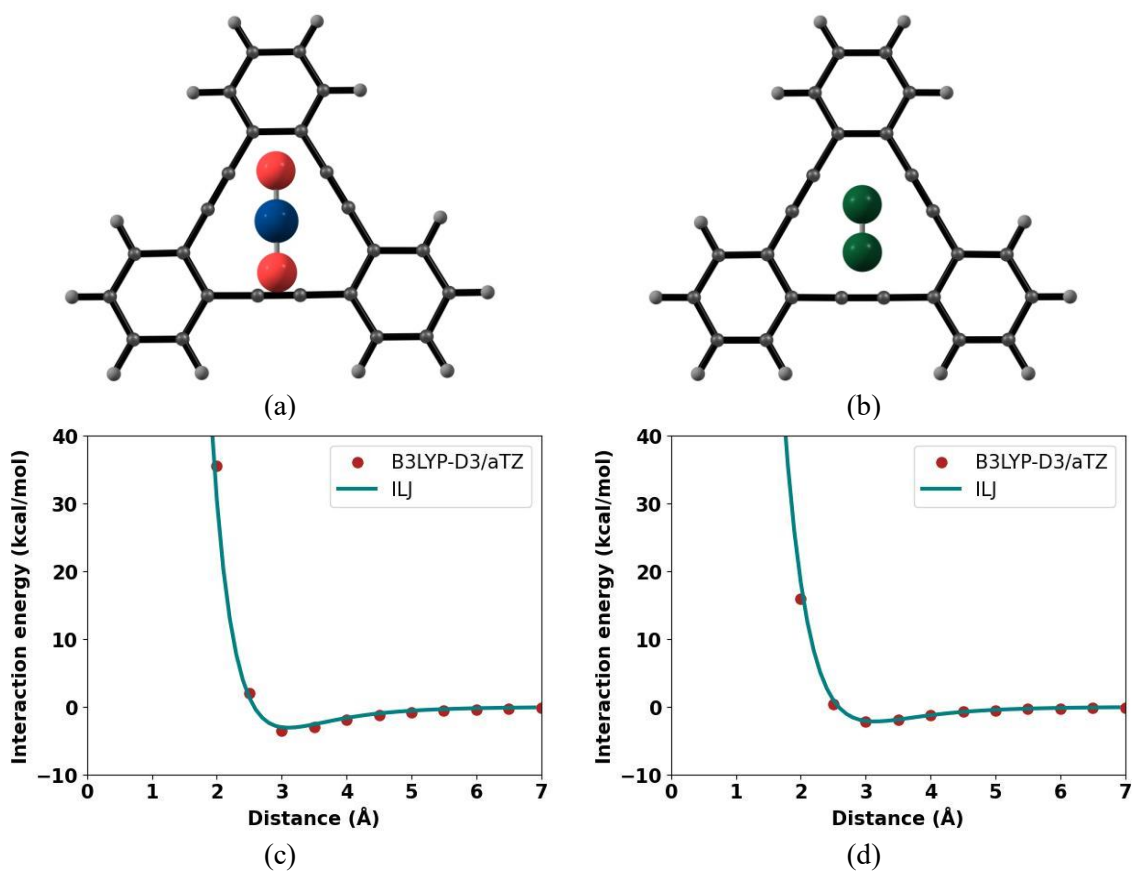


Figure S3. Interaction energy profiles evaluated using DFT and ILJ potential for the interaction of CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> aligned along the Z direction (illustrated in a and b) with  $\gamma$ -GY-1 (c and d),  $\gamma$ -GY-2 (e and f),  $\gamma$ -GY-3 (g and h), and  $\gamma$ -GY-4 (i and j), respectively. Note that the figures in g and h include the MP2C data from reference<sup>1</sup> and the  $\omega$ B97X-D/6-311G(d,p) data.



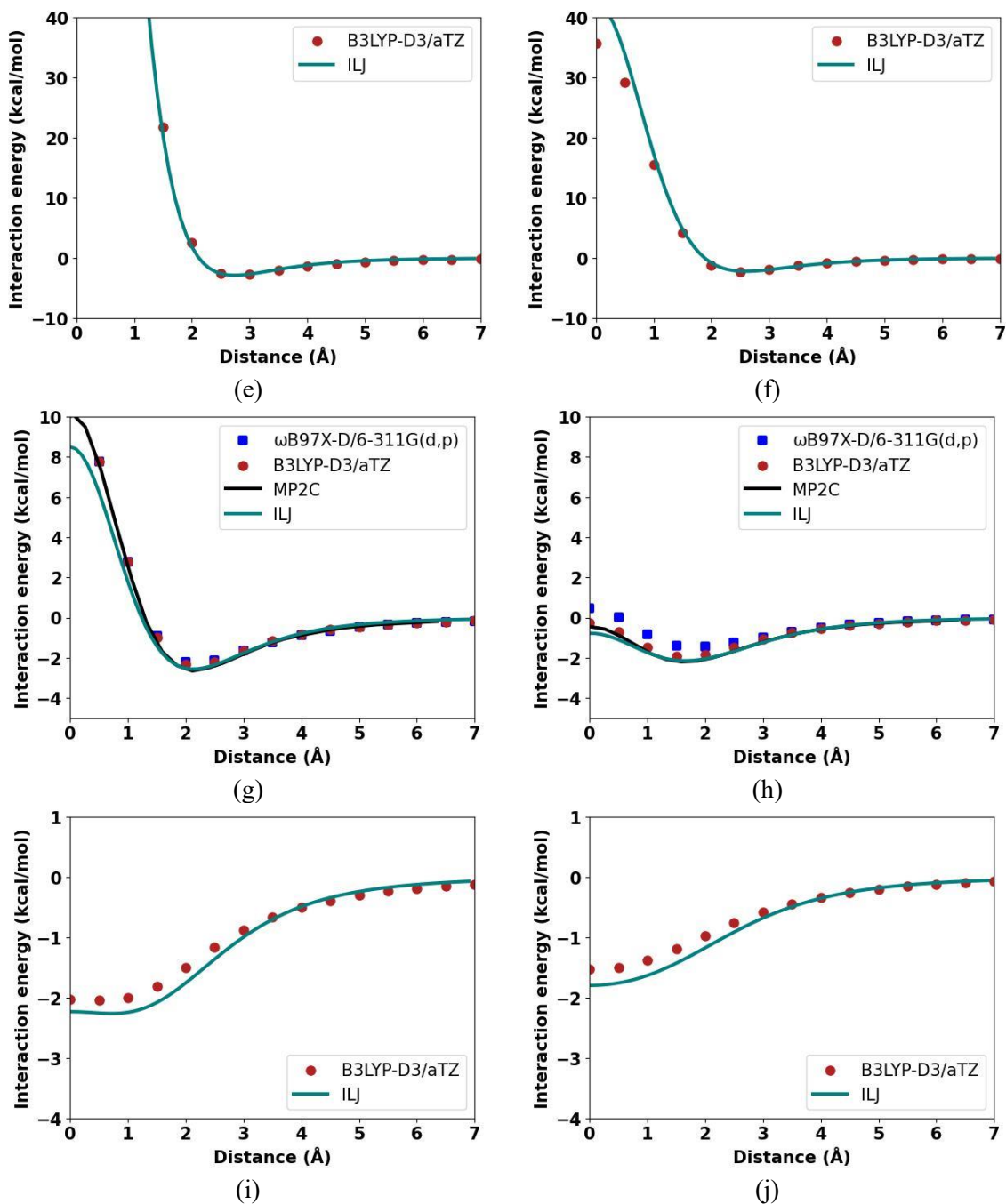
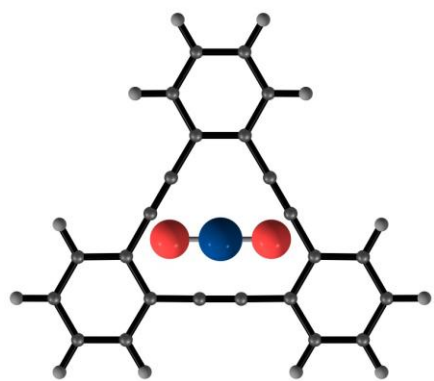
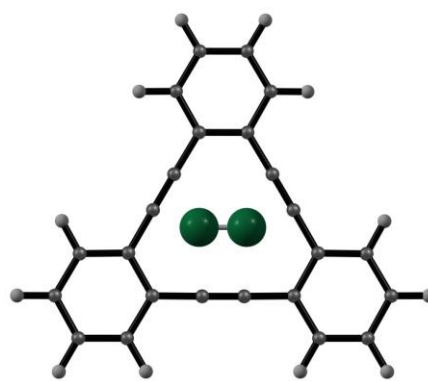


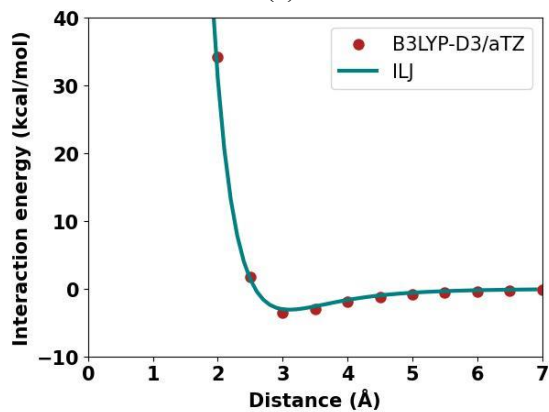
Figure S4. Interaction energy profiles evaluated using DFT and ILJ potential for the interaction of CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> aligned along the X direction (illustrated in a and b) with  $\gamma$ -GY-1 (c and d),  $\gamma$ -GY-2 (e and f),  $\gamma$ -GY-3 (g and h), and  $\gamma$ -GY-4 (i and j), respectively. Note that the figures in g and h include the MP2C data from reference<sup>1</sup> and the  $\omega$ B97X-D/6-311G(d,p) data.



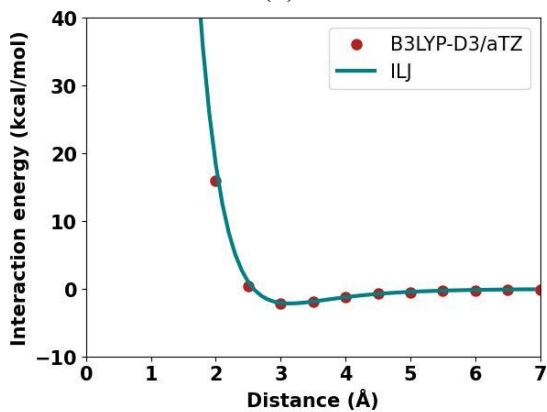
(a)



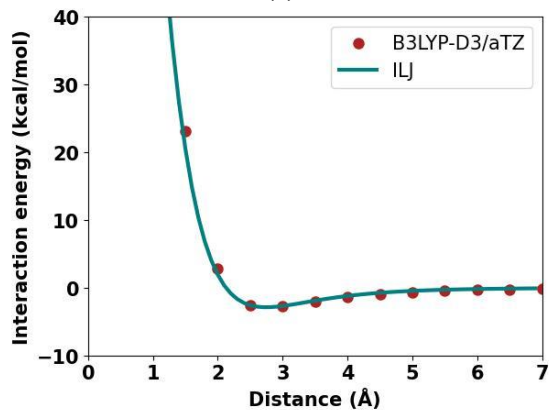
(b)



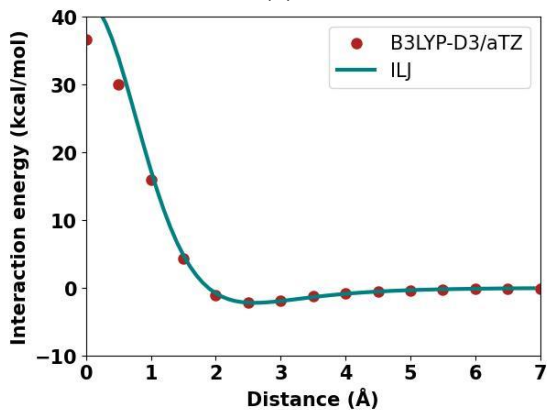
(c)



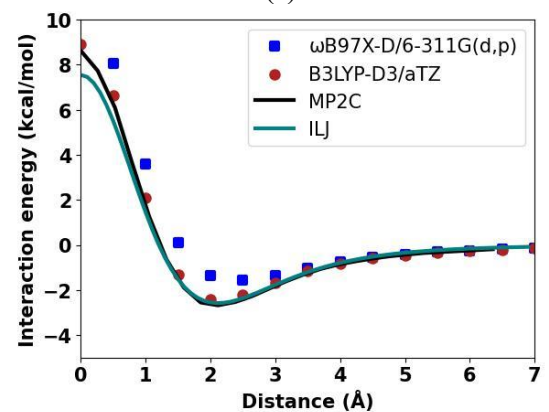
(d)



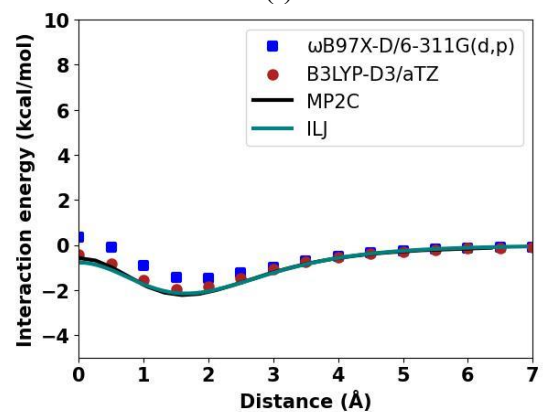
(e)



(f)



(g)



(h)

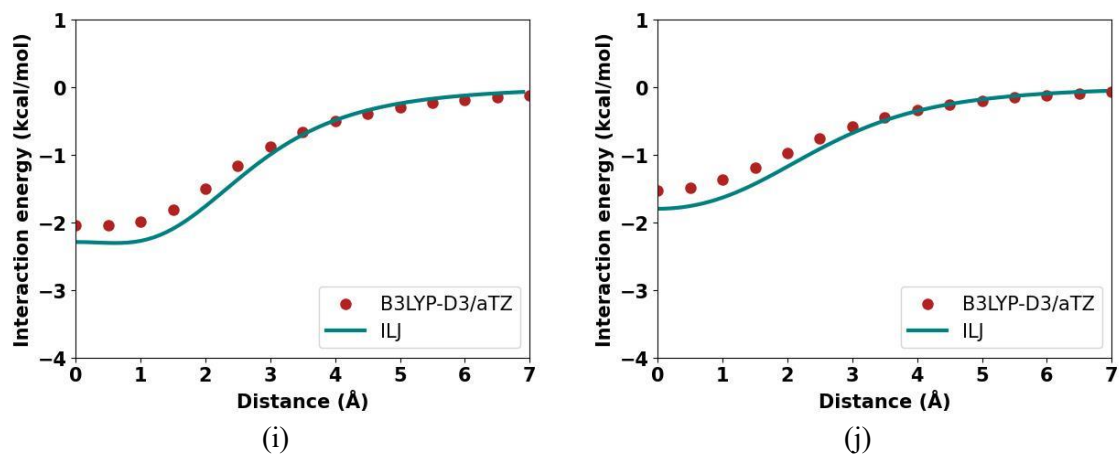


Figure S5. Interaction energy profiles evaluated using DFT and ILJ potential for the interaction of CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> aligned along the Y direction (illustrated in a and b) with  $\gamma$ -GY-1 (c and d),  $\gamma$ -GY-2 (e and f),  $\gamma$ -GY-3 (g and h), and  $\gamma$ -GY-4 (i and j), respectively. Note that the figures in g and h include the MP2C data from reference<sup>1</sup> and the  $\omega$ B97X-D/6-311G(d,p) data.

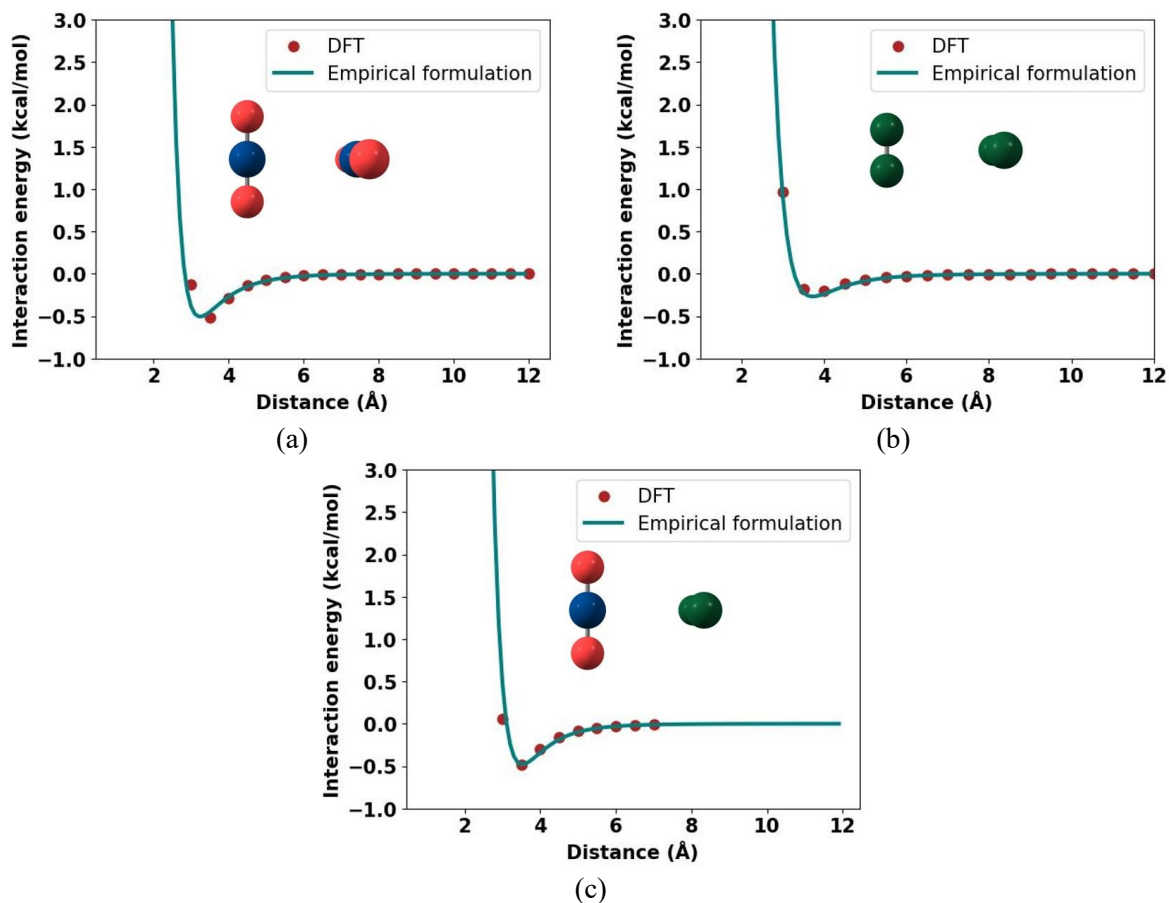


Figure S6. Interaction energy profiles evaluated using DFT and the empirical potentials for the interaction between (a) CO<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>, (b) N<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>, and (c) CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>. The orientations of the molecules considered for computing the profiles are given in the insets.



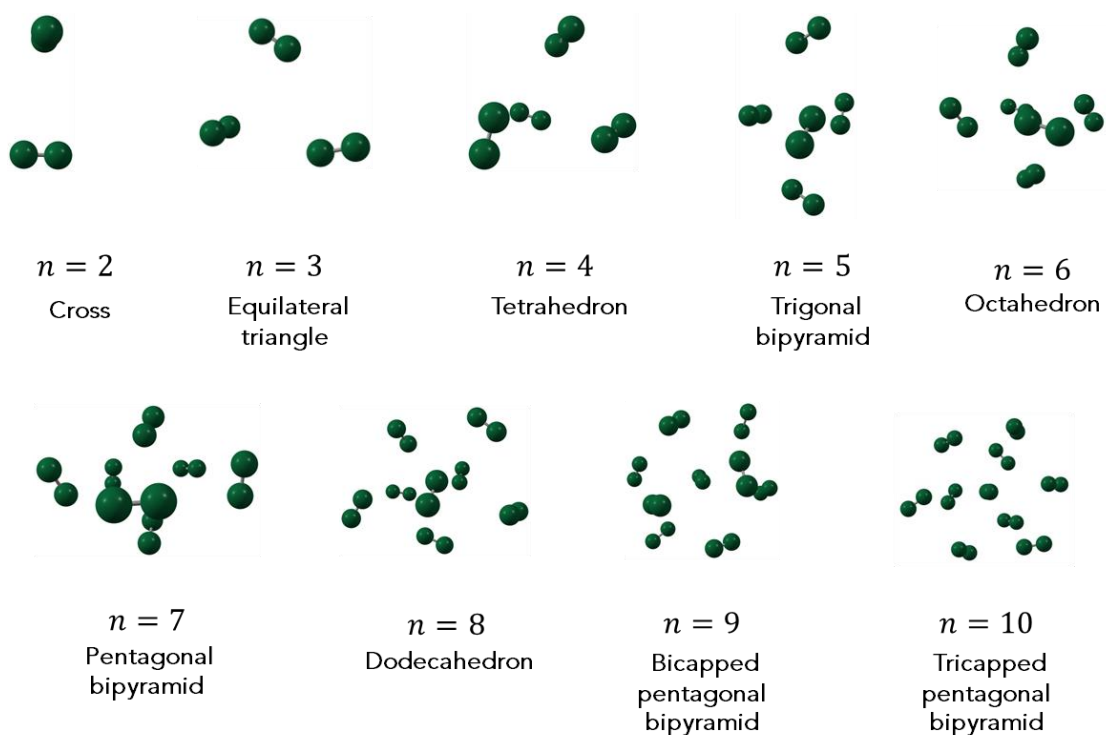


Figure S7. Putative global minimum geometries of bare  $N_2$  clusters evaluated using PSO.<sup>2</sup>

|             | Interaction energy components (kcal/mol) |          |           |            | Total SAPT0 (kcal/mol) |
|-------------|--|----------|-----------|------------|------------------------|
|             | Electrostatics                           | Exchange | Induction | Dispersion |                        |
| $CO_2-CO_2$ | -1.742                                   | 1.618    | -0.185    | -1.410     | -1.719                 |
| $CO_2-N_2$  | -0.567                                   | 0.552    | -0.078    | -0.801     | -0.893                 |
| $N_2-N_2$   | -0.060                                   | 0.292    | -0.008    | -0.485     | -0.261                 |

Table S1. Intermolecular interaction energies and constituent components for  $CO_2-CO_2$ ,  $CO_2-N_2$ , and  $N_2-N_2$  dimers evaluated using SAPT.

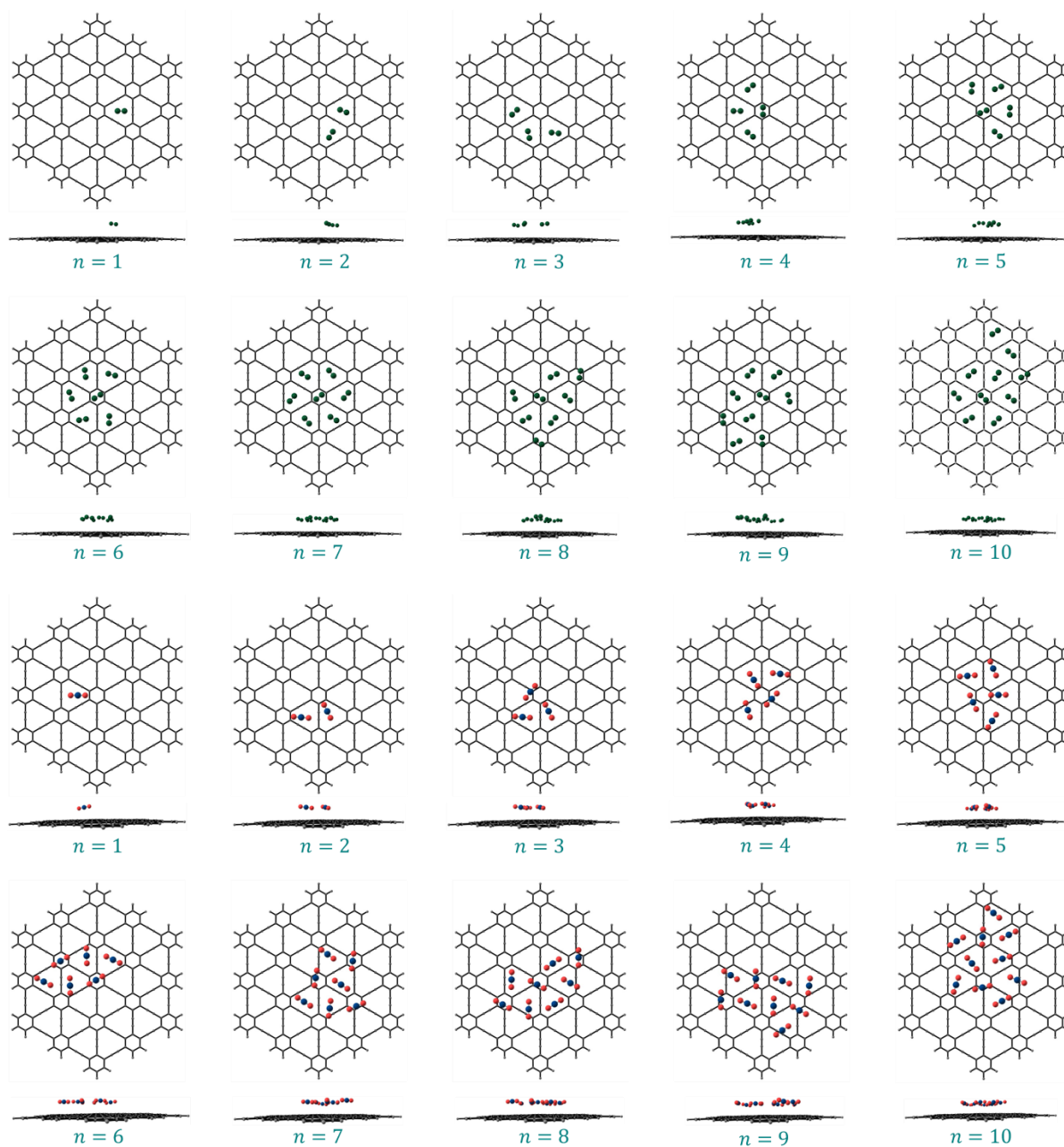


Figure S8. Putative global minimum geometries (top and side views) of  $N_2$  and  $CO_2$  clusters of size  $n=1-10$  adsorbed on  $\gamma$ -GY-1 evaluated using PSO.

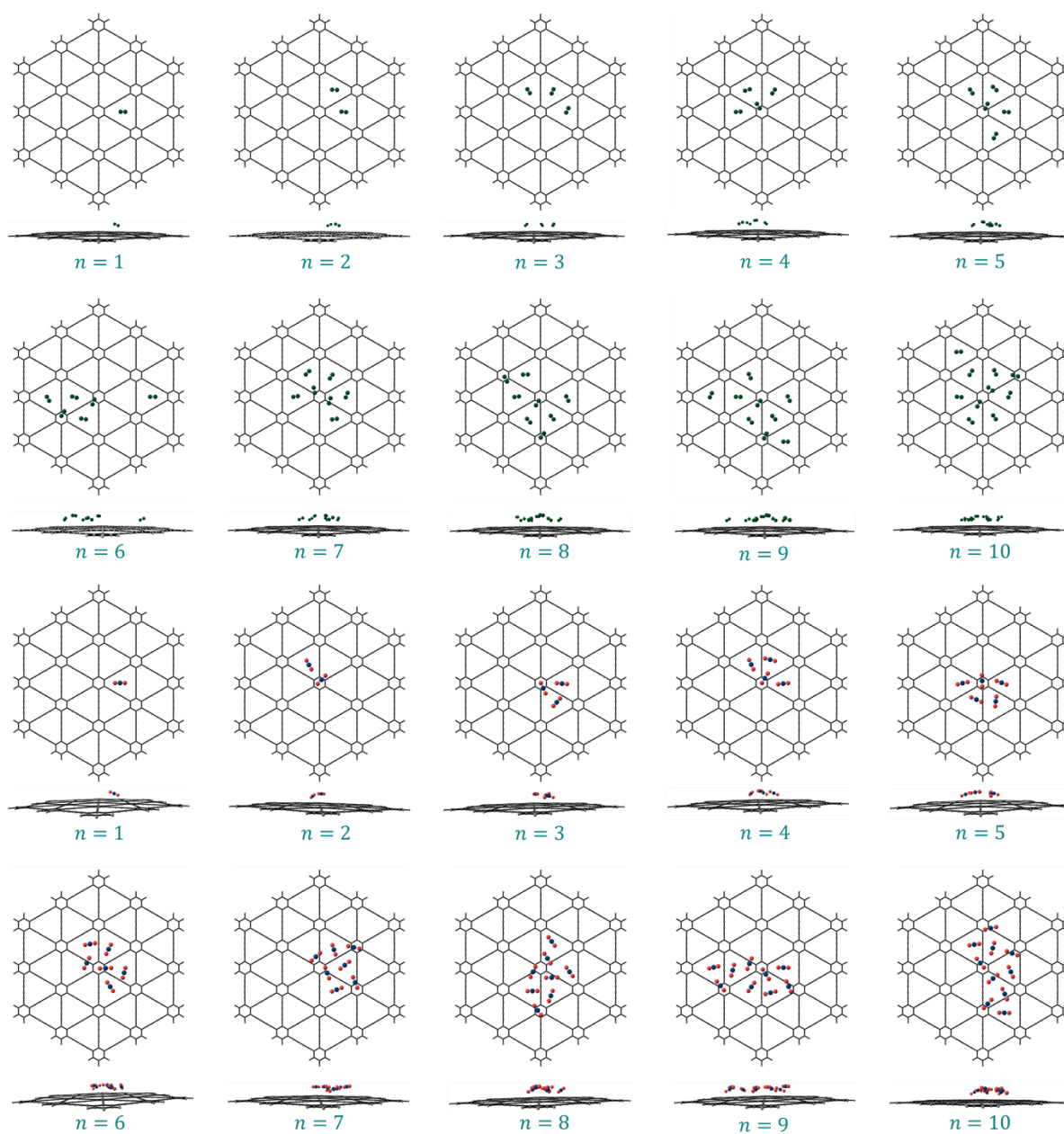


Figure S9. Putative global minimum geometries (top and side views) of  $N_2$  and  $CO_2$  clusters of size  $n = 1-10$  adsorbed on  $\gamma$ -GY-2 evaluated using PSO.

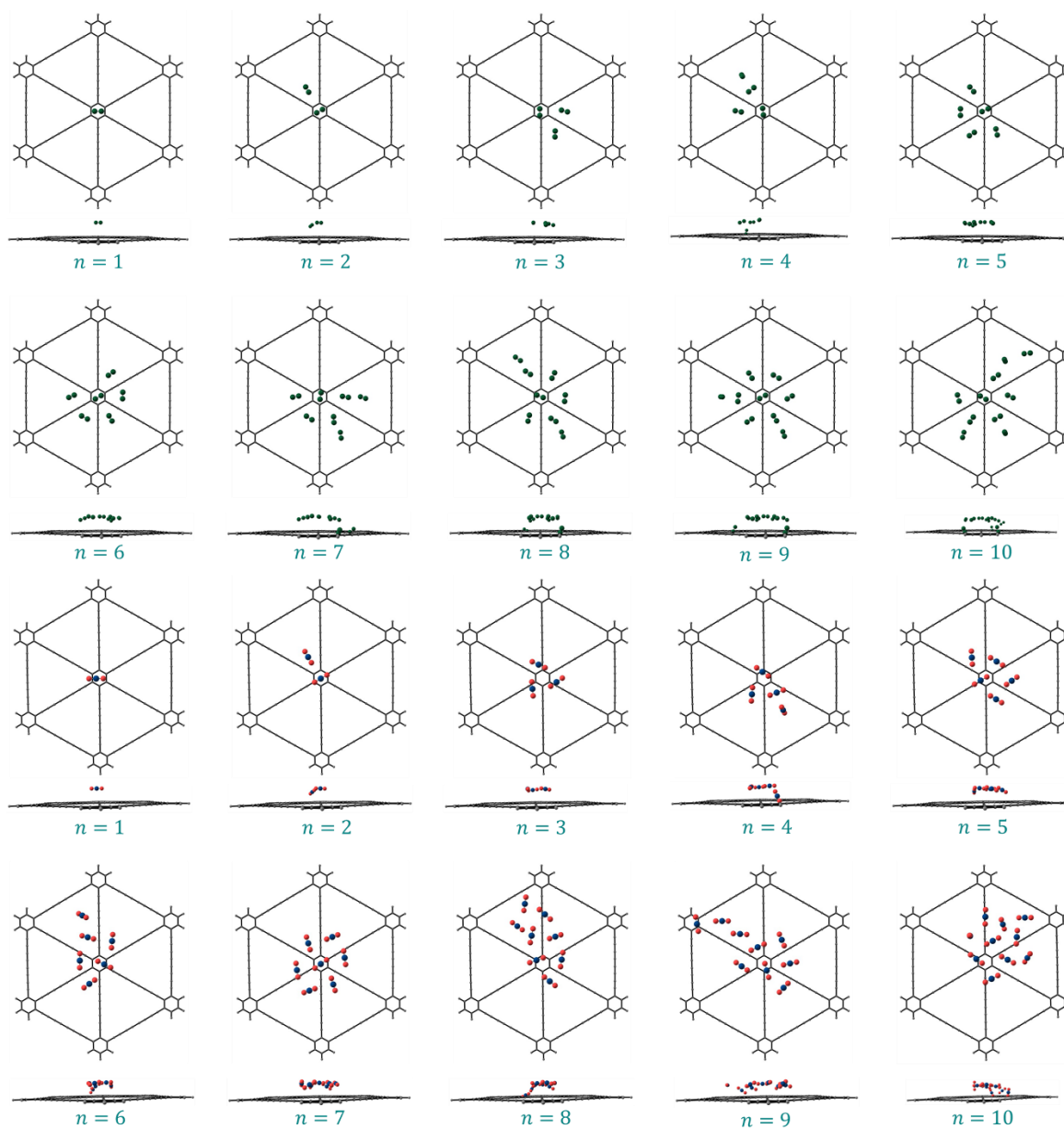


Figure S10. Putative global minimum geometries (top and side views) of  $N_2$  and  $CO_2$  clusters of size  $n = 1-10$  adsorbed on  $\gamma$ -GY-4 evaluated using PSO.

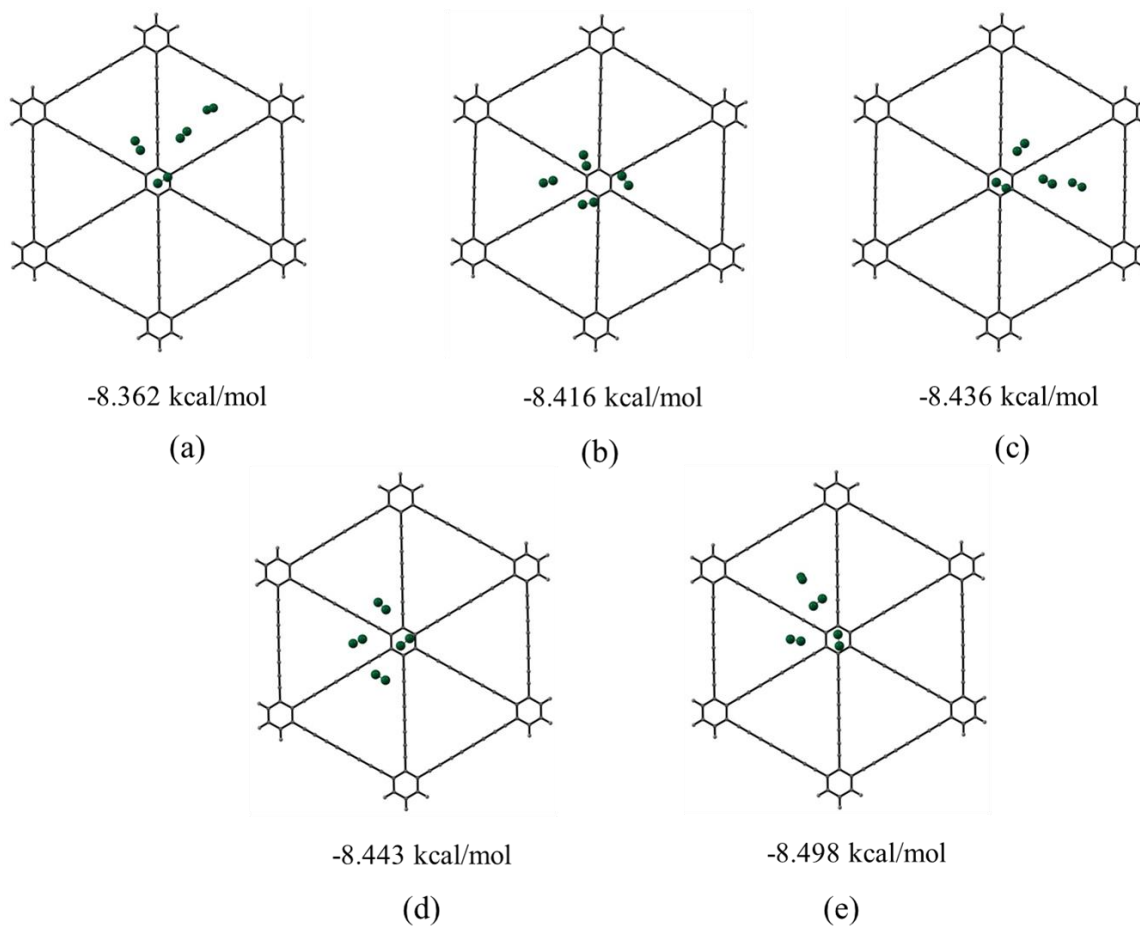


Figure S11. (a-d) Local minimum geometries and (e) putative global minimum geometry along with the respective interaction energies of the  $(\text{N}_2)_4$  cluster adsorbed on  $\gamma$ -GY-4 evaluated using PSO.

## Adsorption of CO<sub>2</sub> clusters on graphene (represented by circumcircumcoronene)

We have studied the adsorption of 2 to 10 CO<sub>2</sub> molecules on circumcircumcoronene using PSO. The total interaction energy of the system is given by

$$E_{CO_2}^{adsorbed} = E_{CO_2-CO_2} + E_{CO_2-Gr}$$

where  $E_{CO_2-Gr}$  is the energy of interaction between CO<sub>2</sub> molecules and circumcircumcoronene. It is modelled using the LJ potential and is expressed as

$$E_{CO_2-Gr} = \sum_{i=1}^p \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^3 4\epsilon_{kji} \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma_{kji}}{r_{kji}} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma_{kji}}{r_{kji}} \right)^6 \right].$$

where  $p$  is the number of C atoms in the circumcircumcoronene and  $n$  is the number of CO<sub>2</sub> molecules. The LJ parameters for the CO<sub>2</sub>-circumcircumcoronene are obtained by applying Lorentz-Berthelot mixing rules<sup>3</sup>. The parameters of C-C interactions in circumcircumcoronene are taken from literature<sup>4</sup>, whereas for C-C and O-O interactions in CO<sub>2</sub>, the parameters used are given in Table 1 of the manuscript. The methodology and parameters for PSO calculations are same as those mentioned in the manuscript.

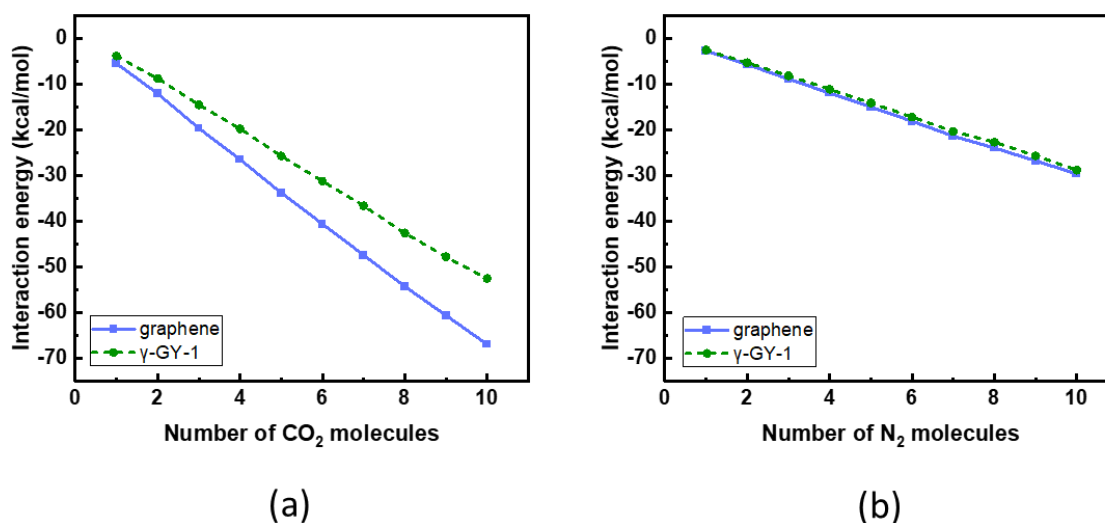


Figure S12. A comparison of interaction energies of (a) CO<sub>2</sub> clusters and (b) N<sub>2</sub> clusters of size  $n=1$ -10 adsorbed on  $\gamma$ -GY-1 and graphene (represented by circumcircumcoronene) evaluated using PSO.

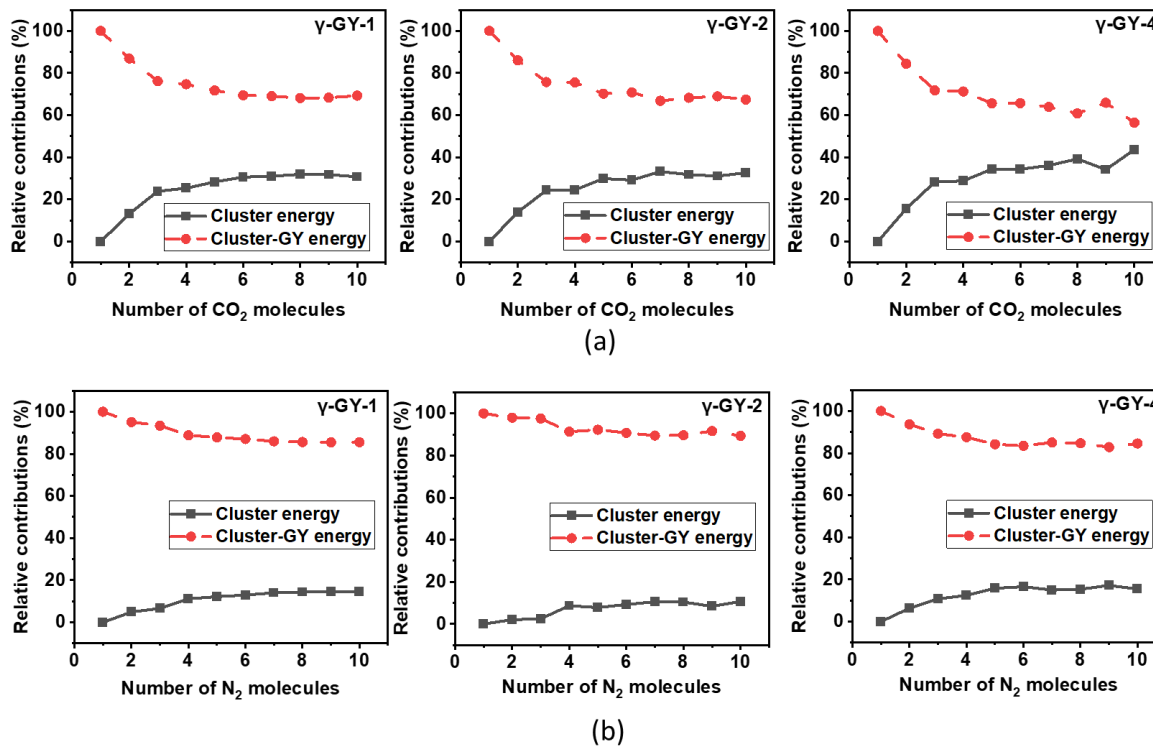
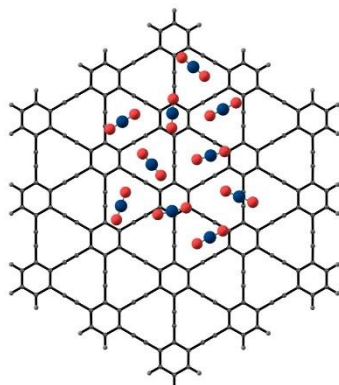
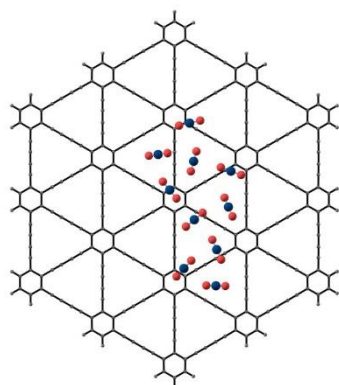


Figure S13. Variation of the percentage relative contributions of various terms to the total interaction energies for the adsorption of (a) CO<sub>2</sub> and (b) N<sub>2</sub> clusters on  $\gamma$ -GY-1,  $\gamma$ -GY-2, and  $\gamma$ -GY-4 as a function of cluster size.

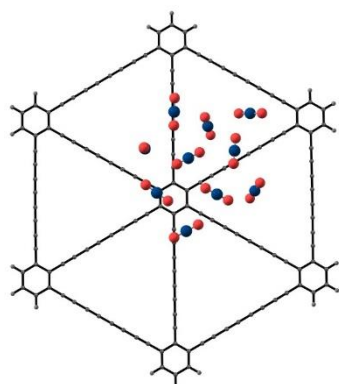
**Putative global minima geometries and  
interaction energies from 25  
independent runs**



$(\text{CO}_2)_{10-\gamma\text{-GY-1}}$   
-52.604 kcal/mol

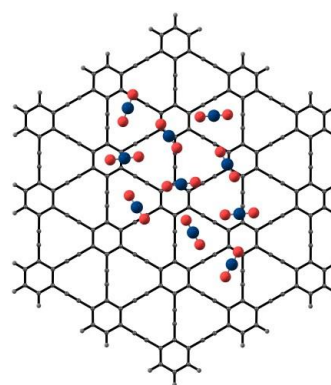


$(\text{CO}_2)_{10-\gamma\text{-GY-2}}$   
-47.224 kcal/mol

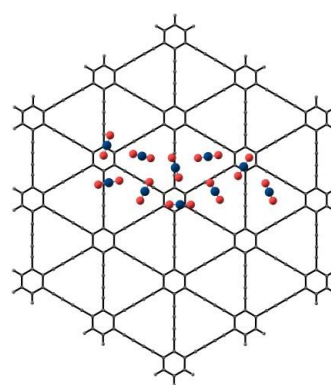


$(\text{CO}_2)_{10-\gamma\text{-GY-4}}$   
-42.357 kcal/mol

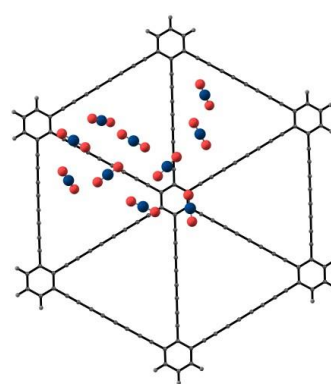
**Putative global minima geometries and  
interaction energies from 100  
independent runs**



$(\text{CO}_2)_{10-\gamma\text{-GY-1}}$   
-54.342 kcal/mol



$(\text{CO}_2)_{10-\gamma\text{-GY-2}}$   
-48.037 kcal/mol



$(\text{CO}_2)_{10-\gamma\text{-GY-4}}$   
-41.202 kcal/mol



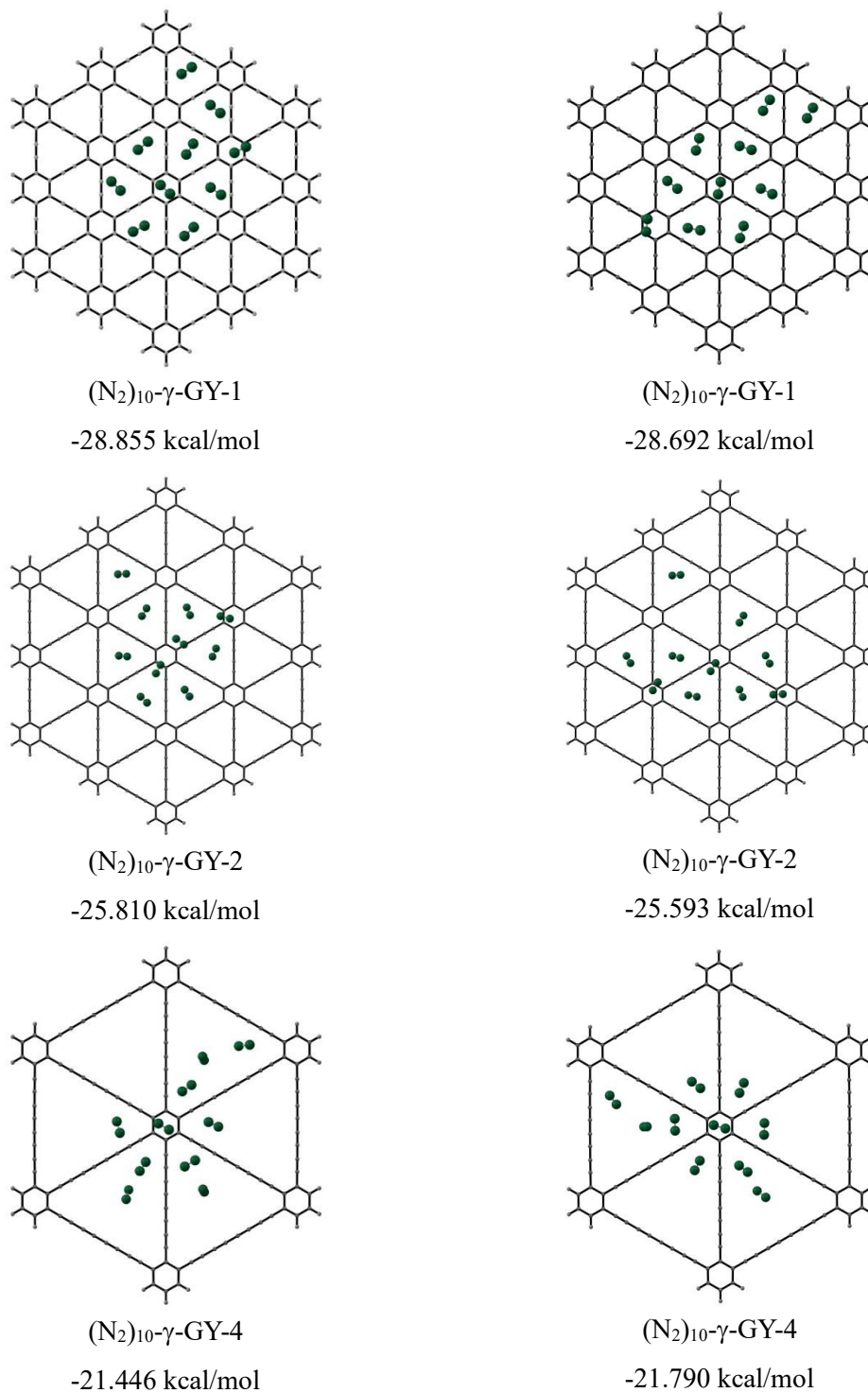


Figure S14. Putative global minimum geometries and the interaction energies of CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> clusters of size 10 adsorbed on  $\gamma$ -GY-1,  $\gamma$ -GY-2, and  $\gamma$ -GY-4 obtained using PSO after performing 25 and 100 independent runs.

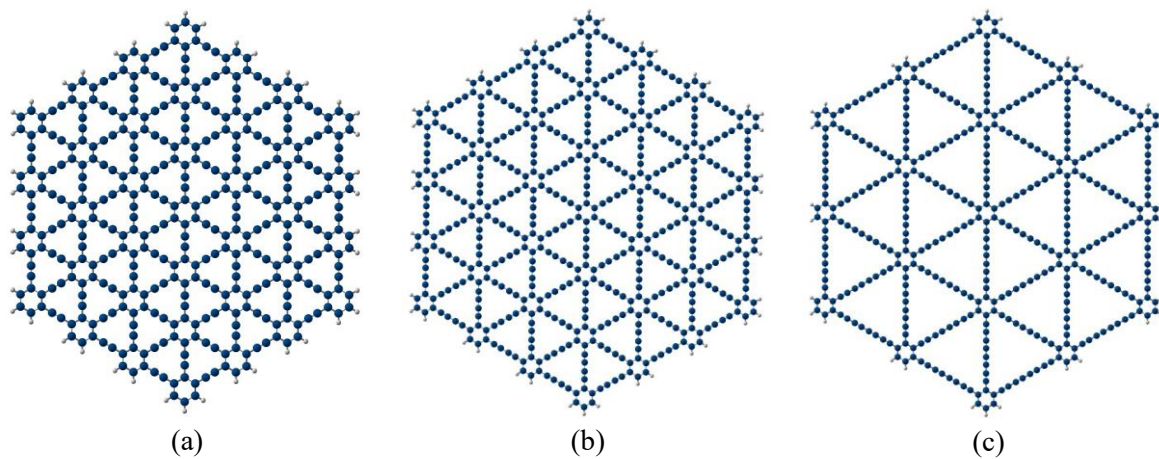


Figure S15. Larger annulenic model systems of (a)  $\gamma$ -GY-1 ( $C_{402}H_{42}$ ), (b)  $\gamma$ -GY-2 ( $C_{582}H_{42}$ ), and (c)  $\gamma$ -GY-4 ( $C_{450}H_{30}$ ). The geometries were generated by translating the corresponding unit cells whose lattice parameters were obtained from the optimized model systems employed throughout the current study.

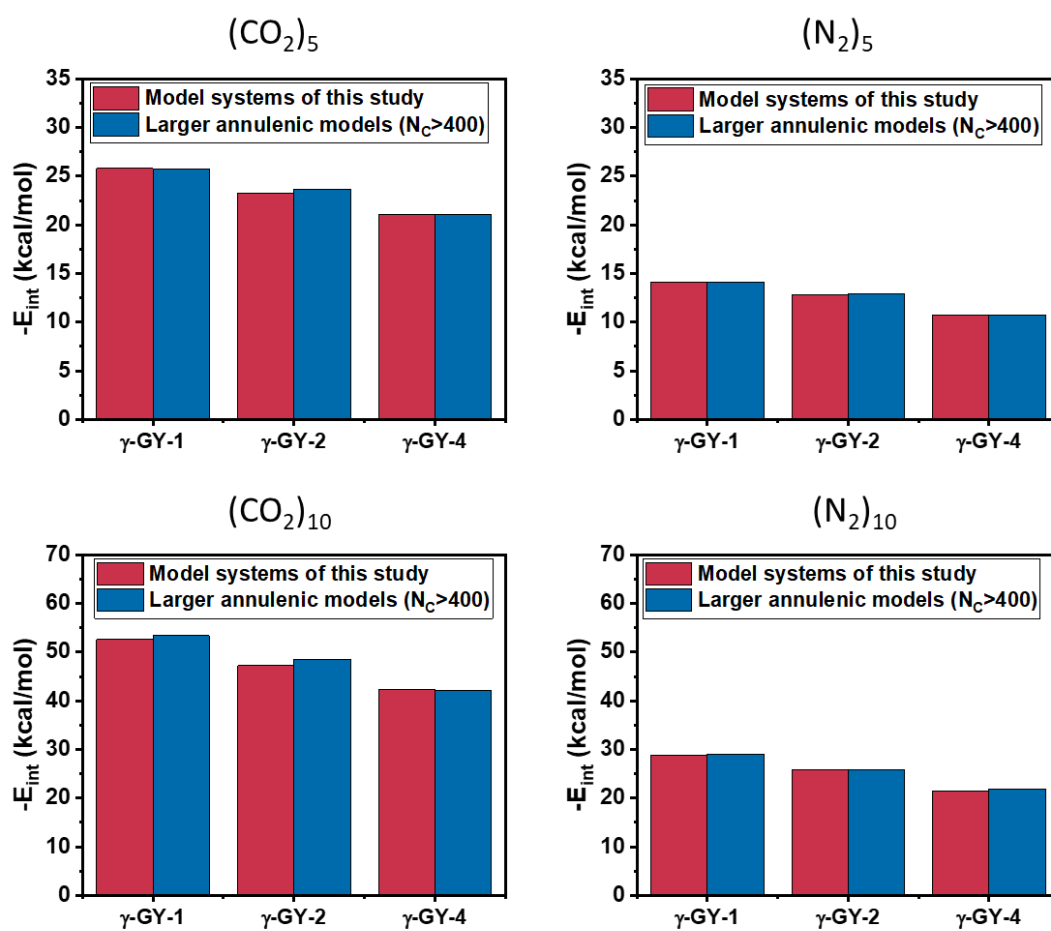


Figure S16. Comparison of the variation of interaction energies obtained using PSO for the adsorption of  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{N}_2$  clusters of size 5 and 10 on various annulenic molecular models of  $\gamma$ -GY-1,  $\gamma$ -GY-2, and  $\gamma$ -GY-4. Note:  $N_c$  refers to the number of carbon atoms in the molecular model.

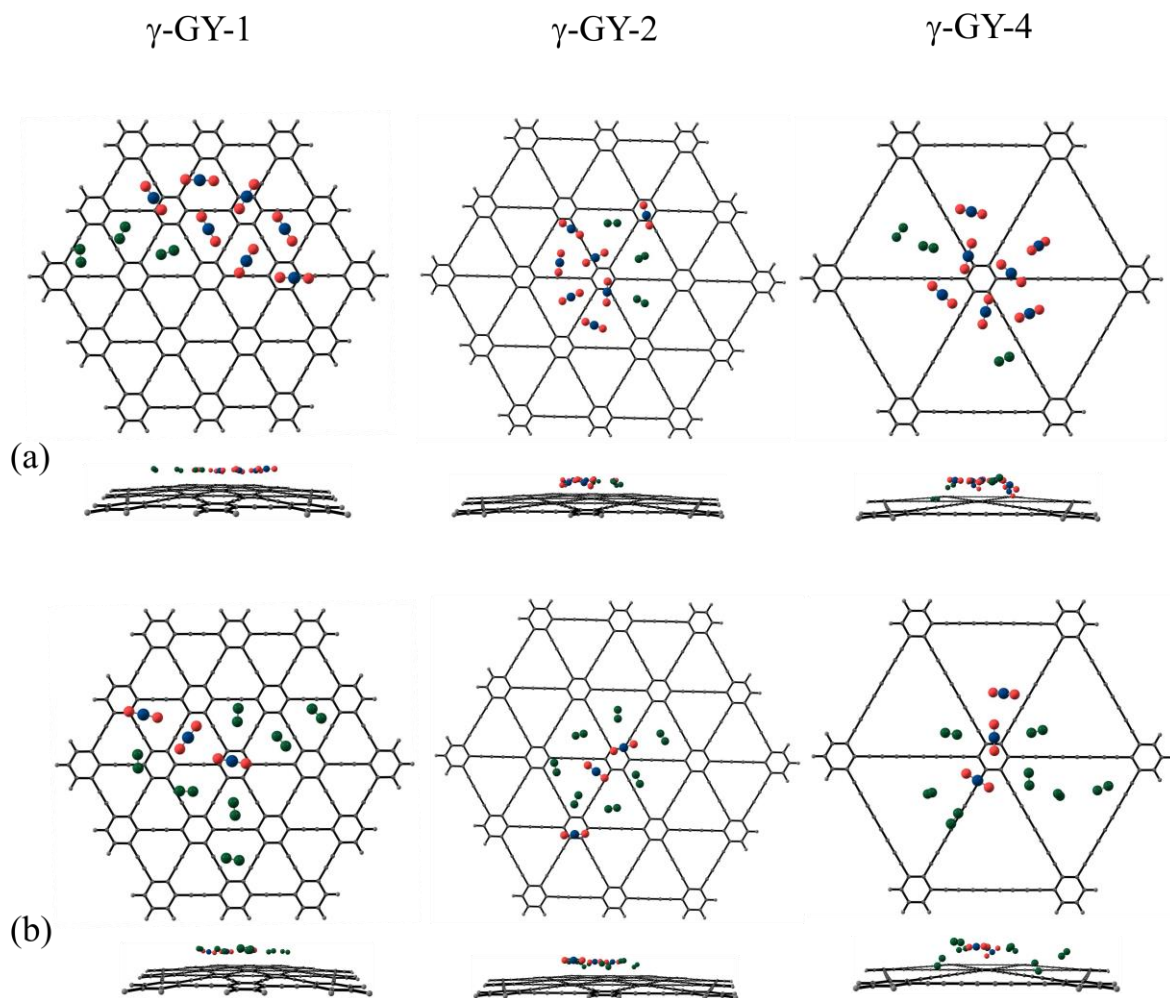


Figure S17. Putative global minimum geometries (top and side views) of binary clusters of  $N_2$  and  $CO_2$  in the ratio (a) 3:7 and (b) 7:3 adsorbed on  $\gamma$ -GY-1,  $\gamma$ -GY-2 and  $\gamma$ -GY-4 evaluated using PSO.

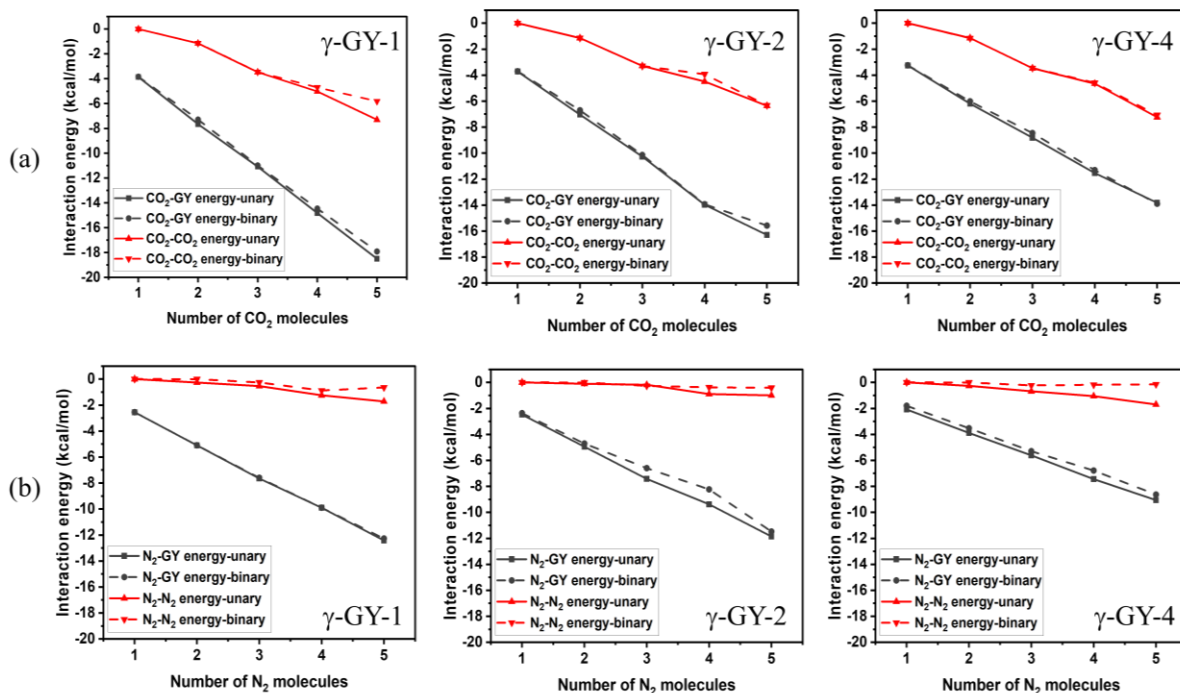


Figure S18. Variation of cluster energies and cluster-GY energies of adsorbed unary and binary (with equal number of N<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> molecules) clusters of (a) CO<sub>2</sub> and (b) N<sub>2</sub> as a function of cluster size.

## References

1. Apriliyanto, Y. B.; Lago, N. F.; Lombardi, A.; Evangelisti, S.; Bartolomei, M.; Leininger, T.; Pirani, F., Nanostructure Selectivity for Molecular Adsorption and Separation: The Case of Graphyne Layers. *J. Phys. Chem. C* **2018**, *122*, 16195-16208.
2. John, C.; Swathi, R. S., Global Optimization of Dinitrogen Clusters Bound to Monolayer and Bilayer Graphene: A Swarm Intelligence Approach. *J. Phys. Chem. A* **2023**, *127*, 4632-4642.
3. Stone, A. J., *The Theory of Intermolecular Forces*, Second ed.; Oxford University Press: Oxford, 2013, p xi, 339 pages.
4. Meconi, G. M.; Zangi, R. N., Adsorption-Induced Clustering of CO<sub>2</sub> on Graphene. *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.* **2020**, *22*, 21031-21041.