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Supplementary Information

Size-dependent catalytic activity for CO oxidation over sub-nano Au clusters

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Supplementary Tables

| Parameter | A/eV | ζ/eV | р | q | r_0/\AA |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|
| Au-Au | 0.2061 | 1.7900 | 10.229 | 4.0360 | 2.884 |

Table S1 Gupta potential parameters for Au clusters¹

Table S2 Energies and structures information of $Au_N(2-20)$ at pure DFT level. *Size*: also denoted as N, ranging from 2 to $20.E_{coh}$: cohesive energy of cluster. ΔE : the cohesive energy difference between the GM identified in this work and those reported previously². D_2E : second finite energy difference of cluster, defined as

 $D_2E=E_{N+1}+E_{N-1}-2E_N$. E_{fit} : by fitting E_{coh} to N arrived at 0.716-1.822N⁻¹-1.237N^{-2/3}+2.656N^{-1/3}. ΔE_{coh} :

relative choesive energies of clusters calculated by $E_{fit} - E_{coh}$. **Dia**: effective diameter of cluster, which is defined as the largest distance among atoms. **BL**: average bond length of cluster, with cutoff length be 3.3 Å.

| Size | E_{coh} (eV) | ∆E (eV) | D_2E (eV) | ΔE_{coh} (eV) | E_{fit} (eV) | Dia (nm) | BL (Å) |
|------|----------------|---------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------|--------|
| 2 | 0.948 | -0.003 | - | -0.064 | 0.884 | 0.2512 | 2.6992 |
| 3 | 0.965 | 0.023 | -1.375 | 0.196 | 1.16 | 0.466 | 2.8311 |
| 4 | 1.317 | -0.02 | 0.413 | 0.015 | 1.332 | 0.4683 | 2.8306 |
| 5 | 1.445 | -0.033 | -0.997 | 0.007 | 1.452 | 0.4614 | 2.8295 |
| 6 | 1.697 | -0.016 | 1.624 | -0.155 | 1.542 | 0.5275 | 2.8375 |
| 7 | 1.646 | -0.016 | -1.329 | -0.032 | 1.613 | 0.7054 | 2.8215 |
| 8 | 1.773 | -0.013 | 1.249 | -0.102 | 1.671 | 0.7037 | 2.8316 |
| 9 | 1.733 | -0.024 | -1.137 | -0.014 | 1.719 | 0.8093 | 2.8309 |
| 10 | 1.815 | 0.003 | 0.629 | -0.054 | 1.76 | 0.9537 | 2.8313 |
| 11 | 1.825 | -0.01 | -0.368 | -0.029 | 1.796 | 0.9311 | 2.8267 |
| 12 | 1.863 | -0.002 | 0.44 | -0.036 | 1.827 | 0.7984 | 2.8227 |
| 13 | 1.862 | -0.007 | -0.844 | -0.007 | 1.855 | 1.2284 | 2.7129 |
| 14 | 1.922 | -0.011 | 0.941 | -0.042 | 1.88 | 0.787 | 2.835 |
| 15 | 1.91 | -0.011 | -0.53 | -0.008 | 1.902 | 0.7254 | 2.8307 |
| 16 | 1.934 | -0.03 | -0.19 | -0.011 | 1.922 | 0.7595 | 2.8346 |
| 17 | 1.965 | -0.008 | -0.17 | -0.024 | 1.941 | 0.9391 | 2.8347 |
| 18 | 2.003 | -0.026 | 1.351 | -0.045 | 1.958 | 0.7161 | 2.833 |
| 19 | 1.965 | 0.045 | -1.337 | 0.008 | 1.974 | 0.8368 | 2.8301 |
| 20 | 1.999 | -0.098 | 1.828 | -0.01 | 1.988 | 0.9153 | 2.8238 |

Table S3 Energies and structures information of Au_N (20-300) at Gupta combined DFT level. *Size*: also denoted as N, ranging from 21 to 300. E_{coh} : cohesive energy of cluster. D_2E : second finite energy difference of cluster, defined as $D_2E=E_{N+1}+E_{N-1}-2E_N$. E_{fit} : by fitting E_{coh} to N arrived at 0.716-1.822N⁻¹-1.237N⁻

^{2/3}+2.656N^{-1/3}. ΔE_{coh} : relative cohesive energies of clusters calculated by $E_{fit} - E_{coh}$. *Dia*: diameters of cluster, which is defined as the largest distance among atoms. *BL*: average bond length of cluster, with cutoff length be 3.3 Å.

| Size | E _{coh} (eV) | D_2E (eV) | $\Delta E_{coh}(eV)$ | E_{fit} (eV) | Dia(nm) | BL(Å) |
|------|-----------------------|-------------|----------------------|----------------|---------|--------|
| 21 | 1.941 | -0.803 | 0.06 | 2.002 | 0.7087 | 2.824 |
| 22 | 1.926 | -0.952 | 0.088 | 2.014 | 0.7421 | 2.8311 |
| 23 | 1.953 | -0.142 | 0.073 | 2.026 | 0.8095 | 2.8361 |
| 24 | 1.984 | 0.377 | 0.053 | 2.037 | 0.8373 | 2.7797 |
| 25 | 1.998 | 0.307 | 0.05 | 2.048 | 0.8482 | 2.8313 |
| 26 | 1.998 | 0.514 | 0.059 | 2.058 | 0.8033 | 2.8359 |
| 27 | 1.98 | -1.44 | 0.087 | 2.067 | 0.8152 | 2.8238 |
| 28 | 2.014 | 0.576 | 0.062 | 2.076 | 0.8613 | 2.8326 |
| 29 | 2.026 | -0.863 | 0.058 | 2.084 | 0.8457 | 2.8351 |
| 30 | 2.066 | 1.204 | 0.026 | 2.092 | 0.8334 | 2.8256 |
| 31 | 2.065 | -0.57 | 0.036 | 2.1 | 0.8168 | 2.8327 |
| 32 | 2.081 | 0.509 | 0.026 | 2.107 | 0.8282 | 2.8348 |
| 33 | 2.081 | -1.515 | 0.033 | 2.114 | 0.8073 | 2.8361 |
| 34 | 2.126 | -0.701 | -0.005 | 2.121 | 0.8858 | 2.8321 |
| 35 | 2.188 | 7.436 | -0.06 | 2.127 | 0.9484 | 2.7246 |
| 36 | 2.04 | -8.277 | 0.094 | 2.134 | 1.0138 | 2.8358 |
| 37 | 2.124 | 3.172 | 0.016 | 2.139 | 0.9182 | 2.8251 |
| 38 | 2.12 | 0.204 | 0.026 | 2.145 | 0.8921 | 2.8259 |
| 39 | 2.11 | -0.38 | 0.04 | 2.151 | 0.92 | 2.8358 |
| 40 | 2.111 | -1.265 | 0.045 | 2.156 | 0.9051 | 2.8371 |
| 41 | 2.143 | 1.56 | 0.018 | 2.161 | 0.9505 | 2.8366 |
| 42 | 2.136 | -0.545 | 0.03 | 2.166 | 1.003 | 2.83 |
| 43 | 2.142 | -0.062 | 0.029 | 2.171 | 0.8655 | 2.8249 |
| 44 | 2.149 | 0.14 | 0.026 | 2.175 | 1.0412 | 2.8371 |
| 45 | 2.153 | -0.627 | 0.027 | 2.18 | 1.0111 | 2.8296 |
| 46 | 2.17 | 0.798 | 0.014 | 2.184 | 1.1063 | 2.7715 |
| 47 | 2.169 | -0.479 | 0.019 | 2.188 | 0.9647 | 2.8343 |
| 48 | 2.179 | 0.989 | 0.013 | 2.192 | 0.9703 | 2.8369 |
| 49 | 2.168 | -1.993 | 0.028 | 2.196 | 1.075 | 2.8395 |
| 50 | 2.197 | 1.283 | 0.003 | 2.2 | 1.082 | 2.8343 |
| 51 | 2.2 | 0.576 | 0.004 | 2.203 | 0.9649 | 2.8427 |
| 52 | 2.191 | -4.714 | 0.016 | 2.207 | 1.0738 | 2.8379 |
| 53 | 2.272 | 10.273 | -0.062 | 2.21 | 1.0499 | 2.8431 |
| 54 | 2.16 | -11.798 | 0.054 | 2.214 | 1.0836 | 2.8283 |
| 55 | 2.266 | 11.35 | -0.049 | 2.217 | 1.2459 | 2.8261 |
| 56 | 2.166 | -9.219 | 0.054 | 2.22 | 1.0171 | 2.8277 |
| 57 | 2.231 | 3.382 | -0.008 | 2.224 | 1.1913 | 2.8039 |
| 58 | 2.236 | -0.17 | -0.009 | 2.227 | 1.0836 | 2.8427 |
| 59 | 2.243 | 0.598 | -0.014 | 2.23 | 1.0888 | 2.839 |

| 60 | 2.24 | -1.357 | -0.008 | 2.233 | 1.162 | 2.8458 |
|----------------------|-------|---------|--------|-----------------------|--------|------------------------------|
| 61 | 2.26 | 1.598 | -0.024 | 2.235 | 1.0851 | 2.8366 |
| 62 | 2.253 | -0.485 | -0.014 | 2.238 | 1.1009 | 2.8297 |
| 63 | 2.254 | -0.128 | -0.013 | 2.241 | 1.1896 | 2.841 |
| 64 | 2.256 | 0.106 | -0.013 | 2.243 | 1.0868 | 2.841 |
| 65 | 2.258 | -0.129 | -0.011 | 2.246 | 1.1473 | 2.8395 |
| 66 | 2.261 | 0.759 | -0.012 | 2.249 | 1.1472 | 2.8293 |
| 67 | 2.252 | -1.377 | -0.001 | 2.251 | 1.1539 | 2.8389 |
| 68 | 2.264 | 0.39 | -0.011 | 2.254 | 1.1785 | 2.8082 |
| 69 | 2.271 | 0.163 | -0.015 | 2.256 | 1.1021 | 2.8393 |
| 70 | 2.274 | -0.231 | -0.016 | 2.258 | 1.1614 | 2.8301 |
| 71 | 2.281 | 1.416 | -0.021 | 2.261 | 1.3618 | 2.8401 |
| 72 | 2.268 | -7.201 | -0.005 | 2.263 | 1.1239 | 2.8415 |
| 73 | 2.354 | 11.575 | -0.089 | 2.265 | 1.1754 | 2.8415 |
| 74 | 2.281 | 0.153 | -0.014 | 2.267 | 1.2787 | 2.8452 |
| 75 | 2.208 | -11.159 | 0.061 | 2.269 | 1.304 | 2.8406 |
| 76 | 2.284 | 2.092 | -0.013 | 2.271 | 1.2628 | 2.8444 |
| 77 | 2.331 | 9.91 | -0.058 | 2.273 | 1.3334 | 2.838 |
| 78 | 2.249 | -9.129 | 0.026 | 2.275 | 1.2144 | 2.841 |
| 79 | 2.285 | 2.019 | -0.008 | 2.277 | 1.2472 | 2.7994 |
| 80 | 2.205 | 0.643 | -0.016 | 2 279 | 1 3324 | 2 8321 |
| 81 | 2.293 | 0.199 | -0.016 | 2.275 | 1 2927 | 2.8386 |
| 82 | 2.297 | -0.359 | -0.014 | 2.201 | 1 2036 | 2.8325 |
| 83 | 2.290 | -0.079 | -0.015 | 2.285 | 1.2030 | 2.8325 |
| 84 | 2.0 | 0.658 | -0.018 | 2.285 | 1 345 | 2.0315 |
| 85 | 2.303 | -0 449 | -0.013 | 2.287 | 1.2435 | 2.8375 |
| 86 | 2.301 | 0.325 | -0.013 | 2.200 | 1.2455 | 2.8415 |
| 80 87 | 2.303 | -0.658 | -0.015 | 2.27 | 1.3001 | 2.8419 |
| 88 | 2.301 | -0.038 | -0.01 | 2.292 | 1.2205 | 2.0400 |
| 80 | 2.307 | 0.471 | -0.014 | 2.295 | 1.3220 | 2.8352 |
| 00 | 2.307 | 0.1/3 | -0.012 | 2.295 | 1.3370 | 2.8421 |
| 90 01 | 2.307 | -0.143 | -0.01 | 2.297 | 1.3537 | 2.8088 |
| 02 | 2.308 | -0.185 | -0.01 | 2.298 | 1.3330 | 2.8312 |
| 92 | 2.311 | 0.030 | -0.011 | 2.5 | 1.3403 | 2.8319 |
| 93 | 2.313 | -0.11 | -0.012 | 2.301 | 1.3942 | 2.8409 |
|) - 05 | 2.317 | 1.615 | -0.014 | 2.303 | 1.2508 | 2.835 |
| 95 | 2.311 | -1.015 | -0.000 | 2.304 | 1.3408 | 2.8385 |
| 90 | 2.321 | 0.608 | -0.013 | 2.300 | 1.3901 | 2.8323 |
| 97 | 2.315 | -0.098 | -0.008 | 2.307 | 1.3239 | 2.0427 |
| 90 | 2.310 | -1.722 | -0.008 | 2.309 | 1.4090 | 2.0344 |
| 99 100 | 2.335 | 1.773 | -0.023 | 2.31 | 1.3040 | 2.0334 |
| 100 | 2.333 | 1.420 | -0.024 | 2.312 | 1.4022 | 2.0432 |
| 101 | 2.322 | -1.609 | -0.009 | 2.313 | 1.3010 | 2.8309 |
| 102 | 2.321 | 0.435 | -0.012 | 2.314 | 1.2341 | 2.0 444 2.8222 |
| 105 | 2.321 | -0.143 | -0.012 | 2.310 2.217 | 1.338 | 2.0322 |
| 104 | 2.329 | 0.11/ | -0.012 | 2.31/ 2.210 | 1.3090 | 2.0333 |
| 103 | 2.33 | -0.090 | -0.011 | 2.318 | 1.3023 | 2.0410 |
| 100 | 2.331 | 0.130 | -0.012 | 2.319 | 1.4102 | 2.8409 |
| 107 | 2.331 | -0.031 | -0.01 | $\angle . 2 \angle 1$ | 1.3/39 | 2.8342 |
| 100 | 2.331 | -0.81/ | -0.009 | 2.322 | 1.4483 | 2.8424 |

| 109 | 2.339 | 1.767 | -0.016 | 2.323 | 1.4108 | 2.8346 |
|-----|-------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|
| 110 | 2.331 | -1.045 | -0.006 | 2.324 | 1.4611 | 2.8318 |
| 111 | 2.332 | -0.251 | -0.006 | 2.326 | 1.3825 | 2.8435 |
| 112 | 2.335 | 0.836 | -0.009 | 2.327 | 1.5499 | 2.5122 |
| 113 | 2.331 | -1.626 | -0.003 | 2.328 | 1.5259 | 2.7989 |
| 114 | 2.342 | 1.65 | -0.013 | 2.329 | 1.5594 | 2.8456 |
| 115 | 2.337 | -1.395 | -0.007 | 2.33 | 1.4311 | 2.8406 |
| 116 | 2.345 | 1.066 | -0.014 | 2.331 | 1.3912 | 2.8333 |
| 117 | 2.344 | 0.101 | -0.011 | 2.332 | 1.5421 | 2.8387 |
| 118 | 2.342 | -2.613 | -0.008 | 2.334 | 1.3793 | 2.8439 |
| 119 | 2.361 | 2.175 | -0.027 | 2.335 | 1.4121 | 2.8382 |
| 120 | 2.363 | 2.056 | -0.027 | 2.336 | 1.6196 | 2.8334 |
| 121 | 2.347 | -1.993 | -0.01 | 2.337 | 1.5302 | 2.8392 |
| 122 | 2.348 | -0.082 | -0.01 | 2.338 | 1.5884 | 2.832 |
| 123 | 2.349 | -0.211 | -0.011 | 2.339 | 1.5198 | 2.8438 |
| 124 | 2.353 | 0.241 | -0.013 | 2.34 | 1.5188 | 2.7993 |
| 125 | 2.354 | 0.33 | -0.013 | 2.341 | 1.4829 | 2.8409 |
| 126 | 2.353 | 0.339 | -0.011 | 2.342 | 1.5295 | 2.8457 |
| 127 | 2.348 | -1.271 | -0.006 | 2.343 | 1.5478 | 2.8363 |
| 128 | 2.354 | 0.555 | -0.011 | 2.344 | 1.5188 | 2.8442 |
| 129 | 2.356 | 1.027 | -0.011 | 2.345 | 1.5359 | 2.8424 |
| 130 | 2.35 | -1.413 | -0.004 | 2.346 | 1.5034 | 2.8414 |
| 131 | 2.354 | 0.448 | -0.007 | 2.347 | 1.6068 | 2.8352 |
| 132 | 2.355 | 0.055 | -0.007 | 2.348 | 1.5909 | 2.8412 |
| 133 | 2.356 | -0.155 | -0.007 | 2.349 | 1.6247 | 2.8416 |
| 134 | 2.357 | 0.276 | -0.008 | 2.349 | 1.4715 | 2.846 |
| 135 | 2.357 | -0.421 | -0.007 | 2.35 | 1.5461 | 2.7729 |
| 136 | 2.36 | 0.98 | -0.009 | 2.351 | 1.6907 | 2.8372 |
| 137 | 2.356 | -1.764 | -0.003 | 2.352 | 1.6897 | 2.8464 |
| 138 | 2.364 | 0.546 | -0.011 | 2.353 | 1.4977 | 2.8468 |
| 139 | 2.368 | -2.988 | -0.015 | 2.354 | 1.6072 | 2.8376 |
| 140 | 2.394 | 7.957 | -0.039 | 2.355 | 1.5633 | 2.8374 |
| 141 | 2.363 | -4.071 | -0.007 | 2.356 | 1.542 | 2.8367 |
| 142 | 2.361 | -1.289 | -0.005 | 2.356 | 1.5473 | 2.8358 |
| 143 | 2.368 | 0.711 | -0.011 | 2.357 | 1.5359 | 2.8362 |
| 144 | 2.37 | 0.104 | -0.012 | 2.358 | 1.514 | 2.8374 |
| 145 | 2.371 | -0.052 | -0.012 | 2.359 | 1.6257 | 2.847 |
| 146 | 2.373 | 0.537 | -0.013 | 2.36 | 1.6328 | 2.7813 |
| 147 | 2.371 | 0.06 | -0.01 | 2.361 | 1.7809 | 2.8428 |
| 148 | 2.368 | -0.245 | -0.007 | 2.361 | 1.602 | 2.8359 |
| 149 | 2.368 | -1.078 | -0.005 | 2.362 | 1.764 | 2.8475 |
| 150 | 2.374 | 1.436 | -0.011 | 2.363 | 1.6344 | 2.8378 |
| 151 | 2.371 | -0.617 | -0.007 | 2.364 | 1.6947 | 2.8439 |
| 152 | 2.372 | 0.293 | -0.007 | 2.364 | 1.6407 | 2.842 |
| 153 | 2.371 | -0.016 | -0.006 | 2.365 | 1.7178 | 2.8475 |
| 154 | 2.37 | 0.109 | -0.004 | 2.366 | 1.6924 | 2.8373 |
| 155 | 2.368 | 0.612 | -0.002 | 2.367 | 1.6844 | 2.8388 |
| 156 | 2.363 | -2.423 | 0.005 | 2.367 | 1.6168 | 2.8385 |
| 157 | 2.373 | 1.053 | -0.005 | 2.368 | 1.7493 | 2.7739 |
| | | | | | | |

| 158 | 2.376 | 0.475 | -0.007 | 2.369 | 1.6085 | 2.8463 |
|-----|-------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|
| 159 | 2.376 | -0.367 | -0.007 | 2.37 | 1.6792 | 2.8446 |
| 160 | 2.379 | 0.664 | -0.008 | 2.37 | 1.6691 | 2.8382 |
| 161 | 2.377 | 0.621 | -0.006 | 2.371 | 1.7535 | 2.8385 |
| 162 | 2.372 | -2.341 | 0 | 2.372 | 1.7046 | 2.8395 |
| 163 | 2.38 | 2.015 | -0.008 | 2.372 | 1.6676 | 2.838 |
| 164 | 2.377 | 0.117 | -0.004 | 2.373 | 1.6607 | 2.8379 |
| 165 | 2.373 | -1.814 | 0.001 | 2.374 | 1.6562 | 2.838 |
| 166 | 2.38 | 1.441 | -0.005 | 2.374 | 1.6835 | 2.8455 |
| 167 | 2.378 | 0.111 | -0.003 | 2.375 | 1.7216 | 2.8404 |
| 168 | 2.375 | -0.829 | 0 | 2.376 | 1.7064 | 2.7816 |
| 169 | 2.378 | -0.798 | -0.002 | 2.376 | 1.6944 | 2.8388 |
| 170 | 2.385 | 1.671 | -0.008 | 2.377 | 1.7616 | 2.8386 |
| 171 | 2.382 | -0.982 | -0.005 | 2.378 | 1.6965 | 2.8382 |
| 172 | 2.385 | 1.975 | -0.007 | 2.378 | 1.5772 | 2.8383 |
| 173 | 2.377 | -2.402 | 0.002 | 2.379 | 1.7707 | 2.8447 |
| 174 | 2.382 | 1.069 | -0.003 | 2.38 | 1.6951 | 2.8449 |
| 175 | 2.382 | 0.192 | -0.001 | 2.38 | 1.7129 | 2.849 |
| 176 | 2.38 | -1.488 | 0.001 | 2.381 | 1.7216 | 2.8457 |
| 177 | 2.386 | 1.738 | -0.005 | 2.381 | 1.6775 | 2.8369 |
| 178 | 2.383 | -0.513 | -0.001 | 2.382 | 1.8569 | 2.8474 |
| 179 | 2.383 | -0.6 | 0 | 2.383 | 1.7292 | 2.7922 |
| 180 | 2.386 | 0.569 | -0.003 | 2.383 | 1.7413 | 2.8454 |
| 181 | 2.386 | 0.485 | -0.002 | 2.384 | 1.9682 | 2.8376 |
| 182 | 2.383 | -2.106 | 0.001 | 2.384 | 1.7549 | 2.8391 |
| 183 | 2.392 | 2.68 | -0.007 | 2.385 | 1.9685 | 2.8475 |
| 184 | 2.386 | -1.198 | 0 | 2.386 | 1.6703 | 2.8413 |
| 185 | 2.386 | 0.691 | 0 | 2.386 | 1.9492 | 2.8486 |
| 186 | 2.383 | -1.952 | 0.003 | 2.387 | 1.7771 | 2.8466 |
| 187 | 2.391 | 0.294 | -0.003 | 2.387 | 1.8672 | 2.851 |
| 188 | 2.396 | 2.308 | -0.008 | 2.388 | 1.8042 | 2.8488 |
| 189 | 2.39 | -0.445 | -0.001 | 2.388 | 1.7912 | 2.8378 |
| 190 | 2.386 | -1.897 | 0.003 | 2.389 | 1.6996 | 2.8046 |
| 191 | 2.391 | -0.352 | -0.002 | 2.389 | 1.7876 | 2.846 |
| 192 | 2.399 | 3.787 | -0.009 | 2.39 | 1.5802 | 2.8467 |
| 193 | 2.387 | -2.582 | 0.004 | 2.391 | 1.831 | 2.8499 |
| 194 | 2.388 | -0.245 | 0.003 | 2.391 | 1.7367 | 2.8474 |
| 195 | 2.391 | 0.405 | 0.001 | 2.392 | 1.9036 | 2.8396 |
| 196 | 2.391 | -1.034 | 0.001 | 2.392 | 1.988 | 2.8478 |
| 197 | 2.397 | 2.786 | -0.004 | 2.393 | 1.7508 | 2.8388 |
| 198 | 2.389 | -2.419 | 0.005 | 2.393 | 1.816 | 2.8389 |
| 199 | 2.392 | 1.101 | 0.001 | 2.394 | 1.8945 | 2.8451 |
| 200 | 2.391 | -0.781 | 0.003 | 2.394 | 1.9028 | 2.8489 |
| 201 | 2.393 | -0.149 | 0.002 | 2.395 | 1.8422 | 2.7788 |
| 202 | 2.396 | 0.887 | -0.001 | 2.395 | 1.8965 | 2.8396 |
| 203 | 2.394 | -0.498 | 0.001 | 2.396 | 1.8992 | 2.8409 |
| 204 | 2.395 | 0.395 | 0.001 | 2.396 | 1.846 | 2.8483 |
| 205 | 2.394 | -0.48 | 0.002 | 2.397 | 1.7618 | 2.8413 |
| 206 | 2.396 | 0.427 | 0.001 | 2.397 | 1.7525 | 2.841 |

| 207 | 2.395 | 1.063 | 0.003 | 2.398 | 1.8202 | 2.8461 |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|--------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| 208 | 2.389 | -3.053 | 0.009 | 2.398 | 1.8824 | 2.8394 |
| 209 | 2.398 | 1.545 | 0.001 | 2.399 | 1.8401 | 2.8399 |
| 210 | 2.4 | 1.849 | 0 | 2.399 | 1.9287 | 2.8397 |
| 211 | 2.392 | -2.935 | 0.007 | 2.4 | 1.806 | 2.8399 |
| 212 | 2.399 | 1.172 | 0.001 | 2.4 | 1.9796 | 2.7873 |
| 213 | 2.4 | 0.282 | 0.001 | 2.401 | 1.7295 | 2.8503 |
| 214 | 2.399 | 0.615 | 0.002 | 2.401 | 1.809 | 2.8408 |
| 215 | 2.396 | -2.498 | 0.005 | 2.402 | 1.88 | 2.8472 |
| 216 | 2.405 | 3.818 | -0.003 | 2.402 | 1.7461 | 2.842 |
| 217 | 2.395 | -2.307 | 0.007 | 2.402 | 1.9776 | 2.8443 |
| 218 | 2.397 | 0.53 | 0.006 | 2.403 | 1.8144 | 2.8472 |
| 219 | 2.396 | -2.152 | 0.008 | 2.403 | 1.9606 | 2.841 |
| 220 | 2.405 | 2.685 | -0.001 | 2.404 | 1.8838 | 2.8521 |
| 221 | 2.401 | 0.523 | 0.003 | 2.404 | 1.8087 | 2.8401 |
| 222 | 2.395 | -3.03 | 0.009 | 2.405 | 1.8812 | 2.8414 |
| 223 | 2.403 | 2.29 | 0.002 | 2.405 | 1.95 | 2.5597 |
| 224 | 2.401 | -1.36 | 0.005 | 2.406 | 1.8765 | 2.7972 |
| 225 | 2.404 | 1.101 | 0.002 | 2.406 | 2.0084 | 2.8398 |
| 226 | 2 403 | -1 699 | 0.003 | 2 406 | 1 8031 | 2 8108 |
| 220 | 2.109 | 1.825 | -0.002 | 2.100 | 1 8728 | 2.0100 |
| 227 | 2.105 | 1 348 | 0.002 | 2.107 | 1.8720 | 2.007 |
| 220 | 2.107 | -1 7 | 0.008 | 2.107 | 1 9438 | 2.7949 |
| 22) | 2.4 | -2 129 | 0.009 | 2.408 | 1.9456 | 2.7545 |
| 230 | 2.377 | 2 605 | 0.005 | 2.408 | 2 0374 | 2.8038 |
| 231 | 2.406 | -1.76 | 0.003 | 2.409 | 1 9728 | 2.8027 |
| 232 | 2.400 | -1.70 | -0.003 | 2.409 | 1.9728 | 2.8011 |
| 233 | 2.411 | 4.004 | -0.002 | $2.+0^{-1}$ | 1.9308 | 2.8185 |
| 234 | 2.377 | 2 388 | 0.011 | 2.41 | 1.9117 | 2.8075 |
| 235 | 2.404 | 2.300 | 0.000 | 2.41 | 1.8931 | 2.0709 |
| 230 | 2.399 | -5.458 | 0.012 | 2.411 | 2 080 | 2.8220 |
| 237 | 2.408 | 0.773 | -0.003 | 2.411 | 1 9115 | 2.7901 |
| 230 | 2.412 | 1.678 | -0.001 | 2.412 | 2 018 | 2.8044 |
| 239 | 2.413 | 1.078 | -0.001 | 2.412 | 2.018 | 2.8097 |
| 240 | 2.400 | -1.178 | 0.000 | 2.412 | 2 0521 | 2.8213 |
| 2 + 1 2 / 2 | 2.403 | -0.707 | 0.008 | 2.413 | 2.0321 | 2.8104 |
| 242 | 2.407 | -1.572 | 0.000 | 2.413 | 1.0821 | 2.8054 |
| 243 | 2.414 | 2.935 | -0.001 | 2.413 | 1.9621 | 2.8004 |
| 244 | 2.409 | -1.163 | 0.004 | 2.414 | 1.8/99 | 2.8010 |
| 243 | 2.409 | -1.045 | 0.003 | 2.414 | 1.0995 | 2.0114 |
| 240 | 2.410 | 2.747 | -0.002 | 2.415 | 1.9773 | 2.0928 |
| 247 | 2.412 | -0.04 | 0.003 | 2.415 | 1.9365 | 2.8130 |
| 240 | 2.408 | -1.011 | 0.008 | 2.415 | 1.9303 | 2.8119 |
| 249 250 | 2.40/ 2.412 | -1.525 | 0.008 | 2.410 2 116 | 1.0/10 | 2.0177 2 8080 |
| 250 251 | 2.413 2 116 | 0.307 | 0.003 | 2.410 2 116 | 1.7414 | 2.0009 2 8001 |
| 251 | 2.410 | 2.33 | 0.001 | 2.410 2.417 | 1.0/11 | 2.0001 |
| 252 252 | 2.409 | -2.298 1 722 | 0.007 | 2.41/ 2.417 | 1.7/03 | 2.0030 |
| ∠33 254 | 2.412 | 1./33 | 0.005 | 2.41/ 2.410 | 2.1984 1.9926 | 2.8132 |
| ∠34 255 | 2.408 | -1.445 | 0.009 | 2.418 2.419 | 1.8230 | 2.818/ 2.9165 |
| 233 | 2.41 | 0.940 | 0.008 | 2.41ð | 1.9033 | 2.8103 |

| 256 | 2.408 | -2.173 | 0.01 | 2.418 | 2.0632 | 2.8137 |
|-----|-------|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| 257 | 2.415 | 2.341 | 0.004 | 2.419 | 2.0615 | 2.6895 |
| 258 | 2.412 | -0.582 | 0.007 | 2.419 | 2.0551 | 2.8087 |
| 259 | 2.412 | 0.839 | 0.008 | 2.419 | 1.9697 | 2.8189 |
| 260 | 2.408 | -2.273 | 0.012 | 2.42 | 2.0322 | 2.8173 |
| 261 | 2.413 | 0.261 | 0.007 | 2.42 | 1.9531 | 2.821 |
| 262 | 2.417 | 3.694 | 0.003 | 2.42 | 2.0222 | 2.8195 |
| 263 | 2.407 | -4.895 | 0.013 | 2.421 | 1.9912 | 2.822 |
| 264 | 2.416 | 2.584 | 0.005 | 2.421 | 1.8861 | 2.8254 |
| 265 | 2.415 | -1.123 | 0.007 | 2.421 | 1.8384 | 2.8241 |
| 266 | 2.418 | 5.166 | 0.004 | 2.422 | 2.0924 | 2.8172 |
| 267 | 2.402 | -8.41 | 0.021 | 2.422 | 2.0279 | 2.8172 |
| 268 | 2.417 | 3.971 | 0.006 | 2.422 | 1.8984 | 2.6986 |
| 269 | 2.417 | 1.925 | 0.006 | 2.423 | 2.0506 | 2.8212 |
| 270 | 2.41 | -2.247 | 0.013 | 2.423 | 2.0385 | 2.8213 |
| 271 | 2.412 | -1.759 | 0.012 | 2.423 | 2.0864 | 2.8125 |
| 272 | 2.42 | 2.056 | 0.004 | 2.424 | 2.0563 | 2.8258 |
| 273 | 2.42 | -0.239 | 0.004 | 2.424 | 2.0789 | 2.8241 |
| 274 | 2.421 | 1.28 | 0.003 | 2.424 | 2.1547 | 2.8249 |
| 275 | 2.418 | -1.597 | 0.007 | 2.425 | 2.0757 | 2.8168 |
| 276 | 2.42 | 0.968 | 0.005 | 2.425 | 2.1079 | 2.8139 |
| 277 | 2.419 | 2.029 | 0.006 | 2.425 | 2.093 | 2.8205 |
| 278 | 2.411 | -4.289 | 0.015 | 2.426 | 2.2127 | 2.8234 |
| 279 | 2.418 | 1.1 | 0.008 | 2.426 | 2.056 | 2.6738 |
| 280 | 2.421 | 0.667 | 0.005 | 2.426 | 1.9647 | 2.8325 |
| 281 | 2.422 | 0.974 | 0.005 | 2.427 | 2.1498 | 2.8263 |
| 282 | 2.419 | -1.014 | 0.008 | 2.427 | 1.9426 | 2.8232 |
| 283 | 2.42 | -0.292 | 0.008 | 2.427 | 2.1954 | 2.8248 |
| 284 | 2.422 | 1.855 | 0.006 | 2.428 | 2.0281 | 2.823 |
| 285 | 2.417 | -2.817 | 0.011 | 2.428 | 2.1992 | 2.8168 |
| 286 | 2.422 | 1.623 | 0.006 | 2.428 | 2.0689 | 2.8251 |
| 287 | 2.422 | -0.896 | 0.007 | 2.429 | 2.2374 | 2.8146 |
| 288 | 2.424 | 2.951 | 0.005 | 2.429 | 1.9727 | 2.8258 |
| 289 | 2.417 | -3.996 | 0.013 | 2.429 | 2.1763 | 2.83 |
| 290 | 2.423 | 1.275 | 0.007 | 2.429 | 2.0878 | 2.7021 |
| 291 | 2.425 | 3.062 | 0.005 | 2.43 | 2.1015 | 2.8137 |
| 292 | 2.416 | -5.35 | 0.014 | 2.43 | 2.0519 | 2.8284 |
| 293 | 2.426 | 5.238 | 0.005 | 2.43 | 1.9965 | 2.8305 |
| 294 | 2.417 | -2.993 | 0.013 | 2.431 | 2.092 | 2.8297 |
| 295 | 2.419 | -0.598 | 0.012 | 2.431 | 2.1588 | 2.8309 |
| 296 | 2.423 | 0.72 | 0.008 | 2.431 | 2.1246 | 2.8304 |
| 297 | 2.425 | 0.85 | 0.007 | 2.432 | 2.0117 | 2.8214 |
| 298 | 2.423 | -1.594 | 0.009 | 2.432 | 2.0612 | 2.8324 |
| 299 | 2.427 | 1.819 | 0.005 | 2.432 | 2.0539 | 2.8307 |
| 300 | 2.425 | - | 0.007 | 2.432 | 2.3497 | 2.8296 |

| F | GA | | | | | PSO | | | | | RPSO | | | | |
|----|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | Best | Worst | Mean | S.D. | T(s) | Best | Worst | Mean | S.D. | T(s) | Best | Worst | Mean | S.D. | T(s) |
| 1 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 47.14 | 1.11E-06 | 3.67E-06 | 2.13E-06 | 7.04E-07 | 36.44 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.1586 |
| 2 | 1.30E-04 | 8,72E-04 | 4.23E-04 | 1.59E-04 | 53.18 | 1.20E-02 | 7.42E-02 | 3.42E-02 | 1.73E-02 | 42.33 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 2.071 |
| 3 | 2.89E+00 | 9.04E+01 | 7.90E+01 | 1.85E+01 | 62.66 | 1.12E+01 | 2.17E+02 | 5.14E+01 | 5.15E+01 | 51.47 | 0.00E+00 | 3.99E+00 | 1.51E+00 | 1.95E+00 | 22.98 |
| 4 | 0.00E+00 | 1.25E+03 | 2.64E+01 | 9.12E+02 | 68.54 | 0.00E+00 | 5.76E+04 | 3.45E+03 | 6.67E+02 | 54.78 | 0.00E+00 | 1.02E+02 | 5.21E+01 | 3.24E+01 | 12.77 |
| 5 | 0.00E+00 | 1.00E-01 | 2.00E-02 | 1.41E-01 | 55.46 | 9.95E+00 | 2.49E+01 | 1.58E+01 | 3.54E+00 | 45.49 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.06321 |
| 6 | 5.56E-05 | 2.62E-04 | 1.13E-04 | 4.36E-05 | 67.83 | 1.31E-03 | 2.01E+01 | 9.70E+00 | 9.88E+00 | 57.53 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 5.464 |
| 7 | 7.40E-03 | 3.30E-01 | 1.03E-01 | 7.33E-02 | 67.62 | 3.95E-07 | 8.10E-02 | 1.50E-02 | 1.98E-02 | 56.28 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 4.253 |
| 8 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 124.1 | 1.96E-07 | 1.51E+01 | 2.25E+00 | 2.60E+00 | 108.8 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 16.31 |
| 9 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 123.1 | 1.87E-06 | 7.73E-06 | 3.81E-06 | 1.22E-06 | 109.0 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 3.391 |
| 10 | 0.00E+00 | 8.62E-07 | 0.00E+00 | 1.50E-07 | 57.48 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.6021 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.1101 |
| 11 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 61.08 | 1.18E-06 | 4.52E-06 | 2.06E-06 | 6.30E-07 | 49.63 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.1674 |
| 12 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 75.91 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.1987 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.007233 |
| 13 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 51.72 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 42.51 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.5478 |
| 14 | 9.90E-02 | 2.72E-01 | 1.83E-01 | 4.32E-02 | 69.77 | 6.82E-02 | 2.72E-01 | 1.39E-01 | 4.64E-02 | 59.35 | 1.90E-02 | 4.57E-01 | 4.68E-02 | 8.53E-02 | 47.48 |
| 15 | 2.67E-05 | 2.70E-03 | 7.64E-04 | 6.12E-04 | 69.63 | 1.78E-01 | 2.74E+00 | 7.96E-01 | 5.78E-01 | 58.90 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.00E+00 | 0.6101 |

Table S4 Experimental result values obtained by GA, PSO, RPSO for d=30 through 50 independent runs

S.D., standard deviation, T, mean CPU time. The best experimental result values are marked bold.

Supplementary Figures



Figure S1. (a) Au₄₂ cluster in ball-and-stick view. (b) Alpha shape corresponding to Au₄₂ cluster.



Figure S2 (a). Snapshots of structures of Au_N cluster (N=21-119) obtained by RPSO.



Figure S2 (b). Snapshots of structures of Au_N cluster (N=120-218) obtained by RPSO.



Figure S2 (c). Snapshots of structures of Au_N cluster (N=219-300) obtained by RPSO.



Figure S3. Average bond length for $Au_N(2-300)$ clusters obtained by RPSO.



Figure S4. Dia (effective diameters) of Au_N (N=2-300) obtained by RPSO.



Figure S5. Schematic diagram of system energy correction. Blue square ($E_{gupta-raw}$) means the original energy of Au_N(N=2-300) obtained by RPSO at the Gupta level. The red dot ($E_{gupta-dft}$) means recalculated energy data point of the same structural configurations using VASP, selected Au_N scatter size is 21-80, 99, 100,119,120,139,140,159,160,200,220,240,260,280,300. The green trend line reflects the revised system energy trend.



Figure S6. Cohesive energy of $Au_N(N=2-300)$. Horizontal dashed line represents the experimental cohesive energy of bulk gold, which is 3.8 eV².



Figure S7. D_2E (Second finite difference) of Au_N (N=2-20). Black label numbers correspond to more stable sizes.



Figure S8. Average adsorption energy of CO oxidation upon Au_N cluster with effect diameter denoted as Dia. Red dot represents adsorption energy of CO, which follows linear logarithmic relationship as $y = -1.793 + 0.519 \ln (x - 1.623)$ with $R^2 = 0.88$. Black dot represents adsorption energy of molecular O₂, which follows linear logarithmic relationship as $y = -0.523 + 0.167 \ln (x - 1.887)$ with $R^2 = 0.88$.

Figure S9. Schematic diagram of geometric site distribution using Au_{199} as a demo system. Blue atoms denote *Face* sites, orange atoms denote *Edge* sites, and green atoms denote *Kink* sites.

Figure S10. Blue line: average predicted reaction rate of surface sites. Red line: percentage of surface sites to total number of atoms in cluster.

Figure S11. The ratio of different types of sites (Kink, Edge and Face) to the total number of surface sites.

Figure S12. The comparison of RPSO, RPSOLF and PSO algorithms results for different dimensions of Rosenbrock function. Each point represents the mean values of the given dimension of the Rosenbrock function obtained by three algorithms starting from the same initial solution. Cited from ref [3].

Reference

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- (2) Assadollahzadeh, B.; Schwerdtfeger, P. A Systematic Search for Minimum Structures of Small Gold Clusters Aun (N=2–20) and Their Electronic Properties. *The Journal of Chemical Physics* **2009**, *131* (6), 064306.
- (3) Zhou, Y.; Zhao, Z.; Cheng, D. Cluster Structure Prediction via Revised Particle-Swarm Optimization Algorithm. *Computer Physics Communications* **2020**, *247*, 106945.