

**Mononuclear gold(III) complexes with diazanaphthalenes: the influence of
the position of nitrogen atoms in the aromatic rings on the complex
crystalline properties**

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Abstract

A series of mononuclear gold(III) complexes of the general formula $[\text{AuCl}_3(\text{diazanaphthalene})]$, where diazanaphthalene is quinazoline (qz, **1**), phthalazine (phtz, **2**), 1,5-naphthyridine (1,5-naph, **3**), 1,6-naphthyridine (1,6-naph, **4**) or 1,8-naphthyridine (1,8-naph, **5**), were prepared and fully characterized. The complexes **1–5** consist of discrete monomeric species with the Au(III) cation in a square planar coordination geometry surrounded by three chloride anions and one diazanaphthalene ligand. Crystallographic studies indicate the presence of an extended 4 + 1 or 4 + 2 geometry around the square planar $[\text{AuCl}_3(\text{diazanaphthalene})]$ center due to $\text{Au}\cdots\text{Cl}$ and $\text{Au}\cdots\text{N}$ interactions. The crystal structures of these complexes are controlled by a variety of intermolecular interactions that utilize the amphiphilic properties of the coordinated chloride anions and involve C–H groups, π -electrons, and an uncoordinated nitrogen atom of the diazanaphthalene ligand. The usual offset π -stacking between the N-heteroaromatic ligands appears to be completely hindered between the 1,5-naph fragments and significantly weakened between the 1,6-naph and 1,8-naph in their respective complexes **3**, **4** and **5**, for which the average molecular polarizability (α) values are the lowest in the series. It is remarkable that the $[\text{AuCl}_3(\text{benzodiazine})]$ complexes **1** and **2** form centrosymmetric crystals, but the $[\text{AuCl}_3(\text{naphthyridine})]$ complexes **3–5** assemble into non-centrosymmetric aggregates, making them potential alternatives to the previously studied systems for application in various fields by taking advantage of their polarity.

Keywords: Gold(III) complexes; Diazanaphthalenes; Spectroscopy; X-ray crystallography; Non-centrosymmetric crystals; DFT calculations.

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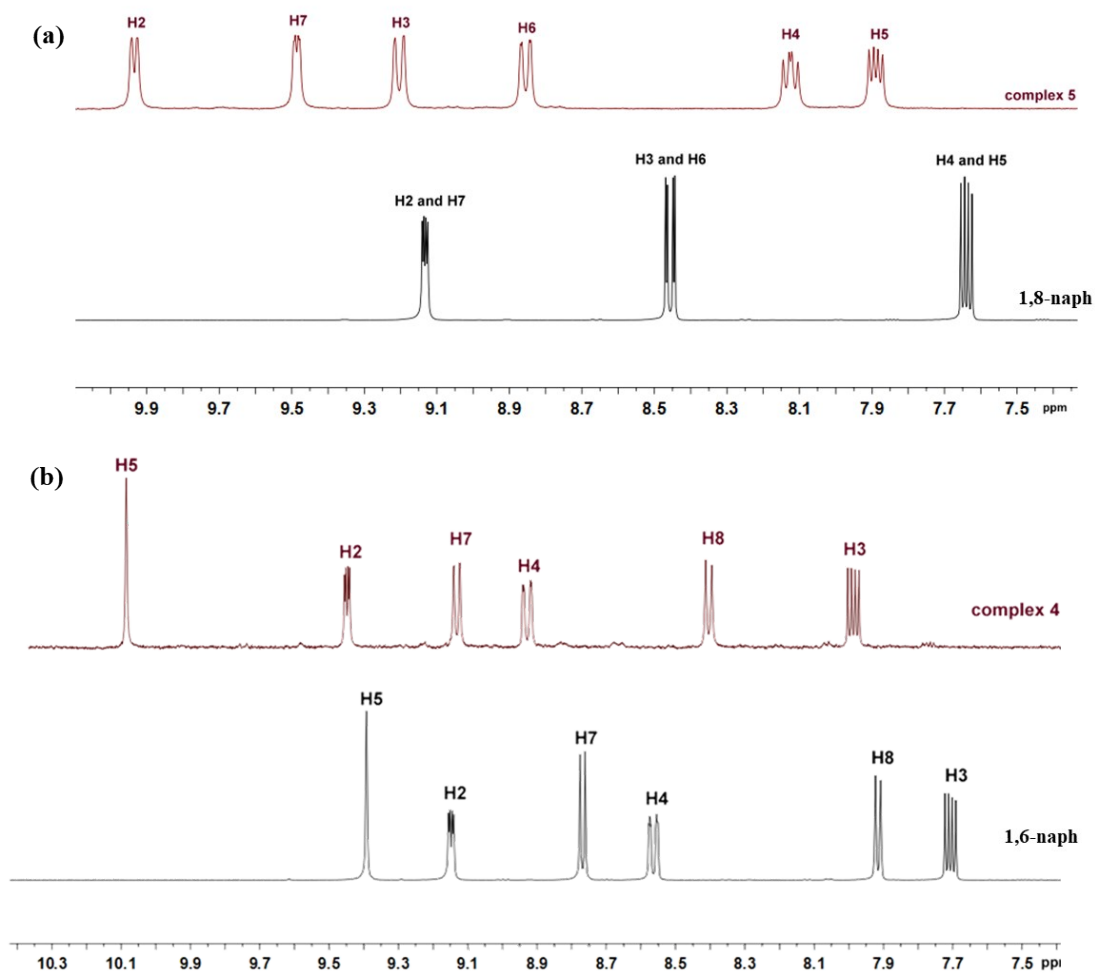


Fig. S1 ¹H NMR spectra of (a) symmetrical 1,8-naph ligand and the corresponding gold(III) complex **5**, and (b) asymmetrical 1,6-naph ligand and the corresponding gold(III) complex **4** recorded in acetone-*d*₆ at ambient temperature (400 MHz).

Table S1 Crystal data for complexes **1-5**. For all structures: molecular formula $C_8H_6AuCl_3N_2$ and $MW = 433.46$.

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Crystal data | | | | | |
| Crystal system, space group | Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$ | Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$ | Orthorhombic, $Pna2_1$ | Monoclinic, $P2_1$ | Monoclinic, Cc |
| a, b, c (Å) | 7.6012(4), 7.6086(5), 9.9648(4) | 7.8424(4), 8.1614(4), 9.7794(5) | 12.9111(4), 12.1129(4), 6.7647(2) | 4.0553(1), 11.2233(2), 11.6686(3) | 7.5601(2), 22.2124(5), 13.5335(3) |
| α, β, γ (°) | 111.477(5), 92.248(4), 92.294(5) | 113.353(5), 95.989(4), 104.639(4) | 90, 90, 90 | 90, 93.193(2), 90 | 90, 103.107(3), 90 |
| V (Å ³) | 534.96(5) | 541.06(5) | 1057.94(6) | 530.26(2) | 2213.45(9) |
| Z | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 8 |
| D_x (Mg m ⁻³) | 2.691 | 2.661 | 2.721 | 2.715 | 2.601 |
| Packing Index [%] | 69.1 | 69.8 | 70.7 | 70.5 | 67.5 |
| μ (mm ⁻¹) | 14.46 | 14.29 | 14.62 | 14.59 | 13.98 |
| Crystal size (mm) | 0.35 × 0.18 × 0.10 | 0.20 × 0.20 × 0.10 | 0.23 × 0.20 × 0.16 | 0.23 × 0.20 × 0.05 | 0.35 × 0.25 × 0.10 |
| Data collection | | | | | |
| T_{\min}, T_{\max} | 0.045, 0.293 | 0.050, 0.216 | 0.074, 0.210 | 0.324, 0.733 | 0.023, 0.338 |
| No. of measured, independent and observed [$I > 2\sigma(I)$] reflections | 8983, 1874, 1774 | 9111, 1914, 1817 | 7169, 1871, 1747 | 9371, 1878, 1828 | 22331, 3878, 3804 |
| R_{int} | 0.044 | 0.038 | 0.027 | 0.042 | 0.051 |
| $(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\text{max}}$ (Å ⁻¹) | 0.595 | 0.595 | 0.595 | 0.595 | 0.595 |

| Refinement | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)]$, $wR(F^2)$, S | 0.020, 0.044, 1.07 | 0.018, 0.040, 1.12 | 0.017, 0.035, 1.06 | 0.020, 0.047, 1.08 | 0.020, 0.044, 1.04 |
| No. of reflections | 1874 | 1914 | 1871 | 1878 | 3878 |
| No. of parameters | 128 | 128 | 128 | 127 | 254 |
| No. of restraints | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| $\Delta\rho_{\max}$, $\Delta\rho_{\min}$ ($e \text{ \AA}^{-3}$) | 0.88, -0.70 | 0.65, -0.64 | 0.38, -0.49 | 0.53, -0.68 | 0.39, -0.49 |
| Absolute structure | – | – | Refined as an inversion twin. | Flack x determined using 838 quotients [(I+)-(I-)]/[(I+)+(I-)] | Refined as an inversion twin. |
| Absolute structure parameter | – | – | 0.608(14) | -0.030(6) | 0.442(11) |

Table S2 Selected bond distances (Å) and valence angles (°) in gold(III) complexes with diazaphthalene ligands **1-5**. DFT calculations were performed at M06-2X/(LanL2TZ(f)+cc-pVTZ)//M06-2X/(LanL2TZ(f)+cc-pVDZ) level of theory *in vacuo*.

| 1 | | | 2 | | | 3 | | | 4 | | | 5 | | | |
|------------|--------|------------|------------|--------|------------|------------|--------|------------|------------|--------|------------|------------|--------|------------|------------|
| | calc. | X-ray | | calc. | X-ray | | calc. | X-ray | | calc. | X-ray | | calc. | X-ray | |
| Au—C11 | 2.303 | 2.2819(13) | Au—C11 | 2.314 | 2.2724(13) | Au—C11 | 2.308 | 2.283(2) | Au—C11 | 2.308 | 2.277(3) | Au—C11 | 2.307 | 2.275(3) | 2.281(3) |
| Au—C12 | 2.255 | 2.2590(13) | Au—C12 | 2.256 | 2.2662(12) | Au—C12 | 2.257 | 2.2709(18) | Au—C12 | 2.256 | 2.258(2) | Au—C12 | 2.257 | 2.257(3) | 2.265(3) |
| Au—C13 | 2.309 | 2.2698(12) | Au—C13 | 2.297 | 2.2797(12) | Au—C13 | 2.303 | 2.2763(19) | Au—C13 | 2.303 | 2.275(3) | Au—C13 | 2.307 | 2.268(3) | 2.271(3) |
| Au—N3 | 2.097 | 2.049(4) | Au—N2 | 2.070 | 2.027(4) | Au—N1 | 2.083 | 2.053(6) | Au—N6 | 2.096 | 2.057(8) | Au—N1 | 2.081 | 2.052(9) | 2.037(8) |
| N1—C2 | 1.300 | 1.297(6) | N2—N3 | 1.344 | 1.372(5) | N1—C2 | 1.418 | 1.337(11) | N6—C5 | 1.322 | 1.320(12) | N1—C2 | 1.318 | 1.323(14) | 1.328(12) |
| N1—C9 | 1.365 | 1.351(6) | N2—C1 | 1.313 | 1.308(6) | N1—C9 | 1.372 | 1.361(12) | N6—C7 | 1.371 | 1.362(13) | N1—C9 | 1.369 | 1.366(13) | 1.384(12) |
| N3—C2 | 1.378 | 1.367(6) | N3—C4 | 1.306 | 1.301(6) | N5—C6 | 1.311 | 1.324(14) | N1—C2 | 1.313 | 1.326(16) | N8—C8 | 1.313 | 1.338(14) | 1.335(14) |
| N3—C4 | 1.321 | 1.322(6) | | | | N5—C10 | 1.361 | 1.355(11) | N1—C9 | 1.361 | 1.344(16) | N8—C9 | 1.348 | 1.322(13) | 1.341(13) |
| N3—Au—C11 | 89.77 | 91.72(11) | N2—Au—C11 | 87.75 | 89.80(11) | N1—Au—C11 | 88.92 | 89.64(17) | N6—Au—C11 | 89.55 | 89.6(3) | N1—Au—C11 | 88.37 | 88.5(3) | 88.5(2) |
| N3—Au—C12 | 179.70 | 178.03(11) | N2—Au—C12 | 179.40 | 176.18(11) | N1—Au—C12 | 179.30 | 178.0(3) | N6—Au—C12 | 179.83 | 178.5(3) | N1—Au—C12 | 179.36 | 179.0(3) | 178.0(3) |
| N3—Au—C13 | 89.25 | 88.56(11) | N2—Au—C13 | 89.37 | 88.22(10) | N1—Au—C13 | 88.28 | 88.31(17) | N6—Au—C13 | 89.71 | 89.3(3) | N1—Au—C13 | 87.90 | 90.2(3) | 90.2(2) |
| C11—Au—C12 | 90.50 | 90.24(6) | C11—Au—C12 | 91.65 | 91.52(5) | C11—Au—C12 | 91.24 | 91.75(8) | C11—Au—C12 | 90.35 | 89.56(11) | C11—Au—C12 | 91.89 | 91.21(12) | 90.88(12) |
| C11—Au—C13 | 178.77 | 178.36(5) | C11—Au—C13 | 175.99 | 178.01(5) | C11—Au—C13 | 176.97 | 174.80(9) | C11—Au—C13 | 179.11 | 178.41(10) | C11—Au—C13 | 175.86 | 178.67(13) | 178.68(13) |
| C12—Au—C13 | 90.47 | 89.49(5) | C12—Au—C13 | 91.23 | 90.46(5) | C12—Au—C13 | 91.55 | 90.42(7) | C12—Au—C13 | 90.39 | 91.50(11) | C12—Au—C13 | 91.83 | 90.12(12) | 90.43(12) |
| Au—N3—C2 | 120.59 | 120.5(3) | Au—N2—C1 | 120.92 | 120.9(3) | Au—N1—C2 | 117.42 | 116.5(6) | Au—N6—C5 | 119.92 | 119.0(7) | Au—N1—C2 | 121.91 | 121.4(8) | 124.4(7) |
| Au—N3—C4 | 120.87 | 120.9(3) | Au—N2—N3 | 115.58 | 115.8(3) | Au—N1—C9 | 122.29 | 121.8(6) | Au—N6—C7 | 120.11 | 120.7(6) | Au—N1—C9 | 117.58 | 116.5(7) | 115.8(6) |
| C2—N3—C4 | 118.53 | 118.4(4) | C1—N2—N3 | 123.49 | 122.9(4) | C2—N1—C9 | 120.28 | 121.7(7) | C5—N6—C7 | 119.98 | 120.3(8) | C2—N1—C9 | 120.50 | 122.0(10) | 119.8(9) |
| C2—N1—C9 | 117.75 | 118.2(4) | N2—N3—C4 | 117.71 | 116.0(4) | C6—N5—C10 | 117.29 | 118.5(8) | C2—N1—C9 | 116.70 | 117.3(9) | C8—N8—C9 | 117.16 | 115.9(10) | 114.8(10) |

Table S3 Geometrical parameters describing Au···Cl and Cl···Cl interactions in **1-5**.

| Cl···Cl Au···Cl | X···X [Å] | d [Å] | θ_1 / θ_2 [°]* | Symmetry operations |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Cl1···Cl3 | 3.582(2) | 138.47(7) / 137.54(6) | $x+1, +y, +z$ |
| | Cl3···Cl3 | 3.462(2) | 132.68(8) / 132.68(8) | $-x+1, -y+1, -z+2$ |
| | Cl1···Au1 | 3.295(2) | | $-x+2, -y, -z+2$ |
| | Cl2···Au1 | 3.665(2) | | $-x+2, -y+1, -z+2$ |
| 2 | Cl1···Cl3 | 3.444(2) | 158.32(7) / 156.37(6) | $x+1, +y, +z$ |
| | Cl2···Cl2 | 3.548(2) | 136.77(8) / 136.77(8) | $-x+1, -y, -z$ |
| | Cl3···Au1 | 3.530(2) | | $-x+1, -y+1, -z+1$ |
| 3 | Cl1···Cl2 | 3.721(3) | 110.03(8) / 175(9) | $x+1/2, -y+1/2, +z$ |
| | Cl2···Cl3 | 3.694(4) | 59.78(8) / 108.35(8) | $-x+1, -y, +z+1/2$ |
| | Cl3···Cl3 | 3.684(3) | 73.83(9) / 59.96(8) | $-x+1, -y, +z-1/2$ |
| | Cl3···Au1 | 3.218(2) | | $-x+1, -y, +z-1/2$ |
| 4 | Cl1···Cl2 | 3.328(4) | 141.49(12) / 169.22(14) | $-x+1, +y-1/2, -z+1$ |
| | Cl1···Au1 | 3.427(3) | | $x+1, +y, +z$ |
| | Cl3···Au1 | 3.378(3) | | $x-1, +y, +z$ |
| 5 | Cl1···Au2 | 3.465(3) | | $x-1/2, -y+1/2, +z-1/2$ |
| | Au1···Cl4 | 3.553(3) | | $x-1/2, -y+1/2, +z-1/2$ |
| | Cl3···Cl5 | 3.684(4) | 165.06(14) / 115.71(14) | |
| | Cl4···Cl6 | 3.731(4) | 109.91(12) / 163.25(14) | $x, -y+1, +z+1/2$ |

* θ_1 and θ_2 are two Au-Cl···Cl angles

Table S4 Geometrical parameters for the shortest intra- and intermolecular hydrogen bonds.

| | D–H [Å] | H···A [Å] | D···A [Å] | D–H···A [°] | Symmetry operations on A |
|-------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 1_qz | | | | | |
| C2–H2···C11 | 0.93 | 2.76 | 3.247(5) | 114 | |
| C4–H4···C13 | 0.93 | 2.72 | 3.104(4) | 105 | |
| C2–H2···N1 | 0.93 | 2.49 | 3.167(7) | 129 | $-x+2, -y, -z+1$ |
| C6–H6···C12 | 0.93 | 2.90 | 3.524(5) | 126 | $x-1, +y-1, +z-1$ |
| C7–H7···C12 | 0.93 | 2.91 | 3.531(5) | 126 | $x-1, +y-1, +z-1$ |
| 2_phtz | | | | | |
| C1–H1···C11 | 0.93 | 2.85 | 3.740(6) | 161 | $-x+2, -y+1, -z+1$ |
| C1–H1···C13 | 0.93 | 2.89 | 3.469(7) | 122 | $-x+1, -y+1, -z+1$ |
| C4–H4···C12 | 0.93 | 2.98 | 3.847(6) | 156 | $x, +y, +z+1$ |
| C4–H4···C12 | 0.93 | 2.95 | 3.524(6) | 121 | $-x+1, -y, -z+1$ |
| C5–H5···C12 | 0.93 | 3.00 | 3.846(6) | 151 | $-x+1, -y, -z+1$ |
| C6–H6···C13 | 0.93 | 2.97 | 3.645(6) | 130 | $-x+1, -y+1, -z+2$ |
| C7–H7···C13 | 0.93 | 2.86 | 3.725(4) | 155 | $x+1, +y+1, +z+1$ |
| 3_1,5-naph | | | | | |
| C8–H8···C11 | 0.93 | 2.98 | 3.471(8) | 114 | |
| C4–H4···N5 | 0.93 | 2.58 | 3.340(11) | 139 | $-x+2, -y, +z+1/2$ |
| C2–H2···C12 | 0.93 | 2.90 | 3.730(9) | 149 | $-x+1, -y, +z+1/2$ |
| C2–H2···C13 | 0.93 | 2.58 | 3.752(9) | 144 | $-x+1, -y, +z+1/2$ |
| C8–H8···C13 | 0.93 | 2.88 | 3.285(8) | 108 | $-x+1, -y, +z-1/2$ |
| 4_1,6-naph | | | | | |
| C5–H5···C11 | 0.93 | 2.98 | 3.307(10) | 102 | |
| C7–H7···N1 | 0.93 | 2.66 | 3.551(15) | 160 | $-x+1, +y+1/2, -z+2$ |
| C2–H2···C13 | 0.93 | 3.03 | 3.864(11) | 150 | $x, +y-1, +z$ |
| C3–H3···C12 | 0.93 | 3.00 | 3.907(12) | 164 | $x-1, +y-1, +z$ |
| C4–H4···C11 | 0.93 | 2.90 | 3.610(12) | 134 | $-x, +y-1/2, -z+1$ |
| C4–H4···C12 | 0.93 | 3.05 | 3.935(12) | 160 | $-x, +y-1/2, -z+1$ |
| C5–H5···C11 | 0.93 | 2.84 | 3.506(10) | 130 | $x-1, +y, +z$ |
| C8–H8···C13 | 0.93 | 2.92 | 3.770(10) | 153 | $-x+1, +y-1/2, -z+2$ |
| 5_1,8-naph | | | | | |
| C7–H7···N18 | 0.93 | 2.70 | 3.301(14) | 124 | $x, -y+1, +z-1/2$ |
| C2–H2···C14 | 0.93 | 2.84 | 3.683(13) | 152 | $x-1/2, -y+1/2, +z-1/2$ |
| C2–H2···C15 | 0.93 | 3.02 | 3.511(13) | 115 | $x-1/2, -y+1/2, +z-1/2$ |
| C3–H3···C11 | 0.93 | 2.97 | 3.882(14) | 168 | $x-1, +y, +z$ |
| C5–H5···C14 | 0.93 | 3.01 | 3.662(11) | 128 | $x-1, +y, +z-1$ |
| C5–H5···C16 | 0.93 | 2.81 | 3.634(14) | 149 | $x-1, -y+1, +z-1/2$ |
| C7–H7···C16 | 0.93 | 2.98 | 3.751(14) | 141 | $x, -y+1, +z-1/2$ |
| C17–H17···N8 | 0.93 | 2.65 | 3.283(14) | 126 | $x, -y+1, +z+1/2$ |
| C12–H12···C11 | 0.93 | 2.80 | 3.631(11) | 149 | $x+1/2, -y+1/2, +z+1/2$ |
| C13–H13···C14 | 0.93 | 2.95 | 3.870(13) | 170 | $x+1, +y, +z$ |

Electronic Supplementary Information

| | | | | | |
|---------------|------|------|-----------|-----|---------------------|
| C15–H15···C13 | 0.93 | 2.78 | 3.605(13) | 148 | $x+1,-y+1,+z+1/2$ |
| C15–H15···C15 | 0.93 | 3.04 | 3.667(11) | 126 | $x+1,-y+1,+z+1/2$ |
| C16–H16···C11 | 0.93 | 2.82 | 3.319(11) | 115 | $x+1/2,+y+1/2,+z+1$ |
| C17–H17···C13 | 0.93 | 2.92 | 3.656(14) | 138 | $x,-y+1,+z+1/2$ |

Table S5 Geometrical parameters describing $\pi \cdots \pi$ interactions in **1**, **2**, **4** and **5**.*

| | h(Å) | r(Å) | $\Theta(^{\circ})$ | Symmetry code |
|----------|-------|-------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | | | | |
| Ar/Ar | 3.381 | 1.348 | 0 | $-x+1,-y-1,-z+1$ |
| Ar/Pm | 3.469 | 1.189 | 0 | $-x+1,-y,-z+1$ |
| 2 | | | | |
| Ar/Ar | 3.447 | 1.109 | 0 | $-x+2,-y+1,-z+2$ |
| Ar/Pz | 3.447 | 1.268 | 0 | $-x+2,-y+1,-z+2$ |
| 4 | | | | |
| Py/Py | 3.617 | 1.793 | 0 | $x+1,y,z$ |
| Py/Py | 3.617 | 1.833 | 0 | $x+1,y,z$ |
| 5 | | | | |
| Py/Py | 3.686 | 1.249 | 1.8 | $x-1,-y+1,+z-1/2$ |

*Ar = arene ring;

Pm = pyrimidine ring;

Pz = pyridazine ring;

Py = pyridine ring;

h = distance between planes defined by diazanaphthalene fragments;

r = displacement parameter defined as a distance between the centers of the six-membered rings engaged in stack projected on a plane defined by atoms of one of the two interacting rings;

Θ = inclination of one ring plane in relation to the other ring plane.