

# Exploring Orthogonality between Halogen and Hydrogen Bonding Involving Benzene

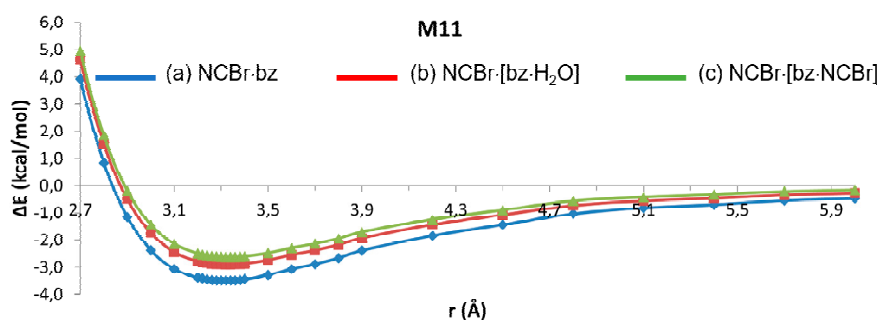
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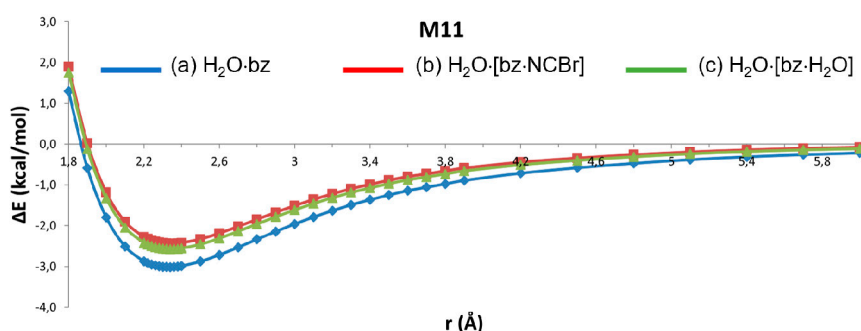
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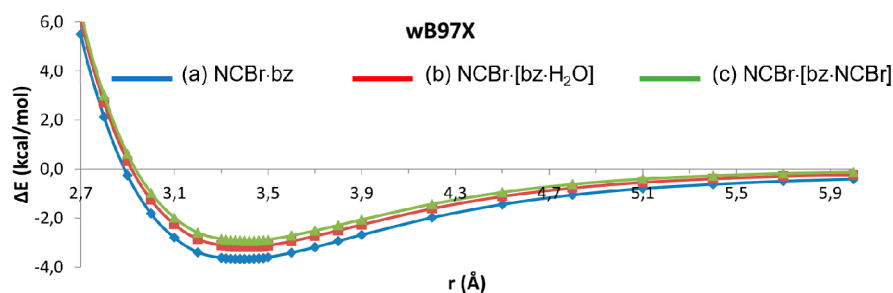
## Supplementary Material



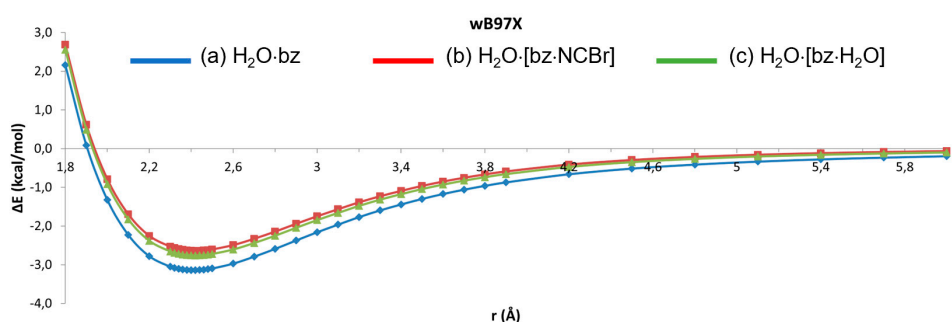
**Figure S1.** Binding energy curves,  $\Delta E$ , vs. Br distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) NCBz·bz (blue line), (b) NCBz·[bz·H<sub>2</sub>O] (red line) and (c) NCBz·[bz·NCBz] (green line) systems in the T-shaped approach at the M11/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.



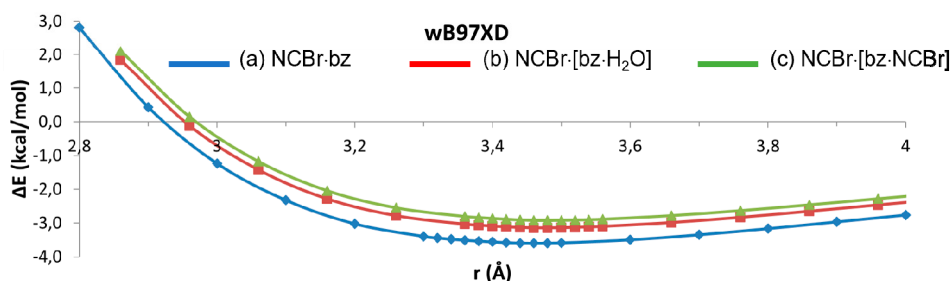
**Figure S2.** Binding energy curves,  $\Delta E$ , vs. (HO)H distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) H<sub>2</sub>O·bz (blue line), (b) H<sub>2</sub>O·[bz·NCBz] (red line) and (c) H<sub>2</sub>O·[bz·H<sub>2</sub>O] (green line) systems in the T-shaped approach at the M11/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.



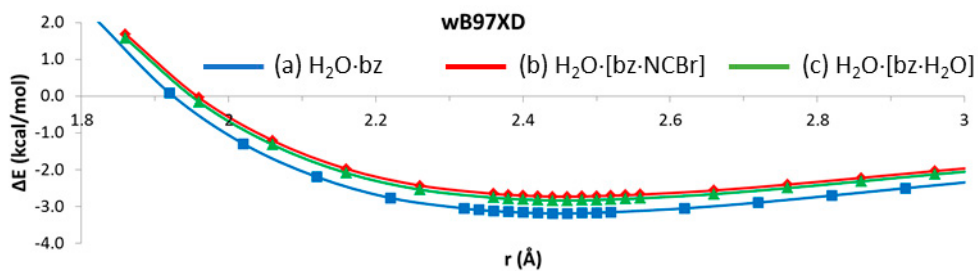
**Figure S3.** Binding energy curves,  $\Delta E$ , vs. Br distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) NCBz-bz (blue line), (b) NCBz-bz-H<sub>2</sub>O (red line) and (c) NCBz-bz-NCBr (green line) systems in the T-shaped approach at the  $\omega$ B97X/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.



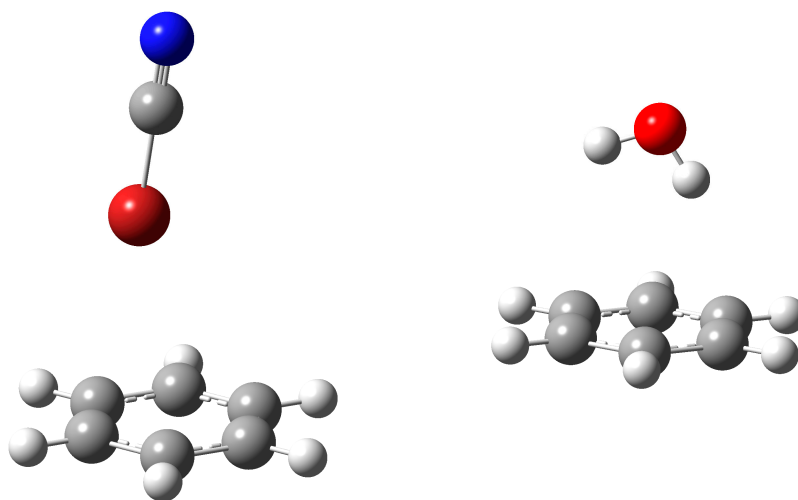
**Figure S4.** Binding energy curves,  $\Delta E$ , vs. (HO)H distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) H<sub>2</sub>O-bz (blue line), (b) H<sub>2</sub>O-bz-NCBr (red line) and (c) H<sub>2</sub>O-bz-H<sub>2</sub>O (green line) systems in the T-shaped approach at the  $\omega$ B97X/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.



**Figure S5.** Binding energy curves,  $\Delta E$ , vs. Br distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) NCBz-bz (blue line), (b) NCBz-bz-H<sub>2</sub>O (red line) and (c) NCBz-bz-NCBr (green line) systems in the T-shaped approach at the  $\omega$ B97XD/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.



**Figure S6.** Binding energy curves,  $\Delta E$ , vs. (HO)H distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) H<sub>2</sub>O-bz (blue line), (b) H<sub>2</sub>O-bz-NCBr (red line) and (c) H<sub>2</sub>O-bz-H<sub>2</sub>O (green line) systems in the T-shaped approach at the  $\omega$ B97XD/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.



**Figure S7.**  $\omega$ B97XD/aug-cc-PVTZ fully optimized geometries of the NCBz·bz (left) and H<sub>2</sub>O·bz (right) dimers.

**Table S1.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. Br distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) NCBz·bz, (b) NCBz·[bz·H<sub>2</sub>O] and (c) NCBz·[bz·NCBz] systems in the T-shaped approach at the M06-2X/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)		
	(a) NCBz·bz	(b) NCBz·[bz·H <sub>2</sub> O]	(c) NCBz·[bz·NCBz]
1.8	171.7322	172.5443	173.0282
1.9	129.8621	130.6326	131.1122
2	96.7615	97.5063	97.9688
2.1	70.8899	71.6055	72.0583
2.2	50.7751	51.4770	51.9042
2.3	35.3370	36.0170	36.4322
2.4	23.6149	24.2869	24.6784
2.5	14.8787	15.5343	15.9134
2.6	8.4525	9.1019	9.4616
2.7	3.8912	4.5249	4.8744
2.8	0.7301	1.3577	1.6900
2.9	-1.4017	-0.7917	-0.4685
3	-2.6810	-2.0836	-1.7749
3.1	-3.4185	-2.8356	-2.5360
3.16	-3.6841	-3.1151	-2.8195
3.18	-3.7436	-3.1775	-2.8853
3.2	-3.7881	-3.2249	-2.9361
3.22	-3.8169	-3.2572	-2.9714
3.24	-3.8294	-3.2734	-2.9901
3.26	-3.8280	-3.2752	-2.9943
3.28	-3.8176	-3.2675	-2.9887
3.3	-3.8019	-3.2546	-2.9777
3.32	-3.7831	-3.2389	-2.9634
3.34	-3.7617	-3.2209	-2.9467

3.4	-3.6868	-3.1580	-2.8864
3.5	-3.4970	-2.9892	-2.7289
3.6	-3.2055	-2.7165	-2.4665
3.7	-2.9331	-2.4626	-2.2194
3.8	-2.6811	-2.2311	-1.9959
3.9	-2.4485	-2.0163	-1.7920
4.2	-1.8928	-1.5154	-1.3115
4.5	-1.4852	-1.1519	-0.9708
4.8	-1.1878	-0.8888	-0.7261
5.1	-0.9275	-0.6670	-0.5163
5.4	-0.7230	-0.4929	-0.3537
5.7	-0.5669	-0.3598	-0.2323
6	-0.4580	-0.2714	-0.1537

**Table S2.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. (HO)H distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{bz}$ , (b)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$  and (c)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$  systems in the T-shaped approach at the M06-2X/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)		
	(a) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{bz}$	(b) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$	(c) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$
1.8	1.0186	1.5986	1.4464
1.9	-0.9010	-0.3169	-0.4681
2	-2.1457	-1.5615	-1.7110
2.1	-2.9025	-2.3240	-2.4702
2.2	-3.2926	-2.7217	-2.8643
2.22	-3.3359	-2.7671	-2.9089
2.24	-3.3706	-2.8040	-2.9449
2.26	-3.3974	-2.8330	-2.9730
2.28	-3.4167	-2.8546	-2.9938
2.3	-3.4289	-2.8694	-3.0076
2.32	-3.4345	-2.8775	-3.0148
2.34	-3.4337	-2.8792	-3.0157
2.36	-3.4266	-2.8746	-3.0102
2.38	-3.4134	-2.8640	-2.9987
2.4	-3.3947	-2.8480	-2.9819
2.5	-3.2475	-2.7166	-2.8460
2.6	-3.0479	-2.5337	-2.6587
2.7	-2.8163	-2.3195	-2.4403
2.8	-2.5871	-2.1090	-2.2255
2.9	-2.3671	-1.9060	-2.0190
3	-2.1612	-1.7196	-1.8277
3.1	-1.9874	-1.5642	-1.6682
3.2	-1.8187	-1.4121	-1.5126
3.3	-1.6692	-1.2814	-1.3770
3.4	-1.5410	-1.1689	-1.2609

3.5	-1.4183	-1.0619	-1.1503
3.6	-1.3071	-0.9653	-1.0505
3.7	-1.1974	-0.8690	-0.9509
3.8	-1.1029	-0.7897	-0.8675
3.9	-1.0211	-0.7199	-0.7951
4.2	-0.7895	-0.5242	-0.5907
4.5	-0.6094	-0.3734	-0.4333
4.8	-0.4796	-0.2662	-0.3212
5.1	-0.3819	-0.1917	-0.2412
5.4	-0.3070	-0.1357	-0.1810
5.7	-0.2510	-0.0964	-0.1378
6	-0.2080	-0.0678	-0.1058

**Table S3.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. Br distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) NCBz·bz, (b) NCBz·[bz·H<sub>2</sub>O] and (c) NCBz·[bz·NCBr] systems in the T-shaped approach at the M11/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)		
	(a) NCBz·bz	(b) NCBz·[bz·H <sub>2</sub> O]	(c) NCBz·[bz·NCBr]
1.8	178.1634	179.0501	179.4914
1.9	134.7102	135.5517	135.9873
2	100.1798	100.9890	101.4122
2.1	73.0510	73.8365	74.2441
2.2	52.0081	52.7750	53.1664
2.3	35.9179	36.6701	37.0451
2.4	23.8164	24.5556	24.9154
2.5	14.8875	15.6132	15.9604
2.6	8.4450	9.1548	9.4926
2.7	3.9216	4.6144	4.9443
2.8	0.8492	1.5245	1.8469
2.9	-1.1490	-0.4924	-0.1774
3	-2.3735	-1.7355	-1.4283
3.1	-3.0632	-2.4445	-2.1450
3.2	-3.3862	-2.7855	-2.4973
3.22	-3.4182	-2.8211	-2.5351
3.24	-3.4421	-2.8485	-2.5646
3.26	-3.4588	-2.8689	-2.5868
3.28	-3.4695	-2.8832	-2.6028
3.3	-3.4750	-2.8922	-2.6136
3.32	-3.4760	-2.8968	-2.6198
3.34	-3.4726	-2.8970	-2.6218
3.36	-3.4650	-2.8930	-2.6197
3.38	-3.4528	-2.8846	-2.6134
3.4	-3.4359	-2.8715	-2.6025
3.5	-3.2789	-2.7352	-2.4779

3.6	-3.0688	-2.5438	-2.2943
3.7	-2.8875	-2.3812	-2.1372
3.8	-2.6622	-2.1790	-1.9444
3.9	-2.3904	-1.9265	-1.7010
4.2	-1.8423	-1.4317	-1.2363
4.5	-1.4366	-1.0707	-0.8937
4.8	-1.0369	-0.7292	-0.5558
5.1	-0.8176	-0.5565	-0.4096
5.4	-0.6992	-0.4540	-0.3200
5.7	-0.5445	-0.3333	-0.2056
6	-0.4649	-0.2736	-0.1571

**Table S4.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. (HO)H distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{bz}$ , (b)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$  and (c)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$  systems in the T-shaped approach at the M11/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)		
	(a) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{bz}$	(b) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$	(c) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$
1.8	1.2958	1.8958	1.7560
1.9	-0.5876	0.0210	-0.1209
2	-1.7946	-1.1847	-1.3272
2.1	-2.5082	-1.9031	-2.0448
2.2	-2.8745	-2.2788	-2.4183
2.22	-2.9166	-2.3232	-2.4622
2.24	-2.9501	-2.3593	-2.4976
2.26	-2.9758	-2.3877	-2.5253
2.28	-2.9944	-2.4090	-2.5460
2.3	-3.0064	-2.4240	-2.5602
2.32	-3.0124	-2.4330	-2.5685
2.34	-3.0129	-2.4368	-2.5714
2.36	-3.0086	-2.4357	-2.5696
2.38	-2.9998	-2.4303	-2.5633
2.4	-2.9870	-2.4210	-2.5531
2.5	-2.8763	-2.3284	-2.4562
2.6	-2.7152	-2.1867	-2.3100
2.7	-2.5293	-2.0206	-2.1393
2.8	-2.3342	-1.8454	-1.9595
2.9	-2.1432	-1.6742	-1.7836
3	-1.9598	-1.5100	-1.6148
3.1	-1.7880	-1.3578	-1.4580
3.2	-1.6320	-1.2196	-1.3158
3.3	-1.4888	-1.0946	-1.1865
3.4	-1.3637	-0.9877	-1.0754
3.5	-1.2478	-0.8859	-0.9711
3.6	-1.1411	-0.7958	-0.8770

3.7	-1.0572	-0.7291	-0.8062
3.8	-0.9750	-0.6575	-0.7334
3.9	-0.8903	-0.5859	-0.6589
4.2	-0.7128	-0.4426	-0.5086
4.5	-0.5801	-0.3409	-0.3996
4.8	-0.4702	-0.2600	-0.3119
5.1	-0.3796	-0.1913	-0.2383
5.4	-0.3112	-0.1401	-0.1835
5.7	-0.2581	-0.1037	-0.1433
6	-0.2167	-0.0765	-0.1128

**Table S5.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. Br distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) NCB $\cdot$ bz, (b) NCB $\cdot$ [bz $\cdot$ H $_2$ O] and (c) NCB $\cdot$ [bz $\cdot$ NCBr] systems in the T-shaped approach at the  $\omega$ B97X/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)		
	(a) NCB $\cdot$ bz	(b) NCB $\cdot$ [bz $\cdot$ H $_2$ O]	(c) NCB $\cdot$ [bz $\cdot$ NCBr]
1.8	175.3732	176.1069	176.5309
1.9	133.0952	133.7828	134.2224
2.0	99.5822	100.2626	100.6763
2.1	73.4014	74.0654	74.4714
2.2	53.1105	53.7611	54.1529
2.3	37.5376	38.1807	38.5546
2.4	25.7282	26.3573	26.7185
2.5	16.8673	17.4921	17.8354
2.6	10.2907	10.9065	11.2322
2.7	5.5230	6.1250	6.4418
2.8	2.1188	2.7104	3.0154
2.9	-0.2519	0.3234	0.6182
3	-1.8109	-1.2474	-0.9638
3.1	-2.7924	-2.2453	-1.9682
3.2	-3.3884	-2.8577	-2.5900
3.3	-3.6221	-3.1052	-2.8494
3.32	-3.6395	-3.1265	-2.8713
3.34	-3.6518	-3.1423	-2.8872
3.36	-3.6614	-3.1551	-2.9007
3.38	-3.6675	-3.1643	-2.9114
3.4	-3.6701	-3.1696	-2.9188
3.42	-3.6681	-3.1720	-2.9221
3.44	-3.6603	-3.1689	-2.9196
3.46	-3.6477	-3.1587	-2.9125
3.48	-3.6266	-3.1414	-2.8981
3.5	-3.5993	-3.1174	-2.8758
3.6	-3.4077	-2.9421	-2.7098
3.7	-3.1807	-2.7312	-2.5059
3.8	-2.9344	-2.5030	-2.2855
3.9	-2.6796	-2.2642	-2.0561
4.2	-1.9774	-1.6113	-1.4233

4.5	-1.4363	-1.1118	-0.9434
4.8	-1.0542	-0.7699	-0.6156
5.1	-0.7901	-0.5406	-0.3993
5.4	-0.6198	-0.3978	-0.2682
5.7	-0.4925	-0.2955	-0.1751
6	-0.4110	-0.2338	-0.1226

**Table S6.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. (HO)H distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{bz}$ , (b)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$  and (c)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$  systems in the T-shaped approach at the  $\omega\text{B97X}/\text{aug-cc-PVTZ}$  level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)		
	(a) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{bz}$	(b) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$	(c) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$
1.8	2.1563	2.6831	2.5516
1.9	0.0884	0.6210	0.4892
2	-1.3217	-0.7879	-0.9188
2.1	-2.2273	-1.6972	-1.8262
2.2	-2.7773	-2.2541	-2.3804
2.3	-3.0479	-2.5336	-2.6569
2.32	-3.0790	-2.5673	-2.6898
2.34	-3.1039	-2.5947	-2.7163
2.36	-3.1214	-2.6140	-2.7351
2.38	-3.1320	-2.6269	-2.7473
2.4	-3.1376	-2.6354	-2.7549
2.42	-3.1388	-2.6395	-2.7582
2.44	-3.1351	-2.6381	-2.7562
2.46	-3.1261	-2.6315	-2.7489
2.48	-3.1124	-2.6204	-2.7372
2.5	-3.0949	-2.6055	-2.7216
2.6	-2.9678	-2.4930	-2.6054
2.7	-2.7884	-2.3294	-2.4381
2.8	-2.5871	-2.1437	-2.2488
2.9	-2.3702	-1.9425	-2.0443
3	-2.1581	-1.7479	-1.8455
3.1	-1.9605	-1.5657	-1.6600
3.2	-1.7670	-1.3877	-1.4786
3.3	-1.5938	-1.2314	-1.3179
3.4	-1.4408	-1.0930	-1.1761
3.5	-1.2976	-0.9641	-1.0441
3.6	-1.1708	-0.8518	-0.9283
3.7	-1.0588	-0.7533	-0.8266
3.8	-0.9595	-0.6664	-0.7370
3.9	-0.8708	-0.5901	-0.6578
4.2	-0.6606	-0.4126	-0.4731
4.5	-0.5147	-0.2943	-0.3489
4.8	-0.4111	-0.2145	-0.2639



5.1	-0.3345	-0.1583	-0.2033
5.4	-0.2766	-0.1177	-0.1589
5.7	-0.2317	-0.0880	-0.1256
6	-0.1952	-0.0648	-0.0994

**Table S7.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. Br distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) NCBz·bz, (b) NCBz·[bz·H<sub>2</sub>O] and (c) NCBz·[bz·NCBz] systems in the T-shaped approach at the  $\omega$ B97XD/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	
(a) NCBz·bz		(b) NCBz·[bz·H <sub>2</sub> O]		(c) NCBz·[bz·NCBz]
2.80	2.8148	2.86	1.8384	2.1076
2.90	0.4349	2.96	-0.1196	0.1463
3.00	-1.2346	3.06	-1.4250	-1.1731
3.10	-2.3213	3.16	-2.2844	-2.0394
3.20	-3.0199	3.26	-2.7824	-2.5454
3.30	-3.3925	3.36	-3.0331	-2.8025
3.32	-3.4386	3.38	-3.0628	-2.8329
3.34	-3.4759	3.4	-3.0881	-2.8596
3.36	-3.5066	3.42	-3.1119	-2.8837
3.38	-3.5327	3.44	-3.1301	-2.9048
3.40	-3.5551	3.46	-3.1398	-2.9179
3.42	-3.5752	3.48	-3.1412	-2.9194
3.44	-3.5912	3.5	-3.1354	-2.9154
3.46	-3.5973	3.52	-3.1267	-2.9085
3.48	-3.5926	3.54	-3.1122	-2.8963
3.50	-3.5843	3.56	-3.0985	-2.8835
3.60	-3.4932	3.66	-2.9844	-2.7757
3.70	-3.3441	3.76	-2.8310	-2.6298
3.80	-3.1623	3.86	-2.6511	-2.4579
3.90	-2.9626	3.96	-2.4642	-2.2764
4.00	-2.7599	4.06	-2.2766	-2.0955

**Table S8.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. (HO)H distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) H<sub>2</sub>O·bz, (b) H<sub>2</sub>O·[bz·NCBz] and (c) H<sub>2</sub>O·[bz·H<sub>2</sub>O] systems in the T-shaped approach at the  $\omega$ B97XD/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	
(a) H <sub>2</sub> O·bz		(b) H <sub>2</sub> O·[bz·NCBz]		(c) H <sub>2</sub> O·[bz·H <sub>2</sub> O]
1.82	2.0859	1.86	1.6834	1.5698
1.92	0.0788	1.96	-0.0457	-0.1601
2.02	-1.2951	2.06	-1.2095	-1.3235
2.12	-2.1980	2.16	-1.9777	-2.0898
2.22	-2.7704	2.26	-2.4324	-2.5426
2.32	-3.0555	2.36	-2.6575	-2.7645
2.34	-3.0943	2.38	-2.6830	-2.7894
2.36	-3.1254	2.40	-2.7048	-2.8104
2.38	-3.1490	2.42	-2.7218	-2.8267

2.4	-3.1677	2.44	-2.7315	-2.8361
2.42	-3.1822	2.46	-2.7337	-2.8379
2.44	-3.1902	2.48	-2.7295	-2.8332
2.46	-3.1907	2.50	-2.7201	-2.8234
2.48	-3.1846	2.52	-2.7073	-2.8100
2.5	-3.1730	2.54	-2.6929	-2.7948
2.52	-3.1572	2.56	-2.6774	-2.7784
2.62	-3.0516	2.66	-2.5658	-2.6639
2.72	-2.8943	2.76	-2.4044	-2.4998
2.82	-2.7019	2.86	-2.2225	-2.3150
2.92	-2.5033	2.96	-2.0372	-2.1266
3.02	-2.3087	3.06	-1.8634	-1.9496

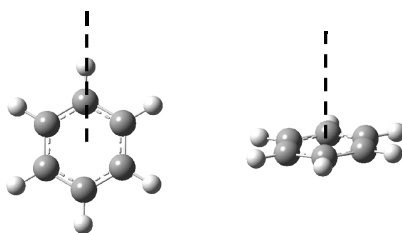
**Table S9.** Equilibrium distances  $r_{eq}$  (Å) and interaction energies  $\Delta E_{XB}$  and  $\Delta E_{HB}$  (kcal/mol) for NCBz·bz and H<sub>2</sub>O·bz dimers in the 45° ‘C approach’ (Figure S13) and ‘bond approach’ (Figure S14).

NCBr·bz		
	$r_{eq}$	$\Delta E_{XB}$
‘C approach’	4.12	-2.00
‘bond approach’	4.02	-2.34

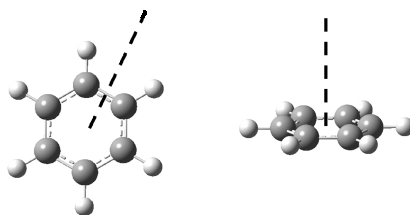
  

H(1)OH(2)·bz <sup>a</sup>		
	$r_{eq}$	$\Delta E_{HB}$
‘C approach’, H(1) up <sup>b</sup>	3.12	-2.29
‘C approach’, H(1) down <sup>c</sup>	3.24	-1.50
‘bond approach’, H(1) up <sup>b</sup>	3.06	-2.51
‘bond approach’, H(1) down <sup>c</sup>	3.16	-1.77

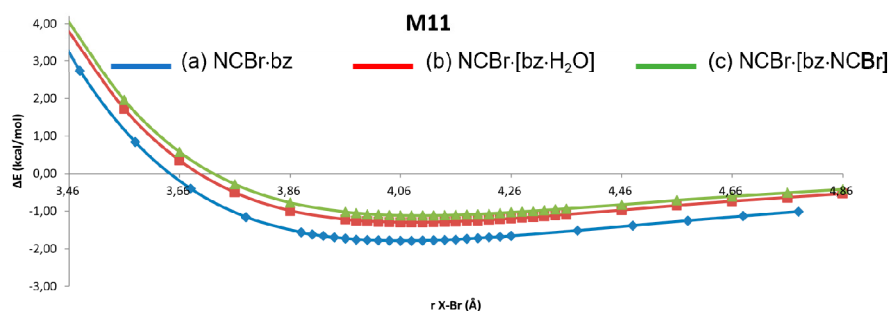
<sup>a</sup> H(1) and H(2) indicate the non-interacting and the interacting H atoms, respectively; <sup>b</sup>H(1) up indicates the H(1) points far from the benzene ring; <sup>c</sup>H(1) down indicates the H(1) points towards the benzene ring.



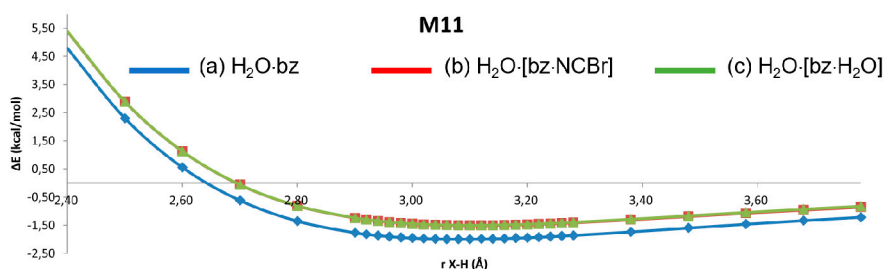
**Figure S8.** Top (left) and side (right) views of the 45° approach of NCBz or H<sub>2</sub>O towards the center of benzene ring along the line whose projection on the benzene plane crosses one carbon atom (‘C approach’).



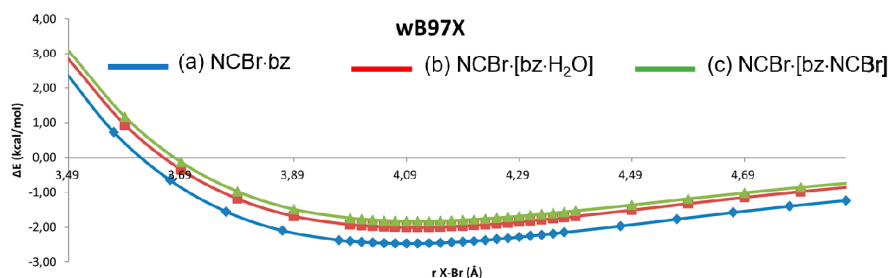
**Figure S9.** Top (left) and side (right) views of the 45° approach of NCBz or H<sub>2</sub>O towards the center of benzene ring along the line whose projection on the benzene plane crosses the center of a CC bond (‘bond approach’).



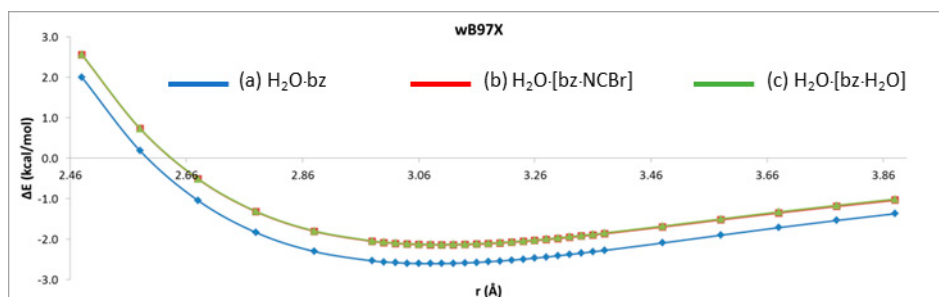
**Figure S10.** Binding energy curves,  $\Delta E$ , vs. Br distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) NCBz-bz (blue line), (b) NCBz-[bz-H<sub>2</sub>O] (red line) and (c) NCBz-[bz-NCBr] (green line) systems in the perpendicular approach at the M11/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.



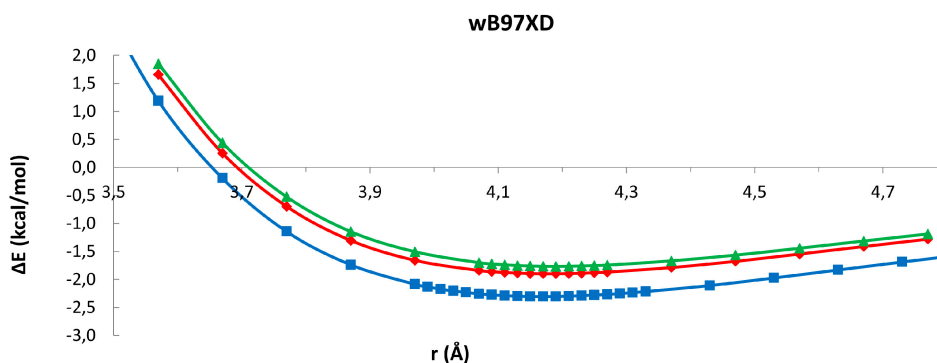
**Figure S11.** Binding energy curves,  $\Delta E$ , vs. (HO)H distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) H<sub>2</sub>O-bz (blue line), (b) H<sub>2</sub>O-[bz-NCBr] (red line) and (c) H<sub>2</sub>O-[bz-H<sub>2</sub>O] (green line) systems in the perpendicular approach at the M11/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.



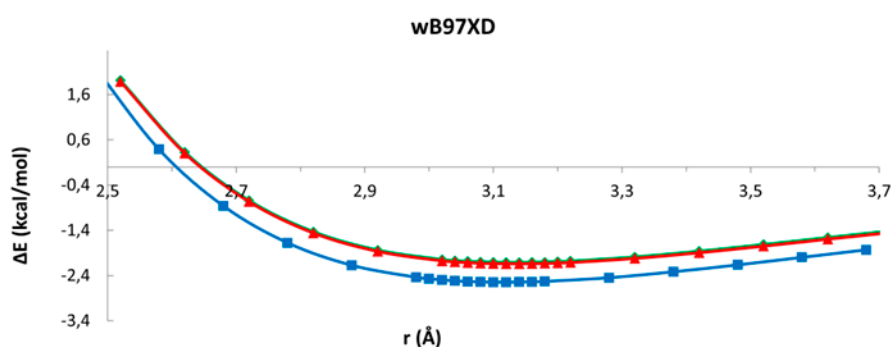
**Figure S12.** Binding energy curves,  $\Delta E$ , vs. Br distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) NCBz-bz (blue line), (b) NCBz-[bz-H<sub>2</sub>O] (red line) and (c) NCBz-[bz-NCBr] (green line) systems in the perpendicular approach at the  $\omega$ B97X/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.



**Figure S13.** Binding energy curves,  $\Delta E$ , vs. (HO)H distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) H<sub>2</sub>O-bz (blue line), (b) H<sub>2</sub>O-[bz-NCBr] (red line) and (c) H<sub>2</sub>O-[bz-H<sub>2</sub>O] (green line) systems in the perpendicular approach at the  $\omega$ B97X/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.



**Figure S14.** Binding energy curves,  $\Delta E$ , vs. Br distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) NCBz·bz (blue line), (b) NCBz·[bz·H<sub>2</sub>O] (red line) and (c) NCBz·[bz·NCBz] (green line) systems in the perpendicular approach at the  $\omega B97XD/aug-cc-PVTZ$  level of theory.



**Figure S15.** Binding energy curves,  $\Delta E$ , vs. (HO)H distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) H<sub>2</sub>O·bz (blue line), (b) H<sub>2</sub>O·[bz·NCBz] (red line) and (c) H<sub>2</sub>O·[bz·H<sub>2</sub>O] (green line) systems in the perpendicular approach at the  $\omega B97XD/aug-cc-PVTZ$  level of theory.

**Table S10.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. Br distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) NCBz·bz, (b) NCBz·[bz·H<sub>2</sub>O] and (c) NCBz·[bz·NCBz] systems in the perpendicular approach at the M06-2X/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)
	(a) NCBz·bz		(b) NCBz·[bz·H <sub>2</sub> O]    (c) NCBz·[bz·NCBz]
3.20	12.1989	3.34	6.5090    6.7773
3.30	7.4943	3.44	3.4488    3.6984
3.40	4.0218	3.54	1.2968    1.5331
3.50	1.5405	3.64	-0.1514    0.0737
3.60	-0.1571	3.74	-1.0591    -0.8454
3.70	-1.2542	3.84	-1.5863    -1.3840
3.80	-1.9043	3.86	-1.6545    -1.4553
3.82	-1.9952	3.88	-1.7123    -1.5160
3.84	-2.0744	3.90	-1.7602    -1.5668
3.86	-2.1419	3.92	-1.7984    -1.6077
3.88	-2.1981	3.94	-1.8276    -1.6386
3.90	-2.2438	3.96	-1.8492    -1.6613
3.92	-2.2797	3.98	-1.8644    -1.6777
3.94	-2.3065	4.00	-1.8739    -1.6889
3.96	-2.3251	4.02	-1.8777    -1.6951

3.98	-2.3370	4.04	-1.8765	-1.6968
4.00	-2.3433	4.06	-1.8712	-1.6946
4.02	-2.3448	4.08	-1.8626	-1.6884
4.04	-2.3420	4.10	-1.8506	-1.6778
4.06	-2.3353	4.12	-1.8352	-1.6631
4.08	-2.3252	4.14	-1.8164	-1.6449
4.10	-2.3117	4.16	-1.7943	-1.6236
4.12	-2.2947	4.18	-1.7692	-1.5993
4.14	-2.2740	4.20	-1.7409	-1.5726
4.16	-2.2498	4.22	-1.7100	-1.5439
4.18	-2.2222	4.32	-1.5371	-1.3814
4.20	-2.1913	4.42	-1.3647	-1.2169
4.30	-2.0085	4.52	-1.1965	-1.0611
4.40	-1.8268	4.62	-1.0409	-0.9078
4.50	-1.6446	4.72	-0.9088	-0.7878
4.60	-1.4752			
4.70	-1.3273			
4.80	-1.2007			
4.90	-1.0920			
5.00	-0.9980			
5.10	-0.9099			

**Table S11.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. (HO)H distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{bz}$ , (b)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$  and (c)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$  systems in the perpendicular approach at the M06-2X/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	
	(a) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{bz}$		(b) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$	(c) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$
1.80	48.6053	2.38	5.0622	5.0788
2.00	25.4302	2.48	2.5218	2.5362
2.20	11.6484	2.58	0.7180	0.7313
2.40	3.9324	2.68	-0.5104	-0.4973
2.50	1.5608	2.78	-1.2977	-1.2839
2.60	-0.1063	2.88	-1.7553	-1.8773
2.70	-1.2241	2.90	-1.8159	-1.9356
2.80	-1.9237	2.92	-1.8680	-1.9854
2.90	-2.3120	2.94	-1.9121	-2.0272
2.92	-2.3610	2.96	-1.9487	-2.0614
2.94	-2.4020	2.98	-1.9783	-2.0886
2.96	-2.4355	3.00	-2.0012	-2.1092
2.98	-2.4619	3.02	-2.0181	-2.1237
3.00	-2.4817	3.04	-2.0295	-2.1327
3.02	-2.4954	3.06	-2.0359	-2.1367
3.04	-2.5035	3.08	-2.0378	-2.1363
3.06	-2.5066	3.10	-2.0356	-2.1317
3.08	-2.5052	3.12	-2.0296	-2.1234

3.10	-2.4996	3.14	-2.0201	-2.1116
3.12	-2.4902	3.16	-2.0074	-2.0966
3.14	-2.4773	3.18	-1.9917	-2.0787
3.16	-2.4612	3.20	-1.9733	-2.0581
3.18	-2.4421	3.22	-1.9526	-2.0351
3.20	-2.4203	3.24	-1.9298	-2.0102
3.22	-2.3961	3.26	-1.9054	-1.9836
3.24	-2.3699	3.36	-1.7640	-1.7410
3.26	-2.3420	3.46	-1.6052	-1.5797
3.28	-2.3125	3.56	-1.4459	-1.4186
3.30	-2.2816	3.66	-1.2947	-1.2653
3.40	-2.1139	3.76	-1.1591	-1.1276
3.50	-1.9363			
3.60	-1.7631			
3.70	-1.6010			
3.80	-1.4558			
3.90	-1.3233			
4.00	-1.2082			
4.20	-1.0086			
4.40	-0.8454			
4.60	-0.7037			
4.80	-0.5887			
5.00	-0.4868			

**Table S12.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. Br distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) NCB $\cdot$ bz, (b) NCB $\cdot$ [bz $\cdot$ H $_2$ O] and (c) NCB $\cdot$ [bz $\cdot$ NCBr] systems in the perpendicular approach at the M11/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	
	(a) NCB $\cdot$ bz		(b) NCB $\cdot$ [bz $\cdot$ H $_2$ O]	(c) NCB $\cdot$ [bz $\cdot$ NCBr]
3.38	5.5218	3.46	3.7942	4.0425
3.48	2.7394	3.56	1.7195	1.9557
3.58	0.8373	3.66	0.3498	0.5755
3.68	-0.4006	3.76	-0.5024	-0.2790
3.78	-1.1540	3.86	-0.9880	-0.7736
3.88	-1.5670	3.96	-1.2232	-1.0224
3.90	-1.6188	3.98	-1.2486	-1.0510
3.92	-1.6623	4.00	-1.2682	-1.0741
3.94	-1.6982	4.02	-1.2826	-1.0920
3.96	-1.7271	4.04	-1.2924	-1.1049
3.98	-1.7497	4.06	-1.2980	-1.1131
4.00	-1.7665	4.08	-1.2997	-1.1169
4.02	-1.7782	4.10	-1.2981	-1.1169
4.04	-1.7853	4.12	-1.2934	-1.1139
4.06	-1.7882	4.14	-1.2860	-1.1084

4.08	-1.7873	4.16	-1.2761	-1.1007
4.10	-1.7829	4.18	-1.2640	-1.0910
4.12	-1.7754	4.20	-1.2499	-1.0792
4.14	-1.7651	4.22	-1.2340	-1.0654
4.16	-1.7522	4.24	-1.2165	-1.0496
4.18	-1.7370	4.26	-1.1976	-1.0321
4.20	-1.7197	4.28	-1.1775	-1.0133
4.22	-1.7007	4.30	-1.1565	-0.9936
4.24	-1.6803	4.32	-1.1348	-0.9733
4.26	-1.6587	4.34	-1.1126	-0.9527
4.38	-1.5154	4.36	-1.0901	-0.9319
4.48	-1.3829	4.46	-0.9739	-0.8267
4.58	-1.2505	4.56	-0.8500	-0.7094
4.68	-1.1297	4.66	-0.7368	-0.6060
4.78	-1.0117	4.76	-0.6358	-0.5108
		4.86	-0.5343	-0.4172

**Table S13.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. (HO)H distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{bz}$ , (b)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$  and (c)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$  systems in the perpendicular approach at the M11/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)		
	(a) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{bz}$	(b) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$	(c) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$
2.40	4.7774	5.3742	5.3754
2.50	2.2983	2.8843	2.8841
2.60	0.5552	1.1278	1.1277
2.70	-0.6147	-0.0580	-0.0565
2.80	-1.3489	-0.8093	-0.8057
2.90	-1.7630	-1.2408	-1.2356
2.92	-1.8161	-1.2974	-1.2919
2.94	-1.8610	-1.3458	-1.3400
2.96	-1.8981	-1.3865	-1.3805
2.98	-1.9283	-1.4203	-1.4140
3.00	-1.9519	-1.4476	-1.4409
3.02	-1.9697	-1.4690	-1.4620
3.04	-1.9820	-1.4850	-1.4776
3.06	-1.9893	-1.4961	-1.4882
3.08	-1.9921	-1.5028	-1.4944
3.10	-1.9909	-1.5055	-1.4965
3.12	-1.9861	-1.5045	-1.4949
3.14	-1.9779	-1.5004	-1.4900
3.16	-1.9669	-1.4933	-1.4822
3.18	-1.9532	-1.4836	-1.4718
3.20	-1.9373	-1.4717	-1.4592
3.22	-1.9193	-1.4577	-1.4445

3.24	-1.8996	-1.4420	-1.4282
3.26	-1.8784	-1.4248	-1.4103
3.28	-1.8559	-1.4063	-1.3910
3.38	-1.7295	-1.2997	-1.2810
3.48	-1.5928	-1.1818	-1.1601
3.58	-1.4579	-1.0652	-1.0409
3.68	-1.3300	-0.9548	-0.9274
3.78	-1.2099	-0.8519	-0.8221

**Table S14.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. Br distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a) NCB $\cdot$ bz, (b) NCB $\cdot$ [bz $\cdot$ H $_2$ O] and (c) NCB $\cdot$ [bz $\cdot$ NCBr] systems in the perpendicular approach at the  $\omega$ B97X/aug-cc-PVTZ level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	
(a) NCB $\cdot$ bz		(b) NCB $\cdot$ [bz $\cdot$ H $_2$ O]	(c) NCB $\cdot$ [bz $\cdot$ NCBr]	
3.47	2.7645	3.49	2.8320	3.0767
3.57	0.7338	3.59	0.9359	1.1677
3.67	-0.6474	3.69	-0.3520	-0.1344
3.77	-1.5518	3.79	-1.1845	-0.9762
3.87	-2.0975	3.89	-1.6838	-1.4875
3.97	-2.3714	3.99	-1.9271	-1.7389
3.99	-2.4019	4.01	-1.9535	-1.7678
4.01	-2.4256	4.03	-1.9730	-1.7897
4.03	-2.4428	4.05	-1.9876	-1.8070
4.05	-2.4551	4.07	-1.9977	-1.8194
4.07	-2.4630	4.09	-2.0028	-1.8271
4.09	-2.4667	4.11	-2.0036	-1.8296
4.11	-2.4658	4.13	-2.0000	-1.8271
4.13	-2.4599	4.15	-1.9924	-1.8205
4.15	-2.4498	4.17	-1.9809	-1.8099
4.17	-2.4353	4.19	-1.9651	-1.7955
4.19	-2.4172	4.21	-1.9462	-1.7776
4.21	-2.3958	4.23	-1.9240	-1.7567
4.23	-2.3705	4.25	-1.8990	-1.7346
4.25	-2.3430	4.27	-1.8722	-1.7101
4.27	-2.3138	4.29	-1.8431	-1.6837
4.29	-2.2831	4.31	-1.8134	-1.6555
4.31	-2.2513	4.33	-1.7830	-1.6262
4.33	-2.2183	4.35	-1.7515	-1.5959
4.35	-2.1843	4.37	-1.7195	-1.5649
4.37	-2.1498	4.39	-1.6863	-1.5332
-1.97	-1.9655	4.49	-1.5089	-1.3654
-1.77	-1.7686	4.59	-1.3229	-1.1852
-1.58	-1.5766	4.69	-1.1445	-1.0147
-1.40	-1.3966	4.79	-0.9782	-0.8552



-1.23	-1.2314	4.89	-0.8264	-0.7096
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**Table S15.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. (HO)H distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{bz}$ , (b)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$  and (c)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$  systems in the perpendicular approach at the  $\omega\text{B97X}/\text{aug-cc-PVTZ}$  level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)		
	(a) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{bz}$	(b) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$	(c) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$
2.48	2.0032	2.5586	2.5679
2.58	0.1876	0.7316	0.7403
2.68	-1.0439	-0.5138	-0.5048
2.78	-1.8354	-1.3208	-1.3107
2.88	-2.3032	-1.8049	-1.7938
2.98	-2.5355	-2.0540	-2.0418
3.00	-2.5605	-2.0824	-2.0700
3.02	-2.5795	-2.1049	-2.0922
3.04	-2.5929	-2.1217	-2.1087
3.06	-2.6008	-2.1330	-2.1196
3.08	-2.6034	-2.1390	-2.1252
3.10	-2.6012	-2.1403	-2.1262
3.12	-2.5950	-2.1377	-2.1233
3.14	-2.5855	-2.1318	-2.1169
3.16	-2.5727	-2.1225	-2.1073
3.18	-2.5567	-2.1099	-2.0945
3.20	-2.5379	-2.0946	-2.0788
3.22	-2.5167	-2.0768	-2.0606
3.24	-2.4930	-2.0566	-2.0400
3.26	-2.4670	-2.0339	-2.0170
3.28	-2.4388	-2.0092	-1.9918
3.30	-2.4087	-1.9825	-1.9648
3.32	-2.3770	-1.9544	-1.9363
3.34	-2.3442	-1.9251	-1.9066
3.36	-2.3105	-1.8947	-1.8759
3.38	-2.2757	-1.8632	-1.8441
3.48	-2.0921	-1.6964	-1.6754
3.58	-1.9007	-1.5212	-1.4987
3.68	-1.7120	-1.3489	-1.3244
3.78	-1.5352	-1.1877	-1.1615
3.88	-1.3694	-1.0370	-1.0089

**Table S16.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. Br distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a)  $\text{NCBr}\cdot\text{bz}$ , (b)  $\text{NCBr}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$  and (c)  $\text{NCBr}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$  systems in the perpendicular approach at the  $\omega\text{B97XD}/\text{aug-cc-PVTZ}$  level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	
			(b) $\text{NCBr}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$	(c) $\text{NCBr}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$
3.47	3.1997	3.57	1.6572	1.8516
3.57	1.1912	3.67	0.2548	0.4382
3.67	-0.1922	3.77	-0.6947	-0.5241
3.77	-1.1422	3.87	-1.3026	-1.1454

3.87	-1.7358	3.97	-1.6579	-1.5044
3.97	-2.0838	4.07	-1.8401	-1.7005
3.99	-2.1310	4.09	-1.8602	-1.7222
4.01	-2.1707	4.11	-1.8755	-1.7396
4.03	-2.2032	4.13	-1.8865	-1.7518
4.05	-2.2306	4.15	-1.8941	-1.7606
4.07	-2.2540	4.17	-1.8983	-1.7664
4.09	-2.2734	4.19	-1.8981	-1.7676
4.11	-2.2881	4.21	-1.8952	-1.7651
4.13	-2.2975	4.23	-1.8889	-1.7596
4.15	-2.3029	4.25	-1.8797	-1.7521
4.17	-2.3040	4.27	-1.8681	-1.7441
4.19	-2.3022	4.37	-1.7872	-1.6682
4.21	-2.2974	4.47	-1.6763	-1.5658
4.23	-2.2886	4.57	-1.5453	-1.4428
4.25	-2.2776	4.67	-1.4117	-1.3136
4.27	-2.2648	4.77	-1.2799	-1.1885
4.29	-2.2498			
4.31	-2.2328			
4.33	-2.2138			
4.43	-2.1069			
4.53	-1.9714			
4.63	-1.8292			
4.73	-1.6868			
4.83	-1.5498			

**Table S17.** Binding energy,  $\Delta E$ , vs. (HO)H distance from the center of benzene ring,  $r$ , computed for (a)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{bz}$ , (b)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$  and (c)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$  systems in the perpendicular approach at the  $\omega\text{B97XD/ aug-cc-PVTZ}$  level of theory.

$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	$r$ (Å)	$\Delta E$ (kcal/mol)	
	(a) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{bz}$		(b) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{NCBr}]$	(c) $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot[\text{bz}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$
2.48	2.2128	2.52	1.8852	1.9131
2.58	0.3886	2.62	0.2994	0.3266
2.68	-0.8613	2.72	-0.7700	-0.7429
2.78	-1.6780	2.82	-1.4611	-1.4332
2.88	-2.1750	2.92	-1.8678	-1.8392
2.98	-2.4403	3.02	-2.0768	-2.0474
3.00	-2.4724	3.04	-2.1002	-2.0705
3.02	-2.4984	3.06	-2.1177	-2.0878
3.04	-2.5188	3.08	-2.1298	-2.0996
3.06	-2.5337	3.10	-2.1373	-2.1068
3.08	-2.5431	3.12	-2.1411	-2.1102
3.10	-2.5475	3.14	-2.1418	-2.1107
3.12	-2.5481	3.16	-2.1395	-2.1081
3.14	-2.5457	3.18	-2.1339	-2.1023

3.16	-2.5404	3.20	-2.1256	-2.0937
3.18	-2.5319	3.22	-2.1147	-2.0827
3.28	-2.4497	3.32	-2.0232	-1.9897
3.38	-2.3191	3.42	-1.8975	-1.8628
3.48	-2.1660	3.52	-1.7518	-1.7155
3.58	-1.9991	3.62	-1.5977	-1.5602
3.68	-1.8323	3.72	-1.4477	-1.4088