# Quantification of the Trans Influence in Hypervalent Iodine Complexes

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**S** Supporting Information

[AB](#page-9-0)STRACT: [The trans in](#page-9-0)fluence of various X ligands in hypervalent iodine(III) complexes of the type  $CF_3[I(X)Cl]$ has been quantified using the trans I–Cl bond length  $(d_x)$ , the electron density  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$  at the  $(3, -1)$  bond critical point of the trans I−Cl bond, and topological features of the molecular electrostatic potential (MESP). The MESP minimum at the Cl lone pair region  $(V_{\text{min}})$  is a sensitive measure of the trans influence. The trans influence of X ligands in hypervalent  $iodine(V)$  complexes is smaller than that in iodine $(III)$ complexes, while the relative ordering of this influence is the same in both complexes. In  $CF_3[I(X)Y]$  complexes, the mutual



trans influence due to the trans disposition of the X and Y ligands is quantified using the energy  $E_{XY}$  of the isodesmic reaction  $CF_3[I(X)Cl] + CF_3[I(Y)Cl] \rightarrow CF_3[I(Cl)Cl] + CF_3[I(X)Y]$ .  $E_{XY}$  is predicted with good accuracy using the trans-influence parameters of X and Y, measured in terms of  $d_X$ ,  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$ , or  $V_{\text{min}}$ . The bond dissociation energy  $(E_d)$  of X or Y in CF<sub>3</sub>[I(X)Y] is significantly influenced by the trans influence as well as the mutual trans influence. This is confirmed by deriving an empirical equation to predict  $E_d$  using one of the trans-influence parameters  $(d_X, \rho(\mathbf{r}))$ , or  $V_{\text{min}}$ ) and the mutual trans-influence parameter  $E_{XY}$  for a large number of complexes. The quantified values of both the trans influence and the mutual trans-influence parameters may find use in assessing the stability of hypervalent iodine compounds as well as in the design of new stable hypervalent complexes. Knowledge about the I−X bond dissociation energies will be useful for explaining the reactivity of hypervalent iodine complexes and the mechanism of their reactions.

## ■ **INTRODUCTION**

During the past few decades, hypervalent iodine compounds have received considerable attention as versatile oxidizing agents in organic synthesis.<sup>1-16</sup> Preparations, structural studies, and synthetic applications of various hypervalent iodine(III) and iodine(V) derivatives [hav](#page-9-0)e been recently reviewed by Zhdankin and Stang.<sup>17</sup> One of the characteristic features which distinguish hypervalent compounds from others is the presence of a 3-center 4-electr[on](#page-9-0) (3c-4e) bond formed by the interaction of the orbitals of three collinear atoms.<sup>18</sup> In T-shaped iodine(III) complexes, the interaction of the filled 5p orbital of the central iodine atom and the half-fille[d](#page-9-0) orbitals of two ligands (X and Y) trans to each other leads to formation of three molecular orbitals, viz. bonding, nonbonding, and antibonding (Figure 1).<sup>18−24</sup> Because the highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) contains a node at the central iodine, the hypervalent [bonds](#page-9-0) show a highly polarized nature; hence, more electronegative atoms tend to occupy the axial positions.<sup>1,10</sup>

The focus of the present study is to understand the phenome[non](#page-9-0) of the trans influence in hypervalent iodine complexes. The trans influence is defined as the ability of a ligand (Y) to weaken the metal−ligand bond (M−X) trans to it.25<sup>−</sup><sup>32</sup> The trans influence is well known in transition metal



Figure 1. MOs of the 3c-4e bond formed in the hypervalent iodine(III) complexes.

complexes and even extended to the main group elements and lanthanides.33−<sup>44</sup> The mutual influence of ligands in main group coordination complexes was theoretically studied by Shustorovic[h](#page-9-0) [and](#page-10-0) Buslaev, who found that the trans influence

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between two ligands X and Y is always present when the central atom retained the  $ns^2$  lone pair.<sup>41</sup> In T-shaped iodine(III) complexes, the iodine atom preserves the  $5s<sup>2</sup>$  lone pair and the σ-donating ability of ligand Y will i[nfl](#page-9-0)uence the trans I−X bond through the 5p orbital of the central iodine and hence the mutual trans influence caused through the 3c-4e bond is solely resulting from the inductive effect of the trans ligands X and Y.<sup>41</sup> Ochiai et al.<sup>42</sup> analyzed various crystal structures of iodine(III) complexes, classified various ligands in the order of t[heir](#page-9-0) trans influen[ce](#page-9-0), and concluded that the mutual trans influence of ligands plays an important role in the stability of these complexes. On the basis of theoretical investigations using isodesmic reactions,<sup>42</sup> Ochiai et al. proposed that the ligands with a large and small trans influence in the axial positions are favored over [th](#page-9-0)e combinations of two strong and two weak ligands in the trans positions; otherwise, two moderately trans-influencing ligands are favored. Thus, the phenomenon of the trans influence can explain the stability of  $Ph[I(OH)OTs]$  and  $Ph[I(OAc)_2]$  complexes as well as the instability of  $Ph[I(OH)_2]$ ,  $Ph[I(OOtBu)_2]$ , and  $Ph[I(OMe)_2]$ complexes.<sup>17</sup>

The trans bond length data from X-ray crystal structures are frequently [us](#page-9-0)ed for the study of the trans influence of various ligands. In many cases, the packing interactions in the crystal structure as well as influence from cis ligands also affect the trans bond.45,46 Structural parameters are not very sensitive to subtle electronic variations, and theoretically derived molecular properties [hav](#page-10-0)e been used as powerful descriptors for explaining the reactivity and stabilities of hypervalent complexes. In our recent studies,  $31,47,48$  applying Bader's quantum theory of atoms in molecules  $(QTAIM),<sup>49</sup>$  we have shown that the electron density at th[e b](#page-9-0)[ond](#page-10-0) critical point of the trans [M](#page-10-0)–Cl bond (M = Pd(II) and Pt(II)) in [ MCl<sub>3</sub>X]<sup>n–</sup> complexes) can be used as a good measure of the trans influence of various ligands. Moreover, the contributions of the trans-influence terms in the bond dissociation energy of various ligands in the square planar complexes were quantified using the electron density-based approach.<sup>48</sup>

In the present study, the trans influence of various ligands in hypervalent iodine complexes of [the](#page-10-0) type  $CF_3[I(X)Cl]$  is considered. The selected X ligands are F, Cl, Br,  $CPPh_3COOMe$ ,  $CPPh_3COMe$ , Et, Ph, Me, OiPr,  $CCSiMe_3$ , CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, CCH, CCPh, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, 2,3,5,6-tetrafluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene,  $CF_2CF_2CF_3$ , NH<sub>2</sub>, OMe, NHTf, OOtBu, OH, OAc,  $NO<sub>2</sub>$ , OCOCOOMe, OTs, OSO<sub>2</sub>Me, OCOCCl<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>3</sub>, OCOCF<sub>3</sub>, OTf, and BF<sub>4</sub>. Most of the selected ligands are located from the X-ray crystal structure of various hypervalent iodine complexes, retrieved from the Cambridge Structural Database (CSD).<sup>50</sup> The trans influence will be analyzed using the QTAIM approach. Further, the subtle electronic variations surrounding [the](#page-10-0) coordinated ligands due to 3c-4e bond will be analyzed in terms of the molecular electrostatic potential (MESP).<sup>51</sup>

### **EXECUTE COMPUTATIONAL DET[AI](#page-10-0)LS**

All electronic structure calculations were performed at the  $B3LYP<sup>52,53</sup>$ level of the DFT method using the Gaussian  $03^{54}$  package of programs. It has been proposed that all electron basis sets corr[ectly](#page-10-0) reproduce the bond length in iodine compounds,<sup>55</sup> an[d h](#page-10-0)ence, the full electron basis set DGDZVP<sup>56</sup> was chosen to describe the iodine atom, and for all other atoms the basis set 6-311++ $G(d,p)$  $G(d,p)$  was selected. The combined basis set is denot[ed](#page-10-0) as BS1.Vibrational frequency analysis at B3LYP/BS1 was performed to confirm that all the optimized geometries are minima (zero imaginary frequencies).

For topological analysis of electron density, B3LYP/BS1 wave functions were used as input in the AIM2000 program.<sup>57</sup> The AIM parameters such as electron density  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$ , the Laplacian of the electron density  $\nabla^2 \rho(\mathbf{r})$ , and the total electron energy density  $H(\mathbf{r})$  $H(\mathbf{r})$  and its components potential electron energy density  $V(\mathbf{r})$  and kinetic electron energy density  $G(r)$  were calculated at the  $(3,-1)$  bond critical point (bcp) of the trans I–Cl bonds in  $CF_3[I(X)Cl]$ complexes. The  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$  at the bcps can be used as a measure of the strength of bonding interactions.<sup>49</sup> The negative value of  $\nabla^2 \rho(\mathbf{r})$  shows the charge concentration due to shared interactions (covalent), while the positive  $\nabla^2 \rho(\mathbf{r})$  shows the [ch](#page-10-0)arge depletion due to closed-shell (ionic) interactions.<sup>58</sup> The total electron energy density at the bcp  $H(r)$  is yet another parameter to assess the bonding interactions.<sup>5</sup> A negative  $H(r)$  i[ndi](#page-10-0)cates a covalent bond, while a positive value indicates ionic interactions.

The B3LYP/BS1 level of theory was used for calculati[on](#page-10-0) [of](#page-10-0) molecular electrostatic potential (MESP). MESP is a physical property of a molecule,  $V(r)$  at a point r, that can be calculated using its electron density,  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$ , with eq 1, where  $Z_A$  is the charge on the nucleus  $\Delta$ , located at  $P$ ,  $51,62$ A, located at  $R_A$ .

$$
V(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{A}^{N} \frac{Z_A}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_A|} - \int \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}')d^3\mathbf{r}'}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}
$$
(1)

Equation 1 shows that for electron-dense regions, the electronic terms will dominate over the nuclear term and hence these regions are characterized by negative MESP values, whereas the electron-deficient<br>regions show positive MESP values.<sup>51,62</sup> The deepest MESP minimum  $(V_{\text{min}})$  was obtained from the MESP topography calculations by generating cube files using Gaussia[n 03](#page-10-0).

### ■ RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Trans Influence from the Trans Bond Length. The Tshaped  $CF_3[I(X)(Y)]$  systems are the simplest stable hypervalent systems showing a 3c-4e bond.<sup>63</sup> The crystal structures of many such complexes with highly electronegative atoms at the axial positions have been reporte[d.](#page-10-0)<sup>64,65</sup> The  $CF<sub>3</sub>[I(X)Cl]$ complexes are modeled in such a way that the axial positions of the T-shaped structure are occupied b[y the](#page-10-0) ligands Cl and X. The trans I–Cl distances  $(d<sub>X</sub>)$  for 32 complexes are given in Table 1. Short  $d_X$  shows a weak trans-influencing X ligand, while long  $d_X$  shows a strong trans-influencing X ligand, which means [th](#page-2-0)at BF<sub>4</sub> has the lowest trans influence  $(d_x = 2.440 \text{ Å})$ while C(PPh<sub>3</sub>)COMe has the highest ( $d_X$  = 2.740 Å) trans influence. On the basis of  $d<sub>x</sub>$  values, the following order of trans influence is obtained: CPPh<sub>3</sub>COOMe  $\approx$  CPPh<sub>3</sub>COMe > Et > Ph  $\approx$  Me > CH<sub>2</sub>Cl > CCPh > CCSiMe<sub>3</sub>  $\approx$  NH<sub>2</sub> > CCH  $\approx$  $C_6F_5 \approx CF_3 \approx CF_2CF_2CF_3 > 2,3,5,6$ -tetrafluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene > OiPr  $\approx$  NO<sub>2</sub> > OMe  $\approx$  Br  $\approx$ OOtBu > OH > Cl > NHTf > OAc  $\approx$  OCOCOOMe > F  $\approx$ OTs  $\approx$  OSO<sub>2</sub>Me  $\approx$  OCOCCl<sub>3</sub>  $\approx$  NO<sub>3</sub>  $\approx$  OCOCF<sub>3</sub> > OTf >  $BF_4$  (series i).

This order of trans influence given in series (i) is almost similar to the experimentally reported order for hypervalent iodine complexes.<sup>42</sup> Some minor deviations are noted because the experimental values are also affected by packing forces and interactions from [th](#page-9-0)e ligands in the neighboring molecules.

Quantification of the Trans Influence Using Electron Density Values. The QTAIM parameters, viz. the electron density  $(\rho({\bf r})),$  the Laplacian of electron density  $(\nabla^2\rho({\bf r})),$  total electron energy density  $(H(r))$ , and the ratio of potential and kinetic electron energy density  $(k(r))$  at the bond critical point (bcp) of the trans I−Cl bond, are reported in the Table 1. A long trans I−Cl bond, indicative of the strong trans influence of X, is observed with a small  $\rho$ (**r**) value, while a short I−Cl b[on](#page-2-0)d,

<span id="page-2-0"></span>Table 1. QTAIM Parameters at the (3,−1) Bond Critical Points of the Trans I–Cl Bond in  $CF_3[I(X)Cl]$  Complexes along with the Trans I−Cl Bond Length

			AIM parameters			
S1 no.	trans ligand X	trans I- Cl bond length $d_X$ (Å)	$\rho(\mathbf{r})$ (au)	$\nabla^2$ $\rho(\mathbf{r})$ (au)	H(r) (au)	$k(\mathbf{r})$
$\mathbf 1$	C(PPh <sub>3</sub> )COMe	2.740	0.048	0.075	$-0.007$	$-1.28$
$\overline{2}$	C(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) COOMe	2.738	0.048	0.075	$-0.007$	$-1.28$
3	Et	2.709	0.051	0.075	$-0.008$	$-1.30$
4	Ph	2.691	0.052	0.076	$-0.009$	$-1.32$
5	Me	2.690	0.052	0.076	$-0.009$	$-1.32$
6	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl	2.647	0.057	0.077	$-0.011$	$-1.36$
7	CCPh	2.627	0.058	0.079	$-0.012$	$-1.38$
8	CCSiMe <sub>3</sub>	2.624	0.059	0.079	$-0.012$	$-1.38$
9	NH <sub>2</sub>	2.622	0.059	0.077	$-0.012$	$-1.39$
10	$CF_3CF_2CF_2$	2.613	0.060	0.077	$-0.013$	$-1.40$
11	CF <sub>3</sub>	2.612	0.061	0.077	$-0.013$	$-1.40$
12	$C_6F_5$	2.611	0.061	0.077	$-0.013$	$-1.41$
13	<b>CCH</b>	2.609	0.060	0.079	$-0.013$	$-1.40$
14	$C_6F_4(CF_3)^a$	2.602	0.062	0.077	$-0.014$	$-1.41$
15	OiPr	2.571	0.065	0.077	$-0.015$	$-1.45$
16	NO <sub>2</sub>	2.568	0.066	0.074	$-0.015$	$-1.45$
17	OMe	2.561	0.066	0.077	$-0.016$	$-1.45$
18	Br	2.560	0.066	0.078	$-0.015$	$-1.43$
19	OOtBu	2.560	0.066	0.076	$-0.016$	$-1.46$
20	OH	2.551	0.067	0.077	$-0.017$	$-1.47$
21	Cl	2.537	0.068	0.079	$-0.016$	$-1.45$
22	NHTf	2.525	0.071	0.076	$-0.018$	$-1.49$
23	OAc	2.521	0.071	0.078	$-0.018$	$-1.48$
24	<b>OCOCOOMe</b>	2.517	0.072	0.075	$-0.019$	$-1.50$
25	F	2.500	0.073	0.076	$-0.020$	$-1.52$
26	OT <sub>s</sub>	2.499	0.074	0.075	$-0.020$	$-1.52$
27	OCOCCI3	2.498	0.074	0.075	$-0.020$	$-1.52$
28	OSO <sub>2</sub> Me	2.497	0.074	0.075	$-0.020$	$-1.52$
29	OCOCF3	2.496	0.074	0.074	$-0.020$	$-1.52$
30	NO <sub>3</sub>	2.495	0.074	0.074	$-0.021$	$-1.53$
31	OTf	2.465	0.078	0.073	$-0.023$	$-1.56$
32	BF <sub>4</sub>	2.440	0.082	0.071	$-0.025$	$-1.59$
$a_{2,3,5,6}$ -Tetrafluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene.						



Figure 2. Correlation between the electron density at the bond critical point of the trans I−Cl bond and the trans I−Cl distance in  $CF<sub>3</sub>[I(X)Cl]$ complexes.

indicative of the weak trans influence of X, is seen with a high  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$  value. For instance, the CPPh<sub>3</sub>COMe ligand showed the lowest  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$  (0.048 au), while the BF<sub>4</sub> ligand exhibited the highest  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$  (0.082 au). The  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$ , often used as an indicator of



 $H(r)$  in a.u.

Figure 3. Correlation between the total electron energy density and the trans I–Cl bond length in  $CF_3[I(X)Cl]$ complexes.

 $d_X$  in  $\AA$ 



Figure 4. Correlation between  $k(r)$  and the trans I–Cl bond length in  $CF<sub>3</sub>[I(X)Cl]$  complexes.



Figure 5. Representation of MESP isosurface in  $CF_3[I(X)Cl]$ complexes at  $-23$  kcal/mol along with  $V_{\text{min}}$  in kcal/mol. The ligands X are (a) OOtBu, (b)  $C_6F_5$ , (c) OMe, and (d) Ph.

the strength of a bond, $^{49}$  shows a strong linear correlation with the trans bond length data (Figure 2), suggesting the use of this quantity as an electr[on](#page-10-0)ic parameter to measure the trans influence.

Trans Influence and Covalent Nature of Hypervalent **Bonds.** All  $\nabla^2 \rho(\mathbf{r})$  values are positive  $(0.071-0.079$  au), whereas  $H(r)$  values are negative (from  $-0.007$  to  $-0.025$  au). The positive  $\nabla^2 \rho(\mathbf{r})$  indicates the ionic nature of the I–Cl bond, while the negative  $\bm{\mathrm{H}}(\bm{\mathrm{r}})$  suggests covalent character. Therefore, like metal–ligand bonds,<sup>66–68</sup> the hypervalent I–Cl bonds can be considered as bonds with partial ionic and partial covalent characters.  $\nabla^2 \rho(\mathbf{r})$  showe[d](#page-10-0) [no](#page-10-0) correlation with  $d_{\mathbf{x}}$ , while  $H(r)$  correlated remarkably well with it on a second

## <span id="page-3-0"></span>Table 2.  $V_{\text{min}}$  Values of CF<sub>3</sub>[I(X)Cl] Complexes







Figure 6. Correlation between  $V_{\text{min}}$  and the trans I–Cl bond length in  $CF<sub>3</sub>[I(X)Cl]$  complexes.

degree polynomial equation for the distance range 2.44−2.74 Å (Figure 3). It should be noted that  $d_X$  and  $H(r)$  show a good linear correlation with a correlation coefficient of 0.988, while the liga[nd](#page-2-0)s with the highest and lowest trans influence show a tendency to deviate from the linear plot. The  $(d_{X} H(\mathbf{r}))$ correlation suggests that an increase in the trans influence of the X ligand leads to a decrease in the covalent character of the I−Cl bond.

The covalent character of the I−Cl bond can also be assessed using the  $V(\mathbf{r})/G(\mathbf{r})$  ratio (denoted as  $k(\mathbf{r})$ ).<sup>31</sup> In general, the



Figure 7. (Top) AIM topological plot of  $\lambda^3$ -aryl iodanes with X = OMe and Ph. Big circles corresponds to attractors (atomic nuclei), and small red circles indicate bond critical points. (Bottom) Representation of the MESP isosurface at  $-46$  kcal/mol along with the  $V_{\rm min}$  value in kcal/mol.

Table 3. Trans-Influence Parameters of  $\lambda^3$ -Aryl Iodanes

trans ligand	$d_{\rm x}$ (Å)	$\rho(\mathbf{r})$ (au)	$V_{\text{min}}$ (kcal/mol)
Et	2.366	0.060	$-65.44$
Me	2.349	0.062	$-63.49$
Ph	2.344	0.063	$-64.64$
$C_6F_5$	2.265	0.073	$-51.90$
CF <sub>3</sub>	2.260	0.074	$-49.39$
OMe	2.208	0.081	$-48.63$
Br	2.202	0.082	$-40.85$
OН	2.199	0.082	$-46.94$
Cl	2.181	0.085	$-39.09$
OAc	2.174	0.086	$-42.48$
F	2.147	0.090	$-37.51$
OTs	2.145	0.091	$-38.15$
OSO <sub>2</sub> Me	2.138	0.092	$-35.77$
NO <sub>3</sub>	2.137	0.093	$-31.88$
BF <sub>4</sub>	2.092	0.101	$-21.72$





value of  $|k(\mathbf{r})|$  < 1 at the bcp indicates the closed-shell nature of the bond, while  $|k(r)| > 1$  shows the covalent nature. It is clear from the Table 1 that all the trans I–Cl bonds showed  $|k(\mathbf{r})|$  > 1 at the bcp with  $k(r)$  values ranges between  $-1.28$  and  $-1.59$ . Figure 4 presen[ts](#page-2-0) the linear relationship between  $k(\mathbf{r})$  and the I−Cl distance parameter which nicely complement the conclu[sio](#page-2-0)n obtained from the  $(d_X, H(\mathbf{r}))$  correlation.

<span id="page-4-0"></span>

Figure 9. Representation of the MESP isosurface at −37 kcal/mol when  $X = OMe$ . Corresponding  $V_{min}$  (kcal/mol) is also given.

	trans ligand	$d_{\rm X}$ (Å)	$\rho(\mathbf{r})$ (au)	$V_{\text{min}}$ (kcal/mol)
Et		2.368	0.063	$-60.68$
Me		2.345	0.066	$-57.99$
Ph		2.336	0.067	$-59.50$
CF <sub>3</sub>		2.253	0.078	$-44.93$
$C_6F_5$		2.246	0.079	$-46.00$
OMe		2.186	0.088	$-43.55$
Br		2.169	0.091	$-36.29$
OН		2.185	0.088	$-41.42$
Cl		2.147	0.095	$-34.03$
OAc		2.138	0.096	$-34.58$
F		2.113	0.100	$-32.71$
OTs		2.112	0.101	$-34.42$
	OSO <sub>2</sub> Me	2.106	0.102	$-31.19$
NO <sub>3</sub>		2.103	0.103	$-28.12$
BF <sub>4</sub>		2.004	0.116	$-20.10$

Table 4. Trans-Influence Parameters of  $\lambda^5$ -Aryl Iodanes

Scheme 1. Isodesmic Reactions Used To Study the Mutual Trans Ligand Influence due to X and Y



MESP Minimum As a Measure of the Trans Influence. Recently, we have shown that critical features of MESP can be used as good descriptors for study of the inductive effect.<sup>69,70</sup> Further, the subtle variations of electronic features induced by substituents on organic molecules as well as ligand[s in](#page-10-0) complexed systems can be quantified by studying the topographical features of MESP.71,72 For instance, the minimum value of MESP in the lone pair region of phosphine<sup>73</sup> and carbene ligands<sup>74</sup> can be used [as a](#page-10-0) good measure of the donating power of these ligands in coordination complex[es.](#page-10-0) Hence, it is felt that [M](#page-10-0)ESP can provide valuable insight on the highly polarized 3c-4e bonding in hypervalent iodine complexes as this bond is largely influenced by the inductive effect of the X ligands. In MESP studies, it is convenient to select an electronrich region in the molecule for monitoring the changes in the electron density distribution. The chloro ligand in  $CF_3[I(X)Cl]$ shows the most electron-rich lone pair region, and therefore, the MESP minimum (designated as  $V_{\text{min}}$ ) observed for this region is used for monitoring the trans influence of X.

In Figure 5,  $V_{\text{min}}$  at the Cl lone pair region is depicted along with an electrostatic representation of the molecule using an MESP isosu[rfa](#page-2-0)ce of value −23 kcal/mol for a representative set of four molecules. Table 2 depicts the  $V_{\text{min}}$  of all the systems. For  $X = \text{CPPh}_3\text{COOMe}$ , the chloro ligand shows the most negative  $V_{\text{min}}$  (−56.60 kcal/mol), while for X = BF<sub>4</sub>,  $V_{\text{min}}$  has the highest value (2.35 kcal/mol). The chloro ligand trans to  $BF_4$  is devoid of negative  $V_{\text{min}}$ , which can be attributed to the very weak trans influence of BF4, resulting in strong I−Cl bond formation. When going from electron-donating to -withdrawing ligands, a gradual decrease in the negative value of  $V_{\text{min}}$  is observed. In general, a weak I−Cl bond is characterized by highly negative  $V_{\text{min}}$ . Because the weak I–Cl bond is due to the strong trans influence of X, the high negative MESP surrounding the chloro ligand can be attributed to the increased ionic character or the decreased covalent character of the I−Cl bond.

Figure 6 gives a good linear relation between  $V_{\text{min}}$  and the trans I–Cl distance parameter  $d_X$ . It suggests that  $V_{\text{min}}$  can be used as [a s](#page-3-0)ensitive measure of the trans influence. The trans bond length, a structural measure of the trans influence, is less sensitive than the one electron property which is immediately noted in the wide range of  $V_{\text{min}}$  values (from 2 to −57 kcal/ mol) observed for the 32 ligands considered in this study. Further,  $V_{\text{min}}$  is useful as an energetic measure of the trans influence because its value also represents the energy required to bring a unit test positive charge from infinity to that location.<sup>62</sup> On the basis of  $V_{\text{min}}$  values, ligands are classified into four groups, viz.

- (1) V[ery](#page-10-0) strong trans influencing:  $V_{\text{min}}$  values more negative than  $-30$  kcal/mol. The ligands are CPPh<sub>3</sub>COOMe,  $CPPh<sub>3</sub>COMe$ , Et, Ph, Me, CCPh, CCSiMe<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, CCH, and  $NH<sub>2</sub>$ .
- (2) Strong trans influencing:  $V_{\text{min}}$  values ranges from -30 to  $-20$  kcal/mol. The ligands are CF<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>, 2,3,5,6tetrafluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene,  $CF_2CF_2CF_3$ , OOtBu, OiPr, OMe, and OH.
- (3) Moderate trans influencing:  $V_{\text{min}}$  values from  $-20$  to  $-10$ kcal/mol. The ligands are Br,  $NO<sub>2</sub>$ , Cl, OAc, NHTf, OSO2Me, OTs, OCOCOOMe, and F.
- (4) Weak trans influencing:  $V_{\text{min}}$  values less negative values than  $-10$  kcal/mol. The ligands are OCOCCl<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>3</sub>,  $OCOCF<sub>3</sub>$ , OTf, and BF<sub>4</sub>.

**Trans Influence in**  $\lambda^3$ **-lodanes.** To assess the trans influence of X in another ligand environment, various X ligands in benziodoxoles are considered for a representative set of 15 ligands. QTAIM topological plots of two representative examples are given in Figure 7 along with an MESP isosurface representation of the same structures. The probe to measure  $V_{\text{min}}$  is the lone pair region o[f t](#page-3-0)he oxygen atom that is trans to the X ligand. The I−O bond length  $d_{x}$ ,  $\rho$ (**r**) value for the I−O bond, and  $V_{\text{min}}$  are reported in Table 3. All three trans-influence parameters  $(d_X, \rho(\mathbf{r}))$ , and  $V_{\text{min}}$ ) correlate strongly with the c[or](#page-3-0)responding values obtained for  $CF_3[I(X)Cl]$  systems. Therefore, the trans-influence order presented in series (i) is taken as a general order of the trans influence in hypervalent iodine(III) complexes.

Trans Influence in Iodine(V) Compounds. A model of the iodine $(V)$  complex selected for this study is shown in Figure 8, which can be considered as a derivative of Dess− Martin periodane (DMP) wherein one of the OAc groups trans to the [O](#page-3-0) atom of the aryl group is replaced by the X ligand. These  $\lambda^5$ -iodanes complexes are characterized by two orthogonal 3c-4e bonds because the central iodine atom is coordinated to four different ligands through two hypervalent bondings while the fifth ligand occupies the apical position of the square pyramidal structure through a normal covalent

#### <span id="page-5-0"></span>Table 5. Calculated and Predicted  $E_{XY}$  (kcal/mol)



bond.<sup>17</sup> This model will help us to assess the effect of a 3c-4e bond (the AcO−I−OAc bonding) on the trans-influencing powe[r o](#page-9-0)f the X ligands. The I−O bond length (trans to X ligand) is the structural parameter,  $d_X$  for the trans influence, while the corresponding  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$  is the electron density-based parameter. The MESP minimum on the oxygen lone pair,  $V_{\text{min}}$ , for the I−O bond (trans to the X ligand) will serve as the electrostatic measure of the trans influence. In Figure 9, the MESP isosurface is displayed for a representative system along with the corresponding  $V_{\text{min}}$  val[u](#page-4-0)e. The trans-influence parameters for the 15 ligands are reported in Table 4.

All three trans-influence parameters of  $\lambda^5$ -iodanes almost strictly follow the order of trans influence observed i[n](#page-4-0) the case of  $\lambda^3$ -iodanes.  $d_{\rm X}$  is less sensitive as a trans-influence parameter than  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$  and  $V_{\text{min}}$  because from iodine(V) to iodine(III) complex the former shows only 1−2% decrease, whereas  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$  increases by 5−12%, while  $V_{\text{min}}$  becomes less negative by 7− 23%. These data also suggest that the presence of a second 3c-4e bond decreases the trans influence of the X ligand.

Isodesmic Reactions To Study Mutual Trans Influence of Two Ligands X and Y. Isodesmic reactions are hypothetical reactions in which the number of bonds of the given type is conserved. The reaction depicted in Scheme 1 is isodesmic as the number and type of bonds in the reactant side is equal to the number and type of bonds in the product [sid](#page-4-0)e. However, the trans influence is not conserved in the reaction. Therefore, the energy of the reaction,  $E_{XY}$ , will mainly account for the difference between the trans influence at the product and the reactant sides. In the reactant side, the trans influence of X and Y is present, while the trans influence due to  $(X, Y)$ combination as well as the trans influence of Cl is present in the product side. Because the trans influence due to Cl in

<span id="page-6-0"></span>



 $[CF<sub>3</sub>ICl<sub>2</sub>]$  is constant for all reactions, the energy of the reaction  $E_{XY}$  can be used as a good measure of the mutual trans influence of the  $(X, Y)$  combination. In other words,  $E_{XY}$  values will indicate the stabilization/destabilization due to the trans disposition of the X and Y ligands around the I atom. From the 32 ligands selected in this study, we randomly picked 63 combinations of X and Y and studied the corresponding 63 isodesmic reactions. Out of the 63 reactions, the  $E_{XY}$  values of 42 reactions given in Tables 5 are used as a training set for statistical analysis (sample size,  $n = 42$ ), while the remaining 21 reactions in Table 6 are used [as](#page-5-0) test set  $(n = 21)$ .

All  $E_{XY}$  values fall in the range from  $-24.96$  to 33.62 kcal/ mol (Tables 5 and 6). A positive  $E_{XY}$  corresponds to destabilization due to the mutual trans influence, while a negative  $E_{XY}$  [in](#page-5-0)dicates a stable trans combination. The  $(C(PPh<sub>3</sub>)COMe, C(PPh<sub>3</sub>)COMe)$  and  $(CPPh<sub>3</sub>COOMe,$ CPPh<sub>3</sub>COOMe) combinations show the highest  $E_{XY}$  values of 33.62 and 32.16 kcal/mol, respectively, and they correspond to highly unstable (very strong, very strong) trans-influencing pairs. Similarly,  $E_{XY}$  above 20 kcal/mol is observed for the (Me, Et) and (Et, C(PPh<sub>3</sub>)COOMe) combinations. All very strong− very strong, very strong−strong, and strong−strong trans influencing pairs are unfavorable combinations. The weak− weak combinations ( $BF_4$ ,  $BF_4$ ) and (OCOCF<sub>3</sub>, OCOCF<sub>3</sub>) are also unstable, whereas the weak−weak combination, (OCOCCl<sub>3</sub>, OCOCCl<sub>3</sub>) is slightly unstable ( $E_{XY}$  = 0.23 kcal/ mol). As suggested by Ochiai et al.,<sup>42</sup> moderate transinfluencing combinations are stable with most of the  $E_{XY}$ showing negative values. The most fav[ora](#page-9-0)ble combinations are the medium−strong, weak−strong, and weak−very strong trans-influencing pairs. For example, the lowest  $E_{XY}$  of  $-24.49$ and  $-24.96$  kcal/mol are shown by (BF<sub>4</sub>, CPPh<sub>3</sub>COOMe) and  $(BF<sub>4</sub>, CPPh<sub>3</sub>COMe)$ , respectively, and they correspond to weak−very strong trans-influencing combinations.

The results presented herein suggest that the presence of electronegative atoms at the axial position is not an essential

criterion for explaining the stability of hypervalent iodine compounds.<sup>42</sup> The electron-releasing groups such as Me, Et,  $Ph$ , and  $CPPh<sub>3</sub>COOMe$  can also make the system stable provided th[at](#page-9-0) the trans position is occupied by ligands with a small trans influence such as  $BF_4$ , OTf, and NO<sub>3</sub>. Further, the mutual trans influence of X and Y strongly depends on the individual trans influence of X as well as Y. It is found that using the trans-influence parameter of X, the trans-influence parameter of Y, and the product of the trans-influence parameters of X and Y, empirical eqs 2−4 can be derived for predicting the values of  $E_{XY}$  using MLR analysis

$$
E_{XY} = -1657.68d_X - 1700.66d_Y + 667.47d_Xd_Y
$$
  
+ 4224.54 (2)

where  $n = 42$ ,  $s = 2.05$ , and  $r = 0.976$ .

$$
E_{XY} = -6.75 \rho_x(\mathbf{r}) - 6.33 \rho_y(\mathbf{r}) + 0.146 \rho_x(\mathbf{r}) \rho_y(\mathbf{r}) + 293
$$
\n(3)

where the  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$  values are expressed in kcal/mol,  $n = 42$ ,  $s =$ 1.91, and  $r = 0.980$ .

$$
E_{XY} = 0.115V_{min(X)} + 0.387V_{min(Y)} + 0.021
$$
  

$$
V_{min(X)}V_{min(Y)} + 3.460
$$
 (4)

where  $n = 42$ ,  $s = 1.95$ , and  $r = 0.980$ . In these equations, the terms  $d_{X}$ ,  $\rho_{X}(\mathbf{r})$ , and  $V_{\min(X)}$  indicate, respectively, the trans I– Cl bond distance,  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$ , and  $V_{\text{min}}$  of the CF<sub>3</sub>[I(X)(Cl)] complex while  $d_Y$ ,  $\rho_y(\mathbf{r})$ , and  $V_{\text{min}(Y)}$  are, respectively, the trans I-Cl bond distance,  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$ , and  $V_{\text{min}}$  of the CF<sub>3</sub>[I(Y)(Cl)] complex. Also, the trans influence of  $X \leq$  the trans influence of Y. s and r are the standard deviation and correlation coefficient, respectively.

<span id="page-7-0"></span>Table 7. Calculated and Predicted Bond Dissociation Energy Values of X and Y in  $CF_3[I(X)(Y)]$  Complexes (kcal/mol)

ligands in the trans positions					
$\mathbf X$	$\mathbf Y$	calcd $E_d$ for X	predicted $E_d$ for X using $V_{\text{min}}$	calcd $E_d$ for Y	predicted $E_{\rm d}$ for Y using $V_{\rm min}$
$\rm F$	Br	181.00	182.48	171.64	156.86
$\rm F$	$\rm F$	205.28	190.00	205.28	190.00
OCOCCl <sub>3</sub>	OH	136.96	129.67	211.22	213.68
OT <sub>s</sub>	Ph	99.36	102.37	213.93	226.09
OH	Br	197.42	198.64	149.65	143.02
OT <sub>s</sub>	CF <sub>3</sub>	119.43	124.46	177.05	189.75
Br	CCSiMe <sub>3</sub>	119.58	123.09	179.12	180.61
$CF_2CF_2CF_3$	Me	127.11	125.04	201.17	208.03
OMe	OiPr	177.71	176.15	178.16	173.68
OSO <sub>2</sub> Me	Me	108.16	106.51	241.04	242.06
BF <sub>4</sub>	${\rm Me}$	92.96	91.61	272.59	273.45
$\rm F$	C(PPh <sub>3</sub> )COOMe	123.37	124.93	223.78	208.22
$\rm F$	Me	151.03	148.68	253.69	237.69
NO <sub>3</sub>	${\rm Ph}$	100.74	103.73	229.26	232.33
$\rm F$	OMe	177.72	173.27	216.32	200.88
BF <sub>4</sub>	C(PPh <sub>3</sub> )COOMe	74.91	77.39	252.28	253.51
OT <sub>s</sub>	$\mathbf F$	155.70	141.17	176.75	189.43
OOtBu	Me	147.05	144.72	208.74	214.68
Me	$\mathop{\mathrm{Et}}$	171.09	170.40	181.15	178.18
OTf	Br	117.24	119.70	169.25	174.61
OH	CCSiMe <sub>3</sub>	167.45	170.22	179.22	171.24
OTf	Et	90.67	91.46	264.78	268.77
NO <sub>3</sub>	Me	107.27	105.62	244.93	247.76
OSO <sub>2</sub> Me	$\mathop{\mathrm{Et}}$	102.97	103.53	245.91	246.87
OTf	OSO <sub>2</sub> Me	120.70	123.49	151.86	157.47
OH	OMe	191.86	187.18	192.06	183.90
Et	C(PPh <sub>3</sub> )COOMe	147.91	148.88	135.59	135.39
CF <sub>3</sub>	CF <sub>3</sub>	156.03	160.43	156.03	160.43
OCOCCl <sub>3</sub>	OSO <sub>2</sub> Me	136.80	139.34	142.44	145.92
$O_iPr$	CCPh	150.21	154.57	163.91	162.54
NO <sub>2</sub>	CCPh	120.29	125.15	172.39	184.75
OCOCOOMe	OCOCOOMe	144.26	150.00	144.26	150.00
OCOCCl <sub>3</sub>	OCOCCl <sub>3</sub>	143.11	146.58	143.11	146.58
Br	Br	148.73	150.70	148.73	150.70
OMe	OMe	184.54	179.96	184.54	179.96
NO <sub>3</sub>	OH	137.41	130.11	210.82	214.14
NO <sub>3</sub>	OMe	130.20	126.47	203.80	207.23
Br	Ph	108.31	111.12	211.19	212.20
NO <sub>3</sub>	$\mathbf F$	157.47	142.91	192.47	196.06
$C(PPh3)$ COMe	$C(PPh3)$ COMe	108.72	111.61	108.72	111.61
BF <sub>4</sub>	$BF_4$	132.56	135.39	132.56	135.39
OTf	OMe	114.89	111.42	214.86	219.55

To test the reliability of the trans-influence parameters, the leave-one-out (LOO) cross-validation methodology is applied. In this test, one isodesmic reaction is removed from the data set and the corresponding  $E_{XY}$  value is predicted from the rest of the data. The process is repeated for each isodesmic reaction, and the cross-validated correlation coefficients  $(r^2_{\text{cv}})$  of 0.940, 0.947, and 0.937 are obtained, respectively, for the transinfluence parameters  $d_{x}$ ,  $\rho_{x}(\mathbf{r})$ , and  $V_{min(X)}$ . This is an indication of the high predictive power of this model. Further, eqs 2, 3, and 4 are validated using a set of 21 isodesmic reactions given in Table 6. The statistical parameters obtained for the te[st](#page-6-0) s[et](#page-6-0) are [go](#page-6-0)od, viz. s equal to 2.40, 2.01, and 2.85 for eqs 2, 3, and 4, respectiv[ely](#page-6-0), and r equal to 0.977, 0.987, and 0.970 for eqs 2, 3, and 4, respectively. The predicted  $E_{XY}$  values for the [train](#page-6-0)ing s[et](#page-6-0) and the test set are given in Tables 5 and 6, respectively.

Bond Dissociation Energy and Trans Influence. Ligands in the axial positions of a hypervalent iodine(III) complex can be cleaved heterolytically.<sup>2</sup> This reaction can be represented as either  $CF_3[I(X)(Y)] \rightarrow [CF_3IY] + X$  or  $CF_3[I(X)(Y)] \rightarrow [CF_3I] + Y$ . It [is](#page-9-0) well known that the bond dissociation energy (BDE) of various ligands depends on the nature of the trans ligands. $47,48$  In the present case, the dissociation of  $X^-$  or  $Y^-$  can be influenced by the trans influence of X or Y as well as the mutual [tran](#page-10-0)s influence of the  $(X, Y)$ combination. The trans  $(X, Cl)$  combination represents the  $CF<sub>3</sub>[I(X)(Cl)]$  system and is used herein as the reference structure to evaluate the trans parameters  $d_{x}$ ,  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$ , and  $V_{\text{min}}$ . Therefore, the BDE of X in the  $CF_3[I(X)(Cl)]$  system (designated as  $E_{d(X)}$ ; all the values are given in the Supporting Information) is used as a reference value to estimate the mutual trans influence of the  $(X, Y)$  combination on the [dissociation](#page-9-0)

Table 8. Calculated and Predicted Bond Dissociation Energy Values of X and Y for Compounds Used for the Test Set (kcal/ mol)

ligands in the trans positions					
X	Y	calcd $Ed$ for X	predicted $E_d$ for X with eq 7	calcd $E_{\rm d}$ for Y	predicted $E_d$ for Y with eq 7
BF <sub>4</sub>	Ph	87.25	90.55	257.72	258.87
$C(PPh)$ <sub>3</sub> COOMe	$C(PPh)$ <sub>3</sub> COOMe	109.06	110.61	109.06	110.61
OiPr	<b>CCH</b>	162.79	162.38	170.04	168.62
BF <sub>4</sub>	$C(PPh)$ <sub>3</sub> COMe	76.43	80.28	250.93	252.24
NHTf	OH	137.48	130.19	198.76	203.77
OT <sub>s</sub>	OOfBu	118.41	125.81	180.45	193.12
$C_6F_5CF_3$	CF <sub>3</sub>	133.24	138.02	153.70	161.16
$C_6F_5$	CCSiMe <sub>3</sub>	125.54	128.93	150.48	157.01
$CF_2CF_2CF_3$	Ph	119.47	122.07	184.38	191.53
<b>OCOCOOMe</b>	Br	144.10	146.17	150.91	156.59
OCOCOOMe	<b>CCH</b>	126.83	127.01	189.32	194.43
OCOCCl <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl	109.97	114.54	220.50	222.88
OCOCF <sub>3</sub>	OCOCF <sub>3</sub>	148.75	149.65	148.75	149.65
F	Ph	144.31	146.64	237.83	222.11
$\rm F$	NH <sub>2</sub>	164.29	159.85	237.20	221.48
OCOCF <sub>3</sub>	OOtBu	121.39	128.74	201.02	201.16
OAc	OH	161.63	153.97	197.36	198.52
Br	Me	115.40	113.60	227.44	228.24
OMe	Ph	145.86	148.09	200.77	195.94
NO <sub>2</sub>	OMe	145.40	141.45	183.35	195.58
OSO <sub>2</sub> Me	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl	109.67	114.24	214.56	216.00



Figure 10. Agreement between calculated and predicted bond dissociation energy values. All values are in kcal/mol.

energy of either the X or the Y ligand in the  $CF_3[I(X)(Y)]$ system. To make a reasonable prediction of the BDE of the X or Y ligand in the  $CF_3[I(X)(Y)]$  complex (designated as  $E_d$ ), MLR analysis is done with three variables, viz.  $E_{d(X)}$ , any one of the trans-influence parameters, and  $E_{XY}$ . The following equations are obtained from the 42 compounds considered in Table 5

$$
E_{\rm d} = 0.976E_{\rm d(X)} - 258.574d_{\rm X} - 0.992E_{\rm XY} + 654.944
$$
 (5)

where  $n = 42$ ,  $s = 6.59$ , and  $r = 0.989$ .

$$
E_{\rm d} = 0.977 E_{\rm d(X)} + 3.651 \rho(\mathbf{r}) - 0.995 E_{\rm XY} - 160.084
$$
 (6)

where  $n = 42$ ,  $s = 6.80$ , and  $r = 0.988$ .

$$
E_{\rm d} = 0.985 E_{\rm d(X)} + 1.463 V_{\rm min} - 0.993 E_{\rm XY} + 21.485
$$
 (7)

where  $n = 42$ ,  $s = 6.44$ , and  $r = 0.989$ .

The accuracy of the present model is assessed by the LOO cross-validation procedure, and excellent  $r_{\text{cv}}^2$  values of 0.976, 0.972, and 0.977 are obtained for  $d_{x}$ ,  $\rho_x(\mathbf{r})$ , and  $V_{\text{min}(X)}$ , respectively, which show the high predictive nature of this model. Further, the obtained eqs 5, 6, and 7 are validated using the 21 complexes given in Table 6. The statistical parameters of the test set, respectively, for eqs 5, 6, and 7 are as follows:  $s =$ 5.88, 6.05, and 5.80; r = 0.992, 0.[99](#page-6-0)1, and 0.992. The calculated  $E<sub>d</sub>$  values of these complexes are given in Tables 7 and 8 along with the predicted  $E_d$  values using eq 7. Similar results are also obtained using eqs 5 and 6 (Supporting Informat[io](#page-7-0)n). It can be seen that the above equations can predict the  $E_d$  values (in the range 74−272 kcal/mol) re[asonably well. Figure 10](#page-9-0) illustrates the agreement between the actual and the predicted  $E<sub>d</sub>$  values as well as the predictive power of eq 7. There are 10 compounds in the training set and 4 compounds in the test set with a prediction error of more than 10 kcal/mol. If we remove these outliers and further considering the data set, the new regression equation obtained is

$$
E_{\rm d} = 0.988E_{\rm d(X)} + 1.394V_{\rm min} - 1.040E_{\rm XY} + 18.521
$$
\n(8)

Equation 8 gives an s value of 3.56 and 3.80 for the training set and test set, respectively, and shows an improved  $r$  value of more than 0.99 for both sets. The outliers are mainly the complexes with the ligand F at the axial position; hence, it can be assumed that the through-space interactions arising from the  $F$  atom of the  $CF_3$  ligand are stronger in such cases. Deviations are also expected due to steric interactions from bulky ligands. It may be noted that the constants in the above equations can vary depending on the level of theory used, while these equations firmly suggest that the trans influence as well as the mutual trans influence significantly affect the bond dissociation energy of ligands in hypervalent iodine complexes.

<span id="page-9-0"></span>Using any of the above equations it is possible to predict the BDE values of any trans combinations  $(X \text{ and } Y)$  and hence to predict the most facile dissociation of a 3c-4e bond. For example, in  $CF_3[I(Br)(Ph)]$  complexes, the  $E_d$  values of trans combinations Br and Ph are 108.31 and 211.19 kcal/mol, respectively. Similarly, for  $CF_3[I(F)(Br)]$  complexes,  $E_d$  values are 181.00 and 171.64 kcal/mol for trans combinations F and Br, respectively. Thus, the I−Br bond trans to the Ph ligand is 63.33 kcal/mol less stable than the I−Br bond trans to the F ligand. The predicted values also follow a similar order. It is generally observed that in hypervalent iodine-mediated reactions the I−X bond which is trans to a highly transinfluencing aryl ligand is cleaved regularly.1−<sup>3</sup> Hence, the understanding of the BDE of I−X bonds and the influence of the trans ligand Y can be utilized for explaining the mechanistic steps involved in cleavage of the I−X bond.

### ■ CONCLUSIONS

The trans I−Cl bond length, electron density at the (3,−1) bond critical point at the trans I−Cl bond, and MESP minimum  $(V_{min})$  at the chloro ligand in  $CF_3[I(X)(Cl)]$ complexes have been proposed as parameters for quantification of the trans influence of various ligands in hypervalent complexes. The  $V_{\text{min}}$  values of hypervalent iodine(III) as well as iodine(V) complexes are used as a sensitive measure of the trans influence of X. On the basis of trans-influence parameters, the ligands are classified into 4 groups, viz. very strong, strong, medium, and weak trans-influencing ligands. Simple isodesmic reactions of the type  $CF_3[I(X)Cl] + CF_3[I(Y)Cl] \rightarrow$  $CF<sub>3</sub>[I(Cl)Cl] + CF<sub>3</sub>[I(X)Y]$  are useful for understanding the preferred trans combination of a variety of X and Y ligands. The isodesmic reaction energy,  $E_{XY}$ , indicates the mutual trans influence between X and Y ligands. The medium−medium, medium−strong, weak−strong, and weak−very strong transinfluencing combinations are found to be preferred combinations, while the very strong−very strong, strong−strong, strong−very strong, and weak−weak combinations are found to be unstable combinations. The mutual trans influence of a large number of  $(X, Y)$  combinations is predicted with good accuracy using the trans-influence parameters of the X and Y ligands. Empirical equations using the trans influence and mutual trans-influence parameters have been derived for predicting the bond dissociation energy of either the X or the Y ligand in  $CF_3[I(X)Y]$  complexes.

### ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

#### **S** Supporting Information

Cartesian coordinates of all geometries,  $E_{d(X)}$  values, and predicted bond dissociation energy using the trans-influence parameters  $d_x$  and  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$ . This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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