

COMPUTATIONAL STUDY OF THERMODYNAMICS OF METAL CARBONATES  
AND CATALYTIC PROPERTIES OF GROUP IV  
TRANSITION METAL OXIDES

by

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## ABSTRACT

This dissertation describes computational studies of the thermodynamics of metal carbonates, the sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub> by group IV transition metal oxides, the reactivity of ethanol on group IV transition metal oxides as a model for biofuel conversion, and halogen atom oxidation of magnesium clusters. Gas phase heats of formation using the Feller-Peterson-Dixon (FPD) approach were predicted for carbonates, bicarbonates and hydroxides for Mg, Ca, and various first-row transition metals. These reliable FPD values were used to benchmark a range of density functional theory exchange-correlation functionals that are used in modeling larger systems and solids. None of the functionals show good chemical accuracy of  $\pm 1$  kcal/mol, most likely due to issues with properly treating oxygen. The FPD results can be used to predict cohesive energies and metal atom exchange reactions. The addition of CO<sub>2</sub> to M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> and M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> was studied at the CCSD(T) using weighted core correlation consistent basis sets. The calculations showed that prior predictions on the Ti structures were not correct as the results require the use of weighted core functions. The calculations enabled comparisons of CO<sub>2</sub> binding energies to the neutral and anionic clusters as well the role that CO<sub>2</sub> binding has on the electron affinity of the cluster. Ethanol dehydration and dehydrogenation on (TiO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub> nanoclusters, n = 2 to 4, which serve as models for the bulk TiO<sub>2</sub> surface were studied at the CCSD(T)/aD//B3LYP/DZVP2 level to provide insights into how metal oxides can be used to convert biofuel into fuels or feedstocks for the chemical industry. The Lewis/Brønsted acidity and basicity on the Ti and O sites were correlated with various energetics. The oxidation of small Mg clusters by F and Cl was studied to interpret the observed chemiluminescence. The

computational results provide the best available energetics for these species and are critical to interpreting the experiments which date back more than 40 years.

Key phrases: geochemistry, group IV transition metal oxides, CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration, catalysis, ethanol dehydration and dehydrogenation, Mg<sub>2</sub>F

## DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to my family, my friends, my teachers and mentors who have inspired and motivated me to always go after my dreams in different stages of my life.

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

AO	atomic orbital
ADF	Amsterdam Density Functional
ATcT	Active Thermochemical Tables
aug-cc-pVNZ	augmented, correlation consistent, polarized valence N zeta basis sets, where N = double (D), triple (T), quadruple (Q), or 5.
aug-cc-pVNZ-PP	aug-cc-pVNZ basis sets with pseudopotentials for heavy atoms, where N = double (D), triple (T), quadruple (Q),
aug-cc-pwCVNZ	augmented, correlation consistent, polarized weighted core-valence basis sets where N = double (D), triple (T), quadruple (Q),
aug-cc-pwCVNZ-DK	aug-cc-pwCVNZ basis sets with all electron DK basis sets where N = double (D), triple (T), quadruple (Q),
aug-cc-pwCVNZ-PP	aug-cc-pwCVNZ basis sets with pseudopotentials for heavy atoms where N = double (D), triple (T), quadruple (Q),
aN	aug-cc-pVNZ basis sets
aN-PP	aug-cc-pVNZ-PP basis sets
au	atomic units
awN	aug-cc-pwCVNZ basis sets
awN-DK	aug-cc-pwCVNZ-DK basis sets
awN-PP	aug-cc-pwCVNZ-PP basis sets
B3LYP	Becke 93 (exchange), Lee-Yang-Parr (correlation) DFT functional
BDE	bond dissociation energy
BP86	Beck (exchange), Perdew 86 (correlation) DFT functional
CBS	complete basis set
CDE	Coulombic dissociation energy

CC	coupled cluster
CCSD	coupled cluster singles and doubles
CCSD(T)	coupled cluster singles, doubles, and perturbative triples
CI	configuration interaction
CISD	configuration interaction singles and doubles
CV	core-valence
$\Sigma D_0$	total atomization energy
DFT	density functional theory
DK	Douglas-Kroll-Hess
DZVP2	DFT optimized double zeta valence basis set with polarization functions
$\Delta E_{\text{CBS}}$	complete basis set energy change
$\Delta E_{\text{CV}}$	core valence set energy change
$\Delta E_{\text{SR}}$	scalar relativistic energy change
$\Delta E_{\text{SO}}$	spin orbit energy change
$\Delta E_{\text{ZPE}}$	zero point energy change
$e^-$	electron
$\eta$	hardness
EA	electron affinity
ECP	effective core potential
EDA	energy decomposition analysis
FA	fluoride affinity
FCI	full configuration interaction
FPD	Feller-Peterson-Dixon
$\Delta G_{\text{gas}}$	gas phase Gibbs free energy
GGA	generalized gradient approximation

GTO	Gaussian-type orbital
$\Delta H_{f,0K}$	enthalpy of formation at 0 K
$\Delta H_{f,298K}$	enthalpy of formation at 298 K
$\Delta H_{rxn}$	reaction change in enthalpy
$\hat{H}$	molecular Hamiltonian operator
h	Planck's constant
H	enthalpy
HCTH407	Hamprecht-Cohen-Tozer-Handy exchange correlation DFT functional
HF	Hartree-Fock
HSE06	A recommended version of the full Heyd-Scuseria-Ernzerhof functional
IE	ionization energy
$\chi$	electronegativity
K	equilibrium constant
k	rate constant
$k_B$	Boltzmann constant
KS	Kohn-Sham
LCAO	linear combination of atomic orbitals
LDA	local density approximation
M06	A hybrid DFT functional of Truhlar and Zhao
M06L	A hybrid DFT functional of Truhlar and Zhao
MBPT	many-body perturbation theory
MD	molecular dynamics
MVD	the mass-velocity and 1-electron Darwin terms in the Breit-Pauli Hamiltonian

MO	molecular orbital
MP $n$	$n^{\text{th}}$ order Møller-Plesset perturbation theory
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
NIST-JANAF	National Institute of Standards and Technology - Joint Army-Navy-Air Force
PA	Proton Affinity
PBE	Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (exchange), Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (correlation) DFT functional
PBE0	Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (exchange), Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (correlation) DFT functional
PP	pseudopotential
PW91	Perdew-Wang 91 (exchange), Perdew-Wang 91 (correlation) DFT functional
QCISD(T)	quadratic configuration interaction singles, doubles, and perturbative triples
R	gas constant
S	entropy
SCF	self-consistent field
SI	Supporting Information
SO	spin-orbit
SR	scalar relativistic
STO	Slater-type orbital
$\tau$ -HCTH	an improved HCTH407 DFT functional using the kinetic-energy Tau
$\tau$ -HCTHhyb	Hybrid functional using the $\tau$ -HCTH functional
T	temperature
TAE	total atomization energy

TC	temperature correction
TDE	total dissociation energy
TISE	time-independent Schrödinger equation
TMO	transition metal oxide
TPSSh	Tao-Perdew-Staroverov-Scuseria hybrid nonempirical metal-generalized gradient exchange-correlation DFT functional
TRDE	total reaction dissociation energy
TS	transition state
VEE	vertical excitation energy
W	partition function
$\omega$ B97X	Head-Gordon and coworkers' functional including long range corrections
$\omega$ B97X-D	Head-Gordon and coworkers' functional including long range and empirical dispersion corrections
ZPE	zero point energy
>	greater than
<	less than
=	equal to
~	approximately
Å	Angstrom
°	degrees
±	plus or minus

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# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### **Background**

Global warming is leading to more extreme weather events like flooding, melting of glaciers and the polar ice caps, and high heat events. As greenhouse gases are released into the atmosphere, too much of the heat radiated from the Earth is trapped which contributes to a global temperature increase. CO<sub>2</sub> is one of the main greenhouse gases that is influencing global warming and climate change. Combustion of fossil fuels by man is a primary source for the release of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere. Since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> has increased from 280 ppm to 419 ppm in 2022.<sup>1</sup> There are, in general, two ways of reducing the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere. One way is to prevent releasing CO<sub>2</sub> by not burning fossil fuels for their energy content and, instead, exploring alternative, environmental-friendly energy resources. The other way is to capture and sequester the existing gas phase CO<sub>2</sub> into liquid or solid phase.

Various methods have been developed to capture and sequester CO<sub>2</sub>. Mineral carbonation is one way to fix CO<sub>2</sub> in the form of insoluble carbonates where CO<sub>2</sub> can be directly kept sequestered in the subsurface.<sup>2,3,4</sup> Ca and Mg are the most common elements forming minerals and these minerals exist in large quantity. Once CO<sub>2</sub> is fixed in the form of carbonates, regeneration of CO<sub>2</sub> is almost impossible since that requires input of energy equivalent to decomposition of calcite and magnesite, which are very thermodynamically stable<sup>5,6,7</sup> and have

existed on Earth for hundreds of millions of years. As the carbonation is exothermic, the kinetics of the reactions will need to be considered. Two ways of mineral carbonation have been studied, carbonation of minerals at high temperature or carbonation in aqueous solution.<sup>8</sup> One approach to predicting the heats of formation of carbonate minerals is to use *ab initio* thermodynamics based on density functional theory (DFT).<sup>9,10,11,12,13</sup> However, an issue with this approach is that errors that are not systematic can be found in the energetics. There is thus a need to develop a benchmark database of reliable gas phase heats of formation based on the Feller-Peterson-Dixon (FPD) approach.<sup>14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22</sup> This dissertation describes such calculations for metal carbonates, bicarbonates, and bicarbonate-hydroxides for a wide range of divalent metals. These results also provide data for the prediction of cohesive energies if the heats of formation of the mineral are known<sup>5,6,7</sup> which can be used to test convergence in terms of the size of a molecular cluster.<sup>23,24,25,26,27,28</sup>

Transition metal oxides (TMOs) are also promising materials for the capture and sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub>, for example, TiO<sub>2</sub>,<sup>29,30,31,32,33</sup> ZrO<sub>2</sub>,<sup>34,35,36,37</sup> and WO<sub>3</sub>,<sup>38,39</sup> which can act as a sorbent to physisorb or chemisorb CO<sub>2</sub> or serve as a catalyst to sequester and convert CO<sub>2</sub> into organic molecules. The Dixon group had previously reported studies of the binding of CO<sub>2</sub> to Group 4 and Group 6 nanoclusters.<sup>40</sup> A subsequent experimental and computational study<sup>41</sup> suggested that there was a center carbonate binding site for CO<sub>2</sub> addition to the Ti<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> anion. In the correction to this work,<sup>42</sup> the authors showed that the original calculations were flawed based on a preliminary communication from the Dixon group on the computational approach. Their structure for CO<sub>2</sub> binding to the anion was different from what had been reported for the neutral. This dissertation describes an extension of previous work<sup>40</sup> on the binding of CO<sub>2</sub> to the neutral trimer clusters to the trimer anions to better understand these binding sites. The current work

shows that the central binding site is only a low energy site on the  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6^-$  cluster and is not the lowest energy binding site for any of the anions.

TMOs can also serve as catalyst for the conversion of biofuel into fuels to provide a renewable energy source as a replacement for fossil fuels or feedstocks for the chemical industry. Ethanol is a model of biofuel which can undergo dehydration and dehydrogenation on group IV and VI transition metal oxide surfaces. It has been reported<sup>43,44,45</sup> that the active Lewis acid metal sites for  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  nanoclusters can serve as catalyst sites for the conversion of alcohols. The reactivity was correlated with the Lewis acidity of the metal site and the reducibility of the cluster and it was found that at least two alcohols are needed to match experiment. This dissertation describes an extension of this work to the study of a single ethanol on  $\text{TiO}_2$  nanoclusters to compare the Group 6 nanocluster catalysis and to catalysis on the surface of bulk rutile  $\text{TiO}_2$  (110).<sup>46,47,48,49,50</sup>

## **Computational Chemistry**

Computational chemistry is an important and time-efficient method to predict chemical properties and reaction energetics for different kinds of systems, especially for those that are difficult or expensive to perform experimentally, or to probe regions of the potential energy surface like transition states which cannot be readily accessed by experiment. Available experimental results can be interpreted by the use of computational chemistry as well as guided for reasonable future design. The last 50 years have witnessed a fast growth in the field of computational chemistry with contribution from improvements in computational methods and algorithms, chemical theories, and supercomputing resources.

The focus of this dissertation is on electronic structure theory, one of the two main areas in computational chemistry, the other being molecular dynamics (MD) simulations<sup>51</sup> with

molecular mechanics force fields. Electronic structure theory is based on solutions to the time-independent Schrödinger equation (TISE) to represent the motion of electrons in molecular system which is shown in equation (1.1):

$$\hat{H}\Psi = E\Psi \quad (1.1)$$

where  $\hat{H}$  is the molecular Hamiltonian, which represents the total energy operator of all kinetic and electrostatic interactions in molecules,  $\Psi$  refers to the wavefunction, and  $E$  refers to the total energy of the molecular system. Electronic structure theory is the primary computational method used in this dissertation. There are three electronic structure methods that can be used to solve the TISE: semi-empirical molecular orbital theory (SEMO), DFT, and correlated molecular orbital (MO) theory. SEMO is the cheapest method to calculate computationally because it is totally dependent on experimental parameters or parameters from higher-level computational approaches. *Ab initio* methods, which include both MO theory and DFT, however, only use physical constants obtained from first principles to resolve the TISE.<sup>52</sup> We note that DFT may have exchange-correlation functionals that are parameterized with respect to experiment so are not fully *ab initio*. The Born-Oppenheimer<sup>51,53</sup> approximation is used to separate the electronic and nuclear motion because the nuclei are much heavier than the electrons. This enables the TISE for electrons to be solved without having to deal with the heavier nuclei. The

corresponding electronic Hamiltonian ( $\hat{H}_{elec}$ ) is given in equation (1.2)

$$\hat{H}_{elec} = - \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{2} \nabla_i^2 - \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{A=1}^M \frac{Z_A}{|R_A - r_i|} + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j>i}^N \frac{1}{|r_j - r_i|} \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\nabla$  represents the gradient operator,  $N$  equals to the number of electrons of the molecular system,  $M$  is the number of nuclei,  $A$  represents the nuclei,  $Z$  is the atomic number,  $R$  and  $r$  represent coordinates of the nuclei and electrons respectively, and  $i$  and  $j$  are denoted as individual electrons. The three terms within  $\hat{H}_{elec}$  in equation (1.2) are from left to right: the

repulsive kinetic energy of the electrons, the attractive nuclear-electron potential, and the repulsive electron-electron potential.

The first derivative of the energy and the nuclear coordinates  $dE/\{dx_i\}$  allows the geometry to be optimized. When  $dE/\{dx_i\} = 0$ , the second derivative of the energy with the respect to the nuclear coordinates can be used to calculate vibrational frequencies. The second derivative can also be used to determine if the optimized molecular geometry, is an energy minimum, a transition state, or some other complex saddle points on the potential energy surface.

### **Molecular Orbital (MO) Theory**

Hartree-Fock (HF) theory,<sup>54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61</sup> a self-consistent field method, was developed in the 1920's and 1930's, soon after the discovery of the TISE in 1926. The HF method is the earliest and simplest approach to describe the electronic structure of molecules mathematically as analytical solutions for many-electron systems do not exist, HF theory provides an approximate solution to the TISE by calculating the total energy using a basis set with hydrogen-like atomic orbitals in Slater determinants.<sup>52</sup> A mean-field theory is applied by approximating the interactions of each electron in a field of  $n-1$  electrons by an average of all the electron-electron interactions with each electron. One problem arises though using this mean-field theory due to the lack of electron correlation of a pair of electrons in the same orbital. The Pauli exclusion principle<sup>62</sup> allows two electrons with the opposite spins to occupy in the same space. Coulomb repulsion, however, makes these two electrons avoid each other, even though the electron exchange energy is fully accounted for in the HF method. Another weakness of the original HF method comes to the neglect of relativistic effects which is an inherent assumption for the method as the non-relativistic TISE is being solved. Overall the energy from the HF wave

function is missing several percent of the total energy given a sufficiently large basis set, but the remaining the energy is needed to model chemical phenomena accurately.

To solve the TISE for any given system, a wavefunction composed of molecular orbitals is needed, and one way to do this is to use a linear combination of atomic orbitals (the LCAO approximation).<sup>51</sup> The LCAO approximation constructs molecular orbitals with individual mathematical functions that resemble atomic orbitals (AOs). These functions are called basis functions, and the collection of these functions is called a basis set. Once each atom is assigned a basis set, the best MO coefficients are achieved by variational minimization. There are two types of orbital function, Slater-type orbitals (STO) and Gaussian-type orbitals (GTO). GTOs with an exponent in  $r^2$  are used in most electronic structure codes comparing to STOs since STOs are exponential functions in  $r$  which are difficult to integrate computationally. Therefore, STO-type basis functions are modeled as a linear combination of primitive GTOs because two-electron GTOs have simpler analytical solutions than STOs. Split valence basis sets, such as double zeta and triple zeta valence orbitals, provide multiple atomic functions for valence orbitals in each atom to provide better prediction of chemical interaction which mainly occur among valence orbitals. These multiple split valence basis sets provide different spatial properties which allows adjustment of the electron density according to the molecular environment through a linear combination. Increasing the number of basis functions leads to decreasing error for the LCAO approximation, and eventually achieves convergence of energy to the Hartree-Fock limit. The difference between the Hartree-Fock limit and the exact energy is defined as correlation energy.

Larger basis sets are usually required for more accurate energy, which means minimum basis sets are the least reliable because of over constraint of the MOs and less flexibility in the

orbital size adjustment needed for a good approximation of chemical bonding. To improve the approximation of electronic interactions besides using the split valence basis set<sup>51</sup> as mentioned above, polarization functions and augmented (aug) diffuse functions are also needed to provide more distortion capability on valence orbital and spatial extension of the basis set. , The latter is critical for anions who have large electron clouds, as well as in minimizing basis set superposition error (BSSE) referring to the situation where an atom overlaps and borrows basis sets from other atoms in a molecule. This dissertation mainly use correlation consistent (cc) polarized (p) valence (V) multiple split zeta (NZ) basis functions with augmented (aug) diffuse functions, denoted as aug-cc-pVNZ where N represents D, T, Q, 5, 6, etc. referring to double, triple, quadruple, quintuple, sextuple, etc, respectively.<sup>63,64</sup> The DFT calculation in the study of ethanol reactivity on (TiO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>, n = 2 to 4, used the DFT optimized DZVP2 polarized valence double zeta basis set<sup>65,66</sup>.

The lack of electron correlation in the self-consistent field solution of HF does not give reliable absolute energetics. By including electron correlation factor by adding more determinants to HF theory, a method known as post-HF, one can achieve an energy convergence to the exact solution of TISE.

Coupled-cluster (CC) methods<sup>67</sup> are a popular and reliable post-HF computational method for thermodynamic calculations on molecular system. The corresponding wavefunction is expressed exponentially as shown in equation (1.3).

$$\Psi_{CC} = e^T \Phi_0 \tag{1.3}$$

where  $\Phi_0$  is in the form of Slater determinant for HF molecular orbitals serving as a reference wavefunction. The exponential term  $e^T$  guarantees size extensity of wavefunction as well as

consistency which secures CC method to be one of the easiest-to-use post HF methods. The term  $e^T$  can be expanded as a Taylor series as shown in equation (1.4).

$$e^T = 1 + T + \frac{1}{2}T^2 + \frac{1}{6}T^3 + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} T^k \quad (1.4)$$

where T is the cluster operator which is determined by equation (1.5)

$$T = T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + \dots + T_n \quad (1.5)$$

where n = 1 means single electron excitation, n = 2 means two electron excitation and so on.

Including more electrons for excitation increases energy accuracy, like using CCSD (singles and doubles), CCSDT (singles, doubles and triples), etc. As n gets close to the number of electrons, the scale of excitations will reach full configuration interaction (CI), which is very expensive to calculate computationally. The CC method is a truncated version of full CI.

CCSD(T)<sup>68,69,70,71,72,73</sup>, however, uses a perturbative triples contribution from fourth-order Møller-Plesset (MP4) perturbation theory on top of the CCSD amplitudes. The CCSD method is iterative and scales approximately as  $N^6$ , where N refers to the number of basis functions, and CCSD(T) is non-iterative and scales as  $N^7$ .

The finite size of the basis sets introduces an error as well even though basis sets like aug-cc-pNVZ, (N = D, T, Q, etc.) for use in CCSD(T) calculations are quite large. An approximate complete basis set (CBS) limit can be obtained by using a variety of approaches<sup>74</sup> including a 3-point extrapolation formula in (1.6).

$$E_N = E_{CBS} + A \exp[-N(N-1)] + B \exp[-(N-1)^2] \quad (1.6)$$

where N = 2, 3, and 4 (D, T, and Q),  $E_N$  is the energy when the correlation consistent basis sets with the size N of apply, and  $E_{CBS}$  represents the CBS limit. There is also a 2-point extrapolation formula in (1.7)<sup>75,76,77,78</sup>

$$E_N = E_{\text{CBS}} + B/(l_{\text{max}})^3 \quad (1.7)$$

where  $N = 4$  and  $5$  ( $Q$  and  $5$ ).

### Density Functional Theory (DFT)

Density functional theory (DFT) is based on the theory by Hohenberg, Kohn and Sham<sup>79,80</sup> showing that ground state electronic energy can be determined by the electron density of a molecular system completely. DFT calculations are an alternative to *ab initio* MO methods for lower computational cost but with decent predictions of the resulting energy. The reason why DFT methods can cost less is that the energy calculations are performed in terms of a three-dimensional electron cloud, the density, which can be of lower cost in term of the growing size of the system. Compared to Hartree-Fock, a DFT calculation is more likely to provide more reliable results for a similar computational cost. The total energy  $E$  for DFT calculations is made of four components as shown in equation (1.8)

$$E[\rho] = T_s[\rho] + V_{ne}[\rho] + J[\rho] + E_{xc}[\rho] \quad (1.8)$$

where  $\rho$  represents the electron density,  $T_s$  represents the kinetic energy for the non-interacting system,  $V_{ne}$  represents the nuclear-electronic potential energy,  $J$  represents the classical electron-electron repulsive energy, and  $E_{xc}$  represents the exchange-correlation energy.<sup>80</sup> The exchange-correlation energy term is proposed by Kohn and Sham<sup>80</sup> to avoid the complexity of this term being distributed into the kinetic energy (small correction) and electronic repulsive energy in the exact functional. Kohn-Sham (KS) orbitals allow the use of machinery from the development of MO theory and are used in modern DFT calculations.

Different treatments of the exchange-correlation functional contribute to a variety of DFT methods. In general, there are three classes of DFT functional types: local density approximation (LDA) functionals<sup>81,82</sup> which only rely on electronic density, generalized gradient approximation

(GGA) functionals<sup>83,84,85</sup> which depend on both electronic density and its gradient, and hybrid functionals.<sup>86</sup> Hybrid functionals contain exchange-correlation energy partially from HF exact exchange with the remaining part of exchange and correlation from other sources.

A DFT hybrid functional B3LYP is the main DFT method used in this dissertation. The exchange-correlation energy term of B3LYP is comprised of the Becke 3-parameter exchange functional<sup>87</sup> and the Lee, Yang, Parr correlation functional<sup>88</sup> with an expression shown as below in equation (1.9)

$$E_{xc}^{B3LYP} = aE_x^{HF} + (1 - a)E_x^{LDA} + b\Delta E_x^{B88} + cE_c^{LYP} + (1 - c)E_c^{VWN} \quad (1.9)$$

where  $E_x^{HF}$ ,  $E_x^{LDA}$  and  $\Delta E_x^{B88}$  represent the exchange energy terms from HF, LDA, and GGA corrections, respectively;  $E_c^{LYP}$  and  $E_c^{VWN}$  represent the correlation energy terms from LYP and VWN corrections, respectively. The coefficients a, b and c come from experimental thermodynamic data and are equal to 0.20, 0.72, and 0.81, respectively. Although DFT methods provide better results than HF calculations, DFT calculations inherently lack of accurate through-space interaction energy,<sup>89</sup> and alternative approaches are usually needed to achieve more accurate thermodynamic values, for example, CCSD(T) methods as used in this dissertation work.

### Composite Approaches

The most accurate composite method which can reach chemical accuracy of  $\pm 1$  kcal/mol is the Feller-Peterson-Dixon method (FPD)<sup>14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22</sup>. This method is developed by a collaboration between the Dixon group and the group of Peterson and Feller at Washington State University. The total atomization energy (TAE,  $\Sigma D_{0,0K}$ ) is made up of five components; a large atomization energy term based on electronic energies extrapolated to the complete basis set (CBS) limit based on calculations at the single point CCSD(T) level using the aug-cc-pVNZ

basis sets where N = D, T and Q at least using the optimized geometries, and four additional smaller corrections (Equation 1.10). As an example, we assume the geometries are optimized at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level, although they can be obtained at any accurate level.

$$\text{TAE} = \Delta E_{\text{CBS}} + \Delta E_{\text{ZPE}} + \Delta E_{\text{CV}} + \Delta E_{\text{SR}} + \Delta E_{\text{SO}} \quad (1.10)$$

The  $\Delta E_{\text{ZPE}}$  correction is the zero-point energy correction from the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ frequency calculation. The atomic spin orbit correction ( $\Delta E_{\text{SO}}$ ) is calculated by using the experimental values of each individual atom from Moore's tables.<sup>90</sup> The difference between the core and valence energies at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pwCVTZ level is denoted as the core-valence correction ( $\Delta E_{\text{CV}}$ ). A scalar-relativistic correction ( $\Delta E_{\text{SR}}$ ) is calculated with the second-order Douglas-Kroll-Hess (DK)<sup>91,92,93</sup> method using the all-electron aug-cc-pwCVTZ-DK basis set.<sup>94</sup> By following procedure from Curtiss and workers,<sup>95</sup> one can calculate gas phase heats of formation at both 0 K and 298 K as shown below using the TAE given in Equation 1.10 and the experimental heats of formation for the atoms with thermal corrections at 298 K (TC) of molecules from the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ optimization level.

$$\Delta H_{f,0\text{K},\text{molecule}} = \sum \Delta H_{f,0\text{K},\text{atoms}} - \text{TAE} \quad (1.11)$$

$$\Delta H_{f,298\text{K},\text{molecule}} = \sum \Delta H_{f,0\text{K},\text{molecule}} + \text{TC}_{\text{molecule}} - \sum \text{TC}_{\text{atoms}} \quad (1.12)$$

### Computational Thermodynamics

Energy changes in company with chemical and physical processes are associated with thermodynamics.<sup>96</sup> The change of internal energy ( $\Delta U$ ) of system equals the sum of heat ( $q$ ) and work ( $w$ ) as shown in equation (1.13) according to the 1<sup>st</sup> Law of Thermodynamics.

$$\Delta U = q + w \quad (1.13)$$

The internal energy of a molecule at 0 K is represented by the sum of molecular electronic energy and zero-point energy as shown in equation (1.14).

$$U_0 = E_{\text{elec}} + \sum_i \frac{1}{2} h\omega_i \quad (1.14)$$

The zero-point energy is a fundamental result of Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle<sup>97</sup> and is approximated by using a quantum harmonic oscillator model. The internal energy of molecules of an ideal gas at any given temperature (T) requires addition of electronic, vibrational, translational, and rotational energy changes over the temperature range for  $U_0$  as shown in equation (1.15) based on thermodynamic definition of an ideal gas.

$$U_T = U_0 + \Delta U_{0 \rightarrow T}(\text{elec}) + \Delta U_{0 \rightarrow T}(\text{vib}) + \Delta U_{0 \rightarrow T}(\text{rot}) + \Delta U_{0 \rightarrow T}(\text{trans}) \quad (1.15)$$

At constant pressure (P), the enthalpy (H) of the system is written in equation (1.16).

$$H = U + PV \quad (1.16)$$

For a given T, equation (1.16) can be rewritten as equation (1.17) using the ideal gas law for one mole of gas.

$$H_T = U_T + RT \quad (1.17)$$

According to the definition of the total entropy (S) of a system, S is related to the total number of all possible states in a system. S can be expressed as a function of a sum of contributions from electronic, translational, vibrational, and rotational motions of the molecule at any given T. The third law of thermodynamics is given in equation (1.18),

$$S = k_b \ln(W) \quad (1.18)$$

where  $k_b$  is Boltzmann's constant and W represents the number of states. The value of S can be obtained from the partition functions of translation, the harmonic oscillator, the rigid rotor, and any electronic contributions including symmetry aspects of a molecule.<sup>98</sup> Thus, the Gibbs free energy can be calculated from equation (1.19).

$$G = H - TS \quad (1.19)$$

The value of  $\Delta G$  can be used to predict if a reaction is spontaneous at any given T and P. At the standard state, the change of  $\Delta G$  is associated with the equilibrium constant (K) as shown in equation (1.20)

$$\Delta G^\circ = -RT\ln(K) \quad (1.20)$$

with T in degrees Kelvin and R the gas constant. Since the concept of chemical accuracy is defined by  $\pm 1$  kcal/mol, a factor of 10 at 298.15 K, corresponds to a difference in  $\Delta G$  of 1.36 kcal/mol which is slightly larger than chemical accuracy.

### Chapter Descriptions

It is critical to investigate possible solutions to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration and input into the atmosphere and feasible renewable energy sources to replace the use of fossil fuels. Understanding thermodynamics of mineral carbonates and transition metal oxides using computational methods provides us with useful insights on how CO<sub>2</sub> is captured and sequestered by different mechanisms, and how a simple model of biofuel, ethanol, could be converted into alternative chemicals.

Chapter 2 provides a set of accurate thermodynamic properties of divalent Ca, Mg, Fe, and Cd for carbonates, di-bicarbonates and bicarbonate-hydroxides as well as their corresponding hydrates, including gas phase heats of formation, cohesive energies, hydration energies and decomposition energies.<sup>99</sup> The gas phase heats of formation are calculated using the FPD approach where possible, which are used to benchmarked a set of various DFT functionals including those often used in bulk calculations and larger systems with a consideration of major issue for DFT functionals handling oxygen.

Chapter 3 is inspired from the work in chapter 2 and expands to a list of transition metals, Mn, Co, Ni, Cu, and Zn.<sup>100</sup> Besides studying the thermodynamics investigated in chapter 2,

chapter 3 also predicts metal exchange energies in the gas phase to show the reactivity of neutral and dication metals. The correlation between cohesive energy and ionic dissociation energy versus dication radii and hardness/softness was also examined. The work in chapter 2 and 3 allows further research on the growth and reactivity of carbonate nanoparticles, which has been studied by the Dixon group for the growth of MgO, MgCO<sub>3</sub>, and CaCO<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles.<sup>101,25,102</sup> In addition, the work provides reliable thermodynamics to help better understand mineral formation mechanisms in nature as well as to interpret competitive incorporation into nanoparticles among mixed metal dications.

CO<sub>2</sub> can also be captured and sequestered by group IV and group VI metal oxides.<sup>29, 31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39</sup> The Dixon group has studied the thermodynamics of neutral isomers of CO<sub>2</sub> binding to neutral group IV and VI metal oxides.<sup>40</sup> A novel neutral and anionic isomer of carbonate trimer titanium oxide was later reported<sup>41,42</sup> with a tridentate binding of CO<sub>2</sub> at the cluster center with 3 Ti-O bonded to 3 different Ti atoms. Chapter 4 investigated this new isomer together with previously available trimer isomers in neutral and ionic species for the group IV metals using couple cluster CCSD(T) theory with correlation-consistent weighted core basis sets on group IV metals based on density functional theory B3LYP geometries.<sup>103</sup> This work shows the same lowest energy structure as reported<sup>40</sup> by the Dixon group with the novel isomer considered. The lowest energy anionic structure has a terminal carbonate binding to the metal oxide cluster for all group IV metals with the center structure site having a slightly higher binding energy only for Ti. This study is important because it provides accurate thermodynamic CO<sub>2</sub> binding energies for neutral and anionic group IV transition metals with an exploration of a variety of isomers, which contributes insight on CO<sub>2</sub> capture and sequestration chemistry with transition metal oxides.

Ethanol is a very simple model of biofuel, which is a possible replacement as a renewable alternative energy source for fossil fuels. Group IV and VI transition metal oxide nanoclusters are effective catalysts for ethanol conversions. Ethanol reactivity on  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  nanoclusters has been studied where the Lewis acidic metal site plays an important role in the physisorption and chemisorption of ethanol; two ethanols are needed to match experiments. Chapter 5 studied ethanol dehydration and dehydrogenation on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  ( $n = 2 - 4$ ) nanoclusters which serve as a model of active Lewis acidic sites of bulk  $\text{TiO}_2$  surface at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ(-PP(Ti)) level. Only one ethanol is needed for the ethanol reaction on titanium oxide nanoclusters. Correlations between physisorption and chemisorption and ethylene removal energy versus Lewis/Brønsted acidity/basicity have been investigated to better understand the drive of the reactions.

Chapter 6 investigates possible ground state structures relevant to magnesium cluster oxidation reactions with halogens and the reaction thermodynamics with electronic structure calculations at the CCSD(T) level.<sup>104</sup> Vibrational frequencies for the ground states were also calculated as were UV-vis spectra transitions using time dependent DFT. The electronic structure results were used to interpret the results of chemiluminescent experiments which date back over 40 years. A near ultraviolet transition of  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  in emission from the reaction between magnesium clusters and fluorine atoms was observed and assigned on the basis of the calculations. Heats of formation of possible structures of  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  and  $\text{Mg}_3\text{F}$  were predicted using the FPD approach, as well as  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$  and  $\text{Mg}_3\text{Cl}$ . The formation of magnesium halides can be described as an ion pair of  $\text{Mg}_n^+$  and  $\text{F}^-/\text{Cl}^-$ .

## CHAPTER 2

### THERMODYNAMICS OF METAL CARBONATES AND BICARBONATES AND THEIR HYDRATES FOR Mg, Ca, Fe, and Cd RELEVANT TO MINERAL ENERGETICS

#### Introduction

Metal carbonates play an important role in geological and industrial processes, including paleoindicators of conditions relevant to mineral deposition,<sup>1,2,3,4,5,6</sup> biomineralization<sup>7,8,9,10</sup> large scale sinks for CO<sub>2</sub>,<sup>11,12,13,14</sup> environmental remediation,<sup>15</sup> precursors for the synthesis of complex nanostructures,<sup>16,17,18</sup> scale formation in pipelines and oilfields,<sup>19</sup> and properties of cement and concrete.<sup>20</sup> Although divalent Ca, Mg, Fe, and Cd all exhibit the same oxide structure (NaCl) and most stable anhydrous carbonate structure (calcite), their ability to form hydrated carbonate minerals is significantly different. Mg<sup>2+</sup> forms the largest number of hydrated carbonate minerals of all the divalent cations (barringtonite MgCO<sub>3</sub>•2H<sub>2</sub>O, nesquehonite MgCO<sub>3</sub>•3H<sub>2</sub>O, lansfordite MgCO<sub>3</sub>•5H<sub>2</sub>O, hydromagnesite Mg<sub>5</sub>(CO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub>•4H<sub>2</sub>O, dypingite Mg<sub>5</sub>(CO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub>•5H<sub>2</sub>O, pokrovskite Mg<sub>2</sub>(CO<sub>3</sub>)(OH)<sub>2</sub>, and artinite Mg<sub>2</sub>(CO<sub>3</sub>)(OH)<sub>2</sub>•3H<sub>2</sub>O), whereas Fe<sup>2+</sup>, which has nearly an identical size,<sup>21</sup> does not exhibit any known hydrated carbonates. Two hydrated Ca carbonates are known in nature (monohydrocalcite CaCO<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O, and ikaite CaCO<sub>3</sub>•6H<sub>2</sub>O), but no hydrated Cd carbonates are known. Although Ca forms the most abundant carbonates found in nature, Mg has been shown to play a key role in their formation, likely through the greater ability to bind and incorporate water.<sup>22,23</sup> Hence quantifying binding energies of coordinated species is important to understanding the basis of geochemical observations.

Understanding and controlling the formation and transformation of divalent carbonates and their hydrates in geological and industrial processes is aided by knowledge of the underlying thermodynamics. Whereas thermodynamic data exists for the most common minerals, it is not available for mixed carbonates such as Cd incorporation into Ca carbonates, which is important for remediation, or for intermediates such as clusters and amorphous species that may form along nucleation pathways. Hence, theoretical calculations based on methods such as density-functional theory (DFT) can be used to address this gap. Unfortunately, widely used DFT methods for total energy calculations of crystalline minerals or materials, such as the generalized gradient approximation (GGA), have been shown to exhibit nonsystematic errors for reaction enthalpies of formation from the metal oxides (MO), water, and CO<sub>2</sub>,<sup>24,25</sup> even with the addition of empirical dispersion corrections.<sup>26,27,28</sup> (See Table 2.1) For use in thermodynamic calculations, the DFT-GGA calculated heats of formation require corrections for these errors. In order to assess the thermodynamic viability of species such as the Fe analogue of nesquehonite FeCO<sub>3</sub>•3H<sub>2</sub>O or the Cd analogue of ikaite CdCO<sub>3</sub>•6H<sub>2</sub>O to address the question of why they have not been observed in nature, reliable heats of formation are needed. Moreover, there is a need for benchmarking density-functional methods against accurate correlated molecular orbital theory based calculations on model complexes that address the range of coordination in hydrated and carbonated complexes of Mg, Ca, Fe, and Cd.

A variety of computational studies of carbonates and other simple ions such as hydroxide have been reported.<sup>29,30,31,32,33</sup> Most of these studies have been done on bulk systems using density functional theory. In a few cases,<sup>34,35</sup> the energetics of smaller clusters have been benchmarked against correlated molecular orbital theory. In general, however, it is not clear how accurate such methods are for the prediction of thermodynamic quantities of the simple species

that make up the monomers in mineral systems. We have previously reported reliable calculated gas phase thermodynamic properties for a number of simple alkali and alkaline earth compounds in the gas phase<sup>35,36, 37,38</sup> and then, we used these values to predict the cohesive energy of different solid materials using the Feller-Peterson-Dixon (FPD) approach.<sup>39,40,41,42</sup> This approach is based on extrapolating CCSD(T) energies to the complete basis set limit and including additional corrections to the total atomization energy with the goal of achieving chemical accuracy of  $\pm 1$  kcal/mol in the predictions.

Our goal in the current work is to provide a set of accurate thermodynamic properties of divalent Ca, Mg, Fe, and Cd for carbonates and using the FPD approach where possible. We have then benchmarked a set of density functional theory (DFT)<sup>43,44,45</sup> functionals that span a range of types including those often used in bulk calculations.

### **Computational Methods**

All structures were optimized at the DFT level using the B3LYP<sup>46,47</sup> hybrid exchange-correlation functional. These calculations were done with the aug-cc-pVTZ basis set for H, C, and O,<sup>48,49</sup> as well as for Mg and Ca,<sup>50,51</sup> and with the aug-cc-pVTZ-PP basis sets with effective core pseudopotential (ECP)<sup>52</sup> for Fe<sup>53</sup> and Cd.<sup>54</sup> We denote these basis sets as aT. For the simple Mg and Ca carbonates and bicarbonates, the B3LYP optimized geometries were reoptimized at the MP2 level<sup>55,56</sup> using aT basis sets. All of the above calculations were performed using the Gaussian16 software package.<sup>57</sup> The geometries for the small molecules (MO, MCl<sub>2</sub> and M(OH)<sub>2</sub>) for M = Fe and Cd were optimized at the CCSD(T) level following our previous reported approach for the corresponding molecules for M = Mg and Ca.<sup>37</sup>

Coupled cluster R/RCCSD(T) or R/UCCSD(T)<sup>58,59,60,61,62,63,64</sup> single point calculations were performed at the above optimized geometries to predict accurate thermodynamic properties

of these molecules. All CCSD(T) calculations were performed using the MOLPRO 2015.1 program package.<sup>65,66</sup> For Fe and Cd carbonates, bicarbonates and the hydrated structures, the CCSD(T) calculation were performed using aug-cc-pVnZ basis sets ( $n = D, T, Q$ ) for H, C and O, and aug-cc-pVnZ-PP basis sets for Fe and Cd. The 10 electrons in the 1s2s2p orbitals for Fe and the 28 electrons in the 1s2s2p3s3p3d orbitals for Cd<sup>67</sup> are modeled by relativistic pseudopotentials (PPs). For Mg and Ca carbonates, bicarbonates and the hydrated structures the CCSD(T) calculation were performed using aug-cc-pVnZ basis sets for H, C and O, and cc-pwCVnZ basis sets for Mg and Ca;<sup>50,51</sup> the electrons in the 1s orbitals for the first row elements (C and O) and Mg and 1s2s2p orbitals for Ca were not correlated in the calculations. The CCSD(T) energies were extrapolated to the complete basis set (CBS) limit by fitting to a mixed Gaussian/exponential (Eq. 1):<sup>68</sup>

$$E(n) = E_{\text{CBS}} + A \exp[-(n - 1)] + B \exp[-(n - 1)^2] \quad (1)$$

where  $n = 2, 3,$  and  $4$  (D, T and Q).

The extrapolation to the complete basis set limit and additional small corrections were calculated following the Feller-Peterson-Dixon (FPD) approach.<sup>39,40,41,42</sup> Total atomization energies (TAEs or  $\Sigma D_0$ ) at 0 K were calculated from the following expression (Eq. 2) with  $\Delta$  referring to the difference between the molecule (reactant) and the atomic products for each energy component:

$$\Sigma D_0 = \Delta E_{\text{CBS}} + \Delta E_{\text{SR}} + \Delta E_{\text{CV}} + \Delta E_{\text{ZPE}} + \Delta E_{\text{SO}} \quad (2)$$

Additional corrections to the CCSD(T)/CBS energy ( $\Delta E_{\text{CBS}}$ ) are necessary to reach chemical accuracy. The zero point energies (ZPEs) were taken from MP2/aT or B3LYP/aT calculations for the new  $M = \text{Mg}$  and  $\text{Ca}$ , and from B3LYP/aT level calculations for  $M = \text{Fe}$  and  $\text{Cd}$  as these are the levels at which the geometries were optimized. The ZPEs for the Mg and Ca diatomics,

triatomics, and di-hydroxides are from our previous work<sup>37</sup> as is that for CdO<sup>69</sup> (see Table A2.43 for a summary). The additional core-valence corrections ( $\Delta E_{CV}$ ) were calculated at the CCSD(T) level with the aug-cc-pwCVTZ basis set<sup>70,71</sup> for C and O, cc-pwCVTZ for Mg and Ca atoms,<sup>50,51</sup> and cc-pwCVTZ-PP (denoted wCVTZ(-PP)) basis sets for M = Fe and Cd.<sup>53,54</sup> The electrons in the 1s orbitals for C, O and Mg, and the electrons in the 2s2p orbitals for Ca were correlated in the calculations. Scalar relativistic corrections ( $\Delta E_{SR}$ ) including the pseudopotential corrections (Eq. 3) were calculated at the second order Douglas-Kroll-Hess (DK)<sup>72,73,74</sup> level with the all-electron (aug-)cc-pwCVTZ-DK basis sets<sup>51,75</sup> (denoted as wCVTZ-DK):

$$\Delta E_{SR} = \Delta E_{wCVTZ-DK} - \Delta E_{wCVTZ(-PP)} \quad (3)$$

where  $\Delta E_{wCVTZ-DK}$  and  $\Delta E_{wCVTZ(-PP)}$  are the valence electronic energy differences calculated at the CCSD(T)-DK/awCVTZ-DK and CCSD(T)/awCVTZ(-PP) levels respectively for Cd. This correction may involve a minimal amount of double counting for the Cd scalar relativistic effect as discussed below; as noted above, this does include a pseudopotential correction. For Fe molecules, due to computational reasons,  $\Delta E_{SR}$  was included at the CI-SD (configuration interaction singles and doubles) level of theory using the aug-cc-pVTZ basis set.  $\Delta E_{SR}$  is taken as the sum of the mass-velocity and 1-electron Darwin (MVD) terms in the Breit-Pauli Hamiltonian.<sup>76</sup> A potential problem arises in computing the scalar relativistic correction for the molecules with a PP present. There is the possibility of “double counting” the relativistic effect on the Fe when applying a MVD correction to an energy that already includes most relativistic effects via the RECP. Because the MVD operators mainly sample the core region where the pseudo-orbitals are small, we assume any double counting to be small as has been found for halogen thermodynamics.<sup>77</sup> Test cases for Cd showed the MVD and DK approaches were in agreement within 0.2 kcal/mol. The atomic spin-orbit corrections ( $\Delta E_{SO}$ ) for the heats of

formation were taken from the experimental values (C = -0.08 kcal/mol, O = -0.22 kcal/mol and Fe = -1.20 kcal/mol).<sup>78</sup>

Heats of formation at 0 K were calculated from these TAEs and experimental heats of formation of the atoms at 0 K. The values for C, H, O, and Cl are from the Active Thermochemical Tables (ATcT)<sup>79,80,81</sup> and are: 51.63 ± 0.00 kcal/mol for H, 170.03 ± 0.01 kcal/mol for C, 59.00 ± 0.00 kcal/mol for O, and 28.59 ± 0.00 kcal/mol for Cl. The values for Mg, Ca, and Fe are from the JANAF Tables:<sup>82</sup> 34.87 ± 0.2 kcal/mol for Mg, 42.38 ± 0.2 kcal/mol for Ca, and 98.7 ± 0.3 kcal/mol for Fe. The value for Cd is 26.73 ± 0.1 kcal/mol from the Yungman and Wagman compilations.<sup>83,84</sup> Heats of formation at 298 K were then calculated by following the Curtiss et al. procedure<sup>85</sup> using thermal corrections for the atoms (H = 1.01 kcal/mol, C = 0.25 kcal/mol, O = 1.04 kcal/mol, Mg = 1.19 kcal/mol and Ca = 1.37 kcal/mol, Fe = 1.08 kcal/mol and Cd = 1.49 kcal/mol). The heats of formations of the larger molecules, (mostly for M = Fe) were calculated using the hydrolysis energies at CCSD(T)/aT or aD levels as described below.

The following functionals were used in the DFT benchmarking: PW91,<sup>86,87</sup> BP86,<sup>88,89</sup> M06,<sup>90</sup> PBE,<sup>91,92</sup> PBE0,<sup>93</sup> B3LYP,<sup>46,47</sup> HCTH407,<sup>94,95,96</sup> HSE06,<sup>97</sup> M06L,<sup>98</sup>  $\tau$ -HCTH,<sup>99</sup>  $\tau$ -HCTHhyb,<sup>99</sup> TPSSH,<sup>100</sup>  $\omega$ B97X,<sup>101</sup> and  $\omega$ B97X-D.<sup>102,103</sup> The DFT functionals were chosen to span a range of types as well as those often used in solid state calculations relevant to geochemical systems. The ZPEs for all of the DFT benchmarks were taken from the DFT (B3LYP/aT) calculations (see Table A2.43).

All calculations were performed on local parallel high-performance Xeon and Opteron based Penguin Computing clusters at The University of Alabama, the DMC computer at the Alabama Supercomputer Center, and the large computer in the Molecular Science Computing

Facility in the William R. Wiley Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

## Results and Discussion

***Molecular Geometries*** The optimized geometry parameters are reported in the Supporting Information (SI) and the pictures are shown in Figure 2.1 (see Table A2.44 for a summary of the geometries used for each calculation). Some general trends are discussed below. The small molecules (MO, MCl<sub>2</sub> and M(OH)<sub>2</sub>) do not show geometry variations with the metal. The geometries of MCO<sub>3</sub>, M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, and M(OH)(HCO<sub>3</sub>) all have bidentate carbonate binding with bite angles (OMO) that vary from 58° to 76° (See table in the SI). The M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> have the two bicarbonate groups in approximately perpendicular planes with torsion angles of around 84° to 86°. The HOC bond angles are ~ 107° bent in M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and in M(OH)(HCO<sub>3</sub>). The HOM bond angles are bent in M(OH)(HCO<sub>3</sub>), except for M = Ca, where ∠HOM is calculated to be linear, and for M = Mg where ∠HOM is close to being linear.

The addition of a single H<sub>2</sub>O to M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> changes the structures, with the smallest change observed for the hardest and smallest metal (Mg<sup>2+</sup>) and the largest geometry changes are observed for Cd<sup>2+</sup>. The hardness was calculated using the formal density functional theory definition of  $\eta = (IP - EA)/2$  where IP is the ionization potential and EA is the electron affinity. The experimental values<sup>104</sup> for the electron affinity and ionization potential were used (See SI) for the hardness and Shannon radii<sup>105</sup> were used for the ionic size. Note that  $IP = IP_3$  and  $EA = IP_2$  for a +2 ion. The largest metal ion is Ca<sup>2+</sup>, and Cd<sup>2+</sup> is just slightly smaller. The softest metal is Fe<sup>2+</sup> followed by Cd<sup>2+</sup>. The bicarbonates for M = Mg, Ca, and Fe remain bidentate but for M = Cd, one of the bicarbonate ligands becomes monodentate with a hydrogen bond between the H<sub>2</sub>O and the free O on the bicarbonate. For M = Mg, Ca, and Fe, the O-H bond length in H<sub>2</sub>O and the

asymmetric and symmetric stretch vibrational frequency and infrared intensities for the bound water molecule are similar to each other and to free H<sub>2</sub>O. For M = Cd where the H<sub>2</sub>O breaks the bidentate bonding of a bicarbonate ligand, a hydrogen bond forms between the water and the free oxygen. For Cd(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O), the water OH bond distance lengthens by 0.05 Å to 1.01 Å as compared to the corresponding OH bond in the water in the Mg(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O) complex. For M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O), for M = Cd as compared to M = Mg, one O-H stretch of the water decreases by 51 cm<sup>-1</sup> but the O-H stretch for the hydrogen bonded H decreases by 913 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The shift is due to the partial proton transfer in the Cd structure from the H<sub>2</sub>O to the HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> ligand with an increase in the O-H distance of 0.05 Å and a substantial decrease on the O-H...O hydrogen distance from 2.69 Å to 1.57 Å as compared to the Mg structure. There is a substantial increase in the IR intensity for the hydrogen bonded mode due to the partial proton transfer.

Addition of a second H<sub>2</sub>O to Mg(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> to form Mg(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>, leads to approximate octahedral coordination around the metal. Addition of the second H<sub>2</sub>O to the Ca(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> leads to a very distorted octahedral environment consistent with the fact that Ca<sup>2+</sup> prefers a larger coordination number than 6.<sup>106</sup> For Fe, two different structures were optimized, one with octahedral coordination and one with two monodentate bicarbonate ligands, each of which is bonded to a different H<sub>2</sub>O molecule. At the CCSD(T) level, the structure with octahedral coordination is lower in energy by 1.9 kcal/mol ( $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ ). For Cd(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>, only one structure was optimized, where both bicarbonates are monodentate and form hydrogen bonds with the H<sub>2</sub>O molecules.

The addition of two H<sub>2</sub>O molecules to M(OH)(HCO<sub>3</sub>) leads to different type of structures depending on the M. For M = Mg, Ca, and Cd, the structures are similar with penta-coordination at the metal. For M = Fe, tetra-coordination at the metal is predicted with the bicarbonate ligand

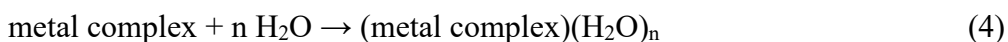
becoming monodentate with a hydrogen bond between the H<sub>2</sub>O and the free O on the bicarbonate.

Water binding to MCO<sub>3</sub> leads to different geometries (Figure 2.1). When one water binds to MgCO<sub>3</sub> the structure is planar with C<sub>2v</sub> symmetry. For addition of one H<sub>2</sub>O to FeCO<sub>3</sub> and CdCO<sub>3</sub>, the hydrogen atoms from the water molecules slightly distort out of the plane to give a structure with C<sub>s</sub> symmetry. For CaCO<sub>3</sub>, the H<sub>2</sub>O prefers to bind with an angle of about 130° to the metal-carbonate plane and one of the H<sub>2</sub>O hydrogens is oriented toward a ligand oxygen to form a hydrogen bond ( $r = 1.74 \text{ \AA}$ ). This structure is 6.0 kcal/mol ( $\Delta H_{298}(\text{B3LYP})$ ) more stable than the corresponding planar C<sub>2v</sub> structure. The addition of two waters leads to approximate axial binding with the (H<sub>2</sub>)O-M-O(H<sub>2</sub>) angle varying from 120° to 180°. Addition of a third water leads to different orientation of the H<sub>2</sub>O molecules depending on the metal. M = Fe in MCO<sub>3</sub> can take up to two waters in the first solvation shell, with the high spin Fe(II) being tetra-coordinate with this combination of ligands. The third H<sub>2</sub>O goes into a second solvation shell. Addition of a fourth H<sub>2</sub>O leads to approximate octahedral bonding at Mg and formation of Ca and Cd complexes with open sites.

**Gas Phase Heats of Formation** The CCSD(T) heats of formation for the gas phase species are given in Table 2.2. The error bars in the atomic heats of formation of the metals are all smaller than estimated errors in the electronic structure calculations. The values for Mg, Ca, and Fe are well-established as is the value for Cd. We have previously reported FPD values<sup>37</sup> for MgO, Mg(OH)<sub>2</sub>, and MgCl<sub>2</sub> and the corresponding Ca compounds as well as CdO. Most of the experimental gas phase values for MgO are incorrect with only one value,<sup>107</sup>  $36.0 \pm 5.0$ , in agreement with all of the calculations as discussed previously. The experimental results for CaO are in better agreement with the calculations given the experimental error bars. For MgCl<sub>2</sub> and

CaCl<sub>2</sub> as well as Mg(OH)<sub>2</sub> and Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub>, good agreement between experiment and the FPD results was found. The heat of formation for FeO is in good agreement with the value derived from the experimental dissociation energy from spectroscopy<sup>108,109</sup> and other calculations.<sup>110</sup> The heats of formation of Fe(OH)<sub>2</sub> and FeCl<sub>2</sub> are in good agreement with the JANAF values.<sup>83</sup> For CdO, our value for the dissociation energy is in good agreement with Peterson's value<sup>111</sup> obtained at the MRCI level but the heat of formation from the Russian compilation and another experimental report<sup>112</sup> is not consistent with our value. Although the agreement for CdCl<sub>2</sub> with the Russian compilation value<sup>83</sup> is outside of what we expect, it is still closer than the CdO value. Overall, the calculations show that we predict good values for the metal oxides, chlorides and hydroxides. We have previously shown that we can make reliable predictions of the heat of formation of HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and H<sub>2</sub>O.<sup>113,114,115,116</sup>

For a number of hydrated compounds, the calculations become too large for full FPD. Thus, we used a different methodology to predict the heats of formation; first we calculated the hydration energy using reaction (4),



and, second, we use the heat of formation of H<sub>2</sub>O and of the metal complex to obtain the heat of formation of the hydrated complexes. The hydration energies as a function of basis set are given in the SI and do not exhibit a large basis set dependence. In all cases, the largest error from aD to CBS in the hydration energies is at most 3 kcal/mol, except for CaCO<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> with an error of 4 kcal/mol and for Ca(CO<sub>3</sub>)(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>4</sub> with an error of 6 kcal/mol. In all cases, the largest error between the aT basis set and the CBS limit in the hydration energies is at most 3 kcal/mol. Thus, our Fe heats of formation based on hydration energies at the aD level should be good to 3 kcal/mol assuming no error in the heats of formation of the dehydrated simpler clusters. Any

errors in the dehydrated clusters would increase the errors in the hydrated values for the Fe species. The  $\Delta T$  values should be significantly closer to the CBS limit.

**Cohesive Energies** One can obtain information about cohesive energies of solid materials by combining the calculated heats of formation of the gaseous species with the experimental heats of formation of the solid.<sup>35,117</sup> The cohesive energy of a solid is the energy required to convert the solid into the gas. The cohesive energy is usually applied to monoatomic metals and is equivalent to the sublimation energy. All that is required to calculate the cohesive energy are the heat of formation of the solid and that of the gas phase species. Our focus is vaporization to the particular molecular monomer. The cohesive energies for the oxides follow the order  $Mg > Ca > Fe \sim Cd$  and are usually the largest. The cohesive energies for the carbonates follow the order  $Mg > Ca > Cd > Fe$  and are usually the second largest. For Fe, the cohesive energy for the oxide and carbonate are comparable. The chlorides tend to have lower cohesive energies than the other compounds followed by the hydroxides.

The compilation of Yungman<sup>83</sup> reports the heats of formation of the solid metal bicarbonates to be -304, -331.4, -224.6, and -207 kcal/mol, for Mg, Ca, Fe, and Cd, respectively. The corresponding cohesive energies are -57.1, -51.4, -50.7, and -75.5 kcal/mol for Mg, Ca, Fe, and Cd, respectively. The cohesive energies for the  $M(HCO_3)_2$  are all negative so these species are not expected to be stable, consistent with the lack of observation of these species. This suggests that the heats of formation of the solid that have been reported are not for the pure bicarbonate composition.

**Reaction Energies** Gas phase decomposition reactions are reported in Table 2.3 for decomposition into the solid metal oxide, carbon dioxide, and water, as appropriate. The experimental values for the heats of formation at 298 K of  $H_2O$  of -57.8 kcal/mol, (the calculated

value is in good agreement) and of  $\text{CO}_2$  of -94.1 kcal/mol were used.<sup>83</sup> The decomposition reaction for  $\text{MCO}_3$  is the least endothermic and the order for the carbonates is  $\text{Ca} > \text{Mg} > \text{Cd} \sim \text{Fe}$ . The decomposition for the bicarbonates  $\text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  requires the most energy and the order is  $\text{Mg} > \text{Ca} > \text{Cd} > \text{Fe}$ . The same order is found for the bicarbonate/hydroxide complexes.  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$  are softer than  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , which are relatively hard acids. The three bases  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ ,  $\text{OH}^-$ , and  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  are all considered to be hard bases.<sup>118</sup>

The gas phase hydration reaction energies are in Table 2.4. As shown in the SI, there is not a strong dependence of the hydration energies on the augmented correlation-consistent basis sets in use here at the CCSD(T) level. Generally, for the same reactant, addition of a water molecule becomes easier as more water molecules are added because addition of more water molecules makes the ions less basic. For the bicarbonates,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$ , the hydration energies are smaller than for the carbonates and are not that dependent on the metal. For the mixed bicarbonate/hydroxide, the hydration energies follow the order  $\text{Ca} \sim \text{Mg} > \text{Fe} > \text{Cd}$ . For  $\text{MCO}_3$ , the hydration energies are in the order  $\text{Mg} > \text{Fe} > \text{Ca} > \text{Cd}$ .

The fact that the strongest water binding energies are for  $\text{MgCO}_3$  is consistent with the wide array of hydrated carbonates observed in nature. The water binding energies for  $\text{FeCO}_3$  complexes are from 3.3 to 6.5 kcal/mol less than those for  $\text{MgCO}_3$ , which is noteworthy but not large. The Fe hydration energies are greater than for Ca, which does exhibit hydrates. Hence other reasons for the lack of hydrated  $\text{FeCO}_3$  minerals observed in nature should be considered, namely kinetic aspects of the crystallization or dissolution process, larger thermodynamic differences that arise due to the crystal packing arrangements or solvation energies, or greater metastability relative to siderite than the hydrated Mg carbonates to magnesite.

CdCO<sub>3</sub> overall has the lowest hydration energies, with the exception of the monohydrate, which is a bit higher than the CaCO<sub>3</sub> complex. Hence monohydrootavite CdCO<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O may form in nature, but the low concentration of Cd in the Earth's crust and the metastability of the monohydrate relative to otavite may make it extremely rare. The lower hydration energies compared to the CaCO<sub>3</sub> complex as the number of waters in the coordination sphere increases indicate that the crystal packing environment also contributes to greater metastability of monohydrootavite, as Cd is much softer than Ca. This softness is also reflected in the differences in the heats of formation between calcite and otavite. The relatively strong binding of the first water molecule to the CdCO<sub>3</sub> complex indicates that the presence of Cd will not significantly inhibit the crystallization pathways of calcium carbonates that utilize monohydrocalcite in environmental remedial applications.

***Benchmark of DFT Functionals*** Because of the need to model larger systems, we benchmarked a number of DFT functionals. We first show examples for the simple models: H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and the O<sub>2</sub> bond dissociation energy. The results are shown in Table 2.5 and Figure 2.2. An important result is that most of the functionals provide a reasonable treatment for H<sub>2</sub>O but there are errors of up to 9 kcal/mol. The GGA functionals are known<sup>91</sup> to exhibit significant errors in the O<sub>2</sub> ΔH<sub>f,0K</sub> and this is reflected in our results, namely that these functionals can have errors of up to 23 kcal/mol (almost 1 eV). These same functionals with errors in the O<sub>2</sub> ΔH<sub>f,0K</sub> have large errors in predicting the heats of formation of CO<sub>2</sub> and HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. These functionals include PW91, BP86 and PBE. The error distributions for the heats of formation of O<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub> and HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> are shown in Figure 2.2. The breadth of the distributions follow the order of HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> > CO<sub>2</sub> > O<sub>2</sub> > H<sub>2</sub>O. H<sub>2</sub>O has the narrowest distribution.

For Mg (Figure 2.3), the errors for the ionic molecules MgO, MgCl<sub>2</sub> and Mg(OH)<sub>2</sub>, are generally smaller than the errors for the Mg carbonates and bicarbonates and their hydrates. MgCl<sub>2</sub> has the narrowest error distribution among all the Mg molecules. The largest errors for Mg(OH)<sub>2</sub> and MgO are 16 kcal/mol and 15 kcal/mol, respectively. For the large molecules, PW91, BP86 and PBE share the similar error breadth from 23 kcal/mol to 55 kcal/mol. For B3LYP, the errors vary from 12 kcal/mol to 32 kcal/mol, and for TPSSh, the errors vary from 14 kcal/mol to 49 kcal/mol. For the remaining functionals, the errors vary from 1 kcal/mol to 36 kcal/mol. Addition of water molecules to MgCO<sub>3</sub>, Mg(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and Mg(HCO<sub>3</sub>)(OH) generally increases the errors with all of the functionals, except for PW91, M06 and PBE, for which the trends in the errors vary as changing the number of water molecules can either increase or decrease the errors. The width of the error distributions are in the order Mg(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> > Mg(HCO<sub>3</sub>)(OH) > MgCO<sub>3</sub>. The width of the error distributions of MgCO<sub>3</sub>, Mg(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and Mg(HCO<sub>3</sub>)(OH) increases after adding water molecules.

We also tested the dependence of the PBE and PW91 functionals often used in solid state calculations on the use of the numerical basis sets in DMol<sup>3</sup>. Two different real space cutoffs  $r_c$  were utilized for benchmarking of the DMol<sup>3</sup> basis sets, 4.3 Å and 5.1 Å. A  $r_c$  of 5.1 Å is the most accurate for the gas phase isolated complexes, but can result in excessive computational time for periodic systems as cpu time scales as  $r_c^6$ . Hence a  $r_c = 4.3$  Å is a reasonable compromise of accuracy and cpu time for solid state calculations. The deviations in the heats of formation for the Mg and Ca (see below) compounds are very similar to the Gaussian orbital results and are not strongly dependent on the value of  $r_c$ , although the dependence cannot be completely ignored.

Similar trends are predicted for the other metals. For Ca (Figure 2.4),  $\text{CaCl}_2$  has the narrowest distribution with most errors staying below 7 kcal/mol and the largest error being 19 kcal/mol. The errors are a bit larger for  $\text{CaO}$  and  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$ , and the functionals with the largest errors are PW91, BP86, and PBE, 26 to 28 kcal/mol for  $\text{CaO}$ , and 12 to 17 kcal/mol for  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$ . For  $\text{CaO}$ , THCTH also has a large error of 24 kcal/mol. For all the large molecules, PW91, BP86 and PBE have the largest errors from 32 to 70 kcal/mol. Addition of water molecules to  $\text{CaCO}_3$ ,  $\text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  generally increases the errors for the B3LYP, HSE06 and TPSSh functionals, and decreases the errors with the PBE functional. For the remaining functionals, the trends in the errors vary as changing the number of water molecules can either increase or decrease the errors. The width of the error distributions are in the order  $\text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \sim \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 > \text{CaCO}_3$ . The width of the error distributions of  $\text{CaCO}_3$ ,  $\text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  increase after adding water molecules.

For Fe (Figure 2.5),  $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_2$  has the narrowest distribution with the largest error being 15 kcal/mol. For  $\text{FeO}$  and  $\text{FeCl}_2$ , most errors are over 10 kcal/mol. The largest error for  $\text{FeO}$  is 29 kcal/mol and for  $\text{FeCl}_2$  is 34 kcal/mol. Although  $\text{MgCl}_2$  and  $\text{CaCl}_2$  both have narrow distributions, that for  $\text{FeCl}_2$  is much broader. For all the larger Fe molecules, B3LYP has the narrowest distribution and the errors for PW91, BP86, M06 and PBE are large varying from 27 kcal/mol to 74 kcal/mol. Addition of water molecules to  $\text{FeCO}_3$ ,  $\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  decreases the errors with the PBE, PBE0, HSE06,  $\tau$ -HCTHhyb,  $\omega$ B97X and  $\omega$ B97X-D functionals, and increases the errors with the functional TPSSh. For the remaining functionals, the trends in the errors vary as changing the number of water molecules can either increase or decrease the errors. As there are two structures for  ${}^5\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$ , we use the more stable one with two bidentate bicarbonates. The width of the error distributions are in the order  $\text{FeCO}_3$

$> \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 > \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$ . The width of the error distributions of  $\text{FeCO}_3$ ,  $\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  increase after adding water molecules.

For Cd (Figure 2.6), the largest errors for  $\text{CdCl}_2$ ,  $\text{CdO}$ , and  $\text{Cd}(\text{OH})_2$  are comparable at 10 to 13 kcal/mol. The largest errors for  $\text{CaO}$  and  $\text{FeO}$  are more than a factor of 2 larger than that for  $\text{CdO}$ . The largest errors for  $\text{MgO}$  are also larger than those for  $\text{CdO}$  by a smaller amount. For all of the larger molecules, PW91, BP86 and PBE have the largest errors from 25 to 55 kcal/mol. Adding water to  $\text{CdCO}_3$ ,  $\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  results in an increase in the error with almost all the methods except for PW91 and HCTH407, where the errors do not increase or decrease consistently, and PBE, where the errors decrease. For  $\text{CdCO}_3$ , we were unable to get the wavefunction to converge properly for the HCTH407 and  $\tau$ -HCTH functionals. The width of the error distributions are in the order  $\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 > \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) > \text{HCO}_3 > \text{CdCO}_3$ . The width of the error distributions of  $\text{CdCO}_3$ ,  $\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  increase after adding water molecules.

## Conclusions

There is significant interest in the properties of minerals containing Mg, Ca, Fe and Cd complexes with carbonate, bicarbonate and bicarbonate/hydroxide as well as various hydrates for a broad range of geochemical applications. The FPD approach based on CCSD(T) calculations extrapolated to the CBS limit was used to predict the heats of formation of a range of complexes of these metals in the +2 oxidation state. These values serve as benchmarks for more approximate DFT-based methods using different exchange-correlation functionals. For compounds whose heat of formation in the bulk is known, the cohesive energy was calculated. The cohesive energies of  $\text{MO}$  and  $\text{MCO}_3$  are larger than  $\text{MCl}_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{OH})_2$ , consistent with the Coulombic interaction of a +2 and a -2 charge in the former and of two +2 and -1 interactions in

the latter. The cohesive energies of the Mg and Ca complexes are much larger than those of Fe and Cd, consistent with the fact that the former +2 ions are harder than the latter +2 ions. The calculations also show that there are likely errors with the reported heats of formation of the bicarbonates in the solid state as the cohesive energies are negative, consistent with the fact that these compounds are not observed. From the gas phase decomposition energies of  $MCO_3$ ,  $M(HCO_3)_2$  and  $M(HCO_3)(OH)$  we can determine the order of reaction energies as  $MCO_3 < M(HCO_3)(OH) < M(HCO_3)_2$  and by metal as:  $Mg \sim Ca > Cd \sim Fe$ .  $Mg^{2+}$  and  $Ca^{2+}$  are harder than  $Fe^{2+}$  and  $Cd^{2+}$  consistent with this order. The hydration energies of the complexes were also calculated. The average hydration energy per water decreases with additional water molecules.  $MgCO_3$  has the largest hydration energy per water consistent with the fact that bulk  $MgCO_3$  complexes with water are the ones most commonly observed in minerals. The gas phase hydration energies show the order as  $Mg > Fe > Ca \sim Cd$ . There are a number of bulk hydrated Mg complexes that exist as minerals consistent with these observations. However, there are also a number of hydrated Ca complexes that occur as minerals whereas there are few if any for Fe suggesting that a number of factors are important in determining the stability of the bulk mineral hydrates. Hydrated Cd compounds are rarely observed in nature consistent with a low hydration energy per water and the low concentration of Cd in the Earth's crust. The relative high hydration energy of adding the first water molecule to the  $CdCO_3$  complex indicates that the presence of Cd will not significantly inhibit the crystallization pathways of calcium carbonates with one water complexed.

The reliable FPD heats of formation were used to benchmark various DFT exchange-correlation functionals. Not one DFT functional could provide chemical accuracy to  $\pm 1$  kcal/mol for all of the compounds calculated in this study. The approach used to calculate the DFT heats

of formation is based on atomization energies. In fact, the averages of the absolute values are all significant as shown in Table 2.6. Heats of formation involving oxygen have issues at the DFT level.

The issue with oxygen and the O<sub>2</sub> BDE is a well-known problem<sup>91</sup> for many DFT functionals and plays an important role here. The functionals producing the largest average unsigned errors of 34.2, 36.2, and 32.4 kcal/mol are BP86, PW91, and PBE, respectively. The latter two functionals are often used to model minerals in the solid state. The best functionals are  $\omega$ B97X and  $\omega$ B97X-D with average unsigned errors of 9.8 and 10.2 kcal/mol, respectively for the compounds containing metal atoms. The O<sub>2</sub> heat of formation errors are 4.1 and 3.7 kcal/mol for these functionals, respectively.

## Tables

**Table 2.1.** Error compared to experiment for reaction enthalpies,  $\Delta H$  (0K) for formation from the oxides (MO, CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O) normalized per metal cation in the stoichiometric formula (kcal/mol) PBE+G06 (with empirical dispersion).

Structure	Stoichiometry	Mg <sup>24</sup>	Ca <sup>25</sup>	Fe
Brucite (Mg)	M(OH) <sub>2</sub>	0.9	2.8	11.8
Calcite (Ca)	MCO <sub>3</sub>	6.2	6.9	5.5
Monohydrocalcite (Ca)	MCO <sub>3</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O		2.5	
Nesquehonite (Mg)	MCO <sub>3</sub> •3H <sub>2</sub> O	-1.8		
Lansfordite (Mg)	MCO <sub>3</sub> •5H <sub>2</sub> O	-12.9 <sup>a</sup>		
Ikaite (Ca)	MCO <sub>3</sub> •6H <sub>2</sub> O		-9.0	
Pokrovskite (Mg)	M <sub>2</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> •3H <sub>2</sub> O	-0.7		
Hydromagnesite (Mg)	M <sub>5</sub> (CO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub> •4H <sub>2</sub> O	-19.1		

<sup>a</sup> Estimated using ab initio thermodynamics and experimental data

**Table 2.2** Calculated gas phase heats of formation at 0K and 298 K, experimental heats of formation of the solid, and calculated cohesive energies all in kcal/mol.

Molecule	Calculation <sup>a</sup>	$\Delta H_{f,0K}$ gas	$\Delta H_{f,298K}$ gas	$\Delta H_{f,298K}$ solid	Cohesive E
MgO	FPD <sup>37</sup>	32.5	32.4	-143.7	176.1
MgCl <sub>2</sub>	FPD <sup>37</sup>	-95.0	-95.1	-153.3	58.2
Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub>	FPD <sup>37</sup>	-130.4	-132.7	-221.0 ± 0.2	88.3
MgCO <sub>3</sub>	FPD <sup>35</sup>	-110.4	-111.7	-265.7	154.0
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	FPD	-356.9	-360.9		
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	FPD	-242.3	-245.0		
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	FPD	-431.0	-435.6		
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	Hydration	-501.9	-507.8		
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	FPD	-391.9	-397.8		
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	FPD	-200.6	-202.9		
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	FPD	-285.9	-290.0		
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	FPD	-363.5	-369.0	-472.5 ± 0.1	103.5
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>	FPD	-438.9	-446.1		
CaO	FPD <sup>37</sup>	5.0	4.7	-151.8	156.5
CaCl <sub>2</sub>	FPD <sup>37</sup>	-113.9	-114.9	-190.2	75.3
Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub>	FPD <sup>37</sup>	-144.0	-146.5	-235.7	89.2
CaCO <sub>3</sub>	FPD	-148.1	-149.5	-288.5 ± 0.2	139.0
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	FPD	-379.0	-382.6		
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	FPD	-260.8	-263.4		
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	FPD	-453.9	-458.4		
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	FPD	-521.8	-527.4		
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	FPD	-411.8	-417.3		
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	FPD	-229.6	-232.3	-357.8 ± 0.2	125.5
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	FPD	-310.9	-314.9		
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	FPD	-385.2	-390.9		
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>	FPD	-465.2	-471.9		
<sup>5</sup> FeO	FPD	61.8	61.8	-65.0	126.8
<sup>5</sup> FeCl <sub>2</sub>	FPD	-32.9	-32.7	-81.9	49.2
<sup>5</sup> Fe(OH) <sub>2</sub>	FPD	-80.7	-81.8	-137.2	55.4
<sup>5</sup> FeCO <sub>3</sub>	FPD	-50.8	-51.8	-179.4	127.6
<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	FPD	-271.7	-275.1		
<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	FPD	-172.5	-174.8		
<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	Hydration	-346.5	-350.7		
<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	Hydration	-410.9	-417.4		
<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	Hydration	-412.8	-418.4		

${}^5\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	Hydration	-314.0	-319.3		
${}^5\text{FeCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	Hydration	-137.8	-139.7		
${}^5\text{FeCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	Hydration	-213.5	-217.0		
${}^5\text{FeCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3^{\text{c}}$	Hydration	-290.5	-295.8		
CdO	FPD <sup>69</sup>	64.9	64.6	-61.7	126.3
CdCl <sub>2</sub>	FPD	-50.2	-50.4	-93.6	43.2
Cd(OH) <sub>2</sub>	FPD	-68.8	-70.5	-134.1	63.6
CdCO <sub>3</sub>	FPD	-47.3	-48.5	-179.4	130.9
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	FPD	-278.2	-281.7		
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	FPD	-171.8	-174.4		
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	Hydration	-348.1	-353.2		
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	Hydration	-418.3	-425.0		
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	Hydration	-310.4	-313.1		
CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	Hydration	-129.5	-131.4		
CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	Hydration	-201.3	-205.2		
CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	Hydration	-276.7	-282.2		
CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>	Hydration	-349.7	-356.5		

<sup>a</sup> All calculations at the CCSD(T) level. For the description of FPD, see the text. Heats of formation from hydration energies calculated from the reaction energy for Reaction (4) using the heat of formation of water and the calculated heat of formation of the metal complex. <sup>b</sup> Both bicarbonates are monodentate. <sup>c</sup> Only 2 H<sub>2</sub>O in 1<sup>st</sup> solvation shell.

**Table 2.3.** Gas phase reaction energies from FPD values at 298 K in kcal/mol.

Reactant	Products	Reaction energies
MgCO <sub>3</sub>	MgO + CO <sub>2</sub>	50.0
CaCO <sub>3</sub>	CaO + CO <sub>2</sub>	60.1
FeCO <sub>3</sub>	FeO + CO <sub>2</sub>	19.5
CdCO <sub>3</sub>	CdO + CO <sub>2</sub>	19.0
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	MgO + 2 CO <sub>2</sub> + H <sub>2</sub> O	147.3
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	CaO + 2 CO <sub>2</sub> + H <sub>2</sub> O	141.3
Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	FeO + 2 CO <sub>2</sub> + H <sub>2</sub> O	90.9
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	CdO + 2 CO <sub>2</sub> + H <sub>2</sub> O	100.3
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	MgO + CO <sub>2</sub> + H <sub>2</sub> O	125.5
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	CaO + CO <sub>2</sub> + H <sub>2</sub> O	116.2
Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	FeO + CO <sub>2</sub> + H <sub>2</sub> O	84.7
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	CdO + CO <sub>2</sub> + H <sub>2</sub> O	87.1

**Table 2.4.** Gas phase hydration reaction energies from heats of formation,  $\Delta H_{f,298K}$ , in kcal/mol.

Product	$\Delta H$	$\Delta H / H_2O$
$MgCO_3(H_2O)$	-33.4	-33.4
$MgCO_3(H_2O)_2$	-62.7	-31.4
$MgCO_3(H_2O)_3$	-83.9	-28.0
$MgCO_3(H_2O)_4$	-103.2	-25.8
$Mg(HCO_3)_2(H_2O)$	-16.9	-16.9
$Mg(HCO_3)_2(H_2O)_2$	-31.3	-15.7
$Mg(HCO_3)(OH)(H_2O)_2$	-37.2	-18.6
$CaCO_3(H_2O)$	-25.0	-25.0
$CaCO_3(H_2O)_2$	-49.8	-24.9
$CaCO_3(H_2O)_3$	-68.0	-22.7
$CaCO_3(H_2O)_4$	-91.2	-22.8
$Ca(HCO_3)_2(H_2O)$	-18.0	-18.0
$Ca(HCO_3)_2(H_2O)_2$	-29.2	-14.6
$Ca(HCO_3)(OH)(H_2O)_2$	-38.3	-19.2
${}^5FeCO_3(H_2O)$	-30.1	-30.1
${}^5FeCO_3(H_2O)_2$	-49.6	-24.8
${}^5FeCO_3(H_2O)_3$	-70.6	-23.5
${}^5Fe(HCO_3)_2(H_2O)$	-17.8	-17.8
${}^5Fe(HCO_3)_2(H_2O)_2$	-27.7	-13.9
${}^5Fe(HCO_3)(OH)(H_2O)_2$	-28.9	-14.5
$CdCO_3(H_2O)$	-25.1	-25.1
$CdCO_3(H_2O)_2$	-41.1	-20.6
$CdCO_3(H_2O)_3$	-60.3	-20.1
$CdCO_3(H_2O)_4$	-76.8	-19.2
$Cd(HCO_3)_2(H_2O)$	-13.7	-13.7
$Cd(HCO_3)_2(H_2O)_2$	-27.7	-13.9
$Cd(HCO_3)(OH)(H_2O)_2$	-23.1	-11.6

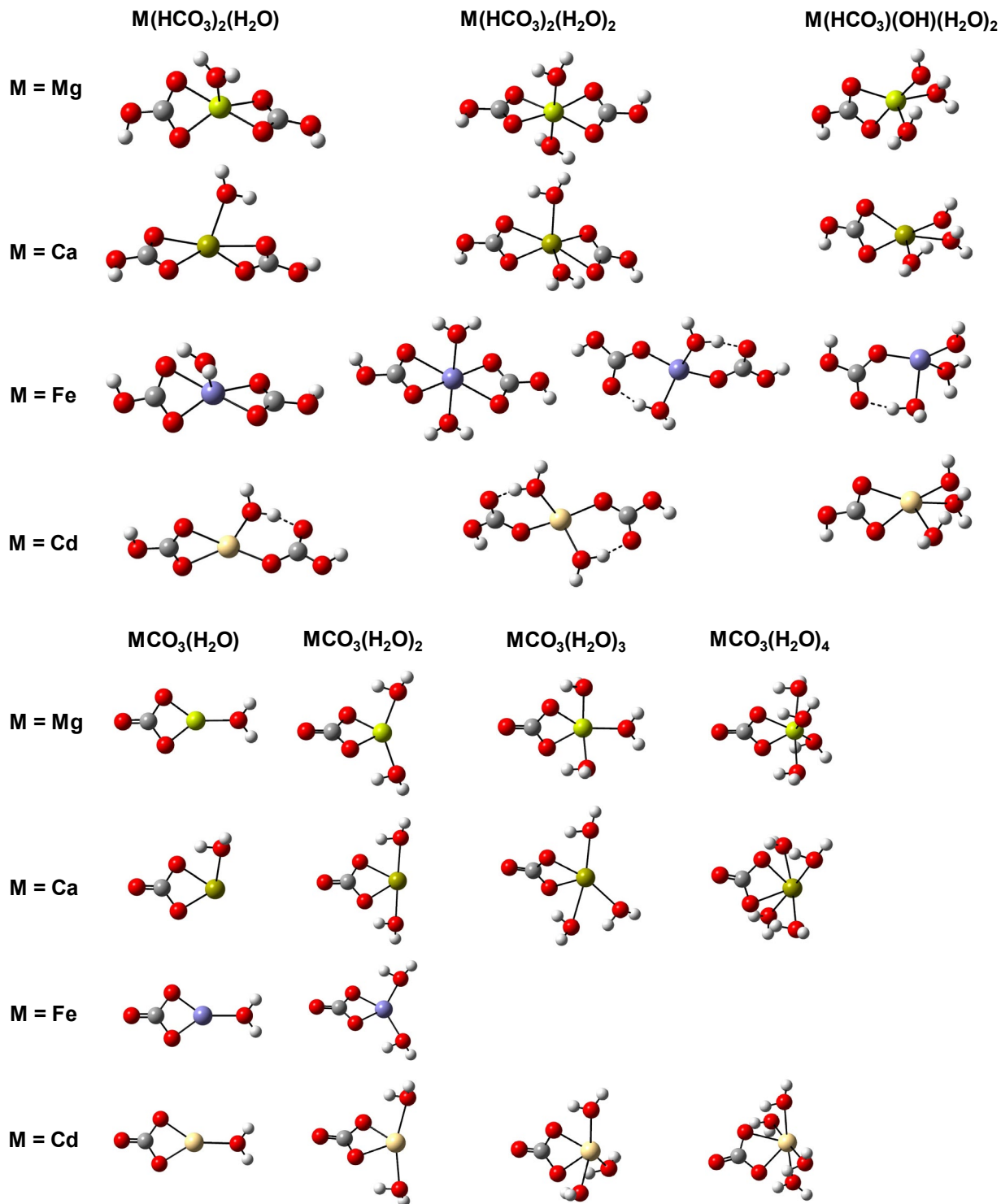
**Table 2.5.** Errors in kcal/mol from FPD values for the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  for O<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>, and HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>.

Method	<sup>3</sup> O <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O	CO <sub>2</sub>	HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>
$\Delta H_{f,0K}$ gas	0.0	-57.1	-94.0	-171.8
PW91	-22.3	2.0	25.5	32.7
BP86	-21.1	6.8	22.0	30.8
M06	1.0	-2.9	8.2	3.3
PBE	-22.7	1.2	25.5	30.5
PBE0	-3.6	-6.0	1.2	-1.1
B3LYP	-2.8	-2.2	-2.7	-3.3
HCTH 407	-13.7	-2.4	9.1	7.8
HSE06	-2.4	-6.8	-0.3	-3.5
M06L	-3.1	-8.8	8.9	-4.4
$\tau$ -HCTH	-10.3	-4.3	3.8	1.8
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-7.7	-4.9	4.2	3.9
TPSSh	0.3	-6.3	-9.1	-15.6
$\omega$ B97X	-4.0	-4.3	-1.1	-1.5
$\omega$ B97X-D	-3.7	-3.1	-0.3	-2.2

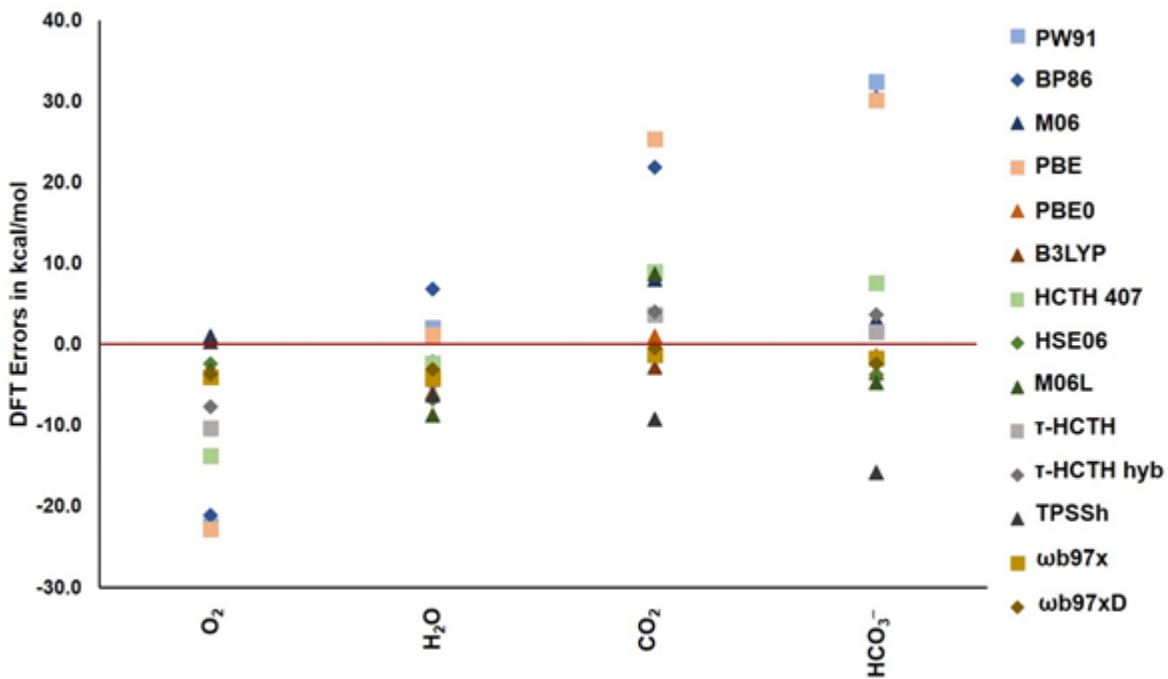
**Table 2.6.** Average of absolute values of differences of heats of formation from FPD values for DFT functionals in kcal/mol.

Functional	Metal complexes	O <sub>2</sub> , H <sub>2</sub> O, CO <sub>2</sub> , HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>
PW91	36.3	20.6
BP86	34.3	20.1
M06	12.6	3.8
PBE	32.6	19.9
PBE0	11.9	3.0
B3LYP	15.6	2.8
HCTH 407	12.9	8.1
HSE06	13.7	3.3
M06L	11.7	6.3
$\tau$ -HCTH	13.1	4.9
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	12.6	5.1
TPSSH	24.0	7.9
$\omega$ B97X	9.7	2.8
$\omega$ B97X-D	10.0	2.4

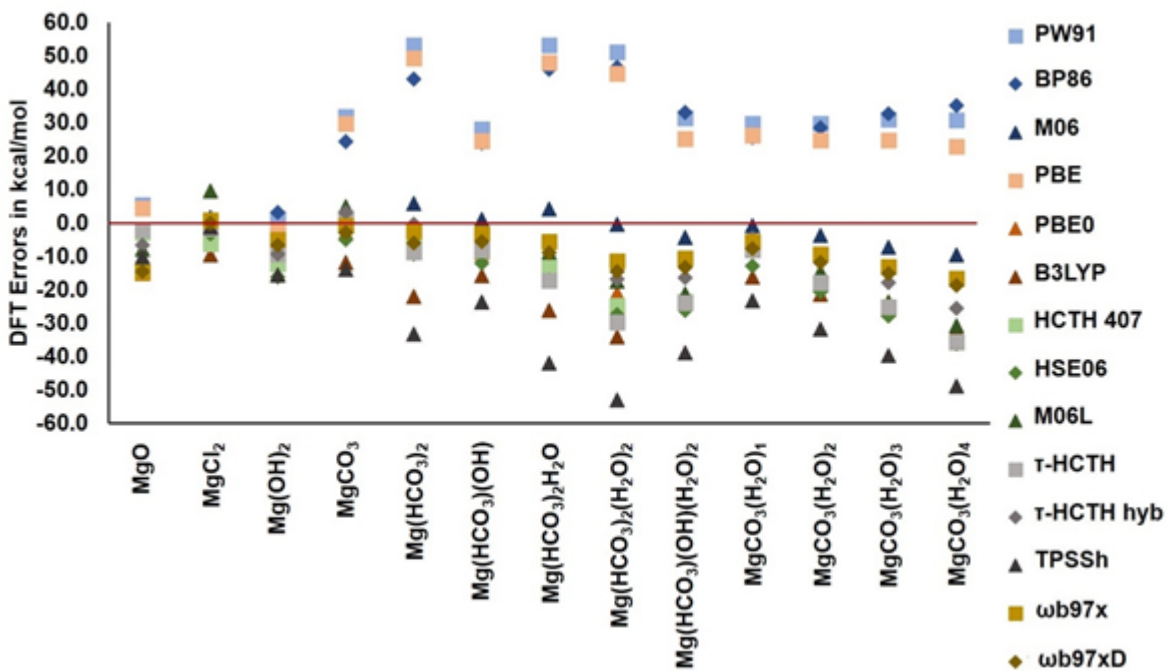
Figures



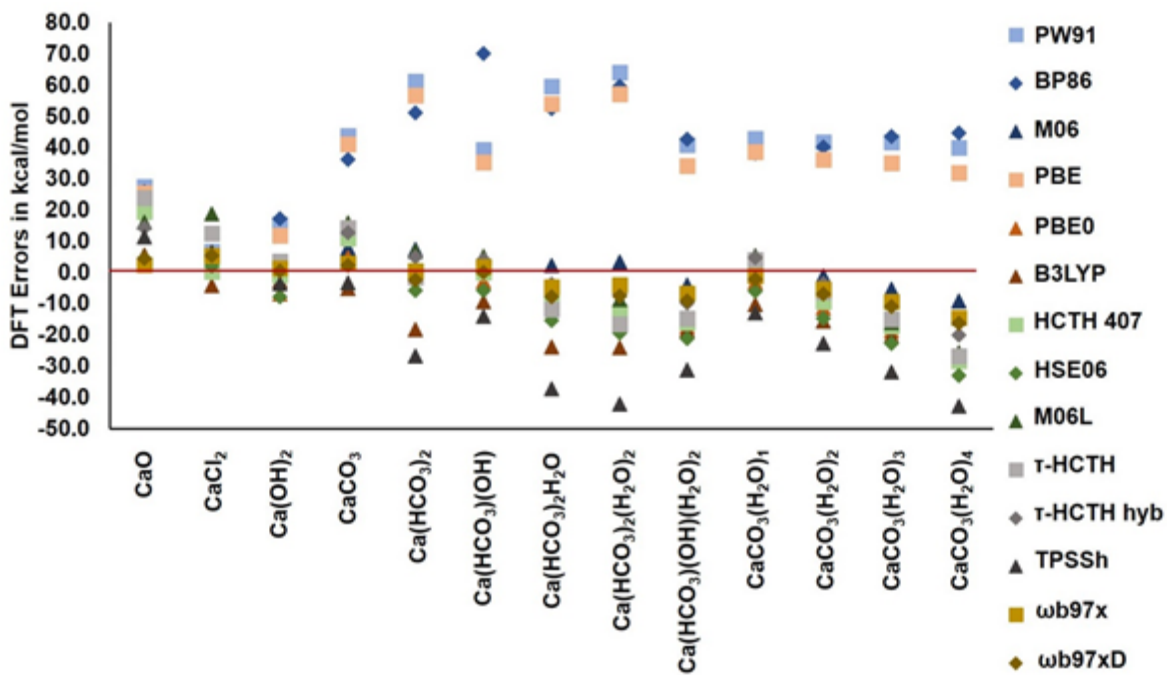
**Figure 2.1.** Optimized structures of the carbonate, di-bicarbonate and bicarbonate/OH<sup>-</sup> complexes with additional water molecules (O = red, H = white, and C = gray).



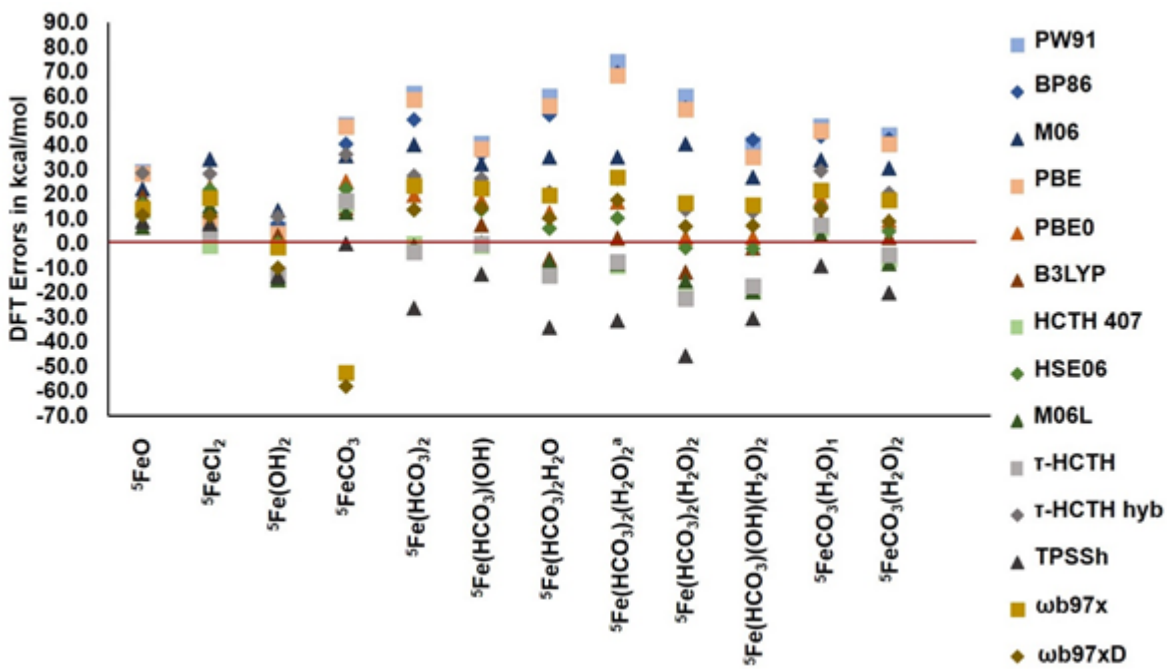
**Figure 2.2.**  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  (kcal/mol) distributions of DFT errors compared to the FPD results for O<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub> and HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>.



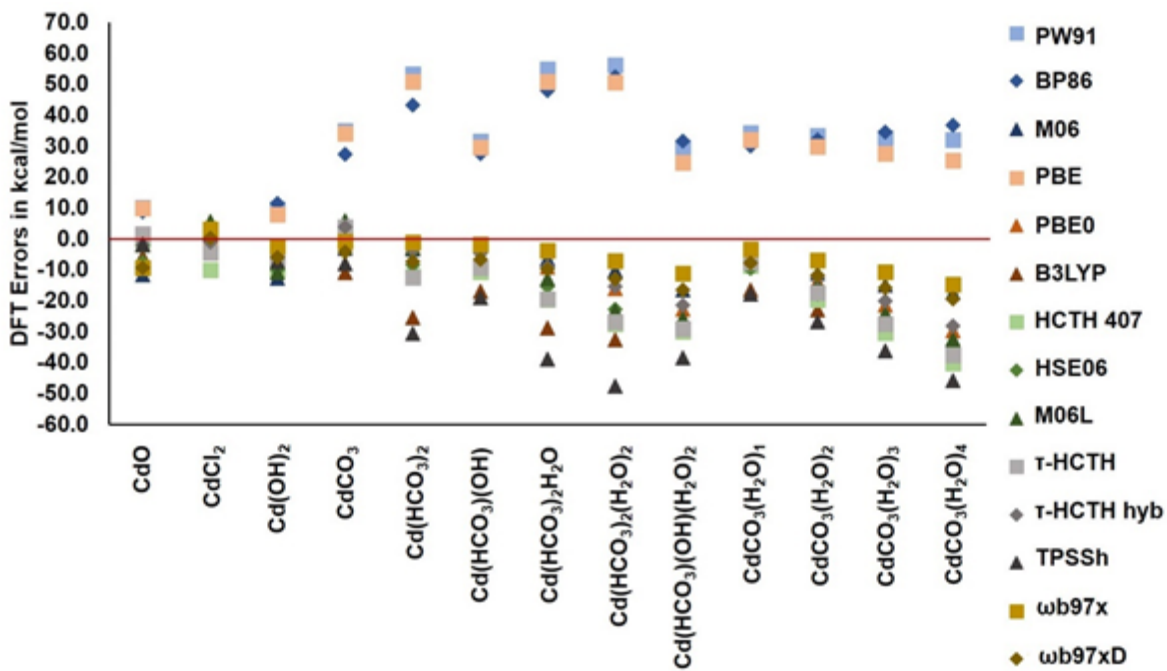
**Figure 2.3.**  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  (kcal/mol) distributions of DFT errors compared to the FPD results for Mg molecules.



**Figure 2.4.**  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  (kcal/mol) distributions of DFT errors compared to the FPD results for Ca molecules.



**Figure 2.5.**  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  (kcal/mol) distributions of DFT errors compared to the FPD results for Fe molecules.



**Figure 2.6.**  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  (kcal/mol) distributions of DFT errors compared to the FPD results for Cd molecules.

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Appendix: Thermodynamics of Metal Carbonates and Bicarbonates and Their Hydrates for Mg, Ca, Fe, and Cd Relevant to Mineral Energetics

**Table A2.1.** Angles for  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$ ,  $\text{M}=\text{Mg, Ca, Fe}$  and  $\text{Cd}$ .

Metal	$\text{CO}_3^{2-}$		$\text{HCO}_3^-$				$[(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})]^{2-}$			
	<OMO	<OCO	<OMO	<OCO	<HOC	<Torsion	<OMO	<OCO	<HOC	<HOM
$\text{Mg}^{2+}$	76°	112°	67°	122°	106°	84°	67°	122°	106°	178°
$\text{Ca}^{2+}$	66°	111°	59°	124°	106°	86°	58°	124°	106°	180°
$\text{Fe}^{2+}$	73°	109°	65°	121°	108°	85°	65°	120°	108°	127°
$\text{Cd}^{2+}$	66°	113°	60°	123°	108°	85°	59°	123°	107°	111°

Mg and Ca are MP2/aT and Fe and Cd are B3LYP/aT-PP

**Table A2.2.** Bond lengths for  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$ ,  $\text{M}=\text{Mg, Ca, Fe}$  and  $\text{Cd}$ .

Metal	$\text{CO}_3^{2-}$		$\text{HCO}_3^-$		$[(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})]^{2-}$	
	C – O	M – O	C – O	M – O	C – O	M – O
$\text{Mg}^{2+}$	1.38	1.86	1.28/1.26	2.00	1.28/1.26	2.01/2.00
$\text{Ca}^{2+}$	1.36	2.05	1.27/1.26	2.29/2.28	1.27	2.31
$\text{Fe}^{2+}$	1.37	1.86	1.27/1.26	2.05	1.27/1.26	2.08/2.04
$\text{Cd}^{2+}$	1.36	2.09	1.27/1.26	2.25/2.22	1.28/1.25	2.37/2.14

**Table A2.3.** Bond lengths, frequencies and IR intensities of  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{M}=\text{Mg, Ca, Fe}$  and  $\text{Cd}$ .

$\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	R(OH) in $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{\AA}$	Asym OH $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$	Asym OH I(km/mol)	sym OH $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$	sym OH I(km/mol)
M=Mg	0.96/0.96	3898.5	139.8	3794.2	46.5
M=Ca	0.97/0.96	3888.8	148.1	3713.0	105.2
M=Fe	0.96/0.96	3879.7	130.0	3773.8	38.1
M=Cd	1.01/0.96	3847.6	92.5	2880.8	1336.9

**Table A2.4.** Bond lengths of MO and the differences of the bond lengths between MO and MCO<sub>3</sub>, M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)(OH), M=Mg, Ca, Fe and Cd.

MO	M=O	$\Delta d$ with M – O in compounds		
		CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	[(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)] <sup>2-</sup>
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	1.74	0.12	0.26	0.27/0.26
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	1.83	0.22	0.46/0.45	0.48
Fe <sup>2+</sup>	1.61	0.25	0.44	0.47/0.43
Cd <sup>2+</sup>	1.90	0.19	0.35/0.32	0.47/0.24

**Table A2.5.** (H<sub>2</sub>)O-M-O(H<sub>2</sub>) angles of MCO<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>, M=Mg, Ca, Fe and Cd.

MCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	< (H <sub>2</sub> )O-M-O(H <sub>2</sub> )
Mg	140°
Ca	178°
Fe	126°
Cd	160°

**Table A2.6.** Atomic Properties of Mg, Ca, Fe and Cd.

Metal	IP1(eV)	IP2(eV)	IP3(eV)	$\eta = (IP-EA)/2$	ionic radii Shannon (Å)	CN <sup>a</sup>
Mg	7.646236	15.035271	80.1436	32.55	0.72	6
Ca	6.1131554	11.871719	50.91316	19.52	1	6
Fe	7.9024681	16.1992	30.651	7.23	0.78	6 HS
Cd	8.993820	16.908313	37.468	10.28	0.95	6

<sup>a</sup> Coordination number for the Shannon radii.

**Table A2.7.** Electronic energies (au) for Mg and Ca complexes and hydrates with aug-cc-pwCVnZ basis sets for Mg and Ca the aug-cc-pVnZ basis sets for H, C and O.

Compound	awD	awT	awQ	CBS-DTQ	awT-DK	Core/awt	Valence/awT
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	-727.644935	-728.228352	-728.422558	-728.533646	-728.8750218	-728.674850	-728.260279
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	-539.421228	-539.848045	-539.993539	-540.077121	-540.3761809	-540.157355	-539.897262
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	-1281.205055	-1281.800649	-1282.000359	-1282.114747	-1285.061135	-1282.409839	-1281.836991
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	-880.251845	-880.969182	-881.204731	-881.339128	-881.7193739		
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	-692.037640	-692.598990	-692.786073	-692.893111	-693.2307173	-693.023056	-692.656864
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	-539.353749	-539.779673	-539.925138	-540.008731	-540.307942	-540.060432	-539.800159
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	-615.677156	-616.171330	-616.337731	-616.433113	-616.751287	-616.509458	-616.195918
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	-691.989943	-692.550763	-692.737667	-692.844600	-693.182486	-692.946212	-692.579485
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>	-768.300609	-768.928248	-769.135444	-769.253781	-769.611730	-769.380878	-768.960966
CaCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	-940.455953	-940.935238	-941.164982	-941.303751			
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	-1204.900929	-1205.42853	-1205.60719	-1205.709700	-1208.637232	-1205.9795	-1205.460641
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	-1016.675413	-1017.04701	-1017.17637	-1017.250959	-1020.13713	-1017.432029	-1017.070104
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	-1281.205055	-1281.800649	-1282.000359	-1282.114747	-1285.061135	-1282.409839	-1281.836991
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	-1357.507738	-1358.171651	-1358.391199	-1358.516631	-1361.483964	-1358.834758	-1358.214609
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	-1169.290146	-1169.796721	-1169.968107	-1170.066431	-1172.990559	-1170.297795	-1169.829648
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	-1016.618866	-1016.992577	-1017.122559	-1017.197495	-1020.082627	-1017.377783	-1017.013099
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	-1092.935652	-1093.376453	-1093.527332	-1093.614070	-1096.518317	-1093.819391	-1093.401155
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	-1169.242117	-1169.750045	-1169.921503	-1170.019828	-1172.943727	-1170.250685	-1169.778889
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>	-1245.558032	-1246.133000	-1246.324385	-1246.433859	-1249.378521	-1246.692291	-1246.165773

<sup>a</sup> Aug-cc-pwCVnZ basis sets for all atoms with core electrons included.

**Table A2.8.** Electronic energies (au) for small Fe molecules with the aug-cc-pwCVnZ-DK basis sets.

Compound	awT-DK	awQ-DK	aw5-DK	CBS(Q,5)
<sup>5</sup> FeO	-1347.206077	-1347.262977	-1347.285409	-1347.303624
<sup>5</sup> FeCl <sub>2</sub>	-2195.000174	-2195.176665	-2195.243963	-2195.314572
<sup>5</sup> Fe(OH) <sub>2</sub>	-1423.779779	-1423.863303	-1423.893534	-1423.925252

**Table A2.9.** Electronic energies (au) for small Cd molecules.

Compound	awD-PP	awT-PP	awQ-PP	CBS-DTQ	awT-DK
CdCl <sub>2</sub>	-1087.227835	-1087.794685	-1088.002765	-1088.123821	-6514.025443
Cd(OH) <sub>2</sub>	-318.910742	-319.265351	-319.381866	-319.448354	-5742.779186

**Table A2.10.** Electronic energies (au) for Fe and Cd complexes and hydrates.

Compound	aD	aT	aQ	CBS-DTQ	CISD	aT-DK	Core/awt	Valence/awT
<sup>5</sup> FeCO <sub>3</sub>	-386.002167	-386.261713	-386.344427	-386.391354	-0.199524		-386.944647	-386.288780
<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	-650.580461	-651.066502	-651.219890	-651.306748	-0.369129		-651.971277	-651.108919
<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	-462.381481	-462.710274	-462.814725	-462.873950	-0.251084		-463.450578	-462.741573
<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	-726.884811							
<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> <sup>a</sup>	-803.174837							
<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	-803.177036							
<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	-614.979821	-615.445578						
<sup>5</sup> FeCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	-462.326210	-462.654450						
<sup>5</sup> FeCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	-538.633696	-539.030428						
<sup>5</sup> FeCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> <sup>b</sup>	-614.942441	-615.408032						
CdCO <sub>3</sub>	-430.371974	-430.677638	-430.783381	-430.844285		-5854.287148	-431.279477	-430.715240
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	-694.964923	-695.497526	-695.674414	-695.775554		-6119.276995	-696.321972	-695.550654
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	-506.755460	-507.130930	-507.258576	-507.331870		-5930.792194	-507.790889	-507.172849
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	-771.262709	-771.864117	-772.062014	-772.174972				
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	-847.559984	-848.230313						
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	-659.348126	-659.859344	-660.029211	-660.126344				
CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	-506.687260	-507.062248	-507.189790	-507.263030				
CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	-582.989735	-583.432760	-583.581397	-583.666542				
CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	-659.296961	-659.808161	-659.977773	-660.074734				
CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>	-735.601653	-736.180331	-736.370677	-736.479318				

<sup>a</sup> Both HCO<sub>3</sub> are monodentate. <sup>b</sup> Only 2 H<sub>2</sub>O in 1<sup>st</sup> solvation shell.

**Table A2.11.** Energy contribution to the total atomization energies in kcal/mol for Mg and Ca complexes and hydrates with the aug-cc-pwCVnZ basis sets for Mg and Ca the aug-cc-pVnZ basis sets for H, C and O.  $\Delta E_{TC}$  = thermal corrections to convert from  $\Delta H(0)$  to  $\Delta H(298\text{ K})$ .

Compound	$\Delta E_{n=D}$	$\Delta E_{n=T}$	$\Delta E_{n=Q}$	$\Delta E_{CBS-DTQ}$	$\Delta E_{SR}$	$\Delta E_{CV}$	$\Delta E_{ZPE}$	$\Delta E_{SO}$	$\sum D_{0,0K}$	$\Delta E_{TC}$
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	1134.7	1195.4	1215.3	1226.7	-2.2	3.6	-37.2	-1.5	1189.4	4.0
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	753.3	793.2	806.2	813.6	-1.7	2.0	-26.1	-1.0	786.8	2.6
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	1374.6	1443.6	1466.3	1479.3	-2.3	4.1	-52.1	-1.7	1425.4	8.4
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	1235.2	1291.5	1309.8	1320.2	-2.2	2.6	-58.3	-1.4	1260.9	5.9
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	710.9	750.3	763.3	770.7	-1.4	2.1	-25.6	-1.0	744.8	5.4
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	961.4	1009.6	1025.3	1034.3	-1.7	2.5	-41.6	-1.2	992.3	6.6
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	1205.2	1261.2	1279.4	1289.8	-2.0	3.0	-57.1	-1.4	1232.2	8.2
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>	1447.7	1511.6	1532.1	1543.8	-2.3	3.4	-73.4	-1.6	1469.8	9.6
CaCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	498.1	531.2	543.2	550.2	-1.5 <sup>b</sup>		10.2	-0.8	537.7	3.4
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	1158.7	1219.9	1241.6	1254.2	-3.0	5.2	-36.1	-1.5	1218.8	3.6
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	776.2	817.0	831.4	839.7	-2.5	2.0	-25.8	-1.0	812.5	2.6
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	1397.1	1467.0	1491.5	1505.6	-3.0	6.1	-51.1	-1.7	1455.9	8.8
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	1634.6	1713.3	1739.9	1755.1	-3.6	2.8	-62.2	-1.9	1690.2	5.6
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	1257.1	1314.5	1334.5	1346.0	-3.0	2.7	-56.6	-1.4	1287.7	5.4
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	740.7	782.8	797.6	806.2	-2.3	3.7	-25.4	-1.0	781.2	5.1
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	987.1	1037.2	1054.7	1064.8	-2.6	4.4	-40.6	-1.2	1024.8	6.9
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	1226.9	1285.2	1305.2	1316.7	-2.8	5.0	-55.9	-1.6	1261.4	8.6
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>	1472.7	1539.0	1561.1	1573.8	-3.0	6.4	-71.9	-1.6	1503.6	10.2

<sup>a</sup> Aug-cc-pwCVnZ basis sets for all atoms with core electrons included so there is no core-valence correction. <sup>b</sup> The value is from a MVD/CISD calculation.

**Table A2.12.** Energy contribution to the total atomization energies in kcal/mol for small Fe molecules.

Compound	$\Delta E_{n=T}$	$\Delta E_{n=Q}$	$\Delta E_{n=5}$	$\Delta E_{CBS(Q,5)}$	$\Delta E_{ZPE}$	$\Delta E_{SO}$	$\sum D_{0,0K}$	$\Delta E_{TC}$
$^5\text{FeO}$	92.6	95.5	96.7	97.7	-1.2	-0.6	95.8	2.1
$^5\text{FeCl}_2$	184.9	189.8	191.4	193.0	-1.4	-2.9	188.7	3.4
$^5\text{Fe(OH)}_2$	394.0	400.6	402.6	404.7	-15.2	-1.6	387.9	4.0

**Table A2.13.** Energy contribution to the total atomization energies in kcal/mol for small Cd molecules.

Compound	$\Delta E_{n=D}$	$\Delta E_{n=T}$	$\Delta E_{n=Q}$	$\Delta E_{CBS-DTQ}$	$\Delta E_{SR}$	$\Delta E_{ZPE}$	$\Delta E_{SO}$	$\sum D_{0,0K}$	$\Delta E_{TC}$
$\text{CdCl}_2$	125.5	131.0	135.3	138.0	-0.9	-1.3	-1.7	134.1	3.5
$\text{Cd(OH)}_2$	308.8	324.1	330.1	333.6	-0.8	-15.6	-0.4	316.8	3.9

**Table A2.14.** Energy contribution to the total atomization energies in kcal/mol for Fe and Cd molecules

Compound	$\Delta E_{n=D}$	$\Delta E_{n=T}$	$\Delta E_{n=Q}$	$\Delta E_{CBS-DTQ}$	$\Delta E_{SR}$	$\Delta E_{CV}$	$\Delta E_{ZPE}$	$\Delta E_{SO}$	$\sum D_{0,0K}$	$\Delta E_{TC}$
$^5\text{FeCO}_3$	464.2	492.3	502.4	508.3	-0.9	1.0	-9.9	-2.0	496.5	3.4
$^5\text{Fe(HCO}_3)_2$	1115.7	1174.4	1194.8	1206.6	-2.1	2.3	-36.4	-2.7	1167.7	6.4
$^5\text{Fe(HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$	749.8	787.3	800.7	808.4	-1.3	1.4	-25.8	-2.2	780.5	5.2
$\text{CdCO}_3$	389.7	416.8	426.4	431.9	-1.2	0.0	-8.9	-0.8	421.1	3.7
$\text{Cd(HCO}_3)_2$	1050.3	1108.3	1128.6	1140.2	-2.3	1.7	-35.8	-1.5	1102.3	6.8
$\text{Cd(HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$	677.9	714.8	727.7	735.2	-1.5	0.8	-25.7	-1.0	707.8	5.3

**Table A2.15.** Electronic energy contributions to the hydration energy in kcal/mol for Fe molecules with water complex.

Compound	$\Delta E_{n=D}$	$\Delta E_{n=T}$	$\Delta E_{n=Q}$	$\Delta E_{CBS}$	$\Delta E_{ZPE}$	$\Delta H_{0K}$	$\Delta E_{TC}$	$\Delta H_{298K}$
${}^5\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	-19.1				1.4	-17.7	1.4	-17.8
${}^5\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2^a$	-29.3				4.3	-25.0	2.6	-26.7
${}^5\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-30.7				3.7	-26.9	3.0	-27.6
${}^5\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-31.8	-31.8			4.5	-27.3	3.0	-28.9
${}^5\text{FeCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	-31.5	-31.7			1.7	-29.9	1.6	-30.1
${}^5\text{FeCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-52.6	-52.8			4.3	-48.5	3.2	-49.6
${}^5\text{FeCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3^b$	-74.5	-75.0			6.5	-68.4	4.5	-70.5
$\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	-15.0	-15.2	-15.1	-15.0	2.2	-12.8	1.3	-13.6
$\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-29.7	-30.3			4.4	-25.8	2.6	-27.6
$\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-28.2	-27.5	-27.3	-27.2	4.1	-23.1	2.9	-24.3
$\text{CdCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	-26.0	-26.5	-26.9	-27.1	2.0	-25.1	2.0	-25.1
$\text{CdCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-44.0	-44.2	-44.5	-44.6	5.0	-39.6	3.5	-41.1
$\text{CdCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3$	-64.9	-65.0	-65.0	-65.1	7.1	-58.0	4.9	-60.2
$\text{CdCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4$	-84.3	-83.7	-83.4	-83.3	9.5	-73.8	6.6	-76.7

<sup>a</sup>Both  $\text{HCO}_3$  are monodentate. <sup>b</sup> Only 2  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in 1<sup>st</sup> solvation shell.

**Table A2.16.** Hydration reaction energies in kcal/mol.

Molecule	aD/wDZ	aT/wTZ	aQ/wQZ	CBS
$\text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	-20.5	-19.9	-19.7	-19.6
$\text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-37.1	-35.3	-34.5	-34.1
$\text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-43.1	-41.7	-41.0	-40.7
$\text{MgCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	-33.8	-34.8	-35.0	-35.1
$\text{MgCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-64.9	-65.8	-65.8	-65.7
$\text{MgCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3$	-89.3	-89.1	-88.6	-88.2
$\text{MgCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4$	-112.4	-111.2	-110.1	-109.4
$\text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	-19.0	-18.7	-18.6	-18.5
$\text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-37.1	-36.7	-36.3	-35.9
$\text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-42.1	-40.9	-40.5	-40.4
$\text{CaCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	-27.7	-26.6	-26.3	-26.2
$\text{CaCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-54.6	-52.7	-52.2	-52.0
$\text{CaCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3$	-75.1	-72.3	-71.4	-70.9
$\text{CaCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4$	-101.4	-97.8	-96.1	-95.0
$\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	-15.0	-15.3	-15.1	-15.0
$\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-29.7	-30.3		
$\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-28.2	-27.5	-27.3	-27.2
$\text{CdCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	-26.0	-26.6	-26.9	-27.1
$\text{CdCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-44.0	-44.3	-44.5	-44.6
$\text{CdCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3$	-64.9	-65.1	-65.1	-65.0
$\text{CdCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4$	-84.2	-83.8	-83.5	-83.3

**Table A2.17.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for O<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub> and HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>.

Method	O <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O	CO <sub>2</sub>	HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>
PW91	-150.350356	-76.438426	-188.612915	-264.501746
BP86	-150.393319	-76.466006	-188.669364	-264.581963
M06	-150.302632	-76.422525	-188.572453	-264.435269
PBE	-150.243527	-76.380205	-188.472120	-264.302025
PBE0	-150.229943	-76.379961	-188.459587	-264.287753
B3LYP	-150.384612	-76.466177	-188.663387	-264.573364
HCTH 407	-150.351963	-76.456891	-188.616921	-264.508746
HSE06	-150.243508	-76.386775	-188.477180	-264.311759
M06L	-150.358532	-76.444755	-188.642119	-264.519705
$\tau$ -HCTH	-150.341856	-76.449649	-188.599758	-264.487118
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-150.345388	-76.448477	-188.613643	-264.505672
TPSSh	-150.385645	-76.458128	-188.661665	-264.562942
$\omega$ B97X	-150.346568	-76.441451	-188.612560	-264.502210
$\omega$ B97X-D	-150.334159	-76.439881	-188.598407	-264.480919

**Table A2.18.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for MO, M=Mg, Ca, Fe and Cd.

Method	MgO	CaO	<sup>5</sup> FeO	CdO
PW91	-275.222854	-752.822885	-198.629606	-242.930899
BP86	-275.278656	-752.912744	-198.670697	-242.984378
M06	-275.197246	-752.766347	-198.524669	-242.866158
PBE	-275.063053	-752.543552	-198.510875	-242.801996
PBE0	-275.058546	-752.565358	-198.438976	-242.769390
B3LYP	-275.274898	-752.846158	-198.584799	-242.921522
HCTH 407	-275.246667	-752.968038	-198.999168	-243.367160
HSE06	-275.080356	-752.592907	-198.444102	-242.775021
M06L	-275.226472	-752.805241	-198.585447	-242.970559
$\tau$ -HCTH	-275.241849	-752.999351	-199.017276	-243.393197
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-275.210768	-752.771850	-198.646577	-242.993338
TPSSh	-275.261871	-752.846719	-198.517265	-242.795762
$\omega$ B97X	-275.212612	-752.801142	-198.508331	-242.853082
$\omega$ B97X-D	-275.208615	-752.798833	-198.518726	-242.874611

**Table A2.19.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for M(OH)<sub>2</sub>, M=Mg, Ca, Fe and Cd.

Method	Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub>	Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> Fe(OH) <sub>2</sub>	Cd(OH) <sub>2</sub>
PW91	-351.820949	-829.386653	-275.164859	-319.489326
BP86	-351.901526	-829.502101	-275.231364	-319.567890
M06	-351.803619	-829.332942	-275.074896	-319.415658
PBE	-351.600661	-829.047906	-274.987432	-319.301220
PBE0	-351.617049	-829.085210	-274.941085	-319.280900
B3LYP	-351.913028	-829.450492	-275.166105	-319.510238
HCTH 407	-351.861848	-829.544172	-275.552171	-319.936308
HSE06	-351.645248	-829.120015	-274.952681	-319.292642
M06L	-351.852320	-829.389157	-275.146957	-319.539049
$\tau$ -HCTH	-351.856396	-829.571345	-275.568896	-319.960886
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-351.832255	-829.354931	-275.211256	-319.567124
TPSSh	-351.890892	-829.438790	-275.086767	-319.379195
$\omega$ B97X	-351.845909	-829.395459	-275.067953	-319.436536
$\omega$ B97X-D	-351.835564	-829.385034	-275.066185	-319.448832

**Table A2.20.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for MCl<sub>2</sub>, M=Mg, Ca, Fe and Cd.

Method	MgCl <sub>2</sub>	CaCl <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> FeCl <sub>2</sub>	CdCl <sub>2</sub>
PW91	-1120.635826	-1598.198947	-1043.970325	-1088.319978
BP86	-1120.779658	-1598.377927	-1044.099346	-1088.460971
M06	-1120.634520	-1598.168423	-1043.907138	-1088.274616
PBE	-1120.177450	-1597.621765	-1043.554154	-1087.892795
PBE0	-1120.274553	-1597.744560	-1043.592330	-1087.959585
B3LYP	-1120.734151	-1598.273381	-1043.980651	-1088.352591
HCTH 407	-1120.818830	-1598.500352	-1044.501641	-1088.909362
HSE06	-1120.323557	-1597.800262	-1043.624992	-1087.992518
M06L	-1120.667395	-1598.208058	-1043.958937	-1088.375929
$\tau$ -HCTH	-1120.856079	-1598.579945	-1044.561915	-1088.977034
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-1120.587417	-1598.111415	-1043.960331	-1088.341980
TPSSh	-1120.725293	-1598.273392	-1043.912131	-1088.230694
$\omega$ B97X	-1120.674423	-1598.227931	-1043.898662	-1088.289732
$\omega$ B97X-D	-1120.674180	-1598.227741	-1043.907784	-1088.312280

**Table A2.21.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for Mg molecules without H<sub>2</sub>O.

Method	MgO	MgCl <sub>2</sub>	Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub>	MgCO <sub>3</sub>	Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)
PW91	-275.222854	-1120.635826	-351.820949	-463.917970	-729.121142	-540.470440
BP86	-275.278656	-1120.779658	-351.901526	-464.025916	-729.306994	-540.603643
M06	-275.197246	-1120.634520	-351.803619	-463.863617	-729.013539	-540.407616
PBE	-275.063053	-1120.177450	-351.600661	-463.615871	-728.618733	-540.109110
PBE0	-275.058546	-1120.274553	-351.617049	-463.616805	-728.623598	-540.119545
B3LYP	-275.274898	-1120.734151	-351.913028	-464.021341	-729.303971	-540.607774
HCTH 407	-275.246667	-1120.818830	-351.861848	-463.935303	-729.149558	-540.505104
HSE06	-275.080356	-1120.323557	-351.645248	-463.654472	-728.684427	-540.164063
M06L	-275.226472	-1120.667395	-351.852320	-463.955757	-729.195487	-540.522871
$\tau$ -HCTH	-275.241849	-1120.856079	-351.856396	-463.922150	-729.117901	-540.486488
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-275.210768	-1120.587417	-351.832255	-463.914277	-729.133737	-540.482256
TPSSh	-275.261871	-1120.725293	-351.890892	-464.012948	-729.288151	-540.588797
$\omega$ B97X	-275.212612	-1120.674423	-351.845909	-463.930329	-729.151705	-540.497935
$\omega$ B97X-D	-275.208615	-1120.674180	-351.835564	-463.907107	-729.107548	-540.470549

**Table A2.22.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for Mg molecules with H<sub>2</sub>O.

Method	Mg (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	Mg (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) (OH) (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	MgCO <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>
PW91	-805.586601	-882.043559	-693.410230	-540.405734	-616.890192	-693.363447	-769.831915
BP86	-805.796934	-882.277891	-693.592894	-540.538954	-617.048105	-693.545896	-770.038736
M06	-805.467881	-881.912596	-693.317562	-540.337602	-616.809110	-693.266690	-769.723997
PBE	-805.025070	-881.422893	-692.930820	-540.044645	-616.469725	-692.883924	-769.293210
PBE0	-805.031792	-881.430506	-692.941986	-540.058463	-616.478045	-692.893042	-769.303687
B3LYP	-805.797134	-882.279103	-693.597967	-540.539944	-617.050216	-693.548652	-770.042605
HCTH 407	-805.628893	-882.096080	-693.466501	-540.438812	-616.931412	-693.416915	-769.894928
HSE06	-805.099821	-881.505680	-693.000882	-540.095369	-616.529851	-692.951851	-769.369878
M06L	-805.670997	-882.140808	-693.477700	-540.452240	-616.947069	-693.427339	-769.908583
τ-HCTH	-805.590696	-882.052304	-693.438768	-540.419529	-616.909482	-693.390162	-769.863955
τ-HCTH hyb	-805.609227	-882.074618	-693.439171	-540.414321	-616.908191	-693.390468	-769.868018
TPSSh	-805.772464	-882.248037	-693.564851	-540.522208	-617.025699	-693.517257	-770.004608
ωB97X	-805.625070	-882.089142	-693.446654	-540.426685	-616.918173	-693.396233	-769.872674
ωB97X-D	-805.577542	-882.038433	-693.412341	-540.400059	-616.887469	-693.362743	-769.836022

**Table A2.23.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for Ca molecules without H<sub>2</sub>O.

Method	CaO	CaCl <sub>2</sub>	Ca (OH) <sub>2</sub>	CaCO <sub>3</sub>	Ca (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Ca (HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)
PW91	-752.822885	-1598.198947	-829.386653	-941.517966	-1206.688653	-1018.038104
BP86	-752.912744	-1598.377927	-829.502101	-941.660245	-1206.909339	-1018.262020
M06	-752.766347	-1598.168423	-829.332942	-941.427488	-1206.549235	-1017.941541
PBE	-752.543552	-1597.621765	-829.047906	-941.096841	-1206.067243	-1017.558046
PBE0	-752.565358	-1597.744560	-829.085210	-941.121132	-1206.095186	-1017.590681
B3LYP	-752.846158	-1598.273381	-829.450492	-941.593596	-1206.845639	-1018.148578
HCTH 407	-752.968038	-1598.500352	-829.544172	-941.653775	-1206.833187	-1018.189202
HSE06	-752.592907	-1597.800262	-829.120015	-941.165212	-1206.163064	-1017.642014
M06L	-752.805241	-1598.208058	-829.389157	-941.529768	-1206.737581	-1018.063697
$\tau$ -HCTH	-752.999351	-1598.579945	-829.571345	-941.674767	-1206.835502	-1018.203943
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-752.771850	-1598.111415	-829.354931	-941.473075	-1206.659962	-1018.007959
TPSSh	-752.846719	-1598.273392	-829.438790	-941.596167	-1206.838892	-1018.139284
$\omega$ B97X	-752.801142	-1598.227931	-829.395459	-941.513080	-1206.707367	-1018.051901
$\omega$ B97X-D	-752.798833	-1598.227741	-829.385034	-941.491071	-1206.662951	-1018.024393

**Table A2.24.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for Ca molecules with H<sub>2</sub>O.

Method	Ca (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	Ca (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) (OH) (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	CaCO <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>
PW91	-1283.152555	-1359.615236	-1170.975933	-1017.993476	-1094.468433	-1170.934425	-1247.407432
BP86	-1283.397715	-1359.884826	-1171.193398	-1018.160728	-1094.660752	-1171.151655	-1247.649423
M06	-1282.999304	-1359.448367	-1170.846999	-1017.889920	-1094.351117	-1170.802027	-1247.263652
PBE	-1282.472152	-1358.875875	-1170.377662	-1017.513150	-1093.928986	-1170.335969	-1246.749980
PBE0	-1282.501520	-1358.905767	-1170.411338	-1017.540196	-1093.958010	-1170.366085	-1246.780476
B3LYP	-1283.337633	-1359.826832	-1171.137997	-1018.096867	-1094.599498	-1171.092293	-1247.591325
HCTH 407	-1283.311657	-1359.787480	-1171.149652	-1018.140202	-1094.626180	-1171.104810	-1247.588190
HSE06	-1282.576591	-1358.987966	-1170.477171	-1017.591589	-1094.016739	-1170.431905	-1246.853735
M06L	-1283.210023	-1359.681874	-1171.014360	-1018.013656	-1094.496554	-1170.969127	-1247.452926
τ-HCTH	-1283.306669	-1359.775710	-1171.155067	-1018.156994	-1094.638383	-1171.111673	-1247.589952
τ-HCTH hyb	-1283.133298	-1359.604616	-1170.962910	-1017.958715	-1094.443388	-1170.918552	-1247.400387
TPSSh	-1283.321191	-1359.801689	-1171.112952	-1018.090943	-1094.584800	-1171.068977	-1247.560135
ωB97X	-1283.178673	-1359.648054	-1170.999258	-1017.996985	-1094.479829	-1170.952190	-1247.432720
ωB97X-D	-1283.130440	-1359.595871	-1170.964340	-1017.970822	-1094.449393	-1170.918312	-1247.395443

**Table A2.25.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for Fe molecules without H<sub>2</sub>O.

Method	<sup>5</sup> FeO	<sup>5</sup> FeCl <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> Fe(OH) <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> FeCO <sub>3</sub>	<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)
PW91	-198.629606	-1043.970325	-275.164859	-387.264393	-652.412563	-463.793929
BP86	-198.670697	-1044.099346	-275.231364	-387.357479	-652.583299	-463.912608
M06	-198.524669	-1043.907138	-275.074896	-387.137638	-652.251924	-463.666125
PBE	-198.510875	-1043.554154	-274.987432	-387.005153	-651.953024	-463.475411
PBE0	-198.438976	-1043.592330	-274.941085	-386.942060	-651.900909	-463.425842
B3LYP	-198.584799	-1043.980651	-275.166105	-387.276937	-652.509596	-463.842537
HCTH 407	-198.999168	-1044.501641	-275.552171	-387.638202	-652.795874	-464.178366
HSE06	-198.444102	-1043.624992	-274.952681	-386.963091	-651.945316	-463.453788
M06L	-198.585447	-1043.958937	-275.146957	-387.254777	-652.440480	-463.800856
τ-HCTH	-199.017276	-1044.561915	-275.568896	-387.648950	-652.786401	-464.184276
τ-HCTH hyb	-198.646577	-1043.960331	-275.211256	-387.297515	-652.467410	-463.844655
TPSSh	-198.517265	-1043.912131	-275.086767	-387.211189	-652.434271	-463.766235
ωB97X	-198.508331	-1043.898662	-275.067953	-387.047915	-652.352367	-463.722628
ωB97X-D	-198.518726	-1043.907784	-275.066185	-387.038567	-652.317226	-463.705834

**Table A2.26.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for Fe molecules with H<sub>2</sub>O.

Method	<sup>5</sup> Fe (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	<sup>5</sup> Fe (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> <sup>a</sup>	<sup>5</sup> Fe (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) (OH) (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> FeCO <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	<sup>5</sup> FeCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>
PW91	-728.876474	-805.350525	-805.330252	-616.715065	-463.749156	-540.212161
BP86	-729.072312	-805.571295	-805.550320	-616.883567	-463.868011	-540.355415
M06	-728.701553	-805.144780	-805.155550	-616.562812	-463.612484	-540.068172
PBE	-728.357420	-804.771768	-804.752120	-616.277921	-463.430836	-539.834672
PBE0	-728.309702	-804.722193	-804.701191	-616.231850	-463.370346	-539.779740
B3LYP	-729.002075	-805.501201	-805.481704	-616.817640	-463.789291	-540.281503
HCTH 407	-729.267521	-805.749582	-805.731863	-617.120864	-464.133287	-540.607463
HSE06	-728.361340	-804.781738	-804.764610	-616.274643	-463.398615	-539.815174
M06L	-728.918972	-805.392919	-805.383970	-616.737516	-463.749009	-540.223349
τ-HCTH	-729.258073	-805.739620	-805.717996	-617.120933	-464.139864	-540.611155
τ-HCTH hyb	-728.943442	-805.424895	-805.406559	-616.786847	-463.793313	-540.269309
TPSSh	-728.920380	-805.409223	-805.388252	-616.724752	-463.715358	-540.199827
ωB97X	-728.825119	-805.301278	-805.286768	-616.659260	-463.664927	-540.140694
ωB97X-D	-728.787448	-805.259985	-805.245448	-616.635065	-463.648755	-540.119641

**Table A2.27.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for Cd molecules without H<sub>2</sub>O.

Method	CdO	CdCl <sub>2</sub>	Cd(OH) <sub>2</sub>	CdCO <sub>3</sub>	Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)
PW91	-242.930899	-1088.319978	-319.489326	-431.572922	-696.746999	-508.115825
BP86	-242.984378	-1088.460971	-319.567890	-431.678402	-696.930492	-508.246876
M06	-242.866158	-1088.274616	-319.415658	-431.469389	-696.592982	-508.001824
PBE	-242.801996	-1087.892795	-319.301220	-431.302518	-696.276070	-507.786339
PBE0	-242.769390	-1087.959585	-319.280900	-431.271119	-696.248677	-507.762069
B3LYP	-242.921522	-1088.352591	-319.510238	-431.611363	-696.862613	-508.184135
HCTH 407	-243.367160	-1088.909362	-319.936308	-432.004545	-697.181684	-508.556998
HSE06	-242.775021	-1087.992518	-319.292642	-431.292509	-696.293551	-507.790411
M06L	-242.970559	-1088.375929	-319.539049	-431.641096	-696.851148	-508.192465
$\tau$ -HCTH	-243.393197	-1088.977034	-319.960886	-432.020698	-697.182105	-508.569244
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-242.993338	-1088.341980	-319.567124	-431.639797	-696.828676	-508.195379
TPSSh	-242.795762	-1088.230694	-319.379195	-431.492281	-696.737715	-508.055802
$\omega$ B97X	-242.853082	-1088.289732	-319.436536	-431.511321	-696.710506	-508.070773
$\omega$ B97X-D	-242.874611	-1088.312280	-319.448832	-431.512044	-696.687868	-508.065638

**Table A2.28.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for Cd molecules with H<sub>2</sub>O.

Method	Cd (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	Cd (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) (OH) (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	CdCO <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>
PW91	-773.208734	-849.670498	-661.028553	-508.051000	-584.512383	-660.979219	-737.442464
BP86	-773.417322	-849.904165	-661.209542	-508.182077	-584.668065	-661.159818	-737.647608
M06	-773.039021	-849.484486	-660.887985	-507.933045	-584.382536	-660.836135	-737.288357
PBE	-772.678393	-849.080746	-660.580900	-507.721509	-584.123665	-660.531220	-736.935284
PBE0	-772.651750	-849.054397	-660.559061	-507.692442	-584.097037	-660.506715	-736.912195
B3LYP	-773.351008	-849.838932	-661.149071	-508.115960	-584.602954	-661.095785	-737.584815
HCTH 407	-773.654185	-850.126547	-661.492926	-508.491357	-584.961923	-661.438108	-737.912158
HSE06	-772.704127	-849.114277	-660.602008	-507.720981	-584.132848	-660.549869	-736.962721
M06L	-773.317919	-849.784468	-661.125622	-508.124995	-584.597278	-661.073690	-737.548541
τ-HCTH	-773.651498	-850.120822	-661.496345	-508.503244	-584.971334	-661.444640	-737.914257
τ-HCTH hyb	-773.299753	-849.770485	-661.126530	-508.127272	-584.598143	-661.074599	-737.547198
TPSSh	-773.216568	-849.695270	-661.006453	-507.988765	-584.469917	-660.955855	-737.437910
ωB97X	-773.178533	-849.645793	-660.997902	-507.999404	-584.469374	-660.944233	-737.415315
ωB97X-D	-773.152771	-849.617035	-660.985301	-507.995143	-584.460840	-660.932170	-737.400382

**Table A2.29.** Benchmarking errors in DFT functionals for MO in kcal/mol, M=Mg, Ca, Fe and Cd.

Method	MgO	CaO	<sup>5</sup> FeO	CdO
$\Delta H_{f,0K}$ gas	32.5	5.0	61.8	64.9
PW91	5.5	27.6	29.4	10.2
BP86	4.2	25.9	27.7	8.8
M06	-11.5	4.7	22.3	-11.6
PBE	4.3	25.5	28.4	9.9
PBE0	-15.1	4.0	16.9	-6.9
B3LYP	-10.5	5.7	19.2	-5.8
HCTH 407	-2.9	19.6	13.3	-0.3
HSE06	-14.8	3.8	16.4	-7.4
M06L	-7.9	16.1	6.8	-1.8
$\tau$ -HCTH	-2.1	23.9	13.8	1.6
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-6.7	14.3	28.8	-1.9
TPSSh	-10.2	11.5	9.0	-1.7
$\omega$ B97X	-14.8	2.5	14.4	-9.3
$\omega$ B97X-D	-14.5	4.5	11.6	-9.3

**Table A2.30.** Benchmarking errors in DFT functionals for M(OH)<sub>2</sub> in kcal/mol, M=Mg, Ca, Fe and Cd.

Method	Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub>	Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> Fe(OH) <sub>2</sub>	Cd(OH) <sub>2</sub>
$\Delta H_{f,0K}$ gas	-130.4	-144.0	-80.7	-68.8
PW91	1.4	15.4	6.3	9.7
BP86	3.1	17.2	8.0	11.5
M06	-5.4	-0.6	13.7	-12.7
PBE	-2.1	11.8	4.2	7.9
PBE0	-15.4	-7.0	1.7	-8.2
B3LYP	-11.1	-2.6	3.4	-9.0
HCTH 407	-12.2	-0.8	-14.6	-10.1
HSE06	-16.2	-7.8	0.2	-10.0
M06L	-9.4	1.8	-14.6	-10.8
$\tau$ -HCTH	-9.3	3.6	-12.3	-6.5
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-9.3	1.1	11.0	-6.0
TPSSh	-15.6	-3.5	-13.3	-7.2
$\omega$ B97X	-5.0	1.4	-1.5	-2.3
$\omega$ B97X-D	-6.6	0.4	-9.9	-6.0

**Table A2.31.** Benchmarking errors in DFT functionals for  $MCl_2$  in kcal/mol,  $M=Mg, Ca, Fe$  and  $Cd$ .

Method	MgCl <sub>2</sub>	CaCl <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> FeCl <sub>2</sub>	CdCl <sub>2</sub>
$\Delta H_{f,0K}$ gas	-95.0	-113.9	-32.9	-50.2
PW91	-1.4	6.7	10.3	0.8
BP86	-4.6	3.8	6.6	-2.8
M06	1.8	5.1	34.3	-3.9
PBE	-2.9	4.8	9.7	0.3
PBE0	-2.8	2.4	23.1	1.7
B3LYP	-9.5	-4.2	13.5	-10.0
HCTH 407	-6.3	0.3	-0.7	-10.1
HSE06	-3.3	2.0	22.0	0.4
M06L	9.6	18.8	15.1	5.8
$\tau$ -HCTH	-1.7	12.5	3.8	-4.5
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-0.7	6.2	28.5	-1.0
TPSSh	-1.3	6.6	8.0	1.8
$\omega$ B97X	0.9	5.5	18.5	3.2
$\omega$ B97X-D	0.1	5.4	11.4	0.3

**Table A2.32.** Benchmarking errors in DFT functionals for Mg molecules without H<sub>2</sub>O in kcal/mol.

Method	MgO	MgCl <sub>2</sub>	Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub>	MgCO <sub>3</sub>	Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)
$\Delta H_{f,0K}$ gas	32.5	-95.0	-130.4	-110.4	-356.9	-242.3
PW91	5.5	-1.4	1.4	31.8	53.2	28.2
BP86	4.2	-4.6	3.1	24.3	43.1	24.0
M06	-11.5	1.8	-5.4	4.8	5.9	1.0
PBE	4.3	-2.9	-2.1	29.7	49.4	24.6
PBE0	-15.1	-2.8	-15.4	-2.8	-4.1	-8.9
B3LYP	-10.5	-9.5	-11.1	-11.8	-22.1	-15.7
HCTH 407	-2.9	-6.3	-12.2	0.4	-6.2	-8.3
HSE06	-14.8	-3.3	-16.2	-5.0	-9.4	-12.0
M06L	-7.9	9.6	-9.4	4.9	-0.5	-4.3
$\tau$ -HCTH	-2.1	-1.7	-9.3	1.4	-8.7	-8.1
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-6.7	-0.7	-9.3	3.1	-0.3	-4.0
TPSSh	-10.2	-1.3	-15.6	-14.0	-33.3	-23.6
$\omega$ B97X	-14.8	0.9	-5.0	-0.7	-2.5	-3.0
$\omega$ B97X-D	-14.5	0.1	-6.6	-2.8	-5.9	-5.6

**Table A2.33.** Benchmarking errors in DFT functionals for Mg molecules with H<sub>2</sub>O in kcal/mol.

Method	Mg (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	Mg (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) (OH) (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	MgCO <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>
$\Delta H_{f,0K}$ gas	-431.0	-501.9	-391.9	-200.6	-285.9	-363.5	-438.9
PW91	53.4	51.3	31.4	29.7	29.8	31.1	30.8
BP86	46.1	46.5	33.1	25.5	28.6	32.7	35.1
M06	4.2	-0.4	-4.4	-0.9	-3.8	-7.2	-9.5
PBE	48.2	44.7	25.1	26.2	24.8	24.7	23.0
PBE0	-11.1	-21.0	-22.0	-5.1	-17.0	-23.6	-31.5
B3LYP	-26.1	-34.1	-24.1	-16.2	-21.4	-26.0	-31.9
HCTH 407	-13.2	-24.8	-23.4	-7.8	-18.5	-25.5	-35.8
HSE06	-17.0	-27.5	-26.1	-13.0	-20.5	-27.8	-36.2
M06L	-8.8	-17.5	-21.2	-6.5	-14.6	-23.7	-30.8
$\tau$ -HCTH	-17.3	-29.8	-23.8	-8.0	-17.8	-25.2	-35.6
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-7.0	-16.9	-16.4	-4.5	-11.6	-17.9	-25.7
TPSSh	-41.9	-53.0	-38.9	-23.3	-31.8	-39.7	-48.9
$\omega$ B97X	-5.6	-11.3	-10.6	-5.6	-9.3	-13.1	-16.6
$\omega$ B97X-D	-8.9	-14.6	-13.2	-7.7	-11.8	-15.3	-18.6

**Table A2.34.** Benchmarking errors in DFT functionals for Ca molecules without H<sub>2</sub>O in kcal/mol.

Method	CaO	CaCl <sub>2</sub>	Ca (OH) <sub>2</sub>	CaCO <sub>3</sub>	Ca (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Ca (HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)
$\Delta H_{f,0K}$ gas	5.0	-113.9	-144.0	-148.1	-379.0	-260.8
PW91	27.6	6.7	15.4	43.9	61.1	39.3
BP86	25.9	3.8	17.2	36.1	51.1	70.2
M06	4.7	5.1	-0.6	7.8	7.4	4.5
PBE	25.5	4.8	11.8	41.2	56.8	35.3
PBE0	4.0	2.4	-7.0	4.8	-0.8	-2.8
B3LYP	5.7	-4.2	-2.6	-5.1	-18.3	-9.4
HCTH 407	19.6	0.3	-0.8	11.0	-1.2	0.1
HSE06	3.8	2.0	-7.8	2.4	-5.8	-5.7
M06L	16.1	18.8	1.8	15.9	6.7	5.2
$\tau$ -HCTH	23.9	12.5	3.6	14.4	-1.4	2.1
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	14.3	6.2	1.1	12.7	5.1	4.2
TPSSh	11.5	6.6	-3.5	-3.3	-26.7	-14.1
$\omega$ B97X	2.5	5.5	1.4	3.0	0.4	1.9
$\omega$ B97X-D	4.5	5.4	0.4	2.3	-2.4	0.0

**Table A2.35.** Benchmarking errors in DFT functionals for Ca molecules with H<sub>2</sub>O in kcal/mol.

Method	Ca (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	Ca (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) (OH) (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	CaCO <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>
$\Delta H_{f,0K}$ gas	-453.9	-521.8	-411.8	-229.6	-310.9	-385.2	-465.2
PW91	59.6	64.1	41.0	42.8	41.7	41.9	40.1
BP86	52.4	59.7	42.8	38.2	40.3	43.5	44.8
M06	2.3	3.4	-4.0	3.5	-1.1	-5.3	-9.1
PBE	54.0	57.2	34.2	38.7	36.2	35.1	32.0
PBE0	-9.7	-13.1	-17.3	-3.0	-11.3	-18.7	-28.6
B3LYP	-23.7	-24.1	-18.5	-10.3	-15.6	-20.2	-27.3
HCTH 407	-9.5	-12.6	-16.0	0.8	-9.3	-17.1	-28.3
HSE06	-15.3	-19.3	-21.2	-5.9	-14.6	-22.7	-32.9
M06L	-4.2	-8.6	-14.6	5.3	-5.6	-16.0	-25.7
$\tau$ -HCTH	-11.7	-16.6	-14.6	4.2	-6.3	-14.9	-26.7
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-3.7	-6.9	-9.8	4.8	-3.4	-10.6	-20.0
TPSSh	-37.3	-42.2	-31.2	-12.9	-22.8	-31.9	-42.9
$\omega$ B97X	-4.6	-4.0	-6.8	-1.0	-5.3	-9.3	-14.5
$\omega$ B97X-D	-7.7	-7.5	-9.1	-2.1	-7.0	-11.0	-16.2

**Table A2.36.** Benchmarking errors in DFT functionals for Fe molecules without H<sub>2</sub>O in kcal/mol.

Method	<sup>5</sup> FeO	<sup>5</sup> FeCl <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> Fe(OH) <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> FeCO <sub>3</sub>	<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)
ΔH <sub>f,0K</sub> gas	61.8	-32.9	-80.7	-50.8	-271.7	-172.5
PW91	29.4	10.3	6.3	48.5	61.2	40.8
BP86	27.7	6.6	8.0	40.6	50.4	36.3
M06	22.3	34.3	13.7	35.8	40.3	32.5
PBE	28.4	9.7	4.2	47.7	58.7	38.5
PBE0	16.9	23.1	1.7	25.3	19.8	17.6
B3LYP	19.2	13.5	3.4	14.5	-1.4	7.7
HCTH 407	13.3	-0.7	-14.6	16.2	-0.2	-0.9
HSE06	16.4	22.0	0.2	22.3	13.9	13.8
M06L	6.8	15.1	-14.6	12.7	-0.9	0.5
τ-HCTH	13.8	3.8	-12.3	17.6	-3.3	0.1
τ-HCTH hyb	28.8	28.5	11.0	36.3	27.6	26.4
TPSSh	9.0	8.0	-13.3	0.1	-26.2	-12.4
ωB97X	14.4	18.5	-1.5	-52.5	23.6	22.6
ωB97X-D	11.6	11.4	-9.9	-58.1	13.7	14.5

**Table A2.37.** Benchmarking errors in DFT functionals for Fe molecules with H<sub>2</sub>O in kcal/mol.

Method	<sup>5</sup> Fe (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	<sup>5</sup> Fe (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> <sup>a</sup>	<sup>5</sup> Fe (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) (OH) (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> FeCO <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	<sup>5</sup> FeCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>
ΔH <sub>f,0K</sub> gas	-346.5	-410.9	-412.8	-314.0	-137.8	-213.5
PW91	60.0	74.2	60.1	40.6	48.0	44.2
BP86	52.5	69.8	55.2	42.3	43.6	42.6
M06	35.3	35.2	40.6	27.1	34.2	30.8
PBE	56.0	68.4	54.7	35.3	45.9	40.6
PBE0	12.8	17.0	2.4	2.5	18.1	9.3
B3LYP	-6.2	2.1	-11.5	-1.8	9.7	2.6
HCTH 407	-12.4	-9.2	-21.6	-19.6	6.2	-6.6
HSE06	6.3	10.4	-1.7	-2.0	14.5	5.2
M06L	-7.6	-8.3	-15.2	-19.4	3.3	-8.1
τ-HCTH	-12.9	-7.4	-22.4	-17.1	7.6	-4.4
τ-HCTH hyb	20.9	26.5	13.7	13.1	29.5	20.7
TPSSh	-34.0	-31.2	-45.8	-30.4	-8.9	-20.0
ωB97X	19.9	27.2	16.7	15.8	21.8	17.8
ωB97X-D	10.5	17.6	7.2	7.4	14.1	9.1

**Table A2.38.** Benchmarking errors in DFT functionals for Cd molecules without H<sub>2</sub>O in kcal/mol.

Method	CdO	CdCl <sub>2</sub>	Cd(OH) <sub>2</sub>	CdCO <sub>3</sub>	Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)
$\Delta H_{f,0K}$ gas	64.9	-50.2	-68.8	-47.3	-278.2	-171.8
PW91	10.2	0.8	9.7	35.0	53.4	31.7
BP86	8.8	-2.8	11.5	27.3	43.2	27.6
M06	-11.6	-3.9	-12.7	-3.1	-3.2	-7.8
PBE	9.9	0.3	7.9	34.2	50.9	29.6
PBE0	-6.9	1.7	-8.2	1.8	-2.5	-5.4
B3LYP	-5.8	-10.0	-9.0	-11.0	-25.6	-17.0
HCTH 407	-0.3	-10.1	-10.1	2.6	-12.0	-10.6
HSE06	-7.4	0.4	-10.0	-1.4	-8.5	-9.3
M06L	-1.8	5.8	-10.8	5.8	-2.9	-6.8
$\tau$ -HCTH	1.6	-4.5	-6.5	3.8	-12.5	-9.2
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-1.9	-1.0	-6.0	3.8	-3.4	-4.6
TPSSh	-1.7	1.8	-7.2	-8.0	-30.6	-18.9
$\omega$ B97X	-9.3	3.2	-2.3	-0.8	-1.1	-1.8
$\omega$ B97X-D	-9.3	0.3	-6.0	-4.2	-7.4	-6.7

**Table A2.39.** Benchmarking errors in DFT functionals for Cd molecules with H<sub>2</sub>O in kcal/mol.

Method	Cd (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	Cd (HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) (OH) (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	CdCO <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>
$\Delta H_{f,0K}$ gas	-348.1	-418.3	-310.4	-129.5	-201.3	-276.7	-349.7
PW91	55.0	56.4	29.7	34.3	33.4	32.8	32.0
BP86	48.0	52.6	31.7	30.1	32.2	34.6	36.7
M06	-6.4	-10.2	-16.4	-7.8	-11.0	-14.9	-17.5
PBE	50.9	50.6	24.8	32.1	29.8	27.7	25.5
PBE0	-9.0	-16.1	-22.7	-5.9	-13.6	-21.5	-29.8
B3LYP	-28.8	-32.7	-29.5	-16.6	-23.0	-28.9	-35.1
HCTH 407	-19.6	-27.5	-30.0	-8.6	-19.6	-30.4	-40.3
HSE06	-15.4	-22.8	-27.5	-9.6	-17.9	-26.2	-35.0
M06L	-12.9	-23.3	-25.6	-6.0	-14.7	-24.1	-32.4
$\tau$ -HCTH	-19.5	-26.7	-29.0	-7.4	-17.4	-27.4	-37.5
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-9.1	-15.3	-21.5	-4.2	-12.2	-20.0	-28.1
TPSSh	-38.9	-47.6	-38.5	-17.8	-26.9	-36.2	-45.8
$\omega$ B97X	-3.7	-7.1	-11.1	-3.4	-7.0	-10.7	-14.8
$\omega$ B97X-D	-9.8	-12.9	-16.5	-7.7	-11.9	-15.8	-19.5

**Table A2.40.** Total atomization energies with ZPE in kcal/mol using DMol<sup>3</sup> functionals and numerical basis sets. 4.3 and 5.1 represent different real space cutoffs in Å.

Molecule	PBE 4.3	PBE 5.1	PW91 4.3	PW91 5.1	B3LYP 4.3	B3LYP 5.1
MgCO <sub>3</sub>	524.5	519.7	525.9	522.0	475.3	470.4
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	1257.2	1251.3	1263.1	1257.9	1195.6	1190.3
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>	1493.3	1486.7	1500.7	1494.7	1427.7	1419.8
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	1238.0	1232.1	1241.6	1236.2	1150.7	1144.8
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	1701.4	1694.8	1707.8	1701.7	1607.6	1601.3
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	811.6	806.6	815.3	811.0	764.0	759.1
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	1286.1	1280.1	1292.0	1286.5	1227.6	1222.2
CaCO <sub>3</sub>	588.0	574.7	590.0	576.6	534.1	520.5
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	1302.2	1288.1	1308.3	1293.8	1236.7	1222.7
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>	1541.9	1527.2	1549.4	1534.3	1470.7	1456.4
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	1283.4	1269.0	1287.2	1272.4	1194.7	1180.5
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	1753.4	1738.7	1759.9	1745.3	1658.8	1644.4
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	855.2	841.9	858.4	844.9	803.1	789.5
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	1330.6	1316.4	1336.5	1321.9	1270.0	1256.3

**Table A2.41.** Errors from best values in  $\Delta H_f(0K)$  in kcal/mol using DMol<sup>3</sup> functionals and numerical basis sets. 4.3 and 5.1 represent different real space cutoffs in Å.

Molecule	PBE 4.3	PBE 5.1	PW91 4.3	PW91 5.1	B3LYP 4.3	B3LYP 5.1
MgCO <sub>3</sub>	32.2	27.4	33.6	29.7	-17.0	-21.9
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	48.9	43.0	52.5	47.1	-38.4	-44.3
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	25.1	20.1	28.8	24.5	-22.5	-27.4
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	42.8	36.2	49.2	43.1	-51.0	-57.3
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	25.5	19.5	31.4	25.9	-33.0	-38.4
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	25.0	19.1	30.9	25.7	-36.6	-41.9
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>	23.5	16.9	30.9	24.9	-42.1	-50.0
CaCO <sub>3</sub>	50.5	37.2	52.5	39.1	-3.4	-17.0
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	64.7	50.3	68.5	53.7	-24.0	-38.2
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	42.7	29.4	45.9	32.4	-9.4	-23.0
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	67.4	52.7	73.9	59.3	-27.2	-41.6
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	42.6	28.4	48.5	33.9	-18.0	-31.7
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	40.8	26.7	46.9	32.4	-24.7	-38.7
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>	38.3	23.6	45.8	30.6	-33.0	-47.2

**Table A2.42.** Average of differences of heats of formation from **Table A2.41** in kcal/mol.

Average	Metal compounds
PBE 4.3	40.7
PBE 5.1	30.8
PW91 4.3	45.7
PW91 5.1	35.9
B3LYP 4.3	27.2
B3LYP 5.1	37.0

**Table A2.43.** Zero point energies in kcal/mol for all the molecules.

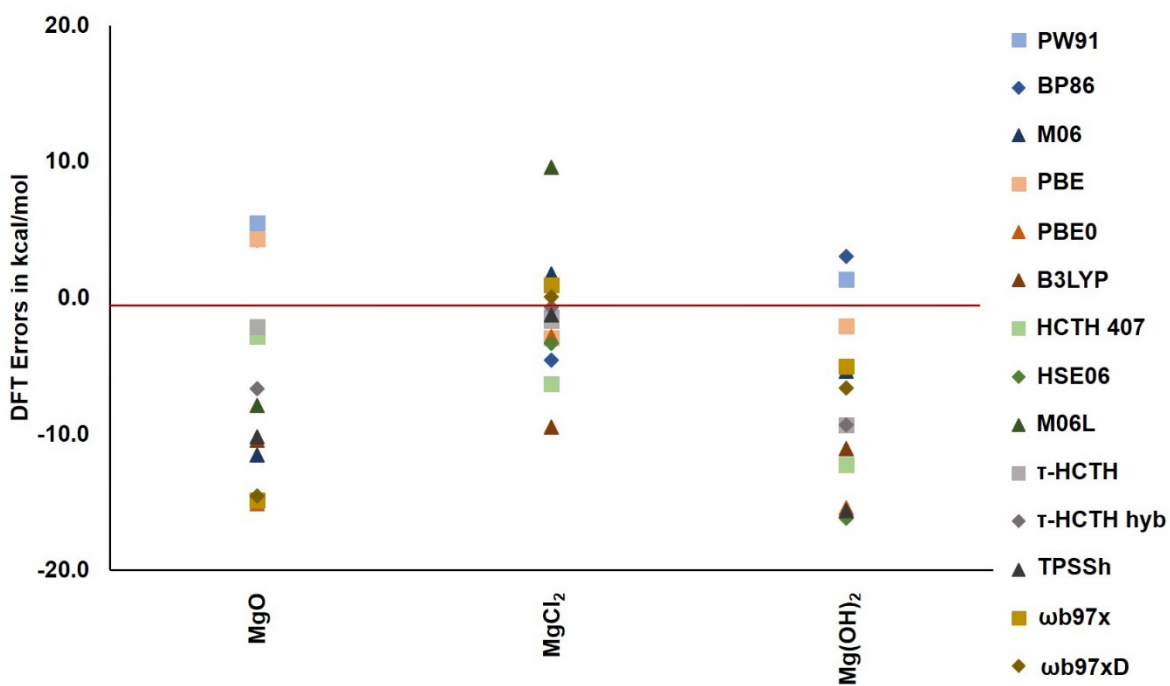
Molecule	MP2/aT	B3LYP/aT <sup>a</sup>	CCSD(T)
MgO		1.17	1.17 <sup>b,37</sup>
MgCl <sub>2</sub>		1.67	1.67 <sup>c,37</sup>
Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub>		15.14	15.14 <sup>c,37</sup>
MgCO <sub>3</sub>		10.23	10.45 <sup>d</sup>
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	37.15	36.90	
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	26.15	26.05	
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)		52.09	
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>		67.39	
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	58.31	57.77	
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)		25.64	
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>		41.59	
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>		57.10	
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>		73.41	
CaO		1.12	1.04 <sup>b,37</sup>
CaCl <sub>2</sub>		1.00	1.00 <sup>c,37</sup>
Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub>		15.44	15.44 <sup>c,37</sup>
CaCO <sub>3</sub>		9.97	10.18 <sup>d</sup>
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	36.11	35.99	
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	25.76	25.64	
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)		51.08	
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>		66.37	
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>		56.27	
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)		25.35	
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>		40.59	
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>		55.90	
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>		71.89	
<sup>5</sup> FeO		1.29	
<sup>5</sup> FeCl <sub>2</sub>		1.43	
<sup>5</sup> Fe(OH) <sub>2</sub>		15.16	
<sup>5</sup> FeCO <sub>3</sub>		9.94	
<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>		36.40	
<sup>5</sup> Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)		25.70	

${}^5\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})$		51.23	
${}^5\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2^{\text{e}}$		67.56	
${}^5\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$		67.01	
${}^5\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$		57.20	
${}^5\text{FeCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})$		25.05	
${}^5\text{FeCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$		41.12	
${}^5\text{FeCO}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3^{\text{f}}$		56.81	
CdO		0.88	0.86 <sup>d,105</sup>
CdCl <sub>2</sub>		1.30	
Cd(OH) <sub>2</sub>		15.57	
CdCO <sub>3</sub>		8.90	
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>		35.80	
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)		25.71	
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)		51.45	
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>		67.06	
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>		56.71	
CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)		24.81	
CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>		40.76	
CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>		56.34	
CdCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>		72.21	

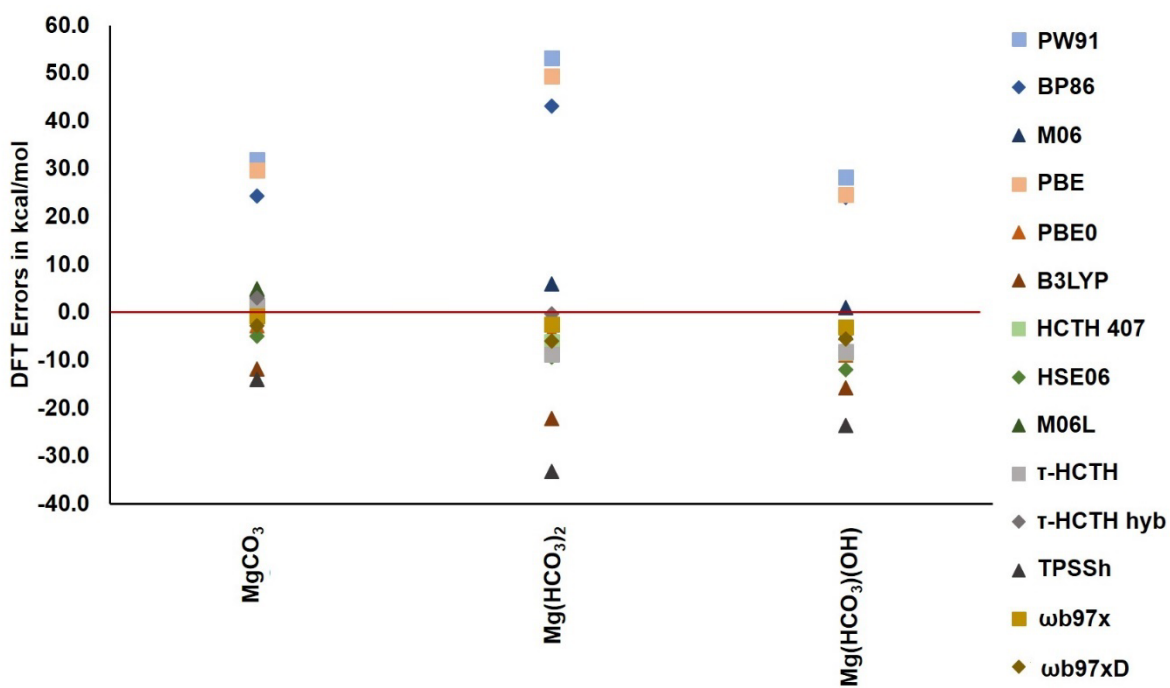
<sup>a</sup> ZPE from B3LYP/ aT is used in benchmarking. ZPE contributing to the calculation of heat of formation is from geometry optimization used for CCSD(T) calculation. <sup>b</sup> awQ basis set diatomics. <sup>c</sup> awT basis set. <sup>d</sup> aD basis set. <sup>e</sup> Both bicarbonates are monodentate. <sup>f</sup> Only 2 H<sub>2</sub>O in 1<sup>st</sup> solvation shell.

**Table A2.44.** Computational Level for Molecular Calculations.

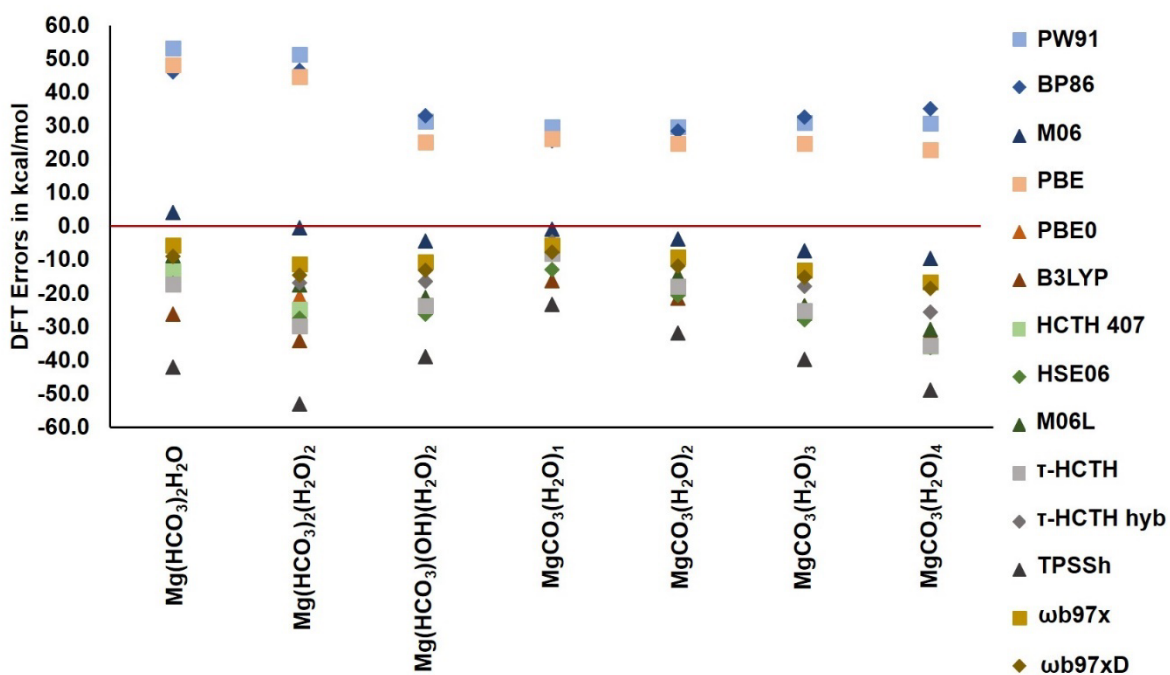
Molecule	CCSD(T) geometry	DFT benchmark geometry
MgO	FPD	CCSD(T)
MgCl <sub>2</sub>	FPD	CCSD(T)
Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub>	FPD	CCSD(T)
MgCO <sub>3</sub>	FPD	MP2
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	MP2	MP2
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	MP2	MP2
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	B3LYP	B3LYP
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	B3LYP	B3LYP
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	MP2	MP2
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	B3LYP	B3LYP
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	B3LYP	B3LYP
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	B3LYP	B3LYP
MgCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>	B3LYP	B3LYP
CaO	FPD	CCSD(T)
CaCl <sub>2</sub>	FPD	CCSD(T)
Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub>	FPD	CCSD(T)
CaCO <sub>3</sub>	FPD	Mp2
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	MP2	MP2
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	MP2	MP2
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	B3LYP	B3LYP
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	B3LYP	B3LYP
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	B3LYP	B3LYP
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)	B3LYP	B3LYP
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>	B3LYP	B3LYP
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub>	B3LYP	B3LYP
CaCO <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub>	B3LYP	B3LYP



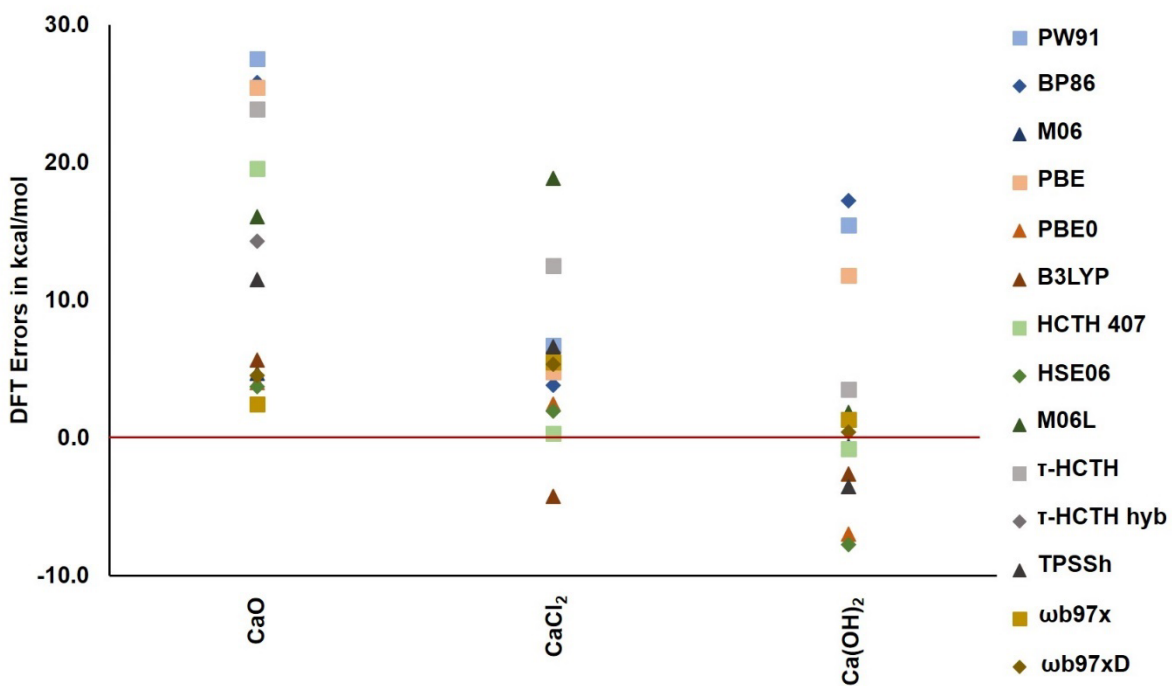
**Figure A2.1.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for small molecules for Mg compared to the FPD results.



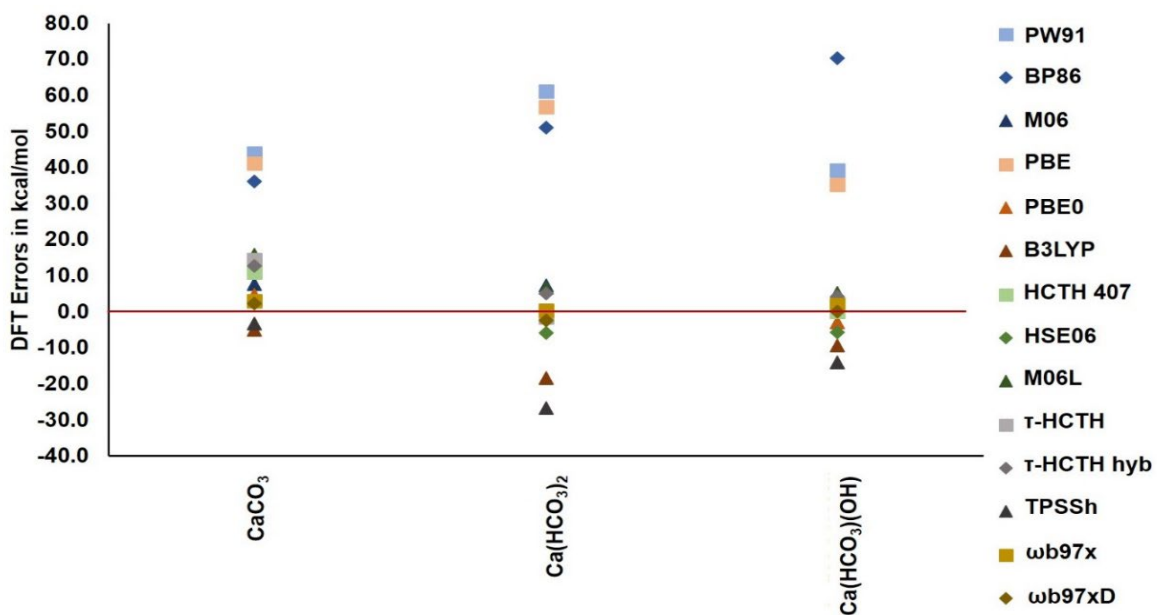
**Figure A2.2.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for large molecules without H<sub>2</sub>O for Mg compared to the FPD results.



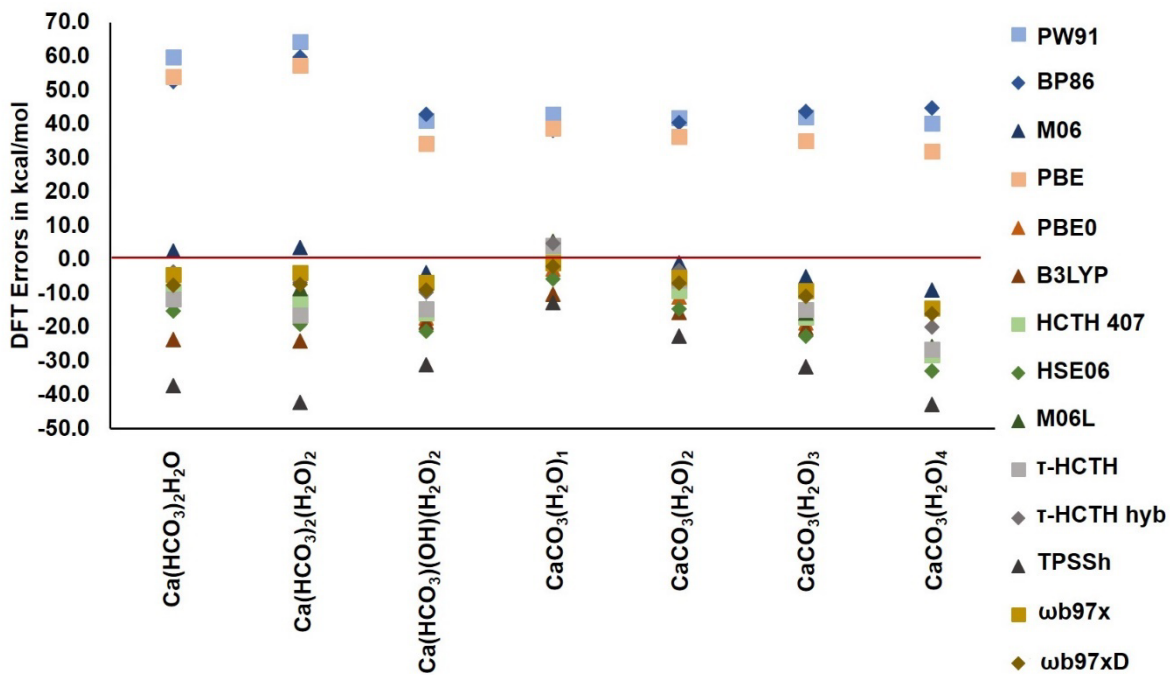
**Figure A2.3.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for large molecules with H<sub>2</sub>O for Mg compared to the FPD results.



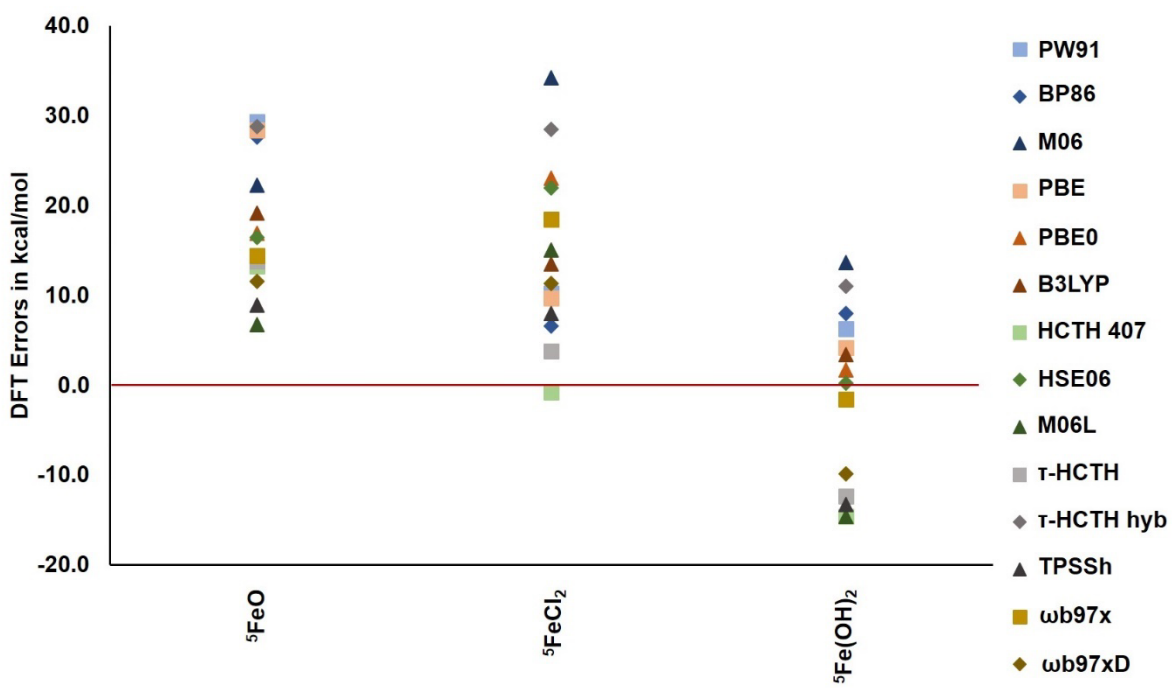
**Figure A2.4.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for small molecules for Ca compared to the FPD results.



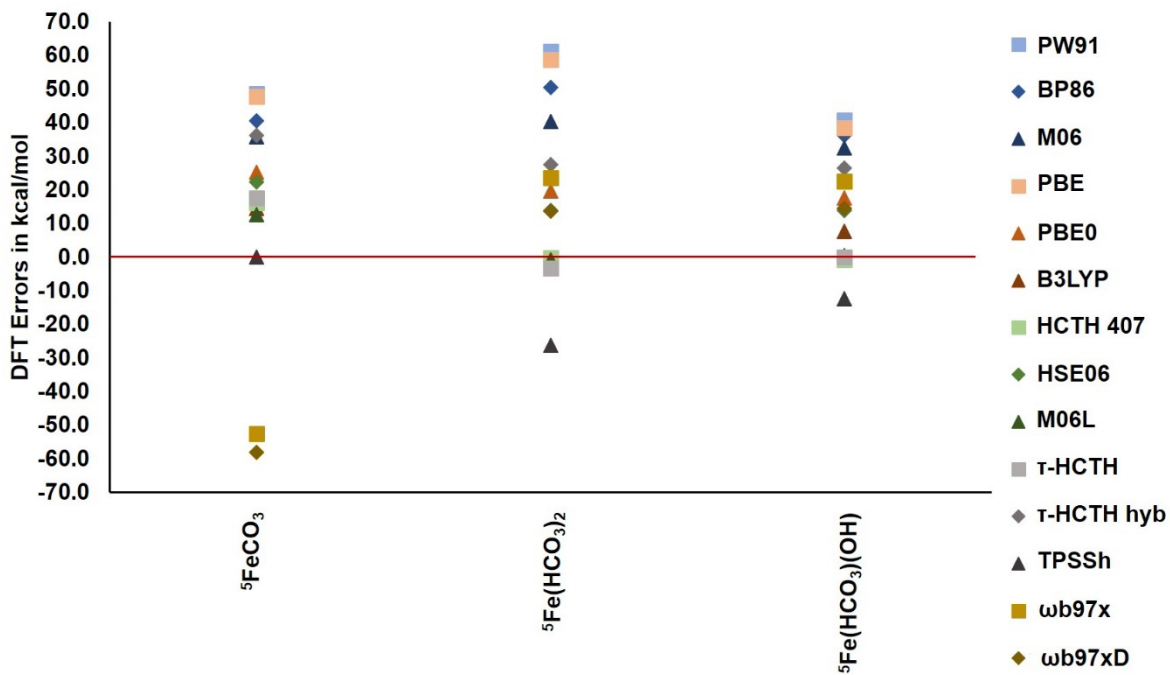
**Figure A2.5.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for large molecules without H<sub>2</sub>O for Ca compared to the FPD results.



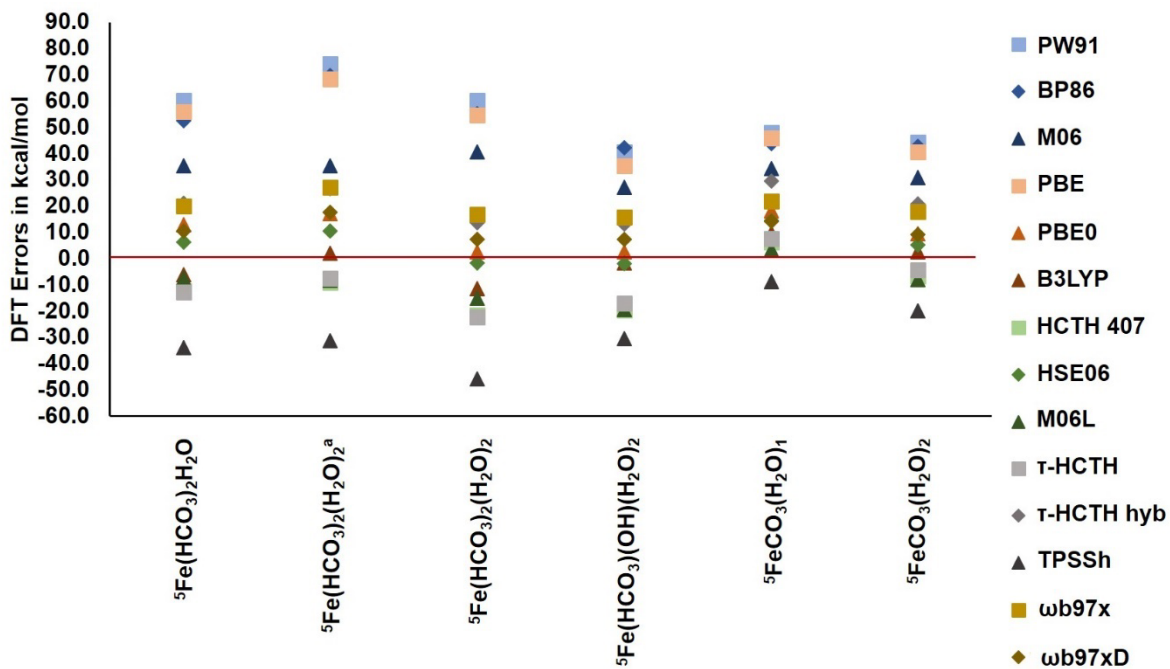
**Figure A2.6.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for large molecules with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  for Ca compared to the FPD results.



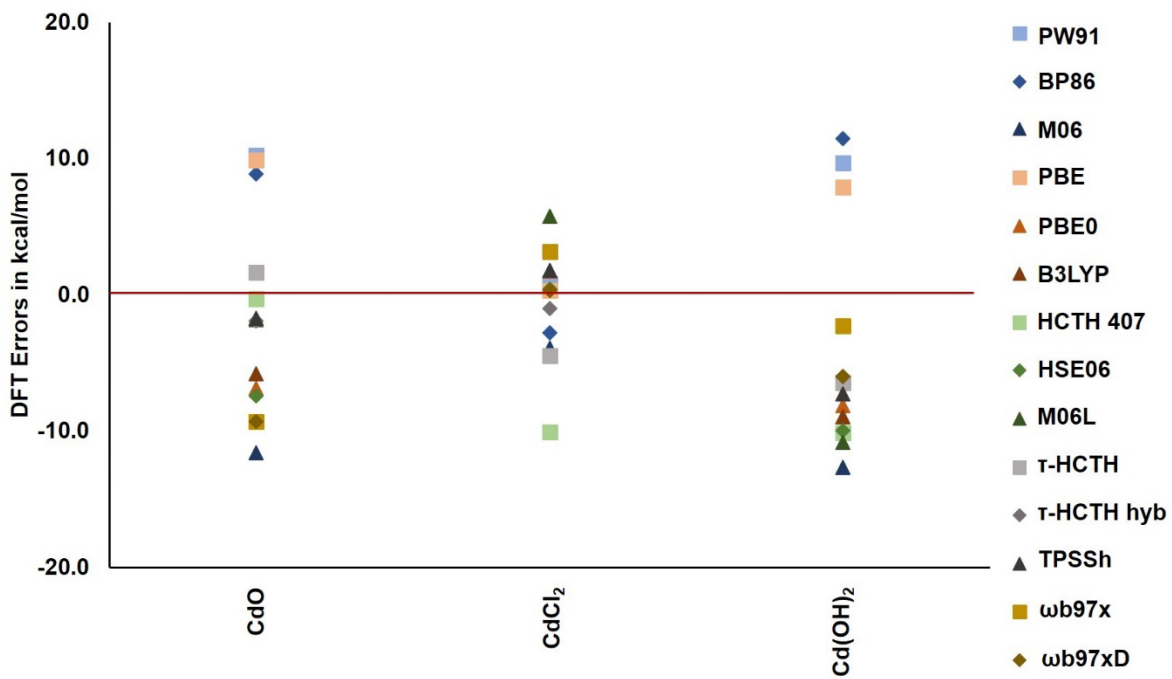
**Figure A2.7.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for small molecules for Fe compared to the FPD results.



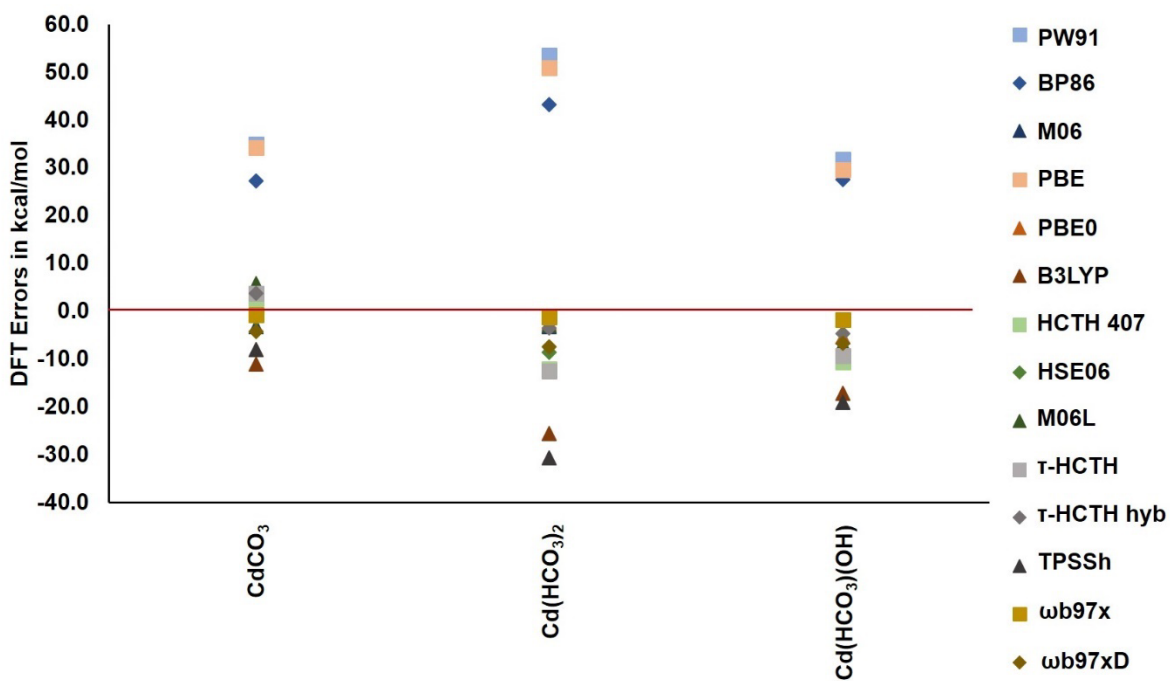
**Figure A2.8.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for large molecules without  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  for Fe compared to the FPD results.



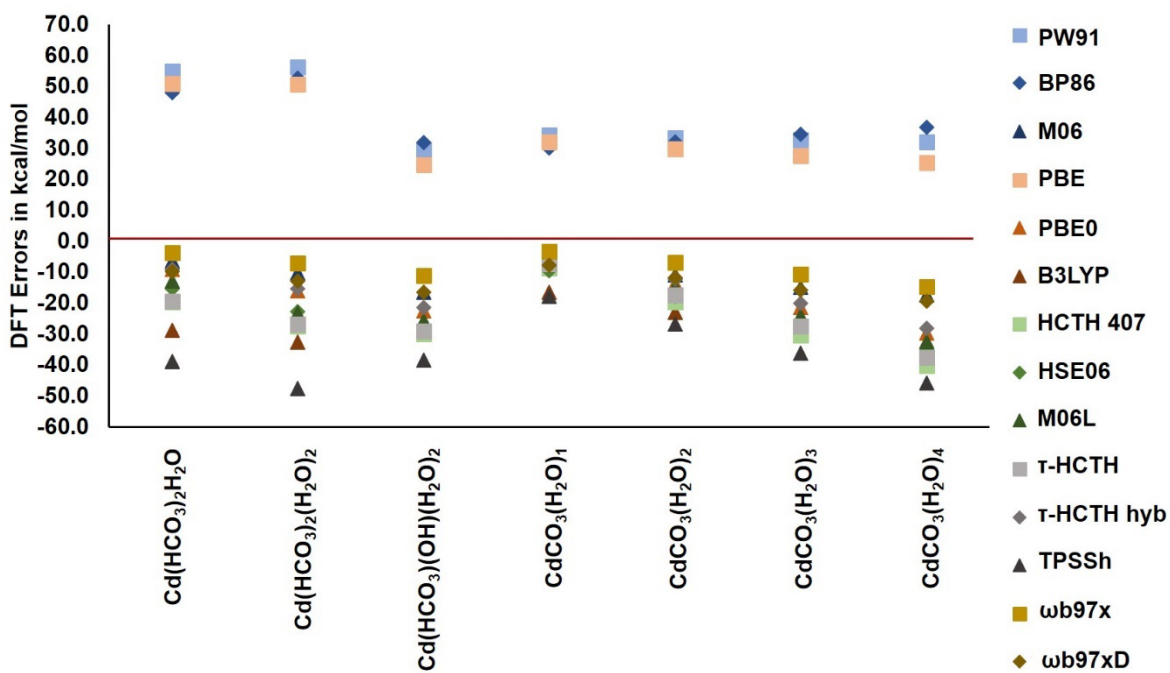
**Figure A2.9.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for large molecules with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  for Fe compared to the FPD results.



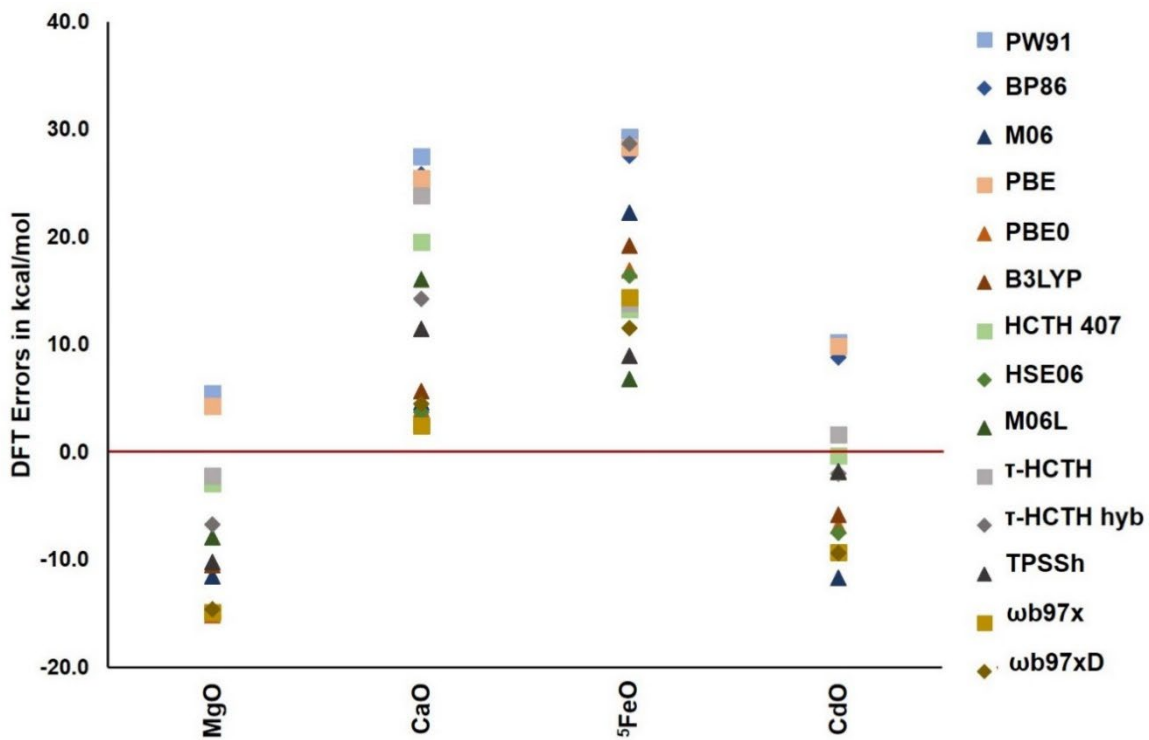
**Figure A2.10.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for small molecules for Cd compared to the FPD results.



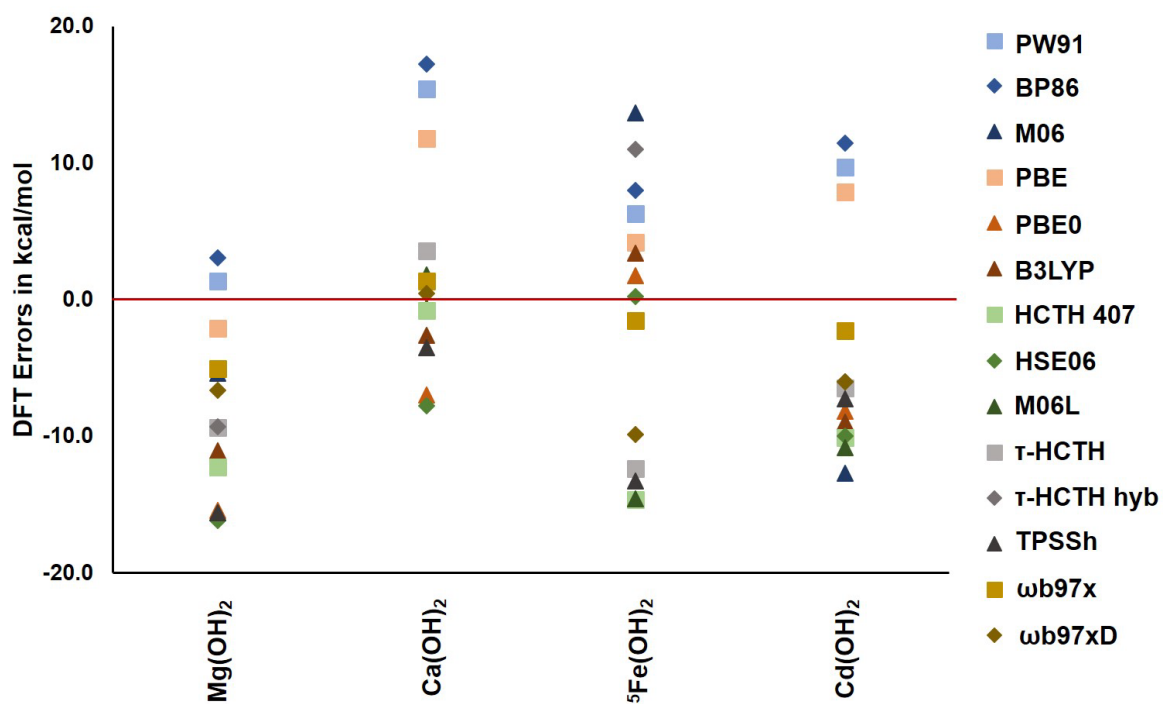
**Figure A2.11.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for large molecules without  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  for Cd compared to the FPD results.



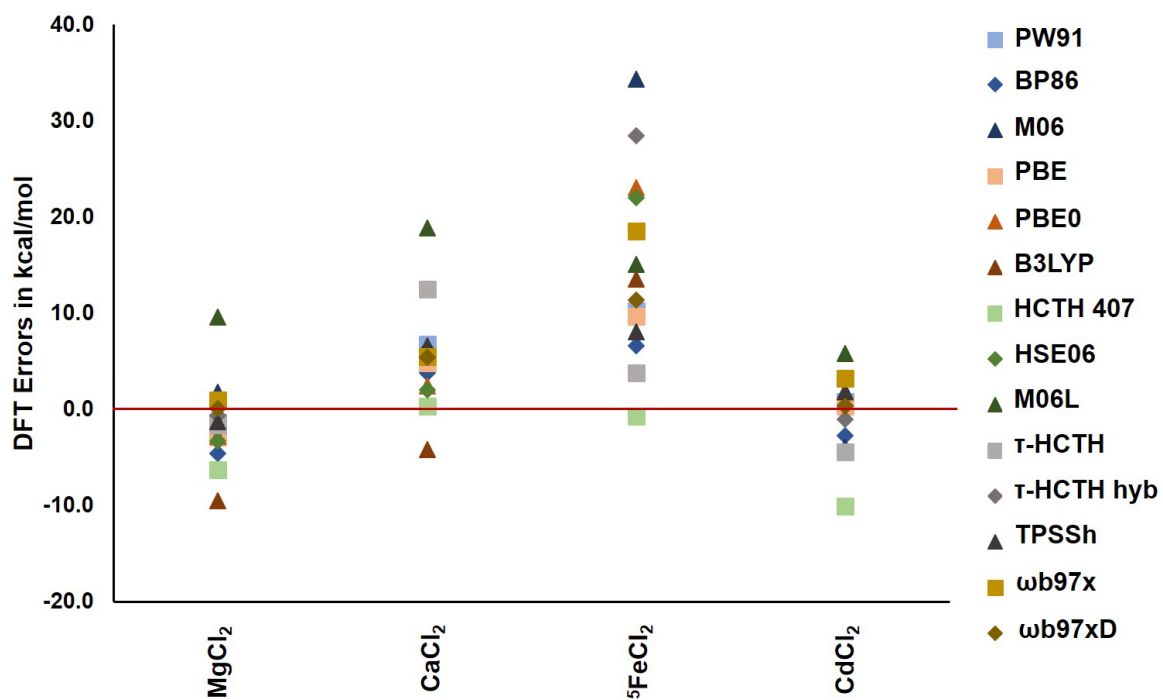
**Figure A2.12.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for large molecules with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  for Cd compared to the FPD results.



**Figure A2.13.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for MO compared to the FPD results, M=Mg, Ca, Fe and Cd.



**Figure A2.14.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for  $M(OH)_2$  compared to the FPD results,  $M=Mg, Ca, Fe$  and  $Cd$ .



**Figure A2.15.** Distributions of DFT errors in terms of the  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$ 's for  $MCl_2$  compared to the FPD results,  $M=Mg, Ca, Fe$  and  $Cd$ .

## CHAPTER 3

### THERMODYNAMICS OF THE METAL CARBONATES AND BICARBONATES OF Mn, Co, Ni, Cu, AND Zn RELEVANT TO MINERAL ENERGETICS

#### **Introduction**

The properties of metal carbonates underlie a range of geochemical processes such as subsurface sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub>,<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> biomineralization,<sup>5,6,7,8</sup> environmental remediation,<sup>9</sup> and paleoindication of climate conditions.<sup>10,11,12,13,14,15</sup> The properties of the carbonates of divalent metals depend on the nature of the metal and its potential for hydration, but these trends are not fully understood. The smallest dication<sup>16</sup> usually found in carbonates is Mg<sup>2+</sup> and it forms the largest number of hydrated carbonate minerals. In contrast, the much larger Ca<sup>2+</sup> forms only two hydrated minerals, whereas Fe<sup>2+</sup> forms none despite being similar in size to Mg<sup>2+</sup>. How different carbonates form from small particles up to the bulk and the potential role of multiple metal ions are important for understanding and controlling these geochemical processes, but the geological record or complex industrial processes do not reveal the formation and transformation processes at the molecular level. They also do not reveal the competition between different cations to be incorporated, and whether a potentially toxic metal can be safely sequestered in an insoluble mineral or remains mobile to contaminate groundwater. Thermodynamics underlies this process, but unfortunately data exist primarily for the bulk mineral and not the monomeric and oligomeric species that constitute the precursors. Reliable simulations of the potential monomers and aggregated particles up to the bulk mineral require an accurate, efficient electronic structure

computational method to address the data gap. The method often used in the prediction of the properties of such species is density-functional theory (DFT). Unfortunately, no one functional has yet been identified that provides reliable thermodynamics for species such as metal oxides, carbonates, bicarbonates, and hydrates, particularly for transition metals, whether monomers or solids.

The need for a rigorous assessment of functionals has been demonstrated by our previous work with high level ab initio correlated molecular orbital theory using the Feller-Peterson-Dixon (FPD) approach<sup>17,18,19,20</sup> based on coupled cluster CCSD(T) theory to predict the thermodynamics of metal carbonates and di-bicarbonates for Mg, Ca, Fe, and Cd.<sup>21</sup> The resulting monomeric values were used to predict the cohesive energy of the bulk carbonates and di-bicarbonates; the latter compounds were predicted to be unstable in the bulk. A broad range of DFT functionals was benchmarked and none of the functionals provided reasonable agreement with the higher-level correlated molecular orbital theory calculations. The best agreement with the FPD results was found with the  $\omega$ B97X and  $\omega$ B97X-D functionals with average unsigned errors of 10 kcal/mol. The functionals showing the worst agreement were PW91, BP86, and PBE with average unsigned errors of > 30 kcal/mol. A major part of the issue with DFT was correlated with the well-established problem<sup>22</sup> of many DFT functionals handling oxygen and the bond dissociation energy of O<sub>2</sub>.

In the current work, we have expanded our assessment of DFT functionals to calculate the structure and energies of carbonates, di-bicarbonates, and bicarbonate hydroxides to the metals Mn, Co, Ni, Cu and Zn. This assessment will enable investigation of the growth and reactivity of carbonate nanoparticles, as we have done in our prior work examining the growth of MgCO<sub>3</sub> and CaCO<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles as well as the growth of brucite from the hydrolysis of MgO

nanoparticles.<sup>23,24,25</sup> In addition, the assessment will provide reliable thermodynamics to assess competitive incorporation into nanoparticles between mixed metal dications.

## Computational Methods

The geometries were optimized at the DFT level with the B3LYP<sup>26,27,28</sup> hybrid exchange-correlation functional. The aug-cc-pVTZ basis set was used for H, C and O,<sup>29,30</sup> and the aug-cc-pVTZ-PP basis set containing the effective core pseudopotentials (ECP)<sup>31,32</sup> was used for Mn, Co, Ni, Cu,<sup>33</sup> and Zn. Ten electrons are included in the 1s2s2p orbitals in the relativistic pseudopotentials (PPs) for the first-row transition metals. These basis sets are denoted as aT. For the open shell molecules, a variety of possible spin states was considered. The following functionals were used in the DFT benchmarking: PW91,<sup>34,35</sup> BP86,<sup>36,37</sup> M06,<sup>38</sup> PBE,<sup>22,39</sup> PBE0,<sup>40</sup> B3LYP, HSE06,<sup>41</sup>  $\tau$ -HCTH,<sup>42</sup>  $\omega$ B97X,<sup>43</sup> and  $\omega$ B97X-D<sup>44,45</sup>. The open shell DFT calculations were done in the spin-unrestricted formalism. The DFT calculations were performed using the Gaussian16 software package.<sup>46</sup>

Coupled cluster R/RCCSD(T) (closed shell) or R/UCCSD(T) (open shell)<sup>47,48,49,50,51,52,53</sup> single-point calculations were conducted at the optimized DFT geometries to make reliable predictions of the thermodynamic properties. These calculations were performed using the MOLPRO program package.<sup>54,55,56</sup> The aug-cc-pVnZ basis sets (n = D, T, and Q) were used for H, C, and O and the corresponding aug-cc-pVnZ-PP basis sets were used for transition metal atoms. The CCSD(T) energies were extrapolated to the CBS limit by fitting to a mixed Gaussian/exponential (eq 1)

$$E(n) = E_{\text{CBS}} + A \exp[-(n - 1)] + B \exp[-(n - 1)^2] \quad (1)$$

where n = 2, 3, and 4 (D, T, and Q).<sup>57</sup>

Following the composite correlated molecular orbital theory FPD approach,<sup>17,18,19,20</sup> four smaller corrections were added to the CCSD(T) extrapolation to the CBS limit. Total atomization energies (TAEs) or  $\Sigma D_0$  at 0 K were calculated using the expression below (eq 2).

$$\Sigma D_0 = \Delta E_{\text{CBS}} + \Delta E_{\text{SR}} + \Delta E_{\text{CV}} + \Delta E_{\text{ZPE}} + \Delta E_{\text{SO}} \quad (2)$$

Scalar relativistic corrections ( $\Delta E_{\text{SR}}$ ) including the PP corrections were calculated at the second-order Douglas-Kroll-Hess (DK)<sup>58,59,60</sup> level with the all-electron aug-cc-pVTZ-DK basis sets<sup>61</sup> (denoted as aVTZ-DK):

$$\Delta E_{\text{SR}} = \Delta E_{\text{aVTZ-DK}} + \Delta E_{\text{aVTZ(-PP)}} \quad (3)$$

where  $\Delta E_{\text{aVTZ-DK}}$  and  $\Delta E_{\text{aVTZ(-PP)}}$  are the valence electronic energy differences respectively calculated at the CCSD(T)/aVTZ-DK and CCSD(T)/aVTZ(-PP) levels. The core-valence corrections ( $\Delta E_{\text{CV}}$ ) were calculated at the CCSD(T) level with the aug-cc-pwCVTZ basis set<sup>62,63</sup> for C and O, and the aug-cc-pwCVTZ-PP<sup>8</sup> basis set for transition metal atoms (denoted as awCVTZ(-PP)).

$$\Delta E_{\text{CV}} = \Delta E_{\text{awCVTZ(-PP), core}} - \Delta E_{\text{awCVTZ(-PP), valence}} \quad (4)$$

The electrons in the 1s orbitals for C and O were correlated in the CV calculations. The zero-point energies (ZPEs) were taken from the B3LYP/aT calculations. The atomic spin-orbit corrections ( $\Delta E_{\text{SO}}$ ) were taken from experiment (C = -0.09 kcal/mol, O = -0.22 kcal/mol, Mn = 0, Co = -2.27 kcal/mol, Ni = -2.78 kcal/mol, Cu = 0, and Zn = 0).<sup>64</sup>

Heats of formation at 0 K were calculated using the TAEs and experimental<sup>65,66,67,68,69,70,71</sup> heats of formation of the atoms at 0 K given in Table 3.1. Heats of formation at 298 K were calculated following the procedure for the temperature correction of the atomization energy given by Curtiss et al.<sup>72</sup>. Experimental thermal corrections (TC) for the atoms are given in Table 3.1.

A Natural Population Analysis (NPA) based on the Natural Bond Orbitals (NBOs)<sup>73,74</sup> using NBO7<sup>75,76</sup> was performed. An Energy Decomposition Analysis (EDA) was performed in Amsterdam Density Functional (ADF) 2019.304.<sup>77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87</sup> The calculation was performed at the BLYP/TZ2P level using relativistic correction ZORA.

All calculations were performed on local parallel high-performance Xeon and Opteron-based Penguin Computing clusters at the University of Alabama, the DMC computer at the Alabama Supercomputer Center, and the large computer in the Molecular Science Computing Facility in the William R. Wiley Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

## Results and Discussion

**Molecular Geometries** The lowest energy structures for  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{MHCO}_3\text{OH}$  ( $\text{M} = \text{Mn, Co, Ni, Cu}$  and  $\text{Zn}$ ) are shown in Figure 3.1. The lowest energy spin states for these structures for  $\text{M} = \text{Mn, Co, Cu}$  and  $\text{Zn}$  are the sextet, quartet, doublet, and singlet, respectively, with the relative energies of the spin states given in Table A3.1.  $T_1$  values<sup>88</sup> are also shown in Table A3.1 and S2. Most of the  $T_1$  values are acceptable but a few are greater than 0.05 suggesting the possible presence of some multi-reference character. The lowest energy spin states for  $\text{NiCO}_3$  and  $\text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  are the singlet and for  $\text{NiHCO}_3\text{OH}$  the triplet.

The  $\text{MCO}_3$  all have  $\text{C}_{2v}$  symmetry. Angles for  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are given in Table A3.3. The O-M-O bite angles for the bidentate carbonate component for  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{MHCO}_3\text{OH}$  vary from  $63^\circ$  to  $75^\circ$  with the largest values for the carbonates. Bond lengths are shown in Table A3.4.

The bicarbonate groups are approximately perpendicular to each other for  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  with  $\text{M} = \text{Mn, Co,}$  and  $\text{Zn}$ , as previously found for  $\text{Fe}$  and  $\text{Cd}$ ,<sup>21</sup> with dihedral angles (in the order

of oxygen atoms 2, 5, 10, 7, Figure 3.1) of  $\sim 85^\circ$  in  $C_2$  symmetry, whereas the bicarbonate groups in  $Ni(HCO_3)_2$  and  $Cu(HCO_3)_2$  are co-planar in  $C_{2h}$  symmetry (Table A3.5-A3.7). The  $C_2$  structures have approximately perpendicular bicarbonates with the deviation from being exactly perpendicular due to the orientation of the COH groups. The rotation about the C-O(H) bond can influence the actual energetics and this deviation is small, about  $5^\circ$ . The approximate perpendicular orientation will minimize the repulsion between the O atoms on one  $HOCO_2^-$  ligand with those on the other  $HOCO_2^-$  ligand. The  $C_2$  and  $C_{2h}$  structures are very close in energy for most metals (see Table A3.5) so small changes in the electron configurations on the metal can affect the orientation. The  $C_2$  structures have a half filled  $d^5$  configuration for Mn(II) and a filled  $d^{10}$  configuration for Zn(II) and Cd(II) as well as noble gas configurations for Mg(II) and Ca(II).<sup>21</sup> Thus, if there is no preferred orientation of the occupied orbitals on the metal, the  $C_2$  structure is preferred (see Table A3.8 for electron configurations). The  $C_{2h}$  structures for Mg, Ca, Mn, Zn and Cd are 2 to 5 kcal/mol higher in energy than the  $C_2$  structures at the CCSD(T)/aT level and have one imaginary frequency consistent with being a transition state as shown in Table A3.5.

In contrast, the Fe and Cu complexes are planar. The Fe complex has one d electron in addition to what is in the  $d^5$  Mn complex. In order to minimize the electron repulsion and allow for maximum electron donation from the ligands to the metal, it adopts a  $C_{2h}$  ( $^5A_g$ ) conformer with a pair of electrons in a doubly occupied out of plane orbital (see Table A3.8). The  $C_2$  ( $^5B$ ) conformer is also a minimum for  $Fe^{2+}$  and is  $\sim 1.9$  kcal/mol higher than the  $C_{2h}$  ( $^5A_g$ ) conformer at the CCSD(T)/aT(-PP) level (see Table A3.5). The  $Cu^{2+}$  complex has only one orbital with one electron which could be available to accept electron donation from the ligands and orients itself

so as to enable this to occur while minimizing the interactions of the other d orbitals by as much as possible. The  $C_2$  conformer for  $Cu^{2+}$  optimized back to the  $C_{2h}$  geometry.

The situation for  $Ni^{2+}$  is more complicated. The triplet Ni di-carbonate complex has two minima of  $C_2$  ( $^3B$ ) and  $C_{2h}$  ( $^3B_g$ ) symmetry which are very close in energy to the singlet complex (see Table A3.5). At the CCSD(T) level with the aD basis set, the  $C_2$  ( $^3B$ ) conformer is 1.5 kcal/mol lower than the  $C_{2h}$  ( $^1A_g$ ) conformer but with the aT basis set, the  $C_2$  ( $^3B$ ) conformer is 0.7 kcal/mol higher in energy and with the aQ basis set it is 1.4 kcal/mol higher in energy. The  $^3B_g$  state in  $C_{2h}$  symmetry is 2.6 kcal/mol higher with the aT basis set. With a  $d^8$  configuration, the Ni complex has a choice between the  $C_{2h}$  and  $C_2$  geometries as well as two spin states. In this case, the singlet  $C_{2h}$  geometry is the lowest energy structure with 1 orbital available for electron donation from the ligands to enable more electron density to be out of plane to minimize the electron repulsion (see Table A3.8).

For a transition metal complex without a half or fully filled set of d orbitals, only Co has a  $C_2$  ( $^4B$ ) symmetry ground state (see Table A3.5). The Co di-bicarbonate has one more electron than in the Fe complex and can optimize electron donation from the ligands to the metal and minimize electron repulsion best in the  $C_2$  conformer. The  $C_{2h}$  ( $^4A_g$ ) conformer for  $Co^{2+}$  has one imaginary frequency and is 2.6 kcal/mol less stable than the  $C_2$  ( $^4B$ ) conformer at the CCSD(T)/aT level. All of these results point to significant flexibility in the bicarbonate structures about the metal center in terms of a planar vs approximately perpendicular geometry with the actual structure depending on the number of available d electrons and their distribution in the five d orbitals (see Table A3.8).

An energy decomposition analysis (EDA) (Table A3.9) of the  $C_2$  vs  $C_{2h}$  structures shows that the electrostatic interactions are larger for the lower energy structures, except for

$\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$ . The lower energy structure of  $\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  ( $C_{2h}$ ,  $^5A_g$ ) has a smaller electrostatic interaction than  $\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  ( $C_2$ ,  $^5B$ ) by 0.33 eV, yet the latter has a stronger Pauli repulsion which leads to the total dissociation energy (TDE) being 0.09 eV less than the former structure.

The presence of low energy conformers or low energy transition states for the dicarbonates suggests that there may be some fluxional character to these molecules especially at higher temperatures. This would require an improved treatment of the vibrational contribution in terms of the zero-point energy and the molecular thermal corrections which is beyond the current study. This could affect the energies on the order of 1 kcal/mol which is below the accuracy of the electronic structure approach for transition metals that we are using.

The HOM angles for  $C_s$   $M(\text{HCO}_3)\text{OH}$  ( $M = \text{Mn}, \text{Co}, \text{Ni}, \text{Zn}$ ) vary from  $114^\circ$  to  $128^\circ$ ; for  $M = \text{Cu}$ , the out of plane dihedral angle is  $91.3^\circ$  (atom 5,4,7,2) (see Table A3.3). The corresponding OMO bite angles for  $M = \text{Mg}, \text{Ca}, \text{Fe},$  and  $\text{Cd}$  range from  $58^\circ$  to  $76^\circ$ . The smallest bite angle of all of the carbonates and bicarbonates is for  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . In addition, the bicarbonate groups in  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  for  $M = \text{Mg}, \text{Ca}, \text{Fe},$  and  $\text{Cd}$  are approximately perpendicular to each other as predicted for  $M = \text{Mn}, \text{Co},$  and  $\text{Zn}$ .

**Gas Phase Heats of Formation** The FPD heats of formation at 298K derived from the total atomization energies are given in Table 3.2. The FPD heats of formation at 0K are given in Table A3.10. It is important to get the initial orbital occupancies correct for the correlated molecular orbital theory calculations. The Hartree-Fock (HF)/aT calculation was used to obtain the initial guess for the HF/aD calculations for sextet  $\text{MnCO}_3$ , sextet  $\text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$ , sextet  $\text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$ , quartet  $\text{MnCO}_3$ , quartet  $\text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$ , doublet  $\text{MnCO}_3$ , sextet  $\text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  and quartet  $\text{CoCO}_3$ . The previously predicted thermodynamic data<sup>21</sup> for Ca, Mg, Fe and Cd are given for comparison. At the CCSD(T)/aT level, the  $C_{2h}$  structure for  $\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  is 4.5 kcal/mol more

stable than the C<sub>2</sub> (<sup>5</sup>A) structure previously reported,<sup>21</sup> and 1.9 kcal/mol more stable than the C<sub>2</sub> (<sup>5</sup>B) structure (see Table A3.5). The values in Table 3.2 for Fe(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> are for the more stable C<sub>2h</sub> structure, correcting our prior work.<sup>21</sup>

***Cohesive Energies and Dissociation Energies*** Building on our previous work,<sup>21</sup> the cohesive energy of a solid is calculated as the difference in the heats of formation between the gas and solid phases with the latter obtained from experiment where available.<sup>71</sup> Only the heats of formation of the solid carbonates are known. The order of cohesive energy of carbonates is Mg > Ca > Mn ~ Zn ~ Co ~ Cd > Fe > Ni > Cu according to Table 3.2. We investigated the possibility that the cohesive energies would correlate with the ionic radii as the gas phase and solid state energies exhibit significant ionic character as discussed below. For this comparison, we use the well-established radii of Shannon based on an extensive analysis of crystal structures.<sup>89</sup> However, there is no obvious correlation between the cohesive energy and the Shannon ionic radius (Figure 3.2) if all metals are included. Removing Mg and Cu from the fit led to an almost flat line with a slight increase in cohesive energy increases as the Shannon radii increases. Thus, the cohesive energy does not really correlate with the metal ionic radii. As discussed below, there are other energies that do correlate with the ionic radii.

To provide more insights into the nature of the energies of these compounds, we consider them to be salts with the bonding potentially being all due to ionic interactions. We calculated the total reaction dissociation energies (TRDE) from the following reactions:



The heat of formation for OH<sup>-</sup> at the FPD level is -33.0 kcal/mol at 0 K in excellent agreement with the value of -33.2 kcal/mol from the ATcT tables.<sup>65</sup> The heat of formation for HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> is

from FPD calculations.<sup>21,90,91</sup> The heat of formation of the  $M^{2+}$  was calculated from the ionization energy of the metal dications from the neutral at the FPD level and the heat of formation of the neutral. The calculated ionization energy to from the +2 metal ion is in excellent agreement with the sum of the first two experimental ionization energies<sup>92</sup> (see Table A3.11-A3.12) with the largest deviation of 1.0 kcal/mol for  $Cd^{2+}$ . The TRDE based on the experimental data for the heats of formation of  $OH^-$  and  $M^{2+}$  are essentially identical to the calculated values (see Table A3.13 for a comparison). We cannot perform such a dissociation energy calculation for the carbonate as the dianion is not stable to loss of an electron in the gas phase. The results are given in Table 3.3 and shown in Figure 3.3 where they are plotted against the ionic radii. We report Shannon radii in Table 3.1. There is a qualitative trend of increased TRDE with decreasing atomic radii.

Comparing the TRDEs in Table 3.3, the most positive value is for the di-bicarbonate and the bicarbonate hydroxide is for Cu. This most likely reflects the energy necessary to prepare the  $Cu^{2+}$  ion. The other metals all involve ionization of two valence s electrons. However, preparation of  $Cu^{2+}$  involves removal of a 4s and a 3d electron. This is the highest energy as the 3d electrons are closer to the core and require more energy to ionize. The generation of  $Zn^{2+}$  also requires more energy due to the orbital contraction and shielding changes as one proceeds from left to right across a row in the Periodic Table. In addition to the sum of the first two ionization energies, the heat for formation of the gaseous metal atom also plays a role. Although one might expect  $Mg^{2+}$  to have the largest TRDE, this is not the case due to the ease of generating the gaseous Mg atom.

In the above discussion, we considered the dissociation to be predominantly electrostatic. We can directly estimate the Coulombic dissociation energy (CDE) by assuming a positive

charge of +2 on the metal, a -2 on the carbonate centered on the C for  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ , a -1 on the  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  centered at the C and a -1 on the  $\text{OH}^-$  centered on the O using Coulomb's law. The distance was taken between M and C for the carbonate and bicarbonate, and between M and O for the hydroxide group. We assume no shielding of the positive charge on the metal from the interaction with the anions. Note that this assumes that the energy to prepare the dication is the same. The results are given in Table 3.3 and plotted in Figure 3.4 as a function of Shannon ionic radii. Here the Coulombic dissociation energy shows an excellent linear correlation with the Shannon ionic radii.

Comparison of the TRDE with the Coulombic values in Table 3.3, shows that the Coulombic dissociation energy for Mg is very similar to the TRDE for the di-bicarbonate suggesting that the dissociation in this species is predominantly ionic. The TRDE in Ca is less than the Coulombic value by a larger amount suggesting that the charge shielding of the +2 charge is higher in the Ca di-bicarbonate. The Coulombic energies are quite similar for the di-bicarbonate of the transition metals, increasing as one goes to larger atomic number up to Ni with decreases for Cu and Zn consistent with the changing ionic radii. Note that the values for Zn and Mg are similar as are the values for Ca and Cd. For the transition metals, the TRDE is larger than the Coulombic value. This can be explained by the fact that the preparation of the atomic metal ions is different and that this affects the TRDE as noted above, which is also the case for the open-shell transition metals. The total ionization energy for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> electrons for transition metals increases periodically from Mn to Cu, and then decreases to Cd. Obviously removing electrons from 4s orbitals is easier than from 3d orbitals. A big difference in total IP of 2 eV from Ni to Cu is due to removing the 2<sup>nd</sup> electron from the fully occupied 3d orbital on Cu.

This trend is found in the TRDE. The Coulombic dissociation energies do track the decreasing ionic radii up to  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  as the 3d orbitals get closer to the nucleus due to the change in shielding.

For the bicarbonate hydroxides, the Coulombic dissociation energy is always larger than the TRDE. The TRDE for the bicarbonate hydroxides is larger than for the di-bicarbonates as the  $\text{OH}^-$  group has a higher charge localization on the O and the M-O bond is shorter. The difference in the Coulombic and TRDE decreases as one proceeds across the period. Thus, the screening effect of the other ligand decreases going across the period.

For the  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  ligand, the Coulombic dissociation energy is larger than for the di-bicarbonate consistent with the negative charge being closer to the metal. This difference decreases going across the period. The Coulombic dissociation energy for the carbonate is always less than the value for the bicarbonate hydroxide showing the importance of the closer interaction of the  $\text{OH}^-$  with the metal.

The TDE and the corresponding electrostatic interaction components were obtained from the EDA and are given in Table 3.3. Details of the specific components of the TDE are in Table A3.9. We treated each molecule as a complex of a metal dication with the appropriate carbonate, bicarbonate, or hydroxide. The EDA enabled the TDE for the carbonates to be calculated as there is no free  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  in the calculation. In general, the TRDE and CDE are very close to the TDE and electrostatic interaction from the EDA analysis, respectively. In general, the TDE and electrostatic interaction are higher than the TRDE and CDE, respectively; exceptions are predicted for  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$ . The TDE of  $\text{MgCO}_3$  and  $\text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  are larger than the electrostatic interaction as the favorable orbital interactions are larger than the Pauli repulsion term. For the transition metal dications, the TDE is less than the electrostatic interaction only for  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$  due to the Pauli repulsions being larger in magnitude than the stabilizing orbital

interactions. Figure 3.3 shows a comparison of the TRDE and TDE versus Shannon radii, and Figure 3.4 shows a comparison of CDE and electrostatic interaction versus Shannon radii. The correlations of these energetics dominated by electrostatic interactions exhibit similar behavior.

The TRDE between open-shell transition metal cations and bicarbonate or hydroxide anions can be strengthened by electron donation from adjacent oxygen lone pairs to the metal d-orbitals. This hypothesis is supported by an NBO/NPA analysis. Natural charges on the transition metals in Table A3.14 are slightly smaller than those on Mg and Ca, and the absolute values of natural charges on O atoms adjacent to transition metals are also smaller than those bound to Mg and Ca. Natural spin analysis on each atom shows that spin can be transferred to the oxygen atoms adjacent to the open shell transition metals (see Table A3.15). The excess d orbital electron population on the transition metals shows that the lone pair orbitals on the adjacent oxygen atoms donate electron density to the empty d orbitals. No such electron donation from the ligands to the metal is predicted for Zn and Cd, due to the almost zero excess d orbital population in Table A3.16 consistent with the  $d^{10}$  configuration of the dication. The excess 3d population on  $MCO_3$  is larger than that on  $M(HCO_3)_2$  and  $M(HCO_3)(OH)$ . There are significant populations in the valence s orbital on the metal cations showing that there is also electron donation from the ligands to the metal valence s orbitals as the metal s orbitals are the first to be removed on ionization. (see Table A3.16).

***Decomposition reactions*** The salts can decompose to MO plus different products as given by the following reactions.



The data needed for these calculations are given in Table 3.4 and the decomposition energies are given in Table 3.5. The decomposition of  $MCO_3$  (Reaction 3) shows that the most stable carbonates are Mg and Ca and that most of the transition metal carbonates have much lower decomposition energies. In the transition metals,  $NiCO_3$  is surprisingly stable, and Co is the easiest to decompose. The di-bicarbonates are far more stable with respect to decomposition (Reaction 4) than are the carbonates. The di-bicarbonates follow similar patterns as for the carbonates although in this case, the Ni compound does not stand out as much. The decomposition of the bicarbonate-hydroxides (Reaction 5) are less endothermic than the di-bicarbonates but the pattern is essentially the same.

***Metal exchange reactions*** The reactions to exchange metals for the neutral and for the dication are given in Table 3.6 and A3.17. The reactions for Ca atom displacing a metal are all exothermic so Ca will displace the other metals as a gas phase atom. A different trend is predicted for  $Ca^{2+}$  where  $Ca^{2+}$  never displaces a metal dication in the gas phase, consistent with its relative placement on the electrochemical series as Ca metal is a strong reducing agent and will always reduce transition metals. The ordering of the carbonate displacement reactions is  $Ca > Fe > Ni > Mg > Mn \sim Co > Cu > Zn > Cd$ . The ordering for the di-bicarbonate and bicarbonate hydroxide displacement reactions is  $Ca > Mg > Fe > Mn > Co > Ni > Cu > Zn > Cd$ . The reactivity for Mn and Co is very close for the di-bicarbonate. The reactivity for Co and Ni is very close for the bicarbonate hydroxide. The less reactive metals have endothermic reactions and these results are given in the Supporting Information. The reactivity ordering based on the electrochemical series is  $Ca > Mg > Mn > Zn > Fe > Cd > Co > Ni > Cu$  for the solid metal going to the aqueous dication.<sup>93,94</sup> For these reactions involving the gas phase metal atom being displaced, Ca is clearly the most reactive for all three types of ligand coordination consistent

with the ordering by the electrochemical series. For the carbonates, the remainder of the reactivity ordering does not really follow the electrochemical series. In all cases, the ordering of the least reactive in terms of displacement is  $\text{Cu} > \text{Zn} > \text{Cd}$  that never follows the electrochemical series. For the di-bicarbonate and carbonate hydroxide reactions, the next most reactive is Mg which follows the electrochemical series.

The most reactive dication is  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  which is able to displace all the other metals from all three molecular species, which means it is the most reactive metal dication, and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  is the least reactive. The ordering of the carbonate displacement reactions is  $\text{Cu}^{2+} > \text{Ni}^{2+} > \text{Zn}^{2+} > \text{Co}^{2+} > \text{Fe}^{2+} > \text{Mn}^{2+} > \text{Cd}^{2+} > \text{Mg}^{2+} > \text{Ca}^{2+}$ . The ordering for di-bicarbonate is  $\text{Cu}^{2+} > \text{Ni}^{2+} > \text{Zn}^{2+} > \text{Co}^{2+} > \text{Fe}^{2+} > \text{Mg}^{2+} > \text{Mn}^{2+} > \text{Cd}^{2+} > \text{Ca}^{2+}$ , which is same to bi-carbonate hydroxide displacement except for the exchange of position of  $\text{Ni}^{2+} > \text{Zn}^{2+}$ . The main difference in the carbonate vs bicarbonate ordering is that  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  is less reactive in the former. This clearly does not follow the redox reactivity ordering. However,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  being the most reactive dication matches the redox ordering where Cu is the least reactive. The TRDE for  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  bi-carbonate and bi-carbonate hydroxide are the largest (see Table 3.3) and formation of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  is the most difficult (see Table 3.1), consistent with  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  wanting to be stabilized by complex formation. The exact opposite applies to  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , which is the most stable free dication so it is the most readily displaced. The ordering of TRDE for bi-carbonate is the same as the displacement reaction ordering,  $\text{Cu}^{2+} > \text{Ni}^{2+} > \text{Zn}^{2+} > \text{Co}^{2+} > \text{Fe}^{2+} > \text{Mg}^{2+} > \text{Mn}^{2+} > \text{Cd}^{2+} > \text{Ca}^{2+}$ , and this is same to the ordering of bi-carbonate hydroxide displacement except for the exchange of position of  $\text{Ni}^{2+} > \text{Zn}^{2+}$ . The ordering of  $\Delta H_{0K}$  of dications is similar as well,  $\text{Cu}^{2+} > \text{Ni}^{2+} > \text{Co}^{2+} > \text{Zn}^{2+} > \text{Fe}^{2+} > \text{Cd}^{2+} > \text{Mn}^{2+} > \text{Mg}^{2+} > \text{Ca}^{2+}$ . Yet, the highest TDE from EDA in ADF refers to  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  in bi-carbonates and carbonates (see Table 3.3).

**Qualitative Density Functional Theory Correlations** The qualitative DFT descriptors of hardness ( $\eta$ ) and electronegativity ( $\chi$ )<sup>95</sup> can be calculated from the ionization energy (IE) and electron affinity (EA) from Equations (6) and (7) using the available experimental data.

$$\eta = (\text{IE} - \text{EA})/2 \quad (6)$$

$$\chi = (\text{IE} + \text{EA})/2 \quad (7)$$

In this case, one needs the second and third ionization potentials as the former corresponds to the electron affinity of the dication. The experimental values for the two ionization potentials (See Table 3.1) were used to calculate the hardness and electronegativity (See Table A3.18). As shown in Figures A3.14, there are no real correlations of the any of the dissociation energies (TRDE, CDE, TDE, and electrostatic, Table 3.3) with the hardness or electronegativity of the metal dication. There is a qualitative correlation of the cohesive energy with both the hardness and the electronegativity of the metal dications (Figure 3.5) after removing Cu. The harder cations,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  have larger cohesive energies and are the hardest dications.  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  is also the most electronegative dication and the cohesive energy is also largest for it. Note that on the electronegativity scale that  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  is much closer to the transition metal dications. For both scales,  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  is furthest from the linear correlation.

**Benchmark of Selected DFT Functionals** We have previously benchmarked a broad range of DFT functionals for these types of metal carbonates, di-bicarbonates, and bicarbonate-hydroxides for  $M = \text{Mg}, \text{Ca}, \text{Fe},$  and  $\text{Cd}$ . We have benchmarked a smaller set of functionals which are relevant to bulk mineral calculations. Table 3.7 shows the average absolute  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  errors for metal carbonates, di-bicarbonates, and bicarbonate hydroxides. Figure 3.6 shows the distributions of DFT errors for  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  based on a comparison to the FPD results for  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  for  $M = \text{Mn}, \text{Co}, \text{Ni}, \text{Cu}$  and  $\text{Zn}$ . The corresponding data sets for

Figure 3.6 are in Table A3.19-A3.21. The  $\tau$ -HCTH functional gives the lowest average absolute error, 8.3 kcal/mol for all of the metals from the current work and our prior work<sup>21</sup> for the carbonates, di-bicarbonates, and carbonate-hydroxides. For the limited set of metals, Mg, Ca, Fe, and Cd including the current anions, their hydrates and metal oxides, dichlorides, and dihydroxides from our prior work,<sup>21</sup> the best agreement with the FPD results was found with the  $\omega$ B97X and  $\omega$ B97X-D functionals with average absolute errors of 9.7 and 10.0 kcal/mol, respectively. For the compounds from our prior work,<sup>21</sup> the  $\tau$ -HCTH functional had a somewhat larger average absolute error of 13.1 kcal/mol. When only the transition metals are included, the  $\tau$ -HCTH functional performed just as well as with all of the metal atoms, but the  $\omega$ B97X and  $\omega$ B97X-D functionals showed larger average absolute errors of 18.0 and 15.3 kcal/mol. The next best functionals in the current work are PBE0 and HSE06 which have average absolute errors of 10.2 and 10.9 kcal/mol, respectively. The functionals PW91, BP86, and PBE had very large average absolute errors above 40.0 kcal/mol in the current work and above 30 kcal/mol in the prior work.<sup>21</sup> The common B3LYP functional had an average absolute error of 13.6 kcal/mol in the current work and 15.6 kcal/mol in the prior work.<sup>21</sup> The remaining functionals had average absolute errors falling between 11 and 15 kcal/mol in the current work. The average absolute errors for only the first-row transition metals, and the first-row transition metals including Ca were also presented in Table 3.7 and exhibit the same qualitative behavior with some small variations in the actual ordering of the average absolute errors. Even though the  $\tau$ -HCTH functional had the lowest average absolute error in the current work, there were some outliers, notably the carbonates of Co, Ni, and Cu with errors of approximately 25, 12 and 15 kcal/mol, respectively. Thus, one must take additional care in testing functionals for the specific system of interest. Clearly, none of the functionals attains chemical accuracy of  $\pm 1$  kcal/mol in terms of

agreement with the CCSD(T) results. We showed in prior work<sup>21</sup> that the major issue with the DFT functionals is the issue in how oxygen is treated which has a significant impact on the species under study in the current work.<sup>22</sup>

We now discuss the functionals that provide agreement within 10 kcal/mol of the CCSD(T) results in the current work. Most functionals behave poorly for the Mn complexes except for  $\tau$ -HCTH which has errors below  $\pm 10$  kcal/mol for all three species. For Co, none of the functionals are good to  $\pm 10$  kcal/mol for all three species. M06, PBE0 and  $\omega$ B97X give errors less than  $\pm 10$  kcal/mol for all Ni species. For Cu containing molecules, M06, PBE0, HSE06,  $\omega$ B97X and  $\omega$ B97X-D have errors less than  $\pm 10$  kcal/mol. Most of the functionals exhibit improved behavior for the closed shell  $Zn^{2+}$  complexes with PBE0, HSE06,  $\omega$ B97X and  $\omega$ B97X-D having errors less than  $\pm 11$  kcal/mol.

## Conclusions

Thermodynamic properties have been determined for  $MCO_3$ ,  $M(HCO_3)_2$  and  $M(HCO_3)(OH)$  ( $M = Mn, Co, Ni, Cu$  and  $Zn$ ). These molecules were optimized at the B3LYP/aT level. Two symmetries of approximately perpendicular  $C_2$  and  $C_{2h}$ , and multiple spin states are available for  $M(HCO_3)_2$ , where  $M = Mg, Ca, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn$  and  $Cd$ , depending on several factors including the electron repulsion of oxygen atoms, orientation of 3d orbitals on metals and the distribution of electrons in the 3d orbitals.

The FPD approach based on CCSD(T) calculations extrapolated to the CBS limit was used to predict the gas phase heats of formation. These values served as benchmarks for heats of formation calculated with various exchange-correlation DFT functionals, including those commonly used in solid-state mineral calculations. Cohesive energies for the carbonates were calculated based on the gas phase heats of formation at 298K from the FPD approach and the

experimental solid-state heats of formation.<sup>71</sup> The cohesive energy of Mg is the highest at 154 kcal/mol and Cu is the smallest at 71 kcal/mol. The remaining cohesive energies fall within a range of ~ 120 to 140 kcal/mol. The Coulombic dissociation energy (CDE) and total reaction dissociation energy (TRDE) of dications and anions were correlated with dication ionic radii and the dication hardness. There is a near linear correlation of CDE with the dication radii. Excluding Cu, there is an approximate linear correlation with the hardness of the metal dications, with Ni deviating most from the linear fit. The TRDEs of Mg and Ca are slightly smaller than their CDE likely due to a shielding effect, whereas the TRDEs of transition metals are higher than their CDE. In addition to differences in the energies needed to prepare the transition metal dications, electron donation to 3d orbitals of open-shell transition metal dications from lone pairs of adjacent O atoms will also play a role as shown by the NPA atomic charges and spins. No electron donation from the ligands to 3d orbitals for  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $Cd^{2+}$  was found, consistent with their  $d^{10}$  configurations.

Decomposition energies for generating MO, CO<sub>2</sub> and/or H<sub>2</sub>O were calculated and the decomposition energies for the carbonates are much smaller than for the di-bicarbonates and bicarbonate hydroxides. The Mg and Ca compounds have higher decomposition energies for reactions (7), (8), and (9) than do the transition metal compounds. For metal exchange reactions, Ca will always displace the other metals for the neutral atoms whereas  $Cu^{2+}$  will always displace the other dications. These results correlate qualitatively with the electrochemical series for the metal atom displacements for the former and with the ease of preparation of the dication for the latter.

The best agreement in the benchmarking of the DFT heats of formation vs. the FPD results is found for the  $\tau$ -HCTH functional with an average absolute error of 8.3 kcal/mol. None

of the functionals can attain chemical accuracy of  $\pm 1$  kcal/mol mainly due to DFT issues with the treatment of oxygen as discussed previously. Even for the  $\tau$ -HCTH functional, there are outliers for the carbonates. The functionals with the largest average unsigned errors, 40 to 48 kcal/mol, are BP86, PW91, and PBE, the latter two of which are often used in periodic calculations for the solid state. The current results extend our prior work to more metals and provide further insights into the chemistry of the carbonate, di-bicarbonate, and bicarbonate-hydroxide complexes with metal dications. Such species may play an important role in the formation of nanoparticles,<sup>24,25</sup> which can serve as prenucleation sites in the formation of various bulk geochemical materials.

## Tables

**Table 3.1.** Experimental Atomic Properties Including Ionization Energy (IE) and Heats of Formation in eV.

Metal	1 <sup>st</sup> IE	2 <sup>nd</sup> IE	3 <sup>rd</sup> IE	$\Delta H_{0K}$ atom	$\Delta H_{0K}$ atom kcal/mol	1 <sup>st</sup> IE + 2 <sup>nd</sup> IE	TC <sup>a</sup> kcal/mol	$\Delta H_{0K}$ M <sup>2+</sup>	$\eta^b$	Ionic radii Shannon (Å) <sup>89</sup>	CN <sup>c</sup>
Mg	7.646236	15.035271	80.1436	1.51	$34.9 \pm 0.2^{68}$	22.681507	$1.19^{68}$	24.19	32.55	0.72	6
Ca	6.1131554	11.871719	50.91316	1.84	$42.4 \pm 0.2^{68}$	17.984874	$1.37^{68}$	19.82	19.52	1	6
Mn	7.434038	15.63999	33.668	2.90	$66.8^{69}$	23.074028	$1.19^{69}$	25.97	9.01	0.830	6 HS
Fe	7.9024681	16.1992	30.651	4.28	$98.7 \pm 0.3^{68}$	24.10217	$1.08^{68}$	28.38	7.23	0.78	6 HS
Co	7.88101	17.0844	33.50 <sup>d</sup>	4.41	$101.6 \pm 0.5^{68}$	24.9654	$1.14^{68}$	29.37	8.21	0.745	6 HS
Ni	7.639878	18.168838	35.187	4.43	$102.2^{69}$	25.808716	$1.14^{69}$	30.24	8.51	0.690	6
Cu	7.72638	20.29239	36.841	3.49	$80.4 \pm 0.3^{70,d}$	28.01877	$1.20^{70}$	31.51	8.27	0.73	6
Zn	9.394197	17.96439	39.72330	1.34	$31.0 \pm 0.1^{70,d}$	27.35859	$1.35^{70}$	28.70	10.88	0.740	6
Cd	8.99382	16.908313	37.468	1.16	$26.7 \pm 0.1^{69,71}$	25.90213	$1.49^{69}$	27.06	10.28	0.95	6

<sup>a</sup> TC = Thermal correction for atoms from 0 K to 298 K.

<sup>b</sup> Definition of hardness ( $\eta$ ) is  $\eta = (IE - EA)/2$  where IE = ionization energy and EA = electron affinity. For dication metals,  $\eta = (3^{rd} IE - 2^{nd} IE)/2$ . The 2<sup>nd</sup> IE is the EA for dication metals.

<sup>c</sup> CN = Coordination number for the Shannon radii. HS = high spin

<sup>d</sup> Value from ref. 70 at 298 K corrected to 0 K by results from reference 68.

**Table 3.2.** Symmetry, states, total atomization energy at 0K ( $\Sigma D_{0,0K}$ ), gaseous heat of formation from the FPD calculation at 298K, solid state heat of formation from experiments at 298K, and cohesive energies at 298K of transition metal carbonates, di-bicarbonates and bicarbonate hydroxides in kcal/mol.

Molecule	Symm	State	$\Sigma D_{0,0K}$	$\Delta H_{f,298K}(g)$	$\Delta H_{f,298K}(s)^a$	Cohesive E
MgCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>21</sup>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	492.3	-111.7	-265.7	154.0
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> <sup>21</sup>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	1189.4	-360.9		
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH) <sup>21</sup>	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	786.8	-245.0		
CaCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>21</sup>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	537.7	-149.5	-288.5 ± 0.2	139.0
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> <sup>21</sup>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	1218.8	-382.6		
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH) <sup>21</sup>	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	812.5	-263.4		
MnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	491.0	-78.4	-210.721 <sup>b</sup>	132.3
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A	1171.5	-310.7		
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A'	774.5	-200.8		
FeCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>21</sup>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>5</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	496.5	-51.8	-179.4	127.6
Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> <sup>d,e</sup>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>5</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	1173.0	-280.1	-224.6	
Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH) <sup>21</sup>	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>5</sup> A'	780.5	-174.8		
CoCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	494.7	-42.7	-174.6 <sup>c</sup>	131.9
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>4</sup> B	1170.3	-270.2		
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A'	771.4	-158.5		
NiCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	500.8	-47.2	-166	118.8
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	1166.7	-265.6		
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>3</sup> A''	770.4	-155.9		
CuCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	465.9	-39.5	-110.43±0.21	70.9
Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	1133.3	-259.3		
Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A	735.6	-148.6		
ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	440.1	-63.4	-195.52±0.1	132.1
Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	1124.3	-299.5		
Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	732.3	-194.7		
CdCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>21</sup>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	421.1	-48.5	-179.4	130.9
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> <sup>21</sup>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	1102.3	-281.7		
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH) <sup>21</sup>	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	707.8	-174.4		

<sup>a</sup> Experimental values from reference 71. <sup>b</sup> Rhodochrosite. <sup>c</sup> Sphaerocobaltite. <sup>d</sup> Following on our prior work in ref. 21,  $\Delta E_{SR}$  for Fe(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> is the sum of the mass-velocity and 1-electron Darwin (MVD) terms in the Breit-Pauli Hamiltonian calculated at the CI-SD (configuration interaction singles and doubles) level of theory using the aug-cc-pVTZ basis set. A comparison for Cd between the MVD and DK methods is small, 0.2 kcal/mol from ref. 21. <sup>e</sup> In ref. 21, the higher energy C<sub>2</sub> structure was used as the ground state for Fe(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>. Corrected hydration energies for the addition of one and two H<sub>2</sub>O molecules for the C<sub>2h</sub> structure of Fe(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> are given in Table A3.23.

**Table 3.3.** Total reaction dissociation energy (TRDE), Coulombic dissociation energy (CDE), and total dissociation energy (TDE) and electrostatic interaction from energy decomposition analysis (EDA) in Amsterdam Density Functional (ADF) in eV at 0K.

Metal Cation	HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>				HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> /OH <sup>-</sup>				CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>		
	TRDE	CDE	TDE	Electrostatic	TRDE	CDE	TDE	Electrostatic	CDE	TDE	Electrostatic
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	24.72	24.98	25.13	24.76	25.80	28.57	26.30	26.77	25.83	27.55	27.04
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	21.31	22.15	21.54	22.84	22.22	25.28	22.77	24.51	23.17	24.79	26.21
Mn <sup>2+</sup>	24.35	23.83	25.30	26.01	25.67	27.57	26.95	29.26	24.72	28.92	29.34
Fe <sup>2+</sup>	25.44	24.44	26.84	26.85	26.95	28.24	28.67	30.48	25.17	30.72	30.32
Co <sup>2+</sup>	26.00	24.66	28.39	27.69	27.24	28.59	29.89	30.44	25.32	32.27	30.75
Ni <sup>2+</sup>	26.65	25.86	30.66	30.39	28.00	28.91	30.87	31.79	25.66	34.66	32.18
Cu <sup>2+</sup>	27.67	25.10	29.57	28.01	28.96	28.95	31.14	31.62	24.90	33.77	29.34
Zn <sup>2+</sup>	26.62	24.75	27.51	27.21	28.16	28.52	29.27	30.82	25.48	30.67	29.69
Cd <sup>2+</sup>	24.22	22.61	24.50	25.08	25.65	25.73	26.22	28.41	23.08	26.22	28.41

**Table 3.4.** Heats of formation for MO, H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub> at 0K in kcal/mol, and dissociation energies.

Molecule	D <sub>0</sub>	$\Delta H_{f,0K}$ gas	$\Delta H_{f,298K}$ gas	ref
MgO	61.4	32.4	32.3	96
CaO	96.4	5.0	4.7	96
MnO	86.5±6	39.3		97
FeO	97.3±0.2	60.4		98
CoO	95.0± 2.1	65.6		99
NiO	87.5±7.2	73.7		100
CuO	68.7±2.8	70.7		101
ZnO		55.4	55.2	102
CdO	22.2	63.5		103
CO <sub>2</sub>		-94.0±0.004	-94.0±0.004	65, 66, 67
H <sub>2</sub> O		-57.1±0.006	-57.8±0.006	65, 66, 67

**Table 3.5.** Gas phase decomposition reactions at 0K in kcal/mol.

Reaction	$\Delta H_{0K}$	Reaction	$\Delta H_{0K}$	Reaction	$\Delta H_{0K}$
$\text{MgCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MgO} + \text{CO}_2$	48.8	$\text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{MgO} + 2\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	144.2	$\text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{MgO} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	123.6
$\text{CaCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaO} + \text{CO}_2$	59.1	$\text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{CaO} + 2\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	138.9	$\text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{CaO} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	114.7
$\text{MnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MnO} + \text{CO}_2$	22.5	$\text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{MnO} + 2\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	101.5	$\text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{MnO} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	86.6
$\text{FeCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeO} + \text{CO}_2$	17.2	$\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{FeO} + 2\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	92.2	$\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{FeO} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	81.8
$\text{CoCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CoO} + \text{CO}_2$	13.2	$\text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{CoO} + 2\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	87.3	$\text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{CoO} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	70.5
$\text{NiCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiO} + \text{CO}_2$	25.7	$\text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{NiO} + 2\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	90.2	$\text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{NiO} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	76.0
$\text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CuO} + \text{CO}_2$	15.1	$\text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{CuO} + 2\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	81.2	$\text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{CuO} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	65.5
$\text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{ZnO} + \text{CO}_2$	23.5	$\text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{ZnO} + 2\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	106.2	$\text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{ZnO} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	96.3
$\text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CdO} + \text{CO}_2$	16.8	$\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{CdO} + 2\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	96.6	$\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{CdO} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	84.2

**Table 3.6.** Exothermic gas phase metal exchange energy at 0K in kcal/mol.

Displacement Reaction	$\Delta H_{0K}$ (g) neutral	$\Delta H_{0K}$ (g) dication
$\text{Ca} + \text{MgCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Mg}$	-45.2	63.1
$\text{Ca} + \text{MnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Mn}$	-46.5	70.9
$\text{Ca} + \text{FeCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Fe}$	-41.0	100.1
$\text{Ca} + \text{CoCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Co}$	-47.3	113.7
$\text{Ca} + \text{NiCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Ni}$	-42.3	138.1
$\text{Ca} + \text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Cu}$	-71.6	159.7
$\text{Ca} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	-97.4	118.8
$\text{Ca} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-116.5	66.1
$\text{Ca} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mg}$	-29.6	78.7
$\text{Ca} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mn}$	-47.2	70.1
$\text{Ca} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Fe}$	-45.7	95.3
$\text{Ca} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Co}$	-53.0	108.0
$\text{Ca} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ni}$	-57.6	122.9
$\text{Ca} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cu}$	-85.4	146.0
$\text{Ca} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	-94.4	121.7
$\text{Ca} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-116.5	66.1
$\text{Ca} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mg}$	-26.0	82.3
$\text{Ca} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mn}$	-37.9	79.4
$\text{Ca} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Fe}$	-32.0	109.1
$\text{Ca} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Co}$	-45.6	115.4
$\text{Ca} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ni}$	-47.6	132.8
$\text{Ca} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cu}$	-76.9	154.5
$\text{Ca} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	-80.2	136.0
$\text{Ca} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-104.7	77.9
$\text{Mg} + \text{MnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MgCO}_3 + \text{Mn}$	-1.3	7.8
$\text{Mg} + \text{CoCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MgCO}_3 + \text{Co}$	-2.1	50.6
$\text{Mg} + \text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MgCO}_3 + \text{Cu}$	-26.4	96.6
$\text{Mg} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MgCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	-52.2	55.7
$\text{Mg} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MgCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-71.2	3.0
$\text{Mg} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mn}$	-17.6	-8.6
$\text{Mg} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Fe}$	-16.1	16.6
$\text{Mg} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Co}$	-23.4	29.3
$\text{Mg} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ni}$	-28.0	44.2
$\text{Mg} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cu}$	-55.7	67.3
$\text{Mg} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	-64.8	43.0
$\text{Mg} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-86.8	-12.6
$\text{Mg} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mn}$	-11.9	-2.9
$\text{Mg} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Fe}$	-6.0	26.8
$\text{Mg} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Co}$	-19.6	33.1
$\text{Mg} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ni}$	-21.6	50.5
$\text{Mg} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cu}$	-50.9	72.2

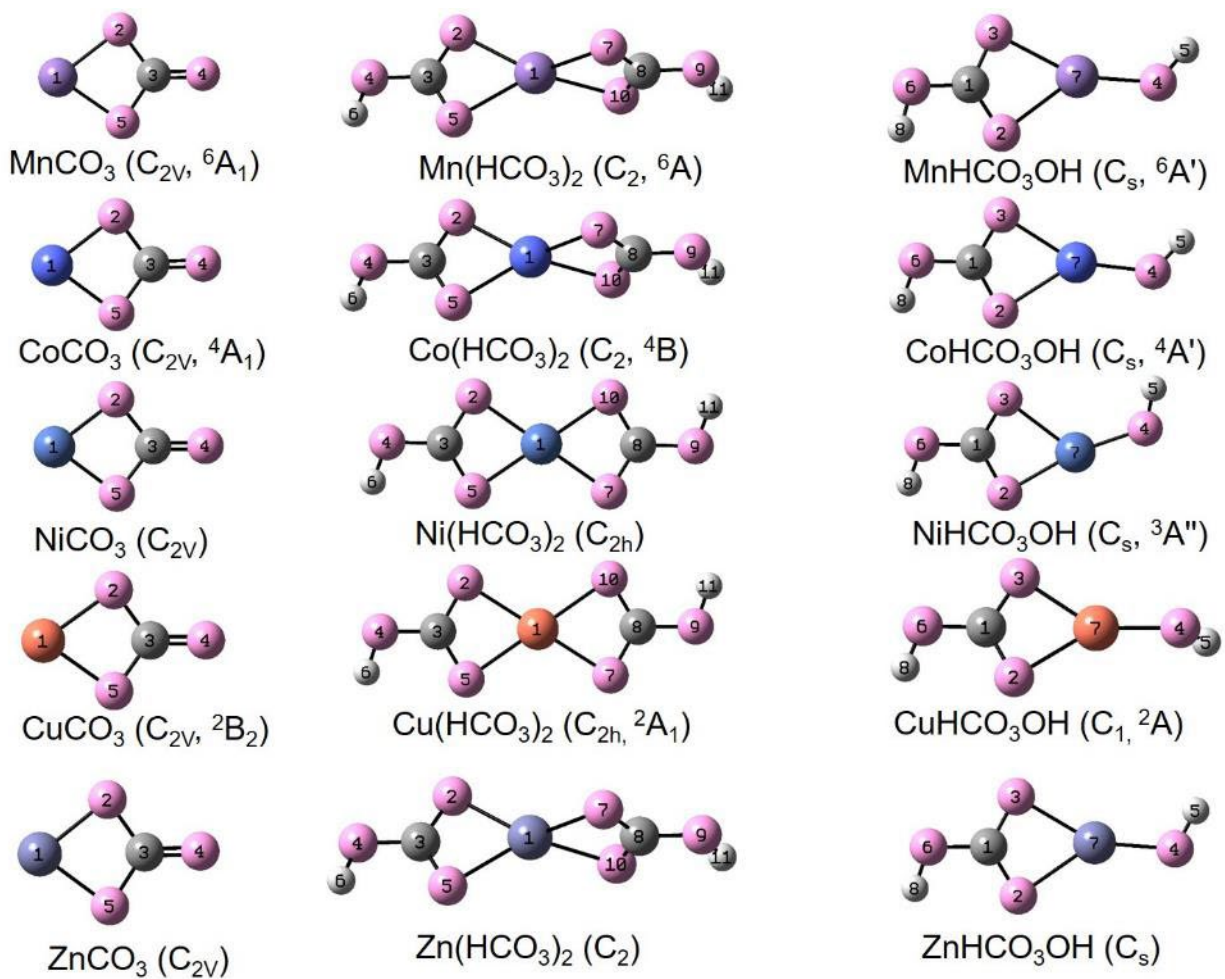
$\text{Mg} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	-54.2	53.7
$\text{Mg} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-78.6	-4.4
$\text{Mn} + \text{CoCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MnCO}_3 + \text{Co}$	-0.8	42.8
$\text{Mn} + \text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MnCO}_3 + \text{Cu}$	-25.2	88.9
$\text{Mn} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MnCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	-50.9	47.9
$\text{Mn} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MnCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-70.0	-4.7
$\text{Mn} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Co}$	-5.8	37.9
$\text{Mn} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ni}$	-10.3	52.7
$\text{Mn} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cu}$	-38.1	75.9
$\text{Mn} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	-47.2	51.6
$\text{Mn} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-69.2	-4.0
$\text{Mn} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Co}$	-7.6	36.0
$\text{Mn} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ni}$	-9.7	53.4
$\text{Mn} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cu}$	-39.0	75.1
$\text{Mn} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	-42.2	56.6
$\text{Mn} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-66.7	-1.5
$\text{Fe} + \text{MgCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Mg}$	-4.2	-37.0
$\text{Fe} + \text{MnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Mn}$	-5.5	-29.2
$\text{Fe} + \text{CoCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Co}$	-6.3	13.6
$\text{Fe} + \text{NiCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Ni}$	-1.3	38.1
$\text{Fe} + \text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Cu}$	-30.7	59.7
$\text{Fe} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	-56.4	18.7
$\text{Fe} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-75.5	-34.0
$\text{Fe} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mn}$	-1.5	-25.2
$\text{Fe} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Co}$	-7.3	12.7
$\text{Fe} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ni}$	-11.8	27.5
$\text{Fe} + {}^2\text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cu}$	-39.6	50.7
$\text{Fe} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	-48.7	26.4
$\text{Fe} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow {}^5\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-70.4	-28.8
$\text{Fe} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mn}$	-6.0	-29.7
$\text{Fe} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Co}$	-13.6	6.3
$\text{Fe} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ni}$	-15.6	23.7
$\text{Fe} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cu}$	-44.9	45.4
$\text{Fe} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	-48.2	26.9
$\text{Fe} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-72.7	-31.2
$\text{Co} + \text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CoCO}_3 + \text{Cu}$	-24.3	46.1
$\text{Co} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CoCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	-49.9	5.3
$\text{Co} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CoCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-69.1	-47.5
$\text{Co} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ni}$	-4.6	14.9
$\text{Co} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cu}$	-32.4	38.0
$\text{Co} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	-41.5	13.7
$\text{Co} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-63.5	-41.9
$\text{Co} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ni}$	-2.0	17.4
$\text{Co} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cu}$	-31.3	39.1
$\text{Co} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	-34.6	20.6

$\text{Co} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-59.1	-37.5
$\text{Ni} + \text{MgCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiCO}_3 + \text{Mg}$	-2.9	-75.0
$\text{Ni} + \text{MnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiCO}_3 + \text{Mn}$	-4.2	-67.3
$\text{Ni} + \text{CoCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiCO}_3 + \text{Co}$	-5.0	-24.5
$\text{Ni} + \text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiCO}_3 + \text{Cu}$	-29.4	21.6
$\text{Ni} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	-55.1	-19.3
$\text{Ni} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-74.2	-72.0
$\text{Ni} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cu}$	-27.8	23.2
$\text{Ni} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	-36.9	-1.1
$\text{Ni} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-58.9	-56.7
$\text{Ni} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cu}$	-29.3	21.7
$\text{Ni} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	-32.5	3.2
$\text{Ni} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-57.0	-54.9
$\text{Cu} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CuCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	-25.7	-40.9
$\text{Cu} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CuCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-44.8	-93.6
$\text{Cu} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	-9.1	-24.3
$\text{Cu} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-31.1	-79.9
$\text{Cu} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	-3.3	-18.5
$\text{Cu} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-27.7	-76.6
$\text{Zn} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{ZnCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-19.1	-52.7
$\text{Zn} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-22.0	-55.6
$\text{Zn} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-24.5	-58.1

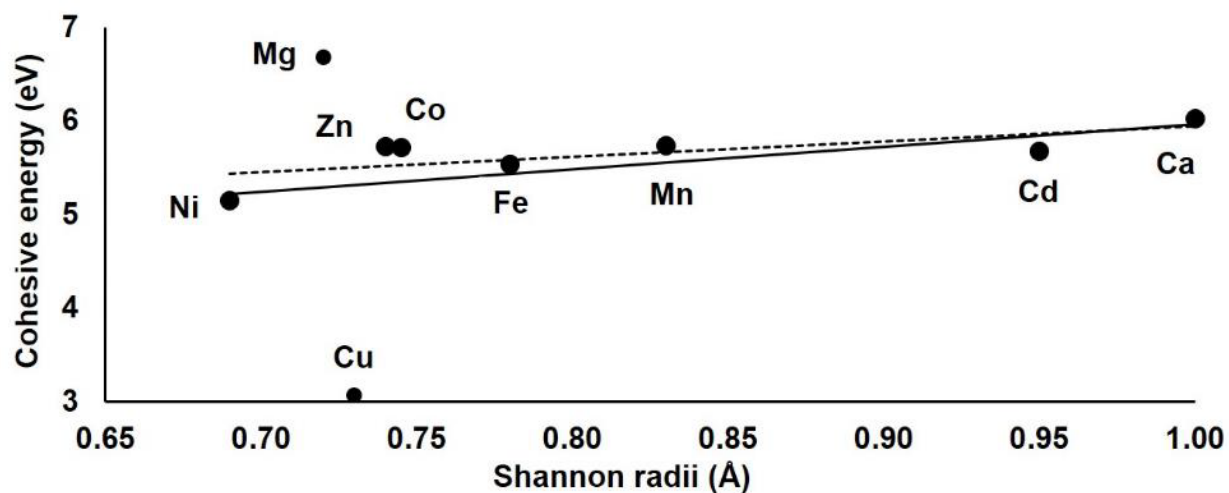
**Table 3.7.** Average absolute  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  errors of DFT functionals compared to FPD results in kcal/mol for  $MCO_3$ ,  $M(HCO_3)_2$ ,  $M(HCO_3)(OH)$  ( $M = Mg, Ca, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn$  and  $Cd$ ).

Functional	All M atoms	1st row transition M	1st row transition M + Ca
PW91	47.5	50.3	50.0
BP86	40.3	41.2	42.8
M06	14.9	19.8	17.9
PBE	44.0	46.5	46.2
PBE0	10.2	13.4	11.9
B3LYP	13.6	12.8	12.5
HSE06	10.9	13.1	11.9
$\tau$ -HCTH	8.3	8.8	8.4
$\omega$ B97X	12.6	18.0	15.7
$\omega$ B97X-D	11.6	15.3	13.4

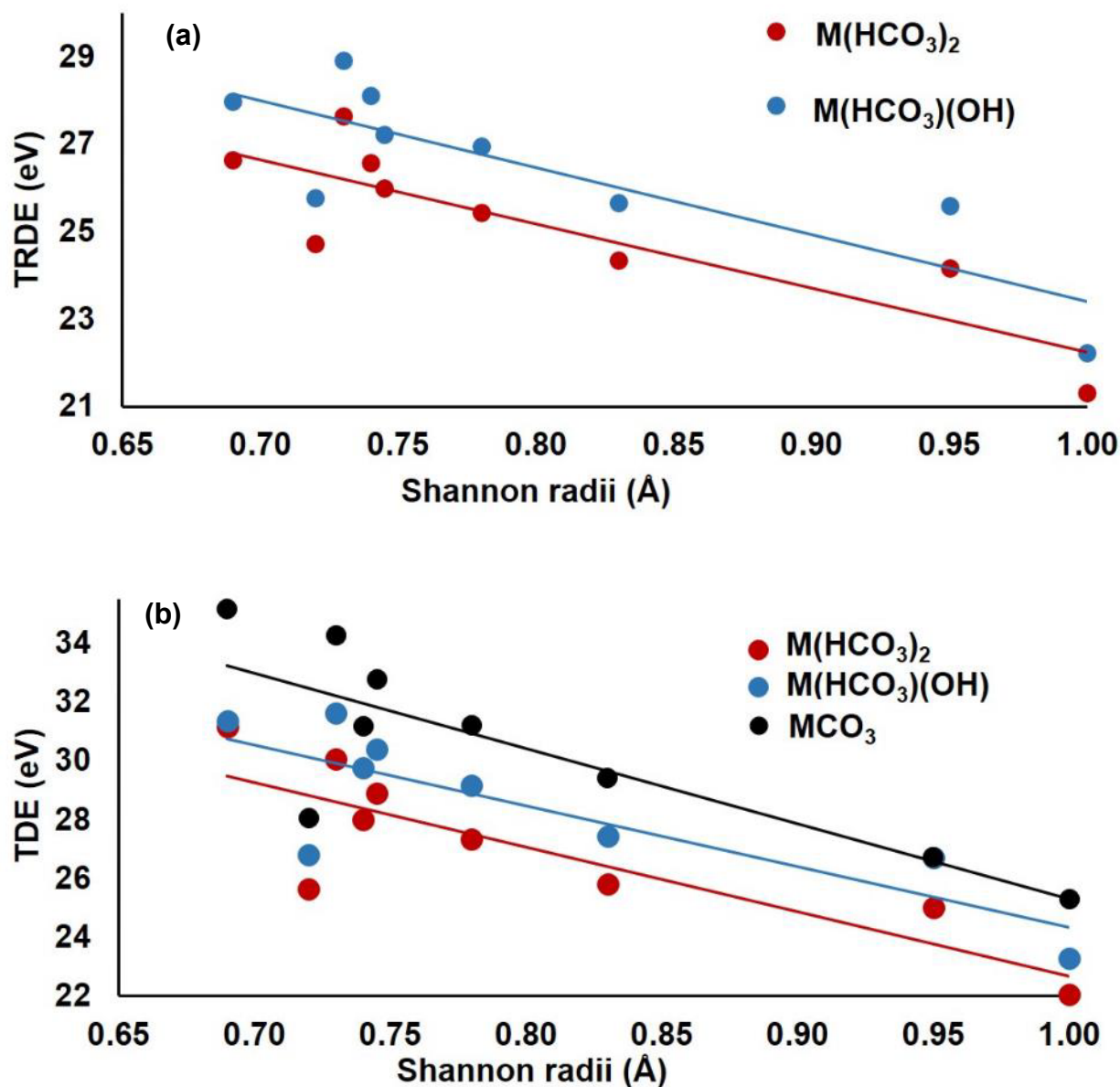
## Figures



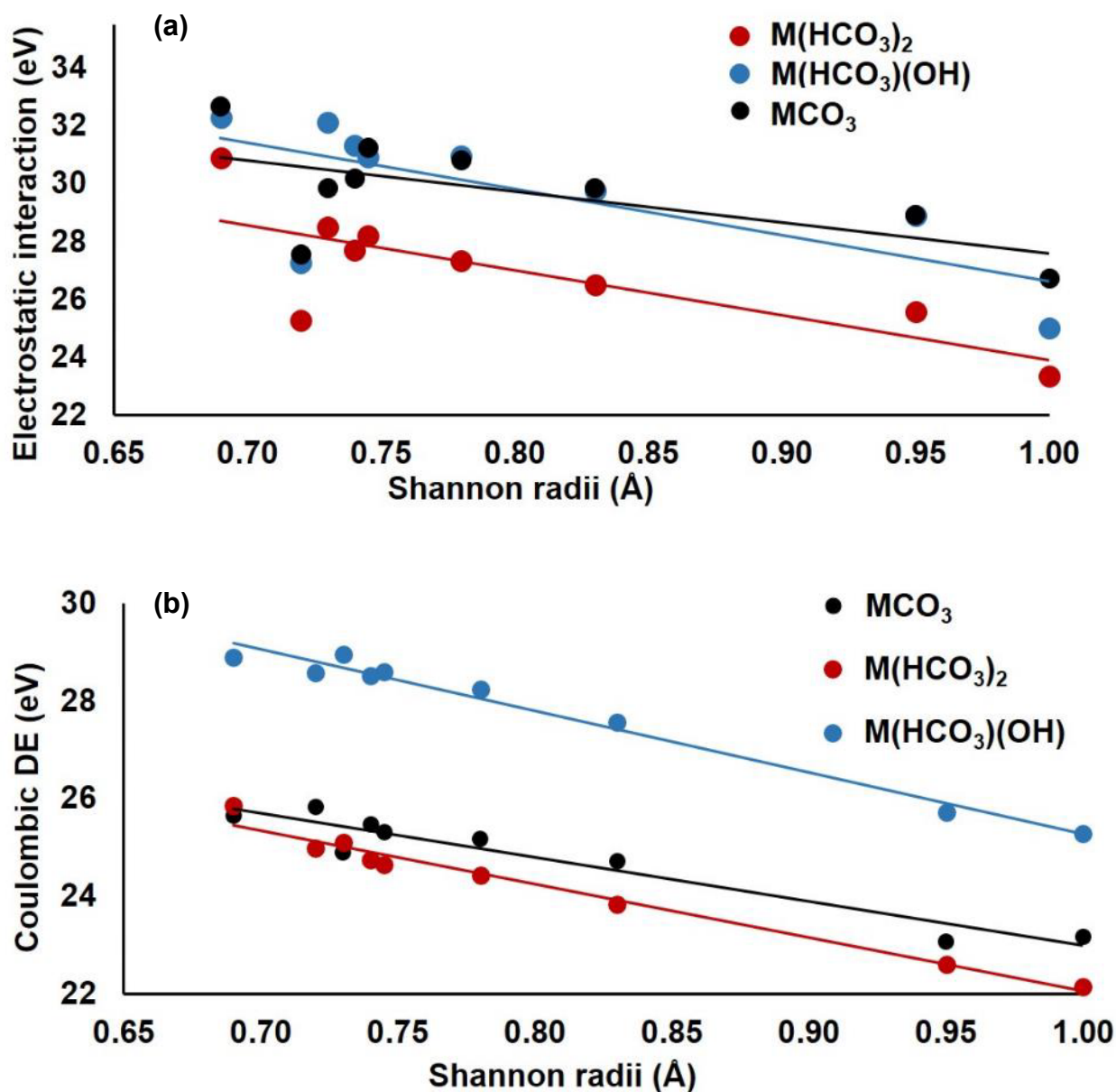
**Figure 3.1.** Geometries, symmetry and spin states for MCO<sub>3</sub>, M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and MHCO<sub>3</sub>OH (M = Mn, Co, Ni, Cu and Zn) (O = pink, H = white, C = gray, Mn = purple, Co = blue, Ni = light blue, Cu = orange, Zn = light purple).



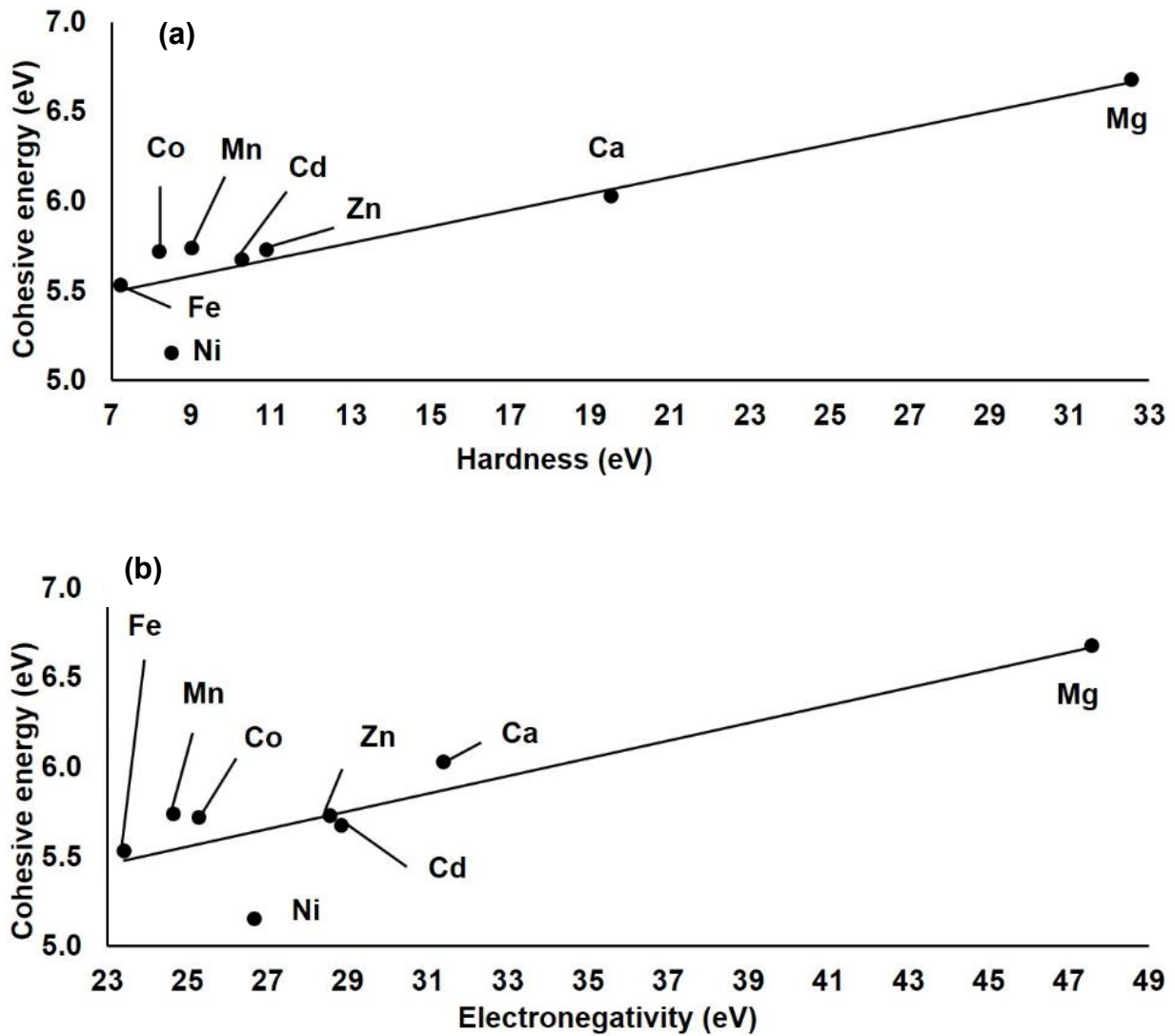
**Figure 3.2.** Cohesive energy of  $\text{MCO}_3$  at 0K vs. Shannon radii of the metal cations. The linear fit equation for all the metals (solid line) is  $y = 2.41x + 3.56$  ( $R^2 = 0.07$ ). The linear fit equation for metals not including Mg and Cu (square dot line) is  $y = 1.63x + 4.32$  ( $R^2 = 0.50$ ).



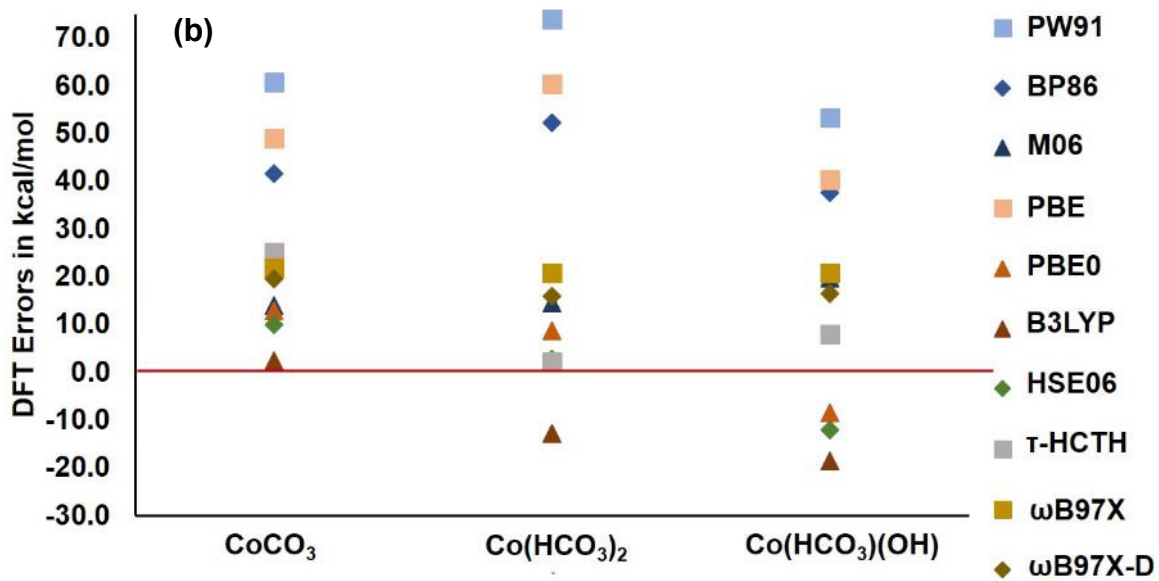
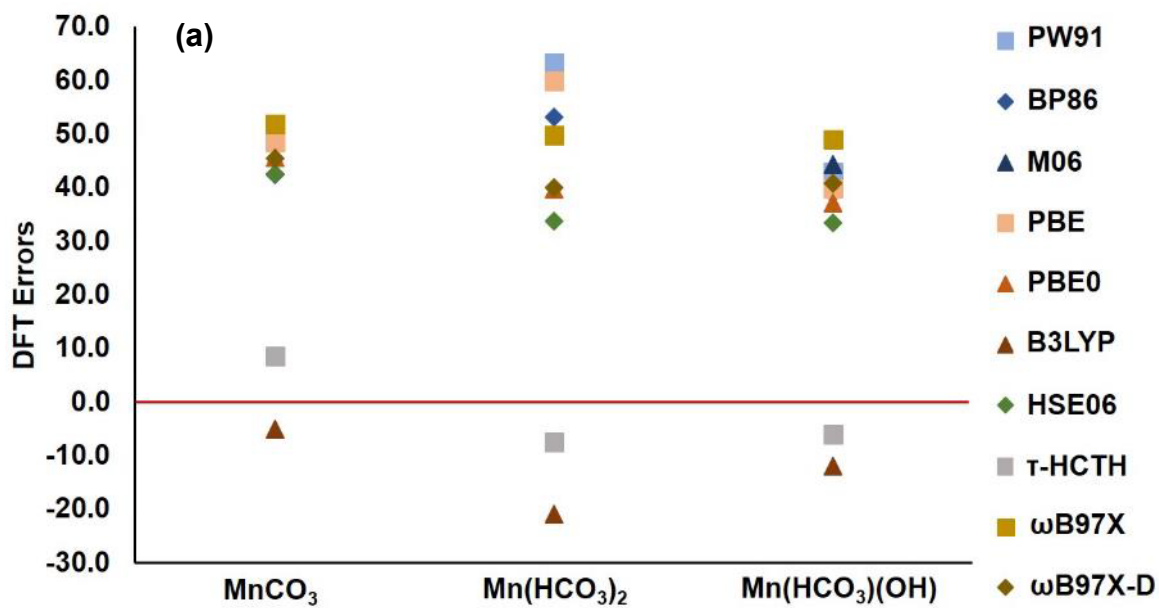
**Figure 3.3.**(a) TRDE of  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  at 0K vs. Shannon radii of metal cations. The linear fit equations for  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are  $y = -14.71x + 36.95$  ( $R^2 = 0.73$ ) and  $y = -15.32x + 38.72$  ( $R^2 = 0.72$ ), respectively. (b) TDE of  $M\text{CO}_3$ ,  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  at 0K vs. Shannon radii of metal cations. The linear fit equations for  $M\text{CO}_3$ ,  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are  $y = -25.61x + 50.40$  ( $R^2 = 0.68$ ),  $y = -21.97x + 44.14$  ( $R^2 = 0.72$ ), and  $y = -20.66x + 44.50$  ( $R^2 = 0.69$ ), respectively.

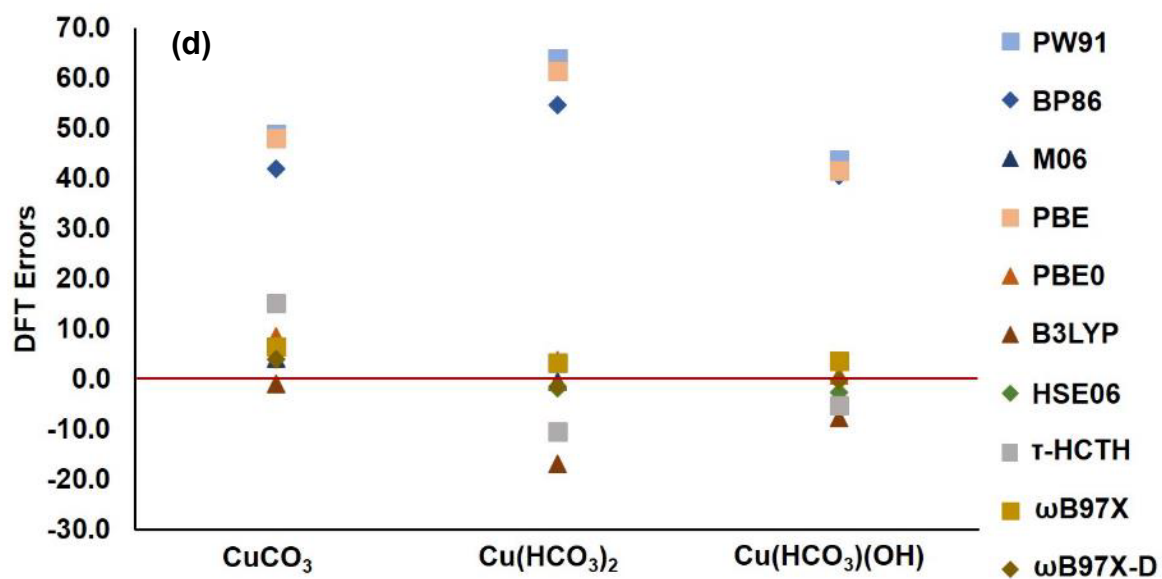
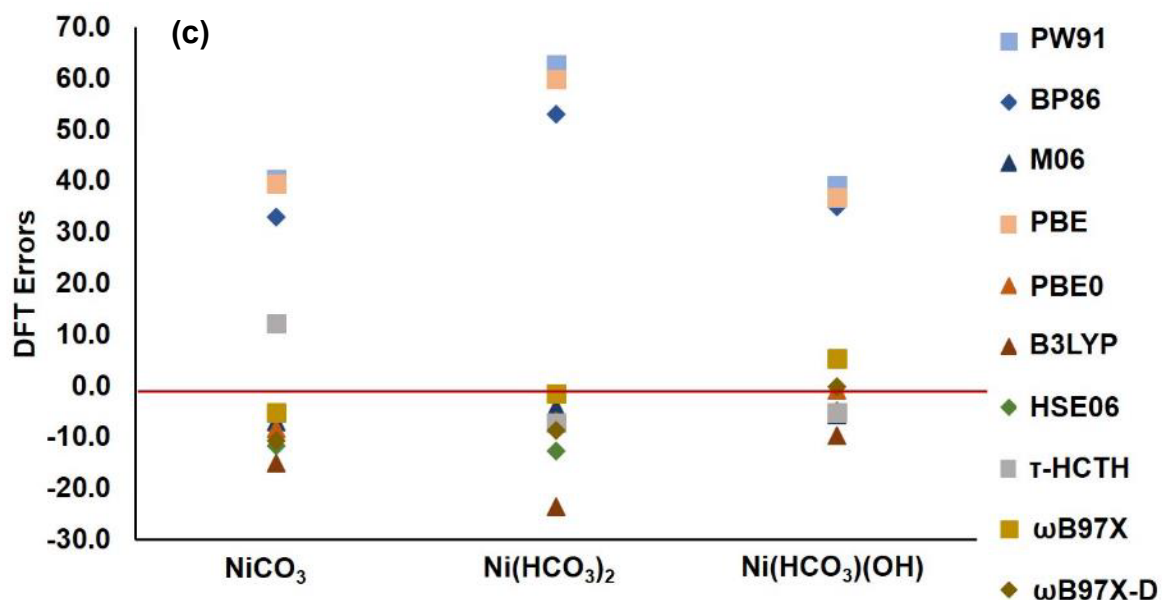


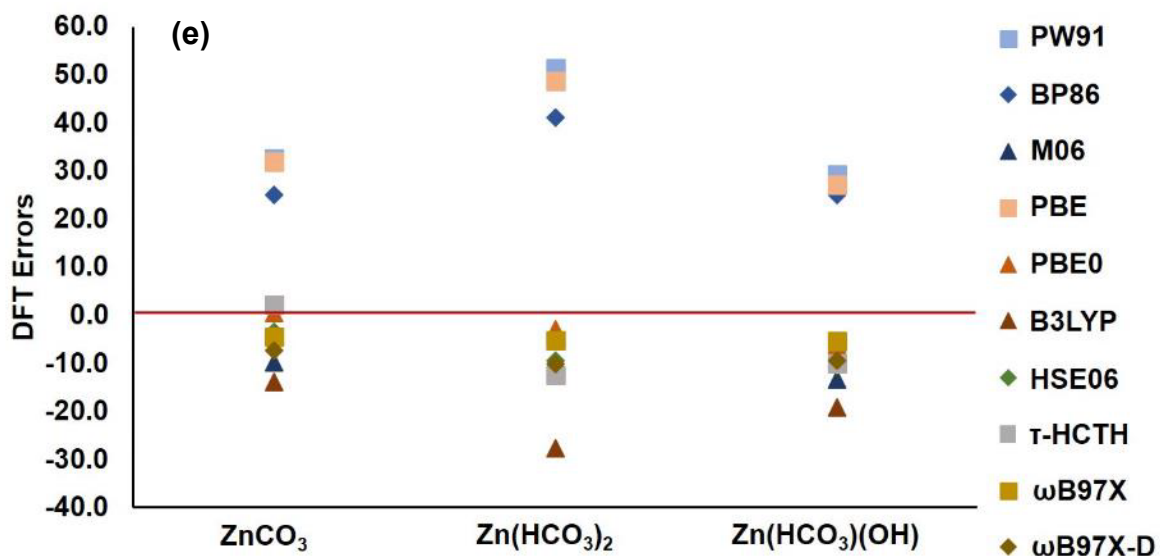
**Figure 3.4.** (a) Coulombic dissociation energy of  $M\text{CO}_3$ ,  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  at 0K vs. Shannon radii of metal cations. The linear fit equations for  $M\text{CO}_3$ ,  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are  $y = -9.03x + 32.02$  ( $R^2 = 0.92$ ),  $y = -10.98x + 33.03$  ( $R^2 = 0.98$ ), and  $y = -12.60x + 37.88$  ( $R^2 = 0.98$ ), respectively. (b) Electrostatic interaction of  $M\text{CO}_3$ ,  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  at 0K vs. Shannon radii of metal cations. The linear fit equations for  $M\text{CO}_3$ ,  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are  $y = -10.80x + 37.88$  ( $R^2 = 0.41$ ),  $y = -15.66x + 39.04$  ( $R^2 = 0.60$ ), and  $y = -16.03x + 42.14$  ( $R^2 = 0.52$ ), respectively.



**Figure 3.5.** Cohesive energy of  $MCO_3$  at 0K vs. hardness and electronegativity of metal cations, not including Cu. (a) The linear fit equation for hardness is  $y = 0.05x + 5.17$  ( $R^2 = 0.83$ ). (b) The linear fit equation for electronegativity is  $y = 0.05x + 4.33$  ( $R^2 = 0.75$ ).







**Figure 3.6.**  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  in kcal/mol distributions of DFT errors compared to the FPD results for (a) Mn, (b) Co, (c) Ni, (d) Cu, and (e) Zn.

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Appendix: Thermodynamics of the Metal Carbonates and Bicarbonates of Mn, Co, Ni, Cu, and Zn Relevant to Mineral Energetics

**Update for Fe(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and FeCO<sub>3</sub> from Reference 21.**

We found the lowest energy structure for in C<sub>2h</sub> with the <sup>5</sup>A<sub>g</sub> state, instead of the previous reported C<sub>2</sub> (<sup>5</sup>B) structure in reference 21. Thus, we updated results related to the Fe(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> C<sub>2h</sub> (<sup>5</sup>A<sub>g</sub>) structure as a correction in the SI, including the gas phase heat of formation at 0 K (see Table A3.10), DFT errors benchmarking the FPD heat of formation at 0 K (see Table A3.22), hydration energies (see Table A3.23), the contributions to total atomization energy at the CCSD(T) level and the related electronic energies (see Table A3.26-A3.28), and geometries (see Table A3.36). The electronic energies calculated with the ωB97X and ωB97X-D functionals and their errors against the FPD heat of formation were corrected for FeCO<sub>3</sub> (C<sub>2v</sub>, <sup>5</sup>A<sub>1</sub>) in Table A3.24.

**Table A3.1.** Relative electronic energies,  $\Delta E$ , in kcal/mol for different spin states at the B3LYP/aT level ( $S^2$ ) and the CCSD(T)/aD level,  $T_1$  values at the CCSD(T)/aD level.

Molecules	Symmetry	State	B3LYP $S^2$	$\Delta E$ B3LYP/aT	$\Delta E$ CCSD(T)/aD	$T_1$ /aD
MnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	8.75	0.0	0.0	0.030
MnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>4</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	3.77	22.2	37.1	0.019
MnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>2</sub>	0.75	58.5	73.9	0.022
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A	8.75	0.0	0.0	0.064
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	3.75	26.2	44.8	0.048
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> 1	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>2</sub>	0.75	62.6	87.1	0.035
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> 2	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>g</sub>	0.75	61.1	84.2	0.046
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A'	8.75	0.0	0.0	0.022
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A	3.75	35.9	50.8	0.028
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A	0.75	63.0	73.9	0.041
CoCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	3.75	0.0	0.0	0.041
CoCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>2</sub>	0.75	12.0	10.8	0.055
CoCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>6</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	8.75	42.6	56.4	0.169
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>4</sup> B	3.75	0.0	0.0	0.023
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>g</sub>	0.75	14.3	18.1	0.032
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A	8.76	97.0	97.8	0.041
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A'	3.75	0.0	0.0	0.028
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B	0.76	14.0	26.7	0.041
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A	8.75	76.1	75.2	0.048
NiCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.064
NiCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>3</sup> B <sub>1</sub>	2.00	1.5	6.0 <sup>a</sup>	0.052
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	0.00	0.0	0.0 <sup>b</sup>	0.032
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>3</sup> B	2.00	0.3	1.4 <sup>b</sup>	0.024
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>3</sup> A''	2.00	0.0	0.0	0.034
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	0.00	17.6	16.0	0.047

<sup>a</sup>  $\Delta E(aT) = 7.8$ ,  $\Delta E(aQ) = 8.4$  kcal/mol.

<sup>b</sup> Value at the CCSD(T)/aQ level. The state ordering switches between the aD and aT basis sets at the CCSD(T) level.  $\Delta E(aD) = 1.5$  kcal/mol favoring the triplet.  $\Delta E(aT) = 0.7$  kcal/mol favoring the singlet.

**Table A3.2.** T<sub>1</sub> values at the CCSD(T) level.

Molecules	Symm	State	aD	aT	aQ	aT-DK	awT (core)	awT (valence)
MnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	0.030	0.028	0.028	0.028	0.025	0.028
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A	0.019	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.016	0.016
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A'	0.022	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.018	0.020
Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>5</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	0.025	0.023	0.022		0.020	0.023
CoCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	0.041	0.040	0.039	0.040	0.034	0.040
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>4</sup> B	0.023	0.022	0.021	0.022	0.019	0.019
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A'	0.028	0.027	0.026	0.027	0.023	0.023
NiCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>3</sup> B <sub>1</sub>	0.052	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.042	0.050
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>3</sup> B	0.024	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.020	0.020
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>3</sup> A''	0.034	0.033	0.032	0.033	0.028	0.033
NiCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	0.064	0.061	0.060	0.062	0.050	0.061
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	0.032	0.031	0.030	0.031	0.026	0.030
CuCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	0.079	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.062	0.075
Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	0.028	0.026	0.026	0.026	0.022	0.026
Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A	0.035	0.034	0.033	0.034	0.028	0.033
ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	0.026	0.024	0.023	0.024	0.020	0.024
Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	0.018	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.015	0.017
Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	0.019	0.018	0.017	0.018	0.015	0.018
Mn	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>6</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.020	0.022	0.023	0.023	0.020	0.023
Co	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>4</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.021	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.019	0.023
Ni	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.020	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.022	0.023
Cu	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.024	0.025	0.025	0.026	0.021	0.025
Zn	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.018	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.018	0.021
C	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0.008	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.006	0.007
O	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0.009	0.007	0.006	0.007	0.005	0.006
H	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

**Table A3.3.** Angles for  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  for M a first row transition metal.

Metal	$\text{CO}_3^{2-}$		$\text{HCO}_3^-$				$[(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})]^{2-}$			
	<OMO	<OCO	<OMO	<OCO	<HOC	<Torsion (2,5,10,7)	<OMO	<OCO	<HOC	<HOM
$\text{Mn}^{2+}$	71.9°	109.5°	63.2°	121.2°	107.9°	85.2°	63.0°	121.2°	107.8°	127.5°
$\text{Fe}^{2+ \text{ a}}$	73.4°	108.6°	64.5°	120.4°	108.0°	0	64.6°	120.5°	107.9°	127.3°
$\text{Co}^{2+}$	74.0°	107.8°	65.7°	112.0°	108.1°	84.8°	64.6°	120.5°	107.9°	127.3°
$\text{Ni}^{2+}$	74.1°	104.0°	69.3°	117.5°	108.4°	0	66.2°	119.8°	108.3°	121.3°
$\text{Cu}^{2+}$	70.8°	108.2°	66.9°	119.4°	108.2°	0	67.0°	119.0°	108.4°	91.3° <sup>b</sup>
$\text{Zn}^{2+}$	74.8°	111.4°	65.9°	120.7°	108.1°	84.8°	65.7°	120.5°	108.1°	114.0°

<sup>a</sup> Angles for  $\text{FeCO}_3$  and  $\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are from our previous work, reference 21 in the text. <sup>b</sup> Dihedral angle of atom 5, 4, 7, 2.

**Table A3.4.** Bond lengths (Å) for  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$ , for M a first row transition metal.

Metal	$\text{CO}_3^{2-}$		$\text{HCO}_3^-$		$[(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})]^{2-}$	
	C – O	M – O	C – O	M – O	C – O	M – O
$\text{Mn}^{2+}$	1.368/1.198	1.903	1.333/1.273/1.262	2.112/2.101	1.333/1.269/1.264	2.138/2.090/1.835
$\text{Fe}^{2+ \text{ a}}$	1.367/1.195	1.858	1.329/1.273/1.263	2.067/2.056	1.330/1.270/1.264	2.076/2.044/1.790
$\text{Co}^{2+}$	1.369/1.194	1.839	1.328/1.273/1.263	2.029/2.021	1.330/1.271/1.265	2.076/2.044/1.790
$\text{Ni}^{2+}$	1.353/1.191	1.770	1.323/1.273/1.263	1.907/1.907	1.327/1.289/1.249	2.081/1.931/1.748
$\text{Cu}^{2+}$	1.341/1.202	1.874	1.327/1.272/1.263	1.988/1.979	1.326/1.272/1.262	1.981/1.975/1.758
$\text{Zn}^{2+}$	1.375/1.799	1.871	1.329/1.273/1.265	2.037/2.015	1.329/1.270/1.267	2.048/2.009/1.780

<sup>a</sup> Bond lengths for  $\text{FeCO}_3$  and  $\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are from our our previous work, reference 21 in the text.

**Table A3.5.** Relative electronic energy in kcal/mol as compared to the lowest energy structure for  $C_2$  and  $C_{2h}$   $M(HCO_3)_2$  optimized at the level.

Metal	ground state	Higher energy state	B3LYP/aT	Imaginary $\nu$ ( $cm^{-1}$ )	CCSD(T)/aD <sup>a</sup>	CCSD(T)/aT <sup>a</sup>
Mg	$C_2, ^1A$	$C_{2h}, ^1A_g$	3.7	67.2i	3.8	3.7
Ca	$C_2, ^1A$	$C_{2h}, ^1A_g$	2.9	57.4i	2.2	2.4
Mn	$C_2, ^6A$	$C_{2h}, ^6A_g$	4.1	71.9i	3.4	3.6
Fe	$C_{2h}, ^5A_g$	$C_2, ^5B$	1.1	a	2.5	1.9
Co	$C_2, ^4B$	$C_{2h}, ^4A_g$	3.0	56.3i	2.3	2.6
Ni	$C_{2h}, ^1A_g$	$C_2, ^1A$	44.5	b		
		$C_2, ^3B$	0.3	a	-1.5	0.7
		$C_{2h}, ^3B_g$	2.1	a	0.0	2.6
Cu	$C_{2h}, ^2A_g$	$C_2, ^2A$	16.9	b		
Zn	$C_2, ^1A$	$C_{2h}, ^1A_g$	4.5	73.1i	4.7	4.9
Cd	$C_2, ^1A$	$C_{2h}, ^1A_g$	2.6	53.5i	2.7	2.8

<sup>a</sup> The structures are minima. <sup>b</sup> The single point energy of  $C_2$  structures were calculated by simply replacing Co atom with Ni atom in the model of  $C_2$   $Co(HCO_3)_2$  without optimizing the geometry. Under optimization, the symmetry reverts back to  $C_{2h}$  for Ni.

<sup>a</sup> The cc-pwcvnz basis set were used for Ca and Mg, n = D and T.

**Table A3.6.** Electronic energies for higher energy states of  $M(HCO_3)_2$  in Table A3.5 at the CCSD(T)/aD and aT levels.

	Higher energy state	aD	aT
Mg <sup>a</sup>	$C_{2h}, ^1A_g$	-727.638875	-728.222427
Ca <sup>a</sup>	$C_{2h}, ^1A_g$	-1204.897477	-1205.424690
Mn	$C_{2h}, ^6A_g$	-631.141167	-631.613151
Fe	$C_2, ^5B$	-650.584221	-651.070793
Co	$C_{2h}, ^4A_g$	-672.414878	-672.912781
Ni	$C_2, ^3B$	-696.756242	-697.269169
Ni	$C_{2h}, ^3B_g$	-696.753889	-697.266158
Zn	$C_{2h}, ^1A_g$	-754.179299	-754.705667
Cd	$C_{2h}, ^1A_g$	-694.960668	-695.493082

<sup>a</sup> The cc-pwcvnz basis set were used for Ca and Mg, n = D and T.

**Table A3.7.**  $T_1$  values at the CCSD(T)/aD and aT levels for Table A3.6.

	Higher energy state	aD	aT
Mg <sup>a</sup>	C <sub>2h</sub> , <sup>1</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	0.016	0.015
Ca <sup>a</sup>	C <sub>2h</sub> , <sup>1</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	0.016	0.015
Mn	C <sub>2h</sub> , <sup>6</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	0.019	0.018
Fe	C <sub>2</sub> , <sup>5</sup> B	0.021	0.020
Co	C <sub>2h</sub> , <sup>4</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	0.022	0.021
Ni	C <sub>2</sub> , <sup>3</sup> B	0.024	0.023
Ni	C <sub>2h</sub> , <sup>3</sup> B <sub>g</sub>	0.024	0.023
Zn	C <sub>2h</sub> , <sup>1</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	0.018	0.017
Cd	C <sub>2h</sub> , <sup>1</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	0.019	0.018

<sup>a</sup> The cc-pwcvnz basis set were used for Ca and Mg, n = D and T.

**Table A3.8.** 3d orbital occupancy from NBO analysis.

3d orbital	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Cd
MCO <sub>3</sub>							
d <sub>xy</sub>	1.05	1.06	1.09	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
d <sub>xz</sub>	1.05	1.06	1.08	1.99	2.00	2.00	2.00
d <sub>yz</sub>	1.17	1.28	1.27	0.82	1.65	1.99	1.99
d <sub>x<sup>2</sup>-y<sup>2</sup></sub>	1.00	1.64	1.97	1.95	1.98	1.99	1.99
d <sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub>	1.03	1.29	1.98	1.97	1.98	2.00	1.99
M(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>							
d <sub>xy</sub>	1.07	1.05	1.12	1.83	1.90	2.00	2.00
d <sub>xz</sub>	1.01	1.02	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
d <sub>yz</sub>	1.07	1.03	1.12	1.99	2.00	2.00	2.00
d <sub>x<sup>2</sup>-y<sup>2</sup></sub>	1.01	1.14	1.72	0.82	1.44	1.99	1.98
d <sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub>	1.01	1.92	1.26	1.93	1.97	2.00	1.99
M(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)							
d <sub>xy</sub>	1.07	1.11	1.15	1.21	1.37	2.00	1.99
d <sub>xz</sub>	1.01	1.01	1.02	1.66	2.00	2.00	2.00
d <sub>yz</sub>	1.07	1.08	1.12	1.50	2.00	2.00	2.00
d <sub>x<sup>2</sup>-y<sup>2</sup></sub>	1.02	1.16	1.91	1.97	1.96	1.97	1.97
d <sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub>	1.00	1.87	1.95	1.94	1.96	1.98	1.98

**Table A3.9** EDA in eV.

	Symm	State	Total BE	Electrostatic Interaction <sup>a,b</sup>	Pauli Repulsion <sup>a</sup>	Orbital Interactions <sup>a</sup>	Kinetic Energy <sup>b</sup>	Coulomb (Steric+OrbInt) Energy <sup>b</sup>	XC Energy <sup>b</sup>
MgCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-27.55	-27.04	4.26	-4.76	35.62	-32.13	-4.00
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-25.13	-24.76	4.16	-4.52	33.66	-27.92	-6.11
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-25.04	-24.48	3.89	-4.45	32.35	-27.05	-5.87
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	-26.30	-26.77	4.55	-4.08	32.76	-26.52	-5.77
CaCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-24.79	-26.21	7.05	-5.63	47.36	-39.20	-6.74
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-21.54	-22.84	5.37	-4.07	37.16	-29.28	-6.57
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-21.44	-22.56	5.01	-3.88	35.41	-27.99	-6.30
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	-22.77	-24.51	5.73	-3.99	37.55	-29.45	-6.36
MnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-28.92	-29.34	8.09	-7.67	24.70	-22.57	-1.71
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A	-25.30	-26.01	6.71	-5.99	21.48	-17.48	-3.29
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-25.09	-25.63	6.33	-5.79	21.56	-17.74	-3.29
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A'	-26.95	-29.26	8.55	-6.24	18.66	-13.95	-2.41
FeCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>5</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-30.72	-30.32	11.09	-11.48	26.42	-24.01	-2.81
Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>5</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-26.84	-26.85	10.01	-10.00	21.96	-17.75	-4.20
Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> B	-26.75	-27.18	10.43	-10.00	25.75	-20.18	-5.14
Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>5</sup> A'	-28.67	-30.48	9.56	-7.75	21.36	-15.58	-3.97
CoCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-32.27	-30.75	10.26	-11.78	31.23	-28.31	-4.44
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>4</sup> B	-28.39	-27.69	9.57	-10.27	26.24	-21.41	-5.53
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-28.13	-27.43	9.36	-10.06	27.68	-22.21	-6.17
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A'	-29.89	-30.44	8.88	-8.32	20.76	-16.28	-3.92
NiCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-34.66	-32.18	10.75	-13.23	36.09	-31.80	-6.77
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-30.66	-30.39	12.04	-12.31	29.78	-22.32	-7.72
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>3</sup> A''	-30.87	-31.79	10.18	-9.26	27.02	-20.48	-5.62
CuCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	-33.77	-29.34	6.78	-11.21	33.63	-33.19	-4.87
Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-29.57	-28.01	8.15	-9.71	29.87	-25.36	-6.07
Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A	-31.14	-31.62	9.44	-8.96	28.43	-22.66	-5.30
ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-30.67	-29.69	6.41	-7.39	22.25	-21.61	-1.61

Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-27.51	-27.21	6.17	-6.47	20.40	-17.00	-3.69
Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-27.37	-26.81	5.85	-6.41	20.20	-17.21	-3.55
Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	-29.27	-30.82	7.88	-6.33	18.10	-13.59	-2.97
CdCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-27.87	-27.36	6.00	-6.50	23.70	-23.06	-1.14
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-24.50	-25.08	5.80	-5.22	20.87	-17.32	-2.97
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-24.43	-24.81	5.58	-5.19	21.15	-17.85	-2.91
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	-26.22	-28.41	7.64	-5.45	19.34	-14.83	-2.31

<sup>a</sup> The sum of terms footnoted by a is Total BE. <sup>b</sup> The sum of terms footnoted by b is Total BE. <sup>c</sup> For M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> with C<sub>2h</sub> and C<sub>2</sub> symmetries possible, the one put first of two in the order is the lowest energy and is used in heat of formation calculation with the FPD method.

**Table A3.10.** Gas phase heat of formation in kcal/mol.

Molecules	Symm	State	$\Delta H_{f,0K}$ gas	$\Delta H_{f,298K}$ gas
MgCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-110.4	-111.7
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-356.9	-360.9
Mg(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	-242.3	-245
CaCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-148.1	-149.5
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-379.0	-382.6
Ca(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	-260.8	-263.4
MnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-77.2	-78.4
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A	-307.4	-310.7
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A'	-198.5	-200.8
FeCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>5</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-50.8	-51.8
Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>5</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-276.9	-280.1
Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>5</sup> A'	-172.5	-174.8
CoCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-41.6	-42.7
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>4</sup> B	-266.8	-270.2
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A'	-156.0	-158.5
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B	-133.4	-136.0
NiCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>3</sup> B <sub>1</sub>	-36.6	-37.7
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>3</sup> B	-259.0	-262.6
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>3</sup> A''	-153.4	-155.9
NiCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-46.0	-47.2
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-261.6	-265.6
CuCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	-38.4	-39.5
Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-255.6	-259.3
Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A	-145.9	-148.6
ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-62.1	-63.4
Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-295.9	-299.5
Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	-192.0	-194.7
CdCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-47.3	-48.5
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-278.2	-281.7
Cd(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	-171.8	-174.4
H	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	51.63	52.64
C	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>-</sup>	170.03	170.28
O	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>-</sup>	59.00	60.04
Mg	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	34.87	36.06
Ca	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	42.38	43.75
Mn	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>6</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	66.77	67.96
Fe	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>5</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	98.7	99.78
Co	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>4</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	101.6	102.74
Ni	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	102.2	103.34
Cu	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	80.4	81.60
Zn	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	31.0	32.35
Cd	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	26.73	28.22

**Table A3.11.** Comparison of calculated and experimental values of the sum of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> IE for metals in eV.

	awt-dk	awq-dk	aw5-dk	cbs(tq5)	$\Delta E_{SO}$	Calc	Exp. Sum
Mg	22.625	22.665	22.677	22.684	0.000	22.684	22.682
Ca <sup>a</sup>	17.751	17.917	17.958	17.981	0.000	17.981	17.985
Mn	23.045	23.062	23.071	23.076	0.000	23.076	23.074
Fe	24.058	24.081	24.090	24.096	-0.001	24.095	24.102
Co	24.931	24.961	24.972	24.978	-0.003	24.975	24.965
Ni <sup>b</sup>	21.393	21.398	21.466	21.506	-0.003	25.822	25.809
Cu	27.948	28.072	28.117	28.154	-0.104	28.050	28.019
Zn	27.292	27.356	27.379	27.393	0.000	27.393	27.359
Cd <sup>c</sup>	25.511	25.739	25.830	25.883	0.000	25.947	25.902

<sup>a</sup> n = D, T, Q. <sup>b</sup> The cc-pVNZ-DK basis sets were used, where N = T, Q and 5. The core-valence correction is 4.32 eV, calculated with the cc-pVQZ-DK and cc-pwcVQZ-DK basis sets. <sup>c</sup> The cc-pwcVNZ-PP basis sets were used, where N = T, Q and 5. The scalar relativistic correction is 0.06 eV, calculated with the cc-pwcVTZ-PP and cc-pwcVTZ-DK basis sets.

**Table A3.12.** Electronic energies contributed to the sum of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> IE for metals in Hartrees.

	awt-dk	awq-dk	aw5-dk	cbs(tq5)
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	-199.362901	-199.415866	-199.437677	-199.450396
Ca <sup>2+,a</sup>	-679.192062	-679.252113	-679.291720	-679.316431
Mn <sup>2+</sup>	-1157.090657	-1157.117511	-1157.129040	-1157.135768
Fe <sup>2+</sup>	-1271.090764	-1271.122902	-1271.137156	-1271.145479
Co <sup>2+</sup>	-1391.661352	-1391.699005	-1391.716134	-1391.726139
Ni <sup>2+,b</sup>	-1518.471917	-1518.497145	-1518.507239	-1518.513122
Cu <sup>2+</sup>	-1653.030973	-1653.079034	-1653.101328	-1653.114352
Zn <sup>2+</sup>	-1794.186807	-1794.240500	-1794.265240	-1794.279692
Cd <sup>2+</sup>	-166.718156	-166.789965	-166.821576	-166.8400287
Mg	-200.194329	-200.248771	-200.271029	-200.284006
Ca <sup>a</sup>	-679.844390	-679.910525	-679.951665	-679.977200
Mn	-1157.937543	-1157.964990	-1157.976845	-1157.983764
Fe	-1271.974862	-1272.007837	-1272.022442	-1272.030969
Co	-1392.577533	-1392.616274	-1392.633805	-1392.644043
Ni <sup>b</sup>	-1519.258067	-1519.283499	-1519.296089	-1519.303452
Cu	-1654.058035	-1654.110644	-1654.134587	-1654.148957
Zn	-1795.189739	-1795.245773	-1795.271390	-1795.286353
Cd <sup>c</sup>	-167.655653	-167.735821	-167.770781	-167.7911862

<sup>a</sup> n = D, T, Q. <sup>b</sup> The cc-pVNZ-DK basis sets were used, where N = T, Q and 5. The electronic energies with the cc-pwcVQZ-DK basis set are -1518.963368 and -1519.908396 in Hartrees for Ni cation and neutral, respectively. The core-valence corrections for Ni cation and neutral are -0.466222 and -0.624897 in Hartrees, respectively. <sup>c</sup> The cc-pwcVNZ-PP basis sets were used, where N = T, Q and 5. The electronic energies calculated with the cc-pwcVTZ-DK basis sets are -5590.131743 and -5591.071591 for Cd cation and neutral, respectively. The electronic scalar relativistic corrections for Cd cation and neutral are -5423.413587 and -5423.415937, respectively.

**Table A3.13.** Comparison of calculated and experimental TRDE in eV at 0K using calculated sum of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> IP and heat of formation of OH<sup>-</sup> versus those from experiments.

Metal Cation	HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>		HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> /OH <sup>-</sup>	
	Calculated	Experimental	Calculated	Experimental
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	-24.725	-24.723	-25.798	-25.785
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	-21.306	-21.310	-22.223	-22.217
Mn <sup>2+</sup>	-24.353	-24.351	-25.672	-25.660
Fe <sup>2+</sup>	-25.437	-25.443	-26.950	-26.947
Co <sup>2+</sup>	-26.002	-25.993	-27.240	-27.220
Ni <sup>2+</sup>	-26.651	-26.638	-27.998	-27.975
Cu <sup>2+</sup>	-27.674	-27.643	-28.956	-28.915
Zn <sup>2+</sup>	-26.623	-26.588	-28.159	-28.114
Cd <sup>2+</sup>	-24.222	-24.178	-25.650	-25.596

**Table A3.14.** Natural population analysis for atomic charges.<sup>a</sup>

Atom	Mg	Ca	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Cd
MCO <sub>3</sub>									
M	1.74	1.71	1.44	1.33	1.31	1.00	1.12	1.49	1.44
C	0.90	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.91	0.91	0.90
O x2	-1.01	-0.99	-0.88	-0.83	-0.82	-0.68	-0.73	-0.91	-0.87
O	-0.62	-0.65	-0.60	-0.58	-0.58	-0.57	-0.57	-0.59	-0.61
M(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>									
M	1.80	1.84	1.58	1.50	1.47	1.10	1.36	1.61	1.60
C x2	0.94	0.95	0.96	0.95	0.96	0.95	0.95	0.96	0.95
O <sub>2,7</sub> x2	-0.83	-0.83	-0.78	-0.76	-0.75	-0.66	-0.73	-0.79	-0.78
O <sub>4,9</sub> x2	-0.65	-0.67	-0.65	-0.65	-0.65	-0.64	-0.65	-0.65	-0.66
O <sub>5,10</sub> x2	-0.86	-0.87	-0.81	-0.79	-0.79	-0.70	-0.76	-0.82	-0.81
H x2	0.49	0.49	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
M(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)									
M	1.85	1.86	1.53	1.46	1.42	1.36	1.32	1.58	1.54
C	0.94	0.95	0.95	0.96	0.96	0.96	0.95	0.95	0.95
O <sub>2</sub>	-0.87	-0.87	-0.81	-0.80	-0.78	-0.81	-0.76	-0.82	-0.80
O <sub>3</sub>	-0.83	-0.83	-0.79	-0.77	-0.75	-0.71	-0.72	-0.79	-0.78
O <sub>OH(4)</sub>	-1.43	-1.39	-1.20	-1.17	-1.17	-1.12	-1.11	-1.24	-1.20
O <sub>COH(6)</sub>	-0.65	-0.67	-0.66	-0.65	-0.65	-0.65	-0.65	-0.65	-0.66
H <sub>OH</sub>	0.49	0.47	0.47	0.48	0.48	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.46
H <sub>COH</sub>	0.50	0.49	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50

<sup>a</sup> See Figure 3.1 and A3.1 for labels

**Table A3.15.** Natural population analysis for atomic spins in open shell molecules.

Atom	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu
MCO <sub>3</sub>					
M	4.70	3.55	2.53	a	0.30
C	0.01	0.00	-0.02		-0.03
O x2	0.15	0.22	0.23		0.32
O	0.01	0.02	0.02		0.09
M(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>					
M	4.79	3.74	2.71	a	0.64
C x2	0.01	0.01	0.00		-0.01
O <sub>2,7</sub> x2	0.05	0.06	0.07		0.10
O <sub>4,9</sub> x2	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
O <sub>5,10</sub> x2	0.05	0.06	0.07		0.09
H x2	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
M(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)					
M	4.80	3.71	2.71	1.64	0.61
C	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	-0.01
O <sub>2</sub>	0.04	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.09
O <sub>3</sub>	0.03	0.05	0.06	0.10	0.10
O <sub>4</sub>	0.10	0.16	0.15	0.21	0.21
O <sub>6</sub>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
H <sub>5</sub>	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	-0.01
H <sub>8</sub>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

<sup>a</sup> Singlet states.**Table A3.16.** Natural population analysis for excess valence s and d orbital population on metal dications.

Atom	MCO <sub>3</sub>		M(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>		M(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	
	3d	valence s	3d	valence s	3d	valence s
Mg		0.23		0.18		0.12
Ca		0.05		0.06		0.03
Mn	0.30	0.21	0.17	0.22	0.17	0.28
Fe	0.33	0.31	0.16	0.32	0.23	0.28
Co	0.39	0.27	0.22	0.30	0.15	0.41
Ni	0.73	0.25	0.57	0.32	0.28	0.35
Cu	0.61	0.24	0.31	0.32	0.29	0.37
Zn	-0.02	0.46	-0.01	0.38	-0.05	0.43
Cd	-0.03	0.51	-0.03	0.39	-0.06	0.49

**Table A3.17.** Gas phase metal exchange energy at 0K in kcal/mol.

Metal Exchange Reactions	$\Delta H_{0K}$ (g) neutral	$\Delta H_{0K}$ (g) dication
$\text{Ca} + \text{MgCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Mg}$	-45.2	63.1
$\text{Ca} + \text{MnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Mn}$	-46.5	70.9
$\text{Ca} + \text{FeCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Fe}$	-41.0	100.1
$\text{Ca} + \text{CoCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Co}$	-47.3	113.7
$\text{Ca} + \text{NiCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Ni}$	-42.3	138.1
$\text{Ca} + \text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Cu}$	-71.6	159.7
$\text{Ca} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	-97.4	118.8
$\text{Ca} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-116.5	66.1
$\text{Ca} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mg}$	-29.6	78.7
$\text{Ca} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mn}$	-47.2	70.1
$\text{Ca} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Fe}$	-45.7	95.3
$\text{Ca} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Co}$	-53.0	108.0
$\text{Ca} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ni}$	-57.6	122.9
$\text{Ca} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cu}$	-85.4	146.0
$\text{Ca} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	-94.4	121.7
$\text{Ca} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-116.5	66.1
$\text{Ca} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mg}$	-26.0	82.3
$\text{Ca} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mn}$	-37.9	79.4
$\text{Ca} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Fe}$	-32.0	109.1
$\text{Ca} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Co}$	-45.6	115.4
$\text{Ca} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ni}$	-47.6	132.8
$\text{Ca} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cu}$	-76.9	154.5
$\text{Ca} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	-80.2	136.0
$\text{Ca} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-104.7	77.9
$\text{Mg} + \text{CaCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MgCO}_3 + \text{Ca}$	45.2	-63.1
$\text{Mg} + \text{MnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MgCO}_3 + \text{Mn}$	-1.3	7.8
$\text{Mg} + \text{FeCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MgCO}_3 + \text{Fe}$	4.2	37.0
$\text{Mg} + \text{CoCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MgCO}_3 + \text{Co}$	-2.1	50.6
$\text{Mg} + \text{NiCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MgCO}_3 + \text{Ni}$	2.9	75.0
$\text{Mg} + \text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MgCO}_3 + \text{Cu}$	-26.4	96.6
$\text{Mg} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MgCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	-52.2	55.7
$\text{Mg} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MgCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-71.2	3.0
$\text{Mg} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ca}$	29.6	-78.7
$\text{Mg} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mn}$	-17.6	-8.6
$\text{Mg} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Fe}$	-16.1	16.6
$\text{Mg} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Co}$	-23.4	29.3
$\text{Mg} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ni}$	-28.0	44.2
$\text{Mg} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cu}$	-55.7	67.3
$\text{Mg} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	-64.8	43.0
$\text{Mg} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-86.8	-12.6
$\text{Mg} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ca}$	26.0	-82.3

$\text{Mg} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mn}$	-11.9	-2.9
$\text{Mg} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Fe}$	-6.0	26.8
$\text{Mg} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Co}$	-19.6	33.1
$\text{Mg} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ni}$	-21.6	50.5
$\text{Mg} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cu}$	-50.9	72.2
$\text{Mg} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	-54.2	53.7
$\text{Mg} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-78.6	-4.4
$\text{Mn} + \text{MgCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MnCO}_3 + \text{Mg}$	1.3	-7.8
$\text{Mn} + \text{CaCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MnCO}_3 + \text{Ca}$	46.5	-70.9
$\text{Mn} + \text{FeCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MnCO}_3 + \text{Fe}$	5.5	29.2
$\text{Mn} + \text{CoCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MnCO}_3 + \text{Co}$	-0.8	42.8
$\text{Mn} + \text{NiCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MnCO}_3 + \text{Ni}$	4.2	67.3
$\text{Mn} + \text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MnCO}_3 + \text{Cu}$	-25.2	88.9
$\text{Mn} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MnCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	-50.9	47.9
$\text{Mn} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MnCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-70.0	-4.7
$\text{Mn} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mg}$	17.6	8.6
$\text{Mn} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ca}$	47.2	-70.1
$\text{Mn} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Fe}$	1.5	25.2
$\text{Mn} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Co}$	-5.8	37.9
$\text{Mn} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ni}$	-10.3	52.7
$\text{Mn} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cu}$	-38.1	75.9
$\text{Mn} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	-47.2	51.6
$\text{Mn} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-69.2	-4.0
$\text{Mn} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mg}$	11.9	2.9
$\text{Mn} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ca}$	37.9	-79.4
$\text{Mn} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Fe}$	6.0	29.7
$\text{Mn} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Co}$	-7.6	36.0
$\text{Mn} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ni}$	-9.7	53.4
$\text{Mn} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cu}$	-39.0	75.1
$\text{Mn} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	-42.2	56.6
$\text{Mn} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-66.7	-1.5
$\text{Fe} + \text{MgCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Mg}$	-4.2	-37.0
$\text{Fe} + \text{CaCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Ca}$	41.0	-100.1
$\text{Fe} + \text{MnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Mn}$	-5.5	-29.2
$\text{Fe} + \text{CoCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Co}$	-6.3	13.6
$\text{Fe} + \text{NiCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Ni}$	-1.3	38.1
$\text{Fe} + \text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Cu}$	-30.7	59.7
$\text{Fe} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	-56.4	18.7
$\text{Fe} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{FeCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-75.5	-34.0
$\text{Fe} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mg}$	16.1	-16.6
$\text{Fe} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ca}$	45.7	-95.3
$\text{Fe} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mn}$	-1.5	-25.2
$\text{Fe} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Co}$	-7.3	12.7
$\text{Fe} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ni}$	-11.8	27.5
$\text{Fe} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cu}$	-39.6	50.7

$\text{Fe} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	-48.7	26.4
$\text{Fe} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-70.4	-28.8
$\text{Fe} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mg}$	6.0	-26.8
$\text{Fe} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ca}$	32.0	-109.1
$\text{Fe} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mn}$	-6.0	-29.7
$\text{Fe} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Co}$	-13.6	6.3
$\text{Fe} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ni}$	-15.6	23.7
$\text{Fe} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cu}$	-44.9	45.4
$\text{Fe} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	-48.2	26.9
$\text{Fe} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-72.7	-31.2
$\text{Co} + \text{MgCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CoCO}_3 + \text{Mg}$	2.1	-50.6
$\text{Co} + \text{CaCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CoCO}_3 + \text{Ca}$	47.3	-113.7
$\text{Co} + \text{MnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CoCO}_3 + \text{Mn}$	0.8	-42.8
$\text{Co} + \text{FeCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CoCO}_3 + \text{Fe}$	6.3	-13.6
$\text{Co} + \text{NiCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CoCO}_3 + \text{Ni}$	5.0	24.5
$\text{Co} + \text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CoCO}_3 + \text{Cu}$	-24.3	46.1
$\text{Co} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CoCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	-49.9	5.3
$\text{Co} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CoCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-69.1	-47.5
$\text{Co} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mg}$	23.4	-29.3
$\text{Co} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ca}$	53.0	-108.0
$\text{Co} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mn}$	5.8	-37.9
$\text{Co} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Fe}$	7.3	-12.7
$\text{Co} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ni}$	-4.6	14.9
$\text{Co} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cu}$	-32.4	38.0
$\text{Co} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	-41.5	13.7
$\text{Co} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-63.5	-41.9
$\text{Co} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mg}$	19.6	-33.1
$\text{Co} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ca}$	45.6	-115.4
$\text{Co} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mn}$	7.6	-36.0
$\text{Co} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Fe}$	13.6	-6.3
$\text{Co} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ni}$	-2.0	17.4
$\text{Co} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cu}$	-31.3	39.1
$\text{Co} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	-34.6	20.6
$\text{Co} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-59.1	-37.5
$\text{Ni} + \text{MgCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiCO}_3 + \text{Mg}$	-2.9	-75.0
$\text{Ni} + \text{CaCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiCO}_3 + \text{Ca}$	42.3	-138.1
$\text{Ni} + \text{MnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiCO}_3 + \text{Mn}$	-4.2	-67.3
$\text{Ni} + \text{FeCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiCO}_3 + \text{Fe}$	1.3	-38.1
$\text{Ni} + \text{CoCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiCO}_3 + \text{Co}$	-5.0	-24.5
$\text{Ni} + \text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiCO}_3 + \text{Cu}$	-29.4	21.6
$\text{Ni} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	-55.1	-19.3
$\text{Ni} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{NiCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-74.2	-72.0
$\text{Ni} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mg}$	28.0	-44.2
$\text{Ni} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ca}$	57.6	-122.9
$\text{Ni} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mn}$	10.3	-52.7

$\text{Ni} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Fe}$	11.8	-27.5
$\text{Ni} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Co}$	4.6	-14.9
$\text{Ni} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cu}$	-27.8	23.2
$\text{Ni} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	-36.9	-1.1
$\text{Ni} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-58.9	-56.7
$\text{Ni} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mg}$	21.6	-50.5
$\text{Ni} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ca}$	47.6	-132.8
$\text{Ni} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mn}$	9.7	-53.4
$\text{Ni} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Fe}$	15.6	-23.7
$\text{Ni} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Co}$	2.0	-17.4
$\text{Ni} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cu}$	-29.3	21.7
$\text{Ni} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	-32.5	3.2
$\text{Ni} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-57.0	-54.9
$\text{Cu} + \text{MgCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CuCO}_3 + \text{Mg}$	26.4	-96.6
$\text{Cu} + \text{CaCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CuCO}_3 + \text{Ca}$	71.6	-159.7
$\text{Cu} + \text{MnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CuCO}_3 + \text{Mn}$	25.2	-88.9
$\text{Cu} + \text{FeCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CuCO}_3 + \text{Fe}$	30.7	-59.7
$\text{Cu} + \text{CoCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CuCO}_3 + \text{Co}$	24.3	-46.1
$\text{Cu} + \text{NiCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CuCO}_3 + \text{Ni}$	29.4	-21.6
$\text{Cu} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CuCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	-25.7	-40.9
$\text{Cu} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CuCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-44.8	-93.6
$\text{Cu} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mg}$	55.7	-67.3
$\text{Cu} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ca}$	85.4	-146.0
$\text{Cu} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mn}$	38.1	-75.9
$\text{Cu} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Fe}$	39.6	-50.7
$\text{Cu} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Co}$	32.4	-38.0
$\text{Cu} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ni}$	27.8	-23.2
$\text{Cu} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	-9.1	-24.3
$\text{Cu} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-31.1	-79.9
$\text{Cu} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mg}$	50.9	-72.2
$\text{Cu} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ca}$	76.9	-154.5
$\text{Cu} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mn}$	39.0	-75.1
$\text{Cu} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Fe}$	44.9	-45.4
$\text{Cu} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Co}$	31.3	-39.1
$\text{Cu} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ni}$	29.3	-21.7
$\text{Cu} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	-3.3	-18.5
$\text{Cu} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-27.7	-76.6
$\text{Zn} + \text{MgCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{ZnCO}_3 + \text{Mg}$	52.2	-55.7
$\text{Zn} + \text{CaCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{ZnCO}_3 + \text{Ca}$	97.4	-118.8
$\text{Zn} + \text{MnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{ZnCO}_3 + \text{Mn}$	50.9	-47.9
$\text{Zn} + \text{FeCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{ZnCO}_3 + \text{Fe}$	56.4	-18.7
$\text{Zn} + \text{CoCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{ZnCO}_3 + \text{Co}$	49.9	-5.3
$\text{Zn} + \text{NiCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{ZnCO}_3 + \text{Ni}$	55.1	19.3
$\text{Zn} + \text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{ZnCO}_3 + \text{Cu}$	25.7	40.9
$\text{Zn} + \text{CdCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{ZnCO}_3 + \text{Cd}$	-19.1	-52.7

$\text{Zn} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mg}$	64.8	-43.0
$\text{Zn} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ca}$	94.4	-121.7
$\text{Zn} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mn}$	47.2	-51.6
$\text{Zn} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Fe}$	48.7	-26.4
$\text{Zn} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Co}$	41.5	-13.7
$\text{Zn} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ni}$	36.9	1.1
$\text{Zn} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cu}$	9.1	24.3
$\text{Zn} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cd}$	-22.0	-55.6
$\text{Zn} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mg}$	54.2	-53.7
$\text{Zn} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ca}$	80.2	-136.0
$\text{Zn} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mn}$	42.2	-56.6
$\text{Zn} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Fe}$	48.2	-26.9
$\text{Zn} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Co}$	34.6	-20.6
$\text{Zn} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ni}$	32.5	-3.2
$\text{Zn} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cu}$	3.3	18.5
$\text{Zn} + \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cd}$	-24.5	-58.1
$\text{Cd} + \text{MgCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CdCO}_3 + \text{Mg}$	71.2	-3.0
$\text{Cd} + \text{CaCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CdCO}_3 + \text{Ca}$	116.5	-66.1
$\text{Cd} + \text{MnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CdCO}_3 + \text{Mn}$	70.0	4.7
$\text{Cd} + \text{FeCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CdCO}_3 + \text{Fe}$	75.5	34.0
$\text{Cd} + \text{CoCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CdCO}_3 + \text{Co}$	69.1	47.5
$\text{Cd} + \text{NiCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CdCO}_3 + \text{Ni}$	74.2	72.0
$\text{Cd} + \text{CuCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CdCO}_3 + \text{Cu}$	44.8	93.6
$\text{Cd} + \text{ZnCO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CdCO}_3 + \text{Zn}$	19.1	52.7
$\text{Cd} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mg}$	86.8	12.6
$\text{Cd} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ca}$	116.5	-66.1
$\text{Cd} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Mn}$	69.2	4.0
$\text{Cd} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Fe}$	70.4	28.8
$\text{Cd} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Co}$	63.5	41.9
$\text{Cd} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Ni}$	58.9	56.7
$\text{Cd} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Cu}$	31.1	79.9
$\text{Cd} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2 + \text{Zn}$	22.0	55.6
$\text{Cd} + \text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mg}$	78.6	4.4
$\text{Cd} + \text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ca}$	104.7	-77.9
$\text{Cd} + \text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Mn}$	66.7	1.5
$\text{Cd} + \text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Fe}$	72.7	31.2
$\text{Cd} + \text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Co}$	59.1	37.5
$\text{Cd} + \text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Ni}$	57.0	54.9
$\text{Cd} + \text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Cu}$	27.7	76.6
$\text{Cd} + \text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) \rightarrow \text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH}) + \text{Zn}$	24.5	58.1

**Table A3.18.** Electronegativity ( $\chi$ ) for metal dications in eV.

Metal	$\chi^a$
Mg	47.59
Ca	31.39
Mn	24.65
Fe	23.43
Co	25.29
Ni	26.68
Cu	28.57
Zn	28.84
Cd	27.19

$$^a \chi = (IE+EA)/2.$$

**Table A3.19.** DFT errors of  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  in kcal/mol compared to FPD values for  $MnCO_3$ ,  $Mn(HCO_3)_2$ ,  $Mn(HCO_3)(OH)$ ,  $CoCO_3$ ,  $Co(HCO_3)_2$  and  $Co(HCO_3)(OH)$ .

Functionals	$MnCO_3$	$Mn(HCO_3)_2$	$Mn(HCO_3)(OH)$	$CoCO_3$	$Co(HCO_3)_2$	$Co(HCO_3)(OH)$
PW91	50.1	63.2	42.9	60.7	73.9	53.3
BP86	42.4	53.1	38.8	41.6	52.3	37.7
M06	50.7	49.8	44.3	13.9	14.5	19.8
PBE	48.5	59.9	39.9	49.0	60.4	40.3
PBE0	45.6	39.6	37.1	12.9	8.6	-8.5
B3LYP	-5.2	-21.0	-12.1	2.3	-12.8	-18.7
HSE06	42.5	33.7	33.4	9.9	2.7	-12.0
$\tau$ -HCTH	8.5	-7.6	-6.1	25.1	2.2	7.9
$\omega$ B97X	51.9	49.8	48.9	21.9	20.8	20.9
$\omega$ B97X-D	45.4	40.0	40.8	19.5	15.9	16.6

**Table A3.20.** DFT errors of  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  in kcal/mol compared to FPD values for  $NiCO_3$ ,  $Ni(HCO_3)_2$ ,  $Ni(HCO_3)(OH)$ ,  $CuCO_3$ ,  $Cu(HCO_3)_2$  and  $Cu(HCO_3)(OH)$ .

Functionals	$NiCO_3$	$Ni(HCO_3)_2$	$Ni(HCO_3)(OH)$	$CuCO_3$	$Cu(HCO_3)_2$	$Cu(HCO_3)(OH)$
PW91	40.3	62.8	39.1	48.9	64.1	43.9
BP86	33.0	53.0	34.9	41.9	54.7	40.6
M06	-7.0	-4.2	-5.7	4.2	-0.4	-3.2
PBE	39.5	59.8	36.8	48.1	61.4	41.7
PBE0	-8.3	-6.9	-0.8	8.5	3.8	0.8
B3LYP	-15.0	-23.6	-9.7	-0.9	-16.9	-7.7
HSE06	-11.6	-12.8	-4.8	5.7	-1.8	-2.6
$\tau$ -HCTH	12.2	-7.2	-5.1	15.1	-10.4	-5.2
$\omega$ B97X	-5.1	-1.6	5.4	6.6	3.2	3.6
$\omega$ B97X-D	-10.7	-8.7	-0.2	3.9	-1.4	-0.3

**Table A3.21.** DFT errors of  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  in kcal/mol compared to FPD values for  $ZnCO_3$ ,  $Zn(HCO_3)_2$ , and  $Zn(HCO_3)(OH)$ .

Functionals	$ZnCO_3$	$Zn(HCO_3)_2$	$Zn(HCO_3)(OH)$
PW91	32.6	51.3	29.2
BP86	25.0	41.0	25.0
M06	-9.8	-9.7	-13.4
PBE	32.0	48.7	27.1
PBE0	0.4	-2.8	-6.1
B3LYP	-13.9	-27.6	-19.2
HSE06	-3.4	-9.5	-10.5
$\tau$ -HCTH	2.2	-12.5	-10.0
$\omega$ B97X	-4.6	-5.3	-5.4
$\omega$ B97X-D	-7.4	-10.2	-9.5

**Table A3.22.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals with the aug-cc-pVTZ(-PP) basis set and DFT errors of  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  in kcal/mol compared to FPD values for  ${}^5Fe(HCO_3)_2$  ( $C_{2h}$ ,  ${}^5A_g$ ).

Functionals	Total E	DFT error
PW91	-652.418927	60.3
BP86	-652.589833	49.7
M06	-652.253832	36.7
PBE	-651.959349	57.9
PBE0	-651.889509	7.8
B3LYP	-652.516993	-1.6
HCTH 407	-652.798879	-3.1
HSE06	-651.945316	9.0
M06L	-652.450261	0.4
$\tau$ -HCTH	-652.786401	-8.1
$\tau$ -HCTH hyb	-652.452169	13.2
TPSSh	-652.443390	-25.3
$\omega$ B97X	-652.352367	18.8
$\omega$ B97X-D	-652.317226	8.8

**Table A3.23.** Gas phase hydration reaction energies from heats of formation,  $\Delta H_{f,298K}$ , in kcal/mol. Corrected values for reference 21 with new more stable structure for  $Fe(HCO_3)_2$ .

Product	$\Delta H_{f,298K}$	$\Delta H_{f,298K} / H_2O$
$Fe(HCO_3)_2(H_2O)$	-12.8	-12.8
$Fe(HCO_3)_2(H_2O)_2$	-22.7	-11.4

**Table A3.24.** Electronic energies (au) with the DFT functional  $\omega$ B97X with the aug-cc-pVTZ(-PP) basis set and DFT errors of  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  in kcal/mol compared to FPD values for  $\text{FeCO}_3$  ( $C_{2v}$ ,  ${}^5A_1$ ).

Functionals	Total E	DFT error
$\omega$ B97X	-387.170676	21.9
$\omega$ B97X-D	-387.159718	19.5

**Table A3.25.** Electronic atomization energy plus ZPE at the CCSD(T) level and B3LYP/aT levels in kcal/mol.

Molecules	Symm	State	CCSD(T)	B3LYP/aT	$\Delta E^a$
$\text{MnCO}_3$	$C_{2v}$	${}^6A_1$	491.8	485.9	-5.9
$\text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$	$C_2$	${}^6A$	1173.0	1150.4	-22.6
$\text{Mn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$	$C_s$	${}^6A'$	775.5	762.4	-13.1
$\text{FeCO}_3$	$C_{2v}$	${}^5A_1$	498.5	511.0	+12.5
$\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$	$C_{2h}$	${}^5A_g$	1175.7	1171.4	-4.3
$\text{Fe}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$	$C_s$	${}^5A'$	782.7	788.2	+5.5
$\text{CoCO}_3$	$C_{2v}$	${}^4A_1$	493.2	492.5	-0.7
$\text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$	$C_2$	${}^4B$	1169.5	1153.0	-16.5
$\text{Co}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$	$C_s$	${}^4A'$	770.1	762.8	-7.3
$\text{NiCO}_3$	$C_{2v}$	${}^3B_1$	480.5	478.9	-1.6
$\text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$	$C_2$	${}^3B$	1162.8	1139.0	-23.9
$\text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$	$C_s$	${}^3A''$	768.6	756.2	-12.4
$\text{NiCO}_3$	$C_{2v}$	${}^1A_1$	498.7	481.3	-17.5
$\text{Ni}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$	$C_{2h}$	${}^1A_g$	1165.4	1138.5	-26.9
$\text{CuCO}_3$	$C_{2v}$	${}^2B_2$	466.6	464.9	-1.7
$\text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$	$C_{2h}$	${}^2A_g$	1134.8	1116.4	-18.4
$\text{Cu}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$	$C_1$	${}^2A$	736.5	727.9	-8.6
$\text{ZnCO}_3$	$C_{2v}$	${}^1A_1$	440.9	426.3	-14.6
$\text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$	$C_2$	${}^1A$	1125.8	1096.7	-29.1
$\text{Zn}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$	$C_s$	${}^1A'$	733.3	713.1	-20.1
$\text{CdCO}_3$	$C_{2v}$	${}^1A_1$	421.9	410.1	-11.8
$\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$	$C_2$	${}^1A$	1103.8	1076.7	-27.1
$\text{Cd}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$	$C_s$	${}^1A'$	708.8	690.8	-18.0

<sup>a</sup> B3LYP – CCSD(T)

**Table A3.26.** Contributions to total atomization energy at the CCSD(T) level.

Molecules	Sym	State	$\Delta E_{n=aD}$	$\Delta E_{n=aT}$	$\Delta E_{n=aQ}$	$\Delta E_{CBS-DTQ}$	$\Delta E_{SR}$	$\Delta E_{CV}$	$\Delta E_{ZPE}$	$\Delta E_{SO}$	$\Sigma D_{0,0K}$
MnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	457.6	485.9	496.2	502.2	-1.3	0.8	-9.9	-0.8	491.0
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A	1118.1	1176.5	1197.1	1209.0	-2.0	2.1	-36.1	-1.5	1171.5
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A'	743.3	780.5	793.9	801.6	-1.6	1.1	-25.7	-1.0	774.5
Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>5</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	1120.5	1178.9	1199.5	1211.3	-2.1	2.5	-36.0	-2.7	1173.0
CoCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	459.5	487.4	497.6	503.5	-1.4	1.1	-10.0	-3.0	490.2
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>4</sup> B	1114.2	1173.0	1193.5	1205.3	-2.1	2.5	-36.3	-3.8	1165.7
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A'	738.4	775.7	788.9	796.5	-1.6	1.3	-26.1	-3.2	766.9
NiCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>3</sup> B <sub>1</sub>	456.2	483.7	493.8	499.6	-1.4	1.1	-10.0	-3.5	485.8
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>3</sup> B	1107.8	1166.7	1187.3	1199.1	-2.3	2.5	-36.5	-4.3	1158.5
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>3</sup> A''	736.4	774.2	787.5	795.2	-2.0	1.6	-26.2	-3.8	764.8
NiCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	462.2	491.5	502.1	508.3	-1.8	2.6	-10.3	-3.5	495.2
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	1106.3	1167.5	1188.7	1200.9	-3.1	4.8	-37.2	-4.3	1161.1
CuCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	436.8	462.1	470.9	475.9	-1.0	1.3	-9.6	-0.8	465.9
Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	1083.9	1140.6	1159.7	1170.7	-2.3	3.0	-36.5	-1.5	1133.3
Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A	708.9	744.5	756.3	763.1	-1.7	1.5	-26.4	-1.0	735.6
ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	409.1	435.9	445.6	451.3	-1.3	0.6	-9.7	-0.8	440.1
Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	1072.5	1129.8	1150.2	1161.9	-2.4	2.5	-36.3	-1.5	1124.3
Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	702.9	739.5	752.5	760.0	-1.7	1.1	-26.1	-1.0	732.3

**Table A3.27.** Electronic energies at the CCSD(T) level with aD, aT and aQ basis sets and that extrapolated to the complete basis set limit.

Molecule	Symm	State	aD	aT	aQ	CBS
MnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-366.553827	-366.800634	-366.878413	-366.922445
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A	-631.146539	-631.618888	-631.767380	-631.851403
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A'	-442.933346	-443.248579	-443.347831	-443.404009
Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>5</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-650.588256	-651.073749	-651.227267	-651.314233
CoCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-407.835080	-408.106616	-408.194943	-408.245250
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>4</sup> B	-672.418613	-672.916975	-673.076009	-673.166259
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A'	-484.203805	-484.544565	-484.654198	-484.716511
NiCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>3</sup> B <sub>1</sub>	-432.177649	-432.462821	-432.557006	-432.610804
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>3</sup> B	-696.756242	-697.269169	-697.434257	-697.528096
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>3</sup> A''	-508.548368	-508.904187	-509.020108	-509.086152
NiCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-432.187170	-432.475329	-432.570354	-432.624616
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-696.753831	-697.270357	-697.436509	-697.530944
CuCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	-459.821819	-460.114654	-460.213380	-460.269983
Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-724.393339	-724.913750	-725.083254	-725.179822
Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A	-536.179745	-536.543139	-536.663342	-536.732020
ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-489.589309	-489.889771	-489.992942	-490.052286
Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-754.186720	-754.713444	-754.887751	-754.987349
Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	-565.981680	-566.352002	-566.477023	-566.548720
Mn	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>6</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-103.283018	-103.308038	-103.315474	-103.319634
Co	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>4</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-144.561371	-144.611695	-144.629819	-144.640330
Ni	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-168.909158	-168.973804	-168.997966	-169.012064
Cu	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-196.584267	-196.659997	-196.690844	-196.709080
Zn	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-226.395844	-226.476879	-226.510619	-226.530627
C	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-37.764803	-37.781729	-37.786775	-37.789599
O	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-74.925570	-74.978823	-74.995132	-75.004312
H	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-0.499334	-0.499821	-0.499948	-0.500017

<sup>a</sup> The scalar-relativistic correction was calculated at the CI-SD/aT(-PP) level, the same as those in the previous paper for Fe complex.

**Table A3.28.** Electronic energies for scalar relativistic effects and core-valence corrections at the CCSD(T) level, and the ZPE corrections at the B3LYP/aT level.

Molecule	Sym	State	aT-DK	awT, core	awT, valence	ZPE
MnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-1421.180375	-367.468408	-366.823668	0.015757
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A	-1686.169266	-632.508524	-631.657355	0.057536
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A'	-1497.680191	-443.973524	-443.275736	0.040966
Fe(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>5</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	<sup>a</sup>	-651.971313 <sup>b</sup>	-651.110762 <sup>b</sup>	0.057423
CoCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-1655.796456	-408.798697	-408.138162	0.015892
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>4</sup> B	-1920.777374	-673.831150	-672.963883	0.057790
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A'	-1732.286371	-485.293509	-484.580054	0.041611
NiCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>3</sup> B <sub>1</sub>	-1783.075669	-433.160377	-432.498942	0.015905
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>3</sup> B	-2048.052358	-698.188825	-697.320779	0.058189
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>3</sup> A''	-1859.568472	-509.659207	-508.944465	0.041819
NiCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-1783.087524	-433.175711	-432.511874	0.016455
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-2048.052277	-698.194308	-697.322530	0.059346
CuCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	-1917.227027	-460.803643	-460.153551	0.015235
Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-2182.195771	-725.825481	-724.968321	0.058189
Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A	-1457.163598	-537.289209	-536.586308	0.042017
ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-2058.321828	-490.571445	-489.931654	0.015416
Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-2323.315453	-755.618147	-754.770909	0.057783
Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A'	-2134.835618	-567.091231	-566.398103	0.041670
Mn	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>6</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-1157.518172	-103.753688	-103.314631	
Co	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>4</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-1392.132042	-145.081757	-144.627338	
Ni	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-1519.417238	-169.449513	-168.994275	
Cu	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-1653.602334	-197.127382	-196.683830	
Zn	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-1794.739298	-226.937312	-226.502907	
C	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-37.796689	-37.830303	-37.783498	
O	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-75.031069	-75.036051	-74.983514	
H	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-0.499828	-0.499821	-0.499821	

<sup>a</sup> The scalar-relativistic correction was calculated at the CI-SD/aT(-PP) level, the same as those in the previous paper for Fe complex. <sup>b</sup> The cc-pwCVTZ(-PP) basis set was used.

**Table A3.29.** Electronic energies for higher energy structures at the CCSD(T)/aD level.

Molecules	Symm	State	aD
MnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>4</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	-366.494758
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-631.075086
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>4</sup> A	-442.848987
MnCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>2</sub>	-366.436122
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> 1	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>2</sub>	-631.007677
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> 2	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>g</sub>	-631.012298
Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A	-442.795069
CoCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>6</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	-407.745139
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A	-408.036238
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>6</sup> A	-672.262810
CoCO <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>2</sub>	-407.817946
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>g</sub>	-672.389812
Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>s</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B	-484.161208
Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	C <sub>1</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A	-508.522803

**Table A3.30.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for MnCO<sub>3</sub>, Mn(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Mn(HCO<sub>3</sub>)(OH), CoCO<sub>3</sub>, Co(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and Co(HCO<sub>3</sub>)(OH).

Functionals	MnCO <sub>3</sub>	Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Mn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	CoCO <sub>3</sub>	Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Co(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)
PW91	-367.745642	-632.908883	-444.275446	-409.158354	-674.314064	-485.677512
BP86	-367.835774	-633.077162	-444.391315	-409.253483	-674.487154	-485.798150
M06	-367.622016	-632.741946	-444.144987	-409.010655	-674.125270	-485.542777
PBE	-367.493994	-632.456815	-443.964636	-408.890613	-673.845750	-485.350862
PBE0	-367.447480	-632.419944	-443.929354	-408.814299	-673.781816	-485.265398
B3LYP	-367.769123	-633.016034	-444.333772	-409.159528	-674.400006	-485.691411
HSE06	-367.468931	-632.464805	-443.957899	-408.834637	-673.825525	-485.292899
τ-HCTH	-368.070953	-633.230311	-444.610187	-409.601286	-674.742138	-486.126129
ωB97X	-367.660340	-632.854430	-444.209841	-409.055394	-674.243492	-485.597738
ωB97X-D	-367.653043	-632.822970	-444.196545	-409.043479	-674.208753	-485.579394

**Table A3.31.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for NiCO<sub>3</sub>, Ni(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Ni(HCO<sub>3</sub>)(OH), CuCO<sub>3</sub>, Cu(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and Cu(HCO<sub>3</sub>)(OH).

Functionals	NiCO <sub>3</sub>	Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Ni(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)	CuCO <sub>3</sub>	Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Cu(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)
PW91	-433.564866	-698.721089	-510.082308	-461.244191	-726.391361	-537.757256
BP86	-433.661662	-698.895858	-510.204045	-461.341337	-726.566669	-537.880195
M06	-433.414269	-698.518257	-509.927713	-461.105794	-726.200479	-537.606860
PBE	-433.289245	-698.244331	-509.747434	-460.960156	-725.906552	-537.413955
PBE0	-433.184091	-698.146380	-509.669582	-460.861774	-725.816960	-537.324753
B3LYP	-433.542077	-698.778448	-510.104218	-461.222726	-726.450020	-537.767273
HSE06	-433.203961	-698.190231	-509.696541	-460.881057	-725.859713	-537.351253
τ-HCTH	-434.092579	-699.224722	-510.605604	-461.861403	-726.986454	-538.371249
ωB97X	-433.440035	-698.621209	-509.989172	-461.127696	-726.300371	-537.656926
ωB97X-D	-433.424019	-698.583779	-509.969584	-461.110864	-726.261624	-537.634683

**Table A3.32.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for ZnCO<sub>3</sub>, Zn(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Zn(HCO<sub>3</sub>)(OH).

Functionals	ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Zn(HCO <sub>3</sub> )(OH)
PW91	-491.002338	-756.180802	-567.553018
BP86	-491.100592	-756.357016	-567.676699
M06	-490.886618	-756.014617	-567.428955
PBE	-490.710472	-755.688292	-567.201908
PBE0	-490.632362	-755.615736	-567.132515
B3LYP	-490.991976	-756.248782	-567.574056
HSE06	-490.650515	-755.657225	-567.157698
τ-HCTH	-491.705276	-756.873354	-568.263222
ωB97X	-490.908600	-756.111377	-567.476456
ωB97X-D	-490.890961	-756.071522	-567.453421

**Table A3.33.** Electronic energies (au) with DFT functionals for transition metal atoms.

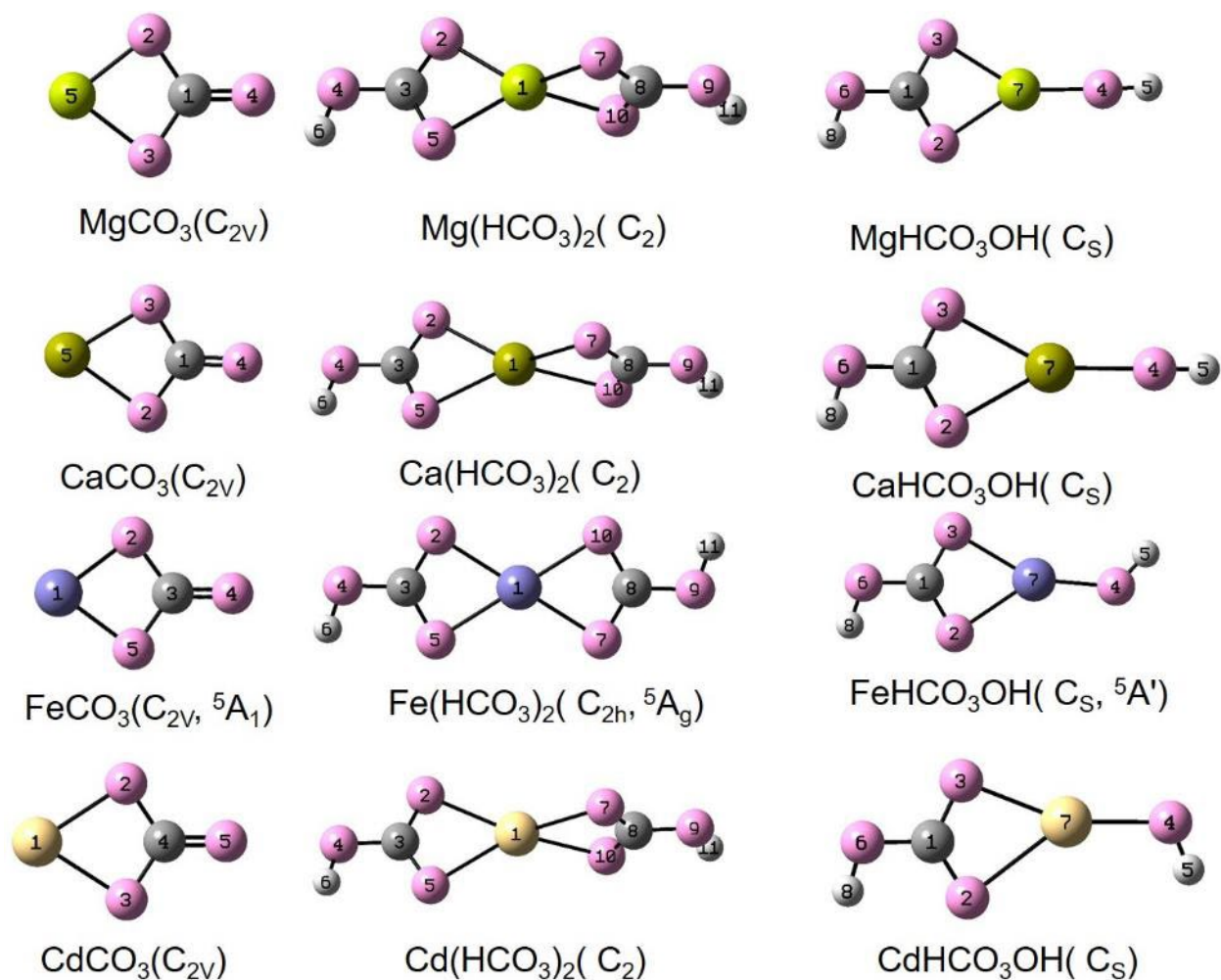
Functionals	Mn	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn
PW91	-103.854049	-145.251141	-169.679951	-197.395256	-227.219948
BP86	-103.871981	-145.292154	-169.703888	-197.419007	-227.245938
M06	-103.747605	-145.196012	-169.622909	-197.346226	-227.189993
PBE	-103.799548	-145.196557	-169.600157	-197.306944	-227.123715
PBE0	-103.722856	-145.142970	-169.536377	-197.237025	-227.061261
B3LYP	-103.837493	-145.217156	-169.617079	-197.324970	-227.155621
HSE06	-103.721573	-145.140431	-169.533965	-197.233138	-227.057726
τ-HCTH	-104.218804	-145.723894	-170.225618	-198.039473	-227.944568
ωB97X	-103.711097	-145.155184	-169.572703	-197.291306	-227.130699
ωB97X-D	-103.735469	-145.168489	-169.586876	-197.300159	-227.138984

**Table A3.34.** Atomic ionic radii from Emsley, J. *The Elements*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed., Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1994.

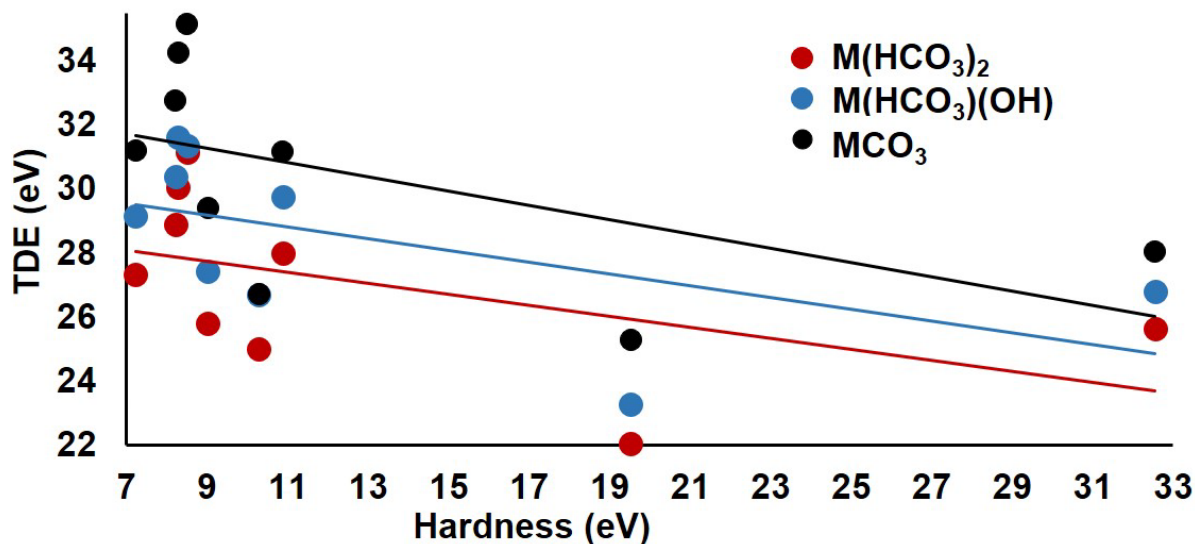
Metal	standard ionic radii
Mg	0.78
Ca	1.06
Mn	0.91
Fe	0.82
Co	0.82
Ni	0.78
Cu	0.72
Zn	0.83
Cd	1.03

**Table A3.35.** Average absolute  $\Delta H_{f,0K}$  errors of DFT functionals compared to FPD results in kcal/mol for  $MCO_3$ ,  $M(HCO_3)_2$ ,  $M(HCO_3)(OH)$  ( $M = Mg, Ca, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn$  and  $Cd$ ).

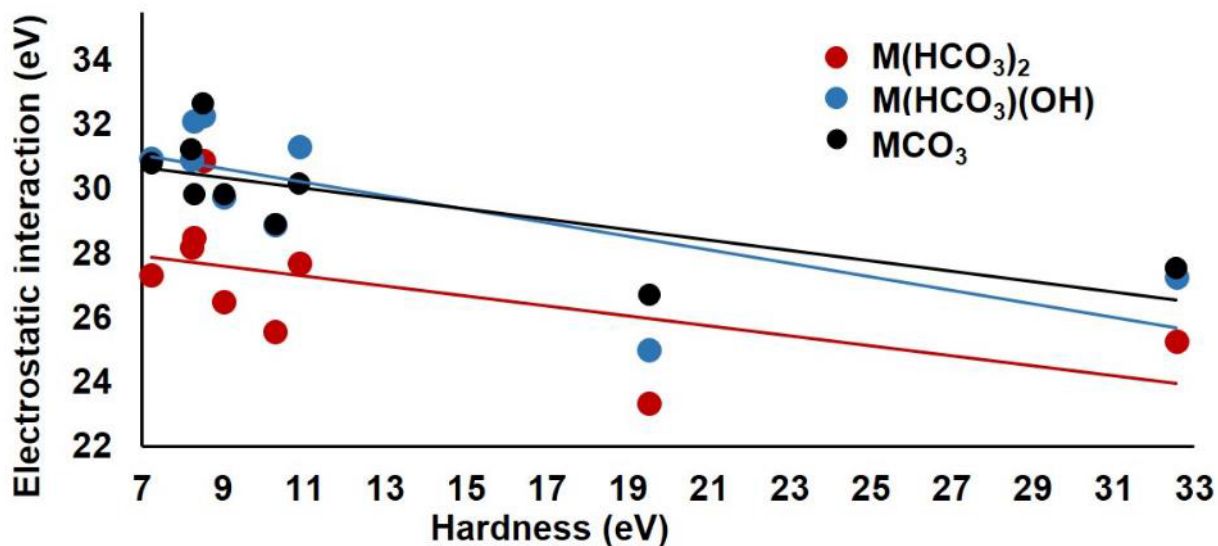
Functional	Mg, Ca, Fe, Cd
PW91	43.9
BP86	39.5
M06	12.5
PBE	41.3
PBE0	7.0
B3LYP	13.3
HSE06	8.1
$\tau$ -HCTH	7.2
$\omega$ B97X	7.1
$\omega$ B97X-D	6.9



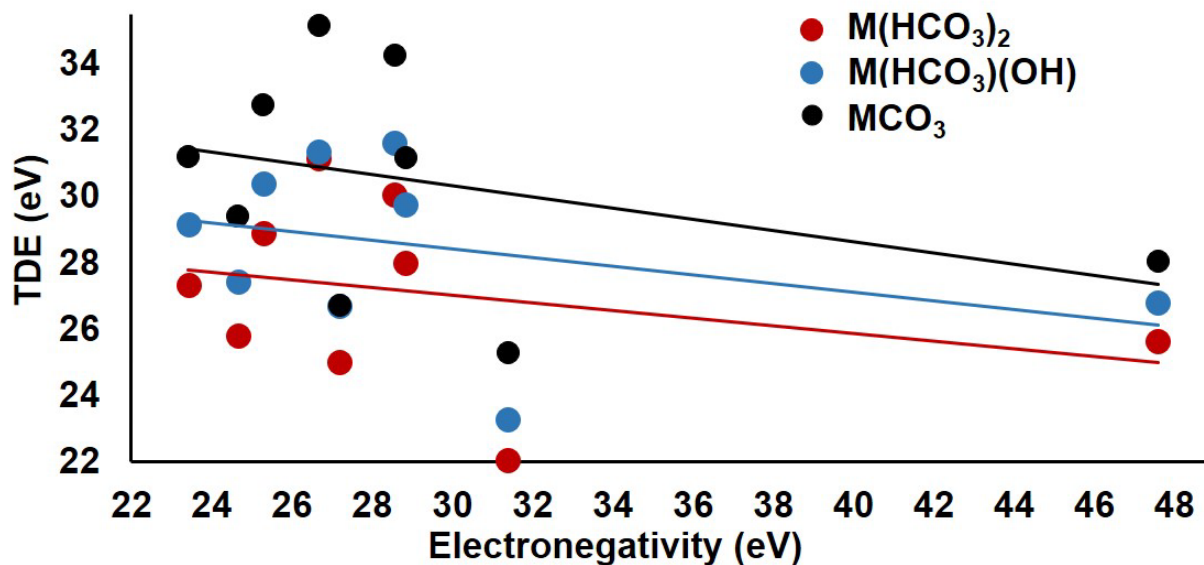
**Figure A3.1.** Numbering schemes for MCO<sub>3</sub>, M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and MHCO<sub>3</sub>OH (M = Mg, Ca, Fe and Cd) (O = pink, H = white, C = gray, Mg = green, Ca = dark green, Fe = blue purple, Cd = egg white).



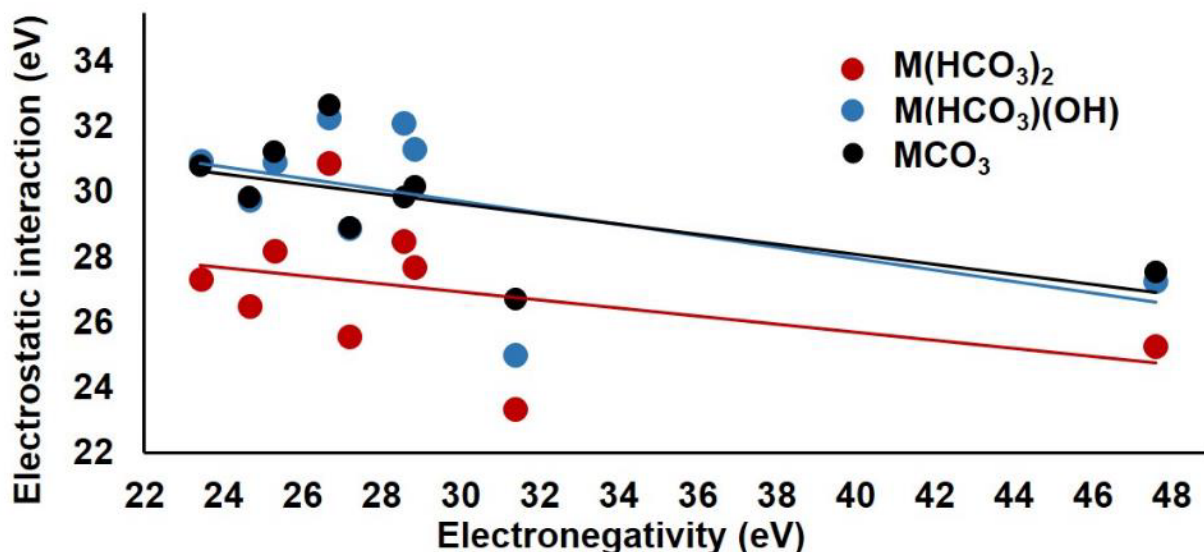
**Figure A3.2.** TDE of  $M\text{CO}_3$ ,  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  at 0K vs. hardness of metal cations. The linear fit equations for  $M\text{CO}_3$ ,  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are  $y = -0.22x + 32.78$  ( $R^2 = 0.30$ ),  $y = -0.13x + 28.80$  ( $R^2 = 0.26$ ), and  $y = -0.18x + 30.36$  ( $R^2 = 0.32$ ), respectively.



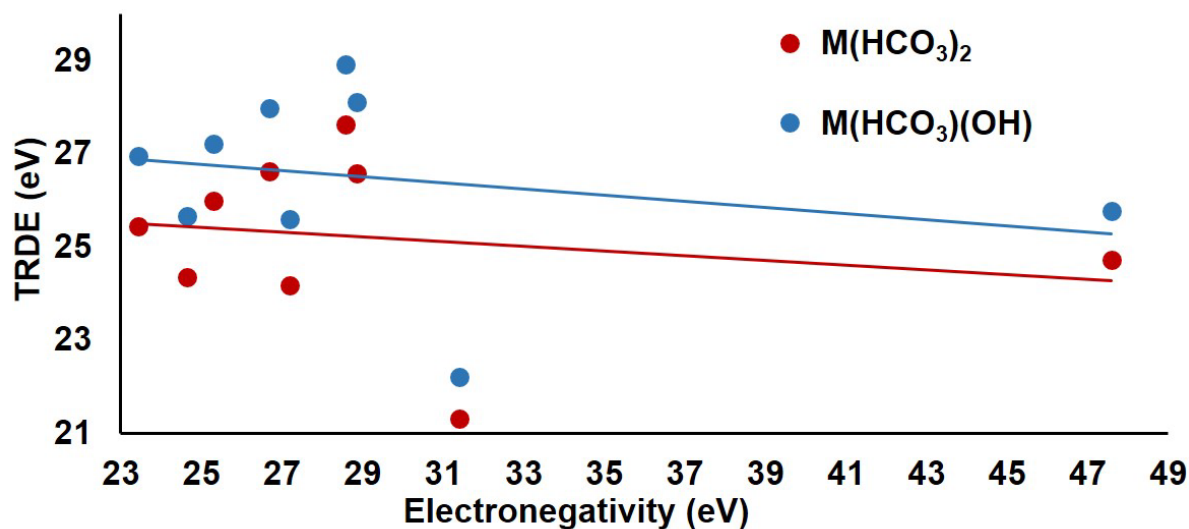
**Figure A3.3.** Electrostatic interaction of  $M\text{CO}_3$ ,  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  at 0K vs. hardness of metal cations. The linear fit equations for  $M\text{CO}_3$ ,  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are  $y = -0.16x + 31.31$  ( $R^2 = 0.53$ ),  $y = -0.16x + 28.52$  ( $R^2 = 0.35$ ), and  $y = -0.21x + 32.02$  ( $R^2 = 0.52$ ), respectively.



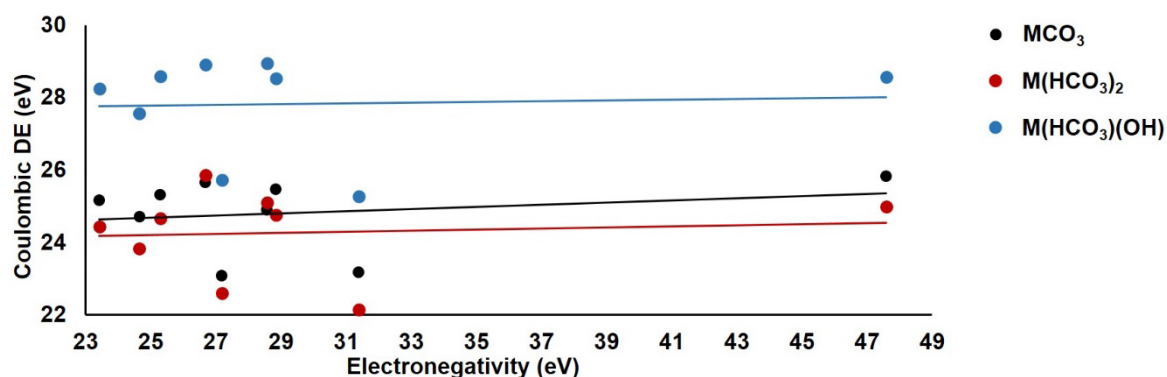
**Figure A3.4.** TDE of  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  at 0K vs. electronegativity of metal cations. The linear fit equations for  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are  $y = -0.17x + 34.89$  ( $R^2 = 0.13$ ),  $y = -0.12x + 29.98$  ( $R^2 = 0.09$ ), and  $y = -0.13x + 31.84$  ( $R^2 = 0.12$ ), respectively.



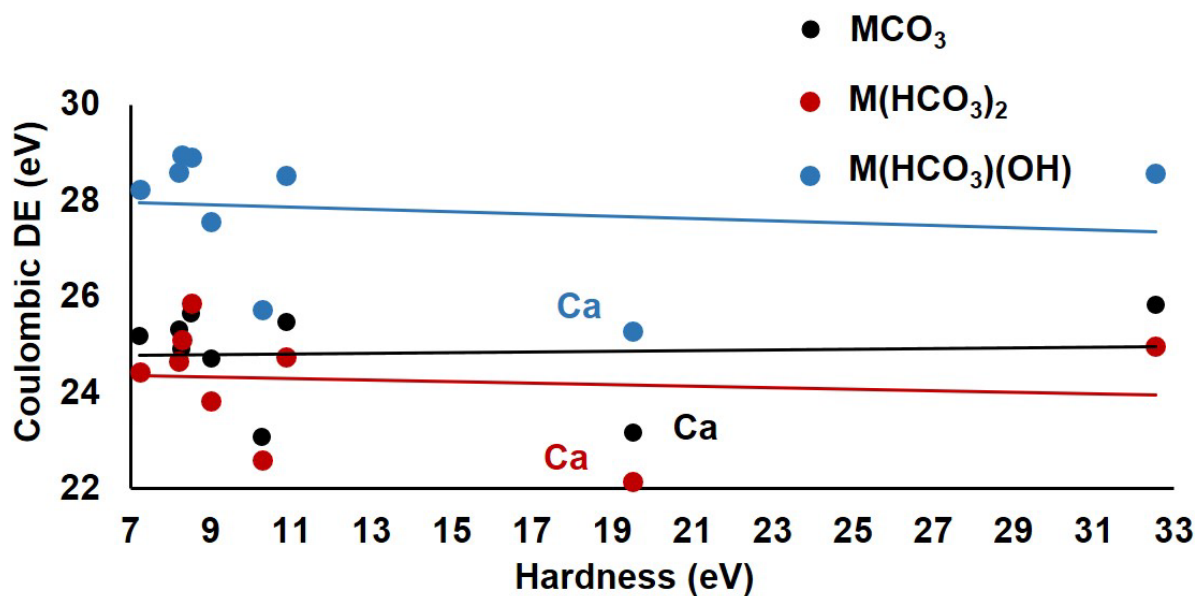
**Figure A3.5.** Electrostatic interaction of  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  at 0K vs. electronegativity of metal cations. The linear fit equations for  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are  $y = -0.16x + 33.80$  ( $R^2 = 0.38$ ),  $y = -0.12x + 30.18$  ( $R^2 = 0.17$ ), and  $y = -0.18x + 34.51$  ( $R^2 = 0.28$ ), respectively.



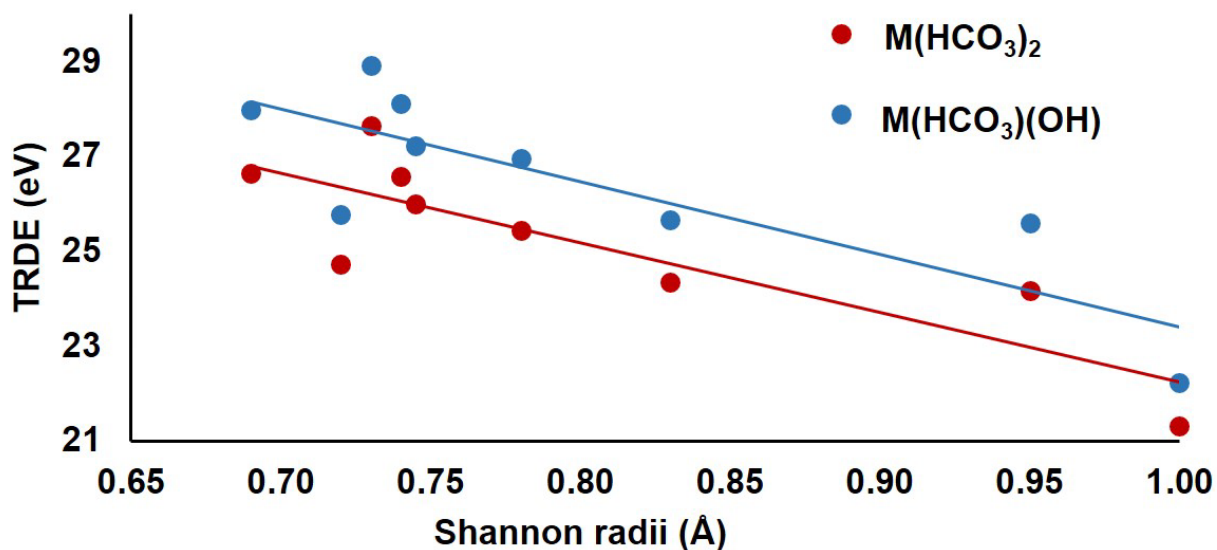
**Figure A3.6.** TRDE of  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  at 0K vs. electronegativity of metal cations. The linear fit equations for  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are  $y = -0.05x + 26.70$  ( $R^2 = 0.04$ ),  $y = -0.07x + 28.44$  ( $R^2 = 0.06$ ), respectively.



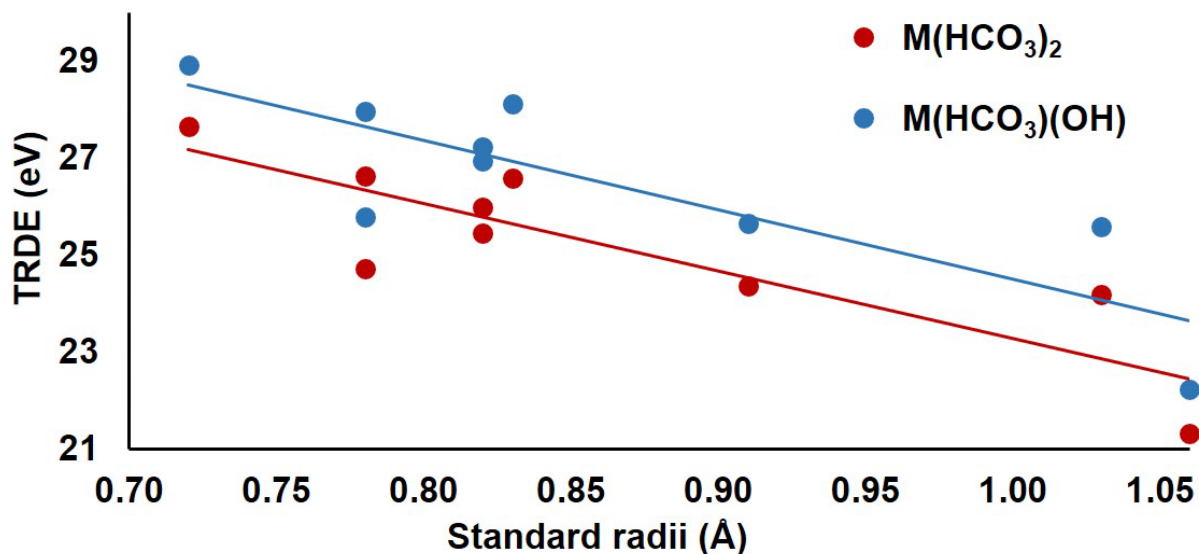
**Figure A3.7.** Coulombic DE of  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  at 0K vs. electronegativity of metal cations. The linear fit equations for  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{M}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are  $y = 0.03x + 23.95$  ( $R^2 = 0.05$ ),  $y = 0.02x + 23.81$  ( $R^2 = 0.01$ ), and  $y = 0.01x + 27.51$  ( $R^2 = 0.00$ ), respectively.



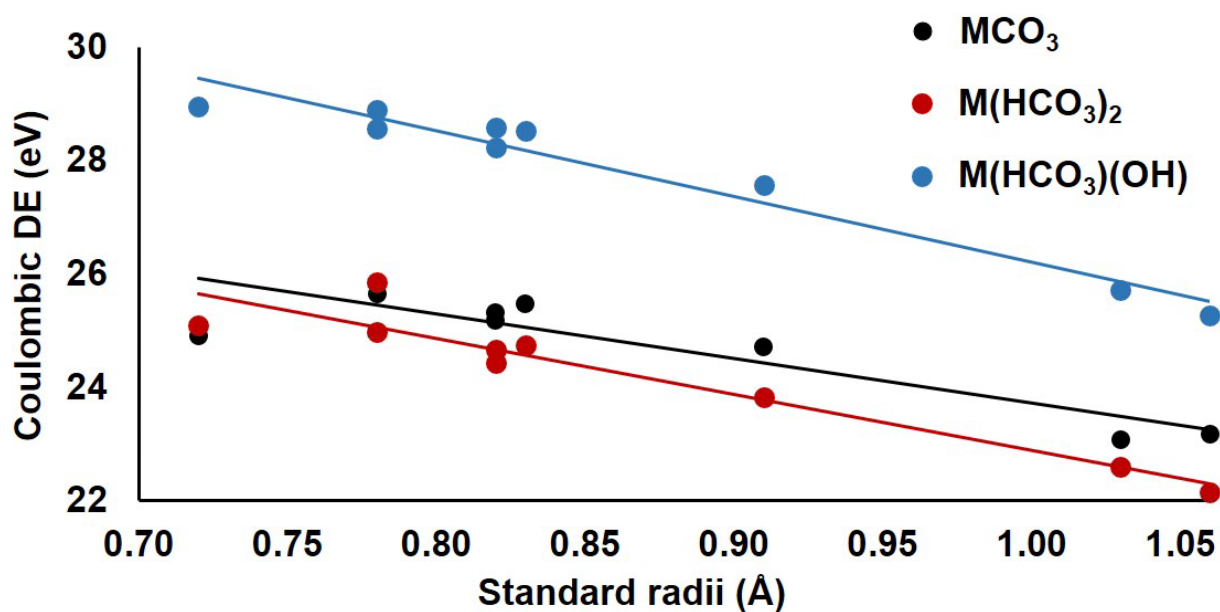
**Figure A3.8.** Coulombic DE of MCO<sub>3</sub>, M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)(OH) at 0K vs. hardness of metal cations. The linear fit equations for MCO<sub>3</sub>, M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)(OH) are  $y = -0.01x + 24.72$  ( $R^2 = 0.00$ ),  $y = -0.02x + 24.46$  ( $R^2 = 0.01$ ), and  $y = -0.02x + 28.12$  ( $R^2 = 0.02$ ), respectively.



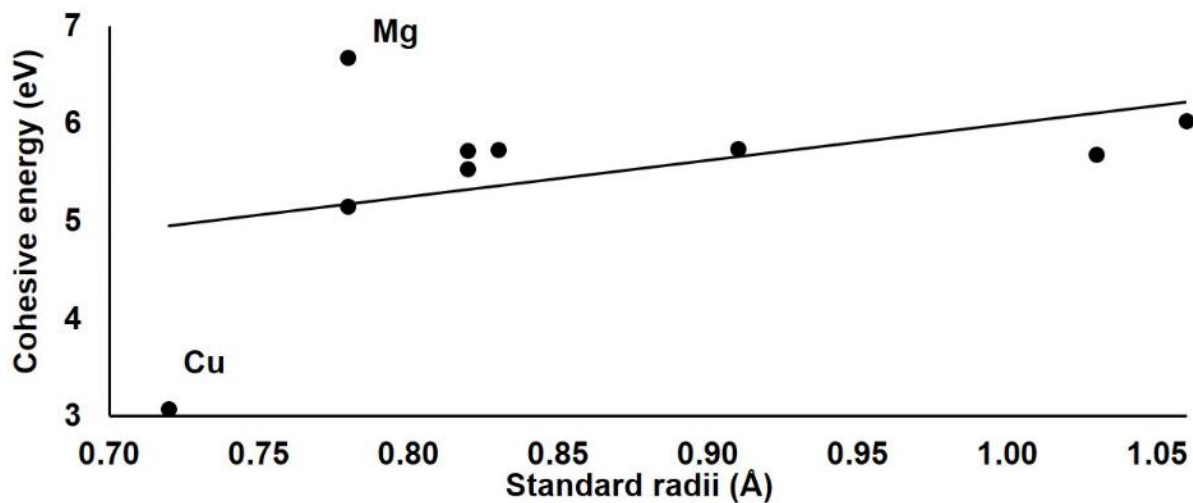
**Figure A3.9.** TRDE of M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)(OH) at 0K vs. hardness of metal cations. The linear fit equations for M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)(OH) are  $y = -0.10x + 26.47$  ( $R^2 = 0.20$ ), and  $y = -0.12x + 27.96$  ( $R^2 = 0.23$ ), respectively.



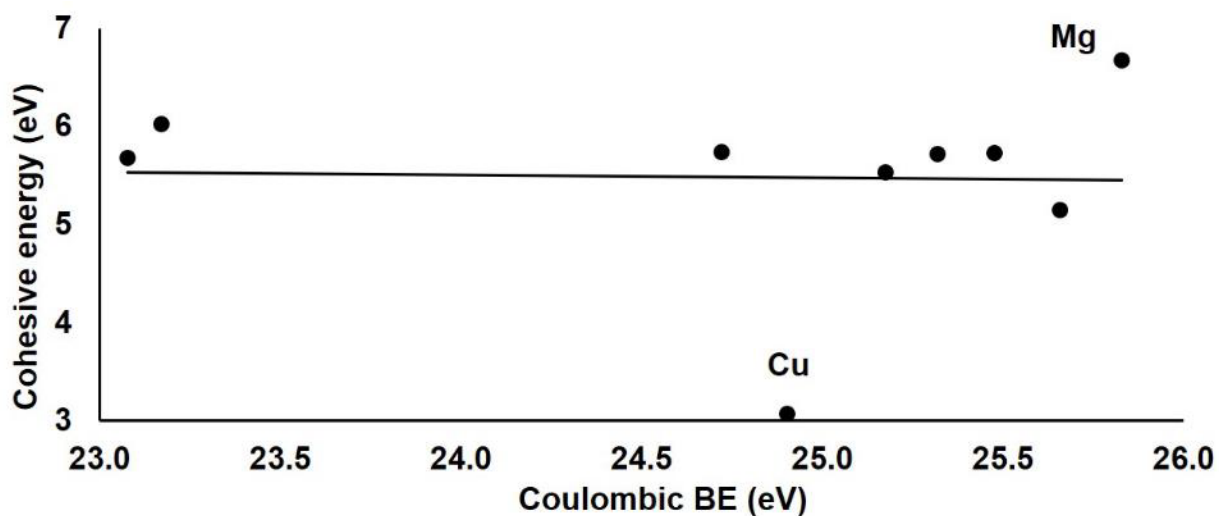
**Figure A3.10.** TRDE of  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  at 0K vs. Standard radii of metal cations. The linear fit equations for  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are  $y = -13.87x + 37.15$  ( $R^2 = 0.75$ ) and  $y = -14.33x + 38.84$  and ( $R^2 = 0.70$ ), respectively.



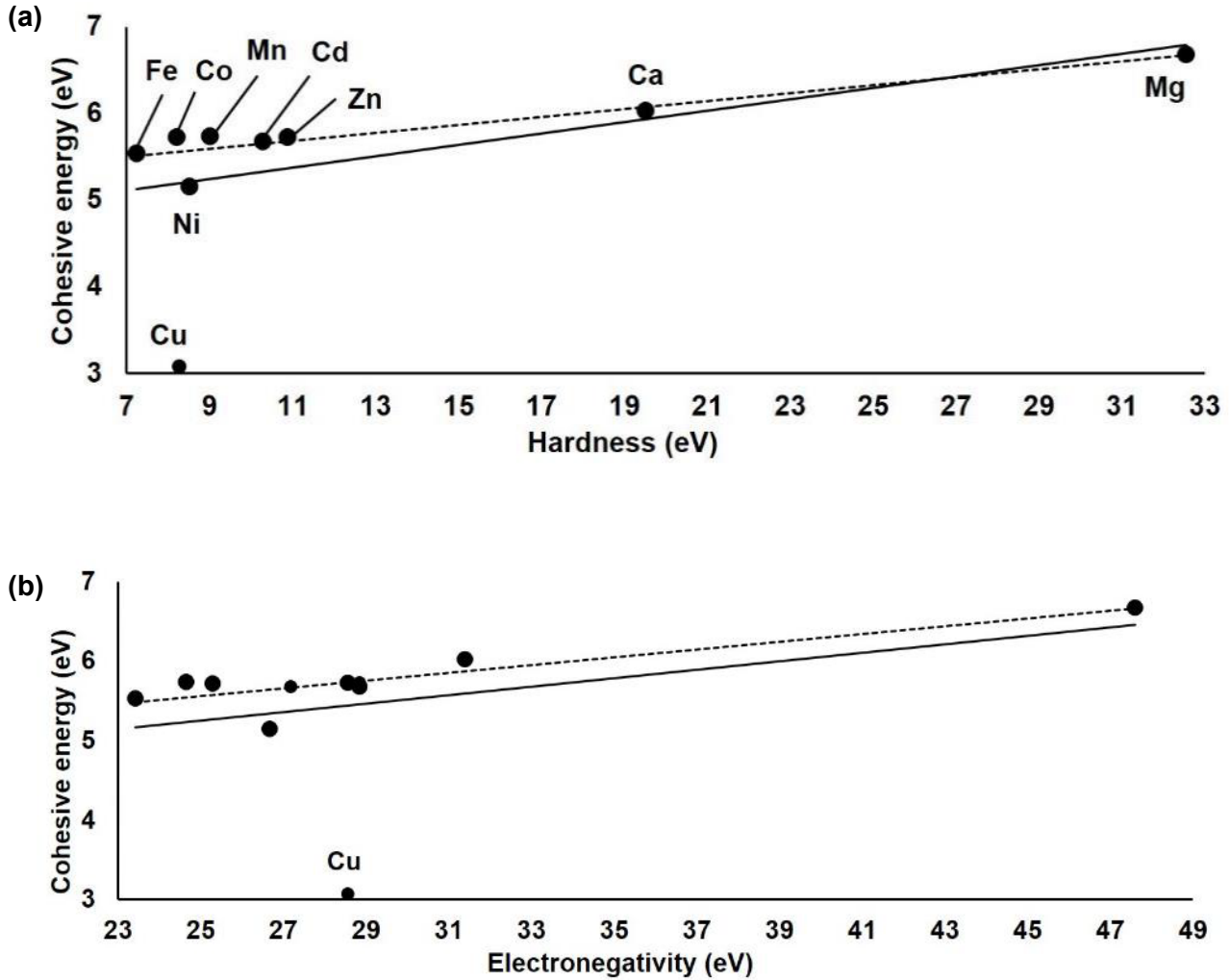
**Figure A3.11.** Coulombic dissociation energy of  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  at 0K vs. Standard radii of metal cations. The linear fit equations for  $\text{MCO}_3$ ,  $M(\text{HCO}_3)_2$  and  $M(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})$  are  $y = -7.83x + 31.55$  ( $R^2 = 0.80$ ),  $y = -9.87x + 32.76$  ( $R^2 = 0.91$ ), and  $y = -11.59x + 37.80$  ( $R^2 = 0.95$ ), respectively.



**Figure A3.12.** Plot of cohesive energy of MCO<sub>3</sub> at 0K vs. Standard radii of metal cations. The linear fit equation is  $y = 3.74x + 2.26$  ( $R^2 = 0.19$ ).



**Figure A3.13.** Plot of cohesive energy of MCO<sub>3</sub> at 0K vs. Coulombic BE. The linear fit equation is  $y = -0.03x + 6.18$  ( $R^2 = 0.00$ ).



**Figure A3.14.** Cohesive energy of  $MCO_3$  at 0K vs. (a) hardness and (b) electronegativity of metal cations (a) The linear fit equation for all the metals (solid line) is  $y = 0.07x + 4.64$  ( $R^2 = 0.30$ ). The linear fit equation for all the metals except for Cu (squared dot line) is  $y = 0.05x + 5.17$  ( $R^2 = 0.83$ ). (b) The linear fit equation for all the metals (solid line) is  $y = 0.05x + 3.91$  ( $R^2 = 0.15$ ). The linear fit equation for all the metals except for Cu (squared dot line) is  $y = 0.05x + 4.33$  ( $R^2 = 0.75$ ).

## CHAPTER 4

### ROLE OF CARBONATE BINDING IN THE ADDITION OF CO<sub>2</sub> TO M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> for M = Ti, Zr, Hf: THE IMPORTANCE OF CORE-VALENCE CORRELATION IN PREDICTING ISOMER ENERGETICS

#### Introduction

There is significant interest in the capture and conversion of CO<sub>2</sub> using a variety of species ranging from metal-organic frameworks (MOFs),<sup>1,2,3</sup> to zeolites,<sup>4,5</sup> to metal oxides as well as amines. It is also possible to fix CO<sub>2</sub> by mineral carbonation<sup>6,7,8</sup> leading to the formation of an insoluble carbonate salt. The reverse of such process in the subsurface is also being studied to demonstrate that CO<sub>2</sub> will remain sequestered. Transition metal oxides (MO<sub>x</sub>) have also been explored as sorbents and catalysts for the sequestration and conversion of CO<sub>2</sub>. Examples include the use of TiO<sub>2</sub> and ZrO<sub>2</sub> as photocatalysts for the conversion of CO<sub>2</sub>, often with other reagents such as H<sub>2</sub>.<sup>9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17</sup>

It has recently been reported<sup>18</sup> that CO<sub>2</sub> addition to the Ti<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> anion forms a novel carbonate structure with tridentate binding in the center of the cluster (**Center**) with 3 Ti-O bonds (Figure 4.1) to 3 different Ti atoms. In the correction to their manuscript,<sup>19</sup> it was reported that at the CCSD(T)/def2-TZVP level, the **Center** anionic structure is predicted to be the most stable structure, with **3-4Ta** higher in energy by 1.2 kcal/mol, **3-4Bc** higher in energy by 3.9 kcal/mol, and **3-4Ba** higher in energy by 4.8 kcal/mol (all ΔH(0K)). The best fit of the spectrum derived from a low fluence IRPD D<sub>2</sub>-tagged anion was assigned to **3-4Bc**. With higher fluence, features consistent with transitions of the **Center** structure were observed. In their correction,

the authors noted that for neutral  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6\text{CO}_2$ , the **Center** structure is 7.6 kcal/mol above **3-4Ba**, the lowest energy structure.

We had previously reported<sup>20</sup> that the lowest energy neutral structure for binding  $\text{CO}_2$  to  $\text{M}_3\text{O}_6$  ( $\text{M} = \text{Ti}$  and  $\text{Zr}$ ) is the tridentate bridging carbonate (**3-4Ba**) where the  $\text{CO}_2$  carbon binds to a bridging oxygen, the  $\text{CO}_2$  oxygens are bound to the 2 metal centers with  $\text{M}=\text{O}$  terminal bonds (Figure 4.1). For the  $\text{M} = \text{Hf}$  trimer, the lowest energy structure with a terminal bidentate carbonate (**3-4Ta**) (Figure 4.1) is 6 kcal/mol lower in energy than the bridge tridentate structure (**Center**). Our original calculations were performed at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ(C, O)/aug-cc-pwCVTZ-PP(M) level using B3LYP/aug-cc-pVDZ(-PP) optimized geometries. Zero point energies and thermal corrections were taken from the B3LYP calculations.

In the current work, we expand our prior reported calculations on the neutral metal and carbonate clusters to include the anionic metal and carbonate clusters for  $\text{M}_3\text{O}_6$  with  $\text{M} = \text{Ti}$ ,  $\text{Zr}$  and  $\text{Hf}$ . We include the **Center** structure for the neutral to compare to our previous work.

## Computational Methods

The geometries were optimized and vibrational frequencies were calculated at the density functional theory (DFT)<sup>21</sup> level with the B3LYP exchange-correlation functional<sup>22,23</sup> and aug-cc-pVDZ basis sets for C and O<sup>24,25</sup> and aug-cc-pVDZ-PP basis sets for the metals.<sup>26,27,28</sup> For Ti, there are 10 electrons in the PP, for Zr, there are 28 electrons in the PP and for Hf, there are 60 electrons in the PP. The density functional theory calculations were performed using the Gaussian16 software package.<sup>29</sup> The optimized geometries were then used in single point R/RCCSD(T) (neutral) or R/UCCSD(T) (anion) calculations<sup>30,31,32,33,34,35,36</sup> with the aug-cc-pVDZ basis sets for C and O and weighted core, aug-cc-pwCVDZ-PP<sup>26,27,28</sup> basis sets for the metals. In addition, for the neutrals, close shell species, calculations were performed at the

CCSD(T) level using aug-cc-pVTZ(C and O)/aug-cc-pwCVTZ-PP(Ti, Zr, and Hf) basis sets. These basis sets are labeled at aD and aT. For these CCSD(T) calculations, the 1s electrons for the C and O are not correlated. The CCSD(T) calculations were performed using the MOLPRO 2015.1 program package.<sup>37,38</sup>

## Results and Discussion

**Isomeric Energies** The relative energies of both neutral and anionic carbonate  $M_3O_6$  clusters are reported in Table 4.1. For the neutral Ti cluster, we predict that the bridge tridentate binding motif structure, **3-4Ba** is lower in energy by 9.6 kcal/mol at the aD level and by 7.9 kcal/mol at the aT level; the latter value is completely consistent with the prior corrected results.<sup>19</sup> There is no change in the energy difference between our lowest bridge tridentate **3-4Ba** and the new added **Center** tridentate binding motifs when the single point CCSD(T) calculations were done by changing the starting orbital<sup>39</sup> for the CCSD(T) calculations to those generated using the PW91 generalized gradient exchange-correlation functional.<sup>40,41,42</sup> We note that there are five chemisorbed isomers for the neutral Ti cluster that are 6.2 to 9.3 kcal/mol higher in energy than **3-4Ba**.

For the anion,  $Ti_3O_6CO_2^-$ , we predict that the terminal bidentate carbonate structure (**3-4Ta**) is 0.2 kcal/mol more stable than the **Center** tridentate structure at the R/UCCSD(T)/aD level using B3LYP/aug-cc-pVDZ(-PP) optimized geometry and by 0.4 kcal/mol using the  $\omega$ b97xD<sup>43</sup>/aug-cc-pVTZ(-PP) optimized geometry. This differs from the previously reported corrected results<sup>19</sup> for the anion where the **Center** structure is the lowest energy isomer with the terminal bidentate structure **3-4Ta** higher in energy by 1.2 kcal/mol. We predict that structure **3-4Bc** is 2.9 kcal/mol higher in energy than **3-4Ta**. The prior corrected results<sup>19</sup> predicted an energy difference of 3.9 kcal/mol for **3-4Bc** relative to the **Center** structure. We also predict that

**3-4Ba** is 3.2 kcal/mol higher in energy than **3-4Ta** and the prior corrected results<sup>19</sup> predicted an energy difference of 4.8 kcal/mol. Our results suggest that multiple structures for the anion could be observed in the experiment. In contrast, only one structure would be observed for the neutral at equilibrium at 298 K. We note that the def2-TZVP basis set used for the single point CCSD(T) previously reported corrected results<sup>19</sup> is smaller than the aug-cc-pVDZ(C,O)/aug-cc-pwCVDZ-PP(Ti) basis sets used in the current work and def2-TZVP does not have diffuse functions to account for anionic behavior.

As previously reported,<sup>20</sup> weighted core basis sets are necessary for the Group 4 metals, especially for M = Ti, as correlation of the outer core,  $ms^2$  and  $mp^6$  electrons (where  $m = 3, 4,$  and  $5$  for Ti, Zr, and Hf, respectively) is necessary to obtain correct binding energies, or in this case, relative energies, due to the low-lying O 2s orbital energies potentially mixing with the electrons in these outer core orbitals of the metal (see Table 4.2). For the anion carbonates, the use of cc-pVDZ-PP or cc-pVTZ-PP basis sets for M = Ti with no core-valence correction predicts the **Center** structure to be lower in energy by  $\sim 2$  kcal/mol than the **3-4Ta** for both B3LYP and  $\omega$ b97xD starting optimized geometries for the CCSD(T) single point calculations. Thus, core-valence corrections are indeed important for even getting the correct relative energies of the isomeric structures for these titanium oxide clusters.

Our calculated infrared spectra are given in the Supporting Information for the  $Ti_3O_6CO_2^-$  isomers. It is clear that the calculated spectra for **3-4Ba** and **Center** are not consistent with the experimental low fluence spectrum even though there is the possibility of the **Center** structure energetically. As noted previously, the spectrum for **3-4Bc** is in reasonable agreement with experiment. We also note that the calculated IR spectrum for lowest energy structure **3-4Ta** is in good agreement with most of the experimental spectral peak positions, although the intensities

are not in as good agreement. However, the experimental spectrum does not exclude the presence of this isomer.

As part of the current work, we included the **Center** tridentate binding structure for the neutral structures for  $M = \text{Zr}$  and  $\text{Hf}$  as well. For  $\text{Zr}$ , the bridge tridentate structure **3-4Ba** is more stable by 15.8 kcal/mol at the CCSD(T)/aD level and by 13.6 kcal/mol at the CCSD(T)/aT level than the **Center** tridentate structure. For  $\text{Hf}$ , the lowest energy structure is the terminal bidentate (**3-4Ta**) with the **Center** tridentate structure higher in energy by 20.1 and 18.5 kcal/mol at the CCSD(T) aD and aT levels, respectively.

We performed similar calculations for  $\text{CO}_2$  addition to  $\text{M}_3\text{O}_6^-$  for  $M = \text{Zr}$  and  $\text{Hf}$ . The anion structures of  $M = \text{Zr}$  and  $\text{Hf}$  are similar to those of  $M = \text{Ti}$  shown in Figure 4.1. The terminal bidentate structure (**3-4Ta**) is the most stable structure for all three metals at the CCSD(T)/aD level of theory. For  $\text{Zr}$ , the next lowest energy structure is **3-4Ba**, 4.2 kcal/mol higher in energy. The **Center** structure is 11.9 kcal/mol higher in energy than **3-4Ta** for  $\text{Zr}$ . For  $\text{Hf}$ , the **3-4Ba** structure is 11.2 kcal/mol higher in energy than **3-4Ta** and the **Center** tridentate structure is 18.0 kcal/mol higher in energy. The results clearly show that the **Center** structure is not important for the heavier metals and only can play some role in the  $\text{Ti}$  trimer anion.

**Spin Densities** The spin densities for the lowest energy **3-4Ta** structures and **Center** structures for  $\text{M}_3\text{O}_6\text{CO}_2^-$  and for  $\text{M}_3\text{O}_6^-$  are shown in Figure 4.2. In all cases, the spin is localized on the initial unique metal so there is very little change in the spin density on chemisorption to the trimer anion.

**Chemisorption binding energies** Using our prior results for  $\text{M}_3\text{O}_6^-$ ,<sup>20</sup> we can predict the chemisorption binding energy of  $\text{CO}_2$  to the anions (Table 4.3). The CCSD(T)/aD binding energies at 298K for the most stable structures are 26, 41, and 47 kcal/mol for  $M = \text{Ti}$ ,  $\text{Zr}$ , and

Hf, respectively. In contrast, the chemisorption binding energy to the neutral for the trimers are 23, 35, and 41 kcal/mol for M = Ti, Zr, and Hf, respectively at the at the same level of theory. The chemisorption binding energy of CO<sub>2</sub> to neutral M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> is also shown in Table 4.3.<sup>20</sup> The effect of using the larger aT basis sets is at most 2 kcal/mol for the binding energies for the neutral.

**Adiabatic electron affinities** The CCSD(T)/aD adiabatic electron affinities are calculated for the lowest energy neutral and anion M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>CO<sub>2</sub> structures at 0K for M = Ti, Zr and Hf (Table 4.4). The lowest energy structure for M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>CO<sub>2</sub> anions is the terminal bidentate structure (**3-4Ta**) and the lowest energy for the neutral is the bridge tridentate **3-4Ba** for M = Ti and Zr and the terminal bidentate structure **3-4Ta** for M = Hf. Thus, the adiabatic value for M = Hf will most closely resemble a vertical attachment/detachment process. For M = Ti and Zr, the vertical detachment and attachment processes are different from each other. The electron affinity of M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>CO<sub>2</sub> are 0.15 to 0.21 eV larger than the electron affinity of M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> calculated at a comparable level.<sup>44,45</sup> The difference in electron affinities between the structures with and without CO<sub>2</sub> added increases from Ti to Zr by 0.01eV, and increases from Zr to Hf by 0.06 eV. The lowest electron affinity for the metal oxide and for the CO<sub>2</sub> added structure is predicted for M = Zr and the highest is for M = Hf so there is no real trend for the column. As shown above for the spin density, the addition of the CO<sub>2</sub> to the metal oxide cluster anion does not change the location of the additional spin even though the selected oxygen atoms are perturbed by the formation of the carbonate.

The vertical detachment energies using optimized **3-4Ta** structures of the anion and neutral for M = Ti and Zr are 3.33 and 3.08 eV, respectively. The vertical attachment energy for optimized **3-4Ba** structures of the anion and neutral for M = Ti and Zr are 2.90 and 2.76 eV,

respectively. The vertical electron affinities for the remaining structures are reported in the Supporting Information.

## Conclusions

Coupled cluster (CCSD(T)) theory in conjunction with geometries optimized at the density functional theory level has been used to study the chemisorption of CO<sub>2</sub> to Group 4 neutral and anionic metal oxide M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> nanoclusters. The lowest energy structure for neutral M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>CO<sub>2</sub> is **3-4Ba** for Ti and Zr, and **3-4Ta** for Hf, whereas for the anion M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>CO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, the lowest energy structure is **3-4Ta** for all three metals. For M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>CO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, the **Center** structure for M = Ti is essentially the same energy (within 0.5 kcal/mol) as that of **3-4Ta**, but the **Center** structure is significantly higher than **3-4Ta** by 12 and 18 kcal/mol for M = Zr and Hf, respectively. Weighted core basis sets are needed to make accurate predictions for the relative energies of these Group 4 metal oxide nanoclusters isomers because the lower-lying 2s orbital in O atom can mix with the outer core orbitals of the metal. The **Center** structure will not play any significant role in the neutral M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> clusters. Thus, the potential for finding a central bridging carbonate structure is possible only for Ti<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>, and consistent with the available experimental observations,<sup>18,19</sup> it is likely not to be the lowest energy structure. We note that the use of the B3LYP functional favors **3-4Ta** as the ground state for Ti<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>CO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> over the **Center** structure and that the ωB97xD functional favors the **Center** structure over **3-4Ta**, both by ~ 2 kcal/mol. Thus, if density functional theory is to be used for calculating the relative isomeric energies, the choice of the functional is important. The electron affinities of the metal oxide cluster increase by only ~ 0.2 eV when CO<sub>2</sub> is chemisorbed to the cluster. The small change is consistent with the lack of change of spin density for the cluster with or without CO<sub>2</sub>. The chemisorption energies for CO<sub>2</sub> addition show a slight increase from the neutral cluster to the anion.

## Tables

**Table 4.1.** Calculated CCSD(T) relative energies,  $\Delta H_{298K}$ , in kcal/mol.<sup>a</sup>

Molecule	3-4Ba		3-4Ta		3-4Tb		3-4Bc		3-4Bb		Center	
	aD	aT	aD	aT	aD	aT	aD	aT	aD	aT	aD	aT
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	0.0	0.0	6.8	6.2	8.9	7.5	8.0	8.4	9.6	9.3	9.6	7.9
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	0.0	0.0	3.1	2.9	9.3	8.2	17.0	16.8	15.2	14.5	15.8	13.6
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	4.5	5.5	0.0	0.0	6.2	4.6	21.9	22.5	19.5	20.0	20.1	18.5
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	3.2		0.0		6.3		2.9		5.9		0.2	
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	4.2		0.0		11.6		17.3		14.2		11.9	
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	11.2		0.0		12.5		26.3		20.8		18.0	

<sup>a</sup> aD = aug-cc-pVDZ(C and O)/aug-cc-pwCVDZ-PP(Ti, Zr, and Hf) basis sets and aT = aug-cc-pVTZ(C and O)/aug-cc-pwCVTZ-PP(Ti, Zr, and Hf) basis sets

**Table 4.2.** Calculated relative energies at different level of theory,  $\Delta H_{298K}$ , in kcal/mol for the 3-4Ta and Center isomers of Ti<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>CO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>.

CCSD(T)	Geometry	3-4Ta	Center
aug-cc-pVDZ(C,O)/aug-cc-pwCVDZ-PP(Ti)	B3LYP	0.0	0.2
aug-cc-pVDZ(C,O)/cc-pVDZ-PP(Ti)	B3LYP	2.2	0.0
aug-cc-pVDZ(-PP)	B3LYP	2.1	0.0
aug-cc-pVTZ(C,O)/cc-pVTZ-PP(Ti)	B3LYP	2.8	0.0
aug-cc-pVDZ(C,O)/cc-pVDZ-PP(Ti)	ωB97xD	2.2	0.0
aug-cc-pVDZ(C,O)/aug-cc-pwCVDZ-PP(Ti)	ωB97xD	0.0	0.4

**Table 4.3.** Calculated CCSD(T) enthalpies at 298K ( $\Delta H_{298K}$ ) in kcal/mol for the CO<sub>2</sub> binding to Group 4 M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> neutral and anion nanoclusters.<sup>a</sup>

Cluster	3-4Ta		3-4Tb		3-4Ba		3-4Bb		3-4Bc		Center	
	aD	aT	aD	aT	aD	aT	aD	aT	aD	aT	aD	aT
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	-15.4	-16.4	-13.3	-15.2	-22.2	-22.6	-12.7	-13.3	-14.2	-14.3	-12.6	-14.8
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	-32.1	-32.2	-26.0	-26.9	-35.2	-35.1	-20.0	-20.6	-18.2	-18.3	-19.4	-21.5
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	-40.1	-41.5	-33.9	-36.9	-35.6	-36.0	-20.5	-21.5	-18.2	-19.0	-20.0	-23.0
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-26.4		-20.1		-23.2		-20.5		-23.5		-26.1	
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-40.8		-29.2		-36.6		-26.6		-23.5		-28.9	
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-47.1		-34.6		-35.9		-26.3		-20.8		-29.1	

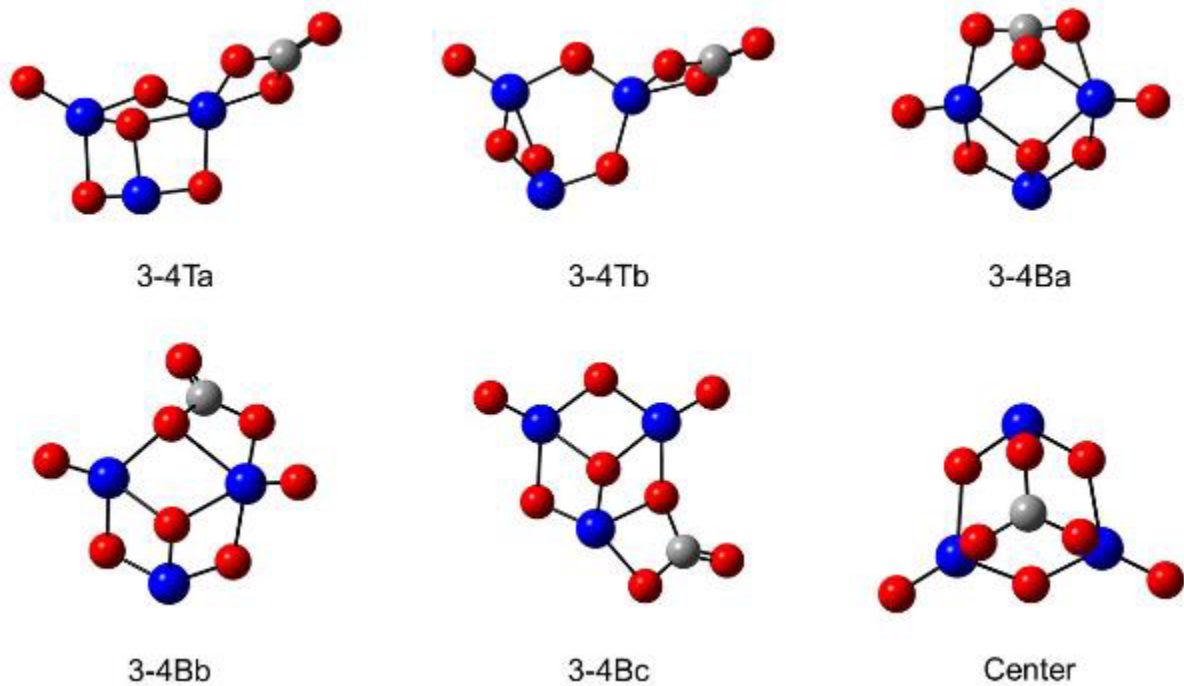
<sup>a</sup> aD = aug-cc-pVDZ(C and O)/aug-cc-pwCVDZ-PP(Ti, Zr, and Hf) basis sets and aT = aug-cc-pVTZ(C and O)/aug-cc-pwCVTZ-PP(Ti, Zr, and Hf) basis sets

**Table 4.4** Calculated CCSD(T) adiabatic electron affinities for  $M_3O_6CO_2$  and  $M_3O_6$  in eV at 0K.

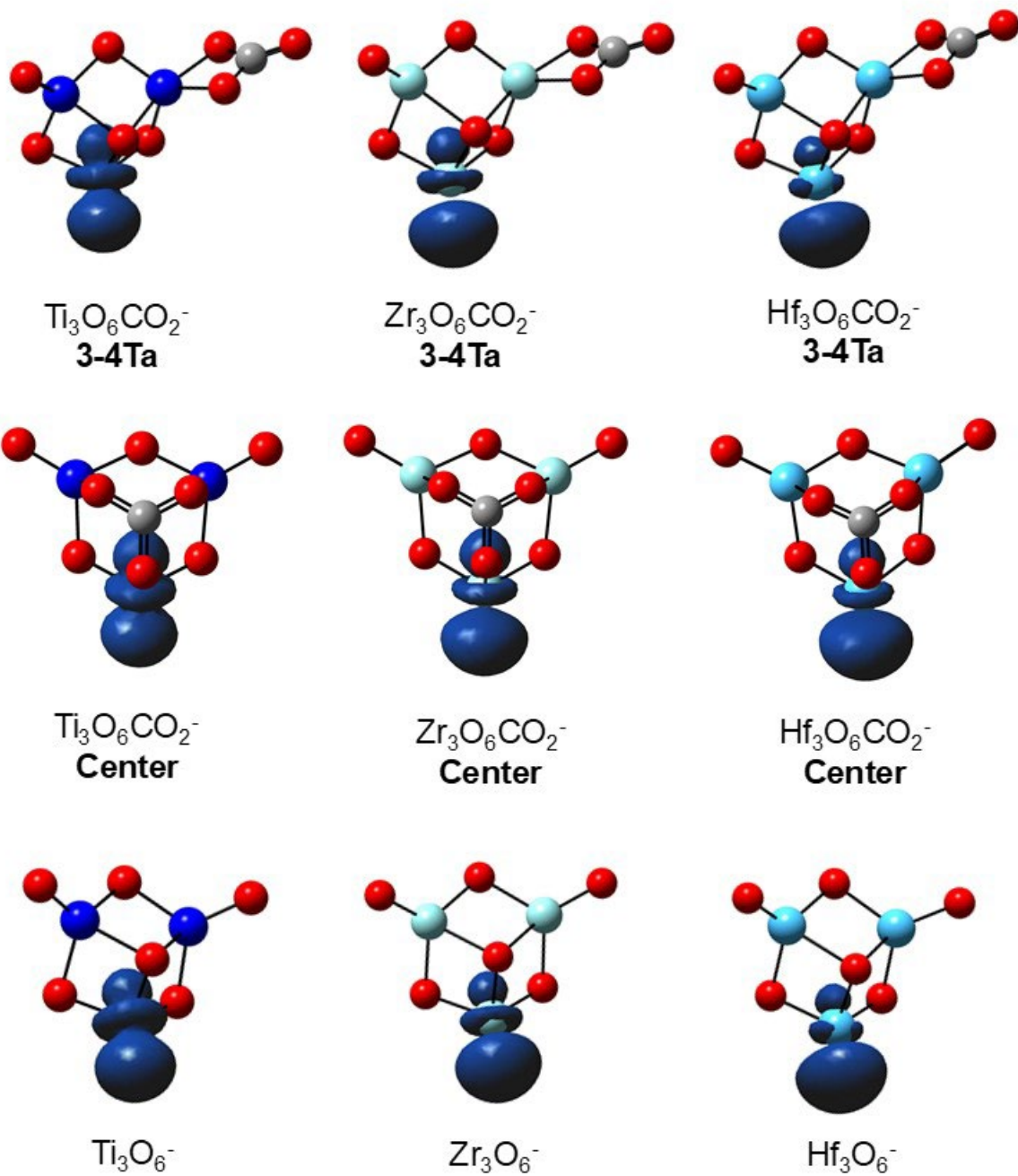
M	$M_3O_6^a$	$M_3O_6CO_2$	$\Delta EA$
Ti	2.89 (2.88) <sup>44</sup>	3.04	0.15
Zr	2.79 (2.72) <sup>45</sup>	2.95	0.16
Hf	3.18 (3.12) <sup>45</sup>	3.39	0.21

<sup>a</sup> Values at the aD level. Values in parentheses at the aT level.

## Figures



**Figure 4.1.** Group 4  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6\text{CO}_2$  neutral and anion chemisorbed nanoclusters. For a given geometry, the neutral and anion have similar structures. Terminal chemisorbed bidentate carbonate clusters (**3-4Ta** and **3-4Tb**), bridge chemisorbed tridentate carbonate clusters (**3-4Ba**), bridge chemisorbed bidentate carbonate clusters (**3-4Bb** and **3-4Bc**) and center chemisorbed tridentate carbonate cluster (**Center**). Metals are blue, oxygen is red and carbon is gray.



**Figure 4.2.** Spin densities for the lowest energy structure **3-4Ta** (top row), **Center** (middle row) for Group 4  $\text{M}_3\text{O}_6\text{CO}_2^-$  and  $\text{M}_3\text{O}_6^-$  (bottom row) nanoclusters for  $\text{M} = \text{Ti}, \text{Zr}$  and  $\text{Hf}$  (Contour = 0.005).

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Appendix: Addition of CO<sub>2</sub> to M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> for M = Ti, Zr, Hf: The Role of Carbonate Binding

**Table A4.1.** Total energies (Hartrees) at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVDZ(-PP) and CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ/aug-cc-pwCVDZ-PP and CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ/aug-cc-wc-pwCVTZ-PP levels.

Molecules	Enthalpies at 298K	Free Energies Correction at 298K	Electronic Energies		
	B3LYP/aD	B3LYP/aD	B3LYP/aD	CCSD(T)/aD	CCSD(T)/aT
CO <sub>2</sub>	-188.599082	-0.009140	-188.614214	-188.185662	-188.340595
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	-625.899442	-0.013213	-625.932877	-624.733531	-625.287042
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-626.013920	-0.014091	-626.046622	-624.837657	
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	-592.693159	-0.018983	-592.724615	-591.386749	-591.946273
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-592.792667	-0.019770	-592.823598	-591.485594	
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	-597.796988	-0.021266	-597.828237	-596.245325	-596.816532
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-597.909138	-0.022195	-597.939875	-596.358379	
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Ba	-814.519375	-0.000992	-814.569819	-812.956469	-813.665607
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Bb	-814.510857	-0.003427	-814.560875	-812.940825	-813.650266
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Bc	-814.513853	-0.003648	-814.563684	-812.943031	-813.651626
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Ta	-814.522010	-0.003379	-814.571884	-812.945087	-813.655098
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Tb	-814.523628	-0.004861	-814.573333	-812.941500	-813.652923
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – Center	-814.512135	-0.001382	-814.562263	-812.940842	-813.652754
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Ba	-814.635870	-0.002513	-814.685536	-813.062084	
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Bb	-814.639729	-0.004432	-814.689167	-813.057615	
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Bc	-814.646211	-0.004914	-814.695503	-813.062232	
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Ta	-814.653222	-0.003988	-814.702556	-813.066866	
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Tb	-814.649443	-0.005883	-814.698658	-813.056738	
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – Center	-814.649922	-0.002569	-814.699302	-813.066535	
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Ba	-781.335423	-0.006433	-781.383969	-779.630529	-780.344747
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Bb	-781.317833	-0.009157	-781.365981	-779.605917	-780.321259
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Bc	-781.315010	-0.009469	-781.363017	-779.602901	-780.317425
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Ta	-781.339061	-0.008549	-781.387113	-779.625066	-780.339631
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Tb	-781.334969	-0.010926	-781.382778	-779.614994	-780.331033
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> - Center	-781.319267	-0.007489	-781.367506	-779.605024	-780.322736

Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Ba	-781.438561	-0.007621	-781.486589	-779.731489	
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Bb	-781.429417	-0.009878	-781.477144	-779.715311	
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Bc	-781.427218	-0.010177	-781.474832	-779.710186	
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Ta	-781.452680	-0.009470	-781.500318	-779.737796	
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Tb	-781.441591	-0.011732	-781.489061	-779.719211	
Zr <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – Center	-781.437314	-0.008629	-781.484971	-779.718912	
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Ba	-786.441142	-0.008633	-786.489494	-784.489729	-785.216534
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Bb	-786.423224	-0.011305	-786.471150	-784.465275	-785.192978
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Bc	-786.419057	-0.011677	-786.466801	-784.461397	-785.188827
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Ta	-786.455431	-0.010937	-786.503265	-784.496336	-785.224783
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Tb	-786.451828	-0.013254	-786.499433	-784.486284	-785.217184
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> - Center	-786.425240	-0.009608	-786.473322	-784.464626	-785.195528
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Ba	-786.554693	-0.009827	-786.602551	-784.603267	
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Bb	-786.545991	-0.012122	-786.593536	-784.587671	
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Bc	-786.539156	-0.012614	-786.586570	-784.578719	
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Ta	-786.579128	-0.011691	-786.626605	-784.620726	
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Tb	-786.566047	-0.014303	-786.613343	-784.600551	
Hf <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – Center	-786.552994	-0.010760	-786.600580	-784.592142	

**Table A4.2.** Total energies (Hartrees) at the  $\omega$ b97xD/aug-cc-pVTZ(-PP) level and CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ/aug-cc-pwCVDZ-PP.

	Enthalpies at 298K	Free Energies Correction at 298K	Electronic Energies	
	$\omega$ b97xD /aT	$\omega$ b97xD /aT	$\omega$ b97xD /aT	CCSD(T)/aD
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – 3-4Ba	-814.391054	0.000439	-814.442384	-812.952815
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> – Center	-814.384019	-0.000217	-814.435022	-812.937235
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Ba	-814.500604	-0.000912	-814.551190	-813.059439
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Bc	-814.508625	-0.003706	-814.558672	-813.059470
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – 3-4Ta	-814.512366	-0.002894	-814.562446	-813.064604
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> – Center	-814.515797	-0.001593	-814.565853	-813.063884

**Table A4.3.** Relative energies with thermal correction at 298 K in kcal/mol. at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ/aug-cc-pwCVDZ-PP level using  $\omega$ b97xD/aug-cc-pVTZ(-PP) optimized geometries.

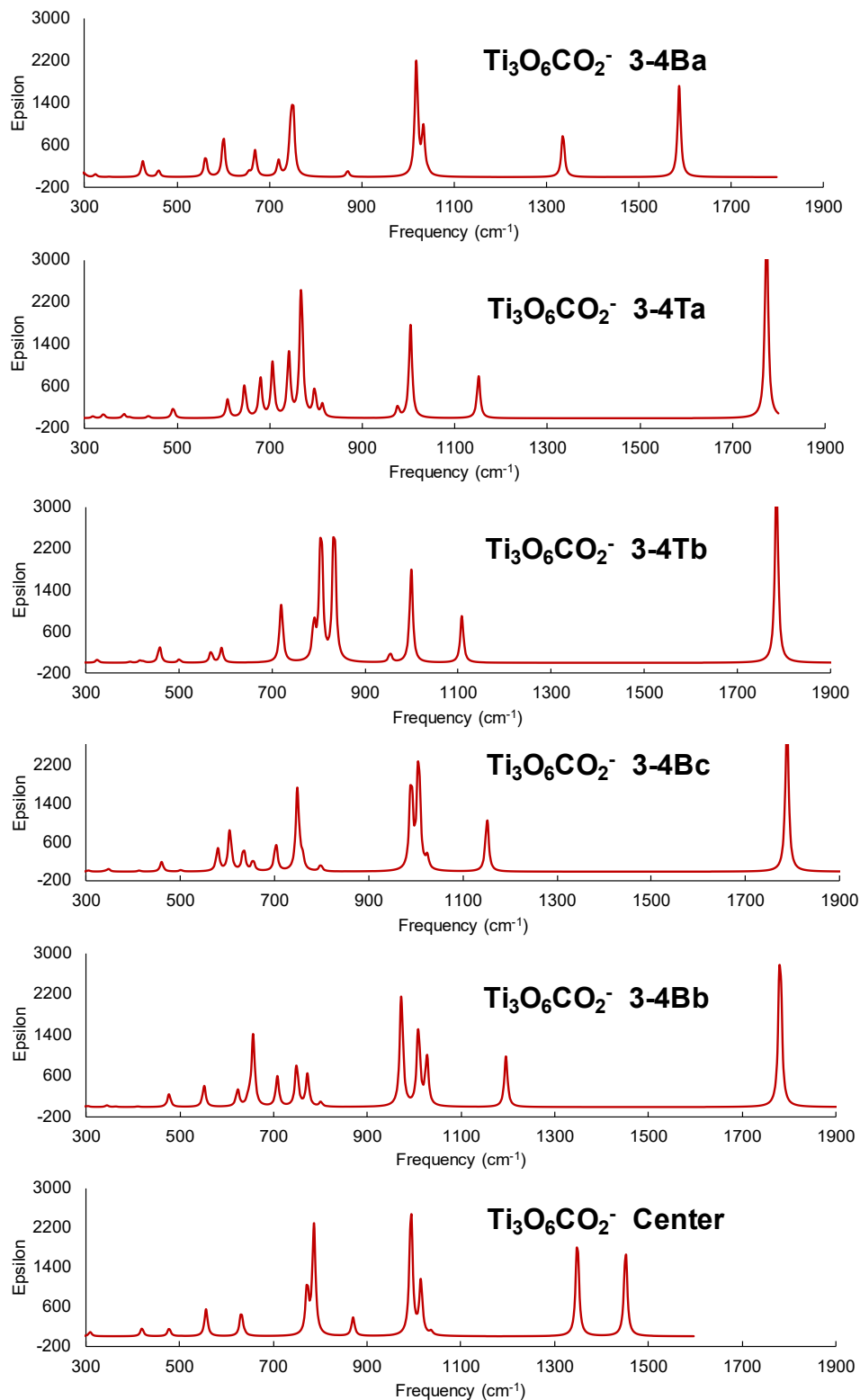
Molecule	<b>3-4Ba</b>	<b>3-4Bc</b>	<b>3-4Ta</b>	<b>Center</b>
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	3.6	3.2	0.0	0.4

**Table A4.4.** Calculated relative energies at different level of theory,  $\Delta H_{298K}$ , in kcal/mol for  $Ti_3O_6CO_2^-$  isomers.

Level of theory	geom	3-4Ba	3-4Ta	3-4Tb	3-4Bc	3-4Bb	Center
CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ(C and O)/ aug-cc-pwCVDZ-PP(Ti)	B3LYP	3.2	0.0	6.3	2.9	5.9	0.2
CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ(C and O)/ cc-pVDZ-PP(Ti)	B3LYP	4.9	2.2	7.2	2.9	6.6	0.0
CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ(-PP)	B3LYP		2.1				0.0
CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ(C and O)/ cc-pVTZ-PP(Ti)	B3LYP	5.5	2.8	7.4	3.3	7.4	0.0
B3LYP/aD	B3LYP	10.9	0.0	2.4	4.4	8.5	2.1
wB97xD/aT	$\omega$ B97xD	9.5	2.2		4.5		0.0
CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ(C and O)/ cc-pVDZ-PP(Ti)	$\omega$ B97xD		2.2				0.0
CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ(C and O)/ aug-cc-pwCVDZ-PP(Ti)	$\omega$ B97xD	3.6	0.0		3.2		0.4

**Table A4.5.** Vertical electron detachment energies (VDE, eV) for  $M_3O_6CO_2^-$  and  $M_3O_6^-$  ( $M = Ti, Zr$  and  $Hf$ ) at 0K at the CCSD(T)/ aug-cc-pVDZ/aug-cc-pwCVDZ-PP level.

Isomer	Ti	Zr	Hf
<b>3-4Ba</b>	2.90	2.76	3.11
<b>3-4Bb</b>	3.19	2.99	3.34
<b>3-4Bc</b>	3.26	2.93	3.20
<b>3-4Ta</b>	3.33	3.08	3.39
<b>3-4Tb</b>	3.15	2.85	3.12
<b>Center</b>	3.44	3.12	3.49
$M_3O_6$	2.85	2.70	3.09



**Figure A4.1.** Calculated IR spectra for the  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6\text{CO}_2^-$  isomers at B3LYP/aug-cc-pVDZ(-PP) level.

## CHAPTER 5

### COMPUTATIONAL STUDY OF DEHYDRATION AND DEHYDROGENATION OF ETHANOL ON $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ( $n = 2 - 4$ ) NANOCCLUSERS

#### Introduction

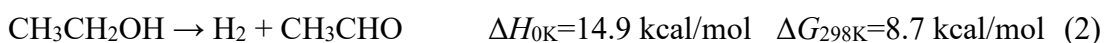
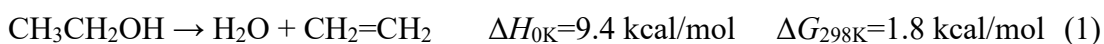
Studies of the dehydration and dehydrogenation of ethanol are relevant to renewable energy sources, for example, formation of ethylene. Many oxides catalyze the dehydration and dehydrogenation of ethanol, including  $\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$ <sup>1</sup>,  $\text{MO}_x$  ( $M = \text{W}, \text{Mo}$ )<sup>2,3,4</sup>,  $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{ZnO}$  and  $\text{CdO}$ <sup>5</sup>. The properties of rutile  $\text{TiO}_2$  (110), a well-known catalytic material, have been studied from the perspective of excess surface electrons<sup>6</sup> and charge transfer<sup>7,8</sup>, the role of oxygen vacancies,<sup>9</sup> the presence of  $\text{Ti}^{3+}$  sites,<sup>10</sup> and the influence of subsurface defects and impurities.<sup>11</sup> A key reactivity site are defect sites where an oxygen ion is missing; this defect is called a bridge-bonded oxygen vacancy ( $\text{BBO}_v$ )<sup>12,13,14</sup>. Whether an alcohol undergoes dehydration or dehydrogenation on rutile  $\text{TiO}_2$  (110) surface has been studied experimentally. Zhang et al.<sup>15</sup> found that, if methanol coverage was lower than the  $\text{BBO}_v$  coverage, methanol dissociates via O-H bond cleavage on a  $\text{BBO}_v$ . If the situation is reversed, the oxygen of methanol can bind to a five-coordinated  $\text{Ti}_{5c}$  site. If an ethoxy group is bound to a  $\text{Ti}_{5c}$  site after addition of ethanol, there is a deprotonation/protonation dynamic equilibrium.<sup>16</sup> Li et al.<sup>17</sup> studied absolute coverages for small aliphatic alcohols ( $\text{C}_1 - \text{C}_4$ ) using a combination of temperature-programmed desorption and liquid nitrogen cooled quartz crystal microbalance measurements. They found that the saturation coverages of primary alcohols on  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  were  $\sim 0.77$  ML with almost no influence from the length of the alkyl chain. Kim et al.<sup>18</sup> explored product yields and selectivity of ten  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_8$

aliphatic alcohols on the rutile TiO<sub>2</sub> (110) surface with a 3.5% concentration of surface oxygen vacancies by using ultrahigh vacuum temperature-programmed desorption. They found that dehydration is preferred over dehydrogenation; dehydration at high temperatures (480 to 650 K) occurs for all alcohols, and dehydration at low temperatures (300 to 425 K) occurred for all except t-butanol and 3- and 4-octanol. For those that can dehydrate at both temperatures, they produce greater amounts of products at high temperature than at low temperature. They showed that the low temperature pathway for dehydration is at the Ti<sup>4+</sup> sites. Below room temperature, it has been shown that alcohols can add to the surface Ti<sub>5c</sub><sup>4+</sup> sites molecularly or may dissociate by proton transfer to a bridge O site, whereas only dissociation occurs at BBO<sub>V</sub> sites.<sup>15,19</sup> Kim et al.<sup>20</sup> correlated the activation energy for alkene formation on BBO<sub>V</sub> in the high temperature region with the Taft inductive parameter and showed that ethanol had the highest activation energy as compared to more highly substituted alcohols.

Wang et al.<sup>21</sup> studied the hydrolysis reactions of the ground and first excited triplet states of TiO<sub>2</sub> nanoclusters. It is important to involve both the singlet and the triplet in the study of H<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> production from water splitting.<sup>22</sup> After an initial Lewis acid-base complex is formed a hydrogen atom transfers to generate an OH group. Hydrogen atom transfer from the OH group leads to formation of an M-H bond via proton coupled electron transfer (PCET) reaction, with one electron transferred for the triplet state and two transferred for the singlet state of the complex.

Experimental and computational studies<sup>2,3,4,23,24,25,26</sup> of dehydration, dehydrogenation and condensation of C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>4</sub> alcohols have been performed on cyclic (MO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> clusters for M = Mo and W. The first alcohol<sup>2,4</sup> is physisorbed to the metal O=M<sup>VI</sup>=O in a Lewis acid-base reaction. This is followed by proton transfer processes until the appropriate products are formed.

Building on the prior studies on the reactions of alcohols on cyclic (WO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> and (MoO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> clusters, the current work describes a computational study of the reactivity of (TiO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub> nanoclusters, n = 2 – 4 with a focus on the reactions initiated at the Ti<sup>4+</sup> sites. Dehydration (1) and dehydrogenation (2) of ethanol was selected as a model to probe both the Lewis/Brønsted acid/base and redox properties of Ti. Although the complete reactions (1) and (2) are endothermic in terms of the enthalpy ( $\Delta H_{0K}$ ) and Gibbs free energy ( $\Delta G_{298K}$ ) as shown below,<sup>27,28,29,30</sup> we can gain useful insights into the reaction and the key intermediates.



### Computational Methods

Geometry optimizations were performed at the density functional theory (DFT)<sup>31</sup> level with the B3LYP<sup>32,33</sup> hybrid exchange correlation functional and the DZVP2 based set<sup>34</sup> for dehydration and dehydrogenation of ethanol on the transition metal oxide clusters (TiO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>, n = 2 - 4.<sup>22,35,36</sup> The cc-pVDZ-PP basis set with a relativistic effective core potential was used for W and Mo.<sup>37,38</sup> The synchronous transit-guided quasi-Newton (STQN) method was used to find transition states.<sup>39</sup> Zero-point energies (ZPE) are obtained at the DFT level. The DFT calculations were carried out with the Gaussian 16 program package.<sup>40</sup>

The DFT optimized geometries were used in single point CCSD(T)<sup>41,42,43,44</sup> calculations with the correlation-consistent basis sets aug-cc-pVDZ<sup>45,46</sup> for C, H and O, and the aug-cc-pVDZ-PP<sup>47</sup> basis set which incorporates a pseudopotential for Ti. The 10 electrons in the 1s2s2p orbitals are modeled by the relativistic pseudopotentials (-PP). These basis sets is denoted as aD. All CCSD(T) calculations were performed with the MOLPRO 2018.2 program.<sup>48,49,50</sup>

The calculations were performed on the local Xeon and Opteron based Penguin Computing clusters at the University of Alabama and the Xeon and Opteron based Dense Memory Cluster (DMC) at the Alabama Supercomputer Center.

## Results and Discussion

The clusters used for the reaction coordinates for ethanol catalysis are shown in Figure 5.1. The lowest energy structure for  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4$  has  $C_{2h}$  symmetry, for  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6$  has  $C_s$  symmetry, and for  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  has  $C_{2v}$  symmetry with a tetradentate bridging O atom. The ethanol dehydration (1) and dehydrogenation (2) reaction energies are endothermic by 9.4 and 15.0 kcal/mol (CCSD(T)/aD level at 0 K plus ZPE corrections), respectively, in agreement with the values derived from the Active Thermochemical Tables (ATcT).<sup>28,29</sup>

**Dimer Dehydration** The overall reaction pathways and two lowest energy pathways of ethanol dehydration for the dimers at the CCSD(T)/aD//B3LYP/DZVP2 level are shown in Figure 5.2 (a) and (b), respectively. The remaining related structures are in the Supporting Information (SI). Structures with the dimers, trimers and tetramers are pre-labeled with d, t and q, respectively.

The dehydration reaction on the dimer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_2$  starts with formation of a physisorbed complex **d1** at the  $\text{Ti}_1$  site by an ethanol molecule via a Lewis acid-base interaction. The physisorption energy is *ca.* -40 kcal/mol, followed by a proton transfer from the O-H bond on the  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$  to a terminal  $\text{O}_{\text{ter}1}$  with a barrier of  $\sim 17$  kcal/mol, with the transition state dTS 1 below the reactant asymptote. Formation of the chemisorbed complex, Ti-hydroxide **d2**, is *ca.* -24 kcal/mol more stable than the physisorption complex.

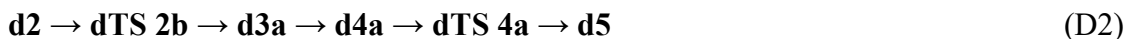
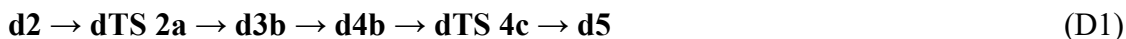
The  $\beta$  hydrogen transfers to an O atom of the  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4\text{H}$  structure of **d2** in three ways: (i) transfers to the terminal  $\text{O}_{\text{ter}1}$  via **dTS 2c** to form a  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4(\text{C}_{2v})\text{-C}_2\text{H}_4\text{-H}_2\text{O}$  complex **d3c**, (ii) transfers to the second terminal  $\text{O}_{\text{ter}2}$  via **dTS 2b** to form a  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_5\text{H}_2\text{-C}_2\text{H}_4$  complex **d3a** with two

terminal OH groups and a C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> physisorbed to the H of the terminal O<sub>ter2</sub>H group, and (iii) transfers to a bridged O<sub>br1</sub> via **dTS 2a** to form **d3b** with one terminal O<sub>ter1</sub>H and one bridged O<sub>br1</sub>H groups and a C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> physisorbed to the terminal O that is originally from the ethanol. The energy barriers via **dTS 2c** and **dTS 2b** are similar, ~ 55 and ~ 53 kcal/mol, respectively. The energy barrier via **dTS 2a** is a bit lower, ~ 46 kcal/mol. The enthalpies of these transition states are all below the reactant asymptote. The β hydrogen transfer reactions are all endothermic. The least endothermic reaction, 16 kcal/mol, occurs at the pathway (2). The β hydrogen transfer reaction energy of the pathway (1) is ~ 28 kcal/mol. The pathway (3) has the highest reaction energy of ~ 39 kcal/mol. Among these three pathways from **d2** to **d3**, **dTS 2a** is the lowest energy barrier and is ~ 7 kcal/mol lower than the second lowest transition state **dTS 2b**. Reaction **d3a** has the lowest endothermicity, and is ~ 12 kcal/mol lower than the second lowest product **d3b**. Thus, the steps **d2** → **dTS 2a** → **d3b** and **d2** → **dTS 2b** → **d3a**, are two possible lowest energy pathways and both likely to occur thermodynamically.

Removal of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> is an additional endothermic process, but the energy is still below the reactant asymptote. Approximately, 2 kcal/mol is required for **d3b** to form **d4b** and ~ 4 kcal/mol for **d3a** to form **d4a**, so ethylene desorption is a low energy process. Thus, the steps **d3b** → **d4b** and **d3a** → **d4a** are still both likely to occur.

The final step is removal of a water molecule. The bridge Ti<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>H<sub>2</sub> **d4b** has one bridge O<sub>br1</sub>H group and one terminal O<sub>ter1</sub>H group. The bridge proton transfers either to the terminal O<sub>ter1</sub>H group, endothermically forming the Ti<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O complex **d4c**, or transfers to the terminal oxygen at Ti<sub>1</sub> to form **d5** which has two terminal OH groups at Ti<sub>1</sub>. The latter pathway is preferred with a lower energy barrier of ~ 24 kcal/mol and an exothermicity of *ca.* -14 kcal/mol. The terminal Ti<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>H<sub>2</sub> **d4a** has two terminal OH groups, the O<sub>ter1</sub>H group and the

$O_{\text{ter}2}\text{H}$  group. The terminal H of the  $O_{\text{ter}2}\text{H}$  group transfers to the  $O_{\text{ter}1}$  of the  $O_{\text{ter}1}\text{H}$  group to form a  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4(\text{C}_{2\text{h}})\text{-H}_2\text{O}$  complex **d6** in three ways: (2.1) transfers to the bridge  $O_{\text{bri}1}$  via **dTS 4e** to form **d4b**, (2.2) transfers to the  $O_{\text{ter}1}$  via **dTS 4b** to form **d6** directly, (2.3) transfers to the only available terminal O at  $\text{Ti}_1$  via **dTS 4a** to form **d5**. Pathway (2.1) is unlikely to occur as the transition state **dTS 4e** is above the reactant asymptote by  $\sim 1$  kcal/mol. The transition states of (2.2) and (2.3) are both below the reaction asymptote. The transition energy barrier of (2.3) is  $\sim 21$  kcal/mol, and that of (2.2) is only  $\sim 3$  kcal/mol higher. The reaction energy of (2.3) has an exothermicity of *ca.* -4 kcal/mol and yet the reaction of (2.2) is endothermic with the product **d6** only 0.7 kcal/mol below the transition state **dTS 4b**. Thus, the pathway (2.3) is more favorable thermodynamically. Therefore, the lowest energy pathways from **d4b** and **d4a** are **d4b**  $\rightarrow$  **dTS 4c**  $\rightarrow$  **d5** and **d4a**  $\rightarrow$  **dTS 4a**  $\rightarrow$  **d5**, respectively. The overall processes D1 and D2 can both occur.



Formation of **d6** from **d5** is endothermic with a reaction energy of  $\sim 27$  kcal/mol accompanied by a high energy barrier of  $\sim 40$  kcal/mol. This suggests that **d5** might become a new Brønsted acid catalytic center with two OH group at the same Ti site. The hydration energy of 9.4 kcal/mol at **dcat** is above the reactant asymptote, which means the overall reaction might terminate at **d6** in the form of the  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4(\text{C}_{2\text{h}})\text{-H}_2\text{O}$  complex.

The removal of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  from the  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4(\text{C}_{2\text{v}})\text{-C}_2\text{H}_4\text{-H}_2\text{O}$  complex **d3c** to form **d4c** requires 9 kcal/mol, and an additional  $\sim 31$  kcal/mol is required to remove a  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  to form **dcat 1**. The total reaction energy of this pathway is 14.7 kcal/mol at **dcat 1**, which includes the hydration energy of ethanol, 9.4 kcal/mol, and the energy needed for the structure transformation from  $\text{C}_{2\text{h}}$  to  $\text{C}_{2\text{v}}$ .

Since **dcat 1** is above the reactant asymptote, this pathway is likely to terminate in the form of the  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4(\text{C}_{2v})\text{-H}_2\text{O}$  complex at **d4c**.

**Dimer Dehydrogenation** Dehydrogenation of ethanol on dimers starts from the chemisorbed complex **d2** (Figure 5.3). PCET occurs when the  $\alpha$  hydrogen of the ethoxy transfers to  $\text{Ti}_1$  via **dTS 7a** to form a  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4(\text{C}_{2h})\text{-C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O}$  complex **d8a**, changing the charge of the hydrogen from +1 to -1. This reaction is exothermic by *ca.* -6 kcal/mol with an energy barrier of  $\sim 48$  kcal/mol. It is the thermodynamically more preferable pathway as compared to the other pathway of transferring the  $\alpha$  hydrogen to the bridge  $\text{O}_{\text{brid}}$  via **dTS 7b** forming another  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4(\text{C}_{2h})\text{-C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O}$  complex **d8b**. The latter has a higher energy barrier by  $\sim 8$  kcal/mol and is an endothermic reaction. We note that the energy of **d8b** is higher than its transition state at the CCSD(T)/aD(-PP) level but lower than its transition state at the B3LYP/DZVP2 level so the B3LYP/DZVP2 structure may not be the optimized structure that would be found at the CCSD(T)/aD(-PP) level. Removing a  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O}$  from **d8a** to form **d9a** requires  $\sim 14$  kcal/mol and **d9a** is below the reactant asymptote. Next step is to remove a  $\text{H}_2$  from **d9a**, which has a terminal  $\text{O}_{\text{ter1}}\text{H}$  group and a hydride at  $\text{Ti}_1$ , to form a  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4(\text{C}_{2h})\text{-H}_2$  complex **d10b**. Formation of  $\text{H}_2$  probably occurs by recombination of a protonic site, the terminal H of the terminal  $\text{O}_{\text{ter1}}\text{H}$  group, and a hydridic site, the hydride at  $\text{Ti}_1$ , which is an endothermic reaction of  $\sim 16$  kcal/mol with an energy barrier of  $\sim 27$  kcal/mol. Removal of  $\text{H}_2$  from **d10b** requires  $\sim 7$  kcal/mol. The dehydrogenation energy of ethanol is 15.0 kcal/mol. However, since **dTS 9a**, **d10b** and **cat** are all above the reactant asymptote, the pathway may stop at **d9a** which can be viewed as a potential new catalyst.

Removal of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O}$  from **d8b** to form **d9b** which has a terminal  $\text{O}_{\text{ter1}}\text{H}$  group and a bridge  $\text{O}_{\text{brid}}\text{H}$  group is endothermic by  $\sim 20$  kcal/mol. To generate a  $\text{H}_2$ , the bridge H has to transfer to the  $\text{Ti}_1$  site first, which is exothermic by *ca.*  $\sim 25$  kcal/mol with an energy barrier of  $\sim 23$

kcal/mol, a PCET process. The combination of two H with opposite formal charges on **d10a** is endothermic by  $\sim 23$  kcal/mol with an energy barrier of  $\sim 31$  kcal/mol. Approximately 7 kcal/mol is required to remove a H<sub>2</sub> from the Ti<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>(C<sub>2v</sub>)-H<sub>2</sub> complex **d11** to form **dcat 1** Ti<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>(C<sub>2v</sub>). The dehydrogenation energy of ethanol of this pathway is 20.3 kcal/mol, which includes the dehydrogenation energy of ethanol of 15.0 kcal/mol, and the energy needed to transform Ti<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> from C<sub>2h</sub> to C<sub>2v</sub>. Since **d9b** is above the reactant asymptote, this pathway may terminate at **d8b**.

**Trimer Dehydration** The reaction coordinates for dehydration for the trimers at the CCSD(T)/aD level are shown in Figure 5.4 (a). As expected, the process is initiated by formation of a physisorbed Ti<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH complex **t1** at Ti<sub>1</sub>, a *ca.* -44 kcal/mol exothermic step. The proton on the OH group of ethanol transfers to the closest bidentate O<sub>dibr12</sub> of Ti<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> via **tTS 1** with an energy barrier of  $\sim 18$  kcal/mol. The product **t2** is *ca.* -17 kcal/mol more exothermic than **t1**. The  $\beta$  hydrogen of the ethoxy at **t2** can transfer to five oxygen sites on Ti<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, including two dibridged O<sub>dibr13</sub> and O<sub>dibr23</sub>, one tribridge O<sub>tribr</sub>, two terminal O<sub>ter2</sub> and O<sub>ter3</sub>, plus one oxygen site originated from ethanol, thus, in total 6 pathways.

Considering the complexity of these pathways, the two possible lowest energy pathways T1 and T2 as shown in Figure 5.4 (b) are now discussed.

**tcat**  $\rightarrow$  **t1**  $\rightarrow$  **tTS 1**  $\rightarrow$  **t2**  $\rightarrow$  **tTS 2a**  $\rightarrow$  **t3e**  $\rightarrow$  **t4c**  $\rightarrow$  **tTS 4d**  $\rightarrow$  **t5b**  $\rightarrow$  **tTS 5a**  $\rightarrow$  **t6**  $\rightarrow$  **tcat** (T1)

**tcat**  $\rightarrow$  **t1**  $\rightarrow$  **tTS 1**  $\rightarrow$  **t2**  $\rightarrow$  **tTS 2d**  $\rightarrow$  **t3a**  $\rightarrow$  **t4a**  $\rightarrow$  **tTS 4a**  $\rightarrow$  **t5a**  $\rightarrow$  **tTS 5d**  $\rightarrow$  **t6**  $\rightarrow$  **tcat** (T2)

The remaining 4 pathways are described in the SI. In pathway T1, the  $\beta$  hydrogen of the ethoxy transfers to the closest bidentate O<sub>dibr13</sub> via transition state **tTS 2a** with an energy barrier of  $\sim 43$  kcal/mol to form a physisorbed Ti<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub>H<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> complex **t3e** which has two bidentate OH groups, the O<sub>dibr12</sub>H group and the O<sub>dibr13</sub>H group with an ethylene molecule physisorbed to the

H of the  $O_{\text{dibr}13}\text{H}$  group. **t3e** is  $\sim 15$  kcal/mol higher than **t2**. Approximately 7 kcal/mol is needed to remove the ethylene to form **t4c**. The next step is to generate and remove a water molecule from **t4c**. The proton of the  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group transfers to the terminal oxygen originally from ethanol, via transition state **tTS 4d** with a barrier of  $\sim 39$  kcal/mol to form  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_7\text{H}_2$  **t5b** with a terminal OH group at  $\text{Ti}_1$  and an  $O_{\text{dibr}13}\text{H}$  group; the transition state is only 0.7 kcal/mol below the reactant asymptote. The reaction is exothermic by *ca.* -6 kcal/mol. Transferring the proton at the  $O_{\text{dibr}13}\text{H}$  group toward the oxygen of the terminal OH at  $\text{Ti}_1$  has an energy barrier of  $\sim 35$  kcal/mol via transition state **tTS 5a** forming a  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6\text{-H}_2\text{O}$  complex **t6** with an endothermic reaction energy of  $\sim 21$  kcal/mol. Approximately 35 kcal/mol is required to remove the water molecule. The dehydration energy of ethanol is 9.4 kcal/mol at 0K regardless of the cluster of the catalyst, yet the reaction may terminate at **t6** as **tcat** is above the reactant asymptote.

In pathway T2, the  $\beta$  hydrogen of the ethoxy transfers to the closest terminal  $O_{\text{ter}3}$  from **t2** via transition state **tTS 2d** to form a physisorbed  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_7\text{H}_2\text{-C}_2\text{H}_4$  complex **t3a** which has one bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group and one terminal  $O_{\text{ter}3}\text{H}$  group with an ethylene molecule physisorbed to the H of the  $O_{\text{ter}3}\text{H}$  group, with an energy barrier of  $\sim 55$  kcal/mol and a small endothermicity of 1 kcal/mol. The transition state **tTS 2d** is  $\sim 7$  kcal/mol below the reactant asymptote and  $\sim 12$  kcal/mol higher than **tTS 2a** in pathway T1, yet this  $\beta$  hydrogen transfer reaction energy is *ca.* -14 kcal/mol more exothermic than that in pathway T1. Removal of the ethylene molecule at **t3a** requires  $\sim 4$  kcal/mol to form **t4a**, which has a bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group and a terminal  $O_{\text{ter}3}\text{H}$  group. The next step is to generate and remove a water molecule from **t4a**. The proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group transfers to the terminal oxygen originally from the ethanol molecule, via transition state **tTS 4a** to form **t5a** which has two terminal OH groups, the terminal OH

group at  $Ti_1$  and the terminal  $O_{ter3}H$  group, with a barrier energy of  $\sim 37$  kcal/mol and an exothermicity of *ca.* -11 kcal/mol. Then the proton of the terminal OH group at  $Ti_1$  transfers to the  $O_{ter3}$  of the terminal  $O_{ter3}H$  group via transition state **tTS 5d** to form the  $Ti_3O_6-H_2O$  complex **t6** with a large energy barrier of  $\sim 63$  kcal/mol; **tTS 5d** is still below the reactant asymptote by  $\sim 4$  kcal/mol. **t6** is  $\sim 42$  kcal/mol higher than **t5a**. Thus, **t5a** might become a new Brønsted acid catalytic center.

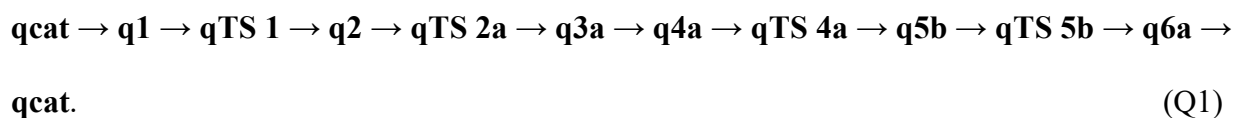
Physisorption of ethanol at the bridge  $Ti_1$  instead of the terminal  $Ti=O$  is the lowest energy pathway thermodynamically as shown in Figure 5.5. Overall, the process is like that at the bridge  $Ti_1$ , except that it is less exothermic. The overall chemisorption reaction is still more negative than the reactant asymptote. Physisorption of ethanol at terminal  $Ti_3=O_{ter3}$  is predicted to be less exothermic by 14 to 15 kcal/mol than that at  $Ti_1$ . There are two physisorbed complexes **tt1a** and **tt1b** that are essentially iso-energetic differing only in the orientation of the OH group on the ethanol. The proton of the hydroxy at **tt1a** transfers to the terminal  $O_{ter3}$  via transition state **ttTS 1a** to form **tt2a** accompanied. The transition state energy of **ttTS 1a** is  $\sim 13$  kcal/mol higher in energy than that of **tTS 1**, and the product **tt2a** is  $\sim 11$  kcal/mol higher in energy than **t2**. The actual proton transfer barrier via **ttTS 1a** is  $\sim 17$  kcal/mol, which is comparable to the barrier of  $\sim 18$  kcal/mol via **tTS 1**. Transferring the proton of the hydroxy of **tt1b** to the bidentate  $O_{dibr13}$  has a transition state **ttTS 1b** that is essentially isoenergetic with **ttTS 1a** and product **tt2b** is  $\sim 42$  kcal/mol higher in energy than **t2** and is  $\sim 32$  kcal/mol higher in energy than **tt2a**. Thus physisorption and chemisorption of ethanol prefer to occur at the bridge  $Ti_1$  instead of the terminal  $Ti=O$  on the trimer  $(TiO_2)_3$  nanocluster.

**Trimer Dehydrogenation** One pathway is predicted for ethanol dehydrogenation (Figure 5.6) and begins with formation of the chemisorbed complex **t2** at  $Ti_1$ . The  $\alpha$  hydrogen of the ethoxy

transfers to Ti<sub>1</sub> where PCET occurs to form **t8**, with an energy barrier of ~ 40 kcal/mol and an endothermicity of ~ 35 kcal/mol. **t8** is a physisorbed Ti<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>CHO complex with a bidentate O<sub>dibr12</sub>H group and a hydride at Ti<sub>1</sub>; an acetaldehyde is physisorbed to Ti<sub>1</sub>.

Approximately 26 kcal/mol is required to remove an acetaldehyde from **t8** to form **t9** which is at the same energy as the reactant asymptote. The reaction may stop at this point and **t9** can be a new catalyst with two hydrogens containing opposite charges. If this pathway continues, the proton on the bidentate O<sub>dibr12</sub>H group will transfer to the hydride at Ti<sub>1</sub> to form a physisorbed Ti<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>-H<sub>2</sub> complex **t10** with a reaction energy of ~ 8 kcal/mol and an energy barrier of ~ 27 kcal/mol. Removal of the hydrogen molecule requires ~ 8 kcal/mol to recover the trimer molecule **tcat**.

**Tetramer Dehydration** The reaction coordinates for dehydration for the tetramers at the CCSD(T)/aD level are shown in Figure 5.7 (a). Physisorption of ethanol on Ti<sub>4</sub>O<sub>8</sub> at Ti<sub>1</sub> is exothermic by *ca.* -36 kcal/mol. The proton of the OH group of the ethoxy group transfers to the closest bidentate O<sub>dibr12</sub> of Ti<sub>4</sub>O<sub>8</sub> from **q1** via **qTS 1** to **q2** with an energy barrier of ~ 8 kcal/mol and an exothermic energy of *ca.* -16 kcal/mol. The pathways start to diverge at **q2**, and the lowest energy pathway is Q1 as shown in Figure 5.7 (b).

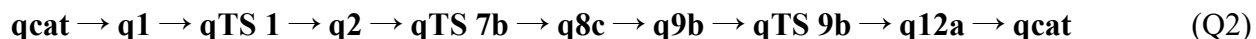


In this pathway, the β hydrogen on the ethoxy transfers to the closest bidentate O<sub>dibr13</sub> via **qTS 2a** to form a physisorbed Ti<sub>4</sub>O<sub>9</sub>H<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> complex **q3a** with two dibridged OH groups, the O<sub>dibr12</sub>H group and the O<sub>dibr13</sub>H group, and an ethylene molecule physisorbed to the H of the O<sub>dibr13</sub>H group, with an energy barrier of ~ 39 kcal/mol and an endothermic reaction energy of ~ 10 kcal/mol. Approximately 6 kcal/mol is needed to remove the ethylene molecule to form Ti<sub>4</sub>O<sub>9</sub>H<sub>2</sub>

**q4a.** The next step is to generate and remove the water molecule from **q4a**. The proton of the  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group transfers to the terminal oxygen from ethanol, via the transition state **qTS 4a** to form **q5b** with an energy barrier of  $\sim 30$  kcal/mol. The reaction is essentially thermoneutral with an exothermicity of *ca.* -1 kcal/mol. Transfer of the proton from the  $O_{\text{dibr}13}\text{H}$  group to the terminal OH group has an energy barrier of  $\sim 23$  kcal/mol; the reaction is endothermic by  $\sim 17$  kcal/mol. The physisorbed  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8\text{-H}_2\text{O}$  complex **q6a** will be the final state along the pathway since **qcat** exceeds the reactant asymptote. An energy of  $\sim 29$  kcal/mol is needed to remove  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  from **q6a** to recover the tetramer **qcat**.

Physisorption of ethanol at the terminal  $\text{Ti}_2=\text{O}_{\text{ter}2}$  is  $\sim 7$  kcal/mol higher in energy than at the bridge  $\text{Ti}_1$  as shown in Figure 5.8, but the overall process at the terminal  $\text{Ti}_2=\text{O}_{\text{ter}2}$  is still below the reactant asymptote including chemisorption. The proton of the hydroxy at **qt1** transfers to the terminal  $\text{O}_{\text{ter}2}$  via transition state **qtTS 1** to form **qt2**; the transition state energy of **qtTS 1** is  $\sim 18$  kcal/mol higher than that of **qTS 1**, and the product **qt2** is  $\sim 10$  kcal/mol higher than **q2**. The energy barrier for proton transfer via **qtTS 1** of  $\sim 18$  kcal/mol is comparable to that for the terminal  $\text{Ti}=\text{O}$  in the trimer and substantially larger than at the bridge  $\text{Ti}$  in the tetramer.

**Tetramer Dehydrogenation** The reaction coordinates for dehydrogenation for the tetramers at the CCSD(T)/aD level are shown in Figure 5.9 (a). Figure 5.9 (b) shows the lowest energy pathway Q2.



The  $\alpha$  hydrogen on the ethoxy transfers through **qTS 7b** to  $\text{Ti}_1$  via a PCET process forming **q8c** with an energy barrier of  $\sim 48$  kcal/mol and an endothermic reaction of  $\sim 43$  kcal/mol. **q8c** is a physisorbed  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8\text{H}_2\text{-C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O}$  complex with an bridge  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group, and a hydride and an physisorbed acetaldehyde molecule at  $\text{Ti}_1$  which requires  $\sim 16$  kcal/mol to remove the

acetaldehyde to form **q9b**. By recombining the proton of the bridge  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group and the hydride at  $\text{Ti}_1$ , a physisorbed  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8\text{-H}_2$  complex **q12a** is generated with a transition energy of  $\sim 21$  kcal/mol and a reaction energy of  $\sim 3$  kcal/mol. Approximately 5 kcal/mol is needed to remove the hydrogen molecule to recover the tetramer catalytic molecule **qcat**. However, **q9b** is higher in energy than the reactant asymptote so the process may stop at **q8c**.

**Reaction summary** Table 5.1 compares reaction energies ( $\Delta H_{0\text{K}}$ ) and energy barriers ( $\Delta H_{0\text{K}}^\ddagger$ ) of dehydration and dehydrogenation of one ethanol molecule at the  $\text{Ti}_1$  site of the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4, for the lowest energy pathways. Table 5.2 shows the physisorption energies of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O}$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{H}_2$  on the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  and the related structures,  $n = 2$  to 4. The physisorption energies of one ethanol molecule at the bridge  $\text{Ti}_1$  site of the trimer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_3$  and the tetramer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_4$  nanocluster are the most exothermic, -44 to -36 kcal/mol, respectively. Physisorption of one ethanol molecule at the terminal  $\text{Ti}=\text{O}$  sites of  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  nanocluster,  $n = 2$  to 4, are less exothermic, varying between -29 to -40 kcal/mol. Binding to the terminal  $\text{Ti}=\text{O}$  site of the trimer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_3$  and the tetramer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_4$ , essentially have the same energy of -30 and -29 kcal/mol, respectively. The physisorption energies of ethanol at the dioxo W site of  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and the dioxo Mo site of  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  are *ca.* -25 and -20 kcal/mol,<sup>2,4</sup> respectively, at the CCSD(T)/aD//B3YP/aD level. The physisorption energies for the dioxo W and Mo sites are less negative than the terminal  $\text{Ti}=\text{O}$  site of the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_4$  nanocluster.

The reaction energies from the physisorbed complex to the chemisorbed complex at the bridge  $\text{Ti}_1$  of  $(\text{TiO}_2)_3$  and  $(\text{TiO}_2)_4$  are essentially isoenergetic; however, the transition barriers are quite different at 18 and 8 kcal/mol, respectively. The reaction energies from the physisorbed complex to the chemisorbed complex at the terminal  $\text{Ti}=\text{O}$  of  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  nanocluster, become less exothermic from -24 to -13 kcal/mol as the size of the cluster increases from  $n = 2$  to 4; yet the

transition barrier energies are all isoenergetic. In comparison, the comparable binding energies to dioxo W and Mo sites of  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  are endothermic by  $\sim 2$  and  $\sim 11$  kcal/mol,<sup>4</sup> respectively, with energy barriers of 26 and 28 kcal/mol.<sup>4</sup> The transition state energy for  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  is almost the same as the reactant asymptote and that for  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  is greater than the reactant asymptote by  $\sim 9$  kcal/mol.<sup>4</sup> Thus, physisorption and chemisorption of one ethanol molecule at the terminal Ti=O of  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  nanocluster,  $n = 2$  to 4, are thermodynamically possible and more preferred than at the dioxo W/Mo=O sites of  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$ . The order of metal sites for the chemisorption of one ethanol molecule is: the  $\text{Ti}_1$  site of the dimer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_2 >$  the bridge  $\text{Ti}_1$  site of the trimer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_3 >$  the bridge  $\text{Ti}_1$  site of the tetramer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_4 \sim$  the terminal Ti=O site of the trimer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_3 >$  the terminal Ti=O site of the tetramer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_4 >$  the dioxo W site of the  $(\text{WO}_3)_3 >$  the dioxo Mo site of the  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$ , with chemisorption energies with respect to the reactant asymptote of *ca.* -64, -61, -52, -51, -42, -24<sup>4</sup> and -9<sup>4</sup> kcal/mol, respectively.

The  $\beta$  H transfer reactions for the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_{2,4}$  and  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$ <sup>4</sup> are endothermic, whereas the lowest energy  $\beta$  H transfer reactions for  $(\text{TiO}_2)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$ <sup>4</sup> are approximately thermoneutral. The dimer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_2$  has the highest  $\beta$  H transfer reaction energy,  $\sim 28$  kcal/mol. The  $\beta$  H transfer barriers on  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  are between 32 to 35 kcal/mol,<sup>4</sup> lower than those for  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4, which are between 39 to 54 kcal/mol. The  $\beta$  H transfer transition states of the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4, are all below the reactant asymptote, whereas those for  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  are above the reactant asymptote by  $\sim 11$  and  $\sim 23$  kcal/mol,<sup>4</sup> respectively. The removal of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  from  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  requires  $\sim 8$  and  $\sim 11$  kcal/mol,<sup>4</sup> respectively, which are higher than the values for the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  nanoclusters,  $n = 2$  to 4, that range from 2 to 7 kcal/mol. The energy required to remove  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  from the  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  is  $\sim 16$  and  $\sim 8$  kcal/mol,<sup>4</sup> respectively, which are lower than that for the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  nanoclusters ranging from 29 to 35 kcal/mol,  $n = 2$  to 4.

The  $\alpha$  H transfer for  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  is at least 11 kcal/mol<sup>4</sup> less endothermic than for  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4.  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$ <sup>4</sup> has the overall lowest energy barrier of 26 kcal/mol and that on the  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$ <sup>4</sup> is 32 to 33 kcal/mol, lower than that on the trimer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_3$ , 39 kcal/mol, which is the lowest among the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4; the  $\alpha$  H transfer on the  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  prefers to transfer to the W site where PCET occurs,<sup>4</sup> and the same is predicted for the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4,. In contrast, the  $\alpha$  H on  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  prefers to transfer to an O site.<sup>4</sup> The transition states and the products of  $\alpha$  H transfer for  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4, are both below the reactant asymptote. The transition state for  $\alpha$  H transfer for  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  is above the reactant asymptote, although the product is below the reactant asymptote<sup>4</sup>; whereas both are above the reactant asymptote for  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$ .<sup>4</sup> The energy range required to remove  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O}$  is comparable for  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4,  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$ <sup>4</sup> and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$ .<sup>4</sup>

Dehydration of one ethanol molecule is preferred over dehydrogenation on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4,  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$ . Dehydration and dehydrogenation of one ethanol occur below reactant asymptote for  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4, whereas this is unlikely for  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$ . However, addition of a second ethanol molecule makes the physisorbed complexes very stable thermodynamically and allows dehydration and dehydrogenation to occur below the reactant asymptote for  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$ .<sup>2,4</sup> The physisorption enthalpy energy of the second ethanol molecule at the dioxo W site of  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  is *ca.* -21 kcal/mol, and that at the dioxo Mo site of  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  is the same as the physisorption of the first ethanol at the dioxo Mo site.<sup>2,4</sup> The total physisorption of two ethanols on  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  is *ca.* -47 and -39 kcal/mol,<sup>2,4</sup> respectively, with the former being close to the physisorption of one ethanol at the bridge  $\text{Ti}_1$  on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_3$ , and the latter close to the physisorption of one ethanol at the bridge  $\text{Ti}_1$  on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_4$ . The reaction energy of the proton transfer of one OH group from one of the two physisorbed ethanol to a terminal O atom on  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  is *ca.* -9 kcal/mol with an energy barrier of  $\sim 18$  kcal/mol, and

on  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  is *ca.* -3 kcal/mol with an energy barrier of  $\sim 25$  kcal/mol.<sup>2</sup> Thus, the chemisorption of  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  with two ethanols is -56 kcal/mol,<sup>2</sup> between the chemisorption at the bridge  $\text{Ti}_1$  on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_3$  and  $(\text{TiO}_2)_4$  with one ethanol; the chemisorption barrier on the  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{TiO}_2)_3$  are comparable, 18 to 19 kcal/mol. The reaction from the physisorbed complex to the chemisorbed complex is endothermic for  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$ ,  $\sim 3$  kcal/mol. Thus, the chemisorption of  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  with two ethanol has the highest energy of all, *ca.* -36 kcal/mol.<sup>2</sup>

A combined computational and experimental study of one methanol ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OH}$ ) on rutile  $\text{TiO}_2$  (110) showed that the average physisorption electronic energy at the 5-fold coordinated titanium ( $\text{Ti}_{5c}^{4+}$ ) site is predicted to be -0.75 eV (-17 kcal/mol)<sup>51</sup> using the Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (PBE) functional;<sup>52</sup> in comparison, this is much weaker binding than the physisorption energy of one ethanol on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4. The thermodynamics for the chemisorption transfer of the proton of the OH group of  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  physisorbed to the  $\text{Ti}_{5c}^{4+}$  to the bridging O is approximately thermoneutral with an energy barrier of 0.25 eV (6 kcal/mol).<sup>51</sup> The  $\alpha$ -H transfer step is endothermic by 1.03 eV (24 kcal/mol) with an energy barrier of 1.57 eV (36 kcal/mol).<sup>51</sup> The  $\text{CD}_2\text{O}$  and the barrier to reach it are both above the reactant energy asymptote in contrast to what is predicted for ethanol on the  $\text{TiO}_2$  nanoclusters in the current study where these types of processes are below the reactant asymptote.

Our computational results on the Ti sites that do not have a terminal O on the  $n = 3$  and  $n = 4$  nanoclusters can be compared to the experimental results<sup>18,20</sup> for addition of ethanol to the  $\text{Ti}_{5c}^{4+}$  site. In this case, we find, as is found experimentally, that physisorption and dissociative chemisorption of the ethanol to form an alkoxy bonded to the Ti should occur at low temperatures as the calculated energies for the complexes and associated transition states are below the reactant asymptote. The energy required to lose  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  is also below the asymptote

consistent with the experimental observations. We predict that this can happen with a single ethanol whereas in some of the experimental work,<sup>18</sup> it is suggested that an additional ethanol may be interacting with the alkoxy as is found for  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$ .<sup>2,4</sup> The loss of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  with regeneration of the catalyst is endothermic as required by the enthalpy of reaction (1) and requires higher temperatures as found experimentally. The dehydrogenation reaction is more endothermic than dehydration and formation of the aldehyde will only occur at higher temperatures as found experimentally.<sup>18</sup> In fact it is likely that  $\text{H}_2$  is not lost from the catalyst but remains on the surface when an aldehyde or ketone is generated as the PCET process has substantial energy barriers that are above the reactant asymptote.

***Energetic reactivity correlations*** The fluoride affinity (FA) serves as an estimate of the Lewis acidity of the metal sites.<sup>23,53</sup> The FA values were calculated relative to that of  $\text{FA}((\text{WO}_3)_3) = 116.2 \text{ kcal/mol}$ .<sup>23</sup> Figure 5.10 shows the correlation between the FAs (See Table A5.7) at terminal and bridge Ti sites of  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4, as well as the metal dioxo sites of  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  versus physisorption of one ethanol at the corresponding sites. As would be expected, there is a qualitative correlation between higher FA (larger Lewis acidity) and stronger physisorption. The order of the FA of the bridge  $\text{Ti}_1$  site of  $(\text{TiO}_2)_3 >$  the bridge  $\text{Ti}_1$  site of  $(\text{TiO}_2)_4 >$  the  $\text{Ti}_1$  site of  $(\text{TiO}_2)_2$  correlates with the order of electron affinity (EA) of these clusters, 38, 66, and 58 kcal/mol, respectively, with the spin of the anions located at the corresponding Ti sites.<sup>35</sup> There is also a qualitative correlation of physisorption of one  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  with the FA (See Figure A5.22 and Table A5.10) for the final loss of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  step.

There is a qualitative quadratic correlation between the chemisorption barrier of one ethanol on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4, and  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  and the proton affinity ( $\text{PA} = -\Delta H_{298\text{K}}$  for the reaction  $\text{B} + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{BH}^+$ ) at the oxygen to which the proton is transferred in the

chemisorption process (Figure 5.11 from PA values in Table A5.8). Figure 5.11 shows that the chemisorption barrier reaches a minimum when the PA is near 205 kcal/mol. The PA of  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$  is 186 kcal/mol.<sup>54</sup> Thus it is not surprising that the sites with a lower PA have a higher barrier. Apparently if the PA is too large then, the barrier also increases. The optimal barrier is for sites with a PA comparable to that of  $\text{NH}_3$  (PA is  $\sim 204$  kcal/mol). This suggests that other interactions are also important.

In addition, there are linear correlations of the energy to remove  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  with the PA and acidity at the OH site from which the  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  is lost (Figure 5.12). A weaker acid requires less energy to remove an ethylene. The interaction between the proton of the OH group and the  $\pi$  bond of the ethylene is weaker as the proton is held more strongly by the O of the OH site by the weaker acid. There will be more proton transfer for the stronger acid increasing the binding energy. In a similar way, the lower proton affinity has a higher  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  binding energy as the proton is more transferred towards the  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ . The more the proton is held by the oxygen base, the less interaction with the  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  and the lower binding energy.

## Conclusions

Correlated molecular orbital theory CCSD(T)/aD calculations were used to explore dehydration and dehydrogenation of an ethanol molecule on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  nanoclusters,  $n = 2$  to 4, based on the geometries optimized at the B3LYP/DZVP2 level. Multiple pathways for ethanol dehydration and dehydrogenation on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  nanoclusters,  $n = 2$  to 4, were predicted. Dehydration of ethanol is thermodynamically preferred over dehydrogenation on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4. There are two low energy pathways where the  $\beta$  hydrogen on ethoxy transfer either to the adjacent terminal oxygen, or to the adjacent bidentate oxygen for dehydration of ethanol on the dimer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_2$  and trimer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_3$ . Dehydration of ethanol on the tetramer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_4$  has the latter  $\beta$

hydrogen transfer for the lowest energy pathway. Removal of the ethylene from the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n\text{OH}_2\text{-C}_2\text{H}_4$  complex at 0K,  $n = 2$  to 4 requires 2 to 7 kcal/mol. The dihydroxide  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n\text{OH}_2$  can rearrange to the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n\text{-H}_2\text{O}$  complex. Removal of the water molecule requires 29 to 35 kcal/mol. The  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n(\text{OH})_2$  are stable thermodynamically and can serve as new proton acid catalysts. For dehydrogenation, the pathway transferring the  $\alpha$  hydrogen to the adjacent Ti atom is the lowest energy. Removal of the acetaldehyde molecule from the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n\text{H}_2\text{-C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O}$  complex requires 14 to 26 kcal/mol; an additional 5 to 8 kcal/mol is needed to remove the hydrogen molecule via a PCET process. Dehydration and dehydrogenation of an ethanol occur below the reactant asymptote for  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4. In contrast, two ethanols are required for  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  for dehydration and dehydrogenation to occur below the reactant asymptote. Physisorption and chemisorption of one ethanol on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  nanoclusters,  $n = 2$  to 4, are predicted to be more negative than the corresponding values of one methanol on the surface of rutile  $\text{TiO}_2(110)$ .

The Lewis acidity (fluoride affinity) has an approximate linear correlation with physisorption of one ethanol molecule or one water molecule. There is a quadratic correlation between the chemisorption barrier of one ethanol and proton affinity. There is a regime where there is a low proton barrier to a site that is  $\sim 20$  kcal/mol more basic than ethanol. If the site is less basic than ethanol or is too basic, there is an increase in the proton transfer barrier for chemisorption. There are linear correlations between the  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  removal energies and the basicity or acidity of the corresponding oxygen sites. The less basic the oxygen site or the more acidic the site, the higher the binding energy to the  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  due to the amount that the proton on the OH group can interact with the departing  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ .

The current study of ethanol dehydration and dehydrogenation on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  ( $n = 2$  to  $4$ ) nanoclusters provides further insights into how these simple processes occur on transition metal oxide nanoclusters.

## Tables

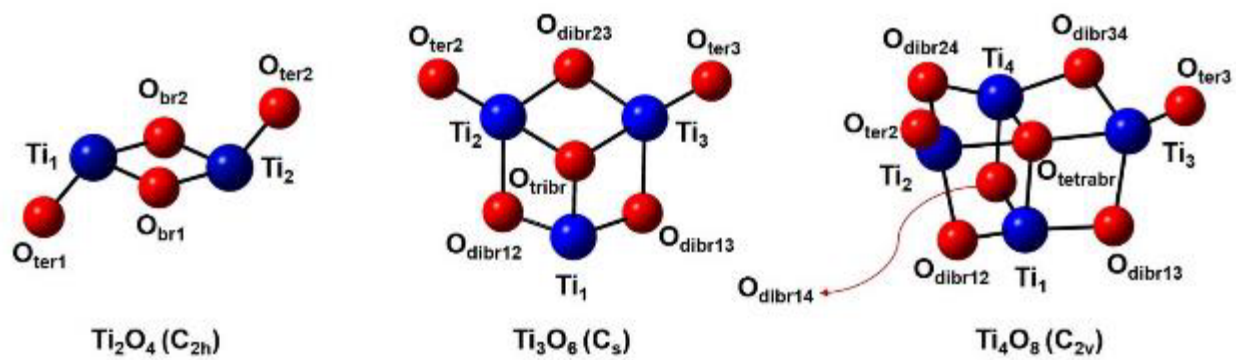
**Table 5.1.** Reaction energies ( $\Delta H_{0K}$ ) and transition energy barriers ( $\Delta H_{0K}^\ddagger$ ) and in kcal/mol of physisorption, physisorbed to chemisorbed complex reaction, and  $\beta$  hydrogen transfer in the lowest pathways of dehydration and  $\alpha$  hydrogen transfer in the lowest pathways of ethanol dehydrogenation on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  nanoclusters,  $n = 2 - 4$ .

Reaction	$\Delta H_{0K}$	structure	$\Delta H_{0K}^\ddagger$	structure	$\Delta H_{0K}$	structure	$\Delta H_{0K}^\ddagger$	structure	$\Delta H_{0K}$	structure	$\Delta H_{0K}^\ddagger$	structure
n	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4
EtOH physi (at bridge $\text{Ti}_1$ )					-44	<b>t1</b>			-36	<b>q1</b>		
EtOH physi (at terminal $\text{Ti}=\text{O}$ )	-40	<b>d1</b>			-30	<b>tt1a</b>			-29	<b>qt1</b>		
Physi $\rightarrow$ Chemi (at bridge $\text{Ti}_1$ )					-17	<b>t2</b>	18	<b>tTS 1</b>	-16	<b>q2</b>	8	<b>qTS 1</b>
Physi $\rightarrow$ Chemi (at terminal $\text{Ti}=\text{O}$ )	-24	<b>d2</b>	17	<b>dTS 1</b>	-21	<b>tt2a</b>	17	<b>ttTS 1a</b>	-13	<b>qt2</b>	18	<b>qtTS 1</b>
$\beta$ H Transfer (to $\text{O}_{\text{bri}}$ )	28	<b>d3b</b>	46	<b>dTS 2a</b>	15	<b>t3e</b>	43	<b>tTS 2a</b>	10	<b>q3a</b>	39	<b>qTS 2a</b>
$\beta$ H Transfer (to $\text{O}_{\text{ter}}$ )	16	<b>d3a</b>	53	<b>dTS 2b</b>	1	<b>t3a</b>	54	<b>tTS 2d</b>	Cannot transfer to $\text{O}_{\text{ter}}$			
$\alpha$ H Transfer	43	<b>d8a</b>	48	<b>dTS 7a</b>	35	<b>t8</b>	39	<b>tTS 7</b>	43	<b>q8c</b>	48	<b>qTS 7b</b>

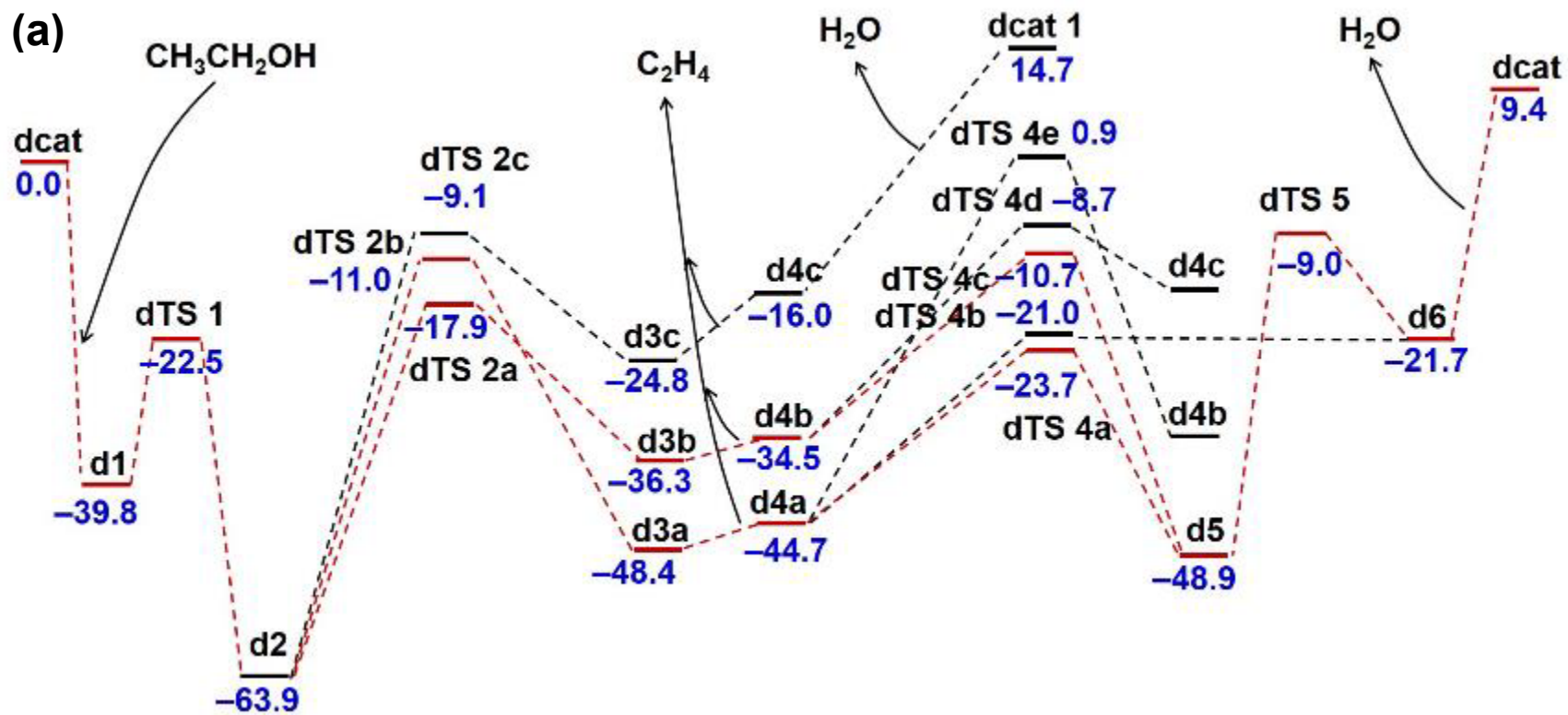
**Table 5.2.** Physisorption energies ( $\Delta H_{0K}$ ) in kcal/mol of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O in dehydration, and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O and H<sub>2</sub> in dehydrogenation on (TiO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub> nanoclusters, n = 2- 4.

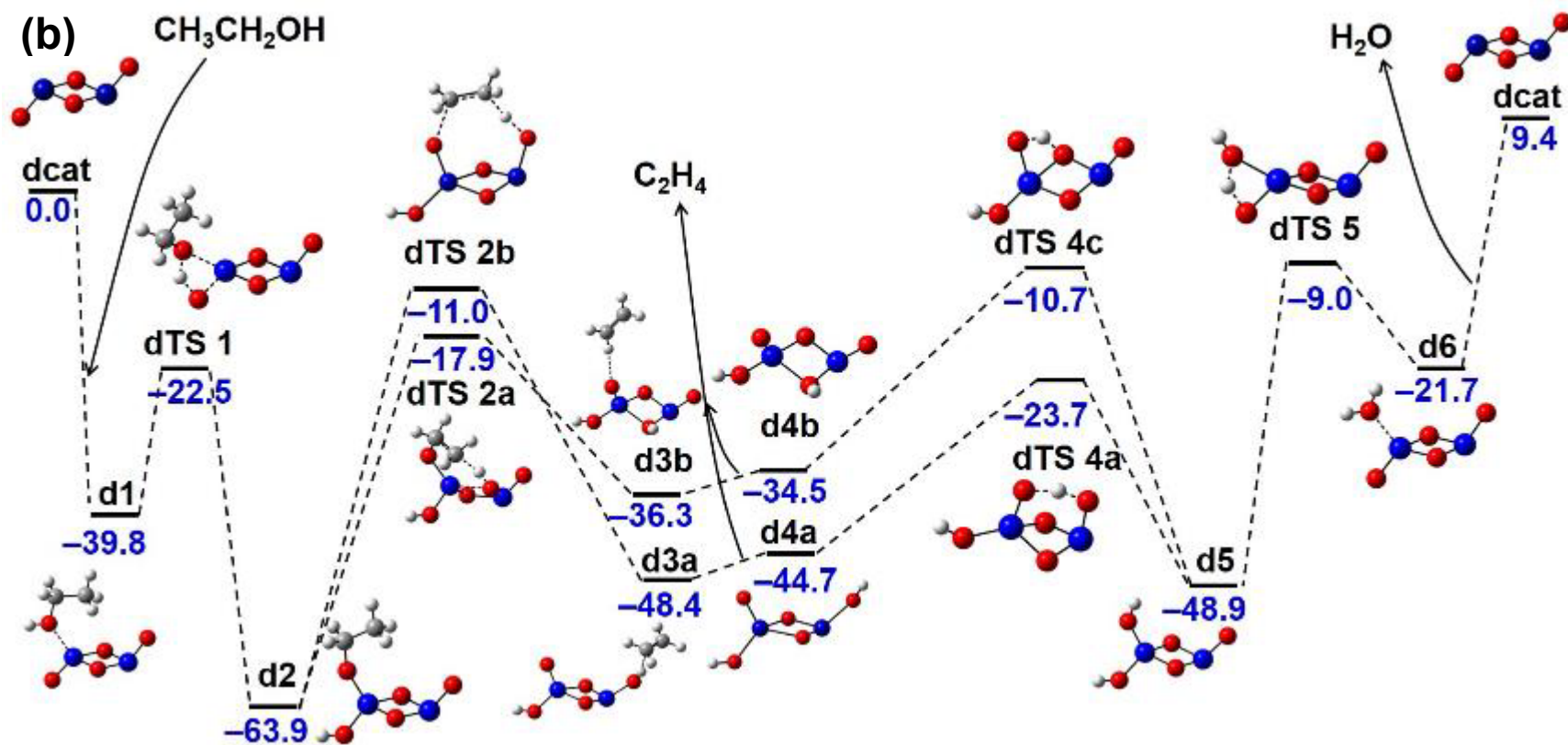
n	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> (β H Transfer to O <sub>bri</sub> )	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> (β H Transfer to O <sub>ter</sub> )	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> O	H <sub>2</sub> O	H <sub>2</sub>
2	-2 ( <b>d3b</b> )	-4 ( <b>d3e</b> )	-14 ( <b>d8a</b> )	-31 ( <b>d6</b> )	-7 ( <b>d10b</b> )
3	-7 ( <b>t3e</b> )	-4 ( <b>d3a</b> )	-26 ( <b>t8</b> )	-35 ( <b>t6</b> )	-8 ( <b>t10</b> )
4	-6 ( <b>q3a</b> )		-17 ( <b>q8c</b> )	-29 ( <b>q6a</b> )	-5 ( <b>q12a</b> )

## Figures

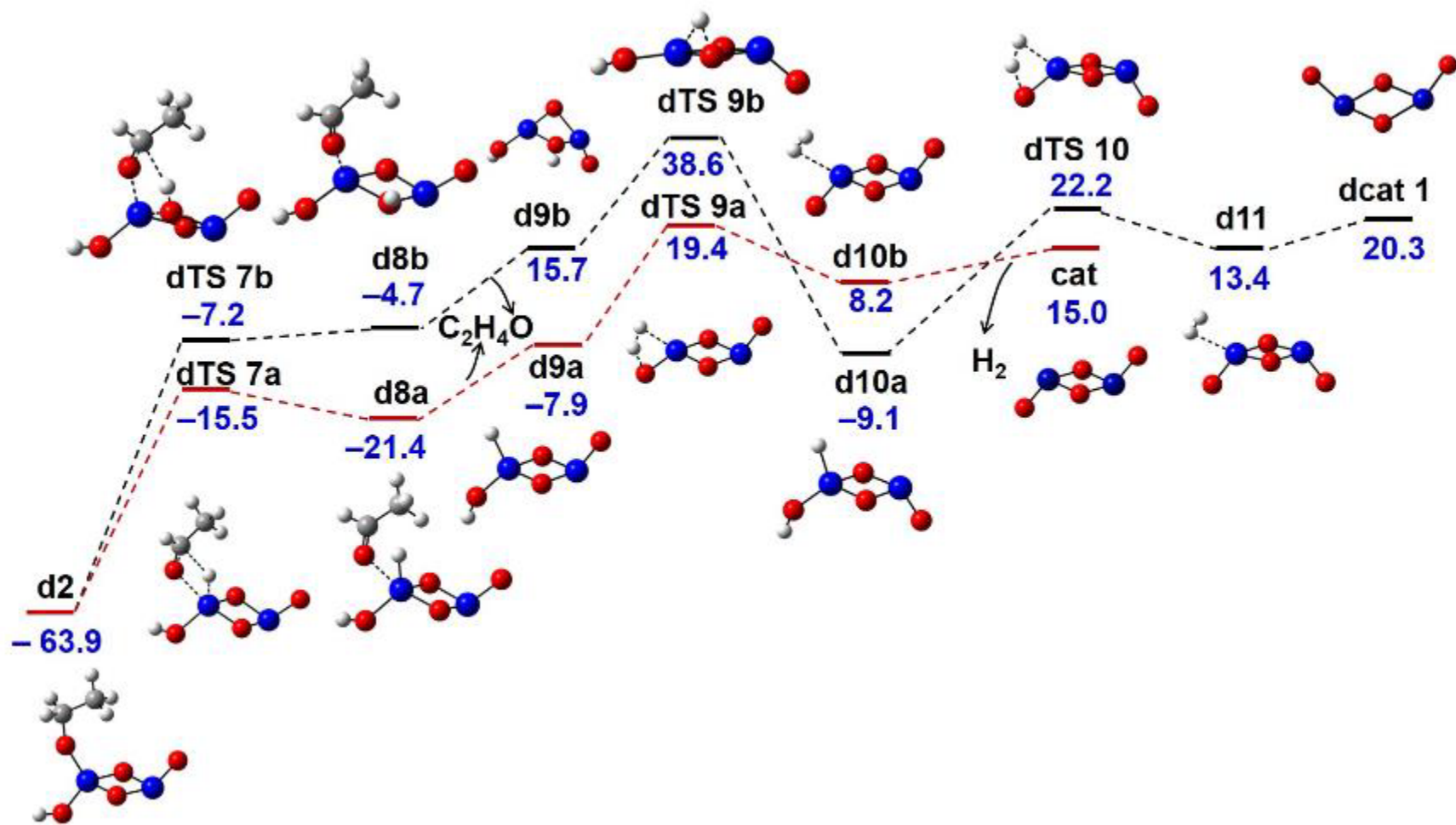


**Figure 5.1.** The lowest energy structures for  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  ( $n = 2-4$ ) optimized at the B3LYP/DZVP2 level with atomic labels.

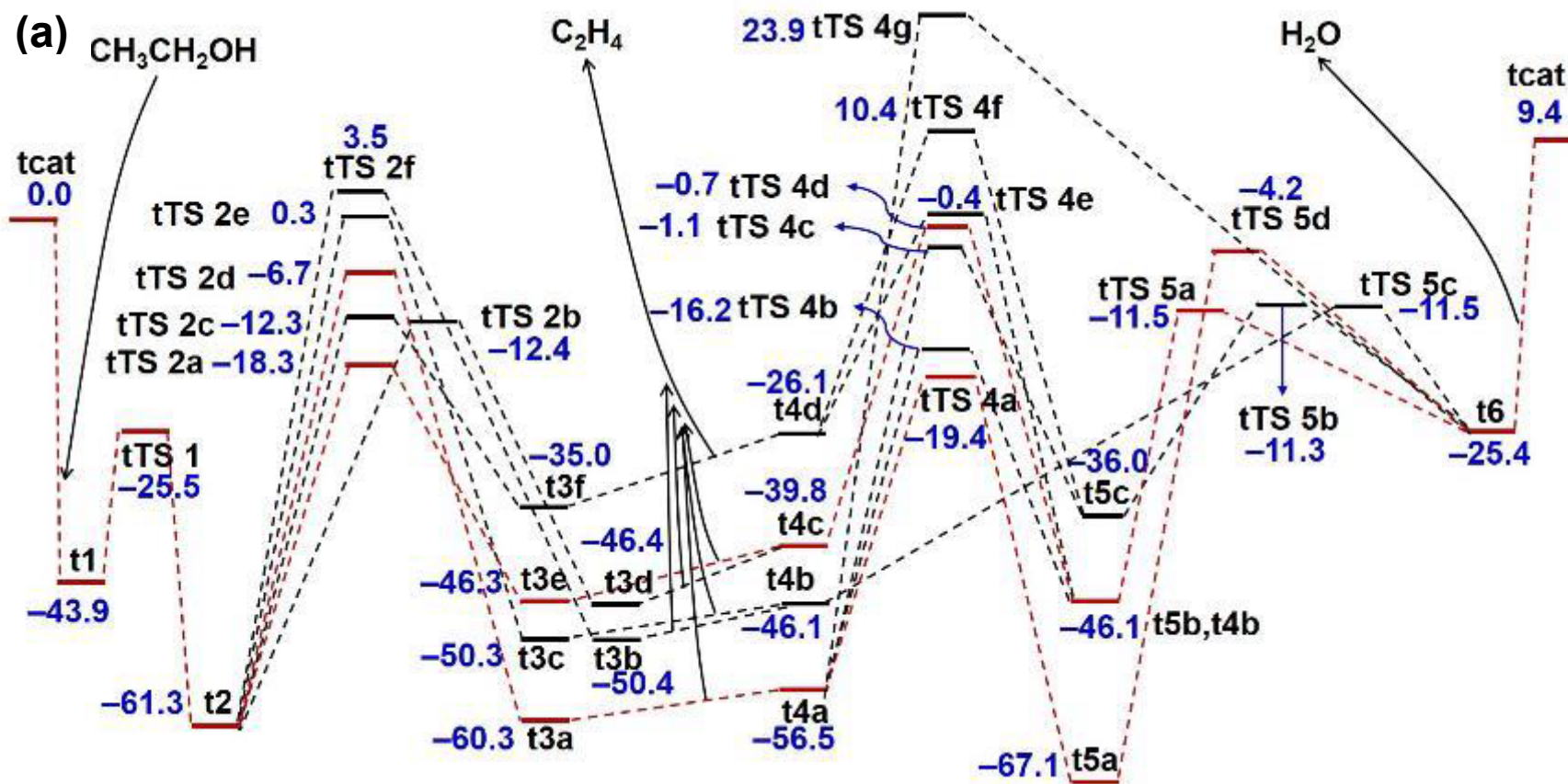


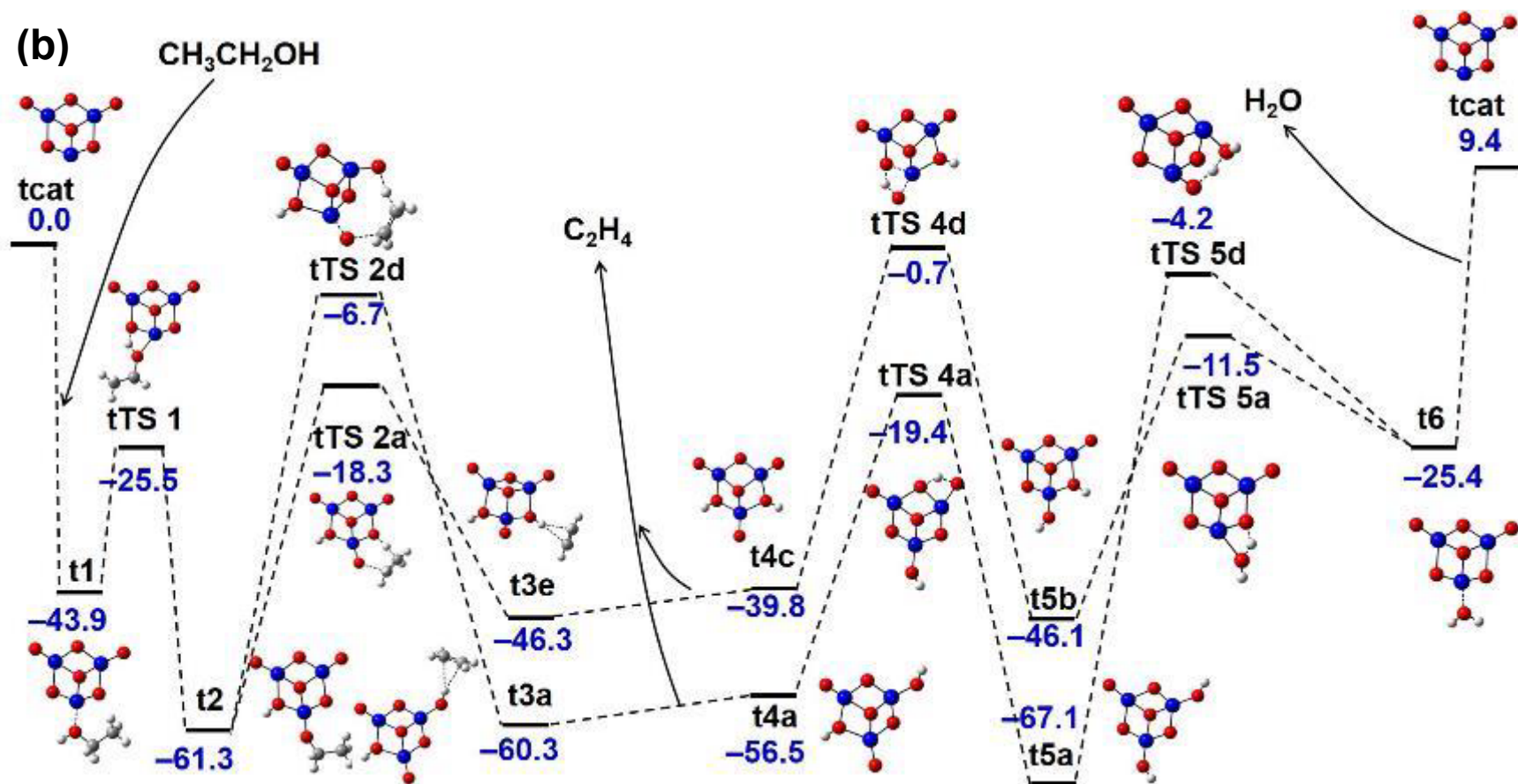


**Figure 5.2.** (a) Reaction coordinates ( $\Delta H_{0K}$ , kcal/mol) for  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH} \rightarrow \text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$  on  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4$  nanoclusters at the CCSD(T)/aD//B3LYP/DZVP2 level. The two pathways in red indicate the lowest energy pathways D1 and D2 and these are shown with structures in (b).

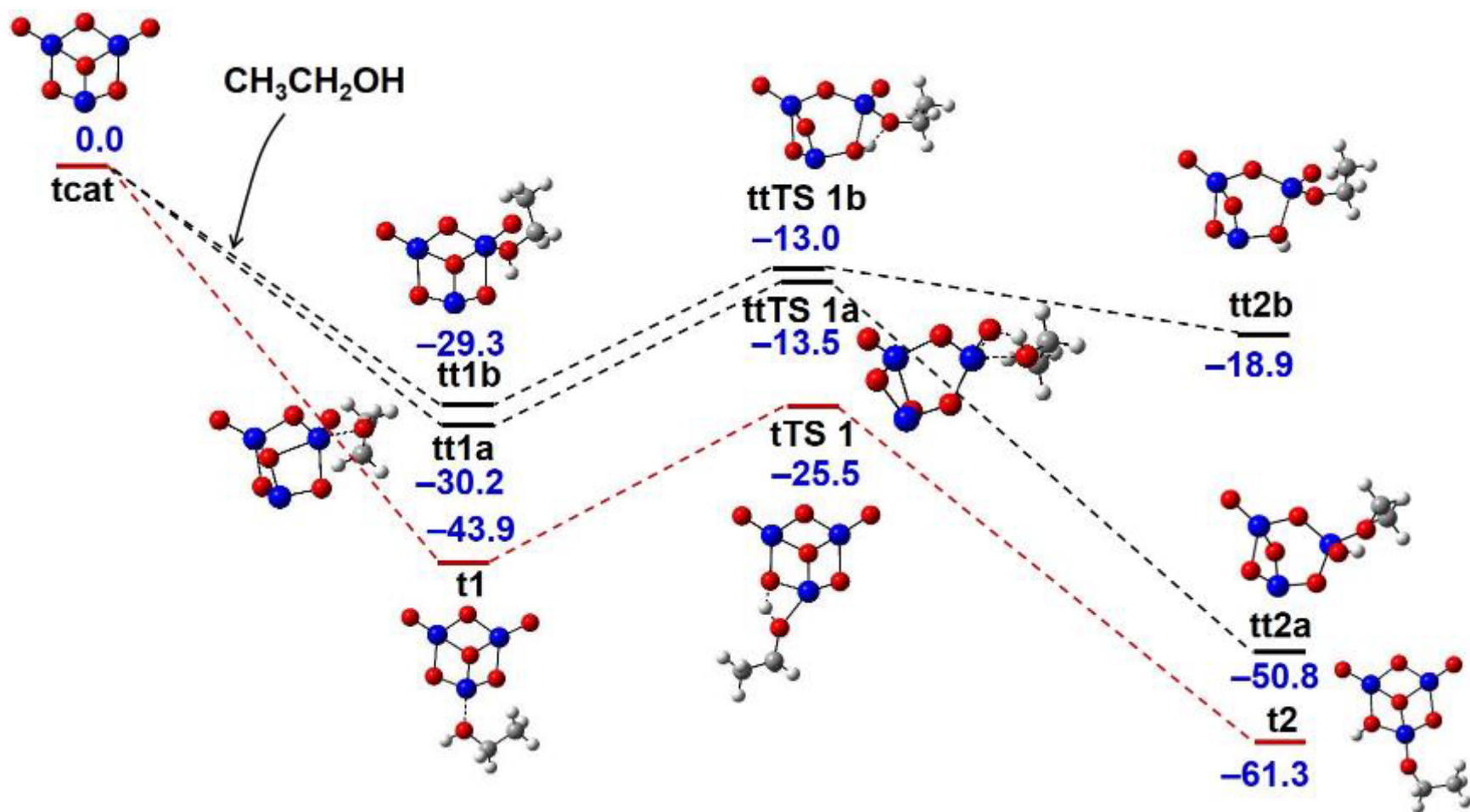


**Figure 5.3.** Reaction coordinates ( $\Delta H_{0\text{K}}$ , kcal/mol) for  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH} \rightarrow \text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O} + \text{H}_2$  on  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4$  nanoclusters at the CCSD(T)/aD//B3LYP/DZVP2 level. The pathway in red indicates the lowest energy pathway.

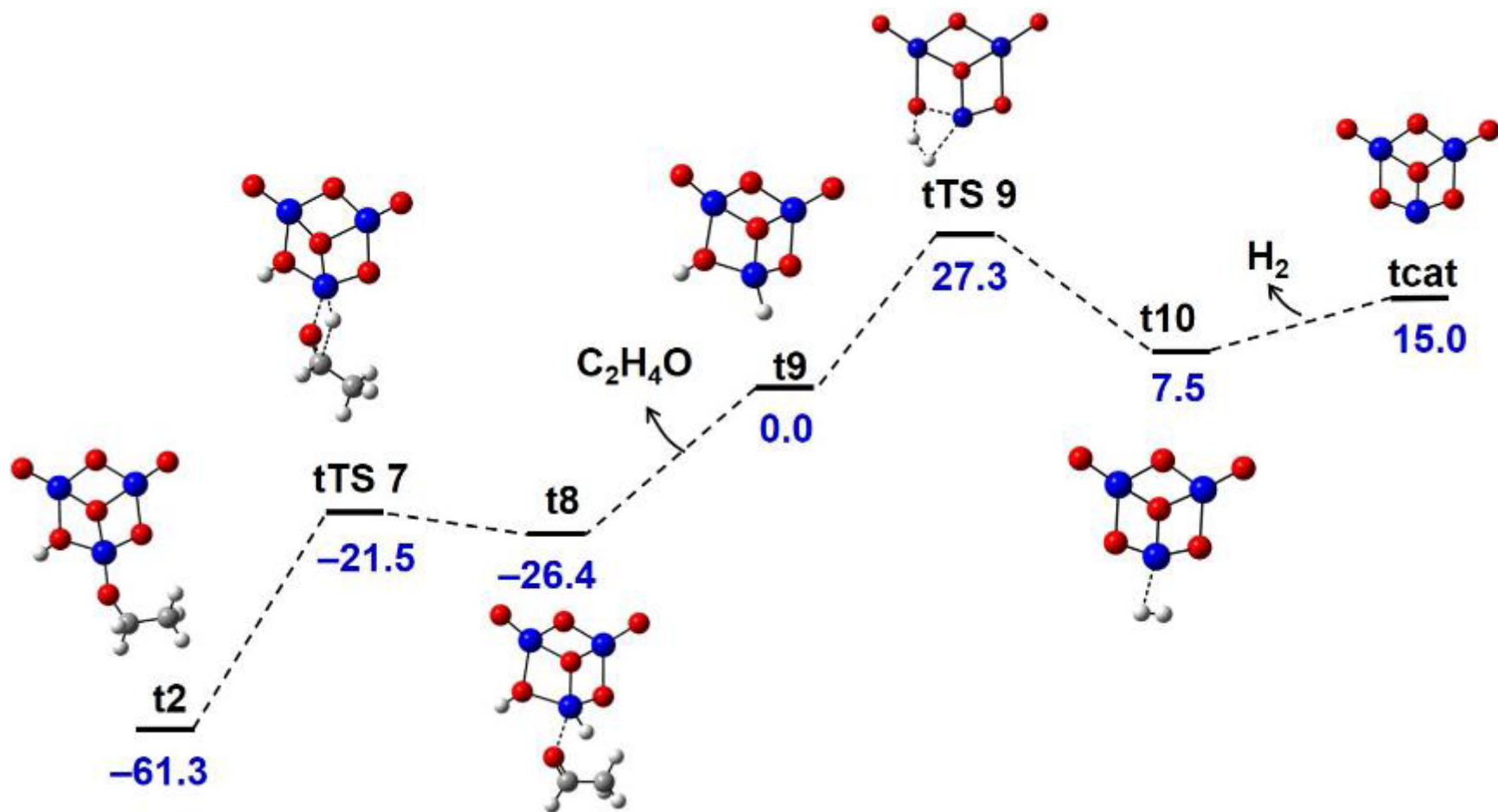




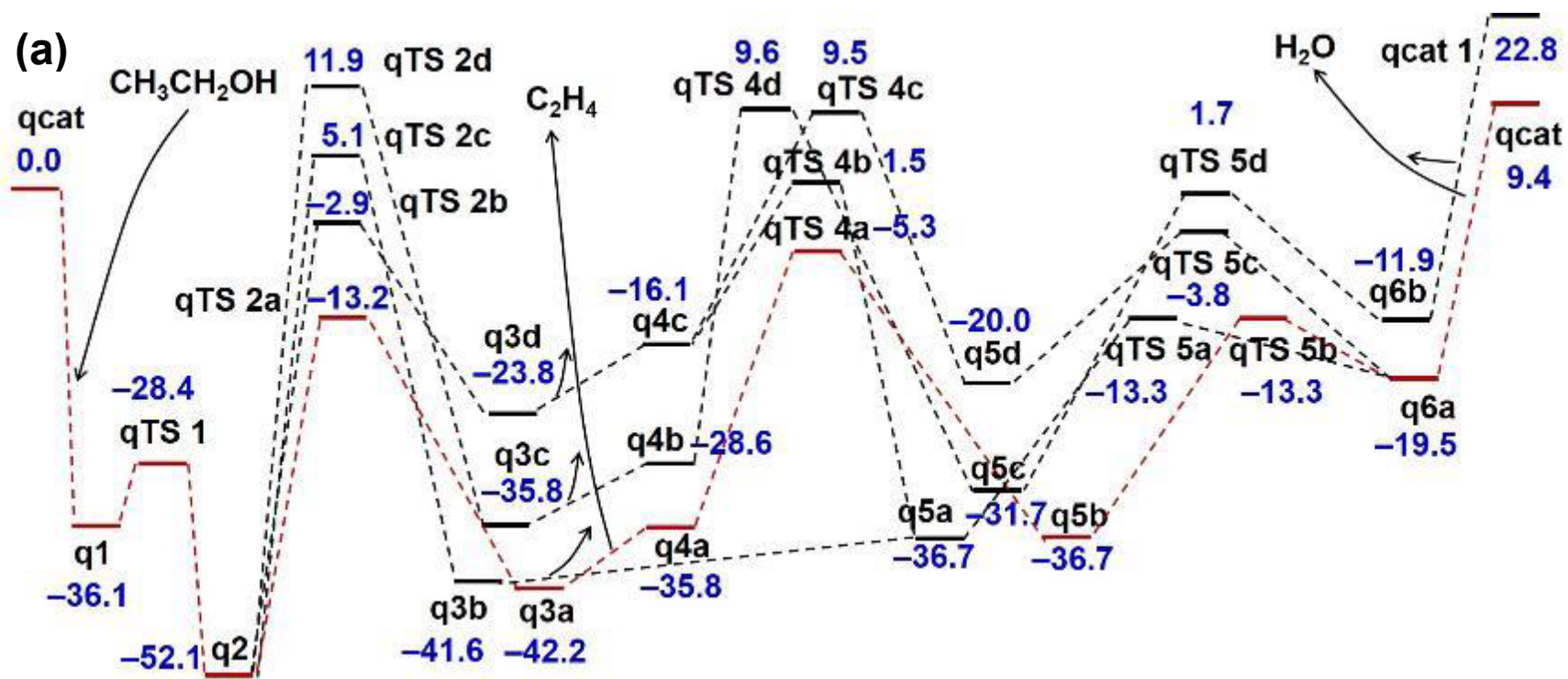
**Figure 5.4.** (a) Reaction coordinates ( $\Delta H_{0K}$ , kcal/mol) for  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH} \rightarrow \text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$  at the CCSD(T)/aD//B3LYP/DZVP2 level on a  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6$  nanocluster. The two pathways in red indicate the lowest energy pathways T1 and T2 and these are shown with structures in (b).

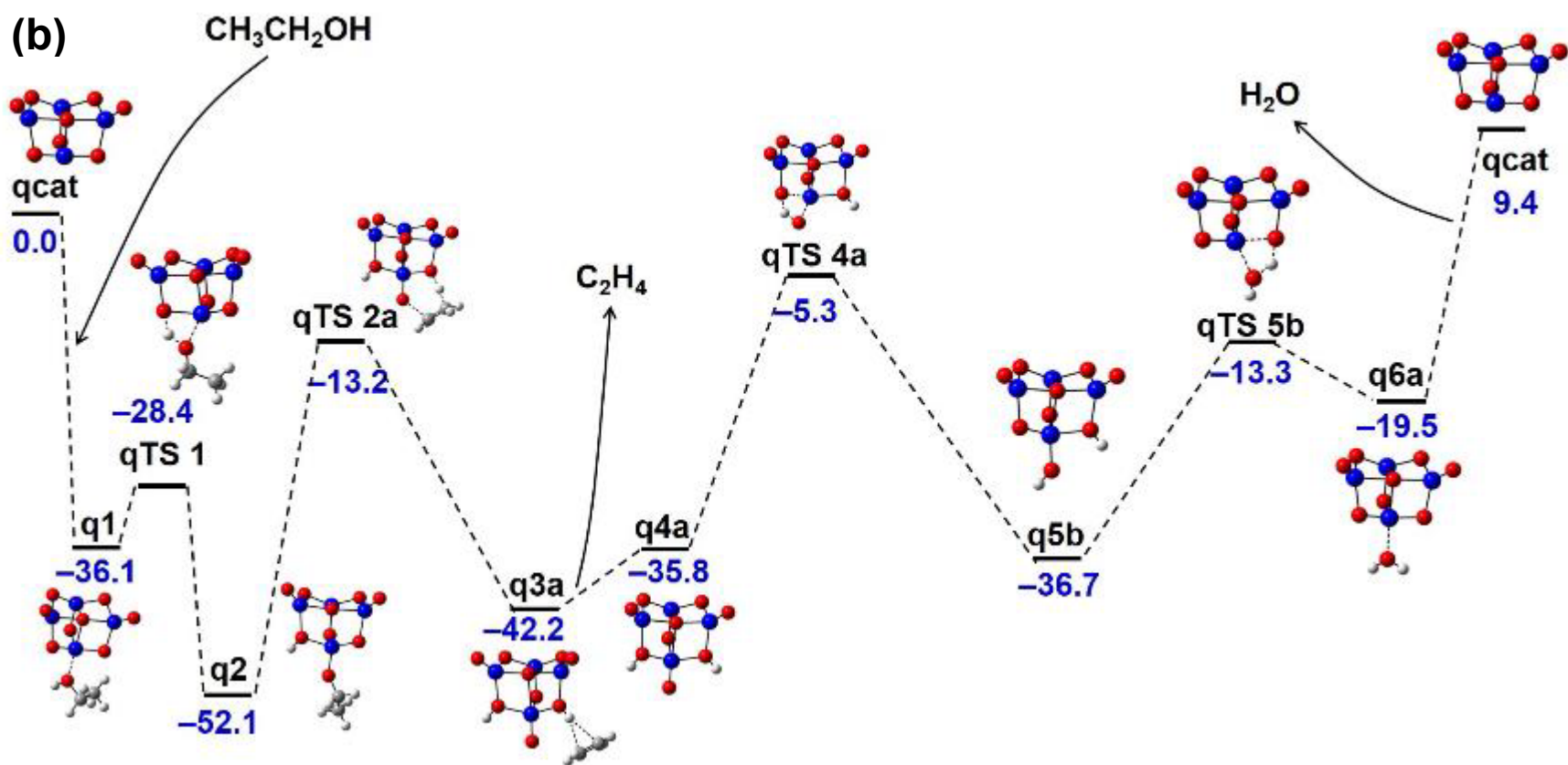


**Figure 5.5.** Reaction coordinates ( $\Delta H_{0\text{K}}$ , kcal/mol) for physisorption and chemisorption of ethanol at the terminal  $\text{Ti}=\text{O}$  or the bridge Ti at the CCSD(T)/aD//B3LYP/DZVP2 level on a  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6$  nanocluster.

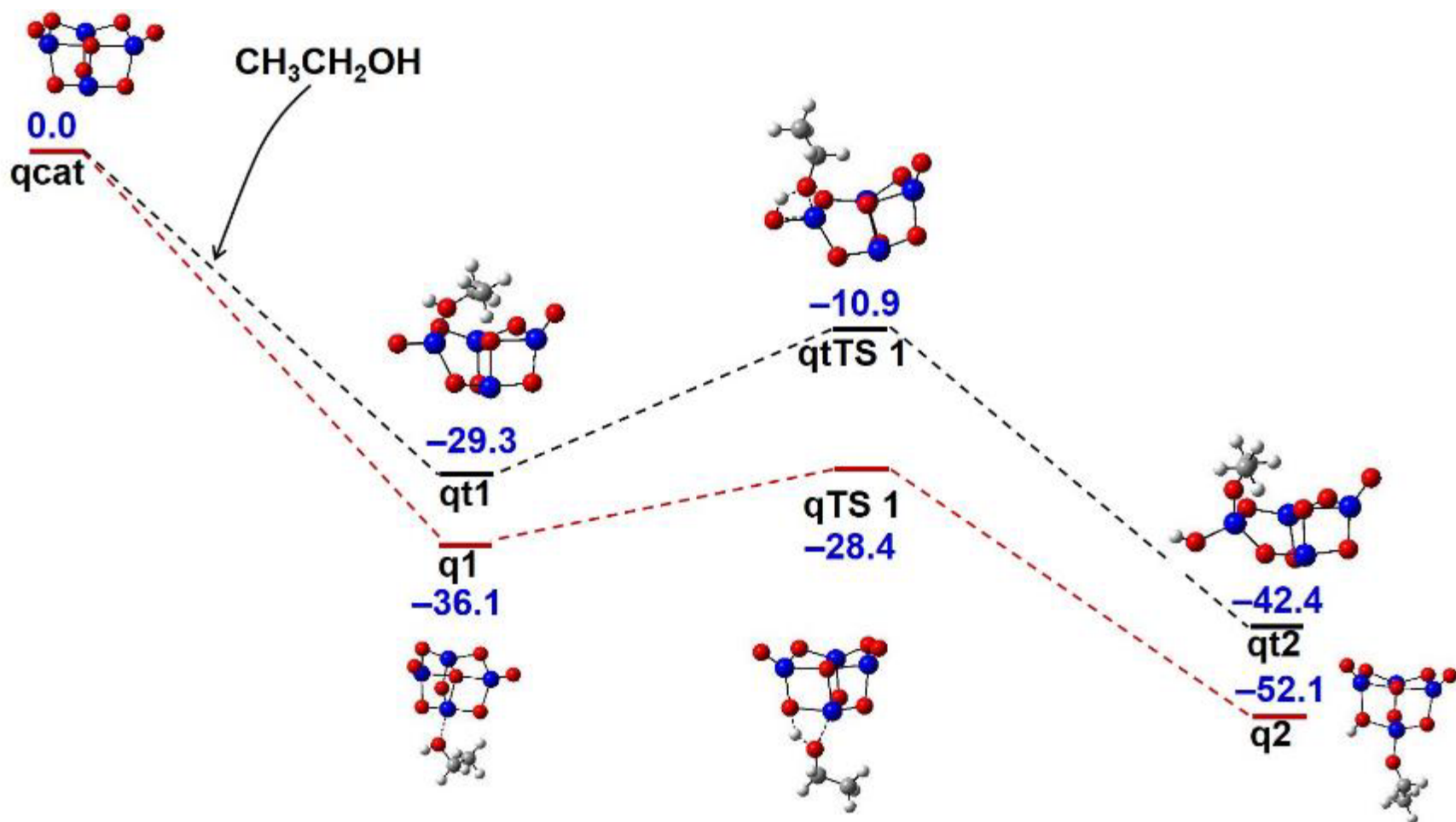


**Figure 5.6.** Reaction coordinate ( $\Delta H_{0K}$ , kcal/mol) for  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH} \rightarrow \text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O} + \text{H}_2$  at the CCSD(T)/aD//B3LYP/DZVP2 level on  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6$  nanoclusters.



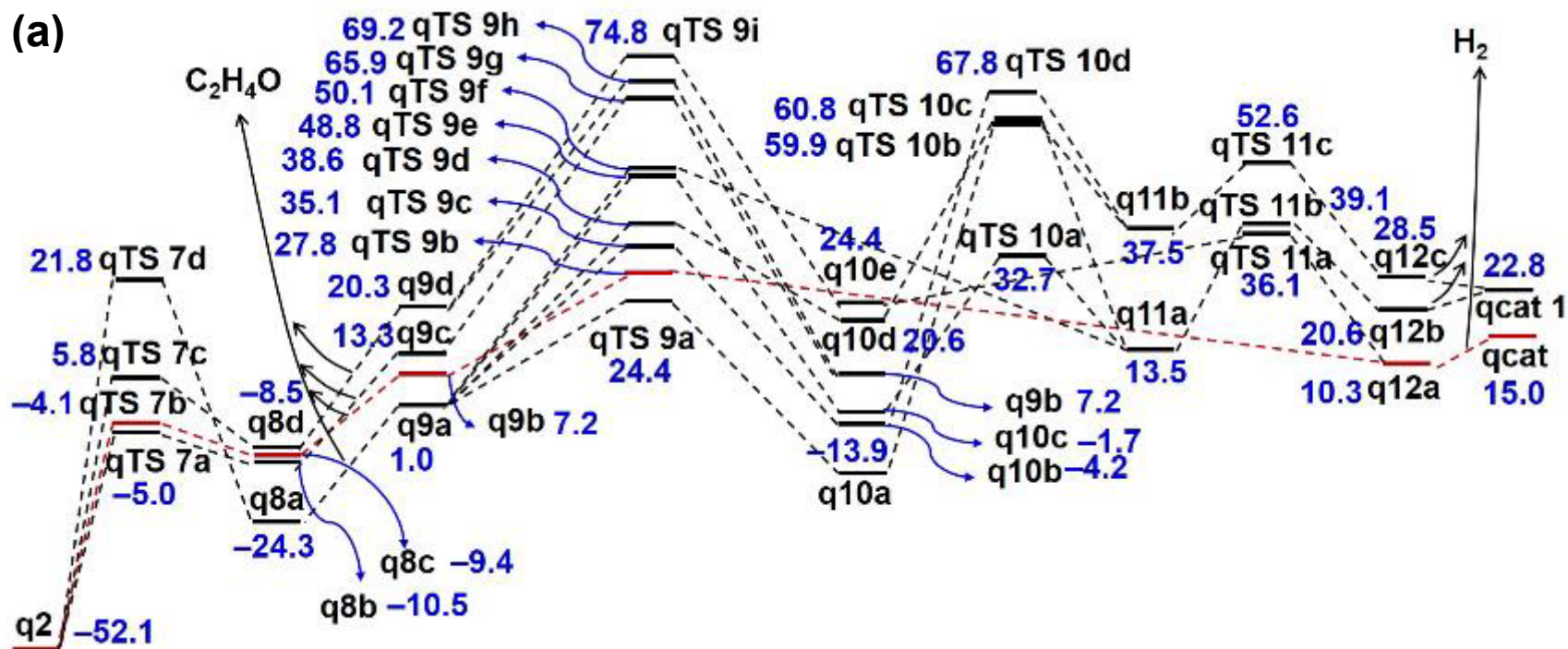


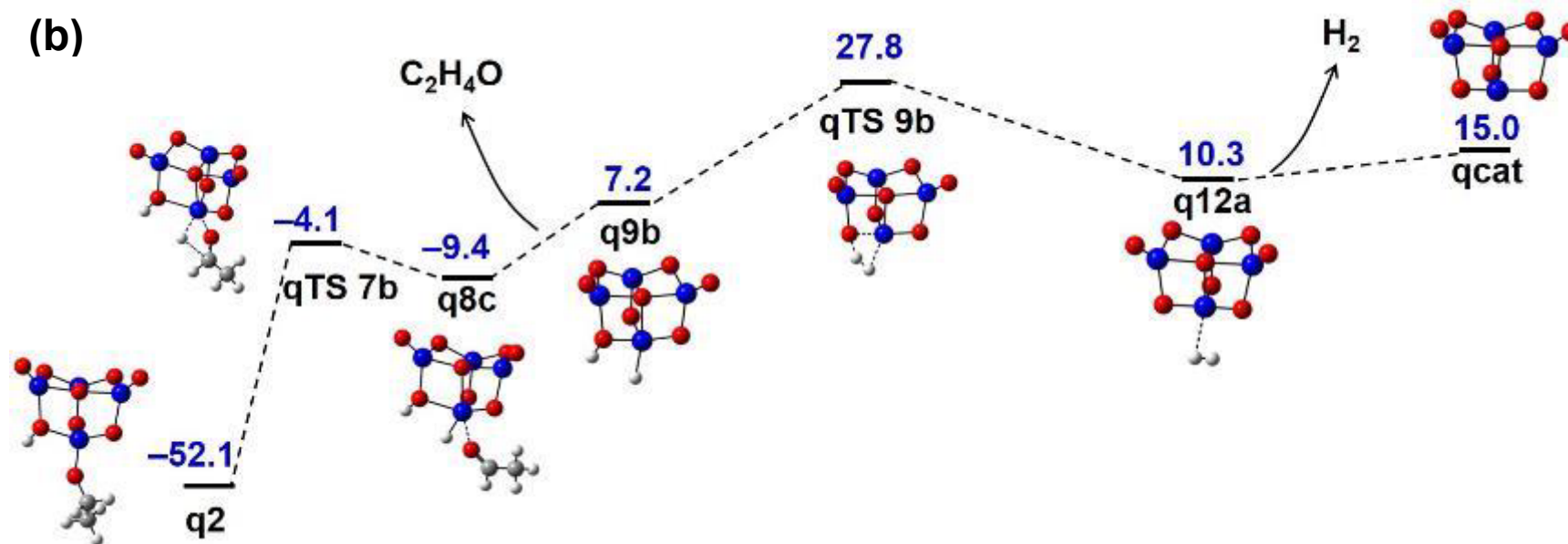
**Figure 5.7.** (a) Reaction coordinates ( $\Delta H_{0K}$ , kcal/mol) for  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH} \rightarrow \text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$  at the CCSD(T)/aD//B3LYP/DZVP2 level on  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  nanoclusters. The pathway in red indicates the lowest energy pathway Q1 and this is shown with structures in (b).



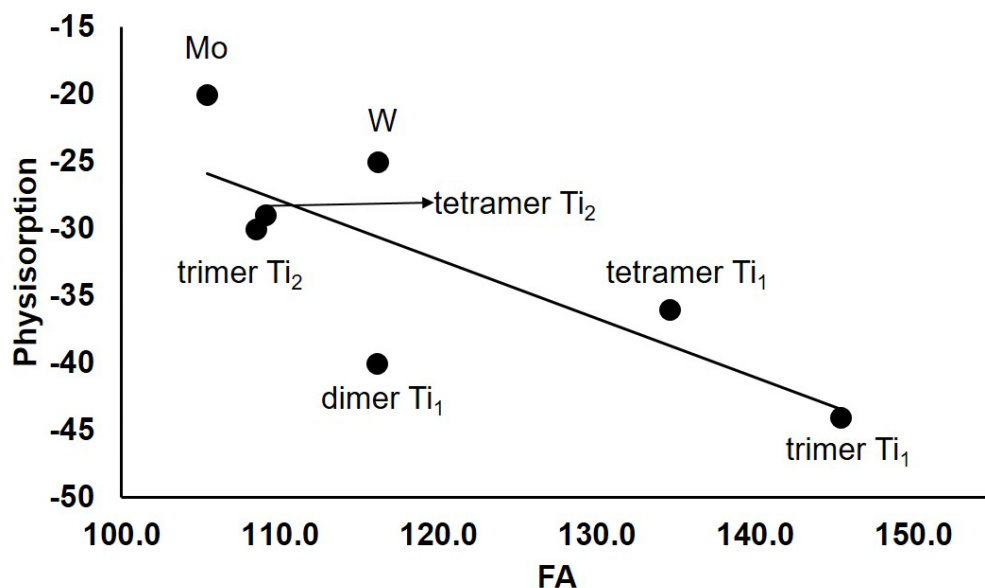
**Figure 5.8.** Reaction coordinates ( $\Delta H_{0\text{K}}$ , kcal/mol) for physisorption and chemisorption of ethanol at the terminal Ti=O or the bridge Ti at the CCSD(T)/aD//B3LYP/DZVP2 level on a  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  nanocluster.

(a)

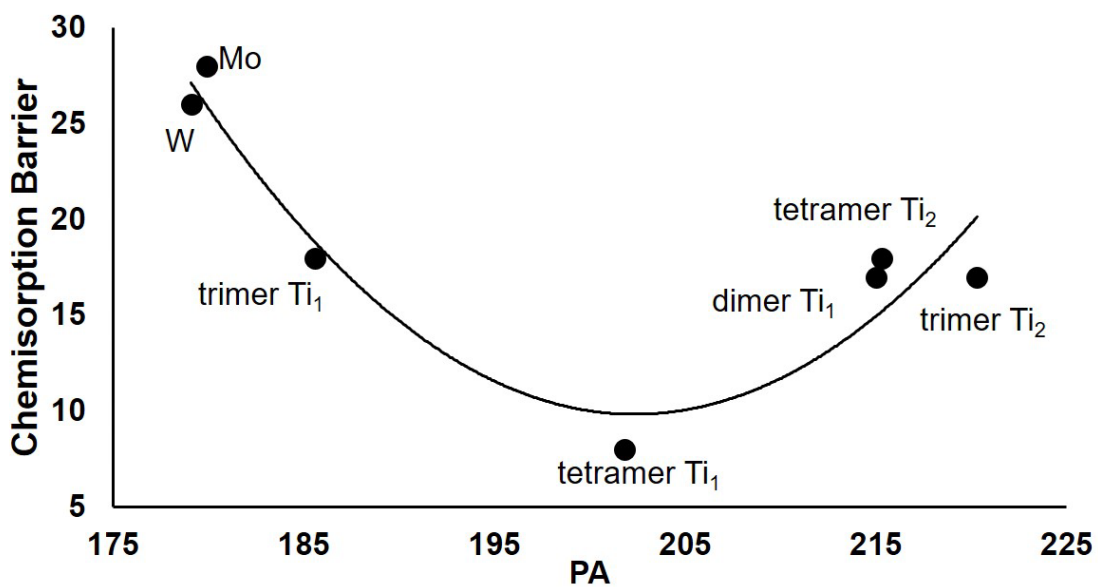




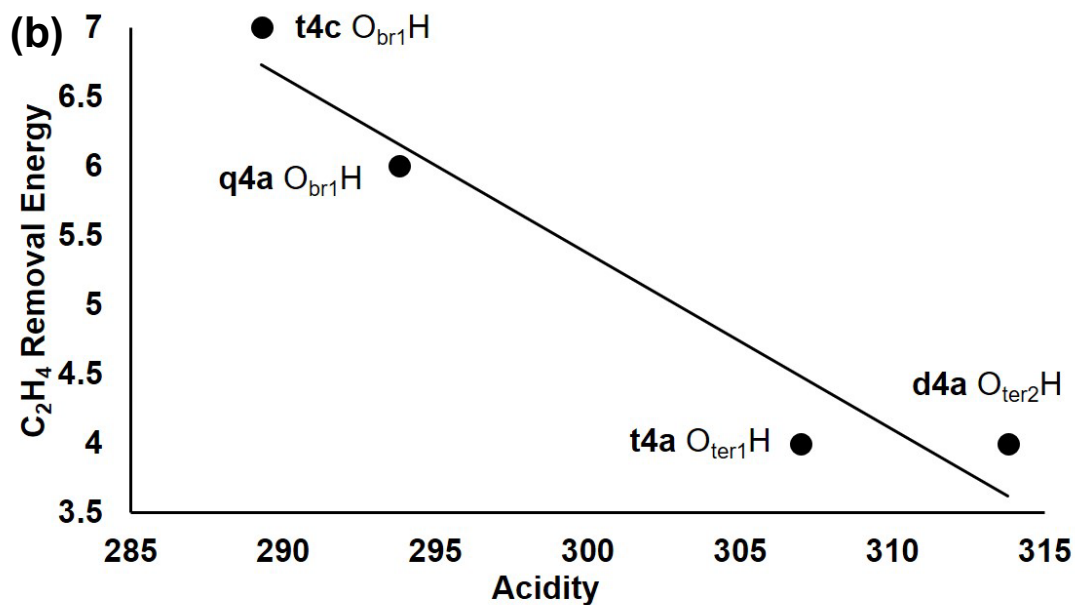
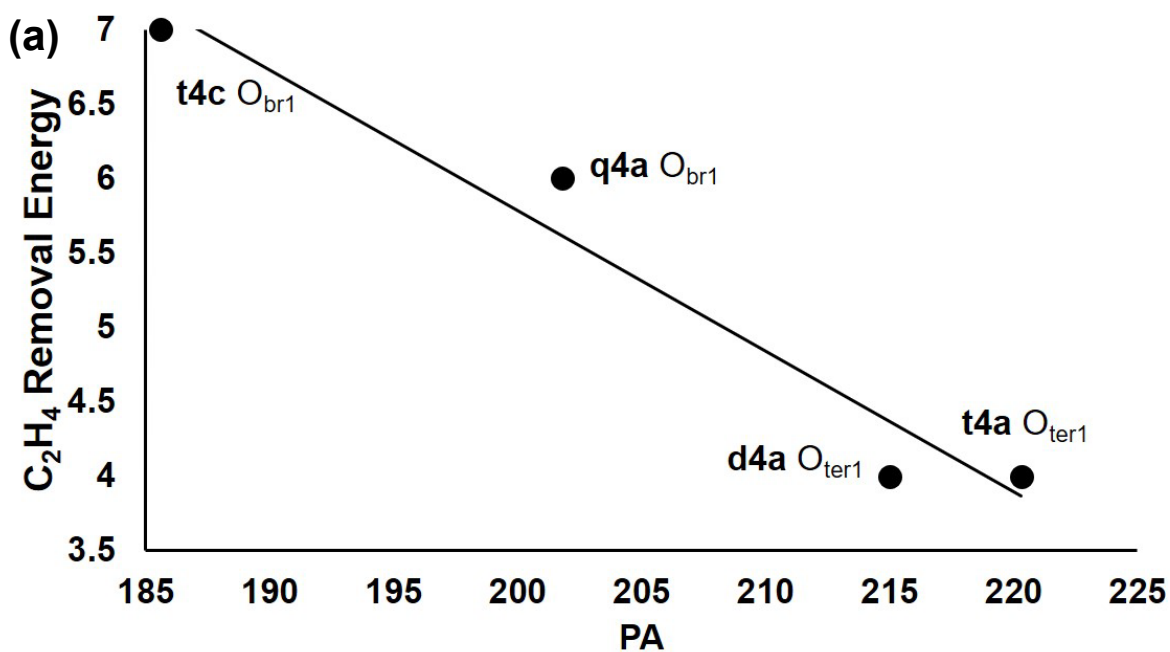
**Figure 5.9.** (a) Reaction coordinates ( $\Delta H_{0K}$ , kcal/mol) for  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH} \rightarrow \text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O} + \text{H}_2$  at the CCSD(T)/aD//B3LYP/DZVP2 level on  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  nanoclusters. The pathway in red indicates the lowest energy pathway Q2, and this is shown with structures in (b).



**Figure 5.10.** Correlation between physisorption of one ethanol to metal sites and FA in kcal/mol. The linear fit equation is  $y = -0.44x + 20.14$  ( $R^2 = 0.60$ ).



**Figure 5.11.** Correlation between chemisorption barriers of one ethanol to metal sites and PA in kcal/mol. The quadratic fit equation is  $y = 0.03x^2 - 12.92x + 1316.90$  ( $R^2 = 0.88$ ).



**Figure 5.12.** Correlation between C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> removal energy versus (a) PA and (b) acidity in kcal/mol. The linear fit equation for (a) is  $y = -0.09x + 24.70$  ( $R^2 = 0.95$ ). The linear fit equation for (b) is  $y = -0.13x + 43.50$  ( $R^2 = 0.93$ ).

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Appendix: Computational Study of Dehydration and Dehydrogenation of Ethanol on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$   
( $n = 2 - 4$ ) Nanoclusters

**Additional Higher Energy Pathways for Trimer Dehydration** The remaining four pathways for transfer of the  $\beta$  hydrogen of the ethoxy to O sites of the  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_7\text{H}$  fragment of **t2** are discussed here. Transferring the  $\beta$  hydrogen to the tridentate  $\text{O}_{\text{tribr}}$  can occur at both sides of the plane of three Ti atoms, which results in two transition states, **tTS 2b** to form **t3d**, and **tTS 2c** to form **t3f**, with transition barriers of  $\sim 49$  kcal/mol, which between the transition barriers of **tTS 2a** and **tTS 2d**. The reaction energy from **t2** to **t3d** is the same as that to **t3e**,  $\sim 15$  kcal/mol. The reaction energy from **t2** to **t3f** is the most endothermic of all,  $\sim 26$  kcal/mol. Transferring the  $\beta$  H to the oxygen from ethanol through **tTS 2e** to form **t3c**, and to the terminal  $\text{O}_{\text{ter}2}$  through **tTS 2f** to form **t3b**, are both endothermic by  $\sim 11$  kcal/mol, with both of their transition barriers slightly above the reactant asymptote. Removal of an ethylene from these **t3** products requires 4 to 9 kcal/mol. Structure **t4d** has a bidentate  $\text{O}_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group and a tridentate  $\text{O}_{\text{tribr}}\text{H}$  group. The reactions for transferring the proton of the bidentate  $\text{O}_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group to the terminal O from ethanol through **tTS 4e** to form **t5b** or transferring the proton of the tridentate  $\text{O}_{\text{tribr}}\text{H}$  group through **tTS 4f** to form **t5c**, are exothermic by *ca.*  $-20$  and  $-10$  kcal/mol, respectively. Transition state **tTS 4e** is essentially isoenergetic with the reactant asymptote, and **tTS 4f** is above the reactant asymptote by  $\sim 10$  kcal/mol. Transferring the proton of the tridentate  $\text{O}_{\text{tribr}}\text{H}$  group from **t5c** to the terminal OH is endothermic by  $\sim 11$  kcal/mol with a transition barrier of  $\sim 25$  kcal/mol.

There are an additional three possible pathways from the reactant **t4a**. The proton on the bidentate  $\text{O}_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group of **t4a** can transfer to a bidentate  $\text{O}_{\text{dibr}23}$  via **tTS 4b**, forming the product **t4b**. Structure **t4b** is essentially same as **t5b**. The energy barrier is  $\sim 40$  kcal/mol, with **tTS 4b** being  $\sim 3$  kcal/mol higher than **tTS 4a**; the reaction is endothermic by  $\sim 10$  kcal/mol. The proton on the bidentate  $\text{O}_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group of **t4a** can also transfer to the tridentate  $\text{O}_{\text{tribr}}$  via **tTS4c** forming **t5c** with an energy barrier of  $\sim 55$  kcal/mol and an endothermic

reaction energy of  $\sim 21$  kcal/mol; **tTS4c** is  $\sim 1$  kcal/mol below the reactant asymptote.

Directly transferring the proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group of **t4a** to the oxygen of the terminal OH group via **tTS 4g** forms the  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6\text{-H}_2\text{O}$  complex **t6**, though with the highest energy barrier of  $\sim 80$  kcal/mol.

**Additional Higher Energy Pathways for Tetramer Dehydration** Three additional pathways from **q2** for the  $\beta$  H on the tetramers are discussed below. Transferring the  $\beta$  H to the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}14}$  via **qTS 2b** is the most endothermic,  $\sim 28$  kcal/mol, reaction with the second lowest transition barrier of  $\sim 49$  kcal/mol. Transition states **qTS 2c** for transfer of the  $\beta$  H to the O from ethanol to form **q3b** and **qTS 2d** for transfer of the  $\beta$  H to the tetradentate  $O_{\text{tetra}br}$  to form **q3c** are both above the reactant asymptote. The reaction energy from **q2** to **q3b** is close to that for forming **q3a**. An energy of 5 to 7 kcal/mol is needed to remove an ethylene. Structure **q4c** has a bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group and a bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}14}\text{H}$  group.

Transfer of the proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}14}\text{H}$  group to the terminal oxygen from ethanol through **qTS 4b** to form **q5a** is exothermic by *ca.* -21 kcal/mol with a transition barrier of  $\sim 18$  kcal/mol with the transition state being  $\sim 2$  kcal/mol above the reactant asymptote.

Transfer of the proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group to the terminal OH group from **q5a** through **qTS 5a** to form the  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8\text{-H}_2\text{O}$  complex **q6a** is endothermic by  $\sim 17$  kcal/mol with a transition barrier of  $\sim 23$  kcal/mol. The proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group can also transfer to the terminal oxygen from ethanol at **q4c** via **qTS 4c** to form **q5d**, which is exothermic by *ca.* -4 kcal/mol,  $\sim 12$  kcal/mol less exothermic than the reaction from **q4c** to **q5a**. The transition barrier between **qTS 4c** and **q4c** is  $\sim 8$  kcal/mol higher as compared to **qTS 4b**. Transfer of the proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}14}\text{H}$  group to the terminal OH group at **q5d** is thermoneutral with a transition barrier of  $\sim 16$  kcal/mol. Structure **q4b** has a bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group and a tridentate  $O_{\text{tetra}br}\text{H}$  group. Transfer of the proton of the tridentate  $O_{\text{tetra}br}\text{H}$  group to the terminal  $O_{\text{ter}2}$  through **qTS 4d** to form **q5c** is exothermic by *ca.* -3 kcal/mol with

a large transition barrier of  $\sim 38$  kcal/mol; **qTS 4d** has the same energy as **qTS 4c**. Then, transfer of the proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group to the terminal OH group via **qTS 5d** to form **q6b** is endothermic by  $\sim 20$  kcal/mol with a transition barrier  $\sim 30$  kcal/mol with **qTS 5d** being above the reactant asymptote by  $\sim 2$  kcal/mol. Removal of a water from **q6b** is endothermic by  $\sim 56$  kcal/mol. The reaction energy for **qcat 1**, 22.8 kcal/mol, includes the dehydration energy of one ethanol and the transformation energy of  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  from **qcat** to **qcat 1**.

**Additional Higher Energy Pathways for Tetramer Dehydrogenation** The other 3 pathways from **q2** are transfer of the  $\alpha$  hydrogen: (1) to the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}13}$  via **qTS 7a** to form **q8b**, (2) to the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}14}$  via **qTS 7c** to form **q8d**, and (3) to the tetradentate  $O_{\text{tetra}br}$  through **qTS 7d**. Transition states **qTS 7c** and **qTS 7d** are above the reactant asymptote. Pathway (3) has the lowest endothermicity of  $\sim 28$  kcal/mol, yet the highest transition barrier of  $\sim 74$  kcal/mol. Pathway (1) has the lowest transition barrier of  $\sim 47$  kcal/mol with an endothermicity of  $\sim 42$  kcal/mol, so most of the barrier is due to the reaction endothermicity. Pathway (2) is endothermic by  $\sim 44$  kcal/mol with a transition barrier of  $\sim 58$  kcal/mol. Removal of an acetaldehyde requires 17 to 29 kcal/mol.

Structure **q9a** has a transformed  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  compared to **qcat** with a bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group and a bidentate  $O_{\text{tetra}br}\text{H}$  group. The proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group transfers to the terminal  $O_{\text{ter}2}$  via **qTS 9a** to form **q10a** with an exothermicity of *ca.* -15 kcal/mol and a transition barrier of  $\sim 23$  kcal/mol. The proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{tetra}br}\text{H}$  group transfers to the terminal  $O_{\text{ter}2}$  via **qTS 9c** to form **q10b** with an exothermicity of *ca.* -5 kcal/mol and a transition barrier of  $\sim 34$  kcal/mol. Transferring the proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{tetra}br}\text{H}$  group to the  $\text{Ti}_1$  via **qTS 9e** to form **q10c** is exothermic by *ca.* -3 kcal/mol with a transition barrier of  $\sim 48$  kcal/mol. Transfers of the proton from the bidentate  $O_{\text{tetra}br}\text{H}$  group to the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}13}$  via **qTS 9d** to form **q10d**, or to the  $\text{Ti}_1$  directly via **qTS 9f** to form **q11a**, result in

transition barriers of  $\sim 38$  and  $\sim 48$  kcal/mol with endothermic reaction energies of  $\sim 13$  and  $\sim 20$  kcal/mol, respectively. Structure **q9c** has a bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group and a bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}13}\text{H}$  group. Transfer of the proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}13}\text{H}$  group to the  $\text{Ti}_1$  site where PCET occurs via **qTS 9g** to form **q9b** is endothermic by  $\sim 6$  kcal/mol with a transition barrier of  $\sim 53$  kcal/mol. Structure **q9d** has a bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group and a bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}14}\text{H}$  group. Transfer of the proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}14}\text{H}$  group to the  $\text{Ti}_1$  site via **qTS 9h** to form **q9b** is exothermic by *ca.*  $-13$  kcal/mol with a transition barrier of  $\sim 49$  kcal/mol. Transfer of the proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group to the  $\text{Ti}_1$  site via **qTS 9i** to form **q10e** is endothermic by  $\sim 4$  kcal/mol with a transition barrier of  $\sim 55$  kcal/mol. All the **q9** reactants, **qTS 9** transition states, and products **q9b**, **q10d** and **q10e** are above the reactant asymptote, and the reactants **q10a**, **q10b** and **q10c** are below the reactant asymptote.

Structure **q10a** has a transformed  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  with a terminal  $O_{\text{ter}2}\text{H}$  group and a bidentate  $O_{\text{tetra}br}\text{H}$  group. Transfer of the proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{tetra}br}\text{H}$  group to the  $\text{Ti}_2$  site via **qTS 10b** to form **q11b** is very endothermic  $\sim 51$  kcal/mol, with a high transition barrier of  $\sim 74$  kcal/mol. Structure **q10b** has a transformed  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  with a terminal  $O_{\text{ter}2}\text{H}$  group and a bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group. Transfer of the proton of the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group to the  $\text{Ti}_2$  site via **qTS 10d** to form **q11b** is also endothermic by  $\sim 51$  kcal/mol with a high transition barrier of  $\sim 72$  kcal/mol. Structure **q10c** has a transformed  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  with a hydride at the  $\text{Ti}_1$  site and a bidentate  $O_{\text{tetra}br}\text{H}$  group. Transfer of the proton to the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}$  via **qTS 10a** to form **q11a** is endothermic by  $\sim 15$  kcal/mol with a transition barrier of  $\sim 34$  kcal/mol. Structure **q10d** also has a transformed  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  with a bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group and a bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}13}\text{H}$  group. Transfer of the proton to the bidentate  $O_{\text{dibr}13}$  to form **q11a** via **qTS 10c** is exothermic by *ca.*  $-7$  kcal/mol with a transition barrier of  $\sim 40$  kcal/mol. Transfer of the proton of the  $O_{\text{dibr}14}\text{H}$  group to generate the hydride at the  $\text{Ti}_1$  site from **q10e** via **qTS 11a** to form **q12a** is

exothermic by *ca.* -14 kcal/mol with a transition barrier of  $\sim 12$  kcal/mol. All the **qTS 10** transition states and the **q11** products are above the reactant asymptote.

Structure **q11a** has a transformed  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  with a hydride at the  $\text{Ti}_1$  site and a bidentate  $\text{O}_{\text{dibr}12}\text{H}$  group. Transfer of the proton to the hydride via **qTS 11b** to form **q12b** is endothermic by  $\sim 7$  kcal/mol with a transition barrier of  $\sim 26$  kcal/mol. Structure **q11b** has a transformed  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  with a hydride at the  $\text{Ti}_2$  site and a terminal  $\text{O}_{\text{ter}2}\text{H}$  group. Transfer of the proton to the hydride via **qTS 11c** to form **q12c** is endothermic by *ca.* -9 kcal/mol with a transition barrier of  $\sim 15$  kcal/mol. Removal of a  $\text{H}_2$  from **q12b** requires  $\sim 2$  kcal/mol. Structure **q12c** will release  $\sim 6$  kcal/mol for removal of a  $\text{H}_2$  and forms **qcat 1**. The reaction energy shown at **qcat 1**, 22.8 kcal/mol, includes the dehydrogenation energy of one ethanol and the transformation energy of  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  from **qcat**.

**Table A5.1.** Electronic energies, zero-point energies, thermal, Gibbs free energy corrections at 298K and enthalpies at 0K for structures in dehydration and dehydrogenation on (TiO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub> nanocluster at the B3LYP/DZVP2 level, single-point electronic energies and enthalpies at 0K at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ(-PP) level, and overall reaction energies at both levels in kcal/mol at 0K.

Structure	B3LYP/DZVP2						CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ(-PP)		
	ZPE	Thermal Corrections at 298K	Gibbs Free Energy Correction at 298 K	Electronic Energies	Electronic Energies +ZPE	Overall Reaction Energy	Electronic Energies	Electronic Energies +ZPE	Overall Reaction Energy
Ethanol	0.080067	0.085326	0.054633	-155.091918	-155.011700		-154.665592	-154.585525	
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	0.055524	0.060373	0.030555	-153.874321	-153.818797		-153.462419	-153.406895	
H <sub>2</sub> O	0.021447	0.025227	0.003793	-76.456993	-76.435546		-76.273837	-76.252390	
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	0.050953	0.054945	0.030067	-78.608727	-78.557774	11.5 <sup>a</sup>	-78.369156	-78.318203	9.4 <sup>a</sup>
H <sub>2</sub>	0.010164	0.013468	-0.001324	-1.179286	-1.169122	14.9 <sup>b</sup>	-1.164899	-1.154735	15.0 <sup>b</sup>
dcat	0.014187	0.021590	-0.016943	-1999.963318	-1999.949131		-415.715130	-415.700943	
dcat 1	0.013963	0.021465	-0.017300	-1999.953336	-1999.939373	17.7	-415.706491	-415.692528	14.7
Dehydration									
d1	0.096613	0.109539	0.056607	-2155.113052	-2155.016439	-34.9	-570.446537	-570.349924	-39.8
dTS 1	0.091456	0.103802	0.051385	-2155.083899	-2154.992443	-19.8	-570.413804	-570.322348	-22.5
d2	0.094358	0.107654	0.053216	-2155.152444	-2155.058086	-61.0	-570.482688	-570.388330	-63.9
dTS 2a	0.088958	0.101066	0.051417	-2155.072772	-2154.983814	-14.4	-570.403989	-570.315031	-17.9
dTS 2b	0.087327	0.099775	0.049285	-2155.065153	-2154.977826	-10.7	-570.391342	-570.304015	-11.0
dTS 2c	0.087792	0.100472	0.049029	-2155.060147	-2154.972355	-7.2	-570.388802	-570.301010	-9.1
d3a	0.089764	0.104852	0.044243	-2155.117277	-2155.027513	-41.8	-570.453334	-570.363570	-48.4
d3b	0.089940	0.104381	0.044668	-2155.097746	-2155.007806	-29.5	-570.434245	-570.344305	-36.3
d3c	0.091500	0.106250	0.048131	-2155.081845	-2154.990345	-18.5	-570.417520	-570.326020	-24.8
d4a	0.037150	0.047670	0.001644	-2076.502814	-2076.465664	-39.3	-492.076626	-492.039476	-44.7
d4b	0.038199	0.048339	0.003140	-2076.486983	-2076.448784	-28.7	-492.061432	-492.023233	-34.5
d4c	0.038534	0.049296	0.001879	-2076.459757	-2076.421223	-11.4	-492.032221	-491.993687	-16.0
dTS 4a	0.034297	0.042945	0.001619	-2076.473037	-2076.438740	-22.4	-492.040336	-492.006039	-23.7
dTS 4b	0.035021	0.043868	0.001989	-2076.468235	-2076.433214	-18.9	-492.036818	-492.001797	-21.0

dTS 4c	0.033826	0.043210	-0.000318	-2076.447405	-2076.413579	-6.6	-492.019207	-491.985381	-10.7
dTS 4d	0.034601	0.043916	0.000394	-2076.441676	-2076.407075	-2.5	-492.016783	-491.982182	-8.7
dTS 4e	0.034126	0.043512	-0.000028	-2076.427169	-2076.393044	6.3	-492.000923	-491.966797	0.9
d5	0.036577	0.047162	0.001440	-2076.513074	-2076.476497	-46.1	-492.082703	-492.046126	-48.9
d6	0.034582	0.043845	0.000374	-2076.447080	-2076.412498	-5.9	-492.017259	-491.982677	-9.0
d7	0.038736	0.049395	0.002440	-2076.470414	-2076.431678	-18.0	-492.041660	-492.002924	-21.7
Dehydrogenation									
dTS 7a	0.087779	0.100766	0.048692	-2155.066293	-2154.978514	-11.1	-570.398943	-570.311164	-15.5
dTS 7b	0.090376	0.103028	0.052063	-2155.051288	-2154.960912	-0.1	-570.388317	-570.297941	-7.2
d8a	0.087998	0.101905	0.047459	-2155.076909	-2154.988911	-17.6	-570.408638	-570.320640	-21.4
d8b	0.089888	0.104637	0.045599	-2155.055235	-2154.965347	-2.8	-570.383835	-570.293947	-4.7
d9a	0.029962	0.039118	-0.003594	-2001.183196	-2001.153234	-7.0	-416.922098	-416.892136	-7.9
d9b	0.033593	0.043001	-0.000175	-2001.150177	-2001.116584	16.0	-416.888173	-416.854580	15.7
dTS 9a	0.027536	0.035577	-0.004846	-2001.134593	-2001.107057	21.9	-416.876117	-416.848581	19.4
dTS 9b	0.027493	0.036683	-0.006584	-2001.106005	-2001.078511	39.9	-416.845474	-416.817981	38.6
d10a	0.030023	0.039090	-0.003426	-2001.184788	-2001.154766	-8.0	-416.924078	-416.894055	-9.1
d10b	0.028703	0.038004	-0.004956	-2001.154089	-2001.125386	10.4	-416.895215	-416.866512	8.2
dTS 10	0.027530	0.035672	-0.005046	-2001.129360	-2001.101830	25.2	-416.871690	-416.844160	22.2
d11	0.028774	0.038030	-0.004815	-2001.144735	-2001.115961	16.4	-416.886920	-416.858146	13.4

<sup>a</sup> Dehydration energy. <sup>b</sup> Dehydrogenation energy.

**Table A5.2.** Electronic energies, zero-point energies, thermal, Gibbs free energy corrections at 298K and enthalpies at 0K for structures in dehydration and dehydrogenation on (TiO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub> nanocluster at the B3LYP/DZVP2 level, single-point electronic energies and enthalpies at 0K at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ(-PP) level, and overall reaction energies at both levels in kcal/mol at 0K.

Structure	B3LYP/DZVP2						CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ(-PP)		
	ZPE	Thermal Corrections at 298K	Gibbs Free Energy Correction at 298 K	Electronic Energies	Electronic Energies +ZPE	Overall Reaction Energy	Electronic Energies	Electronic Energies +ZPE	Overall Reaction Energy
tcat	0.022520	0.033310	-0.013651	-3000.037298	-3000.014778		-623.679877	-623.657357	
Dehydration									
t1	0.104765	0.121199	0.060010	-3155.193670	-3155.088905	-39.2	-778.417661	-778.312896	-43.9
tTS 1	0.099728	0.115543	0.055753	-3155.159741	-3155.060013	-21.0	-778.383264	-778.283536	-25.5
t2	0.103500	0.120008	0.058868	-3155.220679	-3155.117179	-56.9	-778.444094	-778.340594	-61.3
tTS 2a	0.096785	0.112499	0.054962	-3155.146186	-3155.049401	-14.4	-778.368807	-778.272022	-18.3
tTS 2b	0.096197	0.112158	0.054014	-3155.136440	-3155.040242	-8.6	-778.358768	-778.262571	-12.4
tTS 2c	0.096263	0.112208	0.054106	-3155.136498	-3155.040235	-8.6	-778.358763	-778.262500	-12.3
tTS 2d	0.096518	0.112416	0.053946	-3155.130221	-3155.033704	-4.5	-778.350005	-778.253487	-6.7
tTS 2e	0.095253	0.111191	0.051402	-3155.119952	-3155.024699	1.1	-778.337732	-778.242479	0.3
tTS 2f	0.097572	0.112563	0.056885	-3155.106933	-3155.009360	10.7	-778.334952	-778.237380	3.5
t3a	0.098740	0.116889	0.048605	-3155.210047	-3155.111307	-53.2	-778.437740	-778.339000	-60.3
t3b	0.098487	0.116782	0.048615	-3155.195051	-3155.096564	-44.0	-778.421715	-778.323228	-50.4
t3c	0.098654	0.116864	0.050010	-3155.195126	-3155.096472	-43.9	-778.421703	-778.323049	-50.3
t3d	0.099508	0.117514	0.051413	-3155.185766	-3155.086258	-37.5	-778.416395	-778.316887	-46.4
t3e	0.099579	0.117575	0.051496	-3155.185734	-3155.086155	-37.4	-778.416261	-778.316682	-46.3
t3f	0.099436	0.117512	0.051848	-3155.169335	-3155.069899	-27.2	-778.398108	-778.298672	-35.0
t4a	0.046280	0.059726	0.007579	-3076.595658	-3076.549378	-50.6	-700.061000	-700.014720	-56.5
t4b	0.045973	0.059630	0.006884	-3076.579639	-3076.533666	-40.8	-700.044046	-699.998073	-46.1
t4c	0.047159	0.060484	0.008377	-3076.568120	-3076.520961	-32.8	-700.035235	-699.988076	-39.8
t4d	0.046921	0.060551	0.007110	-3076.549323	-3076.502402	-21.1	-700.013116	-699.966195	-26.1
tTS 4a	0.041558	0.054597	0.002912	-3076.533687	-3076.492129	-14.7	-699.997232	-699.955674	-19.4

tTS 4b	0.042090	0.055001	0.003551	-3076.523128	-3076.481037	-7.7	-699.992518	-699.950428	-16.2
tTS 4c	0.041341	0.054818	0.001705	-3076.501126	-3076.459785	5.6	-699.967842	-699.926501	-1.1
tTS 4d	0.042707	0.055488	0.004343	-3076.504119	-3076.461412	4.6	-699.968438	-699.925731	-0.7
tTS 4e	0.042260	0.055084	0.003991	-3076.504038	-3076.461778	4.3	-699.967644	-699.925384	-0.4
tTS 4f	0.042317	0.055334	0.003169	-3076.489099	-3076.446782	13.8	-699.950390	-699.908073	10.4
tTS 4g	0.043308	0.055648	0.005240	-3076.463189	-3076.419881	30.6	-699.929885	-699.886577	23.9
t5a	0.045287	0.058972	0.006404	-3076.613374	-3076.568087	-62.4	-700.076842	-700.031555	-67.1
t5b	0.045973	0.059622	0.006909	-3076.579755	-3076.533782	-40.8	-700.044061	-699.998088	-46.1
t5c	0.046054	0.059798	0.006180	-3076.565544	-3076.519490	-31.9	-700.028069	-699.982015	-36.0
tTS 5a	0.042901	0.055589	0.004579	-3076.521539	-3076.478638	-6.2	-699.985904	-699.943003	-11.5
tTS 5b	0.042909	0.055556	0.004828	-3076.521178	-3076.478270	-6.0	-699.985540	-699.942631	-11.3
tTS 5c	0.042882	0.055582	0.004527	-3076.521451	-3076.478569	-6.2	-699.985873	-699.942991	-11.5
tTS 5d	0.043430	0.055377	0.006659	-3076.511416	-3076.467986	0.5	-699.974840	-699.931410	-4.2
t6	0.047145	0.061118	0.006836	-3076.549558	-3076.502413	-21.2	-700.012294	-699.965149	-25.4
Dehydrogenation									
tTS 7	0.096932	0.113201	0.053560	-3155.148312	-3155.051380	-15.6	-778.374064	-778.277132	-21.5
t8	0.097331	0.114380	0.052818	-3155.156899	-3155.059568	-20.8	-778.382341	-778.285010	-26.4
t9	0.039128	0.051267	0.001904	-3001.242176	-3001.203048	2.9	-624.875119	-624.835991	0.0
tTS 9	0.035655	0.047128	-0.001086	-3001.193446	-3001.157791	31.3	-624.828165	-624.792510	27.3
t10	0.035984	0.049232	-0.003165	-3001.227047	-3001.191063	10.4	-624.860061	-624.824077	7.5

**Table A5.3.** Electronic energies, zero-point energies, thermal, Gibbs free energy corrections at 298K and enthalpies at 0K for structures in dehydration and dehydrogenation on (TiO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub> nanocluster at the B3LYP/DZVP2 level, single-point electronic energies and enthalpies at 0K at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ(-PP) level, and overall reaction energies at both levels in kcal/mol at 0K.

Structure	B3LYP/DZVP2						CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ(-PP)		
	ZPE	Thermal Corrections at 298K	Gibbs Free Energy Correction at 298 K	Electronic Energies	Electronic Energies +ZPE	Overall Reaction Energy	Electronic Energies	Electronic Energies +ZPE	Overall Reaction Energy
qcat	0.030814	0.044819	-0.008300	-4000.116802	-4000.085988		-831.653691	-831.622877	
qcat 1	0.030519	0.044942	-0.008919	-4000.104822	-4000.074303	18.9	-831.632060	-831.601541	22.8
Dehydration									
q1	0.113103	0.132722	0.065100	-4155.262748	-4155.149645	-32.6	-986.379097	-986.265994	-36.1
qTS 1	0.108322	0.127281	0.061274	-4155.246841	-4155.138519	-25.6	-986.361921	-986.253599	-28.4
q2	0.111782	0.131663	0.063421	-4155.291705	-4155.179923	-51.6	-986.403156	-986.291374	-52.1
qTS 2a	0.105128	0.124256	0.059585	-4155.223323	-4155.118195	-12.9	-986.334613	-986.229485	-13.2
qTS 2b	0.104260	0.123650	0.058259	-4155.205286	-4155.101026	-2.1	-986.317237	-986.212977	-2.9
qTS 2c	0.104420	0.124308	0.057089	-4155.195617	-4155.091197	4.1	-986.304740	-986.200320	5.1
qTS 2d	0.104361	0.123799	0.058308	-4155.181653	-4155.077293	12.8	-986.293869	-986.189508	11.9
q3a	0.108085	0.129402	0.057205	-4155.264489	-4155.156404	-36.8	-986.383731	-986.275646	-42.2
q3b	0.107013	0.128511	0.055401	-4155.265834	-4155.158821	-38.4	-986.381676	-986.274663	-41.6
q3c	0.107740	0.129344	0.056603	-4155.260779	-4155.153039	-34.7	-986.373221	-986.265481	-35.8
q3d	0.107303	0.128825	0.055802	-4155.234239	-4155.126936	-18.4	-986.353628	-986.246325	-23.8
q4a	0.055593	0.072288	0.013174	-4076.647478	-4076.591885	-32.6	-908.002766	-907.947173	-35.8
q4b	0.055263	0.072288	0.012387	-4076.643069	-4076.587806	-30.1	-907.991098	-907.935835	-28.6
q4c	0.054523	0.071777	0.011223	-4076.615588	-4076.561065	-13.3	-907.970456	-907.915933	-16.1
qTS 4a	0.050900	0.066915	0.009142	-4076.596667	-4076.545767	-3.7	-907.949491	-907.898591	-5.3
qTS 4b	0.050665	0.066738	0.008843	-4076.584609	-4076.533944	3.7	-907.938464	-907.887799	1.5
qTS 4c	0.050709	0.066902	0.008458	-4076.572163	-4076.521454	11.6	-907.925720	-907.875011	9.5
qTS 5a	0.051538	0.067358	0.009896	-4076.607664	-4076.556126	-10.2	-907.962902	-907.911365	-13.3
qTS 5b	0.051537	0.067356	0.009897	-4076.607664	-4076.556127	-10.2	-907.962902	-907.911365	-13.3

qTS 5c	0.051062	0.066925	0.009471	-4076.591953	-4076.540891	-0.6	-907.947353	-907.896291	-3.8
qTS 4d	0.050722	0.067188	0.008283	-4076.579214	-4076.528492	7.2	-907.925602	-907.874880	9.6
q5a	0.054451	0.071335	0.011847	4076.650660	-4076.596209	-35.3	-908.003213	-907.948763	-36.7
q5b	0.054450	0.071335	0.011844	-4076.650660	-4076.596210	-35.3	-908.003213	-907.948763	-36.7
q5c	0.054283	0.071478	0.011424	-4076.649330	-4076.595047	-34.6	-907.995050	-907.940767	-31.7
q5d	0.054392	0.071373	0.011478	-4076.624890	-4076.570498	-19.2	-907.976418	-907.922026	-20.0
qTS 5d	0.050990	0.067276	0.008874	-4076.591123	-4076.540132	-0.1	-907.938540	-907.887550	1.7
q6a	0.055724	0.072682	0.012510	-4076.621322	-4076.565598	-16.1	-907.976946	-907.921222	-19.5
q6b	0.055434	0.072883	0.011644	-4076.617723	-4076.562290	-14.0	-907.964552	-907.909118	-11.9
Dehydrogenation									
qTS 7a	0.107255	0.126260	0.061614	-4155.208782	-4155.101526	-2.4	-986.323599	-986.216344	-5.0
qTS 7b	0.105282	0.124948	0.057955	-4155.203662	-4155.098380	-0.4	-986.320160	-986.214878	-4.1
qTS 7c	0.106273	0.125392	0.060514	-4155.198312	-4155.092039	3.5	-986.305448	-986.199175	5.8
qTS 7d	0.105386	0.124572	0.059916	-4155.170330	-4155.064944	20.5	-986.279090	-986.173704	21.8
q8a	0.109114	0.129962	0.060752	-4155.248545	-4155.139431	-26.2	-986.356243	-986.247129	-24.3
q8b	0.108434	0.129167	0.059297	-4155.216870	-4155.108435	-6.7	-986.333641	-986.225207	-10.5
q8c	0.106383	0.126487	0.058801	-4155.216145	-4155.109762	-7.6	-986.329743	-986.223360	-9.4
q8d	0.108717	0.129460	0.060893	-4155.220298	-4155.111581	-8.7	-986.330738	-986.222021	-8.5
q9a	0.051590	0.067318	0.010564	-4001.334550	-4001.282960	-2.6	-832.851450	-832.799860	1.0
q9b	0.047799	0.063123	0.006942	-4001.315351	-4001.267552	7.1	-832.837823	-832.790024	7.2
q9c	0.051005	0.066783	0.010017	-4001.309009	-4001.258004	13.1	-832.831298	-832.780293	13.3
q9d	0.051094	0.066856	0.009953	-4001.300054	-4001.248961	18.8	-832.820277	-832.769183	20.3
qTS 9a	0.047424	0.062325	0.007166	-4001.296072	-4001.248648	19.0	-832.810119	-832.762695	24.4
qTS 9b	0.044226	0.058970	0.003848	-4001.275629	-4001.231403	29.8	-832.801391	-832.757165	27.8
qTS 9c	0.047252	0.062267	0.006894	-4001.278936	-4001.231684	29.6	-832.792810	-832.745558	35.1
qTS 9d	0.046983	0.062251	0.006140	-4001.265443	-4001.218460	37.9	-832.786961	-832.739978	38.6
qTS 9e	0.045395	0.060748	0.004552	-4001.257289	-4001.211894	42.0	-832.769135	-832.723740	48.8
qTS 9f	0.047002	0.062154	0.006623	-4001.249917	-4001.202915	47.7	-832.768683	-832.721681	50.1
qTS 9g	0.044799	0.060421	0.003378	-4001.225296	-4001.180497	61.7	-832.741232	-832.696433	65.9
qTS 9h	0.044725	0.060221	0.003671	-4001.222391	-4001.177666	63.5	-832.735919	-832.691194	69.2
qTS 9i	0.045177	0.060627	0.004052	-4001.213727	-4001.168550	69.2	-832.727560	-832.682383	74.8

q10a	0.050730	0.066600	0.009686	-4001.361650	-4001.310919	-20.1	-832.874410	-832.823680	-13.9
q10b	0.050489	0.066439	0.009306	-4001.344629	-4001.294140	-9.6	-832.858753	-832.808264	-4.2
q10c	0.047972	0.063358	0.007237	-4001.337159	-4001.289187	-6.5	-832.852127	-832.804155	-1.7
q10d	0.050079	0.066516	0.008097	-4001.303864	-4001.253786	15.8	-832.818781	-832.768702	20.6
q10e	0.047573	0.063043	0.006439	-4001.289504	-4001.241931	23.2	-832.810219	-832.762646	24.4
qTS 10a	0.043759	0.058523	0.003418	-4001.273138	-4001.229379	31.1	-832.793204	-832.749445	32.7
qTS 10b	0.043178	0.059008	0.001600	-4001.232571	-4001.189393	56.2	-832.749301	-832.706123	59.9
qTS 10c	0.044895	0.060649	0.003494	-4001.237357	-4001.192463	54.2	-832.749438	-832.704543	60.8
qTS 10d	0.043151	0.059355	0.001135	-4001.227822	-4001.184671	59.1	-832.736598	-832.693447	67.8
q11a	0.047150	0.062958	0.005900	-4001.312464	-4001.265314	8.5	-832.827194	-832.780044	13.5
q11b	0.046693	0.062598	0.005229	-4001.278667	-4001.231974	29.4	-832.788404	-832.741711	37.5
qTS 11a	0.043897	0.058692	0.003480	-4001.263303	-4001.219407	37.3	-832.787861	-832.743964	36.1
qTS 11b	0.043755	0.058854	0.003073	-4001.265659	-4001.221904	35.8	-832.782985	-832.739230	39.1
qTS 11c	0.043994	0.058991	0.003180	-4001.246779	-4001.202785	47.8	-832.761604	-832.717610	52.6
q12a	0.044516	0.060767	0.002571	-4001.303280	-4001.258764	12.6	-832.829575	-832.785059	10.3
q12b	0.044278	0.061070	0.000962	-4001.295727	-4001.251449	17.2	-832.812919	-832.768641	20.6
q12c	0.042470	0.060148	-0.004191	-4001.285102	-4001.242632	22.8	-832.798581	-832.756111	28.5

**Table A5.4.** Electronic energies, zero-point energies, thermal, Gibbs free energy corrections at 298K and enthalpies at 0K for  $H^+$ , and structures with removal of  $H^+$  from OH groups at the B3LYP/DZVP2 level for acidity calculation.

Structure	ZPE	Thermal Corrections at 298K	Gibbs Free Energy Correction at 298 K	Electronic Energies
d2 O <sub>ter1</sub> H	0.083189	0.095741	0.043402	-2154.617080
d4a O <sub>ter1</sub> H	0.025454	0.035369	-0.008902	-2075.979091
d4a O <sub>ter2</sub> H	0.026546	0.036174	-0.007911	-2075.983221
d4b O <sub>ter1</sub> H	0.027177	0.036370	-0.006100	-2075.978599
d4b O <sub>br1</sub> H	0.026546	0.036174	-0.007911	-2075.983221
d9a O <sub>ter1</sub> H	0.019128	0.027360	-0.013490	-2000.654924
t2 O <sub>br1</sub> H	0.092159	0.107856	0.047710	-3154.743418
t4a O <sub>ter1</sub> H	0.035738	0.048389	-0.002139	-3076.086651
t4a O <sub>br1</sub> H	0.035125	0.047839	-0.002756	-3076.107967
t4c O <sub>br1</sub> H	0.035738	0.048389	-0.002139	-3076.086651
t9 O <sub>br1</sub> H	0.028405	0.039448	-0.007475	-3000.778763
q2 O <sub>br1</sub> H	0.100130	0.119301	0.052333	-4154.807121
q4a O <sub>br1</sub> H	0.043924	0.060092	0.002103	-4076.158160
H <sup>+</sup>	0.000000	0.002360	-0.010000	0.000000

**Table A5.5.** Electronic energies, zero-point energies, thermal, Gibbs free energy corrections at 298K and enthalpies at 0K for structures with addition of  $H^+$  at the terminal or bridging oxygen sites at the B3LYP/DZVP2 level for proton affinity calculation.

Structure	ZPE	Thermal Corrections at 298K	Gibbs Free Energy Correction at 298 K	Electronic Energies
dcat O <sub>ter1</sub>	0.024631	0.033021	-0.008250	-2000.290891
dcat O <sub>br1</sub>	0.024212	0.032606	-0.008494	-2000.314599
tcat O <sub>ter1</sub>	0.033074	0.044490	-0.003697	-3000.397208
tcat O <sub>dibr12</sub>	0.033097	0.044970	-0.004973	-3000.342407
tcat O <sub>dibr23</sub>	0.033976	0.045251	-0.002639	-3000.382951
tcat O <sub>tribr</sub>	0.033100	0.044941	-0.005100	-3000.349727
qcat O <sub>ter1</sub>	0.040767	0.055731	0.000056	-4000.468514
qcat O <sub>dibr12</sub>	0.041674	0.056550	0.000856	-4000.447780
qcat O <sub>dibr14</sub>	0.040823	0.056235	-0.000850	-4000.415590
qcat O <sub>tetrabr</sub>	0.041929	0.056872	0.001875	-4000.471455
(WO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	0.041310	0.057500	-0.005751	-880.598260
(MoO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	0.041501	0.057485	-0.003808	-882.034529

<sup>a</sup> The cc-pVDZ-PP basis set was used for W and Mo.

**Table A5.6.** Electronic energies, zero-point energies, thermal, Gibbs free energy corrections at 298K and enthalpies at 0K for structures at the B3LYP/DZVP2 level for fluoride affinity calculation.

Structure	ZPE	Thermal Corrections at 298K	Gibbs Free Energy Correction at 298 K	Electronic Energies
Ti <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F <sup>-</sup>	0.015670	0.024676	-0.018358	-2100.039351
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> F <sup>-</sup> Ti <sub>1</sub>	0.024513	0.036550	-0.013022	-3100.160504
Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> F <sup>-</sup> Ti <sub>2</sub>	0.024029	0.036511	-0.014733	-3100.101290
Ti <sub>4</sub> O <sub>8</sub> F <sup>-</sup> Ti <sub>1</sub>	0.032420	0.047943	-0.008841	-4100.222398
Ti <sub>4</sub> O <sub>8</sub> F <sup>-</sup> Ti <sub>2</sub>	0.032466	0.048087	-0.009532	-4100.181904
(WO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	0.030890	0.046364	-0.014215	-880.304031
(WO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> F <sup>-a</sup>	0.032517	0.049441	-0.016248	-980.380386
(MoO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	0.031185	0.046413	-0.012248	-881.739204
(MoO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> F <sup>-a</sup>	0.032704	0.049450	-0.014800	-981.798261

<sup>a</sup> The cc-pVDZ-PP basis set was used for W and Mo.

**Table A5.7.** Fluoride affinity (FA)  $\Delta H_{0K}$  at the B3LYP/DZVP2 level.

Structure	FA
dcat terminal Ti <sub>1</sub> =O	116.1
tcat bridge Ti <sub>1</sub>	145.4
qcat bridge Ti <sub>1</sub>	134.6
tcat terminal Ti <sub>2</sub> =O	108.5
qcat terminal Ti <sub>2</sub> =O	109.1
(WO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	116.2 <sup>b</sup> (reference molecule)
(MoO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	105.4

<sup>a</sup> The cc-pVDZ-PP basis set was used for W and Mo. <sup>b</sup> Text Reference 21.

**Table A5.8.** Proton affinity (PA)  $\Delta H_{298K}$  of clusters at the B3LYP/DZVP2 level in kcal/mol.

Structure	PA
tcat O <sub>ter1</sub>	220.3
qcat O <sub>tetrabr</sub>	216.5
qcat O <sub>ter1</sub>	215.3
dcat O <sub>ter1</sub>	215.0
tcat O <sub>dibr23</sub>	210.9
qcat O <sub>dibr12</sub>	201.8
dcat O <sub>br1</sub>	199.9
tcat O <sub>tribr</sub>	190.2
tcat O <sub>dibr12</sub>	185.6
qcat O <sub>dibr14</sub>	181.8
(MoO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	179.9
(WO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	179.1

<sup>a</sup> The cc-pVDZ-PP basis set was used for W and Mo.

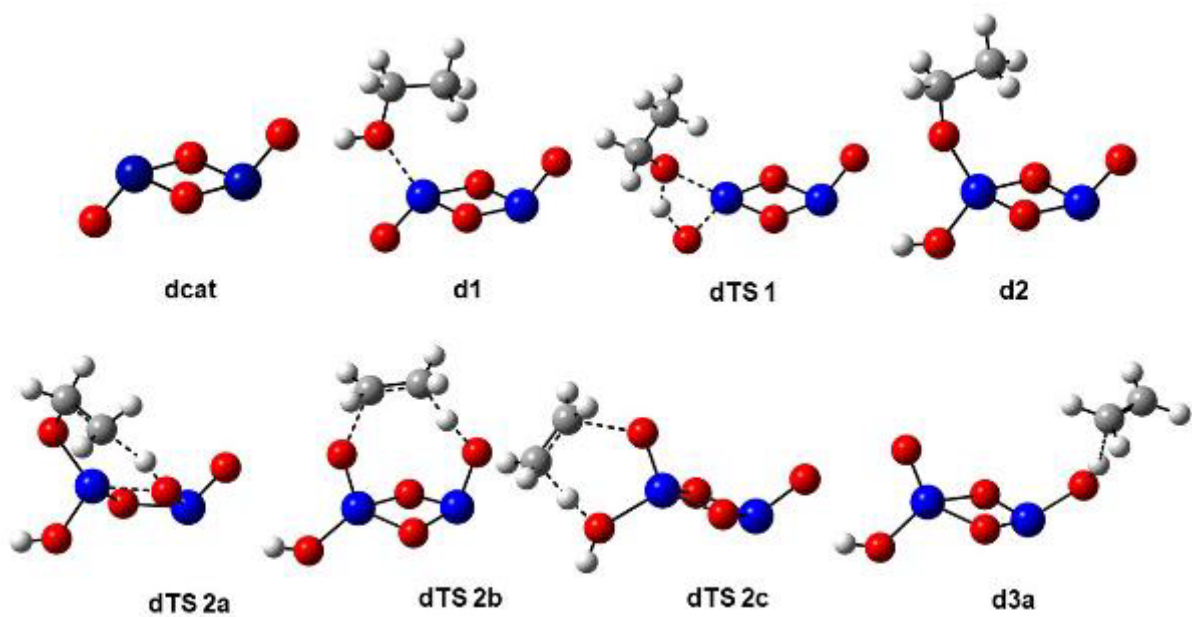
**Table A5.9.** Acidity of acidic clusters at the B3LYP/DZVP2 level at 298 K in kcal/mol.

Structure	Acidity $\Delta H_{298K}$	Acidity $\Delta G_{298K}$
Chemisorbed Complex		
d2 O <sub>ter1</sub> H	330.0	323.5
q2 O <sub>br1</sub> H	297.8	290.8
t2 O <sub>br1</sub> H	293.3	286.2
Structure with OH Groups in Dehydration		
d4a O <sub>ter1</sub> H	322.4	315.7
d4a O <sub>ter2</sub> H	320.3	313.8
t4a O <sub>ter1</sub> H	313.8	307.0
d4b O <sub>ter1</sub> H	313.0	306.9
d4b O <sub>br1</sub> H	310.0	302.9
q4a O <sub>br1</sub> H	300.9	293.8
t4a O <sub>br1</sub> H	300.1	293.3
t4c O <sub>br1</sub> H	296.0	289.3
Structure with OH Groups in Dehydrogenation		
d9a O <sub>ter1</sub> H	325.6	319.0
t9 O <sub>br1</sub> H	284.9	278.6

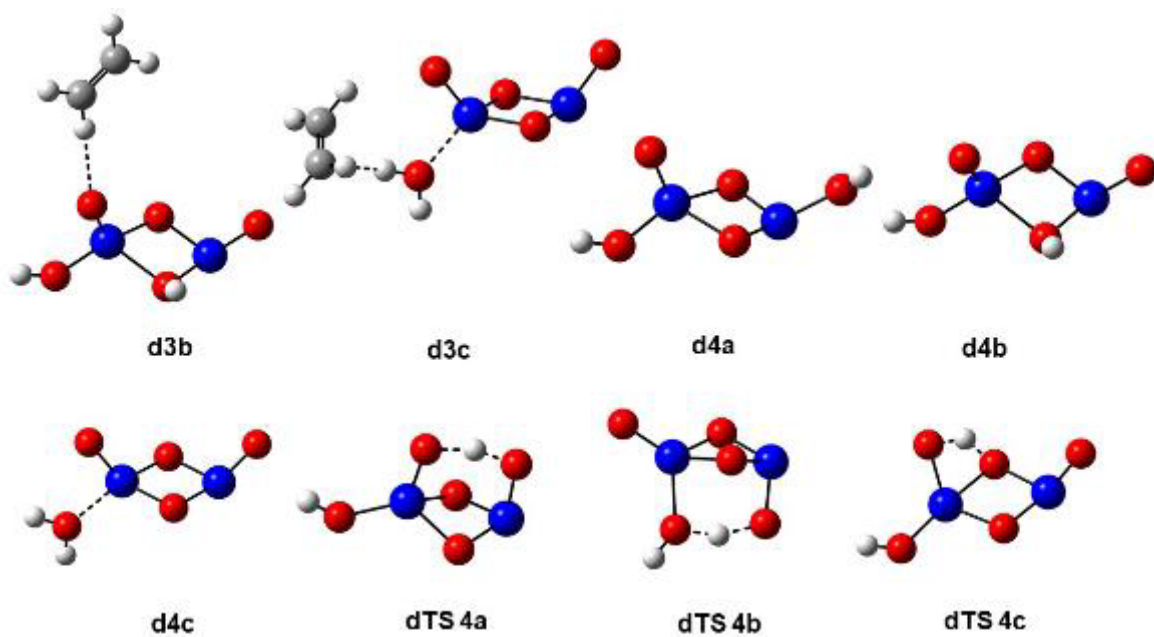
**Table A5.10.** Energy ( $\Delta H_{0K}$ ) in kcal/mol needed to remove one H<sub>2</sub>O from physisorbed (MO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O complexes, M = W and Mo.

Structure	$\Delta H_{0K}$
(WO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	11
(MoO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	16

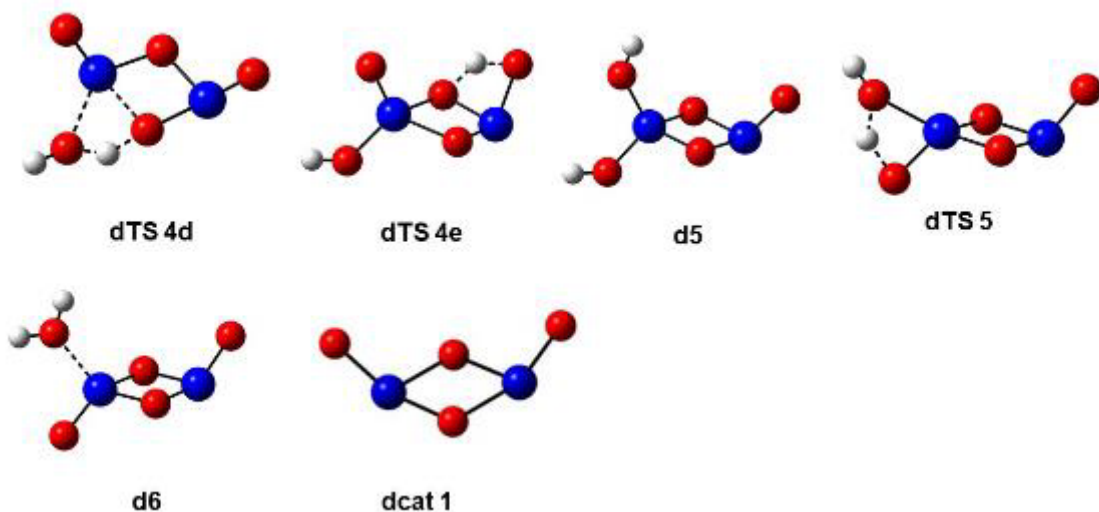
<sup>a</sup> Text Reference 2 and 4.



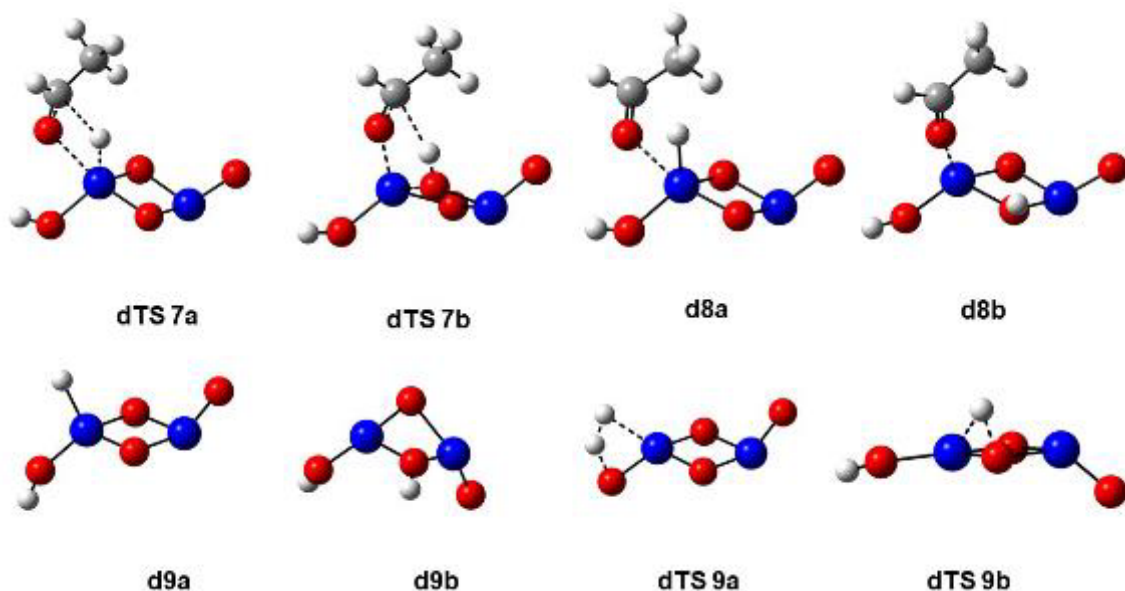
**Figure A5.1.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydration on  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4$  ( $\text{C}_{2h}$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level (continue).



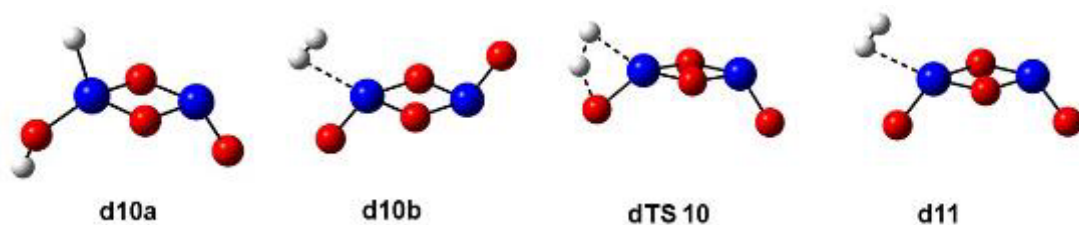
**Figure A5.2.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydration on  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4$  ( $\text{C}_{2h}$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level (continue).



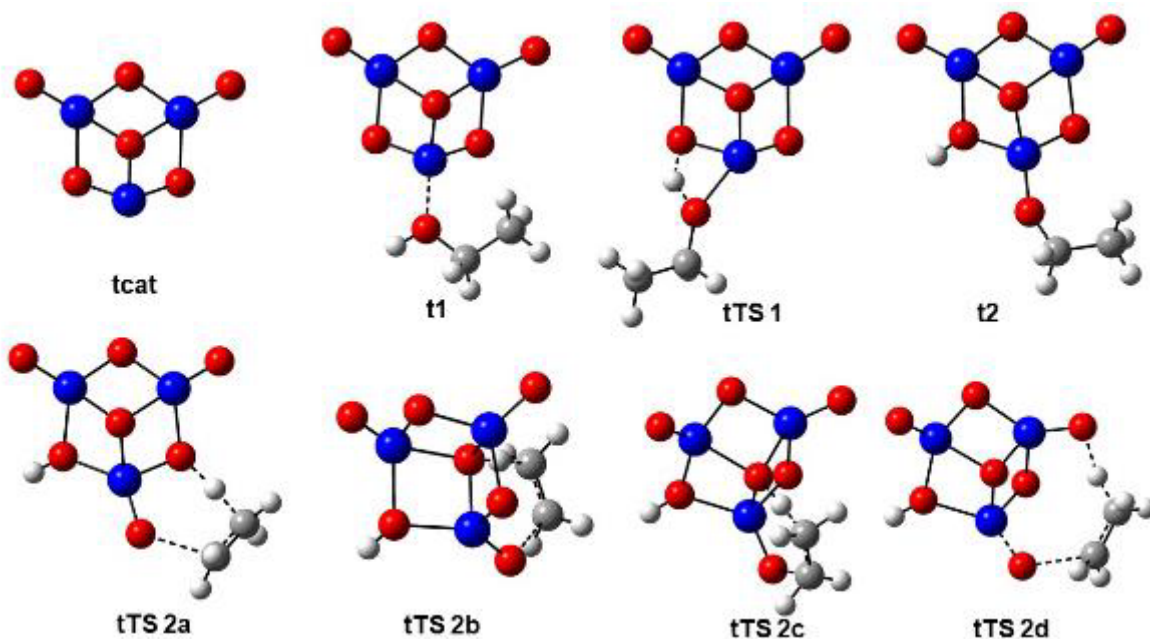
**Figure A5.3.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydration on  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4$  ( $\text{C}_{2h}$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level.



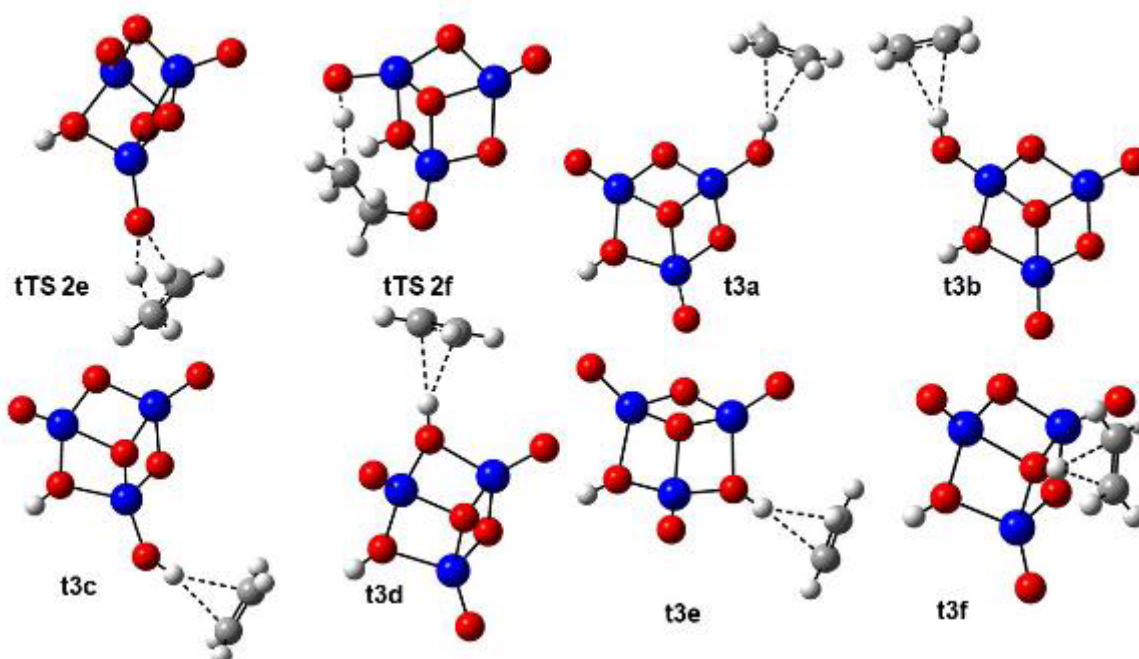
**Figure A5.4.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydrogenation on  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4$  ( $\text{C}_{2h}$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level (continue).



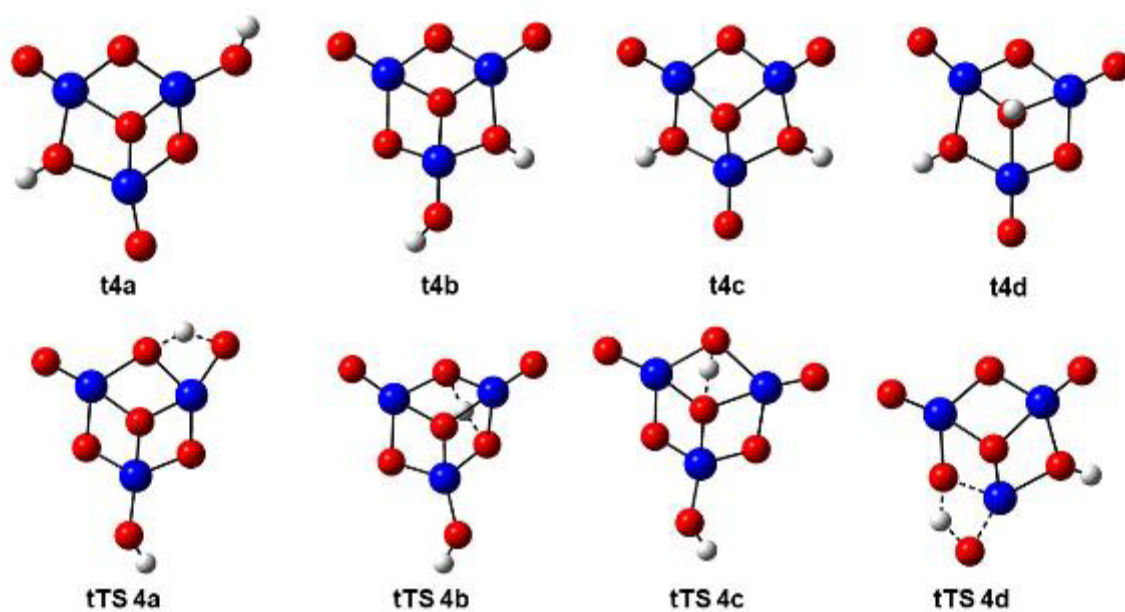
**Figure A5.5.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydrogenation on  $\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4$  ( $\text{C}_{2h}$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level.



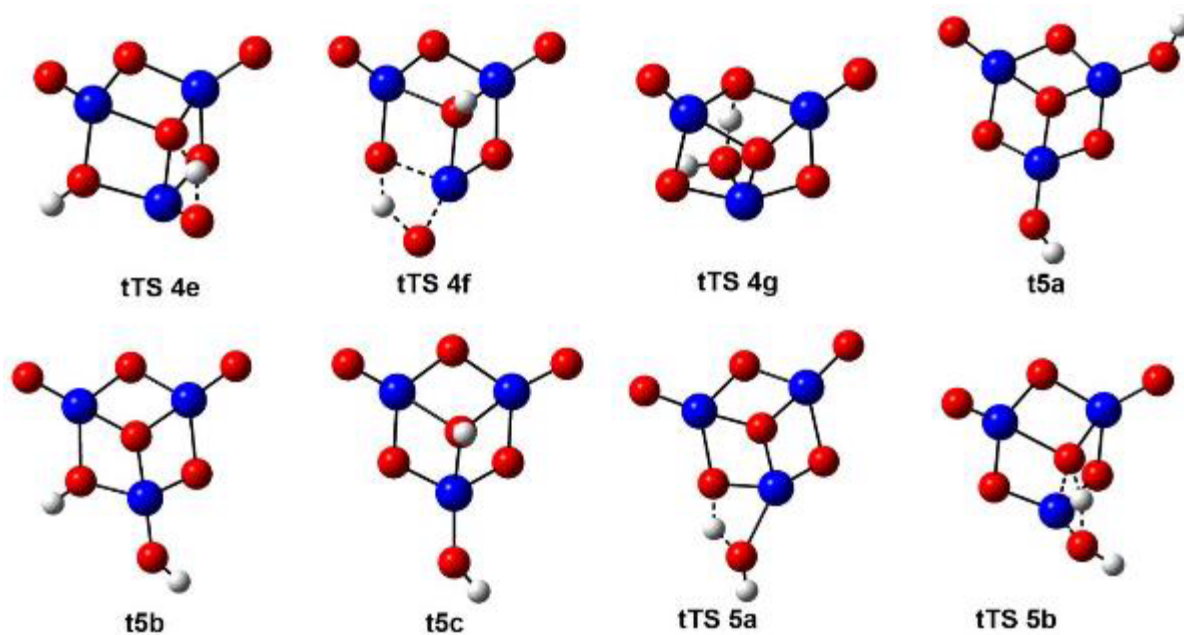
**Figure A5.6.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydration on  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6$  ( $C_s$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level (continue).



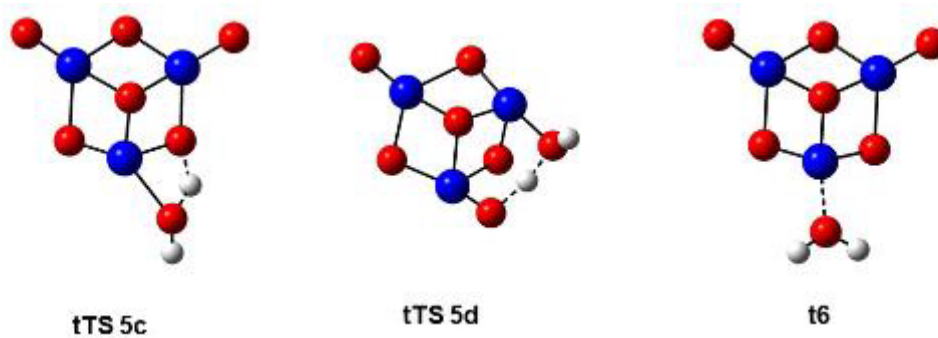
**Figure A5.7.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydration on  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6$  ( $C_s$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level (continue).



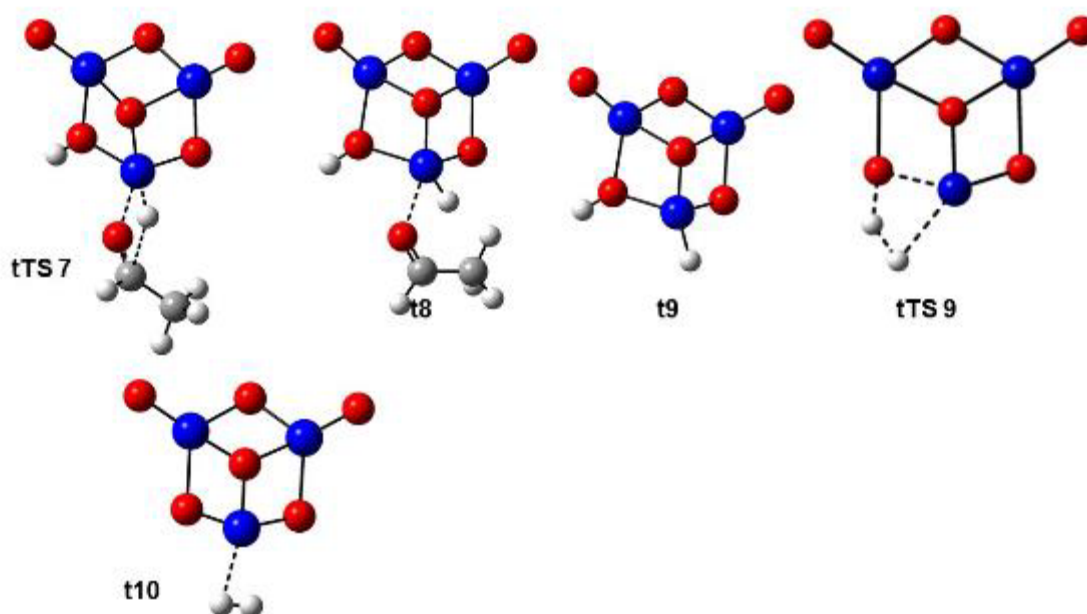
**Figure A5.8.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydration on  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6$  ( $C_s$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level (continue).



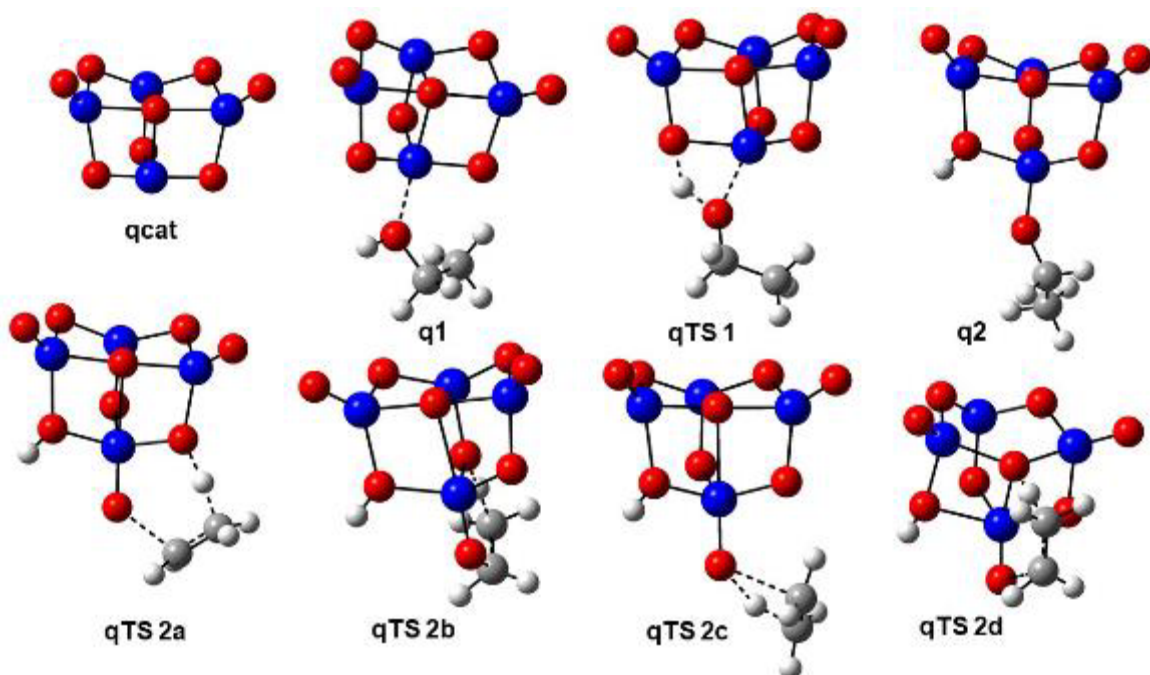
**Figure A5.9.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydration on  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6$  ( $C_s$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level (continue).



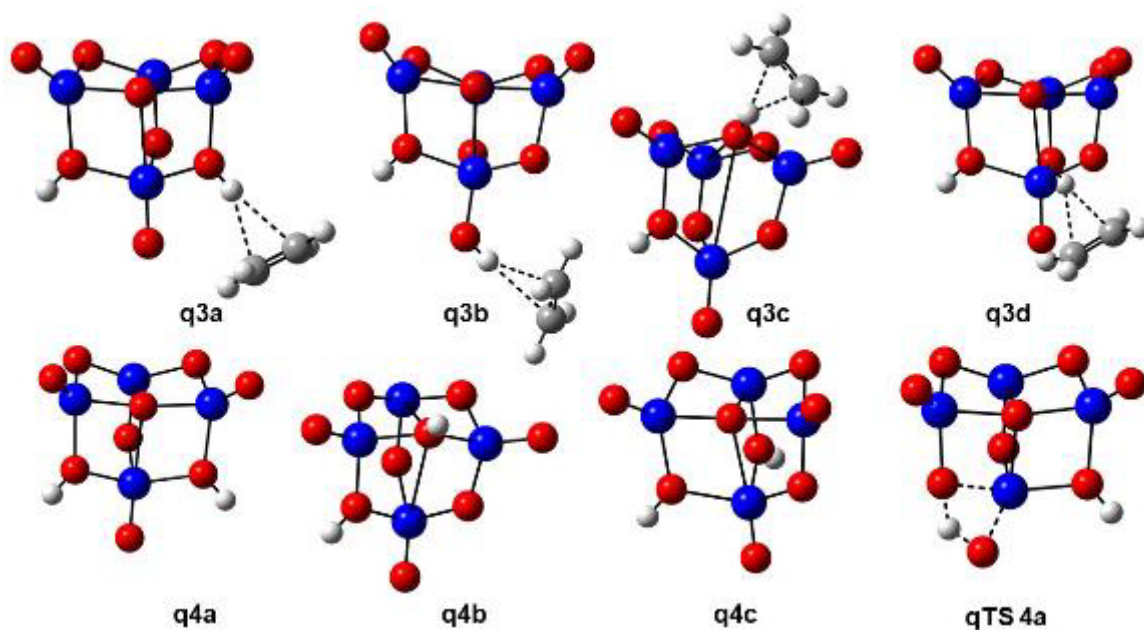
**Figure A5.10.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydration on  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6$  ( $C_s$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level.



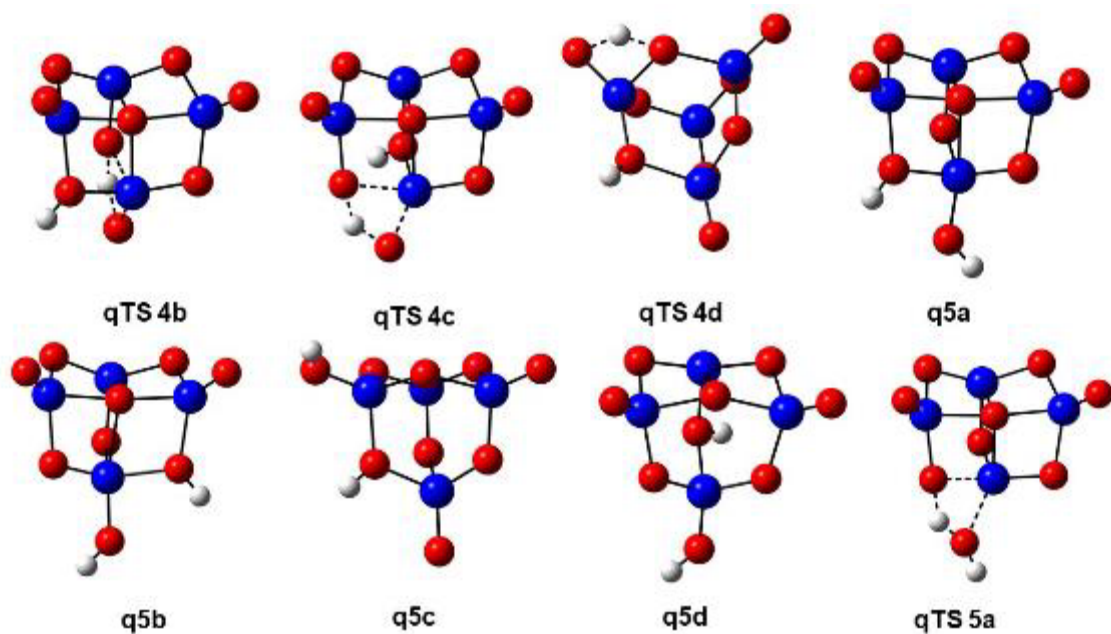
**Figure A5.11.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydrogenation on  $\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_6$  ( $C_s$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level.



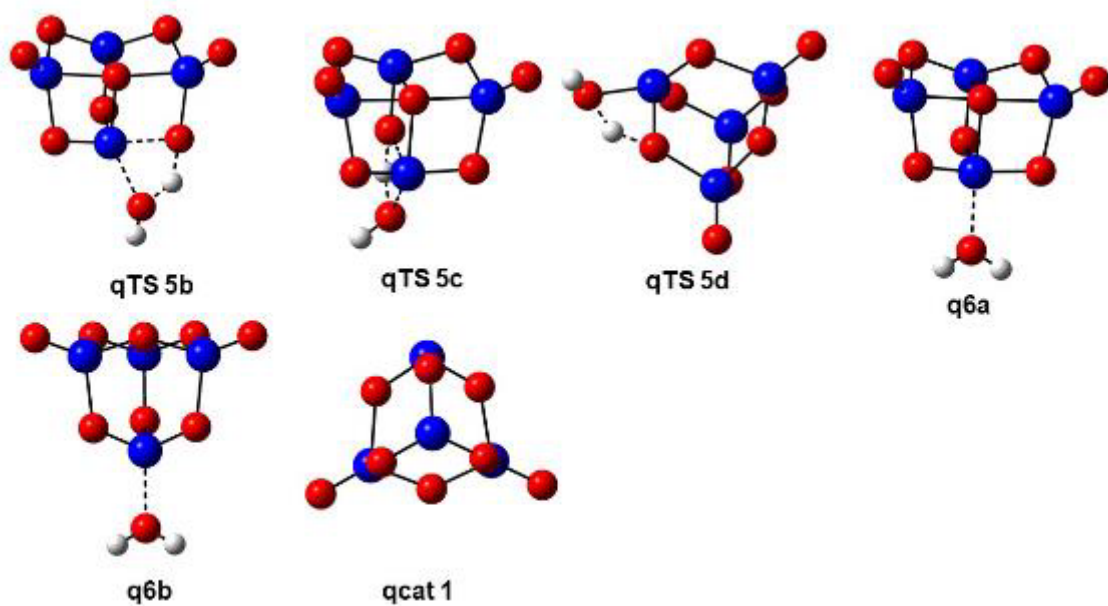
**Figure A5.12.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydration on  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  ( $C_{2v}$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level (continue).



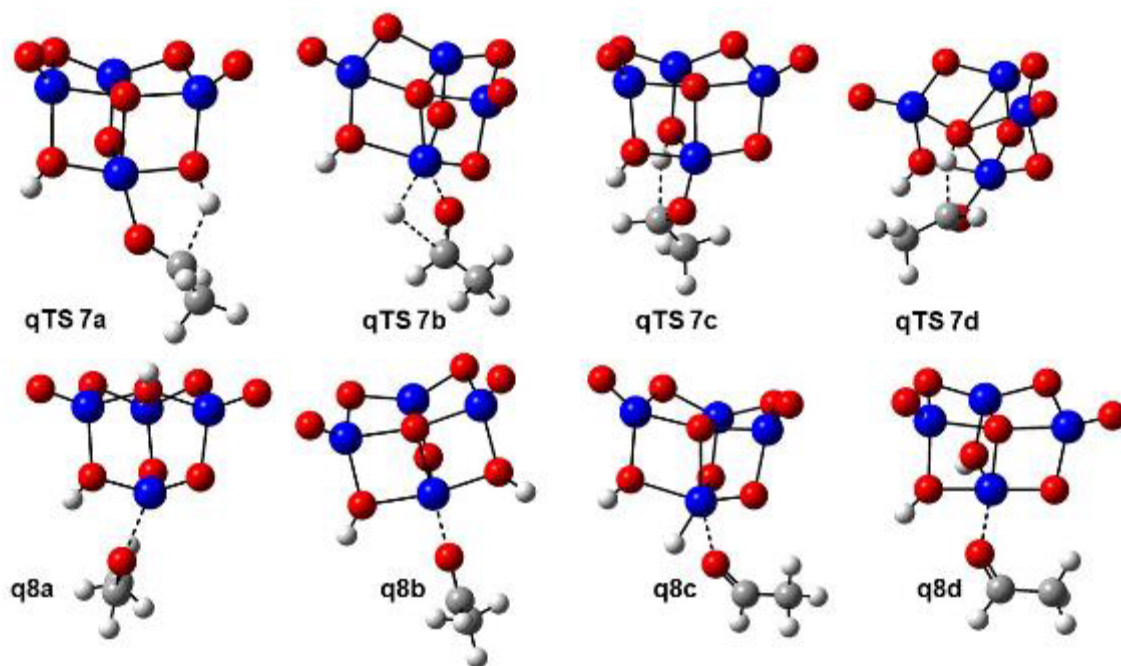
**Figure A5.13.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydration on  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  ( $C_{2v}$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level (continue).



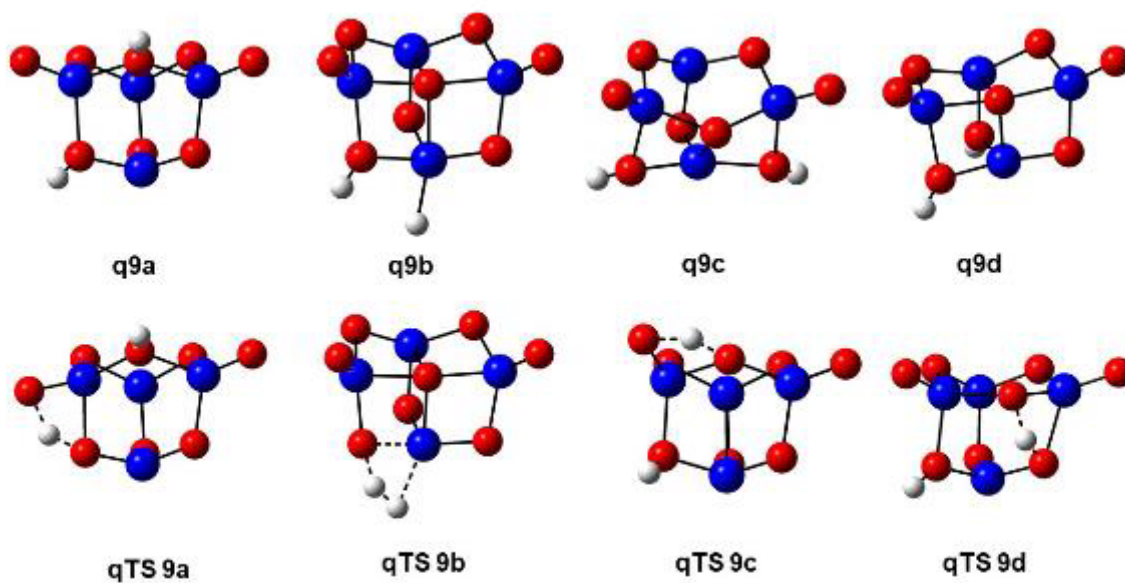
**Figure A5.14.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydration on  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  ( $C_{2v}$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level (continue).



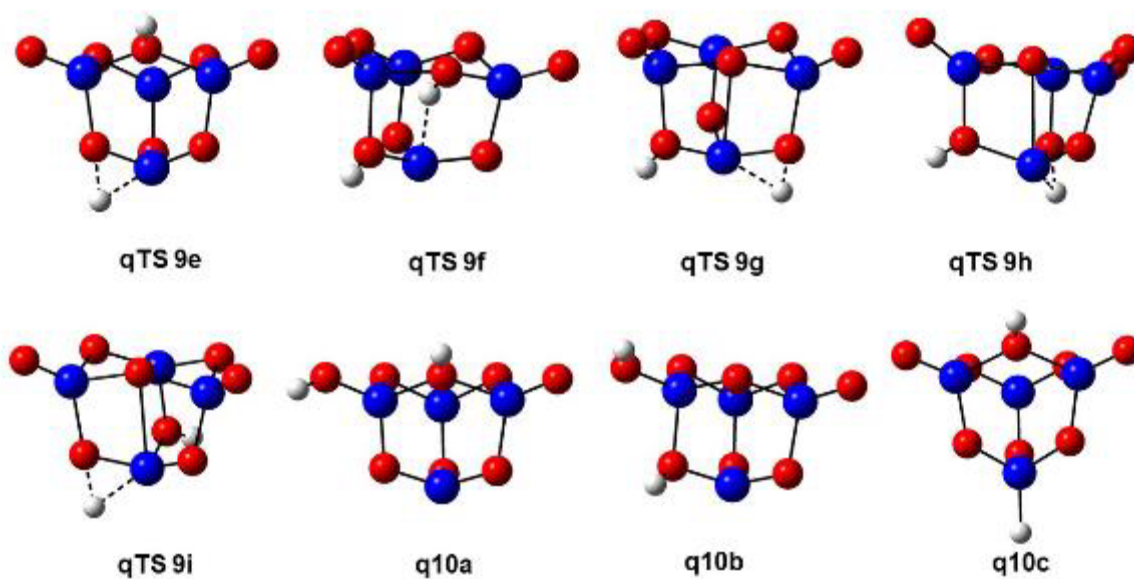
**Figure A5.15.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydration on  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  ( $C_{2v}$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level.



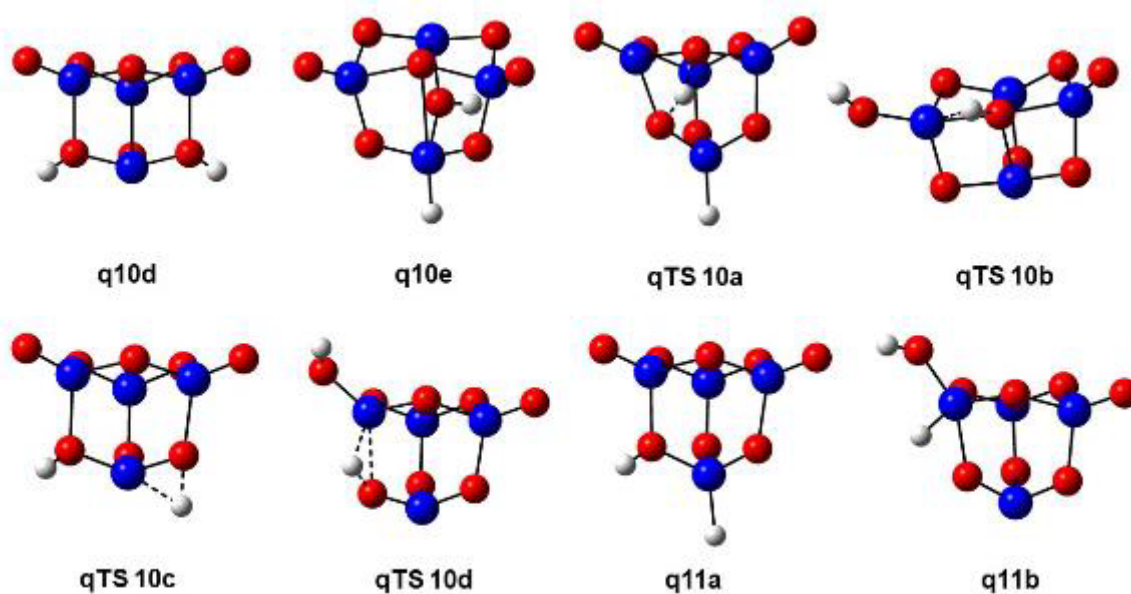
**Figure A5.16.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydrogenation on  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  ( $C_{2v}$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level (continue).



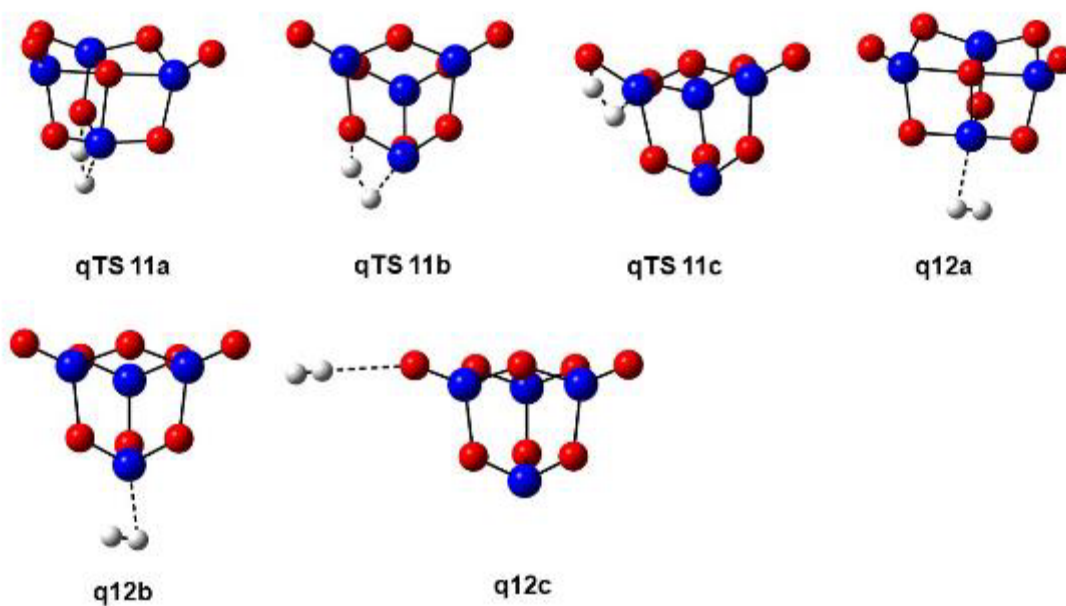
**Figure A5.17.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydrogenation on  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  ( $C_{2v}$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level (continue).



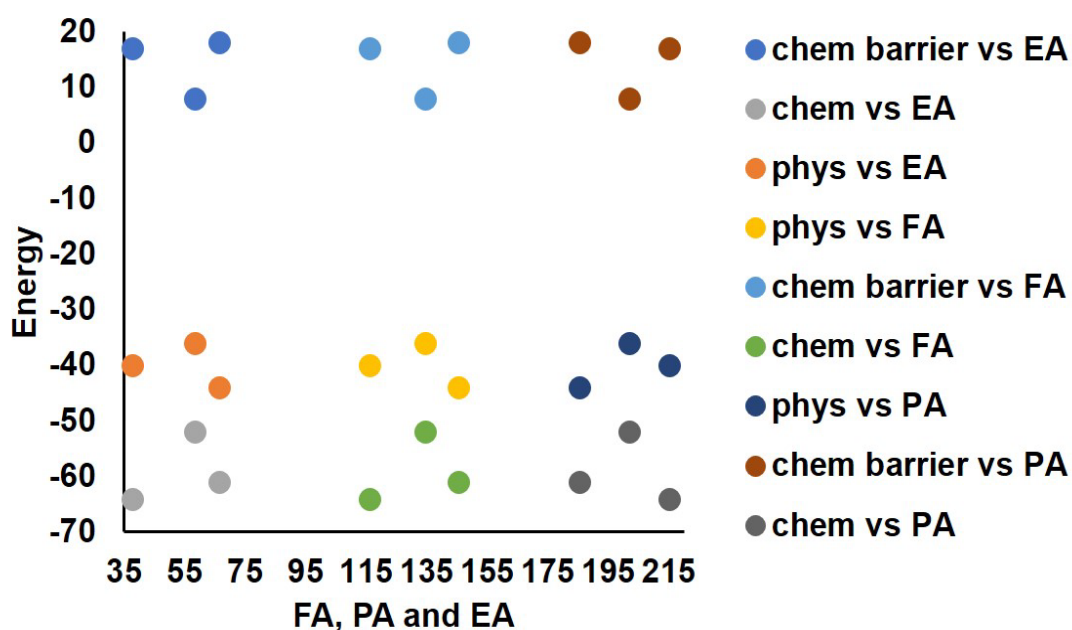
**Figure A5.18.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydrogenation on  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  ( $C_{2v}$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level (continue).



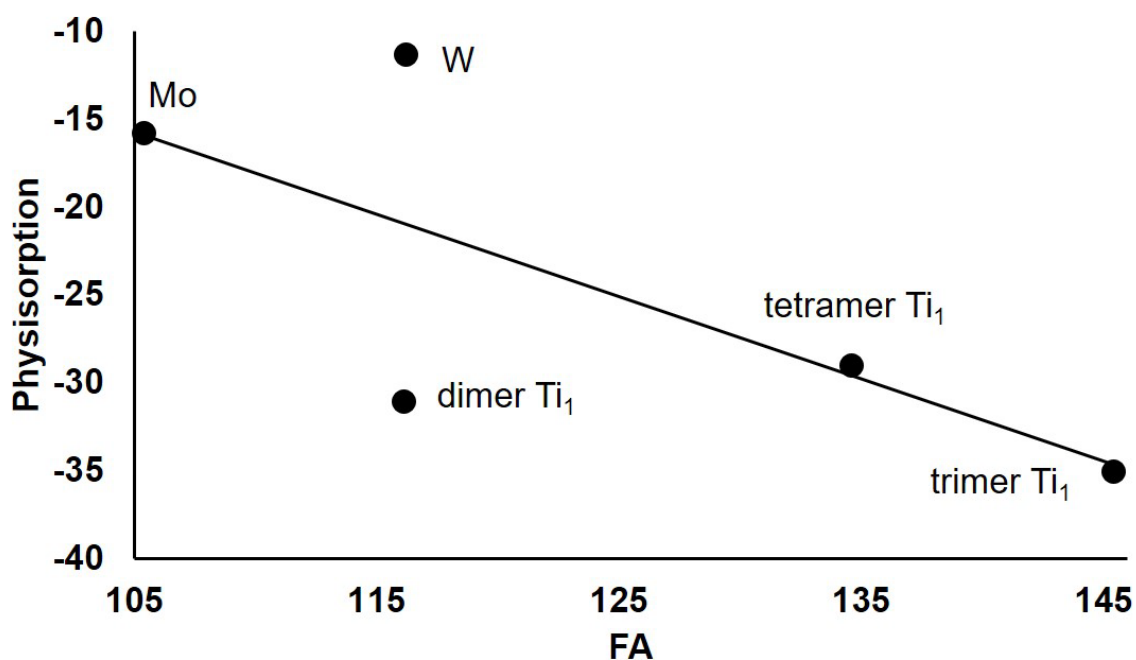
**Figure A5.19.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydrogenation on  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  ( $C_{2v}$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level (continue).



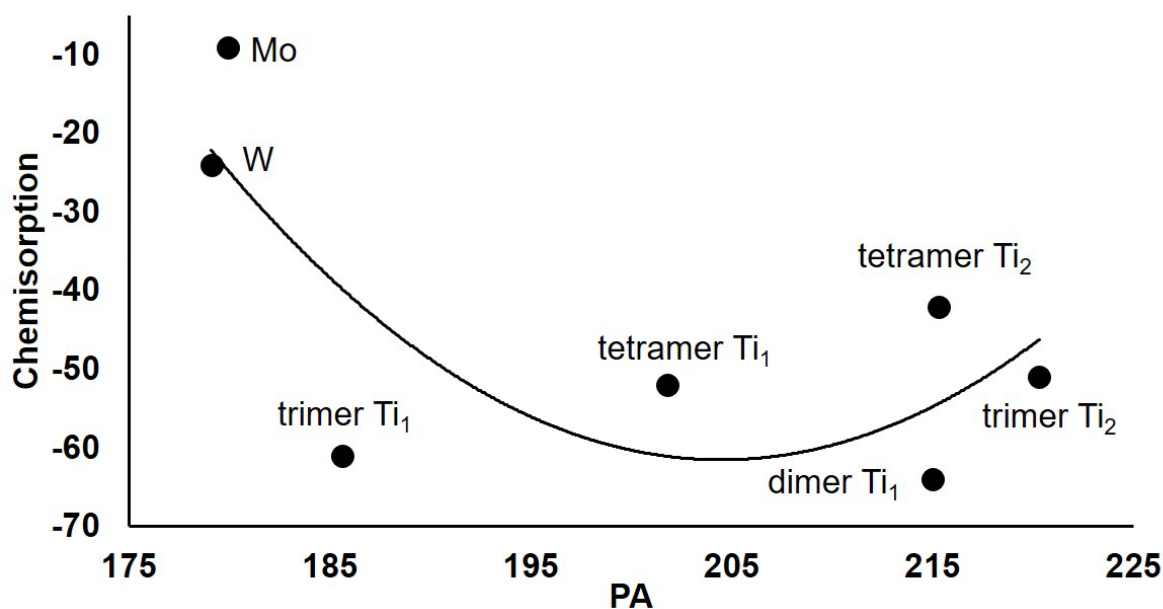
**Figure A5.20.** Structures in the pathways of ethanol dehydrogenation on  $\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_8$  ( $C_{2v}$ ) nanoclusters optimized at B3LYP/DZVP2 level.



**Figure A5.21.** Correlation between physisorption, chemisorption and chemisorption barrier versus FA, PA and EA in kcal/mol.



**Figure A5.22.** Correlation between physisorption of one H<sub>2</sub>O and FA in kcal/mol. The linear fit equation is  $y = -0.47x + 33.35$  ( $R^2 = 0.54$ ).



**Figure A5.23.** Correlation between chemisorption of one ethanol to metal sites and PA in kcal/mol. The quadratic fit equation is  $y = 0.06x^2 - 24.96x + 2490.20$  ( $R^2 = 0.57$ ).

## CHAPTER 6

### ELECTRONICALLY EXCITED COMPLEX FORMATION IN MAGNESIUM CLUSTER – HALOGEN ATOM REACTIONS

#### **Introduction**

Metal cluster oxidation reactions demonstrate an unusual and unexpected reactive branching that is not readily explained by the direct extension of the concepts associated with metal atom  $A + BC$  oxidative processes. However, cluster reactions, through a multicentered reaction capability, do extrapolate the  $A + BC$  reactive process by providing the means for pooling considerably more energy into a product molecule<sup>1,2</sup> thereby accessing higher energy internal electronic states in the products of these reactions. Kinetics, rather than thermodynamics, often determines the initial products of cluster reactions, which are not the thermodynamically most stable product in many instances. Cluster oxidation reactions often produce metal rich compounds containing metal-metal bonds. As such, the study of these reactions addresses bonding regions that bridge the gap between atomic and surface oxidation from the study of asymmetrical metal clustered oxides or halides. For example, the unique characteristics of metal cluster oxidation reactions permitted the analysis of previously undetected energy levels of  $\text{BiF}$ ,<sup>3</sup>  $\text{CrO}$ ,<sup>4</sup>  $\text{CrF}$ ,<sup>5</sup> and  $\text{NiF}$ .<sup>6</sup> Vibrationally resolved optical signatures for the metal cluster oxides of boron (metalloid),<sup>7,8</sup> copper,<sup>6</sup> silver,<sup>6,9</sup> and manganese<sup>6,10</sup> and the metal cluster halides of chromium,<sup>5</sup> silver, and copper were also obtained using this method.

The metal cluster oxidation reactions of the alkali trimers and halogen atoms are particularly intriguing. The sodium trimer + halogen atom reactive encounters signal a surprising chemistry.<sup>11,12,13,14</sup> The extremely high cross section  $\text{Na}_n$  ( $n = 2,3$ ) + X (X = Cl, Br, I) reactions create a continuous electronic population inversion by chemically pumping the sodium dimer  $\text{Na}_2$  formed during the reaction. Optical gain through stimulated emission has been associated with the population of select vibrational and rotational levels of the  $\text{Na}_2$  B  $^1\Pi_u - X$   $^1\Sigma_g^+$  band system. The  $\text{Na}_2$  amplifiers characterized in the visible region operate on bound-weakly bound transitions. It is easy to envision possible extrapolations on the  $\text{Na}_3 + X$  reaction concept to the alkaline earth metal trimers. These molecules might also react to form excited state dimers that can undergo subsequent bound-free excimer transitions.

The magnesium trimer + halogen atom reactions represent the closest analogs to the sodium trimer reactions. As expected for two closed shell atoms with  $(3s)^2$  outer electron configurations, the Mg dimer is a very weakly bonded van der Waals molecule.<sup>15,16</sup> Couple cluster CCSD(T) calculations<sup>17</sup> with a basis set including up to f functions predicted a  $\text{Mg}_2$ -Mg bond strength of 0.24 eV in  $\text{Mg}_3$ , lower than that of  $\text{Na}_3$ . This indicates that the  $\text{Mg}_3 + \text{F}$  atom reactions should be sufficiently exothermic to populate the  $\text{Mg}_2$  A state<sup>18</sup> and could represent the driving force for an  $\text{Mg}_2$  excimer based laser. We have explored the reactions of magnesium clusters, including  $\text{Mg}_2$  and  $\text{Mg}_3$ , formed in high metal flux agglomeration flows, with fluorine or chlorine atoms. The results reported herein show the formation of excited state  $\text{Mg}_x\text{F}$  and  $\text{Mg}_x\text{Cl}$  charge transfer complexes where x is most likely 2. In addition, we report high level electronic structure calculations using the Feller-Peterson-Dixon (FPD) approach<sup>19,20,21,22</sup> for key species to predict the thermodynamics of possible reactions involving these clusters.

## Experimental Methods

The dry ice cooled oven-based metal cluster source used in this investigation has been discussed in detail elsewhere.<sup>6,23</sup> Magnesium was evaporated from a specially machined graphite (Micro-mechanisms, Billerica, MA) crucible that was resistively heated using a tungsten basket heater (R. D. Mathis, Long Beach, CA). This assembly was wrapped in Zirconia Cloth (Zircar, Florida, NY) to provide thermal insulation. The magnesium was heated to temperatures ranging between 900 and 1250 K to give a maximum metal vapor pressure of ~250 Pa. The metal flux was entrained in an argon (HoloX 99.999%) or helium (99.999%) flow cooled to 196 K by passage through a dry ice/methanol slush bath.<sup>7</sup> The high metal flux forms the seed for agglomeration and further cooling enhances clustering while the metal flux travels to the reaction zone. This cooling is needed to form small alkaline earth metal clusters which are weakly bound.

Fluorine atoms were formed by passing a flow of either SF<sub>6</sub> or CF<sub>4</sub> through an electric discharge. The process with SF<sub>6</sub> was used previously to study the Bi<sub>2</sub> + F reaction.<sup>3</sup> The rupture of an S-F bond with a bond dissociation energy of 105 kcal/mol<sup>24</sup> to form F atoms is considerably more efficient than the discharge in CF<sub>4</sub> that requires the rupture of a 131 kcal/mole C-F bond.<sup>25</sup> The discharge was created by applying a voltage between 800 and 1400V to 2 copper electrodes separated by 1/4" within a 1/4" i.d. insulated glass tube. The SF<sub>6</sub> discharge technique is a well-established means of forming F atoms as shown by the fluorine atomic emission lines in the spectrum of the discharge. Chlorine atoms were produced from a similar discharge through CCl<sub>4</sub> with a lower C-Cl bond energy.<sup>25</sup> The effluents from the discharge intersected the magnesium metal flow in the chemical reaction zone producing a visible flame.

The discharge voltage and the SF<sub>6</sub>, CF<sub>4</sub> or CCl<sub>4</sub> flows were adjusted to produce a stable flame and maximize the production of the desired product.

The experiments were conducted under multiple collision conditions using total pressures (primarily argon or helium) ranging from 60 to 333 Pa as measured by a thermocouple gauge (Veeco) attached to the side of the reaction chamber. The system was evacuated by a Welch 1397B pump. A liquid nitrogen cooled glass trap was placed between the chamber and the vacuum pump to collect the condensable gases and prevent fouling of the pump oil.

The chemiluminescent emission was focused onto the entrance slit of a one meter scanning monochromator (Spex 1704) operated in first order with a Bausch and Lomb 1200 groove/mm grating blazed at 500nm. A cooled RCA 1P28 photomultiplier tube was used to detect the dispersed fluorescence at 1 nm resolution for the chemiluminescence spectra. The signal from the phototube was sent to a Keithley 485 auto-ranging fast picoammeter. The analog signal from the picoammeter was digitized using a computer, displayed in real time, and stored for further analysis.

The observed chemiluminescence served as a guide for subsequent laser induced fluorescence studies. The experimental configuration for studying both chemiluminescence and dispersed laser induced fluorescence (DLIF) is depicted schematically in Figure 6.1. For the DLIF experiments, the current from the photomultiplier monitoring the LIF was amplified by a 20-dB video amplifier (Comlinear CLC100) prior to being sent to a gated boxcar integrator (Stanford Research SR-250 with a gate width of ~ 100 ns). An A/D converter was used to transfer the data to a computer for storage and further analysis.

## Computational Methods

All structures were initially optimized at the DFT level using the B3LYP<sup>26,27</sup> hybrid exchange-correlation functional with the aug-cc-pVTZ basis set for F,<sup>28,29</sup> Cl, and Mg<sup>30</sup> using the Gaussian16 software package.<sup>31</sup> These calculations are denoted as aT.

The coupled cluster R/RCCSD(T) or R/UCCSD(T)<sup>32,33,34,35,36,37,38</sup> geometry optimizations were initiated from the DFT optimized geometries. The CCSD(T) calculation were performed using aug-cc-pwCVnZ basis sets for F,<sup>39</sup> Cl,<sup>40</sup> and Mg.<sup>30</sup> It is necessary to include the 2s and 2p electrons on the Mg in the effective valence space since they have energies comparable to the 2s orbital on the fluorine. The 1s electrons on the fluorine were not correlated. For consistency, the 2s and 2p electrons on the Cl were also correlated in these calculations. We denote these bases sets as awn (n = D, T, Q). For the diatomics, the geometries were optimized at the CCSD(T) level using aug-cc-pwCVnZ-DK basis sets with n = D, T, Q. These basis sets are denoted as awn-DK. Frequencies were calculated at the same levels of theory. For the polyatomics, the geometries were optimized with at least the aT basis set, and the frequencies were calculated at the optimized geometries. Pure polyatomic Mg clusters were optimized up to the awQ-DK basis set and the frequencies were calculated with at least the awT-DK basis set. All CCSD(T) calculations were performed using the MOLPRO 2018.1 program package.<sup>41,42,43</sup> The CCSD(T) energies were extrapolated to the complete basis set (CBS) limit by fitting them to a mixed Gaussian/exponential (Equation 1):<sup>44</sup>

$$E(n) = E_{\text{CBS}} + A \exp[-(n - 1)] + B \exp[-(n - 1)^2] \quad (1)$$

where  $n = 2, 3,$  and  $4$  (D, T and Q). The CCSD(T) energies for diatomics were extrapolated to the complete basis set (CBS) limit by fitting to Equation (2):<sup>45</sup>

$$E(n) = E_{\text{CBS}} + A \exp[-B \cdot n] \quad (2)$$

where  $n = 4$  and  $5$  (Q and 5).

The extrapolation to the complete basis set limit and additional small corrections were calculated following the FPD approach.<sup>19,20,21,22</sup> Total atomization energies (TAEs or  $\Sigma D_0$ ) at 0 K were calculated from Equation (3) with  $\Delta E$  referring to the difference between the molecule (reactant) and the atomic products for each energy component:

$$\Sigma D_0 = \Delta E_{\text{CBS}} + \Delta E_{\text{SR}} + \Delta E_{\text{ZPE}} + \Delta E_{\text{SO}} \quad (3)$$

Additional corrections to the CCSD(T)/CBS energy ( $\Delta E_{\text{CBS}}$ ) are necessary to reach chemical accuracy. Scalar relativistic corrections ( $\Delta E_{\text{SR}}$ ) (Equation (4)) were calculated at the second order Douglas-Kroll-Hess (DK)<sup>46,47,48</sup> level with the all-electron aug-cc-pwCVTZ-DK basis sets<sup>49</sup> (denoted as wCVTZ-DK):

$$\Delta E_{\text{SR}} = \Delta E_{\text{wCVTZ-DK}} + \Delta E_{\text{wCVTZ}} \quad (4)$$

The atomic spin-orbit corrections ( $\Delta E_{\text{SO}}$ ) for the heats of formation were taken from the experimental values with Mg = 0, F = -0.39 kcal/mol, and Cl = -0.84 kcal/mol.<sup>50</sup>

Heats of formation at 0 K were calculated from these TAEs and experimental heats of formation of the atoms at 0 K. The values for F and Cl used from the Active Thermochemical Tables (ATcT)<sup>51,52,53</sup> are  $18.47 \pm 0.01$  kcal/mol for F and  $28.59 \pm 0.00$  kcal/mol for Cl. The value for Mg is  $34.87 \pm 0.2$  kcal/mol and is taken from the JANAF Tables<sup>54</sup>. Heats of formation at 298 K were then calculated by following the Curtiss et al. procedure<sup>55</sup> using thermal corrections for the atoms of F = 1.05 kcal/mol, Mg = 1.19 kcal/mol, Cl = 1.10 kcal/mol.

## Results and Discussion

*Nature of the Observed Chemiluminescent Spectra* The reaction between a moderate flux of dry-ice cooled magnesium vapor and the fluorine atoms produced in an SF<sub>6</sub> discharge consistently

produced the spectrum depicted in Figure 6.2. Features corresponding to the  $3d^3D - 3p^3P$ , and  $4s^3S - 3p^3P - 3s^2\ ^1S$  magnesium atom transitions<sup>50</sup> and the  $A\ ^2\Pi - X\ ^2\Sigma^+$  system<sup>56</sup> of MgF are readily identified. In addition, the spectrum contains a progression of features between 390 and 490 nm. Several of these features show additional structure that may indicate a further short progression suggesting this emitter is a polyatomic molecule. As the magnesium flux is increased, the intensity of this system increases significantly relative to the intensity of the other features in the spectrum suggesting that this molecular emitter may contain more than one magnesium atom. The increasing intensity relative to the other emission features suggests this emitter results from fluorine atom oxidation of a small magnesium cluster since the number of clusters is expected to increase as the Mg vapor pressure increases.

The spectrum obtained from the reaction between dry ice cooled magnesium vapor and discharged  $CF_4$  is depicted in Figure 6.3. Although less intense than the spectrum obtained by using a similar metal flux and discharged  $SF_6$  as the source of fluorine atoms, the bands of the 390 to 490 nm system are easily identified. These results indicate that the observed band system is formed when fluorine atoms are present independent of the source of F atoms indicating this emitter contains only magnesium and fluorine

Using  $CCl_4$  to produce a significant chlorine atom concentration gave the spectrum depicted in Figure 6.4 with a large magnesium flux. The chlorine-based spectrum also extends from ~390 to 490 nm but the maximum intensity is considerably shifted to the red of the fluorine-based system and the emission features are not clearly resolved.

The spectrum of the 390 to 490 nm  $Mg_xF$  system at moderate resolution ( $5\text{\AA}$ ) obtained at the highest controlled magnesium fluxes employed in these experiments is shown in Figure 6.5.

The strongest features in the spectrum are shown in a Deslandres Table (Table 6.1) and fit to within their measured uncertainty by Equation (3).

$$\nu = 25766(10) - 516(10) \nu_1'' - 104(10) \nu_2'' \quad (3)$$

The intensity pattern for the 390 to 490 nm system indicates that both frequency separations correspond to ground state vibrational frequencies. The 516 cm<sup>-1</sup> frequency is reasonably assigned to an Mg-F stretching mode since the symmetric stretching frequency of MgF<sub>2</sub> is 552 cm<sup>-1</sup>.<sup>57,58,59,60,61</sup> Whereas the 104 cm<sup>-1</sup> separations might be assigned to a bending frequency, this separation is also consistent with the ground state stretching frequencies calculated for Mg<sub>3</sub> (see below). Hence, the 104 cm<sup>-1</sup> frequency could suggest that the emitting molecule contains at least two interacting Mg atoms.

Since there are at least two ground state frequencies associated with the 390 to 490 nm feature, the emitter producing the blue system is a polyatomic molecule. Whereas several possible magnesium-fluorine based species can be considered, the most likely emitter, consistent with the magnesium flux dependence, the fluorine atom dependence, and the calculated reaction exothermicities is Mg<sub>2</sub>F. Since the observed emission features result from the reaction of small magnesium clusters and correspond to a polyatomic emitter and the 104 cm<sup>-1</sup> separation is consistent with a molecule containing a Mg-Mg interaction, this further supports the assignment of the emitter to a magnesium cluster fluoride, Mg<sub>x</sub>F. The simplicity of the observed spectrum suggests that x = 2 or 3, and dynamical arguments favor the assignment of the molecule to x = 2, Mg<sub>2</sub>F.

Engelke<sup>62</sup> has reported that the reaction between magnesium atoms and F<sub>2</sub> produces a continuum chemiluminescent spectrum from 390 to 690 nm corresponding to MgF<sub>2</sub>. The spectrum of the “MgF<sub>2</sub>” continuum depicted in Figure 6.6 was obtained in the present study

under similar multiple collision conditions in the absence of a discharge and with no effort to cluster the magnesium. Although the  $\text{MgF}_2$  molecule bending mode is reported<sup>60</sup> as  $154\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and chemiluminescence from  $\text{MgF}_2$  might encompass some of the frequency separations shown in Figures 6.2 and 6.5, there are enough differences in the spectra shown in Figures 6.5 and 6.6, taken at similar total pressures, to indicate that they do not correspond to the same emitter. Since the lowest electronic transitions for  $\text{MgF}_2$  are calculated<sup>63,64,65</sup> to be from a highly bent excited state to a linear or nearly linear ground state, long progressions in the bending mode are expected. The continuum in Figure 6.6 is consistent with a long unresolved progression in the  $\text{MgF}_2$  bending mode obtained under moderate multiple collision conditions. The features in Figure 6.6 are thus inconsistent with the spectrum shown in Figure 6.5 as they display only short progressions in a  $104\text{ cm}^{-1}$  vibration. The  $154\text{ cm}^{-1}$  bending frequency predicted for  $\text{MgF}_2$  is also larger than the  $104\text{ cm}^{-1}$  frequency observed for the blue system. Further, the symmetric stretch frequency reported<sup>66</sup> for  $\text{MgF}_2$  ( $550\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) is significantly larger than the  $516\text{ cm}^{-1}$  frequency associated with the blue system assigned as  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$ .

*Dispersed Laser Induced Fluorescence (DLIF)* Using the observed 390 to 490 nm chemiluminescence as a guide, we performed several DLIF studies to further investigate the excited state of  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$ . The results of this study are summarized in Table 6.2 and outlined in Figure 6.7 and in the SI (Figure A6.1). The spectra are dominated by symmetric stretching modes of the ground and pumped excited electronic state and show some low frequency coupling with bending or Mg-Mg interaction modes in both states. These mode couplings ( $\sim 100\text{ cm}^{-1}$  ground state and  $\sim 70\text{ cm}^{-1}$  excited state) appear intermittent.

*Computational Results: Geometries and Relative Energies for Mg<sub>n</sub>F<sub>m</sub>* Correlated molecular orbital calculations were performed to assess the structures of various Mg<sub>n</sub>F<sub>m</sub> species and to predict their vibrational spectra and reaction energetics.

We first describe the energetics and structures of the reactant Mg clusters. The results from the highest level calculations are reported in Table 6.3 with results for the smaller basis sets given in the Supporting Information. The behavior of these small clusters has been discussed in detail before,<sup>67,68</sup> and we focus in the current work on the structures and energetics. The results for Mg<sub>2-4</sub> are consistent with rare gas matrix Raman spectroscopic measurements given the effect of the matrix.<sup>69</sup> The diatomic curve for Mg<sub>2</sub> was calculated with a basis set superposition (BSSE) correction as were the energetics of the Mg<sub>2-4</sub> clusters. The total atomization energies were obtained at the FPD level. The T<sub>1</sub> diagnostics<sup>70</sup> for the Mg clusters are all near 0.01 suggesting that there is not significant multireference character; the T<sub>1</sub> values are not strongly dependent on the cluster size (see Supporting Information).

The dimer has a calculated bond length of 3.99 Å, consistent with a van der Waals dimer arising from the closed shell (σ<sub>3s</sub>)<sup>2</sup>(σ<sub>3s</sub><sup>\*</sup>)<sup>2</sup> configuration. The calculated value is slightly longer than the bond distance of 3.893 Å calculated from very high level CCSD(T) calculations with a full configuration interaction correction.<sup>71</sup> The latter value is in excellent agreement with the experimental value of 3.89309 Å.<sup>72,73,74</sup> The calculated vibrational frequency agrees with the experimental vibrational frequency, 47.8 cm<sup>-1</sup>, for the v = 0 to v = 1 transition to within 3 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Two dissociation energies from the minimum have been reported as 431.4 cm<sup>-1</sup> (1.23 kcal/mol)<sup>71</sup> and 430.472 cm<sup>-1</sup> (1.23 kcal/mol).<sup>72,73,74</sup> Mg<sub>2</sub> has a heat of formation approximately equal to that of two Mg atoms with a weak van der Waals binding energy of ~ 1 kcal/mol. This value is consistent with the reported heat of formation of 68.7 kcal/mol at 0 K.<sup>54</sup>

The predicted structure of Mg<sub>3</sub> is D<sub>3h</sub> with a Mg-Mg bond distance of 3.35 Å. For the trimer, the linear structure is predicted to be 3.8 kcal/mol above the minimum D<sub>3h</sub> structure. At 0 K, Mg<sub>3</sub> is bound by 5.4 kcal/mol with respect to 3 Mg atoms showing that the addition of Mg to Mg<sub>2</sub> moderately increases the stabilization of the trimer. The normalized clustering energy is 1.9 kcal/mol/Mg. Previous calculations at the CCSD/7631 level give a bond distance of 3.67 Å and a binding energy of 2.1 kcal/mol, while those done at the MRCI level with the same basis set produced a bond distance of 3.37 Å and a binding energy of 6.3 kcal/mol.<sup>75</sup> A CCSD(T)/7631 level calculation<sup>17</sup> predicted a value of 5.3 kcal/mol for the atomization energy. Only the 3s orbitals were correlated in those prior calculations.

The Mg<sub>4</sub> tetramer has T<sub>d</sub> symmetry with a Mg-Mg bond distance of 3.07 Å. The addition of Mg to Mg<sub>3</sub> is exothermic by -17.4 kcal/mol. This increases the stability of Mg<sub>4</sub> with respect to Mg<sub>3</sub> but the normalized clustering energy for Mg<sub>4</sub> is still only 5.9 kcal/mol/Mg. Previous calculations of Mg<sub>4</sub> at the CCSD/652 level give a bond distance of 3.23 Å.<sup>17</sup> The binding energies found were 13.6 kcal/mol at the CCSD/7631 level and 16.2 kcal/mol at the MRCI/531 level. The CCSD(T)/7631 level gave the atomization energy as 22.5 kcal/mol.<sup>17</sup> The calculated values for the harmonic frequencies at the CCSD(T)/7631 level<sup>17</sup> are in good agreement with the current values obtained for both Mg<sub>3</sub> and Mg<sub>4</sub>. The TAE for Mg<sub>4</sub> is consistent with a CCSD(T) value of 24.6 ± 1.6 kcal/mol calculated using a similar approach.<sup>76</sup> It has been noted that the bonding in Mg<sub>4</sub> is due to correlation effects.<sup>67</sup>

The three structures investigated for Mg<sub>2</sub>F are shown in Figure 6.8 and their relative energies are summarized in Table 6.4. At the FPD level, the most stable structure for Mg<sub>2</sub>F is the C<sub>2v</sub> structure with a linear Mg-Mg-F (C<sub>∞v</sub>) structure 6.8 kcal/mol higher in energy. Since neither has imaginary frequencies, both are minima. The linear Mg-F-Mg (D<sub>∞h</sub>) structure is 6.4 kcal/mol

higher in energy (Table 6.4) but it has an imaginary bending frequency indicating it is a transition state for inversion converting the  $C_{2v}$  structure.

The Mg-F bond distance in the ground state  $C_{2v}$   $Mg_2F$  structure is predicted to be 1.906 Å (Figure 6.8) at the awCVTZ level. For comparison, the Mg-F bond distance in  $MgF_2$  ( $^1\Sigma_g^+$ ,  $D_{\infty h}$ ) is 1.742 Å and for  $MgF$  ( $^2\Sigma^+$ ) is 1.755 Å at this level. Thus, the Mg-F bond length in  $Mg_2F$  increases by  $\sim 0.15$  Å. The  $\angle Mg-F-Mg$  is  $98.6^\circ$  giving an Mg-Mg distance 0.13 Å shorter than the  $Mg_2^+$  bond length determined at this computational level. The positive charge and spin are located evenly on the Mg atoms and the best description for the ground state is an ionic species,  $Mg_2^+F^-$ . (Table 6.5). The calculated bond lengths for the  $C_{\infty v}$  structure of  $Mg_2F$  are similar to the bond lengths in  $MgF$  and  $Mg_2^+$  with the latter being 0.07 Å longer in the diatomic ion. The charges show that the Mg adjacent to the F has a large positive charge with more spin (0.55) than the terminal Mg (0.40). There is a small spin polarization on the F. Since the  $F^-$  can circumnavigate the  $Mg_2^+$  core with an energy less than 10 kcal/mol, the cluster has potential fluxional character. The transition state for inversion has a Mg-F bond distance slightly shorter than that in the  $C_{2v}$  structure. The electronic properties of the linear structure do not really change with the positive charge and the spin split between the two terminal Mg atoms. The  $T_1$  diagnostics for the  $Mg_xF$  are given in the Supporting Information and are again modest, on the order of 0.01 to 0.02 for  $x = 2$  and  $< 0.025$  for  $x = 3$ . These values are consistent with little if any multireference character in these clusters.

Reaction between F atoms and  $Mg_x$  ( $x \geq 4$ ) could produce  $Mg_3F$ . Possible  $Mg_3F$  structures are shown in Figure 6.9. The most stable structure has the F atom added to the edge of the triangle giving structure  $Mg_3F$  **a** with  $C_{2v}$  symmetry in a  $^2A_1$  state (see Figure 6.9). The Mg-F bond distance is essentially the same as that in  $C_{2v}$   $Mg_2F$ . The unique Mg-Mg distance is 0.12 Å

longer than that in  $C_{2v}$   $Mg_2F$ . The two long Mg-Mg distances deviate little from that in the bare trimer. Structure **b** is higher in energy by 6.2 kcal/mol and has no imaginary frequencies. The remaining structures of  $Mg_3F$  have imaginary frequencies indicating they are transition structures. The lowest energy state of  $Mg_3F$  can again be described as an  $F^-$  interacting with  $Mg_3^+$  with the spin on the  $Mg_3^+$  approximately equally shared by the Mg atoms.

Another possibility for the emitter is the MgF dimer,  $Mg_2F_2$ , in  $D_{2h}$  symmetry. However, the fact that  $F_2$  is not present under the experimental conditions for producing the chemiluminescent spectra in Figures 6.2 through 6.5 and that dimerization of 2 MgF molecules does not produce sufficient energy to excite the observed emission (see next section), means that this species is not the emitter. The results for  $Mg_2F_2$  are presented in the SI.

*Computational Results: Energetics for  $Mg_nF_m$ .* The heats of formation for the relevant magnesium-fluorine based systems are given in Table 6.6. On the basis of prior work on small Mg compounds<sup>61</sup> and the results given above, we estimate that the error bars on the heats of formation are  $\pm 1$  kcal/mol. The heats of formation were used to predict the energies for reacting F atoms with the clusters as given in Table 6.7. The error bars on the reaction energies due to errors in the heats of formation are also on the order of  $\pm 1$  kcal/mol.

The reaction between F atoms and  $Mg_3$  to form  $Mg_2F$  is sufficiently exothermic to produce the observed chemiluminescence as is the reaction to produce MgF with the release of 2 Mg atoms. The reactions of F atoms with  $Mg_4$  to produce either  $Mg_3F$ ,  $Mg_2F$  or MgF are also substantially exothermic. It is useful to compare the bond dissociation energies (BDEs) for the loss of an F atom from Mg clusters. The BDE for loss of an F atom at 0 K increases from 105.8 kcal/mol for  $MgF$ <sup>61</sup> to 121.1 kcal/mol for  $Mg_2F$ . There is only a small increase in the BDE for removing an F atom from  $Mg_3F$ . One can also predict the loss of Mg from  $Mg_xF$ . For  $Mg_2F$ , the

loss of Mg requires 16.4 kcal/mol at 0 K whereas for Mg<sub>3</sub>F, the loss of a Mg atom requires only 6.5 kcal/mol.

*Computational Results: Vibrations for Mg<sub>n</sub>F<sub>m</sub>* The calculated vibrations (Table 6.8) for Mg<sub>2</sub>F do not agree as well with the experimental values observed in the chemiluminescence experiments as expected from the good agreement found for Mg<sub>x</sub> and MgF. The calculated symmetric stretch of 470 cm<sup>-1</sup> is 46 cm<sup>-1</sup> lower than the value of 516 cm<sup>-1</sup> observed experimentally and the calculated bend at 172 cm<sup>-1</sup> is significantly larger than the experimental value of 104 cm<sup>-1</sup>. However, the symmetric stretch and the bend are of the same symmetry type, so they will be coupled, especially in a ring like system. In addition, we have not included the effects of fluxional behavior. We note that the bend frequency decreases to 72 cm<sup>-1</sup> in linear Mg-Mg-F and the Mg-F stretch increases to 708 cm<sup>-1</sup> showing significant changes as the fluorine atom moves. An increase in the stretch corresponds to a decrease in the bend. This suggests the likelihood of some fluxional character when Mg<sub>2</sub>F is formed during a highly exothermic reaction. The stretching frequency of [Mg<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> is significantly higher than the lowest frequency mode in C<sub>2v</sub> Mg<sub>2</sub>F which suggests that this mode in Mg<sub>2</sub>F is predominantly associated with the Mg-F-Mg bend. The stretching frequencies for ground state Mg<sub>3</sub>F are clearly not consistent with the observed transition although there are lower frequency modes at 117 and 96 cm<sup>-1</sup> that are similar to the observed features at 104 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Thus, it is most reasonable to assign the emitter as Mg<sub>2</sub>F (C<sub>2v</sub>) which possesses some fluxional character.

*Computational Results: TD-DFT for Mg<sub>n</sub>F<sub>m</sub>* Time-dependent DFT (TD-DFT) calculations<sup>77,78,79</sup> were performed with the TPSS,<sup>80</sup> CAM-B3LYP,<sup>81</sup> and B3LYP functionals with the results for the TPSS functional given in Table 6.9 and with the other functionals in the Supporting Information. We discuss the results with the TPSS functional and note that the other functionals

give essentially the same results although the ordering of some of the LUMOs may change. The predicted transitions for  $\text{Mg}_2^+\text{F}^-$  with reasonable intensities in the spectral region of interest are from the singly occupied  $\text{Mg}_2^+$  3s  $\sigma^*$  antibonding orbital and the doubly occupied  $\text{Mg}_2^+$  3s  $\sigma$  bonding orbital of the  $\text{Mg}_2^+$  fragment to unoccupied orbitals on the  $\text{Mg}_2^+$ . We seek to identify transitions predicted to occur in the region of the observed chemiluminescence that also satisfy the observations made in dispersed laser induced fluorescence. Specifically, we observe a decrease in the ground state symmetric stretching mode from  $\sim 516$  to  $\sim 370$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . This suggests that a viable assignment must be associated with a decrease in bonding character corresponding to a change from bonding to antibonding or nonbonding character in transition. We thus seek transitions falling in the correct wavelength range, consistent with the observed decrease in frequency (bond strength).

The SOMO  $\rightarrow$  LUMO transition for  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  is predicted to lie too far to the red to account for the observed chemiluminescence. The LUMO is derived from the in-plane 3p  $\sigma$  bonding orbital on the  $\text{Mg}_2^+$  which is the LUMO of the bare diatomic cation. The LUMO+1 is the bonding out-of-plane 3p  $\pi$  orbital on the  $\text{Mg}_2^+$ , and the LUMO + 2 is the antibonding out-of-plane 3p  $\pi$  orbital on the  $\text{Mg}_2^+$ . The LUMO+3 is an anti-bonding Mg-F orbital derived from the remaining 3p  $\pi$  orbital on the  $\text{Mg}_2^+$  mixing with the 3p  $\sigma$  orbital. Thus, low lying transitions in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  are predominantly due to transitions on the  $\text{Mg}_2^+$  with some distortion of the orbitals caused by  $\text{F}^-$ . The best assignment for the observed chemiluminescence (Figure 6.5) and dispersed laser induced fluorescence (Figures 6.7 and A6.1) based on the TD-DFT calculations is the SOMO  $\rightarrow$  LUMO + 3 transition at 3.53 eV (352 nm) which is of symmetry  ${}^2\text{B}_2 \rightarrow {}^2\text{B}_2$ . We note that there is a predicted high intensity transition in  $\text{Mg}_2^+$  at 3.64 eV (341.1 nm,  $f = 0.88$ ) that is composed of the  $\text{Mg}_2^+$  DOMO1 (3s  $\sigma$  bonding) to the SOMO (3s  $\sigma^*$  antibonding orbital) and

SOMO to LUMO (3p  $\sigma$  bonding orbital). This predicted transition is very close to the predicted transition for  $\text{Mg}_2^+\text{F}^-$  at 352 nm. In addition, it is useful to note that there are many predicted absorptions that are essentially forbidden with zero or very low intensities in  $\text{Mg}_2^+\text{F}^-$  and  $\text{Mg}_2^+$ .

*Computational Results:  $\text{Mg}_n\text{Cl}_m$*  We also calculated the properties of the corresponding  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$  molecule. The results for  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$  are given in Figure 6.8 and Tables 6.5 to 6.8 and 6.10. The linear  $\text{MgMgCl}$  structure is calculated to be 3.6 kcal/mol lower in energy than the  $\text{C}_{2v}$   $\text{MgClMg}$  structure indicating it is the ground state. The  $\text{D}_{\infty h}$   $\text{MgClMg}$  structure is much higher in energy. The Mg-Mg bond distance in the ground state linear structure is comparable to that in the corresponding  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  structure. The  $\text{C}_{2v}$  structure has a smaller bond angle and a shorter Mg-Mg bond distance than in  $\text{C}_{2v}$   $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$ . The frequencies for  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$  are lower than the corresponding ones in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  consistent with the larger masses for the chloride and the weaker bond energies. In addition, there will be even more fluxional character affecting the vibrations in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$  as well as a change in geometry. The small difference in energy between the two isomers may account, at least in part, for the more densely packed  $\text{Mg}_x\text{Cl}$  emission feature (Figure 6.4). The molecular charges are similar to those in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  although with less ionic character in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$ .

The first intense transition predicted by TD-DFT for  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$  is at 3.40 eV (364 nm) and is the SOMO  $\rightarrow$  LUMO+2 transition ( $^2\Sigma^+ \rightarrow ^2\Sigma^+$ ). The SOMO is the Mg-Mg 3s+3s  $\sigma^*$  bond and the LUMO+2 is another  $\sigma^*$  bond composed of 3p orbitals. Note that the experimental chemiluminescence spectrum associated with  $\text{Mg}_x\text{Cl}$  is shifted to the red of that associated with  $\text{Mg}_x\text{F}$  (Figure 6.5). This is consistent with the shift from the transition at 3.53 eV in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  to 3.40 eV in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$ .

*Mechanistic Considerations* Several sources could account for the magnesium atom emission features observed in Figures 6.2 to 6.6. Energy transfer collisions by magnesium atoms with

highly vibrationally excited MgF could result in direct energy transfer pumping of Mg\* <sup>3</sup>P atoms as well as subsequent energy transfer pooling reactions where the relatively long-lived <sup>3</sup>P state energy is transfer pumped to the Mg\* <sup>3</sup>S and <sup>3</sup>D states in a second collision with MgF. We have also observed significant magnesium atom excitation producing the <sup>3</sup>S and <sup>3</sup>P states in the absence of a fluorine atom donor in experiments that used argon as a discharge constituent. The <sup>3</sup>S – <sup>3</sup>P and <sup>3</sup>D – <sup>3</sup>P emissions were pumped by energy transfer from metastable argon to magnesium vapor. Introducing SF<sub>6</sub> into the discharge quenched this process by decreasing the amount of metastable Ar produced. Nevertheless, the results reported in Figures 6.2 to 6.5 were obtained by using a helium discharge exclusively, leading to minimal Mg\* formation due to metastable energy transfer from the discharge.

Kowalski and Menzinger<sup>82</sup> reported that the reaction between metastable Mg (<sup>3</sup>P) and SF<sub>6</sub> will excite weak chemiluminescence from the A state of MgF. Since Mg (<sup>3</sup>P) atoms are available, the MgF emission observed with the SF<sub>6</sub> based discharge configuration could result, at least in part, from this reaction. We observe that the magnesium <sup>3</sup>P – <sup>1</sup>S emission feature diminishes as the MgF A-X feature grows into the spectrum. Both the MgF and magnesium atom emission features are also quenched relative to the blue (Mg<sub>x</sub>F) system at higher magnesium fluxes (Figure 6.5) indicating they are produced from different chemical reactions.

There is evidence that highly exothermic magnesium dimer reaction (5)



will produce the emission from the MgF A state. The monitored behavior of the MgF emission (Figures 6.2 and 6.3) when both CF<sub>4</sub> and SF<sub>6</sub> are used to provide the F atoms and the growth of the MgF emission with increasing magnesium concentration in the reaction zone is consistent with some contribution to this emission from the dimer reaction.

The chemiluminescence from the Mg<sub>2</sub>F emitter increases more rapidly as a function of metal atom concentration than does the MgF emission. The MgF signal is expected to increase at a rate which is roughly second order in the magnesium atom concentration (Reactions (6) and (7)) if the Mg dimer is involved.



where M is an atom or molecule that is present in the system. Other second order sources for MgF emission involving an excited state of Mg. are given by reactions (8) and (9).



This result suggests that the Mg<sub>2</sub>F formation rate is at least second order (and possibly higher) in the magnesium atom concentration. This observed behavior suggests the manifestation of a metal cluster oxidation process since reaction with Mg<sub>3</sub> could be a third order process in the magnesium atom concentration, reaction (10).



The calculated magnesium atom ionization energy (IE) of 7.639 eV at the CCSD(T)/CBS limit and 7.648 eV at the CCSD(T)/CBS-DK limit agree well with the experimental value of  $7.646236 \pm 0.000004$  eV.<sup>83</sup> The FPD calculated IE for Mg<sub>2</sub> is 6.39 eV. The CCSD(T)/CBS adiabatic IE for Mg<sub>3</sub> is 5.87 eV (the vertical IE is 6.47 eV) and is accompanied by a large change in geometry as Mg<sub>3</sub> is a D<sub>3h</sub> triangle and Mg<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> is linear with  $r(\text{Mg}-\text{Mg}) = 3.047$  Å at the CCSD(T)/awQ-DK level. Based upon an anticipated electron jump reaction, we might envision either a metal dimer or metal trimer – fluorine atom reaction to produce the observed 390-490 nm emission system. The increase in stability associated with the clustered alkaline earth metals,

$M_x$  ( $x \geq 3$ ) versus the corresponding van der Waal's dimers suggests, in conjunction with the observed metal flux dependence, that a readily ionized magnesium trimer interacts with a fluorine atom to form the ionic  $Mg_2F$  complex. The dimer + halogen reaction might produce the complex through a collisionally stabilized (helium) three body radiative association. However, this process should lead to a much more significant internal excitation than we observe in the present study.<sup>84</sup> If we assume a trimer-fluorine atom reaction, reaction (11),



the exiting magnesium atom obviates the need for collisional stabilization of a complex.

Reaction (11) is facilitated by a weak interaction of one of the magnesium atoms in the  $Mg_3$ -F atom collision complex that removes excess energy as it leaves the reaction zone, facilitating collisional deactivation of upper state vibrational levels. These factors also lead us to believe that the trimer reaction forms the  $Mg_2F$  complex. The ready formation and subsequent reaction of small magnesium clusters in the present experiments, employing a dry ice cooled agglomeration flow, is consistent with observations in other laboratories. In fact, Martin et al.<sup>85</sup> have used the inert gas condensation technique to produce large magnesium clusters,  $Mg_n$ ,  $n \geq 10$ .

The metal dependence, the low IE for  $Mg_3$ , and the electron affinity of the fluorine atom suggests that the trimer reaction occurs by an electron jump-harpoon mechanism.<sup>86</sup> The actual electron jump is predicted to occur at 6.0 Å using the above IE for  $Mg_3$  and the electron affinity of 3.40 eV for F.<sup>51</sup> The resulting electron transfer produces the excited, strongly bound,  $Mg_3^+F^-$  complex that then relaxes through the loss of a magnesium atom (Reaction 12). Note that the



electron jump will lead to a dramatic change in the  $Mg_3$  fragment from highly bent to linear, enhancing the loss of the Mg atom. The increased stability of the  $Mg_3^+$  as well as  $Mg_2^+$  ions relative to their neutral counterpart certainly can also contribute to the maintenance of a metal-metal bond during this reactive collision.

## Conclusions

A near ultraviolet transition of  $Mg_2F$  has been observed in emission following the reaction of magnesium clusters (most likely  $Mg_3$ ) with fluorine atoms. As observed in previous studies,<sup>7,8,9</sup> the upper state internal excitation appears to be quenched to the lowest excited state vibrational levels based on the observed chemiluminescence. The results obtained from dispersed laser induced fluorescence experiments indicated excitation of four vibrational levels with an excited state symmetric frequency on the order of  $370 \pm 30 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The strongest bands in the spectrum emanate from the lowest of these upper state levels to various vibrationally excited state levels in the ground state. Two (of possibly three) vibrational frequencies,  $\nu_1 = 516 \pm 10 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $\nu_2 = 104 \pm 10 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  have been established experimentally. The third frequency,  $\nu_3$ , is estimated to be  $\sim 394 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .  $Mg_2F$  is highly fluxional so there is substantial coupling between the symmetric stretch and the bend. Like the  $MgF$  A-X transition, the observed transition in  $Mg_2F$  is largely localized on orbitals on the magnesium dimer ion.

High level electronic structure calculations at the CCSD(T) level predict that ground state  $Mg_2F$  is of  $C_{2v}$  symmetry but is fluxional and can reasonably be modeled as an  $Mg_2^+F^-$  ion pair.  $Mg_2F$  is likely formed by the reaction of  $Mg_3 + F$ . The BDEs for loss of F from the small Mg clusters are large, from 100 to 125 kcal/mol. TD-DFT calculations predict that there are many possible transitions, most of which are silent. These transitions are primarily localized on the  $Mg_2^+$  moiety and involve transitions from the bonding 3s  $\sigma$  orbital and the half-filled antibonding

3s  $\sigma^*$  orbital to the empty 3p orbitals on the  $\text{Mg}_2^+$  fragment. The observed transition is assigned to the eighth excitation, a  ${}^2\text{B}_2 \rightarrow {}^2\text{B}_2$  transition in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  based on TD-DFT calculations which predict an intense transition at 352 nm. The observed transition near 350 nm in  $\text{Mg}_2^+\text{F}^-$  is very similar to the first predicted large intensity transition in  $\text{Mg}_2^+$ .

## Tables

**Table 6.1.** Observed Bands ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) and Assignments for  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  Presented in a Deslandres Format.<sup>a</sup>

Assignment	$1^\circ_x$	$1^\circ_x 2^\circ_1$	$1^\circ_x 2^\circ_2$	$1^\circ_x 2^\circ_3$
$x\downarrow$ 0	25766 (528)			
1	25238 (508)			
2	24730 (121) (538)	24609 (514)		
3	24192 (97) (516)	24095 (524)		
4	23676 (105)	23571 (103) (523)	23468 (525)	
5		23048 (105) (506)	22943 (508)	
6		22542 (107)	22435 (107) (523)	22328
7			21912 (100) (505)	21812
8			21407 (91)	21316

<sup>a</sup> The 1 corresponds to  $\nu_1$  denoting a stretching mode and the 2 corresponds to  $\nu_2$  denoting a bending mode or Mg-Mg interaction.

**Table 6.2.** Mg<sub>x=2</sub>F Transition Combinations and Appropriate Wavelengths in nm.<sup>a</sup>

	$n' = 0$	$n' = 1$	$n' = 2$	$n' = 3$	$n' = 4$
$n'' - 3$	366.0	(361.2-361.4)	(356.8)	(352.6)	(348.8)
$n'' - 2$	373.0	368.3	363.8	(358.6)	354.5
$n'' - 1$	380.4	376.0	370.7	365.5	361.4
$n''$	388.0 <sup>b</sup>	383.0	378.0	373.2	368.3
$n'' + 1$	396.2 <sup>b,c</sup>	391.0	385.0	380.5	375.9
$n'' + 2$	404.2 <sup>b,c</sup>	(399.0)	394.0	388.2-388.5	383.3
$n'' + 3$	413.2 <sup>b,c</sup>	(407.4)	(402.2)	396.1	391.0
$n'' + 4$	422.2 <sup>b,c</sup>				
$n'' + 5$	433.7 <sup>b,c</sup>				
$n'' + 6$	443.5 <sup>b,c</sup>				
$n'' + 7$	456.2 <sup>b,d</sup>				
$n'' + 8$	467.0 <sup>b,d</sup>				

<sup>a</sup> Table 6.2 is an extension of Table 6.1 and correlates with Figures 6.6 and 6.7 and with the spectra in the SI. The Table now includes assignments of excited state values obtained from DLIF experiments (Figures 6.7 and A6.1) which are fit to  $\nu = 25766 + 370(30)\nu'_1 (w_e x_e = 5 \text{ cm}^{-1}) - 516 \nu''_1 - 104 \nu''_2 (\text{cm}^{-1})$ .

<sup>b</sup> Chemiluminescent emission.

<sup>c</sup> Plus one quantum in ground state bend /Mg-Mg stretch.

<sup>d</sup> Plus two quanta in ground state bend/Mg-Mg stretch.

**Table 6.3.** Calculated  $r(\text{Mg-Mg})$ , Frequencies, and Total Atomization Energies<sup>a</sup> for  $\text{Mg}_{2-4}$  at the CCSD(T) level.

Molecule	symmetry	Basis set	$r$ (Å)	$\omega_e$ ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	TAE <sub>electronic</sub> (kcal/mol)	TAE(0 K) kcal/mol
$\text{Mg}_2$	$D_{\infty h}$	aw5-DK	3.985	45.4 <sup>b</sup>	1.1	1.0
$\text{Mg}_2^+$	$D_{\infty h}$	aw5-DK	3.014	214.5 <sup>c</sup>	30.4 <sup>d</sup>	30.0 <sup>d</sup>
$\text{Mg}_3$	$D_{3h}$	awQ-DK	3.350	111.9 $E'$ 105.8 $A_1'$	6.2	5.7
$\text{Mg}_3$	$D_{\infty h}$	awQ-DK	3.840	69.9 $\Sigma_u^+$ 35.7 $\Sigma_g^+$ 6.8i $\Pi_u$	2.4	2.2
$\text{Mg}_4$	$T_d$	awT-DK	3.064	194.8 $A_1$ 148.7 $E$ 173.8 $T_2$	25.1	23.6

<sup>a</sup> CCSD(T)/CBS values. TAE(0K) includes ZPE corrections. <sup>b</sup>  $\omega_e\chi_e = 1.7\text{cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>c</sup>  $\omega_e\chi_e = 1.1\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

<sup>d</sup>  $\text{Mg}^{2+} \rightarrow \text{Mg} + \text{Mg}^+$ .

**Table 6.4.** Conformer Relative Energies (kcal/mol) for Mg<sub>2</sub>F and Mg<sub>3</sub>F at the CCSD(T)/CBS level.

Molecule	symmetry	state	$\Delta E$	imaginary $\omega$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
Mg <sub>2</sub> F	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	0.0	0
Mg <sub>2</sub> F	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	6.4	54.6i π
Mg <sub>2</sub> F	C <sub>∞v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	6.8	0
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>a</b>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	0.0	0
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>a</b> <sup>a</sup>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	5.5	51.2i, 21.0i
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>b</b>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	6.2	0
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>c</b> <sup>a</sup>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	6.5	48.8i
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>d</b> <sup>a</sup>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	9.4	42.3i

<sup>a</sup> Single point calculation at the CCSD(T)/awQ level. Frequencies obtained at the CCSD(T)/awD level.

**Table 6.5.** NPA Charges and Spins for Mg<sub>2</sub>F and Mg<sub>3</sub>F at the B3LYP/aT Level.

Molecule	Atom	Charge	Spin
Mg <sub>2</sub> F C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	Mg	0.51	0.48
	F	-1.02	0.04
	Mg	0.51	0.48
Mg <sub>2</sub> F C <sub>∞v</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	Mg	0.16	0.40
	Mg	0.83	0.55
	F	-0.99	0.05
Mg <sub>2</sub> F D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	Mg	0.50	0.48
	F	-1.00	0.04
	Mg	0.50	0.48
Mg <sub>3</sub> F a C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	F	-1.00	0.04
	Mg	0.24	0.30
	Mg	0.38	0.33
	Mg	0.38	0.33
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	Mg	0.47	0.48
	Cl	-0.94	0.04
	Mg	0.47	0.48
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl C <sub>∞v</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	Mg	0.18	0.40
	Mg	0.71	0.54
	Cl	-0.89	0.06
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	Mg	0.46	0.45
	Cl	-0.92	0.10
	Mg	0.46	0.45

**Table 6.6.** FPD Heats of Formation (kcal/mol) at 0K and 298K.

Molecule	Symmetry	State	$\Delta H_{f,0K}$	$\Delta H_{f,298K}$
Mg <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	68.7	69.0
Mg <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup>	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	216.1	216.1
Mg <sub>3</sub>	D <sub>3h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub> '	98.9	99.1
Mg <sub>3</sub>	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	102.4	101.9
Mg <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	234.3	234.6
Mg <sub>4</sub>	T <sub>d</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	115.9	115.9
MgF <sup>a</sup>	C <sub>∞v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	-52.4	-52.5
MgF <sub>2</sub> <sup>a</sup>	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-174.1	-174.4
Mg <sub>2</sub> F	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	-33.9	-34.1
Mg <sub>2</sub> F	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-28.0	-27.9
Mg <sub>2</sub> F	C <sub>∞v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	-27.0	-26.9
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>g</sub>	-157.9	-158.6
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>a</b>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-5.5	-5.6
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>b</b>	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	0.1	0.3
MgCl <sup>a</sup>	C <sub>∞v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	-12.8	-12.8
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl	C <sub>∞v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	12.4	12.3
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	15.7	15.7
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	25.2	25.4
Mg		<sup>1</sup> S	34.9	36.1
F <sup>b</sup>		<sup>2</sup> P	18.5	19.5
Cl <sup>b</sup>		<sup>2</sup> P	28.6	29.7

<sup>a</sup> Ref. 61. <sup>b</sup> Experimental. Refs. 51, 52, 53.

**Table 6.7.** Reaction Energies (kcal/mol) at 0K and 298K from Heats of Formation in Table 6.6.

Reaction	$\Delta H_{r,0K}$	$\Delta H_{r,298K}$
F Cluster Formation		
$F + Mg_2 \rightarrow MgF + Mg$	-104.7	-104.9
$F + Mg_3 D_{3h} \rightarrow Mg_2F C_{2v} \ ^2B_2 + Mg$	-116.4	-116.6
$F_2 + Mg_3 D_{3h} \rightarrow Mg_2F_2 C_{2v} \ ^1A_g + Mg$	-221.9	-221.6
$F + Mg_3 D_{3h} \rightarrow MgF + 2Mg$	-100.0	-98.9
$F + Mg_4 \rightarrow Mg_3F \ a \ ^2A_1 + Mg$	-105.0	-104.9
$F + Mg_4 \rightarrow Mg_3F \ b \ C_{2v} \ ^2A_1 + Mg$	-99.4	-99.0
$F + Mg_4 \rightarrow Mg_2F C_{2v} \ ^2B_2 + 2Mg$	-98.5	-97.3
$F + Mg_4 \rightarrow MgF + 3Mg$	-82.1	-79.6
$2MgF \rightarrow Mg_2F_2$	-53.1	-53.6
F Cluster Decomposition		
$MgF \rightarrow F + Mg$	105.8	108.1
$Mg_2F \rightarrow F + Mg_2$	121.1	122.6
$Mg_3F \rightarrow F + Mg_3$	122.9	124.2
Cl Cluster Formation		
$Cl + Mg_2 \rightarrow MgCl + Mg$	-75.2	-75.4
$Cl + Mg_3 D_{3h} \rightarrow Mg_2Cl \ ^2\Sigma^+ + Mg$	-80.2	-80.4
$Cl + Mg_3 D_{3h} \rightarrow MgCl \ ^2\Sigma^+ + 2Mg$	-70.5	-69.4

**Table 6.8.** Harmonic Frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-wc-pVTZ Level.

Molecule	symmetry	$\omega$
Mg <sub>2</sub> F C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	469.5
	A <sub>1</sub>	172.4
	B <sub>2</sub>	393.5
Mg <sub>2</sub> F C <sub><math>\infty</math>v</sub> <sup>2</sup> $\Sigma^+$	$\Sigma^+$	707.5
	$\Sigma^+$	194.3
	$\Pi$	72.3
Mg <sub>2</sub> F D <sub><math>\infty</math>h</sub> <sup>2</sup> $\Sigma_u^+$	$\Sigma_g^+$	349.8
	$\Sigma_u^+$	330.3
	$\Pi_u$	54.6i
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>a</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	401.3
	A <sub>1</sub>	222.1
	A <sub>1</sub>	116.9
	B <sub>1</sub>	95.5
	B <sub>2</sub>	416.8
	B <sub>2</sub>	159.2
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>b</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	308.6
	A <sub>1</sub>	139.0
	A <sub>1</sub>	109.4
	B <sub>1</sub>	65.5
	B <sub>2</sub>	266.8
	B <sub>2</sub>	142.6
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl C <sub><math>\infty</math>v</sub> <sup>2</sup> $\Sigma^+$	$\Sigma^+$	472.7
	$\Sigma^+$	181.0
	$\Pi$	57.6
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	318.5
	A <sub>1</sub>	135.8
	B <sub>2</sub>	189.3
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl D <sub><math>\infty</math>h</sub> <sup>2</sup> $\Sigma_u^+$	$\Sigma_u^+$	341.5i
	$\Sigma_g^+$	237.5
	$\Pi_u$	22.0

**Table 6.9.** Lowest Lying Intense Transitions in Mg<sub>2</sub>X for X = F and Cl at the TPSS/aug-cc-pVTZ Level.

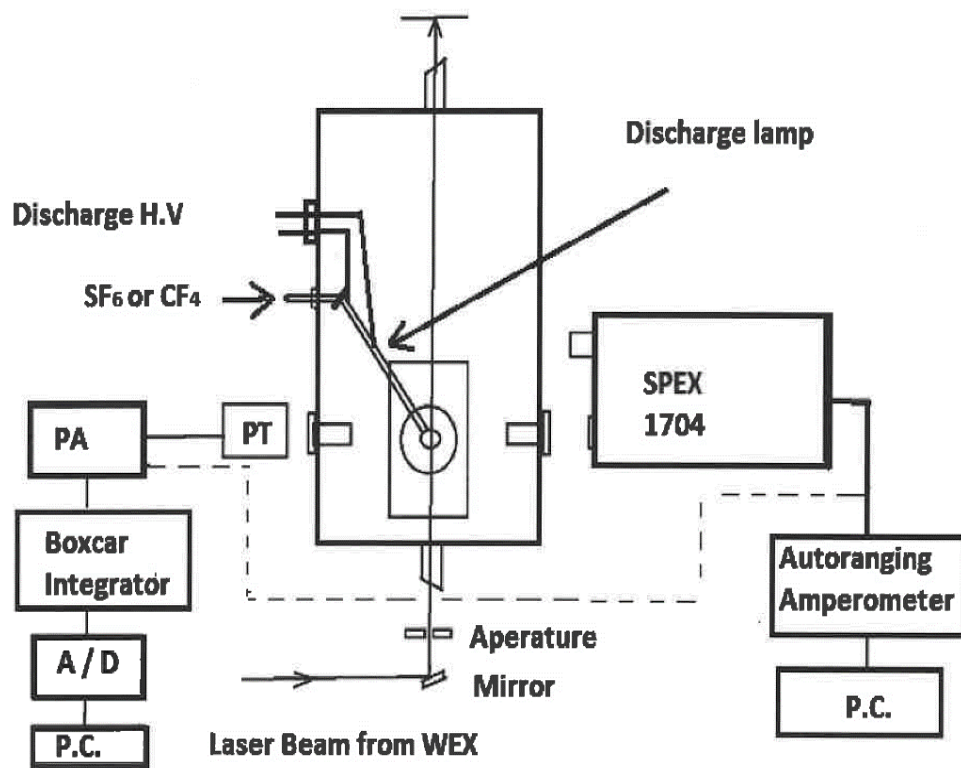
No. <sup>a</sup>	eV	nm	f	Assignment
Mg <sub>2</sub> F				
4	2.37	522.6	0.294	SOMO → LUMO
8	3.53	351.7	0.442	SOMO → LUMO + 3
10	3.91	317.1	0.715	DOMO1 → LUMO+1, SOMO → LUMO+2
11	3.94	314.4	0.348	highly mixed
19	4.57	271.2	0.166	DOMO1 → LUMO+3
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl				
8	3.40	364.1	0.514	SOMO → LUMO+2
12	4.24	292.3	0.364	SOMO → LUMO+5

<sup>a</sup> Number of the excitation. Missing numbers have either 0 or very low f values.

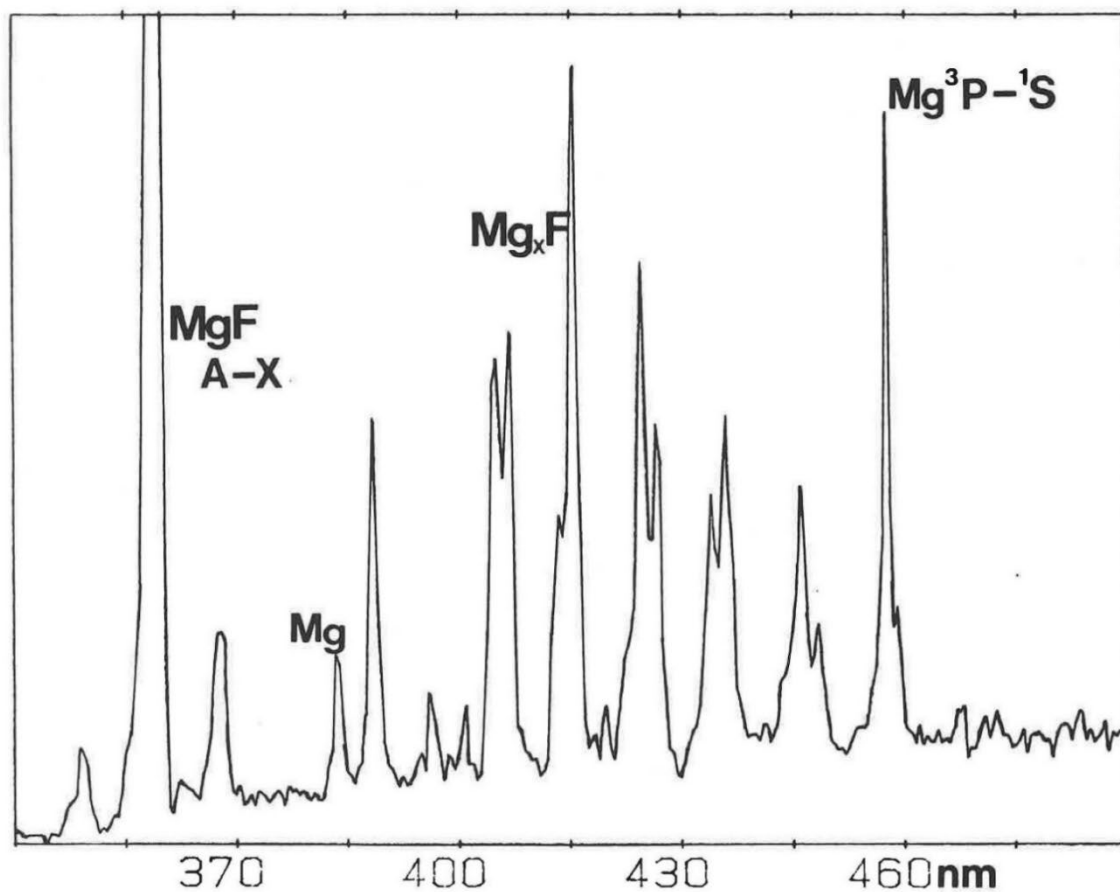
**Table 6.10.** Relative energies for Mg<sub>2</sub>Cl in kcal/mol calculated at the CCSD(T)/awn level and the CBS limit, and the number of imaginary frequencies.

Molecule	Pt grp	state	ΔE CBS	imaginary ω (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl	C <sub>∞v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	0.0	N/A
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl	C <sub>2v</sub>	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	3.6	N/A
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl	D <sub>∞h</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	14.6	341.5i

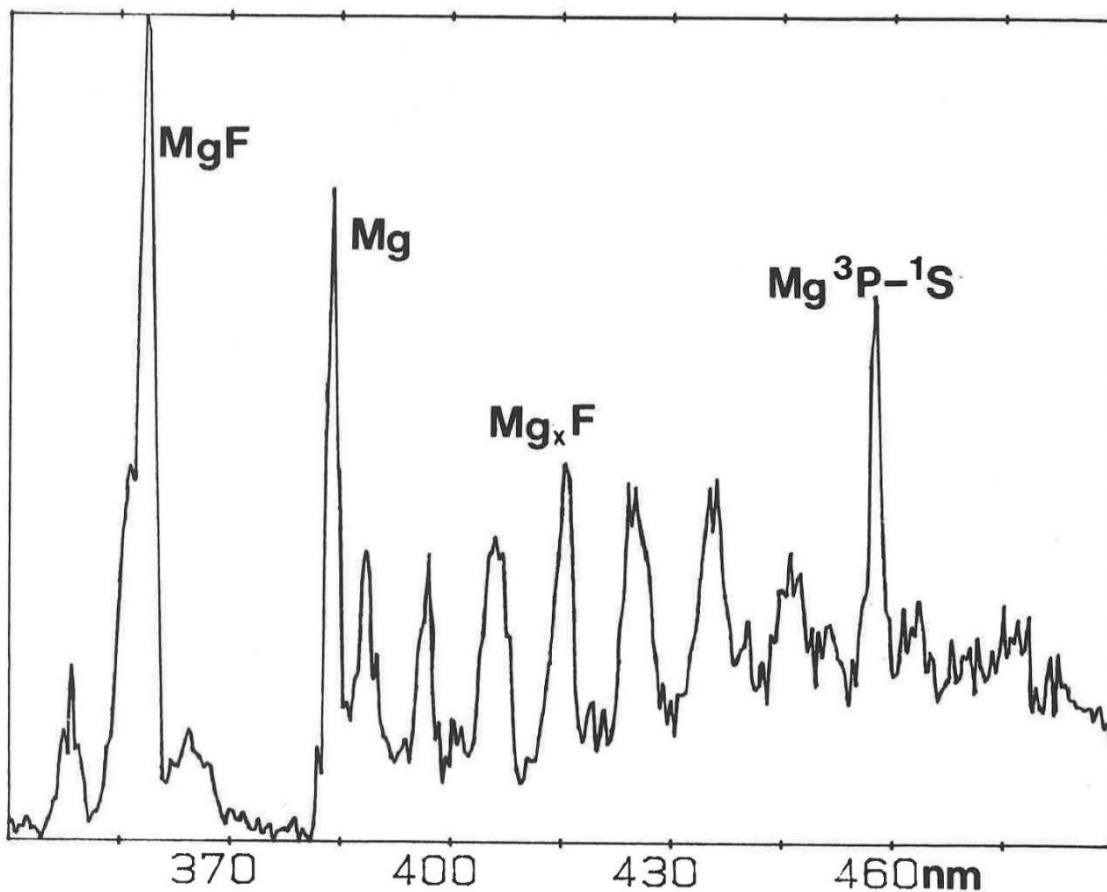
## Figures



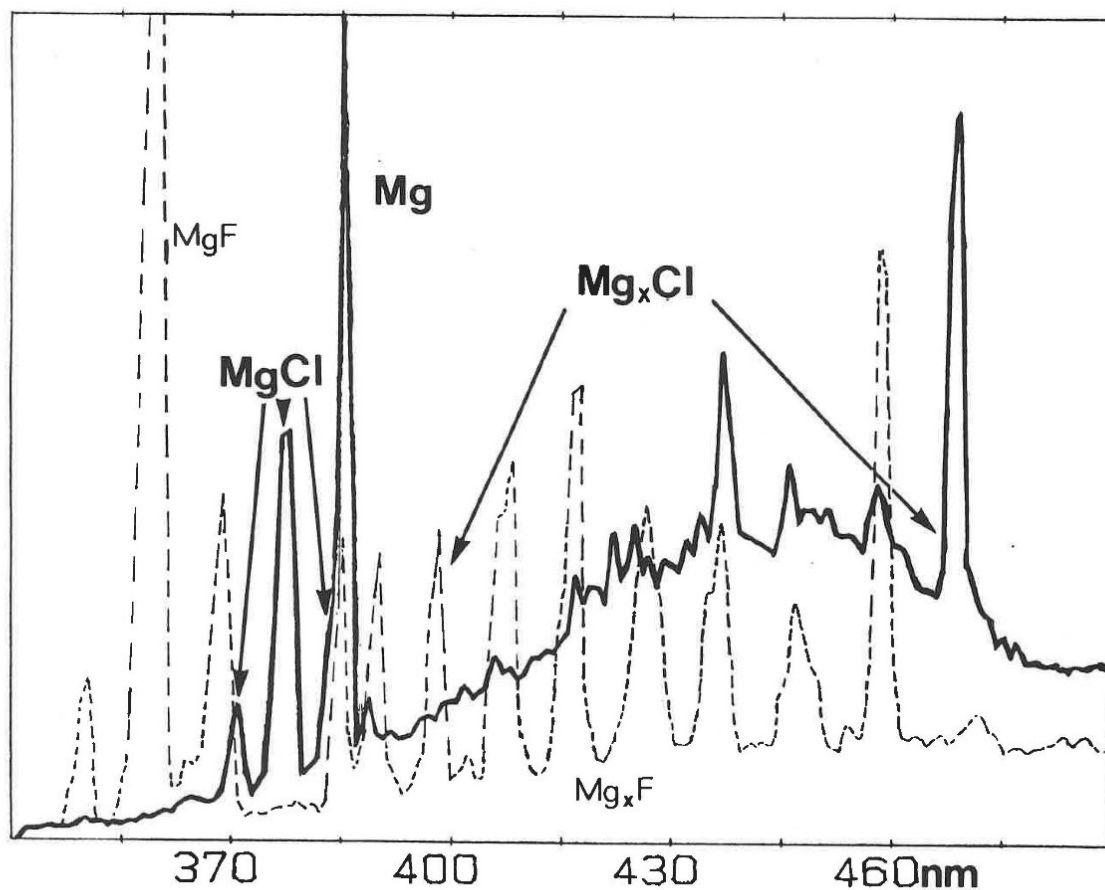
**Figure 6.1.** Schematic view of experimental configuration for recording both chemiluminescence (CL) and dispersed laser induced fluorescence (DLIF) from  $Mg_x + F$  reactions. PT=phototube, PA= preamplifier, PC=personal computer. Other devices are identified in the figure.



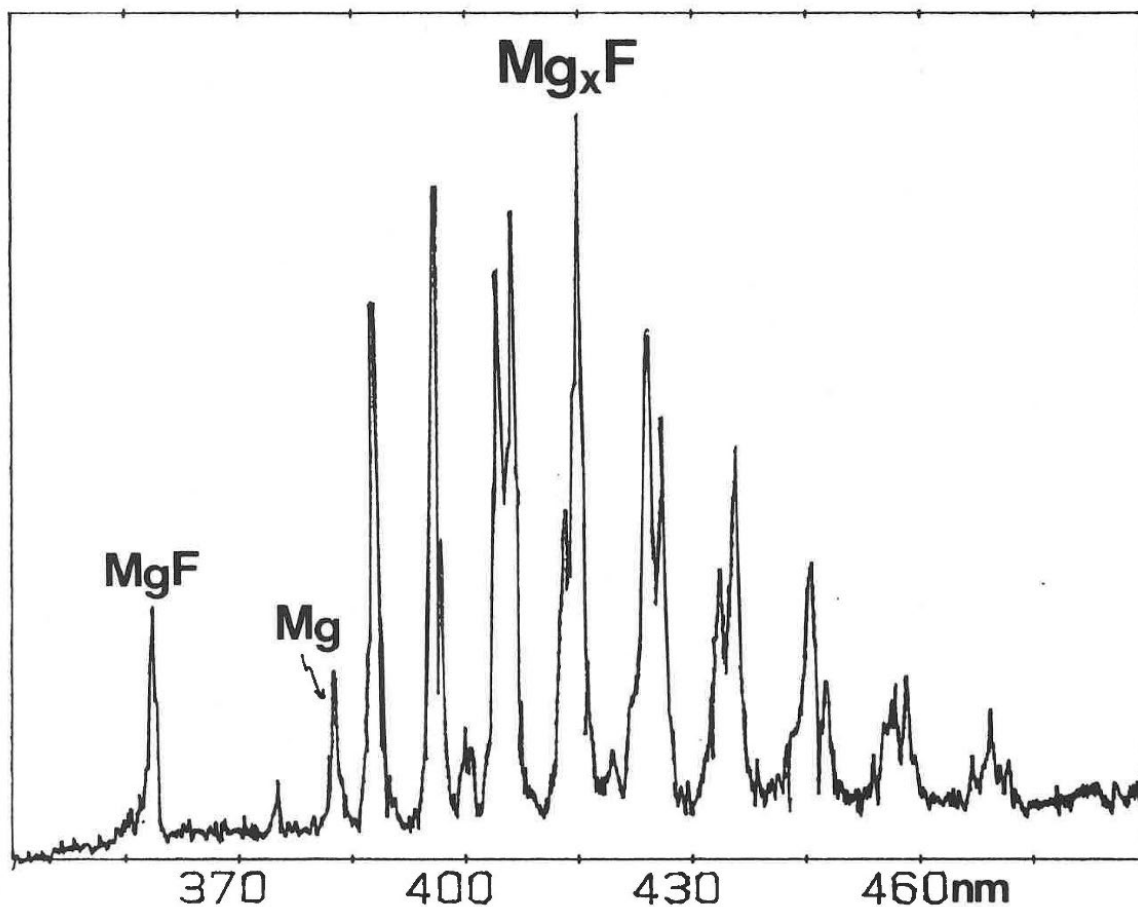
**Figure 6.2.** Chemiluminescent spectrum resulting from the reaction of a moderate flux of dry ice cooled, helium entrained, magnesium vapor with helium entrained fluorine atoms obtained in a discharge through SF<sub>6</sub> molecules. The observed spectrum consists of MgF A<sup>2</sup>Π - X<sup>2</sup>Σ<sup>+</sup>, Mg atomic, and Mg<sub>x</sub>F emission features where x is most likely 2.



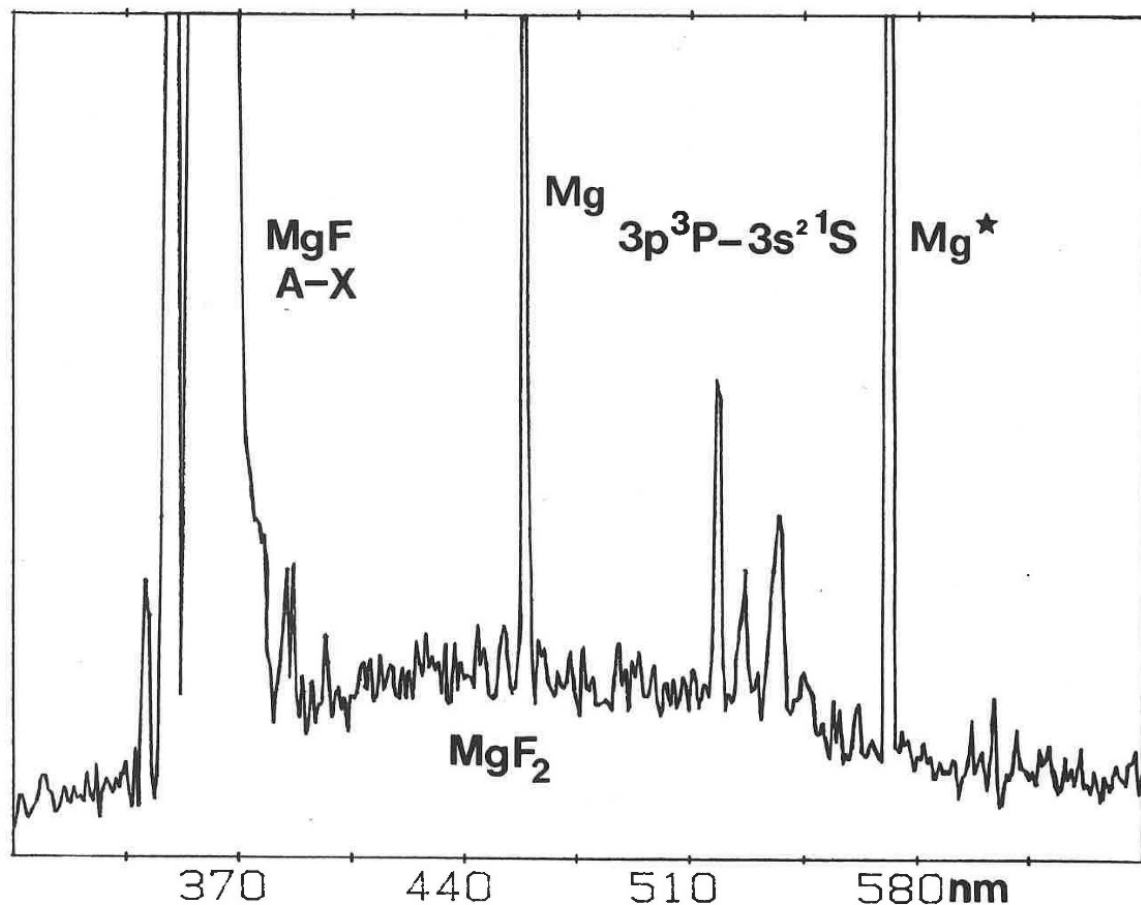
**Figure 6.3.** Chemiluminescent spectrum resulting from the reaction of a moderate flux of dry ice cooled, helium entrained, magnesium atoms and clusters ( $\text{Mg}_2$ ,  $\text{Mg}_3$ ) with helium entrained fluorine atoms obtained in a discharge through  $\text{CF}_4$  molecules. The observed spectrum consists of  $\text{MgF } A^2\Pi - X^2\Sigma^+$ ,  $\text{Mg } ^3P - ^1S$ , and  $^3D - ^3P$  atomic emission, and  $\text{Mg}_x\text{F}$  emission features where  $x$  is most likely 2.



**Figure 6.4.** Chemiluminescent spectrum (solid line) resulting from the reaction of a moderate flux of dry ice cooled, helium entrained, magnesium atoms and clusters ( $\text{Mg}_2$ ,  $\text{Mg}_3$ ) with helium entrained ( $\text{CCl}_4$  discharge) chlorine atoms. The observed spectrum consists of  $\text{MgCl } A^2\Pi - X^2\Sigma^+$ ,  $\text{Mg}$  atomic emission, and  $\text{Mg}_x\text{Cl}$  emission features where  $x$  is most likely 2. The background spectrum (dashed line) corresponds to that resulting from a fluorine atom ( $\text{SF}_6$  discharge) based system.



**Figure 6.5.** Chemiluminescent spectrum resulting from the reaction of a high flux of dry ice cooled, helium entrained, magnesium atoms and clusters ( $\text{Mg}_2$ ,  $\text{Mg}_3$ ) with helium entrained fluorine atoms and  $\text{SF}_x$  molecules. The observed spectrum consists of  $\text{MgF } A^2\Pi - X^2\Sigma^+$ ,  $\Delta v = 0$ , diagonal sequence structure much weaker than that in Figures 6.2 and 6.3. The  $\text{Mg } ^3D - ^3P$  atomic feature is also considerably weaker and the  $\text{Mg } ^3P - ^1S$  and  $^3S - ^3P$  emission features are virtually absent.



**Figure 6.6.** Chemiluminescent spectrum resulting from the reaction of a moderate flux of helium entrained magnesium atoms with molecular fluorine. The observed spectrum consists of  $\text{MgF } A^2\Pi - X^2\Sigma^+$ ,  $\text{Mg } ^3P - ^1S$ ,  $^3S - ^3P$ , and  $^3D - ^3P$  atomic, and  $\text{MgF}_2$  emission features. The unresolved  $\text{MgF}_2$  emission feature extending from  $\sim 370$ - $580$  nm likely corresponds to a long progression in excited and ground state bending modes.

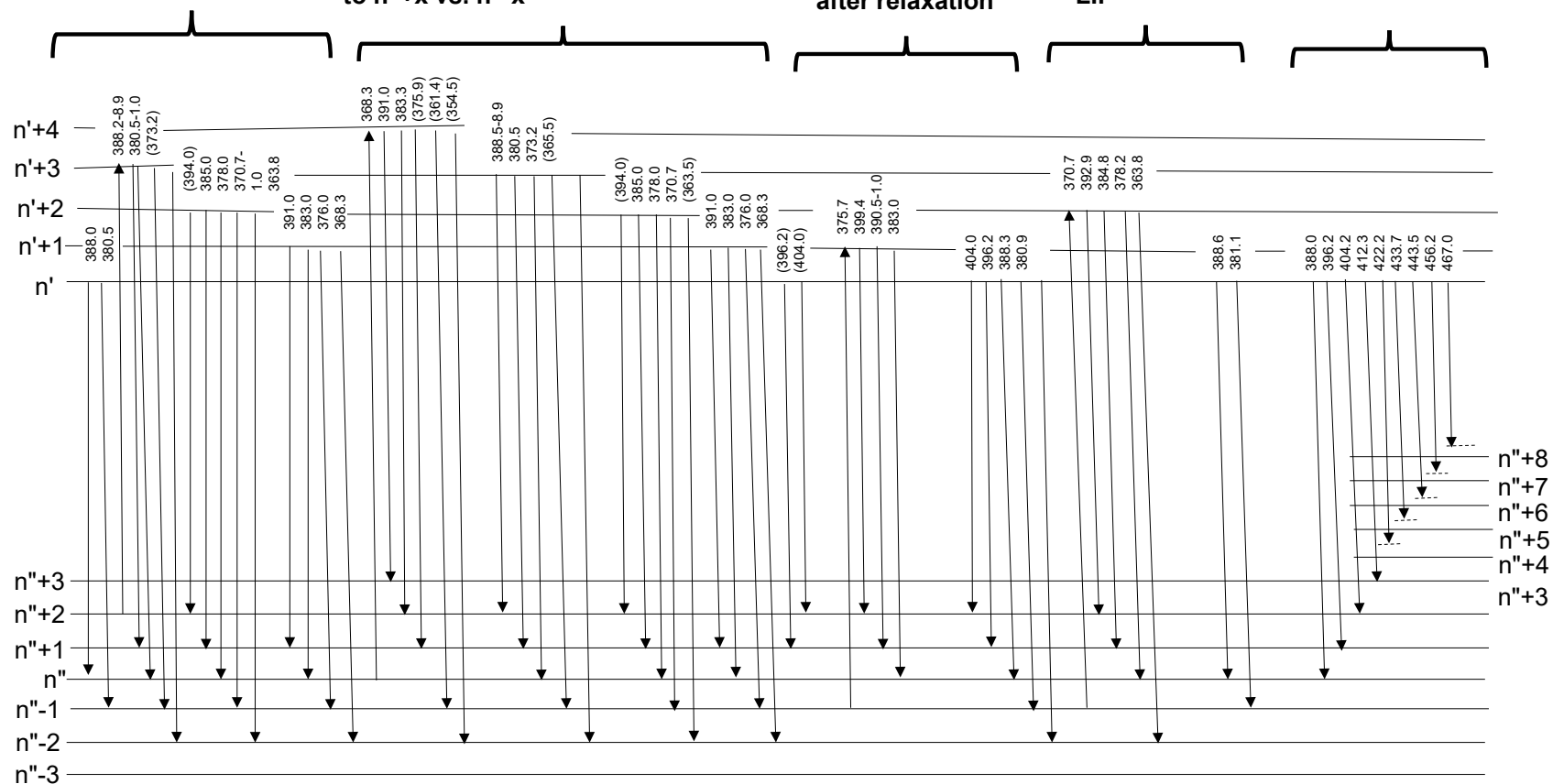
Pump 388.5-388.9 nm  $n'' = 3$  from  $n''' = 2$  and observe LIF after relaxation to  $n' = 2, 1$

Pump 368.2 – 368.3 nm  $n' = 4$  from  $n'' = 3, 2, 1$  – suggests desired emission to  $n''+x$  vs.  $n''-x$

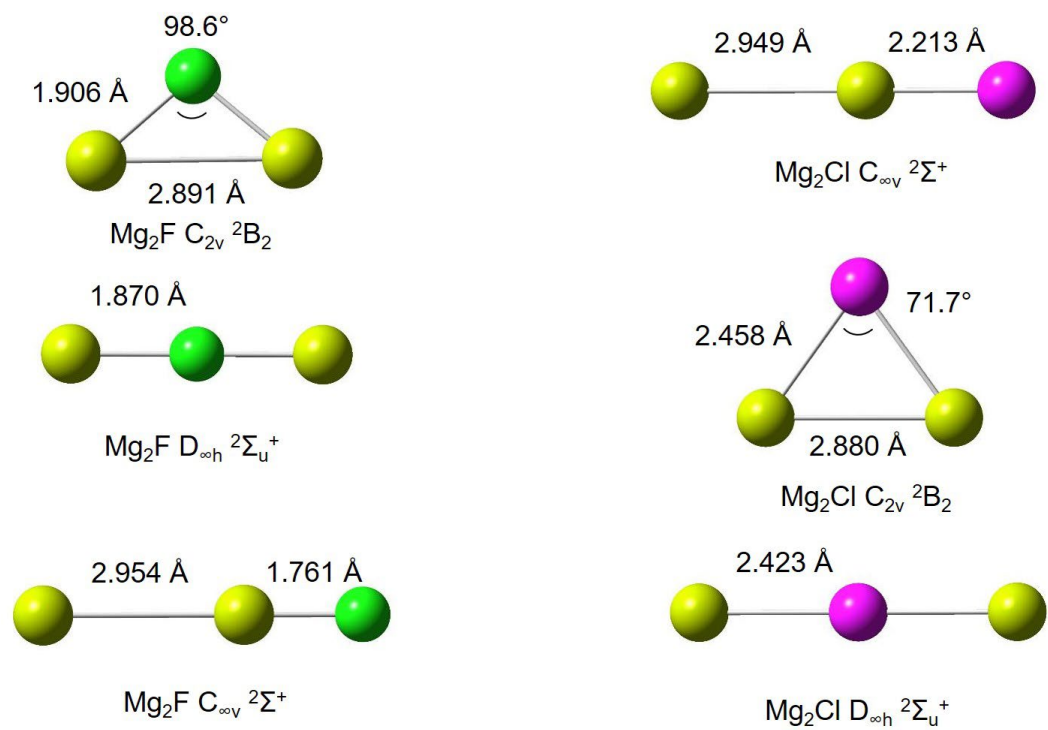
Pump @ 375.7 nm,  $n' = 1$  from  $n''-1$  and observe LIF after relaxation

Pump @ 370.7nm – see mainly  $n' = 2, 0$  LIF

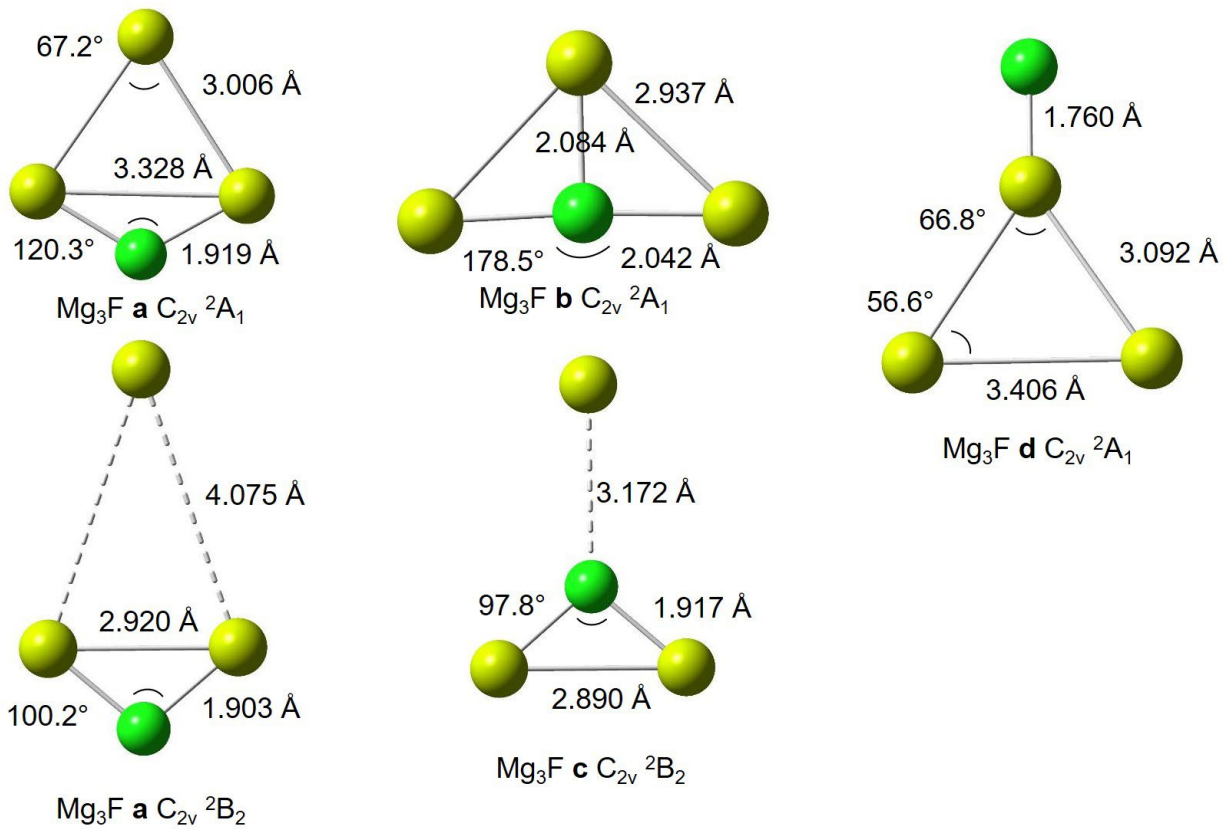
Chemiluminescence



**Figure 6.7.** Outlined assignments for dispersed laser induced fluorescence experiments and chemiluminescence emission features. Tentative assignments relative to  $n''$  (ground state) and  $n'$  (excited state) levels where  $n'$ , based on the chemiluminescence results is most likely zero. Additional assignments,  $n'+4 \rightarrow n''-1$  (365.8 nm),  $n'+4 \rightarrow n''-2$  (359.2 nm),  $n'+3 \rightarrow n''-2$  (358.4 nm),  $n' \rightarrow n''-2$  (373.5 nm). The spectra are dominated by symmetric stretching modes. There is evidence for additional frequency separations most likely associated with additional coupling of the ground and excited state bending modes and the  $Mg_2^+$  stretching mode.



**Figure 6.8.** Molecular geometries for  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  and  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$ .



**Figure 6.9.** Molecular geometries for  $\text{Mg}_3\text{F}$  optimized at the CCSD(T)/awT level.

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## Appendix: Electronically Excited Complex Formation in Magnesium Cluster – Halogen Atom Reactions

### Mg<sub>2</sub>X<sub>2</sub>

Mg<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> has a ground state <sup>1</sup>A<sub>g</sub> configuration with a triplet state less than 5 kcal/mol higher at the CCSD(T)/CBS level. The Mg-F bond distance is 1.908 Å and the Mg-Mg bond distance is 2.877 Å at the CCSD(T)/aug-pwCVTZ level. These are essentially the same bond distances as those predicted for Mg<sub>2</sub>F. We considered the possibility that the emitter is Mg<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> based on its calculated frequencies, but as described in the text, this does not match any thermodynamic or reactant constraints. For Mg<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>, the predicted symmetric stretch at 502 cm<sup>-1</sup> is in reasonable agreement with the observed frequency of order 516 ± 10 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the observed chemiluminescence spectrum. However, there are no low-lying frequencies to account for the observed 104 cm<sup>-1</sup> transitions

**Table A6.1.** Heats of formation using the FPD approach at 0K and 298K in kcal/mol.

Molecule	Symmetry	State	ΔH <sub>f,0K</sub>	ΔH <sub>f,298K</sub>
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>3</sup> B <sub>1u</sub>	-154.0	-154.8
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>4</sub>	D <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1g</sub>	-407.2	-408.3
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1g</sub>	-111.8	-112.0
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>3</sup> B <sub>1u</sub>	-108.6	-108.9
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>4</sub>	D <sub>2h</sub>	<sup>1</sup> A <sub>1g</sub>	-230.1	-230.4

**Table A6.2.** Mg<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> Cluster Decomposition Reaction energies at 0K and 298K in kcal/mol.

Reaction	ΔH <sub>r,0K</sub>	ΔH <sub>r,298K</sub>
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> → Mg <sub>2</sub> F + F	142.5	144.0
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> → MgF <sub>2</sub> + Mg	18.7	20.3

**Table A6.3.** Frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) at the CCSD(T) level with the awD basis sets

Molecule	symmetry	$\nu$	
$^1\text{Mg}_2\text{F}_2$ $D_{2h}$	$A_g$	502.0	
	$A_g$	308.9	
	$B_{3g}$	400.7	
	$B_{1u}$	462.7	
	$B_{2u}$	448.4	
	$B_{3u}$	148.2	
$^1\text{Mg}_2\text{F}_4$ $D_{2h}$	$A_g$	787.5	
	$A_g$	483.8	
	$A_g$	254.2	
	$B_{2g}$	132.6	
	$B_{3g}$	440.4	
	$B_{3g}$	145.3	
	$B_{1u}$	763.2	
	$B_{1u}$	456.8	
	$B_{2u}$	500.5	
	$B_{2u}$	101.1	
	$B_{3u}$	261.1	
	$B_{3u}$	52.6	
	$^1\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}_2$ $D_{2h}$	$A_g$	317.1
		$A_g$	170.6
$B_{3g}$		248.4	
$B_{1u}$		318.4	
$B_{2u}$		242.6	
$B_{3u}$		78.3	
$^1\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}_4$ $D_{2h}$	$A_g$	541.2	
	$A_g$	281.8	
	$A_g$	140.7	
	$B_{2g}$	110.6	
	$B_{3g}$	292.9	
	$B_{3g}$	90.6	
	$B_{1u}$	516.9	
	$B_{2u}$	249.9	
	$B_{2u}$	378.2	
	$B_{1u}$	62.4	
	$B_{3u}$	159.0	
	$B_{3u}$	30.3	

Mg<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> has two possible absorptions that could be consistent with the observed chemiluminescence at 400 and 347 nm. The HOMO → LUMO transition is too far to the red. The HOMO is the doubly occupied (3s+3s) σ orbital for Mg<sub>2</sub><sup>2+</sup> and the LUMO is the corresponding σ\* orbital. The LUMO + 1 and LUMO + 3 are combinations of 3p orbitals on the Mg.

**Table A6.4.** Lowest lying intense transitions in Mg<sub>2</sub>X<sub>2</sub> for X = F and Cl at the TPSS/aug-cc-pVTZ level

No.	eV	nm	f	Assignment
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub>				
1	1.89	654.8	0.460	HOMO → LUMO
2	3.10	400.3	0.497	HOMO → LUMO+1
4	3.57	347.3	0.455	HOMO → LUMO+3
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>				
1	1.73	718.2	0.358	HOMO → LUMO
3	3.06	405.6	0.339	HOMO → LUMO+1
4	3.51	353.2	0.425	HOMO → LUMO+3

We also investigated the structure of Mg<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The ground state is the singlet again with the triplet 3.2 kcal/mol higher in energy at the CCSD(T) level. There are two possible transitions for Mg<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> from the HOMO to the LUMO and LUMO+1 consistent with the chemiluminescence spectra.

**Table A6.5.** Geometry for Mg<sub>2</sub>F C<sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup>B<sub>2</sub> at the CCSD(T) awD-DK and awT-DK levels.

	r(Mg-F)	<Mg-F-Mg
awD-DK	1.924	98.4
awT-DK	1.906	98.6

**Table A6.6.** Heats of formation using the FPD approach for Mg<sub>2</sub>F C<sub>2v</sub> optimized to at the CCSD(T) awT-DK level.

	$\Delta H_{f,0K}$	$\Delta H_{f,298K}$
Mg <sub>2</sub> F C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	-34.0	-34.2

**Table A6.7.** Electronic energy (Ee), zero-point energy (ZPE), thermal correction and Gibbs free energy correction for all the molecules at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level.

B3LYP/aT	ZPE	Thermal correction at 298 K	Gibbs free energy correction	E electronic
Mg <sub>2</sub> F C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	0.002167	0.007249	-0.024932	-500.154095
Mg <sub>2</sub> F C <sub>∞v</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	0.002195	0.007887	-0.025484	-500.141674
Mg <sub>2</sub> F D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.001976	0.007687	-0.025930	-500.152936
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> D <sub>2h</sub>	0.004934	0.010956	-0.022271	-600.124010
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> D <sub>2h</sub> <sup>3</sup> B <sub>1u</sub>	0.005156	0.011042	-0.022813	-600.131344
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>4</sub> D <sub>2h</sub>	0.009974	0.018743	-0.022143	-800.114415
Mg <sub>3</sub> D <sub>3h</sub>	0.000615	0.006654	-0.028161	-600.297776
Mg <sub>3</sub> D <sub>∞h</sub>	0.000248	0.005205	-0.026566	-600.294651
Mg <sub>2</sub> D <sub>∞h</sub>	0.000103	0.004253	-0.023552	-400.196018
Mg <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.000432	0.004314	-0.022350	-399.963087
Mg <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.000948	0.007204	-0.028009	-600.088251
Mg <sub>4</sub> D <sub>4h</sub>	0.000360	0.007565	-0.033604	-800.393121
Mg <sub>4</sub> T <sub>d</sub>	0.001934	0.009661	-0.028037	-800.411940
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>a</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	0.003027	0.010114	-0.027996	-700.258168
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>b</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	0.002128	0.009770	-0.029918	-700.252081
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>c</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	0.002225	0.009131	-0.032767	-700.251784
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>d</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	0.002472	0.010231	-0.032211	-700.245176
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	0.001304	0.006838	-0.027439	-860.496004
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl C <sub>∞v</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	0.001586	0.007484	-0.027282	-860.502677
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.001013	0.007214	-0.027373	-860.490375
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> D <sub>2h</sub>	0.003024	0.010043	-0.026986	-1320.812877
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> D <sub>2h</sub> <sup>3</sup> B <sub>1u</sub>	0.003150	0.010086	-0.027841	-1320.822769
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>4</sub> D <sub>2h</sub>	0.006455	0.016799	-0.030503	-2241.525774

**Table A6.8.** Electronic energy (Hartrees) at the CCSD(T) level for diatomic Mg clusters using the 7-point fit with the awn-DK basis set ( $n = D, T, Q, 5$ ) with the BSSE corrected.

Molecule	awD-DK	awT-DK	awQ-DK	aw5-DK	CBS
Mg <sub>2</sub> D <sub>∞h</sub>	-400.124013	-400.390063	-400.499104	-400.543666	-400.590419
Mg <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-399.890590	-400.156054	-400.264896	-400.309365	-400.356022

**Table A6.9.** Energy contribution to the total atomization energy in kcal/mol for diatomic Mg clusters using the 7-point fit with the awn-DK basis set ( $n = D, T, Q, 5$ ) with the BSSE corrected.

Molecule	$\Delta E_{n=awD-DK}$	$\Delta E_{n=awT-DK}$	$\Delta E_{n=awQ-DK}$	$\Delta E_{n=aw5-DK}$	$\Delta E_{CBS-Q5-DK}$	ZPE	TC	$\Sigma D_{0,0K}$
Mg <sub>2</sub> D <sub>∞h</sub>	0.5	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.1	2.6	1.0
Mg <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-146.0	-146.0	-146.0	-146.0	-146.0	0.3	2.4	-146.4

**Table A6.10.** Electronic energy (Hartrees) at the CCSD(T) level for Mg clusters optimized to the awQ-DK basis set.

Molecule	awD-DK	awT-DK	awQ-DK	CBS
Mg <sub>3</sub> D <sub>3h</sub>	-600.191401	-600.593223	-600.756128	-600.852364
Mg <sub>3</sub> D <sub>∞h</sub>	-600.187678	-600.587263	-600.750046	-600.846278
Mg <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-599.979761	-600.379279	-600.541211	-600.636870
Mg <sub>4</sub> T <sub>d</sub>	-800.279327	-800.818470	-801.034886	-801.162548

**Table A6.11.** Energy contribution to the total atomization energy in kcal/mol for Mg clusters optimized to the awQ-DK basis set.

Molecule	$\Delta E_{n=awD-DK}$	$\Delta E_{n=awT-DK}$	$\Delta E_{n=awQ-DK}$	$\Delta E_{CBS-DTQ-DK}$	$\Sigma D_{0,0K}$
Mg <sub>3</sub> D <sub>3h</sub>	4.1	6.4	6.2	5.9	5.4
Mg <sub>3</sub> D <sub>∞h</sub>	1.8	2.7	2.3	2.1	1.9
Mg <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> <sup>2</sup> D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-128.7	-127.8	-128.7	-129.3	-128.7
Mg <sub>4</sub> T <sub>d</sub>	20.7	25.8	25.0	24.2	22.8

**Table A6.12.** Electronic energy (Hartrees) at the CCSD(T) level for Mg<sub>2</sub>F, Mg<sub>3</sub>F and Mg<sub>2</sub>Cl optimized to the awT basis set.

Molecule	awD	awT	awQ	CBS	awT-DK
Mg <sub>2</sub> F C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	-499.257644	-499.604212	-499.736185	-499.813415	-500.303940
Mg <sub>2</sub> F C <sub>∞v</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	-499.246173	-499.593286	-499.725325	-499.802580	-500.292978
Mg <sub>2</sub> F D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-499.247978	-499.595630	-499.726683	-499.803252	-500.295390
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> D <sub>2h</sub> <sup>1</sup> A <sub>1g</sub>	-599.038831	-599.465318	-599.621472	-599.712280	-600.251331
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> D <sub>2h</sub> <sup>3</sup> B <sub>1u</sub>	-599.032821	-599.459311	-599.615474	-599.706288	-600.245278
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>4</sub> D <sub>2h</sub> <sup>1</sup> A <sub>1g</sub> <sup>a</sup>	-798.600281	-799.189287	-799.393604	-799.511340	-800.148214
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>a</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-699.022974	-699.503837	-699.689533	-699.798437	-700.510139
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>b</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-699.016375	-699.495712	-699.680341	-699.788577	-700.502149
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>a</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	-699.015194	-699.494712	-699.680592	-699.789669	
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>c</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	-699.015035	-699.493735	-699.679214	-699.788046	
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>d</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	-699.007412	-699.488609	-699.674469	-699.783473	
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	-859.400225	-859.860016	-860.038311	-860.142942	-861.883556
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl C <sub>∞v</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	-859.405264	-859.865851	-860.044106	-860.148682	-861.889237
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-859.382970	-859.842776	-860.020903	-860.125420	-861.866553
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> D <sub>2h</sub> <sup>1</sup> A <sub>1g</sub>	-1319.325954	-1319.979607	-1320.228478	-1320.374112	-1323.413129
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> D <sub>2h</sub> <sup>3</sup> B <sub>1u</sub>	-1319.320703	-1319.974560	-1320.223515	-1320.369198	-1323.408021
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>4</sub> D <sub>2h</sub> <sup>1</sup> A <sub>1g</sub> <sup>a</sup>	-2239.204631	-2240.248039	-2240.636834	-2240.863572	-2246.501702

<sup>a</sup> Mg<sub>2</sub>F<sub>4</sub> and Mg<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub> were optimized at the CCSD(T)/awD level.

**Table A6.13.** Electronic energies for Mg atom with BSSE corrected for Mg clusters.

	awd-dk	awt-dk	awq-dk	aw5-dk	CBS <sup>a</sup>
Mg <sub>2</sub>	-200.0617825	-200.1945245	-200.248815	-200.2710437	-200.294365
Mg for Mg <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-200.062151	-200.194773	-200.248876	-200.2710685	-200.294352
Mg <sup>+</sup> for Mg <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-199.7835123	-199.914593	-199.968179	-199.9901976	-200.013299
Mg <sub>3</sub> D <sub>3h</sub>	-200.062219	-200.194941	-200.248920		-200.280823
Mg <sub>4</sub> T <sub>d</sub>	-200.063096	-200.195523	-200.249045		-200.280649
Mg no BSSE	-200.061596	-200.194329	-200.248771	-200.2710287	-200.294381 (Q5) -200.280987 (DTQ)

<sup>a</sup> CBS(Q,5) for diatomics, and CBS(DTQ) for trimer and tetramer.

**Table A6.14.** FPD energy contributions to the total atomization energy in kcal/mol for Mg<sub>2</sub>F, Mg<sub>3</sub>F and Mg<sub>2</sub>Cl optimized to the awT basis set.

Molecule	$\Delta E_{n=awD}$	$\Delta E_{n=awT}$	$\Delta E_{n=awQ}$	$\Delta E_{CBS-DTQ}$	$\Delta E_{SR}$	$\Delta E_{ZPE}$	$\Delta E_{SO}$	$\Sigma D_{0,0K}$	$\Delta E_{TC}$
Mg <sub>2</sub> F C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	118.3	122.1	123.6	124.5	-0.6	-1.5	-0.4	122.1	3.2
Mg <sub>2</sub> F C <sub>∞v</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	111.1	115.3	116.8	117.7	-0.6	-1.5	-0.4	115.2	3.6
Mg <sub>2</sub> F D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	112.2	116.7	117.7	118.2	-0.6	-1.0	-0.4	116.2	3.6
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> D <sub>2h</sub> <sup>1</sup> A <sub>1g</sub>	258.2	264.3	267.6	269.6	-1.1	-3.2	-0.8	264.6	3.8
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> D <sub>2h</sub> <sup>3</sup> B <sub>1u</sub>	254.4	260.5	263.8	265.8	-1.1	-3.3	-0.8	260.6	3.7
Mg <sub>2</sub> F <sub>4</sub> D <sub>2h</sub> <sup>1</sup> A <sub>1g</sub> <sup>a</sup>	537.4	549.7	556.4	560.5	-1.8	-6.3	-1.6	550.9	5.5
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>a</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	124.4	129.7	131.0	131.7	-0.8	-2.0	-0.4	128.5	4.4
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>b</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	120.3	124.6	125.2	125.5	-0.7	-1.5	-0.4	123.0	4.8
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>a</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	119.6	124.0	125.4	126.2					
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>c</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	119.5	123.4	124.5	125.2					
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>d</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	114.7	120.2	121.6	122.3					
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	77.0	81.8	83.8	85.0	-0.6	-0.9	-0.8	82.6	3.5
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl C <sub>∞v</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	80.2	85.5	87.4	88.6	-0.6	-1.1	-0.8	86.0	3.7
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	66.2	71.0	72.9	74.0	-0.4	0.4	-0.8	73.1	3.9
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> D <sub>2h</sub> <sup>1</sup> A <sub>1g</sub>	177.0	185.4	189.6	192.2	-1.1	-2.0	-1.7	187.5	4.4
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> D <sub>2h</sub> <sup>3</sup> B <sub>1u</sub>	173.7	182.2	186.5	189.1	-1.1	-2.0	-1.7	184.3	4.4
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>4</sub> D <sub>2h</sub> <sup>1</sup> A <sub>1g</sub> <sup>a</sup>	393.9	410.9	418.8	423.6	-1.9	-4.1	-3.4	414.2	6.5

<sup>a</sup> Mg<sub>2</sub>F<sub>4</sub> and Mg<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub> were optimized at the CCSD(T)/awD level.

**Table A6.15.**  $T_1$  values at the CCSD(T) level with the awQ(-DK) basis set.

	awQ(-DK) <sup>a</sup>
Mg <sub>2</sub>	0.011872
Mg <sub>3</sub> D <sub>3h</sub>	0.011072
Mg <sub>3</sub> D <sub>∞h</sub>	0.010878
Mg <sub>4</sub> T <sub>d</sub>	0.010858
Mg <sub>2</sub> F C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	0.013487
Mg <sub>2</sub> F D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.014483
Mg <sub>2</sub> F C <sub>∞v</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	0.020057
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>a</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	0.024234
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>a</b> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	0.012432
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>b</b> C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	0.022677
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>c</b> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	0.013164
Mg <sub>3</sub> F <b>d</b> <sup>2</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	0.011924
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl C <sub>2v</sub> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2</sub>	0.010514
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl D <sub>∞h</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.012771
Mg <sub>2</sub> Cl C <sub>∞v</sub> <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	0.016655

<sup>a</sup> the awQ-DK basis sets were used for Mg clusters.

**Table A6.16.** Lowest lying intense transitions in Mg<sub>2</sub>F at the CAM-B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level and the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level.

No.	sym	eV	nm/cm <sup>-1</sup>	f	assign
CAM-B3LYP					
4	B <sub>2</sub>	2.54	488.0	0.292	SOMO → LUMO
6	B <sub>2</sub>	3.71	334.6	0.413	SOMO → LUMO + 2 (+3 TPSS)
8	B <sub>1</sub>	3.93	315.3	0.538	SOMO → LUMO + 4 (+2 TPSS) DOMO1 → LUMO+1
9	A <sub>1</sub>	4.11	301.9	0.493	DOMO1 → LUMO
10	B <sub>1</sub>	4.16	298.0	0.195	DOMO1 → LUMO+1
B3LYP					
3	B <sub>2</sub>	2.45	506.5	0.282	SOMO → LUMO
8	B <sub>2</sub>	3.53	351.6	0.412	SOMO → LUMO+3
10	B <sub>1</sub>	3.97	312.2	0.669	DOMO1 → LUMO+1, SOMO → LUMO+2
11	A <sub>1</sub>	3.98	311.8	0.116	highly mixed
12	A <sub>1</sub>	4.03	307.6	0.313	DOMO1 → LUMO SOMO → LUMO+4(+2 TPSS)

**Table A6.17.** Lowest lying intense transitions in  $\text{Mg}_2^+$  at the TPSS/aug-cc-pVTZ level, the CAM-B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level and the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level.

No.	sym	eV	$\text{nm}^{-1}$	f	assign
TPSS					
6	$\Sigma_u$	3.64	341.1	0.883	SOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO DOMO1 $\rightarrow$ SOMO
CAM-B3LYP					
6	$\Sigma_u$	3.61	343.0	0.922	SOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO DOMO1 $\rightarrow$ SOMO
B3LYP					
6	$\Sigma_u$	3.62	342.4	0.924	SOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO DOMO1 $\rightarrow$ SOMO

**Table A6.18.** Lowest lying intense transitions in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$  at the CAM-B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level and the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level.

No.	sym	eV	$\text{nm}/\text{cm}^{-1}$	f	assign
CAM-B3LYP					
6	$\Sigma_g$	3.45	359.6	0.582	SOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+2
15	?	4.87	254.7	0.375	DOMO1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO
B3LYP					
6	$\Sigma_g$	3.33	371.8	0.521	SOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+2
12	$\Sigma_g$	4.23	293.3	0.364	SOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5 SOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+6

**Table A6.19.** Calculated  $r(\text{Mg-Mg})$  in Å for Mg clusters at the B3LYP level and the CCSD(T) level.

Molecule	symmetry	$r$ (Å)			
		B3LYP aT	CCSD(T) awD-DK	CCSD(T) awT-DK	CCSD(T) awQ-DK
$\text{Mg}_2^{\text{a}}$	$D_{\infty h}$	3.936	4.452	4.070	4.002
$\text{Mg}_2^{+\text{a}}$	$D_{\infty h}$	3.064	3.052	3.023	3.016
$\text{Mg}_3$	$D_{3h}$	3.476	3.423	3.349	3.350
$\text{Mg}_3$	$D_{\infty h}$	3.815	4.122	3.840	3.840
$\text{Mg}_3^+$	$D_{\infty h}$	3.093	3.066	3.040	3.047
$\text{Mg}_4$	$T_d$	3.171	3.100	3.064	3.066

<sup>a</sup> At the CCSD(T) level, the diatomic Mg molecules were optimized by using 7-point fit with the BSSE corrected.

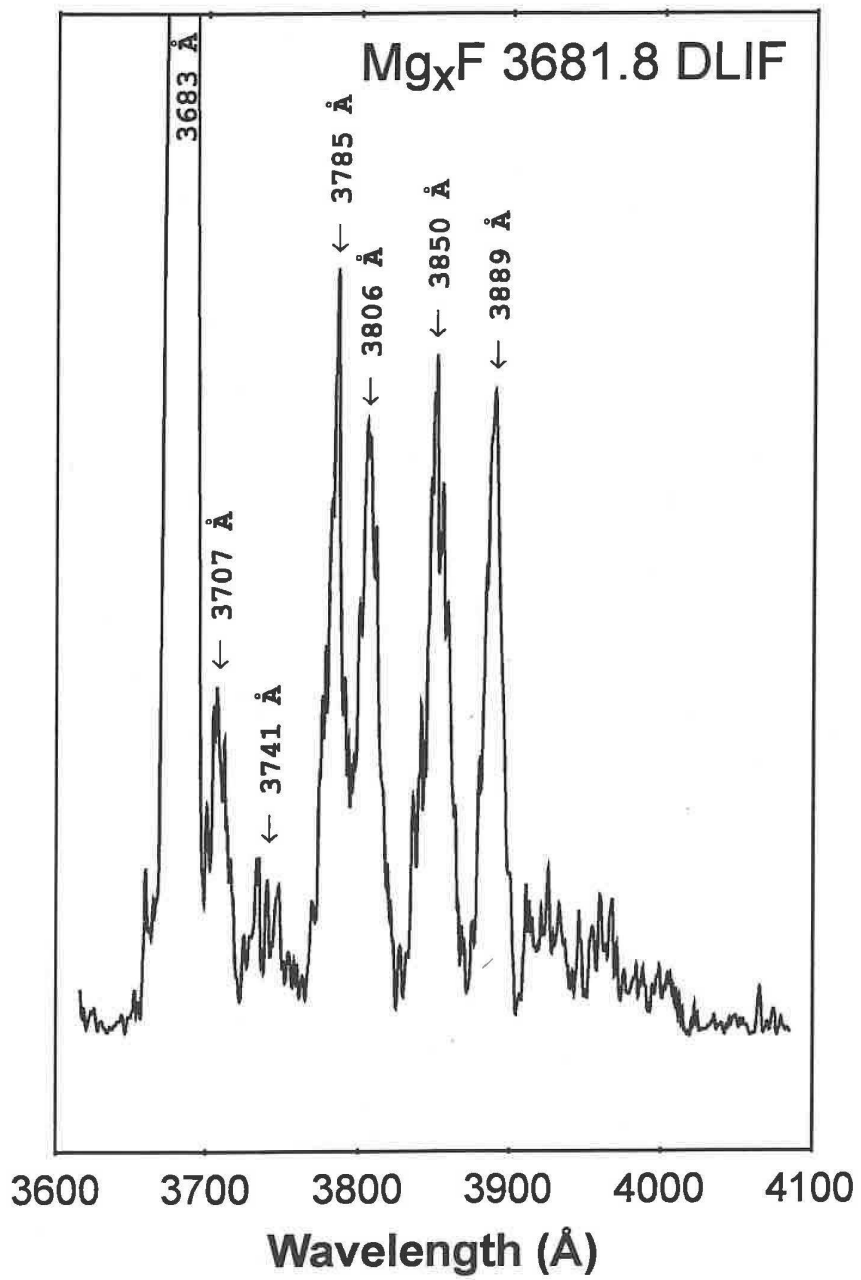


Figure A6.1a

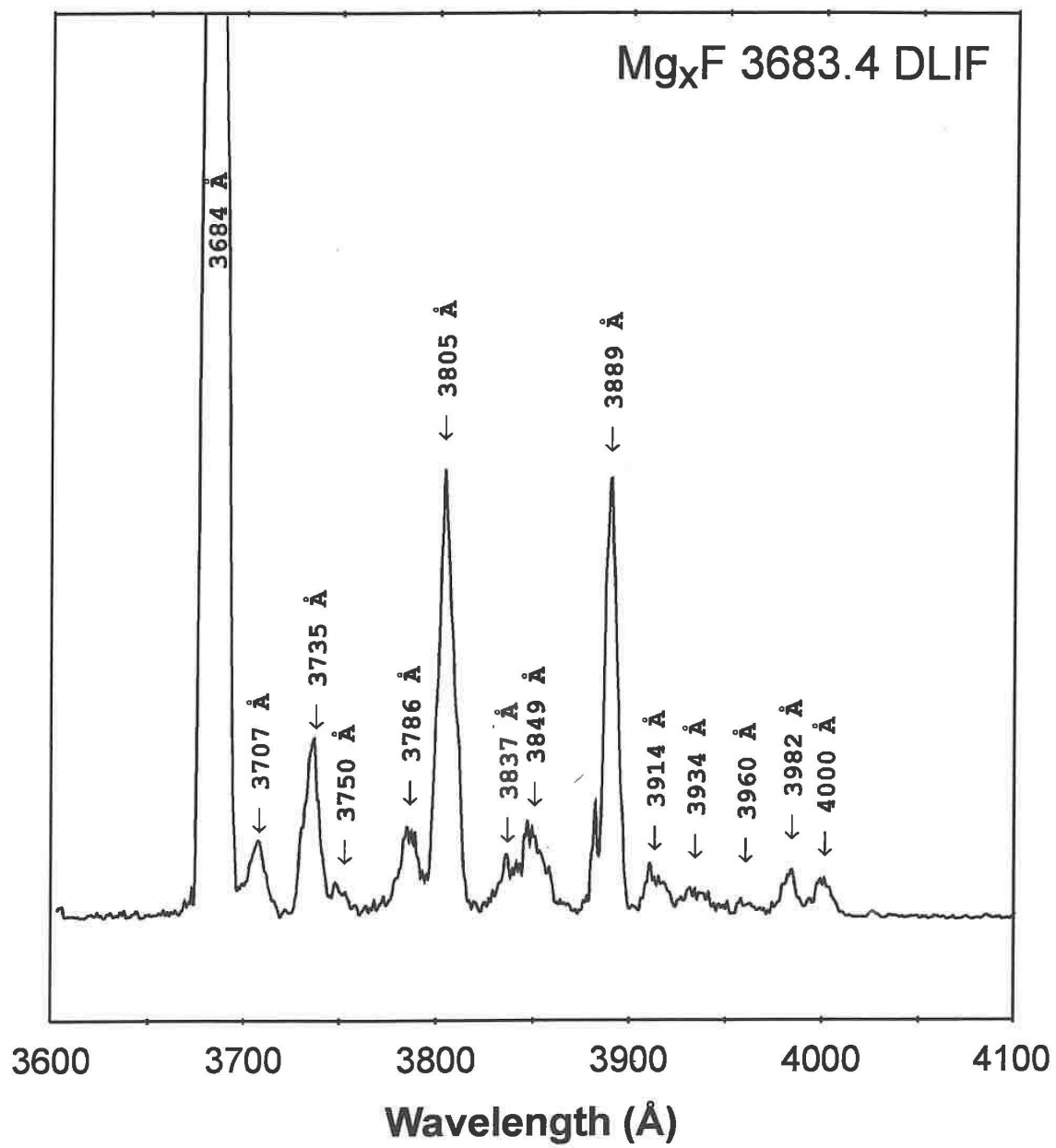


Figure A6.1b

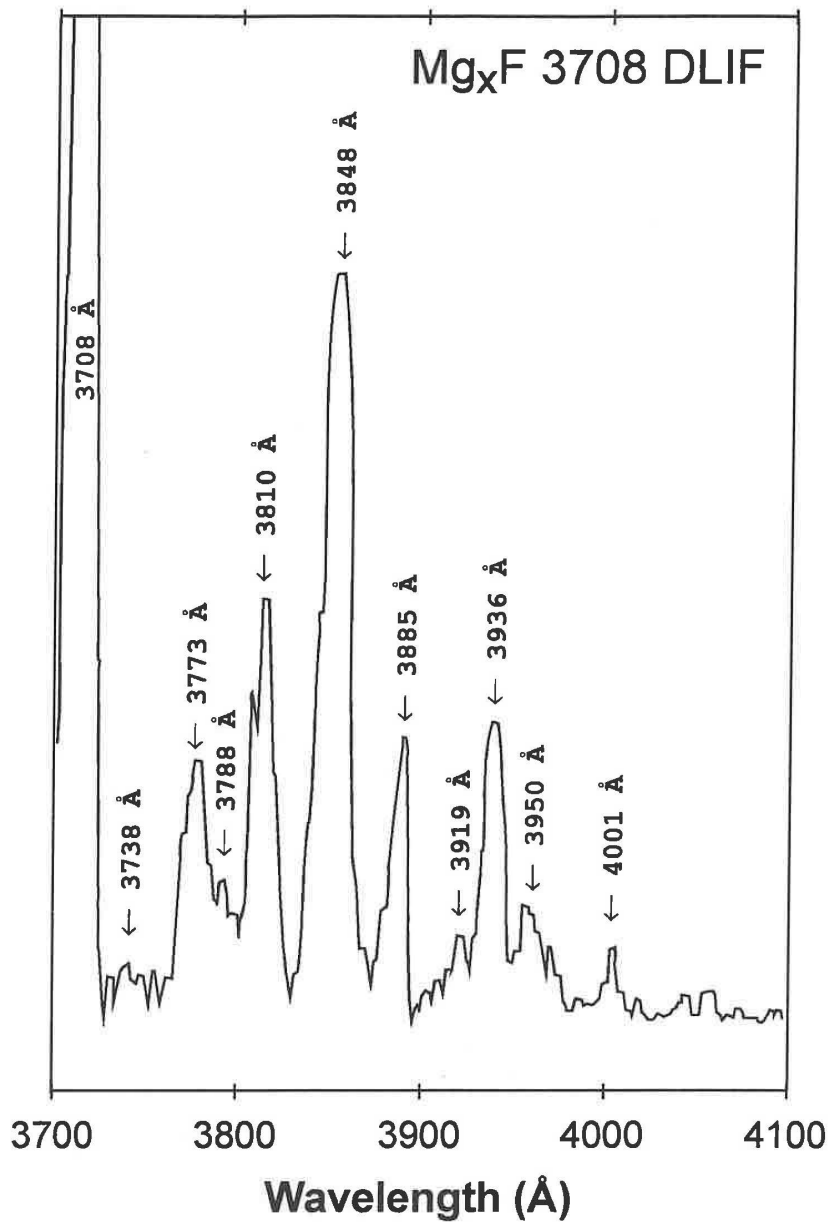


Figure A6.1c

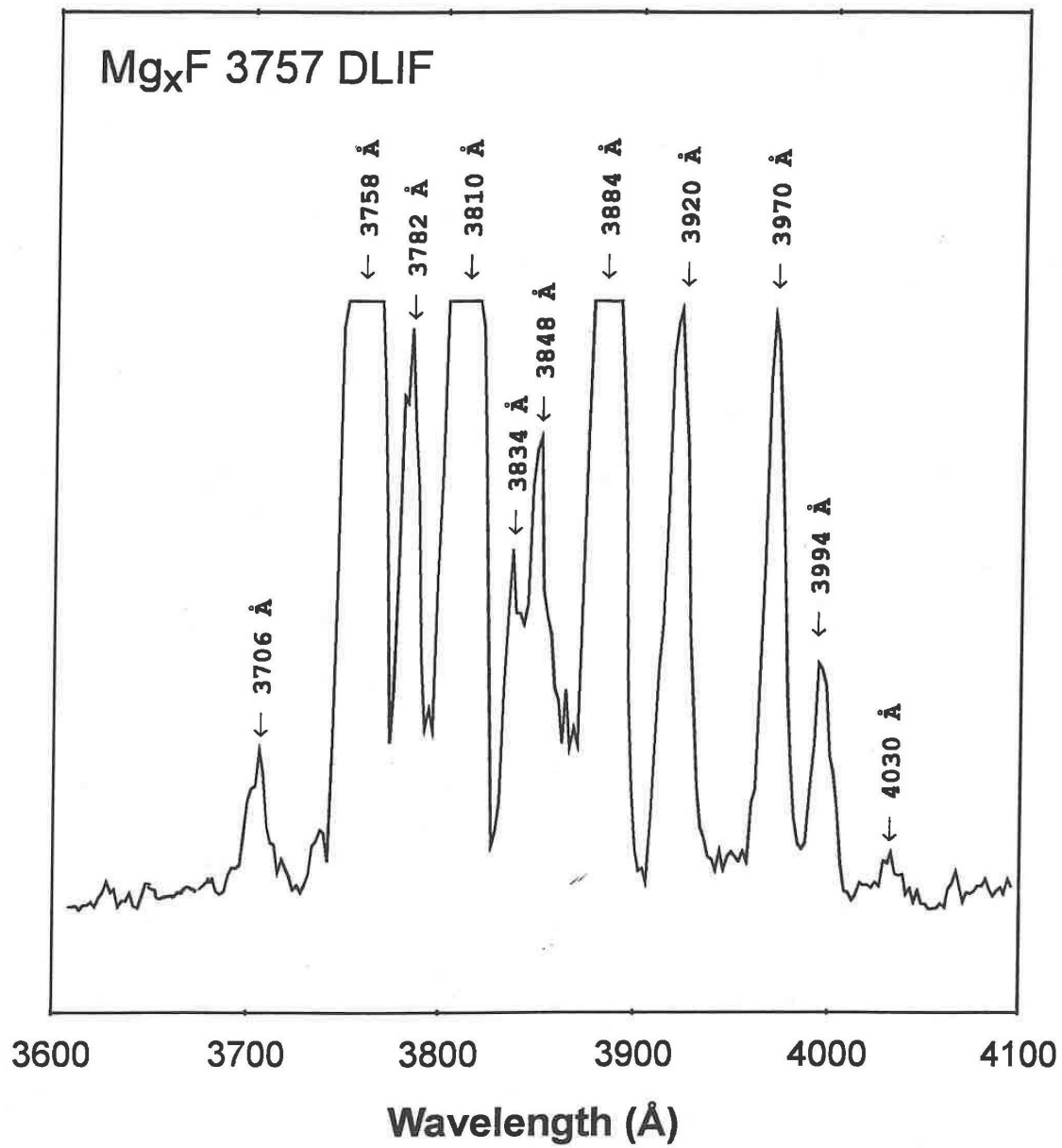
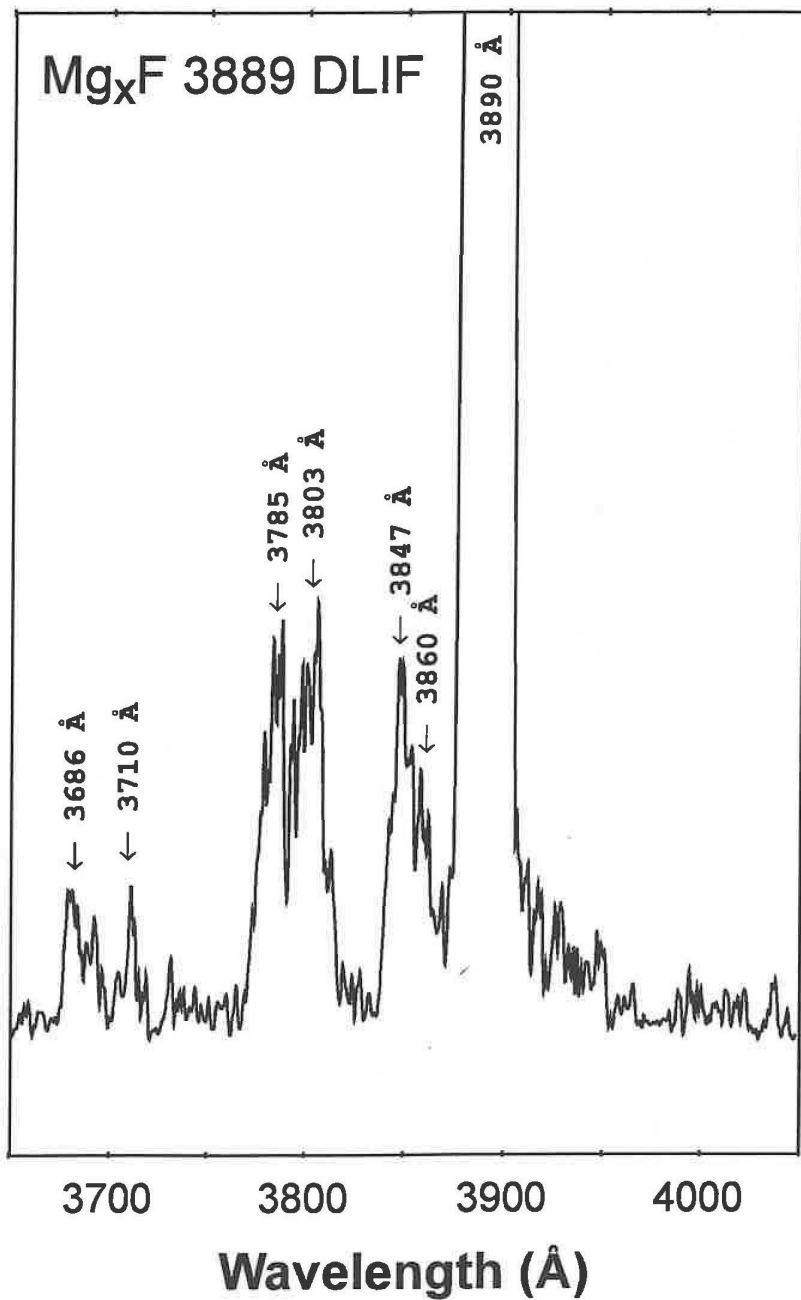
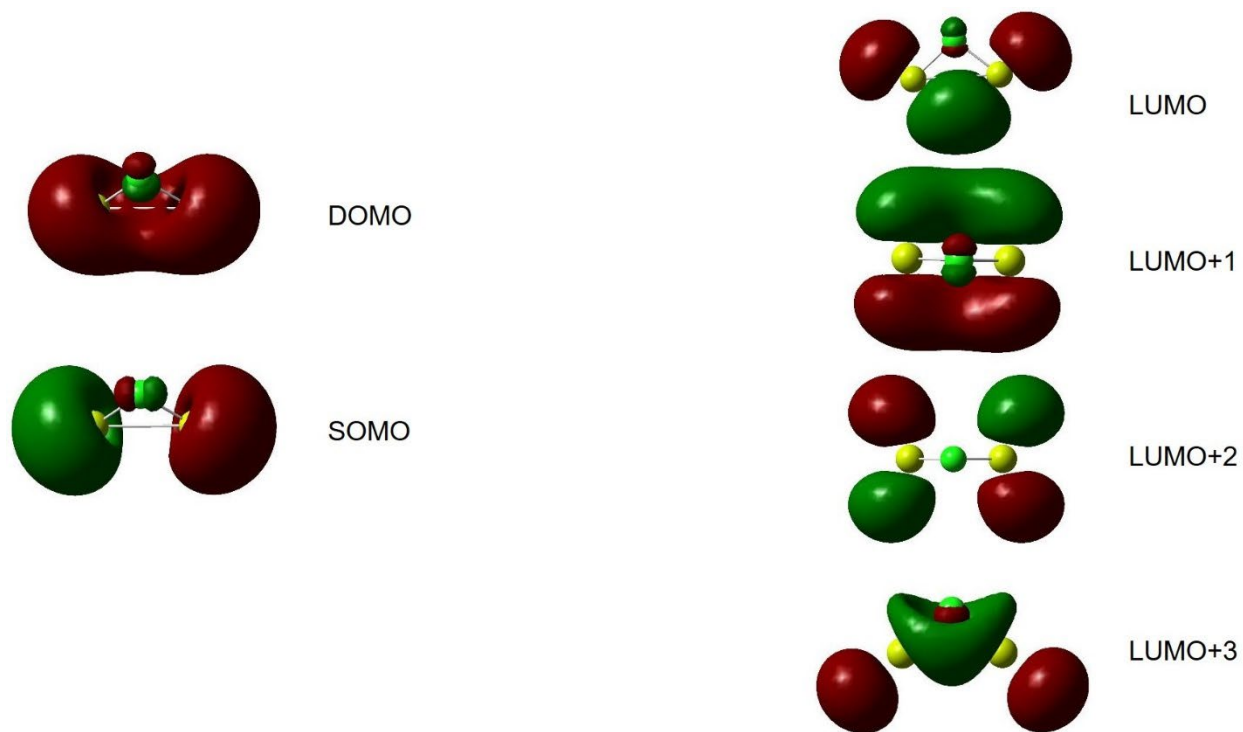


Figure A6.1d

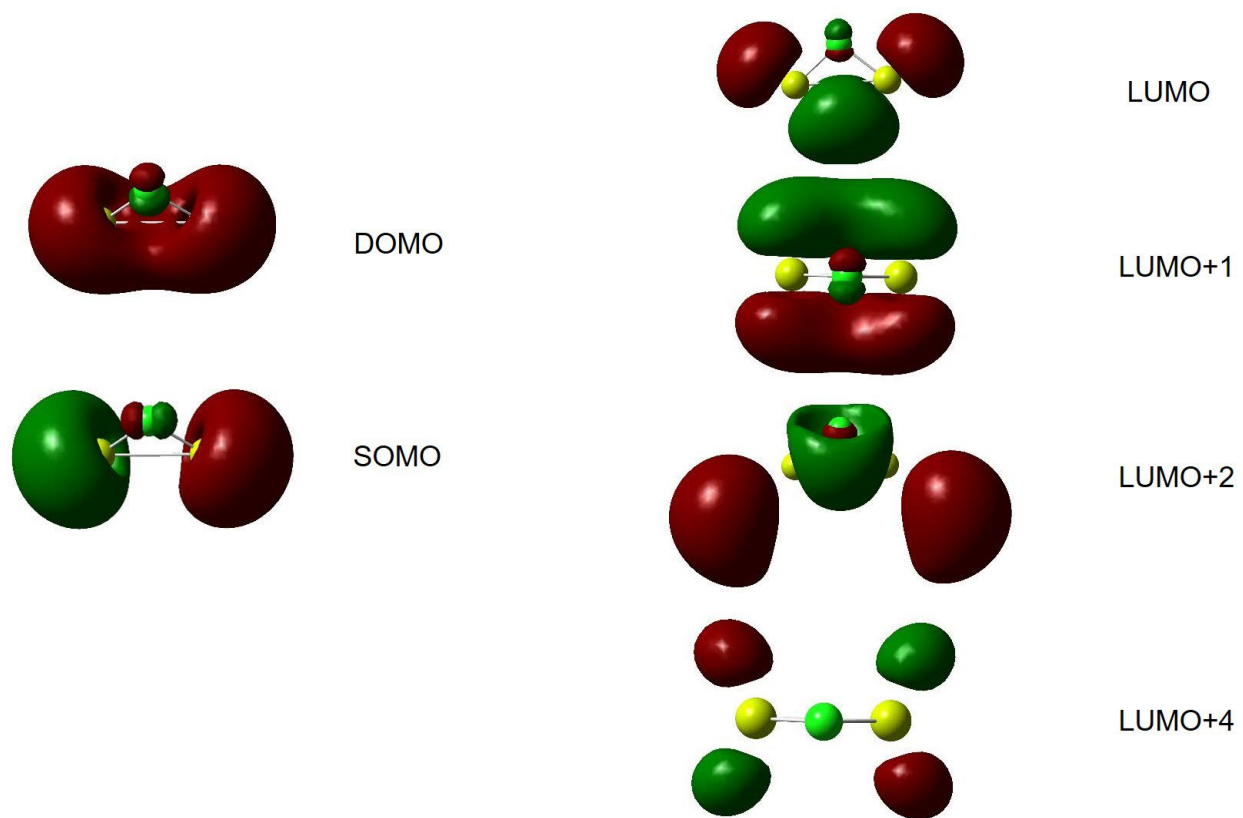


**Figure A6.1e**

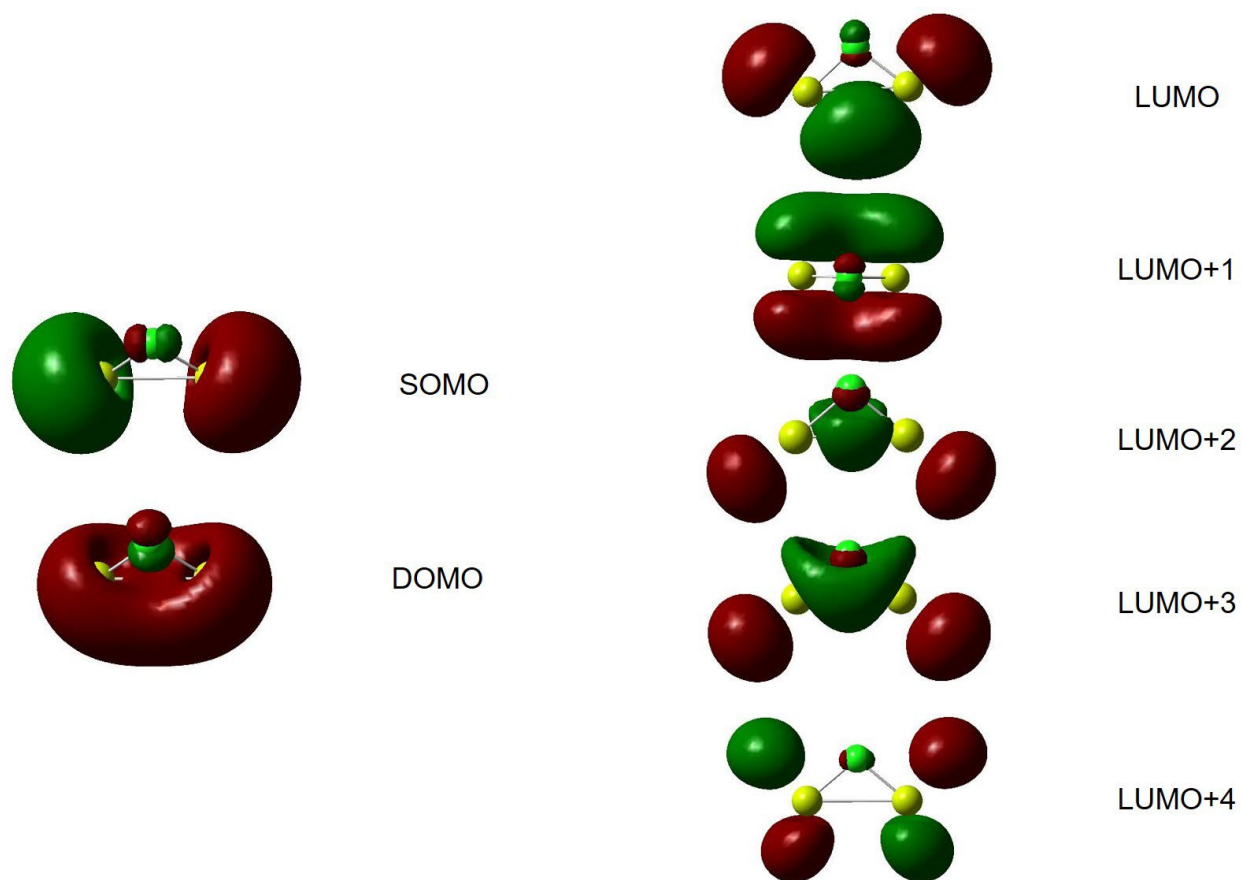
**Figure A6.1.** Exemplary dispersed laser induced fluorescence spectra pumped at wavelengths (a) 3681.8Å, (b) 3683.4Å, (c) 3708Å, (d) 3757Å, and (e) 3889Å, as indicated in Figure 6.7 (text), grouped in some cases with ground and excited state bending coupled with  $Mg_2^+$  stretching mode.



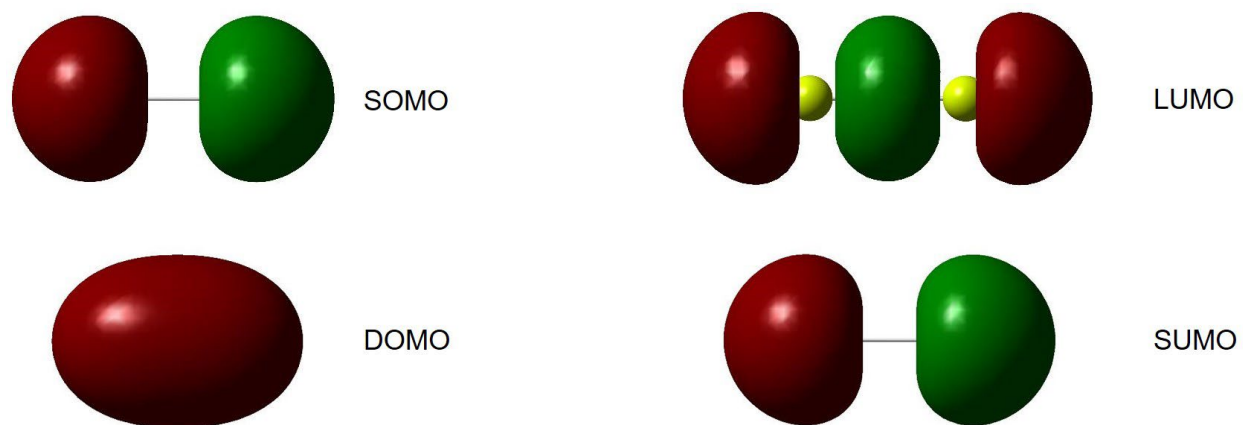
**Figure A6.2.** DOMO, SOMO and different LUMO in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  ( $C_{2v}$ ) calculated at the TPSS/aug-cc-pVTZ level (isovalue = 0.03).



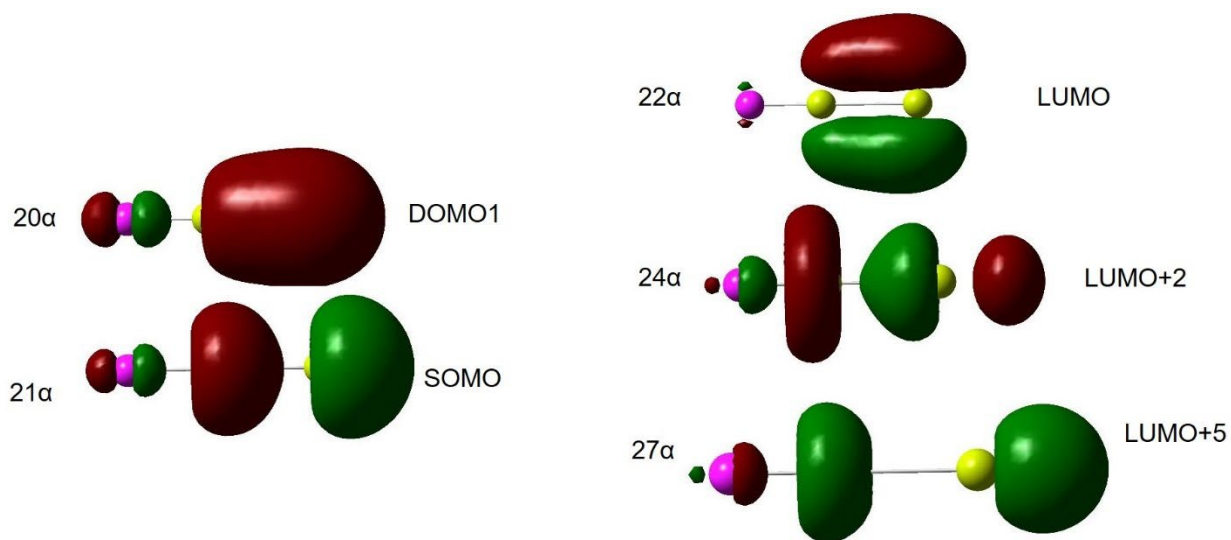
**Figure A6.3.** DOMO, SOMO and different LUMO in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  ( $C_{2v}$ ) calculated at the CAM-B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level (isovalue = 0.03, except 0.015 for LUMO+2).



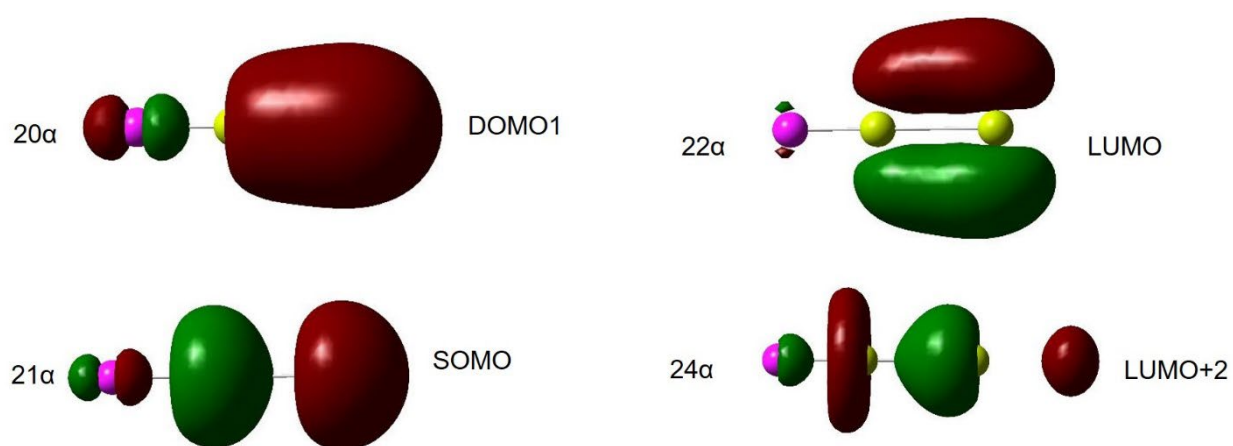
**Figure A6.4.** DOMO, SOMO and different LUMO in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  ( $C_{2v}$ ) calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level (isovalue = 0.03).



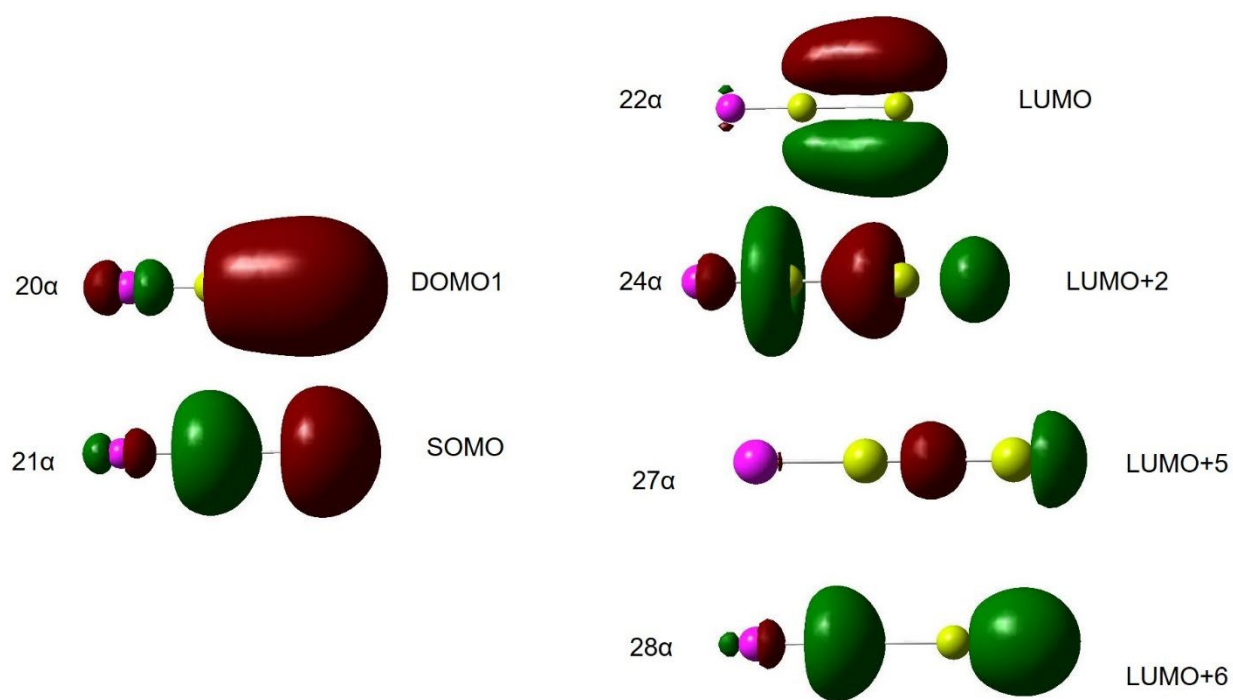
**Figure A6.5.** DOMO, SOMO and different LUMO in  $Mg_2^+$  calculated at the TPSS/aug-cc-pVTZ level (isovalue = 0.03).



**Figure A6.6.** DOMO, SOMO and different LUMO in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$  ( $C_{\infty v}$ ) calculated at the TPSS/aug-cc-pVTZ level (isovalue = 0.03, except 0.02 for LUMO+5).



**Figure A6.7.** DOMO, SOMO and different LUMO in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$  ( $C_{\infty v}$ ) calculated at the CAM-B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level (isovalue = 0.03, except 0.02 for LUMO+2).



**Figure A6.8.** DOMO, SOMO and different LUMO in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$  ( $C_{\infty v}$ ) at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level (isovalue = 0.03).

## CHAPTER 7

### CONCLUSIONS

The combustion of fossil fuels produces CO<sub>2</sub> which contributes to global warming. Capturing existing CO<sub>2</sub> either at the source or from air and exploiting alternative green energy technologies to replace the use of fossil fuel are both important to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. High level computational chemistry calculations have been performed to aid in the development of technologies for CO<sub>2</sub> capture and sequestration in the subsurface and the development of new catalysts focusing on biofuel conversion. In this dissertation, two chapters describe predictions of the thermodynamics of metal carbonates to develop approaches for predicting the properties of carbonate minerals. Two chapters are associated with the reactions of group IV transition metal oxides with CO<sub>2</sub> and for biofuel conversion. Chapter 6 provides the best energetics available for the formation of small Mg clusters with halogen atoms to interpret the observed chemiluminescence from reactions of magnesium clusters with halogen atoms.

Metal carbonates are important in a variety of geological processes, including providing paleoclimate information, biomineralization, and mineralization/dissolution processes relevant to CO<sub>2</sub> capture and sequestration in subsurface environments. In Chapter 2, the heats of formation of the carbonate, bicarbonate and bicarbonate/hydroxide metal complexes, including hydrates, of Mg<sup>2+</sup>, Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Fe<sup>2+</sup>, and Cd<sup>2+</sup>, and the oxides, dichlorides, and dihydroxides are predicted from atomization energies using correlated molecular orbital theory at the CCSD(T) level extrapolated to the complete basis set limit following the Feller-Peterson-Dixon (FPD) approach.

Using the calculated gas phase values and the available experimental solid state values, we predicted the cohesive energies of selective minerals. The gas phase decomposition energies into MO, CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O follow the order Mg ~ Ca > Cd ~ Fe, and correlate with the hardness of the metal +2 ions. Gas phase hydration energies show that the order is Mg > Fe > Ca ~ Cd. There are a number of bulk hydrated Mg and Ca complexes that occur as minerals but there are few if any for Fe and Cd, suggesting that a number of factors are important in determining the stability of the bulk mineral hydrates. The FPD heats of formation were used to benchmark a range of density functional theory exchange-correlation functionals, including those commonly used in solid state mineral calculations. None of the functionals provided chemical accuracy agreement ( $\pm 1$  kcal/mol) with the FPD results. The best agreement to the FPD results is predicted for  $\omega$ B97X and  $\omega$ B97X-D functionals with average unsigned errors of 10 kcal/mol. The worst functionals are PW91, BP86, and PBE with average unsigned errors of 32 to 36 kcal/mol.

In Chapter 3, the gas phase heats of formation of ground state MCO<sub>3</sub>, M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and M(HCO<sub>3</sub>)(OH), where M = Mn, Co, Ni, Cu and Zn, have been predicted using correlated molecular orbital theory at the CCSD(T) level extrapolated to the complete basis set limit using the FPD approach. Cohesive energies of the carbonates were predicted based on the calculated gas phase and experimental solid heats of formation. Coulombic dissociation energies (CDE) between metal cations and anions show a near linear correlation with Shannon metal cation atomic radii, yet no correlation is found with the hardness of these cations. The total reaction dissociation energies (TRDE) of transition metals are higher than their CDE in contrast to those for Mg and Ca based on our prior work. In addition to differences in the energies needed to prepare the transition metal dications, electron donation from the ligands to the 3d orbitals of open-shell transition metal dications from lone pairs of adjacent O atoms also plays a role. No

electron donation from the ligands to the fully occupied 3d orbitals of Zn and Cd were found. Decomposition energies for generating MO, CO<sub>2</sub> and/or H<sub>2</sub>O were calculated. Gas phase metal exchange energies only partially correlate with the reduction potential ordering for M(s) → M<sup>2+</sup>(aq). The FPD heats of formation were used to benchmark a range of density functional theory exchange–correlation functionals, including those commonly used in solid-state mineral calculations. None of the functionals provided chemical accuracy agreement (±1 kcal/mol) with the FPD results. The best agreement with the FPD results is predicted for the τ-HCTH functional with an average unsigned error of 8.3 kcal/mol.

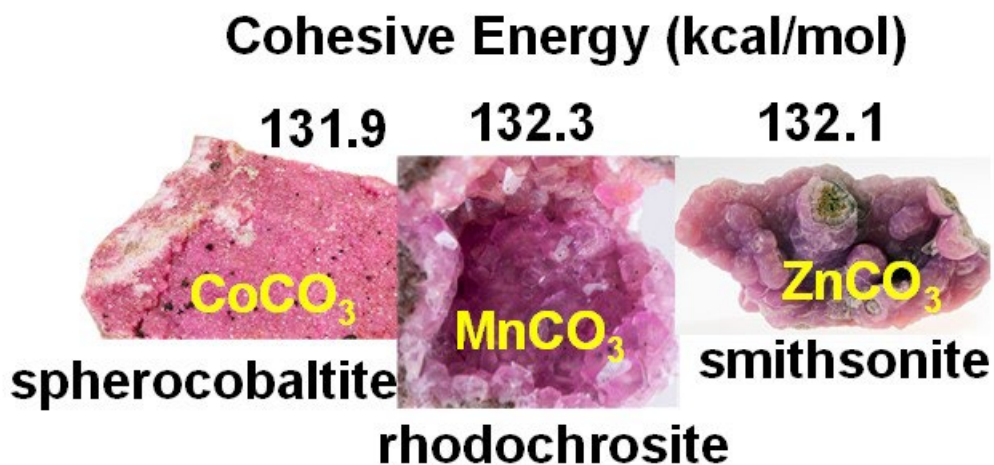
The combustion of fossil fuels is leading to unacceptable levels of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere leading to global warming. As such, there is significant interest in the capture and conversion of CO<sub>2</sub> using a variety of species including metal oxides. Prior work<sup>41,42</sup> had incorrectly predicted the structures of CO<sub>2</sub> binding to TiO<sub>2</sub> nanoclusters. In Chapter 4, the chemisorption addition of CO<sub>2</sub> to M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> and M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> for M = Ti, Zr and Hf was examined using couple cluster CCSD(T) theory using density functional theory B3LYP geometries. For neutral M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>, a bridge chemisorbed tridentate carbonate cluster is the lowest energy for Ti and Zr, and a terminal chemisorbed bidentate carbonate is the lowest energy for Hf. For anionic M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>CO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, the lowest energy structure is a terminal chemisorbed bidentate carbonate for all three metals. The use of correlation-consistent weighted core basis sets for the CCSD(T) calculations is shown to be necessary to obtain the correct energy ordering for the isomers. Only for Ti<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>CO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, a center tridentate carbonate cluster is a low energy isomer. The electron affinities of M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>CO<sub>2</sub> are ~ 0.2 eV larger than for M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>. The CO<sub>2</sub> chemisorption binding energies increase slightly for M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> as compared to M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>.

In Chapter 5, dehydration and dehydrogenation of one ethanol molecule on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  ( $n = 2 - 4$ ) nanoclusters were studied using the correlated molecular orbital theory at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ(-PP(Ti)) level at density functional theory B3LYP/DZVP2 optimized geometries. Physisorption and chemisorption of ethanol at the bridge Ti on the trimer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_3$  and tetramer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_4$  is thermodynamically preferred over that at the terminal  $\text{Ti}=\text{O}$ . Two possible lowest energy pathways of dehydration were predicted for the dimer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_2$  and trimer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_3$  where the  $\beta$  hydrogen on ethanol transfers to the adjacent terminal oxygen, or to the adjacent bidentate oxygen. Only the latter pathway was predicted to be the lowest energy pathway on the tetramer  $(\text{TiO}_2)_4$ . Removal of the ethylene molecule from the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n\text{OH}_2\text{-C}_2\text{H}_4$  complex for  $n = 2$  to 4 at 0 K requires 2 to 7 kcal/mol. For dehydrogenation, the pathway of transferring the  $\alpha$  hydrogen to the adjacent Ti atom results in the lowest energy path by a proton coupled electron transfer (PCET) process. Removal of the acetaldehyde molecule requires 14 to 26 kcal/mol from the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n\text{H}_2\text{-C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O}$  complex. Loss of  $\text{H}_2$  from the  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n\text{H}_2$  complex requires 5 to 8 kcal/mol. Dehydration and dehydrogenation of one ethanol occur below reactant asymptote for  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4, whereas for  $(\text{WO}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{MoO}_3)_3$  two ethanols are required. Dehydration of one ethanol is thermodynamically preferred over dehydrogenation on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$ ,  $n = 2$  to 4. Physisorption and chemisorption of one ethanol molecule on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  ( $n = 2-4$ ) nanoclusters are predicted to be more negative than physisorption and chemisorption of one methanol molecule on surface of rutile  $\text{TiO}_2(110)$ . There is an approximate linear correlation of metal Lewis acidity with physisorption of one ethanol. A quadratic correlation is predicted between the chemisorption barrier of one ethanol and corresponding proton affinity of the oxygen to which it is being transferred. There are linear correlations between basicity of the oxygen site and the acidity of the OH group versus the energy to remove  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  from that site.

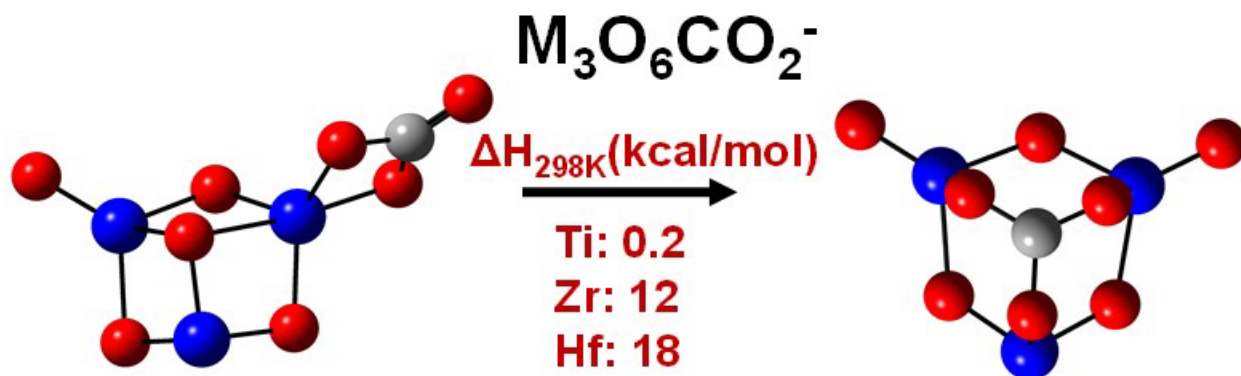
Metal cluster oxidation reactions can exhibit novel reaction dynamics including branching. A near ultraviolet transition of  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  has been observed in emission from the reaction between magnesium clusters, most likely  $\text{Mg}_3$ , and fluorine atoms. Since there is little evidence for upper state internal excitation, the spectrum is assigned assuming the upper state is quenched to its lowest vibrational levels as shown in Chapter 6. Two of possibly three ground state vibrational frequencies,  $\nu_1 = 516 \pm 10 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $\nu_2 = 104 \pm 10 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  have been established. Dispersed laser induced fluorescence studies extrapolating on the observed chemiluminescence indicate an excited state symmetric stretch frequency of order  $370 \pm 30 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Electronic structure calculations at the CCSD(T)/CBS level predict that the ground state of  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  has  $C_{2v}$  symmetry and can be described as an  $\text{Mg}_2^+\text{F}^-$  ion pair with two Mg-F bonds. Like the  $\text{MgF}$  A-X transition that is largely a transition between Mg orbitals, the observed transition in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$  is largely between orbitals on the magnesium dimer ion. The asymmetric  $C_{\infty v}$   $\text{Mg}_2^+\text{F}^-$  complex is also a minimum and is predicted to be 6.7 kcal/mol higher in energy. Calculated structures for the  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$  isomers are also presented and used to further interpret the experimental results for the reaction of Mg clusters with Cl atoms. In contrast to  $\text{Mg}_2\text{F}$ , the ground state of  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}$  is a linear  $C_{\infty v}$   $\text{MgMgCl}$  structure with the  $C_{2v}$  and  $D_{\infty h}$  isomers  $\text{MgClMg}$  slightly higher in energy.



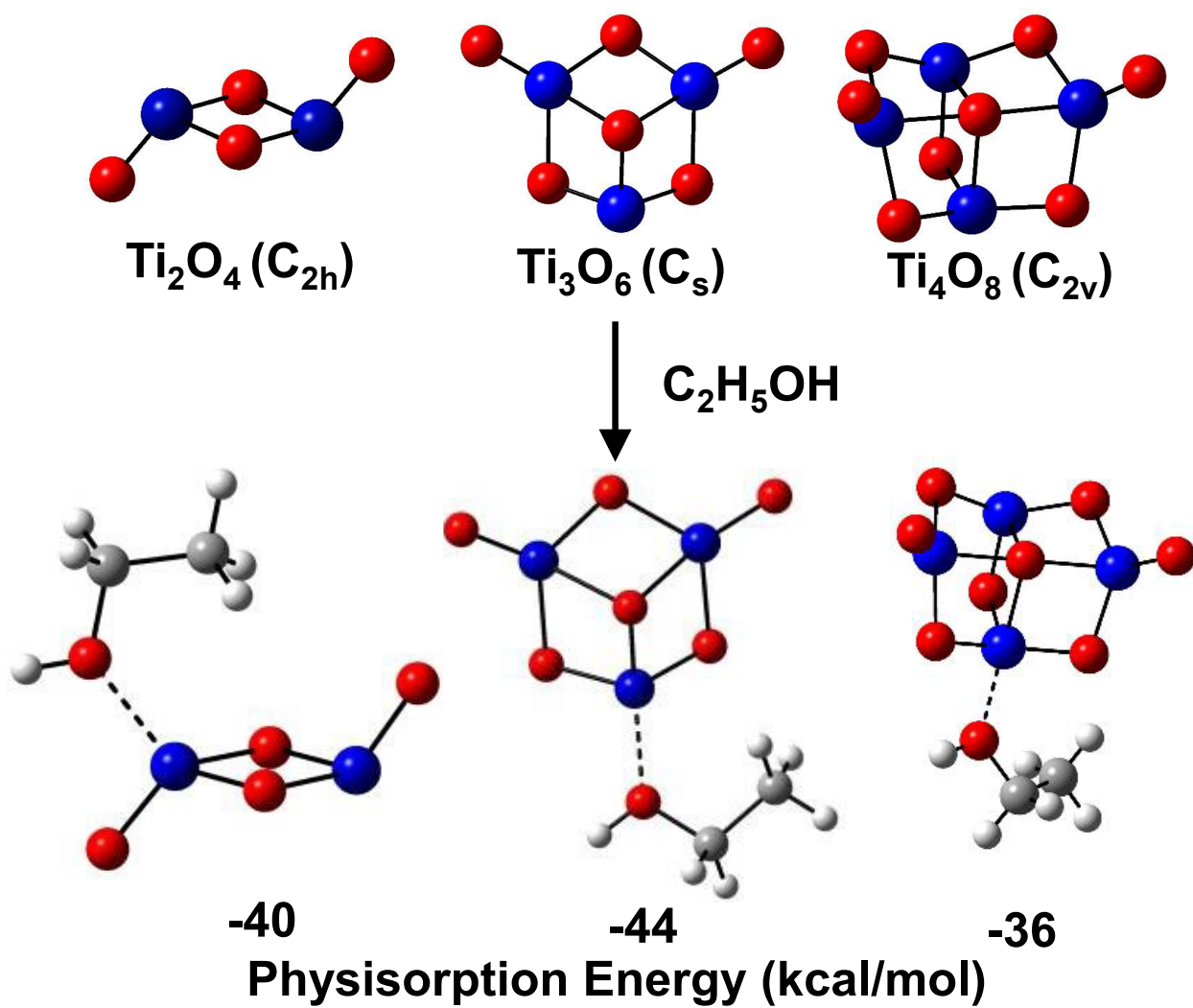
**Figure 7.1.** Cohesive energy of  $\text{FeCO}_3$  at 298 K in kcal/mol and hydrated structures of  $\text{FeCO}_3$ . Green atoms = Fe, red atoms = O, grey atoms = C and white atoms = H.



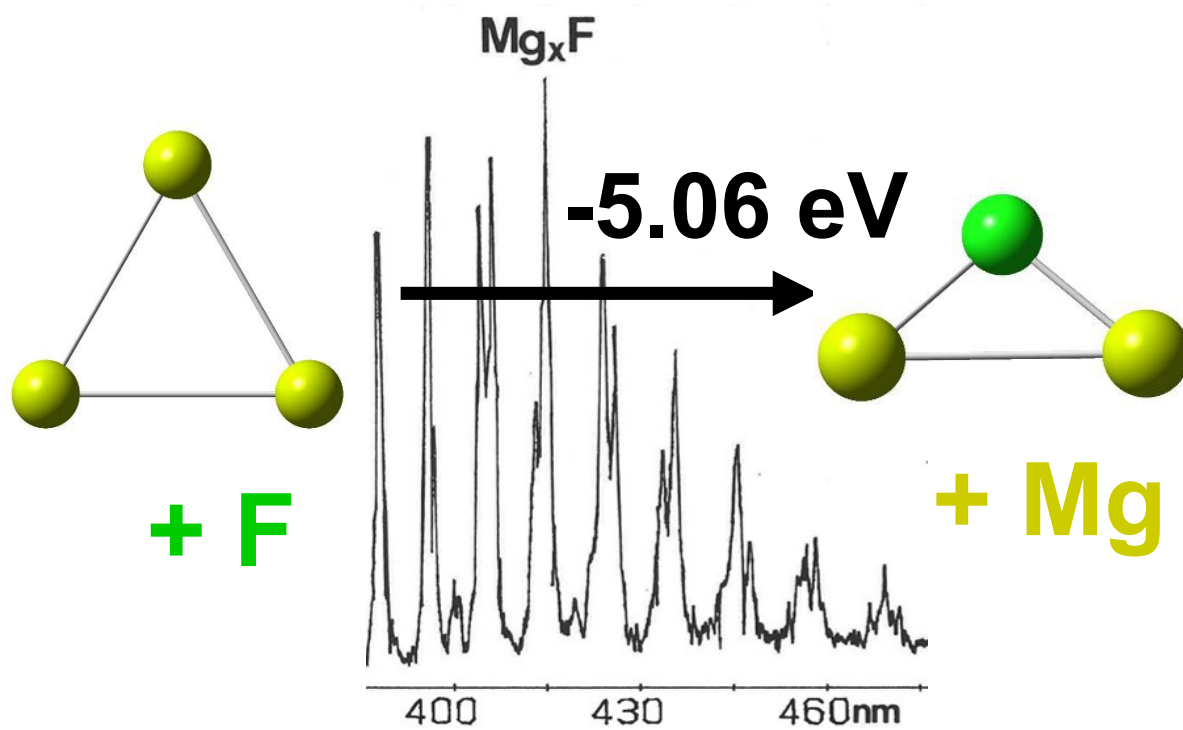
**Figure 7.2.** Cohesive energy of CoCO<sub>3</sub>, MnCO<sub>3</sub> and ZnCO<sub>3</sub> at 298 K in kcal/mol.



**Figure 7.3.** CO<sub>2</sub> addition energies on M<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> where M = Ti, Zr and Hf at 298 K in kcal/mol.



**Figure 7.4.** Physisorption energy of ethanol on  $(\text{TiO}_2)_n$  nanoclusters,  $n = 2$  to  $4$ , at  $0 \text{ K}$  in kcal/mol.



**Figure 7.5.** Reaction energy of  $\text{Mg}_3 + \text{F} \rightarrow \text{Mg}_2\text{F} + \text{Mg}$  in eV at 298 K with part of chemiluminescent spectrum resulting from the reaction of a high flux of dry ice cooled, helium entrained, magnesium atoms and clusters ( $\text{Mg}_2$ ,  $\text{Mg}_3$ ) with helium entrained fluorine atoms and  $\text{SF}_x$  molecules.

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