

# Electronic Supplementary Information for the article "Structure, fragmentation patterns, and magnetic properties of small nickel oxide clusters" by

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In the Figures 1-6 below are represented the putative ground state and first two low -energy isomers of  $\text{Ni}_n\text{O}_m^{\pm,0}$  ( $n = 3-8$ ;  $m = 1-9$ ) clusters.

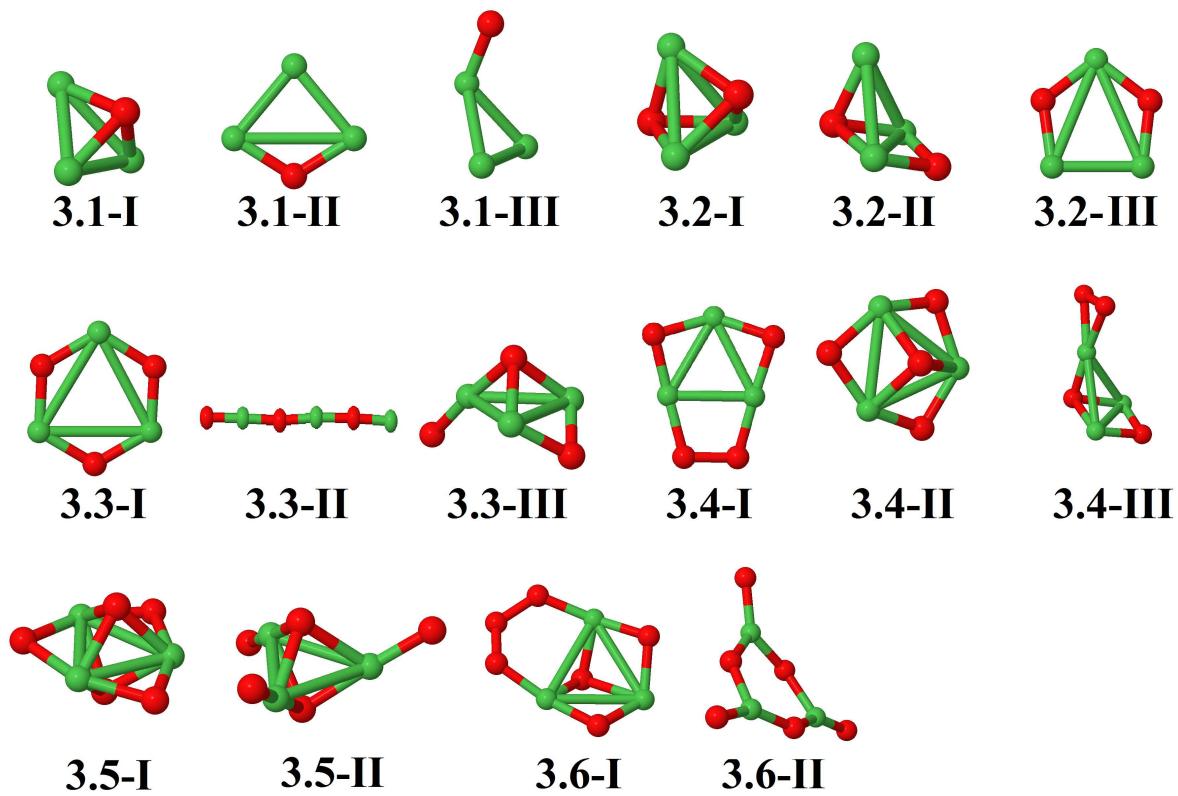
In the Figure 7 are shown the electronegativity,  $(\text{IP}_v + \text{EA}_v)/2$ , and the fundamental gap,  $\text{IP}_v - \text{EA}_v$ , of the  $\text{Ni}_4\text{O}_m$  neutral clusters for  $m = 1-7$ .

In the Tables 1-12 below we have collected the numerical values for several structural and electronic properties of neutral and charged  $\text{Ni}_n\text{O}_m^{\pm,0}$  ( $n = 3-8$ ;  $m = 1-9$ ) clusters within the putative ground state and first two low -energy isomers.

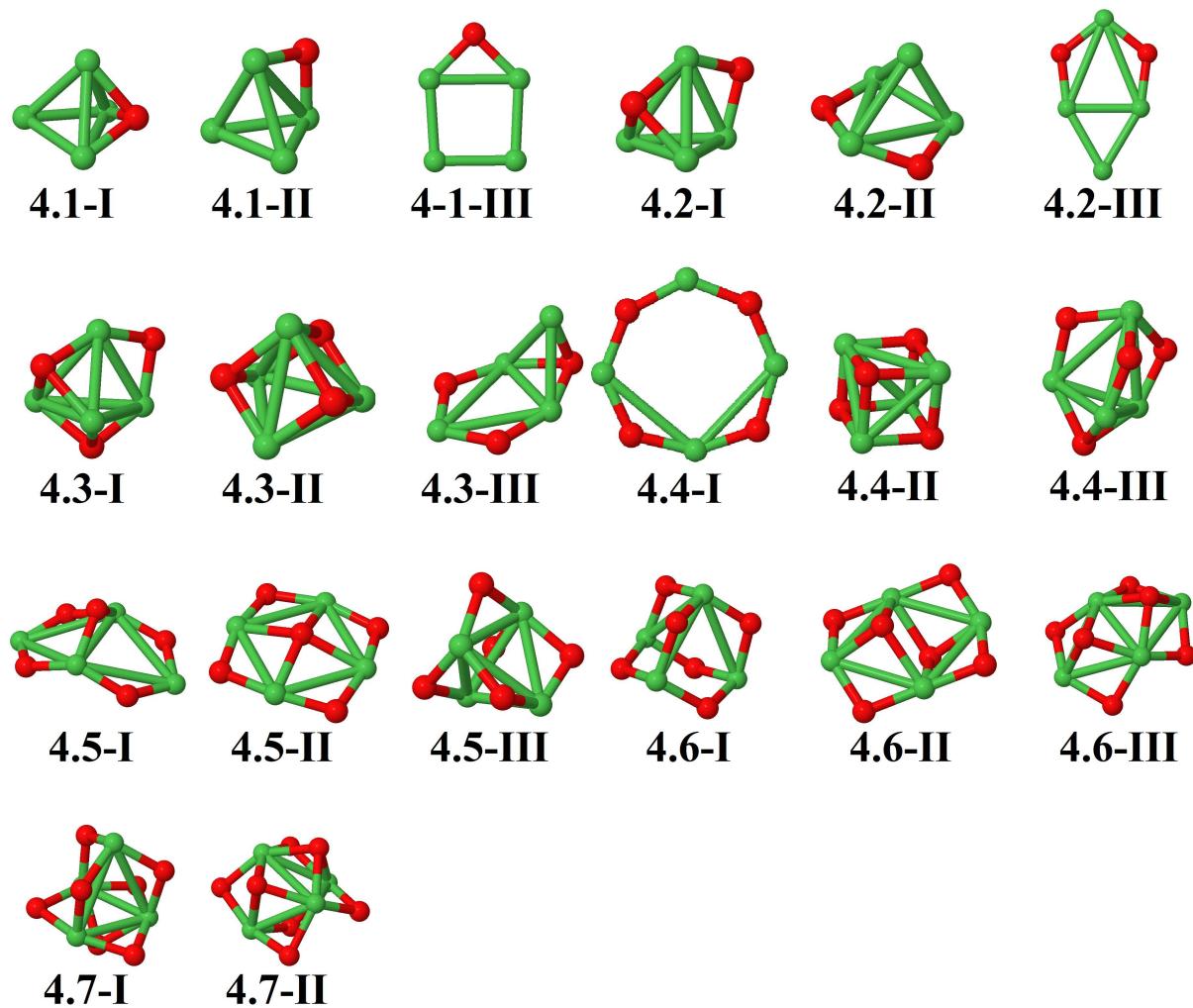
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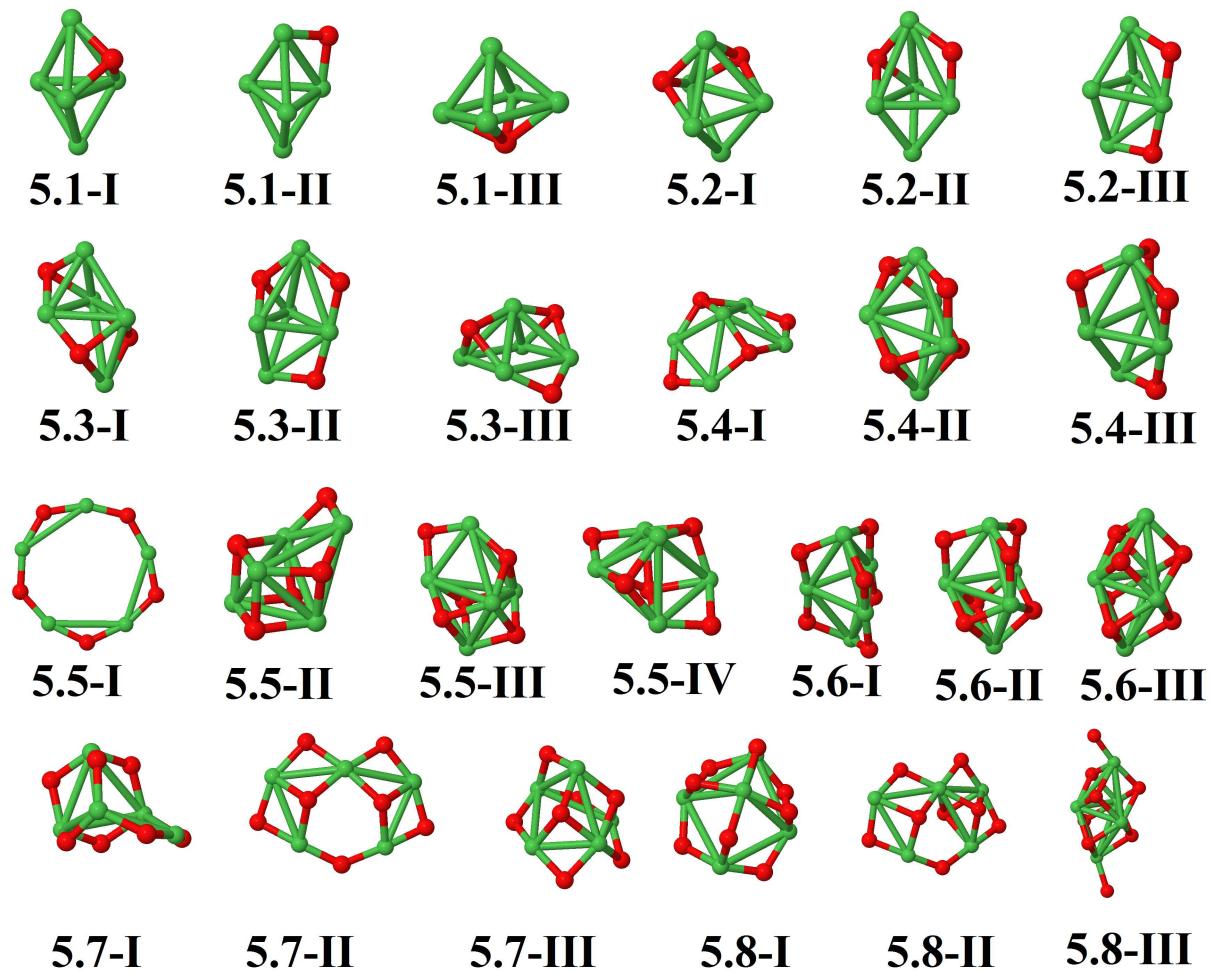
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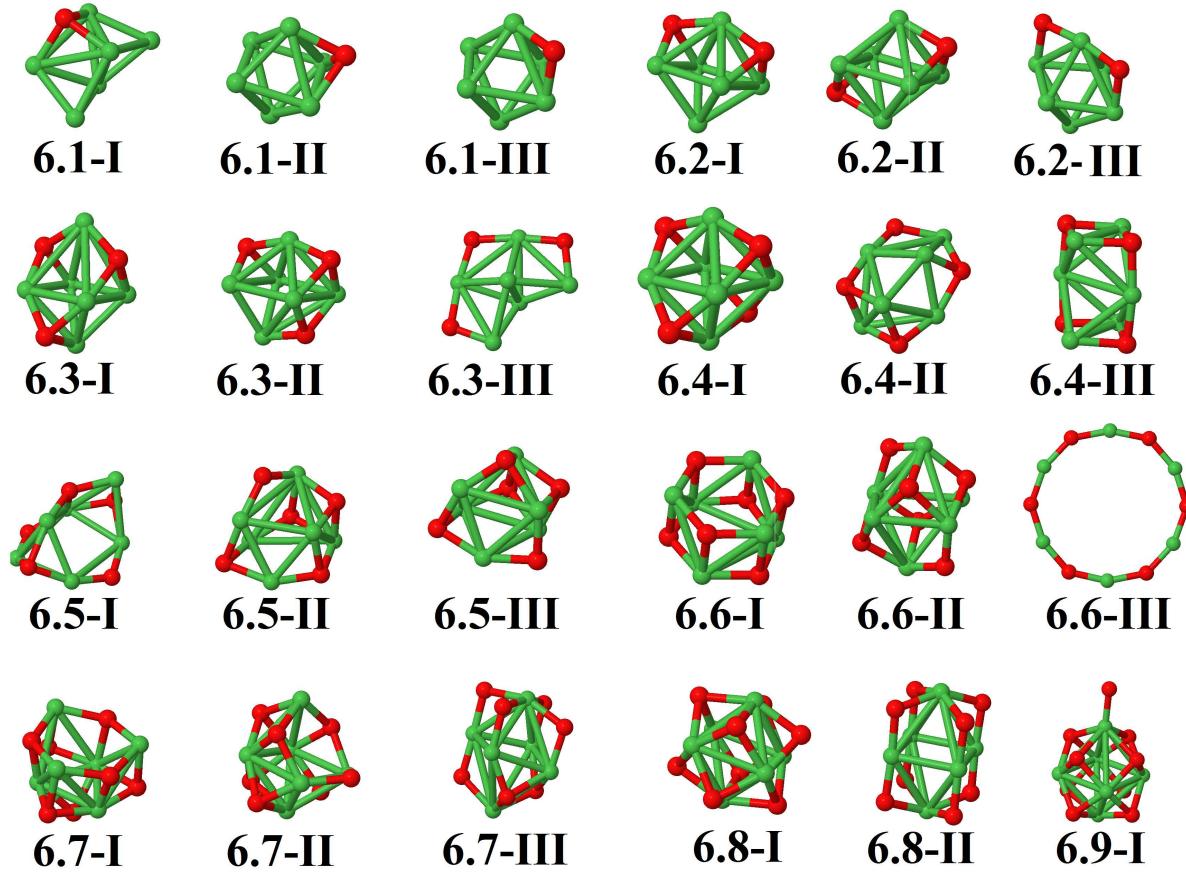
**Fig. 1** Putative ground state and first two low-energy isomers of  $[\text{Ni}_3\text{O}_m]^+$  with  $m = 1\text{--}6$ . The notation is  $3.m\text{-Label}$ , with Label in roman letters in decreasing order of stability for each  $(3,m)$ .



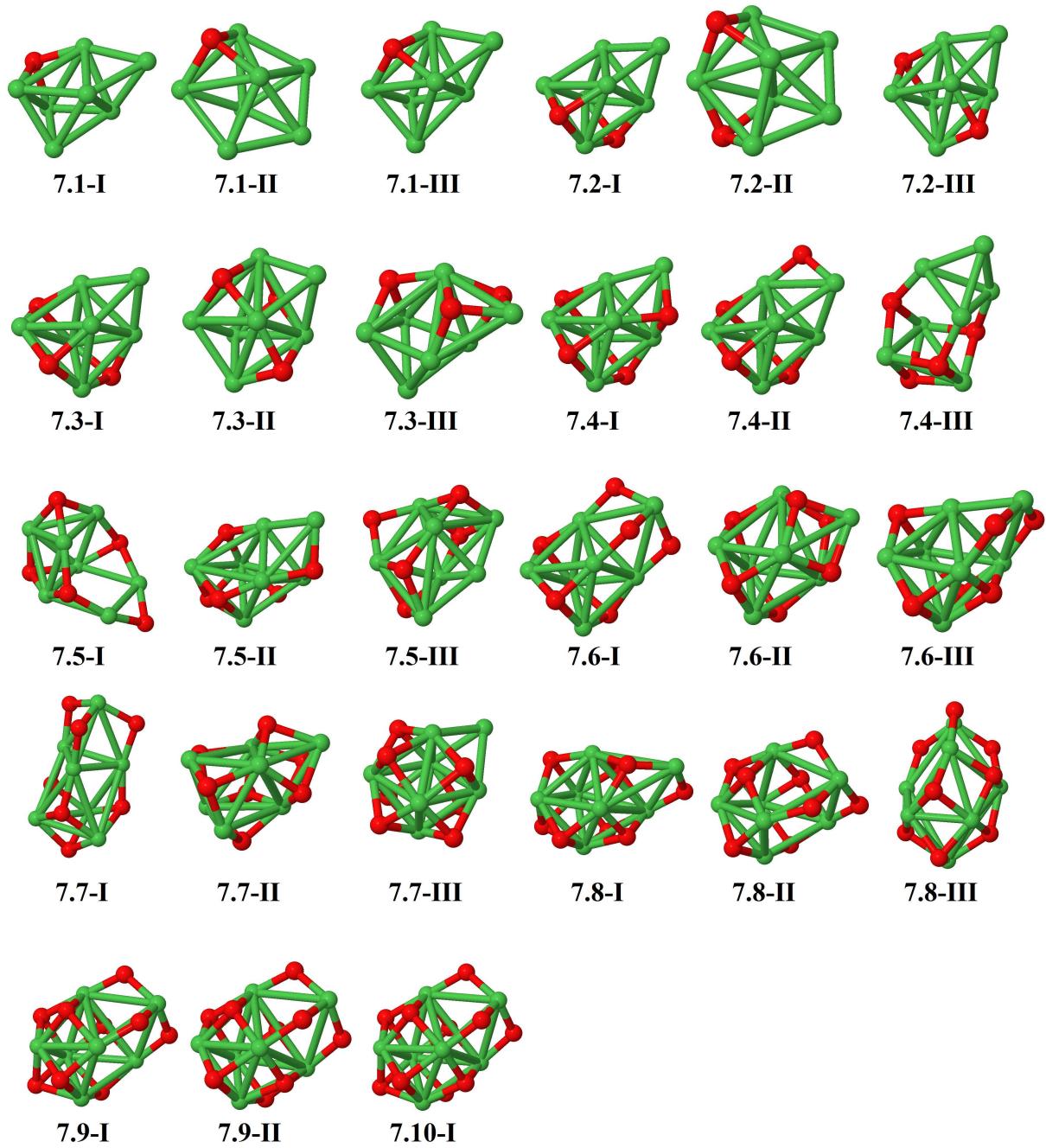
**Fig. 2** Putative ground state and first two low-energy isomers of  $[\text{Ni}_4\text{O}_m]^+$  with  $m = 1\text{-}7$ . The notation is  $4.m\text{-Label}$ , with Label in roman letters in decreasing order of stability for each  $(4,m)$ .



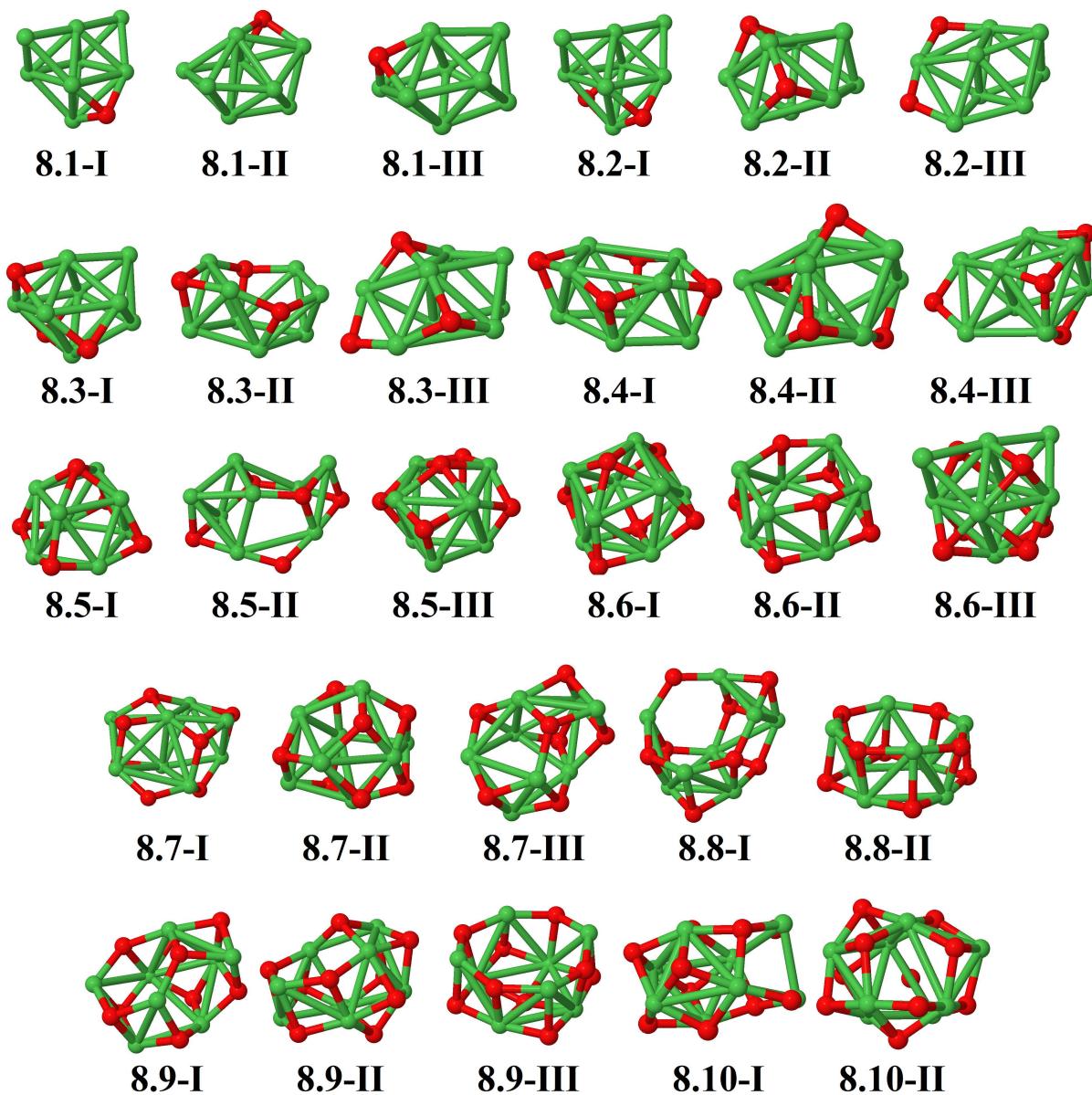
**Fig. 3** Putative ground state and first two low-energy isomers of  $[\text{Ni}_5\text{O}_m]^+$  with  $m = 1-8$ . The notation is 5. $m$ -Label, with Label in roman letters in decreasing order of stability for each (5,  $m$ ).



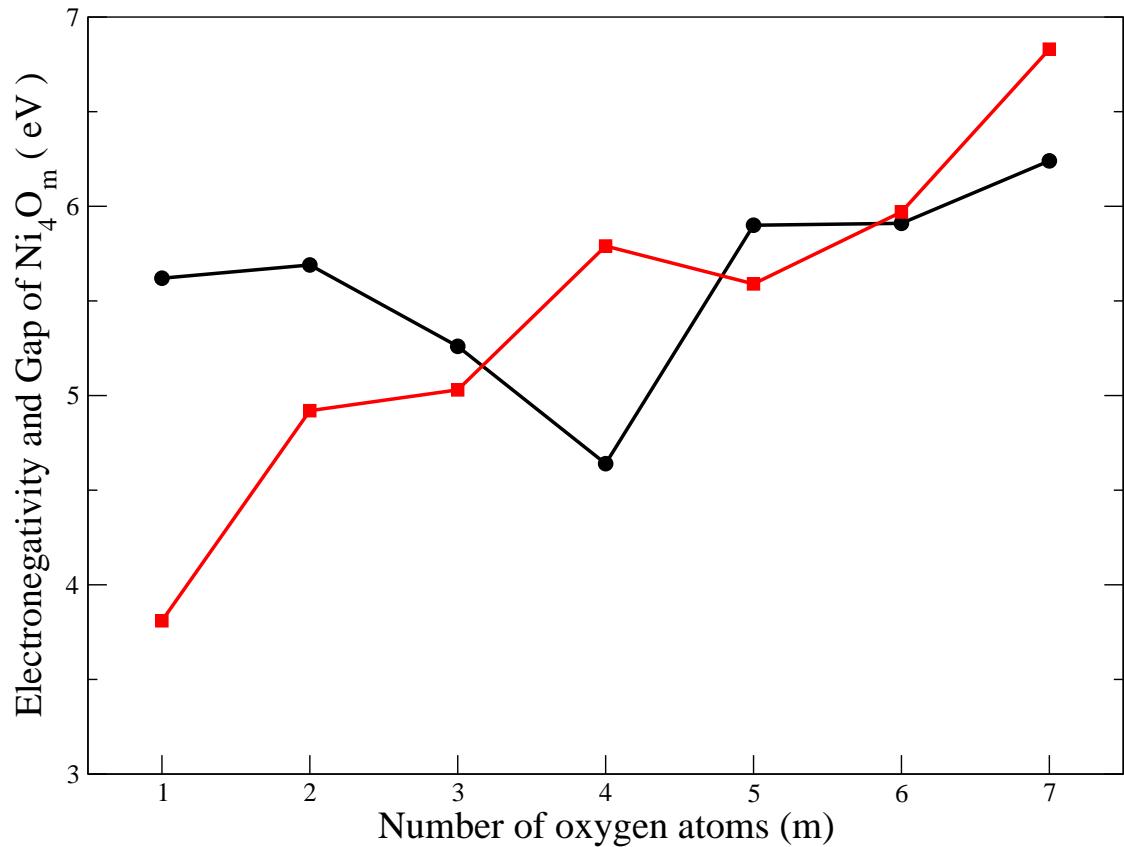
**Fig. 4** Putative ground state and first two low-energy isomers of  $[\text{Ni}_6\text{O}_m]^+$  with  $m = 1\text{-}9$ . The notation is  $6.m\text{-Label}$ , with Label in roman letters in decreasing order of stability for each  $(6,m)$ .



**Fig. 5** Putative ground state and first two low-energy isomers of  $[Ni_7O_m]^+$  with  $m = 1-10$ . The notation is  $7.m$ -Label, with Label in roman letters in decreasing order of stability for each  $(7,m)$ .



**Fig. 6** Putative ground state and first two low-energy isomers of  $[\text{Ni}_8\text{O}_m]^+$  with  $m = 1-10$ . The notation is  $8.m\text{-Label}$ , with Label in roman letters in decreasing order of stability for each  $(8,m)$ .



**Fig. 7** Electronegativity,  $(\text{IP}_v + \text{EA}_v)/2$ , and fundamental gap,  $\text{IP}_v - \text{EA}_v$ , of  $\text{Ni}_4\text{O}_m$  neutral clusters.

**Table 1** Several properties of low-energy isomers of neutral  $\text{Ni}_3\text{O}_m$  clusters with  $m = 1-6$ : Sym = molecular symmetry;  $E_b(n,m)$  = binding energy per atom in eV;  $I_p$  = ionization potential in eV;  $E_a$  = electron affinity in eV;  $\mu$  = magnetic moment in Bohr magnetons ( $\mu_B$ ); D(Ni-Ni) = average distance between first neighbour nickel atoms in Å; D(Ni-O) = average distance between first neighbour nickel-oxygen atoms in Å

Signature <i>n,m</i> -isomer	Sym	$E_b(n,m)$	neutral				
			$I_p$	$E_a$	$\mu$	D(Ni-Ni)	D(Ni-O)
3.1-I	$C_{3v}$	2.69	6.56	0.72	4	2.38	1.94
3.1.II	$C_s$	2.66	7.01	1.10	4	2.34	1.84
3.1.III	$C_{2v}$	2.49	7.46	1.59	4	2.29	1.70
3.2-I	$C_{2v}$	3.01	6.99	1.20	2	2.50	1.97
3.2-II	$C_s$	3.11	7.15	1.47	4	2.43	1.92
3.2-III	$C_s$	3.16	7.54	2.13	4	2.46	1.82
3.3-I	$D_{3h}$	3.64	8.50	2.47	2	2.44	1.80
3.3-II	$C_{\infty v}$	3.27	7.57	2.59	2	-	1.74
3.3-III	$C$	3.33	7.98	2.56	4	2.55	1.85
3.4-I	$C_s$	3.52	8.66	2.95	4	2.52	1.81
3.4-II	$C_{3v}$	3.56	8.90	2.94	2	2.54	1.89
3.4-III	$C_1$	3.30	8.32	4.47	2	2.60	1.89
3.5-I	$D_{3h}$	3.42	8.98	3.23	4	2.53	1.94
3.5-II	$C_1$	3.36	9.45	4.17	6	2.67	1.88
3.6-I	$C_s$	3.43	8.74	3.49	4	2.83	1.87
3.6-II	$C_s$	3.44	9.69	4.49	4	3.23	1.76

**Table 2** Several properties of low-energy isomers of  $[\text{Ni}_3\text{O}_m]^\pm$  cationic and anionic clusters with  $m = 1-6$ : Sym = molecular symmetry;  $E_b(n,m)$  = binding energy per atom in eV;  $\mu$  = magnetic moment in Bohr magnetons ( $\mu_B$ ); D(Ni-Ni) = average distance between first neighbour nickel atoms in Å; D(Ni-O) = average distance between first neighbour nickel-oxygen atoms in Å

Signature <i>n,m</i> -isomer	Sym	$E_b(n,m)$	cation/anion		
			$\mu$	D(Ni-Ni)	D(Ni-O)
3.1-I	$C_{3v}/C_1$	2.98/2.84	3	2.44/2.42	1.89/1.92
3.1.II	$C_{3v}/C_s$	2.83/2.90	3	2.57/2.32	1.78/1.88
3.1.III	$C_s/C_{2v}$	2.55/2.85	5/3	2.34/2.28	1.74/1.72
3.2-I	$D_{3h}/C_{2v}$	3.24/3.31	5	2.58/2.57	1.96/1.99
3.2-II	$C_s$	3.22/3.38	5	2.62/2.42	1.91/1.95
3.2-III	$C_{2v}/C_s$	3.20/3.56	5	2.89/2.46	1.81/1.85
3.3-I	$D_{3h}$	3.51/4.03	1/3	3.12/2.51	1.79/1.82
3.3-II	$C_{\infty v}$	3.29/3.68	3/5	- / -	1.75/1.76
3.3-III	$C_s$	3.28/3.73	1/5	2.73/2.17	1.85/1.89
3.4-I	$C_s$	3.38/3.92	5	2.70/2.51	1.81/1.83
3.4-II	$C_s/C_{3v}$	3.35/3.95	5	2.79/2.51	1.89/1.94
3.4-III	$C_1/-$	3.22/-	5/-	2.74/-	1.90/-
3.5-I	$D_{3h}$	3.27/3.81	5/3	2.60/2.48	1.92/1.96
3.5-II	$C_1/C_s$	3.14/3.86	7	2.72/2.62	1.88/1.90
3.6-I	$C_s$	3.32/3.80	5/3	2.92/2.74	1.87/1.87
3.6-II	$C_s/C_1$	3.22/3.93	7/5	3.35/3.29	1.77/1.77









