

Supporting Information

Lithium doped tubular structure in LiB_{20} and LiB_{20}^- :

A viable global minimum

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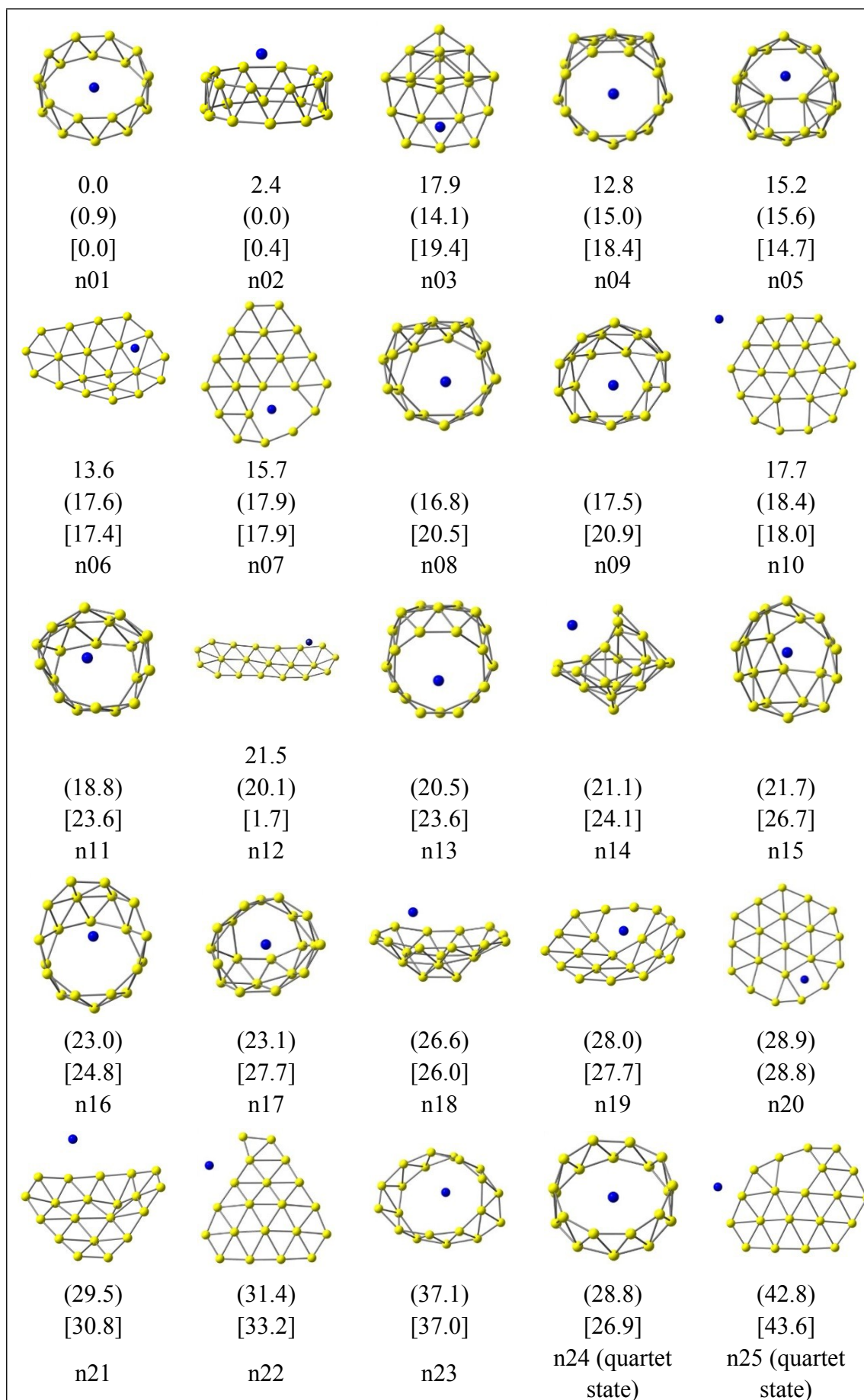
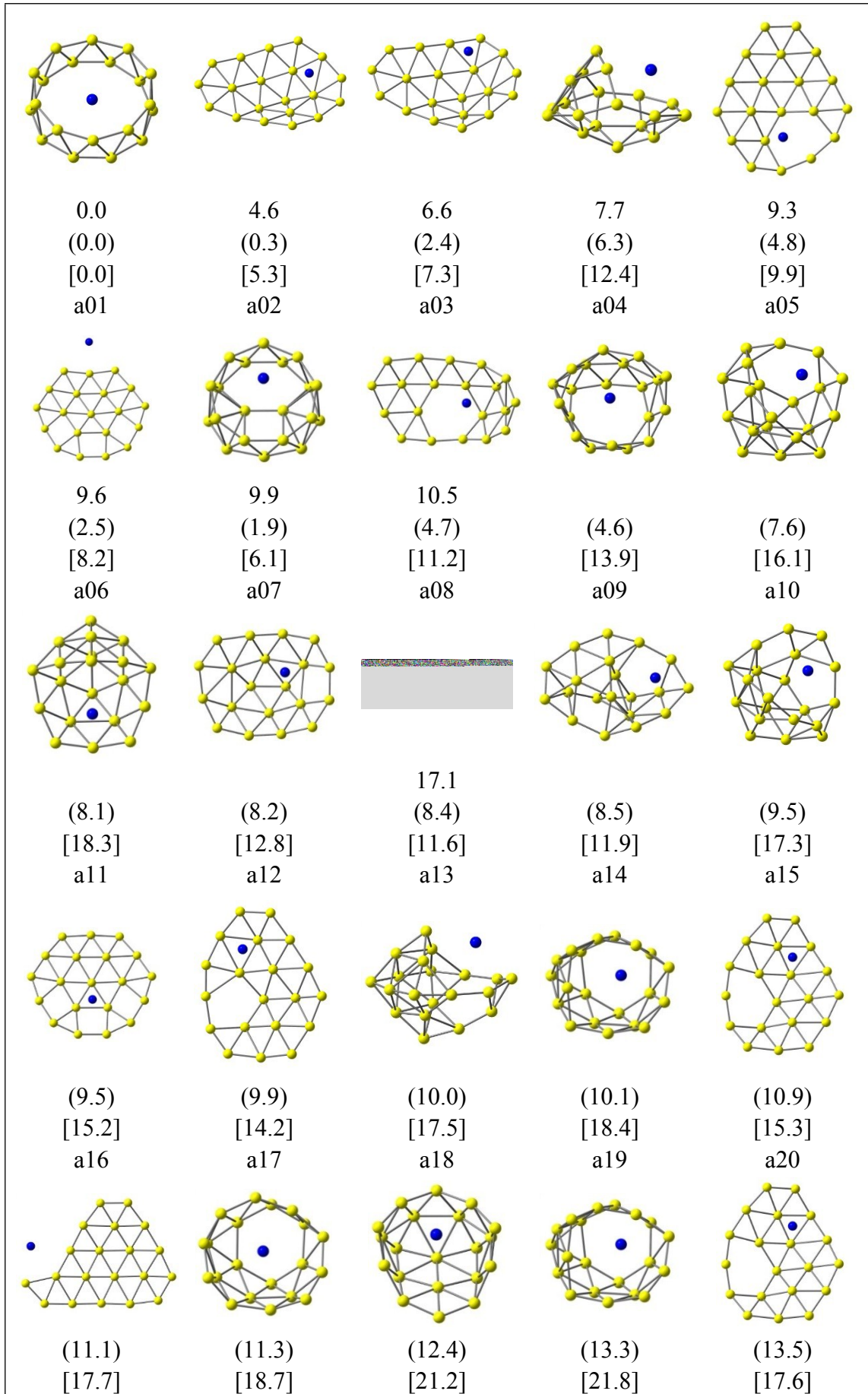
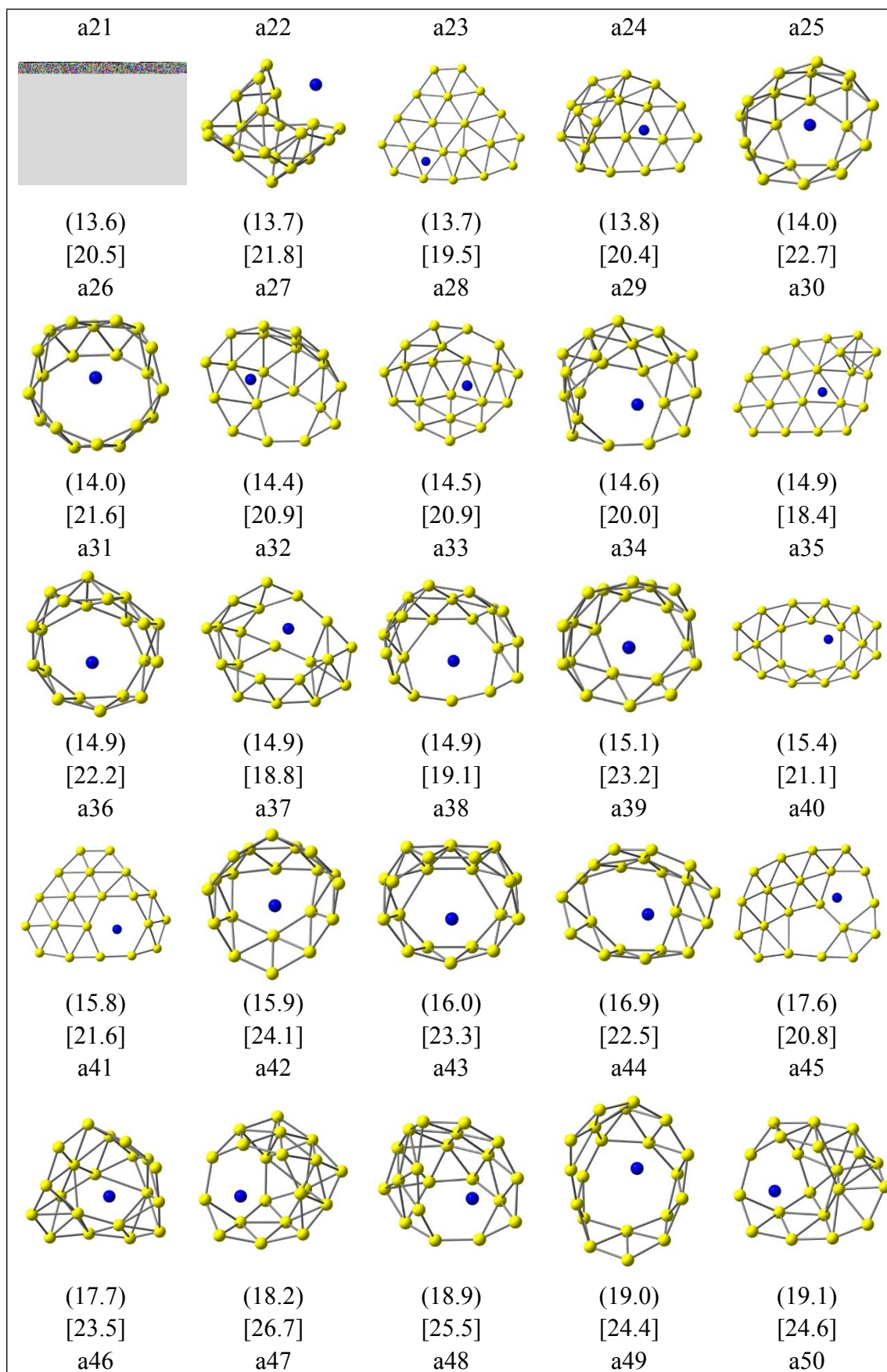
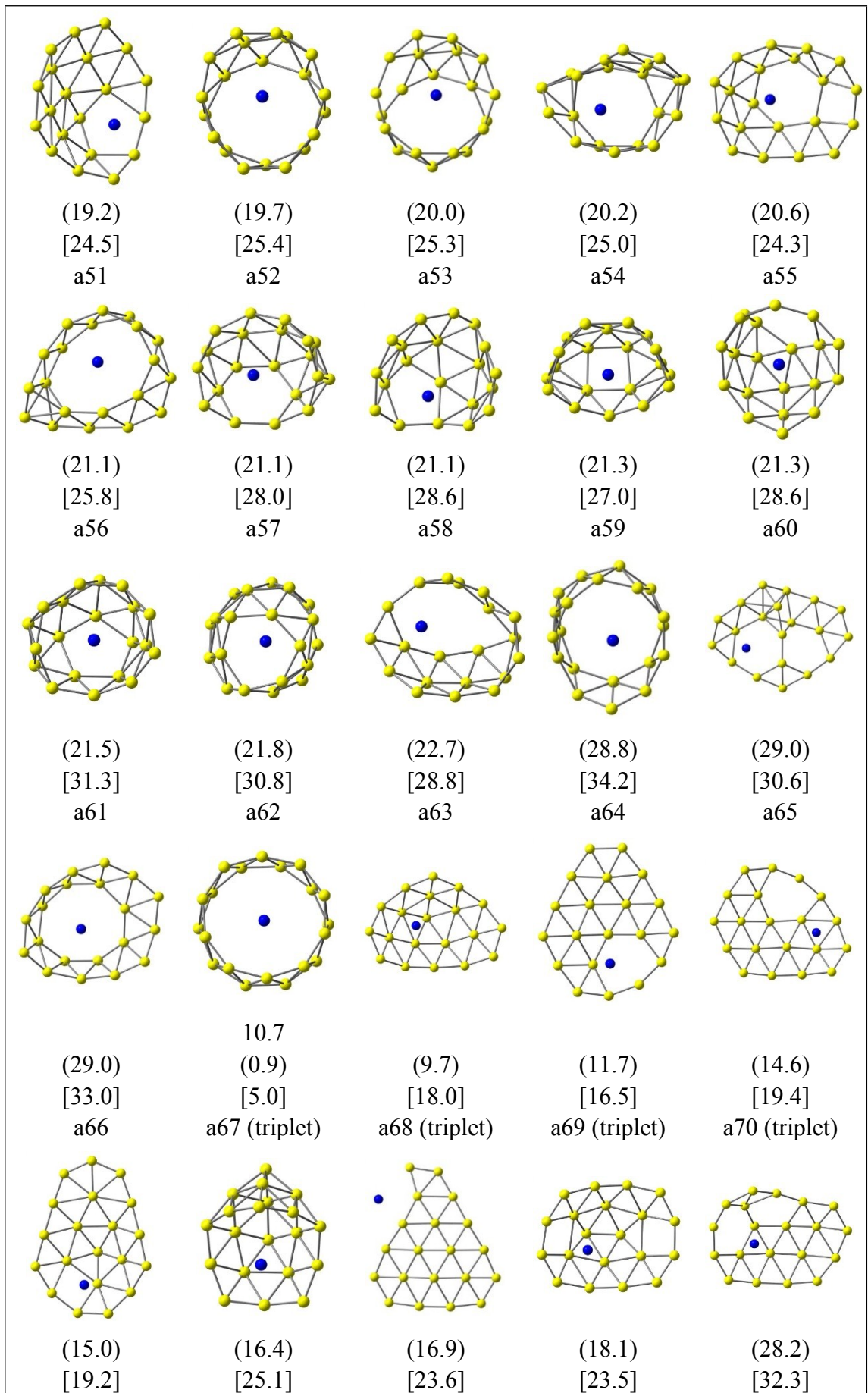


Figure S1. Structures of the lowest lying isomers of the LiB_{20} system obtained at the TPSSh/6-311+G(d) level. The last two isomers belong to lowest energy ones in the quartet state. Relative energies in kcal/mol were computed at the CCSD(T)/6-311+G(d)//TPSSh/6-311+G(d) level, PBE0/6-311+G(d) (in parenthesis), and TPSSh/6-311+G(d) (in square brackets) levels. All energies are corrected for zero-point energies (ZPE) at their respective levels except for the CCSD(T) single-point calculations, which are ZPE corrected at TPSSh/6-311+G(d).

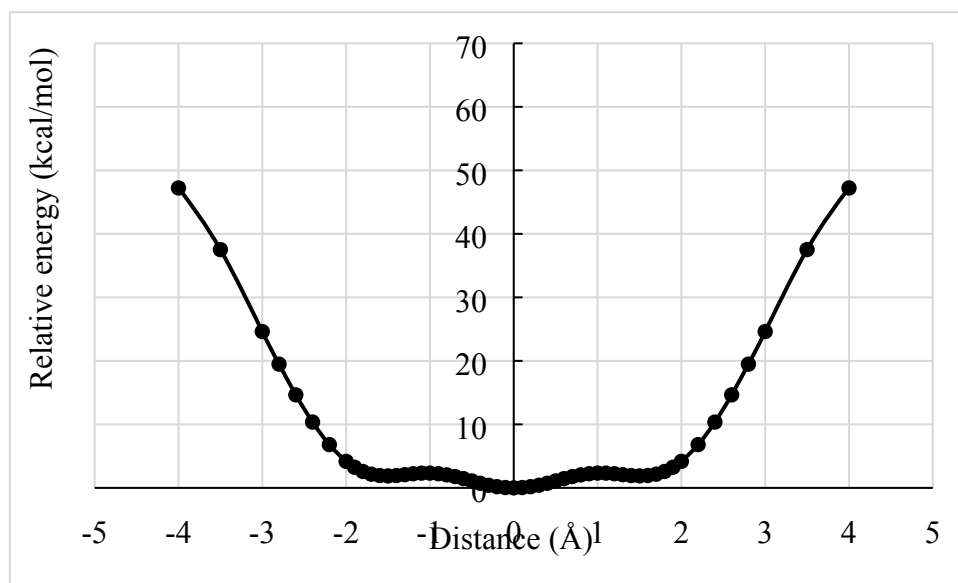




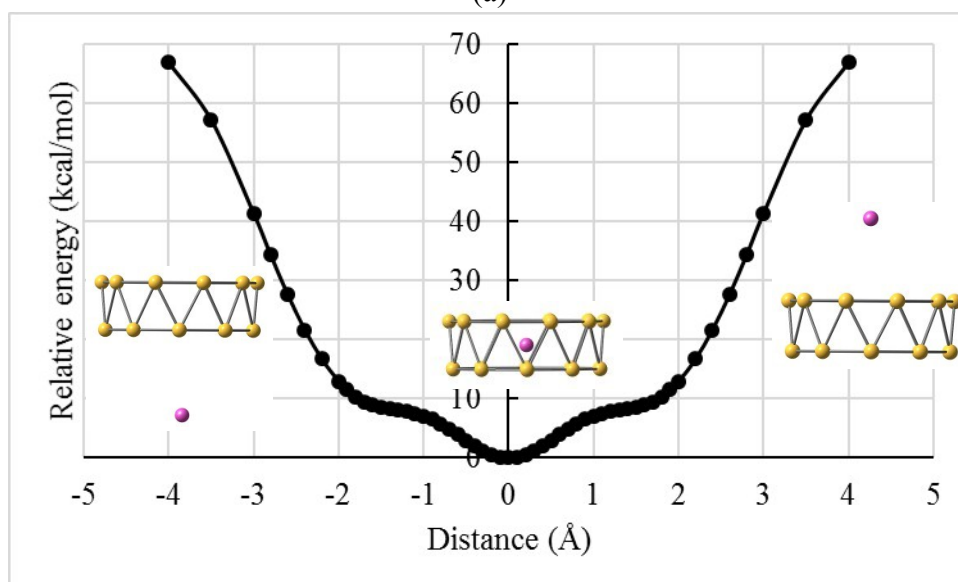


a71 (triplet)	a72 (triplet)	a73 (triplet)	a74 (triplet)	a75 (triplet)
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Figure S2. Structures of the lowest lying isomers of the LiB_{20}^- system at the TPSSh/6-311+G(d) level. The last nine isomers belong to lowest energy ones in the triplet state. Relative energies in kcal/mol were computed at the CCSD(T)/6-311+G(d)//TPSSh/6-311+G(d) level, PBE0/6-311+G(d) (in parenthesis), and TPSSh/6-311+G(d) (in square brackets) levels. All energies are corrected for zero-point energies (ZPE) at their respective levels except for the CCSD(T) single-point calculations, which are ZPE corrected at TPSSh/6-311+G(d).

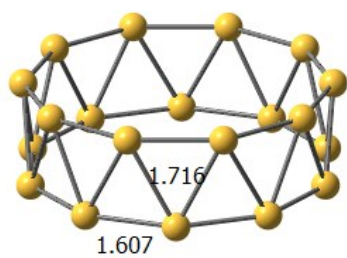


(a)

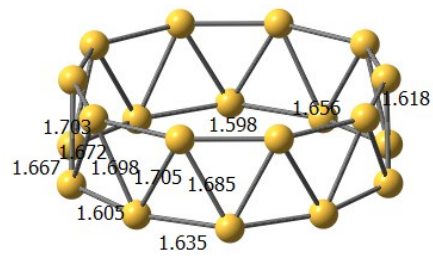


(b)

Figure S3. Potential energy surfaces of LiB_{20} (a) and LiB_{20}^- (b) species for the out-of-center of Li atom along the axis of tubular structure computed at the TPSSH/6-311+G(d) level.



B_{20}



B_{20}^{2-}

Figure S4. Structural properties of B_{20} and B_{20}^{2-} clusters.

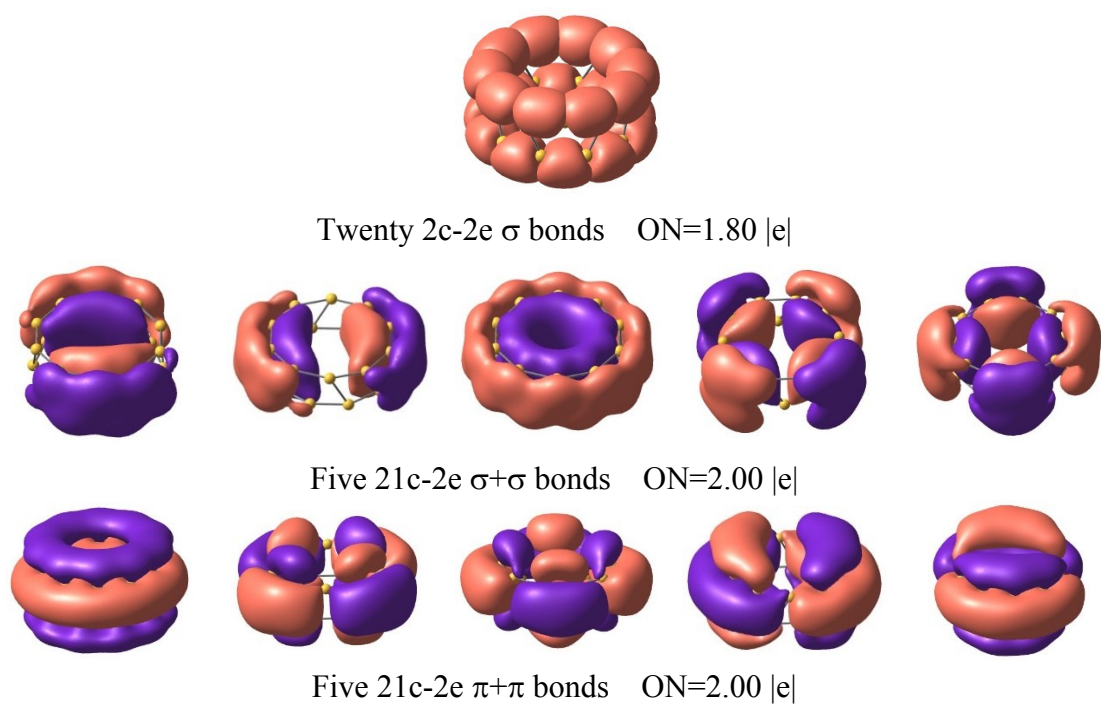
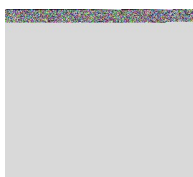
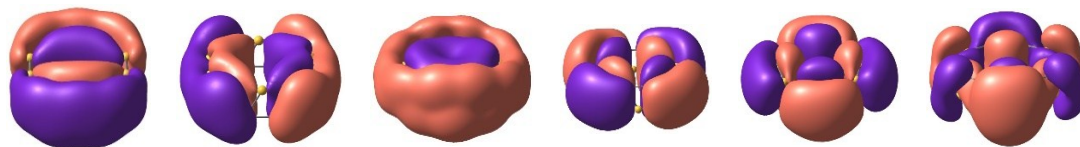


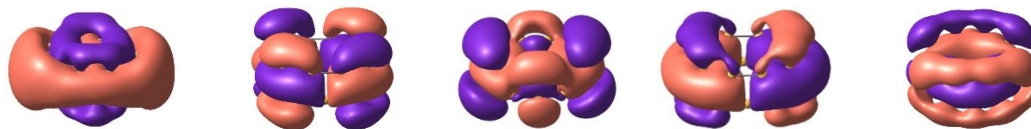
Figure S5. AdNDP analysis for B₂₀ computed at the PBE0/6-31G(d) level, and ON stands for occupation number.



Twenty 2c-2e σ bonds ON=1.78~1.80 |e|



Six 21c-2e $\sigma+\sigma$ bonds ON=2.00 |e|



Five 21c-2e $\pi+\pi$ bonds ON=2.00 |e|

Figure S6. AdNDP analysis for B_{20}^{2-} computed at the PBE0/6-31G(d) level, and ON stands for occupation number.

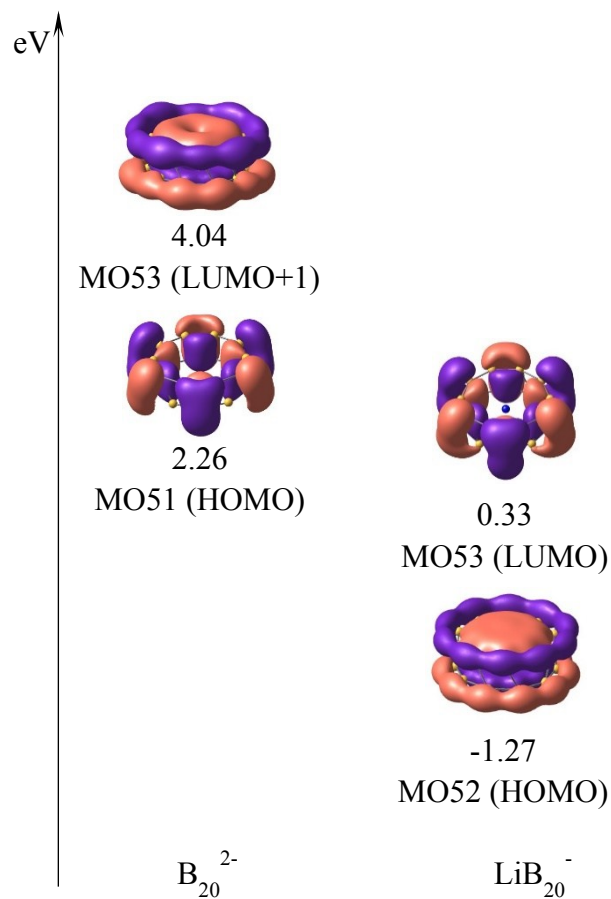


Figure S7. The orbital energy in eV of the delocalized σ - σ molecular orbitals in the tubular B_{20}^{2-} and LiB_{20}^{-} clusters.

Table S1. Smallest frequencies (V_{\min} , cm^{-1}), NPA charge on Li and B (Q_{Li} and Q_{B} , $|e|$), Bond properties (Wiberg bond indices in parenthesis and bond length (\AA)), HOMO–LUMO gap (gap, eV). All values have been computed at the B3LYP/6-311+G(d) level based on TPSSh/6-311+G(d) geometries.

System	V_{\min}	$B_{\text{Li-B}}$	$B_{\text{B-B}}$		Q_{Li}	Q_{B}	Gap
LiB_{20}	76.7	2.702 (0.01)	1.600 (1.02)	1.744 (0.60)	0.85	-0.04	1.3
LiB_{20}^-	126.7	2.695 (0.02)	1.593 (1.09)	1.770 (0.55)	0.84	-0.09	1.4

Table S2. The calculated vertical detachment energies (VDE) from the lowest isomer of LiB_{20}^- . All energies are in eV.

Feature	Final state and electronic configuration	VDE TD-TPSSh
X	${}^2\text{B}_2; 2\text{E}_6^4 5\text{A}_1^2 4\text{E}_1^4 3\text{E}_2^4 4\text{E}_2^4 3\text{B}_2^1$	2.56
A	${}^2\text{E}_2; 2\text{E}_6^4 5\text{A}_1^2 4\text{E}_1^4 3\text{E}_2^4 4\text{E}_2^3 3\text{B}_2^1$	3.71
B	${}^2\text{E}_2; 2\text{E}_6^4 5\text{A}_1^2 4\text{E}_1^4 3\text{E}_2^3 4\text{E}_2^4 3\text{B}_2^1$	4.62
C	${}^2\text{E}_1; 2\text{E}_6^4 5\text{A}_1^2 4\text{E}_1^3 3\text{E}_2^4 4\text{E}_2^4 3\text{B}_2^1$	5.80

The first VDE was calculated as the difference in energy between the anionic ground state and the neutral ground state at the anion geometry at the TPSSh/6-311+G(2df)//TPSSh/6-311+G* level. Higher VDEs were computed using TD-TPSSh level on the neutral species and then adding the first VDE.

Table S3. The calculated vertical detachment energies (VDE) from the second lowest isomer of LiB_{20}^- . All energies are in eV.

Feature	Final state and electronic configuration	VDE TD-TPSSh
X	$^2A'$, $14A'^2 10A''^2 15A'^2 16A'^2 11A''^2 12A''^2 17A'^2 18A'^2 19A'^1$	3.22
A	$^2A'$, $14A'^2 10A''^2 15A'^2 16A'^2 11A''^2 12A''^2 17A'^2 18A'^1 19A'^2$	4.05
B	$^2A'$, $14A'^2 10A''^2 15A'^2 16A'^2 11A''^2 12A''^2 17A'^1 18A'^2 19A'^2$	4.38
C	$^2A''$, $14A'^2 10A''^2 15A'^2 16A'^2 11A''^2 12A''^1 17A'^2 18A'^2 19A'^2$	4.51
D	$^2A''$, $14A'^2 10A''^2 15A'^2 16A'^2 11A''^1 12A''^2 17A'^2 18A'^2 19A'^2$	5.03
E	$^2A'$, $14A'^2 10A''^2 15A'^2 16A'^1 11A''^2 12A''^2 17A'^2 18A'^2 19A'^2$	5.14
F	$^2A'$, $14A'^2 10A''^2 15A'^1 16A'^2 11A''^2 12A''^2 17A'^2 18A'^2 19A'^2$	5.80
G	$^2A''$, $14A'^2 10A''^1 15A'^2 16A'^2 11A''^2 12A''^2 17A'^2 18A'^2 19A'^2$	6.20

The first VDE was calculated as the difference in energy between the anionic ground state and the neutral ground state at the anion geometry at the TPSSh/6-311+G(2df)//TPSSh/6-311+G* level. Higher VDEs were computed using TD-TPSSh level on the neutral species and then adding the first VDE.

Table S4. CoordinatesLiB₂₀

B	-0.405099000	2.557494000	0.772047000
B	1.175525000	2.307168000	0.772047000
B	2.557504000	-0.405037000	0.772047000
B	1.830990000	-1.830945000	0.772047000
B	0.405099000	-2.557494000	0.772047000
B	-1.175525000	-2.307168000	0.772047000
B	-2.307139000	-1.175581000	0.772047000
B	-2.557504000	0.405037000	0.772047000
B	-1.830990000	1.830945000	0.772047000
Li	0.000000000	0.000000000	0.000000000
B	-1.175525000	2.307168000	-0.772047000
B	0.405099000	2.557494000	-0.772047000
B	2.557504000	0.405037000	-0.772047000
B	2.307139000	-1.175581000	-0.772047000
B	1.175525000	-2.307168000	-0.772047000
B	-0.405099000	-2.557494000	-0.772047000
B	-1.830990000	-1.830945000	-0.772047000
B	-2.557504000	-0.405037000	-0.772047000
B	-2.307139000	1.175581000	-0.772047000
B	1.830990000	1.830945000	-0.772047000
B	2.307139000	1.175581000	0.772047000

LiB₂₀⁻

Li	0.000000000	0.000000000	0.000000000
B	2.577399000	0.000000000	-0.787592000
B	2.085159000	-1.514957000	-0.787592000
B	0.796460000	-2.451252000	-0.787592000
B	-0.796460000	-2.451252000	-0.787592000
B	-2.085159000	-1.514957000	-0.787592000
B	-2.577399000	0.000000000	-0.787592000
B	-2.085159000	1.514957000	-0.787592000
B	-0.796460000	2.451252000	-0.787592000
B	0.796460000	2.451252000	-0.787592000
B	2.085159000	1.514957000	-0.787592000
B	2.451252000	0.796460000	0.787592000
B	1.514957000	2.085159000	0.787592000
B	0.000000000	2.577399000	0.787592000
B	-1.514957000	2.085159000	0.787592000
B	-2.451252000	0.796460000	0.787592000
B	-2.451252000	-0.796460000	0.787592000
B	-1.514957000	-2.085159000	0.787592000
B	0.000000000	-2.577399000	0.787592000

B	1.514957000	-2.085159000	0.787592000
B	2.451252000	-0.796460000	0.787592000