

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### Theoretical Quest for the Titanium–Substituted Hydrocarbons

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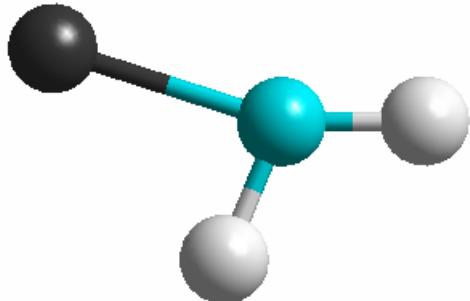
# Supplementary Material (ESI) for Chemical Communications  
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**1. Molecular formula and multiplicity, energy, chosen optimized geometric parameters, Mulliken charges, dipole moment, energy of frontier orbitals, the HOMO/LUMO gap, and harmonic frequencies for molecules studied. Isomers are listed in the order of increasing electronic energy; isomers with imaginary frequencies are listed at the end of each series (only energy and imaginary frequencies are given). C – blue, Ti – black, H – white balls.**

### **Monomers**

#### **TiCH<sub>2</sub>**

(i) <sup>3</sup>TiCH<sub>2</sub>, E = -888.592362435 au



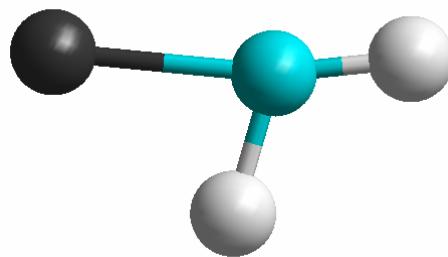
R(Ti–C) = 1.814 Å, R(C–H) = 1.085 Å, 1.126 Å, R(Ti–H) = 2.053 Å, α(TiCH) = 85.1°, 162.0°.

q(Ti) = +0.498 e, q(C) = -0.674 e, q(H<sub>C</sub>) = +0.055 e, +0.0121 e, μ<sub>DIP</sub> = 3.1 D.

E<sub>SOMO,α</sub> (A') = -0.189 au, E<sub>SOMO+1,α</sub> (A') = -0.169 au, ΔE = 0.020 au.

Harmonic frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>): v1 (A') = 436, v2 (A'') = 457, v3 (A') = 787, v4 (A') = 1330, v5 (A') = 2762, v6 (A') = 3184.

(ii) <sup>1</sup>TiCH<sub>2</sub>, E = -888.575128306 au



R(Ti–C) = 1.747 Å, R(C–H) = 1.086 Å, 1.149 Å, R(Ti–H) = 1.906 Å, α(TiCH) = 168.6°, 112.0°.

q(Ti) = +0.303 e, q(C) = -0.315 e, q(H<sub>C</sub>) = +0.085 e, -0.073 e, μ<sub>DIP</sub> = 1.8 D.

E<sub>HOMO</sub> = -0.173 au, E<sub>LUMO</sub> = -0.100 au, ΔE<sub>HL</sub> = 0.073 au.

Harmonic frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>): v1 (A'') = 598, v2 (A') = 634, v3 (A'') = 871, v4 (A'') = 1415, v5 (A'') = 2534, v6 (A'') = 3184.

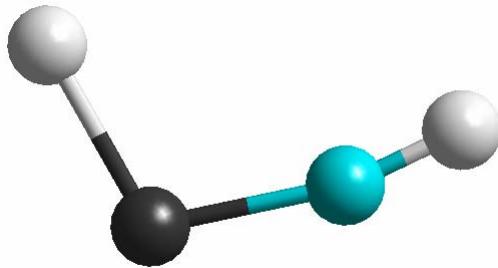
(iii) <sup>1</sup>HTiCH, bent acetylene-like (cis), E = -888.562309250 au

R(Ti–C) = 1.689 Å, R(Ti–H) = 1.770 Å, R(C–H) = 1.093 Å, α(HTiC) = 166.4°, α(TiCH) = 107.8°.

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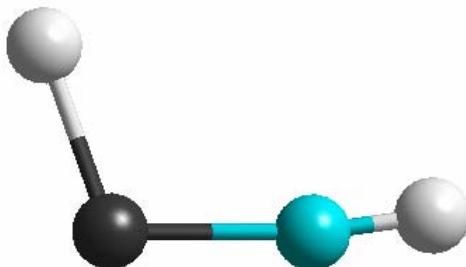
$q(\text{Ti}) = +1.175 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.820 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}) = -0.438 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_{\text{C}}) = +0.082 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 5.2 \text{ D}$ .



$E_{\text{HOMO}} (\text{A}') = -0.199 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (\text{A}') = -0.093 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.106 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $v1 (\text{A}') = 422$ ,  $v2 (\text{A}') = 597$ ,  $v3 (\text{A}'') = 619$ ,  $v4 (\text{A}') = 987$ ,  $v5 (\text{A}') = 1553$ ,  $v6 (\text{A}') = 3109$ .

(vi)  $^3\text{HTiCH}$ , bent acetylene-like (cis),  $E = -888.535691885 \text{ au}$



$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 1.820 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{H}) = 1.750 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C}-\text{H}) = 1.092 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{HTiC}) = 109.1^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{TiCH}) = 171.7^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.785 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.587 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}) = -0.309 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_{\text{C}}) = +0.112 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 4.4 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha} (\text{A}'') = -0.210 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{SOMO+1},\alpha} (\text{A}') = -0.183 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.027 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $v1 (\text{A}') = 338$ ,  $v2 (\text{A}') = 483$ ,  $v3 (\text{A}'') = 531$ ,  $v4 (\text{A}') = 841$ ,  $v5 (\text{A}') = 1552$ ,  $v6 (\text{A}') = 3134$ .

(v)  $\text{TiCH}_2$ , ( $\text{H}_2\text{CO}$ -like),  $E = -888.570137523 \text{ au}$

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): one img  $v1 (\text{B}2) = -245$ .

(vi) Linear acetylene-like,  $\text{HTiCH}$ ,  $E = -888.540431756 \text{ au}$

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): two img  $v1 (\pi) = -383$ ,  $v2 (\pi) = -383$ .

(vii)  $\text{H}_2\text{TiC}$  ( $\text{H}_2\text{CO}$ -like),  $E = -888.441167298 \text{ au}$

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): one img  $v1 (\text{B}2) = -659$ .

(viii) Bent acetylene-like, trans form

Converges to bent acetylene, cis form.

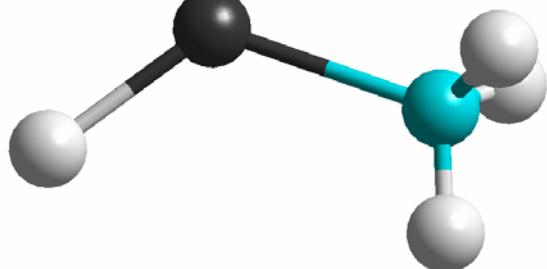
(ix)  $\text{TiHHC}$  (two H atoms symmetrically bridging Ti and C)

Converges to (v).

**TiCH<sub>4</sub>**

(i) <sup>3</sup>HTiCH<sub>3</sub>, E = -889.845591089 au

R(Ti–C) = 2.106 Å, R(Ti–H) = 1.762 Å, R(C–H) = 1.096, 1.100 x2 Å,  $\alpha(\text{HTiC}) = 123.7^\circ$ .



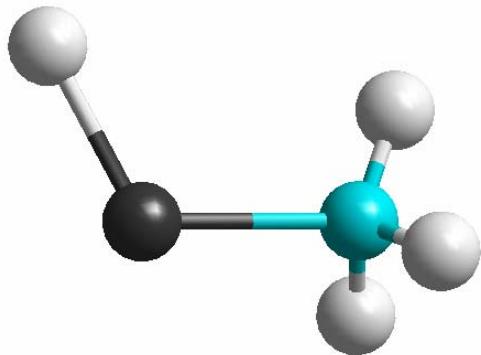
q(Ti) = +0.649 e, q(C) = -0.645 e, q(H<sub>Ti</sub>) = -0.387 e, q(H<sub>C</sub>) = 0.113 x2, 0.157 e,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 2.7 \text{ D}$ .

E<sub>SOMO, $\alpha$</sub>  (A) = -0.204 au, E<sub>SOMO+1, $\alpha$</sub>  (A) = -0.185 au,  $\Delta E = 0.019 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 149, 297, 387, 453, 562, 1151, 1418, 1424, 1558, 2965, 3029, 3064.

(ii) <sup>1</sup>HTiCH<sub>3</sub>, E = -889.810868406 au

R(Ti–C) = 2.033 Å, R(Ti–H) = 1.697 Å, R(C–H) = 1.093, 1.100, 1.101 Å,  $\alpha(\text{HTiC}) = 112.9^\circ$ .



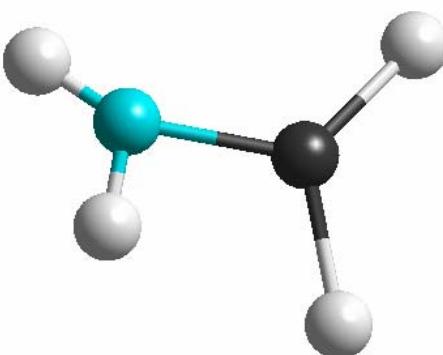
q(Ti) = +0.101 e, q(C) = -0.395 e, q(H<sub>Ti</sub>) = -0.196 e, q(H<sub>C</sub>) = 0.128, 0.129, 0.233 e,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 2.1 \text{ D}$ .

E<sub>HOMO</sub> (A) = -0.168 au, E<sub>LUMO</sub> (A) = -0.091 au,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.077 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 198, 267, 372, 471, 585, 1116, 1390, 1419, 1669, 2961, 3038, 3104.

(iii) <sup>1</sup>H<sub>2</sub>TiCH<sub>2</sub>, non planar, E = -889.808988239 au

R(Ti–C) = 1.798 Å, R(Ti–H) = 1.732, 1.741 Å, R(C–H) = 1.087, 1.118 Å,  $\alpha(\text{HTiH}) = 111.0^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{HCH}) = 114.6^\circ$ .

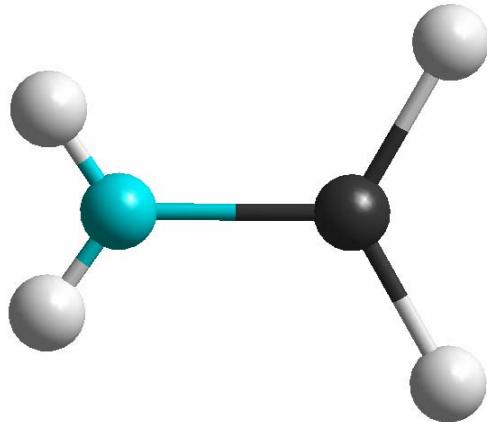


q(Ti) = +1.217 e, q(C) = -0.235 e, q(H<sub>Ti</sub>) = -0.380, -0.394 e, q(H<sub>C</sub>) = 0.139, 0.052 e,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 1.2 \text{ D}$ .

E<sub>HOMO</sub> (A) = -0.245 au, E<sub>LUMO</sub> (A) = -0.113 au,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.132 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 94, 317, 481, 537, 668, 693, 835, 1315, 1617, 1662, 2854, 3179.

(iv)  $^3\text{H}_2\text{TiCH}_2$ , minor distortions from planarity,  $E = -889.790990276 \text{ au}$



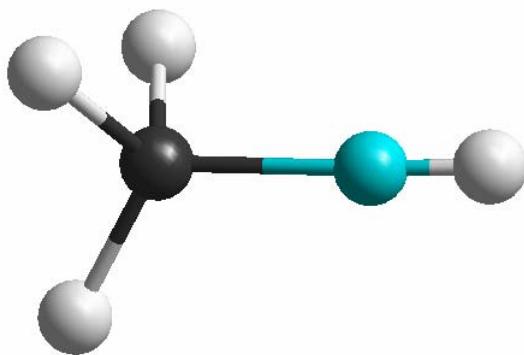
$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 2.049 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{H}) = 1.738 \times 2 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C}-\text{H}) = 1.095 \times 2 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{HTiH}) = 120.9^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{HCH}) = 110.9^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.813 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.459 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}) = -0.318 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_\text{C}) = 0.141 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 1.5 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha} (\text{A}) = -0.263 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{SOMO}+1,\alpha} (\text{A}) = -0.224 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.039 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 192, 220, 269, 518, 551, 637, 696, 1346, 1615, 1636, 3038, 3120.

(v)  $^1\text{H}_3\text{TiCH}$ ,  $E = -889.683928208 \text{ au}$



$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 1.975 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{H}) = 1.705, 1.705, 1.683 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C}-\text{H}) = 1.092 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{HCTi}) = 176.4^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +1.292 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.388 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}) = -0.374, -0.374, -0.348 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_\text{C}) = 0.193 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 2.4 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{HOMO}} (\text{A}) = -0.255 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (\text{A}) = -0.197 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.058 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 134, 292, 389, 458, 573, 625, 668, 736, 1655, 1669, 1737, 3146.

(vi)  $^1\text{H}_2\text{TiCH}_2$ , distorted  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ -like, planar,  $E = -889.808971285 \text{ au}$

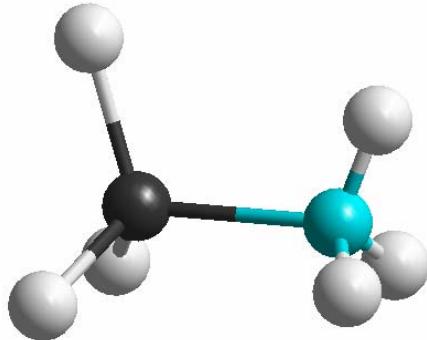
Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): one img v1 (A'') = -50.

(vii)  $^1\text{H}_2\text{TiCH}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ -like, planar,  $E = -889.808140516 \text{ au}$

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): one img v1 (B2) = -659.

## TiCH<sub>6</sub>

(i) <sup>1</sup>H<sub>3</sub>TiCH<sub>3</sub>, minor distortions from anticlinic conf., E = -891.0534657115 au



R(Ti–C) = 2.025 Å, R(Ti–H) = 1.697 Å, R(C–H) = 1.097 Å,  $\alpha$ (HTiC) = 108.8°,  $\alpha$ (HCTi) = 109.1°.

q(Ti) = +1.415 e, q(C) = -0.727 e, q(H<sub>Ti</sub>) = -0.372 e, q(H<sub>C</sub>) = 0.142 e,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}}$  = 1.2 D.

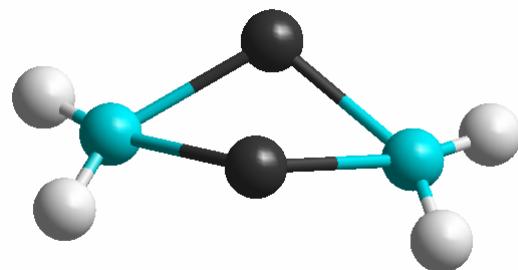
E<sub>HOMO</sub> (A) = -0.300 au, E<sub>LUMO</sub> (A) = -0.097 au,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}}$  = 0.203 au.

Harmonic frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 119, 308 x2, 489, 490, 498, 608 x2, 624, 1139, 1401 x2, 1690, 1691, 1743, 2983, 3077, 3078.

## Dimers

### (TiCH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>

(i) <sup>1</sup>cyclo-(TiCH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, non-planar Ti<sub>2</sub>C<sub>2</sub> core, E = -1777.31612267 au



R(Ti–C) = 2.010, 2.031 Å, R(Ti–Ti) = 2.064 Å, R(C–C) = 3.263 Å, R(C–H) = 1.093, 1.106 Å,  $\alpha$ (TiCTi) = 61.4°,  $\alpha$ (CTiC) = 106.9°, 108.5°.

q(Ti) = -0.130, +0.115 e, q(C) = -0.262 e, q(H<sub>C</sub>) = +0.144, +0.125 e,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}}$  = 1.1 D.

E<sub>HOMO</sub> (A') = -0.151 au, E<sub>LUMO</sub> (A') = -0.066 au,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}}$  = 0.085 au.

Harmonic frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>): v1 (A') = 163, v2 (A'') = 168, v3 (A') = 221, v4 (A') = 305, v5 (A'') = 325, v6 (A') = 456, v7 (A'') = 500, v8 (A') = 515, v9 (A') = 624, v10 (A'') = 627, v11 (A') = 681, v12 (A'') = 689, v13 (A'') = 1354, v14 (A') = 1362, v15 (A') = 2954, v16 (A'') = 2956, v17 (A') = 3108, v18 (A'') = 3109.

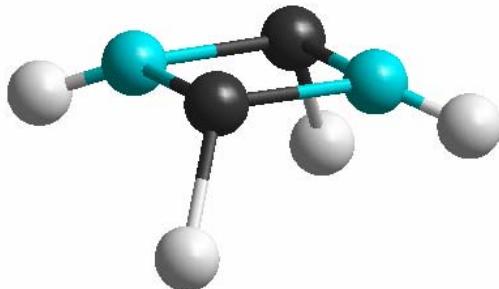
(ii) <sup>1</sup>cyclo-(TiHCH)<sub>2</sub>, E = -1777.31026935 au

R(Ti–C) = 1.906 Å, R(Ti–Ti) = 2.773 Å, R(C–C) = 2.616 Å, R(Ti–H) = 1.751 Å, R(C–H) = 1.097 Å,  $\alpha$ (TiCTi) = 93.3°,  $\alpha$ (C...CH) = 158.8°,  $\alpha$ (Ti...TiH) = 127.5°.

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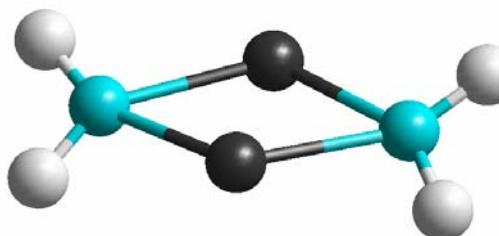
$q(\text{Ti}) = +1.242 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.927 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}) = -0.389 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_C) = +0.073 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 5.1 \text{ D}$ .



$E_{\text{HOMO}} (\text{B}1) = -0.216 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (\text{A}1) = -0.096 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.120 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $v_1 (\text{B}2) = 170$ ,  $v_2 (\text{A}1) = 187$ ,  $v_3 (\text{A}2) = 304$ ,  $v_4 (\text{A}1) = 311$ ,  $v_5 (\text{B}2) = 342$ ,  $v_6 (\text{B}1) = 356$ ,  $v_7 (\text{A}2) = 387$ ,  $v_8 (\text{A}1) = 390$ ,  $v_9 (\text{B}1) = 474$ ,  $v_{10} (\text{A}1) = 520$ ,  $v_{11} (\text{A}2) = 589$ ,  $v_{12} (\text{B}1) = 737$ ,  $v_{13} (\text{A}1) = 741$ ,  $v_{14} (\text{B}2) = 763$ ,  $v_{15} (\text{B}2) = 1597$ ,  $v_{16} (\text{A}1) = 1617$ ,  $v_{17} (\text{B}1) = 3071$ ,  $v_{18} (\text{A}1) = 3072$ .

(iii)  $^3\text{cyclo-(TiCH}_2)_2$ , asymmetric, bent core,  $E = -1777.30562538 \text{ au}$



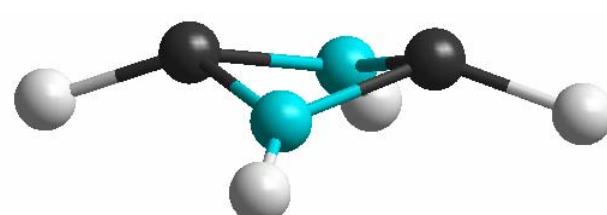
$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 2.033 \times 2$ ,  $2.06 \times 2 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) = 2.131 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 3.499 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C}-\text{H}) = 1.097 \times 2$ ,  $1.105 \times 2 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{TiCTi}) = 62.6^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{CTiC}) = 118.8^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{HCH}) = 107.8^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.379$ ,  $=0.227 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.586 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_C) = +0.138 \times 2$ ,  $+0.146 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 0.4 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha} (\text{A}') = -0.165 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{SOMO+1},\alpha} (\text{A}') = -0.154 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.011 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $v_1 (\text{A}') = 43$ ,  $v_2 (\text{A}'') = 134$ ,  $v_3 (\text{A}') = 182$ ,  $v_4 (\text{A}'') = 208$ ,  $v_5 (\text{A}') = 323$ ,  $v_6 (\text{A}') = 386$ ,  $v_7 (\text{A}'') = 402$ ,  $v_8 (\text{A}') = 445$ ,  $v_9 (\text{A}') = 611$ ,  $v_{10} (\text{A}'') = 624$ ,  $v_{11} (\text{A}') = 641$ ,  $v_{12} (\text{A}'') = 647$ ,  $v_{13} (\text{A}'') = 1339$ ,  $v_{14} (\text{A}') = 1347$ ,  $v_{15} (\text{A}') = 2949$ ,  $v_{16} (\text{A}'') = 2050$ ,  $v_{17} (\text{A}') = 3054$ ,  $v_{18} (\text{A}'') = 3058$ .

(iv)  $^3\text{cyclo-(TiHCH}}_2$ , umbrella,  $E = -1777.26184270$



$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 1.960 \times 4 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) = 2.784 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 2.626 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{H}) = 1.756 \times 2 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C}-\text{H}) = 1.096 \times 2 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{TiCTi}) = 93.3^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{C...CH}) = 148.0^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{Ti...TiH}) = 161.2^\circ$ ,  $\alpha_{\text{dih}}(\text{TiCCTi}) = 24.6^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.974 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.698 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}) = -0.340 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_C) = +0.064 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 2.4 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha}(\text{B1}) = -0.231 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{SOMO+1},\alpha}(\text{A1}) = -0.185 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.046 \text{ au}$ .

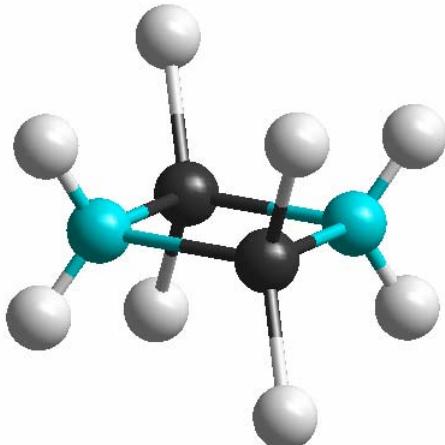
Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $v_1(\text{A1}) = 129$ ,  $v_2(\text{A1}) = 149$ ,  $v_3(\text{B2}) = 277$ ,  $v_4(\text{A1}) = 286$ ,  $v_5(\text{B1}) = 331$ ,  $v_6(\text{A2}) = 353$ ,  $v_7(\text{A2}) = 384$ ,  $v_8(\text{B2}) = 527$ ,  $v_9(\text{B1}) = 568$ ,  $v_{10}(\text{A1}) = 590$ ,  $v_{11}(\text{A2}) = 622$ ,  $v_{12}(\text{B1}) = 643$ ,  $v_{13}(\text{A1}) = 710$ ,  $v_{14}(\text{B2}) = 1005$ ,  $v_{15}(\text{A1}) = 1592$ ,  $v_{16}(\text{B2}) = 1592$ ,  $v_{17}(\text{B1}) = 3080$ ,  $v_{18}(\text{A1}) = 3082$ .

(v)  $^1\text{cyclo-(TiCH}_2)_2$ , planar core,  $E = -1777.27062075 \text{ au}$

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): two img  $v_1(\text{B3g}) = -605$ ,  $v_2(\text{B1u}) = -232$ .

**(TiCH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>**

(i)  $^1\text{cyclo-(TiH}_2\text{CH}_2)_2$ , C<sub>2</sub>, c-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>-like,  $E = -1779.76400855 \text{ au}$



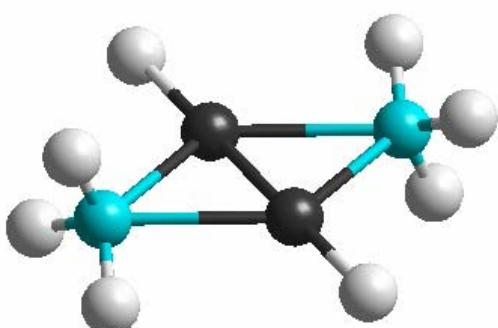
$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 2.027$ ,  $2.028 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) = 2.967 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 2.763 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{H}) = 1.830 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C}-\text{H}) = 1.102 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{CTiC}) = 85.9^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{TiCTi}) = 94.1^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{C} \dots \text{CH}) = 123.9^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{Ti} \dots \text{TiH}) = 121.7^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{HCH}) = 112.2^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{HTiH}) = 116.6^\circ$ ,  $\alpha_{\text{dih}}(\text{TiCTiC}) = 0.0^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +1.435 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.898 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}) = -0.375 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_\text{C}) = +0.106 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 0.0 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{HOMO}}(\text{A}) = -0.279 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}}(\text{A}) = -0.109$

au,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.170 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $v_1(\text{A}) = 111$ ,  $v_2(\text{B}) = 184$ ,  $v_3(\text{A}) = 207$ ,  $v_4(\text{B}) = 284$ ,  $v_5(\text{A}) = 297$ ,  $v_6(\text{A}) = 328$ ,  $v_7(\text{A}) = 358$ ,  $v_8(\text{B}) = 414$ ,  $v_9(\text{B}) = 440$ ,  $v_{10}(\text{A}) = 453$ ,  $v_{11}(\text{B}) = 475$ ,  $v_{12}(\text{A}) = 508$ ,  $v_{13}(\text{B}) = 521$ ,  $v_{14}(\text{A}) = 542$ ,  $v_{15}(\text{A}) = 564$ ,  $v_{16}(\text{B}) = 603$ ,  $v_{17}(\text{B}) = 649$ ,  $v_{18}(\text{A}) = 668$ ,  $v_{19}(\text{B}) = 686$ ,  $v_{20}(\text{A}) = 689$ ,  $v_{21}(\text{B}) = 1256$ ,  $v_{22}(\text{A}) = 1268$ ,  $v_{23}(\text{B}) = 1667$ ,  $v_{24}(\text{A}) = 1674$ ,  $v_{25}(\text{B}) = 1689$ ,  $v_{26}(\text{A}) = 1711$ ,  $v_{27}(\text{B}) = 2967$ ,  $v_{28}(\text{A}) = 2968$ ,  $v_{29}(\text{A}) = 3051$ ,  $v_{30}(\text{B}) = 3052$ .



(ii)  $^1\text{cyclo-(TiHCH}_3)_2$ , C<sub>i</sub>,  $E = -1779.73441820 \text{ au}$

$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 2.204$ ,  $2.206 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) = 1.977 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 3.942 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{H}) = 1.745 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C}-\text{H}) = 1.099$ ,  $1.101 \text{ \AA}$ ,

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$\alpha(\text{TiCTi}) = 53.3^\circ$ ,  $\alpha_{\text{dih}}(\text{HtiTiH}) = 172.6^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.294, +0.303 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.540 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}) = -0.278 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_\text{C}) = +0.171, +0.174 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 0.0 \text{ D}$ .

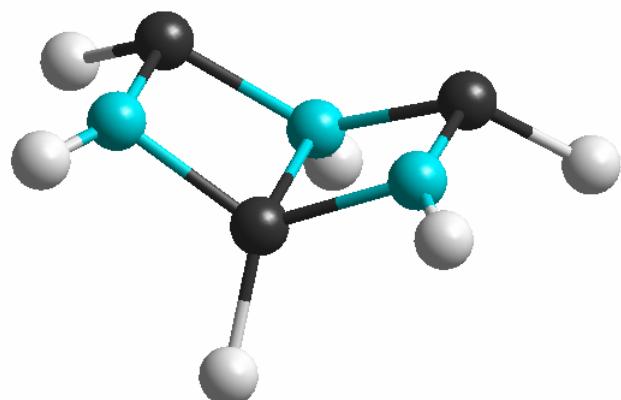
$E_{\text{HOMO}} (\text{A}) = -0.171 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (\text{A}) = -0.079 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.092 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 56, 61, 111, 158, 245, 271, 344, 442, 456, 479, 483, 514, 564, 602, 608, 637, 1211, 1214, 1407, 1413, 1429, 1433, 1556, 1577, 2956, 2957, 3034, 3037, 3037, 3045.

### Trimers

#### $(\text{TiCH}_2)_3$

(i)  ${}^1(\text{TiHCH})_3$  boat,  $E = -2666.02492797 \text{ au}$

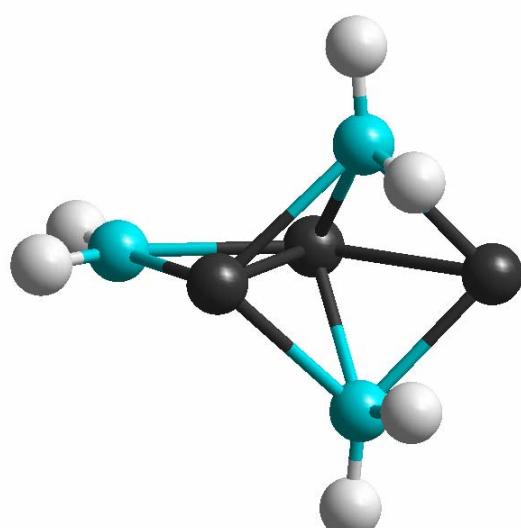


$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 1.815, 1.816, 2.001, 2.001, 2.020, 2.021, 2.099 \text{ \AA}$ ,  
 $R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) = 2.850 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 2.753 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{H}) = 1.741, 1.743, 1.744 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C}-\text{H}) = 1.072, 1.099, 1.099 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{C}_{\text{end}}\text{Ti}_{\text{mid}}\text{C}_{\text{end}}) = 125.9^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{Ti}_{\text{end}}\text{C}_{\text{mid}}\text{Ti}_{\text{end}}) = 130.1^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{C}_{\text{end}}\text{Ti}_{\text{end}}\text{C}_{\text{mid}}) = 92.2^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{Ti}_{\text{end}}\text{C}_{\text{end}}\text{Ti}_{\text{mid}}) = 95.8^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{C}_{\text{mid}}\text{Ti}_{\text{mid}}\text{H}) = 127.3^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{Ti}_{\text{mid}}\text{C}_{\text{mid}}\text{H}) = 128.1^\circ$ ,  $\alpha_{\text{dih}}(\text{C}_{\text{end}}\text{Ti}_{\text{mid}}\text{C}_{\text{mid}}\text{Ti}_{\text{end}}) = 128.7^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.800, 1.278, 1.278 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.880, -0.815, -0.813 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}) = -0.335, -0.351, -0.351 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_\text{C}) = +0.012, +0.088, +0.088 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 6.5 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{HOMO}} (\text{A}) = -0.224 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (\text{A}) = -0.113 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.111 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 97, 114, 187, 195, 255, 278, 291, 305, 321, 375, 380, 424, 435, 445, 479, 498, 526, 574, 576, 597, 652, 729, 839, 842, 1618, 1620, 1640, 2970, 3055, 3056.



(ii)  ${}^1(\text{TiCH}_2)_3$  cluster,  $E = -2666.02411718 \text{ au}$

$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 1.945, 2.079, 2.080, 2.158, 2.208, 2.209, 2.213, 2.215 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) =$

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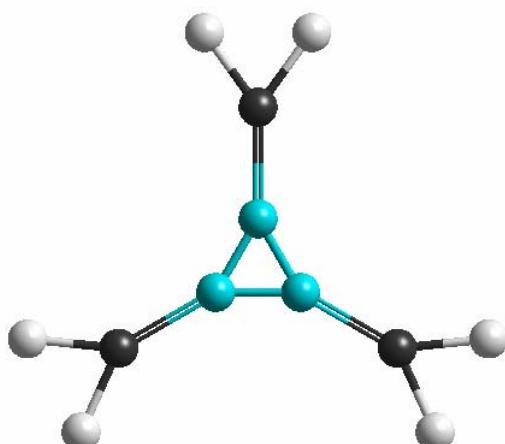
2.205, 2.340 Å, R(C–H) = 1.093, 1.094 x2, 1.119, 1.149x2 Å,  $\alpha$ (HCH) = 103.4° x2, 106.8°.

$q(\text{Ti}) = +1.104, -0.117, -0.289 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.400, -0.403, -0.599 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_\text{C}) = +0.036, +0.038, +0.108, +0.154, +0.156, +0.212 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 0.9 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{HOMO}}$  (A) = –0.142 au,  $E_{\text{LUMO}}$  (A) = –0.068 au,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}}$  = 0.074 au.

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 110, 172, 192, 249, 271 x2, 306, 362, 407, 454, 456, 515, 526, 573, 639, 641, 676, 677, 693, 789, 802, 1377, 1434, 1438, 2500, 2513, 2819, 3059, 3060, 3101.

(iii)  ${}^1(\text{CTiH}_2)_3$  planar triangle  $\text{C}_3$  core,  $E = -2664.39847981$  au



$R(\text{Ti–C}) = 1.921 \times 3 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C–C}) = 1.460 \times 3 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti–H}) = 1.579 \times 6 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{HTiH}) = 71.5^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = -2.468 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = +0.469 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_\text{Ti}) = +1.000 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 0.0 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{HOMO}}$  (A'') = –0.149 au,  $E_{\text{LUMO}}$  (A') = –0.082 au,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}}$  = 0.067 au.

Harmonic frequencies – all real frequencies of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ).

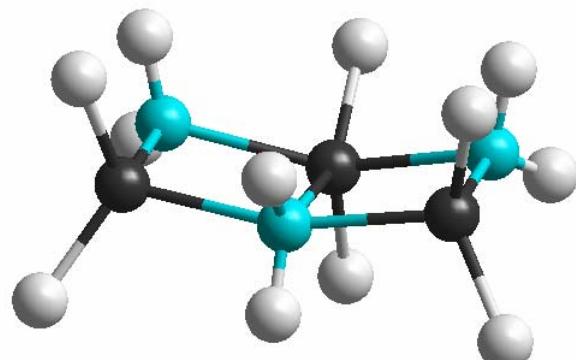
(iv)  ${}^1(\text{TiCH}_2)_3$  planar triangle  $\text{Ti}_3$  core,  $E = -2664.91764174$  au

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 6 img.

(v)  ${}^1(\text{TiCH}_2)_3$  planar benzene-like,  $E = -2665.9865878$ .

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): three img  $\nu_1$  (A2) = –167,  $\nu_2$  (B1) = –166,  $\nu_3$  (B1) = –156.

(vi) Cyclohexane-like chair structures, not stable.



$(\text{TiCH}_4)_3$

(i)  ${}^1(\text{TiH}_2\text{CH}_2)_3$  boat with nearly planar TiC core,  $E = -2669.66028806$

$R(Ti-C) = 1.925 \times 2, 2.083 \times 2, 2.130 \times 2, 2.347 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(Ti-H) = 1.688, 1.706, 1.712 \times 2, 1.715 \times 2 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(C-H) = 1.095 \times 2, 1.111, 1.112 \times 2, 1.121 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(C_{end}Ti_{mid}C_{end}) = 149.1^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(Ti_{end}C_{mid}Ti_{end}) = 163.5^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(C_{end}Ti_{end}C_{mid}) = 93.5^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(Ti_{end}C_{end}Ti_{mid}) = 97.7^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(C_{mid}Ti_{mid}H) = 112.5, 136.5^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(Ti_{mid}C_{mid}H) = 118.6, 133.2^\circ$ ,  $\alpha_{dih}(C_{end}Ti_{mid}C_{mid}Ti_{end}) = 159.5^\circ$ .

$q(Ti) = +1.584, 1.580, 1.269 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(C) = -0.930, -0.913, -0.909 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(H_{Ti}) = -0.438, -0.437, -0.364, -0.363, -0.337, -0.311 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(H_C) = -0.069, +0.106, +0.131 \times 2, +0.135 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{DIP} = 0.5 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{HOMO} (\text{A}) = -0.269 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{LUMO} (\text{A}) = -0.119 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E_{HL} = 0.150 \text{ au}$ .

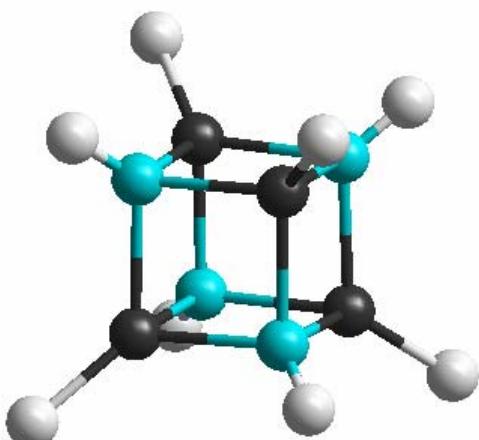
Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 74, 81, 145, 160, 213, 223, 247, 277, 284, 293, 334, 356, 359, 375, 411, 429, 439, 458, 465, 490, 519, 539, 540, 553, 606, 613, 616, 638, 675, 686, 713, 744, 803, 1272, 1273, 1292, 1669, 1673, 1689, 1691, 1703, 1726, 2811, 2905, 2907, 2940, 3094, 3095.

(ii)  $^1(\text{TiHCH}_3)_3$  cyclic structure with alternating TiH and  $\text{CH}_3$  units, as in analogous cyclic dimer,  $^1(\text{TiHCH}_3)_2$ :

not stable.

### ( $\text{TiCH}_2$ )<sub>4</sub>

$^1(\text{TiHCH})_4$  cube,  $E = -3554.87080918 \text{ au}$



$R(Ti-C) = 2.036 \times 5, 2.038 \times 5, 2.039 \times 2 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(CTiC) = 87.7^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(TiCTi) = 92.3^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(HTiC) = 126.8^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(HCTi) = 123.6^\circ$ .

$q(Ti) = +1.016, +1.020, +1.021, 1.027 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(C) = -1.093 \times 2, -1.096 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{DIP} = 0.0 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{HOMO} (\text{A}) = -0.262 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{LUMO} (\text{A}) = -0.126 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E_{HL} = 0.136 \text{ au}$ .

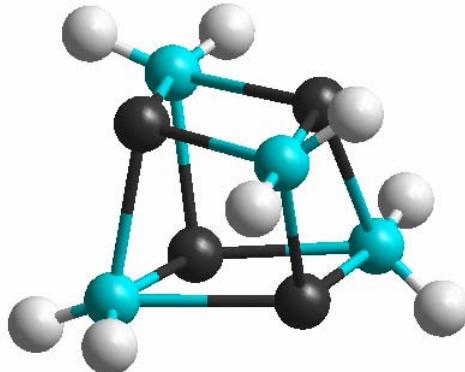
Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 233, 233, 305, 306, 307, 307, 307, 309, 328, 329, 396, 396, 397, 397, 398, 399, 404, 447, 448, 454, 455, 458, 549, 550, 550, 637, 653, 653, 654, 655, 657, 687, 688, 689, 1622, 1623, 1625, 1652, 3014, 3015, 3019, 3020.

$^1(\text{TiCH}_2)_4$  cube,  $E = -3554.79034942 \text{ au}$

$R(Ti-C) = 2.027 \text{ x}2, 2.066 \text{ x}2, 2.172 \text{ x}2, 2.284 \text{ x}2, 2.214 \text{ x}2, 2.512 \text{ x}2 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(C-H) = 1.094 \text{ x}2, 1.111 \text{ x}2, 1.101 \text{ x}2, 1.106 \text{ x}2 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(CTiC) = 93.6^\circ, 94.4^\circ, 115.8^\circ, 119.1^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(HCH) = 106.1^\circ$ ,  $\alpha_{\text{dih}}(TiCCTi) = 3.3^\circ$ .

$q(Ti) = +0.198 \text{ x}2, +0.216 \text{ x}2 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(C) = -0.602 \text{ x}2, -0.677 \text{ x}2 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(H) = +0.136 \text{ x}2, +0.212 \text{ x}2, +0.232 \text{ x}2, +0.285 \text{ x}2 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 0.5 \text{ D}$ .

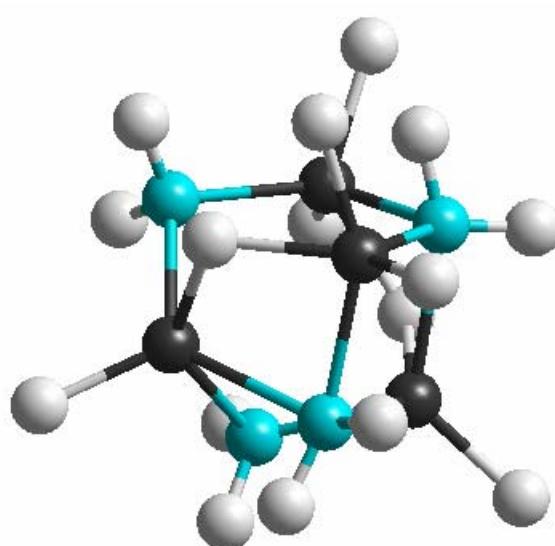
$E_{\text{HOMO}} (\text{A}) = -0.130 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (\text{A}) = -0.054 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.076 \text{ au}$ .



Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 130, 144, 172, 175, 196, 207, 221, 238, 264, 275, 300, 339, 346, 394, 396, 443, 450, 451, 458, 480, 494, 540, 561, 573, 610, 620, 646, 660, 667, 687, 1321, 1323, 1358, 1360, 2892, 2894, 2932, 2933, 3023, 3023, 3089, 3089.

### (TiCH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub>

<sup>1</sup>(TiCH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub> cube, complex polyhedron,  $E = -3559.58431488 \text{ au}$



$R(Ti-C) = 2.020, 2.038, 2.039, 2.068, 2.069, 2.096, 2.168, 2.169, 2.268, 2.280 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(C-H) = 1.092, 1.096 \text{ x}2, 1.104, 1.107, 1.109, 1.114, 1.121 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(Ti-H) = 1.697, 1.711, 1.712, 1.713 \text{ x}2, 1.719, 1.791, 1.823, 1.840, 1.846 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(HCH) = 105.0^\circ, 106.7^\circ, 111.0^\circ, 112.3^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(HTiH) = 91.2^\circ, 100.6^\circ, 106.7^\circ, 106.8^\circ$ .

$q(Ti) = +1.272, 1.310, 1.468, 1.516 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(C) = -0.816, -1.013, -1.139, -1.345 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(H_{Ti}) = -0.227, -0.230, -0.279, -0.280, -0.369, -0.371, -0.395, -0.433 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(H_C) = +0.111, +0.114, +0.139, +0.145, +0.172, +0.188, +0.193, +0.270 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 1.6 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{HOMO}} (\text{A}) = -0.267 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (\text{A}) = -0.133 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.134 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 76, 108, 155, 174, 186, 208, 229, 245, 259, 289, 303, 311, 319, 347, 359, 368, 383, 393, 395, 406, 426, 438, 450, 475, 477, 496, 515, 534, 550, 558, 561, 570, 591, 595, 617, 634, 641, 652, 669, 686, 713, 759, 807, 828, 1209, 1229, 1271, 1325, 1329,

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1440, 1454, 1521, 1650, 1669, 1678, 1690, 1699, 1717, 2786, 2874, 2924,  
2946, 2994, 3062, 3080, 3110.

## 2. Calculated energies and chosen properties of the reaction products.

### *Monomers*

#### **TiH<sub>2</sub>**

(i) <sup>3</sup>TiH<sub>2</sub>, bent, symmetric E = -850.485694939 au

R(Ti–H) = 1.812 Å, α(HTiH) = 132.3°.

q(Ti) = +0.956 e, q(H<sub>Ti</sub>) = -0.478 e, μ<sub>DIP</sub> = 3.6 D.

E<sub>SOMO,α</sub> (A2) = -0.189 au, E<sub>SOMO+1,α</sub> (A2) = -0.185 au, ΔE = 0.004 au.

Harmonic frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>): v1 (A1) = 437, v2 (B2) = 1447, v3 (A1) = 1495.

(ii) <sup>1</sup>TiH<sub>2</sub>, bent, symmetric E = -850.459774254 au

R(Ti–H) = 1.695 Å, α(HTiH) = 113.5°.

q(Ti) = +0.409 e, q(H<sub>Ti</sub>) = -0.205 e, μ<sub>DIP</sub> = 2.7 D.

E<sub>HOMO</sub> (A1) = -0.175 au, E<sub>LUMO</sub> (A1) = -0.099 au, ΔE<sub>HL</sub> = 0.176 au.

Harmonic frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>): v1 (A1) = 582, v2 (A1) = 1665, v3 (B2) = 1693.

#### **<sup>1</sup>TiH<sub>4</sub>**

(i) T<sub>d</sub>, E = -851.700082437 au

R(Ti–H) = 1.685 Å, α(HTiH) = 109.5°.

q(Ti) = +1.415 e, q(H<sub>Ti</sub>) = -0.354 e, μ<sub>DIP</sub> = 0.0 D.

E<sub>HOMO</sub> (T2) = -0.321 au, E<sub>LUMO</sub> (E) = -0.113 au, ΔE<sub>HL</sub> = 0.208 au.

Harmonic frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>): v1 (T2) = 540, v2 (E) = 629, v3 (T2) = 1718, v4 (A1) = 1788.

## **<sup>1</sup>CH<sub>4</sub>**

### (i) T<sub>d</sub>, E = -40.53395627333 au

R(C–H) = 1.091 Å, α(HCH) = 109.5°.

q(C) = -0.532 e, q(H<sub>C</sub>) = +0.133 e, μ<sub>DIP</sub> = 0.0 D.

E<sub>HOMO</sub> (T2) = -0.395 au, E<sub>LUMO</sub> (A1) = -0.006 au, ΔE<sub>HL</sub> = 0.389 au.

Harmonic frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>): v1 (T2) = 1340, v2 (E) = 1559, v3 (A1) = 3023, v4 (T2) = 3129.

## **CH<sub>2</sub>**

### (i) <sup>3</sup>CH<sub>2</sub>, bent, symmetric E = -39.1661174920 au

R(C–H) = 1.080 Å, α(HCH) = 135.3°.

q(C) = -0.266 e, q(H<sub>C</sub>) = +0.133 e, μ<sub>DIP</sub> = 0.7 D.

E<sub>SOMO,α</sub> (?) = -0.283 au, E<sub>SOMO+1,α</sub> (?) = -0.250 au, ΔE = 0.033 au.

Harmonic frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>): v1 = 1042, v2 = 3118, v3 = 3362.

### (ii) <sup>1</sup>CH<sub>2</sub>, bent, symmetric E = -39.1467444737 au

R(C–H) = 1.114 Å, α(HCH) = 101.5°.

q(C) = -0.219 e, q(H<sub>C</sub>) = +0.109 e, μ<sub>DIP</sub> = 2.1 D.

E<sub>HOMO</sub> (?) = -0.261 au, E<sub>LUMO</sub> (?) = -0.142 au, ΔE<sub>HL</sub> = 0.119 au.

Harmonic frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>): v1 = 1385, v2 = 2895, v3 = 2961.

## **TiC**

### (i) <sup>3</sup>TiC, E = -887.292272584 au

R(Ti–C) = 1.648 Å.

q(Ti) = +0.395 e, q(C) = -0.395 e, μ<sub>DIP</sub> = 3.3 D.

E<sub>SOMO,α</sub> (σ) = -0.237 au, E<sub>SOMO+1,α</sub> (δ) = -0.085 au, ΔE = 0.152 au.

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Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu_1 (\sigma) = 1029$ .

(ii)  ${}^1\text{TiC}$ ,  $E = -887.285521272$  au

$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 1.592 \text{ \AA}$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.608 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.608 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 7.1 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{HOMO}} (\sigma) = -0.154 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (\sigma) = -0.103 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.151 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu_1 (\sigma) = 961$ .

## H<sub>2</sub>

(i)  $E = -1.17957151815$  au

$R(\text{H}-\text{H}) = 0.744 \text{ \AA}$ .

$q(\text{H}) = 0.0 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 0.0 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{HOMO}} (\sigma g) = -0.434 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (\sigma u) = +0.020 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.454 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu_1 (\sigma g) = 4420$ .

## Ti

(i)  ${}^3\text{Ti}$ ,  $E = -849.287930089$  au

$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha} (?A) = -0.226 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{SOMO+1},\alpha} (A1g) = -0.180 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.046 \text{ au}$ .

(ii)  ${}^1\text{Ti}$ ,  $E = -849.226050066$  au

$E_{\text{HOMO}} (?C) = -0.166 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (?A) = -0.097 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.069 \text{ au}$ .

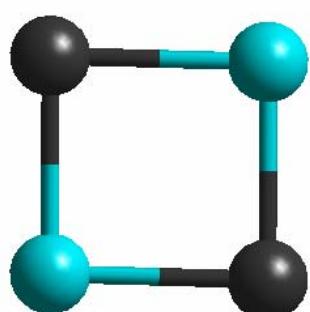
## Dimers

### (TiC)<sub>2</sub>

(i)  ${}^1(\text{TiC})_2$  dimer planar rhomb,  $E = -1774.83423089$  au

$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 1.826 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) = 2.619 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 2.546 \text{ \AA}$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.920 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.920 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 0.0 \text{ D}$ .

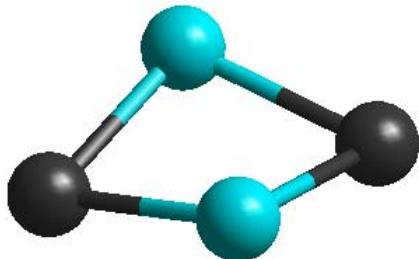


$E_{\text{HOMO}}$  (Bu) = -0.166 au,  $E_{\text{LUMO}}$  (Ag) = -0.083 au,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}}$  = 0.083 au.

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): v1 (Au) = 217, v2 (Ag) = 449, v3 (Ag) = 460, v4 (Bu) = 742, v5 (Ag) = 854, v6 (Bu) = 903.

(ii)  $^5(\text{TiC})_2$  rhomboid,  $E = -1774.80823309$  au, not optimized, conv. failure.

(iii)  $^3(\text{TiC})_2$  rhomboid, non planar,  $E = -1774.80750938$  au



$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 1.845 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) = 2.671 \text{ \AA}$ ,  
 $R(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 2.450 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{CTiC}) = 83.2^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.620 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.620 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 1.8 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha}(A) = -0.145 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{SOMO+1},\alpha}(B) = -0.090 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.055 \text{ au}$ .

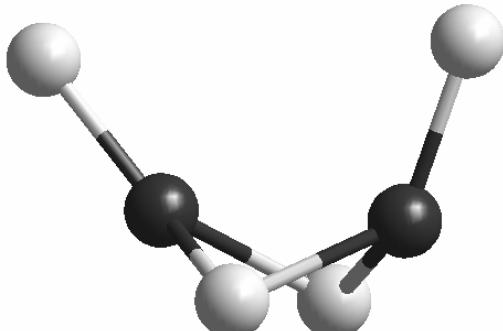
Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): v1 (A) = 155, v2 (A) = 393, v3 (A) = 547, v4 (B) = 634, v5 (A) = 806, v6 (B) = 1303.

(iv)  $^3(\text{TiC})_2$  rhomb, planar,  $E = -1774.80625599$  au

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): v1 (Au) = -133.

## (TiH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>

(i)  $^3(\text{TiH}_2)_2$ , HTiH<sub>2</sub>TiH, asymmetric and nonplanar,  $E = -1701.07033440$  au



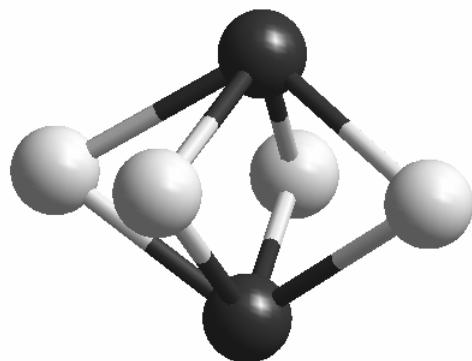
$R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) = 2.385 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{H}) = 1.743, 1.790, 1.863 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $x2, 1.903 \text{ \AA}$ ,  
 $\alpha(\text{TiH}_{\text{mid}}\text{Ti}) = 78.6^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{H}_{\text{end}}\text{Ti...Ti}) = 132.5, 108.3^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.896, +0.660 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}) = -0.367, -0.394, -0.397 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 5.0 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha}(A') = -0.201 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{SOMO+1},\alpha}(A') = -0.187 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.014 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): v1 (A') = 147, v2 (A') = 248, v3 (A'') = 275, v4 (A') = 299, v5 (A'') = 440, v6 (A') = 574, v7 (A') = 1088, v8 (A'') = 1091, v9 (A'') = 1318, v10 (A') = 1334, v11 (A') = 1541, v12 (A') = 1589.

(ii)  $^3(\text{TiH}_2)_2$ , deformed  $\text{TiH}_4\text{Ti}$ ,  $E = -1701.1701.06172690$  au



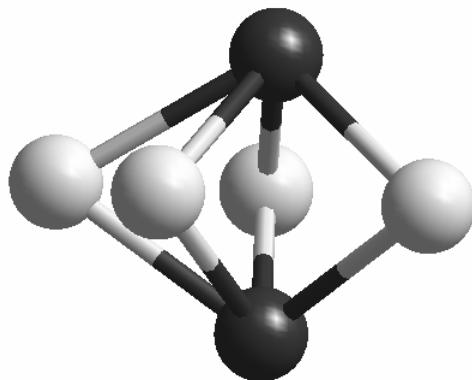
$R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) = 2.005 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{H}) = 1.886 \times 4$ ,  $1.908 \times 4 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{TiHTi}) = 63.4^\circ, 64.2^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.623 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}) = -0.267 \times 2$ ,  $-0.356 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 1.1 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha} (\text{A}') = -0.135 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{SOMO}+1,\alpha} (\text{A}') = -0.081 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.054 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $382$  ( $\text{A}''$ ),  $423$  ( $\text{A}'$ ),  $473$  ( $\text{A}'$ ),  $548$  ( $\text{A}''$ ),  $662$  ( $\text{A}'$ ),  $730$  ( $\text{A}''$ ),  $735$  ( $\text{A}''$ ),  $858$  ( $\text{A}'$ ),  $1128$  ( $\text{A}'$ ),  $1312$  ( $\text{A}'$ ),  $1314$  ( $\text{A}'$ ),  $1356$  ( $\text{A}'$ ).

(iii)  $^1(\text{TiH}_2)_2$ , deformed  $\text{TiH}_4\text{Ti}$ ,  $E = -1701.05717110$  au



$R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) = 1.996 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{H}) = 1.857 \times 4$ ,  $1.874 \times 4 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{TiHTi}) = 64.4^\circ \times 2$ ,  $65.0^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{HHHH}) = 0.0^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.458 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}) = -0.159 \times 2$ ,  $-0.299 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 1.8 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{HOMO}} (\text{A}') = -0.311 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (\text{A}'') = -0.073 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.238 \text{ au}$ .

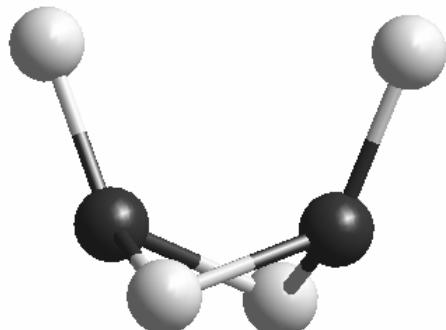
Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $v1$  ( $\text{A}'$ ) =  $503$ ,  $v2$  ( $\text{A}'$ ) =  $714$ ,  $v3$  ( $\text{A}'$ ) =  $732$ ,  $v4$  ( $\text{A}''$ ) =  $753$ ,  $v5$  ( $\text{A}'$ ) =  $792$ ,  $v6$  ( $\text{A}''$ ) =  $835$ ,  $v7$  ( $\text{A}''$ ) =  $951$ ,  $v8$  ( $\text{A}'$ ) =  $1000$ ,  $v9$  ( $\text{A}'$ ) =  $1248$ ,  $v10$  ( $\text{A}'$ ) =  $1347$ ,  $v11$  ( $\text{A}'$ ) =  $1410$ ,  $v12$  ( $\text{A}'$ ) =  $1417$ .

(iv)  $^1(\text{TiH}_2)_2$ ,  $\text{HTiH}_2\text{TiH}$ , nonplanar,  $E = -1701.05569109$  au

$R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) = 2.191 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{H}) = 1.739 \times 2$ ,  $1.856 \times 4 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{TiH}_{\text{mid}}\text{Ti}) = 72.3^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{H}_{\text{end}}\text{Ti...Ti}) = 112.7^\circ \times 2$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.712 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}) = -0.356 \times 4 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 5.9 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{HOMO}} (\text{A}') = -0.168 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (\text{A}'') = -0.088 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.080 \text{ au}$ .



Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $254$  ( $\text{A}''$ ),  $338$  ( $\text{A}'$ ),  $416$  ( $\text{A}''$ ),  $437$  ( $\text{A}'$ ),  $507$  ( $\text{A}'$ ),  $546$  ( $\text{A}'$ ),  $1150$  ( $\text{A}''$ ),  $1189$  ( $\text{A}'$ ),  $1369$  ( $\text{A}''$ ),  $1386$  ( $\text{A}'$ ),  $1586$  ( $\text{A}'$ ),  $1603$  ( $\text{A}'$ ).

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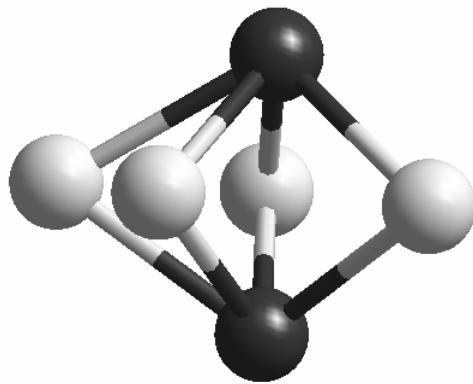
(v)  $^5(\text{TiH}_2)_2$ , deformed  $\text{Ti}_4\text{Ti}$ , E = -1701.04551810 au

$R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) = 1.952 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{H}) = 1.921 \times 8 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{TiHTi}) = 61.1^\circ \times 4$ ,  $\alpha(\text{HHHH}) = 0.0^\circ$ .

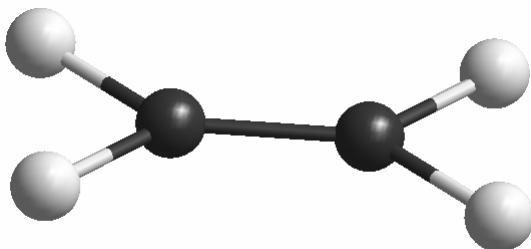
$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.576 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}) = -0.288 \times 4 \text{ e}$ ,  
 $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 0.0 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha} (\text{A}') = -0.223 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{SOMO}+1,\alpha} (\text{A}') = -0.165 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.058 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $v1 (\text{A}') = 488$ ,  $v2 (\text{A}') = 493$ ,  $v3 (\text{A}'') = 543$ ,  $v4 (\text{A}'') = 549$ ,  $v5 (\text{A}') = 660$ ,  $v6 (\text{A}'') = 673$ ,  $v7 (\text{A}') = 719$ ,  $v8 (\text{A}'') = 1110$ ,  $v9 (\text{A}') = 1284$ ,  $v10 (\text{A}') = 1297$ ,  $v11 (\text{A}') = 1354$ ,  $v12 (\text{A}') = 1378$ .



(vi)  $^1(\text{TiH}_2)_2$ , ethene-like, symmetric and planar, E = -1700.95658210 au



$R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) = 1.933 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(\text{Ti}-\text{H}) = 1.703 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{HTiH}) = 86.4^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.698 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}) = -0.349 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 0.0 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{HOMO}} (\text{Ag}) = -0.224 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (\text{B2u}) = -0.149 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.075 \text{ au}$ .

$v1 (\text{B2u}) = 191$ ,  $v2 (\text{Au}) = 349$ ,  $v3 (\text{B1u}) = 364$ ,  $v4 (\text{B3g}) = 391$ ,  $v5 (\text{B2g}) = 402$ ,  $v6 (\text{Ag}) = 402$ ,  $v7 (\text{Ag}) = 502$ ,  $v8 (\text{B3g}) = 528$ ,  $v9 (\text{B3g}) = 1602$ ,  $v10 (\text{B2u}) = 1612$ ,  $v11 (\text{Ag}) = 1662$ ,  $v12 (\text{B1u}) = 1665$ .

(vii)  $^1(\text{TiH}_2)_2$ , HTiH<sub>2</sub>TiH, symmetric and planar, E = -1701.04638383 au

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2 img -101, -47.

(viii)  $^3(\text{TiH}_2)_2$ , HTiH<sub>2</sub>TiH, symmetric and planar, E = -1701.04578251 au

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3 img -1091, -302, -118.

(ix)  $^3(\text{TiH}_2)_2$ , ethene-like, symmetric and planar, E = -1700.98138265 au

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 4 img -432, -314, -288, -211.

(x)  $^5(\text{TiH}_2)_2$ , ethene-like, symmetric and planar, E = -1700.99481455 au

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 4 img -510, -349, -282, -257.

### Ti<sub>2</sub>

(i) <sup>1</sup>Ti<sub>2</sub>, E = -1698,61879618 au

R(Ti–Ti) = 1.865 Å.

E<sub>HOMO</sub> (A') = -0.201 au, E<sub>LUMO</sub> (A') = -0.187 au, ΔE = 0.014 au.

Harmonic frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>): ν1 = 629.

(i) <sup>3</sup>Ti<sub>2</sub>, E = -1698,61768288 au

R(Ti–Ti) = 1.840 Å.

E<sub>HOMO</sub> (A') = -0.201 au, E<sub>LUMO</sub> (A') = -0.187 au, ΔE = 0.014 au.

Harmonic frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>): ν1 = 586.

### (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>

(i) <sup>1</sup>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub> ethene, E = -78.6155382199 au

R(C–C) = 1.329 Å, R(C–H) = 1.085 x4 Å, α(HCH) = 121.7°.

q(C) = -0.222 e, q(H) = +0.111 x4 e, μ<sub>DIP</sub> = 0.0 D.

E<sub>HOMO</sub> (B3u) = -0.282 au, E<sub>LUMO</sub> (B2g) = -0.011 au, ΔE = 0.271 au.

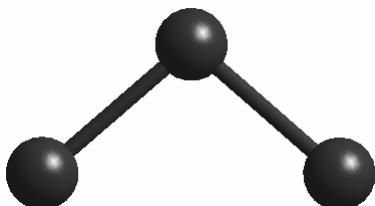
Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 836 (B2u), 975 (B3u), 978 (B2g), 1059 (Au), 1239 (B3g), 1378 (Ag), 1472 (B1u), 1685 (Ag), 3119 (B1u), 3134 (Ag), 3191 (B3g), 3219 (B2u).

### Trimers

#### Ti<sub>3</sub>

(i) <sup>3</sup>Ti<sub>3</sub>, E = -2547.95220135 au

R(Ti–Ti) = 1.895 x2, 2.916 Å.



q(Ti) = +0.665, -0.332 x2 e, μ<sub>DIP</sub> = 0.5 D.

E<sub>SOMO,α</sub> (A) = -0.153 au, E<sub>SOMO+1,α</sub> (B) = -0.134 au, ΔE = 0.019 au.

Harmonic frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 213, 459, 476.

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(ii)  ${}^1\text{Ti}_3$ , E = -2547.93380049 au

R(Ti–Ti) = 1.832 x2, 2.766 Å.

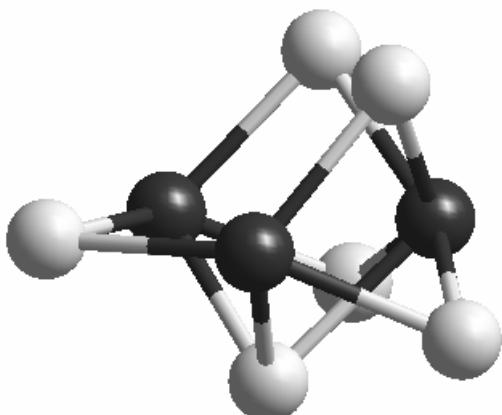
q(Ti) = +1.058, -0.529 x2 e,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}}$  = 0.3 D.

$E_{\text{HOMO}} (A') = -0.111$  au,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (A') = -0.081$  au,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.030$  au.

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 248, 480, 617.

### ( $\text{TiH}_2$ )<sub>3</sub>

(i)  ${}^3(\text{TiH}_2)_3$ , triangle with bridging Ti...H<sub>2</sub>...Ti, planar  $\text{Ti}_3$  core, E = -2551.71629587 au



R(Ti–Ti) = 2.370, 2.376, 2.617 Å, R(Ti–H) = 1.838, 1.874, 1.895, 1.900, 1.901, 1.904, 1.928, 1.935, 1.952, 1.961, 1.963, 1.978, 1.984 Å.

q(Ti) = +0.606, +0.701, -0.790 e, q(H) = -0.234, -0.347, -0.360, -0.381, -0.383, -0.395 e,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}}$  = 1.5 D.

$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha} (A) = -0.161$  au,  $E_{\text{SOMO+1},\alpha} (A) = -0.150$  au,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.011$  au.

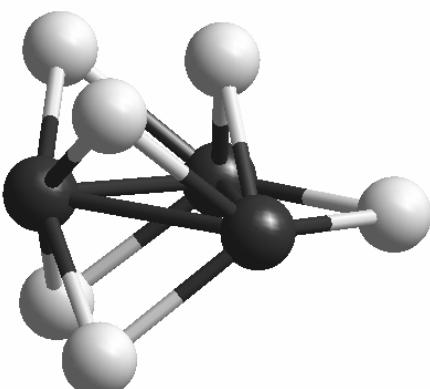
Harmonic frequencies – all real frequencies of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 170, 260, 297, 325, 395, 524, 666, 781, 855, 874, 914, 935, 1002, 1041, 1146, 1157, 1218, 1232, 1275, 1291, 1374.

(ii)  ${}^1(\text{TiH}_2)_3$ , triangle with bridging Ti...H<sub>2</sub>...Ti, planar  $\text{Ti}_3$  core, E = -2551.70542580 au

R(Ti–Ti) = 2.223 x2, 2.612 Å, R(Ti–H) = 1.825, 1.843, 1.869, 1.923, 1.935, 1.980 Å.

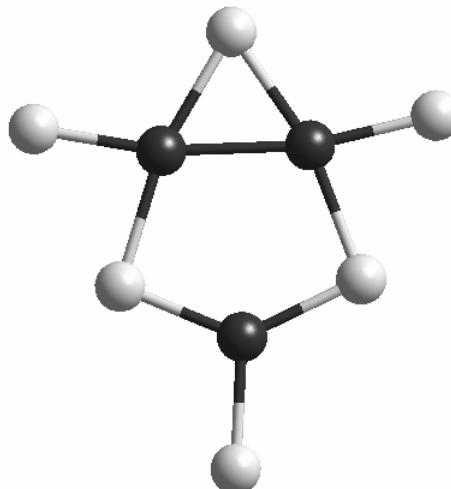
q(Ti) = +0.699 x2, +0.539 e, q(H) = -0.340 x2, -0.347x2, -0.129, -0.432 e,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}}$  = 1.7 D.

$E_{\text{HOMO}} (A) = -0.145$  au,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (A) = -0.068$  au,  $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.077$  au.



Harmonic frequencies – all real frequencies of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 240, 294, 339, 433, 489, 626, 681, 713, 826, 853, 918, 1020,

(iii)  $^3(\text{TiH}_2)_3$ , triangle with bridging Ti...H...Ti, planar  $\text{Ti}_3$  core, E = -2551.61646058 au



Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3 img freq.

(iv)  $^1(\text{TiH}_2)_3$ , triangle with bridging Ti...H...Ti, planar  $\text{Ti}_3$  core, E = -2551.59215696 au

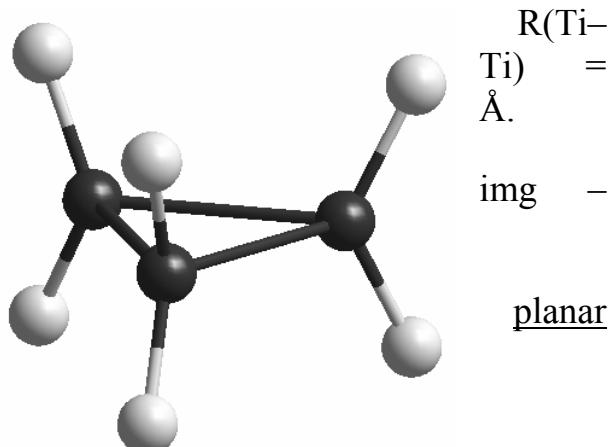
Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 5 img freq.

(v)  $^1(\text{TiH}_2)_3$ , equilateral triangle, planar  $\text{Ti}_3$  core, E = -2551.52847568 au

2.898 x3 Å, R(Ti-H) = 1.722 x6

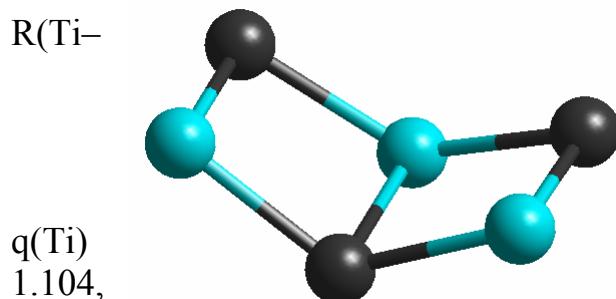
Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1 254.

(vi)  $^3(\text{TiH}_2)_3$ , equilateral triangle,  $\text{Ti}_3$  core, E = - 2551.537 au, convergence failure



### (TiC)<sub>3</sub>

(i)  $^1(\text{TiC})_3$  boat, E = -2662.32730132 au

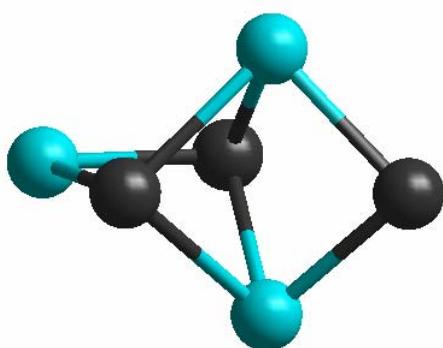


$E_{\text{HOMO}} (\text{A}) = -0.163 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{LUMO}} (\text{B}) = -0.090 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.073 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 117, 143, 230, 344, 407, 422, 556, 557, 728, 751, 901, 934.

$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 1.746, 1.993, 1.931, 1.937 \text{ Å}$ ,  
 $\alpha(\text{C}_{\text{end}}\text{Ti}_{\text{mid}}\text{C}_{\text{end}}) = 125.3^\circ$ ,  
 $\alpha(\text{Ti}_{\text{end}}\text{C}_{\text{mid}}\text{Ti}_{\text{end}}) = 129.3^\circ$ ,  
 $\alpha_{\text{dih}}(\text{Ti}_{\text{end}}\text{C}_{\text{mid}}\text{Ti}_{\text{mid}}\text{C}_{\text{end}}) = 127.8^\circ$ .

$= +0.897, +0.930 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.826 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 6.2 \text{ D}$ .

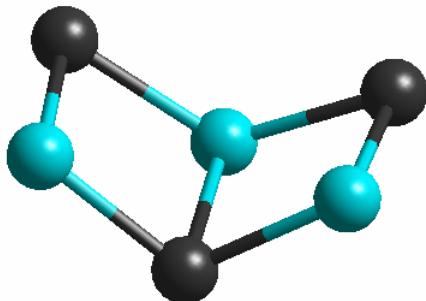
(ii)  $^3(\text{TiC})_3$  boat, E = -2662.32650257 au

$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 1.857, 1.858, 1.911 \times 2, 2.027, 2.028 \times 2, 2.029 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{Ti}_{\text{mid}}\text{C}_{\text{end}}\text{Ti}_{\text{mid}}) = 85.5^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{C}_{\text{mid}}\text{Ti}_{\text{end}}\text{C}_{\text{mid}}) = 83.7^\circ$ ,  $\alpha_{\text{dih}}(\text{Ti}_{\text{end}}\text{Ti}_{\text{mid}}\text{Ti}_{\text{mid}}\text{C}_{\text{end}}) = 0.0^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.778, +0.777, +0.047 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.577 \times 2, -0.447 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 3.9 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha} (\text{A}) = -0.181 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{SOMO+1},\alpha} (\text{A}) = -0.175 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.006 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 193, 215, 223, 268, 346, 411, 414, 586, 622, 729, 754, 777.

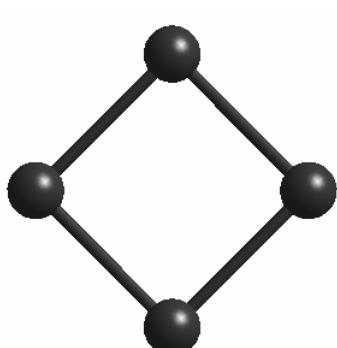
(iii)  $^5(\text{TiC})_3$  boat, E = -2662.28084499 au

$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 1.865, 1.880, 1.884, 1.905, 1.911, 1.939, 2.010 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{C}_{\text{end}}\text{Ti}_{\text{mid}}\text{C}_{\text{end}}) = 111.1^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(\text{Ti}_{\text{end}}\text{C}_{\text{mid}}\text{Ti}_{\text{end}}) = 120.8^\circ$ ,  $\alpha_{\text{dih}}(\text{Ti}_{\text{end}}\text{C}_{\text{mid}}\text{Ti}_{\text{mid}}\text{C}_{\text{end}}) = 115.3^\circ$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +1.297, +0.357, +0.355 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -1.020, -0.511, -0.477 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 4.2 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha} (\text{A}) = -0.191 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{SOMO+1},\alpha} (\text{A}) = -0.183 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.008 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 59, 106, 168, 178, 368, 436, 454, 537, 590, 693, 786, 802.

**Ti<sub>4</sub>**(i)  $^3\text{Ti}_4$  nearly square, nonplanar E = -3397.25293797 au

$R(\text{Ti}-\text{Ti}) = 2.313 \times 4 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(\text{TiTiTi}) = 86.0^\circ$ ,  $\alpha_{\text{dih}}(\text{TiTiTiTi}) = 29.7^\circ$ .

$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha} (\text{B1}) = -0.149 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{\text{SOMO+1},\alpha} (\text{B2}) = -0.149 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.000 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 140, 155, 189, 190, 190, 175.

(ii)  $^1\text{Ti}_4$  square, E = -3397.21460433 au

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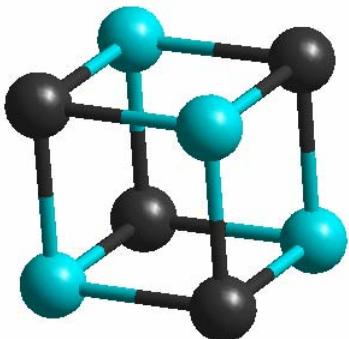
$R(Ti-Ti) = 2.285 \times 4 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(TiTiTi) = 90^\circ$ .

$E_{HOMO} (A1g) = -0.139 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{LUMO} (Eu) = -0.087 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.052 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 54, 132, 245, 245, 341, 346.

### (TiC)<sub>4</sub>

(i)  $^1(\text{TiC})_4$  cube,  $E = -3550.00199292 \text{ au}$



$R(Ti-C) = 1.944-1.945 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(TiCTi) = 90.7^\circ$ ,  
 $\alpha(CTiC) = 89.3^\circ$ .

$q(Ti) = +1.099 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(C) = -1.099 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{DIP} = 0.0 \text{ D}$ .

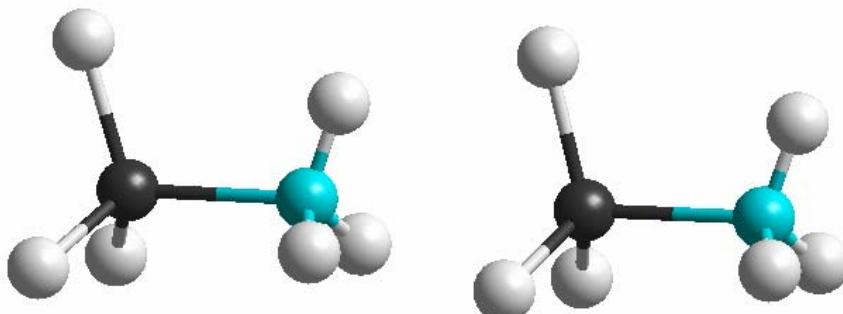
$E_{HOMO} (A) = -0.187 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{LUMO} (B) = -0.054 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.133 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  
288, 288, 357, 358, 358, 454, 468, 468, 469, 510, 511, 684, 684, 684, 735, 758, 758, 759.

### 3. Estimate of the dimerization energy for c-(H<sub>3</sub>TiCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> via CH<sup>+</sup>...<sup>-</sup>HTi interactions.

$^1(\text{H}_3\text{TiCH}_3)_2$  head-to-tail linear dimer,  $E = -1782.10964262 \text{ au}$

$R(Ti-C) = 2.029, 2.034 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(Ti \dots C) = 3.152 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(Ti-H) = 1.694 \times 3, 1.701 \times 3 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $R(C-H) = 1.097 \times 3, 1.098 \times 3 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha(CTi \dots C) = 180.0^\circ$ ,  $\alpha(TiC \dots Ti) = 179.4^\circ$ .



$q(Ti) = +1.394, +1.000 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(C) = -0.633, -0.572 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(H_{Ti}) = -0.358 \times 3, -0.309 \times 3 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(H_C) = +0.156 \times 3, +0.115 \times 3 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{DIP} = 1.1 \text{ D}$ .

$E_{HOMO} (A) = -0.293 \text{ au}$ ,  $E_{LUMO} (A) = -0.104 \text{ au}$ ,  $\Delta E = 0.189 \text{ au}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 35, 40, 46, 51, 77, 103, 104, 157, 335, 339, 366, 367, 484, 498, 498, 515, 516, 519, 606, 606, 607,

$E(^1(\text{H}_3\text{TiCH}_3)_2)$  per one  $\text{TiCH}_6$  unit = -891.05482131 au;

$E(^1(\text{H}_3\text{TiCH}_3))$  = -891.0534657115 au;

Dimerization energy per one  $\text{TiCH}_6$  unit = -0.00135 au (-0.04 eV).

#### 4. Estimate of the dimerization energy for c-( $\text{TiHCH}_2$ )<sub>2</sub> (cis) via formation of the Ti...C bonds.

$^1(\text{TiHCH})_4$  cube,  $E = -3554.87080918$  au

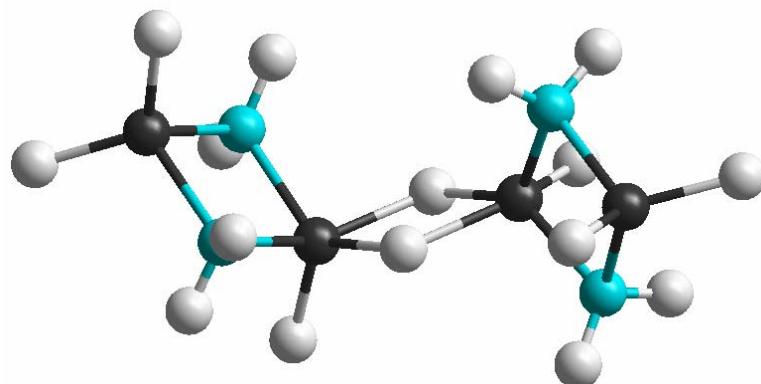
$E(^1(\text{TiHCH})_4)$  per one  $\text{TiCH}_2$  unit = -888,7177025 au;

$E(^1(\text{TiHCH})_2)$  per one  $\text{TiCH}_2$  unit = -888,655135 au;

Dimerization energy per one  $\text{TiCH}_2$  unit = -0,0625675 au (-1.7 eV).

#### 5. Estimate of the dimerization energy for c-( $\text{TiH}_2\text{CH}_2$ )<sub>2</sub> via $\text{TiH}^- \dots^- \text{HTi}$ interactions.

$^1(\text{TiH}_2\text{CH}_2)_2$  dimer,  $E = -3559.57334120$  au



$R(\text{Ti}-\text{C}) = 2.031, 2.036, 2.017, 2.019, 2.025, 2.029, 2.033, 2.036 \text{ \AA}$ ,  
 $\alpha(\text{H}_{\text{bridg}}\text{TiH}_{\text{bridg}}) = 67.9^\circ, 68.1^\circ, \alpha_{\text{dih}}(\text{TiH}_{\text{bridg}}\text{H}_{\text{bridg}}\text{Ti}) = 179.1^\circ$ .

$E_{\text{HOMO}} (\text{A}) = -0.273$  au,  
 $E_{\text{LUMO}} (\text{A}) = -0.118$  au,  
 $\Delta E_{\text{HL}} = 0.155$  au.

Harmonic frequencies – all real frequencies for modes of A symmetry ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 17, 23, 36 etc.

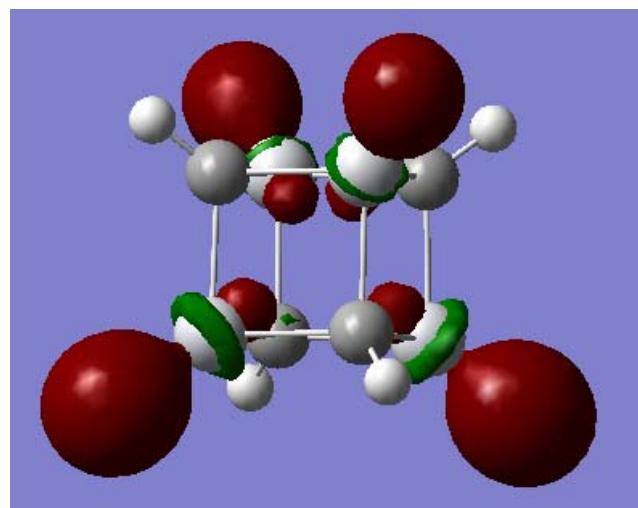
$E(^1(\text{TiH}_2\text{CH}_2)_2$  dimer) per one  $\text{TiCH}_4$  unit = -889.8933353 au;

$E(^1(\text{TiH}_2\text{CH}_2)_2)$  per one  $\text{TiCH}_2$  unit = -889.882004275 au;

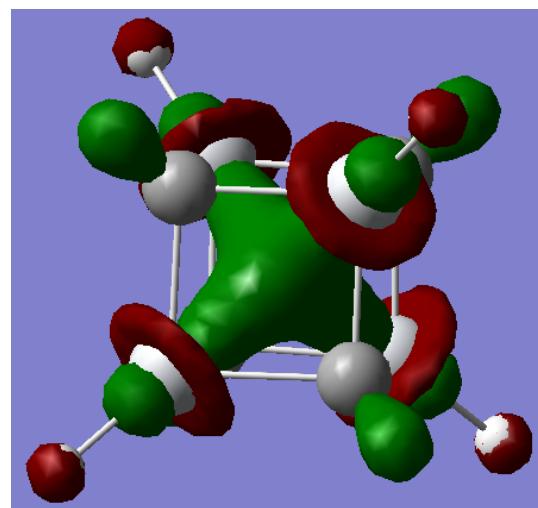
Dimerization energy per one  $\text{TiCH}_2$  unit = -0.011331025 au (-0.31 eV).

**6. Chosen orbitals (particularly the frontier ones) of selected Ti–Substituted Hydrocarbons (TSHs).**

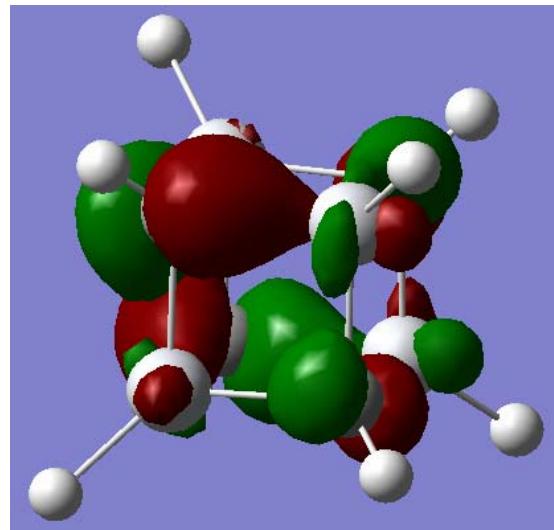
${}^1(\text{TiHCH})_4$  cube



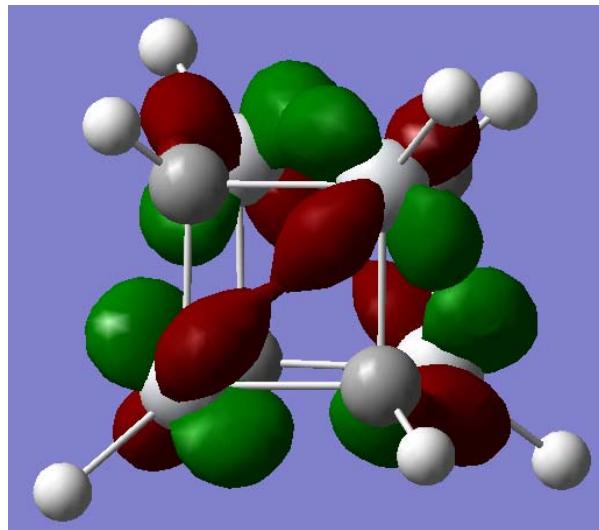
HOMO – the bonding combination of 1s orbitals of  $\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}$  and  $d(z^2)$  orbitals of Ti.



LUMO – the slightly bonding combination of  $d(z^2)$  orbitals of Ti with smaller contribution from 1s orbitals of  $\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}$  and  $\text{H}_C$ .

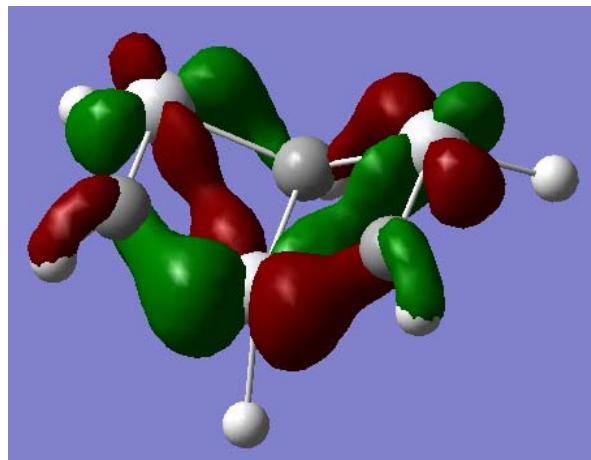


HOMO-2 – the bonding combination of 2p orbitals of C and d orbitals of Ti.

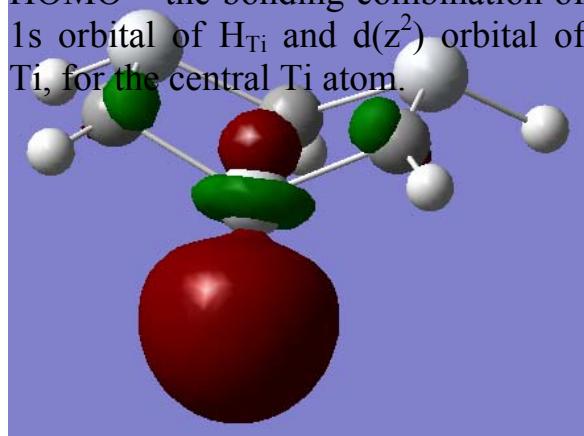


LUMO+1 – the essentially nonbonding combination of  $d(x^2-y^2)$  orbitals of Ti.

$^1(\text{TiHCH})_3$  trimer, boat

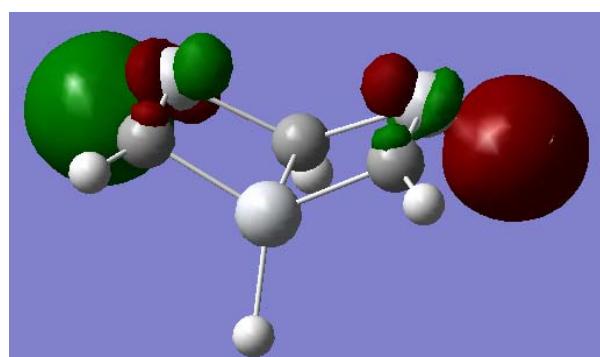


HOMO – the bonding combination of 1s orbital of  $\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}$  and  $d(z^2)$  orbital of  $\text{Ti}$ , for the central  $\text{Ti}$  atom.

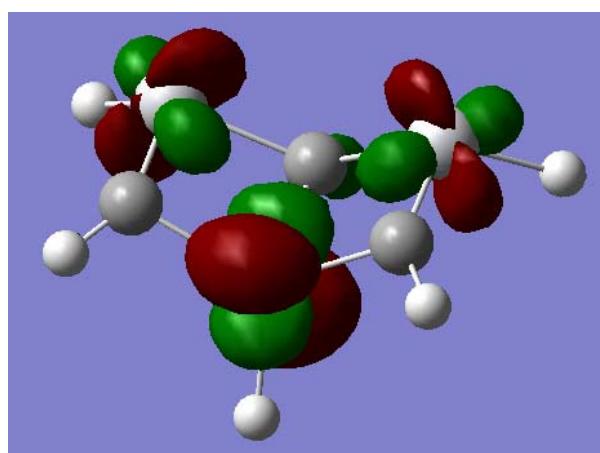


with smaller contribution from orbitals of the CH entities.

LUMO – the slightly bonding combination of  $d(x^2 - y^2)$  orbitals of  $\text{Ti}$



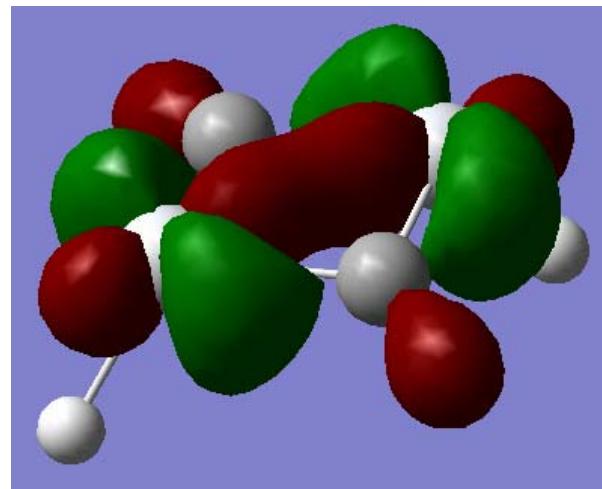
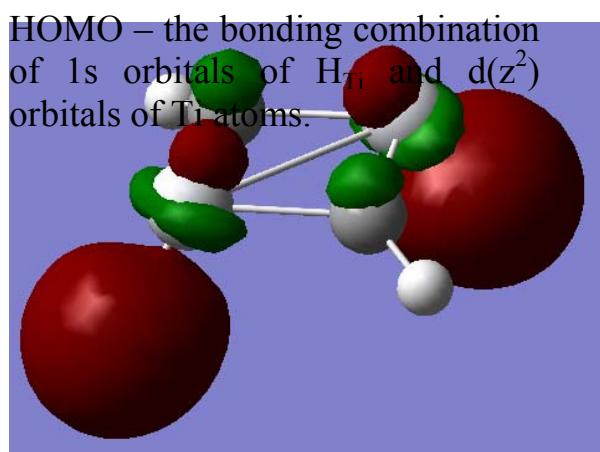
HOMO-1 – the bonding combination of 1s orbital of  $\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}$  and  $d(z^2)$  orbital of  $\text{Ti}$ , for terminal  $\text{Ti}$  atoms.



LUMO+1 – the nonbonding combination of  $d(xy)$  orbitals of  $\text{Ti}$  atoms.

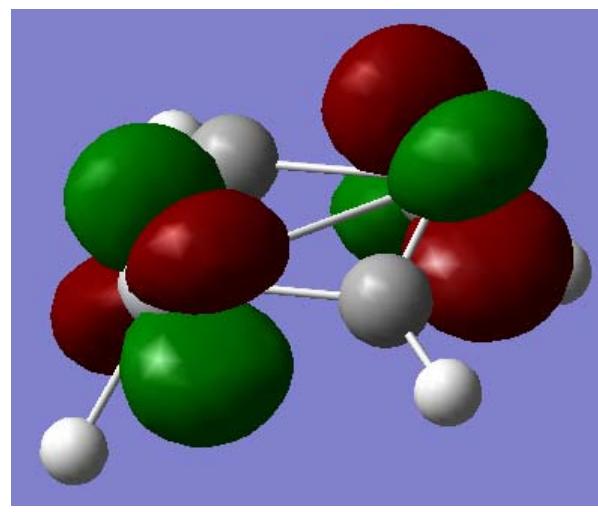
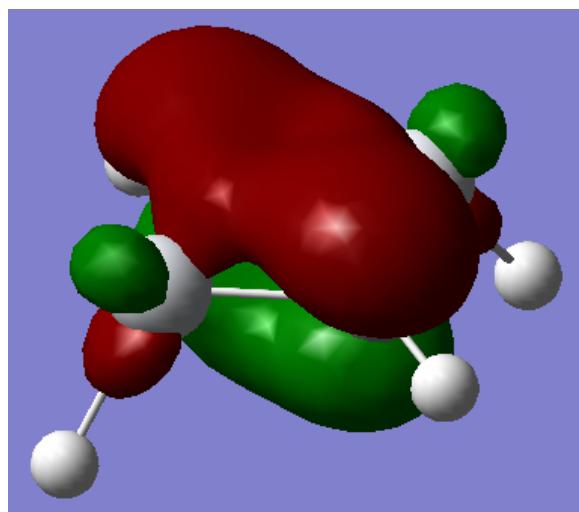
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$^1(\text{TiHCH})_2$  dimer, umbrella



LUMO – the weakly bonding combination of  $d(x^2-y^2)$  orbitals of Ti atoms, with small contribution from

1s orbitals of  $\text{H}_{\text{C}}$  atoms.



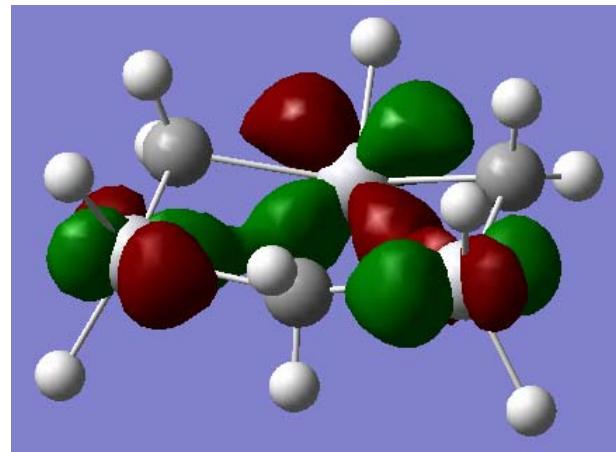
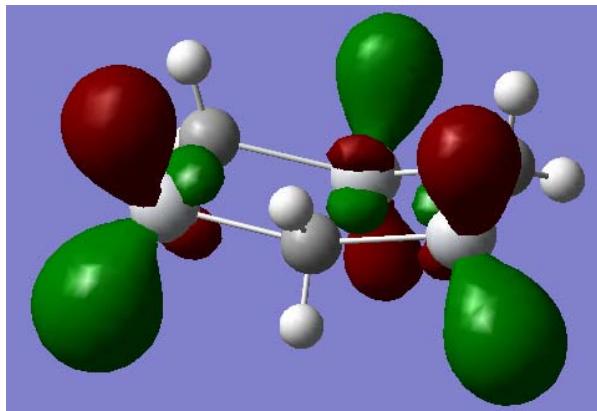
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HOMO-3 – the bonding combination of 2p(z) orbitals of C and d(xz) orbitals of Ti atoms.

LUMO+1 – the nonbonding combination of d(yz) orbitals of Ti atoms.

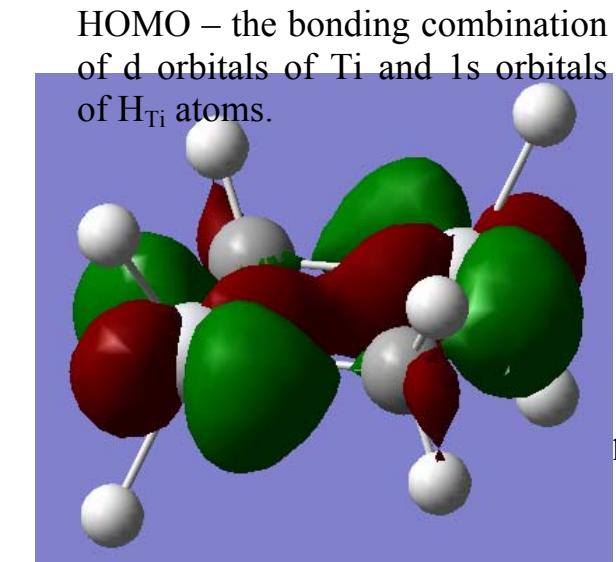
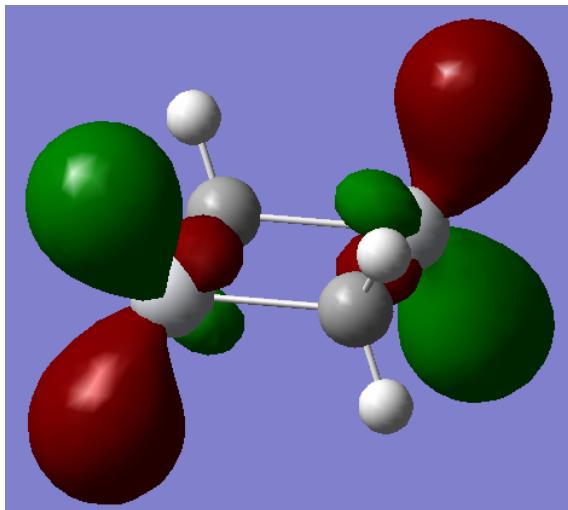
$^1(\text{TiH}_2\text{CH}_2)_3$  trimer, boat



HOMO – the bonding combination of d orbitals of Ti and 1s orbitals of  $\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}$  atoms.

LUMO – the nonbonding combination of d orbitals of Ti atoms.

$^1(\text{TiH}_2\text{CH}_2)_2$  dimer



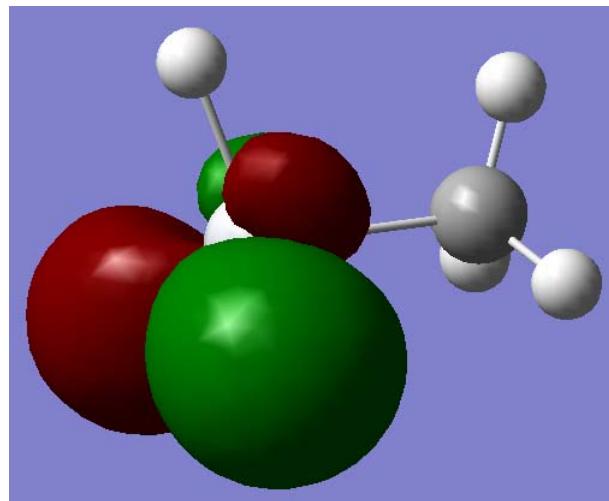
HOMO – the bonding combination of d orbitals of Ti and 1s orbitals of  $\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}$  atoms.

# Supplementary Material (ESI) for Chemical Communications

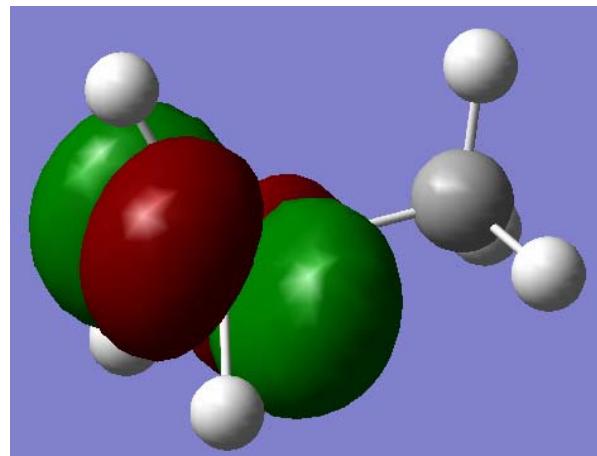
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LUMO – the essentially nonbonding combination of d orbitals of Ti atoms.

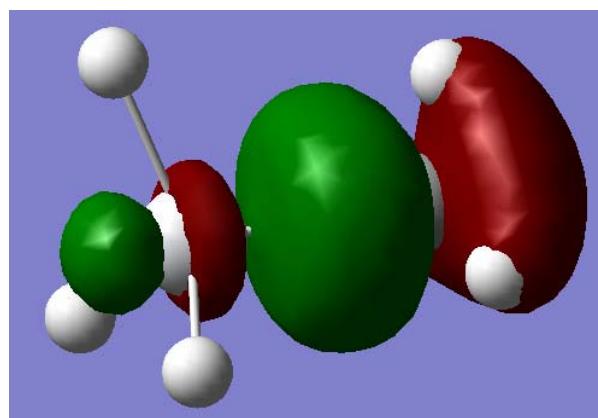
$^1(\text{H}_3\text{TiCH}_3)$  monomer



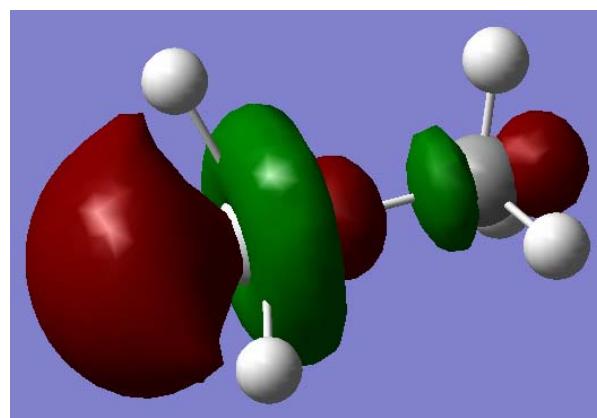
HOMO – the bonding combination of d orbital of Ti and 1s orbitals of two  $\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}$  atoms.



LUMO – the nonbonding d orbital of Ti.



HOMO-3 – the bonding combination of  $d(z^2)$  orbital of Ti and p(z) orbital of C atom ( $\sigma$ ).



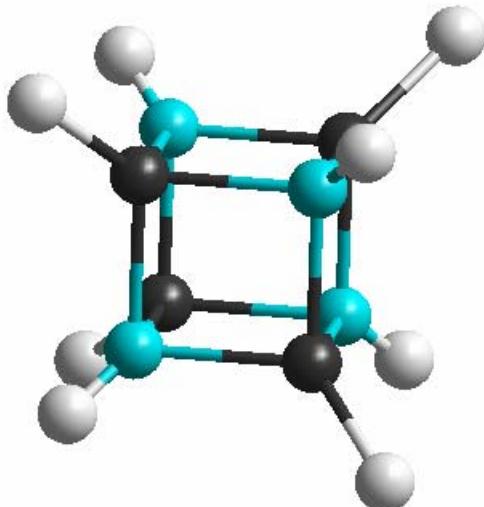
LUMO+2 – the antibonding combination of  $d(z^2)$  orbital of Ti and p(z) orbital of C, with Ti-H bonding contribution from 1s orbital of  $\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}$ .

## 7. Estimate of the vertical and relaxed ionization potential and electron affinity of $(\text{TiHCH})_4$ .

$^1(\text{TiHCH})_4$  cube, E = -3554,87080918 au

$^2(\text{TiHCH})_4^{1-}$  cube, non relaxed, E = -3554,94214970 au;  $E_A^{\text{vert}} = -1.94 \text{ eV}$

$^2(\text{TiHCH})_4^{1-}$  cube, relaxed, E = -3554,94800333 au;  $E_A^{\text{rel}} = -2.10 \text{ eV}$



R(Ti-C) = 2.026 x2, 2.013 x2, 2.032 x4, 2.071 x4 Å, R(Ti-H) = 1.697 x2, 1.701 x2 Å, R(C-H) = 1.103 x4 Å.

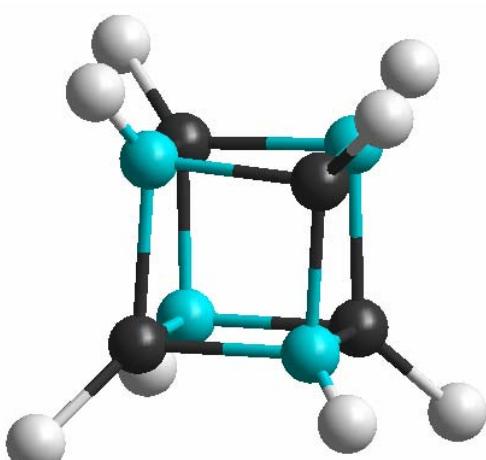
$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha}$  (A) = -0.029 au,  $E_{\text{SOMO+1},\alpha}$  (A) = +0.034 au,  $\Delta E = 0.063 \text{ au}$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +1.093 \times 4 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -1.177, -1.178, -1.180, -1.181 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}) = -0.238 \times 4 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_\text{C}) = +0.075 \times 4 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 0.0 \text{ D}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all real frequencies for modes of A symmetry.

$^2(\text{TiHCH})_4^{1+}$  cube, non relaxed, E = -3554,54968800 au;  $I_P^{\text{vert}} = 8.75 \text{ eV}$

$^2(\text{TiHCH})_4^{1+}$  cube, relaxed, E = -3554,55989288 au;  $I_P^{\text{rel}} = 8.47 \text{ eV}$



R(Ti-C) = 2.043 x8, 2.044 x4 Å, R(Ti-H) = 1.807 x 4 Å, R(C-H) = 1.102 x4 Å.

$E_{\text{SOMO},\alpha}$  (A) = -0.431 au,  $E_{\text{SOMO+1},\alpha}$  (A) = -0.294 au,  $\Delta E = 0.137 \text{ au}$ .

$q(\text{Ti}) = +0.854 \times 2, +1.218 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{C}) = -0.972 \times 2, -1.154 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}) = +0.054 \times 2$ ,  $+0.091 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $q(\text{H}_\text{C}) = +0.189 \times 2, +0.219 \times 2 \text{ e}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{DIP}} = 0.6 \text{ D}$ .

Harmonic frequencies – all real frequencies for modes of A symmetry.

The values of  $I_P^{\text{rel}}$ ,  $E_A^{\text{rel}}$ ,  $\mu_{\text{EN}}$ , and  $\eta$  of cubic  $^1(\text{TiHCH})_4$  tetramer (8.47 eV, 2.10 eV, 5.29 eV, 3.19 eV) are comparable to those for atom of ‘noble’ Au (9.22 eV 2.3 eV, 5.76 eV and 3.46 eV, respectively), or of  $\text{NO}_2$  radical (9.60, 2.27 eV, 5.94 eV, 3.67 eV). This indicates that  $^1(\text{TiHCH})_4$  could form moderately stable anions, by analogy to known  $\text{Au}^-$  and  $\text{NO}_2^-$ .

**8. Estimate of the enthalpies (at T=0 K) of the reactions of H<sub>2</sub> detachment, hydrocarbon elimination, and clustering of various TSHs.**

- (i) No zero-vibrational corrections have been introduced.
- (ii) Paths leading to compounds of (formally) Ti<sup>1+</sup> or Ti<sup>3+</sup> have not been considered.
- (iii) Lowest energy structures have been taken into calculations.
- (iv) All values are per one TiC unit, in eV/molecule.

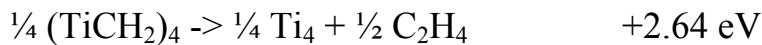
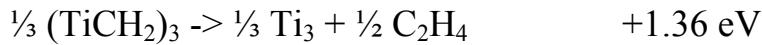
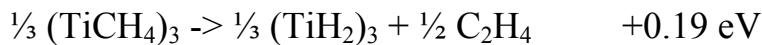
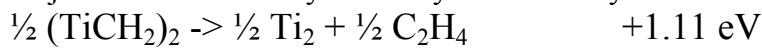
**I. Dehydrogenation.**

TiCH <sub>6</sub> -> TiCH <sub>4</sub> + H <sub>2</sub>	+0.77 eV
TiCH <sub>4</sub> -> TiCH <sub>2</sub> + H <sub>2</sub>	+2.01 eV
TiCH <sub>2</sub> -> TiC + H <sub>2</sub>	+3.28 eV
$\frac{1}{2}$ (TiCH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> -> $\frac{1}{2}$ (TiCH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> + H <sub>2</sub>	+1.21 eV
$\frac{1}{2}$ (TiCH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> -> $\frac{1}{2}$ (TiC) <sub>2</sub> + H <sub>2</sub>	+1.67 eV
$\frac{1}{3}$ (TiCH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> -> $\frac{1}{3}$ (TiCH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> + H <sub>2</sub>	+0.88 eV
$\frac{1}{3}$ (TiCH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> -> $\frac{1}{3}$ (TiC) <sub>3</sub> + H <sub>2</sub>	+1.44 eV
$\frac{1}{4}$ (TiCH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> -> $\frac{1}{4}$ (TiCH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> + H <sub>2</sub>	-0.33 eV
$\frac{1}{4}$ (TiCH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> -> $\frac{1}{4}$ (TiC) <sub>4</sub> + H <sub>2</sub>	+0.95 eV

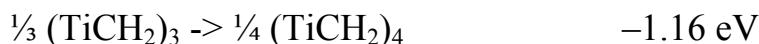
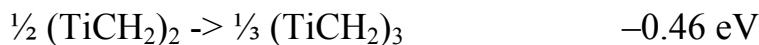
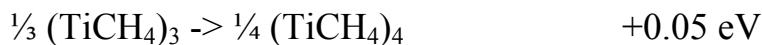
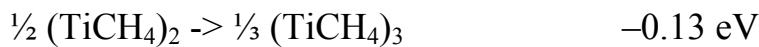
**II. Hydrocarbon elimination.**

TiCH <sub>6</sub> -> TiH <sub>2</sub> + CH <sub>4</sub>	+0.92 eV
TiCH <sub>6</sub> -> TiH <sub>4</sub> + $\frac{1}{2}$ C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	+1.24 eV
TiCH <sub>4</sub> -> Ti + CH <sub>4</sub>	+0.65 eV
TiCH <sub>4</sub> -> TiH <sub>2</sub> + $\frac{1}{2}$ C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	+1.42 eV
TiCH <sub>2</sub> -> Ti + $\frac{1}{2}$ C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	-0.09 eV
$\frac{1}{2}$ (TiCH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> -> $\frac{1}{2}$ Ti <sub>2</sub> + CH <sub>4</sub>	+2.11 eV
$\frac{1}{2}$ (TiCH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> -> $\frac{1}{2}$ (TiH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> + $\frac{1}{2}$ C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	+1.06 eV

# Supplementary Material (ESI) for Chemical Communications  
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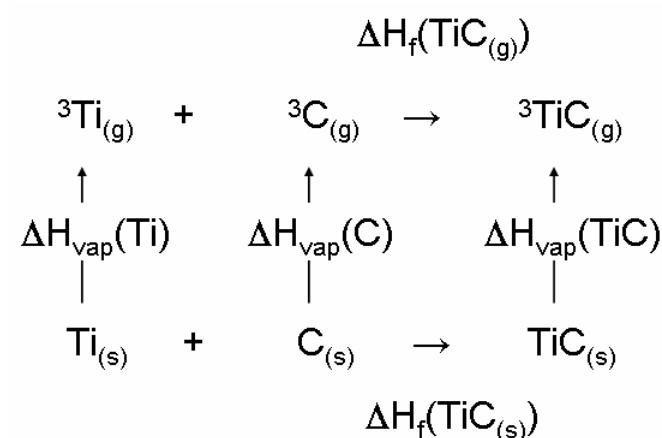


### III. Clustering.



### 9. Estimate of the vaporization enthalpy of solid TiC.

From the Born–Haber cycle (graph below) one can write:



$$\Delta H_{\text{vap}}(\text{TiC}) = \Delta H_{\text{vap}}(\text{Ti}) + \Delta H_{\text{vap}}(\text{C}) + \Delta H_f(\text{TiC}_{(\text{g})}) - \Delta H_f(\text{TiC}_{(\text{s})}).$$

If we use experimental values (knovel database) of  $\Delta H_{\text{vap}}(\text{Ti}) = +4.94$  eV,  $\Delta H_{\text{vap}}(\text{C}) = +7.43$  eV,  $\Delta H_f(\text{TiC}_{(\text{s})}) = -1.91$  eV, and theoretical value of  $\Delta H_f(\text{TiC}_{(\text{g})}) = -4.01$  eV (this work), the impressively large value of  $\Delta H_{\text{vap}}(\text{TiC}) = +6.45$  eV is obtained. The experimental value of  $T_{\text{boil}}$  of TiC is about 3140 °C. If the value of  $\Delta H_f(\text{TiC}_{(\text{g})}) = -3.08$  eV (Ref.17a) is used, somewhat smaller  $\Delta H_{\text{vap}}(\text{TiC}) = +5.52$  eV is obtained.

## 10. Calculation of the minimum values of the thermal decomposition temperature for chosen TSHs.

Approximate minimum values of the thermal decomposition temperature,  $T_{\text{dec}}$ , for the process of  $\text{H}_2$  elimination from TSHs



can be obtained from the condition of the thermodynamic stability:

$$\Delta G_{\text{dec}} = \Delta H_{\text{dec}} + T_{\text{dec}} \Delta S_{\text{dec}} = 0 .$$

If  $\text{TiCH}_{2x}$  and  $\text{TiCH}_{2x-2}$  are solids, then the entropy of the decomposition reaction is approximately equal to the entropy of gaseous  $\text{H}_2$  ( $=130.68 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ ). Thus:

$T_{\text{dec}} \geq \Delta H_{\text{dec}} / S(\text{H}_2)$  , where  $\Delta H_{\text{dec}}$  is per 1 mole of TiC units.

The values of  $T_{\text{dec}}$  determined using this method are listed below for selected TSHs.

TSH	$T_{\text{dec}} / \text{K}$
$\text{Ti}_4\text{C}_4\text{H}_8$	701
$\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_3\text{H}_{12}$	649
$\text{TiCH}_6$	568

Obviously, these values are overestimated if (a) gradual  $\text{H}_2$  evolution occurs and (b) simultaneous clustering of the TiC takes place.

## 11. $\text{H}_2$ absorption path for ${}^3\text{TiC}$ and ${}^1\text{TiC}$ .

**Figure A1** shows the electronic energy of the  $\text{H}_2/{}^3\text{TiC}$  and  $\text{H}_2/{}^1\text{TiC}$  systems during geometry optimization, vs. step number. **Figures A2** and **A3** show the

concomitant changes of the TiC and HH distances for  $\text{H}_2/\text{TiC}$  and  $\text{H}_2/\text{TiC}$ , respectively.

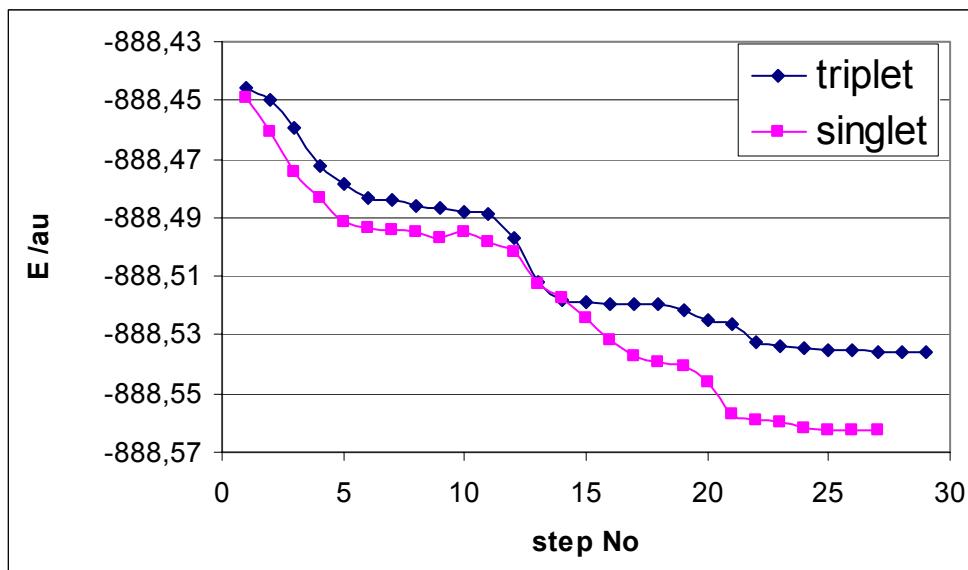
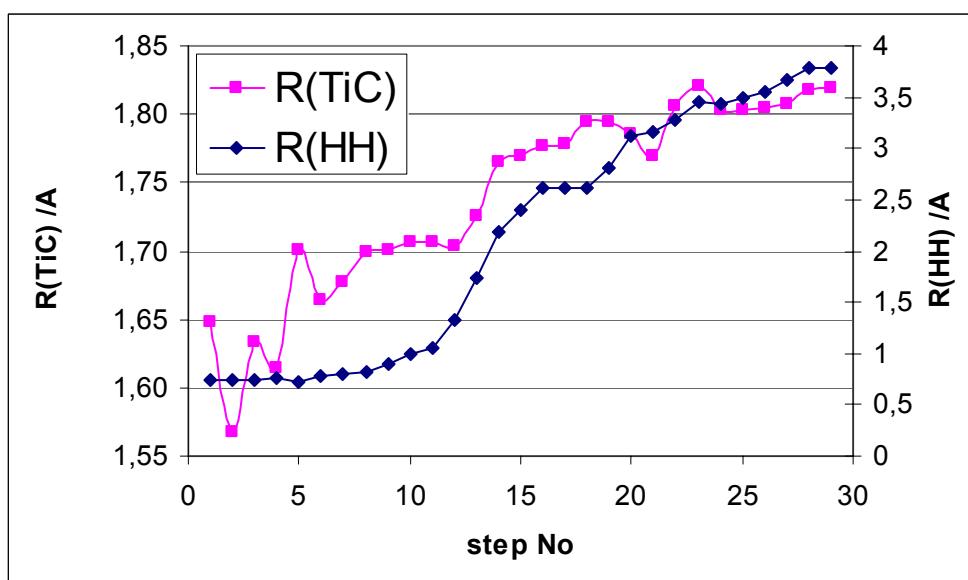
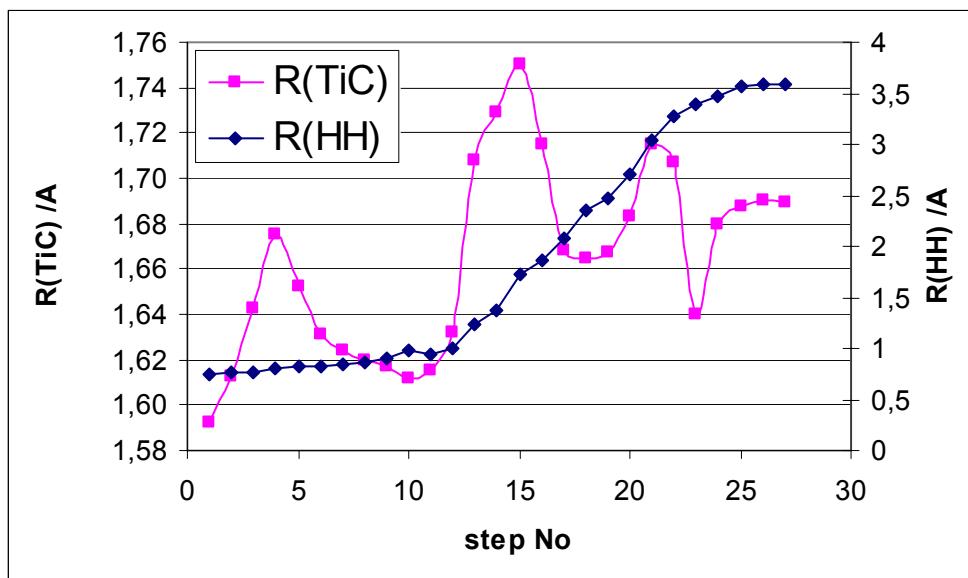
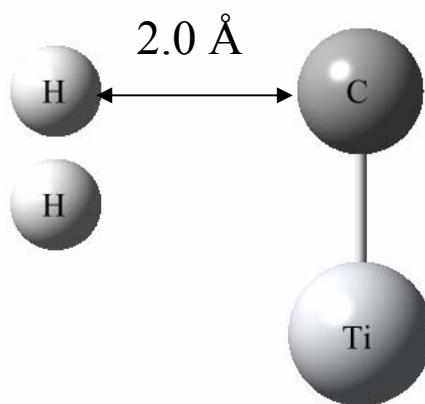


Figure A1.

Figure A2.  
 ${}^3\text{TiC}$ Figure A3.  
 ${}^1\text{TiC}$

Starting geometry for both optimizations corresponds to set of coplanar and parallel TiC and H<sub>2</sub> molecules at their equilibrium bond lengths, as in a schematic picture below.



Advanced calculations show that TiC molecule has triplet ground state, but the singlet state is only 0.05–0.07 eV above the ground state. (a) C. W. Bauschlicher, P. E. M. Siegbahn, *Chem. Phys. Lett.*, 1984, **104**, 331; (b) M. D. Hack, R. G. A. R. MacLagan, G. E. Scuseria, M. S. Gordon, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 1996, **104**, 6628. Our calculations reproduce qualitatively this feature. <sup>3</sup>TiC could easily be excited thermally to <sup>1</sup>TiC at 298 K.

Figure A4 shows the schematic diagram of the H<sub>2</sub> absorption path for <sup>3</sup>TiC + H<sub>2</sub> and <sup>1</sup>TiC + H<sub>2</sub> reactions.

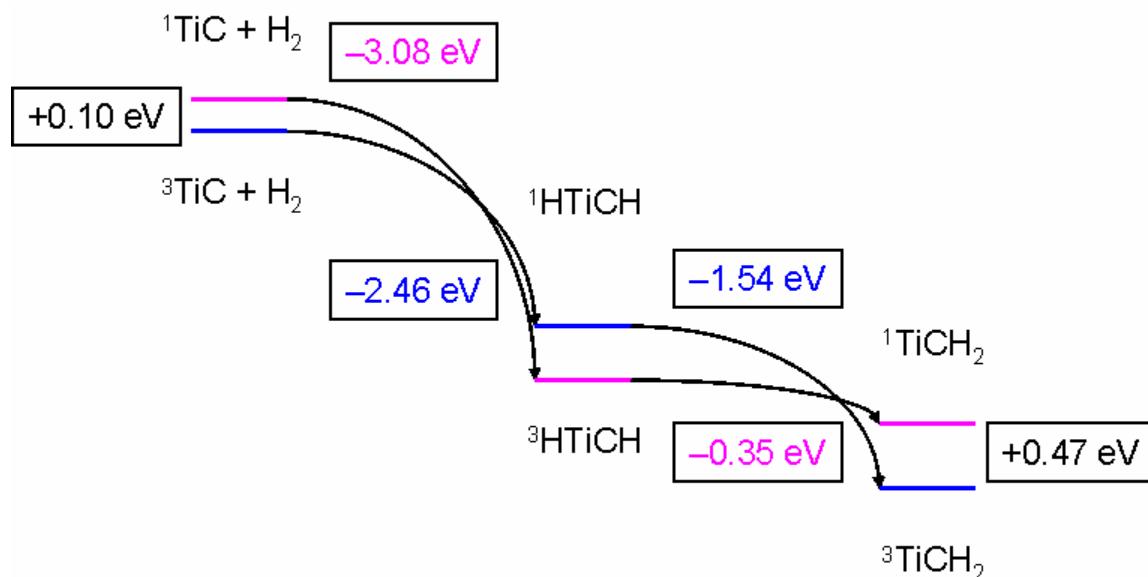


Fig. A4

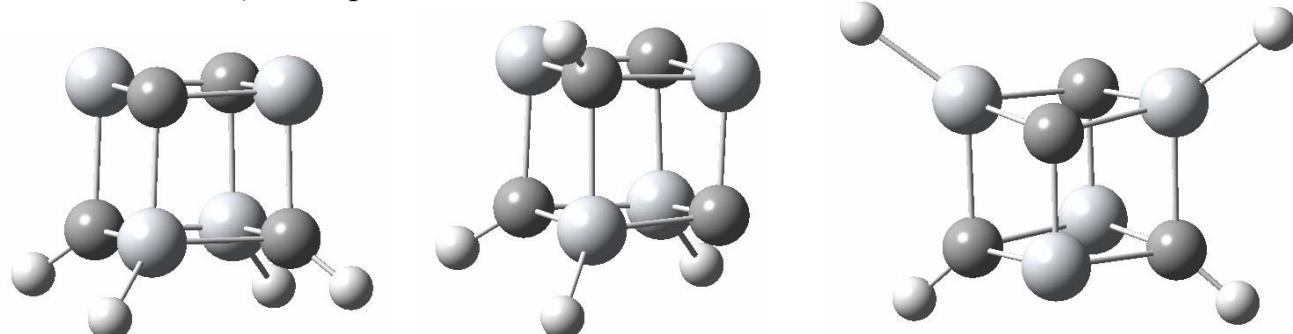
It turns out that H<sub>2</sub> molecule easily reacts with <sup>3</sup>TiC and <sup>1</sup>TiC while initially producing the high-energy isomers (acetylene-like cis-HTiCH forms, bent on C and on Ti) of <sup>3</sup>TiCH<sub>2</sub> and <sup>1</sup>TiCH<sub>2</sub>, respectively. Remarkably, reaction shows no apparent energy barrier at this stage (regardless of multiplicity of TiC species), despite necessity of an endothermic heterolytic splitting of H<sub>2</sub> molecule. At the second stage of reaction, H transfer occurs between Ti and C, thus yielding the most stable isomers of the products. We have not computed the isomerization pathway for this step, but it is supposed to be connected with an energy barrier which determines the kinetics of the overall process.

Larger (TiCH<sub>2n</sub>)<sub>m</sub> clusters (n=1,2; m=3,4) show preference for the H<sup>δ-</sup> Ti...CH<sup>δ+</sup> form; now isomerization to Ti...CH<sub>2</sub> form leads to energy increase. We anticipate that H<sub>2</sub> attachment reactions could occur for these clusters with little or no energy barrier, similar to the first stage of reaction for <sup>1</sup>TiC and <sup>3</sup>TiC.

## 12. H<sub>2</sub> absorption for <sup>1</sup>Ti<sub>4</sub>C<sub>4</sub>. Reaction path for <sup>1</sup>Ti<sub>4</sub>C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>.

E ( <sup>1</sup> Ti <sub>4</sub> C <sub>4</sub> ) = 3550.002 au	{}	Δ=0.837 au (endothermic)
E ( <sup>1</sup> Ti <sub>4</sub> C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>2</sub> ) = 3550.839 au		Δ=1.602 au (egzothermic)
E ( <sup>1</sup> Ti <sub>4</sub> C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> )* = 3552.441 au	{}	E(H <sub>2</sub> ) = 1.1796 au
E ( <sup>1</sup> Ti <sub>4</sub> C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ) = 3553.654 au		Δ=1.213 au (egzothermic)
E ( <sup>1</sup> Ti <sub>4</sub> C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> ) = 3554.871 au	{}	Δ=1.217 au (egzothermic)

\* for isomer a) – see pictures below



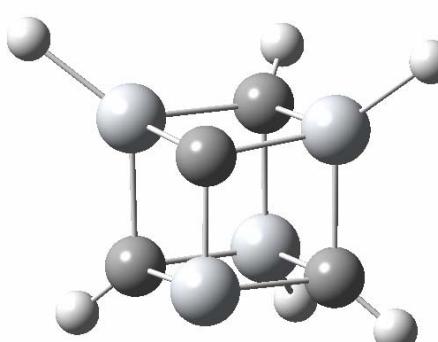
a) E=3552.441 au

b) E=3552.432 au

c) E=3552.425 au

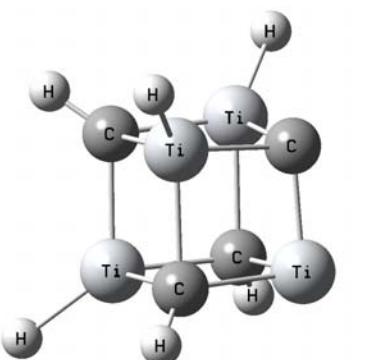
Three isomers of <sup>1</sup>Ti<sub>4</sub>C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (top) and <sup>1</sup>Ti<sub>4</sub>C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (bottom).

E = 3553.654 au



No imaginary vibrational frequencies have been detected for computed energy minima found for  $\text{Ti}_4\text{C}_4\text{H}_2$ , three isomers of  $\text{Ti}_4\text{C}_4\text{H}_4$ , and  $\text{Ti}_4\text{C}_4\text{H}_6$ .

We have then studied the  $\text{H}_2$  absorption path for partially hydrogenated  $\text{Ti}_4\text{C}_4\text{H}_6$  cluster (substrates, **S**); here  $\text{Ti}_4\text{C}_4\text{H}_8$  is the thermodynamically stable reaction product (**P**). It turns out that reaction path is complicated; reaction proceeds *without any barrier* from substrates to the dihydrogen complex **H<sub>2</sub>C**, and subsequently through transition state **TS** (with the corresponding barrier of 0.33 eV = 7.6 kcal/mole), to the product.

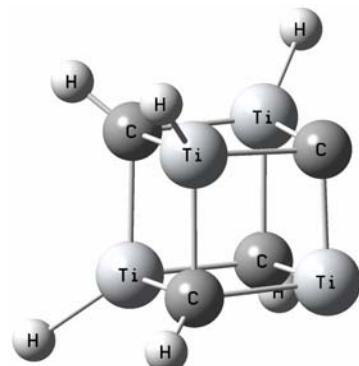


Starting geometry of substrates, **S**, corresponds to set of  $\text{Ti}_4\text{C}_4\text{H}_6$  and  $\text{H}_2$  molecules at their equilibrium geometries, and at rather large mutual separation  $> 4.5 \text{ \AA}$  (as in picture on the left):  $R(\text{HH}) = 0.744 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $R(\text{TiH}) = 4.601\text{-}4.783 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $R(\text{CH}) = 4.678\text{-}4.789 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $R(\text{TiC}) = 1.857 \text{ \AA}$ .

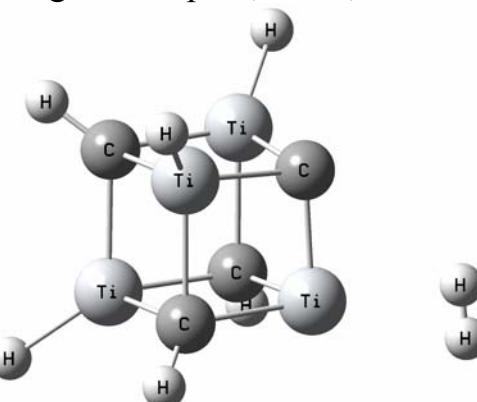
The dihydrogen complex, **H<sub>2</sub>C**, has the

following structure:  $R(\text{HH}) = 0.763 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $R(\text{TiH}) = 2.168, 2.241 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $R(\text{CH}) = 2.682, 3.217 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $R(\text{TiC}) = 1.857 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $\alpha(\text{H}^1\text{CTi}) = 53.4^\circ$ ;  $\alpha(\text{H}^2\text{TiC}) = 103.0^\circ$ ;  $\alpha(\text{H}^1\text{CTiH}^2) = 0.0^\circ$ . No img freq have been detected.

**TS** has the following geometry:  $R(\text{HH}) =$



$1.047 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $R(\text{TiH}) = 1.818, 1.881 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $R(\text{CH}) = 1.478, 2.415 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $R(\text{TiC}) = 1.879 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $\alpha(\text{H}^1\text{CTi}) = 64.3^\circ$ ;  $\alpha(\text{H}^2\text{TiC}) = 79.9^\circ$ ;  $\alpha(\text{H}^1\text{CTiH}^2) = 0^\circ$ . One img freq has been detected,  $v_1 = -1225.6 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .



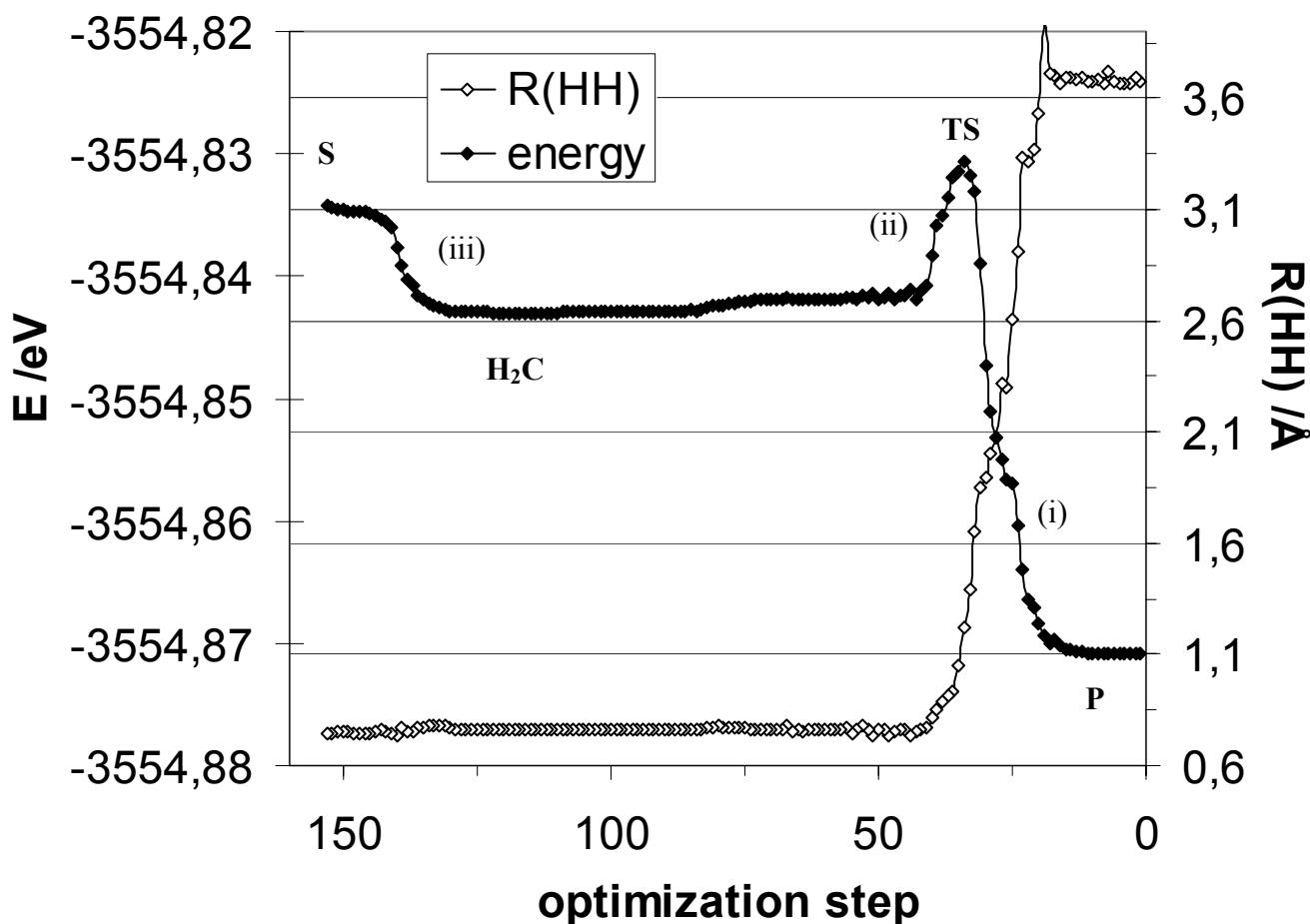
One can anticipate that there might exist another transition state, **TS'**, leading *directly* from **S** to **P**, with geometry rather similar to that of **TS**, and of absolute energy somewhat higher than that of **TS**; **TS'** should yield only *minor energy barrier* (slightly larger than 0.1 eV); unfortunately, we have failed to detect it on the complex PES of the reaction.

Subsequently, three independent optimizations were performed: (i) one has begun at the **TS** and proceeded towards the reactants; (ii) another started at **TS**, too, and proceeded towards the product (both optimizations have been initiated from genuine **TS** very slightly distorted along the normal coordinate which

shown imaginary frequency in our calculations). The last optimization (iii) started at substrates and proceeded towards the dihydrogen complex, H<sub>2</sub>C.

Results of these three optimizations are shown together in a common picture. **Figure A5** shows the electronic energy of the H<sub>2</sub>/<sup>1</sup>Ti<sub>4</sub>C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub> system during optimizations, vs. step number, and the concomitant changes of the HH distance.

**Figure A5. Reaction (optimization) path for <sup>1</sup>Ti<sub>4</sub>C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub> & H<sub>2</sub>. See text for definition of abbreviations.**



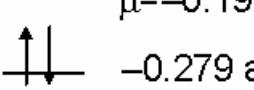
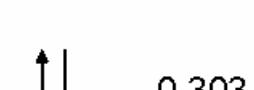
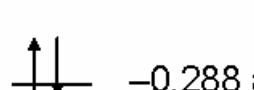
The kinetically stable H<sub>2</sub>C intermediate state corresponds to the complex of H<sub>2</sub> with Ti<sub>4</sub>C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>; here H<sub>2</sub> is attached at the Ti corner, and the HH bond is only slightly elongated (0.763 Å). As the energy barrier from H<sub>2</sub>C to product is small, only at low temperatures would the reaction get stuck at the kinetic intermediate (H<sub>2</sub>C).

Fig.3 shown in the paper is identical with Fig.A5, except that many points of the flat parts of the PES (corresponding to very small geometry changes) have been removed for clarity in the former. The optimization path, rather than process taking place along intrinsic reaction coordinate, is calculated here

(note: DFT underestimates energy barriers). Still, effective barrier is thought to be very small due to immense zero-vibrational energy of C–H and Ti–H oscillators ( $> 0.5$  eV per pair of H atoms).

### 13. Electronegativity perturbations for cyclo-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>.

**Scheme** below shows the consequences of two different electronegativity perturbations (ENPs) on cyclo-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub> for energy of frontier orbitals, Mulliken electronegativity ( $\mu$ ), Pearson hardness ( $\eta$ ), chosen bond lengths (R) and Mulliken charges on atoms (q).

cyclo-Ti <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	cyclo-C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	cyclo-B <sub>2</sub> N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>8</sub>
— —0.109 au η=+0.085 au μ=−0.194 au 	— −0.006 au η=+0.149 au μ=−0.155 au 	— −0.013 au η=+0.138 au μ=−0.150 au 
R(TiH) = 1.713 Å R(CH) = 1.102 Å R(TiC) = 2.027 Å	R(CH) = 1.092 Å R(CC) = 1.558 Å	R(BH) = 1.201 Å R(NH) = 1.113 Å R(BN) = 1.612 Å
q(Ti)= +1.435 e q(C)= −0.898 e q(H <sub>Ti</sub> )= −0.375 e q(H <sub>C</sub> )= +0.105 e	q(C)= −0.241 e q(H <sub>C</sub> )= +0.121 e	q(B)= +0.348 e q(N)= −0.688 e q(H <sub>B</sub> )= −0.095 e q(H <sub>N</sub> )= +0.265 e

Both ENPs result in elongation of the element–H bonds, in they increased ionicity, and in decrease of Pearson hardness of a molecule. It can be seen that the ENP leading to Ti<sub>2</sub>C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>8</sub> has much more pronounced consequences for the electronic structure, molecular geometry, and concomitant molecular parameters, than the electronegativity perturbation leading to B<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>8</sub>. This occurs despite the fact, that electronegativity differences of (Ti, C) and (B, N) are nearly identical.