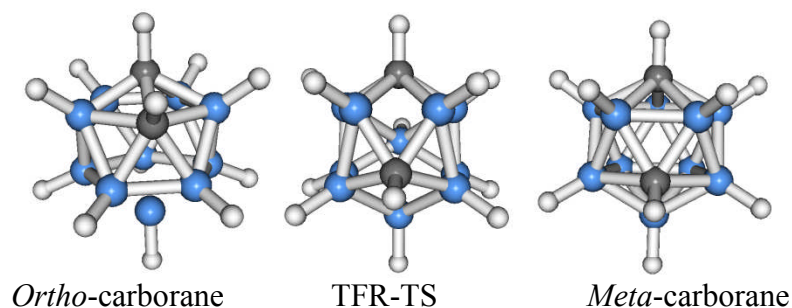


## Thermal rearrangement mechanisms in icosahedral carboranes and metallocarboranes.

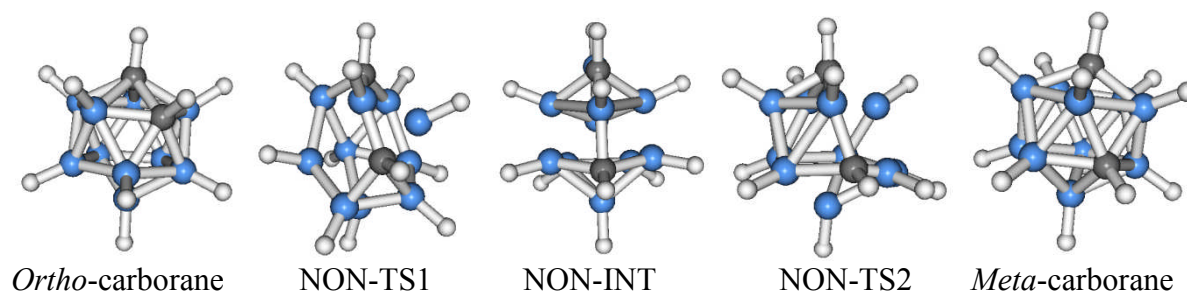
Isaac J. Sugden, David F. Plant and Robert G. Bell

### Supporting Information

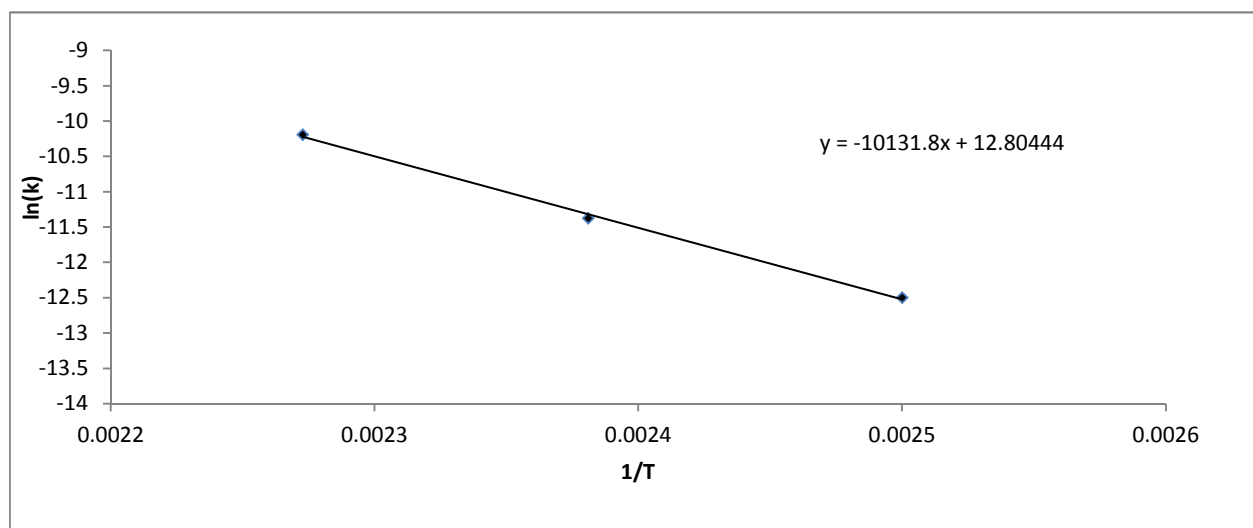
#### TFR structures



#### non-TFR structures



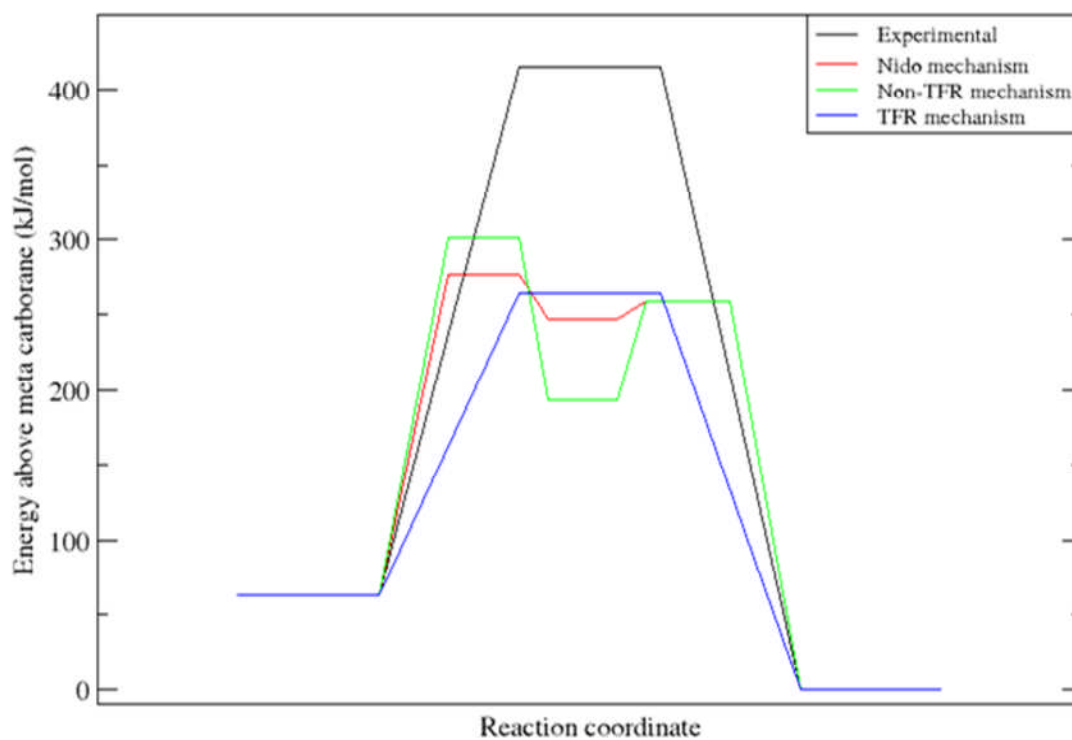
**Fig. S1** Structures of carborane species from the TFR and non-TFR rearrangement pathways



“Samples of isotopically normal *o*-carborane were heated at 400, 420, and 440°C. The rate of isomerisation of *o*-carborane to *m*-carborane for these samples was determined from the relative integrals of the <sup>11</sup>B NMR resonances of *o*- and *m*-carborane. The rate of isomerisation was  $(3.73 \pm 0.15) \times 10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,  $(1.15 \pm 0.05) \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , and  $(3.74 \pm 0.15) \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$  at 400, 420, and 440°C, respectively. Activation parameters for the isomerisation are  $\Delta G^\ddagger = 57.3 \pm 0.4 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$ ,  $\Delta H^\ddagger = 54 \pm 15 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$ , and  $\Delta S^\ddagger = -5 \pm 11 \text{ cal mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ , which are in close agreement with earlier studies”

**Fig. S2** Rate constant derivation for *ortho*-*meta* carborane rearrangement, with explanatory text from Ref [11]

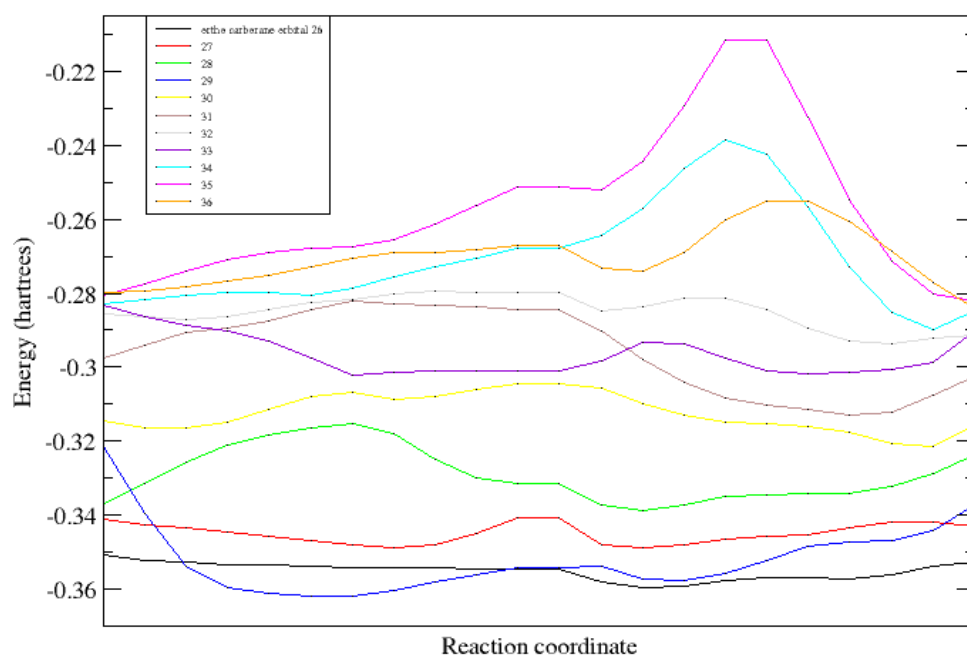
### Reaction coordinate for Ortho-Meta rearrangement



**Fig. S3** Total energy profiles for the three different mechanisms for *ortho-meta* rearrangement, plotted together with the experimentally-derived activation energy. *Ortho* is at the extreme left of the reaction coordinate, *meta* at the right.

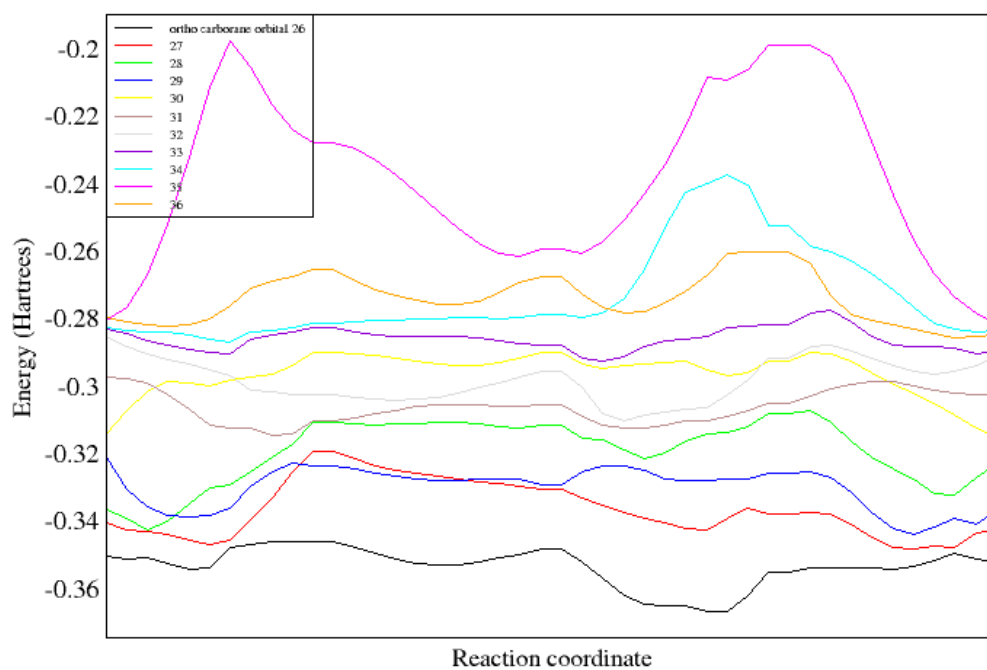
## TFR 10 highest energy orbital progression

### Orbital energy progression in TFR mechanism



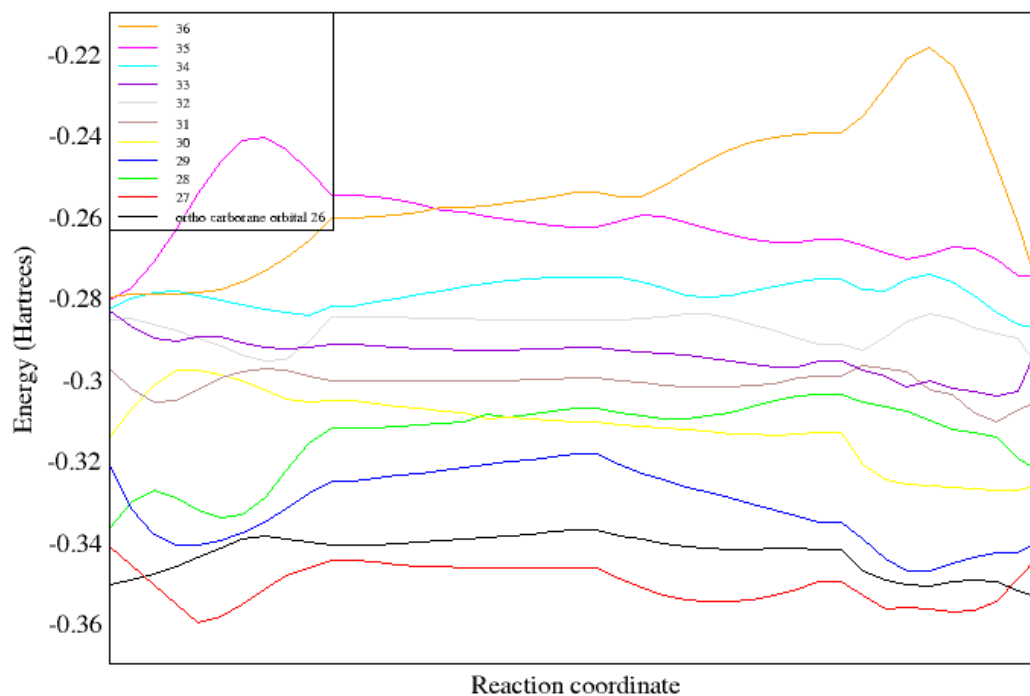
## NON-TFR 10 highest energy orbital progression

### Orbital progression in the NON\_TFR mechanism

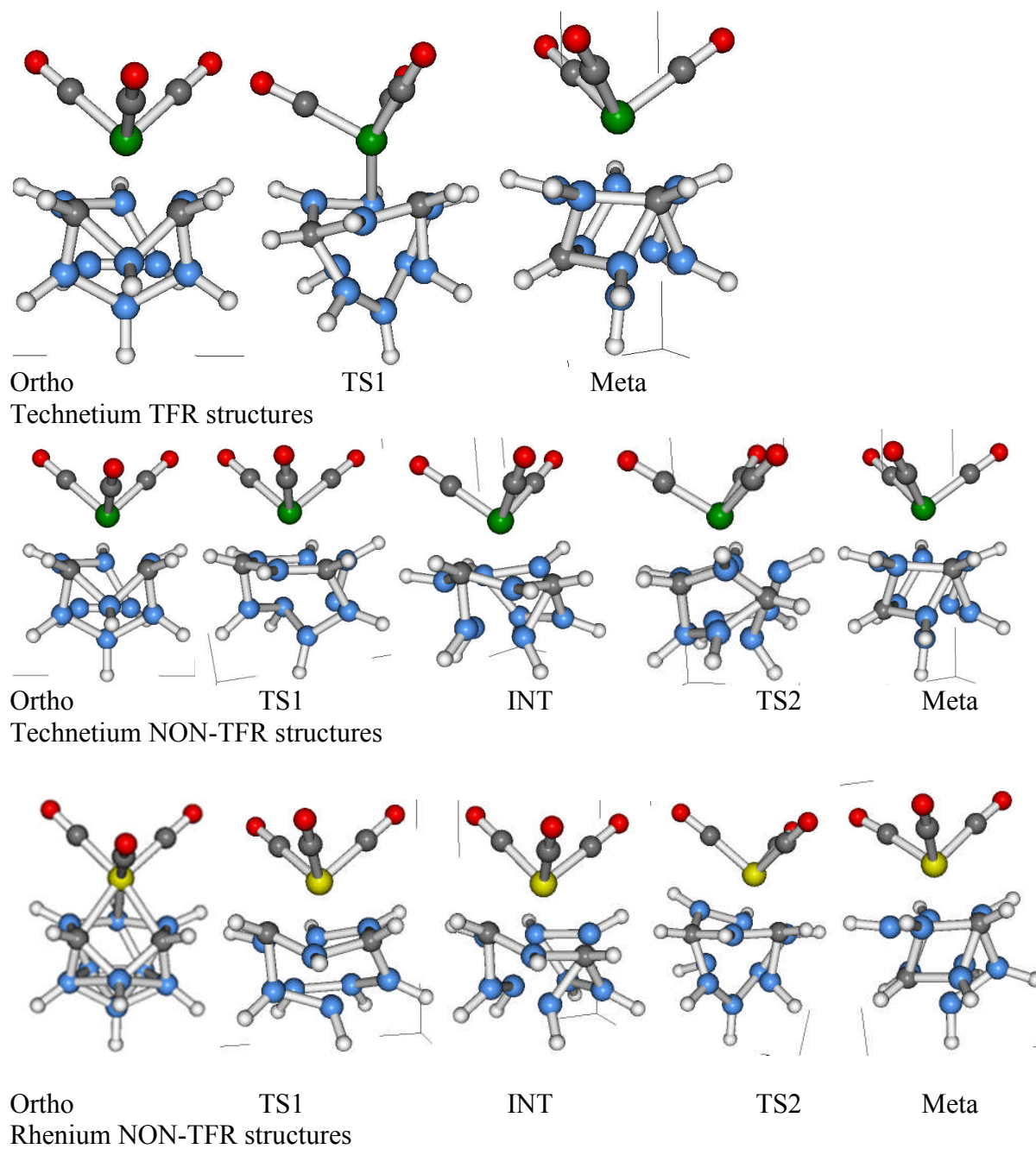


## Nido 10 highest energy orbital progression

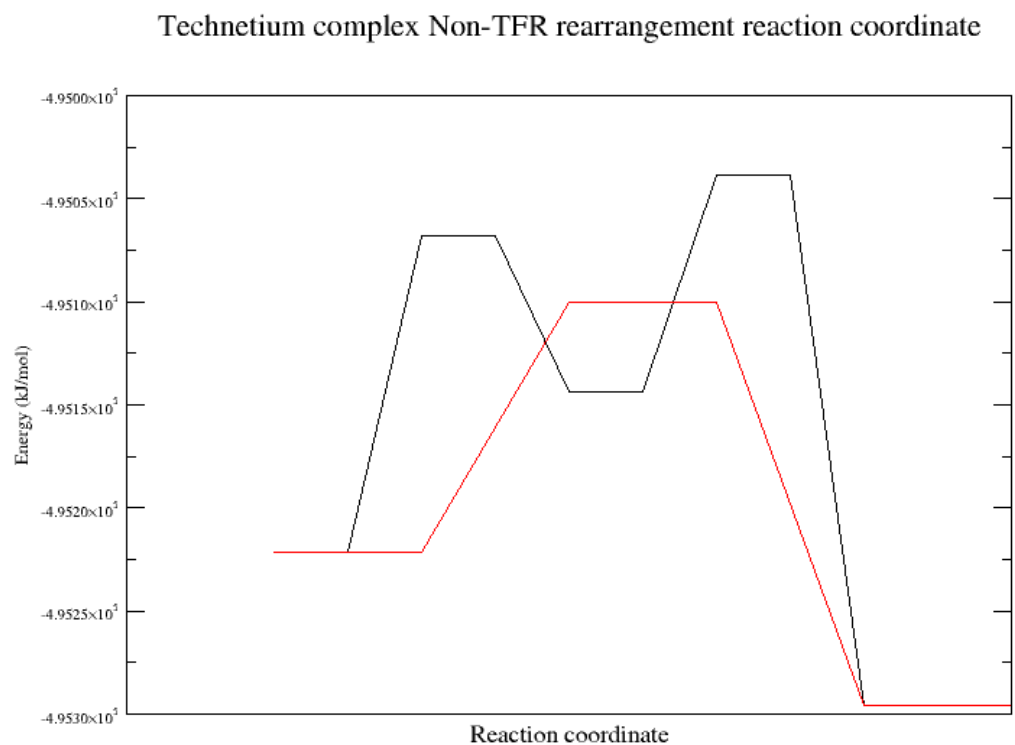
### Orbital progression for Nido mechanism



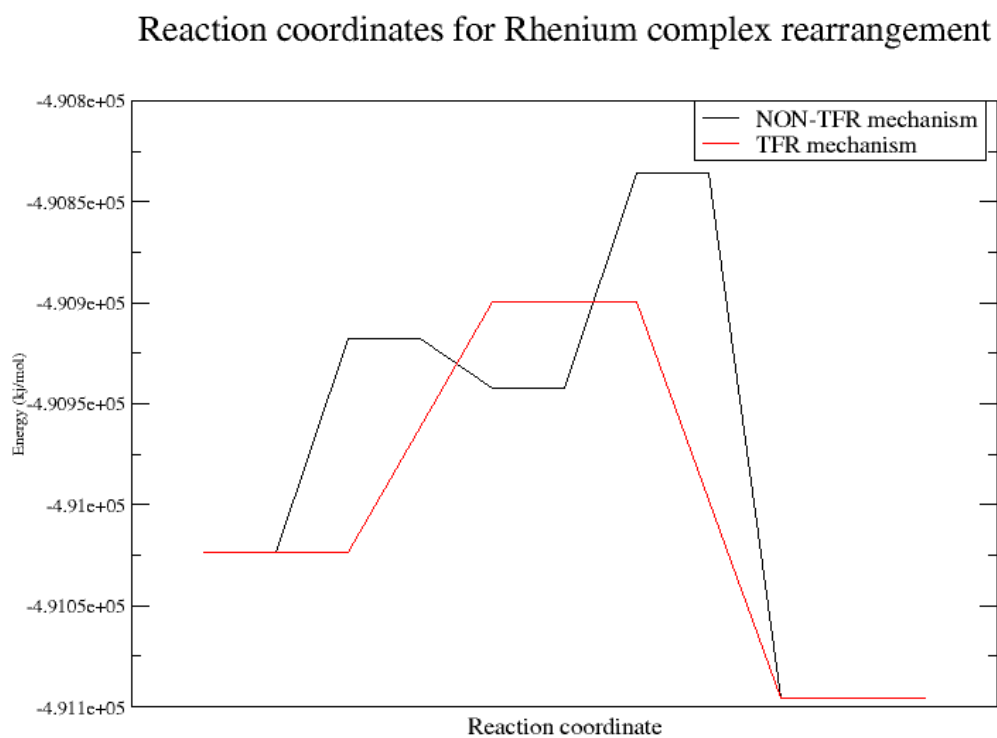
**Fig. S4** Orbital energy progressions for carborane complexes for three possible mechanisms for *ortho-meta* rearrangement. In each case, *ortho* is at the extreme left of the reaction coordinate, *meta* at the right. For images of orbital progressions, contact authors.



**Fig. S5** Key structures in metal-carborane complex rearrangements



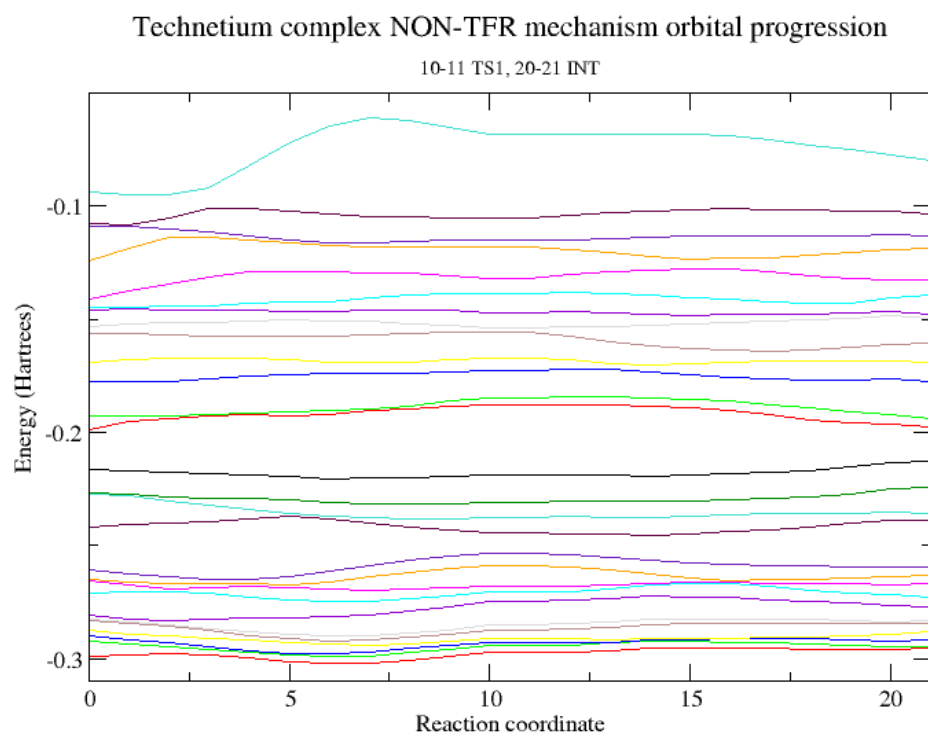
Technetium complex rearrangements. Red line is TFR, black line is Non-TFR reaction coordinate.



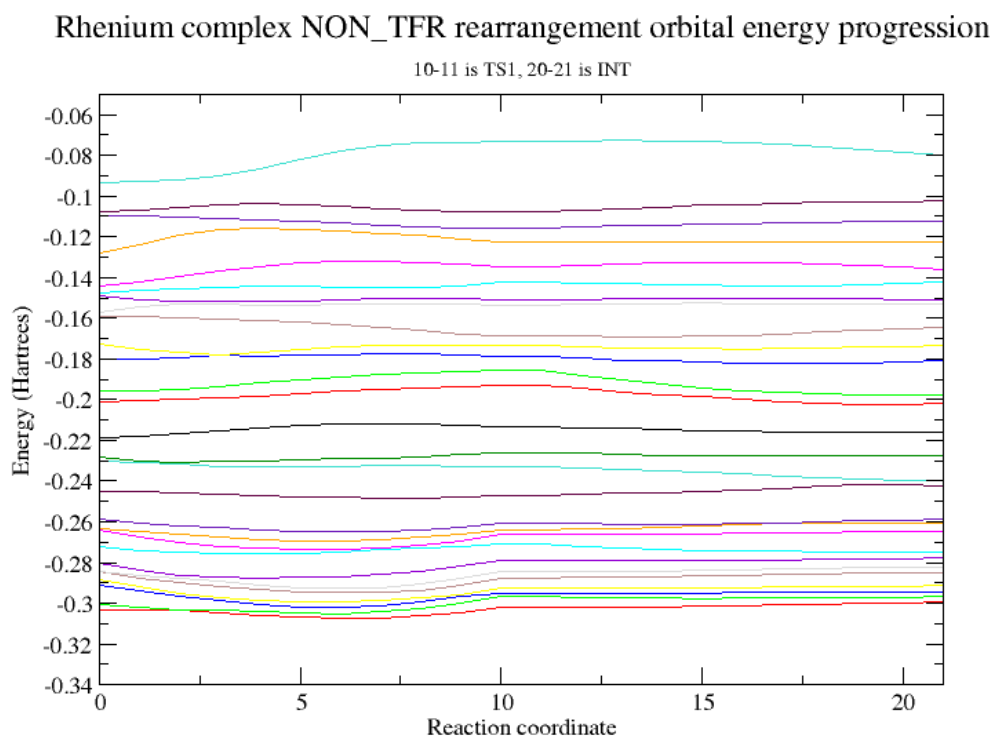
Rhenium complex rearrangements

**Fig. S6** Reaction coordinates for metal-complexes

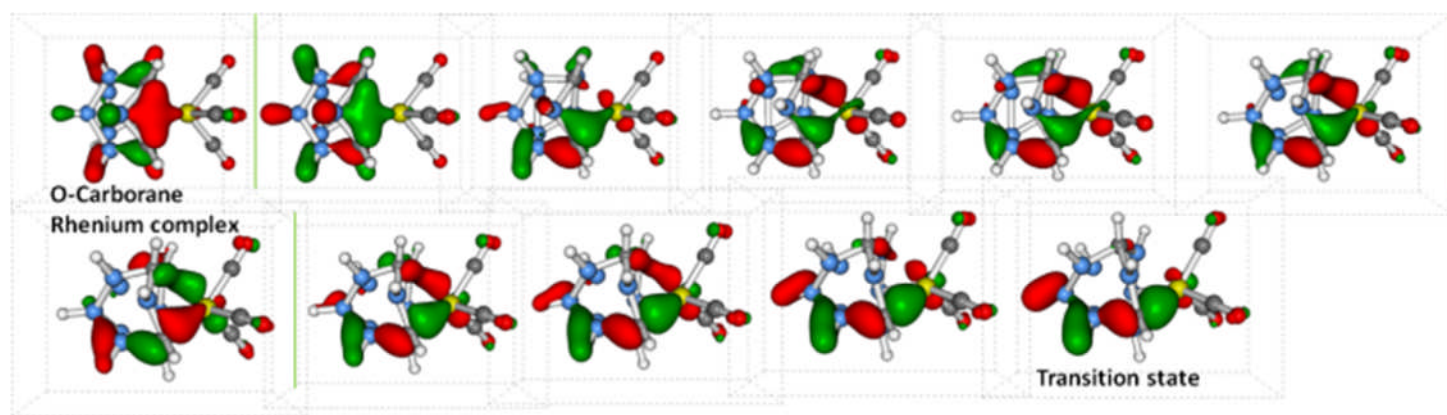
## Technetium complex NON-TFR rearrangement



## Rhenium complex NON-TFR rearrangement



**Fig. S7** Orbital energy progression for metal complexes' NON-TFR *ortho-meta* rearrangements. For images of orbital progression, contact authors



**Fig. S8** The progression of orbital HOMO-8 from *ortho* to TS rhenium carborane complex, in the TFR mechanism.