

Supporting Information

**Orthogonal interactions between nitril derivatives and
electron donors: Pnictogen bonds**

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- **Table S1.** Minimum values of the molecular electrostatic potential (ua) on the 0.001 au electron density isosurface at MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ level, for the electron donors.

- **Table S2.** Comparison between interaction energies at MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ and CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ levels for NO₂F complexes.

- **Table S3.** Electron density at the bond critical points (ρ), Laplacian ($\nabla^2\rho$) at MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ computational level. Charge (e) of the nitril derivative within the complexes calculated with the AIM method at MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ computational level and donation from the Y electron donor to the O-N antibonding orbital (kJmol⁻¹) at B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level.

- **Table S4.** ¹⁵N chemical shifts (ppm) for NO₂X monomers and complexes at MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ level.

- **Fig. S1.** Molecular electrostatic potential on the 0.001 au isosurface for all the NO₂X monomers. MEP values color scheme: Red > 0.04, Yellow > 0.02, Green > 0.00, Blue < 0.00. Maxima and minima values of MEP are represented by black and cyan dots respectively.

- **Fig. S2.** Molecular graphs obtained with AIM theory for all the XNO₂ complexes.

- **Fig. S3.** NCI plot of the non-covalent interaction all the complexes. Blue areas are those with $\lambda_2 > 0$ (strong attractive), while green ones correspond to $\lambda_2 \approx 0$ (weak). λ_2 is one of the three eigenvalues of the electron-density Hessian with $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \lambda_3$.

Table S1. Minimum values of the molecular electrostatic potential (ua) on the 0.001 au electron density isosurface at MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ level, for the electron donors.

	MIN-MEP
NH ₃	-0.0637
HNC	-0.0529
H ₂ O	-0.0515
HCN	-0.0509
HCCH	-0.0233
CO	-0.0223
OC	-0.0065

Table S2. Comparison between interaction energies at MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ and CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ levels for NO₂F complexes.

	NO ₂ F	
	MP2	CCSD(T)
H ₃ N	-18.9	-17.2
HNC	-14.3	-12.9
H ₂ O (a)	-17.3	-13.4
H ₂ O (b)	–	–
HCN	-13.9	-13.3
HCCH	-11.9 (-11.5) ^a	-10.4 (-9.3) ^a
OC	-8.2	-8.0
CO	-5.0	-5.9

Table S3. Electron density at the bond critical points (ρ), Laplacian ($\nabla^2\rho$) at MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ computational level. Charge (e) of the nitril derivative within the complexes calculated with the AIM method at MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ computational level and donation from the Y electron donor to the O-N antibonding orbital (kJmol⁻¹) at B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level.

	d(X...N)	ρ	$\nabla^2\rho$	Charge of the nitril derivative	LP Y-> σ^* O-N
H ₃ N...NO ₂ F	2.823	0.0117	0.0508	-0.0160	4.3
H ₂ O...NO ₂ F (a)	2.740	0.011	0.056	-0.0131	3.6
HNC...NO ₂ F	2.817	0.011	0.051	-0.0187	1.2
HCN...NO ₂ F	2.960	0.010	0.041	-0.0131	1.3
HCCH...NO ₂ F ^a	3.086	0.008	0.033	-0.0179	0.4

HCCH···NO ₂ F ^b	3.144	0.007	0.03	-0.0172	2.2
CO···NO ₂ F	2.862	0.007	0.04	-0.0119	0.6
OC···NO ₂ F	3.008	0.008	0.037	-0.0020	1
H ₃ N···NO ₂ Cl	2.899	0.0111	0.0467	-0.0143	4.2
H ₂ O···NO ₂ Cl (a)	2.790	0.010	0.049	0.0001	3
H ₂ O···NO ₂ Cl (b)	2.774	0.011	0.053	-0.0086	2.6
HCN···NO ₂ Cl	2.859	0.010	0.048	-0.0094	1.5
HNC···NO ₂ Cl	3.014	0.009	0.038	-0.0153	1.3
HCCH···NO ₂ Cl ^a	3.092	0.008	0.033	-0.0133	0.3
CO···NO ₂ Cl	2.900	0.007	0.038	-0.0090	0.6
OC···NO ₂ Cl	3.071	0.007	0.033	0.0006	0.9
H ₃ N···NO ₂ Br	2.916	0.0108	0.0447	-0.0120	4.1
HCN···NO ₂ Br	2.864	0.010	0.047	-0.0078	1.7
H ₂ O···NO ₂ Br(a)	2.808	0.009	0.047	0.0050	2.3
H ₂ O···NO ₂ Br(b)	2.776	0.011	0.053	-0.0070	2.8
HCCH···NO ₂ Br ^a	3.085	0.008	0.033	-0.0004	0.3
HNC···NO ₂ Br	3.026	0.009	0.037	-0.0137	1.5
CO···NO ₂ Br	3.079	0.007	0.038	-0.0062	0.8
OC···NO ₂ Br	2.894	0.007	0.033	0.0016	1
H ₃ N···NO ₂ -NO ₂	2.919	0.011	0.043	-0.0260	4.6
H ₂ O···NO ₂ -NO ₂	2.773	0.011	0.053	-0.0123	2.8
HCN···NO ₂ -NO ₂	2.884	0.010	0.045	-0.0137	2.1
HCCH···NO ₂ -NO ₂	3.079	0.009	0.033	-0.0224	2.7
HNC···NO ₂ -NO ₂	3.048	0.009	0.035	-0.0204	2.1
CO···NO ₂ -NO ₂	2.948	0.007	0.033	-0.0124	1.3
OC···NO ₂ -NO ₂	3.127	0.007	0.029	-0.0017	0.8
H ₃ N···NO ₂ -CN	2.859	0.014	0.047	-0.0292	3.4
H ₂ O···NO ₂ -CN	2.734	0.012	0.061	-0.0103	2.7
HCN···NO ₂ -CN	2.838	0.011	0.054	-0.0124	1.5

HNC⋯NO ₂ -CN	2.994	0.010	0.04	-0.0198	1.2
HCCH⋯NO ₂ -CN	3.054	0.009	0.036	-0.0206	1.5
CO⋯NO ₂ -CN	2.899	0.007	0.039	-0.0115	0.6
OC⋯NO ₂ -CN	3.076	0.008	0.035	-0.0011	0.6
H ₃ N⋯NO ₂ -CCH	2.888	0.010	0.045	-0.0116	2
H ₂ O⋯NO ₂ -CCH ^b	2.855	0.010	0.047	-0.0045	1.5
HCN⋯NO ₂ -CCH	3.128	0.007	0.033	-0.0049	0.5*
HNC⋯NO ₂ -CCH	3.024	0.009	0.036	-0.0118	0.6
HCCH⋯NO ₂ -CCH	3.077	0.008	0.034	-0.0129	0.7
CO⋯NO ₂ -CCH	2.901	0.007	0.038	-0.0063	0.5
OC⋯NO ₂ -CCH	3.066	0.008	0.034	0.0020	0.4
H ₃ N⋯NO ₂ -CHCH ₂	2.911	0.009	0.043	-0.0064	1.4
HNC⋯NO ₂ -CHCH ₂	3.110	0.008	0.032	-0.0112	0.3
CO⋯NO ₂ -CHCH ₂	2.915	0.007	0.037	-0.0039	0.4
OC⋯NO ₂ -CHCH ₂	3.053	0.008	0.033	0.0029	0.4
H ₃ N⋯NO ₂ -OH	2.902	0.010	0.044	-0.0134	1.6
HCCH⋯NO ₂ -OH	3.100	0.008	0.032	-0.0143	0.4
CO⋯NO ₂ -OH	2.893	0.008	0.036	-0.0085	0.5
OC⋯NO ₂ -OH	3.034	0.007	0.038	-0.0002	0.4

* LPN → σ*CC)

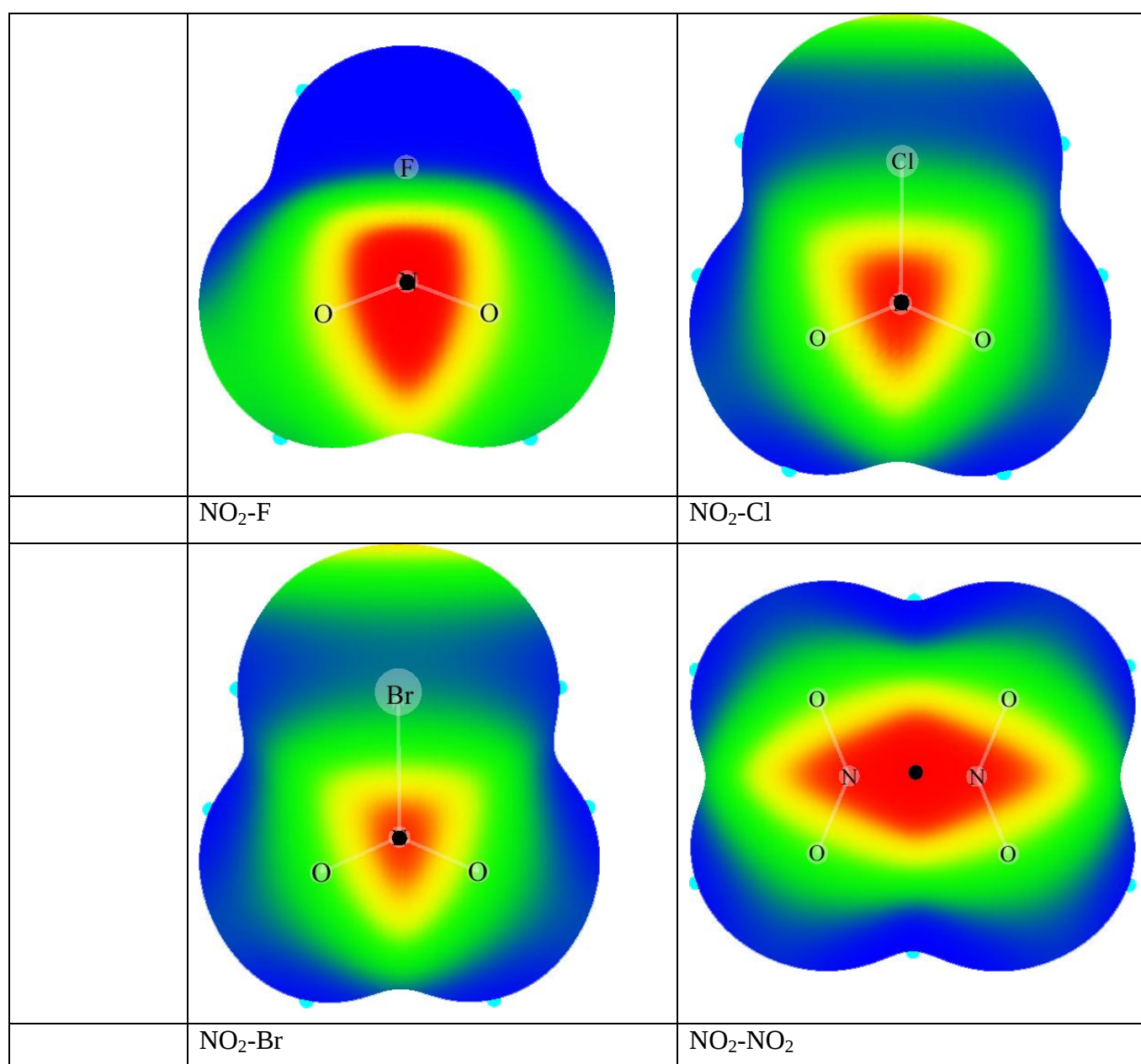
Table S4. ¹⁵N chemical shifts (ppm) for NO₂X monomers and complexes at MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ level.

	NO ₂ CN	NO ₂ F	NO ₂ NO ₂	NO ₂ Cl	NO ₂ Br	NO ₂ OH	NO ₂ CCH	NO ₂ CHCH ₂
Monomer	-3.34	-6.99	-69.27	-5.42	-8.05	-29.47	-20.47	-55.03
H ₃ N		-5.67	-71.49	-7.37	-10.76	-32.07	-25.59	-59.33
HNC	-8.49	-5.85	-71.09	-6.27	-10.12	—	-23.43	-56.62
H ₂ O (a)	—	-3.79	—	-4.18	-5.90	—	—	—
H ₂ O (b)	-8.25	—	-70.20	-5.91	-8.90	—	-25.55	—
HCN	-7.73	-6.01	-70.29	-5.89	-9.52	—	-24.21	—
HCCH	-6.48	-5.36 (-5.76) ^a	-70.83	-5.39	-9.19	-28.38	-20.98	—
CO	-6.16	-6.41	-70.93	-6.23	-9.57	-29.07	-21.94	-55.7

OC	-4.19	-6.59	-69.67	-5.59	-8.76	-29.12	-20.61	-54.97
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^a Data in parenthesis corresponds to the parallel structure.

Fig. S1. Molecular electrostatic potential on the 0.001 au isosurface for all the NO₂X monomers. MEP values color scheme: Red > 0.04, Yellow > 0.02, Green > 0.00, Blue < 0.00. Maxima and minima values of MEP are represented by black and cyan dots respectively.



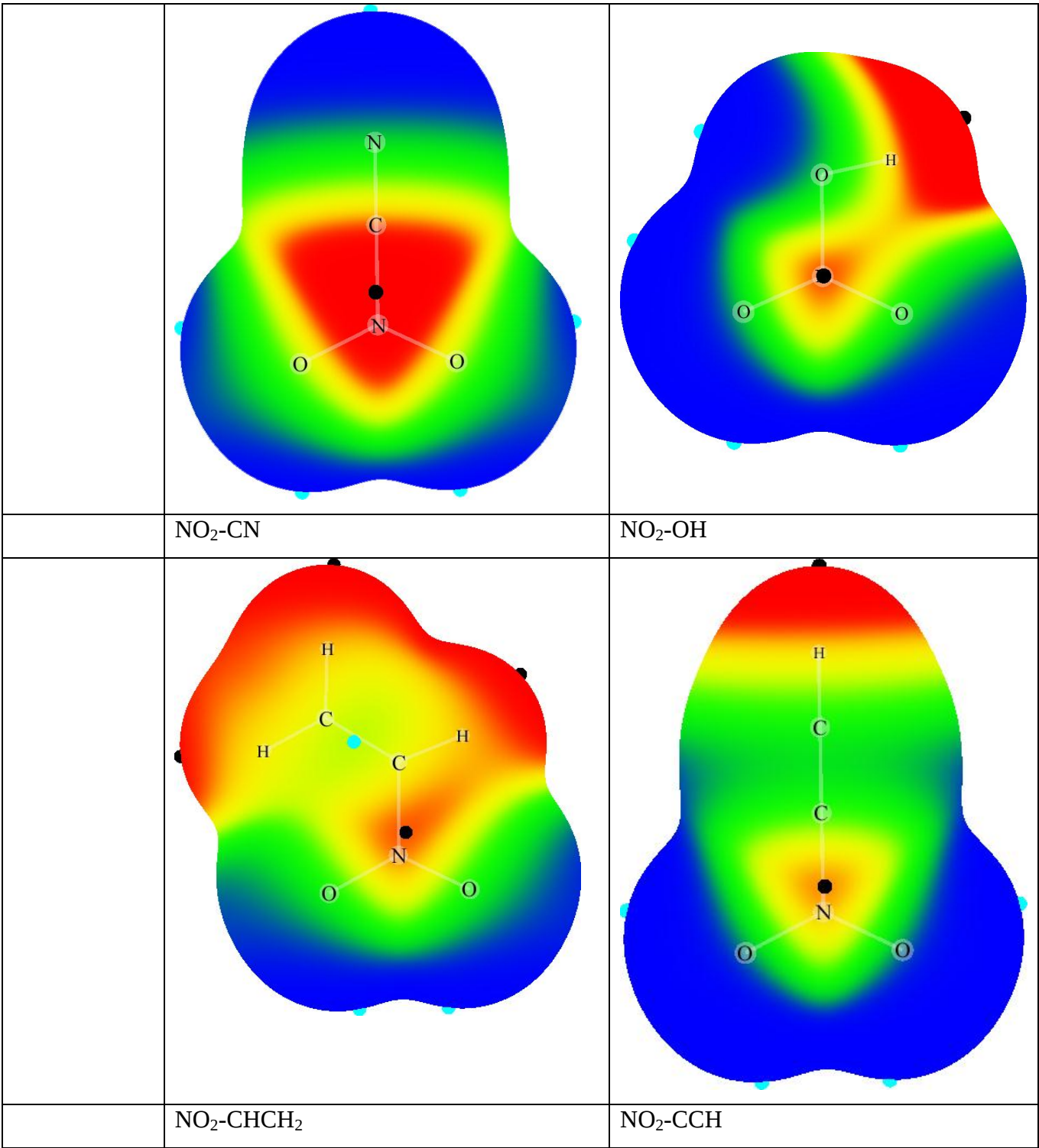
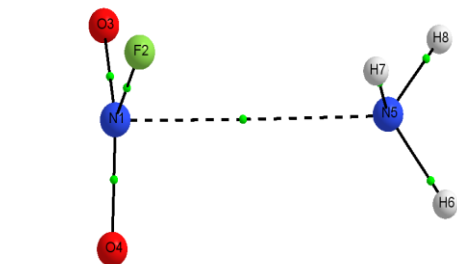
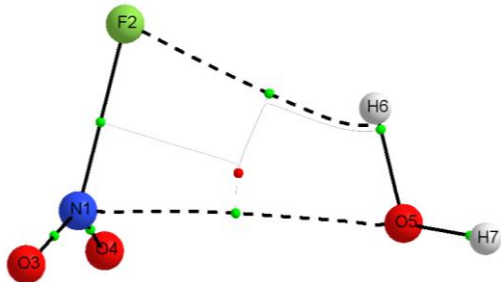
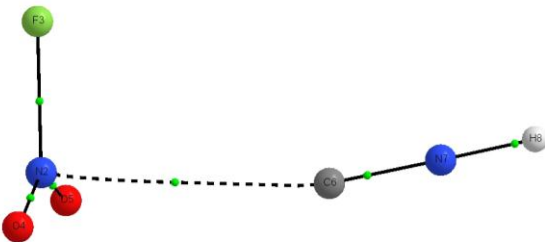
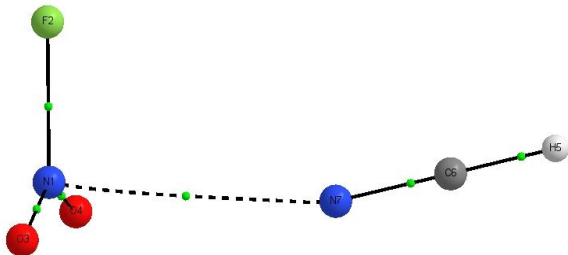
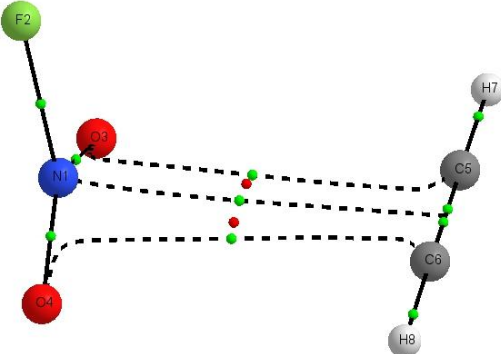
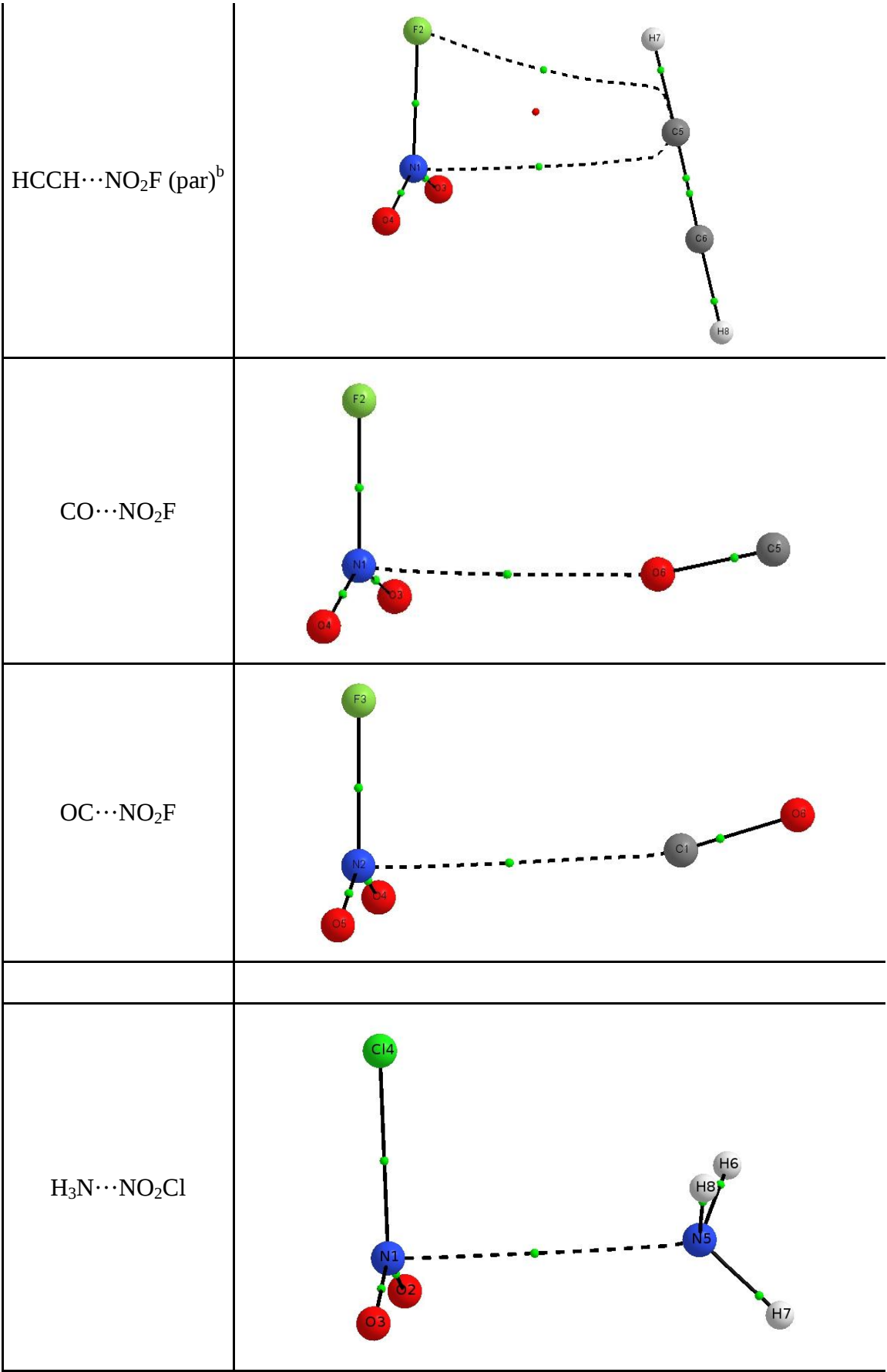
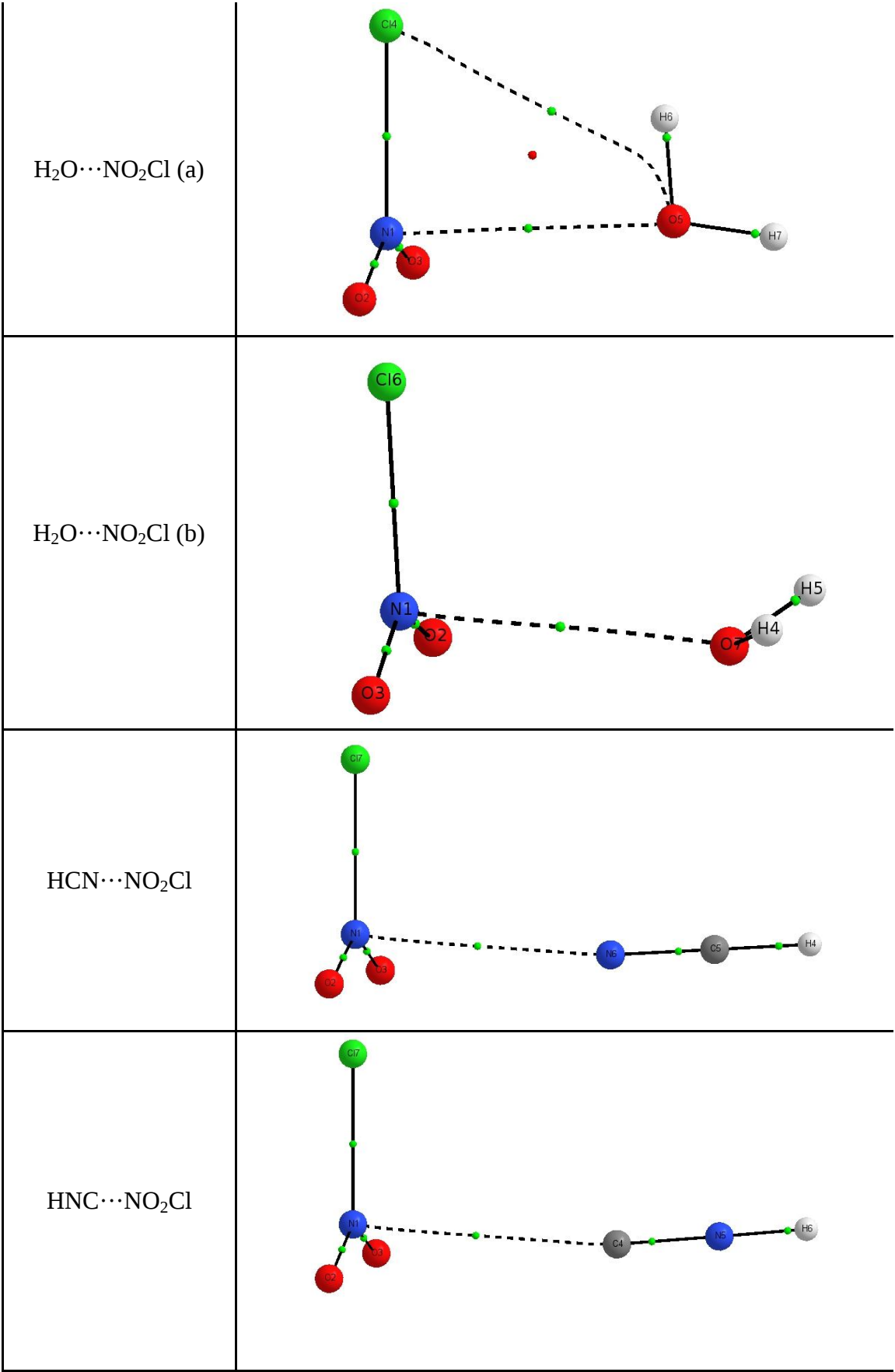
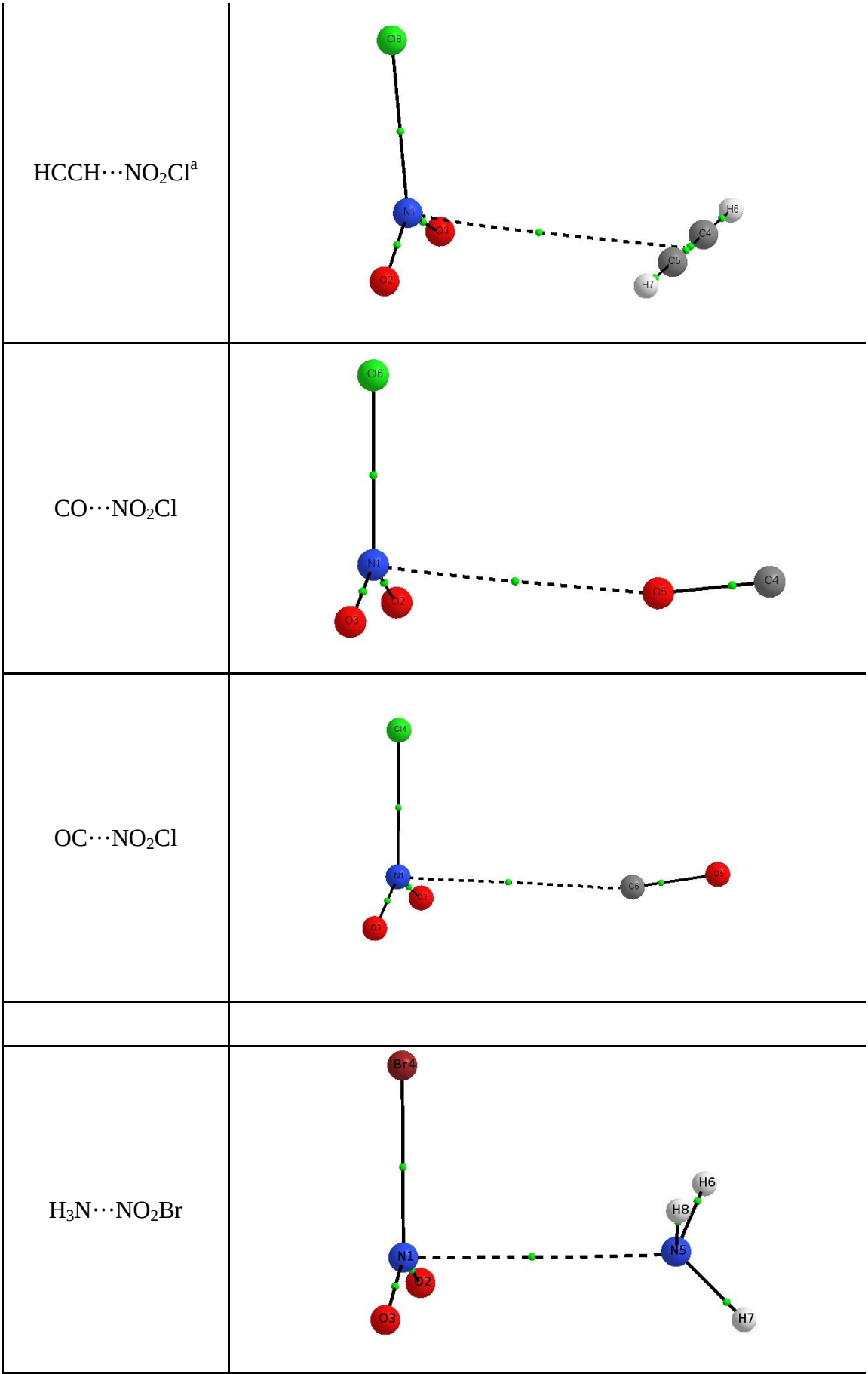


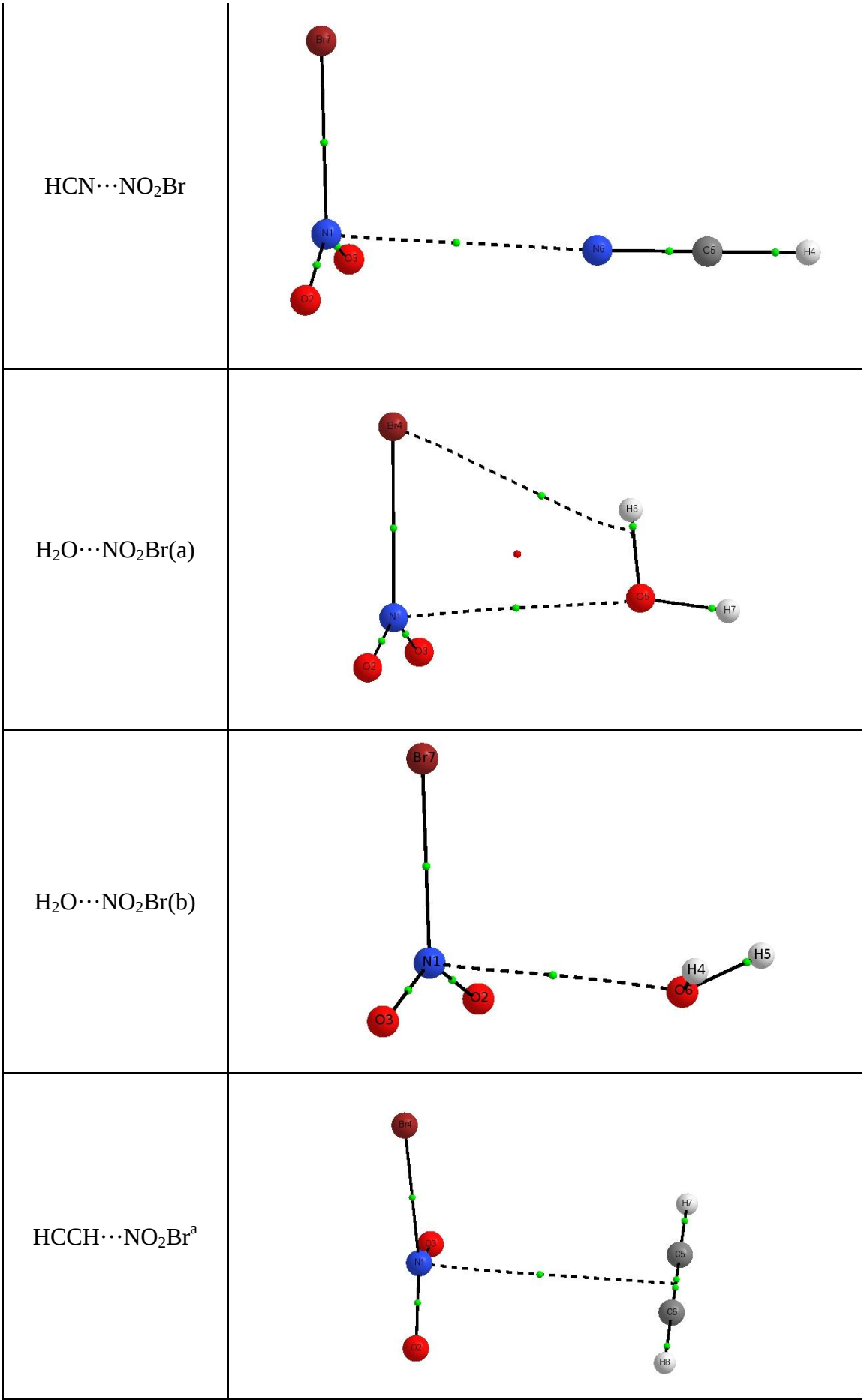
Fig. S2. Molecular graphs obtained with AIM theory for all the XNO₂ complexes.

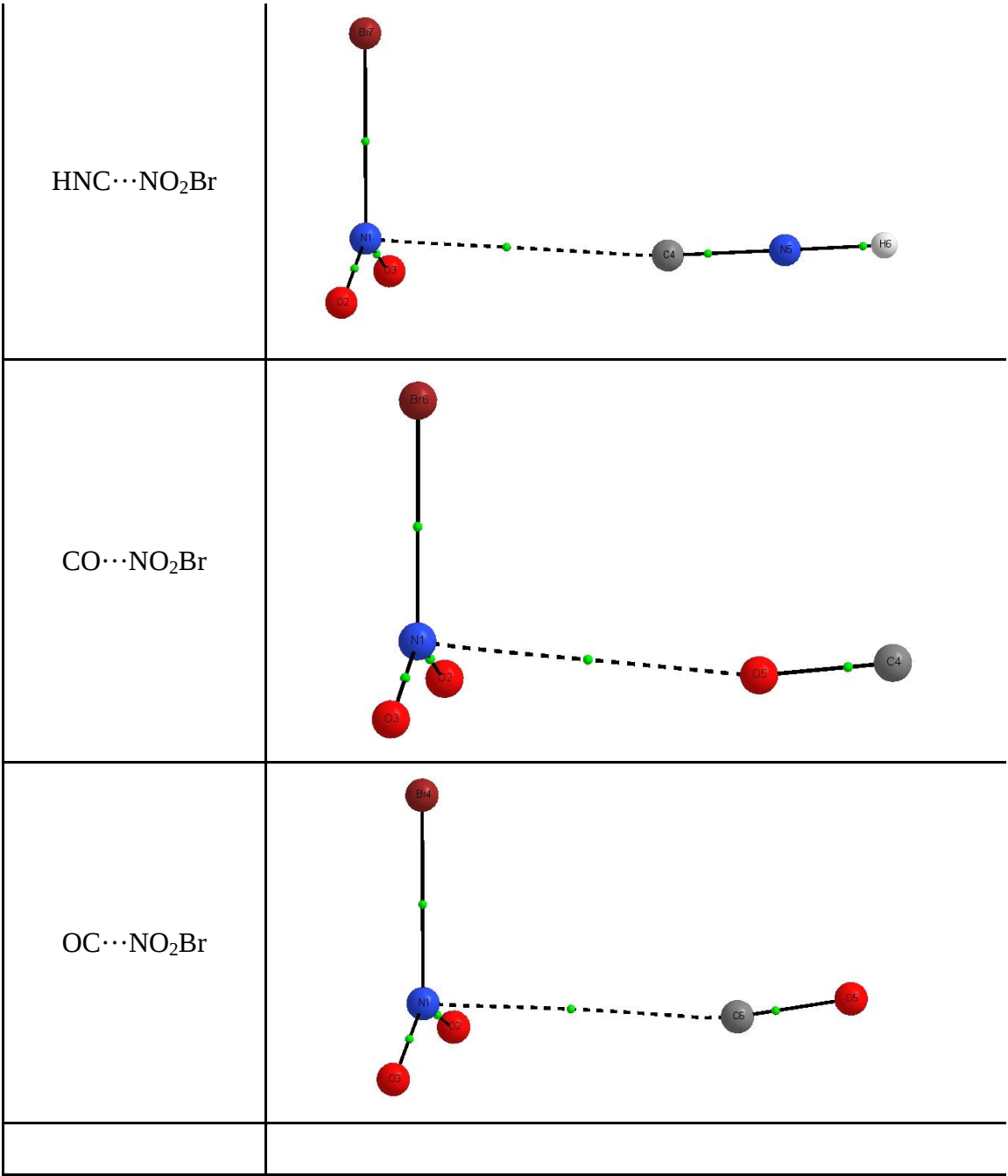
$\text{H}_3\text{N}\cdots\text{NO}_2\text{F}$	
$\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdots\text{NO}_2\text{F}$ (a)	
$\text{HNC}\cdots\text{NO}_2\text{F}$	
$\text{HCN}\cdots\text{NO}_2\text{F}$	
$\text{HCCH}\cdots\text{NO}_2\text{F}$ (per) ^a	

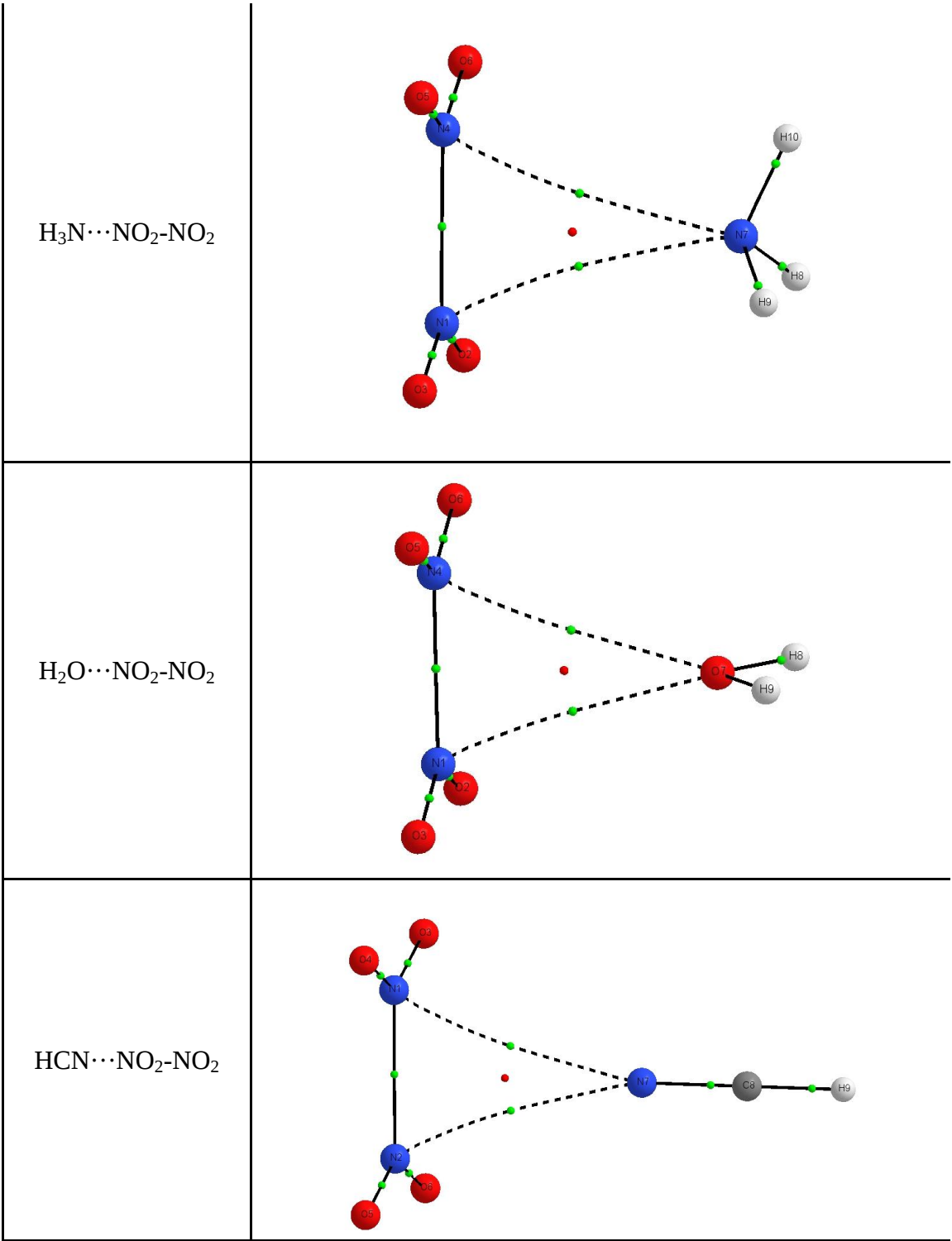


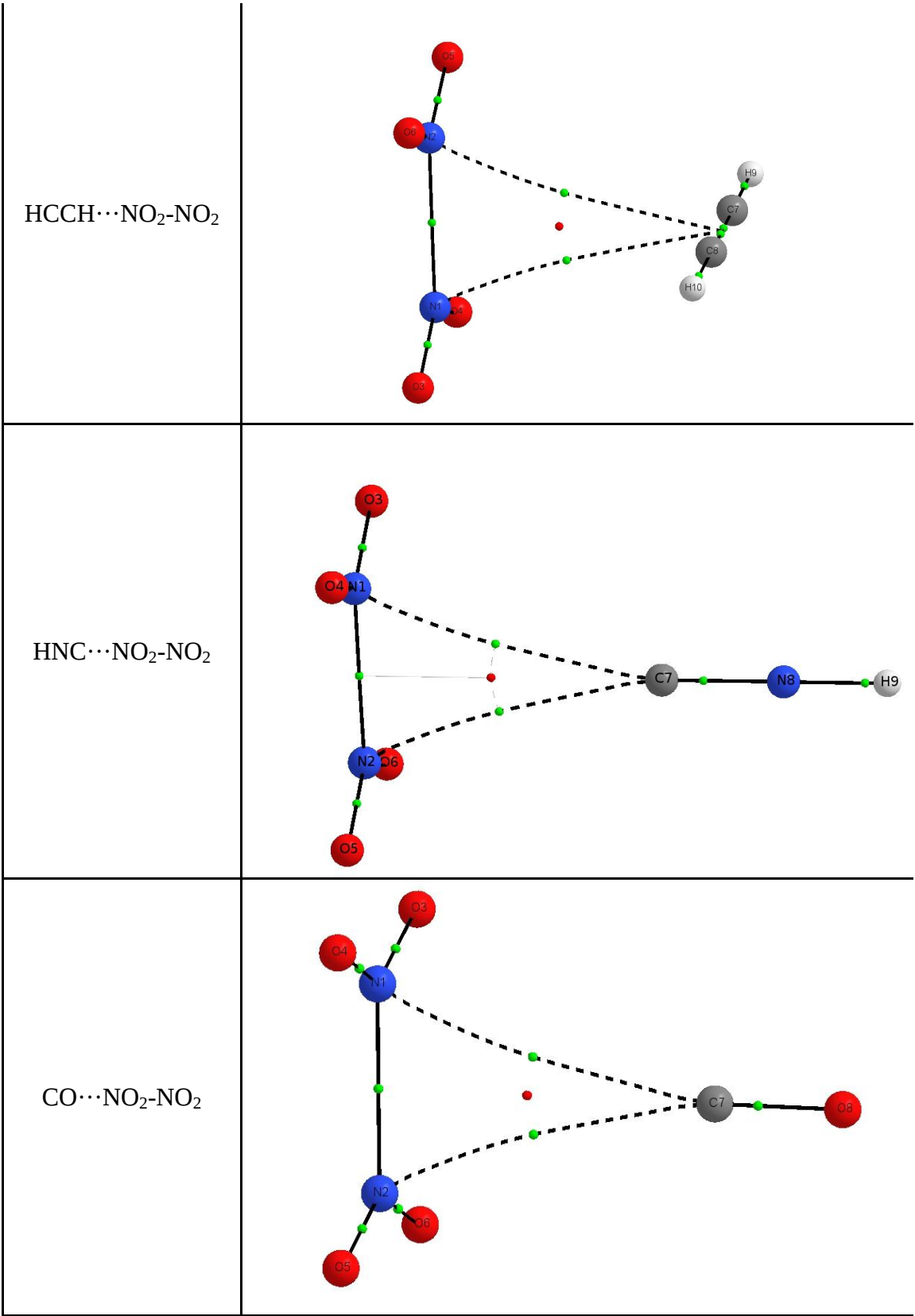


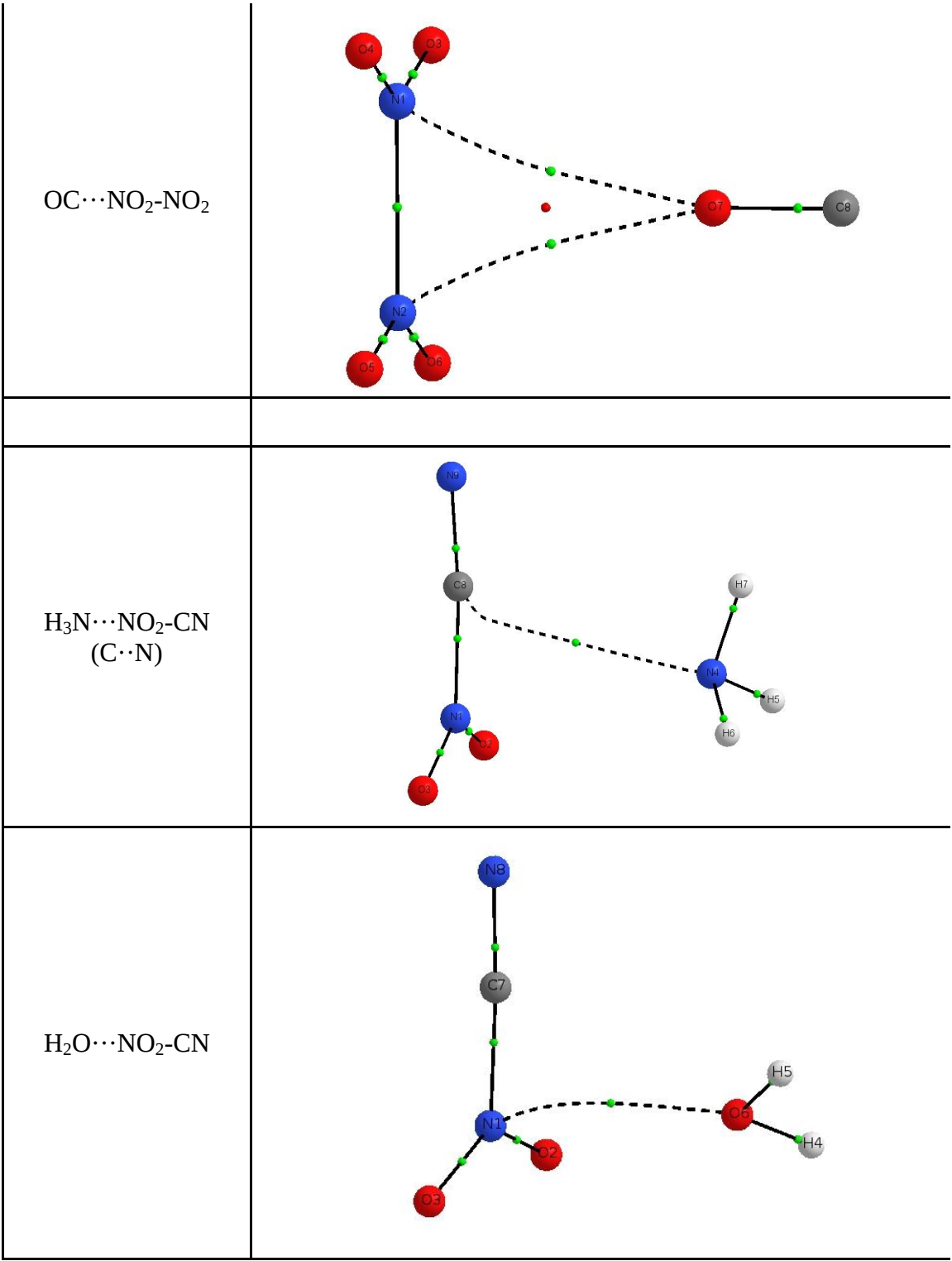


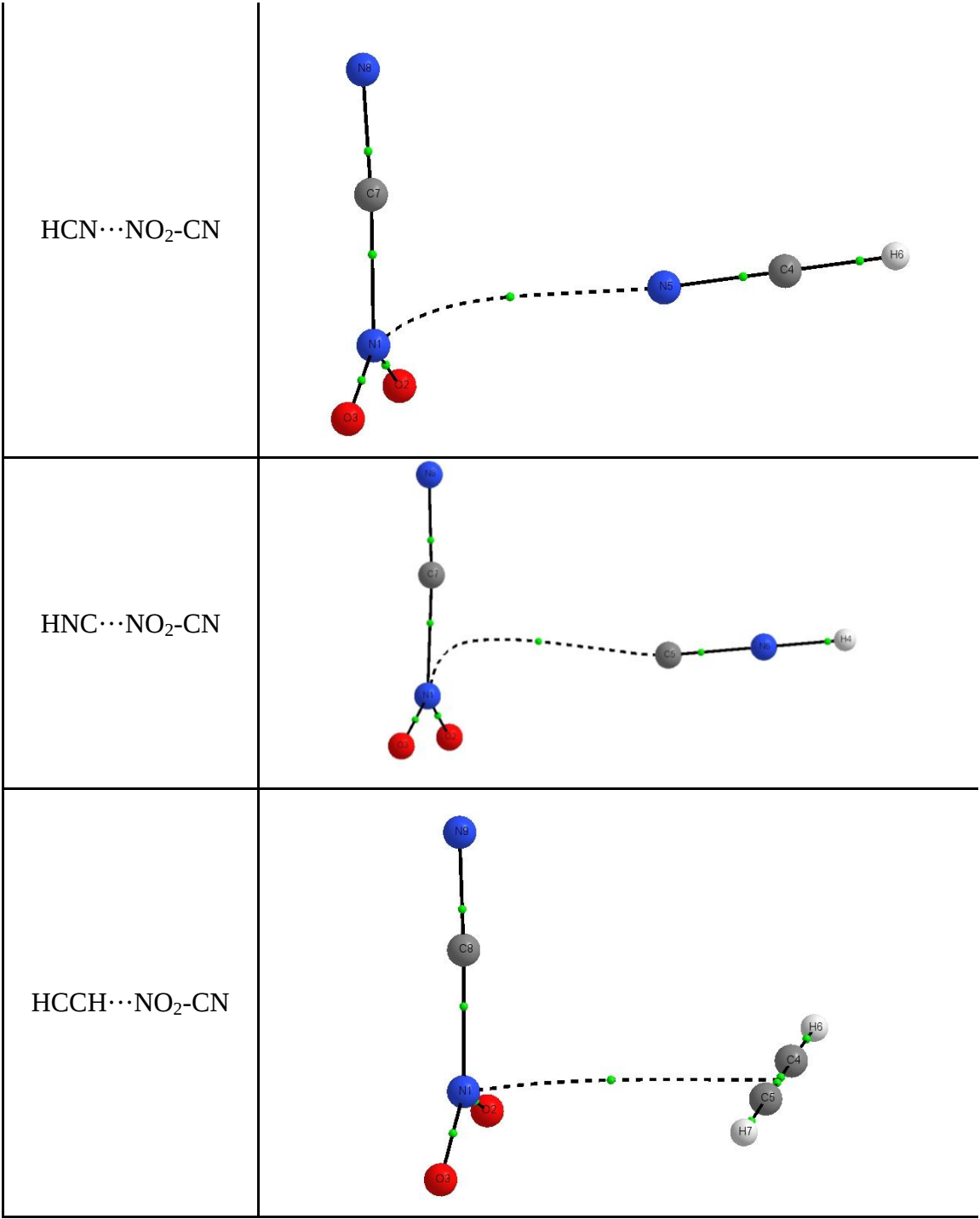


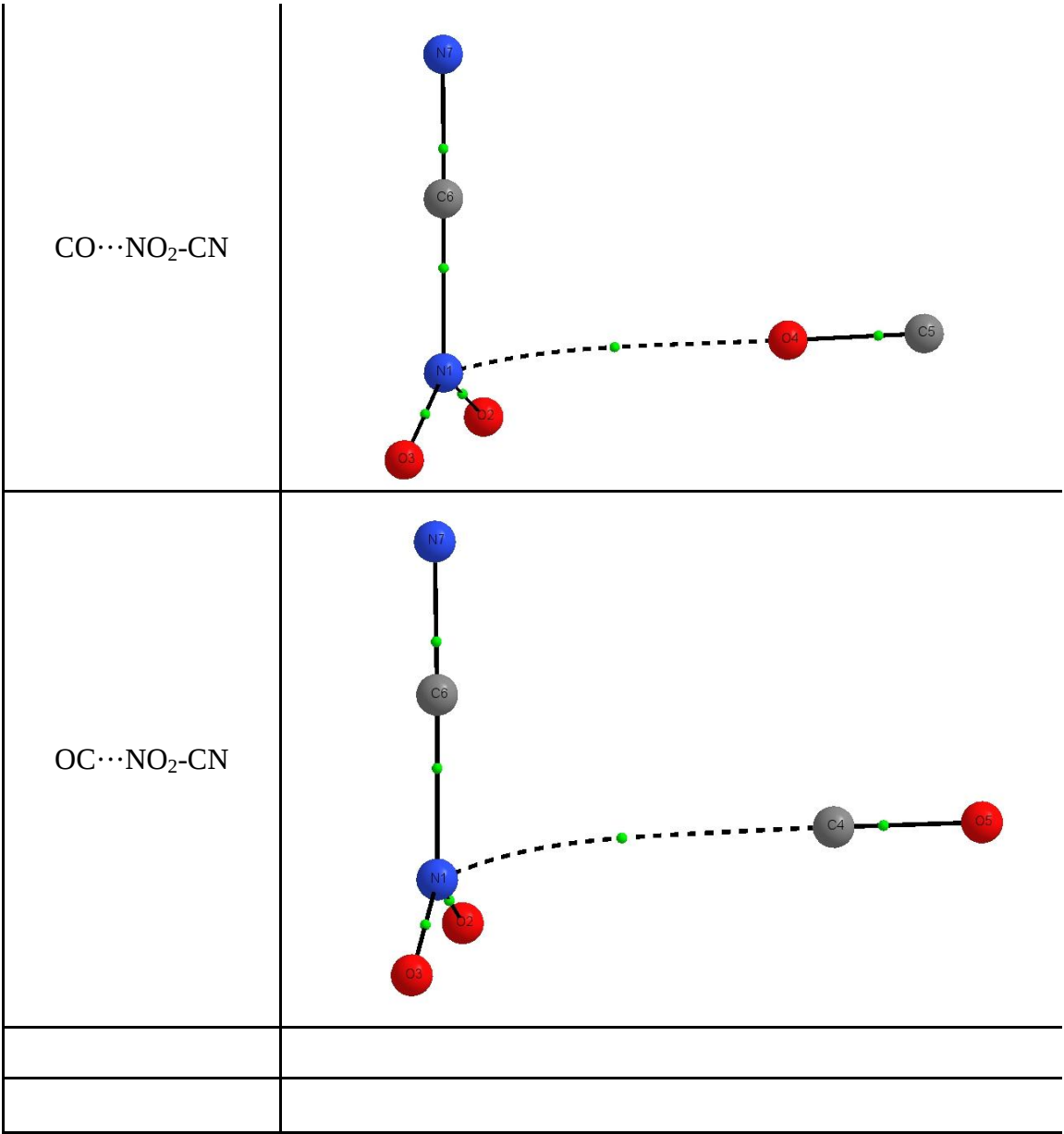


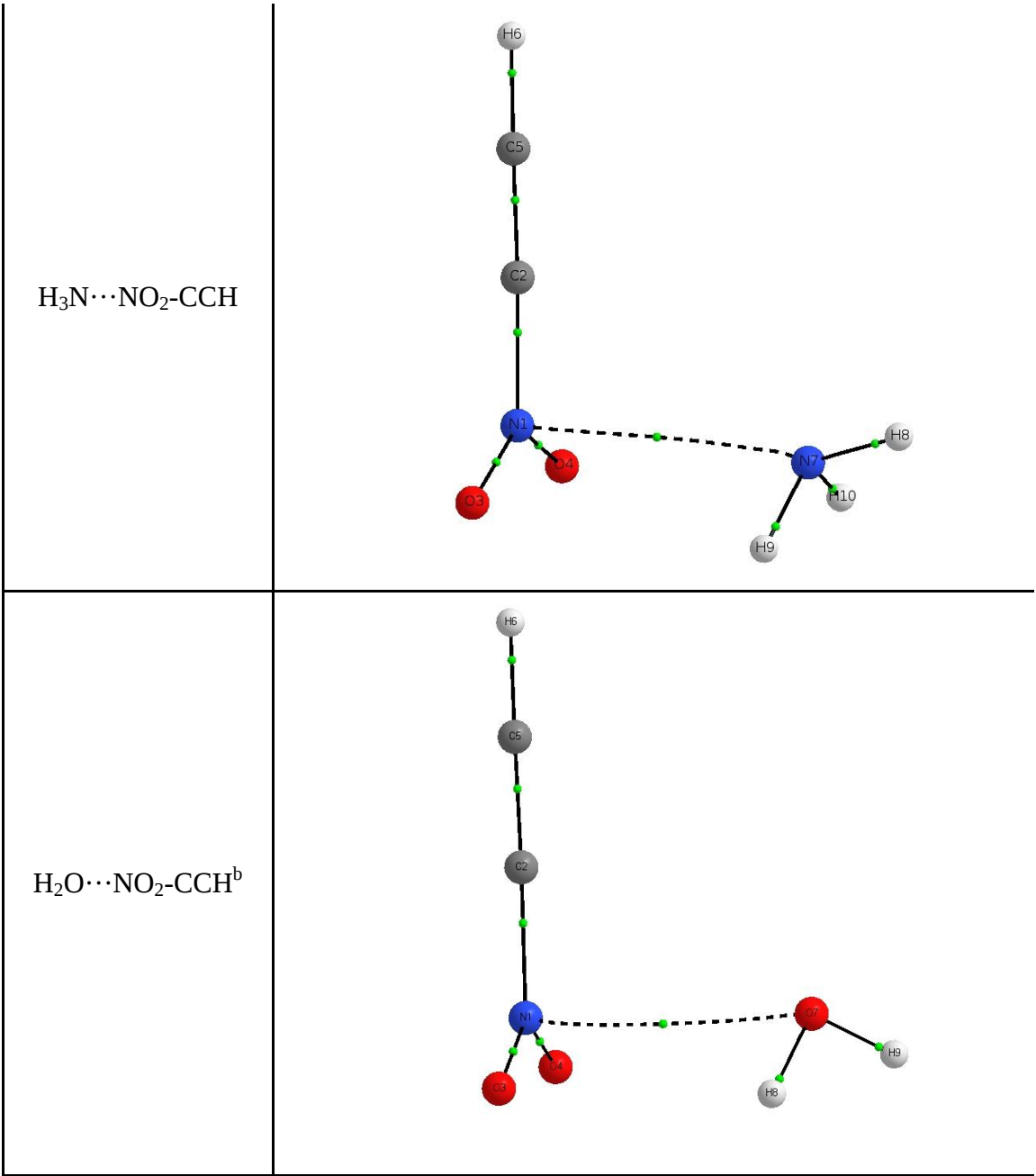


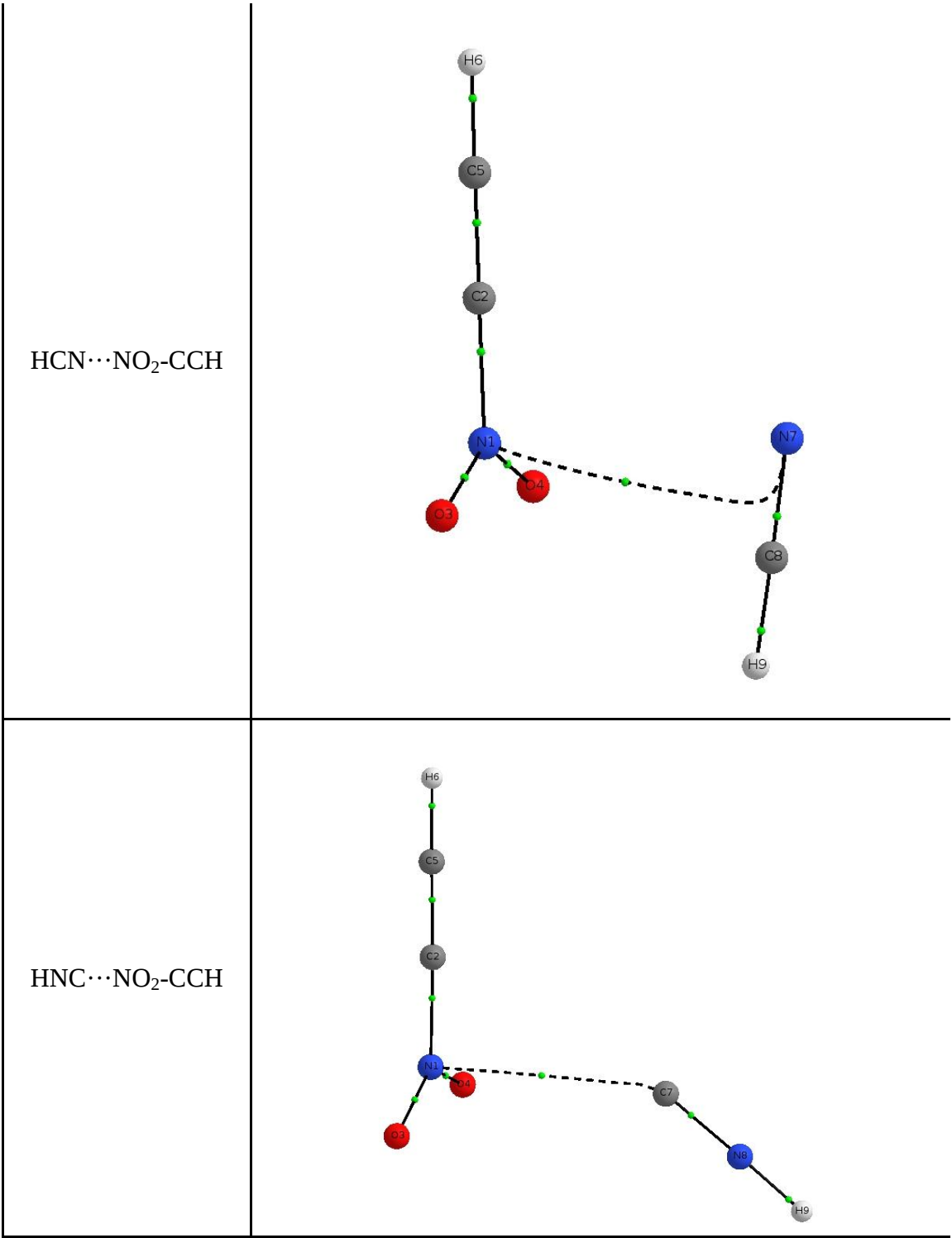


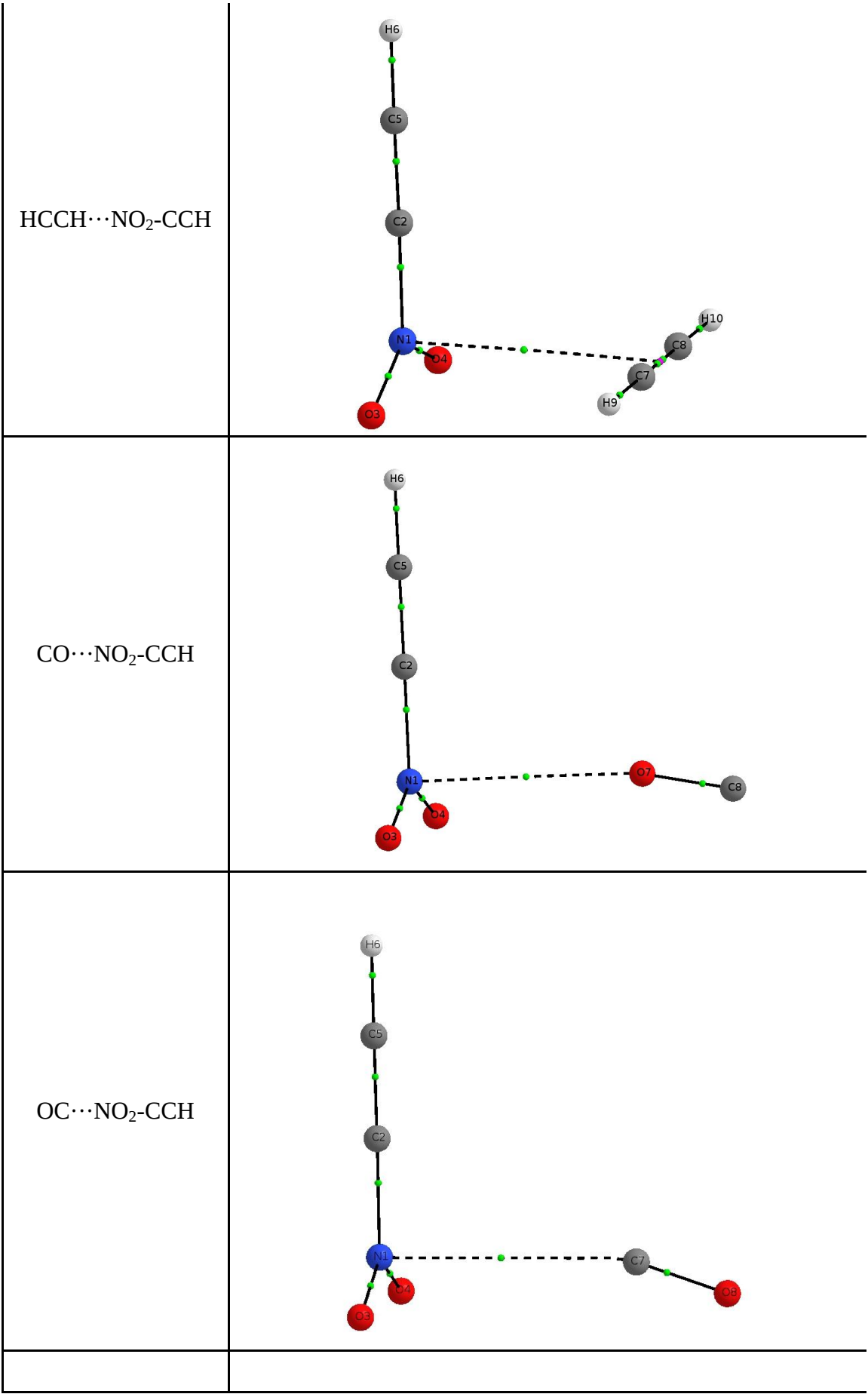


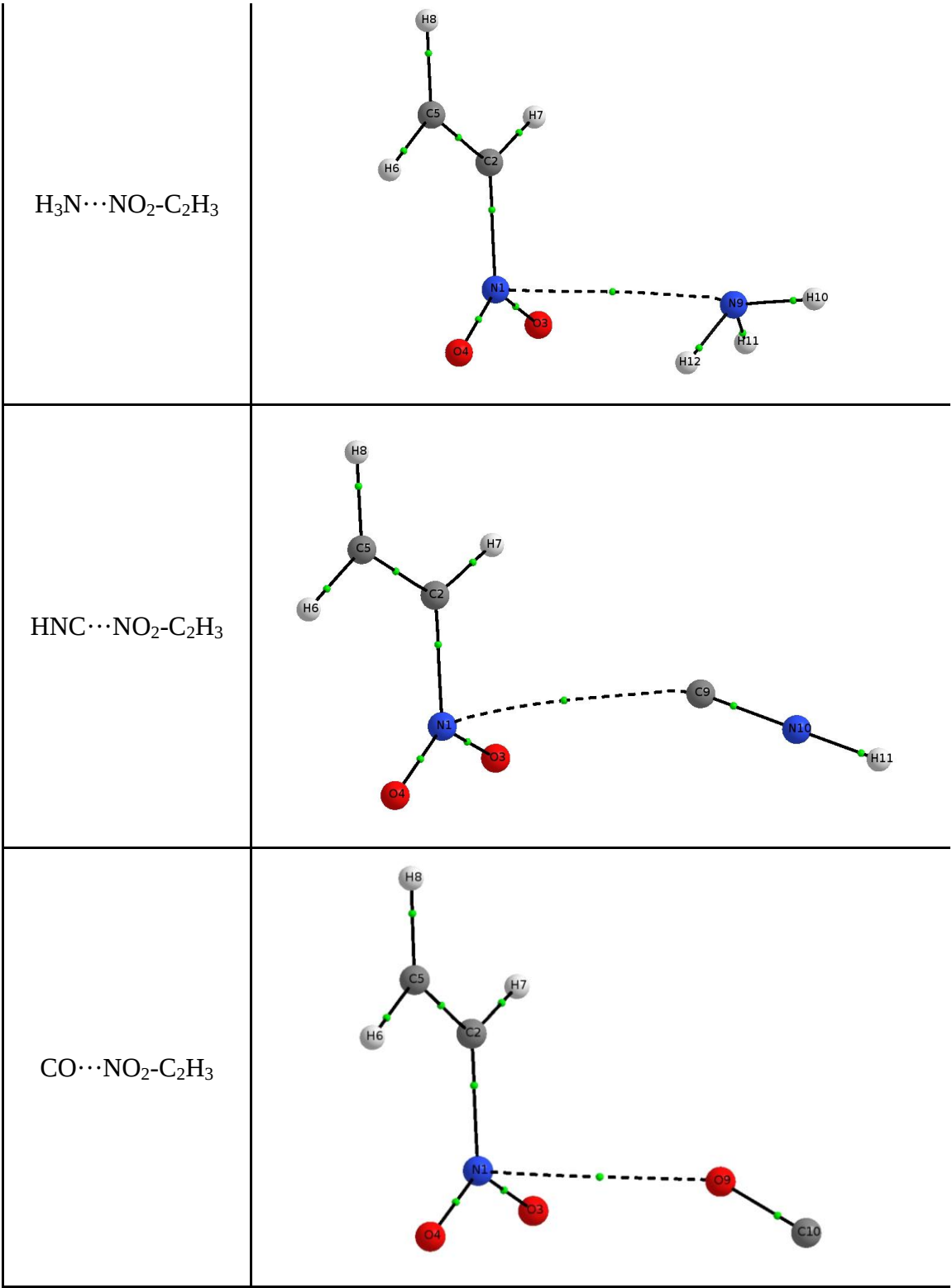


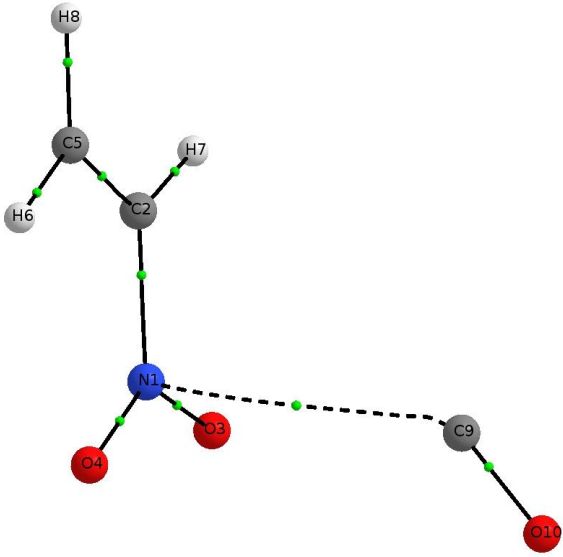
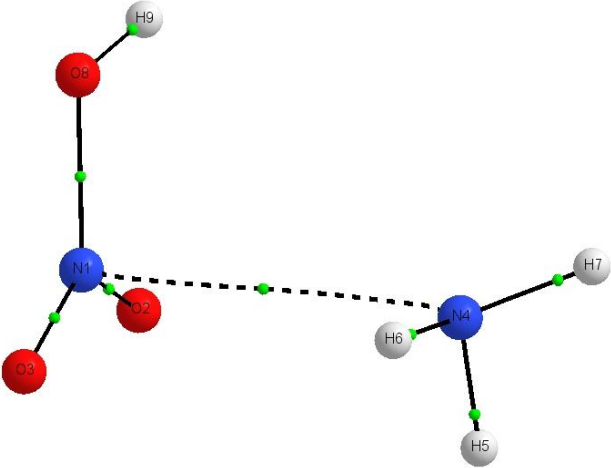
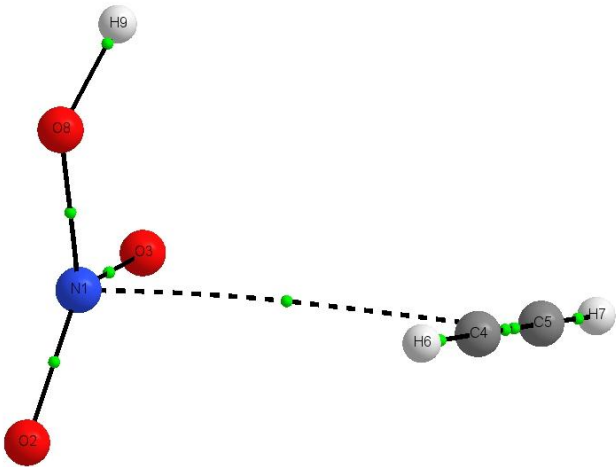










OC···NO₂-C₂H₃	
H₃N···NO₂-OH	
HCCH···NO₂-OH	

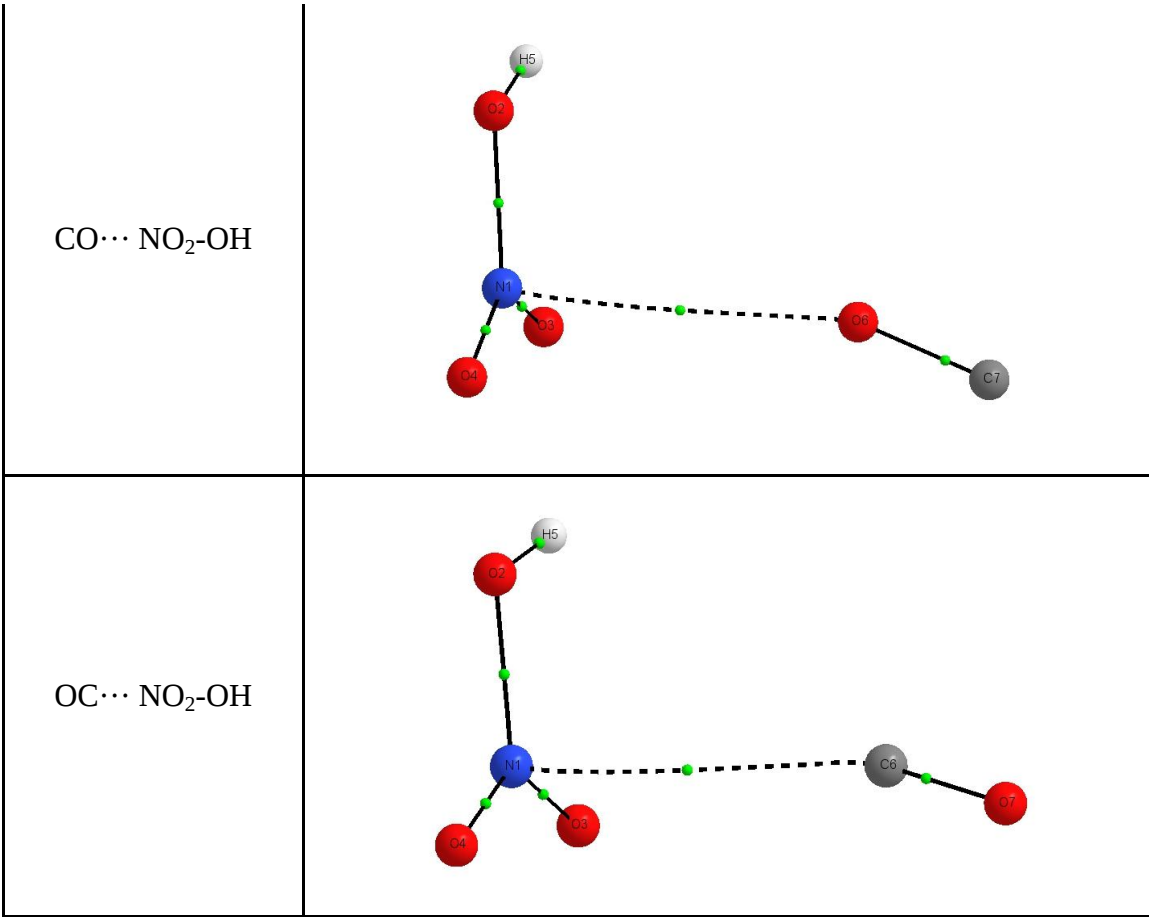
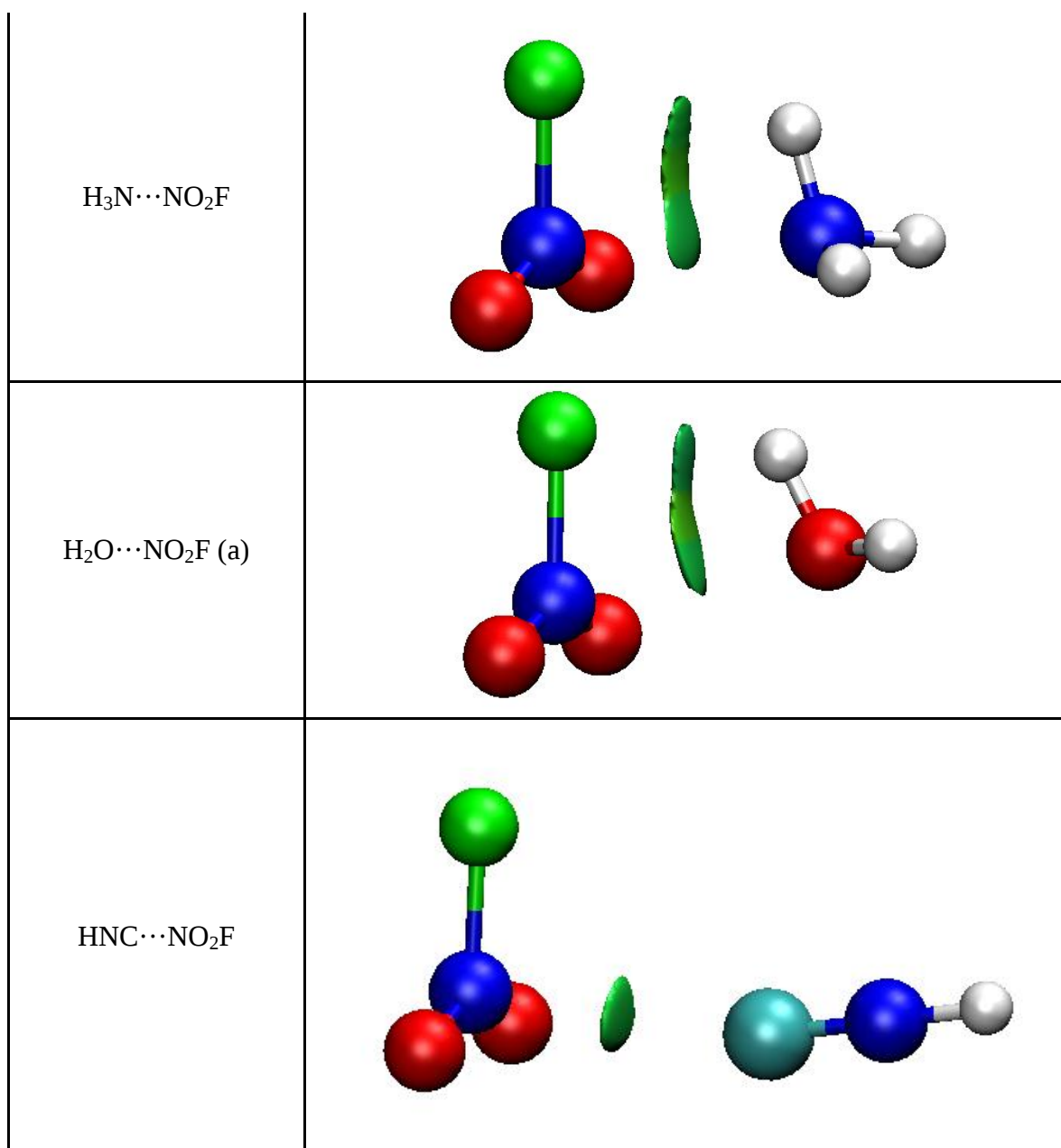
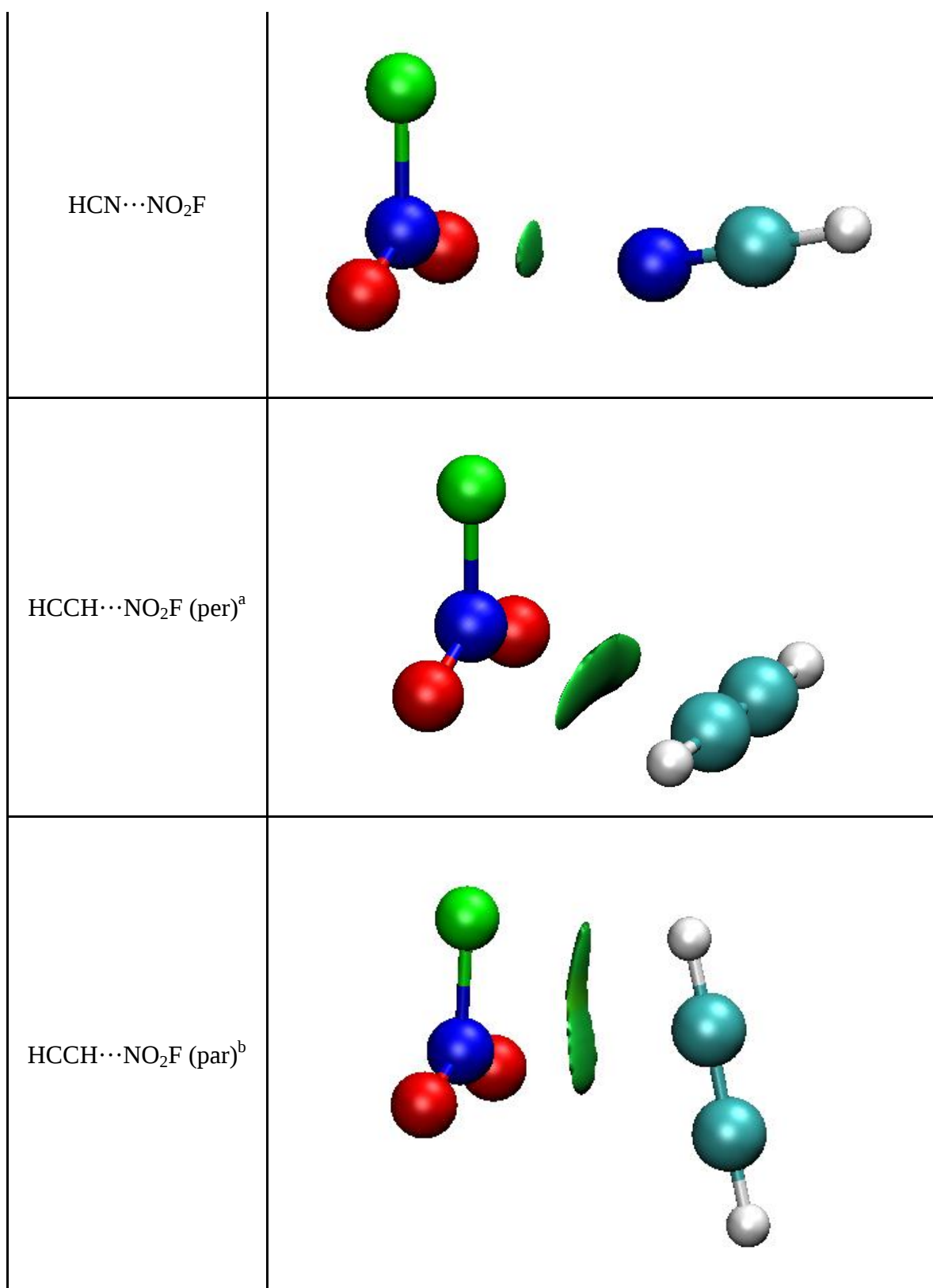
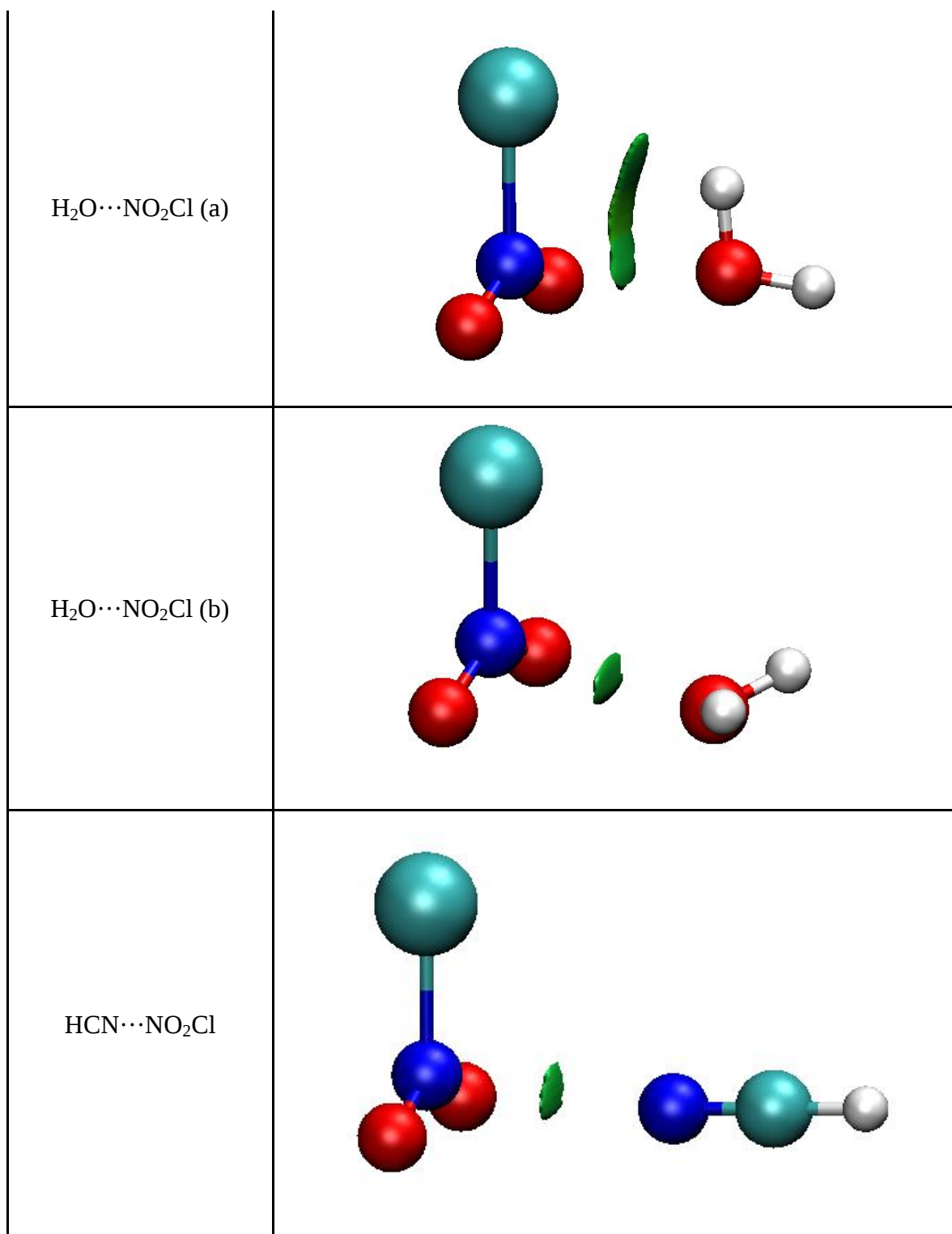


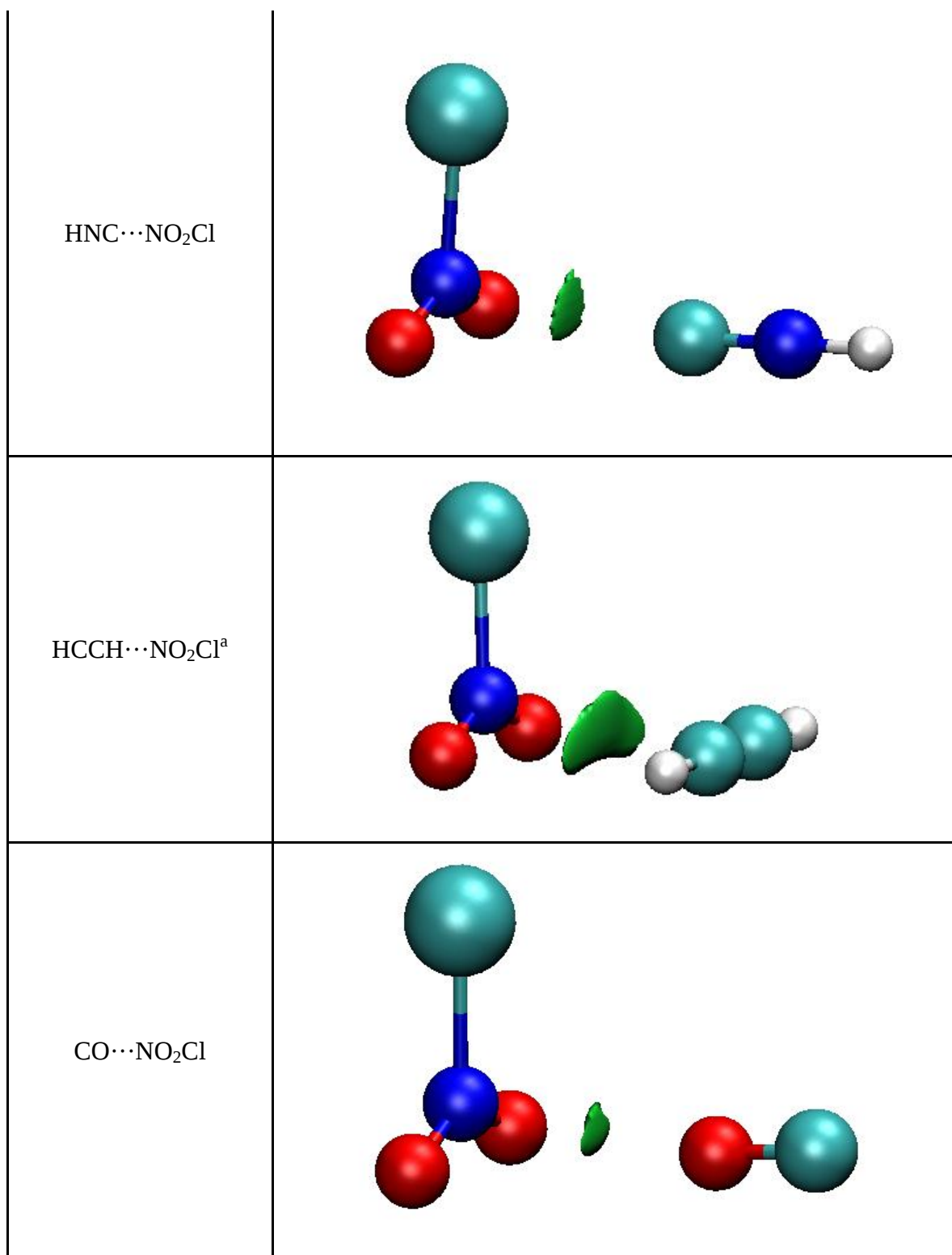
Fig. S3. NCI plot of the non-covalent interaction all the complexes. Blue areas are those with $\lambda_2 > 0$ (strong attractive), while green ones correspond to $\lambda_2 \approx 0$ (weak).. λ_2 is one of the three eigenvalues of the electron-density Hessian with $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \lambda_3$.

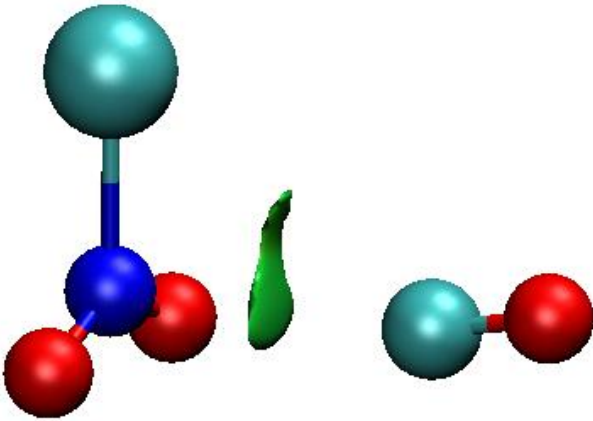
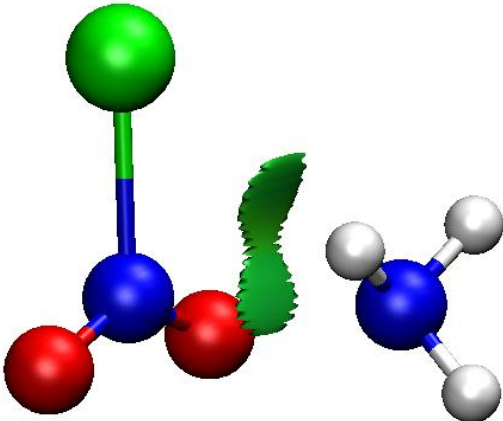
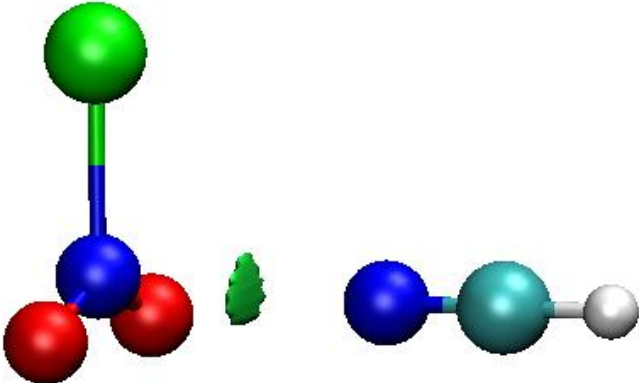


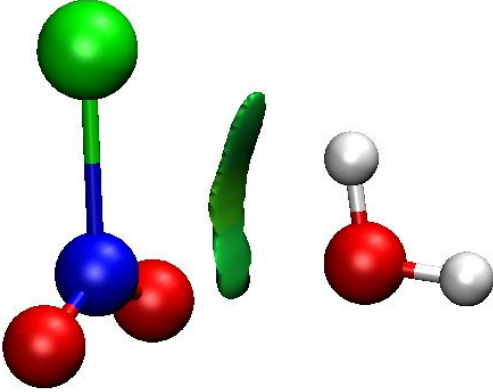
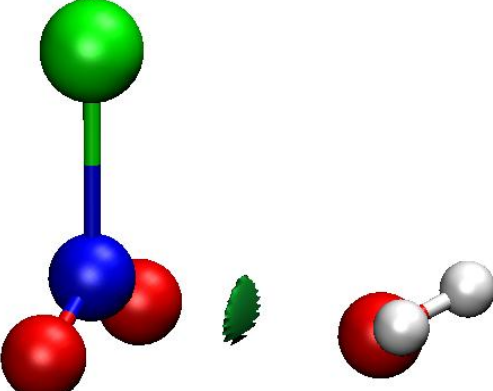
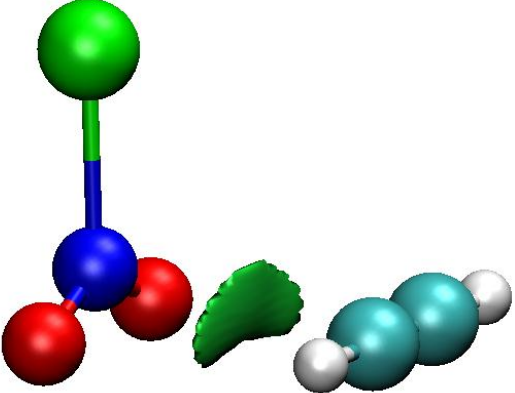


$\text{CO}\cdots\text{NO}_2\text{F}$	
$\text{OC}\cdots\text{NO}_2\text{F}$	
$\text{H}_3\text{N}\cdots\text{NO}_2\text{Cl}$	

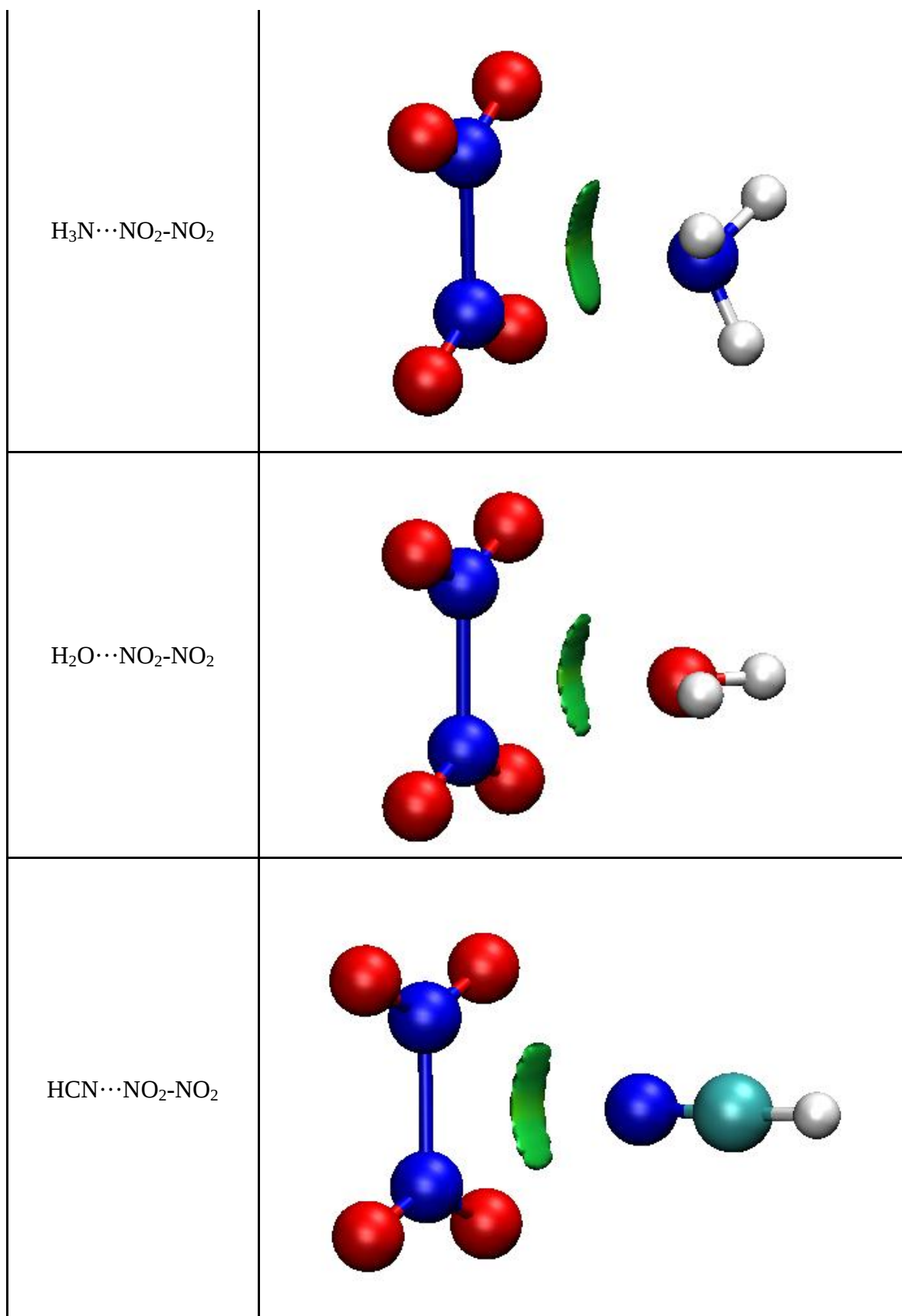


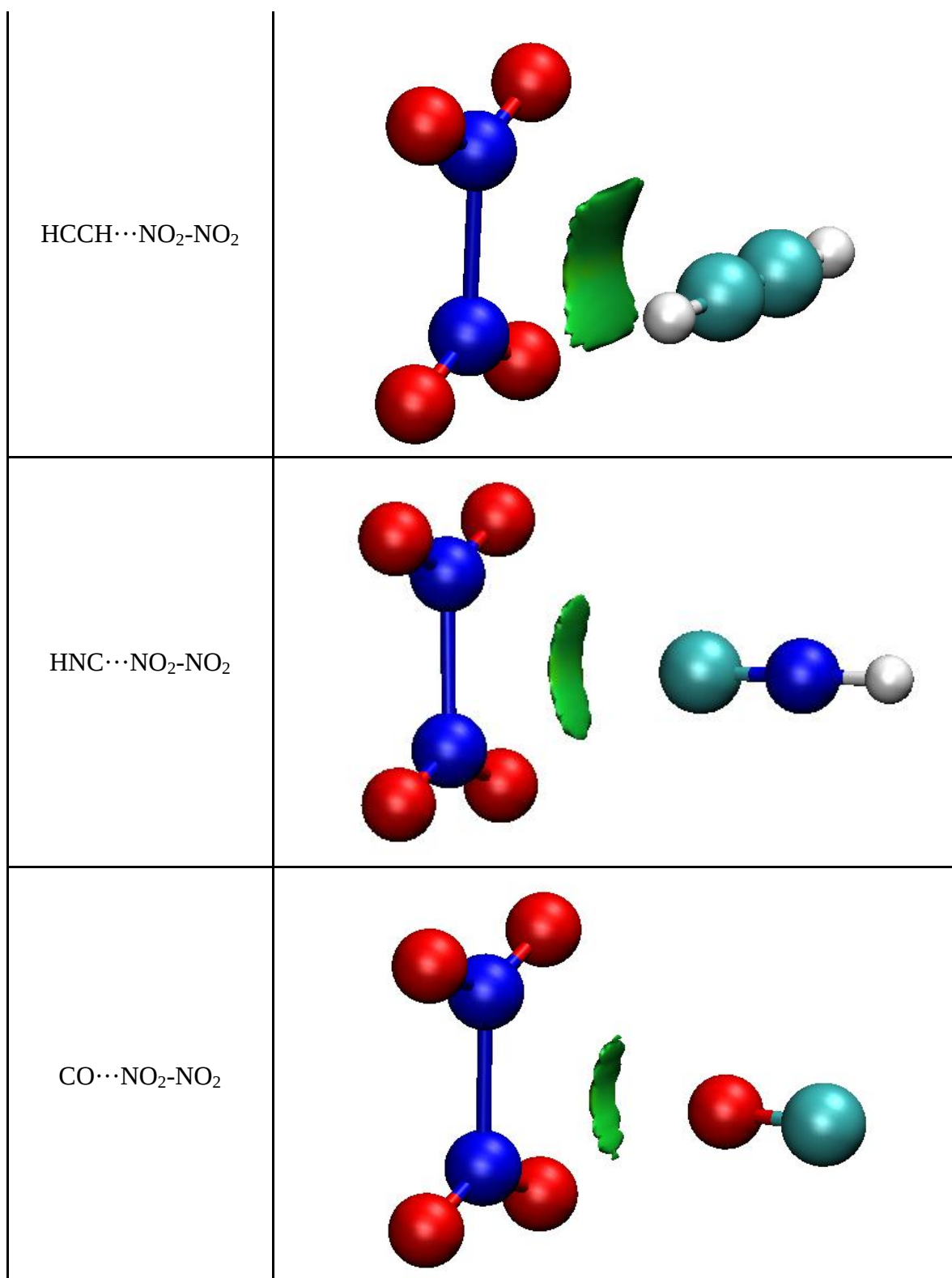


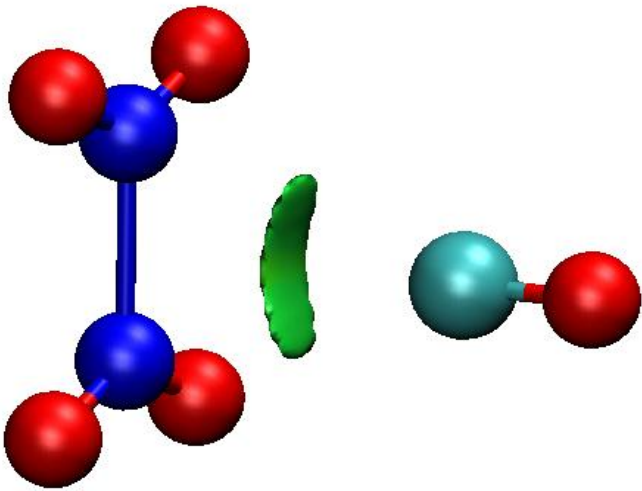
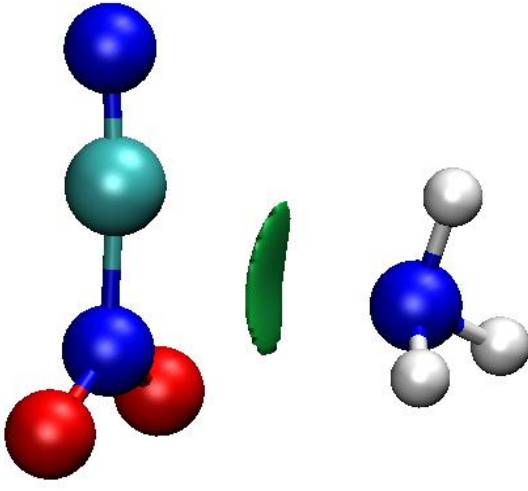
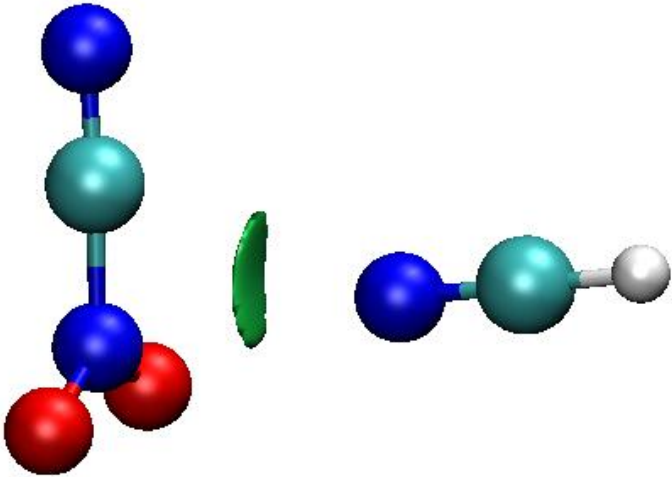
OC···NO₂Cl	
H₃N···NO₂Br	
HCN···NO₂Br	

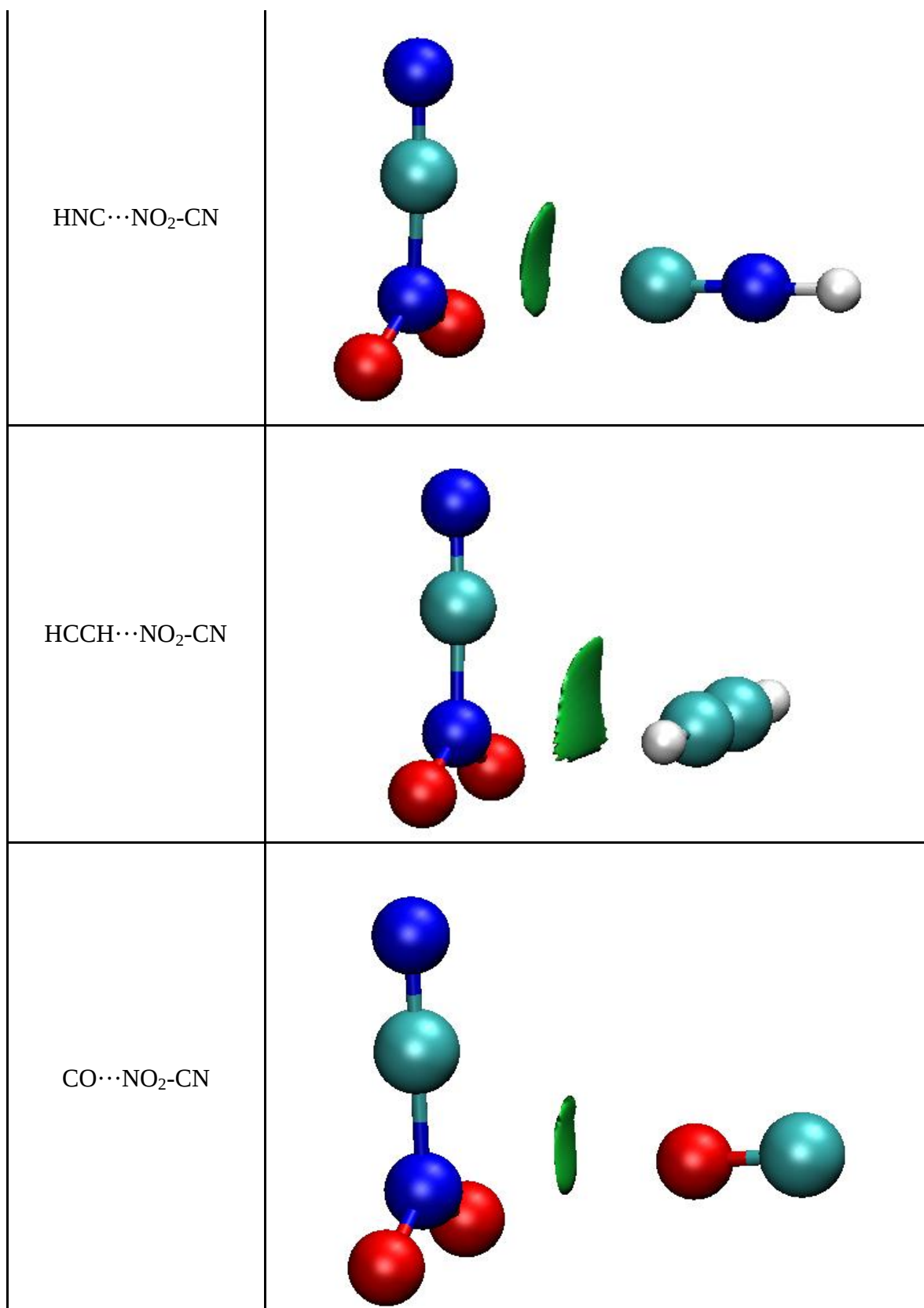
$\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdots \text{NO}_2\text{Br}(\text{a})$	
$\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdots \text{NO}_2\text{Br}(\text{b})$	
$\text{HCCH} \cdots \text{NO}_2\text{Br}^{\text{a}}$	

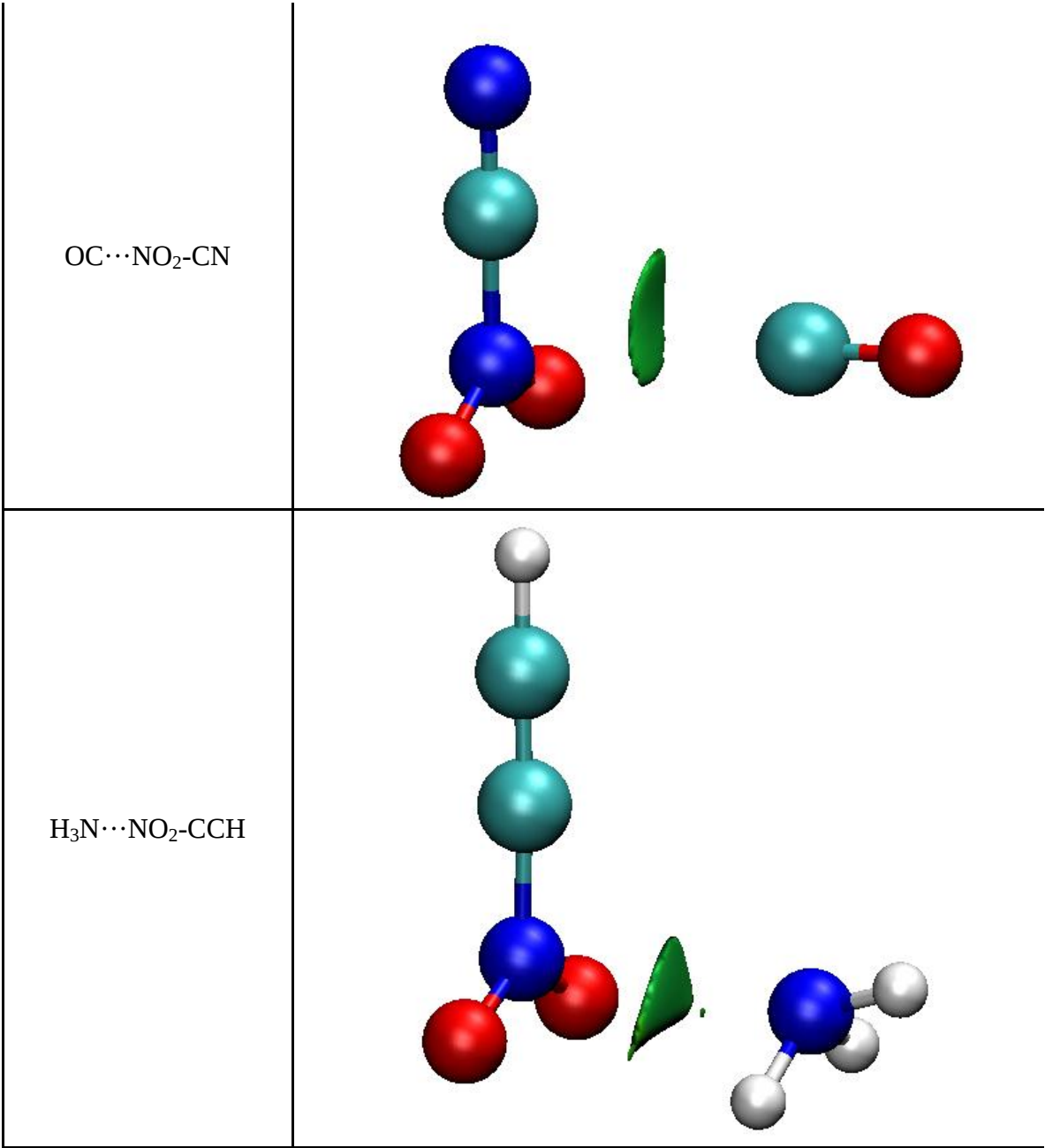
HNC···NO ₂ Br	
CO···NO ₂ Br	
OC···NO ₂ Br	

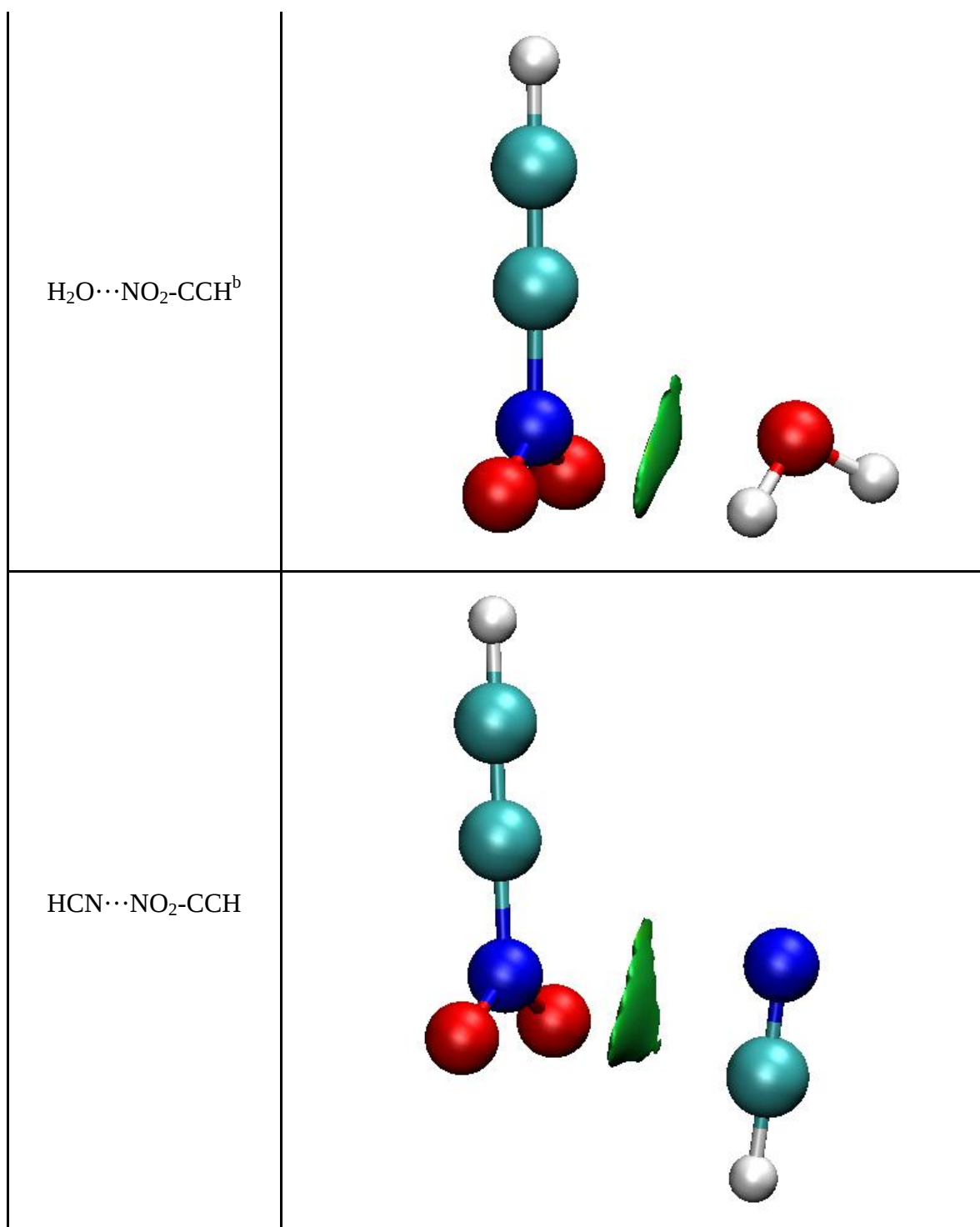




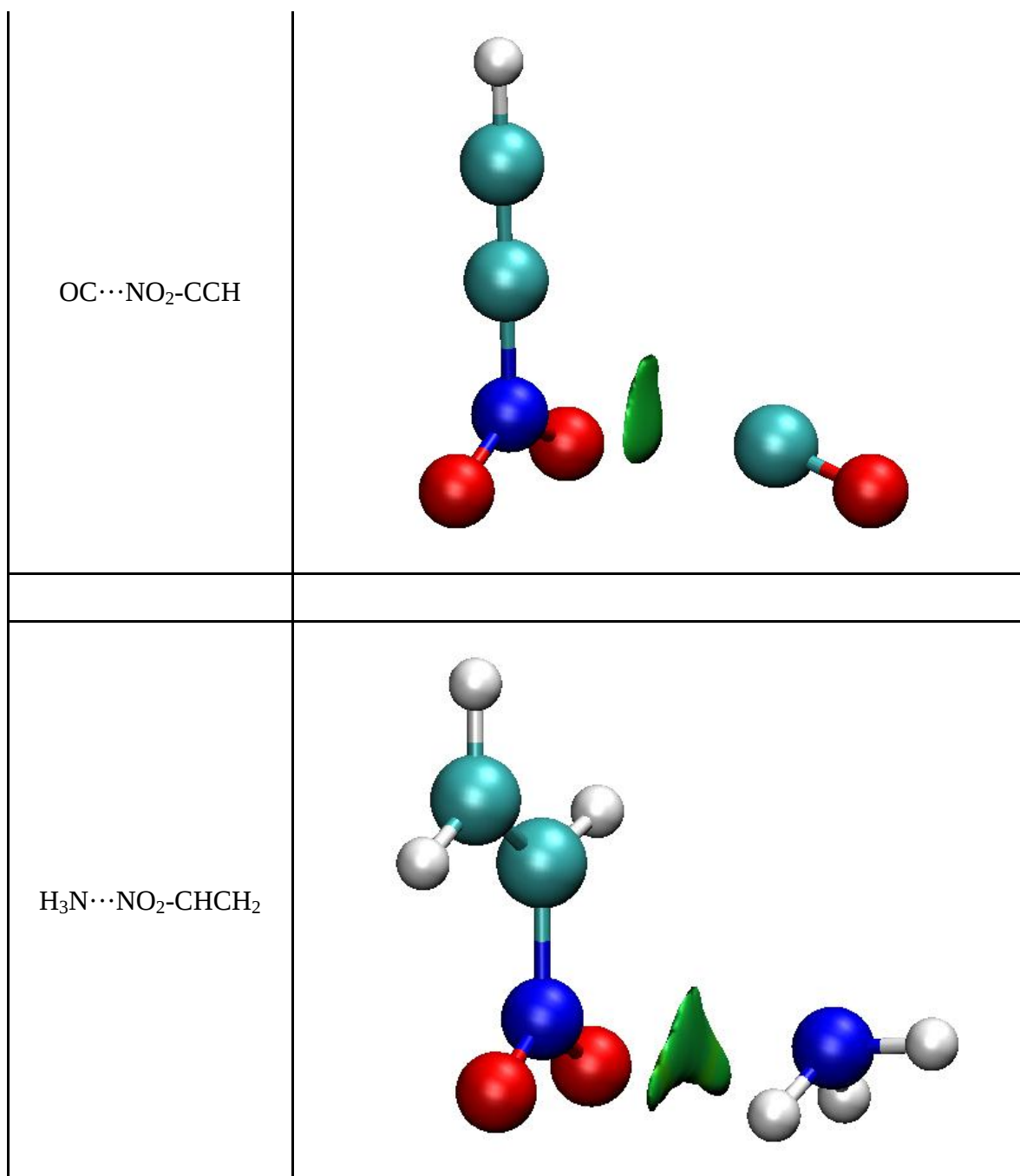
OC···NO₂-NO₂	 A 3D ball-and-stick model of the OC···NO₂-NO₂ complex. The central part consists of two nitrogen atoms (blue) connected by a single bond, with four oxygen atoms (red) attached. A green isosurface represents the electron density. To the right, a separate molecule is shown, consisting of a cyan atom (teal) and a red atom (red).
H₃N···NO₂-CN (C··N)	 A 3D ball-and-stick model of the H₃N···NO₂-CN (C··N) complex. The central part consists of two nitrogen atoms (blue) connected by a single bond, with four oxygen atoms (red) attached. A green isosurface represents the electron density. To the right, a separate molecule is shown, consisting of a carbon atom (grey) and a nitrogen atom (blue).
HCN···NO₂-CN	 A 3D ball-and-stick model of the HCN···NO₂-CN complex. The central part consists of two nitrogen atoms (blue) connected by a single bond, with four oxygen atoms (red) attached. A green isosurface represents the electron density. To the right, a separate molecule is shown, consisting of a carbon atom (grey) and a nitrogen atom (blue).

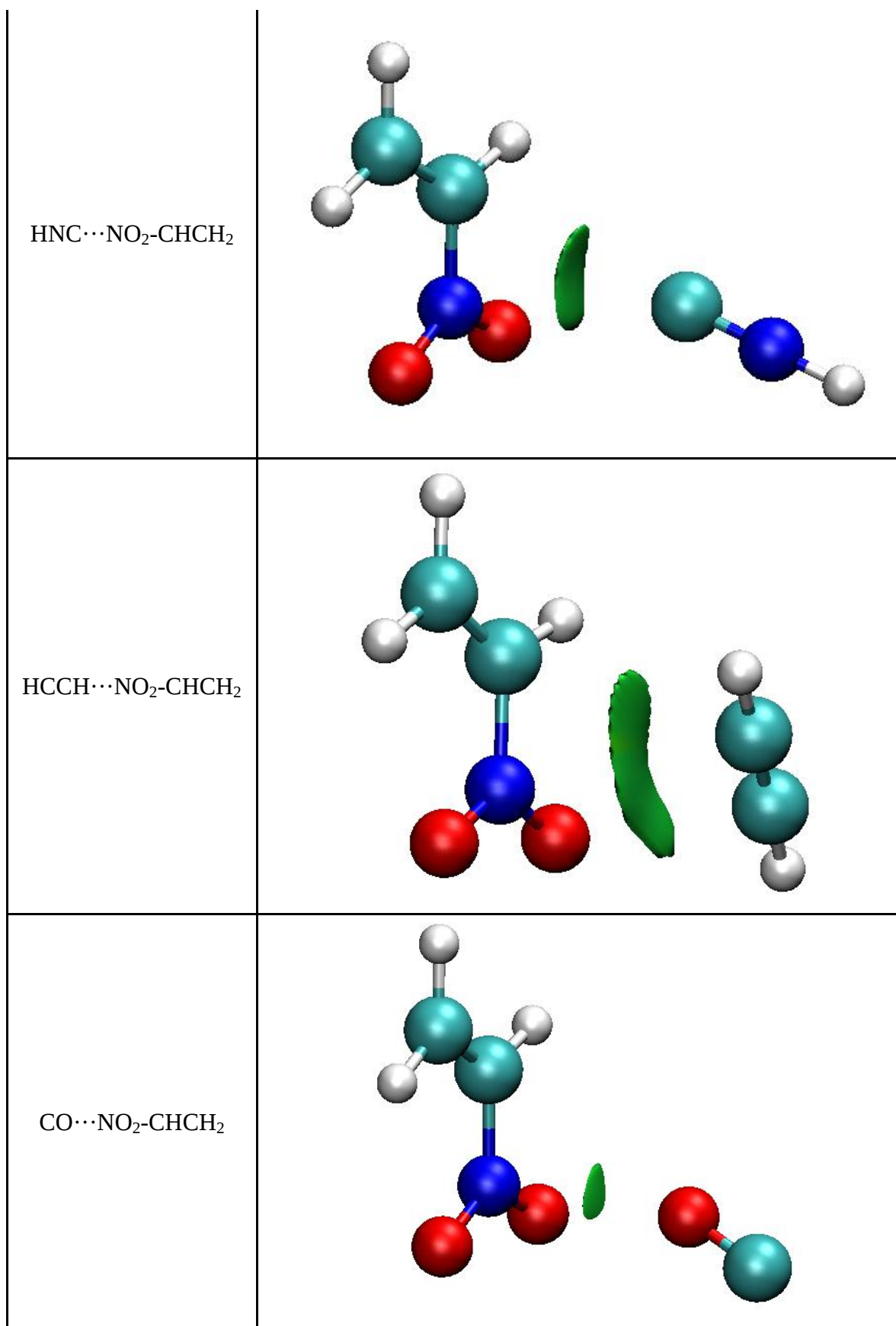


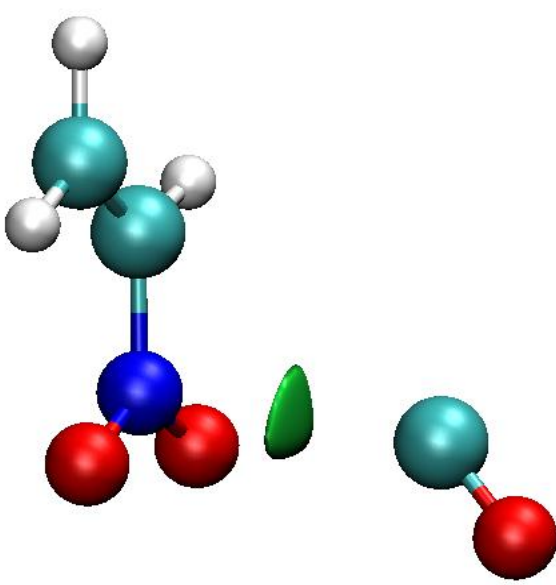
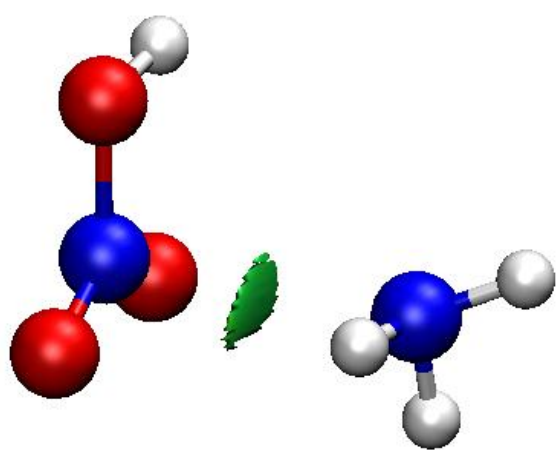




HNC···NO₂-CCH	
HCCH···NO₂-CCH	
CO···NO₂-CCH	





$\text{OC}\cdots\text{NO}_2\text{-CHCH}_2$	
$\text{H}_3\text{N}\cdots\text{NO}_2\text{-OH}$	
$\text{HCCH}\cdots\text{NO}_2\text{-OH}$	