

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

Radical O-O coupling reaction in diferrate-mediated water oxidation studied with multireference wave function theory

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Molecular geometries (in Å) of diferrate considered in this study (xyz format): optimized at B3LYP/def2-TZVP level of theory for reactant, product, transition states, and potential energy surface scan.

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----- R(O=O) = 1.300 angstrom
Fe      1.513590    0.195743    0.000000
O       0.650006   -1.343363    0.000000
O       2.370367    0.165074   -1.431026
H       2.483839   -0.588137   -2.054553
O       2.370367    0.165074    1.431026
H       2.483839   -0.588137    2.054553
O       0.000000    1.048169    0.000000
Fe     -1.513590    0.195743    0.000000
O      -0.650006   -1.343363    0.000000
O      -2.370367    0.165074   -1.431026
H      -2.483839   -0.588137   -2.054553
O      -2.370367    0.165074    1.431026
H      -2.483839   -0.588137    2.054553

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----- R(O=O) = 1.347 angstrom (Product)
Fe      1.515890    0.195410    0.000000
O       0.673708   -1.346171    0.000000
O       2.371976    0.167947   -1.431294
H       2.482768   -0.588065   -2.052673
O       2.371976    0.167947    1.431294
H       2.482768   -0.588065    2.052673
O       0.000000    1.044421    0.000000
Fe     -1.515890    0.195410    0.000000
O      -0.673708   -1.346171    0.000000
O      -2.371976    0.167947   -1.431294
H      -2.482768   -0.588065   -2.052673
O      -2.371976    0.167947    1.431294
H      -2.482768   -0.588065    2.052673

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----- R(O=O) = 1.400 angstrom
Fe      1.518740    0.194144    0.000000
O       0.699999   -1.349720    0.000000
O       2.376589    0.173166   -1.429730
H       2.490493   -0.585836   -2.047350
O       2.376589    0.173166    1.429730
H       2.490493   -0.585836    2.047350
O       0.000000    1.037755    0.000000
Fe     -1.518740    0.194144    0.000000

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O	-0.699999	-1.349720	0.000000
O	-2.376589	0.173166	-1.429730
H	-2.490493	-0.585836	-2.047350
O	-2.376589	0.173166	1.429730
H	-2.490493	-0.585836	2.047350

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----- R(O=O) = 1.500 angstrom

Fe	1.525032	0.190195	0.000000
O	0.749999	-1.357083	0.000000
O	2.386799	0.185921	-1.427066
H	2.508691	-0.576352	-2.039653
O	2.386799	0.185921	1.427066
H	2.508691	-0.576352	2.039653
O	0.000000	1.022390	0.000000
Fe	-1.525032	0.190195	0.000000
O	-0.749999	-1.357083	0.000000
O	-2.386799	0.185921	-1.427066
H	-2.508691	-0.576352	-2.039653
O	-2.386799	0.185921	1.427066
H	-2.508691	-0.576352	2.039653

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----- R(O=O) = 1.600 angstrom

Fe	1.533126	0.184861	0.000000
O	0.799998	-1.361886	0.000000
O	2.400304	0.200198	-1.423802
H	2.534645	-0.564078	-2.031598
O	2.400304	0.200198	1.423802
H	2.534645	-0.564078	2.031598
O	0.000000	1.003423	0.000000
Fe	-1.533126	0.184861	0.000000
O	-0.799998	-1.361886	0.000000
O	-2.400304	0.200198	-1.423802
H	-2.534645	-0.564078	-2.031598
O	-2.400304	0.200198	1.423802
H	-2.534645	-0.564078	2.031598

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----- R(O=O) = 1.700 angstrom

Fe	1.542368	0.176790	0.000000
O	0.849996	-1.364572	0.000000
O	2.416690	0.218097	-1.419815
H	2.569545	-0.547680	-2.021390
O	2.416690	0.218097	1.419815
H	2.569545	-0.547680	2.021390
O	0.000000	0.981461	0.000000
Fe	-1.542368	0.176790	0.000000

O	-0.849996	-1.364572	0.000000
O	-2.416690	0.218097	-1.419815
H	-2.569545	-0.547680	-2.021390
O	-2.416690	0.218097	1.419815
H	-2.569545	-0.547680	2.021390

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----- R(O=O) = 1.750 angstrom

Fe	1.547599	0.171200	0.000000
O	0.874998	-1.365623	0.000000
O	2.425704	0.229140	-1.417898
H	2.585372	-0.534789	-2.020180
O	2.425704	0.229140	1.417898
H	2.585372	-0.534789	2.020180
O	0.000000	0.969281	0.000000
Fe	-1.547599	0.171200	0.000000
O	-0.874998	-1.365623	0.000000
O	-2.425704	0.229140	-1.417898
H	-2.585372	-0.534789	-2.020180
O	-2.425704	0.229140	1.417898
H	-2.585372	-0.534789	2.020180

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----- R(O=O) = 1.800 angstrom

Fe	1.553269	0.165738	0.000000
O	0.900000	-1.366441	0.000000
O	2.436024	0.240264	-1.415321
H	2.607667	-0.523886	-2.014049
O	2.436024	0.240264	1.415321
H	2.607667	-0.523886	2.014049
O	0.000000	0.956468	0.000000
Fe	-1.553269	0.165738	0.000000
O	-0.900000	-1.366441	0.000000
O	-2.436024	0.240264	-1.415321
H	-2.607667	-0.523886	-2.014049
O	-2.436024	0.240264	1.415321
H	-2.607667	-0.523886	2.014049

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----- R(O=O) = 1.850 angstrom

Fe	1.558166	0.159451	0.000000
O	0.925003	-1.369589	0.000000
O	2.442406	0.253086	-1.414326
H	2.617162	-0.506896	-2.017410
O	2.442406	0.253086	1.414326
H	2.617162	-0.506896	2.017410
O	0.000000	0.943852	0.000000
Fe	-1.558166	0.159451	0.000000

O	-0.925003	-1.369589	0.000000
O	-2.442406	0.253086	-1.414326
H	-2.617162	-0.506896	-2.017410
O	-2.442406	0.253086	1.414326
H	-2.617162	-0.506896	2.017410

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----- R(O=O) = 1.893 angstrom (Transition state)

Fe	1.562588	0.154836	0.000000
O	0.946521	-1.372135	0.000000
O	2.448908	0.263342	-1.412794
H	2.634189	-0.496299	-2.013128
O	2.448908	0.263342	1.412794
H	2.634189	-0.496299	2.013128
O	0.000000	0.932612	0.000000
Fe	-1.562588	0.154836	0.000000
O	-0.946521	-1.372135	0.000000
O	-2.448908	0.263342	-1.412794
H	-2.634189	-0.496299	-2.013128
O	-2.448908	0.263342	1.412794
H	-2.634189	-0.496299	2.013128

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----- R(O=O) = 2.000 angstrom

Fe	1.571720	0.143286	0.000000
O	1.000000	-1.383391	0.000000
O	2.458538	0.290345	-1.411001
H	2.660387	-0.463927	-2.012802
O	2.458538	0.290345	1.411001
H	2.660387	-0.463927	2.012802
O	0.000000	0.906005	0.000000
Fe	-1.571720	0.143286	0.000000
O	-1.000000	-1.383391	0.000000
O	-2.458538	0.290345	-1.411001
H	-2.660387	-0.463927	-2.012802
O	-2.458538	0.290345	1.411001
H	-2.660387	-0.463927	2.012802

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----- R(O=O) = 2.200 angstrom

Fe	1.586274	0.125258	0.000000
O	1.099996	-1.410890	0.000000
O	2.469262	0.338075	-1.408182
H	2.706102	-0.406004	-2.009990
O	2.469262	0.338075	1.408182
H	2.706102	-0.406004	2.009990
O	0.000000	0.858305	0.000000
Fe	-1.586274	0.125258	0.000000

O	-1.099996	-1.410890	0.000000
O	-2.469262	0.338075	-1.408182
H	-2.706102	-0.406004	-2.009990
O	-2.469262	0.338075	1.408182
H	-2.706102	-0.406004	2.009990

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----- R(O=O) = 2.400 angstrom

Fe	1.599960	0.111327	0.000000
O	1.199999	-1.438836	0.000000
O	2.477444	0.379786	-1.404744
H	2.747289	-0.354366	-2.005028
O	2.477444	0.379786	1.404744
H	2.747289	-0.354366	2.005028
O	0.000000	0.812085	0.000000
Fe	-1.599960	0.111327	0.000000
O	-1.199999	-1.438836	0.000000
O	-2.477444	0.379786	-1.404744
H	-2.747289	-0.354366	-2.005028
O	-2.477444	0.379786	1.404744
H	-2.747289	-0.354366	2.005028

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----- R(O=O) = 2.600 angstrom

Fe	1.612070	0.097489	0.000000
O	1.299993	-1.465942	0.000000
O	2.478255	0.420554	-1.402229
H	2.782355	-0.298780	-2.004084
O	2.478255	0.420554	1.402229
H	2.782355	-0.298780	2.004084
O	0.000000	0.765381	0.000000
Fe	-1.612070	0.097489	0.000000
O	-1.299993	-1.465942	0.000000
O	-2.478255	0.420554	-1.402229
H	-2.782355	-0.298780	-2.004084
O	-2.478255	0.420554	1.402229
H	-2.782355	-0.298780	2.004084

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----- R(O=O) = 2.800 angstrom

Fe	1.624872	0.085186	0.000000
O	1.400008	-1.488509	0.000000
O	2.480080	0.457671	-1.398560
H	2.811128	-0.248407	-2.001794
O	2.480080	0.457671	1.398560
H	2.811128	-0.248407	2.001794
O	0.000000	0.716827	0.000000
Fe	-1.624872	0.085186	0.000000

O	-1.400008	-1.488509	0.000000
O	-2.480080	0.457671	-1.398560
H	-2.811128	-0.248407	-2.001794
O	-2.480080	0.457671	1.398560
H	-2.811128	-0.248407	2.001794

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----- R(O=O) = 3.000 angstrom

Fe	1.638883	0.074169	0.000000
O	1.500007	-1.506376	0.000000
O	2.477163	0.491196	-1.398415
H	2.842107	-0.197865	-2.002063
O	2.477163	0.491196	1.398415
H	2.842107	-0.197865	2.002063
O	0.000000	0.664801	0.000000
Fe	-1.638883	0.074169	0.000000
O	-1.500007	-1.506376	0.000000
O	-2.477163	0.491196	-1.398415
H	-2.842107	-0.197865	-2.002063
O	-2.477163	0.491196	1.398415
H	-2.842107	-0.197865	2.002063

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----- R(O=O) = 3.226 angstrom (Reactant)

Fe	1.653150	0.061094	0.000000
O	1.612854	-1.522072	0.000000
O	2.471881	0.528338	-1.395950
H	2.873353	-0.142209	-1.997057
O	2.471881	0.528338	1.395950
H	2.873353	-0.142209	1.997057
O	0.000000	0.604783	0.000000
Fe	-1.653150	0.061094	0.000000
O	-1.612854	-1.522072	0.000000
O	-2.471881	0.528338	-1.395950
H	-2.873353	-0.142209	-1.997057
O	-2.471881	0.528338	1.395950
H	-2.873353	-0.142209	1.997057

Table S1. Total energies (in Eh) of $[\text{H}_4\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_7]^{2+}$ as a function of R(O-O) in the O-O bond formation pathway.

R(O-O) / Å		DMRG-CASSCF (36e,32o)	DMRG-CASPT2 (36e,32o)	DMRG-CASPT2 ref.weight	DMRG- MRCI (36e,32o)	DMRG-MRCI+Q (36e,32o)
3.226	R	-3069.05541	-3071.64100	0.636	-3070.94311	-3071.30568
3.00		-3069.05491				
2.80		-3069.05383				
2.60		-3069.05193				
2.40		-3069.04905	-3071.63769			
2.20		-3069.04476	-3071.63569			
2.00		-3069.04005	-3071.63289			
1.893	TS	-3069.03896	-3071.63173	0.632	-3070.93164	-3071.29611
1.80		-3069.03892	-3071.63137		-3070.93176	-3071.29640
1.70		-3069.04074	-3071.62914		-3070.93268	-3071.29714
1.60		-3069.04476	-3071.63075		-3070.93647	-3071.30083
1.50		-3069.04995	-3071.63490			
1.40		-3069.05434	-3071.64050			
1.347	P	-3069.05529	-3071.64159	0.634	-3070.94790	-3071.31202
1.30		-3069.05407				

R(O-O) / Å		CASSCF (4,4)	CASPT2 (4,4)	CASPT2(4,4) ref.weight	MRCI (4,4)	MRCI+Q (4,4)	CASSCF (20,14)	CASPT2 (20,14)	CASPT2(20,14) ref.weight
3.226	R	-3068.23550	-3071.39165	0.540	-3070.33558	-3070.91956	-3068.40079	-3071.66899	0.511
3.00		-3068.23652	-3071.39517	0.540	-3070.33712	-3070.92141	-3068.40055	-3071.67237	0.511
2.80		-3068.23693	-3071.39801	0.539	-3070.33818	-3070.92280	-3068.39954	-3071.67544	0.510
2.60		-3068.23853	-3071.40108	0.539	-3070.34009	-3070.92487	-3068.39804	-3071.67712	0.510
2.40		-3068.24055	-3071.40425	0.539	-3070.34238	-3070.92727	-3068.39533	-3071.67982	0.509
2.20		-3068.24332	-3071.40721	0.539	-3070.34534	-3070.93022	-3068.39114	-3071.68253	0.508
2.00		-3068.25031	-3071.41209	0.539	-3070.35217	-3070.93680	-3068.38638	-3071.68683	0.506
1.893	TS	-3068.25875	-3071.41715	0.540	-3070.36023	-3070.94450	-3068.38530	-3071.68997	0.505
1.80		-3068.27102	-3071.42412	0.541	-3070.37186	-3070.95557	-3068.38572	-3071.68829	0.506
1.70		-3068.28947	-3071.43465	0.543	-3070.38944	-3070.97226	-3068.39021	-3071.68930	0.506
1.60		-3068.31020	-3071.44820	0.545	-3070.40962	-3070.99162	-3068.39717	-3071.68839	0.508
1.50		-3068.33295	-3071.46421	0.547	-3070.43199	-3071.01306	-3068.40698	-3071.68569	0.511
1.40		-3068.35659	-3071.48098	0.549	-3070.45520	-3071.03509	-3068.41892	-3071.67982	0.515
1.347	P	-3068.36819	-3071.48879	0.550	-3070.46651	-3071.04567	-3068.42506	-3071.67523	0.518
1.30		-3068.37720	-3071.49431	0.551	-3070.47528	-3071.05370	-3068.42977	-3071.66974	0.521

R(O-O) / Å		B3LYP	B3LYP-D	TPSSh	TPSSh-D	BP86	BP86-D	CAM-B3LYP	CAM-B3LYP-D
3.226	R	-3055.74968	-3055.76192	-3055.80101	-3055.81325	-3056.28473	-3056.29697	-3055.59712	-3055.60936
3.00		-3055.74944	-3055.76197	-3055.80079	-3055.81332	-3056.28432	-3056.29686	-3055.59704	-3055.60958
2.80		-3055.74875	-3055.76152	-3055.80012	-3055.81290	-3056.28358	-3056.29635	-3055.59655	-3055.60932
2.60		-3055.74741	-3055.76030	-3055.79890	-3055.81179	-3056.28256	-3056.29545	-3055.59536	-3055.60824
2.40		-3055.74519	-3055.75811	-3055.79701	-3055.80993	-3056.28123	-3056.29415	-3055.59320	-3055.60612
2.20		-3055.74184	-3055.75481	-3055.79436	-3055.80733	-3056.27979	-3056.29277	-3055.58979	-3055.60277
2.00		-3055.73796	-3055.75091	-3055.79147	-3055.80442	-3056.27903	-3056.29199	-3055.58557	-3055.59853
1.893	TS	-3055.73696	-3055.74985	-3055.79085	-3055.80375	-3056.27953	-3056.29243	-3055.58428	-3055.59717
1.80		-3055.73824	-3055.75106	-3055.79197	-3055.80480	-3056.28072	-3056.29354	-3055.58535	-3055.59817
1.70		-3055.74340	-3055.75614	-3055.79590	-3055.80865	-3056.28288	-3056.29562	-3055.59103	-3055.60377
1.60		-3055.75150	-3055.76414	-3055.80223	-3055.81487	-3056.28650	-3056.29914	-3055.60108	-3055.61372
1.50		-3055.75976	-3055.77227	-3055.80923	-3055.82175	-3056.29130	-3056.30381	-3055.61094	-3055.62346
1.40		-3055.76570	-3055.77808	-3055.81463	-3055.82701	-3056.29557	-3056.30795	-3055.61756	-3055.62994
1.347		-3055.76674	-3055.77906	-3055.81562	-3055.82794	-3056.29644	-3056.30876	-3055.61858	-3055.63090
1.30	P	-3055.76565	-3055.77791	-3055.81458	-3055.82683	-3056.29548	-3056.30773	-3055.61739	-3055.62964

Fig. S1. Localized orbital used in DMRG-CASSCF(36e,32o) in the ordering of the DMRG lattice sites for **R** (reactant: O-O = 3.226 Å)

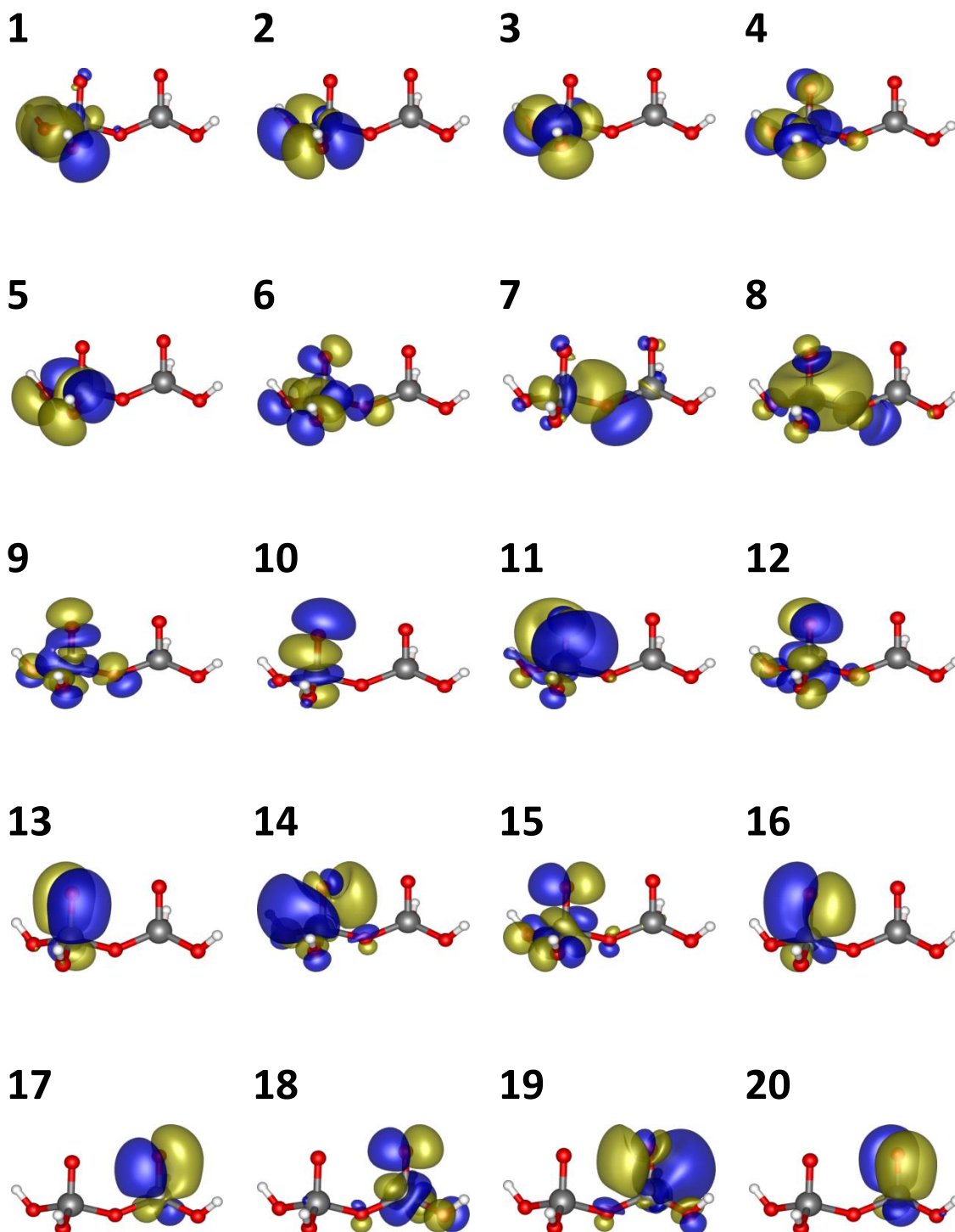




Fig. S2. Natural orbitals and occupation numbers obtained by DMRG-CASSCF(20e,14o) for TS
(transition state: O-O = 1.893 Å)

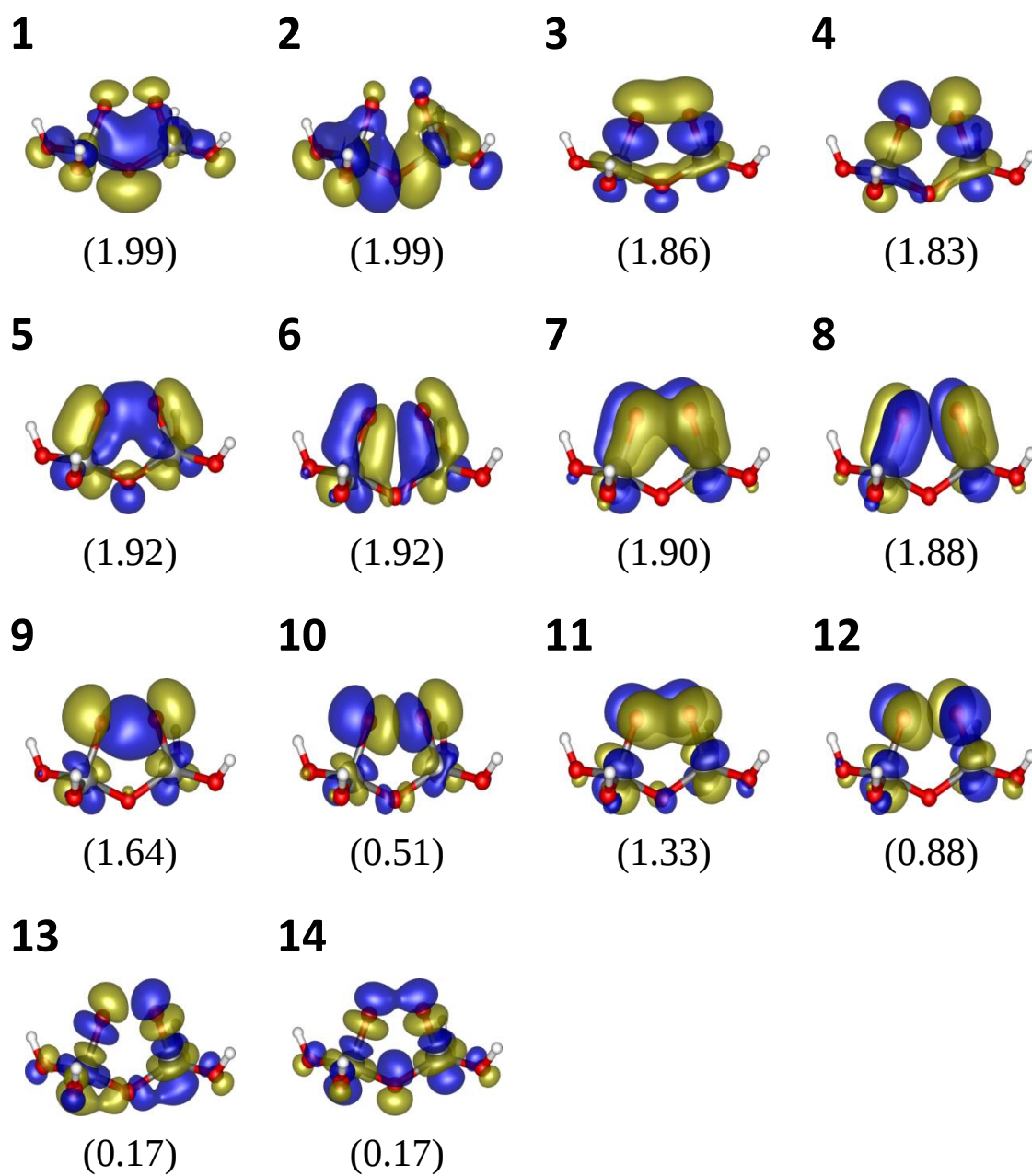


Fig. S3. Natural orbitals and occupation numbers obtained by DMRG-CASSCF(20e,14o) for **P**
(product: O-O = 1.347 Å)

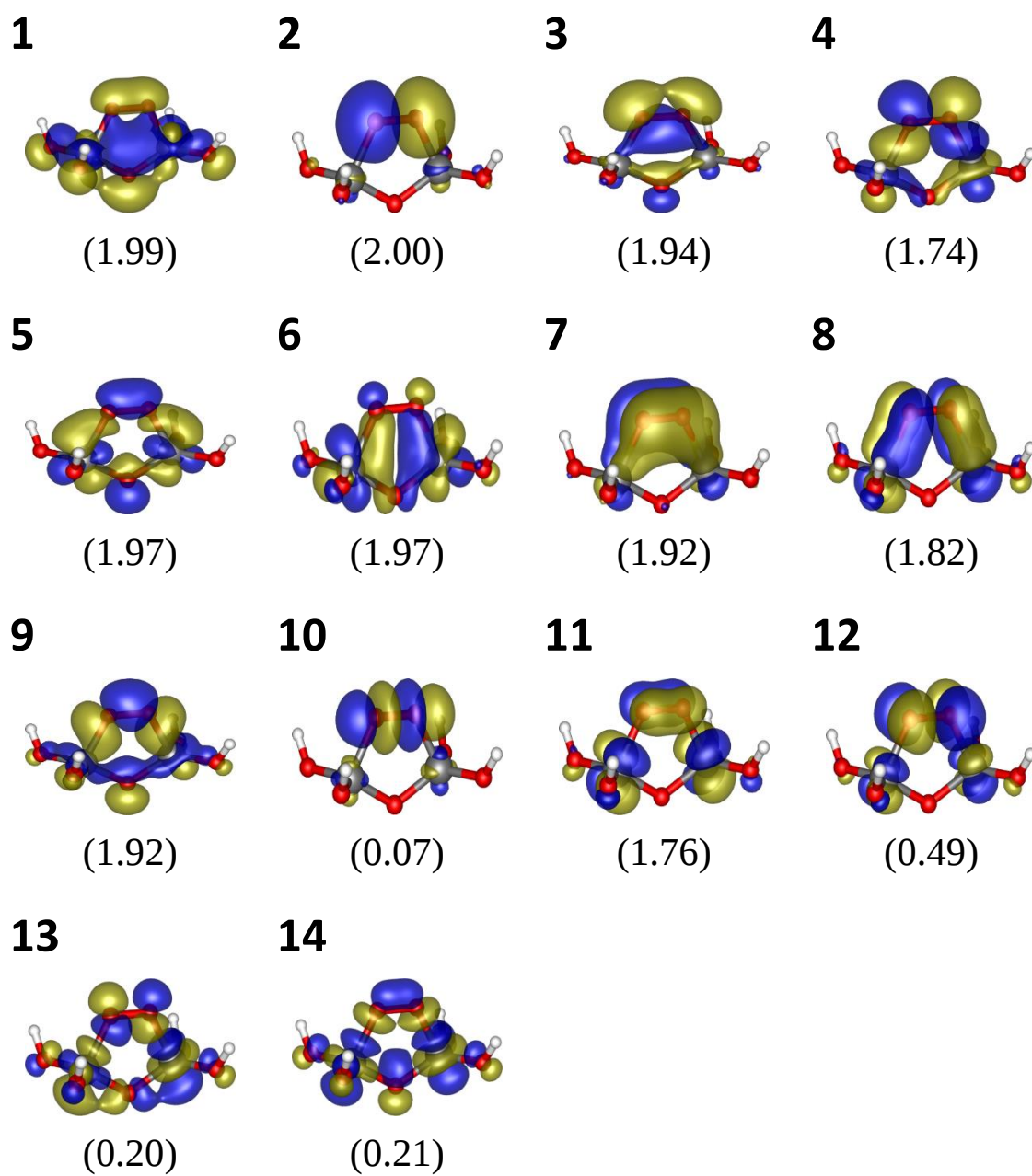
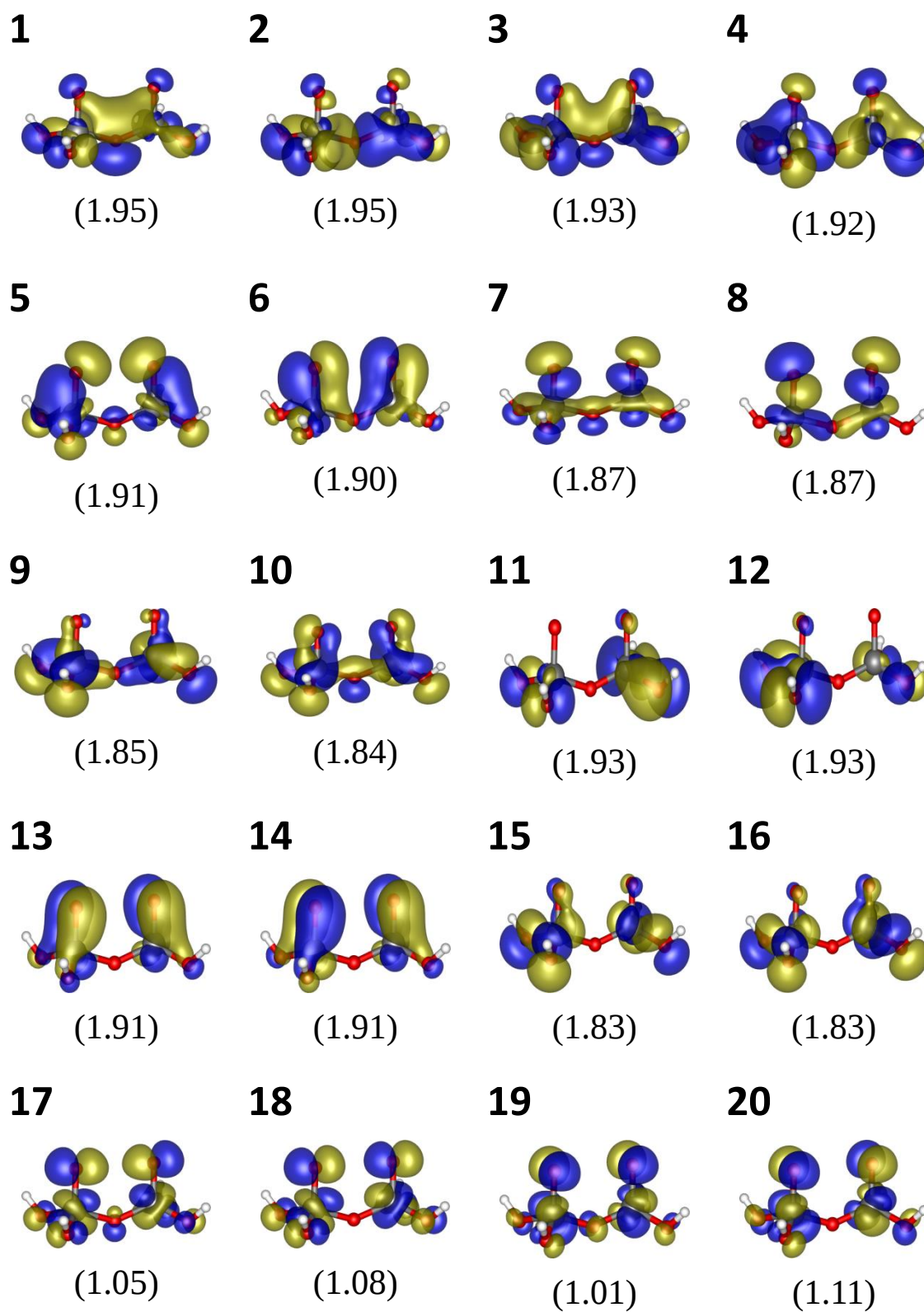
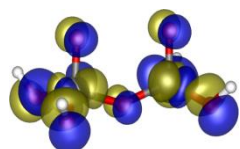


Fig. S4. Natural orbitals and occupation numbers obtained by DMRG-CASSCF(36e,32o) for **R**
(reactant: O-O = 3.226 Å)

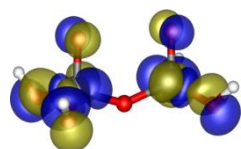


21



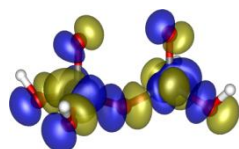
(0.24)

22



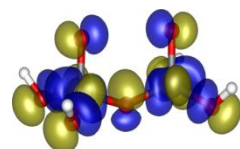
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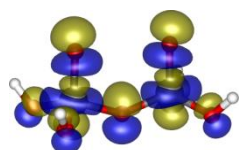
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24



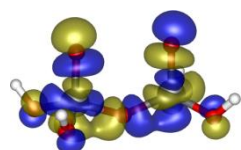
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25



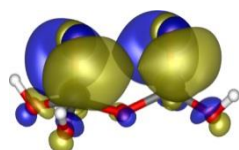
(0.17)

26



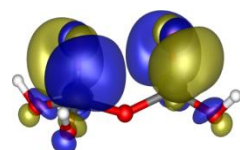
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27



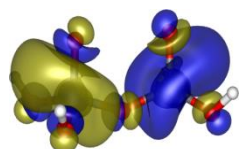
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28



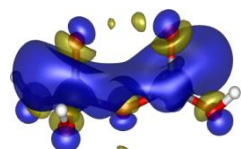
(0.02)

29



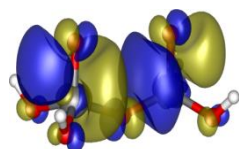
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30



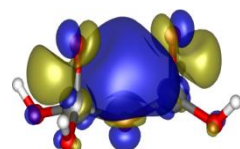
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31



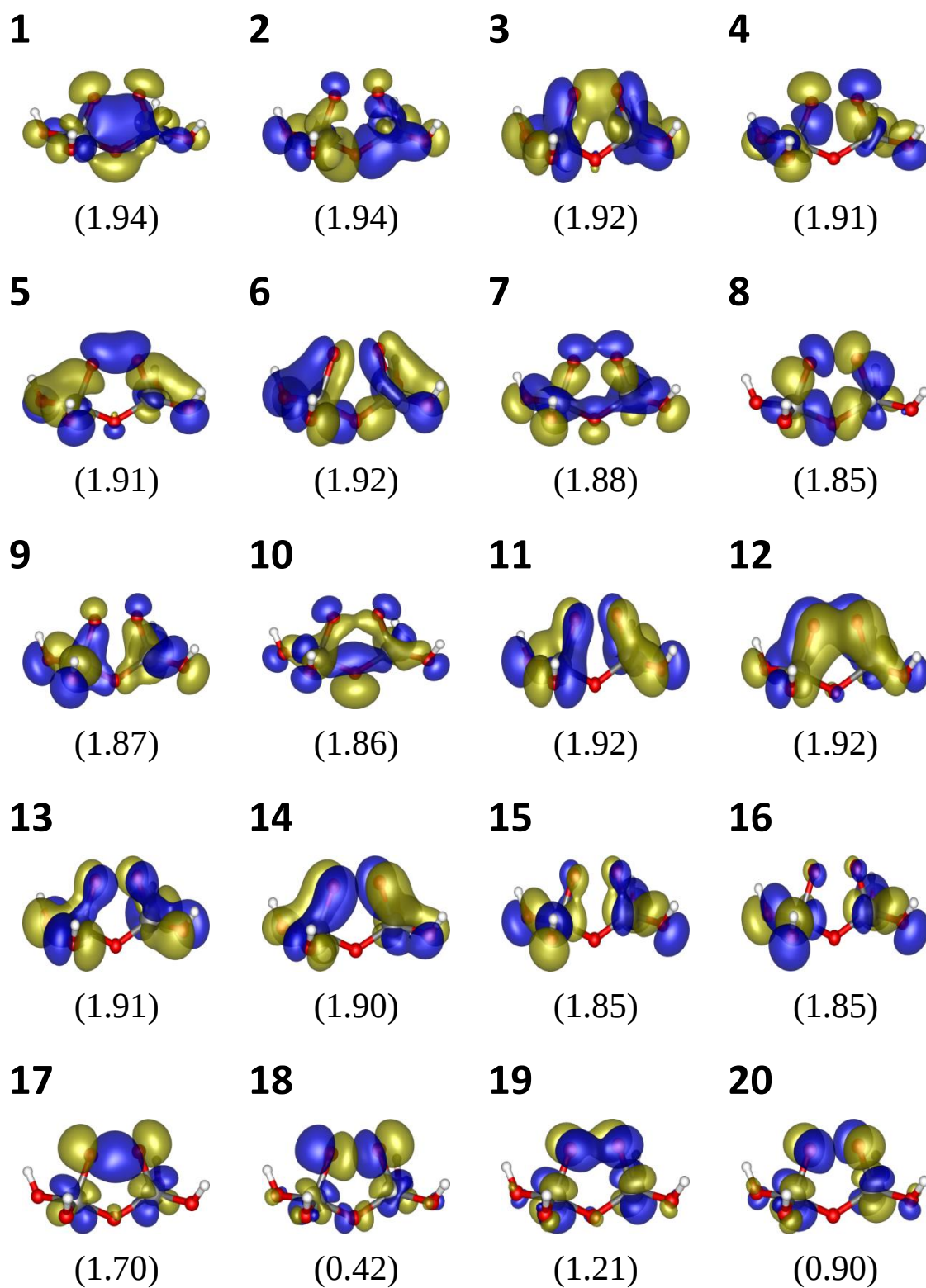
(0.02)

32

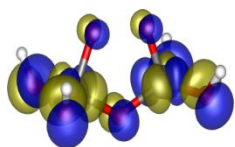


(0.02)

Fig. S5. Natural orbitals and occupation numbers obtained by DMRG-CASSCF(36e,32o) for TS (transition state: O-O = 1.893 Å)

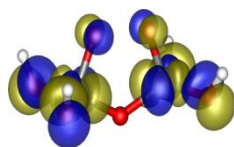


21



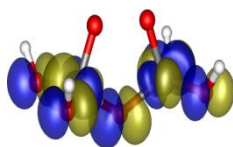
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22



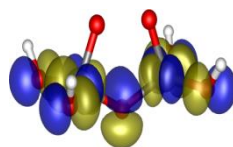
(0.23)

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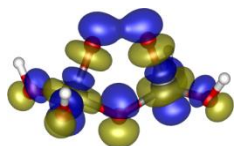
(0.23)

24



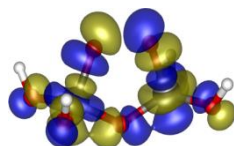
(0.25)

25



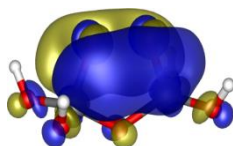
(0.18)

26



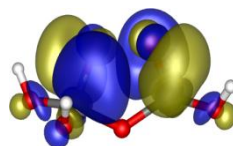
(0.17)

27



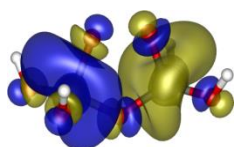
(0.02)

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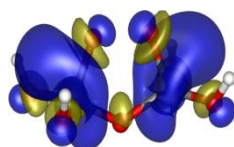
(0.02)

29



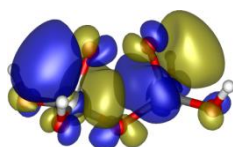
(0.02)

30



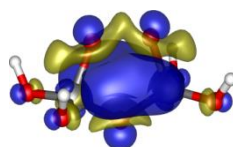
(0.02)

31



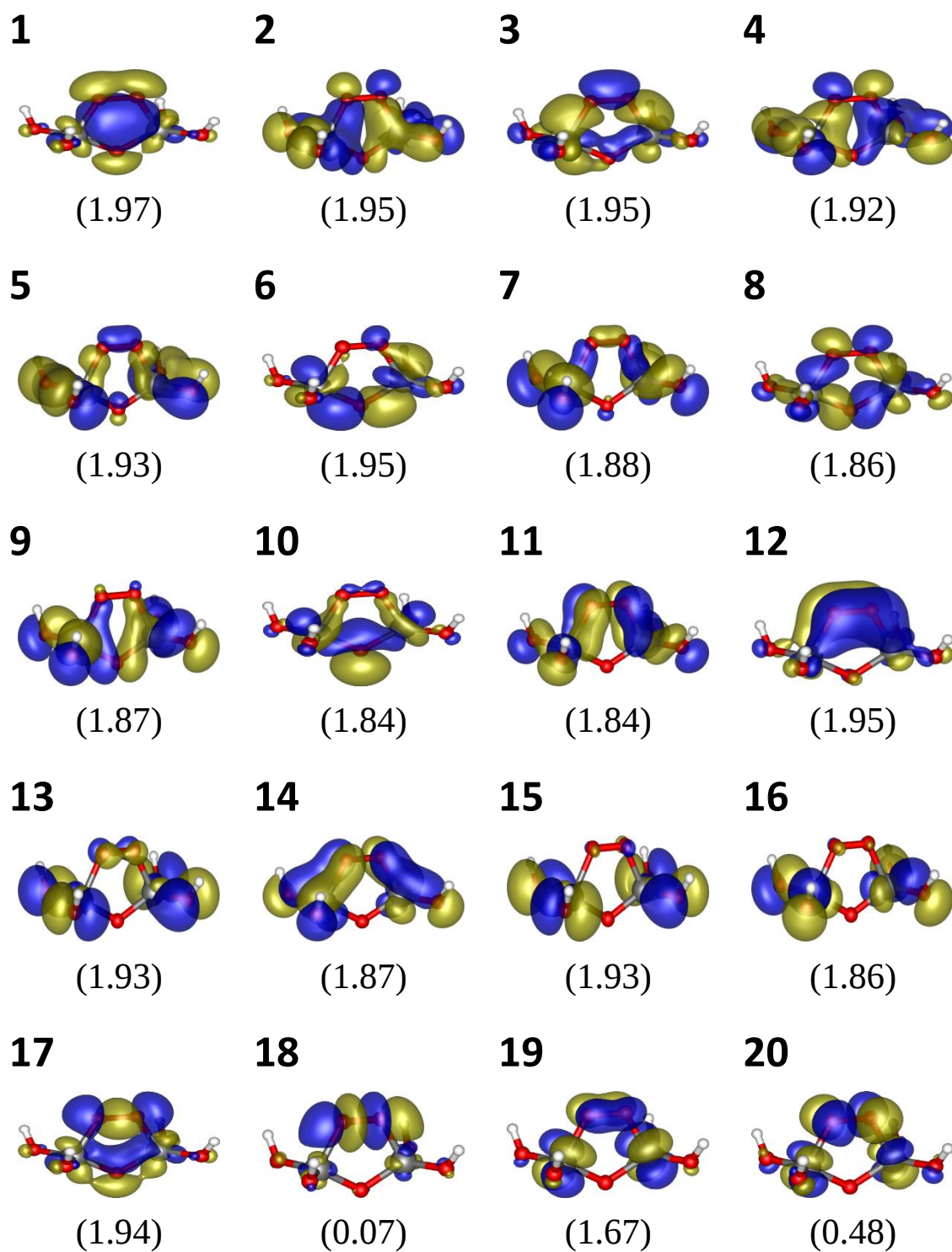
(0.02)

32

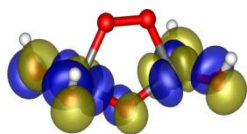


(0.02)

Fig. S6. Natural orbitals and occupation numbers obtained by DMRG-CASSCF(36e,32o) for **P**
(product: O-O = 1.347 Å)

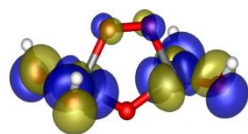


21



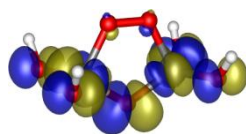
(0.20)

22



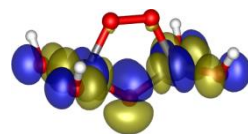
(0.21)

23



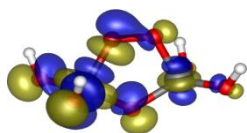
(0.23)

24



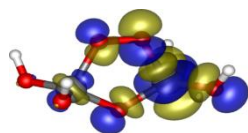
(0.24)

25



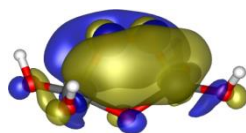
(0.18)

26



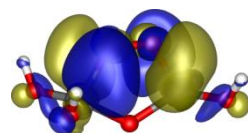
(0.18)

27



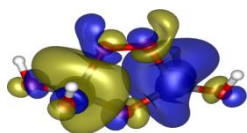
(0.02)

28



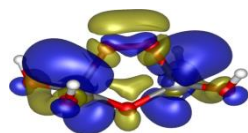
(0.02)

29



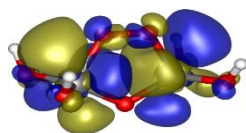
(0.02)

30



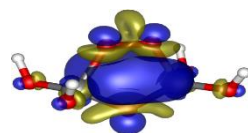
(0.02)

31



(0.01)

32



(0.02)