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V. SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

## **Figure captions**

FIG. 11: Energies of the spin-orbit coupling states under cubic, tetragonal, and orthorombic fields. The energy of the cube with d(Bi-O)=2.55 Å is taken as reference. The insets zoom the region of small  $S_2(e_g\theta)$  and  $S_3(e_g\epsilon)$  distortions between -0.072 and +0.072 Å and between 19710 and 19930 cm<sup>-1</sup> to reveal the almost perfect mexican hat of the  $G_u\otimes e_g$  Jahn-Teller coupling, which is isomorphous to the standard  $E\otimes e$  Jahn-Teller coupling [Reference 38].

FIG. 12: Energies of the spin-orbit coupling states in  $D_4$ ,  $D_{2d}$  and  $D_2$  fields. The energy of the cube with d(Bi-O)=2.55 Å is taken as reference.

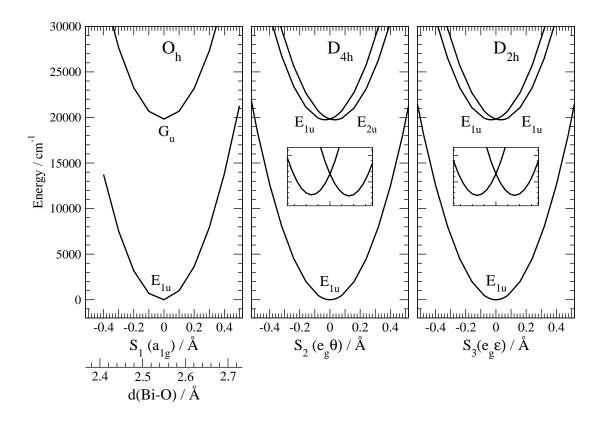


Figure 11. Seijo and Barandiarán

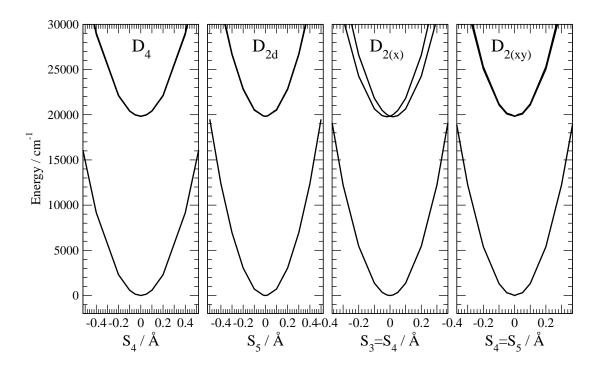


Figure 12. Seijo and Barandiarán