

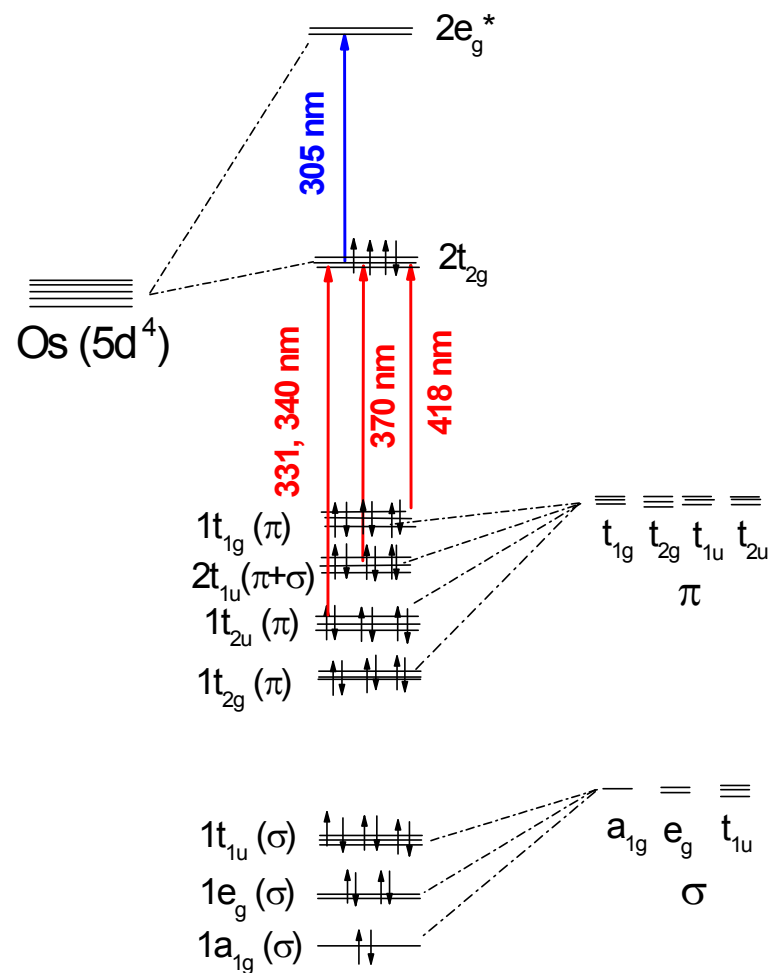
## **Supporting Information to Paper**

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### **Photochemistry of Hexachloroosmate(IV) in Ethanol**

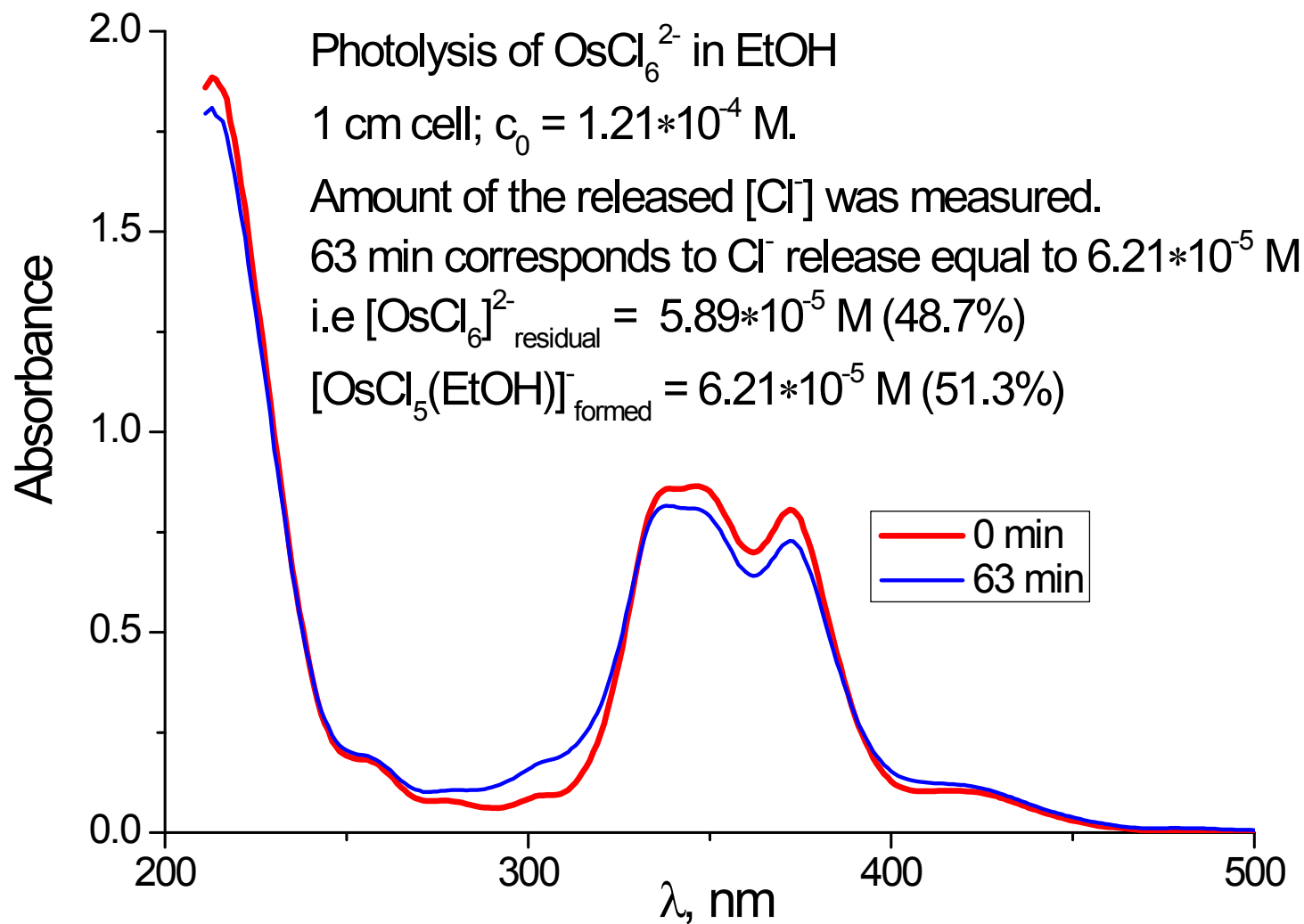
**Figure S1.** The approximate structure of molecular orbitals of the  $\text{Os}^{\text{IV}}\text{Cl}_6^{2-}$  complex according to [39] (non-relativistic approximation). Arrows correspond to the LMCT (red) and d-d (blue) transitions.



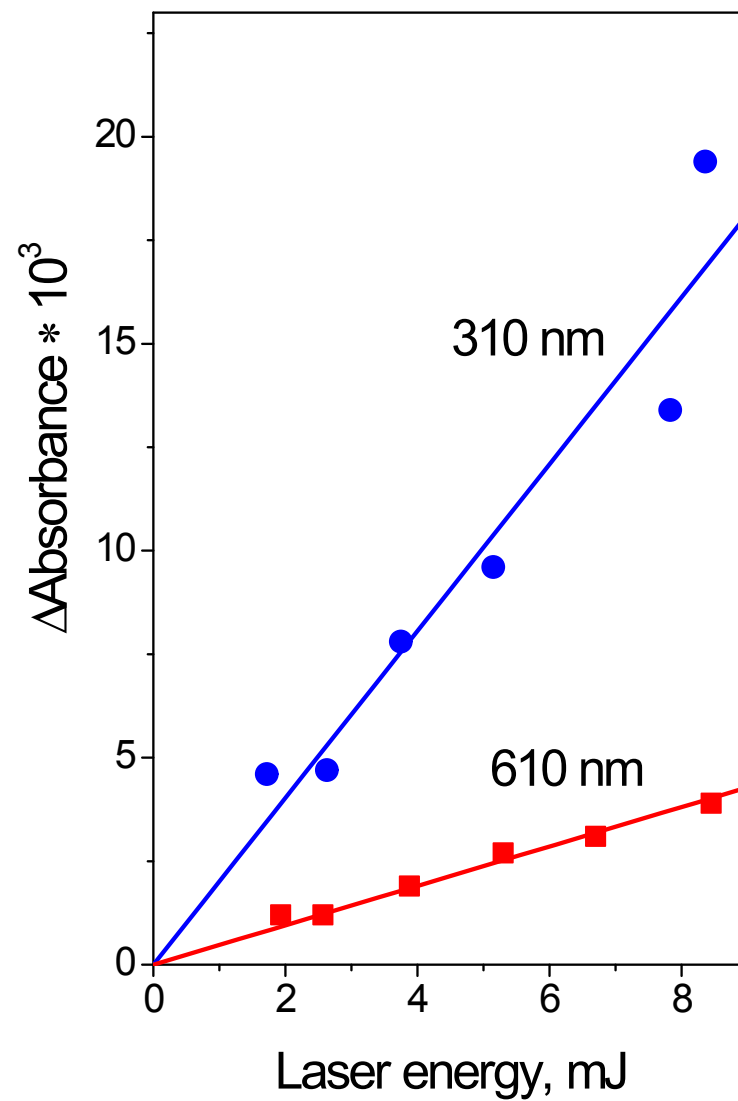
Lower filled orbitals are not shown

[39] C.K. Jørgensen, *Mol. Phys.*, 1959, **2**, 309.

**Figure S2.** Example of raw data used for calculation of the  $\text{Os}^{\text{IV}}\text{Cl}_5(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH})^-$  electronic absorption spectra from the experiment on the stationary photolysis (313 nm) of  $\text{Os}^{\text{IV}}\text{Cl}_6^{2-}$  in ethanol.

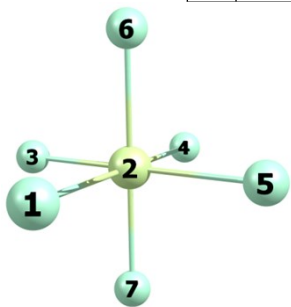


**Figure S3.** Laser flash photolysis (355 nm) of  $\text{Os}^{\text{IV}}\text{Cl}_6^{2-}$  in ethanol ( $1.27 \times 10^{-4}$  M, 1 cm cell). Dependence of intermediate absorption amplitude vs. laser pulse energy.



**Table S1.** Electronic and geometric structure of  $\text{Os}^{\text{IV}}\text{Cl}_6^{2-}$  (Figure S4). Multiplicity, M; bond lengths,  $R_{\text{OsCl}(i)}$ ; bond angles,  $\angle\text{Cl}(6)\text{OsCl}(i)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(1)\text{OsCl}(3)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(3)\text{OsCl}(4)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(4)\text{OsCl}(5)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(5)\text{OsCl}(1)$ ; atom charges,  $q_{\text{Os}}$ ,  $q_{\text{Cl}(6)}$ ,  $q_{\text{Cl}(7)}$ ,  $q_{\text{Cl}(i)}$ ,  $i=1,3,4,5$ ; total energy,  $E_0$ ; Gibbs free energy,  $E_G$ .

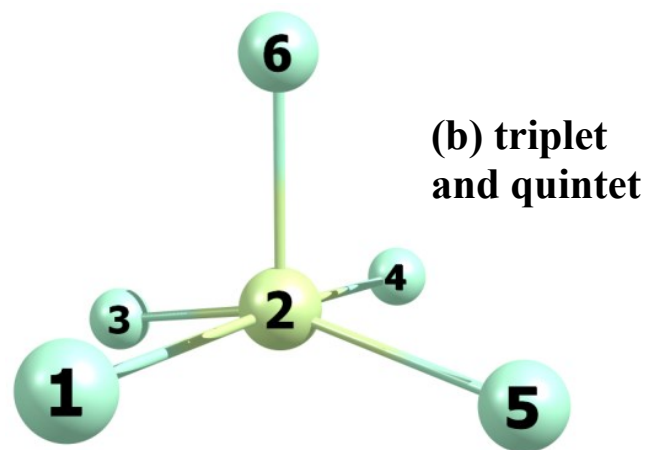
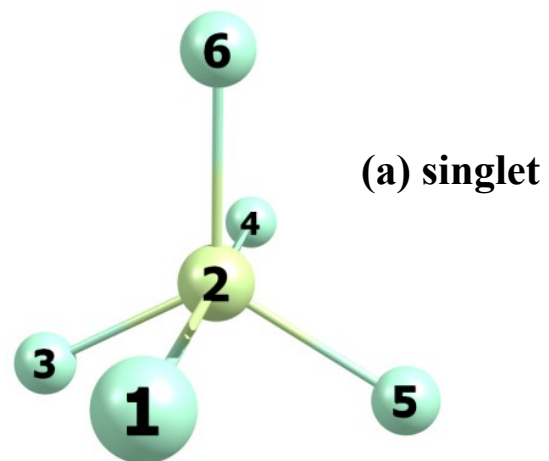
| N <sub>o</sub> | $\text{OsCl}_6^{2-}$<br>conf. | M | $R_{\text{OsCl}(6)}$ ,<br>$R_{\text{OsCl}(7)}$ | $R_{\text{OsCl}(i)}$ ,<br>$i=1,3,4,5$ | $\angle\text{Cl}(6)\text{OsCl}(i)$ ,<br>$i=1,3,4,5$ | $\angle\text{Cl}(1)\text{OsCl}(3)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(3)\text{OsCl}(4)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(4)\text{OsCl}(5)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(5)\text{OsCl}(1)$ | $q_{\text{Os}}$ | $q_{\text{Cl}(6)}$ ,<br>$q_{\text{Cl}(7)}$ | $q_{\text{Cl}(i)}$ ,<br>$i=1,3,4,5$  | $E_0$ ,<br>Hartree,<br>eV | $E_G$ ,<br>Hartree,<br>eV |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Gas</b>     |                               |   |                                                |                                       |                                                     |                                                                                                                                                      |                 |                                            |                                      |                           |                           |
| 1              | 4GBP                          | 1 | 2.406<br>2.406                                 | 2.406<br>2.406<br>2.406               | 90.33<br>90.33<br>89.67<br>89.67                    | 90.33<br>89.67<br>90.33<br>89.67                                                                                                                     | 0.311           | -0.385<br>-0.385                           | -0.385<br>-0.385<br>-0.385           | -2850.880288<br>-77576.39 | -2850.913736<br>-77577.35 |
| 2              | 4GBP                          | 3 | 2.409<br>2.409                                 | 2.409<br>2.409<br>2.409               | 90.03<br>90.03<br>89.97<br>89.97                    | 89.97<br>90.03<br>89.97<br>90.03                                                                                                                     | 0.364           | -0.394<br>-0.394                           | -0.394<br>-0.394<br>-0.394           | -2850.914871<br>-77577.34 | -2850.949416<br>-77578.32 |
| 3              | 4GBP                          | 5 | 2.382<br>2.382                                 | 2.722<br>2.382<br>2.722<br>2.382      | 90.00<br>90.00<br>90.00<br>90.00                    | 90.00<br>90.00<br>90.00<br>90.00                                                                                                                     | 0.475           | -0.351<br>-0.351                           | -0.536<br>-0.351<br>-0.536<br>-0.351 | -2850.872433<br>-77576.18 | -2850.907954<br>-77577.20 |
| <b>Ethanol</b> |                               |   |                                                |                                       |                                                     |                                                                                                                                                      |                 |                                            |                                      |                           |                           |
| 4              | 4GBP                          | 1 | 2.388<br>2.388                                 | 2.392<br>2.389<br>2.392<br>2.389      | 90.37<br>90.27<br>89.63<br>89.73                    | 90.32<br>89.68<br>90.32<br>89.68                                                                                                                     | 0.221           | -0.369<br>-0.369                           | -0.372<br>-0.369<br>-0.372<br>-0.369 | -2851.155399<br>-77583.93 | -2851.188756<br>-77584.84 |
| 5              | 4GBP                          | 3 | 2.386<br>2.386                                 | 2.407<br>2.385<br>2.407<br>2.385      | 90.05<br>89.91<br>89.95<br>90.09                    | 90.01<br>89.99<br>90.01<br>89.99                                                                                                                     | 0.274           | -0.369<br>-0.369                           | -0.400<br>-0.368<br>-0.400<br>-0.368 | -2851.190042<br>-77584.82 | -2851.224271<br>-77585.80 |
| 6              | 4GBP                          | 5 | 2.368<br>2.368                                 | 2.685<br>2.368<br>2.685<br>2.368      | 89.98<br>90.00<br>90.02<br>90.00                    | 90.00<br>90.00<br>90.00<br>90.00                                                                                                                     | 0.394           | -0.326<br>-0.326                           | -0.545<br>-0.326<br>-0.545<br>-0.326 | -2851.144475<br>-77583.58 | -2851.180215<br>-77584.61 |



**Figure S4.** Optimal geometry of  $\text{Os}^{\text{IV}}\text{Cl}_6^{2-}$  complex (tetragonal bipyramidal – 4GBP).

**Table S2.** Electronic and geometric structure of  $\text{Os}^{\text{IV}}\text{Cl}_5^-$  (Figure S5(a,b)). Multiplicity, M; bond lengths,  $R_{\text{OsCl}(6)}$ ,  $R_{\text{OsCl}(i)}$ ; bond angles,  $\angle\text{Cl}(6)\text{OsCl}(i)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(1)\text{OsCl}(3)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(3)\text{OsCl}(4)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(4)\text{OsCl}(5)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(5)\text{OsCl}(1)$ ; atom charges,  $q_{\text{Os}}$ ,  $q_{\text{Cl}(6)}$ ,  $q_{\text{Cl}(i)}$ ,  $i=1,3,4,5$ ; total energy,  $E_0$ ; Gibbs free energy,  $E_G$ .

| No             | $\text{OsCl}_5^{-1}$<br>conf. | M | $R_{\text{OsCl}(6)}$ | $R_{\text{OsCl}(i)}$ ,<br>$i=1,3,4,5$ | $\angle\text{Cl}(6)\text{OsCl}(i)$<br>$i=1,3,4,5$ | $\angle\text{Cl}(1)\text{OsCl}(3)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(3)\text{OsCl}(4)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(4)\text{OsCl}(5)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(5)\text{OsCl}(1)$ | $q_{\text{Os}}$ | $q_{\text{Cl}(6)}$ | $q_{\text{Cl}(i)}$ ,<br>$i=1,3,4,5$  | $E_0$ ,<br>Hartree,<br>eV | $E_G$ ,<br>Hartree,<br>eV |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Gas</b>     |                               |   |                      |                                       |                                                   |                                                                                                                                                      |                 |                    |                                      |                           |                           |
| 1              | 4GP                           | 1 | 2.338                | 2.344<br>2.344<br>2.344<br>2.344      | 93.21<br>93.21<br>93.21<br>93.21                  | 89.82<br>89.82<br>89.82<br>89.82                                                                                                                     | 0.336           | -0.259             | -0.269<br>-0.269<br>-0.269<br>-0.269 | -2390.878933<br>-65059.12 | -2390.908663<br>-65059.97 |
| 2              | 3GBP                          | 1 | 2.262                | 2.400<br>2.262<br>2.400<br>2.262      | 93.35<br>119.55<br>86.62<br>119.73                | 93.44<br>86.63<br>86.60<br>93.36                                                                                                                     | 0.361           | -0.191             | -0.378<br>-0.191<br>-0.411<br>-0.191 | -2390.892706<br>-65059.50 | -2390.924571<br>-65060.41 |
| 3              | 4GP                           | 3 | 2.286                | 2.385<br>2.326<br>2.385<br>2.326      | 92.26<br>101.72<br>92.26<br>101.72                | 89.54<br>89.54<br>89.54<br>89.54                                                                                                                     | 0.401           | -0.200             | -0.335<br>-0.265<br>-0.335<br>-0.265 | -2390.910591<br>-65059.98 | -2390.942791<br>-65060.90 |
| 4              | 4GP                           | 5 | 2.471                | 2.347<br>2.347<br>2.347<br>2.347      | 98.51<br>98.51<br>98.51<br>98.51                  | 88.75<br>88.75<br>88.75<br>88.75                                                                                                                     | 0.481           | -0.348             | -0.283<br>-0.283<br>-0.283<br>-0.283 | -2390.912141<br>-65060.03 | -2390.944665<br>-65060.95 |
| <b>Ethanol</b> |                               |   |                      |                                       |                                                   |                                                                                                                                                      |                 |                    |                                      |                           |                           |
| 5              | 4GP                           | 1 | 2.336                | 2.341<br>2.341<br>2.341<br>2.341      | 92.78<br>92.80<br>92.73<br>92.81                  | 89.85<br>89.87<br>89.88<br>89.85                                                                                                                     | 0.342           | -0.277             | -0.266<br>-0.266<br>-0.266<br>-0.266 | -2390.952225<br>-65061.12 | -2390.983240<br>-65062.00 |
| 6              | 3GBP                          | 1 | 2.250                | 2.423<br>2.250<br>2.442<br>2.250      | 90.98<br>119.83<br>88.99<br>120.03                | 91.03<br>89.06<br>88.99<br>90.95                                                                                                                     | 0.338           | -0.159             | -0.423<br>-0.159<br>-0.438<br>-0.159 | -2390.968678<br>-65061.56 | -2391.000797<br>-65062.48 |
| 7              | 4GP                           | 3 | 2.284                | 2.386<br>2.320<br>2.386<br>2.320      | 91.93<br>100.85<br>91.90<br>100.86                | 89.63<br>89.65<br>89.65<br>89.63                                                                                                                     | 0.397           | -0.191             | -0.351<br>-0.253<br>-0.351<br>-0.253 | -2390.983761<br>-65061.98 | -2391.016657<br>-65062.91 |
| 8              | 4GP                           | 5 | 2.484                | 2.341<br>2.341<br>2.341<br>2.341      | 97.91<br>97.93<br>97.85<br>97.93                  | 88.91<br>88.92<br>88.92<br>88.91                                                                                                                     | 0.461           | -0.372             | -0.272<br>-0.272<br>-0.272<br>-0.272 | -2390.983174<br>-65061.96 | -2391.017112<br>-65062.92 |



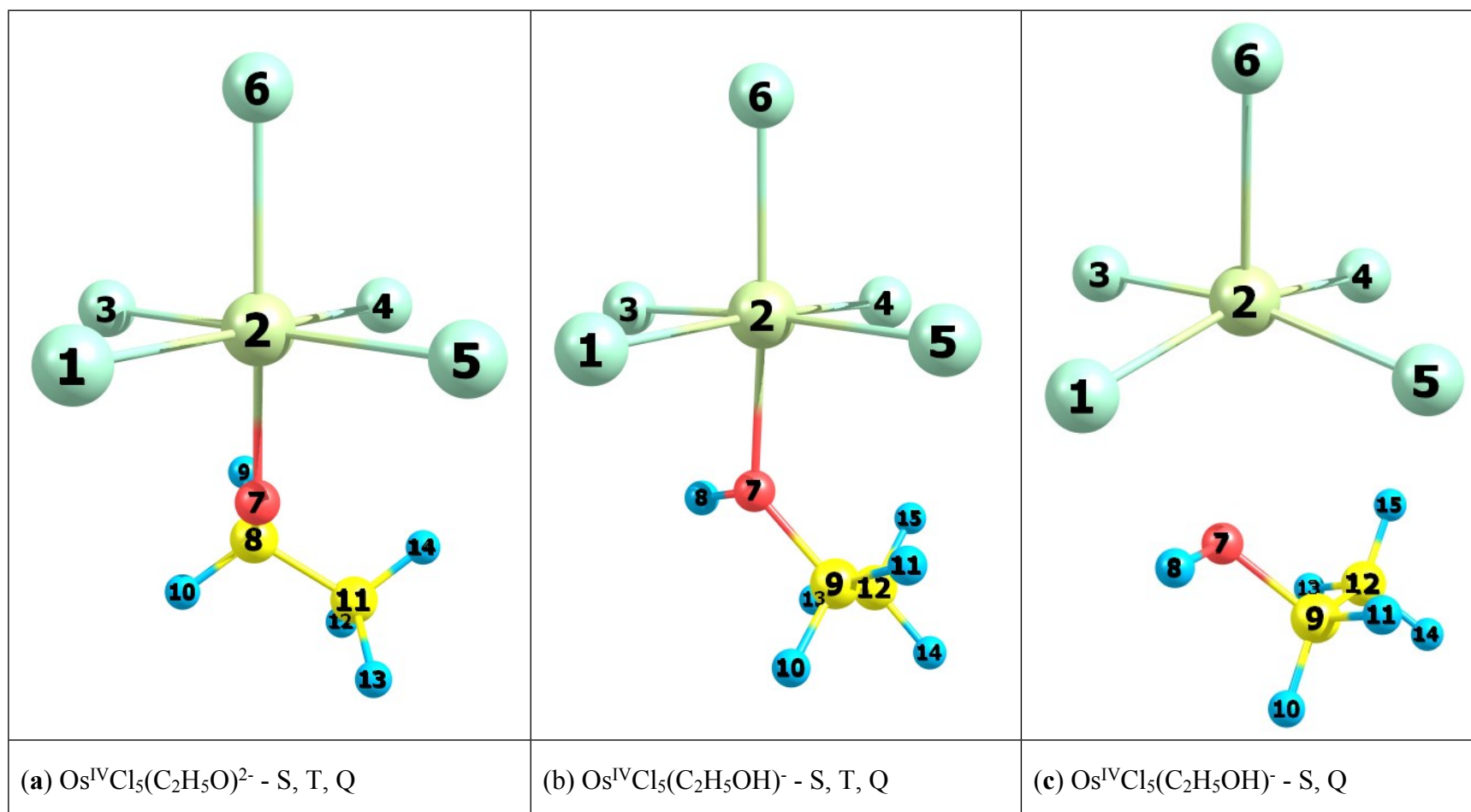
**Figure S5.** Optimal geometry of  $\text{Os}^{\text{IV}}\text{Cl}_5^-$  intermediate in (a) singlet (trigonal bipyramidal – 3GBP), (b) triplet and quintet states (square pyramidal – 4GP).

**Table S3.** Electronic and geometric structure of  $\text{Os}^{\text{IV}}\text{Cl}_5(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O})^{2-}$  (Figure S6a). Multiplicity, M; bond lengths,  $R_{\text{OsCl}(i)}$ ; bond angles,  $\angle\text{Cl}(6)\text{OsCl}(i)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(1)\text{OsCl}(3)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(3)\text{OsCl}(4)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(4)\text{OsCl}(5)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(5)\text{OsCl}(1)$ ; atom charges,  $q_{\text{Os}}$ ,  $q_{\text{Cl}(6)}$ ,  $q_{\text{Cl}(7)}$ ,  $q_{\text{Cl}(i)}$ ,  $i=1,3,4,5$ ; total energy,  $E_0$ ; Gibbs free energy,  $E_G$ .

| $N_0$          | $\text{Os}^{\text{IV}}\text{Cl}_5(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O})^{2-}$<br>conf. | M | $R_{\text{OsCl}(6)},$<br>$R_{\text{OsO}(7)}$ | $R_{\text{OsCl}(i)},$<br>$i=1,3,4,5$ | $\angle\text{Cl}(6)\text{OsCl}(i)$<br>$i=1,3,4,5$ | $\angle\text{Cl}(1)\text{OsCl}(3)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(3)\text{OsCl}(4)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(4)\text{OsCl}(5)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(5)\text{OsCl}(1)$ | $q_{\text{Os}}$ | $q_{\text{Cl}(6)},$<br>$q_{\text{O}(7)}$ | $q_{\text{Cl}(i)},$<br>$i=1,3,4,5$   | $E_0,$<br>Hartree,<br>eV  | $E_G,$<br>Hartree,<br>eV  |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Gas</b>     |                                                                                |   |                                              |                                      |                                                   |                                                                                                                                                      |                 |                                          |                                      |                           |                           |
| 1              | 4GP                                                                            | 1 | 2.399<br>1.920                               | 2.431<br>2.448<br>2.465<br>2.431     | 90.41<br>90.71<br>90.36<br>89.91                  | 91.67<br>88.06<br>91.54<br>88.72                                                                                                                     | 0.411           | -0.376<br>-0.440                         | -0.419<br>-0.435<br>-0.439<br>-0.419 | -2545.099720<br>-69255.68 | -2545.066804<br>-69254.83 |
| 2              | 4GP                                                                            | 3 | 2.399<br>1.954                               | 2.424<br>2.446<br>2.455<br>2.427     | 91.17<br>90.56<br>90.31<br>91.05                  | 90.35<br>89.31<br>90.16<br>90.13                                                                                                                     | 0.482           | -0.386<br>-0.483                         | -0.415<br>-0.431<br>-0.429<br>-0.420 | -2545.123428<br>-69256.33 | -2545.091926<br>-69255.51 |
| 3              | 4GP                                                                            | 5 | 2.381<br>1.941                               | 2.686<br>2.412<br>2.878<br>2.398     | 93.03<br>90.04<br>92.31<br>90.42                  | 91.73<br>87.17<br>89.14<br>91.91                                                                                                                     | 0.589           | -0.363<br>-0.486                         | -0.523<br>-0.387<br>-0.558<br>-0.375 | -2545.083907<br>-69255.25 | -2545.054976<br>-69254.51 |
| <b>Ethanol</b> |                                                                                |   |                                              |                                      |                                                   |                                                                                                                                                      |                 |                                          |                                      |                           |                           |
| 4              | 4GP                                                                            | 1 | 2.411<br>1.900                               | 2.420<br>2.420<br>2.426<br>2.426     | 90.28<br>90.33<br>89.36<br>89.28                  | 89.90<br>91.34<br>88.38<br>91.37                                                                                                                     | 0.297           | -0.404<br>-0.448                         | -0.413<br>-0.413<br>-0.434<br>-0.434 | -2545.382415<br>-69263.37 | -2545.349389<br>-69262.52 |
| 5              | 4GP                                                                            | 3 | 2.406<br>1.924                               | 2.420<br>2.424<br>2.422<br>2.420     | 90.30<br>89.88<br>89.93<br>90.39                  | 90.31<br>89.63<br>90.11<br>89.94                                                                                                                     | 0.391           | -0.400<br>-0.500                         | -0.427<br>-0.428<br>-0.422<br>-0.429 | -2545.400103<br>-69263.85 | -2545.368270<br>-69263.03 |
| 6              | 4GP                                                                            | 5 | 2.383<br>1.919                               | 2.688<br>2.403<br>2.741<br>2.401     | 91.31<br>89.82<br>90.48<br>90.13                  | 91.00<br>88.48<br>89.99<br>90.53                                                                                                                     | 0.511           | -0.367<br>-0.501                         | -0.555<br>-0.380<br>-0.557<br>-0.380 | -2545.356673<br>-69262.67 | -2545.327601<br>-69261.93 |

**Table S4.** Electronic and geometric structure of  $\text{Os}^{\text{IV}}\text{Cl}_5(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH})^-$  (Figure S6(b-c)). Multiplicity, M; bond lengths,  $R_{\text{OsCl}(i)}$ ; bond angles,  $\angle\text{Cl}(6)\text{OsCl}(i)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(1)\text{OsCl}(3)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(3)\text{OsCl}(4)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(4)\text{OsCl}(5)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(5)\text{OsCl}(1)$ ; atom charges,  $q_{\text{Os}}$ ,  $q_{\text{Cl}(6)}$ ,  $q_{\text{Cl}(7)}$ ,  $q_{\text{Cl}(i)}$ ,  $i=1,3,4,5$ ; total energy,  $E_0$ ; Gibbs free energy,  $E_G$ .

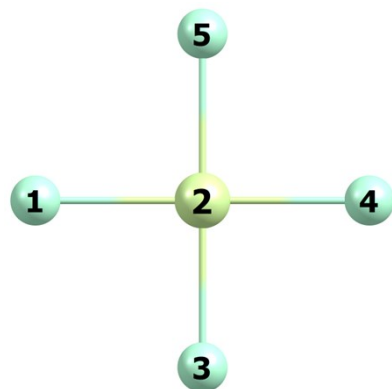
| $N_0$          | $\text{OsCl}_5^{-1}$<br>conf. | M | $R_{\text{OsCl}(6)}$ ,<br>$R_{\text{OsO}(7)}$ ,<br>$R_{\text{Cl}(1)\text{H}(8)}$ ,<br>$R_{\text{Cl}(3)\text{H}(8)}$ | $R_{\text{OsCl}(i)}$ ,<br>$i=1,3,4,5$ | $\angle\text{Cl}(6)\text{OsCl}(i)$<br>$i=1,3,4,5$ | $\angle\text{Cl}(1)\text{OsCl}(3)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(3)\text{OsCl}(4)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(4)\text{OsCl}(5)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(5)\text{OsCl}(1)$ | $q_{\text{Os}}$ | $q_{\text{Cl}(6)}$ ,<br>$q_{\text{O}(7)}$ ,<br>$q_{\text{H}(8)}$ | $q_{\text{Cl}(i)}$ ,<br>$i=1,3,4,5$  | $E_0$ ,<br>Hartree,<br>eV | $E_G$ ,<br>Hartree,<br>eV |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Gas</b>     |                               |   |                                                                                                                     |                                       |                                                   |                                                                                                                                                      |                 |                                                                  |                                      |                           |                           |
| 1              | 3GBP                          | 1 | 2.263<br>4.784<br>3.880<br>2.259                                                                                    | 2.258<br>2.482<br>2.261<br>2.377      | 119.76<br>85.87<br>120.00<br>93.82                | 86.12<br>86.26<br>93.86<br>94.06                                                                                                                     | 0.379           | -0.183<br>-0.353<br>0.152                                        | -0.380<br>-0.175<br>-0.345<br>-0.172 | -2545.742537<br>-69273.18 | -2545.700406<br>-69272.07 |
| 2              | 4GP                           | 3 | 2.320<br>2.216<br>2.255<br>3.404                                                                                    | 2.431<br>2.337<br>2.387<br>2.367      | 95.88<br>94.43<br>90.39<br>93.31                  | 89.87<br>90.73<br>90.00<br>88.56                                                                                                                     | 0.386           | -0.252<br>-0.305<br>0.189                                        | -0.356<br>-0.266<br>-0.316<br>-0.295 | -2545.776641<br>-69274.10 | -2545.731486<br>-69272.92 |
| 3              | 4GP                           | 5 | 2.461<br>4.169<br>2.317<br>3.850                                                                                    | 2.379<br>2.348<br>2.334<br>2.336      | 98.08<br>98.21<br>99.32<br>98.53                  | 88.16<br>89.14<br>89.38<br>88.27                                                                                                                     | 0.484           | -0.329<br>-0.340<br>0.162                                        | -0.297<br>-0.264<br>-0.260<br>-0.261 | -2545.754489<br>-69273.50 | -2545.714944<br>-69272.46 |
| <b>Ethanol</b> |                               |   |                                                                                                                     |                                       |                                                   |                                                                                                                                                      |                 |                                                                  |                                      |                           |                           |
| 4              | 4GP                           | 1 | 2.320<br>2.161<br>2.491<br>3.206                                                                                    | 2.395<br>2.346<br>2.434<br>2.330      | 93.55<br>95.71<br>87.98<br>97.33                  | 92.90<br>86.19<br>86.65<br>93.90                                                                                                                     | 0.311           | -0.265<br>-0.316<br>0.243                                        | -0.363<br>-0.268<br>-0.386<br>-0.256 | -2545.829803<br>-69275.55 | -2545.784540<br>-69274.36 |
| 5              | 4GP                           | 3 | 2.344<br>2.125<br>3.466<br>2.652                                                                                    | 2.351<br>2.399<br>2.358<br>2.399      | 92.23<br>93.45<br>91.97<br>90.58                  | 90.00<br>90.03<br>90.00<br>89.91                                                                                                                     | 0.362           | -0.304<br>-0.339<br>0.250                                        | -0.290<br>-0.363<br>-0.293<br>-0.354 | -2545.862640<br>-69276.44 | -2545.818314<br>-69275.28 |
| 6              | 4GP                           | 5 | 2.511<br>2.973<br>2.632<br>3.770                                                                                    | 2.362<br>2.340<br>2.344<br>2.348      | 96.92<br>95.97<br>97.71<br>95.14                  | 89.24<br>89.52<br>89.34<br>89.07                                                                                                                     | 0.436           | -0.389<br>-0.327<br>0.197                                        | -0.295<br>-0.269<br>-0.269<br>-0.274 | -2545.825964<br>-69275.44 | -2545.786001<br>-69274.40 |



**Figure S6.** Optimal geometries of  $\text{Os}^{\text{IV}}\text{Cl}_5(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O})^{2-}$  complex in (a) singlet, triplet, quintet states and  $\text{Os}^{\text{IV}}\text{Cl}_5(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH})^-$  complex in (b) singlet, triplet, quintet states (ethanol) and (c) singlet, quintet states (gas phase).

**Table S5.** Electronic and geometric structure of  $\text{Os}^{\text{III}}\text{Cl}_4^-$  (Figure S7). Multiplicity, M; bond lengths,  $R_{\text{OsCl}(i)}$ ; bond angles,  $\angle\text{Cl}(1)\text{OsCl}(3)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(3)\text{OsCl}(4)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(4)\text{OsCl}(5)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(5)\text{OsCl}(1)$ ; atom charges,  $q_{\text{Os}}$ ,  $q_{\text{Cl}(i)}$ ,  $i=1,3,4,5$ ; total energy,  $E_0$ ; Gibbs free energy,  $E_G$ .

| $N_e$          | $\text{OsCl}_4^{-1}$<br>conf. | M | $R_{\text{OsCl}(i)}$ ,<br>$i=1,3,4,5$ | $\angle\text{Cl}(1)\text{OsCl}(3)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(3)\text{OsCl}(4)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(4)\text{OsCl}(5)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(5)\text{OsCl}(1)$ | $q_{\text{Os}}$ | $q_{\text{Cl}(i)}$ ,<br>$i=1,3,4,5$ | $E_0$ ,<br>Hartree,<br>eV | $E_G$ ,<br>Hartree,<br>eV |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Gas</b>     |                               |   |                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |                 |                                     |                           |                           |
| 1              | 4PL                           | 2 | 2.336, 2.323,<br>2.336, 2.323         | 89.95, 90.04,<br>89.95, 90.04                                                                                                                        | 0.239           | -0.319, -0.300,<br>-0.319, -0.300   | -1930.874523<br>-52541.80 | -1930.906285<br>-52542.66 |
| 2              | 4PL                           | 4 | 2.334, 2.334,<br>2.334, 2.334         | 90.00, 90.00,<br>90.00, 90.00                                                                                                                        | 0.271           | -0.318, -0.318,<br>-0.318, -0.318   | -1930.896836<br>-52542.41 | -1930.928419<br>-52543.26 |
| <b>Ethanol</b> |                               |   |                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |                 |                                     |                           |                           |
| 3              | 4PL                           | 2 | 2.317, 2.333,<br>2.317, 2.333         | 90.00, 90.00,<br>90.00, 90.00                                                                                                                        | 0.214           | -0.290, -0.317,<br>-0.290, -0.317   | -1930.947619<br>-52543.79 | -1930.979470<br>-52544.65 |
| 4              | 4PL                           | 4 | 2.329, 2.329,<br>2.329, 2.329         | 90.00, 90.00,<br>90.00, 90.00                                                                                                                        | 0.248           | -0.312, -0.312,<br>-0.312, -0.312   | -1930.969823<br>-52544.39 | -1931.002168<br>-52545.27 |



**Figure S7.** Optimal geometry of  $\text{Os}^{\text{III}}\text{Cl}_4^-$  complex in doublet and quartet states (square planar – 4PL).

**Table S6.** Electronic and geometric structure of  $\text{Os}^{\text{III}}\text{Cl}_5^{2-}$  (Figure S5(b)). Multiplicity, M; bond lengths,  $R_{\text{OsCl}(6)}$ ,  $R_{\text{OsCl}(i)}$ ; bond angles,  $\angle\text{Cl}(6)\text{OsCl}(i)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(1)\text{OsCl}(3)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(3)\text{OsCl}(4)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(4)\text{OsCl}(5)$ ,  $\angle\text{Cl}(5)\text{OsCl}(1)$ ; atom charges,  $q_{\text{Os}}$ ,  $q_{\text{Cl}(6)}$ ,  $q_{\text{Cl}(i)}$ ,  $i=1,3,4,5$ ; total energy,  $E_0$ ; Gibbs free energy,  $E_G$ .

| No             | $\text{OsCl}_5^{2-}$<br>conf. | M | $R_{\text{OsCl}(6)}$ | $R_{\text{OsCl}(i)}$ ,<br>$i=1,3,4,5$ | $\angle\text{Cl}(6)\text{OsCl}(i)$<br>$i=1,3,4,5$ | $\angle\text{Cl}(1)\text{OsCl}(3)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(3)\text{OsCl}(4)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(4)\text{OsCl}(5)$<br>$\angle\text{Cl}(5)\text{OsCl}(1)$ | $q_{\text{Os}}$ | $q_{\text{Cl}(6)}$ | $q_{\text{Cl}(i)}$ ,<br>$i=1,3,4,5$  | $E_0$ ,<br>Hartree,<br>eV | $E_G$ ,<br>Hartree,<br>eV |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Gas</b>     |                               |   |                      |                                       |                                                   |                                                                                                                                                      |                 |                    |                                      |                           |                           |
| 1              | 4GP                           | 2 | 2.381                | 2.435<br>2.435<br>2.435<br>2.435      | 94.61<br>94.61<br>94.61<br>94.61                  | 89.63<br>89.63<br>89.63<br>89.63                                                                                                                     | 0.237           | -0.392             | -0.461<br>-0.461<br>-0.461<br>-0.461 | -2390.843242<br>-65058.19 | -2390.877411<br>-65059.12 |
| 2              | 4GP                           | 4 | 2.609                | 2.436<br>2.410<br>2.436<br>2.410      | 92.33<br>103.55<br>92.33<br>103.55                | 89.45<br>89.45<br>89.45<br>89.45                                                                                                                     | 0.319           | -0.535             | -0.457<br>-0.435<br>-0.457<br>-0.435 | -2390.845585<br>-65058,25 | -2390.880952<br>-65059.22 |
| <b>Ethanol</b> |                               |   |                      |                                       |                                                   |                                                                                                                                                      |                 |                    |                                      |                           |                           |
| 3              | 4GP                           | 2 | 2.362                | 2.414<br>2.412<br>2.413<br>2.412      | 93.63<br>93.68<br>93.17<br>93.68                  | 89.78<br>89.78<br>89.78<br>89.78                                                                                                                     | 0.180           | -0.383             | -0.449<br>-0.449<br>-0.449<br>-0.449 | -2391.126611<br>-65065.90 | -2391.160510<br>-65066.82 |
| 4              | 4GP                           | 4 | 2.602                | 2.419<br>2.372<br>2.419<br>2.372      | 92.09<br>100.05<br>92.11<br>100.02                | 89.64<br>89.63<br>89.63<br>89.64                                                                                                                     | 0.222           | -0.548             | -0.447<br>-0.390<br>-0.447<br>-0.390 | -2391.126865<br>-65065.91 | -2391.161618<br>-65066.85 |