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## Supplementary Material

### Theoretical Study of Carbon-Carbon Bond Formation.

#### A model of the Michael-Type addition

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**Table S1.** Key inter-atomic distances of all stationary point structures located and characterized along the reaction paths obtained at AM1, B3LYP/6-31+G\* and M06-2X/6-31+G\* in gas phase.

**Reaction 1+3**

AM1

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
<b>C1-C5</b>	4.28373	3.42478	3.78971	1.97853	1.46368	1.53352	1.5245
<b>C1-H6</b>	5.38930	4.60257	4.42567	4.54285	2.87816	2.27686	2.1799
<b>H6-C5</b>	1.13398	1.32724	2.58167	2.82485	4.31413	3.61498	2.6850
<b>N7-C5</b>	3.90334	2.68655	3.20531	3.45504	5.31807	4.77459	4.61116
<b>N7-H6</b>	2.86909	1.35977	1.00025	0.99720	1.00976	1.31698	3.4466
<b>N9-H10</b>	1.92798	2.00035	2.58548	2.56971	2.44984	1.94342	1.8201
<b>N9-O11</b>	2.90518	2.97049	3.52376	3.52410	3.28674	2.89561	2.8098
<b>H10-O11</b>	0.98772	0.98215	0.96936	0.96958	0.97686	0.99299	1.0071
<b>H6 - C2</b>	6.70251	5.91238	6.55440	4.76305	2.05264	1.35515	1.1222

B3LYP/6-31+G\*

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
<b>C1-C5</b>	4.20682	3.60954	4.75551	1.91299	1.58398	1.57211	1.54446
<b>C1-H6</b>	5.28933	4.86027	5.52926	3.99315	3.19603	2.35027	2.15962
<b>H6-C5</b>	1.10026	1.35381	2.14711	3.49102	4.65710	3.80475	3.47175
<b>N7-C5</b>	3.35609	2.73396	3.16391	4.46050	5.67921	4.94485	5.73698
<b>N7-H6</b>	2.33631	1.38031	1.02837	1.02706	1.03334	1.27840	5.45822
<b>N9-H10</b>	1.48014	1.58871	1.66814	1.64197	1.55565	1.46780	1.06455
<b>N9-O11</b>	2.56101	2.62718	2.68369	2.66535	2.60627	2.55488	2.67380
<b>H10-O11</b>	1.08193	1.04036	1.01848	1.02507	1.05205	1.08835	1.61167
<b>H6 - C2</b>	6.60494	6.20091	6.61020	7.76796	2.15763	1.45430	1.09489

M06-2X/6-31+G\*

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
<b>C1-C5</b>	3.64461	3.18759	3.06657	2.04334	1.55940	1.54790	1.5347
<b>C1-H6</b>	4.68217	4.52839	4.17643	3.67562	3.33079	2.29905	2.13611
<b>H6-C5</b>	1.09801	1.35333	3.70650	3.84542	4.68845	3.73664	3.4822
<b>N7-C5</b>	3.26823	2.72027	4.78371	4.76749	5.73711	4.86587	4.6394
<b>N7-H6</b>	2.34757	1.37261	1.09619	1.01835	1.06010	1.27971	2.5793
<b>N9-H10</b>	1.48599	1.56450	1.61031	1.60753	1.50885	1.43926	1.0976
<b>N9-O11</b>	2.55444	2.60254	2.63463	2.63199	2.56909	2.53197	2.5880
<b>H10-O11</b>	1.06847	1.03834	1.02462	1.02479	1.06024	1.09271	1.4910
<b>H6 - C2</b>	5.64165	5.12505	8.51075	2.65517	2.15389	1.43754	1.0953

### Reaction 1+4

#### AM1

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
C1-C5	3.76461	3.7993	3.96600	1.97067	1.54546	1.53413	1.52250
C1-H6	3.32187	3.5671	4.05303	3.41262	4.23956	2.27477	2.14769
H6-C5	1.14737	1.2888	2.04492	3.59320	5.17832	3.67665	3.48215
N7-C5	3.11348	2.7208	3.03262	4.43077	5.91321	4.84607	5.03465
N7-H6	1.97720	1.4350	1.00891	0.99541	1.01147	1.29115	3.19476
N9-H10	1.87691	1.9425	2.47877	2.50741	2.57522	1.93625	1.89168
N9-O11	2.84359	2.8958	3.44761	3.32526	3.31399	2.89759	2.84457
H10-O11	1.00021	0.9929	0.97626	0.97594	0.97611	0.99322	0.99802

#### B3LYP/6-31+G\*

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
C1-C5	4.92999	4.8370	4.18888	2.15627	1.61212	1.58012	1.53990
C1-H6	4.74690	5.0630	4.82093	3.17920	3.17827	2.35724	2.15369
H6-C5	1.09917	1.3367	8.09849	5.23946	4.66080	3.83520	3.50098
N7-C5	4.46083	2.7379	9.06044	6.25969	5.68906	4.95975	6.00386
N7-H6	3.56024	1.4054	1.02902	1.02188	1.03456	1.24587	3.11528
N9-H10	1.06033	1.5255	1.67162	1.64912	1.60870	1.54309	1.05971
N9-O11	2.71678	2.5966	2.69826	2.68135	2.65173	2.60763	2.71333
H10-O11	1.65685	1.0725	1.02665	1.03232	1.04346	1.06559	1.65490

#### M06-2X/6-31+G\*

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
C1-C5	3.80589	4.2424	3.48971	2.17206	1.57160	1.56011	1.52819
C1-H6	3.14356	3.5515	4.02006	4.15476	3.47721	2.32196	2.15650
H6-C5	1.10216	1.3376	3.94921	5.10161	4.80352	3.78439	3.47200
N7-C5	3.33001	2.7230	4.84317	5.48826	5.82360	4.84524	5.65201
N7-H6	2.30485	1.3854	1.03469	1.03809	1.02560	1.21564	3.29389
N9-H10	1.08194	1.5086	1.57311	1.57142	1.55971	1.51673	1.05740
N9-O11	2.63523	2.5769	2.61778	2.61626	2.60858	2.58164	2.71172
H10-O11	1.55394	1.0683	1.04469	1.04519	1.04913	1.06498	1.65588

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**Reaction: 1 + 5**

AM1

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
C1-C5	3.63065	3.5238	3.63480	2.00678	1.54283	1.53144	1.52285
C1-H6	3.15809	3.4629	4.27071	3.41581	2.77646	2.26410	2.14371
H6-C5	1.12950	1.2990	2.24093	3.57643	4.24864	3.65538	3.49422
N7-C5	3.59091	2.7075	3.22114	4.42058	5.25700	4.88254	5.15051
N7-H6	2.63177	1.4098	0.99882	0.99587	1.01136	1.34168	2.77214
N9-H10	1.90073	1.9421	2.46099	2.50696	2.03468	1.92257	2.03720
N9-O11	2.84557	2.8966	3.43096	3.32773	3.01828	2.88508	2.87606
H10-O11	0.99813	0.9930	0.97656	0.97593	0.98375	0.99472	0.98972

B3LYP/6-31+G\*\*

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
C1-C5	8.81184	4.8443	4.54049	2.16148	1.60284	1.57593	1.53669
C1-H6	7.93779	5.3782	5.22217	3.01933	2.97288	2.39985	2.15681
H6-C5	1.10675	1.3317	2.16892	5.11806	4.47165	3.87170	3.50187
N7-C5	3.33143	2.7332	3.18667	6.14270	5.51534	5.01058	6.63847
N7-H6	2.26499	1.4057	1.02808	1.02478	1.04947	1.23343	5.41324
N9-H10	1.06922	1.4328	1.57678	1.59170	1.54491	1.47061	1.06430
N9-O11	2.67393	2.5380	2.62116	2.63151	2.60012	2.55651	2.67938
H10-O11	1.60477	1.1060	1.04465	1.03985	1.05549	1.08669	1.61560

M06-2X/6-31+G\*\*

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
C1-C5	5.9640	5.49874	3.3631	2.14862	1.56836	1.5567	1.52881
C1-H6	5.6381	4.49811	3.1643	4.18335	3.09474	2.3723	2.16071
H6-C5	1.0978	1.35638	2.7916	5.08925	4.49679	3.8170	3.47645
N7-C5	3.2422	2.70808	3.5530	5.47096	5.53661	4.9179	6.21689
N7-H6	2.3932	1.36100	1.0973	1.03438	1.04338	1.2182	5.24920
N9-H10	1.0803	1.44550	1.5267	1.51659	1.50440	1.4519	1.06645
N9-O11	2.6213	2.53357	2.5800	2.57332	2.56607	2.5376	2.65883
H10-O11	1.5414	1.08847	1.0532	1.05710	1.06201	1.0857	1.59239

**Reaction 2+3**

AM1

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
<b>C1-C5</b>	4.66381	3.43683	3.83069	1.92757	1.54808	1.53605	1.5266
<b>C1-H6</b>	4.72387	4.56918	5.80350	4.46978	2.88276	2.26302	2.1473
<b>H6-C5</b>	1.14116	1.25885	2.79410	2.87811	4.30494	3.62547	3.4533
<b>N7-C5</b>	3.94742	2.74535	3.30751	3.46317	5.31214	4.83668	4.9876
<b>N7-H6</b>	2.83894	1.48886	0.99911	0.99637	1.01052	1.34067	2.8819
<b>N9-H10</b>	1.89074	2.92945	2.60791	2.56969	2.44503	1.93004	1.8396
<b>N9-O11</b>	2.87323	1.95496	3.53917	3.52466	3.28381	2.88508	2.81126
<b>H10-O11</b>	0.99242	0.98580	0.96924	0.96943	0.97695	0.99432	1.0062
<b>H6 - C2</b>	5.75174	5.87810	7.02055	4.52548	2.04041	1.34029	1.1364

B3LYP/6-31+G\*

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
<b>C1-C5</b>	4.60250	4.47431	4.73132	1.99350	1.56857	1.55720	1.54377
<b>C1-H6</b>	2.16275	3.94873	5.49772	4.03137	3.16517	2.35684	2.14252
<b>H6-C5</b>	1.10699	1.37193	2.07434	3.56769	4.57136	3.79195	3.50571
<b>N7-C5</b>	3.24666	2.72304	3.09055	4.54531	5.59351	4.94338	5.49932
<b>N7-H6</b>	2.16275	1.35193	1.03633	1.02595	1.03737	1.27319	2.22313
<b>N9-H10</b>	1.09899	1.59198	1.66736	1.64549	1.54469	1.44567	1.07833
<b>N9-O11</b>	2.57973	2.62954	2.68391	2.66807	2.59915	2.54380	2.64541
<b>H10-O11</b>	1.48362	1.03942	1.01893	1.02424	1.05605	1.09947	1.56710
<b>H6 - C2</b>	6.95373	5.28016	6.56040	3.39199	2.11372	1.46205	1.10803

M06-2X/6-31+G\*

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
<b>C1-C5</b>	4.71985	4.33387	4.42009	2.15152	1.55125	1.55359	1.5420
<b>C1-H6</b>	4.28024	3.60876	3.44558	3.67335	3.29427	2.30811	2.1333
<b>H6-C5</b>	1.10343	1.36761	2.05693	3.87333	4.62616	3.75596	3.4933
<b>N7-C5</b>	3.16103	2.70563	3.06650	4.78619	5.66693	4.84387	4.3341
<b>N7-H6</b>	2.17568	1.34748	1.03719	1.01775	1.06010	1.25751	2.7521
<b>N9-H10</b>	1.47765	1.57022	1.65217	1.62168	1.50356	1.44435	1.09411
<b>N9-O11</b>	2.55001	2.60637	2.66473	2.64226	2.56596	2.53386	2.5958
<b>H10-O11</b>	1.07239	1.03629	1.01379	1.02217	1.06241	1.08951	1.5024
<b>H6 - C2</b>	5.32176	1.36761	4.69273	2.66188	2.13225	1.46556	1.0960

### Reaction 2+4

#### AM1

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
<b>C1-C5</b>	4.00335	4.47257	4.49978	1.98611	1.54859	1.53740	1.5267
<b>C1-H6</b>	3.57004	5.71933	6.81760	3.48317	4.23574	2.26326	2.1632
<b>H6-C5</b>	1.16024	1.26406	2.86630	3.53399	5.00390	3.64810	3.4740
<b>N7-C5</b>	2.99567	2.73771	3.68407	4.41692	5.68184	4.83797	5.7124
<b>N7-H6</b>	1.85316	1.47648	1.00238	0.99732	1.01225	1.31819	2.8615
<b>N9-H10</b>	1.92079	1.95585	2.49297	2.46420	2.45021	1.93330	1.8326
<b>N9-O11</b>	2.89939	2.92996	3.42821	3.39846	3.30406	2.88946	2.8038
<b>H10-O11</b>	0.98899	0.98571	0.97015	0.97115	0.97676	0.99387	1.0065
<b>H6 - C2</b>	4.67357	6.59872	7.71725	2.49287	2.80506	1.35573	1.1294

#### B3LYP/6-31+G\*

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
<b>C1-C5</b>	4.26831	4.60156	4.78873	1.94972	1.56780	1.55988	1.54249
<b>C1-H6</b>	3.84324	4.16010	5.45536	4.05731	3.14685	2.38712	2.17690
<b>H6-C5</b>	1.10224	1.36280	2.07049	3.41876	4.56746	3.84089	3.51251
<b>N7-C5</b>	6.93579	2.72515	3.09695	4.08780	5.59852	4.96523	6.07893
<b>N7-H6</b>	6.09452	1.36256	1.03948	1.02495	1.03922	1.24089	2.58312
<b>N9-H10</b>	1.05739	1.58341	1.67199	1.64298	1.53122	1.45972	1.07913
<b>N9-O11</b>	2.68850	2.62404	2.68543	2.66579	2.59191	2.55108	2.64313
<b>H10-O11</b>	1.63270	1.04204	1.01786	1.02468	1.06096	1.09227	1.56401
<b>H6 - C2</b>	5.17130	5.47284	6.67619	3.41876	2.08613	1.50372	1.09499

#### M06-2X/6-31+G\*

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
<b>C1-C5</b>	3.64356	3.32450	4.56843	2.08300	1.55699	1.55440	1.5424
<b>C1-H6</b>	2.79637	4.66579	3.56867	3.68117	3.08908	2.31283	2.1353
<b>H6-C5</b>	1.09489	1.34725	2.07242	3.88761	4.43139	3.75461	3.4958
<b>N7-C5</b>	3.26926	2.71146	3.07439	4.80354	5.47499	4.77788	4.7676
<b>N7-H6</b>	2.73702	1.36785	1.03538	1.01838	1.05056	1.22985	2.6162
<b>N9-H10</b>	1.48447	1.54383	1.65293	1.61529	1.50617	1.45405	1.0738
<b>N9-O11</b>	2.55308	2.58929	2.66562	2.63817	2.56793	2.53897	2.6412
<b>H10-O11</b>	1.06898	1.04549	1.01354	1.02326	1.06177	1.08493	1.5695
<b>H6 - C2</b>	7.06092	5.32470	4.88616	2.66394	1.97718	1.50125	1.0955

**Reaction 2+5**

AM1

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
<b>C1-C5</b>	4.70177	4.76974	4.26366	1.95022	1.54360	1.53278	1.5259
<b>C1-H6</b>	5.05494	4.37066	6.60075	4.46484	2.75765	2.26223	2.1522
<b>H6-C5</b>	1.14073	1.26405	2.73854	2.86292	4.21549	3.63804	3.4715
<b>N7-C5</b>	3.95228	2.74287	3.26498	3.44812	5.22445	4.88694	4.6294
<b>N7-H6</b>	2.82404	1.48014	0.99925	0.99646	1.01429	1.35989	2.6664
<b>N9-H10</b>	1.89223	1.96353	2.62001	2.57428	2.44505	1.92295	1.8081
<b>N9-O11</b>	2.87405	2.93707	3.54821	3.52575	3.28519	2.87986	2.7961
<b>H10-O11</b>	0.99244	0.98512	0.96956	0.96954	0.97698	0.99511	1.0099
<b>H6 - C2</b>	6.27785	5.58330	7.56999	4.51637	1.99130	1.32594	1.1275

B3LYP/6-31+G\*

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
<b>C1-C5</b>	4.67226	4.96658	4.79700	1.94232	1.56501	1.55867	1.54431
<b>C1-H6</b>	5.70893	5.11878	5.78095	4.02994	2.93806	2.41920	2.15012
<b>H6-C5</b>	1.10731	1.37005	2.06099	3.56145	4.37439	3.87378	3.51786
<b>N7-C5</b>	3.25334	2.72478	3.08117	4.54046	5.42255	4.99319	5.55962
<b>N7-H6</b>	2.15963	1.35581	1.03754	1.02696	1.06010	1.21966	2.22434
<b>N9-H10</b>	1.09869	1.58506	1.66240	1.64599	1.53937	1.46782	1.07623
<b>N9-O11</b>	2.58175	2.62526	2.68009	2.66822	2.59602	2.55489	2.65176
<b>H10-O11</b>	1.48543	1.04133	1.02005	1.02391	1.05804	1.08838	1.57556
<b>H6 - C2</b>	7.02552	5.83411	6.57202	3.40274	1.94840	1.53044	1.10670

M06-2X/6-31+G\*

	RC	TS1	I1	TS2	I2	TS3	PC
<b>C1-C5</b>	3.65860	3.38448	5.41686	2.08276	1.55699	1.55472	1.5424
<b>C1-H6</b>	4.68207	4.69006	6.35504	3.69524	3.08908	2.39332	2.1353
<b>H6-C5</b>	1.09892	1.35466	2.07829	3.85023	4.43139	3.82612	3.4958
<b>N7-C5</b>	3.21175	2.71029	3.10000	4.78923	5.47499	4.86877	4.7676
<b>N7-H6</b>	2.43612	1.36264	1.03295	1.01911	1.05056	1.19310	2.6162
<b>N9-H10</b>	1.45529	1.54097	1.62756	1.61646	1.50617	1.46105	1.0738
<b>N9-O11</b>	2.53803	2.58753	2.64625	2.63871	2.56793	2.54278	2.6412
<b>H10-O11</b>	1.08311	1.04668	1.01992	1.02266	1.06177	1.08173	1.5695
<b>H6 - C2</b>	4.69419	4.82583	7.53997	2.69779	1.97718	1.55109	1.0955

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**Table S2.** Relative potential energies to the reactant complex of stationary point structures located along the reaction profile at the three different levels of theory for the reactions shown in scheme 1. Values in Kcal·mol<sup>-1</sup>

		$\Delta E_{TS1}$	$\Delta E_{I1}$	$\Delta E_{TS2}$	$\Delta E_{I2}$	$\Delta E_{TS3}$	$\Delta E_{PC}$
1+3	AM1	8.0	-5.3	10.0	-9.5	-5.2	-14.4
	B3LYP	7.8	-4.0	4.6	-1.5	4.4	-18.9
	M06-2X	8.3	-6.9	3.6	-6.4	-1.8	-16.6
1+4	AM1	2.2	-9.5	2.5	-16.3	-10.6	-21.1
	B3LYP	10.5	-2.0	10.5	4.6	8.5	-13.6
	M06-2X	11.8	-5.1	3.2	-3.0	1.0	-27.0
1+5	AM1	5.6	-7.1	2.9	-15.5	-10.7	-17.5
	B3LYP	13.6	-0.9	13.0	6.5	8.7	-13.8
	M06-2X	16.2	-1.4	9.0	1.8	3.9	-18.6
2+3	AM1	3.8	-12.1	3.4	-13.4	-8.5	-16.4
	B3LYP	6.3	-1.4	4.0	-2.3	1.6	-12.4
	M06-2X	7.8	1.7	6.1	-3.5	0.7	-14.6
2+4	AM1	2.6	-11.7	-0.5	-14.7	-8.3	-20.0
	B3LYP	13.5	6.4	14.5	8.1	11.4	-7.3
	M06-2X	11.2	2.6	9.6	-1.0	2.7	-15.8
2+5	AM1	2.0	-11.3	1.3	-16.2	-11.1	-17.0
	B3LYP	5.9	-1.1	7.3	0.4	1.6	-15.4
	M06-2X	7.8	-2.9	5.7	-4.4	-3.4	-25.7



S9

**Table S3.** Gas-phase proton affinities of the bases, and compared with the experimental values for acetate, imidazolyl anion, acetoacetyl anion and acetoacetyl anion. All values in kcal·mol<sup>-1</sup>. Experimental data are available from [webbook.nist.gov](http://webbook.nist.gov)

	acetate	imidazolyl anion	imidazol	imidazol-acetate dyad	acetoacetyl anion	dimethyl malonate anion
B3LYP	-352.9	-356.7	-233.9	-337.6	-344.7	-351.7
M06-2X	-354.1	-355.1	-231.8	-338.3	-345.2	-351.7
exp	349.9	--	236.3	--	--	--

S10

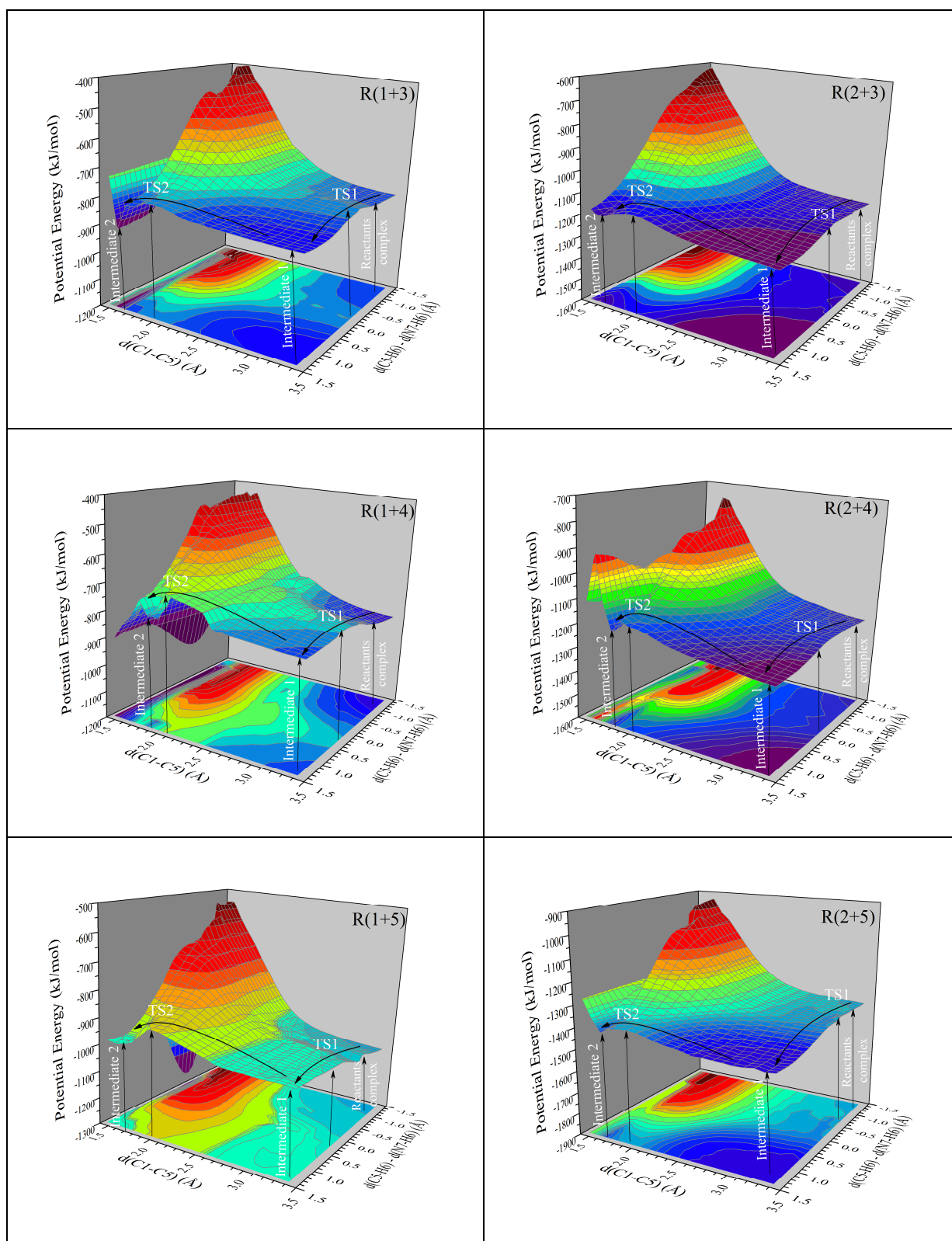


Figure S1. Potential energy surfaces for the conversion from reactants to intermediate 2 for the 6 studied reactions obtained at AM1 level.