

Supporting Information

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Shape and Spin State in Four Coordinate Transition-Metal Complexes: The Case of the d⁶ Configuration

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Supporting Information

| | S | Total Energy (a.u.) | Rel. Energy (kcal·mol ⁻¹) | S(T _d) | S(D4h) |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------|
| [FeMe ₄] ²⁻ | | | | | |
| 2 | 2 | - 1423.268815 | 0.0 | 0.07 | 31.86 |
| 1 | 1 | - 1423.254410 | 9.0 | 33.34 | 0.01 |
| (| C | - 1423.196027 | 45.7 | 12.02 | 8.42 |
| [FeCl ₄] ²⁻ | | | | | |
| 2 | 2 | - 3104.931412 | 0.0 | 0.10 | 31.88 |
| 1 | 1 | - 3104.882727 | 30.6 | 0.16 | 29.72 |
| (| C | - 3104.797517 | 84.0 | 1.52 | 28.44 |
| [NiBr(norb | ornyl) ₃ |](experimental structu | ure) | | |
| 2 | 2 | - 4902.462120 | 80.4 | 2.40 | 31.16 |
| 1 | 1 | - 4902.533628 | 35.6 | 2.40 | 31.16 |
| (| C | - 4902.590298 | 0.0 | 2.40 | 31.16 |
| [NiBrMe ₃] | | | | | |
| 2 | 2 | - 4202.062634 | 59.0 | 0.34 | 33.06 |
| 1 | 1 | - 4202.119737 | 23.1 | 2.81 | 25.10 |
| (| C | - 4202.156586 | 0.0 | 4.96 | 32.54 |
| [Fe(2,6-xyl | lyl) ₂ (PH | [₃) ₂] | | | |
| 2 | 2 | - 2570.724332 | 0.0 | 26.62 | 3.19 |
|] | 1 | - 2570.722589 | 1.1 | 33.11 | 0.40 |

Table S1. B3LYP-calculated energies for the different spin states of the compounds studied in their optimized geometries.

Table S2. Atomic coordinates for the optimized geometries of the dtudied compounds.

| [FeN | $[e_4]^{2-}(S=2)$ | | |
|------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Fe | 0.00000 | 0.00000 | 0.00000 |
| С | -1.815587 | 0.787037 | 1.074661 |
| С | 1.709307 | -0.282608 | 1.438032 |
| С | -0.405716 | -2.015740 | -0.917848 |
| С | 0.506112 | 1.508930 | -1.592471 |
| Н | -1.654865 | 1.762681 | 1.567532 |
| Н | -2.702268 | 0.911185 | 0.427403 |
| Н | -2.111947 | 0.083244 | 1.872537 |
| Н | 1.946352 | 0.676272 | 1.932081 |
| Н | 1.494425 | -1.002540 | 2.248045 |
| Н | 2.645843 | -0.624690 | 0.962198 |
| Н | -0.694036 | -2.791118 | -0.185608 |
| Н | -1.244256 | -1.938817 | -1.632468 |
| Н | 0.446718 | -2.430012 | -1.485683 |
| Н | 0.746865 | 2.513315 | -1.200368 |
| Н | 1.396205 | 1.175414 | -2.154838 |
| Н | -0.295061 | 1.653438 | -2.339359 |
| | | | |

 $[FeMe_4]^{2-}(S = 1)$

| Fe | 0.00000 | 0.00000 | 0.00000 |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| С | -0.989196 | 0.471405 | 1.806791 |
| С | 1.227375 | -1.412694 | 0.981621 |
| С | 0.989253 | -0.471301 | -1.806784 |
| С | -1.227400 | 1.412688 | -0.981617 |
| Н | -0.444032 | 1.360146 | 2.181143 |
| Н | -2.043861 | 0.780647 | 1.697019 |
| Н | -0.942049 | -0.290011 | 2.604296 |
| Н | 2.138734 | -0.837607 | 1.238464 |
| Н | 0.833854 | -1.823898 | 1.926854 |
| Н | 1.562779 | -2.260101 | 0.357558 |
| Н | 2.043884 | -0.780653 | -1.697000 |
| Н | 0.444017 | -1.359950 | -2.181253 |
| Н | 0.942210 | 0.290200 | -2.604211 |
| Н | -1.562849 | 2.260056 | -0.357525 |
| Н | -0.833865 | 1.823952 | -1.926818 |
| н | -2.138735 | 0.837590 | -1.238521 |

 $[\text{FeMe}_4]^{2-}(S=0)$

| Fe | 0.000329 | 0.019483 | 0.336260 |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| С | -2.112530 | 0.033168 | 0.562314 |
| С | 2.113571 | 0.032995 | 0.558812 |
| С | -0.000490 | -1.841850 | -0.442959 |
| С | -0.000527 | 1.776355 | -0.657315 |
| Н | -2.519834 | 0.948760 | 1.041869 |
| Н | -2.588185 | -0.027930 | -0.436922 |
| Н | -2.521583 | -0.815853 | 1.150557 |
| Н | 2.521731 | 0.948691 | 1.037441 |
| Н | 2.523533 | -0.815887 | 1.146631 |
| Н | 2.587622 | -0.028422 | -0.441169 |
| Н | 0.000406 | -2.454075 | 0.490362 |
| Н | -0.895669 | -2.150487 | -1.011447 |
| Н | 0.893548 | -2.150564 | -1.013205 |
| Н | 0.000203 | 2.494376 | 0.197304 |
| Н | 0.893579 | 2.015751 | -1.259954 |
| Н | -0.895703 | 2.015689 | -1.258380 |

| $[\text{FeC}_{1}]^{2} (S - 2)$ | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| $[FeCI_4]^- (S = 2)$ | |

| Fe | 0.00000 | 0.00000 | 0.00000 |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cl | -1.929798 | 0.448225 | 1.385206 |
| Cl | 1.930216 | 0.426069 | 1.391498 |
| Cl | -0.008282 | -2.281769 | -0.801393 |
| C1 | 0.007552 | 1.396733 | -1.973105 |

 $[\text{FeCl}_4]^{2-}(S = 1)$

| Fe | 0.000000 | 0.00000 | 0.00000 |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cl | -1.286713 | 0.900018 | 1.797120 |
| Cl | 2.290159 | -0.070717 | 0.730383 |
| Cl | -0.596792 | -2.204948 | -0.692959 |
| Cl | -0.307724 | 1.445048 | -1.897605 |

 $[\text{FeCl}_4]^{2-}(S = 0)$

| Fe | 0.000000 | 0.00000 | 0.000000 |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cl | -1.728038 | 0.000095 | 1.575540 |
| Cl | 1.728249 | -0.000105 | 1.575256 |
| Cl | 0.000063 | -1.728202 | -1.575332 |
| Cl | -0.000283 | 1.728210 | -1.575356 |

$[Fe(2,6-xylyl)_2(PH_3)_2] (S = 1)$

| Fe | 0.006962 | -0.037181 | -0.004852 |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| С | -1.532377 | 1.327233 | 0.091739 |
| С | 1.559602 | -1.363082 | -0.095790 |
| С | -2.879929 | 0.906704 | 0.109157 |
| С | 2.901530 | -0.928370 | -0.106120 |
| С | -3.921472 | 1.832517 | 0.212048 |
| С | 3.953206 | -1.844579 | -0.194012 |
| С | -3.656482 | 3.193302 | 0.289655 |
| С | 3.703085 | -3.208537 | -0.266229 |
| С | -2.338322 | 3.628771 | 0.262981 |
| С | 2.389023 | -3.656860 | -0.249394 |
| С | -1.285509 | 2.715741 | 0.161473 |
| С | 1.326801 | -2.753081 | -0.162568 |
| С | -3.223923 | -0.561912 | -0.010975 |
| С | 3.226837 | 0.545419 | -0.002017 |
| С | -0.086267 | -3.292128 | -0.123818 |
| С | 0.130261 | 3.246400 | 0.104124 |
| H | -4.949240 | 1.483698 | 0.234107 |
| Н | 4.977659 | -1.485614 | -0.207452 |
| Н | -2.123027 | 4.690904 | 0.325120 |
| H | 2.184787 | -4.721530 | -0.306048 |
| H | -3.160203 | -0.910033 | -1.046939 |
| H | 3.031991 | 0.933492 | 1.003282 |
| H | -4.238950 | -0.770283 | 0.330778 |
| H | 4.276282 | 0.746269 | -0.222400 |
| H | -2.547659 | -1.190534 | 0.574487 |
| Н | 2.628960 | 1.145281 | -0.694411 |
| Н | -0.122271 | -4.355744 | -0.364184 |
| Н | 0.189714 | 4.278651 | 0.452445 |
| H | -0.739890 | -2.777303 | -0.834511 |
| Н | 0.815682 | 2.656105 | 0.717558 |
| H | -0.539645 | -3.174283 | 0.866124 |
| H | 0.528692 | 3.232596 | -0.915303 |
| Р | -0.111258 | 0.122417 | -2.304997 |
| Р | -0.015328 | -0.080441 | 2.306027 |
| H | -4.468006 | 3.906071 | 0.375774 |
| Н | 4.522625 | -3.913596 | -0.338931 |

| H | -1.373651 | -0.142477 | -2.927944 |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| H | 0.124575 | 1.408178 | -2.890530 |
| Η | -1.251325 | -0.395419 | 2.957997 |
| H | 0.846774 | -0.931732 | 3.072970 |
| Η | 0.717759 | -0.654890 | -3.179627 |
| Η | 0.252727 | 1.150360 | 2.988103 |

$[Fe(2,6-xylyl)_2(PH_3)_2] (S = 2)$

| Fe | -0.093671 | -0.133343 | -0.011768 |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| С | -1.535792 | 1.375898 | 0.094027 |
| С | 1.609634 | -1.334018 | -0.098065 |
| С | -2.898846 | 1.007852 | 0.113884 |
| С | 2.930245 | -0.834819 | -0.102478 |
| С | -3.907381 | 1.971700 | 0.202283 |
| С | 4.024784 | -1.699804 | -0.178604 |
| С | -3.587005 | 3.320613 | 0.262535 |
| С | 3.837476 | -3.074391 | -0.246169 |
| С | -2.252855 | 3.708351 | 0.236838 |
| С | 2.548253 | -3.589636 | -0.237362 |
| С | -1.235623 | 2.755341 | 0.151980 |
| С | 1.445220 | -2.735606 | -0.160530 |
| С | -3.300296 | -0.447840 | 0.009477 |
| С | 3.187578 | 0.652309 | -0.008283 |
| С | 0.060381 | -3.345155 | -0.120630 |
| С | 0.199497 | 3.229214 | 0.108563 |
| Н | -4.948210 | 1.665063 | 0.226008 |
| Н | 5.031958 | -1.296223 | -0.189120 |
| Н | -2.001840 | 4.762810 | 0.287558 |
| Н | 2.398985 | -4.663173 | -0.292683 |
| Н | -3.323838 | -0.785399 | -1.031317 |
| Н | 2.965875 | 1.034587 | 0.992542 |
| Н | -4.292717 | -0.629344 | 0.425235 |
| Н | 4.228421 | 0.898675 | -0.222600 |
| Н | -2.602874 | -1.101093 | 0.543515 |
| Н | 2.565814 | 1.214976 | -0.708844 |
| Н | 0.059032 | -4.378197 | -0.471745 |
| Н | 0.284853 | 4.288755 | 0.354351 |
| Н | -0.644831 | -2.790802 | -0.747443 |
| Н | 0.828237 | 2.677481 | 0.810857 |
| Н | -0.347793 | -3.352292 | 0.894766 |
| Н | 0.637472 | 3.094024 | -0.884856 |
| Р | -0.366551 | -0.155791 | -2.843182 |
| Р | -0.257008 | -0.416577 | 2.827468 |
| Н | -4.370327 | 4.065784 | 0.335742 |
| Н | 4.690734 | -3.739217 | -0.311372 |
| Н | -1.604621 | 0.060678 | -3.542548 |
| Н | 0.332622 | 0.964164 | -3.409528 |
| Н | -1.478477 | -0.255503 | 3.569667 |
| Н | 0.286295 | -1.486534 | 3.621718 |
| Н | 0.165824 | -1.146865 | -3.739129 |
| Н | 0.462167 | 0.643847 | 3.476143 |

| Metal | $\varphi_Q(T_d \rightarrow$ | D_{4h}) μ_{eff} | S | Refcode | Ref. |
|--------|-----------------------------|------------------------|---|----------|------|
| Fe | 9.1 | 5.10 | 2 | IMSPFE10 | [1] |
| Fe | 9.9 | 4.50 | 2 | GIJGIP | [2] |
| Fe | 14.8 | 5.10 | 2 | PTHPFE10 | [3] |
| Fe | 16.0 | 4.60 | 2 | TATWAM | [4] |
| Fe | 18.0 | 4.60 | 2 | TATWEQ | [4] |
| Fe | 19.0 | 5.00 | 2 | YEWSOI | [5] |
| Fe | 22.2 | 4.70 | 2 | FIHRET | [6] |
| Fe | 28.7 | 5.30 | 2 | SOQLUF | [7] |
| Fe | 31.2 | 4.40 | 2 | | [8] |
| Fe | 48.7 | 5.19 | 2 | CIWQUU | [9] |
| Со | 72.9 | 3.60 | 1 | NINBUH | [10] |
| Fe | 96.5 | 2.90 | 1 | | [8] |
| Fe | 97.6 | 4.40 | 1 | TPORFE | [11] |
| Со | 98.5 | 3.10 | 1 | NINBOB | [10] |
| Fe | 99.8 | 3.60 | 1 | QATQUX | [12] |
| Fe | 100.3 | 2.70 | 1 | | [8] |
| Fe | 100.0 | 3.50 | 1 | BUYKUB10 | [13] |
| Fe | 100.0 | 4.60 | 1 | DEDWUE | [13] |
| Fe | 100.4 | 2.80 | 1 | OAZNFE | [14] |
| | | | | | |

Table S3. Structurally characterized four-coordinate d^6 complexes that fall along the tetrahedron-square interconversion path (within a 15%) for which structural magnetic data have been reported.

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