

# Supporting Information

## Valence Bond Structures for $\text{N}_3^-$ , $\text{N}_3^\cdot$ and $\text{N}_6^-$

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Un-normalised coefficients and equations used to calculate the  $k$  and  $l$  polarity parameters for Tables 3 and 4.

### $\text{N}_3^-$ Anion

Lewis VB structure	$C_i$ <b>A1</b>	$C_i$ <b>A1 ↔ A2</b>	$C_i$ <b>A3</b>	$C_i$ <b>A3 ↔ A4</b>
<b>1</b>	0.159968	0.094024		
<b>2</b>		0.094024		
<b>3</b>			0.359157	0.206174
<b>4</b>				0.206174
<b>5</b>	-0.339876	-0.239007	-0.262335	-0.199148
<b>6</b>	-0.339876	-0.239007		-0.199148
<b>7</b>		-0.239007	-0.262335	-0.199148
<b>8</b>		-0.239007		-0.199148
<b>9</b>	0.223009	0.164529	0.146090	0.126743

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*k* and *l* equations:

**A1:**  $k + l + 2d_5 = 0$ .  $kl = d_9$ .  $d_i = C_i/C_1$

**A1 ↔ A2:**  $k + l + 2d_5 = 0$ .  $2kl = d_9$ .  $d_i = C_i/C_1$

**A3:**  $k + l + 2d_5 = 0$ .  $kl = d_9$ .  $d_i = C_i/C_3$

**A3 ↔ A4:**  $k + l + 2d_5 = 0$ .  $2kl = d_9$ .  $d_i = C_i/C_3$

### **N<sub>3</sub> Radical**

Lewis VB structure	$C_i$ <b>R1</b>	$C_i$ <b>R1 ↔ R2</b>	$C_i$ <b>R3</b>	$C_i$ <b>R3 ↔ R4</b>
<b>1</b>	0.299774	0.203241		
<b>2</b>		-0.203241		
<b>3</b>				0.221367
<b>4</b>			0.319797	-0.221367
<b>5</b>	-0.384592	-0.191007		0.221354
<b>6</b>		0.191007	-0.460025	-0.221354
<b>7</b>		-0.118387	0.119697	0.128824
<b>8</b>	0.135225	0.118387		-0.128824
<b>9</b>		0.248072		
<b>10</b>	-0.360013	-0.248072		
<b>11</b>			-0.108046	-0.104306
<b>12</b>				0.104306

*k* and *l* equations:

**R1:**  $k + l + d_5 + d_{10} = 0$ .  $kl = d_8$ .  $d_i = C_i/C_1$

**R1 ↔ R2:**  $k + l + d_5 + d_{10} = 0$ .  $kl = d_8$ .  $d_i = C_i/C_1$

**R3:**  $k + l + d_6 + d_{11} = 0$ .  $kl = d_7$ .  $d_i = C_i/C_4$

**R3 ↔ R4:**  $k + l + d_6 + d_{11} = 0$ .  $kl = d_7$ .  $d_i = C_i/C_3$