

# Local Fluxionality of Surface-Deposited Cluster Catalysts: the Case of Pt<sub>7</sub> on Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>

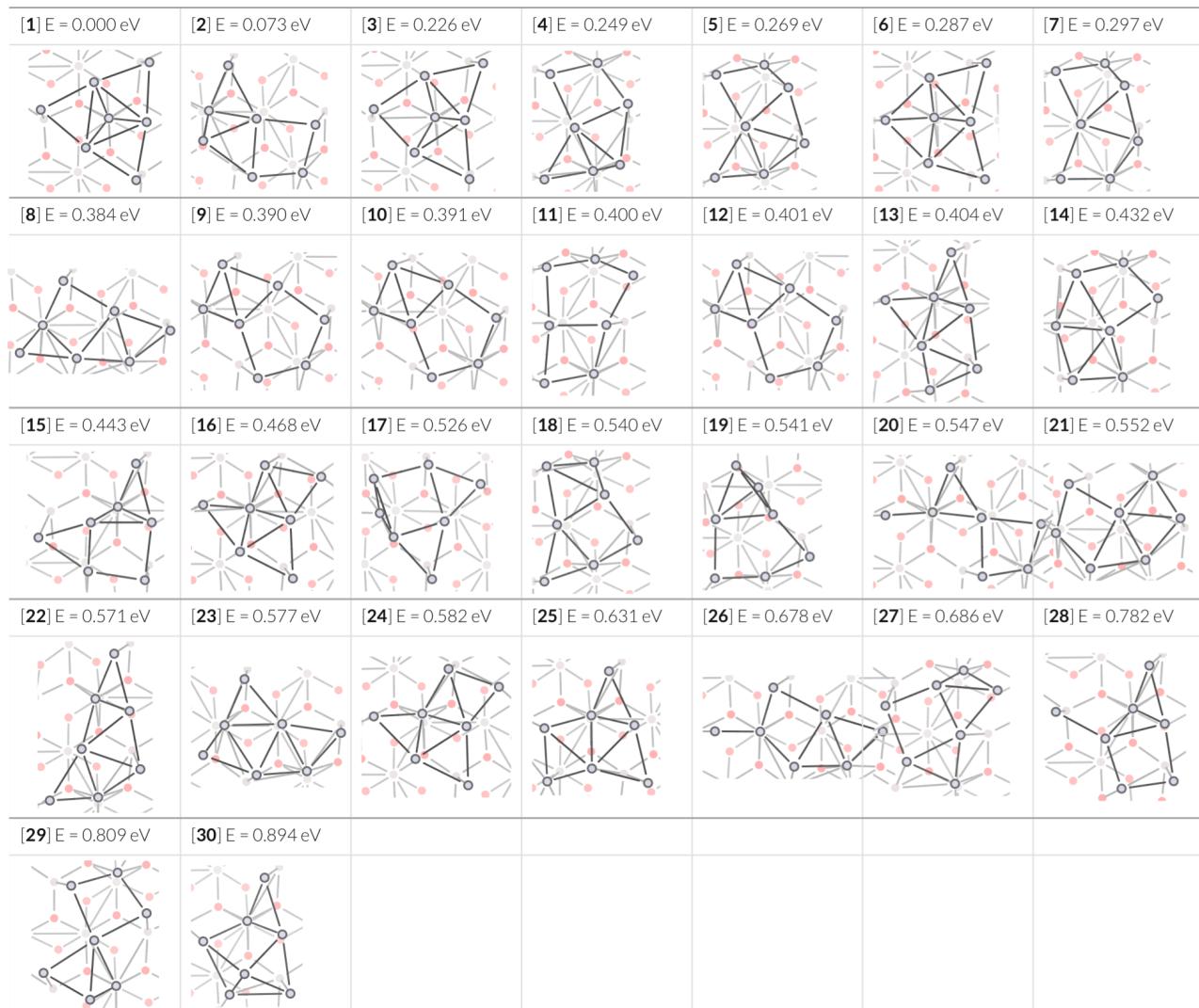
Huanchen Zhai,<sup>1</sup> and Anastassia N. Alexandrova<sup>1,2,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California 90095, United States*

<sup>2</sup>*California NanoSystems Institute, Los Angeles, California 90095, United States*

\*Corresponding Author: E-mail: ana@chem.ucla.edu

## Supporting Information



**Table S1.** The Pt<sub>7</sub> cluster supported on Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> isomers considered in this work. First, we included 20 isomers with energy lower than 0.6 eV relative to global minimum (GM). Second, some intermediates found along the optimized paths, which are necessary to build the isomerization graph, are included.

[5-2] 0.479 eV	[3-1] 0.227 eV	[6-3] 0.292 eV	[15-1] 0.747 eV	[17-6] 1.136 eV	[17-13] 1.338 eV	[15-6] 0.773 eV
[8-2] 0.591 eV	[14-11] 0.594 eV	[18-5] 0.556 eV	[19-8] 0.824 eV	[19-13] 1.265 eV	[20-2] 1.153 eV	[19-18] 0.814 eV
[22-13] 1.256 eV	[22-15] 1.327 eV	[11-7] 0.660 eV	[24-13] 1.647 eV	[9-2] 0.844 eV	[23-8] 0.658 eV	[11-9] 0.582 eV
[14-21] 0.587 eV	[9-8] 1.195 eV	[10-9] 0.460 eV	[14-12] 0.583 eV	[10-8] 1.196 eV	[21-8] 0.970 eV	[14-9] 0.584 eV
[20-26] 0.919 eV	[9-12] 0.404 eV	[15-28] 0.837 eV	[17-27] 0.939 eV	[22-19] 1.096 eV	[30-13] 1.134 eV	[20-4] 1.196 eV
[4-29] 1.027 eV	[4-2] 0.267 eV	[25-30] 1.087 eV	[26-8] 0.748 eV	[27-11] 0.896 eV	[30-24] 1.929 eV	[16-3] 0.510 eV
[25-6] 0.816 eV	[24-16] 0.605 eV	[17-15] 1.064 eV	[23-2] 0.628 eV	[7-5] 0.320 eV	[28-13] 0.856 eV	

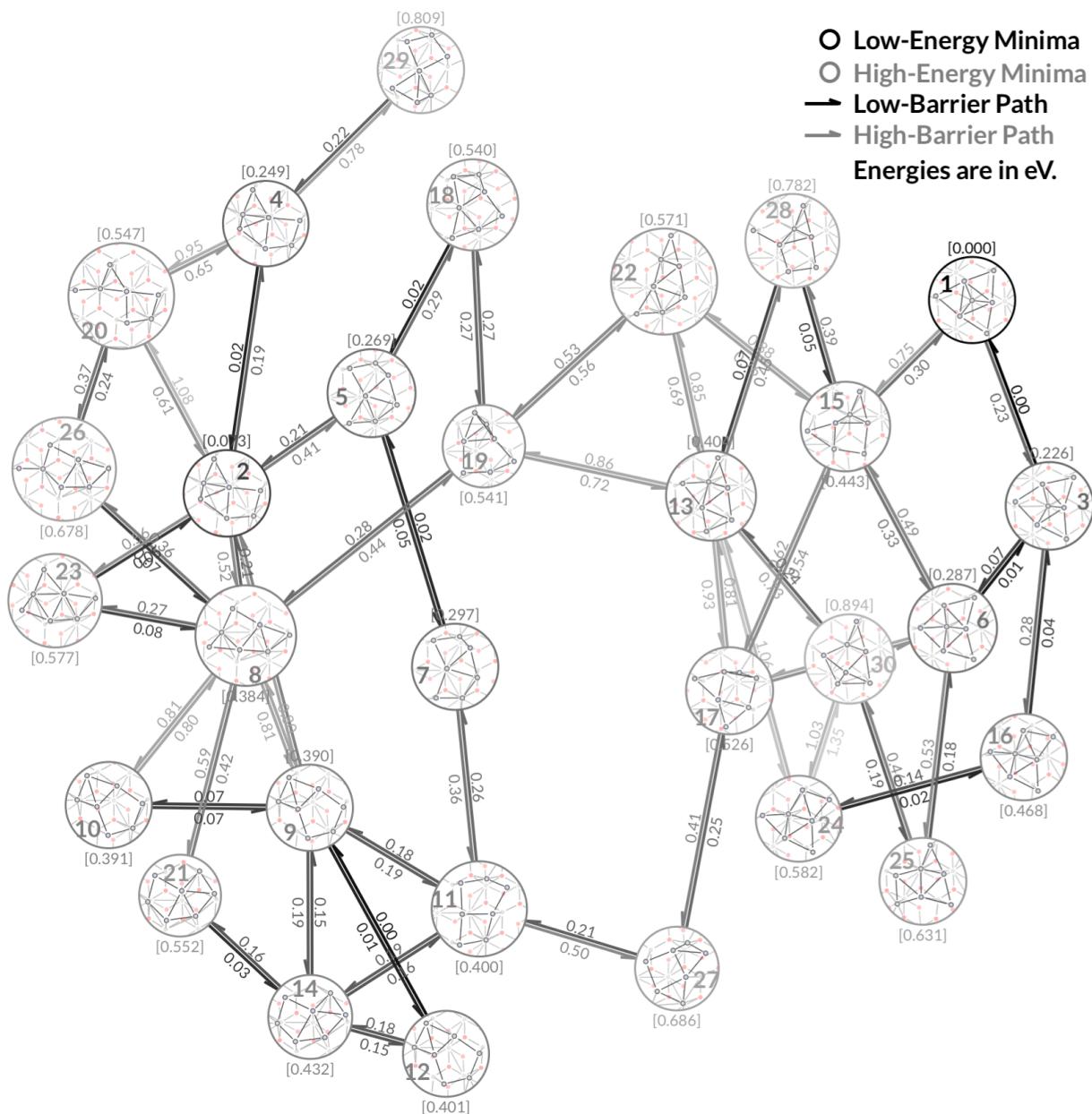
**Table S2.** The energy and geometry of transition states in direct paths between Pt<sub>7</sub> cluster supported on Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> isomers considered in this work. The two numbers in bracket indicate the index (in Table S1) of the two isomers connected by the direct path. The energies are relative to the global minimum energy.

#init	#final	$E_{\text{init}}$ (eV)	$E_{\text{final}}$ (eV)	$E_{\text{TS}}$ (eV)	barrier (eV)	$k_{450\text{K}}$ (1/s)	$k_{700\text{K}}$ (1/s)	Notes
5	2	0.2688	0.0727	0.4793	0.2105	$5.65 \times 10^{10}$	$3.93 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
2	5	0.0727	0.2688	0.4793	0.4066	$1.84 \times 10^9$	$7.80 \times 10^{10}$	Region II
3	1	0.2263	0.0000	0.2266	0.0004	$1.06 \times 10^{13}$	$1.07 \times 10^{13}$	Region I
1	3	0.0000	0.2263	0.2266	0.2266	$3.37 \times 10^{10}$	$2.72 \times 10^{11}$	Region I
6	3	0.2871	0.2263	0.2921	0.0050	$4.23 \times 10^{12}$	$4.43 \times 10^{12}$	Region I
3	6	0.2263	0.2871	0.2921	0.0658	$1.17 \times 10^{12}$	$2.15 \times 10^{12}$	Region I
15	1	0.4426	0.0000	0.7465	0.3040	$5.10 \times 10^9$	$8.39 \times 10^{10}$	RB I
1	15	0.0000	0.4426	0.7465	0.7465	$9.96 \times 10^4$	$9.65 \times 10^7$	RB I
17	6	0.5257	0.2871	1.1356	0.6099	$1.02 \times 10^7$	$2.79 \times 10^9$	RB I
6	17	0.2871	0.5257	1.1356	0.8486	$2.39 \times 10^4$	$5.92 \times 10^7$	RB I
17	13	0.5257	0.4038	1.3375	0.8118	$1.84 \times 10^5$	$3.25 \times 10^8$	
13	17	0.4038	0.5257	1.3375	0.9337	$5.05 \times 10^3$	$2.74 \times 10^7$	
15	6	0.4426	0.2871	0.7726	0.3300	$1.70 \times 10^{10}$	$3.55 \times 10^{11}$	RB I
6	15	0.2871	0.4426	0.7726	0.4855	$3.95 \times 10^8$	$3.45 \times 10^{10}$	RB I
8	2	0.3837	0.0727	0.5914	0.2077	$2.18 \times 10^{12}$	$1.47 \times 10^{13}$	Region II
2	8	0.0727	0.3837	0.5914	0.5186	$1.37 \times 10^9$	$1.62 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
14	11	0.4316	0.3999	0.5944	0.1628	$1.09 \times 10^{11}$	$4.90 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
11	14	0.3999	0.4316	0.5944	0.1944	$1.70 \times 10^{11}$	$1.02 \times 10^{12}$	Region II
18	5	0.5404	0.2688	0.5556	0.0152	$6.68 \times 10^{12}$	$7.68 \times 10^{12}$	Region II
5	18	0.2688	0.5404	0.5556	0.2868	$1.06 \times 10^{10}$	$1.48 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
19	8	0.5409	0.3837	0.8237	0.2828	$3.95 \times 10^9$	$5.34 \times 10^{10}$	Region II
8	19	0.3837	0.5409	0.8237	0.4401	$2.97 \times 10^8$	$1.71 \times 10^{10}$	Region II
19	13	0.5409	0.4038	1.2646	0.7236	$1.81 \times 10^5$	$1.42 \times 10^8$	RB II
13	19	0.4038	0.5409	1.2646	0.8608	$1.27 \times 10^4$	$3.51 \times 10^7$	RB II
20	2	0.5468	0.0727	1.1528	0.6060	$5.55 \times 10^6$	$1.47 \times 10^9$	Region II
2	20	0.0727	0.5468	1.1528	1.0801	$7.30 \times 10^1$	$1.53 \times 10^6$	Region II
19	18	0.5409	0.5404	0.8142	0.2732	$4.63 \times 10^{10}$	$5.74 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
18	19	0.5404	0.5409	0.8142	0.2737	$4.23 \times 10^{10}$	$5.26 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
22	13	0.5706	0.4038	1.2564	0.6859	$1.55 \times 10^3$	$8.61 \times 10^5$	
13	22	0.4038	0.5706	1.2564	0.8527	$4.77 \times 10^3$	$1.23 \times 10^7$	
22	15	0.5706	0.4426	1.3274	0.7569	$4.37 \times 10^2$	$4.66 \times 10^5$	
15	22	0.4426	0.5706	1.3274	0.8849	$5.18 \times 10^3$	$1.79 \times 10^7$	
11	7	0.3999	0.2974	0.6603	0.2604	$2.92 \times 10^{10}$	$3.21 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
7	11	0.2974	0.3999	0.6603	0.3630	$1.81 \times 10^9$	$5.12 \times 10^{10}$	Region II
24	13	0.5821	0.4038	1.6471	1.0650	$1.24 \times 10^2$	$2.26 \times 10^6$	RB I
13	24	0.4038	0.5821	1.6471	1.2433	$2.34 \times 10^0$	$2.20 \times 10^5$	RB I
9	2	0.3900	0.0727	0.8441	0.4541	$5.23 \times 10^7$	$3.43 \times 10^9$	Region II
2	9	0.0727	0.3900	0.8441	0.7714	$4.37 \times 10^5$	$5.32 \times 10^8$	Region II
23	8	0.5771	0.3837	0.6578	0.0807	$8.40 \times 10^{12}$	$1.77 \times 10^{13}$	Region II
8	23	0.3837	0.5771	0.6578	0.2742	$1.30 \times 10^{11}$	$1.63 \times 10^{12}$	Region II
11	9	0.3999	0.3900	0.5823	0.1824	$1.26 \times 10^{11}$	$6.76 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
9	11	0.3900	0.3999	0.5823	0.1923	$2.11 \times 10^{10}$	$1.24 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
14	21	0.4316	0.5524	0.5873	0.1557	$7.55 \times 10^{10}$	$3.17 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
21	14	0.5524	0.4316	0.5873	0.0348	$1.85 \times 10^{10}$	$2.55 \times 10^{10}$	Region II
9	8	0.3900	0.3837	1.1946	0.8045	$2.60 \times 10^4$	$4.30 \times 10^7$	Region II
8	9	0.3837	0.3900	1.1946	0.8109	$3.47 \times 10^5$	$6.07 \times 10^8$	Region II

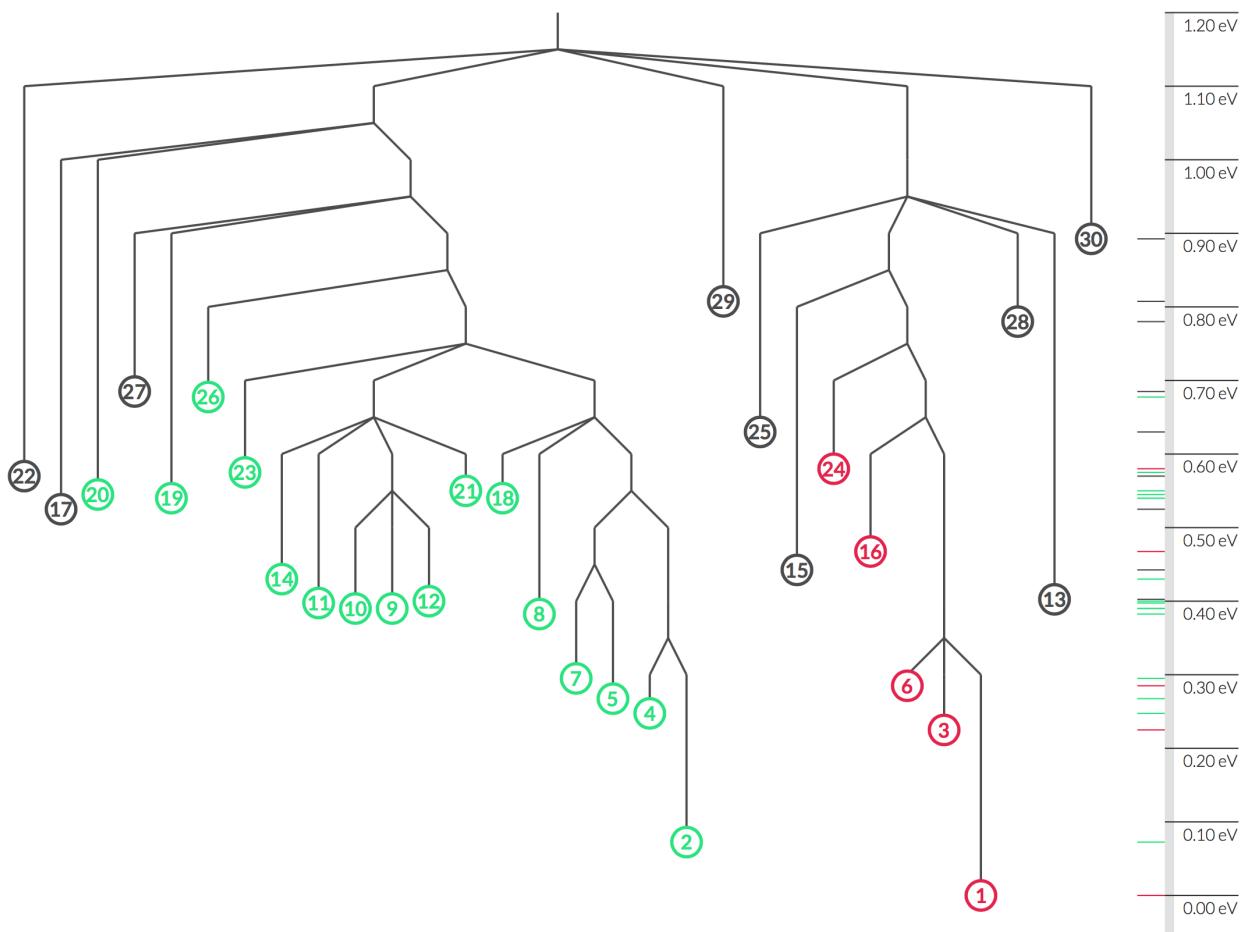
10	9	0.3909	0.3900	0.4603	0.0694	$5.78 \times 10^{12}$	$1.09 \times 10^{13}$	Region II
9	10	0.3900	0.3909	0.4603	0.0702	$1.85 \times 10^{12}$	$3.52 \times 10^{12}$	Region II
14	12	0.4316	0.4010	0.5832	0.1517	$8.67 \times 10^{10}$	$3.51 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
12	14	0.4010	0.4316	0.5832	0.1823	$5.32 \times 10^{10}$	$2.85 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
10	8	0.3909	0.3837	1.1956	0.8047	$8.64 \times 10^4$	$1.43 \times 10^8$	Region II
8	10	0.3837	0.3909	1.1956	0.8119	$3.67 \times 10^5$	$6.49 \times 10^8$	Region II
21	8	0.5524	0.3837	0.9699	0.4175	$1.82 \times 10^7$	$8.53 \times 10^8$	Region II
8	21	0.3837	0.5524	0.9699	0.5863	$2.57 \times 10^8$	$5.69 \times 10^{10}$	Region II
14	9	0.4316	0.3900	0.5844	0.1528	$1.06 \times 10^{11}$	$4.32 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
9	14	0.3900	0.4316	0.5844	0.1943	$2.75 \times 10^{10}$	$1.64 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
20	26	0.5468	0.6783	0.9186	0.3718	$3.14 \times 10^9$	$9.64 \times 10^{10}$	Region II
26	20	0.6783	0.5468	0.9186	0.2404	$3.61 \times 10^{10}$	$3.30 \times 10^{11}$	Region II
9	12	0.3900	0.4010	0.4040	0.0140	$1.12 \times 10^{12}$	$1.28 \times 10^{12}$	Region II
12	9	0.4010	0.3900	0.4040	0.0031	$2.65 \times 10^{12}$	$2.73 \times 10^{12}$	Region II
15	28	0.4426	0.7824	0.8373	0.3947	$4.45 \times 10^9$	$1.69 \times 10^{11}$	
28	15	0.7824	0.4426	0.8373	0.0549	$7.28 \times 10^{12}$	$1.21 \times 10^{13}$	
17	27	0.5257	0.6863	0.9394	0.4136	$1.79 \times 10^9$	$8.08 \times 10^{10}$	
27	17	0.6863	0.5257	0.9394	0.2531	$2.37 \times 10^{10}$	$2.44 \times 10^{11}$	
22	19	0.5706	0.5409	1.0961	0.5255	$1.18 \times 10^5$	$1.49 \times 10^7$	RB II
19	22	0.5409	0.5706	1.0961	0.5551	$5.17 \times 10^6$	$8.59 \times 10^8$	RB II
30	13	0.8941	0.4038	1.1341	0.2400	$8.51 \times 10^{10}$	$7.76 \times 10^{11}$	
13	30	0.4038	0.8941	1.1341	0.7303	$6.41 \times 10^5$	$5.35 \times 10^8$	
20	4	0.5468	0.2495	1.1956	0.6488	$2.77 \times 10^6$	$1.09 \times 10^9$	Region II
4	20	0.2495	0.5468	1.1956	0.9461	$1.91 \times 10^2$	$1.16 \times 10^6$	Region II
4	29	0.2495	0.8094	1.0266	0.7771	$1.57 \times 10^5$	$2.01 \times 10^8$	RB II
29	4	0.8094	0.2495	1.0266	0.2172	$9.18 \times 10^{11}$	$6.79 \times 10^{12}$	RB II
4	2	0.2495	0.0727	0.2669	0.0175	$1.47 \times 10^{13}$	$1.72 \times 10^{13}$	Region II
2	4	0.0727	0.2495	0.2669	0.1942	$3.56 \times 10^{12}$	$2.13 \times 10^{13}$	Region II
25	30	0.6314	0.8941	1.0873	0.4559	$3.10 \times 10^8$	$2.07 \times 10^{10}$	
30	25	0.8941	0.6314	1.0873	0.1931	$6.67 \times 10^{10}$	$3.95 \times 10^{11}$	
26	8	0.6783	0.3837	0.7479	0.0696	$1.17 \times 10^{12}$	$2.22 \times 10^{12}$	Region II
8	26	0.3837	0.6783	0.7479	0.3643	$2.13 \times 10^9$	$6.10 \times 10^{10}$	Region II
27	11	0.6863	0.3999	0.8956	0.2093	$3.98 \times 10^{10}$	$2.74 \times 10^{11}$	RB II
11	27	0.3999	0.6863	0.8956	0.4957	$3.97 \times 10^7$	$3.82 \times 10^9$	RB II
30	24	0.8941	0.5821	1.9287	1.0346	$5.56 \times 10^2$	$7.65 \times 10^6$	RB I
24	30	0.5821	0.8941	1.9287	1.3466	$2.62 \times 10^{-1}$	$6.36 \times 10^4$	RB I
16	3	0.4679	0.2263	0.5098	0.0419	$4.13 \times 10^{11}$	$6.07 \times 10^{11}$	Region I
3	16	0.2263	0.4679	0.5098	0.2836	$8.96 \times 10^9$	$1.22 \times 10^{11}$	Region I
25	6	0.6314	0.2871	0.8157	0.1843	$2.93 \times 10^{11}$	$1.60 \times 10^{12}$	RB I
6	25	0.2871	0.6314	0.8157	0.5286	$4.79 \times 10^7$	$6.24 \times 10^9$	RB I
24	16	0.5821	0.4679	0.6053	0.0232	$8.89 \times 10^{12}$	$1.10 \times 10^{13}$	Region I
16	24	0.4679	0.5821	0.6053	0.1374	$2.12 \times 10^{11}$	$7.50 \times 10^{11}$	Region I
17	15	0.5257	0.4426	1.0643	0.5386	$1.08 \times 10^8$	$1.55 \times 10^{10}$	
15	17	0.4426	0.5257	1.0643	0.6217	$1.15 \times 10^7$	$3.52 \times 10^9$	
28	13	0.7824	0.4038	0.8558	0.0734	$1.18 \times 10^{12}$	$2.33 \times 10^{12}$	
13	28	0.4038	0.7824	0.8558	0.4521	$1.88 \times 10^8$	$1.21 \times 10^{10}$	
7	5	0.2974	0.2688	0.3197	0.0223	$3.83 \times 10^{12}$	$4.70 \times 10^{12}$	Region II

5	7	0.2688	0.2974	0.3197	0.0509	$2.64 \times 10^{12}$	$4.22 \times 10^{12}$	Region II
23	2	0.5771	0.0727	0.6283	0.0512	$1.82 \times 10^{12}$	$2.92 \times 10^{12}$	Region II
2	23	0.0727	0.5771	0.6283	0.5556	$1.62 \times 10^7$	$2.70 \times 10^9$	Region II

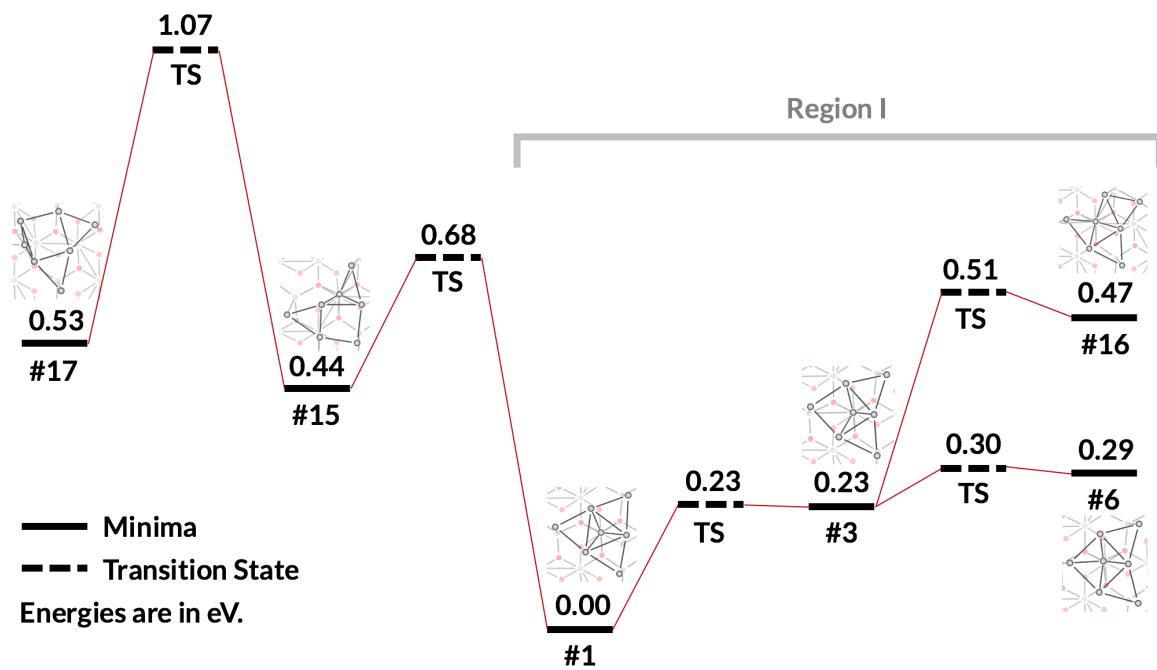
**Table S3.** The barrier heights and HTST rate constants of all direct paths between isomers in Table S1. The columns are index of the initial isomer, index of the final isomer, energy of initial isomer, energy of final isomer, energy of transition state, barrier height, rate constant at 450 K, rate constant at 700 K, and notes respectively. The notes indicate whether it is a transition inside one region (“Region I” or “Region II”), or a transition at region boundary (RB) (“RB I” or “RB II”), or other types (empty). Note that this table includes not only the transition shown in MST (Figure 3), but also other direct paths in the original isomerization graph (Figure S1). The extra paths are not part of MEP, and their barrier energies and rate constants can be high. The HTST rate constants are calculated according to Eq. (2).



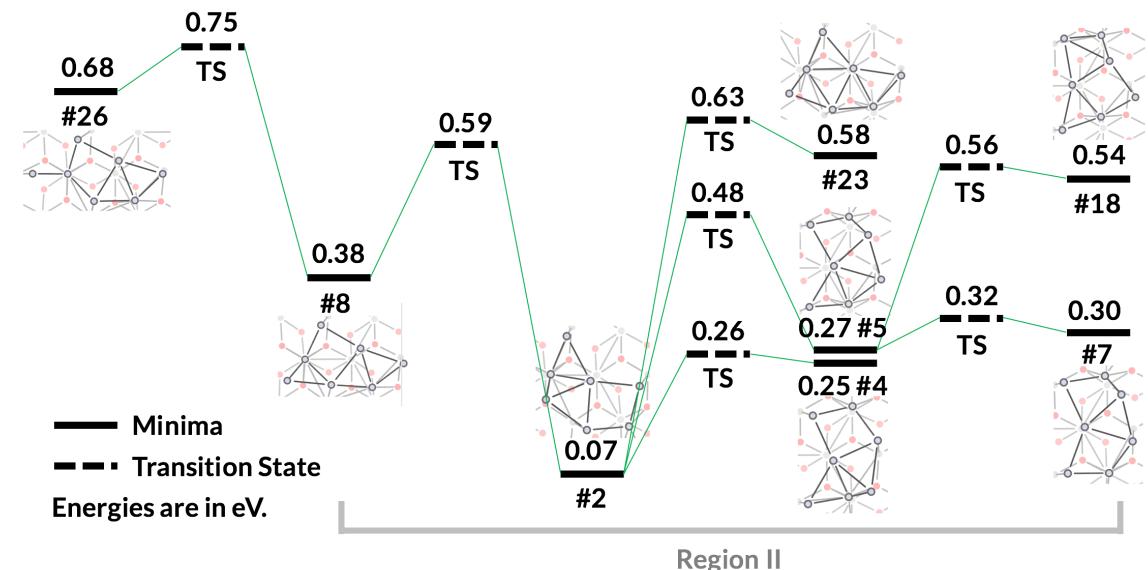
**Figure S1.** The  $\text{Pt}_7$  on  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  isomerization graph, including all direct NEB paths between low-energy isomers, shown as 48 edges in the graph. The notations are the same as Figure 3. The rate constants for each edge is listed in Table S2. Figure 3 is a subgraph of this graph, contains all vertices and only edges that are part of MEP.



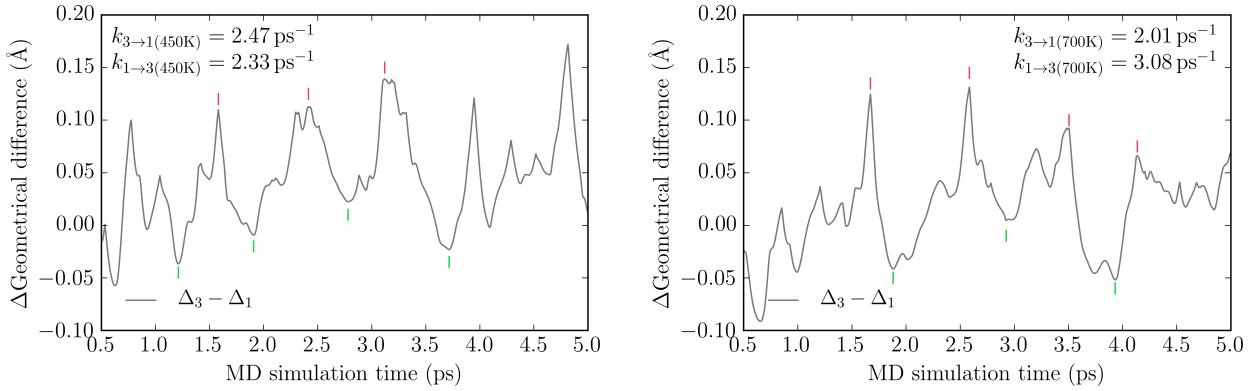
**Figure S2.** The disconnectivity graph of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  supported  $\text{Pt}_7$  cluster isomers, showing connectivity between low-energy isomers. Isomers that are considered within region I and region II in 700 K are labeled as red and green, respectively. The energy (relative to global minimum) scale are shown as the vertical bar to the right.



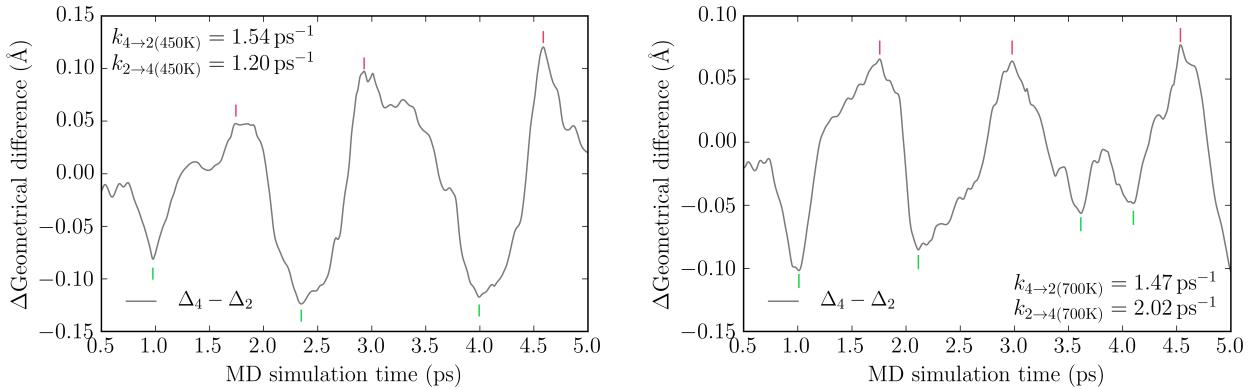
**Figure S3.** The isomerization MEP among isomers in region I and some adjacent isomers. The high barrier energy between isomer #1 and 15 makes the transition outwards region I difficult at catalytic relevant temperature.



**Figure S4.** The isomerization MEP among isomers in region I and some adjacent isomers. The high energy of transition state between isomer #8 and #26 makes the transition outwards region II difficult at catalytic relevant temperature.



**Figure S5.** The difference between geometrical differences measured from isomers #3 and #1 based on MD trajectories starting from isomer #1 simulated at (a, left) 450 K and (b, right) 700 K. The maxima (labeled by red vertical lines) correspond to instants when the MD geometry is closest to isomer #1 and farthest to isomer #3, and the minima (labeled by green vertical lines) correspond to instants when the MD geometry is closest to isomer #3 and farthest to isomer #1. The rate constants are estimated by the inverse of average time span between adjacent maxima and minima.



**Figure S6.** The difference between geometrical differences measured from isomers #4 and #2 based on MD trajectories starting from isomer #2 simulated at (a, left) 450 K and (b, right) 700 K. The maxima (labeled by red vertical lines) correspond to instants when the MD geometry is closest to isomer #2 and farthest to isomer #4, and the minima (labeled by green vertical lines) correspond to instants when the MD geometry is closest to isomer #4 and farthest to isomer #2. The rate constants are estimated by the inverse of average time span between adjacent maxima and minima.

### Computational Details:

A 15 Angstrom vacuum gap along surface  $z$  axis has been added to avoid image interactions. The energy cutoff of basis set expansion is set to 400 eV. The dipole correction is enabled for NEB and frequency (finite difference method) calculations. For path optimization, 5 images are used between a pair of isomers. The normal NEB is performed first. Then for those converged paths without any intermediates, climbing-image NEB (CI-NEB) is used to find the transition state geometry and the corresponding transition state energy. If the path contains intermediates, the isomers corresponding to the intermediates are identified. Eventually the path between any two isomers can be decomposed to one or multiple direct paths. We found 48 such direct paths which are listed in Table S3. Among these paths, 29 direct paths are part of minimal energy paths, which are shown in Figure 3.