

# Supporting Information

## On the Instability of Iodides of Heavy Main Group Atoms in their Higher Oxidation State

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- Coordinates and Energies-----S2
- Scheme S1-----S4

Coordinates and energies (sum of electronic and zero point energies) of the structures calculated at the M06-2X/Def2-TZVPD level of theory.

TeI <sub>6</sub>			I	4.911761000	2.234844000	0.206568000
E+ZPE: -2053.781373 a. u.			I	-4.911761000	-2.234844000	-0.206568000
Te	0.000000000	0.000000000	Transition state for the decomposition of TeBr <sub>6</sub>			
I	0.000000000	0.000000000	E+ZPE: -31426.278874 a. u.			
I	0.000000000	2.786435000	Te	-3.055727000	-0.090821000	-0.034639000
I	2.786435000	0.000000000	Br	-3.970704000	-0.453509000	2.328090000
I	0.000000000	0.000000000	Br	-1.718093000	2.138011000	0.963789000
I	0.000000000	-2.786435000	Br	-4.919617000	1.535879000	-0.451024000
I	0.000000000	0.000000000	Br	-4.372881000	-2.014602000	-0.971310000
I	0.000000000	-2.786435000	Br	-2.072559000	0.512467000	-2.319142000
I	-2.786435000	0.000000000	Br	-0.882139000	-1.438155000	0.501065000
TeBr <sub>6</sub>			Te	3.055733000	0.090824000	-0.034616000
E+ZPE: -15713.147769 a. u.			Br	3.971035000	0.452882000	2.328092000
Te	0.000000000	0.000000000	Br	4.372770000	2.014840000	-0.970968000
Br	0.000000000	2.531546000	Br	0.882207000	1.438033000	0.501676000
Br	0.000000000	0.000000000	Br	1.718130000	-2.138191000	0.963426000
Br	-2.531546000	0.000000000	Br	2.072280000	-0.511883000	-2.319140000
Br	0.000000000	-2.531546000	Br	4.919563000	-1.535777000	-0.451662000
Br	0.000000000	0.000000000	Transition state for the decomposition of TeCl <sub>6</sub>			
Br	2.531546000	0.000000000	E+ZPE: -6058.254196 a. u.			
SbI <sub>5</sub>			Te	2.973826000	0.094967000	0.008470000
E+ZPE: -1728.461036 a. u.			Te	-2.973827000	-0.094967000	0.008476000
Sb	0.000000000	0.000000000	Cl	4.605599000	-1.538098000	0.074541000
I	0.000000000	2.707087000	Cl	2.771836000	-0.121238000	2.368600000
I	-2.344406000	-1.353543000	Cl	4.466651000	1.856072000	0.187314000
I	0.000000000	0.000000000	Cl	3.138945000	0.048398000	-2.364494000
I	2.344406000	-1.353543000	Cl	1.385220000	-2.131403000	-0.189155000
I	0.000000000	0.000000000	Cl	0.802485000	1.328573000	-0.102703000
Transition state for the decomposition of SbI <sub>5</sub>			Cl	-1.385224000	2.131407000	-0.189235000
E+ZPE: -3456.926242 a. u.			Cl	-0.802472000	-1.328562000	-0.102595000
I	1.246032000	1.425429000	Cl	-4.466646000	-1.856069000	0.187381000
I	4.590897000	-0.995413000	Cl	-2.771902000	0.121368000	2.368599000
I	1.854003000	-2.444469000	Cl	-3.138884000	-0.048542000	-2.364497000
I	-1.854006000	2.444447000	Cl	-4.605606000	1.538094000	0.074408000
I	-1.246020000	-1.425427000	TeCl <sub>6</sub>			
I	-4.763375000	0.933153000	E+ZPE: -3029.161126 a. u.			
I	4.763460000	-0.933792000	Te	0.000000000	0.000000000	0.000000000
I	-4.591018000	0.996059000	Cl	0.000000000	0.000000000	2.333286000
I	-5.211303000	-2.249221000	Cl	0.000000000	2.333286000	0.000000000
I	5.211327000	2.249230000	Cl	2.333286000	0.000000000	0.000000000
Sb	-3.577194000	-0.015218000	Cl	0.000000000	0.000000000	-2.333286000
Sb	3.577196000	0.015224000	Cl	0.000000000	-2.333286000	0.000000000
PbI <sub>4</sub>			Cl	-2.333286000	0.000000000	0.000000000
E+ZPE: -1383.430565 a. u.			SbBr <sub>5</sub>			
Pb	0.000000000	0.000000000	E+ZPE: -13111.277496 a. u.			
I	0.000000000	2.244679000	Sb	0.000000000	0.000000000	0.000000000
I	-2.244679000	0.000000000	Br	0.000000000	0.000000000	2.536862000
I	0.000000000	-2.244679000	Br	0.000000000	2.478409000	0.000000000
I	2.244679000	0.000000000	Br	-2.146365000	-1.239204000	0.000000000
Transition state I for the decomposition of PbI <sub>4</sub>			Br	0.000000000	0.000000000	-2.536862000
E+ZPE: -2766.841917 a. u.			Br	2.146365000	-1.239204000	0.000000000
Pb	3.261365000	0.000023000	Transition state for the decomposition of SbBr <sub>5</sub>			
I	0.738957000	0.000100000	E+ZPE: -26222.519606 a. u.			
I	4.911763000	-2.234818000	Sb	3.293673000	0.106364000	0.000003000
I	2.168539000	-0.000142000	Sb	-3.293668000	-0.106360000	0.000021000
Pb	-3.261365000	-0.000023000	Br	4.242224000	-1.011385000	-1.988146000
I	-2.168539000	0.000142000	Br	4.242899000	-1.011397000	1.987811000
I	-0.738956000	-0.000100000	Br	4.877171000	2.057782000	-0.000228000
I	-4.911764000	2.234818000				

Br 1.023696000 1.349016000 0.000212000  
 Br 1.450387000 -2.306843000 0.000374000  
 Br -1.023684000 -1.349000000 0.000296000  
 Br -4.877152000 -2.057791000 -0.000124000  
 Br -4.242140000 1.011223000 -1.988286000  
 Br -4.243022000 1.011551000 1.987701000  
 Br -1.450388000 2.306837000 0.000355000

SbCl<sub>5</sub>

E+ZPE: -2541.291618 a. u.

Sb 0.000000000 0.000000000 0.000000000  
 Cl 0.000000000 0.000000000 2.345696000  
 Cl 0.000000000 2.301105000 0.000000000  
 Cl 1.992815000 -1.150552000 0.000000000  
 Cl -1.992815000 -1.150552000 0.000000000  
 Cl 0.000000000 0.000000000 -2.345696000

Transition state for the decomposition of SbCl<sub>5</sub>

E+ZPE: -5082.492321 a. u.

Sb -3.112760000 -0.113737000 0.000309000  
 Sb 3.112803000 0.113809000 -0.000325000  
 Cl -1.193928000 2.209701000 0.000581000  
 Cl 0.912922000 1.293654000 0.000216000  
 Cl -0.912843000 -1.293816000 0.000154000  
 Cl 1.193855000 -2.209887000 0.000003000  
 Cl 3.944969000 -1.040754000 1.812787000  
 Cl 3.944028000 -1.040279000 -1.814160000  
 Cl 4.686916000 1.835701000 -0.000505000  
 Cl -3.944564000 1.040705000 -1.813063000  
 Cl -3.944584000 1.040407000 1.813865000  
 Cl -4.686901000 -1.835649000 0.000168000

PbBr<sub>4</sub>

E+ZPE: -10489.667323 a. u.

Pb 0.000000000 0.000000000 0.000000000  
 Br 0.000000000 2.073862000 1.466429000  
 Br 2.073862000 0.000000000 -1.466429000  
 Br 0.000000000 -2.073862000 1.466429000  
 Br -2.073862000 0.000000000 -1.466429000

Transition state for the decomposition of PbBr<sub>4</sub>

E+ZPE: -20979.282457 a. u.

Pb -3.017292000 -0.424315000 -0.000083000  
 Pb 3.017292000 0.424315000 0.000083000  
 Br -4.563290000 -0.045241000 2.044378000  
 Br -4.563600000 -0.044601000 -2.044188000  
 Br 4.563603000 0.044601000 2.044185000  
 Br 4.563286000 0.045241000 -2.044381000  
 Br 0.576848000 1.652639000 0.000346000  
 Br -1.892418000 2.305427000 0.000290000  
 Br -0.576848000 -1.652639000 -0.000344000  
 Br 1.892418000 -2.305427000 -0.000286000

PbCl<sub>4</sub>

E+ZPE: -2033.657506 a. u.

Pb 0.000000000 0.000000000 0.000000000  
 Cl 0.000000000 -1.943618000 1.373674000  
 Cl -1.943618000 0.000000000 -1.373674000  
 Cl 1.943618000 0.000000000 -1.373674000  
 Cl 0.000000000 1.943618000 1.373674000

Transition state for the decomposition of PbCl<sub>4</sub>

E+ZPE: -4067.228866 a. u.

Pb -2.814437000 0.309723000 -0.000134000  
 Pb 2.814437000 -0.309723000 0.000136000  
 Cl 0.524225000 -1.546221000 0.000593000  
 Cl -1.643838000 -2.239583000 0.000808000  
 Cl -4.264665000 -0.155611000 1.898832000

Cl -4.264799000 -0.157116000 -1.898628000  
 Cl -0.524227000 1.546219000 -0.000596000  
 Cl 1.643837000 2.239582000 -0.000816000  
 Cl 4.264799000 0.157124000 1.898628000  
 Cl 4.264667000 0.155606000 -1.898831000

Transition state for the decomposition of PbI<sub>4</sub> on reaction with PbI<sub>2</sub>.

E+ZPE: -2171.576294 a. u.

Pb -1.911150000 -0.202478000 -0.240439000  
 Pb 2.420821000 0.126971000 1.104636000  
 I -3.010737000 1.845783000 -1.759053000  
 I -3.992888000 -1.717525000 0.817007000  
 I -0.737450000 1.122995000 2.062479000  
 I 0.573581000 -1.448449000 -1.001673000  
 I 2.801926000 2.372960000 -0.543048000  
 I 3.577022000 -2.058942000 -0.912771000

Transition state for the decomposition of PbBr<sub>4</sub> on reaction with PbBr<sub>2</sub>.

E+ZPE: -15830.924724 a. u.

Pb -1.825572000 -0.251738000 -0.279445000  
 Pb 2.302506000 0.287222000 0.923314000  
 Br 0.539048000 -1.478136000 -0.921719000  
 Br -3.746183000 -1.377385000 1.052029000  
 Br -2.919514000 1.746537000 -1.502948000  
 Br 3.059985000 -2.113096000 -0.974255000  
 Br 2.414450000 2.096103000 -0.956614000  
 Br -0.465174000 1.042843000 1.795011000

Transition state for the decomposition of PbCl<sub>4</sub> on reaction with PbCl<sub>2</sub>.

E+ZPE: -3146.899527 a. u.

Pb -1.842343000 0.204382000 0.179826000  
 Cl -2.839610000 -1.722303000 1.277929000  
 Cl 0.279644000 1.605075000 0.767188000  
 Cl -3.569954000 0.883579000 -1.407446000  
 Cl -0.199186000 -1.035435000 -1.539260000  
 Pb 2.255175000 -0.308139000 -0.507972000  
 Cl 1.887396000 -1.582621000 1.564677000  
 Cl 2.450399000 2.352180000 0.919732000

PbI<sub>5</sub><sup>-</sup>

E+ZPE: -1681.205057 a. u.

Pb 0.000000000 0.000000000 0.000000000  
 I 0.000000000 0.000000000 2.932691000  
 I 0.000000000 2.844208000 0.000000000  
 I -2.463157000 -1.422104000 0.000000000  
 I 0.000000000 0.000000000 -2.932691000  
 I 2.463157000 -1.422104000 0.000000000

PbI<sub>6</sub><sup>2-</sup>

E+ZPE: -1978.873735 a. u.

Pb 0.000000000 0.000000000 0.000000000  
 I 0.000000000 0.000000000 2.984367000  
 I 0.000000000 2.984367000 0.000000000  
 I -2.984367000 0.000000000 0.000000000  
 I 0.000000000 0.000000000 -2.984367000  
 I 0.000000000 -2.984367000 0.000000000  
 I 2.984367000 0.000000000 0.000000000

PbF<sub>4</sub>

E+ZPE: -592.157805 a. u.

Pb 0.000033000 -0.000020000 -0.000005000  
 F -0.580708000 -1.595466000 -0.995064000  
 F -0.889788000 0.038291000 1.754891000  
 F 1.950569000 -0.059401000 0.254496000  
 F -0.480370000 1.616593000 -1.014274000

PbH <sub>4</sub>				I	0.000000000	-2.954216000	0.000000000
E+ZPE: -195.020077 a. u.				I	0.000000000	0.000000000	-2.954216000
Pb	0.000000000	0.000000000	0.000000000	I	-2.954216000	0.000000000	0.000000000
H	1.010242000	1.010242000	1.010242000	SbI <sub>5</sub> <sup>-</sup>			
H	-1.010242000	-1.010242000	1.010242000	E+ZPE: -1728.643048 a. u.			
H	-1.010242000	1.010242000	-1.010242000	Sb	0.329295000	-0.000561000	0.000000000
H	1.010242000	-1.010242000	-1.010242000	I	0.534890000	-3.047926000	0.000000000
TeI <sub>6</sub> <sup>2-</sup>				I	0.534490000	3.046659000	0.000000000
E+ZPE: -2054.015425 a. u.				I	0.534890000	0.001065000	3.046810000
Te	0.000000000	0.000000000	0.000000000	I	-2.456028000	-0.000324000	0.000000000
I	0.000000000	0.000000000	2.954216000	I	0.534890000	0.001065000	-3.046810000
I	0.000000000	2.954216000	0.000000000				
I	2.954216000	0.000000000	0.000000000				

Scheme S1: Distortion from tetrahedral geometry results in a second-order interaction between two antibonding orbitals and results in a low-lying antibonding MO.

