

Electronic Supporting Information for:
Electron superhalogens as positronium superhalogens

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S1 Basis set preliminary studies

First, the impact of the electronic basis set (BS) selection was evaluated. The aug-cc-pVXZ (X=D,T,Q) electronic BS series was combined with the PSX-TZ BS for the positron. Results for LiF_2 and MgCl_3 are summarized in Table S1. The PAs and EAs calculated with the smaller DZ BS are within 0.1 eV of the results obtained with the larger TZ and QZ BS.

Table S1 Convergence test with respect to electronic basis set. All values in eV.

| LiF_2 | EA | PA | P _s BE | MgCl_3 | EA | PA | P _s BE |
|----------------|------|------|-------------------|-----------------|------|------|-------------------|
| DZ | 5.75 | 3.71 | 2.66 | DZ | 5.70 | 2.91 | 1.81 |
| TZ | 5.77 | 3.78 | 2.75 | TZ | 5.71 | 2.97 | 1.88 |
| QZ | 5.82 | 3.80 | 2.82 | QZ | - | 2.99 | - |

Next, the impact of an additional positron BS centered on the metal atom was evaluated for four systems. This test was performed with the chosen aug-cc-pVDZ and PSX-TZ BS for electrons and positron respectively. The results are presented in Table S2). The impact of the additional positron BS on the PAs is almost negligible, as it increases the predictions only by 0.01-0.02 eV.

Table S2 Additional positron basis set test. All values in eV.

| System | PA | P _s BE | PA [†] | P _s BE [†] |
|-------------------|------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| LiBr ₂ | 3.05 | 1.08 | 3.07 | 1.09 |
| AlCl ₄ | 2.93 | 2.25 | 2.93 | 2.25 |
| MgBr ₃ | 2.81 | 1.28 | 2.82 | 1.28 |
| BBr ₄ | 3.03 | 1.32 | 3.04 | 1.32 |

[†] With additional positron BS centered on the metal atom.

Additionally, the impact of the electronic BS choice, from the aug-cc-pVXZ (X=D,T,Q) series, was evaluated for the LiF_2 EDA results. These calculations were performed with and without positron BS centered on the Li atom. The results are summarized on Table S3. These results reveal that the increase in the PA observed with the larger basis sets arises from the higher relative contribution of the correlation term.

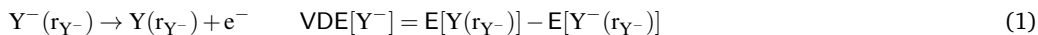
Table S3 EDA contributions (in %) on PA[LiF_2^-] with respect to to electronic basis set and center of the positron BS.

| | E _{Elec} | E _{Cor} | E _{Rlx} |
|----|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| DZ | 90.7/90.8 [†] | 9.1/9.2 [†] | 0.2/0.2 [†] |
| TZ | 89.1/89.2 [†] | 10.6/10.7 [†] | 0.2/0.2 [†] |
| QZ | 88.6/88.7 [†] | 11.1/11.2 [†] | 0.2/0.2 [†] |

[†] With additional positron BS centered on the metal atom.

S2 VDE and Vertical PA

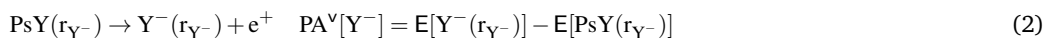
The vertical electron detachment energy of Y^- ($VDE[Y^-]$) corresponds to the process:



where r_{Y^-} denotes the optimized geometry of the anion.

Differences in the EA and vertical electron detachment values range from 0.54 to 3.05 eV and can be attributed to a significant geometric relaxation upon the release of an electron by the anion. A comparison between the optimized geometry of SH anions, summarized in Table 4 of the main document, and the neutral SH molecules, presented in Table S7 of the SI, reveals considerable changes in the M–X bond lengths and a reduction in symmetry in the neutral complex. Existing studies offer detailed information on the significant geometric relaxation after electron detachment in SH anions¹.

Vertical positron PA^V affinities follow:



Vertical PsBE will be calculated as:

$$PsBE^V[Y] = VDE[Y^-] + PA^V[Y^-] - 6.8 \quad (3)$$

Results for VDE and PA^V are presented in Table S4.

Table S4 VDE/ PA^V energies (in eV) of the MX_{k+1}^- systems.

| X | LiX_2^- | BeX_3^- | BX_4^- | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| F | 6.72/3.71 | 8.29/3.59 | 9.10/3.54 | | |
| Cl | 6.05/3.20 | 6.83/3.17 | 6.59/3.15 | | |
| Br | 5.56/3.07 | 6.26/3.05 | 5.94/3.03 | | |
| X | NaX_2^- | MgX_3^- | AlX_4^- | SiX_5^- | PX_6^- |
| F | 6.35/3.56 | 8.17/3.28 | 9.55/3.21 | 9.31/3.21 | 9.94/3.19 |
| Cl | 5.80/3.05 | 6.97/2.91 | 7.30/2.93 | 7.76/2.93 | 6.80/2.93 |
| Br | 5.46/2.89 | 6.46/2.81 | 6.60/2.84 | 5.85/2.84 | 6.08/2.85 |

Table S5 Vertical positronium binding energies of the MX_{k+1} SH systems estimated from Eq. (3), at the MC-MP2/aug-cc-pVDZ/PSX-TZ level of theory. All values in eV.

| X | LiX_2 | BeX_3 | BX_4 | | |
|----|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| F | 3.63 | 5.08 | 5.84 | | |
| Cl | 2.45 | 3.20 | 2.94 | | |
| Br | 1.81 | 2.51 | 2.17 | | |
| X | NaX_2 | MgX_3 | AlX_4 | SiX_5 | PX_6 |
| F | 3.12 | 4.68 | 5.96 | 5.72 | 6.34 |
| Cl | 2.04 | 3.08 | 3.43 | 3.89 | 2.93 |
| Br | 1.56 | 2.47 | 2.64 | 1.89 | 2.13 |

S3 Partial charge analysis

Table S6 Total electrostatic charges (CHELPG ESP)

| System | A | B | C | D |
|--------|-------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|
| LiF2 | 0.822 | -0.911 | 0.811 | -0.906 |
| NaF2 | 0.891 | -0.949 | 0.898 | -0.945 |
| BeF3 | 1.219 | -0.739 | 1.188 | -0.729 |
| MgF3 | 1.518 | -0.840 | 1.503 | -0.834 |
| BF4 | 1.203 | -0.551 | 1.144 | -0.536 |
| AlF4 | 1.511 | -0.628 | 1.471 | -0.618 |
| SiF5 | 1.728 | -0.521(ax)/-0.583(eq) | 1.687 | -0.578(eq)/-0.510(ax) |
| PF6 | 1.715 | -0.453 | 1.660 | -0.443 |
| LiCl2 | 0.702 | -0.851 | 0.672 | -0.836 |
| NaCl2 | 0.774 | -0.887 | 0.770 | -0.885 |
| BeCl3 | 0.940 | -0.647 | 0.882 | -0.629 |
| MgCl3 | 1.186 | -0.730 | 1.144 | -0.714 |
| BCl4 | 0.850 | -0.462 | 0.758 | -0.440 |
| AlCl4 | 0.958 | -0.490 | 0.882 | -0.470 |
| SiCl5 | 1.052 | -0.356(ax)/-0.493(eq) | 0.981 | -0.335(ax)/-0.487(eq) |
| PCl6 | 0.984 | -0.331 | 0.905 | -0.317 |
| LiBr2 | 0.677 | -0.839 | 0.637 | -0.819 |
| NaBr2 | 0.746 | -0.872 | 0.736 | -0.867 |
| BeBr3 | 0.888 | -0.629 | 0.823 | -0.608 |
| MgBr3 | 1.121 | -0.707 | 1.071 | -0.690 |
| BBr4 | 0.834 | -0.458 | 0.734 | -0.433 |
| AlBr4 | 0.894 | -0.473 | 0.804 | -0.451 |
| SiBr5 | 0.989 | -0.333(ax)/-0.495(eq) | 0.913 | -0.310(ax)/-0.491(eq) |
| PBr6 | 1.000 | -0.333 | 0.916 | -0.320 |

^A Metal charge in MX_{k+1}^-

^B Halogen charge in MX_{k+1}^-

^C Metal charge in PsMX_{k+1}

^D Halogen charge in PsMX_{k+1}

S4 Optimized geometries

Table S7 MP2/aug-cc-pVDZ optimized metal halogen distances in neutral MX_{k+1} systems

| System | M-X1 | M-X2 | M-X3 | M-X4 | M-X5 | M-X6 |
|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| LiF2* | 1.711 | 1.710 | - | - | - | - |
| NaF2* | 2.061 | 2.061 | - | - | - | - |
| BeF3 | 1.423 | 1.423 | 2.098 | - | - | - |
| MgF3 | 1.775 | 1.775 | 2.264 | - | - | - |
| BF4 | 1.336 | 1.336 | 1.336 | 2.691 | - | - |
| AlF4 | 1.667 | 1.667 | 1.667 | 1.667 | 2.189 | - |
| SiF5 | 1.607 | 1.607 | 1.607 | 1.607 | 3.209 | - |
| PF6 | 1.586(eq) | 1.586(eq) | 1.586(eq) | 1.620(ax) | 1.620(ax) | 3.374 |
| LiCl2* | 2.203 | 2.202 | - | - | - | - |
| NaCl2* | 2.573 | 2.573 | - | - | - | - |
| BeCl3 | 1.975 | 1.975 | 1.835 | - | - | - |
| MgCl3 | 2.367 | 2.367 | 2.211 | - | - | - |
| BCl4 | 1.786 | 1.786 | 1.943 | 1.943 | - | - |
| AlCl4 | 2.113 | 2.113 | 2.270 | 2.270 | - | - |
| SiCl5 | 2.064 | 2.054 | 2.051 | 2.051 | 3.837 | - |
| PCl6 | 2.056(eq) | 2.056(eq) | 2.072(eq) | 2.162(ax) | 2.162(ax) | 3.981 |
| LiBr2* | 2.370 | 2.370 | - | - | - | - |
| NaBr2* | 2.737 | 2.737 | - | - | - | - |
| BeBr3 | 2.123 | 2.123 | 1.986 | - | - | - |
| MgBr3 | 2.517 | 2.517 | 2.358 | - | - | - |
| BBr4 | 2.002 | 2.002 | 2.002 | 2.002 | - | - |
| AlBr4 | 2.268 | 2.268 | 2.428 | 2.428 | - | - |
| SiBr5 | 2.234 | 2.213 | 2.213 | 2.218 | 3.944 | - |
| PBr6 | 2.260(eq) | 2.232(eq) | 2.227(eq) | 2.360(ax) | 2.630(ax) | 4.022 |

All values in Å

* Li/NaMX₂ systems lose the linear geometry forming an XMX angle different from 180

S5 Energy decomposition analysis

Table S8 EDA results for e^+ SH anions complexes. Energy values in atomic units.

| System | E_{elec} | E_{rlx} | E_{corr} | e^+ BE |
|--------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------|
| LiF2 | 0.123828 | 0.000274 | 0.012393 | 0.136495 |
| NaF2 | 0.118896 | 0.000255 | 0.011613 | 0.130763 |
| BeF3 | 0.117452 | 0.000180 | 0.014182 | 0.131814 |
| MgF3 | 0.108691 | 0.000113 | 0.011808 | 0.120612 |
| BF4 | 0.114242 | 0.000162 | 0.015585 | 0.129989 |
| AlF4 | 0.105155 | 0.000108 | 0.012786 | 0.118050 |
| SiF5 | 0.103533 | 0.000094 | 0.014324 | 0.117951 |
| PF6 | 0.101811 | 0.000078 | 0.015418 | 0.117307 |
| LiCl2 | 0.098663 | 0.000265 | 0.018697 | 0.117625 |
| NaCl2 | 0.093922 | 0.000161 | 0.017912 | 0.111995 |
| BeCl3 | 0.094543 | 0.000324 | 0.021724 | 0.116590 |
| MgCl3 | 0.088028 | 0.000223 | 0.018824 | 0.107075 |
| BCl4 | 0.091725 | 0.000236 | 0.023885 | 0.115846 |
| AlCl4 | 0.086219 | 0.000231 | 0.021160 | 0.107609 |
| SiCl5 | 0.084001 | 0.000166 | 0.023419 | 0.107586 |
| PCl6 | 0.081761 | 0.000120 | 0.025834 | 0.107715 |
| LiBr2 | 0.092535 | 0.000324 | 0.019412 | 0.112272 |
| NaBr2 | 0.087764 | 0.000157 | 0.018382 | 0.106303 |
| BeBr3 | 0.088723 | 0.000380 | 0.022934 | 0.112037 |
| MgBr3 | 0.082900 | 0.000286 | 0.020075 | 0.103261 |
| BBr4 | 0.085919 | 0.000265 | 0.025317 | 0.111501 |
| AlBr4 | 0.081266 | 0.000277 | 0.022838 | 0.104382 |
| SiBr5 | 0.078888 | 0.000572 | 0.023434 | 0.102894 |
| PBr6 | 0.076375 | 0.000143 | 0.028164 | 0.104681 |

Additionally, we present in Fig S1 the relation between the E_{Elec} and the charge on the halogen atoms for the MX_{k+1}^- systems

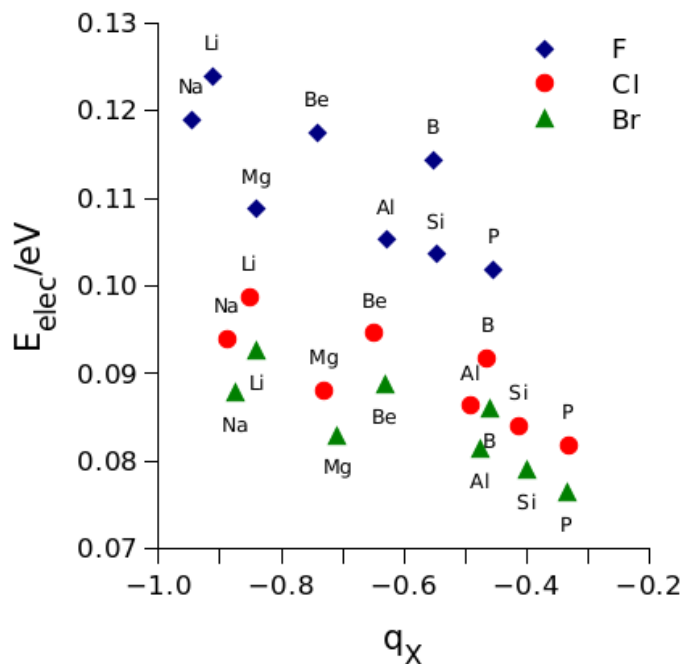


Figure S1 Total electrostatic charge (CHELPG ESP) on a halogen atom in MX_k^- compared to the electrostatic term of the PA energy decomposition.

S6 Electrostatic potential and positron density

We present plots (Figs. S2-S9) for total electrostatic potential (ESP) and positron density of MX_{k+1}^- and PsMX_k respectively. Potential and density values in a.u., X and Y axis in Å.

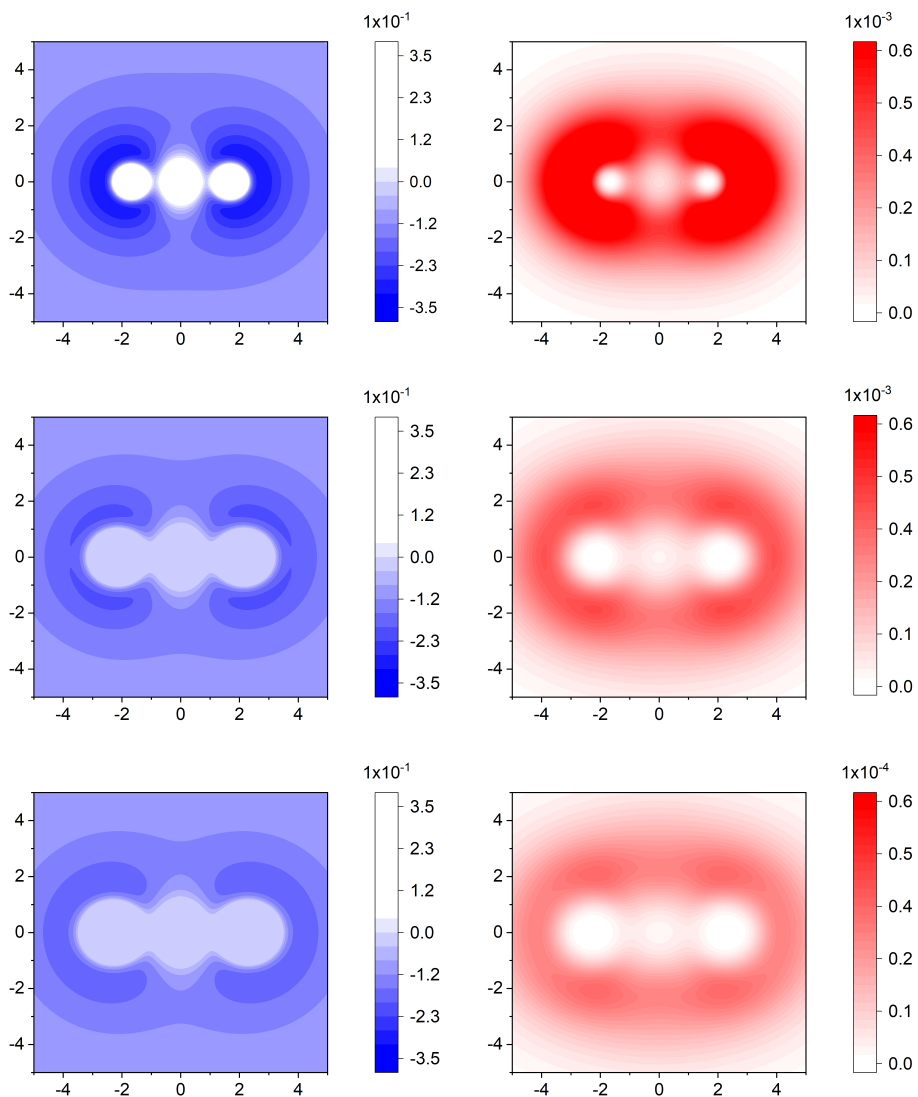


Figure S2 Top left : ESP of LiF_2^- , Middle left: ESP of LiCl_2^- , Bottom left: ESP of LiBr_2^- . Top right: positron density of PsLiF_2 , Middle right: positron density of PsLiCl_2 , Bottom right: positron density of PsLiBr_2 .

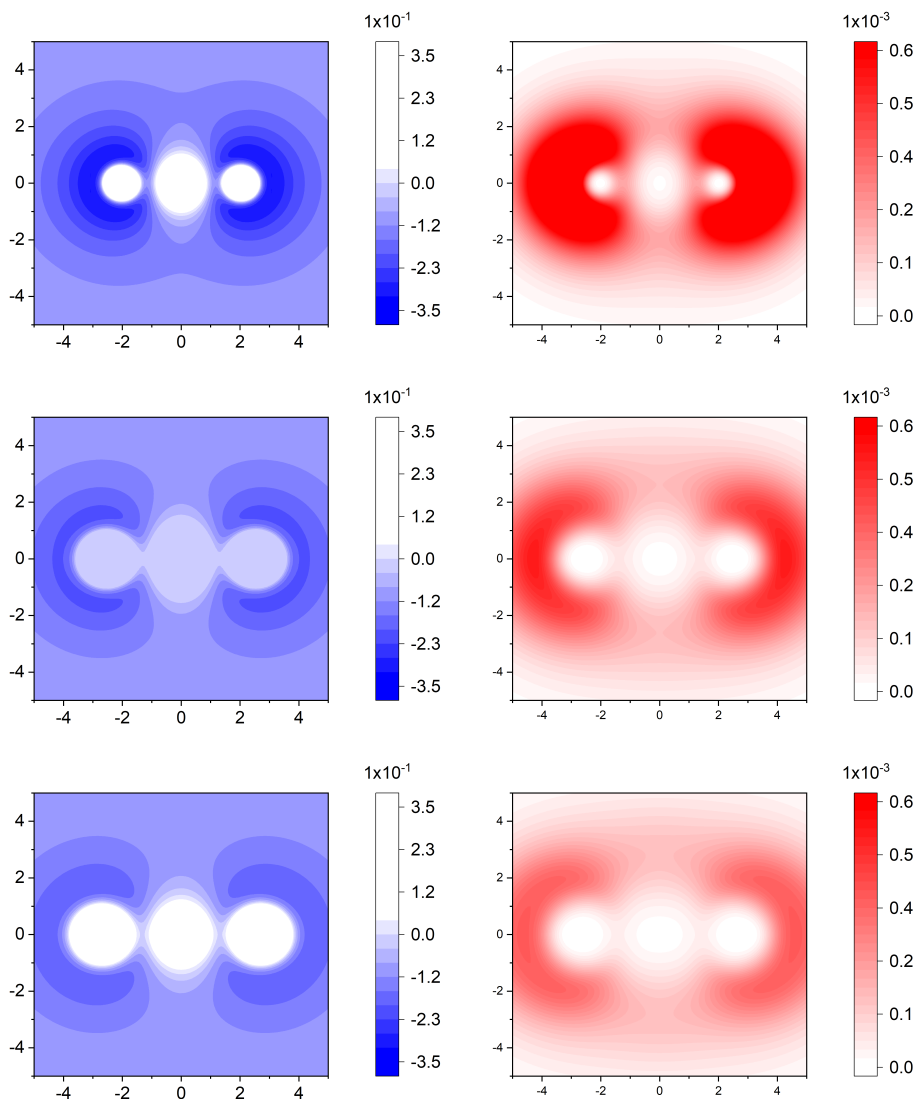


Figure S3 Top left : ESP of NaF_2^- , Middle left: ESP of NaCl_2^- , Bottom left: ESP of NaBr_2^- . Top right: positron density of PsNaF_2 , Middle right: positron density of PsNaCl_2 , Bottom right: positron density of PsNaBr_2 .

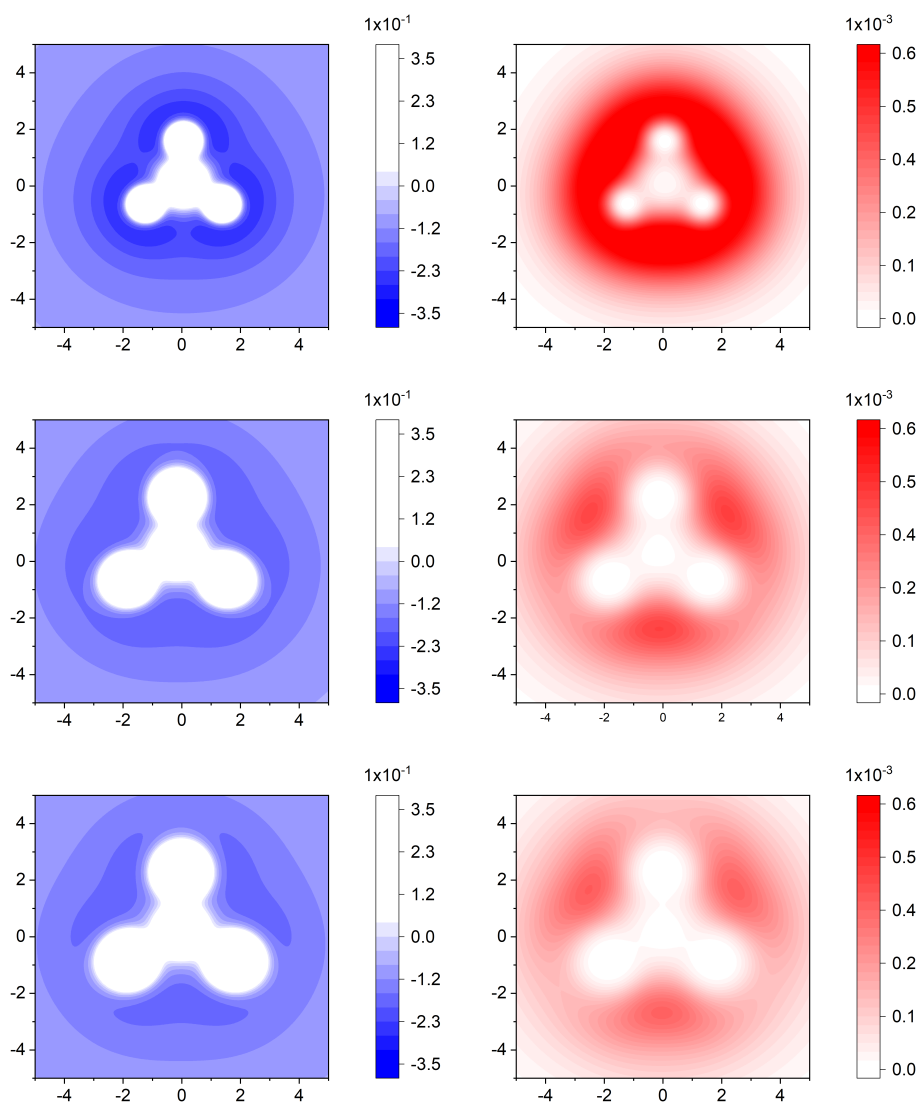


Figure S4 Top left : ESP of BeF₃⁻, Middle left: ESP of BeCl₃⁻, Bottom left: ESP of BeBr₃⁻. Top right: positron density of PsBeF₃, Middle right: positron density of PsBeCl₃, Bottom right: positron density of PsBeBr₃.

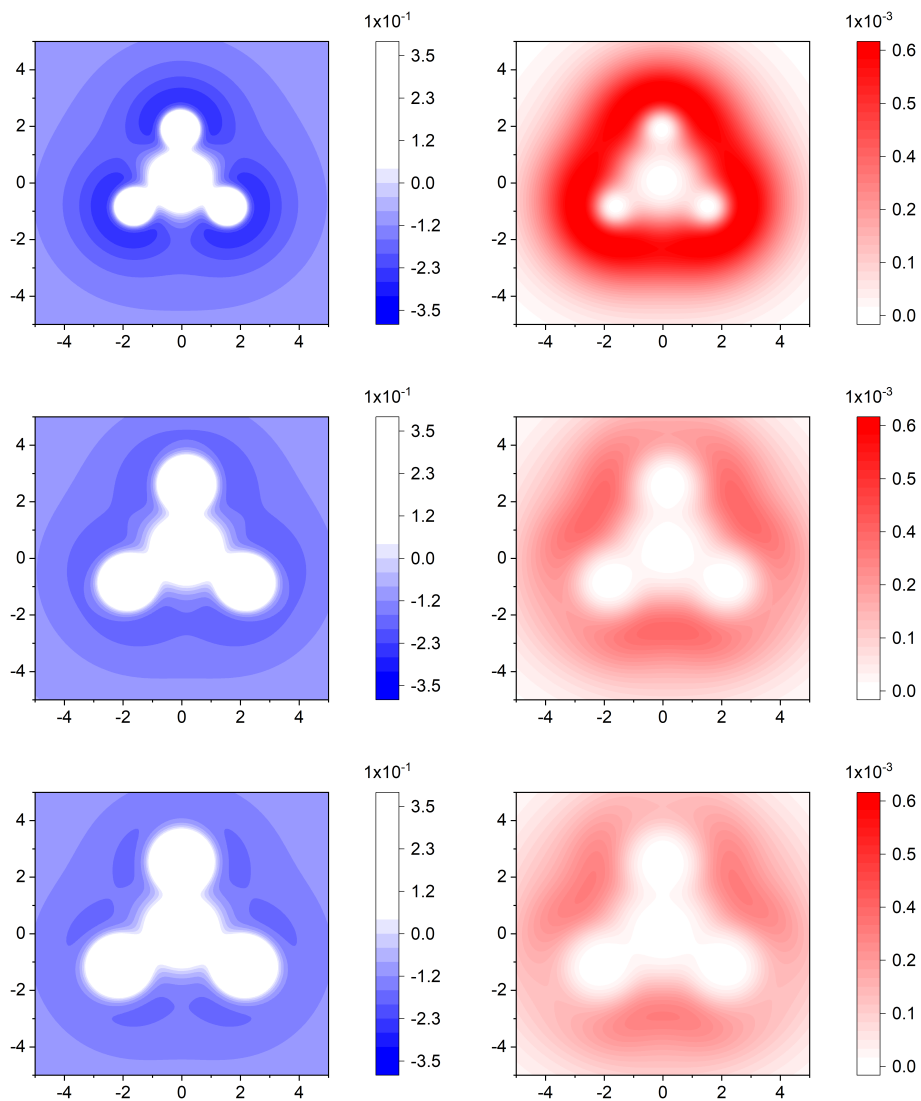


Figure S5 Top left : ESP of MgF_3^- , Middle left: ESP of MgCl_3^- , Bottom left: ESP of MgBr_3^- . Top right: positron density of PsMgF_3 , Middle right: positron density of PsMgCl_3 , Bottom right: positron density of PsMgBr_3 .

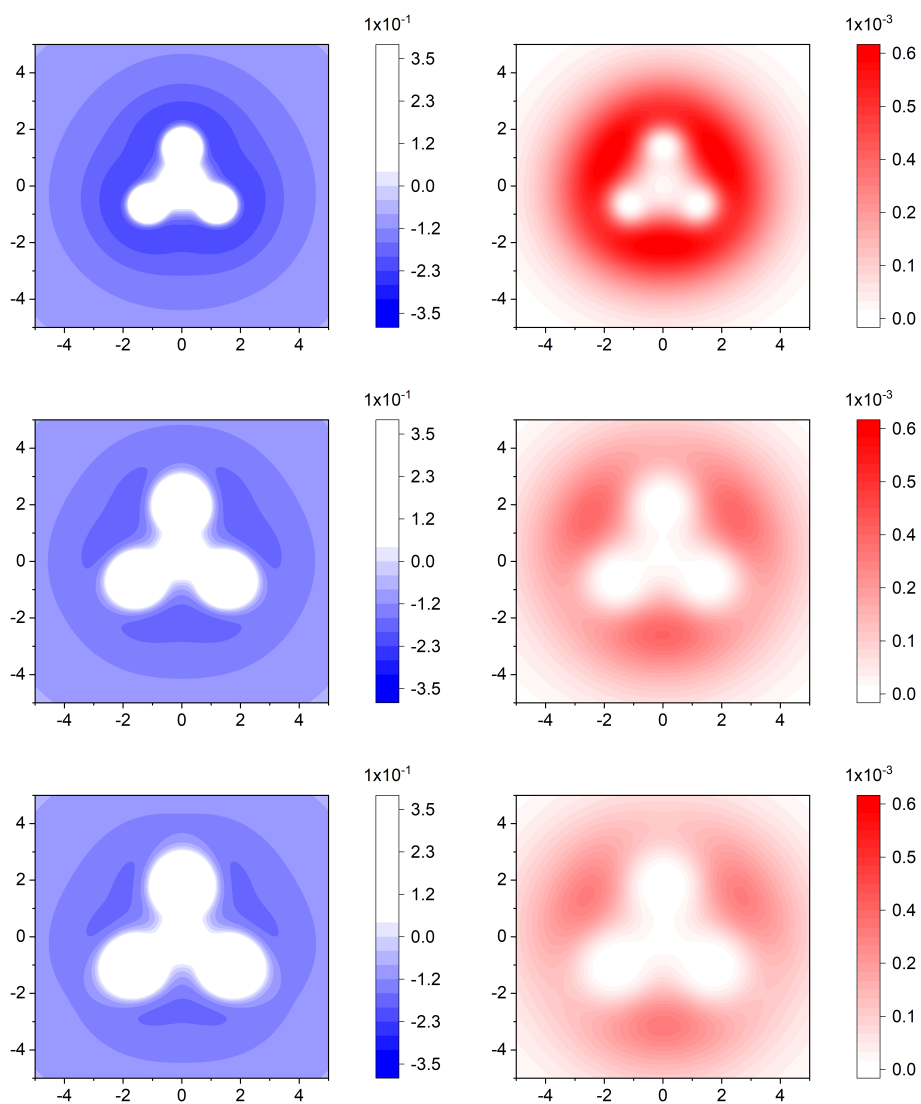


Figure S6 Top left : ESP of BF_4^- , Middle left: ESP of BCl_4^- , Bottom left: ESP of BBr_4^- . Top right: positron density of PsBF_4 , Middle right: positron density of PsBCl_4 , Bottom right: positron density of PsBBr_4 .

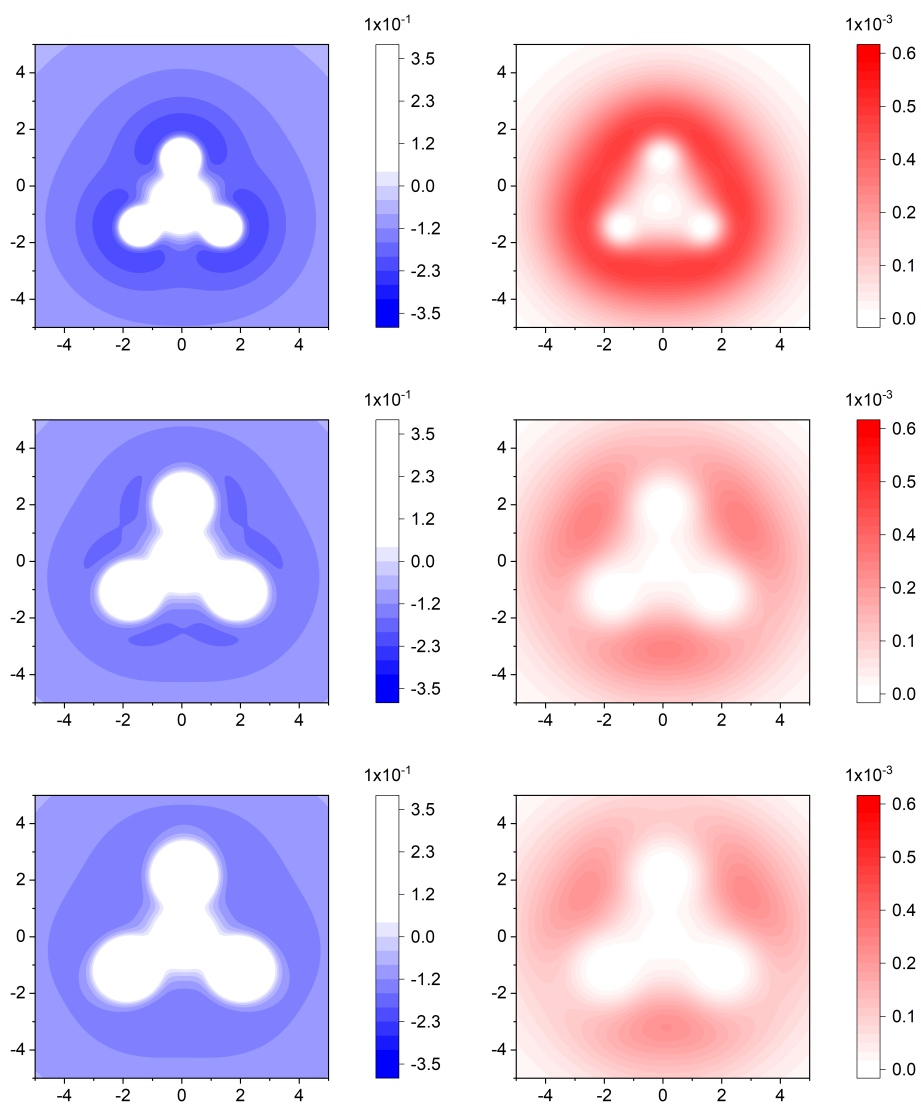


Figure S7 Top left : ESP of AlF_4^- , Middle left: ESP of AlCl_4^- , Bottom left: ESP of AlBr_4^- . Top right: positron density of PsAlF_4 , Middle right: positron density of PsAlCl_4 , Bottom right: positron density of PsAlBr_4 .

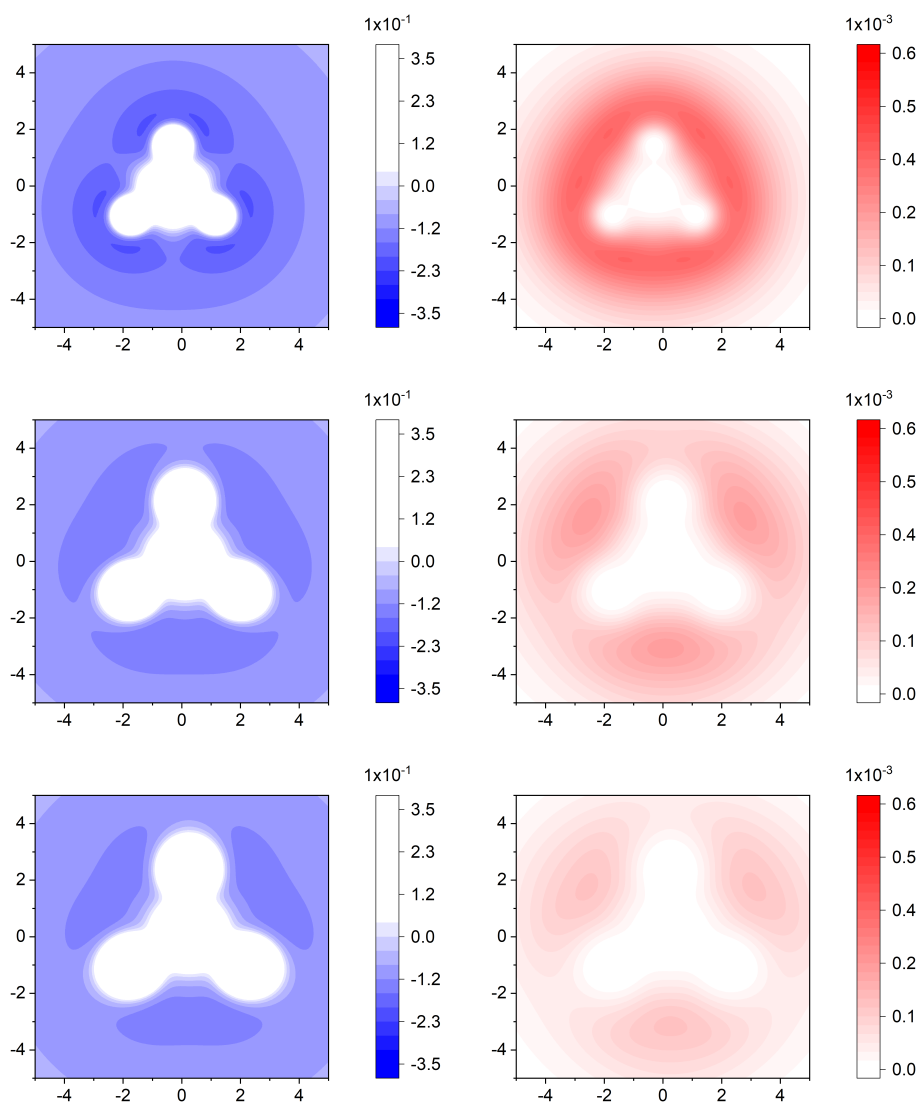


Figure S8 op left : ESP of SiF_5^- , Middle left: ESP of SiCl_5^- , Bottom left: ESP of SiBr_5^- . Top right: positron density of PsSiF_5 , Middle right: positron density of PsSiCl_5 , Bottom right: positron density of PsSiBr_5 .

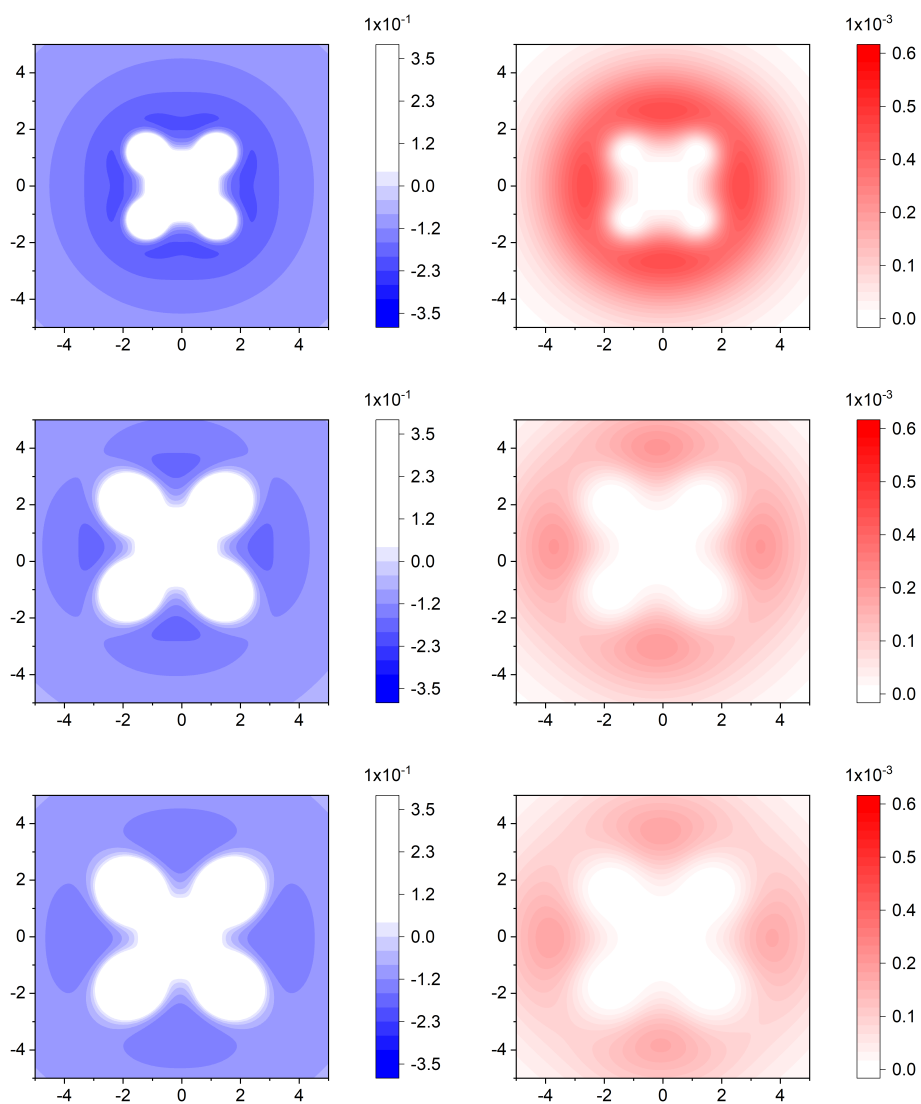


Figure S9 Top left : ESP of PF_6^- , Middle left: ESP of PCl_6^- , Bottom left: ESP of PBr_6^- . Top right: positron density of PsPF_6 , Middle right: positron density of PsPCl_6 , Bottom right: positron density of PsPBr_6 .

References

- [1] G. L. Gutsev, P. Jena and R. J. Bartlett, *Chem. Phys. Lett.*, 1998, **292**, 289–294.