

# Is it possible to synthesize $MNg_{42}+(Sb_2F_{11-1})_2$ ( $Ng=Ar, Ne, He, M=Au, Ag, Cu$ ) bulk salt compounds?

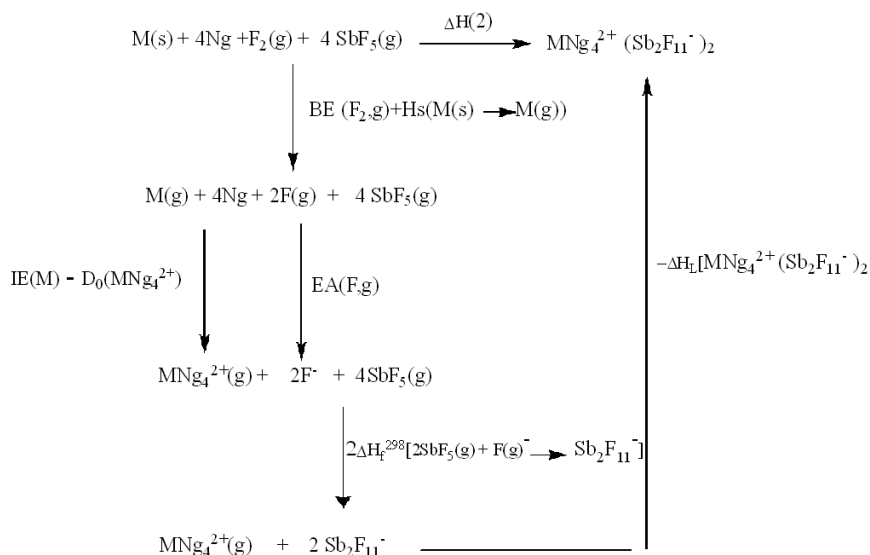
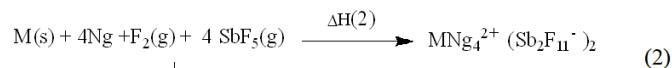
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## Abstract

The existence and stability of  $MNg_{42}+(Sb_2F_{11-1})_2$  ( $Ng=Ar, Ne, He, M=Au, Ag, Cu$ ) salt compounds are theoretically investigated in this study. This undertaking is carried out to address the following challenges: (1) synthesizing a bulk salt compound containing a noble gas lighter than krypton and (2) synthesizing the congeners of  $AuXe_{42}+(Sb_2F_{11-1})_2$  containing noble gases other than Xe. The reliability of our calculations on the  $MNg_{42}+(Sb_2F_{11-1})_2$  ( $Ng=Ar, Ne, He, M=Au, Ag, Cu$ ) systems is assessed by benchmark calculations of the well-known  $AuXe_{42}+(Sb_2F_{11-1})_2$  salt. In the benchmark calculations, a two-pronged evaluation strategy, including direct and indirect evaluation methods, is used to theoretically investigate the spectroscopic constants of  $AuXe_{42}+$  and the existence and stability of the  $AuXe_{42}+(Sb_2F_{11-1})_2$  salt. The validity of the theoretical calculation methods in the benchmark calculations of  $AuXe_{42}+(Sb_2F_{11-1})_2$  allows us to adopt a similar methodology to effectively predict the existence and stability of  $MNg_{42}+(Sb_2F_{11-1})_2$  ( $Ng=Ar, Ne, He, M=Au, Ag, Cu$ ) salt compounds. Calculations based on the Born-Haber cycle using estimated lattice energies and some necessary ancillary thermochemical data show that  $MAr_{42}+(Sb_2F_{11-1})_2$  ( $M=Au, Ag, Cu$ ) salt compounds can be synthesized. The upper-limit stable temperatures are estimated to be -224.43, -146.21, and -80.39 °C. The  $CuAr_{42}+(Sb_2F_{11-1})_2$  salt compound is a promising candidate. Our calculations also show that the  $MNg_{42}+(Sb_2F_{11-1})_2$  ( $Ng=Ne, He, M=Au, Ag, Cu$ ) salt compounds cannot be stabilized.



To address the following challenges: (1) synthesizing a bulk salt compound containing a noble gas lighter than krypton and (2) synthesizing the congeners of  $\text{AuXe}_4^{2+}(\text{Sb}_2\text{F}_{11}^-)_2$  containing noble gases other than Xe. Based on the Born-Haber cycle using estimated lattice energies and some necessary ancillary thermochemical data, the existence and stability of  $\text{MNg}_4^{2+} (\text{Sb}_2\text{F}_{11}^-)_2$  (Ng = Ar, Ne, He; M = Au, Ag, Cu) salt compounds are theoretically investigated. Calculations show that  $\text{MAr}_4^{2+}(\text{Sb}_2\text{F}_{11}^-)_2$  (M=Au, Ag, Cu) salt compounds can be synthesized.

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