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Figure S1





(9eG:1mC)H<sup>+</sup>\_O6(G)\_3

 $\Delta_{\rm rel}H = 63.1$ 

 $\Delta_{\rm rel}G = 53.2$ 



(9eG:1mC)H<sup>+</sup>\_N7(G)\_2  $\Delta_{rel}H = 57.5$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 55.1$ 



## $(9eG:1mC)H^{+}_{06(G)_{2}}$ $\Delta_{rel}H = 49.4$ $\Delta_{rel}G = 47.1$

Some other higher energy structures of **(9eG:1mC)H**<sup>+</sup> along with their enthalpies and 298 K Gibbs energies relative to Hoo-N3(1mC)H<sup>+</sup> and computed IR spectra (black trace) compared to the experimental IRMPD spectrum (grey trace). The nomenclature of these isomers are based on their protonation sites. All energies are presented in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>







$$(9eG:1mC)H^+_N3(G)_3$$
  
 $\Delta_{rel}H = 102.8$   
 $\Delta_{rel}G = 96.3$ 

(9eG:1mC)H<sup>+</sup>\_N3(G)  $\Delta_{rel}H = 73.2$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 71.2$ 







(9eG:1mC)H<sup>+</sup>\_N7(G)\_3  $\Delta_{rel}H = 151.1$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 143.8$ 



**(9eG:1mC)H**<sup>+</sup>\_N3(G)\_4  $\Delta_{rel}H$  = 228.9  $\Delta_{rel}G$  = 212.7 Some other higher energy structures of **(9eG:1mC)H**<sup>+</sup> along with their enthalpies and 298 K Gibbs energies relative to Hoo-N3(1mC)H<sup>+</sup> and computed IR spectra (black trace) compared to the experimental IRMPD spectrum (grey trace). The nomenclature of these isomers are based on their protonation sites. All energies are presented in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>





**Li\_N1-O2N3**  $\Delta_{rel}H = 49.6$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 46.5$ 



Figure S4

 $\Delta_{\rm rel}G = 57.5$ 





**Li\_N7-O2N3\_2**  $\Delta_{rel}H = 62.1$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 58.7$ 



**Li\_N106-02\_2**  $\Delta_{rel}H = 46.6$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 57.0$ 



Figure S5





**Li\_O6-O2N3\_2**  $\Delta_{rel}H = 78.8$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 76.5$ 





**Li\_N3-O2**  $\Delta_{rel}H = 104.6$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 104.7$ 







 $\Delta_{\rm rel}G = 71.8$ 











**Na\_N3-O2**  $\Delta_{rel}H = 111.7$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 112.3$ 











Figure S13







**K\_O6N7\_6**  $\Delta_{rel}H = 99.9$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 104.3$ 









Figure S17



isomers presented in paper. All energies are presented in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>





isomers presented in paper. All energies are presented in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>

Figure S19









**Rb\_N3-O2\_1**  $\Delta_{rel}H = 84.3$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 88.5$ 



**Rb\_06N7\_6**  $\Delta_{rel}H = 92.6$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 100.7$ 

**Rb\_06N7\_4**  $\Delta_{rel}H = 86.4$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 90.8$ 

















**Rb\_N3-O2\_2**  $\Delta_{rel}H = 126.4$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 136.5$ 





**Rb\_N2N3**  $\Delta_{rel}H = 102.4$  $\Delta_{rel}G = 111.3$ 



Figure S21







isomers presented in paper. All energies are presented in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>





isomers presented in paper. All energies are presented in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>





(grey trace). The nomenclature of these isomers are same as the isomers presented in paper. All energies are presented in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>





Figure S27. Schematic of metal cationized O6-O2N3, N7-O2N3 and O6N7 along with the table of computed relative 298 K enthalpies and Gibbs energies (kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>) of isomers for different alkali metal cationized (9eG:1mC) complexes.



Hechec

Figure S28. OPO IRMPD spectra for (9eG:1mC)Li<sup>+</sup>.



Figure S29. OPO IRMPD spectra for (9eG:1mC)Na<sup>+</sup>.



Figure S30. OPO IRMPD spectra for  $(9eG:1mC)K^+$ .



Figure S31. OPO IRMPD spectra for (9eG:1mC)Rb<sup>+</sup>.



Figure S32. OPO IRMPD spectra for (9eG:1mC)Cs<sup>+</sup>.



Structures	B3LYPD3/6-31+G(d,p)	B3LYPD3/6-311+G(3df,3pd)
Hoo N3(1mC)H+	0.0	0.0
	0.0	0.0
Hoo N7(9eG)H+	8.1	8.9
	7.0	7.8
R-Hoo N3(1mC)H+	18.5	16.7
	14.8	13.0
WC N7(9eG)H+	12.3	11.8
	15.7	15.3
WC O6(9eG)H+	30.0	29.8
	27.9	27.8

Table S2 Comparison of basis set on the 298K energetics (top relative enthalpies, bottom relative Gibbs energies ) in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> of five lowest energy (9eG:1mC)H<sup>+</sup>.

Table S3 Comparison of basis set on the 298K energetics (top relative enthalpies, bottom relative Gibbs energies ) in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> of six lowest energy (9eG:1mC)Li<sup>+</sup>.

Structures	B3LYPD3/6-31+G(d,p)	B3LYPD3/6-311+G(3df,3pd)
Li_06-02N3	0.0	0.0
	0.0	0.0
Li N7-O2N3	0.9	1.7
_	0.0	0.7
Li O6N7-O2 1	14.6	14.0
	2.3	1.8
Li O6N7-O2N3 1	11.2	10.0
	3.6	2.4
Li O6N7-O2N3 2	11.2	10.0
	3.7	2.5
Li 06N7-02 2	14.7	14.2
	3.8	3.3

Table S4 Comparison of basis set on the 298K energetics (top relative enthalpies, bottom relative Gibbs energies ) in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> of four lowest energy (9eG:1mC)Na<sup>+</sup>.

Table S5 Comparison of basis set on the 298K energetics (top relative enthalpies, bottom relative Gibbs energies ) in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> of five lowest energy (9eG:1mC)K<sup>+</sup>.

Structures	B3LYPD3/6-31+G(d,p)	B3LYPD3/6-311+G(3df,3pd)	Structures	B3LYPD3/6-31+G(d,p)	B3LYPD3/6-311+G(3df,3pd)
Na_N7-O2N3	0.0	0.0	K_N7-O2N3	0.0	0.0
	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0
Na_O6-O2N3	8.0	7.7	K_06N7	-2.3	-1.3
	9.0	8.6		6.0	7.1
Na_O6N7_1	16.9	18.3	K_06-02N3	10.2	8.7
	26.1	27.6		7.7	6.2
Na_O6N7_2	39.8	39.4	K_06N7_2	21.5	20.2
	41.6	41.2		22.0	20.8
			K_N106-02	18.3	20.9
				27.9	30.5

Table S6 Comparison of basis set on the 298K energetics (top relative enthalpies, bottom relative Gibbs energies ) in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> of five lowest energy (9eG:1mC)Rb<sup>+</sup>.

Table S7 Comparison of basis set on the 298K energetics (top relative enthalpies, bottom relative Gibbs energies ) in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> of five lowest energy (9eG:1mC)Cs<sup>+</sup>.

Structures	B3LYP-D3/6-31	B3LYP-D3/6-311	Structures	B3LYP-D3/6-31	B3LYP-D3/6-311
Rb_N7-O2N3	+G(d,p) 0.0	+G(3df,3pd) 0.0	Cs_06N7	+G(d,p) 0.0	+G(3df,3pd) 0.0
	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0
Rb_O6N7	-9.4	-7.1	Cs_N7-O2N3	17.2	14.9
	2.0	4.3		5.4	3.1
Rb_06-02N3	8.0	7.7	Cs_N7-O2N3_2	17.2	15.5
	8.4	8.1		6.0	4.3
Rb_06N7-02	4.7	9.4	Cs_N7-O2N3_3	17.0	14.8
	15.1	19.8		7.5	5.3
Rb_O6N7-N4	10.7	11.9	Cs_N7-O2N3_4	31.2	29.0
	15.2	16.4		9.3	7.1