

Electronic Supplementary Information for

**Determinants for proton location and electron coupled proton transfer in
hydrogen bonded pentafluorophenol-anion clusters**

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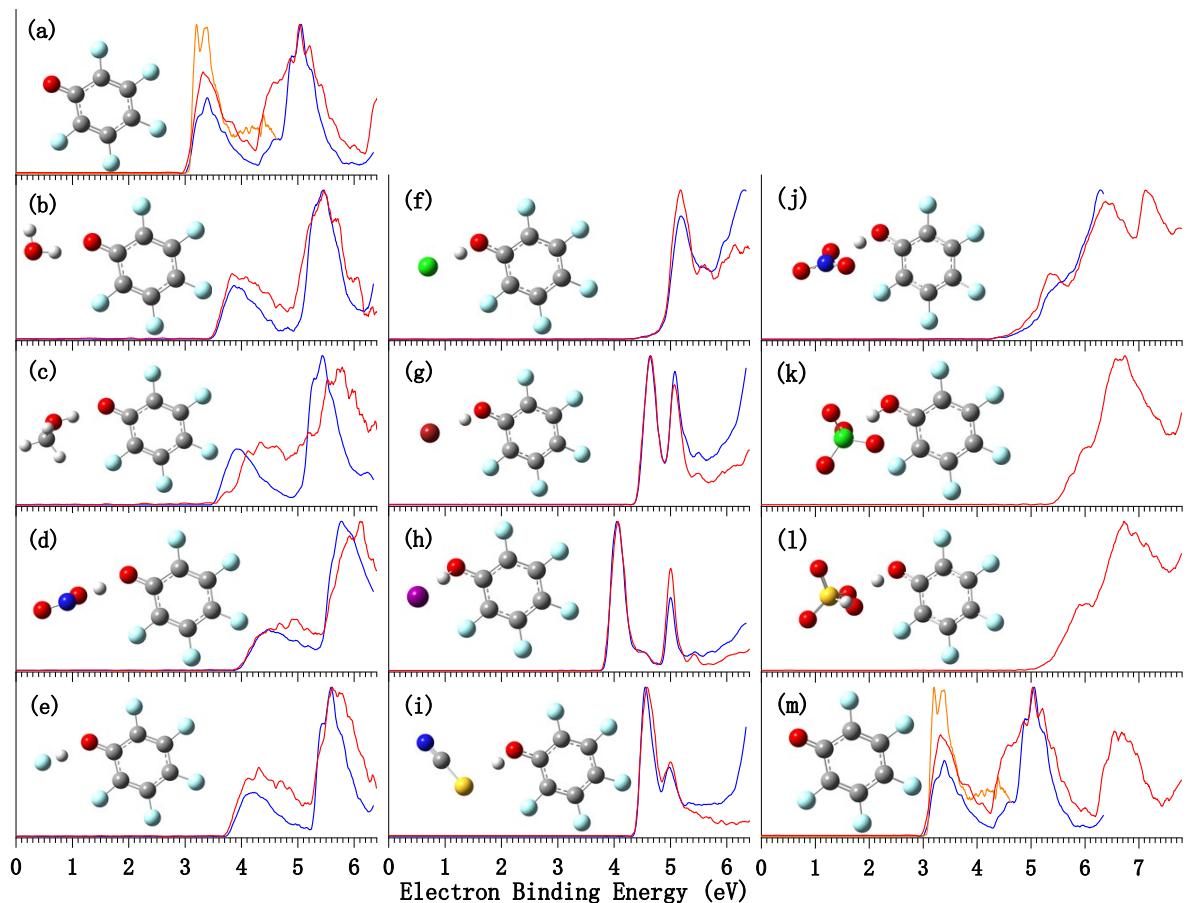


Figure S1 Comparison of NIPE spectra of $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{O}^-$ (a), $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{O}^-\bullet\text{H}^+\bullet\text{A}^-]^-$ A = OH (b), CH_3O (c), NO_2 (d), F (e), Cl (f), Br (g), I (h), SCN (i), NO_3 (j), ClO_4 (k), HSO_4 (l), and $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{O}^-$ (m) at 266 (4.661 eV, orange), 193 (6.424 eV, blue), and 157 nm (7.867 eV, red). The B3LYP/6-311++g(df,pd) (LANL2DZ for I) optimized anion complex structures are shown as inset. Note the 157 nm spectra of (a)-(i) are only plotted out to 6.4 eV for better view of the onset region of the spectra.

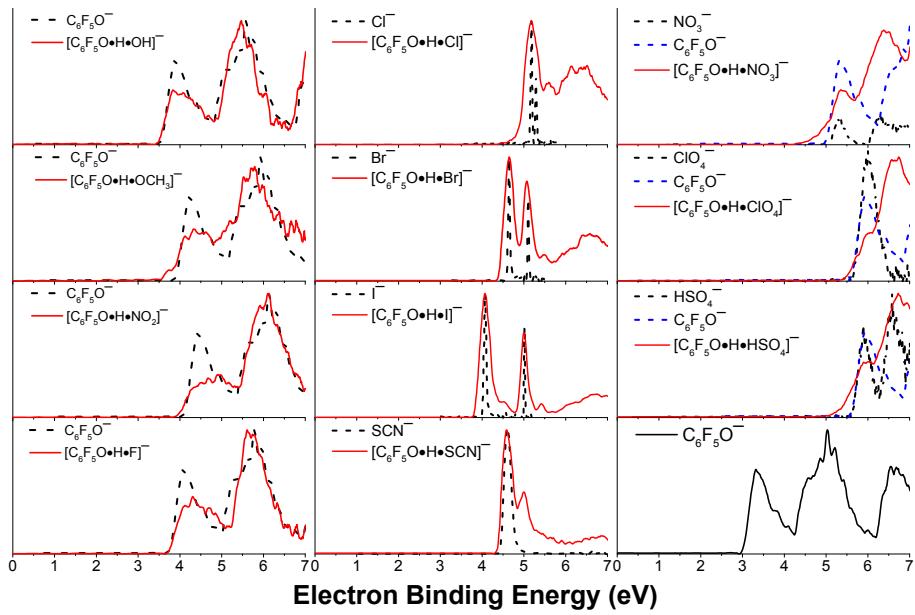


Figure S2 Comparison of the NIPE spectra of $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{O}^- \bullet \text{H}^+ \bullet \text{A}^-]^-$ with the spectra of the isolated anions A^- (ref. 1-5) and $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{O}^-$ that are shifted in EBE to match the complex spectra.

- 1 X. B. Wang, X. Yang, L. S. Wang, and J. B. Nicholas, *J. B. J. Chem. Phys.*, 2002, **116**, 561-570.
- 2 X. B. Wang and L. S. Wang, *J. Chem. Phys.* 2000, **113**, 10928-10933.
- 3 G. L. Hou, W. Lin, S. H. M. Deng, J. Zhang, W. Zheng, F. Paesani, and X.-B. Wang, *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* 2013, **4**, 779-785.
- 4 M. Valiev, S. H. M. Deng, and X. B. Wang, *J. Phys. Chem. B*, 2016, **120**, 1518-1525.
- 5 M. Cheng, Y. Feng, Y. Du, Q. Zhu, W. Zheng, G. Czakó and J. M. Bowman, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 2011, **134**, 191102.

Table S1. NPA charge distributions of the $[C_6F_5O \bullet H \bullet A]^-$ complexes and the corresponding unrelaxed/relaxed neutrals.

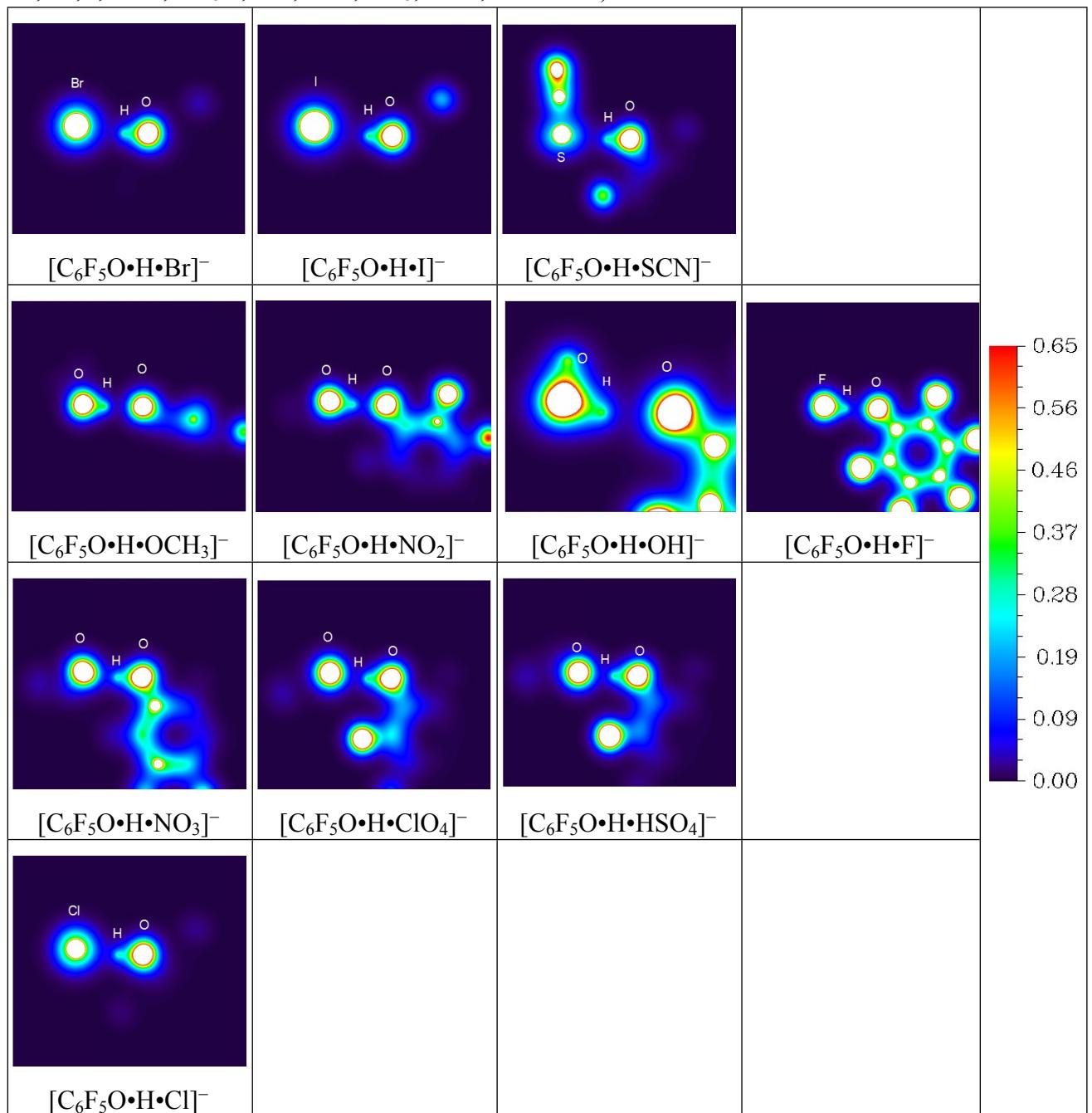
		Anionic / unrelaxed / relaxed neutral complexes		
		C_6F_5O	H	A
	$C_6F_5O \bullet H$	-0.487	0.487	
Type I	$[C_6F_5O \bullet H \bullet Br]^-$	-0.650/-0.307/-0.361	0.487/0.468/0.499	-0.837/-0.161/-0.138
	$[C_6F_5O \bullet H \bullet I]^-$	-0.651/-0.490/-0.456	0.483/0.461/0.494	-0.832/0.029/-0.038
	$[C_6F_5O \bullet H \bullet SCN]^-$	-0.627/-0.439/-0.491	0.481/0.465/0.489	-0.854/-0.026/0.002
Type II	$[C_6F_5O \bullet H \bullet OCH_3]$	-0.958/0.012/0.006	0.511/0.481/0.478	-0.553/-0.493/-0.484
	$[C_6F_5O \bullet H \bullet NO_2]^-$	-0.881/0.044/0.019(-0.508) ^a	0.500/0.482/0.490(0.499) ^a	-0.619/-0.526/-0.509(0.009) ^a
	$[C_6F_5O \bullet H \bullet OH]^-$	-0.967/0.011/0.008	0.507/0.478/0.478	-0.540/-0.489/-0.486
	$[C_6F_5O \bullet H \bullet F]^-$	-0.909/0.068/0.027	0.559/0.542/0.560	-0.650/-0.610/-0.587
Type III	$[C_6F_5O \bullet H \bullet NO_3]^-$	-0.653/-0.090/0.033	0.504/0.499/0.504	-0.851/-0.409/-0.537
	$[C_6F_5O \bullet H \bullet ClO_4]$	-0.599/0.037/0.039	0.523/0.526/0.511	-0.924/-0.563/-0.550
	$[C_6F_5O \bullet H \bullet HSO_4]$	-0.617/-0.06/0.034	0.528/0.527/0.522	-0.911/-0.467/-0.556
Type IV	$[C_6F_5O \bullet H \bullet Cl]^-$	-0.672/-0.172/-0.176(0.022) ^a	0.472/0.456/0.478(0.279) ^a	-0.800/-0.284/-0.302(-0.301) ^a

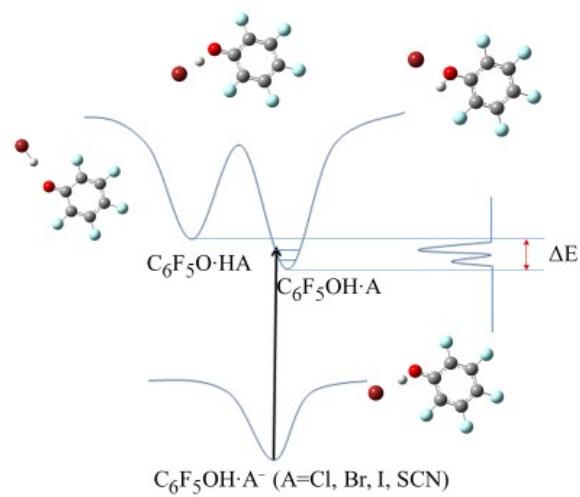
^a NPA charges for the 2nd more stable proton transferred structures of the neutrals.

	$[C_6F_5O \cdot H \cdot I]^-$	$[C_6F_5O \cdot H \cdot SCN]^-$	
HOMO			
HOMO-1			
	$[C_6F_5O \cdot H \cdot NO_2]^-$	$[C_6F_5O \cdot H \cdot OH]^-$	$[C_6F_5O \cdot H \cdot F]^-$
HOMO			
HOMO-1			
	$[C_6F_5O \cdot H \cdot ClO_4]^-$	$[C_6F_5O \cdot H \cdot HSO_4]^-$	
HOMO			
HOMO-1			

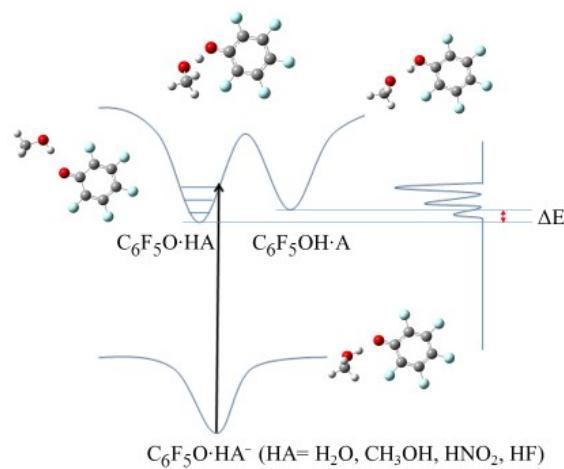
Figure S3. The HOMO and HOMO-1 for the anion complexes $[C_6F_5O \cdot H \cdot A]^-$, A = I, SCN, NO₂, OH, F, ClO₄, and HSO₄.

Table S2. Electron density of the anion complexes. The density is plotted in the plane of the three atoms consisting of the hydrogen and the two bonded atoms from $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{O}$ and A (A = F, Cl, Br, I, SCN, CH_3O , OH, NO_2 , NO_3 , ClO_4 , and HSO_4).

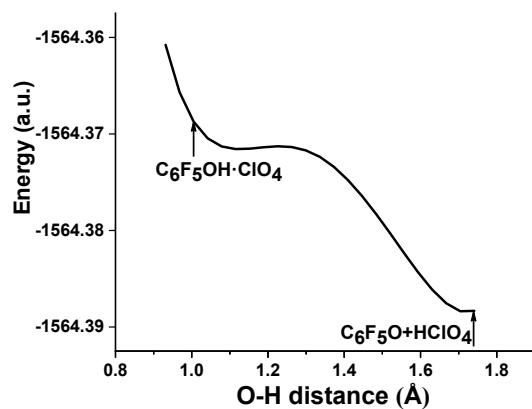




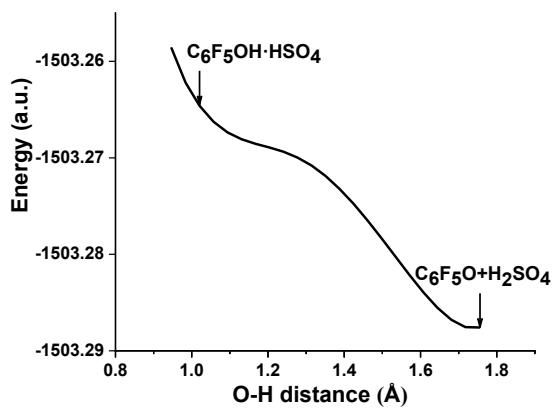
(a)



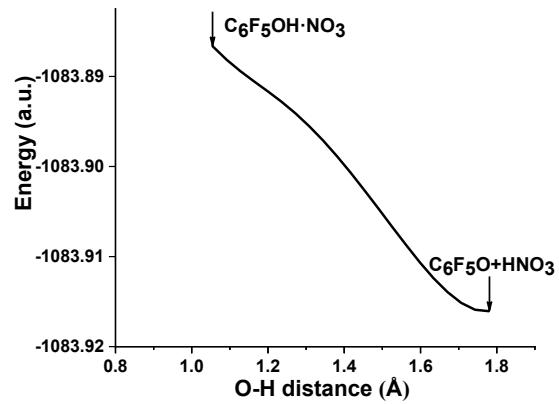
(b)



(c)



(d)



(e)

Figure S4. Schematic potential curves for $[C_6F_5O \cdot H \cdot A]^-$ and $[C_6F_5O \cdot H \cdot A]$ A = Cl, Br, I, SCN (a), A = CH₃O, NO₂, OH and F (b), and the calculated one-dimension energy curves for the neutral complexes with A = ClO₄ (c), A = HSO₄ (d), and A = NO₃ (e). The potential curves in (c), (d) and (e) are calculated by moving H atom between C₆F₅O and the respective anion A. The first arrow denotes the vertical position on the neutral surface with the anionic geometry of $[C_6F_5O \cdots H \cdots A]$ and the second arrow indicates the PT product on the neutral surface with the optimized $[C_6F_5O \cdots H \cdots A]$ configuration. We divided the H atom moving process into 20 steps by adjusting the bond length of O--H and H--A at the same time (note the total O A distance also varied from the initial to the final values) and fixing all other atoms without further optimization. The potential curves are obtained by calculating the M06-2X/aug-cc-pvtz single point energy of each geometry in each step.