

Supporting information for:

Prediction of Beryllium Clusters (Be_n ; $n=3-25$) from First Principles

Behnaz Abyaz^a, Zabiollah Mahdavifar^{*,a}, Georg Schreckenbach^b, Yang Gao^{b,c}

^aDepartment of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Shahid Chamran University of Ahvaz, Ahvaz, Iran

^bDepartment of Chemistry, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 2N2, Canada

^cInstitute of Fundamental and Frontier Sciences, University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, Chengdu, Sichuan
610054, China

*To whom correspondence should be addressed

Fax: ++98-611-3331042

E-mail: z_mahdavifar@scu.ac.ir

Contents

Figure S1. Low-lying isomers of Be_n ($n = 3-25$) clusters	p. 3
Figure S2. Occupied superatomic orbitals	p. 7
Figure S3. Molecular orbitals	p. 10
Figure S4. . Images of the most stable structures of Be_n	p. 12
Figure S5. Images of the most stable structure of Be_{17}	p. 16
Figure S6. Different view of the final relaxed geometry of $\text{Be}_{17}\text{O}_{16}$ clusters	p. 17
Figure S7. Contour plots of the electron localization function (ELF)	p. 18
Figure S8. HSE06-contour plots of the HOMO and LUMO orbitals	p. 19
Figure S9. Optical absorption spectrum of Be_n cluster	p. 20
Figure S10. Band alignments of Be_n clusters with respect to the vacuum level	p. 21
S11. Optimized structures of Be_n clusters	p. 22

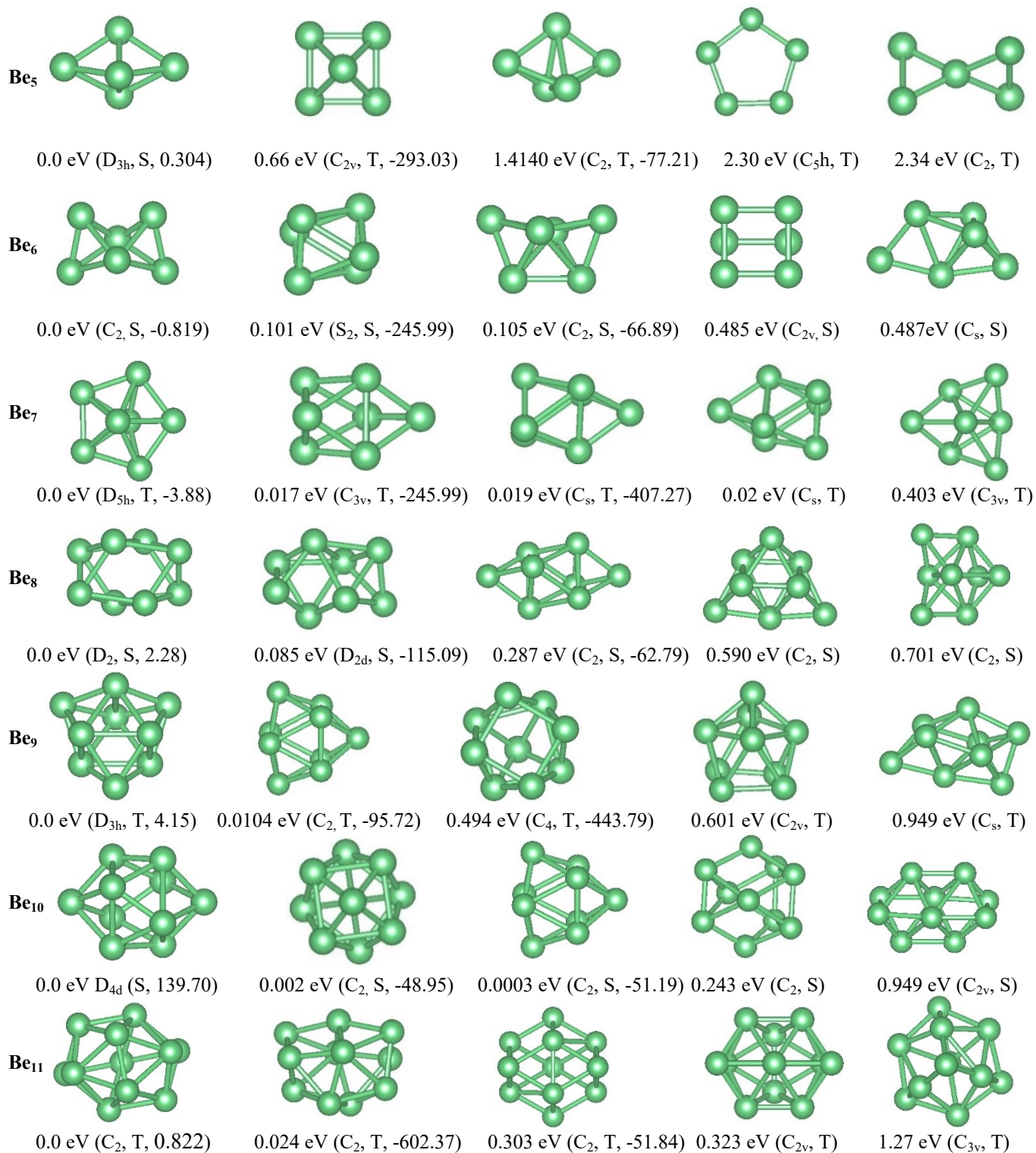


Figure S1. Low-lying isomers of Be_{*n*} (*n* = 3-25) clusters with relative energies, symmetries, states (S=singlet; T= triplet state) and minimum vibrational frequency (cm⁻¹) in parentheses.

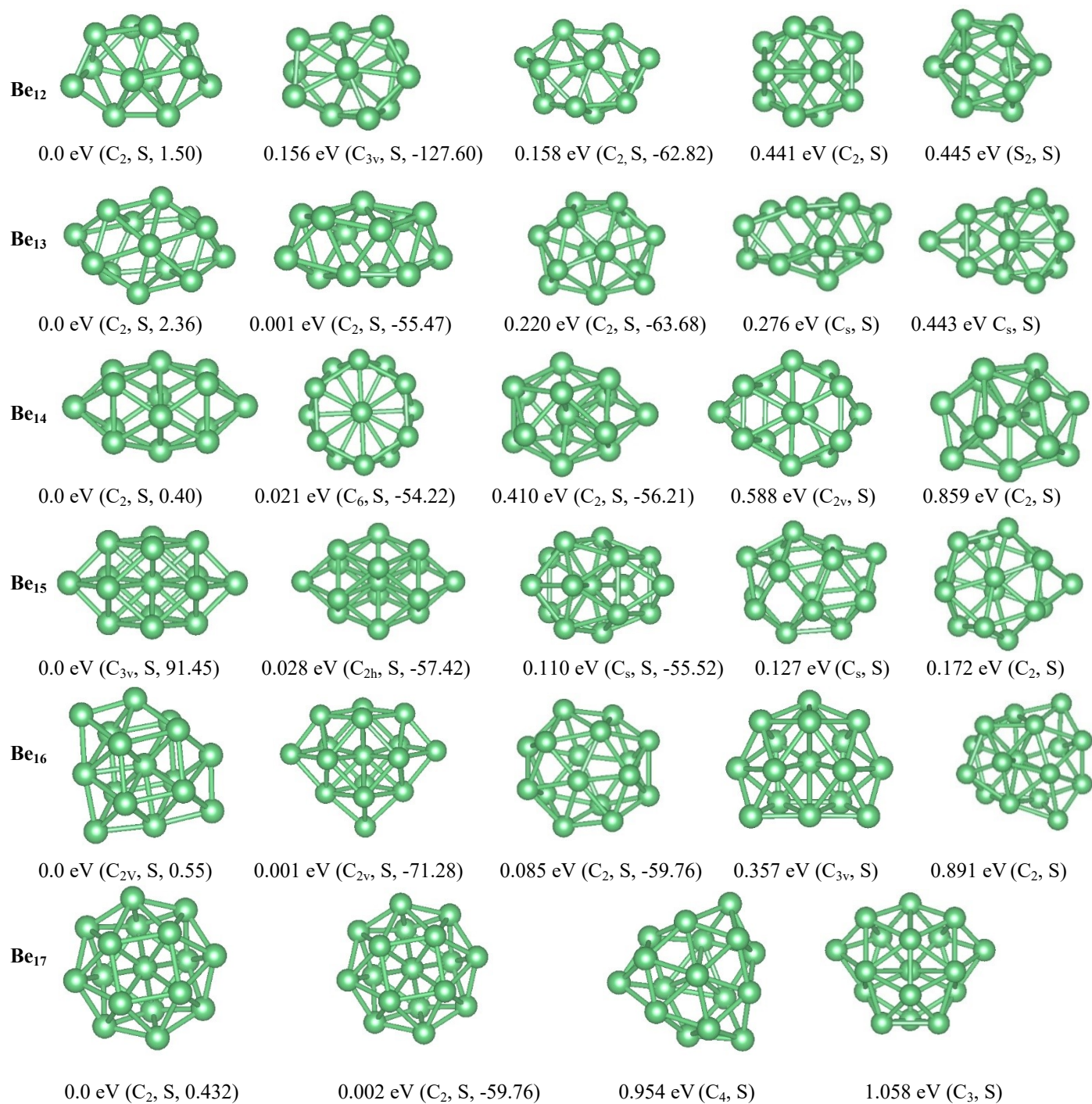


Figure S1. Continued

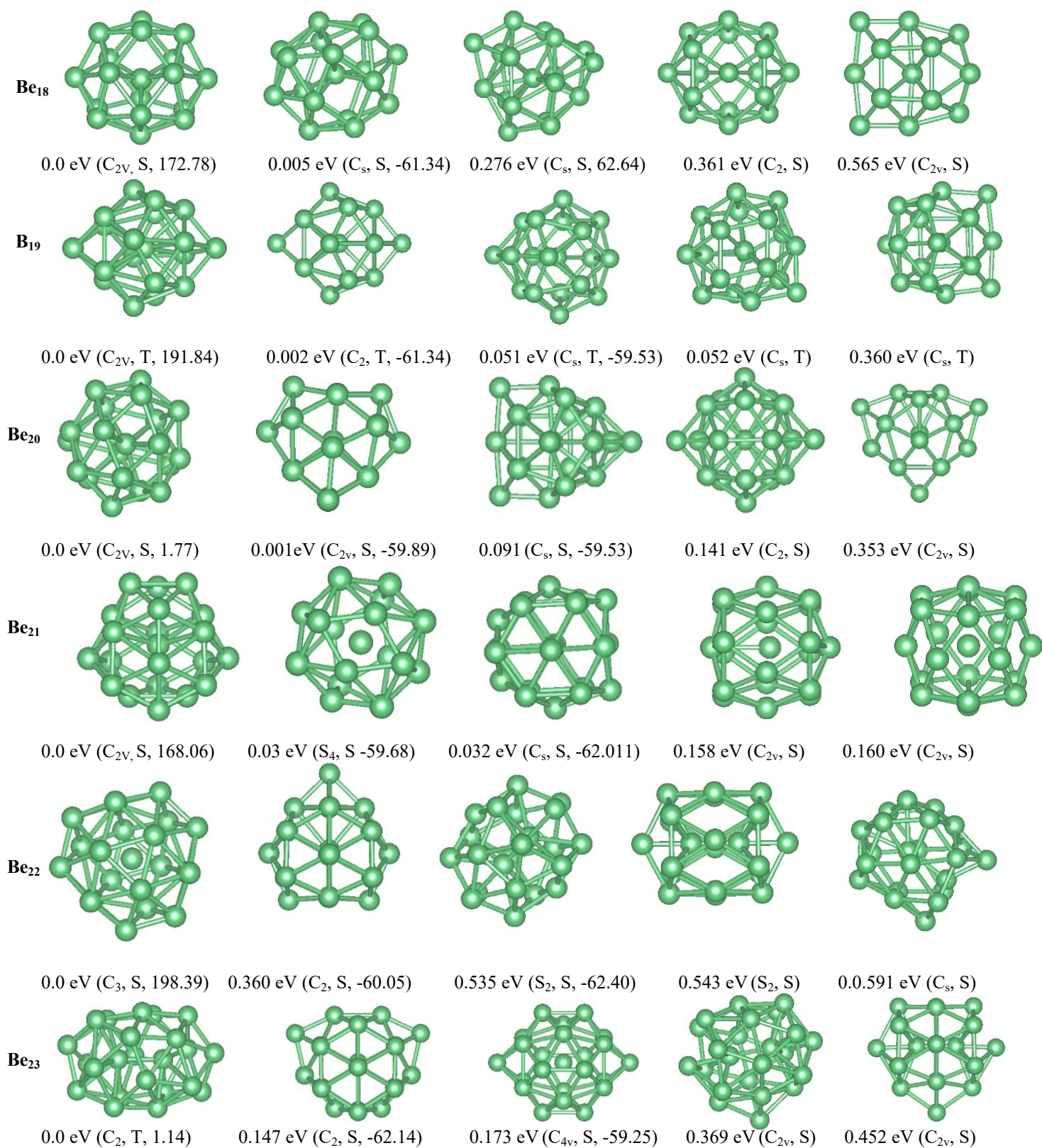


Figure S1. Continued

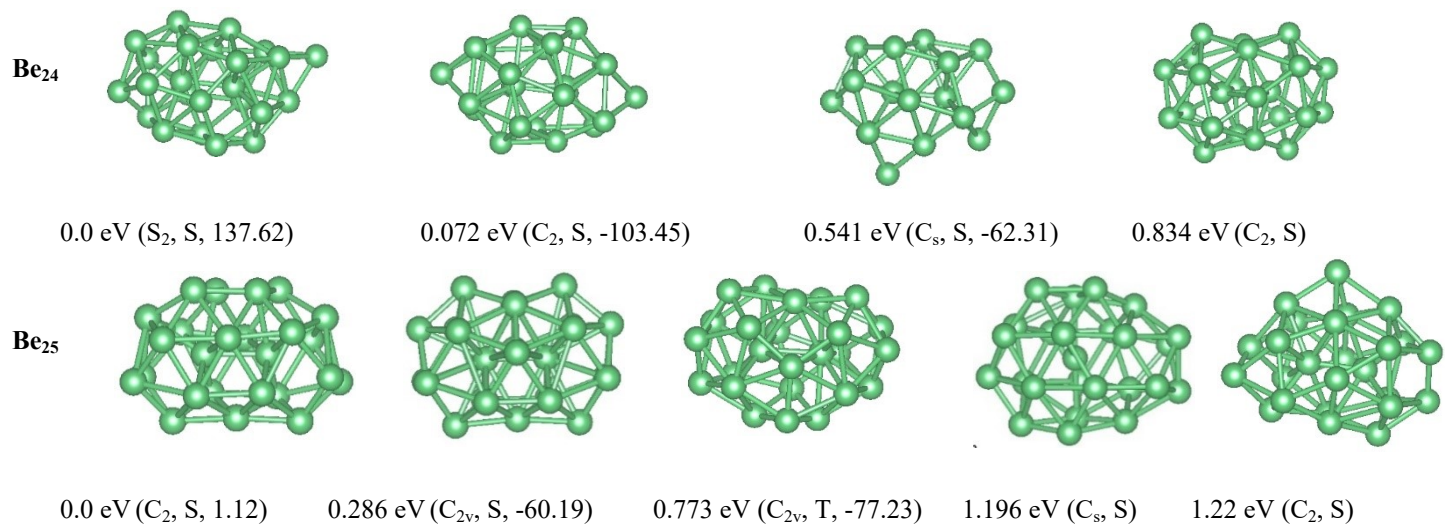


Figure S1. Continued.

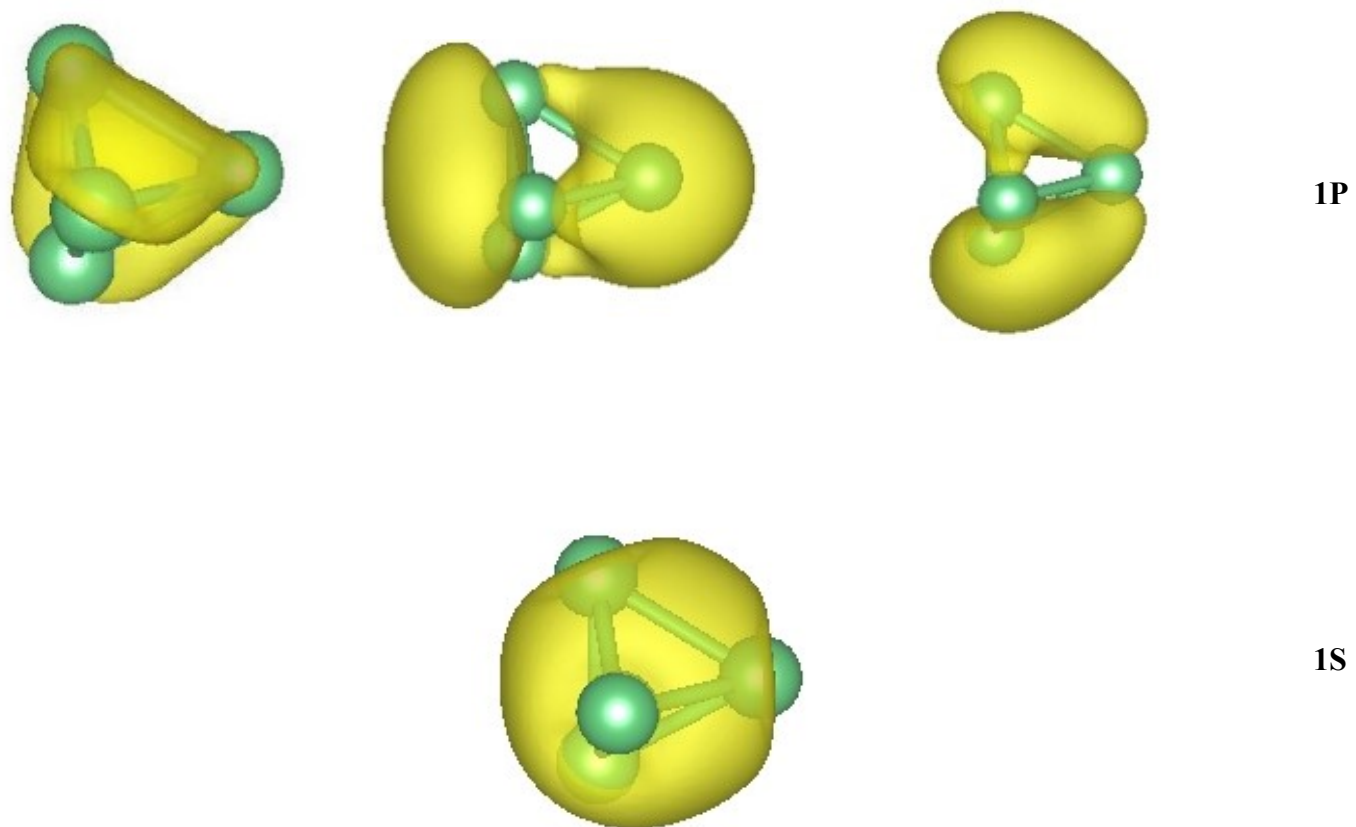


Figure S2. Occupied superatomic orbitals of Be₄ cluster.

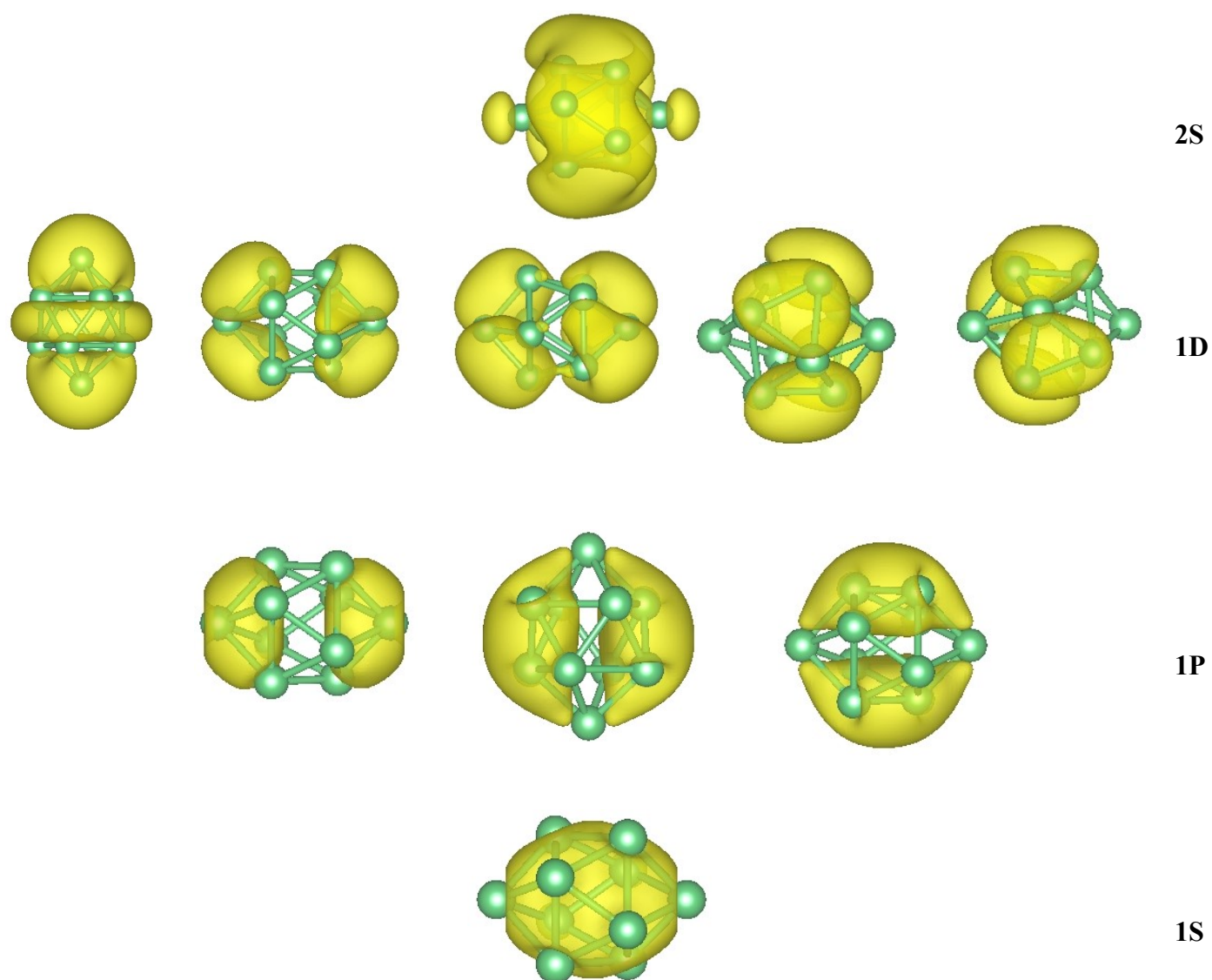


Figure S2. Continued. The occupied superatomic orbitals of Be_{10} cluster.

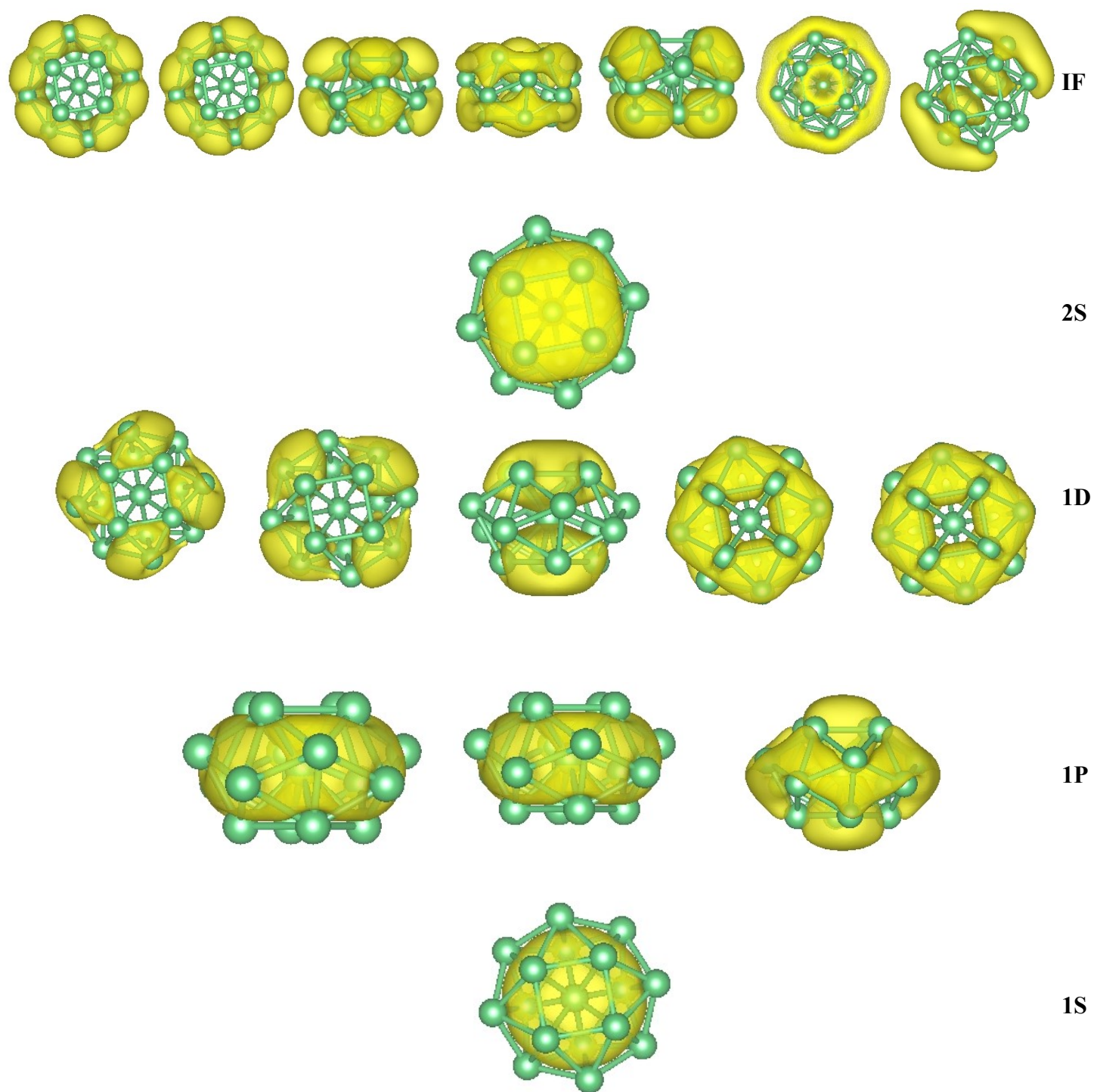


Figure S2. Continued. The occupied superatomic orbitals of Be_{17} cluster.

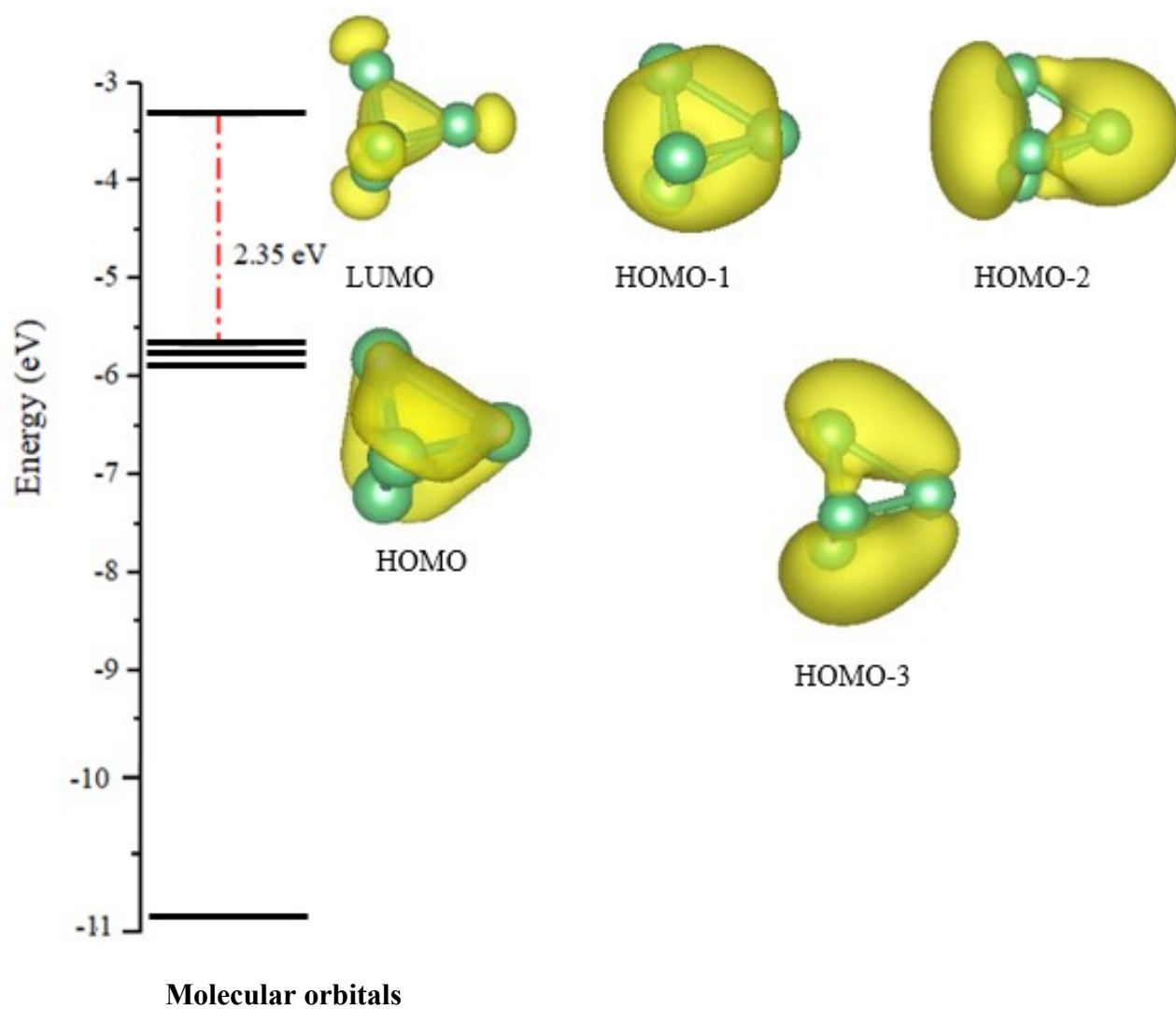


Figure S3. The charge density distributions of molecular orbitals for Be_4 cluster corresponding to different energy levels.

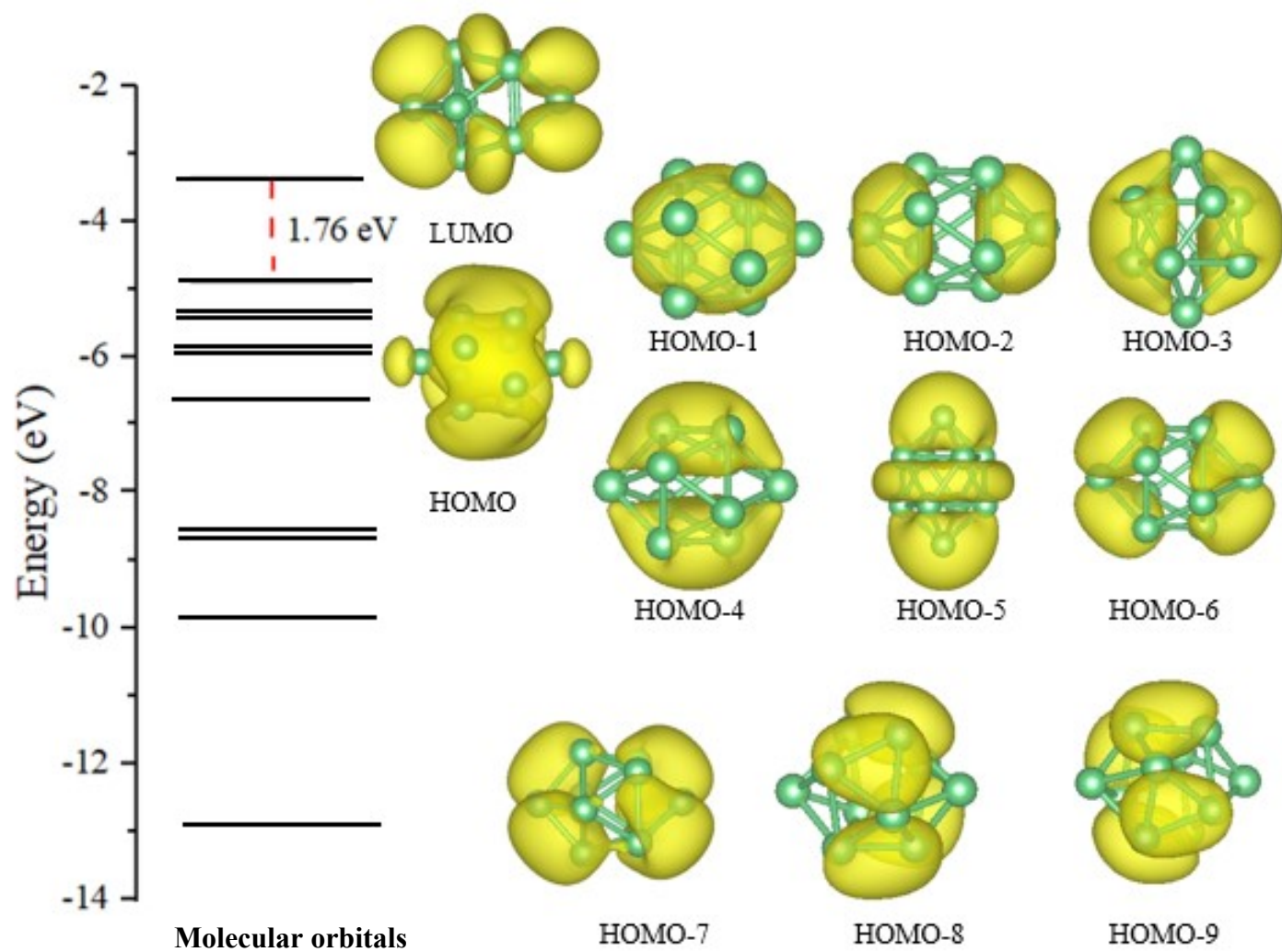


Figure S3. Continued. The charge density distributions of molecular orbitals for Be_{10} cluster corresponding to different energy levels.

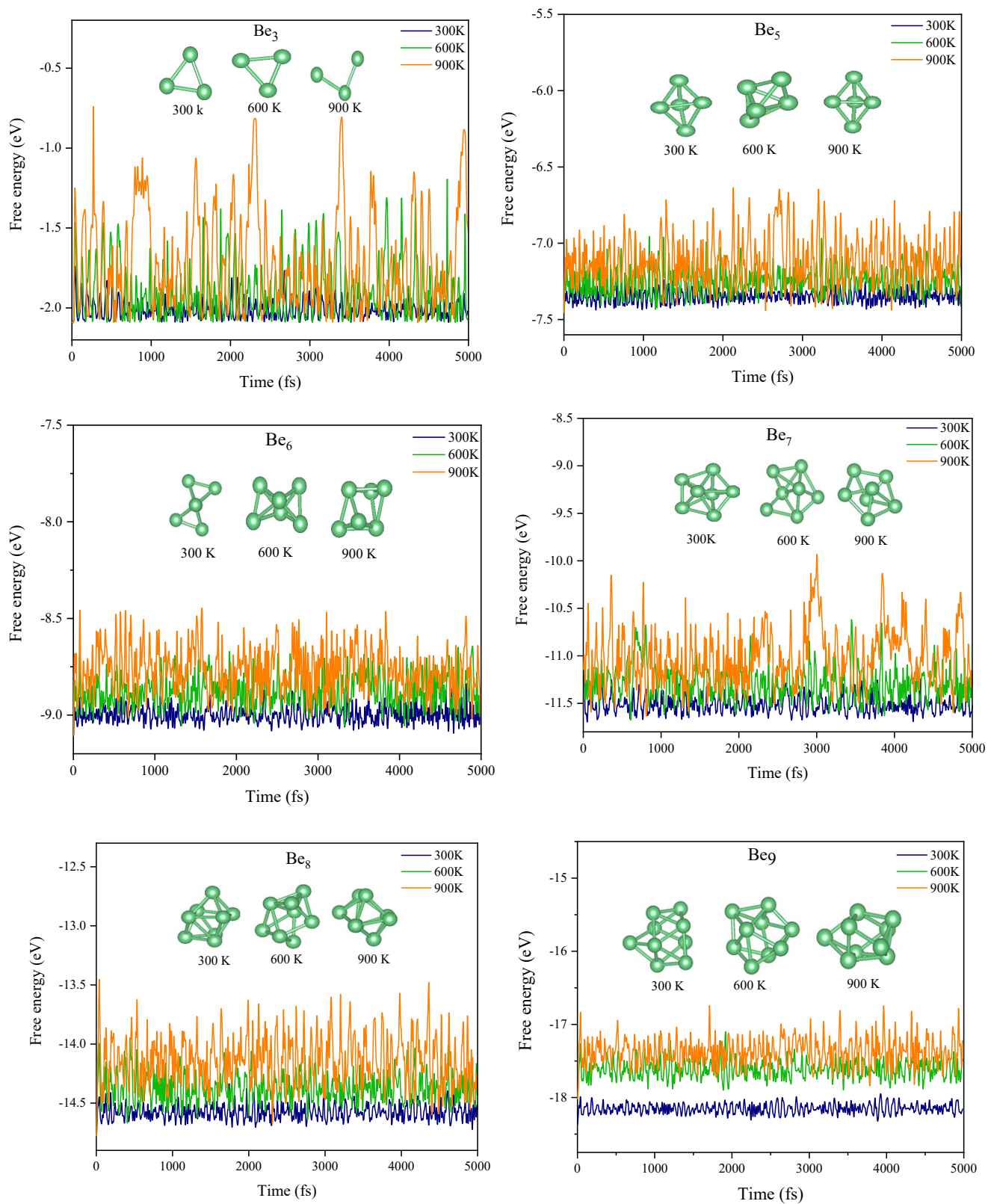


Figure S4. Images of the most stable structures of Be_n obtained for a time of 5 ps. The temperatures of the AIMD were set to 300 K, 600 K and 900 K.

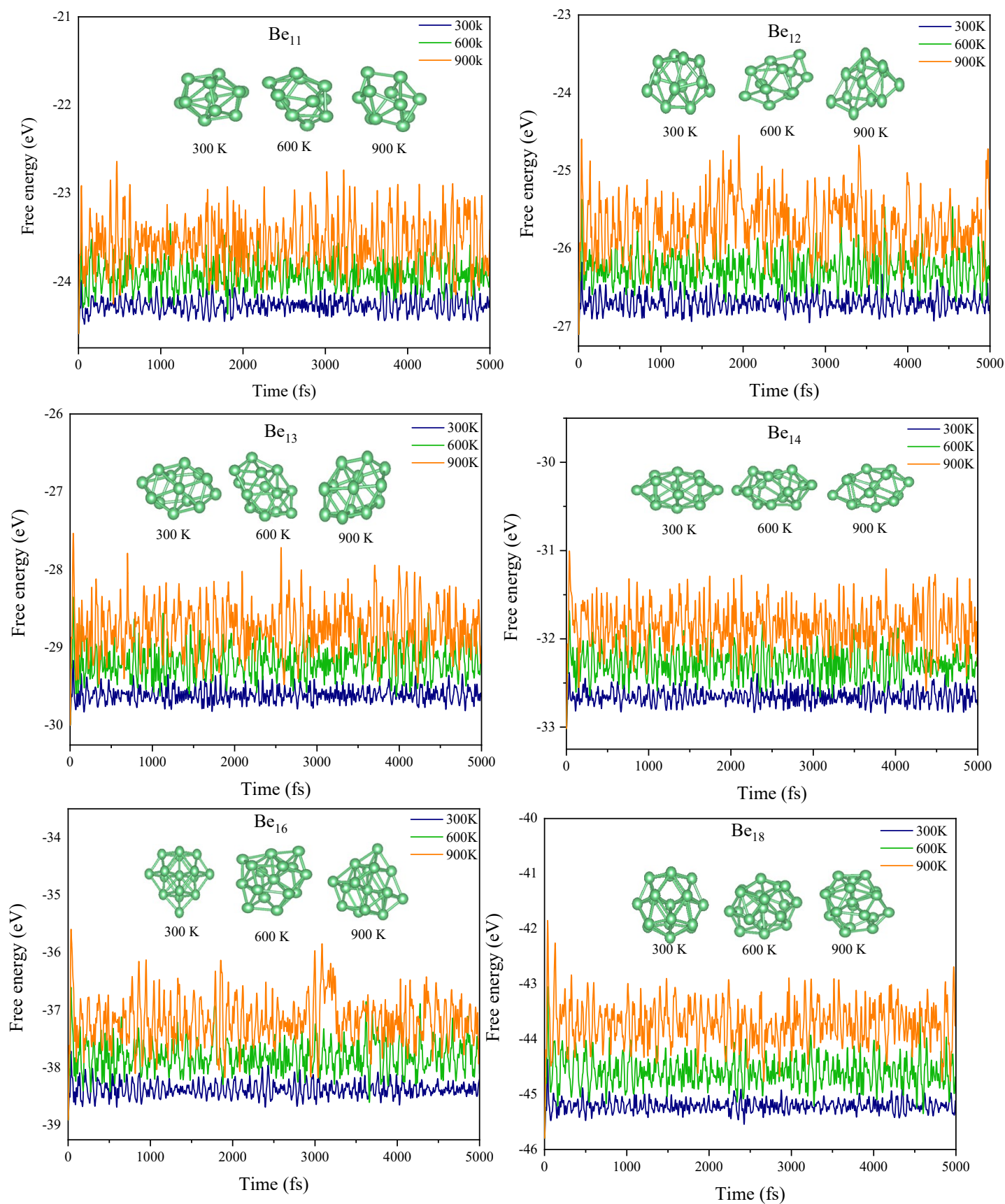


Figure S4. Continued

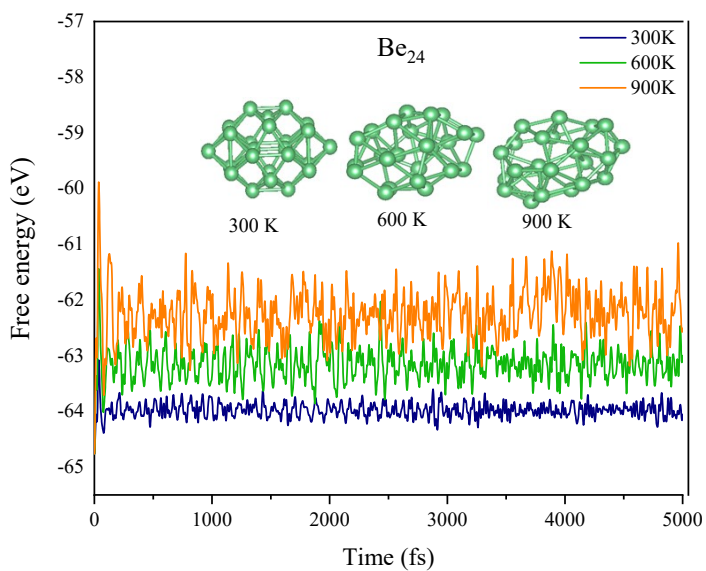
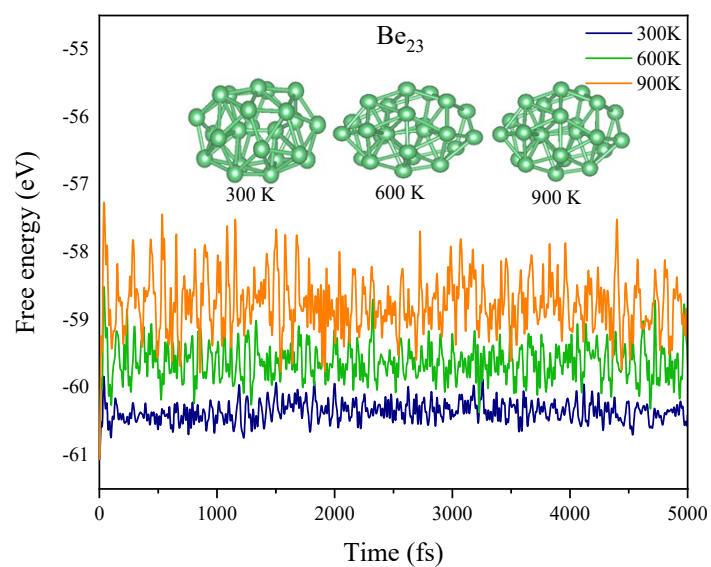
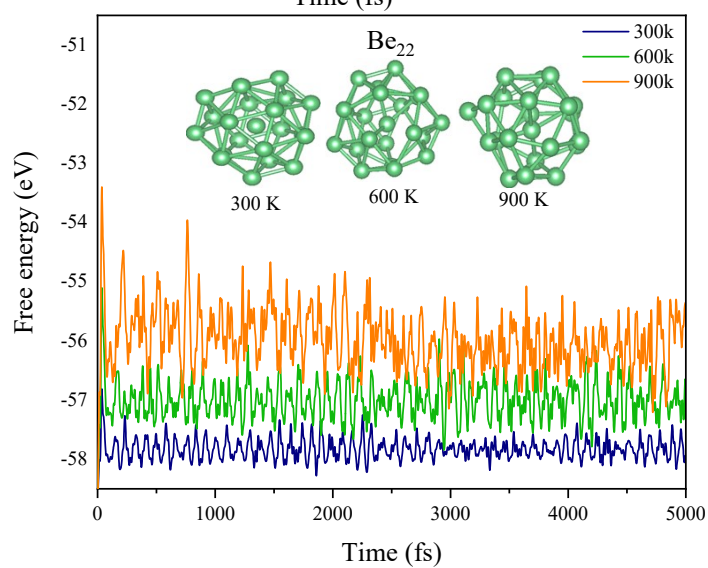
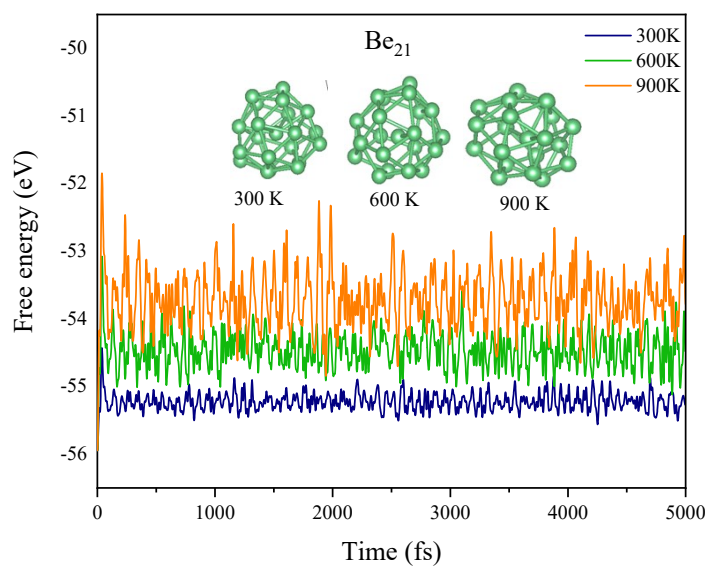
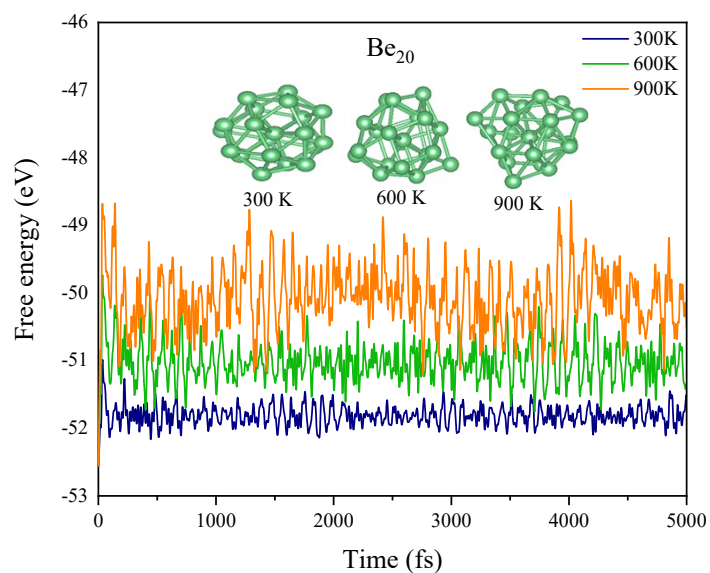
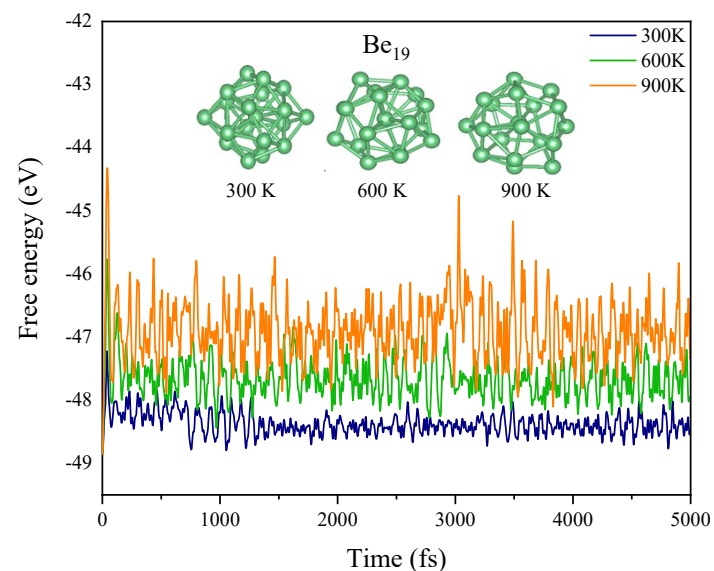


Figure S4. Continued

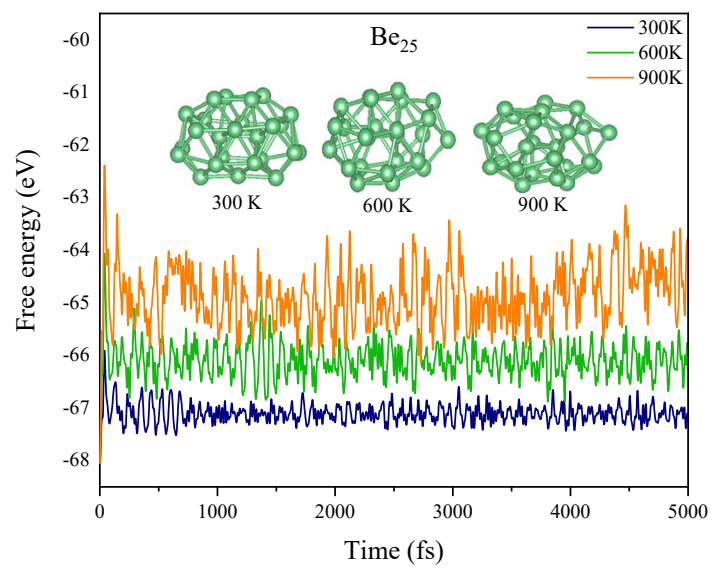


Figure S4. Continued

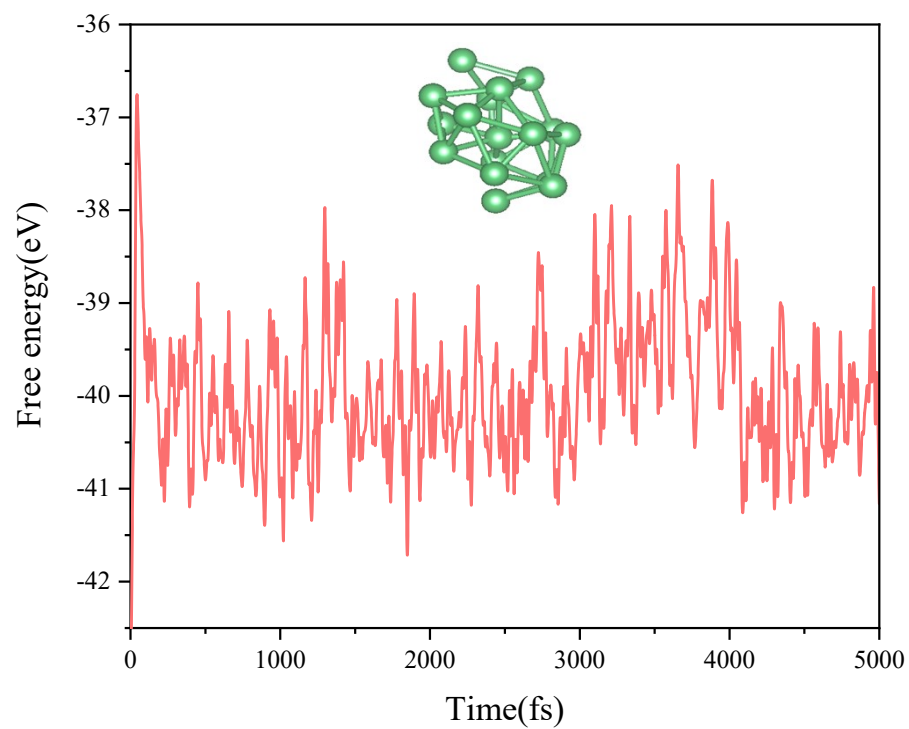
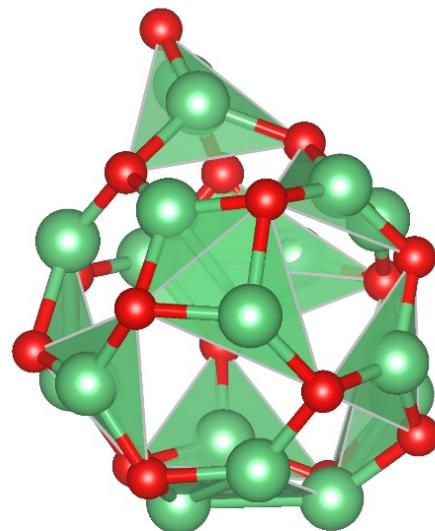
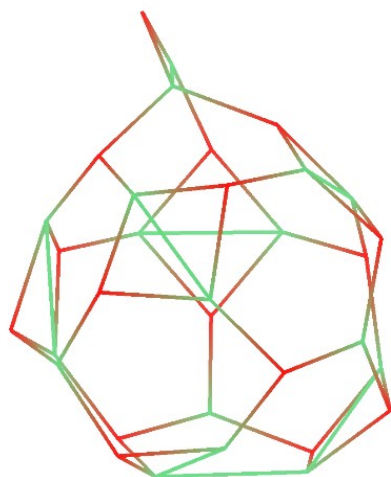
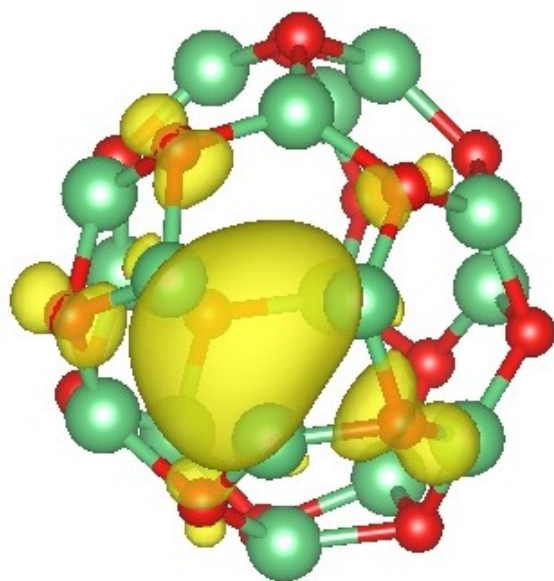


Figure S5. Images of the most stable structure of Be₁₇ obtained for a simulation time of 5 ps. The temperatures of the AIMD was set to 1200 K. Bond breaking is observed.

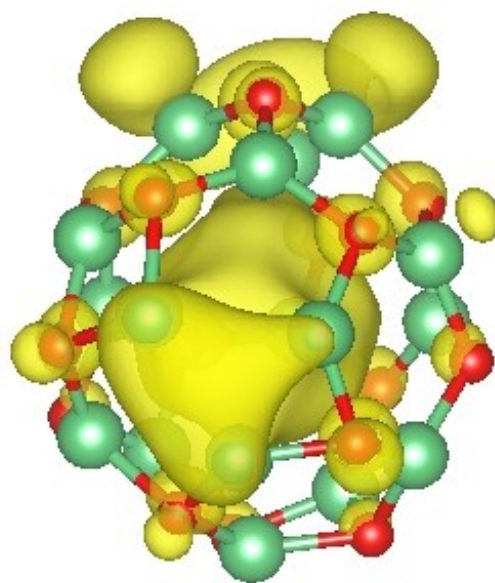


(a)

HOMO



LUMO



(b)

Figure S6. (a) Different view of the final relaxed geometry of $\text{Be}_{17}\text{O}_{16}$ clusters, (b) PBE contour plots of the HOMO and LUMO orbitals of the relaxed geometries of $\text{Be}_{17}\text{O}_{16}$ cluster. The green and red balls represent Be and O atoms, respectively.

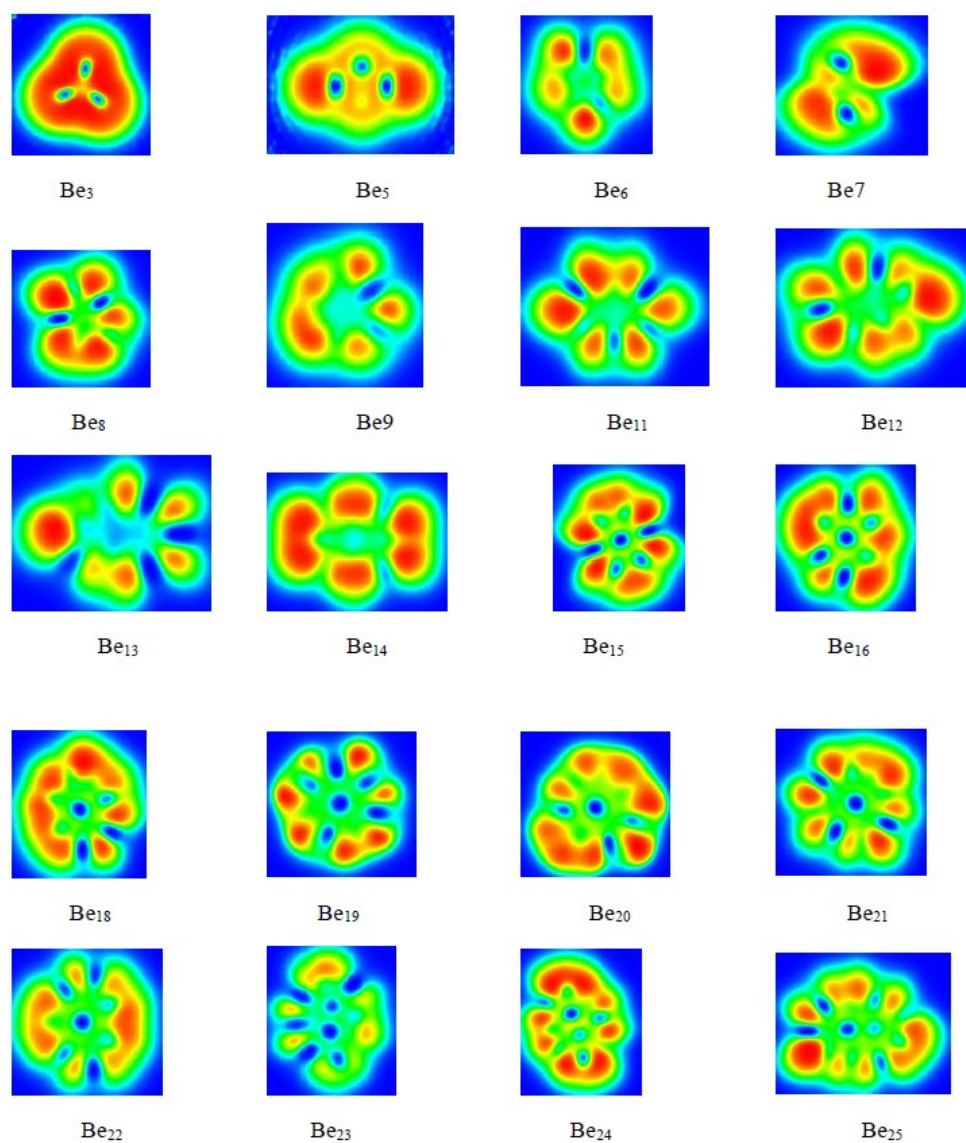


Figure S7. Contour plots of the electron localization function (ELF) (isovalue= 0.8 au) for the most stable structures of the Be_n clusters computed at the HSE06 level of theory.

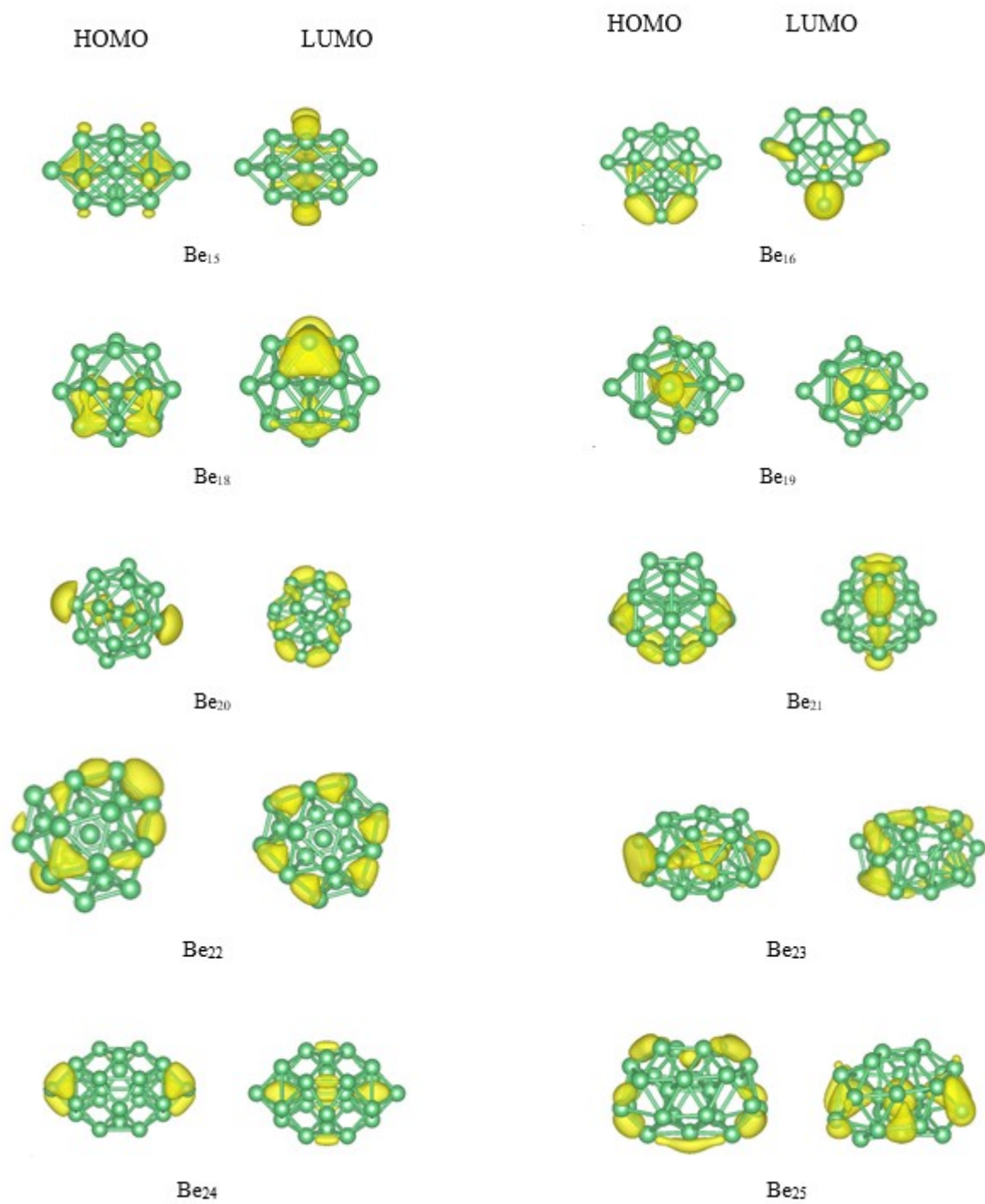


Figure S8. HSE06-contour plots of the HOMO and LUMO orbitals of the low-lying structures of Be_n clusters

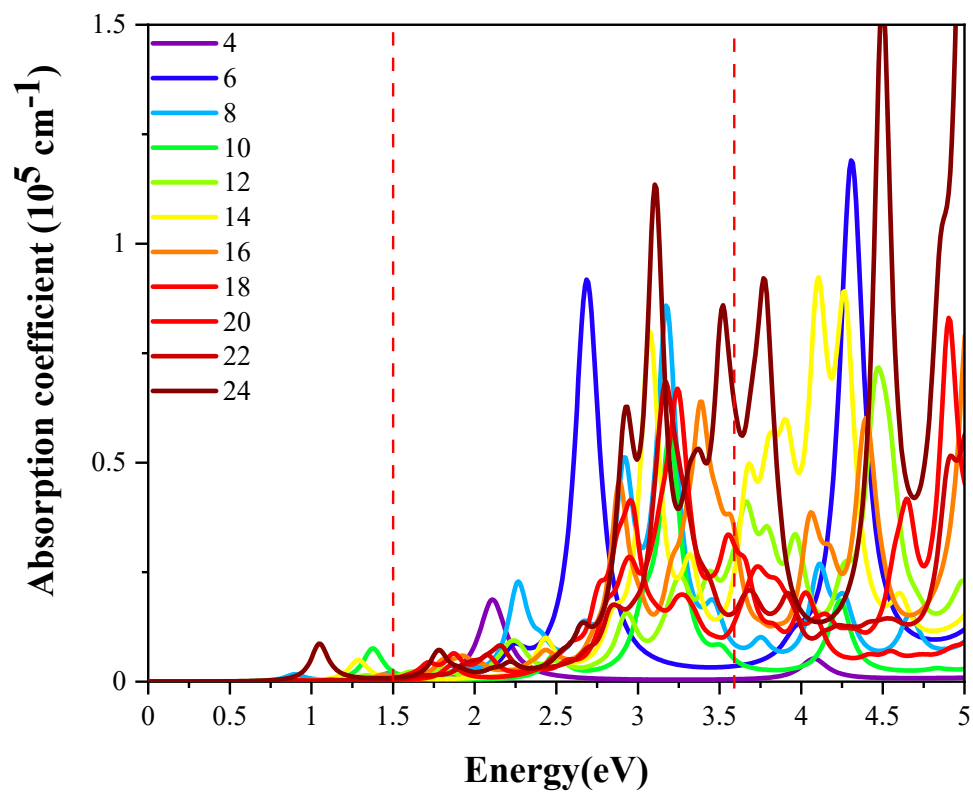


Figure S9. Optical absorption spectrum of Be_n clusters (even number) along xx direction from 0 eV to 5 eV calculated by the HSE06 functional. The energy range corresponding to visible light is indicated by vertical red-dashed lines

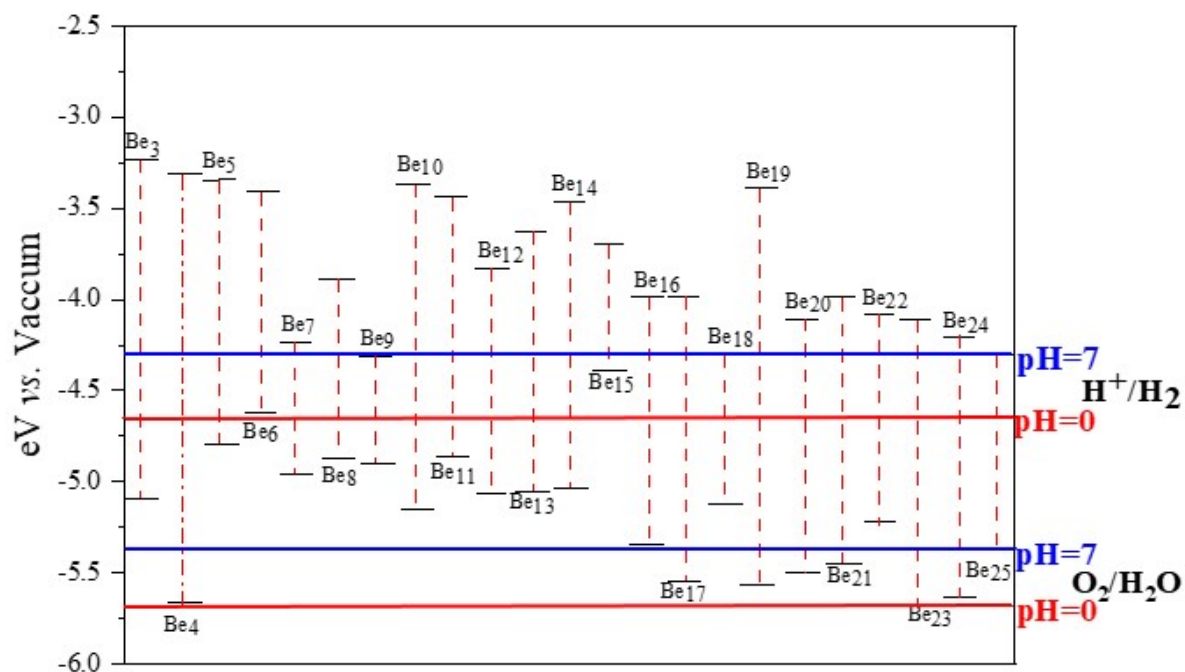


Figure S10. Band alignments of Be_n clusters with respect to the vacuum level, calculated with the HSE06 functional. The redox potentials of water splitting are plotted as red (pH=0) and blue (pH=7) solid lines.

S11. Optimized structures of Be_n clusters

The final relaxed .xyz format that could be opened by VESTA, Mercury or any other structure visualization program of the most stable structure of Be_n clusters

Be₃

```
3
EA840  14.080 13.923 11.920 90.00 90.00
Be     5.866960    6.505776    5.960000
Be     7.225995    8.191423    5.960000
Be     8.026917    6.188043    5.960000
```

Be₄

```
4
EA161  13.645 13.891 13.875 90.00 90.00
Be     6.343562    6.097822    6.155864
Be     6.326519    8.065033    6.691730
Be     6.557960    6.622790    8.114195
Be     8.061259    6.997093    6.788189
```

Be₅

```
5
EA1182 15.325 13.668 13.914 90.00 90.00
Be     7.662402    5.987992    6.175771
Be     7.662402    7.933300    6.614905
Be     9.364803    6.833905    6.956906
Be     7.662402    6.580340    8.080029
Be     5.960000    6.833905    6.956906
```

Be₆

```
6
EA206  14.964 13.758 14.351 90.00 90.00
Be     9.005635    6.031391    7.178213
Be     7.482776    6.739889    5.959505
Be     8.640505    7.865542    7.173635
Be     6.319511    7.864015    7.174984
Be     5.961908    6.028034    7.175644
Be     7.480846    6.743672    8.390248
```

Be₇

7					
EA726	15.290	15.301	13.947	90.00	90.00
Be	7.828342	7.649016	5.801414		
Be	8.208858	6.032987	7.068602		
Be	6.261337	6.627779	6.750492		
Be	9.376483	7.676504	7.249835		
Be	8.155303	9.285446	7.057438		
Be	6.228925	8.630562	6.743479		
Be	7.455263	7.651103	8.144357		

Be₈

8					
EA377	15.298	13.986	13.685	90.00	90.00
Be	8.176930	8.025881	5.962583		
Be	9.336291	7.698302	7.521617		
Be	7.123554	5.964058	5.959778		
Be	9.337593	6.288476	6.165425		
Be	8.174942	5.959960	7.721969		
Be	7.119913	8.023475	7.724980		
Be	5.959772	7.699085	6.166233		
Be	5.962296	6.284560	7.518291		

Be₉

9					
EA604	15.292	14.512	14.566	90.00	90.00
Be	7.645948	8.818212	7.673857		
Be	7.645948	5.470530	8.243547		
Be	7.645948	7.787718	5.760335		
Be	8.778902	7.214190	8.490153		
Be	8.781524	6.227867	6.654950		
Be	9.385472	8.172755	6.789855		
Be	6.512996	7.214190	8.490153		
Be	6.510374	6.227867	6.654950		
Be	5.906425	8.172755	6.789855		

Be₁₀

10					
EA646	16.268	14.873	14.869	90.00	90.00
Be	7.305027	6.939637	5.956648		
Be	7.305027	7.933279	8.912444		
Be	8.962486	8.129720	6.037926		
Be	8.962634	8.833386	8.128352		
Be	5.954252	7.436458	7.434546		
Be	7.305060	8.915296	6.937518		

Be	8.962486	6.743196	8.831166
Be	10.313392	7.436458	7.434546
Be	7.305060	5.957619	7.931574
Be	8.962634	6.039528	6.740740

Be₁₁

11			
EA1343	15.920	15.265	14.839
	90.00	90.00	
Be	7.960552	7.634018	5.942116
Be	9.510305	6.308206	7.231419
Be	7.505785	5.955659	7.037812
Be	8.141979	6.621725	8.864327
Be	5.956144	7.227540	6.338032
Be	9.699201	8.011579	8.357094
Be	8.412522	9.309572	7.044002
Be	7.779145	8.637279	8.867595
Be	6.409714	8.958053	7.237829
Be	6.220903	7.249217	8.354867
Be	9.965228	8.042474	6.340714

Be₁₂

12			
EA986	16.960	15.101	14.449
	90.00	90.00	
Be	8.807094	7.134876	5.958827
Be	8.144273	9.048863	6.220115
Be	8.152876	7.134119	8.490093
Be	6.651881	7.584292	6.044281
Be	11.002889	6.912934	6.661619
Be	6.808268	8.765851	7.785470
Be	5.955905	6.913149	7.786312
Be	8.816127	9.047938	8.229684
Be	10.308362	7.582601	8.403833
Be	7.495203	5.857072	6.943788
Be	10.152302	8.766126	6.664194
Be	9.464381	5.856788	7.504007

Be₁₃

13			
EA1328	17.478	15.443	14.487
	90.00	90.00	
Be	5.955724	8.127604	6.694409
Be	8.111326	8.577024	6.087413
Be	7.187866	9.024773	8.062396
Be	8.310925	5.956426	7.639048
Be	7.251876	6.690297	6.072968
Be	10.289945	6.422535	8.068169
Be	10.224635	8.747455	6.067862

Be	6.627253	7.059504	8.210605
Be	8.738653	7.724636	8.639513
Be	11.520364	7.312758	6.693996
Be	10.851802	8.387301	8.208314
Be	9.366127	6.860240	6.088665
Be	9.168361	9.488021	7.632702

Be₁₄

14					
EA314	18.135	15.264	14.962	90.00	90.00
Be	5.965139	7.634671	7.486557		
Be	7.374045	8.709179	8.532270		
Be	7.367892	6.559931	6.429925		
Be	7.372260	6.576091	8.552224		
Be	7.370369	8.687930	6.410167		
Be	9.066175	6.007022	7.493078		
Be	9.067215	7.646318	9.081857		
Be	10.762370	8.706360	8.533024		
Be	12.170045	7.629499	7.487338		
Be	10.766005	6.556652	6.429836		
Be	10.762232	6.573734	8.552361		
Be	10.767609	8.685008	6.410463		
Be	9.068638	9.256364	7.462945		
Be	9.066972	7.617375	5.871671		

Be₁₅

15					
EA340	18.043	15.111	15.111	90.00	90.00
Be	9.021399	5.623114	8.112217		
Be	9.021399	6.998943	5.623114		
Be	9.021399	9.488046	6.998943		
Be	9.021399	8.112217	9.488046		
Be	10.641598	6.280960	6.851416		
Be	10.641598	8.259744	6.280960		
Be	10.641598	8.830199	8.259744		
Be	10.641598	6.851416	8.830199		
Be	7.401200	6.280960	6.851416		
Be	7.401200	8.259744	6.280960		
Be	7.401200	8.830199	8.259744		
Be	7.401200	6.851416	8.830199		
Be	5.958910	7.555580	7.555580		
Be	12.083888	7.555580	7.555580		
Be	9.021399	7.555580	7.555580		

Be₁₆

16					
EA843	16.651	16.476	15.009	90.00	90.00
Be	9.408313	9.669125	8.679878		
Be	10.847309	6.645495	7.451529		
Be	9.414823	9.786035	6.500331		

Be	7.522078	7.199089	6.028247
Be	6.033910	10.142062	7.612558
Be	7.491558	7.033614	8.830419
Be	9.608994	7.475732	8.862382
Be	10.775587	8.663895	7.542869
Be	9.649351	7.615543	6.094976
Be	7.267813	9.351020	6.173426
Be	6.629236	5.912881	7.350478
Be	7.267882	9.181417	8.942096
Be	7.978498	10.697086	7.639128
Be	6.191725	7.997444	7.469852
Be	8.751505	6.135143	7.389760
Be	8.368724	8.303805	7.502615

Be₁₇

17			
EA1192	16.553	16.462	15.871 90.00 90.00
Be	5.917097	7.176676	7.947508
Be	6.845037	8.195797	6.395555
Be	5.917097	9.285648	7.923257
Be	6.845037	8.266526	9.475209
Be	8.277319	8.231162	7.935382
Be	9.707347	7.162423	9.044580
Be	10.635573	7.463374	7.215086
Be	9.707347	9.299901	6.826185
Be	10.635573	8.998951	8.655678
Be	9.251821	5.893087	7.445090
Be	8.868766	7.418757	6.091003
Be	9.251821	10.569237	8.425674
Be	8.868766	9.043567	9.779762
Be	7.300349	10.283254	9.157046
Be	7.684636	6.383944	8.742963
Be	7.300349	6.179070	6.713717
Be	7.684636	10.078381	7.127802

Be₁₈

18			
EA711	17.346	16.442	15.638 90.00 90.00
Be	8.672706	8.228540	7.819718
Be	10.463270	6.754342	6.798667
Be	8.672385	7.062217	5.957816
Be	5.958772	8.267464	7.819286
Be	8.671780	10.436565	6.771393
Be	7.345498	8.756028	6.283897
Be	9.999169	8.757236	6.282597
Be	8.674023	5.915438	7.819257
Be	6.881950	6.752316	6.798524
Be	6.920117	10.131250	7.820556
Be	8.674102	7.062285	9.680181

Be	8.672784	10.434691	8.867734
Be	10.464859	6.752948	8.839233
Be	10.001850	8.755956	9.354132
Be	11.387507	8.269187	7.817978
Be	10.424864	10.132457	7.817946
Be	6.883465	6.752447	8.838720
Be	7.344922	8.755116	9.355785

Be₁₉

19			
EA539	17.758	16.651	16.651 90.00 90.00
Be	11.809165	8.325657	8.325657
Be	10.515625	9.893523	8.084110
Be	10.515625	8.567204	9.893523
Be	10.515625	6.757791	8.567204
Be	10.515625	8.084110	6.757791
Be	7.242395	9.605887	9.264132
Be	7.242395	9.264132	7.045427
Be	7.242395	7.045427	7.387182
Be	7.242395	7.387182	9.605887
Be	8.444694	5.952240	8.690852
Be	8.444694	7.960461	5.952240
Be	8.444694	10.699074	7.960461
Be	8.444694	8.690852	10.699074
Be	9.312967	6.389601	6.905825
Be	9.312967	6.905825	10.261713
Be	9.312967	10.261713	9.745488
Be	9.312967	9.745488	6.389601
Be	8.878369	8.325657	8.325657
Be	5.950550	8.325657	8.325657

Be₂₀

20			
EA1193	17.143	16.505	16.073 90.00 90.00
Be	6.345150	8.769501	8.062075
Be	7.055496	6.900950	7.206397
Be	8.303098	7.902566	5.806086
Be	7.706287	9.744673	6.682436
Be	9.174106	10.799214	7.801421
Be	7.691246	8.820418	10.016036
Be	8.019251	5.776227	8.727279
Be	10.354295	7.413740	5.702783
Be	10.709526	9.592226	8.414407
Be	9.201880	10.223918	9.751180
Be	8.439517	6.910999	10.360852
Be	9.965841	6.352628	9.011991
Be	8.574967	8.263238	8.095493
Be	6.636759	7.178004	9.291192
Be	9.145514	6.393083	7.033061
Be	9.797847	9.234366	6.506999

Be	7.374853	10.400141	8.699533
Be	6.267317	8.408017	6.033850
Be	10.752450	7.689614	7.701917
Be	9.917153	8.272058	9.821297

Be₂₁

21

EA218	17.288	16.443	16.534	90.00	90.00
Be	10.450712	7.198861	10.040964		
Be	10.386972	9.161410	9.473545		
Be	8.644238	10.185638	9.900240		
Be	6.901506	9.161395	9.473545		
Be	6.837749	7.198861	10.040946		
Be	8.644238	6.222354	10.042315		
Be	10.450728	7.198861	6.493183		
Be	8.644238	6.222354	6.491816		
Be	6.837766	7.198861	6.493167		
Be	6.901506	9.161410	7.060585		
Be	8.644238	10.185638	6.633890		
Be	10.386972	9.161395	7.060585		
Be	11.329935	7.789521	8.267065		
Be	9.727118	10.746888	8.267065		
Be	7.561358	10.746888	8.267065		
Be	5.958543	7.789521	8.267065		
Be	7.530122	6.291628	8.267065		
Be	9.758354	6.291628	8.267065		
Be	8.644238	8.206413	5.960053		
Be	8.644238	8.206413	10.574079		
Be	8.644238	8.324946	8.267065		

Be₂₂

22

EA711	17.322	17.333	16.190	90.00	90.00
Be	8.333993	9.799889	5.701171		
Be	9.226317	6.713067	6.863385		
Be	9.805975	8.384967	5.700818		
Be	10.361450	6.394010	8.568070		
Be	7.100515	7.043539	7.490112		
Be	5.842968	8.331543	8.570231		
Be	7.844678	7.817751	5.700539		
Be	8.437975	5.837790	8.569214		
Be	10.846847	8.128248	7.490279		
Be	10.070781	10.133314	6.865677		
Be	8.010163	10.912679	9.520117		
Be	11.222963	9.888263	8.571241		
Be	8.036285	10.828901	7.490796		
Be	6.322598	10.275690	8.568305		

Be	9.779611	11.274947	8.571259
Be	7.428650	8.969671	9.968947
Be	9.539976	9.580718	9.970090
Be	10.931993	8.105386	9.519735
Be	9.013422	7.446672	9.968798
Be	7.039205	6.978851	9.519095
Be	8.660933	8.666014	8.035323
Be	6.686551	9.153967	6.864172

Be₂₃

23			
EA385	18.454	16.074	16.215 90.00 90.00
Be	12.454581	8.309685	8.459689
Be	8.951497	8.197420	6.020198
Be	11.271439	8.484856	6.285787
Be	11.293626	9.927704	7.980202
Be	10.790741	8.936098	9.814074
Be	11.480872	6.872284	9.483167
Be	11.899546	6.631327	7.483218
Be	9.966321	5.925464	8.280133
Be	10.263027	6.620975	6.247451
Be	9.764452	9.958827	6.627867
Be	9.302716	10.084891	8.646371
Be	10.211779	8.035405	7.988075
Be	7.758243	9.756417	7.088421
Be	6.921005	7.852528	6.379984
Be	7.186157	7.672337	9.946696
Be	9.473289	7.137725	9.996155
Be	8.793698	9.020391	10.353236
Be	8.347656	6.333899	6.927819
Be	6.453669	6.684414	8.007044
Be	8.248643	8.038789	8.224272
Be	7.292474	9.754478	9.178890
Be	6.031832	8.657921	8.000168
Be	8.063017	5.961201	9.049767

Be₂₄

24			
EA633	19.348	16.372	16.373 90.00 90.00
Be	10.759240	10.413948	7.599832
Be	8.589083	5.957915	8.772800
Be	7.290836	6.815578	7.387845
Be	12.057486	9.556284	8.984789
Be	7.292566	9.556177	8.985017
Be	12.055757	6.815686	7.387617
Be	10.630472	8.186788	8.186741
Be	8.717849	8.185075	8.185893
Be	10.760393	5.957347	8.774714
Be	8.587929	10.414515	7.597919
Be	10.759897	7.599551	5.957463

Be	8.588426	8.772312	10.415170
Be	9.671547	10.050336	9.273236
Be	9.676774	6.321527	7.099396
Be	9.674480	7.099264	10.050776
Be	9.673841	9.272599	6.321856
Be	8.589149	7.597683	5.958907
Be	10.759174	8.774179	10.413727
Be	13.390104	8.184793	8.185674
Be	5.958218	8.187068	8.186959
Be	7.291774	7.386791	9.556354
Be	12.056548	8.985072	6.816279
Be	7.291825	8.984187	6.815859
Be	12.056496	7.387676	9.556774

Be₂₅

25			
EA449	18.574	16.147	15.921 90.00 90.00
Be	10.666894	10.177158	6.887070
Be	9.551102	8.640869	5.961037
Be	6.893282	8.570636	9.755004
Be	6.254472	7.375075	6.641874
Be	9.961551	10.129359	8.801941
Be	9.023835	8.628214	9.959496
Be	8.252254	8.114470	7.933222
Be	7.484593	8.832934	6.000365
Be	8.618129	10.131792	7.133451
Be	6.425281	9.284148	7.794652
Be	5.959628	7.210338	8.622786
Be	7.910984	10.171709	9.046917
Be	7.232178	5.947896	7.696791
Be	11.338460	5.945253	8.208095
Be	12.615014	7.214426	7.296449
Be	12.316470	7.359890	9.277984
Be	9.285407	6.046468	7.952517
Be	11.682066	8.579014	6.169190
Be	11.088874	8.817037	9.925035
Be	10.110639	6.857565	9.731615
Be	10.577627	6.770446	6.343976
Be	12.149981	9.279234	8.135441
Be	7.994218	6.759860	9.568806
Be	10.316546	8.117801	7.986188
Be	8.461005	6.870655	6.178538