What is the Most Stable Isomer of Ammonia – Methyl Trifluorogermane Complex (H₃N-GeF₃-CH₃)?

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We have undertaken a computational study (m06/6-31+G(d)) of the stability of various isomers of H_3N - GeF_3 - CH_3 , considering not only coordination site, axial or equatorial, but also the various conformations for each of four possible configurations (Figure 1). We will assess the stability by relative energies and the occurrence of imaginary frequencies. Another key issue is the Lewis acid strength of GeF_3CH_3 relative to GeF_4 . We expect the methyl group to reduce the acid strength, and we will compare to results for H_3N – GeF_3 - CH_3 to those for H_3N – GeF_4 . Recent results for analogous compounds and those from higher levels of theory will also be discussed.

