

# **Elegant Approach to Spacer Arranged Silagermylene and Bis(germylene) Compounds**

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## S1. Experimental Section

All manipulations were performed under a dry and oxygen free atmosphere ( $N_2$ ) using standard Schlenk techniques or inside a MBraun MB 150-GI glove box maintained at or below 1 ppm of  $O_2$  and  $H_2O$ . All solvents were distilled from Na/benzophenone prior to use. The starting materials **1**,<sup>10</sup> **2**,<sup>6</sup> **3**,<sup>11</sup> and **6**<sup>18</sup> are prepared using literature procedures. Other chemicals are purchased commercially and used as received.  $^1H$ ,  $^{13}C$ ,  $^{27}Al$ , and  $^{29}Si$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance DRX instrument and referenced to the  $SiMe_4$  in the case of the  $^1H$ ,  $^{13}C$ , and  $^{29}Si$  NMR spectra. Elemental analyses were performed by the Analytisches Labor des Instituts für Anorganische Chemie der Universität Göttingen. EI-MS were measured on a Finnigan Mat 8230 or a Varian MAT CH5 instrument. Melting points were measured in sealed glass tubes with a Büchi melting point B 540 instrument.

**Synthesis of 4.** A solution of  $LSiCl$  (**1**) (0.295 g, 1.00 mmol) in toluene (10 mL) was added to a toluene (10 mL) solution of  $L^1Ge$  (**3**) (0.489 g, 1.00 mmol) at room temperature under stirring for 12 h. The solvent was removed in vacuum and the residue was dissolved in a mixture of *n*-pentane and toluene, concentrated and stored for crystallization at  $-32\text{ }^\circ C$  in a freezer for 48 h. Compound **4** was obtained as yellow crystals. Yield (0.688 g, 87.7%); mp.  $185\text{-}187\text{ }^\circ C$ .  $^1H$  NMR (500 MHz,  $C_6D_6$ ):  $\delta$  7.27-7.14, 6.94-6.83 (m, 11H, Ar-*H*); 5.64 (s, 1H,  $\gamma CH$ ), 4.33 (sept, 1H,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 4.10 (sept, 1H,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 3.68 (sept, 1H,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 3.49 (sept, 1H,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 2.79 (d, 1H,  $J = 10.76$  Hz,  $NCCH_2$ ), 2.39 (d, 1H,  $J = 10.71$  Hz,  $NCCH_2$ ), 1.84 (s, 3H,  $CH_3$ ), 1.71 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.73$  Hz,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 1.60 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.51$  Hz,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 1.57 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.59$  Hz,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 1.49 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.83$  Hz,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 1.37 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.78$  Hz,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 1.36 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.73$  Hz,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 1.33 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.93$  Hz,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 1.25 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.77$  Hz,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 1.03 (s, 9H,  $C(CH_3)_3$ ), 0.70 (s, 9H,  $C(CH_3)_3$ ) ppm;  $^{13}C$  NMR (125.77 MHz,  $C_6D_6$ ):  $\delta$  171.8, 162.0, 161.3, 148.0, 146.7, 145.3, 145.0, 140.83, 140.76, 133.9, 130.0, 129.7, 129.5, 128.5, 127.6, 125.5, 125.3, 124.9, 124.0, 102.5, 53.1, 53.0, 41.6, 32.1, 31.2, 29.1, 28.9, 28.8, 28.7, 28.4, 27.9, 27.86, 25.2, 24.8, 24.6,

24.2, 23.6 ppm;  $^{29}\text{Si}$  NMR (99.36 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta$  42.45 ppm. MS (70 eV):  $m/z$  (%): 475.2 (100)  $[\text{M-LSi-Cl-Me}]^+$ , 784.5 (8)  $[\text{M}]^+$ , Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{63}\text{ClGeN}_4\text{Si}$  (784.18): C, 67.39; H, 8.10; N 7.14. Found: C, 66.41; H, 8.29; N 6.94.

**Synthesis of 5.** A solution of  $\text{LGeCl}$  (**2**) (0.340 g, 1.00 mmol) in toluene (10 mL) was added to a toluene (10 mL) solution of  $\text{L}^1\text{Ge}$  (**3**) (0.489 g, 1.00 mmol) at room temperature and stirred for 12 h. The solvent was removed in vacuum and the residue was dissolved in a mixture of *n*-pentane and toluene, concentrated and stored for crystallization at  $-5^\circ\text{C}$  in a freezer for 48 h. Compound **5** was obtained as pale yellow crystals. Yield: (0.742 g, 89.59%); mp. 198-199  $^\circ\text{C}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500.13 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta$  7.15-7.13, 6.97-6.88 (m, 11H, Ar-*H*); 5.64 (s, 1H,  $\gamma\text{CH}$ ), 4.34 (sept, 1H,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 4.15 (sept, 1H,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 3.64 (sept, 1H,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 3.48 (sept, 1H,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 2.88 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.94$  Hz,  $\text{NCCH}_2$ ), 2.71 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.92$  Hz,  $\text{NCCH}_2$ ), 1.83 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.60 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.48$  Hz,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 1.56 (2d, 6H,  $J = 6.64$  Hz,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 1.50 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.80$  Hz,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 1.34 (3d, 9H,  $J = 7.01$  Hz,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 1.24 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.78$  Hz,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 0.94 (s, 9H,  $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ), 0.67 (s, 9H,  $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125.77 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta$  172.4, 167.1, 161.7, 148.0, 147.1, 145.3, 144.6, 141.0, 140.7, 135.7, 129.7, 128.4, 127.6, 125.6, 125.3, 124.7, 124.0, 101.9, 53.1, 53.0, 46.1, 32.2, 31.5, 29.2, 28.8, 28.7, 28.6, 28.4, 27.9, 27.8, 25.1, 24.8, 24.4, 24.2, 24.1, 23.7 ppm. MS (70 eV):  $m/z$  (%): 475.2 (100)  $[\text{M-LGe-Cl-Me}]^+$ , 830.3(4)  $[\text{M}]^+$  Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{63}\text{ClGe}_2\text{N}_4$ , (828.73): C, 63.77; H, 7.66; N, 6.76. Found: C, 64.4; H, 8.3; N, 5.7.

**Synthesis of 7.** A solution of  $\text{LSiCl}$  (**1**) (0.295 g, 1.00 mmol) in toluene (10 mL) was added to a toluene (10 mL) solution of  $\text{L}^1\text{AlMe}\cdot\text{thf}$  (**6**) (0.531 g, 1.00 mmol) at room temperature and stirred for 12 h. The solvent was removed in vacuum and the residue was dissolved in a mixture of *n*-pentane and toluene, concentrated and stored for crystallization at  $-5^\circ\text{C}$  in a freezer for 72 h. Compound **7** was obtained as an off-white solid. Yield: (0.656 g, 86.88%); mp. 116-117  $^\circ\text{C}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500.13 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta$  7.27-6.83, 6.94-6.83 (m, 11H, Ar-*H*); 5.71

(s, 1H,  $\gamma$ CH), 4.23 (sept, 1H, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 3.99 (sept, 1H, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 3.52 (sept, 1H, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 3.50 (sept, 1H, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 2.46 (d, 2H,  $J = 3.19$  Hz, NCCH<sub>2</sub>), 1.82 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.62 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.76$  Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.57 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.73$  Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.55 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.88$  Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.53 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.57$  Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.39 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.80$  Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.36 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.85$  Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.28 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.86$  Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.18 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.99$  Hz, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 0.96 (s, 9H, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.95 (s, 9H, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), -0.50 (s, 3H, Al-Me) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125.77 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  177.6, 167.5, 161.1, 146.7, 146.6, 144.5, 144.0, 140.8, 140.5, 134.1, 130.0, 129.7, 129.3, 128.7, 127.2, 125.6, 125.24, 125.20, 124.5, 124.0, 99.8, 53.3, 53.2, 42.2, 31.8, 31.7, 29.1, 28.8, 28.4, 28.2, 28.1, 27.3, 25.7, 25.5, 25.0, 24.8, 24.4, 24.1, 23.6, -10.8 ppm. <sup>29</sup>Si NMR (99.36 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  41.16 ppm. MS (70 eV):  $m/z$  (%): 479.2 (100) [M-LSi-Me]<sup>+</sup>, 753 (20) [M]<sup>+</sup>. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>45</sub>H<sub>66</sub>AlClN<sub>4</sub>Si, (753.55): C, 71.72; H, 8.83; N, 7.44. Found: C, 70.3; H, 8.2; N, 7.3.

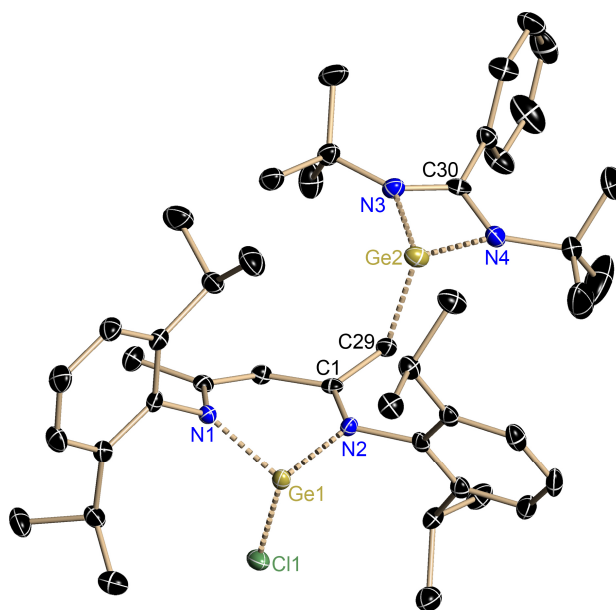
## S2. Crystallographic details for compounds 4 and 5

A shock cooled crystal was selected and mounted under nitrogen atmosphere using the X-TEMP2.<sup>S1</sup> The data sets were collected on an INCOATEC Microfocus with mirror optics instrument equipped with a Bruker Apex II detector (Mo K $\alpha$  radiation,  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å, 100K).<sup>S2</sup> The integration was performed with SAINT V7.68A<sup>S3</sup>, which was followed by an empirical absorption correction with SADABS 2008/1.<sup>S4</sup> The structures were solved by direct methods (SHELXS)<sup>S5</sup> and refined against  $F^2$  using the full-matrix least-squares methods with SHELXL.<sup>S6</sup> All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. The hydrogen atoms were refined isotropically on calculated positions using a riding model except H16A, H16B, and H18 in **4** which was found and refined freely.

**Table 1.** X-ray data for compound **4** and **5**

	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
empirical formula	C <sub>44</sub> H <sub>63</sub> ClGeN <sub>4</sub> Si	C <sub>44</sub> H <sub>63</sub> ClGe <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub>
CCDC number	819683	819684

formula weight	784.11	828.61
T(K)	99(2)	100(2)
crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic
space group	$P2_1/n$	$P2_1/n$
$a$ (Å)	13.1815(10)	13.207(2)
$b$ (Å)	22.4798(17)	22.515(3)
$c$ (Å)	15.2220(11)	15.273(2)
$\beta$ (°)	106.3880(10)	106.601(2)
$V$ , (Å <sup>3</sup> )	4327.3(6)	4352.4(11)
$Z$	4	4
$\rho_{\text{calc}}$ (Mg m <sup>-3</sup> )	1.204	1.265
$\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.831	1.476
$F(000)$	1672	1744
reflections collected	96322	90869
data/restraints/parameters	9189 / 0 / 487	7962 / 0 / 475
Goof	1.047	1.038
$R1, wR2 [I > 2\sigma(I)]^a$	0.0318, 0.0673	0.0325, 0.0642
$R1, wR2$ (all data)	0.0453, 0.0722	0.0459, 0.0690
largest diff peak, hole ( $e \text{ \AA}^{-3}$ )	0.571, -0.313	0.710, -0.474



**Fig. 2** Molecular structure of **5**. The anisotropic displacement parameters are depicted at the 50% probability level. All hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

### S3. References

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