A zwitterionic hydrocarbon-soluble borenium ion based on a $\beta$-diketiminate backbone
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## 1. General procedures

All manipulations were carried out using standard Schlenk line or dry-box techniques under an atmosphere of argon. With the exception of fluorobenzene and 1,2-difluorobenzene, solvents were degassed by sparging with argon and dried by passing through a column of the appropriani8te drying agent using a commercially available Braun SPS. NMR spectra were measured in $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, \mathrm{CD}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ or $\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{D}_{8} \mathrm{O} ; \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$ was dried over potassium, $\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{D}_{8} \mathrm{O}$ was stirred over potassium overnight and distilled, and $\mathrm{CD}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ was distilled from calcium hydride and stored over molecular sieves, and all were stored under argon in Teflon valve ampoules. NMR samples were prepared under argon in 5 mm Wilmad 507-PP tubes fitted with J. Young Teflon valves. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra were recorded on Varian Mercury-VX-300 or Bruker AVII-500 spectrometers and referenced internally to residual protio-solvent $\left({ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right)$ or solvent $\left({ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\right)$ resonances and are reported relative to tetramethylsilane $\left(\delta_{\mathrm{H}}=0 \mathrm{ppm}\right) .{ }^{27} \mathrm{Al}$ NMR spectra were referenced with respect to $\mathrm{Al}\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)_{6}{ }^{3+}$. Chemical shifts are quoted in $\delta$ (ppm) and coupling constants in Hz. ESI-MS measurements were performed on a Bruker MicroTOF ESI mass spectrometer connected to a glove box by PEEK tubing. Elemental analyses were carried out at London Metropolitan University. $\mathrm{PhBCl}_{2}$ was distilled prior to use. Starting materials $\mathrm{Na}\left[\mathrm{BAr}^{f} 4\right],{ }^{\mathrm{S} 1} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5} \mathrm{BCl}_{2},{ }^{\mathrm{S} 2} \mathrm{~B}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5}\right)_{3},{ }^{\mathrm{S} 3} \mathrm{~K}\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]^{\mathrm{S} 4}$ and 4 - $\mathrm{Bu}{ }^{\mathrm{S} 5}$ were prepared according to literature procedures. The synthesis of $7-\mathrm{tBu}$ has been communicated previously by us. ${ }^{\text {S5 }}$

## 2. Preparation of novel compounds

## [1-Ph][PhBCl ${ }_{3}$ ]

$(\mathrm{NacNac})^{\mathrm{Dipp}} \mathrm{Li}\left(\mathrm{OEt}_{2}\right)(0.750 \mathrm{~g}, 1.50 \mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in toluene $(15 \mathrm{~mL})$ and cooled to $0{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} . \mathrm{PhBCl}_{2}(0.39 \mathrm{~mL}, 3.00 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added dropwise, and the resulting pale yellow solution stirred at $0{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 10 mins . The ice bath was then removed and the reaction mixture allowed to warm to room temperature, and stirred for 90 mins. The mixture was then heated to $70^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and filtered while hot. Colourless crystals formed at room temperature and the solution was then stored at $-30{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ overnight to complete crystallization. The crystals were isolated by filtration and dried in vacuo. Yield: $0.730 \mathrm{~g}, 69 \%$.

Spectroscopic data: ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 400 MHz , dichloromethane- ${ }_{2}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 0.91\left(12 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}\right.$ $=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 1.21\left(12 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\left.\operatorname{Dipp}{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 2.49\left(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\beta$-diketiminato backbone), $2.49\left(4 \mathrm{H}\right.$, sept, ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 6.71(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}$, $o-\mathrm{CH}, \mathrm{BPh}$ of cation), $6.89(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, m-\mathrm{CH}, \mathrm{BPh}$ of cation), $7.10(3 \mathrm{H}$, overlapping $\mathrm{m}, p-\mathrm{CH}$, BPh of cation and $o-\mathrm{CH}, \mathrm{BPh}$ of anion), $7.20\left(\mathrm{t}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}-\mathrm{CH}, \mathrm{BPh}\right.$ of anion), $7.25\left(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}\right.$ $=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, m-\mathrm{CH}$ of Dipp $), 7.47\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, p-\mathrm{CH}\right.$ of Dipp $), 7.70(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \gamma-\mathrm{CH})$, 7.78 (d, 1H, p-CH, BPh of anion). ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR ( 100 MHz , dichloromethane- $\mathrm{d}_{2}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{C}}$ 23.6, $25.1\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}\right)$, $23.6\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\beta$-diketiminato backbone), $29.6\left(\mathrm{CH}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}\right)$, $115.9(\gamma-\mathrm{CH}), 125.8$ (aromatic C, BPh of cation), 126.4 (aromatic C, BPh of anion), 127.1 (aromatic C, BPh of anion), 127.5 ( $m$-C of Dipp), 130.8 (aromatic C, BPh of anion), 131.4 ( $p-$ C of Dipp), 133.9 (aromatic C, BPh of cation), 134.5 (ipso-C of Dipp), 134.9 (aromatic C, BPh of cation), 143.6 (o-C of Dipp), 172.8 (NC). ${ }^{11} \mathrm{~B}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\} \quad \mathrm{NMR}(128 \mathrm{MHz}$, dichloromethane- $\left.\mathrm{d}_{2}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right): \delta_{\mathrm{B}}-6.5\left(\mathrm{PhBCl}_{3}{ }^{-}\right)$, $33.7\left(\mathrm{Dipp}_{2} \mathrm{NacNacBPh}^{+}\right)$. ESI-MS: $m / z$ $505.4\left([\mathrm{M}]^{+}, 100 \%\right)$; accurate mass: calc. 505.3755, meas. 505.3757. Elemental
microanalysis: calc. for $\mathrm{C}_{41} \mathrm{H}_{51} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{~B}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{3}$ : C $70.36 \% \mathrm{H} 7.34 \% \mathrm{~N} 4.00 \%$; meas. C $70.41 \% \mathrm{H}$ 7.19\% N 3.77\%.

## [1-Ph][BAr $\left.{ }_{4}{ }_{4}\right]$

A solution of $[1-\mathrm{Ph}]\left[\mathrm{PhBCl}_{3}\right](0.350 \mathrm{~g}, 0.50 \mathrm{mmol})$ in dichloromethane $(5 \mathrm{~mL})$ was added to a solution of $\mathrm{Na}\left[\mathrm{BAr}_{4}^{f}\right](0.445 \mathrm{~g}, 0.50 \mathrm{mmol})$ in dicholoromethane $(5 \mathrm{~mL})$ at room temperature. A pale yellow solution formed with a colourless precipitate. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 mins and filtered, and volatiles removed in vacuo. The residue was washed with pentane to yield a colourless powder. Yield: $0.550 \mathrm{~g}, 81 \%$. The exchange of the anion was confirmed by presence of a sharp singlet in the ${ }^{11} \mathrm{~B}$ NMR spectrum at $\delta_{\mathrm{B}}-6.5 \mathrm{ppm}$, and disappearance of the peak for $\mathrm{PhBCl}_{3}{ }^{-}$at $\delta_{\mathrm{B}}-6.5 \mathrm{ppm} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H},{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ and ${ }^{11} \mathrm{~B}$ data for the cation were identical to that measured for $[1-\mathrm{Ph}]\left[\mathrm{PhBCl}_{3}\right]$.

## $\left[1-C_{6} F_{5}\right]\left[\left(C_{6} F_{5}\right) B C_{3}\right]$

( NacNac$)^{\mathrm{Dipp}} \mathrm{Li}\left(\mathrm{OEt}_{2}\right)(0.400 \mathrm{~g}, 0.80 \mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in toluene $(15 \mathrm{~mL})$ and cooled to $0{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5}\right) \mathrm{BCl}_{2}(0.40 \mathrm{~g}, 1.60 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added dropwise, and the resulting hazy pale yellow solution stirred at $0{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 10 mins . The ice bath was then removed and the reaction mixture allowed to warm to room temperature, and stirred for 90 mins. The mixture was then heated to $70^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and filtered while hot. Removal of volatiles in vacuo yielded an oily yellow residue, which was washed with pentane to yield the product as a colourless powder. Yield: 0.373 g , 53\%. Single crystals suitable for X-ray crystallography were obtained from a saturated pentane solution at room temperature.

Spectroscopic data: ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 500 MHz , dichloromethane- $\mathrm{d}_{2}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 1.17$ ( 24 H , two overlapping doublets, ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=7.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 2.57\left(4 \mathrm{H}\right.$, sept, ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=7.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}\right)$, $2.60\left(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\beta$-diketiminato backbone), $7.30\left(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, m\right.$ - CH of Dipp), $7.48\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, p-\mathrm{CH}\right.$ of Dipp), $7.78(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \gamma-\mathrm{CH}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR (126 MHz , dichloromethane- $\left.\mathrm{d}_{2}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right): \delta_{\mathrm{C}} 23.9\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\beta$-diketiminato backbone), 24.2, 25.8 $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 29.5\left(\mathrm{CH}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 117.4(\gamma-\mathrm{CH}), 126.5(m-\mathrm{C}$ of Dipp), $132.0(p-\mathrm{C}$ of Dipp), 134.7 (ipso-C of Dipp), 137.6 (dm, $\left.{ }^{1} J_{\mathrm{CF}}=260 \mathrm{~Hz}, m-\mathrm{CF}\right), 137.7\left(\mathrm{dm},{ }^{1} J_{\mathrm{CF}}=256 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$, $m$-CF), $140.0\left(\mathrm{dm},{ }^{1} J_{\mathrm{CF}}=248 \mathrm{~Hz}, p-\mathrm{CF}\right), 143.2\left(\mathrm{dm},{ }^{1} J_{\mathrm{CF}}=244 \mathrm{~Hz}, p-\mathrm{CF}\right), 144.3(o-\mathrm{C}$ of Dipp), $146.2\left(\mathrm{dm},{ }^{1} J_{\mathrm{CF}}=244 \mathrm{~Hz}, o-\mathrm{CF}\right), 147.9\left(\mathrm{dm},{ }^{1} J_{\mathrm{CF}}=247 \mathrm{~Hz}, o-\mathrm{CF}\right), 173.6(\mathrm{NC}) .{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR (376 MHz, benzene- $\left.\mathrm{d}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right): \delta_{\mathrm{F}}-124.7\left(\mathrm{~d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{FF}}=18.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, o-\mathrm{CF}\right.$ of $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5} \mathrm{BCl}_{3}{ }^{-}\right),-131.6\left(\mathrm{~d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{FF}}=23.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, o-\mathrm{CF}\right.$ of $\left.\mathrm{Dipp}_{2} \operatorname{NacNacB}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5}\right)^{+}\right),-147.2\left(\mathrm{t},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{FF}}=20.7\right.$ $\mathrm{Hz}, p$-CF of $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5} \mathrm{BCl}_{3}{ }^{-}\right),-159.8\left(\mathrm{t},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{FF}}=17.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, p-\mathrm{CF}\right.$ of $\left.\mathrm{Dipp}_{2} \mathrm{NacNacB}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5}\right)^{+}\right),-160.5$ (m, m-CF of $\left.\mathrm{Dipp}_{2} \operatorname{NaCNaCB}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5}\right)^{+}\right)$, -147.2 (m, $m$ - CF of $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5} \mathrm{BCl}_{3}{ }^{-}$). ${ }^{11} \mathrm{~B}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR (128 MHz , dichloromethane- $\left.\mathrm{d}_{2}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right): \delta_{\mathrm{B}}-5.0\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5} \mathrm{BCl}_{3}{ }^{-}\right), 32.0\left(\mathrm{Dipp}_{2} \mathrm{NacNacB}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5}\right)^{+}\right)$. ESIMS (+ve): $m / z 595.3$ ([M] $]^{+}, 100 \%$ ); accurate mass: calc. 595.3282, meas. 595.3284; (-ve):
$m / z 282.9\left([\mathrm{M}]^{+}, 100 \%\right) ;$. Elemental microanalysis: calc. for $\mathrm{C}_{41} \mathrm{H}_{41} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{~B}_{2} \mathrm{~F}_{10} \mathrm{Cl}_{3}$ : C 55.98\% H $4.70 \%$ N $3.18 \%$; meas. C $55.82 \%$ H $4.83 \%$ N $2.65 \%$.


Figure S1: Molecular structure of $\left[1-\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5}\right]\left[\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5} \mathrm{BCl}_{3}\right]$ as determined by X-ray crystallography. Hydrogen atoms have been omitted and selected substituents shown in wireframe format for clarity; thermal ellipsoids have been depicted at the $40 \%$ probability level. Key bond lengths $(\AA)$ and angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ : B-C 1.586(4), B-N 1.437(4), 1.442(4), C-N 1.368(4), 1.369(4), N-B-N 117.5(3), N-B-C 121.1(3), 122.2(3).

## 2-Ph

$[1-\mathrm{Ph}]\left[\mathrm{BAr}_{4}{ }^{\mathrm{f}}\right](0.150 \mathrm{~g}, 0.11 \mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in THF $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$ and cooled to $-78{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. ${ }^{t} \operatorname{BuLi}(1.9 \mathrm{M}$ in pentane, $0.11 \mathrm{~mL}, 0.22 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added dropwise and the solution instantly turned pale brown. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 2 h . Volatiles were removed in vacuo and the residue extracted into toluene. Removal of the toluene in vacuo yielded a yellow oil, which was used without further purification. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR indicated $c a .95 \%$ conversion to 2-Ph.

Spectroscopic data: ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 400 MHz , benzene- $\mathrm{d}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 0.92\left(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 1.07\left(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 1.11\left(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 1.37\left(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 1.49\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\beta$-diketiminato backbone), $3.31\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 3.40\left(2 \mathrm{H}\right.$, sept, ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 3.55\left(2 \mathrm{H}\right.$, sept, ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 3.98\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 5.70(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}$, $\mathrm{CH}), 6.70-7.13(11 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}$, aromatic CH$) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR ( 126 MHz , benzene- $\mathrm{d}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{C}}$ $20.9\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\beta$-diketiminato backbone), 24.0, 24.1, 25.2, $26.5\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 28.8,29.1$ (CH of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 85.1\left(\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 108.5(\gamma-\mathrm{CH}), 124.6,125.0,126.6,134.6,139.1,140.0$, 141.4, 146.4, 147.0, 148.4 (ArC and NC). ${ }^{11} \mathrm{~B}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR ( 128 MHz , benzene- $\mathrm{d}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{B}}$ 31.3.


Figure $\mathrm{S} 2:{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of 2-Ph.


Figure $\mathrm{S} 3:{ }^{11} \mathrm{~B}$ NMR spectrum of 2-Ph.


Figure $\mathrm{S} 4:{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of 2-Ph.

## 3-Ph

$[1-\mathrm{Ph}]\left[\mathrm{BAr}^{f}\right](0.490 \mathrm{~g}, 0.36 \mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in THF $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$ and cooled to $-78{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. ${ }^{t} \operatorname{BuLi}(1.9 \mathrm{M}$ in pentane, $0.38 \mathrm{~mL}, 0.72 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added dropwise and the solution instantly turned pale brown. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred overnight. Volatiles were removed in vacuo and the residue extracted into toluene and filtered on to solid $\mathrm{B}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5}\right)_{3}(0.180 \mathrm{~g}, 0.36 \mathrm{mmol})$ to yield a pale yellow solution. The reaction mixture was stirred room temperature for 3 h , before being concentrated to the point of incipient crystallization. Storage overnight at $-30{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ yielded the product as colourless crystals. Yield: $0.160 \mathrm{~g}, 44 \%$.

Spectroscopic data: ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 400 MHz , benzene- $\mathrm{d}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 0.56\left(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 0.58\left(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 0.85\left(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 1.41\left(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\left.\operatorname{Dipp}{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 1.61\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\beta$-diketiminato backbone), $2.08\left(2 \mathrm{H}\right.$, sept, ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 2.58\left(2 \mathrm{H}\right.$, sept, ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 3.23\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{~B}\right), 6.40\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, o-\mathrm{CH}\right.$ of Ph$), 6.48\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=\right.$ $8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, p-\mathrm{CH}$ of Dipp), $6.61\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, p-\mathrm{CH}\right.$ of Dipp $), 6.74\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=8.0\right.$ $\mathrm{Hz}, m$-CH of Dipp), $6.91\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, m-\mathrm{CH}\right.$ of Dipp), $7.05(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}, m-\mathrm{CH}$ and $p-$ CH of Ph$), 7.60(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \gamma-\mathrm{CH}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR ( 126 MHz , benzene- $\left.\mathrm{d}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right): \delta_{\mathrm{C}} 22.2\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\beta$-diketiminato backbone), 22.9, 23.9, 24.1, $24.7\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 26.8\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{~B}\right), 29.4$, $29.5\left(\mathrm{CH}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 115.4(\gamma-\mathrm{CH}), 125.8,126.2,127.3,128.9,129.7,130.5,131.0,131.3$, 135.5 (ipso-C, $m$-C and $p$-C of Dipp and ArC of Ph), 143.7, 144.1 (o-C of Dipp), 137.2 (dm, $\left.{ }^{1} J_{\mathrm{CF}}=250 \mathrm{~Hz}, m-\mathrm{CF}\right), 139.0\left(\mathrm{dm},{ }^{1} J_{\mathrm{CF}}=244 \mathrm{~Hz}, p-\mathrm{CF}\right), 148.9\left(\mathrm{dm},{ }^{1} J_{\mathrm{CF}}=250 \mathrm{~Hz}, o-\mathrm{CF}\right)$, 167.6, 186.9 (NC). ${ }^{19}$ F NMR ( 376 MHz , benzene- $\mathrm{d}_{6}$, 298 K ): $\delta_{\mathrm{F}}-131.4$ (br s, o-CF), -160.1 (br s, m-CF), -164.9 (br s, $p$-CF). ${ }^{11} \mathrm{~B}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR ( 128 MHz , benzene- $\mathrm{d}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{B}}-14.4$
$\left(-B\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5}\right)_{3}\right), 32.9(-B \mathrm{Ph})$. Elemental microanalysis: calc. for $\mathrm{C}_{53} \mathrm{H}_{45} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{~B}_{2} \mathrm{~F}_{15}: \mathrm{C} 62.62 \% \mathrm{H}$ $4.46 \%$ N $2.76 \%$; meas. C $62.45 \%$ H $4.06 \%$ N $2.57 \%$.

## $\left[\mathrm{K}_{\left.\left(\mathrm{OEt}_{2}\right)_{2}\right][6-\mathrm{tBu} \mathrm{Cl}]}\right.$

Benzene ( 10 mL ) was added to $4-\mathrm{tBu}(0.150 \mathrm{~g}, 0.28 \mathrm{mmol})$ and $\mathrm{K}\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right)_{2}\right](0.090 \mathrm{~g}$, 0.45 mmol ) and the resulting mixture stirred for 10 mins at room temperature. The solution was filtered onto a solution of $\mathrm{B}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5}\right)_{3}(0.142 \mathrm{~g}, 0.28 \mathrm{mmol})$ in benzene $(5 \mathrm{~mL})$, and the clear, pale yellow solution stirred for 30 mins. Volatiles were removed in vacuo and the residue washed with toluene to yield a beige powder. Yield: $0.211 \mathrm{~g}, 61 \%$. This solid was extracted into diethyl ether and hexane was added until the solution became cloudy. Storage at $-30{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for several days yielded colourless crystals, suitable for X-ray crystallography. Exposure to vacuum results in loss of coordinated diethyl ether - however, a small amount (ca. 10\%) remains even after extended exposure to vacuum.

Spectroscopic data: ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 400 MHz , thf- $\mathrm{d}_{8}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 0.40\left(9 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\left.{ }^{t} \mathrm{Bu}\right), 0.83$ $\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 1.06\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 1.10$ $\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 1.12\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 1.27$ $\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 1.30\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 1.33$ $\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 1.43\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 1.61$ $\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\beta$-diketiminato backbone), $1.99\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{2} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=19.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{~B}\right), 2.71(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}$, $\left.{ }^{2} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=19.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{~B}\right), 3.09\left(1 \mathrm{H}\right.$, sept, ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 3.21\left(1 \mathrm{H}\right.$, sept, ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=$ $6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 3.71\left(1 \mathrm{H}\right.$, sept, ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 3.81\left(1 \mathrm{H}\right.$, sept, ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HH}}=$ 6.8 Hz, CH of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right)$, $5.79(\gamma-\mathrm{CH}), 7.06-7.23\left(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}\right.$, aromatic CH). ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR (126 MHz , thf- $\left.\mathrm{d}_{8}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right): \delta_{\mathrm{C}} 23.8\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\beta$-diketiminato backbone $), 24.1,24.6,25.1,25.3,25.6$, 25.8, 26.0, $28.0\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{Pr}\right)$, 28.5, 28.5, 29.9, $30.2\left(\mathrm{CH}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 32.4\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\left.{ }^{t} \mathrm{Bu}\right)$, 101.9 ( $\gamma-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 124.1, 124.2, 125.6, 125.8, 127.3, 127.4, 142.4, 143.0, 143.4, 144.7, 146.8, 147.6 (ArC), 168.8, $182.8(\mathrm{NC})$. C-F carbons not observed. ${ }^{11} \mathrm{~B}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR ( 128 MHz , thf- $\mathrm{d}_{8}$, $298 \mathrm{~K}): \delta_{\mathrm{B}}-14.4 .{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR ( 376 MHz , thf- $\mathrm{d}_{8}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{F}}-129.8(\mathrm{br} \mathrm{s}, o-\mathrm{F}),-165.5(\mathrm{br} \mathrm{s}, p-\mathrm{F})$,
-168.3 (br s, $m$-F). Elemental microanalysis: calc. for $\mathrm{C}_{51} \mathrm{H}_{49} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{AlClBF}_{15} \mathrm{~K}$ (no coordinated diethyl ether): C $57.34 \% \mathrm{H} 4.54 \%$ N $2.58 \%$; meas. C $57.86 \%$ H $3.93 \%$ N $2.87 \%$.

## 7-tBu: $\mathrm{NH}_{3}$

7-tBu ( $0.300 \mathrm{~g}, 0.28 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was dissolved in fluorobenzene $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$ and ammonia gas was bubbled through the solution for 2 min . The reaction mixture was then left to stir for 12 h , during which time it turned slightly cloudy. Volatiles were removed in vacuo and the residue extracted into minimal dichloromethane (ca. 15 mL ). The solution was filtered and stored at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 12 h to yield a colorless, microcrystalline solid. Yield : $0.245 \mathrm{~g}, 80 \%$. Single crystals suitable for X-ray crystallography were obtained by layering a concentrated dichloromethane solution with hexane and storing at room temperature for several days.

Spectroscopic data: ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}\right.$, THF- $\left.\mathrm{d}_{8}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right): \delta_{\mathrm{H}} 0.55\left(9 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\left.{ }^{t} \mathrm{Bu}\right), 0.79$ $\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\left.\operatorname{Dipp}{ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 1.02\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{\mathrm{i}} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 1.25\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}_{\mathrm{HH}}\right.$ $=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 1.28\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}_{\mathrm{HH}}=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\left.\operatorname{Dipp}{ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 1.29-1.33(12 \mathrm{H}$, 4 overlapping doublets, ${ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}_{\mathrm{HH}}=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 1.57\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 1.69\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\beta$-diketiminato backbone), $2.65\left(1 \mathrm{H}\right.$, sept, ${ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}_{\mathrm{HH}}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}$ of Dipp ${ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}$ ), $2.78-2.92\left(5 \mathrm{H}\right.$, overlapping multiplets, CH of $\operatorname{Dipp}{ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}$ and $\left.\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right) \mathrm{B}\right), 3.11$ $\left(1 \mathrm{H}\right.$, sept, ${ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}_{\mathrm{HH}}=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}$ of Dipp $\left.{ }^{i} \operatorname{Pr}\right), 3.85\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{br} \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{NH}_{3}\right), 5.70(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \gamma-\mathrm{CH}), 7.23-$ $7.34(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}$, aromatic CH$) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR ( 126 MHz , THF- $\mathrm{d}_{8}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 23.5\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\beta-$ diketiminato backbone), 24.0, 24.1, 24.7, 24.9, 24.9, 25.4, 26.0, $26.7\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\left.\operatorname{Dipp}{ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}\right), 29.2$ (CH of Dipp ${ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}$ ), 29.3 ( CH of Dipp ${ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}$ ), 30.3 (CH of Dipp ${ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}$ ), 30.8 (CH of Dipp ${ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{Pr}$ ), 30.9 $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ of $\left.{ }^{t} \mathrm{Bu}\right), 100.3(\gamma-\mathrm{CH}), 125.6,125.6,125.7,125.9,128.8,128.9(\mathrm{ArC}), 137.4\left(\mathrm{dm},{ }^{1} \mathrm{~J}_{\mathrm{CF}}=\right.$ $248 \mathrm{~Hz}, m-\mathrm{CF}), 139.3\left(\mathrm{dm},{ }^{1} \mathrm{~J}_{\mathrm{CF}}=219 \mathrm{~Hz}, p-\mathrm{CF}\right), 149.4\left(\mathrm{dm},{ }^{1} \mathrm{~J}_{\mathrm{CF}}=236 \mathrm{~Hz}, o-\mathrm{CF}\right), 141.4$, 141.8, 142.9, 144.3, 144.7, 144.8 (ArC), 170.2 (NC), 183.7 (NC). ${ }^{11} \mathrm{~B}$ NMR ( 160 MHz , THF- $\left.\mathrm{d}_{8}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right): \delta_{\mathrm{B}}-14.9 .{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR ( $470 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{THF}-\mathrm{d}_{8}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{F}}-132.2\left(\mathrm{~d},{ }^{2} \mathrm{~J}_{\mathrm{FF}}=28.6 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$, ortho-F), -163.3 ( $\mathrm{t},{ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}_{\mathrm{FF}}=20.7 \mathrm{~Hz}$, para-F), $-168.0(\mathrm{~m}$, meta-F). Elemental microanalysis : calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{51} \mathrm{H}_{52} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{GaBF}_{15}$ : C $57.11 \%$, H $4.89 \%$, $\mathrm{N} 3.92 \%$ meas. C $56.67 \%$, H $4.80 \%$, N $3.89 \%$.

## 3. Gutmann assay of Lewis acidity

Gutmann tests were performed on $3-\mathrm{Ph}$ and $7-\mathrm{tBu}$ by mixing the two equivalents of the compound with $\mathrm{Et}_{3} \mathrm{PO}$ in $\mathrm{CD}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$. A single resonance was observed in the ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR spectrum in each case. The acceptor number was calculated as A.N. $=2.21 \times\left(\left(\delta_{\mathrm{P}}\left(\right.\right.\right.$ Lewis acid $\left.+\mathrm{Et}_{3} \mathrm{PO}\right)$ -41).
$\mathrm{Dipp}_{2} \mathrm{NaCNac}^{(\mathrm{BC} 6 \mathrm{~F} 5) 3} \mathrm{BPh}: \delta_{\mathrm{P}}+77.0, \mathrm{~A} . \mathrm{N} .=79.6$.
$\mathrm{Dipp}_{2} \mathrm{NacNac}{ }^{(\mathrm{BC} 6 \mathrm{~F} 5) 3} \mathrm{Ga}\left({ }^{t} \mathrm{Bu}\right): \delta_{\mathrm{P}}+71.5$, A.N. $=67.6$.

## 4. Details of DFT calculations

DFT calculations were performed using the Amsterdam Density Functional (ADF) 2014 software package. Calculations were performed using the Vosko-Wilk-Nusair local density approximation with exchange from Becke, ${ }^{\text {S7 }}$ and correlation correction from Perdew, ${ }^{\text {S8 }}$ and 3dimensional dispersion effect (BP86-D3). Slater-type orbitals (STOs) ${ }^{\text {S9 }}$ were used for the triple zeta basis set with an additional set of polarization functions (TZP). The full-electron basis set approximation was applied with no molecular symmetry. General numerical quality was good.

## 5. DFT run file

```
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# ==============================
# 3-Ph
# ==============================
```

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| 2 C | 5.268911000000 | 9.777248000000 |
| 3 C | 5.569538000000 | 9.846510000000 |
| 4 F | 6.129480000000 | 10.945481000000 |
| 5 C | 5.260980000000 | 8.779153000000 |
| 6 F | 5.489125000000 | 8.842199000000 |
| 7 C | 4.674295000000 | 7.665264000000 |
| 8 F | 4.355040000000 | 6.629163000000 |
| 9 C | 4.402993000000 | 7.637026000000 |
| 10 C | 4.675033000000 | 8.685559000000 |
| 11 B | 4.189972000000 | 8.805792000000 |
| 12 C | 5.482485000000 | 9.281752000000 |
| 13 C | 5.298973000000 | 9.207694000000 |
| 14 N | 6.377912000000 | 9.103977000000 |
| 15 C | 7.689422000000 | 9.432532000000 |
| 16 C | 8.634647000000 | 8.418453000000 |
| 17 C | 9.926791000000 | 8.821065000000 |
| 18 C | 10.254162000000 | 10.162278000000 |
| 19 C | 9.286805000000 | 11.133023000000 |
| 20 C | 7.980828000000 | 10.799141000000 |
| 21 C | 6.971052000000 | 11.911253000000 |
| 22 C | 6.926234000000 | 12.902600000000 |
| 23 C | 7.237928000000 | 12.649702000000 |
| 24 C | 8.317420000000 | 6.935518000000 |
| 25 C | 9.102187000000 | 6.244843000000 |
| 26 C | 8.624134000000 | 6.243778000000 |
| 27 B | 6.252497000000 | 8.814317000000 |
| 28 N | 4.880124000000 | 8.712198000000 |
| 29 C | 3.821841000000 | 9.014646000000 |
| 30 C | 4.036523000000 | 9.235754000000 |
| 31 C | 2.431947000000 | 9.083199000000 |
| 32 C | 4.598677000000 | 8.321485000000 |
| 33 C | 4.819998000000 | 9.248897000000 |
| 34 C | 5.274259000000 | 10.667897000000 |
| 35 C | 6.420701000000 | 11.096261000000 |
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| 37 C | 4.582632000000 | 8.821598000000 |
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| 41 C | 3.914243000000 | 5.994609000000 |
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| 43 C | 5.033388000000 | 4.958331000000 |
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| 112 | H | 5.907421000000 | 5.354550000000 | 11.664654000000 |
| 113 | H | 8.579870000000 | 10.210052000000 | 11.215333000000 |
| 114 | H | 10.422365000000 | 9.860185000000 | 12.580986000000 |
| 115 | H | 10.403922000000 | 8.119735000000 | 14.097002000000 |
| 116 |  | 8.579870000000 | 6.635024000000 | 14.130612000000 |
| 117 | H | 6.803770000000 | 6.990218000000 | 12.786187000000 |
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| 2231.5 |  |  |  |  |
| 312101.0 |  |  |  |  |
| 43141.0 |  |  |  |  |
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| 6561.0 |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{llll}7 & 5 & 7 & 1.5\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
| 8781.0 |  |  |  |  |
| 9791.5 |  |  |  |  |
| 109721.0 |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{llll}11 & 9 & 10 & 1.5\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
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| 1311611.0 |  |  |  |  |
| 1411501.0 |  |  |  |  |
| 1511121.0 |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{lllll}16 & 12 & 73 & 1.0\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{llll}17 & 12 & 74 & 1.0\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $18 \quad 12131.0$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{lllll}19 & 13 & 14 & 1.0\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{lllll}20 & 13 & 30 & 1.5\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{lllll}21 & 14 & 15 & 1.0\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{lllll}22 & 14 & 27 & 1.0\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{lllll}23 & 15 & 16 & 1.5\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{lllll}24 & 15 & 20 & 1.5\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{lllll}25 & 16 & 17 & 1.5\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
| 2616241.0 |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{lllll}27 & 17 & 75 & 1.0\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{lllll}28 & 17 & 18 & 1.5\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
| 2918761.0 |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{llll}30 & 18 & 19 & 1.5\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{llll}31 & 19 & 77 & 1.0\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{llll}32 & 19 & 20 & 1.5\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
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| $\begin{array}{lllll}34 & 21 & 78 & 1.0\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
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| 3621221.0 |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{llll}37 & 22 & 79 & 1.0\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
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| 3922801.0 |  |  |  |  |
| 4023821.0 |  |  |  |  |
| 4123831.0 |  |  |  |  |
| 4223841.0 |  |  |  |  |
| 4324851.0 |  |  |  |  |
| 4424251.0 |  |  |  |  |
| 4524261.0 |  |  |  |  |
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| 4725861.0 |  |  |  |  |
| 4825871.0 |  |  |  |  |

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58 30 92 1.0
59 31 93 1.0
60 31 94 1.0
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BASIS
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DISPERSION Grimme3
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GEOMETRY
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END
SAVE TAPE21 TAPE13
NumericalQuality Good
NOPRINT LOGFILE
eor
```


## 6. Crystallography

Details of the data collection, structure solution and refinement procedures relating to the X ray crystal structures of $[\mathbf{1}-\mathrm{Ph}]\left[\mathrm{PhBCl}_{3}\right],\left[1-\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5}\right]\left[\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{~F}_{5}\right) \mathrm{BCl}_{3}\right], \mathbf{3}-\mathrm{Ph},\left[\mathrm{K}\left(\mathrm{OEt}_{2}\right)_{2}\right][6-\mathrm{tBu} \mathrm{Cl}]$, 7-tBu $\mathrm{NH}_{3}$ and ( $\left.\mathrm{Nacnac}{ }^{\text {BCF }}\right)^{\text {Dipp }} \mathrm{Al}$ (thf)Me are included in the respective CIFs. These are included as part of the online supplementary material and are also available from the Cambridge crystallographic Data Centre (CCDC), reference numbers 1038762 and 15447871544791.

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[^0]:    4.662147000000 3.948363000000 2.605531000000 2.073775000000 1.784724000000 0.464711000000 2.340714000000 1.546619000000 3.699291000000
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