# **Supporting Information**

# First Experimental Evidence for the Elusive Tetrahedral Cations

# [EP<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> (E = S, Se, Te) in the Condensed Phase

Philippe Weis<sup>[a]</sup>, David Christopher Röhner<sup>[a]</sup>, Richard Prediger<sup>[a]</sup>, Burkhard Butschke<sup>[a]</sup>, Harald Scherer<sup>[a]</sup>, Stefan Weber<sup>[b]</sup> and Ingo Krossing<sup>[a]</sup>\*

[a] M. Sc. Philippe Weis, B.Sc. David Röhner, B.Sc. Richard Prediger, Dr. Burkhard Butschke, Dr. Harald Scherer and Prof. Dr. I. Krossing, Institut für Anorganische und Analytische Chemie and Freiburger Materialforschungszentrum (FMF), Universität Freiburg, Albertstr. 21, 79104 Freiburg, Germany.

[b] Prof. Dr. Stefan Weber Institut für Physikalische Chemie Universität Freiburg Albertstr. 21, 79104 Freiburg, Germany

\* Correspondence to <u>krossing@uni-freiburg.de</u>.

# **Table of contents**

| 1.   | Gene  | eral Information   | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
|------|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2.   | Structure and Spectroscopic Characterization of all Novel ECl <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> Salts |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3.   | Expe  | rimental Details   | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3.   | 1.  | Experimental Section   | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3.   | 2.  | Spectral Data of ECl <sub>3</sub> [WCA] 1  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 3.2.1   | Spectral Data of SeCl <sub>3</sub> [Al(OR <sup>F</sup> ) <sub>4</sub> ] 1a1  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 3.2.2   | 2. Spectral Data of SeCl <sub>3</sub> [F(Al(OR <sup>F</sup> ) <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ] 1b 1   | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 3.2.3   | <ol> <li>Spectral Data of SeCl<sub>3</sub>[FAI(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>] 1c</li></ol>   | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 3.2.4   | . Spectral Data of TeCl <sub>3</sub> [Al(OR <sup>F</sup> ) <sub>4</sub> ] 2  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 3.2.5   | 5. Spectral Data of TeCl <sub>3</sub> [F(Al(OR <sup>F</sup> ) <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ] 2b 2   | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 3.2.6   | 5. Spectral Data of SCl <sub>3</sub> [F(Al(OR <sup>F</sup> ) <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ] 3 2   | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 3.2.7   | Complete Tables of the Vibrational Spectra of the ECl <sub>3</sub> [WCA] salts   | 7 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3.   | 3.  | Reactions with Na[Nb(P <sub>3</sub> )(ODipp) <sub>3</sub> ]*3THF   | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3.   | 4.  | Reactions with White Phosphorus  | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 3.4.1   | Solvent Screening  | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | N   | VIR spectra of the Reactions in different solvents   | 7 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 3.4.2   | Anion screening  | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | Туріс   | cal Reactions of ECl₃[WCA] with P₄5  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 3.4   | 4.3.1 Typical reaction with SeCl <sub>3</sub> [WCA] ([WCA] <sup>-</sup> = [Al(OR <sup>F</sup> ) <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>-</sup> and [F(Al(OR <sup>F</sup> ) <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>-</sup> ) | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 3.4   | 4.3.2. Reaction on a bigger scale under optimized reaction conditions  | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 3.4   | 4.3.3. Typical reaction with TeCl <sub>3</sub> [A] ([A] <sup>-</sup> = [Al(OR <sup>F</sup> ) <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>-</sup> and [F(Al(OR <sup>F</sup> ) <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>-</sup> )    | 9 |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 3.4   | 4.3.4. Typical reaction with SCl <sub>3</sub> [F(Al(OR <sup>F</sup> ) <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ]6   | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3.   | 5.  | Other tested Reactions   | 7 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.   | Deta  | ils to the Quantum Chemical Calculations7  | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.   | 1.  | Calculated MO Diagrams   | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.   | 2.  | Aim Analyses and Laplacian of the Electron Density7  | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.   | 3.  | Calculated NMR parameters7   | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.   | 4.  | Summary of the ab initio Reaction Enthalpies and Free Reaction Energies7   | 7 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.   | 5.  | Summary of the Calculated FIAs   | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.   | 5. Cal  | culated Structures7  | 9 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Refe | rence   | s  | 7 |  |  |  |  |  |

# 1. General Information

**General conditions:** All manipulations were performed by using standard grease free Schlenk or dry box techniques and an argon atmosphere. Reactions were carried out in two bulb-glass vessels incorporating a fine sintered glass G4 frit with two J. Young valves and a Teflon coated stirring bar if not mentioned otherwise. SO<sub>2</sub> and CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, *o*-dfb and 1,2,3,4-tfb were dried with CaH<sub>2</sub> and distilled afterwards. Sulfur and P<sub>4</sub> were sublimed before use, SeCl<sub>4</sub>, TIF, Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.8 N) and TeCl<sub>4</sub> were bought and used as received. SeCl<sub>3</sub>[F(Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (**1b**) was synthesized according to the literature.<sup>1</sup> Ag[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>], Ag[FAl(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>], Ag[F(Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] and TeCl<sub>3</sub>[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] (**2a**) were synthesized according to the literature.<sup>2</sup> TI[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] was synthesized according to the literature.<sup>2</sup> Ag[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] is commercially available at <u>www.iolitec.de</u>.

**NMR Spectroscopy:** NMR samples were prepared in 5 mm thick walled NMR tubes with J. Young valves. All spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance DPX 200, a Bruker Avance III HD 300, a Bruker Avance II WB 400 or a Bruker Avance III HD 600 spectrometer in  $CD_2Cl_2$ ,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , o-dfb, 1,2,3,4-tfb or SO<sub>2</sub> at room temperature. The spectra were calibrated relative to the residual solvent signals with respect to TMS.<sup>4</sup> All other nuclei were adjusted accordingly using the  $\Xi$  table.<sup>5</sup> Spectra recorded in SO<sub>2</sub> were referenced against the chemical shift of the [Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup> anion in  $CD_2Cl_2$ . All graphical representations were created using TopSpin (V3.2).

**Vibrational Spectroscopy:** FT-Raman spectra were recorded on a Bruker VERTEX 70 spectrometer equipped with a RAM II module (1064 nm Nd-YAG laser) with a cooled Ge detector. The samples were measured in flame-sealed glass pipettes in the range of 4000-50 cm<sup>-1</sup> with a resolution of 3 cm<sup>-1</sup> at room temperature. The data were processed with the Bruker OPUS 7.5 software package. All spectra are shown without further manipulations. ATR-IR spectra were recorded on a Bruker ALPHA with a QuickSnap Platinum ATR sampling module inside the glovebox. The data were processed with the Bruker OPUS 7.5 software package. Unless otherwise stated, the spectra were recorded in the range of 4000-400 cm<sup>-1</sup> with a resolution of 2 cm<sup>-1</sup> at RT. All IR and Raman spectra were normalized to 1 and intensities are given as follows, vw = very weak (< 0.2), w = weak (< 0.4), m = medium (< 0.6), s = strong (< 0.8), vs = very strong ( $\geq 0.8$ ).

**Mass spectra:** Mass spectra were recorded on a Thermo-Fischer Scientific LTQ XL linear ion-trap massspectrometer equipped with an electrospray-ionization (ESI) source. Millimolar solutions of the sample dissolved in *o*-dfb were introduced through a fused-silica capillary to the ESI source via a syringe pump (ca. 5  $\mu$ L min<sup>-1</sup>). Nitrogen was used as a Sheath, Sweep, and Auxiliary Gas at flow rates adjusted to 5, 0, and 0, respectively (given in arbitrary units). The Source Voltage was set to 3.5 kV. The Tube Lens and the Capillary Voltage were adjusted to 200 V and 36 V, respectively. The Capillary Temperature was 275 °C. The identity of the ions was confirmed by comparison of the accumulated spectra with the expected isotope patterns complemented by collision-induced dissociation (CID) experiments. In the CID experiments, helium served as the collision gas. The collision energy was adjusted between 0 and 30. Note that this value is denoted as Normalized Collision Energy and not further quantified in terms of a specific unit. We refrain therefore from a more detailed discussion of absolute collision energies.

**Single-Crystal X-ray Diffraction:** Single crystal X-ray crystallographic data were collected on a Bruker SMART APEXII Quazar with a CCD area detector and an INCOATEC 1st gen. Mo Microsource. The structures were solved with SHELXT<sup>6</sup> and refined by using SHELXL<sup>7</sup>, ShelXle<sup>8</sup>, and DSR.<sup>9</sup> Disorders were handled according to the SHELX-2018 manual with SIMU, RIGU, SADI, SAME and PART instructions. Graphics of the crystal structures were produced with OLEX 2.1.<sup>10</sup> A summary of all crystal structures is given in the ESI in Table S 1.

CCDC-1898379 (1a), 1860640 (1b) 1898390 (1c), 1898381 (3) and 1898381 (TI[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]) contain the supplementary crystallographic data for the compounds of this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via <u>www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\_request/cif</u>.

Computational details: All computations were performed by using the program packages TURBOMOLE 7.1<sup>11</sup> and ORCA 4.1.<sup>12</sup> All investigated molecular structures were optimized using the functional B3-LYP<sup>13</sup> (with RI approximation<sup>14</sup>) and together with the basis set def-TZVPP.<sup>15,16</sup> A fine integration grid (m4) and the default SCF convergence criteria  $(10^{-6} a.u.)$  were used. The vibrational frequencies of all assessed species were computed with the implemented module AOFORCE<sup>17</sup> and checked for minima (no imaginary frequencies). COSMO<sup>18</sup> energies were optimized at BP86/def2-TZVPP level and with  $\varepsilon_r$  = 8.93 (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), 13.38 (o-dfb) and 16.3 (SO<sub>2</sub>).<sup>19</sup> The MO diagrams and the NBO<sup>20</sup>, PABOON<sup>21</sup> and AIM<sup>22</sup> charges were obtained at the B3-LYP/def2-TZVPP level. The structures were then further optimized at the (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP level and used for further calculations. MP2<sup>23</sup> and CCSD(T)<sup>16,24</sup> calculations were performed using Turbomole. For the CBS extrapolation, the basis set aug-cc-pVnZ<sup>25</sup> was used for fluorine, aug-cc-pV(n+d)Z<sup>26</sup>, was used for chlorine, sulfur and phosphorus, aug-cc-pVnZ-PP<sup>27</sup> for selenium and bromine and aug-cc-pwCVnZ-PP<sup>28</sup> was used for tellurium and iodine. The molecules were calculated with a frozen core approximation (F = 1; P, S, Cl = 5; Se, Br = 9; Te, I = 4).<sup>29</sup> The contour plots of the Laplacians of the electron density was done based on the MP2/def2-QZVPP calculations and the obtained wfn files were evaluated using MultiWFN3.6.<sup>30</sup> NMR shifts were calculated with ORCA 4.1 with the GIAO<sup>31</sup> method with (RIJ)B3-LYP(DKH2<sup>32</sup>)/cc-pVQZ<sup>33</sup> single point calculations with a fully decontracted basis set and were based on the previously obtained geometries on the (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP level.

|  | 1a  | 1b <sup>1</sup>  | 1c                                       | 3   | TI[AI(OR <sup>⊧</sup> )₄]                           |
|--|---|--|--|---|---|
| CCDC Number                                | 1898379   | 1860640  | 1898380                                  | 1898381   | 1898382   |
| Empirical formula                          | $C_{96}AI_6CI_{18}F_{216}O_{24}Se_6$                                | $C_{24}Al_2Cl_3F_{55}O_6Se$                            | $C_{12}AICI_3F_{28}O_3Se$                | $C_{24}AI_{2}CI_{3}F_{55}O_{6}S$                                  | C <sub>16</sub> AIF <sub>36</sub> O <sub>4</sub> TI |
| Formula weight                             | 6914.23   | 1668.51  | 936.41                                   | 1621.55   | 1171.51   |
| crystal size [mm <sup>3</sup> ]            | $0.05 \times 0.04 \times 0.02$                                      | 0.40 × 0.20 × 0.20                                     | 0.25 × 0.15 × 0.05                       | $0.50 \times 0.40 \times 0.20$                                    | $0.18 \times 0.16 \times 0.10$                      |
| crystal system                             | Monoclinic  | Triclinic  | Orthorhombic                             | Triclinic   | Triclinic   |
| space group                                | P1n1  | РĪ   | Pca21                                    | РĪ  | P1  |
| a [Å]                                      | 16.5135(7)  | 13.016(1)  | 17.320(1)                                | 12.9940(6)  | 9.6336(2)   |
| b [Å]                                      | 31.955(2)   | 13.814(1)  | 14.869(1)                                | 13.8170(7)  | 10.4764(3)  |
| c [Å]                                      | 19.1323(9)  | 13.853(1)  | 10.2605(7)                               | 13.8774(7)  | 16.8374(4)  |
| α [°]                                      | 90  | 84.326(2)  | 90                                       | 84.132(2)   | 81.433(2)   |
| в [°]                                      | 105.965(1)  | 81.663(2)  | 90                                       | 73.214(2)   | 73.486(1)   |
| γ[°]                                       | 90  | 73.928(2)  | 90                                       | 81.787(2)   | 63.371(1)   |
| V [nm³]                                    | 9706.6(8)   | 2363.6(4)  | 2642.3(3)                                | 2356.0(2)   | 1455.95(6)  |
| Ζ  | 2 (Z' = 6)  | 2  | 4  | 2   | 2   |
| $ ho_{ m calcd}[g^*  m cm^{-3}]$           | 2.366   | 2.344  | 2.354                                    | 2.286   | 2.672   |
| μ [mm <sup>-1</sup> ]                      | 1.673   | 1.261  | 1.976                                    | 0.537   | 5.838   |
| abs correction                             | Multi-scan  | Multi-scan   | Multi-scan                               | Multi-scan  | Multi-scan  |
| F(000)                                     | 6600  | 1596   | 1284                                     | 1560  | 1092  |
| index range                                | -21 $\leq$ h $\leq$ 21, -40 $\leq$ k $\leq$ 40, -24 $\leq$ l $\leq$ | $-17 \le h \le 17, -18 \le k \le 18, -18 \le l \le 18$ | -25 ≤ h ≤ 22, -19 ≤ k ≤ 19, -14 ≤ l ≤ 13 | -18 $\leq$ h $\leq$ 20, -20 $\leq$ k $\leq$ 21, 0 $\leq$ l $\leq$ | -14 ≤ h ≤ 13, -15 ≤ k ≤ 14, -23 ≤ l ≤               |
|  | 23  |  |  | 20  | 20  |
| max 20 <sup>°</sup> [°]                    | 54.168  | 58.332   | 61.982                                   | 67.914  | 64.512  |
| T [K]                                      | 100(2)  | 100(2)   | 100(2)                                   | 100(2)  | 100(2)  |
| diffractometer type                        | Bruker Smart Apex II Quazar   | Bruker Smart Apex II                                   | Bruker Smart Apex II Quazar              | Bruker Smart Apex II Quazar                                       | Bruker Smart Apex II Quazar                         |
| Radiation                                  | ΜοΚα (λ = 0.71073)  | ΜοΚα (λ = 0.71073)                                     | ΜοΚα (λ = 0.71073)                       | ΜοΚα (λ = 0.71073)  | ΜοΚα (λ = 0.71073)                                  |
| Reflections collected                      | 230879  | 78160  | 62818                                    | 23976   | 23627   |
| unique reflns [l > $2\sigma$ ]             | 40927   | 12672  | 7252                                     | 15040   | 12615   |
| data/restraints/parameter                  | 40927/95750/3461  | 12672/7840/914   | 7252/1/434                               | 15040/16012/1172  | 12615/12837/1155                                    |
| GOOF                                       | 1.006   | 1.053  | 1.054                                    | 1.078   | 1.028   |
| final $R_1$ [I > 2 $\sigma$ ]              | 0.0435  | 0.0390   | 0.0275                                   | 0.0644  | 0.0305  |
| final wR <sub>2</sub> [I > $2\sigma$ ]     | 0.1051  | 0.1076   | 0.0660                                   | 19.05   | 0.0725  |
| largest residual peak [e Å⁻³]              | 1.86  | 1.15   | 0.69                                     | 1.12  | 1.95  |
| largest residual hole [e Å <sup>-3</sup> ] | -0.59   | -0.68  | -0.34                                    | -0.79   | -1.66   |

Table S 1 Summary of the crystallographic details of 1a, 1b, 1c, 3 and TI[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>].

# 2. Structure and Spectroscopic Characterization of all Novel ECl<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> Salts

The structures of several of these salts could be determined (Figure S 1). All structures contain the desired  $[ECl_3]^+$  cation and the corresponding anion. It is notable that **1a** crystallizes in a commensurate superstructure showing six crystallographically independent cations and anions in the asymmetric unit. The bigger anion  $[F(Al(OR^F)_3)_2]^-$  did not pose this problem in **1b** but has shown some disorder in the cation and the anion. These problems arise because of the weakly coordinating nature of the anions.<sup>34</sup> The basic  $[FAl(OR^F)_3]^-$  anion was able to circumvent these problems by coordinating weakly to the  $[SeCl_3]^+$  cation and thus eliminating disorder in the structure of **1c**. The determined crystal structure of SCl\_3[F(Al(OR^F)\_3)\_2] adopts the same structure type than **1b** and shows only slight differences in the lattice parameters and a small fraction of disorder in the cation.



**Figure S 1** View of the molecular structures of **1a**, **1b**, **1c** at 100 K. All thermal ellipsoids are shown at 50 % probability. As 3 is isostructural to **1b**, only the structure of **1b** is shown. Selected bond lengths [pm] and angles [°]: For **1a**:  $d(Se-CI)_{range}$  207.8(2) – 210.3(2),  $d(Se-CI)_{average}$  209.0;  $\measuredangle(CI-Se-CI)_{range}$  99.7(1) – 101.8(1),  $\measuredangle(CI-Se-CI)_{average}$  100.9.\* For **1b**: Se1-Cl1 209.1(1), Se1-Cl2 208.2(1), Se1-Cl3 208.2(1); Cl1-Se1-Cl2 100.9(1), Cl2-Se1-Cl3 101.5(1), Cl1-Se1-Cl3 100.3(1). For **1c**: Se1-Cl1 211.6(1), Se1-Cl2 209.2(1), Se1-Cl3 209.7(1), Se1-F1 240.3(2); Cl1-Se1-Cl2 99.0(1), Cl2-Se1-Cl3 100.7(1), Cl1-Se1-Cl3 99.0(1). For **3**<sup>+</sup>: S1-Cl1 195.3(1), S1-Cl2 195.7(1), S1-Cl3 194.6(1); Cl1-S1-Cl1 103.0(1), Cl2-S1-Cl3 104.1(1), Cl1-S1-Cl3 103.4(1).

The bond lengths and angles of the  $[ECl_3]^+$  cations in the crystal structures correspond to the calculated structures and the known crystal structures of other  $ECl_3[A]$  salts. The only notable difference is in **1c** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>\*</sup> Due to the commensurate superstructure of **1a** six slightly different [SeCl<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> cations are present in the asymmetric unit. Hence, the given d(Se–Cl) and 4(Cl–Se–Cl) are the ranges and the average value.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>+</sup> The cation in **3** is disordered over two positions. The given bond lengths are of the cation with the highest occupancy of 93 %.

where the Se1–Cl1 bond is elongated due to the coordination of the terminal fluorine atom of the  $[FAI(OR^{F})_{3}]^{-}$  anion to the  $[SeCl_{3}]^{+}$  cation, showing structural changes towards the seesaw structure of gaseous SeCl<sub>4</sub>.

The vibrational spectra of all ECl<sub>3</sub>[WCA] salts (given in chapter 3.2) are accordance with the findings from the scXRD data, due to the weakly coordinating character of the  $[Al(OR^F)_4]^-$  and  $[F(Al(OR^F)_3)_2]^-$  anions, the vibrational spectra of **1a**, **1b**, **2a**, **2b** and **3** are in accordance with known spectra of the hexafluoroantimonate salts with slight shifts towards the expected gas phase spectra.<sup>2,35</sup>

**Table S 2** Comparison of the Raman and IR bands of the  $[ECI_3]^+$  cations in powdered samples. Full spectra and tables containing the anion bands are given below in subchapter 3.8.

| 1a       | 1a      | 1b       | 1b      | 1c       | 1c      | 2b       | 2b      | 3        | 3        | Assignment                               |
|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|----------|--|
| Raman    | IR       |  |
| 167 (vs) | _       | 162 (vs) | -       | 173 (m)  | _       | 141 (vs) | _       | 206 (vs) | _        | $\delta_{asy.}(ECI_3)$ (E)               |
| 206 (m)  | _       | 206 (w)  | _       | 207 (w)  | _       | 168 (m)  | _       | 279 (m)  | _        | $\delta_{sy.}(ECI_3)$ (A <sub>1</sub> )  |
| 430 (sh) | 428 (m) | 434 (sh) | 429 (s) | 418 (sh) | 416 (w) | 410 (m)  | 406 (m) | 548 (w)  | 546 (w)  | vasy.(ECI3) (E)                          |
| 443 (vs) | _       | 444 (s)  | _       | 437 (vs) | _       | 420 (vs) | 419 (m) | 524 (m)  | 523 (vw) | v <sub>sy.</sub> (ECl <sub>3</sub> ) (E) |

w: weak, m: medium, s: strong, sh: shoulder, v: very. v = stretching mode,  $\delta$  = bending mode. sy. corresponds to the non-degenerate A<sub>1</sub> bands and asy. corresponds to the degenerate E bands.

The coordinating nature of the basic  $[FAl(OR^{F})_{3}]^{-}$  anion is also reflected in the vibrational spectra of **1c** which deviates from the vibrations of **1a** and **1b** due to the coordination of the anion, which is clearly shown by the stretching modes of  $[SeCl_{3}]^{+}$  that are slightly redshifted compared to the non-coordinated  $[SeCl_{3}]^{+}$  cations in **1a** and **1b**. The Raman spectra of **2b** show, that this material is always obtained with some residual TeCl<sub>4</sub> as it was also the case in the previously described synthesis of **2a**.<sup>2</sup>

The NMR spectra of all ECl<sub>3</sub>[WCA] salts (given in chapter 3.2) only show the typical resonances of the intact anions as well as the <sup>77</sup>Se resonance of the [SeCl<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> cation at 1393.1 ppm (**1a**), 1383.9 ppm (**1b**), and 1406.7 ppm (**1c**), respectively. The <sup>125</sup>Te chemical shift of the [TeCl<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> cation of **2a** and **2b** in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at room temperature is roughly 1970 ppm. Again, the basic [FAl(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup> is not innocent towards the [SeCl<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> cation also in solution. The <sup>19</sup>F chemical shift of the terminal fluorine atom of the [FAl(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup> anion is strongly shifted to –145.0 ppm in **1c**, instead of the usually observed shift around–185 to –200 ppm ppm for the free anion. This is in accordance with observations for NO[FAl(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>] and suggests a coordination of the [SeCl<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> cation to the anion even in solution.<sup>34</sup>

## 3. Experimental Details

#### **3.1.** Experimental Section

**Preparation of 1a:** Ag[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] (3.00 g, 2.79 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and SeCl<sub>4</sub> (616 mg, 2.79 mmol, 1.00 eq.) were weighed into one bulb of a two bulb vessel separated by a glass frit. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (12 ml) was condensed onto the solids and the mixture was stirred for 20 h at room temperature which resulted in a bright yellow solution over a precipitate of AgCl. The solution was then filtered through the glass frit and the solvent was removed under vacuum. **1a** was obtained as a fine yellow powder (3.12 g, 2.70 mmol, 97 %). Crystals suitable for scXRD were obtained by dissolving the obtained powder in little CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, followed by slow cooling to 6 °C until big yellow blocks formed. **NMR**: <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (376.54 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT)  $\delta$  = -75.7 (s, 36 F [Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR (104.27 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT)  $\delta$  = 34.6 (s, 1 Al, [Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>77</sup>Se-NMR (76.32 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT)  $\delta$  = 1393.1 (s., 1 Se, [SeCl<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>) ppm. **ATR-IR** (Diamond):  $\tilde{\nu}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 429 (s), 442 (m), 536 (m), 560 (w), 571 (vw), 725 (vs), 755 (vw), 832 (w), 873 (vw), 965 (vs), 1020 (vw), 1170 (s), 1207 (vs), 1240 (s), 1264 (m), 1296 (w), 1352 (vw). **FT-Raman**:  $\tilde{\nu}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 168 (vs), 206 (w), 234 (vw), 289 (vw), 323 (w), 300 (vw), 354 (vw), 368 (vw), 407 (vw), 434 (w), 444 (s), 538 (vw), 562 (vw), 572 (vw), 745 (w), 799 (w), 1002 (vw), 1246 (vw), 1282 (vw), 1291 (vw), 1310 (vw).

**Preparation of 1c:** Ag[FAl( $OR^F$ )<sub>3</sub>] (461 mg, 0.54 mmol, 1 eq.) and SeCl<sub>4</sub> (119 mg, 0.54 mmol, 1 eq.) were weighed into one bulb of a two bulb vessel separated by a glass frit. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 ml) was condensed onto the solids and the mixture was stirred for 20 h at room temperature which resulted in a bright yellow solution over a precipitate of AgCl. The solution was then filtered through the glass frit and the solvent was removed under vacuum. **1c** was obtained as a fine yellow powder (358 mg, 0.38 mmol, 72 %). Crystals suitable for scXRD were obtained by dissolving the obtained powder in little CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, followed by slow cooling to 6 °C until big yellow blocks formed. **NMR**: <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (376.5 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = -75.8 (d, 27 F, [FAl(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup>, <sup>5</sup>J(F; F) = 1.6 Hz), -144.9 (br, 1 F, [FAl(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR (104.3 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = 38.8 (br, 1 Al, [FAl(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>77</sup>Se-NMR (76.3 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT)  $\delta$  = 1406.7 (s, [**Se**Cl<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>) ppm. **ATR-IR (Diamond):**  $\tilde{\nu}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 416 (w), 447 (w), 536 (w), 565 (vw), 680 (w), 725 (vs), 752 (vw). 811 (vw), 842 (vw), 866 (vw), 965 (vs), 1176 (m), 1209 (vs), 1237 (s), 1262 (m), 1297 (vw), 1352 (vw). **FT-Raman:**  $\tilde{\nu}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 173 (s), 207 (w), 256 (vw), 287 (w), 306 (vw), 324 (w), 367 (vw), 418 (sh), 437 (vs), 480 (vw), 538 (vw), 570 (vw), 683 (vw), 706 (w), 725 (vw), 753 (m), 811 (w), 978 (vw),

1247 (vw), 1275 (vw), 1305 (vw), 1362 (vw).

**Preparation of 2b:** Ag[F(Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (250 mg, 0.16 mmol, 1 eq.) and TeCl<sub>4</sub> (42 mg, 0.16 mmol, 1.00 eq.) were weighed into one bulb of a two bulb vessel separated by a glass frit. SO<sub>2</sub> (4 ml) was condensed onto the solids and the mixture was stirred for 20 h at room temperature which resulted in a colorless solution over a precipitate of AgCl. The solution was then filtered through the glass frit and the solvent was removed under vacuum. **2b** was obtained as a fine off white powder (193 mg, 0.11 mmol, 71 %). Crystals suitable for scXRD of this compound could not be obtained, as only polycrystalline material was obtained upon slow cooling of a concentrated solution to 6 °C. **NMR**: <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282.5 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta = -75.8$  (d, 54 F, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>, <sup>5</sup>J(F; F) = 0.5 Hz), -184.9 (br, 1 F, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup> ppm. <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR (78.2 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta = 34.5$  (br, 1 Al, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>125</sup>Te-NMR (94.7 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT)  $\delta = 1952.4$  (s, [**TeC**l<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>) ppm. **ATR-IR (Diamond)**:  $\tilde{\nu}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 406 (w), 419 (w), 449 (m), 536 (m), 569 (w), 642 (w), 725 (vs), 760 (vw), 813 (vw), 866 (w), 965 (vs), 1170 (sh), 1211 (vs), 1239 (s), 1264 (m), 1300 (w), 1355 (vw).**FT-Raman**:  $\tilde{\nu}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 94 (w), 141 (vs), 158 (w), 168 (m), 236 (w), 290 (w), 327 (m), 334 (s), 343 (s), 363 (w), 375 (vs), 410 (m), 420 (vs), 539 (w), 548 (vw), 568 (w), 573 (w), 753 (s), 817 (w), 886 (vw), 981 (vw), 1140 (vw), 1165 (vw), 1252 (vw), 1264 (vw), 1278 (vw), 1294 (vw), 1311 (vw).

**First Preparation of 3 by Decomposition:**  $Ag[Al(OR^F)_4]$  (250 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 eq.) and sulfur (8 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were weighed into one bulb of a two bulb vessel separated by a glass frit.  $CH_2Cl_2$  (5 ml) was condensed onto the solids and the mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature until all the sulfur was dissolved. An atmosphere of chlorine gas (approx. 0.2 g, which corresponds to approx. 25 eq.) was condensed onto the solution. Immediately, a white precipitate of AgCl forms. After stirring for 2 h, the solution was then filtered through the glass frit and the solvent was removed under vacuum until there was only a small fraction of the solvent left. The reaction mixture was kept at room temperature for 5 days until small amounts of **3** suitable for scXRD crystallized. Recorded Raman spectra of the obtained material have only shown fluorescence.

**Direct, high-yield Preparation of 3:**  $Ag[F(Al(OR^F)_3)_2]$  (1000 mg, 0.63 mmol, 1 eq.) and sulfur (20 mg, 0.63 mmol, 1.00 eq.) were weighed into one bulb of a two bulb vessel separated by a glass frit.  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 ml) was condensed onto the solids and the mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature until all the sulfur was dissolved. An atmosphere of chlorine gas (approx. 0.5 g which corresponds to approx. 22 eq.) was condensed onto the solution. Immediately, a green color appears which disappears within

seconds upon stirring and a white precipitate of AgCl forms. After stirring for 2 h, the solution was then filtered through the glass frit and the solvent was removed under vacuum. **3** was obtained as a fine colorless powder (952 mg, 0.59 mmol, 93 %). Crystals suitable for SC-XRD were obtained by dissolving the obtained powder in little CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, followed by slow cooling to 6 °C until big colorless blocks formed. **NMR**: <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282.5 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = -75.8 (d, 54 F, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>, <sup>5</sup>*J*(F, F) = 0.5 Hz), -184.9 (br, 1 F, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR (78.2 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = 32.8 (br, 1 Al, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. **ATR-IR (Diamond):**  $\tilde{\nu}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 449 (m), 523 (vw), 537 (m), 546 (w), 569 (w), 642 (w), 726 (vs), 760 (vw), 812 (vw), 865 (w), 969 (vs), 1070 (vw), 1184 (s), 1210 (vs), 1237 (s), 1273 (m), 1300 (w), 1355 (vw). **FT-Raman:**  $\tilde{\nu}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 96 (vw), 122 (vw), 206 (vs), 233 (vw), 279 (m), 290 (vw), 326 (m), 368 (vw), 524 (m), 539 (w), 548 (w), 572 (w), 705 (vw), 753 (vs), 818 (w), 974 (vw), 983 (vw), 1136 (vw), 1182 (vw), 1231 (vw), 1261 (vw), 1268 (vw), 1386 (vw), 1312 (vw).

#### Reactions with Na[Nb(ODipp)<sub>3</sub>(P<sub>3</sub>)]\*3THF

**1a** (23 mg, 0.02 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and Na[Nb(P<sub>3</sub>)(ODipp)<sub>3</sub>]\*3THF (19 mg, 0.02 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were weighed in an NMR tube and a solvent (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 1,2,3,4-tfb, *o*-dfb) (0.7 mL) was condensed onto the solids at -196 °C. The NMR tube was then flame sealed and kept at -40 °C, resulting in a deep red solution over little dark precipitate. The tube was kept at this temperature for 20 h during which the tube was shaken vigorously 5 times. NMR spectra of the sample were measured at -30 °C. **NMR**: <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (162.0 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 243 K):  $\delta$  = -228.1 (s, 3 P, [Nb(P<sub>3</sub>)(ODipp)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -518.1 (br. 4 P, P<sub>4</sub>) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (162.0 MHz, 1,2,3,4-tfb, 243 K):  $\delta$  = -227.9 (s, 3 P, [Nb(P<sub>3</sub>)(ODipp)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -523.2 (br. 4 P, P<sub>4</sub>) ppm.

#### **Reactions with P4**

**Synthesis of 4: 1a** (150 mg, 0.13 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was weighed in a Schlenk tube and a previously prepared solution of P<sub>4</sub> (16 mg, 0.13, 1.6 eq.) in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mL) was added and the resulting mixture immediately took a reddish brown color. The mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature Afterwards, the volume of the solution was reduced to 0.7 mL *in vacuo* and transferred into an NMR tube and flame sealed. **NMR:** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282.5 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = -69.3 (m, 6 F, (**F**<sub>3</sub>C)<sub>2</sub>C(O)CF<sub>2</sub>), -74.6 (s, 9 F, HOC(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), -75.7 (s, 36 F, [Al(OC(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -75.8 (s, 54 F, [F(Al(OC(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -108.4 (m, 6 F, (**F**<sub>3</sub>C)<sub>2</sub>C(O)C**F**<sub>2</sub>), -184.9 (br. 1 F, [**F**(Al(OC(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR (78.2 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT)  $\delta$  = 34.6 (s, 1 Al, [**Al**(OC(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (81.0 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = 219.4 (br., 1 P, **P**Cl<sub>3</sub>), 152.2 (dt, 2 P, [P<sub>2</sub>**P**<sub>B2</sub>PCl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>C</sub>) = 341 Hz, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>) = 143 Hz), 104.5 (m, 1 P, [**P**<sub>A</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 56.0 (tt, 1 P, [P<sub>4</sub>**P**<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>C</sub>) = 341 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>C</sub>) = 27 Hz), 38.2 (m, 2 P, [**PP**<sub>B2</sub>Se<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), -271.1 (td, 2 P,

 $[\mathbf{P}_{A2}P_{3}Cl_{2}]^{+}, {}^{1}J({}^{31}P_{A}, {}^{31}P_{B}) = 143 \text{ Hz}, {}^{2}J({}^{31}P_{A}, {}^{31}P_{C}) = 27 \text{ Hz}), -360.7 \text{ (s, 3 P, } [\mathbf{P}_{3}Se]^{+}, {}^{1}J(P, {}^{77}Se) = 58 \text{ Hz}), -518.7 \text{ (s, 4 P, } \mathbf{P}_{4}) \text{ ppm}. {}^{77}Se-NMR (114.5 \text{ MHz, } CD_{2}Cl_{2}, \text{ RT}): \delta = 894 \text{ (q, 1 Se, } [P_{3}Se]^{+}, {}^{1}J(P, {}^{77}Se) = 58 \text{ Hz}) \text{ ppm}.$ 

**Synthesis of 5:** 2a (100 mg, 0.08 mmol, 1 eq.) was weighed in a Schlenk tube and a previously prepared solution of P<sub>4</sub> (17 mg, 0.13, 1.6 eq.) in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.7 mL) was added and the resulting mixture immediately took a dark brownish color. The mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature Afterwards, the solution was transferred into an NMR tube and flame sealed. **NMR:** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (356.4 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta = -75.6$  (s, 36 F, [Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR (104.3 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta = 34.6$  (s, 1 Al, [Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (162.0 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta = 219.5$  (br., 1 P, PCl<sub>3</sub>), 152.3 (dt, 2 P, [P<sub>2</sub>P<sub>B2</sub>PCl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>c</sub>) = 340 Hz, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>) = 143 Hz), 56.2 (tt, 1 P, [P<sub>4</sub>P<sub>c</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>c</sub>) = 340 Hz, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>) = 143 Hz), 56.2 (tt, 1 P, [P<sub>4</sub>P<sub>c</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>c</sub>) = 340 Hz, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>) = 143 Hz), -271.4 (td, 2 P, [P<sub>A2</sub>P<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>) = 143 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>c</sub>) = 27 Hz), -342.9 (s, 3 P, [P<sub>3</sub>Te]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, <sup>125</sup>Te) = 145 Hz, <sup>1</sup>J(P, <sup>123</sup>Te) = 120 Hz), -501.0 (s, 4 P, P<sub>4</sub>) ppm. <sup>125</sup>Te-NMR (162.0 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta = 67.4$  (sex., 4 Te, unknown P<sub>5</sub>Te<sub>3</sub> cluster, J(<sup>31</sup>P, <sup>125</sup>Te) = 120 Hz), ppm.

**Synthesis of 6: 3** (50 mg, 0.03 mmol, 1 eq.) was weighed in a Schlenk tube and a previously prepared solution of P<sub>4</sub> (6 mg, 0.05, 1.6 eq.) in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.7 mL) was added and the resulting mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature during which the pale yellow solution turned into a bright yellow. Afterwards, the solution was transferred into an NMR tube and flame sealed. NMR: <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282.5 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = -75.8 (s, 54 F, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -184.9 (br., 1 F, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR (78.2 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = 33.1 (br, 1 Al, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (121.5 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = 219.4 (br., 1 P, PCl<sub>3</sub>), 151.6 (dt, 2 P, [P<sub>2</sub>P<sub>B2</sub>PCl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>c</sub>) = 341 Hz, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>) = 143 Hz), 110.9 (unknown), 56.2 (tt, 1 P, [P<sub>4</sub>P<sub>c</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>) = 143 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>c</sub>) = 27 Hz), -171.9 (unknown), -247.3 (unknown), -270.5 (td, 2 P, [P<sub>A2</sub>P<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>) = 143 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>c</sub>) = 27 Hz), -399.2 (s, 3 P, [P<sub>3</sub>S]<sup>+</sup>), -518.5 (s, 4 P, P<sub>4</sub>) ppm.

#### Reaction on a bigger scale under optimized conditions

SeCl<sub>3</sub>[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] (2.0 g, 1.74 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was weighed in a double bulb vessel, dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL) and cooled down to -40 °C. A previously prepared solution of P<sub>4</sub> (260 mg, 2.10 mmol, 1.20 eq.) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL) was added dropwise over the course of 2 h, during which the clear yellow solution slowly became turbid and orange colored. The resulting mixture was stirred at -40 °C for 20 h. The resulting mixture was then filtered at -40 °C and the resulting filtrate was dried at -40 °C *in vacuo*. The obtained sticky yellow powder (0.9 g) was then finely ground and extracted via a glass frit Soxhlet

extraction with pentane for 16 h, a pale yellow filtrate could be obtained and was discarded. The residue atop of the frit was then collected and all volatiles were removed in vacuo until a fine yellow powder (650 mg) could be obtained. It is notable, that a yellow residue was collected in the cold trap of the Schlenk manifold during each removal of volatiles. This residue turns red upon prolonged contact to air, hinting towards the formation of volatile selenium chlorides (e.g. Se<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) undergoing slow hydrolysis. **FT-Raman:**  $\tilde{\nu}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 99 (vw), 125 (vw), 140 (vw), 176 (vw), 184 (vw), 216 (w), 235 (w), 254 (vw), 267 (vw), 280 (w), 322 (m), 331 (m), 361 (vs), 380 (m), 389 (w), 425 (w), 446 (vw), 464 (vw), 474 (vw), 493 (vw), 503 (vw), 537 (w), 562 (vw), 568 (vw), 579 (vw), 608 (vw), 746 (w), 797 (m), 1002 (vw), 1273 (vw), 1294 (vw), 1306 (vw). ATR-IR (Diamond):  $\tilde{\nu}$  [cm<sup>-1</sup>] = 440 (m), 535 (m), 560 (w), 571 (vw), 587 (vw), 607 (vw), 665 (vw), 725 (vs), 756 (vw), 831 (vw), 966 (vs), 1160 (m), 1204 (vs), 1238 (m), 1265 (m), 1296 (w), 1351 (vw). <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (188.2 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta = -75.7$  (s, 36 F, [Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (81.0 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = 219.4 (br., 1 P, PCl<sub>3</sub>), 152.2 (dt, 2 P, [P<sub>2</sub>P<sub>B2</sub>PCl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>C</sub>) = 341 Hz,  ${}^{1}J({}^{31}P_{A}, {}^{31}P_{B})$  = 143 Hz), 104.6 (m, 1 P, [P<sub>A</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 56.0 (tt, 1 P, [P<sub>4</sub>P<sub>c</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>,  ${}^{1}J({}^{31}P_{B}, {}^{31}P_{C})$  = 341 Hz,  $^{2}J(^{31}P_{A}, ^{31}P_{C}) = 27 \text{ Hz}), 38.3 \text{ (m, 2 P, } [PP_{B2}Se_{4}]^{+}), -271.0 \text{ (td, 2 P, } [P_{A2}P_{3}Cl_{2}]^{+}, ^{1}J(^{31}P_{A}, ^{31}P_{B}) = 143 \text{ Hz}, ^{2}J(^{31}P_{A}, ^{31}P_{B}) = 143 \text{ Hz}, ^{3}J(^{31}P_{A}, ^{31}P_{A}) = 143 \text{ Hz}, ^{3}J(^{31}P_{A}, ^{31}P_{A}) = 143 \text{ Hz}, ^{3}J(^{31}P_{A}, ^{3}P_{A}) = 143 \text{ Hz}, ^{3}J(^{31}P_{A}, ^{3}P_$  $^{31}P_{C}$  = 27 Hz), -360.4 (s, 3 P, [**P**<sub>3</sub>Se]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, <sup>77</sup>Se) = 58 Hz), -519.0 (s, 4 P, **P**<sub>4</sub>) ppm. MS (ESI, *o*-dfb, m/z<sup>+</sup>)  $m/z = 172.8 ([P_3^{80}Se]^+, 225.0 ([P_5^{35}Cl_2]^+))$ 

# **3.2.** Spectral Data of ECl<sub>3</sub>[WCA]

# 3.2.1. Spectral Data of SeCl<sub>3</sub>[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] 1a

NMR Spectra of 1a



**Figure S 2** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (376.5 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of **1a**. The small resonance downfield from the anion resonance stems from free alcohol HOC( $CF_3$ )<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S 3 <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectrum (104.3 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of 1a. The broad resonance at 70 ppm stems from the probe head.



Figure S 4 <sup>77</sup>Se-NMR spectrum (76.3 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of 1a.



**Figure S 5** Raman spectrum (bottom trace) between 65 and 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup> and IR spectrum (top trace) of **1a** between 380 and 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### Crystal Structure and Molecular Structure of 1a



**Figure S 6** Close up view of the asymmetric unit of **1a** including the six crystallographically independent  $[SeCl_3]^+$  cations and  $[Al(OR^F)_4]^-$  anions. The stippled bonds indicate disordered parts.



**Figure S 7** Close up view of the six crystallogrphically independent [SeCl<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> cations in the asymmetric unit of **1a**. For reasons of clarity, the anions have been replaced with blue balls.



Figure S 8 Close up view of the reciprocal space of the measured data set of 1a along the b\* axis. The top bar shows the summed up intensity and indicates the modulation of the structure.

# 3.2.2. Spectral Data of SeCl<sub>3</sub>[F(Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] 1b







**Figure S 10** <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectrum (78.2 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of **1b**. The second broad signal ranging from 0 to 100 ppm stems from the probe head.



Figure S 11  $^{77}\text{Se-NMR}$  spectrum (57.2 MHz, CD\_2Cl\_2, RT) of 1b.

#### Vibrational Spectra of 1b



**Figure S 12** Raman spectrum (bottom trace) between 65 and 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup> and IR spectrum (top trace) of **1b** between 380 and 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### Crystal Structure and Molecular Structure of 1b



**Figure S 13** Asymmetric unit of the crystal structure of **1b** including two halves of the fluoride bridged anion with the (Al-)F atom residing on a special position with occupancy 0.5. The stippled bonds show disordered parts of the structure. All thermal ellipsoids are shown at 50 % probability.

# 3.2.3. Spectral Data of SeCl<sub>3</sub>[FAl(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>] 1c



**Figure S 14** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (376.5 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of **1c**. The small resonance downfield from the anion resonance stems from free alcohol HOC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S 15  $^{27}$ Al-NMR spectrum (104.3 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of 1c. The broad signal ranging from 0 to 100 ppm stems from the probe head.



Figure S 16  $^{77}\text{Se-NMR}$  spectrum (76.3 MHz, CH\_2Cl\_2, RT) of 1c.

#### Vibrational Spectra of 1c



**Figure S 17** Raman spectrum (bottom trace) between 65 and 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup> and IR spectrum (top trace) of **1c** between 380 and 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

Crystal Structure and Molecular Structure of 1c



Figure S 18 Close up view of the asymmetric unit of 1c. All thermal ellipsoids are shown at 50 % probability.

# 3.2.4. Spectral Data of TeCl<sub>3</sub>[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]

 $\textbf{2a} \text{ was prepared as previously described in the literature.}^2 \text{ NMR spectra were recorded in } \text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2.$ 

### NMR Spectra of 2a



Figure S 19  $^{\rm 19}\text{F}\text{-}\text{NMR}$  spectrum (282.5 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of 2a.



Figure S 20  $^{27}\mbox{Al-NMR}$  spectrum (78.2 MHz, CD2Cl2, RT) of 2a.



Figure S 21  $^{\rm 125}\text{Te-NMR}$  spectrum (94.7 MHz, CD\_2Cl\_2, RT) of 2a.

# 3.2.5. Spectral Data of TeCl<sub>3</sub>[F(Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] 2b



#### **NMR Spectra**

Figure S 22 <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (282.5 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of 2b. The small resonance at -74.6 ppm stems from free alcohol HOC( $CF_3$ )<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S 23 <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectrum (78.2 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of 2b. The broad resonance from 50 to 100 ppm stems from the probe head.



**Figure S 24** <sup>125</sup>Te-NMR spectrum (94.7 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of **2b**. The signal to noise ratio is low compared to **2a** because of the limited available amount of substance.

#### **Vibrational Spectra**



Figure S 25 Raman spectrum (bottom trace) between 75 and 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup> and IR spectrum (top trace) of **1a** between 380 and 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The asterisks denote residual amounts of TeCl<sub>4</sub>.

# 3.2.6. Spectral Data of $SCl_3[F(Al(OR^F)_3)_2]$ 3

**NMR Spectra** 





Figure S 27 <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectrum (78.2 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of **3**. The broad resonance from 50 to 100 ppm stems from the probe head.



**Figure S 28** Raman spectrum (bottom trace) between 65 and 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup> and IR spectrum (top trace) of **3** between 380 and 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





**Figure S 29** Asymmetric unit of the crystal structure of **3**. The stippled bonds show disordered parts of the structure. All thermal ellipsoids are shown at 50 % probability. The disordered  $[SCl_3]^+$  cation has occupancies of 92 % (non stippled) and 8 % (stippled).

# **3.2.7.** Complete Tables of the Vibrational Spectra of the ECI<sub>3</sub>[WCA] salts

**Table S 3** Summary of the experimental Raman and IR bands of the [SeCl<sub>3</sub>][WCA] salts in powdered samplex of **1a**, **1c** and **1b**. For reference the bands of SeCl<sub>3</sub>[AsF<sub>6</sub>] are also given.<sup>35</sup> The gray shaded cells indicate vibrational bands of the [SeCl<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> cation. All bands are given in [cm<sup>-1</sup>].

| 1a        | 1a        | 1b        | 1b        | 1c        | 1c        | SeCl <sub>3</sub> [AsF <sub>6</sub> ] | Assignment <sup>a)</sup>  |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Raman     | IR        | Raman     | IR        | Raman     | IR        | Raman <sup>35</sup>                   | 0   |
| _         | _         | 96 (vw)   | _         | _         | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| _         | _         | 121 (vw)  | _         | _         | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| 162 (vs)  | -         | 167 (vs)  | -         | 173 (s)   | _         | 168 (s)                               | $\delta_{asy.}(SeCl_3)$ (E)                                     |
| 206 (w)   | -         | 206 (m)   | -         | 207 (w)   | _         | 200 (w)                               | $\delta_{sy.}(SeCl_3)$ (A <sub>1</sub> )                        |
| 234 (vw)  | _         | 233 (vw)  | _         | 256 (vw)  | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| 289 (vw)  | _         | 290 (vw)  | _         | 287 (w)   | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
|           | _         | _ ` `     | _         | 306 (vw)  | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| 323 (w)   | _         | 325 (w)   | _         | 324 (w)   | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| 330 (vw)  | _         | _         | _         | _         | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| 354 (vw)  | _         | _         | _         | _         | _         | 355 (m)                               | Anion   |
| 368 (vw)  | _         | 366 (vw)  | _         | 367 (vw)  | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| 407 (vw)  | _         | _         | —         | _         | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| 434 (w)   | 429 (s)   | 430 (sh)  | 428 (m)   | 418 (sh)  | 416 (w)   | 390 (w)                               | vasy.(SeCl <sub>3</sub> ) (E)                                   |
| 444 (s)   | 442 (m)   | 443 (vs)  | 450 (m)   | 437 (vs)  | 447 (w)   | 437 (vs)                              | v <sub>sy.</sub> (SeCl <sub>3</sub> ) (A <sub>1</sub> ) / Anion |
| _         | _         | 474 (vw)  | 473 (vw)  | 480 (vw)  | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| 538 (vw)  | 536 (m)   | 539 (w)   | 537 (m)   | 538 (vw)  | 536 (w)   | _                                     | Anion   |
| 562 (vw)  | 560 (w)   | _         | _         | _         | 565 (vw)  | _                                     | Anion   |
| 572 (vw)  | 571 (vw)  | 572 (vw)  | 570 (w)   | 570 (vw)  | _         | 568 (m)                               | Anion   |
| _         | -         | _         | 642 (w)   | -         | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| _         | _         | _         | _         | 683 (vw)  | 680 (w)   | 678 (m)                               | Anion   |
| _         | _         | _         | —         | 706 (w)   | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| —         | 725 (vs)  | _         | 725 (vs)  | 725 (vw)  | 725 (vs)  | _                                     | Anion   |
| 745 (w)   | 755 (vw)  | 753 (vs)  | 760 (vw)  | 753 (m)   | 752 (vw)  | _                                     | Anion   |
| 799 (w)   | _         | 818 (w)   | 813 (vw)  | 811 (w)   | 811 (vw)  | _                                     | Anion   |
| —         | 832 (w)   | _         | —         |           | 842 (vw)  | _                                     | Anion   |
| —         | 873 (vw)  | _         | 866 (w)   |           | 866 (vw)  | _                                     | Anion   |
| -         | 965 (vs)  | 974 (vw)  | 967 (vs)  | 978 (vw)  | 965 (vs)  | _                                     | Anion   |
| -         | -         | 982 (vw)  | —         | —         | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| 1002 (vw) | 1020 (vw) | -         | —         | —         | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| -         | -         | -         | 1076 (vw) | —         | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| -         | -         | 1137 (vw) | —         | —         | _         | _                                     | Anion   |
| _         | 1170 (s)  | 1182 (vw) | 1184 (s)  | _         | 1176 (m)  | _                                     | Anion   |
| -         | 1207 (vs) | -         | 1210 (vs) | —         | 1209 (vs) | _                                     | Anion   |
| 1246 (vw) | 1240 (s)  | 1232 (vw) | 1239 (s)  | 1247 (vw) | 1237 (s)  | _                                     | Anion   |
| _         | 1264 (m)  | 1261 (vw) | 1265 (m)  | _         | 1262 (m)  | _                                     | Anion   |
| 1282 (vw) | —         | 1269 (vw) | —         | 1275 (vw) | —         | —                                     | Anion   |
| 1291 (vw) | 1296 (w)  | 1290 (vw) | 1300 (w)  | —         | 1297 (vw) | —                                     | Anion   |
| _         | _         | 1306 (vw) | _         | 1305 (vw) | -         | -                                     | Anion   |
| 1310 (vw) | 1352 (vw) | -         | 1355 (vw) | 1362 (vw) | 1352 (vw) | _                                     | Anion   |

w: weak, m: medium, s: strong, sh: shoulder, v: very. a) From a visualization of the calculated spectra.

**Table S 4** Summary of the experimental Raman and IR bands of **3**. For reference the bands of  $TeCl_3[Al(OR^F)_4]$  including its  $TeCl_4$  contaminations and  $TeCl_3[AsF_6]$  are also given.<sup>2,35</sup> The gray shaded cells indicate vibrational bands of the  $[TeCl_3]^+$  cation. All bands are given in  $[cm^{-1}]$ .

| 2b        | 2b        | TeCl <sub>3</sub> [Al(OR <sup>F</sup> ) <sub>4</sub> ] | TeCl₃[AsF <sub>6</sub> ] | Assignment <sup>a)</sup>                                |
|-----------|-----------|--|--------------------------|---|
| Raman     | IR        | Raman <sup>2</sup>                                     | Raman <sup>35</sup>      | -   |
| 94 (w)    | _         | 88 (m)   | _                        | TeCl <sub>4</sub> /Anion                                |
| 141 (vs)  | -         | 144 (m)  | 150 (m)                  | $\delta_{asy.}(SeCl_3)$ (E)                             |
| 158 (w)   | _         |  |                          | Anion   |
| 168 (m)   |           | 170 (m)  | 170 (w)                  | $\delta_{sy.}(SeCl_3)$ (A <sub>1</sub> )                |
| 236 (w)   | _         | 235 (w)  |                          | Anion   |
| 290 (w)   | _         | 289 (w)  | _                        | Anion   |
| 327 (m)   | -         | 321 (w)  | _                        | Anion   |
| 334 (s)   | -         | 341 (m)  | _                        | TeCl <sub>4</sub>                                       |
| 343 (s)   | -         | 347 (m)  | _                        | TeCl <sub>4</sub>                                       |
| 363 (w)   | _         | 359 sh)  | _                        | Anion   |
| 375 (vs)  | _         | 374 (s)  | _                        | TeCl <sub>4</sub>                                       |
| 410 (m)   | 406 (w)   | 408 (m)  | 385 (s)                  | $v_{asy.}$ (TeCl <sub>3</sub> ) (E)                     |
| 420 (vs)  | 419 (vw)  | 418 (m)  | 412 (vs)                 | v <sub>sy.</sub> (TeCl <sub>3</sub> ) (A <sub>1</sub> ) |
| _         | 449 (m)   | 537 (w)  |                          | Anion   |
| 539 (w)   | 536 (m)   | 555 (w)  | _                        | Anion   |
| 548 (vw)  |           |  | 538 (vw)                 | Anion   |
| 568 (w)   | 569 (w)   | _  | 678 (m)                  | Anion   |
| 573 (w)   |           | 746 (m)  |                          | Anion   |
| _         | 642 (w)   | 798 (m)  | _                        | Anion   |
| _         | 725 (vs)  |  | _                        | Anion   |
| 753 (s)   | 760 (vw)  | _  | _                        | Anion   |
| 817 (w)   | 813 (vw)  | _  | _                        | Anion   |
| _         | 866 (w)   | _  | _                        | Anion   |
| 886 (vw)  |           | _  | _                        | Anion   |
| 981 (vw)  | 965 (vs)  | _  | _                        | Anion   |
| 1140 (vw) | -         | _  | _                        | Anion   |
| 1165 (vw) | 1170 (sh) | _  | _                        | Anion   |
| _         | 1211 (vs) | _  | _                        | Anion   |
| _         | 1239 (s)  | _  | _                        | Anion   |
| 1252 (vw) |           | _  | _                        | Anion   |
| 1264 (vw) | 1264 (m)  | _  | _                        | Anion   |
| 1278 (vw) |           | _  | _                        | Anion   |
| 1294 (vw) | 1300 (w)  | _  | _                        | Anion   |
| 1311 (vw) |           | _  | _                        | Anion   |
|           | 1355 (vw) | _  | _                        | Anion   |

**Table S 5** Summary of the experimental Raman and IR bands of **3**. For reference the bands of  $SCl_3[AsF_6]$  are also given.<sup>35</sup> The gray shaded cells indicate vibrational bands of the  $[SCl_3]^+$  cation. All bands are given in  $[cm^{-1}]$ .

| 3         | 3         | SCl₃[AsF6]          | Assignment <sup>a)</sup>                               |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------|--|
| Raman     | IR        | Raman <sup>35</sup> |  |
| 96 (vw)   | _         | -                   | Anion  |
| 122 (vw)  | _         | -                   | Anion  |
| 206 (vs)  | -         | 214 (s)             | $\delta_{asy.}(SCl_3)$ (E)                             |
| 233 (vw)  | _         | _                   | Anion  |
| 279 (m)   | -         | 284 (m)             | $\delta_{sy.}(SCI_3)$ (E)                              |
| 290 (vw)  | _         | _                   | Anion  |
| 326 (m)   | _         | -                   | Anion  |
| 368 (vw)  | _         | 370 (m)             | Anion  |
| _         | 449 (m)   | _                   | Anion  |
| 524 (m)   | 523 (vw)  | 519 (vs)            | v <sub>sy.</sub> (SCl <sub>3</sub> ) (A <sub>1</sub> ) |
| 539 (w)   | 537 (m)   | _                   | Anion  |
| 548 (w)   | 546 (w)   | 543 (w)             | vasy.(SCI3) (E)  |
| 572 (w)   | 569 (w)   | 574 (w)             | Anion  |
| _         | 642 (w)   | _                   | Anion  |
| 705 (vw)  | _         | 683 (m)             | Anion  |
| _         | 726 (vs)  | -                   | Anion  |
| 753 (vs)  | -         | -                   | Anion  |
| _         | 760 (vw)  | -                   | Anion  |
| 818 (w)   | 812 (vw)  | -                   | Anion  |
| _         | 865 (w)   | -                   | Anion  |
| 974 (vw)  | 969 (vs)  | _                   | Anion  |
| 983 (vw)  | -         | -                   | Anion  |
| _         | 1070 (vw) | -                   | Anion  |
| 1136 (vw) | _         | _                   | Anion  |
| 1182 (vw) | 1184 (s)  | _                   | Anion  |
| _         | 1210 (vs) | _                   | Anion  |
| 1231 (vw) | 1237 (s)  | _                   | Anion  |
| 1261 (vw) | -         | -                   | Anion  |
| 1268 (vw) | 1273 (m)  | -                   | Anion  |
| 1286 (vw) | _         | -                   | Anion  |
| 1312 (vw) | 1300 (w)  | -                   | Anion  |
|           | 1355 (vw) | _                   | Anion  |

w: weak, m: medium, s: strong, sh: shoulder, v: very. a) From a visualization of the calculated spectra.

### 3.3. Reactions with Na[Nb(P<sub>3</sub>)(ODipp)<sub>3</sub>]\*3THF

SeCl<sub>3</sub>[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] (23 mg 0.02 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and Na[Nb(P<sub>3</sub>)(ODipp)<sub>3</sub>]\*3THF (19 mg, 0.02 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were weighed in an NMR tube and CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.7 mL) was condensed onto the solids at -196 °C. The NMR tube was then flame sealed and kept at -40 °C, resulting in a deep red solution over little dark precipitate. The tube was kept at this temperature for 20 h during which the tube was shaken vigorously 5 times. NMR spectra of the sample were measured at -30 °C.

The identical procedure was repeated using the solvents 1,2,3,4-tetrafluorobenzene (1,2,3,4-tfb) and *ortho*-difluorobenzene (*o*-dfb) due to the reported slow decomposition of the  $[Nb(P_3)(ODipp)_3]^-$  anion in chlorinated solvents.<sup>36</sup>

**NMR:** <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (162.0 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 243 K):  $\delta = -228.1$  (s, 3 P, [Nb(P<sub>3</sub>)(ODipp)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -518.1 (br. 4 P, P<sub>4</sub>) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (162.0 MHz, 1,2,3,4-tfb, 243 K):  $\delta = -228.2$  (s, 3 P, [Nb(P<sub>3</sub>)(ODipp)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -523.3 (br. 4 P, P<sub>4</sub>) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (162.0 MHz, *o*-dfb, 243 K):  $\delta = -227.9$  (s, 3 P, [Nb(P<sub>3</sub>)(ODipp)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -523.2 (br. 4 P, P<sub>4</sub>) ppm.

The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra show partial decomposition of the  $[Nb(P_3)(ODipp)_3]^-$  anion, whereas the <sup>19</sup>F and the <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectra indicate that the  $[Al(OR^F)_4]^-$  is stable under the chosen reaction conditions. The <sup>31</sup>P-spectra of all three reactions show the emergence of a broad signal around –520 ppm that can be assigned to P<sub>4</sub>, next to the signal of residual P<sub>3</sub>-synthon at –228 ppm. No residual [SeCl<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> cation could be detected in the <sup>77</sup>Se spectrum.

It can be assumed that all available  $[SeCl_3]^+$  cations acted as a chlorinating agent towards the  $P_3^{3-}$  synthon and generated PCl\_3 *in situ*. The PCl\_3 then immediately reacted with residual  $[Nb(P_3)(ODipp)_3]^-$  anion to form P<sub>4</sub> until all PCl\_3 has vanished leaving only the residual  $[Nb(P_3)(ODipp)_3]^-$  and the generated P<sub>4</sub>. This generation of P<sub>4</sub> from  $[Nb(P_3)(ODipp)_3]^-$  is similar to the synthesis of AsP<sub>3</sub><sup>37</sup> which itself is gained from the reaction of AsCl<sub>3</sub> with the P<sub>3</sub><sup>3-</sup> synthon.







**Figure S 31** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectra (356.4 MHz, in  $CD_2Cl_2$  (a), 1,2,3,4-tfb (b) *o*-dfb (c), 243 K) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with  $Na[Nb(P_3)(ODipp)_3]^*$ 3THF.



Figure S 32 <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectra (104.3 MHz, in  $CD_2Cl_2$  (a), 1,2,3,4-tfb (b) *o*-dfb (c), 243 K) of the product obtained by the reaction of 1a with  $Na[Nb(P_3)(ODipp)_3]^*$ 3THF.



**Figure S 33**<sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra (162.0 MHz, in  $CD_2Cl_2$  (a), 1,2,3,4-tfb (b) and *o*-dfb (c), at 243 K) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with Na[Nb(P<sub>3</sub>)(ODipp)<sub>3</sub>]\*3THF. The asterisk denotes minor amounts of an unknown substance. For comparison the <sup>31</sup>P spectrum of a neat sample of the used Na[Nb(P<sub>3</sub>)(ODipp)<sub>3</sub>]\*3THF in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> is shown (top trace).

| Manife Prost in fait | an a | -    |      | mainmahri |      | وموينية ومروادي | Wards and the second second |      | , ibabalisik jea | an in the state of | an a | under ander and |
|----------------------|--|------|------|-----------|------|-----------------|-----------------------------|------|------------------|--|--|---|
| <br>1900             | 1800                                     | 1700 | 1600 | 1500      | 1400 | 1300            | 1200                        | 1100 | 1000             | 900  | 800                                      | ppm   |

Figure S 34  $^{77}$ Se-NMR spectrum (76.4 MHz, 1,2,3,4-tfb, 243 K) of the product obtained by the reaction of 1a with Na[Nb(P<sub>3</sub>)(ODipp)<sub>3</sub>]\*3THF.

#### **3.4.** Reactions with White Phosphorus

#### 3.4.1. Solvent Screening

To test if the selectivity of the formation of  $[P_3Se]^+$  can be enhanced by choosing a solvent different than CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, several common solvents (fluorobenzene (= PhF), ortho-difluorobenzene (= *o*-dfb), C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>14</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, mixture of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/CS<sub>2</sub> (9 : 1 / v : v)) were tested for their performance with reactions on an NMR-tube scale. No noteworthy solvent dependency in favor of the formation of P<sub>3</sub>Se[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] could be discovered. In the case of fluoroarenes, unselective reactions as well as solvent degradation was observed, several other fluorinated arenes could be detected such as 1-chloro-4-fluorobenzene due to the strongly chlorinating properties of **1a**. The reaction in SO<sub>2</sub> or in C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>14</sub> also led to [PCl<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, whereas the reaction in a mixture of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and CS<sub>2</sub> led to no formation of [P<sub>3</sub>Se]<sup>+</sup> and [P<sub>5</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> at all and only other unknown products could be observed. Significant anion decomposition was observed in PhF, *o*-dfb and in the mixture of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/CS<sub>2</sub>.

**Table S 6** Typical product distributions and ratios obtained from the reaction of **1a** with  $P_4$  in different solvents. The ratios are calculated considering all listed products and omitting residual  $P_4$ .

| Product                          | uct <i>o</i> -dfb <sup>c)</sup> |       | PhF <sup>c)</sup> | PhF <sup>c)</sup> |          | SO <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>14</sub> |          | CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> / CS <sub>2</sub> (9 : 1) <sup>d)</sup> |              |       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|--|----------|---|--------------|-------|
|                                  | Integral                        | Ratio | Integral          | Ratio             | Integral | Ratio  | Integral | Ratio   | Integral     | Ratio |
| [P₃Se]⁺                          | 3.1                             | 20 %  | 2.1               | 20 %              | 0.6      | 5 %  | 0.3      | 4 %   | _            | -     |
| $[P_5Cl_2]^{+a}$                 | 1.0                             | 10 %  | _                 | _                 | 1.0      | 12 %   | 1.0      | 19 %  | _            | _     |
| $[P_3Se_4]^{+b)}$                | 4.8                             | 47 %  | 1.6               | 23 %              | 1.5      | 18 %   | 0.2      | 4 %   | _            | _     |
| [PCl <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> | _                               | -     | 1.0               | 29 %              | 2.2      | 53 %   | 1.7      | 65 %  | _            | -     |
| PCl₃                             | 1.2                             | 23 %  | 1.0               | 29 %              | 0.5      | 12 %   | 0.2      | 8 %   | Main product | : —   |

<sup>a)</sup> The signal of both  $P_A$  was integrated, except for the reaction in *o*-dfb, where the signal of  $P_B$  was used due to overlaps of other sipdeproducts with the signal of  $P_A$ . <sup>b)</sup> The signal of both  $P_B$  was integrated. <sup>c)</sup> When PhF is used, no  $[P_5Cl_2]^*$  forms but several other signals belonging to undiscernible side products occur, hence no ratio of  $[P_5Cl_2]^*$  to  $[P_3Se]^*$  can be given. When *o*-dfb is used,  $[P_5Cl_2]^*$  is stable but other undiscernible side products occur.<sup>d)</sup> When CS<sub>2</sub> is added, no formation of  $[P_5Cl_2]^*$  and  $[P_3Se]^*$  occurs, of the usual product, only PCl<sub>3</sub> is observed

**Reaction in PhF: 1a** (100 mg, 0.09 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and P<sub>4</sub> (11 mg, 0.09 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were weighed in a Schlenk flask and *o*-dfb (1 mL) was condensed onto the solids at –196 °C. The resulting reddish brown mixture was stirred for 10 minutes to allow the P<sub>4</sub> to dissolve. The mixture was transferred into an NMR tube that was flame sealed at –196 °C and subsequently analyzed via NMR-spectroscopy. **NMR:** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300.2 MHz, PhF, RT):  $\delta$  = 3.5 (br., 1 H, HOC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 6.67(m, fluorobenzene derivatives), 6.97 (m, fluorobenzene derivatives) ppm. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282.5 MHz, PhF, RT):  $\delta$  = -69.7 (m, 6 F, (**F**<sub>3</sub>C)<sub>2</sub>C(O)CF<sub>2</sub>), –74.8 (s, 36 F, [Al(O(C(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), –75.0 (br., unknown F<sub>m</sub>Al(OC(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>n</sub> moiety), –75.2 (d, 54 F, [F(Al(OC(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), –108.9 (m, 2 F, (F<sub>3</sub>C)<sub>2</sub>C(O)CF<sub>2</sub>), –116.3 (tt, 1 F, 1-fluoro-4-chlorobenzene, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H, F) = 8 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*(H, F) = 5 Hz), –144.0 (br., unknown **F**<sub>m</sub>Al(OC(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>n</sub> moiety), –152.5 (br., 1 F, [**F**Al(OC(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>n</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), moiety), –172.1 (br., 1 F, [**F**(Al(OC(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR (78.2 MHz, PhF, RT)  $\delta$  = 35.2 (s, 1 Al, [**A**l(OC(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm.

<sup>31</sup>P-NMR (121.5 MHz, PhF, RT): δ = 219.5 (br., 1 P, PCl<sub>3</sub>), 101.6 (m, 1 P, [P<sub>A</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 81.7 (br., 1 P, [PCl<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>),
57.8 (unknown side product), 35.4 (m, 2 P, [PP<sub>B2</sub>Se<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), -60.1 (unknown side product), -284.9 (unknown side product), -293.3 (unknown side product), -301.8 (unknown side product), -373.9 (s, 3 P, [P<sub>3</sub>Se]<sup>+</sup>,
<sup>1</sup>J(P, <sup>77</sup>Se) = 58 Hz), -524.7 (s, 4 P, P<sub>4</sub>) ppm.

Reaction in o-dfb: 1a (150 mg, 0.13 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and P<sub>4</sub> (16 mg, 0.13, 1.0 eq.) were weighed in a Schlenk flask and o-dfb (1 mL) was condensed onto the solids at -196 °C. The resulting reddish brown mixture was stirred for 5 minutes to allow the P4 to dissolve. The mixture was transferred into an NMR tube that was flame sealed at -196 °C and subsequently analyzed via NMR-spectroscopy. NMR: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300.2 MHz, o-dfb, RT):  $\delta$  = 3.70 (br., 1 H, HOC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 6.85 (m, difluorobenzene derivatives) ppm. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (376.5 MHz, *o*-dfb, RT):  $\delta$  = -70.0 (m, 6 F, (**F**<sub>3</sub>C)<sub>2</sub>C(O)CF<sub>2</sub>), -75.1 (s, 36 F, [Al(O(C(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -75.3 (br., unknown F<sub>m</sub>Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>n</sub> moiety), -75.4 (d, 54 F, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>, <sup>5</sup>J(F, F) = 0.6 Hz), -75.5(br., unknown F<sub>m</sub>Al(OC(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>n</sub> moiety), −75.6 (br., 27 F, [FAl(OC(C**F**<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), −113.7 (m, 2 F, (F<sub>3</sub>C)<sub>2</sub>C(O)CF<sub>2</sub>), -135.7 3 (m, difluorobenzene derivative), -140.9 (m, difluorobenzene derivative), -152.8 (br., 1 F, [FAI(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -161.7 (br., unknown F<sub>m</sub>AI(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>n</sub> moiety), -163.0 (br., unknown  $\mathbf{F}_m$ Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>n</sub> moiety), -172.2 (br., 1 F, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR (78.2 MHz, o-dfb, RT)  $\delta$  = 35.0 (s, 1 Al,  $[Al(OC(CF_3)_3)_4]^-)$ , -12.3 (br. unknown aluminate) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (121.5 MHz, o-dfb, RT):  $\delta$ = 219.9 (br., 1 P, PCl<sub>3</sub>), 176.7 (unknown), 158.9 (dt, 2 P, [P<sub>2</sub>P<sub>B2</sub>PCl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>C</sub>) = 340 Hz, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>) = 143 Hz), 124.2 (unknown), 96.8 (m, 1 P, [P<sub>A</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 53.3 (tt, 1 P, [P<sub>4</sub>P<sub>c</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>C</sub>) = 340 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>C</sub>) = 27 Hz), 38.2 (unknown), 29.2 (m, 2 P, [P**P**<sub>B2</sub>Se<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 8.2 (unknown), -64.4 (unknown), -256.9 (unknown), -282.9 (td, 2 P,  $[\mathbf{P}_{A2}P_{3}Cl_{2}]^{+}$ ,  ${}^{1}J({}^{31}P_{A}, {}^{31}P_{B}) = 143$  Hz,  ${}^{2}J({}^{31}P_{A}, {}^{31}P_{C}) = 27$  Hz), -285.3(unknown), -381.7 (s, 3 P,  $[\mathbf{P}_3Se]^+$ ,  ${}^{1}J(P, {}^{77}Se) = 58$  Hz), -527.1 (s, 4 P,  $\mathbf{P}_4$ ) ppm.

**Reaction in SO**<sub>2</sub>: **1a** (150 mg, 0.13 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and P<sub>4</sub> (16 mg, 0.13, 1.0 eq.) were weighed in a sealable J. Young NMR tube and SO<sub>2</sub> (0.7 mL) was condensed onto the solids at -196 °C. The resulting mixture immediately took a reddish brown color and analyzed via NMR-spectroscopy. **NMR**: <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (376.5 MHz, SO<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta = -75.7$  (s, 36 F, [Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR (104.3 MHz, SO<sub>2</sub>, RT)  $\delta = 34.1$  (s, 1 Al, [Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (162.0 MHz, SO<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta = 221.2$  (br., 1 P, PCl<sub>3</sub>), 156.8 (dt, 2 P, [P<sub>2</sub>P<sub>B2</sub>PCl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>c</sub>) = 340 Hz, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>) = 144 Hz), 96.3 (m, 1 P, [P<sub>A</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 87.9 (br., 1 P, [PCl<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 56.3 (tt, 1 P, [P<sub>4</sub>P<sub>c</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>c</sub>) = 340 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>c</sub>) = 27 Hz), 29.9 (m, 2 P, [PP<sub>B2</sub>Se<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), -276.7 (td, 2 P, [P<sub>A2</sub>P<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>) = 144 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>c</sub>) = 27 Hz), -376.0 (s, 3 P, [P<sub>3</sub>Se]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, <sup>77</sup>Se) = 58 Hz), -516.5 (s, 4 P, P<sub>4</sub>) ppm.
**Reaction in C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>14</sub>:** Ag[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] (100 mg, 0.09 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and P<sub>4</sub> (12 mg, 0.09 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were weighed on one side of a double bulb Schlenk vessel without a glass frit separating both glass tubes. SeCl<sub>4</sub> (21 mg, 0.09 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was weighed into the other side of the reaction vessel. Thoroughly degassed C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>14</sub> (10 mL, 6 freeze/pump/thaw cycles) was condensed into the side containing the silver salt and the white phosphorus and stirred vigorously for 10 min. The obtained suspension was then poured onto the SeCl<sub>4</sub> and stirred for 2 d. After this time, an orange precipitate formed above a colorless solution. All volatiles were removed in vacuo and SO<sub>2</sub> was condensed onto the obtained solids and the obtained mixture was stirred vigorously for 5 min. Afterwards, the small amount of orange red precipitate was allowed to settle and the obtained orange solution was decanted to the other side of the reaction vessel. After removing all the volatiles in vacuo an orange solid was obtained that was dissolved in SO<sub>2</sub> and analyzed via NMR spectroscopy. **NMR:** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (188.3 MHz, SO<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = -74.9 (s, 9 F, HOC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), -75.7 (s, 36 F, [Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (81.0 MHz, SO<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = 221.2 (br., 1 P, PCl<sub>3</sub>), 156.8 (dt, 2 P,  $[P_2P_{B2}PCl_2]^+$ ,  ${}^{1}J({}^{31}P_{B}, {}^{31}P_{C}) = 340 \text{ Hz}, {}^{1}J({}^{31}P_{A}, {}^{31}P_{B}) = 144 \text{ Hz})$ , 96.6 (m, 1 P,  $[\mathbf{P}_{A}\mathbf{P}_{2}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{e}_{4}]^{+}$ , 87.9 (br., 1 P,  $[\mathbf{P}Cl_{4}]^{+}$ ), 56.4 (tt, 1 P,  $[\mathbf{P}_{4}\mathbf{P}_{C}Cl_{2}]^{+}$ ,  ${}^{1}J({}^{31}\mathbf{P}_{B}, {}^{31}\mathbf{P}_{C}) = 340 \text{ Hz}, {}^{2}J({}^{31}\mathbf{P}_{A}, {}^{31}\mathbf{P}_{C}) = 27 \text{ Hz}$ ), 30.3 (m, 2 P,  $[PP_{B2}Se_4]^+$ ), -276.2 (td, 2 P,  $[P_{A2}P_3Cl_2]^+$ ,  ${}^{1}J({}^{31}P_{A}, {}^{31}P_B) = 144 \text{ Hz}, {}^{2}J({}^{31}P_A, {}^{31}P_C) = 27 \text{ Hz}), -375.4$  $(s, 3 P, [P_3Se]^+, {}^{1}J(P, {}^{77}Se) = 58 Hz), -508.6 (s, 4 P, P_4) ppm.$ 

**Reaction in a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> / CS<sub>2</sub> mixture: 1a** (240 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was weighed in Schlenk flask ans dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4 mL), P<sub>4</sub> (35 mg, 0.28, 1.3 eq.) was dissolved in a mixture of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and CS<sub>2</sub> (6 mL, 5/1 (v/v)) and was added dropwise using a glass funnel to the solution of **1a**. The resulting mixture immediately took a yellow color and. After stirring for 17 h, the volume of the solution was reduced *in vacuo* 1 mL and transferred into a sealable J. Young NMR tube and analyzed via NMR-spectroscopy. **NMR:** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282.5 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/CS<sub>2</sub> (9:1 (v/v)), RT):  $\delta = -74.5$  (s, 9 F, HOC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), -75.6 (s, 36 F, [Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -75.6 (s, unknown), -75.7 (d, 54 F, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>, <sup>5</sup>J(F, F) = 0.6 Hz), -75.8 (d, [FAl(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (121.5 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/CS<sub>2</sub> (9:1 (v/v)), RT):  $\delta = 219.0$  (br., 1 P, PCl<sub>3</sub>), 106.2 (m, 1 P, [P<sub>A</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 40.4 (m, 2 P, [PP<sub>B2</sub>Se<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 39.6 (br. 1 P, possibly PSCl<sub>3</sub>, *fwhm* (full width at half maximum) = 30 Hz), 31.4 (q., 1 P, unknown, *J*(P, P) = 72 Hz), -112.6 (d., 3 P, unknown, *J*(P, P) = 72 Hz), -119.0 (d, unknown, *J*(P, X) = 27 Hz), -520.4 (s, 4 P, P<sub>4</sub>) ppm.

in PhF



**Figure S 35** <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra (121.5 MHz, PhF, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with  $P_4$  in PhF from 350 to -400 ppm (top trace) and from 0 to -600 ppm (bottom trace). The non-labeled peaks correspond to unknown side products.



**Figure S 36** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum (300.2 MHz, PhF, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with  $P_4$  in PhF. The blue arrow marks fluorobenzene derivatives generated during the course of this reaction not present in the crude spectra of the used solvent. Between both signals of PhF are also signals of flurobenzene derivatives generated during the course of the reaction.



**Figure S 37** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (282.5 MHz, PhF, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub> in PhF. The zoomed in part on the right shows the splitting pattern of 1-chloro-4-fluorobenzene.



**Figure S 38** <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectrum (78.2 MHz, PhF, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub> in PhF. The broad resonance at 70 ppm stems from the probe head.

in *o*-dfb



**Figure S 39** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum (300.2 MHz, *o*-dfb, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub> in PhF. The blue arrow marks difluorobenzene derivatives generated during the course of the reaction not present in the crude spectra of the used solvent.



**Figure S 40** <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra (121.5 MHz, *o*-dfb, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub> in *o*-dfb from 300 to 400 ppm (top trace) and from 0 to –600 ppm (bottom trace).



**Figure S 41** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (282.5 MHz, *o*-dfb, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub> in *o*-dfb. Very weak peaks of the epoxide and unknown  $F_mAl(OR^F)_n$  moieties are not separately shown here but listed in the table of the experimental part.



**Figure S 42** <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectrum (78.2 MHz, *o*-dfb, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub> in *o*-dfb. The broad resonance at 70 ppm stems from the probe head.





**Figure S 43** <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra (162.0 MHz, SO<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub> in SO<sub>2</sub> from 300 to 400 ppm (top trace) and from 0 to -600 ppm (bottom trace).



Figure S 44 <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (376.5 MHz, SO<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of 1a with P<sub>4</sub> in SO<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S 45** <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectrum (104.3 MHz, SO<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with  $P_4$  in SO<sub>2</sub>. The broad resonance at 70 ppm stems from the probe head.





**Figure S 46** <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra (81.0 MHz, SO<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub> in C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>14</sub> after extraction with SO<sub>2</sub> from 300 to 400 ppm (top trace) and from 0 to -600 ppm (bottom trace).



Figure S 47 <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (188.3 MHz, SO<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with  $P_4$  in  $C_6F_{14}$  after extraction with SO<sub>2</sub>.

in a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> / CS<sub>2</sub> mixture (9:1)



**Figure S 48** <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra (121.5 MHz,  $CH_2Cl_2/CS_2$  (9:1), RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub> in a mixture of  $CS_2/CH_2Cl_2$  (1:9) from 300 to -300 ppm (top trace) and from 0 to -600 ppm (bottom trace).



**Figure S 49** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (282.5 MHz,  $CH_2CI_2/CS_2$  (9:1), RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub> in a mixture of  $CS_2/CH_2CI_2$  (1 : 9). The broad signal of [F(Al(ORF)\_3)\_2]<sup>-</sup> at -185 ppm could not be detected due to the low amount of this substance in the sample.



**Figure S 50** <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectrum (78.2 MHz,  $CH_2Cl_2/CS_2$  (9:1), RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub> in a mixture of  $CS_2/CH_2Cl_2$  (1 : 9). The broad resonance at 70 ppm stems from the probe head.

#### 3.4.2. Anion screening

To test the necessity of well performing WCAs and test performance of different anions for the generation of  $[P_3Se]^+$  salts and to possibly improve the selectivity of the target reaction  $SeCl_3[AlCl_4]$  as well as  $SeCl_3[F(Al(OR^F)_3)_2]$  (**1b**) and  $SeCl_3[FAl(OR^F)_3]$ ) (**1c**) were tested next to  $SeCl_3[Al(OR^F)_4]$ . **1c** uses the basic anion  $[FAl(OR^F)_3]^-$  that has shown its advantages compared to  $[Al(OR^F)_4]^-$  and  $[F(Al(OR^F)_3)_2]^-$  in terms of single crystal structures, yielding excellent structural data without superstructure or disorder.

### Reaction of SeCl<sub>3</sub>[AlCl<sub>4</sub>] with P<sub>4</sub>

SeCl<sub>3</sub>[AlCl<sub>4</sub>] (35 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1 eq.) and a piece of P<sub>4</sub> (12 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1 eq.) were weighed together into a J. Young sealable NMR tube so that both reactands are not in immediate contact. The NMR tube was then cooled down to -196 °C before letting the P<sub>4</sub> slide down onto the SeCl<sub>3</sub>[AlCl<sub>4</sub>] to avoid both reactands from already reacting upon contact of the powders as it was observed in a previous reaction. CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.7 ml) was condensed onto the solids and the reaction mixture was vigorously shaken. **NMR:** <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (81.0 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = -523.4 (s, P<sub>4/dissolved</sub>), -459.7 (br. P<sub>4/solid</sub>), 84.5(s, [PCl<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 219.3 (br., PCl<sub>3</sub>) ppm.

The pale yellow solution turned red, presumably of precipitated Se<sub>red</sub> generated through reduction of  $[SeCl_3]^+$  with P<sub>4</sub> and was analyzed via NMR spectroscopy. The main products were PCl<sub>3</sub> as well as PCl<sub>4</sub>[AlCl<sub>4</sub>] along with trace amounts of  $[P_3Se]^+$  (<1 %) (Figure S 51).



**Figure S 51** <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra (81.0 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of  $SeCl_3[AlCl_4]$  with  $P_4$  from 400 to -300 ppm (top trace) and from 120 to -580 ppm (bottom trace). The asterisk denotes an artifact.

#### Reaction of SeCl<sub>3</sub>[FAl(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>] (1c) with P<sub>4</sub>

P<sub>4</sub> (25 mg, 0.2 mmol, 0.9 eq.) was added to a solution of **1c** (200 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1 mL) in a sealable NMR-tube with a J. Young valve and vigorously shaken. The initially yellow solution quickly turned orange and was analyzed via NMR-spectroscopy. **NMR**: <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282.5 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = -58.4 (ddec., 4 F, PF<sub>4</sub>OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 926 Hz, <sup>5</sup>J(F, F) = 5 Hz), -66.5 (d, 3 F, PF<sub>3</sub>X<sub>2</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 947 Hz), -71.7 (quintd., 9 F, PF<sub>4</sub>OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>, <sup>5</sup>J(F, F) = 5 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J(P, F) = 1.5 Hz), -74.7 (s, 9 F, HOC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), -75.7 (s, 36 F, [Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -75.8 (s, 54 F, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -75.9 (s, 27 F, [FAl(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -80.2 (d, 2 F, PF<sub>2</sub>X, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 1060 Hz), -86.1 (d, 2 F, PF<sub>2</sub>X, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 973 Hz), -89.5 (d, 1 F, PFX<sub>2</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 1074 Hz), -168.6 (br, 1F, [FAl(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -184.9 (br, 1F, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR (78.2 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = 38.8 (br., 1 Al, [F(Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), 34.7 (s., 1 Al, [Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), 32.1 (s., 2 Al, [F(Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (121.5 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = 87.1(br., 1 P, PF<sub>3</sub>X, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 1060 Hz), -79.1 (q, 1 P, PF<sub>3</sub>X<sub>2</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 947 Hz), -39.1 (d, 1 P, PFX<sub>2</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 1074 Hz), -39.3 (t, 1 P PF<sub>2</sub>X, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 1.5 Hz), -82.4 (d, 1 P, PFX<sub>4</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 947 Hz), -80.4 (quintdec, 1 P, PF<sub>4</sub>QC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 926 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J(P, F) = 1.5 Hz), -82.4 (d, 1 P, PFX<sub>4</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 947 Hz), -80.4 (quintdec, 1 P, PFX<sub>4</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 926 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J(P, F) = 1.5 Hz), -82.4 (d, 1 P, PFX<sub>4</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 947 Hz), -80.4 (quintdec, 1 P, PFX<sub>4</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 926 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J(P, F) = 1.5 Hz), -82.4 (d, 1 P, PFX<sub>4</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 947 Hz), -80.4 (quintdec, 1 P, PFX<sub>4</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 926 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J(P, F) = 1.5 Hz), -82.4 (d, 1 P, PFX<sub>4</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 947 Hz), -80.4 (quintdec, 1 P, PFX<sub>4</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 926 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J(P, F) = 1.5 Hz), -82.4 (d, 1 P, PFX<sub>4</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 947 Hz), -80.4 (quintdec, 1 P, PFX<sub>4</sub>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) = 926 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J(P, F) = 1.5 Hz), -82.4 (

F) = 895 Hz) ppm. <sup>77</sup>Se-NMR (57.2 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT): no signal detected.

No  $[P_3Se]^+$  was detected. Several decomposition products containing PF, PF<sub>2</sub>, PF<sub>3</sub> and PF<sub>4</sub> groups form such as PF<sub>4</sub>OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>, which can be deduced from the characteristic splittings of the resonances in the <sup>31</sup>P spectra showing <sup>1</sup>J(P, F) couplings. The broad resonance at -87.1 ppm in the <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectrum most likely stems from PF<sub>3</sub> that undergoes quick exchange reactions. The broad resonance from -50 to -90 ppm in the <sup>19</sup>F-spectrum can also most likely be assigned to these substances. The other decomposition products are also visible in the <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectra. The <sup>27</sup>Al-spectra indicate nearly complete decomposition of the [FAl(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup> anion, resulting in the formation of [F(Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup> and a small amount of [Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup> anion. The <sup>77</sup>Se-NMR spectrum did not show any resonances of the [SeCl<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> cation, indicating that all [SeCl<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> was consumed. The [F-Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup> anion is labile towards fluoride abstraction by the generated cations.



Figure S 52 <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (282.5 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of 1c with P<sub>4</sub>.



**Figure S 53** <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra (121.5 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of SeCl<sub>3</sub>[AlCl<sub>4</sub>] with P<sub>4</sub> from 400 to -200 ppm (top trace) and from 0 to -600 ppm (bottom trace). The inset in the bottom trace shows the decett splitting of PF<sub>4</sub>OR<sup>F</sup>.



**Figure S 54** <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectrum (78.2 MHz,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1c** with P<sub>4</sub>. The broad resonance at 70 ppm stems from the probe head.



Figure S 55 <sup>77</sup>Se-NMR spectrum (57.2 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of 1c with P<sub>4</sub>.

### Reaction of SeCl<sub>3</sub>[F(Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] with P<sub>4</sub>

To test the crystallization behavior of product mixtures obtained from reactions of P<sub>4</sub> with **1b** was tested. A reaction according to the optimized reaction conditions was tested with **1b** (250 mg **1b**, 23 mg P<sub>4</sub>, Reaction at -40 °C, Extraction with Pentane). The obtained yellow powder was analyzed via NMR spectroscopy and has shown no better selectivities than reactions with **1a**. Crystallization attempts (slow cooling / vapor diffusion) from the obtained material has only yielded minor amounts of crystals of Ag(P<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>[F(Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]. **NMR:** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (376.5 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = -74.6 (s, 9 F, HOC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), -75.8 (s, 54 F, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>), -184.9 (br, 1F, [F(Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (162.0 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = 219.4 (br., 1 P, PCl<sub>3</sub>), 152.0 (dt, 2 P, [P<sub>2</sub>P<sub>B2</sub>PCl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>c</sub>) = 340 Hz, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>) = 144 Hz), 104.8 (m, 1 P, [P<sub>A</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), the signal at 56 ppm of [P<sub>5</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> could not be detected due to the low concentration of the sample, 38.5 (m, 2 P, [PP<sub>B2</sub>Se<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), -270.6 (td, 2 P, [P<sub>A2</sub>P<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>B</sub>) = 144 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J(<sup>31</sup>P<sub>A</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P<sub>c</sub>) = 27 Hz), -359.8 (s, 3 P, [P<sub>3</sub>Se]<sup>+</sup>, <sup>1</sup>J(P, <sup>77</sup>Se) = 58 Hz), -523.2 (s, 4 P, P<sub>4</sub>) ppm.



**Figure S 56** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (376.5 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1b** with P<sub>4</sub>. The small signal at -74.6 stems from free alcohol HOC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S 57** <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra (162.0 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1b** with P<sub>4</sub> from 250 to -250 ppm (top trace) and from -150 to -600 ppm (bottom trace).

## Typical Reactions of ECl<sub>3</sub>[WCA] with P<sub>4</sub>

## 3.4.3.1 Typical reaction with SeCl<sub>3</sub>[WCA] ([WCA]<sup>-</sup> = [Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup> and [F(Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>)

The experimental procedure on the scale of an NMR-tube reaction and on a bigger scale is already given in chapter 3.1. To record a well-resolved <sup>31</sup>P spectrum properly showing the isotopic pattern generated by the different isotopomers, a <sup>31</sup>P spectrum at higher fields (600 MHz spectrometer) was recorded (Figure S 63). A <sup>77</sup>Se spectrum was also obtained at higher fields, clearly showing the quartet of the <sup>77</sup>Se nucleus of  $[P_3Se]^+$ .

| Table S 7 Typical product | distribution obtained from the | e reaction of $SeCl_3[A]$ with $P_4$ . |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--|

| Product  | Starting   |           |                              |  | Optimized  |                     |                       |  |  |
|--|------------|-----------|------------------------------|--|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
|  | conditions |           |                              |  | conditions |                     |                       |  |  |
|  | Integral   | Product R | latio <sup>c)</sup> Ratio of | Ratio [P <sub>3</sub> Se] <sup>+</sup> :       | Integral   | Product             | Ratio of              | Ratio [P <sub>3</sub> Se] <sup>+</sup> :       |  |
|  |            |           | Cations <sup>d)</sup>        | [P <sub>5</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> |            | Ratio <sup>c)</sup> | Cations <sup>d)</sup> | [P <sub>5</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> |  |
| [P₃Se]⁺  | 1.7        | 13 %      | 28 %                         | 1.1  | 2.8        | 23 %                | 48 %                  | 1.9  |  |
| [P <sub>5</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+a)</sup> | 1.0        | 11 %      | 25 %                         |  | 1.0        | 12 %                | 26 %                  |  |  |
| [P <sub>3</sub> Se <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>+b)</sup> | 1.9        | 22 %      | 47 %                         |  | 1.0        | 12 %                | 26 %                  |  |  |
| PCI  | 24         | 54 %      | _                            |  | 22         | 53 %                | _                     |  |  |

<sup>a)</sup> The signal of both P<sub>A</sub> atoms was integrated. <sup>b)</sup> The signal of both P<sub>B</sub> was integrated. <sup>c)</sup> Calculated with respect to all products. <sup>d)</sup> Calculated with respect to all cations, omitting the neutral product PCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S 58  $^{19}$ F-NMR spectrum (282.5 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of 1a with P<sub>4</sub>.



**Figure S 59** <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectrum (78.2 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub>. The broad resonance at 70 ppm stems from the probe head.



**Figure S 60** Combined view of the <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra (81.0 MHz,  $CD_2CI_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub>. From 300 to -400 ppm (top) and from 0 to -600 ppm (bottom).



Figure S 61 <sup>31</sup>P, <sup>31</sup>P COSY (121.5 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of 1a with P<sub>4</sub>.



**Figure S 62** Combined view of the <sup>77</sup>Se-NMR spectra (57.2 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub> over the whole spectral range. From 3400 to 1400 ppm (top), 1500 to -500 ppm (middle) and -400 to -2400 ppm (bottom).



Figure S 63 Close up view of the isotope pattern generated by the different isotopomers of selenium in [P<sub>3</sub>Se]<sup>+</sup> in the <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectrum (243.0 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT)



Figure S 64 Close up view of the quartet splitting of [P<sub>3</sub>Se]<sup>+</sup> in the <sup>77</sup>Se-NMR spectrum (114.5 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT).

3.4.3.2. Reaction on a bigger scale under optimized reaction conditions



**Figure S 65** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (188.2 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub> on a bigger scale under optimized reaction conditions. The small resonance downfield from the anion resonance stems from small amounts of free alcohol HOC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S 66** Combined view of the <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra (81.0 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **1a** with P<sub>4</sub> on a bigger scale over the whole spectral range. From 300 to -400 ppm (top) and from 0 to -600 ppm (bottom).

# IR and Raman Spectrum of 4 obtained from the optimized reaction conditions



**Figure S 67** Experimental IR (1500 to 440 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and Raman (1500 to 85 cm<sup>-1</sup>) spectra of the product mixture obtained in the optimized synthesis of **4**, together with the calculated IR and Raman spectra of  $[P_3Se]^+$ ,  $[P_5Cl_2]^+$  and  $[P_3Se_4]^+$  at the (RIJ)BP86/def2–TZVPP level.

**Table S 8** Summary of the experimental Raman and IR bands of samples obtained from the synthesis of **4** as well as that of the known NMe<sub>4</sub>[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] for comparison (*Chem. Eur. J.* **2009**, *15*, 1966 – 1976). The calculated bands of  $[P_5Cl_2]^+$  and  $[P_3Se]^+$  (RIJ)BP86/def2–TZVPP) are also given. All bands are given in  $[cm^{-1}]$ .

| NMe <sub>4</sub> [Al(OR <sup>F</sup> ) <sub>4</sub> ] |           | 4         | 4         | [P₅Cl <sub>2</sub> ]⁺            | [P₃Se]⁺        | [P <sub>3</sub> Se <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> | Se <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> | Se <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> <sup>a)</sup> | Assignment <sup>b)</sup>  |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------------|----------------|--|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Raman   | IR        | Raman     | IR        | Raman                            | Raman          | Raman  | Raman <sup>38</sup>             | IR <sup>38</sup>                              | -   |
|   |           | 99 (vw)   | _         | 99 a <sub>2</sub>                | _              | 107 a''  | 91 (10)                         | _   | $[P_5Cl_2]^+ / [P_3Se_4]^+$   |
|   |           | 125 (vw)  | _         | _                                | _              | 126 a'   | 133 (36)                        | -   | $[P_3Se_4]^+/Se_2Cl_2$  |
|   |           | 140 (vw)  | _         | 162 <i>a</i> 1                   | _              | 134 a''  | 148 (14)                        | _   | $[P_5Cl_2]^+ / [P_3Se_4]^+ / Se_2Cl_2$  |
|   |           | 176 (vw)  | _         | 167 b <sub>2</sub>               | _              | 178 a'   | _                               | _   | $[P_5Cl_2]^+ / [P_3Se_4]^+$   |
|   |           | 184 (vw)  | _         | _                                | _              | 201 a''  | _                               | _   | [P <sub>3</sub> Se <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>  |
|   |           | 216 (w)   | _         | <b>217</b> <i>b</i> <sub>1</sub> | _              | 207 a'   | _                               | _   | $[P_5Cl_2]^+ / [P_3Se_4]^+$   |
| 235 (w)   |           | 235 (w)   | _         | _                                | _              | 233 a'   | _                               | _   | Anion and/or [P₃Se₄]⁺   |
|   |           | 254 (vw)  | _         | 250 a <sub>1</sub>               | _              | 248 a''  | _                               | _   | $[P_5Cl_2]^+ / [P_3Se_4]^+$   |
|   |           | 267 (vw)  | _         | _                                | _              | 258 a'   | _                               | _   | [P <sub>3</sub> Se <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>  |
| 289 (w)   | 289 (w)   | 280 (w)   | _         | _                                | _              | 310 a'   | 289 (12)                        | _   | Anion and/or [P <sub>3</sub> Se <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> /Se <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>                              |
| 322 (s)   | 316 (w)   |           |           |                                  | 326 e          | 319 a"   | _                               | _   | Anion and/or vasy.(P–Se) / [P <sub>5</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> /   |
|   |           | 322 (m)   | _         | 326 <i>a</i> 1                   |                |  |                                 |   | [P <sub>3</sub> Se <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>  |
|   |           | 331 (m)   | _         | 352 a <sub>2</sub>               | 346 <i>a</i> 1 | 338 a'   | _                               | _   | v <sub>sy.</sub> (P–Se) / [P <sub>5</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> / [P <sub>3</sub> Se <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> |
| 368 (m)   |           | 361 (vs)  | _         | _                                | _              | 370 a'   | 357 (100)                       | _   | [P <sub>3</sub> Se <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> /P <sub>4</sub> / Se <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>                          |
|   |           | 380 (m)   | _         | 383 b <sub>1</sub>               | _              | _  | _                               | _   | [P <sub>5</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>  |
|   |           | 389 (w)   | _         | 402 <i>a</i> <sub>1</sub>        | _              | 403 a''  | _                               | _   | [P <sub>5</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> / [P <sub>3</sub> Se <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>                           |
|   |           | 425 (w)   | _         | 428 b2                           | 433 e          | 427 a'   | 420 (1)                         | _   | $v_{asy.}(P_3) / [P_5Cl_2]^+ / [P_3Se_4]^+$   |
| 453 (ms)  | 449 (m)   | 446 (vw)  | 440 (m)   | _                                | _              | _  |                                 | 436 (w)                                       | Se <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> / Anion   |
|   |           | 464 (vw)  |           | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | P <sub>4</sub>  |
|   |           | 474 (vw)  | _         | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | _   |
|   |           | 493 (vw)  | _         | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | _   |
|   |           | 503 (vw)  | _         | 518 <i>a</i> 1                   | _              | _  | _                               | _   | [P <sub>5</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>  |
| 538 (mw)  | 536 (m)   | 537 (w)   | 535 (m)   | 533 b <sub>2</sub>               | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion and/or [P <sub>5</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>   |
| 562 (mw)  | 560 (mw)  | 562 (vw)  | 560 (w)   | 554 <i>b</i> 1                   | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion and/or [P <sub>5</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>   |
| 572 (mw)  | 571 (w)   | 568 (vw)  | 571 (vw)  | 569 <i>a</i> 1                   | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion and/or $[P_5Cl_2]^+$  |
|   |           | 579 (vw)  | _ ` `     | _                                | 570 <i>a</i> 1 | _  | _                               | _   | $v_{sy.}(P_3) [SeP_3]^+$  |
|   |           | _ `       | 587 (vw)  | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | 581 (vw)                                      | Se <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>   |
|   |           | 608 (vw)  | 607 (vw)  | _                                | _              | _  | _                               |   | P <sub>4</sub>  |
|   |           | _         | 665 (vw)  | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | -   | Anion   |
|   | 725 (s)   | _         | 725 (vs)  | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion   |
| 747 (s)   | 756 (w)   | 746 (w)   | 756 (vw)  | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion   |
| 794 (s)   |           | 797 (m)   | _ ` `     | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion   |
| 832 (w)   | 831 (m)   |           | 831 (vw)  | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion   |
| 976 (mw)  | 967 (sh)  | _         | 966 (vs)  | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion   |
|   |           | 1002 (vw) |           | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion   |
| 1135 (mw)   | 1163 (s)  | _         | 1160 (m)  | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion   |
|   |           | _         | 1204 (vs) | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion   |
| 1239 (mw)   | 1237 (vs) | _         | 1238 (m)  | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion   |
| 1272 (mw)   | 1271 (vs) | 1273 (vw) | 1265 (m)  | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion   |
| . ,   | 1296 (s)  | 1294 (vw) | 1296 (w)  | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion   |
| 1307 (w)  | . ,       | 1306 (vw) | ,         | _                                | _              | _  | _                               | _   | Anion   |
| 1352 (w)  | 1351 (ms) | ,         | 1351 (vw) | -                                | _              | _  | _                               | -   | Anion   |

w: weak, m: medium, s: strong, sh: shoulder, v: very. <sup>b)</sup> The bands from the FIR spectrum of Se<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> were not included, as no FIR spectra of  $\overline{4}$  could be recorded. <sup>a)</sup> From a visualization of the calculated spectra. Exact assignments of the vibrations of [P<sub>3</sub>Se<sub>4</sub>]<sup>\*</sup> and [P<sub>5</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>\*</sup> are not given.

#### Mass spectrum of 4

In order to obtain a mass spectrum of **4**, the reaction conditions were first optimized, and the crude reaction mixture (in  $CH_2Cl_2$ ) was diluted to a micromolar solution by the addition of *o*-dfb. In contrast to  $CH_2Cl_2$ , *o*-dfb is well-suited for ESI experiments. While the resulting mass spectrum (Figure S 68) contains signals for  $[P_3Se]^+$  (*m/z* 172.8) and  $[P_5Cl_2]^+$  (*m/z* 225.0) as the main species, the isotope pattern around the peak at *m/z* 172.8 (blue inset) does not exactly match that expected for  $[P_3Se]^+$ . However, CID experiments (CID = collision-induced dissociation) on the signals between *m/z* 165 and *m/z* 176 at

different collision energies (Figure S 69) cause the fragmentation of an isobaric impurity prior to the fragmentation of  $[P_3Se]^+$ . Thus, the isotopic pattern of selenium becomes obvious and proves the presence of  $[P_3Se]^+$ . The latter cation, however, is very stable and does not produce fragment ions, which might serve as an independent means of identification. Also the identity of the isobaric impurity remains unknown.



**Figure S 68** ESI mass spectrum of a sample of **4** in *o*-dfb. The blue inset shows the region where signals of [P<sub>3</sub>Se]<sup>+</sup> and unknown impurities overlap.



**Figure S 69** CID experiments of mass-selected ions in a region between m/z 165 and m/z 176. The experiments have been performed at different normalized collision energies (increasing from a via b to c). The red bars illustrate the isotopic pattern expected for  $[P_3Se]^+$ .

# 3.4.3.3. Typical reaction with $TeCl_3[A]$ ( $[A]^- = [Al(OR^F)_4]^-$ and $[F(Al(OR^F)_3)_2]^-$ )

The experimental procedure on the scale of an NMR-tube reaction and on a bigger scale is already given in chapter 3.1. The sextet at a <sup>125</sup>Te chemical shift of 67.4 ppm has a coupling constant J(<sup>125</sup>Te, <sup>31</sup>P) of 62 Hz, that can also be found in the <sup>125</sup>Te satellites of the singlet resonance at 9.8 ppm in the <sup>31</sup>P spectrum including the <sup>123</sup>Te with the corresponding coupling constant of 51 Hz. These satellites integrate to 24.0 % of the total signal intensity, indicating 3 chemical equivalent Te atoms, coupling to 5 chemical equivalent P atoms. The nature of the second pair of satellite peaks with a coupling constant of 125 Hz that integrate to an intensity of 1 % of the total signal intensity could not be clarified during our studies.



Table S 9 Typical product distribution obtained from the reaction of  $TeCl_3[A]$  with P<sub>4</sub>.

Figure S 70 <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (356.4 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of 2a with P<sub>4</sub>.



**Figure S 71** <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectrum (104.3 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **2a** with P<sub>4</sub>. The broad resonance at 70 ppm stems from the probe head.



**Figure S 72** Combined view of the <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra (162.0 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **2a** with P<sub>4</sub> over the whole spectral range. From 300 to -300 ppm (top) and from -150 to -550 ppm (bottom).



**Figure S 73** Close-up view of the <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectrum (162.0 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **2a** with P<sub>4</sub> in the region with both resonance showing <sup>123</sup>Te and <sup>125</sup>Te satellites.



**Figure S 74** Combined view of the <sup>125</sup>Te-NMR spectra (126.3 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **2a** with P<sub>4</sub> over the whole spectral range. From 2200 to 1000 ppm (a), 1000 to 0 ppm (b), 700 to -400 ppm (c), -400 to -1600 (d) and -1800 to -2600 ppm (e). The marked peak without label is from unknown origin.

# 3.4.3.4. Typical reaction with $SCI_3[F(Al(OR^F)_3)_2]$

The experimental procedure on the scale of an NMR-tube reaction and on a bigger scale is already given in chapter 3.1.

| Product  | Integral | Product Ratio | Ratio [P <sub>3</sub> S] <sup>+</sup> vs. [P <sub>5</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> |  |
|--|----------|---------------|--|--|
| [P <sub>3</sub> S]⁺                            | 0.4      | 5 %           | 0.3  |  |
| [P <sub>5</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> | 1.0      | 20 %          |  |  |
| PCl₃   | 1.9      | 75 %          |  |  |

Table S 10 Typical product distribution obtained from the reaction of  $SCI_3[F(AI(OR^F)_3)_2]$  with  $P_4$ .



**Figure S 75** Close up view of the <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectrum (162.0 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **3** with P<sub>4</sub> from -250 to -550 ppm.



**Figure S 76** Combined view of the <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra (121.5 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **3** with P<sub>4</sub> over the whole spectral range. From 300 to –300 ppm (top) and from 0 to –600 ppm (bottom). The marked peaks without labels are from unknown origin.



**Figure S 77** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (282.5 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **3** with P<sub>4</sub>. The small resonance at –74.6 ppm stems from free alcohol HOC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S 78** <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectrum (78.2 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of **3** with P<sub>4</sub>. The broad resonance at 70 ppm stems from the probe head, the broad resonance at 33 ppm stems from the [F(Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup> anion.

# 3.5. Other tested Reactions

## Tested Access to SeCl<sub>3</sub>[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] from SeCl<sub>4</sub> and Li[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]

 $Li[Al(OR^F)_4]$  (974 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1 eq.) and finely ground SeCl<sub>4</sub> (222 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1 eq.) were weighed into one bulb of a two bulb vessel separated by a glass frit.  $CH_2Cl_2$  (5 ml) was condensed onto the solids and the mixture was sonicated for 2 d at room temperature which resulted in a pale yellow solution over a colorless precipitate. The solution was then filtered through the glass frit and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The initial precipitate was shown to be SeCl<sub>4</sub> by Raman spectroscopy. The precipitate obtained by drying the filtered solution has shown to be unreacted  $Li[Al(OR^F)_4]$ , contaminated with little SeCl<sub>4</sub> by Raman spectroscopy.

The same reaction was repeated on a smaller scale (Li[Al( $OR^F$ )<sub>4</sub>] (300 mg, 0.31 mmol, 1 eq.); SeCl<sub>4</sub> (68 mg, 0.31 mmol, 1 eq.)) with SO<sub>2</sub> (0.8 mL) as a solvent due to the enhanced solubility of the Li-salt compared to CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> yielded the same results after stirring the reaction mixture for 3 d.



**Figure S 79** Raman spectra between 2000 and 70 cm<sup>-1</sup> of the isolated products from the attempted reaction of SeCl<sub>4</sub> with  $Li[Al(OR^F)_4]$  in SO<sub>2</sub> (top and middle trace) compared to the Raman spectrum of neat  $Li[Al(OR^F)_4]$ .



**Figure S 80** <sup>77</sup>Se-NMR spectrum (57.2 MHz, SO<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the product obtained by the reaction of  $Li[Al(OR^F)_4]$  with SeCl<sub>4</sub> in SO<sub>2</sub> at room temperature.

### Tested Access to SeCl<sub>3</sub>[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] from SeCl<sub>3</sub>[AlCl<sub>4</sub>] and Li[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]

 $Li[Al(OR^F)_4]$  (195 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and SeCl<sub>3</sub>[AlCl<sub>4</sub>] (71 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were weighed into one bulb of a two bulb vessel separated by a glass frit.  $CH_2Cl_2$  (5 ml) was condensed onto the solids and the mixture was sonicated for 2 d at room temperature which resulted in a pale yellowish solution over a colorless precipitate. The solution was then filtered through the glass frit and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The initial precipitate was shown to be SeCl<sub>3</sub>[AlCl<sub>4</sub>] by Raman spectroscopy. The precipitate obtained by drying the filtered solution has shown to be unreacted Li[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] contaminated with little SeCl<sub>3</sub>[AlCl<sub>4</sub>] by Raman spectroscopy.



**Figure S 81** Raman spectra between 2000 and 70 cm<sup>-1</sup> of the isolated products from the attempted reaction of SeCl<sub>3</sub>[AlCl<sub>4</sub>] with Li[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (top and middle trace) compared to the Raman spectrum of neat SeCl<sub>3</sub>[AlCl<sub>4</sub>].

#### Tested Access to SF<sub>3</sub>[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] from Li[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] and SF<sub>4</sub>

Due to  $Li[F(Al(OR^{F})_{3})_{2}]$  not being accessible<sup>34</sup>, only the synthesis of  $[SF_{3}]^{+}$  cations was considered due to the high FIA of  $[SeF_{3}]^{+}$  and  $[TeF_{3}]^{+}$  of 941 and 962 kJmol<sup>-1</sup>.

Li[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] (300 mg, 0.31 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was weighed into one bulb of a two bulb vessel separated by a glass frit. C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>14</sub> (3 mL) was condensed onto the solids and the mixture was. An atmosphere of SF<sub>4</sub> was condensed onto the solution. The solution was allowed to stir for 18 h. Afterwards, all volatiles were removed under vacuum and the obtained powder was analyzed via NMR spectroscopy in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. **NMR**: <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282.5 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = 74.9 (s., unknown), -72.0 (br., unknown), -74.5 (s, 9 F, HOC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), -75.7 (s, 36 F, [Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR (78.2 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = 34.9 (s., 1 Al, [Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>). <sup>7</sup>Li-NMR (116.7 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = -1.0 (s., Li[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]) ppm.

The NMR spectra have shown anion decomposition and two small signals at around 70 to 80 ppm that could be caused by sulfur bound F atoms. However, the overall intensity of these signals is well below 1 % of the overall intensity of the residual  $[Al(OR^F)_4]^-$  anion.



**Figure S 82** <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (282.5 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the product obtained from the reaction of SF<sub>4</sub> with Li[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] in  $C_6F_{14}$ . The small resonance at -74.6 ppm stems from free alcohol HOC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S 83** <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectrum (78.2 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained from the reaction of SF<sub>4</sub> with Li[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] in C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>14</sub>. The broad resonance at 70 ppm stems from the probe head.



**Figure S 84** <sup>7</sup>Li-NMR spectrum (116.7 MHz,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the product obtained from the reaction of  $SF_4$  with  $Li[Al(OR^F)_4]$  in  $C_6F_{14}$ . The small resonance at -74.6 ppm stems from free alcohol HOC( $CF_3$ )<sub>3</sub>.

## Tested Reaction of TI[AI(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] with PCI<sub>3</sub>

TI[AI(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] (100 mg, 0.09 mmol, 1 eq.) was weighed in an NMR tube with a J. Young valve and dissolved in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.7 mL). Freshly distilled PCl<sub>3</sub> (0.1 mL, approx. 160 mg, approx. 1.2 mmol, approx. 14 eq.) was added with a syringe and the resulting colorless solution was heavily shaken and then analyzed via NMR spectroscopy. The identical reaction with Ag[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>] leads to a precipitation of AgCl and the decomposition of the anion.<sup>39</sup> **NMR**: <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282.5 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = -75.6 (s, 36 F, [Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR (78.2 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = 34.6 (s, 1 Al, [Al(OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (121.5 MHz, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT):  $\delta$  = -219.5 (br., PCl<sub>3</sub>) ppm.



Figure S 85 <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectrum (282.5 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the tested reaction of PCl<sub>3</sub> with TI[AI(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>].



**Figure S 86** <sup>27</sup>Al-NMR spectrum (78.2 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , RT) of the tested reaction of  $PCl_3$  with  $TI[Al(OR^F)_4]$ . The broad resonance from 50 to 100 ppm stems from the probe head.



Figure S 87 <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectrum (121.5 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT) of the tested reaction of PCl<sub>3</sub> with Tl[Al(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>].
### Tested Reaction of TI[AI(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub> with P<sub>4</sub>

To check the possibility of a  $TI(P_4)_n[AI(OR^F)_4]$  complex to form  $TI[AI(OR^F)_4]$  (100 mg, 0.09 mmol, 1 eq.) and P<sub>4</sub> (21 mg, 0.18 mmol, 2 eq.) were weighed into one bulb of a two bulb vessel separated by a glass frit.  $CH_2Cl_2$  (2 ml) was condensed onto the solids and the mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature until all the phosphorus was dissolved. The other side of the reaction vessel was then loaded with pentane and the solution was kept at room temperature for 5 days until colorless crystals had grown. scXRD experiments have shown the colorless crystals to be naked  $TI[AI(OR^F)_4]$ .



Molecular Structure of TI[AI(OR<sup>F</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]

**Figure S 88** Close up view of the molecular structure of the two crystallographically independent  $TI[AI(OR^F)_4]$  units in the crystal structure of  $TI[AI(OR^F)_4]$ . All thermal ellipsoids are shown at 50 % probability. The stippled bonds indicate disordered parts of the structure.

# 4. Details to the Quantum Chemical Calculations

# 4.1. Calculated MO Diagrams



**Figure S 89** Summary of the calculated MO diagrams of  $P_4$ , As $P_3$ ,  $[P_3S]^+$ ,  $[P_3Se]^+$  and  $[P_3Te]^+$ . The diagram of  $P_4$  was calculated using  $C_{3v}$  symmetry. The diagrams were calculated at the (RIJ)B3-LYP/def2-TZVPP level.

### 4.2. Aim Analyses and Laplacian of the Electron Density

Contour plots of the Laplacian of the electron density at the P<sub>3</sub> vertexes show a similar situation for all  $[EP_3]^+$  cations. They are closely related to the neutral molecules AsP<sub>3</sub> and P<sub>4</sub>. The contour plots of the P<sub>2</sub>E vertexes show that  $[P_3S]^+$  is very similar to P<sub>4</sub> and that  $[P_3Se]^+$  and  $[P_3Te]^+$  are more similar to AsP<sub>3</sub>. The contour plots of the plane through a P–E bond and an opposite *bond critical point* (BCP) again show the similarity of the P–S bond to the P–P bond in P<sub>4</sub>, whereas the heavier homologues show similarities to AsP<sub>3</sub>. The contour plots of the plane through a P–P bond and an opposite BCP show a *local charge concentration* (LCC) slightly outside the middle of the P–P bonds and no lone pair for all tetrahedra. This is in accordance with the findings from the protonation of P<sub>4</sub><sup>40</sup> and the complexes  $[M(P_4)_n]^{+41}$  (M = Cu, Ag, Au), where simple positively charged ions coordinate side-on to the P<sub>4</sub> tetrahedron. Exohedral lone pairs of the clusters are absent for any of the tetrahedra, which confirms the nature of the tetrahedra as delocalized clusters rather than electron precise molecules.



**Figure S 90** Contour plots of the Laplacian of the electron density  $\rho$  of the [EP<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> (E = S, Se, Te) cations, as well as P<sub>4</sub> and AsP<sub>3</sub> compared. The EP<sub>2</sub> planes (top row), P<sub>3</sub> planes (second row) as well as cross-sections through the E-P bond and the opposite BCP (third row) and through the P-P bond and the opposite BCP (bottom row) are shown. The red continuous contour lines indicate positive values and the blue dashed lines indicate negative values.

The electron density ( $\rho_{XCP}$ ) at the critical points XCP (X = R (ring), C (cluster), B (bond)) of the [EP<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> cations have similar values to P<sub>4</sub> and AsP<sub>3</sub>.  $\rho_{RCP}$  of the P<sub>3</sub> ring is generally lower in P<sub>4</sub> than in the binary counterparts.  $\rho_{RCP}$  of the P<sub>2</sub>E rings is the highest for [SP<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> and the lowest for [TeP<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, this trend is also reflected in  $\rho_{CCP}$ .  $\rho_{BCP}(P-P)$  is higher in the binary tetrahedra than in P<sub>4</sub>, indicating stronger P–P bonds in the binary compounds.  $\rho_{BCP}(P-E)$  is highest in [SP<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> and lowest in [TeP<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> indicating stronger P–S bonds compared to P–Te bonds. The ellipticities of the electron density at the BCP of the P–P bonds ( $\varepsilon_{BCP}(P-P)$ ) is higher for the binary compounds and  $\varepsilon_{BCP}(P-E)$  is the lowest for [SP<sub>3</sub>] and again highest for [TeP<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> (Table S 11).

**Table S 11** Summary of the AIM analysis ((RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP) of the [EP<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> cations as well as AsP<sub>3</sub> and P<sub>4</sub>. All electron densities ( $\rho$ ) at the critical points XCP (X = R (ring), C (cluster), B (bond)) are given in  $e^{\text{Å}-3}$ . The ellipticities of the electron density at a given critical point are denoted with  $\varepsilon_{XCP}$ .

| Compound | <i>р</i> сср(ЕР <sub>3</sub> ) | <i>ρ</i> <sub>RCP</sub> (P <sub>3</sub> ) | $\rho_{\text{RCP}}(P_2E)$ | $ ho_{BCP}(P-P)$ | $\varepsilon_{\text{BCP}}(P-P)$ | $ ho_{\text{BCP}}(P-E)$ | $\varepsilon_{\text{BCP}}(P-E)$ |
|----------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| P4       | 0.53                           | 0.57                                      | —                         | 0.71             | 0.110                           | —                       | _                               |
| AsP₃     | 0.52                           | 0.62                                      | 0.53                      | 0.73             | 0.156                           | 0.63                    | 0.163                           |
| [SP₃]⁺   | 0.57                           | 0.60                                      | 0.61                      | 0.74             | 0.149                           | 0.76                    | 0.078                           |
| [SeP₃]⁺  | 0.53                           | 0.60                                      | 0.55                      | 0.75             | 0.203                           | 0.67                    | 0.151                           |
| [TeP₃]⁺  | 0.47                           | 0.60                                      | 0.48                      | 0.74             | 0.230                           | 0.55                    | 0.189                           |

### 4.3. Calculated NMR parameters

The calculated <sup>31</sup>P chemical shifts of the  $[EP_3]^+$  cations were calculated using ORCA 4.1.1 based on previously calculated (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP structures with (RIJK)B3-LYP/cc-pVQZ single points using a relativistic DKH2 operator with a fully decontracted basis set. The obtained chemical shifts were referenced against the chemical shift of P<sub>4</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution. To benchmark the obtained chemical shifts, the known molecules AsP<sub>3</sub> and SbP<sub>3</sub> were calculated using the same method. The obtained chemical shifts are given in Table S 12.

| Compound            | Diamagnetic<br>Contribution | Paramagnetic<br>Contribution | Shielding<br>Tensor (calc.) | Corrected<br>[ppm] <sup>a)</sup> | Observed<br>[ppm] | NICS <sup>b)</sup> | NICS(P₃) <sup>c)</sup> | NICS(P2E) <sup>d)</sup> |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
|                     | [ppm]                       | [ppm]                        | [ppm]                       |                                  |                   |                    |                        |                         |
| P <sub>4</sub>      | 972.265                     | -107.891                     | 864.374                     | -520                             | -520              | -61.9              | -60.4                  | -                       |
| AsP₃                | 972.285                     | -143.787                     | 828.498                     | -484                             | -484              | -61.3              | -60.5                  | -59.5                   |
| SbP₃                | 972.939                     | -177.039                     | 795.900                     | -452                             | -462              | -58.6              | -60.0                  | -56.1                   |
| [P <sub>3</sub> S]⁺ | 969.744                     | -219.103                     | 750.641                     | -406                             | -399.3            | -60.6              | -54.9                  | -60.2                   |
| [P₃Se]⁺             | 969.852                     | -263.374                     | 706.478                     | -362                             | -360.6            | -60.3              | -55.0                  | -59.7                   |
| [P₃Te]⁺             | 970.377                     | -286.972                     | 683.405                     | -339                             | -342.9            | -59.4              | -55.9                  | -58.3                   |

a) vs. diluted solution of  $P_4$  in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at -520 ppm. b) NICS values are calculated at the cage center. c) Calculated at the center of the  $P_3$  trigons. d) Calculated at the center of the  $P_2$ E trigons.

This method was also tested for the prediction of the <sup>77</sup>Se- and <sup>125</sup>Te-NMR shifts. To test, if the method is valid and able to describe <sup>77</sup>Se- and <sup>125</sup>Te-NMR shifts over a broad spectral range, a set of several molecules (all in different regions of the spectral range) was calculated using this method and referenced. It is noticeable, that the trends in chemical shifts are described accurately over the whole spectral range (with [ECl<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> and [EP<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> spanning an experimental range of 2300 ppm (Se) and 5000 ppm (Te)). The exact values of the chemical shifts however differ and accurate results are only obtained if the chosen standard has a chemical shift near to the desired sample. Hence the chosen standard for the prediction of the chemical shift of [EP<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, which lies in an atypical region for E(IV) compounds, is EPMe<sub>3</sub> (E = Se, Te).

Table S 13 Calculated <sup>77</sup>Se chemical shifts of [P<sub>3</sub>Se]<sup>+</sup> and various other known compounds.

| Compound                            | Diamagnetic  | Paramagnetic | Shielding Tensor | Observed [nnm]            | Corrected [nnm]a) | Corrected [nnm] <sup>b)</sup> |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| compound                            | Contribution | Contribution | (calc.)          | observed [ppin]           | concerca [ppin]   | concerce [ppin]               |
|                                     | [ppm]        | [ppm]        | [ppm]            |                           |                   |                               |
| Me <sub>2</sub> Se                  | 3091.485     | -1411.727    | 1679.758         | 0                         | 0                 | 184                           |
| [SeCl₃]⁺                            | 3083.022     | -3032.079    | 50.943           | 1384 – 1407 <sup>c)</sup> | 1629              | 1813                          |
| [SeMeCl <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> | 3084.928     | -2701.957    | 382.971          | 1119 <sup>1</sup>         | 1297              | 1481                          |
| Se(CF <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>   | 3099.365     | -2152.248    | 947.117          | 717 <sup>42</sup>         | 733               | 917                           |
| MeSeCN                              | 3092.294     | -1493.848    | 1598.446         | 125 <sup>42</sup>         | 81                | 265                           |
| H <sub>2</sub> Se                   | 3093.27      | -990.195     | 2103.075         | -226 <sup>42</sup>        | -423              | -239                          |
| SePMe₃                              | 3099.359     | -1000.634    | 2098.725         | -235 <sup>42</sup>        | -419              | -235                          |
| Se(SiH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>  | 3097.054     | -673.408     | 2423.646         | -666 <sup>42</sup>        | -744              | -560                          |
| [P₃Se]⁺                             | 3094.294     | -218.928     | 2875.366         | -894 <sup>c)</sup>        | -1196             | -1012                         |

a) vs. Me<sub>2</sub>Se b) vs. SePMe<sub>3</sub> c) This work.

Table S 14 Calculated  $^{\rm 125}Te$  chemical shifts of  $[P_3Te]^{\scriptscriptstyle +}$  and various other known compounds.

| Compound                         | Diamagnetic  | Paramagnetic | Shielding Tensor | Observed [ppm]      | Corrected [ppm] <sup>a)</sup> | Corrected [ppm] <sup>b)</sup> |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                  | Contribution | Contribution | (calc.)          |                     |                               |                               |
|                                  | [ppm]        | [ppm]        | [ppm]            |                     |                               |                               |
| Me <sub>2</sub> Te               | 5749.458     | -3200.978    | 2548.48          | 0                   | 0                             | 418                           |
| [Te <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>2+</sup> | 5748.237     | -7555.736    | -1807.499        | 2811 <sup>42</sup>  | 4356                          | 4774                          |
| [TeCl₃]⁺                         | 5743.331     | -5411.198    | 332.133          | 1952 <sup>c)</sup>  | 2216                          | 2634                          |
| TePMe₃                           | 5752.981     | -2273.653    | 3479.328         | -513 <sup>42</sup>  | -931                          | -513                          |
| [P₃Te]⁺                          | 5749.847     | -195.196     | 5554.651         | -2212 <sup>c)</sup> | -3006                         | -2588                         |

a) vs. Me<sub>2</sub>Te b) vs. TePMe<sub>3</sub> c) This work.

# 4.4. Summary of the ab initio Reaction Enthalpies and Free Reaction Energies

| reaction  | theory [a] | basis set                  | level n               | ΔrH <sup>298</sup> (g) <sup>[b]</sup> | ΔrG <sup>298</sup> (g) <sup>[b]</sup> | Δ <sub>r</sub> G <sup>298</sup> (solv, CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ) <sup>[c]</sup> | ∆rG <sup>298</sup> (solv, o−DFB) <sup>[c]</sup> | ΔrG <sup>298</sup> (solv, SO <sub>2</sub> ) <sup>[c]</sup> |
|---|------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| $P_4 + [EF_3]^+ \rightarrow [P_3E]^+ + PF_3$  | DFT(BP86)  | def2-TZVPP                 | т                     | -515, (-519), [-378]                  | -519, (-522), [-380]                  | -477, (-468), [-319]  | -475, (-464), [-315]                            | -474, (-463), [-314]                                       |
| E = S, Se (in parentheses), Te (in brackets)  | MP2        | aug-cc-pVnZ (F, Se)        | т                     | -547, (-548), [-415]                  | -551, (-551), [-417]                  |   |   |  |
|   |            | aug-cc-pV(n+d)Z (P, S)     | Q                     | -546, (-548), [-421]                  | -550, (-551), [-423]                  |   |   |  |
|   |            | aug-cc-pwCVnZ (Te,)        | 5                     | -545, (-549), [-423]                  | –549, (–552), [–425]                  |   |   |  |
|   | CCSD(T)    |                            | т                     | –552, (–559), [–398]                  | –557, (–562), [–399]                  |   |   |  |
|   |            |                            | ∞(CBS) <sup>[d]</sup> | -550, (-560), [-407]                  | -554, (-563), [-408]                  |   |   |  |
| $P_4 + [ECI_3]^+ \rightarrow [P_3E]^+ + PCI_3$  | DFT(BP86)  | def2-TZVPP                 | Т                     | -315, (-267), [-151]                  | -319, (-270), [-154]                  | -324, (-269), [-143]  | -325, (-268), [-143]                            | -325, (-268), [-142]                                       |
| E = S, Se (in parentheses), Te (in brackets)  | MP2        | aug-cc-pVnZ (Se)           | Т                     | -339, (-291), [-182]                  | -344, (-295), [-185]                  |   |   |  |
|   |            | aug-cc-pV(n+d)Z (P, S, Cl) | Q                     | -338, (-292), [-183]                  | -343, (-295), [-185]                  |   |   |  |
|   |            | aug-cc-pwCVnZ (Te)         | 5                     | -338, (-292), [-183]                  | -342, (-295), [-186]                  |   |   |  |
|   | CCSD(T)    |                            | т                     | -341, (-291), [-166]                  | -345, (-295), [-166]                  |   |   |  |
|   |            |                            | ∞(CBS) <sup>[d]</sup> | -339, (-291), [-167]                  | –343, (–295), [–170]                  |   |   |  |
| $P_4 + [EBr_3]^+ \rightarrow [P_3E]^+ + PBr_3$  | DFT(BP86)  | def2-TZVPP                 | т                     | -249, (-192), [-88]                   | -253 , (-196), [-91]                  | –271, (–209), [–96]   | -272, (-210), [-97]                             | -273, (-210), [-97]  |
| E = S, Se (in parentheses), Te (in brackets)  | MP2        | aug-cc-pVnZ (Se, Br)       | Т                     | -260, (-206), [-111]                  | -264, (-210), [-113]                  |   |   |  |
|   |            | aug-cc-pV(n+d)Z (P, S)     | Q                     | -258, (-204), [-107]                  | -262, (-207), [-110]                  |   |   |  |
|   |            | aug-cc-pwCVnZ (Te)         | 5                     | -258, (-203), [-106]                  | -262, (-207), [-109]                  |   |   |  |
|   | CCSD(T)    |                            | Т                     | –265, (–210), [–102]                  | -269, (-213), [-104]                  |   |   |  |
|   |            |                            | ∞(CBS) <sup>[d]</sup> | –263, (–206), [–97]                   | –267, (–210), [–99]                   |   |   |  |
| $P_4 + [EI_3]^+ \rightarrow [P_3E]^+ + PI_3$  | DFT(BP86)  | def2-TZVPP                 | Т                     | –148, (–95), [–14]                    | -151, (-98), [-16]                    | –184, (–127), [–39]   | -186, (-129), [-41]                             | –187, (–129), [–41]  |
| E = S, Se (in parentheses), Te (in brackets)  | MP2        | aug-cc-pVnZ (Se)           | Т                     | –166, (–120), [–43]                   | –170, (–123), [–45]                   |   |   |  |
|   |            | aug-cc-pV(n+d)Z (P, S)     | Q                     | –169, (–121), [–41]                   | –173, (–123), [–43]                   |   |   |  |
|   |            | aug-cc-pwCVnZ (Te, I)      | 5                     | –170, (–121), [–40]                   | -174, (-124), [-42]                   |   |   |  |
|   | CCSD(T)    |                            | Т                     | –160, (–113), [–33]                   | –164, (–116), [–35]                   |   |   |  |
|   |            |                            | ∞(CBS) <sup>[d]</sup> | –165, (–115), [–29]                   | -168, (-118), [-32]                   |   |   |  |
| 5/4 P <sub>4</sub> + [SeCl <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> → [P <sub>5</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> + ½ Se <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> | DFT(BP86)  | def2-TZVPP                 | т                     | -273, (-231), [-132]                  | -242, (-200), [-101]                  | -227, (-182), [-84]   | -225, (-181), [-82]                             | -225, (-180), [-82]  |
|   | MP2        | aug-cc-pVnZ (Se)           | т                     | -300, (-259), [-160]                  | –270, (–228), [–130]                  |   |   |  |
|   |            | aug-cc-pV(n+d)Z (P, S, Cl) | Q                     | -300, (-260), [-162]                  | –270, (–229), [–131]                  |   |   |  |
|   |            | aug-cc-pwCVnZ (Te)         | 5                     | -300, (-260), [-163]                  | –270, (–230), [–132]                  |   |   |  |
|   | CCSD(T)    |                            | Т                     | –297, (–254), [–149]                  | -267, (-224), [-118]                  |   |   |  |
|   |            |                            | ∞(CBS) <sup>[d]</sup> | –297, (–256), [–152]                  | -267, (-226), [-121]                  |   |   |  |

Table S 15 Ab initio reaction enthalpies and free reaction energies for the formation of [P<sub>3</sub>E]<sup>+</sup> from P<sub>4</sub> and [EX<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> (E = S, Se, Te; X = F, Cl, Br, I) [<sup>µJ</sup><sub>mol</sub>].

<sup>[a]</sup> Start geometries from (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP calculations, except for the BP86/def2-TZVPP calculations. <sup>[b]</sup> Thermodynamics (enthalpy, entropy, chem. pot.) taken from BP86/def2-TZVPP calculations. <sup>[c]</sup> COSMO<sup>18</sup> energies optimized at BP86/def2-TZVPP level and with  $\varepsilon_r = 8.93$ , 13.38 and 16.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, *o*-dfb and SO<sub>2(1)</sub>). <sup>[d]</sup> SCF energies calculated on CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVnZ (n  $\rightarrow \infty$ , extrapolation of MP2/aug-cc-pVnZ energies (n = 3, 5)), corrected by the difference MP2/aug-cc-pvnZ - MP2/aug-cc-pvnZ (n = T). <sup>[f]</sup> Calculations with Se, Br, I and Te include a *frozen core approximation*.

# 4.5. Summary of the Calculated FIAs

**Table S 16** Ab initio FIAs of  $[P_3E]^+$  (E = S, Se, Te) and EX<sub>3</sub> (E = S, Se, Te and X = F, Cl, Br, I) [<sup>k]</sup>/<sub>mol</sub>]. The FIAs at DFT level were calculated relative to TMS<sup>+</sup>/TMS-F. The MP2 and CCSD(T) FIAs were calculated against F<sup>-</sup>. The FIAs at the BP86/def2-TZVPP level were calculated against BF<sub>3</sub>/[BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>.

|  | theory a) | basis set              | level n               | F                 | IA                |
|--|-----------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| [ <i>E</i> F <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>     | DFT(BP86) | def2-TZVPP             | Т                     | 902, (92          | 9), [936]         |
| E = S, Se (in parentheses), Te (in brackets) | MP2       | aug-cc-pVnZ (F, Se)    | Т                     | 904, (93          | 5), [952]         |
|  |           | aug-cc-pV(n+d)Z (P, S) | Q                     | 905, (93          | 7), [955]         |
|  |           | aug-cc-pwCVnZ (Te,)    | 5                     | 904, (93          | 7), [955]         |
|  | CCSD(T)   |                        | Т                     | 909, (93          | 9), [958]         |
|  |           |                        | ∞(CBS) <sup>[b]</sup> | 909, (94          | 1), [962]         |
| [ <i>E</i> Cl <sub>3</sub> ]+                | DFT(BP86) | def2-TZVPP             | Т                     | 772, (79          | 6), [825]         |
| E = S, Se (in parentheses), Te (in brackets) | MP2       | aug-cc-pVnZ (F, Se)    | Т                     | 774, (80          | 3), [839]         |
|  |           | aug-cc-pV(n+d)Z (P, S) | Q                     | 775, (80          | 6), [842]         |
|  |           | aug-cc-pwCVnZ (Te,)    | 5                     | 776, (80          | 6), [842]         |
|  | CCSD(T)   |                        | Т                     | 773, (80          | 0), [842]         |
|  |           |                        | ∞(CBS) <sup>[b]</sup> | 775, (80          | 3), [844]         |
| [ <i>E</i> Br <sub>3</sub> ]+                | DFT(BP86) | def2-TZVPP             | Т                     | 738, (75          | 9), [790]         |
| E = S, Se (in parentheses), Te (in brackets) | MP2       | aug-cc-pVnZ (F, Se)    | Т                     | 734, (762), [799] |                   |
|  |           | aug-cc-pV(n+d)Z (P, S) | Q                     | 736, (76          | 4), [801]         |
|  |           | aug-cc-pwCVnZ (Te,)    | 5                     | 737, (76          | 4), [801]         |
|  | CCSD(T)   |                        | Т                     | 732, (75          | 9), [803]         |
|  |           |                        | ∞(CBS) <sup>[b]</sup> | 735, (76          | 2), [805]         |
| [ <i>E</i> I <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>     | DFT(BP86) | def2-TZVPP             | Т                     | 680, (70          | 2), [736]         |
| E = S, Se (in parentheses), Te (in brackets) | MP2       | aug-cc-pVnZ (F, Se)    | Т                     | 678, (70          | 7), [748]         |
|  |           | aug-cc-pV(n+d)Z (P, S) | Q                     | 682, (71          | 1), [751]         |
|  |           | aug-cc-pwCVnZ (Te, I)  | 5                     | 683, (71          | .2), [752]        |
|  | CCSD(T)   |                        | Т                     | 669, (69          | 9), [749]         |
|  |           |                        | ∞(CBS) <sup>[b]</sup> | 675, (70          | 4), [753]         |
|  |           |                        |                       | F bound to E      | F bound to P      |
| [ <i>E</i> P <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>     | DFT(BP86) | def2-TZVPP             | т                     | 675, (696), [725] | 828, (820), [798] |
| E = S, Se (in parentheses), Te (in brackets) | MP2       | aug-cc-pVnZ (F, Se)    | Т                     | 650, (682), [713] | 806, (796), [775] |
|  |           | aug-cc-pV(n+d)Z (P, S) | Q                     | 652, (683), [714] | 810, (800), [779] |
|  |           | aug-cc-pwCVnZ (Te)     | 5                     | 652, (683), [714] | 811, (801), [779] |
|  | CCSD(T)   |                        | Т                     | 629, (662), [695] | 823, (813), [793] |
|  |           |                        | ∞(CBS)[b]             | 630 (663) [697]   | 828 (819) [798]   |

<sup>[a]</sup> Start geometries from (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP calculations. Thermodynamics (enthalpy, entropy, chem. pot.) taken from BP86/def2-TZVPP calculations. <sup>[b]</sup> SCF energies calculated on CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVnZ ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ , extrapolation of MP2/aug-cc-pVnZ energies (n = 4,5), corrected by the difference CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pvnZ - MP2/aug-cc-pvnZ (n = T). <sup>[c]</sup> Calculations with Se, Br, I and Te include a *frozen core approximation*.

# 4.5. Calculated Structures

#### $\mathbf{P}_4$



Symmetry: td Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Ρ   | 0.77533          | -0.77533        | 0.77533  |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Ρ   | -0.77533         | 0.77533         | 0.77533  |
| Ρ   | 0.77533          | 0.77533         | -0.77533 |
| Ρ   | -0.77533         | -0.77533        | -0.77533 |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -1363.067078418 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1363.7 | 7029056839      |          |

### AsP₃



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| P   | 0.63345         | 1.09717         | 0.48116  |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| As  | 0.00000         | 0.00000         | -1.44348 |
| Ρ   | 0.63345         | -1.09717        | 0.48116  |
| Ρ   | -1.26691        | 0.00000         | 0.48116  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -3256.563884965 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -3257. | 5884789784      |          |

#### **SbP**₃



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Ρ   | 0.63461            | 1.09918         | 0.53856  |
|-----|--------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Sb  | -0.00000           | 0.00000         | -1.61568 |
| P   | 0.63461            | -1.09918        | 0.53856  |
| P   | -1.26922           | 0.0000          | 0.53856  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =    | -1261.582143520 |          |
| MP2 | energy = $-1262$ . | 6538589001      |          |

# [P₃S]⁺



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Р   | 0.63555            | 1.10081         | 0.43279  |
|-----|--------------------|-----------------|----------|
| S   | -0.00000           | 0.00000         | -1.29836 |
| P   | 0.63555            | -1.10081        | 0.43279  |
| P   | -1.27111           | 0.00000         | 0.43279  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =    | -1419.596182330 |          |
| MP2 | energy = $-1420$ . | 2404138005      |          |
|     |                    |                 |          |

# [P₃Se]⁺



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| P   | 0.63656         | 1.10255         | 0.47323  |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Se  | -0.00000        | 0.00000         | -1.41970 |
| Ρ   | 0.63656         | -1.10255        | 0.47323  |
| Ρ   | -1.27311        | 0.00000         | 0.47323  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -3421.942402114 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -3422. | 9730481223      |          |

# [P₃Te]⁺



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Ρ   | 0.63764         | 1.10443         | 0.52853  |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Te  | 0.00000         | 0.00000         | -1.58559 |
| Ρ   | 0.63764         | -1.10443        | 0.52853  |
| Ρ   | -1.27529        | 0.00000         | 0.52853  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -1289.063170096 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1290. | 1524017732      |          |

#### PF₃



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Ρ   |        | 0.00000  | 0.00000         | 0.58047  |
|-----|--------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| F   | -      | -0.68228 | 1.18175         | -0.19349 |
| F   | -      | -0.68228 | -1.18175        | -0.19349 |
| F   |        | 1.36456  | 0.00000         | -0.19349 |
| SCF | energy | GEOOPT = | -639.3445880081 |          |
|     |        |          |                 |          |

#### **PCI**₃



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Ρ   | 0.00000          | 0.00000         | 0.70994  |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Cl  | -0.90213         | 1.56254         | -0.23665 |
| Cl  | -0.90213         | -1.56254        | -0.23665 |
| Cl  | 1.80426          | 0.00000         | -0.23665 |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -1719.402222907 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1720.3 | 1886694738      |          |

### PBr₃



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Ρ   | -0.00000        | 0.00000         | 0.75608  |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Br  | -0.98597        | 1.70776         | -0.25203 |
| Br  | -0.98597        | -1.70776        | -0.25203 |
| Br  | 1.97195         | 0.00000         | -0.25203 |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -8058.220453760 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -8058. | 9183991847      |          |

#### Pl₃



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Ρ   | 0.00000         | 0.00000         | 0.81269  |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| I   | -1.08337        | 1.87646         | -0.27093 |
| I   | -1.08337        | -1.87646        | -0.27093 |
| I   | 2.16674         | 0.00000         | -0.27093 |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -1230.799755261 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1232. | 9698343736      |          |

## [SF₃]⁺



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| S   | 0.00000         | 0.00000         | -0.52667 |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| F   | -0.66201        | -1.14663        | 0.17555  |
| F   | -0.66201        | 1.14663         | 0.17555  |
| F   | 1.32402         | 0.00000         | 0.17555  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -695.6471730545 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -696.  | 6496574985      |          |
|     |                 |                 |          |

### [SCI₃]<sup>+</sup>



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| S   | -0.00000        | 0.00000         | -0.61569 |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Cl  | -0.88744        | -1.53709        | 0.20525  |
| Cl  | -0.88744        | 1.53709         | 0.20525  |
| Cl  | 1.77487         | 0.00000         | 0.20525  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -1775.783065302 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1776. | 5976948753      |          |

### [SBr<sub>3</sub>]⁺



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| S   | -0.00000        | 0.00000         | -0.65443 |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Br  | -0.97021        | -1.68045        | 0.21816  |
| Br  | -0.97021        | 1.68045         | 0.21816  |
| Br  | 1.94042         | 0.00000         | 0.21816  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -8114.628041487 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -8116. | 5946026567      |          |

## [SI₃]⁺



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| S   | -0.00000        | 0.00000         | -0.70194 |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| I   | -1.07972        | -1.87013        | 0.23400  |
| I   | -1.07972        | 1.87013         | 0.23400  |
| I   | 2.15944         | 0.0000          | 0.23400  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -1287.255436542 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1289. | 4427905296      |          |

## [SeF<sub>3</sub>]⁺



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Se  | 0.00000          | 0.00000         | -0.61160 |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| F   | -0.71340         | -1.23565        | 0.20387  |
| F   | -0.71340         | 1.23565         | 0.20387  |
| F   | 1.42680          | 0.00000         | 0.20387  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -2697.985265572 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -2699.3 | 3735999986      |          |
|     |                  |                 |          |

# [SeCl₃]⁺



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Se  | -0.00000        | 0.0000          | 0.70201  |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Cl  | 0.92968         | 1.61025         | -0.23400 |
| Cl  | 0.92968         | -1.61025        | -0.23400 |
| Cl  | -1.85936        | 0.00000         | -0.23400 |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -3778.152916852 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -3779. | 3450663577      |          |

## [SeBr<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Se  | 0.00000          | 0.00000         | 0.73929  |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Br  | 1.00845          | 1.74668         | -0.24643 |
| Br  | 1.00845          | -1.74668        | -0.24643 |
| Br  | -2.01690         | 0.00000         | -0.24643 |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -10117.00146557 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -10119. | 3455455125      |          |

# [Sel₃]⁺



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Se  | -0.00000         | 0.00000         | 0.78966  |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| I   | 1.11421          | 1.92988         | -0.26321 |
| I   | 1.11421          | -1.92988        | -0.26321 |
| I   | -2.22843         | 0.00000         | -0.26321 |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -3289.625419316 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -3292.2 | 1930414921      |          |

# [TeF₃]⁺



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Te  | 0.0000          | 0.00000         | -0.70531 |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| F   | -0.77048        | -1.33452        | 0.23510  |
| F   | -0.77048        | 1.33452         | 0.23510  |
| F   | 1.54097         | 0.00000         | 0.23510  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -565.1705287044 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -566   | .6086084124     |          |

# [TeCl₃]<sup>+</sup>



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Те  | -0       | .00000  | 0.00000         | 0.80716  |
|-----|----------|---------|-----------------|----------|
| Cl  | 0        | .98197  | 1.70082         | -0.26906 |
| Cl  | 0        | .98197  | -1.70082        | -0.26906 |
| Cl  | -1       | .96394  | 0.00000         | -0.26906 |
| SCF | energy G | EOOPT = | -1645.332485487 |          |
| MP2 | energy = | -1646.  | 5706539690      |          |

# [TeBr<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Te  | -0.00000        | 0.00000         | 0.84307  |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Br  | 1.05919         | 1.83458         | -0.28102 |
| Br  | 1.05919         | -1.83458        | -0.28102 |
| Br  | -2.11839        | 0.00000         | -0.28102 |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -7984.175909954 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -7986. | 5674067110      |          |

# [Tel₃]⁺



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Te | 0.00000           | 0.00000         | 0.89615  |
|----|-------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Ι  | 1.16300           | 2.01438         | -0.29871 |
| I  | 1.16300           | -2.01438        | -0.29871 |
| Ι  | -2.32600          | 0.00000         | -0.29871 |
| SC | F energy GEOOPT = | -1156.786949206 |          |
| MP | 2 energy = -1159  | .4051524298     |          |
|    |                   |                 |          |

#### $SF_4$



Symmetry: c2v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| S   |        | 0.00000  | 0.00000         | 0.43428  |
|-----|--------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| F   |        | 0.00000  | 1.64436         | 0.32706  |
| F   |        | 0.00000  | -1.64436        | 0.32706  |
| F   | -      | 1.19955  | 0.00000         | -0.54358 |
| F   |        | 1.19955  | 0.00000         | -0.54358 |
| SCF | energy | GEOOPT = | -795.4251765166 |          |
| MP2 | energy | = -796.  | .7480862434     |          |

SCl₃F



Symmetry: cs Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| S   | 0.17176         | -0.47012        | 0.00000  |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Cl  | -0.46339        | 0.55982         | 1.58949  |
| Cl  | 2.05599         | 0.66368         | 0.00000  |
| Cl  | -0.46339        | 0.55982         | -1.58949 |
| F   | -1.30098        | -1.31321        | 0.00000  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -1875.507308586 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1876. | 6474607386      |          |

#### SBr₃F



Symmetry: cs Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| S   | 0.16265          | -0.50779        | 0.00000  |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Br  | -0.53198         | 0.59928         | 1.74003  |
| Br  | 2.23004          | 0.67807         | 0.00000  |
| Br  | -0.53198         | 0.59928         | -1.74003 |
| F   | -1.32873         | -1.36884        | 0.00000  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -8214.337105155 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -8215.3 | 3897428261      |          |

### SI₃F



Symmetry: cs Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| S   | 0.16224          | -0.54552        | 0.00000  |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| I   | -0.61424         | 0.64145         | 1.90305  |
| I   | 2.42900          | 0.71091         | 0.00000  |
| I   | -0.61424         | 0.64145         | -1.90305 |
| F   | -1.36275         | -1.44831        | 0.00000  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -1386.934803357 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1389.4 | 1570682528      |          |
|     |                  |                 |          |

#### SeF<sub>4</sub>



Symmetry: c2v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Se  | 0.00000            | 0.00000         | 0.49782  |
|-----|--------------------|-----------------|----------|
| F   | 0.00000            | 1.75777         | 0.32735  |
| F   | 1.29191            | 0.00000         | -0.57626 |
| F   | -1.29191           | 0.00000         | -0.57626 |
| F   | 0.00000            | -1.75777        | 0.32735  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =    | -2797.782316891 |          |
| MP2 | energy = $-2799$ . | 4854201337      |          |

#### **SeCl**<sub>3</sub>F



Symmetry: cs Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Se  | 0.21279         | -0.51567        | 0.0000   |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Cl  | -0.48746        | 0.59519         | 1.65968  |
| Cl  | 2.14469         | 0.70648         | 0.0000   |
| Cl  | -0.48746        | 0.59519         | -1.65968 |
| F   | -1.38255        | -1.38119        | 0.0000   |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -3877.892323228 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -3879. | 4043423624      |          |
|     |                 |                 |          |

### SeBr<sub>3</sub>F



Symmetry: cs Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Se  | 0.20106          | -0.55098        | 0.00000  |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Br  | -0.55704         | 0.63590         | 1.80249  |
| Br  | 2.31903          | 0.71684         | 0.00000  |
| Br  | -0.55704         | 0.63590         | -1.80249 |
| F   | -1.40601         | -1.43766        | 0.00000  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -10216.72510273 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -10218. | 1486367568      |          |

#### Sel₃F



Symmetry: cs

Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Se  | 0.19696         | -0.59245        | 0.00000  |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| I   | -0.64074        | 0.67949         | 1.96197  |
| I   | 2.51604         | 0.74729         | 0.00000  |
| I   | -0.64074        | 0.67949         | -1.96197 |
| F   | -1.43151        | -1.51381        | 0.00000  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -3389.321247102 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -3392. | 2153983778      |          |

#### $TeF_4$



#### Symmetry: c2v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Te  | 0.00000         | 0.00000         | 0.57926  |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| F   | 0.00000         | 1.88591         | 0.31455  |
| F   | 0.00000         | -1.88591        | 0.31455  |
| F   | 1.40191         | 0.00000         | -0.60418 |
| F   | -1.40191        | 0.00000         | -0.60418 |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -664.9799163922 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -666.  | 7279052716      |          |

### TeCl₃F



Symmetry: cs Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Те  | 0.25786         | -0.59099        | 0.00000  |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Cl  | -0.50665        | 0.62921         | 1.75839  |
| Cl  | 2.23958         | 0.77060         | 0.00000  |
| Cl  | -0.50665        | 0.62921         | -1.75839 |
| F   | -1.48413        | -1.43803        | 0.00000  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -1745.094796313 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1746. | 6469959305      |          |

#### TeBr<sub>3</sub>F



Symmetry: cs Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Te  | 0.24469         | -0.62582        | 0.00000  |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Br  | -0.57742        | 0.66911         | 1.89883  |
| Br  | 2.41126         | 0.78225         | 0.00000  |
| Br  | -0.57742        | 0.66911         | -1.89883 |
| F   | -1.50111        | -1.49465        | 0.00000  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -8083.924647844 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -8085. | 3876401495      |          |

#### Tel₃F



Symmetry: cs Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Те  | 0.53130          | -0.47530        | 0.00000  |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| F   | 2.02439          | 0.81193         | 0.00000  |
| I   | -0.40735         | 0.88268         | -2.05984 |
| I   | -1.74100         | -2.10198        | 0.00000  |
| I   | -0.40735         | 0.88268         | 2.05984  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -1256.511764713 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1259.4 | 470591743       |          |
|     |                  |                 |          |

# P<sub>3</sub>SF (via S)



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Ρ   | -0.61958         | 1.07314         | -1.13138 |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Ρ   | -0.61958         | -1.07314        | -1.13138 |
| S   | -0.00000         | 0.00000         | 0.82794  |
| Ρ   | 1.23915          | 0.00000         | -1.13138 |
| F   | 0.00000          | 0.00000         | 2.56621  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -1519.240357574 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1520.2 | 2412320833      |          |
|     |                  |                 |          |

# P<sub>3</sub>SF (via P)



Symmetry: cs Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Ρ   | 0.52160          | -0.90473        | 0.00000  |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Ρ   | -0.53421         | 0.71091         | -1.08689 |
| S   | 1.03148          | 1.66214         | 0.00000  |
| Ρ   | -0.53421         | 0.71091         | 1.08689  |
| F   | -0.48466         | -2.17924        | 0.00000  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -1519.364222372 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1520.3 | 047858058       |          |
|     |                  |                 |          |

# P<sub>3</sub>SeF (via Se)



| Ρ   | -0.62186        | 1.07708         | -1.21041 |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Ρ   | -0.62186        | -1.07708        | -1.21041 |
| Se  | -0.00000        | 0.00000         | 0.88748  |
| Ρ   | 1.24371         | 0.00000         | -1.21041 |
| F   | 0.00000         | 0.00000         | 2.74378  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -3521.604558461 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -3522. | 9841975536      |          |

### P<sub>3</sub>SeF (via P)



Symmetry: cs Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| 2 0.00000  |
|------------|
| 6 -1.09074 |
| 7 0.00000  |
| 6 1.09074  |
| 8 0.00000  |
| 6269       |
|            |
|            |

# P<sub>3</sub>TeF (via Te)



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Ρ   | -0.62533         | 1.08310         | -1.31131 |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Ρ   | -0.62533         | -1.08310        | -1.31131 |
| Te  | -0.00000         | 0.00000         | 0.96934  |
| Ρ   | 1.25066          | 0.00000         | -1.31131 |
| F   | 0.0000           | 0.00000         | 2.96458  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -1388.748483864 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1390.1 | 797269530       |          |
|     |                  |                 |          |

# P₃TeF (via P)



Symmetry: cs Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| P<br>P | 0.50926<br>-0.60704 | -0.93597<br>0.63569 | 0.00000<br>-1.09510 |
|--------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Te     | 1.21581             | 1.86894             | 0.00000             |
| P      | -0.60704            | 0.63569             | 1.09510             |
| F      | -0.51100            | -2.20435            | 0.00000             |
| SCF    | energy GEOOPT =     | -1388.822205146     |                     |
| MP2    | energy = -1390.     | 2040261481          |                     |

#### Me<sub>2</sub>Se



Symmetry: c2v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Se  | 0.00000          | 0.00000         | -1.30131 |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| С   | 0.00000          | 1.42945         | -0.00814 |
| С   | 0.00000          | -1.42945        | -0.00814 |
| Н   | 0.00000          | -2.36469        | -0.55894 |
| Н   | -0.89130         | -1.37472        | 0.60887  |
| Н   | 0.89130          | -1.37472        | 0.60887  |
| Н   | 0.00000          | 2.36469         | -0.55894 |
| Н   | 0.89130          | 1.37472         | 0.60887  |
| Н   | -0.89130         | 1.37472         | 0.60887  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -2479.150007494 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -2480.2 | 1129483396      |          |
|     |                  |                 |          |

### $SeMeCl_2{}^+$



Symmetry: cs Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Se  | -1.08       | 3512     | -0.48871     | 0.00000  |
|-----|-------------|----------|--------------|----------|
| С   | 0.81        | 274      | -0.26526     | 0.00000  |
| Cl  | -1.54       | 1712     | 0.73617      | -1.62925 |
| Cl  | -1.54       | 1712     | 0.73617      | 1.62925  |
| Н   | 1.17        | 7286     | -0.75926     | -0.89982 |
| Н   | 1.17        | 7286     | -0.75926     | 0.89982  |
| Н   | 1.02        | 2091     | 0.80013      | 0.00000  |
| SCF | energy GEOO | )PT = -3 | 3358.2891637 | 32       |
| MP2 | energy =    | 3359.46  | 20268721     |          |

#### Se(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>



Symmetry: c2v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Ene | rgy =      |            |            |
|-----|------------|------------|------------|
| Se  | 0.0000000  | 0.000000   | -1.3468095 |
| С   | 0.000000   | -1.4503982 | -0.0469281 |
| С   | 0.000000   | 1.4503982  | -0.0469281 |
| F   | 1.0731612  | -1.4410846 | 0.7356622  |
| F   | 0.0000000  | -2.5832303 | -0.7509916 |
| F   | -1.0731612 | -1.4410846 | 0.7356622  |
|     |            |            |            |

| F   | 1.073  | 31612  | 1.4410846     | 0.7356622  |
|-----|--------|--------|---------------|------------|
| F   | -1.073 | 31612  | 1.4410846     | 0.7356622  |
| F   | 0.000  | 00000  | 2.5832303     | -0.7509916 |
| SCF | energy | GEOOPT | = -3072.569   | 9736896    |
| MP2 | energy | = -30  | 75.1050476034 | 1          |

#### MeSeCN



Symmetry: cs Method: /def2-QZVPP

| Se  | -0.41323         | -1.29717        | 0.00000  |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| С   | 1.01147          | 0.01465         | 0.00000  |
| Н   | 0.94715          | 0.62044         | -0.89502 |
| Н   | 1.93274          | -0.55935        | 0.00000  |
| Н   | 0.94715          | 0.62044         | 0.89502  |
| С   | -1.77038         | -0.08525        | 0.00000  |
| Ν   | -2.65491         | 0.68624         | 0.00000  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -2531.854678147 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -2532.9 | 9790266701      |          |

#### H₂Se



Symmetry: c2v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Se  | 0.00000         | 0.00000         | -0.67652 |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Н   | 1.03391         | 0.00000         | 0.33826  |
| Н   | -1.03391        | 0.00000         | 0.33826  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -2401.052160098 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -2401. | .6429487139     |          |
|     |                 |                 |          |

#### SePMe<sub>3</sub>



Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| С   | -0.8228295     | 1.4251825    | -0.1679190 |
|-----|----------------|--------------|------------|
| Ρ   | 0.0000000      | 0.000000     | 0.5805672  |
| С   | -0.8228295     | -1.4251825   | -0.1679190 |
| С   | 1.6456590      | 0.000000     | -0.1679190 |
| Se  | 0.0000000      | 0.000000     | 2.6537352  |
| Н   | -0.7911668     | -1.3703411   | -1.2549108 |
| Н   | -1.8550720     | -1.4480027   | 0.1723645  |
| Н   | -0.3264711     | -2.3305408   | 0.1723645  |
| Н   | -0.7911668     | 1.3703411    | -1.2549108 |
| Н   | -0.3264711     | 2.3305408    | 0.1723645  |
| Н   | -1.8550720     | 1.4480027    | 0.1723645  |
| Н   | 1.5823336      | 0.000000     | -1.2549108 |
| Н   | 2.1815431      | -0.8825382   | 0.1723645  |
| Н   | 2.1815431      | 0.8825382    | 0.1723645  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT  | = -2859.60   | 0951659    |
| MP2 | energy = $-28$ | 60.917046480 | 9          |
|     |                |              |            |

# Se(SiH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>



Symmetry: c2v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Se  | 0.00000          | 0.00000         | -1.57261 |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Si  | 0.00000          | 1.66537         | -0.03989 |
| Si  | 0.00000          | -1.66537        | -0.03989 |
| Н   | 0.00000          | -2.92556        | -0.79935 |
| Н   | -1.19947         | -1.58300        | 0.81277  |
| Н   | 1.19947          | -1.58300        | 0.81277  |
| Н   | 0.00000          | 2.92556         | -0.79935 |
| Н   | 1.19947          | 1.58300         | 0.81277  |
| Н   | -1.19947         | 1.58300         | 0.81277  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -2981.335228354 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -2982.1 | 907236972       |          |
|     |                  |                 |          |

### Me<sub>2</sub>Te



Symmetry: c2v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Te  | 0.00000         | 0.00000         | -1.45151 |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| С   | 0.00000         | 1.53725         | 0.00641  |
| С   | 0.00000         | -1.53725        | 0.00641  |
| Н   | 0.00000         | -2.48829        | -0.51720 |
| Н   | -0.89215        | -1.45970        | 0.61827  |
| Н   | 0.89215         | -1.45970        | 0.61827  |
| Н   | 0.00000         | 2.48829         | -0.51720 |
| Н   | 0.89215         | 1.45970         | 0.61827  |
| Н   | -0.89215        | 1.45970         | 0.61827  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -346.2578073340 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -347.2 | 726194206       |          |
|     |                 |                 |          |

# [Te<sub>4</sub>]<sup>2+</sup>



Symmetry: d4h Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Te  | -      | -1.36499 | 1.36499         | 0.00000 |
|-----|--------|----------|-----------------|---------|
| Te  | -      | -1.36499 | -1.36499        | 0.00000 |
| Te  |        | 1.36499  | -1.36499        | 0.00000 |
| Te  |        | 1.36499  | 1.36499         | 0.00000 |
| SCF | energy | GEOOPT = | -1068.092609019 |         |
| MP2 | energy | = -1070. | .5670094398     |         |

#### **TePMe**₃



#### Symmetry: c3v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| С   | -0.82306        | 1.42558         | -0.18540 |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Ρ   | 0.00000         | 0.00000         | 0.56614  |
| С   | -0.82306        | -1.42558        | -0.18540 |
| С   | 1.64612         | 0.00000         | -0.18540 |
| Te  | 0.00000         | 0.00000         | 2.86309  |
| Н   | -0.78845        | -1.36563        | -1.27249 |
| Н   | -1.85575        | -1.44934        | 0.15326  |
| Н   | -0.32729        | -2.33180        | 0.15326  |
| Н   | -0.78845        | 1.36563         | -1.27249 |
| Н   | -0.32729        | 2.33180         | 0.15326  |
| Н   | -1.85575        | 1.44934         | 0.15326  |
| Н   | 1.57690         | 0.00000         | -1.27249 |
| Н   | 2.18304         | -0.88246        | 0.15326  |
| Н   | 2.18304         | 0.88246         | 0.15326  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -726.7071294447 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -728.0 | 734716541       |          |
|     |                 |                 |          |

#### $S_2Cl_2$



#### Symmetry: c2 Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| S   | -0.81805         | -0.52299        | -0.71842 |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| S   | 0.81805          | 0.52299         | -0.71842 |
| Cl  | -0.62072         | -1.96494        | 0.71842  |
| Cl  | 0.62072          | 1.96494         | 0.71842  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -1714.143827253 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1714.9 | 424733878       |          |

#### $Se_2Cl_2$



Symmetry: c2 Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Se  | -      | -0.94280 | -0.58338        | -0.76409 |
|-----|--------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| Se  |        | 0.94280  | 0.58338         | -0.76409 |
| Cl  | -      | -0.65261 | -2.08667        | 0.76409  |
| Cl  |        | 0.65261  | 2.08667         | 0.76409  |
| SCF | energy | GEOOPT = | -5718.850709283 |          |
| MP2 | energy | = -5720. | 4105670680      |          |

### $Te_2Cl_2$



Symmetry: c2 Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Te  | -1.09853        | -0.67491        | -0.81994 |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Te  | 1.09853         | 0.67491         | -0.81994 |
| Cl  | -0.71070        | -2.29274        | 0.81994  |
| Cl  | 0.71070         | 2.29274         | 0.81994  |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -1453.121652427 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -1454. | 7785110059      |          |
|     |                 |                 |          |

### $[P_5Cl_2]^+$



Symmetry: c2v Method: (RIJ)MP2/def2-QZVPP

| Ρ   | 0.00000          | -1.56593        | 0.63671  |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Ρ   | 1.10005          | 0.00000         | 1.81483  |
| Ρ   | -1.10005         | 0.00000         | 1.81483  |
| Ρ   | 0.00000          | 1.56593         | 0.63671  |
| Ρ   | 0.00000          | 0.00000         | -0.82321 |
| Cl  | -1.56134         | 0.00000         | -2.03994 |
| Cl  | 1.56134          | 0.00000         | -2.03994 |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT =  | -2622.664846296 |          |
| MP2 | energy = -2623.8 | 3698308909      |          |
|     |                  |                 |          |

# $[P_3Se_4]^+$



Symmetry: cs Method: (rij)b-p/def2-TZVPP

| Se  | 0.95278         | -0.74219        | -1.78153 |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Se  | -2.02771        | -0.85849        | 0.00000  |
| P   | 0.01379         | -1.83351        | 0.00000  |
| Se  | 0.95278         | -0.74219        | 1.78153  |
| Se  | -1.39215        | 1.42571         | 0.00000  |
| P   | 0.75026         | 1.37533         | 1.12480  |
| P   | 0.75026         | 1.37533         | -1.12480 |
| SCF | energy GEOOPT = | -10631.50269417 |          |
|     |                 |                 |          |

#### **References to the Supporting Information**

#### References

- 1 P. Weis, H. Scherer and I. Krossing, Z. Anorg. Allg. Chem., 2019, 645, 64.
- 2 T. A. Engesser, P. Hrobárik, N. Trapp, P. Eiden, H. Scherer, M. Kaupp and I. Krossing, *ChemPlusChem*, 2012, **77**, 643.
- 3 M. Gonsior, I. Krossing and N. Mitzel, Z. anorg. allg. Chem., 2002, 628, 1821.
- 4 G. R. Fulmer, A. J. M. Miller, N. H. Sherden, H. E. Gottlieb, A. Nudelman, B. M. Stoltz, J. E. Bercaw and K. I. Goldberg, *Organometallics*, 2010, **29**, 2176.
- 5 R. K. Harris, E. D. Becker, S. M. Cabral de Menezes, R. Goodfellow and P. Granger, *Pure Appl. Chem.*, 2001, **73**, 1795.
- 6 G. M. Sheldrick, Acta Crystallogr., Sect. A: Found. Crystallogr., 2015, 71, 3.
- 7 G. M. Sheldrick, Acta Crystallogr., Sect. C: Cryst. Struct. Commun., 2015, 71, 3.
- 8 C. B. Hübschle, G. M. Sheldrick and B. Dittrich, J. Appl. Crystallogr., 2011, 44, 1281.
- 9 a) D. Kratzert, J. J. Holstein and I. Krossing, J. Appl. Crystallogr., 2015, 48, 933; b) D. Kratzert and I. Krossing, J. Appl. Crystallogr., 2018, 51, 928;
- 10 L. J. Bourhis, O. V. Dolomanov, R. J. Gildea, J. A. K. Howard and H. Puschmann, *Acta Crystallogr., Sect. A: Found. Crystallogr.*, 2015, **71**, 59.
- 11 a) R. Ahlrichs, M. Bär, M. Häser, H. Horn and C. Kölmel, *Chem. Phys. Lett.*, 1989, **162**, 165; b) O. Treutler and R. Ahlrichs, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 1995, **102**, 346;
- 12 a) F. Neese, WIREs Comput Mol Sci, 2012, 2, 73; b) F. Neese, WIREs Comput Mol Sci, 2018, 8, e1327;
- 13 a) A. D. Becke, J. Chem. Phys., 1993, 98, 5648; b) C. Lee, W. Yang and R. G. Parr, Phys. Rev. B, 1988, 37, 785; c) S. H. Vosko, L. Wilk and M. Nusair, Can. J. Phys., 1980, 58, 1200; d) P. J. Stephens, F. J. Devlin, C. F. Chabalowski and M. J. Frisch, J. Phys. Chem., 1994, 98, 11623;
- 14 a) R. Ahlrichs, *PCCP*, 2004, 6, 5119; b) M. Sierka, A. Hogekamp and R. Ahlrichs, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 2003, 118, 9136;
- 15 a) F. Weigend and R. Ahlrichs, PCCP, 2005, 7, 3297; b) F. Weigend, PCCP, 2006, 8, 1057;
- 16 A. Hellweg, C. Hättig, S. Höfener and W. Klopper, Theor. Chem. Acc., 2007, 117, 587.
- 17 a) P. Deglmann and F. Furche, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 2002, **117**, 9535; b) P. Deglmann, F. Furche and R. Ahlrichs, *Chem. Phys. Lett.*, 2002, **362**, 511; c) P. Deglmann, K. May, F. Furche and R. Ahlrichs, *Chem. Phys. Lett.*, 2004, **384**, 103;
- 18 A. Klamt and G. Schüürmann, J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 2, 1993, 799.

- 19 D. R. Lide, *CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics*, Taylor and Francis Group LLC, 87th edn., 2007.
- 20 A. E. Reed, R. B. Weinstock and F. Weinhold, J. Chem. Phys., 1985, 83, 735.
- 21 C. Ehrhardt and R. Ahlrichs, Theoret. Chim. Acta, 1985, 68, 231.
- 22 R. F. W. Bader, Acc. Chem. Res., 1985, 18, 9.
- 23 M. Head-Gordon, J. A. Pople and M. J. Frisch, Chem. Phys. Lett., 1988, 153, 503.
- 24 a) F. Weigend, *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*, 2006, 8, 1057; b) F. Weigend and R. Ahlrichs, *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*, 2005, 7, 3297;
- 25 a) T. H. Dunning, J. Chem. Phys., 1989, 90, 1007; b) R. A. Kendall, T. H. Dunning and R. J. Harrison, J. Chem. Phys., 1992, 96, 6796; c) K. A. Peterson, D. E. Woon and T. H. Dunning, J. Chem. Phys., 1994, 100, 7410; d) A. K. Wilson, T. van Mourik and T. H. Dunning, J. Mol. Struc. THEOCHEM, 1996, 388, 339; e) D. E. Woon and T. H. Dunning, J. Chem. Phys., 1993, 98, 1358;
- 26 a) F. Weigend, A. Köhn and C. Hättig, J. Chem. Phys., 2002, 116, 3175; b) C. Hättig, Phys. Chem.
   Chem. Phys., 2005, 7, 59;
- 27 K. A. Peterson, J. Chem. Phys., 2003, 119, 11099.
- 28 C. Hättig, G. Schmitz and J. Kossmann, PCCP, 2012, 14, 6549.
- 29 A. J. Austin, M. J. Frisch, J. A. Montgomery and G. A. Petersson, *Theor. Chem. Acc.*, 2002, **107**, 180.
- 30 T. Lu and F. Chen, J. Comput. Chem., 2012, 33, 580.
- 31 K. Wolinski, J. F. Hinton and P. Pulay, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 1990, 112, 8251.
- 32 a) T. Nakajima and K. Hirao, *Chem. Rev.*, 2012, **112**, 385; b) M. Reiher and A. Wolf, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 2004, **121**, 2037;
- 33 a) W. A. de Jong, R. J. Harrison and D. A. Dixon, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 2001, **114**, 48; b) D. H. Bross and K. A. Peterson, *Theoret. Chim. Acta*, 2013, **133**, 1434;
- 34 A. Martens, P. Weis, M. C. Krummer, M. Kreuzer, A. Meierhöfer, S. C. Meier, J. Bohnenberger, H. Scherer, I. Riddlestone and I. Krossing, *Chem. Sci.*, 2018, **45**, 789.
- 35 W. Sawodny and K. Dehnicke, Z. Anorg. Allg. Chem., 1967, 349, 169.
- 36 C.-W. Hsu, Y.-C. Tsai, B. M. Cossairt, C. Camp, J. Arnold and C. C. Cummins, in *Inorganic syntheses*. *Volume 37*, ed. P. P. Power, John Wiley and Sons Inc, Hoboken, NJ, 2018, vol. 49, pp. 123–134.
- 37 B. M. Cossairt, M.-C. Diawara and C. C. Cummins, Science, 2009, 323, 602.
- 38 S. G. Frankiss, J. Mol. Struct., 1968, 2, 271.
- 39 A. Bihlmeier, M. Gonsior, I. Raabe, N. Trapp and I. Krossing, Chem. Eur. J., 2004, 10, 5041.
- 40 A. Wiesner, S. Steinhauer, H. Beckers, C. Müller and S. Riedel, Chem. Sci., 2018, 9, 7169.
- 41 a) I. Krossing and L. van Wüllen, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2002, **8**, 700; b) I. Krossing, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2001, **123**, 4603; c) L. C. Forfar, T. J. Clark, M. Green, S. M. Mansell, C. A. Russell, R. A.

Sanguramath and J. M. Slattery, *Chem. Commun.*, 2012, **48**, 1970; d) G. Santiso-Quiñones, A. Reisinger, J. Slattery and I. Krossing, *Chem. Commun.*, 2007, 5046;

42 H. Duddeck, in *eMagRes*, ed. R. K. Harris, Wiley, S.I., 2007, vol. 19, p. 1.