

# Supplementary Material

## for the paper

### **An Inorganic Propellane with Central B–B Bond**

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and Matthias Wagner

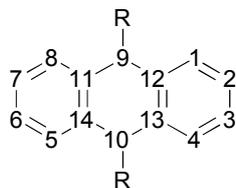
*Content:*

1. Syntheses and NMR-spectroscopic Data of 9,10-Dilithio-9,10-dihydroanthracene,  
1-*Iso*-propyl-2-mercaptoimidazole and Compounds **1-5**
2. Single Crystal X-ray Structure Analyses of Compounds **1-5** and 1-*Iso*-propyl-2-mercaptoimidazole

## 1. Syntheses and NMR-spectroscopic Data of 9,10-Dilithio-9,10-dihydroanthracene, 1-*Iso*-propyl-2-mercaptoimidazole and Compounds 1-5

All reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of dry nitrogen using Schlenk techniques or in an argon-filled glovebox (MBraun). Pentane, hexane, benzene, toluene and THF were dried over Na/benzophenone; chloroform was dried over CaH<sub>2</sub>. All reaction solvents were freshly distilled prior to use. C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> was dried over Na/K alloy; CDCl<sub>3</sub> was dried over CaH<sub>2</sub>. NMR solvents were stored over molecular sieves (3 Å). NMR: Bruker AM-250, DPX-250, Avance300 and Avance400; all NMR spectra were measured at room temperature. Chemical shifts are referenced to residual solvent peaks (<sup>1</sup>H / <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}); C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>: 7.16 ppm / 128.06 ppm; CDCl<sub>3</sub>: 7.26 ppm / 77.16 ppm), external BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O (<sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H}) or external CFCI<sub>3</sub> (<sup>19</sup>F{<sup>1</sup>H}). Abbreviations: s = singlet, d = doublet, dd = doublet of doublets, vtrd = virtual triplet of doublets, sep = septet, m = multiplet, br = broad, n.r. = not fully resolved, n.o. = signal not observed, mt = 2-mercaptoimidazolyl.

NMR resonances of the 9,10-dihydroanthracene framework have been assigned according to the following numbering scheme:



**Synthesis of 9,10-Dilithio-9,10-dihydroanthracene.** *n*-BuLi in hexane (2.20 M, 55.5 mL, 122.1 mmol) was added at r.t. to a solution of 9,10-dihydroanthracene (10.00 g, 55.48 mmol) in benzene (150 mL). The reaction mixture was heated to reflux temperature for 12 h, whereupon a dark purple precipitate formed. The mixture was allowed to cool to r.t., the precipitate was collected on a frit, washed with benzene (2 × 20 mL) and pentane (2 × 25 mL) and dried *in vacuo*. Yield: 8.75 g (82%).

**Synthesis of 1.** In a glovebox, neat B<sub>2</sub>(NMe<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.72 g, 9.52 mmol) was added slowly at r.t. via syringe to a suspension of 9,10-dilithio-9,10-dihydroanthracene (1.86 g, 9.68 mmol) in benzene (80 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 d. All insolubles were removed from the resulting suspension by filtration. The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure until a yellow oil remained from which **1** crystallised in the form of colourless blocks which were suitable for X-ray crystallography. Yield: 2.35 g (86%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ<sub>H</sub>(400.1 MHz; C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) 2.36 (6H, s, NMe<sub>2</sub>), 2.64 (6H, s, NMe<sub>2</sub>), 4.05 (2H, s, CH-9,10), 7.13 (4H, m, ArH-2,3,6,7), 7.28 (4H, m, ArH-1,4,5,8). <sup>11</sup>B NMR: δ<sub>B</sub>(128.4 MHz; C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) 44.6 (*h*<sub>1/2</sub> = 400 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ<sub>C</sub>(100.6 MHz; C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) 39.4 (NMe<sub>2</sub>), 45.7

(NMe<sub>2</sub>), 50.2 (br, C-9,10), 124.7 (C-1,4,5,8), 125.6 (C-2,3,6,7), 142.5 (C-11,12,13,14). Found: C, 74.77; H, 7.57; N, 9.58. C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>B<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [288.00] requires C, 75.07; H, 7.70; N, 9.73.

**Synthesis of 2.** A solid mixture of **1** (58 mg, 0.20 mmol) and [H<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>]Br (25 mg, 0.20 mmol) was dissolved in chloroform (10 mL) and the solution was stirred for 3 h at r.t. The solvent was removed in vacuo to obtain a colourless solid residue of **2**. Yield: 75 mg (91%). Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained by gas-phase diffusion of hexane into a saturated solution of **2** in benzene. <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ<sub>H</sub>(300.0 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.51 (6H, d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 5.7 Hz, NHMe<sub>2</sub>), 2.78 (6H, d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 5.7 Hz, NHMe<sub>2</sub>), 3.02 (3H, s, NMe<sub>2</sub>), 3.08 (3H, s, NMe<sub>2</sub>), 3.86 (1H, s, CH-9 or 10), 4.16 (1H, s, CH-9 or 10), 7.06 (4H, m, ArH), 7.19 (2H, m, ArH), 7.24 (2H, m, ArH), 7.55 (2H, br, NHMe<sub>2</sub>). <sup>11</sup>B NMR: δ<sub>B</sub>(96.3 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.8 (*h*<sub>1/2</sub> = 300 Hz), 47.0 (*h*<sub>1/2</sub> = 800 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ<sub>C</sub>(100.6 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 39.3 (NHMe<sub>2</sub>), 40.4 (NMe<sub>2</sub>), 42.9 (NHMe<sub>2</sub>), 43.9 (C-9 or 10)\*, 45.8 (NMe<sub>2</sub>), 49.8 (C-9 or 10)\*, 124.9, 125.0, 125.2, 125.7 (ArC-1 to 8), 142.0, 143.0 (ArC-11,12,13,14). \*) *Note:* This resonance was broadened beyond detection in the 1D <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum; we located the signal through its cross peak in the <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>13</sup>C HMBC experiment. A correct elemental analysis of **2** was not obtained, because microcrystalline samples were always contaminated with small amounts of [H<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>]Br; the amount of single crystalline material was not sufficient to perform an elemental analysis.

**Synthesis of 3.** Ethereal HCl (0.91 M, 0.72 mL, 0.66 mmol) was added at -10 °C via syringe to a solution of **1** (95 mg, 0.33 mmol) in chloroform (15 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at -10 °C for 80 min and then allowed to warm to r.t. From the resulting colourless solution, the solvent was removed in vacuo to obtain a colourless solid residue of **3**. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by gas-phase diffusion of hexane into a saturated solution of **3** in chloroform. Yield: 103 mg (87%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ<sub>H</sub>(250.1 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 2.68 (6H, d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 5.8 Hz, NHMe<sub>2</sub>), 2.77 (6H, d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 5.8 Hz, NHMe<sub>2</sub>), 3.27 (2H, br, NHMe<sub>2</sub>), 3.56 (2H, s, CH-9,10), 6.98 (2H, vtrd, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 1.4 Hz, ArH-2,6 or 3,7), 7.04 (2H, vtrd, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 1.4 Hz, ArH-2,6 or 3,7), 7.10 (2H, dd, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 1.4 Hz, ArH-1,5 or 4,8), 7.22 (2H, dd, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 1.4 Hz, ArH-1,5 or 4,8). <sup>11</sup>B NMR: δ<sub>B</sub>(80.3 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 5.2 (*h*<sub>1/2</sub> = 400 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ<sub>C</sub>(75.4 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 37.1 (NHMe<sub>2</sub>), 41.5 (NHMe<sub>2</sub>), 51.2 (br, C-9,10), 123.3 (ArC-1,5 or 4,8), 124.2 (ArC-2,6 or 3,7), 124.6 (ArC-2,6 or 3,7), 126.1 (ArC-1,5 or 4,8), 141.5, 145.7 (ArC-11,12,13,14). Found: C, 59.70; H, 6.84; N, 7.82. C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>B<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [360.91] requires C, 59.90; H, 6.70; N, 7.76.

**Synthesis of 4.** Neat F<sub>3</sub>CCOOH (37 μL, 55 mg, 0.48 mmol) was added at r.t. via Hamilton syringe to a stirred solution of **1** (69 mg, 0.24 mmol) in benzene (12 mL). After 30 min, the mixture was freeze-dried and a colourless solid residue remained in the flask. Yield: 114 mg (92%). Crystals suitable for X-ray analysis were grown by gas-phase diffusion of hexane into a saturated solution of **4** in benzene.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (400.1 MHz;  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) 1.54 (6H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 5.8$  Hz,  $\text{NHMe}_2$ ), 1.93 (6H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 5.8$  Hz,  $\text{NHMe}_2$ ), 3.66 (2H, s, CH-9,10), 4.45 (2H, br,  $\text{NHMe}_2$ ), 6.98 (2H, m, ArH), 7.09 (4H, m, ArH), 7.29 (2H, m, ArH).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{B}}$ (128.4 MHz;  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) 6.8 ( $h_{1/2} = 300$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{C}}$ (100.6 MHz;  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) 36.4 ( $\text{NHMe}_2$ ), 39.1 ( $\text{NHMe}_2$ ), 48.1 (C-9,10), 123.5 (ArC), 125.0 (3 overlapping signals; ArC), 141.5, 143.9 (ArC-11,12,13,14), n.o. ( $\text{CF}_3$ , COO).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{F}}$ (282.3 MHz;  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $-75.9$ . *Note:* Due to the poor solubility of **5**, the 1D  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum suffered from a low signal-to-noise ratio; we therefore located the  $^{13}\text{C}$  signals through their cross peaks in the  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HMBC experiment. Found: C, 47.80; H, 3.98; N, 5.15.  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{B}_2\text{F}_6\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  [516.05]  $\cdot$  0.4  $\text{CHCl}_3$  [119.38] requires C, 47.72; H, 4.36; N, 4.97. *Note:* Upon prolonged storage under vacuum, the compound tends to lose some of its chloroform solvate (NMR spectroscopic control).

**Synthesis of 1-Iso-propyl-2-mercaptoimidazole ( $\text{Hmt}^{\text{iPr}}$ ).** The compound is literature known,<sup>1S-3S</sup> however, a full NMR characterisation as well as an X-ray crystal structure analysis was still missing and is therefore provided below.

Neat isopropyl isothiocyanate (2.5 mL, 2.37 g, 23.4 mmol) was added slowly via syringe at 0 °C to a solution of aminoacetaldehyde diethyl acetal (3.4 mL, 3.11 g, 23.4 mmol) in THF (50 mL). The reaction mixture was heated to reflux temperature for 4 h and afterwards allowed to cool to r.t. From the resulting colourless solution, the solvent was removed in vacuo to obtain an oily residue. Sulfuric acid (10%, 90 mL) was added and the resulting mixture was heated to reflux temperature for 21 h, whereupon a red solution formed. After neutralisation with aqueous NaOH, the crude product of  $\text{Hmt}^{\text{iPr}}$  was extracted into dichloromethane (3  $\times$  100 mL) and the combined organic phases were dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ . After filtration, the solvent was removed from the filtrate under reduced pressure to yield a light orange solid residue. Recrystallisation from hot toluene gave light orange crystals of  $\text{Hmt}^{\text{iPr}}$  suitable for X-ray diffraction. Yield: 1.8 g (54%).

$^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (250.1 MHz;  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 1.37 (6H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6.7$  Hz,  $\text{CHMe}_2$ ), 5.04 (2H, sep,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6.7$  Hz,  $\text{CHMe}_2$ ), 6.75 (2H, m, CH-mt), 11.66 (1H, br, NH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{C}}$ (62.9 MHz;  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 22.1 ( $\text{CHMe}_2$ ), 48.2 ( $\text{CHMe}_2$ ), 114.0, 114.7 (CH-mt), n.o. (CS).

1S R. G. Jones, E. C. Kornfeld, K. C. McLaughlin and R. C. Anderson, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1949, **71**, 4000-4002.

2S G. Assef, J. Kister, J. Metzger, R. Faure and E. J. Vincent, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1976, **17**, 3313-3316.

3S J. Kister, G. Assef, G. Mille and J. Metzger, *Can. J. Chem.* 1979, **57**, 813-821.

**Synthesis of 5.** A solid mixture of **1** (216 mg, 0.75 mmol) and  $\text{Hmt}^{\text{iPr}}$  (213 mg, 1.50 mmol) was dissolved in benzene (30 mL), the solution was sealed in an ampoule and kept at 85 °C for 7 d. Afterwards, the sample was freeze-dried to obtain a light yellow solid residue, which was recrystallised from hot toluene to obtain colourless blocks of **5**. Yield: 202 mg (56%).

$^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (400.1 MHz;  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) 0.52 (6H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6.7$  Hz,  $\text{CHMe}_2$ ), 0.54 (6H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6.7$  Hz,  $\text{CHMe}_2$ ), 3.70 (2H, sep,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6.7$  Hz,  $\text{CHMe}_2$ ), 4.40 (2H, s, CH-9,10), 5.82 (2H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 2.0$  Hz, CH-mt), 6.54 (2H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 2.0$  Hz, CH-mt), 6.96 (2H, vtrd,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.3$  Hz,  $^4J_{\text{HH}} = 1.2$  Hz, ArH-2,6 or

3,7), 7.08 (2H, dd,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.3$  Hz,  $^4J_{\text{HH}} = \text{n.r.}$ , ArH-1,5 or 4,8), 7.13 (2H, vtrd,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.3$  Hz,  $^4J_{\text{HH}} = 1.2$  Hz, ArH-2,6 or 3,7), 7.60 (2H, dd,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.3$  Hz,  $^4J_{\text{HH}} = \text{n.r.}$ , ArH-1,5 or 4,8).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{B}}$ (128.4 MHz;  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) 6.2 ( $h_{1/2} = 350$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{C}}$ (100.6 MHz;  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) 20.9 ( $\text{CHMe}_2$ ), 21.7 ( $\text{CHMe}_2$ ), 48.2 (br, C-9,10), 50.0 ( $\text{CHMe}_2$ ), 116.7, 120.8 (CH-mt), 123.3, 123.4 (ArC-2,3,6,7), 123.8, 125.6 (ArC-1,4,5,8), 144.5, 145.8 (ArC-11,12,13,14), 160.4 (CS). Found: C, 64.67; H, 5.84; N, 11.37; S, 13.31.  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{28}\text{B}_2\text{N}_4\text{S}_2$  [482.26] requires C, 64.75; H, 5.85; N, 11.62; S, 13.30.

## 2. Single Crystal X-ray Structure Analyses of Compounds 1-5 and 1-Iso-propyl-2-mercaptoimidazole

**Crystal Structure Analyses.** Data were collected on a STOE IPDS II two-circle diffractometer with graphite-monochromated MoK $\alpha$  radiation. Empirical absorption corrections were performed for all structures but **1** using the MULABS<sup>4S</sup> option in PLATON<sup>5S</sup>. The structures were solved by direct methods using the program SHELXS<sup>6S</sup> and refined against  $F^2$  with full-matrix least-squares techniques using the program SHELXL-97<sup>7S</sup>. The H atoms bonded to N in **2**, **3**, **4** and Hmt<sup>iPr</sup> were freely refined. In **4**, one CF<sub>3</sub> group is disordered over three positions with site occupation factors of 0.293(3), 0.407(7) and 0.300(7).

4S R. H. Blessing, *Acta Cryst.* 1995, **A51**, 33-38.

5S A. L. Spek, *J. Appl. Cryst.* 2003, **36**, 7-13.

6S G. M. Sheldrick, *Acta Cryst.* 1990, **A46**, 467-473.

7S G. M. Sheldrick, *SHELXL-97. A Program for the Refinement of Crystal Structures*, Universität Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany, 1997.

*Crystal data of 1:* C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>B<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>,  $M = 288.00 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ , orthorhombic,  $a = 12.4867(7) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 8.0814(6) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 16.3838(9) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $V = 1653.29(18) \text{ \AA}^3$ ,  $T = 173(2) \text{ K}$ , space group *Pbcn*,  $Z = 4$ ,  $\mu(\text{Mo-K}\alpha) = 0.066 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ , 26385 reflections measured, 1548 unique ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0660$ ) which were used in all calculations. Final R values:  $R1 = 0.0443$ ,  $wR(F^2) = 0.0920$  ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ );  $R1 = 0.0752$ ,  $wR(F^2) = 0.1024$  (all data).

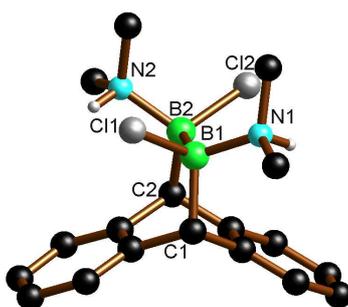
*Crystal data of 2:* C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>30</sub>B<sub>2</sub>BrN<sub>3</sub>,  $M = 414.00 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ , monoclinic,  $a = 18.1734(15) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 9.3798(7) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 24.6564(18) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\beta = 95.039(6)^\circ$ ,  $V = 4186.8(6) \text{ \AA}^3$ ,  $T = 173(2) \text{ K}$ , space group *C2/c*,  $Z = 8$ ,  $\mu(\text{Mo-K}\alpha) = 1.972 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ , 13015 reflections measured, 3932 unique ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0627$ ) which were used in all calculations. Final R values:  $R1 = 0.0370$ ,  $wR(F^2) = 0.0810$  ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ );  $R1 = 0.0569$ ,  $wR(F^2) = 0.0867$  (all data).

*Crystal data of 3:* C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>B<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>,  $M = 360.91 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ , orthorhombic,  $a = 15.8266(9) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 12.0793(8) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 9.9030(6) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $V = 1893.2(2) \text{ \AA}^3$ ,  $T = 173(2) \text{ K}$ , space group *Pna2<sub>1</sub>*,  $Z = 4$ ,  $\mu(\text{Mo-K}\alpha) = 0.344 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ , 7304 reflections measured, 3272 unique ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0368$ ) which were used in all calculations. Final R values:  $R1 = 0.0262$ ,  $wR(F^2) = 0.0569$  ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ );  $R1 = 0.0305$ ,  $wR(F^2) = 0.0578$  (all data). Flack-x-parameter = 0.05(4).

*Crystal data of 4:* C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>24</sub>B<sub>2</sub>F<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> · 0.5 CHCl<sub>3</sub>, *M* = 575.74 g mol<sup>-1</sup>, triclinic, *a* = 12.1883(6) Å, *b* = 15.1818(8) Å, *c* = 16.1826(8) Å,  $\alpha$  = 110.842(4)°,  $\beta$  = 106.505(4)°,  $\gamma$  = 98.129(4)°, *V* = 2583.1(2) Å<sup>3</sup>, *T* = 173(2) K, space group *P*-1, *Z* = 4,  $\mu(\text{Mo-K}\alpha)$  = 0.276 mm<sup>-1</sup>, 30575 reflections measured, 9116 unique (*R*<sub>int</sub> = 0.0708) which were used in all calculations. Final *R* values: *R*1 = 0.0569, *wR*(*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.1500 (*I* > 2σ(*I*)); *R*1 = 0.0748, *wR*(*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.1597 (all data).

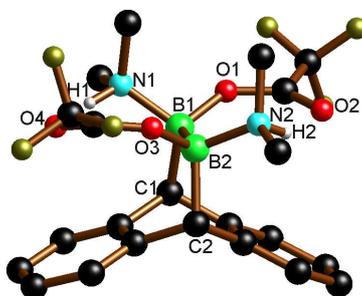
*Crystal data of 5:* C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>28</sub>B<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S<sub>2</sub>, *M* = 482.26 g mol<sup>-1</sup>, orthorhombic, *a* = 26.6672(6) Å, *b* = 8.5931(2) Å, *c* = 10.7151(2) Å, *V* = 2455.41(9) Å<sup>3</sup>, *T* = 173(2) K, space group *Pca*2<sub>1</sub>, *Z* = 4,  $\mu(\text{Mo-K}\alpha)$  = 0.240 mm<sup>-1</sup>, 29599 reflections measured, 5641 unique (*R*<sub>int</sub> = 0.0480) which were used in all calculations. Final *R* values: *R*1 = 0.0410, *wR*(*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.1090 (*I* > 2σ(*I*)); *R*1 = 0.0424, *wR*(*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.1099 (all data). Flack-*x*-parameter = -0.05(6).

*Crystal data of Hmt<sup>IPr</sup>:* C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S, *M* = 142.22 g mol<sup>-1</sup>, monoclinic, *a* = 10.5400(8) Å, *b* = 10.0952(6) Å, *c* = 14.5231(13) Å,  $\beta$  = 94.236(7)°, *V* = 1541.1(2) Å<sup>3</sup>, *T* = 173(2) K, space group *P*2<sub>1</sub>/*c*, *Z* = 8,  $\mu(\text{Mo-K}\alpha)$  = 0.336 mm<sup>-1</sup>, 10324 reflections measured, 2880 unique (*R*<sub>int</sub> = 0.0473) which were used in all calculations. Final *R* values: *R*1 = 0.0342, *wR*(*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.0881 (*I* > 2σ(*I*)); *R*1 = 0.0437, *wR*(*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.0919 (all data).

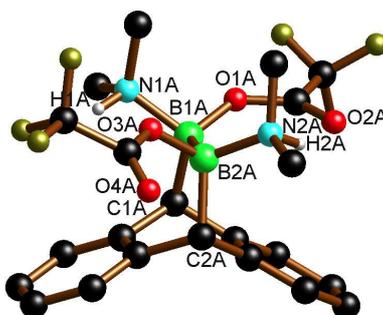


**Figure S1.** Molecular structure and numbering scheme of compound **3**; protons attached to carbon atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths [Å], atom...atom distances [Å], bond angles [°], and torsion angle [°]: B(1)–B(2) = 1.757(3), B(1)–N(1) = 1.627(3), B(1)–C(1) = 1.653(3), B(1)–Cl(1) = 1.931(2), B(2)–N(2) = 1.626(3), B(2)–C(2) = 1.655(3), B(2)–Cl(2) = 1.929(2), av. H...Cl (intramolecular) = 2.87; N(1)–B(1)–Cl(1) = 105.0(1), C(1)–B(1)–B(2) = 105.9(1), N(1)–B(1)–B(2) = 116.1(2), N(2)–B(2)–Cl(2) = 104.4(1), C(2)–B(2)–B(1) = 106.4(2), N(2)–B(2)–B(1) = 113.3(1), av. N–H...Cl (intramolecular) = 109.9; N(1)–B(1)–B(2)–N(2) = -118.9(2).

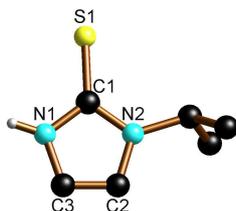
Compound **4** crystallises with two crystallographically independent molecules, **4** and **4<sub>A</sub>**, in the asymmetric unit. A remarkable difference between **4** and **4<sub>A</sub>** lies in the fact that **4<sub>A</sub>** features only one intramolecular NH–O hydrogen bond, whereas **4** contains two.



**Figure S2<sub>A</sub>**. Molecular structure and numbering scheme of compound **4**; protons attached to carbon atoms are omitted for clarity, only one of the three positions of the disordered CF<sub>3</sub> group is shown. Selected bond lengths [Å], bond angles [°] and torsion angle [°]: B(1)–B(2) = 1.799(3), B(1)–N(1) = 1.615(3), B(1)–C(1) = 1.664(3), B(1)–O(1) = 1.551(3), B(2)–N(2) = 1.609(3), B(2)–C(2) = 1.661(3), B(2)–O(3) = 1.547(3), av. H–O = 2.07; N(1)–B(1)–B(2) = 115.5(2), C(1)–B(1)–B(2) = 105.2(2), O(1)–B(1)–B(2) = 122.4(2), N(1)–B(1)–O(1) = 98.5(2), N(2)–B(2)–B(1) = 115.5(2), C(2)–B(2)–B(1) = 105.3(2), O(3)–B(2)–B(1) = 120.6(2), N(2)–B(2)–O(3) = 99.1(2); N(1)–B(1)–B(2)–N(2) = –116.3(2).



**Figure S2<sub>B</sub>**. Molecular structure and numbering scheme of compound **4<sub>A</sub>**; protons attached to carbon atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths [Å], bond angles [°] and torsion angle [°]: B(1A)–B(2A) = 1.781(3), B(1A)–N(1A) = 1.633(3), B(1A)–C(1A) = 1.655(3), B(1A)–O(1A) = 1.545(3), B(2A)–N(2A) = 1.614(3), B(2A)–C(2A) = 1.659(3), B(2A)–O(3A) = 1.545(3), H(2A)–O(2A) = 2.02(3); N(1A)–B(1A)–B(2A) = 111.3(2), C(1A)–B(1A)–B(2A) = 106.0(2), O(1A)–B(1A)–B(2A) = 124.7(2), N(1A)–B(1A)–O(1A) = 99.8(2), N(2A)–B(2A)–B(1A) = 116.2(2), C(2A)–B(2A)–B(1A) = 105.6(2), O(3A)–B(2A)–B(1A) = 107.2(2), N(2A)–B(2A)–O(3A) = 106.7(2); N(1A)–B(1A)–B(2A)–N(2A) = –115.8(2).



**Figure S3.** Molecular structure and numbering scheme of compound **Hmt<sup>iPr</sup>**; protons attached to carbon atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths [ $\text{\AA}$ ] and bond angles [ $^\circ$ ]: C(1)–S(1) = 1.698(2), C(1)–N(1) = 1.352(2), C(1)–N(2) = 1.348(2), C(2)–N(2) = 1.391(2), C(2)–C(3) = 1.335(3), C(3)–N(1) = 1.378(2); N(1)–C(1)–N(2) = 105.8(1), N(1)–C(1)–S(1) = 126.7(1), N(2)–C(1)–S(1) = 127.5(1), C(1)–N(1)–C(3) = 110.4(1), C(1)–N(2)–C(2) = 109.5(1).