Electronic Supplementary Information

Synthesis and structure of the azidogermyliumylidene azide complex $[L(N_3)Ge:]^+N_3^-$ with covalently and ionic bonded azide ligands at germanium(II) [L = bis(N-heterocyclic carbene)]

Yun Xiong, Shenglai Yao, and Matthias Driess*

Department of Chemistry: Metalorganics and Inorganic Materials, Technische Universität Berlin, Strasse des 17. Juni 135, Sekr. C2, D-10623 Berlin, Germany

E-mail: matthias.driess@tu-berlin.de

A. Experimental Section

General Considerations

All experiments except the synthesis of the ligand precursors were carried out under dry oxygen-free nitrogen using standard Schlenk techniques. Solvents were dried by standard methods and freshly distilled prior to use. Compound **1** was synthesized as in our previous work. ^[1] The NMR spectra were recorded with Bruker spectrometers ARX200 and AV400 referenced to residual solvent signals as internal standards (¹H and ¹³C{H}). Abbreviations: s = singlet; d = doublet; t = triplet; q = quint, sept = septet; m = multiplet; br = broad. Elemental analyses and ESI-MS were performed by the analytical labor and MS-Service in the Institute of Chemistry, Technical University of Berlin, Germany. IR spectra were measured with a FT-IR Spectrometer (PerkinElmer Spectrum 100).

Single-Crystal X-ray Structure Determination

Crystals were each mounted on a glass capillary in per-fluorinated oil and measured in a cold N₂ flow. The data of **2** and **3** were collected on an Oxford Diffraction Xcalibur S Sapphire at 150 K (Mo *Ka*-radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å), and the date of **4** were collected on an Oxford Diffraction Supernova, Single source at offset, Atlas at 150 K (Cu- *Ka*-radiation, $\lambda = 1.5418$ Å). The structures were solved by Direct Method and refined on *F*² with the *SHELX*-97 ^[2] software package. The positions of the H atoms were calculated and considered isotropically according to a riding model. CCDC-935359 (compound **2**), 935360 (compound **3**), 935361 (compound **4**) contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre at www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk./data_request/cif.

A1. Synthesis and Characterization

Compound 2. To a solution of **1** (0.48 g, 0.78 mmol) in acetonitrile (30 mL) was added NaN₃ (0.10 g, 1.5 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 4h. The product **2** was separated from NaCl by filtration and recrystallized in acetonitrile at -20 °C. It afforded 0.40 g (0.64 mmol, 82%) of compound **2**. M.p. 125 °C (decomp.); ¹H NMR (200.13 MHz, [D₃]acetonitrile, 25 °C): δ = 1.05 (d, ³*J* (H,H) = 6.8 Hz, 12 H; CH(CH₃)₂), 2.44 (sept, ³*J* (H,H) = 6.8 Hz, 4 H; CH(CH₃)₂), 6.91 (s, 2 H; CH₂), 7.34 (d, ³*J* (H,H) = 7.4 Hz, 4 H; *Ph*), 7.47 (dd, ³*J* (H,H) = 7.2 Hz, 7.4 Hz, 2 H; *Ph*), 7.51 (d, ³*J* (H,H) = 1.8 Hz, 2 H; CH(CH₃)₂), 6.28 (CH₂), 123.5, 124.7, 125.6, 131.6, 132.1, 146.2, 166.9 ppm; ESI-MS: *m/z*: 469.33118 (calc. 469.33257 [M-GeN₆ +H]⁺. IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 2965(s), 2928(w), 2868(w), 2077(vs, N₃⁻), 2003(vs, N₃⁻), 1470(m), 1384(vs), 1273(m), 1193(s), 1119(m), 1059(m), 903(m), 765(m); elemental analysis calcd. (%) for C₃₁H₄₀N₁₀Ge (molecular weight 625.31 g mol⁻¹): C 59.54, H 6.45, N 22.40; found: C 59.24, H 6.32, N 22.34.

Compound 3. THF (50 mL) was added to a mixture of **1** (0.76 g, 1.2 mmol) and NaBPh₄ (0.42 g, 1.2 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight. Compound **3** was separated from NaCl by filtration and dried under vacuum. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction analysis were grown in acetonitrile at -20 °C. It afforded 0.92 g (1.0 mmol, 83%) of compound **3**. M.p. 236 °C (decomp.); ¹H NMR (200.13 MHz, [D₃]acetonitrile, 25 °C): δ = 1.05 (d, ³J (H,H) = 6.8 Hz, 12 H; CH(CH₃)₂), 1.08 (d, ³J (H,H) = 6.8 Hz, 12 H; CH(CH₃)₂), 2.36 (sept, ³J (H,H) = 6.8 Hz, 4 H; CH(CH₃)₂), 6.43 (s, 2 H; CH₂), 6.82 (dd, ³J (H,H) = 7.1, 7.6 Hz, 4 H; BPh₄), 6.98 (dd, ³J (H,H) = 7.1 Hz, 7.2 Hz, 8 H; BPh₄), 7.28 (b, 8 H; BPh₄), 7.34 (d, ³J (H,H) = 8.0 Hz, 4 H, Ph), 7.48 (d, 2 H; ³J (H,H) = 1.9 Hz, CH(imid), 7.53 (dd, ³J (H,H) = 7.0, 8.0 Hz, 2 H; Ph), 7.70 (d, ³J (H,H) = 1.9 Hz, 2 H; CH(imid)); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100.61 MHz, [D₃]acetonitrile, 25 °C): δ = 22.8, 24.5 (CH(CH₃)₂), 28.2 (CH(CH₃)₂), 61.8 (CH₂), 121.8 (BPh₄), 123.6, 124.4, 125.1, 126.0 (q, ²J (C, B) = 2.6 Hz, BPh₄), 131.5, 131.6, 135.8 (q, ³J (C, B) = 1.3 Hz, BPh₄), 145.9, 163.8 (q, ¹J (C, B) = 49 Hz, BPh₄), 165.9 ppm (carbene C); ¹¹B NMR (64.21 MHz, [D₃]acetonitrile, 25 °C): δ =-6.54 ppm (q, ²J (B,C) =2.48 Hz, BPh₄); ESI-MS: *m/z*: 577.21492 (calc. 577.21478 [M-BPh₄]⁺, ESI-MS: *m/z* (negative ion mode): 319.16512 (calc. 319.16526); elemental analysis calcd. (%) for C₅₅H₆₀N₄GeBCI (molecular weight 895.96 g mol⁻¹): C 73.73, H 6.75, N 6.25; found: C 73.34, H 6.66, N 6.30.

Compound 4. To a solution of **3** (0.23 g, 0.26 mmol) in acetonitrile (15 mL) was added NaN₃ (0.024 g, 0.37 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 days. Compound **4** was separated from NaCl and the excess of NaN₃ by centrifugation. The clear solution was concentrated to 3 mL and stored at -20 °C. It afforded 0.21 g (0.23 mmol, 88 %) of compound **4**. M.p. 157 °C (decomp.); ¹H NMR (200.13 MHz, [D₃]acetonitrile, 25 °C): δ = 1.07 (d, ³*J* (H,H) = 6.8 Hz, 12 H; CH(CH₃)₂), 1.16 (d, ³*J* (H,H) = 6.8 Hz, 12 H; CH(CH₃)₂), 2.38 (sept, ³*J* (H,H) = 6.8 Hz, 4 H; CH(CH₃)₂), 6.17 (s, 2 H; CH₂), 6.82 (dd, ³*J* (H,H) = 7.1, 7.2 Hz, 4 H; BPh₄), 6.99 (dd, ³*J* (H,H) = 7.1 Hz, 7.5 Hz, 8 H; BPh₄), 7.30 (b, 8 H; BPh₄), 7.36 (d, ³*J* (H,H) = 7.3 Hz, 4 H, Ph), 7.48 (d, 2 H; ³*J* (H,H) = 1.8 Hz, CH(imid), 7.53 (dd, ³*J* (H,H) = 7.0, 7.3 Hz, 2 H; Ph), 7.59 (d, ³*J* (H,H) = 1.8 Hz, 2 H; CH(imid)); ¹³C{¹H</sup> NMR (100.61 MHz, [D₃]acetonitrile, 25 °C): δ = 22.6, 25.0 (CH(CH₃)₂), 28.8 (CH(CH₃)₂), 62.6 (CH₂), 122.2 (BPh₄), 123.5, 124.8, 125.8, 126.0 (q, ²*J* (C, B) = 2.6 Hz, BPh₄), 131.8, 131.9, 136.0 (q, ³*J* (C, B) = 1.3 Hz, BPh₄), 146.1, 164,0 (q, ¹*J* (C, B) = 49 Hz, BPh₄), 165.8 ppm (carbene C); ¹¹B NMR (64.21 MHz, [D₃]acetonitrile, 25 °C): δ = -6.52 ppm (q, ²*J* (B,C) = 2.45 Hz, BPh₄); ESI-MS: *m/z*: 584.25513 (calc. 584.25515 [M-BPh₄]⁺, ESI-MS: *m/z* (negative ion mode): 319.16514 (calc. 319.16526). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 3123(w), 3054(w),

2966(s), 2078(vs, N₃⁻), 1580(w), 1469(s), 1427(w), 1384(vs), 1366(w), 1305(m), 1269(s), 1210(w), 1120(m), 1059(w), 984(w), 805(m), 764(m), 732(s), 706(s), 614(m); elemental analysis calcd. (%) for $C_{55}H_{60}N_7GeB$ (molecular weight 902.53 g mol⁻¹): C 73.20, H 6.70, N 10.86; found: C 72.92, H 6.49, N 10.90.

A2. IR Spectra of 2 and 4

IR Spectrum of 2 (KBr)



IR Spectrum of 4 (KBr)



A3. Crystallographic data

For Compound 2:

Figure S 1. Molecular structure of compound 2. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability level. H atoms, and CH₃CN molecules are omitted for clarity.



Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for **2**.

| Empirical formula | C37 H49 Ge N13 | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Formula weight | 748.48 | |
| Temperature | 150(2) K | |
| Wavelength | 0.71073 Å | |
| Crystal system | Monoclinic | |
| Space group | P21/c | |
| Unit cell dimensions | a = 18.2975(12) Å | α= 90°. |
| | b = 15.6680(6) Å | β=114.497(9)°. |
| | c = 15.2402(11) Å | $\gamma = 90^{\circ}$. |
| Volume | 3975.8(4) Å ³ | |
| Z | 4 | |
| Density (calculated) | 1.250 Mg/m ³ | |
| Absorption coefficient | 0.814 mm ⁻¹ | |
| F(000) | 1576 | |
| Crystal size | 0.52 x 0.28 x 0.21 mm ³ | |
| Theta range for data collection | 3.57 to 25.00°. | |

| Index ranges | -21<=h<=21, -14<=k<=18, -18<=l<=15 |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Reflections collected | 16291 |
| Independent reflections | 6881 [R(int) = 0.0360] |
| Completeness to theta = 25.00° | 98.2 % |
| Absorption correction | Semi-empirical from equivalents |
| Max. and min. transmission | 1.00000 and 0.56494 |
| Refinement method | Full-matrix least-squares on F ² |
| Data / restraints / parameters | 6881 / 0 / 471 |
| Goodness-of-fit on F ² | 1.012 |
| Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)] | R1 = 0.0371, $wR2 = 0.0761$ |
| R indices (all data) | R1 = 0.0520, $wR2 = 0.0816$ |
| Largest diff. peak and hole | 0.359 and -0.503 e.Å ⁻³ |

Table S2. Interatomic distances [Å] and angles $[\degree]$ for compound 2.

| Ge(1)-N(5) | 2.037(2) |
|------------|----------|
| Ge(1)-C(2) | 2.046(2) |
| Ge(1)-C(1) | 2.051(2) |
| N(1)-C(1) | 1.341(3) |
| N(1)-C(3) | 1.378(3) |
| N(1)-C(8) | 1.442(3) |
| C(1)-N(2) | 1.347(3) |
| C(2)-N(4) | 1.342(3) |
| C(2)-N(3) | 1.345(3) |
| N(3)-C(5) | 1.380(3) |
| N(3)-C(20) | 1.446(3) |
| C(3)-C(4) | 1.341(3) |
| N(4)-C(6) | 1.377(3) |
| N(4)-C(7) | 1.453(3) |
| C(4)-N(2) | 1.375(3) |
| N(5)-N(6) | 1.199(3) |
| C(5)-C(6) | 1.343(3) |
| N(6)-N(7) | 1.148(3) |
| C(7)-N(2) | 1.455(3) |
| N(8)-N(9) | 1.098(3) |
| C(8)-C(9) | 1.394(3) |
| C(8)-C(13) | 1.397(3) |
| N(9)-N(10) | 1.185(3) |
| C(9)-C(10) | 1.393(3) |
| C(9)-C(17) | 1.516(3) |

| C(10)-C(11) | 1.377(4) |
|-----------------|------------|
| N(11)-C(32) | 1.121(4) |
| C(11)-C(12) | 1.373(4) |
| N(12)-C(34) | 1.123(3) |
| C(12)-C(13) | 1.387(3) |
| N(13)-C(36) | 1.126(6) |
| C(13)-C(14) | 1.513(3) |
| C(14)-C(15) | 1.524(3) |
| C(14)-C(16) | 1.530(4) |
| C(17)-C(19) | 1.508(3) |
| C(17)-C(18) | 1.514(3) |
| C(20)-C(21) | 1.390(3) |
| C(20)-C(25) | 1.396(3) |
| C(21)-C(22) | 1.393(3) |
| C(21)-C(29) | 1.513(4) |
| C(22)-C(23) | 1.379(4) |
| C(23)-C(24) | 1.366(4) |
| C(24)-C(25) | 1.388(3) |
| C(25)-C(26) | 1.513(4) |
| C(26)-C(27) | 1.523(4) |
| C(26)-C(28) | 1.523(3) |
| C(29)-C(30) | 1.522(4) |
| C(29)-C(31) | 1.529(4) |
| C(32)-C(33) | 1.427(4) |
| C(34)-C(35) | 1.445(4) |
| C(36)-C(37) | 1.448(6) |
| N(5)-Ge(1)-C(2) | 89.14(8) |
| N(5)-Ge(1)-C(1) | 89.38(8) |
| C(2)-Ge(1)-C(1) | 84.49(9) |
| C(1)-N(1)-C(3) | 110.74(18) |
| C(1)-N(1)-C(8) | 125.20(18) |
| C(3)-N(1)-C(8) | 123.88(18) |
| N(1)-C(1)-N(2) | 104.87(19) |
| N(1)-C(1)-Ge(1) | 127.28(16) |
| N(2)-C(1)-Ge(1) | 127.79(16) |
| N(4)-C(2)-N(3) | 104.88(18) |
| N(4)-C(2)-Ge(1) | 127.97(15) |
| N(3)-C(2)-Ge(1) | 127.01(16) |
| C(2)-N(3)-C(5) | 110.71(18) |

| C(2)-N(3)-C(20) | 125.05(18) |
|-------------------|------------|
| C(5)-N(3)-C(20) | 124.23(18) |
| C(4)-C(3)-N(1) | 107.0(2) |
| C(2)-N(4)-C(6) | 111.20(18) |
| C(2)-N(4)-C(7) | 126.18(18) |
| C(6)-N(4)-C(7) | 122.20(18) |
| C(3)-C(4)-N(2) | 106.4(2) |
| N(6)-N(5)-Ge(1) | 114.40(18) |
| C(6)-C(5)-N(3) | 106.8(2) |
| N(7)-N(6)-N(5) | 177.0(3) |
| C(5)-C(6)-N(4) | 106.40(19) |
| N(4)-C(7)-N(2) | 111.87(17) |
| C(9)-C(8)-C(13) | 123.5(2) |
| C(9)-C(8)-N(1) | 117.53(19) |
| C(13)-C(8)-N(1) | 119.0(2) |
| N(8)-N(9)-N(10) | 173.0(3) |
| C(10)-C(9)-C(8) | 116.9(2) |
| C(10)-C(9)-C(17) | 120.1(2) |
| C(8)-C(9)-C(17) | 122.9(2) |
| C(11)-C(10)-C(9) | 120.8(2) |
| C(12)-C(11)-C(10) | 120.7(2) |
| C(11)-C(12)-C(13) | 121.3(2) |
| C(12)-C(13)-C(8) | 116.7(2) |
| C(12)-C(13)-C(14) | 120.5(2) |
| C(8)-C(13)-C(14) | 122.8(2) |
| C(13)-C(14)-C(15) | 111.5(2) |
| C(13)-C(14)-C(16) | 111.3(2) |
| C(15)-C(14)-C(16) | 110.4(2) |
| C(19)-C(17)-C(18) | 110.9(2) |
| C(19)-C(17)-C(9) | 112.8(2) |
| C(18)-C(17)-C(9) | 110.3(2) |
| C(21)-C(20)-C(25) | 124.2(2) |
| C(21)-C(20)-N(3) | 118.0(2) |
| C(25)-C(20)-N(3) | 117.8(2) |
| C(20)-C(21)-C(22) | 116.6(2) |
| C(20)-C(21)-C(29) | 122.6(2) |
| C(22)-C(21)-C(29) | 120.7(2) |
| C(23)-C(22)-C(21) | 120.6(3) |
| C(24)-C(23)-C(22) | 121.1(2) |
| C(23)-C(24)-C(25) | 121.3(3) |

| C(24)-C(25)-C(20) | 116.3(2) |
|-------------------|------------|
| C(24)-C(25)-C(26) | 121.1(2) |
| C(20)-C(25)-C(26) | 122.6(2) |
| C(25)-C(26)-C(27) | 111.7(2) |
| C(25)-C(26)-C(28) | 112.7(2) |
| C(27)-C(26)-C(28) | 110.0(2) |
| C(21)-C(29)-C(30) | 113.0(2) |
| C(21)-C(29)-C(31) | 109.9(2) |
| C(30)-C(29)-C(31) | 111.2(2) |
| N(11)-C(32)-C(33) | 179.0(4) |
| N(12)-C(34)-C(35) | 178.5(4) |
| N(13)-C(36)-C(37) | 177.9(5) |
| C(1)-N(2)-C(4) | 111.06(18) |
| C(1)-N(2)-C(7) | 125.86(19) |
| C(4)-N(2)-C(7) | 122.41(18) |

For Compound 3:





Table S3. Crystal data and structure refinement for **3**.

| Empirical formula | C58 H64.50 B Cl Ge N5.50 |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Formula weight | 957.50 |
| Temperature | 150(2) K |

| Wavelength | 0.71073 Å | |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Crystal system | Monoclinic | |
| Space group | p21/c | |
| Unit cell dimensions | a = 14.1255(12) Å | α= 90°. |
| | b = 12.1448(9) Å | β=91.799(8)°. |
| | c = 31.202(3) Å | $\gamma = 90^{\circ}$. |
| Volume | 5350.1(7) Å ³ | |
| Ζ | 4 | |
| Density (calculated) | 1.189 Mg/m ³ | |
| Absorption coefficient | 0.664 mm ⁻¹ | |
| F(000) | 2020 | |
| Crystal size | 0.14 x 0.12 x 0.10 mm ³ | |
| Theta range for data collection | 3.38 to 25.00°. | |
| Index ranges | -16<=h<=16, -14<=k<=14, -37<=l<=37 | |
| Reflections collected | 22821 | |
| Independent reflections | 9398 [R(int) = 0.1160] | |
| Completeness to theta = 25.00° | 99.7 % | |
| Absorption correction | Semi-empirical from equivalents | |
| Max. and min. transmission | 1.00000 and 0.15401 | |
| Refinement method | Full-matrix least-squares on F ² | |
| Data / restraints / parameters | 9398 / 36 / 627 | |
| Goodness-of-fit on F ² | 1.029 | |
| Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)] | R1 = 0.0793, $wR2 = 0.1360$ | |
| R indices (all data) | R1 = 0.1337, wR2 = 0.1582 | |
| Largest diff. peak and hole | 0.850 and -0.916 e.Å ⁻³ | |
| | | |

Table S4. Selected interatomic distances [Å] and angles $[\circ]$ for compound **3**.

| Ge(1)-C(1) | 2.045(4) |
|--------------|------------|
| Ge(1)-C(2) | 2.048(4) |
| Ge(1)-Cl(1) | 2.3078(14) |
| N(1)-C(1) | 1.357(5) |
| N(1)-C(4) | 1.376(5) |
| N(1)-C(3) | 1.462(5) |
| C(1)-N(3) | 1.344(5) |
| B(1)-C(32) | 1.631(7) |
| B(1)-C(50) | 1.636(6) |
| B(1)-C(44) | 1.642(7) |
| B(1)-C(38) | 1.647(6) |
| C(18B)-C(17) | 1.60(3) |
| C(19B)-C(17) | 1.28(2) |

| N(2)-C(2) | 1.351(5) |
|--------------|-----------|
| N(2)-C(6) | 1.374(5) |
| N(2)-C(3) | 1.457(5) |
| C(2)-N(4) | 1.339(5) |
| N(3)-C(5) | 1.370(5) |
| N(3)-C(8) | 1.456(5) |
| N(4)-C(7) | 1.391(5) |
| N(4)-C(20) | 1.443(5) |
| C(4)-C(5) | 1.340(6) |
| N(5)-C(56) | 1.122(7) |
| N(6)-C(58) | 1.116(15) |
| C(6)-C(7) | 1.342(6) |
| C(8)-C(9) | 1.392(6) |
| C(8)-C(13) | 1.395(6) |
| C(9)-C(10) | 1.389(6) |
| C(9)-C(14) | 1.513(7) |
| C(10)-C(11) | 1.367(7) |
| C(11)-C(12) | 1.371(7) |
| C(12)-C(13) | 1.391(6) |
| C(13)-C(17) | 1.504(7) |
| C(14)-C(15) | 1.487(8) |
| C(14)-C(16) | 1.552(8) |
| C(17)-C(18A) | 1.427(12) |
| C(17)-C(19A) | 1.632(10) |
| C(20)-C(25) | 1.396(6) |
| C(20)-C(21) | 1.397(6) |
| C(21)-C(22) | 1.401(7) |
| C(21)-C(26) | 1.509(7) |
| C(22)-C(23) | 1.378(7) |
| C(23)-C(24) | 1.366(7) |
| C(24)-C(25) | 1.380(7) |
| C(25)-C(29) | 1.514(7) |
| C(26)-C(27) | 1.524(7) |
| C(26)-C(28) | 1.536(7) |
| C(29)-C(31) | 1.516(7) |
| C(29)-C(30) | 1.531(7) |
| C(32)-C(33) | 1.405(6) |
| C(32)-C(37) | 1.407(6) |
| C(33)-C(34) | 1.381(6) |
| C(34)-C(35) | 1.373(7) |

| C(35)-C(36) | 1.384(7) | |
|------------------------|-----------|--|
| C(36)-C(37) | 1.389(6) | |
| C(38)-C(43) | 1.388(6) | |
| C(38)-C(39) | 1.408(6) | |
| C(39)-C(40) | 1.399(6) | |
| C(40)-C(41) | 1.370(7) | |
| C(41)-C(42) | 1.386(6) | |
| C(42)-C(43) | 1.396(6) | |
| C(44)-C(45) | 1.397(6) | |
| C(44)-C(49) | 1.407(6) | |
| C(45)-C(46) | 1.392(6) | |
| C(46)-C(47) | 1.383(6) | |
| C(47)-C(48) | 1.395(7) | |
| C(48)-C(49) | 1.374(6) | |
| C(50)-C(51) | 1.397(6) | |
| C(50)-C(55) | 1.419(6) | |
| C(51)-C(52) | 1.383(6) | |
| C(52)-C(53) | 1.399(6) | |
| C(53)-C(54) | 1.368(6) | |
| C(54)-C(55) | 1.382(6) | |
| C(56)-C(57) | 1.460(7) | |
| C(58)-C(59) | 1.408(16) | |
| | | |
| C(1)- $Ge(1)$ - $C(2)$ | 84.86(16) | |
| C(1)-Ge(1)-Cl(1) | 92.02(13) | |
| C(2)-Ge(1)-Cl(1) | 91.71(12) | |
| C(1)-N(1)-C(4) | 110.9(4) | |
| C(1)-N(1)-C(3) | 123.8(4) | |
| C(4)-N(1)-C(3) | 125.1(3) | |
| N(3)-C(1)-N(1) | 104.0(4) | |
| N(3)-C(1)-Ge(1) | 128.1(3) | |
| N(1)-C(1)-Ge(1) | 127.9(3) | |
| C(32)-B(1)-C(50) | 111.7(4) | |
| C(32)-B(1)-C(44) | 113.0(4) | |
| C(50)-B(1)-C(44) | 103.7(3) | |
| C(32)-B(1)-C(38) | 102.7(3) | |
| C(50)-B(1)-C(38) | 114.9(4) | |
| C(44)-B(1)-C(38) | 111.2(4) | |
| C(2)-N(2)-C(6) | 110.3(4) | |
| C(2)-N(2)-C(3) | 125.4(4) | |

| C(6)-N(2)-C(3) | 123.7(3) |
|---------------------|-----------|
| N(4)-C(2)-N(2) | 106.1(4) |
| N(4)-C(2)-Ge(1) | 127.5(3) |
| N(2)-C(2)-Ge(1) | 126.4(3) |
| C(1)-N(3)-C(5) | 111.7(4) |
| C(1)-N(3)-C(8) | 122.7(4) |
| C(5)-N(3)-C(8) | 125.5(4) |
| N(2)-C(3)-N(1) | 110.5(3) |
| C(2)-N(4)-C(7) | 109.7(4) |
| C(2)-N(4)-C(20) | 124.6(4) |
| C(7)-N(4)-C(20) | 125.7(4) |
| C(5)-C(4)-N(1) | 106.7(4) |
| C(4)-C(5)-N(3) | 106.6(4) |
| C(7)-C(6)-N(2) | 106.9(4) |
| C(6)-C(7)-N(4) | 107.1(4) |
| C(9)-C(8)-C(13) | 124.9(4) |
| C(9)-C(8)-N(3) | 118.0(4) |
| C(13)-C(8)-N(3) | 117.1(4) |
| C(10)-C(9)-C(8) | 116.0(4) |
| C(10)-C(9)-C(14) | 121.5(5) |
| C(8)-C(9)-C(14) | 122.4(4) |
| C(11)-C(10)-C(9) | 121.5(5) |
| C(10)-C(11)-C(12) | 120.4(5) |
| C(11)-C(12)-C(13) | 122.1(5) |
| C(12)-C(13)-C(8) | 115.2(5) |
| C(12)-C(13)-C(17) | 121.3(5) |
| C(8)-C(13)-C(17) | 123.5(4) |
| C(15)-C(14)-C(9) | 113.4(5) |
| C(15)-C(14)-C(16) | 110.8(6) |
| C(9)-C(14)-C(16) | 109.2(5) |
| C(19B)-C(17)-C(18A) | 124.1(13) |
| C(19B)-C(17)-C(13) | 121.9(13) |
| C(18A)-C(17)-C(13) | 113.8(7) |
| C(19B)-C(17)-C(18B) | 116.7(16) |
| C(18A)-C(17)-C(18B) | 29.4(10) |
| C(13)-C(17)-C(18B) | 110.9(11) |
| C(19B)-C(17)-C(19A) | 48.1(13) |
| C(18A)-C(17)-C(19A) | 109.8(7) |
| C(13)-C(17)-C(19A) | 109.4(6) |
| C(18B)-C(17)-C(19A) | 84.6(11) |

| C(25)-C(20)-C(21) | 123.8(4) |
|-------------------|----------|
| C(25)-C(20)-N(4) | 118.2(4) |
| C(21)-C(20)-N(4) | 118.0(4) |
| C(20)-C(21)-C(22) | 116.8(5) |
| C(20)-C(21)-C(26) | 122.0(4) |
| C(22)-C(21)-C(26) | 121.2(5) |
| C(23)-C(22)-C(21) | 120.3(5) |
| C(24)-C(23)-C(22) | 120.8(5) |
| C(23)-C(24)-C(25) | 122.1(5) |
| C(24)-C(25)-C(20) | 116.2(5) |
| C(24)-C(25)-C(29) | 121.2(5) |
| C(20)-C(25)-C(29) | 122.6(4) |
| C(21)-C(26)-C(27) | 109.7(4) |
| C(21)-C(26)-C(28) | 114.5(5) |
| C(27)-C(26)-C(28) | 109.7(5) |
| C(25)-C(29)-C(31) | 112.8(5) |
| C(25)-C(29)-C(30) | 110.9(5) |
| C(31)-C(29)-C(30) | 110.4(5) |
| C(33)-C(32)-C(37) | 114.2(4) |
| C(33)-C(32)-B(1) | 120.9(4) |
| C(37)-C(32)-B(1) | 124.3(4) |
| C(34)-C(33)-C(32) | 123.2(5) |
| C(35)-C(34)-C(33) | 120.3(5) |
| C(34)-C(35)-C(36) | 119.4(5) |
| C(35)-C(36)-C(37) | 119.6(5) |
| C(36)-C(37)-C(32) | 123.3(5) |
| C(43)-C(38)-C(39) | 115.2(4) |
| C(43)-C(38)-B(1) | 121.3(4) |
| C(39)-C(38)-B(1) | 122.9(4) |
| C(40)-C(39)-C(38) | 122.2(4) |
| C(41)-C(40)-C(39) | 120.4(5) |
| C(40)-C(41)-C(42) | 119.3(4) |
| C(41)-C(42)-C(43) | 119.5(5) |
| C(38)-C(43)-C(42) | 123.3(4) |
| C(45)-C(44)-C(49) | 114.8(4) |
| C(45)-C(44)-B(1) | 123.3(4) |
| C(49)-C(44)-B(1) | 121.6(4) |
| C(46)-C(45)-C(44) | 122.9(4) |
| C(47)-C(46)-C(45) | 120.4(5) |
| C(46)-C(47)-C(48) | 118.3(5) |

| C(49)-C(48)-C(47) | 120.3(5) |
|-------------------|-----------|
| C(48)-C(49)-C(44) | 123.2(5) |
| C(51)-C(50)-C(55) | 114.3(4) |
| C(51)-C(50)-B(1) | 126.5(4) |
| C(55)-C(50)-B(1) | 119.0(4) |
| C(52)-C(51)-C(50) | 123.4(4) |
| C(51)-C(52)-C(53) | 120.1(4) |
| C(54)-C(53)-C(52) | 118.4(4) |
| C(53)-C(54)-C(55) | 120.9(4) |
| C(54)-C(55)-C(50) | 122.8(4) |
| N(5)-C(56)-C(57) | 179.1(7) |
| N(6)-C(58)-C(59) | 178.2(17) |
| | |

For Compound 4:

Figure S 3. Molecular structure of compound **4**. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability level. H atoms, and one CH_3CN molecule are omitted for clarity.



Table S5. Crystal data and structure refinement for 4.

| Empirical formula | C57 H63 B Ge N8 | |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Formula weight | 943.55 | |
| Temperature | 150(2) K | |
| Wavelength | 1.5418 Å | |
| Crystal system | Monoclinic | |
| Space group | P21/c | |
| Unit cell dimensions | a = 14.1299(3) Å | a= 90°. |
| | b = 12.3150(2) Å | b= 91.667(2)°. |
| | c = 30.9315(7) Å | g = 90°. |
| Volume | 5380.10(19) Å3 | |
| Ζ | 4 | |

| Density (calculated) | 1.165 Mg/m3 |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Absorption coefficient | 1.099 mm-1 |
| F(000) | 1992 |
| Crystal size | 0.59 x 0.40 x 0.09 mm3 |
| Theta range for data collection | 2.86 to 67.50°. |
| Index ranges | -13<=h<=16, -14<=k<=14, -36<=l<=33 |
| Reflections collected | 36892 |
| Independent reflections | 9652 [R(int) = 0.0381] |
| Completeness to theta = 67.50° | 99.6 % |
| Absorption correction | Semi-empirical from equivalents |
| Max. and min. transmission | 1.00000 and 0.52801 |
| Refinement method | Full-matrix least-squares on F2 |
| Data / restraints / parameters | 9652 / 60 / 650 |
| Goodness-of-fit on F2 | 1.079 |
| Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)] | R1 = 0.0579, wR2 = 0.1469 |
| R indices (all data) | R1 = 0.0616, $wR2 = 0.1495$ |
| Largest diff. peak and hole | 1.521 and -0.540 e.Å-3 |

Table S6. Interatomic distances [Å] and angles [°] for compound **4**.

| N(1)-C(1) | 1.341(3) |
|-------------|----------|
| N(1)-C(3) | 1.383(3) |
| N(1)-C(8) | 1.454(3) |
| C(1)-N(2) | 1.348(3) |
| C(1)-Ge(1B) | 2.034(6) |
| C(1)-Ge(1A) | 2.050(3) |
| B(1)-C(32) | 1.640(4) |
| B(1)-C(50) | 1.644(4) |
| B(1)-C(38) | 1.645(4) |
| B(1)-C(44) | 1.647(4) |
| N(6B)-N(7B) | 1.203(9) |
| N(6B)-N(5B) | 1.206(9) |
| N(2)-C(4) | 1.376(3) |
| N(2)-C(7) | 1.457(3) |
| C(2)-N(3) | 1.339(3) |
| C(2)-N(4) | 1.343(3) |
| C(2)-Ge(1A) | 2.054(3) |
| C(2)-Ge(1B) | 2.083(6) |
| N(3)-C(5) | 1.383(3) |
| N(3)-C(7) | 1.465(3) |

| C(3)-C(4) | 1.346(4) |
|-------------|----------|
| N(4)-C(6) | 1.383(3) |
| N(4)-C(20) | 1.445(3) |
| C(5)-C(6) | 1.343(4) |
| N(8)-C(57) | 1.132(5) |
| C(8)-C(9) | 1.387(4) |
| C(8)-C(13) | 1.402(4) |
| C(9)-C(10) | 1.397(4) |
| C(9)-C(17) | 1.521(5) |
| C(10)-C(11) | 1.380(6) |
| C(11)-C(12) | 1.375(6) |
| C(12)-C(13) | 1.399(5) |
| C(13)-C(14) | 1.503(5) |
| C(14)-C(15) | 1.539(5) |
| C(14)-C(16) | 1.544(5) |
| C(17)-C(18) | 1.520(6) |
| C(17)-C(19) | 1.530(5) |
| C(20)-C(21) | 1.393(4) |
| C(20)-C(25) | 1.401(4) |
| C(21)-C(22) | 1.397(4) |
| C(21)-C(29) | 1.513(4) |
| C(22)-C(23) | 1.382(5) |
| C(23)-C(24) | 1.381(5) |
| C(24)-C(25) | 1.384(4) |
| C(25)-C(26) | 1.525(5) |
| C(26)-C(28) | 1.465(6) |
| C(26)-C(27) | 1.580(6) |
| C(29)-C(31) | 1.508(6) |
| C(29)-C(30) | 1.510(6) |
| C(32)-C(37) | 1.403(3) |
| C(32)-C(33) | 1.414(4) |
| C(33)-C(34) | 1.395(4) |
| C(34)-C(35) | 1.383(4) |
| C(35)-C(36) | 1.383(5) |
| C(36)-C(37) | 1.389(4) |
| C(38)-C(43) | 1.403(4) |
| C(38)-C(39) | 1.407(3) |
| C(39)-C(40) | 1.385(4) |
| C(40)-C(41) | 1.391(4) |
| C(41)-C(42) | 1.375(4) |
| | |

| C(42)-C(43) | 1.396(4) |
|--------------------|------------|
| C(44)-C(45) | 1.400(4) |
| C(44)-C(49) | 1.405(3) |
| C(45)-C(46) | 1.394(4) |
| C(46)-C(47) | 1.375(4) |
| C(47)-C(48) | 1.392(4) |
| C(48)-C(49) | 1.384(4) |
| C(50)-C(51) | 1.398(4) |
| C(50)-C(55) | 1.407(3) |
| C(51)-C(52) | 1.385(4) |
| C(52)-C(53) | 1.386(4) |
| C(53)-C(54) | 1.376(4) |
| C(54)-C(55) | 1.392(4) |
| C(56)-C(57) | 1.459(5) |
| Ge(1A)-N(5A) | 2.003(5) |
| N(5A)-N(6A) | 1.179(6) |
| N(6A)-N(7A) | 1.155(5) |
| Ge(1B)-N(5B) | 1.870(18) |
| | |
| C(1)-N(1)-C(3) | 110.1(2) |
| C(1)-N(1)-C(8) | 124.0(2) |
| C(3)-N(1)-C(8) | 125.9(2) |
| N(1)-C(1)-N(2) | 105.5(2) |
| N(1)-C(1)-Ge(1B) | 123.1(2) |
| N(2)-C(1)-Ge(1B) | 130.1(2) |
| N(1)-C(1)-Ge(1A) | 129.09(19) |
| N(2)-C(1)-Ge(1A) | 125.34(19) |
| Ge(1B)-C(1)-Ge(1A) | 13.10(11) |
| C(32)-B(1)-C(50) | 112.2(2) |
| C(32)-B(1)-C(38) | 110.82(19) |
| C(50)-B(1)-C(38) | 104.31(19) |
| C(32)-B(1)-C(44) | 102.42(19) |
| C(50)-B(1)-C(44) | 112.08(19) |
| C(38)-B(1)-C(44) | 115.3(2) |
| N(7B)-N(6B)-N(5B) | 172(3) |
| C(1)-N(2)-C(4) | 110.9(2) |
| C(1)-N(2)-C(7) | 125.0(2) |
| C(4)-N(2)-C(7) | 123.6(2) |
| N(3)-C(2)-N(4) | 105.5(2) |
| N(3)-C(2)-Ge(1A) | 126.16(18) |

| N(4)-C(2)-Ge(1A) | 128.18(19) |
|--------------------|------------|
| N(3)-C(2)-Ge(1B) | 130.1(2) |
| N(4)-C(2)-Ge(1B) | 123.3(2) |
| Ge(1A)-C(2)-Ge(1B) | 12.92(11) |
| C(2)-N(3)-C(5) | 110.9(2) |
| C(2)-N(3)-C(7) | 124.3(2) |
| C(5)-N(3)-C(7) | 124.6(2) |
| C(4)-C(3)-N(1) | 107.3(2) |
| C(2)-N(4)-C(6) | 110.3(2) |
| C(2)-N(4)-C(20) | 124.1(2) |
| C(6)-N(4)-C(20) | 125.6(2) |
| C(3)-C(4)-N(2) | 106.2(2) |
| C(6)-C(5)-N(3) | 106.2(2) |
| C(5)-C(6)-N(4) | 107.0(2) |
| N(2)-C(7)-N(3) | 110.83(19) |
| C(9)-C(8)-C(13) | 124.2(3) |
| C(9)-C(8)-N(1) | 117.9(2) |
| C(13)-C(8)-N(1) | 118.0(3) |
| C(8)-C(9)-C(10) | 117.2(3) |
| C(8)-C(9)-C(17) | 122.7(3) |
| C(10)-C(9)-C(17) | 120.1(3) |
| C(11)-C(10)-C(9) | 120.3(4) |
| C(12)-C(11)-C(10) | 121.2(3) |
| C(11)-C(12)-C(13) | 121.2(3) |
| C(12)-C(13)-C(8) | 116.0(3) |
| C(12)-C(13)-C(14) | 121.9(3) |
| C(8)-C(13)-C(14) | 122.0(3) |
| C(13)-C(14)-C(15) | 112.6(4) |
| C(13)-C(14)-C(16) | 109.9(3) |
| C(15)-C(14)-C(16) | 110.7(4) |
| C(18)-C(17)-C(9) | 110.6(3) |
| C(18)-C(17)-C(19) | 109.7(3) |
| C(9)-C(17)-C(19) | 112.7(4) |
| C(21)-C(20)-C(25) | 124.0(2) |
| C(21)-C(20)-N(4) | 118.1(2) |
| C(25)-C(20)-N(4) | 117.9(2) |
| C(20)-C(21)-C(22) | 116.7(3) |
| C(20)-C(21)-C(29) | 122.1(3) |
| C(22)-C(21)-C(29) | 121.2(3) |
| C(23)-C(22)-C(21) | 120.4(3) |

| C(24)-C(23)-C(22) | 121.2(3) |
|-------------------|----------|
| C(23)-C(24)-C(25) | 120.9(3) |
| C(24)-C(25)-C(20) | 116.7(3) |
| C(24)-C(25)-C(26) | 120.6(3) |
| C(20)-C(25)-C(26) | 122.6(3) |
| C(28)-C(26)-C(25) | 112.0(3) |
| C(28)-C(26)-C(27) | 105.6(4) |
| C(25)-C(26)-C(27) | 110.7(4) |
| C(31)-C(29)-C(30) | 111.0(5) |
| C(31)-C(29)-C(21) | 112.0(4) |
| C(30)-C(29)-C(21) | 110.4(3) |
| C(37)-C(32)-C(33) | 114.9(2) |
| C(37)-C(32)-B(1) | 121.8(2) |
| C(33)-C(32)-B(1) | 122.7(2) |
| C(34)-C(33)-C(32) | 122.5(3) |
| C(35)-C(34)-C(33) | 120.4(3) |
| C(34)-C(35)-C(36) | 118.8(3) |
| C(35)-C(36)-C(37) | 120.6(3) |
| C(36)-C(37)-C(32) | 122.8(3) |
| C(43)-C(38)-C(39) | 115.1(2) |
| C(43)-C(38)-B(1) | 125.2(2) |
| C(39)-C(38)-B(1) | 119.5(2) |
| C(40)-C(39)-C(38) | 123.2(2) |
| C(39)-C(40)-C(41) | 119.8(2) |
| C(42)-C(41)-C(40) | 118.8(2) |
| C(41)-C(42)-C(43) | 120.9(3) |
| C(42)-C(43)-C(38) | 122.1(2) |
| C(45)-C(44)-C(49) | 115.0(2) |
| C(45)-C(44)-B(1) | 123.8(2) |
| C(49)-C(44)-B(1) | 120.8(2) |
| C(46)-C(45)-C(44) | 122.5(3) |
| C(47)-C(46)-C(45) | 120.7(3) |
| C(46)-C(47)-C(48) | 118.6(3) |
| C(49)-C(48)-C(47) | 120.1(3) |
| C(48)-C(49)-C(44) | 123.1(3) |
| C(51)-C(50)-C(55) | 115.0(2) |
| C(51)-C(50)-B(1) | 122.0(2) |
| C(55)-C(50)-B(1) | 122.8(2) |
| C(52)-C(51)-C(50) | 123.1(2) |
| C(51)-C(52)-C(53) | 120.2(3) |

| C(54)-C(53)-C(52) | 118.7(3) |
|--------------------|-----------|
| C(53)-C(54)-C(55) | 120.7(2) |
| C(54)-C(55)-C(50) | 122.3(3) |
| N(8)-C(57)-C(56) | 178.6(4) |
| N(5A)-Ge(1A)-C(1) | 90.20(18) |
| N(5A)-Ge(1A)-C(2) | 90.84(17) |
| C(1)-Ge(1A)-C(2) | 84.38(11) |
| N(6A)-N(5A)-Ge(1A) | 117.9(4) |
| N(7A)-N(6A)-N(5A) | 175.7(8) |
| N(5B)-Ge(1B)-C(1) | 94.5(5) |
| N(5B)-Ge(1B)-C(2) | 93.8(6) |
| C(1)-Ge(1B)-C(2) | 84.1(2) |
| N(6B)-N(5B)-Ge(1B) | 122(2) |
| | |

B. References

- Y. Xiong, S. Yao, S. Inoue, J.-D. Epping, M. Driess, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, submitted. G. M. Sheldrick, *SHELX-97 Program for Crystal Structure Determination*, Universität Göttingen (Germany) **1997**. 1. 2.