

Supporting Information for:

Ligand Influences on Homoleptic Group 12 *m*-Terphenyl Complexes

Toby J. Blundell, Fiona R. Hastings, Benjamin M. Gridley, Graeme J. Moxey,[‡] William Lewis, Alexander J. Blake and Deborah L. Kays*

School of Chemistry, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham,
NG7 2RD, United Kingdom

[‡] Current address: Research School of Chemistry, Australian National University,
Canberra, ACT 0200, Australia.

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Molecular Structures of 2,6-Ar₂C₆H₃I [Ar = 2,6-Me₂C₆H₃ (2,6-Xyl); 3,5-Me₂C₆H₃ (3,5-Xyl); 2,3,4,5,6-Me₅C₆ (Pmp)]

The *m*-terphenyl iodides 2,6-Ar₂C₆H₃I (Ar = 2,6-Xyl, 3,5-Xyl, Pmp)^{S1-S3} were synthesised *via* modification of the ‘one-pot’ methodology reported by Hart *et al.*^{S1} Pure crystalline samples of these compounds were obtained from saturated ethanol solutions at room temperature.

The crystal structures of 2,6-Ar₂C₆H₃I, along with relevant bond lengths and angles can be found in Fig. S1.

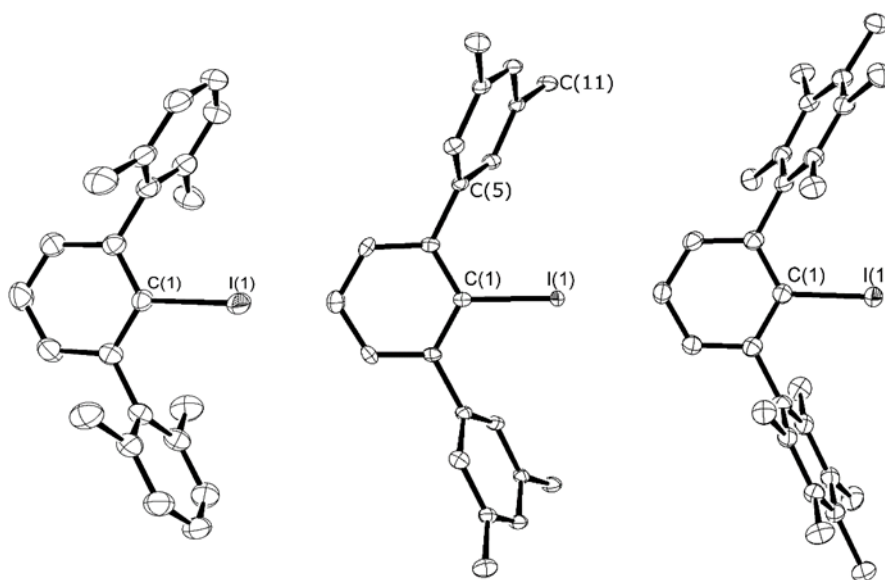


Fig. S1 Molecular structures of 2,6-Ar₂C₆H₃I (Ar = 2,6-Xyl, 3,5-Xyl, Pmp), with displacement ellipsoids set at the 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Relevant bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for 2,6-(2,6-Xyl)₂C₆H₃I: C(1)–I(1) 2.106(4), ∠*ortho*-aryl-C₆H₃ rings 89.62(9), for 2,6-(3,5-Xyl)₂C₆H₃I: C(1)–I(1) 2.097(7), H(11A)⋯C(5) centroid = 2.752(2), C(11)⋯C(5) centroid = 3.699(6), I(1)⋯C(1) centroid = 3.776(3), ∠*ortho*-aryl-C₆H₃ rings 65.7(2), ∠C(11)–H(11A)⋯C(5) centroid = 162.48(3), ∠C(1)–I(1)⋯C(1) centroid = 121.94(18), and for 2,6-(Pmp)₂C₆H₃I: C(1)–I(1) 2.102(2), C(18) ring centroid⋯C(18) ring centroid = 4.3, ∠*ortho*-aryl-C₆H₃ rings 72.48(6), 78.98(8).

Molecular Structure of [2,6-(3,5-Xyl)₂C₆H₃Li]₂

The lithium complex [2,6-(3,5-Xyl)₂C₆H₃Li]₂ was prepared by reaction of the iodide with ⁿBuLi, according to literature methods.^{S4} Single crystals of [2,6-(3,5-Xyl)₂C₆H₃Li]₂ suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained from storage of a saturated hexane solution of the complex at room temperature.

The crystal structure of [2,6-(3,5-Xyl)₂C₆H₃Li]₂, consists of two crystallographically independent molecules, and is shown in Fig. S2, along with relevant bond lengths and angles. The structures of both of these molecules consist of dimeric [2,6-(3,5-Xyl)₂C₆H₃Li]₂ units with no crystallographically-imposed symmetry, which is unlike that found for the solid state structures of the pentamethylphenyl-substituted *m*-terphenyl lithiate [2,6-Pmp₂C₆H₃Li]₂^{S2} and the phenoxy ether complex [2,6-(PhO)₂C₆H₃Li(OEt₂)]₂.^{S5}

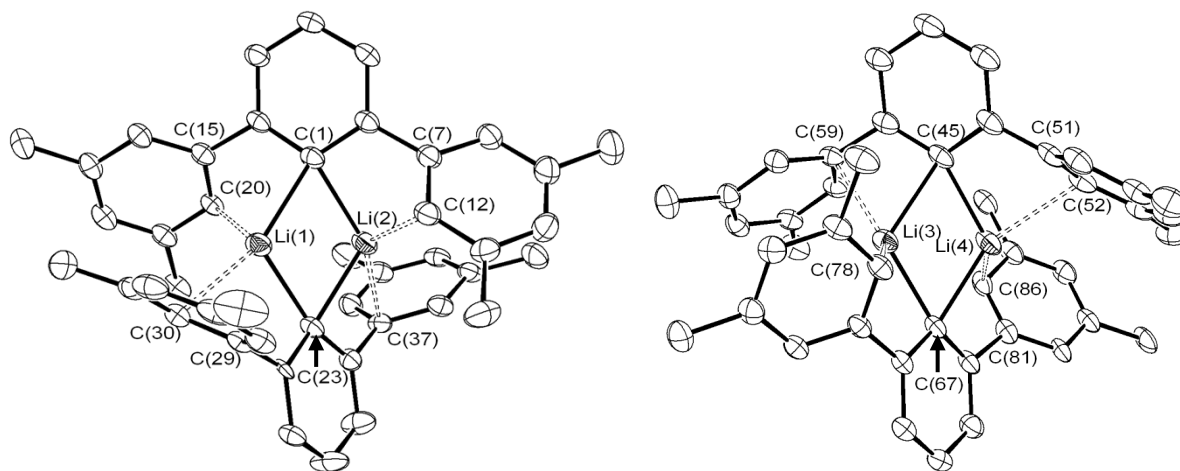


Fig. S2 Molecular structure of both crystallographically independent molecules of [2,6-(3,5-Xyl)₂C₆H₃Li]₂, with displacement ellipsoids set at the 40% probability level. Dashed lines indicate short C···Li distances. Hydrogen atoms and minor disorder components of the C(23)-C(28) and C(81)-C(86) rings are omitted for clarity. Relevant bond lengths (Å) and angles (°): Li(1)–C(1) = 2.170(6), Li(2)–C(1) = 2.177(6), Li(1)–C(23) = 2.12(2), Li(2)–C(23) = 2.14(2), Li(3)–C(45) = 2.190(6),

Li(4)–C(45) = 2.166(7), Li(3)–C(67) = 2.152(6), Li(4)–C(67) = 2.190(6),
 Li(1)⋯Li(2) = 2.322(8), Li(3)⋯Li(4) = 2.316(8), Li(1)–C(1)–Li(2) = 64.6(2),
 Li(1)–C(23)–Li(2) = 66.1(6), Li(1)–C(23A)–Li(2) = 62.8(6), Li(3)–C(45)–Li(4) =
 64.4(2), Li(3)–C(67)–Li(4) = 64.5(2).

Table S1 Crystallographic data.

	2,6-(2,6- Xyl) ₂ C ₆ H ₃ I	2,6-(3,5- Xyl) ₂ C ₆ H ₃ I	2,6-(Pmp) ₂ C ₆ H ₃ I	[2,6-(3,5- Xyl) ₂ C ₆ H ₃ Li] ₂
Formula	C ₂₂ H ₂₁ I	C ₂₂ H ₂₁ I	C ₂₈ H ₃₃ I	C ₄₄ H ₄₂ Li ₂
<i>M_w</i>	412.29	412.29	496.44	584.65
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Orthorhombic	Triclinic	Monoclinic
Space Group	<i>C2/c</i>	<i>Pnma</i>	<i>P-1</i>	<i>P2₁/n</i>
Crystal size/mm	0.35 × 0.17 × 0.08	0.61 × 0.35 × 0.15	0.65 × 0.45 × 0.23	0.34 × 0.23 × 0.12
<i>a</i> (Å)	14.2219(8)	7.759(2)	8.708(2)	10.6871(3)
<i>b</i> (Å)	8.8418(8)	27.311(8)	9.292(3)	42.4827(9)
<i>c</i> (Å)	16.0675(13)	8.450(2)	15.373(4)	15.9595(4)
<i>α</i> (°)	90	90	73.294(4)	90
<i>β</i> (°)	112.897(7)	90	77.896(4)	106.596(3)
<i>γ</i> (°)	90	90	77.855(4)	90
<i>V</i> (Å ³)	1861.2(3)	1790.6(9)	1149.9(5)	6944.0(3)
<i>Z</i>	4	4	2	8
<i>T</i> (K)	90(2)	90(2)	90(2)	120(2)
<i>D_{calc}</i> (g cm ⁻³)	1.471	1.529	1.434	1.118
<i>F₀₀₀</i>	824	824	508	2496
<i>μ</i> (mm ⁻¹)	1.718	1.786	1.404	0.460
<i>θ</i> range for data collection (°)	2.75–27.26	2.98–25.03	2.32–27.38	3.07–66.60
Max. and min. transmission	0.430 and 0.356	0.397 and 0.309	0.746 and 0.540	1.212 and 0.987
reflns measd	8903	7411	9719	30836
independent reflns	2084	1610	5041	12192
<i>R_{int}</i>	0.0363	0.0281	0.0256	0.0342
Final <i>Goof</i>	1.10	1.50	1.07	1.12
<i>R₁</i> , <i>wR₂</i> [<i>I</i> > 2σ(<i>I</i>)]	0.0318, 0.0739	0.0412, 0.102	0.0329, 0.0891	0.0745, 0.182
<i>R₁</i> , <i>wR₂</i> (all data)	0.0371, 0.0758	0.0417, 0.102	0.0336, 0.0900	0.0862, 0.186
min. and max. electron densities (e Å ⁻³)	–0.70, 0.71	–2.63, 1.61	–1.46, 1.61	–0.28, 0.28

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