

# Formation of sub-valent carbenoid ligands by metal-mediated dehydrogenation chemistry: coordination and activation of H<sub>2</sub>Ga{NDippCMe)<sub>2</sub>CH}

*Joshua Turner, Joseph A.B. Abdalla, Joshua I. Bates, Remi Tirfoin, Michael J. Kelly, Nicholas Phillips and Simon Aldridge\**

## Supporting Information (23 pages)

1. General methods and starting materials	S2
2. Syntheses of new compounds	S3
3. Details of DFT calculations	S6
4. References for supporting information	S23

### 1. General methods and starting materials

All manipulations were carried out using standard Schlenk line or dry-box techniques under an atmosphere of argon. Solvents were degassed by sparging with argon and dried by passing through a column of the appropriate drying agent using a commercially available Braun SPS. Fluorobenzene and 1,2-difluorobenzene were dried by refluxing over calcium hydride, distilled, sparged and stored over activated molecular sieves. NMR spectra were recorded in benzene-d<sub>6</sub>, dichloromethane-d<sub>2</sub> or bromobenzene-d<sub>5</sub>, which were dried over potassium, molecular sieves or calcium hydride respectively, and stored under argon in Teflon valve ampoules. NMR samples were prepared under argon in 5 mm Wilmad 507-PP tubes fitted with J. Young Teflon valves. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on Varian Mercury-VX-300 or Bruker AVII-500 spectrometers and referenced internally to residual protio-solvent (<sup>1</sup>H) or solvent (<sup>13</sup>C) resonances and are reported relative to tetramethylsilane ( $\delta = 0$  ppm). Chemical shifts are quoted in  $\delta$  (ppm) and coupling constants in Hz. Infrared spectra were measured on a Nicolet 500 FT-IR spectrometer. Elemental analyses were carried out by Stephen Boyer at London Metropolitan University. Starting materials Mo(CO)<sub>4</sub>(COD)<sup>s1</sup> and W(CO)<sub>4</sub>(COD)<sup>s1</sup> were prepared by literature procedures. H<sub>2</sub>Ga{NDippCMe<sub>2</sub>CH} (**1**) was prepared by a method directly analogous to that reported in the literature,<sup>s2</sup> but employing Cl<sub>2</sub>Ga{NDippCMe<sub>2</sub>CH} as a starting material rather than I<sub>2</sub>Ga{NDippCMe<sub>2</sub>CH}. Photolysis experiments were carried out using a Spectral Energy mercury arc lamp (1 kW) with samples contained either within a quartz Schlenk vessel or a J. Young's NMR tube.

## 2. Syntheses of new compounds

**2a:** Cp'Mn(CO)<sub>3</sub>, (0.1 mL, 0.6 mmol) was added to a quartz Schlenk tube containing a stirred solution of **1** (0.300 g, 0.613 mmol) in toluene (15 mL). The solution was then subjected to UV photolysis at room temperature for 2.5 h. The orange solution was then filtered, concentrated and cooled to -30 °C, yielding yellow crystals of **2** which were isolated by filtration and dried *in vacuo*. Isolated yield of single crystals: 0.13 g, 31% (*in situ* monitoring of the reaction by <sup>1</sup>H NMR in toluene-d<sub>8</sub>) is consistent with *ca.* 90% conversion of **1** to **2a**; the lower isolated yield reflects – at least in part – the high solubility of **2a** in compatible hydrocarbon solvents and its high sensitivity to air/moisture, resulting in relatively inefficient recrystallization). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, benzene-d<sub>6</sub>, 298 K): δ<sub>H</sub> –13.46 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 19.2 Hz, 2H, MnHG), 1.15 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 1.45 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 1.53 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 1.55 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub> of Cp'), 1.56 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub> of β-diketiminato backbone), 3.33 (sept, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH of Dipp 'Pr), 3.46 (sept, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH of Dipp 'Pr), 3.52 (m, 2H, Cp'), 3.62 (m, 2H, Cp'), 4.83 (s, 1H, γ-CH), 7.09–7.13 (overlapping m, 6H, ArH). The terminal GaH resonance is tentatively assigned to a broad signal centred at δ<sub>H</sub> *ca.* 6.9 ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, benzene-d<sub>6</sub>, 298 K): δ<sub>C</sub> 13.2 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Cp'), 23.9 (CH<sub>3</sub> of β-diketiminato backbone), 24.2, 24.6, 24.7, 25.7 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 28.2, 29.4 (CH of Dipp 'Pr), 80.2, 80.5 (CH of Cp'), 94.4 (quaternary-C of Cp), 95.7 (γ-CH), 124.2, 125.1, 127.2, 142.7, 142.9, 145.0 (ArC), 168.8 (CN), 230.4 (CO). IR (hexanes, v<sub>CO/cm<sup>-1</sup></sub>): 1886 (s), 1951 (s). EI-MS: m/z 487.2 ([M-Cp'Mn(CO)<sub>2</sub>H]<sup>+</sup>, 100%), 676.2 ([M-2H]<sup>+</sup>, 1%). Reproducible elemental microanalysis for **2a** proved impossible to obtain due to its very high air/moisture sensitivity. Crystallographic data: C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>50</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>GaMn, M<sub>r</sub> = 679.41, monoclinic, P2<sub>1</sub>/n, a = 10.1814(2), b = 20.4882(4), c = 16.7346(3) Å, β = 103.1581(11) °, V = 3399.16(11) Å<sup>3</sup>, Z = 4, ρ<sub>c</sub> = 1.328 Mg m<sup>-3</sup>, T = 150(2) K, λ = 0.71073 Å. 7688 independent reflections [R(int) = 0.059], used in all calculations. R<sub>I</sub> = 0.0732, wR<sub>2</sub> = 0.1459 for I > 2σ(I), and R<sub>I</sub> = 0.1473, wR<sub>2</sub> = 0.2096 for all unique reflections. Max./min. residual electron densities 1.74 and –2.07 e Å<sup>-3</sup>. CSD ref.: 944059.

**2b:** A solution of **2a** (0.240 g, 0.354 mmol) in toluene (20 mL) and subjected to UV photolysis for 2.5 h. The reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate concentrated to the point of incipient crystallisation. Storage at -30°C produced bright yellow crystals. Isolated yield of single crystals: 0.130 g, 54%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, benzene-d<sub>6</sub>, 298 K): δ<sub>H</sub> 1.06 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 1.43 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 1.59 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub> of β-diketiminato backbone), 1.73 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub> of Cp), 3.15 (sept, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz, 4H, CH of Dipp 'Pr), 3.52 (m, 2H, Cp'), 3.83 (m, 2H, Cp'), 5.10 (s, 1H, γ-CH), 7.12–7.22 (m, 6H, aromatic CH of Dipp). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, benzene-d<sub>6</sub>, 298 K): δ<sub>C</sub> 14.3 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Cp'), 24.6, 24.6, 24.8 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr and β-diketiminato backbone), 29.5 (CH of Dipp 'Pr), 76.6, 78.3 (CH of Cp'), 97.2 (quaternary-C of Cp'), 100.3 (γ-C), 125.0, 128.7, 142.5, 143.7 (ArC of Dipp), 167.8 (NC), 233.6 (CO). IR (KBr disc, v<sub>CO/cm<sup>-1</sup></sub>): 1837 (s), 1903 (s). EI-MS: m/z 676.2 ([M<sup>+</sup>], 13%), 620.2 ([M-2CO]<sup>+</sup>, 99%), 472 ([M-Cp'Mn(CO)<sub>2</sub>-Me]<sup>+</sup>, 100%). Elemental microanalysis: calcd. for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>48</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>GaMn: C 65.60% H 7.14% N 4.14%, meas. C 65.30% H 7.16% N 3.97%. Crystallographic data: C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>48</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>GaMn, M<sub>r</sub> = 677.45, triclinic, P-1, a = 8.8327(1), b = 18.3781(2), c = 20.6752(2) Å, α = 90.008(1), β = 90.007(1), γ = 85.742(1) °, V = 3346.9(1) Å<sup>3</sup>, Z = 4, ρ<sub>c</sub> = 1.344 Mg m<sup>-3</sup>, T = 150(2) K, λ = 0.71073 Å. 15175 independent reflections [R(int) = 0.023], used in all calculations. R<sub>I</sub> = 0.0355, wR<sub>2</sub> = 0.0749 for I > 2σ(I), and R<sub>I</sub> = 0.0560, wR<sub>2</sub> = 0.0919 for all unique reflections. Max./min. residual electron densities 0.59 and –0.74 e Å<sup>-3</sup>. CSD ref.: 952954.

**3:** Fe(CO)<sub>5</sub> (0.083 mL, 0.613 mmol) was added to a quartz schlenk containing a stirred solution of **1** (0.300 g, 0.613 mmol) in toluene (15 mL). The solution was subjected to UV photolysis, whilst stirring, for 50 min, after which time <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy indicated quantitative conversion to **3**. The orange solution was filtered and concentrated, and cooled to -30 °C overnight to yield very pale yellow crystals of **3**. The crystals were isolated by filtration and dried *in vacuo*. Isolated yield of single crystals: 0.205 g, 51%. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data, together with a single crystal X-ray diffraction study confirmed that the compound is identical to that reported by Power and co-workers.<sup>53</sup>

**4** and **5:** The two compounds were prepared by a similar method, exemplified for **5**. To an ampoule containing **1** (0.300 g, 0.613 mmol) in hexanes (10 mL) was added at room temperature a solution of W(CO)<sub>4</sub>(COD) (0.143 g, 0.613 mmol) also in hexanes (10 mL) and the resulting pale yellow mixture warmed to 55 °C, whilst stirring. After 5 d the solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the resulting yellow solid was extracted into fluorobenzene. Layering the fluorobenzene solution with hexanes at -20 °C yielded yellow crystals, which were isolated by filtration and dried *in vacuo*. Isolated yield of single crystals: 0.020 g, 14%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, dichloromethane-d<sub>2</sub>, 298 K): δ<sub>H</sub> 1.21 (d, 12H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.5 Hz CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 1.29 (d, 12H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.5 Hz CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 1.905 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub> of β-diketiminato backbone), 2.95 (sept, 4H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.5 Hz CH of Dipp 'Pr), 5.62 (s, 1H, γ-CH), 7.11–7.33 (m, 6H, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 298 K): δ<sub>C</sub> 23.9 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 24.5 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 24.8 (CH<sub>3</sub> of β-diketiminato backbone) 29.6 (γ-CH of Dipp 'Pr), 101.8 (γ-C), 124.8 (Ar-C), 128.4 (Ar-C), 141.0 (Ar-C), 143.1 (Ar-C), 169.1 (CN), 197.9 (CO), 201.0 (CO). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, v<sub>CO/cm<sup>-1</sup></sub>): 1926 (b), 1968 (s), 2058 (s). EI-MS: m/z 726.2 ([M-3CO]<sup>+</sup>, 100%), 810.2 [M]<sup>+</sup>, 10%). Crystallographic data: C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>41</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>GaW, M<sub>r</sub> = 811.28, orthorhombic, Pb<sub>nm</sub>, a = 9.15777(10), b = 35.5896(6), c = 21.050(3) Å, V = 6878.57(17) Å<sup>3</sup>, Z = 8, ρ<sub>c</sub> = 1.567 Mg m<sup>-3</sup>, T = 150(2) K, λ = 0.71073 Å. 7351 independent reflections [R(int) = 0.039], used in all calculations. R<sub>I</sub> = 0.0588, wR<sub>2</sub> = 0.1190 for I > 2σ(I), and R<sub>I</sub> = 0.0620, wR<sub>2</sub> = 0.1196 for all unique reflections. Max./min. residual electron densities 3.62 and –2.15 e Å<sup>-3</sup>. CSD ref.: 944061. **4** was prepared in a similar manner, under slightly milder conditions (room temperature, 4 d) and recrystallized from 1,2-difluorobenzene as pale yellow crystals. Isolated yield of single crystals: 0.052 g (40%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, bromobenzene-d<sub>5</sub>, 298 K): δ<sub>H</sub> 1.00 (d, 12H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.0 Hz CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 1.24 (d, 12H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.0 Hz CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 1.58 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub> of β-diketiminato backbone), 2.87 (sept, 4H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.0 Hz, CH of Dipp 'Pr), 5.22 (s, 1H, γ-CH), 7.16–7.07 (m, 12H, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, bromobenzene-d<sub>5</sub>, 298 K): δ<sub>C</sub> 24.0, 24.6, 24.6 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr and β-diketiminato backbone), 29.4 (CH of Dipp 'Pr), 101.5 (γ-CH), 124.8 (Ar-C), 128.5 (Ar-C), 140.8 (Ar-C), 142.6 (Ar-C), 168.3 (NC), 208.0 (CO), 212.5 (CO). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, v<sub>CO/cm<sup>-1</sup></sub>): 1932 (b), 1979 (s), 2059 (s). EI-MS: m/z 471 [M-Mo(CO)<sub>5</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 100%), 724 ([M]<sup>+</sup>, 6%). Elemental microanalysis: calcd. for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>41</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>GaMo: C 56.43% H 5.72% N 3.87% meas. C 55.78% H 5.57% N 3.45%. Crystallographic data: C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>41</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>GaMo, M<sub>r</sub> = 723.36, tetragonal, P4<sub>3</sub>2<sub>1</sub>2, a = 9.08300(10), b = 9.08300(10), c = 41.8928(5) Å, V = 3456.19(7) Å<sup>3</sup>, Z = 4, ρ<sub>c</sub> = 1.390 Mg m<sup>-3</sup>, T = 150(2) K, λ = 0.71073 Å. 3933 independent reflections [R(int) = 0.052], used in all calculations. R<sub>I</sub> = 0.0543, wR<sub>2</sub> = 0.1170 for I > 2σ(I), and R<sub>I</sub> = 0.0659, wR<sub>2</sub> = 0.1298 for all unique reflections. Max./min. residual electron densities 3.07 and –1.45 e Å<sup>-3</sup>. CSD ref.: 944060.

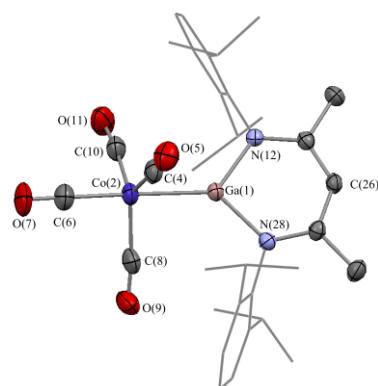
**7:** A stirred solution of **1** (0.300 g, 0.613 mmol) and Mn<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>10</sub> (0.239 g, 0.613 mmol) in toluene (15 mL) was subjected to UV photolysis at room temperature for 6 h, after which time <sup>1</sup>H NMR indicated quantitative conversion to **7** and HMn(CO)<sub>5</sub>. The reaction mixture was filtered and volatiles removed *in vacuo*. The resulting solid was extracted into diethyl ether and cooled to -30 °C to yield yellow crystals of **7**. The crystals were isolated by filtration and dried *in vacuo*. Isolated yield of single crystals: 0.077 g, 19% (*in situ* monitoring of the reaction by <sup>1</sup>H NMR in benzene-d<sub>6</sub>) is consistent with *ca.* 90% conversion of **1** to **7**; the lower isolated yield reflects – at least in part – the high solubility of **7** in compatible hydrocarbon solvents and its high sensitivity to air/moisture, resulting in relatively inefficient recrystallization). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K): δ<sub>H</sub> –9.58 (s, 1H, MnH), 1.02 (d, 12H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.5 Hz CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 1.40 (d, 12H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.5 Hz CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 1.51 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub> of NaCNac backbone), 3.00 (sept, 4H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.5 Hz CH of Dipp 'Pr), 5.06 (s, 1H, γ-CH), 7.08–7.20 (overlapping m, 6H, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 298 K): 24.3, 24.6 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp 'Pr), 24.3 (CH<sub>3</sub> of β-diketiminato backbone), 29.2 (γ-CH of Dipp 'Pr), 101.2 (γ-C), 124.9, 128.6, 140.5, 143.6 (ArC), 169.6 (CN), 220 (br, CO). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, v<sub>CO/cm<sup>-1</sup></sub>): 1922 (b), 1951 (b), 2011 (s), 2043 (s). EI-MS: m/z 542.2 ([M-4(CO)]<sup>+</sup>, 100%), 654.2 ([M]<sup>+</sup>, 12%). Elemental microanalysis: calcd. for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>42</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>GaMn: C 60.46% H 6.46% N 4.28%, meas. C 60.12%

H 6.71% N 4.70%. Crystallographic data:  $C_{33}H_{42}N_2O_4GaMn$ ,  $M_r = 655.36$ , monoclinic,  $P2_1/m$ ,  $a = 8.86000(10)$ ,  $b = 21.5544(2)$ ,  $c = 9.08180(10)$  Å,  $\beta = 108.601(1)^\circ$ ,  $V = 1643.8(1)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 2$ ,  $\rho_c = 1.324$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>,  $T = 150(2)$  K,  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å, 3844 indep. reflns [R(int) = 0.025], used in all calcns.  $R_I = 0.0293$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.0653$  for  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ , and  $R_I = 0.0435$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.0787$  for all unique reflns. Max./min. residual electron densities 0.62, -0.61 e Å<sup>-3</sup>. CSD ref.: 944063.

**8:** A solution of **1** (0.200 g, 0.409 mmol) and  $Cl_2Ga\{NDippCMe_2\}CH$  (0.228 g, 0.409 mmol) in toluene (20 mL) was heated to 70 °C for 48 h. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the resultant colourless solid extracted in diethyl ether. Concentration and cooling the ethereal solution to -30 °C yielded colourless crystals of **8**. Isolated yield of single crystals: 0.259 g, 60%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, benzene-d<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta_H$  1.08 (d, 6H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 1.16 (d, 6H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 1.27 (d, 6H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 1.51 (d, 6H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 1.54 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub> of β-diketiminato backbone), 3.19 (sept, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz, CH of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 3.64 (sept, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz, CH of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 4.79 (s, 1H, γ-CH), 5.47 (br s, 1H, GaH), 7.03 – 7.14 (m, 6H, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, benzene-d<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta_C$  23.3 (CH<sub>3</sub> of β-diketiminato backbone), 24.8 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 24.8 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 26.1 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 28.3 (CH of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 28.8 (CH of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 96.3 (γ-CH), 124.4 (Ar-C), 125.2 (Ar-C), 139.8 (Ar-C), 143.2 (Ar-C), 145.6 (Ar-C), 169.5 (CN). EI-MS : m/z 524.22 ([M]<sup>+</sup>, 3%); accurate mass : calc. 524.2281, meas. 524.2283. Elemental microanalysis: calcd. for  $C_{29}H_{42}ClGaN_2$ : C 66.49% H 8.08% N 5.35% meas. C 65.91% H 8.49% N 5.13%.

**9:** A solution of **8** (0.100 g, 0.191 mmol) in toluene (10 ml) was added to a solution of  $Co_2(CO)_8$  (0.065 g, 0.191 mmol), also in toluene (10 mL). Immediate gas evolution was observed and the solution was stirred for 2 h at room temperature. Volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the resultant solid extracted into hexanes. Storage of the hexane solution at -30 °C yielded pale yellow crystals of **9**. Isolated yield of single crystals: 0.020g, 15% (*in situ* monitoring of the reaction by <sup>1</sup>H NMR in benzene-d<sub>6</sub>) is consistent with *ca.* 90% conversion of **8** to **9**; the lower isolated yield reflects – at least in part – the high solubility of **9** in compatible hydrocarbon solvents and its high sensitivity to air/moisture, resulting in relatively inefficient recrystallization). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, benzene-d<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta_H$  1.10 (d, 6H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 1.40 (d, 6H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 1.54 (d, 6H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 1.62 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub> of β-diketiminato backbone), 3.29 (sept, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz, CH of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 3.73 (sept, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz, CH of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 4.91 (s, 1H, γ-CH), 7.07- 7.17(m, 6H, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, benzene-d<sub>6</sub>, 298 K): 24.5 (CH<sub>3</sub> of β-diketiminato backbone), 24.8 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 24.9 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 25.4 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 25.6 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 28.5 (CH of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 29.2 (CH of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 98.0 (γ-CH), 124.7 (Ar-C), 125.2 (ArC), 140.3 (Ar-C), 144.3 (Ar-C), 145.8 (Ar-C), 170.5 (CN), 199.3 (CO), 201.3 (CO). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, v<sub>CO</sub>/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1968 (s), 2000 (s), 2015 (s), 2083 (s). EI-MS : m/z 471 ([M-Co(CO)<sub>4</sub>-Cl-Me]<sup>+</sup>, 55%), 506 ([M-Co(CO)<sub>4</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 28%), 558 ([M-3CO-Cl-CH<sub>3</sub>], 12%). Contamination even of crystalline samples with small quantities of  $Co_4(CO)_{12}$  meant that C/H elemental microanalyses for **9** were reproducibly low. Crystallographic data:  $C_{33}H_{41}N_2O_4ClGaCo$ ,  $M_r = 693.80$ , monoclinic,  $C2/c$ ,  $a = 21.42720(10)$ ,  $b = 16.89020(10)$ ,  $c = 21.5723(2)$  Å,  $\beta = 108.7295(4)^\circ$ ,  $V = 7393.79(9)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 8$ ,  $\rho_c = 1.246$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>,  $T = 150(2)$  K,  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å, 8414 independent reflections [R(int) = 0.024], used in all calculations.  $R_I = 0.0333$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.0816$  for  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ , and  $R_I = 0.0480$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.0992$  for all unique reflections. Max./min. residual electron densities 0.56 and -0.61 e Å<sup>-3</sup>. CSD ref.: 944065.

**[OC)<sub>4</sub>CoGa{NDippCMe<sub>2</sub>CH}]**[BAr'<sub>4</sub>]:** A solution of **8** (0.100 g, 0.191 mmol) in toluene (10 mL) was added to a solution of  $Co_2(CO)_8$  (0.065 g, 0.191 mmol) in toluene (10 mL) and the reaction mixture stirred at room temperature for 30 min, after which time <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy revealed quantitative conversion to compound **9**. Volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the resulting solid extracted into dichloromethane (5 mL). This solution was added to a suspension of  $Na[BAr'^4]$  (0.169 g, 0.191 mmol) in dichloromethane (5 mL), and a colourless precipitate was formed immediately. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min, after which time it was filtered and volatiles removed *in vacuo*. The resulting solid was washed with hexane (3 x 5 mL) and dried *in vacuo* to yield a spectroscopically pure, pale yellow powder (0.256 g, 88% yield). This solid was extracted into fluorobenzene and layered with hexane. Storage at room temperature yielded pale yellow crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction. Isolated yield of single crystals: 0.207 g, 71%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, dichloromethane-d<sub>2</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta_H$  1.24 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 1.26 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 2.14 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub> of β-diketiminato backbone), 2.74 (sept, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz, 4H, CH of Dipp Pr), 6.07 (s, 1H, γ-CH), 7.36 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.5 Hz, 4H, m-CH of Dipp), 7.48 (t, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.5 Hz, 2H, p-CH of Dipp), 7.56 (s, 4H, p-CH of [BAr'<sub>4</sub>]), 7.72 (s, 8H, o-CH of [BAr'<sub>4</sub>]). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, dichloromethane-d<sub>2</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta_C$  24.6, 25.1, 25.2 (CH<sub>3</sub> of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr and β-diketiminato backbone), 29.6 (CH of Dipp <sup>i</sup>Pr), 104.9 (γ-C), 118.0 (p-CH of [BAr'<sub>4</sub>]), 125.2 (q, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 271 Hz, CF<sub>3</sub> of [BAr'<sub>4</sub>]), 126.4, 131.2, 136.8, 143.5 (ArC of Dipp) 129.5 (q, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 34.3 Hz, m-C of [BAr'<sub>4</sub>]), 135.4 (o-CH of [BAr'<sub>4</sub>]), 162.3 (q, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>CB</sub> = 49.2 Hz, ipso-C of [BAr'<sub>4</sub>]), 175.3 (NC), 192.6 (br s, CO). <sup>11</sup>B NMR (96 MHz, dichloromethane-d<sub>2</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta_B$  -6.8. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, dichloromethane-d<sub>2</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta_F$  -62.8. IR (KBr disc, v<sub>CO</sub>/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2025 (s), 2047 (s), 2072 (s), 2121 (s). ESI-MS (cation) : 657 ([M]<sup>+</sup>, 18%); accurate mass: calc. 657.1649, meas. 657.1635. Elemental microanalysis: calc. (for  $C_{65}H_{53}N_2O_4F_{24}GaCoB$ ) C 51.31% H 3.51% N 1.84%; meas. C 51.45% H 3.50% N 1.87%. Crystallographic data:  $C_{65}H_{53}N_2O_4F_{24}GaCoB$ ,  $M_r = 1521.56$ , triclinic, P-1,  $a = 12.5663(2)$ ,  $b = 13.2686(3)$ ,  $c = 20.7262(4)$  Å,  $\alpha = 78.486(2)$ ,  $\beta = 83.945(2)^\circ$ ,  $\gamma = 83.491(2)^\circ$ ,  $V = 3352.3(1)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 4$ ,  $\rho_c = 1.507$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>,  $T = 150(2)$  K,  $\lambda = 1.54180$  Å, 13907 independent reflections [R(int) = 0.023], used in all calculations.  $R_I = 0.0489$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.1201$  for  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ , and  $R_I = 0.0521$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.1228$  for all unique reflections. Max./min. residual electron densities 1.74 and -1.09 e Å<sup>-3</sup>. CSD ref.: 952955.**



**Figure S1:** Molecular structure of the cationic component of  $[(\text{OC})_4\text{CoGa}\{(\text{NDippCMe})_2\text{CH}\}][\text{BAr}'_4]$ . H atoms and counter-anion omitted, and Dipp groups shown in wireframe format for clarity. Thermal ellipsoids set at the 50% probability level.

### 3. Details of DFT calculations

The DFT calculations were performed using the Amsterdam Density Functional (ADF) Package Software 2012 and 2013.<sup>S4</sup> Calculations were performed using the Vosko-Wilk-Nusair local density approximation with exchange from Becke,<sup>S5</sup> and correlation corrections from Perdew (BP).<sup>S6</sup> Slater-type orbitals (STOs)<sup>S7</sup> were used for the triple zeta basis set with an additional set of polarization functions (TZP). The large frozen core basis set approximation was applied with no molecular symmetry. General numerical integration was 6. Thermodynamic data was obtained from frequency calculations conducted on the optimised geometries of the species, calculated as detailed above. Analysis of the bonding in complex **5** was conducted using the ETS-NOCV approach,<sup>S8</sup> and the relevant run file is listed below. Run files for the frequency calculations are found below and complete output files provided upon request.

#### 3a. The model system Fe(CO)<sub>4</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>Ga{ (NMeCMe)<sub>2</sub>CH }

```
#! /bin/sh

# =====
# Fe (CO) 4
# =====

"$ADFBIN/adf" <<eor
ATOMS
1 C      0.935647735200    4.145000000000    15.941447960000
2 C      3.319089802000    5.745592402000    17.336860370000
3 C      1.635012872000    4.145000000000    18.38866260000
4 O      1.046728286000    4.145000000000    19.390355660000
5 O      3.772238038000    1.537793833000    17.689650720000
6 Fe     2.518334654000    4.145000000000    16.886484090000
7 C      3.319089802000    2.544407598000    17.336860370000
8 O      -0.092075079320   4.145000000000    15.405742340000
9 O      3.772238038000    6.752206167000    17.689650720000
END
```

```
GUIBONDS
1 1 8 2.0
2 1 6 2.0
3 2 9 2.0
4 2 6 2.0
5 3 4 2.0
6 3 6 1.5
7 6 7 1.5
8 7 5 2.0
END

BASIS
type TZP
core Large
createoutput None
END

XC

#! /bin/sh

# =====
# MeNacNacGaH2
# =====

"$ADFBIN/adf" <<eor
ATOMS
1 H      2.201593941000    4.153201807000    14.898703330000
2 H      4.982015829000    0.658967441000    13.352769630000
3 H      3.203737040000    0.716005908600    13.238016520000
4 C      4.065213720000    7.019526069000    13.665684010000
5 H      4.021853543000    1.252044094000    14.718993140000
6 H      5.521027491000    1.103108638000    11.214619320000
7 C      4.090935367000    1.246954116000    13.624274460000
8 N      4.161376711000    2.622851252000    13.137438730000
9 H      4.774351821000    2.021570906000    9.888387022000
10 H     3.776182867000   0.992412219300    10.944579920000
11 C     4.418313325000    2.861026886000    11.851711870000
12 H     4.735543109000    4.138022804000    10.201434960000
13 H     3.759953230000    7.254096292000    10.839789130000
14 C     4.414050508000    5.431886668000    11.841980900000
15 C     4.520406720000    4.143262144000    11.267967810000
16 C     4.638584040000    6.594205329000    10.885517460000
17 H     5.498353447000    7.207190555000    11.193553680000
18 H     4.820473620000    7.151772391000    14.458009530000
19 H     3.076907869000    7.183012781000    14.126009470000
20 H     4.221723925000    7.802390253000    12.914985230000
21 N     4.143363510000    5.668748065000    13.122775300000
22 Ga    3.775406039000    4.145705287000    14.533880030000
23 H     4.964908114000    4.149463321000    15.627862970000
24 H     4.834794738000    6.221181744000    9.875354747000
25 C     4.632644111000    1.682271048000    10.919508710000
END

GUIBONDS
1 21 22 1.0
2 5 7 1.0
3 2 7 1.0
4 18 4 1.0
5 3 7 1.0
6 19 4 1.0
7 22 8 1.0
8 20 4 1.0
9 4 21 1.0
10 23 22 1.0
11 1 22 1.0
12 14 21 1.0
13 25 9 1.0
14 25 10 1.0
15 14 15 1.5
16 14 16 1.0
17 15 12 1.0
18 15 11 1.5
19 16 24 1.0
20 16 13 1.0
END

GGA Becke Perdew
END

SCANFREQ -1000 0
AnalyticalFreq
END

SAVE TAPE21 TAPE13
FULLSCF
INTEGRATION 6.0
NOPRINT LOGFILE
eor
```

AnalyticalFreq

END

SAVE TAPE21 TAPE13

FULLSCF

INTEGRATION 6.0

NOPRINT LOGFILE

eor

#! /bin/sh

# =====  
# Fe gallyl (anti)  
# =====

"\$ADFBIN/adf" <<eor

ATOMS

1	C	1.202891619000	4.987041302000
2	C	3.955180072000	5.329359404000
3	C	2.982220027000	4.140490749000
4	C	2.197272049000	6.504767971000
5	O	1.803070513000	1.242310474000
6	H	7.069192143000	2.042863687000
7	C	4.479263560000	1.268285500000
8	N	4.395866624000	2.695304839000
9	H	7.517277029000	3.205765302000
10	H	6.556846468000	1.764932089000
11	C	5.448162400000	3.329942668000
12	H	6.416489307000	5.049389204000
13	H	4.163059140000	7.231703586000
14	C	4.434708114000	5.656985400000
15	C	5.466055605000	4.694339352000
16	C	4.771863622000	7.017915684000
17	H	4.570070326000	7.816268528000
18	O	0.214272084200	5.586965873000
19	O	4.768283925000	6.121063523000
20	O	3.135153819000	4.193281892000
21	N	3.200065518000	5.442228625000
22	Ga	2.688590363000	3.710945893000
23	Fe	2.769262900000	4.044369340000
24	H	5.826528127000	7.067993222000
25	C	6.720968725000	2.546644684000
26	C	2.136806646000	2.354019477000
27	H	5.117717670000	1.073234486000
28	H	4.873549732000	0.684795968200
29	H	3.476810611000	0.886946984400
30	H	2.420312223000	7.329750192000
31	H	1.216857939000	6.094345663000
32	H	2.112570569000	6.928437729000
33	H	4.078408872000	3.242105729000
34	H	1.342424288000	3.063554918000

END

GUIBONDS

1	1	18	2.0
2	1	23	2.0
3	2	19	2.0
4	2	23	2.0
5	3	20	2.0
6	3	23	1.5
7	22	8	1.0
8	22	23	3
9	4	21	1.0
10	23	26	1.5
11	26	5	2.0
12	14	21	1.0
13	25	9	1.0
14	25	10	1.0
15	14	15	1.5
16	14	16	1.0
17	15	12	1.0
18	15	11	1.5
19	16	24	1.0
20	16	13	1.0
21	16	17	1.0
22	25	6	1.0
23	11	8	1.0

24 11 25 1.0

25 7 8 1.0

26 21 22 1.0

27 27 7 1.0

28 28 7 1.0

29 29 7 1.0

30 30 4 1.0

31 31 4 1.0

32 32 4 1.0

33 23 33 1.0

34 34 22 1.0

END

BASIS

type TZP  
core Large  
createoutput None

END

XC

GGA Becke Perdew  
END

```
SCANFREQ -1000 0
AnalyticalFreq
END
SAVE TAPE21 TAPE13
#! /bin/sh
# =====
# Fe transition state gallyl (anti) to gallyl (syn)
# =====

"${ADFBIN}/adf" <<eor
ATOMS
1 C      1.673701995000    5.425383597000    16.458100730000
2 C      4.344673878000    4.691543205000    16.329011650000
3 C      2.861878523000    4.020290889000    18.531106890000
4 C      1.658685563000    6.012751996000    12.824304650000
5 O      0.729783364400    1.769771571000    16.526291160000
6 H      7.486820890000    2.979460853000    13.701743110000
7 C      5.157906950000    1.565829842000    13.962473130000
8 N      4.725689710000    2.902449735000    13.556193810000
9 H      7.617318333000    4.058673353000    12.291212200000
10 H     7.045541672000    2.386809800000    12.093913430000
11 C     5.589664555000    3.734849479000    12.970412730000
12 H     6.108901661000    5.578596856000    12.080893360000
13 H     3.391739153000    7.056339934000    10.905694720000
14 C     4.040210086000    5.716900803000    12.482956760000
15 C     5.274076972000    5.033109192000    12.516161080000
16 C     4.034530727000    7.069745784000    11.798921780000
17 H     3.641613919000    7.851023289000    12.466045660000
18 O     1.008107685000    6.364568343000    16.316211090000
19 O     5.412917513000    5.107403310000    16.156569690000
20 O     2.959787576000    4.049505215000    19.684262150000
21 N     2.895522054000    5.248013476000    12.986294880000
22 Ga    2.803786641000    3.492491104000    14.116837730000
23 Fe    2.733598007000    3.954472780000    16.717783630000
24 H     5.044730587000    7.353178925000    11.487198060000
25 C     7.015060396000    3.268881348000    12.751046290000
26 C     1.481742179000    2.651315320000    16.577581480000
27 H     5.914909158000    1.599295671000    14.763507320000
28 H     5.578037128000    0.995171066400    13.119733720000
29 H     4.295470792000    1.006486191000    14.343695530000
30 H     1.675324413000    6.959096946000    13.388597880000
31 H     0.814907043200    5.419592166000    13.195775570000
32 H     1.458134850000    6.247680670000    11.767429770000
33 H     3.627866238000    2.700236994000    16.729559020000
34 H     1.691609375000    2.494313477000    13.498477020000
END

GUIBONDS
1 1 18 2.0
2 1 23 2.0
3 2 19 2.0
4 2 23 2.0
5 3 20 2.0
6 3 23 1.5
7 22 8 1.0
8 22 23 3
9 4 21 1.0
10 23 26 1.5
11 26 5 2.0
12 14 21 1.0
13 25 9 1.0
14 25 10 1.0
15 14 15 1.5
16 14 16 1.0
17 15 12 1.0
18 15 11 1.5
19 16 24 1.0
20 16 13 1.0
21 16 17 1.0
22 25 6 1.0
23 11 8 1.0
24 11 25 1.0
25 7 8 1.0
26 21 22 1.0
27 27 7 1.0
28 28 7 1.0
29 29 7 1.0
30 30 4 1.0
31 31 4 1.0
32 32 4 1.0
33 23 33 1.0
34 34 22 1.0
END

BASIS
type TZP
core Large
createoutput None
END

XC
GGA Becke Perdew
END

SCANFREQ -1000 0
```

```
AnalyticalFreq
END

SAVE TAPE21 TAPE13

SCF
diis
END

#!/bin/sh

# =====
# Fe gallyl (syn)
# =====

"$ADFBIN/adf" <<eor
ATOMS
 1 C      4.634025752000    3.767838961000    16.769181450000
 2 C      2.227975992000    2.365976476000    16.680617970000
 3 C      2.543177835000    4.459069749000    18.448159440000
 4 C      1.583428203000    5.918195784000    12.640781830000
 5 O      2.805368436000    6.878680168000    15.717383840000
 6 H      7.446459243000    3.017062519000    13.803623500000
 7 C      5.132016847000    1.575773492000    13.788706200000
 8 N      4.708930659000    2.947067412000    13.506181160000
 9 H      7.649727903000    4.259495120000    12.541480960000
10 H     7.120798226000    2.619407131000    12.109699170000
11 C     5.588502069000    3.837214727000    13.040583930000
12 H     6.108161617000    5.761559295000    12.334289340000
13 H     3.430529607000    7.124806336000    10.927797170000
14 C     4.002871571000    5.778800196000    12.527846110000
15 C     5.263866261000    5.158868313000    12.663156250000
16 C     3.982898061000    7.147772928000    11.879379800000
17 H     3.482572745000    7.883262744000    12.526275460000
18 O     5.774471395000    3.572556609000    16.836204870000
19 O     1.776187406000    1.296888400000    16.702824180000
20 O     2.344612353000    4.709380365000    19.560955080000
21 N     2.845815098000    5.228925257000    12.905043080000
22 Ga    2.791486570000    3.521431658000    14.099885600000
23 Fe    2.828261027000    4.076122928000    16.694097420000
24 H     4.999787995000    7.496628973000    11.673373240000
25 C     7.033185436000    3.414937193000    12.865343430000
26 C     2.862593162000    5.771415421000    16.061659880000
27 H     5.826596763000    1.522564692000    14.643267090000
28 H     5.624039305000    1.110984073000    12.920563460000
29 H     4.251616395000    0.969314155900    14.031860070000
30 H     1.483804689000    6.842781166000    13.232310430000
31 H     0.750264335600    5.256754393000    12.907064910000
32 H     1.473264384000    6.177866135000    11.576752450000
33 H     1.328880552000    4.308120375000    16.430662860000
34 H     1.664897596000    2.501456015000    13.553649850000
END

GUIBONDS
 1 1 18 2.0
 2 1 23 2.0
 3 2 19 2.0
 4 2 23 2.0
 5 3 20 2.0
 6 3 23 1.5
 7 22 8 1.0
 8 22 23 3
 9 4 21 1.0
10 23 26 1.5
11 26 5 2.0
12 14 21 1.0
13 25 9 1.0
14 25 10 1.0
15 14 15 1.5
16 14 16 1.0
17 15 12 1.0
18 15 11 1.5
19 16 24 1.0
20 16 13 1.0
21 16 17 1.0
22 25 6 1.0
23 11 8 1.0
24 11 25 1.0
25 7 8 1.0
26 21 22 1.0
27 27 7 1.0
28 28 7 1.0
29 29 7 1.0
30 30 4 1.0
31 31 4 1.0
32 32 4 1.0
33 23 33 1.0
34 34 22 1.0
END

BASIS
type TZP
core Large
createoutput None
END

XC
```

GGA Becke Perdew  
END

SCANFREQ -1000 0

AnalyticalFreq  
END

#! /bin/sh

# =====  
# Fe transition state H2 loss  
# =====

"\$ADFBIN/adf" <<eor

ATOMS

1 C	4.484560000000	4.739900000000	17.353300000000
2 C	3.126510000000	2.315260000000	16.727200000000
3 C	2.033470000000	3.979920000000	18.471800000000
4 C	2.404140000000	6.618730000000	12.972400000000
5 O	1.320190000000	6.572850000000	16.168100000000
6 H	6.795820000000	1.621790000000	12.529400000000
7 C	4.314360000000	1.227270000000	13.516100000000
8 N	4.360050000000	2.660530000000	13.218900000000
9 H	7.001030000000	2.729490000000	11.146900000000
10 H	5.771430000000	1.449910000000	11.096200000000
11 C	5.253570000000	3.140350000000	12.347800000000
12 H	6.128850000000	4.700830000000	11.226500000000
13 H	3.830330000000	6.929150000000	10.543400000000
14 C	4.402460000000	5.541170000000	12.105200000000
15 C	5.309830000000	4.479300000000	11.907400000000
16 C	4.633520000000	6.793090000000	11.283500000000
17 H	4.645660000000	7.691340000000	11.917000000000
18 O	5.540680000000	5.142580000000	17.613700000000
19 O	3.249320000000	1.155930000000	16.715400000000
20 O	1.484400000000	3.887280000000	19.489600000000
21 N	3.352400000000	5.503440000000	12.931800000000
22 Ga	3.135560000000	3.948520000000	14.283200000000
23 Fe	2.833830000000	4.101280000000	16.851100000000
24 H	5.583260000000	6.730560000000	10.743000000000
25 C	6.266030000000	2.185620000000	11.748500000000
26 C	1.950310000000	5.618100000000	16.393300000000
27 H	5.155710000000	0.913380000000	14.154400000000
28 H	4.330820000000	0.623450000000	12.597600000000
29 H	3.387700000000	0.996641000000	14.050500000000
30 H	2.824270000000	7.496060000000	13.489600000000
31 H	1.505210000000	6.311640000000	13.515600000000
32 H	2.097160000000	6.925030000000	11.962100000000
33 H	1.654850000000	3.567180000000	15.714000000000
34 H	1.497710000000	3.395280000000	14.567600000000

END

GUIBONDS

1 1 18 2.0
2 1 23 2.0
3 2 19 2.0
4 2 23 2.0
5 3 20 2.0
6 3 23 1.5
7 22 8 1.0
8 22 23 3.0
9 4 21 1.0
10 23 26 1.5
11 26 5 2.0
12 14 21 1.0
13 25 9 1.0
14 25 10 1.0
15 14 15 1.5
16 14 16 1.0
17 15 12 1.0
18 15 11 1.5
19 16 24 1.0
20 16 13 1.0

SAVE TAPE21 TAPE13

FULLSCF

INTEGRATION 6.0

NOPRINT LOGFILE

eor

21 16 17 1.0

22 25 6 1.0

23 11 8 1.0

24 11 25 1.0

25 7 8 1.0

26 21 22 1.0

27 27 7 1.0

28 28 7 1.0

29 29 7 1.0

30 30 4 1.0

31 31 4 1.0

32 32 4 1.0

33 23 33 1.0

34 34 22 1.0

END

BASIS

type TZP

core Large

createoutput None

END

```
XC
GGA Becke Perdew
END
```

```
SCANFREQ -1000 0
```

```
AnalyticalFreq
END
```

```
RESTART
$SCM_RESULTDIR/SP_43_LT_gallyl_to_dihydrogen
_a6_v7_fine.t21
```

```
SAVE TAPE21 TAPE13
```

```
FULLSCF
INTEGRATION 6.0
```

```
NOPRINT LOGFILE
```

```
eor
```

```
#! /bin/sh
```

```
# =====
# Fe(CO) 4 (Me_NacNacGa)
# =====
```

```
"$ADFBIN/adf" <<eor
```

```
ATOMS
```

1	C	1.129819222000	4.626029794000
2	C	3.912304080000	5.431643887000
3	C	1.965288571000	4.274998139000
4	C	3.208760435000	6.866759191000
5	O	3.316408484000	1.270265761000
6	H	6.470820395000	1.459596352000
7	C	4.684020610000	1.297040901000
8	N	4.507472173000	2.661442979000
9	H	5.870518492000	2.232866279000
10	H	4.886994217000	1.011597166000
11	C	4.930976380000	2.952751187000
12	H	5.218439073000	4.271260320000
13	H	3.307726616000	6.992455363000
14	C	4.280833871000	5.419209495000
15	C	4.821743942000	4.215280844000
16	C	4.321191441000	6.614565457000
17	H	4.889119040000	7.442875154000
18	O	0.108527189800	4.945662070000
19	O	4.679691080000	6.269518432000
20	O	1.502164043000	4.360677680000
21	N	3.743402498000	5.562514736000
22	Ga	3.605724859000	4.033015432000
23	Fe	2.679301505000	4.144401361000
24	H	4.787380120000	6.352461713000
25	C	5.575980359000	1.856901543000
26	C	3.083841120000	2.393177099000
27	H	5.746406832000	1.011536442000
28	H	4.148366883000	0.559654044800
29	H	4.287081761000	1.236374111000
30	H	3.989133894000	7.642773041000
31	H	2.811335072000	6.787919925000
32	H	2.391567169000	7.193337979000

```
END
```

```
GUIBONDS
```

1	1	18	2.0
2	1	23	2.0
3	2	19	2.0
4	2	23	2.0
5	3	20	2.0
6	3	23	1.5
7	22	8	1.0
8	22	23	3
9	4	21	1.0
10	23	26	1.5
11	26	5	2.0
12	14	21	1.0
13	25	9	1.0
14	25	10	1.0
15	14	15	1.5
16	14	16	1.0
17	15	12	1.0
18	15	11	1.5

19	16	24	1.0
20	16	13	1.0
21	16	17	1.0
22	25	6	1.0
23	11	8	1.0
24	11	25	1.0
25	7	8	1.0
26	21	22	1.0
27	27	7	1.0
28	28	7	1.0
29	29	7	1.0
30	30	4	1.0
31	31	4	1.0
32	32	4	1.0

```
END
```

```
BASIS
type TZP
core Large
```

```
createoutput None  
END
```

```
XC  
GGA Becke Perdew  
END
```

```
SCANFREQ -1000 0
```

```
AnalyticalFreq  
END
```

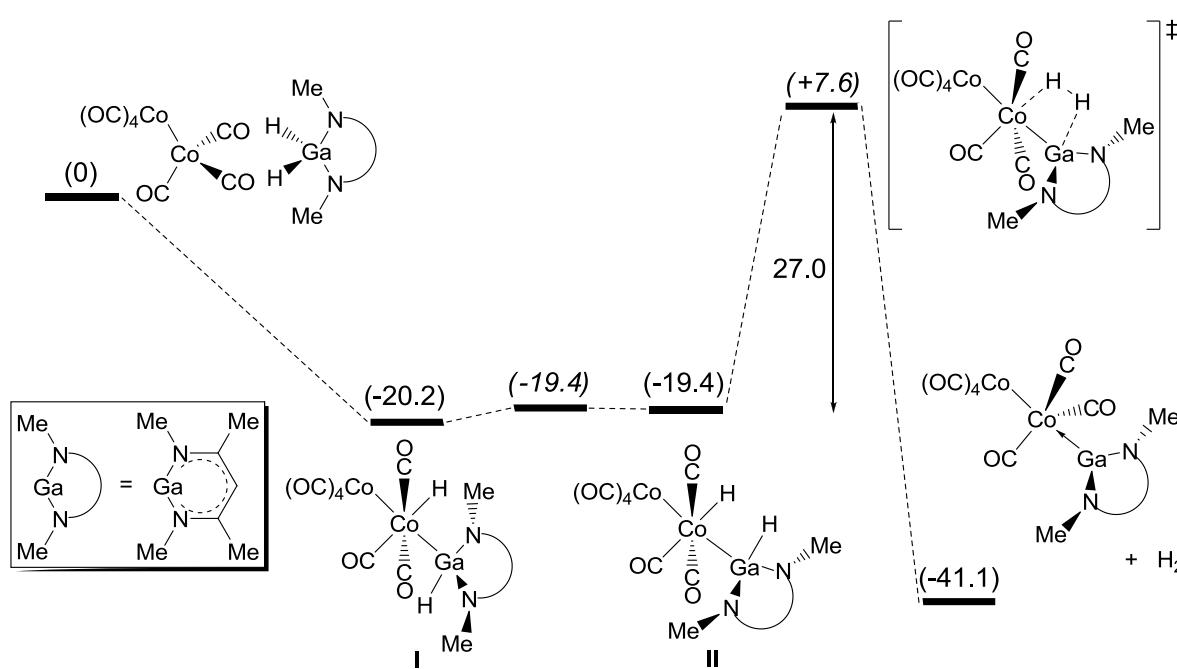
```
SAVE TAPE21 TAPE13
```

```
FULLSCF  
INTEGRATION 6.0
```

```
NOPRINT LOGFILE
```

```
eor
```

3b. The model system  $\text{Co}_2(\text{CO})_7 + \text{H}_2\text{Ga}\{(\text{NMeCMe})_2\text{CH}\}$



**Scheme S1:** Model for potential gallane dehydrogenation pathway at thermally generated  $[\text{Co}_2(\text{CO})_7]$ , via (hydrido)cobalt gallyl intermediates **I** and **II** (relative energies in kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>). Calculations performed using the Vosko-Wilk-Nusair local density approximation with BP86 exchange-correlation corrections. A triple zeta basis set with an additional set of polarization functions (TZP) was employed.

```
#! /bin/sh

# =====
# Co2(CO) 7
# =====

"$ADFBIN/adf" <<eor

ATOMS
1 O      1.326889999000   15.052190410000   6.210589118000
2 Co     3.419049043000   14.539626480000   4.131161212000
3 Co     5.324854453000   14.700287760000   5.950576165000
4 C      4.707976954000   16.418382580000   6.228814901000
5 O      4.374818685000   17.499035790000   6.455233018000
6 C      6.488563430000   14.358053560000   4.556368455000
7 O      7.269385160000   14.145773950000   3.734809945000
8 C      6.621555340000   14.818257380000   7.190442525000
9 O      7.453238744000   14.895562080000   7.985686463000
10 C     4.470307502000   13.280140900000   6.767948579000
11 O     3.990111500000   12.393300730000   7.327041004000
12 C     4.172612368000   15.940587190000   3.215079223000
13 O     4.622036344000   16.822657560000   2.614060365000
14 C     3.923003984000   12.815678910000   3.752153344000
15 O     4.213051739000   11.725649270000   3.489584437000
16 C     2.151245471000   14.855155730000   5.421446237000
END

GUIBONDS
1 14 15 2.0
2 16 1 2.0
3 12 13 2.0
4 2 16 2.0
5 2 14 2.0
6 2 12 1.5
7 2 3 1.5
8 3 8 2.0
9 3 4 2.0
10 3 10 2.0
11 3 6 2.0
12 4 5 2.0
13 6 7 2.0
14 8 9 2.0
15 10 11 2.0
END

BASIS
type TZP
core Large
createoutput None

END

#! /bin/sh

# =====
# Co gallyl (anti)
# =====

"$ADFBIN/adf" <<eor

ATOMS
1 Ga      2.213272256000   14.638443450000   1.561151997000
2 Co      3.583941411000   14.609454020000   3.759065918000
3 Co      5.006811178000   14.508115620000   6.147355072000
4 C      4.268439541000   16.148831720000   6.468703117000
5 O      3.854540287000   17.193956690000   6.759063342000
6 C      6.463359212000   14.478879310000   5.044152664000
7 O      7.449917988000   14.463175110000   4.432816968000
8 C      5.888419865000   14.334567320000   7.707645165000
9 O      6.452415961000   14.223800250000   8.713039410000
10 C     3.978602877000   13.012551050000   6.317483014000
11 O     3.377674149000   12.040821200000   6.530556839000
12 C     4.405923114000   16.170940260000   3.266395870000
13 O     4.904490883000   17.154942260000   2.923467100000
14 C     4.576408033000   13.369237130000   2.926732569000
15 O     5.149843815000   12.509991040000   2.404032685000
16 C     2.092527939000   15.184399900000   4.580039430000
END
```

17 O 1.114367569000 15.476750290000 5.123121916000  
18 N 0.824941375200 13.102926670000 1.656696463000  
19 H 0.646472676700 11.162807230000 0.788593413700  
20 H -2.393883390000 16.698341100000 2.605549586000  
21 C -0.481833898600 15.876432190000 2.022800949000  
22 N 0.769130174900 16.124547560000 1.620004855000  
23 H 0.527180793500 18.015300950000 0.664987965200  
24 H -2.037516849000 14.573102890000 2.603090898000  
25 H -1.008458835000 17.761391560000 2.955825298000  
26 H -2.310878311000 12.437409790000 2.672635533000  
27 H -1.591748620000 17.589769440000 1.293783797000  
28 H -0.886342334500 11.430482540000 3.032906080000  
29 H -1.487830222000 11.547567610000 1.373049394000  
30 C -1.424028205000 17.043111720000 2.233921913000  
31 C -0.433359204300 13.314245790000 2.056470427000  
32 C -1.332093598000 12.119294810000 2.300343172000  
33 C -1.006715464000 14.588000170000 2.255392267000  
34 C 1.198682922000 17.501490460000 1.368836552000  
35 H 1.244604285000 18.097934890000 2.294638763000  
36 H 2.200294017000 17.493162240000 0.923765454100  
37 C 1.309468160000 11.736376420000 1.452994869000  
38 H 2.299626040000 11.768276700000 0.984249711700  
39 H 1.403062424000 11.184563470000 2.402736505000  
40 H 2.866747710000 13.336581840000 4.091215914000  
41 H 3.068811952000 14.659170680000 0.195718578400  
END

GUIBONDS  
1 1 18 1.0  
2 1 22 1.0  
3 1 2 3  
4 2 16 2.0  
5 2 14 2.0  
6 2 12 1.5  
7 2 3 1.5  
8 3 8 2.0  
9 3 4 2.0  
10 3 10 2.0  
11 3 6 2.0  
12 4 5 2.0  
13 6 7 2.0  
14 8 9 2.0  
15 10 11 2.0  
16 12 13 2.0  
17 14 15 2.0  
18 16 17 2.0  
19 18 31 1.0  
20 19 37 1.0  
21 30 25 1.0  
22 33 21 1.5  
23 21 22 1.0  
24 21 30 1.0  
25 23 34 1.0  
26 31 33 1.5  
27 30 27 1.0  
28 30 20 1.0  
29 31 32 1.0  
30 32 28 1.0  
31 32 26 1.0  
32 32 29 1.0  
33 33 24 1.0  
34 35 34 1.0  
35 36 34 1.0  
36 34 22 1.0

#! /bin/sh  
  
# =====  
# Co transition state gallyl (anti) to gallyl (syn)  
# =====

"\$ADFBIN/adf" <<eor  
ATOMS  
1 Ga 2.109204759000 13.996950960000 1.659104465000  
2 Co 3.517460996000 14.318379250000 3.818027188000  
3 Co 5.056203514000 14.543461390000 6.124558936000

37 38 37 1.0  
38 39 37 1.0  
39 37 18 1.0  
40 40 2 1.0  
41 41 1 1.0  
END

BASIS  
type TZP  
core Large  
createoutput None  
END  
  
XC  
GGA Becke Perdew  
END

SCANFREQ -1000 0

AnalyticalFreq  
END

SAVE TAPE21 TAPE13

SCF  
diis  
END

FULLSCF  
INTEGRATION 6

NoBeckeGrid  
NOPRINT LOGFILE

eor

4 C 3.625455909000 15.436171970000 6.833872946000  
5 O 2.775191549000 16.016279320000 7.369557951000  
6 C 6.165074053000 15.533260240000 5.061301025000  
7 O 6.927731525000 16.180275280000 4.471905845000  
8 C 6.087541697000 14.540890530000 7.600201569000  
9 O 6.748719205000 14.540243310000 8.550898227000  
10 C 4.973971002000 12.733551530000 5.929470738000  
11 O 4.992304650000 11.572083100000 5.912821370000  
12 C 3.356511492000 16.141009050000 3.732563752000  
13 O 3.246536929000 17.288789220000 3.659351401000  
14 C 4.919771263000 13.999644110000 2.742320681000  
15 O 5.797572694000 13.711580120000 2.046766309000  
16 C 2.055297207000 13.872040880000 4.755454176000  
17 O 1.137590357000 13.500287340000 5.354156604000  
18 N 0.162411725500 13.476137050000 2.143117338000  
19 H -1.039057521000 11.732514020000 1.899962140000  
20 H -0.760740549400 18.257102310000 1.473049699000  
21 C 0.413762425600 16.445707770000 1.367636572000  
22 N 1.548027658000 15.866917810000 0.959352911300  
23 H 2.048521538000 17.045260290000 -0.744740731300  
24 H -1.452485635000 16.408287570000 2.358109375000  
25 H 0.998633038100 18.532558230000 1.407979641000  
26 H -2.729572021000 14.857177130000 3.160072420000  
27 H 0.124110692900 18.054639750000 -0.054592669490  
28 H -1.946760744000 13.445908270000 3.916336346000  
29 H -2.631771631000 13.311222260000 2.289800405000  
30 C 0.177478734300 17.903623950000 1.034144571000  
31 C -0.766258325400 14.409787430000 2.375183964000  
32 C -2.092761341000 13.987489180000 2.970422718000  
33 C -0.610086354400 15.780190370000 2.075536554000  
34 C 2.512358107000 16.625471160000 0.160674333100  
35 H 2.963319305000 17.454294100000 0.729721479800  
36 H 3.319610427000 15.957395890000 -0.161400685200  
37 C -0.127552795100 12.067846410000 2.417208710000  
38 H 0.703936073200 11.451563450000 2.055583359000  
39 H -0.252165510900 11.872322220000 3.494374793000  
40 H 3.580060954000 12.818931150000 3.799515344000  
41 H 2.737698852000 13.044555020000 0.521412547900  
END

GUIBONDS  
1 1 18 1.0  
2 1 22 1.0  
3 1 2 3  
4 2 16 2.0  
5 2 14 2.0  
6 2 12 1.5  
7 2 3 1.5  
8 3 8 2.0  
9 3 4 2.0  
10 3 10 2.0  
11 3 6 2.0  
12 4 5 2.0  
13 6 7 2.0  
14 8 9 2.0  
15 10 11 2.0  
16 12 13 2.0  
17 14 15 2.0  
18 16 17 2.0  
19 18 31 1.0  
20 19 37 1.0  
21 30 25 1.0  
22 33 21 1.5  
23 21 22 1.0  
24 21 30 1.0  
25 23 34 1.0  
26 31 33 1.5  
27 30 27 1.0  
28 30 20 1.0  
29 31 32 1.0  
30 32 28 1.0  
31 32 26 1.0  
32 32 29 1.0  
33 33 24 1.0  
34 35 34 1.0  
35 36 34 1.0  
36 34 22 1.0

37 38 37 1.0  
38 39 37 1.0  
39 37 18 1.0  
40 40 2 1.0  
41 41 1 1.0  
END  
  
BASIS  
type TZP  
core Large  
createoutput None  
END  
  
XC  
GGA Becke Perdew  
END  
  
SCANFREQ -1000 0  
  
AnalyticalFreq  
END  
  
SAVE TAPE21 TAPE13  
  
SCF  
diis  
END  
  
FULLSCF  
INTEGRATION 6  
  
NoBeckeGrid  
NOPRINT LOGFILE  
  
eor

```
#! /bin/sh
# =====
# Co gallyl (syn)
# =====
"${ADFBIN}/adf" <<eor
ATOMS
1 Ga      2.170339723000    14.947901880000   1.585582609000
2 Co      3.519987705000    14.737668100000   3.801712664000
3 Co      5.055842462000    14.498660500000   6.108017490000
4 C       3.718829086000    13.407061130000   6.713292415000
5 O       2.923886363000    12.707238350000   7.187623805000
6 C       4.758901491000    16.295514140000   6.248584960000
7 O       4.620434483000    17.433619870000   6.430782714000
8 C       6.152207950000    14.333771800000   7.526399702000
9 O       6.854887159000    14.226819770000   8.440578355000
10 C      6.226792653000   13.862407430000   4.863185955000
11 O      7.054443909000   13.441154150000   4.165652455000
12 C      2.120946030000   15.381841610000   4.795015116000
13 O      1.232138650000   15.796388490000   5.405237626000
14 C      4.321631770000   16.238418570000   3.228022288000
15 O      4.883434237000   17.155143540000   2.800664343000
16 C      3.160736914000   12.982233950000   3.751538341000
17 O      3.004632064000   11.837676540000   3.675456381000
18 N      1.238756054000   13.156212010000   1.122115551000
19 H      1.429276629000   11.727280020000   -0.447175298600
20 H      -2.682713187000  15.215141070000   3.251896856000
21 C      -0.702212671400  15.183578140000   2.387580291000
22 N      0.375929081000   15.888268170000   2.027930566000
23 H      -0.483072823600  17.792494750000   1.603288094000
24 H      -1.752355028000  13.365333820000   2.626035757000
25 H      -1.618191095000  16.525203600000   3.822579886000
26 H      -1.456896233000  11.328550120000   1.957313596000
27 H      -2.327504653000  16.604501900000   2.202764330000
28 H      0.213967419700  10.713063280000   1.878790655000
29 H      -0.623095276000  11.190873780000   0.394433464400
30 C      -1.900503835000  15.918505530000   2.949852596000
31 C      0.031906820420  12.857007870000   1.614407965000
32 C      -0.490412129400  11.444737040000   1.457022629000
33 C      -0.818736501100  13.783168790000   2.254935421000
34 C      0.368967682000  17.347951200000   2.139189623000
35 H      0.326250063100  17.684526460000   3.187774794000
36 H      1.285986523000  17.748852240000   1.692036997000
37 C      2.005219400000  12.144627120000   0.392588694400
38 H      2.908296705000  12.606956370000   -0.022848776270
39 H      2.318380189000  11.312439970000   1.042804319000
40 H      4.627257834000  14.212638390000   2.936772016000
41 H      2.947398175000  15.584308090000   0.325844736500
END
```

GUIBONDS

```
1 1 18 1.0
2 1 22 1.0
3 1 2 3
4 2 16 2.0
5 2 14 2.0
6 2 12 1.5
7 2 3 1.5
8 3 8 2.0
9 3 4 2.0
10 3 10 2.0
11 3 6 2.0
12 4 5 2.0
13 6 7 2.0
14 8 9 2.0
15 10 11 2.0
16 12 13 2.0
17 14 15 2.0
18 16 17 2.0
19 18 31 1.0
20 19 37 1.0
21 30 25 1.0
22 33 21 1.5
```

```
23 21 22 1.0
24 21 30 1.0
25 23 34 1.0
26 31 33 1.5
27 30 27 1.0
28 30 20 1.0
29 31 32 1.0
30 32 28 1.0
31 32 26 1.0
32 32 29 1.0
33 33 24 1.0
34 35 34 1.0
35 36 34 1.0
36 34 22 1.0
37 38 37 1.0
38 39 37 1.0
39 37 18 1.0
40 40 2 1.0
41 41 1 1.0
END
```

BASIS  
type TZP

```
core Large
createoutput None
END
```

```
XC
GGA Becke Perdew
END
```

```
SCANFREQ -1000 0
```

```
AnalyticalFreq
END
```

```
#! /bin/sh
```

```
# =====
# Co transition state H2 loss
# =====
```

```
"$ADFBIN/adf" <<eor
```

```
ATOMS
```

1	Ga	1.688673902000	14.532372470000
2	Co	3.422045229000	14.570524730000
3	Co	5.334361600000	14.617991570000
4	C	4.496336787000	13.111086780000
5	O	4.027669336000	12.156966710000
6	C	4.567041016000	16.211341220000
7	O	4.143284091000	17.223767140000
8	C	6.679623387000	14.641520720000
9	O	7.548265277000	14.656462000000
10	C	6.393845374000	14.526427270000
11	O	7.149686436000	14.469291170000
12	C	2.109898261000	14.658221410000
13	O	1.217610457000	14.712172370000
14	C	4.025593286000	16.206168110000
15	O	4.412576587000	17.244121320000
16	C	3.948212269000	12.870188890000
17	O	4.285988251000	11.787814820000
18	N	0.447053339900	13.004342390000
19	H	1.138323836000	11.038873090000
20	H	-2.136609035000	16.626741110000
21	C	-0.550728661000	15.803022360000
22	N	0.519413706300	16.059082470000
23	H	1.300703409000	17.940629890000
24	H	-1.909196868000	14.506245700000
25	H	-1.743259544000	17.597949450000
26	H	-2.238614022000	12.384401300000
27	H	-0.659240704300	17.621657210000
28	H	-1.885443240000	11.529943790000
29	H	-0.808902334400	11.329322980000
30	C	-1.317220358000	16.974291480000
31	C	-0.611519133400	13.239734860000
32	C	-1.4338855827000	12.058094560000
33	C	-1.034832796000	14.515258970000
34	C	0.918834966500	17.441837130000
35	H	0.082827940820	18.035000840000
36	H	1.717264752000	17.445416320000
37	C	0.781609434700	11.635459500000
38	H	1.580098094000	11.662794440000
39	H	-0.080671346470	11.120836060000
40	H	3.667734594000	14.485881160000
41	H	3.162697999000	14.446633410000

```
END
```

```
GUIBONDS
```

1	1	18	1.0
2	1	22	1.0
3	1	2	3
4	2	16	2.0
5	2	14	2.0
6	2	12	1.5
7	2	3	1.5
8	3	8	2.0
9	3	4	2.0
10	3	10	2.0

```
SAVE TAPE21 TAPE13
```

```
SCF
diis
END
```

```
FULLSCF
INTEGRATION 6
```

```
NoBeckeGrid
NOPRINT LOGFILE
```

```
eor
```

11	3	6	2.0
12	4	5	2.0
13	6	7	2.0
14	8	9	2.0
15	10	11	2.0
16	12	13	2.0
17	14	15	2.0
18	16	17	2.0
19	18	31	1.0
20	19	37	1.0
21	30	25	1.0

```
22 33 21 1.5
23 21 22 1.0
24 21 30 1.0
25 23 34 1.0
26 31 33 1.5
27 30 27 1.0
28 30 20 1.0
29 31 32 1.0
30 32 28 1.0
31 32 26 1.0
32 32 29 1.0
33 33 24 1.0
34 35 34 1.0
35 36 34 1.0
36 34 22 1.0
37 38 37 1.0
38 39 37 1.0
39 37 18 1.0
40 40 2 1.0
41 41 1 1.0
END

BASIS
type TZP
core Large
createoutput None

END

XC
GGA Becke Perdew
END

SCANFREQ -1000 0
AnalyticalFreq
END

SAVE TAPE21 TAPE13

SCF
diis
END

FULLSCF
INTEGRATION 6

NoBeckeGrid
NOPRINT LOGFILE

eor
```

```
#! /bin/sh

# =====
# Co2 (CO) 7 (MeNacNacGa)
# =====

"$ADFBIN/adf" <<eor
ATOMS
1 Ga      1.695301557000   14.504386480000   2.545211471000
2 Co      3.408294431000   14.535545130000   4.122955032000
3 Co      5.356890509000   14.700446180000   5.981433548000
4 C       4.693517110000   16.391857000000   6.199289532000
5 O       4.332175514000   17.475873100000   6.394937621000
6 C       6.452777513000   14.366061020000   4.551529656000
7 O       7.212546172000   14.163208340000   3.700909408000
8 C       6.651965556000   14.817672690000   7.223270015000
9 O       7.485262945000   14.894222710000   8.023027870000
10 C      4.454986436000   13.295817850000   6.736679638000
11 O      3.943148473000   12.408096070000   7.277073531000
12 C      4.163948960000   15.922104130000   3.227559760000
13 O      4.631200677000   16.810072440000   2.637823314000
14 C      3.914730643000   12.832678250000   3.750899712000
15 O      4.229299964000   11.739702640000   3.499975500000
16 C      2.172049450000   14.856606830000   5.412800659000
17 O      1.360961523000   15.060043210000   6.222474268000
18 N      0.869576466300   13.212257190000   1.170334215000
19 H      1.856273328000   11.679543940000   0.059996708790
20 H      -2.200359193000  16.914430670000   0.120015440200
21 C      -0.570323828900  15.941611680000   1.153734866000
22 N      0.390907663000   16.040745450000   2.081209505000
23 H      0.793976351100   18.134086370000   2.160361690000
24 H      -1.633893087000  14.877718080000   -0.325678936300
25 H      -2.005416141000  17.422961470000   1.814954463000
26 H      -1.529495690000  12.902467260000   -1.170440158000
27 H      -0.876830065000  18.009619260000   0.587508195300
28 H      -1.024684643000  11.600177950000   -0.067574713340
29 H      0.097526014770   12.192915680000   -1.298288464000
30 C      -1.465709952000  17.135070070000   0.900760700400
31 C      -0.165958657400  13.540304450000   0.379003510300
32 C      -0.688057323300  12.505035630000   -0.594488324000
33 C      -0.812858487700  14.788152490000   0.382661914900
34 C      0.556220326300   17.292975970000   2.828710870000
35 H      -0.349745206500  17.546312250000   3.399230639000
36 H      1.383302721000   17.179744570000   3.538222766000
37 C      1.458724015000   11.870356910000   1.068137474000
38 H      2.285570414000   11.780798530000   1.778469699000
39 H      0.723003153400   11.086901110000   1.304029219000
END
```

```
GUIBONDS
1 1 18 1.0
2 1 22 1.0
3 1 2 3
4 2 16 2.0
5 2 14 2.0
6 2 12 1.5
7 2 3 1.5
8 3 8 2.0
9 3 4 2.0
10 3 10 2.0
11 3 6 2.0
12 4 5 2.0
13 6 7 2.0
14 8 9 2.0
15 10 11 2.0
16 12 13 2.0
17 14 15 2.0
18 16 17 2.0
19 18 31 1.0
20 19 37 1.0
21 30 25 1.0
22 33 21 1.5
23 21 22 1.0
24 21 30 1.0
25 23 34 1.0
26 31 33 1.5
27 30 27 1.0
28 30 20 1.0
29 31 32 1.0
30 32 28 1.0
31 32 26 1.0
32 32 29 1.0
33 33 24 1.0
34 35 34 1.0
35 36 34 1.0

36 34 22 1.0
37 38 37 1.0
38 39 37 1.0
39 37 18 1.0
END

BASIS
type TZP
core Large
createoutput None
END

XC
GGA Becke Perdew
END

SCANFREQ -1000 0

AnalyticalFreq
END

SAVE TAPE21 TAPE13

SCF
diis
END

FULLSCF
INTEGRATION 6

NoBeckeGrid
NOPRINT LOGFILE

eor
```

## 2c. ETS-NOCV calculation on $(\text{OC})_5\text{W}(\text{Ga}\{(\text{NMeCMe})_2\text{CH}\})$

```
#!/bin/sh

# =====
# W(CO)5(MeNacNacGa)
# =====

"$ADFBIN/adf" <<eor

ATOMS
1 W      6.555255167000   17.306178090000   15.830581080000   f=Metal b=Metal
2 Ga     4.584797417000   15.487383540000   15.824942020000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
3 N      3.023831362000   15.011966260000   14.506215440000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
4 H      3.057203333000   15.215093740000   12.379948150000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
5 H      2.421376289000   12.564967460000   18.973349180000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
6 C      2.937792892000   13.152582140000   16.950230310000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
7 C      2.623575996000   12.102156550000   17.996051800000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
8 H      1.748426287000   11.511694280000   17.706557620000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
9 H      3.472875905000   11.417063360000   18.135929240000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
10 O     5.845918008000   17.982866140000   18.939388080000   f=Metal b=Metal
11 H     1.290575899000   12.460176930000   15.826325040000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
12 H     0.382511168200   12.997237910000   13.947446510000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
13 H     0.438065150600   14.722162930000   13.513132380000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
14 H     1.490302730000   13.572469460000   12.679050600000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
15 N     3.981247219000   13.970635320000   17.143736270000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
16 C     2.120557982000   14.041409750000   14.700690180000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
17 C     2.092417733000   13.195983180000   15.825688440000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
18 C     1.046725621000   13.816961250000   13.655619330000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
19 C     8.063481727000   18.704102900000   15.836044670000   f=Metal b=Metal
20 O     8.915642305000   19.494656190000   15.839575020000   f=Metal b=Metal
21 C     6.963045306000   16.818759000000   13.830368530000   f=Metal b=Metal
22 O     7.188850211000   16.555038630000   12.722335200000   f=Metal b=Metal
23 C     7.884544902000   15.812339300000   16.466847050000   f=Metal b=Metal
24 O     8.622610060000   14.989682470000   16.823167660000   f=Metal b=Metal
25 C     5.172786979000   18.749627910000   15.191483900000   f=Metal b=Metal
```

```
26 O      4.412192774000    19.550427490000   14.832775640000   f=Metal b=Metal
27 H      5.589743650000    14.571975380000   18.348292680000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
28 C      6.094247006000    17.742179630000   17.830922720000   f=Metal b=Metal
29 C      2.947352920000    15.825996870000   13.289170280000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
30 H      1.995260793000    16.374580930000   13.222039110000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
31 H      3.759158763000    16.562135460000   13.299513970000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
32 C      4.786838721000    13.826145140000   18.360228880000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
33 H      4.188557836000    13.988851870000   19.269946300000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
34 H      5.252041275000    12.830662550000   18.427954090000   f=Ligand b=Ligand
END
```

```
GUIBONDS
1 1 25 1.5
2 1 19 1.5
3 1 23 1.5
4 1 21 1.5
5 1 28 1.0
6 1 2 3
7 2 3 1.0
8 2 15 1.0
9 3 16 1.0
10 4 29 1.0
11 19 20 2.0
12 21 22 2.0
13 23 24 2.0
14 25 26 2.0
15 15 6 1.0
16 27 32 1.0
17 7 5 1.0
18 7 8 1.0
19 6 7 1.0
20 7 9 1.0
21 28 10 2.0
22 16 17 1.5
23 16 18 1.0
24 17 11 1.0
25 17 6 1.5
26 18 14 1.0
27 18 13 1.0
28 18 12 1.0
29 30 29 1.0
30 31 29 1.0
31 29 3 1.0
32 33 32 1.0
33 34 32 1.0
34 32 15 1.0
END
```

```
SYMMETRY NOSYM
```

```
BASIS
type TZP
core Large
createoutput None
END
```

```
XC
GGA Becke Perdew
END
```

```
Fragments
Ligand Frag_W(CO)5_Me_Ga_d6.Ligand.t21
Metal Frag_W(CO)5_Me_Ga_d6.Metal.t21
end
ETSNOCV
PRINT ETSLOWDIN
SAVE TAPE21 TAPE13
```

```
SCF
diis
END
```

```
FULLSCF
INTEGRATION 6
```

```
NoBeckeGrid
NOPRINT LOGFILE
```

```
eor
```

#### 4. References for supporting information

- S1. A. Tekkaya, C. Ceyhan and S. Özkar, *Inorg. Chem.*, 1994, **33**, 2439.  
S2. S. Singh, H-J. Ahn, A. Stasch, V. Jancik, H.W. Roesky, A. Pal, M. Biadene, R. Herbst-Irmer, M. Noltemeyer, and H-G. Schmidt, *Inorg. Chem.*, 2006, **45**, 1853.  
S3. N.J. Hardman, R.J. Wright, A.D. Phillips and P.P. Power, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2003, **125**, 2667.  
S4. (a) G. te Velde, F. M. Bickelhaupt, S. J. A. van Gisbergen, C. Fonseca Guerra, E. J. Baerends, J. G. Snijders and T. Ziegler, *J. Comput. Chem.*, 2001, **22**, 931. (b) C. Fonseca Guerra, J. G. Snijders, G. te Velde and E. J. Baerends, *Theor. Chem. Acc.*, 1998, **99**, 391. (c) E.J. Baerends, T. Ziegler, J. Autschbach, D. Bashford, A. Bérçes, F.M. Bickelhaupt, C. Bo, P.M. Boerrigter, L. Cavallo, D.P. Chong, L. Deng, R.M. Dickson, D.E. Ellis, M. van Faassen, L. Fan, T.H. Fischer, C. Fonseca Guerra, A. Ghysels, A. Giammona, S.J.A. van Gisbergen, A.W. Götz, J.A. Groeneveld, O.V. Gritsenko, M. Grüning, S. Gusarov, F.E. Harris, P. van den Hoek, C.R. Jacob, H. Jacobsen, L. Jensen, J.W. Kamiński, G. van Kessel, F. Kootstra, A. Kovalenko, M.V. Krykunov, E. van Lenthe, D.A. McCormack, A. Michalak, M. Mitoraj, J. Neugebauer, V.P. Nicu, L. Noddeman, V.P. Osinga, S. Patchkovskii, P.H.T. Philipsen, D. Post, C.C. Pye, W. Ravenek, J.I. Rodríguez, P. Ros, P.R.T. Schipper, G. Schreckenbach, J.S. Seldenthuis, M. Seth, J.G. Snijders, M. Solà, M. Swart, D. Swerhone, G. te Velde, P. Vernooij, L. Versluis, L. Visscher, O. Visser, F. Wang, T.A. Wesolowski, E.M. van Wezenbeek, G. Wiesenekker, S.K. Wolff, T.K. Woo and A.L. Yakovlev, ADF2012, SCM, Theoretical Chemistry, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam. The Netherlands.  
<http://www.scm.com>.
- S5. A. D. Becke, *Phys. Rev. A*, 1988, **38**, 3098.  
S6. J. P. Perdew, *Phys. Rev. B*, 1986, **33**, 8822.  
S7. J. G. Snijders, P. Vernooij and E. J. Baerends, *At. Data Nucl. Data Tables*, 1982, **26**, 483.