

# Potential of Mixed Dipnictogen Molybdenum Complexes in the Self-Assembly of Thallium Coordination Compounds

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Cite This: *Inorg. Chem.* 2024, 63, 11168–11175



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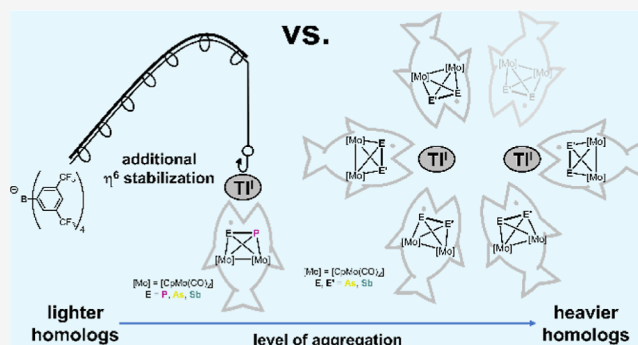


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**ABSTRACT:** The coordination chemistry of the homo- and heterodipnictogen tetrahedrane complexes  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu, \eta^{2:2}\text{-EE}')]$  ( $\text{E}, \text{E}' = \text{P}, \text{As}, \text{Sb}$ ) ( $\text{A-F}$ ) toward  $\text{Tl}[\text{BArF}_{24}]$  ( $[\text{BArF}_{24}]^- = [\text{B}(3,5\text{-C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{CF}_3)_2)_4]^-$ ) was studied. Controlled by the used tetrahedranes  $\text{A-F}$ , and thus depending on the respective pnictogen atoms, the monomers  $[\text{Tl}(\eta^2\text{-A})][\text{BArF}_{24}]$  ( $[\text{A}]\text{Tl}$ ) and  $[\text{Tl}(\eta^2\text{-B})][\text{BArF}_{24}]$  ( $[\text{B}]\text{Tl}$ ), the double substituted  $[\text{Tl}(\eta^1\text{-C})_2][\text{BArF}_{24}]$  ( $[\text{C}]_2\text{Tl}$ ) or the even higher aggregated compounds  $[\text{Tl}_2(\eta^2\text{-D})_3(\mu, \eta^{2:1}\text{-D})(\mu, \eta^{1:1}\text{-D})][\text{BArF}_{24}]_2$  ( $[\text{D}]_5\text{Tl}_2$ ),  $[\text{Tl}_2(\eta^2\text{-E})_2(\mu, \eta^{2:1}\text{-E})_3][\text{BArF}_{24}]_2$  ( $[\text{E}]_5\text{Tl}_2$ ) and  $[\text{Tl}_2(\eta^2\text{-F})_3(\mu, \eta^{2:1}\text{-F})_3][\text{BArF}_{24}]_2$  ( $[\text{F}]_6\text{Tl}_2$ ) were obtained. Utilization of  $[\text{BArF}_{24}]^-$  promises additional stabilization of  $\text{Tl}^{\text{I}}$  via  $\eta^6$ -coordination of two of its aryl rings as found in compounds  $[\text{A}]\text{Tl}$ ,  $[\text{B}]\text{Tl}$  and  $[\text{C}]_2\text{Tl}$ . Within the series of reactivity of  $\text{A-F}$ , the heavier congeners  $\text{D}, \text{E}$  and  $\text{F}$  tend to form larger aggregates in which  $\sigma(\text{E-E}')$  bond contributions to the coordination behavior were observed. Interatomic distances suggest the presence of  $\text{Tl}\cdots\text{Tl}$  interactions in  $[\text{E}]_5\text{Tl}_2$  and  $[\text{F}]_6\text{Tl}_2$ . The features of the respective coordination compounds were studied in the solid-state as well as in solution. For the latter at least a partial dissociation of the assemblies in solution was indicated. The isolated solid-state aggregates are the first examples of heterodipnictogen units as ligands in self-assembled  $\text{Tl}^{\text{I}}$ -based coordination compounds.



## INTRODUCTION

Current approaches in supramolecular chemistry focus on the use of nitrogen-, oxygen-, and/or sulfur-containing organic linkers to connect different metal centers.<sup>1–4</sup> During the last decades, our group has demonstrated that organometallic  $\text{E}_n$  ( $\text{E} = \text{heavier group 15 element}$ ) ligand complexes are excellent building blocks for supramolecular assemblies as well.<sup>5</sup> Indeed, many examples of the coordination chemistry of  $\text{E}_n$  ( $n = 1–6$ ) ligand complexes toward coinage metal salts, also in combination with organic linkers, were reported during the past two decades.<sup>6,7</sup> This novel approach allowed the synthesis of a large library of aggregates including polymeric (1D,<sup>8–10</sup> 2D<sup>11,12</sup> and 3D<sup>13</sup> coordination polymers) and discrete (monomeric,<sup>14</sup> dimeric<sup>15</sup> or spherical aggregates<sup>16–18</sup> as well as nanobowls<sup>19</sup>) supramolecular assemblies. While the coinage metal salts of  $\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}/\text{Ag}^{\text{I}}/\text{Au}^{\text{I}}$  have already been extensively utilized in these studies, the monovalent ions of the heavier group 13 elements, namely  $\text{In}^{\text{I}}$  and  $\text{Tl}^{\text{I}}$ , have only recently attracted general interest within the field of supramolecular chemistry. This is mostly due to the stability of the +I oxidation state of these ions accompanied by their comparably adaptive coordination behavior. Nevertheless, only little is known, especially about the coordination chemistry of  $\text{Tl}^{\text{I}}$ , which is presumably due to it being known to be extremely toxic. The first structurally characterized  $\text{Tl}^{\text{I}}$  arene complex was reported almost 40 years ago by the group of Schmidbaur.<sup>20</sup>

Since then, few examples have been published including Peter's homoleptic phosphine adduct of  $\text{Tl}^{\text{I}}$ ,<sup>21</sup> Power's  $\text{Tl}_2[\text{Ar}_2\text{P}_4]$ ,<sup>22,23</sup> Bochmann's  $\text{Tl}^{\text{I}}$  arene or diethyl ether complexes.<sup>24,25</sup> Moreover, Mindiola and co-workers prepared PNP pincer complexes of  $\text{Tl}$ . Very recently, our group studied the coordination chemistry of pnictogenylboranes  $\text{EH}_2\text{BH}_2\text{-NMe}_3$  ( $\text{E} = \text{P}, \text{As}$ ) toward  $\text{Tl}^{\text{I}}$  salts of different weakly coordinating anions (WCAs).<sup>26</sup> In terms of polyphosphorus ligand complexes, only few examples are known concerning the coordination chemistry toward thallium metal salts. For instance, the reaction of pentaphosphaferrocene  $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Fe}(\eta^5\text{-P}_5)]$  ( $\text{Cp}^* = \text{C}_5\text{Me}_5$ ) with  $\text{Tl}[\text{TEF}]$  ( $[\text{TEF}]^- = [\text{Al}\{\text{OC}(\text{CF}_3)_3\}_4]^-$ ) delivered the polymeric compound  $[\text{Tl}\{\text{Cp}^*\text{Fe}(\eta^{5:5:1}\text{-P}_5)\}_3]_n[\text{TEF}]_n$  (Scheme 1, I).<sup>27,28</sup> Moreover, the hexaphosphaferrocene complex  $[\{\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}\}_2(\mu, \eta^{6:6}\text{-P}_6)]$  forms extended 2D networks with  $\text{Tl}[\text{TEF}]$  which can be considered as a supramolecular analog of graphene (Scheme 1, II).<sup>29</sup> Interestingly, the reaction of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu, \eta^{2:2}\text{-P}_2)]$  (A)

Received: March 1, 2024

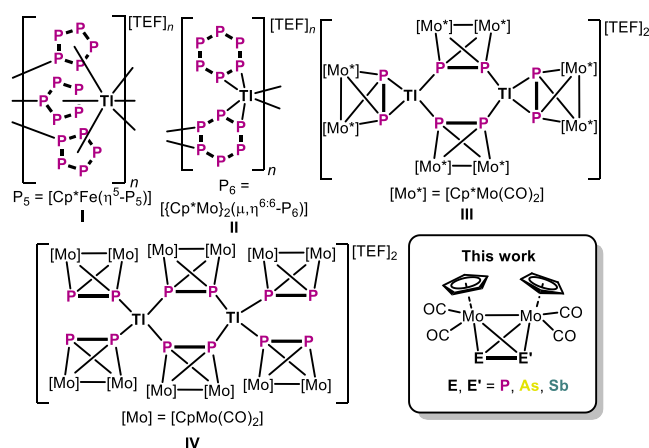
Revised: May 15, 2024

Accepted: May 28, 2024

Published: June 6, 2024



**Scheme 1. Selected Examples of Tl<sup>I</sup> Coordination Compounds Based on Reactions of P<sub>n</sub> Ligand Complexes With Tl[TEF], Cp\* = C<sub>5</sub>Me<sub>5</sub>, [TEF]<sup>−</sup> = [Al{OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>}<sub>4</sub>]<sup>−</sup>**



with Tl[TEF] in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> delivered the dimeric compound [Tl<sub>2</sub>(η<sup>1</sup>-A)<sub>4</sub>(μ,η<sup>1-1</sup>-A)<sub>2</sub>][TEF]<sub>2</sub> consisting of a distorted {Tl<sub>2</sub>P<sub>4</sub>} ring. Each Tl<sup>I</sup> is further coordinated by two units of **A** in a terminal η<sup>1</sup> fashion resulting in a distorted tetrahedral geometry of the Tl<sup>I</sup> centers (Scheme 1, IV).<sup>27</sup> Exchanging the Cp ligand in **A** with a Cp\* residue delivers a {Tl<sub>2</sub>P<sub>4</sub>} ring as well. However, each Tl<sup>I</sup> is now coordinated to only one additional unit of A<sup>Cp\*</sup> in an η<sup>2</sup> fashion, which can be attributed to the higher steric demand of A<sup>Cp\*</sup> (Scheme 1, III).<sup>30</sup>

The tetrahedrane complexes [CpMo(CO)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>(μ,η<sup>2-2</sup>-EE') [E = E' = P (**A**); E = P, E' = As (**B**); E = P, E' = Sb (**C**); E = E' = As (**D**); E = As, E' = Sb (**E**); E = E' = Sb (**F**)], which are isolobal<sup>31</sup> to the E<sub>4</sub> (E = P, As) tetrahedranes, are among the simplest in the series of E<sub>n</sub> ligand complexes, as their coordination behavior is more predictable due to only two E-donor atoms. Hence, our group studied the coordination chemistry of the homoleptic congeners [CpMo(CO)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>(μ,η<sup>2-2</sup>-P<sub>2</sub>) (**A**),<sup>15,32,33</sup> [CpMo(CO)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>(μ,η<sup>2-2</sup>-As<sub>2</sub>) (**D**)<sup>34,35</sup> and [CpMo(CO)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>(μ,η<sup>2-2</sup>-Sb<sub>2</sub>) (**F**)<sup>36,37</sup> in detail during the last years. Regarding the more elaborate heterodiatom complexes [CpMo(CO)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>(μ,η<sup>2-2</sup>-PE) (E = As (**B**), Sb (**C**)),<sup>38</sup> only few reports on their coordination toward CuX<sup>39</sup> (X = Cl, Br, I), (dppf)Cu (dppf = 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)-ferrocene)<sup>40</sup> and M[TEF]<sup>41</sup> (M = Ag, Cu) as well as on their oxidation chemistry<sup>42,43</sup> are known. Their coordination behavior varies due to the different relative energies of the pnictogen lone pairs and the respective σ(E-E') bonds. Therefore, the question arises as to how the coordination chemistry of the heteroatomic tetrahedranes [CpMo(CO)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>(μ,η<sup>2-2</sup>-EE') (E, E' = P, As, Sb) (**A**–**F**) toward Tl<sup>I</sup> salts depends on the used tetrahedrane and thus on the incorporated pnictogen atoms. We herein report on the reactivity of the complexes [CpMo(CO)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>(μ,η<sup>2-2</sup>-EE') (E, E' = P, As, Sb) (**A**–**F**) toward Tl[BarF<sub>24</sub>] ([BarF<sub>24</sub>]<sup>−</sup> = [B(3,5-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>−</sup>) giving first Tl coordination compounds containing mixed heteronuclear group 15 element ligands and unique E/E' atom-bridged Tl dimers with Tl⋯Tl interactions.

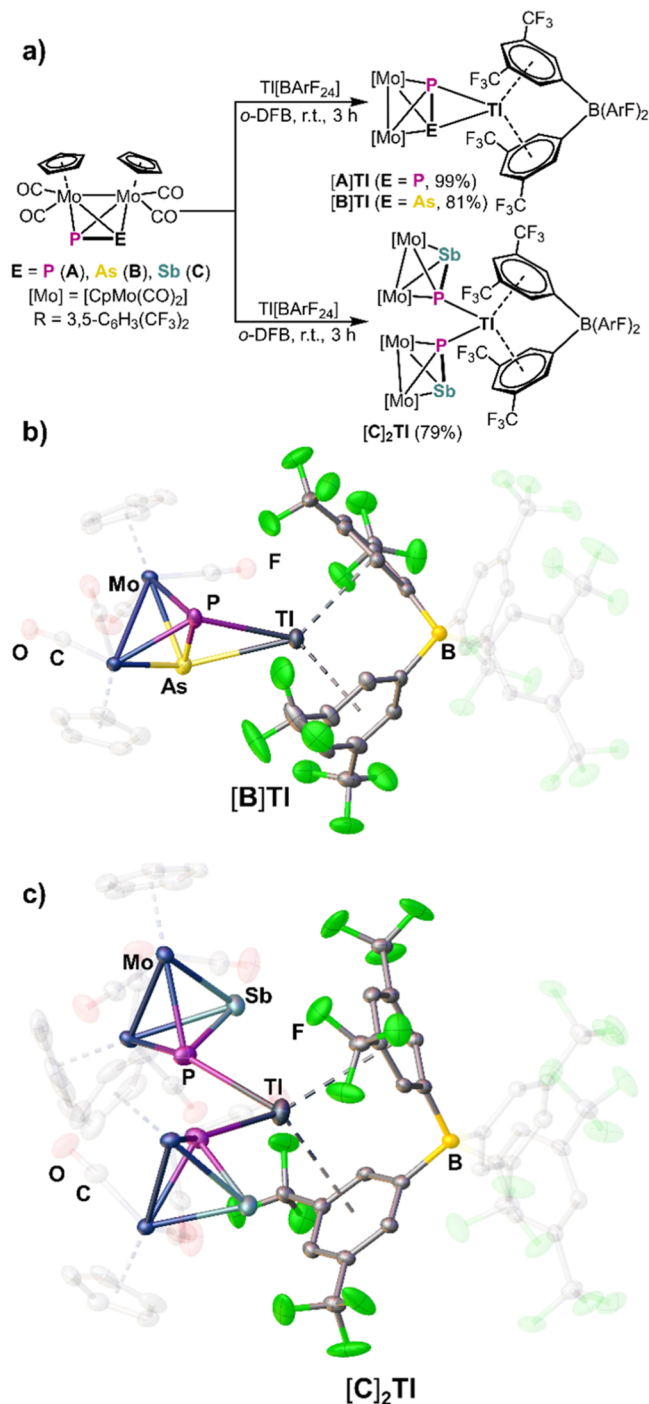
## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Neutral Mononuclear Tl Complexes.** For the following syntheses, [BarF<sub>24</sub>]<sup>−</sup> ([BarF<sub>24</sub>]<sup>−</sup> = [B(3,5-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>−</sup>)

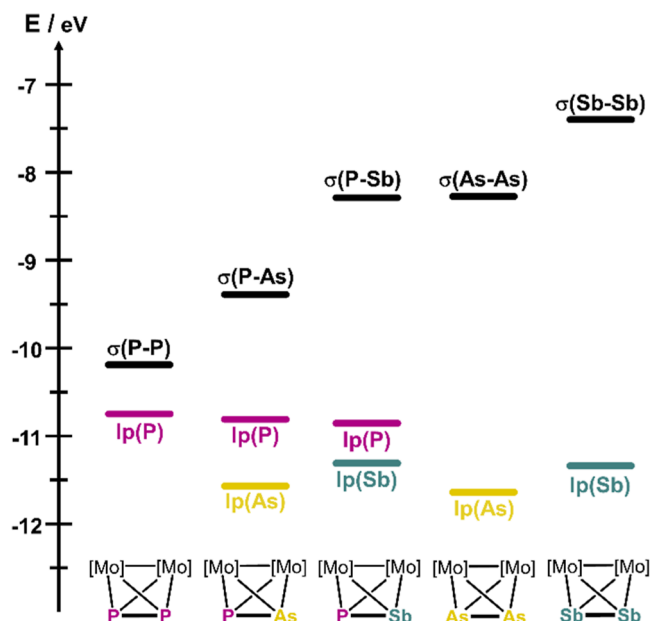
was chosen to be used as a weakly coordinating anion (WCA) to provide additional stabilization of the Tl<sup>I</sup> compounds. Tl[BarF<sub>24</sub>] offers excellent solubility in solvents commonly used (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, *ortho*-difluorobenzene (*o*-DFB)) in this work while maintaining a suitable crystallization behavior compared to other WCA salts of Tl<sup>I</sup>. In order to ensure similar reaction/crystallization conditions for the used tetrahedranes **A**–**F**, all reactions were carried out in the same manner: Equimolar amounts of the tetrahedranes **A**–**F** and Tl[BarF<sub>24</sub>]<sup>44</sup> were stirred in *o*-DFB at room temperature for 3 h and the reaction mixture was subsequently layered with *n*-hexane for crystallization.<sup>45</sup> Even if similar reaction conditions were applied, different products were obtained depending on the used tetrahedrane. The reactions of [CpMo(CO)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>(μ,η<sup>2-2</sup>-PE) (E = P (**A**),<sup>46</sup> As (**B**)<sup>38</sup>) with Tl[BarF<sub>24</sub>] in *o*-DFB lead to the formation of red blocks of [Tl(η<sup>2</sup>-A)][BarF<sub>24</sub>] ([**A**]Tl) and [Tl(η<sup>2</sup>-B)][BarF<sub>24</sub>] ([**B**]Tl), respectively, in excellent crystalline yields<sup>47</sup> ([**A**]Tl: 99%, [**B**]Tl: 81%) (Scheme 2a). The formation of higher aggregated compounds as e.g. [Tl<sub>2</sub>(η<sup>1</sup>-A)<sub>4</sub>(μ,η<sup>1-1</sup>-A)<sub>2</sub>][BarF<sub>24</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (Scheme 1, IV<sup>27</sup>) was not observed, which is attributed to the coordinating abilities of the [BarF<sub>24</sub>]<sup>−</sup> counterion. Both compounds crystallize in the triclinic space group *P* $\bar{1}$  and consist of one tetrahedrane which is coordinated to the Tl atom in an η<sup>2</sup> fashion via the σ(P–E) bond (E = P, As). The Tl<sup>I</sup> ion is further stabilized by the coordination of two of the aryl rings of the [BarF<sub>24</sub>]<sup>−</sup> anion in a symmetric η<sup>6</sup> fashion, which was also observed for Tl[BarF<sub>24</sub>] itself (Scheme 2b).<sup>44</sup> Indeed, the interpnictogen bonds P–E ([**A**]Tl: 2.119(2) Å, [**B**]Tl: 2.384(2) Å) are slightly elongated compared to the starting materials **A** (2.079(2) Å<sup>46</sup>) and **B** (2.232(2) Å<sup>38</sup>) indicating that the coordination occurs via the σ(P–E) bond. The P–Tl distances in [**A**]Tl (P1–Tl: 3.048(1) Å, P2–Tl: 3.208(1) Å) as well as the P–Tl (3.124(1) Å) and As–Tl (3.283(1) Å) distances in [**B**]Tl are longer than the P–Tl (2.55 Å<sup>48,49</sup>) or As–Tl (2.65 Å<sup>48,49</sup>) single bonds, but far below the sum of the respective van der Waals radii (P–Tl: 3.76 Å, As–Tl: 3.81 Å).<sup>50</sup> Interestingly, the heavier homologue [CpMo(CO)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>(μ,η<sup>2-2</sup>-PSb) (**C**)<sup>38</sup> reacts under the same reaction conditions to form dark purple block-shaped crystals of [Tl(η<sup>1</sup>-C)<sub>2</sub>][BarF<sub>24</sub>] ([**C**]<sub>2</sub>Tl) in 79% crystalline yield (Scheme 2a).<sup>47</sup> In contrast to [**A**]Tl and [**B**]Tl, [**C**]<sub>2</sub>Tl consists of two units **C** which coordinate to the Tl atom in an η<sup>1</sup> fashion via the respective lone pair of the phosphorus atoms. The P–Sb bond length (only one bond length is given due to symmetry) in [**C**]<sub>2</sub>Tl (2.414(2) Å) is indeed slightly shortened compared to **C** (2.470(2) Å<sup>38</sup>) itself, indicating that the coordination occurs almost exclusively via the lone pair of phosphorus (Scheme 2c). The P–Tl distance amounts to 3.083(2) Å and thus is comparable with those observed in III<sup>30</sup> or IV<sup>27</sup> (Scheme 1). The Sb–Tl distance is 4.127(1) Å and thus larger than the sum of the van der Waals radii (4.02 Å<sup>50</sup>). However, the comparatively small Sb1–P1–Tl angle of 96.56(4) ° indicates some very weak σ(P–Sb)⋯Tl interactions. Indeed, to the best of our knowledge, compounds [**B**]Tl and [**C**]<sub>2</sub>Tl are the first examples of Tl<sup>I</sup> coordination compounds featuring mixed heavier group 15 ligands. The difference in the coordination behaviors of **A** and **B** compared to **C** toward Tl[BarF<sub>24</sub>] may arise from the higher bond polarity of the P–Sb bond in **C**.

**Electronic Structures of A–F.** The calculated Frontier orbital energy diagrams of **A**–**C**<sup>39</sup> confirm the lone pairs of As (in **B**) and Sb (in **C**) to be much lower in energy than that of the P atom (in **A**), which is in accordance with the observed

Scheme 2. (a) Reaction of A, B and C With  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$ ; Syntheses of  $[\text{A}]\text{Ti}$ ,  $[\text{B}]\text{Ti}$  and  $[\text{C}]_2\text{Ti}$  (Yields are Given in Parentheses),<sup>47</sup>  $\text{ArF} = 3,5\text{-C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{CF}_3)_2$ ; (b) Molecular Structure of  $[\text{B}]\text{Ti}$  in the Solid-State; (c) Molecular Structure of  $[\text{C}]_2\text{Ti}$  in the Solid-State; H Atoms are Omitted for Clarity; Cp and CO Ligands as Well as Parts of  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$  are Depicted Translucent



coordination via the lone pair of the P atom (Figure 1). Even if the orbital energy of the  $\sigma(\text{P}-\text{Sb})$  bond is higher than for  $\sigma(\text{P}-\text{P})$  or  $\sigma(\text{P}-\text{As})$ , no  $\sigma(\text{P}-\text{Sb})$  contribution to the Ti bonding is observed for C in  $[\text{C}]_2\text{Ti}$ . Moreover, recently performed natural bond orbital calculations on the tetrahedranes A, D and F<sup>35,36</sup> show that the  $\sigma(\text{Sb}-\text{Sb})$  bond in F is



**Figure 1.** Energy diagram of selected natural bond orbitals for compounds  $[\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2]_2(\mu, \eta^{2:2}\text{-EE}')$  (E, E' = P, As, Sb); Figure was adapted with permission from ref 35 [Copyright 2024, Wiley-VCH], ref 36 [Copyright 2024, Wiley-VCH] and ref 39 [Copyright 2024, Wiley-VCH].<sup>35,36,39</sup>

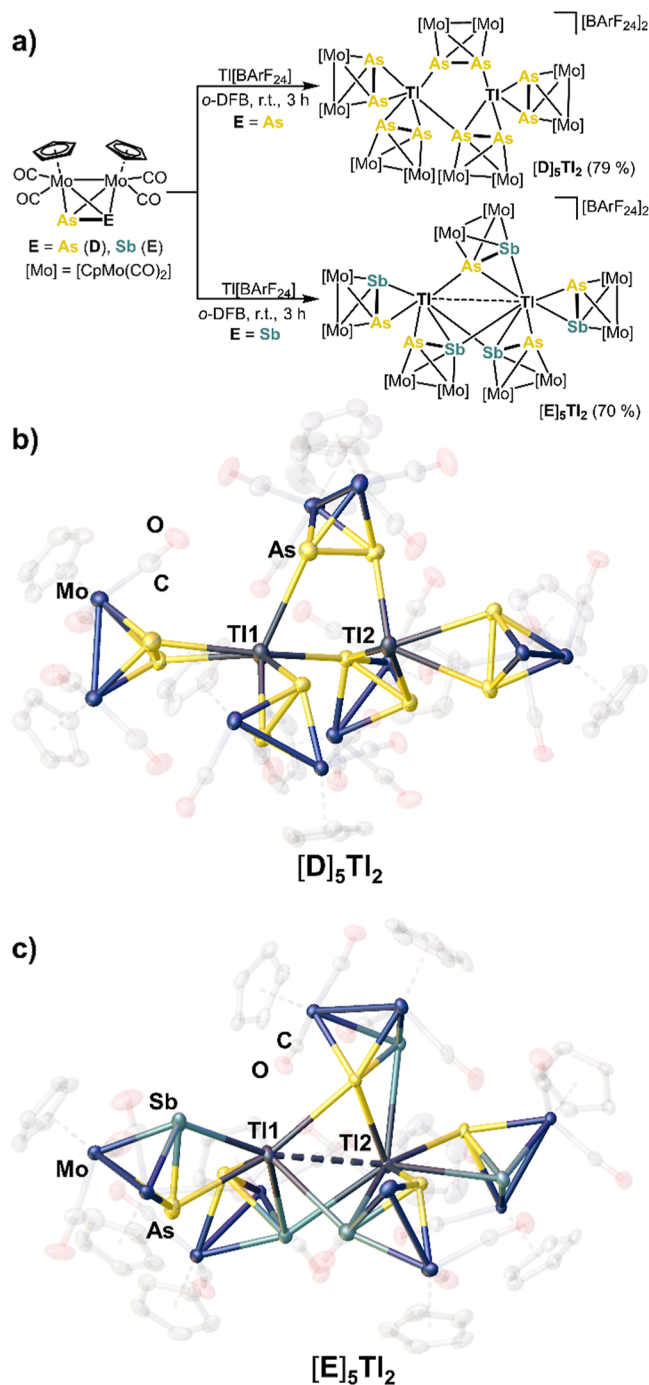
higher in energy than the  $\sigma(\text{As}-\text{As})$  bond in D and the  $\sigma(\text{P}-\text{P})$  bond in A. This indicates clearly that the  $\sigma(\text{E}-\text{E})$  bond should be involved in the bonding to the unsaturated  $\text{Ti}^{\text{I}}$  centers (Figure 1).

**Cationic Dinuclear  $\text{Ti}^{\text{I}}$  Complexes.** Indeed, reactions of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu, \eta^{2:2}\text{-As}_2)]$  (D)<sup>51</sup> and  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu, \eta^{2:2}\text{-AsSb})]$  (E)<sup>52</sup> with  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$  (in a 1:1 ratio) afforded higher aggregated coordination compounds with a 5:2 ratio of D/E and  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$ , respectively (Scheme 3a), irrespective of the initially used 1:1 stoichiometry.<sup>47</sup> Surprisingly, the  $\text{Ti}^{\text{I}}$  ion is separated from the  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$  ion within these products, which is attributed to the higher donor strength of D and E.<sup>21,22</sup> The molecular structure of  $[\text{Ti}_2(\eta^2\text{-D})_3(\mu, \eta^{2:1}\text{-D})(\mu, \eta^{1:1}\text{-D})][\text{BARF}_{24}]_2$  ( $[\text{D}]_5\text{Ti}_2$ ), which crystallizes in form of dark-red plates, reveals a unique  $\text{Ti}^{\text{I}}$  dimer stabilized by five  $\text{As}_2$  ligands of D (Scheme 3b). Three ligands D show a terminal  $\eta^2$ -coordination mode, one D exhibits a  $\mu, \eta^{2:1}$ -coordination mode and another ligand D shows a bridging  $\mu, \eta^{1:1}$ -coordination mode. A  $\text{Ti}^{\text{I}} \cdots \text{Ti}^{\text{I}}$  interaction is not present due to a  $\text{Ti}1-\text{Ti}2$  distance of 3.948(2) Å, which is slightly above the sum of their van der Waals radii (3.92 Å).<sup>50</sup> Thus,  $\text{Ti}1$  possesses a distorted tetrahedral geometry, whereas  $\text{Ti}2$  shows a trigonal-pyramidal environment (Scheme 3b). The  $\text{As}-\text{As}$  bond lengths (2.331(2) Å–2.342(1) Å) within  $[\text{D}]_5\text{Ti}_2$  are, on average, slightly longer compared to the ones in uncoordinated D (2.312(3) Å).<sup>51</sup> The  $\text{As}-\text{Ti}$  interactions are between 3.168(1) Å and 3.545(1) Å, which is fairly long, but still significantly below the sum of their van der Waals radii (3.81 Å).<sup>50</sup> A comparable coordination mode of the  $\text{Ti}^{\text{I}}$  atoms in  $[\text{D}]_5\text{Ti}_2$  has not been observed in any other coordination compound of D.<sup>34,35</sup>

Although  $[\text{Ti}_2(\eta^2\text{-E})_2(\mu, \eta^{2:1}\text{-E})_3][\text{BARF}_{24}]_2$  ( $[\text{E}]_5\text{Ti}_2$ ) shows a similar composition between E and  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$  as  $[\text{D}]_5\text{Ti}_2$ , its spatial arrangement in the solid-state differs considerably (Scheme 3c). The core of  $[\text{E}]_5\text{Ti}_2$  is composed of two  $\text{Ti}^{\text{I}}$  ions.



**Scheme 3.** (a) Reaction of D and E With  $\text{Tl}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$ ; Syntheses of  $[\text{D}]_5\text{Tl}_2$  and  $[\text{E}]_5\text{Tl}_2$  (Yields are Given in Parentheses);<sup>47</sup> (b) Molecular Structure of the Cationic Part of  $[\text{D}]_5\text{Tl}_2$  in the Solid-State; (c) Molecular Structure of the Cationic Part of  $[\text{E}]_5\text{Tl}_2$  in the Solid State; H Atoms and  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$  are Omitted for Clarity; Cp and CO are Depicted Translucent; Ellipsoids are Drawn at the 50% Probability Level

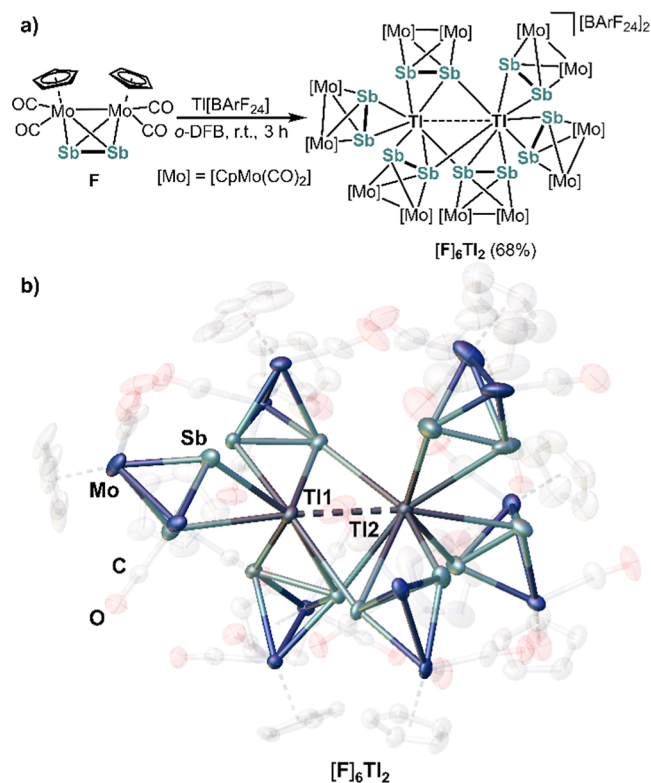


However, both show a tetrahedral coordination environment and their distance ( $\text{Tl1-Tl2}$ : 3.882(2) Å) is slightly below the sum of the van der Waals radii (3.92 Å).<sup>50</sup> Thus, a  $\text{Tl}\cdots\text{Tl}$  interaction appears plausible. The dimer is stabilized by five AsSb ligands in which two of them each adopt a terminal  $\eta^2$ -coordination mode while each of the other three units

possess a bridging  $\mu, \eta^{2:1}$ -coordination mode, forming a paddle-wheel-like middle deck (Scheme 3c). As expected from the calculations,<sup>36</sup>  $\mu, \eta^{2:1}$ -coordination is favored over a  $\mu, \eta^{1:1}$ -coordination due to the comparably higher  $\sigma(\text{E-E}')$  orbital energies going from As to Sb. Moreover, two of the three bridging units E form a  $\eta^1$ -coordination via the lone pair of Sb, which is in accordance with the higher energy of the lone pair of Sb compared to the one of As (Figure 1).<sup>36</sup> All As–Sb bond lengths are slightly elongated [2.531(2)–2.651(3) Å] compared to free E (2.515(1) Å).<sup>52</sup> The As–Tl bond lengths are in the range of 3.148(2) to 3.498(3) Å and the Sb–Tl bond lengths are in between 3.526(2) and 3.874(2) Å, suggesting a partly distorted coordination of the respective  $\sigma(\text{As-Sb})$  bond. Compound  $[\text{E}]_5\text{Tl}_2$  is the second example of a self-assembled supramolecular aggregate featuring the heterodipnictogen complex  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu, \eta^{2:2}\text{-AsSb})]$  (E) as ligand.<sup>53</sup>

Furthermore, in order to complete the series of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu, \eta^{2:2}\text{-EE}')]$  molecules, (E, E' = P, As, Sb),  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu, \eta^{2:2}\text{-Sb}_2)]$  (F)<sup>55</sup> was reacted with equimolar amounts of  $\text{Tl}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$  as well. Interestingly,  $[\text{Tl}_2(\eta^2\text{-F})_3(\mu, \eta^{2:1}\text{-F})_3][\text{BARF}_{24}]_2$  ( $[\text{F}]_6\text{Tl}_2$ ), which was obtained as black blocks upon crystallization from a concentrated solution of  $[\text{F}]_6\text{Tl}_2$  in *o*-DFB with *n*-hexane, reveals yet another composition of a  $\text{MoEE}'$  tetrahedron toward  $\text{Tl}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$  (Scheme 4a).  $[\text{F}]_6\text{Tl}_2$  consists of six units of F coordinated to two  $\text{Tl}^{\text{I}}$  ions. The  $\text{Tl1-Tl2}$  distance (3.585(1) Å) is considerably below the sum of the van der Waals radii (3.92 Å)<sup>50</sup> (Scheme 4b) but significantly longer than expected from

**Scheme 4.** (a) Reaction of F With  $\text{Tl}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$ ; Synthesis of  $[\text{F}]_6\text{Tl}_2$  (Yield is Given in Parentheses);<sup>47</sup> (b) Molecular Structure of the Cationic Part of  $[\text{F}]_6\text{Tl}_2$  in the Solid-State; H Atoms and  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$  are Omitted for Clarity; Cp and CO Ligands are Depicted Translucent



the sum of the covalent single-bond radii (2.88 Å).<sup>48,49</sup> However, it is significantly shorter compared to the ones in  $[\text{Tl}_2(\eta^1\text{-A})_4(\mu,\eta^{1:1}\text{-A})_2][\text{TEF}]_2$  (5.870(3) Å)<sup>27</sup> and in  $[\text{Tl}_2(\eta^2\text{-A}^{\text{Cp*}})_2(\mu,\eta^{1:1}\text{-A}^{\text{Cp*}})_2][\text{TEF}]_2$  (5.968(1) Å).<sup>30</sup> Compared to Power's dimer  $\text{Ar}'\text{Tl-Ar}'$  ( $\text{Ar}' = \text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{-2,6-(C}_6\text{H}_3\text{-2,6-Me}_2)_2$ ,  $d(\text{Tl-Tl}) = 3.094(1)$  Å)<sup>23</sup> the  $\text{Tl1-Tl2}$  distance in  $[\text{F}]_6\text{Tl}_2$  is significantly elongated, but in the range of the  $\text{Tl-Tl}$  contacts observed in Uhl's tetrameric compound  $[\text{TlC}(\text{SiMe}_3)_3]_4$  (3.322(1)–3.627(1) Å).<sup>54</sup> This indicates a possible interaction between the  $\text{Tl(I)}$  ions, which appears to be more pronounced for the heavier dipnictogen complexes **E** and **F**.  $[\text{F}]_6\text{Tl}_2$  contains three  $\text{Sb}_2$  ligands of **F** that adapt a terminal  $\eta^2$ -coordination mode. The other three  $\text{Sb}_2$  ligands each exhibit a bridging  $\mu,\eta^{2:1}$ -coordination mode. The  $\text{Sb-Sb}$  bonds in  $[\text{F}]_6\text{Tl}_2$  (2.456(2) Å–2.715(2) Å) are within the range of that found in non-coordinated **F** (2.687(1) Å).<sup>55</sup> The  $\text{Sb-Tl}$  bond lengths within  $[\text{F}]_6\text{Tl}_2$  are in the range of 3.276(2) Å to 3.585(1) Å, which is fairly long, but still below the sum of their van der Waals radii (4.02 Å).<sup>50</sup>

**Behavior in Solution.** Compounds  $[\text{A}]\text{Tl}$ ,  $[\text{B}]\text{Tl}$ ,  $[\text{C}]_2\text{Tl}$ ,  $[\text{D}]_5\text{Tl}_2$ ,  $[\text{E}]_5\text{Tl}_2$  and  $[\text{F}]_6\text{Tl}_2$  are well soluble in solvents such as  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  or *o*-DFB. All compounds are stable as solids under inert gas for several months. Their  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra at room temperature in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  show a sharp singlet for the Cp ligand in the range of 5.07 ppm to 5.32 ppm as well as characteristic broad signals for the *o/p*-H atoms of  $[\text{BArF}_{24}]^-$ , respectively. The occurrence of only one Cp signal indicates an at least partial dissociation of the assemblies in solution and a fast equilibrium between the formed species in solution. Moreover, the room temperature  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra of  $[\text{A}]\text{Tl}$ ,  $[\text{B}]\text{Tl}$  and  $[\text{C}]_2\text{Tl}$  exhibit sharp singlets at –31.9 ppm ( $[\text{A}]\text{Tl}$ ), 50.4 ppm ( $[\text{B}]\text{Tl}$ ), and 113.4 ppm ( $[\text{C}]_2\text{Tl}$ ), respectively, and are thus downfield shifted by about 10–20 ppm compared to uncoordinated **A** (–43.7 ppm), **B** (30.1 ppm) and **C** (90.7 ppm). In the ESI mass spectra of all compounds, the most abundant Mo-containing cations are the tetrahedranes  $[\text{A-F}]^+$  as well as the species  $[\text{Tl(A-F)}]^+$ . Furthermore, for the higher aggregated species, also  $[\text{Tl(C-F)}_2]^+$  and several decarbonylation products thereof are observed, suggesting that the aggregates remain, at least partially, intact in solution. The ATR-IR spectra of all compounds show  $\tilde{\nu}(\text{CO})$  stretches in the range of 1879–1991  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  that are comparable with those from the respective starting materials.

## CONCLUSION

In summary, the potential of the mixed dipnictogen complexes  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-EE}')]$  (**E**,  $\text{E}' = \text{P, As, Sb}$ ) as heterodiatom donor ligands in the coordination chemistry of  $\text{Tl}^{\text{I}}$  salts was demonstrated. Although a 1:1 ratio of the starting materials was used, the obtained products show different compositions and connectivities depending on the nature of the used tetrahedranes **A–F**. While reactions of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-PE})]$  (**E** = **P** (**A**), **As** (**B**)) with  $\text{Tl}[\text{BArF}_{24}]$  yield the monomeric  $\text{Tl}$  coordination compounds  $[\text{Tl}(\eta^2\text{-A})][\text{BArF}_{24}]$  ( $[\text{A}]\text{Tl}$ ) and  $[\text{Tl}(\eta^2\text{-B})][\text{BArF}_{24}]$  ( $[\text{B}]\text{Tl}$ ), the reaction of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-PSb})]$  (**C**) with  $\text{Tl}[\text{BArF}_{24}]$  yields the compound  $[\text{Tl}(\eta^1\text{-C}_2)][\text{BArF}_{24}]$  ( $[\text{C}]_2\text{Tl}$ ). In particular,  $[\text{A}]\text{Tl}$  and  $[\text{B}]\text{Tl}$  show  $\pi$ -coordination via the  $\sigma(\text{P-E})$  (**E** = **P, As**) bond, whereas  $[\text{C}]_2\text{Tl}$  exhibits a coordination via the lone pair of the P atom to the  $\text{Tl}$  center. The  $\text{Tl}$  centers are stabilized by two of the aryl rings of the counterion  $[\text{BArF}_{24}]^-$  in an  $\eta^6$ -fashion. In contrast, similar reactions performed with  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-As}_2)]$  (**D**)

and  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-AsSb})]$  (**E**) (also in a 1:1 stoichiometry) afforded the higher aggregated coordination compounds  $[\text{Tl}_2(\eta^2\text{-D})_3(\mu,\eta^{2:1}\text{-D})(\mu,\eta^{1:1}\text{-D})][\text{BArF}_{24}]_2$  ( $[\text{D}]_5\text{Tl}_2$ ) and  $[\text{Tl}_2(\eta^2\text{-E})_2(\mu,\eta^{2:1}\text{-E})_3][\text{BArF}_{24}]_2$  ( $[\text{E}]_5\text{Tl}_2$ ) which consist of unique  $\text{Tl}^{\text{I}}$  dimers stabilized by five units of **D** or **E**, respectively. The coordination compound obtained from  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-Sb}_2)]$  (**F**) is even higher aggregated and  $\text{Tl}\cdots\text{Tl}$  interactions are suggested for  $[\text{Tl}_2(\eta^2\text{-F})_3(\mu,\eta^{2:1}\text{-F})_3][\text{BArF}_{24}]_2$  ( $[\text{F}]_6\text{Tl}_2$ ) based on the  $\text{Tl-Tl}$  distances in the solid-state. This indicates that these differences in the reactivity of **A–F** toward  $\text{Tl}^+$  arise from the relative energies of the pnictogen lone pairs and the respective  $\sigma(\text{E-E}')$  bonds. Especially the heavier homologues **D**, **E** and **F** are more susceptible to a  $\sigma(\text{E-E}')$  bond contribution in the coordination to metal centers. Summing up, the obtained complexes discussed within this work reveal unprecedented coordination modes when compared to their intensively studied coinage metal counterparts. These unique structures are only accessible through the utilization of  $\text{Tl}^{\text{I}}$  salts of  $[\text{BArF}_{24}]^-$  and open the avenue toward more complex three-dimensional supramolecular aggregates based on simple  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-EE}')]$  (**E**,  $\text{E}' = \text{P, As, Sb}$ ) building blocks.

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**General Considerations.** All manipulations were carried out using standard Schlenk techniques at a Stock apparatus under  $\text{N}_2$  as an inert gas or in a glovebox with Ar atmosphere. The nitrogen inert gas was led over a BASF R 3–1 ( $\text{CuO/MgSiO}_3$ ) catalyst to remove traces of oxygen. By flowing the nitrogen inert gas through concentrated sulfuric acid, orange gel and sica-pent traces of moisture were eliminated. All glassware was dried with a heatgun (600 °C) for at least 30 min prior to use. *o*-DFB and  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  were distilled from  $\text{CaH}_2$  and other solvents were directly taken from an MBraun SPS-800 solvent purification system and degassed at room temperature prior to use. Solution  $^1\text{H}$  (400.130 MHz),  $^{11}\text{B}$  (128.379 MHz),  $^{13}\text{C}$  (100.627 MHz),  $^{19}\text{F}$  (376.498 MHz) and  $^{31}\text{P}$  (161.976 MHz) NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance400 spectrometer using ( $\text{H}_3\text{C}$ ) $_4\text{Si}$  ( $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ),  $\text{BF}_3\cdot\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  ( $^{11}\text{B}$ ),  $\text{CFCl}_3$  ( $^{19}\text{F}$ ) or 85% phosphoric acid ( $^{31}\text{P}$ ), respectively, as external standards. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are provided in parts per million (ppm) and coupling constants ( $J$ ) are reported in Hertz (Hz). The following abbreviations are used: s = singlet, d = doublet, dd = doublet of doublets, t = triplet, br = broad and m = multiplet. Elemental analysis of the products was conducted by the elemental analysis department at the University of Regensburg using an Elementar Vario EL. ESI mass spectra were either recorded at the internal mass spectrometry department using a ThermoQuest Finnigan TSQ 7000 mass spectrometer or in our own group using a Micro mass spectrometer. The peak assignment was performed using the molecular weight calculator 6.50.<sup>56</sup> IR spectra were recorded as solids using a ThermoFisher Nicolet iS5 FT-IR spectrometer with an iD7 ATR module and an ITX Germanium or ITX Diamond crystal. The starting materials  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-P}_2)]$  (**A**),<sup>46</sup>  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-PAs})]$  (**B**),<sup>38</sup>  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-PSb})]$  (**C**),<sup>38</sup>  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-As}_2)]$  (**D**),<sup>51</sup>  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-AsSb})]$  (**E**),<sup>52</sup>  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-Sb}_2)]$  (**F**)<sup>55</sup> and  $\text{Tl}[\text{BArF}_{24}]$ <sup>44</sup> were synthesized following literature procedures. All other chemicals were purchased from commercial vendors. The thallium compounds used during this work were handled and disposed according to the regulation (EG) Nr. 1272/2008 from the European Union (index number 081-002-00-9; thallium compounds, with the exception of those specified anywhere else in this annex). The following GHS hazard statements need to be considered before using these compounds: H330, H300, H373, H411. Due to their high toxicity, these compounds need to be handled extremely carefully. The respective solids or solutions were disposed in special collecting tanks for Hg-, Tl-, As-, Se-, Be-containing waste.



**Complex Synthesis.** All compounds were synthesized for the first time by applying similar reaction conditions: tetrahydrofuran A–F (0.1 mmol) and  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$  (0.1 mmol) were stirred in *o*-DFB (3 mL) at room temperature for 3 h and subsequently layered with *n*-hexane (30 mL) for crystallization. Since compounds  $[\text{A}]\text{Ti}$ ,  $[\text{B}]\text{Ti}$ ,  $[\text{C}]_2\text{Ti}$ ,  $[\text{D}]_5\text{Ti}_2$ ,  $[\text{E}]_5\text{Ti}_2$  and  $[\text{F}]_6\text{Ti}_2$  revealed different ratios of A–F to  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$ , the experiments were repeated in the stoichiometric ratios obtained from the respective single crystal X-ray experiments. These experiments are described below and revealed the same compounds as in the 1:1 reactions.

**Reaction of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-P}_2)]$  (A) with  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$ .** A red solution of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-P}_2)]$  (A) (50 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) and  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$  (106 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was stirred in *o*-DFB (3 mL) at room temperature. After 16 h, the mixture was layered with *n*-hexane (20 mL) and red blocks of  $[\text{Ti}(\eta^2\text{-A})][\text{BARF}_{24}]$  ( $[\text{A}]\text{Ti}$ ) suitable for single crystals X-ray analysis were formed after 1 day. The solvent was decanted and the crystals were dried for 2 h at high vacuum ( $10^{-3}$  mbar). Crystalline yield: 155 mg (0.099 mmol, 99%). Elemental analysis: calc. (%) for  $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_4\text{F}_{24}\text{BP}_2\text{Mo}_2\text{Ti}$ : C: 35.33, H: 1.42. Found (%): C: 35.38, H: 1.35. ESI(+) MS (*o*-DFB):  $m/z$  (%) = 700.79 (100%)  $[[\text{A}]\text{Ti}]^+$  ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 496.8 (50%)  $[\text{A}]^+$ , 1196.68 (10%)  $[2\text{-A} + \text{Ti}]^+$ , 246.00 (90%)  $[\text{Ti}(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})]^+$ , 204.99 (80%)  $[\text{Ti}]^+$ , several decarbonylation products of  $[\text{A}]\text{Ti}$  and A (5–20%). NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , r.t.):  $^1\text{H}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = 5.18 (s, 10H,  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ ), 7.45 (br, 4H, *p*-CH  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ), 7.61 (br, 8H, *o*-CH  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = -31.9 (s,  $\omega_{1/2}$  = 9 Hz, 2 P,  $\text{Mo}_2\text{P}_2\text{-Ti}$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = -31.9 (s, 2 P,  $\text{Mo}_2\text{P}_2\text{-Ti}$ ).  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = -62.7 (s, 24 F, *m*-CF<sub>3</sub>).  $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = -6.85 (s, 1 B,  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ). IR:  $\tilde{\nu}(\text{CO})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  = 1994 (w), 1937 (m), 1896 (m).

**Reaction of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-PAs})]$  (B) with  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$ .** A red solution of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-PAs})]$  (B) (54 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) and  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$  (106 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was stirred in *o*-DFB (3 mL) at room temperature. After 16 h, the mixture was layered with *n*-hexane (20 mL) and red blocks of  $[\text{Ti}(\eta^2\text{-B})][\text{BARF}_{24}]$  ( $[\text{B}]\text{Ti}$ ) suitable for single crystals X-ray analysis were formed after 1 day. The solvent was decanted and the crystals were dried for 2 h at high vacuum ( $10^{-3}$  mbar). Crystalline yield: 130 mg (0.081 mmol, 81%). Elemental analysis: calc. (%) for  $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_4\text{F}_{24}\text{BPAsMo}_2\text{Ti}$ : C: 34.37, H: 1.38. Found (%): C: 34.41, H: 1.22. ESI(+) MS (*o*-DFB):  $m/z$  (%) = 742.77 (40%)  $[[\text{B}]\text{Ti}]^+$  ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 540.78 (60%)  $[\text{B}]^+$ , 1284.61 (5%)  $[2\text{-B} + \text{Ti}]^+$ , 246.00 (100%)  $[\text{Ti}(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})]^+$ , 204.99 (90%)  $[\text{Ti}]^+$ , several decarbonylation products of  $[\text{B}]\text{Ti}$  and B (5–20%). NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , r.t.):  $^1\text{H}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = 5.15 (s, 10H,  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ ), 7.45 (br, 4H, *p*-CH  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ), 7.61 (br, 8H, *o*-CH  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = 50.4 (s,  $\omega_{1/2}$  = 14 Hz, 1 P,  $\text{Mo}_2\text{PAs-Ti}$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = 50.4 (s, 1 P,  $\text{Mo}_2\text{PAs-Ti}$ ).  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = -62.7 (s, 24 F, *m*-CF<sub>3</sub>).  $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = -6.86 (s, 1 B,  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ). IR:  $\tilde{\nu}(\text{CO})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  = 1991 (w), 1933 (m), 1899 (m).

**Reaction of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-PSb})]$  (C) with  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$ .** A red solution of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-PSb})]$  (C) (132 mg, 0.24 mmol, 2 equiv) and  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$  (138 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1 equiv) was stirred in *o*-DFB (3 mL) at room temperature. After 2.5 h, the mixture was layered with *n*-hexane (20 mL) and dark purple blocks of  $[\text{Ti}(\eta^1\text{-C})_2][\text{BARF}_{24}]$  ( $[\text{C}]_2\text{Ti}$ ) suitable for single crystals X-ray analysis were formed after 1 day. The solvent was decanted and the crystals were dried for 2 h at high vacuum ( $10^{-3}$  mbar). Crystalline yield: 212 mg (0.095 mmol, 79%). Elemental analysis: calc. (%) for  $\text{C}_{60}\text{H}_{32}\text{O}_8\text{F}_{24}\text{BP}_2\text{Sb}_2\text{Mo}_4\text{Ti}$ : C: 32.15, H: 1.44. Found (%): C: 32.31, H: 1.49. ESI(+) MS (*o*-DFB):  $m/z$  (%) = 1378.46 (10%)  $[[\text{C}]_2\text{Ti}]^+$  ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 790.78 (40%)  $[\text{C-Ti}]^+$ , 586.78 (100%)  $[\text{C}]^+$ , 246.00 (90%)  $[\text{Ti}(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})]^+$ , 204.99 (90%)  $[\text{Ti}]^+$ , several decarbonylation products of  $[\text{C}]_2\text{Ti}$  and C (10%). NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , r.t.):  $^1\text{H}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = 5.17 (s, 20H,  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ ), 7.48 (br, 4H, *p*-CH  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ), 7.64 (br, 8H, *o*-CH  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = 113.4 (s,  $\omega_{1/2}$  = 14 Hz, 1 P,  $\text{Mo}_2\text{PSb-Ti}$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = 113.4 (s, 1 P,  $\text{Mo}_2\text{PSb-Ti}$ ).  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = -62.7 (s, 24 F, *m*-CF<sub>3</sub>).  $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = -6.85 (s, 1 B,  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ). IR:  $\tilde{\nu}(\text{CO})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  = 1987 (w), 1950 (m), 1908 (s).

**Reaction of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-As}_2)]$  (D) with  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$ .** A red solution of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-As}_2)]$  (D) (58 mg, 0.10 mmol, 5 equiv) and  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$  (42 mg, 0.04 mmol, 2 equiv) was

stirred in *o*-DFB (3 mL) at room temperature. After 4 h, the mixture was layered with *n*-hexane (20 mL) and red plates of  $[\text{Ti}_2(\eta^2\text{-D})_3(\mu,\eta^{2:1}\text{-D})(\mu,\eta^{1:1}\text{-D})][\text{BARF}_{24}]_2$  ( $[\text{D}]_5\text{Ti}_2$ ) suitable for single crystals X-ray analysis were formed after several days. The solvent was decanted, and the crystals were dried for 2 h at high vacuum ( $10^{-3}$  mbar). Crystalline yield: 79 mg (0.016 mmol, 79%). Elemental analysis: calc. (%) for  $\text{C}_{134}\text{H}_{74}\text{O}_{20}\text{F}_{48}\text{B}_2\text{As}_{10}\text{Mo}_{10}\text{Ti}_2$ : C: 31.84, H: 1.48. Found (%): C: 32.33, H: 2.16. ESI(+) MS (*o*-DFB):  $m/z$  (%) = 584.70 (50%)  $[\text{D} + \text{H}]^+$ , 788.67 (20%)  $[\text{D} + \text{Ti}]^+$ , 1139.88 (10%)  $[2\text{-D-CO}]^+$ , 1276.31 (30%)  $[2\text{-D} + \text{Ti-CO-Cp}]^+$  unidentified, several decarbonylation products (5–10%). NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , r.t.):  $^1\text{H}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = 5.32 (s, 50H,  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ ), 7.64 (br, 8H, *p*-CH  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ), 7.81 (br, 16H, *o*-CH  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ).  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = -62.6 (s, 24 F, *m*-CF<sub>3</sub>).  $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = -6.85 (s, 1 B,  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ). IR:  $\tilde{\nu}(\text{CO})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  = 1949 (s), 1896 (s).

**Reaction of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-AsSb})]$  (E) with  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$ .** A red solution of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-AsSb})]$  (E) (126 mg, 0.20 mmol, 5 equiv) and  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$  (85 mg, 0.08 mmol, 2 equiv) was stirred in *o*-DFB (3 mL) at room temperature. After 3 h, the mixture was layered with *n*-hexane (20 mL) and dark red plates of  $[\text{Ti}_2(\eta^2\text{-E})_2(\mu,\eta^{2:1}\text{-E})_3][\text{BARF}_{24}]_2$  ( $[\text{E}]_5\text{Ti}_2$ ) suitable for single crystals X-ray analysis were formed after several days. The solvent was decanted, and the crystals were dried for 2 h at high vacuum ( $10^{-3}$  mbar). Crystalline yield: 147 mg (0.028 mmol, 70%). Elemental analysis: calc. (%) for  $\text{C}_{134}\text{H}_{74}\text{O}_{20}\text{F}_{48}\text{B}_2\text{As}_5\text{Sb}_5\text{Mo}_{10}\text{Ti}_2$ : C: 30.43, H: 1.41. Found (%): C: 30.87, H: 1.34. ESI(+) MS (*o*-DFB):  $m/z$  (%) = 1465.96 (5%)  $[2\text{-E} + \text{Ti}]^+$  ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 835.17 (10%)  $[\text{E-Ti}]^+$ , 630.78 (5%)  $[\text{E}]^+$ , 246.00 (100%)  $[\text{Ti}(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})]^+$ , 204.99 (90%)  $[\text{Ti}]^+$ , several decarbonylation products (less than 5%). NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , r.t.):  $^1\text{H}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = 5.22 (s, 20H,  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ ), 7.56 (br, 4H, *p*-CH  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ), 7.73 (br, 8H, *o*-CH  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ).  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = -62.7 (s, 24 F, *m*-CF<sub>3</sub>).  $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = -6.85 (s, 1 B,  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ). IR:  $\tilde{\nu}(\text{CO})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  = 1955 (m), 1950 (m), 1895 (s).

**Reaction of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-Sb}_2)]$  (F) with  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$ .** A dark red solution of  $[\{\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_2\}_2(\mu,\eta^{2:2}\text{-Sb}_2)]$  (F) (68 mg, 0.1 mmol, 6 equiv) and  $\text{Ti}[\text{BARF}_{24}]$  (35 mg, 0.033 mmol, 2 equiv) was stirred in *o*-DFB (3 mL) at room temperature. After 2.5 h, the mixture was layered first with *o*-DFB (3 mL) and then with *n*-hexane (20 mL) and black blocks of  $[\text{Ti}_2(\eta^2\text{-F})_3(\mu,\eta^{2:1}\text{-F})_3][\text{BARF}_{24}]_2$  ( $[\text{F}]_6\text{Ti}_2$ ) suitable for single crystals X-ray analysis were formed after 1 week at 4 °C. The solvent was decanted, and the crystals were dried for 2 h at high vacuum ( $10^{-3}$  mbar). Crystalline yield: 71 mg (0.090 mmol, 68%). Elemental analysis: calc. (%) for  $\text{C}_{148}\text{H}_{84}\text{O}_{24}\text{F}_{48}\text{B}_2\text{Sb}_{12}\text{Mo}_{12}\text{Ti}_2$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{F}_2$ )<sub>4</sub>: C: 31.03, H: 1.51. Found (%): C: 31.14, H: 1.61. ESI(+) MS (*o*-DFB):  $m/z$  (%) = 1462.24 (100%)  $[2\text{-F} + \text{Ti-CO-Cp}]^+$ , 882.01 (40%)  $[\text{F-Ti}]^+$ , 677.67 (10%)  $[\text{F}]^+$ , several decarbonylation products (less than 5%). NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , r.t.):  $^1\text{H}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = 5.07 (s, 60H,  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ ), 7.47 (br, 4H, *p*-CH  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ), 7.63 (br, 8H, *o*-CH  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ).  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = -62.65 (s, 24 F, *m*-CF<sub>3</sub>).  $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = -6.85 (s, 1 B,  $[\text{BARF}_{24}]^-$ ). IR:  $\tilde{\nu}(\text{CO})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  = 1927 (s), 1879 (s).

## ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.inorgchem.4c00867>.

NMR spectra, ESI-MS spectra and details on X-ray crystallography and computational studies (PDF)

### Accession Codes

CCDC 2332190–2332195 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via [www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\\_request/cif](http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif), or by emailing [data\\_request@ccdc.cam.ac.uk](mailto:data_request@ccdc.cam.ac.uk), or by contacting The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: +44 1223 336033.

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## Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work was supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) within the projects Sche 384/44-1 and Sche 384/42-1. C.R. is grateful to the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes for a PhD fellowship. The authors thank Lukas Adlbert for the recorded mass spectra and Dr. Gábor Balázs and Dr. Mehdi Elsayed Moussa for fruitful discussions.

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