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FULL PAPER

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New Donor Functionalized Cp Ligands: Synthesis and Complexation Behaviour of Quinoxalyl and Benzothiadiazolyl Systems

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Keywords: Donor functionalized Cp ligands, Benzothiadiazole, Quinoxaline, Ferrocene, paramagnetic NMR, Olefin Polymerization

Sodium cyclopentadienide reacts as nucleophile with 4,7-dibromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazole (BTZ) and leads to the new donor-functionalized ligand Cp^{BTZ}. Related quinoxalyl Cp-systems have been prepared using Pd-catalyzed coupling with zincated Cp-metal complexes. The new ligands comprise two N-donor atoms; one of them is located in a distal position relative to the metal centre so that it cannot coordinate in a chelating manner..

With Cp^{BTZ} ligand derivatives several metal complexes have been synthesized. The new chromium(III) complex Cp^{BTZ}CrCl₂ (**12**) becomes upon activation an active catalyst for the polymerization of ethylene. Relying on DFT-calculations and analysis of spin-density distribution combined with paramagnetic NMR-data a chelating coordination of the Cp^{BTZ} ligand is feasible in **12**.

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INTRODUCTION

The attachment of neutral donor functions to cyclopentadienes via suitable spacers leads to monoanionic chelating ligands where the steric and electronic properties of cyclopentadienyl ligands are considerably modulated. Therefore a large number of such ligands have been developed¹ and the resulting metal complexes served as active catalysts for the polymerization² and oligomerization³ of olefins, for CH-activation⁴ or hydroamination of alkynes⁵. The role of the donor group is the completion of the coordination sphere of the metal in a predefined geometry and to modulate the metal reactivity. Additionally, ligands have been developed where for steric reasons the attached donor group cannot coordinate to the Cp bound metal atom.⁶ We now report the synthesis of a new type of donor functionalized Cp ligands where one donor atom is able to coordinate to the Cp bound metal atom and a second donor function remains uncoordinated so that additional metal atoms or Lewis acids can bind. Such interactions could lead to a modulation of the properties of catalysts (e.g. Al-alkyls in olefin polymerization catalysts). The two donor atoms are incorporated into a heteroaromatic ring which enables electronic communication. We have chosen 2,1,3-benzothiadiazole and quinoxaline respectively as pendant groups attached to the Cp rings. This leads to a rigid arrangement of the new ligands with a C₂ spacer between the chelating donor atom and the Cp ring.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Synthesis of Cp-ligands with a pendant 2,1,3-benzothiadiazole

Benzene derivatives usually do not react with cyclopentadienides as nucleophiles except when they are substituted with strongly electron withdrawing groups.^{1h, 7} In benzothiadiazoles the homocyclic ring is also activated for the reaction with nucleophiles which can be explained by the contribution of several mesomeric resonance structures (see scheme 1).⁸ Therefore we treated 4,7-dibromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazole with lithium indenide (Li-Ind) and after hydrolysis we obtained the donor functionalized indene **H1** as a single isomer. The yield of the reaction increases considerably to 90% when two equivalents of lithium indenide are used, as the initially formed product is quickly deprotonated by Li-Ind under formation of the intensely colored anion **1**⁻. The structure of **H1** was established by X-Ray diffraction analysis of a twinned crystal. The four independent molecules found in the asymmetric unit only differ by the relative arrangement of the two ring systems with respect to torsion around the connecting carbon carbon bond (torsion angles -42.6, -43.7, 39.3 and 43.0 °). The distances C1-C2, C1-C6 and C5-C6 are with 1.42 – 1.44 Å considerably longer than the other C-C distances in the benzothiadiazole moiety which indicates an important contribution of the mesomeric structure **B** (scheme 1).

Scheme 1: Mesomeric resonance structures of benzothiadiazole (A – C) and formation of cyclopentadienes functionalized with 2,1,3-benzothiadiazole. (Numbering of atoms for NMR assignment in exp. part).

Figure 1. Solid-state molecular structure of one of four independent molecules of H1. Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°]: C1-N1 1.347(5), N1-S1 1.617(3), S1-N2 1.611(3), N2-C6 1.357(5), C1-C2 1.418(5), C2-C3 1.365(5), C3-C4 1.396(5), C4-C5 1.367(5), C5-C6 1.437(5), C6-C1 1.444(5), C5-C7 1.464(5), C6-N2-S1 106.2(3), N2-S1-N1 101.5(2), S1-N1-C1 106.3(2), C6-C5-C7-C8 -43.7(6).

The synthesis of H1 shows that lithium indenide is sufficiently reactive for the nucleophilic substitution of bromide in dibromobenzothiadiazole. Compared to lithium indenide, alkaline metal cyclopentadienides are less nucleophilic. Nevertheless the reaction with NaC_5H_5 leads to the formation of **2Na**. After aqueous workup the product could be identified by GC-MS analysis, but it was not possible to isolate the cyclopentadiene H2. The low stability of H2 is in accordance with similar properties of 8-quinolylcyclopentadiene.⁹ The stability of functionalized cyclopentadienes increases with additional alkyl substituents. Therefore we tried to synthesize the corresponding tetramethyl derivative. However, the unsubstituted carbon atom in lithium tetramethylcyclopentadienide is less nucleophilic compared to the neighboring C-atoms which carry a methyl substituent. Consequently the reaction occurs at a position which is already substituted so that a cyclopentadiene is formed which cannot be deprotonated and hence is no longer useful as ligand (scheme 2).

Scheme 2. Formation of the "wrong" isomer **4**.

By increasing the steric bulk at the cyclopentadiene substituent a second substitution at this position can be prevented. Therefore lithium *t*-butylcyclopentadienide was used leading to the isomers H3a and H3b (see scheme 1).

We also tried to attach a second cyclopentadiene to compound **3** by reaction of dibromobenzothiadiazole with an excess of *t*-butylcyclopentadienide, but this reaction was not successful. However, such a ligand system can be obtained by Negishi-type Pd catalyzed coupling of zincated Cp-metal complexes. Both, mono-zincated and bis-zincated ferrocene react with one equivalent of 4,7-dibromobenzothiadiazole in the presence of a Pd(0) catalyst under formation of compound **5**. When an excess of the zincated ferrocene is used, the bimetallic compound **6** is obtained (see scheme 3). The ferrocene units in **6** communicate electronically

through the benzothiadiazole unit which is expressed by a peak separation of 100 mV in the cyclic voltammogram.¹⁰

Scheme 3. Formation of mono- and bis-ferrocenyl benzothiadiazoles.

We also envisaged synthesizing ligands where a quinoxaline unit is attached to a cyclopentadiene. This could lead to metal complexes with a similar geometry as 8-quinoline metal complexes. The latter compounds have been extensively studied by us and some of them showed interesting catalytic behaviour.^{2d, 4} However, the homocyclic part of quinoxaline is not sufficiently activated for nucleophilic substitution so that the Pd-catalyzed reaction with zincated Cp-metal complexes had to be employed. The complexes **7** and **8** have been obtained in good yields and the solid state molecular structures have been determined. Figure 2 and figure 3 show the relative orientation of the nearly planar quinoxaline units to the Cp rings. In **7** the metals are in a trans-arrangement whereas in **8** they are cis-oriented. In both compounds the heterocycles and the Cp rings form angles of approximately 25°. This small angle allows electronic communication between the metal centres which is expressed in the cyclic voltammogram. **7** shows a peak separation of the two oxidation potentials of 80 mV, a value which is somewhat smaller compared to the benzothiadiazole bridged ferrocene **6**.

Scheme 4. Formation of quinoxalyl bridged complexes **7** and **8**.

Figure 2. Solid state molecular structures of **7**. Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°]: C5-C6 1.478(2), C6-C7 1.429(3), C7-N1 1.357(2), N1-C8 1.318(3), C8-C9 1.406(3), C9-N2 1.321(3), N2-C10 1.368(2), C10-C11

1.431(3), C11-C22 1.381(3), C22-C23 1.404(3), C23-C6 1.384(3), C4-C5-C6-C7 -24.8(3), C22-C11-C12-C16 25.2(3).

Figure 3. Solid state molecular structures of **8**. Selected angles [°]: C2-C1-C11-C12 -23.2(14), C7-C6-C14-C13 24.6(15).

Complexation of ligands 1 - 3

The ligands **1** and **3** can be introduced easily into metal complexes, as the protonated ligands are readily available. Two examples with ligand precursor **H1** are presented in scheme 5. Deprotonation of **H1** with potassium hydride leads to the indenide derivative **K1** which was reacted with $[\text{ClRh}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4)_2]_2$. The resulting rhodium(I) bis-ethene complex **10** was isolated in 45% yield. As the Rh atom is coordinatively saturated, no N-Rh interaction is possible. Therefore we tried to remove one C_2H_4 by irradiation with visible light. With the related quinolyl complexes we were able to identify N-donor stabilized Rh(I) mono-ethene complexes which showed activity in catalytic H/D exchange reactions.⁴ The irradiation of **10** also leads to ethene elimination, but unfortunately the reaction is not selective and no products could be identified. The zirconium complex **9** was obtained in a clean reaction between **H1** and $\text{Zr}(\text{NMe}_2)_4$. ^{15}N NMR demonstrates that there is no coordination of the benzothiadiazole to the Zr atom, as the chemical shifts of the two N-atoms are very similar ($\delta = 333.7, 336.6$ ppm) and almost equal to the ^{15}N shifts of **H1** (335.8, 338.6 ppm). This is in contrast to a related indenyl $\text{Zr}(\text{NMe}_2)_3$ complex where a pendant pyridyl coordinates to the Zr-atom. However, a relatively long Zr-N-distance indicates that this interaction is weak.¹¹ Thus it is not unexpected that the pendant donor in **9** does not bind to Zr.

Scheme 5. Complexation of ligand **1**.

Deprotonation of the two isomers **H3a** and **H3b** with potassium hydride results in the formation of the intensely blue colored anion **K3** which shows an absorption maximum in the visible region at 675 nm ($\epsilon = 5400$). Subsequent reaction with FeCl_2 yields the ferrocene derivative **11** as a blue solid (scheme 6). Due to the unsymmetric 1,3-disubstitution at the Cp-rings, a 1:1 mixture of the C_s -isomer and the racemic chiral C_2 -isomers is obtained. The cyclopentadienide **Na2** was prepared in situ by the reaction between NaC_5H_5 and dibromobenzothiadiazole (see scheme 1). Reaction with $\text{CrCl}_3(\text{thf})_3$ yields the chromium(III) complex **12**.

Scheme 6. Synthesis of the ferrocene derivatives **11** and Cr complex **12**.

No crystals of **12**, suitable for X-ray analysis have been obtained. The mass spectra (EI and HR-FAB) confirm the molecular formula. Complexes with BTZ as ligands are known,¹² but ligand **2** is not ideally suited for a chelating coordination, as the lone-pair at the BTZ substituent is not pointing directly to the metal centre. This results in a constrained geometry of the complex. An other possibility would be a dimer formation with chloro bridges between two Cr centres or a coordination polymer. We calculated monomeric and dimeric molecular structures for **12** with DFT-methods and correlated the calculated Fermi-contact shifts with the experimental paramagnetic shifts observed in the ^1H -NMR spectrum ($\delta_{\text{para}} = \delta_{\text{exp}} - \delta_{\text{dia}}$). This procedure works well for

chromium(III) complexes with quinolyl-Cp ligands.¹³ The theoretical relation between the Fermi-contact shift (δ_{con}) and the calculated Fermi contact couplings for a S=3/2 system is:¹⁴

$$\delta_{con} = 2.0051 \cdot 10^5 \rho_{\alpha\beta}$$

The experimental paramagnetic shift δ_{para} is the sum of δ_{con} and δ_{dip} (δ_{dip} is the dipolar chemical shift contribution). For many H-atoms in paramagnetic organometallic compounds the contact shift dominates so that $\delta_{para} \approx \delta_{con}$. A fitting of δ_{para} with $\rho_{\alpha\beta}$ with several Cr(III)-Cp-quinolyl complexes leads to the following modified relation:¹³

$$\delta_{con} = 1.8484 \cdot 10^5 \rho_{\alpha\beta} + 6.1 \text{ ppm}$$

Deviations from this simple correlation are significant only for H atoms directly bound to the Cp-Ring and for one position in the quinoline which corresponds to H⁶ in complex **12**. The DFT-optimized structure for monomeric **12** is depicted in Figure 4.

Figure 4. DFT-optimized structure of **12** (UB3LYP/6-311g(d)).¹⁵

Table 1 gives the experimental ¹H-NMR shifts together with calculated chemical shifts using the equation above.

Table 1: Comparison of experimental ¹H-NMR shifts with calculated shifts.

H-atom	$\delta_{(exp)}$	$\delta_{(para)}$	$\rho_{\alpha\beta}$ [a.u. $\times 10^5$]	δ_{con}
H-Cp	159	153	72 / 98	139,2 / 187,2
H ⁵	19	11	12	28,3
H ⁶	6.8	-3	-18	-27,2

Test of polymerization activity of Cr-complex **12**

Chromium(III) complexes with donorfunctionalized Cp ligands lead to highly active catalysts for the polymerization of olefins.^{2c-2g} Related Cp-Cr complexes with external donors are also active, but less stable.¹⁶ The catalytic activity for the polymerization of ethylene has been tested for **12** and the previously reported **13**¹⁴ and the results are compared with polymerization data using zirconocenedichloride as pre-catalyst under identical conditions.

After activation with MAO (1000 equivalents of Al) **12** polymerizes ethylene at room temperature and atmospheric pressure with medium activity. The activity of **13** is much higher

and is comparable to the activity to other chromium complexes with 8-quinolyl-Cp ligands or to Cp₂ZrCl₂.

Table 2: Polymerization results^{a)}

Pre-catalyst	activity ^{b)} [g mmol ⁻¹ h ⁻¹]	M _w	PDI
13	2550	247.000	2,7
Cp ₂ ZrCl ₂	2330	607.000	2,4
12	330	824.000	3,6

a) Polymerization conditions: 100 ml toluene, 25°C, 3 μ mol Kat., 1000 eq. MAO (calcd. for ratio Al:Cr(Zr)), ethene pressure 1 bar, 20 min. b) Under the conditions used, activities greater 1500 become more and more levelled, as diffusion limitation leads to lower olefin concentrations.

CONCLUSION

We have developed the synthesis of benzothiadiazole (BTZ) and quinoxalyl substituted Cp-ligands where one of the two N-donor atoms is connected to the Cp ring by a rigid C₂-spacer. This ligand geometry is comparable to the geometry in quinolyl substituted Cp ligands (Cp^Q) developed earlier in our group. In addition, a second N-donor is present in the new ligands which is located in a distal position relative to the metal centre. Due to the 5-membered ring in the BTZ ligand the chelating coordination is less favoured compared to Cp^Q-ligands. The chromium complex **12** derived from Cp^{BTZ} is active as ethylene polymerization catalyst with moderate activity and produces polyethylene with high molecular weight.

EXPERIMENTAL PART

General Procedures. All experiments were carried out under an atmosphere of dry argon. Solvents were dried by using standard procedures and distilled prior to use. 4,7-dibromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazole¹⁷, di- μ -chlorotetrakis(ethene)dirhodium(I)¹⁸, 1,1'-dilithioferrocene¹⁹ were prepared by literature procedures. All other reagents were used as purchased. NMR-spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX 200, Bruker Avance II 400 and Bruker Avance III 600 spectrometer (¹H: 200 MHz, 400 MHz and 600 MHz respectively; ¹³C: 50 MHz, 100 MHz and 150 MHz respectively). The spectra were referenced using residual proton peaks or the ¹³C solvent peaks. ¹⁵N NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance III 600 spectrometer equipped with a cryogenically cooled probe (QNP-cryoprobeTM). Infrared spectra were obtained on a Varian 3100 FT-IR spectrometer (Excalibur Series). UV/Vis spectra have been measured in 1 cm cells with a Varian Cary 5000 spectrometer. Mass spectra and elemental analysis were performed by the analytical services at the Organisch-Chemisches Institut, University of Heidelberg. Complexes **10** and **11** did not give satisfactory elemental analysis data. Cyclic voltammetry measurements were done with a PAR 263A potentiostat, a METROHM glassy-carbon-disk working electrode, a saturated calomel reference electrode, and dichloromethane solvent with 0.1 mol L⁻¹ (n-Bu₄)NPF₆ as supporting electrolyte; the scan rate was 100 mV s⁻¹. Molecular weight distributions of polyethylene were measured with a Polymer Lab HT-GPC (PL-GPC 220) at 150°C in 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene. Molecular masses are calibrated to PE.

4-Bromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-7-yl-1-indene (H1) A solution of 711 mg (6.12 mmol) indene in 50 ml thf was cooled to -50°C and 3.8 ml (6.12 mmol) *n*-BuLi (1.6 M in hexane) were added dropwise and stirred at this temperature for 1 hour. At room temp. the solution was added via cannula to a solution of 1.09 g (3.70 mmol) of 4,7-dibromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazole in 100 ml thf. After 24 hours at room temp. a deep green reaction mixture was obtained. After addition of 100 ml of aqueous HCl (5%) the mixture was treated with NH₄OH until a pH of 12 was obtained. The layers were separated and the aqueous one was extracted twice with diethylether (2 x

100 ml). The organic layers were collected, dried over MgSO_4 , filtered and the volatile components were removed to obtain a yellow powder. After column chromatography (Al_2O_3) with toluene as eluent and removing of the solvent a yellow powder was obtained. Yield: 1.10 g (3.34 mmol = 90%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 200 MHz) δ = 3.65 (d, 2H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}, \text{H})$ = 2.0 Hz, CH_2), 7.10 (t, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}, \text{H})$ = 2.0 Hz, H^{12}), 7.26 – 7.32 (m, 2H, H_{ind}), 7.43 (d, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}, \text{H})$ = 6.3 Hz, H_{ind}), 7.57 (d, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}, \text{H})$ = 6.3 Hz, H_{ind}), 7.69 (d, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}, \text{H})$ = 7.5 Hz, H^6), 7.91 (d, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}, \text{H})$ = 7.5 Hz, H^5) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 50 MHz) δ = 38.9 (CH_2), 113.2 (C_q), 120.5 (CH^{12}), 124.3, 125.3, 126.2, 128.1 (4 x CH_{ind}), 128.9 (C_q), 132.1, 136.1 (CH^5 and CH^6), 139.9, 143.3, 144.2, 153.5, 153.8 (5 x C_q) ppm. ^{15}N NMR (C_6D_6 , 61 MHz) δ = 335.8, 338.6 ppm. MS (EI) m/z (%): 330 (100) [M^+], 249 (40) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{Br}$], 215 (15) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{Br} - \text{H}_2\text{S}$] - $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrN}_2\text{S}$ (329.21) calcd. C 54.72, H 2.76, N 8.51; found C 54.40, H 2.44, N 8.83.

4-Bromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-7-yl-*tert*-butylcyclopentadiene (H3)

To a solution of 1.64 g (15.4 mmol) of 6,6-dimethylfulvene in 30 ml of diethylether was added 9.65 ml (15.4 mmol) of methylolithium (1.6 M solution in diethylether) at 0°C. After 5 min the solvent was evaporated and the resulting white solid was washed with diethylether, dried and dissolved in 50 ml of thf. This solution was added to a solution of 2.70 g (9.3 mmol) of 4,7-dibromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazole in 50 ml of thf within 10 min. The reaction mixture was heated to 40°C for 21 h to give an intensely blue colored solution which was then added to a saturated NH_4Cl solution in water. The aqueous phase was extracted twice with *n*-hexane and the combined organic phases were dried over MgSO_4 , filtered and the solvent evaporated. The crude product was purified by chromatography (Al_2O_3 , eluent: toluene) to give 925 mg (30%) of the two isomers of H3 in a 1:1 ratio. Isomer H3a: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ = 1.25 (s, 9H, CH_3), 3.56 (dd, 2H, $^4\text{J}(\text{H}^9, \text{H}^{11})$ = 1.3 Hz, $^4\text{J}(\text{H}^9, \text{H}^{12})$ = 1.3 Hz, H^9), 6.34 (m, H^{11}), 7.39 (d, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}^6, \text{H}^5)$ = 7.8 Hz, H^6), 7.73 (d, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}^5, \text{H}^6)$ = 6.9 Hz, H^5), 7.77 (m, H^{12}) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ = 30.8 (CH_3), 32.3 (C_q), 40.9 (CH_2), 110.4 (C_q), 124.2 (CH^6), 125.7 (CH^1), 132.3 (CH^5), 132.4 (C_q), 135.8 (CH^{12}), 139.1, 152.5, 154.0, 161.5 (4 x C_q) ppm. Isomer H3b: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ = 1.25 (s, 9H, CH_3), 3.54 (dd, 2H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}^{12}, \text{H}^{11})$ = 1.5 Hz, $^4\text{J}(\text{H}^{12}, \text{H}^9)$ = 1.5 Hz, H^{12}), 6.12 (td, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}^{11}, \text{H}^{12})$ = 1.5 Hz, $^4\text{J}(\text{H}^{11}, \text{H}^9)$ = 1.6 Hz, H^{11}), 7.44 (d, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}^6, \text{H}^5)$ = 7.8 Hz, H^6), 7.75 (d, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}^5, \text{H}^6)$ = 6.9 Hz, H^5), 7.99 (dt, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}^9, \text{H}^{11})$ = 1.6 Hz, $^4\text{J}(\text{H}^9, \text{H}^{12})$ = 1.5 Hz, H^9) ppm. ^{13}C -NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ = 29.7 (CH_3), 33.6 (C_q), 41.4 (CH_2), 111.0 (C_q), 123.9 (CH^{11}), 124.8 (CH^{10}), 132.3 (CH^5), 132.4 (C_q), 136.3 (CH^9), 141.9, 152.5, 154.0, 158.8 (4 x C_q) ppm. MS (EI) m/z (%): 334 (53) [M^+], 321 (100) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{CH}_3$], 278 (57) [$\text{M}^+ - ^t\text{Bu}$], 240 (36) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{CH}_3 - \text{Br}$]. UV/Vis (thf), λ_{max} [nm] (ϵ [$\text{l mol}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$]): 306 (9740), 438 (4550). Deprotonation with KH leads to the intensely colored anion 3K: UV/Vis (thf), λ_{max} [nm] (ϵ [$\text{l mol}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$]): 339 (9700), 675 (5400).

4-Bromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-7-yl-tetramethylcyclopentadiene (4)

A solution of lithium tetramethylcyclopentadienide in 50 ml thf was prepared from 830 mg (6.8 mmol) of 2,3,4,5-tetramethylcyclopentadiene and 4.25 ml (6.8 mmol) of a *n*-BuLi solution (1.6 M in hexane). This solution was added to a solution of 1.0 g (3.4 mmol) 4,7-dibromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazole in 100 ml thf at -55°C. The reaction mixture turned blue and after stirring at room temp. for 18 h the solution was violet. Diluted hydrochloric acid was added and the mixture was alkalized with NH_4OH until a pH of 12 was obtained. The mixture was extracted with diethylether and the combined organic layers were dried with MgSO_4 . The product mixture was purified by chromatography and the main component was identified as compound 4. Yield 450 mg (1.34 mmol), 39%. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ = 1.68 (s, 3H, CH_3), 1.78 (s, 3H, CH_3), 1.85 (s, 6H, 2 x CH_3), 6.24 (s, 1H, H^{12}), 7.03 (d, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}, \text{H})$ = 7.6, H^6), 7.63 (d, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}, \text{H})$ = 7.6, H^5) ppm. ^{13}C -NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): δ = 11.0, 11.3, 14.0, 20.5 (4 x CH_3), 58.8 (C_q^8), 111.8 (C_q), 125.8 (CH^6), 132.2 (CH^7), 135.7 (C_q), 136.1 (CH^{12}), 136.9, 141.0, 143.8 (3 x C_q -Cp), 154.0, 154.4 (2 x C_q) ppm. MS (EI) m/z (%): 334 (80) [M^+], 319 (50) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{CH}_3$], 240 (100) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{Br}$],

CH_3], 225(85) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_2\text{H}_6 - \text{Br}$]. $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrN}_2\text{S}$ (335.26) calcd. C 54.74, H 4.51, N 8.36; found C 53.89, H 4.52, N 8.28.

4-Bromo-7-ferrocenyl-2,1,3-benzothiadiazole (5)

To a solution of 1.50 g (8.1 mmol) of ferrocene in 30 ml thf at -40°C was added 5.5 ml (6.7 mmol) of a 1.26 M solution of *t*-BuLi in pentane. After stirring for 2 h at room temp. a solution of 884 mg (6.5 mmol) of ZnCl_2 was added and the resulting solution of ferrocenylzinc chloride was stirred for an additional hour. A solution of $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_2$ (prepared from 235 mg (0.35 mmol) of PPh_3) and 0.70 mmol of DIBAL-H was added to the red solution of ferrocenylzinc chloride and subsequent 1.88 g (6.4 mmol) of 4,7-dibromobenzo-2,1,3-thiadiazole in 50 ml thf was added. After stirring at room temp. for 5 days a deep violet solution was obtained which was treated with a solution of 5 g (0.2 mol) NaOH in 100 ml H_2O . The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted twice with CH_2Cl_2 . The organic layers were dried with MgSO_4 , filtered and the volatile components were removed to obtain a violet powder with ferrocene impurity. Purification by column chromatography (Al_2O_3 (neutral); eluent: toluene) led after removing of the solvent to violet crystals. Yield: 1.02 g (2.56 mmol), 40%. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ = 3.99 (s, 5H, Cp-H), 4.48 (pt, 2H, Cp-CH), 5.22 (pt, 2H, Cp-CH), 7.52 (d, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}, \text{H})$ = 7.7 Hz, H^6), 7.70 (d, 1H, $^3\text{J}(\text{H}, \text{H})$ = 7.7 Hz, H^5) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ = 68.9 ($\text{CH}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)$), 70.0, 70.1 (2 x $\text{CH}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4)$), 68.3 (C_q), 113.7 (C_q), 132.3, 132.6 (CH^5 and CH^6), 133.9, 152.8, 152.9 (3 x C_q) ppm. MS (EI) m/z (%): 398 (M^+ , 100), 333 ($\text{M}^+ - \text{Cp}$, 25), 277 ($\text{M}^+ - \text{FeCp}$, 18). MS (HR-FAB) calcd. 397.9176; found 397.9180.

4,7-(Bis-ferrocenyl)-2,1,3-benzothiadiazole (6)

A solution of 1,1'-bis-chlorozinc-ferrocene in 100 ml thf was prepared from 3.11 g (11.7 mmol) 1,1'-dilithioferrocene x 2/3 TMEDA and 3.18 g (23.3 mmol) ZnCl_2 . A solution of PPh_3 (prepared from 170 mg (0.23 mmol) of PPh_3) and 0.48 mmol of DIBAL-H and 2.0 g (6.8 mmol) of 4,7-dibromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazole in 20 ml thf were added slowly to the reaction mixture leading to a deep red solution. After 3 days stirring at room temp. 10 g (0.23 mol) NaOH in 100 ml H_2O were added. After extraction with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 100 ml) the organic layers were dried with MgSO_4 and the solvent was removed. Column chromatography (Al_2O_3 (neutral), eluent: toluene) led to a violet powder. Yield: 0.81 g (1.61 mmol), 24 %. ^1H NMR (C_6D_6 , 200 MHz) δ = 3.95 (s, 10H, Cp-H), 4.33 (pt, 4H, Cp-H), 5.33 (pt, 4H, Cp-H), 7.41 (s, 2H, CH) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (C_6D_6 , 50 MHz) δ = 68.9, 69.9 (2 x $\text{CH}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4)$), 70.1 ($\text{CH}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)$), 82.2 (C_q -Cp), 125.5 (CH), 131.2, 154.6 (2 x C_q) ppm. – MS (FAB⁺) m/z (%) 504 (100) [M^+]. $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{SFe}_2$ (504.21) calcd. C 61.93, H 4.00, N 5.56; found C 61.87, H 4.47, N 5.18. CV: $E^{0/+1}$ = 0.455 V and = 0.555 V vs. SCE.

5,8-(Bis-ferrocenyl)-quinoxaline (7)

A solution of 1,1'-(bis-chlorozinc)ferrocene in 100 ml thf was prepared from 2.01 g (7.55 mmol) 1,1'-dilithioferrocene x 2/3 TMEDA and 2.04 g (15.1 mmol) ZnCl_2 . A solution of PPh_3 (prepared from 265 mg (0.38 mmol) of PPh_3) and 0.76 mmol of DIBAL-H and 0.55 g (1.9 mmol) of 4,7-dibromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazole in 20 ml thf were added slowly to the reaction mixture leading to a red-violet solution. After 5 days stirring at room temp. 10 g (0.23 mol) NaOH in 100 ml H_2O were added. After extraction with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 100 ml) the organic layers were dried with MgSO_4 and the solvent was removed. Column chromatography (Al_2O_3 (neutral), eluent: toluene) led to red-violet crystals. Yield: 0.33 g (0.66 mmol), 35%. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 200 MHz) δ = 4.09 (s, 10H, Cp-H), 4.46 (pt, 4H, Cp-CH), 5.18 (pt, 4H, Cp-CH), 7.99 (s, 2H, H^6 and H^7), 8.86 (s, 2H, H^2 and H^3) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 50 MHz) δ = 69.1 ($\text{CH}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4)$), 69.4 ($\text{CH}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)$), 70.5 ($\text{CH}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4)$), 82.6 (C_q -Cp), 128.7 (C^6 and C^7), 136.5, 141.4 (2 x C_q), 142.9 (C^2 and C^3) ppm. MS (FAB⁺) m/z (%) 498 (100) [M^+], 433 (25) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{Cp}$], 368 (18) [$\text{M}^+ - 2 \text{Cp}$]. MS (HR-FAB) calcd. 498.0481; found 498.0470. $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{22}\text{Fe}_2\text{N}_2$ (498.05) calcd. C 67.51, H 4.45, N 5.62; found C 67.96, H 4.63, N 5.40. CV: $E^{0/+1}$ = 0.415 V and 0.495 V vs. SCE.

η^5 -(5,8-Bis-cyclopentadienylchinoxalyl)rhodium(I) (8)

A solution of (ClZnC₅H₄)Re(CO)₃ was prepared by addition of 5.4 ml (4.0 mmol) of *n*-BuLi (1.6 M in hexane) to a solution of 1.21 g (3.6 mmol) of C₅H₅Re(CO)₃ in 70 ml of thf at -78°C. After 1h at this temperature a solution of ZnCl₂ in 70 ml of thf was added. 1h later, a solution of (PPh₃)₂Pd (prepared from 140 mg (0.2 mmol) of (PPh₃)₂PdCl₂ and 0.4 ml (0.4 mmol) of DIBAL-H (1M in hexane)) and subsequently a solution of 1.04 g (3.6 mmol) of 5,8-dibromoquinoxaline in 20 ml of thf was added. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temp. and after stirring for 5 days 100 ml of NaOH solution was added. The product was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ and purified by chromatography (Al₂O₃/toluene) to give 1.86 g (2.34 mmol, 65%) of yellow solid **8**. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ = 5.46 (pt, 4H, CH_{Cp}), 6.32 (pt, 4H, CH_{Cp}), 7.81 (s, 2H), 8.90 (s, 2H) ppm. ¹³C-NMR: (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ = 84.4, 88.3 (CH_{Cp}), 100.7 (C_q-Cp), 128.5 (CH), 131.5, 140.5 (2 x C_q), 143.8 (CH), 194.2 (CO) ppm. MS (EI) m/z (%): 796 (10) [M⁺], 768 (40) [M⁺ - CO], 740 (40) [M⁺ - 2 CO], 712 (38) [M⁺ - 3 CO], 684 (25) [M⁺ - 4 CO], 656 (20) [M⁺ - 5 CO], 628 (20) [M⁺ - 6 CO]. FT-IR (toluene) ν(tilde) (cm⁻¹) = 2021 (s, ν_{C=O}), 1928 (s, ν_{C=O}). C₂₄H₁₂N₂O₆Re₂ (796.78): calcd. C 36.18, H 1.52, N 3.52; found C 36.12, H 1.68, N 3.61.

η⁵-(4-Bromobenzo-2,1,3-thiadiazol-7-yl-indenyl)-

tris(dimethylamido)zirconium (9) In a teflon valve NMR-tube 15 mg (46 μmol) of **H1** was dissolved in C₆D₆ and 12 mg (46 μmol) of tetrakis(dimethylamido)zirconium(IV) was added. The solution turned into deep red. NMR spectra were recorded and showed compound **9** together with one equivalent of HNMe₂. Yield: > 90% (not isolated). ¹H NMR (C₆D₆, 600 MHz) δ = 2.69 (s, 18H, 3 x N(CH₃)₂), 6.56 (dd, 1H, ³J(H¹¹, H¹²) = 3.6 Hz, ⁴J(H¹¹, H_{ind}) = 0.6 Hz, CH¹¹), 7.09 (ddd, 1H, ³J = 8.3 Hz, ³J = 6.5 Hz, ⁴J = 0.9 Hz, H_{ind}), 7.16 (ddd, ³J = 8.3 Hz, ³J = 6.5 Hz, ⁴J = 0.9 Hz 1H, H³), 7.56 (d, 1H, ³J = 7.7 Hz, CH⁵ or CH⁶), 7.59 (d, 1H, ³J = 7.7 Hz, CH⁵ or CH⁶), 7.67 (ddd, 1H, ³J = 8.3 Hz, ⁴J = 0.9 Hz, ⁵J = 0.9 Hz, H_{ind}), 7.71 (d, 1H, ³J(H¹¹, H¹²) = 3.6 Hz, CH¹²), 7.99 (dddd, 1H, ³J = 8.3 Hz, ⁴J = 0.6 Hz, ⁴J = 0.9, ⁵J = 0.9 Hz, H_{ind}) ppm. ¹³C NMR (C₆D₆, 150 MHz) δ = 43.8 (N(CH₃)₂), 99.1 (CH¹¹), 108.3, 110.5 (2 x C_q), 119.8 (CH¹²), 121.8, 123.0 (2 x CH_{ind}), 123.6 (C_q), 123.7, 123.8 (2 x CH_{ind}), 126.2 (CH⁵ or CH⁶), 127.4, 129.9 (C_q), 132.3 (CH⁵ or CH⁶), 153.6, 154.1 (2 x C_q) ppm. ¹⁵N NMR (C₆D₆, 61 MHz): δ = 333.7, 336.6 ppm.

η⁵-(4-Bromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-7-yl-indenyl)-bis(η²-ethenyl)rhodium

(10) In a schlenk flask 99 mg (0.30 mmol) of **H1** was dissolved in 20 ml thf and 12 mg (0.30 mmol) KH was added. After 12 hours stirring at room temp. the solution turned green. A solution of 58 mg (0.15 mmol) [ClRh(C₂H₄)₂]₂ in 20 ml toluene was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred for 24 hours and became red. After removing of the solvent in vacuum a red powder was obtained. After extraction with toluene and filtration of non-soluble residues, the product was purified by column chromatography (Al₂O₃ (neutral), eluent: toluene). The product was obtained as a red powder. Yield: 66 mg (0.13 mmol), 45%. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ = 1.90, 2.22 (br, 8H, CH₂), 5.18 (d, 1H, ³J(H,H) = 2.4 Hz, H_{Cp}), 7.24 -7.27 (m, 3H, 2 x H_{ind} and H_{Cp}), 7.46 (d, 1H, ³J(H,H) = 7.3 Hz, H_{ind}), 7.52 (d, 1H, ³J(H,H) = 7.9 Hz, H⁶), 7.63 (d, 1H, ³J(H,H) = 7.3, H_{ind}), 7.88 (d, 1H, ³J(H,H) = 7.9 Hz, H⁵) ppm. ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ = 47.7 (d, ¹J(Rh,C) = 13.7 Hz, C₂H₄), 78.2 (d, ¹J(Rh,C) = 4.9 Hz, CH_{Cp}), 95.1 (d, ¹J(Rh,C) = 5.2 Hz, CH_{Cp}), 110.9, 111.6 (2 x C_q), 112.5 (d, ¹J(Rh,C) = 2.6 Hz, C_q), 118.3, 120.6, 123.9, 124.5 (4 x CH_{ind}), 126.6 (CH⁶), 128.2, 128.5 (2 x C_q), 132.3 (CH⁵), 153.1, 154.2 (2 x C_q) ppm. MS (FAB⁺) m/z (%): 430 (7) [M⁺ - 2 C₂H₄], 327 (100) [M⁺ - 2 C₂H₄ - Rh].

Bis-[η⁵-(4-bromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-7-yl)-cyclopentadienyl]iron (11)

To a solution of 183 mg (0.54 mmol) 4-bromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-7-yl-*t*-butylcyclopentadiene in 10 ml thf was added 22 mg (0.55 mmol) of potassium hydride. After 10 h stirring at room temperature this solution is dropped into a suspension of 40 mg (0.32 mmol) FeCl₂ in 10 ml of thf. After 2 d the solvent is evaporated and the crude product is purified by chromatography (Al₂O₃, toluene:hexane = 2:1). Yield 219 mg (0.3 mmol), 56%. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ = 1.01, 1.24 (2 x s, 2 x 9H, CH₃), 4.59,

4.75, 4.98 (3 x Cp-H), 4.67, 5.01, 5.79 (3 x Cp-H), 6.56, 6.94 (2 x Btz-H), 7.44, 7.69 (2 x Btz-H). MS (EI): m/z (%): 724 (22) [M⁺], 644 (8) [M⁺ - Br], 566 (13) [M⁺ - 2 x Br]. UV/Vis (thf), λ_{max} [nm] (ε) [l mol⁻¹cm⁻¹]: 290 (76000), 388 (36000), 562 (11000).

[η⁵-(4-Bromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-7-yl)-cyclopentadienyl]-chromium(III)dichloride (12)

A solution of 555 mg (6.3 mmol) sodium cyclopentadienide in 60 ml thf was added dropwise to 929 mg (3.16 mmol) 4,7-dibromo-2,1,3-benzothiadiazole in 70 ml thf. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temp. for 24 h leading to a deep blue color. This solution was added slowly via a cannula to 1.18 g (3.16 mmol) CrCl₃(thf)₃ in 80 ml of thf. After 2 days at room temp. the reaction mixture turned to intensely green. Removal of the solvent led to a green powder which was washed with hexane and the product was extracted with toluene. After evaporation of the solvent 490 mg (1.22 mmol, 39%) of the solid green complex **11** were isolated. ¹H NMR (C₆D₆, 400 MHz) δ = 159 (s, ν_{1/2} ~ 4000 Hz, CH_{Cp}), 19 (s, ν_{1/2} ~ 500 Hz, CH⁵), 6.8 (s, ν_{1/2} ~ 18 Hz, CH⁶) ppm. MS (EI) m/z (%): 364 (25) [M⁺ - Cl], 329 (100) [M⁺ - 2 Cl]. MS (HR-FAB) C₁₁H₆N₂⁷⁹Br³⁵Cl₂Cr calcd. 363.8529; found 363.8555.

Crystal structure determinations

Crystal data. **H1:** C₁₅H₉BrN₂S, monoclinic, space group *P*2₁, *a* = 19.1008(14), *b* = 7.4055(6), *c* = 19.1311(14) Å, β = 109.4620(10)°, *V* = 2551.5(3) Å³, *Z* = 8, μ = 3.370 mm⁻¹, *F*₀₀₀ = 1312. *T* = 100(2) K, θ range 1.1 to 30.1°. Index ranges *h*, *k*, *l* (indep. set): -26 ... 26, -10 ... 10, -26 ... 26. Reflections measd.: 59944, indep.: 14928 [*R*_{int} = 0.0448], obsvd. [*I* > 2σ(*I*): 13768. Final *R* indices [*F*_o > 4σ(*F*_o): *R*(*F*) = 0.0313, *wR*(*F*²) = 0.0620, *GooF* = 1.018. Pseudo-merohedral and racemic twin. 7: C₂₄H₁₂Fe₂N₂, monoclinic, space group *P*2₁/*c*, *a* = 14.2530(16), *b* = 7.4496(8), *c* = 22.8163(19) Å, β = 123.218(5)°, *V* = 2026.7(4) Å³, *Z* = 4, μ = 1.452 mm⁻¹, *F*₀₀₀ = 1024. *T* = 100(2) K, θ range 1.7 to 32.0°. Index ranges *h*, *k*, *l* (indep. set): -21 ... 20, -11 ... 0, -34 ... 19. Reflections measd.: 34112, indep.: 6945 [*R*_{int} = 0.0645], obsvd. [*I* > 2σ(*I*): 5121. Final *R* indices [*F*_o > 4σ(*F*_o): *R*(*F*) = 0.0410, *wR*(*F*²) = 0.1081, *GooF* = 1.058. 8: C₂₄H₁₂N₂O₆Re₂, triclinic, space group *P*-1, *a* = 8.0187(16), *b* = 9.5933(19), *c* = 15.026(3) Å, α = 71.948(4), β = 123.218(5), γ = 82.969(4)°, *V* = 1072.8(4) Å³, *Z* = 2, μ = 2.467 mm⁻¹, *F*₀₀₀ = 736. *T* = 150(2) K, θ range 2.2 to 32.2°. Index ranges *h*, *k*, *l* (indep. set): -11 ... 11, -13 ... 14, 0 ... 22. Reflections measd.: 28868, indep.: 7906 [*R*_{int} = 0.0839], obsvd. [*I* > 2σ(*I*): 5934. Final *R* indices [*F*_o > 4σ(*F*_o): *R*(*F*) = 0.0703, *wR*(*F*²) = 0.1096, *GooF* = 1.002. Pseudo-merohedral twin.

Intensity data collection: Bruker AXS Smart 1000 CCD diffractometer, Mo-K_α radiation, graphite monochromator, λ = 0.71073 Å. Structure solution: conventional direct methods^{20, 21} (**H1** and **8**) or heavy atom method combined with structure expansion by direct methods²² (**7**). Refinement: full-matrix least squares methods based on *F*²; all non-hydrogen atoms anisotropic. Hydrogen atoms were input at calculated positions and refined riding (**H1** and **8**) or fully refined (**7**).^{23, 21} The twin refinements were against all overlapping and non-overlapping reflections. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structures reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center: CCDC-713319 (**H1**), -713317 (**7**) and -713318 (**8**). These data can be obtained free of charge at <http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/cgi-bin/catreq.cgi?> [or from CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; Phone: +44 1223 336408, Fax: +44 1223 336033; E-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk].

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compound 13 without caption
846x660mm (72 x 72 DPI)

Figure 1
241x137mm (600 x 600 DPI)

Figure 2
236x130mm (600 x 600 DPI)

Figure 3
248x175mm (600 x 600 DPI)

Figure 4
1144x871mm (72 x 72 DPI)

Scheme 1
101x83mm (600 x 600 DPI)

Scheme 2
101x26mm (600 x 600 DPI)

Scheme 3
846x522mm (72 x 72 DPI)

Scheme 4
846x252mm (72 x 72 DPI)

Scheme 5
846x730mm (72 x 72 DPI)

Scheme 6
846x609mm (72 x 72 DPI)