ESI: Barium phosphidoboranes and related calcium complexes

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EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General procedures. All manipulations were performed under an inert atmosphere by using standard Schlenk techniques or in a dry, solvent-free glovebox (Jacomex; $O_2 < 1$ ppm, $H_2O < 3$ ppm). Thf was distilled under argon from Na/benzophenone prior to use. Thp was dried over KOH, then was distilled over K/benzophenone prior to use. Petroleum ether (45-65 °C), toluene, dichloromethane, and Et₂O were collected from MBraun SPS-800 purification alumina columns and thoroughly degassed with argon before being stored on 4 Å molecular sieves. Deuterated solvents (Eurisotop, Saclay, France) were stored in sealed ampoules over activated 4 Å molecular sieves or a potassium mirror, and degassed by a minimum of three freeze-thaw cycles. NMR spectra were recorded with Bruker AM-400 or AM-500 spectrometers. All chemical shifts (δ) [ppm] were determined relative to the residual signal of the deuterated solvent or to an external standard in benzene- d_6 or toluene- d_8 . Assignment of the signals was assisted by 1D (1H, 13C) and 2D (COSY, HMBC, HMQC, NOE) NMR experiments. Reliable and reproducible elemental analysis could not be obtained for the metal complexes, most probably due to their very high moisture-sensitivity. The proligand $\{Carb\}H^1$ and the precursors $[\{Carb\}BaN(SiMe_3)_2]^1$ $[{Carb}CaN(SiMe_3)_2]^1$ and HPPh₂.B(C₆F₅)₃² were prepared following literature methods. The precursors $[Ae\{N(SiMe_3)_2\}_2]$ and $[Ae\{N(SiMe_3)_2\}_2.(thf)_2]$ were obtained upon modification of Boncella's metathetical protocol, using CaI₂ or BaI₂ and KN(SiMe₃)₂ as starting materials.³ HPPh₂.BH₃ was prepared upon reaction of HPPh₂ and BH₃.SMe₂ by adaptation of a known procedure.⁴ All other chemicals were provided by regular commercial suppliers and used as received.



[{Carb}BaPPh₂.(thf)] (1.(thf)). Neat HPPh₂(5.1 μL, 29.3 μmol) was added with a microsyringe to a J-Young's tube containing [{Carb}BaN(SiMe₃)₂.(thf)] (30 mg, 29.3 μmol) in deuterated toluene (0.6 mL). The NMR tube was sealed, briefly shaken and run immediately on an NMR spectrometer.

¹H NMR (400.16 MHz, 298 K, toluene- d_8): δ 8.63 (br s, 2H, CH-Carb), 8.36 (s, 2H, CH=N), 7.59 (br s, 2H, CH-Carb), 7.24 (br, 4H, o-C₆ H_5), 7.07-6.97 (m, 6H, C₆ H_3 -Dipp), 6.47 (t, ³ J_{HH} = 7.5, 4H, m-C₆ H_5), 6.24 (t, ³ J_{H-H} = 6.5, 2H, p-C₆ H_5), 3.03 (hept, ³ J_{H-H} = 6.0, 4H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.77 (m, 4H, OCH₂) 1.50 (s, 18H, C(CH₃)₃), 1.14 (d, ³ J_{H-H} = 6.6, 12H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.10 (m, 4H, OCH₂CH₂), 1.02 (d, ³ J_{H-H} = 6.8, 12H, CH(CH₃)₂) ppm.

³¹P NMR{¹H} (161.99 MHz, 298 K, toluene- d_8): δ 3.2 (br s) ppm.

¹³C NMR data could not be recorded as the title compound decomposes rapidly during collection to a range of products, including the reductive coupling product Ph_2P-PPh_2 detected by ³¹P NMR.



[{Carb}BaPPh₂.(thf)₂] (1.(thf)₂). Neat HPPh₂ (60 mg, 0.33 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of [{Carb}BaN(SiMe₃)₂] (300 mg, 0.32 mmol) in petroleum ether (30 mL) at -78 °C, resulting in an instant colour change from yellow to blood orange. The reaction was warmed up to room temperature over 1 h, during which

time a bright orange solid precipitated out of solution. The solid was isolated by cannula filtration, washed with petroleum ether (3×20 mL) and recrystallised from a petroleum ether/thf solution at -30 °C to give the title compound in about 10-15 mg isolated yield of single crystals. If the crude solution is instead taken to dryness, the ¹H NMR and ³¹P NMR data are unclear but indicate a mixture of (at least) two major products.



[{**Carb**}**Ba**(**PPh₂.BH₃**)] (2). In Schlenk flask, [{Carb}BaN(SiMe₃)₂] (300 mg, 0.32 mmol) and HPPh₂.BH₃ (64 mg, 0.32 mmol) were dissolved in petroleum ether (30 mL), generating a yellow solution. Stirring at room temperature for 1 h. Evacuation of the volatiles then gave the desired product as a yellow solid. Yield: 297 mg (94%). Despite repeated attempts, this compound could not be recrystallised.

¹H NMR (500.1 MHz, 300 K, benzene- d_6 ,): δ 8.60 (d, ⁴ $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.1$, 2H, CH-Carb), 8.36 (s, 2H, CH=N), 7.59 (d, ⁴ $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.1$, 2H, CH-Carb), 7.20 (br, 4H, C₆ H_5), 7.17-7.13 (m, 6H, C₆ H_3 -Dipp), 6.92 (br, 6H, C₆ H_5), 3.08 (hept, ³ $J_{\text{H-H}} = 6.5$, 4H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.46 (s, 18H, C(CH₃)₃), 1.26 (d, ³ $J_{\text{H-H}} = 6.9$, 12H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.03 (d, ³ $J_{\text{H-H}} = 6.7$, 12H, CH(CH₃)₂) ppm. The resonances for boron-bound H atoms could not be detected.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (125.8 MHz, 298 K, benzene- d_6): δ 172.16 (CH=N), 149.41 (Ar-C), 148.21 (Ar-C), 140.45 (Ar-C), 138.66 (Ar-C), 133.93 (br, o- C_6H_5), 133.80 (br, m- C_6H_5), 132.39 (Ar-C), 126.59 (br, p- C_6H_5), 125.95 (Ar-C), 124.45 (Ar-C), 123.88 (Ar-C), 122.77 (Ar-C), 119.76 (Ar-C), 34.45 (C(CH_3)_3), 32.18 (C(CH_3)_3), 29.18 (CH(CH_3)_2), 25.54 (CH(CH_3)_2), 23.43 (CH(CH_3)_2) ppm. The resonance for the i- C_6H_5 carbon atom could not be observed, possibly due to signal broadening.

³¹P NMR (202.5 MHz, 300 K, benzene- d_6): δ –32.3 (br) ppm.

¹¹B NMR (160.5 MHz, 300 K, benzene- d_6): δ –24.5 (br) ppm.



[{Carb}Ca(PPh₂.BH₃)] (3). In a Schlenk flask, [{Carb}Ca(N{SiMe₃}₂)₂] (300 mg, 0.35 mmol) and HPPh₂.BH₃ (70 mg, 0.35 mmol) were dissolved in petroleum ether (30 mL), generating a yellow solution. Stirring at room temperature overnight followed by evacuation of the volatiles then gave the desired product as a yellow solid. Yield: 300 mg (97%). Despite repeated attempts, this compound could not

be recrystallised.

¹H NMR (500.1 MHz, 300 K, toluene- d_8): δ 8.57 (br s, 2H, CH-Carb), 8.31 (s, 2H, CH=N), 7.52 (br s, 2H, CH-Carb), 7.14-6.91 (m, 16H, C₆H₃-Dipp + C₆H₅), 3.01 (hept, ³J_{H-H} = 6.0, 4H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.46 (s, 18H, C(CH₃)₃), 1.21 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 6.6, 12H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.02 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 6.8, 12H, CH(CH₃)₂) ppm. The resonances for boron-bound H atoms could not be detected.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (125.8 MHz, 300 K, toluene-*d*₈): δ 173.83 (*C*H=N), 150.20 (Ar-*C*), 148.52 (Ar-*C*), 140.17 (br s, *i*-*C*₆H₅), 140.14 (*C*₄-Carb), 137.95 (Ar-*C*), 134.52 (d, ²*J*_{C-P} = 14.6, *o*-*C*₆H₅), 131.86 (*C*₂-Carb), 129.56 (Ar-*C*), 127.93 (d, ³*J*_{C-P} = 6.1, *m*-*C*₆H₅), 127.22 (Ar-*C*), 125.98 (Ar-*C*) 124.76 (*p*-*C*₆H₅),

123.12 (Ar-*C*), 119.47 (Ar-*C*), 34.96 (*C*(CH₃)₃), 32.51 (C(*C*H₃)₃), 29.92 (*C*H(CH₃)₂), 25.82 (CH(*C*H₃)₂), 23.58 (CH(*C*H₃)₂) ppm. ³¹P NMR (202.5 MHz, 300 K, toluene-*d*₈): δ –41.3 (br) ppm.

¹⁴P INMR (202.5 MHz, 300 K, toluene- a_8): 0 –41.5 (br) ppm.

¹¹B NMR (160.5 MHz, 300 K, toluene- d_8): δ –26.9 (br) ppm.



[{Carb}Ca{(BH₃)₂PPh₂}.(thf)] (4). In a Schlenk flask, [{Carb}CaN(SiMe₃)₂] (400 mg, 0.47 mmol) and HPPh₂.BH₃ (94 mg, 0.47 mmol) were dissolved in petroleum ether (30 mL), generating a yellow solution. After 30 min, thf (1 mL) was added dropwise, generating a pale-yellow suspension. Filtration with a filter cannula followed by concentration to ca. 3 mL gave a concentrated solution which, upon storage at -30 °C, yielded in a crop of pale-yellow crystals. Isolated yield: 80 mg

(70% based on B, 35% based on Ca).

¹H NMR (400.1 MHz, 302 K, benzene- d_6): δ 8.70 (d, ⁴ J_{H-H} = 2.0, 2H, CH-Carb), 8.50 (s, 2H, CH=N), 7.60 (d, ⁴ J_{H-H} = 2.1, CH-Carb), 7.38 (m, 4H, C₆ H_5), 7.03-6.89 (m, 12H, C₆ H_3 -Dipp + C₆ H_5), 3.42 (m, 4H, OCH₂), 3.25 (hept, ³ J_{H-H} = 6.6, 4H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.40 (s, 18H, C(CH₃)₃), 1.34 (d, ³ J_{H-H} = 6.8, 12H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.30 (m, 4H, OCH₂CH₂), 1.02 (d, ³ J_{H-H} = 6.7, 12H, CH(CH₃)₂) ppm. The resonances for boron-bound H atoms could not be detected.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (100.6 MHz, 302 K, benzene-*d*₆): δ 173.43 (*C*H=N), 150.88 (Ar-*C*), 148.04 (Ar-*C*), 140.04 (Ar-*C*), 139.61 (br, *i*-*C*₆H₅), 134.41 (br, *o*-*C*₆H₅), 134.24 (Ar-*C*), 134.08 (br, *C*₆H₅), 132.05 (*C*₂-Carb), 128.86 (Ar-*C*), 128.80 (Ar-*C*), 128.60 (Ar-*C*), 126.62 (Ar-*C*), 124.29 (br, *C*₆H₅), 122.83 (Ar-*C*), 119.15 (Ar-*C*), 68.08 (OCH₂), 34.56 (*C*(CH₃)₃), 32.13 (C(*C*H₃)₃), 29.20 (*C*H(CH₃)₂), 25.73 (OCH₂*C*H₂), 23.17 (CH(*C*H₃)₂) ppm.

³¹P NMR (202.5 MHz, 302 K, benzene- d_6): δ –22.6 (br) ppm

¹¹B NMR (160.5 MHz, 302 K, benzene- d_6): δ –32.5 (br) ppm



[{Carb}Ba{PPh₂.B(C₆F₅)₃] (5). In a Schlenk flask, [{Carb}BaN(SiMe₃)₂] (300 mg, 0.32 mmol) was dissolved in toluene (20 mL) and cooled to -78 °C. A solution of HPPh₂.B(C₆F₅)₃ (220 mg, 0.32 mmol) in toluene (10 mL) was added dropwise over 10 min, generating a yellow solution. The cold bath was removed and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The volatiles were removed and

the resulting residue was washed with hexanes (2×5 mL) and dried to constant weight to give the title compound as a bright yellow solid. Yield: 350 mg (74%). The NMR could not be collected in deuterated benzene due to the relative insolubility of the compound in this solvent. Instead, in order to increase S/N in the spectrum, a NMR tube could be heated before analysis to increase the solubility of the compound in toluene- d_8 .

¹H NMR (300.1 MHz, 298 K, toluene- d_8): δ 8.30 (d, ⁴ $J_{\text{H-H}} = 1.7$, 2H, CH-Carb), 8.23 (s, 2H, CH=N), 7.40 (d, ⁴ $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.0$, 2H, CH-Carb), 7.13-6.97 (m, 6H, C₆H₃-Dipp), 6.61-6.50 (m, 10H, C₆H₅), 2.92 (hept,

 ${}^{3}J_{\text{H-H}} = 6.7, 4\text{H}, CH(CH_{3})_{2}), 1.39 \text{ (s, 18H, C(CH_{3})_{3}), 1.02 (d, {}^{3}J_{\text{H-H}} = 6.5, 12\text{H}, CH(CH_{3})_{2}), 0.94 (d, {}^{3}J_{\text{H-H}} = 6.7, 12\text{H}, CH(CH_{3})_{2}) \text{ ppm.}$

¹³C{¹H} NMR (100.6 MHz, 298 K, toluene-*d*₈): δ 171.56 (*C*H=N), 146.89 (Ar-*C*), 146.80 (Ar-*C*), 149.05 (dm, *C*₆F₅), 140.76 (*C*₆F₅), 140.48 (Ar-*C*), 140.02 (Ar-*C*), 138.48 (Ar-*C*), 137.80 (*C*₆F₅), 134.58 (d, ¹*J*_{C-P} = 16.8, *i*-*C*₆H₅), 133.29 (d, ²*J*_{C-P} = 14.4, *o*-*C*₆H₅), 132.02 (Ar-*C*), 129.56 (Ar-*C*, obscured by deuterated solvent), 127.38 (d, ³*J*_{C-P} = 4.0, *m*-*C*₆H₅), 128.55 (Ar-*C*), 125.28 (Ar-*C*), 123.64 (*p*-*C*₆H₅), 123.46 (Ar-*C*), 119.45 (Ar-*C*), 34.84 (*C*(CH₃)₃), 32.41 (C(*C*H₃)₃), 29.41 (*C*H(CH₃)₂), 25.48 (CH(*C*H₃)₂), 23.81 (CH(*C*H₃)₂) ppm.

¹¹B NMR (128.4 MHz, 298 K, toluene- d_8): δ –12.6 (br s) ppm.

³¹P NMR (162.0 MHz, 298 K, toluene- d_8): δ –9.6 (br s) ppm.

¹⁹F NMR (376.5 MHz, 298 K, toluene- d_8): δ –128.10 (m, 6F, *o*-*F*), –160.25 (t, ³*J*_{FF} = 21.0 Hz, 3F, *p*-*F*), –164.79 (br s, 6F, *m*-*F*) ppm.



[{Carb}Ba{O(B{C₆F₅}₃)(CH₂)₄PPh₂}.(thf)] (6). Thf (1 mL) was added dropwise to a suspension of [{Carb}Ba{PPh₂.B(C₆F₅)₃}] (5; 168 mg, 0.112 mmol) in petroleum ether (20 mL) and the reaction mixture was stirred until the suspension turned to a yellow solution. The solution was stirred for an additional 1 h, and then concentrated until solid started to crash out of solution. The solution was then warmed 50 °C to drive the solids back into solution, and slowly cooled to room temperature. After

several days, small yellow crystals of the title compound were deposited on the walls of the flask. Isolated yield: 112 mg (61%).

¹H NMR (400.2 MHz, 298 K, benzene-*d*₆): δ 8.68 (d, ⁴*J*_{H-H} = 1.9, 2H, CH-Carb), 8.47 (s, 2H, CH=N), 7.73 (d, ⁴*J*_{H-H} = 2.1, 2H, CH-Carb), 7.34 (m, 4H, C₆*H*₅), 7.13-6.97 (m, 10H, C₆*H*₅+ C₆*H*₃-Dipp), 3.00 (m, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂ + PCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.85 (m, 4H, OCH₂-thf), 1.52 (s, 18H, C(CH₃)₃), 1.22 (d, ³*J*_{H-H} = 6.6, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.06 (m, 6H, PCH₂CH₂ + OCH₂CH₂-thf), 1.00 (d, ³*J*_{H-H} = 6.6, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 0.92 (d, ³*J*_{H-H} = 6.6, 12H, CH(CH₃)₂, two overlapping but inequivalent resonances), 0.56 (br m, 2H, PCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂), -0.28 (br m, 2H, PCH₂) ppm. Resonances for hydrolysed {Carb}H could also be seen. ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100.6 MHz, 298 K, benzene-*d*₆): δ 172.31 (CH=N), 148.81 (Ar-C), 148.57 (dm, C₆F₅), 147.57 (Ar-C), 140.46 (C₆F₅), 139.92 (Ar-C), 139.69 (d, ¹*J*_{C-P} = 14.5, *i*-C₆H₅), 139.56 (dm, C₆F₅), 137.30 (dm, C₆F₅), 132.97 (Ar-C), 122.76 (d, ²*J*_{C-P} = 18.6, *o*-C₆H₅), 128.72 (d, ³_{C-P} = 6.6, *m*-C₆H₅), 128.66 (Ar-C), 128.18 (*p*-C₆H₅), 127.36 (Ar-C), 124.81 (Ar-C), 124.32 (Ar-C), 123.34 (Ar-C), 120.27 (Ar-C), 67.86 (OCH₂-thf), 64.54 (PCH₂CH₂CH₂), 34.69 (C(CH₃)₃), 32.06 (C(CH₃)₃), 31.16 (d, ³*J*_{C-P} = 12.8, PCH₂CH₂CH₂), 29.30 (CH(CH₃), 28.58 (CH(CH₃)), 28.33 (d, ²*J*_{C-P} = 12.6, PCH₂CH₂), 26.15 (CH(CH₃)₂), 25.13 (OCH₂-thf), 24.84 (CH(CH₃)₂), 23.66 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.30 (CH(CH₃)₂), 21.55 (d, ¹*J*_{C-P} = 18.9, PCH₂) ppm.

¹¹B NMR (128.4 MHz, 298 K, benzene- d_6): δ –2.6 (br s) ppm.

³¹P NMR (162.0 MHz, 298 K, benzene- d_6): δ –18.8 (s) ppm.

¹⁹F NMR (376.5 MHz, 298 K, benzene- d_6): δ –132 to –135 (br m, 4F), –156 to –159 (m, 6 F), –134.06 (br d, 1F, o-F), -161 to -165 (m, 6F,) ppm. We were unable to interpret and assign the multiple and broad resonances, including with VT NMR.



 $[Ba{O(B{C_{6}F_{5}})(CH_{2})_{4}PPh_{2}}_{2}.(thf)_{1.5}]$ (7). In a Schlenk flask, $[Ba{N(SiMe_3)_2}_2]_2$ (150 mg, 0.16 mmol) and HPPh₂.B(C₆F₅)₃ (447 mg, 0.64 mmol) were mixed in petroleum ether (25 mL), generating a pale-yellow suspension. Thf (approx. 10 mL) was added dropwise until the suspension became a colourless solution.

Removal of the volatiles followed by washing with petroleum ether (3 \times 30 mL and drying under reduced pressure to constant weight gave the compound as a white solid. Yield: 384 mg (88%).

¹H NMR (500.1 MHz, 300 K, thf-*d*₈): δ 7.34 (m, 8H, C₆*H*₅), 7.23 (m, 12H, C₆*H*₅), 3.62 (m, 6H, OC*H*₂thf), 3.12 (m, 4H, PCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.01 (m, 4H, PCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.77 (m, 6H, OCH₂CH₂-thf), 1.58 (m, 4H, PCH₂CH₂), 1.45 (m, 4H, PCH₂) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (125.8 MHz, 300 K, thf- d_8): δ 149.22 (dm, ¹ J_{C-F} = 239.8, C_6F_5), 141.00 (d, ¹ J_{P-C} = 14.8, $i-C_6H_5$), 139.17 (dm, ${}^{1}J_{C-F} = 213.8$, C_6F_5), 137.23 (dm, ${}^{1}J_{C-F} = 226.2$, C_6F_5), 133.61 (d, ${}^{2}J_{P-C} = 17.1$, o- $C_{6}H_{5}$), 129.47 (d, ${}^{3}J_{P-C} = 18.5$, $m-C_{6}H_{5}$), 128.98 ($p-C_{6}H_{5}$), 126.41 (br, $C_{6}F_{5}$), 68.38 (OCH₂-thf), 64.45 $(PCH_2CH_2CH_2CH_2)$, 35.15 (d, ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 12.7$, PCH_2CH_2), 29.13 (d, ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 11.5$, $PCH_2CH_2CH_2$), 26.52 (OCH_2CH_2-thf) , 24.10 (d, ${}^1J_{C-P} = 16.5$, PCH₂) ppm.

¹¹B NMR (128.4 MHz, 298 K, thf- d_8): δ –2.9 (br s) ppm.

³¹P NMR (202.5 MHz, 300 K, thf- d_8): δ –16.1 (s) ppm.

¹⁹F NMR (470.5 MHz, 300 K, thf- d_8): δ –133.26 (d, ³ J_{F-F} = 23.7, 12F, *o*-F), –165.50 (t, ³ J_{F-F} = 20.3, 6F, $p-C_6F_5$, -168.42 (m, 12F, *m*-*F*) ppm.



 $\begin{array}{ll} & \begin{array}{c} C_{6}F_{5} \\ C_{6}F_{5} \\ Ph_{2}P \\ Ba \\ PPh_{2} \\ C_{6}F_{5} \\ C_{6}F_{5} \\ C_{6}F_{5} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \left[Ba\{PPh_{2}.B(C_{6}F_{5})_{3}\}_{2}.(thp)_{2} \right] (8). \mbox{ In a Schlenk tube, } \left[Ba\{N(SiMe_{3})_{2}\}_{2} \right]_{2} (200 \mbox{ mg, } 0.22 \mbox{ mmol}) \mbox{ and } HPPh_{2}.B(C_{6}F_{5})_{3} (615 \mbox{ mg, } 0.88 \mbox{ mmol}) \mbox{ were mixed in petroleum ether (30 \mbox{ mL}), generating a pale-yellow suspension. Thp (approx. 15 \mbox{ mL}) \mbox{ ml}) \mbox{ ml} \mbox{ ml}$ volatiles followed by washing with petroleum ether (3 \times 30 mL) and drying under

vacuum to constant weight gave the compound as a low density white solid. Yield: 715 mg (91%). Recrystallisation of a portion of the sample from a saturated solution mixture of hexanes and thp (2:1) at -30 °C generated crystals suitable for an X-ray diffraction study.

¹H NMR (500.1 MHz, 300 K, thf-*d*₈): δ 7.34 (m, 8H, C₆*H*₅), 7.22 (m, 12H, C₆*H*₅), 3.54 (m, 8H, OC*H*₂), 1.60 (m, 4H, OCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.50 (m, 8H, OCH₂CH₂) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (125.8 MHz, 300 K, thf- d_8): δ 149.24 (dm, ¹ J_{C-F} = 239.8, C_6F_5), 141.04 (d, ¹ J_{P-C} = 14.8, $i-C_6H_5$), 139.19 (dm, ${}^{1}J_{C-F} = 205.1$, C_6F_5), 137.26 (dm, ${}^{1}J_{C-F} = 231.1$, C_6F_5), 133.61 (d, ${}^{2}J_{P-C} = 18.5$, o C_6H_5), 129.07 (d, ${}^{3}J_{P-C} = 6.4$, $m-C_6H_5$), 128.94 ($p-C_6H_5$), 126.81 (br, C_6F_5), 69.22 (OCH₂), 27.80 (OCH₂CH₂), 24.68 (OCH₂CH₂CH₂) ppm.

¹¹B NMR (160.5 MHz, 300 K, thf- d_8): δ –2.9 (br s) ppm.

 ^{31}P NMR (202.5 MHz, 300 K, thf- $d_8): \delta$ –16.6 (s) ppm.

¹⁹F NMR (470.5 MHz, 300 K, thf- d_8): δ –133.36 (d, ${}^{3}J_{\text{F-F}} = 23.7, 12\text{F}, o-F$), –165.56 (t, ${}^{3}J_{\text{F-F}} = 20.1, 6\text{F}, p-F$), –168.45 (t, ${}^{3}J_{\text{F-F}} = 19.8, 12\text{F}, m-F$) ppm.

NMR spectra for *in situ* generated [{Carb}BaPPh₂.(thf)] (1.(thf)).



Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectrum (400.16 MHz, toluene-*d*₈, 298 K) of [{Carb}BaPPh₂.(thf)] (**1.(thf**)).



Figure S2. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum (161.99 MHz, toluene- d_8 , 298 K) of [{Carb}BaPPh₂.(thf)] (**1.(thf**)).







190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 -10 Figure S4. ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum (100.62 MHz, benzene- d_6 , 300 K) of [{Carb}Ba(PPh_2.BH_3)] (2).



Figure S5. ¹¹B NMR spectrum (160.46 MHz, benzene- d_6 , 300 K) of [{Carb}Ba(PPh_2.BH_3)] (2).













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Figure S10. ³¹P NMR spectrum (202.46 MHz, toluene- d_8 , 300 K) of [{Carb}CaPPh₂.(thf)] (**3**).

NMR spectra for [{Carb}Ca{(BH₃)₂PPh₂}.(thf)] (4)



Figure S11. ¹H NMR spectrum (400.13 MHz, benzene-*d*₆, 302 K) of [{Carb}Ca{(BH₃)₂PPh₂}.(thf)] (**4**).



Figure S12. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum (100.62 MHz, benzene- d_6 , 300 K) of [{Carb}Ca{(BH₃)₂PPh₂}.(thf)] (**4**), showing partial degradation of the compound. We were not able to record a spectrum without decomposition.



Figure S13. ³¹P NMR spectrum (161.98 MHz, benzene- d_6 , 302 K) of [{Carb}Ca{(BH_3)_2PPh_2}.(thf)] (4).





80 60 40 20 0 -20 -40 -60 -80 -100 -120 -140 **Figure S14.** ¹¹B NMR spectrum (128.37 MHz, benzene- d_6 , 302 K) of [{Carb}Ca{(BH_3)_2PPh_2}.(thf)] (4).

NMR spectra for [{Carb}Ba{PPh₂.B(C₆F₅)₃]] (5).



Figure S16. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum (100.63 MHz, toluene- d_8 , 298 K) of [{Carb}Ba{PPh₂.B(C₆F₅)₃}] (5).



Figure S18. ³¹P NMR spectrum (161.99 MHz, toluene- d_8 , 298 K) of [{Carb}Ba{PPh₂.B(C₆F₅)₃}] (5).



Figure S19. ¹¹B NMR spectrum (128.38 MHz, toluene- d_8 , 298 K) of [{Carb}Ba{PPh_2.B(C_6F_5)_3}] (**5**).

NMR spectra for $[{Carb}Ba{O(B{C_6F_5}_3)(CH_2)_4PPh_2}.(thf)]$ (6)







95 90 85 80 45 40 35 30 25 20 15 10 5 0 -5 -10 -15 -20 -25 -30 -35 -40 -45 75 70 65 60 55 50 **S24.** ¹¹B Figure NMR (128.40 MHz, 298 K) of spectrum benzene- d_6 , ${Carb}Ba{O(B{C_6F_5}_3)(CH_2)_4PPh_2}.(thf)]$ (6).







Figure S26. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum (125.77 MHz, thf- d_8 , 300 K [Ba{O(B{C₆F₅}₃)(CH₂)₄PPh₂}₂.(thf)_{1.5}] (**7**).



Figure S27. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum (376.47 MHz, thf- d_8 , 298 K) of [Ba{O(B{C₆F₅})(CH₂)₄PPh₂}2.(thf)_{1.5}] (7).





Figure S28. ³¹P NMR spectrum (161.99 MHz, thf-*d*₈, 298 K) of [Ba{O(B{C₆F₅}₃)(CH₂)₄PPh₂}₂.(thf)_{1.5}] (7).



Figure S29. ¹¹B NMR spectrum (128.40 MHz, thf- d_8 , 298 K) of [Ba{O(B{C₆F₅})(CH₂)₄PPh₂}₂.(thf)_{1.5}] (7).

NMR spectra for [Ba{PPh₂.B(C₆F₅)₃}₂.(thp)₂] (8)



Figure S31. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum (125.77 MHz, thf- d_8 , 300 K) of [Ba{PPh₂.B(C₆F₅)₃}₂.(thp)₂] (**8**). **Inset**: The aromatic carbon resonances from 120-160 ppm.



Figure S32. ¹³C DEPT NMR spectrum (125.77 MHz, thf-*d*₈, 300 K) of [Ba{PPh₂.B(C₆F₅)₃}₂.(thp)₂] (8).





X-ray diffraction crystallography details

Compound number	Complex number	Experiment number	CCDC number
[{Carb}Ba(PPh ₂).(thf) ₂]	1.(thf) ₂	PC2040	2314377
$[{Carb}Ca{(H_3B)_2PPh_2}.(thf)]$	4	PC051342thf_2	2314378
$[{Carb}Ba{O(B(C_6F_5)_3)(CH_2)_4PPh_2}.thf]$	6	PC05150	2314379
$[Ba{PPh_2.B(C_6F_5)_3}_2.(thp)_2]$	8	PC06040fr	2314380

[{Carb}Ba(PPh₂).(thf)₂] (1.(thf)₂)

(C₆₆H₈₅BaN₃O₂P·3(C₄H₈O)); M = 1336.03. D8 VENTURE Bruker AXS diffractometer equipped with a (CMOS) PHOTON 100 detector, Mo-K α radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å, multilayer monochromator), T = 150(2) K; triclinic P-1 (I.T.#2), a = 13.7946(18), b = 14.2052(16), c = 20.139(2) Å, α = 75.420(4), β = 78.239(5), γ = 70.451(4) °, V = 3568.1(8) Å³. Z = 2, d = 1.244 g.cm⁻³, μ = 0.630 mm⁻¹. The structure was solved by dual-space algorithm using the SHELXT program,⁵ and then refined with full-matrix least-squares methods based on F2 (SHELXL).⁶ The contribution of the disordered solvents to the calculated structure factors was estimated following the BYPASS algorithm,⁷ implemented as the SQUEEZE option in PLATON.⁸ A new data set, free of solvent contribution, was then used in the final refinement. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic atomic displacement parameters. H atoms were finally included in their calculated positions and treated as riding on their parent atom with constrained thermal parameters. A final refinement on F^2 with 15909 unique intensities and 708 parameters converged at $\omega R(F^2) = 0.2756$ ($R_F = 0.1224$) for 12302 observed reflections with I > 2 σ (I).

$[{Carb}Ca{(H_3B)_2PPh_2}.(thf)](4)$

(C₆₂H₈₂B₂CaN₃OP); M = 977.97. A suitable crystal for X-ray diffraction single crystal experiment (yellow prism, dimensions = 0.330 x 0.270 x 0.130 mm) was selected and mounted with a cryoloop on the goniometer head of a APEXII Kappa-CCD diffractometer equipped with a CCD plate detector , using Mo-K α radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å, graphite monochromator) at T = 150(2) K. Crystal structure has been described in monoclinic symmetry and P 2₁ (I.T.#4) acentric space group. Cell parameters have been founded as follows: a = 13.0239(10), b = 12.5202(9), c = 18.2775(12) Å, β = 99.281(3) °, V = 2941.3(4) Å³. Number of formula unit Z is equal to 2 and calculated density *d* and absorption coefficient μ values are 1.104 g.cm⁻³ and 0.175 mm⁻¹ respectively. The structure was solved by dual-space algorithm using the SHELXT program,⁵ and then refined with full-matrix least-squares methods based on F^2 (SHELXL program⁶). All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic atomic displacement parameters. Except hydrogen atoms linked to boron atoms that were introduced in the structural model through Fourier difference maps analysis, H atoms were finally included in their calculated positions and treated as riding on their parent atom with constrained thermal parameters. A final refinement on F^2

with 10613 unique intensities and 644 parameters converged at $\omega R(F^2) = 0.0933$ ($R_F = 0.0412$) for 9566 observed reflections with (I > 2 σ).

$[{Carb}Ba{O(B(C_6F_5)_3)CH_2CH_2CH_2PPh_2}.thf] (6)$

C84H84BBaF₁₅N₃O₂P·C₆H₁₄); M = 1717.87. A suitable crystal for X-ray diffraction single crystal experiment (yellow prism, dimensions = $0.300 \times 0.180 \times 0.150$ mm) was selected and mounted with a cryoloop on the goniometer head of a APEXII Kappa-CCD diffractometer equipped with a (CMOS) **PHOTON 100 detector, using MoK** α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å, multilayer monochromator) at T = 150(2) K. Crystal structure has been described in triclinic symmetry and P-1 (I.T.#2) centric space group. Cell parameters have been refined as follows: a = 15.537(2), b = 16.193(2), c = 18.240(2) Å, $\alpha = 80.945(4)$, $\beta = 67.840(4)$, $\gamma = 88.782(4)$ °, V = 4193.4(9)Å³. Number of formula unit Z is equal to 2 and calculated density d and absorption coefficient μ values are 1.361 g.cm⁻³ and 0.575 mm⁻¹ respectively. The structure was solved by dual-space algorithm using the SHELXT program,⁵ and then refined with fullmatrix least-squares methods based on F^2 (SHELXL program⁶). The contribution of the disordered solvents to the calculated structure factors was estimated following the BYPASS algorithm,⁷ implemented as the SQUEEZE option in PLATON.⁸ A new data set, free of solvent contribution, was then used in the final refinement. All non-Hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic atomic displacement parameters. H atoms were finally included in their calculated positions and treated as riding on their parent atom with constrained thermal parameters. A final refinement on F^2 with 19189 unique intensities and 965 parameters converged at $\omega R(F^2) = 0.1207$ ($R_F = 0.0479$) for 14909 observed reflections with $(I > 2\sigma)$.

$[Ba{PPh_2.B(C_6F_5)_3}_2.(thp)_2](8)$

(C₇₀H₄₀B₂BaF₃₀O₂P₂·C₇H₈); M = 1796.05. A suitable crystal for X-ray diffraction single crystal experiment (colourless prism, dimensions = 0.520 x 0.330 x 0.230 mm) was selected and mounted with a cryoloop on the goniometer head of a APEXII Kappa-CCD (Bruker-AXS) diffractometer equipped with a CCD plate detector, using Mo-Kα radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å, graphite monochromator) at T = 150(2) K. Crystal structure has been described in monoclinic symmetry and C 2/c (I.T.#15) centric space group. Cell parameters have been refined as follows: a = 49.3823(17), b = 14.4529(5), c = 21.5081(8) Å, β = 107.6180(10) °, V = 14630.7(9) Å³. Number of formula unit Z is equal to 8 and calculated density *d* and absorption coefficient µ values are 1.631 g.cm⁻³ and 0.711 mm⁻¹ respectively. Crystal structure was solved by dual-space algorithm using SHELXT program,⁵ and then refined with full-matrix least-squares methods based on *F*² (SHELXL program⁶). All non-Hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic atomic displacement parameters. H atoms were finally included in their calculated positions and treated as riding on their parent atom with constrained thermal parameters. A final refinement on *F*² with 16431 unique intensities and 964 parameters converged at $\omega R(F^2) = 0.1138$ (*R_F* = 0.0429) for 12168 observed reflections with (I > 2 σ).

DFT calculations.

Density functional theory (DFT) calculations were performed using the Amsterdam Density Functional ADF2019 code.⁹ Scalar relativistic effects were taken into account via the Zeroth Order Regular Approximation (ZORA).¹⁰ A triple-zeta basis set augmented with two polarisation function (STO-TZ2P)¹¹ was used together with the PBE0 functional¹²⁻¹³ and Grimme's empirical DFT-D3(BJ) corrections¹⁴ for geometry optimisation and analytical vibrational frequency computations. Natural atomic orbital (NAO) populations and Wiberg bond indices were computed with the NBO6.0 program.¹⁵ Interaction energy between fragments were computed according to the Morokuma-Ziegler energy decomposition analysis (EDA) formalism¹⁶⁻¹⁸ implemented in the ADF2019 program. The QTAIM analysis¹⁹⁻²⁰ was performed as implemented in the ADF2019 suite.²¹⁻²² In addition, xyz files for all optimized structures are provided in attachment.

Table S1. Relevant DFT-computed data for 6						
Bond distances / Å [WBIs ^b]	Ba-N _{carb} .	Ba-N _{imin.} ^a	Ba-O _{alk.}	Ва-О _{тнғ}	BaF73	BaF95
	2.654 [0.050]	2.769 [0.028]	2.740 [0.026]	2.769 [0.020]	2.990	2.813
					[0.011]	[0.012]
Atomic charges	Ва	N _{carb}	N _{imin} . ^a	O _{alk}	OTHF	F ^{a,c}
Natural	+1.82	-0.68	-0.58	-0.79	-0.60	-0.36
QTAIM	+1.68	-1.12	-1.21	-1.33	-1.12	-0.69
QTAIM descriptors of the Ba…F bonds / a.u. ^{a,d}	δ	ρ	$ abla^2 ho$	н	v	v /G
	0.077	0.015	0.074	0.003	-0.050	0.77
^a Averaged values. ^b Wiberg bond indices. ^c Ba-connected fluorines only. ^d ρ , $\nabla^2 \rho$, H, V and G are the electron density, Laplacian of ρ density, energy density, potential energy density and kinetic energy density values at the bcp, respectively						

Table S2. Relevant DFT-computed data for 8						
Bond distances ^a / Å	Ba-P	Ba-O	Ba-F	P-B		
[WBIs] ^{a,b}	3.205 [0.057]	2.685 [0.026]	2.854 [0.011]	2.057 [0.856]		
X-ray distances ^a	3.279(3)	2.640(2)	2.856(3)	2.060(4)		
Atomic charges	Ва	Pa	O ^a	Fa	В	
Natural	+1.82	+0.32	-0.62	-0.37	+0.16	
QTAIM	+1.66	+0.73	-1.13	-0.70	+1.58	
QTAIM descriptors of the:	δ	ρ	$\nabla^2 \rho$	н	v	v /G
Ba–P bonds / a.u. ^{a,c}	0.220	0.028	0.047	-0.004	-0.018	1.211
Ba···F bonds / a.u. ^{a,c}	0.085	0.016	0.082	0.004	-0.013	0.77
^a Averaged values. ^b Wiberg bond indices. ^c Ba-connected fluorines only. ^d $ ho$, $ abla^2 ho$, H, V and G are the electron density,						
Laplacian of ρ density, energy density, potential energy density and kinetic energy density values at the bcp, respectively						

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