## Synthesis and Characterization of Dendrimeric Bridged Salen/Saloph Complexes and Investigation of Their Magnetic and Thermal Behaviors

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Eight new multinuclear  $Fe^{III}$  and  $Cr^{III}$  complexes involving the tetradentate *Schiff* bases N,N'bis(salicylidene)ethylenediamine (salenH<sub>2</sub>) or N,N'-bis(salicylidene)benzene-1,2-diamine (salophH<sub>2</sub>) and the two new ligands 4,4',4'',4''',4'''',4'''''-[1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triyltris(nitrilomethylidyne-4,1-phenyleneoxy-1,3,5-triazine-6,2,4-triyldiimino)]hexakis[benzoic acid] (4) or 5,5',5",5"",5"",5""'-[1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triyltris(nitrilomethylidyne-4,1-phenyleneoxy-1,3,5-triazine-6,2,4-triyldiimino)]hexakis[benzene-1,3-dicarboxylic acid] (5) were synthesized (Schemes 1 and 2) and characterized by means of <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and FT-IR spectroscopy, elemental analysis, LC/MS analysis, AAS (atomic-absorption spectrum) analysis, thermal analyses, and magnetic-susceptibility measurements. The complexes can also be characterized as low-spin distorted-octahedral Fe<sup>III</sup> and Cr<sup>III</sup> complexes bridged by carboxylato moieties.

Introduction. – An important class of compounds having anticancer, antitumor, antiviral, and antifungal activities consists of substituted s-triazine  $(=1,3,5\text{-}triazine)$ derivatives. These compounds have been used in the treatment of depression and hence gained considerable significance. They are valuable bases for estrogen-receptor modulators [1] and also used as bridging agents to synthesize herbicides and in the production of drugs or polymers [2].

We now report the synthesis and characterization of dendrimeric Schiff bases including six or twelve carboxylic acid groups as new templates. The reaction of melamine  $(=1,3,5\text{-}triazine-2,4,6\text{-}triamine)$  with 4-hydroxybenzaldehyde in benzene gave the desired tris(nitrilomethylidyne) and triphenolic moieties in a single step [3]. The phenolic OH groups [4] [5] were then modified with trimeric cyanuric chloride  $(=2,4,6$ -trichloro-1,3,5-triazine) as a single-directional linker  $[6 - 10]$ , followed by treatment with 4-aminobenzoic acid or 5-aminoisophthalic acid  $[11-20]$  to give the mentioned new dendrimeric *Schiff* bases which we call 'oxy-*Schiff* bases' (*cf.*  $[4][5]$ ).

The magnetochemical properties of the  $\mu$ -oxo-bridged complexes [{Fe(salen)}<sub>2</sub>O]  $[(\text{salenH}_2 = N,N'-\text{bis}(\text{salicylinder})e^{\text{thvlenediamine}})] = 2.2'-[\text{ethane-1}.2-\text{divblis}(\text{nitrilo-1}])$ methylidyne)]bis[phenol]] and  $[{Fe(saloph)}_2O]$  [(salophH<sub>2</sub> = N,N'-bis(salicylidene)benzene-1,2-diamine) =  $2.2'$ -[1,2-phenylenebis(nitrilomethylidyne)]bis[phenol]] and their X-ray studies have widely been presented in the literature  $[21 - 24]$ . Kessel and Hendrickson [25] have studied Schiff-base complexes of  $Fe^{III}$  incorporating p-quinone bridges. The reaction of  $[Fe(salen)]_2O$  with carboxylic acids have been reported by Wollmann and Hendrickson [26]. They used trichloroacetic, trifluoroacetic, salicylic, and picric acids, and characterized the prepared complexes as dimers of the

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composition  $[Fe(salen)X]_2$ , where X is the monoanion of the appropriate acid. The complexes  $[\text{[Fe(salen)}]_2L]$  and  $[\text{[Fe(saloph)}]_2L]$  (where  $L =$  terephthalato(2 – ), fumarato(2-), oxalato(2-), and succinato(2-)) have also been prepared [21]. The crystal and molecular structure of  $[$ {Fe(salen)}<sub>2</sub>ter] (H<sub>2</sub>ter = terephthalic acid) have been reported [21]. Other complexes of composition [ ${[Fe(salen)]_2L}$ ] (where L= glutarato(2 – ), adipato(2 – ), pimelato(2 – ), suberato(2 – ), and dithiooxamidato(2 – )) were prepared by Smekal et al. [27].

Therefore, in the present study, we aimed at the synthesis of other dendrimeric hexa- and dodecacarboxylato bridges and to present their presumed influence on the magnetic behavior of the prepared complexes. We were also interested in dendrimeric hexa- and dodecanuclear systems formed by means of carboxylato bridges because some interesting work dealing with this kind of bridge and associated data has been reported  $[28-32]$ .

Result and Discussion. – The 4,4',4''-[1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triyltris(nitrilomethylidyne) ]tris[phenol] (2) was prepared in nearly quantitative yield from melamine (1) and 3 equiv. of 4-hydroxybenzaldehyde (Scheme 1, Table 1). Afterward, 2 was treated with cyanuric chloride at  $0-5^{\circ}$ , and the structural formula of the produced  $N^2, N^4, N^6$ -tris{{4-[(4,6-dichloro-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl)oxy]phenyl}methylene}-1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triamine (3) was verified by elemental analysis  $(Table 1)$ , <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, FT-IR, and MS data. The reaction of  $3$  with 4-aminobenzoic acid or 5-aminoisophthalic acid ( $=$  5-aminobenzene-1,3-dicarboxylic acid) at reflux temperature readily furnished the dendrimeric 'oxy-Schiff bases' 4 or 5, respectively, containing six or twelves COOH groups.

The tripodal 'oxy-Schiff base' 2 was characterized by its elemental analysis, thermal analyses, <sup>1</sup> H-NMR, FT-IR, AAS (atomic-absorption spectrum), and MS data. To establish the structure of 2, the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra were recorded in  $(D_6)$ DMSO [33] [34]. Thus the signals at  $\delta(H)$  9.77 (s) correspond to three N=CH groups and that at  $\delta(H)$  6.08 (s) to three OH groups. The data also showed that three directional linkages to the melamine moiety are present in 2. In addition, when 3 equiv. of cyanuric chloride were added to 2, the phenolic OH signal at  $\delta$  6.08 disappeared. Elemental analysis (*Table 1*), <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, FT-IR, and MS data of the product 3 from 2 and cyanuric chloride established that each OH group of 2 had reacted with cyanuric acid. This was confirmed by *Fujiwara's* test [7]. Moreover, when 6 equiv. of 4-aminobenzoic acid or 5aminoisophthalic acid were added to 3, the NH<sub>2</sub> signals at  $\delta(H)$  5.90 of the former and at  $\delta(H)$  5.19 of the later shifted to  $\delta(H)$  4.55 or 4.75 (NH of 4 or 5, resp.). The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of 4 and 5 showed signals at  $\delta$ (H) 13.92 – 13.96 and 10.03 – 10.05 corresponding to the carboxylic OH and 'oxy-Schiff base'  $N=CH$  resonances, respectively. Moreover, the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of 5 was similar to that of 4, thus establishing their structures. The new ligands 4 and 5 are soluble in common organic solvents.

The synthetic strategy for preparing dendrimeric hexa- or dodecanuclear complexes consists of the use of a complex as a 'ligand' containing a potential donor group (COO-) capable of coordinating with another ligand. We chose [{Fe(salen) or  $(saloph)$ <sub>2</sub>O] and [{Cr(salen) or (saloph)}<sub>2</sub>O] as 'ligand complex' 6 because it can coordinate with another ligand  $[35-37]$ . Thus, the dendrimeric hexa- or dodecanuclear complexes 7 – 14 with bridging carboxylato groups to the Fe and Cr centers were





a) Decomposition.

Table 1. Some Physical Properties, Molecular Weight ([g/mol]) Data and Elemental Analyses, AAS Analyses of the Ligands and Complexes

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obtained from 6 and the ligands 4 or 5 (*Scheme 2*). All compounds  $7-14$  are stable at room temperature in the solid state, and their elemental analyses (Table 1) were in agreement with the proposed structures. The results showed that  $7-14$  are hexa- or dodecanuclear complexes. They are only soluble in organic solvents such as DMSO and DMF, and insoluble in  $H_2O$ .

In the IR spectra of the free ligands 4 and 5, the vibrations of the azomethine  $C=N$ , triazine C=N, and C-O-C of the free ligands 4 and 5 were observed at  $1618 - 1605$ , 1574 – 1560, and 1375 – 1359 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively [38] [39]. In the complexes **7 – 14**, these bands were shifted to lower frequencies, which indicated that the N- and O-atoms of the dendrimeric 'oxy-Schiff-base' ligands 4 and 5 are coordinated with the 'ligand complexes' 6. In the free ligands 4 and 5, the bands at  $3258 - 3234$  or  $3425 3427 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  were assigned to the carboxylic OH or NH group vibrations, respectively  $[10] [28]$ . In the complexes 7–14, the OH bands of the COOH groups were missing, thus evidencing chelation of the O-atom to the metal [21] [28] [30] [31] [35 – 37]. These results were consistent with previous studies; especially in [21] [28] [31] is reported that the carboxylic OH bands disappeared as a result of chelation of the carboxylato O-atom to the metal. In the complexes  $7-14$ , the bands in the ranges of  $544-532$ and  $478-468 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  were attributed to the M-N and M-O stretching modes  $[30 - 33]$ .

The magnetic moments of the complexes  $7-14$  given in Table 1 were measured at room temperature. On the basis of spectral evidence, these dendrimeric low-spin Fe<sup>III</sup> and CrIII complexes have a hexanuclear or dodecanuclear structure in which the lowspin Fe<sup>III</sup> and Cr<sup>III</sup> cations have an approximately octahedral environment. The magnetic behavior of these low-spin  $Fe^{III}$  and  $Cr^{III}$  complexes is in accordance with the proposed hexanuclear or dodecanuclear structures; their magnetic moments established their paramagnetic property, the magnetic susceptibility value per atom being  $1.65 - 1.70$  B.M. and  $3.75 - 3.90$  B.M., respectively. It is seen that the [{Fe(salen) or  $(saloph)|_2O$  and  $[\{Cr(salen)$  or  $(saloph)|_2O]$  containing compounds 7–14 are represented by the electronic structure  $t_{2g}$ <sup>5</sup>eg<sup>0</sup> and  $t_{2g}$ <sup>3</sup>eg<sup>0</sup>. The magnetic data for the dendrimeric Fe- and Cr-complexes were in accordance with the low-spin  $d<sup>5</sup>$  and  $d<sup>3</sup>$ metal ion in an octahedral structure, respectively. This conclusion is supported by the results of the elemental analyses suggesting that the dendrimeric complexes 7 – 14 have also an octahedral structure [21] [28 – 32].

The ligands 4 and 5 and complexes 7, 10, 12, and 13 were also thermally investigated, and their plausible degradation schemes are presented in Table 2 [40] [41]. It is well known that there is a strong relation between the temperature range for the dehydration process and the binding mode of the  $H<sub>2</sub>O$  molecules of the respective metal complexes. The elimination of  $H<sub>2</sub>O$  took place in a single-step process attributed to the release of the hydrating H<sub>2</sub>O molecules of  $7 \cdot x$  H<sub>2</sub>O,  $10 \cdot x$  H<sub>2</sub>O,  $12 \cdot x$  H<sub>2</sub>O, and 13  $\cdot$  x H<sub>2</sub>O (in the range of 60–135°). Thermal decomposition of the anhydrous  $[{}{Fe(salen) \text{ or } (saloph)}_{2}$ O] and  $[{}{Cr(salen) \text{ or } (saloph)}_{2}$ O] complexes left from the ligands 4 and 5 started in the range of  $290 - 390^\circ$  and was completed in the range 565 – 6508. The final decomposition products were metal oxides and triazine ring. The observed weight losses for all ligands and complexes were consistent with the calculated values.

The LC/MS data of all compounds  $2-5$  and  $7-14$  given in the *Exper. Part* confirm their relative molecular mass  $M_r$  (Table 1).

	Molecular formula	Temp. range $\lceil \degree \rceil$	Weight loss, found (calc.) $[\%]$	Fragment
4	$C_{75}H_{51}N_{21}O_{15}$	$65 - 125$	18.12 (17.00)	CO <sub>2</sub> , H <sub>2</sub>
		$300 - 375$	37.71 (39.60)	$N_2$ , $H_2O$
			21.33 (20.82)	$N_2, C_2H_2$
5	$C_{81}H_{51}N_{21}O_{27}$	$60 - 120$	31.62 (30.17)	CO <sub>2</sub> , H <sub>2</sub>
		$220 - 315$	31.42 (33.64)	$N_2$ , $H_2O$
		$317 - 390$	18.41 (17.68)	$N_2, C_2H_2$
7	$C_{171}H_{141}Fe_6N_{33}O_{27}$	$60 - 130$	7.76(7.50)	$H_2O, CO_2$
		$200 - 310$	15.03 (14.37)	$N_2, C_2H_4$
		$335 - 450$	55.42 (54.62)	$CO_2$ , N <sub>2</sub> , H <sub>2</sub> , C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub>
10	$C_{195}H_{141}Cr_6N_{33}O_{27}$	$60 - 125$	7.31(6.99)	CO <sub>2</sub> , H <sub>2</sub> O
		$225 - 325$	21.88 (21.16)	$N_2, C_6H_6, C_2H_4$
		$335 - 455$	51.78 (50.71)	$CO_2$ , N <sub>2</sub> , H <sub>2</sub> , C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub>
12	$C_{321}H_{231}Fe_{12}N_{45}O_{51}$	$60 - 122$	10.18(9.24)	CO <sub>2</sub> , H <sub>2</sub> O
		$210 - 295$	18.27 (17.65)	$N_2, C_6H_6, C_2H_4$
		$315 - 410$	61.45(59.13)	$CO_2$ , N <sub>2</sub> , H <sub>2</sub> , C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub>
13	$C_{273}H_{231}Cr_{12}N_{45}O_{51}$	$60 - 135$	8.92 (8.32)	H <sub>2</sub> O, CO <sub>2</sub>
		$215 - 320$	27.01 (25.17)	$N_2$ , $C_2H_4$
		$325 - 445$	55.48 (53.56)	$CO_2$ , N <sub>2</sub> , H <sub>2</sub> , C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub>

Table 2. Decomposition Steps with the Temperature Range and Weight Loss for Ligands 4 and 5 and Complexes 7, 10, 12, and  $13^a$ )

Conclusions. – In this study, the novel tri-directional Schiff bases 2 – 5, derived from melamine and cyanuric chloride were synthesized. The synthetic strategy for the preparation of the hexa- and dodecanuclear complexes  $7-14$  involved a 'ligand complex' that contains a potential donor group  $(COO^-)$  capable of coordinating to another ligand. We chose  $[\{Fe(salen \text{ or } saloph)\}$ <sub>2</sub>O] and  $[\{Cr(salen \text{ or } Saloph)\}$ <sub>2</sub>O] as -ligand complexes because their central Fe- or Cr-atom can coordinate to the ligands 4 and 5 via the carboxylate anions derived from the latter. The structures of the complexes 7–14 were characterized by means of elemental analysis, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and FT-IR spectroscopy, thermal analyses, LC/MS analysis, and magnetic susceptibility measurements. The magnetic data for these hexa- and dodecanuclear complexes were consistent with an octahedral environment of the  $d<sup>5</sup>$  and  $d<sup>3</sup>$  metal ion.

## Experimental Part

1. General. All chemicals were purchased from Aldrich. Vacuum drying in a Vacucell 22 MMM-Medcenter Einrichtungen GmbH. Flash chromatography (FC): CombiFlash® chromatography. M.p.: Büchi-SMP-20 melting point apparatus. IR Spectra: Perkin-Elmer-1600 FT-IR spectrophotometer; KBr discs;  $\tilde{\nu}$  in cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR Spectra: *Bruker-200* spectrometer in  $(D_6)$ DMSO;  $\delta$  in ppm rel. to Me<sub>4</sub>Si as internal standard, J in Hz. MS: Varian-MAT-711 spectrometer; in  $m/z$  (rel. %). LC/MS: in  $m/z$ . Elemental analyses: Carlo-Erba-1106 elemental analyzer; metal contents in complexes were determined with a *Unicam-929* atomic absorption spectrometer.

Thermal analyses: Shimadzu-DTA-50 and TG-50-H instruments; 10 mg samples under dry  $N_2$ ; heating rates 10°/min, from 22-750°. Magnetic susceptibilities: Sheerwood-Scientific-MX-Gouy magnetic susceptibility apparatus; measurements by the Gouy method with Hg[Co(SCN)<sub>4</sub>] as calibrant;

calculation of the effective magnetic moment  $\mu_{\rm eff}$  per metal atom from  $\mu_{\rm eff} = 2.84\sqrt{\chi_{\rm M}}T$  B.M., where  $\chi_{\rm M}$  is the molar susceptibility.

2. 'Ligand Complexes'. [{Fe(salen) or (saloph)}<sub>2</sub>O] and [{Cr(salen) or (saloph)}<sub>2</sub>O] were prepared by adding conc.  $NH_3$  soln. to a stirred hot EtOH solns. of [Fe(salen) or (saloph)Cl] and [Cr(salen) or  $(saloph)Cl$ , resp., until it became alkaline  $[21][35-37]$ .

3. 4,4',4''-[1,3,5-Triazine-2,4,6-triyltris(nitrilomethylidyne)]tris[phenol] (2). Melamine (1; 5 mmol, 0.63 g) was suspended in benzene (10 ml), and a suspension of 4-hydroxybenzaldehyde (1.83 g, 15 mmol) in benzene (25 ml) was added by stirring. The mixture was boiled under reflux for 5 h, and the pink powder formed was dried under vacuum [3]. The obtained mixture was purified by FC (CombiFlash®, AcOEt/hexane 1:4):  $2$  (ca. quant). FT-IR: 3338 (OH), 2842 (CH), 1615 (CH=N), 1565 (triazine C=N).  ${}^{1}$ H-NMR ((D<sub>6</sub>)DMSO): 9.77 (s, 3 H); 7.76, 7.73 (2d, J = 0.028, 6 H); 6.93 – 6.90 (d, J = 0.028, 6 H); 6.08 (s,  $3 H$ ). LC/MS:  $438 \pm 2$ .

4. N<sup>2</sup> ,N<sup>4</sup> ,N<sup>6</sup> -Tris{{4-[4,6-dichloro-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl)oxy]phenyl}methylene}-1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-tri*amine* (3). A cyanuric chloride  $(2.76 g, 15 mmol)$  soln. in acetone  $(100 ml)$  was added dropwise to a soln. of 2 (2.19 g, 5 mmol) and NaOH (0.6 g, 15 mmol) in H<sub>2</sub>O (50 ml) at  $0-5^{\circ}$ , while stirring. The mixture was stirred vigorously for 3 h at  $0-5^{\circ}$  and then for 2 h at  $15-20^{\circ}$ . At these stages, *Fujiwara*'s test [7] for dichlorotriazine was positive. The temp. was allowed to increase to  $25^{\circ}$  and maintained at  $25-30^{\circ}$ . The pale white solid was filtered and washed with cold  $H_2O$ , then with EtOH. The obtained mixture was purified by FC (*CombiFlash*®, AcOEt/hexane 1:4), and the recrystallized from acetone:  $3(3.09 \text{ g}, 70\%)$ . FT-IR: 2847 (CH), 1618 (CH=N), 1574 (triazine C=N), 1366 (C-O-C), 845 (C-Cl). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR  $((D<sub>6</sub>)$ DMSO): 10.03 (s, 3 H); 8.05 – 8.01 (d, J = 0.42, 6 H); 7.56, 7.52 (2 d, J = 0.42, 6 H). LC/MS: 882  $\pm$  2.

5. 4,4',4'',4''',4'''',4'''''-[1,3,5-Triazine-2,4,6-triyltris(nitrilomethylidyne-4,1-phenyleneoxy-1,3,5-triazine-6,2,4-triyldiimino)]hexakis[benzoic Acid] (4) or 5,5',5'',5''',5'''',5'''''-[1,3,5-Triazine-2,4,6-triyltris(nitrilomethylidyne-4,1-phenyleneoxy-1,3,5-triazine-6,2,4-triyldiimino)]hexakis[benzene-1,3-dicarboxylic Acid] (5). A soln. of 3 (0.88 g, 1 mmol) in acetone (50 ml) was added dropwise to deionized (100 ml)  $H<sub>2</sub>O$ cooled in an ice bath  $(0-5^{\circ})$ , under vigorous stirring. 4-Aminobenzoic acid  $(0.82 \text{ g}, 6 \text{ mmol})$  or 5aminoisophthalic acid (1.09 g, 6 mmol), resp., and sat. Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> soln. (0.636 g, 6 mmol) in deionized H<sub>2</sub>O were added. The mixture was stirred for 3 h while being cooled in the ice bath and then boiled under reflux for 10 h. The dirty white or grey powder formed was dried under vacuum and subjected to FC (*CombiFlash<sup>®</sup>*, AcOEt/hexane 1:4): **4** (1.00 g, 68%) or **5** (1.05 g, 60%).

Data of 4: FT-IR: 3421 (NH), 3155 (OH), 2835 (CH), 1690 (C=O), 1605 (CH=N), 1560 (triazine C=N), 1405 (COO<sup>-</sup>), 1359 (COC). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR ((D<sub>6</sub>)DMSO): 13.92 (br. s, 6 H); 10.03 (s, 3 H); 7.88, 6.67  $(d, 24 H)$ ; 7.43, 6.87  $(d, 12 H)$ ; 4.55  $(d, 6 H)$ . LC/MS: 1486  $\pm$  2.

Data of 5: FT-IR: 3425 (NH), 3165 (OH), 2840 (CH), 1692 (C=O), 1615 (CH=N), 1573 (triazine C=N), 1408 (COO<sup>-</sup>), 1372 (COC). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR ((D<sub>6</sub>)DMSO): 13.96 (br. s, 12 H); 10.05 (s, 3 H); 8.25 (s, 6 H); 7.68 (d, 12 H); 6.82 (d, 6 H); 7.45 (d, 6 H); 4.75 (d, 6 H). LC/MS:  $1750 \pm 2$ .

6. Hexakis{{2,2'-{ethane-1,2-diylbis[(nitrilo-kN)methylidyne]}bis[phenolato-kO]}(2-)}- and Hexakis{{2,2'-{1,2-phenylenebis[(nitrilo-ĸN)methylidyne]}bis[phenolato-κO]}(2 – )}{µ<sub>6</sub>-{4,4',4'',4''',4''''',4'''' [1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triyltris(nitrilomethylidyne-4,1-phenyleneoxy-1,3,5-triazine-6,2,4-triyldiimino)]hexakis[benzoato-ĸO<sup>1</sup>: κO<sup>1</sup>': κO<sup>1</sup>'': κO<sup>1'''</sup>: κO<sup>1'''</sup>: κO<sup>1''''</sup>: κO<sup>1''''</sup>')}]hexairon (**7** and **8**, resp.) or Hexakis{{2,2'-{ethane-1,2-diylbis[(nitrilo-kN)methylidyne]}bis[phenolato-kO]}(2-)}- and Hexakis{{1,2'-{2,2-phenylenebis- [(nitrilo-ĸN)methylidyne]]bis[phenolato-ĸO]](2 – )}{ $\mu_{6}$ -{4,4',4'',4''',4'''',4''''-[1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triyltris- $(n$ itrilomethylidyne-4,1-phenyleneoxy-1,3,5-triazine-6,2,4-triyldiimino)]hexakis[benzoato-k $O<sup>1</sup>$ :k $O<sup>1</sup>$ :k $O<sup>1</sup>$ :  $k\text{O}^{1}\text{O}^{1}\text{O}^{1}\text{O}^{1}\text{O}^{1}\text{O}^{1}\text{O}^{1}$ )}hexachromium (9 and 10, resp.) [{Fe(salen) or (saloph)}<sub>2</sub>O] (1.98 g, 3 mmol; or 2.27 g, 3 mmol) or  $[\{Cr(salen) \text{ or } (saloph)\}$ ,  $O]$  (1.96 g, 3 mmol; or 2.25 g, 3 mmol) was suspended in hot EtOH (50 ml), and a soln. of 4 (1.49 g, 1 mmol) in EtOH was added under stirring. The mixture was boiled under reflux for 4 h, and the solid formed was dried under vacuum. The obtained mixtures were purified by FC (*CombiFlash*®, MeOH/hexane 1:4): **7** (2.33 g, 68%), **8** (2.41 g, 65%), **9** (1.87 g, 55%), or 10 (2.18 g, 59%).

Data of 7 and 9: FT-IR: 3425 (NH), 2895 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 2837 (CH), 1540-1617 (CH=N), 1580 (triazine C=N), 1385 (COO<sup>-</sup>), 1369 (COC), 534 (M-N), 468 (M-O). LC/MS: 3425 $\pm$ 2 (7); 3402 $\pm$ 2 (9).

Data of 8 and 10: FT-IR: 3423 (NH), 2847 (CH), 1545 – 1627 (CH=N), 1587 (triazine, C=N), 1382  $(COO^{-})$ , 1372  $(COC)$ , 544  $(M-N)$ , 478  $(M-O)$ . LC/MS: 3713  $\pm$  2 (8); 3690  $\pm$  2 (10).

7. Dodecakis{{2,2'-{ethane-1,2-diylbis[(nitrilo-kN)methylidyne]}bis[phenolato-kO]}(2-)}- and Dodecakis{{2,2'{1,2-phenylenebis[(nitrilo-κN)methylidyne]}bis[phenolato-κO]}(2 – )}{ $\mu_{12}$ -{5,5',5'',5''',5'''',5'''' [1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triyltris(nitrilomethylidyne-4,1-phenyleneoxy-1,3,5-triazine-6,2,4-triyldiimino)]hexa $k$ is[benzene-1,3-dicarboxylato(2 – )- $\kappa$ O<sup>1</sup> :  $\kappa$ O<sup>1</sup>'': $\kappa$ O<sup>1</sup>'':  $\kappa$ O<sup>1</sup>''':  $\kappa$ O<sup>1</sup>''':  $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>'':  $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>'':  $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>''':  $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>''':  $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>''':  $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>''':  $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>''':  $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>''':  $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup> kO<sup>3</sup> ''''']}}dodecairon (11 and 12, resp.) or Dodecakis{{2,2'-{ethane-1,2-diylbis[(nitrilo-kN)methylidyne]} bis[phenolato-kO]}(2-)}- and Dodecakis{{2,2'{1,2-phenylenebis[(nitrilo-kN)methylidyne]}bis[phenolato-kO]}(2-)}{m12-{5,5',5'',5''',5'''',5'''''-[1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triyltris(nitrilomethylidyne-4,1-phenyleneoxy- $1\text{,3,5-triaz}$ ine-6,2,4-triyldiimino) ]hexakis[benzene-1,3-dicarboxylato(2 – )-к $\mathrm{O}^1$ : к $\mathrm{O}^{1\prime\prime}$ : к $\mathrm{O}^{1\prime\prime\prime}$  $\kappa$ O<sup>1</sup>'''': $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>': $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>'': $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>''': $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>''': $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>'''' $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>'''' $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>'''' $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>''': $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>''': $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>''': $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>''': $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>''': $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>'''' $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>'''' $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>'''' $\kappa$ O<sup>3</sup>''': $\$  $(\text{saloph})\}$ , O  $(3.96 \text{ g}, 6 \text{ mmol}; \text{ or } 4.54 \text{ g}, 6 \text{ mmol})$  or  $[\{Cr(\text{salen}) \text{ or } (\text{saloph})\}$ , O  $(3.92 \text{ g}, 6 \text{ mmol}; \text{ or } 6.96 \text{ m}$ 4.49 g, 6 mmol) was suspended in hot EtOH  $(100 \text{ ml})$ , and a soln. of 5  $(1.75 \text{ g}, 1 \text{ mmol})$  in EtOH was added by stirring. The mixture was boiled under reflux for 4 h, and the solid formed was dried under vacuum. The obtained mixtures were purified by FC (CombiFlash®, MeOH/hexane 1:4): 11 (3.83 g, 68%), 12 (4.47 g, 72%), 13 (3.46 g, 62%), or 14 (4.13 g, 67%).

Data of 11 and 13: FT-IR: 3427 (NH), 2892 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 2838 (CH), 1542-1615 (CH=N), 1583 (triazine C=N), 1381 (COO<sup>-</sup>), 1371 (COC), 532 (M-N), 470 (M-O). LC/MS: 5628  $\pm$  2 (11); 5582  $\pm$  2 (13).

Data of 12 and 14: FT-IR: 3424 (NH), 2840 (CH), 15456 – 1617 (CH=N), 1588 (triazine C=N), 1384 (COO<sup>-</sup>), 1375 (COC), 538 (M-N), 476 (M-O). LC/MS: 6204  $\pm$  2 (**12**); 6158  $\pm$  2 (**14**).

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