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On the Quest for New Mixed-Metal μ -Oxo-bridged Complexes: Synthesis of Compounds Containing Transition Metal–Oxygen– Main Group Metal Motifs M–O–M¹ (M = Ti, Zr; M¹ = AI, Ga) without Cyclopentadienyl Ligands[†]

Grigory B. Nikiforov, Herbert W. Roesky,* Thomas Schulz, Dietmar Stalke, and M. Witt

Institut für Anorganische Chemie, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Tammannstrasse 4, D-37077, Göttingen, Germany

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The reaction of TiBz₄ (Bz = benzyl) with LAIMe(OH), L = $(2,6-iPr_2C_6H_3NC(Me))_2$ CH, afforded LAIMe(μ -O)TiBz₃ (1) and [LAIMe(μ -O)]₂TiBz₂ (2), whereas the corresponding reaction with ZrBz₄ resulted only in the formation of the trinuclear species [LAIMe(μ -O)]₂ZrBz₂ (3). The reaction of (Mes₂Ga(OH))₂·THF (Mes = 2,4,6-Me₃C₆H₂) with Ti(NEt₂)₄ yielded the cluster compound TiGa₆O₇(NEt₂)₂(Mes)₆ (4). All compounds have been characterized by elemental analysis, NMR spectroscopy, and mass spectrometry. Additionally, single crystal X-ray structure data of 1, 3, and 4 are reported. Compounds 1–4 show low catalytic activities in the polymerization of ethylene. Revisiting known μ -oxo-bridged complexes containing the M–O–M¹ (M = Ti, Zr, Hf; M¹ = Al, Ga) skeleton revealed that the application of polynuclear group 13 hydroxides and oxo bridged complexes possesses a potential for the preparation of new polyoxometal clusters.

Introduction

Organometallic polyoxoclusters containing different metals have recently gained increased interest for application in technical processes, as well as from theoretical aspects. These heteropolymetallic compounds may act as suitable model systems for the immobilization of catalysts at oxide surfaces¹ and for the study of their reactivity and properties.² The metal atoms of heteropolymetallic clusters arranged in close proximity to each other may activate substrate molecules cooperatively or simultaneously; the substrate is able to switch between the metal atoms, something that could not be achieved with mononuclear complexes. It is well-known that μ -oxo bridged aluminum—titanium and aluminum—zirconium complexes possess high catalytic activities in olefin polymerization reactions.³

Consequently increasing research activities are focused on the synthesis and characterization of mixed metal oxides that can be employed as multifunctional catalysts or precursors for the preparation of heterobi- and -polymetallic heterogeneous catalysts.⁴

 $^{^{\}dagger}$ Dedicated to Professor C. N. R. Rao on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

 $[\]ast$ To whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: hroesky@gwdg.de.

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Examples of heterobimetallic μ -oxo-bridged complexes exhibiting $M-O-M^1$ motifs ($M = Ti, Zr, M^1 = Al, Ga$) are rare, among them $Cp_2ZrMe(\mu-O)Al_6O_5(tBu)_6(Me)$,^{3d} $(tBu)_2Ga(\mu-Neol)_2Ti(\mu-O)[Ga(tBu)_2(HNMe_2)]$ (NeolH₂ = 2,2-dimethylpropane-1,3-diol)⁵ and L*TiCl₂(μ -O)AlCl₃ $(L^* = 2.6-bis[1-(2.6-diisopropylphenylimino)ethyl]py$ ridine)⁶ are known. Recently, we reported a new class of μ -oxo-bridged heterobimetallic complexes containing the $M(\mu$ -O)Al core (M = Ti, Zr, Hf).⁷ The cyclopentadienyl complexes CpMX₂(μ -O)AlMeL (L = NacNac; X = Cl, Me; M = Ti, Zr) possess high catalytic activity in the polymerization of ethylene and are considered as model systems to study the polymerization of olefins. It was suggested that the bridging oxygen plays an important role in the active species, forming a kinetically and thermally stable M(μ -O)Al unit which enhances the Lewis acidity at the metal atoms.^{7c} However, the noncyclopentadienyl complexes LAIMe(μ -O)M(NMe₂)₂(μ -O)AIMeL^{7f} showed only moderate activity in ethylene polymerization. The complexes LTiCl₂(µ-O)AlMeL and LTiMe₂(µ-O)AlMeL even were unstable at room temperature.⁸

Therefore, we became interested in new μ -oxo-bridged heterobimetallic systems and quantified the ligand effect on the stability and polymerization activity of heterobimetallic μ -oxo-bridged complexes containing the M(μ -O)Al skeleton. Herein we report on the investigation of the MBz₄–LAlMe(OH) (M = Ti, Zr) and Ti(NEt₂)₄–(Mes₂Ga(OH))₂•THF systems. We describe the synthesis, characterization, and catalytic activity of new noncyclopentadienyl μ -oxo-bridged bimetallic and trimetallic compounds with an Al–O–M core and a polyoxometal cluster with a TiGa₆O₇ skeleton.

Results and Discussion

For the preparation of μ -oxo-bridged complexes with alkyl functionalities at the Ti(IV) or Zr(IV) atoms we investigated the reaction of MMe₄ with LAIMe(OH) (M = Ti, Zr) as well as that with MBz₄ (Bz = benzyl) and LAIMe(OH). The reaction of the thermally unstable MMe₄ with LAIMe(OH) resulted in the formation of elemental titanium or zirconium. The TiBz₄ (Bz = benzyl), stable at room temperature, and LAIMe(OH) afforded LAIMe(μ -O)TiBz₃ (1) and [LAIMe-(μ -O)]₂TiBz₂ (2) (Scheme 1). Reactions of 3 to 4 equiv of

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Scheme 1. $Ar = 2,6-iPr_2C_6H_3$



Scheme 2. $Ar = 2,6-iPr_2C_6H_3$



LAIMe(OH) with $TiBz_4$ resulted in a mixture of **2** and unreacted LAIMe(OH).

The analogous reaction of $ZrBz_4$, stable at ambient temperature, with 1 to 4 equiv of LAIMe(OH) resulted in the formation of complex [LAIMe(μ -O)]₂ZrBz₂ (**3**) (Scheme 2). Compound **3** was obtained as a powder from the reaction in toluene followed by crystallization from *n*-hexane while crystallization of **3** from DME afforded the **3**•DME_{0.5} solvate. Surprisingly, the 1:1 complex could not be detected, the NMR spectrum of the *in situ* 1:1 mixture of ZrBz₄: LAIMe(OH) exhibits only resonances for ZrBz₄ and **3**.

The results of the MBz₄–LAlMe(OH) (M = Ti, Zr) system as well as those of the previously reported Cp_2MMe_2 –LAlMe(OH)^{7a,c} and M(NMe₂)₄–LAlMe(OH)^{7f} showed that only 1:1 and 1:2 complexes could be isolated.



Figure 1. Molecular structure of LAIMe(μ -O)TiBz₃, **1**, [L = (2,6-*i*Pr₂C₆H₃NCMe)₂CH)] with selected atoms labeled. Anisotropic displacement parameters are depicted at the 50% probability level. Only one of the two crystallographically independent molecules is shown. For clarity reasons hydrogen atoms are not depicted.

Scheme 3



To prepare a new polyoxometal cluster, we used a gallium hydroxide with less bulky mesityl groups $(Mes_2Ga(OH))_2 \cdot THF$ and explored its reaction with MR₄ (R = Bz, NEt₂). It is noteworthy that the corresponding aluminum hydroxide $(Mes_2Al(OH))_2$ is unstable at room temperature. Unfortunately, the reaction of the dimeric gallium hydroxide and MBz₄ gives only unidentifiable products. However, the protocol of 1 and 0.5 equiv of $(Mes_2Ga(OH))_2 \cdot THF$ with 1 equiv of Ti(NEt₂)₄ in toluene afforded the polyoxometal cluster TiGa₆O₇(NEt₂)₂(Mes)₆ (**4**) according to the idealized equation shown in Scheme 3. Compound **4** has been recrystallized from *n*-hexane solution to afford crystals suitable for X-ray structural investigation.

The tendency of $(Mes_2Ga(OH))_2 \cdot THF$ to form higher aggregates such as $Mes_6Ga_6O_4(OH)_4$ at room temperature⁹ and $(MesGaO)_9$ at elevated temperatures¹⁰ has been described. The reaction of LTiMe₃ (L = NacNac) with $(Mes_2Ga(OH))_2 \cdot THF$ in toluene afforded the di- μ -oxo bridged complex LTiMe(μ -O)₂TiMeL and Mes₃Ga⁸ implying oxygen transfer from gallium to titanium, whereas in the reaction depicted in Scheme 3 transfer of the amino substituents from titanium to gallium occurs.

It is noteworthy that Mes₃Ga and unreacted $Ti(NEt_2)_4$ (for a 1:1 ratio of precursors) were detected by NMR spectroscopy in the *in situ* mixture, and HNEt₂, MesH, and THF were found in the volatile products.

Characterization of Compounds 1-4. The single crystal structures of 1, 3, and 4 (Figures 1 to 5) have been determined by X-ray crystallographic methods. The composition and structure of 2 was deduced from elemental analysis, NMR, and mass spectrometry.

Complexes 1 and 2 are thermally stable (decomp 179 and 187 °C, respectively) and remain unchanged on storage in sealed ampoules for several months at room temperature. The largest ion detected in the mass spectrum of 1 corresponds to $[M - Bz]^+$ (*m*/*z* 705) whereas in the mass spectrum of 2 it is $[M - PhMe]^+$ (*m*/*z* 1088). Further fragments

observed in the EI-MS of **1** and **2** are due to the elimination of Bz, PhMe, CH₄, *i*Pr, and C₆H₃(*i*Pr)₂ from the molecular ions. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR data of **1** and **2** are in agreement with the proposed structures (Scheme 1, Figures 1 and 3). The resonance of the CH₂ protons attached to the Ti(IV) atom appears at 2.00 ppm in **1** and at 2.17 ppm in **2** being shifted to low frequency relative to TiBz₄ (2.79 ppm).¹¹

Compound 1 crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $P2_1/c$ and contains two independent molecules in the unit cell with similar structural features (Figure 1).

As expected, 1 contains the aluminum atom bonded through an oxygen atom to titanium. The aluminum atom exhibits a highly distorted tetrahedral coordination site with two nitrogen atoms of the β -diketiminato ligand, the methyl carbon atom, and the $(\mu$ -O) atom. The titanium atom also has a distorted tetrahedral coordination sphere comprised of the $(\mu$ -O) atom and three CH₂ groups. Moreover, Ti(1) and Ti(2) show close contacts with the carbon atoms of the benzyl group. The shortest contacts are observed between the Ti atoms and the carbon atoms C(61) and C(101) in the β position (2.506 and 2.689 Å, respectively). The contacts $Ti-C_{\beta}$ range from 2.807 to 3.093 Å (Figure 2). Consequently, the acute C(61)-C(6)-Ti(1) and C(101)-C(10)-Ti(2) angles range from $85.8(1)^{\circ}$ to 95.3(2)° while the other Ti-C_{α}-C_{β} angles range from $101.3(2)^{\circ}$ to $116.3(2)^{\circ}$. This implies nonequivalent inter-



Figure 2. Coordination sphere (4.1 Å) around Ti(1) in 1. The values in brackets are the corresponding bond lengths for the second molecule. Anisotropic displacement parameters are depicted at the 50% probability level. Selected distances (Å): Ti(1)–C(51) 2.855 (2.689), Ti(1)–C(52) 3.625 (3.315), Ti(1)–C(56) 3.599 (3.416), Ti(1)–C(61) 2.506 (2.807), Ti(1)–C(62) 3.109 (3.651), Ti(1)–C(66) 3.105 (3.354), Ti(1)–C(71) 3.093 (3.036), Ti(1)–C(72) 3.698 (3.758), Ti(1)–C(76) 4.051 (3.856).

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Figure 3. Molecular structure of **3** with selected atoms labeled. Anisotropic displacement parameters are depicted at the 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity reasons.



Figure 4. Molecular structure of **4** with selected labeled atoms. Anisotropic displacement parameters are depicted at the 50% probability level. Only one of the two crystallographically independent molecules is shown. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity reasons.

actions of the Bz carbon atoms with the titanium atom in **1**. The reported $Ti-C_{\beta}$ bond lengths in Ti(IV) benzyl complexes are short (2.464(4)-2.647(4) Å) and result in small $Ti-C_{\alpha}-C_{\beta}$ angles $(81.9(2)^{\circ}-92.5(3)^{\circ})$ (see structures of $TiBz_4$,¹² $TiCl_{3-n}Bz_n(\text{dmpe})$ (n = 1,2),¹³ $LTiBz_2$ (L = N,N'-bis(trimethylsilyl)aminobenzylamine),¹⁴ $LTiBz_2$ (L = [OSSO]-type ligand)¹⁵).

The Al–Me (1.957(2) and 1.959(2) Å), Al–(μ -O) (1.7468(17) and 1.7391(16) Å) bond lengths as well as Ti–(μ -O) distances (1.7506(16) and 1.7483(16) Å) and Al(μ -O)Ti angles (145.4(1)° and 146.5(1)°) compare well with the recently structurally characterized oxygen bridged heterobimetallic compounds of the general formula LAIMe-(μ -O)M(R)Cp₂ (R = Me, Cl; M = Ti, Zr, Hf).⁷ The Ti–CH₂

distances (2.112(3)-2.143(2) Å) are also similar to those of the reported Ti(IV) complexes with benzyl ligand (see refs 12–15).

Single crystals of $[LAl(Me)(\mu-O)]_2 ZrBz_2 \cdot DME_{0.5}$ (3) have been obtained by recrystallization from DME. Compound 3 crystallizes in the triclinic space group $P\overline{1}$ (Figure 3).

Both the aluminum and zirconium atoms in 3 exhibit a distorted tetrahedral coordination with $[AlN_2(Me)(\mu-O)]$ and $[Zr(\mu-O)_2(CH_2)_2]$ environments (Figure 3). In contrast to the titanium complex, the zirconium atom shows only weak contacts to the carbon atoms in the β position of the Bz substituent (3.165 and 3.317 Å). Consequently, the C(20)-C(19)-Zr(1) and C(27)-C(26)-Zr(1) angles are larger $(113.6(2)^{\circ} \text{ and } 121.5(2)^{\circ})$ in comparison to those of the titanium compound 1. Furthermore, the mean angle Zr-C-C in $ZrBz_4$ is 92° and the average $Zr-C_\beta$ bond length is 2.74 Å.¹⁶ Tetracoordinate zirconium is not common in complexes, and it is only present when the zirconium atom is encapsulated by bulky ligands, for example, in polymeric Cs₂Ag₂ZrTe₄ (ZrTe₄ polyhedron),¹⁷ Zr[CH₂(CH₂NSiMe- $Ph_{2}_{2}_{2}_{2}^{18}$ and $Zr[(NtBu)_{2}SiMe_{2}]_{2}^{19}$ (ZrN₄ polyhedron), and in ZrCl[N(SiMe₃)₂]₃ (ZrN₃Cl polyhedron).²⁰ Therefore, the tetracoordinate ion in $[LAl(Me)(\mu-O)]_2 ZrBz_2$ (3), as well as in the related complex $[LAl(Me)(\mu-O)]_2Zr(NMe_2)_2$,^{7f} is the result of two bulky $[LAl(Me)(\mu-O)]$ moieties.

The Zr–(μ -O) bond lengths in **3** (1.9132(14) and 1.9143(14) Å) and Al–(μ -O) bond lengths (1.7344(15) and 1.7471(15) Å) are in agreement with those found for [LAl(Me)-(μ -O)]₂Zr(NMe₂)₂ (1.941(2) and 1.944(2) Å),^{7f} LAlMe(μ -O)ZrRCp₂ (av 1.92 Å) (R = Me, Cl),^{7a} and LAlMe(μ -O)TiMeCp₂ (1.808(3) Å).^{7c} Two types of Al–(μ -O)–Zr bond angles are observed in **3** (175.58(9)° and 141.80(9)°) similar to [LAl(Me)(μ -O)]₂Zr(NMe₂)₂ (166.50(10)° and 173.21(10)°).^{7f} The almost linear Al–(μ -O)–Zr bond angle is explained by mutual repulsion of the [LAl(Me)] and [Zr(μ -O)AlMeL] moieties.

Complex **3** is thermally stable (decomp above 130 °C) and remains unchanged on storage in sealed ampoules at room temperature for several months. The ion of highest mass detected in the mass spectrum of **3** is of weak intensity and corresponds to $[M - C_6H_3iPr_2 - Bz - PhMe]^+$ (*m*/*z* 879). Further ions observed in the EI-MS of **3** are mostly due to subsequent loss of Bz, PhMe, and C₆H₃*i*Pr₂ from the molecular ion. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR data of **3** are consistent with the proposed structure (Scheme 2, Figure 3). The ¹H NMR resonance of the CH₂ group attached to the Zr(IV) atom appears at 1.85 ppm and is shifted to high frequencies in relation to ZrBz₄ (1.44 ppm).

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Figure 5. $TiGa_6O_7N_2$ core of 4. Ellipsoids represent 50% probability levels. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

Compound 4 crystallizes in the triclinic space group $P\overline{1}$. It contains two crystallographically independent molecules TiGa₆O₇(NEt₂)₂(Mes)₆ in the lattice with almost identical conformation (Figure 4). The core of the molecule consists of a TiGa₆O₇N₂ cluster, where the titanium is connected to all gallium atoms via two μ - and two μ ₃-bridging oxygen atoms. The two amino nitrogen atoms are bound to two gallium atoms each, one of them being incorporated in the cluster by one μ - and one μ ₃-oxygen atom, the other by two μ ₃-oxygen atoms. Additionally, each gallium atom is bound to one Mes group.

Four oxygen atoms form a highly distorted tetrahedral environment around the Ti(1) and Ti(2) atoms with two shorter Ti-(μ -O) bond lengths (1.763(3), 1.767(3) Å and Ti(2)-O(9) 1.751(3) Å) and two longer Ti-(μ ₃-O) distances (1.888(3), 1.893(3) Å and Ti(2)-O(11) 1.901(3), Ti(2)-O(12) 1.909(3) Å) (angles see Tables 1 and 2). The Ti-(μ -O) bond lengths in cluster **4** are longer than those in (*t*Bu)₂Ga(μ -Neol)₂Ti(μ -O)[Ga(*t*Bu)₂(HNMe₂)] (NeolH₂ = 2,2-dimethyl-propane-1,3-diol),⁵ (Ti-O 1.725(9) Å, Ga-O 1.94(1) Å) which has only one Ti(μ -O)Ga bond, and two Ti(μ -OR)Ga bonds. Therefore, the latter are different from those of **4**. As a consequence, the Ti-(μ -O) bond in **4** is weaker than in the above-mentioned complex, while the Ga-(μ -O) bond strength is similar (Table 1).

The coordination geometry around the gallium atoms is that of a distorted tetrahedron with Ga–O distances in the range of 1.813(3) to 1.994(3) Å. Longer distances are observed for the Ga–(μ -O) bonds and shorter ones for the Ga–(μ -O) bonds. The Ga–N and Ga–C bond lengths are in a narrower range, 1.989 to 2.021 Å (av 2.009 Å) and 1.944(4) to 1.959(6) Å (av 1.953 Å), respectively. The reported Ga–N and Ga–C distances are typical for the Ga–(μ -N)²¹ and Ga–C bonds.^{9,22} The O–Ga–O and O–Ga–N angles are smaller than the C–Ga–O and C–Ga–N ones because of mutual repulsion of the ligands. The Mes group is sterically more demanding than the oxygen and nitrogen atoms.

The deviation of the Ga–O–Ga angles is caused by the different environment of the oxygen atoms. The smallest

Ga=O=Ga angles are observed for the Ga(μ -O)(μ -NEt₂)Ga moiety (95.1(1)° to 95.7(1)°) while the largest Ga=O=Ga angles (135.3(2)° to 136.3(2)°) are found within the Ga(μ ₃-O)Ga unit, where one gallium atom belongs to the Ga(μ -O)(μ -N)Ga moiety. The range of Ga=O=Ga angles, as well as that of the Ga=O distances, is close to those of Mes₆Ga₆O₄(OH)₄^{9a} and (Mes₂Ga(OH))₂•THF^{9b} while the Ti=O=Ga angles in **4** are slightly larger than the Ti= (μ -O)=Ga angle (106.8(3)°) in (*t*Bu)₂Ga(μ -Neol)₂Ti(μ -O)-[Ga(*t*Bu)₂(HNMe₂)].⁵

Compound 4 is stable at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The biggest ion found in the mass spectrum of 3 corresponds to the $[M - Mes - 6 Me]^+$ cation (*m*/*z* 1228). Further ions are due to loss of Me, Et, and Mes substituents and of CH₄ from the molecular ion (see Supporting Information). The ¹H NMR spectrum of 4 contains the expected six resonances of the aromatic protons of the six Mes groups (6.81–6.24 ppm) and nine resonances for the Me protons (1.92 to 2.85 ppm). The relative intensities for aromatic and Me protons is 1:4.5, as expected for 4. The ethyl groups of NEt₂ give rise to four quintets (3.89, 2.87, 2.76, 2.67 ppm) and two triplets (0.83, 0.37 ppm) because of the nonequivalence of the Et groups in 4.

Conclusion

We have investigated the MBz₄–LAlMe(OH) system (M = Ti, Zr) and prepared the heterobimetallic complexes LAlMe(μ -O)TiBz₃ (1), [LAlMe(μ -O)]₂TiBz₂ (2), and [LAl-Me(μ -O)]₂ZrBz₂ (3) which are stable at room temperature. Titanium complexes containing more than two LAlMe(μ -O) moieties are not formed from these precursors, instead 1:1 and 1:2 compounds have been obtained. The polynuclear complex TiGa₆O₇(NEt₂)₂(Mes)₆ (4) was isolated from the reaction of Ti(NEt₂)₄ with (Mes₂Ga(OH))₂•THF.

In general, the activity of complexes for the polymerization of ethylene is not increased by replacement of the Bz or NEt₂ group at the transition metal atom by the bulky [LAl(Me)O] or (MesGaO) moieties (see Supporting Information). Furthermore, we have compared the stability and polymerization activities of all literature reported and herein investigated μ -oxo bridged complexes (Table 3).

Several conclusions can be drawn from the results of Table 3. Compounds B and C, containing the bulky NacNac ligand attached to the titanium as well as to the aluminum center, are unstable and decompose in solution. The heterobimetallic complexes A and D-Y with less bulky ligands, such as Cp, NMe_2 , or Bz, on the transition metal are stable. Complex **F** contains a bulky ligand on the Ti(IV) center and a small {OAlCl₃} moiety connected to the titanium atom. Furthermore, only 1:1 complexes (A, E, I-K, N, O-Y) have been obtained from $LM^{1}Me(OH)$ ($M^{1} = Al$, Ga) and cyclopentadienyl complexes Cp_2MMe_2 (M = Ti, Zr, Hf) or Cp₂Zr(H)Cl. However, MR₄ compounds containing less bulky R groups (Bz, NMe₂) than Cp allowed the preparation of stable 1:2 complexes (G, H, L, M). Hydrolysis of cyclopentadienyl complexes $LAl(\mu-S)_2MCp_2$ (M = Ti, Zr) afforded the 1:1 complexes $LAl(OH)(\mu-O)M(SH)Cp_2$ (E, I) while hydrolysis of [(tBu)₂Ga(Neol)₂]₂Ti(NMe₂)₂ resulted

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1	3	4	
Ti(1)-O(1) 1.7506(16)	Zr(1)-O(1) 1.9143(14)	Ti(1)-O(1) 1.763(3)	
Ti(1)-C(5) 2.112(3)	Zr(1)-O(2) 1.9132(14)	Ti(1)-O(2) 1.767(3)	
Ti(1)-C(7) 2.135(2)	Zr(1)-C(19) 2.265(2)	Ti(1)-O(4) 1.888(3)	
Ti(1)-C(6) 2.143(2)	Zr(1)-C(26) 2.289(2)	Ti(1)-O(5) 1.893(3)	
Al(1)-O(1) 1.7391(16)	Al(1)-O(2) 1.7344(15)	Ga(1)-O(1) 1.860(3)	
Al(1)-N(2) 1.897(2)	Al(1)-N(2) 1.9088(18)	Ga(1)-O(3) 1.921(3)	
Al(1)-N(1) 1.8998(19)	Al(1)-N(1) 1.9249(18)	Ga(1)-C(1) 1.956(4)	
Al(1)-C(1) 1.957(2)	Al(1)-C(18) 1.947(2)	Ga(1)-N(1) 2.021(4)	
O(1)-Ti(1)-C(5) 104.3(1)	O(2)-Zr(1)-O(1) 116.5(1)	O(1)-Ti(1)-O(2) 114.8(1)	
O(1)-Ti(1)-C(7) 103.4(1)	O(1)-Zr(1)-C(19) 106.7(1)	O(1)-Ti(1)-O(4) 108.0(1)	
C(5)-Ti(1)-C(7) 111.0(1)	C(19)-Zr(1)-C(26) 109.8(1)	O(1)-Ga(1)-O(3) 99.2(1)	
O(1)-Ti(1)-C(6) 105.6(1)	O(2)-Al(1)-N(2) 111.5(1)	O(1)-Ga(1)-C(1) 119.9(2)	
C(5)-Ti(1)-C(6) 106.9(1)	O(2)-Al(1)-N(1) 112.4(1)	C(1)-Ga(1)-N(1) 127.0(2)	
C(7)-Ti(1)-C(6) 123.9(1)	N(2)-Al(1)-N(1) 96.5(1)	O(3)-Ga(6)-O(5) 97.0(1)	
O(1)-Al(1)-N(1) 110.4(1)	O(2)-Al(1)-C(18) 111.1(1)		
N(2)-Al(1)-N(1) 97.2(1)	N(2)-Al(1)-C(18) 114.3(1)		
O(1) - Al(1) - C(1) 116.2(1)	Al(2) - O(1) - Zr(1) 175.6(1)		
N(1)-Al(1)-C(1) 110.2(1)	Al(1) - O(2) - Zr(1) 141.8(1)		
Al(1)-O(1)-Ti(1) 145.4(1)	C(20)-C(19)-Zr(1) 113.6(2)		
C(51)-C(5)-Ti(1) 105.7(1)	C(27)-C(26)-Zr(1) 121.5(2)		
C(61)-C(6)-Ti(1) 85.8(1)			
C(71)-C(7)-Ti(1) 116.3(1)			

^{*a*} Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms #1 of 3: -x + 1, -y + 2, -z + 1.

Table 2. Range of Angles (deg) in 4

angle	min	max	average
O-Ti-O	105.8(1)°	114.8(1)°	109.4°
Ti-O-Ga	107.0(2)°	116.1(2)°	112.1°
O-Ga-O	94.0(1)°	104.0(1)°	98.1°
O-Ga-N	84.5(1)°	106.5(1)°	94.6°
O-Ga-C	110.9(1)°	127.9(2)°	120.3°
C-Ga-N	112.0(2)°	127.0(2)°	121.2°
Ga-O-Ga	95.1(1)°	136.3(2)°	113.5°
Ga-N-Ga	88.8(1)°	89.7(2)°	89.2°

in the 1:2 complex $(tBu)_2Ga(\mu-Neol)_2Ti(\mu-O)[Ga(tBu)_2-(HNMe_2)]$ (**Q**) (NeolH₂ = 2,2-dimethylpropane-1,3-diol). Reaction of the dinuclear gallium hydroxide containing the Mes group led to the formation of a 1:6 complex (**R**). Another 1:6 complex Cp₂ZrMe(μ -O)Al₆O₅(tBu)₆(Me) (**P**) was obtained by the reaction of Cp₂ZrMe₂ and [tBuAl(μ -O)]₆. Thus, combination of the aluminum and gallium compounds bearing substituents of a reasonable size are opening a route to new polyoxometal clusters.

When the activity of complexes with the LAl(Me)(μ -O) moiety is compared, it is obvious, that the cyclopentadienyl titanium and zirconium 1:1 complexes Cp₂MR(µ-O)AlMeL $(R = Me, Cl, M = Ti, Zr, L = (2,6-iPr_2C_6H_3NC(Me))_2CH)$ (A, J, K) exhibit the best activities in the polymerization of ethylene upon activation with MAO. The catalytic activity of these complexes was studied in detail in ref 7a,e. As depicted in Table 3, the catalytic activity depends on the type of the transition metal (Ti, Zr containing complexes are more active than Hf complexes), the ligand attached to this metal, as well as from the subtituents that bind to the aluminum atom. Namely, replacement of the Cp ligand (complexes A, J, K) by the Bz (D, G, M), NMe₂ (H, L), and $L^* = 2,6$ -bis[1-(2,6-diisopropylphenylimino)ethyl]pyridine) (F) decreases the catalytic activity. This could be explained by the higher stability of active species supported by the Cp ligand. Replacement of the Me group on the aluminum atom by the more bulky Et, Ph groups increases the shielding of the transition metal center and decreases the activity (compare activities of complexes J and Y, V). The increase of shielding might be responsible for hampering the interaction between the metal complexes and the activator (complex **G** has low activity only by heating) and/or for the lower activity of the intermediates. Furthermore, introduction of a second [LAl(Me)O] moiety, four (MesGaO) species, and replacement of the [LAl(Me)O] on the more bulky $[Al_6O_5(tBu)_6(Me)]$ also increases the shielding of the transition metal center resulting in a decrease of the catalytic activity (compare activities of complexes **A**, **D** and **G**, **H**, **R**; complexes **J**, **K** and **L**, **M**, **P**).

Experimental Section

All operations were performed under an atmosphere of dry, O₂free N2 employing both Schlenk line techniques and a MBraun MB-150B inert atmosphere glovebox. The solvents toluene, *n*-hexane, Et₂O, THF, and DME were dried over Na/benzophenone and distilled under nitrogen prior to use. C6D6 was dried over K and degassed. The compounds LH with the ligand L = [2,6*i*Pr₂C₆H₃NC(Me)]₂CH,^{23,24} LAlMe(OH),^{7b} (Mes₂Ga(OH))₂•THF,⁹ TiBz₄, and ZrBz₄¹¹ were prepared by methods known from the literature. The purity of all compounds was checked by ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra. TiCl₄ (Aldrich 95%) was distilled prior to use in a dry and O₂-free N₂ atmosphere. Solutions of BzMgCl (1.0 M in Et₂O), MAO (10 wt %) in toluene, Ti(NEt₂)₄ (Acros Organics, 98%), and AlMe₃ (Aldrich, 98%) were used as received. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance DRX 500 and Varian INOVA-600 spectrometers. Positive chemical shifts are reported in δ ppm to high frequency of Me₄Si with the resonance of the residual protons of the solvent as the reference signal. Assignment of the resonances was made by ¹H ¹³C correlation and according to reference 25. Chemical shifts of proton resonances correlating with carbon resonances are shown in brackets.

Mass spectra were recorded using a Finnigan MAT 8230 mass spectrometer, and elemental analyses were carried out at the

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Mixed-Metal µ-Oxo-bridged Complexes

Table 3. Heterobimetallic and Polymetallic Complexes Containing Group 4 (M = Ti, Zr, Hf) and Group 13 (M¹ = Al, Ga) Elements with $M(u-O)M^1$ Motifs^{*a*}



^{*a*} Magnitude of activity: low $\sim 10^3 - 10^4$; moderate $\sim 10^5$; high $\sim 10^6$ g (polymer)/mol catalyst \cdot h \cdot bar, all complexes were activated with MAO. The activities are compared at room temperature for the best compatibility. n.r. = not reported. * indicates complex **F** was obtained from L*TiCl₃ and 2 equiv of MAO, activity of L*TiCl₃ upon activation with 500 equiv of MAO is 2.67 \times 10⁵ g (polymer)/mol catalyst \cdot h \cdot bar at 70 °C.

Analytical Laboratory of the Institute of Inorganic Chemistry at the University of Göttingen. Melting points were determined in sealed capillary tubes under nitrogen on a Büchi B540 melting point apparatus. Melting points of the polymers were measured on a Netzsch STA 409 PC spectrometer.

Compound [LAIMe(µ-O)]TiBz₃ (1). A solution of LAIMe(OH) (0.45 g, 0.95 mmol) and TiBz₄ (0.39 g, 0.95 mmol) in toluene (40 mL) was stirred for 3 d at room temperature. After removal of all volatiles n-hexane was added (20 mL), the solution filtered, concentrated, and stored at ambient temperature to yield 1 (0.65 g, 86%) as red crystals which were filtered off, washed with *n*-hexane $(2 \times 2 \text{ mL})$, and dried in vacuo. Mp 179 °C (decomp). ¹H NMR (500.2 MHz, C₆D₆, rt), $\delta_{\rm H}$ (ppm) = 7.18–7.10 (m, aryl-*H*), 7.06-7.03 (m, aryl-H), 6.89 (m, aryl-H), 6.45-6.43 (m, aryl-H), 4.91 (s, 1H, C(CH₃)CHC(CH₃)), 3.70 (sept, 2H, J = 6.80 Hz, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 3.36 (sept, 2H, J = 6.70 Hz, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 2.00 (s, 6H, TiC H_2 Ph), 1.56 (s, 6H, C(C H_3)CHC(C H_3)), 1.51 (d, 6H, J = 6.80Hz, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 1.35 (d, 6H, J = 6.80 Hz, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 1.17 (d, 6H, J = 6.70 Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.12 (d, 12H, J = 6.80 Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), -0.08 (s, 3H, Al-CH₃).¹³C NMR (125.707 MHz, C_6D_6 , rt), δ_C (ppm) = 170.9 (*C*(CH₃)CH*C*(CH₃)), 144.9 (aryl-*C*), 144.1 (aryl-C), 140.3 (aryl-C), 129.1 (aryl-C 7.06-7.03), 128.7 (aryl-C, 6.45-6.43), 127.7 (aryl-C 7.15), 125.2 (aryl-C 7.11), 124.7 (aryl-C, 7.17), 123.1 (aryl-C, 6.89), 97.6 (C(CH₃)CHC(CH₃), 4.91), 80.8 (Ti-CH₂Ph, 2.00), 29.2 (CH(CH₃)₂, 3.70), 27.9 (CH(CH₃)₂, 3.36), 26.3 (CH₃, 1.35), 24.91 (CH₃, 1.51), 24.89 (CH₃, 1.17 or 1.12), 24.84 (CH₃, 1.17 or 1.12), 23.5 (C(CH₃)CHC(CH₃), 1.56), -8.7 (Al-CH₃, -0.08), Elemental analysis for C₅₁H₆₅AlN₂OTi: calcd: C, 76.80; H, 8.16; N, 3.51; found C, 76.87; H, 8.19; N, 3.43.

Compound $[LAIMe(\mu-O)]_2TiBz_2$ (2). This compound was synthesized by the procedure described for 1 in a 2:1 molar ratio from LAIMe(OH) (0.88 g, 1.85 mmol) and TiBz₄ (0.38 g, 0.92 mmol). Yield 0.54 g. Mp 187 °C (decomp). ¹H NMR (500.2 MHz, C_6D_6 , rt), δ_H (ppm) = 7.17-7.15 (m, aryl-*H*), 7.10-7.08 (m, aryl-H), 6.93 (m, aryl-H), 6.80 (m, aryl-H), 6.74 (m, aryl-H), 5.13 (s, 2H, C(CH₃)CHC(CH₃)), 3.78 (sept, 4H, J = 6.80 Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 3.22 (sept, 4H, J = 6.80 Hz, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 2.17 (s, 4H, Ti CH_2 Ph), 1.60 (s, 12H, $C(CH_3)CHC(CH_3)$), 1.28 (d, 12H, J = 6.80 Hz, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 1.26 (d, 12H, J = 6.80 Hz, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 1.13 (t, overlapping d + d, 24H, CH(CH₃)₂) -0.51 (s, 6H, Al-CH₃). ¹³C NMR (125.707 MHz, C₆D₆, rt), $\delta_{\rm C}$ (ppm) = 170.6 (C(CH₃)CHC(CH₃)), 147.5 (aryl-C), 144.8 (aryl-C), 144.3 (aryl-C), 141.4 (aryl-C), 127.3 (aryl-C, 7.17-7.15), 124.8 (,aryl-C, 7.10-7.08), 124.7 (aryl-C, 7.17-7.15), 121.6,(aryl-C 6.80), 99.5 (C(CH₃)CHC(CH₃), 5.13), 73.6 (Ti-CH₂Ph, 2.17), 28.5 (CH(CH₃)₂, 3.78), 28.2 (CH(CH₃)₂, 3.22), 26.3 (CH₃, 1.28 or 1.26), 26.0 (CH₃, 1.28 or 1.26), 24.7 (CH₃, 1.13), 24.6 (CH₃, 1.13), 24.0 (C(CH₃)CHC(CH₃), 1.60), -11.3 (Al-CH₃, -0.51). Elemental analysis for C74H102Al2N4O2Ti: calcd: C, 75.25; H, 8.64; N, 4.75; found: C, 75.31; H, 8.69; N, 4.71.

Compound [LAI(Me)(μ -O)]₂ZrBz₂ (3). Toluene (40 mL) was added to LAIMe(OH) (1.12 g, 2.4 mmol) and ZrBz₄ (0.55 g, 1.2 mmol). The resulting solution was stirred for 3 d at room temperature; after removal of the solvent *n*-hexane was added (50 mL). Small amounts of insoluble (ca. 0.1 g, **3** according to NMR) were filtered off, the *n*-hexane solution concentrated and left at 0 °C for 4 d, during which time a white solid consisting of small needles deposited. Yield of **3** 0.92 g (65%). Compound **3** can be recrystallized from DME giving X-ray quality needles of **3** ·DME. Elemental analysis and further characterization was done for **3** ·DME_{0.5}. The compound turns dark above 130 °C, melting at 197–198 °C with decomp. ¹H NMR (599.74 MHz, C₆D₆, rt), $\delta_{\rm H}$ (ppm) = 7.16–7.13 (m, aryl-*H*), 7.10–7.07 (m, aryl-*H*), 7.03 (m, **Table 4.** Crystallographic Data and Structure Refinement Details for 1, 3, and 4 at 100 K and Mo K α Radiation^a

	1	3	4
empirical formula	C ₅₁ H ₆₅ AlN ₂ OTi	C ₇₆ H ₁₀₇ Al ₂ N ₄ O ₃ Zr	C ₆₂ H ₈₆ Ga ₆ N ₂ O ₇ Ti
CCDC no	664927	664925	664926
Mr	796.93	1269.84	1437.55
crystal size/mm	$0.2 \times 0.2 \times 0.05$	$0.4 \times 0.2 \times 0.05$	$0.1 \times 0.05 \times 0.02$
crystal system	monoclinic	triclinic	triclinic
space group	$P2_1/c$	$P\overline{1}$	$P\overline{1}$
a/Å	18.312(4)	12.2881(9)	12.9331(12)
b/Å	23.545(5)	17.1318(13)	14.5324(14)
c/Å	21.309(4)	19.858(2)	35.544(3)
α/°	90	111.6850(10)	81.7410(10)
βI°	98.56(3)	93.8700(10)	81.7230(10)
γI°	90	109.3090(10)	77.0610(10)
V/Å ³	9090.0(10)	3579.3(5)	6399.9(10)
Ζ	8	2	4
$ ho_{ m calcd.}/ m g\cdot m cm^{-3}$	1.165	1.178	1.492
μ/mm^{-1}	0.245	0.226	2.656
F(000)	3424	1362	2944
scan range ⊖/°	1.42 to 26.42	1.91 to 25.05	1.45 to 25.41
completeness to $\Theta_{max}/\%$	99.3	99.5	99.4
index ranges	$-22 \le h \le 22$	$-14 \le h \le 14$	$-15 \le h \le 15$
	$0 \le k \le 29$	$-20 \le k \le 18$	$-17 \leq k \leq 17$
	$0 \le l \le 26$	$0 \le l \le 23$	$0 \le l \le 42$
total reflections	77407	37690	107136
unique reflections	18557	12607	23474
<i>R</i> (int)	0.0521	0.0289	0.0720
data/restrains/parameters	18557/0/1031	12607/42/827	23474/15/1474
goodness-of-fit on F^2	1.037	1.059	1.012
R1, wR2 $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$	0.0530, 0.1372	0.0370, 0.0924	0.0417, 0.0809
R1, $wR2$ (all data)	0.0821, 0.1499	0.0459, 0.0962	0.0745, 0.0916
max./min. el. dens. [e•Å ⁻³]	0.603, -0.416	0.773, -0.412	0.615, -0.712

 ${}^{a} wR2 = (\sum [w(F_{o}^{2} - F_{c}^{2})^{2}] / \sum [F_{o}^{4}])^{1/2}, R1 = \sum ||F_{o}| - |F_{c}|| / \sum |F_{o}|, weight = 1/[\sigma^{2}(F_{o}^{2}) + (AP)^{2} + (BP)], where P = (max (F_{o}^{2}, 0) + 2F_{c}^{2})/3; \text{ for } \mathbf{1}, A = 0.0903, B = 0.00; \text{ for } \mathbf{3}, A = 0.0468, B = 2.3106.; \text{ for } \mathbf{4}, A = 0.0321, B = 9.3272.$

aryl-H), 6.82 (m, aryl-H), 6.69 (m, aryl-H), 5.03 (s, 2H, $C(CH_3)CHC(CH_3)$), 3.62 (sept, 4H, J = 6.71 Hz, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 3.31 (s, 4H, CH₂, DME), 3.17 (sept, 4H, J = 6.71 Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 3.10 (s, 6H, CH₃, DME), 1.85 (s, 4H, ZrCH₂Ph), 1.55 (s, 12H, $C(CH_3)CHC(CH_3)$), 1.27 and 1.26 (overlapping d + d, J = 6.71Hz, J = 6.71 Hz), 1.15 (d, 12H, J = 6.71 Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.10 (d, $12H, J = 6.80 \text{ Hz}, CH(CH_3)_2), -0.56 (s, 6H, Al-CH_3).$ ¹³C NMR $(125.707 \text{ MHz}, C_6D_6, \text{rt}), \delta_C \text{ (ppm)} = 170.32 (C(CH_3)CHC(CH_3)),$ 146.69 (aryl-C), 144.74 (aryl-C), 144.20 (aryl-C), 141.22 (aryl-C), 128.40 (aryl-C, 7.03), 127.49 (aryl-C, 6.69), 127.25 (aryl-C, 7.14), 124.74 (aryl-C, 7.08), 124.70 (aryl-C, 7.13), 121.35 (aryl-C, 6.82), 99.04 (C(CH₃)CHC(CH₃), 5.03), 72.19 (CH₂, DME, 3.31), 59.35 (Zr-CH₂Ph, 1.85), 58.71 (CH₃, DME, 3.10), 28.54 (CHCH₃)₂, 3.62), 28.19 (CHCH₃)₂, 3.17), 26.14 (CH₃, 1.27 or 1.26), 26.00 (CH₃, 1.27 or 1.26), 24.77 (CH₃, 1.15), 24.63 (CH₃, 1.10), 23.77 $(C(CH_3)CHC(CH_3), 1.55), -11.36$ (Al-Me, - 0.56). Elemental analysis for 3 · DME_{0.5}, C₇₆H₁₀₇Al₂N₄O₃Zr calcd: C, 71.82; H, 8.43; N, 4.41; found: C, 72.32; H, 8.59; N, 4.14.

Compound TiGa₆O₇(NEt₂)₂(Mes)₆ (4). A toluene solution (20) mL) of Ti(NEt₂)₄ (0.73 g, 2.2 mmol) was added drop by drop to the toluene suspension of (Mes₂Ga(OH))₂•THF (1.565 g, 2.2 mmol) at room temperature. The resulting suspension was stirred at room temperature for 5 d. During this time all solid dissolved. Then, all volatiles were removed under vacuum, and the residue dissolved in *n*-hexane (60 mL). The *n*-hexane solution was filtered off from small amounts of solid (ca. 0.05-0.1 g), concentrated to 30 mL, and left undisturbed at room temperature. Small needles of 4 were formed from a *n*-hexane solution during 7 d at room temperature. The solid was filtered off and washed with *n*-hexane $(3 \times 4 \text{ mL})$. An additional crop of **4** was obtained by further concentrating this solution. Yield of 4 0.48 g. Mp 295 °C, (decomp). ¹H NMR (599.74 MHz, C₆D₆, rt), $\delta_{\rm H}$ (ppm) = 6.81 (s, 2H, aryl-*H*), 6.76 (s, 2H, aryl-H), 6.69 (s, 2H, aryl-H), 6.68 (s, 2H, aryl-H), 6.60 (s, 2H, aryl-H) 6.24 (s, 2H, aryl-*H*), 3.89 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.3 Hz, NC*H*₂CH₃), 2.87 (q, 2H, J = 7.2 Hz, NCH₂CH₃) overlapping with 2.85 (s, 6H, CH₃), 2.76 (q, 2H, J = 6.7 Hz, NCH₂CH₃), 2.69 (s, 12H, CH₃) overlapping with 2.66 (q, 2H, J = 7.0 Hz, NCH₂CH₃), 2.60 (s, 6H, CH₃), 2.32 (s, 6H, CH₃), 2.16 (s, 6H, CH₃), 2.09 (s, 6H, CH₃), 2.08 (s, 6H, CH₃), 1.92 (s, 6H, CH₃), 0.83 (t, 6H, J = 7.0 Hz, NCH₂CH₃), 0.37 (t, 6H, J = 7.1 Hz, NCH₂CH₃). ¹³C NMR (125.707 MHz, C₆D₆, rt), $\delta_{\rm C}$ (ppm) = 147.17 (aryl), 146.00 (aryl), 145.59 (aryl), 144.81 (aryl), 143.89 (aryl), 139.24 (aryl), 138.54 (aryl), 137.80 (aryl), 137.04 (aryl), 136.77 (aryl), 134.57 (aryl), 128.68 (aryl), 128.53 (CH of aryl, 6.81 ppm), 128.38 (CH of aryl, 6.76 ppm), 127.53 (CH of aryl, 6.68 ppm), 127.47 (CH of aryl, 6.60 ppm), 127.23 (CH of aryl, 6.24 ppm), 126.38 (CH of aryl, 6.69 ppm), 41.38 (NCH₂CH₃, 2.87 and 2.66 ppm), 40.60 (NCH₂CH₃, 3.89 and 2.76 ppm), 26.47 (CH₃, 2.69 ppm), 25.85 (CH₃, 1.92 ppm), 25.48 (CH₃, 2.85 ppm), 25.03 (CH₃, 2.60 ppm), 25.01 (CH₃, 2.69 ppm), 23.95 (CH₃, 2.32 ppm), 21.28 (CH₃, 2.16 ppm), 21.14 (CH₃, 2.09 or 2.08 ppm), 21.11 (CH₃, 2.09 or 2.08 ppm), 13.51 (NCH₂CH₃, 0.83 ppm), 10.86 (NCH₂CH₃, 0.37 ppm). Elemental analysis of C₆₂H₈₆Ga₆N₂O₇Ti, calcd: C, 51.76; H, 5.98; N 1.95; found: C, 52.06, H 5.99, N 1.87.

X-ray Crystallography. The selected bond distances and angles are presented in Table 1. Crystallographic data and structure determinations of **1**, **3**, and **4** are summarized in Table 4. The data for **1**, **3**, and **4** were collected from shock-cooled crystals at 100(2) K.²⁶ The data for **1** and **3** were collected on a Bruker SMART-APEX II diffractometer with a D8 goniometer, for **4** on a Bruker TXS-Mo rotating anode with an APEX II detector on a D8 goniometer. The Bruker SMART-APEX II diffractometer employed graphite-monochromated Mo K α radiation ($\lambda = 71.073$ pm). The Bruker TXS-Mo rotating anode employed INCOATEC Helios mirror optics as radiation monochromator. The data of **1**, **3**, and

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4 were integrated with SAINT,²⁷ and an empirical absorption (SADABS) was applied.²⁸ The structures were solved by direct methods (SHELXS-97)²⁹ and refined by full-matrix least-squares methods against F^2 (SHELXL-97).³⁰ All non-hydrogen-atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. The hydrogen atoms were refined isotropically on calculated positions using a riding model with their U_{iso} values constrained as equal to 1.5 times the U_{eq} of their pivot atoms for terminal sp³ carbon atoms and 1.2 times for all other carbon atoms. Disordered moieties were refined using bond length restraints and isotropic displacement parameter restraints. In **3**, half an uncoordinated

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DME solvent molecule per zirconium atom is present in the lattice.

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Supporting Information Available: X-ray crystallographic data files in CIF format; EI-MS data for 1, 2, 3, and 4 and notes for the preparation of 3 and 4; data for polymerization of ethylene with 1, 2, 3, and 4 as catalysts and MAO as cocatalyst (PDF). This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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