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# **Mono**{**hydrotris(mercaptoimidazolyl)borato**} **Complexes of Manganese(II), Iron(II), Cobalt(II), and Nickel(II) Halides**

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A series of  $[\textsf{Tm<sup>Me</sup>M(*µ*-Cl)]_2$  and  $\textsf{Tm<sup>R</sup>MCI}$  (Tm<sup>R</sup>  $=$  tris(mercaptoimidazolyl)borate; R  $=$  Me, 'Bu, Ph, 2,6-'Pr<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub><br>(Ar): M  $=$  Mp, Eq. Cq. Ni) complexes have been prepared by treatment of NaTm<sup>Me</sup> (Ar); M = Mn, Fe, Co, Ni) complexes have been prepared by treatment of NaTm<sup>Me</sup> or LiTm<sup>R</sup> with an excess amount of metal(II) chlorides, MCl<sub>2</sub>. Treatment of Tm<sup>R</sup>MCl (R = 'Bu, Ph, Ar) with NaI led to a halide exchange to<br>offord Tm<sup>RML</sup> The melocular structures of ITmMeM*U, C*DL (M - Me, Ni), ITmMeNi*U, Br*)L, Tml<sup>gu</sup>MCL(M - E afford TmRMI. The molecular structures of  $[Tm^{Me}M(\mu$ -Cl)]<sub>2</sub> (M = Mn, Ni),  $[Tm^{Me}Ni(\mu$ -Br)]<sub>2</sub>, Tm<sup>tBu</sup>MCI (M = Fe, Co),  $\text{Tr}^{\text{Ph}}MCl$  (M  $=$  Mn, Fe, Co, Ni), Tm<sup>Ar</sup>MCl (M  $=$  Mn, Fe, Co, Ni), Tm<sup>Ph</sup>MI (M  $=$  Mn, Co), and Tm<sup>Ar</sup>MI (M  $=$  Fe, Co, Ni) have been determined by X-ray crystallography. The Tm<sup>R</sup> ligands occupy the tripodal coordination site of the metal ions, giving a square pyramidal or trigonal bipyramidal coordination geometry for  $[Tm^{Me}M(\mu$ -Cl)]<sub>2</sub> and a tetrahedral geometry for the TmRMCl complexes, where the S−M−S bite angles are larger than the reported N−M−N angles of the corresponding hydrotris(pyrazolyl)borate (TpR) complexes. Treatment of  $Tm^{Ph}2Fe$  with excess FeCl<sub>2</sub> affords  $\text{Im}^{\text{Ph}}\text{FeCl}$ , indicating that  $\text{Im}^{\text{R}}_2\text{M}$  as well as  $\text{Im}^{\text{RM}}\text{Cl}$  is formed at the initial stage of the reaction between  $MCI<sub>2</sub>$  and the Tm<sup>R</sup> anion.

### **Introduction**

Tripodal face-capping ligands have proven to be useful entities for transition metal chemistry. The most well-known type of such ligands is hydrotris(pyrazolyl)borate and its derivatives  $(Tp^R)$  with a wide variety of substitutions  $(R)$ on the pyrazole rings;<sup>1</sup> the coordination chemistry of  $Tp^R$ has been extensively explored. The related borate ligands, including (thioether)borates  $PhB(CH_2SR)_3^2$  and (phosphino)borates  $PhB(CH_2PR_2)_3$ ,<sup>3</sup> have also been explored for a range of late transition metal complexes. The advantages of these

ligands are their negatively charged properties, leading to a stable coordination to the metal ions, as well as their varied steric influence at the metals according to the size of the substituents on the ligands. Recently, hydrotris(mercaptoimidazolyl)borates  $(Tm<sup>R</sup>)$ , a new class of such tripodal borate



ligands, has been developed by Reglinski and co-workers.<sup>4</sup> An important property of the  $Tm<sup>R</sup>$  ligands is the delocalized anionic charge on the thioimidazole groups, which brings about the thiolate-like character of the thioimidazole sulfurs.

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#### *Mono*{*hydrotris(mercaptoimidazolyl)borato*} *Complexes*

One notable aspect of these face-capping ligands is their application to the models of the metal-containing enzymes. Various model complexes of metalloenzyme active sites coordinated by histidine imidazoles such as hemerythrin and hemocyanin have been accomplished by utilization of  $Tp^R$ ligands.<sup>5</sup> Sulfur-ligated transition metal centers are also abundant in enzymes such as nitrogenase, hydrogenase, and carbon monoxide dehydrogenase, and the modeling of these active sites has been the focus of our attention.<sup>6</sup> In terms of mimicking the active site of metalloenzymes bearing sulfur ligands, tripodal sulfur ligands have also been used. For instance, several  $Tm<sup>R</sup>Zn$  complexes were prepared to mimic the sulfur-rich environments of zinc enzymes featuring a tetrahedral coordination in the Ada repair protein or liver alcohol dehydrogenase (LADH).7

The chemistry of the  $Tm^C$ -metal complexes is potentially rich and important because analogous structural types observed with  $Tp^R$  ligands would be available with  $Tm^R$ ligands and the substituents on the imidazole rings are suitable for steric modification. As the tetrahedral transition metal halide complexes of the  $Tp^R$  derivatives,  $Tp^R MCl$ ,<sup>8</sup> are known to be versatile precursors for a wide range of transition metal mono- $Tp^R$  complexes, the analogous compounds comprising a Tm<sup>R</sup> ligand, Tm<sup>R</sup>MX (X = halides), are also expected to be useful synthons. However, such types of TmR-transition metal complexes are still rare, probably because of their propensity to form sandwich complexes  $(Tm<sup>R</sup>)<sub>2</sub>M<sup>9,10</sup>$  Whereas efficient synthetic procedures for cobalt complexes,  $\text{Im}^{\text{R}}\text{Co}X$  ( $R = Me$ , 'Bu;  $X = Cl$ , Br, I), have recently appeared <sup>9</sup> we found a convenient route to the have recently appeared,<sup>9</sup> we found a convenient route to the  $M(II)$  (M = Mn, Fe, Co, Ni) halide complexes with a Tm<sup>R</sup> ligand using metal halides and the alkaline metal salts of

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Tm<sup>R</sup>. In contrast to the previous reports that discussed the formation of  $(Tm^R)_{2}M$  by the reaction of MCl<sub>2</sub> and the Tm<sup>R</sup> anion in a 1:1 molar ratio, TmRMCl complexes were obtained selectively by addition of excess  $MCl_2$  to the Tm<sup>R</sup> anion. The use of excess  $MCl_2$  toward the Tm<sup>R</sup> anion and the prolonged reaction time turned out to be the keys for the successful formation of the anticipated Tm<sup>R</sup>MX complexes. We report herein the preparation of the mono-Tm<sup>R</sup> ( $R =$ Me, 'Bu, Ph, Ar;  $Ar = 2.6$ - $Pr_2C_6H_3$ ) complexes of metal<br>halides  $Trm^{Me}M(u-Cl)$ , and  $Trm^{RM}X$  (M = Mn, Fe, Co, halides,  $[Tm^{Me}M(\mu$ -Cl)]<sub>2</sub> and  $Tm^{R}MX$  (M = Mn, Fe, Co, Ni;  $X = CI$ , I), which would be useful starting materials for various transition metal complexes of TmR.

### **Results and Discussion**

**Synthesis of TmRMX and**  $[Tm^{Me}M(\mu-X)]_2$  **Complexes**  $(\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{f}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{P}\mathbf{h}, 2.6\cdot\mathbf{P}\mathbf{r}_2\mathbf{C}_6\mathbf{H}_3(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{r}); \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{F}\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{C}\mathbf{o},$ <br>  $\mathbf{N}\mathbf{i}\cdot\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{I}$  I) In order to synthesize the target compounds **Ni;**  $X = Cl$ , **I**). In order to synthesize the target compounds, we first attempted the reaction of  $FeCl<sub>2</sub>$  with 1 equiv of NaTm<sup>Me</sup> or LiTm<sup>Ph</sup>. However, these reactions appeared to give the sandwich-type complex TmR 2Fe. Indeed, Reglinski, Parkin, and their co-workers have already demonstrated that the reactions of M'Cl<sub>2</sub> (M' = Fe, Ni) with NaTm<sup>Me</sup> or M''Cl<sub>2</sub>  $(M'' = Fe, Co)$  with LiTm<sup>Ph</sup> afford Tm<sup>Me</sup><sub>2</sub>M' (M' = Fe, Ni) or  $\text{Im}^{\text{Ph}}_2 M''$  (M'' = Fe, Co), respectively.<sup>10,11</sup> The dominant formation of sandwich complexes would be attributed to the much lower solubility of FeCl<sub>2</sub> than that of the mono-Tm<sup>R</sup>substituted complexes. That is, during the course of the reactions, the concentration of the mono- $\text{Tm}^R$  complexes is expected to exceed that of  $FeCl<sub>2</sub>$ , which leads to the more preferable formation of the sandwich complexes. However, we found that the prolonged reaction time in the presence of excess  $FeCl<sub>2</sub>$  allows the selective formation of the mono-TmR-substituted complexes. Treatment of the LiTmPh with excess FeCl<sub>2</sub> at room temperature in dichloromethane immediately afforded a dark green suspension, which indicated the formation of  $Tm^R{}_2Fe$ . However, over the course of the reaction for 4 days, the dark green color gradually became brighter, and eventually, the green suspension was obtained. The monoculear Tm<sup>Ph</sup>FeCl complex was obtained in 86% yield after the usual workup.



A similar reaction with  $LiTm<sup>IBu</sup>$  and NaTm<sup>Me</sup> also led to the formation of the mono- $Tm^{IBu}$ - and mono- $Tm^{Me}$ -substi-

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tuted complexes, respectively. The molecular structures of Tm<sup>Ph</sup>FeCl and Tm<sup>tBu</sup>FeCl were eventually determined by X-ray structural analysis, and their monomeric structures were identified (vide infra). However, the nuclearity of the product having less hindered Tm<sup>Me</sup> in the solid state was not yet identified as  $Tm^{Ph}FeCl$  or  $[Tm^{Me}Fe(\mu-C)]_2$  due to the lack of the solid-state structure. The fast atom bombardment mass spectrometry (FABMS) spectrum of  $(Tm<sup>Me</sup>FeCl)<sub>n</sub>$  $(n = 1 \text{ or } 2)$  in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> exhibited a characteristic signal, the isotope pattern of which matches well with that calculated for  $[Tm^{Me}Fe]^+$  ( $m/z = 406.9$ ). Whereas this indicates the formation of the monomeric complex Tm<sup>Me</sup>FeCl in solution, we presume this Tm<sup>Me</sup>Fe complex to be the dimeric structure in the solid state because the color of the  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution (deep green) is different from that in the solid state (green). Such a color change is also found for the dimeric nickel complex  $[Tm^{Me}Ni(\mu$ -Cl)]<sub>2</sub>, as described below.

The yields of  $\text{Tr}^{\text{R}}\text{FeCl}$  (or  $[\text{Tr}^{\text{Me}}\text{Fe}(\mu-\text{Cl})]_2$ ) are typically higher than 80% based on the  $\text{Tm}^R$  anions (25% and above, based on  $FeCl<sub>2</sub>$ ). They are moderately stable toward air and moisture in the solid state, but unstable in solution. Regardless of the substituents on the imidazole rings, products are soluble in dichloromethane and THF, but sparingly soluble in toluene, ether, and hexane. The color of the product dramatically varies according to the substituents on the TmR ligands. For instance, Tm<sup>tBu</sup>FeCl is light brown, Tm<sup>Ph</sup>FeCl is dark green, and TmArFeCl is dark yellow. It seems likely that the substituent on the thioimidazolyl unit modifies the electron-donating ability. The representation of the tetrahedral Tm<sup>R</sup>FeCl closely parallels the Tp complexes and may thus provide an entry to various derivatives analogous to the Tp chemistry.



The cobalt and nickel complexes,  $Tm^RCoCl$  and  $Tm^RNiCl$ , were also synthesized by a similar procedure, whereas the preparation of TmRMnCl was achieved by a 1:1 reaction between  $MnCl<sub>2</sub>$  and the  $Tm<sup>R</sup>$  anion in methanol. All manganese complexes are colorless, but the colors of the cobalt and nickel complexes change because of the substituents on the mercaptoimidazolyl group, for instance, Tm<sup>tBu</sup>-CoCl (green),  $Tm<sup>Ar</sup>CoCl$  (light blue),  $Tm<sup>Ph</sup>NiCl$  (green), and  $Tm<sup>Ar</sup>NiCl$  (greenish brown). The  $Tm<sup>Me</sup>$  complexes of Mn and Ni were isolated as the dimeric form,  $[Tm^{Me}M(\mu-Cl)]_2$  $(M = Mn, Ni)$ . The bulkiness of the substituent on the imidazole ring likely results in the difference in nuclearity, whereas the analogous cobalt(II) complex  $Tm^{Me}CoCl$  is reported to be monomeric.9b The yields for the Mn, Co, and Ni complexes are satisfactory and typically higher than 50% based on the added  $Tm^R$  anions (89–12% based on MCl<sub>2</sub>), with exceptions for the Tm<sup>Me</sup> and Tm<sup>tBu</sup> complexes of nickel. The yield of  $[Tm^{Me}Ni(\mu-C1)]_2$  was very low due to the dominant formation of the sandwich complex  $Tm^{Me}{}_{2}Ni$ ,  $^{10}$ which precipitates out from the reaction mixture. In contrast,  $[Tm<sup>Me</sup>Ni( $\mu$ -Br)]<sub>2</sub> was obtained in 71% yield (based on$ NaTm<sup>Me</sup>) by a similar procedure using NiBr<sub>2</sub> instead of NiCl<sub>2</sub>. In the mass spectra, all the  $[Tm^{Me}M(\mu-Cl)]_2$  and  $Tm^{R}$ -MCl complexes exhibited cationic signals corresponding to the  $[Tm<sup>R</sup>M]<sup>+</sup>$  species. The monomeric form  $Tm<sup>Me</sup>MCl$  is presumably generated in solution for the dimeric complexes  $[Tm^{Me}M(\mu$ -Cl)<sub>2</sub>. Indeed, the solution color for  $[Tm^{Me}Ni(\mu Cl$ )]<sub>2</sub> (deep green) differs from that in the solid state (green).

The reaction of  $NiCl<sub>2</sub>$  with the  $Tm<sup>tBu</sup>$  anion did not afford the corresponding adduct but instead a nickelaboratrane complex of Ni(I),  ${B(timi^{tBu})_3}NiCl$ . During the formation



of the nickelaboratrane complex, activation of the B-H bond accompanied by formal reduction of the metal center to Ni- (I) took place to give a five-coordinate complex having a direct Ni-B dative bond. This is the first nickelaboratrane complex, whereas the related metallaboratrane complexes of Ru, Os, Co, Ir, Rh, and Pt have recently been synthesized by Hill and Rabinovich.9a,12 A small amount of the *tert*butylthioimidazole (Htimi<sup>tBu</sup>) complex, (Htimi<sup>tBu</sup>)<sub>2</sub>NiCl<sub>2</sub>, was also isolated as well from this reaction, which probably came from the degradated  $Tm<sup>tBu</sup>$  anion prior to use. Indeed,  $(Htimi<sup>IBu</sup>)<sub>2</sub>NiCl<sub>2</sub> was alternatively prepared in 75% yield by$ the reaction of  $NiCl<sub>2</sub>$  with 2 equiv of Htimi<sup>tBu</sup>.



Treatment of monomeric TmRMCl with NaI provided an excellent preparative route to the corresponding iodide analogues,  $Tm<sup>R</sup>MI$ , whereas the reaction of  $MI<sub>2</sub>$  with the alkaline metal salt of  $Tm<sup>R</sup>$  affords multiple products that could not be separated. The halide exchange successfully proceeded for the mononuclear, tetrahedral complexes TmR-

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*a* Yields, %. IR, cm<sup>-1</sup>.  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>), in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt. *b* FABMS (*m*/*z*) with a stream of high energy Xe gas. 3-Nitrobenzyl alcohol was used as the matrix. *<sup>c</sup>* Yields based on the corresponding TmRMCl.

MCl ( $R = {}^tBu$ , Ph, Ar,  $M = Fe$ , Mn, Co, Ni) having a terminal chloride but did not occur for the  $Tm^{Me}$  complexes terminal chloride but did not occur for the  $Tm^{Me}$  complexes  $[Tm^{Me}M(\mu$ -Cl)]<sub>2</sub> (M = Mn, Ni). The exchange of the halide also led to a color change for the Fe, Co, and Ni compounds. For instance,  $Tm<sup>Ph</sup>NiX$  is green for  $X = Cl$  and orange for  $X = I$ .

In the IR spectra, the  $Tm<sup>R</sup>MX$  complexes exhibited characteristic bands for the Tm<sup>R</sup> ligand,  $\nu(B-H)$ , as summarized in Table 1. The range for the B-H band (2387-2440 cm<sup>-1</sup>) is similar to that for the  $\kappa^3$ -Tp complexes,<sup>1</sup> indicating that B-H-M interactions do not exist. A slight shift of the  $\nu(B-H)$  band to a lower frequency was found from 2478 cm<sup>-1</sup> for NaTm<sup>Me</sup> to 2387-2438 cm<sup>-1</sup> for  $[Tm^{Me}M(\mu-Cl)]_2$  and 2409-2440 cm<sup>-1</sup> for Tm<sup>R</sup>MX. This can be attributed to the enhancement of the anionic charge at the coordinated sulfur atoms, which reduces the negative charge at  $B-H$ .

**Structures of the TmRMX Complexes.** The X-ray structure analyses were carried out for  $[Tm^{Me}M(\mu-Cl)]_2$  (M  $=$  Mn, Ni),  $[Tm<sup>Me</sup>Ni( $\mu$ -Br)]<sub>2</sub>, Tm<sup>IBu</sup>MCl (M = Fe, Co), Tm<sup>Ph</sup>-$ MCl ( $M = Mn$ , Fe, Co, Ni), Tm<sup>Ar</sup>MCl ( $M = Mn$ , Fe, Co, Ni),  $Tm^{1Bu}FeI$ ,  $Tm^{Ph}MI$  (M = Mn, Co, Ni), and  $Tm^{Ar}MI$  (M  $=$  Fe, Co, Ni). Because the molecular structures of the Mn, Fe, Co, Ni complexes are very similar, the perspective views of only one of each  $Tm<sup>R</sup>$  complex are shown in Figure 1, and the selected bond lengths and angles are listed in Tables 2 and 3, respectively. In the case of  $Tm^{Me}$ , a dimeric structure featuring a trigonal bipyramidal (Mn) or square pyramidal (Ni) geometry is formed with an inversion center at the midpoint between the two metals. The shorter axial Ni-<sup>S</sup> distance  $(2.3212(8)$  Å for the Cl complex) than the basal Ni-S distances (2.4026(8) and 2.3468(8) Å for Cl complex) is typical for square pyramidal complexes. The shorter metal-sulfur distance also leads to the longer  $S=C$  bond as a result of the back-donation from the metal to the thioimidazol group. This is also the case for the trigonal bipyramidal Mn complex, with longer  $Mn-S(axial)/C=S$ (equatorial) and shorter Mn-S(equatorial)/C=S(axial) bonds. The other  $Tm<sup>R</sup>$  $(R = 'Bu, Ph, Ar)$  complexes adopt a mononuclear tetrahedral geometry having an ideal  $C_2$  axis running through the B. M. geometry having an ideal  $C_3$  axis running through the B, M, and X atoms. All the  $Tm<sup>R</sup>$  ligands are bound to metals in a *κ*3 -fashion, forming eight-membered metallacycles consisting of the metal, two mercaptoimidazolyl groups, and boron. This leads to larger S-M-S bite angles (around 105° for TmR-



**Figure 1.** Molecular structures of  $[Tm^{Me}Mn(\mu-Cl)]_2$  (top, left), Tm<sup>Bu</sup>CoCl (top, right), Tm<sup>Ph</sup>NiCl (bottom, left), and Tm<sup>Ar</sup>FeCl (bottom, right).

**Table 2.** Selected Bond Distances (Å) for the Dinuclear Complexes [Tm<sup>Me</sup>Mn( $\mu$ -Cl)]<sub>2</sub>, [Tm<sup>Me</sup>Ni( $\mu$ -Cl)]<sub>2</sub>, and [Tm<sup>Me</sup>Ni( $\mu$ -Br)]<sub>2</sub>

	$M-S$ (ax.), $M-S$ (eq or basal)	$M$ –Cl $(Br)$	$C=S$ (ax.), $C=S$ (eq or basal)
$Tm^{Me}MnCl$	$2.5698(6)$ , $2.477(av)$	2.4149(6)	$1.707(2)$ , $1.719$ (av)
$(Tm^{\text{Me}}\text{NiCl})_2$	$2.3212(8), 2.3747$ (av)	$2.3818(9)$ , $2.4129(7)$	$1.723(3), 1.720$ (av)
$(Tm^{Me}NiBr)$	$2.3116(6)$ , $2.3665$ (av)	$2.5192(4)$ , $2.5684(4)$	$1.722(3)$ , $1.717$ (av)

**Table 3.** Selected Bond Distances (Å) and Angles (deg) for Monomeric Tm<sup>R</sup>MX (R = 'Bu, Ph; Ar = 2,6-<sup>1</sup>Pr<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>; M = Mn, Fe, C<sub>0</sub> N<sub>j</sub>: X = Cl D Co, Ni;  $X = Cl$ , I)



MCl) than the N-M-N angles for the six-membered metallacycles in the Tp complexes (ca. 90°). A larger  $S-M-S$  bite angle steers the substituents on  $Tm<sup>R</sup>$  toward the metal center, and this facilitates the formation of mono-Tm complexes. Indeed, the reaction of  $MCl_2$  with the Tm<sup>Me</sup> anion can afford the chloride-bridged dimer  $[Tm^{Me}M(\mu$ -Cl)<sub>2</sub> or monomeric  $Tm^{Me}CoCl$ , whereas the  $Tp^{Me}$  analogue is not available. The M-S and M-Cl distances follow the order of the ion radii,  $Mn > Fe > Co > Ni$ . Although TmRMCl and  $[Tm^{Me}M(\mu$ -Cl)]<sub>2</sub> complexes comprise various numbers of d-electrons ranging from  $d^5$  Mn(II) to  $d^8$  Ni(II), there is no notable difference in the  $C=S$  distances. Similarly, the exchange of the halogen or the  $Tm<sup>R</sup>$  substituents has almost no influence on these bonds. These results indicate that the back-donation from the metal to the thioimidazol group is not significant during the interaction between the metals and the  $\text{Im}^R$  ligands, and thus ligation of the C=S group is expected to be labile.

**Structure of the Nickelaboratarane Complex.** The molecular geometry of  ${B(timi<sup>BU</sup>)_3}NiCl$  is illustrated in Figure 2, which exhibits a trigonal bipyramidal arrangement around the nickel with a direct  $Ni-B$  bond  $(2.108(4)$  Å). The nickel-boron linkage is compared with those observed in the metallaboratarane complexes of Ru, Os, Co, Rh, and Ir, 9a,12 the most closely aligned example of which is the cobaltaboratarane complex  $(Co-B, 2.132(4)$  Å).<sup>9a</sup> The boron atom is tetrahedrally coordinated with angles in the range of  $107.6(3)-110.8(3)$ °, and this boron is considered to act as a Lewis acid, engaged in a dative bond from nickel to boron. Whereas the  $S-Ni-Cl$  angles in Tm<sup>R</sup>NiCl (113.52- $(2)-114.00(3)°$ ) deviate only slightly from the ideal tetrahedral value, the corresponding values in the nickelaborat-



Figure 2. Molecular structure of  ${B(timi^{BD})_3}NiCl$ . Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (deg): Ni-Cl 2.355(1), Ni-S(1) 2.259(2), Ni-S(2) 2.223(1), Ni-S(3) 2.267(1), Ni-B 2.108(4), B-Ni-S(1) 87.1(1), <sup>B</sup>-Ni-S(2) 87.7(1), B-Ni-S(3) 88.9(1), Cl-Ni-S(1) 93.76(4), Cl-Ni-S(2) 91.24(4), Cl-Ni-S(3) 91.38(4), S(1)-Ni-S(2) 137.77(5), S(1)-Ni-S(3) 103.61(5), S(2)-Ni-S(3) 118.17(5).

#### *Mono*{*hydrotris(mercaptoimidazolyl)borato*} *Complexes*

arane complex decrease to  $91.24(4)-93.76(4)$ °. These values are in agreement with the trigonal bipyramidal arrangement at the nickel, but three equatorial sulfur atoms are not arranged in an ideal trigonal manner, with the  $S-Ni-S$ angles ranging  $103.61(5) - 137.77(5)$ °.

**Formation of TmRMCl from TmR<sub>2</sub>M and MCl<sub>2</sub>.** In the synthesis of  $(Tm<sup>R</sup>MCl)<sub>n</sub>$  ( $n = 1, 2$ ), the use of excess MCl<sub>2</sub> toward the TmR anion and the prolonged reaction time was found to be important. Therefore, we suggested that the sandwich complex,  $Tm^R_2M$ , would be converted to  $(Tm^R)$  $MCl$ <sub>*n*</sub> ( $n = 1, 2$ ) in the presence of excess MCl<sub>2</sub>.



Treatment of the known sandwich complex,  $Tm<sup>Ph</sup>2Fe$ ,  $^{10}$ with excess  $FeCl<sub>2</sub>$  at room temperature led to a gradual color change from dark green to green over the period of 12 h. After removal of the excess  $FeCl<sub>2</sub>$ ,  $Tm<sup>Ph</sup>FeCl$  was obtained as a green powder in 80% yield. Taking this result into account, we propose that the initial reaction mixture of the  $\text{Im}^R$  anion and excess MCl<sub>2</sub> includes both  $\text{Im}^R \text{MC}$ l and  $\text{Tr}^R_2M$ . The sandwich complex  $\text{Tr}^R_2M$  gradually reacts with excess  $MCI<sub>2</sub>$  to form Tm<sup>R</sup>MCl (Scheme 1). This hypothesis is also in agreement with the dominant formation of  $Tm^{Me}_{2}$ -Ni in the reaction of NaTm<sup>Me</sup> with 5 equiv of NiCl<sub>2</sub>. The formed  $Tm^{Me}$ <sub>2</sub>Ni complex is sparingly soluble in common organic solvents, and this prevents it from reacting with excess NiCl<sub>2</sub> to form  $[Tm<sup>Me</sup>Ni( $\mu$ -Cl)]<sub>2</sub>.$ 

The reaction of  $Tm^R_2M$  with MCl<sub>2</sub> requires the facile dissociation of the  $C=S$  and  $B-H$  groups followed by transfer of the ligand between the metal centers. As mentioned above, the  $C=S$  distance is not affected by the variety of the metals or the halides on the metals, indicating that the coordinated  $C=S$  groups would be labile. The flexibility of an eight-membered metallacycle would also be important for the ligand transfer. Although the liberation of the  $M-N$  or  $M-H-B$  interaction in the transition metal Tp complexes is known, the ligand transfer reaction from  $Tp_2M$ to the metal halides has not appeared to date. The sixmembered metallacycle in the  $Tp_2M$  complexes is less flexible, and the dissociated pyrazolyl group remains in the coordination sphere, whereas the eight-membered rings in the  $Tm<sup>R</sup>$  complexes are flexible enough to let the liberated thioimidazolyl group interact with the external metal ions. This hypothesis is supported by the fact that  $Tm^{Bu}CoBr$  is in equlibrium with the dimeric  $[Tm^{tBu}{}_{2}Co_{2}Br]^{+}$  species, which has been crystallographically identified as the  $PF_6$  salt.<sup>9a</sup> Such a dinuclear species with bridging between the  $Tm<sup>R</sup>$  ligands is a possible intermediate during the reaction of  $\text{Tr}^R_{2}M$  with

**Scheme 1**



 $MCl<sub>2</sub>$ . The ligand redistribution reaction has been recently demonstrated for the Tm<sup>Et</sup> complexes.<sup>13</sup>

**General Procedures.** All reactions and the manipulations of the transition metal complexes were performed under a nitrogen atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques. Solvents were dried, degassed, and distilled from sodium/ benzophenone ketyl (hexane, ether, THF, toluene), from  $CaH<sub>2</sub> (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)$  or from Mg turnings (MeOH) under nitrogen, except for CHCl<sub>3</sub> (used as purchased).

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were acquired using a Varian INOVA-500 spectrometer. The spectra were referenced to the residual proton resonance of CDCl<sub>3</sub>. The infrared spectra were recorded using a Perkin-Elmer 2000 Fourier transform (FT) IR spectrometer or a JASCO A3 spectrometer. Elemental analyses for C, H, N, and S were performed using a LECO CHNS-932 elemental analyzer where the crystalline samples were sealed in silver capsules under a nitrogen atmosphere. Fast atom bombardment (FAB) mass spectra were obtained on a JEOL JMS-LCMATE mass spectrometer under a stream of high energy Xe gas, where 3-nitrobenzyl alcohol was used as the matrix. UV-vis spectra were measured using a JASCO V560 spectrometer. X-ray diffraction data were collected using a Rigaku AFC7R/Mercury charge-coupled device (CCD) system or a Rigaku AFC7R/ADSC Quantum 1 CCD system equipped with a rotating anode using graphitemonochromated Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation. Transition metal halides and the other reagents were purchased and used without further purification. The following compounds were prepared according to the literature procedures: NaTm<sup>Me</sup>,<sup>4b</sup> LiTm<sup>tBu</sup>,<sup>7d</sup> and LiTm<sup>Ph.7a</sup> Repeated attempts to obtain satisfactory elemental analysis for  $(Tm^{Me}FeCl)$ <sub>n</sub> ( $n = 1$  or 2),  $[Tm^{Me}M (\mu$ -Cl)]<sub>2</sub> (M = Mn, Co, Ni), Tm<sup>Ph</sup>MCl (M = Fe, Mn, Co, Ni), Tm<sup>tBu</sup>MnCl, Tm<sup>Ar</sup>MCl (M = Co, Ni), Tm<sup>Ph</sup>MI (M = Co, Ni),  ${B(timi<sup>tBu</sup>)_3}NiCl$ , and  $(Htimi<sup>tBu</sup>)_2NiCl_2$ , even with the use of single crystals, were unsuccessful to fit within the standards, probably due to the contamination of a small amount of crystal solvent. The crystals used for the elemental analysis were ground down in a glovebox and left under reduced pressure prior to sealing in silver capsules.

**Synthesis of LiTm<sup>Ar</sup> (Ar = 2,6-<sup>i</sup>Pr<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>). A mixture of**  $\frac{1}{2}$ **.** A mixture of 2,6-diisopropylphenylthiocyanate (29.6 g, 135 mmol) and  $NH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH(OEt)<sub>2</sub>$  (18.0 g, 135 mmol) in toluene (60 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 3 h. After the addition of concentrated HCl (6.3 mL), the reaction mixture was refluxed for 12 h to afford a brown solid. The solid was suspended in water (100 mL), and the solution was neutralized with 0.2 M NaOH. The solid was dissolved into CHCl<sub>3</sub>,

<sup>(13)</sup> Bailey, P. J.; Dawson, A.; McCormack, C.; Moggach, S. A.; Oswald, I. D. H.; Parsons, S.; Rankin, D. W. H.; Turner, A. *Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, *<sup>44</sup>*, 8884-8898.

and the organic extracts were dried over  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ ; then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give a white crystalline solid. The vacuum-dried 2-mercapto-1-(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)imidazole (11.9 g, 34%) is sufficiently pure to be used in the following step. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt,  $\delta$ ): 1.11 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 6H, <sup>i</sup>Pr), 1.28 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 6H, <sup>i</sup>Pr), 2.58 (sep.  $J = 7.0$  Hz, <sup>i</sup>Pr), 6.64 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H, CH) 2.58 (sep,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, <sup>i</sup>Pr), 6.64 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H, CH), 6.85 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H, CH), 7.27 (d,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 2H 6.85 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H, CH), 7.27 (d,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 2H, *m*-Ph), 7.45 (t,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 1H, *p*-Ph).

To a toluene solution (90 mL) of 2-mercapto-1-(2,6 diisopropylphenyl)imidazole (10.25 g, 39.4 mmol) was added LiBH4 (0.286 g, 13.2 mmol), and the mixture was refluxed under argon for 12 h. The resulting white solid was collected under air and then washed with ether and dried under a vacuum to give LiTm<sup>Ar</sup> (7.19 g, 77%) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt,  $\delta$ ): 1.06 (d,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 18H, <sup>i</sup>Pr), 1.16<br>(d,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 18 H, <sup>i</sup>Pr), 2.56 (sep.  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 3H, <sup>i</sup>Pr) (d,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 18 H, <sup>i</sup>Pr), 2.56 (sep,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 3H, <sup>i</sup>Pr),<br>6.41 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H, CH), 6.68 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H 6.41 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H, CH), 6.68 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H, CH), 7.20 (d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, 2H, *m*-Ph), 7.39 (t,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, *p*-Ph). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2397 (B-H). Anal. Calcd for<br>C<sub>r</sub>-H<sub>e</sub>N-S-RI i: C 67.82: H 7.34: N 10.55: S 12.07 C45H58N6S3BLi: C, 67.82; H, 7.34; N, 10.55; S, 12.07. Found: C, 67.78; H, 7.40; N, 10.47; S, 11.96.

**Synthesis of**  $(Tm^{\text{Me}}\text{FeCl})_n$  **(** $n = 1$  **or 2).** To a stirred suspension of NaTm<sup>Me</sup> (0.300 g, 0.80 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL) was added anhydrous FeCl<sub>2</sub> (0.304 g, 2.40 mmol) at room temperature, and the mixture was then allowed to stir for 4 days. After the suspension was centrifuged to remove the NaCl and excess  $FeCl<sub>2</sub>$ , the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to afford a green solid. The green solid was repeatedly washed with hexane, giving rise to  $(Tm^{Me}-$ FeCl)<sub>n</sub>  $(n = 1 \text{ or } 2)$  as a green powder (0.276 g, 78% based on  $[Tm^{Me}]^-$ , 26% based on FeCl<sub>2</sub>). A green crystalline powder was obtained from a  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  solution layered onto hexane. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2438 (BH), 1558, 1460, 1377, 1203, 681. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 406.9 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - Cl). UVvis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm): ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>): 614 (1.3), 406 (2.9), 306 (6.9), 264 (18.6).

**Synthesis of TmtBuFeCl.** A 100 mL flask was charged with FeCl<sub>2</sub> (0.077 g, 0.610 mmol) and LiTm<sup>tBu</sup> (0.300 g, 0.610 mmol), and  $CH_2Cl_2$  (50 mL) was added. The resultant dark yellow suspension was stirred for 4 days at ambient temperature. After the suspension was centrifuged to remove LiCl and a small amount of unreacted FeCl<sub>2</sub> and LiTm<sup>tBu</sup>, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to afford a light brown powder. This solid was repeatedly washed with hexane, giving rise to Tm<sup>tBu</sup>FeCl as a light brown powder (0.330 g, 94%). Light brown crystals were recrystallized from THF/hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2408 (BH), 1567, 1417, 1361, 1195, 687. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 568.2 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 533.1 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - Cl). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 421 (0.08), 357 (0.26), 276 (1.0). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{34}N_6S_3BFeCl$ : C, 44.34; H, 6.02; N, 14.77; S, 16.91. Found: C, 44.34; H, 6.34; N, 14.63; S, 17.15.

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ph</sup>FeCl.** The reaction of anhydrous  $FeCl<sub>2</sub>$  $(0.070 \text{ g}, 0.551 \text{ mmol})$  with LiTm<sup>Ph</sup>  $(0.300 \text{ g}, 0.551 \text{ mmol})$ in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (60 mL) for 4 days afforded  $Tm^P$ FeCl as a dark green powder (0.299 g, 86%). Green crystals were obtained from a  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2431 (BH), 1596, 1498, 1366, 1189, 692. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 593.1 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - Cl). UVvis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>): 646 (0.69), 446 (0.93), 361 (1.7).

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ar</sup>FeCl.** This compound was prepared by the method for  $Tm^{tBu}FeCl$ . Li $Tm^{Ar}$  (0.300 g, 0.376 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (15 mL) was added to a  $CH_2Cl_2$  suspension (20 mL) of anhydrous  $FeCl<sub>2</sub>$  (0.190 g, 1.50 mmol) at room temperature for 4 days.  $Tm<sup>Ar</sup>FeCl$  (0.330 g, 99% based on  $[Tm<sup>Ar</sup>]<sub>-</sub>$ , 25% based on FeCl<sub>2</sub>) crystals were grown by layering hexane onto a THF solution at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2409 (BH), 1552, 1468, 1370, 1183, 690. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 880.5 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 845.5 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - Cl). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>): 354 (0.32), 285 (1.5). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{45}H_{58}N_6S_3BFeCl$ : C, 61.33; H, 6.63; N, 9.54; S, 10.92. Found: C, 61.20; H, 6.88; N, 9.11; S, 11.40.

**Synthesis of**  $[Tm^{Me}Mn(\mu-CI)]_2$ **. To a stirred solution of** NaTm<sup>Me</sup> (1.00 g, 2.67 mmol) in MeOH (40 mL) was added  $MnCl<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O$  (0.529 g, 2.67 mmol) at room temperature, and the mixture was allowed to stir for 1 h. After removal of the solvent, the product was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (20 mL) and the solution was centrifuged. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was washed repeatedly with hexane, giving rise to  $[Tm^{Me}Mn(\mu-Cl)]_2$  as a white powder (0.633 g, 54%). Colorless crystals were obtained from a  $CH_2$ - $Cl<sub>2</sub>$  solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2391 (BH), 1562, 1459, 1378, 1205, 681. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 406.5 (1/2[M]<sup>+</sup> - Cl). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>): 261 (27.2).

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>tBu</sup>MnCl.** A procedure similar to that for the case of  $[Tm^{Me}Mn(\mu-CI)]_2$  was used. Li $Tm^{Bu}$  (0.227 g, 0.505 mmol) was added to  $MnCl<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O$  (0.100 g, 0.505 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL), and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 days. Tm<sup>tBu</sup>MnCl was isolated as a white powder (0.254 g, 89%). A colorless crystalline solid was obtained from a  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR  $(KBr, cm^{-1})$ : 2411 (BH), 1567, 1481, 1361, 1195, 688. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), *m*/*z*: 532.1 ([M]<sup>+</sup> – Cl). UV–vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt; λ<sub>max</sub>, nm) (ε, ×10<sup>3</sup> M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>):<br>269 (22.0) 269 (22.0).

Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ph</sup>MnCl. Synthesis was as in the case of  $[Tm^{Me}Mn(\mu-Cl)]_2$ . To a MeOH suspension (10 mL) of LiTm<sup>Ph</sup> (0.275 g, 0.505 mmol) was added MnCl<sub>2</sub><sup>+4H<sub>2</sub>O</sup> (0.100 g, 0.505 mmol) in MeOH (10 mL) at room temperature for 4 days. TmPhMnCl was isolated as a white powder  $(0.110 \text{ g}, 35\%)$ . Colorless crystals were obtained from a CH<sub>2</sub>- $Cl<sub>2</sub>$  solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2420 (BH), 1596, 1498, 1363, 1187, 692. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 592.2 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - Cl). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>): 280 (16.7).

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ar</sup>MnCl.** The same procedure as in the case of  $[Tm^{Me}Mn(\mu-Cl)]_2$  was used. To a MeOH solution (10 mL) of LiTm<sup>Ar</sup> (0.500 g, 0.627 mmol) was added MnCl<sub>2</sub>. 4H2O (0.124 g, 0.627 mmol) in MeOH (10 mL) at room temperature for 4 days.  $Tm<sup>Ar</sup>MnCl$  was isolated as a white powder (0.472 g, 86%). Colorless crystals were obtained

from a  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2413 (BH), 1556, 1469, 1363, 1186, 690. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 844.5 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - Cl). UVvis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>): 271 (28.6). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>45</sub>H<sub>58</sub>N<sub>6</sub>S<sub>3</sub>BMnCl: C, 61.39; H, 6.64; N, 9.55; S, 10.93. Found: C, 61.44; H, 6.51; N, 9.52; S, 10.78.

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Me</sup>CoCl.** This compound has been reported.<sup>9b</sup> The reaction of anhydrous CoCl<sub>2</sub> (0.205 g, 1.60) mmol) with LiTm<sup>Me</sup> (0.200 g, 0.534 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (40 mL) for 4 days afforded Tm<sup>Me</sup>CoCl as a light green powder (0.089 g, 37% based on  $[Tm^{Me}]^-$ , 12% based on CoCl<sub>2</sub>). A green crystalline solid was obtained from a  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution layered onto hexane. IR  $(KBr, cm^{-1})$ : 2410 (BH), 1562, 1462, 1381, 1203, 683. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), *m*/*z*: 410.1 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - Cl). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>):<br>697 (1 2) 371 (*A* 2) 697 (1.2), 371 (4.2).

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>tBu</sup>CoCl.** This is a known compound.<sup>9a</sup> Addition of LiTm<sup>tBu</sup> (0.200 g, 0.407 mmol) to anhydrous  $CoCl<sub>2</sub> (0.052 g, 0.407 mmol)$  in  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL)$  was stirred at room temperature for 4 days.  $Tm^{Bu}CoCl$  was isolated as a green powder (0.180 g, 77%). Green crystals were recrystallized from THF/hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2410 (BH), 1565, 1481, 1361, 1193, 683. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 563.3 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - Cl). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>-Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 738 (1.0), 701 (1.3), 665 (0.96), 369 (3.4). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{34}N_6S_3BCoCl$ : C, 44.10; H, 5.99; N, 14.69; S, 16.82. Found: C, 43.72; H, 5.90; N, 14.63; S, 16.41.

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ph</sup>CoCl.** Tm<sup>Ph</sup>CoCl was prepared by a procedure similar to that employed for  $Tm^{1Bu}FeCl$ . To a  $CH<sub>2</sub>$ - $Cl<sub>2</sub>$  suspension (10 mL) of LiTm<sup>Ph</sup> (0.210 g, 0.385 mmol) was added CoCl<sub>2</sub> (0.150 g, 1.16 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL) at room temperature for 4 days.  $Tm<sup>Ph</sup>CoCl$  was isolated as a dark green powder (0.143 g, 59% based on  $[Tm^{Ph}]^-$ , 20% based on  $CoCl<sub>2</sub>$ ). Green crystals were obtained from a  $CH<sub>2</sub>$ -Cl2 solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2418 (BH), 1596, 1498, 1367, 1190, 692. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 596.2 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - Cl). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>-Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3 \,\text{M}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 740 (0.63), 702 (0.85), 663 (0.64), 371 (2.2), 279 (7.9).

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ar</sup>CoCl.** A similar procedure as that for  $Tm^{Bu}$ FeCl was used. The reaction of anhydrous CoCl<sub>2</sub> (0.300) g, 2.31 mmol) with LiTm<sup>Ar</sup> (0.614 g, 0.770 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>- $Cl<sub>2</sub>$  (30 mL) for 4 days afforded Tm<sup>Ar</sup>CoCl as a light blue powder (0.375 g, 55% based on  $[Tm<sup>Ar</sup>]$ <sup>-</sup>, 18% based on  $CoCl<sub>2</sub>$ ). Blue crystals were obtained from a  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR  $(KBr, cm^{-1})$ : 2440 (BH), 1558, 1471, 1369, 1183, 690. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>-Cl<sub>2</sub>), *m*/*z*: 848.5 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - Cl). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm)  $(\epsilon, \times 10^3 \,\mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{cm}^{-1})$ : 738 (0.10), 701 (0.14), 665 (0.09), 369 (0.35).

**Synthesis of**  $[\text{Tm}^{\text{Me}}\text{Ni}(\mu\text{-}\text{Cl})]_2$ **.** This compound was prepared using a procedure similar to that adopted for  $[Tm^{Me}]$  $Mn(\mu$ -Cl)]<sub>2</sub>. To a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution (20 mL) of NaTm<sup>Me</sup> (0.300 g, 0.801 mmol) was added anhydrous NiCl<sub>2</sub> (0.572 g, 4.15) mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (20 mL) at room temperature for 4 days.  $[Tm<sup>Me</sup>Ni( $\mu$ -Cl)]<sub>2</sub> was isolated as a green powder (0.065 g,$ 18% based on  $[Tm^{Me}]^-$ , 3.5% based on NiCl<sub>2</sub>). Green crystals

were obtained from a  $CH_2Cl_2/CH_3CN$  solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2387 (BH), 1560, 1458, 1373, 1207, 683. FABMS (CH2Cl2), *m*/*z*: 409.1  $(1/2[M]^+ - \text{Cl})$ . UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  $M^{-1}cm^{-1}$ ): 424 (4.2), 378 (4.3), 331 (4.6), 267 (12.5).

**Synthesis of**  $[Tm^MeNi(\mu-Br)]_2$ **. A procedure similar to that** for the case of  $[Tm^{Me}Mn(\mu-Cl)]_2$  was used. The reaction of anhydrous NiBr<sub>2</sub> (2.40 g, 10.7 mmol) with NaTm<sup>Me</sup> (4.00 g, 10.7 mmol) in MeOH (100 mL) for 1 h afforded [ $Tm^{Me}$ - $Ni(\mu-Br)$ ]<sub>2</sub> as a dark brown powder (3.70 g, 71%). Brown crystals were obtained from a  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2440 (BH), 1560, 1461, 1376, 1210. FABMS (CH2Cl2), *m*/*z*: 409.1 (1/  $2[M]^{+}$  – Br). UV – vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^{3}$  M<sup>-1</sup>-<br>cm<sup>-1</sup>): 731 (4.6) 426 (6.7) 363 (7.1) 330 (7.6) Anal Calcd cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 731 (4.6), 426 (6.7), 363 (7.1), 330 (7.6). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>12</sub>S<sub>6</sub>B<sub>2</sub>N<sub>12</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>: C, 29.42; H, 3.29; N, 17.15; S, 19.67. Found: C, 29.66; H, 2.97; N, 17.37; S, 19.89.

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ph</sup>NiCl.** This compound was prepared using the same procedure described above for Tm<sup>tBu</sup>FeCl. Addition of LiTm<sup>Ph</sup> (0.300 g, 0.551 mmol) to anhydrous NiCl<sub>2</sub> (0.393 g, 1.65 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 4 days. TmPhNiCl was isolated as a green powder (0.193 g, 55% based on  $[Tm^{Ph}]^-$ , 19% based on NiCl<sub>2</sub>). Green crystals were obtained from a  $CH_2Cl_2$ solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2431 (BH), 1596, 1498, 1364, 1189, 692. FABMS (CH2Cl2), *<sup>m</sup>*/*z*: 595.2 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - Cl). UV-vis (CH2Cl2, rt; *<sup>λ</sup>*max, nm)  $(\epsilon, \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1})$ : 730 (0.38), 640 (0.45), 392 (3.9).

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ar</sup>NiCl.** Synthesis was as in the case of Tm<sup>tBu</sup>FeCl. To a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> suspension (10 mL) of LiTm<sup>Ar</sup> (4.00 g, 5.02 mmol) was added  $\text{NiCl}_2$  (4.77 g, 20.1 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>- $Cl<sub>2</sub>$  (20 mL) at room temperature for 4 days. Tm<sup>Ar</sup>NiCl was isolated as a yellowish green powder (3.52 g, 79% based on  $[Tm<sup>Ar</sup>]$ <sup>-</sup>, 20% based on NiCl<sub>2</sub>). Yellowish green crystals were obtained from a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2439 (BH), 1550, 1470, 1371, 1190, 690. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 882.4 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 847.4  $([M]^+ - \text{Cl})$ . UV-vis  $(\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, \text{rt}; \lambda_{\text{max}}, \text{nm})$   $(\epsilon, \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} - \text{cm}^{-1})$ : 450 (0.19) 384 (0.67) 284 (2.6) cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 450 (0.19), 384 (0.67), 284 (2.6).

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>tBu</sup>FeI.** To a stirred solution of Tm<sup>tBu</sup>-FeCl (0.150 g, 0.284 mmol) in THF (20 mL) was added NaI (0.047 g, 0.312 mmol) at room temperature, and the mixture was allowed to stir for 3 h. The solution immediately turned to a reddish brown suspension. After it was centrifuged to remove NaCl, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to afford a brown solid. The brown solid was washed repeatedly with hexane and ether to afford Tm<sup>tBu</sup>-FeI as a brown powder (0.175 g, 93%). Brown crystals were obtained from a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2424 (BH), 1565, 1481, 1361, 1195, 692. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 534.3 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - I). UVvis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 361 (10.7), 286 (29.5). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{34}N_6S_3BFel$ : C, 38.20; H, 5.19; N, 12.73; S, 14.57. Found: C, 38.09; H, 5.32; N, 12.63; S, 14.08.

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ph</sup>FeI.** This compound was prepared by the method for  $Tm^{tBu}$ FeI. To a THF solution (10 mL) of NaI (0.098 g, 0.655 mmol) was added Tm<sup>Ph</sup>FeCl (0.412 g,

0.655 mmol) in THF (20 mL) at room temperature for 3 h. Tm<sup>Ph</sup>FeI was isolated as a dark green powder (0.304 g, 64%). Green crystals were obtained from a  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2431 (BH), 1556, 1496, 1359, 1189, 692. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), *m*/*z*: 593.2 ( $[M]^{+} - I$ ). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>): 646 (2.1), 446 (4.8), 290 (16.9). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{27}H_{22}N_6S_3BFeI$ : C, 45.02; H, 3.08; N, 11.67; S, 13.36. Found: C, 44.75; H, 3.09; N, 11.68; S, 13.03.

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ar</sup>FeI.** The same procedure as in the case  $Tm^{tBu}$ FeI was used. To a THF suspension (10 mL) of NaI  $(0.034 \text{ g}, 0.227 \text{ mmol})$  was added Tm<sup>Ar</sup><sup>T</sup>FeCl  $(0.200 \text{ g}, 0.227 \text{ mmol})$ mmol) in THF (20 mL) at room temperature for 3 h. Tm<sup>Ar</sup>-FeI was isolated as a dark yellow powder (0.122 g, 55%). Yellow crystals were recrystallized from THF/hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2424 (BH), 1553, 1470, 1366, 1184, 689. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 845.4 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - I). UVvis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>): 341 (4.1). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>45</sub>H<sub>58</sub>N<sub>6</sub>S<sub>3</sub>BFeI: C, 55.56; H, 6.01; N, 8.64; S, 9.89. Found: C, 55.33; H, 6.05; N, 8.39; S, 9.61.

Synthesis of Tm<sup>tBu</sup>MnI. Tm<sup>tBu</sup>MnI was prepared by a procedure similar to that employed for Tm<sup>tBu</sup>FeI. Addition of NaI (0.053 g, 0.353 mmol) to Tm<sup>tBu</sup>MnCl (0.200 g, 0.352 mmol) in THF (20 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 1 day. Tm<sup>tBu</sup>MnI was isolated as a white powder  $(0.220 g,$ 95%). Colorless crystals were obtained from a  $CH_2Cl_2$ solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2414 (BH), 1567, 1481, 1361, 1195, 686. FABMS  $(CH_2Cl_2)$ ,  $m/z$ : 532.3 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - I). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm)  $(\epsilon, \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1})$ : 274 (19.4). Anal. Calcd for C21H34N6S3BMnI: C, 38.25; H, 5.20; N, 12.75; S, 14.59. Found: C, 38.12; H, 5.29; N, 12.46; S, 14.86.

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ph</sup>MnI.** A similar procedure as that for  $Tm^{Bu}$ FeI was used. The reaction of  $Tm^{Ph}MnCl$  (0.218 g, 0.384 mmol) with NaI (0.058 g, 0.384 mmol) in THF (20 mL) for 1 day afforded Tm<sup>Ph</sup>MnI as a white powder (0.257 g, 93%). Colorless crystals were obtained from a  $CH_2Cl_2$ solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2422 (BH), 1594, 1498, 1367, 1189, 692. FABMS  $(CH_2Cl_2)$ ,  $m/z$ : 592.2 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - I). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm)  $(\epsilon, \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1})$ : 278 (13.2). Anal. Calcd for C27H22N6S3BMnI: C, 45.08; H, 3.08; N, 11.68; S, 13.37. Found: C, 44.79; H, 3.27; N, 11.56; S, 12.90.

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ar</sup>MnI.** This compound was prepared using a procedure similar to that adopted for Tm<sup>tBu</sup>FeI. To a THF solution (10 mL) of NaI (0.125 g, 0.831 mmol) was added TmAr′MnCl (0.472 g, 0.536 mmol) in THF (10 mL) at room temperature for 1 day. TmArMnI was isolated as a white powder (0.395 g, 76%). Colorless crystals were recrystallized from THF/hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2435 (BH), 1560, 1471, 1369, 1187, 690. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), *m*/*z*: 844.5 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - I). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>-Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3 \,\text{M}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 275 (28.5). Anal. Calcd for C45H58N6S3BMnI: C, 55.62; H, 6.02; N, 8.65; S, 9.90. Found: C, 55.73; H, 6.36; N, 8.54; S, 9.61.

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>tBu</sup>CoI.** This compound was prepared using the same procedure described above for Tm<sup>tBu</sup>FeI. Addition of NaI (0.052 g, 0.350 mmol) to  $Tm^{Bu}CoCl$  (0.200

g, 0.350 mmol) in THF (30 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 3 h.  $Tm^{tBu}Col$  was isolated as a light yellow powder (0.216 g, 93%). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2411 (BH), 1595, 1498, 1363, 1186, 692. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), *m*/*z*: 536.3 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - I). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>):<br>758 (0.98) 740 (0.91) 695 (0.78) 393 (2.5) Anal Calcd 758 (0.98), 740 (0.91), 695 (0.78), 393 (2.5). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{34}N_6S_3BCol$ : C, 38.02; H, 5.17; N, 12.67; S, 14.50. Found: C, 37.85; H, 5.36; N, 12.31; S, 14.29.

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ph</sup>CoI.** The same procedure as in the case of  $Tm^{Bu}$ FeI was used. To a THF suspension (10 mL) of NaI (0.034 g, 0.226 mmol) was added  $\text{Tm}^{\text{Ph}}\text{CoCl}$  (0.143 g, 0.226 mmol) in THF (20 mL) at room temperature for 3 h. TmPhCoI was isolated as a green powder (0.075 g, 46%). Green crystals were obtained from a  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2436 (BH), 1595, 1498, 1366, 1190, 690. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), *m/z*: 596.2 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - I). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>): 761 (1.0), 730 (0.86), 694 (0.65), 393 nm  $(2.5).$ 

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ar</sup>CoI.** A similar procedure as that for  $Tm^{tBu}$ FeI was used. The reaction of  $Tm^{Ar}CoCl$  (0.164 g, 0.185 mmol) with NaI (0.028 g, 0.185 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (40 mL) for 3 h afforded  $Tm<sup>Ar</sup>Col$  as a light yellowish green powder (0.136 g, 75%). Yellowish green crystals were obtained from a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2436 (BH), 1553, 1470, 1366, 1185, 690. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 848.5 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - I). UVvis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>): 759 (0.11), 406 (0.92), 269 (17.2). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{45}H_{58}N_6S_3BCoI$ : C, 59.63; H, 7.55; N, 7.32; S, 8.38. Found: C, 59.43; H, 7.57; N, 7.06; S, 7.89.

Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ph</sup>NiI. Synthesis was as in the case of  $Tm<sup>tBu</sup>FeI. Addition of NaI (0.052 g, 0.348 mmol) to Tm<sup>Ph</sup>-$ NiCl (0.200 g, 0.317 mmol) in THF (60 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 3 h. Tm<sup>Ph</sup>NiI was isolated as an orange powder (0.198 g, 86%). Orange crystals were obtained from a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 2413 (BH), 1554, 1469, 1367, 1183, 690. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), *m*/*z*: 595.2 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - I). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>-Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 784 (0.35), 699 (0.45), 411 (4.8).

**Synthesis of Tm<sup>Ar</sup>NiI.** This compound was prepared by the method for  $Tm^{tBu}$ FeI. To a THF solution (10 mL) of NaI (0.034 g, 0.226 mmol) was added  $Tm<sup>Ar</sup>NiCl$  (0.200 g, 0.226 mmol) in THF (10 mL) at room temperature for 3 h. Tm<sup>Ar</sup>NiI was isolated as an orange brown powder  $(0.153 \text{ g})$ , 69%). Orange crystals were recrystallized from THF/hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2435 (BH), 1551, 1471, 1369, 1187, 689. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), *m/z*: 848.5 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - I). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>):<br>402 (4.8) 273 (32.2) Anal Calcd for C<sub>r</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S-BNiI· C 402 (4.8), 273 (32.2). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{45}H_{58}N_6S_3BNiI$ : C, 55.40; H, 5.99; N, 8.61; S, 9.86. Found: C, 55.47; H, 6.01; N, 8.37; S, 9.47.

**Formation of**  ${B(timi^{tBu})_3}NiCl$  from NiCl<sub>2</sub> and LiT $m<sup>tBu</sup>$ . To a stirred solution of LiTm<sup>tBu</sup> (0.200 g, 0.412 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (25 mL) was added anhydrous NiCl<sub>2</sub> (0.053 g, 0.412 mmol) at room temperature, and the mixture was allowed to stir for 2 days. The solution immediately turned

## *Mono*{*hydrotris(mercaptoimidazolyl)borato*} *Complexes*







<sup>*a*</sup> GOF =  $[\Sigma w(|F_0| - |F_c|)^2/(N_0 - N_p)]^{1/2}$ , where  $N_0$  and  $N_p$  denote the number of data and parameters.  $^b R = \Sigma ||F_0| - |F_c||/\Sigma |F_0|$  (observed reflections).  $^c R w = \left[ \frac{\sum w(|F_0| - |F_c|)^2}{\sum wF_0^2} \right]^{1/2}$  (observed reflections).

to a green suspension. After it was centrifuged to remove LiCl (and unreacted  $NiCl<sub>2</sub>$ ), the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to afford a dark green solid, which was washed repeatedly with hexane to yield  ${B(timi<sup>IBu</sup>)_3}NiCl$ as a green powder (0.162 g, 69%). Green crystals were obtained from a  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR (KBr, cm-<sup>1</sup> ): 1560, 1452, 1371, 1192, 683. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 534.2 ([M]<sup>+</sup> - Cl). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>-Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>): 612 (0.40), 459 (1.9), 342 (4.0). In this reaction, a small amount of  $(Htimi<sup>tBu</sup>)<sub>2</sub>$ - $NiCl<sub>2</sub>$  was also obtained as green crystals. This was identified by comparison of the spectral data with the authentic sample prepared from the reaction of  $NiCl<sub>2</sub>$  and Htimi<sup>tBu</sup>.

**Reaction of NiCl2 with** *tert***-Butyl Thioimidazole** ( $\text{Htimi}^{\text{tBu}}$ ). A 100 mL flask was charged with NiCl<sub>2</sub> (0.020) g, 0.159 mmol) and Htimi $^{\text{tBu}}$  (0.050 g, 0.319 mmol), and  $CH_2Cl_2$  (25 mL) was added. The resultant green suspension was stirred for 1 day at ambient temperature. After the suspension was centrifuged to remove a small amount of unreacted NiCl<sub>2</sub>, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to afford a light green powder. This solid was repeatedly washed with hexane, giving rise to  $(Htimi<sup>tBu</sup>)<sub>2</sub>$ - $NiCl<sub>2</sub>$  as a light green powder (0.053 g, 75%). Green crystals were obtained from a  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution layered onto hexane at room temperature. IR  $(KBr, cm^{-1})$ : 3347 (NH), 1571, 1471, 1453, 1372, 1322, 1216, 684. FABMS (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$ : 405.1 ( $[M]^{+}$  – Cl). UV – vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm) ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\times 10^{3}$  $M^{-1}$ cm<sup>-1</sup>): 432 (1.0), 342 (3.6), 319 (2.2), 267 nm (20.6).

**Reaction of**  $\text{Tm}^{\text{Ph}}{}_{2}\text{Fe}$  **with FeCl<sub>2</sub>. To a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution**  $(50 \text{ mL})$  of Tm<sup>Ph</sup><sub>2</sub>Fe  $(0.594 \text{ g}, 0.525 \text{ mmol})$  was added anhydrous FeCl $_2$  (1.33 g, 10.5 mmol), and the suspension was stirred for 12 h. After centrifugation to remove excess FeCl<sub>2</sub>, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The green residue was washed repeatedly with hexane and ether to give a dark green powder of  $Tm<sup>Ph</sup>FeCl$  (0.525 g, 80%), which was identified by means of an infrared spectrum and

**Table 5.** Crystallographic Data for the Complexes Refined by SHELX-97

	$Tm^{tBu}FeCl·1.5C4H8O$	Tm <sup>tBu</sup> FeI	Tm <sup>Ph</sup> NiI·3CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>
formula	$C_{21}H_{34}N_6S_3BClFe$ 1.5C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O	$C_{21}H_{34}N_6S_3BFeI$	$C_{27}H_{22}N_6S_3INi^*$ 3CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>
fw	675.98	660.28	977.90
crystal system	trigonal	trigonal	trigonal
space group	R3c	R3c	R <sub>3</sub>
$a(\AA)$	13.4412(5)	13.486(3)	14.897(7)
$c(\AA)$	64.368(3)	66.72(1)	30.34(1)
$V(A^3)$	10071.1(7)	10519(5)	5842(5)
Z	12	12	6
$D_{\rm{calcd}}(g/cm^3)$	1.337	1.251	1.668
$\mu$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	7.47	15.06	18.94
$F_{000}$	4284	4008	2916
max $2\theta$ (deg)	55.0	55.0	55.0
no. of reflections			
collected	25445	26518	14999
indep	2576	2699	2992
no. of observations	2576	2699	2992
no. of variables	119	101	149
GOF indicator <sup>a</sup>	2.11	2.38	1.38
$R^b$	0.066	0.085	0.078
wR2c	0.242	0.293	0.203c

*a* GOF  $= [\Sigma w([F_0^2] - [F_c^2])^2/(N_0 - N_p)]^{1/2}$ , where  $N_0$  and  $N_p$  denote the pher of data and parameters  $\frac{b}{R} = \Sigma |[F_s] - [F_s][\Sigma]F_s]$  ( $I > 0 \sigma(I) \frac{c}{N} wR^2$ number of data and parameters.  $^b R = \sum ||F_0| - |F_c||/\sum |F_0| (I > 0 \sigma(I))$ .<sup>c</sup> wR2  $= [\{\Sigma w (F_0^2 - F_c^2)^2\} / \Sigma w (F_0^2)^2]^{1/2}$  (all data).

X-ray fluorescence microanalysis. It was also identified by a crystallographic study using dark green crystals obtained from  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  and hexane.

**X-ray Crystal Structure Determination.** Crystal data and refinement parameters for the structurally characterized complexes are summarized in Table 4. Single crystals were coated with oil (Immersion Oil, type B: Code 1248, Cargille Laboratories, Inc.) and mounted on loops. Diffraction data were collected at  $-80$  °C under a cold nitrogen stream on a Rigaku AFC7R/Mercury CCD system or a Rigaku AFC7R/ ADSC Quantum 1 CCD system by using graphite-monochromated Mo K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.710\,690$  Å). Four preliminary data frames were measured at  $\omega = 0$ , 30, 60,

and 90 $^{\circ}$ , each with a 0.5 $^{\circ}$  increment of  $\omega$ , to assess the crystal quality and preliminary unit cell parameters. The intensity images were also measured at 0.5° intervals of *ω*. The frame data were integrated using an MSC d\*TREK program package (Quantum 1 CCD) or a Rigaku CrystalClear program package (Mercury CCD), and the data sets were corrected for absorption using a REQAB program. The calculations were performed with a TEXSAN program package for [Tm<sup>Me</sup>Mn( $\mu$ -Cl)]<sub>2</sub>, Tm<sup>Ph</sup>MnCl·3CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, Tm<sup>Ar</sup>-MnCl·4.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, Tm<sup>Ph</sup>FeCl·3CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, Tm<sup>Ar</sup>FeCl·0.5C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O, TmPhCoCl'3CH2Cl2, TmArCoCl'4.5CH2Cl2, [TmMeNi(*µ*-Cl)]2,  $[Tm^{Me}Ni(\mu-Br)]_2$ ,  $Tm^{Ar}NiCl·4.5CH_2Cl_2$ ,  $Tm^{Ph}MnI·3CH_2Cl_2$ ,  $Tm^{Ar}FeI·0.5C_4H_8O$ ,  $Tm^{Ph}CoI·3CH_2Cl_2$ ,  $Tm^{Ar}CoI·4.5CH_2Cl_2$ ,  $Tm<sup>Ar</sup>NiI<sup>•</sup>0.5C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O$ ,  $(Htimi<sup>tBu</sup>)<sub>2</sub>NiCl<sub>2</sub>$ , and  ${B(timi<sup>tBu</sup>)<sub>3</sub>}NiCl<sup>•</sup>$  $2CH_2Cl_2$ . The structures were solved by a direct method (SIR92 or SHELX-97) or Patterson methods (DIRDIF94 PATTY) and were refined by full-matrix least-squares (TEXSAN) on  $|F|$ . Tm<sup>tBu</sup>FeCl·1.5C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O, Tm<sup>tBu</sup>CoCl·  $1.5C_4H_8O$ ,  $Tm^phNiCl·3CH_2Cl_2$ ,  $Tm<sup>rbu</sup>FeI$ , and  $Tm<sup>ph</sup>NiI·$ 3CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> were studied using a CrystalStructure crystallographic software package and were solved by direct methods using SHELXS-97. The structures of  $Tm^{tBu}CoCl·1.5C_4H_8O$ and  $Tm<sup>Ph</sup>NiCl·3CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  were refined by full-matrix leastsquares (Crystals) on |F|. Tm<sup>tBu</sup>FeCl·1.5C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O, Tm<sup>tBu</sup>FeI, and  $Tm<sup>Ph</sup>NiI·3CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  were refined on  $|F^2|$  by the full-matrix<br>least-squares method using SHEI XS-97. Anisotropic refineleast-squares method using SHELXS-97. Anisotropic refinement was applied to all non-hydrogen atoms except for the disordered crystal solvents, and all hydrogen atoms except for B-H were put at the calculated positions. The crystal solvent  $CH_2Cl_2$  was disordered in Tm<sup>Ph</sup>NiCl·3CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (one of the chloride atoms of  $CH_2Cl_2$ , over two positions with 8:2 occupancy factors), Tm<sup>Ph</sup>MnI·3CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (over two positions of chloride with 6:4 occupancy factors), and  $Tm<sup>Ph</sup>NiI<sup>•</sup>$  $3CH_2Cl_2$  (one of the chloride atoms of  $CH_2Cl_2$ , over three

positions with 5:3:2 occupancy factors). As for  $Tm<sup>Ph</sup>NiCl<sup>+</sup>$  $3CH_2Cl_2$  and  $Tm<sup>Ph</sup>NiI·3CH_2Cl_2$ , anisotropic refinement could not assign hydrogen atoms on  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$ . A residual density observed in the TmPh complexes of Mn, Fe, and Co was most likely attributed to the disordered  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  over six positions. It was not easy to determine and was not assigned any atoms. Tm<sup>Ar</sup>MnCl·4.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, Tm<sup>Ar</sup>CoCl·4.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $Tm<sup>Ar</sup>NiCl·4.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$ , and  $Tm<sup>Ar</sup>Col·4.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> contained two$ kinds of  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1.0 and 0.5 occupancy factors) as a crystal solvent, and no hydrogen atoms were assigned on  $0.5CH<sub>2</sub>$ - $Cl<sub>2</sub>$ . Tm<sup>tBu</sup>FeI included residual density, but it was hard to assign any atoms. The crystal solvent THF in  $Tm^{tBu}FeCl·$ 1.5C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O, Tm<sup>Ar</sup>FeCl<sup>+</sup>0.5(C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O), Tm<sup>tBu</sup>CoCl<sup>+</sup>1.5C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O,  $Tm<sup>Ar</sup>FeI<sup>•</sup>0.5(C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O)$ , and  $Tm<sup>Ar</sup>NiI<sup>•</sup>0.5(C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O)$  was disordered over two positions with 1:1 occupancy factors. The THF solvents in  $Tm^{tBu}CoCl·1.5C_4H_8O$  and  $Tm^{Ar}FeI·0.5 (C_4H_8O)$  were refined as a rigid group. The iodide ligand in  $Tm<sup>Ar</sup>NiI<sup>•</sup>0.5(C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O)$  was disordered over two close positions with 9:1 occupancy factors. Additional data are available as Supporting Information.

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**Supporting Information Available:** X-ray crystallographic information files (CIF) for the structures of  $[Tm^{Me}M(\mu$ -Cl)<sub>2</sub> (M  $=$  Mn, Ni),  $[Tm<sup>Me</sup>Ni(*µ*-Br)]<sub>2</sub>$ ,  $Tm<sup>fb</sup>MCl$  (M = Fe, Co),  $Tm<sup>ph</sup>MCl$  $(M = Mn, Fe, Co, Ni), Tm<sup>Ar</sup>MCl$   $(M = Mn, Fe, Co, Ni), Tm<sup>Bu</sup>-$ FeI, Tm<sup>Ph</sup>MI ( $M = Mn$ , Co, Ni), Tm<sup>Ar</sup>MI ( $M = Fe$ , Co, Ni),  ${B(timi<sup>IBu</sup>)_3}NiCl$ , and  $(Htimi<sup>tBu</sup>)_2NiCl_2$ . This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

