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Synthesis and Structural Characterization of Heteroboroxines with MB_2O_3 Core (M = Sb, Bi, Sn)

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Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: Reaction of organoantimony and organobismuth oxides $(LSbO)_2$ and $(LBiO)_2$ (where L is [2,6-bis(dimethylamino)methyl]phenyl) with four equivalents of the organoboronic acids gave new heteroboroxines $LM[(OBR)_2O]$ **1a**-**2c** (for M = Sb: R = Ph (**1a**), 4-CF₃C₆H₄ (**1b**), ferrocenyl (**1c**); for M = Bi: R = Ph (**2a**), 4-CF₃C₆H₄ (**2b**), and ferrocenyl (**2c**)). Analogously, reaction between organotin carbonate L(Ph)Sn(CO₃) and two equivalents of organoboronic acids yielded compounds L(Ph)Sn[(OBR)₂O] (where R = Ph (**3a**), 4-CF₃C₆H₄ (**3b**), and ferrocenyl (**3c**)). All compounds were characterized by elemental analysis and NMR spectroscopy. Their structure was described both in solution (NMR studies) and in the solid state (X-ray diffraction analyses **1a**, **1c**, **2b**, **3b**, and **3c**). All compounds contain a central MB₂O₃ core (M = Sb, Bi, Sn), and the bonding situation within these rings and their potential aromaticity was investigated by the help of computational methods.



INTRODUCTION

Boroxines are well-known species, readily accessible by dehydration of the corresponding organoboronic acids.¹ Recently, the chemistry of these compounds featuring sixmembered boroxine rings has undergone a period of renaissance due to potential applications in material science.² In 2005, Yaghi and co-workers reported the first crystalline boroxine covalent organic framework (COF),³ a landmark in the boroxine chemistry. Since this disclosure, many COFrelated materials have emerged, which significantly expanded the interest in material properties of boroxines.⁴ Consequently, boroxines were studied as high-performance polymer electrolytes,⁵ flame retardants,² materials for nonlinear optics,⁶ reactants or catalysts for various organic transformation,⁷ and Lewis acids for formation of adducts with N-donor molecules.⁸ Substitution of the central B₃O₃ core with ferrocene moieties in turn allowed isolation of redox-active boroxines.⁹ Nevertheless, the chemistry of heteroboroxines, in which one of the boron atoms is substituted by a heteroatom M to form a MB₂O₃ sixmembered ring, remains nearly unexplored, as recently pointed out by Korich and Iovine.^{2a} Compounds L'Al[(OBR)₂O] (where $L' = HC(CMeNAr)_2$, $Ar = 2,6-i-PrC_6H_3$, and R = Ph, 3- MeC_6H_4 , 3-FC₆H₄), prepared by the reactions between the

aluminum(I) compound L'Al or the hydride L'AlH₂ and the corresponding arylboronic acid, represent prominent examples of such compounds.¹⁰ Molecular borasiloxanes with the Si₂B₂O₄ eight-membered ring were also reported.¹¹ Structurally characterized organotin(IV) compounds Sn(t-Bu)₂[OB(OH)-Ph]₂, $Sn(t-Bu)_2(OH)_2[(t-Bu_2SnO)_2OBC_6H_2Me_3-$ 2,4,6]₂·2MeCN,¹² and organophosporus(V) compounds¹³ stabilized by Salen-type ligand are other rare examples of compounds bearing a heteroboroxine motif in the structure. In a continuation of our investigations into main group organometallic oxides,¹⁴ we report herein a straightforward synthesis of hitherto unknown heteroboroxines LM[(OBR)2O] and $L(Ph)Sn[(OBR)_2O]$, where M = Sb and Bi, L = [2,6bis(dimethylamino)methyl]phenyl, $R = Ph_1 4-CF_3C_6H_4$, and ferrocenyl, comprising MB₂O₃ six-membered rings, from oxides $(LSbO)_2$ and $(LBiO)_2$ or organotin carbonate $L(Ph)Sn(CO_3)$ and the corresponding organoboronic acids. All compounds were characterized by elemental analysis and multinuclear NMR spectroscopy. The bonding situation within the central

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MB₂O₃ rings as well as their aromaticity has been investigated by computational methods.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Treatment of intramolecularly coordinated organoantimony and organobismuth oxides $(LSbO)_2^{14a}$ and $(LBiO)_2^{14b}$ with four equivalents of the corresponding organoboronic acids smoothly provided heteroboroxines 1a-c and 2a-c, respectively (Scheme 1). Complete deprotonation of the starting boronic acids was confirmed by IR spectra, lacking characteristic vibrations due to the B-OH moieties.



¹H NMR spectra of **1a-2c** revealed the signals of the ligand L and groups R in a mutual ratio of 1:2 and further showed an AX pattern for methylene CH₂N and two signals for the NMe₂ groups in L. The observed patterns suggest the presence of $N \rightarrow$ M interactions in 1a-2c with a pseudofacial coordination of the CH₂NMe₂ arms to the central atom M. One set of signals was observed for the substituents R on the heteroboroxine ring (including the ferrocenyl moieties in 1c and 2c) in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra, indicating their equivalency in solution.

The formulation of 1a-2c was unambiguously corroborated by X-ray diffraction analysis. Suitable single crystals of 1a, 1c, and 2b were obtained from saturated toluene solutions at room temperature. The molecular structures of 1a, 1c, and 2b together with the relevant structural parameters are depicted in Figures 1, 2, and 3, respectively.

The central Sb and Bi atoms are stabilized by coordination of the NCN pincer-type ligand. The bond lengths of the M-N bonds (M = Sb: 2.621(3) - 2.798(4), M = Bi: 2.671(5) Å) indicate the presence of significant $N \rightarrow M$ intramolecular interactions in all compounds. Coordination of the ligand L may be described as pseudo-facial as indicated by the N-M-N angles, which fall within a narrow range 118.48(14)- $119.90(8)^{\circ}$. The coordination polyhedron around the antimony and bismuth atoms in 1a, 1c, and 2b is completed by two oxygen atoms from the boronic acid residues and is best described as a strongly distorted tetragonal pyramid with the ipso-carbon atom C1 located in the apical position. The values of two M-O bond distances within each central heteroboroxine ring are similar (2.042(2) and 2.0565(19) Å for 1a, 2.181(4) Å for 2b, 2.041(2) and 2.034(2) Å for 1c), suggesting M–O covalent bonding ($\Sigma_{cov}(M, O) = 2.03$ Å (Sb), 2.14 Å (Bi)).¹⁵

Article



Figure 1. Molecular structure of 1a; hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths [Angstroms] and angles [degrees]: Sb(1)-C(1) 2.155(3), Sb(1)-N(1) 2.759(3), Sb(1)-N(2) 2.798(4), Sb(1)-O(1) 2.042(2), Sb(1)-O(3) 2.0565(19), B(1)-O(1) 1.334(4), B(1)-O(2) 1.387(4), B(2)-O(2) 1.381(4), B(2)-O(3) 1.334(4), O(1)-Sb(1)-O(3) 86.07(8), O(1)-B(1)-O(2) 123.8(3), O(2)-B(2)-O(3) 124.7(3), Sb(1)-O(1)-B(1) 130.11(19), B(1)-O(2)-B(2) 125.8(3), B(1)-O(3)-Sb(1) 128.99(19).



Figure 2. Molecular structure of 2b; hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths [Angstroms] and angles [degrees]: (2b, symmetry operator a = x, 1/2 - y, z): Bi(1)–C(1) 2.234(8), Bi(1)– N(1) 2.671(5), Bi(1)-O(1) 2.181(4), B(1)-O(1) 1.326(7), B(1)-O(2) 1.378(7), O(1)-Bi(1)-O(1a) 83.76(14), O(1)-B(1)-O(2) 126.1(6), Bi(1)-O(1)-B(1) 127.1(4), B(1)-O(2)-B(2) 126.6(5).

Reactions of organotin carbonate $L(Ph)Sn(CO_3)^{14c}$ with two equivalents of the respective organoboronic acid provided analogous organotin boroxines 3a-c (Scheme 1). IR spectra of the crude reaction mixtures showed no vibrations due to B-OH, thereby proving complete deprotonation of the starting boronic acids.

¹H NMR spectra of **3a-c** again confirmed the presence of the ligand L and groups R in a 1:2 ratio. Besides, the spectra revealed an AX spin system due to methylene CH₂N and one broad signal for the NMe2 groups of the ligand L, suggesting the presence of $N \rightarrow Sn$ interaction with pseudofacial coordination of CH₂NMe₂ arms of the ligand L to the central tin atom. An equivalency of substituents R on the heteroboroxine ring was proven by the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra, where only one set of signals was observed. ¹¹⁹Sn NMR spectra displayed single



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 $\begin{array}{c} B(1)-O(3) \ 1.386(4), \ B(2)-O(2) \ 1.346(4), \ B(2)-O(3) \ 1.383(4), \\ O(1)-Sb(1)-O(3) \ 85.84(9), \ O(1)-B(1)-O(2) \ 123.7(3), \ O(2)-B(2)-O(3) \ 124.0(3), \ Sb(1)-O(1)-B(1) \ 128.2(2), \ B(1)-O(3)-B(2) \ 125.4(3), \ Sb(1)-O(2)-B(2) \ 128.7(2). \end{array}$

resonances at $\delta = -359.1$ ppm for 3a, $\delta = -364.0$ ppm for 3b, and at $\delta = -358.0$ ppm for 3c, which is indeed consistent with the presence of hexacoordinated tin atoms.¹⁶

Single crystals of 3b and 3c were obtained from saturated toluene solution at room temperature and subjected to X-ray diffraction analysis. Views of the molecular structures are presented in Figures 4 (3a) and 5 (3c) along with selected structural parameters.

In both compounds **3b** and **3c**, the tin center is coordinated by two nitrogen atoms (N–Sn distances in the range of 2.574(3)–2.727(3) Å) in a pseudofacial fashion as demonstrated by the angles N–Sn–N 118.36(13)° for **3b** and 118.58(9)° for **3c**. The geometry of the central tin atom can be



Figure 4. Molecular structure of 3b; hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths [Angstroms] and angles [degrees]: Sn(1)-C(1) 2.105(5), Sn(1)-C(13) 2.122(5), Sn(1)-N(1) 2.582(4), Sn(1)-N(2) 2.716(4), Sn(1)-O(1) 2.044(3), Sn(1)-O(2) 2.046(3), B(1)-O(1) 1.335(6), B(1)-O(3) 1.385(6), B(2)-O(2) 1.333(6), B(2)-O(3) 1.385(6), O(1)-Sn(1)-O(2) 88.39(13), O(1)-B(1)-O(3) 124.5(4), O(2)-B(2)-O(3) 124.6(4), Sn(1)-O(1)-B(1) 127.8(3), Sn(1)-O(2)-B(2) 127.4(3), B(1)-O(3)-B(2) 126.8(4).

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Figure 5. Molecular structures of 3c; hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths [Angstroms] and angles [degrees]: Sn(1)-C(1) 2.115(3), Sn(1)-C(13) 2.123(3), Sn(1)-N(1) 2.727(3), Sn(1)-N(2) 2.574(3), Sn(1)-O(1) 2.032(2), Sn(1)-O(2) 2.035(2), B(1)-O(1) 1.332(4), B(1)-O(3) 1.394(4), B(2)-O(2) 1.339(4), B(2)-O(3) 1.390(4), O(1)-Sn(1)-O(2) 88.75(9), O(1)-B(1)-O(3) 124.5(3), O(2)-B(2)-O(3) 124.4(3), Sn(1)-O(1)-B(1) 127.2(2), Sn(1)-O(2)-B(2) 126.5(2), B(1)-O(3)-B(2) 126.3(3).

described as distorted octahedral. The Sn–O bond distances (2.032(2)–2.046(3) Å) within the heteroboroxine ring again indicate formation of Sn–O covalent bonds ($\Sigma_{cov}(Sn, O) = 2.03$).¹⁵

It is noteworthy that all structures of 1a, 1c, 2b, 3b, and 3c contain the central MB₂O₃ ring system, where both B-O(M)bonds are slightly shorter (1.326(7)-1.346(4) Å) than the remaining B-O(B) bonds (1.378(7)-1.394(4) Å) and also shorter than the B–O distances in the corresponding boroxines $R_3B_3O_3$.^{17,9d} All values are, however, still slightly shorter than the sum of the covalent radii $\Sigma_{cov}(B, O) = 1.48$ Å.¹⁵ The presence of the heteroatom M leads also to a significant distortion of the central six-membered ring as demonstrated by the values of the O-B-O (123.8(3)-127.3(3)° in 1a, 1c, 2b, **3b**, and **3c**), B-O-B $(125.4(3)-126.8(4)^{\circ})$, and M-B-O angles $(126.5(2)-130.11(19)^\circ)$, which are significantly wider than the ideal value of 120° observed usually for simple boroxines such as $Ph_3B_3O_3{}^{17}$ or $Fc_3B_3O_3{}^{9d}$ This distortion is also reflected in acute O-M-O angles $(86.07(8)^{\circ} 1a,$ $83.76(14)^{\circ}$ 2b, $88.39(13)^{\circ}$ 3b, $85.84(9)^{\circ}$ 1c, $88.39(13)^{\circ}$ 3c). The presence of heteroatom M is further reflected in a distortion of the MB₂O₃ rings from planarity. Atoms M are slightly displaced from the mean plane of the B2O3 moiety, distances of M from this plane being 0.165 (1a), 0.423 (1c), 0.411 (2b), 0.071 (3b), and 0.253 (3c) Å. The ligand L is oriented nearly perpendicularly to the MB₂O₃ ring system in all structurally characterized compounds.

The most striking feature regarding the substituents on the heteroboroxine rings is the position of the ferrocenyl moieties in 1c and 3c. While in the case of 1c the ferrocenyl residues are placed on the opposite side (anti) of the heteroboroxine ring with respect to L, those in 3c are directed toward ligand L (i.e., in syn fashion). In the case of the triferrocenylboroxine, the ferrocenyl moieties are also oriented in all-syn fashion.^{9d} Structures of all possible isomers of 1c, 2c, and 3c (all-syn, all-anti, and anti-syn) were optimized by DFT methods and

Table 1. GIAO-B3LYP/cc-pVDZ ^b //B3LYP/cc-pVDZ ^b	Computed NICS for	r Heteroboroxines	Reported in	This Wo	rk: Model
Compounds 1, 2, and 3 and Parent Boroxine H ₃ B ₃ O ₃ ^a	1				

molecule	NICS(0)	$NICS(1)^{c}$	$NICS(-1)^{c}$	$\mathrm{NICS}_{zz}(0)^d$	$\mathrm{NICS}_{zz}(1)^d$	$\mathrm{NICS}_{zz}(-1)^d$	$\sigma_{ m ip}{}^e$
\mathbf{l}^{f}	0.1	0.6	0.1	25.7	5.2	5.0	-12.7
1a	1.2	0.8	0.9	28.1	9.0	7.2	-12.3
1b	1.1	0.8	0.8	27.9	9.0	7.2	-12.3
1c	0.7	0.1	0.9	26.8	7.4	7.7	-12.3
2^{f}	-0.6	0.3	-0.2	24.7	5.6	4.2	-13.2
2a	1.1	0.7	0.9	27.8	9.2	7.5	-12.3
2b	1.1	0.7	0.8	27.7	9.3	7.5	-12.2
2c	0.8	0.3	1.0	27.0	8.2	8.2	-12.3
3^{f}	0.0	0.1	0.1	25.9	5.0	5.0	-12.9
3a	1.4	0.8	1.2	29.1	9.2	7.9	-12.5
3b	1.4	0.8	1.2	29.1	9.2	8.0	-12.4
3c	1.1	0.9	0.9	28.2	9.8	6.4	-12.4
$H_3B_3O_3$	0.2	-1.6	-1.6	18.9	-1.9	-1.9	-9.8

^{*a*}All values are in ppm. ^{*b*}cc-pVTZ-PP on Sb, Bi, and Sn. ^{*c*}NICS values computed 1 Å away from the geometric center of the heteroboroxine ring on the same side (1) and opposite side (-1) as the pincer-type ligand L on the Sb or Bi. ^{*d*}NICS based on the out-of-plane *zz* shielding tensor component. ^{*c*}Average of the in-plane components of the shielding tensor. ^{*f*}On B3LYP/cc-pVTZ geometries.

Table 2. Relevant Bond Distances (r, Angstroms), Wiberg Bond Indices (WBI), and NPA Atomic Charges for Model Compounds 1, 2, and 3, Parent Boroxine H₃B₃O₃, and Extended Model Compounds 1', 2', and 3'

molecule	$r_{\rm B-O(M)}$	$r_{\rm B-O(B)}$	WBI _{B-O(M)}	WBI _{B-O(B)}	WBI _{M-O}	$q_{ m M}$	$q_{\rm O(M)}$	$q_{O(B)}$	$q_{ m B}$
1	1.358	1.378	1.000	0.883	0.583	1.460	-1.009	-0.878	0.941
2	1.354	1.380	1.028	0.879	0.570	1.483	-1.000	-0.883	0.934
3	1.358	1.381	0.893	0.825	0.533	1.675	-1.018	-0.882	0.937
1′	1.355	1.387	1.004	0.862	0.465	1.674	-1.060	-0.890	1.104
2'	1.352	1.388	1.029	0.858	0.44	1.703	-1.062	-0.898	1.082
3'	1.354	1.389	1.015	0.859	0.421	2.090	-1.070	-0.896	1.088
$H_3B_3O_3$			0.904	0.904			-0.856	-0.856	0.958

basically have the same energy (see Supporting Information). Thus, it seems that the orientation of the substituents is not determined by single-molecule effects but results from the crystal packing.

The redox properties of ferrocenylated derivatives 1c, 2c, and 3c were studied by cyclic voltammetry at the Pt disc electrode in 1,2-dichloroethane containing 0.1 M $Bu_4N[PF_6]$ as the supporting electrolyte. Compounds showed only one wave attributable to the ferrocene/ferrocenium couple (Figure S1, Supporting Information). The redox change was controlled by diffusion as indicated by i_{va} (anodic peak current) increasing linearly with the square root of the scan rate $(i_{\rm pa} \propto \nu^{1/2})$. However, the observed waves were composite resulting from a convolution of two narrow-spaced one-electron redox waves (anodic peak potential, $E_{pa} = 0.575$ V for 1c, 0.540 V for 2c, and 0.550 V for 3c vs decamethylferrocene/decamethylferrocenium;¹⁸ peak separations were ca. 140 mV for 1c and 2c and 120 mV for 3c). The composite nature of the redox waves suggests a weak, probably electrostatic communication between the ferrocenyl substituents and was confirmed by square-wave voltammograms (Figure S2, Supporting Information). It is also noteworthy that the primary electrochemical reaction was not fully reversible, giving rise to another electrochemically active compound, which was reduced at a relatively lower potential (and also oxidized during the second or following scans; see Figure S1, Supporting Information).

The bonding situation in the heteroboroxines was studied theoretically using DFT computations. As a first step, the molecular structures of compounds 1a, 1c, 2b, 3b, and 3c were optimized from the crystal structure geometries at the $B3LYP^{19}/cc-pVDZ^{20}$ (cc-pVDZ-PP²¹ for Sb, Bi, and Sn) level of theory. The computed geometrical parameters were found to be in good agreement with the experimental values. The structures of **1b**, **2a**, **2c**, and **3a** were also constructed in silico and optimized at the same level of theory. Cartesian coordinates of all optimized geometries are given in the Supporting Information.

The observed shortening of the B-O bonds within all structurally characterized heteroboroxines 1a, 1c, 2b, 3b, and 3c may indicate a multiple character of these bonds. In order to investigate possible aromaticity of the heteroboroxines,²² the model compounds $HSb[(OBH)_2O](1)$, $HBi[(OBH)_2O](2)$, and $H_2Sn[(OBH)_2O]$ (3) were constructed and optimized at the B3LYP¹⁹/cc-pVTZ²⁰ (cc-pVTZ-PP²¹ on Sb, Bi, or Sn) level. In all optimized model systems, confirmed to be minima on the potential energy surface by computation of the vibrational frequencies, the heteroboroxine ring is planar and the bond distances of the B-O(M) bonds are slightly shorter than the B-O(B) bonds, in agreement with experimental findings. The possible aromaticity of 1-3 through the magnetic criterion was assessed via computation of the different variations of the nucleus-independent chemical shifts (NICS)²³ and induced current densities.²⁴ These were compared with the properties of the parent boroxine H₂B₂O₃.²² Results are summarized in Table 1 together with results of the NICS evaluations in the real compounds 1a-c, 2a-c, and 3a-c. On the basis of the comparison of the NICS values in the center of the ring (NICS(0)), the NICS values 1 Åabove and below the ring (NICS(± 1)), and the component of the shielding tensor perpendicular to the ring plane component of the shielding tensor, these rings can be classified as nonaromatic, in agreement with the parent boroxine.

This is nicely confirmed by current density plots (computed using the ipsocentric formalism;²⁴ see Figure S3, Supporting Information) showing only localized diatropic circulations around the oxygens and no diatropic or paratropic ring current, the footprint of an aromatic or nonaromatic ring. The bonding in the heteroboroxine rings was further investigated on the model compounds 1, 2, and 3 using natural bond orbitals 25 and Wiberg bond indices.²⁶ The Wiberg bond indices (Table 2) of the B-O(M) bonds are always higher than those of the B-O(B) bonds consistent with the shorter distance of the former as compared to the latter, which also well corresponds with the experimental results. The Wiberg bond index of the B-O bond in the parent boroxine $H_3B_3O_3$ is smaller than the bond order of the B-O(M) bonds for compounds 1 and 2; in the case of compound 3, these bond orders are comparable. The boroxine B-O bond order in $H_3B_3O_3$ is however larger than the B-O(B) bond orders in all compounds. For compounds 1 and 2, NBO analysis reveals the presence of one largely s-type lone pair on Sb or Bi and two bonds from the metal atoms to the neighboring oxygen atoms (with bond orders of 0.583 and 0.570, respectively). In the case of compound 3, four bonds emerge from the Sn atom to its neighbors with Wiberg bond indices of 0.533 (Sn-O) and 0.876 (Sn-H), respectively.

In order to investigate in more detail the presence of the pincer-type ligands on the heteroboroxine rings, larger model systems $LSb[(OBMe)_2O]$ (1'), $LBi[(OBMe)_2O]$ (2'), and $L(Me)Sn[(OBMe)_2O]$ (3') were constructed. These contain the ligands L on the metal atom, while methyl groups are used for termination of the free valencies. Relevant bond distances of the heteroboroxine rings remain essentially unaltered in these larger systems. In addition, NBO analysis is fully consistent with the bonding situation around the metal atoms in the simpler model systems 1-3. The only differences are seen in the bond orders of the metal to oxygen bonds in the boroxine rings that are somewhat decreased (0.465 for 1', 0.440 for 2', and 0.421 for 3') and in the atomic charges on the metals that become more positive, favoring a stabilizing interaction with the negatively charged nitrogen atoms of the ligand L. Both facts reflect significant polarization of the M–O bonds in 1'-3'in comparison with 1-3 induced by the pincer ligand.

We discovered a new straightforward and high-yielding synthetic route to novel heteroboroxines possessing Sb, Bi, and Sn heteroatoms in the central MB_2O_3 ring. Theoretical considerations proved nonaromatic character of these heteroboroxines and suggest that the presence of the pincer-type ligand leads to a significant polarization of the MB_2O_3 moieties. Results of further reactivity studies and attempts at preparation of other heteroboroxines bearing various substituents at boron and heteroatoms M will be reported in due course.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Remarks. ¹H, ¹¹B, ¹³C, and ¹¹⁹Sn NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 500 MHz spectrometer or Bruker Ultrashield 400 MHz using a 5 mm tunable broad-band probe. Appropriate chemical shifts in ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were related to the residual signals of the solvent (CDCl₃: δ (¹H) = 7.27 ppm and δ (¹³C) = 77.23 ppm) or to the external Me₄Sn δ (¹¹⁹Sn) = 0.00 ppm in the case of the ¹¹⁹Sn NMR spectra. ¹¹B NMR spectra were related to external standard B(OMe)₃ (δ (¹⁰B) = 18.1 ppm). IR spectra were recorded in the 4000–50 cm⁻¹ region on a Nicolet 6700 FTIR spectrometer using a single-bounce diamond ATR crystal. Elemental analyses were performed on an LECO-CHNS-932 analyzer. Starting compounds (LSbO)₂,^{14a} (LBiO)₂,^{14b} and L(Ph)Sn(CO₃)^{14c} were prepared according to literature procedures.

Syntheses. Compound LSb[(OBPh)₂O] (1a). A solution of (LSbO)₂ (417 mg, 0.63 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) was added to a stirred solution of PhB(OH)₂ (309 mg, 2.53 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL) at room temperature, and the reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 12 h at this temperature. Then the volume of the solution was evaporated to ca. 5 mL; hexane (15 mL) was added leading to formation of a white precipitate. The white solid was collected by filtration, washed with 5 mL of hexane, and dried in vacuo to give 1a as a white solid. Yield: 571 mg (84%). Mp: 155-157 °C. ^IH NMR $(CDCl_3, 25 \ ^{\circ}C): \delta = 2.19 \ (s(br), 6H, (CH_3)_2N), 2.84 \ (s(br), 6H,$ (CH₃)₂N), 3.09 and 4.75 (AX pattern, 4H, CH₂N), 7.03 (d, 2H, L-Ph-H3,5), 7.17 (t, 1H, L-Ph-H4), 7.38 (m, 6H, B-Ph3,4,5), 8.02 (d, 4H, B-Ph2,6). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): $\delta = 42.4$ ((CH₃)₂N), 45.0 ((CH₃)₂N), 63.3 (CH₂N), 126.3 (L-Ph-C3,5), 127.6 (B-Ph-C3,5), 129.3 (L-Ph-C4), 130.1 (B-Ph-C4), 135.0 (B-Ph-C2,6), 147.4 (L-Ph-C2,6), 155.5 (L-Ph-C1). ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 26.9. Anal. Calcd for C24H29N2O3B2Sb (536.86): C, 53.7; H, 5.4. Found: C, 54.0; H, 5.1.

Compound $LSb[(OB-4-CF_3C_6H_4)_2O]$ (1b). A solution of $(LSbO)_2$ (205 mg, 0.31 mmol) in CH2Cl2 (20 mL) was added to a stirred suspension of 4-CF₃C₆H₄B(OH)₂ (237 mg, 1.25 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL) at room temperature, and the reaction mixture was stirred for additional 12 h at this temperature whereupon a clear solution resulted. Then the volume of the solution was evaporated to ca. 5 mL; hexane (15 mL) was added, leading to formation of a white precipitate. The white solid was collected by filtration, washed with 5 mL of hexane, and dried in vacuo to give 1b as a white solid. Yield: 334 mg (80%). Mp: 199–202 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 2.10 (s(br), 6H, (CH₃)₂N), 2.86 (s(br), 6H, (CH₃)₂N), 3.12 and 4.68 (AX pattern, 4H, CH₂N), 7.06 (d, 2H, L-Ph-H3,5), 7.21 (t, 1H, L-Ph-H4), 7.63 (d, 4H, B-Ph3,5), 8.08 (d, 4H, B-Ph2,6). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 42.4 ((CH₃)₂N), 45.5 ((CH₃)₂N), 63.2 (CH₂N), 124.2 (q, B-Ph-C3,5, ${}^{3}J(C,F) = 4$ Hz), 126.3 (q, CF₃, ${}^{1}J(C,F) = 265$ Hz), 126.4 (L-Ph-C3,5), 129.6 (L-Ph-C4), 131.7 (q, B-Ph-C4, ${}^{2}J(C,F) = 32$ Hz), 135.0 (B-Ph-C2,6), 141.4 (B-Ph-C1), 147.2 (L-Ph-C2,6), 155.1 (L-Ph-C1). ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): $\delta = 27.5$. ¹⁹F NMR $(CDCl_3, 25 \ ^{\circ}C): \delta = -62.6$. Anal. Calcd for $C_{26}H_{27}N_2O_3F_6B_2Sb: C_{26}M_2C_2$ 46.2; H, 4.7. Found: C, 46.5; H, 4.4.

Compound LSb[(OBFc)₂O] (1c). A solution of (LSbO)₂ (98 mg, 0.15 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) was added to a stirred solution of FcB(OH)₂ (138 mg, 0.60 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL) at room temperature, and the reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 12 h at this temperature. Then the volume of the solution was evaporated to ca. 5 mL; hexane (15 mL) was added, leading to formation of a yellow-orange precipitate. Solid was collected by filtration, washed with 5 mL of hexane, and dried in vacuo to give 1c as a yellow solid. Yield: 172 mg (84%). Mp >250 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 2.15 (s(br), 6H, (CH₃)₂N), 2.80 (s(br), 6H, (CH₃)₂N), 3.15 and 4.89 (AX pattern, 4H, CH₂N), 3.96 (s, 10H CpFe), 4.33 (s, 4H, Cp(BO₂)Fe), 4.42 (s, 2H, Cp(BO₂)Fe) 4.50 (2H, s, Cp(BO₂)Fe), 7.10 (d, 2H, L-Ph-H3,5), 7.16 (t, 1H, L-Ph-H4). $^{13}C{^{1}H}$ NMR $(CDCl_3, 25 \ ^{\circ}C): \delta = 42.5 ((CH_3)_2N), 44.9 ((CH_3)_2N), 63.4 (CH_2N),$ 68.3 (CpFe), 71.2 (Cp(BO₂)Fe), 71.3 (Cp(BO₂)Fe), 73.8 (Cp(BO₂)-Fe), 74.5 (Cp(BO₂)Fe), 126.5 (L-Ph-C3,5), 129.5 (L-Ph-C4), 147.3 (L-Ph-C2,6), 155.9 (L-Ph-C1). ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): $\delta =$ 29.3. Anal. Calcd for C32H37N2O3Fe2B2Sb: C, 51.0; H, 4.9. Found: C, 51.3; H, 4.7.

Compound $LBi[(OBPh)_2O]$ (2a). A solution of $(LBiO)_2$ (189 mg, 0.23 mmol) in toluene (20 mL) was added to a stirred solution of PhB(OH)_2 (111 mg, 0.91 mmol) in toluene (20 mL) at room temperature, and the reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 12 h at this temperature. Then the volume of the resulting solution was evaporated to ca. 5 mL; hexane (10 mL) was added, causing a separation of a white precipitate. White solid was collected by filtration, washed with 5 mL of hexane, and dried in vacuo to give 2a as

Table 3. Crystallographic Data for 1a, 1c, 2b, 3b, and 3c

	1a	1c	2b	3b	3c		
chemical formula	$C_{24}H_{29}B_2N_2O_3Sb$	$C_{32}H_{37}B_2N_2Fe_2O_3Sb$	$C_{26}H_{27}B_2BiF_6N_2O_3$	$C_{32}H_{32}B_2F_6N_2O_3Sn$	$C_{38}H_{42}B_2Fe_2N_2O_3Sn$		
cryst syst	monoclinic	monoclinic	orthorhombic	monoclinic	orthorhombic		
space group	$P2_{1}/c$	$P2_{1}/c$	Pnma	$P2_1/c$	$P2_{1}2_{1}2_{1}$		
a [A]	6.5320(5)	20.4090(9)	12.6610(9)	22.3600(6)	11.5029(13)		
<i>b</i> [A]	31.944(3)	12.1311(10)	24.1351(10)	13.2700(10)	16.3892(14)		
c [A]	12.5390(3)	12.4800(14)	9.2950(13)	11.0911(16)	18.9900(13)		
α [deg]	90	90	90	90	90		
β [deg]	113.171(5)	95.455(5)	90	93.940(6)	90		
γ [deg]	90	90	90	90	90		
Ζ	4	4	4	4	4		
$\mu \; [\mathrm{mm}^{-1}]$	1.175	1.839	6.277	0.848	1.531		
$D_x [Mg m^{-3}]$	1.483	1.625	1.778	1.511	1.534		
cryst size [mm]	$0.33\times0.16\times0.12$	$0.37 \times 0.09 \times 0.07$	$0.26\times0.17\times0.10$	$0.34 \times 0.25 \times 0.04$	$0.47\times0.29\times0.20$		
θ range [deg]	1-27.5	1-27.5	1-27.5	1-27.5	1-27.5		
T_{\min}, T_{\max}	0.835, 0.891	0.779, 0.891	0.425, 0.691	0.864, 0.964	0.636, 0.791		
no. of reflns measd	23 671	26 518	20 374	29 517	25 341		
no. of unique reflns, $R_{\rm int}^{a}$	5415, 0.039	7004, 0.055	3325, 0.040	7497, 0.066	8054, 0.041		
no. of obsd reflns $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$	4339	5357	2729	5245	7293		
no. of params	289	379	187	415	433		
S ^b all data	1.087	1.100	1.098	1.117	1.130		
final \mathbb{R}^{c} indices $[I > 2\sigma(I))]$	0.033	0.039	0.040	0.058	0.032		
wR2 ^{<i>c</i>} indices (all data)	0.058	0.062	0.085	0.105	0.058		
Δho , max, min [e Å ⁻³]	0.391, -0.577	0.512, -0.661	1.792, -1.162	1.902, -0.890	0.573, -0.547		
$\begin{aligned} R_{\text{int}} &= \Sigma F_o^2 - F_{\text{o},\text{mean}}^2 /\Sigma F_o^2. \ ^bS = \left[\Sigma (w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2)/(N_{\text{diffrs}} - N_{\text{params}}) \right]^{1/2} \cdot ^c R(F) = \Sigma F_o - F_c /\Sigma F_o , \ wR(F^2) = \left[\Sigma (w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2)/(N_{\text{diffrs}} - N_{\text{params}}) \right]^{1/2} \cdot ^c R(F) = \sum F_o - F_c /\Sigma F_o , \ wR(F^2) = \left[\Sigma (w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2)/(N_{\text{diffrs}} - N_{\text{params}}) \right]^{1/2} \cdot ^c R(F) = \sum F_o - F_c /\Sigma F_o , \ wR(F^2) = \left[\Sigma (w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2)/(N_{\text{diffrs}} - N_{\text{params}}) \right]^{1/2} \cdot ^c R(F) = \sum F_o - F_c /\Sigma F_o , \ wR(F^2) = \left[\Sigma (w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2)/(N_{\text{diffrs}} - N_{\text{params}}) \right]^{1/2} \cdot ^c R(F) = \sum F_o - F_c /\Sigma F_o , \ wR(F^2) = \left[\Sigma (w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2)/(N_{\text{diffrs}} - N_{\text{params}}) \right]^{1/2} \cdot ^c R(F) = \sum F_o - F_c /\Sigma F_o , \ wR(F^2) = \left[\Sigma (w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2)/(N_{\text{diffrs}} - N_{\text{params}}) \right]^{1/2} \cdot ^c R(F) = \sum F_o - F_c /\Sigma F_o , \ wR(F^2) = \left[\Sigma (w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2)/(N_{\text{diffrs}} - N_{\text{params}}) \right]^{1/2} \cdot ^c R(F) = \sum F_o - F_c /\Sigma F_o , \ wR(F^2) = \left[\Sigma (w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2/(N_{\text{diffrs}} - N_{\text{params}}) \right]^{1/2} \cdot ^c R(F) = \sum F_o - F_c /\Sigma F_o , \ wR(F^2) = \left[\Sigma (w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2/(N_{\text{diffrs}} - N_{\text{params}}) \right]^{1/2} \cdot ^c R(F) = \sum F_o - F_c /\Sigma F_o , \ wR(F^2) = \sum F_o - F_$							

a white solid. Yield: 219 mg (95%). Mp: 170–174 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 2.17 (s(br), 6H, (CH₃)₂N), 2.93 (s(br), 6H, (CH₃)₂N), 3.29 and 4.76 (AX pattern, 4H, CH₂N), 7.25 (t, 1H, L-Ph-H4), 7.39 (m, 8H, L-Ph-H3,5 and B-Ph3,4,5), 8.04 (d, 4H, B-Ph2,6). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 42.5 ((CH₃)₂N), 46.2 ((CH₃)₂N), 65.7 (CH₂N), 127.6 (B-Ph-C3,5), 128.5 (L-Ph-C3,5), 128.7 (L-Ph-C4), 129.6 (B-Ph-C4), 135.1 (B-Ph-C2,6), 152.1 (L-Ph-C2,6), 205.0 (L-Ph-C1). ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 26.7. Anal. Calcd for C₂₄H₂₉N₂O₃B₂Bi: C, 46.2; H, 4.7. Found: C, 46.3; H, 4.6.

Compound $LBi[(OB-4-CF_3C_6H_4)_2O]$ (2b). A solution of (LBiO)₂ (100 mg, 0.12 mmol) in toluene (20 mL) was added to a stirred suspension of 4-CF3C6H4B(OH)2 (91 mg, 0.48 mmol) in the same solvent (15 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 12 h at this temperature, affording a clear solution. Then the volume of the solution was evaporated to ca. 5 mL; hexane (15 mL) was added, leading to formation of a white precipitate. White solid was collected by filtration, washed with 5 mL of hexane, and dried in vacuo to give 2b as a white solid. Yield: 182 mg (90%). Mp: 184–187 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 2.17 (s(br), 6H, (CH₃)₂N), 2.93 (s(br), 6H, (CH₃)₂N), 3.35 and 4.70 (AX pattern, 4H, CH₂N), 7.29 (t, 1H, L-Ph-H4), 7.42 (d, 2H, L-Ph-H3,5), 7.61 (d, 4H, B-Ph3,5), 8.08 (d, 4H, B-Ph2,6). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 42.5 ((CH₃)₂N), 46.3 ((CH₃)₂N), 65.7 (CH_2N) , 124.2 (q, B-Ph-C3,5, ${}^{3}J(C,F) = 4$ Hz), 124.2 (q, CF_3 , ${}^{1}J(C,F)$ = 266 Hz), 128.7 (L-Ph-C3,5), 129.1 (L-Ph-C4), 131.3 (q, B-Ph-C4, ${}^{2}J(C,F) = 32 \text{ Hz}$, 135.3 (B-Ph-C2,6), 138.1 (B-Ph-C1), 152.2 (L-Ph-C2,6), 205.4 (L-Ph-C1). ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): $\delta = 26.4$. ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): $\delta = -62.6$. Anal. Calcd for C₂₆H₂₇N₂O₃F₆B₂Bi: C, 41.1; H, 3.6. Found: C, 41.4; H, 3.4.

Compound LBi[(OBFc)₂O] (2c). A solution of $(LBiO)_2$ (100 mg, 0.12 mmol) in toluene (20 mL) was added to a stirred solution of FcB(OH)₂ (110 mg, 0.48 mmol) in toluene (15 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 12 h at this temperature. Then the volume of the solution was evaporated to ca. 5 mL; hexane (15 mL) was added, leading to formation of a yellow-orange precipitate. Solid was collected by filtration, washed with 5 mL of hexane, and dried in vacuo to give compound 2c as a yellow solid.

Yield: 156 mg (86%). Mp: >237 °C (dec). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 2.18 (s(br), 6H, (CH₃)₂N), 2.67 (s(br), 6H, (CH₃)₂N), 3.35 and 4.93 (AX pattern, 4H, CH₂N), 3.95 (s, 10H CpFe), 4.30 (s, 4H, Cp(BO₂)Fe), 4.40 (s, 2H, Cp(BO₂)Fe), 4.91 (2H, s, Cp(BO₂)Fe), 7.26 (t, 1H, L-Ph-H4), 7.47 (d, 2H, L-Ph-H3,5). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 42.0 ((CH₃)₂N), 45.7 ((CH₃)₂N), 65.7 (CH₂N), 68.2 (CpFe), 71.0 (Cp(BO₂)Fe), 73.6 (Cp(BO₂)Fe), 74.7 (Cp(BO₂)-Fe), 128.6 (L-Ph-C3,5), 128.9 (L-Ph-C4), 152.0 (L-Ph-C2,6), (L-Ph-C1) not found. ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 28.4. Anal. Calcd for C₃₂H₃₇N₂O₃Fe₂B₂Bi: C, 45.6; H, 4.4. Found: C, 45.9; H, 4.1.

Compound LSn(Ph)[(OBPh)₂O] (3a). PhB(OH)₂ (77.8 mg; 0.64 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of $L(Ph)Sn(CO_3)$ (142.6 mg; 0.32 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 24 h and then evaporated. White solid residue was washed with hexane (5 mL) and dried in vacuo to give 3a as a white solid. Yield: 571 mg (84%). Mp: 119-124 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 25°): δ = 2.31 (s, 12H, (CH₃)₂N), 3.10 and 4.70 (AX pattern, 4H, CH2N), 7.15 (d, 2H, ArH), 7.31 (t, 1H, ArH), 7.49 (m, 9H, ArH), 7.82 (d, 2H, ArH), 8.20 (d, 4H, ArH). ¹³C{¹H} NMR $(CDCl_3, 25^\circ): \delta = 44.8 ((CH_3)_2N), 63.1 (CH_2N), 127.2 (Ph-C3,5),$ 127.4 (B-Ph-C3,5), 128.1 (L-Ph-C3,5), 129.6 (Ph-C4), 129.7 (B-Ph-C4), 130.1 (L-Ph-C4), 134.6 (Ph-C2,6), 134.9 (B-Ph-C2,6), 138.3 (B-Ph-C1), 139.3 (Ph-C1), 141.9 (L-Ph-C1), 145.2 (L-Ph-C2,6). ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): $\delta = 27.1$. ¹¹⁹Sn NMR (CDCl₃, 25°): $\delta =$ -359.1. Anal. Calcd for C29H32N2O3B2Sn (476.76): C, 58.9; H, 5.6. Found: C, 58.5; H, 5.3.

Compound LSn(Ph)[(OB-4-CF₃C₆H₄)₂O] (**3b**). 4-CF₃C₆H₄–B-(OH)₂ (122.6 mg; 0.32 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of L(Ph)Sn(CO₃) (144.3 mg; 0.65 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) at room temperature. This reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 24 h at this temperature and then evaporated in vacuo. The resulting white solid was washed with hexane (5 mL) and dried in vacuo to give **3b** as a white solid. Yield: 571 mg (84%). Mp: 189–191 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 25°): δ = 2.48 (s, 12H, (CH₃)₂N), 3.19 and 4.71 (AX pattern, 4H, CH₂N), 7.23 (d, 2H, ArH), 7.43 (t, 1H, ArH), 7.56 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.78 (d, 6H, ArH), 7.85 (d, 2H, ArH), 8.29 (d, 4H, ArH). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25°): δ = 44.7 ((CH₃)₂N), 63.1 (CH₂N), 123.3 (CF₃), 124.1 (B-Ph-C3,5), 126.1 (CF₃), 127.4 (Ph-C3,5), 128.8 (L-Ph-C3,5), 129.8 (L-Ph-C4), 130.4 (Ph-C4), 131.2 (B-Ph-C4), 131.5 (B-Ph-C4), 134.5 (Ph-C2,6), 135.0 (B-Ph-C2,6), 139.0 (Ph-C1), 141.4 (L-Ph-C1), 142.2 (B-Ph-C1), 145.0 (L-Ph-C2,6). ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 29.3. ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = -62.5. ¹¹⁹Sn NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = -364.0. Anal. Calcd for C₃₁H₃₆N₂O₃F₆B₂Sn (490.77): C, 51.4; H, 4.3. Found: C, 51.1; H, 4.1.

Compound LSn(Ph)[(OBFc)₂O] (3c). FcB(OH)₂ (78.4 mg; 0.34 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of L(Ph)Sn(CO₃) (76.2 mg; 0.17 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) at room temperature, and the reaction mixture was stirred for a further 24 h at this temperature and evaporated in vacuo. The resulting orange solid was washed with hexane (5 mL) and dried in vacuo to give 3c as an orange solid. Yield: 156 mg (86%). Mp: 213–215 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 25°): δ = 2.37 (s, 12H, (CH₃)₂N), 3.11 and 4.73 (AX pattern, 4H, CH₂N), 4.05 (s, 10H CpFe), 4.35 (s, 4H, Cp(BO₂)Fe), 4.53 (s, 4H, Cp(BO₂)Fe), 7.14 (t, 2H, ArH), 7.31 (d, 1H, ArH), 7.14 (t, 3H, ArH), 7.85 (d, 2H, ArH). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25°): δ = 44.7 ((CH₃)₂N), 63.3 (CH₂N), 68.3 (CpFe), 71.1 (Cp(BO₂)Fe), 74.2 (Cp(BO₂)Fe), 127.3 (L-Ph-C3,5), 128.7 (Ph-C3,5), 129.7 (Ph-C4), 130.3 (L-Ph-C4), 134.9 (Ph-C2,6), 139.7 (Ph-C1), 142.2 (L-Ph-C1), 145.3 (L-Ph-C2,6). ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ = 28.2. ¹¹⁹Sn NMR (CDCl₃, 25°): δ = -358.0. Anal. Calcd for C₃₇H₄₂N₂O₃Fe₂B₂Sn: C, 45.6; H, 4.4. Found: C, 45.9; H, 4.1.

X-ray Diffraction Analyses. Suitable single crystals of 1a, 1c, 2b, 3b, and 3c were mounted on a glass fiber with an oil and measured on a four-circle diffractometer KappaCCD with CCD area detector by monochromatized Mo K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å). Corresponding crystallographic data are given in Table 3. The numerical²⁷ absorption correction from the crystal shape was applied for all crystals. Structures were solved by direct methods (SIR92²⁸) and refined by a full matrix least-squares procedure based on F^2 (SHELXL97²⁹). Hydrogen atoms were mostly localized on a difference Fourier map; however, to ensure the uniformity of treatment of the crystal, all hydrogen were recalculated into idealized positions (riding model) and assigned temperature factors $H_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(pivot atom)$ or $1.5U_{eq}$ for the methyl moiety with C-H = 0.96, 0.98, and 0.93 Å for methyl, methylene, and hydrogen atoms in the aromatic rings, respectively. The final difference maps displayed no peaks of chemical significance as the highest peaks and holes are in close vicinity of heavy atoms. Crystallographic data for structural analysis has been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, CCDC nos. 895166-895170. Copies of this information may be obtained free of charge from The Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EY, UK (Fax +44-1223-336033; e-mail deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk or http:// www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

Computational Details. Model compounds 1, 2, and 3, the parent boroxine $H_3B_3O_{3^3}$ and the "extended" model compounds 1', 2', and 3' were optimized at the B3LYP level of theory¹⁹ using the ccpVTZ basis set²⁰ (cc-pVTZ-PP²¹ basis set for Sb, Bi, and Sn). Subsequent NBO analysis²⁵ and calculation of Wiberg bond indices²⁶ and nucleus-independent chemical shifts²³ (for 1, 2, and 3) were performed at the same level of theory. In addition, the current density induced by the external magnetic field, directed perpendicular to the ring of interest, was calculated for 1, 2, and 3 at the same level of theory using the ipsocentric CTOCD-DZ method.²⁴ Compounds 1a– c, 2a–c, and 3a–c were optimized at the B3LYP level of theory¹⁸ using the cc-pVDZ basis set (cc-pVDZ-PP basis set for Sb, Bi, and Sn). Subsequent NBO analysis²¹ and calculation of Wiberg bond indices²⁵ and nucleus-independent chemical shifts²⁶ for these compounds were performed at the same level of theory. All calculations were performed using the Gaussian 09 program,³⁰ except for computation of the induced current densities, which were performed using the GAMESS-UK³¹ and SYSMO programs.³²

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

S Supporting Information

Figures S1–S3, crystallographic data in cif format, and details of DFT calculations together with ball and stick representation and Cartesian coordinates (Å) of optimized compounds. This

material is available free of charge via the Internet at http:// pubs.acs.org.

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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DEDICATION

Dedicated to Prof. Jaroslav Holeček on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

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