# Synthesis and characterization of novel halogeno(+I) adduct complexes containing malononitrile and 1,3,5-triazine

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#### Abstract

The 1-halogeno-1,3,5-triazinium hexafluoroarsenate and hexafluoroantimonate compounds of the type  $[(HCN)_3X][MF_6]$  (M=As; X=F, (1), Cl (2) and M=Sb; X=Br (3)) have been synthesized by direct reaction of 1,3,5-triazine, (HCN)<sub>3</sub>, with halogenomonofluorides, XF, in the presence of AsF<sub>5</sub> or SbF<sub>5</sub>, respectively. The reactions of (HCN)<sub>3</sub> and malonitrile, CH<sub>2</sub>(CN)<sub>2</sub>, with [I<sub>3</sub>][AsF<sub>6</sub> afforded the iodonium adduct species  $[\{(HCN)_3\}_n I][AsF_6]$  (n=1 (4), 2 (5)) and  $[\{CH_2(CN)_2\}_n I][AsF_6]$  (n=1 (6), 2 (7)). All compounds have been characterized by chemical analyses, proton NMR spectroscopy and vibrational spectral data (IR, Raman). Temperature dependent <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy on SO<sub>2</sub> solutions of 1-3 revealed fluctional behaviour at room temperature which was frozen down at -60 °C (two resonances, ratio 1:2). According to the NMR time scale the cations in 4 and 5 exist already in the slow exchange region at room temperature. Solution behaviour, IR and UV data of 6 (naples yellow reddish) and 7 (black) suggest 7 to be polymeric and 6 to be monomeric with strong intermolecular I···I interactions.

#### Introduction

Exploring the applicability of the extended hard-soft acid-base principle [1] in inorganic main group chemistry we have extensively studied the coordination behaviour of nitriles towards the Lewis acids  $AsF_5$ ,  $SbF_5$  and  $[I_3]^+$  [2–7]. For example, the linear 22-valence-electron cation [ICNI]<sup>+</sup> was prepared according to eqn. (1).

$$ICN + [I_3][AsF_6] \longrightarrow [ICNI][AsF_6] + I_2$$
(1)

Systematic attempts to prepare further  $[XCNY]^+$  cations according to eqn. (2) were unsuccessful. All reactions led to the formation of the neutral Lewis base adduct species (eqn. (3)) [2, 8].

$$XCN + YF + AsF_5 \not \# \rightarrow [XCNY][AsF_6]$$
(2)

$$XCN + AsF_5 \longrightarrow XCN \cdot AsF_5 \xrightarrow{\Psi F} // \longrightarrow$$
 (3)

$$X = Cl, Br; Y = F, Cl, Br$$

However, we have been able to prepare  $[FCNF][AsF_6]$  from  $[HCNH][AsF_6]$  and elemental fluorine [9].

The synthesis of 1,3,5-triazinium cations according to eqns. (4) and (5) has been reported in the literature [10].

$$(\text{HCN})_3 + \text{HX} \longrightarrow [(\text{HCN})_3\text{H}]\text{X}$$
(4)  
X=Cl, Br

$$[(HCN)_{3}H]Cl + SbCl_{5} \longrightarrow [(HCN)_{3}H][SbCl_{6}]$$
(5)

We therefore attempted analogous reactions of 1,3,5-triazine and halogeno(+I) fluorides, XF (X=F, Cl, Br). We also studied the reaction of  $[I_3][AsF_6]$  towards 1,3,5-triazine and malononitrile. An account of this work is given below.

#### Experimental

#### Reagents and general procedures

Except where stated, the apparatus and chemicals were as previously described [2–6]. The solvents CFCl<sub>3</sub> (Merck,  $P_4O_{10}$ ), SO<sub>2</sub> (Messer Griesheim, CaH<sub>2</sub>) and SO<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> (Solvay, CaH<sub>2</sub>) were dried before use. F<sub>2</sub> (Solvay) was stored over KF, Cl<sub>2</sub> (Messer Griesheim), Br<sub>2</sub> (Merck), SbF<sub>5</sub> (Alfa) and I<sub>2</sub> (Ferak) and CH<sub>2</sub>(CN)<sub>2</sub> (Aldrich) were purified by two-fold distillation or sublimation, respectively. (HCN)<sub>3</sub> (Aldrich) was vacuum dried over P<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub> before use. AsF<sub>5</sub> [11] and [I<sub>3</sub>][AsF<sub>6</sub>] [12] were prepared as described in the literature.

IR spectra of Nujol or Fluorolube mulls between KBr, CsI or Si plates were obtained on a Perkin-Elmer

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model 580 B grating spectrometer. Raman spectra were obtained at room temperature on a Jobin Yvon Ramanor U 1000 spectrometer (excitation line 647.09 nm). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at 60 MHz on a Varian EM 360 or at 80 MHz on a Bruker WP 80 spectrometer. Chemical shift values are reported on the scale with tetramethylsilane (in the solvent used) at 23 °C as an external reference.

# Preparation of $[(HCN)_3F][AsF_6]$ (1)

Arsenic pentafluoride (0.503 g, 2.96 mmol) and  $F_2$ (0.112 g, 2.96 mmol) were condensed at -196 °C onto a frozen solution of (HCN)<sub>3</sub> (0.240 g, 2.96 mmol) in CFCl<sub>3</sub> (5 ml). The reaction mixture was warmed to -100 °C and then slowly (within 12 h) to room temperature. Removal of the volatile material gave compound 1 in 96% yield (0.825 g).

Dec. 120 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (SO<sub>2</sub>/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =9.67s ppm. *Anal.* Calc.: C, 12.47; H, 1.04; N, 14.54. Found: C, 12.34; H, 1.04; N, 14.10%.

#### Preparation of $[(HCN)_3Cl][AsF_6]$ (2)

(HCN)<sub>3</sub> (0.141 g, 1.74 mmol), CIF (0.095 g, 1.74 mmol) and AsF<sub>5</sub> (0.296 g, 1.74 mmol) were reacted as described for the preparation of 1 (see above). Compound 2 was obtained in 94% yield (0.501 g).

Dec. 187 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (SO<sub>2</sub>/CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 23 °C):  $\delta$ =9.73s ppm.

*Anal.* Calc.: C, 11.79; H, 0.99; N, 13.76. Found: C, 11.80; H, 1.09; N, 13.71%.

# Preparation of $[(HCN)_3Br][SbF_6]$ (3)

For this reaction a glass reaction vessel which consisted of two bulbs equipped with two Teflon-in-glass J. Young valves was used. In one bulb BrF was prepared from the elements in  $SO_2F_2$  (5 ml) solution reacting  $Br_2$  (0.396 g, 2.48 mmol) and  $F_2$  (0.094 g, 2.48 mmol). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to -10 °C followed by slow removal of  $SO_2F_2$  with the vessel held at -30 °C. BrF (4.96 mmol) and  $SbF_5$  (0.428 g, 4.91 mmol) were now condensed at -196 °C onto a frozen solution of (HCN)<sub>3</sub> (0.398 g, 4.90 mmol) in  $SO_2$  (5 ml). The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and reacted for 1 day with stirring. Removal of the volatile material to constant weight and recrystallization from  $SO_2$  (5 ml) afforded **3** in 15% yield (0.292 g).

Dec. 184 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (SO<sub>2</sub>, 23 °C):  $\delta$ =9.67s ppm. *Anal.* Calc.: C, 9.08; H, 0.76; N, 10.56. Found: C, 8.79; H, 0.94; N, 10.48%.

# Preparation of $[(HCN)_3I][AsF_6]$ (4)

A solution of  $(HCN)_3$  (0.136 g, 1.70 mmol) in SO<sub>2</sub> (5 ml) was reacted with a solution of  $[I_3][AsF_6]$  (0.968 g, 1.70 mmol) in SO<sub>2</sub> (5 ml) at -30 °C and warmed

to room temperature. The solvent was then removed. The crude product was extracted with  $CFCl_3$  (10 ml) to remove the iodine. The insoluble product was separated by filtration and vacuum dried to give 4 in 60% yield (0.399 g).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (SO<sub>2</sub>, 23 °C):  $\delta$ =9.83s (1H), 9.53s (2H) ppm.

*Anal.* Calc.: C, 9.08; H, 0.76; N, 10.59. Found: C, 10.34; H, 1.00; N, 12.19%.

# Preparation of $[{(HCN)_3}_2 I][AsF_6]$ (5)

(HCN)<sub>3</sub> (0.285 g; 3.51 mmol) and  $[I_3][AsF_6]$  (1.000 g, 1.76 mmol) were reacted as described for the preparation of 4 (see above). Compound 5 was obtained in 61% yield (0.510 g).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (SO<sub>2</sub>, 23 °C):  $\delta$ =9.71s (1H), 9.43s (2H) ppm.

*Anal.* Calc.: C, 15.08; H, 1.27; N, 17.58. Found: C, 15.10; H, 1.33; N, 18.40%.

# Preparation of $[CH_2(CN)_2I][AsF_6]$ (6)

 $CH_2(CN)_2$  (0.138 g, 2.10 mmol) and  $[I_3][AsF_6]$  (1.186 g, 2.10 mmol) were reacted as described for the preparation of **4** (see above). Compound **6** was isolated as a yellowish solid in 85% yield (0.682 g).

Dec. 85 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (AsF<sub>3</sub>, 23 °C):  $\delta$ =3.84s ppm. *Anal.* Calc.: C, 9.44; H, 0.53; N, 7.34. Found: C, 9.47; H, 0.58; N, 7.39%.

# Preparation of $[{CH_2(CN)_2}_2][AsF_6]$ (7)

 $CH_2(CN)_2$  (0.298 g, 4.50 mmol) and  $[I_3][AsF_6]$  (1.283 g, 2.25 mmol) were reacted as described for the preparation of 4 (see above). The black solid product was isolated in 56% yield (0.565 g).

Dec. 110 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (AsF<sub>3</sub>, 23 °C):  $\delta$ =3.75s ppm; (SO<sub>2</sub>, 23 °C):  $\delta$ =3.67s ppm. UV (POCl<sub>3</sub>, 23 °C):  $\lambda_{max}$  < 365 nm.

*Anal.* Calc.: C, 16.09; H, 0.90; N, 12.51. Found: C, 15.18; H, 0.79; N, 11.99%.

#### **Results and discussion**

The reaction of a 1:1 mixture of 1,3,5-triazine and halogen(+I) fluorides in the presence of either  $AsF_5$  or  $SbF_5$  led to the formation of three hitherto unknown 1-halogeno-1,3,5-triazinium hexafluoroarsenates or hexafluoroantimonates, respectively (eqns. (6) and (7)).

$$(\text{HCN})_3 + XF + \text{AsF}_5 \xrightarrow{\text{Freon-11}} [(\text{HCN})_3 X][\text{AsF}_6] \qquad (6)$$
$$X = F (1), Cl (2)$$

$$(\text{HCN})_3 + \text{BrF} + \text{SbF}_5 \xrightarrow{\text{sulfur dioxide}}$$

$$[(HCN)_{3}Br][SbF_{6}]$$
 (7)  
3



Fig. 1. Temperature dependent <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of  $[(HCN)_3Cl][AsF_6]$  (2) (SO<sub>2</sub> solution).

TABLE 1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR data for 1-7<sup>a</sup>

Compound	Solvent	δ (ppm) (rel. int.)
1	SO <sub>2</sub> /CDCl <sub>1</sub>	9.67s
2	SO <sub>2</sub> /CDCl <sub>3</sub>	9.73s
3	SO <sub>2</sub>	9.67s
4	SO <sub>2</sub>	9.83s
5	SO <sub>2</sub>	9.71s (1)
	-	9.43s (2)
6	AsF <sub>3</sub>	3.84s
7	SO <sub>2</sub>	3.67s
	AsF <sub>3</sub>	3.75s

\*23 °C, referenced to internal TMS.



Fig. 2. Raman spectrum of [{(HCN)<sub>3</sub>}<sub>2</sub>I][AsF<sub>6</sub>] (5) (647 nm, 25 °C, 50 mW, 1 s/point).

Whereas compounds 1 and 2 have been isolated essentially quantitatively, the yield of complex 3 was only 15% due to the formation of the neutral adduct  $(HCN)_3 \cdot SbF_5$  as a side product. The latter one is readily soluble in SO<sub>2</sub> and compound 3 was separated by recrystallization from a SO<sub>2</sub> solution. The iodonium analogue 4 as well as the 1:2 adduct species 5 have been prepared according to eqn. (8).

$$n(\text{HCN})_3 + [I_3][\text{AsF}_6] \xrightarrow{\text{sulfur dioxide}} [\{(\text{HCN})_3\}_n I][\text{AsF}_6] + I_2 \quad (8)$$

n = 1, 4; 2, 5

The reaction of a 1:1 or a 1:2 mixture of  $[I_3][AsF_6]$ and malononitrile in SO<sub>2</sub> led to the formation of the naples yellow reddish **6** and the black compound **7** (eqn. (9)).

$$n \operatorname{CH}_{2}(\operatorname{CN})_{2} + [\operatorname{I}_{3}][\operatorname{AsF}_{6}] \xrightarrow{\text{suffur dioxide}} [{\operatorname{CH}_{2}(\operatorname{CN})_{2}}_{n} \operatorname{I}][\operatorname{AsF}_{6}] + \operatorname{I}_{2} \quad (9)$$

n=1 (6), 2 (7)

All new compounds 1–7 are stable at room temperature and are sensitive towards air and moisture. Whereas the complexes 1–6 are pale white to yellow ochre solids the malononitrile derivative 7 is black. The compounds 1–5 and 7 are moderately soluble in liquid sulfur dioxide at room temperature. Complex 6, however, is almost insoluble in SO<sub>2</sub> (cf. <sup>1</sup>H NMR in AsF<sub>3</sub> solution, see below and 'Experimental').

The presence of protons in all compounds investigated allows the possibility of applying <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy in order to identify and characterize the species in solution. At room temperature the triazinium complexes 1-3 only show one singlet resonance in  $SO_2$  solution (1, 9.67; 2, 9.73; 3, 9.67 ppm). This can very well be explained by fast intermolecular halogeno exchange processes. This means that at room temperature (in the NMR time scale) the nitrogen atoms are equivalent and therefore only one proton resonance can be observed. At low temperature (-60 °C) all three species show two peaks due to the slow exchange rate in a ratio of 1:2. The temperature dependent <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 2 is illustrated in Fig. 1. Compounds 4 and 5 are at room temperature already in the slow exchange region and show two singlet resonances in a ratio of 1:2 (4, 9.83 (1H), 9.53 (2H); 5, 9.71 (1H), 9.43 (2H) ppm). The high frequency (downfield) shift relative to the neutral (HCN)<sub>3</sub> (9.10 ppm) can be explained by the presence of a tricoordinate positively charged nitrogen atom.

Due to the insolubility of complex 6 in  $SO_2$  solution the NMR spectra of 6 and 7 were recorded in saturated AsF<sub>3</sub> solutions (N.B. there is no significant difference in the chemical shifts using SO<sub>2</sub> or AsF<sub>3</sub> as the solvent;

[(HCN) <sub>3</sub> F][AsF <sub>6</sub> ] (1)		[(HCN)	$[(HCN)_{3}Cl][AsF_{6}]$ (2)		Tentative	
IR	Rar	nan	IR		Raman	assignment
3125w, sh					3121 (<1)	
3105m			3107m			
-			2960w			νCH
			2927m			
			2855w			
1725w						
1622m			1622m.	sh		
1605ms			1605s			
1575w			1562w			vC.N.
1575w 1564m			1502w			PC3113
1515			1442ms		1480 (-1)	
1313vw			14421115		1409(<1)	
			142.38		1422 (<1)	
1017			13/8W		1210(1)	
1217m			121/w		1219(1)	
1212m			1212w			
1170w					1173(2)	ðСН
1120w	111	9(1)			1119(2)	$\nu C_3 N_3$
1108m	110	6(5)	1108m		1106(6)	
1068w	107	0(1)			1065(1)	δCH
1045m	104	9(2)	1045m		1048(4)	
	100	8(1)			1005(1)	$\delta C_3 N_3$
975w	99	1(1)				
835w	83	6(5)				
			760w,	sh		
	73	6(1)	735ms	. sh	739(1)	vСH
720vs	71	8(2)	720vs	,	723(3)	,
705s. sh	70	3(4)			702(6)	δCaNa
6955	, 0	5(1)	697s		,02(0)	vAsE
0758	68	4(3)	0713		686(2)	$\nu_{A}$ AsE.
667ms	66	-(J) 3(A)	668w		663(4)	$\nu_1$ she /sc N
645m	64	J(4)	645w		647(10)	SC N
045111	62	A(0)	04.5W		047(10)	0C3143
	50	4(1) 2(1)			501(2)	<b>A</b> = <b>E</b>
	59	5(1)			391(2)	$\nu_2 A S \Gamma_6$
					470/1)	$\nu_2$ SDF <sub>6</sub>
					4/8(1)	
					428(2)	
385vs			380s			$\nu_4 AsF_6$
	37	6(3)			376(3)	$\nu_5 AsF_6$
365vs			360s			
	33	5(1)			332(2)	$\gamma C_3 N_3$
	24	0(5)			240(7)	
	21	9(3)			219(5)	
	14	4(1)				
	11	6(10)				
[(HCN)3Br][SbF6]	(3)	[(HCN) <sub>3</sub> I][A	AsF <sub>6</sub> ] (4)	[((HCN) <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> )I]	[AsF <sub>6</sub> ] (5)	Tentative
IR	Raman	IR		IR	Raman	assignment
				3135w	3107(<1)	
3095m		3070m		3070m	3075(<1)	
2955w		2955w		2960w	3056(<1)	νCH
		2930w		2945w		
1735w						
1685w		1625w				
1600ms		1585		1582m		
1543c		15055		15020		IC N
10700		154011		15200 -		M31N3
		134000		1520w, SN		/
						(conunuea)

# TABLE 2. IR and Raman data for compounds $1\!-\!5^a$

TABLE	2.	(continued)
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IR       Raman       IR       IR       Raman         1448s       1432s       1432s       1427(<1)         1422m       1415s       1432s       1427(<1)         1422m       1415s       1418s       1395m         1385w       1395m       1395m       1395m         1338s       1378w       1191m       1188(1)       1195m         1191m       1188(1)       1195m       1163m       1166(1) $\delta$ CH         1153m       1150m, sh       1121(7) $\nu$ C <sub>3</sub> N         1038m       1055(5)       1035m $\delta$ CH         1017m       1018m       1021(1) $\delta$ C <sub>3</sub> N         941w       947w       890w       845w         740(2)       765m, sh       1018m       1021(1)	ıment
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	assignment
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	
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$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	3
941w 947w $890w$ $845w$ $740(2)$ 765m, sh	
941w 947w 890w 845w 740(2) 765m, sh	3
941w 947w 890w 845w 740(2) 765m, sh	
890w 845w 740(2) 765m, sh	
845w 740(2) 765m, sh	
740(2) 765m, sh	
720s 725(1) 720vs 720s <sub>y</sub> CH	
690ms, sh 710s 714(2)	
δC <sub>3</sub> N	3
690vs 695s v <sub>3</sub> Ast	6
$680s$ $682(1)$ $\nu_1 AsH$	6
$680s$ $682(1)$ $\nu_1AsH$	-6
676(3) 672s } v <sub>3</sub> SbF	6
653vs, br 658(1) 663 667(5) $\int v_1 \text{SbF}$	$\delta_6/\delta C_3 N_3$
640s, sh 646(3) δC <sub>3</sub> N	3
570w v <sub>2</sub> AsI	-6
569m, sh 562(1) v <sub>2</sub> SbF	6
520m	
480w	
395vs 395vs v <sub>4</sub> AsI	6
v5ASI	-6
366(1)	
$\gamma C_3 N$	3
285s 278(1) 313(1)	
188(3) 181(10)	
146(1)	

\*For details see 'Experimental'.

7:  $(SO_2)$  3.67,  $(AsF_3)$  3.75 ppm; see 'Experimental'). Both species show a singlet resonance and a downfield shift compared with free and uncoordinated malononitrile (AsF<sub>3</sub> solution: **6**, 3.84; 7, 3.75; CH<sub>2</sub>(CN)<sub>2</sub>, 3.58 ppm; SO<sub>2</sub> solution: CH<sub>2</sub>(CN)<sub>2</sub>, 3.36 ppm). The downfield shift from CH<sub>2</sub>(CN)<sub>2</sub> via 7 to **6** is nicely in agreement with the increase of the positive charge on the coordinated Lewis base (cf. ref. 13). <sup>1</sup>H NMR data for 1–7 are given in Table 1.

The IR spectra of Nujol or Fluorolube mulls were recorded between KBr or CsI plates. Due to its reactivity towards both KBr and CsI, Si plates were used to record the IR spectrum of compound 6. Raman spectra were obtained only for compounds 1–3 and 5 (Fig. 2) because of fluorescence problems (4, 6) and the black colour of compound 7. Tables 2 and 3 summarize the vibrational spectral data of all new compounds and contain tentative assignments (AsF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>, SbF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> [14]; (HCN)<sub>3</sub> [15]; CH<sub>2</sub>(CN)<sub>2</sub> [16]).

Whereas the IR spectrum of compound 6 (Fig. 3) consists of one strong absorption in the C=N stretching region, compound 7 shows two bands in this region (Fig. 4) due to two differently coordinated CN unities. This can be discussed on the basis of a polymeric structure for compound 6 (N.B. insolubility in SO<sub>2</sub>, see above) whereas complex 7 is apparently monomeric and contains both, free and coordinated CN unities (Fig. 5). The black colour of species 7, however, indicates strong intermolecular  $1 \cdots 1$  interactions. Therefore, a resonance structure for 7(II) as given in Fig. 5 may be drawn (cf. existence of  $I_2^+$ , ref. 17) although the one indicated in 7(I) (Fig. 5) still seems to be more likely. Moreover, the UV data of a POCl<sub>3</sub> solution of

[CH <sub>2</sub> (CN) <sub>2</sub> I][AsF <sub>6</sub> ] (6)	[(CH <sub>2</sub> (CN) <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> I][AsF <sub>6</sub> ] (7)	Tentative assignment
2942vs	2950m	vCH
2910vs	2915m	
2320vs	2322m	vCN, coord.
	2280w, sh	$\nu$ CN, free
1372s	1372w	
1318ms	1317w	$\delta CH_2$
1162m		-
970–1000ms	950m	νCC, δCH <sub>2</sub>
905ms	905w	νCC
897s	895m	
	835w	
772 <b>w</b>		
700-720vs	720vs	$\nu_3 \text{AsF}_6 / \gamma \text{CH}$
	698vs	$\nu_3 AsF_6$
593ms	592w	SCCC
395vs	392vs	$\nu_4 \text{AsF}_6$
370ms, sh		
220m		

<sup>a</sup>For details see 'Experimental'.



Fig. 3. IR spectrum of  $[CH_2(CN)_2I][AsF_6]$  (6) (Nujol mull between Si plates).



Fig. 4. IR spectrum (C-H and C=N stretching region) of  $[{CH_2(CN)_2}_2I][AsF_6]$  (7) (Fluorolube mull between KBr plates).

complex 7 ( $\lambda_{max}$  < 365 nm) clearly indicate that the deep colour is due to the presence of species 7 rather than impurities of iodine ( $\lambda_{max}$  = 470-490 nm). Unfortunately, despite several attempts, we have so far been unable to grow crystals of compound 6 or 7 in order to determine the solid state structure of both species.



Fig. 5. Tentative resonance structures for  $[CH_2(CN)_2I][AsF_6]$  (6) and  $[\{CH_2(CN)_2\}_2I][AsF_6]$  (7).

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