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Structures and properties of molybdenum carbonyl complexes containing uninegative nitrogen-tripod ligands derived from heterocyclic compounds including 1-H-pyrazole and 1-H-1,2,4-triazole

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Abstract

The melt reaction between 1-H-1,2,4-triazole (HTz) and NaBPh₄ affords Na(PhBTz₃) while a similar process between HTz and KBH₄ gives K(HBTz₃). The uninegative L anion (L = PhBTz₃ or HBTz₃) reacts with [Mo(CO)₆] to give [MoL(CO)₃]⁻. Upon addition of electrophiles, [MoL(CO)₂(η³-allyl)], [MoL(CO)₂(NO)], [MoL(CO)₃Br], and [MoL(CO)₃I] are obtained. Two structures have been characterized by X ray crystallography: [NEt₄][Mo(HBPz₃)(CO)₃], orthorhombic, *Pbca*, *a* = 15.832(3), *b* = 15.799(4), *c* = 19.388(5) Å, *Z* = 8, *R* = 0.043, *R*_w = 0.031 based on 2591 reflections with *I* > 3.0σ(*I*); [N(PPh₃)₂][Mo(HBTz₃)(CO)₃], orthorhombic, *Pbca*, *a* = 17.815(3), *b* = 32.017(2), *c* = 15.331(3) Å, *Z* = 8, *R* = 0.044, *R*_w = 0.061 based on 5743 reflections with *I* > 2.0σ(*I*). Although comparison of the averaged ν(CO) values reveals the increasing order of the electron donativity as HBBz₃⁻ < HBTz₃⁻, PhBTz₃⁻ < HBPz₃⁻ < HBPz₃'⁻, HBPz₃*⁻ < HBPz₃"⁻, neither structural features nor reactivities show an appreciable substituent effect (*i.e.*, HBTz₃⁻ *vs.* HBPz₃⁻ and HBTz₃⁻ *vs.* PhBTz₃⁻). Neither is the 5-methyl-group effect for nickel pseudohalides suggested by Trofimenko *et al.* supported strongly by the solid-state structures of [MoL'(CO)₃]⁻ (L' = HBPz₃⁻, HBPz₃'⁻, or HBPz₃*⁻; Pz' = 3,5-dimethylpyrazol-1-yl; Pz* = 3-methylpyrazol-1-yl).

1. Introduction

Poly(pyrazolyl)borates have been used extensively as multidentate ligands in the syntheses of numerous organometallic and coordination compounds, since they were introduced in the 1960s [1]. There has been renewed interest arising from novel reactions such as activation of small molecules like H₂ [2], O₂ [3] or N₂ [4], induced by metal complexes without any carbonyl ligation, and of C–H bonds observed for quite a few metal carbonyl derivatives containing the tripodal tris(pyrazolyl)borates [5]. We and others have prepared similar ligands and collected structural and spectral

data [6] as well as carrying out orbital analysis [7] and determining relative formation rates [8] of the carbonyl-containing complexes of all these tridentate ligands. The aim has been to get a clear picture of the electronic or steric factors determining the observed reactivity. The recent report by Trofimenko *et al.* [9] on the importance of the methyl group on the pyrazolyl ring-5 position of tris(pyrazolyl)borates in nickel pseudohalides therefore prompted us to determine the crystal structures of a known compound, [Et₄N][Mo(HBPz₃)(CO)₃] [7a], and a new analogue, [N(PPh₃)₂][Mo(HBTz₃)(CO)₃], and to study related reactions of this complex and another analogue, [NEt₄][Mo(PhBTz₃)(CO)₃], to understand if such an effect of 5-methyl-group is also present in metal carbonyl deriva-

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tives containing the ligands, where Pz is pyrazol-1-yl and Tz is 1,2,4-triazol-1-yl.

2. Experimental section

All operations were performed by the usual Schlenk techniques [10], using deoxygenated, dry solvents and gases. IR spectra, calibrated with polystyrene, were recorded on a Hitachi Model 270-30 instrument. Abbreviations are vs, very strong; s, strong; m, medium; w, weak; and sh, shoulder. NMR spectra were obtained on Bruker WP-100 (^1H , 100 MHz) or Varian VXR-300 (^1H , 300 MHz) FT-NMR spectrometers. Chemical shifts (δ in ppm, J in Herz) are defined as positive downfield or negative upfield relative to internal SiMe_4 (TMS) standard. Abbreviations are s, singlet; d, doublet; br, unresolved multiplet or two overlapped singlets; tt, triplet of triplet; q, quartet. Elemental analyses were by the Microanalytical Service of the Department of Chemistry, National Cheng Kung University. $[\text{NEt}_4][\text{Mo}(\text{HBPz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]$ was prepared by the established procedure [7a].

2.1. Preparation of KHBTz_3

A mixture of 1-H-1,2,4-triazole (HTz, 29.29 g, 424 mmol) and KBH_4 (5.72 g, 106 mmol) was heated slowly to 200°C until 7.8 l (318 mmol) of H_2 had evolved (wet test meter). The melt was poured into 100 ml of stirred tetrahydrofuran (THF) and the mixture cooled to room temperature. The white precipitate was collected and recrystallized from $\text{MeOH}/\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ to give the product (14.87 g, 55%). Anal. Found: C, 28.12; H, 2.87; N, 49.31. $\text{C}_6\text{H}_7\text{BKN}_9$ calc.: C, 28.25; H, 2.77; N, 49.42%. IR (KBr): $\nu(\text{BH})$, 2484w cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (25°C , dimethylsulfoxide- d_6 , 100 MHz): protons at ring-3 and -5 positions, δ 8.13 (3H, s), 7.83 (3H, s).

2.2. Preparation of NaPhBTz_3

A mixture of NaBPh_4 (13.00 g, 38 mmol) and HTz (51.96 g, 753 mmol) was gradually heated to 250°C until ca. 8.1 g (104 mmol) of benzene had distilled from the melt. The mixture was then poured into 200 ml of THF and filtered immediately. The off-white solid residue was washed twice with 200 ml of THF and once with 30 ml of MeOH . The solid was then recrystallized from Me_2SO and air dried to give 10.7 g (89%) product. Anal. Found: C, 45.54; H, 3.45; N, 39.87. $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{BN}_9\text{Na}$ calc.: C, 45.74; H, 3.53; N, 40.01%. ^1H NMR (25°C , dimethylsulfoxide- d_6 , 100 MHz): protons at ring-3 and -5 positions, δ 7.90 (3H, s), 7.78 (3H, s); phenyl protons, 7.15 (5H, m).

2.3. Preparation of $[\text{NEt}_4][\text{Mo}(\text{HBTz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]$

A mixture of 1.98 g (7.7 mmol) of KHBTz_3 and 1.85 g (7.0 mmol) of $[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_6]$ in 50 ml of MeCN was

stirred at reflux for 3.5 h to give a yellow solution. A de-aerated solution of 2.1 g of Et_4NBr in 150 ml of H_2O was then added to the solution to give the crystalline solid. The pale yellow solid was collected and washed twice with 20 ml of H_2O and three times with 10 ml of Et_2O and dried under vacuum; yield 3.06 g (83%). Anal. Found: C, 38.63; H, 5.21; N, 26.41. $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{27}\text{BMoN}_{10}\text{O}_3$ calc.: C, 38.80; H, 5.17; N, 26.62%. IR (KBr): $\nu(\text{BH})$, 2523w; $\nu(\text{CO})$, 1902s, 1774vs and IR (MeCN): $\nu(\text{CO})$, 1906s, 1776vs cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (25°C , acetone- d_6 , 100 MHz): protons at ring-3 and -5 positions, δ 8.38 (3H, s), 8.13 (3H, s); CH_2 of NEt_4 , 3.47 (8H, q, $J(\text{H,H}) = 7.2$); CH_3 of NEt_4 , 1.36 (12H, tt, $J(\text{N,H}) = 1.9$, $J(\text{H,H}) = 7.2$). A metathesis reaction between bis(triphenylphosphine)iminium chloride ($[\text{N}(\text{PPh}_3)_2]\text{Cl}$) and $[\text{Mo}(\text{HBTz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]$ in MeOH was also found to give $[\text{N}(\text{PPh}_3)_2][\text{Mo}(\text{HBTz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]$.

2.4. Preparation of $[\text{NEt}_4][\text{Mo}(\text{PhBTz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]$

This yellow compound was obtained from NaPhBTz_3 , $[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_6]$, and excess Et_4NBr by an analogous procedure; yield 80%. Anal. Found: C, 46.21; H, 5.46; N, 23.49. $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{31}\text{BMoN}_{10}\text{O}_3$ calc.: C, 45.86; H, 5.20; N, 23.25%. IR (KBr): $\nu(\text{CO})$, 1904s, 1770vs and IR (MeCN): $\nu(\text{CO})$, 1906s, 1774vs cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (25°C , CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): protons at ring-3 and -5 positions, δ 8.29 (3H, s), 8.09 (3H, s); Ph, 7.86 (2H, m), 7.56 (3H, m); CH_2 of NEt_4 , 3.33 (8H, q, $J(\text{H,H}) = 7.3$); CH_3 of NEt_4 , 1.38 (12H, tt, $J(\text{N,H}) = 1.9$, $J(\text{H,H}) = 7.3$).

2.5. Preparation of $[\text{MoL}(\text{CO})_2(\text{NO})]$ ($L = \text{HBTz}_3$, PhBTz_3)

To a stirred solution of 3.0 mmol of $\text{M}[\text{MoL}(\text{CO})_3]$ ($\text{M} = \text{Na}$ or K) prepared *in situ* in 30 ml of MeCN , $[\text{NO}][\text{BF}_4]$ (0.38 g, 3.3 mmol) was added in portions. Gas evolved briskly and when this stopped the solvent was removed under vacuum. Recrystallization from $\text{MeOH}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$ gave the orange yellow product $[\text{Mo}(\text{HBTz}_3)(\text{CO})_2(\text{NO})]$; yield 60–65%. Anal. Found: C, 23.64; H, 1.93; N, 34.37. $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{BMoN}_{10}\text{O}_2 \cdot 1/2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ calc.: C, 23.70; H, 1.95; N, 34.60%. IR (KBr): $\nu(\text{BH})$, 2544w; $\nu(\text{CO})$, 2028s, 1936s; $\nu(\text{NO})$, 1680s and IR (CH_2Cl_2): $\nu(\text{CO})$, 2036s, 1950s; $\nu(\text{NO})$, 1690s cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (25°C , acetone- d_6 , 100 MHz): protons at ring-3 and -5 positions, δ 8.67 (2H, s), 8.63 (2H, s), 8.58 (1H, s), 8.54 (1H, s). $[\text{Mo}(\text{PhBTz}_3)(\text{CO})_2(\text{NO})]$. Anal. Found: C, 35.04; H, 2.49; N, 29.13. $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{BMoN}_{10}\text{O}_2 \cdot 1/2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ calc.: C, 34.81; H, 2.50; N, 29.00%. IR (KBr): $\nu(\text{CO})$, 2028s, 1932s; $\nu(\text{NO})$, 1680s and IR (CH_2Cl_2): $\nu(\text{CO})$, 2036s, 1948s; $\nu(\text{NO})$, 1680s cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (25°C , CDCl_3 , 300 MHz): protons at ring-3 and -5 positions, δ 8.29 (2H, s), 8.27 (2H, s), 8.07 (1H, s), 8.00 (1H, s); Ph, 7.82 (2H, m), 7.58 (3H, m). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (25°C , CDCl_3 , 75 MHz): CO, 221.9 (2 C); Carbon nuclei at ring-3 and

-5 positions, 155.4 (2 C), 155.2 (1 C), 149.7 (1 C), 149.5 (2 C); Ph, 133.8 (2 C), 130.3 (1 C), 129.4 (2 C) with one unobserved signal for the *ipso*-carbon nucleus of Ph.

2.6. Preparation of [MoL(CO)₃X] (X = Br, I)

A solution of 3.03 mmol of M[MoL(CO)₃] in 20 ml of MeOH was treated dropwise with a solution containing 3.40 mmol of Br₂ or I₂ in 5 ml of MeOH at -20°C with immediate formation of precipitate. The resulting suspension was stirred for 10 min and then filtered out. The product was washed twice with 15 ml of MeOH and dried under vacuum in 50–75% yield. [Mo(HBTz₃)(CO)₃I], orange-yellow. Anal. Found: C, 20.53; H, 1.46; N, 24.05. C₉H₇BIMoN₉O₃ calc.: C, 20.67; H, 1.35; N, 24.11%. IR (KBr): ν(BH), 2548w; ν(CO), 2044s, 1968s, 1934s and IR (CH₂Cl₂): ν(CO), 2044s, 1974s, 1942s cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (25°C, CDCl₃, 100 MHz): protons at ring-3 and -5 positions, δ 8.74 (3H, s), 8.36 (3H, s). [Mo(PhBTz₃)(CO)₃Br], yellow-brown. Anal. Found: C, 32.50; H, 2.15; N, 22.74. C₁₅H₁₁BBrMoN₉O₃ calc.: C, 32.64; H, 2.01; N, 22.84%. IR (KBr): ν(CO), 2056s, 1996s, 1942s and IR (CH₂Cl₂): ν(CO), 2056s, 1984s, 1942s cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (25°C,

CDCl₃, 100 MHz): protons at ring-3 and -5 positions, δ 8.73 (3H, s), 8.62 (3H, s); Ph, 7.86 (2H, m), 7.66 (3H, m). [Mo(PhBTz₃)(CO)₃I], orange-yellow. Anal. Found: C, 30.21; H, 1.98; N, 21.15. C₁₅H₁₁BIMoN₉O₃ calc.: C, 30.08; H, 1.85; N, 21.05%. IR (KBr): ν(CO), 2036s, 1974s, 1948s and IR (CH₂Cl₂): ν(CO), 2044s, 1974s, 1940s cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (25°C, CDCl₃, 100 MHz): protons at ring-3 and -5 positions, δ 8.37 (2H, s); Ph, 7.86 (2H, m), 7.65 (3H, m).

2.7. Preparation of [MoL(CO)₃(η³-allyl)]

To a suspension of 1.0 mmol of [Et₄N][MoL(CO)₃] in 20 ml of CH₂Cl₂ was added 1 ml of allyl bromide. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h and a transparent solution formed. A solution IR spectrum indicated the complete reaction. The solvent and excess allyl bromide were then removed under vacuum. Recrystallization from CH₂Cl₂/MeOH gave 80% of the orange-yellow solid. [Mo(HBTz₃)(CO)₂(η³-allyl)], yellow. Anal. Found: C, 31.52; H, 3.04; N, 29.87. C₁₁H₁₂BMoN₉O₂ · 1/2 H₂O calc.: C, 31.60; H, 3.14; N, 30.15%. IR (KBr): ν(CO), 1954s, 1856s and IR (CH₂Cl₂): ν(CO), 1960s, 1866s cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (25°C,

TABLE 1. Crystal data for [NEt₄][Mo(HBPz₃)(CO)₃] and [N(PPh₃)₂][Mo(HBTz₃)(CO)₃]

Compound	[NEt ₄][Mo(HBPz ₃)(CO) ₃]	[N(PPh ₃) ₂][Mo(HBTz ₃)(CO) ₃]
empirical formula	C ₂₀ H ₃₀ BMoN ₇ O ₃	C ₄₅ H ₃₇ BMoN ₁₀ O ₃ P ₂
colour	yellow	yellow
crystal size (mm)	0.60 × 0.40 × 0.34	0.30 × 0.40 × 0.50
space group	orthorhombic, <i>Pbca</i> (No. 61)	
unit cell dimensions <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> , Å	15.832(3), 15.799(4), 19.388(5)	17.815(3), 32.017(2), 15.331(3)
volume, Å ³	4850(2)	8745(2)
<i>Z</i>	8	8
<i>D</i> _{calc} g/cm ³	1.433	1.336
orientation rflns, range	13, 13° ≤ 2θ ≤ 24°	25, 79° ≤ 2θ ≤ 80°
data collected	- <i>h</i> , - <i>k</i> , - <i>l</i>	+ <i>h</i> , + <i>k</i> , + <i>l</i>
abs cor		ψ scan
abs coeff, mm ⁻¹	0.56	3.62
abs. correction	not applied	applied
transm range	-	0.51–1.00
diffractometer used	Siemens R3m/V	Rigaku AFC-5R
radiation; λ, Å	Mo Kα, 0.7107	Cu Kα, 1.5418
temperature (K)	297	298
scan type		θ/2θ
2θ range, deg	3–50	2–120
scan speed, deg/min	3–15	32
std rflns	3 std/50 rflns	3 std/300 rflns
decay; %	≤ 1	≤ 1
no. of unique rflns	4284	6492
no. of rflns used	2591 with <i>I</i> > 3.0σ(<i>I</i>)	5743 with <i>I</i> > 2.0σ(<i>I</i>)
max Δ/σ ratio	0.001	0.024
RR _w S ^a	0.043, 0.031, 1.0	0.044, 0.061, 2.45
resid peak; e/Å ³	0.88	0.58
solution	direct method	Patterson synthesis

^a See ref. [6a,11].

TABLE 2. Fractional atomic coordinates for $[NEt_4][Mo(HBPz_3)(CO)_3]$ and $[N(PPh_3)_2][Mo(HBTz_3)(CO)_3]$

Atom	x	y	z
<i>(a) [NEt₄][Mo(HBPz₃)(CO)₃]</i>			
Mo	0.0605(1)	0.1414(1)	0.6669(1)
N	0.7863(3)	0.1205(2)	0.0996(2)
N(11)	0.0465(2)	0.1837(2)	0.5559(2)
N(12)	0.0833(2)	0.2571(2)	0.5328(2)
N(21)	0.1950(2)	0.1809(2)	0.6443(2)
N(22)	0.2134(2)	0.2520(2)	0.6075(2)
N(31)	0.0489(2)	0.2832(2)	0.6842(2)
N(32)	0.0898(3)	0.3397(2)	0.6429(2)
O(1)	0.0792(3)	0.1091(3)	0.8243(2)
O(2)	-0.1246(3)	0.0848(3)	0.6932(2)
O(3)	0.0947(3)	-0.0479(2)	0.6348(2)
B	0.1415(3)	0.3090(3)	0.5813(3)
C(1)	0.0745(3)	0.1201(3)	0.7640(2)
C(2)	-0.0552(3)	0.1093(3)	0.6823(2)
C(3)	0.0820(3)	0.0241(3)	0.6469(2)
C(4)	0.8502(4)	0.0511(4)	0.1075(3)
C(5)	0.7335(4)	0.1084(3)	0.0349(3)
C(6)	0.7279(4)	0.1214(5)	0.1603(3)
C(7)	0.8354(4)	0.2032(4)	0.0916(3)
C(8)	0.9091(5)	0.0375(5)	0.0481(4)
C(9)	0.6918(4)	0.0238(3)	0.0277(3)
C(10)	0.7702(5)	0.1398(8)	0.2295(3)
C(11)	0.7833(5)	0.2820(4)	0.0885(5)
C(13)	0.0628(3)	0.2698(3)	0.4665(2)
C(14)	0.0135(3)	0.2039(3)	0.4456(2)
C(15)	0.0049(3)	0.1520(3)	0.5025(2)
C(23)	0.2982(3)	0.2617(3)	0.6033(3)
C(24)	0.3349(3)	0.1949(4)	0.6374(3)
C(25)	0.2697(3)	0.1468(3)	0.6622(3)
C(33)	0.0799(3)	0.4181(3)	0.6690(3)
C(34)	0.0317(4)	0.4133(3)	0.7272(3)
C(35)	0.0135(3)	0.3283(3)	0.7348(2)
<i>(b) [N(PPh₃)₂][Mo(HBTz₃)(CO)₃]</i>			
Mo	0.768202(17)	0.358777(10)	0.225822(20)
O(1)	0.85777(21)	0.29809(11)	0.1094(3)
O(2)	0.86708(18)	0.31898(11)	0.36971(21)
O(3)	0.89743(18)	0.42294(12)	0.22004(21)
C(1)	0.82347(23)	0.32118(13)	0.1528(3)
C(2)	0.82653(22)	0.33401(14)	0.3179(3)
C(3)	0.84902(21)	0.39863(14)	0.2203(3)
B	0.5818(3)	0.38246(16)	0.2040(3)
N(11)	0.68981(16)	0.40145(10)	0.30353(20)
N(12)	0.61598(17)	0.40568(20)	0.28172(20)
N(14)	0.63386(19)	0.44505(11)	0.39782(22)
N(21)	0.70055(17)	0.38732(10)	0.11510(20)
N(22)	0.62579(17)	0.39500(10)	0.12201(21)
N(24)	0.66076(22)	0.42104(13)	-0.00427(23)
N(31)	0.66240(19)	0.31915(10)	0.23788(22)
N(32)	0.59336(18)	0.33530(11)	0.22064(21)
N(34)	0.57576(24)	0.26899(12)	0.2532(3)
C(13)	0.58521(22)	0.43172(13)	0.3400(3)
C(15)	0.69744(24)	0.42556(12)	0.3728(3)
C(23)	0.60511(25)	0.41487(14)	0.0496(3)
C(25)	0.71823(25)	0.40276(14)	0.0381(3)
C(33)	0.5437(3)	0.30458(17)	0.2301(3)
C(35)	0.6486(3)	0.28004(15)	0.2573(3)
N	0.57170(18)	0.37501(11)	0.77408(19)
P(1)	0.50041(5)	0.35764(3)	0.82269(6)
P(2)	0.59836(5)	0.39014(3)	0.68135(6)

TABLE 2 (continued)

Atom	x	y	z
C(11A)	0.42665(21)	0.34011(12)	0.75135(25)
C(12A)	0.36684(24)	0.36588(13)	0.7303(3)
C(13A)	0.31556(24)	0.35315(16)	0.6688(3)
C(14A)	0.3221(3)	0.31546(16)	0.6297(3)
C(15A)	0.3800(3)	0.28931(15)	0.6503(3)
C(16A)	0.43369(24)	0.30130(13)	0.7097(3)
C(21A)	0.52782(20)	0.31596(11)	0.89428(25)
C(22A)	0.48024(22)	0.28335(13)	0.9150(3)
C(23A)	0.5030(3)	0.25358(14)	0.9749(3)
C(24A)	0.5723(3)	0.25653(14)	1.0159(3)
C(25A)	0.61946(25)	0.28945(15)	0.9944(3)
C(26A)	0.59880(22)	0.31875(13)	0.9336(3)
C(31A)	0.46075(21)	0.39757(12)	0.8922(3)
C(32A)	0.42227(23)	0.38681(14)	0.9678(3)
C(33A)	0.3948(3)	0.41744(18)	1.0220(3)
C(34A)	0.4032(3)	0.45917(18)	0.9994(4)
C(35A)	0.4401(3)	0.46999(15)	0.9253(4)
C(36A)	0.4706(3)	0.43920(14)	0.8715(3)
C(11B)	0.66079(21)	0.43399(11)	0.69529(24)
C(12B)	0.6854(3)	0.44430(13)	0.7776(3)
C(13B)	0.7386(3)	0.47630(17)	0.7872(3)
C(14B)	0.7645(3)	0.49703(18)	0.7153(3)
C(15B)	0.7379(3)	0.48764(15)	0.6337(3)
C(16B)	0.6863(3)	0.45574(13)	0.6232(3)
C(21B)	0.52588(20)	0.40671(12)	0.60781(24)
C(22B)	0.50061(24)	0.44766(13)	0.6093(3)
C(23B)	0.4455(3)	0.46060(14)	0.5532(3)
C(24B)	0.41488(24)	0.43302(15)	0.4946(3)
C(25B)	0.43835(25)	0.39220(14)	0.4929(3)
C(26B)	0.49287(22)	0.37841(13)	0.5496(3)
C(31B)	0.65403(21)	0.35116(11)	0.62641(25)
C(32B)	0.6677(3)	0.35375(13)	0.5372(3)
C(33B)	0.7172(3)	0.32699(16)	0.4986(3)
C(34B)	0.7545(3)	0.29757(15)	0.5472(3)
C(35B)	0.74118(25)	0.29431(14)	0.6336(3)
C(36B)	0.69001(23)	0.32088(13)	0.6750(3)

$CDCl_3$, 100 MHz): protons at ring-3 and -5 positions, δ 8.35 (3H, br), 8.22 (3H, br); the central proton of allyl, 3.78 (1H, s); the *syn*-protons of allyl, 3.73 (2H, br); the *anti*-protons of allyl, 1.66 (2H, d, $J(H,H) = 7.8$). $[Mo(PhBTz_3)(CO)_3(\eta^3\text{-allyl})]$, yellow. Anal. Found: C, 41.80; H, 3.35; N, 25.83. $C_{17}H_{10}BMoN_9O_2$ calc.: C, 42.09; H, 3.32; N, 25.99%. IR (KBr): $\nu(CO)$, 1954s, 1856s, and IR (CH_2Cl_2): $\nu(CO)$, 1960s, 1866s cm^{-1} . 1H NMR (25°C, $CDCl_3$, 100 MHz): protons at ring-3 and -5 positions, δ 8.39 (3H, br), 7.98 (3H, br); Ph, 7.80 (2H, m), 7.62 (3H, m); the central proton of allyl, 3.87 (1H, s); the *syn*-protons of allyl, 3.76 (2H, br); the *anti*-protons of allyl, 1.67 (2H, d, $J(H,H) = 7.8$).

2.8. X-Ray diffraction study of $[NEt_4][Mo(HBPz_3)(CO)_3]$ and $[N(PPh_3)_2][Mo(HBTz_3)(CO)_3]$

All the single crystals were grown from CH_2Cl_2 /hexane at room temperature. General procedures and listings of programs were previously given [6a,11]. Absorption correction was performed on the structures

TABLE 3. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for [NEt₄][Mo(HBPz₃)(CO)₃] and [N(PPh₃)₂][Mo(HBTz₃)(CO)₃]

<i>(a) [NEt₄][Mo(HBPz₃)(CO)₃]</i>			
<i>(i) Bond lengths</i>			
N–C(4)	1.500(7)	C(4)–C(8)	1.497(9)
N–C(5)	1.520(7)	C(5)–C(9)	1.498(8)
N–C(6)	1.497(7)	C(6)–C(10)	1.527(9)
N–C(7)	1.528(7)	C(7)–C(11)	1.495(9)
	<i>n</i> = 1	<i>n</i> = 2	<i>n</i> = 3
Mo–C(<i>n</i>)	1.926(4)	1.924(5)	1.925(5)
Mo–N(<i>n</i> 1)	2.263(3)	2.261(4)	2.272(4)
B–N(<i>n</i> 2)	1.551(6)	1.537(6)	1.527(6)
C(<i>n</i>)–O(<i>n</i>)	1.167(6)	1.184(7)	1.177(6)
N(<i>n</i> 1)–N(<i>n</i> 2)	1.373(5)	1.362(5)	1.362(5)
N(<i>n</i> 2)–C(<i>n</i> 3)	1.341(6)	1.355(6)	1.348(6)
C(<i>n</i> 3)–C(<i>n</i> 4)	1.363(7)	1.373(8)	1.365(8)
C(<i>n</i> 4)–C(<i>n</i> 5)	1.382(7)	1.370(7)	1.381(7)
C(<i>n</i> 5)–N(<i>n</i> 1)	1.326(6)	1.346(6)	1.337(6)
	<i>n</i> = 1	<i>n</i> = 2	<i>n</i> = 3
Mo–N(<i>n</i> 1)–N(<i>n</i> 2)	121.2(3)	122.0(3)	121.4(3)
Mo–N(<i>n</i> 1)–C(<i>n</i> 5)	132.8(3)	131.8(3)	131.9(3)
Mo–C(<i>n</i>)–O(<i>n</i>)	176.7(5)	176.0(4)	179.7(5)
B–N(<i>n</i> 2)–N(<i>n</i> 1)	120.0(3)	119.9(4)	120.4(3)
B–N(<i>n</i> 2)–C(<i>n</i> 3)	130.2(4)	130.4(4)	130.4(4)
N(<i>n</i> 1)–N(<i>n</i> 2)–C(<i>n</i> 3)	109.7(4)	109.6(4)	109.1(4)
N(<i>n</i> 2)–C(<i>n</i> 3)–C(<i>n</i> 4)	108.0(4)	107.7(5)	108.9(4)
C(<i>n</i> 3)–C(<i>n</i> 4)–C(<i>n</i> 5)	105.8(4)	106.1(5)	105.0(5)
C(<i>n</i> 4)–C(<i>n</i> 5)–N(<i>n</i> 1)	110.6(4)	110.4(5)	110.6(4)
N(<i>n</i> 2)–N(<i>n</i> 1)–C(<i>n</i> 5)	106.0(3)	106.2(4)	106.4(4)
	<i>n</i> = 1	<i>n</i> = 2	<i>n</i> = 3
C(4)–N–C(5)	111.3(4)	C(6)–N–C(7)	112.7(5)
C(4)–N–C(6)	110.1(4)	N–C(4)–C(8)	116.5(5)
C(4)–N–C(7)	107.0(4)	N–C(5)–C(9)	115.6(5)
C(5)–N–C(6)	108.0(4)	N–C(6)–C(10)	114.9(5)
C(5)–N–C(7)	107.7(4)	N–C(7)–C(11)	115.8(5)
C(1)–Mo–C(2)	84.9(2)	C(1)–Mo–N(11)	172.9(2)
C(1)–Mo–C(3)	90.4(2)	C(1)–Mo–N(21)	97.4(2)
C(2)–Mo–C(3)	86.8(2)	C(1)–Mo–N(31)	92.1(1)
N(11)–Mo–N(21)	80.0(1)	C(2)–Mo–N(11)	97.6(2)
N(11)–Mo–N(31)	80.9(1)	C(2)–Mo–N(21)	117.6(2)
N(21)–Mo–N(31)	80.4(1)	C(2)–Mo–N(31)	99.2(2)
N(12)–B–N(22)	109.3(4)	C(3)–Mo–N(11)	96.4(2)
N(12)–B–N(32)	108.9(4)	C(3)–Mo–N(21)	93.5(2)
N(22)–B–N(32)	109.0(4)	C(3)–Mo–N(31)	173.6(2)
	<i>n</i> = 1	<i>n</i> = 2	<i>n</i> = 3
<i>(b) [N(PPh₃)₂][Mo(HBTz₃)(CO)₃]</i>			
<i>(i) Bond lengths</i>			
N–P(1)	1.574(3)	C(32A)–C(33A)	1.375(6)
N–P(2)	1.575(3)	C(33A)–C(34A)	1.388(8)
P(1)–C(11A)	1.799(4)	C(34A)–C(35A)	1.359(9)
P(1)–C(21A)	1.796(4)	C(35A)–C(36A)	1.394(7)
P(1)–C(31A)	1.808(4)	C(11B)–C(12B)	1.376(5)
P(2)–C(11B)	1.804(4)	C(11B)–C(16B)	1.383(5)
P(2)–C(21B)	1.794(4)	C(12B)–C(13B)	1.403(6)
P(2)–C(31B)	1.803(4)	C(13B)–C(14B)	1.367(8)
C(11A)–C(12A)	1.386(6)	C(14B)–C(15B)	1.372(7)
		C(15B)–C(16B)	1.384(6)
C(11A)–C(16A)	1.403(6)	C(21B)–C(22B)	1.386(6)
C(12A)–C(13A)	1.374(6)	C(21B)–C(26B)	1.402(5)
C(13A)–C(14A)	1.353(7)	C(22B)–C(23B)	1.370(6)
C(14A)–C(15A)	1.367(7)	C(23B)–C(24B)	1.373(7)
C(15A)–C(16A)	1.375(6)	C(24B)–C(25B)	1.373(7)

TABLE 3 (continued)

C(21A)–C(22A)	1.382(5)	C(25B)–C(26B)	1.376(6)
C(21A)–C(26A)	1.404(5)	C(31B)–C(32B)	1.392(6)
C(22A)–C(23A)	1.384(6)	C(31B)–C(36B)	1.381(5)
C(23A)–C(24A)	1.389(7)	C(32B)–C(33B)	1.364(6)
C(24A)–C(25A)	1.387(7)	C(33B)–C(34B)	1.372(7)
C(25A)–C(26A)	1.372(6)	C(34B)–C(35B)	1.350(7)
C(31A)–C(32A)	1.391(6)	C(35B)–C(36B)	1.399(6)
C(31A)–C(36A)	1.381(6)		
	<i>n</i> = 1	<i>n</i> = 2	<i>n</i> = 3
Mo–C(<i>n</i>)	1.917(4)	1.924(4)	1.926(4)
Mo–N(<i>n</i> 1)	2.288(3)	2.274(3)	2.279(3)
B–N(<i>n</i> 2)	1.530(6)	1.535(6)	1.545(6)
C(<i>n</i>)–O(<i>n</i>)	1.167(5)	1.176(5)	1.162(5)
N(<i>n</i> 1)–N(<i>n</i> 2)	1.364(4)	1.359(4)	1.360(5)
N(<i>n</i> 2)–C(<i>n</i> 3)	1.340(5)	1.332(5)	1.331(6)
C(<i>n</i> 3)–N(<i>n</i> 4)	1.311(5)	1.305(6)	1.322(7)
N(<i>n</i> 4)–C(<i>n</i> 5)	1.349(5)	1.346(6)	1.346(7)
C(<i>n</i> 5)–N(<i>n</i> 1)	1.320(5)	1.318(5)	1.311(6)
<i>(ii) Bond angles</i>			
C(1)–Mo–C(2)	83.84(18)	C(1)–Mo–N(11)	173.13(15)
C(1)–Mo–C(3)	90.37(18)	C(1)–Mo–N(21)	95.07(16)
C(2)–Mo–C(3)	84.35(18)	C(1)–Mo–N(31)	97.04(15)
N(11)–Mo–N(21)	79.93(11)	C(2)–Mo–N(11)	101.15(14)
N(11)–Mo–N(31)	77.61(11)	C(2)–Mo–N(21)	178.91(14)
N(21)–Mo–N(31)	81.14(12)	C(2)–Mo–N(31)	99.07(15)
N(12)–B–N(22)	107.9(3)	C(3)–Mo–N(11)	94.79(15)
N(12)–B–N(32)	107.1(3)	C(3)–Mo–N(21)	95.58(14)
N(22)–B–N(32)	108.8(3)	C(3)–Mo–N(31)	172.11(15)
N–P(2)–C(11B)	108.56(17)	P(1)–C(31A)–C(36A)	119.9(3)
N–P(2)–C(21B)	116.17(17)	C(32A)–C(31A)–C(36A)	119.5(4)
N–P(2)–C(31B)	112.01(18)	C(31A)–C(32A)–C(33A)	120.2(4)
C(11B)–P(2)–C(21B)	106.74(18)	C(32A)–C(33A)–C(34A)	119.9(5)
C(11B)–P(2)–C(31B)	104.77(17)	C(33A)–C(34A)–C(35A)	120.4(4)
C(21B)–P(2)–C(31B)	107.88(18)	C(34A)–C(35A)–C(36A)	120.2(5)
P(1)–C(11A)–C(12A)	121.2(3)	C(31A)–C(36A)–C(35A)	119.9(4)
P(1)–C(11A)–C(16A)	119.2(3)	P(2)–C(11B)–C(12B)	119.4(3)
C(12A)–C(11A)–C(16A)	119.3(4)	P(2)–C(11B)–C(16B)	120.0(3)
C(11A)–C(12A)–C(13A)	119.6(4)	C(12B)–C(11B)–C(16B)	120.5(4)
C(12A)–C(13A)–C(14A)	120.8(4)	C(11B)–C(12B)–C(13B)	119.0(4)
C(13A)–C(14A)–C(15A)	120.6(4)	C(12B)–C(13B)–C(14B)	119.9(4)
C(14A)–C(15A)–C(16A)	120.5(4)	C(13B)–C(14B)–C(15B)	120.8(4)
C(11A)–C(16A)–C(15A)	119.1(4)	C(14B)–C(15B)–C(16B)	119.8(4)
P(1)–C(21A)–C(22A)	122.4(3)	C(11B)–C(16B)–C(15B)	199.8(4)
P(1)–C(21A)–C(26A)	117.4(3)	P(2)–C(21B)–C(22B)	120.2(3)
C(22A)–C(21A)–C(26A)	120.1(3)	P(2)–C(21B)–C(26B)	120.7(3)
C(21A)–C(22A)–C(23A)	119.5(4)	C(22B)–C(21B)–C(26B)	119.1(3)
C(22A)–C(23A)–C(24A)	120.9(4)	C(21B)–C(22B)–C(23B)	120.6(4)
P(1)–N–P(2)	141.19(21)	C(22B)–C(23B)–C(24B)	120.1(4)
N–P(1)–C(11A)	114.31(17)	C(23B)–C(24B)–C(25B)	120.2(4)
N–P(1)–C(21A)	109.42(17)	C(24B)–C(25B)–C(26B)	120.6(4)
N–P(1)–C(31A)	110.14(18)	C(21B)–C(26B)–C(25B)	119.4(4)
C(11A)–P(1)–C(21A)	109.77(18)	P(2)–C(31B)–C(32B)	121.0(3)
C(11A)–P(1)–C(31A)	107.06(17)	P(2)–C(31B)–C(36B)	119.3(3)
C(21A)–P(1)–C(31A)	105.77(18)	C(32B)–C(31B)–C(36B)	119.4(4)
C(23A)–C(24A)–C(25A)	118.8(4)	C(31B)–C(32B)–C(33B)	120.1(4)
C(24A)–C(25A)–C(26A)	121.2(4)	C(32B)–C(33B)–C(34B)	120.6(4)
C(21A)–C(26A)–C(25A)	119.3(4)	C(33B)–C(34B)–C(35B)	120.0(4)
P(1)–C(31A)–C(32A)	120.6(3)	C(34B)–C(35B)–C(36B)	120.9(4)
		C(31B)–C(36B)–C(35B)	118.9(4)

TABLE 3 (continued)

	$n = 1$	$n = 2$	$n = 3$
Mo–N($n1$)–N($n2$)	122.29(23)	121.35(22)	121.36(23)
Mo–N($n1$)–C($n5$)	133.9(3)	134.8(3)	134.9(3)
Mo–C(n)–O(n)	178.9(4)	174.6(3)	177.6(4)
B–N($n2$)–N($n1$)	121.1(3)	121.7(3)	121.6(3)
B–N($n2$)–C($n3$)	131.8(3)	131.2(3)	130.7(4)
N($n1$)–N($n2$)–C($n3$)	107.0(3)	107.0(3)	107.4(4)
N($n2$)–C($n3$)–N($n4$)	112.9(4)	112.5(3)	112.3(4)
C($n3$)–N($n4$)–C($n5$)	101.9(4)	102.3(3)	101.7(4)
N($n4$)–C($n5$)–N($n1$)	114.4(4)	114.4(4)	115.0(5)
N($n2$)–N($n1$)–C($n5$)	103.7(3)	103.8(3)	103.7(4)

using ψ scans. Related crystal data (Table 1), final coordinates of the non-hydrogen atoms (Table 2), and selected bond lengths and bond angles (Table 3) are reported. The anisotropic displacement coefficients of the atoms, the H-atom coordinates and structural factors are available from the authors. The ORTEP plots for anions, $[\text{Mo}(\text{HBPz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]^-$ and $[\text{Mo}(\text{HBTz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]^-$ were all quite similar and are shown as one plot (Fig. 1).

3. Results and discussion

The KHBTz_3 salt can be obtained in an analogous way to the preparation of KHBPz_3 [12] from the melt reaction of KBH_4 in excess HTz at 200°C . Although a

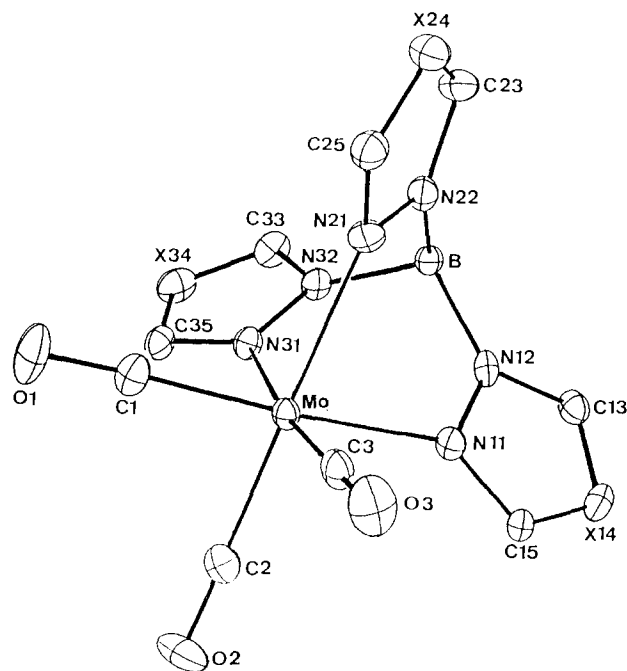
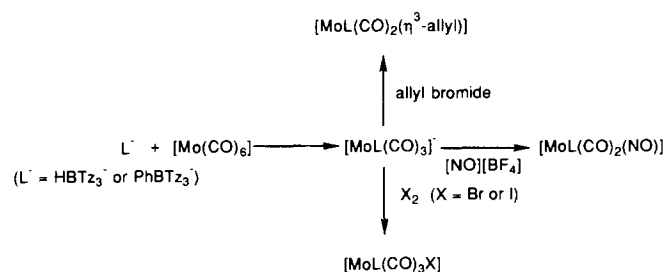


Fig. 1. ORTEP plot for anions, $[\text{Mo}(\text{HBPz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]^-$ ($X = \text{C}$) and $[\text{Mo}(\text{HBTz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]^-$ ($X = \text{N}$), showing the numbering scheme. The ellipsoids were drawn at the 50% probability level.

similar reaction between NaBPh_4 and HPz at high temperatures gives only the disubstituted product $\text{NaPh}_2\text{BPz}_2$ [13], the reaction between NaBPh_4 and HTz first affords $\text{NaPh}_2\text{BTz}_2$ [14] and then NaPhBTz_3 , reflecting the proton of HTz being more acidic than that of HPz [15]. The L^- anion ($L^- = \text{HBTz}_3^-$ or PhBTz_3^-) can replace the three mutually *cis*-carbonyls of $[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_6]$ in a similar way to HBPz_3^- , HBPz'_3^- [17], HBPz''_3^- [8], HBBz_3^- [6a], or $\text{HBPz}^*_3^-$ [16] ($\text{Pz}' = 3,5$ -dimethylpyrazol-1-yl; $\text{Pz}'' = 3,4,5$ -trimethylpyrazol-1-yl; $\text{Pz}^* = 3$ -methylpyrazol-1-yl; $\text{Bz} = \text{benzotriazol-1-yl}$) to give $[\text{MoL}(\text{CO})_3]^-$. The addition of electrophiles to $[\text{M}(\text{MoL}(\text{CO})_3)]$ ($M = \text{Na}$ or K) or $[\text{Et}_4\text{N}][\text{MoL}(\text{CO})_3]$ converts the salts readily into $[\text{MoL}(\text{CO})_3\text{X}]$ ($X = \text{Br}$ or I), $[\text{MoL}(\text{CO})_2(\text{NO})]$, and $[\text{MoL}(\text{CO})_2(\eta^3\text{-allyl})]$ (Scheme 1). Apparently, the reaction chemistry of $[\text{Mo}(\text{HBTz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]^-$ or $[\text{Mo}(\text{PhBTz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]^-$ is quite similar to that of $[\text{Mo}(\text{HBPz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]^-$, $[\text{Mo}(\text{HBPz}'_3)(\text{CO})_3]^-$ [1] or $[\text{Mo}(\text{HBBz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]^-$ [6a] towards the electrophiles we used in this study.

All the anions, $[\text{MoL}'(\text{CO})_3]^-$ ($L' = \text{HBPz}_3^-$, HBPz'_3^- , HBPz''_3^- , $\text{HBPz}^*_3^-$, HBBz_3^- , HBTz_3^- , or PhBTz_3^- ; $\text{Pz}'' = 3,4,5$ -trimethylpyrazol-1-yl), belong to the point group of C_{3v} and display one strong (A_1) and one very strong (E) carbonyl stretching bands in solution. The averaged $\nu(\text{CO})$ values taken as $1/3 \nu(A_1) + 2/3 \nu(E)$ for the anions measured in MeCN are calculated as follows: $L' = \text{HBBz}_3^-$, 1834 cm^{-1} [6a]; HBPz_3^- , 1806 cm^{-1} ; HBPz'_3^- , 1798 cm^{-1} [17]; HBPz''_3^- ,



Scheme 1.

1793 cm^{-1} [8]; HBPz_3^* , 1799 cm^{-1} [16]; HBTz_3^- , 1819 cm^{-1} ; and PhBTz_3^- , 1818 cm^{-1} , indicating the increasing order of electron donating power as $\text{HBBz}_3^- < \text{HBTz}_3^-$, $\text{PhBTz}_3^- < \text{HBPz}_3^- < \text{HBPz}_3'$, $\text{HBPz}_3^* < \text{HBPz}_3''$. The weaker donating ability of HBTz_3^- compared with that of HBPz_3^- is compatible with HTz being more acidic than HPz [15]. From these values, it is clear that (1) the replacement of the hydrogen atom on the boron atom by a phenyl group in HBTz_3^- (to give PhBTz_3^-) or the replacement of the hydrogen atoms on the pyrazolyl ring-5 position with the methyl groups in HBPz_3^* (to give HBPz_3') does not change at all the donating ability of the relevant ligands; (2) the substitution of the hydrogen atoms on pyrazolyl ring-3, -4, or -5 position with methyl groups, converting from HBPz_3^- to HBPz_3' or HBPz_3'' increases the ability slightly and (3) the replacement of the CH atoms on pyrazolyl ring-3 or -4 position by a nitrogen atom in making Bz or Tz, respectively, do weaken this ability. As reported earlier [6a], the complete reaction between $[\text{Mo}(\text{HBBz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]^-$ and allyl bromide needs about 17 h while a similar reaction takes only about 3 h for $[\text{Mo}(\text{HBTz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]^-$ or $[\text{Mo}(\text{PhBTz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]^-$, showing that the much weaker donativity of HBBz_3^- retards more strongly the oxidative allyl bromination of $[\text{MoL}(\text{CO})_3]^-$ ($\text{L}^- = \text{HBTz}_3^-$, PhBTz_3^- or HBBz_3^-) than HBTz_3^- or PhBTz_3^- . Thus, the replacement of the CH atoms on the ring-3 position by a nitrogen atom has a stronger effect than the substitution on the ring-4 position.

In order further to compare the relevant structure features of $[\text{MoL}'(\text{CO})_3]^-$ ($\text{L}' = \text{HBPz}_3^-$, HBPz_3' , HBTz_3^- , or HBPz_3^*), we determined the solid-state structures of $[\text{NEt}_4][\text{Mo}(\text{HBPz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]$ (**1**) and $[\text{N}(\text{PPh}_3)_2][\text{Mo}(\text{HBTz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]$ (**4**). The two anions are isostructural (Fig. 1), as expected, to $[\text{NEt}_4][\text{Mo}$

$(\text{HBPz}_3')(\text{CO})_3]$ (**3**) [19] and $[\text{NEt}_4][\text{Mo}(\text{HBPz}_3^*)(\text{CO})_3]$ (**2**) [16]. To our surprise, **1** and **4** are even X-ray isomorphous in a space group of *Pbca*. Apparently, the cone angles of HBPz_3^- and HBTz_3^- should be similar and the two similar anions $[\text{Mo}(\text{HBPz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]^-$ and $[\text{Mo}(\text{HBTz}_3)(\text{CO})_3]^-$ being larger than the cations NEt_4^+ or $\text{N}(\text{PPh}_3)_2^+$ determines the packing habit in the crystal [18]. As the methyl groups replace the hydrogen atoms symmetrically at the pyrazolyl ring-3 and -5 positions, converting HBPz_3^- into HBPz_3' , this changes the habit to the space group of lower symmetry (*Pna2*₁) for $[\text{NEt}_4][\text{Mo}(\text{HBPz}_3')(\text{CO})_3]$ [19] and the less symmetric replacement of the hydrogen atoms, at the ring-3 position only, by methyl groups in the process of formation of HBPz_3^* from HBPz_3^- results in the space group of much lower symmetry (*P2*₁) for $[\text{NEt}_4][\text{Mo}(\text{HBPz}_3^*)(\text{CO})_3]$ [16].

Some averaged bond lengths and angles calculated from the structures of anions $[\text{MoL}'(\text{CO})_3]^-$ ($\text{L}' = \text{HBPz}_3^-$, HBPz_3' , HBTz_3^- , or HBPz_3^*) are listed in Table 4. From this table, it is clear that the angle $\text{C}(n)\text{-Mo-C}(n')$ of 84.4° in **3** is smaller than that of 88.0° in **1**, reflecting the different steric encumbrances (the cone angle is measured as 180 or 184° for HBPz_3^- and 224 or 225° for HBPz_3' [20,21]). Since the angle, $\text{C}(n)\text{-Mo-C}(n')$, is 85.3° in **2** (Table 4), it is reasonable to assume that the cone angle of HBPz_3^* is less than that of HBPz_3' though larger than in HBPz_3^- . However, the angle should be used with caution as the $\text{Mo-N}(n1)$ and $\text{Mo-C}(n)$ distances may be different. The angle of 86.2° in **4**, larger than that in **1**, cannot be used to infer that the cone angle for HBTz_3^- is larger than that for HBPz_3^- , rather it has something to do with the longer Mo-N distance ($\text{Mo-N} = 2.280 \text{ \AA}$ in **4** vs. 2.265 \AA in **1** and $\text{Mo-C} = 1.922 \text{ \AA}$ in **4** vs. 1.925 \AA in **1**), which may reflect the donativity of HBTz_3^- being

TABLE 4. Averaged bond lengths (\AA) and angles ($^\circ$) for $[\text{MoL}'(\text{CO})_3]^-$

L'	HBPz_3^-	HBPz_3^*	HBPz_3'	HBTz_3^-
$\text{Mo-C}(n)$	1.925 [1] ^a	1.928 [10]	1.941 [4]	1.922 [5]
$\text{C}(n)\text{-O}(n)$	1.176 [9]	1.168 [14]	1.167 [5]	1.168 [7]
$\text{Mo-N}(n1)$	2.265 [6]	2.285 [5]	2.263 [5]	2.280 [7]
$\text{B-N}(n2)$	1.538 [12]	1.532 [8]	1.535 [11]	1.537 [8]
$\text{N}(n1)\text{-N}(n2)$	1.366 [6]	1.363 [5]	1.376 [11]	1.361 [4]
$\text{N}(n2)\text{-C}(n3)$	1.348 [7]	1.346 [17]	1.365 [9]	1.334 [5]
$\text{C}(n3)\text{-X}(n4)$ ^b	1.367 [5]	1.356 [20]	1.351 [10]	1.313 [9]
$\text{X}(n4)\text{-C}(n5)$	1.378 [7]	1.391 [15]	1.388 [27]	1.347 [2]
$\text{C}(n5)\text{-N}(n1)$	1.336 [10]	1.335 [6]	1.341 [29]	1.316 [5]
$\text{N}(n1)\text{-Mo-N}(n'1)$	80.4 [5]	81.0 [8]	81.3 [11]	79.6 [18]
$\text{N}(n2)\text{-B-N}(n'2)$	109.1 [2]	109.0 [7]	109.2 [3]	107.9 [9]
$\text{C}(n)\text{-Mo-C}(n')$	88.0 [29]	85.3 [10]	84.4 [11]	86.2 [36]
Reference	this work	[16]	[19]	this work

^a Standard deviations in square brackets were calculated by $\sigma = (\sum(x - \bar{x})^2 / (N - 1))^{1/2}$. N = the number of data used; ^b $\text{X} = \text{C}$ for anions with $\text{L}' = \text{HBPz}_3^-$, HBPz_3^* or HBPz_3' and $\text{X} = \text{N}$ for HBTz_3^- .

weaker than that of HBPz_3^- , as observed in the larger averaged carbonyl-stretching value stated above. The Mo–N distance is 2.285 Å in **2** but 2.263 Å in **3**, giving only weak support to the 5-methyl-group effect for nickel pseudohalides suggested by Trofimenko *et al.* [9], whereby the presumed nonbonded repulsive interactions among the methyl groups at the ring-5 position are alleviated by tightening of the “bite” of the tridentate ligands around the metal atom with shortening Mo–N distances. It is probably true from the similarity of the Mo–N distances of 2.265 Å in **1** and 2.263 Å in **3** that the averaged value of 2.264 Å from the two may represent the closest distance between the tripodal ligand and the metal atom in **1**–**4**. Thus, if the 5-methyl-group effect is present at all in metal compounds, this effect should be manifested more clearly in the four-coordinate complexes such as the nickel compounds used by these other workers [9] compared with that in the six-coordinate compounds used in this paper.

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