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# Organometallic and related imidotitanium compounds containing a pendant arm functionalised benzamidinate ligand

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#### Abstract

Chloride ligand substitution reactions of tert-butyl- and arylimido-titanium complexes supported by the pendant arm functionalised N-trimethylsilyl benzamidinate ligand Me<sub>3</sub>SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub> are described. Reaction of previouslydescribed  $[Ti(N'Bu){Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_3}CI]$  (1) with PhLi afforded thermally sensitive  $[Ti(N'Bu){Me_3-SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_3}CI]$ SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>}Ph] (2). The corresponding reaction of 1 with MeLi afforded  $[Ti(N'Bu){Me_3-$ SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>]Me] (3) detected by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy but this compound could not be isolated. Reaction of 1 with LiCH<sub>2</sub>SiMe<sub>3</sub> gave a complex mixture, but with LiN(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and LiO-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub> the compounds  $[Ti(N'Bu){Me_3-$ SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>X (X = N(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (4) or O-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub> (5)) were isolated. The X-ray structure of 5 was determined. Reaction of the homologous compound  $[Ti(N'Bu){Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2NMe_2}C]$  (6) (containing a 2-carbon atom chain in the pendant arm) with MeLi or PhLi were unsuccessful although the aryloxide compound  $[Ti(N^tBu)]{Me_3-}$ SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub> $(O-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2)$ ] (7) could be isolated from the reaction of 6 with LiO-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>. Reaction of the 3-carbon pendant arm arylimido compound [Ti(N-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>){Me<sub>3</sub>SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>}Cl] (8) with MeLi afforded thermally sensitive  $[Ti(N-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2){Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2}Me]$  (9), and although the analogous phenyl homologue was elusive, the aryloxide derivative  $[Ti(N-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2)\{Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2\}(O-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2)]$  (10) was successfully isolated and structurally characterised. Comparison of the X-ray structures of 5 and 10 show unexpectedly large differences between the Ti=NR and Ti-OAr bond lengths in the two compounds. © 2003 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.

Keywords: Titanium; Imido; Benzamidiate ligands; Amide; Aryloxy; Methyl; Phenyl

#### 1. Introduction

Transition metal imido compounds provide a wealth of molecular reactivity, this occurring either at the M =NR linkage itself (i.e. imido ligand as a reactive site) or at some other point in the  $L_n M(NR)$  coordination sphere (imido ligand acting as a supporting group) [1,2a,b]. Both types of reactivity are well-established, and in recent years we have been interested to exploit the chemistry of imidotitanium compounds in both of these regards [2]. Clearly the type of reactivity exhibited by an imido compound depends on the nature of the substrate(s) involved and the identity of the ancilliary

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ligand(s). In some cases there might well be ambiguity in regard to the actual site of reactivity.

An interesting question concerning reaction site selectivity has been raised recently by Jensen and Børve [3] in calculations on Gibson's olefin polymerisation catalysts [Cr(NR')<sub>2</sub>R<sub>2</sub>] (R' = <sup>*t*</sup>Bu or aryl; R = Me or CH<sub>2</sub>Ph) [4]. At first sight, one would probably envisage that these would give rise to cationic active species '[Cr(NR')<sub>2</sub>R]<sup>+'</sup> (R = initiating alkyl group or growing polymer chain) with monomer enchainment proceeding through migratory insertion reactions of the Cr-R bond. However, for chemically realistic model systems [Cr(NR')<sub>2</sub>R]<sup>+</sup> it appears that [3] ethylene cycloaddition to the Cr = NR' bond can compete with insertion into the Cr-R bond, in turn leading (after further modification) to a reduced Cr (IV) species which may in fact be the resting state for this catalyst system. In very recent

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work, we ourselves reported that the cationic imido- $W{MeC(2-C_5H_4N)}$ tungsten methyl compound  $(CH_2NSiMe_3)_2$  (NPh)Me <sup>+</sup>  $(anion = [MeB(C_6F_5)_3]^-)$ reacts with  $CO_2$  or isocyanates appear to undergo cycloaddition reactions at the W=NPh bond and not insertion into the W-Me bond [5,6]. This is despite the latter product being the most thermodynamically favourable according to DFT calculations, and insertion reactions of CO<sub>2</sub> into W-alkyl bonds being extremely well precedented in the literature. With these and other observations in mind we have been interested to prepare new imido complexes containing potentially reactive M = NR linkages, and which additionally contain metal-hydrocarbyl  $\sigma$ -bonds.

We have previously reported amidinate [5-7] supported imidotitanium complexes [8] [Ti(NR){PhC(NSi- $Me_{3}_{2}Cl(py)_{n}$  (*n* = 2 (I) or 1 (II); R = <sup>*t*</sup>Bu or aryl—see Chart 1) and  $[Ti_2(\mu-NtBu)_2\{MeC(NC_6H_{11})_2\}_2Cl_2]$ . Chloride ligand metathesis reactions of I/II (which exist in a dynamic, temperature-dependent equilibrium) yield alkyl, borohydride, amide, aryloxide and cyclopentadienyl derivatives [9]. Some of the latter family of complexes, namely  $[Ti(NAr)(\eta - C_5Me_5) \{MeC(N'Pr)_2\}]$ (III, Ar = substituted phenyl group), react with  $CO_2$ (via an initial cycloaddition reaction) to form  $[Ti(\eta C_5Me_5$  {MeC(N<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>} {O(CO)N(Ar)(CO)O}; the double CO<sub>2</sub> activation reaction leading to these compounds was the first example for any transition metal imide [10]. To develop this promising line of study, we more recently [11] reported complexes of the type  $[Ti(NR){Me_3SiNC(Ph)N(CH_2)_nNMe_2}Cl]$  (*n* = 2 or 3,  $\mathbf{R} = {}^{t}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}$  or aryl, **IV**) containing pendant amino donor groups. These form better defined compounds in solution (i.e. do not engage in temperature-dependent dynamic equilibria) as compared with I/II. Furthermore, the pendant NMe<sub>2</sub> donor group of the Me<sub>3</sub>-SiNC(Ph)N(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub> ancillary ligands in IV might, in principle, dissociate in solution (or during the course of a reaction) to form a more reactive, lower coordination number metal centre (an approach we have used with considerable success in other *N*-donor ligand supported imidotitanium systems 2b). We therefore anticipated that replacement of the chloride ligand in certain of the compounds  $[Ti(NR){Me_3SiNC(Ph)-N(CH_2)_nNMe_2}Cl]$  (IV) would provide interesting and well-defined metal complexes for the further study of imidotitanium chemistry. An investigation of this possibility is the subject of our present contribution [12].

#### 2. Results and discussion

#### 2.1. Syntheses

The starting compounds  $[Ti(NR){Me_3SiNC(Ph)-NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2}Cl]$  (R = <sup>*t*</sup>Bu 1 or 2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub> (8)) and  $[Ti(N^tBu){Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2NMe_2}Cl]$ (6) were prepared as previously-described [11] by reaction of  $[Ti(NR)Cl_2(py)_3]$  [13] with the corresponding lithiated amidinates Li{Me\_3SiNC(Ph)NCH\_2CH\_2CH\_2-NMe\_2} [14] and Li{Me\_3SiNC(Ph)NCH\_2CH\_2NMe\_2} [15]. We have focussed most of our efforts on the 3-carbon pendant arm systems 1 and 8 since previous studies [11] showed these are the most easily handled and give rise to fewer unwanted side-reactions.



Chart 1.

The syntheses and proposed structures of the new compounds are summarised in Scheme 1 and Eq. (1). Reaction of  $[Ti(N^tBu){Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2N-$ Me<sub>2</sub>{Cl] (1) with PhLi at  $-80 \degree$ C in Et<sub>2</sub>O gave a yellow solution which, on warming to room temperature, darkened markedly. Removal of the volatiles and extraction into benzene (to separate LiCl) afforded the compound  $[Ti(N^tBu){Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2-}$ phenyl CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>}Ph] (2) as a brown/black solid. Solutions of 2 were very clean by NMR spectroscopy but clearly degraded over time in the dark (at room temperature in deuterobenzene), indicating the thermal sensitivity of the sample. Attempts to recrystallise 2 resulted in further degradation. Somewhat surprisingly, a parent molecular ion was observed in the high resolution EI mass spectrum confirming the elemental

composition. The NMR spectra of **2** are consistent with the structure proposed in Scheme 1. The presence of the titanium-bound phenyl group is established by doublet, triplet and multiplet resonances at 8.31, 7.46 and 7.33, respectively in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum. Additional resonances characteristic of a *tert*-butyl group and a  $\kappa^3$ -bound Me<sub>3</sub>SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub> ligand were clearly visible. That the dimethylamino nitrogen is firmly bound to titanium (i.e. does not dissociate rapidly on the NMR timescale) was confirmed by the presence of two singlets (integration 3H each with respect to that for *tert*-butyl) for the *N*-methyl groups, and six individual methylene proton resonances for the CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub> linkage in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum.

Attempts were made to make better behaved/more stable  $\sigma$ -hydrocarbyl derivatives of **1**. Reaction of **1** with



Scheme 1.

MeLi in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> on an NMR tube scale gave clean conversion to the methyl derivative  $[Ti(N^tBu){Me_3} SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2Me_3$  (3) as judged by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy. In addition to resonances for the *tert*-butyl and Me<sub>3</sub>SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub> groups a further singlet at 0.79 (relative integral 3H) was reproducibly observed. The compound did not appear to be especially light- or temperature-sensitive in solution, but attempts to scale up the reaction on a preparative scale were unsuccessful (see, however, the successful synthesis of the arylimido homologue 9 below). Reaction of 1 with LiCH<sub>2</sub>SiMe<sub>3</sub> in  $C_6D_6$  gave a complex mixture. This was particularly disappointing since we had previously found 8a that the analogous reaction of  $[Ti(N^tBu){PhC(NSiMe_3)_2}Cl(py)_2]$  gave reasonable yields of crystallographically characterised  $[Ti(N^tBu){PhC(NSiMe_3)_2}(CH_2SiMe_3)(py)].$ 

Reaction of 1 with LiN(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> gave [Ti(N<sup>*t*</sup>Bu){Me<sub>3</sub>-SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CMe<sub>2</sub>}{N(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (4) as a highly soluble, yellow crystalline solid. It was not wholly possible to recrystallise 4 away from impurities which evidently possess similar solubility characteristics. However, resonances for the *tert*-butyl and amidinate moities in 4 were similar to those found for 2 and 3. The bulky N(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> substituent appeared as two singlets (relative intensity 9H each) in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum, consistent with restricted rotation about the Ti–N bond.

To establish structurally that Cl-substitution products of 1 possess the geometries proposed in Scheme 1, the comparatively stable aryloxide derivative [Ti(N' -Bu { $Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2$ }(O-2,6- $C_6H_3Me_2$  (5) was prepared. Thus reaction of 1 with LiO-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub> in toluene followed by recrystallisation from hexanes afforded yellow crystalline 5 in 63%isolated yield. The compound 5 has been crystallographically characterised (see below) and this confirmed the structure proposed in Scheme 1. The NMR data for the  ${Ti(N^{t}Bu)(Me_{3}SiNC(Ph)NCH_{2}CH_{2}CH_{2}NMe_{2})}$ moiety of 5 are analogous to those of the organometallic homologues 2 and 3. Additional resonances for a 2,6- $C_6H_3Me_2$  moiety are also observed, the methyl and meta ring protons of which appear as four individual signals. This evidence of restricted rotation about the Ti-O bond on the NMR timescale indicates that the coordination environment around titanium in 5 (as also found in 4 above) is in fact quite crowded. The corresponding benzamidinate compound without a pendant arm, namely  $[Ti(N^tBu){PhC(NSiMe_3)_2}(O 2,6-C_6H_3Me_2(py)$ ] 8a, did not exhibit evidence for an analogous restricted rotation at room temperature (although the 2,6-di-*tert*-butyl homologue  $[Ti(N^{t}-$ Bu {PhC(NSiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>}(O-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sup>t</sup><sub>3</sub>Bu<sub>2</sub>)(py)] did) (Eq. (1)).

Speculating that the greater steric crowding associated with the  $Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2$  ligand might be contributing to the instability of some of the

products we investigated certain chloride substitution reactions of the corresponding 2-carbon pendant arm  $[Ti(N^{t}Bu){Me_{3}SiNC(Ph)NCH_{2}CH_{2}NMe_{2}Cl]$ system (6) [11]. Reaction of 6 with LiO-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub> (Eq. (1)) gave  $[Ti(N^{t}Bu){Me_{3}SiNC(Ph)NCH_{2}CH_{2}NMe_{2}}(O-2,6 C_6H_3Me_2$  (7) as a yellow crystalline material in 25% recrystallised yield. The NMR resonances for the  $Ti(N^{t}Bu)$ {Me<sub>3</sub>SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>} moiety in 7 are comparable to those of 6. The *ortho* methyl groups in the room temperature <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C spectra of 7 appear as a single resonances (the meta ring protons and carbons could not be clearly assigned due to overlap with resonances from the amidinate phenyl group). Thus restricted rotation about the Ti–O bond of 7 at room temperature (at the same spectrometer field as for 5) is not observed, possibly implying that the coordination environment about titanium in 7 is not as crowded as that in 5. Unfortunately, reaction of 6 with MeLi or PhLi both failed to give rise to isolable products, although the NMR tube scale reaction with MeLi looked fairly promising (just as for 1).

Certain comparative reactions of the arylimido compound [Ti(N-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>){Me<sub>3</sub>SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>}Cl] (8) [11] were investigated (Scheme 1). NMR tube scale reactions with PhLi in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> gave complex mixtures, but with MeLi in cold Et<sub>2</sub>O the methyl derivative [Ti(N-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>){Me<sub>3</sub>SiNC(Ph)-NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>}Me] (9) was obtained as brown, thermally sensitive solid in 50% isolated yield. The NMR spectra for 9 are consistent with the structure proposed in Scheme 1. Notably, the titanium-bound methyl group appears at 0.95 ppm in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum (38.20 in the <sup>13</sup>C spectrum) which is comparable to that for [Ti(N'Bu){Me<sub>3</sub>SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>}Me] (3), i.e. 0.79 ppm.

For comparative purposes the reaction of **8** with LiO-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub> was carried out. This afforded [Ti(N-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>){Me<sub>3</sub>SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>}(O-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>)] (**10**) as an orange solid in 63% yield. The solid state structure has been determined (see below) and confirms that illustrated in Scheme 1. As for **7** (and in contrast to that found for **5**) there is no evidence for



<sup>t</sup>Bu

<sup>t</sup>Bu

restricted rotation about the Ti–O bond on the NMR timescale at room temperature.

#### 2.2. X-ray structures

The molecular structures of  $[Ti(N'Bu){Me_3-SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2}(O-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2)]$  (5) and  $[Ti(N-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2){Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2-CH_2NMe_2}(O-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2)]$  (10) are shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and selected bond distances and angles are presented in Table 1. For comparison, corresponding values for  $[Ti(N-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2){Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2-CH_2CH_2NMe_2}CI]$  (8) [11] are also listed.

Molecules of 5 and 10 possess monomeric, fivecoordinate structures in the solid state. All three nitrogens of the Me<sub>3</sub>SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub> ligands are firmly coordinated to titanium with similar Ti-N distances to those found previously in the chloride [Ti(N-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>R<sub>2</sub>){Me<sub>3</sub>SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>analogues  $CH_2CH_2NMe_2$ CI] (R = Me 8 or <sup>*i*</sup>Pr) [11]. The N(3) and N(4) atoms are approximately  $sp^2$  hybridised as indicated by their approximately trigonal planar geometry (the sums of the angles subtended at the N(3) and N(4) atoms lie in the range  $353.8(4) - 358.7(5)^{\circ}$ ). The Ti-N distances to the amidinate ligand are significantly longer for 5 than for 10 as expected based on the better donor ability of tert-butylimido ligands compared to their arylimido homologues [16,12b,13].

While the geometry at Ti(1) in 5 and 10 may be reasonably well described as distorted square base pyramidal (with N(1) occupying the axial position), that of 10 is somewhat closer to trigonal bipyramidal

with N(1), O(1) and N(3) formally occupying the equatorial positions. Clearly both structures are constrained by the chelating amidinate ligand and inherently small bite angle of the N2CPh moiety. Four fivecoordinate, crystallographically characterised arylimidotitanium compounds containing two monodentate aryloxide ligands and two Lewis base donor atoms have been described previously [17-19]. Two of these [18,19] feature bidentate Lewis base donors and are thus somewhat constrained. The other two are of the type  $[Ti(NAr)(OAr')_2(L)_2]$  (Ar = phenyl or 2,6-disubtituted phenyl; L = pyridine or substituted pyridine) and possess well-defined trigonal bipyramidal geometries with ArN=Ti-O angles of ca.  $113-114^{\circ}$  and ArN = Ti-L angles of ca.  $96-99^{\circ}$ . The compounds 5 and 10 are the first structurally characterised imidotitanium compounds featuring only one aryloxide ancillary ligand.

Turning now to the Ti = NR and Ti–OAr units, it is interesting to note the significant differences between the two Ti=NR distances for  $R = {}^{t}Bu$  (1.6991(15) Å) and  $R = 2,6-C_{6}H_{3}Me_{2}$  (1.756(2) Å), and the two Ti–OAr distances (1.8887(13) Å for 5; 1.828(2) Å for 10). The previously established ranges are as follows [16]: for terminal Ti=N<sup>t</sup>Bu linkages the mean value is 1.702(18) Å with a range of 1.656(9)–1.738(4) Å; for terminal Ti= N-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub> linkages the mean value is 1.725(16) Å with a range of 1.695(8)–1.752(8) Å; for Ti–OAr linkages with two *ortho*-methyl (or sterically similar) substituents the mean value is 1.825(46) Å with a range of 1.735(7)–1.952(4) Å. For the four arylimidotitanium compounds containing two monodentate aryloxide ligands and two Lewis base donor atoms mentioned



Fig. 1. Molecular structure of  $[Ti(N'Bu){Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2}(O-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2)]$  (5). Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 20% probability level. H atoms omitted for clarity.



Fig. 2. Molecular structure of  $[Ti(N-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2){Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2}(O-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2)]$  (10). Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 20% probability level. H atoms and hexane molecule of crystallisation omitted for clarity.

above the average Ti=NAr distance is 1.721(4) (range 1.709(5)–1.734(4) Å) and the average Ti–OAr distance is 1.882(9) (range 1.853(4)-1.932(3) Å). The angles subtended at N(1) and O(1) are approximately linear for these four compounds and for 5 and 10, indicating that in all instances these atoms are effectively sp hybridised and the imido and aryloxide groups can, in principle, donate four or five electrons respectively to titanium [12b,20], subject to orbital availability. While the actual Ti=NR and Ti-OAr distances in 5 and 10 lie (within error) within the previously determined general ranges of values, there is an unexpectedly large difference between the Ti=NR and Ti-OAr distances between the two molecules. Furthermore, when specifically comparing the data for 10 with those for the previous four arylimidotitanium compounds containing two monodentate aryloxide ligands, the Ti=NAr distance appears to be surprisingly long and Ti-OAr rather short. Although it is perhaps not surprising that a longer Ti=NR distance might be correlated with a shorter Ti-OAr (since both NR and OAr groups are  $\pi$ -donors and potentially in competition for available  $d_{\pi}$  acceptor orbitals), it is not clear why the Ti=NAr distance is so comparatively long and Ti-OAr so short in 10, especially since most other features of 10 are comparable with those of 5 and 8. There appear to be no adverse intra- or inter-molecular contacts.

#### 3. Experimental

#### 3.1. Literature preparations

The compounds  $[Ti(NR){Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2-CH_2NMe_2}Cl]$  (R = <sup>*t*</sup>Bu **1** or 2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub> **8**) and  $[Ti(N^tBu){Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2NMe_2}Cl]$  (6) were prepared as reported previously [11].

#### 3.2. General methods and instrumentation

All manipulations were carried out using standard Schlenk line or drybox techniques under an atmosphere of argon or of dinitrogen. Solvents were predried over activated 4 Å molecular sieves and were refluxed over appropriate drying agents under a dinitrogen atmosphere and collected by distillation. Deuterated solvents were dried over appropriate drying agents, distilled under reduced pressure, and stored under dinitrogen in Teflon valve ampoules. NMR samples were prepared under dinitrogen in 5 mm Wilmad 507-PP tubes fitted with J. Young Teflon valves. <sup>1</sup>H-, <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-, and <sup>13</sup>Cspectra were recorded on Varian Unity Plus 500 and Varian Mercury spectrometers. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C assignments were confirmed when necessary with the use of nOe, DEPT-135, DEPT-90, DEPT-45, and two-dimensional <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-<sup>1</sup>H-NMR experiments. All spectra were Table 1

Comparison of selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) for  $[Ti(N'Bu)\{Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2\}(O-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2)]$  (5) and  $[Ti(N-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2)\{Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2\}(O-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2)]$  (10)

	5	10	[8]
Bond lengths <sup>a</sup>			
Ti(1)-N(1)	1.6991(15)	1.756(2)	[1.713(1)]
Ti(1)-N(2)	2.2548(15)	2.235(2)	[2.223(1)]
Ti(1)-N(3)	2.1081(15)	2.084(2)	[2.080(1)]
Ti(1)-N(4)	2.1531(15)	2.119(2)	[2.124(1)]
Ti(1)-O(1)	1.8887(13)	1.828(2)	[-]
N(4)-CPh	1.336(2)	1.319(3)	[1.337(2)]
N(1)-C(1)	1.446(2)	1.383(3)	[1.377(2)]
O(1)-CAr	1.337(2)	1.352(3)	[-]
N(4)-Si(1)	1.7294(15)	1.730(2)	[1.734(1)]
N(3)-CPh	1.320(2)	1.320(3)	[1.316(2)]
Bond angles <sup>a</sup>			
N(1)-Ti(1)-O(1)	115.90(7)	118.75(12)	[-]
N(1)-Ti(1)-N(2)	100.81(7)	96.78(9)	[98.13(4)]
N(1)-Ti(1)-N(3)	105.61(7)	113.99(11)	[110.09(5)]
N(1)-Ti(1)-N(4)	105.36(7)	103.5(1)	[104.53(4)]
N(2)-Ti(1)-N(3)	81.55(6)	82.65(8)	[83.16(4)]
N(2)-Ti(1)-N(4)	140.02(6)	144.82(8)	[144.58(4)]
N(3)-Ti(1)-O(1)	138.45(6)	127.17(11)	[-]
N(3)-Ti(1)-N(4)	62.69(6)	62.94(9)	[63.71(4)]
Ti(1)-N(1)-C(1)	171.93(13)	174.5(2)	[178.58(9)]
Ti(1)-O(1)-CAr	167.84(12)	170.3(2)	[-]
$Ti(1)-N(3)-CH_2$	136.65(12)	140.8(5)	[138.75(8)]
Ti(1)-N(3)-CPh	92.16(11)	92.88(16)	[92.26(7)]
$CPh-N(3)-CH_2$	124.95(16)	124.3(2)	[125.4(1)]
Ti(1)-N(4)-CPh	89.8(1)	91.35(16)	[89.77(7)]
Ti(1)-N(4)-Si(1)	135.11(8)	134.03(12)	[129.04(6)]
Si(1)-N(4)-CAr	132.13(13)	133.3(2)	[131.58(8)]
N(4)-CPh-N(3)	113.22(15)	112.6(2)	[113.5(1)]

For comparison, the corresponding values for previously reported [11] [Ti(N-2,6-C\_6H\_3Me\_2){Me\_3SiNC(Ph)NCH\_2CH\_2CH\_2NMe\_2}Cl] (8) are given in brackets.

<sup>a</sup> For **5** the generic labels *CPh*, *CAr* and  $CH_2$  refer to C(16), C(5) and C(15), respectively in Fig. 1. For **10** *CPh*, *CAr* and  $CH_2$  refer to C(20), C(9) and C(19), respectively in Fig. 2.

referenced internally to residual protio-solvent (<sup>1</sup>H) or solvent (<sup>13</sup>C) resonances and are reported relative to tetramethylsilane ( $\delta = 0$  ppm). Chemical shifts are quoted in  $\delta$  (ppm) and coupling constants in hertz. Infrared spectra were prepared as Nujol mulls between NaCl plates and were recorded on Perkin-Elmer 1600 and 1700 series spectrometers. Infrared data are quoted in wavenumbers  $(cm^{-1})$ . Mass spectra were recorded by the mass spectrometry service of the University of Oxford's Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory. Combustion analyses were recorded by the analytical services of the University of Oxford's Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory. Despite repeated recrystallisations, several of the compounds gave consistently low elemental analyses for %N and/or %C, consistent with incomplete combustion (nitride/carbide formation) [21].

#### 3.3. $[Ti(N^tBu) \{Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2\}$ -Ph] (2)

To a stirred solution of  $[\text{Ti}(\text{N}^{t}\text{Bu})\{\text{Me}_{3}\text{SiNC}(-\text{Ph})\text{NCH}_{2}\text{CH}_{2}\text{CH}_{2}\text{NMe}_{2}\}\text{Cl}] (0.41 \text{ g}, 9.50 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol})$ in Et<sub>2</sub>O (15 ml) at -80 °C was added a solution of PhLi (0.10 g,  $1.20 \times 10^{-3}$  mol) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (15 ml) dropwise over 15 min. The resulting yellow solution was stirred at room temperature (r.t.) for 30 min. Volatiles were removed under reduced pressure and the resulting black solid was extracted into benzene (20 ml). The black/ brown product was triturated with pentane (30 ml) and dried in vacuo. Yield: 0.29 g, (68%).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 300.1 MHz, 293 K): 8.31 (2H, d,  ${}^{3}J = 6.5$  Hz, o-TiPh), 7.46 (1H, t,  ${}^{3}J = 7.6$  Hz, p-TiPh), 7.33 (2H, m, m-TiPh), 7.42-7.06 (5H, overlapping m, PhCN<sub>2</sub>), 3.05–2.82 (3H, overlapping m,  $2 \times CN_2CH_2$ , CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 2.65 (3H, s, NMe), 1.82 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 1.68 (3H, s, NMe), 1.41 (9H, s, CMe<sub>3</sub>), 1.34 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.02 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), -0.11 (s, 9H, SiMe<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 75.0 MHz, 293 K): 187.10 (CN<sub>2</sub>), 175.20 (ipso-TiPh), 137.05 (o-TiPh), 136.77 (*ipso-PhCN*<sub>2</sub>), 128.59, 128.50, 128.43, 127.76, 126.91, 126.53, 126.31 (9C, partially obscured by solvent, TiPh, PhCN<sub>2</sub>), 69.23 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 61.79 (CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 52.04 (NMe), 47.02 (CN<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 43.71 (NMe), 33.59 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 25.82 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.21 (SiMe<sub>3</sub>). IR (Nujol mull, NaCl plates): 2726 (w), 1944(w), 1578 (w), 1506 (w), 1344 (s), 1299 (m), 1248 (s), 1206 (m), 1153 (w), 1130 (w), 1104 (m), 1061 (m), 1017 (m), 979 (s), 946 (m), 918 (s), 898 (m), 857 (w), 838 (m), 820 (w), 783 (m), 766 (w), 722 (w), 702 (m), 648 (s). Accurate mass EI-MS for  $[Ti(N^tBu){Me_3SiNC-}$  $(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2$  Ph]<sup>+</sup>. Found: (Calc. for  $C_{25}H_{40}N_4TiSi$ ): m/z = 472.2508 (472.2502). Anal. Found: (Calc. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>40</sub>N<sub>4</sub>TiSi): C 60.4 (63.5), H 9.1 (8.5), N 11.7 (11.9)%

#### 3.4. [Ti(N<sup>t</sup>Bu) {Me<sub>3</sub>SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>}-Me] (3; NMR tube scale synthesis)

A solution of  $[Ti(N'Bu){Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2.CH_2NMe_2}Cl]$  (6.0 mg,  $1.40 \times 10^{-5}$  mol) in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> (0.5 ml) in a 5 mm NMR tube was treated with ca. one equivalent of 1.6 M solution of MeLi in Et<sub>2</sub>O. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum showed formation of **3** as the dominant product.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 300.2 MHz, 293 K) 7.21–7.02 (5H, overlapping m, *Ph*CN<sub>2</sub>), 3.03–2.80 (3H, overlapping m,  $2 \times CN_2CH_2$ ,  $CH_2NMe_2$ ), 2.66 (3H, s, NMe), 2.04–1.91 (3H, overlapping m,  $CH_2NMe_2$ ,  $2 \times CH_2CH_2CH_2$ ), 1.39 (9H, s, CMe<sub>3</sub>), 0.79 (3H, s, TiMe), 0.22 (9H, s, SiMe<sub>3</sub>).

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## 3.5. $[Ti(N^tBu) \{Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2\} - \{N(SiMe_3)_2\}]$ (4)

То а stirred solution of  $[Ti(N^tBu){Me_3-$ SiN(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>Cl] (0.34 g,  $7.87 \times 10^{-4}$ mol) in benzene (20 ml), was added a solution of LiN(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (0.13 g,  $7.87 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) in benzene (20 ml) dropwise over 20 min. The yellow solution was heated at 50 °C for 30 h. Volatiles were removed under reduced pressure and the yellow solid was extracted into benzene (15 ml). The dark yellow solid was recrystallised from hexane (30 ml) at -80 °C and washed with  $3 \times 10$ ml cold hexane yielding an orange solid which was dried in vacuo. Yield: 0.13 g (30%).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR ( $C_6D_6$ , 300.1 MHz, 293 K): 7.56–7.01 (5H, overlapping m, PhCN<sub>2</sub>), 2.97-2.79 (3H, overlapping m, 2 × CN<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 2.72 (3H, s, NMe), 2.03 (3H, s, NMe), 1.82 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 1.31 (9H, s, CMe<sub>3</sub>), 1.31-1.22 (2H, overlapping m, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.78 (9H, s, N(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 0.35 (9H, s, N(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 0.29 (9H, s, PhCNSiMe<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 75.0 MHz, 293 K): 176.36 (CN<sub>2</sub>), 137.13 (ipso-PhCN<sub>2</sub>), 129.4, 128.32,  $127.67, 126.61 (PhCN_2), 69.73 (CMe_3), 63.57$ (CN<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 54.66 (NMe), 48.01 (CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 47.11 (NMe), 33.21 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 25.52 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 8.22 1.36 (overlapping  $N(SiMe_3)_2$  $(N(SiMe_3)_2),$ and PhCNSiMe<sub>3</sub>). IR (Nujol mull, NaCl plates): 4331 (m), 4257 (m), 3061 (m), 2786 (s), 2765 (m), 2723 (m), 2680 (m), 2361 (w), 2342 (w), 2206 (w), 2132 (w), 2092 (w), 1947 (w), 1884 (w), 1808 (w), 1636 (m), 1603 (m), 1577 (s), 1509 (s), 1485 (s), 1456 (s), 1365 (s), 1347 (m), 1311 (s), 1300 (m), 1260 (m), 1245 (s), 1205 (s), 1153 (s), 1099 (w), 1062 (w), 1017 (m), 983 (m), 932 (s), 920 (m), 901 (s0, 868 (s), 839 (s), 803 (s), 785 (s), 760 (m), 722 (s), 672 (m). Anal. Found: (Calc. for  $C_{25}H_{53}N_5TiSi_3$ ): C 49.2 (54.0), H 8.9 (9.6), N 10.0 (12.6)%.

### 3.6. $[Ti(N^{t}Bu) \{Me_{3}SiNC(Ph)NCH_{2}CH_{2}CH_{2}NMe_{2}\} - (O-2,6-C_{6}H_{3}Me_{2})]$ (5)

solution of  $[Ti(N^tBu){Me_3-$ To а stirred SiNC(Ph)NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>Cl] (0.55 g, 1.29 ×  $10^{-3}$  mol) in toluene (20 ml), was added a solution of LiO-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub> (0.16 g,  $1.29 \times 10^{-3}$  mol) in toluene (40 ml) dropwise over 15 min. The resulting yellow solution was stirred at r.t. for 2 h. Volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the resultant vellow solid was extracted into hexane (50 ml). The yellow solid was recrystallised from hexane (20 ml) at -80 °C, washed with  $5 \times 10$ -ml cold hexane and dried in vacuo. Yield: 0.41 g (63%).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 500.0 MHz, 233 K): 7.50–7.29 (5H, overlapping m, *Ph*CN<sub>2</sub>), 7.03 (1H, d, J = 7.08 Hz, *m*-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 6.93 (1H, d,  ${}^{2}J$  = 6.51 Hz, *m*-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 6.57 (1H, m, *p*-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 3.63 (1H, m, *CH*<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 3.38–3.24 (2H, overlapping m, CN<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.87 (3H, s,

NMe), 2.68 (3H, s, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 2.55 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 2.13 (3H, s, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 1.94 (3H, s, NMe), 1.89 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.59 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.00 (9H, s,  $CMe_3$ , -0.38 (9H, s, SiMe<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 125.0, MHz, 233 K): 173.87 (CN<sub>2</sub>), 160.72 (ipso- $C_6H_3Me_2$ ), 135.93 (*ipso-Ph*CN<sub>2</sub>), 128.28, 128.19, 127.91, 127.81, 127.50, 127.08, 126.14, 126.08, 125.51 (9C PhCN<sub>2</sub> and C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 116.43 (p-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 68.06 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 62.69 (CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 51.65 (NMe), 47.07 (CN<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 43.74 (NMe), 32.59 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 25.49  $(CH_2CH_2CH_2)$ , 18.21  $(C_6H_3Me_2)$ , 17.09  $(C_6H_3Me_2)$ , 0.81 (SiMe<sub>3</sub>). IR (Nujol mull, NaCl plates): 2726 (m), 2684 (w), 2588 (w), 2360 (m), 2342 (m), 2250 (w), 2098 (w), 1942 (w), 1892 (w), 1832 (w), 1804 (w), 1590 (s), 1576 (m), 1506 (s), 1364 (m), 1348 (s), 1294 (s), 1250 (s), 1236 (s), 1208 (m), 1178 (w), 1150 (w), 1128 (w), 1110 (m), 1090 (m), 1062 (m), 1016 (m), 980 (m), 948 (m), 918 (m), 908 (s), 902 (s), 860 (m), 838 (s), 820 (m), 806 (w), 782 (m), 760 (s), 742 (w), 718 (m), 698 (s), 628 (w), 596 (w). Anal. Found: (Calc. for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>44</sub>N<sub>4</sub>OTiSi): C 62.1 (62.8), H 8.7 (8.6), N 10.4 (10.8)%.

### 3.7. $[Ti(N^{t}Bu) \{Me_{3}SiNC(Ph)NCH_{2}CH_{2}NMe_{2}\}(O-2,6-C_{6}H_{3}Me_{2})]$ (7)

To a stirred solution of  $[Ti(N'Bu){Me_3-SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2NMe_2}Cl]$  (0.41 g,  $8.8 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) in toluene (15 ml) was added a solution of LiO-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub> (0.14 g,  $8.8 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) in toluene (30 ml) dropwise over 15 min. The yellow solution was stirred at r.t. for 16 h. Volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the resulting orange-brown solid was extracted into benzene (30 ml). The yellow solid was recrystallised from hexane (25 ml) at -80 °C and washed with 5 × 10 ml cold hexane. Yield: 0.11 g (25%).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 500.0 MHz, 293 K): 7.23–7.19 (4H, overlapping m,  $PhCN_2$  and  $m-C_6H_3Me_2$ ), 7.04-7.03 (3H, overlapping m,  $PhCN_2$  and  $m-C_6H_3Me_2$ ), 6.88  $(1H, t, {}^{2}J = 7.3 \text{ Hz}, p-C_{6}H_{3}\text{Me}_{2}), 3.25 (1H, overlapping)$ m, CN<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.70 (1H, overlapping m, CN<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.62 (3H, s, NMe), 2.61 (6H, s, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 2.12 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 1.80 (3H, s, NMe), 1.77 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 1.32 (s, 9H,CMe<sub>3</sub>), 0.14 (s, 9H, SiMe<sub>3</sub>).  $^{13}C{^{1}H}$ -NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 125.0 MHz, 293 K): 174.06 (CN<sub>2</sub>), 161.70 (*ipso-C*<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 136.03 (*ipso-Ph*CN<sub>2</sub>), 129.68, 128.52, 12.50, 127.68, 126.54 (PhCN<sub>2</sub> and  $C_6H_3Me_2$ ), 118.25 (*p*- $C_6H_3Me_2$ ), 68.39 (*CMe*<sub>3</sub>), 63.11 (CN<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 49.49 (NMe), 46.88 (CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 45.20 (NMe), 33.57 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 18.50 (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 2.32 (SiMe<sub>3</sub>). IR (Nujol mull, NaCl plates): 4331 (m), 4258 (m), 4065 (w), 2727 (m), 2361 (m), 2342 (w), 1950 (w), 1889 (w), 1828 (w), 1771 (w), 1592(m), 1505 (m) 1405 (m), 1349 (s), 1330(m), 1290 (m), 1262 (m), 1249 (s), 1232 (s), 1207 (m), 1159 (w), 1126(m), 1090 (s), 1063 (w), 1025 (s), 947 (m), 934 (m), 919 (m), 892 (s), 868 (s), 840 (s), 820 (m), 805 (m), 759 (s), 740 (w0, 723 (m), 703 (m), 669 (w), 629

(w). Anal. Found: (Calc. for  $C_{26}H_{45}N_4TiOSi$ ): C 58.2 (61.8), H 8.4 (9.0), N 9.6 (11.1)%.

### 3.8. $[Ti(N-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2) \{Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2\}Me)]$ (9)

To a stirred solution of  $[Ti(N-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2){Me_3-SiN(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2}Cl]$  (0.36 g, 7.57 × 10<sup>-4</sup> mol) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (40 ml) at -80 °C was added 1.6M MeLi/Et<sub>2</sub>O solution (0.47 ml, 7.57 × 10<sup>-4</sup> mol) over 15 min. The resulting orange solution was stirred at -80 °C for 15 min before being allowed to warm to r.t. over 20 min. Volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the resulting brown solid extracted into benzene (25 ml). The resulting solid was triturated with pentane (25 ml) to give a brown solid. Yield: 0.17 g (50%).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 300.0 MHz, 293 K): 7.21–7.06 (7H, overlapping m, C<sub>6</sub> $H_3$ Me<sub>2</sub>, *Ph*CN<sub>2</sub>), 6.80 (1H, t,  ${}^{2}J =$ 7.32 Hz, p-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 2.87 (6H, s, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 2.85-2.73 (2H, overlapping m,  $2 \times CN_2CH_2$ ), 2.33 (3H, s, NMe), 2.32 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 2.01 (3H, s, NMe), 1.82 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 1.31–1.09 (2H, overlapping m,  $2 \times$ CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.95 (3H, s, TiMe), 0.11 (9H, s, SiMe<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 75.0, MHz, 293 K): 177.55 (CN<sub>2</sub>), 159.66 (ipso-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 136.25 (ipso-PhCN<sub>2</sub>), 132.09  $(C_6H_3Me_2)$ , 129.01, 128.63, 128.29, 127.80  $(PhCN_2)$ , 127.47 ( $C_6H_3Me_2$ ), 119.14  $(p-C_6H_3Me_2)$ , 61.18 (CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 50.54 (NMe), 46.88 (NMe), 45.76  $(CN_2CH_2)$ , 38.20 (TiMe), 20.20  $(C_6H_3Me_2)$ , 1.96 (SiMe<sub>3</sub>). IR (Nujol mull, NaCl plates): 4330 (m), 4257 (m), 2726 (m), 1588 (m), 1505 (m), 1345 (m), 1316 (s), 1262 (m), 1247 (m), 1226 (w), 1205 (w), 1173 (m), 1153 (m), 1093 (s), 1063 (s), 1016 (m), 981 (w), 949 (w), 918 (m), 897 (s), 839 (m), 820 (s), 785 (m), 756 (s), 741 (w), 723 (m), 701 (m). Anal. Found: (Calc. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>38</sub>N<sub>4</sub>TiSi): C 61.3 (62.8), H 8.9 (8.4), 11.9 (12.2)%.

#### 3.9. [Ti(N-2,6-

### $C_6H_3Me_2$ { $Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2$ } (0-2,6- $C_6H_3Me_2$ ) ] (10)

To a stirred solution of  $[Ti(N-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2){Me_3-SiN(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2}CI]$  (0.56 g,  $1.17 \times 10^{-3}$  mol) in toluene (30 ml) was added a solution of LiO-2,6- $C_6H_3Me_2$  (0.15 g,  $1.17 \times 10^{-3}$  mol) in toluene (30 ml) dropwise over 15 min. The red brown solution became orange in colour and was stirred at r.t. for 16 h. Volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the resulting orange-brown solid was extracted into hexane (50 ml). The orange solid was recrystallised from hexane (15 ml) at -80 °C and washed with  $4 \times 10$  ml cold hexane. Yield: 0.10 g (63%).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 500.0 MHz, 293 K): 7.26–7.05 (9H, overlapping m, m-N-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub> m-O-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>, PhCN<sub>2</sub>), 6.86 (1H, t, <sup>2</sup>J = 7.32 Hz, p-N-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>),

6.74 (1H, t,  ${}^{2}J = 7.32$  Hz, p-O-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 3.12 (1H, m, CN<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.95 (1H, m, CN<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.86 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 2.80 (6H, s, N-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 2.51 (6H, s, O-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 2.50 (3H, s, NMe), 1.76 (3H, s, NMe), 1.71 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 1.25 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.04 (1H, m,  $CH_2CH_2CH_2$ ), -0.08 (9H, s, SiMe<sub>3</sub>).  $^{13}C{^{1}H}$ -NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 125.0 MHz, 293 K): 175.93 (CN<sub>2</sub>), 162.37 (ipso N-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 159.83 (ipso O-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 135.96 (ipso PhCN<sub>2</sub>), 132.24 (o-O-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 129.10, 128.75, 128.61, 128.53, 127.48, 126.76, 126.41 (overlapping m-O-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>, m-N-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>, o-N-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>, PhCN<sub>2</sub>), 119.56 (p-O- $2,6-C_6H_3Me_2$ , 119.03 (*p*-*N*-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 61.97 (CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 52.06 (NMe), 45.89 (CH<sub>2</sub>CN<sub>2</sub>), 45.74 (NMe), 25.40 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 20.44 (N-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 18.13 (O-2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>), 1.68 (SiMe<sub>3</sub>). IR (Nujol mull, NaCl plates) 2722 (w), 2678 (w), 2356 (w), 2340 (w), 1888 (w), 1732 (w), 1590 (m), 1344 (m), 1312 (m), 1276 (s), 1236 (s), 1208 (m), 1178 (w), 1152 (w), 1110 (m), 1092 (s), 1060 (m), 1026 (w), 1012 (m), 980 (s), 948 (w), 896 (s), 854 (m), 838 (m), 818 (w), 784 (m), 756 (s), 740

Table 2

X-ray data collection and processing parameters for  $[Ti(N'Bu){Me_3-SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2}(O-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2)]$  (5) and  $[Ti(N-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2){Me_3SiNC(Ph)NCH_2CH_2CH_2NMe_2}(O-2,6-C_6H_3Me_2)] \cdot 0.5(C_6H_{14})$  (10.0.5(C\_6H\_{14}))

	5	$10 \!\cdot\! 0.5 (C_6 H_{14})$	
Molecular formula	C <sub>27</sub> H <sub>44</sub> N <sub>4</sub> OsiTi	$C_{31}H_{44}N_4OSiTi \cdot 0.5(C_6H_{14})$	
Formula weight	516.66	607.80	
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	
Space group	$P2_1/c$	$P2_1/n$	
Unit cell dimensions			
a (Å)	10.4590(2)	12.7710(2)	
b (Å)	15.8439(3)	19.5990(3)	
c (Å)	18.0981(4)	14.4818(3)	
α (°)	97.3378(7)	99.2435(7)	
V (Å <sup>3</sup> )	2974.5	3577.7	
Ζ	4	4	
Absorption coefficient	0.352	0.302	
$(mm^{-1})$			
Crystal description	Pale yellow block	Orange fragment	
Crystal size (mm)	$0.20 \times 0.28 \times$ 0.32	$0.06 \times 0.12 \times 0.34$	
Reflections collected	26442	41 144	
Unique reflections	7024	8147	
R <sub>int</sub>	0.048	0.043	
Observed reflections	4606	4733 $[I > 3\sigma(I)]$	
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical	Semi-empirical	
$T_{\min}, T_{\max}$	0.89, 0.93	0.90, 0.98	
Number of parameters refined	307	388	
Final $R$ indices <sup>a</sup>	$R_1 = 0.0364$	$R_1 = 0.0507$	
	wR = 0.0407	wR = 0.0645	
Largest residual $\Delta_{\rho}$ features (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	-0.27, 0.31	-0.30 and 0.43	

<sup>a</sup>  $R = \Sigma ||F_{o}| - |F_{c}|| / \Sigma |F_{o}|; R_{w} = v \{ \Sigma w (|F_{o}| - |F_{c}|)^{2} / \Sigma w |F_{o}|^{2} \}.$ 

(m), 722 (m), 626 (w), 566 (m). Anal. Found: (Calc. for  $C_{31}H_{44}N_4OTiSi$ ): C 63.6 (65.9), H 8.2 (7.8), N 9.5 (9.9)%.

3.10. Crystal structure determination of  $[Ti(N^{t}Bu) \{Me_{3}SiNC(Ph)NCH_{2}CH_{2}CH_{2}NMe_{2}\}(O-2,6-C_{6}H_{3}Me_{2})\}$  (5) and  $[Ti(N-2,6-C_{6}H_{3}Me_{2})]$  (5) and  $[Ti(N-2,6-C_{6}H_{3}Me_{2})]$  (Me\_{3}SiNC(Ph)NCH\_{2}CH\_{2}CH\_{2}NMe\_{2}](O-2,6-C\_{6}H\_{3}Me\_{2})] \cdot 0.5(C\_{6}H\_{14}) (10  $\cdot 0.5(C_{6}H_{14}))$ 

Crystal data collection and processing parameters are given in Table 2. Crystals were mounted on a glass fibre using perfluoropolyether oil and cooled rapidly to 150 K in a stream of cold N<sub>2</sub> using an Oxford Cryosystems CRYOSTREAM unit. Diffraction data were measured using an Enraf-Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer (graphite-monochromated Mo-K<sub> $\alpha$ </sub> radiation,  $\lambda =$ 0.71073 Å). Intensity data were processed using the DENZO-SMN package [22]. The structures were solved using SIR-92 [23], which located all non-hydrogen atoms. Subsequent full-matrix least-squares refinement was carried out using the CRYSTALS program suite [24]. Coordinates and anisotropic thermal parameters of most non-hydrogen atoms were refined (see below for treatment of  $10.0.5(C_6H_{14})$ ). Hydrogen atoms were positioned geometrically after each cycle of refinement. Chebychev polynomial weighting schemes were applied.

Molecules of 10 were partially disordered: examination of difference Fourier maps after refinement of the preliminary non-H atom structure showed a number of relatively large peaks of electron density. Some of these were assigned as a hexane molecule disordered over two orientations related by a crystallographic centre of inversion; other peaks were assigned as the C atoms of a second orientation of the NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub> group, related to the major orientation by reflection in the N<sub>2</sub>Ti plane. Coordinates and isotropic thermal parameters were refined for the hexane, with C-C bond lengths restrained to 1.54(2) Å and C-C-C bond angles restrained to 112(2)°. Coordinates, site occupancies and anisotropic thermal parameters were refined for the major positions of the disordered ligand C atoms, whereas coordinates, site occupancies and isotropic thermal parameters were refined for the minor positions. Geometric similarity restraints were applied to the disordered fragment: bond lengths related by reflection in the N<sub>2</sub>Ti plane were restrained to be within 0.01 Å of their common mean; related bond angles were restrained to be within  $1^{\circ}$  of their common mean.

#### 4. Supplementary material

Crystallographic data for the structural analysis have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, CCDC, No. 206510 for compound **5** and No. 206511 for compound **10**. Copies of this information may be obtained free of charge from The Director, CCDC, 12, Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (Fax: +44-1223-336033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk or http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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