

Neutral Pentacoordinate Silicon Fluorides Derived from Amidinate, Guanidinate, and Triazapentadienate Ligands and Base-Induced Disproportionation of Si_2Cl_6 to Stable Silylenes

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Pentacoordinate silicon fluorides L^1SiF_3 (**2a**), L^2SiF_3 (**2b**), and $(\text{L}^3\text{SiF}_2)_2$ (**2c**) based on amidinate ($\text{L}^1 = \text{PhC}(\text{N}^i\text{Bu})_2$), guanidinate ($\text{L}^2 = 1,3,4,6,7,8\text{-hexahydro-}2H\text{-pyrimido}[1,2\text{-}a]\text{pyrimidine}$), and triazapentadienate ($\text{L}^3 = \text{NC}(\text{NMe}_2)\text{NC}(\text{NMe}_2)\text{NAr}$; Ar = 2,6- $\text{Pr}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) ligands were prepared by fluorination of the corresponding chlorosilanes L^1SiCl_3 (**1a**), L^2SiCl_3 (**1b**), and L^3SiCl_2 (**1c**) with Me_3SnF at ambient temperature. Compounds **1b**, **1c**, **2a**, and **(2c)**₂ were characterized by ¹H, ¹³C, ¹⁹F, and ²⁹Si NMR spectroscopic studies. Molecular structures of **1b**, **1c**, **2a**, and **(2c)**₂ were determined by single crystal X-ray structural analysis. Invariom refinement involving non-spherical scattering factors of the Hansen-Coppens multipole model was performed for **1b**. Compound L^3SiF_2 (**2c**) is dimeric both in the solid state and in solution, whereas its chloro-analogue **1c** is monomeric. The attempted synthesis of diamidinatotetrachlorodisilane by reaction of lithium amidinate with Si_2Cl_6 led to the formation of the silane (**1a**) and the silylene L^1SiCl (**3**). Reaction of Si_2Cl_6 with N-heterocyclic carbenes (NHC) afforded NHC adducts of dichlorosilylene and SiCl_4 . A one pot method for the preparation of base-stabilized silylenes from Si_2Cl_6 is discussed.

Introduction

Compounds with coordination numbers greater than four at the silicon have received considerable attention during the past few decades. Silicon(IV) halides are well-known as Lewis acids, and compounds with hypervalent silicon were first observed at the beginning of the 19th century.¹ Compounds with higher-coordinate silicon have been of great interest both for experimental^{2,3} and theoretical⁴ scientists because of their unusual bonding properties,⁵ distinct reactivity, and potential as synthons⁶ for preparing novel silicon compounds. Moreover, compounds with higher-coordinate silicon are known to act as reactive intermediates⁷ and as reagents for preparing organosilicon compounds.⁸ On the basis of the size of the central atoms (carbon and silicon), the enhanced stability of compounds with pentacoordinate silicon has been theoretically^{4g} explained. Ionic compounds³ with higher-coordinate silicon are well documented, but similar compounds with neutral ligands are scarce.²

Moreover, a recent growth area in main group chemistry has been the isolation of compounds with elements in unusual oxidation states.^{9,10} The synthesis, characterization, and applications of compounds with low valent main group elements stabilized kinetically by bulky ligands and/or thermodynamically

by donor atoms (C, N, or P) have proved to be attractive topics of research. Further progress in this field is driven by the design and synthesis of new compounds with main group elements.

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Herein we report on the synthesis and characterization of pentacoordinate silicon fluorides containing bidentate mono-(amidinate, guanidinate) and bifunctional (triazapentadienate) ligands by efficient fluorination of their chloro analogues **1a–1c** with Me_3SnF . The synthesis and characterization of L^2SiCl_3 (**1b**) and L^3SiCl_2 (**1c**) are reported for the first time.

One pot methods for the synthesis of compounds with low valent elements are undoubtedly important to obtain sufficient amount of starting material for new reactions. Recently we reported^{6d} a nearly quantitative (79% yield) synthesis of NHC-stabilized dichlorosilylenes by a clean one-step reaction of NHC with HSiCl_3 . We further described^{6f} the high-yield synthesis of monochlorosilylene L^1SiCl from L^1SiHCl_2

using NHC or $\text{LiN}(\text{SiMe}_3)_2$ as a dehydrochlorinating agent. As a continuation of these studies, we report herein a new method for the preparation of base-stabilized silylenes from Si_2Cl_6 .

Experimental Section

General Procedures. All manipulations were carried out under an inert atmosphere of nitrogen using standard Schlenk line techniques or a glovebox. The solvents used were purified by MBRAUN solvent purification system MB SPS-800. Compound **1c**^{6a} and L^3Li ($\text{L}^{3'} = \text{Me}_3\text{SiNC}(\text{NMe}_2)\text{NC}(\text{NMe}_2)\text{NAr}$ and Ar is $2,6\text{-}^i\text{Pr}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$)¹¹ were prepared according to literature methods. All chemicals received from Aldrich were used without further purification. C_6D_6 and THF-d_8 were dried over Na metal and distilled under nitrogen prior to use. ^1H , ^{13}C , ^{19}F , and ^{29}Si NMR spectra were recorded using Bruker Avance DPX 200 or Bruker Avance DRX 500 spectrometers. Elemental analyses were obtained from the Analytical Laboratory of the Institute of Inorganic Chemistry at the University of Göttingen.

Preparation of L^2SiCl_3 (1b**).** To 100 mL of a diethyl ether solution of 1,3,4,6,7,8-hexahydro-2H-pyrimido[1,2-a]pyrimidine (L^2H) (1.54 g, 11.06 mmol) was added a 2.5 M solution of $^4\text{BuLi}$ (4.45 mL, 11.12 mmol) at -78°C , and the mixture was stirred for 4 h at room temperature. Into the resulting white suspension SiCl_4 (1.30 mL, 11.34 mmol) was syringed at -78°C with constant stirring. The reaction mixture was further stirred overnight. The volatiles were removed under vacuum to obtain a white solid. The solid was dissolved in toluene (50 mL) and filtered through Celite. The resulting filtrate was reduced to 25 mL under vacuum and stored at -35°C in a freezer to yield compound **1b** as colorless crystals (2.71 g, 90%). Anal. Calcd (%) for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{12}\text{Cl}_3\text{N}_3\text{Si}$ ($M = 272.63$): C, 30.84; H, 4.44; N, 15.41. Found (%): C, 30.79; H, 4.34; N, 15.29. ^1H NMR (200 MHz, C_6D_6 , 298 K): δ 1.16 (m, 4H, CH_2), 2.11 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 4H, CH_2), 2.93 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 4H, CH_2) ppm. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (75 MHz, C_6D_6 , 298 K): δ 22.53 (CH_2), 37.54 (CH_2), 44.04 (CH_2), 154.62 (CN_3) ppm. ^{29}Si NMR (59 MHz, C_6D_6 , 298 K): δ -103.42 ppm.

L^3SiCl_2 (1c**).** SiCl_4 (0.82 mL, 7.12 mmol) was added to 100 mL of a diethyl ether solution of L^3Li (2.82 g, 7.12 mmol) at -78°C , and then the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. After overnight stirring the LiCl formed was filtered off. Removal of all volatiles from the filtrate resulted in a white solid. Recrystallization from toluene (20 mL) afforded compound **1c** as colorless crystals (2.14 g, 72%). Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{29}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_5\text{Si}$ ($M = 414.45$): C, 52.16; H, 7.05; N, 16.90. Found (%): C, 52.19; H, 7.08; N, 16.83. ^1H NMR (200 MHz, C_6D_6 , 298 K): δ 1.06 (d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 6H, CHMe_2), 1.30 (d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 6H, CHMe_2), 2.24 (s, 6H, NMe_2), 2.94 (s, 3H, NMe_2), 2.97 (s, 3H, NMe_2), 3.27 (m, 2H, CHMe_2), 6.98–7.05 (m, 3H, C_6H_3) ppm. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (75 MHz, C_6D_6 , 298 K): δ 23.61 (CHMe_2), 25.78 (CHMe_2), 28.46 (CHMe_2), 37.01, 37.07, 39.50 (NMe_2), 125.10, 127.96, 137.42 (C_6H_3), 146.57 (*ipso*- C_6H_3), 161.66, 162.31 (NCN) ppm. ^{29}Si NMR (59 MHz, C_6D_6 , 298 K): δ -30.57 ppm.

L^1SiF_3 (2a**).** THF (50 mL) was added to **1a** (1.75 g, 4.87 mmol) and Me_3SnF (2.68 g, 16.66 mmol) in a Schlenk flask at room temperature. Stirring of the reaction mixture for 20 min resulted in the dissolution of Me_3SnF and the formation of a colorless solution. After further stirring for 2 h, all volatiles were removed under vacuum to obtain a white solid. Recrystallization from toluene (20 mL) at -35°C afforded **2a** (1.13 g, 75%) as colorless crystals after 20 h. Anal. Calcd (%) for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{23}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{Si}$ ($M = 316.44$): C, 56.93; H, 7.33; N, 8.85. Found (%): C, 56.79; H, 7.30; N, 8.72. ^1H NMR (200 MHz, C_6D_6 , 298 K): δ 1.05 (s, 18H, CMe_3), 6.70–6.88 (m, 5H, C_6H_3) ppm. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (125 MHz, THF-d_8 , 298 K): δ 31.44 (CMe_3), 54.52 (CMe_3), 128.31, 128.97, 129.11, 129.20,

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Table 1. Crystallographic Data and Structure Refinement for **1b** and **1c**

	1b	1c
formula	C ₇ H ₁₂ Cl ₃ N ₃ Si	C ₁₈ H ₂₉ Cl ₂ N ₅ Si
Fw	272.64	414.45
cryst size/mm	0.50 × 0.20 × 0.15	0.40 × 0.40 × 0.25
cryst syst	monoclinic	triclinic
space group	<i>P</i> 2 ₁ / <i>c</i>	<i>P</i> $\bar{1}$
<i>T</i> /°C	−173	−173
<i>a</i> /Å	10.6177(3)	10.1387(4)
<i>b</i> /Å	8.1230(2)	14.3972(6)
<i>c</i> /Å	13.5089(4)	15.9813(6)
α /deg	90	71.159(4)
β /deg	101.155(1)	75.077(4)
γ /deg	90	85.845(4)
<i>V</i> /Å ³	1143.10(5)	2133.18(15)
<i>D</i> _{calcd} /g cm ^{−3}	1.584	1.290
<i>Z</i>	4	4
wavelength/Å	1.54184	0.71073
abs coeff/mm ^{−1}	7.994	0.37
θ range/deg	4.87 to 72.35	3.36 to 30.03
reflns collected/indep reflns	24058/2370	73335/11924
	[<i>R</i> (int) = 0.0418]	[<i>R</i> (int) = 0.0255]
max. and min transmn	0.380 and 0.109	1.000 and 0.949
final <i>R</i> 1 indices	0.0234	0.0296
<i>wR</i> 2 indices (all data)	0.0243	0.0839
largest diff peak and hole/e Å ³	0.61 and −0.46	0.51 and −0.24

131.24, 132.62 (C₆H₅), 177.11 (C₆H₅C) ppm. ¹⁹F NMR (188 MHz, C₆D₆, 298 K): δ −132.38 (*J*_{Si-F} = 219.3 Hz) ppm. ²⁹Si NMR (99 MHz, C₆D₆, 298 K): δ −124.91 (quartet, *J*_{Si-F} = 219.3 Hz) ppm.

L²SiF₃ (2b). Tetrahydrofuran (THF, 50 mL) was added to a mixture of **1b** (1.57 g, 5.76 mmol) and Me₃SnF at room temperature. After 5 min the Me₃SnF had dissolved, resulting in a colorless solution. The volatiles were removed under vacuum to obtain a white solid. Recrystallization from toluene at −35 °C afforded colorless crystals of **2b** (1.01 g, 79%). Anal. Calcd (%) for C₇H₁₂F₃N₃Si (M = 223.27): C, 37.66; H, 5.42; N, 18.82. Found (%): C, 37.59; H, 5.33; N, 18.64. ¹H NMR (200 MHz, C₆D₆, 298 K): δ 1.26 (m, 4H, CH₂), 2.31 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 4H, CH₂), 2.83 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 4H, CH₂) ppm. ¹³C{¹H} NMR (125 MHz, C₆D₆, 298 K): δ 23.23 (CH₂), 39.56 (CH₂), 43.34 (CH₂), 155.32 (CN₃) ppm. ¹⁹F NMR (188 MHz, C₆D₆, 298 K): δ −137.76 (*J*_{Si-F} = 203.7 Hz) ppm. ²⁹Si NMR (59 MHz, C₆D₆, 298 K): δ −127.96 (quartet, *J*_{Si-F} = 203.7 Hz) ppm.

L³SiF₂ (2c). Compound **2c** was prepared analogously to **2b**, using **1c** (1.54 g, 3.72 mmol) and Me₃SnF (1.37 g, 7.49 mmol), as colorless crystals (1.11 g, 78%). Anal. Calcd. for C₁₈H₂₉F₂N₅Si (M = 381.54): C, 56.66; H, 7.66; N, 18.36. Found (%): C, 56.67; H, 7.55; N, 18.23. ¹H NMR (200 MHz, C₆D₆, 298 K): δ 1.14 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 6H, CHMe₂), 1.23 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 6H, CHMe₂), 2.40 (s, 6H, NMe₂), 2.62 (s, 3H, NMe₂), 2.81 (s, 3H, NMe₂), 3.43 (m, 2H, CHMe₂), 7.00–7.09 (m, 3H, C₆H₃) ppm. ¹³C{¹H} NMR (125 MHz, C₆D₆, 298 K): δ 24.31 (CHMe₂), 25.56 (CHMe₂), 29.32 (CHMe₂), 37.23, 37.66, 40.31 (NMe₂), 126.12, 128.00, 137.55 (C₆H₃), 147.07 (*ipso*-C₆H₃), 162.46, 162.81 (NCN) ppm. ¹⁹F NMR (188 MHz, C₆D₆, 298 K): δ −135.54 (*J*_{Si-F} = 206.6 Hz) ppm. ²⁹Si NMR (99 MHz, C₆D₆, 298 K): δ −132.03 (t, *J*_{Si-F} = 206.6 Hz) ppm.

Single Crystal X-ray Structure Determinations. Crystal data are summarized in Tables 1 and 2. Data for **1c** and **2a** were recorded on an Oxford Diffraction Xcalibur diffractometer using monochromated Mo K α radiation. Empirical multiscan absorption corrections were performed. Structural parameters were refined anisotropically on *F*² using the program SHELXL-97.¹² Hydrogen atoms were included using a riding model or rigid methyl groups. A crystal of each of the compounds **1b** and **2c** was mounted on a Bruker three circle diffractometer

Table 2. Crystallographic Data and Structure Refinement for **2a** and **2c**

	2a	(2c) ₂
formula	C ₁₅ H ₂₃ F ₃ N ₃ Si	C ₃₆ H ₅₈ F ₄ N ₁₀ Si ₂
Fw	316.44	763.08
cryst size/mm	0.28 × 0.20 × 0.12	0.50 × 0.25 × 0.25
cryst syst	triclinic	monoclinic
space group	<i>P</i> $\bar{1}$	<i>C</i> 2
<i>T</i> /°C	−173	−173
<i>a</i> /Å	8.7620(9)	14.4012(3)
<i>b</i> /Å	8.9751(9)	14.4485(3)
<i>c</i> /Å	10.9816(12)	9.8332(2)
α /deg	93.738(9)	90
β /deg	100.701(9)	101.970(1)
γ /deg	107.182(9)	90
<i>V</i> /Å ³	804.05(15)	2001.56(7)
<i>D</i> _{calcd} /g cm ^{−3}	1.307	1.270
<i>Z</i>	2	2
wavelength/Å	0.71073	1.54184
abs coeff/mm ^{−1}	0.17	1.29
θ range/deg	2.79 to 30.99	4.38 to 72.93
reflns collected/indep reflns	23331/5091	21748/3915
	[<i>R</i> (int) = 0.0308]	[<i>R</i> (int) = 0.0276]
max. and min transmn	0.999 and 0.946	0.470 and 0.3717
final <i>R</i> 1 indices [<i>I</i> > 2 σ (<i>I</i>)]	0.0311	0.0242
<i>wR</i> 2 indices (all data)	0.0876	0.0246
largest diff peak and hole/e Å ³	0.38 and −0.20	0.21 and −0.15

equipped with a SMART 6000 CCD detector and a Cu K α rotating anode. Integration was performed with SAINT.¹³ For absorption and scaling of intensity data the SADABS program¹⁴ was used. Structures were solved using direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares against *F*² with SHELXL-97.¹² Non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. For hydrogen, positions and isotropic displacement parameters were refined. The asymmetric unit of **2c** contains half a molecule. For compound **1b**, the Independent Atom Model (IAM) refinement starting values were used for Invariom refinement¹⁵ which is based on the Hansen and Coppens multipole formalism.¹⁶ This non-spherical atom refinement, which included reflections with [*F* > 3 σ (*F*)], was performed with XDLSM as part of the XD package.¹⁷ XD input files were processed with the program InvariomTool.¹⁸ In the Invariom refinement multipole parameters are fixed at theoretically predicted values, and only the positional and displacement parameters are refined, providing a more accurate structural model. Full details of the general Invariom modeling procedure can be found in literature.¹⁸

Results and Discussion

Synthesis and Characterization. The reaction of L¹SiCl₃ (**1a**) with Me₃SnF in THF at room temperature led to the immediate dissolution of Me₃SnF with the formation of L¹SiF₃ (**2a**) with pentacoordinate silicon atom. (Scheme 1).

Deprotonation of 1,3,4,6,7,8-hexahydro-2*H*-pyrimido-[1,2-*a*]pyrimidine (L²H) with ^tBuLi and subsequent treatment with SiCl₄ gave compound **1b**, which reacts with Me₃SnF in THF to afford **2b** (Scheme 2).

Reaction of L³Li (where L³ = Me₃SiNC(NMe₂)NC-(NMe₂)NAr and Ar = 2,6-ⁱPr₂C₆H₃) with SiCl₄ yielded

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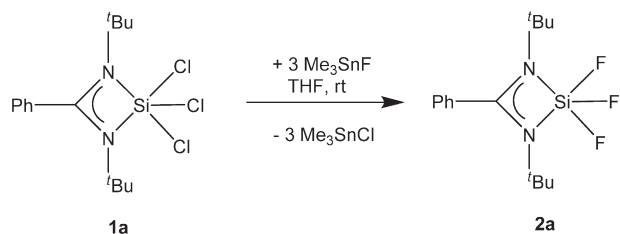
compound **1c** with the elimination of LiCl and Me₃SiCl. In contrast to transition metal¹¹ complexes, where the triazapentadienate ligand (L³)⁻ is monoanionic, L³ in **1c** is dianionic (L³)²⁻ because of the elimination of Me₃SiCl group. Treatment of **1c** with Me₃SnF affords compound **2c** (Scheme 3).

Base-Induced Disproportionation of Si₂Cl₆ to Stable Silylenes. Reaction of Si₂Cl₆ with lithium amidinate (L¹Li) resulted in the formation of trichlorosilane (**1a**) and monochlorosilylene (L¹SiCl) (**3**)^{6a} (Scheme 4) instead of the expected diamidinatotetrachlorodisilane (L¹SiCl₂SiCl₂L¹). This finding offers a new one pot method for the preparation of base-stabilized silylenes. Similarly, reaction of Si₂Cl₆ with 2 equiv of NHC afforded NHC·SiCl₂ (NHC is IPr = 1,

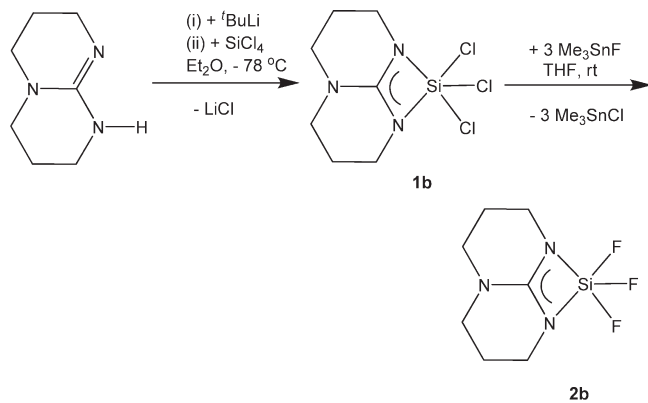
3-bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)imidazol-2-ylidene **4a** or IMes = 1,3-bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)imidazol-2-ylidene **4b**)^{6d} and NHC·SiCl₄ (NHC = IPr **5a** or IMes **5b**)^{6c,d} instead of (NHC·SiCl₃)₂. The physical properties and NMR spectral data of these compounds **1a**, **3**, **4a**, **4b**, **5a**, **5b** are identical with those reported in literature.^{6a,c,d} Thermal¹⁹ and base-induced²⁰ disproportionation of Si₂Cl₆ to SiCl₂ and SiCl₄ is known, and trapping experiments of SiCl₂ with unsaturated substrates have been reported in the literature,²¹ but no stable silylenes have been isolated using this method. Therefore, careful selection of the ligands and their treatment with Si₂Cl₆ may serve as an indicator of silylene stability for a given ligand. Further investigations in this direction are continuing, and the results will be published in due course.

Compounds **1b**, **1c**, **2a**, **2b**, and **2c** are colorless crystalline solids, soluble in common organic solvents, and are stable under an inert atmosphere. These compounds were characterized by elemental analyses, ¹H, ¹³C, ¹⁹F, and ²⁹Si NMR spectroscopic studies. Compound **2a** shows ¹H and ¹³C NMR resonances for the amidinato moiety. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of **1b** and **2b** exhibit resonances for the cyclic guanidinate ligand coordinated to the silicon atom in a bidentate fashion. The conversion of monofunctional triazapentadienate to bifunctional ligand in the formation of compound **1c** can be clearly seen in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra. The resonance from the Me₃Si group is absent, and the methyl groups of the NMe₂ substituents appear as three sets of resonances in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra. In the ¹H NMR spectrum of **1c**, one resonance at δ 2.40 (s, 6H, Me₂NC=N) ppm is preliminarily assigned to the NMe₂ group attached to the carbon atom of the C=N–Si moiety, whereas the two resonances at δ 2.62 (s, 3H, Me₂N) and 2.81 (s, 3H, Me₂N) ppm are assigned to the NMe₂ group at the carbon atom of the C–N–Si moiety. The presence of a bulky 2,6-ⁱPr₂C₆H₃ group at the adjacent amine nitrogen restricts the free rotation of the NMe₂ group with the consequence that at room temperature two singlets appear. Compounds **2a–2c** show the expected resonances in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra. **2a**, **2b**, and **2c** exhibit ¹⁹F NMR resonances at δ –132.38,

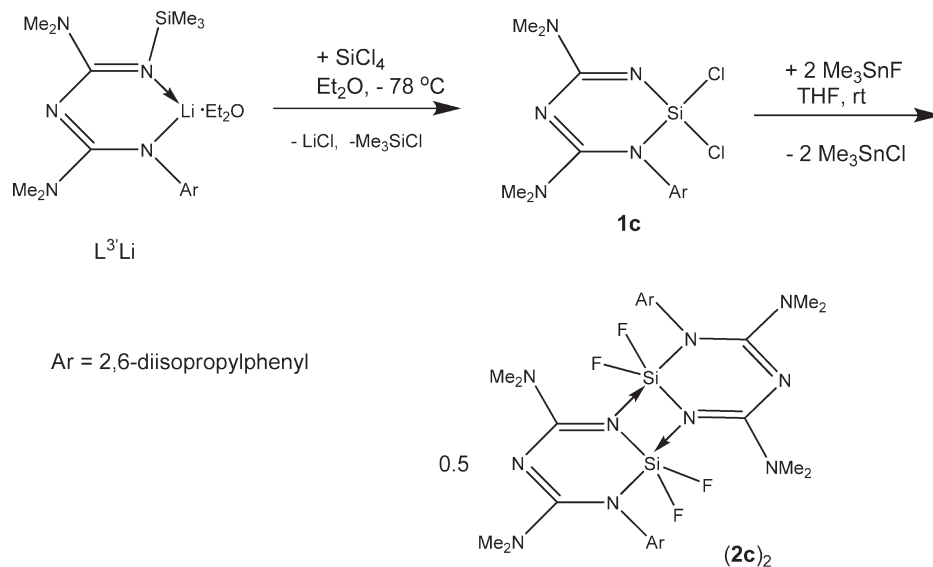
Scheme 1



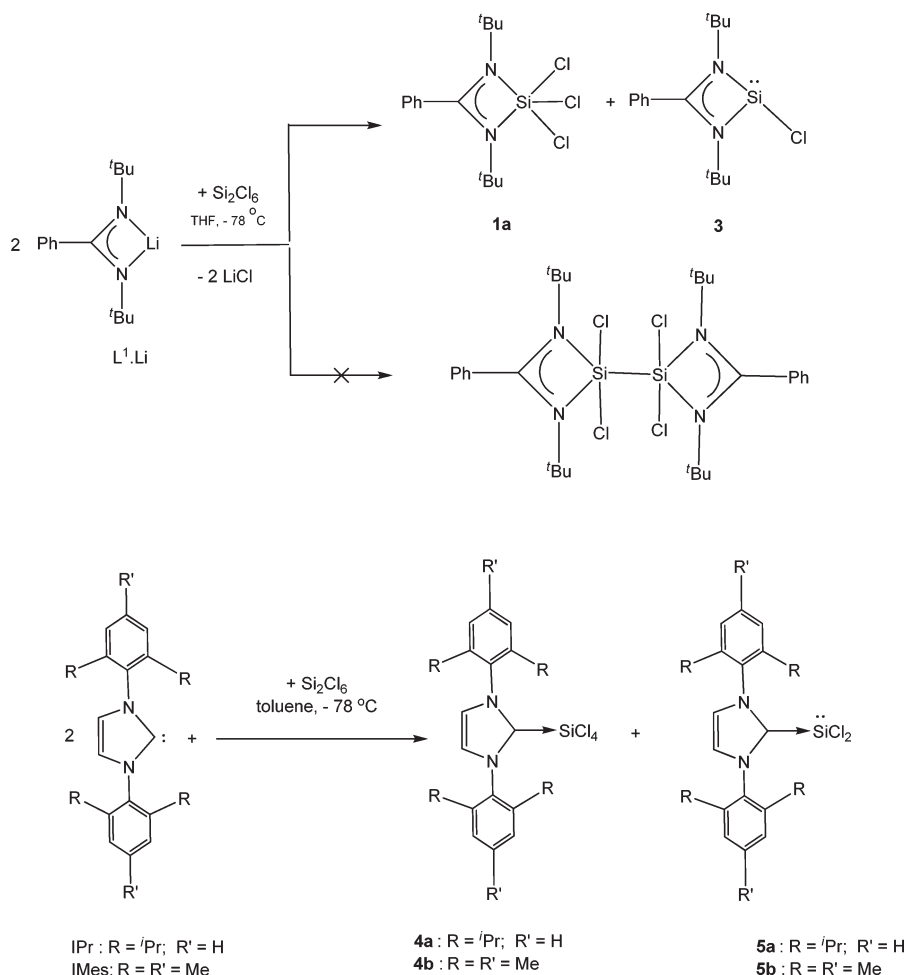
Scheme 2



Scheme 3



Scheme 4



–137.76, –135.54 ppm, respectively, with $J_{\text{Si-F}}$ ranging from 203 to 219 Hz. Compounds **1b**, **2a**, and **2b** each show a sharp ^{29}Si NMR resonance in the range δ –103.42 to –127.96 ppm, consistent for pentacoordinate⁶ silicon. The presence of tetracoordinate silicon in **1c**, in which triazapentadienate is a bifunctional ligand, is further supported by a sharp ^{29}Si NMR resonance at δ –30.57 ppm. The appearance of the ^{29}Si NMR resonance at δ –132.03 ppm for **2c** indicates the retention of pentacoordinate silicon in solution. Single crystal X-ray structural analysis shows the dimeric nature of **2c** with pentacoordinate silicon.

Single Crystal X-ray Structures. Molecular structures of compounds **1b**, **1c**, **2a**, and **2c** were determined by single crystal X-ray crystallography and are shown in Figures 1–4. Crystallographic data for **1b**, **1c**, **2a**, and **2c**

are summarized in Tables 1 and 2. The molecular structure of complex **1b**, which crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $C2/c$, is shown in Figure 1. The silicon atom in **1b** is pentacoordinate, and the bond angles around silicon indicate a distorted trigonal-bipyramidal geometry, whereby N(2) and Cl(1) occupy axial and N(1), Cl(2), Cl(3) equatorial positions. The main distortion is imposed within the four-membered ring by the small bite angle ($71.60(4)^\circ$) of the bicyclic guanidinate (L^2) ligand.²² The C(1)–N(1) (1.3570(12) Å) and C(1)–N(2) (1.3280(14) Å) bond distances are indicative of π -delocalization from the amide nitrogen. As expected, the equatorial Si(1)–Cl(2) and Si(1)–Cl(3) bonds are noticeably shorter than the axial Si(1)–Cl(1) bond. A similar trend can be seen in the Si–N bond distances Si(1)–N(1) 1.7831(10) and Si(1)–N(2) 1.8684(8) Å.

Complex **1c** crystallizes in the triclinic space group $P\bar{1}$ with two independent molecules, which are however closely related (rms deviation 0.20 Å). It features a distorted

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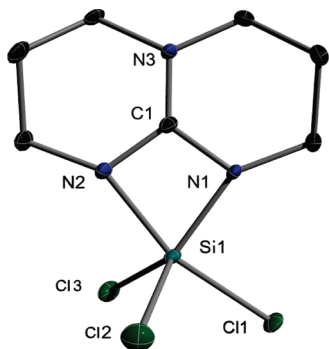


Figure 1. Molecular structure of **1b**. Anisotropic displacement parameters are depicted at the 50% probability level. H atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (deg): Si(1)–N(1) 1.7831(10), Si(1)–N(2) 1.8684(8), Si(1)–Cl(1) 2.1669(3), Si(1)–Cl(2) 2.0778(3), Si(1)–Cl(3) 2.0900(3), N(2)–C(1) 1.3280(14), N(1)–C(1) 1.3570(12), N(3)–C(1) 1.3144(13); N(1)–Si(1)–N(2) 71.60(4), N(1)–Si(1)–Cl(2) 117.37(3), N(2)–Si(1)–Cl(2) 97.73(3), N(1)–Si(1)–Cl(3) 133.49(3), N(2)–Si(1)–Cl(3) 93.18(3), Cl(2)–Si(1)–Cl(3) 107.924(15), N(1)–Si(1)–Cl(1) 91.56(3), N(2)–Si(1)–Cl(1) 161.67(3), Cl(2)–Si(1)–Cl(1) 96.472(12).

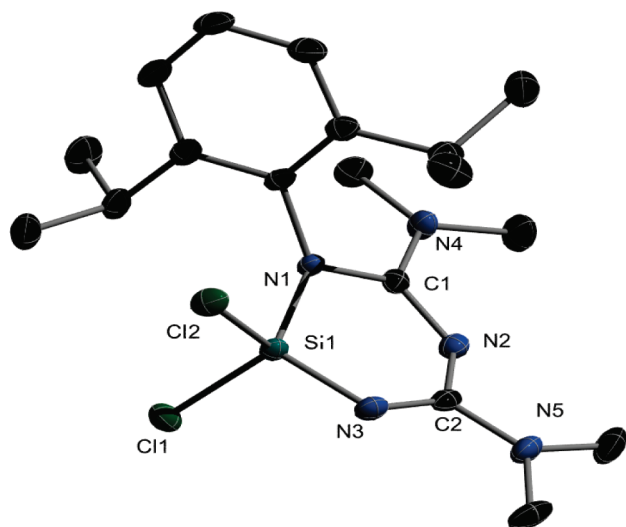


Figure 2. Molecular structure of **1c**. Anisotropic displacement parameters are depicted at the 50% probability level. H atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (deg) (second values refer to the second independent molecule): Si(1)–N(3) 1.6501(10), 1.6479(10), Si(1)–N(1) 1.7494(9), 1.7487(9), Si(1)–Cl(1) 2.0568(4), 2.0533(4), Si(1)–Cl(2) 2.0361(4), 2.0362(4), N(1)–C(1) 1.4023 (14), 1.4019(14), N(2)–C(1) 1.3113 (14), 1.3120(14), N(2)–C(2) 1.3824 (15), 1.3810(14), N(3)–C(2) 1.3172 (15), 1.3417(15); N(3)–Si(1)–N(1) 108.12(5), 108.70(5), N(3)–Si(1)–Cl(2) 113.72(4), 113.31(4), N(1)–Si(1)–Cl(2) 108.31(3), 108.46(3), N(3)–Si(1)–Cl(1) 111.12(4), 110.05(4), N(1)–Si(1)–Cl(1) 110.56(3), 112.07(3), Cl(2)–Si(1)–Cl(1) 104.962(18), 104.254(19).

tetrahedral geometry at the tetracoordinate silicon (Figure 2). The NCNCN moiety shows, beginning at N(3), a short–long–short–long pattern of C–N bond distances. The Si(1)–N(3) bond (1.6501(10), 1.6479(10) Å in the two molecules) is significantly shorter than Si(1)–N(1) (1.7494(9), 1.7487(9) Å), associated with the presence of the bulky 2,6-*i*-Pr₂C₆H₃ group on N(1) compared to the unsubstituted N(3). The Si–Cl bond distances (av 2.046 Å) are

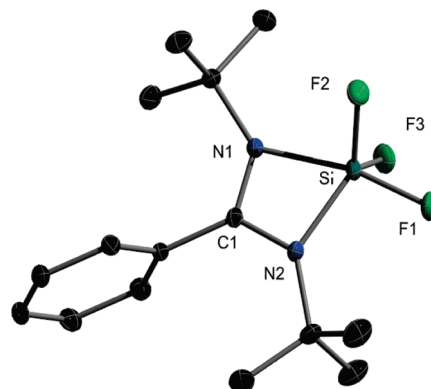


Figure 3. Molecular structure of **2a**. Anisotropic displacement parameters are depicted at the 50% probability level. H atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (deg): Si(1)–F(1) 1.6214(6), Si(1)–F(2) 1.5988(6), Si(1)–F(3) 1.5947(7), Si(1)–N(1) 1.9120 (8), Si(1)–N(2) 1.8026 (8); F(2)–Si(1)–F(1) 94.34(3), F(3)–Si(1)–N(2) 120.70(4), F(3)–Si(1)–N(1) 92.57(3), F(1)–Si(1)–N(1) 167.31(3), N(2)–Si(1)–N(1) 70.25(3).

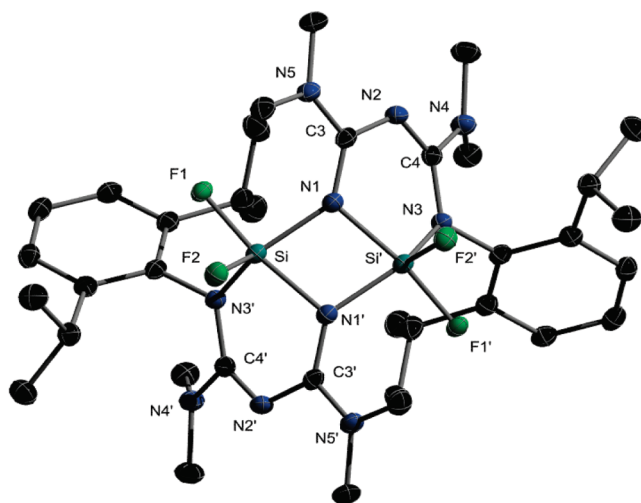


Figure 4. Molecular structure of (**2c**)₂. Anisotropic displacement parameters are depicted at the 50% probability level. H atoms are omitted for clarity. Primes indicate symmetry-generated atoms. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (deg): Si–F(1) 1.6401(7), Si–F(2) 1.6218(8), Si–N(1) 1.7685(10), Si–N(1′) 1.8138(9); F(2)–Si–F(1) 93.27(4), F(2)–Si–N(1) 119.41(5), F(1)–Si–N(1) 93.83(4), F(1)–Si–N(1′) 170.20(4), Si–N(1)–Si′ 101.28(4), N(1)–Si′–N(3) 91.24(4).

consistent with known values of compounds with tetra-coordinate silicon.²³

Compound **2a** crystallizes in the triclinic space group *P* $\bar{1}$ with distorted trigonal bipyramidal geometry around the pentacoordinate silicon atom (Figure 3). The atoms N(1) and F(1) occupy the axial positions, whereas N(2), F(2), and F(3) are equatorial. Analogously to compound **1b**, the differently disposed nitrogen atoms of the bidentate amidinate (*L*¹) ligand cause the main distortion, with a N(1)–Si(1)–N(2) bond angle of 70.25(3)°, and the axial Si(1)–F(1) bond (1.6214(6) Å) is slightly longer than its equatorial counterparts (av 1.5967(7) Å).²⁵ Similarly, the Si–N bond distances are 1.8026(8) and 1.9120(8) Å respectively for the axial and equatorial Si–N bonds. The C(1)–N(1) (1.3135(11) Å) and C(1)–N(2) (1.3641(10) Å) bond lengths are indicative of π -delocalization through the amide nitrogen.

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The molecular structure of compound **2c** is shown in Figure 4. **2c** crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $C2$ as a dimer with imposed 2-fold symmetry. The dimeric nature of **2c** also persists in solution at room temperature. The ^{29}Si NMR spectrum of **2c** displays a triplet at $\delta -132.03$ ppm consistent with a pentacoordinate silicon atom. Clearly the monomeric molecules of L^3SiF_2 (**2c**) react in a $[2 + 2]$ cycloaddition at the Si–N bonds to yield dimeric $(\text{L}^3\text{SiF}_2)_2$ (**2c**)₂. Each of the silicon atoms features distorted trigonal-bipyramidal geometry. The nitrogen atoms of ligand L^3 occupy one axial and one equatorial position at the same silicon atom. The second axial position is filled by one fluorine atom, and the remaining equatorial positions are occupied by the second fluorine atom and symmetry-generated nitrogen. The usual pattern of bond lengths is observed.

Conclusion

A direct fluorination method for the preparation of fluorides with pentacoordinate silicon based on amidinate, guanidinate, and triazapentadienate ligands is reported. A one pot method is discussed for the generation of stable silylenes from base-induced disproportionation of Si_2Cl_6 . This method may serve as a key reaction for generating silylenes and trapping the silylene intermediates with various bases. Invariom refinement involving non-spherical scattering factors of the Hansen–Coppens multipole model was performed for **1b**.

Acknowledgment. Financial support from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft is gratefully acknowledged.

Supporting Information Available: Crystallographic data for complexes **1b**, **1c**, **2a**, and **2c** as CIF files. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.