

Scientific paper

# C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeY Molecules (Y = F and Cl): New Synthetic Approaches. First Structural Proof of the Organoxenon Halide Molecule C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeF

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Dedicated to Professor Boris Žemva

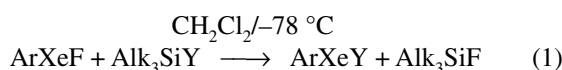
## Abstract

The arylxenonium salt [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][BF<sub>4</sub>] reacts with different sources of nucleophiles, Y (naked fluoride, [N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]F, the silanes, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiCl and (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiH, and the cadmiumorganyl, Cd(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), in coordinating solvents (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CN, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, CD<sub>3</sub>CN). While the products C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeF, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeCl, and (C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Xe are well defined molecules, in reactions with (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiH only decomposition products presumably derived from <C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeH> and <C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>> are found. Molecular parameters and intermolecular contacts in the single crystal X-ray structure of C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeF are discussed.

**Keywords:** Arylxenonium tetrafluoroborate, organylxenon molecules, reactions with nucleophiles in coordinating solvents, pentafluorophenylxenon fluoride crystal structure

## 1. Introduction

The chemistry of organylxenonium salts [RXe][Z] is comprehensively treated in several reviews.<sup>1</sup> The majority of available information concerns the salt [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][BF<sub>4</sub>] with an electrophilic cation and a moderately to weakly coordinating anion. The most frequently used procedure to obtain ArXeY started from ArXeF (Ar = C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>n</sub>F<sub>5-n</sub>) which were reacted with alkylsilanes, Alk<sub>3</sub>SiY, (Y = Cl,<sup>2,3</sup> Br, NCO<sup>2</sup>, CN,<sup>2,3,4,5</sup> CF<sub>3</sub>C(O)O, CF<sub>3</sub>S(O)<sub>2</sub>O,<sup>2</sup> C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>,<sup>2,3,4,5</sup> 2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>F<sub>2</sub>) in the weakly coordinating solvent CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The strong Si–F bond of the co-product was the driving force (Eq 1).



Thus, ArXeF can be regarded as a key substrate in the syntheses of ArXeY molecules. It was prepared by two routes: (a) the F<sup>−</sup> catalyzed F/Ar substitution with Me<sub>3</sub>SiAr in XeF<sub>2</sub><sup>6</sup> (the product contained an admixture of (C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Xe) and (b) in the very slow surface reaction of [ArXe]<sup>+</sup> salts with [N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]F in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.<sup>4</sup>

In the current work we offer a useful modification of route (b) and a fast homogeneous synthesis of C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeF. Furthermore, we investigate the direct reaction of [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][BF<sub>4</sub>] with Alk<sub>3</sub>SiY (Y = Cl, H) to C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeY molecules. In case of Y = Cl, we discuss the results which differ from that obtained previously with [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][AsF<sub>6</sub>].<sup>7</sup> Furthermore, it will be shown that the electrophilic cation of [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][BF<sub>4</sub>] can directly interact with the carbon nucleophile of the organometallic compound, Cd(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.

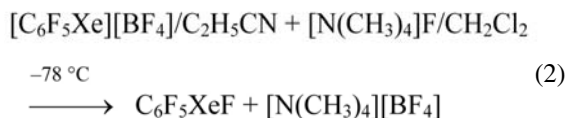
## 2. Results and Discussion

### 2.1. Synthesis of C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeF

In 2000, we reported the surface reaction of insoluble [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][AsF<sub>6</sub>] with equimolar amounts of dissolved [N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]F in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at −78 °C.<sup>4</sup> That reaction required more than 2 days for complete conversion and was accompanied by the partial decomposition of the product, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeF. A modified reaction using 1.5 equiv of [N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]F in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> is described in the present work. The excess of [N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]F can act as a HF scavenger. Finally, *n*-pentane was added to reduce the density of the

solvent and to precipitate all  $[\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_4]^+$  salts. After distilling off the solvent mixture from  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$ , the latter remained as a white powder (66% yield) which was dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at  $-50^\circ\text{C}$ . Crystals suitable for single crystal X-ray structural determination having a plate morphology with right angles were obtained by a very slow partial removal of the solvent under vacuum.

An alternative fast synthesis of  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$  started from a cold ( $-78^\circ\text{C}$ )  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}$  solution of  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{BF}_4]$  which was added to a cold ( $-78^\circ\text{C}$ )  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solution of  $[\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_4]\text{F}$ . Monitoring the reaction after 20 min revealed the total conversion of the xenonium salt with the formation of  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$  (95%),  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{H}$  (5%), and traces of  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_6$  (Eq 2).



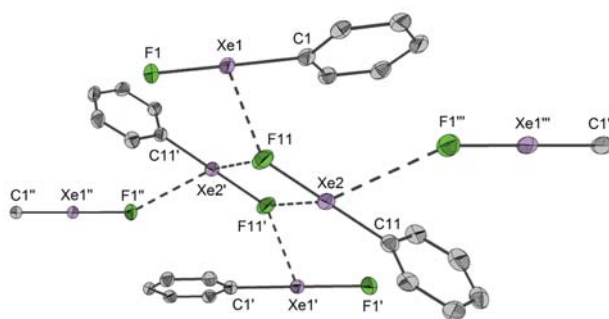
## 2. 2. The Molecular Structure of $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$ and Important Intermolecular Contacts in the Solid State Structure

The compound,  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$  crystallizes in the monoclinic space group  $P2_1/n$  ( $a = 12.2038(3) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 9.9596(3) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 13.0904(4) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\beta = 101.140(1)^\circ$ ) with eight molecules in the unit cell and two molecules in the asymmetric unit. The crystallographic data are given in Table 1. The molecular parameters of both molecules are similar and mainly differentiated by their intermolecular contacts. The C-Xe-F arrangement of  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$  is linear with a C1-Xe1-F1 angle in molecule 1 of  $178.67(6)^\circ$  (the analogous angle in molecule 2:  $179.46(7)^\circ$ ). The Xe-C distance in molecule 1 is  $2.132(2) \text{ \AA}$  ( $2.128(2) \text{ \AA}$  in molecule 2) and is longer than in the xenonium cations of  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{AsF}_6]$  ( $2.079(5)$  and  $2.082(6) \text{ \AA}$ ),<sup>8</sup>  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{B}(\text{CN})_4]$  ( $2.081(3) \text{ \AA}$ ),<sup>9</sup>  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{B}(\text{CF}_3)_4]$  ( $2.104(5) \text{ \AA}$ ),<sup>9</sup> in the acetonitrile adducts of the xenonium cation in  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe} \cdot \text{NCCH}_3][\text{B}(\text{CF}_3)_4]$  ( $2.100(6) \text{ \AA}$ ) and  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe} \cdot \text{NCCH}_3][\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_4]$  ( $2.100(10) \text{ \AA}$ ),<sup>9</sup> and only slightly longer than in  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeOC}(\text{O})\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$  ( $2.122(4) \text{ \AA}$ ).<sup>10</sup> On the other hand, the Xe-F distance in  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$  ( $2.172(1) \text{ \AA}$  (molecule 1) and  $2.182(1) \text{ \AA}$  (molecule 2)) is significantly shorter than the Xe-F cation-F contacts (F from the counterion) in  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{AsF}_6]$  ( $2.714(5)$  and  $2.672(5) \text{ \AA}$ ),<sup>8</sup>  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{B}(\text{CF}_3)_4]$  ( $2.913(4) \text{ \AA}$ ).<sup>9</sup> Thus, bonding in the C-Xe-F fragment is best described as an asymmetrical hypervalent bond. The C-Xe distance is shorter than in  $(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2\text{Xe}$  ( $2.394(9)$  and  $2.35(1) \text{ \AA}$ )<sup>11</sup> and the Xe-F distance longer than in  $\text{XeF}_2$  ( $2.00(1) \text{ \AA}$ ).<sup>12</sup> In addition to arguments based on experimental distances, the asymmetry is also supported by the partial charges on the  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$  group and F ("Natural Population Analysis" charges (DFT method SVWN, basis set SDD):  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$   $-0.33 e^-$ , F

$-0.64 e^-$ , Xe  $0.97 e^-$ ; (RHF method, basis set LANL2DZ):  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$   $-0.37 e^-$ , F  $-0.77 e^-$ , Xe  $1.13 e^-$ . The calculated gas phase structure depends on the applied method and basis set. Using the DFT method SVWN and the basis set SDD the C-Xe distance is overestimated ( $2.18 \text{ \AA}$ ) and the Xe-F distance underestimated ( $2.08 \text{ \AA}$ ) when compared with the solid state experimental parameters. With the RHF method and the basis set LANL2DZ, the C-Xe distance was  $2.20 \text{ \AA}$  (overestimated) and Xe-F distance was  $2.13 \text{ \AA}$  (underestimated). In comparison with the symmetrical parent molecules (values from the [DFT method, SVWN and basis set SDD] and the [RHF method and basis set LANL2DZ]  $\text{XeF}_2$  [Xe-F  $2.03 \text{ \AA}$ , Xe  $1.10 e^-$ , F  $-0.55 e^-$ ], {Xe-F  $2.03 \text{ \AA}$ , Xe  $1.33 e^-$ , F  $-0.67 e^-$ } and  $(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2\text{Xe}$  [Xe-C  $2.30 \text{ \AA}$ , Xe  $0.81 e^-$ ,  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$   $-0.40 e^-$ ], {Xe-C  $2.34 \text{ \AA}$ , Xe  $0.98 e^-$ ,  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$   $-0.49 e^-$ }, the molecule  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$  can also be described as a close ion pair. The distribution of partial charges allows also to interpret the observed intermolecular interactions of  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$  in the solid state: Xe-bonded fluorine and  $\text{Xe}^{\text{II}}$  interact in a donor acceptor manner. Two symmetry equivalent molecules 2 are arranged head to tail in a side-on mode and form a  $\text{Xe}2\text{-F}11\text{-Xe}2'\text{-F}11'$  parallelogram (Figure 1). In addition, each Xe2 of the parallelogram acts as acceptor of F1 and each F11 of the parallelogram as donor to Xe1. It is worth stressing, that the donor property of F11, which donates to two  $\text{Xe}^{\text{II}}$ , namely Xe1 and Xe2', leads to one shorter contact than in the single contact of F1''' to Xe2.

## 2. 3. Synthesis of $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeCl}$

In 1999, we investigated the conversion of  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{AsF}_6]$  into  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeCl}$ .<sup>7</sup> We were only successful when insoluble  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{AsF}_6]$  was reacted with soluble



**Figure 1.** The molecular structure of  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$  (fluorine atoms of the  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$  group are not depicted) showing the most significant intermolecular contacts. The thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.

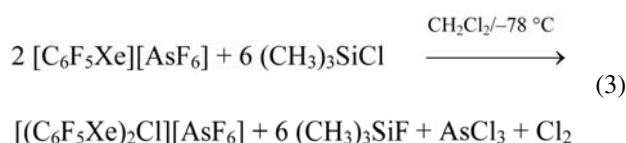
Selected distances /  $\text{ \AA}$  and angles /  $^\circ$ : Xe1-C1  $2.132(2)$ , Xe1-F1  $2.172(1)$ , C1-Xe1-F1  $178.67(6)$ , Xe2-C11  $2.128(2)$ , Xe2-F11  $2.182(1)$ , C11-Xe2-F11  $179.46(7)$ .

Significant intermolecular contacts /  $\text{ \AA}$  and angles /  $^\circ$ : Xe1-F11  $3.036(1)$ , Xe2-F11'''  $3.261(1)$ , Xe2-F11'  $3.288(1)$ , F11-Xe2-F11'  $78.65(4)$ , Xe2-F11-Xe2'  $101.35(5)$ , Xe2-F11-Xe1  $146.97(6)$ , Xe2'-F11-Xe1  $90.95(4)$ , F1-Xe1-F11  $108.06(4)$ , C1-Xe1-F11  $72.38(6)$

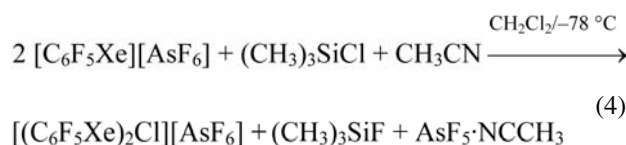
**Table 1.** Crystallographic and refinement data for C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeF

Compound	C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>5</sub> XeF
Empirical formula	C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>6</sub> Xe
Crystal size	0.32 mm × 0.26 mm × 0.16 mm
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>n</i>
Unit cell dimensions	<i>a</i> = 12.2038(3) Å <i>b</i> = 9.9596(3) Å <i>c</i> = 13.0904(4) Å <i>β</i> = 101.140(1)°
Volume	1561.09(8) Å <sup>3</sup>
<i>Z</i> (molecules/unit cell)	8
Density (calculated)	2.701 g cm <sup>-3</sup>
Temperature	173 ± 2 K
Radiation	Mo K <sub>α</sub> (λ = 0,71073 Å)
<i>F</i> (000)	1152
Theta range for data collection	2.09–30.46 °
Final <i>R</i> indices	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0180, <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.0431

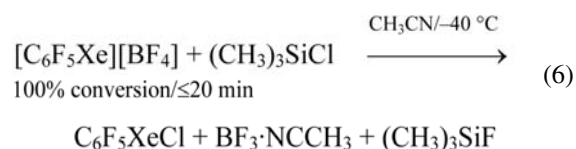
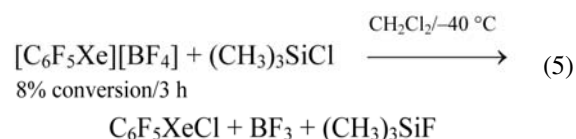
4-ClC<sub>5</sub>H<sub>4</sub>N · HCl in weakly coordinating CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at –78 °C. When CH<sub>3</sub>CN solutions of [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][AsF<sub>6</sub>] and [N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]Cl were combined at ≤ –20 °C, no reaction proceeded and at 0 °C, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Cl was formed along with Xe<sup>0</sup>. When (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiCl was used as a source of chlorine in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at –78 °C, 3 equiv of the silane were required for the total conversion of [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][AsF<sub>6</sub>]. Instead of C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeCl, the salt with the chlorine bridged bis(pentafluorophenylxenonium) cation, [(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe)<sub>2</sub>Cl][AsF<sub>6</sub>], was isolated and established from its crystal structure.<sup>7</sup> Under these conditions, the [AsF<sub>6</sub>]<sup>–</sup> anion also underwent F/Cl substitution followed by the elimination of chlorine from the proposed intermediate, AsCl<sub>5</sub> (Eq 3).



In contrast to Eq 3, the presence of CH<sub>3</sub>CN avoided F/Cl substitution on AsF<sub>5</sub> (Eq 4).



In the present work, we report a different mode of reactivity for [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][BF<sub>4</sub>] with (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiCl. In CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at –40 °C (heterogeneous reaction), only 8% conversion into soluble C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeCl occurred within 3 h (Eq 5), whereas in the homogenous reaction in CH<sub>3</sub>CN at –40 °C the total conversion took place in less than 20 min (Eq 6). In C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CN solution at –78 °C, only a slow reaction was ob-



served, but at –55 °C the conversion proceeded in less than 5 min.

Eqs 5 and 6 show that the [BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>–</sup> anion was involved in the reaction with (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiCl and that another Xe<sup>II</sup> product resulted that differs from that formed in the presence of the [AsF<sub>6</sub>]<sup>–</sup> anion. To elucidate the interaction of the [BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>–</sup> anion with (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiCl, the reaction of [N(*n*-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>)<sub>4</sub>][BF<sub>4</sub>] with (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiCl was investigated at 20 °C in CH<sub>3</sub>CN and only 17% conversion of [BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>–</sup> to [BClF<sub>3</sub>]<sup>–</sup> within 1.5 h was found. That result underlines the participation of the electrophilic [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe]<sup>+</sup> cation in F/Cl-substitution (Eq 6) in the presence of CH<sub>3</sub>CN. It was reported that the [BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>–</sup> anion was also involved in the very slow reaction (4 d) of [2,6-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>F<sub>2</sub>Xe][BF<sub>4</sub>] with (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiOSO<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub> in a CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> mixture at –20 °C.<sup>13</sup> A forthcoming paper will exemplify the general character of the participation of electrophilic cations of tetrafluoroborate salts in nucleophilic substitution reactions.

## 2. 4. The Reaction of [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][BF<sub>4</sub>] with (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiH in CD<sub>3</sub>CN and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CN Solutions

The reaction of [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][BF<sub>4</sub>] with (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiH in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at –40 °C proceeded almost quantitatively within 20 min. The [BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>–</sup> anion was converted into BF<sub>3</sub> · NCCD<sub>3</sub>. C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>H resulted as the main product (61%) besides traces of C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>D (2%) only. Over and above that, five C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub> compounds were formed: (C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Xe (5%), (C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (1%), C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> (5%), C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Si(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (2%), and [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>C(CD<sub>3</sub>) = N(H,D)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> (19%). The above products and their molar ratio allow some reasonable conclusions. (a) C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>H can result from the short living (not NMR spectroscopically proven) compound C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeH by Xe<sup>0</sup> elimination or, as the in cage product of C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub><sup>•</sup> and H<sup>•</sup> radical combination, after oxidation of H<sup>•</sup> by [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe]<sup>+</sup> and subsequent Xe<sup>0</sup> elimination from the [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe]<sup>•</sup> radical. Abstraction of deuterium by C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub><sup>•</sup> (out of cage) proceeded only by a minor route. (b) (C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Xe, (C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, and C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub> may result from the intermediate <C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>>: (C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Xe as one product of the equilibrium, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub> by the direct elimination of Xe<sup>0</sup> from C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub> and (C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub> by Xe<sup>0</sup> elimination from

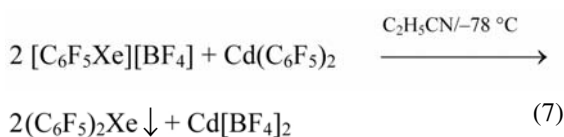
(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Xe. The latter route is described in the literature.<sup>4</sup> (c) The formation of large amounts of [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>C(CD<sub>3</sub>)=N(H,D)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> presumably results from the addition of C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>• radicals to the C-N triple bond of the solvent, followed by H or D scavenging and (H,D)<sup>+</sup> addition to the imino nitrogen atom). The high-frequency *p*-fluorine resonance (−141.5 ppm) is a strong indicator of the cationic nature. The <sup>19</sup>F NMR shift values are in good agreement with that of the only related structure in the literature [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)=N(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>Br.<sup>14</sup> A Xe-C structure can be rejected despite the high-frequency *p*-F resonance, which is typical for Xe-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub> cations, because neither a <sup>129</sup>Xe resonance nor <sup>129</sup>Xe satellites in <sup>19</sup>F signals were found nor did the compound decompose after heating to 20 °C for 1 h.

When the reaction of [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>−</sup> with (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiH was performed in C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CN solution at −90 °C, a similar mixture of products resulted, but at a slower rate. The main difference derives from the C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>• radical interaction with the solvent, namely the formation of the [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>C(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)=NH<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> cation.

Based on RHF/LANL2DZ calculations the assumed intermediate, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeH, should be described in the gas phase as H-Xe-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub> with a very weak Xe-C bond (2.54 Å) and a Xe-H bond of 1.74 Å and “Natural Population Analysis” charges of 0.80 e<sup>−</sup> (Xe), −0.08 e<sup>−</sup> (H), and −0.72 e<sup>−</sup> (C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>).

## 2. 5. The Reaction of [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>−</sup> with Cd(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub> in C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CN Solution

When [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>−</sup> was reacted with Cd(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub> in the coordinating solvent C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CN at −78 °C the [BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>−</sup> anion was involved in a metathesis reaction and in contrast to reactions with Alk<sub>3</sub>SiY, it did not serve as a source of fluoride for the acidic Cd<sup>II</sup> center. (C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Xe was precipitated within less than 2 h along with small amounts of Cd[BF<sub>4</sub>]<sub>2</sub>, which could be removed by washing with cold C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CN (Eq 7).



It is worth mentioning that (C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Xe was found to decompose when pressure was exerted on the solid, e.g., with a spatula, even in a C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CN suspension at −78 °C. After decomposition, (C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>H were found in the molar ratio of 83 to 17.

## 3. Experimental Section

### 3. 1. General

The NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AVANCE 300 spectrometer (<sup>1</sup>H at 300.13 MHz; <sup>19</sup>F at

282.40 MHz; <sup>11</sup>B at 96.29 MHz, <sup>129</sup>Xe at 83.02 MHz, and <sup>13</sup>C at 75.47 MHz). The chemical shifts were referenced to TMS (<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C), CCl<sub>3</sub>F (<sup>19</sup>F, with C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>6</sub> as secondary reference (−162.9 ppm)), BF<sub>3</sub> · OEt<sub>2</sub>/CDCl<sub>3</sub> (15% v/v) (<sup>11</sup>B), and XeOF<sub>4</sub> (<sup>129</sup>Xe, with XeF<sub>2</sub> in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (extrapolated to zero concentration) as secondary external reference (−1818.3 ppm)<sup>15</sup>, respectively. The composition of the reaction mixtures was determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectroscopy using internal standards for integration.

X-ray diffraction data were collected at 173 ± 2 K using a diffractometer equipped with a Siemens SMART three axis goniometer and an APEX II area detector system. Crystal structure solution by Direct Methods and refinement on *F*<sup>2</sup> were performed using the Bruker AXS SHELXTL software suite Version 6.12 after data reduction, and empirical absorption correction was performed using the Bruker AXS SAINT program Version 6.0. For crystallographic and refinement details see Table 1.

Crystal structure data have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (CCDC). Enquiries for data can be directed to Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge, U.K., CB2 1EZ or (e-mail) deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk or (fax) +44 (0) 1223 336033. Any requests sent to the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre for this material should quote the full literature citation and the reference number CCDC 889108.

[C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>−</sup> was prepared according to literature.<sup>16</sup> CH<sub>3</sub>CN, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CN, *n*-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>12</sub>, and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> were purified and dried as described in ref 17. (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiH (Merck, >99%) was used as supplied. (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiCl (Merck, >99%) was freshly distilled and [N(*n*-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>)<sub>4</sub>][BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>−</sup> (Fluka, >99%) was dried under vacuum before use. Cd(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and [N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>F<sup>−</sup> were prepared according to refs 18 and 19, respectively.

All reactions were performed in FEP (a block copolymer of tetrafluoroethylene and hexafluoropropylene) or PFA (a block copolymer of tetrafluoroethylene and perfluoroalkoxytrifluoroethylene) vessels under an atmosphere of dry argon.

### 3. 2. Synthesis of C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeF in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>

An excess of [N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>F<sup>−</sup> (143.1 mg; 1.537 mmol) was partially dissolved in cold CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL; −78 °C) in an FEP trap (inner diameter = 23 mm). Solid [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe][BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>−</sup> (386.4 mg; 1.003 mmol) was added and the suspension was intensively stirred for 2 d at −78 °C. Because of the lower density of the solid relative to the solution, the solid remained on the surface. *n*-Pentane (10 mL; −78 °C) was added till the solid precipitated. A sample (250 μL; −78 °C) was taken and analyzed by <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectroscopy.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/*n*-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>12</sub> at −80 °C) δ(ppm): −129.0 (m, <sup>3</sup>J(F<sup>2,6</sup>-<sup>129</sup>Xe) = 81 Hz, 2F, *o*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), −146.6 (t, <sup>3</sup>J(F<sup>4</sup>-F<sup>3,5</sup>) = 20 Hz, 1F, *p*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), −156.2 (m, 2F, *m*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>),

–2.2 (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 153$  Hz,  $^1J(^{19}\text{F}-^{129}\text{Xe}) = 4030$  Hz, 1F, XeF),  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$ ; –139.3 (m, 2F, *o*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –154.5 (t,  $^3J(\text{F}^4-\text{F}^{3,5}) = 21$  Hz, 1F, *p*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –162.7 (m, 2F, *m*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ),  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{H}$ ; –141.3 (m, 2F, *o*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –150.9 (m, 1F, *p*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –161.4 (m, 2F, *m*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ),  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Cl}$ ; molar ratio related to the sum of  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$  compounds:  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$  (66%);  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{H}$  (33%);  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Cl}$  (1%).

$[\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_4]\text{F}$  and  $[\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_4][\text{BF}_4]$  are insoluble in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/n$ -pentane (1:1) at  $-78$  °C and could be separated from the  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$  solution by centrifugation at  $-78$  °C. After removal of the solvents under vacuum (1.5 h;  $-55$  to  $-50$  °C;  $8 \cdot 10^{-2}$  hPa) a white powder remained, which was dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (3 mL;  $-50$  °C) in an FEP trap (inner diameter = 8 mm). For growing single crystals, the solution was slowly concentrated in vacuum (8 h;  $-55$  to  $-45$  °C;  $8 \cdot 10^{-2}$  hPa). After 8 h colorless transparent crystals (right angular plates; dimensions: 1 to 2 mm) were grown and stored under the mother liquor at  $-78$  °C. The crystallographic data are compiled in Table 1.

### 3. 3. Synthesis of $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$ in $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$

A cold solution of  $[\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_4]\text{F}$  (8.9 mg; 0.096 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (450  $\mu\text{L}$ ;  $-78$  °C) was added to a cold solution of  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{BF}_4]$  (20.0 mg; 0.0519 mmol) in  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}$  (50  $\mu\text{L}$ ;  $-78$  °C) in an FEP inliner. A suspension resulted. After 20 min the total conversion into  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$  (95% yield) was confirmed by  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectroscopy. Only 5% of  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{H}$  and traces of  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_6$  were present. The co-product  $[\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_4][\text{BF}_4]$  was insoluble.

$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}$  at  $-80$  °C)  $\delta(\text{ppm})$ : –129.4 (m,  $^3J(\text{F}^{2,6}-^{129}\text{Xe}) = 81$  Hz, 2F, *o*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –147.1 (t,  $^3J(\text{F}^4-\text{F}^{3,5}) = 21$  Hz, 1F, *p*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –156.7 (m, 2F, *m*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –4.0 (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 60$  Hz,  $^1J(^{19}\text{F}-^{129}\text{Xe}) = 4007$  Hz, 1F, XeF),  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$ ; –139.8 (m, 2F, *o*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –155.1 (t,  $^3J(\text{F}^4-\text{F}^{3,5}) = 21$  Hz, 1F, *p*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –163.1 (m, 2F, *m*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ),  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{H}$ ; –162.9 (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 5$  Hz, 6F),  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_6$ ; –94.4 (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 44$  Hz, 1F),  $\text{F}^-$ ; molar ratio related to the sum of  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$  compounds:  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$  (95%);  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{H}$  (5%);  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_6$  (<1%);  $\text{F}^-$  (82%).

### 3. 4. Synthesis of $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeCl}$ in $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$

$(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiCl}$  (7.1 mg; 0.065 mmol; 8.2  $\mu\text{L}$ ) was added to a suspension of  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{BF}_4]$  (22.6 mg; 0.0588 mmol) in cold  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (350  $\mu\text{L}$ ;  $-78$  °C) in an FEP inliner. The starting materials were intensively mixed and the progress of the reaction was monitored by  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectroscopy. After 1 h at  $-78$  °C only traces of  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeCl}$ ,  $\text{BF}_3$ , and  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiF}$  were formed. Even after 3 h at  $-40$  °C the conversion reached 8% only. The mother liquor was separated from unreacted  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{BF}_4]$ . The salt was washed twice with cold  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (each 300  $\mu\text{L}$ ;  $-78$  °C) and dried in vacuum (3 h;  $-78$  to  $-50$  °C;  $4 \cdot 10^{-2}$  hPa). Recovered  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{BF}_4]$  was dissolved in cold  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (300  $\mu\text{L}$ ;  $-45$  °C) and  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiCl}$  (6.9 mg; 0.064 mmol;

8.0  $\mu\text{L}$ ) was added. After 20 min the total conversion was confirmed by NMR.

$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  at  $-40$  °C)  $\delta(\text{ppm})$ : –130.3 (m,  $^3J(\text{F}^{2,6}-^{129}\text{Xe}) = 91$  Hz, 2F, *o*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –146.7 (t,  $^3J(\text{F}^4-\text{F}^{3,5}) = 20$  Hz,  $^4J(\text{F}^4-\text{F}^{2,6}) = 3$  Hz, 1F, *p*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –156.4 (m, 2F, *m*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ),  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeCl}$ ; –156.2 (dec,  $^3J(\text{F}-\text{H}) = 7$  Hz,  $^1J(^{19}\text{F}-^{29}\text{Si}) = 273$  Hz, 1F),  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiF}$ ; –141.6 (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 31$  Hz, 3F),  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{NCCCH}_3$ ; molar ratio related to  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeCl}$ :  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeCl}$  (100%);  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiF}$  (100%);  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{NCCCH}_3$  (100%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  at  $-40$  °C)  $\delta(\text{ppm})$ : 0.4 (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 2$  Hz, 9H),  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiCl}$ ; 0.2 (d,  $^3J(\text{H}-\text{F}) = 7$  Hz, 9H),  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiF}$ ; molar ratio:  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiCl}$  (18%);  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiF}$  (100%)

### 3. 5. Synthesis of $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeCl}$ in $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}$

A solution of  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiCl}$  (11.3 mg; 0.104 mmol) in cold  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}$  (200  $\mu\text{L}$ ;  $-78$  °C) was added to a solution of  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{BF}_4]$  (28.5 mg; 0.0739 mmol) in cold  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}$  (200  $\mu\text{L}$ ;  $-78$  °C) in an FEP inliner. At  $-78$  °C only 6% conversion proceeded within 80 min. After 5 min at  $-55$  °C and following storage at  $-78$  °C  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectroscopy confirmed the total conversion. At  $-50$  °C  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiF}$  was removed from  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeCl}$  in vacuum without decomposition of the latter.

$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}$  at  $-80$  °C)  $\delta(\text{ppm})$ : –131.1 (m,  $^3J(\text{F}^{2,6}-^{129}\text{Xe}) = 94$  Hz, 2F, *o*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –147.3 (t,  $^3J(\text{F}^4-\text{F}^{3,5}) = 21$  Hz, 1F, *p*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –157.1 (m, 2F, *m*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ),  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeCl}$ ; –139.5 (m, 2F, *o*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –154.6 (tm,  $^3J(\text{F}^4-\text{F}^{3,5}) = 21$  Hz, 1F, *p*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –162.5 (m, 2F, *m*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ),  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{H}^*$ ; –157.1 (dec,  $^3J(\text{F}-\text{H}) = 7$  Hz,  $^1J(^{19}\text{F}-^{29}\text{Si}) = 273$  Hz, 1F),  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiF}$ ; –142.2 (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 5$  Hz, 3F),  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{NCC}_2\text{H}_5$ ; –151.1 (br,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 19$  Hz, 4F),  $[\text{BF}_4]^-$ ; molar ratio related to the sum of  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$  compounds:  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeCl}$  (98%),  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{H}$  (2%),  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiF}$  (100%),  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{NCC}_2\text{H}_5$  (92%),  $[\text{BF}_4]^-$  (3%). \*  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{H}$  (2%) resulted during the dissolution of  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{BF}_4]$  in  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}$  already and did not increase after addition of  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiCl}$ .

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}$  at  $-80$  °C)  $\delta(\text{ppm})$ : 7.4 (t,  $^3J(\text{H}-\text{F}^{2,6}) = 8$  Hz, 1H),  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{H}$ ; 0.4 (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 4$  Hz, 9H),  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiCl}$ ; 0.2 (d,  $^3J(\text{H}-\text{F}) = 7$  Hz, 9H),  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiF}$ ; 0.1 (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 4$  Hz, 18H),  $((\text{CH}_3)_3\text{Si})_2\text{O}^{**}$ ; molar ratio:  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{H}$  (2%),  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiCl}$  (38%),  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiF}$  (100%),  $((\text{CH}_3)_3\text{Si})_2\text{O}$  (2%); \*\*  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiCl}$  contained 1%  $((\text{CH}_3)_3\text{Si})_2\text{O}$ .

$\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeCl}$   
 $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}$  at  $-80$  °C)  $\delta(\text{ppm})$ : –131.1 (m,  $^3J(^{19}\text{F}^{2,6}-^{129}\text{Xe}) = 94$  Hz, 2F, *o*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –147.3 (t,  $^3J(\text{F}^4-\text{F}^{3,5}) = 21$  Hz, 1F, *p*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), –157.1 (m, 2F, *m*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ); (cf., ref 7 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at  $-60$  °C)  $\delta(\text{ppm})$ : –130.8, –146.2, –155.5, ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}/\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (3:1) at  $-60$  °C)  $\delta(\text{ppm})$ : –131.0, –147.5, –157.0).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^{19}\text{F}\}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}$  at  $-80$  °C)  $\delta(\text{ppm})$ : 144.2 (s,  $\text{C}^4$ ), 143.8 (s,  $\text{C}^{2,6}$ ), 138.7 (s,  $\text{C}^{3,5}$ ), 103.5 (s,  $^1J(^{13}\text{C}^1-^{129}\text{Xe}) = 231$  Hz,  $\text{C}^1$ ); (cf., ref 7 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at  $-60$  °C)  $\delta(\text{ppm})$ : 143.3, 142.6, 137.6, 101.6).  $^{129}\text{Xe}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}$  at  $-80$  °C)  $\delta(\text{ppm})$ : –4077 (br,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 206$  Hz); (cf., ref 7 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at  $-60$  °C)  $\delta(\text{ppm})$ : –4117).

### 3. 6. Interaction of $[N(n-C_4H_9)_4][BF_4]$ with $(CH_3)_3SiCl$ in $CH_3CN$

$(CH_3)_3SiCl$  (16.8 mg; 0.155 mmol; 19.6  $\mu$ L) was added into an FEP inliner which contained  $[N(n-C_4H_9)_4][BF_4]$  (50.8 mg; 0.154 mmol) dissolved in  $CH_3CN$  (500  $\mu$ L).  $C_6H_5CF_3$  (11.0 mg; 0.0752 mmol; 9.2  $\mu$ L) was added as internal standard for integration. The progress of the reaction was monitored by  $^{19}F$  NMR at 24 °C. After 1.5 h the amount of  $[BF_4]^-$  was reduced by 17% and after 1 d by 19% only. Besides  $(CH_3)_3SiF$ ,  $[BClF_3]^-$  was formed (broad singlet at  $-123.5$ ); (cf., ref 20). The anions  $[BCl_2F_2]^-$  ( $^1J(^{19}F-^{11}B) = 54$  Hz) and  $[BCl_3F]^-$  ( $^1J(^{19}F-^{11}B) = 79$  Hz) with significant larger  $^1J(^{19}F-^{11}B)$  coupling constants than  $[BClF_3]^-$  ( $^1J(^{19}F-^{11}B) = 25$  Hz) and smaller quantities were not observed.<sup>20</sup>

$^{19}F$  NMR ( $CH_3CN$  at 24 °C)  $\delta$ (ppm):  $-123.5$  (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 177$  Hz, 3F),  $[BClF_3]^-$ ;  $-149.8$  (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 20$  Hz, 4F),  $[BF_4]^-$ ;  $-155.9$  (dec,  $^3J(F-H) = 7$  Hz, 1F),  $(CH_3)_3SiF$ ; molar ratio after 1.5 h:  $[BClF_3]^- : [BF_4]^- : (CH_3)_3SiF = 14 : 83 : 20$ , after 1 d:  $[BClF_3]^- : [BF_4]^- : (CH_3)_3SiF = 8 : 81 : 31$ .

$^1H$  NMR ( $CH_3CN$  at 24 °C)  $\Delta$ (ppm): 3.1 (m,  $^1J(H-^{13}C) = 143$  Hz, 8H,  $C^1H_2$ ), 1.6 (tm,  $^3J(H^2-H^3) = 7$  Hz, 8H,  $C^2H_2$ ), 1.4 (tq,  $^3J(H^3-H^2) = 7$  Hz,  $^3J(H^3-H^4) = 7$  Hz, 8H,  $C^3H_2$ ), 1.0 (t,  $^3J(H^4-H^3) = 7$  Hz,  $^1J(H-^{13}C) = 125$  Hz, 12H,  $C^4H_3$ ),  $[N(n-C_4H_9)_4]^+$ ; 0.4 (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 1$  Hz, 9H),  $(CH_3)_3SiCl$ ; 0.2 (d,  $^3J(H-F) = 7$  Hz, 9H),  $(CH_3)_3SiF$ ; molar ratio after 1.5 h:  $[N(n-C_4H_9)_4]^+$  (100%);  $(CH_3)_3SiCl$  (73%);  $(CH_3)_3SiF$  (20%); after 1d:  $[N(n-C_4H_9)_4]^+$  (100%);  $(CH_3)_3SiCl$  (63%);  $(CH_3)_3SiF$  (31%)

$^{11}B$  NMR ( $CH_3CN$  at 24 °C)  $\delta$ (ppm): 1.7 (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 121$  Hz),  $[BClF_3]^-$ ;  $-1.3$  (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 15$  Hz),  $[BF_4]^-$ .

### 3. 7. Reaction of $[C_6F_5Xe][BF_4]$ with $(C_2H_5)_3SiH$ in $CD_3CN$

$(C_2H_5)_3SiH$  (9.5 mg; 0.082 mmol; 13  $\mu$ L) was added to a solution of  $[C_6F_5Xe][BF_4]$  (24.5 mg; 0.0636 mmol) in cold  $CD_3CN$  (500  $\mu$ L;  $-40$  °C) in an FEP inliner. The mixture was intensively shaken and after 20 min analyzed by  $^{19}F$  and  $^{11}B$  NMR spectroscopy.

$^{19}F$  NMR ( $CD_3CN$  at  $-40$  °C)  $\delta$ (ppm):  $-131.8$  (m,  $^3J(F^{2,6-129}Xe) = 43$  Hz, 4F,  $o-C_6F_5$ ),  $-153.8$  (t,  $^3J(F^4-F^{3,5}) = 21$  Hz, 2F,  $p-C_6F_5$ ),  $-158.7$  (m, 4F,  $m-C_6F_5$ ),  $(C_6F_5)_2Xe$ ;  $-139.3$  (m, 2F,  $o-C_6F_5$ ),  $-154.8$  (t,  $^3J(F^4-F^{3,5}) = 21$  Hz, 1F,  $p-C_6F_5$ ),  $-162.5$  (m, 2F,  $m-C_6F_5$ ),  $C_6F_5H$ ;  $-139.6$  (m, 2F,  $o-C_6F_5$ ),  $-154.8$  (t,  $^3J(F^4-F^{3,5}) = 21$  Hz, 1F,  $p-C_6F_5$ ),  $-162.6$  (m, 2F,  $m-C_6F_5$ ),  $C_6F_5D$ ;  $-138.3$  (m, 4F,  $o-C_6F_5$ ),  $-151.0$  (t,  $^3J(F^4-F^{3,5}) = 21$  Hz, 2F,  $p-C_6F_5$ ),  $-160.6$  (m, 4F,  $m-C_6F_5$ ),  $(C_6F_5)_2$ ;  $-142.7$  (m, 2F,  $o-C_6F_5$ ),  $-155.8$  (tm,  $^3J(F^4-F^{3,5}) = 21$  Hz, 1F,  $p-C_6F_5$ ),  $-161.9$  (m, 2F,  $m-C_6F_5$ ),  $C_6F_5CH_2CH_3$ ;  $-134.9$  (m, 2F,  $o-C_6F_5$ ),  $-141.5$  (tt,  $^3J(F^4-F^{3,5}) = 21$  Hz,  $^4J(F^4-F^{2,6}) = 8$  Hz, 1F,  $p-C_6F_5$ ),  $-159.6$  (m, 2F,  $m-C_6F_5$ ),  $[C_6F_5C(CD_3)=N(H,D)_2]^+$ ;  $-127.2$  (m, 2F,  $o-C_6F_5$ ),  $-152.7$  (tt,  $^3J(F^4-F^{3,5}) = 20$  Hz,  $^4J(F^4-F^{2,6}) = 3$  Hz, 1F,  $p-C_6F_5$ ),  $-161.9$  (m, 2F,  $m-C_6F_5$ ),  $C_6F_5Si(C_2H_5)_3$ ;  $-174.4$  (sep,  $^3J(F-H) = 6$  Hz,  $^1J(^{19}F-^{29}Si) = 286$  Hz, 1F),

$(C_2H_5)_3SiF$ ;  $-180.5$  (dqin,  $^2J(F-H) = 53$  Hz,  $^3J(F-H) = 7$  Hz, 1F),  $(C_2H_5)_2SiFH$ ;  $-142.9$  (quin,  $^3J(F-H) = 5$  Hz, 2F),  $(C_2H_5)_2SiF_2$ ;  $-141.7$  (br,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 212$  Hz, 3F),  $BF_3 \cdot NCCD_3$ ;  $-149.4$  (br,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 438$  Hz, 4F),  $[BF_4]^-$ ; molar ratio after 20 min related to the sum of  $C_6F_5$  compound:  $(C_6F_5)_2Xe$  (5%),  $C_6F_5H$  (61%),  $C_6F_5D$  (2%),  $(C_6F_5)_2$  (1%),  $C_6F_5CH_2CH_3$  (5%),  $[C_6F_5C(CD_3)=N(H,D)_2]^+$  (19%),  $C_6F_5Si(C_2H_5)_3$  (2%),  $(C_2H_5)_3SiF$  (52%),  $(C_2H_5)_2SiFH$  (7%),  $(C_2H_5)_2SiF_2$  (6%),  $BF_3 \cdot NCCCH_3$  (94%),  $[BF_4]^-$  (6%).

(<sup>a</sup> cf., ref 14 ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$ (ppm):  $-136.2$ ,  $-143.9$ ,  $-155.1$   $[C_6F_5C(CH_3)=N(C_2H_5)_2]^+$ ; <sup>b</sup> cf., ref 21 ( $CCl_4$ )  $\delta$ (ppm):  $-127.2$ ,  $-152.6$ ,  $-162.0$ ; <sup>c</sup> cf., ref 22 ( $C_6D_6$ )  $\delta$ (ppm):  $-175.2$ ; <sup>d</sup> cf., ref 23 ( $CCl_4$ )  $\delta$ (ppm):  $-145.7$ ).  $^{11}B$  NMR ( $CH_3CN$  at  $-40$  °C)  $\delta$ (ppm):  $-1.4$  (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 10$  Hz),  $[BF_4]^-$ ;  $-2.2$  (s,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 37$  Hz),  $BF_3 \cdot NCCD_3$ .

### 3. 8. Reaction of $[C_6F_5Xe][BF_4]$ with $(C_2H_5)_3SiH$ in $C_2H_5CN$

A solution of  $[C_6F_5Xe][BF_4]$  (59.5 mg; 0.1546 mmol) in cold  $C_2H_5CN$  (200  $\mu$ L;  $-90$  °C) was transferred to a solution of  $(C_2H_5)_3SiH$  (19.2 mg; 0.165 mmol; 26  $\mu$ L) in cold  $C_2H_5CN$  (150  $\mu$ L;  $-90$  °C) and vigorously mixed before the reaction was monitored by  $^{19}F$  NMR spectroscopy. After 20 min at  $-90$  °C 63% of the  $[C_6F_5Xe]^+$  cation and 44% of  $[BF_4]^-$  was reacted. All reaction products are comparable with that in  $CD_3CN$ , except the product deriving from the  $C_6F_5^{\cdot}$  radical attack on the solvent. In  $C_2H_5CN$  the cation  $[C_6F_5C(C_2H_5)=NH_2]^+$  ( $\delta$ (ppm):  $-136.7$  (br,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 45$  Hz, 2F,  $o-C_6F_5$ ),  $-142.4$  (br, 1F,  $p-C_6F_5$ ),  $-160.1$  (br,  $\Delta v_{1/2} = 51$  Hz, 2F,  $m-C_6F_5$ )) was formed. Molar ratio of products related to the sum of B-F compounds after 20 min:  $[C_6F_5Xe]^+$  (37%);  $(C_6F_5)_2Xe$  (4%);  $C_6F_5H$  (37%),  $(C_6F_5)_2$  (traces),  $[C_6F_5C(C_2H_5)=NH_2]^+$  (9%),  $C_6F_5Si(CH_3CH_2)_3$  (1%),  $(CH_3CH_2)_3SiF$  (31%);  $(CH_3CH_2)_2SiFH$  (4%);  $(CH_3CH_2)_2SiF_2$  (6%);  $BF_3 \cdot NCC_2H_5$  (44%);  $[BF_4]^-$  (56%). The ratio stayed nearly constant after 100 min at  $-90$  °C, but changed after 5 d at  $-70$  °C:  $(C_6F_5)_2Xe$  (2%),  $C_6F_5H$  (58%),  $(C_6F_5)_2$  (1%),  $[C_6F_5C(C_2H_5)=NH_2]^+$  (17%),  $C_6F_5Si(CH_3CH_2)_3$  (2%),  $(CH_3CH_2)_3SiF$  (44%),  $(CH_3CH_2)_2SiFH$  (2%),  $(CH_3CH_2)_2SiF_2$  (8%),  $BF_3 \cdot NCC_2H_5$  (65%),  $[BF_4]^-$  (35%).

$^{129}Xe$  NMR ( $CH_3CH_2CN$  at  $-90$  °C after 55 min)  $\delta$ (ppm):  $-3971$ ; (m)  $[C_6F_5Xe]^+$ ;  $-4134$  (m)  $(C_6F_5)_2Xe$ .

### 3. 9. Synthesis of Bis(pentafluorophenyl) Xenon(II) in $C_2H_5CN$

Solid  $Cd(C_6F_5)_2$  (25.6 mg; 0.0574 mmol;  $-78$  °C) was deposited in an FEP inliner. A cold solution of  $[C_6F_5Xe][BF_4]$  (41.2 mg; 0.107 mmol) in  $C_2H_5CN$  (400  $\mu$ L;  $-78$  °C) was added and the mixture was intensively shaken at  $-78$  °C. A white suspension resulted which was characterized by  $^{19}F$  NMR spectroscopy after 2.5 h at  $-80$  °C:  $\delta$ (ppm)  $-131.8$  (m,  $^3J(F^{2,6-129}Xe) = 43$  Hz, 4F,  $o-C_6F_5$ ),

–153.5 (t,  $^3J(\text{F}^4\text{-F}^{3,5}) = 20$  Hz, 2F, *p*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), –158.6 (m, 4F, *m*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>). After separation (–78 °C), the solid fraction was repeatedly washed with cold C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CN (4 x 400 µL; –78 °C) and incorporated Cd(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and Cd[BF<sub>4</sub>]<sub>2</sub> were removed. The product (C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Xe (almost quantitative yield) was only slightly soluble in C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CN (–78 °C) and shock-sensitive even in suspension. Decomposition proceeded also when pressure was exerted on the solid in suspension, e.g., with a spatula, and a yellow solution resulted which contained (C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>H in the molar ratio 83 : 17.

## 4. Conclusion

Strongly coordinating nitrile molecules (CH<sub>3</sub>CN, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CN) can be replaced in the coordination sphere of the electrophilic Xe<sup>II</sup> centre of the [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe]<sup>+</sup> cation by anions which are stable against oxidation such as F<sup>–</sup>.

More oxidizable anions such as Cl<sup>–</sup> can be introduced into the [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe]<sup>+</sup> moiety with support of [BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>–</sup> as the counterion using (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiHal. Fluoride in the coproduct, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiF, originates from the [BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>–</sup> anion. The latter is transformed into the solvent adduct BF<sub>3</sub> · NCAI. Anions which are sensitive to oxidation can be protected by interaction with Lewis acids such as H<sup>+</sup> or BF<sub>3</sub>.

The reaction of [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe]<sup>+</sup> with (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiH in nitrile solvents is complex. From the observed products, two intermediates C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeH and C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub> can be deduced. Alternatively to C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>XeH, a one-electron transfer in cage from H<sup>–</sup> to [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe]<sup>+</sup> as main reaction channel cannot be excluded.

Oxidation resistant organyl groups of organometallic compounds such as Cd(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub> are nucleophilic enough to replace nitrile solvent molecules coordinated at Xe<sup>II</sup> in [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>Xe]<sup>+</sup>. The carbon nucleophile does not interact with the [BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>–</sup> anion. Formally, a metathesis of the [BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>–</sup> anion by the carbanion [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>]<sup>–</sup> proceeds. The reaction of organylxenonium salt solutions in nitrile solvents with organometallic compounds which possess a very polar M–C bond promises an interesting access to new organylxenon compounds, R<sup>1</sup>–Xe–R<sup>2</sup>.

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## 6. References

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## Povzetek

Soli  $[\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{Xe}][\text{BF}_4]$  reagirajo z različnimi viri nukleofilnih zvrsti Y (»goli« fluorid,  $[\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_4]\text{F}$ , silani,  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiCl}$  in  $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{SiH}$  ter  $\text{Cd}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2$ ) v koordinirajočih topilih ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CN}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ). Produkta  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$ ,  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeCl}$  in  $(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2\text{Xe}$  smo uspeli jasno določiti. V primeru reakcije s  $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{SiH}$  pa smo uspeli določiti le produkte razgradnje, ki lahko izvirajo iz  $\langle\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeH}\rangle$  in  $\langle\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeC}_2\text{H}_5\rangle$ . Spojino  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{XeF}$  smo karakterizirali z rentgensko strukturno analizo monokristalov.