

Synthesis and Reactions of Triphenylsilanethiolato Complexes of Manganese(II), Iron(II), Cobalt(II), and Nickel(II)

Takashi Komuro,[†] Hiroyuki Kawaguchi,[‡] and Kazuyuki Tatsumi^{*,†}

Research Center for Materials Science and Department of Chemistry, Graduate School of Science, Nagoya University, Furo-cho, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya 464-8602, Japan, and Coordination Chemistry Laboratories, Institute for Molecular Science, Myodaiji, Okazaki 444-8585, Japan

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Reactions of Fe[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ with 1 and 2 equiv of Ph₃SiSH in hexane afforded dinuclear silanethiolato complexes, [Fe{N(SiMe₃)₂}(μ -SSiPh₃)]₂ (1) and [Fe(SSiPh₃)(μ -SSiPh₃)]₂ (2), respectively. Various Lewis bases were readily added to 2, generating mononuclear adducts, Fe(SSiPh₃)₂(L)₂ [L = CH₃CN (3a), 4-^IBuC₅H₄N (3b), PEt₃ (3c), (LL) = tmeda (3d)]. From the analogous reactions of M[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ (M = Mn, Co) and [Ni(NPh₂)₂]₂ with Ph₃SiSH in the presence of TMEDA, the corresponding silanethiolato complexes, M(SSiPh₃)₂(tmeda) [M = Mn (4), Co (5), Ni (6)], were isolated. Treatment of 3a with (PPh₄)₂[MoS₄] or (NEt₄)₂[FeCl₄] resulted in formation of a linear trinuclear Fe–Mo–Fe cluster (PPh₄)₂[MoS₄{Fe(SSiPh₃)₂}₂] (7) or a dinuclear complex (NEt₄)₂[Fe₂(SSiPh₃)₂Cl₄] (8). On the other hand, the reaction of 3a with [Cu(CH₃CN)₄](PF₆) gave a cyclic tetranuclear copper cluster Cu₄(SSiPh₃)₄ (9), where silanethiolato ligands were transferred from iron to copper. Silicon–sulfur bond cleavage was found to occur when the cobalt complex 5 was treated with (NBu₄)F in THF, and a cobalt–sulfido cluster Co₆(μ ₃-S)₈(PPh₃)₆ (10) was isolated upon addition of PPh₃ to the reaction system. The silanethiolato complexes reported here are expected to serve as convenient precursors for sulfido cluster synthesis.

Introduction

Transition metal—sulfur clusters have attracted attention in light of their relevance to various active sites of metalloproteins, desulfurization catalysis, and inorganic functional materials.¹ An important and challenging subject in this chemistry is to develop rational methods to synthesize desirable sulfur cluster complexes of high nuclearity, by assembling suitable metal—sulfur fragments.² For this purpose, we have developed cluster-forming reactions of preformed mononuclear thiolato complexes via carbon sulfur bond cleavage.³ For instance, (η^{5} -C₅Me₅)Mo(S'Bu)₃ was found to react with FeCl₃, resulting in isolation of the cubane-type cluster (η^{5} -C₅Me₅)₂Mo₂Fe₂S₄Cl₂.^{3b}

As an extension of our study on thiolato/sulfido complexes of transition metals, we have investigated the synthesis and reactions of silanethiolato complexes.⁴ Compared with

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complexes containing alkyl(aryl) thiolate ligands, the coordination chemistry of silanethiolates has yet to be explored.^{4–8} However, the use of silanethiolates has the following two advantages in developing rational synthetic routes to transition metal–sulfido clusters. First, silicon–sulfur bonds are expected to be more labile and more readily cleaved under mild conditions than carbon–sulfur bonds. Second, the

^{*} Author to whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: i45100a@ nucc.cc.nagoya-u.ac.jp. Fax: +81 52 789 2943.

[†] Nagoya University.

[‡] Institute for Molecular Science.

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reactivity of silanethiolato ligands can be controlled by the steric and electronic properties of the substituents in the silyl group. The most intriguing example of such a study is the copper silanethiolato complex Cu(SSiMe₃)(PPrⁿ₃)₃ prepared by Corrigan and co-workers, treatment of which with Hg-(OAc)₂(PPrⁿ₃)₂ gave rise to the gigantic Hg/Cu/S cluster, Hg₁₅Cu₂₀S₂₅(PPrⁿ₃)₁₈.^{6b} We herein describe the synthesis and structures of a series of triphenylsilanethiolato complexes of Mn(II), Fe(II), Co(II), and Ni(II). Also reported are our preliminary findings of the stability/reactivity of these triphenylsilanethiolato complexes.

Experimental Section

General. All manipulations of air- and/or moisture-sensitive compounds were carried out under an atmosphere of dinitrogen or argon with standard Schlenk-line techniques. Solvents were dried and distilled over an appropriate drying agent under an atmosphere of dinitrogen. All commercially available reagents were used as received. The compounds $M[N(SiMe_3)_2]_2$ (M = Mn, Fe, Co)⁹ and $[Ni(NPh_2)_2]_2^{10}$ were prepared according to published methods.

¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL Lambda-500 spectrometer and referenced internally to residual proton-solvent. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm. Infrared spectra were recorded on Nujol mulls between KBr plates on a JASCO FT/IR-410 spectrometer. For UV-visible spectra, a JASCO V-560 spectrometer was used. Elemental analyses were measured with LECO-CHNS and Yanaco MT-6 and MSU-32 microanalyzers.

Preparation of [Fe{N(SiMe₃)₂}(μ -SSiPh₃)]₂ (1). To a solution of Fe[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ (0.36 g, 0.95 mmol) in hexane (5 mL) was added slowly a solution of HSSiPh₃ (0.27 g, 0.92 mmol) in hexane (25 mL) at 0 °C. The color of the solution changed from pale green to brown, during which time a lemon-yellow solid precipitated. After several minutes of stirring at 0 °C, the solution was removed by decantation. Compound **1** was obtained as an air-sensitive lemon-yellow crystalline powder (0.35 g, 74%). IR (Nujol): 3067 (m), 3049 (m), 1588 (w), 1429 (s), 1258 (m), 1246 (s), 1185 (w), 1110 (s), 1029 (w), 998 (w), 954 (s), 865 (s), 832 (s), 800 (m), 755 (w), 738 (m), 709 (s), 697 (s), 680 (m), 619 (w), 517 (s), 496 (s), 433 (m) cm⁻¹.

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Preparation of Fe(SSiPh₃)₂(CH₃CN)₂ (3a). A solution of triphenylsilanethiol (1.70 g, 5.81 mmol) in hexane (85 mL) was added to a solution of Fe[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ (1.11 g, 2.94 mmol) in hexane (10 mL). The complex [Fe(SSiPh₃)(μ-SSiPh₃)]₂ (2) immediately precipitated as a yellow powder. After the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 min, the precipitate was isolated by decantation and dried in vacuo. The resulting solid was suspended in 60 mL of CH₃CN, giving colorless microcrystals of **3a** (1.63 g, 78%). Anal. Calcd for C₄₀H₃₆FeN₂S₂Si₂: C, 66.65; H, 5.03; N, 3.89; S, 8.90. Found: C, 66.41; H, 4.96; N, 3.95; S, 8.76. ¹H NMR (CD₃CN): δ 10.38 (Δν_{1/2} = 190 Hz, br, Ph), 8.31 (Δν_{1/2} = 29 Hz, br, Ph), 6.34 (Δν_{1/2} = 22 Hz, br, Ph), 1.98 (s, CH₃CN). IR (Nujol): 2304 (m, ν_{NC}), 2276 (m, ν_{NC}) cm⁻¹. UV–visible (λ_{max}, nm (ε, M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), CH₃CN): 322 (4500), 264 sh.

Compound **3a** (0.43 g, 0.60 mmol) was dissolved in THF (30 mL) and stirred at room temperature. The solution gradually darkened and a black powder precipitated, resulting in a colorless solution. After the solution was stirred overnight, THF (30 mL) was added, and the mixture was stirred for 3 more days. The solution was reduced to half volume, and centrifuged to separate a black solid and a colorless solution. The black solid was washed with THF (20 mL) and dried, affording black powder (0.09 g). Data for black powder: Anal. Found: C, 18.33; H, 2.40; S, 25.54. Fluorescent X-ray spectrum: Fe:S:Si = 1:1.1:0.1.

Fe(SSiPh₃)₂(4-^tBuC₅H₄N)₂ (3b). A solution of triphenylsilanethiol (0.72 g, 2.5 mmol) in Et₂O (50 mL) was added to a mixture of Fe[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ (0.46 g, 1.22 mmol) and 4-tert-butylpyridine (0.73 mL, 5.0 mmol) in Et₂O (10 mL). The solution was stirred for 10 min, during which yellow microcrystals of 3b precipitated. The product was isolated by decantation (0.88 g, 80% yield). Anal. Calcd for C₅₄H₅₆FeN₂S₂Si₂: C, 71.34; H, 6.21; N, 3.08; S, 7.05. Found: C, 71.41; H, 6.26; N, 3.12; S, 6.87. ¹H NMR (C₆D₆): δ 13.63 ($\Delta v_{1/2} = 140$ Hz, br), 7.82 ($\Delta v_{1/2} = 25$ Hz, br), 5.94 ($\Delta v_{1/2}$ = 21 Hz, br), 1.38 ($\Delta v_{1/2}$ = 26 Hz, br). IR (Nujol): 3062 (m), 3047 (m), 1615 (s), 1544 (w), 1499 (m), 1427 (s), 1274 (w), 1261 (w), 1228 (w), 1184 (w), 1104 (s), 1068 (m), 1022 (m), 998 (w), 842 (w), 831 (s), 746 (s), 738 (m), 705 (s), 683 (s), 622 (w), 560 (s), 508 (s), 502 (s), 494 (s), 467 (w), 438 (m), 428 (w), 418 (m) cm⁻¹. UV-visible (λ_{max} , nm (ϵ , M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), CH₂Cl₂): 394 (1500), 306 (4700), 254 sh.

Fe(**SSiPh**₃)₂(**PEt**₃)₂ (**3c**). Reaction of Fe[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ (0.29 g, 0.76 mmol) and triphenylsilanethiol (0.43 g, 1.5 mmol) in the presence of PEt₃ (1.5 mL, 2.2 mmol, 20% toluene solution) in hexane (50 mL) yielded 0.58 g of **3c** as colorless crystals in 87%. Anal. Calcd for C₄₈H₆₀FeP₂S₂Si₂: C, 65.88; H, 6.91; S, 7.33. Found: C, 65.90; H, 6.99; S, 7.10. ¹H NMR (C₆D₆): δ 11.89 (Δν_{1/2} = 380 Hz, br), 10.15 (Δν_{1/2} = 56 Hz, br), 6.66 (Δν_{1/2} = 29 Hz, br), 4.08 (Δν_{1/2} = 370 Hz, br). IR (Nujol): 3065 (m), 3044 (m), 1585 (w), 1566 (w), 1427 (s), 1306 (w), 1259 (w), 1186 (w), 1106 (s), 1065 (w), 1038 (w), 1029 (w), 997 (w), 848 (w), 768 (w), 745 (m), 739 (m), 734 (m), 703 (s), 682 (s), 620 (w), 562 (s), 550 (s), 503 (s), 491 (s), 436 (w), 419 (w) cm⁻¹. UV−visible (λ_{max} , nm (ϵ , M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), ether): 372 sh (1700), 305 sh (3100), 259 sh.

Fe(**SSiPh**₃)₂(**tmeda**) (**3d**). A mixture of Fe[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ (1.01 g, 2.67 mmol) and TMEDA (0.80 mL 5.3 mmol) in Et₂O (10 mL) was treated as described for **3b** with triphenylsilanethiol (1.56 g, 5.3 mmol) in Et₂O (50 mL). Compound **3d** was isolated as colorless crystals (1.71 g, 85%). Anal. Calcd for C₄₂H₄₆FeN₂S₂Si₂: C, 66.82; H, 6.14; N, 3.71; S, 8.49. Found: C, 66.74; H, 6.03; N, 3.58; S, 8.22. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 20.53 ($\Delta \nu_{1/2} = 180$ Hz, br,tmeda), 7.73 ($\Delta \nu_{1/2} = 23$ Hz, br, Ph), 5.82 ($\Delta \nu_{1/2} = 16$ Hz, br, Ph). IR (Nujol): 1426 (s), 1106 (s), 702 (s), 567 (s), 558 (s), 500 (s) cm⁻¹. UV-visible (λ_{max} , nm (ϵ , M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), CH₂Cl₂): 305 (5800), 260 sh.

Mn(SSiPh₃)₂(tmeda) (4). The same procedure as used for **3d** was followed. Reaction of Mn[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ (0.29 g, 0.77 mmol) and triphenylsilanethiol (0.43 g, 1.5 mmol) in the presence of TMEDA (0.22 mL, 1.5 mmol) in Et₂O (25 mL) yielded 0.42 g of **4** as colorless crystals in 72%. Anal. Calcd for C₄₂H₄₆MnN₂S₂Si₂: C, 66.90; H, 6.15; N, 3.71; S, 8.50. Found: C, 66.84; H, 6.15; N, 3.73; S, 8.33. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.6 ($\Delta \nu_{1/2} = 240$ Hz, br). IR (Nujol): 3065 (m), 3048 (m), 1584 (w), 1567 (w), 1429 (s), 1355 (w), 1287 (m), 1262 (w), 1193 (w), 1185 (w), 1167 (w), 1156 (w), 1125 (w), 1105 (s), 1063 (w), 1024 (m), 1007 (w), 997 (w), 950 (m), 793 (m), 743 (s), 736 (m), 702 (s), 683 (s), 622 (w), 565 (s), 503 (s), 489 (s), 436 (m), 428 (w) cm⁻¹.

Co(SSiPh₃)₂(tmeda) (5). Addition of a Et₂O (20 mL) solution of triphenylsilanethiol (0.43 g, 1.5 mmol) into a mixture of Co-[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ (0.28 g, 0.74 mmol) and TMEDA (0.22 mL, 1.5 mmol) in Et₂O (10 mL) followed by workup similar to **3d** afforded 0.39 g of **5** as blue crystals (70%). Anal. Calcd for C₄₂H₄₆CoN₂S₂-Si₂: C, 66.54; H, 6.12; N, 3.70; S, 8.46. Found: C, 66.25; H, 6.05; N, 3.62; S, 8.05. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.25 ($\Delta \nu_{1/2} = 20$ Hz, br), 5.38 ($\Delta \nu_{1/2} = 85$ Hz, br), 5.22 ($\Delta \nu_{1/2} = 16$ Hz, br). IR (Nujol): 3062 (m), 1585 (w), 1566 (w), 1428 (s), 1305 (w), 1286 (m), 1262 (w), 1187 (w), 1102 (s), 1043 (w), 1025 (m), 998 (w), 950 (m), 798 (m), 747 (m), 739 (m), 699 (s), 684 (m), 622 (w), 563 (s), 507 (s), 495 (s), 467 (w), 431 (m), 418 (m) cm⁻¹. UV–visible (λ_{max} , nm (ϵ , M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), CH₂Cl₂): 684 (750), 572 (180), 362 (3300), 312 (4700), 260 sh.

Ni(SSiPh₃)₂(tmeda) (6). To a suspension of [Ni(NPh₂)]₂ (0.39 g, 0.49 mmol) in toluene (15 mL) containing TMEDA (0.30 mL, 2.0 mmol) was added triphenylsilanethiol (0.59 g, 2.0 mmol) in toluene (15 mL). The mixture immediately became a dark yellow homogeneous solution that was stirred for 10 min at room temperature. After the solution was centrifuged to remove a small amount of an insoluble solid, the supernatant was evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was washed with Et₂O/hexane (1:1) to give 0.31 g of 6 as a yellow powder in 41% yield. Anal. Calcd for C₄₂H₄₆N₂NiS₂Si₂: C, 66.57; H, 6.12; N, 3.70; S, 8.46. Found: C, 65.92; H, 5.91; N, 3.69; S, 8.38. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 10.35 $(\Delta v_{1/2} = 98 \text{ Hz, br}), 8.74 (\Delta v_{1/2} = 20 \text{ Hz, br}), 7.16 (\Delta v_{1/2} = 16$ Hz, br). IR (Nujol): 3064 (m), 1428 (s), 1106 (s), 1018 (w), 951 (w), 802 (w), 743 (m), 704 (s), 683 (m), 621 (w), 569 (s), 560 (s), 502 (s), 490 (s), 436 (w) cm⁻¹. UV-visible (λ_{max} , nm (ϵ , M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), CH₂Cl₂): 543 (200), 433 (4900), 402 sh (2900), 378 sh (2100), 345 sh (1200), 264 sh.

 $(PPh_4)_2[MoS_4{Fe(SSiPh_3)_2}_2]$ (7). Addition of $(PPh_4)_2[MoS_4]$ (0.28 g, 0.31 mmol) in CH₃CN (25 mL) to a slurry of **3a** (0.45 g, 0.62 mmol) in CH₃CN (10 mL) immediately gave a homogeneous dark red solution. The mixture was stirred for 20 h at room temperature and evaporated to dryness. The residue was washed with Et₂O (15 mL) and then dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL). The solution was centrifuged to remove an insoluble material. The supernatant was concentrated, and Et₂O was added. Cooling the solution to -25 °C gave black microcrystals of 7 • CH₂Cl₂ (0.50 g, 71%). Anal. Calcd for C121H102Cl2Fe2MoP2S8Si4: C, 64.15; H, 4.54; S, 11.32. Found: C, 64.48; H, 4.70; S, 10.91. ¹H NMR (CD₃CN): δ 11.44 ($\Delta v_{1/2}$ = 370 Hz, br), 8.94 ($\Delta v_{1/2}$ = 71 Hz, br), 7.86 ($\Delta v_{1/2}$ = 23 Hz, br), 7.65 ($\Delta v_{1/2}$ = 53 Hz, br), 6.68 ($\Delta v_{1/2}$ = 38 Hz, br), 5.45 (s, CH₂Cl₂). IR (Nujol): 1584 (w), 1426 (s), 1183 (w), 1105 (s), 1027 (w), 996 (w), 741 (m), 723 (s), 699 (s), 689 (s), 681 (s), 621 (w), 553 (s), 526 (s), 501 (s), 468 (w), 459 (w), 423 (w), 413 (w, Mo-S) cm⁻¹. UV-visible (λ_{max} , nm (ϵ , M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), CH₂Cl₂): 611 sh (1300), 499 (12000), 387 sh (13000), 349 sh (16000), 319 (19000), 262 sh.

 $(NEt_4)_2$ [Fe₂(SSiPh₃)₂Cl₄] (8). To a suspension of 3a (0.37 g, 0.51 mmol) in CH₃CN (10 mL) was added a solution of $(NEt_4)_2$ -

[FeCl₄] (0.24 g, 0.52 mmol) in CH₃CN (25 mL). The resulting homogeneous solution was stirred for 20 min at room temperature. The resulting brown solution was concentrated in vacuo, and then addition of Et₂O (30 mL) to the solution caused the separation of a colorless powder. This material was isolated by decantation and dried in vacuo to give **8** in 91% yield (0.51 g). Anal. Calcd for C₅₂H₇₀Cl₄Fe₂N₂S₂Si₂: C, 56.94; H, 6.43; N, 2.55; S, 5.85. Found: C, 56.76; H, 6.35; N, 2.72; S, 5.77. ¹H NMR (CD₃CN): δ 8.27 ($\Delta \nu_{1/2} = 24$ Hz, br), 6.69 ($\Delta \nu_{1/2} = 31$ Hz, br), 6.54 ($\Delta \nu_{1/2} = 20$ Hz, br), 2.97 ($\Delta \nu_{1/2} = 25$ Hz, br, CH₃CH₂N), 1.20 ($\Delta \nu_{1/2} = 20$ Hz, br, CH₃CH₂N). IR (Nujol): 1579 (m), 1435 (s), 1306 (w), 1265 (w), 1099 (s), 1031 (w), 998 (w), 875 (w), 844 (w), 821 (w), 743 (m), 733 (s), 705 (s), 690 (s), 611 (m), 534 (s), 521 (m), 481 (m) cm⁻¹. UV-visible (λ_{max} , nm (ϵ , M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), CH₃CN): 294 sh (5400), 250 sh.

[Ph₃SiSLi(thf)]₄. A solution of Ph₃SiCl (10.0 g, 33.9 mmol) in THF (80 mL) was added to an excess of Li (2.30 g, 0.33 mol) in THF (40 mL) at -78 °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm slowly to room temperature and was stirred for 12 h. The mixture was added to a suspension of sulfur (1.08 g, 33.7 mmol) in THF (20 mL) at -78 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for an additional 12 h. The yellow solution was evaporated to dryness. The residue was extracted with toluene (120 mL) and centrifuged to remove LiCl. The supernatant was concentrated under vacuum to afford yellow crystals of [Ph3SiSLi-(thf)]₄ (8.21 g, 65%). According to the X-ray study, the lithium salt has a cubane geometry, where vertexes are occupied by sulfur atoms and lithium atoms in an alternative manner. Crystal data: tetragonal, space group P421c (No. 144), a = b = 15.665(8) Å, c = 17.182(9) Å, V = 4216(3) Å³, Z = 8, $D_c = 0.990$ Mg/m⁻³, Mo K α , $\mu = 2.07 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, $R(R_w) = 0.085(0.087)$, GOF = 1.17. Anal. Calcd for C₈₈H₉₂O₄Li₄Si₄S₄: C, 71.32; H, 6.26; S, 8.65. Found: C, 70.91; H, 6.45; S, 9.07. ¹H NMR (C_6D_6): δ 8.1 (m, 36H, Ph), 7.2 (m, 24H, Ph), 1.86 (br, 16H, thf), 3.75 (br, 16H, thf). IR (Nujol): 3063 (m), 3045 (m), 1427 (s), 1260 (w), 1183 (w), 1104 (s), 1045 (m), 896 (w), 743 (m), 701 (s), 686 (m), 622 (w), 575 (s), 499 (s), 431 (w) cm⁻¹.

Cu₄(SSiPh₃)₄ (9). Method 1. A solution of $[Cu(CH_3CN)_4](PF_6)$ (0.27 g, 0.72 mmol) in CH₃CN (15 mL) was added to a slurry of 3a (0.26 g, 0.36 mmol) in CH₃CN (10 mL). The solution was stirred at room temperature for 15 min, during which time a colorless crystalline solid precipitated. The resulting solid was isolated by decantation. Recrystallization from toluene yielded 9 as colorless crystals (0.21 g, 81%).

Method 2. Addition of a CH₃CN (25 mL) solution of [Cu(CH₃-CN)₄](PF₆) (1.18 g, 3.17 mmol) into [Ph₃SiSLi(thf)]₄ (1.19 g, 0.80 mmol) in toluene (25 mL) followed by a workup analogous to method 1 produced 0.83 g of **9** in 73% yield. Anal. Calcd for C₇₂H₆₀Cu₄S₄Si₄: C, 60.90; H, 4.26; S, 9.03. Found: C, 60.82; H, 4.21; S, 8.76. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.44 (m, 24H, Ph), 7.36 (m, 11H, Ph), 7.21 (m, 19H, Ph). IR (Nujol): 1586 (w), 1426 (s), 1302 (w), 1260 (w), 1186 (w), 1109 (s), 1029 (w), 997 (w), 850 (w), 738 (m), 708 (s), 696 (s), 681 (m), 620 (w), 542 (s), 533 (s), 501 (s), 490 (s), 429 (m) cm⁻¹. UV-visible (λ_{max} , nm (ϵ , M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), CH₂Cl₂): 284 sh (19000), 270 sh (21000).

Reaction of Co(SSiPh₃)₂(tmeda) with (NBu₄)F. To a mixture of **5** (0.29 g, 0.38 mmol) in THF (20 mL) and PPh₃ (0.20 g, 0.76 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added slowly (NBu₄)F (0.75 mL, 1.0 M THF solution). The deep blue solution immediately turned black. After being stirred for 2 h, the solution was evaporated to dryness. The remaining oil was extracted with CH₃CN and the solvent was removed. To the residue was added toluene and the mixture was centrifuged to remove insoluble materials. After evaporation, the resulting solid was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (7 mL) and Et₂O was

Table 1. Crystallographic Data for Compounds 1, 3a-d, 4-6, 8, and 9

	1	3a	3b	3c	$3d \cdot CH_2Cl_2$
empirical formula	C48H66Fe2N2S2Si6	$C_{40}H_{36}FeN_2S_2Si_2$	C54H56FeN2S2Si2	$C_{48}H_{64}FeP_2S_2Si_2$	C43H48Cl2FeN2S2Si2
fw	1015.39	720.88	909.19	879.12	839.91
cryst syst	monoclinic	monoclinic	triclinic	triclinic	triclinic
space group	$P2_1/n$ (No. 14)	<i>Cc</i> (No. 9)	<i>P</i> 1 (No. 2)	<i>P</i> 1 (No. 2)	<i>P</i> 1 (No. 2)
a/Å	12.1281(7)	8.875(2)	12.713(1)	13.732(3)	14.243(9)
b/Å	16.2285(3)	22.64(1)	18.553(5)	13.906(5)	16.064(9)
c/Å	15.2438(5)	18.723(4)	10.814(2)	13.303(4)	10.451(4)
α/deg			92.85(2)	103.39(2)	92.06(4)
β/deg	114.055(2)	91.12(2)	98.68(1)	103.57(2)	100.20(3)
γ/deg			103.67(1)	88.09(2)	66.42(5)
V/Å ³	2739.7(2)	3761.1(2)	2440.3(9)	2401.7(1)	2155.2(2)
Ζ	2	4	2	2	2
μ (Mo K α)/cm ⁻¹	7.68	6.05	4.81	5.48	6.58
total data collected	6518	3325	7650	7157	7090
reflns with $[I > 3\sigma(I)]$	3591	3142	6363	5021	6158
R	0.051	0.072	0.061	0.052	0.071
$R_{ m w}$	0.075	0.093	0.084	0.077	0.120
	4·CH ₂ Cl ₂	5·2CH ₂ Cl ₂	6·2CH ₂ Cl ₂	8	9
empirical formula	C43H48Cl2MnN2S2Si2	C44H50Cl4N2CoS2Si2	C44H50Cl4N2NiS2Si2	C52H70Cl4Fe2N2S2Si	$_{2}$ C ₇₂ H ₆₀ Cu ₄ S ₄ Si ₄
fw	839.00	927.93	927.70	1096.94	1420.09
cryst syst	triclinic	monoclinic	monoclinic	triclinic	triclinic
space group	$P\overline{1}$ (No. 2)	C2/c (No. 15)	C2/c (No. 15)	P1 (No. 2)	12.308(5)
a/Å	14.359(7)	35.8012(10)	35.806(6)	10.855(2)	12.308(5)
b/Å	16.100(8)	11.0545(6)	11.0410(8)	13.914(5)	13.154(2)
c/Å	10.616(5)	27.8316(8)	27.789(5)	9.983(3)	11.090(4)
α/deg	92.23(4)			94.42(4)	98.06(20
β/deg	100.07(3)	122.6191(8)	122.860(7)	102.93(2)	109.63(2)
γ/deg	66.06(4)			108.65(2)	96.91(2)
V/Å ³	2207.1(2)	9277.4(6)	9227.9(2)	1374.4(8)	1647.2(1)
Ζ	2	8	8	1	1
μ (Mo K α)/cm ⁻¹	6.00	7.74	8.27	8.76	15.15
total data collected	5998	43436	4629	4188	6084
reflns with $[I > 3\sigma(I)]$	3709	5052	4604	3128R	3990
R	0.097	0.056	0.061	0.062	0.036
R	0.160	0.070	0.002	0.004	0.052
1tw	0.160	0.079	0.095	0.084	0.052

layered. Over 10 days, black crystals and a dark-brown paste were formed. The resulting mixture was washed with CH₃CN and Et₂O. Black prisms of Co₆S₈(PPh₃)₆·CH₂Cl₂ (**10**·CH₂Cl₂, 13 mg, 9%) were separated manually. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.2–6.8 (m, 90H, Ph), 5.29 (s, 1H, CH₂Cl₂). IR (Nujol): 3052 (m), 1585 (w), 1569 (w), 1479 (m), 1432 (s), 1186 (w), 1090 (m), 1071 (w), 1028 (w), 998 (w), 741 (m), 691 (s), 618 (w), 524 (s), 508 (m), 496 (w), 435 (w) cm⁻¹. UV–visible (lmax, nm, CH₂Cl₂): 492 sh, 432, 345, 266 sh.

X-ray Crystal Structure Determination. Crystallographic data are summarized in Table 1. Diffraction data were collected on Rigaku AFC7-MSC/ADSC Quantum1 CCD (for 1 at 193 K), R-AXIS-4 (for 3a-d, 4, and 6 at 173 K), Mercury CCD (for 5 at 193 K), and AFC5S (for 9 at room temperature) diffractometers, using monochromated Mo K radiation. Crystals of 1, 3a-d, 4, 5, and 6 were coated in oil and cooled under a cold nitrogen stream, while those of 9 were mounted in glass capillaries and sealed under argon.

The structures were solved with use of direct methods and standard difference map techniques, and were refined by full-matrix least-squares procedures on *F* by using the CrystalStructure package. Anisotropic refinement was applied to all non-hydrogen atoms, and all the hydrogen atoms were put at calculated positions. For **8**, the methylene carbons of the NEt₄⁺ countercations are disordered with the occupancy factors of 50:50. In the case of **3d**, **4**, **5**, and **6**, atoms of the crystal solvents (CH₂Cl₂) were disordered and isotropically refined, and no hydrogen atoms of CH₂Cl₂ were included. Additional crystallographic data are given in the Supporting Information.

Results and Discussion

Reaction of Fe[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ with Ph₃SiSH. Addition of 1 equiv of Ph₃SiSH to a hexane solution of Fe[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ at room temperature caused an immediate color change from light green to brown, and a lemon-yellow solid of [Fe{N-(SiMe₃)₂}(μ -SSiPh₃)]₂ (1) precipitated. The amide—thiolato complex was isolated in 74% yield as an extremely airsensitive lemon-yellow crystalline powder, which was insoluble in aliphatic hydrocarbon solvents. The IR spectrum of 1 exhibited characteristic bands arising from bis(trimethylsilyl)amide and triphenylsilanethiolato ligands, and its dimeric structure was revealed by X-ray structural analysis.



The X-ray derived molecular structure of **1** is illustrated in Figure 1, and selected bond distances and angles are given in Table 2. The two Fe(II) centers are bridged by two silanethiolato ligands, and a crystallographic inversion center resides in the center of the molecule. Being bound to one terminal amide ligand, each Fe atom assumes a trigonal planar geometry, where the sum of the angles at the Fe atom is 360.0° . The average Fe–S bond distance of 2.343 Å and



Figure 1. Structure of $[Fe{N(SiMe_3)_2}(\mu$ -SSiPh₃)]₂ (1) showing 50% probability ellipsoids.

Table 2. Selected Bond Distances (Å) and Angles (deg) in $[Fe{N(SiMe_3)_2}(SSiPh_3)]_2$ (1)

Fe-Fe' Fe-S' S-Si1 N-Si3	2.979(1) 2.345(1) 2.160(2) 1.730(4)	Fe-S Fe-N N-Si2	2.340(1) 1.892(3) 1.714(4)
S-Fe-S' Fe-S-Si N-Fe-S Fe-N-Si2 Si2-N-Si3	101.04(4) 107.76(6) 126.7(1) 120.5(2) 124.5(2)	Fe-S-Fe' Fe'-S-Si N-Fe-S' Fe-N-Si3	78.96(4) 109.79(6) 132.24(12) 114.8(2)

the Fe–N distance of 1.892(3) Å are both comparable to those of Fe(II) complexes with bridging thiolates, [Fe2- $(SC_6H_2-2,4,6^{-t}Bu_3)_4$ (Fe-S = 2.366 Å) and Fe₃(SC₆H₂-2,4,6- i Pr)₄[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ (Fe-S = 2.343, 2.364 Å; Fe-N = 1.882 Å)].¹¹ The amide nitrogen is also nearly planar as is evidenced by the sum of the angles (359.8°) at the nitrogen atom. The planarity at the amide nitrogen may be due to the steric bulk of the silyl substituents and/or Fe–N π bonding interactions. Each FeNSi₂ plane is twisted from the Fe₂S₂ plane, where the dihedral angle between the planes is 61.1°. The triphenylsilyl substituents on the thiolate sulfur atoms are oriented up and down from the Fe₂S₂ plane. The *transoid* conformation of triphenylsilyl substituents and the twist of the FeNSi₂ and Fe₂S₂ planes are probably caused by the steric congestion among the silvl groups of Ph₃SiS and (Me₃Si)₂N ligands. The Fe–Fe distance of 2.979(1) Å is significantly shorter than those of the related Fe(II) complexes, Fe₂(SC₆H₂- $2,4,6^{-t}Bu_{3}_{4}$ [3.554 Å] and Fe₃(SC₆H₂-2,4,6^{-t}Pr₃)₄[N(SiMe_{3})₂]₂ [3.243(1), 3.354(1) Å],¹¹ which suggests Fe-Fe bonding interactions in the structure of 1. The acute Fe-S-Fe angle of 78.96(4)° supports this argument.

When Fe[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ was reacted in hexane with 2 equiv of Ph₃SiSH, a large amount of a light yellow powder was formed. The IR spectrum of the product shows only the bands characteristic of the triphenylsilanethiolato ligand, and the Fe:S ratio was estimated to be 1:2 by the X-ray fluorescence microanalysis. We tentatively formulate the product as [Fe-(SSiPh₃)(μ -SSiPh₃)]₂ (**2**). Attempts to grow crystals suitable for X-ray study have not been successful. However, complex **2** was found to react instantaneously with Lewis bases, and



Figure 2. Structures of Fe(SSiPh₃)₂(CH₃CN)₂ (**3a**, left) and Fe(SSiPh₃)₂-(tmeda) (**3d**, right) showing 50% probability ellipsoids.

giving four-coordinate Lewis base adducts, Fe(SSiPh₃)₂(L)₂ [L = CH₃CN (**3a**), 4-'BuC₅H₄N (**3b**), PEt₃ (**3c**); (L)₂ = tmeda (**3d**)]. Complexes **3b**-**d** were also prepared by the reactions of Fe[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ with triphenylsilanethiol in Et₂O or hexane containing the corresponding Lewis bases. According to the X-ray structural analysis, these four Lewis base adducts are all monomeric, and their combustion analyses are consistent with the formulation. They were isolated in 70–90% yields as either colorless (**3a**, **3c**, **3d**) or yellow (**3b**) crystalline solids. Their broad NMR signals indicate that **3a**-**d** are paramagnetic. The IR spectrum of **3a** shows two C=N stretching bands at 2304 and 2276 cm⁻¹. These bands are slightly shifted to higher frequencies relative to that of free acetonitrile (2250 cm⁻¹), which has been observed for η^{1} -coordinated acetonitrile molecules.¹²



 $L = CH_3CN$ (**a**), 4-^tBuC₅H₄N (**b**), PEt₃ (**c**), tmeda (**d**)

The crystal structures of all the base adducts, **3a**–**d**, were determined by X-ray analysis. They have a common slightly distorted tetrahedral geometry at Fe, which is coordinated by two silanethiolate sulfur atoms and two base atoms (N or P). Since their structures are very much alike, only those of **3a** and **3d** are shown in Figure 2. Selected geometrical parameters of **3a**–**d** are compared in Table 3. Although there is little difference in their Fe–S distances (2.29–2.32 Å), which are similar to those of the related thiolato complex Fe(S-2,6-ⁱPr₂C₆H₃)₂(1-methylimidazole)₂ (av 2.316 Å),¹³ the S–Fe–S angles vary notably from 122° to 136°. The small

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⁽¹²⁾ Shin, J. H.; Savage, W.; Murphy, V. J.; Bonanno, J. B.; Churchill, D. G.; Parkin, G. J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans. 2001, 1723–1753.

Table 3. Selected Bond Distances (Å) and Angles (deg) in Fe(SSiPh₃)₂(L)₂ [L = CH₃CN (**3a**), 4-'Bu-C₅H₄N (**3b**), PEt₃ (**3c**)] and M(SSiPh₃)₂(tmeda) [M = Fe (**3d**), Mn (**4**), Co (**5**), Ni (**6**)]

	3a	3b	3c	3d	4	5	6
M-S1	2.322(2)	2.303(1)	2.311(2)	2.326(1)	2.381(3)	2.277(2)	2.271(2)
M-S2	2.294(2)	2.304(1)	2.304(2)	2.321(2)	2.390(3)	2.271(1)	2.276(2)
S1-Si1	2.106(2)	2.101(1)	2.104(2)	2.103(2)	2.107(5)	2.102(2)	2.100(2)
S2-Si2	2.109(2)	2.100(1)	2.110(2)	2.103(2)	2.095(4)	2.099(2)	2.110(2)
M-L	2.058(7)	2.116(3)	2.458(2)	2.191(4)	2.27(1)	2.118(4)	2.085(5)
	2.074(7)	2.115(3)	2.486(2)	2.218(4)	2.246(9)	2.141(5)	2.113(5)
M-S1-Si1	105.07(9)	119.31(6)	118.85(7)	111.53(7)	109.9(2)	111.61(7)	110.95(9)
M-S2-Si2	110.73(8)	117.42(6)	116.95(8)	109.30(7)	110.2(2)	113.37(8)	109.75(7)
S1-M-S2	122.50(7)	128.77(4)	135.21(6)	136.08(5)	139.0(1)	133.56(6)	140.82(7)
L-M-L	102.3(3)	91.3(1)	108.78(6)	82.9(2)	82.4(4)	87.0(2)	87.7(2)
S-M-L	110.2(2)	113.89(9)	105.17(7)	100.0(1)	104.7(3)	101.8(1)	110.2(2)
	110.6(2)	101.62(9)	96.58(6)	109.2(1)	108.4(3)	111.9(1)	98.4(2)
	102.9(2)	102.75(9)	101.56(6)	109.9(1)	108.4(3)	110.7(1)	99.4(2)
	106.0(2)	112.45(9)	107.80(7)	105.7(1)	99.4(3)	102.3(1)	108.3(2)

bite angle of $82.9(8)^{\circ}$ for chelating TMEDA in **3d**, relative to the L-Fe-L angles in **3a**-c, is accompanied by the large S-Fe-S angle. It seems that steric repulsion between silanethiolate and L (or TMEDA) determines the S-Fe-S bond angle. In the case of **3c**, the long Fe-P bonds reduce steric congestion around Fe, thereby allowing the S-Fe-S angle to open up. Another distortion from the ideal tetrahedral geometry can be seen in the dihedral angle between the FeS₂ plane and the plane defined by two base atoms (N or P) and Fe, which are 88.8° for **3a**, 81.9° for **3b**, 85.1° for **3c**, and 84.6° for **3d**.

Synthesis of $M(SSiPh_3)_2(tmeda)$ (M = Mn, Co, Ni). A series of mononuclear iron(II) silanethiolato complexes, Fe-(SSiPh₃)₂(L)₂, were synthesized in high yield by the reactions of Fe[N(SiMe₃)₂]₂ with triphenylsilanethiol in the presence of Lewis bases. These reactions proceeded smoothly, and the products were easily purified. On the other hand, the reactions of FeCl₂ with [Ph₃SiSLi(thf)]₄ and Lewis bases were not straightforward and the yields of silanethiolato complexes were low. Since the protonolysis of the iron bisamide complex with silanethiol seems to be a superior route to the silanethiolato complexes, we applied this method to the preparation of other transition metal complexes of the type $M(SSiPh_3)_2(tmeda)$ [M = Mn (4), Co (5), Ni (6)]. Thus, treatment of $M[N(SiMe_3)_2]_2$ (M = Mn, Co) in the presence of TMEDA followed by standard workup afforded 4 and 5 as colorless and blue crystals, respectively. From the analogous reaction of [Ni(NPh₂)₂]₂ we isolated 6 as yellow crystals. The ¹H NMR spectra of 4-6 in CDCl₃ showed broad resonances, implying that these complexes are paramagnetic at room temperature. Their IR spectra are similar to that of 3d, and the combustion analyses were all consistent with the common formulation M(SSiPh₃)₂(tmeda).



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Figure 3. Structure of the anion part of $(NEt_4)_2[Fe_2(SSiPh_3)_2Cl_4]$ (8) showing 50% probability ellipsoids.

According to the X-ray diffraction analysis, the manganese complex 4 was crystallized in the triclinic P1 space group, being isomorphic to 3d, while 5 and 6 were crystallized in the monoclinic C2/c space group. Crystals of 3d and 4 contain one CH₂Cl₂ molecule in per asymmetric unit, and those of 5 and 6 contain two CH_2Cl_2 molecules. The molecular structures of 4, 5, and 6, are very similar to that of 3d shown in Figure 3, and their geometrical parameters are added to Table 3. In a distorted tetrahedral geometry, the dihedral angles between the MN₂ and MS₂ planes in 3d (84.6°) and 4 (84.9°) are slightly larger than those of 5 (83.0°) and 6 (82.4°). The N-M-N angles of 3d [82.9(2)°] and 4 $[82.4(4)^{\circ}]$ are smaller than those of 5 $[87.0(2)^{\circ}]$ and 6 $[87.7(2)^\circ]$, and the S-M-S angles are in the range between 133.56(6)° and 140.82(7)°. No obvious correlation can be seen between these slight distortions from tetrahedral geometry and steric effects. The M-N distances decrease in the following order, 4 (Mn, 2.26 Å av) > 3d (Fe, 2.205 Å) > 5 (Co, 2.130 Å) > 6 (Ni, 2.099 Å), paralleling the ionic radii of the metal atoms. Although the M-S distances in 4 (2.386 Å), **3d** (2.324 Å), and **5** (2.274 Å) follow the same trend, the average Ni-S distance in 6 is as long as the Co-S distance of 5. The reason for the long Ni-S bond in 6 is not clear.14

Reactions of Bis(triphenylsilanethiolato) Complexes. The stability of the iron bis(triphenylsilanethiolato) com-

Silanethiolato Complexes

plexes Fe(SSiPh₃)₂(L)₂ in THF solution varies depending on the lability of the ligand L. The acetonitrile and pyridine adducts, 3a and 3b, decompose in THF at room temperature within several hours to form an insoluble black solid, while degradation of the phosphine adduct 3c occurs more slowly and its colorless THF solution turns brown overnight. Attempts to characterize the degradation products have not been successful. During the degradation process, the ligands L might be replaced by THF molecules to produce an unstable intermediate Fe(SSiPh₃)₂(thf)₂, which then leads to unidentified polymers/oligomers. On the other hand, the tmeda adduct 3d did not show any sign of decomposition in THF at room temperature for 4 days, as monitored by UVvisible spectroscopy. The related neutral four-coordinate Fe(II) complexes, Fe(E-2,6- $^{i}Pr_{2}C_{6}H_{3})_{2}(1-methylimidazole)_{2}$ $(E = S, Se)^{13}$ and $Fe(OCPh_3)_2(thf)_2$,¹⁵ are known to be stable in solution. Thus, the instability of 3a-c in THF may have something to do with the reactivity of the silicon-sulfur bond upon dissociation of L (and THF).

The facile dissociation of acetonitrile from **3a** prompted us to examine its reactions with $(PPh_4)_2[MoS_4]$, $(NEt_4)_2$ -[FeCl₄], and [Cu(CH₃CN)₄](PF₆). The treatment of **3a** with 0.5 equiv of $(PPh_4)_2[MoS_4]$ in CH₃CN proceeded smoothly, and an Fe₂Mo cluster, $(PPh_4)_2[MoS_4{Fe(SSiPh_3)_2}_2]$ (**7**), was isolated as black crystals in 71% yield after recrystallization



of the crude product from CH₂Cl₂/Et₂O. The IR spectrum of **7** shows a weak absorption at 413 cm⁻¹ assignable to the bridging Mo–S stretching vibrations, and no Mo=S stretching bands were observed. While the X-ray structure analysis of **7** was carried out,¹⁶ the poor quality of the crystal prevents us from discussing its metric parameters in detail. However, the data clearly show a linear Fe–Mo–Fe cluster, which is similar to the core geometry of $[MoS_4(FeCl_2)_2]^{2-.17}$ Each iron

Table 4. Selected Bond Distances (Å) and Angles (deg) in $(NEt_4)_2[Fe_2(SSiPh_3)_2Cl_4]$ (8)

FeFe' Fe-S' Fe-Cl2	3.589(2) 2.450(2) 2.257(2)	Fe—S Fe—Cl1 S—Si	2.416(2) 2.259(2) 2.116(2)
S-Fe-S' Fe-S-Si Cl1-Fe-Cl2	84.92(6) 116.34(8) 115.06(7)	Fe-S-Fe' Fe'-S-Si	95.08(6) 128.82(9)

atom is tetrahedrally coordinated by two triphenylsilanethiolato ligands and two sulfur atoms of the MoS₄ unit.

Treatment of **3a** with 1 equiv of $(NEt_4)_2$ [FeCl₄] in CH₃-CN immediately gave a brown homogeneous solution. Considering the facile silicon–sulfur bonds in **3a**, we anticipated that this reaction might proceed via silicon–sulfur bond cleavage to give a sulfido cluster of iron. However, a dinuclear chlorido/triphenylsilanethiolato complex, $(NEt_4)_2$ -[Fe₂(SSiPh₃)₂Cl₄] (**8**), was isolated as colorless crystals in 91% yield, as a result of ligand redistribution between **3a** and $(NEt_4)_2$ [FeCl₄]. The IR spectrum indicated the presence of the tetraethylammonium cation and the triphenylsilanethiolate group. The combustion analysis is consistent with the formulation of **8**, and the dinuclear structure was revealed by X-ray diffraction analysis.



The structure of the anion of 8 is shown in Figure 3, and Table 4 lists selected bond distances and angles. A crystallographic inversion center lies in the middle of the Fe₂S₂ core. The two Fe^{II} centers assume a distorted tetrahedral coordination geometry, and are bridged by two silanethiolate sulfurs. Two chlorides are bound to each Fe center, and the dihedral angle between the FeS_2 and $FeCl_2$ planes is 83.2°. The two triphenylsilyl groups are oriented trans to each other to avoid steric repulsion. The Fe₂S₂ core is planar with an Fe- - -Fe separation of 3.589(2) Å, which is longer by 0.61 Å than that of 1, and there is no Fe–Fe bonding interaction. The large Fe-S-Fe angle of 95.08(6)° is consistent with the absence of the Fe–Fe bonding. In the Fe_2S_2 core, there are two sets of unequal Fe-S bond distances differing by 0.034 Å. The average Fe-S distance of 2.433 Å is obviously longer than that of 1 (2.343 Å), because of the fourcoordinated nature of the Fe centers for 8.

When **3a** was treated with 2 equiv of $[Cu(CH_3CN)_4](PF_6)$ in CH₃CN, a ligand transfer reaction took place, and a cyclic tetranuclear complex $Cu_4(SSiPh_3)_4$ (**9**) was obtained as

⁽¹⁴⁾ In a series of tetrahedral tetrakis-thiolato complexes, (PPh₄)₂[M(SPh)₄], the M-S distances decrease substantially in going from Mn (av 2.442 Å) to Fe (2.353 Å) to Co (2.328 Å) to Ni (2.288 Å). (a) Swenson, D.; Baenzinger, N. C.; Coucouvanis, D. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1978**, 100, 1932–1934. (b) Coucouvanis, D.; Swenson, D.; Baenzinger, N. C.; Murphy, C.; Holah, D. G.; Sfarnas, N.; Simopoulos, A.; Kostikas, A. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1981**, 103, 3350–3362.

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⁽¹⁶⁾ Crystal data for **7**·2CH₂Cl₂: C₁₂₂H₁₀₄S₈Si₄P₂Cl₄Fe₂Mo, M = 2350.38, monoclinic, $P2_1/n$ (No. 14), a = 17.573(5) Å, b = 26.297(3) Å, c = 27.633(9) Å, $\beta = 93.59(3)^\circ$, V = 12744.3(5) Å³, Z = 4, R = 0.167, $R_{\rm w} = 0.204$.

⁽¹⁷⁾ Coucouvanis, D.; Baenziger, N. C.; Simhon, E. D.; Stremple, P.; Swenson, D.; Simopoulos, A.; Kostikas, A.; Petrouleas, V.; Papaefthymiou, V. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1980**, 102, 1732–1734.



Figure 4. Structure of $Cu_4(SSiPh_3)_4$ (9) showing 50% probability ellipsoids.

Table 5.	Selected	Bond	Distances	(Å)	and	Angles	(deg)	in
Cu ₄ (SSiPh	1 ₃) ₄ (9)							

Cu1-Cu2	2.852(1)	Cu1-Cu2'	3.027(1)
Cu1-S1	2.168(1)	Cu1-S2	2.168(1)
Cu2-S2	2.157(1)	Cu2-S1'	2.160(1)
S1-Si1	2.153(2)	S2-Si2	2.142(2)
Cu1-Cu2-Cu1'	87.64(4)	Cu2-Cu1-Cu2'	92.36(4)
S1-Cu1-S2	174.18(4)	S1'-Cu2-S2	167.13(4)
Cu1-S1-Cu2'	88.79(5)	Cu1-S2-Cu2	82.50(5)
Cu1-S1-Si1	92.56(6)	Cu2'-S1-Si1	102.25(6)
Cu1-S2-Si2	100.03(6)	Cu2-S2-Si2	115.10(6)

colorless crystals. The soft silanethiolato ligand appears to prefer the softer Cu(I) center to Fe(II). The X-ray derived structure is shown in Figure 4, and selected bond distances and angles are listed in Table 5. The molecule consists of an eight-membered Cu₄S₄ ring, and two halves of the tetrameric structure are related by an inversion center. Thus the Cu₄ core is crystallographically planar, and the sulfur atoms are slightly off the Cu₄ plane (-0.26 Å for S1 and +0.22 Å for S2). This planar arrangement of four copper atoms resembles the geometry of $[Cu(SR)]_4$ [R = C₆H₃-2,6-(SiMe₃)₂, Si(O^tBu)₃].^{5f,18} The two triphenylsilyl groups of adjacent silanethiolato ligands are situated above the Cu₄S₄ plane, and the other two groups are below the Cu₄S₄ plane. The S-Cu-S angles slightly deviate from linearity with the average being 170.66 °, while the average Cu-S-Cu angle is 85.64 °. The Cu₄ square geometry is slightly distorted in such a way that two Cu-Cu distances [2.852(1) Å] are shorter than the other two [3.027(1) Å]. It is also worthy to note that the Si-S bonds of the bridging silanethiolate ligands (av 2.143 Å for 1, 8, and 9) are longer than those of

(18) Block, E.; Kang, H.; Ofori-Okai, G.; Zubieta, J. Inorg. Chim. Acta **1990**, 167, 147–148.

the terminal silanethiolates (av 2.104 Å for **3a–d**, **4**, **5**, and **6**). The elongation of the Si–S bond implies that the S–Si $p\pi$ – $d\pi$ overlap interactions are smaller for the bridging silanethiolates, and that the Si^{δ +}–S^{δ –} ionic bond character increases.

Finally, we attempted to induce an S-Si bond cleaving reaction of the Co complex, 5, with (NBu₄)F. Thus, when 5 was treated with (NBu₄)F in THF in the presence of PPh₃, the solution immediately darkened to black. Recrystallization of the crude product from CH2Cl2 afforded the known hexanuclear cobalt–sulfido cluster $Co_6(\mu_3-S)_8(PPh_3)_6$ (10), albeit in low yield.¹⁹ Compound **10** was identified by X-ray analysis, and the structure has an octahedral Co₆ core, and each Co₃ face is capped by μ_3 -S.²⁰ In addition, each Co atom is further coordinated by a phosphine ligand. An obvious driving force for the S-Si bond rupture of 5 is the formation of a thermally stable silicon-fluorine bond. We anticipate that the series of triphenylsilanethiolato complexes reported in this paper will be utilized, perhaps with appropriate desilvlation reagents, as convenient precursors for the synthesis of metal/sulfide clusters.



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Supporting Information Available: X-ray crystallographic files in CIF format. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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