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A metalloid $Ga_{23}[N(SiMe_3)_2]_{11}$-cluster: The Jellium-model put to test**

Jens Hartig, Anna Stößer, Petra Hauser, Hansgeorg Schnöckel*

If toluene is removed from a primary solution, from which **1** could be crystallized, and the residue is then solved in THF, a FTMS-spectrum can be recorded with the aid of ESI-methods. These studies demonstrate in principle that Ga_{22}- resp. Ga_{23}-clusters are already present in this solution. They are fragmented via the loss of GaR-ligands to smaller Ga_nR_m-units. The formation of Ga_{19}-clusters and eventually Ga_{13}^- seems especially prominent here, viz an already known reaction channel is re-encountered. [1', 2'] Remarkably, these results, which will be reported on in detail in a separate publication, [3'] show that the use of an ESI-source constructed by us allows the first analysis of the delicate primary solution of cocondensation. So this method may be an ideal, up to now unique tool of watching cluster growth during disproportionation nearly continuously.

[1'] K. Weiß, H. Schnöckel, *Z. Anorg. Allg. Chem*. **2003,** *629*, 1175.

[2'] K. Koch, A. Schnepf, H. Schnöckel, *Z. Anorg. Allg. Chem*. **2006,** *632*, 1710.

[3'] R. Burgert, K. Koch, J. Hartig, A. Stößer, H. Schnöckel (in preparation)