

electron-deficient compounds

Molecules or ions that contain too few electrons to allow their bonding to be described exclusively in terms of two-center, two-electron, *i.e.*, covalent, bonds. Such molecules or certain fragments in these are often held together by the multicenter bonds.

Source:

PAC, 1999, 71, 1919 (*Glossary of terms used in theoretical organic chemistry*) on page 1936