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## Perchlorotriphenylcarbenium Hexachloroantimonate(V)

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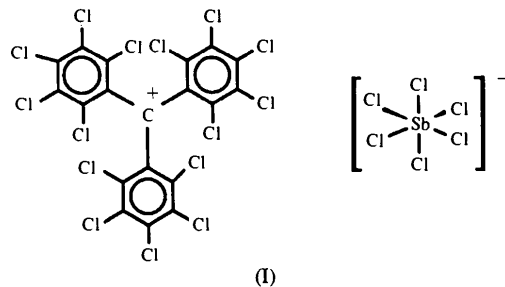
### Abstract

The title compound, C<sub>19</sub>Cl<sub>15</sub><sup>+</sup>.SbCl<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>, consists of perchlorotriphenylcarbenium cations and hexachloroantimonate anions. The central Sb and C atoms occupy special positions of symmetry 32 along the *c* axis. The cation shows a symmetrical propeller conformation. Four Cl atoms of the SbCl<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> anion are disordered.

### Comment

The so-called 'inert carbon-free radicals' belong mainly to the perchlorodiphenylmethyl (Ballester & Riera, 1954), perchlorotriphenylmethyl (Ballester, 1967; Ballester, Riera, Castañer, Badía & Monsó, 1971) and 9-phenylfluorenyl radical (Ballester, Castañer & Pujadas, 1971) classes. They have chemical and thermal stabilities which are higher than those of the majority of normal tetrahedral carbon compounds and materials. Such passivity is due to steric shielding of the molecular sites, where most of the radical reactivity normally resides (sites of high spin density), and to the strength of their valence bonds. Yet they are active in single-electron transfers yielding stable isolable carbenium (Ballester, Riera-Figueras & Rodríguez-Siurana, 1970) and carboanion (Ballester & De la Fuente, 1970) salts. As part of a systematic investigation of overcrowded polyhalogenated aromatic species, we report

here the structural study of perchlorotriphenylcarbenium hexachloroantimonate, (I), obtained from the perchlorotriphenylmethyl radical by single-electron oxidation (Ballester *et al.*, 1982). This carbenium salt possesses a highly symmetrical structure.



The overall conformation of the perchlorotriphenylcarbenium ion (Fig. 1) is described by the angle between the mean planes of the aromatic rings [77.2(2)°] and the angle between these planes and the plane defined by the C1 and three C2 atoms [46.1(2)°]. The mean values of the bond lengths and angles in the pentachlorophenyl group are C—C 1.397(7), C—Cl 1.700(6) Å, C—C—C 119.9(6) and C—C—Cl 119.9(4)°. These values do not differ significantly from those found in other structures containing the carbenium cation (Miravittles, Molins, Solans, Germain & Declercq, 1985; Veciana, Carilla, Miravittles & Molins, 1987). The most significant difference is that in the present compound, the three perchlorophenyl groups of the cation are crystallographically equivalent, while in the cited structures, these three groups are not. In the present structure, the perchlorotriphenylcarbenium ion adopts the highest symmetrical conformation so far described. Due to the intercalated packing, the shortest intermolecular Cl···Cl interactions are between the anions and cations [Cl6···Cl17( $x + \frac{1}{3}$ ,  $y + \frac{2}{3}$ ,  $z - \frac{1}{3}$ ) 3.121(2) Å].

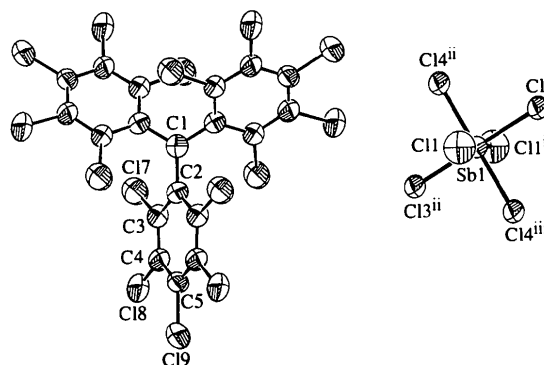


Fig. 1. The molecular structure and atomic labelling of the perchlorotriphenylcarbenium cation and hexachloroantimonate anion. Only one of the six components of the disordered SbCl<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> anion is shown [symmetry codes: (i)  $y, x, -z$ ; (ii)  $-y, x - y, z$ ; (iii)  $-x, y - x, -z$ ]. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.

## Experimental

The title salt,  $(C_6Cl_5)_3C^+ \cdot SbCl_6^-$ , was synthesized by reaction of the perchlorotriphenyl radical with antimony pentachloride in sulfuryl chloride, as described previously by Ballester *et al.* (1982). Dark green crystals were obtained by slow evaporation of the reaction solution at room temperature.

### Crystal data

$C_{19}Cl_{15}SbCl_6^-$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$M_r = 1094.39$	$\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$
Trigonal	Cell parameters from 25 reflections
$R32$	$\theta = 2.23\text{--}30.38^\circ$
$a = 11.559 (2) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 2.509 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$c = 21.783 (4) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 293 (2) \text{ K}$
$V = 2520.5 (8) \text{ \AA}^3$	Rectangular
$Z = 3$	$0.65 \times 0.59 \times 0.35 \text{ mm}$
$D_x = 2.163 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$	Dark green
$D_m$ not measured	

### Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer	1583 observed reflections
$\omega/2\theta$ scans	$[I > 2\sigma(I)]$
Absorption correction: empirical using azimuthal $\psi$ scans (North, Phillips & Mathews, 1968)	$R_{int} = 0.0449$
$T_{min} = 0.68$ , $T_{max} = 0.97$	$\theta_{max} = 30.45^\circ$
5208 measured reflections	$h = -16 \rightarrow 16$
1715 independent reflections	$k = -16 \rightarrow 16$
	$l = 0 \rightarrow 30$
	3 standard reflections monitored every 100 reflections
	intensity decay: 22.7%

### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	$\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.789 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
$R(F) = 0.0438$	$\Delta\rho_{min} = -1.026 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
$wR(F^2) = 0.1322$	Extinction correction: none
$S = 1.025$	Atomic scattering factors from <i>International Tables for Crystallography</i> (1992, Vol. C, Tables 4.2.6.8 and 6.1.1.4)
1715 reflections	Flack parameter for absolute configuration determination = 0.48 (4)
71 parameters	
$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0887P)^2 + 4.8171P]$	
where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$	
$(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001$	

Table 1. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2$ )

$$U_{eq} = (1/3)\sum_i \sum_j U_{ij} a_i^* a_j^* \mathbf{a}_i \cdot \mathbf{a}_j$$

	x	y	z	$U_{eq}$
Sb1	0	0	0	0.0474 (2)
Cl1	0	0	0.10758 (10)	0.0909 (8)
Cl2†	0.20281 (6)	0	0	0.0741 (11)
Cl3†	0.20281 (6)	0.20281 (6)	0	0.0741 (11)
Cl4†	0.11723 (14)	-0.11700 (13)	0	0.0741 (11)
Cl5†	0.16569 (11)	-0.06056 (10)	0	0.0741 (11)
Cl6†	0.16566 (11)	0.22622 (10)	0	0.0741 (11)
Cl7	0.0268 (2)	-0.1877 (2)	0.40900 (8)	0.0773 (5)
Cl8	0.2933 (2)	-0.1789 (2)	0.40882 (10)	0.0827 (5)
Cl9	0.5139 (2)	0	0.5	0.0888 (7)
C1	0	0	0.5	0.050 (2)
C2	0.1255 (6)	0	0.5	0.0498 (13)
C3	0.1450 (5)	-0.0863 (5)	0.4600 (2)	0.0541 (10)
C4	0.2652 (5)	-0.0822 (5)	0.4596 (3)	0.0571 (11)
C5	0.3680 (6)	0	0.5	0.058 (2)

† Occupancy of 0.167.

Table 2. Selected geometric parameters ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ )

Sb1—Cl1	2.343 (2)	C4—C5	1.400 (7)
C1—C2	1.450 (7)	C3—Cl7	1.696 (5)
C2—C3	1.424 (6)	C4—Cl8	1.716 (6)
C3—C4	1.366 (7)	C5—Cl9	1.687 (7)
C3'—C2—C3	118.8 (6)	C2—C3—Cl7	121.9 (4)
C3—C2—C1	120.6 (3)	C4—C3—Cl7	118.3 (4)
C4—C3—C2	119.7 (5)	C3—C4—Cl8	120.2 (5)
C3—C4—C5	121.5 (5)	C5—C4—Cl8	118.3 (4)
C4'—C5—C4	118.7 (7)	C4—C5—Cl9	120.6 (3)

Symmetry code: (i)  $x - y, -y, 1 - z$ .

The crystal used for analysis showed an average intensity decrease of 22.7% during data collection and so the data were scaled accordingly. The space group of the carbenium salt may be  $R3$ ,  $R\bar{3}$ ,  $R32$ ,  $R3m$  or  $R\bar{3}m$  according to the systematic absences  $-h + k + l = 3n$ . Subsequent structure solution and least-squares refinement indicated the correct space group to be  $R32$ . The disordered  $SbCl_6^-$  ion was treated as an ideal octahedron with two Cl atoms on a threefold axis parallel to the  $c$  axis and four disordered Cl atoms (with an occupation factor of 0.167 and the same displacement parameters) distributed about  $15^\circ$  from each other in the  $ab$  plane. This model led to a relatively flat  $\Delta\rho$  map. An interesting finding is that the Flack (1983) parameter has the value 0.48 (4), indicating that the crystal may be an example of an inversion twin with 50% of each component.

Data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf-Nonius, 1989). Cell refinement: *CAD-4 Software*. Data reduction: *MolEN* (Fair, 1990). Program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS86* (Sheldrick, 1985). Program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL93* (Sheldrick, 1993). Molecular graphics: *PLATON* (Spek, 1995). Software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL93*.

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Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, complete geometry and torsion angles have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: AB1351). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

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## Bis( $\eta^5$ -hydropentalenyl)iron

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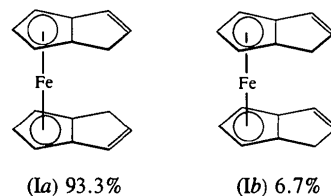
### Abstract

In the structure of bis[(3a,4,5,6,6a- $\eta$ )-1-hydropentalenyl]iron,  $[Fe(C_8H_7)_2]$ , the two pentalene ligands are parallel. The molecules are packed in chains along the *a* axis and there are no significant intermolecular interactions. The compound shows disorder at the iron position with a 93.3% major and a 6.7% minor component. The structure of the predominant component has been determined. In addition, the double bond in one pentalene ligand is disordered. This confirms the results of a previous spectroscopic <sup>1</sup>H NMR study [Katz & Rosenberger (1963). *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **85**, 2030–2031].

### Comment

The title compound, (I), has been used recently as a useful building block in the synthesis of triple- and quadruple-decker pentalene complexes (Oelckers, Chávez, Manríquez & Román, 1993). The present structure is the first single crystal X-ray study of a dihydropentalenyl–metal complex. The only other related structure is that of (1,1'-dihydro-1,1'-bipentalenyl)iron,

where the 'ferrocene' moiety is distorted due to the dimerization of the two pentalene ligands via 1-*endo*,1'-*endo* C—C bond formation (Churchill & Lin, 1973).



An ORTEP (Johnson, 1965) drawing of (I) is shown in Fig. 1. The Fe—C distances of 2.035 (2)–2.068 (2) Å are similar to those found for ferrocene (Seiler & Dunitz, 1979). The two planar five-membered rings are tilted 1.24 (11)° from being parallel and twisted ca 0.5 (2)° (mean) from an eclipsed conformation. The C—C distances (mean) within the  $\pi$ -cyclopentadienyl rings range from 1.416 (3) to 1.434 (3) Å [average 1.422 (3) Å].

In the crystal, the complex molecules are packed in chains (Fig. 2), with the intermolecular separation within a chain exceeding 3.5 Å.

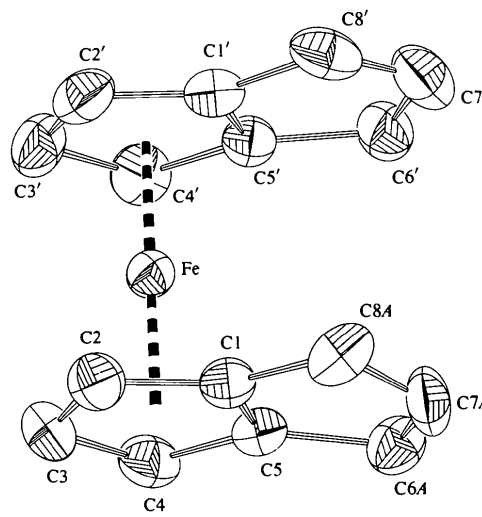


Fig. 1. View of the title structure showing the atom-numbering scheme and 50% probability displacement ellipsoids. H atoms have been omitted.

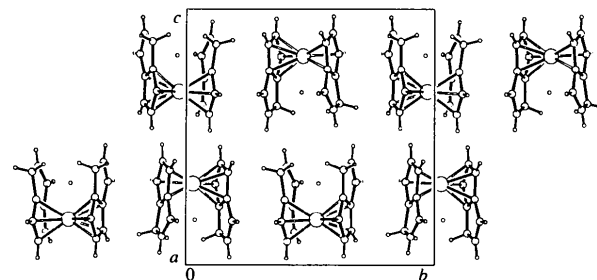


Fig. 2. Projection of the title structure down the *a* axis. The non-bonded small circles represent the positions of the Fe' atoms.