Sheldrick, G. M. (1990a). Acta Cryst. A46, 467-473.

- Sheldrick, G. M. (1990b). SHELXTL/PC Users Manual. Siemens
- Analytical X-ray Instruments Inc., Madison, Wisconsin, USA. Sheldrick, G. M. (1993). SHELXL93. Program for the Refinement of Crystal Structures. University of Göttingen, Germany.
- Siemens (1994). XSCANS. X-ray Single Crystal Analysis System. Version 2.1. Siemens Analytical X-ray Instruments Inc., Madison, Wisconsin, USA.

Acta Cryst. (1997). C53, 209-212

# Disorder in Bis(tetraethylammonium) Bis(µ-sulfido)bis[(1,2,3,4-tetrathiabutane-1,4-diyl-S,S)thiotungstate(V)]

ALOK K. MUKHERJEE,<sup>a</sup> PRATAP K. DAS,<sup>a</sup> MONIKA MUKHERJEE,<sup>b</sup> PRASHANTA K. CHAKRABORTY<sup>c</sup> AND RAMGOPAL BHATTACHARYA<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Physics, Jadavpur University, Calcutta 700 032, India, <sup>b</sup>Department of Solid State Physics, Indian Association for the Cultivation Of Science, Jadavpur, Calcutta 700 032, India, and <sup>c</sup>Department of Chemistry, Jadavpur University, Calcutta 700 032, India. E-mail: sspmm@iacs.ernet.in

(Received 11 December 1995; accepted 20 September 1996)

### Abstract

Disorder in the terminal  $\eta^2$ -S<sub>4</sub> ligands of the  $[W_2S_2(\mu-S)_2(\eta^2-S_4)_2]^{2-}$  anions of the title dinuclear tungstensulfur complex, di- $\mu$ -sulfido-1:2 $\kappa^4 S$ -disulfido-1 $\kappa S$ ,2 $\kappa S$ bis(tetrasulfanediy1)-1 $\kappa^2 S^1$ ,  $S^4$ ;  $2\kappa^2 S^{1'}$ ,  $S^{4'}$ -ditungsten(V), (Et<sub>4</sub>N)<sub>2</sub>[W<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>( $\mu$ -S)<sub>2</sub>( $\eta^2$ -S<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>], results in two anionic orientations (A and B). In both orientations, the metal center is bonded to five S atoms, with a distorted squarepyramidal coordination polyhedron. The dihedral angle between orientations A and B, defined as that between the basal planes through two bridging and two  $\eta^2$ -S atoms of the anion, is 9.5 (3)°. The five-membered chelate rings of the anions in orientations A and B display envelope geometry, with atoms S9 and S3 at the flaps.

### Comment

Polysulfide ions  $(S_x^{2-}, x = 2-9)$  have attracted attention because of their reducing as well as polydentate ligand behavior towards metal ions (Muller, Jaegermann & Enemark, 1982; Draganjac & Rauchfuss, 1985; Shibahara, 1993). Reaction of metal complexes with  $S_x^{2-}$ ions is a convenient method for directly introducing the ligand, leading to a variety of mono- or polymetal-polysulfur complexes (Muller & Diemann, 1987; Bhattacharya *et al.*, 1991; Chakraborty, Bhatta-

© 1997 International Union of Crystallography Printed in Great Britain – all rights reserved charya, Pierpont & Bhattacharya, 1992; Yamasaki & Shibahara, 1993). As part of our systematic study of tungstate-polysulfide systems, the title compound,  $(Et_4N)_2[W_2S_2(\mu-S)_2(\eta^2-S_4)_2]$ , was obtained in two forms [(I) and (II)] by acidification (6 *M* HCl) of an alkaline solution containing  $S_x^{2-}$ ,  $WO_4^{2-}$  and  $Et_4N^+$  following the reaction scheme below.



The synthesis, electrochemistry, reaction mechanism and crystal structure of (I) have been described previously (Chakraborty *et al.*, 1996). We report here the synthesis and crystal structure of  $(Et_4N)_2[W_2S_2(\mu-S)_2(\eta^2-S_4)_2]$ , (II). The structure of (II) consists of dinuclear units of disordered complex  $[W_2S_{12}]^{2-}$  anions and disordered tetraethylammonium  $(Et_4N)^+$  cations. The anions are located at crystallographic twofold sites with half of the dimer comprising the asymmetric unit. The *syn*- $[W_2S_2(\mu-S)_2]^{2+}$  core in the anion of (II), unlike that of (I), is coordinated by two bidentate  $\eta^2$ -S<sub>4</sub> ligands disordered over two well defined unequally occupied orientations, *A* and *B*, with occupancy factors of 0.61 (1) and 0.39 (1), respectively. Orientation *A* comprises atoms S7–S10 and orientation *B*, atoms S3–S6.



A comparative study of the skeletal geometry of the anion with several related tungsten-sulfur complexes is reported in Table 3. The single crystallographically independent W atom in  $[W_2S_{12}]^{2-}$  is bonded to five S atoms in a distorted square-pyramidal arrangement. The distortion of the coordination sphere is reflected in the wide range of angles formed by the S atoms at the metal center;  $S_{apical}$ —W— $S_{basal}$  101.3 (3)– 119.7 (3)°, *cis*- $S_{basal}$ —W— $S_{basal}$  66.4 (4)–100.7 (1)° and *trans*- $S_{basal}$ —W— $S_{basal}$  131.7(3)–152.2 (2)°. The apical site occupied by the S1 atom is 2.746(5) (for orientation A) and 2.925 (5) Å (for B) away from the basal planes through S2, S2<sup>i</sup>, S7, S10 and S2, S2<sup>i</sup>, S3, S6, respectively, with the metal W1 atom deviating by 0.642(3) (for orientation A) and 0.835(3)Å (for B) in the same direction as the S1 atom. The dihedral angle between the basal planes is  $9.5(3)^{\circ}$ . The bridging S atoms  $(S_b)$  are symmetrically bonded to W atoms and the W--S<sub>b</sub> [2.308(8) and 2.332(9)Å] and W=S [2.106(4) Å] bond lengths are comparable to the corresponding distances in similar systems (Table 3).

5

S S S

The five-membered WS<sub>4</sub> chelate rings in orientations A and B display envelope geometry, with the S9 and S3 atoms forming the flaps of the envelope and deviating by 1.19(1) and 1.32(2) Å, respectively, from the corresponding least-squares planes through the remaining endocyclic atoms. The dihedral angle between the planar parts of the chelate rings in the two orientations is 32.5 (3)°. The discrepancy between the two W—S<sub>x</sub> ( $\eta^2$ -S) distances [W1—S7 2.366(8) and W1— \$10 2.531(7), and W1-\$3 2.426(10) and W1-\$6 2.326 (8) Å] in the two orientations can be attributed to the unresolved disorder of the  $\eta^2$ -S atoms. The W...W separation of 2.816(1) Å is indicative of a metal-metal single bond in the anion. The  $(Et_4N)^+$  cations lie on symmetry sites  $\overline{4}$  and 2 and are well behaved, while the cations occupying 222 sites are statistically disordered about the ethyl C-atom positions, with occupancy factors of 0.52(3) and 0.48(3). Contrary to the previous reports on  $(Et_4N)_2[W_2S_2(\mu-S)_2(\eta^2-S_4)_2]$ , with unresolved anionic disorder, a short S-S bond length of 1.67(2) Å (Cohen & Stiefel, 1985) and unusually high temperature factors for the S<sub>4</sub>-ligand atoms (Chakraborty et al., 1996), the present structure analysis does not show any anomalies in either bond distances or displacement parameters.



Fig. 1. SHELXTL/PC (Sheldrick, 1994) view of the two orientations (A and B) of the anion showing the atom-labelling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. Orientation A comprises atoms S7-S10, shown by hollow bonds, and orientation B atoms S3-S6, indicated by solid bonds.

## Experimental

To the orange-red solution obtained by mixing sodium tungstate (Na<sub>2</sub>WO<sub>4</sub>.2H<sub>2</sub>O; 3.0 g, 0.009 mol), tetraethylammonium bromide (Et<sub>4</sub>NBr; 3.8 g, 0.018 mol) and aqueous ammonium polysulfide [(NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>S<sub>x</sub>; 75 ml], 6 M hydrochloric acid was added dropwise with constant stirring. A vigorous reaction started with evolution of H<sub>2</sub>S gas and in the pH range 8-6, the colour of the solution changed from orangered to deep green, with a red compound separating out along with elemental sulfur. Addition of HCl was stopped when the reaction solution reached pH 6, but stirring was continued for another 15 min. The separated compound was filtered off, washed thoroughly with water, ethanol, CS<sub>2</sub> and diethyl ether, and dried in vacuo. Maroon crystals were obtained by recrystallization from an acetone-light petroleum (313-333 K) mixture. Yield 2.5 g (55%). Elemental analysis found: C 19.4, H 4.2, N 2.9, S 37.2, W 36.5%;  $[(C_2H_5)_4N]_2[W_2S_2(\mu -$ 

S)<sub>2</sub>(S<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] requires: C 19.0, H 4.0, N 2.8, S 38.0, W 36.3%. The IR spectrum (Perkin Elmer 597 IR spectrometer) showed a strong  $\nu$ (S—S) vibration at 505 cm<sup>-1</sup> (corresponding to  $\eta^2$ - $S_4^{2-}$  ligands) and a weak  $\nu(WS_2W)$  asymmetric vibration at 440 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Two other weak bands at 330 and 310 cm<sup>-</sup> were assigned to a  $\nu(W-S_t)$  vibration. The complex was diamagnetic and behaved as expected for a 2:1 electrolyte  $(\Lambda = 250 \text{ W}^{-1} \text{ cm}^2 M^{-1})$  in CH<sub>3</sub>CN. The diamagnetism of the complex indicated the existence of a metal-metal bond in the dimeric  $W^{V} d^{I}$  system, subsequently confirmed by X-ray crystallographic analysis.

# Table 1. Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters $(Å^2)$

## $U_{\rm iso}$ for W1, S1, S2, N1, C1 and C2, $U_{\rm eq} = (1/3) \sum_i \sum_j U^{ij} a_i^* a_j^* \mathbf{a}_i \cdot \mathbf{a}_j$ for others.

	x	у	z	$U_{\rm iso}/U_{\rm eq}$
S3†	0.2441 (6)	0.4129 (5)	0.1267 (7)	0.080(3)
S6†	0.2259 (4)	0.4096 (4)	0.3368 (7)	0.060(2)
S4†	0.1916 (8)	0.4996 (8)	0.1486 (11)	0.140 (6)
\$5†	0.1542 (6)	0.4682 (6)	0.2700 (9)	0.114 (4)
S7‡	0.2283 (4)	0.4336 (4)	0.1607 (6)	0.094 (2)
S10‡	0.2433 (4)	0.4365 (4)	0.3775 (5)	0.081 (2)
S8‡	0.1445 (5)	0.4419 (5)	0.2211 (6)	0.130(3)
S9‡	0.1844 (5)	0.4991 (5)	0.3136(7)	0.130(3)
WI	0.31686 (2)	0.41089 (2)	0.25057 (11)	0.0667 (2)
SI	0.3730(2)	0.4930(2)	0.2459 (8)	0.0935 (11)
S2	0.3483 (5)	0.3488 (5)	0.3682(2)	0.0787 (9)
NI	0	0	0	0.061 (4)
Cl	0.0567 (8)	-0.0021 (7)	-0.0594 (10)	0.080 (4)
C2	0.1206 (7)	-0.004 (2)	-0.011(3)	0.103 (8)
N2	1/2	0	0	0.094 (6)
C3A§	0.540(2)	-0.0467 (17)	-0.055 (2)	0.137 (15)
C3B§	0.5754 (12)	-0.1013 (12)	-0.014(2)	0.075 (8)
C4A¶	0.4654 (17)	-0.0401 (17)	-0.070 (2)	0.100 (11)
C4B¶	0.419 (2)	-0.085 (2)	-0.023(3)	0.115 (15)
N3	0.1957 (6)	0.1957 (6)	0.2500	0.098 (4)
C5	0.1990(13)	0.2569 (11)	0.3038 (16)	0.146 (9)
C6	0.151 (3)	0.248 (3)	0.379 (4)	0.28 (3)
C7	0.1941 (13)	0.1355 (12)	0.3048 (17)	0.154 (9)
C8	0.254 (2)	0.128 (2)	0.361 (3)	0.216(19)

 $\ddagger$  Site occupancy = 0.39 (1).  $\ddagger$  Site occupancy = 0.61 (1).  $\S$  Site occupancy = 0.52 (3). ¶ Site occupancy = 0.48 (3).

Table 2. Selected geometric parameters (Å, °)

3—S4	2.17 (2)	S10—S9	2.061 (11)
3-W1	2.426 (10)	S10—W1	2.531 (7)
6—S5	2.206 (14)	S8—S9	2.035 (12)
6W1	2.326 (8)	W1	2.106 (4)
34—S5	2.11 (2)	W1	2.308 (8)
57— <b>\$</b> 8	2.003 (11)	W1—S2 <sup>i</sup>	2.332 (9)
57—W1	2.366 (8)	$W1 - W1^i$	2.8157 (11)
54—\$3—₩1	102.8 (6)	S1-W1-S7	105.1 (3)
5-S6-W1	107.8 (5)	S2—W1—S7	141.9(3)
3-S4-S5	93.3 (8)	\$1—W1—\$3	108.5 (4)
54—S5—S6	108.5 (7)	S2-W1-S3	142.0(3)
58—S7—W1	117.3 (5)	S2'-W1-S3	66.4 (4)
59—S10—W1	98.9 (4)	S6—W1—S3	84.7 (5)
57—S8—S9	89.9 (6)	S1-W1-S10	101.3 (3)
58—S9—S10	101.0 (6)	S2-W1-S10	73.5 (3)
S1—W1—S2	109.4 (3)	S2'-W1-S10	152.2 (2)
S2—W1—S2 <sup>i</sup>	100.69 (11)	S7—W1—S10	84.5 (3)
S1—W1—S6	119.7 (3)	W1-S2-W1	74.71 (9)
S2—W1—S6	78.5 (3)		
57—W1—S10—S9	-28.4 (4)	\$3—W1—\$6—\$5	-35.4 (5)
W1S10S9S8	64.1 (5)	W1—S6—S5—S4	3.4 (9)
S10—S9—S8—S7	-67.4 (6)	\$6—\$5—\$4—\$3	34.9 (9)
59—S8—S7—W1	47.4 (6)	\$5—\$4—\$3—W1	-62.3 (8)
S8—S7—W1—S10	-11.9 (5)	S4—S3—W1—S6	60.5 (6)

Symmetry code: (i)  $y, x, \frac{1}{2} - z$ .

Table 3. A comparison of the geometric parameters<sup>†</sup> (Å, °) of the  $\{W_2S_2(\mu-S)_2\}$  fragment of some dinuclear tungsten complexes

Complex	w…w	W— $S_{l}^{m}$	w—s <sup>m</sup>	WS <sup>m</sup>	$S_h - M - S_h$	Reference
$(Et_4N)_2[W_2S_4(S_4)_2], (II)$	2.816 (1)	2.106 (4)	2.320 (9)	2.412 (8)	100.7 (1)	(a)
$(Et_4N)_2[W_2S_4(S_4)_2], (I)$	2.823 (1)	2.100 (8)	2.32 (1)	2.38 (2)	100.8 (2)	(b)
$(Et_4N)_2[W_2S_4(S_4)_2]$	2.836 (2)	2.116 (5)	2.320 (6)	2.387 (11)	100.1 (2)	(c)
$W_2S_4[S_2P(OEt)_2]_2$	2.819(1)	2.114 (5)	2.314 (5)	2.482 (5)	102.0 (2)	(d)
$[W_2S_4(S_2N(CEt_2)_2)]$	2.795 (1)	2.09 (1)	2.31 (1)	2.44 (1)	101.9 (3)	(d)
$(PPh_4)[W_2S_4(S_4)_2].0.5DMF$	2.834 (2)	2.103 (10)	2.321 (8)	2.415 (9)	101.5 (3)	(e)
$(PPh_4)[W_2S_4(S_2)S_4].0.5DMF$	2.840 (2)	2.125 (8)	2.309 (7)	2.374 (9)	101.9 (2)	(e)
$(PPh_4)[W_2S_4\{S_2(S)PPh\}_2]$	2.828 (1)	2.118 (3)	2.326 (3)	2.446 (3)	101.2	(f)
$(PPh_4)[W_2S_4(S_2C_2H_4)_2]$	2.862 (1)	2.144 (2)	2.328 (2)	2.404 (2)	100.7	(g)
$[W_2S_4Br_2PPh_3)].C_6H_6$	2.813 (3)	2.11 (1)	2.31 (1)	-	101.6 (5)	( <i>h</i> )

References: (a) this work; (b) Chakraborty et al. (1996); (c) Cohen & Stiefel (1985); (d) Drew, Hobson, Mumba, Rice & Trup (1987); (e) Muller et al. (1985); (f) Slater, Garner & Clegg (1990); (g) Pan, Chandler, Enemark & Stiefel (1984); (h) Feddin, Mironov, Virovets, Podberezskaya & Fedorov (1990).

† The average values of chemically equivalent and crystallographically independent bond lengths and angles are given.  $S_b^m$ ,  $S_t^m$  and  $S_x^m$  represent bridging,  $\eta^2$  bonded and multiply bonded terminal sulfur, respectively.

Crystal data

$(C_8H_{20}N)_2[W_2S_{12}]$ $M_r = 1012.92$ Tetragonal $I\bar{4}c2$ a = 21.174 (4) Å c = 15.119 (2) Å V = 6778 (2) Å <sup>3</sup> Z = 8 $D_x = 1.985$ Mg m <sup>-3</sup> $D_m$ measured by flotation in ethyl iodide/1,3-dibromo- propane	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å Cell parameters from 30 reflections $\theta = 7.5-15.0^{\circ}$ $\mu = 7.534$ mm <sup>-1</sup> T = 293 (2) K Parallelepiped $0.30 \times 0.22 \times 0.10$ mm Maroon
Data collection	
Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer $\omega$ -2 $\theta$ scans	2190 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ $R_{int} = 0.0344$

Absorption correction:	$\theta_{\rm max} = 24.97^{\circ}$
$\psi$ scans (North, Phillips	$h = -24 \rightarrow 0$
& Mathews, 1968)	$k = -14 \rightarrow 25$
$T_{\rm min} = 0.151, \ T_{\rm max} = 0.471$	$l = -17 \rightarrow 14$
5322 measured reflections	3 standard reflections
2828 independent reflections	every 100 reflections
-	-

#### Refinement

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.80 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$ Refinement on  $F^2$  $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.66 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$ R(F) = 0.0484 $wR(F^2) = 0.1244$ Extinction correction: none S = 1.044Scattering factors from 2828 reflections International Tables for 115 parameters Crystallography (Vol. C) Absolute configuration:  $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.07P)^2]$ + 74.7P] Flack (1983) where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ Flack parameter = 0.47 (4)  $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.610$ 

intensity decay: 3%

Intensity distributions indicated 4/mmn Laue symmetry with the following systematic absences:  $hkl (h + k + l \neq 2n)$ ,  $hk0 (h + k \neq 2n)$  and  $0kl (k + l \neq 2n)$ . Of the three possible space groups, I4cm, I4/mcm and  $I\overline{4}c2$ , the last was chosen

and a successful structure refinement confirmed the space group assignment. The W atom was located from Patterson interpretation and the remaining atoms were found through successive difference Fourier calculations. Two orientations for the terminal  $S_4$  ligands in the anion and the  $(Et_4N)^+$ cation occupying the 222 site were apparent in the structure solution. The occupancy factors for the two orientations of the S<sub>4</sub>-ligands in the anion and the disordered cation refined as least-squares parameters, with the sum constrained to be 1.0, were 0.61 (1)/0.39 (1) (for the  $S_4$  ligand) and 0.52 (3)/0.48 (3) (for the disordered cation). Iterative refinement of atomic positions and anisotropic displacement parameters for all atoms, except those of the disordered S<sub>4</sub> ligand and cations, which were modeled with isotropic displacement parameters, was performed using SHELXL93 (Sheldrick, 1993). Only the H atoms of the ordered cations were included in the structurefactor calculations at idealized positions, but they were not refined.

Data collection: CAD-4 Software (Enraf-Nonius, 1989). Cell refinement: CAD-4 Software. Data reduction: CAD-4 Software. Program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS86 (Sheldrick, 1990).

The authors wish to acknowledge the referees and Dr A. J. Blake (co-editor of *Acta Crystallographica Section* C) for various helpful suggestions in revising the present paper.

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, Hatom coordinates and complete geometry have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: BM1055). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

## References

- Bhattacharya, R. G., Chakraborty, P. K., Ghosh, P. N., Mukherjee, A. K., Poddar, D. & Mukherjee, M. (1991). *Inorg. Chem.* 30, 3948–3955.
- Chakraborty, P. K., Bhattacharya, S., Pierpont, C. G. & Bhattacharya, R. G. (1992). *Inorg. Chem.* 31, 3573–3577.
- Chakraborty, P. K., Ghosh, I., Bhattacharya, R. G., Mukherjee, A. K., Mukherjee, M. & Helliwell, M. (1996). Polyhedron, 15, 1443–1451.

- Cohen, S. A. & Stiefel, E. I. (1985). Inorg. Chem. 24, 4657–4662.
- Draganjac, M. & Rauchfuss, T. B. (1985). Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. 24, 742-757.
- Drew, M. G. B., Hobson, R. J., Mumba, P. P. E. M., Rice, D. A. & Trup, N. (1987). J. Chem. Soc. Dalton Trans. pp 1163–1167.
- Enraf-Nonius (1989). CAD-4 Software. Version 5.0. Enraf-Nonius, Delft, The Netherlands.
- Feddin, V. P., Mironov, Y. V., Virovets, A. V., Podberezskaya, N. V. & Fedorov, Y. V. (1990). Inorg. Chim. Acta, 171, 199-203.
- Flack, H. D. (1983). Acta Cryst. A39, 876-881.
- Muller, A. & Diemann, E. (1987). Adv. Inorg. Chem. 31, 89-122.
- Muller, A., Jaegermann, W. & Enemark, J. H. (1982). Coord. Chem. Rev. 46, 245–280.
- Muller, A., Romer, M., Romer, C., Remsch-Vogell, U., Bogge, H. & Schimanski, U. (1985). *Monatsh. Chem.* **116**, 711-716.
- North, A. C. T., Phillips, D. C. & Mathews, F. S. (1968). Acta Cryst. A24, 351-359.
- Pan, W. H., Chandler, J., Enemark, J. M. & Stiefel, E. I. (1984). Inorg. Chem. 23, 4265–4269.
- Sheldrick, G. M. (1990). Acta Cryst. A46, 467-473.
- Sheldrick, G. M. (1993). SHELXL93. Program for the Refinement of Crystal Structures. University of Göttingen, Germany.
- Sheldrick, G. M. (1994). SHELXTUPC. Version 5.03. Siemens Analytical X-ray Instruments Inc., Madison, Wisconsin, USA.
- Shibahara, T. (1993). Coord. Chem. Rev. 123, 73-147.
- Slater, J. M., Garner, C. D. & Clegg, W. (1990). J. Chem. Soc. Chem. Commun. pp. 281–284.
- Yamasaki, M. & Shibahara, T. (1993). Inorg. Chim. Acta, 205, 45-51.

Acta Cryst. (1997). C53, 212-213

# The First Example of a Discrete Di(carboxylato)triorganostannate: Tetramethylammonium Triphenylbis(trifluoroacetato)stannate

SEIK WENG  $NG^a$  and V. G. KUMAR  $DAS^b$ 

<sup>a</sup>Institute of Advanced Studies, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and <sup>b</sup>Department of Chemistry, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. E-mail: h1nswen@cc.um.edu.my

(Received 15 July 1996; accepted 3 October 1996)

# Abstract

Tetramethylammonium triphenylbis(trifluoroacetato-O)stannate crystallizes as non-interacting tetrahedral [(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>N]<sup>+</sup> cations and *trans*-trigonal bipyramidal [Sn-(C<sub>2</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup> anions. The anion is the first example of a discrete triorganostannate covalently bonded to two unidentate monocarboxylato anions.

# Comment

As a result of their preference for forming carboxyl bridges that link adjacent molecules into five-coordinate polymeric chains (Ng, Chen & Kumar Das, 1988), tri-

phenyltin alkanoates, with rare exceptions (Ng, 1995), do not yield complexes with Lewis bases. The appearance of Lewis acidity in triphenyltin trifluoroacetate (Ford & Sams, 1971), which forms a hydrate that is hydrogen bonded to 1,10-phenanthroline (Ng, Kumar Das & Kennard, 1996), is unambiguously proven in tetramethylammonium triphenylbis(trifluoroacetato)stannate, (I). The Lewis acidity of (I) is comparable to that of triphenyltin chloride as it can accept an essentially non-basic trifluoroacetato)stannate ion constitutes the first example of a di(carboxylato)triorganostannate (Tiekink, 1991, 1994).



The discrete nature of this triphenylbis(trifluoroacetato)stannate contrasts with that of (dicarboxylato)triphenylstannates, such as the oxalato (Ng, Kumar Das, Luo & Mak, 1994) and succinato (Ng, Kumar Das, Xiao, van der Helm, Holecek & Lycka, 1991) derivatives, which adopt linear polyanionic chain structures.



Fig. 1. ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976) plot of tetramethylammonium triphenylbis(trifluoroacetato)stannate with ellipsoids at the 50% probability level. H atoms are drawn as spheres of arbitrary radii.

# **Experimental**

Tetramethylammonium hydroxide, triphenyltin hydroxide and trifluoroacetic acid (molar ratio 1:1:2) were heated in a small volume of ethanol. The filtered solution when cooled slowly