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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 183 KMean  $\sigma(C-C) = 0.008 \text{ Å}$  R factor = 0.076 wR factor = 0.104 Data-to-parameter ratio = 16.7

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.

# [Benzyldimethyl(dimethylamino)silyl- $\kappa^2 C$ ,N]-(N,N,N,N-tetramethylenediamine- $\kappa^2 N$ ,N)lithium(I)

The molecule of the title compound,  $[Li(C_{11}H_{18}NSi)-(C_6H_{16}N_2)]$  contains a four-membered heterocycle with a folded conformation. The coordination around the Li, N, C and Si atoms in this ring is distorted tetrahedral.

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## Comment

Organolithium compounds are intriguing from a number of points of view, *viz*. structural, bond theoretical and practical. The N atom is found in a large number of saturated and unsaturated organolithium compounds, in segments such as N-Li-C, N-Li-N, Si-N-C, Si-N-Li, *etc.* Recently, we have synthesized the title compound, (I), containing a C-Si-N-Li ring. The title compound has unusual features and is potentially useful for the synthesis of other novel organometallic compounds. This compound has been characterized by single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis. Selected geometric parameters of (I) are listed in Table 1 and the molecular structure is illustrated in Fig. 1.



The four-membered heterocyclic ring adopts a folded conformation. The angle between the C1-Li1-N1 and C1-Si1-N1 planes is  $20.8 (3)^\circ$ . The N atom is bonded to the Li atom and the ring contains a four-coordinate Li centre. As a consequence of the coordination of the N atom to the Li atom, the Si1-N1 bond [1.787 (4) Å] is longer than an average N-Si bond [1.75 (2) Å] between three-coordinate N and fourcoordinate Si (Allen et al., 1987), as nitrogen is four-coordinate in (I). Coordination of each of the atoms in the heterocyclic ring, C1, Li1, N1 and Si1, is distorted tetrahedral. The Li1-N2 and Li1-N3 bond distances of the fivemembered chelate ring (see Table 1 and Fig. 1) are not significantly different, and are a little shorter than the Li1-N1 bond of the four-membered ring. The Si1-N1 and Si1-C1 bond lengths are essentially equal and a little shorter than the two exocyclic bonds Si1-C8 and Si1-C9.

## Experimental

*n*-Butyllithium was added dropwise to an equimolar solution of toluene and TMEDA (N,N,N',N'-tetramethylethylenediamine) in hexane at 273 K and the temperature was allowed to rise to room temperature. The mixture was stirred for more than 24 h and then

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#### Figure 1

The molecular structure of (I), showing the atom-labelling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. H atoms are represented by small spheres of arbitrary radii.



#### Figure 2

A packing diagram of the title molecule, viewed along the *a* axis. For clarity, all H atoms have been omitted.

dimethyl(dimethylamino)chlorosilane (molar ratio 1:1) was added at 273 K and the temperature was allowed to rise to room temperature. The mixture was stirred for a further 15 h, to yield a white precipitate (LiCl). The mixture was filtered and benzyl(dimethyl)(dimethylamino)silane was isolated by vacuum distillation as a colourless liquid. A solution of Li<sup>n</sup>Bu in hexane was slowly added to benzyl(dimethyl)(dimethylamino)silane and TMEDA in pentane (molar ratio 1:1) at ambient temperature. The mixture was stirred for 18 h. The title compound was obtained as a precipitate, which was dissolved in Et<sub>2</sub>O. The solution was concentrated under vacuum, yielding yellow crystals of the title compound. Crystals suitable for a single-crystal Xray diffraction study were grown from a concentrated Et<sub>2</sub>O solution at 253 K. All reactions were performed under argon, using standard Schlenk techniques. The hexane was dried by distillation over a sodium-potassium alloy, and ether was distilled from sodium.

### Crystal data

$[Li(C_{11}H_{18}NSi)(C_6H_{16}N_2)]$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation		
$M_r = 315.50$	Cell parameters from 436		
Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	reflections		
a = 8.533 (4)  Å	$\theta = 2.7 - 13.6^{\circ}$		
b = 14.753 (6) Å	$\mu = 0.12 \text{ mm}^{-1}$		
c = 16.241 (7) Å	T = 183 (2) K		
$V = 2044.6 (15) \text{ Å}^3$	Block, yellow		
Z = 4	$0.2 \times 0.2 \times 0.2$ mm		
$D_x = 1.025 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$			

# Data collection

Siemens SMART CCD areadetector diffractometer (i) scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)  $T_{\min} = 0.977, \ T_{\max} = 0.977$ 8455 measured reflections

## Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$  $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.077$ wR(F<sup>2</sup>) = 0.104 S = 0.833588 reflections 215 parameters H-atom parametere constrained

# Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Li1-N2	2.083 (9)	Si1-C1	1.785 (4)
Li1-N3	2.108 (10)	Si1-C8	1.865 (5)
Li1-N1	2.155 (9)	Si1-C9	1.879 (5)
Li1-C1	2.235 (10)	C1-C2	1.428 (6)
N1-Si1	1.787 (4)		. ,
N2-Li1-N3	88.4 (4)	Si1-N1-Li1	85.6 (3)
N2-Li1-N1	119.9 (5)	C1-Si1-N1	106.5 (2)
N3-Li1-N1	128.1 (5)	C1-Si1-C8	109.3 (2)
N2-Li1-C1	119.3 (4)	N1-Si1-C8	105.7 (2)
N3-Li1-C1	123.9 (5)	C1-Si1-C9	118.8 (2)
N1-Li1-C1	81.4 (3)	N1-Si1-C9	108.5 (2)
C10-N1-C11	107.9 (4)	C8-Si1-C9	107.4 (3)
C10-N1-Si1	118.5 (4)	C2-C1-Si1	133.4 (4)
C11-N1-Si1	114.0 (4)	C2-C1-Li1	107.7 (4)
C10-N1-Li1	130.1 (4)	Si1-C1-Li1	83.2 (3)
C11-N1-Li1	98.5 (4)		

 $R_{int} = 0.122$ 

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 25.0^{\circ}$ 

 $h = -8 \rightarrow 10$ 

 $k = -17 \rightarrow 15$ 

 $l = -19 \rightarrow 15$ 

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2)]$ 

 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.002$ 

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.24 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}$  $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.24 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$ 

1527 Friedel pairs

Flack parameter = -0.3 (3)

3588 independent reflections

1645 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

Absolute structure: (Flack, 1983),

All H atoms were initially located in a difference Fourier map. The methyl H atoms were then constrained to an ideal geometry, with C-H distances of 0.98 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.5U_{eq}(C)$ , but each group was allowed to rotate freely about the C-N bond, All other H atoms were placed in geometrically idealized positions and constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with C-H distances in the range 0.95-1.00 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$ .

Data collection: SMART (Siemens, 1996); cell refinement: SAINT (Siemens, 1996); data reduction: SAINT: program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1990); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: ORTEP-3 (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97.

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