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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
T = 130 K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003 \text{ \AA}$   
Disorder in solvent or counterion  
R factor = 0.046  
wR factor = 0.126  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 11.9For details of how these key indicators were  
automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

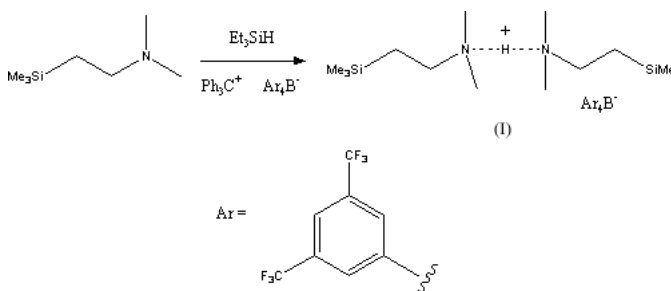
## Dimethyl(2-trimethylsilylethyl)[(2-trimethylsilylethyl)dimethylammonio]ammonium tetrakis[3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]borate at 130 K

The crystal structure of the title compound,  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{39}\text{N}_2\text{Si}_2^+ \cdot \text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_{24}\text{B}^-$ , reveals a centrosymmetric cation consisting of two 2-(trimethylsilylethyl)dimethylamine molecules held together by a symmetrical  $\text{N} \cdots \text{H} \cdots \text{N}$  hydrogen bond. The  $\text{N}-\text{H}$  distance is  $1.347(2) \text{ \AA}$ , the  $\text{N} \cdots \text{N}$  distance is  $2.695(3) \text{ \AA}$  and the  $\text{N} \cdots \text{H} \cdots \text{N}$  angle is  $180^\circ$ . The tetrakis[3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]borate counter-ion lies on a crystallographic twofold axis of symmetry. The trifluoromethyl groups are disordered and were refined with partial occupancies.

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## Comment

The structure of the title compound, (I) (Fig. 1), consists of (2-trimethylsilylethyl)dimethylamine hydrogen-bonded to its ammonium ion, the combined cation lying on a crystallographic inversion centre. The staggered  $\text{N} \cdots \text{H} \cdots \text{N}$  hydrogen bond is characterized by an  $\text{N}-\text{H}$  distance of  $1.347(2) \text{ \AA}$  and an  $\text{N} \cdots \text{N}$  distance of  $2.695(3) \text{ \AA}$ . This compares with the quinuclidine–quinuclidinium cation, which has an  $\text{N} \cdots \text{N}$  separation of  $2.689 \text{ \AA}$  (Mareque Rivas & Brammer, 1999). The counter-ion lies on a twofold axis of symmetry.



## Experimental

The title compound, (I), was isolated as a by-product from the reaction of a catalytic quantity of triphenylcarbenium tetrakis[3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]borate, (II), with (2-trimethylsilylethyl)dimethylamine, (III), in triethylsilane, and presumably arises as a result of the presence of adventitious water in the reaction medium.

## Crystal data

$\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{39}\text{N}_2\text{Si}_2^+ \cdot \text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_{24}\text{B}^-$   
 $M_r = 1154.88$   
 Orthorhombic, *Pbcn*  
 $a = 17.1047(11) \text{ \AA}$   
 $b = 16.8652(11) \text{ \AA}$   
 $c = 18.9828(12) \text{ \AA}$   
 $V = 5476.0(6) \text{ \AA}^3$   
 $Z = 4$

$D_x = 1.401 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$   
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 Cell parameters from 6546  
 reflections  
 $\theta = 2.4\text{--}24.8^\circ$   
 $\mu = 0.18 \text{ mm}^{-1}$   
 $T = 130.0(2) \text{ K}$   
 Block, colourless

0.30 × 0.30 × 0.15 mm

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector  
diffractometer  
 $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans  
Absorption correction: multi-scan  
(*SADABS*; Sheldrick, 1996)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.776$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.970$   
29606 measured reflections

4835 independent reflections  
3972 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.038$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 25.0^\circ$   
 $h = -19 \rightarrow 20$   
 $k = -20 \rightarrow 19$   
 $l = -12 \rightarrow 22$

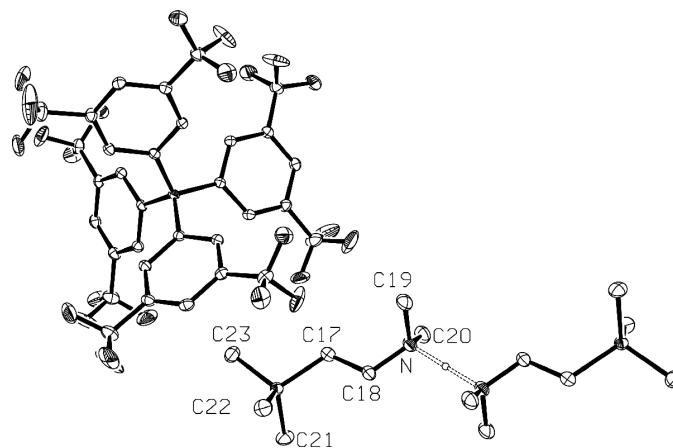
#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.046$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.126$   
 $S = 1.04$   
4835 reflections  
407 parameters  
H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0645P)^2 + 2.2182P]$   
where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} = 0.010$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.30 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.20 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$

H atoms, other than the one at the center of the cation, were positioned geometrically and refined as riding, with C–H distances of 0.93–0.97 Å and  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ . Each of the four  $\text{CF}_3$  groups was refined as disordered over two orientations, with occupancies 0.932:0.068(5), 0.935:0.065(4), 0.633:0.367(13) and 0.958:0.042(4). Isotropic displacement parameters were refined for the F atoms with low site-occupancy. ‘Same distance’ constraints were applied to the disordered  $\text{CF}_3$  groups to keep geometries reasonable.

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2000); cell refinement: *SMART*; data reduction: *SAINT* (Bruker, 1999); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXTL* (Bruker, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXTL*; molecular graphics: *SHELXTL*; software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.



**Figure 1**

Displacement ellipsoid plot of (I), ellipsoids are at the 20% probability level. Hydrogen atoms have been omitted.

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