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**Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 T = 292 K  
 Mean  $\sigma(C-C)$  = 0.014 Å  
 R factor = 0.037  
 wR factor = 0.072  
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 22.7

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

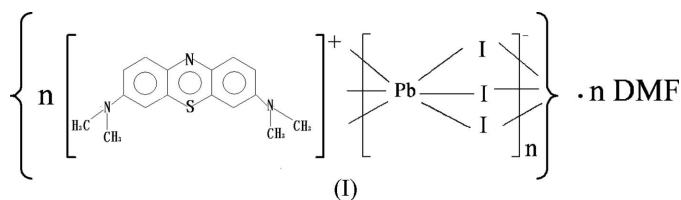
**catena-Poly[[[3,7-bis(dimethylamino)pheno-thiazonium] lead(II)-tri- $\mu$ -iodo] *N,N'*-dimethylformamide]**

In the title compound,  $\{(C_{16}H_{18}N_3OS)[PbI_3] \cdot C_3H_7NO\}_n$ , each  $Pb^{II}$  atom is bonded to six I atoms to form chains of *trans* face-shared  $PbI_6$  octahedra. In the crystal structure, the cations are stacked along the *c* axis, with significant  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions.

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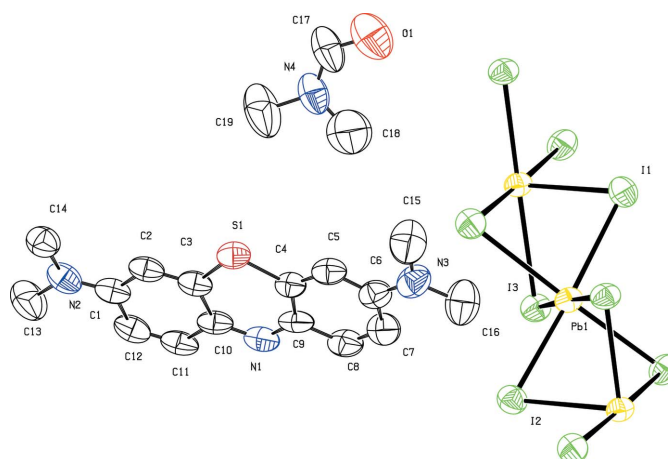
**Comment**

Organic-inorganic hybrid coordination polymers containing iodoplumbate have been studied extensively due to their variety of applications (Krautscheid *et al.*, 2001; Tang *et al.*, 2001). We report here the crystal structure of such a compound,  $(MB)[PbI_3] \cdot DMF$  (MB is methyl blue and DMF is *N,N'*-dimethylformamide), (I).

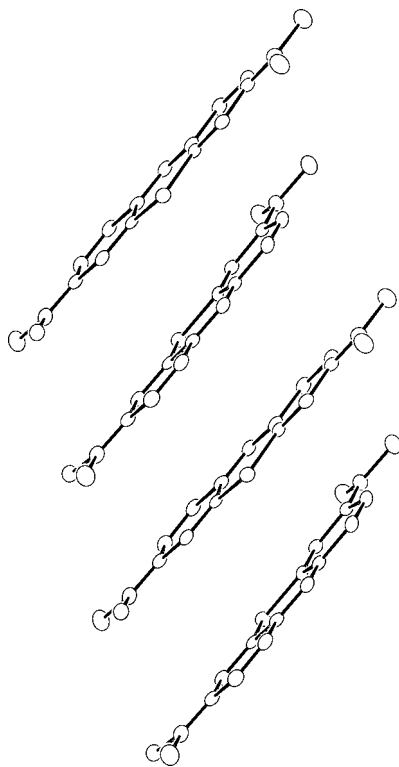


The molecular structure of (I) is shown in Fig. 1. The anion consists of chains of *trans* face-shared  $PbI_6$  octahedra. The  $Pb-I$  distances range from 3.1234 (9) to 3.3827 (10) Å, with an average value of 3.2624 Å, which is in agreement with that reported for  $[Me_4N][PbI_3]$  (3.22 Å; Contreras *et al.*, 1983). However, the  $Pb-I-Pb$  angles in (I) (Table 1) are narrower than those observed in  $[Na_4(DMF)_{14}][PbI_3]_4$ , in which the angles lie in the range 81.98 (3)–91.13 (3)° (Krautscheid *et al.*, 2001).

In the crystal structure of (I), the methyl blue cations, which counter-balance the charge on the inorganic anion, are



**Figure 1**  
 View of (I), showing the atom-labelling and 50% probability displacement ellipsoids. H atoms have been omitted.



**Figure 2**  
The crystal packing of the cations of (I), viewed along the *c* axis. H atoms have been omitted.

stacked along the *c* axis, with  $Cg1 \cdots Cg2^i$  and  $Cg1 \cdots Cg3^{ii}$  distances of 3.494 (5) and 3.579 (5) Å, respectively [Cg1, Cg2 and Cg3 are the S1/N1/C3/C4/C9/C10, C1–C3/C10–C12 and C4–C9 ring centroids; symmetry codes: (i)  $x, 2 - y, z + \frac{1}{2}$ ; (ii)  $x, 2 - y, z - \frac{1}{2}$ ], indicating significant  $\pi$ – $\pi$  interaction (Fig. 2). The anionic chain has no significant hydrogen-bonding interactions with the organic cations. The iodoplumbate chains exist in the cavities formed by the methyl blue cations and the DMF molecules.

## Experimental

PbI<sub>2</sub> (230 mg, 0.5 mmol) and NaI (188 mg, 1.25 mmol) were dissolved in acetone (50 ml) and the mixture was stirred for 2 h at room temperature. The resulting yellow solution was filtered off and added to a DMF solution of C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>3</sub>OS<sup>+</sup>·Cl<sup>−</sup>·3H<sub>2</sub>O (320 mg, 0.5 mmol) and the mixture was stirred at 343 K for 5 h. Propan-2-ol vapour was allowed to diffuse into the blue solution. Over the course of two weeks, dark-blue crystals of (I) formed.

### Crystal data

(C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>3</sub>OS)[PbI<sub>3</sub>]·C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NO  
*M<sub>r</sub>* = 945.38  
 Monoclinic, *Cc*  
*a* = 23.458 (7) Å  
*b* = 13.923 (4) Å  
*c* = 8.228 (2) Å  
 $\beta$  = 101.163 (5)°  
*V* = 2636.5 (13) Å<sup>3</sup>  
*Z* = 4

*D<sub>x</sub>* = 2.382 Mg m<sup>−3</sup>  
 Mo *K*α radiation  
 Cell parameters from 4580 reflections  
 $\theta$  = 2.9–24.8°  
 $\mu$  = 10.01 mm<sup>−1</sup>  
*T* = 292 (2) K  
 Block, dark blue  
 0.20 × 0.12 × 0.10 mm

### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer  
 $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 2000)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.203, T_{\max} = 0.368$   
 14424 measured reflections

6078 independent reflections  
 4912 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.040$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 28.0^\circ$   
 $h = -30 \rightarrow 30$   
 $k = -18 \rightarrow 18$   
 $l = -10 \rightarrow 10$

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.037$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.072$   
 $S = 0.93$   
 6078 reflections  
 268 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0084P)^2]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} = 0.010$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 1.47 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.72 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$   
 Absolute structure: Flack (1983);  
 2937 Friedel pairs  
 Flack parameter: 0.013 (6)

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Pb1–I3	3.1234 (9)	Pb1–I2 <sup>ii</sup>	3.3391 (11)
Pb1–I1 <sup>i</sup>	3.1862 (10)	Pb1–I1	3.3510 (11)
Pb1–I2	3.1920 (11)	Pb1–I3 <sup>i</sup>	3.3827 (10)
I3–Pb1–I1 <sup>i</sup>	93.83 (3)	I2 <sup>ii</sup> –Pb1–I1	81.02 (3)
I3–Pb1–I2	94.50 (3)	I3–Pb1–I3 <sup>i</sup>	177.76 (2)
I1 <sup>i</sup> –Pb1–I2	85.90 (3)	I1 <sup>i</sup> –Pb1–I3 <sup>i</sup>	84.51 (3)
I3–Pb1–I2 <sup>ii</sup>	85.68 (3)	I2–Pb1–I3 <sup>i</sup>	83.89 (3)
I1 <sup>i</sup> –Pb1–I2 <sup>ii</sup>	177.98 (3)	I2 <sup>ii</sup> –Pb1–I3 <sup>i</sup>	96.02 (3)
I2–Pb1–I2 <sup>ii</sup>	96.10 (3)	I1–Pb1–I3 <sup>i</sup>	95.66 (3)
I3–Pb1–I1	86.03 (3)	Pb1 <sup>ii</sup> –I1–Pb1	77.99 (3)
I1 <sup>i</sup> –Pb1–I1	96.99 (4)	Pb1–I2–Pb1 <sup>i</sup>	78.09 (3)
I2–Pb1–I1	177.03 (3)	Pb1–I3–Pb1 <sup>ii</sup>	78.37 (2)

Symmetry codes: (i)  $x, -y + 1, z + \frac{1}{2}$ ; (ii)  $x, -y + 1, z - \frac{1}{2}$ .

The H atoms were placed in idealized positions, with C–H distances of 0.93–0.96 Å, and constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$  for methyl H atoms and  $1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$  for the other H atoms. The highest peak in the final difference map is located 0.95 Å from Pb1.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 2000); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 2000); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Bruker, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

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