



## **supplementary materials**

*Acta Cryst.* (2007). E63, m1606 [doi:10.1107/S1600536807021149]

### Tri-*tert*-butylgallane-(*tert*-butyl)diethylstibine adduct

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#### Comment

Lewis acidic trialkylgallanes  $GaR_3$  generally react with Lewis basic group 15 organyles  $ER'3$  ( $E = N, P, As, Sb, Bi$ ) with formation of adducts of the type  $R_3Ga—ER'3$ . The acid–base interaction within the adducts becomes weaker and the thermodynamic stability decreases with increasing atomic number of the central group 15 element owing to an increase in  $s$  character of the electron lone pair. The same is true for distibine adducts with trialkylgallanes of the general type  $[R_3Ga]_2[Sb_2R'4]$ . In solution, these adducts are stable at low temperature (253 K), whereas at ambient temperature, Sb–Sb bond cleavage occurs with subsequent formation of heterocyclic stibinogallanes  $[R_2GaSbR'2]_x$  and the corresponding Lewis acid–base adduct  $R_3Ga—SbRR'2$ , containing a mixed substituted trialkylstibine. The thermodynamic stability of  $Me_3Ga—EMe_3$  adducts ( $E = N, P, As, Sb$ ) decreases from  $NMe_3$  to  $SbMe_3$ , while  $BiMe_3$  did not react (Coates, 1951). Since then, numerous adducts with strong Lewis basic amines and phosphines have been prepared and structurally characterized, whereas the first completely alkyl-substituted gallane–stibine adducts  $^tBu_3Ga—SbR_3$  [ $R = Me$  (Kuczkowski *et al.*, 2005),  $Et$ ,  $^iPr$  (Schulz & Nieger, 2000)] became only recently available. In addition, a very few gallane–distibine adducts of the type  $[^tBu_3Ga]_2[Sb_2R'4]$  [ $R = Me, Et$  (Kuczkowski *et al.*, 2001),  $^nPr$  (Schuchmann *et al.*, 2007)], with the distibine serving as bidentate ligand, were prepared at low temperatures and structurally characterized. These adducts tend to undergo Sb–Sb bond cleavage reactions in solution at ambient temperature, yielding four- and six-membered heterocycles of the general type  $[R_2GaSbR'2]_2$  and  $[R_2GaSbR'2]_3$  (Kuczkowski *et al.*, 2001; Schuchmann *et al.*, 2007), and the corresponding adduct  $R_3Ga—E(R)R'2$ . The Ga and Sb atoms show distorted tetrahedral environments with the organic substituents adopting a staggered conformation related to one other as was previously observed for such adducts. The mean Ga–C [2.037 (3) Å] and Sb–C bond lengths [2.169 (4) Å] and C–Ga–C [116.4 (1)°] and C–Sb–C bond angles [99.1 (1)°] are within typical ranges. However, the larger steric demand of the  $^tBu$  substituent bound to the Sb atom is clearly reflected by the significantly larger Ga–Sb–C13 bond angle [126.75 (8)°] compared to those of the Et substituents [Ga–Sb–C17 117.5 (2), Ga–Sb–C19 110.4 (2)°]. In addition, the sum of the C–Sb–C bond angles in the title compound [297.3 (1)°] is bigger than that in the corresponding adduct  $^tBu_3Ga—SbEt_3$  (292.8°). The influence of bulky organic substituents on the Ga–Sb distance becomes obvious when comparing the title compound, which shows a Ga–Sb bond length of 2.9243 (5) Å, with the Ga–Sb distances reported for  $^tBu_3Ga—SbMe_3$  [2.8435 (3) Å],  $^tBu_3Ga—SbEt_3$  [2.8479 (5) Å] and  $^tBu_3Ga—Sb(^iPr)_3$  [2.9618 (2) Å].  $Sb(^iPr)_3$  is sterically more demanding than  $^tBu_3SbEt_2$ , leading to a larger sum of the C–Sb–C bond angles, whereas  $SbMe_3$  and  $SbEt_3$  are sterically less hindered.

#### Experimental

A solution of  $Sb_2Et_4$  (1.5 mmol, 0.54 g) and  $^tBu_3Ga$  (3 mmol, 0.72 g) in 30 ml of n-hexane was stirred for 5 d at ambient temperature and then stored for 12 h at -30°C. The resulting colorless solid ( $[^tBu_2GaSbEt_2]_2$ ) was isolated by filtration, the filtrate concentrated to 5 ml and again stored for 12 h at -30°C. Colorless crystals of  $^tBu_3Ga—Sb(Et)_2^tBu$  were obtained

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(0.56 g, 78%. m.p. 65°C), which can be further purified by sublimation at 55°C at  $10^{-3}$  mbar. Spectroscopic analysis:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz; C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>5</sub>H; 25°C) δ = 1.13 [9H, s, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CSb], 1.19 - 1.28 [10H, m, CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Sb], 1.24 [27H, s, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CGa] ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (125 MHz; C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>5</sub>H; 25°C) δ = 7.4 [s, CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Sb], 12.0 [s, CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Sb], 29.3 [s, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CGa], 30.4 [s, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CSb], 31.6 [s, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CGa] ppm.

### Refinement

Hydrogen atoms were located in Fourier difference maps and refined at idealized positions, riding on their parent C atoms, with isotropic displacement parameters  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$  and  $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C-methyl})$ .

### Figures

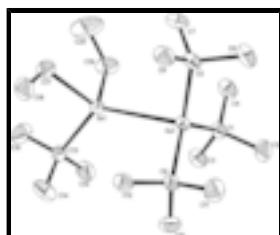


Fig. 1. Molecular structure with hydrogen atoms omitted. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.

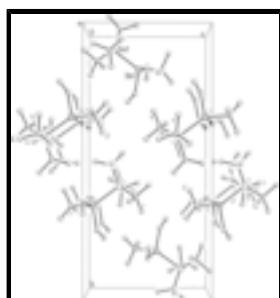


Fig. 2. Crystal packing viewed along [100].



Fig. 3. Reaction pathway.

### tri-tert-butyl-diethylgalliumantimony(Ga—Sb)

#### Crystal data



$$F_{000} = 992$$

$$M_r = 478.04$$

$$D_x = 1.334 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$$

Monoclinic,  $P2_1/n$

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$

Hall symbol: -P 2yn

Cell parameters from 986 reflections

$$a = 9.1138 (16) \text{ \AA}$$

$$\theta = 2.5\text{--}26.7^\circ$$

$$b = 23.698 (4) \text{ \AA}$$

$$\mu = 2.27 \text{ mm}^{-1}$$

$$c = 11.027 (2) \text{ \AA}$$

$$T = 120 (2) \text{ K}$$

$$\beta = 91.479 (4)^\circ$$

Block, colourless

$V = 2380.7(7) \text{ \AA}^3$        $0.22 \times 0.20 \times 0.16 \text{ mm}$   
 $Z = 4$

### Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX diffractometer	5684 independent reflections
Radiation source: sealed tube	4418 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
Monochromator: graphite	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.082$
$T = 120(2) \text{ K}$	$\theta_{\max} = 27.9^\circ$
$\varphi$ and $\omega$ scans	$\theta_{\min} = 1.7^\circ$
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2002)	$h = -11 \rightarrow 11$
$T_{\min} = 0.624, T_{\max} = 0.699$	$k = -31 \rightarrow 31$
20988 measured reflections	$l = -14 \rightarrow 14$

### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	H-atom parameters constrained
Least-squares matrix: full	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0303P)^2]$ where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.037$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.001$
$wR(F^2) = 0.074$	$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.95 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
$S = 0.95$	$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.95 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
5684 reflections	Extinction correction: none
199 parameters	
Primary atom site location: structure-invariant direct methods	
Secondary atom site location: difference Fourier map	
Hydrogen site location: difference Fourier map	

### Special details

**Geometry.** All esds (except the esd in the dihedral angle between two l.s. planes) are estimated using the full covariance matrix. The cell esds are taken into account individually in the estimation of esds in distances, angles and torsion angles; correlations between esds in cell parameters are only used when they are defined by crystal symmetry. An approximate (isotropic) treatment of cell esds is used for estimating esds involving l.s. planes.

**Refinement.** Refinement of  $F^2$  against ALL reflections. The weighted R-factor wR and goodness of fit S are based on  $F^2$ , conventional R-factors R are based on F, with F set to zero for negative  $F^2$ . The threshold expression of  $F^2 > 2\text{sigma}(F^2)$  is used only for calculating R-factors(gt) etc. and is not relevant to the choice of reflections for refinement. R-factors based on  $F^2$  are statistically about twice as large as those based on F, and R- factors based on ALL data will be even larger.

### Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2$ )

	$x$	$y$	$z$	$U_{\text{iso}}^*/U_{\text{eq}}$
Sb1	0.71254 (2)	0.158353 (8)	0.431944 (19)	0.02535 (7)
Gal	0.78052 (4)	0.087011 (13)	0.22442 (3)	0.02383 (9)







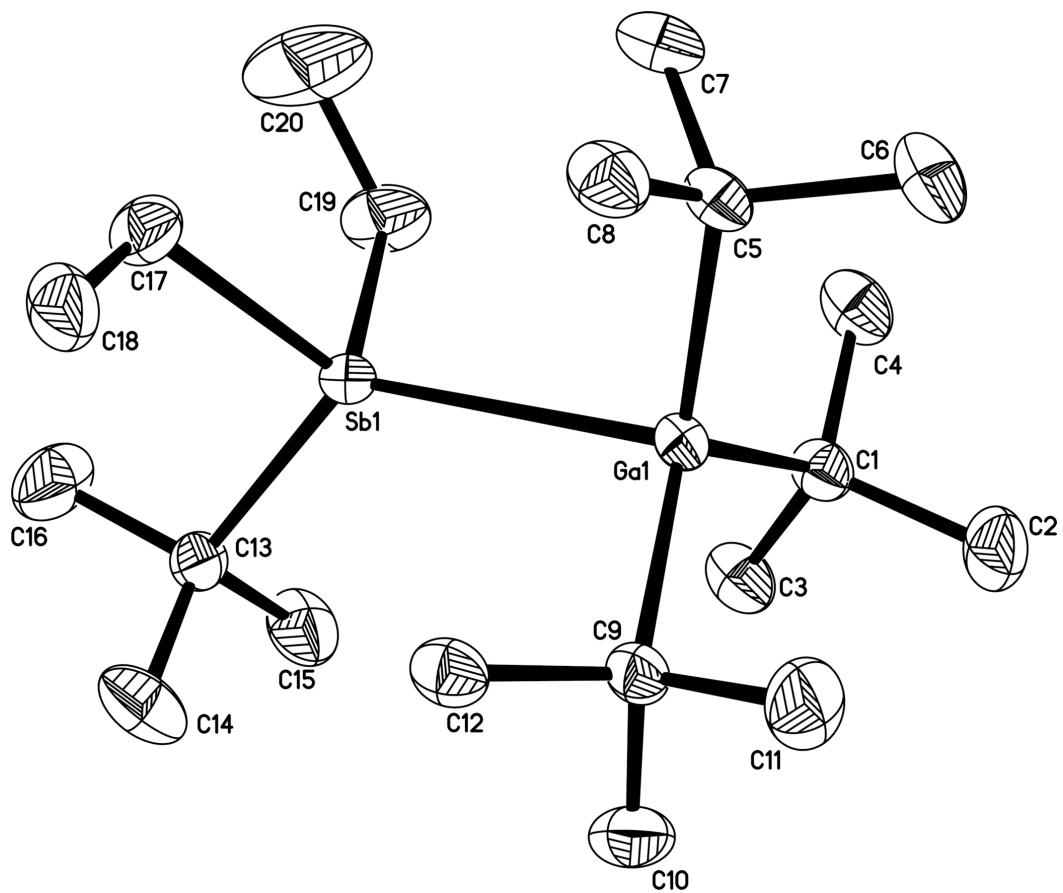


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C19—Sb1—Ga1—C9	−164.86 (15)	C1—Ga1—C9—C11	87.7 (3)
C13—Sb1—Ga1—C9	−46.52 (14)	C5—Ga1—C9—C11	−55.2 (3)
C17—Sb1—Ga1—C1	−154.82 (15)	Sb1—Ga1—C9—C11	−162.8 (2)
C19—Sb1—Ga1—C1	−43.65 (15)	C1—Ga1—C9—C12	−153.4 (2)
C13—Sb1—Ga1—C1	74.69 (15)	C5—Ga1—C9—C12	63.7 (3)
C17—Sb1—Ga1—C5	−36.15 (15)	Sb1—Ga1—C9—C12	−43.9 (2)
C19—Sb1—Ga1—C5	75.02 (15)	C1—Ga1—C9—C10	−31.8 (3)
C13—Sb1—Ga1—C5	−166.63 (14)	C5—Ga1—C9—C10	−174.7 (2)
C9—Ga1—C1—C3	64.0 (3)	Sb1—Ga1—C9—C10	77.7 (2)
C5—Ga1—C1—C3	−152.7 (2)	C17—Sb1—C13—C16	41.6 (3)
Sb1—Ga1—C1—C3	−46.4 (3)	C19—Sb1—C13—C16	−58.3 (3)
C9—Ga1—C1—C4	−173.5 (2)	Ga1—Sb1—C13—C16	178.2 (2)
C5—Ga1—C1—C4	−30.2 (3)	C17—Sb1—C13—C14	−78.6 (3)
Sb1—Ga1—C1—C4	76.1 (2)	C19—Sb1—C13—C14	−178.6 (3)
C9—Ga1—C1—C2	−55.6 (3)	Ga1—Sb1—C13—C14	58.0 (3)
C5—Ga1—C1—C2	87.6 (3)	C17—Sb1—C13—C15	163.1 (3)
Sb1—Ga1—C1—C2	−166.1 (2)	C19—Sb1—C13—C15	63.2 (3)
C9—Ga1—C5—C8	−30.7 (3)	Ga1—Sb1—C13—C15	−60.3 (3)
C1—Ga1—C5—C8	−174.2 (2)	C19—Sb1—C17—C18	−178.9 (3)
Sb1—Ga1—C5—C8	78.7 (2)	C13—Sb1—C17—C18	80.7 (3)
C9—Ga1—C5—C6	88.1 (2)	Ga1—Sb1—C17—C18	−60.9 (3)
C1—Ga1—C5—C6	−55.3 (3)	C17—Sb1—C19—C20	7.2 (5)
Sb1—Ga1—C5—C6	−162.5 (2)	C13—Sb1—C19—C20	109.4 (5)
C9—Ga1—C5—C7	−152.9 (2)	Ga1—Sb1—C19—C20	−116.1 (4)
C1—Ga1—C5—C7	63.7 (3)		

Fig. 1



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Fig. 2

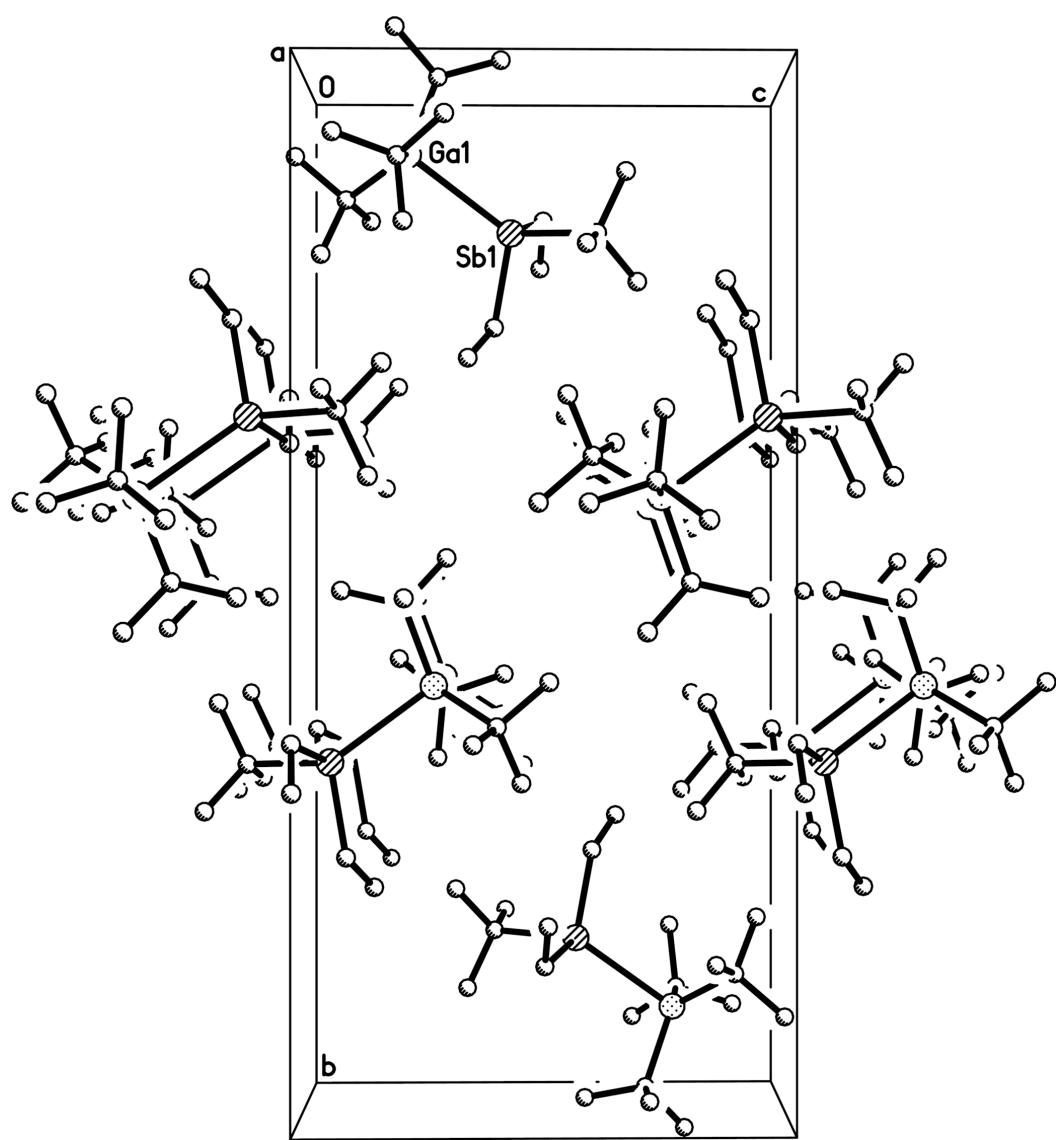


Fig. 3

