Synthesis and Structural Characterisation of the Cyclosiloxymagesium Compound $[(py)_2Li]_2-\mu-Mg[{Ph_2SiO}_2O][{Ph_2SiO}_3O]$ having Both Six- and Eight-membered Magnesiasiloxane Rings

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The dilithium salt, $[{Ph_2SiOLi \cdot THF}_2O]$, reacts with MgCl₂·2THF to give, on addition of pyridine, the unexpected lithium bridged spirocyclic magnesiasiloxane compound $[(py)_2Li]_2-\mu$ -Mg[${Ph_2SiO}_2O][{Ph_2SiO}_3O]$ which is the first example of a molecular magnesium siloxide compound to be characterised and also the first example of a spirocyclic metallasiloxane having rings with different degrees of oligomerisation.

Among the group 2 metals, siloxide derivatives for barium only, notably $[Ba(OSiPh_3)_2]_3$ ·THF,¹ and $[Ba\{(OSi-Ph_2)_2O\}]_3$ ·2-tetraglyme² have been reported. We report here on the first example of a magnesiasiloxane³ isolated from the reaction between MgCl₂·2THF and the dilithium salt $[(Ph_2SiOLi\cdotTHF)_2O]$.†

We have reported reactions of this type for a range of divalent metal chlorides of the first transition metal series.⁴ The products isolated had a structure of type A bearing two six-membered metallasiloxane rings, indicative of a simple metathesis reaction. The isolation of compound 1, which incorporates both six- and eight-membered magnesiasiloxane rings was unexpected. The reaction leading to 1 is thus more



Fig. 1 Molecular structure of compound 1 (phenyl ring carbons omitted) with selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°): Mg(1)-O(1) 1.926(3), Mg(1)-O(5) 1.954(3), Mg(1)-O(4) 1.923(3), Mg(1)-O(7) 1.586(3), Si(1)-O(2) Si(1)-O(1) 1.638(3), 1.942(3), Si(2) - O(2)Si(3)-O(4) 1.612(3), Si(2)-O(3) 1.600(3),Si(3) - O(3)1.641(3), 1.587(3), Si(4)-O(5) 1.600(3), Si(4)-O(6) 1.643(3), Si(5)-O(6) 1.641(3), Si(5)-O(7) 1.596(3), Li(1)-O(1) 1.991(8), Li(1)-O(5) 1.937(5), Li(2)-O(4) 2.000(9), Li(2)-O(7) 1.925(8), Li(1)-N(1) 2.066(8), Li(1)-N(2) 2.053(9), Li(2)-N(3) 1.998(9), Li(2)-N(4)Li(2)-N(4)2.011(9), O(1)-Mg-O(4) 114.85(14), O(7)-Mg-O(5) 104.53(14), O(1)-Mg-O(5) 94.14(14), O(4)-Mg-O(7) 93.86(14), O(7)-Mg-O(1) 125.6(2), O(4)-Mg-O(5) 126.62(14), Si(5)LO(6)-Si(4) 133.2(2), Si-O-Si(av)(8-ring) 158.8(2), Si-O-Mg(av)(6-ring) 123.5(2), Si-O-Mg(av)(8-ring) 142.2(2), O-Si-O(av)(6-ring) 111.9(2), O-Si-O(av)(8-ring) 112.8(2)

complex than related reactions with transition metal dichlorides. In this case a chain expansion of one of the siloxane units from tetraphenyldisiloxanediolate to octaphenyltrisiloxanediolate has occurred. We have previously reported⁵ a similar chain expansion in 2:1 and 3:1 reactions between $[(Ph_2SiOLi \cdot THF)_2O]$ and $TiCl_4$ giving a product with two eight-membered titanasiloxane rings and have since observed⁶ similar transformations for tetravalent zirconium, hafnium and tin. In addition both thermal- and base-promoted ring enlargement of the compound PhB{(OSiPh_2)_2O} has been reported.⁷

The isolation of 1 with both six. and eight-membered rings represents the first example of a spirocyclic metallasiloxane having metallasiloxane rings with different degrees of oligomerisation. Spirocyclic siloxanes showing structural features of this type are well known.⁸

The molecular structure of 1 is shown in Fig. 1 along with selected bond lengths and angles.[‡] The geometry at the four-coordinate magnesium centre is distorted tetrahedral and the six- and eight-membered relatively planar rings (maximum deviations from the mean planes are 0.24 and 0.34 Å respectively) are twisted some 84.8° with respect to each other. The Mg-O distances in the two rings are similar and close to those in Mg(acac)₂(H₂O)₂ [Mg–O(C) 2.03 Å]⁹ but the geometrical constraints of the six-membered ring generally results in smaller angles at magnesium and oxygen compared to those in the eight membered-ring; for example (Si)O-Mg-O(Si) bite angles are 104.6(3) and 114.7(3)°, the average Si-O-Mg angles are 123.6(3) and 142.9(3)° while the Si-O-Si angles are 133.2(2) and 157.2(2), 160.5(2)° which are close to those reported for [Ph₂SiO]₃¹⁰ and [Ph₂SiO]₄¹¹ [131.8(8) and 152.3(2), $167.4(2)^{\circ}$]. The indications are that ring strain is greater in the six-membered ring as expected, and in each case is similar to that of the related cyclic siloxanes.

While the ²⁹Si NMR spectrum of 1 in $[^{2}H_{8}]$ toluene shows the expected number of resonances for structure 1, the ⁷Li NMR spectrum recorded at 300 K shows three resonances indicating the presence of a number of species in solution. We are currently investigating the variable-temperature solution behaviour of this and related calcium, strontium and barium derivatives.

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Footnotes

[†] The reagents MgCl₂2·THF (4.34 mmol) and $[(Ph_2SiOLi_2)_2O]$ (8.68 mmol) were stirred in THF (40 cm³) for 12 h. The THF was removed and the residue treated with toluene (50 cm³), and filtered. The insoluble residue gave positive lithium and chloride tests. Pyridine (2 cm³) was added to the toluene filtrate and compound 1 was deposited as colourless moisture-sensitive crystals (4.32 g, 72% based of

available magnesium, 90% based on available silicon); mp 238–242 °C; ²⁹Si NMR (C₇D₈, 300 K) δ -40.75(s), -43.68(s), -44.98(s). ‡ *Crystal data* for compound 1: C₈₀H₇₀Li₂MgN₄O₇Si₅, *M* = 1378.07, monoclinic, space group *P*2₁/*n*, *a* = 21.614(8), *b* = 15.458(5), *c* = 22.152(2) Å, β = 99.51(1)°, *U* = 7299.47(69) Å³, *Z* = 4, *D_c* = 1.254 g cm⁻³; λ (Mo-K α) = 0.71069 Å, μ = 1.574 cm⁻¹, *F*(000) = 2888.

Data were recorded with a CAD4 diffractometer operating in the ω -2 θ scan mode. A total of 23501 reflections were collected of which 11487 were independent. The structure was solved by standard heavy-atom techniques and refined by least squares on F^2 ,¹² with phenyl groups treated as rigid hexagons, (C-C 1.395 Å, C-C-C 120°), and with inclusion of hydrogen atoms, at fixed positions, (C-H 0.96 Å), except those attached to pyridine which were allowed to refine freely. The final *R* indices were $R_1 = 0.0461$, $wR_2 = 0.0343$ for $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$ and $R_1 = 0.1193$, $wR_2 = 0.0593$ (all data) for 862 parameters. $R_1 = \Sigma ||F_0| - |F_c||\Sigma|F_0|$, $wR_2 = \{\Sigma[w(F_0^2 - F_c^2)^2]/\Sigma[wF_0^4]\}^{\frac{1}{2}}$. Atomic coordinates, bond lengths and angles, and thermal parameters have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre. See Information for Authors, Issue No. 1.

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