Chlorotris(pentacarbonylmanganese)tin

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A GENERAL understanding of the properties of metal-metal bonds will require further chemical, spectroscopic, and structural information for a variety of compounds. The direct Sn-Mn bond is at present one of the more intensively studied model systems.¹⁻⁵ We report here the properties and structure of a compound in which three Mn atoms are attached to a Sn atom through metalmetal bonds of lengths greater than hitherto reported.

A solution of SnCl₄ was added to a large excess of NaMn(CO)₅ in tetrahydrofuran. After removal of NaCl the resultant solution was evaporated to dryness *in vacuo* and the solid washed with oxygen-free water. Separation of the residue yielded red crystals, m.p. 177°, of empirical formula ClSnMn₃C₁₅O₁₅ (30-40%) and two other unidentified components. The first component is stable in air and in most organic solvents for a short time, and unlike other organotin halides, does not disproportionate with Me₄Sn. With the infrared spectrum measured in cyclohexane [ν (C=O): 2082 ($A_{\rm b}^{\rm b}$), 2038 (B), 2022 and 2006 (E), and

1991 cm.⁻¹ (A_1^{\bullet})]⁶ we formulated this compound[†] as ClSn[Mn(CO)₅]₃ and attributed the large splitting of the *E* mode (16 cm.⁻¹) and the simultaneous appearance of the *B* band to the perturbing influence of the Cl atom.⁷

 $\operatorname{ClSn}[\operatorname{Mn}(\operatorname{CO})_{\delta}]_{3}$ crystallizes in the non-centrosymmetric monoclinic space group Pa with a =17.95, b = 9.08, c = 15.02 Å, and $\beta = 107^{\circ}55'$. Each unit cell contains four molecules, and hence the structure determination requires the location of two independent molecules, or 70 atoms. Intensities of 2292 X-ray reflections were estimated from Weissenberg and precession photographs taken with Mo- K_{α} radiation. The crystal structure was solved by a combination of Patterson and Fourier methods, and the atomic parameters were refined by least-squares,^{8a} assuming individual isotropic temperature factors for the C and O atoms and anisotropic thermal parameters for Cl, Mn, and Sn, to the present value of R = 0.09.

The two molecules in the asymmetric unit have identical conformations, each with an apparent three-fold axis coincident with the Sn-Cl bond.

† Professor W. A. G. Graham has kindly informed us that he has independently prepared this material.

The bond angles about Sn are distorted markedly from tetrahedral values by the repulsion of the bulky $Mn(CO)_5$ groups. The average Mn-Sn-Mnangle is 116.5°, very nearly that observed⁴ in Ph₂Sn[Mn(CO)₅]₂, while the average Mn-Sn-Cl angle is 101.0° .

The mean Sn-Mn bond length of 2.737 Å is considerably longer than the values^{4,5} of 2.70reported for $Ph_2Sn[Mn(CO)_5]_2$ and 2.67 for Ph₃SnMn(CO)₅, in accord with a presumed trend to longer bond lengths with each successive Mn(CO)₅ substituent on Sn. Considerable differences were, however, found among the six individual Sn-Mn bond distances (2.720, 2.746, and 2.753 for the first molecule and 2.703, 2.745, and 2.758 for the second). The individual standard errors for these Sn-Mn bond lengths, as calculated from the least-squares variance-covariance matrix are only 0.006 Å. Because the computed individual standard errors for Sn-Cl, Mn-C, and C-O distances agree closely with the statistical errors calculated from redundant data, and because the short bond distance in each molecule is associated with the only Mn(CO)₅ group close-packed with Cl, we feel these differences may be significant^{8b} and result from intermolecular crystal forces.³

The two Sn–Cl bond lengths of 2.429 and $2.434 \pm$ 0.008 Å lie between the values in Me_nSnCl_{4-n} $(2.33 \text{ Å})^9$ and in [Me₂SnCl, terpyridyl]⁺ (2.63 Å),¹⁰ reflecting the reduction of s-character in the Sn-Cl bond. Whether this effect is caused by a tendency to sp^2 hybridization of the Sn orbitals used in the metal-metal bonds resulting from steric distortion from a tetrahedron to a trigonal pyramid, or by the nature of tin-transition metal bonds in which the s-character of Sn orbitals was suggested^{2,11,12} to be greater than the 25% implied in sp^3 hybridization, has to be studied further.

The mean values of the thirty Mn-C and thirty C–O bond distances, 1.81 ± 0.01 and 1.16 ± 0.01 Å respectively, are in good agreement with those reported¹⁴ for Mn₂(CO)₁₀, although no significant differences between axial and equatorial carbonyls could be detected.⁵ Likewise, the average bond angle of the equatorial C atoms with the Sn-Mn axes was found to be 86.9° in agreement with the results^{5,13} for related molecules.



FIGURE. One of the chlorotris(pentacarbonylmanganese)tin molecules as viewed in an a axis projection.

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