

## Notiz / Note

A New Convenient One-Step Synthesis of  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+[\text{SbCl}_6]^-$  Containing the  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+$  Cation

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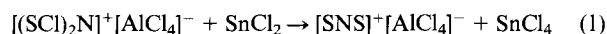
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**Key Words:** Sulfur-nitrogen chemistry / Sulfur-nitrogen-chlorine cation / Calculations, ab initio

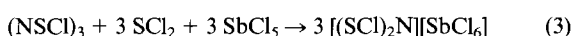
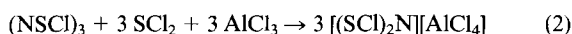
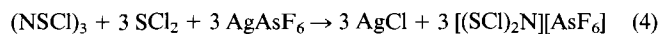
The hexachloroantimonate salt of the  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+$  cation,  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+[\text{SbCl}_6]^-$  (**1**), was prepared in a one-step reaction from easily available  $[\text{SCl}_3]^+[\text{SbCl}_6]^-$  and  $\text{N}(\text{SiMe}_3)_3$  and isolated in good yield (60%). The compound was identified by

chemical analyses and vibrational spectroscopy (IR, Raman). The geometrical and the vibrational data were also computed ab initio and are in good agreement with the experimental results.

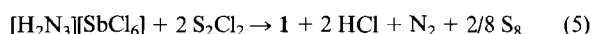
The  $[\text{SNS}]^+$  cation is probably the most important building block in sulfur-nitrogen chemistry<sup>[1]</sup>. The reactivity of this binary cation toward alkenes, alkynes, and nitriles is well documented<sup>[1,2]</sup>. Quite recently, Banister et al. published a general and easy route to  $[\text{SNS}]^+$  salts starting from salts containing the  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+$  cation (Eq. (1))<sup>[2]</sup>.



However, salts of the cation  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+$  are not commercially available. Usually  $(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}^+$  salts are prepared from  $(\text{NSCl})_3$  either by reaction with  $\text{SCl}_2$  and a metal chloride (e.g.  $\text{AlCl}_3$  or  $\text{SbCl}_5$ ) [Eq. (2), (3)] or by reaction with  $\text{SCl}_2/\text{AgAsF}_6$  [Eq. (4)]<sup>[2,3,4]</sup>.

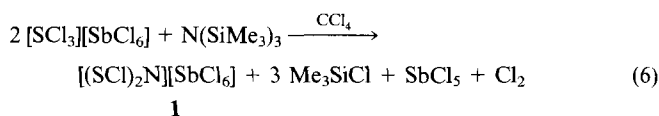
**1**

Quite recently, Minkwitz et al. reported on a very interesting synthesis of  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}][\text{SbCl}_6]$  from protonated hydrazoic acid and  $\text{S}_2\text{Cl}_2$  [Eq. (5)]<sup>[5]</sup>.



## Results and Discussion

The compound  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}][\text{SbCl}_6]$  (**1**) was prepared from  $[\text{SCl}_3][\text{SbCl}_6]$  and commercially readily available  $\text{N}(\text{SiMe}_3)_3$  [Eq. (6)].

**1**

Since **1** is the only product according to Eq. (6) that is not soluble in  $\text{CCl}_4$  it can be separated by filtration. After digestion with  $\text{CCl}_4$  the yellow material (**1**) was dried in dynamic vacuo and found to be analytically pure. The vibrational data of **1** are in good agreement with those previously reported<sup>[2]</sup> and compare also well with our ab initio computations (Table 1). Although ab initio calcu-

lations at the HF level usually predict too high frequencies due to the harmonic potential applied, the computed frequencies for the  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+$  cation (Table 1) compare very well with the experimental data and are just slightly too low.

Table 1. Computed (HF)<sup>[a]</sup> and experimentally observed vibrational frequencies for the  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+$  cation in  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}][\text{SbCl}_6]$  (**1**)

HF <sup>[a]</sup>	IR <sup>[b]</sup>	Raman <sup>[c]</sup>	Assignment <sup>[d]</sup>
1088 (494)	1127 s	1128 (<1)	$\nu_{\text{as}}\text{NS}_2$
710 (49)	720 s	718 (2)	$\nu_{\text{s}}\text{NS}_2$
599 (127)	662 m	654 (1)	$\delta\text{SNS}$
576 (76)	526 s	519 (2)	$\nu_{\text{as}}\text{SCl}$
492 (12)	508 m	503 (1)	$\nu_{\text{s}}\text{SCl}$
413 (10)	447 m	453 (1)	$\delta_{\text{s}}\text{ClSN}$
225 (2)	360 s	n.o.	$\delta_{\text{as}}\text{ClSN}$
128 (0)	<sup>[e]</sup>	201 (3)	$\tau_{\text{as}}$
105 (0.1)	<sup>[e]</sup>	126 (1)	$\tau_{\text{s}}$

<sup>[a]</sup> HF/6-31+G\* basis set; intensities refer to IR intensities. — <sup>[b]</sup> Powder between KBr plates, 25°C. — <sup>[c]</sup> 647.09 nm, 25 mW, 25°C. — <sup>[d]</sup> For assignment cf. also ref.<sup>[11]</sup>. — <sup>[e]</sup> Out of scale.

The structure of the  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+$  cation in  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}][\text{SbCl}_6]$  was recently determined by X-ray diffraction<sup>[5]</sup>. As it is the case for most of the known  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+$  salts (e.g.  $[\text{SbCl}_6]^-$ <sup>[5]</sup>,  $[\text{BCl}_4]^-$ <sup>[6]</sup>,  $[\text{AlCl}_4]^-$ <sup>[7]</sup>,  $[\text{MoCl}_5(\text{NSCl})]^-$ <sup>[8]</sup>), the cation exhibits an u-shaped geometry ( $C_{2v}$ ) in the solid state with an NSN angle of  $150 \pm 1^\circ$ . The only known exception represents the salt  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}][\text{Re}_2\text{Cl}_9]$ <sup>[9]</sup> in which the SNS angle is compressed to  $134^\circ$ . In order to determine the most stable structure for the isolated cation we computed the  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+$  cation ab initio at the HF and correlated MP2 level of theory. The  $C_{2v}$ , u isomer with an SNS angle close to  $150^\circ$  clearly turned out to be the most stable species (Table 2) which represents a true minimum according to the frequency analysis. The  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+$  cation with an SNS angle of  $133.6^\circ$  does not represent a minimum structure at the HF or MP2 level and lies  $5.5 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$  above the computed minimum structure (MP2, SNS  $152.2^\circ$ ). Since the potential represented by a variation of the SNS angle in the

$[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+$  cation is relatively flat (Figure 1) one can anticipate that the cation in  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}][\text{Re}_2\text{Cl}_9]$  is forced to the more compressed structure by strong cation...anion interactions (cf. ref.<sup>[9]</sup>).

Table 2. Experimentally observed and ab initio computed structural parameters for the  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+$  cation (bond lengths in Å, angles in °,  $E_{\text{rel}}$  in kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>). Corresponding anions: 1  $[\text{SbCl}_6]^-$ , 2  $[\text{AlCl}_4]^-$ , 3  $[\text{MoCl}_5(\text{NSCl})]^-$ , 4  $[\text{Re}_2\text{Cl}_9]^-$

	$d(\text{N}-\text{S})$	$d(\text{S}-\text{Cl})$	$\alpha(\text{SNS})$	$\alpha(\text{ClSN})$	$E_{\text{rel}}$
1	1.533(4)	1.911(7)	149.9(3)	110.4(2)	
2	1.528(2)	1.992(1)	151.0(2)	110.6(2)	
3	1.535(1)	1.988(7)	150.9(9)	110.0(5)	
4	1.615(11)	1.984(6)	133.6(17)	117.6(9)	
MP2 (FC) <sup>[a]</sup>	1.553	2.028	152.2	111.7	0.0
MP2 (FC) <sup>[a,b]</sup>	1.593	2.016	133.6	116.9	5.5

<sup>[a]</sup> HF/6-31+G\* basis set. – <sup>[b]</sup> MP2 (FC) computation for a fixed SNS angle of 133.6°.

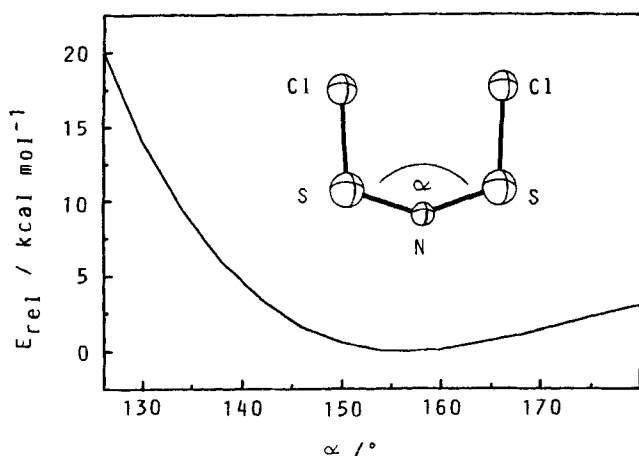


Figure 1. Energy potential curve of the SNS angle in the cation  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}]^+$  (HF/6-31+G\*)

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## Experimental

**Synthesis of  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}][\text{SbCl}_6]$ :** Sulfur (1.00 g, 31.19 mmol) was suspended in 50 ml of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and allowed to react at room temp. with a solution of  $\text{SbCl}_5$  (9.32 g; 31.19 mmol) and chlorine (4.42 g; 62.37 mmol) in 50 ml of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h, the precipitated white solid was filtered off and three times washed with 20 ml of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The product was dried in dynamic vacuo and obtained as analytically pure white solid in 82% yield (12.10 g). – IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 530 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $\nu_3\text{SCl}_3^+$ ), 518  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  ( $\nu_3\text{SbCl}_6^-$ ), 360  $\text{sh}$  ( $\nu_3\text{SbCl}_6^-$ ).

**Synthesis of  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}][\text{SbCl}_6]$  (1):**  $[(\text{SCl})_2\text{N}][\text{SbCl}_6]$  (3.00 g, 6.34 mmol) was suspended in 50 ml of  $\text{CCl}_4$  and allowed to react at room temp. with a solution of  $\text{N}(\text{SiMe}_3)_3$  (Aldrich, 0.741 g, 3.172 mmol) in 100 ml of  $\text{CCl}_4$ . The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h, the precipitated yellow solid was filtered off and three times digested with 50 ml of  $\text{CCl}_4$ . The product was dried in dynamic vacuo and obtained as analytically pure yellow powder in 60% yield (0.92 g). –  $\text{Cl}_8\text{NS}_2\text{Sb}$  (483.5): calcd. N 2.90, S 13.26; found N 2.85, S 13.45. – IR and Raman: See Table 1;  $[\text{SbCl}_6]^-$ , Raman:  $\tilde{\nu} = 332 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $\nu_1$ ), 284 (2) ( $\nu_2$ ), 175 (9) ( $\nu_3$ ). – IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 351 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $\nu_3$ ).

**Computational Methods:** The computations were carried out with the Gaussian 92 program using the 6-31+G\* basis set<sup>[10]</sup>.

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