Synthesis and Structure of a Novel Tetranuclear Tungsten–Bismuth–Sulfur Complex

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Reaction of $[PPh_4]_2[WS_4]$ with 1/3 equiv. of BiCl₃ in CH₂Cl₂ afforded a new W/Bi/S complex $[PPh_4]_3[Bi(WS_4)_3]$ (1). The structure of the trianion of 1 represents the first example of W/Bi/S complex which contains a central Bi coordinated by six S atoms of the three $[WS_4]^{2-}$ moieties.

The heteronuclear sulfide complexes containing both transition metals and *p*-block metals have attracted attention due to their rich chemistry,¹⁻⁵ and their potential implications such as superconductivity,⁶ catalysis,⁷ and non-linear optical properties.⁸ Some of these compounds have been synthesized via reactions of transition metal sulfides (e.g. $[M_3S_4]^{4+}$, $[MS_4]^{2-}$ (M = Mo, W)) with *p*-block metals in suitable organic solvents. For instance, reactions of the preformed incomplete cubane $[M_3S_4]^{4+}$ clusters with *p*-block metals M' (e.g. M' = Sb,^{9,10} Pb,^{11,12}) led to the formation of a series of monocubanes $[M'M_3S_4]^{n+}$ and spiro dicubanes $[M_3S_4-M'-M_3S_4]^{m+}$. However, reactions of the tetrathiometallates $[MS_4]^{2-}$ with *p*-block metals are very poorly explored and only five M/M'/S (M = Mo, W, M' = Pb, Sn, Tl) complexes were reported.^{8,13–15} As for bismuth (III), there was one paper describing the synthesis of $[PPh_4][(MS_4)_2Bi]$ (M = Mo, W), but so far no crystal structure of these complexes has been reported yet.¹⁶ As an extension of our studies on the chemistry of M/M'/S compounds,^{8,15} we carried out the reactions of [PPh₄]₂[WS₄] with BiCl₃ and isolated a different W/Bi/S complex [PPh₄]₃[Bi(WS₄)₃] (1). Herein we report its synthesis and structural characterization of 1.

The title complex was synthesized by the reaction of $[PPh_4]_2[WS_4]$ and BiCl₃ under pure dinitrogen atmosphere using standard Schlenk-line techniques. To a solution of $[PPh_4]_2[WS_4]$ (0.50 g, 0.50 mmol) in 20 mL of CH₂Cl₂ was added BiCl₃ (0.053 g, 0.16 mmol). The yellow solution went red within minutes and the mixture was stirred for *ca*. 20 min. at ambient temperature. After filtration, the filtrate was transferred into a slender glass tube and Et₂O (20 mL) was carefully layered onto the filtrate. After standing it at 0° for two days, large orange-red prisms of $[PPh_4]_3[Bi(WS_4)_3]$ ·5CH₂Cl₂ (1·5CH₂Cl₂) were produced in 63% yield.¹⁷

When BiCl₃ was contaminated with a trace amount of water or when the moisture went into the solution during the reaction, it did not give rise to **1** but a brown red precipitate $[PPh_4]_2[W_3S_9]$.¹⁸ The reason for this may be due to the facile formation of BiO⁺ and H⁺ ions in the presence of moisture and the degradation of $[WS_4]^{2-}$ in the presence of H⁺ ions. Compound **1** is soluble in CH₃CN and DMF, but partly soluble in CH₂Cl₂ and CHCl₃. Being sensitive to heat and moisture, solid **1** is gradually decomposed when it is exposed to open air. We once carried out the reaction of $[PPh_4]_2[WS_4]$ with 1/2 equiv. of BiCl₃ in CH₂Cl₂. However, no $[PPh_4][Bi(WS_4)_2]$ or $[PPh_4]_3[Bi(WS_4)_2BiCl_2]$ was isolated, but only the known complex $[PPh_4]_2[W_3S_9]$ along with a large amount of insoluble black materials was isolated therefrom. The black materials were confirmed by X-ray fluorescence analysis to contain Bi and S.

Crystal 1.5CH₂Cl₂ crystallizes in the triclinic space group $P\bar{1}$, and the asymmetric unit consists of one independent $[Bi(WS_4)_3]^{3-}$ trianion, three $[PPh_4]^+$ cations, and five CH₂Cl₂ crystal solvent molecules.¹⁹ Figure 1 shows the perspective view of the $[Bi(WS_4)_3]^{3-}$ trianion of 1. In the structure of the $[Bi(WS_4)_3]^{3-}$ trianion, the oxidation states of W and Bi remain to be +6 and +3, respectively. The central Bi is six-coordinated by six sulfur atoms of the three $[WS_4]^{2-}$ ligands. The resulting BiS₆ octahedron is severely distorted, mainly due to the stereochemical influence of the lone pair on the Bi atom. The small S-Bi-S bite angles $(77.52(9)-79.32(12)^\circ)$ in the three four-membered BiSWS rings may be the cause of the observed distortions of the BiS₆ octahedron, and may determine the angles between trans S atoms to deviate from the ideal value of 180° to 166.85(9)–173.16(8)°. The various Bi- μ -S bond lengths may also reflect the possible influence of the lone pair on Bi. The bidentate attachment of the $[W(1)S_4]^{2-}$ to Bi is almost symmetric with two comparable Bi- μ -S bond lengths while those of the other two [WS₄]²⁻ ones to Bi are less symmetric with one short and one long Bi- μ -S bonds. The structure of the trianion of 1 somewhat resembles those of the previous neutral bismuth complexes containing dithio ligands, e.g. $[(Et_2PS_2)_3Bi]$,²⁰ $[(Et_2NCS_2)_3Bi]$,²¹ and $[\{(i-PrO)_2PS_2\}_3Bi]$.²² Except for a few examples such as $[(Et_2PS_2)_3Bi]$, the bidentate attachment of



Figure 1. A perspective view of the $[Bi(WS_4)_3]^{3-}$ trianion, with the ellipsoids drawn at 50% probability level. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for 1.5CH₂Cl₂: Bi(1)···W(1), 3.4892(6); Bi(1)···W(2), 3.5623(7); Bi(1)- μ -S(4), 3.5320(7); Bi(1)- μ -S(3), 2.780(3); Bi(1)- μ -S(4), 2.771(4); Bi(1)- μ -S(7), 2.821(3); Bi(1)- μ -S(8), 2.794(3); Bi(1)- μ -S(11), 2.844(4); Bi(1)- μ -S(12), 2.763(3); W- μ -S(av.), 2.233; W-S_t(av.) 2.162; S(3)-Bi(1)-S(4), 79.32(12); S(7)-Bi(1)-S(8), 77.52(9); S(11)-Bi(1)-S(12), 78.51(10), S(3)-Bi(1)-S(8), 168.10(11); S(4)-Bi(1)-S(11), 166.85(9); S(7)-Bi(1)-S(12), 173.16(8).

the dithio ligands to Bi in most cases are asymmetric with three short and three long Bi– μ –S bonds, and therefore the coordination geometry of Bi varied from octahedron to pentagonal pyramidal.^{20–22} For **1**, the average Bi– μ –S bond (av. 2.796 Å) is slightly shorter than that in [(Et₂NCS₂)₃Bi] (av. 2.821 Å),²¹ but comparable to those found in other Bi complexes with dithio ligands such as [(Et₂PS₂)₃Bi] (av. 2.788 Å)²⁰ and [((*i*-PrO)₂PS₂)₃Bi] (av. 2.787 Å).²² Each [WS₄]^{2–} moiety acts as a bidentate ligand. The terminal W=S and W– μ –S distances are normal compared to those of the corresponding ones observed in [PPh₄][(AgCN)WS₄].²³ The relatively long W···Bi contacts (av. 3.5278 Å) may preclude any significant bonding between W and Bi atoms.

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- 17 Anal. Found: C, 39.78; H, 2.77%. Calcd. for $C_{72}H_{60}BiP_3S_{12}W_3$ (1): C, 39.98; H, 2.80%. UV-vis (CH₂Cl₂, λ , nm, M⁻¹cm⁻¹): 230 (18400), 265 (8100), 385 (3300). IR (KBr pellet, cm⁻¹): v_{W-St} , 490 (s); $v_{W-\mu-S}$, 432 (m).
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- 19 Crystal data for 1.5CH₂Cl₂: crystal dimensions 0.5 × 0.6 × 0.5 mm³, C₇₇H₇₀BiCl₁₀P₃Sl₂W₃, M = 2588.10, triclinic, space group $P\overline{1}$, a = 11.7616(2), b = 15.9411(2), c = 27.616(1)Å, $\alpha = 79.20(2)$, $\beta = 81.065(2)$, $\gamma = 65.411(11)^{\circ}$, V = 4611.08(3)Å³, Z = 2, $D_c = 1.864$ g/ cm³, $\mu = 62.85$ cm⁻¹. 50230 intensity data were collected on a Rigaku Mercury CCD diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Mo-K α radiation at 193 K, of which 20118 ($R_{int} = 0.068$) are independent. $R(R_w) = 0.054$ (0.069) for 12020 reflections with $I > 3.00\sigma(I)$ and 980 refined parameters.
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