

Structures and Electrical Properties of β - and θ -(BTM-TTP)₂SbF₆

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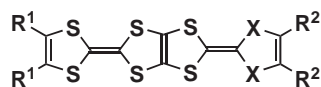
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Two kinds of (BTM-TTP)₂SbF₆ salts, where BTM-TTP is 2-[4,5-bis(methylthio)-1,3-dithiol-2-ylidene]-5-(1,3-dithiol-2-ylidene)-1,3,4,6-tetrathiapentalene, have been prepared. X-ray structure analyses have revealed that needle-like and plate-like crystals have the so-called β - and θ -type arrays of the donors, respectively. The β -type salt exhibits metallic conducting behavior down to 5 K, while the θ -type salt is a semiconductor even at room temperature.

A bis-fused TTF donor, 2,5-bis(1,3-dithiol-2-ylidene)-1,3,4,6-tetrathiapentalene (BDT-TTP) has played an important role to explore novel molecular conductors.¹ BDT-TTP and its derivatives have actually yielded a large number of molecular complexes retaining their metallic conductivity down to liquid helium temperature.² X-ray structure analyses of various BDT-TTP salts have revealed that BDT-TTP has tendency to form a uniform β -type molecular packing.^{2,3} On the other hand, the other molecular packing patterns have been observed when appropriate substituents are introduced on BDT-TTP framework. For example, fusion with a cyclohexene ring results in the formation of a non-stacked κ -type molecular packing.⁴ In contrast, TMEO-ST-TTP has yielded various radical cation salts with a strongly dimerized β -type molecular packing,⁵ while EO-TTP has afforded β -type salts with uniform stacks.⁶ In this connection, the elucidation of substitution effect of methylthio groups on the molecular packing of TTP conductors is of interest. Although the synthesis of bis(methylthio)-TTP (BTM-TTP) has been reported in 1993,⁷ there has been only two examples of BTM-TTP conductors whose crystal structures have been determined.^{8,9} In this letter, we report herewith structures and electrical properties of two kinds of (BTM-TTP)₂SbF₆ salts (Chart 1).

Two kinds of single crystals (needles and plates) of



$R^1 = R^2 = H$, $X = S$, BDT-TTP
 $R^1 = H$, $2R^2 = OCH_2CH_2O$, $X = S$, EO-TTP
 $2R^1 = OCH_2CH_2O$, $R^2 = SMe$, $X = Se$, TMEO-ST-TTP
 $R^1 = H$, $R^2 = SMe$, $X = S$, BTM-TTP
 $2R^1 = SCH_2CH_2S$, $R^2 = SMe$, $X = S$, TMET-TTP

Chart 1.

BTM-TTP salts were obtained by an electrocrystallization technique at a controlled current method¹⁰ from 0.2 to 1.0 μA in the presence of PPN \cdot SbF₆, where PPN is bis(triphenylphosphoranylidene)ammonium, as the electrolyte in chlorobenzene at room temperature. The needle salt crystallizes in a triclinic system, while the plate one in monoclinic one. X-ray structure analyses indicate both salts have the same stoichiometry of (BTM-TTP)₂SbF₆.^{11,12} Among them, the needle salt is isostructural with the reported (BTM-TTP)₂TaF₆ salt.⁹ The packing pattern of the donors is classified with the so-called β -type as shown in Figure 1a. Thus, the donors form face-to-face stacks along the (*a*-*b*) direction with interplanar distances of 3.48 (*p*1) and 3.51 (*p*2) Å, respectively. The donors are overlapped in a head-to-tail manner in the stack (Figure 1b). Both the slip distances along the

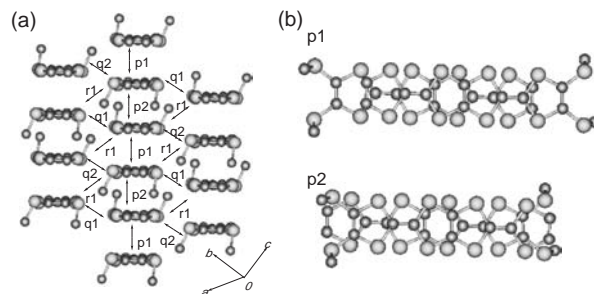


Figure 1. (a) Donor sheet structure of β -(BTM-TTP)₂SbF₆ viewed along the donor long axis, and (b) overlap mode in the stack. The intermolecular overlaps between HOMOs are $p1 = 22.7$, $p2 = 25.5$, $q1 = -3.5$, $q2 = -3.2$, $r1 = -6.7 \times 10^{-3}$.

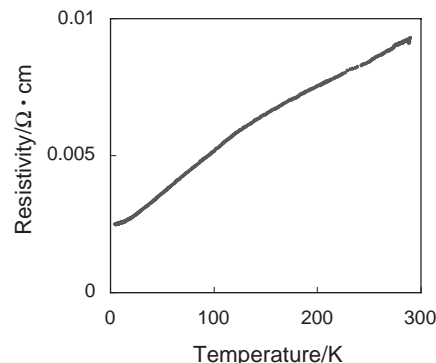


Figure 2. Conducting behavior of β -(BTM-TTP)₂SbF₆.

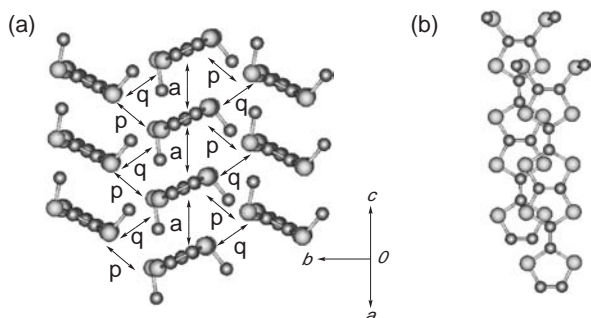


Figure 3. (a) Conducting sheet structure of θ -(BTM-TTP)₂SbF₆ viewed along the donor long axis. The intermolecular overlaps between HOMOs are $a = 7.7$, $p = 6.5$, $q = 3.6 \times 10^{-3}$, and (b) the overlap mode of the donors in the stack.

donor long axis ($p1$ and $p2$) are about a half (1.6 \AA) of the length of a 1,3-dithiole ring. It is noted that BTM-TTP molecules form a nearly uniform column in spite of the presence of bulky methylthio groups. The calculation of overlap integrals^{13,14} indicates that the donors are slightly dimerized in the stack. On the other hand, the interstack overlap integrals are 14–26% of the larger intrastack one ($p2$). A tight binding calculation showed that the width of the conduction band is relatively large (1.1 eV). The calculated Fermi surface is open, being characteristic of quasi one-dimensionality.¹² This salt showed a high conductivity of $\sigma_{\text{it}} = 120 \text{ S cm}^{-1}$ and exhibited metallic temperature dependence of resistivity down to 5 K (Figure 2).

On the other hand, the plate-like crystal adopts the so-called θ -type arrangement of the donors as shown in Figure 3a. The donors are uniformly stacked along the a axis with an interplanar distance of 3.44 \AA . The donors slip along both the donor short and long axes (Figure 3b), in contrast to θ -BEDT-TTF salts,¹⁵ in which only the slip along the donor short axis is observed. A similar phenomenon has been also observed in θ -TMET-TTP salts.¹⁶ The dihedral angle of the donors between the neighboring columns is a large value of 130.7° , indicating smaller overlap integrals compared with those of the θ -salts with smaller dihedral angles.¹⁷ The calculated bandwidth (0.57 eV) is about half of that of β -(BTM-TTP)₂SbF₆ (1.1 eV). The calculated Fermi surface is closed characteristic of two-dimensional metal.¹² However, this salt exhibited a relatively low conductivity of $\sigma_{\text{it}} = 0.8 \text{ S cm}^{-1}$ and showed semiconductive temperature dependence with $E_{\text{a}} = 0.13 \text{ eV}$. Semiconductive behavior in spite of the calculated two-dimensional Fermi surface is probably due to narrow bandwidth and resultant large electron correlation in the quarter-filled band system, because the band calculation used here contains no electron correlation.¹³ The static magnetic susceptibility of θ -(BTM-TTP)₂SbF₆ at 300 K after the correction of diamagnetic contribution is $8.3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ emu mol}^{-1}$, suggesting a highly correlated electronic state. It exhibits the Curie–Weiss temperature dependence with a weak antiferromagnetic interaction of $\theta = -6 \text{ K}$ and a Curie constant of $C = 0.23 \text{ emu K mol}^{-1}$.¹² The fact that the observed magnetic susceptibility is smaller than the theoretical value of isolated $S = 1/2$ spin suggests that the electrons are weakly (or not completely) localized. The similar phenomena are also reported in θ -(BEDT-TTF)₂(Rb_{1-x}Cs_x)Zn(SCN)₄¹⁸ and β' -(DODHT)₂PF₆.^{19,20} This is consistent with the semiconducting behavior of θ -(BTM-TTP)₂SbF₆.

In summary, two kinds of molecular conductors have been obtained from BTM-TTP with the SbF₆⁻ anion. The results obtained from this work indicate that BTM-TTP shows no self-aggregating property in contrast to a number of TTP donors. The further investigations, in particular, correlation between molecular structures and molecular packing patterns by means of theoretical calculation are actively in progress.

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