

The Crystal and Molecular Structure of Bis(ethyl thioanthato)- μ -bis(ethyl thioanthato)- μ' -bis(ethylthio)-diiron(III)

By D. COUCOUVANIS, S. J. LIPPARD,*^{1a} AND J. A. ZUBIETA^{1b}

Received May 18, 1970

The molecular structure of bis(ethyl thioanthato)- μ -bis(ethyl thioanthato)- μ' -bis(ethylthio)-diiron(III), $[\text{Fe}(\text{SC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{S}_2\text{CSC}_2\text{H}_5)_2]_2$, has been determined in a single-crystal X-ray diffraction study. The complex crystallizes in the monoclinic system, space group $P2_1/c$, with $a = 12.193(5) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 8.469(4) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 19.82(1) \text{ \AA}$, and $\beta = 130.11(5)^\circ$. The density of $1.657(1) \text{ g/cm}^3$ calculated on the basis of two dimeric formulas per unit cell is in agreement with the measured density of $1.64 \pm 0.01 \text{ g/cm}^3$. The structure was solved using ~ 1350 independent, statistically significant reflections collected on a full-circle automated diffractometer. Refinement of all atoms including several of the hydrogen atoms led to a final value of the discrepancy index, R_1 , of 0.048. The molecular structure consists of centrosymmetric dimers in which two ethyl mercaptide and two ethylthioanthate groups function as bridging ligands and two more nonbridging ethylthioanthate ligands complete the distorted octahedral coordination polyhedra around the two iron atoms. The iron-iron distance of $2.818(2) \text{ \AA}$ is 0.39 \AA shorter than the $\text{S} \cdots \text{S}$ bite of the bridging thioanthate ligand. This result, together with the small Fe-S-Fe angle of $72.35(7)^\circ$ at the bridging sulfur atoms, provides direct structural proof for metal-metal bonding. Average values for the three chemically distinct types of iron-sulfur bonds in the molecule are $2.218(2) \text{ \AA}$ for the bridging mercaptide ligands, $2.287(2) \text{ \AA}$ for the bridging thioanthate ligands, and $2.338(4) \text{ \AA}$ for the terminal thioanthate ligands. From the observed carbon-sulfur distances it is concluded that resonance form VII (see text) contributes significantly ($\sim 20\%$) to the electronic structure of the coordinated thioanthate groups.

Introduction

The coordination chemistry of iron-sulfur complexes has been a subject of recent study in our laboratory²⁻⁴ and elsewhere,⁵ inspired by the biochemical characterization of certain nonheme iron protein systems.^{6,7} As reported briefly before,³ an iron(III) dimer containing two ethyl mercaptide and two ethyl thioanthate groups as bridging ligands has been prepared and its structure determined. A number of related molecules have also been made and extensively investigated.⁴ Here are described the details of the X-ray crystallographic analysis of bis(ethyl thioanthato)- μ -bis(ethylthio)- μ' -bis(ethyl thioanthato)-diiron(III).

Experimental Procedure and Results

Collection and Reduction of X-Ray Data.—The compound, prepared as described elsewhere,^{4a} formed small black prismatic crystals, several of which were mounted along the longest dimension (cell b axis) for study. Space group and approximate unit cell dimensions were determined by film methods on precession and Weissenberg cameras using Ni-filtered $\text{Cu K}\alpha$ radiation ($\lambda 1.5418 \text{ \AA}$). The observed extinctions, $h0l$, $l \neq 2n$ and $0k0$, $k \neq 2n$, suggested $P2_1/c$ as the probable space group,⁸ a choice later confirmed by the successful refinement of the structure. The unit cell parameters obtained from the film data were refined by a least-squares technique to give the best fit between calculated and observed settings χ , ϕ , and 2θ for 17 independent reflections,

carefully centered in the counter window of a Picker full-circle automated X-ray diffractometer.⁹ The results are $a = 12.193 \pm 0.005 \text{ \AA}$, $b = 8.469 \pm 0.004 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 19.82 \pm 0.01 \text{ \AA}$, and $\beta = 130.11 \pm 0.05^\circ$, where the estimated precision errors are derived from the inverse least-squares matrix. The density of $1.657 \pm 0.001 \text{ g/cm}^3$ calculated from these parameters on the basis of four formula units of $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{15}\text{S}_7\text{Fe}$ per unit cell is in satisfactory agreement with the value, $1.64 \pm 0.01 \text{ g/cm}^3$, measured by flotation in aqueous KI solutions.

Intensity measurements were taken at $21\text{--}23^\circ$ on the Picker diffractometer using a crystal of approximate dimensions 0.17 mm along a^* , 0.36 mm along b^* , and 0.08 mm along c^* , with b^* as the mounting axis. Experimental details are as reported previously¹⁰ with the following exceptions and notations: the wavelength was $\text{Cu K}\alpha$ ($\lambda 1.5418 \text{ \AA}$), the takeoff angle was 2.5° , and the scan range was 1.25° in 2θ plus the $\text{K}\alpha_1\text{--K}\alpha_2$ allowance. The $\bar{1}34$ reflection was used to monitor crystal and instrument stability. Its integrated intensity varied by no more than $\pm 1.8\%$ of the mean value for the entire run. Data were collected with the indices of the shortest reciprocal cell edges varying fastest ($l > h > k$), resulting in an overall efficiency of $\sim 70\%$. A total of 1500 independent reflections within the sphere defined by $\theta \leq 43^\circ$ were obtained in 3 days.

Observed intensities were corrected for background, use of attenuators, Lorentz, polarization, and absorption effects ($\mu = 164 \text{ cm}^{-1}$) using the program ACAC-3.^{9,10} The resultant transmission factors ranged from 0.08 to 0.36. As a check on the absorption correction, the variation with ϕ of the intensity of axial reflections measured at $\chi = 90^\circ$ was found to correlate well with the variation of the calculated transmission factors. Scaling of the corrected data was accomplished by XDATA,⁹ which produced values of $|F_o|$ and $|F_c|^2$ for the subsequent solution of the structure (see below). Scattering factors for the zerovalent Fe,

* To whom correspondence should be addressed.

(1) (a) Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow, 1968-1970. (b) Woodrow Wilson Fellow, 1966-1967; National Institutes of Health Predoctoral Fellow, 1967-present.

(2) D. Coucouvanis and S. J. Lippard, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, **90**, 3281 (1968); D. Coucouvanis and S. J. Lippard, *ibid.*, **91**, 307 (1969).

(3) D. Coucouvanis, S. J. Lippard, and J. A. Zubieta, *ibid.*, **91**, 761 (1969).

(4) (a) D. Coucouvanis, S. J. Lippard, and J. A. Zubieta, *ibid.*, **92**, 3342 (1970); (b) S. J. Lippard and J. A. Zubieta, to be submitted for publication.

(5) Cf. A. L. Balch, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, **91**, 6982 (1969), and references cited therein.

(6) R. Malkin and J. C. Rabinowitz, *Annu. Rev. Biochem.*, **36**, 113 (1967).

(7) T. Kimura, *Struct. Bonding (Berlin)*, **5**, 1 (1968).

(8) "International Tables for X-Ray Crystallography," Vol. I, Kynoch Press, Birmingham, England, 1962, p 99.

(9) Programs for the IBM 360-91 computer used in this work include local versions of MODR-1, the Brookhaven diffractometer setting and cell constant and orientation refinement program, OSET, the Prewitt diffractometer setting program, ACAC-3, a revised version of the Prewitt absorption correction and data reduction program, XDATA, the Brookhaven Wilson plot and scaling program, FORDAP, the Zalkin Fourier program, CULS, a local version of the Busing-Martin-Levy structure factor calculation and least-squares refinement program (ORFLS), ORFFE, the Busing-Martin-Levy molecular geometry and error function program, and ORTEP, the Johnson thermal ellipsoid plotting program.

(10) S. J. Lippard and K. M. Melmed, *Inorg. Chem.*, **6**, 2223 (1967).

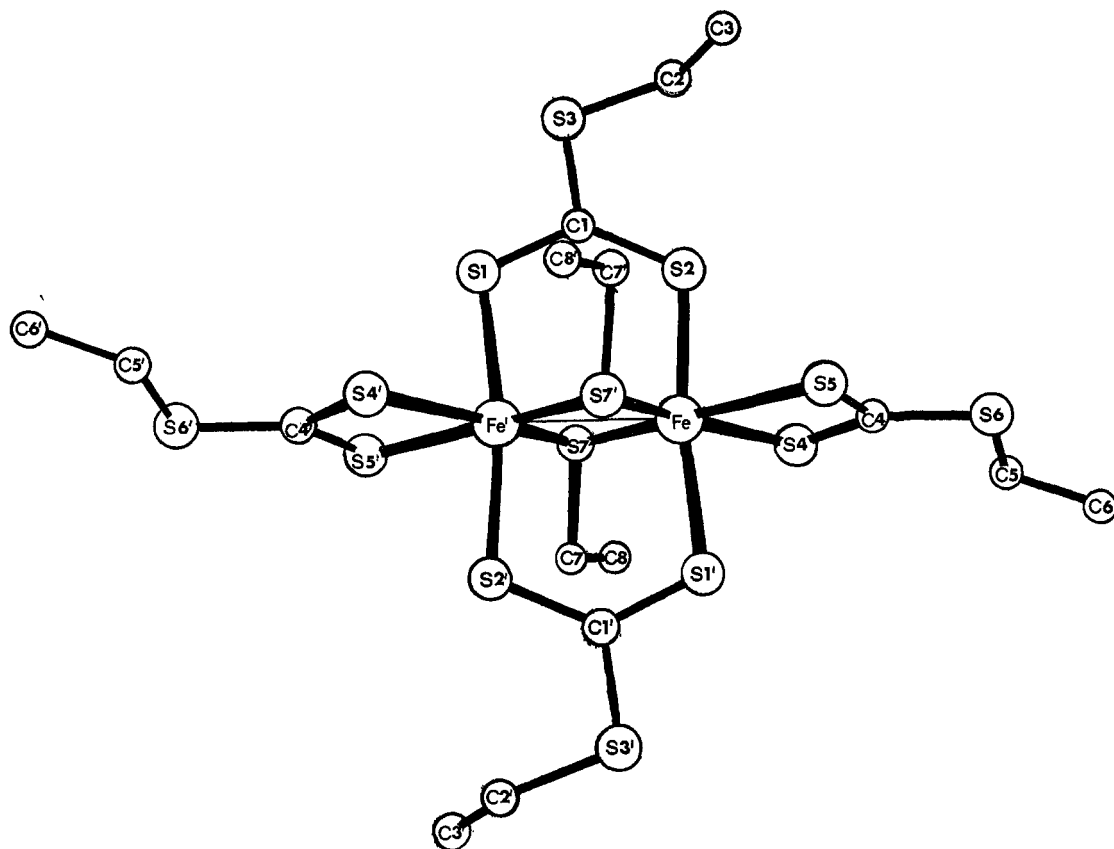


Figure 1.—The molecular structure showing the atom-labeling scheme. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

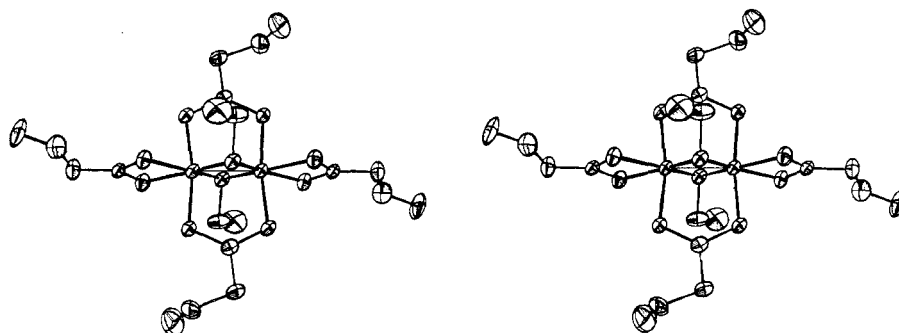


Figure 2.—A stereoscopic view of the structure. The 50% probability ellipsoids are shown.

S, and C atoms were obtained from ref 11. The calculated structure factors were corrected for the effects of anomalous dispersion of the iron and sulfur atoms.¹² The hydrogen atom scattering factors were those of Stewart, *et al.*¹³ Weights, w , were set equal to $4F^2/\sigma^2(F^2)$, where $\sigma(F^2)$ is the standard deviation of F^2 obtained from $\sigma(I)$ after absorption, Lorentz, and polarization corrections were applied. I is the integrated intensity corrected for background and attenuators. The standard deviation in I , $\sigma(I)$, was obtained from the expression^{14,15} $\sigma(I) = [E + (T_E/2T_B)^2(B_1 + B_2) + (\epsilon I)^2]^{1/2}$, in which E is the total counts in the peak plus background observed for a time T_E , B_1 and B_2 are the background counts observed for a time T_B at each extreme of the scan, and ϵ is the "ignorance" factor,¹⁵ set equal to 0.03, to prevent excessively high weight being given to the strong reflections. Reflections for which $I \leq 3\sigma(I)$ were excluded from

(11) See ref 8, Vol. III, pp 202, 204.

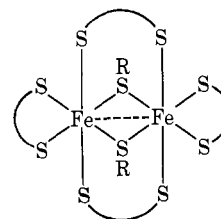
(12) See ref 8, Vol. III, p 213 ff.

(13) R. F. Stewart, E. R. Davidson, and W. T. Simpson, *J. Chem. Phys.*, **42**, 3175 (1965).

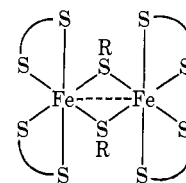
(14) (a) G. M. Brown and H. A. Levy, *J. Phys. (Paris)*, **25**, 497 (1964);

(b) R. D. Ellison and H. A. Levy, *Acta Crystallogr.*, **19**, 260 (1965).

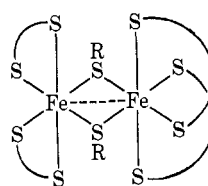
(15) P. W. R. Corfield, R. J. Doedens, and J. A. Ibers, *Inorg. Chem.*, **6**, 197 (1967).



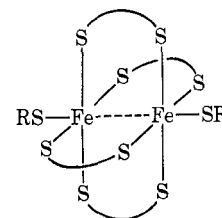
I



II



III



IV

TABLE II
 FINAL POSITIONAL AND THERMAL PARAMETERS OF THE ATOMS^{a,b}

Atom	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	β_{11}^c	β_{22}	β_{33}	β_{12}	β_{13}	β_{23}
Fe	0.0739 (1)	0.1103 (1)	-0.00128 (7)	7.1 (2)	8.5 (2)	2.59 (6)	0.0 (1)	3.08 (9)	0.46 (9)
S1	-0.0125 (2)	-0.0289 (2)	0.1318 (1)	10.8 (3)	11.6 (4)	3.1 (1)	-1.8 (3)	4.5 (1)	-0.3 (1)
S2	0.1547 (2)	0.2262 (2)	0.1277 (1)	10.2 (3)	10.3 (4)	3.1 (1)	-2.1 (3)	4.2 (1)	-0.6 (1)
S3	0.1234 (2)	0.2053 (3)	0.2650 (1)	14.2 (3)	14.5 (4)	3.4 (1)	-2.7 (3)	5.4 (2)	-1.5 (2)
S4	0.0636 (2)	0.3653 (2)	-0.0510 (1)	8.1 (3)	9.9 (4)	3.8 (1)	0.7 (2)	4.0 (1)	1.1 (1)
S5	0.3011 (2)	0.1641 (2)	0.0452 (1)	7.7 (3)	11.3 (4)	3.8 (1)	0.8 (2)	3.6 (2)	1.3 (2)
S6	0.3422 (2)	0.4708 (3)	-0.0064 (1)	9.1 (3)	12.1 (4)	4.9 (1)	-1.5 (3)	4.5 (2)	1.2 (2)
S7	-0.1468 (2)	0.1342 (2)	-0.0485 (1)	7.5 (3)	9.9 (4)	2.9 (1)	1.1 (2)	3.3 (1)	0.9 (1)
C1	0.0878 (8)	0.1360 (9)	0.1698 (5)	8 (1)	10 (1)	2.9 (4)	1.8 (9)	3.3 (6)	0.5 (6)
C2	0.237 (1)	0.375 (1)	0.2995 (7)	19 (2)	16 (2)	6.0 (6)	-8 (1)	8.6 (9)	-5.7 (9)
C3	0.392 (1)	0.337 (2)	0.3549 (7)	14 (2)	34 (3)	7.8 (8)	-6 (2)	5.4 (9)	-1 (1)
C4	0.2362 (8)	0.3398 (9)	-0.0047 (4)	7 (1)	9 (1)	2.6 (4)	-0.1 (9)	3.1 (5)	0.5 (6)
C5	0.219 (1)	0.620 (1)	-0.0841 (8)	14 (2)	8 (2)	5.9 (7)	3 (1)	6 (1)	1.3 (9)
C6	0.283 (1)	0.711 (1)	-0.1164 (7)	18 (2)	20 (2)	7.8 (7)	0 (2)	8.7 (9)	5.9 (9)
C7	-0.291 (1)	0.145 (1)	-0.1684 (6)	11 (1)	18 (2)	2.8 (5)	4 (1)	2.7 (7)	0.8 (8)
C8	-0.346 (1)	0.315 (1)	-0.1936 (7)	17 (2)	19 (2)	5.9 (6)	7 (2)	3.2 (9)	5.6 (9)
H2A	0.227 (9)	0.42 (1)	0.329 (5)	4 (2) ^d					
H5A	0.139 (8)	0.581 (8)	-0.133 (5)	2 (2)					
H7B	-0.278 (8)	0.091 (9)	-0.198 (5)	3 (2)					

^a Atoms are labeled as indicated in Figure 1. Hydrogen atoms are labeled to correspond to the carbon atoms to which they are attached. ^b Standard deviations, in parentheses, occur in the last significant figure for each parameter. ^c The form of the anisotropic ellipsoid is $\exp[-(\beta_{11}h^2 + \beta_{22}k^2 + \beta_{33}l^2 + 2\beta_{12}hk + 2\beta_{13}hl + 2\beta_{23}kl)]$. Values reported are $\times 10^3$. ^d $\beta_{11} = B \text{ \AA}^2$, since hydrogen atoms were assigned isotropic thermal parameters.

Table I contains the final list of calculated and observed structure factors. The atomic positional and thermal parameters, along with their standard deviations as derived from the inverse matrix of the last least-squares refinement cycle, are given in Table II. The root-mean-square amplitudes of vibration derived from the atomic anisotropic thermal parameters are summarized in Table III. The atom-labeling scheme is shown in Figure 1, and the orientation of the thermal ellipsoids, in Figure 2. Intramolecular bond distances and interbond angles appear in Tables IV and V.

TABLE III

ROOT-MEAN-SQUARE AMPLITUDES OF VIBRATION (IN \AA)^{a,b}

Atom	Min	Intermed	Max
Fe	0.151 (2)	0.176 (3)	0.183 (2)
S1	0.153 (4)	0.197 (3)	0.229 (3)
S2	0.161 (3)	0.181 (3)	0.225 (3)
S3	0.159 (4)	0.216 (4)	0.263 (3)
S4	0.165 (3)	0.182 (4)	0.221 (3)
S5	0.179 (4)	0.184 (4)	0.229 (3)
S6	0.163 (4)	0.216 (3)	0.257 (3)
S7	0.167 (3)	0.173 (3)	0.203 (3)
C1	0.16 (1)	0.18 (1)	0.21 (1)
C2	0.16 (2)	0.22 (1)	0.34 (1)
C3	0.23 (2)	0.33 (1)	0.37 (2)
C4	0.15 (1)	0.18 (1)	0.19 (1)
C5	0.16 (2)	0.25 (1)	0.27 (2)
C6	0.15 (2)	0.28 (1)	0.35 (1)
C7	0.18 (1)	0.23 (2)	0.29 (1)
C8	0.16 (2)	0.31 (1)	0.37 (1)

^a Taken along the principal axes of the thermal ellipsoids. The orientation of these axes may be seen from Figure 2. ^b See footnotes *a* and *b*, Table II.

Discussion

General Description of the Structure.—The crystal structure consists of centrosymmetric iron dimers in which two ethyl mercaptide and two ethyl thioan-thate groups function as bridging ligands. The remaining coordination sites at the two iron atoms are occupied by the sulfur atoms of two more, terminal

TABLE IV

INTRAMOLECULAR BOND DISTANCES (\AA)^{a,b}

Fe-Fe'	2.618 (2)	C2-C3	1.48 (2)
Fe'-S1	2.287 (2)	S1...S2(bite)	3.007 (3)
Fe-S2	2.286 (2)	S4-C4	1.682 (7)
Fe-S4	2.343 (2)	S5-C4	1.676 (8)
Fe-S5	2.333 (2)	S6-C4	1.720 (7)
Fe-S7	2.217 (2)	S6-C5	1.80 (1)
Fe'-S7	2.219 (2)	C5-C6	1.50 (1)
S1-C1	1.681 (8)	S4...S5(bite)	2.795 (3)
S2-C1	1.679 (8)	S7-C7	1.835 (9)
S3-C1	1.743 (7)	C7-C8	1.53 (1)
S3-C2	1.80 (1)		

^a See footnotes *a* and *b*, Table II. ^b Reported values have not been corrected for thermal motion.

TABLE V

SELECTED INTRAMOLECULAR BOND ANGLES (DEG)^a

S1'-Fe-S2	170.20 (9)	S1-C1-S2	126.9 (4)
S1'-Fe-S4	84.95 (8)	S1-C1-S3	111.5 (4)
S1'-Fe-S5	86.89 (8)	S2-C1-S3	121.5 (5)
S1'-Fe-S7	97.27 (8)	C1-S3-C2	105.8 (4)
S1'-Fe-S7'	88.10 (8)	S3-C2-C3	114.1 (8)
S2-Fe-S4	86.69 (8)	Fe-S4-C4	86.7 (3)
S2-Fe-S5	85.83 (8)	Fe-S5-C4	87.2 (2)
S2-Fe-S7	87.95 (8)	S4-C4-S5	112.6 (4)
S2-Fe-S7'	98.24 (8)	S4-C4-S6	126.7 (5)
S4-Fe-S5	73.40 (7)	S5-C4-S6	120.6 (4)
S4-Fe-S7	90.96 (8)	C4-S6-C5	104.1 (4)
S4-Fe-S7'	160.83 (9)	S6-C5-C6	110.1 (8)
S5-Fe-S7	163.46 (9)	Fe-S7-Fe'	72.35 (7)
S5-Fe-S7'	88.42 (8)	Fe-S7-C7	116.3 (3)
S7-Fe-S7'	107.65 (7)	Fe'-S7-C7	113.6 (3)
Fe'-S1-C1	111.7 (3)	S7-C7-C8	108.9 (7)
Fe-S2-C1	111.3 (3)		

^a See footnotes *a* and *b*, Table II.

thioan-thate ligands (Figures 1 and 2). From a comparison of the appropriate bond distances (Table IV) and angles (Table V), it is apparent that, ignoring the ethyl groups, the approximate point group sym-

metry is D_{2h} . Since the dimer is required by the space group symmetry to be centrosymmetric, the $\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_7\text{Fe}'\text{S}'_7$ rhombus is strictly planar with the ethyl groups in the anti¹⁶ configuration. Distortions from idealized octahedral symmetry at each iron atom result in part from metal-metal bonding and partly from the geometrical constraints of the four-membered terminal thioxanthate chelate rings, both of which are discussed in detail below.

The function of thioxanthate groups as bridging ligands in $[\text{Fe}(\text{SC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{S}_2\text{CSC}_2\text{H}_5)_2]_2$ is similar to that of simple carboxylate anions in a number of transition metal complexes.¹⁷ Other compounds in which YCS_2^m -groups bridge two metal atoms include a copper tetramer ($\text{Y} = (\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{N}$, $m = 1$),¹⁸ a copper octamer ($\text{Y} = (\text{NC})_2\text{C}$, $m = 2$),¹⁹ and a nickel dimer ($\text{Y} = \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CH}_2$, $m = 1$).²⁰ It is interesting that in the iron, copper, and nickel complexes with bridging YCS_2^m -groups, metal-metal bonding is thought to be an important feature of the structure. In each case, the $\text{S}\cdots\text{S}$ bite distance of the bridging ligand is 3.0–3.1 Å and the metal-metal distances range from 2.56 to 2.87 Å. In the absence of metal-metal bonding, it might be difficult for ligands containing the YCS_2^m -group to bridge two metal atoms, especially if the $\text{M}-\text{M}$ distance becomes significantly greater than 3.1 Å.

Structural Evidence for and Discussion of Metal-Metal Bonding.—The observed iron-iron distance of 2.618 Å is well within the range (2.37–3.05 Å) of crystallographically determined values^{21–23} for which metal-metal bonding has been postulated. By contrast, the $[\text{FeS}_4\text{C}_4(\text{CN})_4]_2^{2-}$ dimer,²⁴ in which metal-metal bonding is apparently unimportant, has a nonbonded iron-iron distance of 3.08 Å. Two additional structural features strongly suggest the presence of an iron-iron bond in $[\text{Fe}(\text{SC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{S}_2\text{CSC}_2\text{H}_5)_2]_2$. In many other compounds containing M_2X_2 rings, where X is the donor atom of a bridging ligand, "sharply acute" $\text{M}-\text{X}-\text{M}$ angles are postulated to be characteristic of metal-metal bonding.²³ In the present structure, the $\text{Fe}-\text{S}-\text{Fe}$ angle has a value of $72.35(7)^\circ$. It is, moreover, noteworthy that the iron-iron bond length in $[\text{Fe}(\text{SC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{S}_2\text{CSC}_2\text{H}_5)_2]_2$ is significantly shorter than the bite distance, 3.007 (3) Å, of the bridging thioxanthate ligands. This fact is also taken as evidence²⁵ for the presence of a direct iron-iron bond.

As briefly discussed before,³ the iron-iron bonding may be described in terms of a qualitative molecular orbital scheme involving direct overlap of iron d orbitals. At each iron atom a coordinate system is chosen with

the x and y axes situated approximately along the iron-sulfur bonds in the plane of the Fe_2S_2 rhombus. Each iron atom then uses a set of $d_{x^2-y^2}d_{z^2}sp^3$ hybrid orbitals for σ bonding with the sulfur atoms. The 12 bonding σ MO's which result are populated with electrons formally donated by the sulfur atoms. Of the remaining six metal d orbitals, three on each metal atom, the two d_{xy} orbitals have the correct symmetry to form $\sigma(xy)$ bonding and $\sigma^*(xy)$ antibonding molecular orbitals to the adjacent iron atom. The remaining d_{zx} and d_{yz} orbitals are of appropriate symmetry for iron-sulfur π bonding.^{26,27} The ten valence electrons of the two formally Fe(III) atoms occupy all but the $\sigma^*(xy)$ orbital, requiring an Fe-Fe σ bond order of 1. The molecule $[\text{Fe}(\text{SC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{S}_2\text{CSC}_2\text{H}_5)_2]_2$ and its n -propyl, n -butyl, and benzyl analogs^{4a} thus appear to belong to the recently delineated²³ class of seven-coordinated M_2X_2 bridged systems with metal-metal interactions.

Metal-Ligand Geometry.—In $[\text{Fe}(\text{SC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{S}_2\text{CSC}_2\text{H}_5)_2]_2$, there are three chemically distinct types of iron-sulfur bonds, which are reflected in the average values of 2.218 (2) Å for the bridging mercaptide ligands, 2.287 (2) Å for the bridging thioxanthate ligands, and 2.338 (4) Å for the terminal thioxanthate ligands. The Fe-S bond lengths in the Fe_2S_2 rhombus are comparable to the distances found in $[\text{Ni}(\text{SC}_2\text{H}_5)_2]_6$ (2.20 Å)²⁸ and $[\text{Ni}(\text{SCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{SCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{S})_2]_2$ (2.18 and 2.22 Å)²⁹ for the Ni-S bridge bonds but are significantly shorter than the Fe-S distances in $[\text{Fe}(\text{NO})_2(\text{SC}_2\text{H}_5)_2]_2$ (2.26 (2) Å),³⁰ $[\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_3(\text{SC}_2\text{H}_5)_2]_2$ (2.259 (7) Å),³¹ and $[\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_6(\text{SCH}_3)_2\text{S}]_2$ (2.274 (8) Å).³² Apparently the presence of strong π -acceptor ligands such as carbonyl or nitrosyl can weaken to some extent the metal-sulfur bonds in the same molecule.

As was the case for (thio-*p*-toluoyl disulfido)bis(dithio-*p*-toluato)iron(III), $\text{Fe}(\text{TTD})(\text{DTT})_2$,² the presence of both four- and five-membered rings in $[\text{Fe}(\text{SC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{S}_2\text{CSC}_2\text{H}_5)_2]_2$ offers an excellent opportunity to explore the effects of ring constraints on geometry. Here the results for these two molecules will be discussed. The basic principles can easily be extended to the geometries of other 1,1- and 1,2-dithiolato complexes³³ and to other ligand systems.³⁴

When a bidentate ligand participates in the formation of a four- or a five-membered ring with one or more

(16) M. Dekker, G. R. Knox, and C. G. Robertson, *J. Organometal. Chem.*, **13**, 161 (1969), and references contained therein.

(17) C. Oldham, *Progr. Inorg. Chem.*, **10**, 223 (1968).

(18) R. Hesse, *Ark. Kemi*, **20**, 481 (1963).

(19) L. E. McCandlish, E. C. Bissel, D. Coucouvanis, J. P. Fackler, and K. Knox, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, **90**, 7357 (1968).

(20) M. Bonamico, G. Dessy, and V. Fares, *Chem. Commun.*, 1106 (1969).

(21) C. H. Wei and L. F. Dahl, *Inorg. Chem.*, **4**, 1 (1965).

(22) M. R. Churchill, *ibid.*, **6**, 190 (1967).

(23) L. F. Dahl, E. R. deGil, and R. D. Feltham, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, **91**, 1653 (1969).

(24) W. C. Hamilton and I. Bernal, *Inorg. Chem.*, **6**, 2003 (1967).

(25) Cf. the discussion by F. A. Cotton, *Rev. Pure Appl. Chem.*, **17**, 25 (1967).

(26) It may be noted that iron-sulfur π bonding involving the iron d_{zx} and d_{yz} orbitals would not affect the conclusions about metal-metal bond formation or the general electron bookkeeping scheme which accounts for the observed diamagnetism^{4b} of the compound. In fact, strong π bonding would require the highest filled molecular orbital to be $\sigma(xy)$, a result which can be used to explain the irreversibility of the one-electron oxidation of the dimer.⁴

(27) An equivalent molecular orbital description can be derived by combining the local sets of iron orbitals to transform according to the irreducible representations of the idealized molecular point group D_{2h} .

(28) P. Woodward, L. F. Dahl, E. W. Abel, and B. C. Crosse, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, **87**, 5253 (1965).

(29) G. A. Barclay, E. M. McPartlin, and N. C. Stephenson, *Acta Crystallogr., Sect. B*, **25**, 1262 (1969).

(30) J. T. Thomas, J. H. Robertson, and E. G. Cox, *ibid.*, **11**, 599 (1958).

(31) L. F. Dahl and C. H. Wei, *Inorg. Chem.*, **2**, 328 (1963).

(32) J. M. Coleman, A. Wojcicki, P. J. Pollick, and L. F. Dahl, *ibid.*, **6**, 1236 (1967).

(33) R. Eisenberg, *Progr. Inorg. Chem.*, in press.

(34) See, for example, S. J. Lippard and K. M. Melmed, *Inorg. Chem.*, **8**, 2755 (1969).

TABLE VI
SUMMARY OF AVERAGE STRUCTURAL FEATURES OF FOUR- AND FIVE-MEMBERED RINGS IN
Fe(TTD)(DTT)₂^a AND [Fe(SC₂H₅)(S₂CSC₂H₅)₂]₂^b

Compound	Ring	Fe-S distance, Å	S-Fe-S angle, deg	S...S bite distance, Å
Fe(TTD)(DTT) ₂		2.32 (2)	73.8 (2)	2.783 (6)
Fe(TTD)(DTT) ₂		2.21 (2)	92.6 (2)	3.199 (8)
[Fe(SC ₂ H ₅)(S ₂ CSC ₂ H ₅) ₂] ₂		2.338 (4)	73.40 (7)	2.795 (3)
[Fe(SC ₂ H ₅)(S ₂ CSC ₂ H ₅) ₂] ₂		2.287 (1)	94.9 (7) ^c	3.007 (3)

^a TTD = thio-*p*-toluoyl disulfide, CH₃C₆H₄CS₂⁻; DTT = dithio-*p*-toluate, CH₃C₆H₄CS₂⁻; data from ref. 2. ^b Numbers in parentheses are root-mean-square errors or estimated standard deviations, whichever are larger. ^c S-Fe-Fe' angle (see Figure 1).

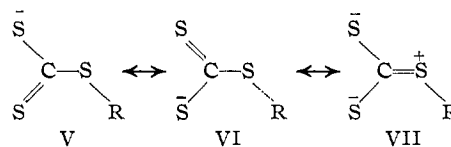
metal atoms having similar idealized coordination geometries and oxidation states, several stereochemical effects may be noted (Table VI). The angle at the metal atom is usually ~15–25% smaller and the metal-ligand bond lengths ~5% longer in the four-atom ring than in the five-atom ring. Reduction of the internal angles occurs at every atom in the smaller ring and is the geometrical consequence of requiring atoms with normal valence angles greater than 90° to form a four-membered ring. Although 90° may be the usual valence angle at the metal atom, it too will generally be reduced in order to relieve steric strain in the smaller ring. As a result of the decreased angle at the metal atom, metal-ligand overlap is poorer, the bond lengths are greater, and, for chelating ligands, the "bite" distance is commonly smaller in the four-membered ring. These effects are illustrated for Fe(TTD)(DTT)₂ and [Fe(SC₂H₅)(S₂CSC₂H₅)₂]₂ in Table VI and are also evident in more extensive tabulations³³ of structural patterns in metal-sulfur chelate complexes.

The S4-Fe-S5 angle of 73.43 (7)° in the four-membered ring may be contrasted with the more normal "octahedral" S-Fe-S angles involving Fe, S1, S1', and S2 (Table V). As expected from the foregoing considerations, the S...S bite distance of the terminal thioxanthate ligand is smaller than in the bridging ligand (Table VI). Similarly, the internal angles at the sulfur and carbon atoms are smaller in the four-atom ring than in the five-atom ring. Noteworthy, however, is the fact that although the S-C-S angle is only 11% less in the terminal than in the bridging thioxanthate ligand, the average Fe-S-C angle has decreased by ~22% in the smaller ring. The larger, more polarizable, sulfur atom apparently can relieve steric strain better than an sp²-hybridized carbon atom.

Intraligand Geometry and Intramolecular Steric Effects.—The average of the four crystallographically independent C=S bond lengths is 1.680 Å with a standard deviation from the mean of 0.002 Å. This value is similar to the average C=S bond distances obtained in Fe(TTD)(DTT)₂ (1.69 (2) Å)², (C₆H₅CH₂CS₂)₄Ni₂ (1.69 (6) Å),²⁰ (C₆H₅CS₂)₆Ni₃ (1.70 (2) Å),³⁵ (C₆H₅CS₂)₂-Pd (1.70 (1) Å),³⁶ (C₂H₅OCS₂)₂Ni (1.7 Å),³⁷ (NCNCS₂)₂-

Ni²⁻ (1.72 (3) Å),³⁸ (C₂H₅OCS₂)₃Fe (1.684 (8) Å),³⁹ (C₂H₅OCS₂)₃Co (1.67 (1) Å),⁴⁰ and other related compounds.⁴¹ The C-S and C-C bond lengths and Fe-S-C and S-C-C bond angles in the bridging ethyl mercaptide ligand as well as in the S-C-C unit of both ethyl thioxanthate ligands (Tables II, III) are all in agreement with the values expected on the basis of crystallographic results^{28–31} for analogous molecules.

Examination of the C1-S3 and C4-S6 bond distances (Table IV) reveals them to be significantly shorter than the value of 1.79 Å calculated by correcting the average of the S3-C2, S6-C5, and S7-C7 bond lengths for the difference (0.02 Å) between single-bond radii⁴² of sp³- and sp²-hybridized carbon atoms. It therefore appears that resonance form VII participates to an appreciable extent, along with V and VI, in the overall



electronic structure of coordinated thioxanthate ligands. This result is consistent with the conclusion that substantial double-bond character exists in the exocyclic C-S bond of the closely related trithiocarbonate ligand, as previously inferred from a structural study of the Ni(CS₃)₂²⁻ ion.^{43,44}

In a recent X-ray crystallographic study of Co(S₂COC₂H₅)₃,⁴⁰ the resonance form corresponding to VII was calculated to contribute 13% to the electronic structure of the ethyl xanthate ligand, compared to 43.5% each for resonance hybrids V and VI. An identical calculation for [Fe(SC₂H₅)(S₂CSC₂H₅)₂]₂, using the data of Table IV and the method of ref 40, indicates that the bridging thioxanthate group consists of 41% V, 41% VI, and 18% VII and that the terminal thioxanthate group has 39% V, 39% VI, and 22%

(38) F. A. Cotton and C. B. Harris, *Inorg. Chem.*, **7**, 2141 (1968).

(39) B. F. Hoskins and B. P. Kelly, *Chem. Commun.*, 45 (1970).

(40) S. Merlino, *Acta Crystallogr., Sect. B*, **26**, 2270 (1969).

(41) T. Breunann and I. Bernal, *J. Phys. Chem.*, **73**, 443 (1969), and references cited therein.

(42) Z. B. Maksic and M. Randic, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, **92**, 424 (1970), and references therein.

(43) J. S. McKechnie, S. L. Miesel, and I. C. Paul, *Chem. Commun.*, 152 (1967).

(44) Reference 33 contains a general discussion of resonance in a number of other YCS₂⁻ ligand systems.

(35) M. Bonamico, G. Dessy, and V. Fares, *Chem. Commun.*, 324 (1969).

(36) M. Bonamico and G. Dessy, *ibid.*, 483 (1968).

(37) M. Franzini, *Z. Kristallogr., Kristallgeometrie, Kristallphys., Kristallchem.*, **118**, 393 (1963).

VII. As discussed previously,^{4a} the fact that canonical form VII contributes more to the resonance stabilization of the terminal thioxanthate ligand than to the bridging one facilitates the assignment of the molecule's pmr spectrum. Since the terminal thioxanthate is involved in the formation of a four-membered ring with the iron atom (Fe-S-C angle, 86.9°), it is reasonable that resonance form VII would contribute more to its electronic structure than to that of the bridging thioxanthate group (Fe-S-C angle, 111.5°).

A final point worthy of mention is that, although the CS₃ atom groupings are calculated to be strictly coplanar, the two S=C=S angles within each ethyl thioxanthate are unexpectedly nonequivalent (Table V). One possible explanation is that intramolecular

packing forces distort the angles at C1 and C4 in order to accommodate the stereochemical requirements of the ethyl groups. Consistent with this suggestion is the fact that, for both thioxanthate ligands, the larger S=C=S angle occurs on the side of the ligand occupied by the ethyl group (Table V and Figure 1). Similar results have been obtained for the S=C=O angles of the ethyl xanthate ligands in their M(S₂-COC₂H₅)₂ complexes, where M is iron³⁹ and cobalt.⁴⁴

Acknowledgments.—We are grateful to the National Institutes of Health for its generous support of this research under Grant No. GM 16449 and to Dr. S. J. LaPlaca for assistance in preparing the figures for this paper.

Notes

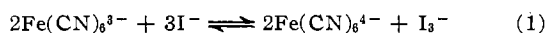
CONTRIBUTION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY,
JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY, CALCUTTA-32, INDIA

Specific Interaction between Tetraalkylammonium and Hexacyanoferrate(III) Ions

BY MUKUL KUMAR BASU AND MIHIR NATH DAS*

Received January 14, 1970

In a previous communication,¹ it has been reported that tetramethylammonium chloride exerts a negative salt effect on the equilibrium



whereas alkali metal salts exhibit the normal positive effect. To obtain detailed information about such an abnormal salt effect exerted by tetraalkylammonium salts, investigations have been carried out on the specific cation effects on the activity coefficients of Fe(CN)₆³⁻ and Fe(CN)₆⁴⁻ ions by emf and solubility measurements.

Experimental Section

Materials.—K₃Fe(CN)₆ (E. Merck, *pro analysi*) was dried in an electric oven at 110° and standard solutions were prepared by accurate weighing. K₄Fe(CN)₆ (E. Merck, *pro analysi*) was recrystallized and dried. Standard solutions were prepared by weighing and used on the same day.

The halide salts used were of reagent quality (Merck) and solutions were standardized against silver nitrate solution. Potassium nitrate, lithium nitrate, and tetramethylammonium nitrate were prepared by mixing equivalent amounts of the corresponding hydroxides and nitric acid.

Potassium barium hexacyanoferrate(II), K₂BaFe(CN)₆, was prepared by adding BaCl₂ solution to a saturated solution of K₄Fe(CN)₆. The pale yellow precipitate was kept overnight and then filtered under suction, with thorough washing with

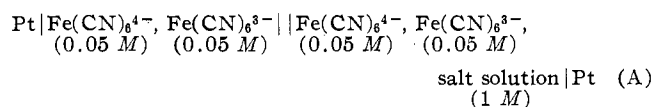
water and alcohol. The purity of the sample was checked by estimating the barium content as sulfate.

Tl₄Fe(CN)₆ was prepared by mixing equivalent amounts of TlNO₃ and K₄Fe(CN)₆ and keeping the precipitate overnight, filtering under suction, and thoroughly washing with water and alcohol.

Hexaamminecobalt(III) hexacyanoferrate(III) was prepared by mixing equivalent amounts of K₃Fe(CN)₆ and Co(NH₃)₆Cl₃ which was prepared and purified by the usual method.² All the samples were stored in a vacuum desiccator.

Twice distilled water was used for solubility measurements, and triple distilled de-oxygenated water for electrometric measurements.

Electrometric Measurements.—Emf measurements at 35° were carried out on the concentration cell



Potassium chloride (saturated) in agar was used in the salt bridge.

The measurements were carried out with a specially designed cell, made of Pyrex glass, having two compartments 7 cm high and 2.5 cm in diameter, and each of them was fitted with two standard joints (B7). Through the two extreme joints the platinum electrodes were fitted, and the joints at the inner side were used for inserting the salt bridge. The electrodes and the salt bridge were also provided with standard joints (B7).

After placing the solutions in the cell compartments, pure and dry nitrogen gas was passed through the extreme joints of both the compartments for about 10 min. Then the platinum electrodes (after cleaning with aqua regia and washing thoroughly with distilled water and burning over alcohol flame) were quickly inserted through the extreme joints of both the compartments. The salt bridge (agar + KCl) was then introduced through the inner joints. The nitrogen atmosphere was maintained within the cell compartments. The cell was placed in a thermostat (35 ± 0.01°). The asymmetry potentials of the electrodes were tested before use and the best pairs were selected for experimental observations. Readings were taken at intervals of 10 min and found to remain constant for 1 hr or more. The emf measurements were made with a potentiometer (Rubicon Co., Philadelphia, Pa.) and a moving coil galvanometer until the values were constant within ±0.1 mV.

* To whom correspondence should be addressed.

(1) M. K. Basu and M. N. Das, *Indian J. Chem.*, **7**, 358 (1969).

(2) J. Bjerrum and J. P. McReynolds, *Inorg. Syn.*, **2**, 217 (1963).