Synthesis and Characterization of the New Selenolate Ligand $-SeC₆H₃$ **-2,6-Mes₂ (Mes** $=$ **csH2-2,4,6-Me3) and Its Two-Coordinate Zinc and Manganese Derivatives: Factors Affecting Bending in Two-Coordinate Metal Complexes with Aryl-Substituted Ligands**

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The synthesis and characterization of a novel sterically demanding selenol HSeC₆H₃-2,6-Mes₂, **1** (Mes $= -C_6H_2$ - $2.4.6$ -Me₃), the corresponding diselenide, 2, and some of its metal derivatives are described. Solvated and unsolvated zinc selenolates were prepared by the treatment of the amide $\text{Zn}\{N(\text{SiMe}_3)_2\}_2$ in hexane with 2 equiv of the bulky selenol, 1. Crystallization from hexane produces monomeric $Zn(SeC_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2)_2$, 3, while crystallization from tetrahydrofuran results in the monomeric adduct **Zn(SeCaH3-2,6-Mes2)2(THF), 4.** Treatment of Mn{N(SiMe₃)₂}₂ with 2 equiv of 1 and crystallization from methylene chloride yields Mn(SeC₆H₃-2,6-Mes₂)₂²CH₂Cl₂, 5⁻²CH₂Cl₂. The synthesis and structure determination of [Mn(SeMes*)₂THF]₂^{-4PhMe} (Mes* = $-C_6H_2-2,4,6-t-Bu_3$, 6, were also undertaken to compare the steric properties of the $-SeC_6H_3-2,6-Me_s$ and -SeMes* ligands. The compounds **1-5** were characterized by IR and 'H **NMR** spectroscopy, and **1-4** were also characterized by 77Se **NMR** spectroscopy. The structures of 2-6 were determined by X-ray crystallography. In **3** the zinc has a crystallographically required linear coordination whereas the manganese atom in **5** has a bent geometry with a Se-Mn-Se angle of $119.9(1)$ °. In contrast, the structure of 6 is dimeric even in the presence of THF donor ligands. Crystal data with Mo K α (λ = 0.710 69 Å) (2 and 5) or Cu K α (λ = 1.541 78 Å) (3 and **4) radiation at 130 K: 2,** $a = 16.144(4)$ **Å,** $b = 15.122(3)$ **Å,** $c = 16.155(4)$ **Å,** $\beta = 91.86(2)^\circ$ **, monoclinic,** $Z =$ 4, space group $P2_1/n$, $R = 0.056$; **3**, $a = 9.318(2)$ Å, $b = 10.904(4)$ Å, $c = 11.796(4)$ Å, $\alpha = 62.25(2)^\circ$, $\beta =$ 73.76(2)°, $\gamma = 68.92(2)$ °, triclinic, $Z = 2$, space group *P*1, $R = 0.059$; **4**, $a = 10.621(3)$ Å, $b = 10.828(3)$ Å, c $= 22.491(6)$ Å, $\alpha = 86.76(2)$ °, $\beta = 85.20(2)$ °, $\gamma = 60.57(2)$ °, triclinic, $Z = 2$, space group *P*1, $R = 0.073$; 5.2CH₂Cl₂, $a = 20.061(5)$ Å, $b = 14.705(5)$ Å, $c = 15.781(5)$ Å, orthorhombic, $Z = 8$, space group *Pccn*, $R =$ 0.063; 6⁻4PhMe, $a = 19.000(8)$ Å, $b = 19.626(6)$ Å, $c = 27.687(7)$ Å, $\beta = 98.18(5)$ °, $Z = 4$, space group P_2_1/n , $R = 0.086$.

Introduction

Interest in metal selenolate complexes stems from their potential use as precursors for M/Se materials¹⁻³ and their relevance as models for the active sites of selenocysteinecontaining metalloproteins.⁴⁻⁷ In spite of the large number of metal selenolates known and the general interest in metal selenolate complexes, the number of structural types are, with few a exceptions, limited to anionic^{5,8-10} and mixed-ligand

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species^{6,7,11-15} with the metal in a coordination number of 4. Apart from the dimeric species $[Cd(SeMes^*)₂]₂² (Mes^* = C₆H₂ -$ 2,4,6-t-Bu₃) and [Pb{SeC₆H₂-2,4,6-(CF₃)₃}₂]₂¹⁵ and the monomeric M(SeMes*)₃ ($M = Ga$, In),¹⁶ structurally characterized neutral molecular homoleptic metal selenolates have not been reported. This is a consequence of the strong tendency of metal selenolates to form noncrystalline insoluble polymers through bridging by the chalcogenolate ligands.¹⁷ It has been shown in the case of thiolate complexes that extensive association through sulfur bridging can often be avoided through the use of sterically demanding thiolates, the most common of which uses the -Mes* group to provide steric hindrance. Examples of such complexes are $Sn(SMes*)_2$ and $[M(SMes*)_2]_2$ (M = Mn,¹⁸ Fe,¹⁸) $Co₁₈ Zn¹⁹$. Extensive studies on metal tellurolates have also been published, and neutral homoleptic tellurolates of the formula $[M{Test(SiMe₃)₃}₂]$ (M = Zn,^{20a} Cd,^{20a} Hg,^{20a} Sn,^{20b} Au,^{20c} Ag^{20d}) have been reported.²⁰ Metal derivatives of the selenolate ligand $-$ SeMes $*$ are not as well studied, but there is

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some evidence that they may display an even stronger tendency to associate than the corresponding thiolates. Thus a dimeric structure was observed in the case of $[Zn(SeMes^*)_2(p O=CHC_6H_4OMe)$ ₂,⁶ whereas unassociated structures were observed in a number of related thiolate derivatives of a similar formula $Zn(SMes*)₂L$ (L = Et₂O,^{19a} pyridine,¹⁴ tetrahydrothiophene,¹⁴ phosphine¹⁴). In addition, a dimeric structure has been observed for $[Mn{N(SiMe₃)₂}(\mu-SeC₆H₂-2,4,6-i-Pr₃) (THF)$ ₂¹³ even in the presence of THF donor molecules. Recent work showed that the use of the more sterically demanding aryl substituent $-C_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2$ (Mes $=C_6H_2-2,4,6-Mes_3$) at sulfur enables the isolation of the monomeric two-coordinate metal thiolates $M(SC_6H_3-2, 6-Mes_2)_2$ ($M = Fe^{21} Zn^{22}$). In this paper it is shown that the $-C_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2$ group is also effective in stabilizing unassociated two-coordinate metal selenolates. **Specif**ically, the syntheses and characterizations of a novel bulky selenol HSeC₆H₃-2,6-Mes₂, 1, diselenide [SeC₆H₃-2,6-Mes₂]₂, 2, zinc derivatives $Zn(SeC_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2)_2$, 3, and $Zn(SeC_6H_3 2,6$ -Mes₂ 2 ₂(THF), **4**, and the manganese derivative Mn(SeC₆H₃- $2,6$ -Mes₂)₂, **5**, are described. In addition, the synthesis and structure of the associated species $[Mn(Se{Mes^*})_2(THF)]_2$ ^{4PhMe}, *6,* are reported. Compounds **3** and *5* represent the fist structurally characterized examples of homoleptic two-coordinate metal selenolates.

Experimental Section

General Procedures. All reactions were performed under N_2 by using either modified Schlenk techniques or a Vacuum Atmospheres HE 43-2 drybox. Solvents were freshly distilled from sodiumpotassium alloy and degassed twice before use. $IC_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2,^{23}Zn {N(SiMe₃)₂}₂²⁴}$ and $Mn{N(SiMe₃)₂}₂²⁵$ were prepared by published procedures. n-Butyllithium 1.6 M in hexanes and HBF4 were purchased from commercial suppliers and used as received. Infrared spectra were recorded in the range $4000-200$ cm⁻¹ as Nujol mulls between CsI plates by using a Perkin-Elmer PE-1430 spectrometer. ¹H and ⁷⁷Se NMR spectra were obtained on a General Electric QE-300 spectrometer. Magnetic measurements were obtained with a Johnson-Mathey magnetic balance.

 $HSeC_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2$ (1). $IC_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2$ (4.4 g, 10 mmol) was dissolved in hexane (50 mL), and 10 mmol of n-BuLi (6.25 mL of a 1.6 M solution in hexanes) was added via syringe. The solution was stirred at ambient temperature for 12 h. *All* volatile materials were removed under reduced pressure. The remaining solid was redissolved in THF with cooling in a dry ice bath; then 1 equiv of selenium (0.79 g, 10 mmol) was added via a solids-addition funnel. Stirring was continued for 2 h, and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. The volatile materials were removed under reduced pressure, and the contents of the flask were dissolved in toluene. HBF4 (54% in diethyl ether, 8.0 mL) was added dropwise via syringe, and the resultant yellow solution was stirred for a further 2 h. The contents of the flask were allowed to settle, and the supernatant liquid was decanted via cannula into another flask. The volume was reduced to incipient crystallization and the mixture was cooled in a -20 °C freezer

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to produce yellow crystals of **1** in **ca.** 60% yield; mp 222-225 "C. 'H NMR (PhMe-ds): 6 1.14 **(s,** lH, SeH), 2.08 **(s,** 12H, o-Me), 2.17 **(s,** 6H, p-Me), 6.82 **(s,** 4H, m-H (Mes)), 6.84 (d, 2H, m-H (Ph)), 7.04 (t, 1H, p-H). ⁷⁷Se NMR (PhMe- d_8): δ 66.7 (d, SeH, $J = 61$ Hz). IR (Nujol, ν in cm⁻¹): 2298 m (ν (Se-H)), 1715 m, 1610 s, 1565 m, 1195 w, 1030 **s,** 965 w, 860 **s,** 850 **s,** 810 m, 795 **s,** 740 **s,** 720 **s,** 580 m, 567 m, 540 m, 420 m, 335 m, 280 w.

 $(SeC_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2)_2$ (2). LiSeC₆H₃-2,6-Mes₂ was prepared in situ in THF as described above. An aqueous basic solution of $K_3Fe(CN)_6$ was then added dropwise to effect the oxidation of the selenolate to the diselenide. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous phase extracted with diethyl ether $(3 \times 70 \text{ mL})$. The combined organic phases were dried over K₂CO₃ and filtered, and the filtrate was evaporated to dryness. Recrystallization of the residue from toluene gave deep red crystals of **2** in *ca.* 35% yield; mp 265-267 "C. 'H *NMR* (CDC13): *6* 1.74 **(s,** 12H, o-Me), 2.34 **(s,** 6H, p-Me), 6.75 **(s,** 4H, m-H (Mes)), 6.84 (d, 2H, m-H (Ph)), 7.20 (t, 1H, p-H). ⁷⁷Se NMR (CDCl₃): δ 421.5 **(s).** IR (Nujol, *v* in cm-'): 1730 w, 1610 **s,** 1560 w, 1300 w, 1260 w, 1175 m, 1165 w, 1155 w, 1025 m, 860 m, 845 **s,** 800 s, 775 m, 740 **s,** 720 m, 575 m.

 $Zn(SeC_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2)_2$ (3). The selenol, 1 (0.79 g, 2 mmol), was dissolved in hexane (40 mL). $Zn\{N(SiMe₃)₂\}$ (0.27 mL, 1 mmol) was added via syringe. The solution became cloudy upon stirring for 3 h. A colorless precipitate of **3** was isolated in **ca.** 90% yield. Small colorless crystals could be obtained from hexane, *in* which **3** was found to be slightly soluble; mp 254-256 °C. ¹H NMR (PhMe- d_8): δ 1.98 **(s,** 12H, o-Me), 2.30 **(s,** 6H, p-Me), 6.78 **(s,** 4H, m-H (Mes)), 6.63 (d, 2H, m-H (Ph)), 6.90 (t, 1H, p-H). ⁷⁷Se *NMR* (CDCl₃): δ -241.93 **(s).** IR (Nujol, *v* in cm-'): 1725 m, 1610 **s,** 1560 m, 1300 w, 1260 w, 1235 w, 1180 w, 1160 w, 1100 w, 1090 m, 1025 **s,** 900 m, 875 m, 850 **s,** 795 **s,** 775 m, 740 m, 580 m, 565 m, 540 m, 420 m, 345 m, 285 w.

 $Zn(SeC_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2)_2(THF)$ (4). $Zn(SeC_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2)_2$, 3, was dissolved in tetrahydrofuran (25 mL). The volume was reduced to incipient crystallization and the mixture was cooled for 24 h in the -20 "C freezer to produce **4** as colorless crystals; mp 254-256 "C (desolvation > 150 °C). ¹H NMR (PhMe-d₈): δ 1.447 (m, THF), 1.98 **(s,** 12H, o-Me), 2.22 **(s,** 6H, p-Me), 3.53 (t, THF), 6.64 (d, 2H, m-H (Ph)), 6.78 **(s,** 4H, m-H (Mes)), 6.91 (t, lH, p-H). 77Se NMR (PhMe*ds):* 6 4.60 **(s).** IR (Nujol, *v* in cm-I): 1730 m, 1610 s, 1570 **s,** 1305 w, 1260 w, 1235 m, 1175 **s,** 1105 m, 1085 m, 1070 w, 1030 **s,** 975 m, 920 **s,** 870 s, 850 **s,** 800 **s,** 780 m, 740 **s,** 710 m, 670 m, 570 s, 545 m, 420 m, 345 m, 315 m, 230 m.

Mn(SeC₆H₃-2,6-Mes₂)₂·2CH₂Cl₂ (5·2CH₂Cl₂). The selenol, 1 (0.79) g, 2 mmol), was dissolved in hexane (40 mL), and $Mn\{N(SiMe₃)₂\}$ $(1.7 \text{ mL of a } 0.6 \text{ M solution in hexane, 1 mmol})$ was added via syringe. The solution became cloudy upon stirring for 3 h. A colorless precipitate of **3** was isolated in **ca.** 80% yield. Yellow crystals that were suitable for X-ray crystallography were grown from methylene chloride (7 mL): mp 315-317 °C. $\mu = 4.4 \mu_{\text{B}}$ at 25 °C. ¹H NMR (PhMe-ds): 6 -10.2 (s, broad), 13.8 **(s,** broad), 29.2 **(s,** broad), 32.5 **(s,** broad). IR (Nujol, *v* in cm-'): 1715 m, 1610 m, 1565 m, 1300 w, 1260 w, 1160 m, 1090 w, 1030 **s,** 965 w, 885 w, 845 **s,** 795 **s,** 770 w, 735 **s,** 720 **s,** 570 m, 540 w, 425 w, 335 w. UV/vis: featureless with a slow rise toward the W region.

 $[Mn(SeMes*)₂THF]₂4PhMe (64PhMe). Mn{N(SiMe₃)₂}₂ (0.56)$ g, 2.98 mmol) was dissolved in toluene (15 mL), and the mixture was treated with a solution of 0.97 g of HSeMes* in THF *(5* mL) and toluene (15 mL). The solution was allowed to **stir** for 12 h at room temperature, during which time a color change from pale pink to pale yellow was observed. Filtration through a Celite padded filter frit, reduction of the volume to *ca.* 10 mL under reduced pressure, and storage of the solution at $ca. -40$ °C for 16 h in the freezer afforded extremely airsensitive colorless crystals of 6 in *ca.* 50% yield. The crystals decompose rapidly upon removal from the mother liquor to the diselenide (SeMes^{*})₂ (authenticated by melting point and *NMR* studies) and a black insoluble deposit.

X-ray Crystallographic Studies

The crystals were removed from the Schlenk tube under a stream of nitrogen and immediately covered with a layer of hydrocarbon oil.

^a Data were collected at 130 K using a Siemens R3m/V diffractometer, Mo K α (λ = 0.710 73 Å), for 2 and 5, a Syntex P21 diffractometer, Cu K α (λ = 1.541 78 Å) for 3 and 4, and a Siemens P4/RA, Cu K α (λ = 1.541 78 Å), for 6.

A suitable crystal was selected, attached to a glass fiber, and immediately placed in a low-temperature nitrogen stream as described in ref 26 .

The data for 2, 3, 4, and 6 were collected at 130 K with the use of a Syntex P2₁ diffractometer (Cu K α radiation, $\lambda = 1.541$ 78 Å), and the data for 5 were collected at 130 K by using a Siemens R3m/V diffractometer (Mo K α radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å). Both diffractometers were equipped with a graphite monochromator and a locally modified Enraf-Nonius universal low-temperature device.

Crystallographic programs used for the structure solutions and refinements were those of SHELXTL-Plus installed on a MicroVax 3200 work station. Scattering factors were obtained from ref 27. An absorption correction was applied by using the method described in ref 28. Some details for the data collection and refinement, atomic coordinates, bond distances, and bond angles are available in the supplementary material. All of the structures were solved by direct methods and difference Fourier maps. The structures were refined by full-matrix least-squares procedures. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms were included in the refinement at calculated positions using a riding model with $C-H = 0.96$ Å and $U_{\text{H}}(\text{iso}) \sim 1.3 U_{\text{C}}$. Some details of the crystallographic data are given in Table 1, coordinates for important atoms are given in Table 2, and selected bond distances and angles are provided in Table 3.

Results

Structural Descriptions. $(SeC₆H₃-2,6-Mes₂)₂$, 2. The structure of 2 (Figure 1) consists of discrete noninteracting molecules. The Se-Se-C angle is 102.5° , and the \S e-Se bond length is 2.339(1) \AA . The torsion angle between Se-C vectors is 128.3° .

 $Zn(SeC₆H₃-2,6-Mes₂)₂$, 3. The structure of 3 (Figure 2) consists of monomers with no close interactions between neighboring molecules. The zinc atom lies on an inversion center in a two-coordinate environment and is bound by two selenolate ligands with a crystallographically required Se-Zn-Se angle of 180 $^{\circ}$. The Zn-Se bond length is 2.289(1) Å. The $Zn-Se-C(1)$ angle is 106.3°. The closest interaction between the zinc center and ortho mesityl substiuents of the organic group is in excess of 3.00 A.

 $\text{Zn}(SeC_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2)_2(\text{THF})$, 4. The structure of 4 (Figure 3) reveals a neutral monomer with no interactions with neighboring molecules. The zinc center, which is bound to two selenolate ligands and a tetrahydofuran donor molecule, has an almost planar three-coordinate geometry. The $Zn-Se(1)$ and $Zn-Se(2)$ distances are 2.339(2) and 2.337(2) Å, respectively. The $Zn-O(1)$ distance is 2.082(4) Å. The Se(1)-Zn-Se(2) angle is 150.0(1)°, and the O(1)-Zn-Se(1) and O(1)-Zn-Se(2) angles are $105.0(1)$ ° and $104.0(1)$ °, respectively.

 $Mn(SeC₆H₃-2,6-Mes₂)₂$ ²CH₂Cl₂, 5·2CH₂Cl₂. Compound 5 (Figure 4) cocrystallizes with one molecule of methylene chloride per asymmetric unit. No interactions between the $CH₂$ - $Cl₂$ and the manganese are apparent. However, the $CH₂Cl₂$ molecules are positioned such that there are distances of 3.38 and 2.77 Å between the hydrogen atoms of this molecule and selenium and the centroid of the $C(7)$ mesityl ring (see illustration in the Table of Contents). The manganese center, which lies on a 2-fold rotation axis, has a bent two-coordinate geometry with an Se-Mn-Se angle of $119.9(1)$ °. The Mn-Se bond lengths are symmetrically equivalent at $2.498(1)$ Å as are the Mn-Se-C(1) angles of $105.8(2)$ °. The closest interactions between the manganese center and ortho mesityl substituents are Mn--C(16) (2.696 Å), Mn--C(17) (2.716 Å), and Mn-- $C(21)$ (2.988 Å).

[Mn(SeMes*)₂THF]₂4PhMe, (6-4PhMe). The structure of this compound is represented by the drawing in Figure 5. The basic structural motif consists of dimers formed by the association of $Mn(SeMes[*])₂$ monomeric units. Thus, there are two bridging and two terminal -SeMes* ligands. The average Mn-Se (terminal) distance is 2.466(4) Å whereas the average Mn-Se (bridging) distance is 2.60(2) Å. The average $Mn-Se(t)-C$ angle is near 102°. The coordination of the bridging selenium centers is variable with the angular sums (\sum°) at Se(2) and Se-(4) of 344 and 359.9°. The coordination spheres at the Mn centers are completed by the presence of one THF donor at each metal for which the Mn-O distances are 2.130(13) Å (Mn-(1)) and 2.114(13) Å ($Mn(2)$). The THF's are coordinated in such a way that they have a cis-configuration with respect to the plane of the Mn₂Se₂ core. The shortest Mn--C contacts involve $C(16)$, $C(17)$, and $C(40)$ with distances of 3.091, 3.096, and 3.121 Å.

Discussion

Both the new selenol $HSeC_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2$, 1, and the diselenide $(SeC_6H_3-2, 6-Mes_2)_2$, 2, can be readily synthesized in

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Table 2. Atomic Coordinates ($\times 10^4$) of Important Atoms for 2-6

	х	y	z
Compound 2			
Se(1)	7994(1)	1595(1)	5377(1)
Se(2)	7433(1)	2330(1)	4215(1)
C(1)	8798(4)	2434(4)	5803(4)
C(25)	6261(4)	2261(4)	4394(4)
Compound 3			
Zn(1)	0(0)	0(0)	5000(0)
Se(1)	967(1)	1351(1)	3233(1)
C(1)	2390(9)	$-56(8)$	2742(7)
C(2)	3468(9)	442(8)	1948(7)
C(3)	4581(9)	$-511(8)$	1609(7)
C(4)	4648(10)	$-1946(9)$	1982(8)
C(5)	3551(9)	$-2392(8)$	2714(7)
C(6)	2420(9)	$-1488(8)$	3112(7)
C(7)	1228(9)	$-2047(8)$	3830(7)
C(8)	1609(9)	$-3142(8)$	5162(7)
C(9)	546(9)	$-3765(8)$	5757(8)
C(10)	$-872(10)$	$-3376(8)$ $-2305(9)$	5111(8)
C(11)	$-1232(10)$		3801(8)
C(12)	$-189(9)$	$-1657(8)$	3162(8)
C(13)	3153(10)	$-3635(9)$	5890(8)
C(14)	$-2010(11)$	$-4068(10)$	5834(9)
C(15)	$-587(10)$	$-570(9)$	1745(8)
Compound 4			
Zn(1)	2619(1)	$-37(1)$	2504(1)
Se(1)	1637(1)	674(1)	3485(1)
Se(2)	2719(1)	452(1)	1488(1)
O(1)	4060(5)	$-2200(5)$	2548(2)
C(1)	2257(7)	1950(7)	3745(3)
C(25)	789(7)	1175(7)	1251(3)
Compound 5			
Mn	7500	2500	$-123(1)$
Se(1)	7178(1)	1097(1)	670(1)
C(1)	7841(3)	202(4)	394(4)
C(2)	8408(3)	434(4)	$-101(4)$
C(3)	8885(3)	$-219(4)$	$-258(4)$
C(4)	8820(4)	$-1100(5)$	35(5)
C(5)	8264(4)	$-1322(4)$	496(4)
C(6)	7772(3)	$-690(4)$	694(4)
C(16)	8509(3)	1351(4)	$-477(4)$
C(17)	8228(3)	1544(4)	$-1269(4)$
C(18)	8384(3)	2374(4)	$-1662(4)$
C(19)	8830(3)	2993(4)	$-1316(4)$
C(20)	9090(3)	2781(4)	$-522(4)$
C(21)	8940(3)	1984(4)	$-94(4)$
C(22)	7800(3)	864(4)	$-1715(4)$
C(23)	9000(3)	3866(4)	$-1744(4)$
C(24)	9230(4)	1798(5)	759(4)
C(25)	5633(4)	680(5)	2021(5)
Cl(1)	5183(1)	616(2)	1085(1)
Cl(2)	5095(1)	622(2)	2909(2)
Compound 6			
Se(1)	3891(1)	6818(1)	2768(1)
Se(2)	5947(1)	6405(1)	2092(1)
Se(3)	7655(1)	7871(1)	2696(1)
Se(4)	6092(1)	6613(1)	3312(1)
Mn(1)	5017(1)	6227(2)	2700(1)
Mn(2)	7024(2)	6776(2)	2720(1)
O(15)	4951(6)	5146(6)	2643(4)
O(25)	7650(6)	5881(7)	2784(5)
C(1)	3217(9)	6052(10)	2787(5)
C(101)	5914(9)	6905(8)	1444(6)
C(201)	8653(8)	7567(10)	2740(4)
C(301)	6068(10)	6672(8)	4022(6)

moderate yields by standard synthetic routes. The ⁷⁷Se NMR data for $\mathbf{1} (\delta = 66.7)$ and $\mathbf{2} (\delta = 421.5)$ are well within the normal ranges as is the $J_{\text{Se-H}}$ value of 61 Hz.²⁹ The crystal structure of 2 shows that the Se-Se distance $(2.339(1)$ Å) is normal (cf. radius of Se = 1.17 Å)³⁰ and no weakening of this

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Figure 1. Computer-generated thermal ellipsoid drawing of **2.** Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

bond, as a result of the large substituents, is apparent. The torsion angle between Se-C vectors of 128.3° is unusually large, falling outside the normal range (74-87°) for other diselenides.³¹

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Figure 2. Computer-generated thermal ellipsoid drawing of 3. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

Figure 3. Computer-generated thermal ellipsoid drawing of **4.** Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

Figure. 4. Computer-generated thermal ellipsoid drawing of **5.** Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

This is possibly a result of steric interactions between the large substituents. 32

The zinc derivative 3 was synthesized in good yield by selenolysis of the amide $\text{Zn}\{N(\text{SiMe}_3)_2\}$ with 2 equiv of the selenol **1.** The complexed species **4** was obtained by dissolving **3** in THF and allowing the product to crystallize. The structure of this THF complex has similarities to those already reported for Zn(SeMes*)₂(OSC₄H₈)¹⁴ (7) and Zn{SeC₆H₂-2,4,6-(CF₃)₃}₂- $\{HN(SiMe₃)₂\}$ ¹⁵ (8). The Zn-Se distance observed in 4 (2.338-(2) A) is very similar to those observed in **7** (2.313(3) A) and **8** (average 2.36 *8).* **A** major structural difference, however, relates to the Se-Zn-Se angle which in 4 is 150.9(1)°. This value is considerably greater than the $129.0(2)^\circ$ in 7 and the 133.4" in **8.** In addition, the Zn-0 distance in **4,** 2.082(4) A, is considerably longer than the $Zn-O$ bond length observed in

Figure 5. Computer-generated thermal ellipsoid drawing of *6.* Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

7 (1.925(11) **A),** although it should be mentioned that the donor in **7**, OSC₄H₈, is considerably different from THF. It is probable that the structural differences between **4** and **7, 8** are mainly a consequence of the larger size of the $-SeC₆H₃ - 2,6-Mes₂$ ligand which tends to widen the $Se-Zn-Se$ angle and weaken the coordination of other ligands in the coordination sphere.

The compound $Zn(SeC₆H₃-2,6-Mes₂)₂$, 3, and the related species $Mn(SeC₆H₃-2.6-Mes₂)₂$, 5, are respectively the first instances **of** a two-coordinate zinc selenolate and an open-shell two-coordinate transition metal selenolate³³ species. The Zn-Se distance in 3, 2.289(1) Å, is considerably shorter than those seen in **4,7,** and **8** which is, presumably, a consequence of the lower coordination number. The exactly linear coordination observed at zinc is something of a surprise since the corresponding thiolate derivative $Zn(SC_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2)_2^{22}$ (9) (which is not isomorphous with **3**) has a bent geometry $(S - Zn - S =$ 151.7°) at zinc. This is opposite to what is expected on steric grounds since 3 is the sterically less encumbered molecule owing to the larger size of selenium. There is no obvious and simple explanation for the differences between the zinc thiolate and selenolate structures. However, several factors are relevant to a discussion of the setting of the geometry of two-coordinate metal compounds. For example, metal size, metal-ligand bond length, type of ligand, and the electronic properties of the metal itself are obviously of considerable importance. Thus, on average, zinc complexes would be expected to display wider angles than complexes of manganese or iron since the smaller zinc atom imposes the higher steric requirements. Longer metal-ligand bonds should also ease the steric requirements and allow greater bending at the metal. However, it appears that the most important factor in promoting bending in twocoordinate complexes is the electronic configuration of the central metals. Thus, **5** and the recently reported iron derivative $Fe(SC_6H_3-2,6-Mes_2)2^{21}$ (10) (both with open d-shells and highspin electron configurations) have interligand angles **near** 120". It is doubtful that the possible interactions between the $CH₂Cl₂$ molecule and Se in the structure of **5** play any significant structural role other than one which facilitates crystallization. The Se- **-H** distance (3.38 A) is rather long as is the possible interaction (2.77 **A)** between H(25B) and the centroid of the

⁽³³⁾ The related homoleptic tellureolates $M{TeSc(ScMe₃)₃}₂$ (M = Mn or Fe) were synthesized but not **purified** in **the** following: Gindelberger, D. E.; hold, **J.** L. *Znorg. Chem.* **1993,** *32,* **5813.**

 $C(7)$ ring. The latter distance is rather longer than the 2.46 \AA observed in CH_2Cl_2 -calixarene complexes.³⁴

Significant bending has also been observed in other twocoordinate transition metal complexes.³⁵ The low-lying d-orbitals in these metals are only partially full and thus may interact with any available electron density, such as the π -electron clouds of the ortho substituents. The bent complexes show significantly closer M- **-C** interactions than those observed for linear geometry. **A** reasonable assumption therefore might be that a bent geometry is observed because bending allows closer M- -C interactions. However, this is not the whole story. In fact, the distance between the metal and the ortho substituents in aryl chalcogenolate complexes is primarily a function of the torsion angle between the $M-E-C(i)$ pso) ($E = S$, Se) plane and the plane of the C(ipso) ring-and not the amount of bending at the metal. The closest M- -C approaches are observed for the smaller torsion angles. This correlation is observed in **3** (torsion angle 19.7"), *5* (torsion angle 5.7"), and **10** (torsion angles 4.0° for the ring with the closest $M \cdot C$ interactions). Consideration of the geometry of the ortho-substituted aryl groups employed here and the relatively narrow $M-E-C$ (E $=$ S, Se) angles near 105 $^{\circ}$ suggests that a linear geometry at the metal plus a zero torsion angle (as defined above) would lead to undue steric congestion. In the absence of any significant interaction between an ortho substituent and the metal, the torsion angle increases to ease steric crowding (although the planes of the two aromatic rings attached to selenium remain parallel), and this is what is observed in the case of the zinc derivative **3.** Where there is a significant interaction between the ortho substituent and the metal as in *5* or **10,** a small torsion angle is required for the closest M- -C approach, which is again sterically incompatible with a linear geometry. Molecules can avoid this steric congestion and preserve the close M- -C interaction by bending. The preservation of the close M- -C interactions in the bent molecule results in an almost perpendicular orientation of the planes of the aromatic rings attached to selenium in order to minimize the steric congestion. The arguments made above may be summarized by saying that currently known open-shell two-coordinate compounds that have ligands substituted by aromatic groups adopt a bent configuration for steric reasons in order to preserve interactions between the metal d-orbitals and the electron-rich aromatic groups in these ligands.

In addition to these intramolecular considerations, there is the possibility of competitive intermolecular interactions involving the aromatic rings of the substituents which is maximized when the rings are aligned parallel to each other. This may be

Figure 6. View of the intermolecular packing of **3** showing the parallel orientation of the mesityl rings. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

the key factor in determining the linear coordination of **3,** where it can be seen (Figure 6) that this geometry allows parallel orientation of the mesityl substituents. **This** does not occur in the manganese analogue *5.*

The structure of the dimeric compound **6** underlines the steric and electronic differences between the $-Mes^*$ and $-C_6H_3-2,6-$ Mes2 substituents. The dimeric structure of **6** is preserved even in the presence of THF donor ligands. (It has not yet proved possible to grow crystals of a THF complex of **3** suitable for X-ray crystallography although such a complex is presumably monomeric.) The metric features of **6** demonstrate that the bridging $Mn-Se$ distances are significantly (ca. 0.15 Å) longer than the terminal $Mn-Se$ bonds. Oddly, the terminal $Mn-Se$ distances, average 2.466(4) A, are marginally shorter than the Mn-Se bond lengths in the nominally two-coordinate complex *5.* **This** is in agreement with the relatively long Fe-S distances in Fe(SC₆H₃-2,6-Mes₂)₂²¹ which are similar to those in some four-coordinate Fe-S species.36

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Supplementary Material Available: Tables giving full details of the crystal **data** and crystallographic **data** collections, atom coordinates, bond distances, bond angles, and thermal parameters for **2-6** (58 pages). Ordering information **is** given on any current masthead page. IC941001T

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