

The Crystal and Molecular Structure of Trichloroethoxytin(IV) ethanolate dimer, $[\text{SnCl}_3(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5), \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}]_2$

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The crystals are monoclinic, $a = 9.69 \pm 0.03$, $b = 7.67 \pm 0.02$, $c = 15.08 \pm 0.03$ Å, $\beta = 111.16 \pm 0.2^\circ$, space group $P2_1/c$ with four (monomeric) formula units per unit cell. The calculated density (2.01 g cm^{-3}) for $Z = 4$ agrees well with the measured density (2.03 g cm^{-3}). The structure consists of discrete centrosymmetric dimeric molecules with ethoxy groups bridging between the two tin atoms. Each tin atom is approximately octahedrally coordinated by three mutually *cis* chlorine atoms ($\text{Sn}-\text{Cl}$ 2.347(6), 2.351(7), 2.400(7) Å) and three oxygen atoms ($\text{Sn}-\text{O}$ 2.08(2), 2.11(2), 2.18(2) Å).

Introduction

Many reactions of tin(IV) halides with oxygen containing compounds have been investigated and whilst innumerable compounds have been reported in the literature there is a comparative dearth of sound structural data. The reaction between SnCl_4 and ethanol has yielded the adduct $\text{SnCl}_4 \cdot 2\text{EtOH}^1$ and the alcoholysis product $\text{SnCl}_3(\text{OEt}) \cdot \text{EtOH}^{2,3}$ depending upon the experimental conditions. The latter compound, first prepared in 1884,⁴ was found to be dimeric in boiling benzene³ and associated (dimers?) by cryoscopy in the same solvent.² A chlorine bridged structure has been tentatively suggested for the dimer² although subsequent structure determinations have firmly established the occurrence of bridging alkoxy groupings. Reports of a number of ethanol adducts of SnCl_4 occur in the literature but the trisethanol complex⁵ may be erroneous¹ since it has the same m.pt. (192°C) as the compound $\text{SnCl}_3(\text{OEt}) \cdot \text{EtOH}$. The two dimensional X-ray structure of $\text{SnCl}_3(\text{OMe}) \cdot \text{MeOH}$ shows⁶ a dimeric unit isomorphous with the bromo compound and containing methoxy bridges. As part of a study on the reaction of tin(IV) halides with oxygen donors we undertook a three dimensional X-ray analysis of a molecule of this type to establish more precise molecular parameters, and we report now the structure of $[\text{SnCl}_3(\text{OEt}) \cdot \text{EtOH}]_2$.

Experimental

Preparation

Tin tetrachloride and ethanol, dried by refluxing over Mg, were distilled prior to use. In a drybox, ethanol (10 ml) was added slowly to SnCl_4 (10 ml) when a vigorous exothermic reaction took place and some white solid formed. Benzene (30 ml) was added and the mixture heated to completely dissolve the solid. Slow cooling deposited well formed colourless crystals of $\text{SnCl}_3(\text{OEt}) \cdot \text{EtOH}$ (m.pt. $191\text{--}193^\circ$ (uncorr). Literature m.pt. $191\text{--}193^\circ$). Found: Cl, 33.36%. Calc. for $\text{SnCl}_3(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5) \cdot \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH} : \text{Cl}$, 33.64%. Crystals were removed from the supernatant liquid and mounted for crystallographic examination in Lindemann glass capillaries which were sealed off.

Crystal data

Lattice parameters and diffraction symmetry were determined from Weissenberg and precession photographs at room temperature. The crystals are monoclinic, $a = 9.69 \pm 0.03$, $b = 7.67 \pm 0.02$, $c = 15.08 \pm 0.03$ Å, $\beta = 111.16 \pm 0.2^\circ$, $V = 1045.2 \text{ \AA}^3$. The systematic absences $h0l$ for l odd and $0k0$ for k odd uniquely determined the space group as $P2_1/c$ (No. 14). The calculated density ($\text{C}_4\text{H}_{11}\text{Cl}_3\text{O}_2\text{Sn}$, M.W. 316.18) of 2.01 g cm^{-3} for $Z = 4$, agrees well with the value of 2.03 g cm^{-3} obtained by flotation in ethylene dibromide/carbon tetrachloride mixtures. The linear absorption coefficient was calculated as $\mu(\text{MoK}\alpha) 32.0 \text{ cm}^{-1}$.

A crystal of approximate dimensions $0.20 \times 0.52 \times 0.25$ mm, mounted about the b axis was used to record multiple film equi-inclination Weissenberg photographs ($h0l\text{--}h6l$) using zirconium filtered $\text{MoK}\alpha$ radiation (0.7107 \AA). Intensities were estimated visually by comparison with a calibrated wedge, and no spot shape correction was applied. 1159 reflections were measured from two octants of reciprocal space of which 946 were observed reflections, and 213 which were too weak to be measured were classed as "less thans". These were given an intensity of half the minimum observed value. Approximate level to level scale fac-

TABLE I. Atomic Positional and Thermal Parameters^a with Standard Deviations in Parenthesis.

Atom	x/a	y/b	z/c	U(Å ²)		
Sn	0.1455(2)	0.0515(2)	0.0996(1)	—		
Cl(1)	0.8072(7)	0.4831(10)	0.2403(4)	—		
Cl(2)	0.3864(6)	0.1412(11)	0.1180(5)	—		
Cl(3)	0.0499(7)	0.3396(9)	0.1015(4)	—		
O(1)	0.0641(14)	0.4398(23)	0.4498(9)	0.045(4)		
O(2)	0.7924(18)	0.2856(25)	0.4209(11)	0.058(5)		
C(1)	0.1341(23)	0.3500(34)	0.3936(14)	0.043(6)		
C(2)	0.6574(28)	0.1903(40)	0.3653(17)	0.059(7)		
C(3)	0.5830(38)	0.1343(56)	0.4359(24)	0.095(10)		
C(4)	0.7739(30)	-0.0360(46)	0.1417(19)	0.071(7)		
	U ₁₁	U ₂₂	U ₃₃	U ₁₂	U ₁₃	U ₂₃
Sn	0.043(1)	0.039(8)	0.037(1)	-0.001(1)	0.008(1)	-0.002(1)
Cl(1)	0.069(4)	0.064(10)	0.041(3)	-0.001(3)	0.010(3)	-0.005(3)
Cl(2)	0.047(3)	0.077(10)	0.069(4)	-0.016(3)	0.010(3)	-0.004(4)
Cl(3)	0.065(4)	0.041(10)	0.060(3)	0.002(3)	0.009(3)	-0.011(3)

^a The anisotropic temperature factor is of the form $T = \exp\{-2\pi^2(U_{11}h^2(a^*)^2 + U_{22}k^2(b^*)^2 + U_{33}l^2(c^*)^2 + 2U_{12}hka^*b^*\cos\gamma^* + 2U_{13}hla^*c^*\cos\beta^* + 2U_{23}klb^*c^*\cos\alpha^*)\}$.

tors were obtained initially and treated as variables in the refinement. The crystal showed no evidence of deterioration in the X-ray beam in the period of the experiment. The data were corrected for Lorentz and polarisation factors but no absorption or extinction correction was applied ($0.30 < \mu R < 1.00$). Scattering factors for neutral atoms were taken from International Tables⁷ and anomalous dispersion corrections used for Sn and Cl.⁷

Structure Solution

Conventional heavy atom procedures were used to find the tin atom position from the unsharpened three dimensional Patterson function. The tin atom occupies a 4-fold general position and an electron density synthesis phased on this atom located the three chlorine atoms which were subsequently introduced into the model. Electron density syntheses and least squares techniques located the remaining two oxygen atoms and four carbon atom positions demanded by the formula. Full matrix least squares refinement of the atom positional and isotropic thermal parameters and scale factors (unit weights) reduced R_1 to 9.9%. An empirical weighting scheme was derived from the plot of $|\Delta F|$ versus \bar{F}_o for various ranges of F_o . (The weight $w = 1/(A + BF_o)$ where $A = 2.35$ and $B = 0.044$, w (less than) = 0.594 w (observed)). The resulting $\Sigma w\Delta^2$ values showed an acceptable dependence on F_o and $\sin\theta/\lambda$. The introduction of anisotropic temperature factors for the tin and chlorine atoms into the least squares refinement (67 parameters, calculated weights, positional parameters, scale factors, isotropic O and C atoms and anisotropic Sn and Cl thermal parameters) reduced R_1 to 7.9% (excluding less thans)

with no unreasonable temperature factors. A difference electron density synthesis phased on the final parameters showed no anomalies except for some small regions very close to the tin atom. At this stage refinement was terminated. In Table I we detail the final structure parameters and the standard deviations derived from the least squares matrix, and in Table II are presented our observed and calculated structure factors.

All calculations were performed on the ICL 1906A computer, Harwell, England using the X-ray system of crystallographic programs devised by J.M. Stewart.

Description of the Structure and Discussion

The structure which is shown in Figures 1 and 2 consists of discrete centrosymmetric dimeric mole-

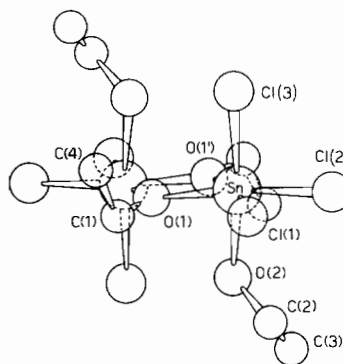


Figure 1. An isolated dimeric molecule $[\text{SnCl}_3(\text{OEt})_2]_2$ looking in the positive z direction.

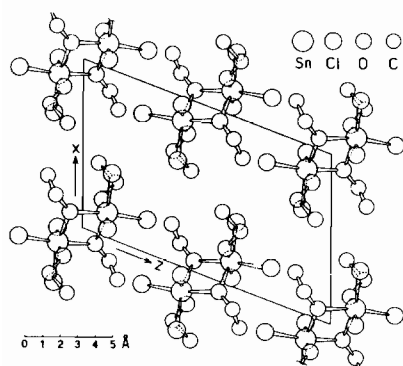


Figure 2. Projection of the unit cell and surroundings onto the (010) plane showing the molecular packing arrangement.

cules. The tin atoms are linked through bridging ethoxy groups and each tin atom is six coordinate (3 mutually *cis* Sn–Cl bonds and 3 Sn–O bonds) in an approximately octahedral arrangement. Pertinent intramolecular distances and angles are listed in Table III.

TABLE III. Intramolecular Distances (Å) and Angles (deg.) with Standard Deviations in Parenthesis.^a

Sn–Cl(1)	2.347(6)	Cl(1)–Sn–Cl(2)	97.3(2)
Sn–Cl(2)	2.351(7)	Cl(1)–Sn–Cl(3)	97.3(2)
Sn–Cl(3)	2.400(7)	Cl(2)–Sn–Cl(3)	95.7(3)
Sn–O(1)	2.08(1)	Cl(1)–Sn–O(1)	94.6(4)
Sn–O(2)	2.18(2)	Cl(1)–Sn–O(1')	165.3(5)
Sn–O(1')	2.11(1)	Cl(1)–Sn–O(2)	88.6(5)
O(1)–C(1)	1.44(3)	Cl(2)–Sn–O(1)	164.2(5)
O(2)–C(2)	1.47(3)	Cl(2)–Sn–O(1')	95.1(4)
C(1)–C(4)	1.48(4)	Cl(2)–Sn–O(2)	88.7(5)
C(2)–C(3)	1.55(5)	Cl(3)–Sn–O(1)	93.0(5)
Sn–Sn'	3.390(2)	Cl(3)–Sn–O(1')	89.2(5)
O(1)–O(1')	2.46(2)	Cl(3)–Sn–O(2)	172.1(4)
O(1)–Sn–O(1')	71.9(6)		
O(1)–Sn–O(2)	81.2(7)		
O(1')–Sn–O(2)	83.9(6)		
Sn–O(1)–Sn'	108.1(7)		
Sn–O(1)–C(1)	125.0(1.1)		
Sn–O(2)–C(2)	128.2(1.4)		
Sn–O(1')–C(1')	126.4(1.0)		
O(1)–C(1)–C(4)	113.8(2.3)		
O(2)–C(2)–C(3)	106.6(2.1)		

^a Primed(') atoms refer to the centrosymmetrically related atom at $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}$.

Other compounds with bridging ethoxy groups include $\text{TiCl}_2(\text{OEt})_2$ ⁸ and $\text{SbCl}_4(\text{OEt})$ ⁹ both of which are dimeric molecules. The tin–tin distance (3.390(2) Å) in the present compound may be compared with the Ti–Ti distance (3.30 Å) and Sb–Sb distance (3.50 Å) in the above compounds and the obtuse Sn–O(1)–Sn' angle (108.1°) confirms the view that metal–metal bonding is unimportant in these structures. In general the bond lengths and angles are as expected. The short nonbonded intermolecular chlorine–chlorine distances (shortest 3.77 Å) are comparable with the intramolecular chlorine–chlorine distances of adjacent chlorine atoms (3.52–3.56 Å) indicating that the origin of the observed distortions from the 90° angles of a regular octahedron is the steric requirements of the ligands. There is clearly the possibility of O–H...O hydrogen bonding between the oxygen atoms of the terminal and bridging OC_2H_5 groups. Since no hydrogen atoms were located in the structure, the exact nature of any hydrogen bonding is not established (O(1)–O(2) 2.77(2), O(1')–O(2) 2.87(2), O(1)–O(1') 2.46(2) Å).

Recently compounds with the composition $\text{SnCl}_3(\text{OEt})_2$ L have been reported¹⁰ for a variety of monodentate ligands (L). The present structure supports the proposed dimeric structure with bridging alkoxy groups.

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