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The Far Infra-red Spectra and Bonding of some Five and Six Coordinate Complex Tin Ions

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Received April 28, 1971

Far infra-red spectra of several five- and six- coordinate organotin complex ions have been recorded in the tin-ligand stretching region, and stereochemistries assigned where possible. The trialkyltin moiety in a five-coordinate environment is universally trigonal planar. The methyl groups of the $Me₂SnX₃⁻$, $X = Cl$, *Br, anions occupy similar* cis *equatorial-positions. The organic residues in octahedral dialkyltin complexes are, with very few exceptions, mutually* trans. *As the coordination number at tin increases, the tin-carbon bonds have increasing s-character, and the dominance of the Fermi contact term of the nmr coupling constant is confirmed by the shortening of the tin-methyl bond as* $\frac{2I}{l}$ $\frac{I}{l}$ *Sn-C-* $\frac{I}{l}$ *^H) increases.*

Introduction

The vibrational spectra of four-cordinate alkyltin halides, $R_{4-n}SnX_n$, and five- and six-coordinate complexes derived from them has aroused much interest.¹⁻⁷ In the present paper we report the far infra-red spectra of some five- and six-coordinate organohalogenotin complex anions. In addition, we have studied the corresponding infra-red spectra of eleven tin complex cations containing terpyridyl as a ligand.

Experimental Section

The anionic tin complexes were prepared by mixing the appropriate tin halide and tetraethyl(butyl)ammonium halide in the desired molar ratio in either ethanol or dichloromethane. Analytical figures for new complexes are given in Table 1. We thank Dr. E. Rosenberg for the gift of the terpyridyl complexes.

Infra-red spectra were recorded as nujol mulls using Beckman IRll and Perkin-Elmer 457 instruments. Nmr spectra were recorded using a Varian HA-100 spectrometer at 33.5".

Results

The data for the five- and six-coordinate tin complexes is given in Table II.

Five-coordinate complexes of the type MX_3Y_2 may assume either of the two trigonal bipyramidal arrangements, A and B, of D_{3h} and C_{2v} symmetry respectively.**

Figure **1.** Possible geometries for MX,Y,.

Group theoretical predictions for the normal stretching modes for these configurations are summarized in Table III. Thus it is apparent that the anions Mes- SnX_2^- , $X = Cl$, Br, I, with only one tin-carbon and one tin-halogen stretching frequency, have the *trans* structure A. The fluoro anion, $Me₂SnF₃⁻$, also has structure A, but with *trans* methyl groups.5 The trichloro- and tribromodimethyltin anions, on the other hand, show both symmetric and antisymmetric tincarbon and three tin-halogen stretching frequencies, and therefore possess the *cis* configuration B.

The spectrum of the diphenyltrichlorotin anion is worthy of comment. Previous investigators^{3,6,8} have assigned bands at ca. 450 cm⁻¹ and 260-200 cm⁻¹ to v(Sn-Ph) symmetric and antisymmetric. These bands are more properly $9,10$ described as the y- and t-modes of Whiffen's notation" (Figure 2). The y-mode is largely a ring deformation (ocurring at 450 vs in $Ph₂SnCl₃⁻$), whereas the t-mode describes what is for the most part the Sn-Ph stretching vibration, for which two bands (219s and 228vs in $Ph₂SnCl₃⁻$) are

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^{**}A trigonal bipyramidal isomer of C, symmetry is also possible which predicts the same number of infra-red active bands as the C_{2v} somer $\{V(M-X): 2A' + A''; V(M-Y): 2A'\}$. Although these may bb istinguished by observation of skeletal bending modes, this isomer
incutrided in the discussion for reasons which become apparent
ater. Square pyramidal geometric are also possible, but energetic-
lly less probable.
(5) Wi

⁽II) Whiffen D.H., 1. *Chem.* SOC., 1350 *(1956).*

^a Found, I, 45.17%. Required, I, 44.51%. ^b From MeSnI, and Et_aN⁺Cl⁻ in dichloromethane.

Table II. Far Infrared Spectra of Five- and Six-coordinate Anions.

Anion	$vSn-C$	$vSn-Cl$	$vSn-Br$	$vSn-I$
$Me3SnCl2-a$ Me ₃ SnBr ₂ a Me ₃ SnI ₂	552 _{vs} 555vs 553vs	227s	140m	134m
$Me2SnF3$ a Me ₂ SnCl ₃ $Me2SnBr3- c$ $Ph_2SnCl_3^-$	553w 573m 518m 567m 512m 229vs 218s	592s b 313s, 256s sh, 242vs br 332vs. 281s. 242vs	$228s$ sh, $218s$	
$Me2SnCl42- c,d$ $Me2SnBr42–$ Me ₂ SnL ² MeSnCl ₅ ^{2–}	580m 572m 559m 534m	227s 318s. 258vs. 215m	220s	186m
BuSnCl ₅ ^{2–} $MeSnCl3Br22$ $MeSnCl3I22$ McSnBr ₅ ² $MeSnBr3Cl22$ MeSnCl ₄ I ²	560m 539m 530m 530w 524m 528m 534m	305s, 250vs, 235vs 312s, 294s, 267s 328s, 297vs, 267m sh 306s, 248s 307s, 261w	210m, 160s $212m$, 191m, 160s br 209m, 188s sh, 160s br	$187m sh$, $163s$ 163s
^a Data taken from ref. 5. $b_{v_{\text{Sn-F}}}$. c Data taken from ref. 2.			^d Ref. 22 reports the following infra-red data:	
Et_4N^+ Me ₃ SnC I_2^- Et_4N^+ Me ₃ SnBr ₂ $(Me4N+)$ ₂ Et ₂ SnCl ₄ ⁻		V_{Sn-C} 534vs, 510vw sh 538vs, 507vw 520s	V_{Sn-Cl} 338mw 346m	
It is obvious from this data $\lceil cf. ref. 4 \rceil$				
Me ₃ SnCl Me ₃ SnBr Et ₂ SnCl ₂		v_{Sn-C} 542s, 513w 539s, 511m 531, 497	V_{Sn-Cl} 331vs 359, 352sh]	

that these samples contained considerable amounts of uncomplexed organotin halide.

^a Infra-red active species are italicised.

Table IV. Normal Stretching Modes for cis and trans MX, Y₂. a

	symmetry point group	$V(M-X)$	$V_{(M-Y)}$
$cis-MX_4Y_2$ $trans-MX_1Y_2$	$\mathbf{C}_{2\mathbf{v}}$ $\mathbf{D_{4h}}$	$2A_1 + B_1 + B_2$ $A_{1a}+B_{1a}+E_{u}$	$A_i + B_i$ $A_{1a} + A_{2a}$

^a Infra-red active species are italicised.

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expected for an anion of C_{2v} symmetry. In a reassignment of the far infra-red spectrum of the anion Ph₃Sn- $Cl₂$, the corresponding modes occur at 460, 450 cm⁻¹ and 270 cm⁻¹ respectively, a band at 190 cm⁻¹ being assigned to the $Sn-Cl_2$ antisymmetric stretching mode
(Az'').⁶

Figure 2. y- and t-modes of vibration of $C_6H_5Sn \leftarrow$ (after Whiffen ").

Complexes of the type $M X_4 Y_2$ may also have either the *cis* or *trans* configurations, and the group theoretical predictions for these are noted in Table IV. Exhibiting only one tin-carbon and one tin-halogen stretching mode, the dimethyltetrahalogenotin di-Etching mode, the dimensional discontractions of $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}$ $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}$ $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}$ and $\sum_{n=1}^$ $\Lambda = U$, Λ is the two method groups are mutually *trans.* Similar conclusions based on infra-red and Raman work have been reached by Hobbs and Tobias for the complexes $K_2[Me_2SnF_4]$, $Cs_2[Me_2SnCl_4]$, Cs_2 - $[Me_2SnBr_4]$ and $(Et_4N)_2[Me_2Sn(NCS)_4]$. Good agreement between this data and that reported here reement between this data and that reported here as found, except that $v_{as}(\text{Sil}-\text{Dif})$ appears $\frac{1}{2}$ The method of $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$.

have incomplementation controlled the expected, $\frac{1}{2}$ a single tin-carbon stretching frequency. The ching frequencies due to *tram-gauche* isomerism in ching frequencies due to *trans-gauche* isomerism in the alkyl chain.¹² For an octahedral arrangement of one alkyl group and five halogens around the central tin atom, group theory predicts that three tin-halogen stretching frequencies $(2A_1 + E)$ will be infra-red active. The three anions studied, $MeSnCl₅²⁻, BuSnCl₅²⁻,$ exhibit three tin-halogen bands, indicating that the Ω framework of these anions does not differ siicis framework of these amons does not differ significantly from square pyramidal. For the mixed methylpentahalogeno anions, the low symmetry of position is a modern concerning the concerning concerning to the second concerning ssible isomets does not allow predictions concerning stereochemistry, the same number of infra-red or Raman active bands being predicted for each isomer.
The mixed anions studied, however, did exhibit the expected number of tin-ligand stretching vibrations.

The infra-red data for the anion $MeSnCl₄I²⁻$ fit the $\frac{1}{10}$ low number of bands predicted by the C_o symmetrical w number of bands predicted by the C_{4v} symmetrical
represented boys in Fig. 7. The bands at 307s rangement shown in Fig. 5. The bands at $30/8$
d. 261 \times cm⁻¹ may be assigned to the expected tin child zo we chan in a symmetry of the symmetry respectively.

Figure 3. The proposed stereochemical configuration of the zure \mathfrak{z} . Ine prog

The identical vibrations of the MeSnCl₅²⁻ anion (also σ included vibrations of the meshels annon (also ϵ_{4v} symmetry) occur at 5188 and 2588s. The difference in the intenstities of the E modes for the two complexes may be reconciled qualitatively on steric grounds. The A_1 symmetric breathing mode of the Sn-Cl4 moiety (Fig. 4) would only be affected to a small degree by the replacement of a chlorine by an iodine in the axial position. The change in dipole moment for this vibration in the two vibration in the t and the vibration in the two vibration in the set of the state bands in the state bands of t σ vibrations is therefore similar, and both bands are of strong intensity. However, the presence of a large iodine atom might be expected to seriously reduce the amplitude of the E vibration, hence reducing the intensity of the corresponding band in the spectrum of the MeSnC Li^2 ⁻ anion.

 $F \cdot A$, The A, and E modes of vibration of the $F - C$ gure 4. I ne A_1 and E modes of vibration

The $Me_2SnX_2 \rightarrow cis-Me_2SnX_3^- \rightarrow trans-Me_2SnX_4^2$ transformations have mechanistic implications. To obtain the *cis* configuration of II (Fig. 5) the anion X- may approach along either of the routes A or B. T_{max} approach along child be formed, however, if the second X- ion approaches the cis-Me&- *anion* cong A fou approaches the essinezons amon viig patitway C. This would seem reasonable in cw of the large C -Sn-

Figure 5. Mechanisms of the Me₂SnX_z \rightarrow *cis-Me₂SnX₃⁻* \rightarrow *</sup> trans-* $Me₂SnX₄²$ transformations.

Low frequency infra-red data for terpyridyl-con t_{max} in complex ions are listed in Table V. The $\frac{1}{2}$ complex ions are insteading the v. The in pics nature of the spectra, une to the large num- $\frac{1}{100}$ chipying modes, makes assignments of street ing mouts unifour. Extra bands in the thirearbon stretching region of the methyltin cations are possibly due to there being more than one formula unit per unit cell, as been demonstrated for [Me₂SnterCl]+ [Me₂- $SnCl₃$] -13 The broad linewdith of the tin-carbon stretching frequency of the [BuSnterCl]⁺ cation is most probably due to unresolved *trans-gauche* isomerism.

Discussion of the Results

It is apparent from an examination of the available μ is apparent from an examination of the availablexes, the preferred geometries are, respectively, trigonal bipyramidal with *cis* (equatorial) organic moieties nal bipyramidal with cis (equatorial) organic moieties and octahedral with a *trans* arrangement of organic groups, seemingly independent of any charge carried by the complex.

Trialkyltin halides form neutral complexes with a variety of monodentate oxygen and nitrogen Lewis

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Table V. Low Frequency Infra-red Spectra of Terpyridyl Adducts of Organotin Halides.

Complex	v Sn $-C$																		
2[MeSnterCl2]'[MeSnCl2-] [MeSnterCl,] BPh. BuSnterCh ['BPh.	578s br. 545s. 530s 557m. 539s 560m br	5084 500s 50%	478vw	441s 445m sh 442m	412s 420w sh 415w	390w 390vw 386vw	355vw 385 vw	322s 311m 301+	304vs uh	295va	288vs sh 267s 275w sh 284m	265w 265w	227 _w 228v	202m 201m			165vs		
Me,SnterCl] ' [Me,SnCl,] Me,SnterCl) Me, SnterBr] * [Me, SnBr,]	582m, 560s, 525m sh 575s. 560s. 530m 586m, 576m, 519m	509s 511s		432m 431m 438m	411w 411m 420w		363vw 359vw	3314 331m 310w	312w 312w 279w	280 _v $279 -$	242x 242 ₀		231w 232w	205m	193s 191 ₅	182m 180 ₀ 173s	1641 $161a$ br 166a	152 _h	149a
Me,Snter1] [Me,Sn1,] 2[SnterCl, 1'[SnCL] Ph,SnterCl] [Ph,SnCl,]	589m, 562m, 526vw	511w 510s 510m	451vs	434m 440s sh	415m 403w 417m		357vw	323w 345m 329s	274w 331m sh 313m sh	$314s$ br 2833	246ws		225vs	203m 206vw $210s$ [*]	189m sh		183m 1654		
Ph ₂ SnterCl BPh. Ph SnterCl CIO.		505s 511s	4728	432m 431m	415w 418w		360vw	312vw 318w		290w 290m	261m 271m	242m	$234w^*$ 234m*	228w $219*$	205w				

* Tin-carbon (aryl) stretching modes ? Bands thought to be mainly associated with tin-halogen stretching modes are italicised.

bases, $R_3SnX \cdot L$,^{1,14} and anionic complexes with halides, $Ph_3SnCl₂⁻³$

Similar cationic complexes containing the $[R_3Sn]$ \cdot 2L]⁺ moiety are known where L = NH₃¹⁵, DMSO, DMF , DMA or H_2O^{16} All are thought to possess a planar trigonal arrangement of organic groups with mutually *trans* electronegative atoms.

From the far infra-red data, we propose a similar disposition of methyl groups and halogens in the $Me₃SnX₂$ anions, consistent with the previous stereochemical suggestions on the basis of the Mossbauer spectra of R_3 SnCl₂- anions and solid (5-coordinate) triorganotin halides.^{17,18}

The five cordinate anions, $R_2SnX_3^-$, $R = Me$, Ph; $X = Cl$, Br, are also considered to be trigonal bipyra- $A - C$, D , are also considered to be trigonal pipyra nifuar with the equatorial position. This has be confirmed by structural analysis for the Me₂SnCl₃⁻ anion.¹³ The dimethyltrifluorotin monoanion, Me₂-SnF3-, on the other hand, possesses *frans* methyl groups?

Octahedral cationic^{13,19}, neutral^{2,4,19,20} and anionic² complexes containing two organic residues and four electronegative ligands possess a mutually *trans* geometry for the tin-carbon bonds, with few exceptions. In the magnetic context, with the exceptions
In this context, the magnetic head of the ¹⁹¹"Sn Miss

 μ ¹¹¹ this context, the inaginate of the μ bi provide P oduci quadrupoic spiriting, Q , is a uscrui parameter. systems predict that the Q for the *tram* isomer will be twice that of the *cis* isomer. The lt9"Sn Mossbauer stereochemical predictions are summarised in Table stereochemical predictions are summarised in Table
VI. The *cis* nature of dimethyltin-8-hydroxyquinolate has been confirmed by an X-ray crystal structure ana- $\frac{23}{1000}$ whilst (polymeric) dimethyltic diffused and rists, while (polymeric) dimension dimodiate con sists of an infinite planar network of tin and bridging fluorine atoms with *trans* methyl groups above and below the plane.²⁶

In contrast, for octahedral neutral^{1,2,5,27,28} and anio nic^{29} complexes of tin in which all bonds are to electronegative, potentially π -bonding, atoms, it appears

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Table VI. Stereochemistry of Octahedral RSnX species based **rable VI.** Stereochemistry of Octanedral K_2 s

cis	trans
$Ph_2Sn(NCS)_2 \cdot bipy^{25}$	$R_2Sn(NCS)_2 \cdot bipy^{25}$
$Ph_2Sn(NCS)_2 \cdot$ phen ²⁵	$R_2Sn(NCS)_2 \cdot$ phen ²⁵
R_2 Snoxin ₂ ²¹	$R_2SnX_4^{2-21}$
$Ph_2Snoxin_2$ ²¹	$R_2SnX_2 \cdot bipy^{21,24}$
$Ph_2Snacac_2^{21}$	$R_2SnX_2 \cdot$ phen 21,24
$Ph_2Sn[S_2CNR_2']^{22}$	Me ₂ Snacac ₂ ²¹
	$R_2Sn[S_2CNR_2']_2^2$

R,R' = alkyl; x = halogen; bipy = 2,2'-bipyridyl; $R_1R_2 = aIKyl$; $X_3 = 0$ halogen; bipy $A = 2.2$ or pyridy

that *cis* stereochemistrv is preferred, except when $\frac{1}{2}$ restrictions are placed on the system. $\frac{27 \text{ m}}{27 \text{ m}}$ This behaviour was explained by the ability of *cis* ligands behaviour was explained by the ability of *cis* ligands to π -donate into different t_{ze} orbitals, and hence preferentially stabilise the *cis* complex.29

Examination of Table VI shows that *truns* geometry is preferred¹³ except by (a) the dialkyltinbis(8-hydroxyquinolates) and (b) derivatives with a diphenyltin moiety. The configuration of the latter may be rationalised if the phenyl group is classed as a potentially π -bonding ligand.^{32,33}

Examination of the available structural and nuclear magnetic resonance data provides a rationalisation of the cis us. *tram* possibilities for the alkyltin derivatives. the *cis vs. trans* possibilities for the alkyltin derivatives.
Given a fixed amount of tin 5s character to distri-

bute among available bonds, an increase in coordination number, $4\rightarrow 5\rightarrow 6$, should increase the tin-ligand bond length as the percentage d character increases and the s character per bond falls. This is exemplified by the series SnCl₄, SnCl₅⁻, SnCl₆²⁻, in which the tinchlorine bond length increases in the order 2.30 Å, 34 2.37Å, 35 2.39-2.45Å (depending on the cation). 20 Consistent with this the ^{119m}Sn Mössbauer isomer shift decreases as 5s electron density is withdrawn from the tin nucleus as is cicciton density is withdrawn from the $\frac{1}{2}$ structural data for alkyltin compounds. structural data for alkyltin compounds.
As the cordination number at tin increases, contra-

ry to expectation, there is a progressive decrease in the tin carbon bond length, accompanied by an increase in the tin chlorine bond length. This may be interpreted as a preferential redistribution of available tin 5s character in bonds to electropositive carbon at the

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Table VII.

~Ref. 34. b R.F. Bryan, *J. Chem. Sot.* (A), 696 (1968). c SF. Watkins, ibid., 1552 (1969). d B.P. Bir'yukov, et *al., Chem. Commun.,* 159 (1968). e R.M. Sweet, C.J. Frichiet, Jr., and R.A. Schunn, Inorg. *Chem., 6, 749* (1967). f C. DSrfelt, A. Janeck, D. Kobelt, E.F. Paulus and H. Scherer, j. *Organometal. Chem.,* 14, P22 (1968). 8 V. Cody and E.R. Corey, *ibid., 19, 359 (1969). h* J.H. Tsai, J.J. Flynn, and J.P. **Boer,** *Chem. Commun., 702 (1967).* i J.E. O'Connor and E.R. Corey, *Inorg. Chem., 6, 968* (1967), i P. Porta, H.M. Powell, R.J. Mawby, and L.M. Venanzi, I. Chem. Sot. (A), 455 (1967). k R. Hulme, *ibid., 1524* (1963). r H.C. Clark, R.J. O'Brien, and J. Trotter, *ibid., 2332 (1964). m* R.A. Forder and G.M. Sheldrick, *Chem. Commun.,* 1125 (1969). n *E.O.* Schlemper and D. Britton, Inorg. Chem., 5, 507 (1966). D Ref. 13. PM. Elder and D. Hall, fnorg. Cem., 8, 1273 (1969). *eldem,* ibid., 8, 1268 (1969). *rE.0.* Schlemper and W.C. Hamilton, ibid., 5, 995 (1966). ~Ref. 18. *E.A. Blom, B.R. Penfor the sot. The control of the sot controller and W.C. Heilingham fold, β , and β , β , and well incomparative parameters. A recent X-ray crystal structure analysis shows that the solid phase structure shows considerable. distortion from tetrahedral to octahedral, because of intermolecular association. Solid phase parameters: d(Sn-O), 2211, ntion flom tetranemat to octaineural, occause of interfinitiectuar association. Song phase parameters: Q(Sn-C), 2.41A;
—CD 2.40A. d(Sn CD 3.54A. (A.G. Davies, H.I. Milledge, D.C. Puxley and P.I. Smith, *I. Chem. Soc.* (A),

Table VIII. Nmr 2 J(19 Sn-C- 2 H) Coupling Constants. (Hz).

Compound	Solvent	$\frac{2}{I}$ (¹¹⁹ Sn-C-'H)
Me.Sn ^a		54.0
Me ₃ nCl ^b	CHCI.	58.5
Me ₂ SnCl, b	CHCI.	70
MeSnCl ₃	CHCI	98
$Me3snCl·DMSO$ ϵ	DMSO	69.2
Me ₃ SnCl·pv ^c	pу	67.0
$Me3SnCl2 - d$	CHC ₁	70.5
$Me2SnCl3 - d$	CHCI.	88.9
$Me2SnCl2 \cdot 2DMSO$	DMSO	113
$Me2SnCl2 \cdot 2DMSO$ ^e	CHCI.	86
$Me2SnCl2 \cdot 2pyNO$ e	CH ₂ Cl ₂	93
Me ₂ SDX, f	CDCI,	71.2
$Me2SnterCl+ d$	PhNO,	94.6
$Me2SnCl42- d$	CHCI,	90.5
$Me2Sn(NO3)$, t	H,O	108.7
MeSnCl, a	D,O	127.5

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expense of the bonds to electronegative atoms, in acance with the predictions of isovalent hybriza- $\frac{1}{36}$

The nmr 2 J(119 Sn-C- 1 H) coupling constant is also a guide, via the Fermi contact mechanism, to the s electron distribution along the tin-carbon axes. From Table VII, it can be seen that the coupling constant parallels the tin-methyl bond length, lending credance to dominance of the Fermi contact term in this case. The tin-ligand bond lengths are parallelled in the vibrational spectra; the tin-carbon stretching frequency moving to higher frequencies, and very low tin-halogen frequencies being observed for the Me₂Sn $X₄²$, $Me₃SnX₂$, and $Me₂SnX₃$ (axial) anions.

The Me₂SnX₃⁻, X = Cl, Br, anions appear to be exceptional, having cis equatorial methyl groups. Tin-119m isomer shifts for these are almost identical to the values for the corresponding $Me₃SnX₂$ anions inratues for the corresponding measured antiquis in- $\frac{1}{100}$ is gross enarges in the total s-electron denvalues for the chlorides indicate a relative increase in the s-character of the tin-carbon bonds of $Me₂SnCl₃$ which is also apparent from the increased C -Sn- C $\frac{1}{2}$ angle¹³

bond angle.¹³
It is interesting to note that $Me₂SnOx₂$, the sole example of *cis-methyl* octahedral stereochemistry for which structural data are available, has a considerably

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higher tin-carbon bond length and $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ cases in the *transference* in the *transference* in the *transference* in the integration of the integratio $C^{-1}H$) than the *trans* cases, demonstrating the inefficiency of distribution of s-electron density to cis tincarbon bonds. The bis pyridine N -oxide complex of dimethyl dichloride is truly anomalous. Although it annelliyi dichloride is truly anomalous. Although i possesses *trans* geometry, the threatboll bond length for the similar dimethyl sulphoxide complex. This is very long, but 2 [(119 Sn-C- 1 H) is higher than that $\frac{1}{2}$ bely long, but $\frac{1}{2}$ on $\frac{1}{2}$ on penaviour may, in part at reast, be que to non-bond. ing repulsions between tin and oxygen atoms, since the $Sn \dots O$ distance is very short (3.01 Å).

It appears, therefore, that there is good evidence

that, on increase in coordination number in organotin μ derivatives in coordination from σ the organomic derivatives, there is a tendency for available tin 5s electron density to concentrate in bonds to carbon at ϵ electron density to concentrate in bonds to carbon at For expense of politics to more efectronegative atoms. For octahedral dialkyltin derivatives, this is more efficiently accomplished by forming bonds to carbon which are predominantly sp in character, hence the observed *trans* geometry. Trigonal bipyramidal triobserved *trans* geometry. **I** rigonal dipyramidal to alkynin derivatives form bonds to carbon which have largely sp² hybrid character, hence *cis* equatorial geometry. In the Me₂SnX₃⁻, X = Cl, Br, anions an equatorial $(sp)^2$ site is occupied by a chlorine atom.