THALLIUM

ANNUAL SURVEY COVERING THE YEAR 1975

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This survey will deal with 1) reviews, 2) synthesis, structure and spectroscopy of organothallium(III) compounds, 3) compounds containing thallium-metal bonds, 4) reactions of organothallium(III) compounds and 5) thallium(I) compounds.

1. <u>Reviews</u>

Walther and Albert have reviewed compounds containing both thalliumnon-transition and -transition element bonds (1). A closely related article on organometallic complexes containing bonds between Group IIIb and transition metals also appeared (2). Reactions of organothallium compounds have been surveyed by Lee (3), and reviews on X-ray diffraction studies of the molecular structure of Group IIIb metal compounds (4) and organobimetallic compounds as intermediates in transmetalation between organometallic compounds and Hg metal (5) included topics on organothallium compounds of related interest.

2. Synthesis, Structure and Spectroscopy of Organothallium(III) Compounds

Chow and Britton have determined the crystal structures of dimethylthallium cyanide, azide, thiocyanate and cyanate (6). The cyanide, azide and monoclinic thiocyanate have distorted sodium chloride structures similar to those of the dimethylthallium halides (see Z. Naturforsch., 29b (1974) 193). In the thiocyanate, the different ends of the thiocyanate ion are accomodated

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by alternate TIN_4 and TIS_4 groups as in I (methyl groups are excluded). In the orthorhombic thiocyanate and cyanate, infinite layers of Me₂TIX pack together in a different way such that the thallium atoms are all equivalent in a TIN_2S_2 or TIN_2O_2 group as in II. The trigonal cyanate has a quite different structure with recognizable [Me₂TINCO]₂ groups (III) which are held together through T1-O bonds to form a three-dimensional polymer. The C-T1-C angle was found to be 166° in the two forms of the cyanate and 180-177° in

II (X = S or 0)

the other compounds. The structures of three dimethylthallium chelate compounds (IV) also were determined (7). In all of these, monomeric units are held together by further T1-O bonds to form infinite linear polymers, with sixfold coordination around each thallium atom as shown in IV.



The C-TI-C angle varied from 166.9° (tropolonate) through 170.0° (acetylacetonate) to 171.8° (acetate). Steric crowding between two methyl groups on adjacent acetylacetonate rings produced somewhat longer TI-O bond (b), and a partial resolution of the structure of the dibenzoylmethanide derivative suggested the association of only two monomeric units, possibly due to steric

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I

hindrance between phenyl groups. The same authors further studied the structures of dimethylthallium tricyanomethide and dicyanamide (Fig. 1 and 2) (8). In both compounds the thallium atom is octahedrally coordinated with an almost linear C-TI-C unit and four equatorial nitrogen atoms.







Fig. 1.

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The structure of dimethylthallium tricyanomethide. Top: view along b. Bottom: view along a. [Reproduced from Acta Cryst., B31 (1975) 1934] Fig. 2.

T1

N

С

The structure of dimethylthallium dicyanamide. Top: view along b. Bottom: view along c. [Reproduced from Acta Cryst., B31 (1975) 1934] A thermally stable tetraorganothallate, $Me_3TICH_2PMe_3$ has been prepared, together with its gallium and indium analogs, from Me_3M (M= T1, Ga, In) and Me_3PCH_2 (9). ¹H and ¹³C NMR data for these compounds were reported and discussed. The reaction of MeC(0)N(Me)OH with R_3M (R= Me, Et; M= T1, Ga, In) yielded monomeric dialkylmetal hydroxamates, V (10). The IR, Raman and ¹H NMR spectra were recorded and discussed.



Some new tris- and bis(polychlorophenyl)thallium compounds, R_3T1 and R_2T1C1 (R= C_6C1_5 , <u>p</u>-HC₆C1₄) and their mono or bis pyridine adducts were prepared using the corresponding polychlorophenyllithium compounds (11). (<u>p</u>-HC₆C1₄)₃T1 was a particularly useful transarylating reagents; its reactions with appropriate transition metal halide complexes gave novel $M(\pi-C_3H_5)(HC_6C1_4)(PPh_3)$ (M= Pt, Pd) and Au(HC₆C1₄)(PPh₃). Some bis(polyfluorophenyl)thallium acetates, R_2T10Ac (R= C_6F_5 , <u>p</u>-HC₆F₄, <u>m</u>-HC₆F₄), were prepared by SO₂ elimination from the appropriate lithium polyfluorobenzenesulfinates and thallium(III) acetate under mild conditions (12). Owing to reduction of the thallium salt by liberated SO₂, good yields required the stoichiometry 2 LiO₂SR : 3 T1X₃.

The reaction of $CpFeC_5H_4Li$ with T1Cl followed by addition of $CpFeC_5H_4I$ gave $(CpFeC_5H_4)_3Tl$, hydrolysis of which produced $[(CpFeC_5H_4)_2Tl]_20$ and ferrocene (13). Similarly, $CpFeC_5H_4Li$, T1Cl and BuI gave $(CpFeC_5H_4)_2TlBu$, whose hydrolysis resulted in formation of $[(CpFeC_5H_4)(Bu)Tl]_20$. Diarylthallium nitrates and nitrites, R_2TlX (R= Ph, <u>o</u>, <u>m</u> and <u>p</u>-toly1; X= NO_3 and NO_2), were prepared by the reaction of R_2TlCl with NaNO_3 and NaNO_2 (14). Reaction of decaborane(<u>14</u>) with Me₃Tl afforded [Me₂Tl][B₁₀H₁₃] and [Me₂Tl][B₁₀H₁₂TlMe₂] (15). The latter was suggested to have one thallium atom coordinated to the dodecahydro-<u>nido</u>-decaborate(2-) anion on the basis of analytical, conductivity, IR and ¹H NMR spectral data. $[Ph_{3}MeP][B_{10}H_{12}TIMe_{2}]$ and $[Ph_{3}MeP][B_{10}H_{12}HgMe]$ were obtained on treatment of $[Me_{2}T1][B_{10}H_{12}TIMe_{2}]$ with $[Ph_{3}MeP]Br$ and MeHgCl. Fluorene was metalated with sodium and treated with dipyridinium thallium pentachloride to give difluorenylthallium chloride (16). This compound was treated with NaBH₄ to produce difluorenylthallium borohydride and with NaH it gave difluorenylthallium hydride.

Stegmann <u>et al</u>. reported the formation of stable paramagnetic diphenylthallium complexes of semiquinone and semidione from Ph₂T10H and 43 different catechols, pyrogallols and 1,2-diketones in various solvents (17), e.g. as in Scheme 1. Pyrogallols further gave 1 : 2 complexes as shown in VI. Based on the observed dependence of the thallium coupling and the g-factor in the ESR

Scheme 1





R= 3, 4 and/or 5-alkyl (alkyl= Me, i-Pr, t-Bu, CMe₂CH₂CMe₃, CPh₃), 3 or 4-COOR' (R^{*}= Me, Et, n-Pr, i-Pr, n-Bu, i-Bu, TlPh₂), 3 or 4-OH, 3-OMe, 4-CHO, 3,4,5 and/or 6-X (X= Cl, Br)



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spectra on the nature of ligands, solvents and temperatures, the authors assumed that the radicals obtained are ion pairs in which a diphenylthallium cation interacts with the semiquinone or semidione (VII) anion radicals.



VI

R= 4, 5 and/or 6-COOR['] (R'= Me, Et, T1Ph₂), 4-COMe, 5-CONH₂

VII R₂= Ph,Me; Ph₂; (2-furyl)₂ etc.

Solvent effects on J(M-CH₃), methyl chemical shifts and UV spectral data of dimethylthallium oxinate as well as of some dimethyllead compounds have been studied (18). Changes in $J(M-CH_2)$ values were interpreted in terms of changes in the mean singlet-triplet excitation energy involved in the Fermi contact The changes in 7 Li chemical shift in the "ate" complexes of Li[MMe₄] (M= term. T1, B, A1, Ga) in diethyl ether, THF and DME have been discussed in terms of solvation of the lithium ion and ion pair formation (19). Different ways of assigning ¹³C NMR data of arylthallium(III) compounds in earlier reports by two research groups (Kitching et al., J. Organometal. Chem., 70 (1974) 339 and Ernst, J. Organometal. Chem., 82 (1974) 319) were reexamined by the former group (20). On the basis of the data from p-tolylthallium ditrifluoroacetate containing one deuterium atom at the ortho position, these authors .confirmed that the assignment by Ernst concerning J(T1-Cortho) and Variable-temperature 203 Tl and J(T1-C_{meta}) was correct. 205_{T1 NMR and} $I_{H-{205_{T1}} INDOR$ spectra of dimeric dimethylthallium ethoxide provided evidence of chemical exchange (21). The thallium-thallium coupling constants and thallium chemical shifts were measured for the ethoxide, dimethylthallium

dimethylamide and some other related thallium compounds. The ¹H NMR spectra of the dimethylthallium ion has been studied in both anionic and cationic detergent nematic phases (22). The spectra were analyzed to derive the values of inter- and intramethyl proton-proton dipolar coupling and the intermethyl scalar coupling constants. The degree of orientation of the dimethylthallium cation is much higher in the anionic nematic phase than in the cationic phase. Though not directly concerned with organothallium compounds, another important spectroscopic study appeared in which variable-temperature ¹H or ¹⁹F NMR spectra of T1(OAc)₃ in methanol-d₄ or of T1(O0CCF₃)₃ in THF revealed that T1-H or T1-F couplings can be observed at low temperatures ($\langle -65^{\circ}$) due to a slower ligand exchange process (23).

3. Compounds Containing Thallium-Metal Bonds

A detailed report on the stability of Tl(I) derivatives of transition metal carbonyl anions was given by Pedersen and Robinson (24). Thus, the reaction of Tl[Co(CO)₄] with a variety of Lewis bases in non-coordinating solvents gave either Tl[Co(CO)₃L] (eq. 1) or Tl[Co(CO)₃L]₃ (eq. 2), depending on the basicity of Co(CO)₃L⁻. The former compounds could be isolated with those L which give a pK_a of HCo(CO)₃L less than 5 (L= P(OPh)₃, P(OC₆H₄Cl-<u>p</u>)₃),

$$T1[Co(C0)_{4}] + L \longrightarrow T1[Co(C0)_{3}L] + C0$$
(1)
$$T1[Co(C0)_{3}L] \longrightarrow T1[Co(C0)_{3}L]_{3} + 2 T1$$
(2)

while the latter predominated when the pK_a of $HCo(CO)_3L$ is greater than 7 (e.g. L= AsPh₃, SbPh₃, P(n-Bu)₃). Metastable T1(I) compounds could be isolated or at least detected in solution for those $Co(CO)_3L^-$ ligands which lie in between the above two classes of anions (e.g. L= PPh₃, P(OMe)₃, P(OCH₂)₃CEt). The same authors further prepared a series of T1(I) derivatives of other transition metal carbonyl anions (25). The stability of these compounds was shown again to depend on the base strength of the anion as well as on its References p. 145

steric bulk. Stable complexes thus formed, either through metathetical reactions between T1NO₃ and metal carbonyl anions or ligand substitution. included T1R where R= Fe(CO)₃NO, Fe(CO)₂(NO)P(OC₆H₄C1-<u>p</u>)₃, Fe(CO)₄R' (R'= CH₂CN, COPh, CN), Fe(CO)₃L(SnPh₃) (L= CO, P(OC₆H₄C1-<u>p</u>)₃, PPh₃, P(n-Bu)₃), V(CO)₆ and CrCp(CO)₃. The stability of T1Fe(CO)₃L(SnPh₃) in particular was attributed to the large size of the anions which prevents the formation of the corresponding T1(III) derivatives according to eq. 2.

Exposure of T1[Co(CO)₄] to ⁶⁰Co γ -rays at 77 K resulted in a complex ESR spectrum in which the high field component of the doublet expected for a T1(II) center could be detected together with sets of lines due to the [Co(CO)₄]²⁻ (26). At room temperature the only ESR signal detected corresponded to a species having the properties expected for the [Co(CO)₄(0₂)].

4. <u>Reactions of Organothallium(III) Compounds</u>

Substituted diphenylthallium chlorides, $(XC_{6}H_{4})_{2}$ TICl (X = P-OMe, P-Me, M-Me, H, P-Cl, P-MeCOO) have been prepared and polarographic and chronopotentiometric studies of these compounds indicated that $[ArTlHgAr]^{+}$ are intermediates in the transmetalation reaction between $Ar_{2}Tl^{+}$ and mercury metal to give $Ar_{2}Hg$ (27). Another polarographic study of dibutylthallium(III) cation over various pH ranges has suggested that other than transmetalation with mercury or further reduction of a species $Bu_{2}Tl$ produced electrolytically, the reaction with H⁺ to form $Bu_{2}TlH^{+}$ also plays some role particularly at the lower pH (28) as shown in Scheme 2.

Scheme 2

 $Bu_{2}TI + H^{\dagger} = Bu_{2}TIH^{\dagger}$ $2Bu_{2}TIH^{\dagger} = Bu_{2}TI^{\dagger} + TI^{\dagger} + 2BuH$ $Bu_{2}TIH^{\dagger} + Bu_{2}TI = Bu_{2}TI^{\dagger} + Bu_{2}TIH$ $Bu_{2}TIH^{\dagger} + H^{\dagger} + e^{-} \rightarrow TI + 2BuH$

Uson <u>et al.</u> reexamined the reaction of $(C_6F_5)_2$ TlBr with PdCl₂L₂ (L= PR₃, AsR₃) (Chem. Commun., (1969) 421) to find that the reported preparation of Pd(C_6F_5)₂Cl₂(PPh₃)₂ could not be repeated (29). Instead, mixtures of Pd₂(C_6F_5)₂Cl₂L₂ and Pd(C_6F_5)ClL₂ were obtained. Reactions of bis(polyfluorophenyl)thallium bromides, R₂TlBr (R= C_6F_5 , <u>p</u>-HC₆F₄, <u>m</u>-HC₆F₄, 3,5-H₂C₆F₃), and (C_6F_5)₂TlOH with copper powder in boiling 1,4-dioxane or diethyl ether gave the corresponding trisorganothallium compounds (30, 31). R₂TlBr (R= <u>o</u>-HC₆F₄, 3,6-H₂C₆F₃, Ph) failed to undergo a similar reaction. A possible reaction path for such symmetrization is shown in Scheme 3.

Several aryl- and diarylthallium(III) compounds were treated with olefins in the presence of Li_2PdCl_4 , either in equimolar quantity or using only catalytic quantities of the Pd(II) complex with added CuCl₂, to give aryl-substituted olefins (32) as shown in eq. 3.

ArTIX₂ (or Ar₂TIX) + RCH=CHR'
$$\xrightarrow{\text{Li}_2\text{PdCl}_4}$$
 ArC(R)=CHR' (3)
(Ar= Ph, p-tolyl, mesityl; R= H, Ph; R'= CO₂Me, H; X= O₂CCF₃, OAc, Cl, CN)

A wide range of arylthallium ditrifluoroacetates reacted with diborane in THF to give, after hydrolysis, good yields of the corresponding arylboronic acids (33). Oxidation of such reaction mixtures gave phenols in good yield. The aryl groups in the ArT1(00CCF₃)₂ thus studied include Ph, <u>p</u>-tolyl, mesityl, <u>p</u>-EtC₆H₄, 3,4-Me₂C₆H₃, 2,4-Me₂C₆H₃ and 2,5-Me₂C₆H₃. Some Ar₂T100CCF₃ (Ar= Ph, <u>o</u>, <u>m</u>, <u>p</u>-tolyl, 3,4-Me₂C₆H₃, <u>m</u>-ClC₆H₄, <u>m</u>-MeOC₆H₄, α , β -naphthyl, 2-dibenzofuryl) References p. 145

prepared either by heating arylthallium ditrifluoroacetates in acetone or by the Grignard method were shown to be useful, versatile intermediates for the synthesis of unsymmetrical biphenyls (by irradiation in benzene), aryl iodides (by heating with iodine in chloroform) and phenols (by reaction with $Pb(OAc)_4$ - PPh_3 in CF_3COOH followed by alkaline hydrolysis of the resulting aryl trifluoroacetates) (34). In other study of application of arylthallium compounds in organic synthesis, Taylor <u>et al</u>. reported a convenient, high-yield synthesis of nitroaryl iodides through nitration of $ArTI(OOCCF_3)_2$ with acetyl nitrate followed by treatment of the resulting nitroarylthallium intermediates with iodine in chloroform (35) as shown in eq. 4. Other than the products



shown in eq. 4, nitroiodomesitylene, 4-nitro-6-iodo-<u>m</u>-xylene, 4-nitro-4 iodobiphenyl and 2-nitro-4 -iodobiphenyl were obtained from mesitylene, <u>m</u>xylene and biphenyl. A method of selectively nitrating aromatic substrates has also been reported in which nitrogen dioxide displaces a thallium(III) substituent in arylthallium(III) compounds obtained by thallation of toluene, ethylbenzene or other alkylbenzenes, anisol, biphenyl and halobenzenes (36). The scope and limitations in this method were discussed briefly.

Uemura and co-workers extended their study of halodethallation of organothallium(III) compounds to a method of preparing aryl and alkyl selenocyanates (37). Thus, ArTIYZ (Ar= Ph, p-tolyl, 3,4-Me₂C₆H₃, 2,4-Me₂C₆H₃, p-MeOC₆H₄, p- and m-ClC₆H₄; Y,Z= OAc, OOCCF₃, ClO₄, NO₃, OH) reacted with

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 $KSeCN/CuSO_4 \cdot 5H_2O$ or Cu(SeCN)₂ in dioxane to give aryl selenocyanates in good yields (eq. 5). Alkoxythallates of styrene underwent similar reactions.

These authors further described oxyselenocyanation of 1-octene, 1-hexene, <u>o</u>-allylphenol, ethyl vinyl ether, vinyl acetate and 1,3-butadiene in a manner similar to eq. 5 except that an intermediate oxythallated adduct need not be isolated as shown in eq. 6.

$$c = c \left\{ \begin{array}{c} T1(OAc)_{3} \\ ROH \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} c - c \\ I \\ OR \\ T1(OAc)_{2} \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} KSeCN \\ C - C \\ I \\ I \\ OR \\ SeCN \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} c - C \\ C \\ C \\ SeCN \\ OR \\ SeCN \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} c - C \\ C \\ SeCN \\ OR \\ SeCN \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} c - C \\ C \\ SeCN \\ SeCN \\ SeCN \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} c - C \\ SeCN \\ SECN$$

A research group in Canada extended mechanistic studies of the decomposition of oxythallated adducts of olefins (Can. J. Chem., 52 (1974) 2677) (38). Analysis of products and kinetic data of the decomposition of $Me_2C(0X)CH_2TI(0Ac)_2$ (X= H, Me, Et) under acidic conditions led the authors to confirm that $Me_2C(0X)CH_2TI^{2+}$ is the principal reactive species and migration of the OX group plays an important role during cleavage of the T1-C bond. The comparative study of the oxidation of 1-octene by Pb(IV), T1(III) and Hg(II) acetates in methanol (J. Chem. Soc. Perkin I, (1974) 1929) was extended to the reaction in other solvents including acetic acid and trifluoroacetic acid (39). The general rules developed for the methanol system are applicable to these solvents. Comparison was also made of oxidation of <u>trans</u>-4-octene where the major products from T1(III) acetate include two isomeric allyl acetates, VIII and IX, and the diacetate X as shown in Schema 4 and 5. The predominance of

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the threo isomer in X was suggested to arise through routes shown in Scheme 5 which contrast with the reversed stereoselectivity in the formation of X with Pb(IV) oxidation via a homolytic process.



A closely related comparative study of oxidation of olefins with the participation of neighboring groups has been reported (40). The substrates selected include <u>o</u>-allylphenol and allyl <u>m</u>-methoxyphenyl ether. $TI(OAc)_3$ was found to be much less reactive toward the latter compound than Hg(II) and Pb(IV) acetates.

Olefins RCH=CH₂ reacted with T1(OAc)₃/Me₃SiN₃ to give adducts XI (41) as shown in eq. 7. Treatment of XI with halide or thiocyanate ion gave XII and/or XIII (eq. 8). Analogous reactions of T1(OAc)₃/Me₃SiN₃ with



methylenecyclohexane, β-pinene and cyclohexene have also been investigated.

Oxidation with $T1(NO_3)_3$ in methanol of 3,7-dimethylocta-1,6-diene afforded the ketone XIV and two isomeric cyclopentane derivatives, XV and XVI, as shown in eq. 9 (42). Oxidation of XVII with $T1(NO_3)_3$ in methanol gave XVIII (R= α -ONO₂, α -OH, β -OMe) and XIX, but no ring-enlarged ketones as shown in eq. 10 (43). A similar result was obtained with 2-methylene-8,13-epoxylabdane. A possible route to the observed products is shown in Scheme 6. In a related work, Ochiai and Fujita obtained the allylic nitrates XX and XXI from oxidation







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Scheme 6 CH2TIX CH2TIX2 Me0H CH20Me $(X = ONO_2)$ Y

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of <u>ent</u>-16-kaurene XXII and <u>ent</u>-15-kaurene XXIII with $T1(NO_3)_3$ (44). Structures have been assigned to seven minor products obtained from treatment of methyl <u>ent</u>-trachyloban-19-oate with $T1(OAc)_3$ (45) (see also Can. J. Chem., 51 (1973) 4167). The synthesis of natural isoflavones through oxidative rearrangement of chalcones by $T1(NO_3)_3$ was reported (46).



The reaction of phenylacetylene with $T1(OAc)_3/ArNH_2$ in dioxane or THF afforded the imines in good yields (47) as in eq. 11. In these reactions,



 $Ti(OAc)_3$ used could be recovered quantitatively. Oxidation of cyclohexyl isocyanide with $TI(OAc)_3$, $Hg(OAc)_2$ and $Pb(OAc)_4$ in benzene/AcOH gave cyclohexyl isocyanate, possibly through acetoxymetalation (48). $TI(OAc)_3$ also oxidized the isocyanide into carbamates in various alcohols as shown in Scheme 7.

Scheme 7



5. Thallium(I) Compounds

The thermal expansion of C_5H_5TI was determined at 78-295° K by using X-ray powder diffractometry (49). Expansion is very anisotropic; α_1 = 125 ± 12, α_2 = 97 ± 5, α_3 = 0 ± 4 (all in 10⁻⁶ K⁻¹). Directions and ratio of the two greatest expansion coefficients, α_1 and α_2 , were explained by considering the shortest distances, T1⁺- T1⁺, in the ionic structure. C_5H_5TI was used in the reaction with R_2PCI or $RPCI_2$ (R= Ph, Me) to prepare $C_5H_5PR_2$ or $(C_5H_5)_2PR$ (50). Cyclopentadienylthallium with one carbon position labeled at a concentration greater than 90 atom % ¹³C was prepared using C_4 ¹³CH₆ (51). A new method of preparing such labeled cyclopentadiene was also presented.

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