# CRYSTAL AND MOLECULAR STRUCTURE OF 5-t-BUTYL-5-AZA-2,8-DITHIA-1-STANNA(II)BICYCLO[3.3.0 $0^{1,5}$ ]OCTANE. IDENTIFICATION OF TWO DIFFERENT GEOMETRIES ALONG THE DISSOCIATION-INVERSION PATHWAY 

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(Received August 10th, 1984)

## Summary

The crystal and molecular structure of 5-t-butyl-5-aza-2,8-dithia-1-stanna(II)bicyclo[3.3.0 ${ }^{\text {1,5 }}$ ]octane $\left[\mathrm{Sn}\left(\mathrm{SC}_{2} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right)_{2} \mathrm{NC}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{9}\right]_{2}$ have been determined from three-dimensional X-ray data. The crystals are monoclinic, space group $P 2_{1} / c$, with cell dimensions: $a$ 14.104(2), $b 21.911(4), c 11.624(2) \AA, \beta 98.73(1)^{\circ}, Z=6$. The final $R$ is 0.040 for the 4279 observed reflections. The unit-cell contains four asymmetric dimers (dimer a) and two centrosymmetric dimers (dimer b), each dimer forms a four-membered $\mathrm{Sn}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{2}$ ring in which the sulfur atoms are three-coordinated. The $\mathbf{S n - N}$ distances in the two dimeric forms are significantly different (namely, 2.64 and 2.75 in dimer a, $2.97 \AA$ in dimer $\mathbf{b}$ ). The lengthening of the $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{N}$ distances involves the shortening of the bridging tin-sulfur bonds ( 2.99 and 2.79 in $\mathbf{a}, 2.71 \AA$ in $\mathbf{b}$ ). The coordination around the three different Sn atoms is hemispherical.

## Introduction

In recent years the chemistry of tin(II) compounds have been the subject of increasing interest in both inorganic and organic chemistry [1,2]. In this connection the stereochemical influence of the lone pair [3], the generation of reactive organic stannylenes [4,5], the donor and acceptor behaviour of divalent tin compounds [6], and especially the preparation and structure of monomeric tin(II) compounds [1] have received particular attention. The preparation of monomeric tin(II) compounds of the coordination number two has been made possible by the use of bulky substituents [7-9]. The tendency to autoassociation is also reduced in tin(II) contain-
ing bicyclic octanes of the general type $\mathrm{Sn}\left(\mathrm{XCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Y}(\mathrm{X}=\mathrm{S}, \mathrm{NR} ; \mathrm{Y}=\mathrm{NR}, \mathrm{PR})$ [10-12] and in $\mathrm{Sn}\left(\mathrm{SCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{2} \mathrm{NMe}$ [13]. In these compounds the tin atoms reach the coordination number three in solution. Complexation with chromium hexacarbonyl leads to formation of monomeric four-coordinated tin(II) compounds in solution as well as in the solid state [14]. In the light of this information it seemed of interest to investigate the solid state structure of $\mathrm{Sn}\left(\mathrm{SCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{2} \mathrm{~N}$-t-Bu to determine the degree of autoassociation and the strength of the tin-nitrogen interaction.

TABLE 1
ATOMIC POSITIONAL ( $\times 10^{4}$ ) AND EQUIVALENT THERMAL PARAMETERS WITH STANDARD DEVIATIONS

| Atom | $\boldsymbol{x}$ | $y$ | $z$ | $B_{\text {eq }}{ }^{\text {a }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sn(1) | 4483(0) | 3533(0) | 2392(0) | 3.15 |
| $\operatorname{Sn}(2)$ | 777(0) | 667(0) | -522(0) | 3.22 |
| Sn(3) | 2710(0) | 4484(0) | 2062(1) | 3.42 |
| S(1) | 3331(1) | 3962(1) | 3654(2) | 3.06 |
| S(2) | 3971(2) | 2453(1) | 2580(2) | 4.86 |
| S(3) | -719(1) | 568(1) | 547(2) | 3.48 |
| S(4) | 2029(1) | 407(1) | 1114(2) | 3.26 |
| S(5) | 2800(2) | 3970(1) | 714(2) | 3.86 |
| S(6) | 4421(2) | 5213(1) | 2208(2) | 4.36 |
| N(1, | 5309(4) | 3278(2) | 4527(5) | 2.52 |
| N(2) | 790(4) | 1651(3) | 1238(5) | 2.88 |
| N(3) | 2785(4) | 5412(3) | -64(5) | 3.09 |
| C(1) | 4285(5) | 4210(3) | 4804(6) | 3.07 |
| C(2) | 4083(6) | 2437(3) | 4172(8) | 4.11 |
| C(3) | -214(6) | 844(3) | 1988(7) | 3.50 |
| C(4) | 2441(5) | 1180(3) | 1500(6) | 3.23 |
| C(5) | 3430(6) | 4360(4) | - 344(7) | 3.94 |
| C(6) | 4129(7) | 5902(4) | 1329(8) | 4.82 |
| C(7) | 4826(5) | 3663(3) | 5360(6) | 2.97 |
| C(8) | 5090(6) | 2616(3) | 4748(7) | 3.79 |
| C(9) | -11(6) | 1531(3) | 1915(7) | 3.34 |
| C(10) | 1709(5) | 1554(3) | 2036(6) | 3.17 |
| C(11) | 2858(7) | 4896(4) | -906(7) | 4.40 |
| C(12) | 3707(6) | 5752(4) | $75(8)$ | 4.48 |
| C(13) | 6374(5) | 3393(4) | 4677(7) | 3.76 |
| C(17) | 703(6) | 2266(3) | 629(7) | 3.61 |
| C(21) | 1913(6) | 5794(4) | -433(7) | 3.86 |
| C(14) | 6803(7) | 3056(4) | 3681(8) | 4.96 |
| C(15) | 6537(7) | 4084(5) | 4528(9) | 5.53 |
| C(16) | 6885(7) | 3177(5) | 5869(9) | 5.71 |
| C(18) | 624(7) | 2796(4) | 1508(8) | 4.68 |
| C(19) | - 189(6) | 2251(4) | - 281(7) | 4.62 |
| C(20) | 1562(6) | 2369(4) | 33(7) | 4.12 |
| C(22) | 1019(7) | 5408(5) | -347(8) | 5.43 |
| C(23) | 1874(7) | 6044(5) | -1696(9) | 5.82 |
| C(24) | 1910(7) | 6332(5) | 409(9) | 5.66 |

${ }^{a} B_{\mathrm{cq}}\left(\AA^{2}\right)=4 / 3 \Sigma \Sigma B_{i j} \vec{a}_{i} \vec{a}_{j}$.

## Experimental

The synthesis of the title compound has been described elsewhere [11]. Single crystals were obtained by recrystallization from benzene. The space group ( $P_{2} / \mathbf{l}$ ) was unequivocally established by Weissenberg photographs. The unit-cell parameters were obtained by least-squares refinement from the setting angles of 15 reflections: $a$ 14.104(2), b 21.911(4), $c$ 11.624(2) $\AA, \beta$ 98.73(1) ${ }^{\circ}, \quad Z=6$ $\left(\mathrm{Sn}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{4} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{34}\right), D_{\text {calc }} 1.74 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}$.

The intensities were collected in the $\omega$-scan mode (width $1.2^{\circ}$ ) with a Syntex P2 ${ }_{1}$ diffractometer, using monochromatic Mo-K $K_{\alpha}$ radiation ( $\lambda 0.71069 \AA$ ) to $2 \theta_{\text {max }}=47^{\circ}$. 5216 independent intensities were measured, of which 4279 were considered as observed using the criterion $I \geqslant 2.5 \sigma(I)$. The structure was solved by the heavy-atom method: the positions of the three different Sn atoms (in the asymmetric part of the unit-cell) were derived from a Patterson map, and those of other atoms by the DIRDIF-program. The full-matrix least-squares refinement of the positional and thermal parameters were carried out by the SHELX 76-program. The thermal parameters were treated anisotropically except for the nine methyl groups. The weighting scheme was $w=1 /\left(\sigma|F|+0.00202 F^{2}\right)$. The atomic factors used were those included in the SHELX 76-program. The final $R$ index is 0.040 for the set of observed reflections, $R_{w}$ is 0.048 . The positional parameters from the final leastsquares cycle are listed in Table 1.

TABLE 2
BOND LENGTHS ( $\dot{A}$ ) WITH e.s.d.'s IN PARENTHESES

| Dimer a |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{S}(1)-\operatorname{Sn}(1)$ | 2.530(2) | S(5)-Sn(3) | 2.559(2) |
| $\mathbf{S}(2)-\operatorname{Sn}(1)$ | 2.494(2) | S(6)-Sn(3) | 2.499(2) |
| $\mathrm{S}(5)-\mathrm{Sn}(1)$ | 2.991(2) | $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{Sn}(3)$ | 2.789(2) |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Sn}(1)$ | 2.636(5) | N(3)-Sn(3) | $2.745(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | 1.829(7) | S(5)-C(5) | 1.834(8) |
| $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | 1.833(9) | $S(6)-C(6)$ | 1.834(9) |
| C(1)-C(7) | 1.514(10) | C(5)-C(11) | 1.516(11) |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | 1.528(12) | C(6)-C(12) | $1.524(12)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | 1.520(8) | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{N}(3)$ | 1.508(9) |
| $\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | 1.513(8) | $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{N}(3)$ | 1.485(9) |
| $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | 1.508(9) | $\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{N}(3)$ | 1.497(9) |
| Dimer b |  |  |  |
| S(3)-Sn(2) | 2.615(2) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{S}(4)-\mathrm{Sn}(2)$ | 2.458(2) |  |  |
| S(3)-Sn(2) | 2.709(2) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{Sn}(2)$ | 2.971(6) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{S}(3)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | 1.821(7) |  |  |
| S(4)-C(4) | 1.825(7) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(9)$ | 1.538(10) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(10)$ | 1.523(10) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{N}(2)$ | 1.494(9) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{N}(2)$ | 1.490(9) |  |  |
| C(17)-N(2) | 1.519(9) |  |  |

## Results and discussion

Selections of bond lengths and bond angles are given in Tables 2 and 3. The packing in the unit-cell (Fig. 1) shows that $\left[\mathrm{Sn}\left(\mathrm{SCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{2} \mathrm{~N} \text {-t-Bu] }\right]_{2}$ exists as two independent dimers characterized by different bond lengths and bond angles. In both forms the dimerisation takes place through intermolecular $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{S}$ interactions, with formation of $\mathrm{Sn}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{2}$ rings. The sulfur atoms ( $S(1), S(3)$ and $S(5)$ ) involved in

TABLE 3
SELECTED BOND ANGLES ( ${ }^{\circ}$ ) WITH e.s.d.'s IN PARENTHESES

## Dimer a

| $S(1)-S n(1)-S(2)$ | $94.7(1)$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Sn}(1)-\mathrm{S}(5)$ | $151.0(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{Sn}(1)-\mathrm{S}(5)$ | $75.1(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{Sn}(1)-\mathrm{S}(5)$ | $98.5(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Sn}(1)-\mathrm{S}(1)$ | $76.3(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Sn}(1)-\mathrm{S}(2)$ | $79.0(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{Sn}(1)-\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{Sn}(3)$ | $92.8(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{Sn}(1)$ | $93.9(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{Sn}(3)$ | $113.1(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{Sn}(1)$ | $97.1(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | $110.1(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | $111.7(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $114.4(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $111.8(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | $107.5(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Sn}(1)$ | $107.8(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | $111.7(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Sn}(1)$ | $106.9(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | $111.4(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Sn}(1)$ | $111.3(4)$ |

## Dimer b

| $S(3)-S n(2)-S(4)$ | $98.6(1)$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| $N(2)-S n(2)-S^{\prime}(3)$ | $136.8(1)$ |
| $S(3)-S n(2)-S^{\prime}(3)$ | $84.1(1)$ |
| $S(4)-S n(2)-S^{\prime}(3)$ | $78.1(1)$ |
| $N(2)-S n(2)-S(3)$ | $69.7(1)$ |
| $N(2)-S n(2)-S(4)$ | $72.9(1)$ |
| $S n(2)-S(3)-\mathrm{Sn}^{\prime}(2)$ | $95.9(1)$ |
| $C(3)-S(3)-S n(2)$ | $100.3(2)$ |
| $C(3)-S(3)-S n^{\prime}(2)$ | $110.3(2)$ |
| $C(4)-S(4)-S n(2)$ | $98.0(2)$ |
| $S(3)-C(3)-C(9)$ | $108.9(5)$ |
| $S(4)-C(4)-C(10)$ | $112.9(5)$ |
| $C(3)-C(9)-N(2)$ | $111.3(6)$ |
| $C(4)-C(10)-N(2)$ | $113.7(6)$ |
| $C(9)-N(2)-C(10)$ | $107.6(6)$ |
| $C(9)-N(2)-S n(2)$ | $108.0(4)$ |
| $C(9)-N(2)-C(17)$ | $112.8(5)$ |
| $C(10)-N(2)-S n(2)$ | $103.8(4)$ |
| $C(10)-N(2)-C(17)$ | $114.7(5)$ |
| $C(17)-N(2)-S n(2)$ | $109.3(4)$ |

TABLE 4
SOME TORSION ANGLES ( ${ }^{\circ}$ )

## Dimer a

| $S(2)-S n(1)-S(1)-C(1)$ | 113.9 |
| :--- | ---: |
| $S n(1)-S(1)-C(1)-C(7)$ | -64.9 |
| $S(1)-C(1)-C(7)-N(1)$ | 60.5 |
| $C(1)-C(7)-N(1)-C(8)$ | -134.3 |
| $C(7)-N(1)-C(8)-C(2)$ | 79.1 |
| $N(1)-C(8)-C(2)-S(2)$ | 66.9 |
| $C(8)-C(2)-S(2)-S n(1)$ | -56.1 |
| $C(2)-S(2)-S n(1)-S(1)$ | -50.9 |
| $S(5)-S n(3)-S(6)-C(6)$ | 109.0 |
| $S n(3)-S(6)-C(6)-C(12)$ | -65.3 |
| $S(6)-C(6)-C(12)-N(3)$ | 62.2 |
| $C(6)-C(12)-N(3)-C(11)$ | -133.9 |
| $C(12)-N(3)-C(11)-C(5)$ | 78.5 |
| $N(3)-C(11)-C(5)-S(5)$ | 68.4 |
| $C(11)-C(5)-S(5)-S n(3)$ | -60.1 |
| $C(5)-S(5)-S n(3)-S(6)$ | -47.5 |

Dimer $b$

| $S(3)-S n(2)-S(4)-C(4)$ | -101.1 |
| :--- | ---: |
| $S n(2)-S(4)-C(4)-C(10)$ | 69.8 |
| $S(4)-C(4)-C(10)-N(2)$ | -62.4 |
| $C(4)-C(10)-N(2)-C(9)$ | -84.6 |
| $C(10)-N(2)-C(9)-C(3)$ | -68.6 |
| $N(2)-C(9)-C(3)-S(3)$ | 68.9 |
| $C(9)-C(3)-S(3)-S n(2)$ | 35.0 |

those four-membered cycles are three-coordinated. The $\mathrm{Sn}_{2} \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{2}}$ ring is non-planar in dimer a, whereas it must be perfectly planar (by crystallographic symmetry $\overline{1}$ in $0,0,0$ ) in dimer $\mathbf{b}$. The t -butyl groups are in trans disposition in both dimers.

The conformations of the eight-membered rings are characterized by the torsion angles given in Table 4. The three different cycles adopt boat-chair conformations. A boat-boat conformation has been observed in the corresponding chromium complex


Fig. 1. Stereoscopic view of the molecular packing (PLUTO drawing).
[14]. The torsion angles can be compared with those found in similar eight-membered rings [17], but a significant difference is observed in the $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}$ torsion angles of the chair sections compared with the values found in $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{Sn}\left(\mathrm{SCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{2} \mathrm{NMe}$ [18]. The greatest differences between dimers $a$ and $b$ appear in the torsion angles $\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{Sn}$ and $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{S}$; these angles are obviously very sensitive to the detail of the coordination around the tin atoms.

## Dimer a

The structure of this dimer is illustrated in Fig. 2. Both tin atoms ( $\operatorname{Sn}(1)$ and $\operatorname{Sn}(3)$ are four-coordinate, with a severely distorted $\psi$-trigonal bipyramidal arrangement (with the $\mathrm{Sn}^{\text {II }}$ lone pair in equatorial position). However the angles $\mathrm{N}(1)-\operatorname{Sn}(1)-\mathrm{S}(5)$ and $N(3)-\operatorname{Sn}(3)-S(1)$ of 151.0 and $148.4^{\circ}$ are in the range expected for $\psi$-trigonal bipyramidal coordination in tin(II) compounds, reflecting the stereochemical effect of the lone pair [1,8]. A similar geometry is observed around the isoelectronic $\mathbf{S b}$ atom, in the compound $\mathrm{ClSb}\left(\mathrm{SCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{2} \mathrm{O}$ [15], where the $\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{Sb}-\mathrm{O}$ angle is $152.0^{\circ}$.

The tin-sulfur distances to the non-bridging sulfur atoms $\operatorname{Sn}(1)-\mathrm{S}(2)$ and $\operatorname{Sn}(3)-S(6)$ are very short in comparison to those found in other tin(II) compounds of the same coordination number (see Table 11 of ref. 1), but they are comparable with the non-bridging $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{S}$ bond in the trimeric $\left[\mathrm{Sn}\left(\mathrm{SC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{3}-\mathrm{i}-\mathrm{Pr}_{2}-2,6\right)_{2}\right]_{3}$ [8]. The tin-sulfur bond lengths to the bridging sulfur atoms $\operatorname{Sn}(1)-S(1)$ and $\operatorname{Sn}(3)-S(5)$ are slightly larger, but still shorter than the corresponding bond lengths in [ $\mathrm{Sn}\left(\mathrm{SC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{3}\right.$-i-$\left.\left.\operatorname{Pr}_{2}-2,6\right)_{2}\right]_{3}$. The apical tin-nitrogen interaction strongly influences the bridging tin-sulfur (also apical) bond lengths: a short intramolecular bond $\operatorname{Sn}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ (2.636 $\AA$ ) is associated with a long intermolecular distance $\operatorname{Sn}(1)-S(5)(2.991 \AA)$, whereas a longer $\operatorname{Sn}(3)-N(3)$ (2.745) bond is associated with a short $\operatorname{Sn}(3)-S(1)$ bond (2.789 A).

Dräger noted a similar tendency in compounds of the type $\mathrm{ClA}\left(\mathrm{SCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{2} \mathrm{X}$ ( $\mathbf{A}=\mathbf{A s}, \mathbf{S b} ; \mathbf{X}=\mathbf{O}, \mathbf{S}$ ) in which increasing $\mathbf{A}-X$ interactions cause a lengthening of the apical $\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{Cl}$ bond length [15].



Fig. 2. Stereoview of the dimer a (with atom numbering).



Fig. 3. Stereoview of the dimer $\mathbf{b}$ (with atom numbering).

## Dimer b

The second dimer is centrosymmetric with a planar $\mathrm{Sn}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{2}$ ring. Its structure is shown in Fig. 3. The tin atom is bonded to three $S$ atoms in an irregular trigonal pyramidal configuration. The coordination around $\mathrm{Sn}(2)$ is completed by a weak intramolecular $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{N}$ contact. If this contact is taken into account, $\mathrm{Sn}(2)$ has also a $\psi$-trigonal bipyramidal environment. Taking $2.20 \AA$ as a $\mathbf{S n}^{11}-N$ single bond length [1] and $3.20 \AA$ as the limit for nonbonding, the $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{N}$ distance of $2.97 \AA$ reflects a bond order of only 0.23 compared with 0.56 and 0.46 for the corresponding $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{N}$ interactions in dimer a [16]. This situation involves a short intermolecular $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{S}$ bridge $\left(\operatorname{Sn}(2)-S^{\prime}(3) 2.709 \AA\right)$. The bond length ( $2.458 \AA$ ) between $\operatorname{Sn}(2)$ and the two-coordinated $S(4)$ is very short, and comparable with the shortest known $\mathbf{S n}^{\mathrm{II}}-S$ value which was observed in the monomeric $\operatorname{Sn}\left(\mathrm{SC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{2}-\mathrm{t}-\mathrm{Bu}_{3}-2,4,6\right)_{2}$ (in which the Sn is two-coordinate) [8].

## Relevance of results to dynamic processes

We and others have recently interpreted the dynamic behaviour of 5-aza-2,8-dielement-1-stannabicyclo[3.3.0 ${ }^{1,5}$ ]octanes $\mathrm{R}_{2} \mathrm{Sn}\left(\mathrm{XCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{2} \mathrm{NMe}$ [19] and $\mathrm{Sn}\left(\mathrm{XCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{2} \mathrm{NR}[11,20]$ in solution in terms of a dissociation-inversion and a dimerization process. In this connection it has been shown that for the tin(II) compounds with $X=O$, the dimers dominate (see Table 1 of ref. 20), whereas the title compound is monomeric in solution [11], though the molecular weight determinations did not exclude the presence of the forms II-IV (Scheme 1) in a fast equilibrium, and the temperature dependent ${ }^{119} \mathrm{Sn}$ NMR spectrum can be better interpreted in terms of such an equilibrium [11]. The second signal at low temperature is perhaps due to one of the dimers II-IV or is possibly an averaged signal for II-IV. In the solid state the dimers are thermodynamically more favored, perhaps because of lattice forces; a similar effect has been observed in cyclic diazastannylenes [9]. Dimer a represents a geometry on the route from II to III/III' and dimer b a geometry on the route from III/III' to IV (see Scheme 1).

SCHEME 1. Processes connecting the equilibrium forms of the title compound.


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