# Dimethylaluminum and gallium amino alkoxides 

Karl-Heinz Thiele ${ }^{\text {a, * }}$, Elmar Hecht ${ }^{\text {ab }}$, Thomas Gelbrich ${ }^{\text {b }}$, Ulf Dümichen ${ }^{\text {a }}$<br>${ }^{a}$ Institut für Anorganische Chemie der Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Geusaer Str., D-06217 Merseburg, Germany<br>${ }^{\text {b }}$ Institut für Anorganische Chemie der Universität Leipzig, Linnestr. 3, D-04103 Leipzig, Germany

Received 21 November 1996; revised 24 January 1997


#### Abstract

Dimethylaluminum and gallium alkoxides of the type $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{MOR}^{*}$ were synthesized ( $\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{Al}$; $\mathbf{R}=\mathbf{C H}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NMe}_{2}$ (1), $\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NH}_{2}$ (2), $\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{Ga} ; \mathrm{R}=\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NMe}_{2}$ (3)) by reaction of $\mathrm{Me}_{3} \mathrm{M}(\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{Al}$; Ga ) with the corresponding amino alcohols. The resulting compounds $1-3$ have been characterised by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H},{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ and ${ }^{27} \mathrm{Al}$ NMR spectroscopy. The crystal structures of $1-3$ were determined by X -ray diffraction. Compounds 1-3 were proved to be dimeric in solid state containing five-membered heterocyclic rings. 3 crystallises in the monoclinic space group $P 21 / n$ with $Z=4, a=7.898(2), b=15.512(9), c=8.453(2) \AA$, and $\beta=103.70(2)^{\circ}$, $V=1000.1(9) \AA^{3}$. The $\mathrm{Ga}-\mathrm{N}$ distance in $\mathbf{3}$ runs to $2.525(2) \AA$ which is significantly longer than the $\mathrm{Al}-\mathrm{N}$ distances in the investigated Al compounds 1 and 2 (2.246(2) and $2.172(3) \AA$ ).


## Zussmmerifassung

Dimethylaluminium- und Dimethylgalliumalkoxide der allgemeinen Formel $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{MOR}^{*}$ wurden durch Umsetzung von $\mathrm{Me}_{3} \mathrm{M}$ ( $\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{Al}$; Ga ) mit den entsprechenden Aminoalkohoten synthetisient ( $\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{Al} ; \mathrm{R}=\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NMe}_{2}$ (1), $\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NH}_{2}$ (2), $\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{Ga} ; \mathrm{R}=\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NMe}_{2}$ (3)) und mittels ihrer ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-, ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ - und ${ }^{27} \mathrm{Al}$-NMR-Spektren charakterisiert. Die Kristallstrukturen von 1-3 wurden bestimmt. Die Verbindungen 1-3 liegen im festen Zustand als verbrückte Dimere vor, die 5 gliedrige Heterocyclen enthalten. 3 kristallisiert in der monoklinen Raumgruppe $P 2_{1} / n$ mit $Z=4, a=7.898(2), b=15.512(9), c=8.453(2) \AA$ und $\beta=103.70(2)^{\circ}$, $V=1000.1(9) \AA^{3}$. Der $G a-N$ Abstand ( $2.52 \AA$ ) in 3 ist signifikant länger als die Al-N-Bindungslängen in 1 und 2 (2.246(2) und 2.172(3) A). © 1997 Published by Elsevier Science S.A.

Keywords: Aluminium; Gallium; Amino alkoxide; X-ray diffraction; Chirality

## 1. Introduction

Simple dimethylaluminum alkoxides $\mathrm{Me}_{2}$ AIOR (R $=\mathrm{CH}_{3} ; \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CH}_{2} ;[1], \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} ; \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3} ; \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}$ [2]) have been known for many years. The alkoxide groups act as bridging ligands between two dimethylaluminum moieties resulting in dimeric compounds with planar $\mathrm{Al}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2}$ rings. $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{AlOMe}$ is the only exception with a trimeric structure [3,4]. The compounds do not undergo disproportion in solvents like benzene and diethylether [2].
[ $\left.\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{AlOCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NMe}_{2}\right]_{2}$ was first described by Hoffmann in 1967 as a dimethylaluminum amino alkoxide with the N -atom in $\beta$-position [5]. Optically active dialkylaluminum alkoxides (dialkylaluminum-l-

[^0]mentholates and -l-borneolates) were first synthesized by Oliver and coworkers with nearly planar $\mathrm{Al}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2}$ ring systems in solid state [6].

Dialkylaluminum alkoxides with chiral amino alkoxide groups are of special interest. Typical compounds of this type were obtained by reactions of trialkylaluminum compounds with the corresponding alcohols. Oliver and coworkers reported on the synthesis and characterisation of the monomer dimethyl-aluminum(2S,3R)-( + )-4-(dimethylamino)-1,2-diphenyl -3-methyl-2-butoxide and the dimer dimethylaluminum( S )-( - )-1-methyl-2-pyrolidinylmethoxide with $\mathrm{Al}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2}$ and $\mathrm{AlOC}_{2} \mathrm{~N}$ ring systems. These compounds retain their optical activity [7].

Trimethylgallium reacts with alcohols in almost the same manner as trimethylaluminum forming dimethylgallium alkoxides, which structures correspond to those of the dimethylaluminum alkoxides. Dimethylgallium
methoxide exhibits, unlike the trimeric aluminum compound, a dimeric structure [8].
$\mathrm{Me}_{2}$ AlOMe and $\mathrm{Me}_{2}$ AlOEt have been proved to be active catalysts, i.e. in the polymerisation of lactones with formation of polyesters [9,10]. $\left[\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{AlOCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NMe}_{2}\right]_{2}$ was used to catalyse the ring-opening polymerisation of $\varepsilon$-caprolactone to polycaprolactone [11].

Therefore we tried to get more detailed information about the synthesis and structures of other related compounds. We synthesized dimethylaluminum and dimethylgallium compounds with chiral amino alkoxide groups and report on their properties and structures.

## 2. Results and discmession

Trimethylaluminum and trimethylgallium were reacted with racemic dimethylamino-2-propanol and (S)( + )-amino-2-propanol in molar ratio $1: 1$. The corresponding alkoxides $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{AlOR}^{*}$ and $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{GaOR}^{*}$ were formed according to Eq. (1). The reactions proceed smoothly in n-pentane at room temperature.
$\mathrm{Me}_{3} \mathrm{M}+\mathrm{ROH} \rightarrow \mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{MOR}+\mathrm{CH}_{4}$
$\left(\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{Al} ; \quad \mathrm{R}=\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NMe}_{2}\right.$ (1), $\mathbf{C H}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NH}_{2}$ (2), $\quad \mathbf{M}=\mathbf{G a} ; \quad \mathbf{R}=$ $\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NMe}_{2}$ (3)).

1-3 are colourless crystalline solids, which can be sublimed in vacuum or recrystallised from toluene. They are very well soluble in aromatic, less in aliphatic hydrocarbons and sensitive to moisture and oxygen. Surprisingly, 2 decomposes above $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ with evolution of methane. No reaction between the $\mathrm{NH}_{2}$ groups
and the $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{Al}$ units can be observed at lower temperatures.

The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H},{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$, and ${ }^{27} \mathrm{~A}$ NMR spectra of $\mathbf{1 - 3}$ are listed in Table 1. In the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra of $1-3$ the absence of the -OH resonance of bifunctional amino alcohols, and the presence of a sharp upfield resonance ( $1-0.58$, $2-0.60,3-0.07 \mathrm{ppm})$ for the $-\mathrm{MMe}_{2}$ moiety of $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{MOR}^{*}$, in the appropriate integration provide good evidence for the $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{M}$ coordination in the compounds. The $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{~N}$ signals of 1 and $3(1.86,1.84 \mathrm{ppm})$ are shifted to lower field in comparison with the signal of the corresponding aminoalkohol ( 1.72 ppm ), which indicates a coordinative $\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{N}$ interaction. A similar situation was found in the case of 2 , with a broad signal at 0.78 ppm , which is typical for compounds with coordinated $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ groups. In consequence of the presence of an asymmetric carbon atom in all compounds, two multiplets of equal intensity $(1 \mathrm{H})$ appear for the neighbouring $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ groups. In case of 2 , which is the pure (S)-enantiomer, we find two signals for this group of equal intensity.

The ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra of the $\mathrm{Me}_{2}$ MOR* compounds also show the presence of appropriate resonances which are slightly highfield shifted from the corresponding signals in the parent alcohols and thus support the formation of complexes. 1-3 show high field signals of low intensity for the $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ groups attached to the metal atoms.

The ${ }^{27}$ Al NMR spectra of 1 and 2 indicate, in comparison with the situation in other organoaluminum compounds [12], five-fold coordinated Al atoms. Therefore we consider 1 and 2 as dimeric complexes with a central $\mathrm{Al}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2}$ ring and two $\mathrm{AlOC}_{2} \mathrm{~N}$ chelate rings, according to Figs. 1 and 2 and similar to the structures of other dialkylaluminum alkoxides [13].

Table 1
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H},{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ and ${ }^{27} \mathrm{Al}$ NMR spectra of $1-3\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 22^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right.$, [ppm])

| Compound | ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ | ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ |  |  | ${ }^{27} \mathrm{Al}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{AlOCH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NMe}_{2} 1$ | -0.58 (s) | $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Al}-$ | $-9.25$ | $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Al}-$ | 124.5 |
|  | 1.12 (d) | $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}-$ | 21.09 | $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}-$ |  |
|  | 1.47 (m) | - $\mathrm{NCH}_{2}$ - | 45.25 | $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{~N}-$ |  |
|  | 2.19 (t) |  | 64.90 | $-\mathrm{NCH}_{2}-$ |  |
|  | 1.86 (s) | $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{~N}-$ | 66.99 | - $\mathrm{OCH}-$ |  |
|  | 3.76 (m) | $-\mathrm{OCH}$ |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{AlOCH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NH}_{2} \mathbf{2}$ | -0.60 (s) | $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Al}-$ | -6.61 | $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Al}-$ | 125.3 |
|  | 0.78 (m,br) | $-\mathrm{N} \mathrm{H}_{2}$ | 20.99 | $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}-$ |  |
|  | 1.30 (d) | $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}-$ | 46.85 | $-\mathrm{NCH}_{2}-$ |  |
|  | 1.71 (m) | - $\mathrm{NCH}_{2}$ - | 64.88 | - $\mathrm{OCH}-$ |  |
|  | 1.93 (m) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3.57 (m) | - OCH |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{GaOCH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NMe}_{2} \mathbf{3}$ | -0.07(s) | $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Ga}-$ | $-4.45$ | $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Ga}-$ |  |
|  | 1.10 (d) | $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}-$ | 22.58 | $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}-$ |  |
|  | 1.59 (q), | - $\mathrm{NCH}_{2}$ | 45.56 | $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{~N}$ - |  |
|  | 2.04 (t) |  | 63.76 | $-\mathrm{NCH}_{2}-$ |  |
|  | 1.84 (s) | $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{~N}-$ | 68.19 | $-\mathrm{OCH}-$ |  |
|  | 3.81 (m) | -OCH- |  |  |  |



Fig. 1. Molecular structure of $\mathbf{1}$ (hydrogen atoms with exception of H 1 and H 8 have been omitted for clarity).

Single crystals of 1 and 3 were obtained by sublimation in vacuum ( $66^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / 3$ Torr, $69^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / 3 \mathrm{Torr}$ ) and of 2 by cooling a saturated toluene solution. The crystal data and details of X -ray structure determination are listed in Table 2, the atomic coordinates, equivalent isotropic displacement parameters in Table 3 and selected bond lengths and angles in Table 4. In solid state the compounds 1-3 form dimeric molecules (Figs. 1-3). The central four-membered $\mathrm{Al}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2}$ and $\mathrm{Ga}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2}$ rings are nearly planar and each metal atom is coordinated in a distorted trigonal bipyramidal fashion by two methyl groups in axial, two alkoxide substituents in axial and equatorial and the N atom of the aminoalkoxide group in equatorial position.


Fig. 2. Molecular structure of 2 (hydrogen atoms with exception of H 1 and H 6 have been omitted for clarity).

Haaland introduced the division into normal, dative and intermediate bonds to describe donor-acceptor compounds [14]. In the investigated aluminum and gallium compounds two bonds of intermediate type are formed between the metal and the O atoms. Thus, the equatorial All-O1 and Gal-O1 bonds are significantly shorter than the axial ones (A11-O2 1, Al1-O2 2, $\mathrm{Ga} 1-\mathrm{OlA}$ 3). The $\mathrm{Al}-\mathrm{N}$ bonds can be described as purely dative. The Ga1-N1 bond in 3 is much weaker than the All-N1 bond in the analogous compound 1. The $\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{O}$ and $\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{N}$ distances are similar to those found in analogous structures of five-coordinated aluminum and gallium atoms [6,7,15].

Table 2
Crystallographic data and experimental parameters of 1-3

| Compound | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Formula | $\mathrm{C}_{14} \mathrm{H}_{36} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{Al}_{2}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{10} \mathrm{H}_{28} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{Al}_{2}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{14} \mathrm{H}_{36} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{Ga}_{2}$ |
| Formula weight [g mol ${ }^{-1}$ ] | 318.4 | 262.3 | 403.84 |
| Crystal | platelet, colourdess | prism, colourless | platelet, colourless |
| Crystal size [ $\mathrm{mm}^{3}$ ] | $0.44 \times 0.3 \times 0.25$ | $0.5 \times 0.25 \times 0.25$ | $0.25 \times 0.4 \times 0.6$ |
| Crystal system | triclinic | orthorhombic | monoclinic |
| Space group; Z | P1; 2 | P2, 2121 ; 2 | $P 2_{1} / n ; 4$ |
| $a[\AA]$ | 7.216(2) | 8.782(1) | 7.898(2) |
| $b$ [ A$]$ | $9.576(3)$ | 11.853(2) | 15.512(9) |
| $c[\AA]$ | 15.862(7) | 15.108(2) | 8.453(2) |
| $\boldsymbol{\alpha}\left[{ }^{\circ}\right]$ | 80.35(2) | 90 | 90 |
| $\beta\left[{ }^{\circ}\right]$ | 88.94(2) | 90 | 103.70(2) |
| $\gamma\left[{ }^{\circ}\right]$ | $71.32(2)$ | 90 | 90 |
| Volume [ ${ }^{\circ}{ }^{3}$ ] | 1023.1(6) | 1572.7(4) | 1006.1(9) |
| Density (calc.) [ $\mathrm{mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$ ] | 1.034 | 1.108 | 1.333 |
| Absorbtion coeff. [ $\mathrm{mm}^{-1}$ ] | 0.146 | 0.177 | 2.681 |
| $\theta$ range [ ${ }^{\circ}$ ] | 2.28 to 27.04 | 2.18 to 26.03 | 2.63 to 30.04 |
| Reflections / $\boldsymbol{R}_{\text {int }}$ | 4853/0.066 | 3588/0.018 | 4128/0.014 |
| Data/parameters | 4492/325 | 3115/214 | 2936/133 |
| Goof on $F^{2}$ | 1.016 | 1.088 | 1.021 |
| $R_{1} / w R_{2}[I>2 \sigma(I)]$ | 0.034/0.091 | 0.038/0.096 | 0.044/0.120 |
| $R_{1} / w R_{2}$ [all data] | 0.066/0.104 | 0.058/0.102 | 0.058/0.129 |
| Largest diff. peak [e $\AA^{-3}$ ] | 0.275 | 0.497 | 1.158 (near Gal) |

The asymmetric carbon atoms of $\mathrm{OR}^{*}$ are C 1 and C 8 in compound $1, \mathrm{Cl}$ and C 6 in $2, \mathrm{Cl}$ in 3 . In the structure of $3\left(P 2_{1} / n\right)$ the centre of the $\mathrm{Ga}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2}$ ring coincides with a crystallographic inversion centre, and each molecule contains one ( $R$ ) and one ( $S$ ) enantiomeric form of $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{GaOR}^{*}$.

Table 3
Atomic coordinates [ $\times 10^{4}$ ] and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters [ $\AA^{2} \times 10^{3}$ ] of $\mathbf{1 - 3}$

| Atom | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $U_{\text {eq }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\left[\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{AlOCH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NMe}_{2}\right]_{2} \mathrm{l}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Al}(1)$ | 4889(1) | 7147(1) | 7474(1) | 31(1) |
| Al(2) | 7615(1) | 4086(1) | 7340(1) | 31(1) |
| O(1) | 6118(2) | 5990(1) | 6673(1) | 32(1) |
| O(2) | 6607(2) | 5331(1) | 8133(1) | 32(1) |
| N(1) | 3080(2) | 8398(2) | 6282(1) | $41(1)$ |
| N(2) | 8045(3) | 2450(2) | 8566(1) | 54(1) |
| C(1) | 5687(3) | 6422(2) | 5776(1) | 35(1) |
| C(2) | 4536(3) | 8081(2) | 5622(1) | 41(1) |
| C(3) | 7528(3) | 6093(3) | 5267(2) | 51(1) |
| C(4) | 1514(3) | 7770(3) | 6141(2) | 57(1) |
| C(5) | 2223(4) | 10030(2) | 6246(2) | 65(1) |
| C(6) | 2550(3) | 7119(3) | 8145(1) | 49(1) |
| C(7) | 6114(4) | 8680(2) | 7598(2) | 56(1) |
| C(8) | 6883(3) | 4865(2) | $9033(1)$ | 38(1) |
| C(9) | 8434(3) | 3329(2) | 9179(1) | 52(1) |
| C(10) | 7485(3) | 5959(2) | $9460(1)$ | 49(1) |
| C(11) | 6224(5) | 2087(3) | 8766(2) | $80(1)$ |
| C(12) | 9685(6) | 1050(3) | 8585(2) | $90(1)$ |
| C(13) | 6503(3) | 2863(2) | $6734(1)$ | 47(1) |
| C(14) | 10388(3) | 3902(3) | 7155(2) | 50(1) |
| [ $\left.\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{AlOCH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NH}_{2}\right]_{2} 2$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Al}(1)$ | 1162(1) | 2804(1) | 2202(1) | 28(1) |
| Al(2) | 3888(1) | 1631(1) | 2956(1) | 33(1) |
| O(2) | 2963(2) | 1954(2) | 1885(1) | 35(1) |
| O(1) | 2175(2) | 2579(1) | 3266(1) | 32(1) |
| N(1) | -442(3) | 3529(2) | 3136(2) | 38(1) |
| N(2) | 5346(3) | 673(3) | 2061(2) | 51(1) |
| C(5) | 1479(3) | 4227(2) | 1528(2) | 42(1) |
| C(4) | -391(3) | 1704(2) | 1792(2) | 42(1) |
| C(2) | - 192(3) | 2906(3) | 3963(2) | 40(1) |
| C(1) | 1527(3) | 2829(2) | 4104(2) | 34(1) |
| C(3) | 2180(4) | 3918(3) | 4482(2) | 44(1) |
| C(9) | 3362(4) | 274(2) | 3658(2) | $50(1)$ |
| C(10) | 5637(3) | 2602(2) | 3302(2) | 44(1) |
| C(7) | 5099(4) | 1147(3) | $1190(2)$ | $60(1)$ |
| C(6) | 3424(3) | 1408(3) | 1090(2) | 44(1) |
| C(8) | 3087(5) | 2067(4) | 282(2) | 65(1) |
| $\left[\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{GaOCH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{NMe}_{2}\right]_{2} 3$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Ga}(1)$ | 297(1) | 9622(1) | 6782(1) | 37(1) |
| O(1) | 1165(3) | 9490(2) | 4860(2) | 48(1) |
| N(1) | 2699(3) | 8519(2) | 7585(3) | 44(1) |
| C(1) | 2796(5) | 9108(3) | 4941(4) | 61(1) |
| C(2) | 3077(5) | 8350(3) | 6027(4) | $69(1)$ |
| C(3) | 3079(7) | 8916(4) | 3253(5) | 72(1) |
| C(4) | 4248(5) | 8861(3) | 8738(5) | $69(1)$ |
| C(5) | 2181(7) | $7730(3)$ | 8295(8) | 86(1) |
| C(6) | 1512(6) | 10443(2) | 8434(5) | 57(1) |
| C(7) | -1564(5) | 8810(3) | 6942(6) | 60(1) |

$U_{\text {eq }}$ is defined as one third of the trace of the orthogonalized $U_{i j}$ tensor.


Fig. 3. Molecular structure of 3 (hydrogen atoms with exception of Hl and Hla have been omitted for clarity).

In the structure of 1 the asymmetric unit comprises a complete dimer. The space group was found to be $P \overline{1}$, but one dimer consists of two $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{AlOR}^{*}$ of the identical enantiomeric form ( $R, R$ or $S, S$ ). A second kind of molecule within the crystal structures is generated by the centres of symmetry. That means that the crystal lattice is built up of two different kinds of molecules consisting of either the ( S ) or the ( R ) enantiomeric form of $\mathrm{Me}_{2}$ AlOR ${ }^{*}$ exclusively.

In the crystal structure of $2\left(P 2_{1} 2_{1} 2_{1}\right.$; Flack parameter 0.04 ), the situation is quite different. One dimeric complex, always containing solely the ( S ) enantiomeric form of $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{AlOR}$, is identical with the asymmetric unit. Apart from van der Waals forces, no intermolecular interactions could be found in the presented crystal structures.

## 3. Experimental

### 3.1. General procedure

$\mathrm{Me}_{3} \mathrm{Al}, \mathrm{Me}_{3} \mathrm{Ga}$ and the amino alcohols were used in the form of commercial products. All operations were performed under an argon atmosphere using normal Schlenk techniques. Solvents were dried by treatment with $\mathrm{LiAlH}_{4}$. After distillation they were saturated with argon. The amino alcohols were freshly distilled before use.

### 3.2. X-ray crystal structure determination of 1-3

Intensity data were measured by means of a Stoe STADI4 diffractometer using graphite monochromated Mo $K \alpha$ radiation ( $\lambda=0.71073 \AA$; $\omega-\theta$ mode) at a temperature of 200 K . An empirical absorption correction was applied for 3 . The structures were determined by direct methods using shelxs [16] and full-matrix least-squares refinement based on $F^{2}$ (shelus-93 [17]).

Table 4
Selected bond lengths [ $\AA$ ] and angles [ ${ }^{\circ}$ ] of the compounds 1-3

| 1 |  | 2 |  | $3{ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bond lengths [ A ] |  |  |  |  |  |
| Al1-O1 | 1.852(1) | All-O1 | 1.856(2) | Ga1-O1 | 1.919(2) |
| Al2-O2 | 1.856(1) | $\mathrm{Al} 2-\mathrm{O} 2$ | 1.851(2) |  |  |
| Al1-O2 | 1.927(1) | Al1-O2 | $1.936(2)$ | Gal-Ola | 2.097(2) |
| Al2-O1 | 1.936(1) | Al2-O1 | $1.936(2)$ |  |  |
| All-N1 | 2.246(2) | Al1-N1 | $2.172(3)$ | Ga1-N1 | 2.525(2) |
| Al2-N2 | 2.241(2) | Al2-N2 | 2.181(3) |  |  |
| Al1-C6 | 1.984(2) | Al1-C4 | 1.986 (3) | Ga1-C6 | 1.964(3) |
| Al1-C7 | 1.977(2) | Al1-C5 | $1.990(3)$ | Ga1-C7 | 1.964(4) |
| Al2-C13 | 1.986 (2) | Al2-C9 | 1.981(3) |  |  |
| Al2-C14 | 1.973(2) | Al2-C10 | 1.988(3) |  |  |
| Bond angles [ ${ }^{\circ}$ ] |  |  |  |  |  |
| O1-Al1-C6 | 130.1(1) | O1-Al1-C4 | 120.3(1) | O1-Gal-C6 | 117.3(2) |
| O1-All-C7 | 111.8(1) | O1-Al1-C5 | $119.9(1)$ | O1-Gal-C7 | 114.4(2) |
| O2-Al2-C13 | 132.7(1) | O2-Al2-C9 | 122.2(1) |  |  |
| O2-Al2-C14 | 110.4(1) | O2-Al2-C10 | 116.7(1) |  |  |
| O1-All-N1 | 78.7(1) | O1-All-N1 | 78.8(1) | O1-Gal-N1 | 76.1(1) |
| O2-Al2-N2 | 77.9(1) | O2-Al2-N2 | 79.8(1) |  |  |
| O2-All-N1 | 151.0(1) | O2-All-N1 | 153.8(1) | Ola-Ga1-N1 | 152.1(1) |
| O1-Al2-N2 | 148.6(1) | O1-Al2-N2 | 155.3(1) |  |  |
| O2-Al1-C6 | 94.9(1) | O2-Al1-C4 | 98.1(1) | Ola-Gal-C6 | 98.3(1) |
| O2-All-C7 | 104.2(1) | O2-Al1-C5 | 101.6(1) | Ola-Gal-C7 | 99.4(2) |
| O1-Al2-C13 | 95.5(1) | O1-Al2-C9 | 99.2(1) |  |  |
| O1-Al2-C14 | 105.8(1) | O1-Al2-C10 | 101.6(1) |  |  |
| N1-Al1-C6 | 92.9(1) | N1-Al1-C4 | 91.0(1) | N1-Gal-C6 | 98.3(2) |
| N1-Al1-C7 | $96.5(1)$ | N1-All-C5 | 95.0(1) | N1-Gal-C7 | 99.4(2) |
| $\mathrm{N} 2-\mathrm{Al} 2-\mathrm{Cl} 3$ | $92.1(1)$ | N2-Al2-C9 | 92.6(1) |  |  |
| N2-Al2-C14 | 97.8(1) | N2-Al2-C10 | 90.6(1) |  |  |
| O1-All-O2 | 74.9 (1) | O1-All-O2 | 75.4(1) | O1-Gal-Ola | 76.2(1) |
| $\mathrm{O} 2-\mathrm{Al2-O1}$ | 74.6(1) | O2-Al2-O1 | 75.5(1) |  |  |
| C6-Al1-C7 | 118.1(1) | C4-All-C5 | 119.5(1) | C6-Gal-C7 | 127.9(2) |
| C13-Al2-C14 | 116.8(1) | C9-Al2-C10 | 120.6(1) |  |  |

${ }^{2}$ Symmetry transformation used to generate equivalent atoms in the structure of 3: $-x, 2-y, 1-z$.

Details are listed in Table 2. Further details of the structure investigation are available on request from the Fachinformationszentrum Karlsruhe, D-76344 Eggen-stein-Leopoldshafen 2, Germany, CSD No. 486646 (1), 476646 (2) and 406646 (3).

### 3.3. Dimethylaluminum- $(+) ;(-)$-dimethylamino-2propoxide (1)

To a solution of $3.6 \mathrm{~g}(4.8 \mathrm{ml} ; 0.05 \mathrm{~mol})$ trimethylaluminum in 50 ml n-pentane, $5.1 \mathrm{~g}(6.2 \mathrm{ml} ; 0.05 \mathrm{~mol})$ (+);( - -dimethylamino-2-propanol were added dropwise at a temperature of $-15^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. After warming to room temperature, the solvent was removed in vacuum. The residue was sublimed in vacuum $\left(66^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / 3 \mathrm{Torr}\right)$ creating transparent colourless crystals (yield 6.4 g ( $80 \%$ )).

Anal. Found: C, 52.70; H, 10.38; N, 8.45. $\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{18}$ ONAl Calc.: C, 52.86; H, 10.32; N, $8.80 \%$. NMR data see Table 1.

### 3.4. Dimethylaluminum-(S)-( + )-amino-2-propoxide (2)

According to the synthesis of $1,1.8 \mathrm{~g}(2.2 \mathrm{ml}$; $0.03 \mathrm{~mol}) \mathrm{Me}_{3} \mathrm{Al}$ was treated with a solution of 2.2 g ( 0.03 mol ) ( S )-( + )-amino-2-propanol in 50 ml n-pentane. The white precipitate obtained was recrystallised from toluene. The crystals were filtered at $-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and dried in vacuum (yield $2.7 \mathrm{~g}(77 \%)$ ). Anal. Found: C, 45.70; H, 10.17; N, 10.54. $\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{14}$ ONAl Calc.: C, 45.80; $\mathrm{H}, 10.69 ; \mathrm{H}, 10.67 \%$. NMR data see Table 1 .

### 3.5. Dimethylgallium-( + );( - -dimethylamino-2propoxide (3)

According to the synthesis of $1,2.6 \mathrm{~g}(3.0 \mathrm{ml}$; 0.025 mol ) ( + ); ( )-dimethylamino-2-propanol in 20 ml n-pentane were added dropwise to $1.9 \mathrm{~g}(2.5 \mathrm{ml}$; $0.025 \mathrm{~mol}) \mathrm{Me}_{3} \mathrm{Ga}$ in 50 ml of n-pentane at $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. After warming up to room temperature the solvent was removed and the residue sublimed in vacuum
$\left(69^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / 3\right.$ Torr) forming transparent colourless crystals (yield $3.9 \mathrm{~g}(78 \%)$ ). Anal. Found: C, 46.25; H, 9.12; N, 6.12. $\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{18} \mathrm{ONGa}$ Calc.: $\mathrm{C}, 46.30 ; \mathrm{H}, 9.35$; $\mathrm{N}, 6.89 \%$. NMR data see Table 1.

## Acknowledgements

The authors thank the Fonds der Chemischen Industrie for financial support.

## References

[1] A. von Grosse, J.M. Mavity, J. Org. Chem. 5 (1940) 106.
[2] T. Mole, Aust. J. Chem. 19 (1966) 373.
[3] D.A. Drew, A. Haaland, J. Weidlein, Z. Anorg. Allg. Chem. 398 (1973) 241.
[4] A. Haaland, O. Stokkeland, J. Organomet. Chem. 94 (1975) 345.
[5] E.G. Hoffmann, Liebigs Ann. Chem. 629 (1960) 104.
[6] M.L. Sierra, R. Kumar, J.P. Oliver, Organometallics 11 (1992) 206.
[7] J.P. Oliver, R. Kumar, M.L. Sierra, Organometalics 13 (1994) 4287.
[8] G.E. Coates, R.G. Hayter, J. Chem. Soc. (1953) 2519.
[9] H.M. Müller, D. Seebrach, Angew. Chem. 105 (1993) 483.
[10] S. Inove, T. Aida, Makromol. Chem. Makromol. Symp. 73 (1993) 27.
[11] I. Barakat, P. Dubois, R. Jerome, P. Teyssie, J. Polym. Sci. A: Poly. Chem. 31 (2) (1993) 505.
[12] Ch. Elchenbroich, A. Salzer, Organometallchemie, Teubner, Stuttgart, 1990, p. 108.
[13] R. Bem, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl. 22 (1983) 779.
[14] A. Haaland, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl. 28 (1989) 992.
[15] S.J. Retting, A. Storr, J. Trotter, Can. J. Chem. 53 (1975) 58.
[16] G.M. Sheidrick, sherxs-86, Program for Crystal Structure Solution, Universität Göttingen, 1986.
[17] G.M. Sheldrick, sfexixl-93, Program for Crystal Structure Determination, Universität Göttingen, 1993.


[^0]:    * Corresponding author

