

## Structural studies on octahedral diorganotin(IV) complexes: the influence of substituents in carbon- and heteroatom-donor ligands on $[\text{SnR}_2]$ skeletal geometry

V.G. Kumar Das\*, Yap Chee-Keong

*Department of Chemistry, University of Malaya, 59100 Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)*

and Peter J. Smith

*International Tin Research Institute, Kingston Lane, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 3PJ (Great Britain)*

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### Abstract

The synthesis and spectroscopic characterization are described of six-coordinated diorganotin(IV) complexes of the type  $\text{RR}'\text{SnX}_2 \cdot \text{L}_2$  and  $\text{RR}'\text{SnL}'_2$  where  $\text{RR}' =$  diphenyl, bis(*p*-tolyl), bis(*m*-chlorophenyl), bis(*p*-chlorophenyl), MeEt, Et(*n*-Pr);  $\text{X} = \text{Cl}$  or NCS;  $\text{L} =$  neutral monodentate oxygen donor (containing  $\text{>S=O}$ ,  $\text{>N} \rightarrow \text{O}$ ,  $\text{>P=O}$  or  $\text{>As=O}$  grouping) or 1/2 bidentate donor (2,2'-bipyridyl, 4,4'-dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridyl, 1,10-phenanthroline or 3,4,7,8-tetramethyl-1,10-phenanthroline);  $\text{L}' =$  8-quinolinolato or 2-methyl-8-quinolinolato. The spectroscopic (in particular, the  $^{119\text{m}}\text{Sn}$  Mössbauer) data have been used to infer the stereochemistry of the  $[\text{SnR}_2]$  skeleton in these complexes, with confirmation from recent X-ray studies in a few cases. The results indicate that substituents in the carbon- and heteroatom-donor ligands attached to tin have a strong influence on the stereochemical preference for *trans*- or *cis*- $[\text{SnR}_2]$  configurations in the six-coordinated octahedral complexes.

### Introduction

Diorganotin(IV) dihalides and diisothiocyanates readily yield complexes with neutral oxygen and nitrogen donor ligands of formula  $\text{R}_2\text{SnX}_2 \cdot 2\text{L}$  ( $\text{L} =$  monodentate or 1/2 bidentate ligand). The tin is in an octahedral coordination environment in these structures [1–4], as it is, because of intermolecular halogen bridging [5,6], in several complexes of 1:1 stoichiometry involving non-sterically demanding ligands containing  $\text{>C=O}$ ,  $\text{>S=O}$ ,  $\text{>N} \rightarrow \text{O}$ ,  $\text{>P=O}$  or  $\text{>As=O}$  groupings.

The structural features of the above complexes, in particular the stereochemistry of the  $R_2Sn$  skeleton, have been investigated by a combination of IR, NMR and  $^{119m}Sn$  Mössbauer spectroscopic studies, as well as by X-ray analysis in suitable cases. The results, although largely restricted to dimethyl- and diphenyl-tin systems, suggest a preponderant tendency towards a *trans*- $[SnR_2]$  skeletal array for  $R_2SnX_2 \cdot 2L$  complexes ( $L$  = monodentate donor) [1,2,7,8]. This has been ascribed to the  $\sigma$ -donor ability of the methyl groups which tends to maximize the tin  $5s$  character in the Sn–C bond, resulting in a linear C–Sn–C structure [9,10]. Indeed, this preference for *trans*- $[SnR_2]$  geometry has been observed also with bulkier alkyl groups [11] and for mixed (alkyl)(aryl) systems [12–14].

With bidentate ligands of the  $\alpha$ -diimine type, the *trans*- or distorted *trans*- $[SnR_2]$  configuration is exclusively formed for the dialkyltin dihalide and diisothiocyanate complexes and, with the recent exception of (*p*-tolyl) $_2SnCl_2 \cdot bipy$  [15], also for the diphenyltin dihalide series, as shown by Mössbauer and X-ray data [1,2,16–18]. However, for the corresponding diaryltin(IV) diisothiocyanate complexes, only *cis*- $[SnR_2]$  geometries have so far been encountered [18,19] and this has been attributed to steric effects introduced by the NCS groups [20]. The mixed (alkyl)(aryl)tin dihalide complexes,  $RPhSnCl_2 \cdot L'$  ( $R$  = Me, Et, *n*-Pr, *n*-Bu;  $L'$  = *bipy*, *phen*), although not extensively studied, appear from spectroscopic evidence to have a *trans*- $[SnR_2]$  geometry [12–14], a preference which is manifested also by the diisothiocyanate complexes, e.g.  $BuPhSn(NCS)_2 \cdot L'$  ( $L'$  = *bipy*, *phen*) [12]. It has been suggested, however, that in such mixed diorganotin systems the C–Sn–C bond angles depart significantly from the ideal *trans* angle of  $180^\circ$  [12–14]. It is noteworthy that in cases where the structural distortion of the octahedron is severe, *cis/trans* designations would be of questionable validity and, indeed, configurations intermediate between these have been assigned to dimethyltin(IV) bis(*N*-Me-*N*-acetylhydroxylamine) [21] and dimethyltin(IV) bis(*N,N*-dimethyldithiocarbamate) [22]. Bis-(quinolin-8-olato)dimethyltin(IV) (C–Sn–C bond angle (X-ray)  $110.7^\circ$ ) [23] and bis(*N*-acetylhydroxylamino)dimethyltin(IV) (C–Sn–C bond angle (X-ray)  $109.1^\circ$ ) [24], on the other hand, are marked exceptions among dialkyltin bis-chelates in having *cis*- $[SnR_2]$  octahedral geometries. This difference has been rationalised on steric grounds, and this is supported by semi-theoretical arguments based on the ligand–ligand repulsion model [10,25], which predicts *cis*-structures to be more favourable when the chelating ligands have small ‘bite’ angles. Bancroft and coworkers [10] have observed that with 1,3-dicarbonyl donors (RCOHCOR), the *cis*-preference follows the order  $Ph_2SnL_2 > PhMeSnL_2 > Me_2SnL_2$ . These authors have suggested the possibility that *cis/trans* energy differences could be somewhat small for dialkyltin bis-chelates relative to diaryltin analogues, so that both these configurations could conceivably coexist in certain circumstances. Studies on the  $Ph_2Sn/PhBuSn/Bu_2Sn$  series [12] have also confirmed the trends in *cis*-preference.

Our work on the effects of substituents in the carbon- and heteroatom-donor ligands attached to tin was prompted by our somewhat puzzling earlier Mössbauer observation [26] that the steric presence of a 2-methyl substituent on the oxin ligand (oxinH = 8-hydroxyquinoline) causes the  $Me_2Sn$  skeleton to adopt the *trans*-configuration in the bis-chelate,  $Me_2Sn(quin)_2$  (quinH = 2-methyl-8-hydroxyquinoline), as opposed to the *cis*-structure in  $Me_2Sn(oxin)_2$  [23]. This was subsequently confirmed by X-ray diffraction for the case of  $Et(n-Pr)Sn(quin)_2$  [27], which showed a C–Sn–C angle of  $145.2^\circ$  and an average ligand bite angle of  $70.5^\circ$ , which is ca.  $3^\circ$

lower than that in  $\text{Me}_2\text{Sn}(\text{oxin})_2$ . It appeared from this study that steric effects, as manifested in the unequal Sn–donor bond distances in the complex, were responsible for enforcing the *trans*- $[\text{SnR}_2]$  configuration, rather than the reassertion of electronic effects as expressed by Bent's rule [9]. Extension of such work to other hexacoordinated diorganotin complexes containing structured R groups, such as phenyl carrying substituents on the ring, yielded the unexpected result of a *cis*- $[\text{SnR}_2]$  geometry for the 1:1 complex of (*p*-tolyl) $_2\text{SnCl}_2$  with bipy [15], and, even more impressively, allowed us to isolate for the first time both the *cis*- and *trans*-isomers of an octahedral diorganotin complex for the case of dichlorobis(4-chlorophenyl)tin(IV)·4,4'-dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridyl [28,29]. In this paper, we report our work on a range of related complexes directed towards the general question of *cis-trans* preference in organotin(IV) hexacoordination.

## Experimental

The starting diorganotin dichlorides {(*p*-tolyl) $_2\text{SnCl}_2$ , m.p. 48–49°C (lit. m.p. 49–50°C [30]); (*p*-ClC $_6\text{H}_4$ ) $_2\text{SnCl}_2$ , m.p. 85–86°C (lit. m.p. 88°C [31]); (*m*-ClC $_6\text{H}_4$ ) $_2\text{SnCl}_2$ , m.p. 74–75°C; Ph $_2\text{SnCl}_2$ , m.p. 43°C (lit. m.p. 42–44°C [3]); MeEtSnCl $_2$ , m.p. 51–52°C (lit. m.p. 53°C [32]); Et(*n*-Pr)SnCl $_2$ , m.p. 50–52°C (lit. m.p. 52–53°C [33])} were prepared by published methods. The diisothiocyanate derivatives {(*p*-tolyl) $_2\text{Sn}(\text{NCS})_2$ , m.p. 148–150°C; (*p*-ClC $_6\text{H}_4$ ) $_2\text{Sn}(\text{NCS})_2$ , m.p. 215–217°C; Ph $_2\text{Sn}(\text{NCS})_2$ , m.p. 177–179°C; MeEtSn(NCS) $_2$ , m.p. 172–174°C} were prepared from the corresponding chlorides by Seyferth and Rochow's method [34]. Except for pyridine *N*-oxide and quinoline *N*-oxide, which were prepared by Ochiai's method [35], all other ligands were obtained commercially and used without further purification. Acetonitrile was purified by a standard procedure [36].

*Supplementary material.* Tables of IR and mass spectral data for the complexes are available from the authors on request.

### Preparation of the complexes

Most of the neutral complexes were formed by mixing the appropriate diorganotin dihalides or diisothiocyanates with the monodentate or bidentate ligands in a suitable solvent. The bis-oxinates were prepared by the method of Westlake and Martin [37]. The 1:1 and 1:2 complexes with neutral monodentate and bidentate ligands were isolated as stable white solids in 60–80% yields. The bis-oxinates were obtained as beige or yellow-coloured solids. Elemental analyses of the complexes (Tables 1, 2 and 3) were performed by the Australian Microanalytical Service, Melbourne, and by the Microanalytical Service of University College, London. The melting points listed are uncorrected. The following abbreviations are used for the ligands: 2,2'-bipyridine (bipy); 1,10-phenanthroline (phen); 4,4'-dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridine (Me $_2$ bipy); 3,4,7,8-tetramethyl-1,10-phenanthroline (Me $_4$ phen); quinoline *N*-oxide (quinO); pyridine *N*-oxide (pyO); hexamethylphosphoramide (HMPA); triphenylphosphine oxide (Ph $_3\text{PO}$ ); dimethylsulphoxide (DMSO); triphenylarsine oxide (Ph $_3\text{AsO}$ ); 8-hydroxyquinoline (oxinH); 2-methyl-8-hydroxyquinoline (quinH).

The following syntheses are representative:

*MeEtSnCl}\_2 \cdot \text{Me}\_2\text{bipy.}* A solution of MeEtSnCl $_2$  (0.70 g, 3 mmol) in 20 ml ethanol was added to Me $_2$ bipy (0.72 g, 3 mmol) in 40 ml ethanol. A precipitate of

Table 1

Analytical data (found (calc) (%)) for diorganotin(IV) dihalide and diisothiocyanate complexes of nitrogen-donor ligands

Complex	M.p. (°C) <sup>a</sup>	C	H	N
Et(n-Pr)SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	193–194	43.30 (43.11)	4.64 (4.79)	6.32 (6.71)
EtMeSnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	196–197	39.80 (40.05)	4.13 (4.11)	6.97 (7.19)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	218–220	53.81 (54.59)	4.00 (4.17)	5.01 (5.31)
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	236–238	45.64 (46.44)	2.96 (2.81)	4.87 (4.93)
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	224–226	46.24 (46.43)	2.94 (2.81)	4.72 (4.92)
Et(n-Pr)SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	198–199	46.30 (46.21)	4.47 (4.53)	6.05 (6.34)
EtMeSnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	215–217	43.74 (43.53)	3.76 (3.87)	6.42 (6.77)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	281–283	55.89 (56.57)	4.28 (3.99)	5.01 (5.08)
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	282–284	48.21 (48.61)	2.69 (2.70)	4.58 (4.73)
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	248–249	48.50 (48.60)	2.77 (2.70)	4.61 (4.73)
Et(n-Pr)SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	195–196	46.09 (45.79)	5.40 (5.39)	6.30 (6.29)
EtMeSnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	230–232	43.48 (43.11)	4.77 (4.79)	6.67 (6.71)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	232–235	56.02 (56.17)	4.84 (4.68)	4.96 (5.04)
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	241–243	47.91 (48.27)	3.15 (3.35)	4.70 (4.69)
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	230–231	48.39 (48.27)	3.36 (3.35)	4.57 (4.69)
Ph <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	228–230	54.36 (54.59)	4.29 (4.17)	5.41 (5.31)
Et(n-Pr)SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	298–300	49.76 (50.65)	5.58 (5.63)	5.37 (5.63)
EtMeSnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	302–304	48.10 (48.56)	5.11 (5.11)	5.68 (5.96)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	300–302	58.20 (59.26)	4.81 (4.94)	4.24 (4.61)
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	319–320	51.42 (51.81)	3.78 (3.70)	4.13 (4.32)
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	290–291	51.68 (51.80)	3.58 (3.70)	4.10 (4.32)
Ph <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	282–283 (267–268) <sup>b</sup>	58.08 (57.97)	4.52 (4.49)	4.79 (4.83)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	168–170	54.42 (54.49)	3.84 (3.84)	9.68 (9.78)
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	208–209	46.68 (46.94)	2.56 (2.61)	8.96 (9.13)
EtMeSn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·phen	198–199	44.46 (44.49)	3.64 (3.49)	12.07 (12.21)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·phen	214–215	56.18 (56.32)	3.82 (3.69)	9.12 (9.39)
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·phen	245–246	48.87 (48.94)	2.59 (2.51)	8.70 (8.78)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	220–222	56.9 (55.94)	4.07 (4.33)	9.19 (9.32)
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	208–210	48.05 (48.63)	3.47 (3.12)	8.27 (8.73)
Ph <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	202–204	53.08 (54.49)	3.86 (3.84)	8.76 (8.78)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	271–272	58.59 (58.84)	4.75 (4.60)	8.62 (8.58)

<sup>a</sup> With decomposition. <sup>b</sup> Ref. 17.

the complex appeared immediately, and was filtered off, washed with cold diethyl ether, and dried in air. Yield, 1.0 g (80%).

(*p*-tolyl)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>·phen. Equimolar quantities (5 mmol) of (*p*-tolyl)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub> (1.86 g) and 1,10-phenanthroline (0.99 g) were dissolved separately in ethanol and mixed to give an immediate white precipitate, which was filtered off, washed with ethanol, and air-dried. Yield, 2.21 g (80%).

(*p*-tolyl)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>·2HMPA. (*p*-Tolyl)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub> (0.50 g, 1.3 mmol) was dissolved in neat HMPA by brief warming and the mixture set aside to stand overnight in the freezer. The white solid formed was filtered off, washed with petroleum ether (60–80°C), and dried in air. Yield, 0.57 g (60%).

(*p*-tolyl)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>·2quinO. A solution of 0.40 g (1 mmol) of (*p*-tolyl)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>, in 20 ml dichloromethane was added to 0.38 g (2 mmol) of quinoline *N*-oxide in 20 ml dichloromethane. The solution was concentrated to a small volume, chilled, and

Table 2

Analytical data (found (calc) (%)) for diorganotin(IV) dihalide complexes of oxygen-donor ligands

Complex	M.p. (°C) <sup>a</sup>	C	H	N
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2quinO	156–158	57.09 (58.04)	4.29 (4.23)	4.18 (4.23)
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2quinO	166–168	50.05 (51.24)	3.10 (3.13)	3.72 (3.99)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2pyO	176–178	49.99 (51.28)	4.29 (4.27)	4.86 (4.98)
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2pyO	180–182	43.71 (43.81)	3.07 (2.99)	4.45 (4.65)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2HMPA	116–117	42.50 (42.75)	6.71 (6.85)	11.46 (11.51)
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2HMPA	212–213	37.05 (37.37)	5.67 (5.71)	11.10 (10.90)
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2HMPA	197–199	37.01 (37.37)	5.81 (5.71)	11.16 (10.90)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> PO	145–146	64.43 (64.68)	4.78 (4.74)	
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> PO	178–180	59.07 (59.47)	3.94 (3.92)	
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> PO	168–170	59.53 (59.47)	4.08 (3.92)	
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2DMSO	150–152	40.17 (40.94)	4.87 (4.93)	
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2DMSO	152–154	33.89 (33.77)	3.57 (3.52)	
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> AsO	210–212	57.75 (59.09)	4.29 (4.33)	
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> AsO	227–229	54.22 (54.52)	3.62 (3.60)	
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> AsO	192–194	54.36 (54.52)	3.64 (3.60)	

<sup>a</sup> With decomposition.

triturerated with petroleum ether (60–80 °C) to give a white solid which was filtered off, washed with petroleum ether, and air-dried. Yield, 0.5 g (70%).

(*p*-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>·2DMSO. 2.89 g (0.7 mmol) of (*p*-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub> was heated with neat DMSO until the solid dissolved. The solution was chilled, then triturerated with ethanol to give a white solid, which was filtered off, washed with ethanol and air-dried. Yield, 2.39 g (60%).

Et(*n*-Pr)Sn(quin)<sub>2</sub>. Solutions of Et(*n*-Pr)SnCl<sub>2</sub> (0.52 g, 2.0 mmol) and 2-methyl-8-hydroxyquinoline (0.64 g, 4.0 mmol) in ethanol were mixed and a solution of 0.2 g of sodium acetate in 20 ml of 50% (v/v) aqueous ethanol was added, followed by 20 ml of 25% aqueous ammonia. The beige-coloured solid obtained was recrystallised from toluene in 60% yield (0.61 g). Mass spectrum [70 eV, *m/e* (relative intensity)]: [*M* – Et]<sup>+</sup> 479(9); [*M* – *n*-Pr]<sup>+</sup> 465(7.4); [Sn(quin)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> 436(13); [*M* – quin]<sup>+</sup> 350(7.5); [Sn(quin)]<sup>+</sup> 278(100); [quinH]<sup>+</sup> 159 (58.8); [Sn]<sup>+</sup> 120(3).

Table 3

Analytical data (found (calc) (%)) for diorganotin(IV) oxinates

Compound	M.p. (°C) <sup>a</sup>	C	H	N
Et( <i>n</i> -Pr)Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	130–131	57.67 (57.43)	4.99 (5.41)	5.75 (5.82)
Et( <i>n</i> -Pr)Sn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	287–289	59.14 (58.98)	5.39 (5.89)	5.57 (5.51)
EtMeSn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	184–186	56.09 (55.68)	4.52 (4.86)	6.09 (6.19)
EtMeSn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	306–308	57.56 (57.43)	4.92 (5.41)	5.82 (5.83)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	293–295	64.73 (65.02)	4.53 (4.74)	4.57 (4.74)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	271–273	65.39 (65.96)	4.89 (5.17)	4.47 (4.53)
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	285–287	58.94 (60.39)	3.56 (3.69)	4.55 (4.69)
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	280–281	57.96 (58.22)	3.52 (3.94)	4.54 (4.25)

<sup>a</sup> With decomposition.

*MeEtSn(quin)<sub>2</sub>*. This was prepared by the same procedure. Mass spectrum (*m/e*, rel. int.): [*M* – Me]<sup>+</sup> 465(0.4); [*M* – Et]<sup>+</sup> 451(1); [Sn(quin)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> 436(1.8); [*M* – quin]<sup>+</sup> 322(2.3); [EtSn(quin)]<sup>+</sup> 307(0.3); [MeSn(quin)]<sup>+</sup> 293(0.5); [Sn(quin)]<sup>+</sup> 278(25.3); [quin-H]<sup>+</sup> 159(100); [SnMe]<sup>+</sup> 135(1.8); [Sn]<sup>+</sup> 120(3.1).

#### Mössbauer spectra

The <sup>119m</sup>Sn Mössbauer spectra of the complexes were obtained at 80 K on a constant acceleration microprocessor spectrometer using a 15 mCi Ca<sup>119</sup>SnO<sub>3</sub> source at room temperature. The spectra were recorded on a Hewlett-Packard 7225B Plotter, and fitted with Lorentzian functions by a least-squares fitting programme [38].

#### Infrared spectra

The infrared spectra of the compounds were recorded as Nujol mulls between NaCl or polyethylene windows using a Perkin–Elmer 1300 spectrometer, and were calibrated with polystyrene.

#### Ultraviolet spectra

The ultraviolet spectra were recorded on a Beckman DU-7 spectrometer with 1-cm quartz cells. The temperature was maintained at 26 ± 1°C.

The determination of the formation constants (*K*) of the complexes of MeEtSnCl<sub>2</sub> and Et(*n*-Pr)SnCl<sub>2</sub> with 2,2'-bipyridine (bipy) and its 4,4'-dimethyl derivative (Me<sub>2</sub>bipy) was carried out spectroscopically in acetonitrile (λ range: 250 to 320 nm) by use of the following equation:

$$1 - (D_0/D)/A_0 = -K + K(E_{AB}/E_B)(D_0/D) \quad (1)$$

where *E<sub>B</sub>* and *E<sub>AB</sub>* are, respectively, the molar extinction coefficients of the free and complexed ligands (bipy or Me<sub>2</sub>bipy), *D<sub>0</sub>* is the absorbance of a solution containing only the ligand and *D* is the absorbance of the solution containing a definite amount of the ligand and an arbitrary amount of the mixed dialkyltin dichloride. The concentrations used were 1 × 10<sup>-5</sup> *M* for the ligands and ca. 1.0 × 10<sup>-5</sup> to 6.0 × 10<sup>-3</sup> *M* for the mixed dialkyltin dichlorides.

As is evident from eq. 1, a plot of (*D<sub>0</sub>/D*) against 1 – (*D<sub>0</sub>/D*)/*A<sub>0</sub>* gives a straight line, from which *K* is obtained as the intercept at (*D<sub>0</sub>/D*) = 0. A programmable calculator was used for least-squares treatment of the data and to derive the *K* values listed in Table 8.

## Results and discussion

### 1. Complexes with monodentate ligands

Selected infrared data for the 1:2 complexes of Ar<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub> (Ar = *m*-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, *p*-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, *p*-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>) are listed in Table 4, together with literature data for the corresponding complexes of Ph<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>. It is apparent that complexation leads to a decrease in the E–O (E = N, S, P or As) stretching frequencies of the ligands, confirming their coordination to tin via oxygen [7,40]. Application of the generalization that, for a given ligand, the larger the magnitude of Δν(E–O) the stronger the donor interaction [41], leads to the following order of acceptor strengths:

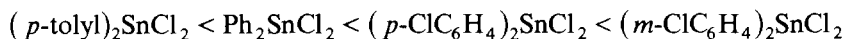


Table 4

Selected IR bands <sup>a</sup> for diorganotin(IV) dihalide complexes of oxygen-donor ligands

Complex	$\nu(\text{E}-\text{O})^b$	$\nu(\text{Sn}-\text{C})$	$\nu(\text{Sn}-\text{Cl})$
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2quinO	1220m, 1235m	280s	255m,br
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2quinO	1218m, 1232m	308s; 294sh	240s,br
Ph <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2pyO <sup>c</sup>	1200, 1209	283s	
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2pyO	1200s	280s	255m,br
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2pyO	1210s	305s; 295sh; 230m	250s
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2HMPA	1195s; 1136vs	284s; 220s,br	250m,sh
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2HMPA	1196s, 1130vs	312m	250w,sh; 230m
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2HMPA	1198s, 1124vs	294w	238s,br
Ph <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> PO <sup>c</sup>	1143s, 1137s	267m	
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> PO	1148vs	280s; 220s,br	238m,sh
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> PO	1150vs	306s; 295w,sh	245s,br
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> PO	1145s	290w; 270m,sh	246s,br
Ph <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2DMSO <sup>c</sup>	946s	264m, 244sh	
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2DMSO	950, 935s	284s; 222s,br	240m,sh
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2DMSO	945s	310w	260vs,br
Ph <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> AsO <sup>c</sup>	860s	293s, 280sh	
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> AsO	885vs	295m,sh; 280s; 215s,br	240m,sh
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> AsO	884vs	298sh; 284s	240s,br
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> AsO	874vs	294s	238s,br

<sup>a</sup> IR data (cm<sup>-1</sup>) refer to Nujol mulls. <sup>b</sup> E = N, P, S, As,  $\nu(\text{P}-\text{O})(\text{Ph}_3\text{PO})$  1190,  $\nu(\text{S}-\text{O})(\text{DMSO})$  1047,  $\nu(\text{N}-\text{O})(\text{pyO})$  1244,  $\nu(\text{P}-\text{O})(\text{HMPA})$  1218,  $\nu(\text{N}-\text{O})(\text{quinO})$  1230 and 1210,  $\nu(\text{As}-\text{O})(\text{Ph}_3\text{AsO})$  890 cm<sup>-1</sup> for the free ligands. <sup>c</sup> Ref. 7.

The <sup>119m</sup>Sn Mössbauer data of the complexes are listed in Table 5. Inspection of their quadrupole splitting (*QS*) values reveals essentially *trans*-[SnR<sub>2</sub>] octahedral structures for the complexes, in keeping with point-charge model calculations [42,43], which specify values of ca. 4 mm s<sup>-1</sup> for *trans*- and ca. 2 mm s<sup>-1</sup> for

Table 5

<sup>119m</sup>Sn Mössbauer data <sup>a</sup> for diorganotin(IV) dihalide complexes of oxygen-donor ligands

Complex	<i>IS</i> <sup>b</sup>	<i>QS</i>	<i>Γ</i> <sub>1</sub>	<i>Γ</i> <sub>2</sub>
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2quinO	1.21	3.86	1.05	1.03
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2quinO	1.17	3.67	1.13	1.05
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2pyO	1.24	3.89	1.22	1.07
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2pyO	1.13	3.71	1.13	1.12
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2HMPA	1.22	3.92	0.86	0.89
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2HMPA	1.05	3.72	1.05	1.00
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2HMPA	0.97	3.70	1.01	0.86
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> PO	1.06	3.95	0.94	0.90
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> PO	1.08	3.81	0.99	1.02
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> PO	1.07	4.01	0.97	0.99
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2DMSO	1.22	3.91	1.12	0.99
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2DMSO	1.14	3.64	1.14	1.10
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> AsO	1.08	3.64	1.01	0.98
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> AsO	0.99	3.51	0.86	0.90
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2Ph <sub>3</sub> AsO	1.01	3.70	0.99	1.01

<sup>a</sup> Error ±0.03 mm s<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>b</sup> Relative to CaSnO<sub>3</sub> or BaSnO<sub>3</sub>.

*cis*-[SnR<sub>2</sub>] configurations. Further, on the basis of the Bancroft correlation [44] that for diorganotin(IV) octahedral structures the *QS* values decrease smoothly from 4 mm s<sup>-1</sup> as the C–Sn–C angle decreases from linearity, it is obvious that the ring substituents do not impose any appreciable steric distortion of the R–Sn–R angle relative to the diphenyltin case. Nevertheless, some degree of distortion from ideal geometry is generally inferred for the complexes from the multiplicity of the Sn–C bands observed in the infrared (Table 4). The  $\nu$ (Sn–Cl) bands were too poorly resolved to allow unambiguous stereochemical assignments of the chloro groups. The pattern of higher *QS* values for the *p*-tolyltin complexes over *p*-chlorophenyltins is reflected also in the isomer shift (*IS*) values, indicating the Mössbauer nucleus to be subject to the normal mesomeric electronic effects of the aryl groups bound to it.

## 2. Complexes with bidentate ligands

The frequencies associated with the skeletal C=C and C=N stretches in the 1,10-phenanthroline and 2,2'-bipyridine ligands show the expected shift to higher wavenumbers following chelation to the diaryltin dihalides and diisothiocyanates (Table 6). In the case of the diisothiocyanates, complexation is also accompanied by a shift to lower frequencies of the asymmetric C=N stretch of the NCS moiety (Table 6). The latter complexes reveal *QS* values of about 2 mm s<sup>-1</sup> in their Mössbauer spectra (Table 7), which argue strongly for *cis*-[SnR<sub>2</sub>] configurational assignments. This is corroborated by the presence of the both the asymmetric and symmetric Sn–C stretching bands (Table 6) in the infrared spectra of these adducts.

For the diaryltin dichloride complexes, including the previously reported complex (*p*-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub> · Me<sub>2</sub>bipy (entry 18, Table 7) [28], the *QS* values in the majority of the cases are around 3.40 mm s<sup>-1</sup> (Table 7), and are typical of distorted *trans*-[SnR<sub>2</sub>] geometries [17,44]. *Cis*-geometries, such as were revealed by crystallographic data for (*p*-tolyl)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub> · bipy [15] and (*p*-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub> · Me<sub>2</sub>bipy (entry 17, Table 7) [29], seem to be indicated by the Mössbauer data (*QS* ca. 2 mm s<sup>-1</sup>) for the related complexes of (*m*-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub> with bipy and phen. Literature reports of *cis*-[SnR<sub>2</sub>] octahedral structures among diorganotin dihalide complexes have previously been limited to the bis(heteroaryl)tin(IV) dihalide adducts, (3-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>3</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>SnX<sub>2</sub> · bipy (X = Cl (*QS* 2.02 mm s<sup>-1</sup>); X = Br (*QS* 2.13 mm s<sup>-1</sup>)) and (3-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>3</sub>S)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub> · bipy (*QS* 2.00 mm s<sup>-1</sup>) [45], and the crystallographically characterized complex, Ph<sub>2</sub>Sn(NCS)<sub>2</sub> · bipy [19].

It is of interest that (*p*-tolyl)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub> · Me<sub>2</sub>bipy gave a three-line Mössbauer spectrum which was resolved into two Lorentzian doublets with Mössbauer parameters consistent with *cis*- (*IS* 0.85, *QS* 2.23 mm s<sup>-1</sup>) and *trans*- (*IS* 1.14, *QS* 3.59 mm s<sup>-1</sup>) [SnR<sub>2</sub>] assignments (entry 16; Table 7). An alternative assignment for the set of lower *IS* and *QS* values is a five-coordinated tin structure involving a unidentate bonding mode for the ligand, which would be unprecedented. We consider this bonding mode to be unlikely in view of the reluctance of the ligand even to participate in bridging [46,47]. Further, the predicted C–Sn–C bond angle on the Bancroft model [44] associated with the *QS* value of 2.23 mm s<sup>-1</sup> is 110.7°, which agrees closely with documented *cis*-octahedral values but is at the lower end of the scale for basal angles commonly encountered for trigonal bipyramidal coordination. Thus, the calculated value agrees favourably with the experimentally determined values for *cis*-(*p*-tolyl)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub> · bipy (111° (calc) vs. 108.7° (expt)) and



Table 6

Selected IR bands <sup>a</sup> (cm<sup>-1</sup>) for diorganotin(IV) dihalide and diisothiocyanate complexes of nitrogen-donor ligands

Complex	$\nu(\text{C}=\text{C}) + \nu(\text{C}=\text{N})$	$\nu(\text{Sn}-\text{C})$	$\nu(\text{Sn}-\text{Cl})$
Et(n-Pr)SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	1594s; 1435vs	552w; 526w; 500w	230s,br
EtMeSnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	1594s; 1434s	550m; 525w	240s,br
Et(n-Pr)SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1620m; 1515s; 1430s	550w; 530w; 502w	235s
EtMeSnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1622ms; 1512vs; 1420vs	544m; 522w	240s
Et(n-Pr)SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	1610vs; 1405ms	545ms	245s,br; 220s
EtMeSnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	1610vs; 1400ms	542ms	242s,br
Et(n-Pr)SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	1610m; 1522s; 1430s	555m	238s,br; 218s
EtMeSnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	1606m; 1520s; 1430s	550m	240s,br
EtMeSn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1624m; 1518ms; 1425s	568s; 555sh	2030vs,br <sup>b</sup>
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	1595ms; 1436s	286w; 214m	256s,br
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	1600m; 1435s	296m	258s; 240s
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	1590ms; 1432s	284s; 230w	258ms,sh
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1620m; 1515ms; 1422s	248m,sh	260s,br
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1620m; 1525ms; 1420s	290m,sh	250s,br
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1616m; 1510ms; 1420s	284s; 232w	256m,sh; 238w
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	1605s	280s	256m,sh
Ph <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	1615s; 1426ms	295ms; 270vs,br	240s,br
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	1616m; 1526s; 1430ms	284m,sh; 206m,br	260s,br; 246m
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	1615m; 1536s; 1430s	280m,sh	258s; 240s
( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	1530m	285ms,sh; 275s	260ms,sh
Ph <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	1620w; 1528m; 1430s	294m	260s; 240s
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	1605s; 1440s	295m,br; 220m,br	2000vs,br <sup>b</sup> ; 2030vs
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	1602ms; 1440s	295w; 275s; 230vw	2030vs,br <sup>b</sup>
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1585w; 1430m	298m,br; 215m,br	2040vs <sup>b</sup> ; 2000vs
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1625w; 1520m; 1425s	295m; 280sh; 240m	2045vs <sup>b</sup> ; 2002vs
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	1615ms; 1415w	270s; 210m,sh	2030vs,br <sup>b</sup>
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	1606s; 1450s	285sh; 275ms; 225m,br	2030vs,br <sup>b</sup> ; 1995vs
Ph <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	1616s; 1428ms;	275m; 230m	2030vs,br <sup>b</sup>
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	1620w; 1532s; 1432ms	290m,br; 230w	2040vs <sup>b</sup> ; 2008vs

<sup>a</sup> IR data refer to Nujol mulls. <sup>b</sup>  $\nu(\text{C}-\text{N})$  stretching vibrations.

*cis*-(*p*-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>·Me<sub>2</sub>bipy (100° (calc) vs. 106.2° (expt)), but less so with the literature values for five-coordinated complexes, namely Ph<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>·(benzthiazole) [48] (angle C–Sn–C (X-ray) 132.5°; *IS* 1.36, *QS* 2.92 mm s<sup>-1</sup>) and Ph<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>·(2,6-lutidine *N*-oxide) [49] (angle C–Sn–C (X-ray) 124.1°; *IS* 1.36, *QS* 2.92 mm s<sup>-1</sup>). Interestingly, the coexistence of *cis*-R<sub>2</sub>SnX<sub>4</sub> octahedral and *cis*-R<sub>2</sub>SnX<sub>3</sub> trigonal bipyramidal structures has been inferred [17] from a Mössbauer study for Ph<sub>2</sub>SnF<sub>2</sub>·0.5phen, and explained in terms of fluorine bridging. It should be noted, however, that chlorine bridging which dominates the structure of Me<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub> [50] is conspicuously absent in Ph<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub> [51], and by inference also in (*p*-tolyl)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>.

While a quantitative estimate of the amount of each isomer present in (*p*-tolyl)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>·Me<sub>2</sub>bipy cannot be made from the Mössbauer spectrum, a higher proportion of *trans*-isomer is qualitatively evident. Attempts to separate the geometrical isomers by recrystallisation from methanol or dimethylformamide were unsuccessful. On the other hand, recrystallisation from hot toluene gave a product whose Mössbauer spectrum indicated almost equal amounts of both isomers. A similar

Table 7

$^{119\text{m}}\text{Sn}$  Mössbauer data <sup>a</sup> for diorganotin(IV) dihalide and diisothiocyanate complexes of nitrogen-donor ligands

Complex	$IS^b$	$QS$	$\Gamma_1$	$\Gamma_2$
1. Et(n-Pr)SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	1.57	4.07	0.99	1.00
2. EtMeSnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	1.51	4.04	1.10	1.03
3. Et(n-Pr)SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1.57	4.14	1.13	1.07
4. EtMeSnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1.51	4.01	1.24	1.23
5. Et(n-Pr)SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	1.52	4.04	1.08	1.03
6. EtMeSnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	1.49	4.07	1.05	0.97
7. Et(n-Pr)SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	1.52	4.11	1.09	0.97
8. EtMeSnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	1.49	3.97	1.00	0.99
9. EtMeSn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1.42	4.28	1.14	1.07
10. ( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	1.04	2.25	0.93	0.98
11. ( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	1.20	3.53	1.10	1.12
12. ( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	0.96	1.80	0.89	1.07
13. ( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1.24	3.58	0.99	1.03
14. ( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1.21	3.53	1.14	1.07
15. ( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	0.95	2.10	1.18	0.97
16. ( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy <sup>c</sup>	0.85	2.23	0.92	0.88
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	1.14	3.59	0.81	0.88
17. <i>cis</i> -isomer	0.84	1.99	1.04	1.00
18. <i>trans</i> -isomer	1.14	3.49	0.91	0.96
19. ( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	1.02	3.38	1.03	0.98
20. (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	1.10	3.33	0.92	0.91
21. ( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	1.23	3.57	1.01	1.02
22. ( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	1.16	3.38	1.05	0.99
23. ( <i>m</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>3</sub> phen	1.16	3.22	0.89	0.84
24. Ph <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	1.26	3.50	1.11	0.99
25. ( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	0.70	2.42	0.93	0.91
26. ( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	0.82	2.18	0.89	0.91
27. ( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·phen	0.77	2.47	0.94	0.98
28. ( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·phen	0.80	2.22	0.93	1.06
29. ( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	0.78	2.34	0.87	0.86
30. ( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	0.72	2.17	0.96	0.91
31. Ph <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	0.83	2.08	1.19	0.97
32. ( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(NCS) <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>4</sub> phen	0.69	2.32	0.88	0.98

<sup>a</sup> Error  $\pm 0.03 \text{ mm s}^{-1}$ . <sup>b</sup> Relative to CaSnO<sub>3</sub> or BaSnO<sub>3</sub>. <sup>c</sup> 3-line Mössbauer spectrum fitted as a pair of Lorentzian doublets.

result was obtained when the complex was prepared at 0 °C in ethanol. Another approach involved the displacement of a weaker ligand with Me<sub>2</sub>bipy in a complex which is unequivocally *trans*; this approach with *trans*-(*p*-tolyl)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>·2DMF ( $IS$  1.22,  $QS$  3.63 mm s<sup>-1</sup>) also failed to yield the expected *trans* isomer. An attempted separation of the isomers by column chromatography (silica gel) was thwarted by the poor solubility of the complex. The difficulty encountered in separating the isomers of (*p*-tolyl)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>·Me<sub>2</sub>bipy, in contrast to the case of (*p*-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>·Me<sub>2</sub>bipy [28,29], may be due in part to the small *cis-trans* energy difference for the complex.

Data for complexes of the mixed dialkyltin dihalides are also included in Table 7, and show  $QS$  values in the 4 mm s<sup>-1</sup> range, comparable to those of the correspond-

ing symmetrical dialkyltin(IV) complexes [17]. *Trans*-[SnR<sub>2</sub>] geometries are therefore postulated for these, as well as for MeEtSn(NCS)<sub>2</sub>·phen. Seemingly, the tendency (on steric grounds) for the NCS groups to influence *cis*-[SnR<sub>2</sub>] stereochemistry in Ph<sub>2</sub>Sn chelates [18] and in divinyltins [52] is masked for the mixed alkyl complex by the influence of the stronger electronic effects of the alkyl groups.

Selected IR data for the complexes are given in Table 6. The uncomplexed Lewis acids, MeEtSnCl<sub>2</sub> and Et(n-Pr)SnCl<sub>2</sub>, show dual Sn–C stretching frequencies at 554, 550 and 552, 510 cm<sup>-1</sup> respectively. Their Sn–Cl stretching bands are found at 350 and 348 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. These values are comparable to those obtained for the symmetrical dialkyltin dihalides [53]. The Sn–C stretching frequencies for the mixed dialkyltin dihalide adducts and MeEtSn(NCS)<sub>2</sub>·phen are assigned as shown in Table 6. A single ν(Sn–C) band (the asymmetric stretch) corroborates the *trans*-[SnR<sub>2</sub>] geometry deduced earlier from Mössbauer *QS* values. The Sn–C symmetric stretch is IR forbidden, but may appear as a weak band as a result of structural distortion. Although the observation of a second (or third) band in some cases may attest to this, the picture is complicated by the possibility of rotational isomers (*trans* / *gauche*) with alkyl groups higher than methyl [33]. The tin–halogen stretching frequencies of the mixed dialkyltin dichlorides are lowered by ca. 100 cm<sup>-1</sup> on complexation with phen or bipy derivatives (Table 6), as has been observed

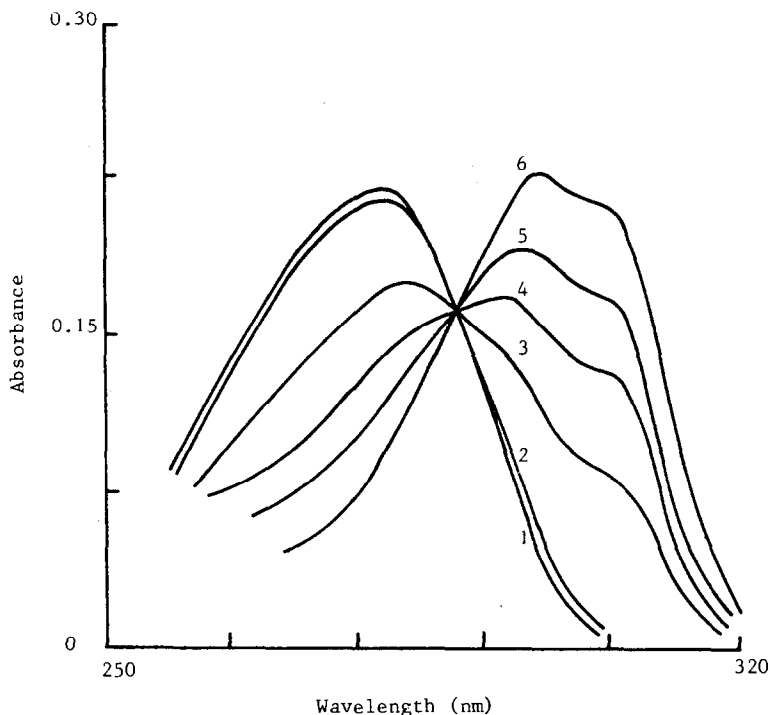


Fig. 1. The absorption spectra of 2,2'-bipyridyl ( $1.5 \times 10^{-5} M$ ) in acetonitrile at  $26 \pm 1^\circ C$ , in the presence of varying amounts of MeEtSnCl<sub>2</sub>: (1) 0; (2)  $1.5 \times 10^{-5}$ ; (3)  $3.0 \times 10^{-4}$ ; (4)  $7.5 \times 10^{-4}$ ; (5)  $1.5 \times 10^{-3}$ ; (6)  $6.0 \times 10^{-3} M$ .

Table 8

Formation constants for complexes of dialkyltin dichloride with bipy and Me<sub>2</sub>bipy at 26 °C in acetonitrile

Complex	log <i>K</i> ( <i>r</i> ) <sup>a</sup>	Ref.
Me <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	3.30 <sup>b</sup>	39
MeEtSnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	3.39 (0.985)	This work
Et <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	3.47 <sup>b</sup>	39
Et(n-Pr)SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	3.18 (0.990)	This work
n-Pr <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	3.07 <sup>b</sup>	39
n-Bu <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	3.03 <sup>b</sup>	39
Me <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	3.98 <sup>b</sup>	54
MeEtSnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	3.81 (0.978)	This work
Et(n-Pr)SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·Me <sub>2</sub> bipy	3.78 (0.991)	This work

<sup>a</sup> Correlation coefficient in parentheses. <sup>b</sup> At 26 ± 1 °C.

for the analogous symmetrical dialkyltin dichloride complexes [53,54]. However, the bands are broad, and their resolution into  $\nu_{asym}$  and  $\nu_{sym}(\text{Sn}-\text{Cl})$  stretches could not be made unambiguously. The broadness of the tin-chlorine bands has been commented upon in an earlier study [53].

The formation constants of the adducts of MeEtSnCl<sub>2</sub> and Et(n-Pr)SnCl<sub>2</sub> with bipyridyl ligands were determined spectroscopically at 26 °C in acetonitrile as outlined in the experimental section. Figure 1 shows, as an example, the way the ultraviolet spectrum of 2,2'-bipyridine changes in the presence of various concentrations of the methylethyltin(IV) dichloride. Only one isosbestic point is observed in all four cases, indicating the formation of a 1:1 adduct for RR'SnCl<sub>2</sub> to ligand ratios < 10<sup>-3</sup>/1.

The formation constants for the bipyridyl complexes are listed in Table 8, together with those for some related complexes taken from the literature. Previous studies on the bipy adducts of symmetrical dialkyltin dichlorides have indicated that the formation constants generally increase with increasing electronegativity of the alkyl group [39]. (The abnormally large formation constant for Et<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>·bipy, however, was regarded as an anomaly [39].) Our results for the mixed dialkyltin dichloride complexes confirm the trend and suggest the following order of stabilities: Et<sub>2</sub> > MeEt > Me<sub>2</sub> > Et(n-Pr) > (n-Pr)<sub>2</sub> > (n-Bu)<sub>2</sub>.

The ligand Me<sub>2</sub>bipy, being a stronger base than bipy [55], is expected to form stronger complexes with the diorganotins. This is reflected in the higher formation constants of these complexes relative to those of bipy (Table 8).

### 3. Complexes with bidentate (N,O) ligands

The ultraviolet spectral data for the oxinate and 2-methyloxinate (quin) complexes in chloroform are shown in Table 9. The oxinates show a strong band at ca. 380 nm, and the 2-methyloxinates at ca. 363 nm. These bands, which are at higher wavelengths than those for the uncomplexed ligands, are strongly indicative of chelation [37,56,57]. Except for the mixed dialkyltin complexes of quin, all the other complexes additionally show either or both of two peaks located at 335 and 320 nm. The observation of the latter peaks in the case of the above complexes suggests the possibility of a coordination lower than six in solution as a result of departure from chelating behaviour of the ligand.

Table 9  
Ultraviolet absorption spectra <sup>a,b</sup>

Compound	$\lambda_{\max}$ (nm)
MeEtSn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	378 (3.69), 335 (3.51)
Et(n-Pr)Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	379 (3.70), 335 (3.54)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	381 (3.72), 335 (3.50), 320 (3.44)
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	380 (3.77), 335 (3.50)
MeEtSn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	363 (3.69)
Et(n-Pr)Sn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	364 (3.68)
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	361 (3.56), 336 (3.54), 319 (3.55)
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	364 (3.62), 320 (3.58)

<sup>a</sup> Spectral data refer to oxin and quin bands in CHCl<sub>3</sub>. <sup>b</sup> Log  $\epsilon$  values are given in parentheses.

The chemical shifts of the 2-H, 3-H and 4-H ring protons (Table 10) in the mixed dialkyltin bischelates are in close agreement with those reported for the symmetrical dialkyltins [58], and differ only slightly from those for the free ligand. Since considerable downfield shifts of the 2-H and 4-H protons are expected for strong chelation in the case of the oxinates [59], the results indicate that the bisoxinates are not strongly chelated in solution. For the mixed dialkyltin bis(quin) complexes, upfield shifts in the 4-H resonances (Table 10) are observed, indicative of weakened Sn–N interactions [58]. The chemical shifts of the oxinato protons for the diaryltin complexes were not assigned because of the complexity of the spectra. A similar spectral complexity was also reported previously by Kawasaki [58], who has attributed the effect to the anisotropy of the aryl groups bonded to the metal.

In the infrared, the Sn–O and Sn–N stretching bands are expected in the region 600–200 cm<sup>-1</sup> [57,60], but assignments of these bands proved to be generally tenuous. However, for the case of MeEtSn(quin)<sub>2</sub> and Et(n-Pr)Sn(quin)<sub>2</sub>, the medium intensity bands located at 310 and 320 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, may be reasonably assigned to Sn–N vibrations. In Me<sub>2</sub>Sn(oxin)<sub>2</sub>,  $\nu$ (Sn–N) appears at 395 cm<sup>-1</sup> [57]. The Sn–N bond distance in this complex is 2.35 Å [23], which is shorter than that (2.542, 2.597 Å) in Et(n-Pr)Sn(quin)<sub>2</sub> [27]. The longer Sn–N bonds in the latter

Table 10  
<sup>1</sup>H NMR chemical shifts <sup>a</sup> for the oxinate moiety complexed to symmetrical and mixed dialkyltins

Compound	$\delta$ (2-H)	$\delta$ (3-H)	$\delta$ (4-H)	Ref.
Hoxin	8.73	7.38	8.04	<i>b</i>
Hquin	–	7.22	7.98	<i>b</i>
Me <sub>2</sub> Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub> <sup>c</sup>	8.45	7.08	8.10	<i>d</i>
MeEtSn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	8.48	7.07	8.05	<i>b</i>
Et <sub>2</sub> Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub> <sup>c</sup>	8.44	7.07	8.06	<i>d</i>
Et(n-Pr)Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	8.45	7.05	8.05	<i>b</i>
(n-Pr) <sub>2</sub> Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub> <sup>c</sup>	8.42	7.07	8.05	<i>d</i>
MeEtSn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	–	7.06	8.12	<i>b</i>
Et(n-Pr)Sn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	–	7.05	8.11	<i>b</i>

<sup>a</sup> In CDCl<sub>3</sub>. <sup>b</sup> This work. <sup>c</sup> In CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. <sup>d</sup> Ref. 58.

Table 11

<sup>119m</sup>Sn Mössbauer data <sup>a</sup> for diorganotin(IV) oxinates

Compound	<i>IS</i> <sup>b</sup>	<i>QS</i> <sup>c</sup>	$\rho$ ( <i>QS/IS</i> )	Ref.
Me <sub>2</sub> Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	0.88	1.98		<sup>d</sup>
MeEtSn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	0.71	1.996 (-1.96)	2.81	<sup>e</sup>
Et <sub>2</sub> Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	0.99	2.02		<sup>d</sup>
Et(n-Pr)Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	0.94	2.09 (-1.96)	2.22	<sup>e</sup>
n-Pr <sub>2</sub> Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	0.98	2.08		<sup>d</sup>
Ph <sub>2</sub> Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	0.78	1.64		<sup>d</sup>
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	0.77	1.78 (-1.80)	2.31	<sup>e</sup>
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(oxin) <sub>2</sub>	0.71	1.66 (-1.80)	2.34	<sup>e</sup>
Me <sub>2</sub> Sn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	1.29	3.15		26
MeEtSn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	1.15	3.14 (+3.92)	2.73	<sup>e</sup>
Et <sub>2</sub> Sn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	1.39	2.79		<sup>f</sup>
Et(n-Pr)Sn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	1.24	3.17 (+3.92)	2.56	<sup>e</sup>
Ph <sub>2</sub> Sn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	1.04	3.50		26
( <i>p</i> -tolyl) <sub>2</sub> Sn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	0.77	1.75 (-1.80)	2.27	<sup>e</sup>
( <i>p</i> -ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Sn(quin) <sub>2</sub>	0.77	1.45 (-1.80)	1.88	<sup>e</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Error  $\pm 0.03$  mm s<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>b</sup> Relative to CaSnO<sub>3</sub> or BaSnO<sub>3</sub>. <sup>c</sup> Calculated [52,62] *QS* values appropriate for *cis*- and *trans*-[SnR<sub>2</sub>] configurations are given in parentheses. <sup>d</sup> R.C. Poller and J.N.R. Ruddick, J. Chem. Soc. A, (1969) 2273. <sup>e</sup> This work. <sup>f</sup> S.N. Bhide, P. Umaphathy, M.P. Gupta and D.N. Sen, J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem., 40 (1978) 1003.

complex thus appear to be in accord with the lower value of the Sn–N stretching frequency.

The <sup>119m</sup>Sn Mössbauer data for the complexes are listed in Table 11. Within experimental error all the compounds show  $\rho$  values ( $\rho = QS/IS$ ) whose magnitudes indicate higher than four-coordinated environments at tin. Only the (*p*-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Sn(quin)<sub>2</sub> complex with a  $\rho$  value of 1.9, represents a borderline case in terms of the rule which says that values below 1.8 indicate four-coordinated tin(IV) while those above 2.1 are associated with higher-than-four coordination [61]. That the Sn–N interaction is weak in the latter complex is indicated by the presence of a non-chelated ligand band in its UV spectrum. The quadrupole splitting (*QS*) values for the diaryl- and dialkyl-tin bisoxinates and the diaryltin bis(quin) complexes (Table 11) are in the region 2 mm s<sup>-1</sup>, while those for MeEtSn(quin)<sub>2</sub> and Et(n-Pr)Sn(quin)<sub>2</sub> are much higher. On the basis of the point charge model arguments [42,43], *trans*- or distorted *trans*-[SnR<sub>2</sub>] geometries may be assigned to the above two mixed dialkyltin bis(quin) complexes, and *cis*-structures \* to the

\* We have recently confirmed the *cis*-structure by X-ray diffraction for the mixed diaryltinbisoxinate (*p*-tolyl)(*p*-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)Sn(oxin)<sub>2</sub>: C–Sn–C 106.8(2), N–Sn–O 74.59(7)°, Sn–N 2.322(2), Sn–O 2.084(2) Å.

remainder. The observed  $QS$  values are in close agreement with calculated values [56,62] for the *cis*-structure (Table 11). It is interesting to note that the  $QS$  values for  $(p\text{-tolyl})_2\text{Sn}(\text{quin})_2$  and  $(p\text{-ClC}_6\text{H}_4)_2\text{Sn}(\text{quin})_2$  complexes are similar to that for  $\text{Ph}_2\text{Sn}(\text{oxin})_2$ , whilst a larger  $QS$  value is observed for  $\text{Ph}_2\text{Sn}(\text{quin})_2$  which has been assigned a distorted *trans*-[ $\text{SnR}_2$ ] geometry [26]. Seemingly, in the last case, the steric congestion imposed by the methyl substituent in the ligand in the regular *cis*-structure is relieved in a distorted *trans*-arrangement in which one end of the bidentate ligand (N atom) is pushed farther away from the tin atom [26]. But the presence of substituents in the phenyl ring introduces additional steric effects which are apparently better accommodated in a *cis*-structure.

For both  $\text{MeEtSn}(\text{quin})_2$  and  $\text{Et}(\text{n-Pr})\text{Sn}(\text{quin})_2$ , the observed values differ from the calculated values for ideal *cis*- ( $1.96 \text{ mm s}^{-1}$ ) or *trans*- ( $3.92 \text{ mm s}^{-1}$ ) geometries (Table 11), but appear to be essentially in accord with *trans*-geometry. In this respect, a parallel may be drawn with  $\text{Me}_2\text{Sn}(\text{quin})_2$ , which was assigned a distorted *trans*-configuration on the basis of its Mössbauer ( $QS$   $3.15 \text{ mm s}^{-1}$ ) and NMR data ( $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn-Me})$   $88.7 \text{ Hz}$  [26];  $\delta(^{119}\text{Sn})$   $-228 \text{ ppm}$  [62]; cf.  $^2J$   $71.2 \text{ Hz}$  [63];  $\delta(^{119}\text{Sn})$   $-237 \text{ ppm}$  [62] for  $\text{Me}_2\text{Sn}(\text{oxin})_2$ ). In the present case, the bulkier ethyl or propyl groups could be expected to present greater steric repulsions. On the basis of the point-charge model [44], the estimated C–Sn–C bond angle for the mixed alkyl complexes is about  $133^\circ$  (cf.  $138^\circ$  for  $\text{Me}_2\text{Sn}(\text{quin})_2$  [26]), which is intermediate between the values for regular *cis*- and *trans*-geometries. Kepert [64] has labelled such intermediate geometries (having C–Sn–C angles of  $135\text{--}155^\circ$ ) as skew (or trapezoidal bipyramidal) structures.

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