Organotin Compounds. 31.¹ Dodecamethylcyclohexastannane and Dodecaperdeuteriomethylcyclohexastannane

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Pure dodecamethylcyclohexastannane (1a) and dodecaperdeuteriomethylcyclohexastannane (1b) have been prepared in high yields, whereas earlier attempts failed. Their ¹H NMR (for **1a**), ¹¹⁹Sn NMR, IR, Raman, and mass spectra have been investigated and secure the identification. In solution, 1a equilibrates even at 20 °C with three other cyclostannanes $(Me_2Sn)_n$, n being presumably 5, 7, and 8, more extensily at 80 °C. 1a is the most stable of all. Thermal reactions of 1a are described, including splitting off of free stannylenes Me₂Sn and formal insertion reactions of Me₂Sn units into C-Hal and Sn-Hal bonds.

Introduction

Peralkylated and perarylated cyclostannanes $(R_2Sn)_n$ have first been prepared and identified in the early sixties.⁴⁻⁶ This was the end of old assumptions that σ -bonded stannylenes like Et₂Sn, Bu₂Sn, or Ph₂Sn might be stable compounds at room temperature.⁶

Uniform and mostly well-crystallized cyclostannanes $(R_2Sn)_n$ with four-, five-, six- (seven-), and nine-membered rings have been obtained; the ring size depends on both the kind of R and the method of preparation. So, $(Et_2Sn)_6$, e.g., forms nice yellow crystal needles, stable for months if light, oxygen, heat, and impurities are excluded. $(Et_2Sn)_9$, which is obtained with use of another method, behaves likewise.

But, many efforts to prepare a corresponding well-defined methyl derivative $(Me_2Sn)_n$ remained unsuccessful: vellow rubberlike polymers or waxes resulted, nonuniform, unstable, sparingly soluble, which were decomposed even by scattered daylight.^{4,6} Another method⁷ led to a product considered to be the hexamer, besides large amounts of polymers.

Our present interest in $(Me_2Sn)_n$ has its origin in our search for thermally generated free stannylenes Me₂Sn,⁸ and we wish to report here the preparation of dodecamethylcyclohexastannane $[(CH_3)_2Sn]_6$ and its d_{12} derivative $[(CD_3)_2Sn]_6$, their identification by ¹H and ¹¹⁹Sn NMR, Raman, IR, and mass spectroscopy, and several chemical reactions as well.

Results and Discussion

(A) Preparation of Dodecamethylcyclohexastannane (1a) and Dodecaperdeuteriomethylcyclohexastannane (1b). The condensation of equimolar amounts of Me_2SnH_2 and $Me_2Sn(NEt_2)_2$ under careful exclusion of air gave the same unsatisfying results as in earlier attempts.^{4,6} But, careful reexamination of the experimental conditions finally led to 1a as the only product in nearly quantitative yield, eq 1, when we excluded the

$$3 \operatorname{Me}_{2}\operatorname{SnH}_{2} \bullet 3 \operatorname{Me}_{2}\operatorname{Sn}(\operatorname{NEt}_{2})_{2} \xrightarrow{-6 \operatorname{HNEt}_{2}} (\operatorname{Me}_{2}\operatorname{Sn})_{6}$$
$$6 \operatorname{Me}_{2}\operatorname{SnEt}_{2} \xleftarrow{\operatorname{EtMgBr}} 6 \operatorname{Me}_{2}\operatorname{SnI}_{2} \xleftarrow{+6 \operatorname{I}_{2}} (1)$$

bulk of daylight, lowered the temperature to at least 0 °C, and dried the precipitated cyclostannane carefully at 10^{-3} mm (20 °C). 1a is a slightly yellow powder, sensitive toward oxygen and light, readily soluble in aromatics and other hydrocarbons, but insoluble in alcohols, as known from other compounds $(R_2Sn)_n$ ⁶ Many attempts to obtain acceptable crystals have failed so far. No redistribution reactions occur under these mild conditions, since degradation with iodine and successive treatment with EtMgBr leads exclusively to Me₂SnEt₂: see eq 1. In concentrated benzene solution, ¹H NMR exhibits only one CH₃ signal, at 0.63 ppm, and ¹¹⁹Sn NMR also exhibits only one peak, at -231.04 ppm: see (C). Thus, the substance is a uniform compound within the range of NMR accuracy. Mass spectroscopy shows the molecular ion $Me_{12}Sn_6^+$ as the heaviest particle, and, moreover, all the fragments to be expected for 1a. All IR and Raman peaks are in accordance with the calculated ones: see (C). We are dealing, therefore, with the hexamer 1a.

The corresponding dodecaperdeuteriomethylcyclohexastannane (1b) could be obtained in pure form and identified in a similar way: see eq 2. Besides 1b, the

$$12 \text{ CD}_{3}\text{I} \xrightarrow{\text{Mg}}{\text{Bu}_{2}0} 12 \text{ CD}_{3}\text{MgI} \xrightarrow{3 \text{ SnCL}} 3 (\text{CD}_{3}\text{L}_{2}\text{Sn} \frac{3 \text{ SnCL}_{2}}{105 \text{ °C}} 6 (\text{CD}_{3}\text{L}_{2}\text{SnCl}_{2} (\text{IB}\text{U}_{2}\text{A}\text{IH}) (\text{ICD}_{3}\text{L}_{2}\text{Sn})_{6} \xrightarrow{0 \text{ °C}} 3 (\text{CD}_{3}\text{L}_{2}\text{Sn}(\text{NEt}_{2})_{2} + 3 (\text{CD}_{3}\text{L}_{2}\text{SnH}_{2} (\text{ID}_{3}\text{L}_{2}\text{SnH}_{2} (\text{ID}_{3}\text{L}_{2}) (\text{ID}_{3}\text{L}_{2}) (\text{ID}_{3}\text{L}_{2}) (\text{ID}_{3}\text{L}_{2} (\text{ID}_{3}\text{L}_{2}) (\text{ID}_{3}) (\text{ID}_{3}\text{L}_{2}) (\text{ID}_{3}\text{L}_{2}) (\text{ID}_{3}) (\text$$

dihydride and the amide are new substances, whereas $(CD_3)_4Sn^9$ and the dichloride¹⁰ have been described previously. 1b exhibits no ¹H NMR signal, and all other facts including IR and Raman spectroscopy are in agreement with the given formula.

(B) Equilibration of 1a in Solution. When the concentrated solution of 1a in benzene is diluted, in both the ¹H and the ¹¹⁹Sn NMR a new, sharp singlet appears at 0.53 or -241.40 ppm, respectively, besides that of 1a, and disappears upon reconcentration. Heating of a solution containing la and the new species in a 1:1 ratio at room temperature up to 80 °C yields reversibly a 1:4 ratio within

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Table I.	Observed and	Calculated ^a IF	l and Raman	Frequencies	(cm ⁻¹) of the	• Cyclohexastannane	$s [(CH_3)_2Sn]_6$	(la) and
				$[(CD_3)_2Sn]_{\epsilon}$	(1b)			

	$[(CH_3)_2Sn]_6$ (1a)						$[(CD_3)_2Sn]_6$ (1b)				
assignt	IR (293 K)		IR (40 K)	Ra (293 K)		Ra (40 K)	IR (293 K)		Ra (293 K)		Ra (40 K)
(X = H or D)	obsd ^{b,c}	calcd	obsd ^d	obsd	calcd	obsd	obsd ^b	calcd	obsd	calcd	obsd
$\overline{\nu_{as}(C-X)}$	2970 m, br			2985 w, br		2990 w, br	2233 w		2240 m, br		2245 m, br
$\nu_{s}(C-X)$	2903 m, br			2916 w, br		2920 w, br	2112 m		2118 s, br		2122 m, br
$\delta_{n}(XCX)$	1454 w, br			1410 w, br		1405 w, br	1020 m, br		1026 w, br		1023 w
	1375 w, br										
$\delta_{\epsilon}(XCX)$	1190 m			1185 s		1190 m	926 m		919 sh, m		912 m
	1183 m			1179 m		1177 s			907 m		902 s
$\rho(CX_3)$	767 s		766 s	785 w, br		785 w, br	594 s		607 m		600 w
			715 s, sh				543 s				
	708 s, br		699 s								
$\nu(Sn-C)$	508 s	509	508 s	510 s	509	511 s	463 s	472	468 s	472	469 s
	496 s	494	496 s				449 s	455			
		493						454			
$2 \times \nu(Sn-Sn)$			418 m		430 w			412 m		423 w	
$\nu(Sn-Sn) + \delta(Sn-SnC)$			250 w					239 m			
$\nu(Sn-Sn)$	215 m	197		210 s	221	214 s			205 s	220	210 s
$\nu(Sn-Sn)^e$				173 s	178	187 m			163 vs	175	169 s
$\delta(CSnC)$	135 m, br	141		146 vs	141	156 vs			135 s	130	148 s
	,	139				133 m, sh			115 s	116	118 m
$\delta(SnSnC)$	80 w, sh	89		82 w	78	89 w, br			70 m	73	73 w, br
•	72 m	85									

^a Skeletal vibrations, symmetry D_{3d}. ^bKBr pellet, 4000 - 400 cm⁻¹. ^cPE pellet, 600 - 200 cm⁻¹; FIR 250 - 50 cm⁻¹ suspended in Nujol. ^dKBr pellet, recorded region: 900 - 400 cm⁻¹. ^eBreathing mode of the six-membered ring.

less than 1 h. We are faced with the surprising fact that the cyclostannane 1a equilibrates with another cyclostannane, $(Me_2Sn)_n$ (a Me₂Sn polymer containing also MeSn and/or Me₃Sn groups can be excluded from the degradation with iodine; see eq 1), spontaneously and reversibly even at room temperature.

Besides the two main signals mentioned two other, very weak singlets can be seen in the ¹¹⁹Sn NMR at -243.40 and -244.94 ppm (see Figure 1) also within the region of cyclostannanes. (In the ¹H NMR, no corresponding signals are detected.) All three new ¹¹⁹Sn signals become stronger at 80 °C to the expense of that at -231.04 ppm. Since MeSn and Me₃Sn groups are to be excluded and since all four signals are close together, $(Me_2Sn)_n$ (n = 3, 4) is not to be discussed for these compounds, because the corresponding signals should be expected in more remote positions.¹¹ Further ¹¹⁹Sn NMR data of comparable compounds, unfortunately, are not available at present.

In this state of our investigations, we ascribe, therefore, the signal at -241.40 ppm (and the corresponding signal at 0.53 ppm in the ¹H NMR) to the cyclostannane with n = 5, 2a, and the two others tentatively to n = 7 and 8. A detailed study will be carried out later. What mainly happens it seems is eq 3 the hexamer 1a being more stable

$$\frac{140 (Me_2Sn)_6}{10} \stackrel{\longleftarrow}{\longrightarrow} 168 (Me_2Sn)_5 \stackrel{\longleftarrow}{\longleftarrow} 120 (Me_2Sn)_7 \stackrel{\longleftarrow}{\longrightarrow} 105 (Me_2Sn)_8 (3)$$

than the other oligomers. The presence of higher oligomers is demostrated by rapid evaporation of an equilibrium mixture (eq 3) at 12 mm until a very viscous rubberlike product results. Its mass spectrometry gives, besides 1a, $Me_{14}Sn_7^+$ as the heaviest ion and all the fragments thereof to be expected.

A similar equilibration may occur also to other cyclostannanes, $(R_2Sn)_n$, formerly⁴⁻⁶ thought to be stable even at higher temperatures. Thus, a sample of pure, cystalline $(Bu_2Sn)_6$ gives, during mass chromatography,¹² a mixture of $(Bu_2Sn)_5$, $(Bu_2Sn)_6$, $(Bu_2Sn)_7$, and other oligomers.¹³

(11) Compare, e.g., the corresponding ²⁹Si NMR data for $(\text{Et}_2\text{Si})_n$: -16.04 for n = 4, -30.36 for n = 5, -30.49 for n = 6, -30.03 for n = 7, and -27.70 for n = 8. Carlson, C. W.; West, R. Organometallics **1983**, 2, 1792. (12) Ritter, H. P.; Neumann, W. P. J. Organomet. Chem. **1973**, 56, 199.





Figure 1. ¹¹⁹Sn NMR spectrum of an equilibrated mixture of (Me₂Sn)_n following eq 3 in toluene/C₆D₆ (1:1) at 25 °C (c = 1 M Me₂Sn). For 1a (-231.04 ppm) and 2a (-241.40 ppm), ¹J_{SnSn} and ²J_{SnSn} are given: for 1a also ³J_{SnSn} measured values of J(¹¹⁹Sn-¹¹⁷Sn). The coupling of 83 Hz probably is a ¹³C coupling. Traces of nonidentified impurity cause the very weak peak at -233.22 ppm.

It has to be discussed, whether the equilibrations described here proceed via free stannylenes R₂Sn. In fact, at 80 °C an equilibrium following eq 4 has been found¹⁴

$$(Me_2Sn)_n + n Me_2SnX_2 \implies n Me_2Sn(X)-Sn(X)Me_2$$
 (4)
x=SPh, Br

with a formal insertion product of a stannylene. But, this is by no means a proof of the existence of free stannylenes. On the contrary, a stannylenoid mechanism (eq 5) may be

$$\begin{pmatrix} SnR_2 \\ SnR_2 \end{pmatrix} SnR_2 \iff \begin{pmatrix} SnR_2 \\ SnR_2 \end{pmatrix} SnR_2 \stackrel{X+Y}{\longleftrightarrow} \begin{pmatrix} SnR_2 \\ I + R_2Sn \\ SnR_2 \end{pmatrix} (5)$$

operative here passing transition states as indicated.

(C) Spectroscopy of la and lb. Figure 1 gives the ¹¹⁹Sn NMR data for the $(Me_2Sn)_n$ compounds mentioned so far. The compound with n > 6 has to be excluded for 1a following the discussion given in (A) and (B), including

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the results of mass spectroscopy and that below.

Details of the mass spectrometry are described in the Experimental Section.

As a further proof for the structures of 1a and 1b IR and Raman investigations of the pure compounds have been carried out at room temperature and at 40 K. This seemed to us of a more general importance, since only restricted knowledge with this respect could be found in the literature concerning oligo- and polystannanes.^{7,15,16} Table I gives the results. All bands above 540 cm⁻¹ are assigned to vibrations of the CH₃ groups and are not discussed here in detail since they are without value for the present considerations.

For the identification of a cyclostannane or a mixture thereof, assignment of the skeletal vibrations is necessary. In order to check this, a normal coordinate analysis¹⁷ for 1a has been carried out assuming a chair conformation of the six-membered ring with tetrahedral Sn surroundings and replacing the CH₃ groups by mass points of the mass 15. The same has been done for the perdeuterio derivative 1b, but with replacement of CD_3 by points of a mass of 18.

As can be seen from Table I, there is a fair agreement between the measured values and those calculated for 1a and 1b. Especially elusive is the very intense Raman ring breathing mode at 173 cm⁻¹ for 1a, not visible in the IR spectrum as to be postulated, which shifts down to 163 cm^{-1} for the deuterated 1b, as expected, and becomes even more intense and sharper. This and the loss of 70% of the intensity by going down to 40 K for both 1a and 1b (see Table I) is an additional argument for the assignment being correct. The antisymmetric Sn-Sn stretching modes are observed at 215 (IR) and 210 cm⁻¹ (Ra) for 1a and at 205 cm⁻¹ and at 205 cm⁻¹ (Ra) for 1b. During cooling down, below about 77 K a thermochromism is observed, both 1a and 1b becoming colorless without any change of the spectra and yellow again when the temperature is raised.

Other Sn-Sn stretching or ring breathing modes than those mentioned cannot be detected. This means that the two compounds 1a and 1b both are, within the limit of accuracy ($\geq 95\%$), uniform cyclohexastannanes.

(D) Some Reactions of 1a. $(Me_2Sn)_n$ has been used for photochemical insertions of Me_2Sn units into C-Hal, O–O, Sn–H, and Sn–C bonds and for additions to π systems like 2,3-dimethylbutadiene and a number of aldehydes and ketones.^{3,19,20} But, no decision between free stannylene and stannylenoid mechanisms could be made at that time.

The knowledge on thermal reactions of 1a is still very restricted. Besides the insertion of Me₂Sn units into Sn-X bonds $(X = Br, SPh)^{14}$ mentioned above an insertion into the C-Br bond of BuBr (eq 6) has been observed (besides

a mixture of other products) and also into the C-I bond of MeI.²¹ Reactions with (E,E)-1,4-diphenylbutadiene, muconic acid dimethyl ester, and a 1,1,6,6-tetrasubstituted diallene,²² which did react stereospecifically with a free germylene, Me_2Ge ,²³ could not be effected thermally. A mixture of 1a and the pentamer 2a reacts with tetracyanoethylene (TCNE) spontaneously in benzene at 20 °C, presumably via single electron transfer, giving a dark green solution (ESR, TCNE anion radical), which deposits a greenish solid. Its average composition is TCNE-2.6Me₂Sn, and it shows Sn-N=C ketenimine peaks (IR) at 2134 cm^{-1} (s) and peaks of Sn-C(CN)₂ groups at 2200 cm⁻¹ (m) as well.²⁴ $(Et_2Sn)_n$ behaves similarly, giving a brown product of analogous kind.²⁴ 1a did not react with organotin chlorides, neither neat nor in THF. Surprisingly, admixing of LiCl to the THF solution at room temperature catalyzed a smooth reaction with quantitative consumption of 1a and generation of the (unsymmetric) distannane (eq 7).²⁵ Besides, some trialkyltin monochloride was found,

$$\frac{1}{6} \frac{1}{10} + R_2 SnCl_2 \xrightarrow{20 \cdot C} R_2 Sn - SnMe_2$$

$$R = Me: yield 75\% Cl Cl (7)$$

$$Ft := 50\%$$

apparently resulting from a consecutive degradation of the labile distannane. With one of the R groups being Ph or t-Bu the reaction (eq 7) was very slow at 20 $^{\circ}$ C and the yield low. At -20 °C the educt mixture is stable in the presence of LiCl in THF. 1a is not affected by LiCl but R_2SnCl_2 is. Its ¹¹⁹Sn NMR signal is shifted (at -75 °C in THF) from -100.4 to -167.8 ppm; its ¹H NMR Me-Sn coupling (THF) at room temperature increases from 82 to 92 Hz. The kind of LiCl catalysis, however, still requires further investigation.

In all these reactions both the mechanism and the occurrence of intermediate free stannylenes Me₂Sn remain open.

It seemed important, therefore, to investigate whether free stannylenes Me₂Sn can be generated thermally from 1a, especially since we had observed the rapid equilbration in solution (eq 3). Cyclostannanes with higher residues, e.g., (Et₂Sn)₆, (Bu₂Sn)₆, and (Ph₂Sn)₆, behaved rather stable upon heating without solvent, even during mass spectrometry. In all these cases, the molecular ions $(R_2 Sn)_6{}^+$ could be observed and all the fragment ions following from a stepwise degradation as well.¹² As mentioned above, the same was the case with 1a when analyzed at 180-200 °C. But, when we heated it slowly within the probe of the mass spectrometer at about 50 °C, at first only monotin particles were registered and fragments containing more than one tin atom only above 120 °C.

This encouraged us to try a matrix isolation of whatever came out of 1a at 6×10^{-6} mm. The thermolysates were isolated in Argon matrices at 5 K. When heating 1a at 120 °C, well-resolved IR spectra of good intensity could be recorded showing exclusively the bands to be expected and calculated for Me₂Sn.⁸ The absence of Sn-Sn vibrations (see Table I) was confirmed by Raman matrix spectroscopy. Clearly the free stannylene Me₂Sn has been obtained by thermal splitting of 1a and likewise the free stannylene $(CD_3)_2$ Sn from 1b.⁸

Experimental Section

General Comments. All reactions have been carried out under argon, as most of the organotin compounds used are sensitive toward oxygen and/or moisture. The solvents were dried according to standard methods and distilled under argon. $Me_2Sn(NEt_2)_2$ and Me_2SnH_2 were prepared from Me_2SnCl_2 by established methods^{26,27} ¹H NMR, Varian EM 360 A, 60 MHz,

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chemical shifts in δ against Me₄Si as internal reference; ¹¹⁹Sn NMR, Bruker AM, 300 MHz, chemical shifts in δ against Me₄Sn as internal reference; IR, Perkin-Elmer 325, 457, 577; Raman, Coderg T 800; Laser, Spectraphysics, 514.5 nm Ar⁺, 641.1 nm Kr⁺; mass spectra, Varian CH 5; GC, Varian 1800 40/3 and 1700 40/1, Perkin-Elmer F 20 H; elemental analysis, Heraeus Mikro CHN Monar and elemental analyzer, Carlo Erba MOD 1106.

Dodecamethylcyclohexastannane, (Me₂Sn)₆ (1a). Me₂SnH₂ (3.3 g, 21.8 mmol) was added dropwise in the dark (by wrapping the flask with aluminium foil) to well-stirred Me₂Sn(NEt₂)₂ (6.4 g, 21.8 mmol) at 0 °C (measured in the mixture). Stirring of the resulting yellow solution was continued at 20 °C for 30 min. After the solution was diluted with HNEt₂ (5 mL), the cyclostannane was precipitated by adding slowly MeOH (20 mL) to the vigorously stirred solution. Decantation of the solvents and thorough drying of the residue at 10^{-3} mm (20 °C) for 15 h afforded 1a as an amorphous, yellow, light- and air-sensitive powder: yield 6.0 g (92.3%).

The cyclostannane, dissolved in benzene (equilibrium mixture 1a + 2a), was degradated by I₂ in benzene solution to Me₂SnI₂ [¹H NMR (benzene) δ 0.90 (s, ²J_{HSn} = 60/64 Hz, 6 H)] leading to a complete decolorization of the solution.⁴ A 0.09093-g sample of 1a required 0.15178 g of I₂ (98%; calcd 1 mol of I₂/equiv of Me₂Sn). Alkylation with EtMgBr/Bu₂O yielded only Me₂SnEt₂ (GC, 4 m DC 200; Me₃SnEt, MeSnEt₃ > 0.1%). For ¹H and ¹¹⁹Sn NMR see Figure 1; for IR and Raman data see Table I. MS (70 eV, 180–200 °C): m/e (relative intensity) 891 (M⁺, 0.4), 876 (M - Me⁺, 0.3), 759 (Me₁₁Sn⁺, 0.4), 744 (Me₁₀Sn⁺, 0.4), 729 (Me₉Sn⁺, 1, 596 (Me₈Sn₄⁺, 0.7), 581 (Me₇Sn₄⁺, 0.7), 551 (Me₅Sn₄⁺, 0.6), 521 (Me₃Sn₄⁺, 0.3), 491 (MeSn₄⁺, 0.3), 476 (Me₈Sn₃⁺, 0.4), 461 (Me₇Sn₃⁺, 0.7), 386 (Me₂Sn₃⁺, 0.4), 371 (Sn₃⁺, 0.4), 328 (Me₆Sn₂⁺, 4), 313 (Me₅Sn₂⁺, 3), 283 (Me₃Sn₂⁺, 2), 253 (MeSn₂⁺, 2), 253 (MeSn₂⁺, 2), 253 (MeSn₂⁺, 2), 233 (MeSn₂⁺, 100), 150 (Me₂Sn⁺, 33), 135 (MeSn⁺, 40), 120 (Sn⁺, 21).

The assignment of the peaks in the MS spectra mentioned was done by means of the isotope patterns as given by the computer program ISOTOP.¹²

 $(CD_3)_4$ Sn was prepared from CD_3I (50 g, 0.345 mol), magnesium turnings (11.1 g, 0.457 mol), and SnCl₄ (17.5 g, 7.5 mL, 0.067 mol) according to Me₄Sn:²⁸ yield 9.8 g (77%); bp 70 °C.

 $(CD_3)_2SnCl_2$. SnCl₄ (12.8 g, 5.5 mL, 0.049 mol) was added dropwise under vigorous stirring to $(CD_3)_4Sn$ (9.4 g, 0.049 mol) at 0 °C. After additional stirring at 20 °C for 1 h, the reaction mixture was slowly heated to 185 °C and kept there for 1 h. On cooling colorless crystals of $(CD_3)_2SnCl_2$ appeared and were recrystallized from toluene: yield 16.4 g (74%); mp 109 °C.

 $(CD_3)_2Sn(NEt_2)_2$. HNEt₂ (6.50 g, 9.2 mL, 0.089 mol) was added dropwise at 0 °C to a solution of *n*-BuLi (93.7 mL, 0.79 M), and the reaction mixture warmed to 60 °C for 2 h, followed by additional stirring at 20 °C for 12 h. A solution of $(CD_3)_2SnCl_2$ (8.35 g, 0.037 mol) in diethyl ether (90 mL) was added and the mixture heated at 60 °C for 3 h. After centrifuging in order to

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separate LiCl and removing the solvents from the yellow solution, the residue (10 mL) was distilled in vacuo through a 10 cm-Vigreux column: yield 8.1 g (73%); bp 54-55 °C (0.15 mm; ¹H NMR (neat) δ 1.00 (t, 6 H, NCH₂CH₃), 2.97 (q, ³J_{HSn} = 43/45 Hz, 4 H, NCH₂CH₃).

 $(CD_3)_2SnH_2$. To a well-stirred cooled (-5 °C) solution of *i*-Bu₂AlH (9.7 g, 12.4 mL, 0.068 mol) in dihexyl ether (15 mL) was added $(CD_3)_2SnCl_2$ (7.7 g, 0.034 mol) in such portions that the temperature did not rise above 0 °C. After the addition was complete, the stirred solution warmed up to 20 °C. The formed $(CD_3)_2SnH_2$ was distilled from the reaction mixture (20 °C (10⁻² mm)), the receiver being cooled with liquid N₂. Purification was accomplished by an additional distillation (0 °C (12 mm)), using a cooled (-70 °C) Schlenk flask as receiver: yield 2.5 g (47%); ¹H NMR (neat) δ 4.30 (s, ¹H_{HSn} = 1712/1717 Hz, 2 H, SnH).

[(CD₃)₂Sn]₆ (1b). 1b was prepared from (CD₃)₂Sn(NEt₂)₂ (1.14 g, 3.8 mmol) and (CD₃)₂SnH₂ (0.59 g, 3.8 mmol) in a manner identical with that described for 1a: yield 0.9 g (78%). 1b was identified by its IR and Raman spectra (see Table I) and a degradation with I₂. Treating 1b, dissolved in benzene, with a diluted benzene solution of I₂ followed by an alkylation of the reaction mixture with EtMgBr/Bu₂O gave exclusively (CD₃)₂SnEt₂ (GC, 2 m SE 30 and 0.5 m OV 101; (CD₃)₃SnEt, CD₃SnEt₃ < 0.1%). A 0.08015-g sample of 1b required 0.13265 g of I₂ (97%: calcd 1 mol of I₂/equiv of (CD₃)₂Sn). There is no ¹H NMR signal (benzene). For IR and Raman data see Table I.

(benzene). For IR and Raman data see Table I. **Me₂ClSn-SnClMe₂.²⁵** Me₂SnCl₂ (1.32 g, 6.0 mmol) and **1a** (1.94 g of a 46% solution in toluene, 6.0 molar equiv of Me₂Sn) were resolved in THF (10 mL) (¹H NMR no reaction). After the addition of dry LiCl (1.0 g) and stirring, a slightly exothermal reaction was observed (maximum 30 °C) and finished after 2 h: yield in the mixture, 75% of the desired product, besides 17% of Me₃SnCl (¹H NMR). After evaporation at 20 °C (10⁻³ mm) the residue was twice resolved in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) and again evaporated in order to remove the THF. Then CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL) was added and the mixture, after filtration, cooled down to -30 °C: the colorless product crystallizes: yield 1.55 g (70%); decomposition at about 80 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 0.93 (s, ²J_{HSn} = 53.5 Hz, ³J_{HSn} = 13.0 Hz, 12 H, ClSnMe₂).

Et₂CISn–SnClMe₂²⁵ was obtained in analogous way (maximum 30 °C): yield 60%, ¹H NMR (CH₂Cl₂) δ 0.90 (s, ³J_{HSn} = 12.5 Hz, 6 H, ClSnMe₂), 1.20–1.87 (m, ²J_{HSn} = 52.5 Hz, 10 H, ClSnEt₂); ¹¹⁹Sn NMR (THF, -80 °C) δ –136.5, –148.3.

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