

## Study of complexation between difluorostannylene and aromatics by matrix IR spectroscopy

S. E. Boganov, M. P. Egorov,\* and O. M. Nefedov

N. D. Zelinsky Institute of Organic Chemistry, Russian Academy of Sciences,  
47 Leninsky prosp., 117913 Moscow, Russian Federation.

Fax: +7 (095) 135 5328. E-mail: mpe@cacr.ioc.ac.ru

Complexes (1 : 1) between difluorostannylene and benzene, chlorobenzene, and toluene as well as the  $(\text{PhH})_2 \cdot \text{SnF}_2$  complex were obtained and characterized by matrix IR spectroscopy. The capability of carbene analogs to form labile complexes with aromatics was demonstrated for the first time taking  $\text{SnF}_2$  as an example.

**Key words:** difluorostannylene, benzene, chlorobenzene, toluene, donor-acceptor complex; matrix isolation, IR spectroscopy.

The singlet state is the ground electron state of all known carbene analogs (CAs), viz., silylenes, germylenes, and stannylens,<sup>1–3</sup> which allows them to behave as Lewis acids due to the presence of a low-lying vacant p-orbital. The well known capability of carbene analogs to form complexes with relatively strong Lewis bases<sup>4–12</sup> allows one, in particular, to control their reactions.<sup>12</sup> In addition, the existence of complexes between CAs and weaker Lewis bases (haloalkanes,<sup>13–16</sup> alkenes,<sup>17</sup> alkynes,<sup>18,19</sup> and nitrogen<sup>20–22</sup>) has been experimentally demonstrated.

Since aromatic compounds (ACs) are weak Lewis bases, one can expect that they will form complexes with CAs. In fact, recently<sup>23</sup> experimental and calculated data indicating the existence of carbene complexes with ACs were reported. The formation of complexes between  $\text{Me}_2\text{Ge}$  and ACs was suggested in a study of the effect of the precursor nature on the position of the absorption band maximum in the UV spectrum of  $\text{Me}_2\text{Ge}$  generated in hydrocarbon glasses.<sup>24</sup> However, no conclusive evidence of the existence of labile complexes between CAs and ACs has been reported. At the same time, similar complexes can play an important role in generating CAs from precursors whose decomposition is accompanied by the formation of an AC as the second, stable, product.

The aim of this work, carried out in continuation of our investigations of  $\text{SnF}_2$  complexation reactions,<sup>16,18–20</sup> was to detect experimentally complexes between this CA and several simplest ACs: benzene (PhH), toluene (PhMe), and chlorobenzene (PhCl).

### Experimental

Monomeric  $\text{SnF}_2$  was obtained by evaporating a sample of tin difluoride (Aldrich, 99% purity) from a graphite Knudsen cell with an outlet of diameter 1 mm fixed inside a quartz

pyrolyzer attached to a vacuum optical helium cryostat. The evaporation temperature was varied in the range 500–700 °C. To reduce the interaction between  $\text{SnF}_2$  vapors and the surface of the quartz pyrolyzer resulting in the formation of  $\text{SiF}_4$ , argon was passed through the pyrolyzer.

Efficient mixing of the components of argon mixtures with substrates (benzene, toluene, or chlorobenzene) was achieved by storing the mixtures in a glass vessel for ~24 h. The amount of each component was determined from its partial pressure using a mercury pressure gauge. The molar ratios of the components were varied from 1 : 30 to 1 : 400 for the PhH–Ar and PhCl–Ar mixtures and from 1 : 200 to 1 : 400 for the PhMe–Ar mixture. The mixtures were introduced into the cryostat via an independent unheated pipeline.

The products of  $\text{SnF}_2$  evaporation and the substrate–Ar mixtures were codeposited on the mirror surface of a copper plate cooled to 12 K and located inside the cryostat 80 mm from the outlet of the Knudsen cell and at a distance of 50 mm from the outlet of the mixture introduction pipeline. The duration of deposition of the matrix layer whose thickness was sufficient for the recording of the spectrum was varied from 30 to 90 min at the mixture consumptions of ~15 mmol h<sup>–1</sup>. The amount of deposited  $\text{SnF}_2$  was evaluated from the weight loss of the Knudsen cell after the experiment taking into account the geometric factor of the pyrolyzer (0.5). The  $\text{SnF}_2$  : Ar molar ratio in the matrices was varied from 1 : 100 to 1 : 600.

The copper plate was cooled using a Displex CSW-208R closed cycle cryogenic system. The working pressure in the cryostat was ~10<sup>–5</sup> Torr. IR spectra were recorded on an IKS-24-LOMO spectrophotometer using the reflection scheme in the region 4000–400 cm<sup>–1</sup> with a resolution of 1 cm<sup>–1</sup>.

If a sample of tin difluoride was evaporated from the surface of the quartz pyrolyzer (without using the Knudsen cell) at 250–300 °C in an Ar stream, no bands of monomeric  $\text{SnF}_2$  were observed in the IR spectra of the matrices obtained; at the same time, judging from the intensities of the bands of associated compounds ( $\text{SnF}_2$  dimer and HF), the concentrations of these compounds corresponded to their typical concentrations in the experiments on tin difluoride evaporation from the Knudsen cell, while the concentration of  $\text{SiF}_4$  was appreciably higher. To prove that no complexation between benzene and  $(\text{SnF}_2)_2$  or  $\text{SiF}_4$  occurs, the experiments on

codeposition of tin difluoride and benzene were carried out under conditions of tin difluoride evaporation such that the matrix was totally free from the monomeric  $\text{SnF}_2$ .

Complexes of ACs with HF were obtained by codeposition of ACs and a  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ –HF mixture formed upon passing water vapors over tin difluoride at 300 °C. In these experiments, the matrices were free from  $\text{SnF}_2$  and its dimer, the  $\text{SiF}_4$  concentration was lower than in the experiments described above, while Ar consumptions and AC, and HF concentrations were the same as in the case of codeposition of ACs and  $\text{SnF}_2$ .

## Results and Discussion

### Matrix IR spectra of initial compounds

Prior to performing the experiments on codeposition of substrates and  $\text{SnF}_2$ , the IR spectra of the substrates and products of tin difluoride evaporation isolated in an argon matrix were recorded (Table 1).

The spectra of the substrates were in good agreement with the known IR spectra of benzene in the argon matrix,<sup>25–27</sup> chlorobenzene both in the gas phase<sup>28</sup> and in the argon matrix,<sup>29</sup> and toluene both in the gas phase<sup>30</sup> and in the crystalline phase at 77 K.<sup>31</sup>

In addition to the absorption bands of the substrates, bands corresponding to trace amounts of water<sup>32–34</sup> desorbed in the course of the experiment from the cryostat walls were observed in the IR spectra. In some instances several weak bands in the region of stretching

vibrations of the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecule assigned to a benzene complex with water<sup>36</sup> and, by analogy with benzene, to chlorobenzene and toluene complexes with water were also observed in the IR spectra (see Table 1). The impurity absorption bands had low intensities and did not hamper the identification of the labile adducts of ACs with  $\text{SnF}_2$ .

In addition to the absorption bands of monomeric  $\text{SnF}_2$ , its dimer,  $(\text{SnF}_2)_2$ , and oligomer,  $(\text{SnF}_2)_x$ ,<sup>17,35</sup> a rather intense band of  $\text{SiF}_4$ , the product of the interaction of  $\text{SnF}_2$  vapors with the surface of the quartz pyrolyzer,<sup>36</sup> with a characteristic isotope splitting was observed in the matrix IR spectrum of the products of tin difluoride evaporation. Unfortunately, the design of the cryostat used did not prevent the formation of  $\text{SiF}_4$ .

In addition to the compounds listed above, trace amounts of water,<sup>32–34</sup>  $\text{HF}$ <sup>37</sup> (a product of the  $\text{SnF}_2$  hydrolysis), and  $\text{N}_2 \cdot \text{HF}$ <sup>37</sup> (dinitrogen appears in the matrix as a result of desorption from the cryostat walls) and  $\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{HF}$ <sup>37</sup> complexes were observed in several experiments in the matrices containing the products of tin difluoride evaporation (see Table 1). The above products were characterized by weak absorption bands in the frequency region higher than 3500  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The same impurities, whose concentrations varied randomly, were also observed in the experiments on codeposition of  $\text{SnF}_2$  and the substrates. The simultaneous presence

Table 1. Absorption bands observed in the matrix IR spectra

Compound	$\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$
PhH	608 w, 677 v.s, 850 w, 971 w, 995 w, 1014 w, 1041 s, 1149 v.w, 1180 m, 1250 v.w, 1391 m, 1480 s, 1522 m, 1618 w, 1670 w, 1757 w, 1811 s, 1958 s, 2600 v.w, 2619 v.w, 2822 v.w, 2891 v.w, 2911 sh, 3044 s, 3047 s, 3078 s, 3098 s
PhCl	406 w, 413 w, 466 s, 617 w, 687 s, 706 s, 743 v.s, 825 v.w, 833 v.w, 886 v.w, 905 m, 940 w, 947 sh, 967 v.w, 985 v.w, 1006 m, 1017 w, 1028 s, 1072 m, 1091 s, 1100 m, 1122 sh, 1127 m, 1158 v.w, 1176 w, 1214 v.w, 1238 w, 1277 v.w, 1300 w, 1327 v.w, 1372 v.w, 1388 v.w, 1447 s, 1479 s, 1500 m, 1519 v.w, 1539 v.w, 1566 m, 1584 s, 1726 m, 1786 m, 1860 m, 1862 sh, 1880 w, 1939 m, 1944 w, 1959 m, 3008 v.w, 3021 v.w, 3030 v.w, 3060 sh, 3067 m, 3091 sh, 3168 v.w
PhMe	455 sh, 461 s, 518 w, 697 s, 731 v.s, 790 w, 845 v.w, 898 w, 986 v.w, 1007 v.w, 1035 sh, 1041 m, 1085 m, 1110 w, 1159 v.w, 1184 w, 1197 v.w, 1216 v.w, 1315 v.w, 1336 v.w, 1383 m, 1450 m, 1471 s, 1500 s, 1523 v.w, 1570 v.w, 1608 m, 1731 m, 1798 m, 1815 v.w, 1854 m, 1857 sh, 1871 w, 1939 m, 1955 w, 1958 sh, 2738 w, 2860 sh, 2875 m, 2923 s, 2934 s, 2962 s, 2985 m, 3035 sh, 3044 s, 3066 m, 3095 m, 3109 sh, 3119 sh

Compound	$\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$
$\text{H}_2\text{O}$	1609 w, 1623 w, 3638 v.w, 3711 w, 3754 w, 3775 w
$(\text{H}_2\text{O})_x$	3572 w, 3519 v.w
$\text{PhH} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	1597 w, 1600 w, 3604 w, 3614 w, 3704 w, 3713 w
$\text{PhCl} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	3658 w, 3711 w
$\text{PhMe} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	3587 sh, 3608 v.w, 3727 w
$\text{SnF}_2$	571 s, 593 s
$(\text{SnF}_2)_2$	580 m
$(\text{SnF}_2)_x$	521 w
$\text{SiF}_4$	1007 w, 1016 w, 1026 s
$\text{SiF}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	988 w
HF	3918 w, 3954 sh, 3963 w
$(\text{HF})_2$	3822 v.w
$\text{N}_2 \cdot \text{HF}$	3881 v.w
$\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{HF}$	3554 v.w
$\text{PhH} \cdot \text{HF}$	3796 w, 688 sh
$\text{PhCl} \cdot \text{HF}$	3793 w, 753 sh
$\text{PhMe} \cdot \text{HF}$	3762 w, 740 sh
$\text{PhH} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$	542 m, 564 sh, 688 sh, 696 sh
$(\text{PhH})_2 \cdot \text{SnF}_2$	538 sh, 562 sh
$\text{PhCl} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$	549 m, 566 sh, 753 sh, 764 sh
$\text{PhMe} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$	536 m, 563 sh, 740 sh
Products	1084 w, 1180 w, 1295 w, 2859 w, of vacuum 2928 m, 2960 w oil pyrolysis

Note. The following notations of bands were used: v.s is very strong, s is strong, m is medium, w is weak, v.w is very weak, and sh is shoulder.

of these compounds in the matrix did not hamper recording the absorption bands of the complexes and, as will be shown below, did not affect the  $\text{SnF}_2$  complexation with the substrates.

#### Identification of absorption bands of $\text{SnF}_2$ complexes with substrates

**Complexes of  $\text{SnF}_2$  with benzene.** The absorption bands at 3796, 696, 688, 564, and 542  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (Fig. 1, *b*) differing from the bands recorded upon the deposition of the initial reagents were observed in the IR spectrum upon codeposition of benzene and  $\text{SnF}_2$  (at an Ar : PhH ratio not less than 100 : 1). The band at 3796  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , as well as the band at 688  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  whose intensity must be close<sup>25</sup> to that of the former band, corresponds to a benzene complex with HF.<sup>25</sup> In our experiments, the band at 688  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  was much more intense than that at 3796  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , which is most likely due to the contribution of the absorption of another product of the codeposition of the reagents. In fact, in the control experiments on codeposition of a HF– $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  mixture and PhH the bands at 3796 and 688  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  had equal intensities (Fig. 1, *c*), and no bands at 696, 564, and 542  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  were observed.

Since  $\text{SiF}_4$  and  $(\text{SnF}_2)_2$  were present in the matrices, the absorption bands at 696, 688 (minus the contribution from the absorption of the  $\text{PhH} \cdot \text{HF}$  complex), 564, and 542  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  could be due to the products of their interaction with benzene. To exclude such a possibility, experiments on codeposition of benzene and  $\text{SiF}_4$  and  $(\text{SnF}_2)_2$  were carried out. No bands at 696, 688, 564, and 542  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  were observed in the IR spectra obtained (Fig. 1, *d*), which makes it possible to assign them to a product of interaction between the monomeric  $\text{SnF}_2$  and benzene.

At different molar ratios between the monomeric  $\text{SnF}_2$  and benzene in the matrices, the intensities of the above bands (minus the contribution from the absorption of the  $\text{PhH} \cdot \text{HF}$  complex to the band at 688  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) changed synchronously, which indicates that they correspond to the same product or to several equally stable products of the interaction between  $\text{SnF}_2$  and benzene. The fact that the frequencies listed above are close to those of  $\text{SnF}_2$  and benzene indicates that the geometry of the initial molecules changes insignificantly upon the interaction. This makes it possible to identify the observed product as a  $\text{SnF}_2$  complex with benzene. Even at a maximum dilution of both reagents (1 : 400) at which, on the one hand, the absorption bands of the complex still can be observed, and, on the other hand, the interaction between one molecule of any of the reagents and more than one molecule of the second reagent seems to be unlikely, no other absorption bands were observed. This fact makes it possible to assign the absorption bands at 696, 688, 564, and 542  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  to the  $\text{PhH} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$  complex of the simplest composition 1 : 1.

Controlled annealing of the matrix at 30–40 K resulted in weakening of the absorption bands of the monomeric  $\text{SnF}_2$ , its dimer, and the  $\text{PhH} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$  com-

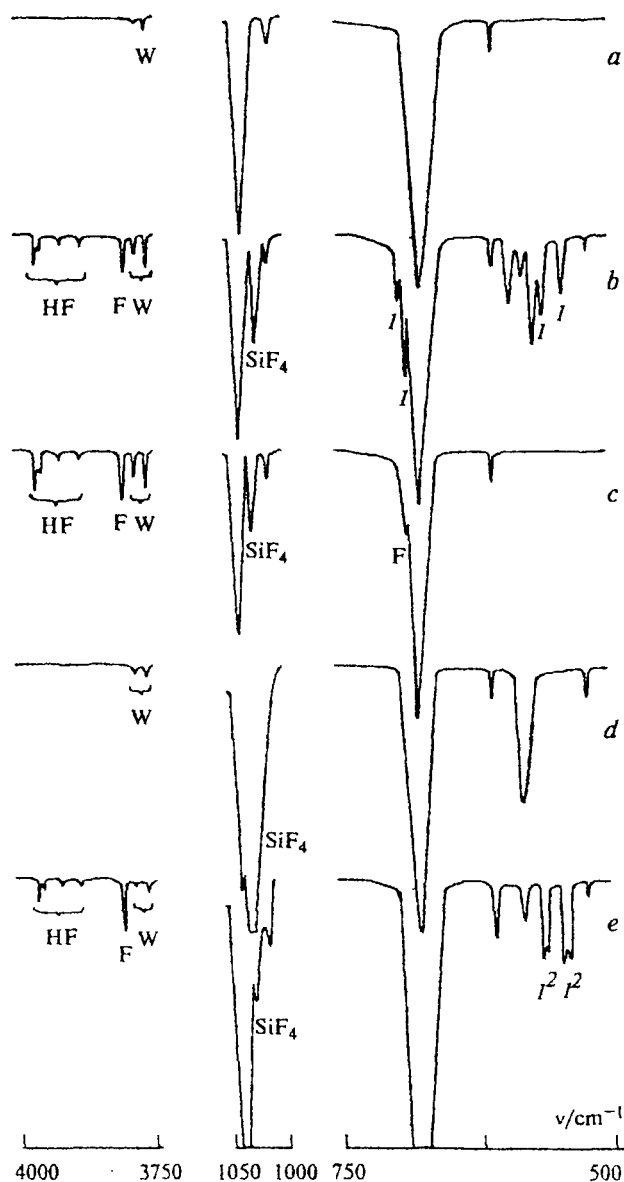


Fig. 1. Fragments of matrix IR spectra of benzene, Ar : PhH = 100 : 1 (*a*); products of codeposition of benzene and  $\text{SnF}_2$ , Ar : PhH = 200 : 1, Ar :  $\text{SnF}_2$  = 250 : 1 (*b*); products of codeposition of benzene and HF, Ar : PhH = 100 : 1 (*c*); products of codeposition of benzene and  $\text{SiF}_4$ , Ar : PhH = 100 : 1 (*d*); and products of codeposition of benzene and  $\text{SnF}_2$ , Ar : PhH = 40 : 1, Ar :  $\text{SnF}_2$  = 200 : 1 (*e*): 1, the bands of  $\text{PhH} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$ ; 2, the bands of  $(\text{PhH})_2 \cdot \text{SnF}_2$ ; F, the band of  $\text{PhH} \cdot \text{HF}$ ; and W, the bands of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

plex followed by their successive disappearance and in the formation of difluorostannylene oligomers with no distinct bands in the medium IR region.<sup>35</sup> This indicates that the  $\text{PhH} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$  complex is labile.

Two new bands at 562 and 538  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  whose frequencies coincided (with a shift of 2–4  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) with those of the absorption bands of the  $\text{PhH} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$  complex (Fig. 1,

e), were observed in the matrix IR spectra upon decreasing the PhH : Ar molar ratio down to 1 : 40 (at  $\text{SnF}_2$  : Ar molar ratios varied from 1 : 200 to 1 : 250). We assigned these bands to the  $(\text{PhH})_2 \cdot \text{SnF}_2$  complex. We failed to observe absorption bands of this complex in the region  $680\text{--}700\text{ cm}^{-1}$  because of the large width of the band at  $677\text{ cm}^{-1}$  corresponding to the out-of-plane deformation vibrations of the benzene C—H bonds.

Since at Ar :  $\text{SnF}_2$  molar ratios less than 100 : 1 the concentration of the monomeric  $\text{SnF}_2$  in the matrix decreased due to the formation of  $(\text{SnF}_2)_x$  oligomers, we failed to detect complexes of the type  $\text{SnF}_2 \cdot \text{PhH} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$ .

Previously,<sup>17</sup> stabilization of the  $\text{PhH} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$  complex in an argon matrix and two frequencies of this complex in the region of stretching vibrations of Sn—F bonds, at 564 and  $551\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , were reported. However, only the first of them coincides with the frequency we observed for the  $\text{PhH} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$  complex. Unfortunately, the reason for these discrepancies is unclear, since no detailed description of the experiments was reported in Ref. 17.

**Complex of  $\text{SnF}_2$  with chlorobenzene.** Five new absorption bands at 3793, 764, 753, 566, and  $549\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (Fig. 2, b) were observed upon codeposition of PhCl and products of tin difluoride evaporation in the obtained Ar matrices. As in the experiments on codeposition of products of tin difluoride evaporation and benzene, the high-

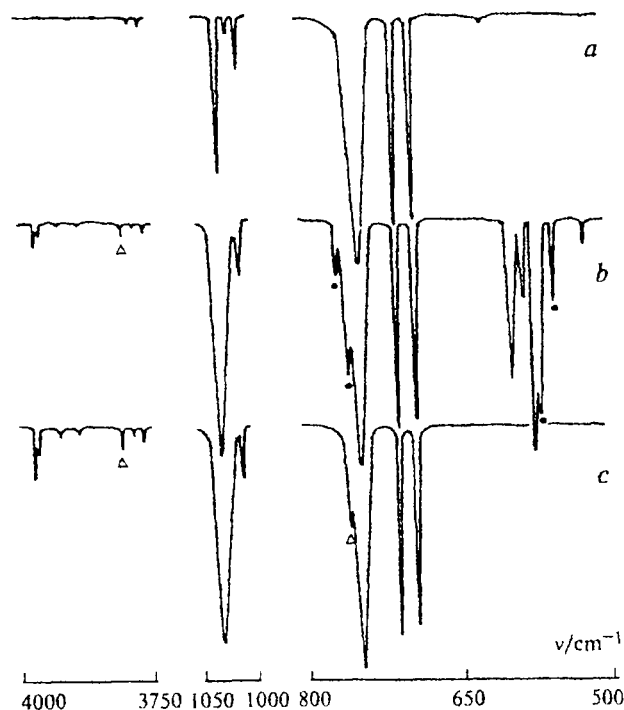


Fig. 2. Fragments of matrix IR spectra of chlorobenzene, Ar : PhCl = 150 : 1 (a); products of codeposition of chlorobenzene and  $\text{SnF}_2$ , Ar : PhCl = 400 : 1, Ar :  $\text{SnF}_2$  = 200 : 1 (b); and products of codeposition of chlorobenzene and HF, Ar : PhCl = 400 : 1 (c): •, the bands of  $\text{PhCl} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$ ; and Δ, the bands of  $\text{PhCl} \cdot \text{HF}$ .

frequency band at  $3793\text{ cm}^{-1}$  corresponds to the  $\text{PhCl} \cdot \text{HF}$  complex.<sup>29</sup> According to the reported data,<sup>29</sup> this complex also makes a contribution to the band at  $753\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , which was proved by control experiments on codeposition of PhCl and a HF— $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  mixture (Fig. 2, c).

The intensities of the absorption bands at 764, 753 (minus the contribution from the  $\text{PhCl} \cdot \text{HF}$  complex), 566, and  $549\text{ cm}^{-1}$  changed simultaneously at different ratios of the monomeric  $\text{SnF}_2$  and PhCl in the matrix and were independent of the amount of  $\text{SiF}_4$  that varied randomly in each experiment. Moreover, if the reagents were diluted with argon in a ratio of ~1 : 400, these bands were the only bands differing from those of the initial reagents, which made it possible to assign them to a complex between  $\text{SnF}_2$  and PhCl of the simplest composition 1 : 1.

Controlled annealing of the matrices at 30–40 K resulted in successive disappearance of the bands of the monomeric  $\text{SnF}_2$ , its dimer, and, finally, the  $\text{PhCl} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$  complex. Even at a minimum dilution of the reagents (PhCl : Ar = 1 : 60,  $\text{SnF}_2$  : Ar = 1 : 100), no formation of complexes of the composition different from 1 : 1 was observed.

**Complex of  $\text{SnF}_2$  with toluene.** Four new absorption bands at 3762, 740, 563, and  $536\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (Fig. 3, b) were found upon codeposition of PhMe and products of tin difluoride evaporation. As in the case of other substrates (PhH, PhCl), one could expect that the absorption from the complexes between PhMe and HF ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) makes contributions to some of the bands. Since no frequencies of PhMe · HF complex have been reported, the experiments on codeposition of PhMe and a HF— $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  mixture were carried out (Fig. 3, c). The bands at 3762 and  $740\text{ cm}^{-1}$  were recorded in the obtained matrix IR spectra. The latter band appeared to be much weaker than in the experiments on codeposition of toluene and  $\text{SnF}_2$ . Thus, the band at  $3762\text{ cm}^{-1}$  observed upon codeposition of toluene and  $\text{SnF}_2$  corresponds to the PhMe · HF complex, which makes also contribution to the band at  $740\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

The intensities of the absorption bands at 740 (minus the contribution from the PhMe · HF complex), 563, and  $536\text{ cm}^{-1}$  changed simultaneously at different ratios of the monomeric  $\text{SnF}_2$  and PhMe in the matrix and at a dilution of ~1 : 400 only these bands (among all observed bands) were different from those of the initial reagents, which made it possible to assign them to a complex between  $\text{SnF}_2$  and toluene of the simplest composition 1 : 1.

As previously, successive disappearance of the absorption bands of the monomeric  $\text{SnF}_2$ , its dimer, and the complex was observed upon controlled annealing of the matrices at 30–40 K. No search for the complexes of composition  $(\text{PhMe})_2 \cdot \text{SnF}_2$  was performed.

#### Assignment of bands in the IR spectra of the complexes

The observed frequencies of the bands of the complexes and their assignment to the normal vibrations are

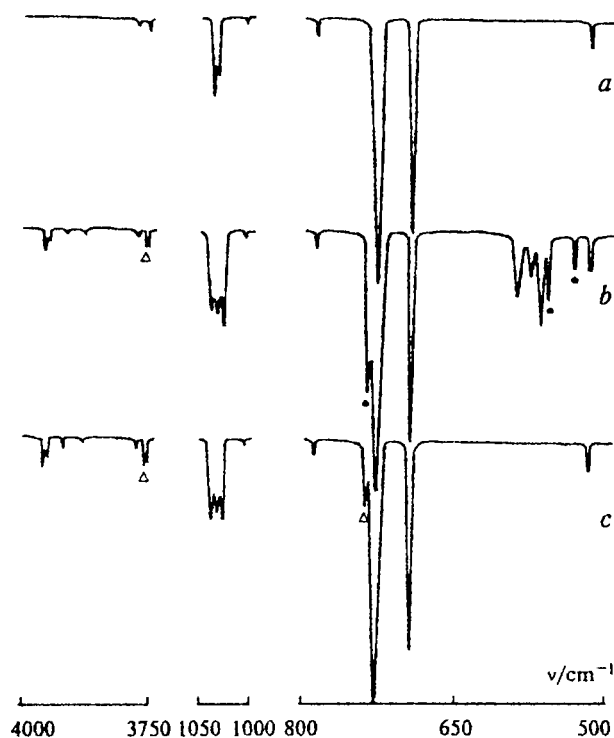


Fig. 3. Fragments of matrix IR spectra of toluene, Ar : PhMe = 200 : 1 (a); products of codeposition of toluene and  $\text{SnF}_2$ , Ar : PhMe = 200 : 1, Ar :  $\text{SnF}_2$  = 200 : 1 (b); and products of codeposition of toluene and HF, Ar : PhMe = 200 : 1 (c): •, the bands of  $\text{PhMe} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$ ; and  $\Delta$ , the bands of  $\text{PhMe} \cdot \text{HF}$ .

listed in Table 2. All complexes of  $\text{SnF}_2$  with ACs are characterized by two frequencies in the region of stretching vibrations of Sn—F bonds and by one or two frequencies in the region of deformation vibrations of the C—H bonds of AC (at 677 (PhH), 743 (PhCl), and 731  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (PhMe)).

The relatively small shift of vibrational frequencies upon complexation shows that this interaction is rather weak and does not result in appreciable change in the geometry of the reagents. The fact that only the frequency of the out-of-plane deformation vibration of C—H bonds of the aromatic fragment is shifted indicates an out-of-plane type of the difluorostannylene approach to the aromatic ring. It should be noted that in the case of  $\text{SnF}_2$  complexes with PhCl and PhH two shifted frequencies of this vibration are observed. Since the vibration in question is not symmetry-degenerate, the appearance of two new frequencies indicates the formation of two complexes with different mutual arrangement of the  $\text{SnF}_2$  fragment and the benzene ring. It is likely that these complexes differ in the orientation of the difluorostannylene F atoms relative to the C—H bonds of the aromatic fragment. Previously,<sup>26</sup> a similar splitting of the band of the benzene out-of-plane deformation vibration observed for  $\text{PhH} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  complex was explained by the presence of several minima with close energies corresponding to different orientations of the

O—H bond relative to the aromatic ring on the potential energy surface of the benzene—water system. It is noteworthy that in the case of the complex with toluene only one shifted frequency of the out-of-plane deformation vibration is observed. Apparently, the methyl group in the toluene molecule produces steric hindrances to the formation of the second complex.

In addition to  $\pi$ -complexes with stannylene coordination to the aromatic ring, one could expect that the interaction of  $\text{SnF}_2$  with chlorobenzene results in the formation of an  $\pi$ -complex in which  $\text{SnF}_2$  is coordinated to the Cl atom. For such a complex, a frequency of the C—Cl bond stretching vibration different from that of the C—Cl bond stretching vibration in PhCl should be observed. However, no corresponding band was detected. At the same time, no shift of the frequency of the C—Cl bond stretching vibration in methyl chloride was also observed when studying the complex  $\text{MeCl} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$ ;<sup>16</sup> thus, the absence of the frequency shift of the C—Cl bond vibration in the case of interaction between PhCl and  $\text{SnF}_2$  does not rule out the possibility of  $\text{SnF}_2$  complexation to the Cl atom. Since the frequencies of stretching vibrations of Sn—F bonds in  $\text{PhH} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$  (564 and 542  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) and  $\text{MeCl} \cdot \text{SnF}_2$  (567 and 543  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) complexes<sup>16</sup> are close, one can expect that the frequencies of stretching vibrations of Sn—F bonds for  $\pi$ - and  $\pi$ -complexes of composition  $\text{SnF}_2 \cdot \text{PhCl}$  are also close and that the bands observed in this region are due to contributions from corresponding bands of both types of complexes.

On the assumption that complexation is a result of the interaction between the stannylene LUMO and the aromatic ring HOMO, the increase in the shift of frequencies of Sn—F bond stretching vibrations upon complexation in the series  $\text{PhCl} < \text{PhH} < \text{PhMe}$  is in agreement with the expected order of the increase in the stability of the complexes due to the effect of substituents in the aromatic ring.

Disappearance of the bands of  $\text{SnF}_2$  complexes with ACs upon annealing of the matrix at 30–40 K was observed only after complete disappearance of the bands of the monomeric  $\text{SnF}_2$  and its dimer, which indicates that the complexes are more stable towards oligomerization reaction than  $\text{SnF}_2$  and its dimer.

**Comparison of the frequencies of  $\text{SnF}_2$  complexes. Complexation as the first stage of reactions of carbene analogs.** The frequencies of all known  $\text{SnF}_2$  complexes are listed in Table 2. The shift of frequencies of  $\text{SnF}_2$  stretching vibrations must be determined mainly by the change in the electron density distribution in this submolecule upon complexation and, hence, by the complex stability. Based on the values of the shifts of  $\text{SnF}_2$  absorption bands upon complexation, one can state that the ethylene double bond is the strongest donor, the nitrogen molecule is the weakest donor, and complexes of other substrates are characterized by intermediate stability.

The formation of complexes between CAs and donor agents was repeatedly postulated to account for the

**Table 2.** Vibrational frequencies ( $\nu$ ,  $\delta$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>) of SnF<sub>2</sub> complexes and initial reagents

Complex <sup>a</sup>	$\nu_{as}(\text{Sn}-\text{F})$	$\nu_s(\text{Sn}-\text{F})$	$\delta(\text{C}-\text{H})$
SnF <sub>2</sub>	571	593	
SnF <sub>2</sub> · N <sub>2</sub> <sup>20</sup>	565	588	
SnF <sub>2</sub> · (N <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> <sup>20</sup>	557	583	
SnF <sub>2</sub> · ClMe <sup>16</sup>	543	567	
PhCl			743
SnF <sub>2</sub> · ClPh	549	566	753, 764
PhH			677
SnF <sub>2</sub> · PhH	542	564	688, 696
SnF <sub>2</sub> · (PhH) <sub>2</sub>	538	562	
PhCH <sub>3</sub>			731
SnF <sub>2</sub> · PhMe	536	563	740
Hp <sup>18,19</sup>			<sup>b</sup>
SnF <sub>2</sub> · Hp <sup>18,19</sup>	540	565	<sup>c</sup>
SnF <sub>2</sub> · C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> <sup>17</sup>	537.5	551.5	

<sup>a</sup> Hp is hept-1-yne.<sup>b</sup>  $\nu(\text{C}=\text{C})$  is 2127 cm<sup>-1</sup> and  $\nu(\text{C}-\text{H})$  3318 cm<sup>-1</sup>.<sup>c</sup>  $\delta(\text{H}-\text{C}=\text{C})$  is 1011 cm<sup>-1</sup>,  $\nu(\text{C}=\text{C})$  is 2088 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and  $\nu(\text{C}-\text{H})$  is 3256 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

spectral properties, reactivity, and the reaction mechanisms of CAs. Direct spectroscopic evidence of the existence of complexes between a carbene analog (SnF<sub>2</sub>) and a number of weak Lewis bases (alkynes, ACs, alkyl halides, and nitrogen) we obtained recently<sup>16,18–20</sup> indicate that complexation is a characteristic property of CAs and that the possibility of complexation between CAs and the molecules of substrate, solvent, precursor, products of precursor decomposition, etc., should be taken into account when considering the reaction mechanisms of CAs.

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