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Communication

Molecular Structure of RbSCN Complex with N-(4'-hydroxy-3',5'-diisopropylbenzyl)monoaza-15-crown-5 Ether: Two Structures in a Unit Cell

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Molecular structures of the RbSCN complexes with N-(4'-hydroxy-3',5'-diisopropylbenzyl)-monoaza-15crown-5 ether (2-RbSCN) and N-(4'-hydroxy-3',5'-di-tert-butylbenzyl)-monoaza-15-crown-5 ether (3-RbSCN) are reported. Crystal data (2-RbSCN) $C_{24}H_{39}N_2O_5SRb$, M = 553.11, monoclinic, space group P2₁, a = 9.835(4), b = 15.44(3), $c = 18.563(\hat{6})$ Å, $\beta = 99.58$ (4), U = 2779(4) Å³, Z = 4, Dc = 1.322 gcm⁻³ $v = 18.87 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, R = 0.047, Rw = 0.049 for the 5339 independent reflections (of 5712 measured reflections) and 590 parameters. (3-RbSCN) C₅₂H₈₆N₄ $O_{10}S_2Rb_2$, M = 1162.32, triclinic, space group P1, $\alpha = 9.917(2), b = 24.644(6), c = 12.572(3), \alpha = 89.38(2), \gamma = 96.13(2), \gamma = 89.34(2) Å, U = 3054(1) Å^3, Z = 2, Dc = 1.264 g cm^{-3}, \mu = 17.20 cm^{-1}, R = 0.051, R = 0.051,$ 0.053 for the 6864 independent reflections (of 7201 measured reflections) and 316 parameters. The molecular structures of the RbSCN complexes with of N-(4-hydroxy-3',5'-dialkylbenzyl)series а monoaza-15-crown-5 ethers (1, 2 and 3) were systematically changed depending upon the size of the R groups at positions 3' and 5' in the side arm; 1 (R=Me), a polymer-like $(1:1)_n$ complex; 2 (R = *i*-Pr), a mixture of 1:1 complex and polymer-like $(1:1)_n$ complex; 3 (R = t-Bu), a dimeric 1:1 complex.

Keywords: Crown ether; Alkali metal; Crystal structure; Polymer-like; Complex

Increasing attention has been focused on the polymer-like complexes of armed macrocycles [1]. The side arms in the armed macrocycles are used for intermolecular interaction and the unit structures are repeated in polymers of those complexes. Recently, we reported that armedmonoaza-15-crown-5 ether (1), having a 4'hydroxy-3',5'-dimethylbenzyl group as a side arm, forms polymer-like complexes with sodium, potassium, rubidium and cesium thiocyanates [2]. We are interested in structural changes in the metal complexes of the armed-monoaza crown ethers when size of the R groups at positions 3' and 5' in the phenol moiety are changed. To see how the size of the R groups influences the structure of the complexes, new

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armed-monoaza crown ethers (2 and 3) having isopropyl- and *tert*-butyl groups at positions 3' and 5' and their RbSCN complexes were prepared. Here, we report a unique complex system of RbSCN with the new armed-monoaza crown ethers.



New armed-monoaza crown ethers (2 and 3) were prepared using Mannich reactions [3,4] of N-methoxymethyl-monoaza-15-crown-5 ether with 2,6-diisopropyl- or 2,6-di-*tert*-butylphenol in ca. 70% yields [5]. The RbSCN complexes with 2 and 3 were quantitatively obtained [5].

Figure 1 shows the molecular structure of the RbSCN complex with 3 having bulky *tert*-butyl groups at positions 3' and 5' [6]. The Rb(1)⁺ ion is seven-co-ordinated by the four ring O(1-4) atoms, the ring N(1) atoms and two N(2 and 2*) atoms of SCN⁻ ions. The SCN⁻ ions bridge between two incorporated Rb(1 and 1*)⁺ ions, thus resulting in the formation of a dimeric 2:2 complex. The Rb–O (ring), Rb–N(ring) and Rb–N (two SCN) bond lengths are comparable with that of 1-RbSCN (see caption of Fig. 1) [2]. In the 3-RbSCN complex, the O(5) atom of the phenolic OH group in the side arm can not



co-ordinate to the $Rb(1)^+$ ion owing to the bulk of the *tert*-butyl groups.

The RbSCN complex of **2** having isopropyl groups (medium size between *tert*-butyl and methyl groups) at positions 3' and 5' in the side arm forms a unique complex system (Fig. 2 and 3) [6]. The X-ray study shows that the complex consists of a polymer-like $(1:1)_n$ complex and a 1:1 complex. The Rb(1)⁺ ion is six-co-ordinated by the four ring O(1-4) atoms, the ring N(1) atoms and the N(2) atom of SCN- ion, while the Rb(2)⁺ ion is seven-co-ordinated by the four ring O(6-9) atoms, the ring N(3) atom, the N(4) atom of SCN- ion and the O(10^{*}) atom of the phenolic OH group in the side arm of the nearest-neighbor molecule (Fig. 3). The

polymer-like and 1:1 complexes are aligned alternately (Fig. 3). An important difference in both of the polymer-like and 1:1 complexes is dihedral angles N(ring)-Rb-N(SGN)-C(SCN). Figure 4 shows schematic drawings of the polymer-like and 1:1 complexes of 2-RbSCN. In the polymer-like complex (Fig. 4(a)), the dihedral angle N(3)-Rb(2)-N(4)-C(48) is 171°, while the dihedral angle N(1)—Rb(1)— N(2)-C(24) in the 1:1 complex (Fig. 4(b)) is -70° . The O(10^{*}) atom of the phenolic OH group in the side arm of the nearest-neighbor molecule binds to the $Rb(2)^+$ ion to form the polymer-like complex. On the other hand, the phenol moiety of the nearest-neighbor molecule covers the open space around the $Rb(1)^+$ ion (the distances



FIGURE 2 Molecular structure (non hydrogen atoms) of 2-RbSCN. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. Important bond lengths Rb(1)-O(1) 2.885(1), Rb(1)-O(2) 2.92(1), Rb(1)-O(3) 2.93(1), Rb(1)-O(4) 2.84(1), Rb(1)-N(1) 3.10(1), Rb(1)-N(2) 3.16(1), Rb(2)-O(6) 2.87(1), Rb(2)-O(7) 2.88(1), Rb(2)-O(8) 2.89(1), Rb(2)-O(9) 2.95(1), $Rb(2)-O(10^*)$ 2.928(10), Rb(2)-N(3) 3.05(1), Rb(2)-N(4) 3.05(2) Å.



FIGURE 3 The ORTEP packing diagram (non-hydrogen atoms) of 2-RbSCN. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level.



FIGURE 4 Schematical drawings of (a) polymer-like $(1:1)_n$ complex part and (b) 1:1 complex part in 2-RbSCN complex.

Rb(1)—C(14), Rb(1)—C(15) and Rb(1)—C(16) are 3.46(1), 3.33(1) and 3.44(1) Å, respectively) to give a 1:1 complex where the Rb(1)⁺ ion is six-co-ordinated. The bond lengths between Rb⁺ ions and heteroatoms in both complexes are comparable (see caption of Fig. 3), thus, the presence of two kinds of the dihedral angles N(ring)—Rb—N(SCN)—C(SCN) would make the complex formed the two kinds of structures in a unit cell.

As we reported before, the RbSCN complex of 1 having two methyl groups at positions 3' and 5' forms a polymer-like $(1:1)_n$ complex [2]. Therefore, molecular structures of the RbSCN complexes with a series of N-(4-hydroxy-3',5'-dialkylbenzyl)-monoaza-15-crown-5 ethers (1, 2 and 3) were systematically changed depending upon the size of the R groups at positions 3' and 5' in the side arm; 1 (R = Me), a polymer-like $(1:1)_n$ complex; 2 (R = *i*-Pr), a mixture of 1:1 complex and polymer-like $(1:1)_n$ complex; 3 (R = *t*-Bu), a dimeric 1:1 complex. Further studies of the new armed-monoaza crown ethers having various phenol derivatives as a side arm are in progress.

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- [5] Compounds 2, 3 and their RbSCN complexes were synthesized according to the reported method. [2] Satisfactory spectroscopic and analytical data for compounds 2, 3, 2-RbSCN and 3-RbSCN have been obtained.
- [6] Crystal data for 2-RbSCN and 3-RbSCN. X-ray diffraction measurements were made on a Rigaku AFC5S four-circle diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Mo-K α radiation (10.71069 Å) at 23°C and a 12 kW rotating-anode generator.