

of NaBa₂O could not be prepared; an excess of Na and Ba in the reaction mixture is necessary to stabilize the compound, and this in turn results in the contamination of the product by NaBa and Na₂Ba upon cooling. In a temperature-dependent Guinier measurement^[17] pure NaBa₂O, obtained from ground single crystals and mixed with powdered glass to reduce absorption effects, begins to decompose to BaO at around 435 K with full decomposition at 490 K. On the other hand, when a sample containing excess Na and Ba is heated, the diffraction lines of NaBa₂O can be observed up to 525 K. However, reaction of the samples with glass could not be excluded under these conditions.

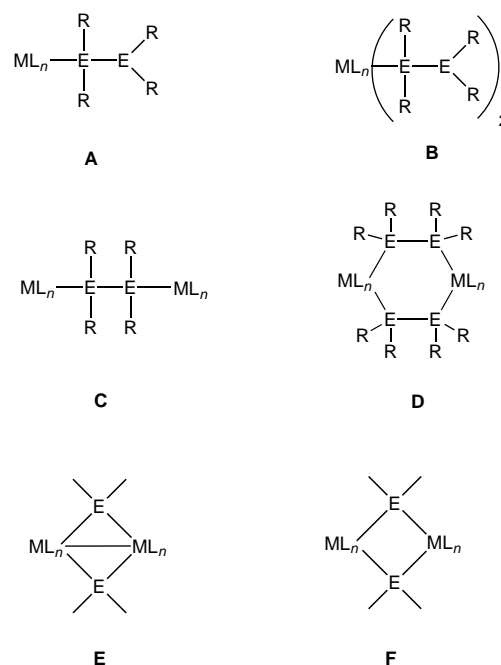
- [17] A. Simon, *J. Appl. Crystallogr.* **1971**, 4, 138–145.
- [18] Details of the crystal-structure solution and refinement based on single-crystal data: CAD-4 diffractometer, crystal size 0.2 × 0.15 × 0.1 mm, orthorhombic, space group *Cmma* (no. 67), *a* = 6.5907(3), *b* = 15.327(1), *c* = 6.9385(5) Å, Ba in 8*m* (0,*y*,*z*) with *y* = 0.08701(2) and *z* = 0.19869(5), Na in 4*g* (0,¼,*z*) with *z* = 0.6889(7), O in 4*a* (¼,0,0), *V* = 700.90(8) Å³, *Z* = 4, ρ_{calc} = 2.973 g cm⁻³, $2\theta_{\text{max}}$ = 49.94°, AgK α radiation, λ = 0.56086 Å, ω - θ scan, measured at 293 K, 2618 collected and 703 unique reflections (*R*_{int} = 0.0216), absorption correction: ψ -scan, μ = 5.877 mm⁻¹, crystal structure solved using direct methods (SHELXS 97^[19]), full-matrix least-squares refinement (anisotropic for all atoms) on *F*² (SHELXL 97^[19]), 15 parameters refined, *R*1(*I* > 2 σ (*I*)) = 0.0297, *wR*2(*I* > 2 σ (*I*)) = 0.0768, *R*1(all data) = 0.0309, *wR*2(all data) = 0.0777, GOF = 1.183. Further details on the crystal structure investigation may be obtained from the Fachinformationszentrum Karlsruhe, 76344 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen, Germany (fax: (+49) 7247-808-666; e-mail: crysdata@fiz-karlsruhe.de), on quoting the depository number CSD-411905.
- [19] SHELXTL Version 5.1, Bruker AXS, **1998**.
- [20] Powder X-ray diffraction data, collected on samples of ground single crystals sealed in capillaries,^[16] was used for full-profile Rietveld refinement; the CSD Package^[21] was employed. The atomic positions obtained were consistent with those from the refinement of the single-crystal data, though less accurate. The thermal displacement parameters had to be fixed; the unit cell parameters were refined to *a* = 6.5916(3) Å, *b* = 15.3282(8) Å, and *c* = 6.9628(4) Å with *R*_{int} = 0.082 and *R*_{profile} = 0.252.
- [21] “CSD—Universal program package for single crystal and/or powder structure data treatment”: L. G. Akselrud, Yu. N. Grin, P. Yu. Zavalij, V. K. Pecharsky, V. S. Fundamenskii, *12th European Crystallographic Meeting*, Moscow, **1989**, 3, 155 (<http://imr.chem.binghamton.edu/zavalij/CSD.html>).
- [22] Elemental analysis (%) of single-crystal batches: found (calcd): Ba 84.5 and 84.8 (87.6), Na 8.3 and 8.7 (7.3), O 4.1 and 4.2 (5.1), K 1.1 and 1.3 (0); these results are consistent with a small impurity of the Na/K alloy. The metal content was determined using ICP atomic emission spectrometry (TJA IRIS Advantage) after dissolving the samples in aqueous acid. Oxygen was determined as CO by measuring IR absorption after melting the samples with excess graphite (Exhalograph EAO 220, Balzers). The hydrogen content was measured by oxidizing the samples in oxygen at 1320 K and determining the amount of released water by IR spectroscopy. Analyses of larger bulk samples containing about 50 wt % NaBa₂O yielded 0.008 and 0.012 wt % H. This corresponds to no more than one hydrogen atom per 15 NaBa₂O formula units.
- [23] J. Peters, B. Krebs, *Acta Crystallogr. Sect. B* **1982**, 38, 1270–1272.
- [24] F. S. Galasso, *Structure and Properties of Inorganic Solids*, Pergamon, Oxford, **1970**, p. 64.
- [25] W. H. Zachariasen, *Z. Phys. Chem.* **1927**, 128, 39–48.
- [26] Z. Ban, M. Sikirica, *Acta Crystallogr.* **1965**, 18, 594–599.
- [27] U. Steinbrenner, A. Simon, *Z. Anorg. Allg. Chem.* **1998**, 624, 228–232.
- [28] G. J. Snyder, A. Simon, *J. Chem. Soc. Dalton Trans.* **1994**, 1159–1160.
- [29] G. J. Snyder, A. Simon, *Z. Naturforsch. B* **1994**, 49, 189–192.
- [30] The consideration of the crystal volume of NaBa₂O also provides an additional argument against a possible contamination by hydrogen: Inclusion of hydride would rather decrease the crystal volume. Thus the value of *V*(NaH) + *V*(BaH₂) + *V*(BaO) = 126.8 Å³, an approximation for the crystal volume of hypothetical ionic Na⁺(Ba²⁺)₂O²⁻(H⁻)₃, is clearly too small.
- [31] F. S. Galasso, *Structure and Properties of Inorganic Solids*, Pergamon, Oxford, **1970**, p. 28.

Reactions of Et₄Bi₂ with *t*Bu₃M (M = Al, Ga)—Synthesis of Complexes with a Bidentate Dibismuthane Ligand**

Andreas Kuczkowski, Stephan Schulz,* and Martin Nieger

Dedicated to Professor Oskar M. Glemser on the occasion of his 90th birthday

Since Cadet's discovery of the “fuming liquid” in 1757, numerous tetraorganodipnicogens of the type R₄E₂ (E = P, As, Sb) containing a central E–E bond have been synthesized.^[1] Detailed investigations on their reactions with transition metal complexes showed their ability to form monodentate (Scheme 1, type A and B) and bidentate complexes (type C and D) under preservation of the central E–E bond. In addition, heterocycles (type E and F) were formed under E–E bond cleavage.^[1, 2]



Scheme 1. Coordination modes for transition metal complexes with dipnicogen ligands R₄E₂.

In contrast, reactions with main group metal complexes such as Group 13 trialkyl compounds have been investigated to a far lesser extent. [Me₄P₂][BH₃]₂ (type C) was synthesized almost 50 years ago by Nöth and Burg;^[3] however, the only structurally characterized compounds known were Me₄P₂(BH₃)₂^[4] and Me₄P₂(BH₂Br)₂^[5] prior to our recent

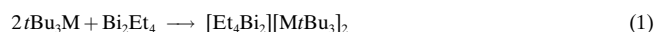
[*] Priv. Doz. Dr. S. Schulz, Dipl.-Chem. A. Kuczkowski, Dr. M. Nieger Institut für Anorganische Chemie der Universität Bonn Gerhard-Domagk-Strasse 1, 53121 Bonn (Germany) Fax: (+49) 228-73-5327 E-mail: sschulz@uni-bonn.de

[**] This work was supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), the Fonds der Chemischen Industrie (FCI), the Bundesministerium für Bildung, Wissenschaft, Forschung und Technologie (BMBF), and Prof. E. Niecke, Universität Bonn.

syntheses and X-ray crystal structure determinations of four distibane bisadducts $[\text{Sb}_2\text{R}_4][\text{MR}'_3]_2$ ($\text{M} = \text{Al}, \text{Ga}$; type C).^[6] Distibane bisadducts are stable in the pure form, but readily undergo consecutive reactions in solution under Sb–Sb bond cleavage to give four- and six-membered heterocycles of type F.^[6] An analogous reaction pathway was observed by Breunig et al. in the synthesis of the six-membered stibinoidane $[(\text{Me}_3\text{SiCH}_2)_2\text{InSbMe}_2]_3$ from Me_4Sb_2 and $(\text{Me}_3\text{SiCH}_2)_3\text{In}$.^[7]

The low stability of the distibane bisadducts $[\text{Sb}_2\text{R}_4][\text{MR}'_3]_2$ is not surprising, since the stability of the E–E bond in tetraorganodipnicogens R_4E_2 generally decreases with increasing atomic number of the central pnictogen E. Consequently, distibanes and dibismuthanes exhibit the strongest tendency toward disproportionation into the elemental pnictogens E and triorganopnictogens R_3E . As a result only a few stable dibismuthanes have been synthesized and structurally characterized,^[8] and, to the best of our knowledge, dibismuthanes have not been reported to serve as a mono- or bidentate ligand. Evidently, both the very weak Bi–Bi bond and the high s character of the lone pairs of electrons limit their potential for further complexation reactions.^[9]

In an attempt to gain insight into the reactivity of dibismuthanes toward Group 13 trialkyl compounds, we treated tetraethyldibismuthane Et_4Bi_2 with tri(*tert*)butylalane and -gallane, respectively, in a 2:1 molar ratio [Eq. (1); $\text{M} = \text{Al}$ (**1**), Ga (**2**)].



Since Et_4Bi_2 is only stable below 0°C ,^[8a] the reagents were precooled to -20°C and combined in a flask in the glovebox. The reaction with $t\text{Bu}_3\text{Ga}$ immediately yielded an orange solid, which was recrystallized from *n*-pentane at -30°C to give orange crystals, while the analogous reaction with $t\text{Bu}_3\text{Al}$ resulted in the formation of a dark brown, partially insoluble (metallic) solid. However, if the latter reaction was carried out in *n*-pentane at -78°C , it yielded a light red solution, which on storage at -60°C gave yellow crystals after 48 h. Both crystalline products were shown by NMR spectroscopy and single-crystal X-ray diffraction to be the desired dibismuthane bisadducts $[\text{Bi}_2\text{Et}_4][\text{MtBu}_3]_2$ ($\text{M} = \text{Al}$ (**1**), Ga (**2**); type C).

The stability of **1** and **2** both in the pure form and in solution differ significantly. While **2** can be stored at -30°C in the dark under an inert gas atmosphere without decomposition for weeks, **1** decomposes slowly to give a brown solid. The same tendency was observed in solution. Compound **2** can be dissolved at -30°C without decomposition, while **1** undergoes consecutive reactions, as was shown by ^1H NMR experiments. The signals observed for **2** in $[\text{D}_8]\text{toluene}$ at -30°C revealed the presence of the organic substituents Et and *t*Bu in a relative intensity ratio of 2:3, clearly indicating the presence of the bisadduct. The resonance signals are shifted to lower field (*t*Bu–M) and higher field (Et–Bi), respectively, as was observed for the corresponding distibane bisadducts $[\text{Sb}_2\text{R}_4][\text{MR}'_3]_2$ ^[6] and the simple Lewis acid–base adducts $\text{R}'_3\text{M}–\text{BiR}_3$ ($\text{M} = \text{Al}, \text{Ga}$).^[10] In contrast, the ^1H NMR spectrum of **1** recorded at -30°C shows resonance signals due to the Et and *t*Bu groups in an intensity ratio of 1:1, which is not

consistent with the formation of a bisadduct. A spectrum of **1** with the correct signal intensity was finally obtained from a freshly prepared sample, which was dissolved in $[\text{D}_8]\text{toluene}$ and measured at -60°C .^[11]

The stability of **1** and **2** in the gas phase seems to be limited. The mass spectrum of **2** only shows signals for the fragmentation products $(\text{Et}_2\text{Bi})_2$ and $(t\text{Bu}_3\text{Ga})_2$ of the bisadduct.^[12]

Single crystals of **1** and **2** suitable for an X-ray structure determination were obtained from solutions in *n*-pentane at -60°C .^[13] As was observed for the corresponding distibane bisadducts, the substituents bound to bismuth in **1** and **2** adopt staggered conformations. The MtBu_3 fragments are arranged *trans*, presumably for steric reasons (Figure 1 and 2). How-

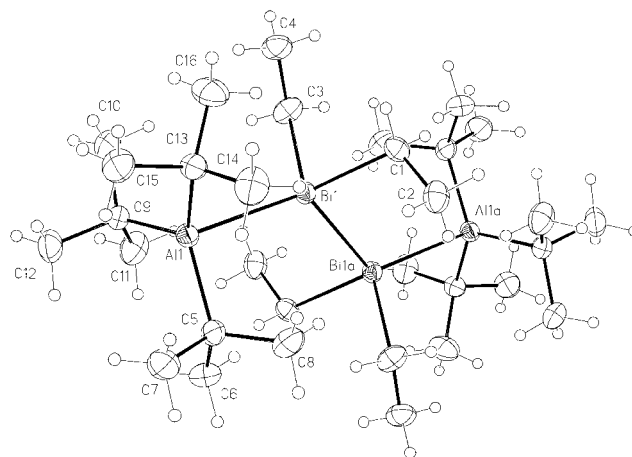


Figure 1. Molecular structure of $[\text{Et}_2\text{Bi}_2][\text{Al}(t\text{Bu})_3]_2$ (**1**). Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [$^\circ$]: Bi1–Al1 3.084(1), Bi1–Bi1a 2.983(1), Bi1–C1 2.258(3), Bi1–C3 2.275(4), Al1–C5 2.003(4), Al1–C9 2.018(4), Al1–C13 2.026(3); Al1–Bi1–Bi1a 126.7(1), C1–Bi1–C3 94.5(1), C1–Bi1–Bi1a 95.4(1), C3–Bi1–Bi1a 97.8(1), C5–Al1–C9 118.4(2), C5–Al1–C13 116.9(2), C9–Al1–C13 117.5(2).

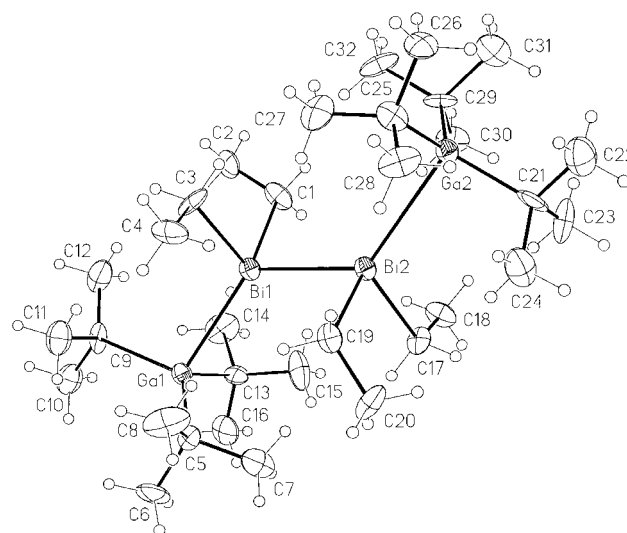


Figure 2. Molecular structure of $[\text{Et}_2\text{Bi}_2][\text{Ga}(t\text{Bu})_3]_2$ (**2**). Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [$^\circ$]: Bi1–Ga1 3.099(2), Bi2–Ga2 3.114(2), Bi1–Bi2 2.984(1), Bi1–C1 2.274(15), Bi1–C3 2.284(14), Bi2–C17 2.286(14), Bi2–C19 2.286(15), Ga1–C5 2.006(15), Ga1–C9 2.056(17), Ga1–C13 2.045(18), Ga2–C21 2.030(20), Ga2–C25 2.065(17), Ga2–C29 2.029(15); Ga1–Bi1–Bi2 130.2(1), Ga2–Bi1–Bi2 129.7(1), C1–Bi1–C3 93.7(6), C1–Bi1–Bi2 97.5(5), C3–Bi1–Bi2 94.7(5), C17–Bi2–C19 96.6(6), C17–Bi2–Bi1 98.3(4), C19–Bi2–Bi1 96.7(4), C5–Ga1–C9 115.5(6), C5–Ga1–C13 120.1(6), C9–Ga1–C13 118.7(7), C21–Ga2–C25 119.0(8), C21–Ga2–C29 117.5(8), C25–Ga2–C29 116.9(7).

ever, only **1** possesses crystallographic C_i symmetry with the center of symmetry in the Bi–Bi bond. The Bi–Bi bond lengths (2.983(1) (**1**), 2.984(1) Å (**2**)) are almost identical to those of uncomplexed dibismuthanes (Ph_4Bi_2 : 2.990, (Me_3Si) $_4\text{Bi}_2$: 3.035, ($\text{HC}=\text{CMe}$) $_2\text{BiBi}(\text{MeC}=\text{CH})_2$: 2.990 Å),^[14] despite the increased steric pressure within the adducts. The solid-state structures show no evidence for a Bi–Bi bond weakening.^[15] The same tendency was established for the corresponding distibane bisadducts [Sb_2Et_4][$\text{M}(\text{Bu}_3)_2$] ($\text{M} = \text{Al}$, Ga).^[6] The Al–Bi (3.084(1) Å (**1**)) and Ga–Bi bond lengths (3.099(2) (Ga1–Bi1), 3.114(2) Å (Ga2–Bi2) (**2**)) are comparable to those found in $i\text{Pr}_3\text{BiM}(\text{Bu}_3)_2$ (3.088(1) ($\text{M} = \text{Al}$),^[10b] 3.135(1) Å ($\text{M} = \text{Ga}$)^[10a]), but more than 30 pm longer than the sum of the covalent radii,^[16] indicating only weak acid–base interactions. The M–Bi, M–C (average values: 2.016 (**1**), 2.036 (Ga1), 2.041 Å (Ga2) (**2**)), and Bi–C distances (average values: 2.267 (**1**), 2.279 (Bi1), 2.286 Å (Bi2) (**2**)) as well as the sum of the C–Bi–C and C–Bi–Bi bond angles (287.7° (**1**), 285.9° (Bi1), 291.6 (Bi2) (**2**)) in **1** and **2** are almost identical. Compared to the sum of the C–Sb–C and C–Sb–Sb bond angles observed in the distibane bisadducts [Sb_2Et_4][$\text{M}(\text{Bu}_3)_2$] (292.9° ($\text{M} = \text{Al}$), 291.1° ($\text{M} = \text{Ga}$)), they are slightly decreased. This points to a higher s character of the dative Bi–M bonding electron pairs, as was observed for the simple Lewis acid–base adducts $\text{R}_3\text{M}–\text{BiR}_3$ ($\text{M} = \text{Al}$, Ga), and to a higher p character of the Bi–C and Bi–Bi bonding electron pairs compared to those of the stibane bisadducts. Consequently, the sum of the C–M–C bond angles in [Bi_2Et_4][$\text{M}(\text{Bu}_3)_2$] (352.8° (**1**); 354.3°, 353.4° (**2**)) is slightly larger than those found in [Sb_2Et_4][$\text{M}(\text{Bu}_3)_2$] (350.2° ($\text{M} = \text{Al}$), 351.1° ($\text{M} = \text{Ga}$)), indicating Et_4Bi_2 to be a weaker Lewis base than Et_4Sb_2 .^[17] Currently, we are investigating the nature of the reaction product(s) of **1** and **2** in solution.

Experimental Section

[Et_4Bi_2][$\text{Al}(\text{Bu}_3)_2$], **1** ($M = 930.83 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$): $i\text{Bu}_3\text{Al}$ (2 mmol, 0.40 g) was added at -78°C to a solution of Et_4Bi_2 (1 mmol, 0.53 g) in n -pentane (5 mL). The resulting red solution was stored at -60°C . After 48 h, yellow crystals of **1** were obtained. Yield: 0.43 g, 0.47 mmol, 47%. M.p. $< -15^\circ\text{C}$. NMR data:^[18] ^1H NMR (300 MHz, [D_8]toluene, -60°C): $\delta = 1.43$ (s, 27H; $i\text{Bu}$), 1.95 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.8 \text{ Hz}$, 6H; MeCH_2), 2.34–2.55 (m, 4H; MeCH_2); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (80 MHz, [D_8]toluene, -60°C): $\delta = 0.7$ (MeCH_2), 15.4 (MeCH_2), 31.1 (Me_3CAI).

[Et_4Bi_2][$\text{Ga}(\text{Bu}_3)_2$], **2** ($M = 1016.31 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$): Precooled (-20°C) Et_4Bi_2 (1 mmol, 0.53 g) and $i\text{Bu}_3\text{Ga}$ (2 mmol, 0.48 g) were combined in a flask in glovebox. The resulting orange solid was dissolved in cold (-30°C) n -pentane (5 mL) and stored at -30°C . After 10 h, orange crystals of **2** had formed. Yield: 0.86 g, 0.85 mmol, 85%. M.p. below -10°C . NMR data:^[18] ^1H NMR (300 MHz, [D_8]toluene, -30°C): $\delta = 1.35$ (s, 27H; $i\text{Bu}$), 2.06 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.8 \text{ Hz}$, 12H; CH_3CH_2), 2.42–2.62 (m, 8H; CH_3CH_2); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (80 MHz, [D_8]toluene, -30°C): $\delta = 1.4$ (CH_3CH_2), 17.2 (CH_3CH_2), 32.0 (CH_3C); MS (EI, 12 eV): m/z (%): 57 (100) [$i\text{Bu}$] $^+$, 241 (10) [$i\text{Bu}_3\text{Ga}$] $^+$, 267 (20) [BiEt_2] $^+$.

Received: August 3, 2001 [Z17664]

[1] Cadet's initial studies were continued by Bunsen, who showed this liquid to contain tetramethyldiarsane Me_4As_2 , generally known as "cacodyl". For a historical review see: D. Seyferth, *Organometallics* **2001**, 20, 1488–1498.

- [2] a) H. Baumgarten, H. Johannsen, D. Rehder, *Chem. Ber.* **1979**, 112, 2650–2658; b) R. G. Hayter, *Inorg. Chem.* **1964**, 3, 711–717; c) J. Chatt, D. A. Thornton, *J. Chem. Soc.* **1964**, 2713; d) I. Bernal, J. D. Korp, F. Calderazzo, R. Poli, D. Vitali, *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.* **1984**, 1945–1950; e) H. J. Breunig, R. Rösler, *Coord. Chem. Rev.* **1997**, 163, 33–53.
- [3] a) H. Nöth, *Z. Naturforsch. B* **1960**, 15, 327–329; b) A. B. Burg, R. I. Wagner, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1953**, 75, 3872–3877; c) A. B. Burg, J. Brendel, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1958**, 80, 3198–3202; d) A. B. Burg, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1961**, 83, 2226–2231.
- [4] H. L. Carrell, J. Donohue, *Acta Crystallogr. Sect. B* **1968**, 24, 699–707.
- [5] H. Schmidbaur, T. Wimmer, A. Grohmann, O. Steigelmann, G. Müller, *Chem. Ber.* **1989**, 122, 1607–1612.
- [6] A. Kuczkowski, S. Schulz, M. Nieger, P. Saarenketo, *Organometallics* **2001**, 20, 2000–2006.
- [7] H. J. Breunig, M. Stanciu, R. Rösler, E. Lork, *Z. Anorg. Allg. Chem.* **1998**, 624, 1965–1968.
- [8] a) H. J. Breunig, D. Müller, *Angew. Chem.* **1982**, 94, 448–449; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **1982**, 21, 439–440; b) G. Becker, M. Rössler, *Z. Naturforsch. B* **1982**, 37, 91–96; c) O. Mundt, G. Becker, M. Rössler, C. Witthauer, *Z. Anorg. Allg. Chem.* **1983**, 506, 42–58; d) H. J. Breunig, D. Müller, *Z. Naturforsch. B* **1983**, 38, 125–129; e) A. J. Ashe III, J. W. Kampf, D. B. Puranik, *Organometallics* **1992**, 11, 2743–2745; f) R. E. von H. Spence, D. P. Hsu, S. L. Buchwald, *Organometallics* **1992**, 11, 3492–3493; g) A. J. Ashe III, *Adv. Organomet. Chem.* **1990**, 30, 77; h) O. Mundt, H. Riffel, G. Becker, A. Simon, *Z. Naturforsch. B* **1988**, 43, 592.
- [9] The reaction of Ph_4Bi_2 with [$\text{Re}_2\text{Br}_2(\text{CO})_6(\text{thf})_2$] failed to give a stable complex due to disproportionation of Ph_4Bi_2 into Bi and Ph_3Bi : I. Bernal, J. D. Korp, *J. Chem. Soc. Dalton Trans.* **1984**, 1945–1950. Attempts to prepare [$(\text{CO})_5\text{WBi}(\text{Ph}_2)\text{B}(\text{Ph}_2)\text{W}(\text{CO})_5$] have been reported but the resulting compound wasn't fully characterized: H. J. Breunig, D. Müller, *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1983**, 253, C21–C22.
- [10] a) A. Kuczkowski, F. Thomas, S. Schulz, M. Nieger, *Organometallics* **2000**, 19, 5758–5762; b) A. Kuczkowski, S. Schulz, M. Nieger, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2001**, 2605.
- [11] The proton resonances observed in the NMR spectra of **1** and **2** correspond to an ABX_3 spin system as was shown by simulation. The chemical shifts and coupling constants were determined as follows: **1**: $\delta = 1.95$ (3H), 2.39 (1H), 2.50 (1H); $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.1$, 8.6 Hz, $^2J_{\text{H,H}} = 18.7 \text{ Hz}$; **2**: $\delta = 1.06$ (3H), 2.47 (1H), 2.56 (1H); $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2$, 8.5 Hz, $^2J_{\text{H,H}} = 17.0 \text{ Hz}$.
- [12] A mass spectrum of **1** could not be obtained due to the thermal instability of **1** at ambient temperature. The same reason accounts for the unsuccessful attempts to obtain reliable elemental analyses of both **1** and **2**. It was not possible to prepare the samples under cold (-20°C) conditions, which is necessary to avoid significant decomposition of the compounds, in particular of the alane bisadduct **1**.
- [13] [Bi_2Et_4][$\text{Al}(\text{Bu}_3)_2$] ($\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{74}\text{Al}_2\text{Bi}_2$) **1**, light yellow crystals, crystal dimensions $0.35 \times 0.20 \times 0.10 \text{ mm}$; $M_r = 930.8$; monoclinic, space group $P2(1)/c$ (no. 14), $a = 8.5064(1)$, $b = 16.1566(3)$, $c = 15.0684(3) \text{ Å}$, $\beta = 104.804(1)^\circ$, $V = 2002.2(1) \text{ Å}^3$, $Z = 2$, $\lambda(\text{MoK}\alpha) = 0.71073 \text{ Å}$, $\mu = 8.838 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.544 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$, $T = 123(2) \text{ K}$, $F(000) = 916$. By using a Nonius Kappa CCD diffractometer, 39 642 reflections ($2\theta_{\text{max}} = 50^\circ$) were collected (3513 unique, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0839$). The structure was solved by Patterson methods (SHELXS 97)^[19] and refined by full-matrix least-squares on F^2 (SHELXL 97).^[20] All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically and hydrogen atoms by a riding model. $R_1 = 0.020$ ($I > 2\sigma(I)$), $wR_2 = 0.034$, 163 parameters, largest max./min. in the final difference Fourier synthesis: $1.017/-0.703 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$. An empirical absorption correction was applied (max./min. transmission 0.4940/0.2109). [Bi_2Et_4][$\text{Ga}(\text{Bu}_3)_2$] ($\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{74}\text{Ga}_2\text{Bi}_2$) **2**, light orange crystals, crystal dimensions $0.30 \times 0.15 \times 0.10 \text{ mm}$; $M_r = 1016.3$; monoclinic, space group $P2(1)/n$ (no. 14), $a = 8.5385(7)$, $b = 16.1156(11)$, $c = 29.010(2) \text{ Å}$, $\beta = 91.445(2)^\circ$, $V = 3990.6(5) \text{ Å}^3$, $Z = 4$, $\lambda(\text{MoK}\alpha) = 0.71073 \text{ Å}$, $\mu = 10.145 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.692 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$, $T = 123(2) \text{ K}$, $F(000) = 1976$. By using a Nonius Kappa CCD diffractometer, 9111 reflections ($2\theta_{\text{max}} = 50^\circ$) were collected (5222 unique, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0731$). The structure was solved by Patterson methods (SHELXS 97)^[19] and refined by full-matrix least-squares on F^2 (SHELXL 97).^[20] All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically and hydrogen atoms by a riding model. $R_1 = 0.062$ ($I > 2\sigma(I)$), $wR_2 = 0.191$, 325 parameters,

largest max./min. in the final difference Fourier synthesis: 2.275/–2.815 e Å^{–3}. An empirical absorption correction was applied (max./min. transmission 0.3854/0.1220). Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structures reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC-164447 (1) and CCDC-164446 (2). Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB21EZ, UK (fax: (+44) 1223-336-033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

- [14] C. Silvestru, H. J. Breunig, H. Althaus, *Chem. Rev.* **1999**, 99, 3277–3327.
 [15] Unfortunately the X-ray crystal structure of Et₄Bi₂ is unknown to date, allowing no comparison of the Bi–Bi bond length between the uncomplexed and complexed form.
 [16] The covalent radii of Al (1.25 Å) and Ga (1.26 Å) are almost the same. A. F. Holleman, E. Wiberg, *Lehrbuch der Anorganischen Chemie*, 101. ed., Walter de Gruyter, Berlin, **1995**, p. 1838.
 [17] A. Haaland, *Angew. Chem.* **1989**, 101, 1017–1032; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **1982**, 28, 992–1007.
 [18] The NMR resonance signals are referenced to internal [D₈]toluene (¹H NMR: δ = 7.20; ¹³C NMR: δ = 130).
 [19] G. M. Sheldrick, SHELXS-97, Program for Structure Solution, *Acta Crystallogr. Sect. A* **1990**, 46, 467–473.
 [20] G. M. Sheldrick, SHELXL-97, Program for Crystal Structure Refinement, Universität Göttingen, **1997**.

The XeCl⁺ Ion: [XeCl]⁺[Sb₂F₁₁][–]**

Stefan Seidel and Konrad Seppelt*

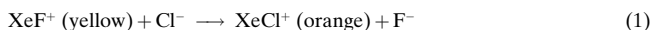
XeF₂, XeF₄, and XeF₆ are the only binary noble gas compounds that are thermodynamically stable against decomposition into the elements. XeCl₂, however, has only been detected in matrix,^[1] not counting the single unreproduced report, in which it was claimed XeCl₂ could be prepared by high frequency discharge of Xe, F₂, and SiCl₄ or CCl₄ and that it is stable up to 80 °C.^[2]

Cocrystallites of RbCl or CsCl and, XeO₃ are known, however, which have Xe–Cl contact distances of 275(5) to 297(1) pm.^[3] Quite recently (C₆F₅Xe)₂Cl⁺ was prepared from C₆F₅Xe⁺ and (CH₃)₃SiCl. In the solid state it shows contact distances between Xe and Cl of 284.7(1) and 278.4(2) pm and a Xe–Cl–Xe bond angle of 116.96(8)°. Also C₆F₅Xe–Cl has been isolated under very careful conditions starting with C₆F₅Xe⁺ and the HCl–pyridine adduct 4-ClC₃H₄N·HCl. Because of its instability in solution no further detailed structure information is available, but it can be assumed that it contains a real Xe–Cl bond.^[4] Since the bond strength is stronger in XeF⁺ than in XeF₂, salts with the XeCl⁺ ion could be the most stable species with a Xe–Cl bond.

[*] Prof. Dr. K. Seppelt, Dipl.-Chem. S. Seidel
 Institut für Anorganische und Analytische Chemie
 Freien Universität Berlin
 Fabeckstrasse 34–36, 14195 Berlin (Germany)
 Fax: (+49) 30-83853310
 E-mail: seppelt@chemie.fu-berlin.de

[**] This work is supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft and the Fonds der Chemischen Industrie

We reacted [XeF]⁺[SbF₆][–] in HF/SbF₅ solution with small amounts of SbCl₅. Besides the nucleophilic Cl/F exchange [Eq. (1)], oxidation of Cl[–] also takes place: An intermediate blue solution is observed, which is stable at room temperature for some time. This blue solution probably contains Cl₄⁺, the first oxidation product of chlorine in the liquid phase, which has recently been identified in the form of the blue salt [Cl₄]⁺[IrF₆][–].^[5] We did not succeed in crystallizing this blue product. After the decomposition into Cl₃⁺,^[5] the color of the solution changes to green and finally to orange, from which orange crystals were isolated. These melt at about –20 °C under partial decomposition.



The unit cell contains two crystallographically different, but otherwise essentially similar [XeCl]⁺[Sb₂F₁₁][–] units (Figure 1, only Molecule I is shown).^[6] The Xe–Cl distance is much shorter (230.9(2) pm; Molecule II: 230.4(2) pm) than any

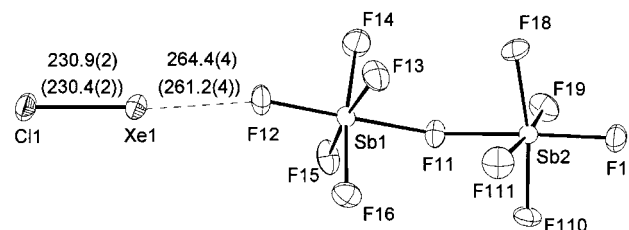


Figure 1. Ion pair [XeCl]⁺[Sb₂F₁₁][–] in the crystal (ORTEP representation, 50% probability ellipsoids). Ion pair I is depicted (distances in pm; numbers in parentheses: distances for ion pair II).

Xe–Cl distances measured to date in Xe–Cl compounds and corresponds to a Xe–Cl single bond, as is also predicted by ab initio calculations (230.07 pm, see Table 1). For comparison, isoelectronic ICl has a I–Cl bond length of 230.3 pm in the gaseous state and of 235.1–244.0 pm in the solid.^[7] Similarly to the XeF⁺ and KrF⁺ ion,^[8, 9] a contact is observed between the XeCl⁺ ion and an F atom of the Sb₂F₁₁[–] ion, which leads to

Table 1. Calculated bond lengths *r* [pm] for the singlet state and singlet–triplet energy separation Δ*E* [kJ mol^{–1}] for diatomic noble gas halogen cations; CCSD approximation (numbers in parentheses: MP2 approximation).

Cation	<i>r</i> [pm]	Δ <i>E</i> [kJ mol ^{–1}]
ArF ⁺ [a]	168.2 (165.2)	55.8 (76.7)
ArCl ⁺	210.6 (208.1)	–32.6 (–30.9)
ArBr ⁺	238.5 (236.4)	–101.4 (–112.9)
ArI ⁺	269.4 (263.4)	–115.7 (–128.1)
KrF ⁺ [b]	174.9 (173.5)	99.3 (134.9)
KrCl ⁺	217.7 (215.4)	29.4 (39.4)
KrBr ⁺	238.7 (237.9)	–27.3 (–35.8)
KrI ⁺	261.6 (260.2)	–57.9 (–66.5)
XeF ⁺ [c]	189.9 (189.4)	117.9 (154.5)
XeCl ⁺	232.9 (230.7)	74.8 (86.1)
XeBr ⁺	254.4 (253.2)	21.8 (16.4)
XeI ⁺ [d]	276.6 (275.3)	–13.9 (–21.7)

[a] See also ref. [12]. [b] 176.5(3) pm in [KrF]⁺[SbF₆][–].^[9] [c] 188.8(2) pm in [XeF]⁺[SbF₆][–].^[18] [d] See also ref. [11]. Especially in this combination of two heavy atoms the spin-orbit coupling can strongly influence the values. This is not taken into account.