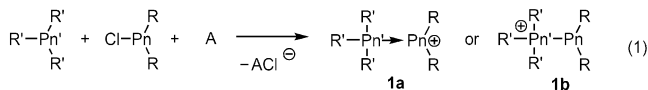


Stannylphosphonium Cations**

Elizabeth MacDonald, Lauren Doyle, Neil Burford,* Ulrike Werner-Zwanziger, and Andreas Decken

Compounds containing bonds between heavy p-block elements (E) are promising as materials that exhibit new properties,^[1] however synthetic approaches to E–E' bonds are limited. We have exploited coordination chemistry between pnictogen (Pn = P, As, Sb, or Bi) elements as a versatile and high yield method to form new or rare Pn–Pn' bonds,^[2–8] as in the general reaction Equation (1) involving the combination of a pnictine, a chloropnictine and a halide abstracting agent (e.g. A = Me₃SiOSO₂CF₃, AlCl₃). The reaction is envisaged to proceed by the heterolytic cleavage of the Pn–Cl bond and coincident or subsequent Pn'–Pn coordination of the pnictine R'₃Pn' (Lewis donor) to the pnictenium R₂Pn⁺ center (Lewis acceptor) **1a**. The framework can also be viewed as a pnictinopnictonium cation **1b**. We have now extrapolated this reaction to form P–Sn coordinate bonds (illustrated by **2a**) in a series of stannylphosphonium cations (illustrated by **2b**). The versatility of this synthetic approach bodes well for the extensive and diverse development of E–E' frameworks that provide opportunities for the discovery of new inorganic materials.



Equimolar reaction mixtures of Me₃P with Me₃SnCl and AlCl₃ [Eq. (2)] exhibit a single signal in the ³¹P NMR spectrum that is assigned to [Me₃PSnMe₃][AlCl₄], **2**, which has been isolated and characterized. The solid state structure of **2** is shown in Figure 1 (In all structural drawings hydrogen

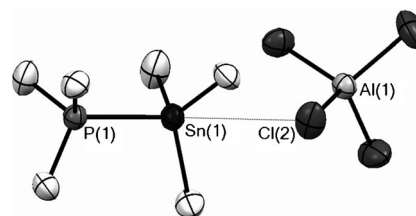
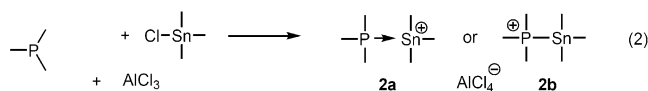


Figure 1. View of [Me₃PSnMe₃][AlCl₄] (**2**) in the solid state (thermal ellipsoids at 50% probability).

atoms are omitted for clarity), and selected structural features for **2** and other compounds are compared in Table 1. The cation in **2** represents a prototypical example of a stannylphosphonium, and the P–Sn bond [2.5861(9) Å] is predictably at the short end of the range [2.521–3.528(1) Å]^[9–15] of P–Sn bond distances in examples of neutral complexes containing phosphine ligands on tin acceptors and slightly longer than [2.547(1) Å] in the only example of a stannylphosphonium salt, [P(SnMe₃)₄][SO₃CF₃].^[16] Cation **2** adopts an eclipsed conformation with a predictable tetrahedral geometry at phosphorus and a distorted tetrahedral geometry at tin in which the SnMe₃ pyramid is “flattened” [Σ3(C–Sn–C) = 344.5°] due to a weak cation–anion interaction between tin and chlorine *trans* to the phosphorus center.

Analogous reactions to Equation (2) involving tetramethyldiphosphinoethane (dmpe) with a chlorostannane and a



halide abstracting agent give a variety of stannylphosphonium salts depending on the stannane derivative, the stoichiometry, and the methods of combination of the reagents. Reaction Equation (3) involving excess Me₃SnCl and Me₃SiOSO₂CF₃ with dmpe gives the bistriflate salt of a distannylphosphonium cation **3**. As shown in Figure 2a, the diphosphine ligand links two tin centers, each of which adopts a substantially distorted tetrahedral geometry due to interactions of the tin centers with an oxygen atom of each anion. In contrast to the formation of **3**, the equimolar combination of dmpe, Me₃SnCl and AlCl₃ in Equation (4) gives a stannylphosphoniumphosphine aluminate **4** (Figure 2b) together with the aluminate salt of aluminum complex **5** (see Supporting Information), which have been separately isolated. In the solid, **4** adopts a coordination polymeric structure in which tin has a penta-

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[**] We thank the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, the Canada Research Chairs Program, the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the Nova Scotia Research and Innovation Trust Fund for funding, and NMR-3 for use of instrumentation.

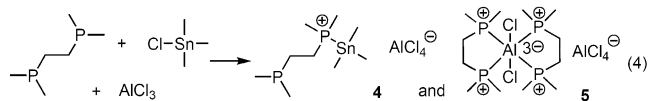
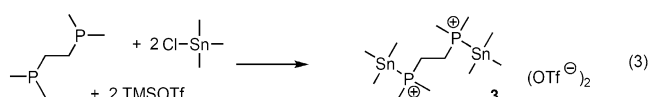
Supporting information for this article is available on the WWW under <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/anie.201105370>.

Table 1: Selected interatomic distances, bond angles and NMR spectroscopic parameters for **2**, **3**, **4**, **6**, and **7**.

	2	3	4	6	7
Sn(1)–P(1) [Å]	2.5861(9)	2.6146(12)	2.826(17)	2.5696(8)	2.5654(9)
Sn(1)–P(2) [Å]	–	–	2.8221(17)	2.7601(8)	2.521(9)
Sn(2)–P(2) [Å]	–	2.6257(12)	–	–	–
Sn(1)–Cl(1) [Å]	–	–	–	2.5756(8)	–
Shortest [Å]	Sn...Cl	Sn...O	H...Cl: 2.827	H...Cl: 2.853	Sn...Cl
Cation–Anion	3.596	2.784, 2.994	Sn...Cl: 4.188	Sn...Cl: 3.997	3.474, 3.498
Σ 3(C–Sn–C) [°]	344.5	348.5 (Sn1) 353.6 (Sn2)	359.7	–	–
P–Sn–P [°]	–	–	177.21(6)	77.15(3)	82.59(3)
³¹ P{ ¹ H} δ [ppm]	–37.1	–38.5	–37.1	–30.4	–27.9
³¹ P CP-MAS	–38.8	–29.6, –30.9	–38.4, –42.8	–17.8, –38.5	–9.0, –9.8
δ _{iso} [ppm]	–	(AB)	(AB)	(AB)	(AB)
² J _{PP} [Hz]	–	0 (³ J _{PP})	158	223	80
¹ J _{SnP} [Hz]	329	542, 559	950, 821	282, 1091	474, 449

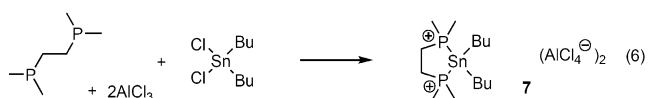
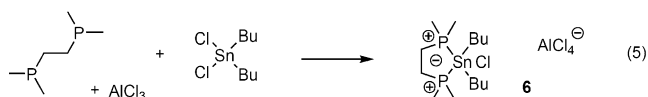
coordinate, trigonal bipyramidal geometry with two axial phosphonium centers, and no significant interaction with the anion.

Equimolar mixtures of dmpe with *n*Bu₂SnCl₂ and AlCl₃ give an aluminate salt of a C₂P₂Sn heterocyclic cation **6** via



Equation (5), and the structure is shown in Figure 2c. One of the tetracoordinate phosphorus centers adopts an axial position and the other an equatorial position around a pentacoordinate tin center. The chlorine atom on tin occupies a *trans* axial position to one of the phosphorus centers, which renders the Sn–P_{ax} and the Sn–P_{eq} bond distances distinctly different (Table 1). In the presence of excess AlCl₃, dmpe affects the abstraction of two chloride ions from *n*Bu₂SnCl₂, as in Equation (6), to give the corresponding cyclostannyl-diphosphonium bisaluminate salt **7** shown in Figure 2d.

The cations in compounds **6** and **7** can be considered as chelate complexes of *n*Bu₂SnCl⁺ and *n*Bu₂Sn²⁺, respectively. The P–Sn–P bite angles in these compounds are less than 90°



and compare with the chelate complexes of diphosphines with SnCl₄ and SnF₄.^[10]

Compounds **2**, **3**, **4**, **6**, and **7** are all considered to be ionic, although cation–anion interactions are within the sum of the van der Waals radii and distort the tetrahedral environment at tin in **2** and **3**. The P–Sn distance in **2** can be considered as a prototypical representative of a stannylphosphonium P–Sn bond, and the slightly longer bonds observed in **3** are due to a reduced basicity of each phosphine resulting from donation to two stannyl cations. The substantially longer P–Sn distances in **4** and **6** are consistent

with a *trans* influence of the phosphine center in **4** and the chlorine center in **6** on the P–Sn bonds in the axial positions at the tin centers. Compound **7** exhibits the shortest P–Sn bonds within this group of compounds, despite the relatively short anion–cation Sn...Cl contacts. In contrast to the structures of **2**, **3**, **4**, and **6**, the tin center in **7** adopts a tetrahedral geometry within the cation. The Sn...Cl contacts in **7** are substantially removed from the *trans* positions with respect to the P–Sn bonds, and all bonds within the dication are enhanced by the double cationic charge.

All compounds have been extensively characterized, and the ³¹P NMR data is most informative. Spectra obtained for solutions of each compound **2**, **3**, **4**, **6**, and **7** all exhibit a single peak (Table 1). The ³¹P CP-MAS spectra obtained on a powder sample of each compound, shown in Figure 3 and listed in Table 1, exhibit ¹¹⁵Sn, ¹¹⁷Sn, or ¹¹⁹Sn satellites and for **3**, **4**, **6**, and **7**, reveal the crystallographic distinctions between chemically equivalent phosphorus centers that are imposed in the solid state. For each compound, the chemical shifts in the solid state spectra are similar to those observed in solution. Nevertheless, significant differences are observed in **3**, **6**, and **7** due to the more substantial inter-ion contacts in the solid state that are dissociated in solution. The observed ²J_{PP} coupling occurs between the crystallographically non-equivalent phosphorus centers bound to the tin center in **3**, **4**, **6**, and **7**.

Compound **3** exhibits a two line pattern that is simulated as two distinct phosphorus centers that do not couple to each other but are coupled to their neighboring Sn nuclei. AB patterns observed for **4** and **7** have overlapping Sn satellites, while the greater distinction between the axial and equatorial phosphorus centers in **6** is evident in the chemical shift difference and ¹J_{P–Sn} values (Table 1).

In summary, a series of stannylphosphonium cations has been formed in reactions of Me₃P or Me₂PCH₂CH₂PMe₂ (dmpe) with Me₃SnCl or *n*Bu₂SnCl₂ in the presence of a halide abstracting agent. The demonstrated versatility of the reactions, structures, and bonding arrangements bodes well for extensive development of a diverse P–Sn chemistry by exploiting coordination chemistry for P–Sn bond formation.

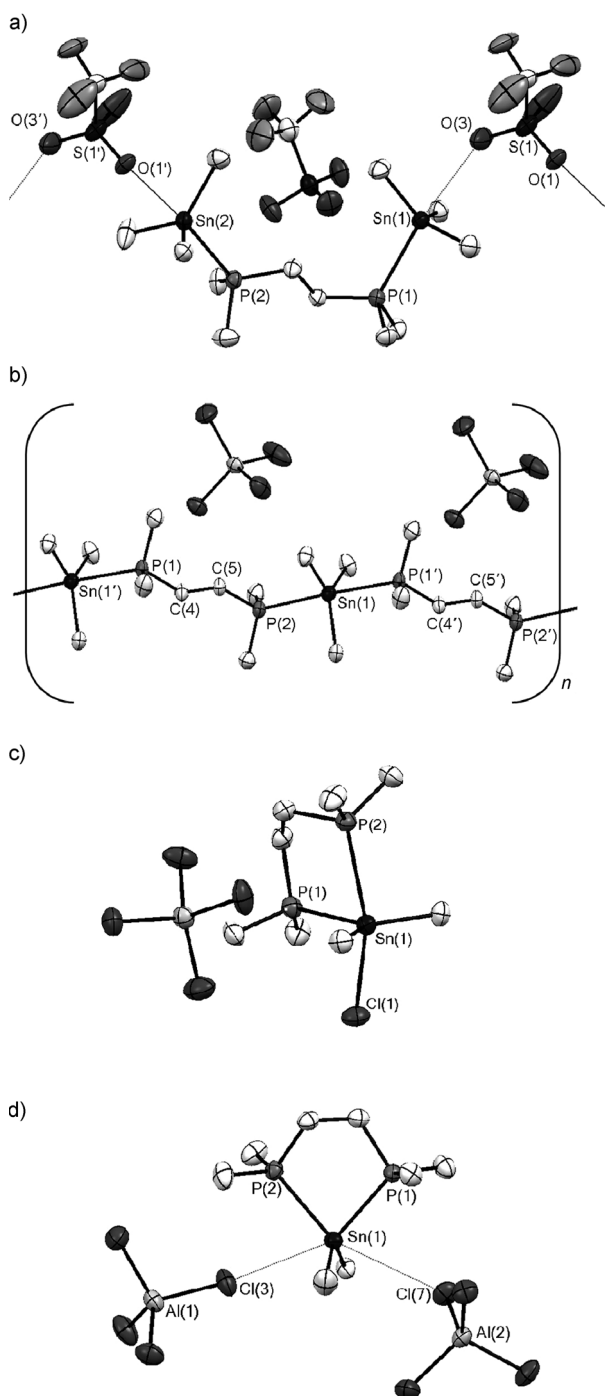


Figure 2. Views (in the solid state) of a) **3**, b) **4**, c) **6**, and d) **7** (thermal ellipsoids at 50% probability).

Experimental Section

2: Me_3SnCl (498 mg, 2.5 mmol) and AlCl_3 (333 mg, 2.5 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL), Me_3P (257.7 μL , 2.5 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (14 mL). Yield: 460 mg (1.13 mmol, 45% crystalline material); m.p. 275–277 °C; C,H analysis [%]: obs.: C 16.38, H 4.33; calcd: C 17.63, H 4.44; it was not possible to obtain analytically pure samples. Crystal Data: $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{18}\text{AlCl}_4\text{P}_2\text{Sn}$, colorless, parallelepiped, crystal size 0.40 \times 0.30 \times 0.25 mm³, orthorhombic, space group $Pnma$, $a = 17.813(2)$, $b = 10.7242(12)$, $c = 8.699(1)$ Å, $\alpha = 90^\circ$, $\beta = 90^\circ$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$, $V = 1661.8(3)$ Å³, $Z = 4$, $\mu = 2.297$ mm⁻¹, $2\theta_{\text{max}} = 54.2^\circ$, collected (independent) reflections = 6116 (1932); 72 refined parameters, $R_1 = 0.0294$, $wR_2 = 0.0677$ for all data, max/min residual electron density = 0.475/–0.421 e Å⁻³.

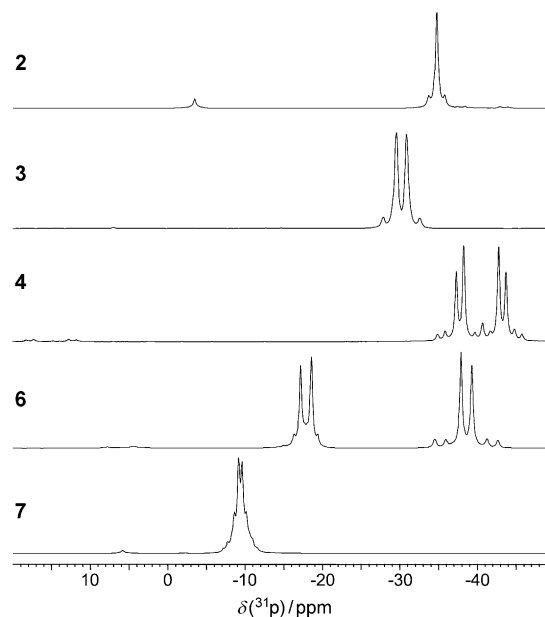


Figure 3. ³¹P CP/MAS NMR spectra for compounds **2**, **3**, **4**, **6**, and **7**.

tions = 6116 (1932); 72 refined parameters, $R_1 = 0.0294$, $wR_2 = 0.0677$ for all data, max/min residual electron density = 0.475/–0.421 e Å⁻³.

3: Me_3SnCl (996 mg, 5.0 mmol) and TMSOTf (904.7 μL , 5.0 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL), dmpe (427.8 μL , 2.5 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (14 mL). Yield: 1.052 g (1.35 mmol, 54% powder); m.p. 148–150 °C; C,H analysis [%]: obs.: C 21.32, H 4.39; calcd: C 21.67, H 4.42. Crystal Data: $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{34}\text{F}_6\text{O}_6\text{P}_2\text{S}_2\text{Sn}_2$, colorless, rod, crystal size 0.55 \times 0.10 \times 0.10 mm³, monoclinic, space group $P2_1/c$, $a = 13.348(4)$, $b = 15.848(5)$, $c = 13.795(4)$ Å, $\alpha = 90^\circ$, $\beta = 96.132(4)$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$, $V = 2901.5(16)$ Å³, $Z = 4$, $\mu = 2.039$ mm⁻¹, $2\theta_{\text{max}} = 54.2^\circ$, collected (independent) reflections = 18550 (6439); 299 refined parameters, $R_1 = 0.0343$, $wR_2 = 0.0868$ for all data, max/min residual electron density = 0.788/–0.633 e Å⁻³.

4: Me_3SnCl (498 mg, 2.5 mmol) and AlCl_3 (333 mg, 2.5 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL), dmpe (257.7 μL , 2.5 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (14 mL). Yield: 600 mg (1.24 mmol, 50% crystalline material); m.p. 185–187 °C; C,H analysis [%]: obs.: C 21.79, H 5.63; calcd: C 22.39, H 5.22. Crystal Data: $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{25}\text{AlCl}_4\text{P}_2\text{Sn}$, colorless, block, crystal size 0.12 \times 0.08 \times 0.08 mm³, monoclinic, space group Cc , $a = 9.3162(13)$, $b = 16.286(3)$, $c = 14.0784(19)$ Å, $\alpha = 90^\circ$, $\beta = 106.382(2)$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$, $V = 2049.3(5)$ Å³, $Z = 4$, $\mu = 1.950$ mm⁻¹, $2\theta_{\text{max}} = 54.2^\circ$, collected (independent) reflections = 7065 (4274); 161 refined parameters, $R_1 = 0.0405$, $wR_2 = 0.0767$ for all data, max/min residual electron density = 0.802/–0.460 e Å⁻³.

6: $n\text{Bu}_2\text{SnCl}_2$ (759 mg, 2.5 mmol) and AlCl_3 (333 mg, 2.5 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (25 mL), dmpe (427.8 μL , 2.5 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (14 mL). Yield: 1.058 mg (1.80 mmol, 72% crystalline material); m.p. 141–143 °C; C,H analysis [%]: obs.: C 28.65, H 5.75; calcd: C 28.63, H 5.83. Crystal Data: $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{34}\text{AlCl}_3\text{P}_2\text{Sn}$, colorless, plate, crystal size 0.55 \times 0.40 \times 0.10 mm³, orthorhombic, space group $Pbca$, $a = 20.697(3)$ Å, $b = 12.2475(17)$ Å, $c = 20.815(3)$ Å, $\alpha = 90^\circ$, $\beta = 90^\circ$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$, $V = 5276.5(12)$ Å³, $Z = 8$, $\mu = 1.627$ mm⁻¹, $2\theta_{\text{max}} = 54.2^\circ$, collected (independent) reflections = 33731 (5818); 214 refined parameters, $R_1 = 0.0264$, $wR_2 = 0.0675$ for all data, max/min residual electron density = 0.711 and –0.478 e Å⁻³.

7: $n\text{Bu}_2\text{SnCl}_2$ (759 mg, 2.5 mmol) and AlCl_3 (666 mg, 5.0 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL), dmpe (427.8 μL , 2.5 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (14 mL). Yield: 1.487 mg (2.06 mmol, 83% powder); m.p. 168–170 °C; C,H analysis [%]: obs.: C 22.88, H 4.64; calcd: C 23.33, H 4.76. Crystal Data: $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{34}\text{Al}_2\text{C}_{18}\text{P}_2\text{Sn}$, colorless, irregular, crystal size 0.40 \times 0.30 \times 0.25 mm³, monoclinic, space group $P2_1/n$, $a = 11.629(3)$, $b = 11.765(3)$,

$c = 23.499(6) \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha = 90^\circ$, $\beta = 102.874(4)^\circ$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$, $V = 3134.3(15) \text{ \AA}^3$, $Z = 4$, $\mu = 1.658 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, $2\theta_{\text{max}} = 54.2^\circ$, collected (independent) reflections = 21287 (7013); 254 refined parameters, $R_1 = 0.0286$, $wR_2 = 0.0767$ for all data, max/min residual electron density = 0.822 and $-0.533 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$.

CCDC 833306 (2), 833307 (3), 833304 (4), 835246 (6), and 833305 (7) contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

Received: July 29, 2011

Revised: September 13, 2011

Published online: October 13, 2011

Keywords: cations · phosphorus · synthetic methods · tin · X-ray diffraction

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