# Di-n-butyltin and diethyltin monofluorobenzoates: synthesis, spectroscopic characterization and *in vitro* antitumor activity

Marcel Gielen,\* Abdelaziz El Khloufi,\* Monique Biesemans\*† and Rudolph Willem\*†

\*Free University of Brussels (VUB), Department of General and Organic Chemistry, Faculty of Engineering, Room 8G512, Pleinlaan 2, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium, and †Free University of Brussels (VUB) High Resolution NMR Centre, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium

The di-n-butyltin(IV) and diethyltin(IV) fluorobenzoates [FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO]<sub>2</sub>SnR<sub>2</sub> and (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COOR<sub>2</sub>Sn)<sub>2</sub>O have been synthesized and characterized spectroscopically. Their *in vitro* antitumor activity against two human tumor cell lines, MCF-7, a mammary tumor, and WiDr, a colon carcinoma, as well as against the NCI cell panel, is satisfactory.

Keywords: Organotin, synthesis, Mössbauer, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, antitumor activity

## INTRODUCTION

Di-n-butyltin 2,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzoate exhibits rather promising in vitro antitumor activities since its ID<sub>50</sub> values against two human tumor cell lines, MCF-7 and WiDr, were found to be respectively 48 and 176 ng cm<sup>-3</sup>. These results are significantly better than the values of 850 and 624 ng cm<sup>-3</sup> found for cis-platin.<sup>2</sup> We prepared some di-n-butyl- and diethyl-tin monofluorobenzoates in order to compare their activities with those of the bis(trifluoromethyl)benzoates. They were characterized by <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>119</sup>Sn and <sup>19</sup>F NMR, as well as by Mössbauer and mass spectrometry. The compounds prepared are either diorganotin bis(monofluorobenzoate)s (Type a compounds) or bis[diorgano(monofluorobenzato)tin] oxides (Type **b** compounds).

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

## **Synthesis**

The compounds prepared are  $(XC_6H_4COO)_2SnR_2$  (Fig. 1; Type a) and  $\{[(XC_6H_4COO)R_2Sn]_2O\}_2$  (Fig. 2; Type b), with

1a and 1b: X = 2-F, R = n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub> 2a and 2b: X = 3-F, R = n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub> 3a and 3b: X = 4-F, R = n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub> 4a and 4b: X = 2-F,  $R = C_2$ H<sub>5</sub> 5a and 5b: X = 3-F,  $R = C_2$ H<sub>5</sub> 6a and 6b: X = 4-F,  $R = C_2$ H<sub>5</sub>

They were obtained by the condensation of the appropriate diorganotin oxide and monofluorobenzoic acid, in the molar ratios 1:2 and 1:1 for compounds of Type a and b, respectively, according to a previously reported procedure.<sup>3</sup>

## Spectroscopic data

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of compounds of Type a exhibit a single triplet resonance for the methyl groups of the diethyltin or dibutyltin moieties. In contrast, compounds of Type b display two trip-

Figure 1 Structure proposed for the diorganotin bis(fluorobenzoate)s, compounds of Type a (R = Et, n-Bu).

120 M GIELEN ET AL

Figure 2 Structure proposed for bis[diorgano(fluorobenzoato))tin] oxides, compounds of Type b (R=Et, n-Bu).

lets with identical intensities. The  $^{13}$ C NMR spectra also show pairs of resonances for the butyl, viz. the ethyl carbon atoms of compounds **b**, in contrast with the single signals for those of compounds **a**. Accordingly, the  $^{119}$ Sn NMR spectra (see Table 1) also show the same dichotomy, a single resonance for the Type **a** diorganotin dibenzoates and two of identical intensities for the Type **b** bis(benzoatodiorganotin) oxides. The latter exhibit characteristic  $^2J(^{119}$ Sn $-O-^{117/119}$ Sn) coupling satellites.

The structure proposed from these data for compounds of Type a, displayed in Fig. 1, is in agreement with the previous observation<sup>4</sup> of a strongly distorted square bipyramid, with apical organic groups bound to tin and equatorial bidentate carboxylate groups with unequal carboxylate oxygen-tin bonds.<sup>4</sup>

The structure proposed for compounds of Type **b** is a dimeric one (see Fig. 2), as found for bis(5-methoxysalicylatodi-n-butyltin) oxide.<sup>3</sup> One set of resonances is associated with the organotin moieties involved in the dioxadistannetane ring, the second set with the terminal diorganotin moieties. This suggests that the dimeric structures found previously in the solid state<sup>3</sup> are retained in deuteriochloroform (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) solution.

Mössbauer spectrometry does not distinguish the two different types of tin atoms typical to the compounds of Type **b**. This is not unexpected since Mössbauer spectroscopy has a rather small isomer shift scale and is therefore less sensitive to small variations in tin environments, as already reported earlier. 1,3,4

Analogously, the <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra (see Table 1) do not discriminate between the two unequivalent monofluorobenzoate groups in compounds of Type **b**. This is again understandable since the fluorine atom lies quite far away from the tin atoms and is therefore quite insensitive to the tin atom heterotopicity.

The aromatic <sup>19</sup>F chemical shift increments, deduced from the <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra after comparison with the <sup>19</sup>F chemical shift of fluorobenzene, are given in Table 2. These increments are in general independent to within 0.2 ppm of the R groups on the tin atom, but are more sensitive to the compound type, **a**, or **b**, especially in *ortho* and *para* positions.

## In vitro antitumor activity

The results of the *in vitro* tests against the two human tumor cell lines MCF-7 and WiDr, performed with a selection of these compounds, are given as ID<sub>50</sub> values in Table 3. Data on some

Table 1 119Sn (chemical shifts versus tetramethyltin, external reference) and 19F (chemical shifts versus CFCl<sub>3</sub>) NMR parameters for solutions of compounds 1-6 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

R = X =	1a C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> 2-F	2a C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> 3-F	<b>3a</b> C₄H <sub>9</sub> 4-F	1b C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> 2-F	<b>2b</b> C₄H <sub>9</sub> 3-F	3b C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> 4-F	4a C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> 2-F	5a C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> 3-F	6a C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> 4-F	4b C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> 2-F	<b>5b</b> C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> 3-F	6b C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> 4-F
<sup>119</sup> Sn NMR	- 140.4	- 144.3	- 148.8		-213.0 -215.9		- 145.7	- 149.4	- 153.3		-213.8 -214.4	
$[^2J(SnOSn)]^a$				[121]	[113]	[127]				[126]	c	[128]
<sup>19</sup> F NMR	-109.3	-112.9	-105.9	-110.5	-113.3	-107.2	-109.3	-112.7	-105.7	-110.3	-113.1	-107.7
Undecoupled "J(FH)b	ddd 10; 8; 5	ddd 9; 9; 5	bs	bs	bs	bs	ddd 10; 7; 5	ddd 9; 9; 6	tt 8; 5	bs	bs	bs

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a 2</sup>J(SnOSn), unresolved <sup>2</sup> $J(^{119}Sn-O-^{119}Sn)$  and <sup>2</sup> $J(^{119}Sn-O-^{117}Sn)$  satellites. <sup>b n</sup>J(FH), " $J(^{19}F-^{1}H)$  (n=3 or 4). <sup>c</sup> Unresolved because of overlappings and signal broadness.

Table 2 Aromatic <sup>19</sup>F chemical shift increments<sup>a</sup> induced in ortho, meta and para positions to the CO<sub>2</sub>SnR<sub>2</sub>L<sup>b</sup> and CO<sub>2</sub>SnR<sub>2</sub>L complex substituents in compounds of Type a and b respectively

	Type <b>a</b> CO <sub>2</sub> SnF	<b>₹</b> ₂L	Type b CO <sub>2</sub> SnR <sub>2</sub> L complex			
Isomer	n-Bu	Et	n-Bu	Et		
ortho	+4.0	+4.0	+2.9	+3.0		
meta	+0.5	+0.6	0	+0.2		
para	+7.5	+7.6	+6.1	+5.7		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> The increments were deduced from the <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of fluorobenzene as reference  $[\delta(^{19}F) = -113.3; tt, 9; 6]$ . <sup>b</sup> L, fluorobenzoate.

compounds currently used clinically as antitumor agents are given for comparison.<sup>2</sup>

Table 3 clearly shows that all compounds, except **5b**, are more active *in vitro* than cis-platin and etoposide against both tumor cell lines. Their activity is comparable with that of doxorubucin against MCF-7; however, they are less active than mitomycin C.

There is no significant difference between the activities of compounds of Types a and b with the same ligand (1a and 1b on the one hand, 3a and 3b on the other). Compounds 2a, 4a, 4b, 5b, 6a and 6b were tested *in vitro* by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), Bethesda, Maryland, USA, for cytotoxic activity against a panel of about 60 human tumor cells lines. Except 2a, only diethyltin compounds were selected by the NCI, probably because earlier *in vivo* tests on P388 leukemia established diethyltin compounds to be more active than di-n-butyltin ones. However,

Table 3  $ID_{50}$  values (ng cm<sup>-3</sup>) of compounds 1a, 2a, 3a, 1b, 3b and 5b tested against two human tumor cell lines, MCF-7 and WiDr

Compound	MCF-7	WiDt		
1a	74	242		
2a	39	271		
3a	90	309		
1b	91	330		
3b	81	360		
5b	496	3431		
'Cis-platin'2	850	624		
Doxorubicin <sup>2</sup>	63	31		
Etoposide <sup>2</sup>	187	624		
Mitomycin C <sup>2</sup>	3	17		

more recent *in vitro* results<sup>5</sup> showed the dinbutyltin compounds to be more active than the diethyltin ones against MCF-7 and WiDr cell lines so compound 2a was tested. The results obtained are summarized in Table 4. The detailed parameter significance was presented previously.<sup>6</sup>

From the experimental data collected from each cell line grouped in subpanels (e.g. leukemia), the principal response parameters, GI50, TGI and LC50, are calculated by the NCI following a procedure described in Ref. 6 and represent sensitivities of the cell lines to the test agent. They are interpolated values representing the concentrations at which the percentage growth (PG) is +50, 0 and -50.6  $\Delta$ (Range) expresses the difference between the lowest and highest dose needed for each.

 $D_{GI50}$ ,  $D_{TGI}$  and  $D_{LC50}$  subpanel selectivities, with, between parentheses, the log concentration at which they occur, are also calculated by the NCI following a procedure described in Ref. 6. Computer simulations performed by the NCI suggest that a value of  $D_{GI50}$ ,  $D_{TGI}$  and  $D_{LC50} \ge 50$  represents a statistically significant sensitivity. The highest of the three values  $D_{GI50}$ ,  $D_{TGI}$  and  $D_{LC50}$  determines whether the subpanel-cytoxic selectivity occurs most markedly at the GI50, the TGI, or the LC50 level.

The value of  $D_H$  calculated by the NCI following a procedure described in Ref. 6 provides a more general measure of selective effects and assigns relative scores of subpanel selectivity to the compounds. Similarly the MGD<sub>H</sub> value reflects the subpanel selectivity. Computer simulations performed by the NCI suggest values of  $D_H$  and  $MGD_H \ge 75$  to represent statistically significant selectivities.

All compounds exhibit some interesting features. Compound 2a exhibits D<sub>H</sub> and MGD<sub>H</sub> parameters exceeding by a large amount the threshold of statistically significant selectivity. The sensitivity is significant at the level of +50%growth only, the other values reflecting low sensitivity. In contrast, compounds 4a, 6a, 5b and 6b exhibit only borderline or no noticeable selectivities. However, compounds 4a and 6a display borderline (4a) to significant (6a) sensitivities at the levels of 0% and -50% growth, with the optimal response parameters being TGI and LC50 respectively. Compound 4b provided results comparable with 4a. Differences between 6a and 6b are hardly more marked, suggesting no clear activity difference between Type a and Type **b** compounds to exist.

122 M GIELEN ET AL

Table 4 NCI in vitro screening data for some diorganotin monofluorobenzoates<sup>a</sup>

Compd	NSC no. R, X Molar ratio	MG-MID response parameter  Log GI50 Log TGI Log LC50			Selectivity analysis						
					G150	TGI ∆(Range	LC50	Response parameter	Subpanel sensitivity	$egin{array}{l} D_{GIS0} \ D_{TGI} \ D_{LCS0} \end{array}$	D <sub>H</sub> MGD <sub>H</sub>
							—————	Schistivity	DLC50	МОРН	
2a	643839	-6.07	-5.64	-5.12	0.66	0.67	0.69	GI50	REN	59 (-6)	85 (-6)
	n-Bu, <i>m-</i> F				(1.19)	(1.29)	(1.82)			21 (-6)	84
	1:2									24(-5)	
4a	643838	-4.54	-4.27	-4.11	1.29	1.18	0.96	TGI	LNS	33(-4)	78(-5)
	Et, o-F				(1.82)	(1.45)	(1.07)			50(-4)	49
	1:2									49(-4)	
	643838	-4.52	-4.31	-4.16	0.52	0.32	0.13			43 (-4)	74(-5)
	Et, o-F				(1.04)	(0.63)	(0.29)			34(-4)	57
	1:2									49 (-4)	
4b	643849	-4.67	-4.35	-4.14	1.20	1.21	1.11			18(-5)	78 (-5)
	Et, o-F				(1.87)	(1.56)	(1.25)			28(-4)	43
	1:1									49 (-4)	
5b	643850	-4.67	-4.36	-4.17	1.21	1.21	1.11	LC50	LNS	18(-5)	67(-5)
	Et, m-F				(1.88)	(1.58)	(1.28)			34(-4)	44
	1:1				, ,	, ,	` ´			47(-4)	
6a	643840	-4.56	-4.28	-4.10	1.21	1.07	0.57	LC50	LNS	23(-4)	64(-4)
	Et, <i>p</i> -F				(1.77)	(1.35)	(1.67)			52(-4)	59
	1:2				` ,	` ′	` ,			60(-6)	
6b	643851	-4.31	-4.11	-4.04	1.21	0.80	0.40	GI50	LNS	40(-4)	76(-5)
-	Et, p-F				(1.52)	(0.91)	(0.44)			27(-4)	. ,
	1:1				` '/	. ,	` /			36(-4)	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Units of GI50, TGI and LC50 are molar. <sup>b</sup> Tumor cell line subpanels are identified as follows: LNS = non-small cell lung; REN = kidney. <sup>c</sup> Both sets of data for 4a were under the same experimental conditions.

#### **EXPERIMENTAL**

#### Instruments

The Mössbauer spectra were recorded as described previously.<sup>3</sup>

The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AM 270 instrument at 270.13 and 67.93 MHz respectively. The <sup>119</sup>Sn NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker WM 500 instrument at 186.5 MHz. The <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AC250 instrument at 235.36 MHz. The FAB mass spectra were recorded on a V.G. Micromass 7070 F instrument (source temperature: 200 °C).

#### **Syntheses**

Compounds of Type a were typically prepared as follows. Di-n-butyltin oxide (1.00 g; 4.0 mmol) or diethyltin oxide (0.86 g; 4.0 mmol) was added to 1.26 g (8.0 mmol) of the appropriate monofluorobenzoic acid dissolved in 150 cm<sup>3</sup> of toluene and 50 cm<sup>3</sup> of ethanol. The mixture was refluxed for 6 h and the ternary azeotrope water/ethanol/

toluene was distilled off with a Dean-Stark funnel. Half of the remaining solution was evaporated under vacuum. The oily compound obtained was crystallized from ethanol.

The synthesis of compounds of Type **b** occurred similarly but only half the amount of monofluorobenzoic acid was used, i.e. 0.63 g (4.0 mmol). The crystallization solvents are given below for each compound.

# In vitro tests

Drug activity was determined using an automated *in vitro* technique as described previously.<sup>2,8</sup> The NCI test protocols have been described elsewhere.<sup>6,7</sup>

#### Spectroscopic characterization

Details are given below for each compound, using the following conventions.

Abbreviations: b, broad; d, doublet; q, quartet; t, triplet; nr, non-resolved; nv, non-visible; m, complex pattern;  ${}^{n}J(Sn-C)$ , unresolved  ${}^{n}J({}^{119}Sn-{}^{13}C)$  and  ${}^{n}J({}^{117}Sn-{}^{13}C)$ ;  ${}^{2}J(SnOSn)$ , unre-

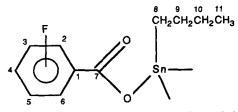


Figure 3 Labelling of compounds 1-3 (R = n-Bu).

Figure 4 Labelling of compounds 4-6 (R = Et).

solved <sup>2</sup>J(<sup>119</sup>Sn-O-<sup>119</sup>Sn) and <sup>2</sup>J(<sup>117</sup>Sn-O-<sup>119</sup>Sn). Coupling constants in Hz; chemical shifts in ppm with respect to TMS and CDCl<sub>3</sub> taken to be 0.0 and 77.0 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C spectra respectively, with tetramethyltin in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (ca 40 %) as external reference for <sup>119</sup>Sn spectra and with CFCl<sub>3</sub> (ca 10 %) as external reference for <sup>19</sup>F spectra. All spectra were recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>19</sup>F couplings are given in **bold**. Carbon atoms are labelled in Figs 3 and 4.

# Compound 1a (X=2-F; R=n-Bu)

Yield 72 %; m.p. 82-83 °C.

Mössbauer: QS 3.29; IS 1.39;  $\Gamma_1$  0.84,  $\Gamma_2$  0.87 mm s<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: H-3 7.16 (dd, **10**, 8); H-4 7.50–7.57 (bm); H-5 7.21 (dd, 8, 8); H-6 8.08 (ddd, **8**, 8, 2); H-8 and H-9 1.72–1.88 (m); H-10 1.41 (tq, 7, 7); H-11 0.88 (t, 7).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR: C-1 119.0 [d,  ${}^{2}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 9$ ] (calcd: 117.7); C-2 163.0 [d,  ${}^{1}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 261$ ] (164.8); C-3 117.3 [d,  ${}^{2}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 22$ ] (115.6); C-4 135.1 [d,  ${}^{3}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 9$ ] (135.0); C-5 124.2 [d,  ${}^{4}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 3$ ] (124.0); C-6 133.5 (131.4); C-7 174.0; C-8 25.8 [ ${}^{1}J({}^{119})^{117}Sn^{-13}C) = 583/552$ ]; C-9 26.9 [ ${}^{2}J(Sn-C) = 33$ ]; C-10 26.5 [ ${}^{3}J(Sn-C) = 99$ ]; C-11 13.7.

Mass spectrometry:  $(FC_6H_4COO)_2SnBu^+$  8%;  $(FC_6H_4COO)SnBu_2^+$  100;  $(FC_6H_4COO)Sn^+$  85;  $FC_6H_4Sn^+$  31;  $BuSn^+$  31%.

# Compound 2a (X = 3-F; R = n-Bu)

Yield 96 %; m.p. 55-57 °C.

Mössbauer: QS 3.90; IS 1.53;  $\Gamma_1$  0.86,  $\Gamma_2$  0.85 mm s<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: H-2 7.82 (ddd, 9, 3, 1); H-4 7.29 (dddd,

8, 8, 3, 1); H-5 7,44 (ddd, 8, 8, 5); H-6 7.93 (ddd, 8, 1, 1); H-8 and H-9 1.68-1.85 (m); H-10 1.40 (tq, 7, 7); H-11 0.88 (t, 7). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: C-1 133.0 [d,  ${}^{3}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 7$ ] (calcd: 132.0); C-2 117.9 [d,  ${}^{2}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 23((117.1); C-3)$ 163.3  $[{}^{1}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 247]$  (163.3); C-4 120.8 [d.  $^{2}J(^{19}F-^{13}C)=21$ (120.7);C-5 130.6 d,  $^{3}J(^{19}F-^{13}C)=8$ 126.8 (129.9);C-6 [d,  ${}^{4}J({}^{19}F_{-}^{13}C) = 3$  (125.5); C-7 175.2; C-8 26.1  $[^{1}\hat{J}(^{119/117}Sn-^{13}C) = 573/551]$ : 27.1 C-9  $[^{2}J(Sn-C) = 35]; C-10 \ 26.8 \ [^{3}J(Sn-C) = 98]; C-11$ 13.9. Mass spectrometry: (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>SnBu<sup>+</sup> 16: (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)SnBu<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> 100; FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COOSn<sup>+</sup> FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Sn<sup>+</sup> 10; BuSn<sup>+</sup> 17%.

## Compound 3a (X = 4-F; R = n-Bu)

Yield 90 %; m.p. 69-70 °C.

Mössbauer: QS 3.40; IS 1.40;  $\Gamma_1$  0.93,  $\Gamma_2$  0.88 mm s<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: H-2 and H-6 8.15 (dd, 9, **5**); H-3 and H-5 7.12 (dd, **9**, 9); H-8 and H-9: 1.66–1.83 (m); H-10 1.40 (tq, 7, 7); H-11 0.88 (t, 7).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR: C-1 127.0 (calcd: 126.1); C-2 and C-6 133.6 [d,  ${}^{3}J({}^{19}F-{}^{13}C)=9$ ] (131.4); C-3 and C-5 115.9 [d,  ${}^{2}J({}^{19}F-{}^{13}C)=22$ ] (115.6); C-4 166.5 [d,  ${}^{1}J({}^{19}F-{}^{13}C)=254$ ] (168.4); C-7 175.5; C-8 26.0 [ ${}^{1}J(Sn-{}^{13}C)=580$ ]; C-9 27.5 [ ${}^{2}J(Sn-C)=33$ ]; C-10 26.8 [ ${}^{3}J(Sn-C)=99$ ] C-11 13.9.

Mass spectrometry:  $(FC_6H_4COO)_2SnBu^+$  7;  $(FC_6H_4COO)SnBu_2^+$  100;  $FC_6H_4COOSn^+$  15;  $BuSn^+$  17%.

# Compound 1b (X=2-F; R=n-Bu)

Yield 81 %; recrystallized from petroleum ether, m.p. 100-102 °C.

Mössbauer: QS 3.44; IS 1.33;  $\Gamma_1$  0.87,  $\Gamma_2$  0.89 mm s<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: H-3 7.13 (dd, 11, 8); H-4 7.45–7.49 (m); H-5 7.20 (dd, 8, 8); H-6 7.86–7.90 (bm); H-8 and H-9 1.58-1.76 (m); H-10 1.25 (tq, 7, 7) and 1.36 (tq, 7, 7); H-11 0.77 (t, 7) and 0.86 (t, 7). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: C-1 122.8 (calcd: 117.7); C-2 162.2 [d,  ${}^{1}J({}^{19}F-{}^{13}C) = 257$ ] (164.8); C-3 117.1  $^{2}J(^{19}F-^{13}C)=23$ C-4 (115.6);133.5 ſd.  ${}^{3}J({}^{19}F-{}^{13}C)=8$ ] (135.0); C-5 124.1 (124.0); C-6 (131.4);C-7 170.7; C-8 28.8 132.6  $[^{1}J(^{119/117}Sn-^{13}C)=704/672]$ 30.3 and  $l^{1}J(^{119/117}Sn-^{13}C) = 750/719\bar{l};$ C-9 28.0  $[^{2}J(Sn-C) = 29]$  and  $28.3[^{2}J(Sn-C) = 38]$ ; C-10 27.1 [ ${}^{3}J(Sn-C) \approx 125$ ]; C-11 13.8 and 13.9. Mass spectrometry: (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)SnBu<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> 100; FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COOSn<sup>+</sup> 58; FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Sn<sup>+</sup> 57; BuSn<sup>+</sup> 3%.

#### Compound 2b (X = 3-F; R = n-Bu)

Yield 74 %; recrystallized from ethanol, m.p. 78–80 °C.

Mössbauer: QS 3.48; IS 1.34;  $\Gamma_1$  1.02,  $\Gamma_2$  1.06 mm s<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: H-2 7.69 (d, **8**, 2); H-4 7.26 (ddd, **8**, 8, 2); H-5 7.44 (ddd, 8, 8, 6); H-6 7.82 (d, 8); H-8 and H-9 1.59-1.81 (m); H-10 1.26 (tq, 7, 7) and 1.38 (tq, 7, 7); H-11 0.77 (t, 7) and 0.86 (t, 7). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: C-1 135.4 (calcd: 132.0); C-2 116.2 [d,  $^{2}J(^{19}F-^{13}C) = 22$ (117.1);C-3 162.2 [d,  ${}^{1}J({}^{19}F-{}^{13}C) = 247$ (163.3);C-4 118.7 [d,  $^{2}J(^{19}F-^{13}C)=21$ (120.7);C-5 129.3 [d,  ${}^{3}J({}^{19}F - {}^{13}C) = 7$  (129.9); C-6 125.1 (125.5); C-7 171.1; C-8 28.0 [ ${}^{1}J({}^{119/117}Sn-{}^{13}C) = 712/685$ ] and 29.9  $[{}^{1}J(Sn-C) \approx 706, b, nr]; C-9$ 27.0  $[^{2}J(Sn-C) = 34]$  and 27.3  $[^{2}J(Sn-C) = 37]$ ; C-10  $26.3 [^{3}J(Sn-C) \approx 125]$ ; C-11 13.0 and 13.1. Mass spectrometry: (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)SnBu<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> 100;

# Compound 3b (X = 4-F; R = n-Bu)

Yield 82 %; recrystallized from petroleum ether, m.p. 133-134 °C.

 $FC_6H_4COOSn^+$  22;  $FC_6H_4Sn^+$  6;  $BuSn^+$  14 %.

Mössbauer: QS 3.42; IS 1.32;  $\Gamma_1$  0.94,  $\Gamma_2$  0.93 mm s<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: H-2 and H-6 8.03 (bs); H-3 and H-5 7.14 (dd, **8**, 8); H-8 and H-9 1.61–1.75 (m); H-10 1.31 (tq, 7, 7) and 1.36 (tq, 7, 7); H-11 0.78 (t, 7) and 0.85 (t, 7).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR: C-1 129.1 (calcd: 126.1); C-2 and C-6 132.1 [d,  ${}^{2}J(^{19}F^{-13}C) = 8]$  (131.4); C-3 and C-5 115.9 [d,  ${}^{2}J(^{19}F^{-13}C) = 22]$  (115.6); C-4 165.2 [d,  ${}^{1}J(^{19}F^{-13}C) = 252]$  (168.4); C-7 171.8; C-8 27.8 [ ${}^{1}J(^{119/117}Sn^{-13}C) = 739/707$ ] and 28.2 [ ${}^{1}J(^{119/117}Sn^{-13}C) = 718/687$ ]; C-9 28.0 [ ${}^{2}J(Sn^{-}C) = 38$ ] and 27.7 [ ${}^{2}J(Sn^{-}C) = 32$ ]; C-10 26.6 [ ${}^{3}J(Sn^{-}C) = 131$ ] and 26.6 [ ${}^{3}J(Sn^{-}C) \approx 124$ ]; C-11 13.5 and 13.4.

Mass spectrometry:  $(FC_6H_4COO)_2SnBu_2^+$  100;  $FC_6H_4COOSn^+$  15;  $FC_6H_4Sn^+$  5;  $BuSn^+$  10%.

#### Compound 4a (X = 2-F; R = Et)

Yield 93 %; m.p. 112–114 °C.

Mössbauer: QS 3.87; IS 1.53;  $\Gamma_1$  0.87,  $\Gamma_2$  0.88 mm s<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: H-3 7.15 (ddd, **10**, 8, 1); H-4 7.49–7.57 (m); H-5 7.21 (ddd, 8, 8, 1); H-6 8.08 (ddd, **8**, 8, 1); H-8 1.83 [q, 8;  ${}^2J({}^{119/117}Sn^{-1}H) = 70/67]$ ; H-9 1.38 [t, 8;  ${}^3J({}^{119/117}Sn^{-1}H) = 144/138]$ .

<sup>13</sup>C NMR: C-1 119.1 [d,  ${}^{2}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 9$ ] (calcd: 117.7); C-2 163.3 [d,  ${}^{1}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 260$ ] (164.8); C-3 117.6 [d,  ${}^{2}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 22$ ] (115.6); C-4 135.5 [d,  ${}^{3}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 9$ ] (135.0); C-5 124.4 [d,

 ${}^{4}J({}^{19}F-{}^{13}C) = 3]$  (124.0); C-6 133.8 (131.4); C-7 174.3; C-8 18.4 [ ${}^{1}J({}^{119/117}Sn-{}^{13}C) = 599/573$ ]; C-9 9.4 [ ${}^{2}J(Sn-C) = 44$ ].

Mass spectrometry: (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>SnEt<sup>+</sup> 3 %; (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)SnEt<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> 100; (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)Sn<sup>+</sup> 61; FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Sn<sup>+</sup> 37; MeCOOOSn<sup>+</sup> 7; EtSn 2 %.

## Compound 5a (X=3-F; R=Et)

Yield 93 %; m.p. 83-85 °C.

Mössbauer: QS 3.75; IS 1.53;  $\Gamma_1$  0.79,  $\Gamma_2$  0.88 mm s<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: H-2 7.82 (ddd, **8**, 1, 1); H-4 7.28 (dddd, **8**, 8, 2, 1); H-5 7.43 (ddd, 8, 8, **6**); H-6 7.93 (d, 8); H-8 1.81 [q, 8;  ${}^2J({}^{119/117}Sn^{-1}H) = 69/67]$ ; H-9 1.36 [t, 8;  ${}^3J({}^{119/117}Sn^{-1}H) = 144/138$ ].

<sup>13</sup>C NMR: C-1 132.7 [d,  ${}^{3}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 7$ ] (calcd: 132.0); C-2 117.8 [d,  ${}^{2}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 23$ ] (117.1); C-3 163.1 [d,  ${}^{1}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 247$ ] (163.3); C-4 120.7 [d,  ${}^{2}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 21$ ] (120.7); C-5 130.4 [d,  ${}^{3}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 7$ ] (129.9); C-6 126.6 (125.5); C-7 175.1; C-8: 18.4 [ ${}^{1}J({}^{119}/{}^{117}Sn^{-13}C) = 596/570$ ]; C-9 9.4 [ ${}^{2}J(Sn^{-}C) = 43$ ].

Mass spectrometry:  $(FC_6H_4COO)_2SnEt^+$  5;  $(FC_6H_4COO)SnEt_2^+$  100;  $FC_6H_4COOSn^+$  53;  $FC_6H_4Sn^+$  18;  $MeCOOSn^+$  20;  $EtSn^+$  7%.

# Compound 6a (X = 4-F; R = Et)

Yield 95 %; m.p. 90-92 °C.

Mössbauer: QS 3.83; IS 1.49;  $\Gamma_1$  0.89,  $\Gamma_2$  0.88 mm s<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: H-2 and H-6 8.14 (dd, 9, 6); H-3 and H-5 7.10 (dd, 9, 9); H-8 1.78 [q, 8;  $^2J(\text{Sn-H}) = 68$ ]; H-9 1.34 [t, 8;  $^3J(^{119/117}\text{Sn-}^1\text{H}) = 144/137$ ].

<sup>13</sup>C NMR: C-1 126.8 (calcd: 126.1); C-2 and C-6 133.6 [d,  ${}^{3}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 9$ ] (131.4); C-3 and C-5 115.9 [d,  ${}^{2}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 22$ ] (115.6); C-4 166.5 [d,  ${}^{1}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 255$ ] (168.4); C-7 175.6; C-8 18.3 [ ${}^{1}J({}^{119}I^{117}Sn^{-13}C) = 603/577$ ]; C-9 9.4 [ ${}^{2}J(Sn-C) = 43$ ].

Mass spectrometry:  $(FC_6H_4COO)_2SnEt^+ 6\%$ ;  $(FC_6H_4COO)SnEt_2^+ 100$ ;  $(FC_6H_4COO)Sn^+ 71$ ;  $FC_6H_4Sn^+ 23$ ;  $MeCOOSn^+ 3$ ;  $EtSn^+ 2\%$ .

# Compound 4b (X = 2-F; R = Et)

Yield 84 %; recrystallized from petroleum ether, m.p. 215-216 °C.

Mössbauer: QS 3.50; IS 1.33;  $\Gamma_1$  0.87,  $\Gamma_2$  0.89 mm s<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: H-3 7.40 (dd, **11**, 8); H-4 7.48 (dddd, 8, 8, **6**, 2); H-5 7.21 (ddd, 8, 8, 1); H-6 7.95 (ddd, **8**, 8, 2); H-8 1.59 [q, 8;  ${}^{2}J(Sn-H) = 67$ ] and 1.66 (q, 8); H-9 1.34 [t, 8,  ${}^{3}J({}^{119/117}Sn-{}^{1}H) = 148/142$ ] and 1.41 [t, 8,  ${}^{3}J({}^{119/117}Sn-{}^{1}H) = 145/139$ ].

<sup>13</sup>C NMR: C-1 122.6 (calcd: 117.7); C-2 162.7 [d,  $^{1}J(^{19}F-^{13}C) = 257$ (164.8);C-3 117.5 ſd,  $^{2}J(^{19}F-^{13}C)=23$ (115.6);C-4 134.0 [d,  $^{3}J(^{19}F-^{13}C)=9$ (135.0);C-5 124.4 [d,  ${}^{4}J({}^{19}F-{}^{13}C) = 3$  (124.0); C-6 133.2 (131.4); C-7 171.1; C-8 21.2 [ ${}^{1}J({}^{119/117}Sn-{}^{13}C) = 739/708$ ] and  $[{}^{1}J({}^{119/117}Sn-{}^{13}C) \sim 758,$ b]; C-9  $[^{2}J(Sn-C) = 29]$  and 11.3  $[^{2}J(Sn-C) = 33]$ . Mass spectrometry: (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>SnEt<sub>2</sub>OSnEt<sub>7</sub><sup>+</sup> 100;  $(FC_6H_4COO)SnEt_2^+$  32;  $(FC_6H_4COO)Sn^+$ 24; MeCOOSnEt<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> 16; MeCOOSn<sup>+</sup> 51; EtSn<sup>+</sup> 5%.

# Compound 5b (X=3-F; R=Et)

Yield 95 %; recrystallized from petroleum ether, m.p. 206-209 °C.

Mössbauer: QS 3.46; IS 1.34;  $\Gamma_1$  0.79,  $\Gamma_2$  0.87 mm s<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: H-2 7.72 (d, 9); H-4 7.26 (dddd, **8**, 8, 2, 1); H-5 7.45 (ddd, 8, 8, **6**); H-6 7.85 (d, 7); H-8 1.60 (q, 8) and 1.69 [q, 8,  ${}^{2}J(Sn-C) = 58$ ]; H-9 1.36 [t, 8,  ${}^{3}J({}^{119/117}Sn-{}^{1}H) = 146/140$ ] and 1.41 [t, 8,  ${}^{3}J({}^{119/117}Sn-{}^{1}H) = 149/143$ ].

<sup>13</sup>C NMR: C-1 136.1 (calcd: 132.0); C-2 117.2 [d,  $^{2}J(^{19}F-^{13}C)=23$ (117.1);C-3 163.2 [d,  $^{1}J(^{19}F^{-13}C) = 247$ (163.3);C-4 119.7 [d,  $^{2}J(^{19}F-^{13}C)=20$ C-5 (120.7);130.3 [d,  ${}^{3}J({}^{19}F-{}^{13}C) = 7$  (129.9); C-6 126.1 (125.5); C-7 172.2; C-8 21.2 and 23.7 [ ${}^{1}J(Sn-C) = nv$ ]; C-9 10.3  $[^{2}J(Sn-C) = 37]$  and  $10.6[^{2}J(Sn-C) = 44]$ .

Mass spectrometry: (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)SnEt<sub>2</sub>OSnEt<sup>+</sup><sub>2</sub> 87; (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)SnEt<sub>2</sub>OSn<sup>+</sup> 90; (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>SnEt<sup>+</sup> 7; (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>SnMe<sup>+</sup> 44; (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)SnEt<sup>+</sup><sub>2</sub> 100; (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)Sn<sup>+</sup> 21; MeCOOSnEt<sup>+</sup><sub>2</sub> 11; MeCOOSn<sup>+</sup> 28; EtSn<sup>+</sup> 14%.

#### Compound 6b (x=4-F; R=Et)

Yield 74 %; recrystallized from petroleum ether, m.p. 247-248 °C.

Mössbauer: QS 3.49; IS 1.33;  $\Gamma_1$  0.86,  $\Gamma_2$  0.87 mm s<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: H-2 and H-6 8.06 (dd, 9, **6**); H-3 and H-5 7.14 (dd, **9**, 9); H-8 1.58 [q, 8,  ${}^{2}J(Sn-H) = nv$ ] and 1.67 [q, 8,  ${}^{2}J(Sn-H) = 66$ ]; H-9 1.36 [t, 8,  ${}^{3}J({}^{119/117}Sn-{}^{1}H) = 148/143$ ] and 1.39 [t, 8,  ${}^{3}J({}^{119/117}Sn-{}^{1}H) = 146/140$ ].

<sup>13</sup>C NMR: C-1 129.8 (calcd: 126.1); C-2 and C-6

132.7 [d,  ${}^{3}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 9$ ] (131.4); C-3 and C-5 115.7 [d,  ${}^{2}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 22$ ] (115.6); C-4 165.9 [d,  ${}^{1}J({}^{19}F^{-13}C) = 253$ ] (168.4); C-7 172.4; C-8 21.2 [ ${}^{1}J({}^{119/117}Sn^{-13}C) = 748/714$ ] and 23.3 [ ${}^{1}J(Sn-C) = 750$ ]; C-9 9.3 [ ${}^{2}J(Sn-C) = 38$ ] and 9.9 [ ${}^{2}J(Sn-C) = 44$ ].

Mass spectrometry: (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)SnEt<sub>2</sub>OSnEt<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> 63; (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)SnEt<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> 48; (FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>COO)Sn<sup>+</sup> 36; MeCOOSnEt<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> 39; MeCOOSn<sup>+</sup> 100; SnOH<sup>+</sup> 18%.

Acknowledgements We thank Dr B Mahieu, Mr A Verwee and Mr M Desmet for recording the Mössbauer, NMR and mass spectra, respectively. We are grateful to Dr D de Vos, Dr P Lelieveld and the National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland, U.S.A, who performed the *in vitro* tests. The financial support from the Belgian Nationaal Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (NFWO) (grant number FKFO 20127.90) (MG) and from the Nationale Loterij (grant number 9.0050.90) (RW, MB) are gratefully acknowledged.

#### REFERENCES

- Bouâlam, M, Gielen, M, Meriem, A, de Vos, D and Willem, R Pharmachemie BV, European Patent 90202316.7- (21 Sept. 1990)
- van Lambalgen, R and Lelieveld, P Invest. New Drugs, 1987, 5: 161
- Bouâlam, M, Willem, R, Biesemans, M, Mahieu, B, Meunier-Piret, J and Gielen, M Main Group Met. Chem., 1991, 14: 41
- Meriem, A, Willem, R, Meunier-Piret, J, Biesemans, M, Mahieu, B and Gielen, M Main Group Met. Chem., 1990, 13: 167
- Gielen, M, Lelieveld, P, de Vos, D and Willem, R In vitro antitumour activity of organotin(IV) derivatives of salicylic acid and related compounds. In Metal Complexes in Cancer Chemotherapy, Keppler, B K (ed), VCH, in the press
- 6. Gielen, M and Willem, R Anticancer Res., 1992, 12: 257
- Boyd, M R Status of the NCI preclinical antitumor drug discovery screen. In: Principles and Practices of Oncology, vol 3, No 10, J B Lippincott Co, 1989
- Boualam, M, Willem, R, Gelan, J, Sebald, A, Lelieveld, P, de Vos, D and Gielen, M Appl. Organomet. Chem., 1990, 4: 335