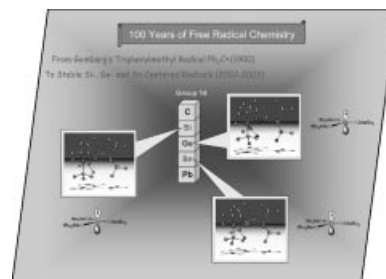


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COVER PICTURE

The cover picture shows the crystal structures of free radicals of the type $(t\text{Bu}_2\text{MeSi})_3\text{E}^\cdot$ ($\text{E} = \text{Si}, \text{Ge}, \text{Sn}$) representing the first stable tricoordinate acyclic radicals of the heavier group 14 elements. All of these radicals have a perfect trigonal-planar geometry, being truly π radicals, both in the crystalline form and in solution, accommodating an odd-electron on the $p_z(\text{E})$ orbitals. The synthesis of such stable radicals has been achieved nearly a century after the historical discovery of the first free radical species, triphenylmethyl $\text{Ph}_3\text{C}^\cdot$ by Gomberg in 1900. The recent developments in the field of stable Si-, Ge-, and Sn-centered free radicals include the synthesis and physico-chemical characterization of the neutral (cyclic and acyclic radicals) and charged (anion radicals of heavy carbene analogues, heavy alkene analogues and heavy alkyne analogues) compounds. The details of this chemistry are described and discussed in the Microreview by V. Ya. Lee and A. Sekiguchi on p. 1209ff.



MICROREVIEW

Contents

1209 V. Ya. Lee, A. Sekiguchi*

Si-, Ge-, and Sn-Centered Free Radicals: From
 Phantom Species to Grams-Order-Scale
 Materials

Keywords: Free radical / X-ray diffraction / EPR spec-
 troscopy / Silicon / Germanium / Tin

