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THE PREPARATION OF 1, 5- $\text{Se}_2\text{S}_2\text{N}_4$

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The reaction of $[(\text{Me}_3\text{Si})_2\text{N}]_2\text{S}$ with an equimolar amount of SeCl_4 or the reaction of $[(\text{Me}_3\text{Si})_2\text{N}]_2\text{Se}$ with 1:1 mixture of SCl_2 and SO_2Cl_2 produces 1,5- $\text{Se}_2\text{S}_2\text{N}_4$ in good yields. The product is identified and characterized using X-Ray diffraction, vibrational analysis, mass spectroscopy, and NMR-spectroscopy.

Keywords: Chalcogen-nitrogen-compounds; Raman spectroscopy; NMR spectroscopy; crystal structure

INTRODUCTION

The chemistry of selenium-nitrogen compounds is a relatively limited but a rapidly growing field.^[1,2] We report here a convenient synthesis of 1,5- $\text{Se}_2\text{S}_2\text{N}_4$ from $[(\text{Me}_3\text{Si})_2\text{N}]_2\text{S}$ and SeCl_4 , or from $[(\text{Me}_3\text{Si})_2\text{N}]_2\text{Se}$ and SCl_2 and SO_2Cl_2 . Both reactions afford the same product that is identified using X-ray diffraction, vibrational analysis, as well as NMR and mass spectroscopy.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

All reactions were carried under an argon atmosphere. The solvents were dried by freshly distilling under a nitrogen atmosphere.

Caution! The eight-membered $\text{Se}_2\text{S}_2\text{N}_4$ ring molecule is explosive when heated or subjected to mechanical stress.

Reaction of $[(\text{Me}_3\text{Si})_2\text{N}]_2\text{S}$ with SeCl_4

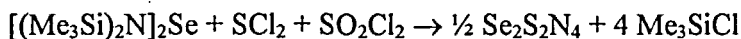
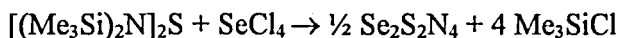
A solution of $[(\text{Me}_3\text{Si})_2\text{N}]_2\text{S}$ in CS_2 was added dropwise to a slurry of SeCl_4 in CS_2 at -78°C . The reaction mixture was allowed to warm slowly to room temperature with stirring for 12 hours. The yield was 70 mol % based on the initial amount of $[(\text{Me}_3\text{Si})_2\text{N}]_2\text{S}$.

Reaction of $[(\text{Me}_3\text{Si})_2\text{N}]_2\text{Se}$ with SCl_2 and SO_2Cl_2

$[(\text{Me}_3\text{Si})_2\text{N}]_2\text{Se}$ was dissolved in CS_2 , and a mixture of SCl_2 and SO_2Cl_2 in CS_2 was added dropwise at -78°C . The yield was 73 mol % based on the initial amount of $[(\text{Me}_3\text{Si})_2\text{N}]_2\text{Se}$.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

$\text{Se}_2\text{S}_2\text{N}_4$ can be prepared in good yields according to the following reactions.



The resulting dark brown-red material was almost insoluble in organic solvents and precipitated during the reaction. The elemental analysis of

the solid product can be inferred in terms of a mixture containing 91 mol % of $\text{Se}_2\text{S}_2\text{N}_4$ and 9 mol % of Se_8 (Anal. calcd for $\text{Se}_2\text{S}_2\text{N}_4$: N, 20.1; S, 23.0; Se 56.9. Found: N, 16.5. The ^{77}Se NMR spectrum of the product indicates a mixture of 90-95 % $\text{Se}_2\text{S}_2\text{N}_4$ and 5-10 % Se_8).

$\text{Se}_2\text{S}_2\text{N}_4$ crystallizes in a monoclinic space group $P2_1/c$, $Z = 4$, with the unit cell dimensions $a = 8.818(2)$, $b = 7.387(1)$, $c = 8.981(2)$ Å, $\beta = 93.14(3)^\circ$ ($T = 298$ K); $R = 0.0545$. The compound is isostructural with S_4N_4 [3] and $\beta\text{-Se}_4\text{N}_4$. [4] The structure is disordered with sulfur and selenium statistically distributed over chalcogen atom sites (site occupation factors of selenium in every position *ca.* 50 %).

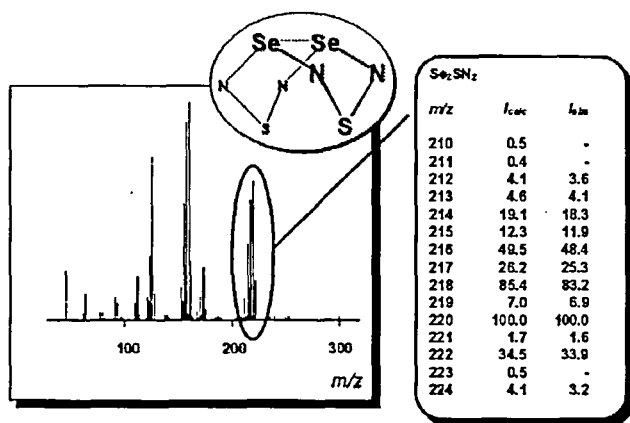


FIGURE 1 12 eV EI mass spectrum of 1,5- $\text{Se}_2\text{S}_2\text{N}_4$.

The 12 eV mass spectrum of the product showed Se_2SN_2 as the largest fragment. It can be inferred as a part of the 1,5- $\text{Se}_2\text{S}_2\text{N}_4$ ring (see Fig. 1). The ^{14}N NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed two resonances at -46 and -238 ppm. The resonance at -238 ppm is assigned to $\text{Se}_2\text{S}_2\text{N}_4$ (*c.f.* -256 ppm for S_4N_4 [5]). The resonance

at -46 ppm is due to an unknown species that is removed during the purification of the product by distillation. The ^{77}Se NMR spectrum showed two resonances at 1418 ppm and 620 ppm that are assigned to 1,5- $\text{Se}_2\text{S}_2\text{N}_4$ and Se_8 ,^[6] respectively. The single ^{14}N resonance also indicates that the product is the 1,5-isomer.

The observed Raman lines are in a good agreement with the fundamental vibrations calculated for $\text{Se}_2\text{S}_2\text{N}_4$ by using the general valence force field approach. The calculations also yield reasonable force constants.

Acknowledgments

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