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Aluminum, gallium and indium thiobenzoates: synthesis, characterization and crystal structures

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with equivalent amounts of thiocarboxylic acid. On the basis of spectroscopic data the structure of dimethyl aluminum thioacetate was proposed as a dimer with the central eight-membered $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_2\text{C}_2\text{S}_2$ ring skeleton, whereas the corresponding Ga and In derivatives were monomeric with four-membered MSCO rings.

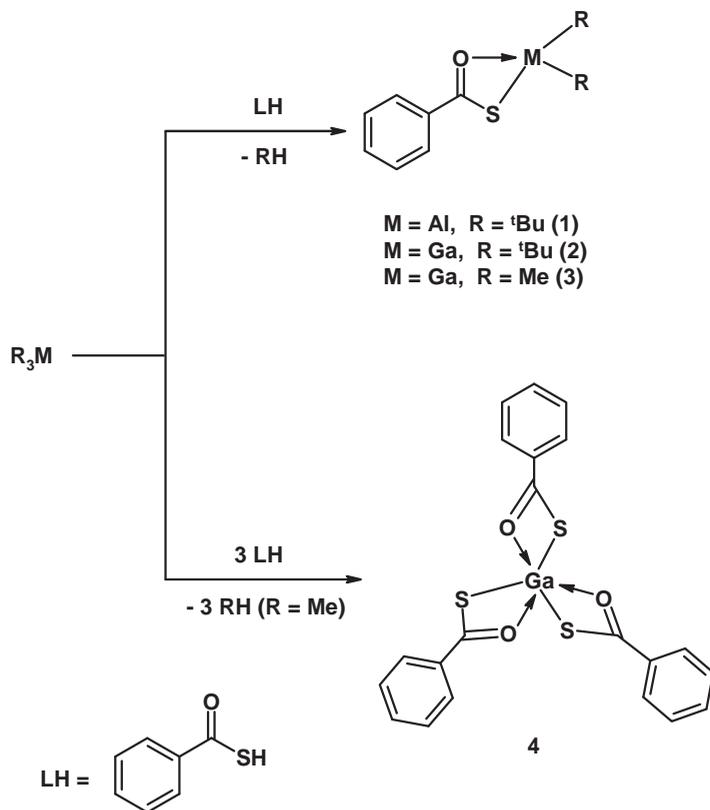
According to our knowledge, there are several structurally characterized group 13 thio-carboxylates. The first example of a structurally characterized gallium thio-carboxylate compound is methylgallium thioacetate $\text{Ga}(\text{SCOMe})_2\text{Me}(\text{dmpy})$ (where $\text{dmpy} = 3,5\text{-dimethylpyridine}$) obtained in the reaction of Me_3Ga with thioacetic acid in the presence of dmpy .^[15] In the solid state, the Ga center is tetrahedrally coordinated by two S atoms, one C atom from the methyl group and one N atom from neutral dmpy . The X-ray structural determination of diethylindium thioacetate showed the polymeric complex $[\text{Et}_2\text{In}(\text{SCOCH}_3)]_n$, in which the thioacetate ligand chelates through both S and O atoms and the O atom is also bridging two In centers, resulting in five-coordinate metal centers.^[22] The second structurally characterized indium compound is the ionic complex $[\text{Hdmpy}]^+[\text{In}(\text{SCOCH}_3)_4]^-$, synthesized by the reaction of Et_3In with an excess of thioacetic acid followed by addition of dmpy .^[2] The molecular structure of the compound shows that the In center is tetrahedrally coordinated by four monodentate S-bonded thioacetic ligands. Similarly, reactions of InCl_3 with thiobenzoic acid in the presence of Et_3N proceeded with formation of $(\text{Et}_3\text{NH})[\text{In}(\text{SC}(\text{O})\text{Ph})_4] \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ^[23] and $(\text{Et}_3\text{NH})[\text{In}(\text{SC}(\text{O})\text{Ph})_4]$.^[24]

Following our interest on group 13 carboxylates,^[25,26] benzoxaborolates^[27] and amidates,^[28,29] herein, we report the synthesis and structures of aluminum, gallium and indium thiobenzoates. We show that reactions of R_3M ($\text{R} = \text{'Bu, Me}$; $\text{M} = \text{Al, Ga}$) with thiobenzoic acid in a 1:1 molar ratio proceed with formation of monomeric $\text{R}_2\text{M}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]$ complexes, whereas in the reaction of Me_3Ga with thiobenzoic acid in a 1:3 molar ratio the product $\text{Ga}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]_3$ was formed. We reinvestigated the compound $(\text{Et}_3\text{NH})[\text{In}(\text{SC}(\text{O})\text{Ph})_4]$, reported by Nöth and Gupta in 1996,^[24] to characterize it structurally and thermally and deposit crystal data in the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre.

2. Results and discussion

The treatment of thiobenzoic acid with one molar equivalent of R_3M produces the compounds $\text{R}_2\text{M}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]$ (where $\text{R} = \text{'Bu, M} = \text{Al}$ (**1**); $\text{R} = \text{'Bu, M} = \text{Ga}$ (**2**); $\text{R} = \text{Me, M} = \text{Ga}$ (**3**)) as shown in Scheme 1. The pure compounds, obtained as yellow liquids after distillation from the post-reaction mixtures, were examined by NMR spectroscopy and molecular weight measurements. In the ^1H NMR spectra, integration ratios of signals of aromatic protons and protons of alkyl groups bonded to metal atoms, indicate one aromatic ring per two R groups. According to molecular weight measurements, thiobenzoates **1–3** are monomeric, which is in contrast to dimeric dialkylaluminum and -gallium carboxylates.^[30–32] Based on NMR spectra and molecular weight measurements, compounds **1–3** consist of a metal atom bonded to two alkyl groups and thiobenzoate moiety acting as a bidentate OS ligand.

We found that in the presence of an excess of thiobenzoic acid $\text{'Bu}_3\text{M}$ ($\text{M} = \text{Al, Ga}$) reacts only with one equivalent of the acid to form **1** and **2** complexes, whereas the reaction of Me_3Ga with three equivalents of thiobenzoic acid leads to a formation of the crystalline compound $\text{Ga}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]_3$ (**4**) (Scheme 1). The molecular and crystal structure of the compound was determined on the basis of X-ray diffraction studies and is shown in Figures 1 and 2, respectively. The crystal data as well as the details of the data collection and refinement are listed in Table 1. A molecule of **4** consists of a central hexacoordinate gallium atom bonded to three thiobenzoate moieties acting as bifunctional SO ligands and differing in bond lengths and angles from each other. The coordination sphere geometry of the gallium atom is a distorted tetragonal

Scheme 1. Reactions of thiobenzoic acid with R_3M ($R = Me, ^tBu$; $M = Al, Ga$).

bipyramidal geometry. Values of the following angles are similar: $S(1)-Ga(1)-(O2)$ 157.45 (4), $O(1)-Ga(1)-S(3)$ 156.39(4) and $O(3)-Ga(1)-S(2)$ 160.45(4). It indicates that not only can the $O(3)$ and $S(2)$ atoms occupy the axial positions of the bipyramid, but also $S(1)$ and $O(2)$ as well as $O(1)$ and $S(3)$ atoms can be regarded as atoms in the axial positions of the bipyramid. In comparison with $Ga(SCOMe)_2Me(dmpy)$ the only structurally characterized gallium thiocarboxylate, [15] the $Ga-S$ bonds in **4** [2.371(1)–2.380(1) Å] are about 0.1 Å longer than in those compounds. The sums of the angles about the $C(1)$, $C(8)$ and $C(15)$ atoms $\Sigma(C)$ 360.0° show a sp^2 hybridization of these atoms. Four-membered $GaSCO$ rings are twisted in relation to aromatic rings, which is manifested by torsional angles $C(3)-C(2)-C(1)-O(1) - 7.6(3)$, $C(7)-C(2)-C(1)-S(1) - 8.1(3)$, $S(2)-C(8)-C(9)-C(14) 6.4(3)$, $O(2)-C(8)-C(9)-C(10) 5.9(3)$, $C(23)-C(16)-C(15)-O(3) 175.5(2)$, $C(17)-C(16)-C(15)-S(3) - 179.3(2)$.

The ionic compound $\{In[S(O)CPh]_4\}^- [HN(C_2H_5)_3]^+$ (**5**) was synthesized in the reaction of $InCl_3$ with thiobenzoic acid in the presence of Et_3N (Scheme 2). The 1H NMR spectrum of **5** reveals three multiplets of aromatic protons at 8.08, 7.46 and 7.34 ppm, quartet and triplet at 3.24 and 1.21 of ethyl group protons. On the basis of the integration ratio of the aromatic protons and the ethyl group protons, we found that in the molecules there are four thiobenzoate moieties per one molecule of NEt_3 .

The molecular structure of **5** depicted in Figure 3 is similar to that reported in [24]. The crystal data as well as the details of the data collection and refinement are listed in Table 1. $S-C-O$ angles in monodentate thiobenzoate ligands in **5** [from 121.1(1) to 122.8(1)°] are significantly bigger than those in bidentate ligands in **4** [from 116.5(1)° to 116.9(1)°]. Very probably, it is

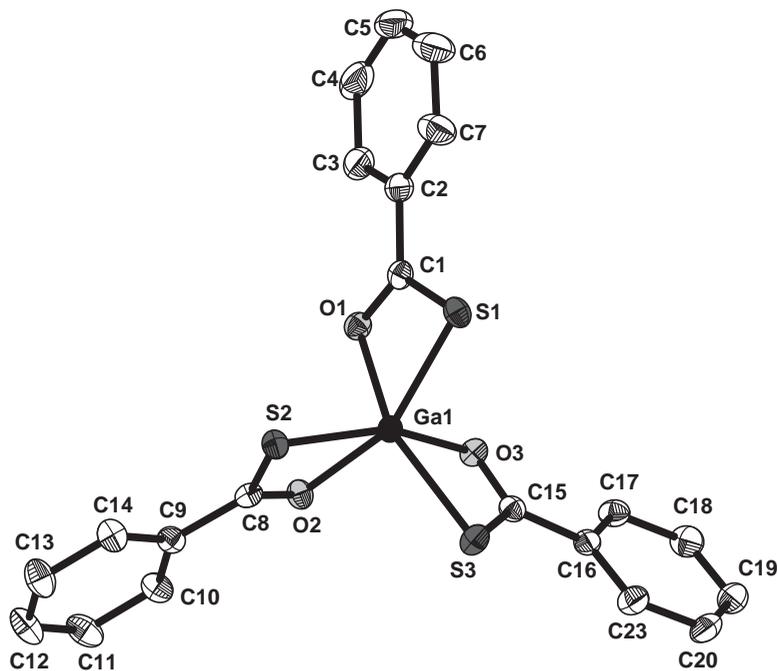


Figure 1. Molecular structure of $C_{21}H_{15}GaO_3S_3 \cdot H_2O$ ($4 \cdot H_2O$) with atomic displacement parameters set at the 50% level. Hydrogen atoms and water molecules have been omitted for clarity. For selected interatomic distances, angles and torsional angles see Supporting information (Figure 1S).

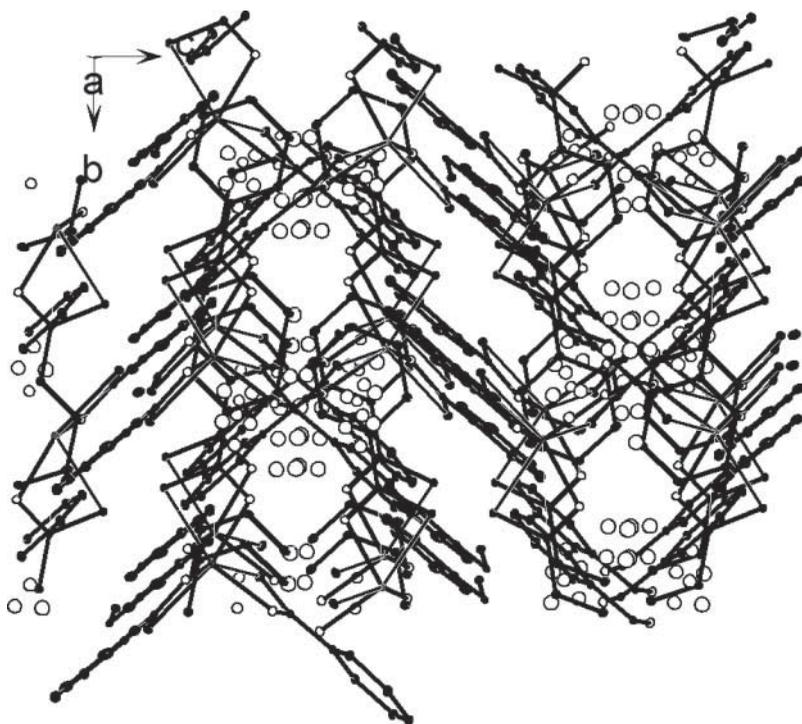
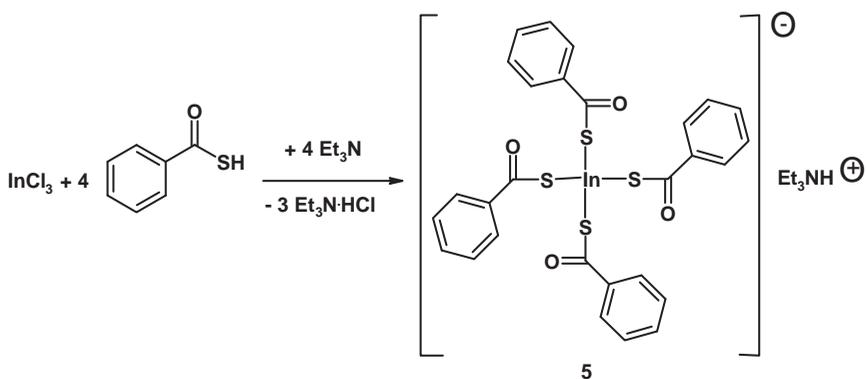


Figure 2. Molecular packing of **4** drawn along a axis. Circles represent disordered molecules of water. H atoms have been omitted for clarity.

Table 1. Crystal data and data collection parameters for **4**·H₂O and **5**.

	4 ·H ₂ O	5
Empirical formula	C ₂₁ H ₁₅ GaO ₃ S ₃ ·H ₂ O	[C ₂₈ H ₂₀ InO ₄ S ₄] ⁻ ·[HN(C ₂ H ₅) ₃] ⁺
Formula weight	497.23	765.70
Temperature (K)	100(2)	100(2)
Wavelength (Å)	0.71073	0.71073
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	C2/c	P1 21/n1
<i>a</i> (Å)	23.7175(4)	11.6532(6)
<i>b</i> (Å)	11.5723(1)	19.936(1)
<i>c</i> (Å)	19.2640(3)	14.5531(7)
α (°)	90	90
β (°)	117.399(2)	92.848(2)
γ (°)	90	90
<i>V</i> (Å ³)	4694.2(1)	3376.8(3)
<i>Z</i>	8	4
<i>D</i> _{calc} (g cm ⁻³)	1.407	1.506
Absorption coefficient (mm ⁻¹)	1.462	0.986
F(000)	2016	1568
Crystal size (mm)	0.20 × 0.15 × 0.10	0.12 × 0.14 × 0.17
Θ range for data collection (°)	1.7398–28.6580	2.29–26.00
Index ranges	−28 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 28, −14 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 14, −23 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 23	−14 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 14, −24 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 24, −17 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 17
Reflections collected	43,971	54,584
Independent reflections	4332 [<i>R</i> _{int} = 0.0238]	6637 [<i>R</i> _{int} = 0.0305]
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on <i>F</i> ²	Full-matrix least-squares on <i>F</i> ²
Data/restraints/parameters	4332/0/282	6637/0/404
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> ²	1.062	1.067
Final <i>R</i> indices [<i>I</i> > 2σ(<i>I</i>)]	<i>R</i> ₁ = 0.0254, <i>wR</i> ₂ = 0.0633	<i>R</i> ₁ = 0.0201, <i>wR</i> ₂ = 0.0454
<i>R</i> indices (all data)	<i>R</i> ₁ = 0.0285, <i>wR</i> ₂ = 0.0656	<i>R</i> ₁ = 0.0251, <i>wR</i> ₂ = 0.0474
Max/min of residual electron density	0.813 and −0.408	0.492 and −0.231

Scheme 2. Reaction of thiobenzoic acid with InCl₃.

caused by a lack of a strain in the monodentate ligands. The lack of strain is also demonstrated by torsion of planes consisting of O(2), C(8), S(2) and O(3), C(15), S(3) and O(4), C(22) S(4) atoms in relation to the proper aromatic rings. In comparison with the torsion of GaSCO planes in relation to the aromatic rings in **4** [from 0.7(2)° to 8.1(3)°], the proper torsion angles in **5** are significantly bigger [from 9.8(1)° to 21.4(2)°]. The only exception is the O(1)–C(1)–C(2)–C(3)

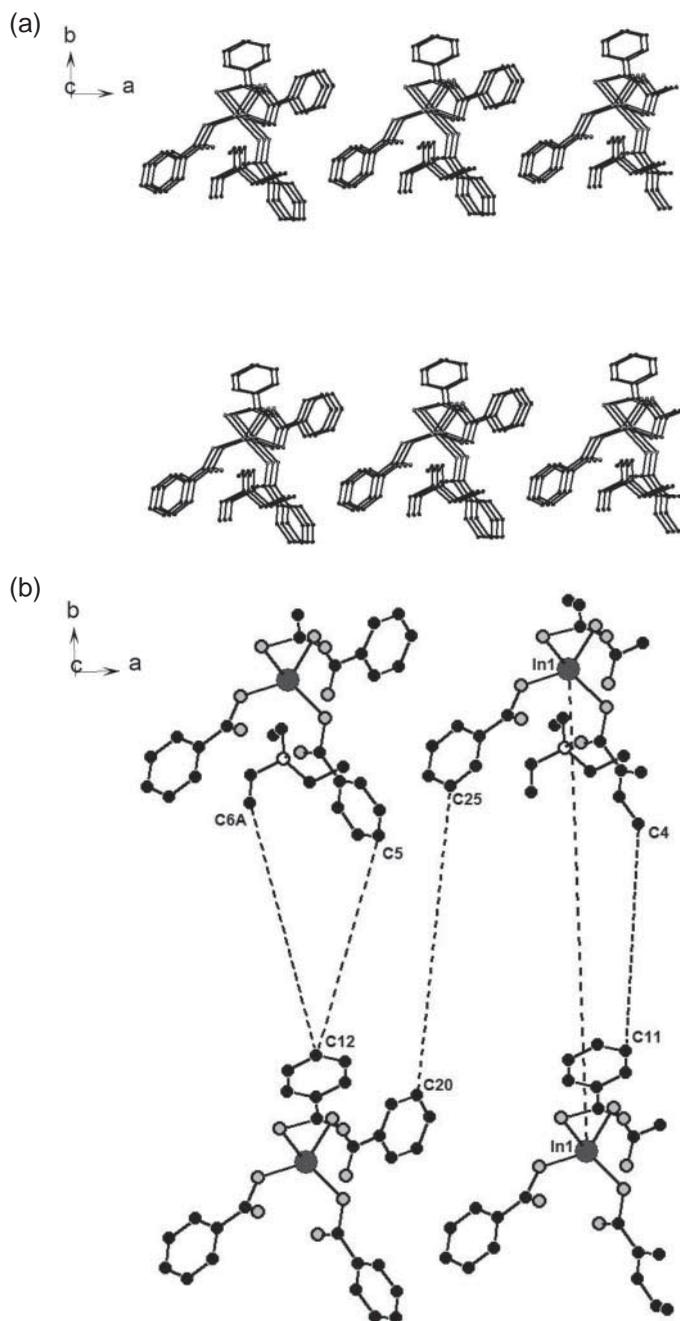


Figure 4. Crystal structure of **5**. (a) View along the *c* axis showing lamellar structure of the compound. (b) Inter-molecular atom distances (Å) between layers: C(6A)–C(12) 13.49, C(5)–C(12) 10.59, C(25)–C(20) 13.20, In–In 19.93, C(4)–C(11) 10.71.

R = Me, M = Ga (**3**) are liquids. Molecular weight measurements revealed the monomeric structure of the compounds. The reaction of Me_3Ga with three equivalents of thiobenzoic acid led to a formation of the crystalline compound $\text{Ga}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]_3$ (**4**), whereas the ionic compound $\{\text{In}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]_4\}^- [\text{HN}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_3]^+$ (**5**) was synthesized in the reaction of InCl_3 with thiobenzoic

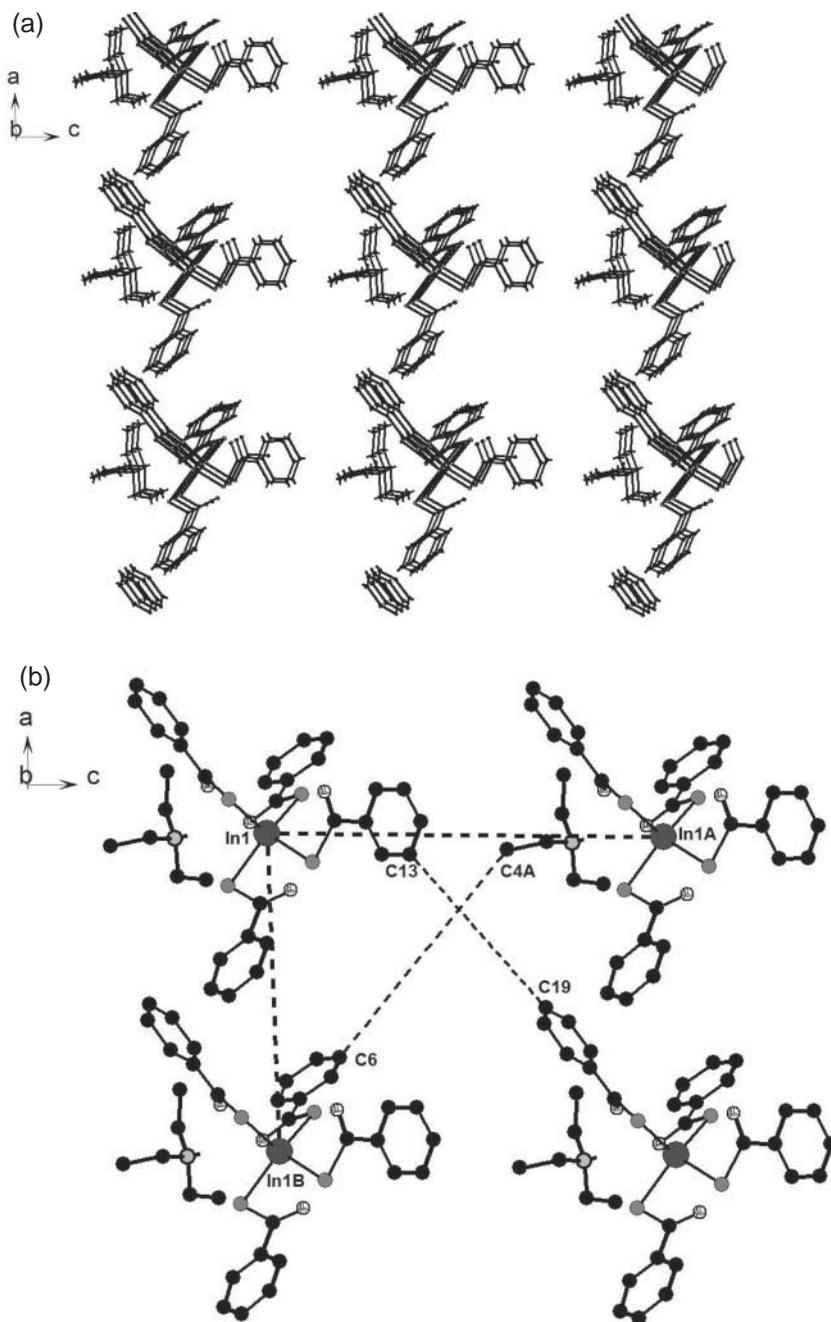


Figure 5. Crystal structure of **5**. (a) View along the *b* axis showing channel structure of the compound. (b) Inter-molecular atom distances (Å) estimating a channel size: In(1)–In(1A) 14.55, In(1)–In(1B) 11.65, C(4A)–C(6) 10.32, C(13)–C(19) 7.75.

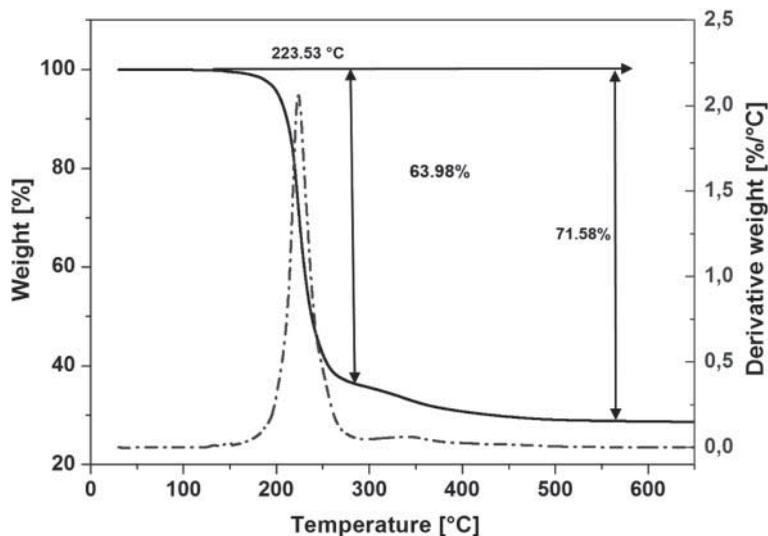


Figure 6. DSC (dashed line) and TGA (solid line) curves of compound 5.

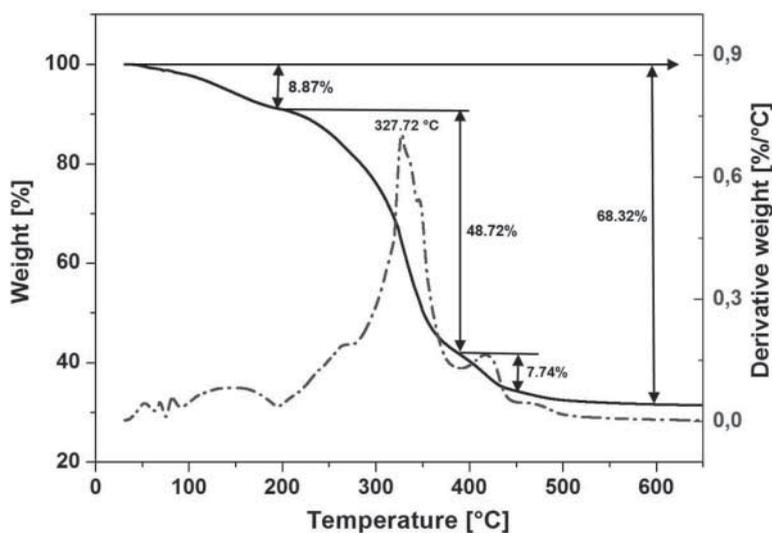


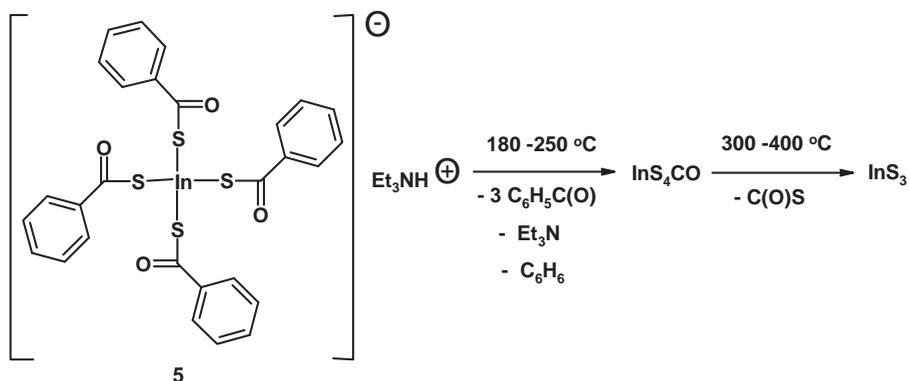
Figure 7. DSC (dashed line) and TGA (solid line) curves of compound 4.

acid in the presence of Et_3N . An analysis of the crystal structure showed that compound 5 can be considered as a porous material, probably a potential MOF.

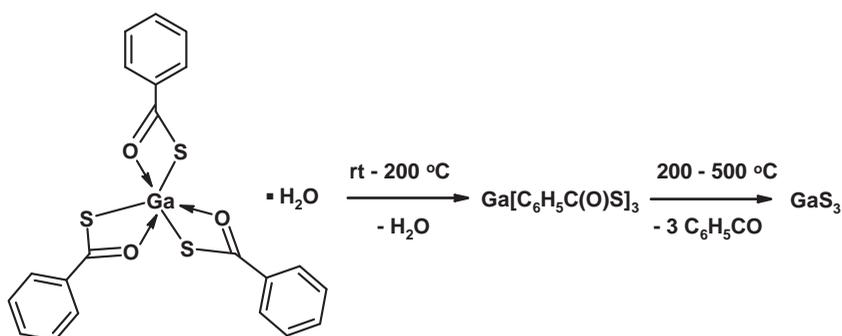
3. Experimental

3.1. Materials and instrumentation

All manipulations were carried out using standard Schlenk techniques under inert gas atmosphere. Solvents ($n\text{-C}_6\text{H}_{14}$ and C_6H_6) were distilled over the blue benzophenone-K complex,



Scheme 3. The decomposition pathways of compound 5.



Scheme 4. The decomposition pathways of compound 4.

whereas CH_2Cl_2 was distilled over P_2O_5 . ${}^t\text{Bu}_3\text{Al}\cdot\text{OEt}_2$ and ${}^t\text{Bu}_3\text{Ga}$ were synthesized as described in the literature.[35,36] ${}^1\text{H}$ and ${}^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra were obtained on a Mercury-400BB spectrometer. Chemical shifts were referenced to the residual proton signals of CDCl_3 (7.26 ppm). ${}^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra were acquired at 100.60 MHz (standard: chloroform ${}^{13}\text{CDCl}_3$, 77.20 ppm). Hydrolysable ${}^t\text{Bu}$ groups for compound **1** were determined by hydrolysis of the compound (0.2 g) under argon using HNO_3 solution (10% concentrated, 5 cm^3) and measurement of the volume of C_4H_{10} . Subsequently, the sample was transformed into Al_2O_3 by mineralization and the obtained white solid was dissolved in a diluted water solution of HNO_3 . The content of aluminum was determined by complexation of Al^{3+} cations with versenate anions using an excess of the titrated solution of calcium disodium versenate. Then the excess of calcium disodium versenate was titrated by FeCl_3 according to the procedure described in [37,38]. Elemental analyses of compounds **4** and **5** were performed using a Perkin-Elmer 2400 analyzer. Molecular weights were measured by the cryoscopic method in benzene solutions.

3.2. Synthesis of $\text{R}_2\text{M}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]$ [$\text{R} = {}^t\text{Bu}$, $\text{M} = \text{Al}$ (1); $\text{R} = {}^t\text{Bu}$, $\text{M} = \text{Ga}$ (2); $\text{R} = \text{Me}$, $\text{M} = \text{Ga}$ (3)]: general procedure

A solution of R_3M (5 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 cm^3) was injected into a solution of thiobenzoic acid (0.690 g; 5 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 cm^3) at -76°C . The reaction mixture was allowed to warm slowly to room temperature. Then the post-reaction mixture was placed in a glass apparatus for distillation. The pressure was slowly reduced to 10^{-2} Torr to distill off solvents. Subsequently,

the flask was wrapped up with a heating belt and temperature was slowly increased up to the moment of beginning of compound deposition on the condenser. The distillate was obtained as solution of the yellow product (**1–3**) in solvent. The pure product was isolated in the second distillation off a solvent from the flask at the temperature of 5°C within 2 h under vacuum (10^{-2} Torr).

3.3. ${}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Al}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]$ (**1**)

Yield 80%. ${}^1\text{H}$ NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 8.24 (2H, m, H_{aromat}), 7.70 (1H, m, H_{aromat}), 7.51 (2H, m, H_{aromat}), 1.05 [18H, s, $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{CAI}$] ppm. ${}^{13}\text{C}$ NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 221.98 [$\text{C}(\text{O})\text{S}$], 135.60, 129.68, 129.11, 128.61 (C_{aromat}), 29.20 [$(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{CAI}$], 16 [$(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{CAI}$, broad] ppm. Elemental anal. Found: Al, 9.40; hydrolyzable ${}^t\text{Bu}$ groups, 41.39; Calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{23}\text{AlOS}$: Al, 9.71; ${}^t\text{Bu}$, 41.01 wt.%. Molecular weight Found: 268; Calcd for ${}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Al}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]$: 278 g mol^{-1} .

3.4. ${}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Ga}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]$ (**2**)

Yield 85%. ${}^1\text{H}$ NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 8.16 (2H, m, H_{aromat}), 7.63 (1H, m, H_{aromat}), 7.46 (2H, m, H_{aromat}), 1.19 [18H, s, $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{CGa}$] ppm. ${}^{13}\text{C}$ NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 219.58 [$\text{C}(\text{O})\text{S}$], 136.76, 134.26, 128.46, 128.33 (C_{aromat}), 29.36 [$(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{CGa}$], 27.26 [$(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{CGa}$] ppm. Molecular weight Found: 315; Calcd for ${}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Ga}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]$: 321 g mol^{-1} . Anal. Found: C, 60.05, H, 7.95; Calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{23}\text{GaOS}$: C, 60.44; H, 7.72 (wt%).

3.5. $\text{Me}_2\text{Ga}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]$ (**3**)

Yield 78%. ${}^1\text{H}$ NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 8.12 (2H, m, H_{aromat}), 7.63 (1H, m, H_{aromat}), 7.45 (2H, m, H_{aromat}), 0.21 (6H, s, CH_3Ga) ppm. ${}^{13}\text{C}$ NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 218.81 [$\text{C}(\text{O})\text{S}$], 134.41, 129.21, 128.56, 128.33 (C_{aromat}), -2.60 (CH_3Ga) ppm. Molecular weight Found: 248; Calcd for $\text{Me}_2\text{Ga}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]$: 237 g mol^{-1} . Anal. Found: C, 45.25, H, 4.92; Calcd. for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{11}\text{GaOS}$: C, 45.61; H, 4.65 (wt%).

3.6. Synthesis of $\text{Ga}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]_3$ (**4**)

A solution of Me_3Ga (0.575 g, 5 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 cm^3) was injected into a solution of thiobenzoic acid (2.208 g; 16 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (20 cm^3) at -76°C . The reaction mixture was allowed to warm slowly to room temperature. The solvent was distilled off from the post-reaction mixture under vacuum, yielding a light yellow solid of **4**. *n*-Hexane (5 cm^3) was added to the solid to form a suspension. Methylene dichloride was slowly injected dropwise to dissolve the solid. Pure compound **4**· H_2O was obtained after crystallization from the *n*- C_6H_{14} - CH_2Cl_2 solution containing 10 mmol of water at 7°C (Yield: 1.390 g, 2.8 mmol, 56%).

${}^1\text{H}$ NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 8.14 (2H, m, H_{aromat}), 7.63 (1H, m, H_{aromat}), 7.46 (2H, m, H_{aromat}), 4.60 (broad, H_2O) ppm. ${}^{13}\text{C}$ NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 212.33 [$\text{C}(\text{O})\text{S}$], 135.19, 134.64, 129.40, 128.32 (C_{aromat}) ppm. FTIR: $\nu = 3056.6, 2917.8, 2842.6, 1594.8, 1457.9, 1421.3, 1309.4, 1228.4, 1174.4, 970.0, 773.3, 707.7, 678.8, 649.9, 590.11 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. Mp.: $86\text{--}90^\circ\text{C}$. Anal. Found: C, 50.56, H, 3.62; Calcd. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{17}\text{GaO}_4\text{S}_3$: C, 50.68; H, 3.42 (wt%).

3.7. Synthesis of $\{\text{In}[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CPh}]_4\}^-[\text{HN}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_3]^+$ (**5**)

Compound **5** was synthesized by a similar method as described in [24]. A solution of thiobenzoic acid (1.173 g, 8.5 mmol) in 7 cm^3 of benzene was injected into a suspension of InCl_3

(0.443 g, 2 mmol) in 15 cm³ of benzene consisting of Et₃N (0.909 g, 9 mmol). The reaction mixture became transparent; afterwards a light yellow solid precipitated. The solid was separated by filtration, dried under vacuum, washed by 5 cm³ of CH₃OH and dried again. A crystalline solid of the pure compound **5** was obtained from an *n*-C₆H₁₄-CH₂Cl₂ solution (for preparation of the solution see Section 3.6) at 10°C. (Yield: 1.072 g, 70%.) Mp.: 136–139°C (literature data [24]: 118–119°C). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 8.08 (8H, m, H_{aromat}), 7.46 (4H, m, H_{aromat}), 7.34 (8H, m, H_{aromat}), 3.24 (6H, q, CH₃CH₂N), 1.21 (9H, t, CH₃CH₂N). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 203.40 C(O)S, 139.37, 132.33, 128.71, 127.88 (C_{aromat}), 46.94 (CH₃CH₂N), 8.71 (CH₃CH₂N) ppm. FTIR: ν = 3093.3, 3062.5, 1598.7, 1569.8, 1444.4, 1396.2, 1303.7, 1199.5, 1164.8, 1074.2, 1024.0, 919.9, 908.3, 835.0, 771.4, 686.5, 648.0 cm⁻¹. Anal. Found: C, 52.90, H, 4.92; Calcd. for C₃₄H₃₆InNO₄S₄: C, 53.28; H, 4.70 (wt%).

3.8. Crystallographic data

Single crystal data for **4** and **5** were collected at 100 (2) K using graphite monochromated Mo/K α radiation (λ = 0.7107 Å). Experiments were performed on an Xcalibur Opal CCD *k*-axis (Oxford Diffraction) and a Bruker D8 VENTURE system equipped with a TRIUMPH monochromator, respectively. The CrysAlis^{Pro} program [39] was used for data collection of **4**, cell refinement, data reduction and the empirical absorption corrections using spherical harmonics, implemented in a multi-scan scaling algorithm. The structure was solved using direct methods and refined with the full-matrix least-squares technique using the SHELXS97 and SHELXL97 programs, respectively,[40] both implemented in the OLEX2 program.[41]

The residual map of electron density showed that apart from the main molecule **4**, a disordered solvent molecule should have also been considered in the crystal structure. Following the reaction mechanism, selection of solvents and their potential impurities, for example a water molecule, traces of dichloromethane, hexane or even hydrogen chloride could be taken into account as a solvent molecule in the crystal structure. The best model was obtained with one water molecule disordered in seven positions, refined isotropically with no hydrogen atoms attached. However this choice should be regarded as arbitrary. The atomic scattering factors were taken from the International Tables. [42]

The structure of **5** was solved and refined using the Bruker SHELXTL Software Package and the SHELXL-2013 (Sheldrick, 2013) program.

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Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

Supplemental data

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