

Hexakis(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl)cyclotristannoxane – a Molecular Diorganotin Oxide with Kinetically Inert Sn–O Bonds¹⁾

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Abstract. The single-crystal X-ray structure analysis of hexakis(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl)cyclotristannoxane, *cyclo*-[(2,4,6-*i*-Pr₃-C₆H₂)₂SnO]₃ (**1**), is reported and reveals this compound to contain an almost planar six-membered ring. Redistribution reactions of **1** with *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ and *t*-Bu₂SiCl₂, respectively, failed and indicate an unusual kinetic inertness of the Sn–O bonds in **1** as compared to related mo-

lecular diorganotin oxides containing less bulkier substituents. The redistribution reaction of *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ with *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnS)₂ leads to an equilibrium involving the trimeric diorganotin oxysulphides *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂Sn(OSnt-Bu₂)₂S (**2a**) and *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂Sn(SSnt-Bu₂)₂O (**2b**).

Keywords: Tin; Oxide; Sulphide; X-ray structure; NMR

Hexakis(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl)cyclotristannoxan – Ein molekulares Diorganozinnoxid mit kinetisch stabilen Sn–O Bindungen¹⁾

Inhaltsübersicht. Es wird die Einkristallröntgenstrukturanalyse von Hexakis(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl)cyclotristannoxan *cyclo*-[(2,4,6-*i*-Pr₃-C₆H₂)₂SnO]₃ (**1**) vorgestellt. Die Verbindung liegt als nahezu planarer sechsgliedriger Ring vor. Das Diorganozinnoxid **1** reagiert nicht mit *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ bzw. *t*-Bu₂SiCl₂, was auf die ungewöhnliche kinetische Stabilität der Sn–O Bindungen in **1** im Vergleich zu ähnlichen

molekularen Diorganozinnoxiden mit sterisch weniger anspruchsvollen Substituenten hinweist. Die Redistributionsreaktion von *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ mit *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnS)₂ führt zu einem Gleichgewicht mit den trimeren Diorganozinnoxysulphiden *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂Sn(OSnt-Bu₂)₂S (**2a**) und *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂Sn(SSnt-Bu₂)₂O (**2b**).

Introduction

Diorganotin oxides (R₂SnO)_n have been known for many years [1]. Depending on the steric demand of the organic substituents they are either polymeric (**I**, R = Me, Et, Bu, Vinyl, Ph) [1] or trimeric (**II**, R = CH₂SiMe₃, [2] *t*-Bu, [3, 4] Me₂EtC, [4] (Me₃Si)₃C/Me, [5] 2,6-Me₂-C₆H₃, [6] 2,6-Et₂-C₆H₃, [7] 2,4,6-(CF₃)₃-C₆H₂) [8]. While the six-membered ring structure of the latter compounds, (**II**), was established by X-ray diffraction studies, the polymeric nature of the former group, (**I**), was deduced from their virtual insolubility in common organic solvents, ¹¹⁹Sn Mößbauer, [9, 10] and ¹¹⁹Sn MAS NMR spectroscopy [11] revealing the presence of pentacoordinated tin atoms within these compounds (Chart 1).

Furthermore, one example of a dimeric diorganotin oxide containing extremely bulky substituents is known, namely *cyclo*-[(Me₃Si)₂CH]₂SnO]₂, (**III**) (Chart 1) [12].

Bis(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl)tin oxide was prepared by hydrolysis of (2,4,6-*i*-Pr-C₆H₂)₂SnBr₂ under basic conditions [13–17] and it was reported to be a trimer,

cyclo-[(2,4,6-*i*-Pr-C₆H₂)₂SnO]₃ [16]. Furthermore, it was claimed to appear from the oxidation of (2,4,6-*i*-Pr-C₆H₂)₂Sn as a kinetically labile dimer, *cyclo*-[(2,4,6-*i*-Pr-C₆H₂)₂SnO]₂, which at room temperature rearranges into the thermodynamically more stable trimer within 24 h to a degree of more than 90% [15]. However, no experimental details on the preparation as well as the rearrangement step were given and spectroscopic data are available neither for the dimer nor the trimer [13–17].

In addition to bis(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl)tin oxide, the closely related sulphide, *cyclo*-[(2,4,6-*i*-Pr-C₆H₂)₂SnS]₂ [18, 19] and oxysulphide *cyclo*-O[(2,4,6-*i*-Pr-C₆H₂)₂Sn]₂S [19] were reported, which both represent four-membered rings in the solid state.

Various redistribution reactions of diorganotin chalcogenides, (R₂SnX)_n, (R = alkyl, aryl; X = O, S, Se, Te; n = 2, 3) have demonstrated that the Sn–X bonds are kinetically labile and that reactions involving cleavage of these bonds are fast and proceed under mild conditions [20–23]. In a recent conference contribution it was pointed out that certain trimeric diaryltin sulphides, *cyclo*-(R₂SnS)₃ (R = Ph, *o*-Tol, *m*-Tol, *p*-Tol),

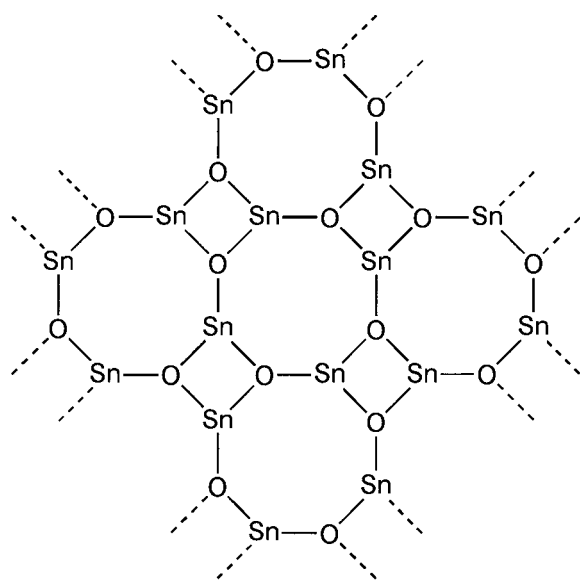
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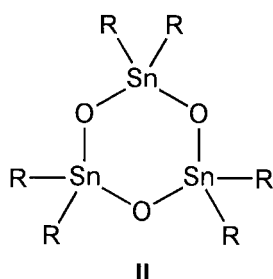
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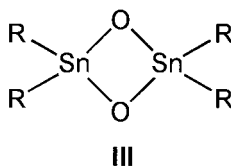
¹⁾ This work contains parts of the Ph.D. theses of J. B. and S. R., Dortmund University 1999.



I, R groups are omitted



II



III

Chart 1

can be reversibly converted to their corresponding dimers, $(R_2SnS)_2$, by simply heating them in a high-boiling solvent [21, 22]. One possible explanation for this observation is the assumption of an equilibrium between these oligomers, with the position of this equilibrium being controlled by the entropy term of the Gibbs-Helmholtz equation.

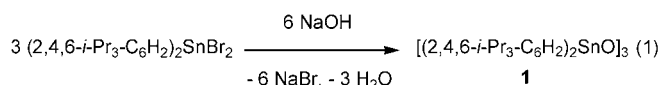
Herein, we revisit the synthesis of bis(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl)tin oxide (**1**) and describe the single-crystal X-ray structure analysis of the trimer. Variable temperature ^{119}Sn NMR spectroscopic studies show no evidence for dimers or other related species. Instead, a remarkable kinetic inertness of the Sn–O bonds is observed in reactions with *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ and *t*-Bu₂SiCl₂. Moreover, the redistribution reaction between *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ and *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnS)₂, which gives rise to an equilibrium of the former with the oxysulphides, *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂Sn(OSn*t*-Bu₂)₂S and *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂Sn(SSn*t*-Bu₂)₂O, suggests that the fully characterized oxysulphide *cyclo*-O[(2,4,6-*i*-Pr–C₆H₂)₂Sn]₂S [19] is also kinetically stabilized rather than being the thermodynamically favored alternative to a mixture of the former with *cyclo*-(2,4,6-*i*-Pr–C₆H₂)₂SnS]₂

and *cyclo*-(2,4,6-*i*-Pr–C₆H₂)₂SnO]₂, or *cyclo*-(2,4,6-*i*-Pr–C₆H₂)₂SnO]₃.

Diorganotin oxides, such as *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃, find synthetic applications as convenient proton free oxide sources as was recently demonstrated in reactions with spacer-bridged diorganotin dihalides [24], diphenyldichlorosilane [25], diphenyldichlorogermene, and phenylboron dichloride [26], respectively, and therefore a thorough knowledge of the reactivity of this class of compounds is highly desirable.

Results and Discussion

The hydrolysis of (2,4,6-*i*-Pr₃–C₆H₂)₂SnBr₂ with aqueous sodium hydroxide in toluene afforded *cyclo*-(2,4,6-*i*-Pr₃–C₆H₂)₂SnO]₃ (**1**) in good yield (Eq. (1)).



The diorganotin oxide **1** is a colorless high-melting crystalline solid. The molecular structure is shown in Figure 1. Selected bond lengths and angles are listed in Table 1. Crystal data are given in Table 2.

The molecular structure consists of an almost planar central Sn₃O₃ ring with the largest deviation from the plane being 0.0115 Å. Notably, two tin atoms, Sn(2) and Sn(2a), are crystallographically equivalent while the third one, Sn(1), is independent. However, the ^{119}Sn MAS NMR spectrum showed only one signal at

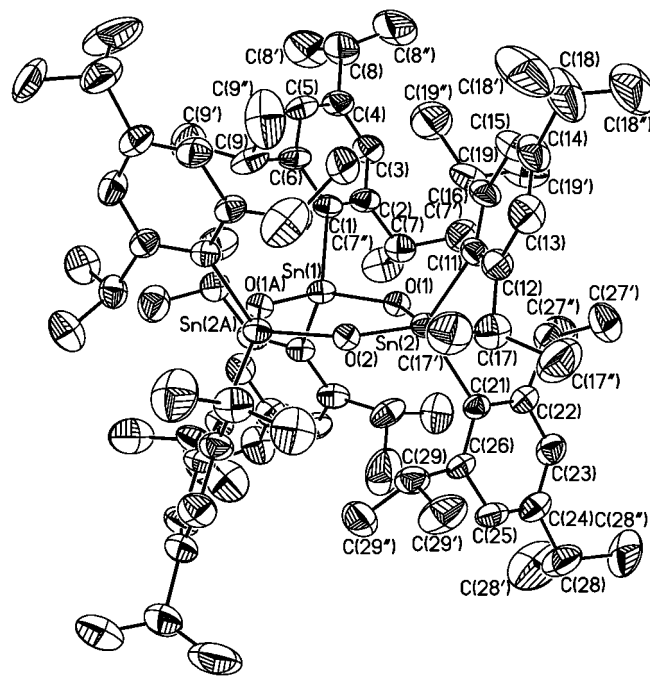


Fig. 1 General view (SHELXTL-PLUS) of a molecule of **1** showing 30% probability displacement ellipsoids and the atom numbering.

Table 1 Selected Bond Lengths/Å and Angles/° for **1**^{a)}

Sn(1)–O(1)	1.956(2)	Sn(1)–O(1 a)	1.956(2)
Sn(2)–O(1)	1.970(2)	Sn(2)–O(2)	1.969(1)
Sn(2 a)–O(2)	1.969(1)	Sn(1)–C(1)	2.150(4)
Sn(1)–C(1 a)	2.150(4)	Sn(2)–C(11)	2.162(4)
Sn(2)–C(21)	2.160(4)		
O(1)–Sn(1)–O(1 a)	105.1(1)	O(1)–Sn(1)–C(1)	104.1(1)
O(1 a)–Sn(1)–C(1)	117.3(2)	O(1)–Sn(1)–C(1 a)	117.3(2)
O(1 a)–Sn(1)–C(1 a)	104.1(1)	C(1)–Sn(1)–C(1 a)	109.5(2)
O(1)–Sn(2)–O(2)	103.6(1)	O(1)–Sn(2)–C(11)	115.2(2)
O(2)–Sn(2)–C(11)	105.0(1)	O(1)–Sn(2)–C(21)	101.4(1)
O(2)–Sn(2)–C(21)	115.9(1)	C(11)–Sn(2)–C(21)	115.5(2)
Sn(1)–O(1)–Sn(2)	135.5(1)	Sn(2)–O(2)–Sn(2 a)	136.6(2)

^{a)} Symmetry transformation used to generate equivalent atoms:
a = –x + 1, y, –z + 0.5

Table 2 Crystallographic Data for **1**

Compound number	1
Empirical formula	C ₉₀ H ₁₃₈ O ₃ Sn ₃
Formular weight	1624.07
Crystal system	orthorhombic
Space group	Pbcn
Cell constants/Å and °	
a	24.577(1)
b	14.748(1)
c	24.246(1)
Volume/Å ³	8788.2(8)
Z	4
Density(calculated) (Mg/m ³)	1.227
Density(measured) (Mg/m ³)	1.254(1)
Absorption coefficient/mm ^{–1}	0.890
Crystal size/mm ³	0.25 × 0.15 × 0.15
Theta range for data collection	3.46 to 25.03
Reflections collected	114791
Independent reflections	7742 [R _{int} = 0.076]
Data/restraints/parameters	7742/0/454
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	0.756
R indices [I > 2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0346 wR2 = 0.0458
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1344 wR2 = 0.0552
Largest diff. peak and hole (e/Å ³)	0.250/–0.257

–128.6 ppm ($\nu_{1/2} \sim 350$ Hz) rather than the expected two signals in a ratio of 2:1. The mean Sn–O and Sn–C bond distances amount to 1.963(2) and 2.156(4) Å, respectively, and are comparable with those of other trimeric diorganotin oxides [4–8]. As a result of the bulky 2,4,6-triisopropyl ligands, the tin atoms exhibit distorted tetrahedral geometries. The mean O–Sn–O angle in **1** amounts to 104.4(1)°, which is close to the corresponding angles in *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ (106.9(2)°), [4] *cyclo*-[(EtMe₂C)₂SnO]₃ (106.1(6)°), [4] *cyclo*-[(2,4-Me₂-C₆H₃)₂SnO]₃ (101.4°), [6] *cyclo*-[(Me₃SiCH₂)₂SnO]₃ (103.2(2)°), [2] and *cyclo*-{[(Me₃Si)₃C]MeSnO}₃ (104.7(3)°) [5] whereas the corresponding O–Sn–O angle in the dimer *cyclo*-{[(Me₃Si)₂CH]₂SnO}₂ (82.5(6)°) [12] differs drastically. The mean C–Sn–C angle in **1** amounts to 112.5(2)° which is close to the corresponding angle in *cyclo*-[(2,4-Me₂-C₆H₃)₂SnO]₃ (114.8°) [6] but somewhat smaller than those values reported for *cyclo*-

(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ (119.5(4)°), [4] *cyclo*-[(EtMe₂C)₂SnO]₃ (118.2(2)°), [4] *cyclo*-[(Me₃SiCH₂)₂SnO]₃ (118.3(2)°), [2] *cyclo*-{[(Me₃Si)₃C]MeSnO}₃ (116.1(6)°), [5] and *cyclo*-{[(Me₃Si)₂CH]₂SnO}₂ (119.9(9)°) [12]. The mean Sn–O–Sn angle in **1** amounts to 136.1(2)° which is close to the Sn–O–Sn angles reported for *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ (133.1(3)°) [4], *cyclo*-[(EtMe₂C)₂SnO]₃ (134(1)°), [4] and *cyclo*-{[(Me₃Si)₃C]MeSnO}₃ (133.2(5)°), [5] but bigger than the angles found for *cyclo*-[(2,6-Me₂-C₆H₃)₂SnO]₃ (120.8°) [6] and *cyclo*-[(Me₃SiCH₂)₂SnO]₃ (122.4(2)°) [2].

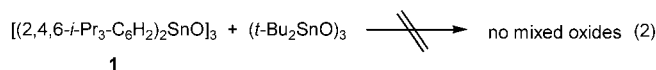
The diaryltin oxide *cyclo*-[(2,4,6-*i*-Pr₃-C₆H₂)₂SnO]₃ (**1**) is highly soluble in common organic solvents. According to a molecular weight determination in chloroform, the six-membered ring structure is retained in solution. The ¹¹⁹Sn NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) of **1** shows one signal at –128.6 ppm being almost identical to the ¹¹⁹Sn MAS NMR chemical shift mentioned above and very close to the ¹¹⁹Sn NMR chemical shift reported for *cyclo*-[(2,6-Et₂-C₆H₃)₂-SnO]₃ (–125.0 ppm) [7]. Interestingly, the ²J(¹¹⁹Sn–O–¹¹⁷Sn) coupling of 501 Hz is significantly bigger as compared to the corresponding coupling in the closely related diaryltin oxide *cyclo*-[(2,6-Me₂-C₆H₃)₂SnO]₃ (320 Hz), [27] as well as in *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ (369 Hz), [4] *cyclo*-[(Me₂EtC)₂SnO]₃ (394 Hz), [4] and *cyclo*-[(Me₃SiCH₂)₂SnO]₃ (335 Hz) [2]. This difference, especially in comparison with *cyclo*-[(2,6-Me₂-C₆H₃)₂SnO]₃ having an almost identical substituent pattern at tin, is likely to originate from the well established dependence of the ²J(¹¹⁹Sn–O–¹¹⁷Sn) coupling from the Sn–O–Sn bond angle [27, 28] and suggests this angle in compound **1** and in *cyclo*-[(2,6-Me₂-C₆H₃)₂SnO]₃ to be even more different in solution than in the solid state.

A ¹¹⁹Sn NMR spectrum ([D₈]toluene) of **1** at 80 °C shows no significant change to the one described before, i. e., there is no indication for the formation of a dimer. A further interesting feature of compound **1** in solution is the observation in its ¹³C NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) of six resonances for the aryl carbon atoms and nine resonances for the isopropyl carbon atoms, indicating rotation about the Sn–C_i bond to be slow on the NMR time scale.

Redistribution Reactions

The diorganotin oxides *cyclo*-[(Me₃SiCH₂)₂SnO]₃ and *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ are known to undergo a redistribution reaction under mild conditions and to form an equilibrium with the mixed oxides *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂Sn-[OSn(Me₃SiCH₂)₂]₂O and *cyclo*-(Me₃SiCH₂)₂Sn(OSn-*t*-Bu₂)₂O [20]. The same holds for diorganotin sulphides *cyclo*-(R₂SnS)₃ and *cyclo*-(R'₂SnS)₃ (R, R' = Me, Bu, Ph, *o*-Tol) which realize equilibria of the mixed sulphides *cyclo*-R₂Sn(SSnR'₂)₂S and *cyclo*-R'₂Sn(SSnR₂)₂S [21, 22]. Furthermore, dimethyltin chalcogenides *cyclo*-

clo-(Me₂SnX)₃ and *cyclo*-(Me₂SnY)₃ (X, Y = S, Se, Te) react with each other to give the mixed chalcogenides *cyclo*-Me₂Sn(XSnMe₂)₂Y and *cyclo*-Me₂Sn(YSnMe₂)₂X *in situ* [23]. These redistribution reactions proceed under very mild conditions which can be attributed to the high kinetic lability of the Sn–X bonds (X = O, S, Se, Te). Surprisingly, equimolar amounts of **1** and *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ do not react, even upon heating at reflux in [D₈]toluene for 6 d (Eq. (2)). The ¹¹⁹Sn NMR spectrum ([D₈]toluene) of the reaction mixture exclusively showed two signals at –84.5 (²*J*(¹¹⁹Sn–O–¹¹⁷Sn) 369 Hz, *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃) and –128.4 (²*J*(¹¹⁹Sn–O–¹¹⁷Sn) 501 Hz, *cyclo*-[(2,4,6-*i*-Pr₃-C₆H₂)₂SnO]₃ (**1**)), demonstrating the coexistence of the reactants in solution.



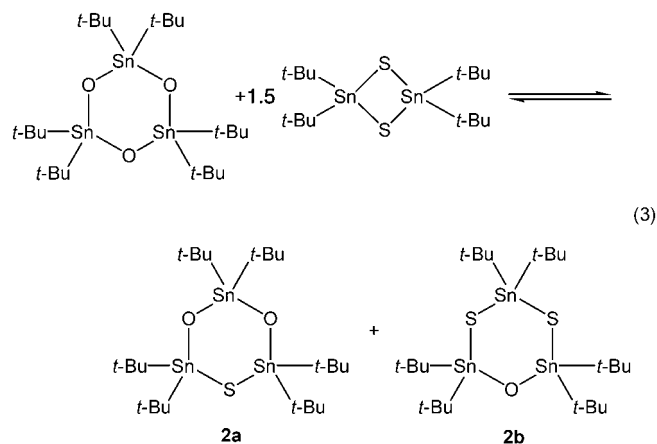
The reaction of *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ with various amounts of *t*-Bu₂SiCl₂ provided a number of cyclic and open-chain stannasiloxanes, such as *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂Si(OSnt-Bu₂)₂O, *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SiOSnt-Bu₂O)₂, and *t*-Bu₂Si(OSnt-Bu₂SnCl₂)₂ [25]. This reaction is irreversible with the thermodynamic driving force being the formation of energetically favored Si–O bonds. In contrast, the analogous reaction of **1** with *t*-Bu₂SiCl₂ in [D₈]toluene after 6 d heating at reflux failed. No reaction was observed even after prolonged heating of the pure reactants at 220 °C for 6 d. The ¹¹⁹Sn and ²⁹Si NMR spectra ([D₈]toluene) of the reaction mixtures exclusively showed signals for the starting materials at –128.4 ppm (²*J*(¹¹⁹Sn–O–¹¹⁷Sn) 501 Hz; **1**) and 35.6 ppm (*t*-Bu₂SiCl₂), respectively.

The reaction of **1** with the sterically less crowded Ph₂SiCl₂ in [D₈]toluene resulted indeed in oxide transfer from the organotin oxide to the organosilicon species. After 30 min at 90 °C, the ¹¹⁹Sn NMR spectrum displayed resonances at –128.0 ppm (²*J*(¹¹⁹Sn–O–¹¹⁷Sn) 501 Hz, integral 84%) belonging to the organotin oxide **1** and at –66.6 ppm (integral 16%) assigned to (2,4,6-*i*-Pr₃-C₆H₂)₂SnCl₂. The ²⁹Si NMR spectrum of the same reaction mixture displayed a major resonance at 6.1 ppm (integral 88%; Ph₂SiCl₂) and two minor resonances at –21.8 (integral 4%) and –30.2 ppm (integral 7%). The oxide transfer is almost complete after 115 h at 90 °C. The ¹¹⁹Sn NMR spectrum displayed a major resonance at –66.6 ppm (integral 97%) belonging to the diorganotin dichloride and a minor resonance at –128.0 ppm (integral 3%) belonging to compound **1**. The ²⁹Si NMR spectrum of this reaction mixture showed six major resonances at 6.0 ppm (integral 8%, Ph₂SiCl₂), –37.0 ppm (integral 17%), –37.3 ppm (integral 17%), –45.0 ppm (integral 30%), –45.2 ppm (integral 11%), and –45.6 ppm (integral 6%), and five minor resonances (total integral 11%) at –21.8 ppm, –35.2 ppm,

–42.4 ppm (*cyclo*-(Ph₂SiO)₄, identity confirmed by addition of an authentic sample), –43.0 ppm, and –46.8 ppm. Most of these signals could not be assigned but they might belong to open-chain chlorosiloxanes such as Ph₂ClSiOSiClPh₂, Ph₂Si(OSiClPh₂)₂, O(SiPh₂OSiClPh₂)₂, and/or Ph₂Si(OSiPh₂OSiClPh₂)₂. It is interesting to note that along the reaction (i) no stannasiloxanes were detected and (ii) that only trace amounts of *cyclo*-(Ph₂SiO)₄ are formed.

The inertness of *cyclo*-[2,4,6-*i*-Pr₃-C₆H₂)₂SnO]₃ (**1**) in its reaction with *t*-Bu₂SiCl₂ can be interpreted in terms of an enhanced kinetic stability of the Sn–O bonds. The synthesis and complete characterization of the four-membered ring *cyclo*-O[(2,4,6-*i*-Pr₃-C₆H₂)₂-Sn]₂S [19] supports this interpretation as it is stable and does not rearrange to give *cyclo*-[2,4,6-*i*-Pr₃-C₆H₂)₂SnS]₂ [18, 19] and *cyclo*-[2,4,6-*i*-Pr₃-C₆H₂)₂SnO]₃ (**1**).

Diorganotin oxysulphides other than *cyclo*-O[(2,4,6-*i*-Pr₃-C₆H₂)₂Sn]₂S are not known so far. However, the six-membered rings *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂Sn(OSnt-Bu₂)₂S (**2a**) and *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂Sn(SSnt-Bu₂)₂O (**2b**) were generated *in situ* by heating at reflux for 12 h a mixture in chloroform of *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ and *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnS)₂ in a ratio of 2 : 3 (Eq. (3)).



The ¹¹⁹Sn NMR spectrum (CHCl₃, D₂O-capillary) showed six signals belonging to *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ (δ –84.5, ²*J*(¹¹⁹Sn–O–¹¹⁷Sn) 365 Hz; integral 30%), *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnS)₂ (δ 123.9, ²*J*(¹¹⁹Sn–S–¹¹⁷Sn) 112 Hz; integral 40%), *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂Sn(OSnt-Bu₂)₂S (**2a**; δ 13.4, ²*J*(¹¹⁹Sn–O–^{119/117}Sn) 520 Hz, δ –99.5, ²*J*(¹¹⁹Sn–O–^{119/117}Sn); ratio 2 : 1; total integral 23%) and *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂Sn(SSnt-Bu₂)₂O (**2b**; δ 86.2, ²*J*(¹¹⁹Sn–S–^{119/117}Sn) 69 Hz, δ –6.0, ²*J*(¹¹⁹Sn–O–^{119/117}Sn) 672 Hz, ²*J*(¹¹⁹Sn–S–^{119/117}Sn) 65 Hz; ratio 1 : 2; total integral 7%). Further heating for 24 h did not change the integral ratio indicating that the reaction mixture had reached equilibrium. Slow evaporation of the solvent from the reaction mixture afforded a microcrystalline solid from which a ¹¹⁹Sn MAS NMR spectrum was recorded (Figure 2). It shows six center bands with ac-

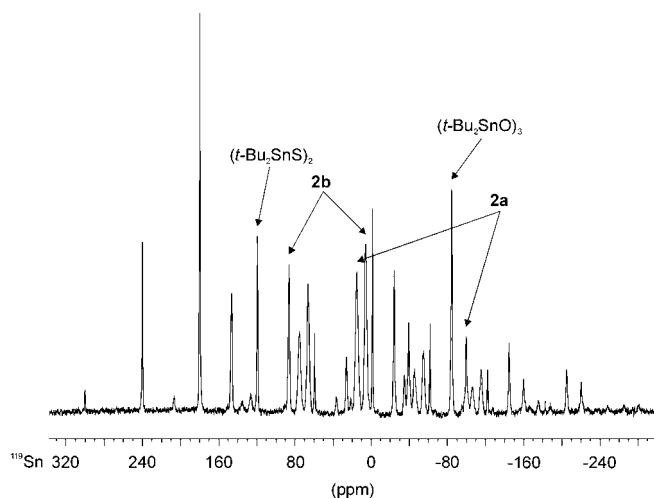


Fig. 2 ^{119}Sn MAS NMR spectrum (149.21 MHz) of a reaction mixture according Equation 4 (Spin frequency 9 KHz; 10000 transitions). Center bands are indicated by arrows.

companying sets of spinning sidebands, which are unambiguously assigned to *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ (δ -84.3; integral 28%), [29] *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnS)₂ (δ 126.1; integral 36%), *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂Sn(OSnt-Bu₂)₂S (**2a**; δ 14.7, -99.5; ratio 2:1; total integral 26%) and *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂Sn(SSnt-Bu₂)₂O (**2b**; δ 86.0, 5.6; ratio 1:2; total integral 10%). It is worth mentioning that the ^{119}Sn MAS NMR chemical shift measured for *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnS)₂ (δ 126.1) differs from that previously reported by Harris and Sebald (δ 119.4, 117.3) [30] which is tentatively attributed to the presence of different polymorphs. Indeed, monoclinic (α -form) and triclinic (β -form) modifications have been reported for (*t*-Bu₂SnS)₂ [31]. However, both ^{119}Sn MAS chemical shifts are consistent with the respective value of *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnS)₂ in CDCl₃ solution (δ 124.1) [27]. The graphical integration of the signals was achieved by taking into account the intensity of the center bands and all spinning sidebands belonging to them. However, the integration has to be considered as an estimate because errors may arise from poor signal-to-noise ratio and disparate applying cross polarization. It is very likely that *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃, **2a**, and **2b** realize mixed crystals as the trimeric di-*tert*-butylelement oxides, *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂MO)₃ (M = Si, Ge, Sn), [3, 4, 32, 33] *cyclo*-*t*-Bu₂M(OSnt-Bu₂)₂O (M = Si, Ge), [2, 29] and di-*tert*-butylelement imines *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂MNH)₃ (M = Si, Sn) [34, 35] all crystallize in the trigonal space group R-3c.

Conclusion

Bis(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl)tin oxide, *cyclo*-[(2,4,6-*i*-Pr-C₆H₂)₂SnO]₃ (**1**), was prepared in high yield as a cyclic trimer by the hydrolysis of (2,4,6-*i*-Pr-C₆H₂)₂-SnBr₂ under basic conditions. The molecular structure of **1** shows no significant difference from those of

other trimeric diorganotin oxides. The six-membered ring is retained in solution, and no evidence was found for the formation of a dimer, *cyclo*-[(2,4,6-*i*-Pr-C₆H₂)₂SnO]₂. Redistribution reactions with *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ and *t*-Bu₂SiCl₂ failed and reveal an enhanced kinetic inertness of the Sn-O bonds in **1** as compared to other trimeric diorganotin oxides such as *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ which is attributed to the high shielding capacity of the 2,4,6-*i*-isopropylphenyl ligands [36]. The reaction of **1** with Ph₂SiCl₂ proceeds under oxygen transfer to give a mixture of open-chain chlorosiloxanes, but only traces of *cyclo*-diphenylsiloxanes. This is in contrast to the reaction in chloroform of (*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ with Ph₂SiCl₂ which proceeds at lower temperature and gives *cyclo*-(Ph₂SiO)_n (n = 3, 4) as major products [25].

Experimental Part

All operations were performed under a nitrogen atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques. Solvents were dried according to standard procedures and freshly distilled prior to use. (2,4,6-*i*-Pr-C₆H₂)₂SnBr₂, [37] *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃, [4] and *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnS)₂ [31] were prepared according to literature procedures. *t*-Bu₂SiCl₂ was commercially obtained (Fluka) and used as supplied. Solution ^1H , $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$, $^{29}\text{Si}\{^1\text{H}\}$, and $^{119}\text{Sn}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX 400 instrument at 400.13 (^1H), 100.31 (^{13}C), 79.49 (^{29}Si), and 149.20 MHz (^{119}Sn). $^{119}\text{Sn}\{^1\text{H}\}$ MAS NMR spectra were obtained from a Bruker MSL 400 spectrometer at 149.20 MHz using cross polarization and high power proton decoupling. Three different spinning speeds were applied in order to assign unambiguously the center bands. *c*-Hex₄Sn was used as a second reference (δ -97.35 ppm against Me₄Sn). The elemental analysis was determined on an instrument from Carlo Erba Strumentazione (Model 1106). The molecular weight was measured on a Knauer osmometer.

Synthesis of Hexakis(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl)cyclotristannoxane (1). A solution of NaOH (0.85 g, 21.2 mmol) in water (20 mL) was slowly added to a solution of (2,4,6-*i*-Pr-C₆H₂)₂SnBr₂ (7.25 g, 10.5 mmol) in refluxing toluene (300 mL). After 3 h the mixture was allowed to cool to 40 °C, then the layers were separated, and the organic layer was dried over sodium sulphate. The solvent was reduced to approx. 100 mL. The crude product that crystallized after 12 h at -10 °C was recrystallized from chloroform/hexane to give 4.6 g (8.5 mmol, 81%) of colorless crystals of **1**, mp. > 360 °C.

Anal. Calcd for C₉₀H₁₃₈O₃Sn₃ (1624.3): C, 66.6; H, 8.6. Found: C, 66.6; H, 9.2%.

^1H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 6.89 ($^4J(^{117/119}\text{Sn}-^1\text{H})$ 30 Hz, phenyl proton), 6.86 ($^4J(^{117/119}\text{Sn}-^1\text{H})$ 28 Hz, phenyl proton), 3.72 (sept, 1 H, $^3J(^1\text{H}-^1\text{H})$ 7 Hz, Me₂CH), 3.01 (sept, 1 H, $^3J(^1\text{H}-^1\text{H})$ 7 Hz, Me₂CH), 2.78 (sept, 1 H, $^3J(^1\text{H}-^1\text{H})$ 7 Hz, Me₂CH), 1.32 (d, 3 H, $^3J(^1\text{H}-^1\text{H})$ 7 Hz, Me₂CH), 1.17 (d, 3 H, $^3J(^1\text{H}-^1\text{H})$ 7 Hz, Me₂CH), 0.92 (d, 6 H, $^3J(^1\text{H}-^1\text{H})$ 7 Hz, Me₂CH) 0.57 (d, 3 H, $^3J(^1\text{H}-^1\text{H})$ 7 Hz, Me₂CH), 0.30 (d, 3 H, $^3J(^1\text{H}-^1\text{H})$ 7 Hz, Me₂CH); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 155.1 (s, $^2J(^{13}\text{C}-^{117/119}\text{Sn})$ 51 Hz, C_O), 153.9 (s, $^2J(^{13}\text{C}-^{117/119}\text{Sn})$ 58 Hz, C_O), 149.8 (s, C_p), 143.0 (s, $^1J(^{13}\text{C}-^{119}\text{Sn})$ 809 Hz, C_i), 121.9 (s, $^3J(^{13}\text{C}-^{117/119}\text{Sn})$ 69 Hz, C_m), 121.0 (s, $^3J(^{13}\text{C}-^{117/119}\text{Sn})$ 67 Hz, C_m), 37.4 (s, $^3J(^{13}\text{C}-^{119}\text{Sn})$ 46 Hz, Me₂CH), 34.2 (s, Me₂CH), 33.9 (s, $^3J(^{13}\text{C}-^{119}\text{Sn})$ 28 Hz, Me₂CH), 25.8 (s, Me₂CH), 25.3

(s, Me_2CH), 25.1 (s, Me_2CH), 24.4 (s, Me_2CH), 24.0 (s, Me_2CH), 23.9 (s, Me_2CH); $^{119}Sn\{^1H\}$ NMR ($CDCl_3$): $\delta = -128.4$ (s, $^1J(^{119}Sn-^{13}C)$ 806 Hz, $^2J(^{119}Sn-^{117}Sn)$ 501 Hz, $^2J(^{119}Sn-^{13}C_o)$ 51 Hz, $^3J(^{119}Sn-^{13}C_m)$ 69 Hz); $^{119}Sn\{^1H\}$ MAS NMR: $\delta = -128.6$. Molecular weight determination ($10\text{ mg} \cdot \text{ml}^{-1}$, $CHCl_3$): $1674\text{ g} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$.

Attempted reaction of 1 with *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃. A solution of **1** (54.1 mg, 0.033 mmol) and (*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ (24.9 mg, 0.033 mmol) in [D₈]toluene (300 μ L) was heated at reflux for 6 d. A ^{119}Sn NMR spectrum was recorded which is discussed in the text.

Attempted reaction of 1 with *t*-Bu₂SiCl₂. (i) A solution of **1** (54.1 mg, 0.033 mmol) and *t*-Bu₂SiCl₂ (21.3 mg, 0.1 mmol) in [D₈]toluene (300 μ L) was heated at reflux for 6 d, and, (ii) a neat mixture of **1** (108.2 mg, 0.066 mmol) and *t*-Bu₂SiCl₂ (42.6 mg, 0.2 mmol) was heated 6 d at 220 °C, then [D₈]toluene (300 μ L) was added. ^{119}Sn and ^{29}Si NMR spectra were recorded which are discussed in the text.

Reaction of 1 with Ph₂SiCl₂. A solution of **1** (319 mg, 0.588 mmol) and Ph₂SiCl₂ (149 mg, 0.588 mmol) in [D₈]toluene (300 μ L) was kept at 90 °C. ^{29}Si and ^{119}Sn NMR spectra were recorded after 30 min, 91 h, and 115 h.

Reaction of *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ with *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnS)₂. A mixture of *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnO)₃ (249 mg, 0.33 mmol) and *cyclo*-(*t*-Bu₂SnS)₂ (265 mg, 0.5 mmol) in $CHCl_3$ (5 mL) was heated to reflux for 12 h. A ^{119}Sn NMR ($CHCl_3$; D₂O-capillary) spectrum was recorded which is discussed in the text. Then, the solvent was slowly evaporated on exposure to air leaving a colorless microcrystalline solid. A ^{119}Sn MAS NMR spectrum was recorded which is discussed in the text.

X-ray Crystal Structure Determination of 1

Intensity data for the colorless crystals were collected on a Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer with graphite-monochromated MoK α (0.71069 Å) radiation at 291 K. The data collection covered almost the whole sphere of reciprocal space with 360 frames via ω -rotation ($\Delta\omega = 1^\circ$) at two times 20 s per frame. The crystal-to-detector distance was 2.7 cm. Crystal decay was monitored by repeating the initial frames at the end of data collection. The data were not corrected for absorption effects. Analysis of the duplicate reflections revealed no indication of any decay. The structures were solved by direct methods SHELXS97 [38] and successive difference Fourier syntheses. Refinement applied full-matrix least-squares methods SHELXL97 [39]. The H atoms were placed in geometrically calculated positions using a riding model and refined with common isotropic temperature factors for different C–H types (C–H_{prim}, 0.96 Å, C–H_{tert}, 0.98 Å U_{iso} 0.260(3); C–H_{aryl}, 0.93 Å, U_{iso} 0.053(5) Å²).

A disordered iso-propyl group was found with occupancies of 0.5 (C(28'), C(28''), C(28a), C(28b)).

Atomic scattering factors for neutral atoms and real and imaginary dispersion terms were taken from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography [40]. The figures were created by SHELXTL [41]. Selected bond distances and angles are listed in Table 1. Crystallographic data are given in Table 2. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structures in this paper have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no CCDC 1566301 (**1**). Copies of the data can be ob-

tained, free of charge, on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (Fax: + 44-(0)12 23-33 60 33 or e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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