



# A Study on Synthesis of derivatives of organoheterotrimetallic dibutyl [Al(III);Sn(IV);Ti(IV)]- $\mu$ -oxo-*isopropoxide* with salicylates

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**Abstract:** The reaction of organoheterotrimetallic dibutyl [Al(III);Sn(IV);Ti(IV)]- $\mu$ -oxo-*isopropoxide* with salicylates (HRSal) such as methyl salicylate (HMeSal), ethyl salicylate (HEtSal) and phenyl salicylate (HPhSal) in the molar ratios 1:1 and 1:2 carried out in refluxing benzene yielded derivatives of the type [Bu<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>2</sub>TiAl(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>4</sub>(RSal)] and [Bu<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>2</sub>TiAl(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>3</sub>(RSal)<sub>2</sub>] respectively. The salicylate derivatives have been characterized by elemental, liberated isopropanol and spectral analysis (IR, <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR).

**Keywords:** Aluminium, Metal alkoxide, Salicylates, Tin, Titanium.

## 1. Introduction

Metal derivatives of the alkoxide and  $\beta$ -diketonate ligands have become the predominant single-source precursors for oxide-based ceramic materials, mainly through sol-gel processing and MOCVD respectively, because of their commercial availability, high solubility in routinely used organic solvents and easy tunability of their hydrolytic characteristics and mass-transport properties.<sup>1-4</sup> Another important axis of the molecular engineering is the synthesis of bi- and higher metallic derivatives with appropriate properties.<sup>5-12</sup> These single-source precursors simultaneously provide two or more metals in an accurate stoichiometry allowing complex ceramic materials to be generated in one step by eliminating the prerequisite of matching the reaction rates in a multicomponent precursor mixture.<sup>13-17</sup> Among the various properties desired in MOCVD precursors, the most important ones are the high volatility and good thermal stability for efficient transport as well as high reactivity to easily obtain the desired material.<sup>18-20</sup>

A large number of heterometallic alkoxides which can be used as single-source precursors for the synthesis of oxide ceramics are known in the literature.<sup>21</sup> In addition to homoleptic {MM'(OR)<sub>x</sub>}, heteroleptic {MM'(OR)<sub>x</sub>(X)<sub>y</sub> where X = OAc, OR', halide} and oxo alkoxide species {MM'O(OR)<sub>x</sub>} or {MM'(OR)<sub>x</sub>(X)<sub>y</sub>}, alkoxide derivatives with different metal combinations and up to three different metals<sup>22</sup> in a single molecule show the rich synthetic and structural chemistry of metal alkoxides.<sup>23</sup>

The heterobimetallic- $\mu$ -oxo-alkoxides are found to be associated in organic solvent like the simple metal alkoxides.<sup>24,25</sup> The association results from the tendency of metals to fulfill their coordination number by forming inter and intra molecular oxygen-metal bonds. The mean degrees of association of these compounds have been obtained from cryoscopic measurement and other spectroscopic studies. The chemical reactivity, solubility and molecular association of the bimetallic- $\mu$ -oxo-alkoxides are largely affected by the nature of alkoxy groups (steric factors).

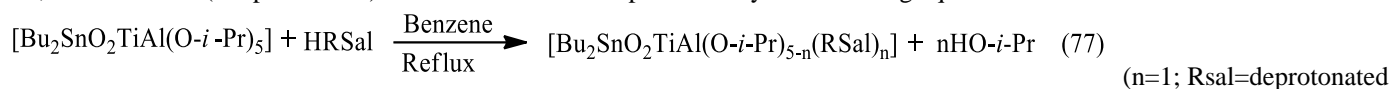
The above features underline the importance and utility of  $\mu$ -oxo compounds, it was therefore considered worthwhile to synthesize salicylate derivatives of organoheterotrimetallic dibutyl [Al(III); Sn(IV); Ti(IV)] - $\mu$ -oxoisopropoxide.

## 2. Experimental Methodology

Due to highly hygroscopic nature of metal alkoxides, stringent precautions were taken to exclude moisture throughout the study using glasswares with interchangeable joints, solvents and the reagents used were of analytical grade and purified by recommended methods.<sup>26</sup> The general techniques and physical measurements were carried out as described elsewhere.<sup>27-29</sup> [Bu<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>2</sub>TiAl(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>5</sub>] was prepared in the laboratory by reported method.<sup>30</sup> Methyl salicylate, ethyl salicylate were distilled under reduced pressure before use. Phenyl salicylate (Hi-media) was used as received. The estimation of isopropyl alcohol liberated in synthesis of salicylate derivatives were carried out oxidimetrically<sup>31</sup>. Tin, titanium and aluminium in the derivatives were analyzed gravimetrically<sup>29</sup>. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 1710 FTIR spectrometer over the range of 4000-400 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> on Bruker Avance II 400 NMR spectrometer. Elemental analysis was carried on Perkin Elmer 2400 CHN Elemental Analyser.

### 2.1 Synthesis of 1:1 methyl salicylate derivative of organoheterotrimetallic dibutyl [Al(III);Sn(IV);Ti(IV)]- $\mu$ -oxoisopropoxide

[Bu<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>2</sub>TiAl(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>5</sub>] (0.623 g, 0.981 mmol) and methyl salicylate (0.210g, 1.38 mmol) were refluxed in benzene (~60 ml) for 3 hrs, on an oil bath (temp. ~100 °C). The reaction can be represented by the following equation:

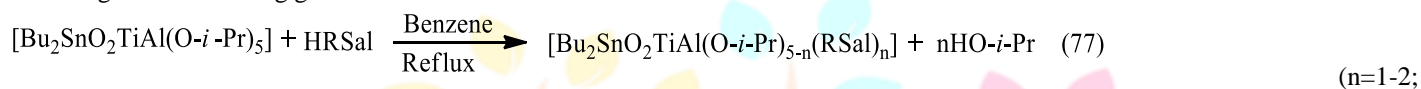


The freed isopropanol was gathered constantly at 72-78°C as a double azeotrope of isopropanol-benzene. The isopropanol in azeotrope was assessed oxidimetrically to check the consummation of the reaction.<sup>30,32</sup> The excess of solvent was removed at 40 °C/1 mm pressure. A pale yellow solid product was obtained. Similar reaction was carried in 1:2 molar ratio resulting in [Bu<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>2</sub>TiAl(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>3</sub>(MeSal)<sub>2</sub>].

The preparation of other salicylate derivatives of [Bu<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>2</sub>TiAl(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>5</sub>] in 1:1 and 1:2 molar ratios were carried out by similar procedure and their analytical data along with metal and liberated isopropanol estimation have been summarized in the (Table 1). All the derivatives were found to be pale yellow in color soluble in common organic solvents (benzene, chloroform benzene, hexane), susceptible to hydrolysis and decompose on heating above ~ 180 °C.

### 3. Result and discussion

The reaction of organoheterotrimetallic dibutyl [Al(III);Sn(IV);Ti(IV)]-μ-oxo-isopropoxide with salicylates (HRSal) such as methyl salicylate (HMeSal), ethyl salicylate (HEtSal) and phenyl salicylate (HPhSal) in the molar ratios 1:1 and 1:2 carried out in refluxing benzene yielded derivatives of the type [Bu<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>2</sub>TiAl(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>4</sub>(RSal)] and [Bu<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>2</sub>TiAl(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>3</sub>(RSal)<sub>2</sub>] respectively according to the following general reaction :



Rsal=deprotonated methyl/ethyl/phenyl salicylate)

The isopropanol liberated during the reaction was collected as binary azeotrope of isopropanol-benzene. The azeotrope was estimated oxidimetrically to check the progress of reaction.

The salicylates derivatives of organoheterotrimetallic dibutyl [Al(III);Sn(IV);Ti(IV)]-μ-oxo-isopropoxide obtained were pale yellow solids, soluble in common organic solvents (benzene, chloroforms, carbon tetrachloride etc.), susceptible to hydrolysis and decompose on heating above 180 °C.

#### 3.1 Infrared Spectral Studies

1:1 salicylate derivatives show absorption bands in the region 1360-1340 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1165-1150 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1125-1090 cm<sup>-1</sup> are characteristics of *gem*-dimethyl portion and combination band ν(C-O + O-*i*-Pr) of the terminal and bridging isopropoxy groups respectively.<sup>33,34</sup> The absence of band at ~ 1165-1150 cm<sup>-1</sup> in 1:2 salicylate derivatives indicating complete replacement of terminal isopropoxy groups. A broad band in the region ~3100cm<sup>-1</sup> due to ν(O-H) in salicylates is found absent in derivatives of [Bu<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>2</sub>TiAl(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>5</sub>] indicates the deprotonation of these ligands. The ν(C=O) band appearing in salicylates at ~1650 cm<sup>-1</sup> shows a downward shift of 15-25 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the derivatives, indicating the coordination of the carbonyl oxygen of the salicylate to the metal atom. A strong band observed at 1245 cm<sup>-1</sup> in salicylates due to phenolic ν(C-O)) vibration is shifted 15-20 cm<sup>-1</sup> higher in the derivatives indicating bond formation of phenolic oxygen of salicylates to the metal atom. Some bands observed in salicylate derivatives at 765 cm<sup>-1</sup> and lower are due to M-O stretching vibrations.<sup>35</sup> The bands related to phenyl groups in the derivatives are observed at their usual positions in the IR spectra. The IR spectra of the derivatives indicate that salicylates behave as monobasic bidentate ligands.

Table-1: Analytical data

S.No	Compound g(mmol)	Ligand g(mmol)	Molar Ratio	Refluxing time	Product g(%)	Anal. Calcd. (found)			
						HO- <i>i</i> -Pr g	Sn (%)	Ti (%)	Al (%)
1	[Bu <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>2</sub> TiAl(O- <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>5</sub> ] 0.623 (0.981)	HMeSal 0.210 (1.38)	1:1	3	[Bu <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>2</sub> TiAl(O- <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>4</sub> (MeSal)] 0.585 (82.0)	0.059 (0.055)	16.33 (16.05)	6.59 (6.17)	3.72 (3.50)
2	[Bu <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>2</sub> TiAl(O- <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>5</sub> ] 0.588 (0.927)	HMeSal 0.396 (2.61)	1:2	5 <sup>1/2</sup>	[Bu <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>2</sub> TiAl(O- <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>3</sub> (MeSal) <sub>2</sub> ] 0.635 (83.7)	0.111 (0.101)	14.48 (14.20)	5.85 (5.65)	3.30 (2.95)
3	[Bu <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>2</sub> TiAl(O- <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>5</sub> ] 0.612 (0.964)	HEtSal 0.225 (1.36)	1:1	3 <sup>1/2</sup>	[Bu <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>2</sub> TiAl(O- <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>4</sub> (EtSal)] 0.591 (82.8)	0.058 (0.052)	16.03 (15.86)	6.46 (6.06)	3.65 (3.40)
4	[Bu <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>2</sub> TiAl(O- <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>5</sub> ] 0.427 (0.673)	HEtSal 0.314 (1.89)	1:2	6	[Bu <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>2</sub> TiAl(O- <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>3</sub> (EtSal) <sub>2</sub> ] 0.479 (84.1)	0.080 (0.076)	14.02 (13.81)	5.65 (5.07)	3.25 (3.05)
5	[Bu <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>2</sub> TiAl(O- <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>5</sub> ] 0.590 (0.930)	HPhSal 0.260 (1.31)	1:1	3 <sup>1/2</sup>	[Bu <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>2</sub> TiAl(O- <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>4</sub> (PhSal)] 0.621 (84.8)	0.056 (0.050)	15.05 (14.87)	6.07 (5.86)	3.43 (3.10)
6	[Bu <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>2</sub> TiAl(O- <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>5</sub> ] 0.379 (0.597)	HPhSal 0.360 (1.68)	1:2	6	[Bu <sub>2</sub> SnO <sub>2</sub> TiAl(O- <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>3</sub> (PhSal) <sub>2</sub> ] 0.480 (85.4)	0.072 (0.067)	12.59 (12.31)	5.08 (4.76)	2.87 (2.60)

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### 3.2 NMR Spectral Studies

#### 3.2.1 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 1:1 derivative show number of peaks in the regions δ 0.7-1.2 ppm are due to intermixing of methyl protons of the *isopropoxy* groups and protons of the butyl groups bonded to tin atom.<sup>36</sup> A multiplet centered at δ 4.1 ppm in [Bu<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>2</sub>TiAl(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>5</sub>] due to methine proton of the *isopropoxy* groups<sup>30</sup> is found to overlap with the peak observed at ~ δ 3.8 ppm and a quartet centered at ~ δ 3.6 ppm are assigned to methyl and methylene protons in 1:2 derivative of [Bu<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>2</sub>TiAl(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>5</sub>] with methyl and ethyl salicylates respectively. A broad singlet at ~δ 12.8 ppm due to phenolic proton in the salicylate is found absent in the derivatives confirms their deprotonation. The signals due to phenyl ring protons of salicylate moiety are observed at their usual positions (δ 6.8 –δ 7.8 ppm) in all the derivatives.

#### 3.2.2 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra

The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of 1:1 salicylate derivatives of organoheterotrimetallic dibutyl [Al(III);Sn(IV);Ti(IV)]-μ-oxo-*isopropoxide* shows two prominent peaks at δ ~ 26.6 ppm and δ ~ 28.8 ppm assignable to the methyl carbon of terminal and bridged *isopropoxy* groups. Two different type of methine carbons of *isopropoxy* groups<sup>37</sup> is confirmed by the two signals observed at δ ~ 64.1 ppm and δ ~ 64.5 ppm. The other peaks at δ 26.1 ppm, δ 25.6 ppm, δ 15.5 ppm and δ 14.0 ppm are assignable to C-1, C-2, C-3 and C-4 respectively of the butyl group.<sup>30</sup> The 1:2 salicylate derivatives of μ-oxo-*isopropoxide* show the absence of terminal *isopropoxy* groups. The peaks observed in the region δ125.2-136.7 ppm are due to carbon atoms on benzene ring; however, the peak observed at about δ168.2 ppm is due to ring carbon linked to the ester group and a peak observed at about δ186.4 ppm is due to carbon of the ester group (-COOR).<sup>38</sup> On the basis of above spectral studies following tentative structures (Fig.1 & 2) are assigned to 1:1 and 1:2 methyl salicylate derivatives of [Bu<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>2</sub>TiAl(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>5</sub>]:

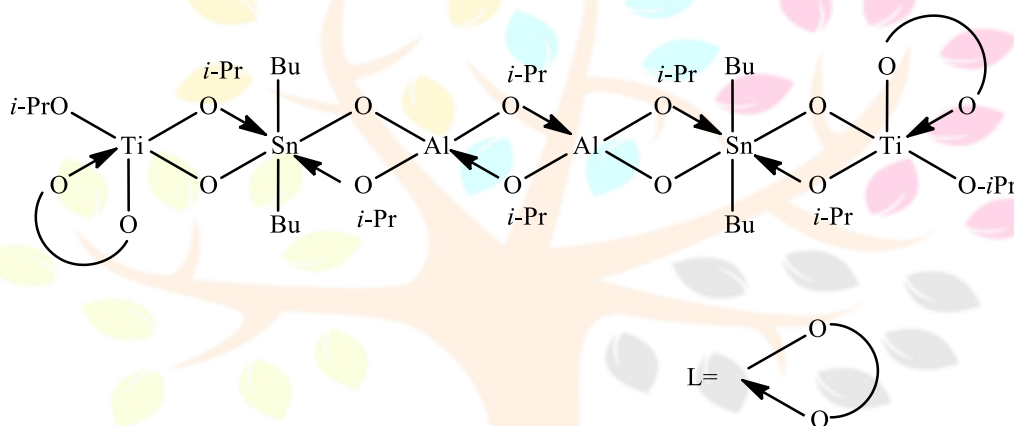


Fig. 1 [Bu<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>2</sub>TiAl(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>4</sub>(MeSal)]

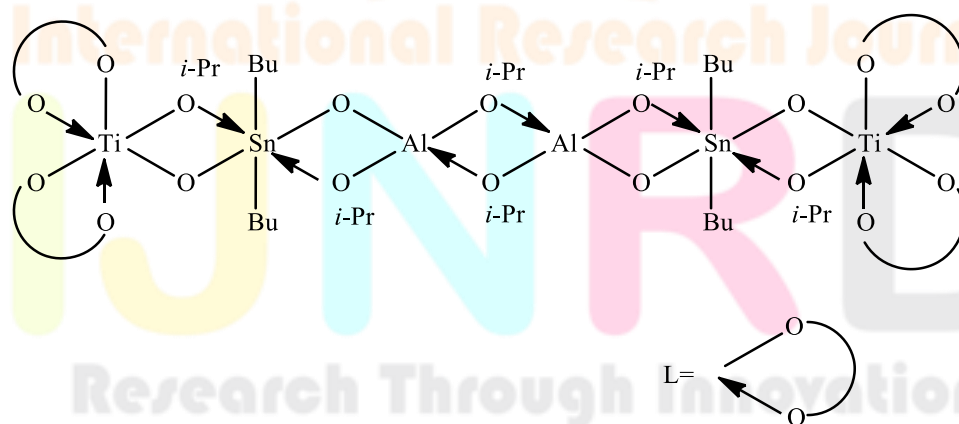


Fig. 2: [Bu<sub>2</sub>SnO<sub>2</sub>TiAl(O-*i*-Pr)<sub>3</sub>(MeSal)<sub>2</sub>]

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**CONCLUSION :**The study concluded that all the salicylate derivatives exhibited pale yellow solids . They were soluble in organic solvents but prone to hydrolysis.

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