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(*E*)-*N*,*N*'-Bis(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-*N*,*N*'bis(trichlorosilyl)ethylene-1,2-diamine

Wei Yang, Ming Zhang, Guangyan Liu and Yuqiang Ding*

School of Chemical and Material Engineering, Jiangnan University, 1800 Lihu Road, Wuxi, Jiangsu Province 214122, People's Republic of China Correspondence e-mail: yding@jiangnan.edu.cn

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Key indicators: single-crystal X-ray study; T = 273 K; mean σ (C–C) = 0.007 Å; R factor = 0.059; wR factor = 0.202; data-to-parameter ratio = 16.8.

The asymmetric unit of the title compound, $C_{18}H_{20}Cl_6N_2Si_2$, contains one half of the centrosymmetric molecule. The two benzene rings are perpendicular to the plane of Si–N–C=C–N–Si fragment, making a dihedral angle of 89.9 (1)°. The crystal packing exhibits short intermolecular Cl···Cl contacts of 3.3119 (17) Å.

Related literature

For the geometric parameters of related compounds, see: Haaf *et al.* (1998, 2000); Baker *et al.* (2008); Jones *et al.* (2002).



Experimental

Crystal data

 $\begin{array}{l} {\rm C}_{18}{\rm H}_{20}{\rm Cl}_{6}{\rm N}_{2}{\rm Si}_{2}\\ M_{r}=533.24 \end{array}$

Triclinic, $P\overline{1}$ a = 8.1858 (3) Å Z = 1

Mo $K\alpha$ radiation

 $0.14 \times 0.12 \times 0.08 \; \rm mm$

 $\mu = 0.79 \text{ mm}^-$

T = 273 K

b = 8.4249 (3) Å c = 10.6074 (4) Å $\alpha = 74.583 (3)^{\circ}$ $\beta = 79.999 (2)^{\circ}$ $\gamma = 62.243 (2)^{\circ}$ $V = 623.00 (4) \text{ Å}^{3}$

Data collection

Bruker APEX2 CCD area-detector	6168 measured reflections
diffractometer	2168 independent reflections
Absorption correction: multi-scan	1729 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
(SADABS; Bruker, 2001)	$R_{\rm int} = 0.034$
$T_{\min} = 0.897, T_{\max} = 0.939$	

Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.059$	129 parameters
$wR(F^2) = 0.202$	H-atom parameters constrained
S = 1.11	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.57 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
2168 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.50 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$

Data collection: *APEX2* (Bruker, 2005); cell refinement: *SAINT* (Bruker, 2005); data reduction: *SAINT*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SIR97* (Altomare *et al.*, 1999); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 2008); molecular graphics: *PLATON* (Spek, 2009); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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Supplementary data and figures for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: CV2522).

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(E)-N,N'-Bis(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-N,N'-bis(trichlorosilyl)ethylene-1,2-diamine

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S1. Comment

The title compound, (I), was synthesized by the reaction of the excess silicon tetrachloride and the dilithium salt of the diimine $[N(2,6-Me_2C_6H_3)C(H)]_2$ in THF (Haaf *et al.*, 1998). A high yielding preparation of the title compound was devised whereby two equivalents of SiCl₄ were treated with dilithium salt in THF (Baker *et al.*, 2008). The title compound and related compounds are of interest in silylene chemistry in relation to synthesis of the silylene dichloride precursor (Haaf *et al.*, 2000; Baker *et al.*, 2008).

The title molecule (Fig. 1) exists in an E configuration with respect to the C=C double bond (Table 1) and crystallizes in the triclinic space group $P\overline{1}$. The planes of the two xylyl substituents at the nitrogen atoms are perpendicularly oriented to the plane of Si1/N1/C1/C1ⁱ/N1ⁱ/Si1ⁱ</sup> [symmery code: (i) -x, 2-y, -z] forming dihedral angles of 89.9 (1)°. The Si–Cl and Si–N bond lengths in (I) (Table 1) are slightly shorter than those in the related complex (C₅H₃N-6-Me-2-NSiMe₃)SiCl₃ [Si–Cl 2.058 (2)-2.107 (3) Å; Si–N 1.753 (5) Å) (Jones *et al.*, 2002). The distance N1–C1[1.428 (4) Å] agrees well with that observed in the related *E*-ethenediamine complex (Baker *et al.*, 2008). The C1–N1–C2 angle [118.7 (3) °] in (I) is comparable to that in [PhC(NtBu)₂]SiCl [120.70 (11) °] (Haaf *et al.*, 1998). The C1–N1–Si1 angle [120.1 (2) °] in (I) is larger than that in [Si[N(tBu)CH]₂]₂ [109.42 (14) °] (Haaf *et al.*, 1998), because of E configuration.

The crystal packing exhibits short intermolecular Cl…Cl contacts (Table 1).

S2. Experimental

All manipulations were carried out under an argon atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques or a nitrogen-filled glovebox. Solvents (THF, toluene) were dried over sodium and freshly distilled prior to use.

Naphthalene (1.24 g,10 mmol) was dissolved in THF (15 ml) and lithium powder (71 mg, 10 mmol) added. The resultant suspension was stirred at room temperature for 4 h to give an green suspension. $[N(2,6-M_2C_6H_3)C(H)]_2$ (1.17 g, 4.5 mmol) was added to the suspension after cooled to -78 °C. The resultant mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h to give a red solution. At -78 °C, silicon tetrachloride (10 ml, 88 mmol) was added to the solution. Warmed to room temperature and stirred for 24 h. Volatiles were removed in vacuo and the residue was extracted with toluene (20 ml). After filtration, the filtrate was placed at -30 °C to give yellow crystals (43%). Elemental analysis(%) calcd. for $C_{18}H_{20}Cl_6N_2Si_2$: C, 40.54%; H, 3.78%; N, 5.25%; Found: C,40.61%; H, 3.83%; N, 5.17%.

S3. Refinement

All H atoms were placed in geometrically idealized positions and constrained to ride on their parent atoms with C–H of 0.93-0.96 Å, and $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2-1.5 U_{eq}$ (C).



Figure 1

The molecular structure of (I) showing 30% probability displacement ellipsoids and the atom-numbering scheme. The unlabelled atoms are related with the labelled ones by symmetry operation (-x, -y + 2, -z). H atoms omitted for clarity.

(E)-N,N'-Bis(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-N,N'- bis(trichlorosilyl)ethylene-1,2-diamine

Crystal data	
$C_{18}H_{20}Cl_6N_2Si_2$	Z = 1
$M_r = 533.24$	F(000) = 272
Triclinic, $P\overline{1}$	$D_{\rm x} = 1.421 {\rm ~Mg} {\rm ~m}^{-3}$
Hall symbol: -P 1	Mo <i>K</i> α radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å
a = 8.1858 (3) Å	Cell parameters from 2127 reflections
b = 8.4249 (3) Å	$\theta = 2.8 - 25.6^{\circ}$
c = 10.6074 (4) Å	$\mu = 0.79 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\alpha = 74.583 \ (3)^{\circ}$	T = 273 K
$\beta = 79.999 \ (2)^{\circ}$	Block, yellow
$\gamma = 62.243 \ (2)^{\circ}$	$0.14 \times 0.12 \times 0.08 \text{ mm}$
$V = 623.00 (4) Å^3$	

Data collection

Bruker APEX2 CCD area-detector diffractometer Radiation source: fine-focus sealed tube Graphite monochromator φ and ω scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (<i>SADABS</i> ; Bruker, 2001) $T_{\min} = 0.897, T_{\max} = 0.939$ Refinement	6168 measured reflections 2168 independent reflections 1729 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ $R_{int} = 0.034$ $\theta_{max} = 25.1^{\circ}, \theta_{min} = 2.0^{\circ}$ $h = -9 \rightarrow 9$ $k = -10 \rightarrow 9$ $l = -12 \rightarrow 12$
Refinement on F^2 Least-squares matrix: full $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.059$ $wR(F^2) = 0.202$ S = 1.11 2168 reflections 129 parameters <i>Special details</i>	0 restraints H-atom parameters constrained $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.133P)^2 + 0.1233P]$ where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} = 0.088$ $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.57$ e Å ⁻³ $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.50$ e Å ⁻³

Geometry. All e.s.d.'s (except the e.s.d. in the dihedral angle between two l.s. planes) are estimated using the full covariance matrix. The cell e.s.d.'s are taken into account individually in the estimation of e.s.d.'s in distances, angles and torsion angles; correlations between e.s.d.'s in cell parameters are only used when they are defined by crystal symmetry. An approximate (isotropic) treatment of cell e.s.d.'s is used for estimating e.s.d.'s involving l.s. planes.

Refinement. Refinement of F^2 against ALL reflections. The weighted *R*-factor *wR* and goodness of fit *S* are based on F^2 , conventional *R*-factors *R* are based on *F*, with *F* set to zero for negative F^2 . The threshold expression of $F^2 > \sigma(F^2)$ is used only for calculating *R*-factors(gt) *etc.* and is not relevant to the choice of reflections for refinement. *R*-factors based on F^2 are statistically about twice as large as those based on *F*, and *R*- factors based on ALL data will be even larger.

	X	У	Ζ	$U_{ m iso}$ */ $U_{ m eq}$	
Si1	0.34542 (14)	0.80312 (14)	0.19720 (9)	0.0424 (4)	
Cl1	0.40381 (19)	1.01460 (17)	0.18495 (14)	0.0736 (5)	
Cl2	0.54249 (18)	0.64298 (19)	0.08286 (14)	0.0791 (5)	
C13	0.36689 (17)	0.65899 (17)	0.38326 (10)	0.0675 (4)	
N1	0.1308 (4)	0.8729 (4)	0.1525 (3)	0.0394 (7)	
C1	0.0820 (5)	0.9686 (5)	0.0214 (3)	0.0424 (9)	
H1	0.1729	0.9875	-0.0375	0.051*	
C2	-0.0078 (5)	0.8409 (5)	0.2452 (3)	0.0391 (8)	
C3	-0.0237 (6)	0.6787 (5)	0.2607 (4)	0.0510 (10)	
C4	-0.1436 (6)	0.6423 (6)	0.3580 (5)	0.0630 (12)	
H4	-0.1535	0.5335	0.3706	0.076*	
C5	-0.2502 (7)	0.7654 (8)	0.4378 (5)	0.0669 (13)	
Н5	-0.3294	0.7380	0.5042	0.080*	
C6	-0.2389 (6)	0.9273 (7)	0.4189 (4)	0.0623 (12)	
H6	-0.3130	1.0103	0.4716	0.075*	
C7	-0.1181 (6)	0.9699 (6)	0.3218 (4)	0.0484 (9)	
C8	0.0925 (9)	0.5424 (7)	0.1755 (7)	0.0816 (16)	
H8A	0.2172	0.4774	0.2026	0.122*	
H8B	0.0917	0.6064	0.0858	0.122*	

Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters $(Å^2)$

supporting information

1100	0.0426	0 4560	0 1929	0 122*
пос	0.0420	0.4309	0.1838	0.122
C9	-0.1071 (8)	1.1485 (6)	0.3024 (6)	0.0736 (14)
H9A	-0.0312	1.1381	0.3666	0.110*
H9B	-0.2290	1.2451	0.3122	0.110*
H9C	-0.0541	1.1761	0.2162	0.110*

Atomic displacement parameters $(Å^2)$

	U^{11}	U^{22}	U^{33}	U^{12}	U^{13}	U^{23}
Si1	0.0486 (7)	0.0433 (6)	0.0322 (6)	-0.0209 (5)	-0.0094 (4)	0.0021 (4)
Cl1	0.0869 (10)	0.0678 (8)	0.0823 (9)	-0.0503 (7)	-0.0180 (7)	-0.0021 (6)
Cl2	0.0655 (8)	0.0787 (9)	0.0780 (9)	-0.0180 (7)	0.0111 (6)	-0.0291 (7)
C13	0.0699 (8)	0.0822 (8)	0.0431 (6)	-0.0385 (7)	-0.0239 (5)	0.0208 (6)
N1	0.0483 (18)	0.0413 (16)	0.0266 (14)	-0.0197 (14)	-0.0087 (12)	-0.0002 (12)
C1	0.054 (2)	0.0413 (19)	0.0289 (18)	-0.0214 (18)	-0.0087 (15)	0.0009 (15)
C2	0.047 (2)	0.0440 (19)	0.0252 (16)	-0.0215 (17)	-0.0092 (14)	0.0006 (15)
C3	0.059 (3)	0.046 (2)	0.050(2)	-0.025 (2)	-0.0104 (19)	-0.0050 (18)
C4	0.064 (3)	0.061 (3)	0.068 (3)	-0.038 (2)	-0.009 (2)	0.002 (2)
C5	0.061 (3)	0.094 (4)	0.047 (2)	-0.045 (3)	-0.001 (2)	0.001 (2)
C6	0.054 (3)	0.082 (3)	0.045 (2)	-0.024 (2)	0.0039 (19)	-0.021 (2)
C7	0.052 (2)	0.050(2)	0.040 (2)	-0.0185 (19)	-0.0105 (17)	-0.0067 (17)
C8	0.096 (4)	0.059 (3)	0.100 (4)	-0.039 (3)	0.013 (3)	-0.035 (3)
C9	0.085 (4)	0.059 (3)	0.081 (3)	-0.029 (3)	0.004 (3)	-0.033 (3)

Geometric parameters (Å, °)

Sil—N1	1.684 (3)	C4—H4	0.9300
Si1—Cl3	2.0119 (13)	C5—C6	1.369 (7)
Si1—Cl2	2.0142 (17)	С5—Н5	0.9300
Sil—Cl1	2.0170 (14)	C6—C7	1.396 (6)
N1—C1	1.428 (4)	С6—Н6	0.9300
N1—C2	1.444 (4)	С7—С9	1.507 (6)
C1-C1 ⁱ	1.307 (8)	C8—H8A	0.9600
C1—H1	0.9300	C8—H8B	0.9600
С2—С7	1.399 (6)	C8—H8C	0.9600
С2—С3	1.397 (5)	С9—Н9А	0.9600
C3—C4	1.372 (6)	С9—Н9В	0.9600
С3—С8	1.509 (7)	С9—Н9С	0.9600
C4—C5	1.386 (7)		
C13…C13 ⁱⁱ	3.3119 (17)		
N1—Si1—Cl3	108.46 (11)	C6—C5—C4	120.1 (4)
N1—Si1—Cl2	112.31 (12)	С6—С5—Н5	120.0
Cl3—Si1—Cl2	108.64 (7)	C4—C5—H5	120.0
N1—Si1—Cl1	112.55 (11)	C5—C6—C7	121.1 (4)
Cl3—Si1—Cl1	109.04 (7)	С5—С6—Н6	119.4
Cl2—Si1—Cl1	105.73 (7)	С7—С6—Н6	119.4

C1—N1—C2	118.7 (3)	C2—C7—C6	117.8 (4)
C1—N1—Si1	120.1 (2)	C2—C7—C9	121.8 (4)
C2—N1—Si1	121.2 (2)	C6—C7—C9	120.4 (4)
C1 ⁱ C1N1	124.4 (4)	C3—C8—H8A	109.5
C1 ⁱ —C1—H1	117.8	C3—C8—H8B	109.5
N1—C1—H1	117.8	H8A—C8—H8B	109.5
C7—C2—C3	121.4 (3)	C3—C8—H8C	109.5
C7—C2—N1	119.1 (3)	H8A—C8—H8C	109.5
C3—C2—N1	119.5 (3)	H8B—C8—H8C	109.5
C4—C3—C2	118.7 (4)	С7—С9—Н9А	109.5
C4—C3—C8	120.2 (4)	С7—С9—Н9В	109.5
C2—C3—C8	121.0 (4)	H9A—C9—H9B	109.5
C3—C4—C5	120.9 (4)	С7—С9—Н9С	109.5
C3—C4—H4	119.6	Н9А—С9—Н9С	109.5
С5—С4—Н4	119.5	H9B—C9—H9C	109.5
Cl3—Si1—N1—C1	-176.0 (2)	N1—C2—C3—C4	173.7 (4)
Cl2—Si1—N1—C1	-55.9 (3)	C7—C2—C3—C8	178.5 (4)
Cl1—Si1—N1—C1	63.3 (3)	N1—C2—C3—C8	-4.4 (6)
Cl3—Si1—N1—C2	5.2 (3)	C2—C3—C4—C5	1.4 (7)
Cl2—Si1—N1—C2	125.3 (3)	C8—C3—C4—C5	179.5 (5)
Cl1—Si1—N1—C2	-115.5 (3)	C3—C4—C5—C6	1.0 (7)
C2— $N1$ — $C1$ — $C1$ ⁱ	0.4 (7)	C4—C5—C6—C7	-1.5 (7)
Si1—N1—C1—C1 ⁱ	-178.4 (4)	C3—C2—C7—C6	2.9 (6)
C1—N1—C2—C7	-91.3 (4)	N1—C2—C7—C6	-174.2 (3)
Si1—N1—C2—C7	87.6 (4)	C3—C2—C7—C9	-177.7 (4)
C1—N1—C2—C3	91.6 (4)	N1—C2—C7—C9	5.2 (6)
Si1—N1—C2—C3	-89.6 (4)	C5—C6—C7—C2	-0.5 (6)
C7—C2—C3—C4	-3.4 (6)	C5—C6—C7—C9	-179.9 (5)

Symmetry codes: (i) -*x*, -*y*+2, -*z*; (ii) -*x*+1, -*y*+1, -*z*+1.