

AD-A281 308



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2. REPORT DATE
29 October 19933. REPORT TYPE AND DATES COVERED
~~Interim~~ Report: 10/1/92 - 9/30/93

Annual

Design and Synthesis of Potential Organic Superconductors

5. FUNDING NUMBERS

6. AUTHOR(S)

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61103D 3484 RS

7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)

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REPORT NUMBER

AFOSR-TR- 94 0403

9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)

AFOSR/ACNL
Building 410, Bolling AFB DC
20332-6448
Dr. Lee10. SPONSORING/MONITORING
AGENCY REPORT NUMBER

F49620-92-J-0534

11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

DTIC
ELECTE
JUL 07 1994
S G D

94-20731



12a. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE; DISTRIBUTION IS UNLIMITED.

13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words)

A number of mixed-valence (2:1), conducting salts of bis(ethylenedithio)tetraselenafulvalene (BETS) have been prepared. Four (GaCl_4 , SbF_6 , CF_3SO_3 and $\text{Cu}[\text{N}(\text{CN})_2]\text{Br}$) have been characterized in detail (X-ray crystallography, DC resistivity from 300-10K, rf penetration depth measurements (0.5K), pressure studies from 0.5-5 kbar at 4K, and tight-binding band calculations). The salts are highly metallic to low temperatures but do not exhibit superconductivity under the experimental conditions explored.

The synthesis of a new synthetic metal precursor, bis(ethylenedithio)tetrathionaphthalene (BEDT-TTN), is about three-quarters completed.

Spin density wave (SDW) and charge density wave (CDW) phenomena of three organic superconductors (κ -(BEDT-TTF) $\text{Cu}[\text{N}(\text{CN})_2]\text{Cl}$, $(\text{TMTSF})_2\text{PF}_6$, and $(\text{TMTSF})_2\text{ReO}_4$, where BEDT-TTF is bis(ethylenedithio)tetrathiafulvalene and TMTSF is tetramethyltetraselenafulvalene) have been studied in collaboration with Professor J.W. Brill (Department of Physics, University of Kentucky). The three organic metals avert the SDW and CDW transitions under pressure and become superconductors.

DTIC QUALITY INSPECTED 8

14. SUBJECT TERMS

Organic superconductor, synthesis, structure, resistivity,
SDW, CDW

15. NUMBER OF PAGES

6

16. PRICE CODE

17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
OF REPORT

UNCLASSIFIED

18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
OF THIS PAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
OF ABSTRACT

UNCLASSIFIED

20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT

INTERIM REPORT. YEAR 1
(FY92 URI/RIP)

Approved for public release;
distribution unlimited.

Design and Synthesis of Organic Superconductors

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29 October 1993

ABSTRACT

A number of mixed-valence (2:1), conducting salts of bis(ethylenedithio)tetraselenafulvalene (BETS) have been prepared. Four (GaCl_4 , SbF_6 , CF_3SO_3 and $\text{Cu}[\text{N}(\text{CN})_2]\text{Br}$) have been characterized in detail (X-ray crystallography, DC resistivity from 300-10K, rf penetration depth measurements (0.5K), pressure studies from 0.5-5 kbar at 4K, and tight-binding band calculations). The salts are highly metallic to low temperatures but do not exhibit superconductivity under the experimental conditions explored.

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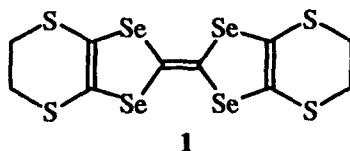
Spin density wave (SDW) and charge density wave (CDW) phenomena of three organic superconductors (κ -(BEDT-TTF) $\text{Cu}[\text{N}(\text{CN})_2]\text{Cl}$, $(\text{TMTSF})_2\text{PF}_6$, and $(\text{TMTSF})_2\text{ReO}_4$, where BEDT-TTF is bis(ethylenedithio)tetrathiafulvalene and TMTSF is tetramethyltetraselenafulvalene) have been studied in collaboration with Professor J.W. Brill (Department of Physics, University of Kentucky). The three organic metals avert the SDW and CDW transitions under pressure and become superconductors.

RESEARCH SUMMARY

A brief summary is provided of completed research on radical-cation conductors (Donor Systems), radical-anion conductors (Acceptor Systems), and collaborative research projects.

A. Donor Systems

1. Bis(ethylenedithio)tetraselenafulvalene (BETS, 1)



The synthesis and characterization of new conducting salts of BETS has been actively pursued.

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a. Growth of conducting salts. The preparations of a number of radical cation salts of the BETS donor (SbF_6 , AuCl_4 , TiCl_4 , TlI_4 , GaBr_4 , GaCl_4 , I_3 , IBr_2 , CF_3SO_3 , CH_3SO_3 , $\text{Cu}(\text{NCS})_2$, and $\text{Cu}[\text{N}(\text{CN})_2]\text{X}$ where $\text{X}=\text{Cl}$, Br , I) were explored employing standard electrochemical procedures.¹ 1,1,2-Trichloroethane (TCE), TCE-ethanol mixtures, chlorobenzene, and benzonitrile were screened as electrocrystallization solvents. For most of the counterions, TCE ethanol mixtures (5-10% ethanol by volume) provided the best quality crystals. Because of the limited solubility of BETS in most organic solvents, the electrocrystallizations were carried out at 40-50°C. Constant currents of 0.5-1.0 $\mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$ were utilized, and the reactions were conducted under dry nitrogen. Four counterion systems have been examined in detail (SbF_6 , GaCl_4 , CF_3SO_3 , $\text{Cu}[\text{N}(\text{CN})_2]\text{Br}$).

b. Molecular structures. Single crystal X-ray structures of the four BETS salts were determined at room temperature and ~100K. Key crystallographic parameters are summarized in **Table 1**.

Table 1. X-ray crystallographic data for the $(\text{BETS})_2\text{X}$ salts

X	T(°K)	Space group	Cell dimensions (Å)	Interaxial angles (°)	Unit cell volume (Å ³)	Z
$\text{Cu}[\text{N}(\text{CN})_2]\text{Br}$	293	Pnma	a=12.961(2) b=31.005(5) c= 8.576(1)	$\alpha=90$ $\beta=90$ $\gamma=90$	3447	4
$\text{Cu}[\text{N}(\text{CN})_2]\text{Br}$	95	Pnma	a=12.755(1) b=30.743(5) c= 8.576(1)	$\alpha=90$ $\beta=90$ $\gamma=90$	3363	4
GaCl_4	293	Pnma	a=11.675(4) b=35.940(14) c= 8.471(3)	$\alpha=90$ $\beta=90$ $\gamma=90$	3555	4
GaCl_4	105	Pnma	a=11.537(4) b=35.739(14) c= 8.373(3)	$\alpha=90$ $\beta=90$ $\gamma=90$	3452	4
CF_3SO_3	293	P2 ₁ /a	a=11.732(2) b= 8.332(1) c=34.972(7)	$\alpha=90$ $\beta=99.68(1)$ $\gamma=90$	3370	4
CF_3SO_3	99	P2 ₁ /a	a=11.560(6) b= 8.214(1) c=34.567(1)	$\alpha=90$ $\beta=98.92(0)$ $\gamma=90$	3243	4
SbF_6	293.5	C2/c	a=35.311(9) b= 8.413(1) c=11.590(2)	$\alpha=90$ $\beta=90.41(1)$ $\gamma=90$	3397	4
SbF_6	102	Cc	a=35.017(7) b= 8.348(1) c=22.417(1)	$\alpha=90$ $\beta=99.96(0)$ $\gamma=90$	3287	4

All of the salts possessed 2:1 donor:anion stoichiometries, layered structures, and kappa packing motifs. In κ -(BETS)₂GaCl₄ (Pnma) the gallium tetrachloride ions lie on mirror planes at $y=1/4$ and $3/4$; radical-cation dimer layers alternate with the gallium tetrachloride layers. κ -(BETS)₂CF₃SO₃ (P2₁/a) has two different types of cation layers that alternate with layers of triflate anions. The structure of κ -(BETS)₂SbF₆ presented formidable crystallographic problems because of disorder in the terminal ethylenedithio groups of the BETS cations. Examination of diffraction data at room temperature and 102K indicated that the crystal belonged to one of the monoclinic space groups Cc or C2/c. Extensive modelling and testing suggested that the appropriate space group is C2/c with both ethylenedithio groups disordered at room temperature and Cc with one end disordered at 102K. The most interesting crystal structure is that of κ -(BETS)₂Cu[N(CN)₂]Br; it is isostructural with κ -(ET)₂Cu[N(CN)₂]Br. Of course, the slightly larger selenium atoms cause some modest changes in geometry. The most significant difference appears to be that one of the ethylenedithio groups of κ -(BETS)₂Cu[N(CN)₂]Br is disordered at 95K with the "staggered" conformation² preferred. At this temperature κ -(ET)₂Cu[N(CN)₂]Br exists exclusively in the "eclipsed" conformation.² Detailed analysis of the crystal packings are in progress. Initial results show that the dimeric units of all four salts have the bond-over-ring orientation³ that is observed in all κ -phase ET superconductors.

c. Resistivity measurements. Room temperature, four-probe resistivities of the four salts were in the range 50-0.06 Scm⁻¹. κ -(BETS)₂SbF₆ is metallic to at least 15K. The resistive profile of κ -(BETS)GaCl₄ is somewhat reminiscent of those of κ -(ET)₂Cu(NCS)₂⁴ and κ -(ET)₂Cu[N(CN)₂]Br⁵ down to about 65K, where extensive cracking of the crystals was observed. κ -(BETS)₂CF₃SO₃ is metallic to 80K, where it undergoes a T_{MI} transition. All of the κ -(BETS)₂Cu[N(CN)₂]Br crystals were diamond shaped plates, and the leads were mounted along the a-axis⁵. Nevertheless, the results were variable. Work continues on this system.

d. Rf penetration depth measurements and pressure studies. No Meissner effect was detected at 0.5K in the SbF₆, GaCl₄, and Cu[N(CN)₂]Br salts employing the rf penetration depth technique (~500 KHz).⁶ Also, rf impedance measurements⁷ at 0.5-5 kbar at temperatures as low as 4K failed to detect superconductivity in κ -(BETS)₂X crystals, where X=SbF₆, GaCl₄, CF₃SO₃, and Cu[N(CN)₂]Br.

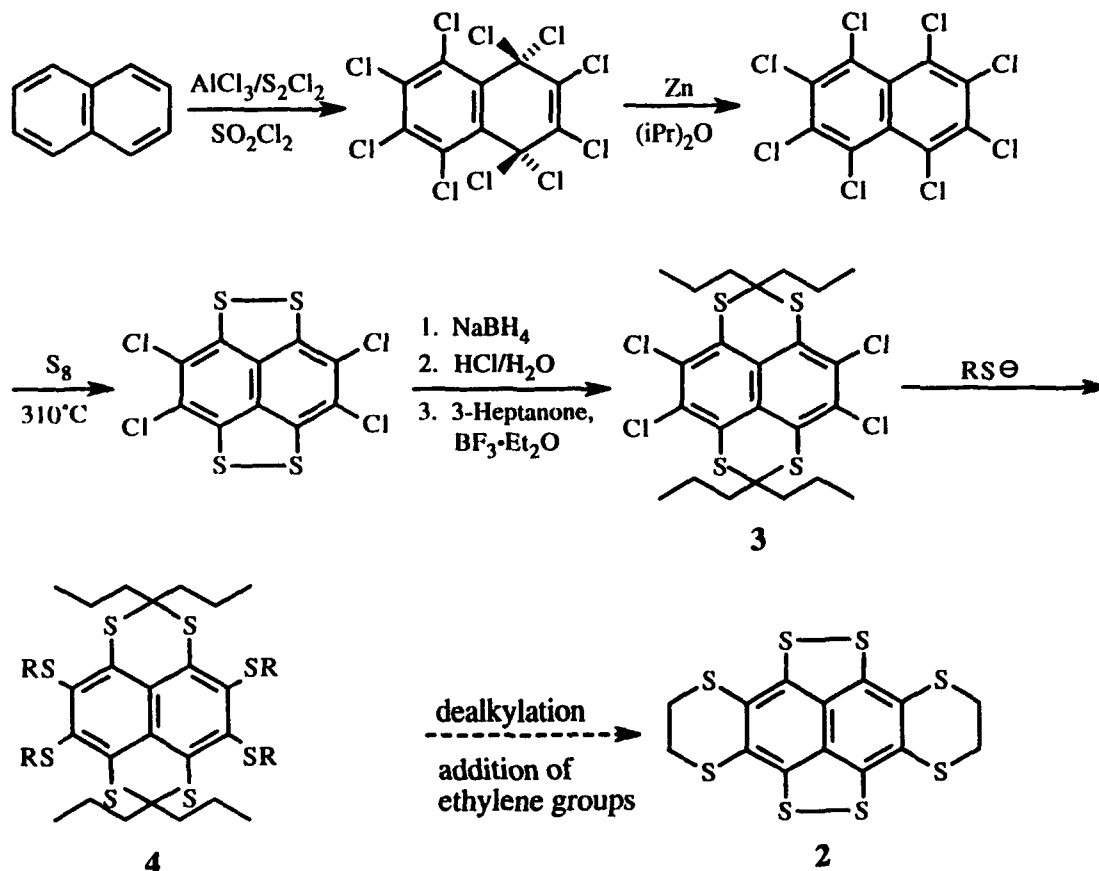
e. Band electronic structures. Preliminary tight-binding band calculations³ have been completed on the donor layers of the four BETS salts (low temperature crystallographic data). The calculations employed the extended Hückel method and utilized single- ζ , Slater-type orbitals for the s and p orbitals of the C, S, and Se atoms.

The Fermi surfaces of all of the systems consist of closed, overlapping ovals centered at Γ and its equivalent points in reciprocal space, indicating 2-D metallic character.

The BETS salts examined so far are highly metallic and all possess the kappa packing motif. This system looks very promising and merits thorough investigation.

2. Bis(ethylenedithio)tetrathionaphthalene (BEDT-TTN 2).

The proposed synthetic route to BEDT-TTN is shown in Scheme 1.



Scheme 1. Proposed synthetic route for the preparation of BEDT-TTN.

A highly efficient synthesis of intermediate 3 has been worked out. Nucleophilic displacement of all four chlorines of 3 employing a variety of nucleophiles has proven to be very difficult. Once the first nucleophile enters, subsequent reactions tend to be on the entering nucleophile and not the remaining chlorines. Systematic screening of various sulfur nucleophiles, solvents and temperature is in progress.

B. Acceptor Systems

Radical anion based conductors are far more air-sensitive in general than are their radical cation counterparts. This is most likely due to facile oxidation of the radical anions by dioxygen.

A Vacuum Atmospheres glove box has been purchased for use in the growth and characterization of radical anion conductors. The glove box has been vibrationally isolated and equipped for electrocrystallization studies. The methodology for handling air-sensitive materials is being developed.

C. Collaborations

Several studies with the Brill group at the University of Kentucky have been completed. Personnel from Indiana and Kentucky have exchanged visits to each others facilities.

1. AC Calorimetry at Charge Density Wave (CDW) and Spin Density Wave (SDW) Transitions.

The specific heats at the SDW transition in κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu[N(CN)₂]Cl and the CDW transition in (TMTSF)₂ReO₄ have been measured. No anomaly is observed in the SDW transition. For (TMTSF)₂ReO₄ there is a sample-dependent latent heat associated with anion ordering.

2. Electric Field Dependence of Young's Modulus of (TMTSF)₂PF₆.

The Young's modulus (Y) and internal friction (1/Q) in (TMTSF)₂PF₆ have measured at 5.5K as functions of electric field. No changes ($\Delta Y/Y$, $\Delta 1/Q < 2 \times 10^{-4}$) are observed at fields up to 100 E_T, the threshold for SDW depinning, in contrast to what is observed for many sliding CDW materials. A possible explanation is that bulk depinning of the SDW is not observed.

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