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Viktor Bezborodov, Ilya Babenko, Igor Rozentsveig, Nikolay Korchevin, Ekaterina Levanova, Vladimir Smirnov, Tatyana Borodina, Vitaliy Saraev, Alexey Vilms

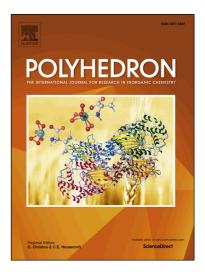
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## Synthesis, single crystal X-ray diffraction studies and application of novel chromium(III) complexes with 2,2'-bis(sulfanylethyl)- and 2,2'-bis(selanylethyl)ethers

Viktor Bezborodov<sup>[a]</sup>, Ilya Babenko<sup>[a]</sup>, Igor Rozentsveig<sup>[a,b]</sup>, Nikolay Korchevin<sup>[b]</sup>, Ekaterina Levanova<sup>[b]</sup>, Vladimir Smirnov<sup>[b]</sup>, Tatyana Borodina<sup>[b]</sup>, Vitaliy Saraev<sup>[a]</sup>, Alexey Vilms<sup>[a]</sup>, e-mail: <u>legatt112@yandex.ru</u>

[a] Irkutsk State University, 664003, Irkutsk, Karl Marx st., 1, Russia.[b] A.E. Favorsky Irkutsk Institute of Chemistry SB RAS, 664033, Irkutsk, Favorsky st., 1, Russia.

## ABSTRACT

A series of five chromium(III) complexes with tridentate ligands containing S/O-and Se/O-donor groups was obtained by the reaction of  $[Cr(MeCN)_3Cl_3]$  with 2,2'-bis(sulfanylethyl)ethers or 2,2'bis(selanylethyl)ethers correspondingly. The new  $[Cr((RSCH_2CH_2)_2O)Cl_3]$  and  $[Cr((RSeCH_2CH_2)_2O)Cl_3]$  complexes were isolated as individual substances and characterized by TG/DSC, IR, EPR and elemental analysis. For the complex  $[Cr((EtSCH_2CH_2)_2O)Cl_3]$ , a single crystal was characterized by X-

ray diffraction analysis. Complexes  $[Cr((EtSCH_2CH_2)_2O)Cl_3]$ ,  $[Cr((MeSCH_2CH_2)_2O)Cl_3]$  and  $[Cr((MeSeCH_2CH_2)_2O)Cl_3]$  exhibited catalytic activity in the ethylene oligomerization reaction.

**Keywords:** coordination chemistry, tridentate ligands, chromium(III) complexes, X-ray studies, ethylene oligomerization.

## **1. Introduction**

In modern chemistry, the synthesis of new complex compounds is of great interest, not only to satisfy academic curiosity, but also to solve some important specific applied problems. In particular, one actual problem requires the design and structural study of complex compounds of transition metals located in groups V–VII of the periodic table which are promising as effective catalysts for selective ethylene oligo- and polymerization to higher  $\alpha$ -olefins (butene-1, hexene-1 and octene-1), for instance, new chromium(III) complexes with different N, O, S-donor ligands [1].

It is known that sulfur species are poisons for many catalytic processes, so, sulfur-containing compounds are not usually used as ligands in transition metal catalyzed reactions. However, in contrast with this fact, it was described that various organic SNS-, SOS- and SSS-type ligands can

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