Use of Hydrogen Selenide for Synthesis of Binuclear Palladium Complexes containing Bridging Selenide, and their Conversion into Novel Dimetallic Selenoxides

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The complexes $[Pd_2Cl_2(\mu-PPh_2CH(R)PPh_2)_2]$, where R=H or Me, react with H_2Se or elemental Se to yield the bridging-selenide derivatives $[Pd_2Cl_2(\mu-Se)\{\mu-PPh_2CH(R)PPh_2\}_2]$; these, on treatment with Bu^tOOH , yield the corresponding μ -SeO (dimetallic selenoxide) species.

We have reported recently¹ on reaction (1) [X = S, dpm = bis(diphenylphosphino)methane], which allows for the quantitative recovery of H_2 from H_2S , and it was of considerable interest to see if such chemistry existed for the X = Se and O systems.

$$[Pd_2Cl_2(\mu-dpm)_2] + H_2X \rightarrow [Pd_2Cl_2(\mu-X)(\mu-dpm)_2] + H_2 \quad (1)$$

$$(2a) (X = Se)$$

A corresponding reaction does occur with H_2Se , although accompanying replacement of the terminal chloride ligands by SeH^- is also observed, which is presumably related to the higher acidity of H_2Se compared to that of H_2Se ; the reaction[†]

gives a mixture of the A-frame complexes (2a), $[Pd_2Cl(SeH)(\mu-Se)(\mu-dpm)_2]$ (2b), and $[Pd_2(SeH)_2(\mu-Se)(\mu-dpm)_2]$

dpm)₂] (2c). Complex (2a) can be made independently by

treatment of (1) with elemental, amorphous selenium. ‡ The

¹H n.m.r. spectra of (2a-c) (Table 1) reveal the inequi-

valence of the methylene protons and the virtual coupling to the remote phosphorus nuclei, exactly analogous to the data reported³ for [Pd₂Cl₂(μ -S)(μ -dpm)₂]; the resonance for coordinated SeH⁻ in (**2b**) and (**2c**) is seen, respectively, at δ -3.52 (t, J_{HP} 13.00 Hz) and δ -3.56 (qn, J_{HP} 6.39 Hz), differences in splitting resulting from coupling to two and four P atoms, respectively. The recently isolated *anti*-isomer of

[†] H_2Se , generated *in situ* from Al_2Se_3 , was transferred *via* Schlenktube techniques to cooled CH_2Cl_2 solutions of (1) [or (2a)]; after *ca*. I h at 20 °C, addition of MeOH to a concentrated solution precipitated a mixture of (2a), (2b), and (2c).

[‡] Complex (1) was stirred with freshly prepared red selenium² [Se:(1) = 3] in CH₂Cl₂ for 1.5 h under N₂; removal of excess of Se by filtration, and concentration to a small volume, followed by addition of MeOH, yielded the pure, brown, crystalline product in 50% yield (C, H, and Se elemental analyses are satisfactory).

Table 1. N.m.r. spectral data^a for the dinuclear palladium complexes.

Compound		$^{1}\mathrm{H}, \delta_{\mathrm{H}}$ splitting pattern $(J_{\mathrm{HH}}, J_{\mathrm{HP}}, \mathrm{Hz})$	$^{31}P\{^{1}H\}$, δ_{P} p.p.m.
(2a)	CH ₂ :	4.91 d.qn. (13.05, 5.76), 3.63 d.qn. (13.05, 3.51)	4.0 s
(2b) ^b	CH_2 :	4.98 d.qn. (13.07, 6.15), 3.80 d.qn. (13.07, 3.44)	AA'BB'c
(2c)d	CH ₂ :	5.03 d.qn. (13.31, 5.76), 4.00 d.qn. (13.31, 3.45)	13.2 s
(3)	CH:	5.86 t.qt. (7.29, 13.75), 4.09 un	AA'BB'e
	$C(CH_3)$:	1.33 d.t. (7.29, 13.16), 0.98 d.t. (7.83, 10.07)	
(4)	CH ₂ :	6.09 d.t. (13.13, 13.29), 4.01 d.t. (14.25, 8.50)	f
		2.64 m, 2.53 m	
(5) ^g	CH:	6.97 t.qt. (7.33, 15.47), 3.53 t.qt.t. (7.00, 15.00, 2.50h)	f
	$C(CH_3)$:	1.13 d.t. (7.33, 12.70), 1.00 d.t. (7.00, 10.26)	
(6)	CH ₂ :	4.90 d.qn. (13.0, 5.6), 2.53 d.qn. (13.0, 3.54)	

⁸ Measured at ambient temperatures in CD_2Cl_2 or $CDCl_3$; δ_H ; proton integrations were correct in every system; δ_p downfield relative to external 85% H_3PO_4 ; s= singlet, d= doublet, t= triplet, qt= quartet, qt= quintet, qt= quintet,

(2a) X = Se, R = H
(3) X = Se, R = Me
(4) X = SeO, R = H
(5) X = SeO, R = Me
(6) X = O, R = H

[Pd₂Cl₂(μ -dpmMe)₂] [where dpmMe is 1,1-(diphenylphosphino)ethane, and *anti* refers to the disposition of the Me groups with respect to the Pd–C–Pd plane]⁴ reacts similarly with Se, but more sluggishly, to give (3), in which the two methyl (and methine) groups are now inequivalent, and coupling occurs only to the adjacent P atoms (Table 1).

Compounds (2a) and (3) were readily converted into their (μ -SeO) derivatives (4) and (5), via a range of O-atom donors, optimum yields being obtained with Bu^tOOH.§ The incorporation of the O-atom makes inequivalent all four of the $-CH_{2}$ -protons in (4), and the sets of $-CH(CH_3)$ protons in (5) (Table 1). The n.m.r. data for (4) resemble closely those for the corresponding μ -SO complex.¹ In contrast to the latter, no further oxidation to the μ -SeO₂ species is observed. To our knowledge, the μ -SeO derivatives are the first such dimetallic selenoxides to be reported, although Rauchfuss and coworkers have reported recently on the transient formation in solution of a μ_3 -SeO moiety within an Fe₂Pt species.⁵ I.r. bands found at ~770 cm⁻¹ (Nujol) for (4) and (5) are assigned to v_{SeO} .

Compound (1) in CH₂Cl₂-MeOH does react with H₂O [cf. equation (1)], but the reaction is complex and ³¹P n.m.r. data indicate numerous and, as yet, largely uncharacterized products, although a µ-oxo species may well be a precursor to some of these. The complex $[Pd_2Cl_2(\mu-O)(\mu-dpm)_2]$, (6), is almost certainly formed at -50 °C in CD₂Cl₂ on treating (1) with an equimolar amount of m-chloroperbenzoic acid; there is a rapid colour change from orange to lemon yellow, and the n.m.r. data (Table 1) are similar to those of the μ -Se species (2a), and the μ -S analogue.³ Decomposition of the μ -oxo species occurs on warming above -50 °C, to give again a complex mixture of unidentified products. Of note, the source of oxygen in a reported $[Os_2Cl_6(\mu-O)(\mu-dpm)_2]$ complex was not identified, 6 although extraction of oxygen from H₂O to give μ-oxo complexes is well documented for the early transition metals.7

Clearly, extraction of the main group element from H_2X (X = O, S, Se) as a dianion by transition metal complexes, with concomitant evolution of dihydrogen, now seems to be established, and is of interest from the viewpoints of inorganic syntheses, and H_2 recovery.

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[§] For example, (2a) was stirred with a 10-fold excess of Bu^oOOH in CH₂Cl₂ for 1 h; addition of diethyl ether yielded orange crystals of (4) in 85% yield. Elemental analysis, including O and Se, is satisfactory.