Synthesis of Di-, Tri-, and Polyphosphane and Phosphene Transition-Metal Complexes

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I. Introduction

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This review concerns complexes with one or more phosphorus-phosphorus bonds, whatever the coordinence of phosphorus atoms and the type of bonds between phosphorus and metal or phosphorus and phosphorus (σ or π bonds, η ¹ or η ² complexation). It covers **extensively the literature on diphosphane (P—P) and diphosphene (P=P) complexes up to the middle of 1989. Only compounds obtained by complexation of white phosphorus (P4) 1 or phosphorus pentasulfide (P4S10) are excluded from the scope of this review.**

Diphosphene complexes have been reviewed in 19842,3 and 1986⁴ by Cowley and 1985 by Scherer,⁶ but there have been several developments since that time. Furthermore no review has ever been published about diphosphane complexes.

From an historical point of view, the starting point of the present review dates back to 1958, when Burg and Mahler⁶ synthesized the first diphosphane complex, 1, 70 years after the synthesis of the first free diphosphane, 2, by Dorken.⁷

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n\text{(CF}_3\text{)}_2\text{P} & \text{P(CF}_3\text{)}_2 & \text{Ph}_2\text{P}-\text{PPh}_2 \\
\downarrow & \downarrow & \\
\text{(CO)}_3\text{Ni} & \text{Ni(CO)}_3 & & \\
\downarrow & & \\
\text{1} & & \\
\end{array}
$$

Since then, more than 250 articles have been published in this field, mainly in the last 10 years. This is partly due to the dramatic spread of the chemistry of low-coordinated phosphorus compounds, which started in 1981 with the synthesis of the first diphosphene, 3, by Yoshifuji,⁸ 7 years after that of the first diphosphene complex, 4, by Green and Morris.⁹

The numerical importance of each type of complex is very different; approximately 475 diphosphane complexes and 125 diphosphene complexes have been synthesized. This important difference expresses both the anteriority of researches and the easier synthesis of diphosphane complexes.

The first part of this review consists of a presentation of the different types of compounds and their structural and spectroscopic characteristics. The second part is a survey of methods used for the preparation of all those complexes. The hundreds of compounds thus synthesized are listed at the end of the review together with their methods of synthesis and the yield of the reactions.

The following abbreviations will be used all along this review: Ac (acetyl), An (anisyl), Ar (2,4,6-tri-terf-butylphenyl), Bipy (2,2'-bipyridine), iBu (isobutyl); nBu (butyl), tBu (iert-butyl), COD (cyclooctadiene), Cp (cyclopentadienyl), Cp* (1,2,3,4,5-pentamethylcyclopentadienyl), DBU (l,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene), Et (ethyl), cHex (cyclohexyl), Me (methyl), (-)-Ment ((-)-menthyl), Mes (mesityl), Nor (norbornadiene), Ph (phenyl), Phen (1,10-phenanthroline), Pip (piperidme), Pyr (pyridine), iPr (isopropyl), TMEDA *(N\N\N'Jf'* **tetramethylenediamine), Tmp (2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidyl), Tms (trimethylsilyl), ToI (toluidyl), Trisyl (tris(trimethylsilyl)methyl).**

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//. Structure of Dlphosphane and Dlphosphene Complexes

Three types of phosphorus-metal bonds can be distinguished and will be noted as follows: (i) $P-M$ for σ bonds, (ii) P \rightarrow M for σ -donor bonds (η ¹ complexation of a phosphorus lone pair), and (iii)

M for *IT* complexation *(rf* complexation of a double bond). These three types of bonds are found in diphosphene

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SCHEME 1ª

• For the sake of clarity, all organic substituents are omitted.

complexes, whereas only the first two occur in diphosphane complexes.

A. Dlphosphane Complexes

Diphosphanes can act as one to six electron-donor ligands. Of the following coordination types (A-M) which have so far been described (Scheme 1), only type H has never been structurally characterized by X-ray crystallography (see Tables 6 and 7).

The number of compounds of each type is very different. Only one example is known for types E, J, and L, two for types C and G, less than 10 for types D, H, and M, between 15 and 35 for types A, F, and K, around 180 for type B, and around 250 for type I. Thus, types B and I are the preferred coordination modes of diphosphane ligands.

1. η ¹ Diphosphane Complexes

As noted previously, a type A compound, 1, was the first reported diphosphane complex.⁶ The first one **characterized by X-ray crystallography studies in 1967, 5, owns also to this type.¹⁰**

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{Ph}_2\text{P}\longrightarrow\text{PPh}_2 \\
+ \\
\text{(CO)}_3\text{Ni}\quad\text{Ni(CO)}_3 \\
5\n\end{array}
$$

The η^1 complexation of diphosphanes is often considered as analogous to the n^1 complexation of phos**phanes.¹¹ However, it is more likely to consider that the neighboring phosphorus atom plays a part in the complexation.¹⁵" 14 For instance, ⁵¹V NMR and IR ((O=O) data for 6 are close to those observed for strong**

T-accepting phosphanes.¹⁶ Therefore, it appears that in addition to the σ -donor bond from phosphorus to metal, there is an important π back-bonding donation **from the metal into an accepting molecular orbital of the diphosphane.**

A similar phenomenon is likely to be responsible for the important shortening of the Mo-P bonds in 7 (d_{P-M}) **= 2.497 A), whereas the sum of covalent radii of molybdenum and phosphorus is 2.71 A.¹⁶ On the other hand, the complexation of the lone pair does not noticeably modify the P-P bond lengths: the values obtained by X-ray diffraction are usually in the range 2.18-2.26 A, i.e. in the same range than for free diphosphanes.¹⁷ Table 1 shows that the P-P bond length is poorly sensitive to the coordinence of the uncomplexed phosphorus atom (compare 8,9,10, and 11), to the presence of a charge (12), or to the nature of the metal.**

Up to now, the shortest P-P single bond length is 2.15 A, obtained for polymer 13,²³ whereas a long bond length of 2.35 A was measured for the meso complex 14, which is sterically crowded.²⁴

These few examples are quite representative of the large variety of metals used for complexation: almost all transition metals from groups 3 to 12 have been used; however metals of groups 6, 8, 9, and 10 prevail.

The phosphaalkene 8 exemplifies another important feature for the synthesis of diphosphane complexes, i.e. **TABLE 1. P-P Bond Lengths**

the basicity of the phosphorus lone pair. The poor basicity of the dicoordinated phosphorus atom in 8 explains the preferential complexation of the double bond. It is possible to show up the leading part played by the basicity in the complexation, even for diphosphanes which contain two trivalent phosphorus atoms: for nonsymmetric diphosphanes such as 15, the first complexation occurs on the most basic phosphorus atom to give 16,²⁵ but an additional complexation may occur to give 17.²⁶

M = Cr(CO)5, Mo(CO)⁵

A comparison between the ³¹P NMR chemical shift of a free diphosphane (when it exists) and the corresponding complexes generally shows a lower field shift for the signal corresponding to the complexed phosphorus atom. This shift is roughly about 10-50 ppm, but is sometimes over 100 ppm.²⁷ If an uncomplexed phosphorus atom remains, its ⁸¹P NMR chemical shift value is little modified. When measurable, the ¹J_{pp} **coupling constant value is usually in the range 150-300 Hz, as for uncomplexed diphosphanes. However, some** highly exceeding values are to be noticed: $1J_{\text{PP}} = 49 \text{ Hz}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ for 18^{28} and $\frac{1}{2}$ _{PP} = 357 Hz for 19.²⁹

Ph \>h¹ ⁸ Thus, the valence of the neighboring phosphorus atom seems to be an important factor for the value of the coupling constant, as it is known for uncomplexed diphosphanes.

2. Transition Metal Substituted Diphosphanes

Complexes in which an organic group is replaced by a transition-metal group are represented by a large variety of compounds. Types A, C, and D have only $P-M \sigma$ bonds, but most of the compounds have both σ and σ -donor bonds (types E-G, J-M). However, when **two metals are linked to one phosphorus atom, the** discrimination between σ -covalent bonds and η^1 com**plexation sometimes becomes formal, as illustrated by complex 20. The first complexes of both series, 20 (R** $= C_6F_6^{30}$ and 21 ($M = M_0C_{p_2}^{31}$),³¹ were reported in 1971, **but the first X-ray structures of analogous complexes** were determined only in 1984 for $20 (R = Me, Ph)^{32}$ and **in 1985 for 21 (M = Ni(tBuP=P-tBu)).³³**

of homogeneous series preclude a comprehensive analysis of δ ³¹P for transition metal substituted diphosphanes. However, selected data for compounds 22s4 allow emphasis of important trends and correlations (Scheme 2).

First of all, a comparison of ³¹P NMR data between δ P_a (phosphorus linked to the metal) and δ P_b (phosphorus linked to organic substituents) shows in all cases a dramatic deshielding of δP_a : $\Delta \delta = 242-377$ ppm, depending on metal and R substituents. Furthermore, it is well-documented for complexed phosphanes that the ³¹P shift decreases as the atomic number increases from top to bottom in a triad.36,36 A similar trend is observed for 22: changing the early transition metal from Ti to Zr leads in each case to an upfield shift in $\delta^{31}P$. On the other hand, the coupling constant J_{ab} is little sensitive to the metal and to the organic substituent: $294.4 < J_{ab} < 349.5$ Hz. Few X-ray data are available for this type of complexes, but the P-P dis- α vanable for this type of complexes, but the $\alpha - \alpha$ distances are in the same range as those for $n¹$ diphosphane complexes: 2.18 and 2.21 Å for $R = Ph$ and $M = Hf^{37}$

The general applicability of these tendencies to most of the transition metal substituted diphosphanes and polyphosphanes is not demonstrated but seems to be quite reasonable. However, the problem becomes intricate when a R-P-P-R unit is linked to two or more metals. Are these molecules diphosphane complexes or diphosphene complexes?

It is difficult to give an answer because the P-P bond lengths are highly variable: for 25 and 26, it is typical of that for diphosphanes, whereas for 24 it is close to that of η^2 diphosphene complexes and for 23 close to that of η^1 diphosphene complexes, as we will see in the next paragraph.

SCHEME 3°

1 elec

$$
P = P
$$
 N

delocalized **[M]**

* For the sake of clarity, all organic substituents are omitted.

B. Diphosphene Complexes

A classification analogous to the one depicted in Scheme 1 for diphosphane complexes is also appropriate for diphosphene complexes, since they can act as one to six electron-donor ligands (Scheme 3). Of the many possible coordination types, structures N-V have so far been characterized.

The structures of all the above-mentioned types of diphosphene complexes have been ascertained by X-ray diffraction studies. About 10-20 compounds are know for each type of complexes; the only exceptions are type P (about 40) and type T (only one).

1. if Diphosphene Complexes

 η^2 complexes are both the oldest and the most abundant type of diphosphene complexes; they were synthesized far before free diphosphenes. δ The main reason is that the complexation of the double bond brings a strong stabilization to the structure, even when the phosphorus substituents are as small as hydrogen.⁹ As seen previously, the first one, 4, was described in 1974⁹ and its structure was ascertained further by X-ray crystallography in 1977.⁴³ However, this was not the first X-ray study of a diphosphene complex, since the structure of 27 had been determined 1 year before.⁴⁴ Later, in 1983, the first examples of types S and U complexes, 28^{45} and $29,^{46}$ respectively, were also fully characterized. In all cases, the organic substituents of the diphosphenes are in the trans position. The only exception is the unstable compound 30, recently reported.⁴⁷

The nature of the bond which links the P=P double **bond to the metal remains a problem; is it the complexation of a** π **bond (31) analogous to the complexation of ethylene, or is it a three-membered metallacycle** formed by two metal-phosphorus σ bonds (32) analo**gous for instance to a cyclotriphosphane?**

Answering this question is not simple, since no ab initio calculation has ever been worked out for this type of complexation of diphosphenes. Nevertheless, calculations about the complexation of ethylene in Ni(P- H_3)₂(C_2H_4) show an important electron back-bonding from nickel into the unoccupied π^* molecular orbital **of the olefin.⁴⁸ Furthermore calculations about HP=** $PH^{\mathbf{\omega}-\mathbf{62}}$ show that the π^* (P--P) molecular orbital is the **LUMO. This orbital is easily accessible, therefore it seems reasonable to suggest that the model of com**plexation of ethylene might be used to describe the n^2 **complexation of diphosphenes:² there would be first** formation of a π -donor bond from the double bond **toward the unoccupied orbitals of the metal, then electrons back-bonding from the metal toward the unoccupied x* orbital of the double bond. However, since ethylene and diphosphenes are substantially different, such an interpretation is highly speculative.**

Table 3 depicts selected data for some diphosphene complexes. The main feature is the dramatic variation of the ³¹P NMR chemical shift values between complexes 30 and 33, which differ only by the complexation of the double bond $(\Delta \delta \approx 280 \text{ ppm})$. Whether this **phenomenon could be partly related to an electron back-bonding from metal to phosphorus remains questionable. On the other hand, the lone pair complexation seems to play a minor part in the variation of the ³¹P NMR chemical shift, as shown by 34 and 35. These values are in the middle of the range observed** for η^2 diphosphene complexes, between $+250$ and -200 **ppm, depending on the organic substituents and the metal. The second point noticeable in Table 3 is the length of the complexed P=P double bond, between 2.12 and 2.18 A: these values are somewhat shorter than those obtained for diphosphane complexes.**

2. T)¹ Diphosphene Complexes

The first diphosphene complexes of type O, 3g56,56 and 37,⁴⁶ and type R, 38,⁴⁶, 39,⁵⁷ and 40,⁵⁸ were syn-

TABLE 3. ³¹P NMR and X-ray Data for 30, 33-35

		³¹ P NMR	X-ray	ref	
compd	δ, ppm	$J_{\rm PP}$, Hz	$d_{\text{P-P}}$, A		
30	377	526	2.038(2)	47	
	214				
33	85.2	427		47	
	-55.1				
34	34.3		2.121(4)	53, 54	
35	17		2.186(6)	53	

TABLE 4 . " P **NMR and** X **!-ray Data for** 3 **and** 36-43

thesized independently in three laboratories in 1983. All of these are trans compounds. The first X-ray studies of cis complexes were performed in 1985 for 41⁶⁹ and 42.⁶⁰

Selected data of these complexes are given in Table 4, along with data of the free diphosphenes 3 and 43. As a result of the η^1 complexation, the $\delta^{31}P$ values for **36 and 39 are shifted upfield, compared to that of the corresponding free diphosphenes 3 and 43, respectively.** This is opposite to what is usually observed for η^1 di**phosphane complexes. However, as seen previously for diphosphane complexes, a decrease in the ³¹P NMR** $\frac{1}{2}$ chemical shift of homogeneous series of η^1 diphosphene **complexes is observed as the atomic number of the metal increases in a triad, for instance from chromium to tungsten.⁶ ** Most of the compounds of types O and R have ³¹P NMR shifts in the range 600-200 ppm. The only noticeable exception comes from the value of 927 ppm obtained for** *3S,⁴⁶* **which is rather surprising.**

X-ray data for all these complexes show that the P=P bond length remains essentially unchanged compared to that of free diphosphenes, around 2.02-2.05 \hat{A} . It means that the η^1 complexation has no influence **on the PP bond order. On the other hand, the RPP angles are increased by complexation: 102.8 (I)⁰ for 3, 109.3 (1)° and 108.4 (I)⁰ for 36. From steric reasons, this increase of the PPR angles intuitively seems to be wrong. An explanation of this phenomenon might be a modification in the hybridization of the phosphorus orbitals. For an idealized free diphosphene, it seems that the most suitable orbital description consists in** forming the π (P-P) and σ (P-R) bonds by overlaps using pure $P(3p)$ atomic orbitals, whereas the σ $(P-\bar{P})$ **bond could be formed via pure P(3p) overlap or by use**

of sp hybrid orbitals.⁶¹ Such an arrangement would lead to a PPR bond angle of 90° (44, Scheme 4), closer to the experimental value (102.8°) than the theoretical value obtained for a sp² hybridization (120°) (45, Scheme 4). 67

It is easily understandable from this scheme that the complexation of the lone pair will not occur by keeping an sp hybridization, which would lead to two interactions of 90° , between R and P=P on the one hand M and R on the other hand. The hybridization will then approximate sp², creating three interactions of 120°, by far more suitable. This may explain the increase of the PPR bond angles experimentaly observed by complexation. This tendency to go from an sp hybridization to an sp², then to decrease the s character of the lone pair orbital, is in agreement with NMR results: indeed, a decrease of the s character is usually associated with an increase of the screening constant σ and therefore a shielding of the ${}^{31}P$ NMR signal. Another phenomenon could be added: according to Hückel type calculations worked out for 46, it seems that the simple idea $\frac{1}{2}$ complexation of diphosphenes by means of a phosphorus metal σ -donor bond does not fit in with reality.

These calculations⁶⁸ display that the coordination of diphosphenes not only occurs via a σ -donor bond but also via an important back-bonding (0.3 electron) of π electrons from metal to phosphorus. This is also in agreement with experimental results obtained for diphosphane complexes, as we have already seen.¹⁶

3. Transition Metal Substituted Diphosphenes

These are the most recent types of diphosphene complexes. The first one, 47,⁶⁹ was described in 1985 and characterized by X-ray crystallography⁷⁰ in 1987, as well as ite correponding η^1 complex 48.⁷¹

Diphosphenes which are substituted by transition metals instead of organic groups should be substantially different in character, but the metallic part often behaves like an organic substituent: most of the spectroscopic data of metalladiphosphenes are close to those of "organic" diphosphenes. However, a comparison of 31P NMR data of 47 and 3 shows an important deshielding of the signal corresponding to the phosphorus atom linked to the metal (see Table 5). It is likely to be an indication of the high attractive power of the

TABLE 5. ¹¹P NMR and X-ray Data for 3, 47, and 48

compd		$31P$ NMR	X-ray		
	δ P _a , ppm	$\delta P_{\rm b}$, ppm	$d_{\mathbf{P}=\mathbf{P}}, \mathbf{A}$	ref	
3	492		2.034(2)	8,65	
47	715.2	553.5	2.027(3)	70	
48	546.3	514.6	2.032(5)	71	

metal for the phosphorus electrons. On the other hand, the η^1 complexation of P_a in 48 comes to an upfield shift in ³¹P NMR, as shown previously for organic diphosphenes. Furthermore, the presence of the σ M-P bonds does not lead to noticeable modifications of the phosphorus-phosphorus bond: the $P=$ P double bond length in 47 and 48 is essentially unchanged when compared to that of 3.

4. Miscellaneous Diphosphene Complexes

In addition to compounds of type M described at the end of section II-A, other complexes could be related to diphosphenes. This concern mainly compounds of type V, in which the $P=$ P double bond is delocalized. The first compound reported and characterized by X-ray crystallography is the cationic three-membered ring $49⁷²$ but most of the compounds of type V are five-membered heterocycles such as 50.⁷³ The PP bond length reflects the delocalization: $2.08(2)$ and $2.17(2)$ A for 49 and 2.112 (5) A for 50.

Finally, the original cluster 51^{74} is also difficult to file. In spite of the presence of five nickel atoms, X-ray data show that the two $P=$ P double bonds are essentially unsupported $(d_{P-P} = 2.085 (4) \text{ Å}^{74})$. The cis arrangement of the organic substituents of diphosphenes is also noticeable.

/// . **Synthetic Methods**

Three general synthetic methods are applied to prepare diphosphane or diphosphene complexes, as well as metalladiphosphanes or diphosphenes: (i) complexation of a ligand which already possesses the phosphorus-phosphorus bond, (ii) simultaneous formation of the phosphorus-phosphorus bond and complexation, and (iii) modification of a complex which already possesses the phosphorus-phosphorus bond. However, these three methods have not the same importance for diphosphanes and diphosphenes. Thus, it is more convenient to consider the syntheses of diphosphane complexes and diphosphene complexes one after the other in each case.

 $(CF_3)_2P - P(CF_3)_2 + 2Ni(CO)_4$

SCHEME 7

SCHEME 8

SCHEME 9

SCHEME 10

A. Direct Complexation of a P **Ugand**

1. Complexation of Diphosphanes

a. Substitution of a Ligand. It is both the oldest and the most useful method for most of the transition

SCHEME 12

SCHEME 13

SCHEME 14

Me2P-PMe²

SCHEME 15

SCHEME 16

metals. It allows the synthesis of numerous η^1 complexes of type B and I, in accordance with the wellknown reaction of phosphanes with carbonyl metals (Scheme 5).

Burg and Mahler synthesized in this way the first diphosphane complex 1⁶ (Scheme 6).

For most of these reactions, the leaving ligand L is either carbon monoxide or basic solvents or unsaturated hydrocarbons.

a. Carbon Monoxide. Only one CO group is removed and only one phosphorus atom is complexed when a

SCHEME 17

reaction between a diphosphane and a carbonyl metal is carried out under mild conditions.⁷⁶" 84 However, in many cases, this reaction proceeds by thermal activation; it is difficult to stop at the first step,⁶² and the isolated compounds are often the $\eta^1 \eta^1$ complexes **5310,86-88 (Scheme 7).**

This is also the case with the phosphaalkene derivative 55, which reacts with nickel carbonyl to produce heterocycle 8¹⁸ (Scheme 8).

If drastic conditions are used a phosphorus-phosphorus bond cleavage occurs to give the phosphido bridged complexes 54.89-83 Such a P-P bond cleavage **considerably lowers the yield of diphosphane complex.91,94 That is the reason why complexation reactions induced by thermal activation are often forsaken on behalf of milder reactions, like irradiation.16,92,96,98 Depending on the length of irradiation, different types of complexes are obtained16187,96" 98 (Scheme 9).**

However, in this case also, it is difficult to stop the reaction at the first step, and a mixture of products is often obtained, especially, if the metallic center pos-

SCHEME 21

sesses more than one leaving group. For instance, sixmembered heterocycles 56 are synthesized either in this way or by thermal reactions.⁹⁸" 102 More reactive complexes, which can be used without activation, are needed for a best selectivity. Some reactions are carried out with Fe2(CO)9; 21,91,103" 108 in these cases, the leaving group is Fe(CO)5 (Scheme 1O).¹⁰⁶ However, we will see later that more complicated reactions often occur with iron (Schemes 27 and 28).

In most cases, reactivity and selectivity are increased by use of ligands more labile than carbon monoxide, such as basic solvents and unsaturated hydrocarbons.

/3. *Basic Solvents.* **Tetrahydrofuran is often used as leaving ligand in chromium, molybdenum, or tungsten pentacarbonyl, or more rarely in iron tetracarbonyl. Many diphosphane complexes of type B (52) and I (53) are thus obtained in good yield,26,26,106,107" 126 as well as** the anionic complexes 58 and $59^{125-127}$ (Scheme 11).

Among the numerous compounds prepared in this way, let us also mention the five-membered heterocycles 60 which are likewise obtained by exchange with carbon monoxide117,123,124,128,129 (Scheme 12).

Acetonitrile complexes are not as widely used as THF complexes. Some reactions are analogous to the one described in Scheme ll.130,181 However, unexpected reactions are sometimes observed with chromium¹³² or tungsten¹³³ complexes, such as an increase of the number of CO ligands linked to the metallic center (Scheme 13).

y. Unsaturated Hydrocarbons. **Two-, four-, five-, and six-electron-donor hydrocarbons are sometimes**

SCHEME 22

SCHEME 25

used as exchangeable ligands in the synthesis of diphosphane complexes. This is the case with ethylene;^{134,136} however, this two-electron-donor hydrocarbon is rarely used (Scheme 14).

On the other hand, many reactions are carried out with four-electron-donor hydrocarbons such as cyclooctadiene²² and above all norbornadiene.^{26,106,136-141} This allows the synthesis of bis(diphosphane) complexes $65^{26,140}$ (Scheme 15). Let us note that here, di-Let us note that here, diphosphates act as two-electron-donor ligands and not as four. Thus, two diphosphanes are needed to replace norbornadiene.

The reaction is slightly different when a cyclopentadiene ligand is used: as expected, the anionic bis(diphosphane) complex 67 is obtained when 2 equiv of diphosphane is used, whereas the mono(diphosphane) complex 66 is isolated when 1 equiv is u sed¹⁴² (Scheme 16).

Six-electron-donor hydrocarbons such as benzene²⁷ or cycloheptatriene^{27,148,144} allow for instance the synthesis of polycyclic compounds such as 68 (Scheme 17).^{143,144} In these cases, three phosphorus lone pairs **SCHEME 26**

are needed to fill the hole created by elimination of cycloheptatriene.

5. *Nitrogen Derivatives.* Few reactions are done with nitrogen derivatives. They concern dinitrogen itself,⁸³ piperidine,²⁰ or ammonia¹⁴⁶ (Scheme 18). In all cases, only one phosphorus atom is complexed, even when two leaving ligands are linked to the metallic center as in $(CO)_{4}M[NHC_{5}H_{10}]_{2}.^{20}$

b. Complexation without Elimination of **Ligand.** Dimeric complexes of type 71 react sometimes without elimination of ligands. The dimeric structure is either retained to give $72,^{134}$ or cleaved to give 73 or $74.^{146,147}$ However, this cleavage may also result from elimination of carbon monoxide¹⁴¹ as for 75 (Scheme 19).

The complexation may also occur by cleavage of a metal-metal bond of strained three-membered metallacycles 76¹⁴⁸ (Scheme 20).

Group 4 to 12 metallic halides in which the metallic center shows a deficit of electrons react with phosphorus compounds bearing no good leaving groups, allowing the metallic center to fill its electronic shell. In most cases the metal is acceptor of two lone pairs which come from either two diphosphanes or the same diphosphane, with formation of three-membered rings. In the former case, the first complexes were claimed to be monomeric,149,160 whereas X-ray diffraction structural determinations show that $77^{161,162}$ and $13^{23,163}$ are in fact polymeric. Most of the three-membered metallacycles such as 78,¹⁵⁴⁻¹⁵⁷ 79,¹⁵⁶ and 80¹⁵⁶ are also supposed to be monomeric, except 81¹⁵⁸ (Scheme 21). However, the existence of all those three-membered heterocycles remains questionable since no X-ray structure determination has ever been done. Polymeric structures should be suspected in many cases.

2. Complexation of Diphosphanes

Section III-A-1 and Tables 6 and 7 point out that the substitution of a ligand is the most widely used method to synthesize diphosphane complexes from free diphosphanes. The same reaction is applicable to diphosphenes, but is limited by the difficulty to obtain stable free diphosphenes. Furthermore, in all cases only one metal carbonyl group is bonded,^{3,55,56,60,61,159} even when excess of metal is used. $66,61$ This is probably due to the steric hindrance of organic substituents needed

TABLE 6. η^1 Di-, Tri- and Tetraphosphane Complexes

TABLE 6 (Continued)

	B. Linear Compounds of Type R ¹ -P-P-R ³ x					
R ¹	R ²	R^3	X	M M	method	yield (ref)
Me	Me	Me	S	Fe(CO) ₄	117	(224)
Me	Me	Me	S	$RhCp^*(C_2H_4)$	117	30 (135)
Me	Me	Me	Se	$RhCp^*(C_2H_4)$	117	50 (135)
Me	н	OEt	O	$W(CO)_{\delta}$	58	(209)
NEt ₂	NEt ₂	OEt	$\mathbf 0$	$Mo(CO)_{5}$		34 (106)
$P(O)(OEt)$ ₂	P(O)(OEt) ₂	OEt	O	$Mo(CO)_{6}$		23 (106)
$P(O)(OEt)$ ₂	P(O)(OEt) ₂	OEt	\mathbf{o}	$W(CH_3CN)(CO)$	$5(CH_3CN)$	48 (130)
$P(O)(OEt)$ ₂	Ph	OEt	0	$Mo(CO)_{6}$		93 (106)
Ph	P _h	OEt	0	$Mo(CO)_{5}$		87 (106*)
Ph	Ph	OEt	0	$Mo(Pip)(CO)_{4}$	18	(106)
Ph	P _h	OEt	0	Mo(PPh ₃)(CO) ₄		(106)
Ph	Ph	Ph	$\mathbf 0$	$Cr(CO)_{5}$	$5(CH_3CN)$	$50 - 60$ (20)
Ph	Ph	Ph	$\mathbf 0$	$Mo(CO)_{6}$		53 (20*)
P _h	Ph	Ph	$\mathbf 0$	$W(CO)_{5}$	$5(CH_3CN)$	$50 - 60$ (20)
Ph	Ph	Ph	\mathbf{o}	Cr(Pip)(CO)	18	$60 - 70(20)$
Ph	P _h	Ph	0	Mo(Pip)(CO)	18	$60 - 70(20)$
P _h	P _h	Ph	0	W(Pip)(CO)	18	$60 - 70(20)$
P _h	H	OEt	0	$W(CO)_{5}$	58	(209)
iPr ₂ N	iPr_2N	OEt	0	Fe(CO)	10	83 (106)

R 2 R³ R ¹—P—P-R³ /

R 2 R³

C. Linear Compounds of Type M

TABLE 6 (Continued)

TABLE 6 (Continued)

TABLE 7. $\eta^{1}\eta^{1}$ Di- and Triphosphane Complexes

TABLE 7 (Continued)

TABLE 7 (Continued)

 $(CO)_3$ Cr

SCHEME 29

SCHEME 30

SCHEME 31

SCHEME 32

to stabilize free diphosphenes (Scheme 22). Moreover, the diphosphene Tris—P=P—Tris, which bears the bulky substituent tris(trimethylsilyl)methyl, has never been complexed.

Unsymmetrical trans diphosphenes illustrate also this phenomenon: the reaction always takes place on the **less crowded phosphorus atom.*166,80,61,16® The steric hindrance of metallic groups is also an influential factor for this reaction, since diphosphene 3 does react with** $Cr(CO)_{6}$, which is bulkier than $Ni(CO)_{4}$ or $Fe(CO)_{5}$, but in this case, the reaction gives the π (arene) tri-

SCHEME 33

SCHEME 34

Y = SiMe₃, Li R = SiMe₃, Me, tBu, Ph M = Ni, Pd, Pt
L₂ = R'₂PCH₂CH₂PR'₂, (PR'₃)₂ R' = Me, Et, nBu, Ph, cHex

SCHEME 35

SCHEME 36

SCHEME 37

SCHEME 38

 $M(CO)_n = Cr(CO)_5$, $W(CO)_5$; R^1 , R^2 , $R^3 = Me$; $X = Cl$; $Y = SiMe_3$, $SnMe_3$ $M(CO)_n$ = Fe(CO)₄; R¹, R², R³ = Ph; X = Ph₃P=N=PPh₃; Y = Cl $M(CO)_n = Mo(CO)_5$, $Fe(CO)_4$; $R^1 = Ph$, $R^2 = H$, $R^3 = Ph$, Bu ; $X = Li$, $H(NEt)_3$; $Y = Cl$

SCHEME 39

carbonylchromium complexes 83 and 84 instead of the η^1 complex 82 (Scheme 23).^{160,161}

The influence of steric factors is also illustrated when silver or gold salts are involved. A cationic diphosphene complex is obtained with Ag, while only the mono cation 87 is formed with [Et3PAu][PF6], presumably as

SCHEME 41

SCHEME 42

SCHEME 43

SCHEME 44

SCHEME 45

 $[Ir_4(CO)_1(PPhH)]$ DBUH⁺ + $Ag[ClO_4]$ + $[AuPEt_3][ClO_4]$

SCHEME 47

SCHEME 48

SCHEME 49

SCHEME 50

SCHEME 51

SCHEME 52

SCHEME 53

$$
(Me3Sn)3P + 3 Ph2PC1
$$

\n¹
\n¹

a consequence of the steric demand of this group162,163 (Scheme 24).

However, the cis-diphosphene 88 behaves differently. **Surprisingly, the complexation with Ni(CO)4 seems to occur on the most crowded phosphorus atom, whereas** the reaction with $(nBu_3P)_2Ni(COD)$ gives n^2 complex **30.⁴⁷** This compound is the only η^2 complex obtained **by direct complexation of a free diphosphene (Scheme 25). Its unstability might be related to the electron deficiency of nickel in this case.**

SCHEME 54

B. Complexation with Modification of a P-P=P Ligand -P or

Modifications of a free ligand may occur by cleavage either of the phosphorus-phosphorus bond or of a phosphoru8-substituent bond, during the course of the complexation. Most of the metalladiphosphanes are obtained in this way.

1. Synthesis of Dlphosphane Complexes

a. Phosphorus-Phosphorus Bond Cleavage. A P-P bond cleavage frequently happens when drastic conditions are used to carry out a complexation reaction (see Scheme 7). The consequence with cyclopolyphosphines is a ring extension, formally induced by insertion reaction of phosphinidene^{19,75,133,164-168} (Scheme 26). Compounds of types **90** and **91** were claimed to be 1,2 complexes in first reports.^{75,76} Later this assertion has been refuted^{19,133,141} and the proposed structures of 1,3 and 1,4 complexes, depicted in Scheme 26, seems to be more reasonable.

With iron, a ring extension occurs by insertion of the metal into a phosphorus-phosphorus bond.^{30,32,94,169} The reaction is clean with iron pentacarbonyl and gives phosphido-bridged metallacycles 20 (Scheme 27).

However, some reactions carried out with $Fe₂(CO)₉$ or $Fe₃(CO)₁₂$ produce a mixture of products sprung from insertion and complexation reactions¹⁷⁰⁻¹⁷² (Scheme 28).

b. Phosphorus-Substituent Bond Cleavage. Free di- or polyphosphanes which bear good leaving groups such as alkali or halides react with metal halides or hydrides. Formation of σ metallacycles 95^{31,34,173,174} occurs with linear polyphosphane salts, but the length of the phosphorus chain is not always kept *(n* may be different from *n)* (Scheme 29).

The reaction of a metal salt with monochlorodiphosphane 96, giving rise to the original three-membered metallacycle 97, is to be related to this series¹⁷⁵ (Scheme 30). Complex 97 is the only stable compound of type E. Earlier, formation of analogous complexes was postulated in mass spectrometry.¹⁷⁶

For our part, we have studied the reactivity of two anionic hydrides **99** and **102** with a gem dihalogenated diphosphane 98. The compound isolated with tungsten

is diphosphane complex **101,** which arises from a rearrangement of the intermediate compound 100.¹⁷⁷ We have also isolated an original anionic metalladiphosphane 103, obtained by addition of 3 equiv of iron hydride **102** on diphosphane 98¹⁷⁷ (Scheme 31).

2. Synthesis of Dlphosphene Complexes

Most of η^2 diphosphene complexes are obtained starting with compounds in which a phosphorusphosphorus bond already exists. This is the case for the first reports in this field. One concerns the reaction of white phosphorus with a neutral molybdenum hydride^{9,43} (Scheme 32).

The second reports a P-P bond double cleavage of a cyclotetraphosphane induced by a platinum or palladium complex, which allows the synthesis of diphosphane complex 104^{44,53} (Scheme 33).

However, from a practical point of view, the reaction of linear diphosphane lithium salts or silylated diphosphanes with metallic halides is the most widely used to produce η^2 diphosphene complexes of type P in good yield (70-90%)^{63,54,178-182} (Scheme 34). Some of these compounds are palladium^{63,54} or platinum^{63,54,181} complexes, but most of them are nickel complex-
es.^{178-180,182}

In one case, the reaction is more surprising: isolated compound **106** presumably arises from a coupling reaction between two diphosphene units in the coordination sphere of nickel,³³ with formation of a σ metallacycle (Scheme 35).

Some phosphorus analogues of ferrocene, 50 and 108, or cyclopentadienylmanganese tricarbonyl, **109,** are also obtained starting from the phosphorus lithium salt 107 and metallic halides⁷³ (Scheme 36).

The last reaction related to a phosphorus-substituent bond cleavage implies the migration of a penta-

SCHEME 56

SCHEME 60

methylcyclopentadienyl group η^1 bonded to phosphorus toward a metallic center, where it becomes η^5 bonded and gives metalladiphosphene 110¹⁸³ (Scheme 37).

C. Formation of a Phosphorus-Phosphorus Bond

The synthesis of diphosphane and diphosphene complexes by creating phosphorus-phosphorus bonds offers a wide range of possibilities. Generally, the phosphorus-phosphorus bond is formed by elimination reactions. Some reactions give univocally diphosphane complexes, other give either diphosphane or diphosphene complexes. The main factors directing the reaction are the number of leaving groups on the starting phosphane, the bulk of the organic substituent R, and sometimes the steric demand of the metallic group. Most of these reactions concern eliminations between a cationic group $(Li, Na, H, Me₃Si, Me₃Sn, etc.)$ of one of the starting phosphanes and a chloride anion of another phosphane. If at least one of the starting phosphorus compound possesses only one leaving group, the products are obviously diphosphane complexes, whereas with two leaving groups on each phosphorus compound, the reaction may result in the formation of diphosphene complexes.

/. Reactions of Complexed Phosphanes

a. Monofunctionalized Phosphanes. Complexed phosphanes may react with free phosphanes when each compound possesses a labile group. Elimination of $Me₃SiCl₂⁹⁸$ $Me₃SnCl₁¹⁸⁴$ LiCl,¹⁸⁵ and [Ph₃P=N= $PPh_3]$ Cl¹⁸⁶ occurs spontaneously (Scheme 38). Bis (η^1)

SCHEME 61

diphosphane) complexes **111¹⁸⁶** are also obtained in good yield (Scheme 39).

Analogous reactions are observed with delocalized anions. Intermediate 112, with both bridging and terminal PPh_2 groups, prepared in situ from LiPPh_2 , reacts with electrophiles such as chlorodiphenylphosphane¹⁸⁷ (Scheme 40).

The original low-coordinated diphosphadiene compound **114** is synthesized in an analogous way¹⁸⁸ (Scheme 41).

Two complexed phosphanes bearing labile substituents (mainly Li) can also associate under the influence of a third reactive to give $\eta^1\eta^1$ diphosphane complexes. For instance, demetallation reactions of lithiated phosphane complexes occur with oxidants such as iodine¹⁸⁹ (Scheme 42).

In the case of halogenoalkanes, the reaction of the diphosphido complex **116** is mainly intermolecular;^{42,190,191} side reactions with dibromoethane (117) or the solvent **(118)** also occur (Scheme 43). An intramolecular reaction leading to 23 is observed only when the organic substituent of phosphorus is a tert-butyl group.³⁸

Some couplings of two PPh_n groups are observed by oxidation of monoanions with RCHI² 192,198 (Scheme **44)**

SCHEME 65

SCHEME 66

Ar' = Ph, Mes $M = Cr$, Mo, W

SCHEM E 67

ML = Fe(CO), Fe(PPh3), Ru(CO), Os(CO), Mn(NO), Re(NO) R-E = MeS-P, Ar-As

or AgClO⁴ 41 (Scheme 45). In the later case, the diphosphane ligand bridges an Ir₄ and an Ir₄Au₂ unit in cluster 25.

The leaving group of the phosphane complex may also be chloride. One reaction with a Grignard's reagent is reported⁹³ (Scheme 46).

Basic hydrolysis is used to cleave a P-CO₂Et bond of a complezed phosphole; reaction between intermediates **121** and **122** thus obtained, followed by proton migration, finally gives diphosphane complex 123^{189,194} (Scheme 47).

Activation methods such as photolysis are rarely used; the only known example concerns the cationic secondary phosphane complex 124,¹⁹⁵ which affords the cationic six-membered metallacycle 125 (Scheme 48).

Some reactions are observed even if one of the reagents possesses no leaving group; in these cases, addition reactions may occur. Transient metallaphosphanes are readily converted to cationic metalladiphosphanes by addition of phosphane on the phosphorus lone pair¹⁹⁶ (Scheme 49).

SCHEME 70

Na2Fe(CO)⁴

If the lone pair is complexed to form a phosphorusmetal double bond, the addition takes place on this double bond¹⁹⁷ and gives cationic compounds **127** in which the diphosphane is unusually side-on coordinated to the metal (Scheme 50).

173

 $F_e(CO)₃$

174

b. Di- or Trifunctionalized Phosphanes. *a.* Synthesis of Di- or Polyphosphane Complexes. If one of the reagents possesses one leaving group and the other two or more leaving groups, polyphosphorus compounds are generally obtained. The monocomplexed triphosphanes 128 are synthesized starting from free monochlorophosphines^{157,198} (Scheme 51) whereas dicomplexed triphosphanes 129 are synthesized from free dichlorophosphanes¹⁸⁶ (Scheme 52).

An analogous reaction furnishes tetraphosphorus complex **130** from a tristannyl phosphane complex¹⁹⁹ (Scheme 53).

However, the reaction pathways are not always so simple. Side reactions are sometimes observed when the expected product is unstable. For instance, attack of the uncomplexed phosphorus atom in intermediate

 $Rh_4Cl_4[(Me_2N)_2P-P(NMe_2)_2]_6$ + RhCl[P(NMe₂)₃][(Me₂N)₂P-P(NMe₂)₂]

SCHEME 73

SCHEME 74

SCHEME 75

 $(n^1Cp^*)-P \equiv N-tBu + (MeCN)_3(CO)_3Mo$ - $\left[(n^5Cp^*)(CO)_3Mo-P=N-Bu \right]$ **182** . 183 $M_0(CO)_2$ (n^1C_1) **P** $\left(\frac{p}{N}\right)^{p}$ **co** (n^1Cn^*) P=N-tBu **182**

1 ' 184 iBu $-$

131 on the phosphorus atom to which it is not directly bonded and subsequent evolution of carbon monoxide led to 132²⁰⁰ (Scheme 54).

I Ph **185**

Dichlorophosphanes react also with diphosphane complexes of type M(R2PY)2 and give, besides the expected product 133, five-membered ring 134¹⁶' 201 - 205 (Scheme 55).

An analogous ring extension is observed with phosphide-type complexes 135206-208 (Scheme 56).

On the other hand, a ring contraction has been noticed in a particular case²⁸ (Scheme 57). The driving force for the tautomerization of intermediate 139 may be the formation of the P=O bond or of the five-mem**bered ring structure.**

Another type of phosphorylphosphane complex, 142, is obtained via elimination of styrene from phosphirane complex 141²⁰⁹ (Scheme 58).

Di- or polyphosphane complexes are also obtained when some of the so-called labile substituents do not react. For instance, this is the case for trihalophosphane **complexes: their reaction with magnesium210,211 or their irreversible cathodic reduction²¹² gives tetrahalide diphosphane complexes 143 (Scheme 59).**

SCHEME 77

SCHEME 78

SCHEM E 79

Hydrolysis of lithium salts of complexed phosphanes results in the formation of other diphosphane complexes 144 and 145²⁴ (Scheme 60).

The analogous secondary diphosphane complex 148 is obtained by reacting dichlorophosphane complex 146 with its lithium salt 147 in THF,²¹³ whereas the reaction of the same lithium salt with a dichloroamine gives $\text{cyclotriphosphane complex } 149^{214,215}$ (Scheme 61).

An unexpected reaction leading to cyclometallatriphosphane 150 is observed with a rhenium carbonyl complex²¹⁶ (Scheme 62).

0. Synthesis of Diphosphene Complexes. **Most of the reactions of difunctionalized phosphane complexes give a mixture of diphosphane and diphosphene complexes. This is for instance what happens when dibromophosphane complexes are allowed to react with magnesium. The main products of the reaction are cyclotriphosphane complexes 151,152, and 153, which are respectively linked to one, two, and three metallic groups.²¹⁷ However, the (-)-menthyl substituent gives, besides cyclotriphosphane and phosphinidene com**plexes, $\eta^1 \eta^1$ diphosphene complex 154^{218} (Scheme 63).

Dichlorophosphane complexes behave essentially like dibromophosphane complexes. Their reduction with zinc/magnesium amalgam leads to a mixture of compounds, including diphosphane 156 and diphosphene 157 complexes²⁴ (Scheme 64).

Elimination reactions with a chromium salt give either phosphido complex 158 or $\eta^1 \eta^2 \eta^1$ diphosphene **complex 159, depending mainly on the metal of the starting phosphane complex and also on the substituent R 208 (Scheme 65).**

The reactivity of free dichlorophosphanes toward difunctionalized phosphane complexes and metallophosphanes depends on the steric hindrance of the substituents; with bulky substituents, diphosphene complexes are obtained. However, the base-induced deshydrochlorination depicted in Scheme 66 does not

SCHEME 81

R = Me, Et, nBu, Ph, An M = Cr,Mo,W X = Cl, H(from THF)

SCHEME 83

 $R = (Tms)_2CH$, $(Tms)_2N$

lead to the expected compound **160;** the isolated one is **161,** arising from a migration of the metal toward the less hindered phosphorus atom.¹⁵⁹

The nature of the product isolated with metallaphosphanes depends on the substituent of the "organic" phosphane. Metalladiphosphenes **163** are obtained starting from the bulky (2,4,6-tri-tert-butylphenyl)dichlorophosphane and metalladiphosphane 1 6 ² ro,704Ji9-22i Metallacyclo tri- or tetraphosphanes **164** and **165** are isolated with less bulky dichlorophosphines, even with mesityldichlorophosphine.²²² However, analogous compounds are also obtained with the bulky (tri-fert-butylphenyl)dichloroarsine²²¹ (Scheme 67).

2. Reactions of Free Phosphanes with Metallic Groups

a. Synthesis of Diphosphane Complexes. Few diphosphane complexes are synthesized starting from free phosphanes. Most of these reactions are carried out between free monohalophosphanes and metal carbonyl sodium salts. The first step of the reaction generally gives salts of phosphane complexes **166,** which react further with free halophosphanes. The second step of the reaction is analogous to the one described in Scheme 38 and η^1 diphosphane complexes are isolated^{29,186,223,224} (Scheme 68).

However, some unexpected reactions occur, mainly with aminochlorophosphanes. The surprising cage structure **169** is obtained starting from dichlorodiazadiphosphetidine 168²²⁶ (Scheme 69).

SCHEME 84

SCHEME 85

The influence of the solvent on the reaction is to be noticed: conducting the reaction of dichloro(diisopropylamino)phosphane with iron tetracarbonyl sodium salt in tetrahydrofuran rather than diethyl ether leads to the phosphido derivatives **171** and 172 as major products instead of phosphorus-bridging carbonyl compound 170^{226,227,228} (Scheme 70).

A migration of an amino substituent may also occur. The unexpected products **173** and 174, obtained with dichloro(diethylamino)phosphane come from the migration of amino groups from one phosphorus to another and from one phosphorus to a carbon atom.226,229 Derivative **173** is the only compound of type J fully characterized so far (Scheme 71).

Elimination of amino groups also leads to the synthesis of diphosphane complexes. A mixture of compounds is obtained from hexamethylphosphorus triamide and rhodium complex 175²³⁰ (Scheme 72).

Addition of the anionic iron hydride **177** to the acetylenic (dimethylamino)chlorophosphane **176** allowed us to isolate the anionic diphosphane complex **178** and the related neutral compound **179²³¹** (Scheme 73).

Unexpectedly, we have obtained the functionalized diphosphirane complex **181** from chlorophosphaalkene 180 and the same hydride²³² (Scheme 74).

Another spirocyclic complex, 184, is formed via the shift of a Cp* ligand, in an attempt to synthesize metallaiminophosphane **183.** Compound **184** is presumably generated by addition of the phosphorus lone pair of intermediate **183** on the phosphorus nitrogen double bond of the starting iminophosphane 184²³³ (Scheme 75).

Primary and secondary phenyl phosphanes are also suitable materials for the synthesis of diphosphane complexes. For instance, metallacycle 185, in which the phosphorus atoms are σ -bonded to zirconium, is obtained from phenylphosphane and zirconocene derivatives with elimination of methane³⁷ (Scheme 76).

Phenyl phosphane gives also cationic secondary diphosphane complexes **186** when it reacts with silver or copper salts²³⁴ (Scheme 77).

An analogous coupling is observed with diphenylphosphane; however, the reaction stops at the first step and gives the linear diphosphane complex 187 instead of a cyclic one²³⁵ (Scheme 78).

SCHEME 86

The last reaction used to synthesize a diphosphane complex from a free diphosphane concerns the thermal dimerization of phosphole 188. This dimerization, induced by chromium hexacarbonyl, involves evolution of carbon monoxide and shift of phenyl groups from phosphorus to carbon²³⁶ (Scheme 79).

b. Synthesis of Diphosphene Complexes, *a. Sodium Salts of Carbonyl Metals.* Reactions of dichlorophosphanes are often unforeseeable; the nature of the products depends on the organic substituent of the phosphorus atom, the metal (Fe, Cr, Mo, W, etc.), the nature of the complex (mono or dinuclear), and the solvent. Formally, most of the products arise from combinations of metal carbonyl fragments $M(CO)_n$ and phosphinidene fragments P-R in variable proportions. The main factor directing the reaction seems to be the steric hindrance: generally, with bulky substituents such as tri-tert-butylphenyl⁵⁵ or tetramethylpiperidyl, only one product is obtained, $n¹$ diphosphene complex $190^{237,238}$ (Scheme 80).

On the other hand, with less bulky substituents, reactions are less specific.⁶³ A mixture of η^1 (190) and $\eta^1\eta^1$ **(191)** diphosphene complexes is obtained when $(Tms)_2$ CH^{45,58,69,62,64} and $(Tms)_2N^{57,62,64}$ substituents are involved. $\eta^1\eta^1$ diphosphene complexes are the preferred reaction products^{59,62,64,239} with mesityl groups: diphosphenes cis-191 and *trans-191* are obtained in 38% and 21% yield, respectively, whereas diphosphane 192 is isolated in only 13% yield. A mixture of trans-diphosphene **191** and diphosphane 193 is obtained with $(Tms)CH₂$ groups (12% and 30% yield, respectively)⁶² (Scheme 81).

When smaller substituents are used, the only diphosphene complex isolated from the reaction mixture is $\eta^1 \eta^2 \eta^1$ complex 194²⁴⁰ (Scheme 82).

These examples show that the more the steric hindrance of the substituents diminishes, the more the number of metallic centers needed to stabilize the diphosphene increases. However, the part played by the steric hindrance of the metallic center itself can be exemplified: a same diphosphene ligand is stabilized either by one $Cr(CO)_5$ group^{46,62,63} or by two $Fe(CO)_4$ groups^{67,58,64} (Scheme 83).

Electronic effects of the organic substituent on phosphorus probably add to steric effects, but elements of comparison are not sufficient to draw a conclusion. For instance, it is difficult to know why, among the 15 or so substituents used (aryl, alkyl, amino, alkoxy groups), only crowded alkoxy and amino substituents give $\bar{\eta}^1\eta^2$ diphosphene complexes 195^{45,64,226} (Scheme 84).

However, conjugation seems to play a part, by promoting the formation of a double bond. Indeed, diphosphene complex 159²⁴⁰ is obtained from phenyldichlorophosphane, whereas the same reaction carried out with the corresponding saturated derivative (cyclohexyldichlorophosphane) gives only a mixture of polyphosphane complexes (Scheme 85).

On the other hand, calculations worked out with **197,** as a model of **198,** show that the lone pair of the nitrogen atoms does not contribute to the conjugation with the $P=$ P double bond.²³⁸

These reactions point out the influence of the organic substituent of the dichlorophosphane on the reaction. However, the nature of the sodium salt itself must also be taken into account. This has been shown with chromium carbonyl salts.^{59,62} In this case, the dinuclear complex seems to give a more selective reaction than the mononuclear one (Scheme 86).

All those examples (Schemes 80-86) show that the reaction of dichlorophosphanes with sodium salts of carbonyl metals allows the synthesis of numerous diphosphane and diphosphene complexes, often inaccessible by other ways. Cluster 51, built around two diphosphene units, exemplifies the originality of complexes obtained in this way⁷⁴ (Scheme 87).

£. *Other Metal Complexes.* The preceding reaction is the only one carried out with a sodium salt of nickel; nickel chloride complexes are most often used. They react with silylated phosphanes to produce η^2 diphosphene complexes, generally in low yield¹⁷⁸⁻¹⁸²,241-243 (Scheme 88).

For our part, we have studied the reactivity of the anionic iron hydride 177 toward dichlorophosphanes. The first step of the reaction is always the reduction and the complexation of the phosphane. The secondary chlorophosphane complex 205 thus obtained reacts with the starting dichlorophosphane to give η^1 diphosphane complex **206,** which reacts further with hydride **177** to give $\eta^1 \eta^1$ diphosphane complex 207^{244,245} (Scheme 89). These $\eta^1 \eta^1$ diphosphane complexes are unstable; their behavior depends on the R substituent. $\eta^1 \eta^2$ diphosphene complexes **208** and 209 are obtained when R is a phenyl group²⁴⁴⁻²⁴⁶ or a cyclic phosphaalkene.²⁴⁷ whereas four-membered heterocycle 210 is isolated when R is a methyl group^{244,246} (Scheme 89).

A primary phosphane is also used for the synthesis of a diphosphene complex: η^2 complex 211 is obtained by reacting phenylphosphane with a magnesium derivative²⁴⁸ (Scheme 90).

3. Miscellaneous Syntheses of Diphosphene Complexes

Some reactions cannot be connected to the main types described previously. This is the case for reactions which involve phosphaalkyne 212. Thus, phosphaferrocene-type complexes 108 and 214 are obtained in low yield among other compounds²⁴⁹ when 212 is reacted with iron derivative 213 (Scheme 91).

However, the analogous reaction carried out with vanadium leads to polycyclic complex 215 instead of phosphavanadocene²⁵⁰ (Scheme 92).

SCHEME 88

SCHEME 89

Thermolysis reactions of phosphorus complexes also lead in some cases to diphosphene complexes. Phosphinidene complexes of type 216^{63} give $n^1n^2n^1$ diphosphene complexes 29^{46} and 217^{251} for $R = Ph$ and $R = tBu$, respectively (Scheme 93).

Some thermolysis are also catalyzed by copper(I) chloride. Complexes of diphosphene (219), 1,2-diphosphetane **(220),** and diphosphirane **(221)** formally arise from the generation of terminal phosphinidene $\frac{252-257}{218^{252-257}}$ (Scheme 94).

D. Reactivity of Diphosphane and Diphosphene Complexes

Reactions which lead to the cleavage of the phosphorus-phosphorus bond will not be presented here, except the dismutation of a diphosphane complex in

SCHEME 90

SCHEME 91

SCHEME 92

SCHEME 93

presence of a free diphosphane,268,269 which produces the unsymmetrical diphosphane complex 16 (Scheme 95).

Two series of reactions keeping the phosphorusphosphorus bond occur with diphosphane and diphosphene complexes: some could be named "organometallic" reactions, i.e. mainly complexations and decomplexations. Others could be named "organic" reactions, i.e. mainly additions and substitutions.

1. Complexation, Decomplexation Reactions

a. Diphosphane Complexes. We have already seen, in part III-A-I of this review, some examples of additional complexation of η^1 diphosphane complexes (Schemes 6, 7, and 9). These reactions are rather frequent.^{92,98,137,138,140,148,224,280,281} They can be schematized as follows, for the two main types of η^1 diphosphane complexes **222** and **223** (Scheme 96).

The $MU'_{n'}$ reagents are analogous to those described in part III-A; the L' ligands are mainly CO, THF, and norbornadiene. Additional complexation on polyphosphane complexes occurs first on the β phosphorus

SCHEME 96

SCHEME 97

SCHEME 98

atom relative to the complexed phosphorus atom,¹⁹⁶ but a third complexation may occur188,282 (Scheme 97).

Other transformations are induced by thermal or photochemical activation. A mixture of numerous complexes in variable proportions is obtained starting from $\eta^1 \eta^1$ diphosphane complexes^{18,98,137,140} (Scheme 98). **Most of the compounds seem to result from exchange**

SCHEME 99

SCHEME 100

SCHEM E 101

SCHEME 102

SCHEME 103

SCHEME 104

 $[M] = \text{FeCp*}(CO)_2$, $\text{OsCp*}(CO)_2$, $\text{RuCp*}(CO)_2$, $\text{MnCp*}(CO)(NO)$, $\text{ReCp*}(CO)(NO)$ $[M'] = Ni(CO)_3$, Fe(CO)₄, Cr(CO)₅ L = CO, THF, Fe(CO)₅

reactions of ligands, either carbon monoxide or the diphosphene itself.

A migration of the metal from the central phosphorus atom to an external one may occur upon heating tri-

SCHEME 108

SCHEME 109

SCHEME 110

phosphane complexes,¹⁵⁷' 186,262 whereas irradiation in THF medium induces a phosphorus-phosphorus bond cleavage¹⁶⁷ (Scheme 99).

Some decomplexation reactions are also reported. An exchange of ligand occurs between cyclotriphosphane

SCHEME 112

SCHEME 113

SCHEME 114

SCHEME 116

SCHEME 117

227 and tributylphosphane²¹⁷ (Scheme 100). Lastly, the neutralization of a cationic complex by

SCHEME 122

SCHEME 125

lithium iodide also induces a decomplexation¹⁴² (Scheme 101).

b. Diphosphene Complexes. The complexation of diphosphene complexes mainly occurs on the phosphorus lone pair. For instance, the two lone pairs of η^2 diphosphene complex 230 react one after the other

I tBu

TABLE 8 (Continued)

R

I

TABLE 9. it1 Diphosphene Complexes

¹—P=P--R²

		м		
\mathbf{R}^1	R ²	M	method	yield (ref)
Ph	Ar	$Cr(CO)$ ₅	66	(159)
Ph	Ar	Mo(CO),	66	(159)
Ph	Ar	$W(CO)_{\delta}$	66	(159)
$(Tms)_2N$	$(Tms)_2N$	Cr(CO)	83	18 (62) (57)
$(Tms)_{2}CH$	$(Tms)_{2}CH$	$Cr(CO)_{5}$	108	80 (59)
			83	60 (59) 45 (45*, 62*, 63)
$(Tms)_{2}CH$	$(Tms)_{2}CH$	$Mo(CO)_{5}$	81	76 (59*)
$(Tms)_2CH$	$(Tms)_2CH$	$W(CO)_{\kappa}$	108	73 (59)
			81	69 (59)
$(Tms)_2CH$	Ar	$Fe({\rm CO})$ ₄	22	63 (55, 61) (56)
Mes	Aт	$Cr(CO)_{5}$	66	70 (159)
			22	48 (159) (60)
Mes	Ar	$Cr(CO)_{5}$ (cis)	106	$(60*)$
Mes	Aг	$Mo(CO)$ _N	22	60 (159) (60)
			66	(159)
Mes	Ar	$Mo(CO)_{5}$ (cis)	106	(60)
Mes	Aг	$W(CO)_{\kappa}$	22	68 (159) (60)
			66	(159)
Mes	Ar	$W(CO)_{\delta}$ (cis)	106	(60)
Tmp	Tmp	$Cr(CO)_{\kappa}$	80	25 (238)
Tmp	Tmp	$Mo(CO)_{6}$	80	22 (238) (237)
Tmp	Tmp	$W(CO)_{\delta}$	80	13 (238*) (237)
Ar	tBuNH	$Ni(CO)_{3}$ (cis)	25	80 (47)
Ar	Ar	Ag ⁺ SO ₃ CF ₃ ⁻	24	(162, 163)
Ar	Ar	Au(PEt ₃)+PF ₆ -	24	(162, 163)
Ar	Ar	$Fe({\rm CO})$ ₄	22	70 (61*) 65 (55*) (56*)
			80	(56)
Ar	Ar	Ni(CO)	22	(56, 61)

TABLE 10. $\eta^1 \eta^1$ **Diphosphene Complexes**

to give $\eta^1\eta^2$ complex 231 and $\eta^1\eta^2\eta^1$ diphosphene complex 232^{53} (Scheme 102).

The complexation of triphosphaferrocene 233 (obtained as a mixture with other phosphaferrocene derivatives) occurs on one phosphorus atom of the *"cis*diphosphene" unit²⁶³ (Scheme 103).

Metalladiphosphenes are always complexed on the phosphorus atom σ -bonded to a metal^{70,71,220,264} (Scheme 104). No example of additional complexation on the second phosphorus atom is known.

A diphosphene unit can also be transferred from a metal to another⁴⁰ (Scheme 105). Two points are noticeable in this reaction: 24 is the only complex of type L, and the transfer induces a trans-cis isomerization of the diphosphene.

Irradiation of *rj¹* diphosphene complexes also induces

a trans-cis isomerization^{60a,b,159} (Scheme 106), which is analogous to the one observed for free diphosphenes.²⁶⁵ Both cis and trans complexes are stable.

A complicated "dimerizationlike" reaction²⁶⁶ leading first to phosphorus spiranic species 237 is observed by heating n^1n^2 diphosphene complex 208. Heating further phosphido complex **237,** we have obtained the original cluster 238²⁶⁶ in which a metallaphosphoranylidenephosphane unit serves as a building block. Up to now, complex 238 is the only one of type T (Scheme 107).

Thermal activation may also induce a selective decomplexation either of the double bond^{46,267} or of one phosphorus atom²⁴¹ (Scheme 108).

2. Substitution, Addition Reactions

a. Diphosphane Complexes. Few substitution or addition reactions concern the metallic center. Diphosphane complex 229 shown in Scheme 101 is also obtainable by replacement of the η^1 cyclopentadienyl group by iodine²⁶⁸ (Scheme 109).

Carbon monoxide can also be replaced by allyl bromide⁹¹ (Scheme 110). However, the extreme sensitivity of complex 240 prevented its full characterization.

Addition reactions occur with methyl iodide either directly on the metal, with evolution of ligand such as ethylene,¹³⁵ or on a metal-ligand bond.¹⁴⁷ The addition of Me⁺ on rhodium gives a cationic diphosphane complex when trimethyloxonium tetrafluoroborate is involved (Scheme 111).

However, many reactions concern the diphosphane ligand itself; these are mainly substitution reactions. For instance, base-induced eliminations of proton are observed for secondary diphosphane complexes and polyphosphane complexes are thus synthesized^{157,185,260} (Scheme 112).

Hydrogen atoms of secondary di- or triphosphane complexes are selectively substituted, using first butylor methyllithium and then halocompounds such as methyl iodide²⁴ or chlorodiphenylphosphane¹⁸⁶ (Scheme **113).**

Halide-substituted diphosphane complexes react also with butyllithium and are reduced by lithium aluminum hydride¹¹³ (Scheme 114).

Amino groups are suitable leaving groups. They react with compounds of type HX , with $X =$ halide or alkoxy groups.^{227,228,261} The reaction always takes place on the free phosphorus atom of complex 250 and does not concern the complexed phosphorus atoms (Scheme 115).

However, in another example, all amino groups of complexed phosphorus atoms are substituted by bromine^{210,269} (Scheme 116).

Addition reactions on diphosphane complexes are rare and concern only compounds of type B. They obviously occur on the lone pair of the uncomplexed phosphorus atom. This is the case with sulfur and selenium134,135,224 (Scheme 117).

Methyl iodide adds also to the uncomplexed phosphorus atom, leading to phosphonium salts.136,147 The cationic acetyl complex thus obtained reacts further with AgP F_6 to form the dication 253 (Scheme 118).

b. Diphosphene Complexes. Only one reaction concerning the metallic center is known: a ligand exchange occurs when diphosphene complex **254** is treated

TABLE 11. q¹ Diphosphene Complexes

TABLE 12. $\eta^1 \eta^2$ Diphosphene Complexes

 R M'

with l,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane upon heating⁶³ (Scheme 119). rare: the only one known for a diphosphene complex

Substitution reactions on phosphorus are also very rare: the only one known for a diphosphene complex

TABLE 13. $\eta^1 \eta^2 \eta^1$ Diphosphene Complexes

	'n. M R R M						
R	M	M	method	yield (ref)			
Me	Cr(CO)	Cr(CO)	82	56 (240)			
Me	$Mo(CO)_{n}$	$Mo(CO)_{6}$	82	12 (240)			
Et	Cr(CO)	$Cr(CO)_{\kappa}$	82	35 (240)			
nBu	Cr(CO)	Cr(CO)	82	40 (240)			
Ph	Cr(CO)	Cr(CO)	65	$(46*)$			
			82	(240)			
Ph	$Pd(PPh_3)_2Cl^+BF_4^-$	$Pd(Ph_2P(CH_2)_2PPh_2)$	as 102	(53)			
Ph	$W(CO)_{5}$	$Pd(Ph_2P(CH_2)_2PPh_2)$	102	$(53*)$			
Ph	W(CO)	$W(CO)_{\kappa}$	94	20 (252*) (253)			
			82	$9(240*)$			
An	Cr(CO)	Cr(CO)	82	41 (240)			

TABLE 14. Metalladiphosphenes

				Ar—P — P—M			
	M			method		yield (ref)	
	$CrCp*(CO)_3$			37		61 (183)	
	$FeCp*(CO)$,			67		59 (69, 70*)	
	Fe(PPh ₃)Cp(CO)			67		57 (70)	
	$MnCp*(CO)2$			67		39 (219)	
	$OsCp*(CO)$,			67	(70)		
	$ReCp*(CO)(NO)$			67	(220)		
	$RuCp*(CO)$,			67		67.5 (69, 70)	
				M			
				N.			
	М		M'	method		yield (ref)	
$FeCp*(CO)2$			Cr(CO)	104 (THF)		57 (220*)	
$FeCp*(CO)$,			Fe(CO)	104 $(Fe(CO)_{\kappa})$		$55(71*)$	
$FeCp*(CO)$ ₂			$Ni(CO)_{3}$	104 (CO)		31 (264)	
	$MnCp*(CO)(NO)$		$Cr(CO)_{\kappa}$	104 (THF)		51 (220)	
$0sCp^*(CO)$			$Fe({\rm CO})$	104 ($Fe(CO)$ ₅)		38 (71)	
$OsCp*(CO)2$			$Ni(CO)_{3}$	104 (CO)		22 (70) (264)	
	$ReCp*(CO)(NO)$		$Cr(CO)_{5}$	104 (THF)		31 (220)	
	$ReCp*(CO)(NO)$		$Ni(CO)_{3}$	104 (CO)		(220)	
$RuCp*(CO)2$			$Fe({\rm CO})$	104 ($Fe(CO)_{5}$)		24 (71)	
$RuCp*(CO)$,			$Ni(CO)_{3}$	104 (CO)		63 (264)	
			Cp*(CO)2M				
				Ar			
Ŗ2							
\mathbf{R}^1	R ²	\mathbf{R}^3	м	method		yield (ref)	
Me	н	н	Fe	126		49 (277)	
н	Me	н	Fe	126		35 (277)	
н	н	Me	Fe	126		12 (277)	
н	н	н	Fe	126		47 (276*, 277*)	
н	н	н	Ru	126		42 (277)	

concerns the reaction of trimethylsilyl groups with methanol, owing to the oxophilicity of silicon¹⁸² (Scheme 120).

On the other hand, addition reactions on diphosphene are more usual. They mainly take place on the double bond, which can also be reduced by lithium aluminum hydride.²¹⁸ [1,2] additions are observed with compounds of type HX. Interestingly, the same diphosphane complexes are obtained starting either from $\eta^1 \eta^1$ diphosphene complexes²⁶⁷ or from $\eta^1 \eta^2 \eta^1$ diphosphene complexes²⁴⁰ (Scheme 121). Thus in the later case, the addition also induces a decomplexation of the double bond.

 $1,3$ dienes react also with free²⁶⁷ or complexed²⁴⁰ phosphorus-phosphorus double bonds to give heterocycles (Scheme 122).

Analogous reactions occur with sulfur, 237, 267 diazomethane,²⁶⁷ and phenyl azide,²³⁷ leading to phosphirane complexes **262** (Scheme 123).

Metalladiphosphene react also with diazomethane²⁷⁰ and diphenylsulfonium cyclopropanide²⁷¹ and give metalladiphosphirane (Scheme 124).

The products isolated with sulfur and selenium are also three-membered heterocycles, but the first step of the reaction is an addition on the lone pair of the phosphorus atom linked to the metal 272,273 (Scheme 125). This reaction is analogous to the one observed for organic diphosphenes.274,276

 α,β unsaturated compounds also add on the phosphorus lone pair by a $[1 + 4]$ cycloaddition reaction, giving rise to an oxaphosphole complex with an exocyclic P=P double bond^{276,277} (Scheme 126).

Methylation reactions on triphosphirene complexes occurs also on a phosphorus lone pair⁷² (Scheme 127).

Finally, we have shown that the anionic hydrides 99 and **177** add on the lone pair of the uncomplexed phosphorus atom of n^1n^2 diphosphene complexes. The anionic diphosphane complexes **267** thus synthesized are also obtainable starting from diphosphane com- $\frac{244}{\text{Scheme}}$ 128).

IV. Organization of Tables

Tables 6-16 give listings of η^1 diphosphane complexes (Table 6), $\eta^1 \eta^1$ diphosphane complexes (Table 7), me $talladiphosphanes$ (Table 8), η^1 diphosphene complexes (Table 9), $\eta^1 \eta^1$ diphosphene complexes (Table 10), η^2

Phosphane and Phosphene Transition-Metal Complexes

diphosphene complexes (Table 11), $\eta^1 \eta^2$ diphosphene $complexes$ (Table 12), $\eta^1 \eta^2 \eta^1$ diphosphene complexes **(Table 13), metalladiphosphenes (Table 14), and miscellaneous diphosphene complexes (Tables 15 and 16). Polymeric compounds are excluded. The following remarks are pertinent to the tables.**

Organization of Listings

Each table is organized with organic substituents listed first, then metallic groups. Organic substituents are filed according to their empirical formula; the Chemical Abstracts classification is used, i.e. for instance, Br, Me, CF3, Ph, cHex, Cl, H. The metallic groups are filed, first according to the alphabetical order of the metal, then according to the empirical formula of the sum of all ligands, excepted the diphosphene or diphosphane unit. Miscellaneous compounds are filed according to the number of phosphorus atoms. Abbreviations mentioned in the introduction of the review are used in the tables. The number of the method given in the tables refers to the number of the corresponding scheme in part III. For general reactions, the leaving ligand L is specified in brackets. The term "as 12" indicates that the method used is similar to that in Scheme 12. In the column "yield (ref)", the term "63 (30*, 31) (53)" means that a 63% yield is given in refs

30 and 31, whereas no yield is given in ref 53. The asterisk indicates that the structure of the compound has been determined by X-ray crystallography in ref 30.

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